

# MINT *ERROR* NEWS MAGAZINE

Bringing the latest mint error news to the collector. Also featuring Die Trials, Test Pieces, Numismatic Rarities, Patterns, Currency Errors and Discoveries from the U.S. Mint.



[minterrornews.com](http://minterrornews.com)

## Special Edition: Lincoln Cent Mint Errors CACG Certifies 1944 Lincoln Cent Obverse Mirror Brockage

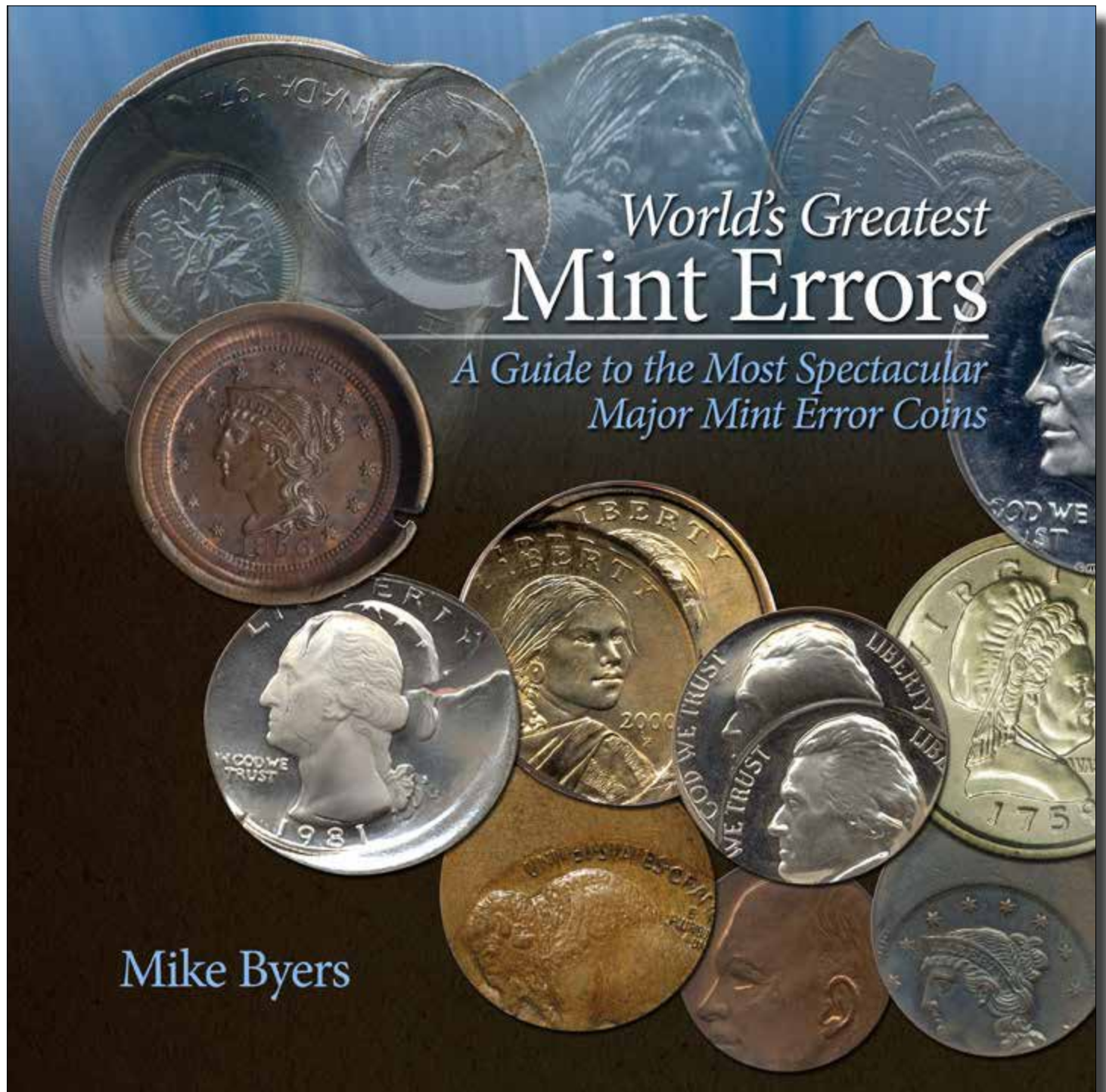


*CAC Cover Coin*

21 Page  
Price Guide  
Inside!

Special Edition • 2024  
A Mike Byers Publication

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2024 Special Edition

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# Mint Error News Magazine

2024 Special Edition

## - Table of Contents -

Mike Byers' Welcome	5
CACG Certifies 1944 Lincoln Cent Obverse Mirror Brockage	18
An Incredible and Rare Lincoln Cent Wheat Reverse Mirror Brockage on a Silver Dime Planchet	24
Unique 1943-D Bronze Cent - Famous Wrong Planchet Error	27
1943-S Bronze Lincoln Cent, MS63 Brown Celebrated Wrong-Planchet Error	36
1943 Bronze Cent, MS62 Brown - The c. 1957 Marvin Beyer Discovery	47
Pristine 1944-S Steel Cent MS66 - One of Only Two Known	53
1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: Experimental or on Foreign Planchets??	59
NGC Certifies Unique 1943 Lincoln Cent 13-Piece Set Including an Experimental Antimony Test Piece	70
1943-D Lincoln Cent Struck on an Australia Sixpence Planchet	82
NGC Certifies Rare 1942 and 1943 Wrong-Planchet Cents	86
Unique Collection of Lincoln Cent Rarities Surfaces	105
NGC Certifies Unique Wartime Discovery 2.5 Gram Bronze Cent Struck at the San Francisco Mint	129
1942 Lincoln Cent Mirror Brockage of Obverse, Struck 40% Off-Center	138
NGC Certifies 1943 Lincoln Cent Struck on Curacao 25 Centstukken Planchet	142
Unique 1942 Lincoln Cent Pattern J-2079 Struck in Aluminum	161
Mated Pair of 1974-S Lincoln Cents Struck by 2 U.S. Cent Obverse Dies	166
Unique 1977 Lincoln Cent Struck in Aluminum at The Philadelphia Mint	176
Unique 1974-S Aluminum Cent Struck By The Obverse Die Only	184
Unique 1910 Lincoln Cent Uniface Test Strike	191

# Mint Error News Magazine

## 2024 Special Edition

### - Table of Contents (continued) -

<b>1915 Lincoln Cent Struck on Full-Size Nickel Planchet</b>	<b>196</b>
<b>From the Grading Room: 1964 Lincoln Cent Struck On a Coin of India</b>	<b>201</b>
<b>1969-S Lincoln Cent Doubled Die Sells For \$126,500</b>	<b>206</b>
<b>Remarkable Double Denomination Mule 1993-D Cent with Dime Reverse</b>	<b>208</b>
<b>Amazing Double Denomination Cent and Dime Mule Roosevelt Dime with 1995 Cent Obverse</b>	<b>212</b>
<b>Unique 1999 Lincoln Cent Obverse Muled with a Roosevelt Dime Reverse</b>	<b>216</b>
<b>2001-D Lincoln Cent, MS66 Red Muled With a Roosevelt Dime Reverse</b>	<b>220</b>
<b>PCGS Certifies a Cent Bonded to a Magnetic Screw</b>	<b>224</b>
<b>1972-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a 40-grain Magnetic Washer</b>	<b>229</b>
<b>PCGS Certifies TRANSITIONAL 1989-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a 3.1 Gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)</b>	<b>232</b>
<b>PCGS Certifies Unique 1990-D Lincoln Cent TRANSITIONAL Struck on a 3.1 gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)</b>	<b>236</b>
<b>NGC Certifies Unique Double Denomination</b>	<b>240</b>
<b>Martha Washington Reverse Die Used To Strike 1 Cent Experimental Test Pieces For U.S. Judd #2180</b>	<b>244</b>
<b>Dramatic Cent Error Coins</b>	<b>255</b>
<b>Lincoln Cent Mint Errors Featured in the Upcoming June 2024 Error Coinage Heritage Auction</b>	<b>279</b>
<b>Lincoln Cent Major Mint Errors Featured in Heritage Auctions</b>	<b>284</b>
<b>Mint Error News Price Guide</b>	<b>291</b>
<b>Mint Error News Glossary</b>	<b>331</b>



# MINT**ERROR**NEWS<sup>TM</sup> MAGAZINE

Bringing the latest mint error news to the collector.



Mike Byers, Publisher & Editor, Welcomes You!

**W**elcome to Mint Error News Magazine, bringing the latest mint error news and information to the collector. This is our 19th year bringing you both an online PDF magazine and the Mint Error News website. There are over 1,300 articles, features, discoveries, news stories with mint error related info from the United States and around the World. Our website, [minterrornews.com](http://minterrornews.com), has become the most popular and informative Internet resource for mint errors and is read by thousands of dealers and collectors.

Over the last 20 years with the advent of the internet millions of collectors have flocked to online auctions and dealer websites. Many people connect to various online forums and clubs to share knowledge and learn about Mint Errors. Everyone, including dealers, collectors and even investors have instant access to information as never before. The Mint Error market has experienced an explosion in collector interest over the last 20 years.

Time and again, rare and unique Mint Errors in the numismatic market have made headline news. Authentication and certification of Mint Errors is now commonplace. In 1991, ANACS was the first to authenticate, grade and encapsulate major Mint Errors. In 1999, PCGS and NGC began certifying Mint Errors. Major Mint Errors are now pursued, collected and traded just like patterns, territorial Gold, colonials and other interesting segments of numismatics.

In 1975, I purchased a 1900 Indian Head Cent struck on a \$2 1/2 Indian Gold blank planchet for \$7,750 at a major coin auction. That price ranked among the top five ever realized for a Mint Error that few dealers or serious collectors would even consider. At that time price guides for Mint Errors were nonexistent and today that Indian Head Cent struck in Gold is certified MS65 by PCGS and is valued at six figures.

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## PUBLISHER & EDITOR

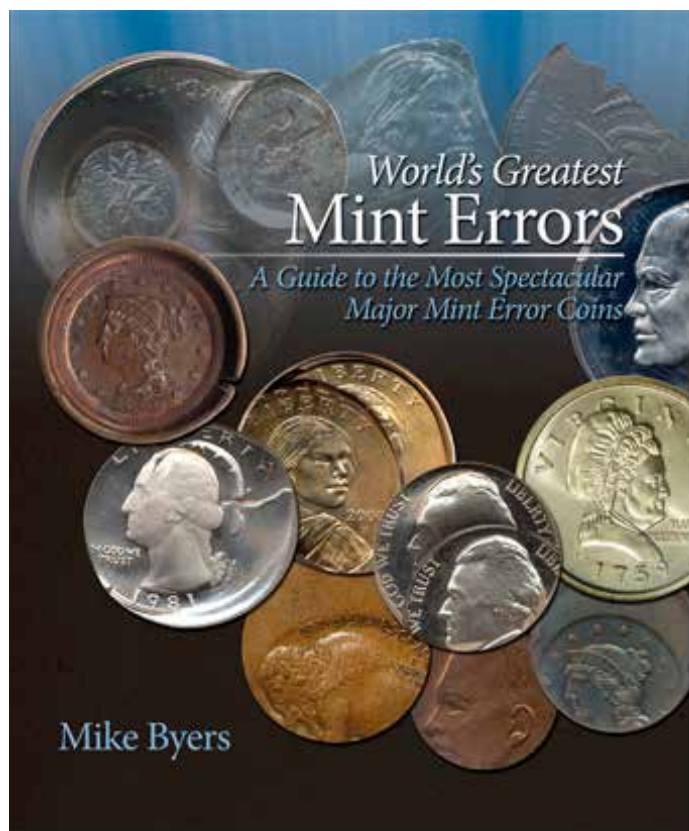


**Mike Byers**



Mike Byers ([mikebyers.com](http://mikebyers.com)) is president of Mike Byers Inc. He has been a professional numismatist for over thirty-five years. He is one of the largest dealers handling U.S. Gold Coins, Patterns and Rarities certified by PCGS and NGC. He has handled major coin collections and attends every major coin convention. Mike Byers carries an extensive inventory as well as solicits want lists and is always looking to purchase fresh inventory and collections. You can visit Mike Byers and view his rarities at the ANA, Central States, FUN show and the Long Beach Coin Expo.

Mike Byers was a consultant to ANACS for Mint Errors from 2000 to 2006. He is also the Owner, Publisher and Editor of Mint Error News Magazine and the Mint Error News Website that was founded in 2003. In 2009, Mike Byers published his first book, *World's Greatest Mint Errors*, which received the NLG Award for Best World Coin Book and is available on Amazon.





# MINT**ERROR**NEWS<sup>TM</sup> CONSULTANTS

Mike Byers is the Publisher and Editor of Mint Error News. Consultants to Mint Error News are numismatic experts recognized worldwide including Heritage Auctions, Jim Stoutjesdyk, Dave Camire, Ron Guth, Marc Crane, Andy Lustig, Saul Teichman, Michael Faraone, Steven Contursi, Jeff Ylitalo, John Wang and Fred Weinberg (retired), Christopher Talbot Frank, Greg Bennick, Silvano DiGenova, Brian Hodge, Joe Cronin, Allen Rowe, Ian Russell and Jim Gately.



**Mike Byers**

**Expert on Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials**

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**Expert on Patterns and Die Trials**

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**Jim Gately**

Expert on 20th Century U.S. Coinage  
With an Emphasis on Buffalo Nickels

Owner of the #1 Ranked PCGS  
Registry Set of Buffalo Nickels

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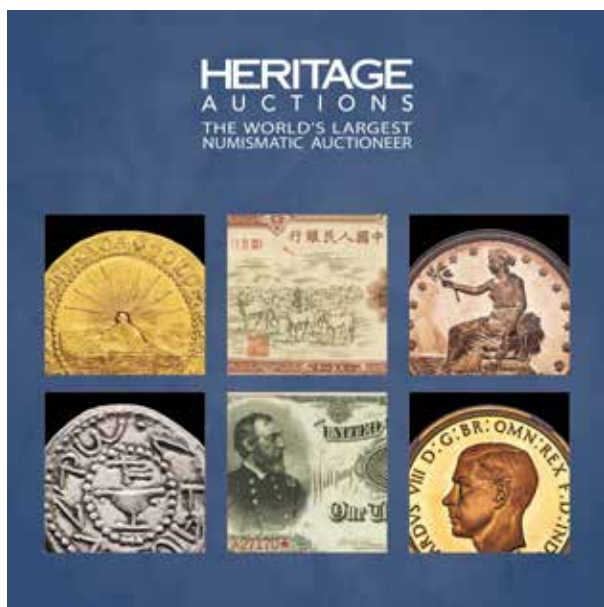
## CONSULTANTS



**Jim Stoutjesdyk**

Jim Stoutjesdyk was named Vice President of Heritage Rare Coin Galleries in 2004. Since coming to Heritage in 1993, Jim has assumed a wide variety of responsibilities. He initially was hired as the Gallery Manager for Heritage's retail showroom. For several years he helped to develop Heritage's retail clientele and placed millions of dollars worth of rare coins with collectors. Jim's interest turned to wholesale trading and he quickly became a familiar face at coin shows across the nation. As Vice President, Jim's duties include buying and selling millions of dollars worth of rare coins each month, pricing all of the new coins available for sale each day, and overseeing the daily operations of the rare coin department. In 2019 the American Numismatic Association awarded Jim the very prestigious Doctor of Numismatics honorary degree.

Jim Stoutjesdyk is a Consultant to Mint Error News for U.S. Coins, Unique Items, Patterns and Mint Errors.



Heritage Auctions is the largest collectibles auctioneer and third largest auction house in the world, as well as the largest auction house founded in the U.S. We are also the undisputed Internet leader in our field, with more than 1.75 million online bidder-members registered on HA.com from all 195 countries. This loyal and growing community of collectors is a testament to the usefulness of our website, our reputation for professional business practices and our vast expertise in the field of art and collectibles.

Established in 1976, Heritage offers a wide range of U.S. & World Coins, Rare Currency, Fine & Decorative Art, American Art, Illustration Art, Modern & Contemporary Art, Urban Art, Comic Books & Comic Art, Movie Posters, Entertainment & Music Memorabilia, Jewelry & Timepieces, Luxury Handbags, Sports Collectibles, Historical & Political

Memorabilia, Rare Books & Manuscripts, Ethnographic Art, & Space Exploration Memorabilia, Civil War Memorabilia, Photographs, Nature & Science, Fine and Rare Wine, Luxury Real Estate, Pop Culture Collectibles, and more.

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Dave Camire is considered an authority on modern minting technology and production, specializing in mint errors and Chinese coins. He has visited many mints, both domestically and internationally, which is not only insightful but useful in his role as NGC Modern World Coin Grader and Finalizer. His knowledge of the minting process is helpful in distinguishing mint defects from damaged coins and establishing a coin's authenticity and grade.

Dave co-authored *100 Greatest U.S. Error Coins* and has contributed to such numismatic publications as *Coin World* (honored with being listed as one of the 100 Most Influential People), *COINage*, *Numismatic News*, *The Numismatist* and the *Red Book*. He has been featured on National Public Radio (NPR) and seen on *Good Morning America* and the *Discovery Channel*.



**Dave Camire**

Dave is also President of Numismatic Conservation Services (NCS). With his knowledge and expertise in coin conservation, he has been an active volunteer at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of American History, helping to preserve the National Numismatic Collection and establishing key numismatic displays at the museum. A collector at heart, he has been collecting since he was 13 years old.

Dave Camire is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials.

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**Mike Faraone**

Mike Faraone is the owner of Mike Faraone Rare Coins in Las Vegas, Nevada. He previously was a grader at PCGS for 12 years after 11 years at ANACS.

He has taught grading at the ANA Summer Seminar for twenty years. Mike has lectured on Mint errors and Counterfeit protection at numerous coin shows across the country. He is a previous president of the National Silver Dollar Roundtable and served as editor of the NSDR Journal for over twenty years. Mike can be reached via e-mail at: [mfaraone@hotmail.com](mailto:mfaraone@hotmail.com).

Mike Faraone is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials.



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## CONSULTANTS

Ron Guth is a recognized authority on United States and German coins. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant who has been involved professionally in numismatics for over fifty years as a collector, dealer, researcher, and writer. His books and articles have earned numerous awards, including the American Numismatic Association's Heath Literary award and the Olga & Wayte Raymond awards, the Numismatic Literary Guild's Best Numismatic Investment Book and Best Book of the Year awards, and the Professional Numismatic Guild's Best Book of the Year award. In 2003, Ron received the prestigious President's Award from the American Numismatic Association in recognition of his numerous contributions to numismatics. In 2021, Coin World named Ron as one of the Top Ten Most Influential People in Numismatics for the sixty-year period from 1960-2020.



**Ron Guth**

Ron created the CoinFacts website (now PCGS CoinFacts) in 1999 and sold the website to Collectors Universe in 2004 (where it is now presented as PCGS CoinFacts). Ron served in various capacities at Collectors Universe, including Director of Numismatic Research, President of the Professional Coin Grading Service, and President of PCGS CoinFacts.

Currently, Ron serves as proprietor of GermanCoins.com and as Chief Investigator at the Numismatic Detective Agency, where he provides expert provenance on high-end coins. Ron Guth is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Patterns and Die Trials.



**Marc Crane**

Marc Crane is a dealer specializing in rare U.S. coins and U.S. patterns. He started Marc One Numismatics, Inc. in 1991. He is a member of the PNG (#565).

Marc tied for 1st place in a PCGS grading contest and is considered a world-class grader and authenticator. He is a contributor to the Red Book and is permanently listed in the pattern section. His coin store in Rancho Mirage, CA is open to the public and he regularly attends coin shows and auctions across the country.

Marc Crane is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Patterns and Die Trials.

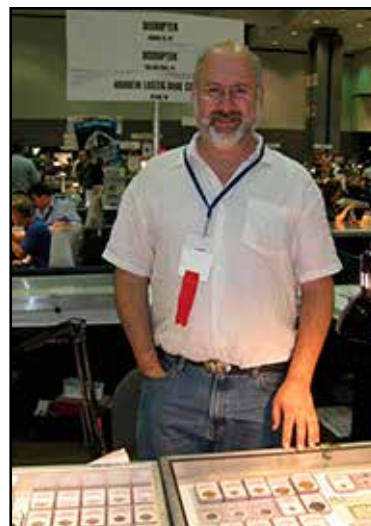
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Andy Lustig has been dealing in U.S. and World Coins since 1975 and has attended more than 2,000 coin shows and auctions.

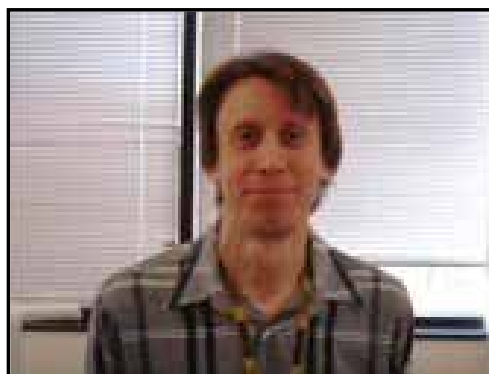
Andy is the co-founder of the Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors (uspatterns.com). He has been a member of the Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG #614) since 2005. He is a member of NGC and was also a former grader and authenticator for PCGS.

Andy was a speaker at the annual CSNS convention, presenting "Collecting Pattern Coinage." Andy was a major contributor to the 8th Edition of the Judd book.

Andy Lustig is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials.



**Andy Lustig**



**Saul Teichman**

Saul Teichman is a co-founder and primary contributor/editor of the Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors (uspatterns.com) as well as contributor to the 8th Edition of the Judd book and Andrew Pollock's *United States Patterns and Related Issues* as well as many other books. He has been collecting primarily off-metal U.S. Mint errors for over 20 years and maintains extensive pedigree information for many error issues which have been published here in the past.

Saul Teichman is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials.

Rare Coin Wholesalers has the largest inventory of U.S. Rare Coins.

Founded in 2001, Rare Coin Wholesalers has transacted over \$2 billion in U.S. rare coin business and is a recognized leader in acquiring, managing, and selling U.S. rare coins positioned for wealth preservation and capital growth.

Steven L. Contursi is a Consultant to Mint Error News for U.S. Patterns.



**Steven L. Contursi**

# MINT**ERROR**NEWS<sup>TM</sup> CONSULTANTS



**Jeff Ylitalo**

Jeff Ylitalo has collected Mint Error coins since 1993. He has avidly researched & written about this area of numismatics since 2006 contributing dozens of articles to CONECAs bi-monthly publication ErrorScope and Mint Error News. Jeff is the former editor for the ErrorScope 2008-2017.

Jeff's research and collecting focus is now primarily centered on World Error coins. Jeff can be reached via e-mail at: [jylitalo@yahoo.com](mailto:jylitalo@yahoo.com).

Jeff Ylitalo is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors.

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John Wang is an avid numismatic researcher and collector. His research focus is on absolute rarities including patterns, mint errors and exonomia, with particular interest in coin census, pedigrees, coin designers and minters. A historian at heart, John enjoys tracing coins and people through time.

John writes for Mint Error News, the So-Called Dollar Fellowship and Wikipedia. He is also a top contributor to Collectors Universe Message Forums. Beyond writing, John enjoys creating coins, including co-creating a 2021 Morgan Dollar commemorative with Moonlight Mint, and inspiring a Frank Gasparro Liberty Dollar pattern design commemorative with Grove Minting Company. A collector at heart, John maintains a set of So-Called Dollar rarities in the PCGS Set Registry. John is founder and editor at [PrivateMintNews.com](http://PrivateMintNews.com).



**John Wang**

John Wang is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors and Patterns.

---



**Fred Weinberg**

Fred Weinberg is a highly respected numismatist, with 40 years of full time experience in the rare coin marketplace.

He deals in numismatic United States Gold & Silver coinage, as well as specializing in buying & selling Major Mint Error coinage of all types.

He is one of the original 31 dealers selected as an authorized PCGS (Professional Coin Grading Service) dealer at it's inception in 1986.

Fred Weinberg has now retired and was a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors and Die Trials.



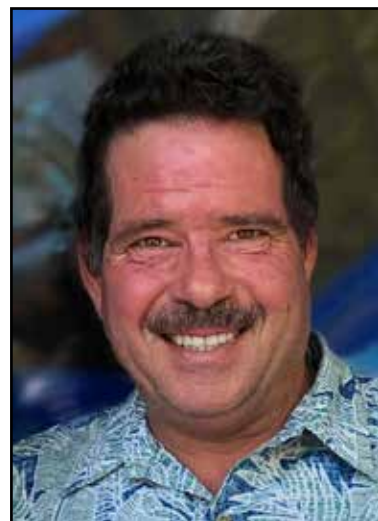
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Christopher Talbot Frank is an error coin dealer of over 25 years and is doing business as CTF Error Coins. Christopher specializes in superior eye appealing error coinage with a wide variety of dramatic specimens. He has an artistic background as a professional photographer and now specializes in high end numismatic photography. Christopher handpicks every coin in his inventory based on eye appeal first and rarity second.

Chris's 800 plus certified coin inventory is basically an error coin type set in many dates and denominations. Although he carries all error types and dates, he specializes in mint state modern and the very rare ultra modern (2002-present) error coins. Christopher has authored many articles on error coins for Mint Error News over the last few years.

Christopher Talbot Frank is a consultant to Mint Error News for modern and dramatic Major Mint Errors.



**Christopher Talbot Frank**



**Greg Bennick**

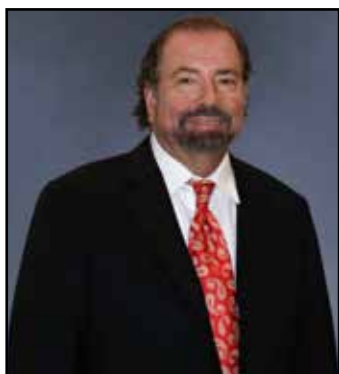
Greg Bennick is a collector and researcher of major mint errors and has been actively involved in the hobby since 1981 when he made his first major error purchase, a Liberty nickel on a cent planchet, at the age of ten.

A professional keynote speaker on the topic of Build a Better Now® for the corporate and association markets ([gregbennick.com](http://gregbennick.com)) Greg writes for multiple print outlets on major errors. He maintains an extensive personal library of error-related books, pamphlets, magazines, and ephemera going back to the dawn of the hobby in the 1950's.

Greg is a board member of CONECA, and focuses his study on major US and Canadian error coins, significant ancient and world errors, and the minting process.

Greg Bennick is a consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors and trends in the error market.

# MINT**ERROR**NEWS<sup>TM</sup> CONSULTANTS



**Silvano DiGenova**

Tangible Investments founder and president Silvano DiGenova is an authority on the rare coin market, grading, authenticity, and appraisals. In fact, since Silvano co-founded the renowned Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) and designed the PCGS coin grading standards, you could actually say he wrote the book on coin grading.

Millions of collectors and investors depend on Silvano DiGenova's expertise every day. He has been featured in Fortune Magazine's "People to Watch," quoted on the front page of The Wall Street Journal, interviewed in hundreds of U.S. newspapers, and has appeared several times as a commentator on CNN, FNN, CNBC, the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, and more.

Silvano DiGenova is a consultant to Mint Error News for Patterns and Unique & Esoteric U.S. Coinage.

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Brian Hodge is a Partner and the President of Numismatics at Minshull Trading. Over the last three decades years they have been a leader in the numismatic industry and have grown into a formidable market maker, garnering the respect of every major market player.

He is a member of every major numismatic organization in the country, including PNG, ICTA, FUN, CSNS, and a life member of the ANA. He is a regular Red Book contributor and maintains consistent and up-to-date pricing to sustain healthy markets.

Brian Hodge is a consultant to Mint Error News for Specimen Coinage and Unique U.S. Coins.



**Brian Hodge**

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## CONSULTANTS



**Joe Cronin**

Joe Cronin is currently a History teacher, a former U.S. Treasury Department law enforcement officer, and has been a coin collector for over thirty years. Within the last ten years he has focused more on Mint errors, and also fake and altered coins made to resemble genuine errors.

He is the author of the popular error reference book, *Mint Errors to Die For*, has written articles for CONECA's *Errorscope*, and is the creator and moderator of the Facebook® page, "Joe Cronin's Mint Errors Explained." Joe often attends coin shows in the Western N.Y. area with educational tables on Mint errors and Henning nickels. Feel free to contact Joe at [jcro57@yahoo.com](mailto:jcro57@yahoo.com).

Joe Cronin is a consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors and Counterfeit/Altered coins made to resemble genuine errors.

---

Allen Rowe is the owner of Northern Nevada Coin, which specializes in buying silver dollars, gold coins, Carson City coins, gold scrap, complete collections, estates, hoards, investment holdings, coins, silver bullion, gold billion, and rare paper money from collectors, investors, and other coin dealers. He has been buying gold in Carson City, Reno, Sparks, Minden, Gardnerville, Lake Tahoe, Fallon, Virginia City, and northern Nevada since 1993.

An interesting array of dollar errors is currently available to be viewed on Northern Nevada Coin's website [brokencc.com](http://brokencc.com). The gallery includes several off-center Morgan dollars, a broadstruck Morgan, a spectacularly broadstruck Peace dollar, an example of a rotated reverse, a blank silver dollar planchet, and the Amazing Broken CC.



**Allen Rowe**

Allen Rowe is a consultant to Mint Error News for Morgan and Peace Dollar Mint Errors, especially mint errors and rarities from the Carson City Mint.



# MINT**ERROR**NEWS<sup>TM</sup> CONSULTANTS

Ian is president and co-founder of GreatCollections Coin & Paper Money Auctions. From a young age, Ian was interested in collectibles and started working on weekends for a stamp dealer in Sydney, Australia at age 14. From there he learned about auctions at Stanley Gibbons Australia, personally handling many important sales including the Purcell Collection of Kangaroo and Map Series, the Mackey Collection of Australian States/Pacific Islands and the Morrison Hill China Collection. Ian also put together the company's first paper money auction featuring one of the finest New Zealand bank note collections ever formed.

Ian is a member of the prestigious Professional Numismatists Guild, member 785 and abides by the PNG Code of Ethics. In 2021, CoinWorld Magazine named Ian one of the most influential people in numismatics. Contact Ian Russell at [ian@greatcollections.com](mailto:ian@greatcollections.com).



**Ian Russell**

Great Collections holds the record auctioning the famous \$1 Sacagawea obverse muled with a Quarter reverse for \$194,062.50.

Ian Russell is a consultant to Mint Error News for Error Coins and Patterns.

---



**Jim Gately**

Jim Gately is the owner of the #1 ranked PCGS registry set of Buffalo Nickels. He also has other registry sets with PCGS.

He purchased the unique 1913 Gold Buffalo Nickel from Mike Byers for \$400,000 and proudly included it in his set.

Jim is an expert on 20th Century U.S. coinage with an emphasis on Buffalo Nickels. He is a consultant to Mint Error News for Double Dies and Overdates.

# CACG CERTIFIES 1944 LINCOLN CENT OBVERSE MIRROR BROCKAGE

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

**M**irror brockages on Lincoln Cents with the Wheat Reverse are extremely rare, with approximately ten known. This

1944 obverse mirror brockage is one of only two known for the date. The other example known is very circulated.



# CACG CERTIFIES 1944 LINCOLN CENT OBERSE MIRROR BROCKAGE

A mirror brockage mint error can only occur when there are two coins involved. One of the coins will always be a struck coin which has not ejected. That struck coin will remain between the dies and will be struck with the next planchet fed into the collar. The image of the first struck coin will be impressed into that side of the planchet. The result will be a second coin which has a mirror image of the first coin.

This 1944 obverse mirror brockage Lincoln Cent was authenticated and certified by CACG. The Greysheet™ publication issues the quarterly CAC® Rare Coin Market Review. Their latest issue announces that CACG is authenticating and certifying major mint errors and features this extremely rare 1944 Lincoln Cent with an obverse mirror brockage on the cover.





# CACG CERTIFIES 1944 LINCOLN CENT OBVERSE MIRROR BROCKAGE

## CAC RARE COIN MARKET REVIEW

A RETAIL PRICE GUIDE FOR COLLECTORS, INVESTORS & DEALERS  
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## CACG EMBRACES ERROR COINS & MODERN ISSUES



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# CACG CERTIFIES 1944 LINCOLN CENT OBERSE MIRROR BROCKAGE

Recently, a 1943 Lincoln Cent obverse mirror brockage (PCGS MS 63) sold in a Stack's Bowers auction for a record price of \$31,200 (lot # 4410).



Photos courtesy of Joe Cronin, author of the popular error reference book, *Mint Errors to Die For*



## CACG CERTIFIES 1944 LINCOLN CENT OBVERSE MIRROR BROCKAGE

This similar 1944 mint error was likely selected for the cover since Lincoln Cent Wheat Reverse errors are widely collected. Additionally, a Wheat Reverse type obverse mirror brockage dated 1944 is considered

one of the important dates in the Lincoln Cent series for mint errors. This mint error combines rarity, popularity and history since it was struck during World War II.





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# AN INCREDIBLE AND RARE LINCOLN CENT WHEAT REVERSE MIRROR BROCKAGE ON A SILVER DIME PLANCHET

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

**M**irror brockages in the Lincoln Cent Wheat Reverse series are extremely rare with approximately ten known. This unique mint error

is not only a mirror brockage of the Wheat Reverse design but was also struck on a Silver Dime planchet.





# **AN INCREDIBLE AND RARE LINCOLN CENT WHEAT REVERSE MIRROR BROCKAGE ON A SILVER DIME PLANCHET**

A mirror brockage mint error can only occur when there are two coins involved. One of the coins will always be a struck coin which has not ejected. That struck coin will remain between the dies and will

be struck with the next planchet fed into the collar. The image of the first struck coin will be impressed into that side of the planchet. The result will be a second coin which has a mirror image of the first coin.





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The Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors is dedicated to the study of many of the rarest coins struck at the U.S. Mint: patterns, die trials and experimental pieces.

## **Welcome to The Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors!**

For those of you not familiar with this fascinating area of numismatics, patterns are prototypes for coins that, for the most part, were never approved for circulation. Most patterns are very rare, some unique, and others unknown outside of museums.

A good place to start learning about these pieces is our Beginner's Corner which includes a page on How to use this Website or the Photo Gallery which contains examples of many of the different pattern issues.

The United States Mint produced more than 1000 different patterns, as well as many die trials and experimental pieces. Despite the great rarity of many of these individual items, the great variety makes the series surprisingly collectable.

There are relatively few collectors specializing in United States pattern coinage. Most of these collectors target specific areas. For example, there are collectors who specialize in Indian Cent patterns, others collecting Morgan dollar patterns, and so on.

In addition to these specialists, there are thousands of collectors of regular issue United States coins who try to buy a few patterns to complement their collections. Many of these historical coins have wide appeal and are surprisingly affordable. There are many collectors who, for example, would like to own an 1855 Flying Eagle large cent (J-167, about 500 pieces struck) to go with their collection of large cents or with their collection of Flying Eagle small cents.

# UNIQUE 1943-D BRONZE CENT FAMOUS WRONG PLANCHET ERROR

by Heritage Auctions

*Sold for \$840,000*

## STRUCK AT THE DENVER MINT



*Featured in the January 2021 FUN US Coins Signature Auction #1326*

**1943-D 1C Struck on a Bronze Planchet MS64 Brown PCGS. Ex: Simpson.**

The 1943-D bronze Lincoln cent is a legendary rarity, with just a single example known to collectors. This sought-after wrong planchet error is the Holy Grail of error collectors, but its appeal extends far beyond traditional numismatics. Like its slightly more available Philadelphia and San Francisco Mint counterparts, the 1943-D bronze Lincoln cent has an “everyman” appeal that is missing with most numismatic rarities. Generations of school children have thrilled to colorful ads in comic books promising a fortune to anyone lucky enough to find a 1943 “copper” cent in change. Their parents have pondered more sophisticated advertisements in mainstream magazines. Many suburban and blue-collar workers marveled at the unfounded mid-20th century rumor that Henry Ford would give a new car to anyone who could provide him with a “copper” 1943 cent, despite the Ford Motor Company’s repeated denials. The 1943 bronze cents have been recognized and avidly sought by the general public more than any other

great numismatic rarity. Heritage Auctions is privileged to present the finest-known and rarest example of the famous 1943 “copper” cents in just its third auction appearance.

### Origin of the 1943 “Copper” Cents

The Second World War was at its height in 1943 and copper was an essential commodity in the wartime economy. It was used by defense contractors in the manufacture of everything from shell casings to commo wire. To conserve this strategic metal for the war effort, the Treasury Department decided to use zinc-coated steel planchets instead of the usual bronze coin blanks to produce all Lincoln cents that year. The resulting “steel” cents were produced in enormous numbers and many examples were saved by collectors for their novelty value. Unfortunately, the coins resembled dimes when new, with their brilliant white surfaces, causing some confusion in everyday transactions. Also, the zinc coating did not wear well and the coins quickly acquired



a dull, ugly patina in circulation. The Treasury Department returned to using bronze planchets for cent coinage the following year.

The 1943 bronze cents were an unintended consequence of switching the planchet composition in 1943. Apparently, a few bronze planchets remained stuck in the tote bins Mint personnel used to feed the coin presses at the end of cent production in 1942. These planchets went unnoticed when the bins were refilled with zinc-coated steel planchets at the beginning of production in 1943. They became dislodged and were fed into the coin presses, along with the “steel” blanks, resulting in the rare wrong-planchet error treasures we know about today. This phenomenon occurred at both the Philadelphia and San Francisco Mints. PCGS CoinFacts estimates 10-15 examples of the Philadelphia Mint issue are extant today, the finest being the MS62 Brown PCGS Simpson example that will be offered in our February 2021 Long Beach Signature. Only six specimens of

the San Francisco Mint issue have been confirmed, including the finest-known MS62 Brown PCGS example from the Simpson Collection that we offered in our November 2020 Dallas Signature. The present MS64 Brown PCGS specimen is the only 1943 bronze Lincoln cent struck at the Denver Mint and its story is shrouded in mystery and intrigue.

### **The Present Coin**

There are two competing accounts of the early history of this coin discussed on PCGS CoinFacts. In his September 20, 2008 column Making Cents, Dr. Sol Taylor reported:

“Finally one specimen of the 1943-D cent is known in bronze. This specimen traces its origins to a deliberately made coin probably by John R. Sinnock, chief engraver of the U.S. Mint at the time - as it was later discovered in the estate of a woman Sinnock was dating in the 1940s, when both lived in the small town of North Tonawanda, N.Y.”

## UNIQUE 1943-D BRONZE CENT - FAMOUS WRONG PLANCHET ERROR

This story has been reported in the literature several times over the years, but it seems to have originated as the account prominent coin dealer Harry Foreman related to John Ford about a Philadelphia Mint example of the 1943 bronze cent he sold him in 1961. In the description of the 1943 bronze cent Ford consigned to the William R. Sieck Collection (Bowers and Ruddy, 7/1981), lot 414, the cataloger notes:

“The piece offered herewith is believed to have been the property of John R. Sinnock, former engraver of the Philadelphia Mint. It was obtained from Harry J. Foreman in March 1961. Earlier it was the property of Philadelphia dealer William Grichin, who obtained this piece and the companion 1944 steel cent from a lady friend of John R. Sinnock. She said that this piece was a Christmas present from him to her in 1943.”

It seems clear that this account describes the origin of the Philadelphia Mint example in the

1981 auction, rather than the present coin. The story was attached to the Harry Foreman-John Ford piece decades before it was attributed to the Denver Mint Simpson cent. Also, as Chief Engraver, John R. Sinnock worked at the Philadelphia Mint and it is unclear how he would have acquired this specimen from the Denver facility. All in all, it is most unlikely that this story applies to the coin offered here.

The other version of this coin's origin related on the PCGS CoinFacts site comes from John Wexler and Kevin Flynn's Authoritative Reference on Lincoln Cents:

“The 1943-D Bronze cent was owned by a former Denver Mint employee who is believed to have struck it. This coin has the strongest strike of any 1943 bronze cent. Speculation has it that the person hand fed a bronze planchet into the coining press, struck it twice to bring up the design, then kept it.”

We believe this origin story is much

closer to the truth, though we have some reservations about certain aspects of it. We see no evidence that the coin was struck twice and suspect the sharpness of the strike was a function of the relative softness of the bronze planchet compared to the harder zinc-coated steel planchets used for the rest of the production run. The coin presses were set on higher pressure settings in 1943, to bring up the details of the design on the harder “steel” planchets. Also, while it seems likely that the coin was deliberately struck, it is also possible it was produced in the same accidental fashion as the Philadelphia and San Francisco Mint bronze cents. In that scenario, the original owner would have discovered it in some quality control process before it was released into circulation and kept it.

In any case, the coin was unknown to the numismatic community until 1979, when the owner submitted it to ANACS for certification. The original owner held the coin until his death and it subsequently passed to

his children. The coin was eventually consigned to Superior Galleries’ auction of the Irving Goodman Collection in May of 1996. The coin was graded MS64 Brown by NGC and described in lot 536 of the catalog. The lot realized \$82,500. The coin was later offered in lot 149 of the Benson Collection, Part III/Robert Blaugrund Collection (Ira and Larry Goldberg, 2/2003), where it realized \$212,750.

This coin has not been publicly offered since the Goldberg auction, 17 years ago, but it did change hands privately in September 2010 for a record price of \$1.7 million. Andy Skrabalak, of Angel Dee’s Coins and Collectibles, acted as agent for the anonymous collector who owned the coin and Laura Sperber, of Legend Numismatics, acted as agent for Bob Simpson during the protracted negotiations for the coin. Sperber reported, “The 1943-D bronze cent is the most valuable cent in the world and it took four years of aggressive negotiations with the coin’s owner until he agreed to sell it.” The



## UNIQUE 1943-D BRONZE CENT - FAMOUS WRONG PLANCHET ERROR

proceeds of the sale were all donated to charity. The coin has remained in Bob Simpson's collection ever since.

### Physical Description

This spectacular Choice example displays well-preserved olive-brown surfaces, with occasional highlights of crimson. Original mint luster shines through the patina. All 1943 bronze cents were sharply struck, due to the higher pressure settings on the coin presses mentioned above. This coin is the sharpest of them all, and fine definition is evident in Lincoln's hair and the wheat stalks. Small flecks of zinc are imbedded in both the obverse and reverse surfaces, undoubtedly from zinc dust and debris left on the dies from striking the "steelies". Overall eye appeal is outstanding. As the only known example of this iconic Denver Mint error, and the finest-certified 1943 bronze cent from any U.S. Mint, this coin should rank as

the most important and valuable of all Lincoln cents. The 1943-D bronze Lincoln cent is listed among both the 100 Greatest U.S. Coins and the 100 Greatest U.S. Error Coins. This coin is pictured on PCGS CoinFacts. Population: 1 in 64 Brown, 0 finer (10/20).

Ex: Denver Mint employee; his estate; certified by ANACS in 1979; Irving Goodman Collection (Superior, 5/1996), lot 536; Benson III/Robert Blaugrund Collections (Ira and Larry Goldberg, 2/2003), lot 149; private collector; purchased by Legend Numismatics in September 2010 for \$1.7 million, via Andy Skrabalak; Bob R. Simpson.

**Coin Index Numbers:** (PCGS# 82712)

**Weight:** 3.11 grams

**Metal:** 95% Copper , 5% Silver

UNIQUE 1943-D BRONZE CENT - FAMOUS WRONG PLANCHET ERROR





UNIQUE 1943-D BRONZE CENT - FAMOUS WRONG PLANCHET ERROR





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1943-S Nickel  
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Steel Planchet  
AU58 NGC  
**Realized \$2,880**



1965 Dime  
Struck on a Silver  
Dime Planchet  
MS62 PCGS  
**Realized \$9,000**



1971-D Quarter,  
Brockage Reverse  
Struck on Nickel Planchet  
MS65 PCGS  
**Realized \$4,320**



2000-D Maryland Quarter  
Struck on Feeder Finger  
Ungraded NGC  
**Realized \$15,600**



1999- SBA Dollar  
Struck on a Sacagawea Planchet  
MS64 PCGS  
**Realized \$15,600**



2000-P Sacagawea Dollar /  
Statehood Quarter Mule  
MS67 NGC  
**Realized \$102,000**

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**1943-S BRONZE LINCOLN CENT, MS63 BROWN  
CELEBRATED WRONG-PLANCHET ERROR  
ONLY SIX EXAMPLES TRACED  
CAC APPROVED, FINEST-KNOWN SPECIMEN**

by Heritage Auctions

*Sold for \$504,000*

**STRUCK AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT**



*Featured in the November 2020 US Coins Signature Auction #1321*

**1943-S 1C Struck on a Bronze Planchet MS63 Brown PCGS. CAC. Ex: Simpson.**

The 1943 bronze Lincoln cents are among the most famous rarities in American coinage and examples always command astronomic prices in their infrequent auction appearances. The coins have been widely publicized since the 1940s and have captured the public's imagination to an extent that few numismatic issues have equaled. Rumors that Henry Ford would reward the finder of any 1943 "copper" cent with a new car swept the country in the 1940s, despite frequently published denials by the Ford Motor Company. The lowly cent was a familiar everyday object that everyone could identify and the prospect of finding one that was miraculously worth a fortune was mesmerizing. Legions of coin collectors were inspired to search countless bank rolls of cents in search of these fabulous treasures. After more than three quarters of a century of this relentless searching, only six examples of the 1943-S bronze Lincoln cent have been discovered, along with a handful of examples from the other U.S. Mints. Heritage Auctions is privileged to

present the finest-known example of this celebrated rarity from the fabulous Simpson Collection in this important offering.

### Origin of the 1943 Bronze Cents

Copper was a strategic metal in 1943, at the height of World War II, an essential element in munitions and communication equipment needed for the war effort. Accordingly, the Treasury Department ordered the U.S. Mint to strike cents on zinc-coated steel planchets in 1943, rather than the traditional bronze planchets which had been in use since 1864 (Q. David Bowers notes the wartime "copper" planchets of this era were actually brass, since tin was also being conserved). The three active U.S. Mints struck more than 1 billion "steel" cents of this wartime composition in 1943, with the San Francisco Mint turning out 191,550,000 pieces. Unfortunately, the "steelies" were unpopular, because they could be easily mistaken for dimes in everyday transactions when new, and they were highly susceptible to tarnish and corrosion



after a short time in circulation. The Mint returned to using bronze planchets in 1944, with much of the metal reclaimed from melted down shell casings.

As fate would have it, a small number of bronze planchets became lodged in the trap doors of the big tote bins used to feed planchets into the coin presses at the end of the year in 1942. When the bins were refilled with zinc-coated steel planchets to commence coinage in 1943, these bronze planchets were dislodged and fed into the coin press, along with the regular-issue “steel” blanks. They were struck and passed into circulation unnoticed in the flood of millions of “steel” cents that were issued that year. This accidental coinage of “copper” cents happened at all three Mints in 1943, creating the rare error coins that are so popular with collectors today. Perhaps 15-20 1943 bronze cents from the Philadelphia Mint survive today, along with six specimens from the San Francisco Mint, and a single example from the Denver facility.

Because the coin presses were set at high pressure to strike the harder zinc-coated steel planchets, most bronze 1943 cents feature sharply detailed design elements.

Rumors of the 1943 “copper” cents began to circulate almost as early as the coins themselves, but actual finds were rare and the United States Mint steadfastly denied any bronze cents were struck in 1943. When teenage collector Kenneth Wing, Jr. inquired about his 1943-S bronze cent in 1946, acting Mint Director Leland Howard replied “there were no copper cents struck during the calendar year 1943 at any of the coinage Mints.” The Mint continued to officially deny the production of 1943 bronze cents until the 1960s, by which time too many obviously genuine coins had been discovered and authenticated by experts to make the denials plausible. The coins remain extremely rare today and any 1943 bronze cent is an important find, with examples regularly bringing six-figure prices at auction.

## The Present Coin

The 1943-S bronze Lincoln cents are much more elusive than their Philadelphia Mint counterparts, but they seem to have been discovered first. As might be expected with San Francisco Mint issues, the earliest finds were in California, where two examples were discovered within a year of the time of issue. Kenneth Wing, Jr., a 14-year old collector from Long Beach discovered an example in circulation in 1944, but the present coin surfaced even earlier. The early history of this specimen was reported in its first auction appearance, in lot 1991 of the Dr. Charles L. Ruby Collection, Part I (Superior, 2/1974):

“Discovered in a bag of 1943-S cents in the main office of the San Diego Bank of America by Merl D. Burcham. Later it came into possession of Frank Spadone, author of a paperback book on mint

errors. It was subsequently included in a trade involving regular and pattern silver coins valued at that time for \$15,000 (1965), between Spadone and one Walter Farris of Bristol, Tennessee. COIN WORLD ran a story about Farris and the trade on page 41, January 20, 1965. Farris obtained an authentication certificate from Walter Breen and this lot will include all papers and articles concerning this important mint error. The 1943 bronze cent is undoubtedly the most prized of all mint errors and certainly ranks with the 1794 dollar, 1804 dollar and 1913 Liberty nickel in sheer publicity. The present offering is, to the best of our knowledge, the first time a 1943-S bronze cent has ever been put up at auction. With all the publicity surrounding this coin and the great demand today for important rarities, this coin should easily surpass the price paid nine years ago. In a custom plastic holder. PHOTO.”

This coin, which is evidently both the finest known and the discovery example of this famous rarity, passed through the hands of several collectors and dealers in succeeding years, appearing at auction on two other occasions before Bob Simpson acquired it in a private transaction for a record price of \$1 million in 2012 (see roster below for a detailed history). The coin offered here was a cornerstone of Simpson's All-Time Finest PCGS Registry Set of Lincoln Cents Off-Metal Strikes, Circulation Strikes (1943-1944). It will certainly become a centerpiece of some other fortunate numismatist's fabulous collection when this lot passes the auction block.

### Physical Description

The present coin is the finest-certified example of this sought-after American rarity by four grade points. This impressive MS63 specimen exhibits the sharply detailed design elements expected of this issue, with intricate detail in

Lincoln's hair and the wheat stalks. A tiny fleck of zinc, from one of the millions of "steel" cents struck in 1943, is impressed into the obverse surface, just above and to the right of the 3 in the date. The lightly marked surfaces show a mix of light brown and crimson patina, with traces of original red in sheltered areas. Close inspection with a loupe reveals a few microscopic specks of carbon on both sides. The quality and eye appeal of this remarkable specimen are confirmed by the CAC Sticker. It has been more than 20 years since this spectacular coin has been publicly offered and it may not appear again for another generation. We expect intense competition from series specialists, error collectors, and Registry Set enthusiasts when this lot is called. The 1943-S bronze Lincoln cent is listed among the *100 Greatest U.S. Error Coins*, along with its Philadelphia and Denver Mint counterparts. This coin is pictured on PCGS CoinFacts. Population: 1 in 63 Brown, 0 finer. CAC: 1 in 63, 0 finer (10/20).



## Roster of 1943-S Bronze Cents

*We can confirm only six examples of the 1943-S bronze cents certified by the two major grading and authentication services, including several resubmissions and crossovers. Perhaps as many as 15 to 20 examples survive of the 1943 Philadelphia bronze cents, while the 1943-D bronze cent, MS64 Brown PCGS, in the Simpson Collection (for which he paid \$1.7 million in 2010) remains unique, despite decades of searching on the part of thousands of collectors. The roster is based on publicized trades and public auctions; private trades may represent other examples that are unlisted here.*

### 1. MS63 Brown PCGS Secure.

“Found in the year of issue in a Mint-sewn bag of 1943-S steel cents” by Merl D. Burcham, per its early appearances with Superior Galleries (the Superior lot description from February 1974 is reprinted in Dr. Sol Taylor’s *Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent*, fourth edition [1999], page 138); later to error coin dealer

Frank Spadone; part of a \$15,000 trade of “regular and pattern silver coins” valued at that time [1965] between Spadone and Walter Farris of Bristol, Tennessee, per the Superior ads (and covered in a *Coin World* story on page 41, January 20, 1965); authenticated at some point by Walter Breen (before 1965, by which time Farris had obtained the certification); Dr. Charles L. Ruby Collection, Part I (Superior, 2/1974), lot 1991; Jan Bronson; Alan Van Vliet, in 1976; Margene Heathgate Collection (Superior, 6/1997), lot 145, realized \$49,500; Dr. Jon Kardatzke Collection (Goldberg Auctions, 2/2000), lot 257, as MS61 Brown NGC, brought \$115,000; Legend Numismatics to Bob Simpson as MS62 Brown PCGS for \$1 million (9/2012); Simpson Collection. Possibly the MS61 Brown NGC example listed on their Census Report. Wexler-Flynn #3, PCGS certification #25510131. From the Simpson All-Time Finest PCGS Registry Set of Lincoln Cents Off-Metal Strikes, Circulation Strikes (1943-1944). **The present coin.**

**2. AU58 PCGS.** Central States Auction (Kurt Krueger, 4/1989), lot 979; Dave Berg in 1989; private collection; Haig Koshkarian Collection (American Numismatic Rarities, 3/2004), lot 380; Simpson Collection; Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2016), lot 3087, realized \$282,000. This piece became the Bob Simpson “duplicate” when he purchased a 1943-S bronze cent in MS62 Brown PCGS Secure for \$1 million in September 2012, a transaction arranged by Legend Numismatics (see number 1 above). Formerly graded AU58 NGC, still listed on the NGC *Census Report*. Wexler-Flynn #1, PCGS certification #18523980.

**3. AU55 PCGS Secure.** Fred Weinberg in 1979; Dwight Berger in 1983; purchased from an unspecified auction “sometime during the 1980s” and newly certified at PCGS in autumn 2015. Previously authenticated by ANACS. The Sorensen Collection / FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2016), lot 5267, brought \$211,500. Wexler-Flynn #2, PCGS certification #25653505.

**4. AU55 NGC.** Saint Louis Signature (Heritage, 3/1989), lot 56; Dwight Berger; ANA Signature (Heritage, 7/1997), lot 5919. Wexler-Flynn #4, listed on the NGC *Census Report*.

**5. AU53 NGC.** Ex: Kenneth S. Wing Jr. Collection. “Discovered within a year of its issue, this attractive specimen remained in the same family for more than 60 years,” according to its NGC Photo Proof certification and extensive documentation provided by its previous owner. Found in circulation in 1944 by 14-year-old collector Kenneth S. Wing, Jr. in Long Beach, California; Kenneth S. Wing family; sold to Rare Coin Wholesalers for \$72,500 (7/2008); purchased from Park Avenue Numismatics for \$173,000 (8/2008); Kerry Rudin; FUN Signature (Heritage, 1/2018), lot 4764; realized \$228,000; ANA Signature (Heritage, 8/2019), lot 3703, realized \$216,000. NGC certification #3184796-001; formerly in a slab with NGC certification #3210930-001 (now listed as AU53/ Deleted by NGC), also formerly certified as XF45 PCGS, certification #11456467, and still pictured on the

PCGS CoinFacts site. Photographed on NGC *Coin Explorer*.

**6. VF35 PCGS.** Dr. Carl A. Minning, Jr. Collection (Bowers and Merena, 8/1999), lot 1122, brought \$51,750; Pre-Long Beach Sale (Superior, 10/2000), lot 4147; Phillip Flannagan, et al Sale (Bowers and Merena, 11/2001), lot 6076, realized \$62,100; Alfred V. Melson Collection, Part Two / Long Beach Signature (Heritage, 2/2010), lot 178, garnered \$207,000; Geyer Family Collection / New York Signature (Heritage, 11/2013), lot 3510, brought \$141,000. Described by the 1999 Bowers and Merena cataloger as “King of the Small Cents / Nationwide Publicity Item!” PCGS certification #3457896. PCGS Cert Verification still confirms this coin, but it no longer appears in the *Population Report*. We believe it is incorrectly listed as the VF35 steel cent in the population data.



**1943-S BRONZE LINCOLN CENT, MS63 BROWN - CELEBRATED WRONG-PLANCHET ERROR**











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# 1943 BRONZE CENT, MS62 BROWN THE C. 1957 MARVIN BEYER DISCOVERY

by Heritage Auctions

*Sold for \$372,000*

## STRUCK AT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT



*Featured in the February 2021 Long Beach Expo US Coins Signature Auction #1327*

**1943 CENT Struck on a Bronze Planchet MS62 Brown PCGS. CAC. Ex: Simpson.**

Approximately twenty Philadelphia Mint bronze cents dated 1943 are believed to exist, along with just one from the Denver Mint, and five from the San Francisco Mint. Opposing errors dated 1944 are struck on zinc-coated steel blanks. Planchets were transported within the Mint in large bins. As 1942 came to a close, a small number of bronze blanks were lodged in the crevices of one or more of those bins. When new zinc-coated steel blanks were placed in the bin (or bins), the previous bronze blanks were dislodged and went through the coinage process undetected and eventually entered circulation where they were eventually saved by sharp-eyed collectors. One of those collectors was a young man, Marvin Wallace Beyer, Jr.

Beyer found this coin in circulation, reportedly around 1957 when he was 14 years old. Beyer was born on September 3, 1940, suggesting that he was either 17 years old, or that he found the coin around 1954. The earliest report in *The Numismatist*

appeared in the May 1957 issue reporting on the February 18, 1957 meeting of the East Los Angeles Coin Club:

“Hy Spitz read an article published in the December issue of *Optimist International* magazine, entitled “The Philadelphia Mint Family,” telling of the establishment of the first U.S. mint in 1792. Mr. Spitz referred to a recent article in the *Los Angeles Examiner* recounting a 14-year-old boy, Marv, Beyer, finding a rare 1943 ‘copper cent.’”

After reportedly spending some \$700 on metallurgical testing, Beyer’s father, also Marvin W. Beyer, consigned the coin to Abe Kosoff for the 1958 ANA sale, but later elected to withdraw the coin from the sale, resulting in a lawsuit as reported in the April 1959 issue of *The Numismatist*:

“Because of the withdrawal of the 1943 copper cent from the A.N.A. auction last year in Los Angeles minutes before the coin was to go on

the block, Abe Kosoff the auctioneer, has filed suit in Superior Court Los Angeles, against the coin's owners, the Marvin Beyers. The cataloger is seeking \$60,750.00 on several counts, charging breach of contract, fraud, deceit and slander."

In the Complete Guide to Lincoln Cents, author David Lange reports that the "Greer Company" of Los Angeles bought the coin per an article in the February 1, 1959 issue of The Los Angeles Examiner. The reported price was \$40,000 although Lange questions that amount as extraordinary for the time. We have been unable to find out more about the Greer Company. This cent was apparently not seen again until it appeared in the October 2000 Superior Pre-Long Beach sale, reappearing in the Goldberg Coins' Benson Collection sale of February 2003, its last public auction appearance.

This lovely cent has vibrant blue toning over lustrous olive-brown surfaces with slight weakness on

Lincoln's beard, but with sharp wheat ears, and exceptional surfaces for the grade. This piece has eye appeal that equals its rarity. We were pleased to offer the Don Lutes discovery coin for the 1943 copper cent in the January 2019 FUN Signature sale, and now we are equally pleased to offer this Marvin Beyer example, the second confirmed 1943 copper cent.

Ex: Marvin Beyer, Jr., who found this piece in circulation about 1957; consigned to the 1958 ANA Convention Sale (Abe Kosoff), but withdrawn by Marvin Beyer, Sr. prior to the sale; reportedly sold to the Greer Company of Los Angeles in 1959 for \$40,000; later, Pre-Long Beach Sale (Superior, 10/2000), lot 4146; Benson Collection (Goldberg Coins, 2/2003), lot 148.

**Coin Index Numbers:** (NGC ID# 22E5, PCGS# 82709)

**Weight:** 3.11 grams

**Metal:** 95% Copper, 5% Tin & Zinc



**1943 BRONZE CENT, MS62 BROWN - THE C. 1957 MARVIN BEYER DISCOVERY**









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**PRISTINE 1944-S STEEL CENT MS66**  
**ONE OF ONLY TWO KNOWN**  
**THE ONLY KNOWN UNCIRCULATED EXAMPLE**

by Heritage Auctions

***Sold for \$373,750***



*Featured in the July-August 2008 Baltimore, MD (ANA) US Coin Signature Auction #1114*

**1944-S 1C --On a Zinc-Plated Steel Planchet--MS66 NGC.** 2.6 gm. Large S, one of two mintmark styles in use that year in San Francisco, along with the Knob S. The other known 1944-S steel cent is also the Large S variety.

## PRISTINE 1944-S STEEL CENT MS66 - ONE OF ONLY TWO KNOWN

Within the past two years, Heritage has auctioned eight 1944-dated steel cents, three from the Philadelphia Mint and five from the Denver Mint. Among these lots, a 1944-D MS63 NGC realized \$115,000 in lot 1583 of our 2007 Milwaukee ANA Signature, a 1944-D MS62 NGC brought \$92,000 as lot 2715 of our 2008 FUN Signature, and an AU55 ANACS achieved \$69,000 in our 2007 May Long Beach Signature.

As impressive as those three prices realized are, remember that the present lot grades MS66, three points higher than the finest of the past lots. Also, those lots were 1944-D cents. The present off-metal cent is from the San Francisco Mint. A search of our online auction archives, which date to 1993, shows no steel 1944-S cents offered within that 15-year span.

This is unsurprising, since David W. Lange states in his *Complete Guide to Lincoln Cents* (2006) that “the rarity of this issue is so great that it may be considered non-collectible in the practical sense. The only known specimen appeared as Lot 787 in

Bowers & Ruddy Galleries’ auction of January 25-27, 1983. It was graded XF and had been cleaned.” That lot realized \$5,390.

The (6/08) online NGC Census data lists a grand total of seven 1944-dated steel cents, four 1944, two 1944-D, and one 1944-S, which grades XF and is presumably the same piece last auctioned in 1983 (the present piece was apparently certified too recently to appear in that Census). Among those, the two highest certified are an MS63 1944 and an MS63 1944-D. PCGS omits off-metal 1944-dated cents from its online population report.

*The Complete Guide to Lincoln Cents* states that 27 1944 steel cents are confirmed and “no more than 10” 1944-D steel cents are known, in addition to the solitary cleaned XF 1944-S. It is logical that a greater number of steel 1944 Philadelphia cents are known than from the two branch mints, since the Philadelphia Mint struck 25 million Belgium two francs on the same zinc-coated steel alloy planchet type used for the 1943 cents, an economy measure to use leftover planchets from

## PRISTINE 1944-S STEEL CENT MS66 - ONE OF ONLY TWO KNOWN

1943. A two francs planchet could easily have wandered into the wrong bin, and would have made it through the riddlers because it had the expected diameter.

According to David Lange, “Since the San Francisco Mint did not participate in producing the two francs coinage for Belgium, it must be assumed that this coin was the result of a planchet intended for 1943-S cent production finding its way accidentally between 1944-S dies.” Under the steel 1944-D listing, he adds, “all of the 1944-D steel cents must have resulted from steel planchets adhering to the inside of tote bins during 1943 and being struck during 1944.”

A similar happenstance apparently caused the off metal 1943-dated bronze cents, which are perhaps even more famous than the 1944-dated steelies. Zinc-plated steel cents adhere to a magnet, which makes that non-destructive test essential for authentication of any steel cent. According to an October 1960 article in *Numismatic Scrapbook*, Richard Fenton was the first to discover a 1944-dated steel cent, circa 1945.

He failed to report the find until a different example was published in the December 1956 *Mint Error Collector Bulletin*.

Although other 1944 and 1944-D steel cents have emerged since, the only known 1944-S steel cent, until now, was the aforementioned XF example. The arrival of the present MS66 on the market is nothing short of remarkable. It is only the second known 1944-S steel cent, the only known Uncirculated 1944-S steel cent, and the finest certified of *any* 1944-dated steel cent, three grades ahead of any others seen by NGC.

As expected of the MS66 grade, the present piece has booming luster. There are no visible marks or spots. The strike is very sharp. For pedigree purposes, we note a tiny area of russet granularity near the reverse rim at 3 o'clock. Light gold toning is present on the left reverse, and to a lesser extent on the left obverse field. Given the superlative quality and immense rarity of the present coin, the opportunity for the Lincoln cent specialist cannot be overemphasized.



**PRISTINE 1944-S STEEL CENT MS66 - ONE OF ONLY TWO KNOWN**



**PRISTINE 1944-S STEEL CENT MS66 - ONE OF ONLY TWO KNOWN**





# Private Mint News

Private mints and their issues have a long and illustrious history, but it is often hard to assemble, often years later without good documentation. When working with sovereign mints like the United States Mint, there is often a lot of archives and records available to research which is not available for private mints.

To address this, Private Mint News is a new online publication focusing on numismatics from by private mints. Private mint issues or creations, often in the form of tokens and medals called exnumia, is a rich and evolving area, however, research information can be thin on both classic and recent issues, especially the latter. The goal of Private Mint News is to assist in rectifying this situation by documenting and discussing issues from Private Mints of all eras.

Coverage includes private mints issuers of all eras and locations with an initial focus on the United States. Modern issuer coverage will include Daniel Carr of Moonlight Mint, Ron Lands of Gallery Mint Museum, Jared Grove of Grove Minting, Provident Metals, and other issuers. Classic issuers will include issuers of tokens, medals and coins including Civil War Tokens, So-Called Dollars, Territorial and Pioneer coins as well as Private Patterns.

**privatemintnews.com**



# 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets???*

by Mike Byers ([mikebyers.com](http://mikebyers.com))



Heritage Auctions just sold two 1944 Lincoln Cents from the Fred Weinberg Collection. Although the PCGS insert with the

Fred Weinberg pedigree designates these as Struck on Experimental Planchets, they very likely were struck on foreign planchets.

## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

In the Heritage auction archives, there is a 1944 Lincoln Cent, certified MS 63 by PCGS, and designated as Struck on a Netherlands 25C Planchet. A Netherlands quarter planchet from 1944 has a weight of 3.57 grams, a diameter of 19mm, and is 64% silver and 36% copper. This almost identically matches the 1944 Lincoln Cent certified MS 62 by PCGS, and designated as Experimental 3.6g Planchet. It also has a diameter of 19mm, a weight of 3.6 grams (which could have been rounded up from 3.57 grams) and is also silver and copper with slightly different percentages. It is 69% silver instead of 64% and 31% copper instead of 36%. It is most likely that Fred Weinberg's 3.6g experimental cent was struck on a Netherlands 25C Planchet.

Also in the Heritage auction archives, there is a 1944 Lincoln Cent, certified MS 62 by PCGS, and designated as Struck on a Philippines 5C Planchet. A Philippines five centavos planchet from 1944 has a weight of 4.92 grams, a diameter

of 19mm, and is 65% copper, 23% zinc and 12% nickel. This almost identically matches the 1944 Lincoln Cent certified MS 63 by PCGS, and designated as Experimental 4.9g Thick Planchet. It also has a diameter of 19mm, a weight of 4.9 grams and is also copper, zinc and nickel with slightly different percentages. It is 64% copper instead of 65%, 20% zinc instead of 23%, and 16% nickel instead of 12%. It is most likely that Fred Weinberg's 4.9g experimental cent was struck on a Philippines 5C Planchet.

Mint Error News published a 69 page PDF report detailing the mintages of foreign coinage struck by the US Mint. This report contains all the potential planchet compositions that off-metal coins could be struck on. In the case of these two 1944 Lincoln Cents, the only planchets that match the metal compositions of these off-metal errors are the 3.57g Netherlands 25C Planchet and the 4.92g Philippines 5C Planchet.

[Click Here To Read The Report](#)

## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

Here are the auction details on Fred Weinberg's "Experimental" 1944 Lincoln Cents and comparable off-metal 1944 Lincoln Cents struck on a Netherlands 25C Planchet and a Philippines 5C Planchet.

**1944 Lincoln Cent, MS62  
Struck on an Experimental Planchet  
69% Silver, 31% Copper**

***SOLD FOR \$19,200.00***



**1944 Lincoln Cent -- Experimental Planchet -- MS62 PCGS.** Ex: Fred Weinberg Collection. 3.6 grams. 69% Silver, 31% copper. During World War II, copper was an important munitions alloy, while silver was not. For example, silver was added to the wartime Jefferson nickel alloy, while copper and nickel were removed. One can speculate that the present cent was intentionally struck as part of an effort to replace the unsuitable 1943 steel cent alloy yet reduce the copper content of 1944 cents. In any event, this coin exists in its possibly unique silver-copper alloy. It is lustrous and nicely struck with unmarked surfaces and light golden-brown toning. The reverse has a railroad rim near 9 o'clock. The rim is widest on the reverse near 5 o'clock, and narrowest on the obverse near 5 o'clock.

*From The Fred Weinberg Collection.*



## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

1944 Lincoln Cent, MS62  
Struck on an Experimental Planchet  
69% Silver, 31% Copper



## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

1944 Cent, MS63, Struck on a  
Netherlands 25 Cent Planchet

***SOLD FOR \$7,637.50***



### **1944 Lincoln Cent -- Struck on a Netherlands 25 Cent Planchet -- MS63 PCGS.**

A Netherlands 25 cent planchet has a standard weight of 3.575 gm and a standard diameter of 19 mm. The silver alloy is 640 Fine. The U.S. struck coins for the Netherlands in 1944 and 1945 due to its German occupation. Though a 1944 cent on a zinc-plated steel flan is a costly off metal error, the present piece should prove much more affordable despite similar rarity. Lustrous, sharply struck, and unmarked with delicate wheat-gold and ice-blue toning.

*From The Geyer Family Collection.*

## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

1944 Cent, MS63, Struck on a  
Netherlands 25 Cent Planchet





## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

1944 Lincoln Cent, MS63  
on a Thick Experimental Planchet  
64% Copper, 20% Zinc, 16% Nickel

***SOLD FOR \$12,000.00***



**1944 Lincoln Cent -- Experimental Planchet -- MS63 PCGS.** Ex: Fred Weinberg Collection. 4.9 grams. The typical 1944 cent weighs 3.1 grams. Pollock (1994) states “1944 one-cent pieces are known struck on especially thick planchets. These are listed as “experimental cents” in the Judd pattern reference. Other numismatists regard them to be mint errors; i.e. struck on planchets cut from sheets of rolled stock intended for the production of foreign coins.” Pollock listed them as P-2078. It is curious that the alloy is 16% nickel, since that metal was absent from 1944 Jefferson nickels. Regardless of whether the present piece is a pattern, an experimental cent, or a mint error on a foreign planchet, it is possibly unique in its alloy combination. It is well struck and coruscating with light peach-gold toning and minimal signs of contact.  
*From The Fred Weinberg Collection.*

## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

1944 Lincoln Cent, MS63  
on a Thick Experimental Planchet  
64% Copper, 20% Zinc, 16% Nickel



## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

1944 Lincoln Cent, MS62  
Struck on a Philippines 5 Centavos Planchet

***SOLD FOR \$6,462.50***



**1944 Lincoln Cent -- Struck on a Philippines 5 Centavos Planchet -- MS62 PCGS.** The Philadelphia Mint struck 5 centavos for the Philippines (KM-180a) due to the Japanese occupation. A standard five centavos alloy is 0.650 copper, 0.230 zinc, and 0.120 nickel. Crisply struck and coruscating with smooth surfaces and a hint of olive-gold toning. All design elements are intact.  
*From The Geyer Family Collection.*



## 1944 Off-Metal Lincoln Cents: *Experimental* or on *Foreign Planchets*??

1944 Lincoln Cent, MS62  
Struck on a Philippines 5 Centavos Planchet





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# NGC Certifies Unique 1943 Lincoln Cent 13-Piece Set Including an Experimental Antimony Test Piece

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

Included in this unique 1943 Lincoln Cent 13-piece set is an experimental 1943 Lincoln cent and 12 blanks and planchets with different compositions that were part of the metallurgical testing done by the Philadelphia Mint for an alternative to the pre-1943 bronze cent.





## NGC Certifies Unique 1943 Lincoln Cent 13-Piece Set Including an Experimental Antimony Test Piece

The experimental 1943 Lincoln cent was struck in steel but was coated with a combination of 90% zinc, 4% antimony and 6% iron. It is similar to Judd-2085 although no Judd designation is on the NGC holder.

The only other known piece was featured in an article in the September 21, 2009 edition of Coin World. The article, written by Coin World reporter Paul Gilkes, identified the owners as “the children of a former Philadelphia Mint metallurgist [now deceased] who worked on finding an alternative to the pre-1943 bronze cent.”

The 1943 Judd-2085 Lincoln cent is part of a 5-piece NGC certified set and was authenticated and certified AU58. The accompanying envelope is annotated: “Experimental Zinc & Antimony on steel. Dec. 1942.” According to David Camire, an NGC consultant, this pattern for the 1943 cent was “subjected to nondestructive, X-ray fluorescence.” Camire continued that “the testing determined the composition to be 90 percent zinc, 4 percent antimony, 6 percent iron plating” according to the Coin World article.

The USPatterns.com website reports that “It differs from

## **NGC Certifies Unique 1943 Lincoln Cent 13-Piece Set Including an Experimental Antimony Test Piece**

the regular zinc coated steel cent of this year in that the plating includes antimony and iron. According to researcher Roger Burdette, it is probable that the antimony was added to make the coin darker in color in order to make it less likely to be confused with a dime which, apparently happened often.”

The 5-piece NGC set from The Geyer Family Collection included an experimental antimony test piece, a pattern and 3 blanks. It originally sold for \$161,000.00 in the Heritage January 2010 FUN US Coin Auction in Orlando, FL. It later sold for \$58,750.00 in the Heritage November 2013 US Coin

Signature Auction in New York. In comparison, the 13-piece set featured here includes a similar antimony test piece as well as several experimental blanks and planchets that were not part of the 5-piece set, making it a much more interesting and comprehensive collection.

This unique 13-piece set represents a fascinating part of the Mint’s history and production of experimental coinage. This exciting and historic set clearly illustrates the U.S. Mint’s process in developing an alternative to the bronze cent due to the shortage of copper during World War II.

# NGC Certifies Unique 1943 Lincoln Cent 13-Piece Set Including an Experimental Antimony Test Piece

1943 Struck on 1C Experimental Zinc Coated Antimony, Steel Planchet (2.7g) NGC MS 63





# NGC Certifies Unique 1943 Lincoln Cent 13-Piece Set Including an Experimental Antimony Test Piece

1943 Struck on 1C Experimental Zinc Coated Antimony, Steel Planchet (2.7g) NGC MS 63



# NGC Certifies Unique 1943 Lincoln Cent 13-Piece Set Including an Experimental Antimony Test Piece



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# 1943-D Lincoln Cent Struck on an Australia Sixpence Planchet

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

This is an extremely rare off-metal Lincoln Cent. The Denver Mint struck silver Australian Sixpence coins in 1943. Somehow a planchet ended up

being struck by the Lincoln Cent dies. It is full size which adds to the attraction of being an off-metal with the magic 1943 date.





## 1943-D Lincoln Cent Struck on an Australia Sixpence Planchet



## 1943-D Lincoln Cent Struck on an Australia Sixpence Planchet



# COINWeek

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# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

BY NGC

*Two previously unknown 1943 “copper” cents and two other wrong-planchet errors were recently certified by NGC.*



**N**umismatic Guaranty Corporation® (NGC®) has certified an extraordinary group of four 1942 and 1943 Lincoln Cents struck on the wrong planchets. Included in this group are two examples of the 1943 bronze (“copper”) cent, one of the most famous US error coins.

In 1943, the US Mint used zinc-coated steel for Lincoln Cents instead of the usual bronze (or “copper”) composition in an effort to preserve copper for the war effort. A small number of bronze planchets were nonetheless struck with these 1943-dated dies and escaped the Mint.

The 1943 bronze cents quickly piqued the interest of collectors, who were excited that something seemingly so mundane—a

“copper” cent—could be so rare and valuable. Reports of finds in circulation added to the enthusiasm and high prices were soon reported.

This popularity has continued to the present day. In the 100 Greatest Mint Errors book, co-authored by NGC grading finalizer and error coin specialist David J. Camire, the Philadelphia 1943 bronze cent was ranked #4. It has been estimated that only 10-12 Philadelphia 1943 bronze cents exist, a figure that does not include the two specimens recently certified by NGC.

These two new discoveries were graded NGC MS 62 BN and NGC MS 61 BN. The former specimen, at MS 62 BN, ranks as the second-finest 1943 bronze cent certified by NGC. The latter is particularly interesting,

however, because it is the only example known with a large die break on the obverse.

“1943 Lincoln cents struck on bronze planchets are one of the ‘Holy Grails’ of US numismatics,” says Camire. “It is very exciting to see two examples in a single submission, especially the unique example featuring the die break on the obverse.”

The submission of the two 1943 bronze cents also included two Lincoln cents struck on planchets intended to be used for foreign coins that were then being struck by the Philadelphia Mint. There was a 1942 cent struck on an Ecuador 20 Centavos planchet, which NGC graded MS 63, and a 1943 cent on a Netherlands 25 cent planchet that was graded NGC MS 61.

“It is extremely unusual to see wrong planchet error cents from this time period,” adds Camire. “Recent appearances of such errors are few and far between.”

This incredible group of coins was submitted to NGC by the family of former US Mint employee Albert Michael Pratt. The coins were brought to the West Hernando Coin Club coin show in January 2017 where they were shown to John A. Zieman Jr. of Z-man’s Coins, who submitted them to NGC on behalf of the family. “NGC has a great reputation for being very consistent, has awesome customer service and very fast turnaround times. It was a no brainer that I submitted these coins to NGC,” says John Zieman. For more information about Z-man’s Coins, visit [zmanscoins.com](http://zmanscoins.com).



# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1943 Bronze Cent  
NGC MS 62 BN



# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1943 Bronze Cent  
NGC MS 62 BN



NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1943 Bronze Cent  
NGC MS 62 BN





NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1943 Bronze Cent  
NGC MS 62 BN



# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1943 Bronze Cent Obverse Die Break  
NGC MS 61 BN



# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1943 Bronze Cent Obverse Die Break  
NGC MS 61 BN





## NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1943 Bronze Cent Obverse Die Break  
NGC MS 61 BN





## NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1943 Bronze Cent Obverse Die Break  
NGC MS 61 BN



# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1942 Cent Struck on An Ecuador 20 Centavos Planchet  
Mint Error NGC MS 63





# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

**1942 Cent Struck on An Ecuador 20 Centavos Planchet  
Mint Error NGC MS 63**



## NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1942 Cent Struck on An Ecuador 20 Centavos Planchet  
Mint Error NGC MS 63





## NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1942 Cent Struck on An Ecuador 20 Centavos Planchet  
Mint Error NGC MS 63





# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1942 Cent On Netherlands 25 Cent Planchet  
Mint Error NGC MS 61



# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

**1942 Cent On Netherlands 25 Cent Planchet  
Mint Error NGC MS 61**





## NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1942 Cent On Netherlands 25 Cent Planchet  
Mint Error NGC MS 61





# NGC CERTIFIES RARE 1942 AND 1943 WRONG-PLANCHET CENTS

1942 Cent On Netherlands 25 Cent Planchet  
Mint Error NGC MS 61



# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

BY NGC

*Whitney Collection of Wrong-Planchet Cents Certified by NGC*



**A**n important collection of Lincoln Cent wrong-planchet errors has been graded and encapsulated by Numismatic Guaranty Corporation. Consisting of eight

pieces dated 1943 and 1944, these rare coins were submitted by collector John Whitney of New York and have been pedigreed to his collection by NGC.

As a wartime emergency measure, the cents of 1943 were all supposed to have been coined on planchets of steel, plated with zinc. Those of 1944 reverted to the pre-war bronze alloy of copper and zinc, though without the trace amount of tin used until 1942. Still, numismatists have known for many years that a small number of 1943 cents were coined on bronze planchets in error and that a somewhat greater number of 1944 cents were mistakenly coined in steel. Rare and highly desired by collectors, these 1943-44 wrong-planchet cents have been making headlines in the past couple of years, as a number of highly-publicized sales have occurred at auction.

The eight coins submitted to NGC by Mr. Whitney represent a remarkable assemblage that

probably could not be duplicated in the current market.

Included are one example each of the 1943 cents from the Philadelphia and San Francisco Mints struck in bronze. Both have been graded AU 58 BN (brown) by NGC. The 1943-P cent is the finest of only four certified by NGC, while the 1943-S specimen is the first of this mint that NGC has graded.

Also included in the Whitney Collection are two 1944 Philadelphia Mint steel cents, grading AU-58 and MS-63, respectively. These bring the population of such coins graded by NGC to just three, the mint state specimen being the finest.

One example each of 1944 steel cents from the Denver and San Francisco Mints are found within



this collection, and they've been certified by NGC as MS-62 and XF-40, respectively. While NGC had previously graded three 1944-D steel cents from other submitters, this collection includes the first 1944-S piece it has certified.

The final two coins submitted by Mr. Whitney are 1943-S cents struck on silver dime planchets. Grading AU 55 and MS 63, respectively, these are the first such wrong-planchet coins certified by NGC.

The name of John Whitney is already familiar to the hobby from his award-winning collection of the United States coinage of 1796. Representing all of the various dies employed that year, this amazing display was

on exhibit again at last summer's ANA Convention in New York City.

Mr. Whitney has not announced any plans for his wrong-planchet collection, but when asked to comment about the collection, Whitney replied: "The 1943-44 wrong-planchet Lincoln Cents have always intrigued me as an interesting challenge to assemble. This is true for all three possible planchet errors: bronze, steel and silver; the silver dime planchet being the least 'popular/known' wrong-planchet error.

"The old false rumor of Henry Ford offering to exchange a new car for a 1943 copper cent had planted a seed in me as a teenager growing up during World War II. I finally was able to

acquire the first of the coins in the early 1980's. I've been adding to the collection ever since, both privately and by auction, and expanding it to include wrong-planchet overstrikes and brockages.

"With the recent auction activity of several 1943-44 wrong-planchet cents and NGC's recent grading and encapsulation of many of those coins, I felt that NGC had the best experience to examine my collection. This is reinforced by Dave Lange's expertise on the entire Lincoln Cent mintage from his research in writing his latest book on Lincolns."

The Whitney Collection of 1943-44 cents was examined by NGC's director of research, David W. Lange, who weighed

each piece and determined that all fell within the legal tolerance for their respective planchets. Lange, who is the author of *The Complete Guide to Lincoln Cents*, was struck by both the quality and the importance of this collection: "I've personally not had the opportunity to examine so many examples of 1943-44 wrong-planchet cents at one time until this impressive group came across my desk. The choice condition of several of these pieces permitted a more conclusive determination of genuineness than is possible with most surviving examples, which are typically worn, cleaned and/or corroded. Mr. Whitney has put together an important reference collection and one which I had the real pleasure of documenting thoroughly."

# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1943 Bronze Cent  
NGC AU 58 BN





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944 Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC AU 55



# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944 Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC AU 55





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944 Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC AU 55





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC MS 62



## UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC MS 62





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC MS 62





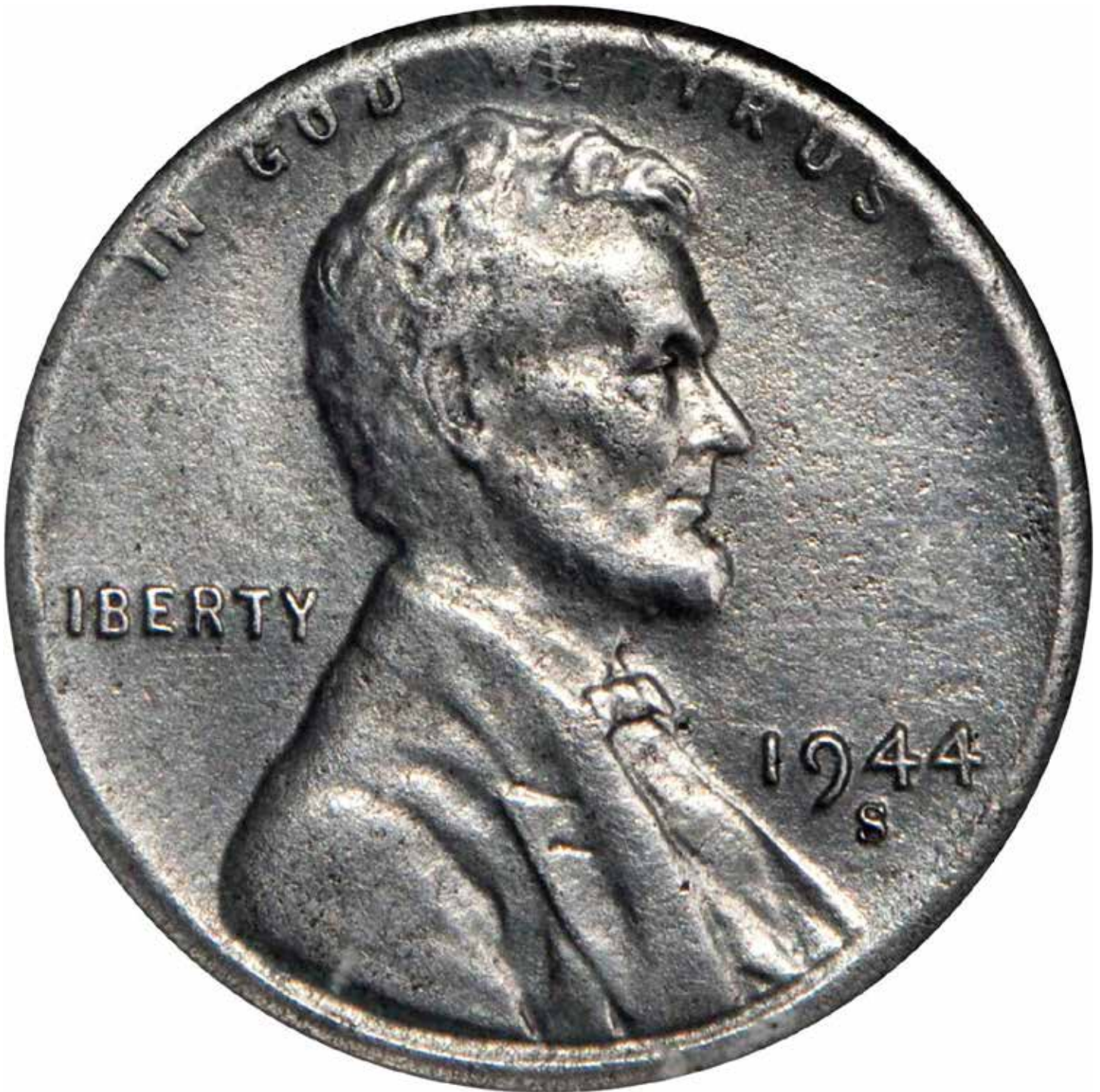
# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC XF 40



## UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC XF 40





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC XF 40





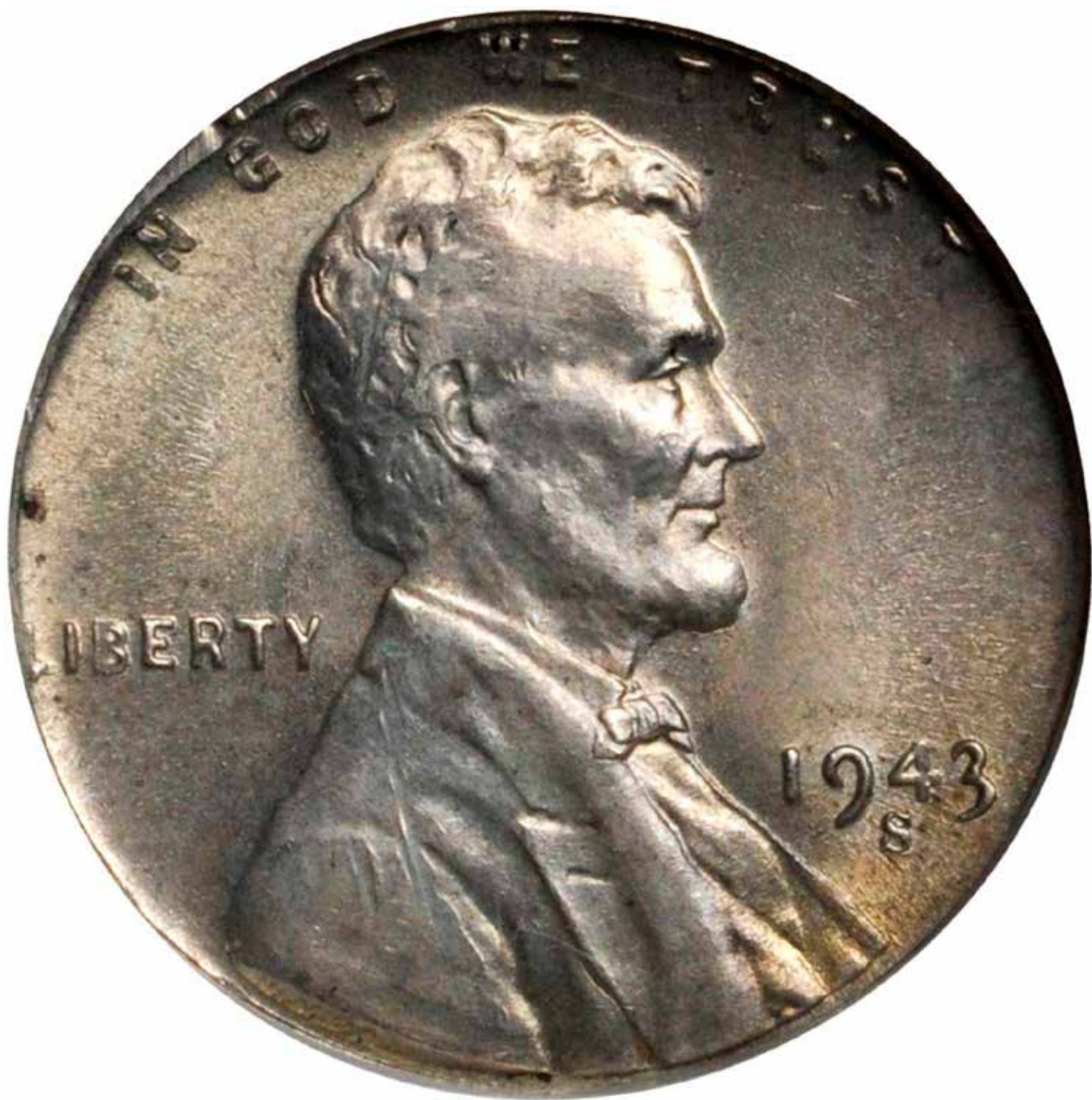
# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1943-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Dime Planchet  
NGC MS 63



# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1943-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Dime Planchet  
NGC MS 63





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1943-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Dime Planchet  
NGC MS 63





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1943-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Dime Planchet  
NGC AU 55



# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1943-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Dime Planchet  
NGC AU 55





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1943-S Lincoln Cent Struck on a Dime Planchet  
NGC AU 55





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944 Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC MS 63



## UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944 Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC MS 63





# UNIQUE COLLECTION OF LINCOLN CENT RARITIES SURFACES

1944 Lincoln Cent Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet  
NGC MS 63







# PCGS CoinFacts

Your Online Reference for U.S. Coins

PCGS CoinFacts includes comprehensive information on nearly 30,000 U.S. coins. It offers everything from basic, startup information for new collectors, to a wealth of detailed information the seasoned collector, buyer or seller can't afford to be without.

From the PCGS CoinFacts Home Page, you can access all denominations and major types of U.S. coins. The link will take you to a Series Page, which offers images of the finest PCGS-graded coin in the series, and a nice explanation including the history and why the coins in the series are important.

The real “business end” of PCGS CoinFacts begins with the individual coin pages, which are loaded with photos and information. To view the essential features of PCGS CoinFacts, you can click on them one at a time, or go straight to a particular feature of interest.

# NGC CERTIFIES UNIQUE WARTIME DISCOVERY 2.5 GRAM BRONZE CENT STRUCK AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

*This is a fascinating 1942-S Lincoln Cent that was struck on a 2.5 gram bronze planchet with a composition of 95% copper, 4% zinc and 1% tin.*



## NGC CERTIFIES UNIQUE WARTIME DISCOVERY 2.5 GRAM BRONZE CENT STRUCK AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT

**A**fter examining this unique mint error and consulting with many experts on mint errors, patterns and die trials, the consensus is that it was struck on a 1942 Curacao cent planchet that had been coated or plated with zinc before being struck.

Planchets for the 1942 Curacao cent were produced by the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia and have the exact same specifications as this 1942-S cent; 2.5 grams in weight, a diameter of 19mm and a composition of 95% copper, 4% zinc and 1% tin. However, Curacao cents were never struck in San Francisco!

The Mint Error News website has a 69 page report of coins struck by the U.S. Mint for foreign countries.

It is the most comprehensive report available anywhere. Page 9 details the coins that were struck for Curacao including the 2.5 gram bronze cent planchet.

This unique new discovery has a partial zinc appearance on the obverse and reverse as well as a zinc band on the edge.





The U.S. Mint in Philadelphia experimented extensively with zinc and copper planchets during World War II. These experiments have been outlined in Roger Burdette's book *United States Pattern & Experimental Pieces of WW-II*. Test planchets in various compositions were produced, as well as many experimental surfaces such as plating and coating.

It is common procedure for pattern experts including NGC and Roger Burdette as well as the authors and researchers of the Judd reference book *United States Pattern Coins*, to classify coating and plating in their determination.

Dave Camire and NGC authenticated and certified the Philadelphia Collection which had many cents and planchets that were coated and

plated at the Philadelphia Mint. They also authenticated and certified many 1942 and 1943 Lincoln cents and planchets that were either coated or plated.

As amazing as it seems, it appears that this Curacao cent planchet was either coated or plated with zinc in the experiments during the transition of U.S. cents from bronze planchets to zinc-coated steel planchets.

If the planchet was intentionally plated or coated with zinc as part of the experiments then this would be classified as a test piece. If the planchet was accidentally mixed with U.S. cent planchets that were being experimented on, then it is a mint error. Subsequently, it somehow was transferred to the San Francisco Mint and struck by U.S. cent dies in 1942.

## NGC CERTIFIES UNIQUE WARTIME DISCOVERY 2.5 GRAM BRONZE CENT STRUCK AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT

*Here are examples of NGC certified coins and planchets from the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia during World War II that were plated and coated:*



## NGC CERTIFIES UNIQUE WARTIME DISCOVERY 2.5 GRAM BRONZE CENT STRUCK AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT

Although accidentally mixing planchets between U.S. Mint branches seems unlikely, it has occurred several times between the U.S. Mints in Denver and in San Francisco. There are 1974 Denver

silver Ike Dollars struck on planchets produced in San Francisco. And there are also 1977 Denver silver Kennedy Half Dollars struck on planchets produced in San Francisco.

***This 1977 Eisenhower Dollar was struck at the Denver Mint. It was struck on a 40% Silver planchet that was only used to strike Eisenhower Dollars at the San Francisco Mint.***





## NGC CERTIFIES UNIQUE WARTIME DISCOVERY 2.5 GRAM BRONZE CENT STRUCK AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT

Although there is no absolute proof that this is exactly what occurred, nor is there any documentation, the most logical explanation to describe the chain of events of this unique 1942-S cent is intriguing and enigmatic. A Philadelphia Mint produced Curacao planchet was likely coated or plated when Philadelphia experimented with copper and zinc planchets and was subsequently struck in San Francisco by U.S. Cent dies.

For comparison and to provide similar information relative to 1942

U.S. Lincoln cents that were patterns, test pieces or mint errors, here are two excellent examples:

I recently handled the unique 1942 Philadelphia Mint Lincoln cent struck on an aluminum planchet in proof. Clearly it was a pattern and test piece experimenting with a different composition and alternative to producing copper cents in 1943, due to the copper shortage during World War II. This unique aluminum cent has traded several times, once at \$300,000.

***1942 Lincoln Cent J-2079  
Struck in Aluminum  
PCGS PR 66  
UNIQUE***



## NGC CERTIFIES UNIQUE WARTIME DISCOVERY 2.5 GRAM BRONZE CENT STRUCK AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT

Another unique 1942 Lincoln cent experimental off-metal struck at the Philadelphia Mint was 95% tin and 5% zinc, realizing \$86,250 in a Stack's auction in 1996 (lot #4253).

In comparison, in 1996, copper 1943 Lincoln cents were \$30,000 - \$50,000. Today they are \$200,000 - \$350,000.





## NGC CERTIFIES UNIQUE WARTIME DISCOVERY 2.5 GRAM BRONZE CENT STRUCK AT THE SAN FRANCISCO MINT

This unique 1942-S cent, most likely struck on a 1942 Curacao cent planchet from the Philadelphia Mint, coated or plated with zinc and then struck in San Francisco by U.S.

cent dies, will remain an enigmatic discovery. It belongs in a world-class collection of Lincoln cents, major mint errors or unique numismatic rarities.





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# 1942 LINCOLN CENT MIRROR BROCKAGE OF OBVERSE, STRUCK 40% OFF-CENTER

by Heritage Auctions



*Featured in the November 2013 US Coin Signature Auction - New York #1191*

**1942 Lincoln Cent -- Mirror Brockage of Obverse, Struck 40% Off-Center -- MS62 Brown PCGS.**

From the obverse alone, this looks to be a relatively straightforward error, a 1942 cent struck about 40% off-center toward 12 o'clock. Flip it over, though, and the brockage

appears, a rare combination error. Olive-brown surfaces show light abrasions and a handful of rim bumps.

**1942 LINCOLN CENT MIRROR BROCKAGE OF OBVERSE, STRUCK 40% OFF-CENTER**





**1942 LINCOLN CENT MIRROR BROCKAGE OF OBVERSE, STRUCK 40% OFF-CENTER**



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# **NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET 3.6 GRAMS 64% SILVER / 36% COPPER Ex: FRED WEINBERG**

**by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)**

**T**his is a world-class 1943 Lincoln Cent major mint error.  
It's many times rarer than the 1943 copper Cent.





## NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

The United States Mint has produced coins for foreign governments at various times during its history. During World War II the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia struck 1943 dated coins for the Netherlands, intended for circulation in their territories of Surinam and Curacao. These blank planchets weighed 3.575 grams,

had a diameter of 19 mm, and the composition was 64% silver and 36% copper.

Below is the Surinam/Curacao 1943 25 Cent struck at the Philadelphia Mint with a mintage of 2,000,000 for Surinam and a mintage of 500,000 for Curacao.



### Recent Auction Sales of 1943 Lincoln Cents Struck on Surinam/Curacao Planchets:

- *Heritage Auctions - NGC XF 40 \$14,950*
- *Bowers & Merena - ANACS VF Details Net F 12 Damaged \$16,675*
- *Heritage Auctions - NGC MS 61 (Damaged) \$24,000*

## NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

In 1940, Nazi Germany defeated the Netherlands during the War. The Dutch territories of Surinam (in northern South America) and Curacao (an island in the Caribbean Sea north of Surinam and part of the Netherlands Antilles) were protected by the Allied forces. Subsequently the U.S. Mints struck coins for these countries during the War.

According to public auction records since World War II (75 years) PCGS and NGC have just authenticated and certified a total 5 of 1943 Lincoln Cents struck from blank planchets from these countries.

There is one known designated as “struck on a Netherlands 25 Cent planchet” that sold in a Heritage Auction for \$24k certified by NGC as MS 61. Although this coin is damaged with a clearly visible X cut, it was not net graded by NGC. It was pedigreed to the Albert Michael Pratt collection. According to the Heritage Auction write-up,

*“The strike details are crisp overall, and there are only a couple of small patches of the underlying silver that show through the copper on each side. Apparently someone else was unsure of the composition and cut a long X into the right obverse field out from Lincoln’s chin, but the underlying silver does not show in that area. Undoubtedly, this is one of the most intriguing errors we have seen in many years.”*

There are 2 known designated as “struck on Curacao 25 Cent planchets” that have sold in public auctions. The most recent was the NGC certified XF 40 that was sold by Heritage Auctions for \$14,950 in 2015.

There is 1 known designated as “struck on a Surinam 25 Cent planchet” that was certified by ANACS as Fine 12 Damaged Net Graded and sold for \$16,675 in a Bowers & Merena 2006 public auction.

## NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

This one offered is certified MS 61 NGC and designated as “struck on a Curacao 25 Centstukken planchet” and was in the Fred Weinberg Collection for over 20 years.

This 1943 Lincoln Cent struck on a Curacao planchet looks copper and

does not look at all like the Surinam/ Curacao 25 Cent piece.

This extremely rare 1943 Lincoln Cent off-metal would be the highlight and centerpiece of a collection of Lincoln Cents, mint errors or coins struck during World War II.





**NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET**





**NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET**



# Foreigners in the Mint

A Mint Error News Exclusive Report

by Gregory Mirsky

**Editor's Note:** *Here is an article from a previous issue of Mint Error News Magazine. It is a detailed report of coins struck by the U.S. Mint for foreign countries.*

The United States Mint struck coins for foreign countries starting in 1833 but did not have official authority to do so until The Mint Act of Jan. 29, 1874 was approved and signed into law. The 1874 act states that the US Mint may mint coins for a foreign country if the minting does not interfere with regular minting operations, and shall prescribe a charge for minting the foreign coins equal to the cost of the minting (including labor, materials, and the use of machinery).

The US Mint did strike Liberia (LR) one cent coins in 1833. The Liberia one cent, in essence a token dated 1833, was struck by the Mint for the American Colonization Society. The US Mint had long been in the business of striking medals for various groups and artists, in fact, the US Mint was the only place to go in North America if you wanted a large sized medal struck since no other equipment was available that could handle the immense pressures required to strike such pieces. The prospect of the mint manufacturing tokens, as in the case of the Liberian cents, was not a far offshoot from the medal making business. Thus it is believed that the medal manufacturing activities of the mint led to some of the very first foreign coinage struck by the US Mint.

The American Colonization Society was founded in 1817 for the sole purpose of transporting freeborn blacks and emancipated slaves back to Africa. In 1822 the society established on the West Coast of Africa a colony that in 1847 became the independent nation of Liberia. By 1867, the society had sent more than 13,000 American blacks to Liberia. The one-cent token featured Freed Negro standing next to a palm

tree, a ship in the distance. Though many regard the one-cent piece a "hard times" token, and thus not acknowledged by the US mint as foreign coinage in its annual reports, it did function as coinage in the Liberian colony.

US Mint documents and records show that no coins were struck at any of the US Mints for foreign countries between 1855 and 1875. Starting in 1895, the United States Mint has struck coins for foreign countries almost every year. In 1984 the Mint ceased its production of coins for other countries. Part of the explanation for this action was that all excess coinage capacity was allotted to the Olympic commemorative programs in 1984. Since the 1874 act states that may mint coins for a foreign country if the minting does not interfere with regular minting operations, foreign coinage was halted. Further Mint modernization programs since 1984 such as coinage press replacement and modernization; other commemorative programs and the introduction of silver, gold and platinum billion coinage programs quickly consumed any significant excess coinage capacity after 1984.

Currently the Mint Administration directs foreign coin production to independent mints or other government mints. In 2000, the US mint struck a 1,000 kronur coin for Iceland. The piece celebrated the 1,000th anniversary of Leif Erickson's trip to the New World, and was issued in conjunction with a US commemorative silver dollar dated 2000 celebrating the same event. This marked the first time since 1984 that the US Mint had struck coins for another nation in its mints.



# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

The United States mint has struck coins for the following countries:

Argentina	Honduras
Australia	Israel
Bahamas	Korea
Belgian Congo	Liberia
Belgium	Mexico
Bolivia	Nepal
Brazil	Netherlands
Canada	Netherlands East Indies
China	Nicaragua
Colombia	Panama
Costa Rica	Peru
Cuba	Philippines
Curacao	Poland
Dominican Republic	El Salvador
Ecuador	Saudi Arabia
Ethiopia	South Korea
Fiji	Surinam
France	Syria
French Indo-China	Taiwan
Greenland	Thailand
Guatemala	Venezuela
Hawaii	

Not all US Mint struck foreign coins were manufactured in the United States. The coins struck for the Philippines from 1920 until the outbreak of hostilities with Japan during World War Two are a good example. The Manila Mint (Mint Mark 'M') was opened in July 1920 as a branch Mint of the United States and struck coins for the Philippines while the islands were under administration of the United States before World War Two. The Manila Mint still maintains the distinction as being the only US Mint to physically reside outside of the United States.

## Foreign Coins Made by the US Mint

Each coin made by the US Mint for another country was minted to the specifications dictated by the client country. Some of the clients of the US mint requested to be furnished with planchets to be utilized at their native mints in the coining process, as was the case with Argentina in 1919 and 1920. In the case of

the Venezuelan one and two and half Centavos struck in the Philadelphia mint in 1876 and 1877, the US mint sub-contracted out to the Waterbury mint, owned by the Scovill Manufacturing Company, to supply planchets for foreign and regular US issues. The Waterbury mint provided the US Mint with many of the planchets for regular US one Cent and five Cent pieces from 1888 to 1906.

In some cases the client country would manufacture and furnish the dies to the US Mint to strike the coins, while other countries opted for the US Mint to produce the minting dies and to mint the issue. A third alternative that was utilized by some client countries, most notably the Dominican Republic, was the usage of a third party mint to produce the dies and then use the US Mint to manufacture the coins. This arrangement led to coins like the 1897 Dominican Republic One Peso struck in 1898 and 1899 by the US mint with dies made by the Paris mint that bear the "A" mint mark on the reverse near the bottom of the coin. These complex minting arrangements sort of reminds one of those "How many does it take to..." jokes. In theory, a foreign coinage issue manufactured by the US mint could involve four or more parties:

The client country wanting the issue.

The mint that designed and produced the dies for coinage.

The mint that manufactured the coin planchets.

The US mint that actually minted the issue.

The mint or central bank that distributes the minted coinage into the economy.

In the case of the 1944 French two Franc pieces it is believed that the French Algerian provincial government issued the pieces into general circulation into the Algerian economy and not into the originally intended French commercial economy.

Over the years of producing coinage for other countries the traditional "P", for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, "D", for Denver, Colorado, and "S", for San

# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

San Francisco, California mint marks appeared on foreign. As mentioned before, a mint mark from another country could be present on a foreign coin produced by the US mint. The New Orleans, Louisiana mint never had a chance to display its "O" mint mark on a foreign coin since its one and only foreign issue was a 1907 Mexican silver 20 Centavos piece that bore the Mexico City mint mark from where the coinage dies originated.

Not all of the foreign mintages of the US Mint met with great success. Some mintages met undignified ends in the melting cauldron such as the Chinese dollars and half dollars or the coinage of our present-day Hawaiian islands. While war and political turmoil damned some issues back to the melting pot, war was also the reason for such high demand for the US Mint to produce foreign coinage. Demand during the early, to mid nineteen-forties pushed coinage request to, at that time, all time highs as devastated World War Two participant countries in the midst of rebuilding required coinage to be produced in order for their respective economies to recover in the post war era. Coinage requests from these war torn countries supplemented and competed for the surplus coinage capacity normally reserved for the US Mint's usual client countries. Thus one can see in mintage reports at the time many coins reported in one year and dated with the previous years date.

While producing foreign coinage, the US Mint demonstrated its metallurgical talents producing numerous alloys it normally did not use for standard US circulating coinage along with coin shapes that the US Mint until that time was unfamiliar with. Coin shapes such as square, scalloped and hexagonal coins and those coins designed with holes in the center were required to be produced. While the US Mint did make limited run pattern coins with holes in the center, as documented in Judd/Pollack, the US Mint never executed a production run of such coins until the dated 2461 Siam (Thailand) One Satang it produced at the Philadelphia Mint in 1918. The US Mint followed up the holed One Satang with additional holed foreign coinage issues such as the 1920 French Indo-China One Centime; the

Fiji Half Penny and Fiji Penny produced from 1942 to 1943.

Scanning the mintage figures of numerous client countries of the US Mint over several years one can see the ongoing effect of economic policies of each country by the debasing change of coinage compositions used to issue certain denominations of that country. Over the years one can follow a denomination of a country changing from gold, to silver, to copper-nickel and finally to brass. Costa Rica in 1923 is one interesting example where US minted fifty and twenty-five Centimos coinage were re-struck or counter-struck by the Costa Rican government into higher one Colon and fifty Centavos denomination pieces because of their metal content and a revaluation of their currency.

Here are some interesting facts about some of the client countries and their coinage that the US mint struck for them.

## Argentina

No finished coins, only planchets, were produced for Argentina.

## Australia

All coins struck for Australia have either a "D", for Denver, or a "S", for San Francisco, mint mark. On the three pence the mint mark is located on the reverse to the right below the last numeral on the date. The six pence piece has the mint mark located on the reverse at the bottom, just above the date. The shilling piece has the mint mark located on the reverse above the "N" in the word "Shilling". The Florin has the mint mark located on the reverse just above the date.

## Brazil

Brazil bought raw planchets from the US Mint and its suppliers, no Brazilian coins were minted by the US mint.

# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

## Canada

Dimes struck for Canada can only be identified by the differences in the reeding. A different style collar was employed by the Philadelphia mint compared to dimes made by its Canadian counterparts.

## China

Both the dollar and half-dollar are dated 1936, the twenty-fifth year anniversary of the Republic of China. Unfortunately the dollars and the half-dollars were shipped to Hong Kong and arrived at the same time Japan began invading China in World War II. The coins were never placed into circulation and most were subsequently melted.

There is nickel composition specimen of the one dollar known to exist, and may have been a final die trial.

A re-strike in 1949 produced a total of thirty million coins. These re-strikes were dated 1934, the twenty-third year anniversary of the Republic of China. The Philadelphia mint produced the bulk of the re-strikes with a total of 20,250,000, the Denver mint produced 6,550,000, and the San Francisco minting facility produced 3,200,000 coins. No US mint marks appear on any of the coins made for China by the US mint.

## Colombia

In addition to the US Mint manufacturing coins for the government of Cuba, the Waterbury Mint in Waterbury, Connecticut, minted for Colombia the following pieces:

24,000,000 two and one-half Centavos (Y25) in 1881.

400,000 two and one-half Centavos (Y25) in 1902.

400,000 five-centavos (Y24, Y25) in 1888 and 1902.

## Costa Rica

In 1942 the 2 Centimos issue was restruck as 5 Centi-

mos pieces dated 1942. 274,342 coins were reported restruck by the Costa Rican government. Restruck coins are listed as Y58 in the Yeoman catalog. The US Mint did not participate in the restriking process in 1942. Also in 1923 a revaluation of larger denomination silver coins occurred. Most 50 Centimos were restruck/counterstamped as 1 Colon pieces (Y44).

You will occasionally see these pieces listed on some of the online auction sites as errors. These are not errors and you should not pay a premium for them. Though adding one or two of these restrikes to your error collection as a conversation and educational piece is a great idea.

## Cuba

Other private mints in the US such as the Providence mint also made coins for Cuba. In fact, the Providence Mint subcontracted out the actual manufacturing process to a company whose main line of business was as far as you can get from the numismatic field, they made air brakes!

## Ethiopia

After Great Britain took possession of Ethiopia from Italy and returned it to Haile Sellassie and his government in 1941, Great Britain tried unsuccessfully to establish the shilling-cent system in Ethiopia. Ethiopian suspicion and a desire for a national identity lead to a new series of coins designed in Philadelphia by John Sinnock (obverse) and Gilroy Roberts (reverse). The bust of Haile Sellassie and the date 1936EE (1944) are on the obverse; the reverse has the Lion of Judah and the denomination of 1, 5, 10, 25, or 50 Santim (centime) in Amharic.

The US Mint in Philadelphia and the British Royal mint have both minted this series for the country. Ethiopia used these coins into the late 1970s or at least until the Socialist Ethiopian government issued its own set of coinage.



# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

An interesting note that has parallels to the US Racketeer Nickel (Gold plated/coated US 1883 Liberty No Cents Nickels), the original twenty-five centime coin was round like the fifty-centime piece and close to the same size. Unscrupulous persons quickly discovered they could silver plate the twenty-five centime coin and pass it for the fifty-centime piece. Few in the country could read the denominations on the coins due to low literacy rate. More than 400,000 twenty-five centime coins had been minted when they were withdrawn from circulation and retrofitted by hand with a scalloped edge. Later issues of the twenty-five centime coins were minted with a special milling collar to form the scallops of the coin.

## Hawaii

Proofs were made of all denominations. No US mint marks are present on the coins. Claus Sprekels, the sugar king, used his influence to have the coins made for the Hawaiian Government.

The Hawaiian Dime was a substitute for the 12-1/2 Cent (Hapawalu) denomination specified in the original request to the U.S. Government. The 12-1/2 Cent (Hapawalu) would have required specially made blanks and usage of the Dime denomination would use a standard blank already manufactured and in use in US standard circulation coinage. Six Proof Dimes were made in September 1883 at the Philadelphia (PA) Mint for inclusion in four-piece sets containing the 10 Cent (Dime) piece, the 25 Cent piece, 50 Cent piece, and Dollar denominations. 250,000 circulation strikes were struck at the San Francisco, California Mint without mint marks from November 17, 1883 through June 1884.

An additional set of 20 Proof Dimes were made at the Philadelphia Mint in 1884. Charles E. Barber and George T. Morgan prepared the dies for these Proof Dimes. The Proof Dimes were specifically created for inclusion in five-piece sets containing the containing the 10 Cent (Dime) piece, the 25 Cent piece, 50 Cent

piece, and Dollar denominations, plus the originally requested 12-1/2 Cent (Hapawalu) coin.

Experts consider the 1883 Hapawalu to be “patterns” with italic 8’s in the date to be fabrications made outside the Mint (as were similar 1884 “patterns” of the Hapaha, Hapalua, and Dala denominations). The numismatic community did not know of these coins until 1954, when the collection of deposed King Farouk of Egypt was sold. Farouk owned many “patterns” from other countries that were made specifically for him, so it is highly likely that the 1883 and 1884 “patterns” with italic 8’s in the date were made for him at the time he collected.

One Hapalua with italic 8’s in the date is known struck over an 1880 Quarter Dollar. The reverse legend “UA MAU KE EA O KA AINA I KA PONO” means “The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness.”

## Iceland

As of the time of this writing, the 1000 Kroner proof coin featured with the US 2000 Leif Ericson Commemorative silver dollar was the last foreign coin produced by the US Mint. No US mint marks are present on the 1000 Kroner proof coins.

## Korea (South)

Coins minted for Korea were dated to the Korean calendar. Coins issued in 1959 are dated 4292 and coins issued in 1961 are dated 4294. No US mint marks appear on Korean coins.

## Mexico

All coins that were manufactured by the US Mint bear the mint mark for the Mexico City Mint where the coinage dies were manufactured and prepared. The New Orleans Mint made its only foreign coinage production run for Mexico by minting over five million 1907 twenty centavo pieces. Identical coinage runs for most issues manufactured by the US Mint were also

# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

produced in the Mexico City Mint in tandem with the US manufactured issues.

The San Francisco Mint in 1949 produced an 1898 dated 1 Peso restrike originally minted in the Mexico City Mint composing of 90.27% silver and 9.73% copper. The original Mexico City Mint issue has 139 denticles on the reverse border while the US made San Francisco Mint restrike has only 131 denticles on the reverse border.

## **Panama**

No US mint marks are present on the coins struck for Panama. Some of the coins struck for Panama are on planchets identical to US coinage of the time in weight, diameter and composition.

## **Peru**

US mint marks appear only on Peruvian coinage made at the San Francisco Mint. The “S” for San Francisco is located under the letters “T” and “A” in the word “Centavos” on the reverse of the coin for the brass composite five, ten, and twenty Centavos coined between 1942 and 1943. On the Half Sol a “S” for the San Francisco mint is located on the obverse at the bottom, under the coat of arms. Additionally, the US Mint produced blank coinage planchets for the silver one Sol, gold one Libra, and gold one-fifth Libra from 1916 to 1919.

## **El Salvador**

The 1928-S One centavo is the only coin minted by the US Mint for El Salvador that carries a US mint mark.

## **Saudi Arabia**

All coins made for Saudi Arabia are dated with Arabic script. The Islamic date of 1356 was used on copper coinage and the Islamic date of 1354 was used on silver coinage.

From 1945 to 1947 the US Government had the Phila-

delphia Mint create two distinct sizes of gold weights or “discs”. At the time of their creation there was quite a bit of speculation as to what the purpose of these discs were for. One theory was that the discs were created for the Arabian American Oil Company in order to pay the Saudi Arabian Government in gold for oil supplies during World War Two.

An official explanation offered in 1956 by the Director of the Mint was that the discs were made to furnish the Saudi Arabian Government with gold bullion in the weight that the Saudi Arabian Government had requested. The Director of the Mint also explained that any gold bullion cast by the US Mint or any US Assay Offices is customarily marked with its gold content and the eagle hallmark design of the US Mints and Assay offices. Furthermore, the Director of the Mint stated that the US Treasury Department considered the discs to be gold bullion and not coinage, and as such, were not authorized to be imported or held in the United States under the 1934 Gold Reserve Act.

Interestingly enough, some of the pieces were actually used as currency for a few years. Many of the gold discs were latter melted in 1951 as material for a latter Saudi Arabian gold piece. Most of the larger discs were sold as bullion over the years. Between 1949 and 1950 unopened crates of these pieces were dispatched to the bullion markets of Bombay, India and sold on the open market.

Due to the nature of the handling and disposal of this issue these of gold weights or “discs” have become quite rare and very convincing counterfeits of these discs do exist.

## **Syria**

Syrian coins made by the US Mint have two dates, one using the standard calendar and one using the Islamic calendar, written in Arabic script.

## **Thailand (Siam)**

The one Satang dated 2461 (Siamese/Thai Calendar)

# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

and produced in 1918 became the first massed produced coin by the US Mint to feature a center hole. No US mint marks are present on the coins.

## Venezuela

Venezuela was the first official foreign coinage client for the US Mint. The 1 Centavo and 2½ Centavo coins made of a copper-nickel alloy were produced in the Philadelphia Mint in 1876 and 1877. The US Mint did not save exact alloy composition details on these coins. The US Mint also did not record an exact breakdown by year of the mintage when they appeared in the 1877 Director of the Mint report.

Coinage manufactured for Venezuela by the US Mint from 1876 until 1948 were inscribed “ESTADOS UNIDOS DE VENEZUELA”.

Coinage after 1954 was inscribed “REPUBLICA DE VENEZUELA”.

## Planchet Suppliers to the US Mint For Business Strike Issues

The US Mint, while having its own metallurgical plant to produce blanks for its minting purposes over the years, had several suppliers of planchets to supplement its production. Most notable is the Waterbury Mint with whom the US Mint had a very long term relationship. Planchets for precious metal bullion coinage is currently provided by several of the firms that supply bullion rounds to collectors and investors with metals obtained from the former silver strategic stockpile (currently depleted as of the publishing of this article) or the open market as in the case of platinum coinage.

Olin: As the longest continuous supplier of metal to the US Mint, Olin Brass’ Posit-Bond® clad metal is used in quarters, dimes and half dollars. In 1999, Olin Brass developed the unique alloy that the US Mint uses for the Sacajawea “Golden Dollar” coins.

Sherritt Gordon/Westaim, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, Canada, No longer produces coinage blanks. Blanks made by Westaim were provided by the Canadian Mint to the US Mint during the production ramp up in 1998 and 1999 in anticipation of monetary shortages due to the Y2K event and the introduction of the new one dollar coin.

PMX Industries is located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, it is a wholly owned division of Poongsan Corporation of Korea since November 1998, and has supplied almost half of the coinage strips used by the U.S. Mint since 1992. Tel: (319) 368-7700 Fax: (319) 368-7720, 5300 Willow, Creek Drive S.W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404, U.S.A - [www.ipmx.com](http://www.ipmx.com).

## The Providence Mint

Providence Mint, Gorham Manufacturing Company, founded 1818 by Jabez Gorham to produce jewelry items. Coinage did not start until the 1890’s. This independent mint minted coins for Cuba from 1897 to 1898 and produced coinage for Ecuador in 1919 and Serbia in 1917.

Cuban Souvenir Peso (Y1, KM-M1), 1897, 90% silver, 10% copper, 10,000 pieces. The issue contains three distinct varieties and was struck in two separate locations. Unknown number of proofs exists for this date:

Variety 1: High relief, 858 pieces, 30 pieces were determined to be defective and subsequently destroyed. Coins were struck at the Dunn Air Brake Company, Philadelphia, PA. with dies manufactured and prepared by the Gorham company. Inscribed “PAT 97” at the base of the neck. Numerals of the date are widely spaced.

Variety 2: Low Relief, 4,286 pieces struck at the Providence Mint. Star right of “97” on the obverse is below the base line of the date. There is a letter “H” on the bottom right in the shield, on the reverse of the coin. No initials in the base of the neck. Numerals of the date are closely spaced.



# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

Variety 3: Normal or Mid-Level relief, 4,856 pieces struck at the Providence mint. Star right of “97” on the obverse is above the base line of the date. There is no letter “H” on the bottom right in the shield. The stem of the “R” in the word “souvenir” is shorter than the stem of the “R” in the other two varieties.

Cuban Souvenir Peso (Y2), 1898, 90% silver, 10% copper, 1,000 pieces. Unknown number of proofs exists for this date.

The Providence Mint also struck a large silver piece in connection with “William Jennings’ Bryan’s Free Silver” presidential campaign of 1896.

Due to the limited space of this venue I have assembled a sampling of known US coins on foreign planchets and foreign coins on US planchets to give readers an idea of the types of errors that have been found in connection with the mintage of foreign coinage. Tune up your “cherry picking” skills and may you have some very happy hunting experiences!

## A Partial Registry of Known US Coins on Foreign Planchets

Since the early days of the error coin-collecting hobby, error collectors always feared seizure of their numismatic errors by the US Secret Service. Nevertheless, interesting and intriguing errors have still surfaced. Once the domain of a closed group of collectors, these US coins on foreign planchet errors shed light as to how quality control at the Mint was conducted over the years. The Mint could use millions of planchets of similar size yet different compositions in a given year which led to blanks being mixed which is one of the reasons why this list was compiled.

New discoveries will surface each year as old collections turn over and newer generations of numismatists grow more sophisticated in their classification and research of such coins. I would fully expect any census to grow dramatically in the coming years.

(Year, Denomination and certifying agency, if available or known)

1876 Philadelphia minted 10 million 1 centavo, 2 million 2.5 centavos resulting in a 1877 1 cent on a Venezuela 1 centavo planchet 2.3 grams/19mm certified by NGC. The planchets for the Venezuela 1 centavo were manufactured by the Waterbury mint, Waterbury, Connecticut, under contract from the US Mint. (Numismatic News 24-DEC-2002)

1884 Liberty Nickel On Foreign Planchet ANACS

1888 Liberty Nickel On Foreign Planchet ANACS

1890 P1971/J1758 Indian Head Cent On Foreign Planchet

1900 Nickel Struck on Nicaragua 5 Centimos Planchet

1904 Liberty Nickel Struck on Foreign Planchet NGC the weight is 2.7 grams

1905 Liberty Nickel Struck on Haiti 5-Cent Planchet ANACS struck on a Haiti 5-Cent Planchet

1905 Liberty Nickel Struck on Haiti 5-Cent Planchet PCGS struck on a Haiti 5-Cent Planchet

1905 Liberty Nickel 2.77 grams NGC

1915 Cent struck in nickel

1920-P Cent struck on an Argentine 10-Centavo planchet.

1943 off-metal Cent authenticated as genuine, but it is not copper. It is somewhere in the neighborhood of 70 percent silver, 30 percent copper. Weight is 57.6 grains [3.752 grams] as compared to 48 for normal US copper Cent and around 42 for steel. Walter Breen authenticated it, after analysis through Mort Goodman identified it as probably struck on a planchet intended for the 25-centstukken piece for Netherlands Guiana. Accord-

## NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

ing to the Annual Report of the Director of the Mint for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1944, the Mint supplied 1 million coins to Curacao and 6 million coins to Surinam (Netherlands Guiana) during the 1943 calendar year.

1944 the Philadelphia Mint produced 25 million Belgium 2 franc coins from the same blanks as the 1943 zinc-coated steel Cents. 40+ steel 1944 Cents have been reported. (Coins, March, 1994, p. 34f / related story in Coin World, 1/31/94, p3)

1945-S Walking Liberty Half Struck On An El Salvador 25 Centavo Planchet NGC MS 63 This is the only known Walking Liberty Half Dollar struck on a Foreign Planchet for another country. It is on a planchet that was produced for the El Salvador Silver 25 Centavo. The 25 Centavo was struck for only two years, 1943 and 1944. Since this Walking Liberty Half Off-Metal is dated 1945, it is on a left-over planchet that was stuck in the bin or hopper from the previous year or the coin was minted in late 1944 as the Mint was gearing up for the next year's production.

1944'P' Struck on a heavy planchet. Brilliant Uncirculated. 5.96 grams. At nearly 20% over the official weight for a Silver War Nickel, this coin was clearly struck on wrong planchet stock. Although this Nickel has the luster and color of a Silver War Nickel, it is possible that this piece was struck on a planchet intended for a foreign coin struck at the Philadelphia Mint, but no such corresponding coin can be found in Steiner and Zimpfer for this time period.

1944 Cent thick planchet specimen (Pollack #2078) is more likely a mint error struck on a foreign planchet or on incorrectly rolled stock

1945 Cent Struck on Netherlands East Cent Planchet 2.32 grams (35.8 grains), 18.0mm

1945-S Half Dollar on an El Salvador 25 Centavo planchet NGC

1951 Roosevelt Dime struck on a 1951 Costa Rica 5

Centimos, double denomination, authenticated by ANACS. Roosevelt Dime off-metal strikes are rare due to the fact that the coin or planchet has to be smaller than the Dime blank. There are only a few Dime off-metals known. This piece was struck on a previously struck 1951 Costa Rica 5 Centimos. The Costa Rica coin has a weight of 15.43 grains and is composed of 75% copper and 25% nickel. These coins were only struck at the Philadelphia Mint in 1951 and 1952, although they are all dated 1951.

1956 Roosevelt Dime Struck on a Struck Copper 1956 Honduras 1 Centavo ANACS Brown

1967 NGC Cent struck on 5-Cent thickness. Weighs 3.8 grams (???)

1968-S Cent Struck on a Philippine 5 Centavos Planchet (Brass 60%, Cu Zinc 40%)

1968-S Proof Kennedy Half Struck on a Philippine 50 Centavos Planchet ANACS

1970 10c ANACS struck on aluminum scrap (cut in half) may be struck on a Nepal Paisa planchet

1972-D Lincoln Cent PCGS MS-60 Struck on a Philippine 5 Sentimos planchet.(Brass)

1972-D Quarter Dollar PCI EF40 on an unidentified planchet

1972-S PROOF 25c struck on an already Japanese 10 Yen. A proof double denomination on a foreign struck coin, Only 1 known PCGS. The US has never officially minted any coins for Japan. This coin was probably snuck into the Mint, over-stamped and the secreted out of the San Francisco facility.

1972-D Eisenhower 1 Dollar struck on a 1 Piso (Philippines) planchet - ANACS

1972-D IKE Dollar Struck on Philippine 1 Piso Planchet ANACS

# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

1973-D Nickel struck on a Philippine 5 Centavo planchet ICG

1974-D IKE Dollar Struck on Philippine 1 Piso Planchet ANACS, PCGS

1974-D IKE Dollar Struck on Phil 1 Piso Planchet ANACS

1978-P Cent SEGS 2.7 grams

1982-P Lincoln Cent was struck on an unidentified planchet.

1982 Panama 1/2 Balboa Struck on 1971 Kennedy Half Dollar ANACS MS 63 This is a double denomination involving two different countries and 11 years between the two strikes.

1982 Panama 1/2 Balboa Struck on 1972 Kennedy Half Dollar ANACS MS 63 This is a double denomination involving two different countries and 10 years between the two strikes.

1982 Panama 1/2 Balboa Struck on 1976 Kennedy Half Dollar ANACS MS 63 This is a double denomination involving two different countries and 6 years between the two strikes.

1991 Proof Cent Thick Planchet ANACS weighs 3.8 grams and is thicker than a Nickel. It may have been punched out of Copper-Zinc Cent stock, of Nickel thickness, or it may be an unidentified foreign planchet

1997-D Cent struck on a Foreign Planchet NGC

1998-P Lincoln Cent PCGS MS-65RD struck on a Foreign Copper blank. (Weight: 1.7 Grams.) Comes with matching blank planchet.

1998 Malaysian Sen/Singapore Cent planchets were mixed in with a delivery of raw planchets to the Mint. (This is the error that got me started with this whole project!)

2000-D 1c struck on a Foreign Planchet NGC 1.68 gr. same composition, smaller planchet

2000-D Sacagawea Dollars on outer ring intended for Canadian, bi-metallic coin

2000-D Cent NGC 1.7 grams

2000-D Sacagawea Dollar PCGS Struck on a Ghana 100 Cedis Ringed Planchet the Ghana Blank is from a Bi-Metallic coin.

## A Partial Registry of Known Foreign Coins Struck on US Planchets

While most collectors will focus on the US Mint produced foreign coinage issues and US coins struck on foreign planchets, to fully explore this subject we also need to examine the reverse (flip-side) of this coinage equation. How often did foreign coinage runs get contaminated with US planchets? While some foreign issues contained compatible US standard planchets, exact same metallurgical composition, weight and diameter, like the 1944 Belgium Steel two Francs piece that was struck on surplus 1943 zinc coated steel war cent planchets, thus making a distinction from correctly minted pieces to incorrectly minted coins impossible, other US minted foreign issues contained totally different specifications that one can only wonder how they slipped through the inspection process of not only the US Mint but the inspector of the client country for whom the pieces were destined.

In June of 2000, a Harmony Millennium commemorative twenty-five Cent piece was found struck on a Type I Planchet intended for a US Five Cent piece. What makes this particular piece very interesting is that it was not made in the US Mint but in the Royal Canadian Mint. A true foreigner! The US planchet was made at, or for, the Royal Canadian Mint. The Royal Canadian Mint in 1999 and 2000 supplied planchets for 5c pieces and Sacagawea Dollars to be sold to collectors by the US Mint and to assist and alleviate the production



# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

constraints caused by the introduction of the new Sacagawea Dollar in 2000. In addition to this discovery, a Canadian 2000 Elizabeth II 50 Cent piece was found struck on an US One Dollar Sacagawea planchet.

## Australia

Australia 1943-S Six-Pence on a US steel Cent planchet ANACS

Australia 1943-S 1 Florin struck on a US Nickel planchet.

## Belgium

Belgium, 1944 Produced from the same blanks as the US 1943 zinc-coated steel cents. While sharing the same exact planchet as the US 1943 zinc-coated steel cents this was an intentional decision and not a minting accident.

## Brazil

Brazil 1961 20 Centavos struck on US Cent planchet

Brazil wrong planchet 1967 10 Centavos struck on a US Cent planchet

Brazil wrong planchet 1967 20 Centavos struck on a US Cent planchet

## Canada

Canada 1968 Dime struck on a United States Dime planchet

Canada Elizabeth II 50 Cents 2000, Struck on an USA Sacagawea \$1 planchet PCGS

Canada 2000 June - Harmony Millennium commemorative twenty-five Cent piece struck on a Type I Planchet intended for a US Five Cent Coin, 5 Grams composed of Cupro Nickel.

## Liberia

Liberia 1972 5 Cent(s) on a US Cent blank.

Liberia 1974 25 Cent(s) on a US Cent planchet proof coin KM-16a

Liberia 1974 5 Cent(s) Struck on a US Cent planchet.

## Panama

Panama 1966 ½ Balboa on a US or Panama 5c blank

Panama 1966 ½ Balboa on a US or Panama 10c blank 35.0 grains

Panama 1967 ½ Balboa on a US or Panama 25c blank  
Panama 1967 ¼ Balboa on a US or Panama 5c blank 77.1 grains

Panama 1967 ¼ Balboa on a US or Panama 10c blank.35.0 grains

Panama 1968 ¼ Balboa on a US 5c blank

Panama 1968 ¼ Balboa struck on US Nickel planchet ANACS

1982 Panama 1/2 Balboa Struck on 1971 Kennedy Half ANACS MS 63 This is a double denomination involving two different countries and 11 years between the two strikes.

1982 Panama 1/2 Balboa Struck on 1972 Kennedy Half ANACS MS 63 This is a double denomination involving two different countries and 10 years between the two strikes.

1982 Panama 1/2 Balboa Struck on 1976 Kennedy Half ANACS MS 63 This is a double denomination involving two different countries and 6 years between the two strikes. A 1982 Panama 1/2 Balboa struck on a struck United States Bicentennial 1776/1976 Half Dollar.

# NGC CERTIFIES 1943 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON CURACAO 25 CENTSTUKKEN PLANCHET

## Philippines

Philippines 1937M 10 Centavo(s) Struck in Aluminum

Philippines 1944D 20 Centavo(s) Struck on 10 Centavo planchet

Philippines 1944S 50 Centavo(s) Struck on a US 25c planchet.

Philippines 1945 20 Centavo(s) struck on a 10 Centavo planchet

Philippines 1945 ca 5 Centavo(s) struck on a US silver Dime planchet.

Philippines 1945S 50 Centavo(s) Struck on a 20c planchet.

Philippines 1962 5 Centavo(s) on a US Cent blank.

Philippines 1966 5 Centavo(s) on a US Cent blank.

Philippines 1967-1975 50 Sentimo(s) on a US Cent blank.

Philippines 1967-1975 50 Sentimo(s) struck on a US Cent planchet

Philippines 1969 25 Sentimo(s) on a US Cent blank.

Philippines 1970 25 Sentimo(s) on a US Nickel blank.

Philippines 1970 5 Sentimo(s) on a US Cent planchet

Philippines 1970 5 Sentimo(s) on a US clad Dime planchet

Philippines 1971 25 Sentimo(s) struck on a US Cent planchet.

Philippines 1972 1 Piso under size clad planchet intended for a US 5c

Philippines 1972 1 Piso struck on a blank Kennedy

Half Dollar.

Philippines 1972 25 Centavo(s) on a US copper planchet. Made at SF Mint

Philippines 1972 25 Centavo(s) on USA 1c planchet

Philippines 1972-1974 1 Piso struck on an under size clad planchet, perhaps intended for a US Quarter

Philippines 1972-1974 1 Piso struck on a US 25c planchet

Philippines 1974 10 Sentimo(s) struck on a US clad Dime planchet.

Philippines 1974 25 Sentimo(s) struck on a US Cent planchet.

## Reference

Steiner and Zimpfer published a 1974 book entitled Foreign Coins Struck at Mints in the United States

Domestic and Foreign Coins Manufactured by Mints of the United States 1792-1965

Domestic and Foreign Coins Manufactured by Mints of the United States 1793-1973

Domestic and Foreign Coins Manufactured by Mints of the United States 1793-1976

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Foreign Coins Struck at United States Mints. By Charles G. Altz & K.H. Barton. 1964. Whitman Publishing Company, Racine Wisconsin

Scheerer, Harry W., Mint manufactured foreign coins., 2nd ed. 1996



# MINSHULL TRADING

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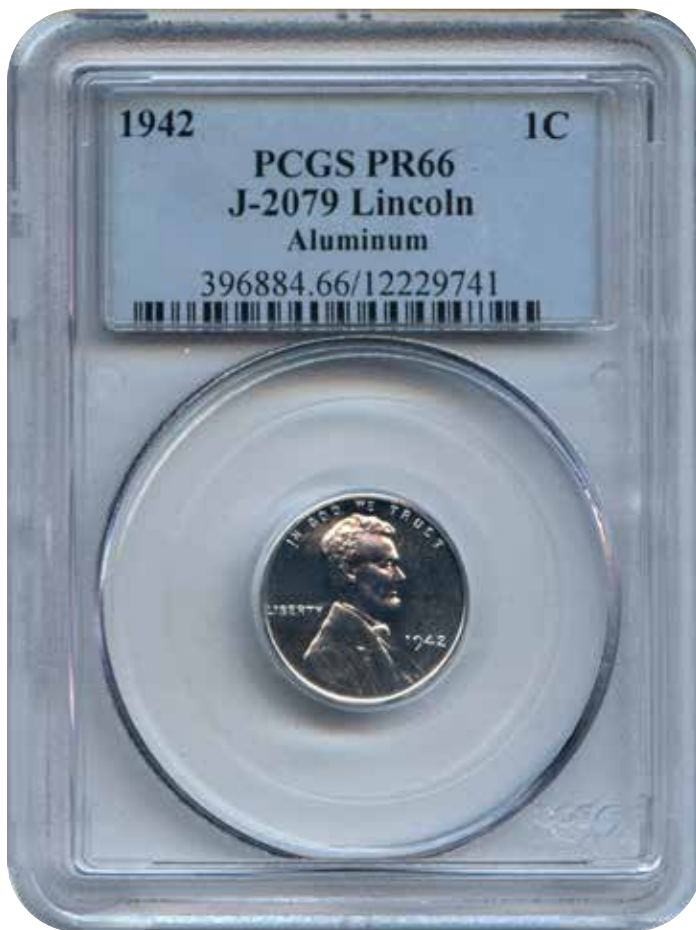
Minshull Trading boasts over \$2.5bn in sales to date and has over 100 years of combined numismatic experience that our customers have come to rely on as a trusted source. We earn repeat business because we do what we say, every time. Give us a call today and find out what sets us apart.



# Unique 1942 Lincoln Cent Pattern J-2079 Struck in Aluminum

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

*Editor's Note: Although not a mint error, I wanted this unique pattern to be included in this Lincoln Cent Special Edition.*



This 1942 Lincoln Cent is a regular die trial issue but struck in aluminum with a plain edge. It was

struck on a planchet that is almost twice as thick as a regular cent.

# UNIQUE 1942 LINCOLN CENT PATTERN J-2079 STRUCK IN ALUMINUM

The pattern cents from 1942 are divided into two groups, those of the regular issue design as this piece and those modeled after the Colombian two centavo. The regular design patterns are far rarer as a group but limited to only three compositions: aluminum, zinc-coated steel, and white metal. Those modeled after the two centavo are far more available as a group and seen in a wide variety of compositions, but some are equally as rare as the regular issue die trials.

The Judd book (10th edition) makes an interesting comment about these pieces: "Regular 1942 Lincoln cent dies are said to have been used to strike coins in pure zinc, copper and zinc, zinc-coated steel, aluminum, copperweld, antimony, white metal, and lead, among other materials." If this is accurate, then there are many other experimental alloy cents that remain to be discovered, as only three alloys are known today.

This is an extraordinary piece. Each side is bright, and there are no signs of oxidation. The fields have a pronounced mirror-like appearance, and there are light flow lines evident on the reverse. The obverse is slightly convex, and the reverse slightly concave. This is essentially a perfect coin with no observable marks on either side.

This is one of the most fascinating experimental pieces to enter the market in decades. The pattern coinage of 1942-1943 is definitely an under-researched area of 20th century U.S. numismatics. Recently a 1943-D Copper Cent certified MS64BN by PCGS sold for \$1.7 Million. In September 2012, a 1943-S Copper Cent authenticated and certified MS62BN by PCGS sold for \$1 Million by Legend Numismatics. This 1942 Lincoln Cent has the potential to become the most expensive Lincoln Cent ever, since there are many 1943 copper Cents and this aluminum Cent is unique.

# UNIQUE 1942 LINCOLN CENT PATTERN J-2079 STRUCK IN ALUMINUM





# UNIQUE 1942 LINCOLN CENT PATTERN J-2079 STRUCK IN ALUMINUM





**RON GUTH, C.P.A.**  
**German coin specialist**

## **Ron Guth, Numismatic Expert**

Ron Guth is a recognized authority on United States and German coins. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant who has been involved professionally in numismatics for over fifty years as a collector, dealer, researcher, and writer. His books and articles have earned numerous awards, including the American Numismatic Association's Heath Literary award and the Olga & Wayte Raymond awards, the Numismatic Literary Guild's Best Numismatic Investment Book and Best Book of the Year awards, and the Professional Numismatic Guild's Best Book of the Year award. In 2003, Ron received the prestigious President's Award from the American Numismatic Association in recognition of his numerous contributions to numismatics. In 2021, Coin World named Ron as one of the Top Ten Most Influential People in Numismatics for the sixty-year period from 1960-2020.

Ron created the CoinFacts website (now PCGS CoinFacts) in 1999 and sold the website to Collectors Universe in 2004 (where it is now presented as PCGS CoinFacts). Ron served in various capacities at Collectors Universe, including Director of Numismatic Research, President of the Professional Coin Grading Service, and President of PCGS CoinFacts.

Currently, Ron serves as proprietor of GermanCoins.com and as Chief Investigator at the Numismatic Detective Agency, where he provides expert provenance on high-end coins.

# **GermanCoins.com**

# MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBTVERSE DIES

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)



Although there are U.S. coins that are 2 headed (struck by 2 obverse dies), 2 tailed (struck by 2 reverse dies) and muled (struck by 2

different denominations), this is a unique mated 2 headed Lincoln Cent pair struck by 2 U.S. Cent obverse dies.



# MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBERSE DIES



## **MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBERSE DIES**

The U.S. Mint in San Francisco struck coins for Panama in 1973. In this mated pair, coin #1 is a 1973 Panama Tenth Balboa die struck both sides by the Panama dies on a U.S. clad Dime planchet. In 1974, also at the San Francisco Mint, 2 obverse Lincoln Cent dies, both dated 1974-S, were paired together and installed in the same press. If a copper Cent planchet had been struck by this die pair, a 2 headed Lincoln Cent would have been produced. To date, none have been discovered. This 1973 Tenth Balboa was placed in the collar of the press containing the 2 obverse dies for the 1974-S Lincoln Cent, on top of a copper Cent planchet already seated in the collar. These were then subsequently struck together (mated).

Both "S" mint marks are different, proving that 2 obverse dies were simultaneously in the press together! NGC has authenticated and certified each Cent as a 1974-S 1C since 2 different Lincoln Cent obverse dies

were used to create this mated pair.

The reverse of the Tenth Balboa (coin #1) was struck by the obverse Lincoln Cent upper die (hammer die). The obverse of the Tenth Balboa design brockaged the obverse of coin #2 (copper planchet) since they were struck together. Therefore, coin #1 is a 1974-S obverse Lincoln Cent overstruck on a 1973 (dual date) Panama Tenth Balboa coin.

Coin #2 is the second mint error of this mated pair, struck by the second Lincoln Cent obverse die in the same press at the same time. The obverse shows the brockage of the Panama design from coin #1 and the reverse shows the design from the obverse die of the second 1974-S Lincoln Cent, not the memorial building had it been a reverse Cent die!

As previously mentioned, there are a variety of U.S. coins known that were struck by either 2 obverse dies, 2 reverse dies or 2 muled dies of different denominations.

## **MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBERSE DIES**

### **Other known U.S. 2 Headed, 2 Tailed and Muled coins:**

- A unique 1859 Indian Cent struck by 2 obverse dies
- A unique 1858 Indian Cent obverse die muled with a 1858 Flying Eagle Cent pattern obverse die
- A unique Jefferson Nickel struck by 2 obverse dies
- (2) known Roosevelt Dimes struck by 2 reverse dies
- A unique 1993-D Lincoln Cent obverse die muled to a Roosevelt Dime reverse die in copper
- A unique 1995-P Dime reverse die mated to a Lincoln Cent obverse die in clad
- (3) known Washington Quarters struck by 2 reverse dies, 1 of these is indented
- (19) known Sacagawea Dollars with reverse die muled with State Quarter obverse die in manganese, with 1 selling for \$192,000 in a Stack's Bowers auction certified by NGC
- And now this unique Lincoln Cent mated pair struck from 2 obverse Cent dies in the same press

Also previously mentioned, there are no known 2 headed or 2 tailed Lincoln Cents other than this unique discovery mated pair struck by 2 obverse Lincoln Cent dies. It is also the only known mated pair of 2 headed, 2 tailed or muled dies on any U.S. coin of any denomination! This off-metal mated pair that is dual

dated from 2 different countries and struck by 2 Lincoln Cent obverse dies in the same press is amazing. It stands alone in a class by itself in terms of rarity and fascination and combines an incredible and seemingly impossible set of circumstances creating this world-class mint error.



# MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBERSE DIES



# MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBTVERSE DIES



1974-S Lincoln Cent Mated Pair  
Struck by 2 U.S. Cent Obverse Dies  
Coin #1 On 1973 Panama Tenth Balboa  
NGC MS 66  
UNIQUE DISCOVERY



# MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBERSE DIES



1974-S Lincoln Cent Mated Pair  
Struck by 2 U.S. Cent Obverse Dies  
Coin #1 On 1973 Panama Tenth Balboa  
NGC MS 66  
UNIQUE DISCOVERY



# MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBERSE DIES



1974-S Lincoln Cent Mated Pair  
Struck by 2 U.S. Cent Obverse Dies  
Coin #2 Reverse Brockage  
NGC MS 64 BN  
UNIQUE DISCOVERY



# **MATED PAIR OF 1974-S LINCOLN CENTS STRUCK BY 2 U.S. CENT OBTVERSE DIES**



**1974-S Lincoln Cent Mated Pair  
Struck by 2 U.S. Cent Obverse Dies  
Coin #2 Reverse Brockage  
NGC MS 64 BN  
UNIQUE DISCOVERY**



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# UNIQUE 1977 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK IN ALUMINUM AT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)



**This Unique 1977 Aluminum Cent is either:**

- *An Intentionally Made Mint Error*
- *On a Leftover Aluminum Planchet From 1974-1975*
- *A Pattern Struck in Aluminum*

## UNIQUE 1977 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK IN ALUMINUM AT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT

**T**his unique 1977 Aluminum Cent was discovered and certified by NGC. It was struck on an aluminum planchet with a weight of 1.04 grams. There are several possibilities as to how this unique Lincoln Cent was produced. It could have been an intentionally made mint error. It could have been struck on a leftover aluminum blank from 1974-75 when the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia struck Aluminum Cents. Or it could be a unique and unrecorded pattern struck in aluminum. Regardless of the circumstances, this is a unique and enigmatic Lincoln Cent.

There are no authorized US coins that were struck in aluminum for circulation. In 1977, Lincoln Cents were composed of 95% copper and 5% zinc. Since 1982, they are composed of 97.5% zinc and 2.5% copper.

The 1974 Aluminum Cent is world famous. Proposed in 1973 and struck in 1974, it was never released into circulation. The U.S. Mint distributed several to members of Congress, but they were recalled by the U.S. Mint Director, Mary Brooks, and destroyed. One example struck by the Philadelphia Mint was donated to the Smithsonian Institution. Another was certified in 2005 by PCGS as MS 62. In 1975, the Philadelphia Mint struck at least 66 aluminum cents dated 1975.

According to the Chief of the Mint's internal audit staff, Willian Humbert, between October 17, 1973 and March 29, 1974 there were 1,441,039 aluminum cents dated 1974 struck at the Philadelphia Mint. Another 130,128 were struck between April 12, 1974 and May 30, 1974. Fred Weinberg, PCGS

## UNIQUE 1977 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK IN ALUMINUM AT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT

authenticator for Mint Errors, estimates that the number ranges from (5) to as many as (14) 1974-P aluminum cents that are not accounted for. The U.S. Government closed it's investigation of any missing 1974 aluminum cents in February 1976.

In 2014, a 1974 Denver Mint aluminum cent surfaced from Randall Lawrence, who stated that his father had worked at the U.S. Mint in Denver and had received it as a retirement gift. It was certified MS 63 by PCGS and was subsequently surrendered to the U.S. Government since it was not authorized for release.

Other than the officially struck 1974 and 1975 Aluminum Cents, this 1977 Aluminum Cent is the only other one known. There are two other aluminum Lincoln Cents known but they are struck on foreign planchets. The first

is a 1971 San Francisco Mint aluminum cent that was struck on a planchet intended for Nepal or the Philippines and was certified by NGC as AU 58. It sold in the March 2005 Heritage Signature Sale #368 for \$8,050 (lot #7604). On February 5, 2016 the new owner rejected an offer of \$10,000 on the Heritage auction website. The second is a spectacular and unique 1974 San Francisco Mint aluminum cent that was only struck by the obverse die (uniface). The planchet was intended for a Philippine 1 Sentimo, which were struck by the San Francisco Mint in 1974. It was authenticated and certified by PCGS as MS 61. It is currently being offered for \$40,000.

As spectacular as the 1971-S and 1974-S aluminum cents are, they do not begin to compare to this unique 1977 aluminum cent struck at the Philadelphia Mint. NGC was unable to identify



## UNIQUE 1977 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK IN ALUMINUM AT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT

this Aluminum Lincoln Cent as being struck on a foreign planchet, since it was not a match to a specific weight or size. Mint Error News Magazine was also unable to match it to any planchet from their comprehensive report of coins struck by the U.S. Mint for foreign countries. Experts have concluded that it is either an intentional mint error, struck on a leftover aluminum planchet from 1974-75 or an unrecorded aluminum pattern.

It is plausible that this unique 1977 Aluminum Cent was an intentionally struck mint error. One example of intentionally produced mint errors occurred at the San Francisco Mint during the 1970's. Mint employees intentionally created spectacular proof and mint state error coins. These errors were auctioned off by the State of California after they were discovered in a bank safe deposit box. The U.S. Secret

Service inspected and released the collection, determining that it was legal to own. The State of California then auctioned off the collection and it has been dispersed since the sale.

In the collection were incredible proof errors that were double denominations, mated pairs, dramatic and spectacular unique mint errors including the famous 1970-S Quarter struck on a Barber Quarter certified by NGC as PR 65. Also in this collection was the now world famous 1970-S Quarter struck on a 1941 Canadian Quarter which went viral worldwide on the internet, TV, print and in magazines. In addition, there were several unique and exotic mint state errors in the collection that were unknown types of errors including a unique mint state Roosevelt Dime struck with two reverse dies, which was subsequently certified by PCGS.

## UNIQUE 1977 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK IN ALUMINUM AT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT

Striking a 1977 Aluminum Cent at the Philadelphia Mint was not out of the realm of possibilities given the fact that unique mint errors were being intentionally struck in the San Francisco Mint and had assistance leaving the Mint as well.

Aluminum Cents were first struck at the Philadelphia Mint in 1974 and listed as Judd #2151. They were also struck in 1975 and are listed as Judd #2155. These were trial pieces struck from regular dies and referred to as patterns. It is conceivable that an aluminum planchet, leftover from 1974 or 1975, was inadvertently or intentionally retrieved to strike this 1977 Lincoln Cent. There are many documented examples of United States coins which have been authenticated and certified by PCGS and NGC that

were struck on planchets from previous years. One example of a Lincoln Cent on a leftover planchet from years before is a 1989-D Lincoln Cent struck on a 3.1 gram full copper planchet intended for production prior to 1983 that was authenticated and certified by PCGS as MS 64 Brown.

Regardless of the circumstances surrounding the intentional or non-intentional striking of this unique 1977 aluminum cent, it carries the mystique and excitement that surrounds the world famous 1974 aluminum cents. Certified by NGC as MS 60, this 1977 Aluminum Lincoln Cent belongs in a world class collection of Lincoln Cents or in a collection of unique rarities, discovery coins, patterns and mint errors.

# UNIQUE 1977 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK IN ALUMINUM AT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT



1977 Lincoln Cent  
Struck on an Aluminum Planchet  
At The U.S. Mint in Philadelphia  
1.04 Grams  
NGC MS 60  
UNIQUE



# UNIQUE 1977 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK IN ALUMINUM AT THE PHILADELPHIA MINT



1977 Lincoln Cent  
Struck on an Aluminum Planchet  
At The U.S. Mint in Philadelphia  
1.04 Grams  
NGC MS 60  
UNIQUE

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# UNIQUE 1974-S ALUMINUM CENT STRUCK BY THE OBERVERSE DIE ONLY

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)



The 1974 Aluminum Cent is world famous. Proposed in 1973 and struck in 1974, it was never released into circulation. The U.S. Mint distributed several to members of Congress, but they were recalled by the

U.S. Mint Director, Mary Brooks, and destroyed. One example struck by the Philadelphia Mint was donated to the Smithsonian Institution. Another was certified in 2005 by PCGS as MS 62.



# UNIQUE 1974-S ALUMINUM CENT STRUCK BY THE OBERSE DIE ONLY

According to the Chief of the Mint's internal audit staff, Willian Humbert, between October 17, 1973 and March 29, 1974 there were 1,441,039 aluminum cents dated 1974 struck at the Philadelphia Mint. Another 130,128 were struck between April 12, 1974 and May 30, 1974. Fred Weinberg, PCGS authenticator for Mint Errors, estimates that the number ranges from (5) to as many as (14) 1974-P aluminum cents that are not accounted for. The U.S. Government closed it's investigation of any missing 1974 aluminum cents in February 1976.

In 2014, a 1974 Denver Mint aluminum cent surfaced from Randall Lawrence, who stated that his father had worked at the U.S. Mint in Denver and had received it as a retirement gift. It was certified MS 63 by PCGS and was subsequently surrendered to the U.S. Government since it was not authorized for release.

This spectacular and unique 1974 San Francisco Mint aluminum cent was only struck by the obverse die (uniface). The planchet was intended for a Philippine 1 Sentimo, which were struck by the San Francisco Mint in 1974. There are no authorized U.S. coins that were struck in aluminum for circulation. In 1974, Lincoln Cents were composed of 95%

copper and 5% zinc. Since 1982, they are composed of 97.5% zinc and 2.5% copper.

For comparison purposes, a 1971 San Francisco Mint aluminum cent was struck on a planchet intended for Nepal or the Philippines and was certified by NGC as AU 58. It sold in the March 2005 Heritage Signature Sale #368 for \$8,050 (lot #7604). On February 5, 2016 the new owner rejected an offer of \$10,000 on the Heritage auction website. As spectacular as the 1971 San Francisco aluminum cent is, it does not begin to compare to this 1974 San Francisco aluminum cent which was struck during the same year that the Philadelphia and Denver Mints struck experimental aluminum cents that were not released. There is also a proof 1974-S Lincoln Cent struck on an Nepal 2 Paisa aluminum planchet certified by PCGS PR 67.

As incredible as it seems, there is a unique 1977 Aluminum Cent that was discovered and certified by NGC. It was struck on an aluminum planchet with a weight of 1.04 grams. There are several possibilities as to how this unique Lincoln Cent was produced. It could have been an intentionally made mint error. It could have been struck on a leftover aluminum blank from 1974-75 when the U.S. Mint

# UNIQUE 1974-S ALUMINUM CENT STRUCK BY THE OBERSE DIE ONLY

in Philadelphia struck Aluminum Cents. Or it could be a unique and unrecorded pattern struck in aluminum. Regardless of the circumstances, it is a unique and enigmatic Lincoln Cent.

Although this 1974-S Aluminum Cent is designated as a mint error by PCGS, there is no way to determine if this was intentionally created or is a mint error due to malfunctions that occurred during the minting process in San Francisco. There are two possibilities. Either scenario starts with a planchet intended for a Philippine 1 Sentimo struck from 1967 through 1974. The composition is 95% aluminum and 5% magnesium. It weighs .5 grams, has a diameter of 15.25 mm and a thickness of 1.37 mm.

If this mint error was intentionally struck at the San Francisco Mint to create a 1974 aluminum Lincoln cent during the same time period that the Philadelphia and Denver Mints were striking experimental 1974 aluminum cents, several steps would have been necessary. Since there weren't any aluminum planchets produced in San Francisco to test strike the 1974 cents, a Mint employee took an aluminum planchet intended for the Philippine 1 Sentimo, placed it on top of a U.S. copper-zinc cent planchet in the

collar so that only the obverse die struck the aluminum planchet. Finally this unique mint error had assistance leaving the San Francisco Mint.

This scenario is entirely plausible since in the 1970's, the San Francisco Mint was well known to have intentionally created spectacular proof errors and a few mint state errors as well. These errors were auctioned off by the State of California after they were discovered in a bank safe deposit box. The U.S. Secret Service inspected and released the collection, determining that it was legal to own. The State of California then auctioned off the collection and it has been dispersed since the sale.

In the collection were incredible proof errors that were double denominations, mated pairs, dramatic and spectacular unique mint errors including the famous 1970-S Quarter struck on a Barber Quarter certified by NGC as PR 65. Also in this collection was the now world famous 1970-S Quarter struck on a 1941 Canadian Quarter which went viral worldwide on the internet, TV, print and in magazines. In addition, there were several unique and exotic mint state errors in the collection that were unknown types of errors including a unique mint

# UNIQUE 1974-S ALUMINUM CENT STRUCK BY THE OBERSE DIE ONLY

state Roosevelt Dime struck with two reverse dies, which was subsequently certified by PCGS. Creating a 1974 San Francisco aluminum cent was not out of the realm of possibilities given the fact that unique mint errors were being intentionally struck in the San Francisco Mint and had assistance leaving the Mint as well.

The other possibility is that this aluminum cent was a mint error caused by malfunctions that occurred during the minting process striking 1974 copper Lincoln Cents at the San Francisco Mint. A leftover aluminum planchet intended to produce the 1974 Philippine 1 Sentimo was somehow mixed in the bin of blanks or somewhere else along the path from producing blanks to striking Lincoln Cents. So far, this scenario is possible since many off-metal errors are known. But very few U.S. coins are known struck on aluminum planchets from foreign countries. In addition, the aluminum planchet had to be in the collar at the exact time that a cent planchet was also in the collar, which is a rare occurrence. This would have created this unique mint error struck only by the obverse die and the reverse would be uniface since it was on top of a cent planchet. Additionally it would have to escape the

quality control procedures implemented by the San Francisco Mint.

Furthermore, an interesting event transpired with the mint state 1974-S cents. They were being hoarded and speculated on, with \$50 bags selling for \$475. To prevent the hoarding, the U.S. Mint Director Mary Brooks ordered that the cents from the San Francisco Assay Office be mixed with those of the other Mints in unlabeled bags before being shipped to the Federal Reserve Banks. It is common to find 1974-S rolls of cents that are mixed with other mint marks. This was yet another process that this mint error had to survive. And last but not least, it is coincidentally and magically also dated 1974, the same date as the 1974 aluminum cents struck in Philadelphia and Denver.

Regardless of the circumstances surrounding the intentional or non-intentional striking of this unique aluminum cent, it carries the mystique and excitement that surrounds the world famous 1974 aluminum cents. Certified by PCGS as MS 61, this 1974-S aluminum Lincoln Cent belongs in a world class collection of Lincoln Cents or in a collection of unique rarities, discovery coins, patterns and mint errors.



# UNIQUE 1974-S ALUMINUM CENT STRUCK BY THE OBLVERSE DIE ONLY



1974-S Aluminum Lincoln Cent  
Struck by the Obverse Die Only  
On Philippine 1 Sentimo Planchet  
PCGS MS 61  
UNIQUE



# **UNIQUE 1974-S ALUMINUM CENT STRUCK BY THE OBERSE DIE ONLY**



**1974-S Aluminum Lincoln Cent  
Struck by the Obverse Die Only  
On Philippine 1 Sentimo Planchet  
PCGS MS 61  
UNIQUE**



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# UNIQUE 1910 LINCOLN CENT UNIFACE TEST STRIKE

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)



# UNIQUE 1910 LINCOLN CENT UNIFACE TEST STRIKE

**Y**et another unique die trial has surfaced. This 1910 Lincoln Cent Uniface Test Strike was certified by PCGS and is unique and unreported. It is not listed in Judd, Pollock or any other numismatic reference.

It was purchased from an east coast estate which included several other unique and spectacular United States major mint errors.

Considering the fact that the Lincoln Cent series is one of the most popular and collected series of U.S. Coins, it is amazing that

there is no reference to this 1910 Test Strike Piece anywhere.

There are two 1909 Obverse Lincoln Cent Die Trials struck in lead. One is ex-Judd, the other is the Pollock plate coin.

It is fascinating that a test strike was made in 1910 of the obverse on a copper planchet with a uniface reverse.

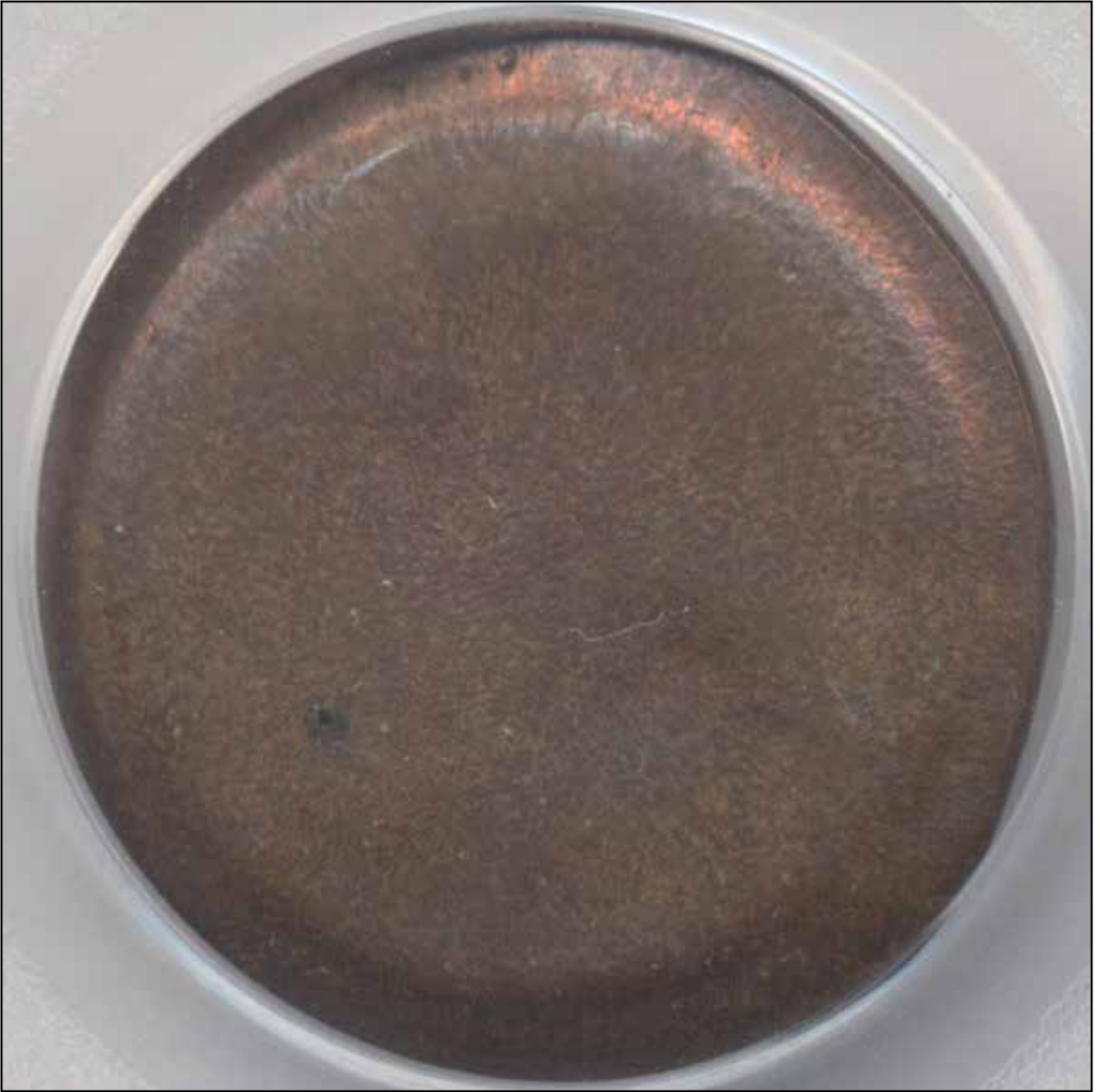
This Unique Discovery Piece was featured and illustrated in a half page Coin World article in the September 22, 2003 Issue page 94.

# UNIQUE 1910 LINCOLN CENT UNIFACE TEST STRIKE





# UNIQUE 1910 LINCOLN CENT UNIFACE TEST STRIKE





# CONECA

The Combined Organization  
of Numismatic Error Collectors of America



CONECA is an international numismatic organization devoted to the education of error and variety coin collectors. CONECA focuses on many error and variety specialties, including doubled dies, repunched mintmarks, multiple errors, clips, double strikes, off-metals and off-centers -- just to name a few. It publishes an educational journal, The ErrorScope, which is printed and mailed to members bimonthly. CONECA offers a lending library, examination, listing and attribution services; it holds annual meetings at major conventions (referred to as Errorama) around the country. Please visit [conecaonline.org](http://conecaonline.org) and enjoy!

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# 1915 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON FULL-SIZE NICKEL PLANCHET

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)



This is one of two known authenticated and certified Lincoln Cent off-metal prior to 1916. It was recently featured in a front page Coin World article and described as a possible Mint Experiment Test

Piece. This was struck on a full-size planchet of Nickel composition.

Pollock lists as #2028, "Nickel. Plain edge. Unique? Listed in Judd as being a Mint Error."



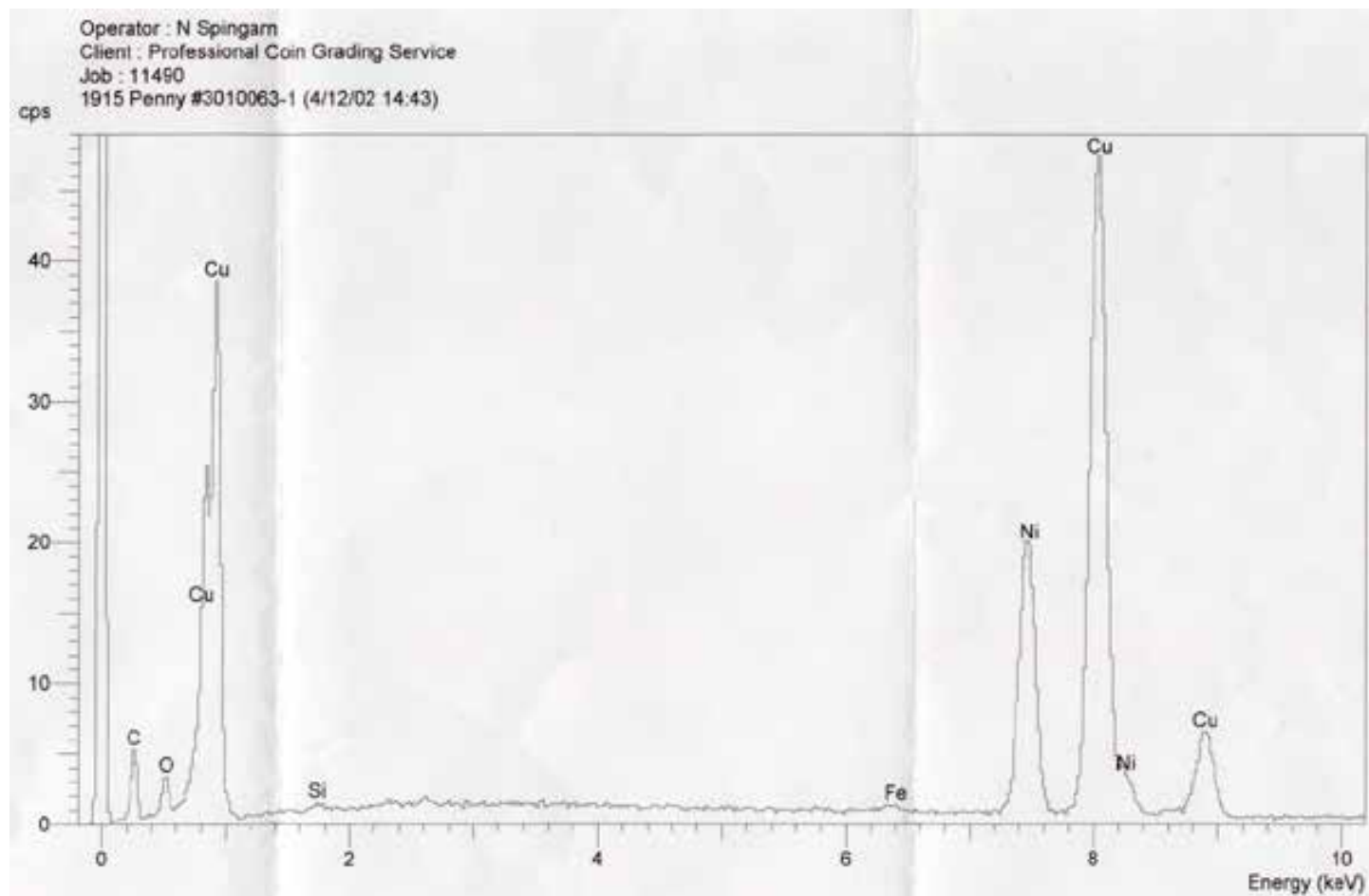
# 1915 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON FULL-SIZE NICKEL PLANCHET

S&N Labs analyzed this off-metal for elemental composition using scanning electron microscopy with energy-dispersive x-ray spectrometry (SEM-EDX). The composition was a copper-nickel alloy.

This is the same alloy that was used

to strike the Buffalo Nickels during this time period.

This 1915 Lincoln Cent is on a full-size planchet as the rims are full and sharp. If it was struck on a foreign planchet, there would be weakness in the rims.



# 1915 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON FULL-SIZE NICKEL PLANCHET



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## REPORT OF ANALYSIS

One coin (1915 US penny #3010063-1) was received on 12 April 2002. The coin was analyzed for elemental composition using scanning electron microscopy with energy-dispersive x-ray spectrometry (SEM-EDX). The results are summarized in the table below.

Element	Concentration (% w/w)
Copper	74
Nickel	25
Silicon	0.3
Iron	0.3

The coin appears to be a copper-nickel alloy. The last two elements (silicon and iron) could either be minor impurities in the alloy or surface contaminations (i.e., sand and rust particles). The spectrum is enclosed for your reference.

Neil E. Spingarn, Ph.D.  
President

# 1915 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON FULL-SIZE NICKEL PLANCHET





# 1915 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON FULL-SIZE NICKEL PLANCHET



# FROM THE GRADING ROOM: 1964 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON A COIN OF INDIA

BY NGC

*NGC Graders share an intriguing and visually dramatic error coin that was recently submitted for certification.*



# FROM THE GRADING ROOM: 1964 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON A COIN OF INDIA

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**A**mong the various types of error coins that exist, one of the most coveted are coins overstruck on foreign coins from other countries. At a glance, these coins look so unusual or different from typical coins, they immediately invite investigation. Second, they prompt an interesting series of follow-up questions: how did these come to be made; were they made deliberately; and why?

Recently submitted to NGC was one of these very curious double-denomination errors: a 1964 Lincoln Cent struck on a cancelled India 1942 1/4 Rupee. In .500 fine silver, its color immediately signals it is something different. Odd diamond cross-hatching, the results of cancellation, has overlaid a textured pattern to both obverse and reverse. Closer examination identifies the undertype. Clearly discernible running vertically across Lincoln's profile bust are the words, in four lines, "1/4 / RUPEE / INDIA / -

1942 -". This undertype, an India 1/4 Rupee, KM-546 is a two-year design type struck in Calcutta, which was cancelled prior to being overstruck with Lincoln Cent dies.

Fortunately, we do know a little of its provenance. It was submitted to NGC by coin dealer Gregory Field, a partner with New England Rarities, who represents the family of the original owner. He relayed to NGC that the owner removed the coin from circulation himself in 1964. It had been used in purchase at a Brooklyn Heights, NY delicatessen he owned. Being a casual collector, the owner began to look more closely at the change drawer in his restaurant after it was announced silver coinage would soon be removed from circulation. The coin has remained with the family since then, now offering it for sale by Field on the website [nerarities.com](http://nerarities.com).

The coin may be known to some in the numismatic community



# FROM THE GRADING ROOM: 1964 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON A COIN OF INDIA

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as it was first sent to a prominent numismatist for authentication in 1976. At least one Cent struck on an uncanceled 1/4 Rupee is also known. It's natural to assume that such coins were made deliberately by a Mint employee or for the favor of an important visitor to the Mint, wanting an oddity to sell for profit or a special keepsake. This may not be the case here.

Adding to the evidence that these coins were made by mistake are two considerations. First, the coin was found in circulation in 1964, suggesting that it promptly entered commerce and wasn't held back as a memento or to be sold. Second, a 1964-D Jefferson Nickel struck on a cancelled India 1940 1/4 Rupee is also known. This means that the same circumstance that occurred at the Philadelphia Mint, where this Lincoln Cent was struck, was repeated at the Denver Mint. That may well rule out the theory that a single Mint employee or someone

with special access to the minting process was involved. For an unknown reason, silver India 1/4 rupees were intermixed with cent planchets at Philadelphia and nickel planchets at Denver!

Similar errors have occurred in the past. The US Mint struck coins for over 40 foreign countries from 1876 into the 1980s. Occasionally these foreign coins got mixed with regular US coinage planchets, creating popular double-denomination error coins. But the US Mint has never produced coins for India, adding to the intrigue of this piece.

The subject coin shows only the lightest evidence of circulation, perhaps amplified in appearance by the color of the undertype which was circulated before cancellation. The melding of the cancelled 1/4 Rupee and Lincoln Cent design has created a charming and visibly appealing error. It is graded AU 58 by NGC.

# FROM THE GRADING ROOM: 1964 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON A COIN OF INDIA





# FROM THE GRADING ROOM: 1964 LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON A COIN OF INDIA





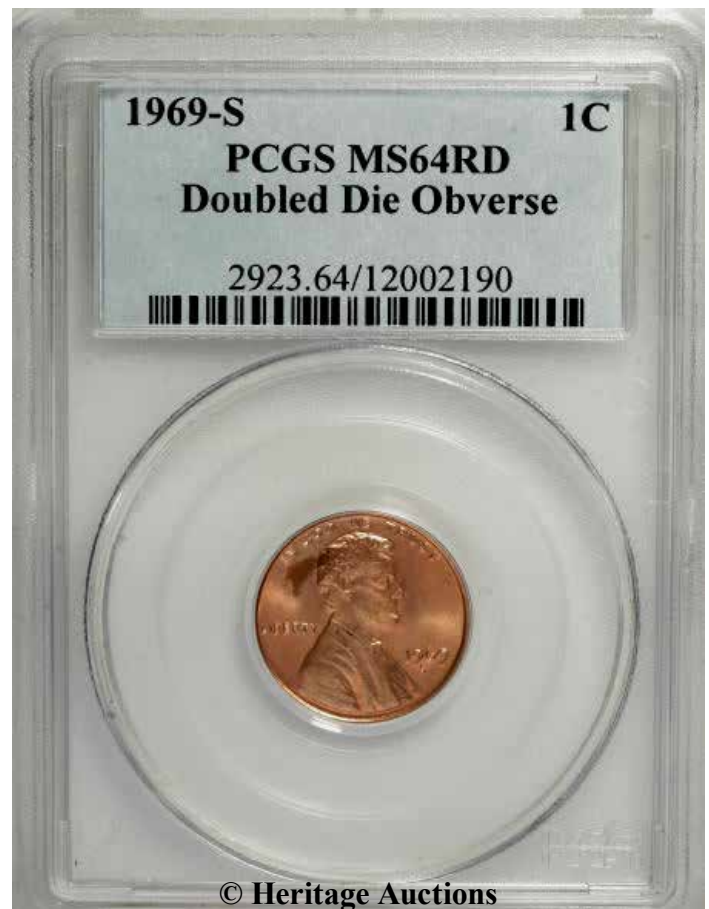
# 1969-S LINCOLN CENT DOUBLED DIE SELLS FOR \$126,500

*From the Heritage Auction Listing:* 1969-S 1C Doubled Die MS64 Red PCGS. FS-028. In *The Cherrypickers' Guide to Rare Die Varieties*, Bill Fivaz and J.T. Stanton use a system of stars to assess demand for different varieties, ranging from one star for low-demand, minor variants to a stated high of five stars for bold and popular oddities such as the 1955 doubled die cent. The 1969-S Doubled Die Obverse listing shows six stars.

This important, interesting, and generally unavailable variety has one of the most surprising backgrounds in 20th century American numismatics. As described in several publications, counterfeit doubled die cents dated 1969 had appeared, and government agents confiscated any examples it came across. The legitimate 1969-S doubled die pieces were caught up in this dragnet; Fivaz and Stanton report that the coins were later authenticated by the Mint and returned, while Lange's *The Complete Guide to Lincoln Cents* states that the Mint destroyed at least a few of the S-mint coins. That early excitement greatly increased the notoriety of the 1969-S doubled die coins, though the population of survivors remains excessively low.

The piece offered here, however, has no such story of confiscation and redemption. In fact, its history is essentially blank until October 3, 2007, when collector Michael Tremonti discovered the coin in a heretofore-unsearched roll of 1969-S cents. As related by Ken Potter in a report for the October 29, 2007 edition of *Coin World*, the noted numismatist was understandably skeptical: "... I just assumed that his find was one of the exceedingly common examples of strike doubling found on this date. ... I advised [Tremonti] of this, but he shrugged it off as not being what he found."

While Potter agreed to examine the coin, he was not expecting to find an actual doubled die: "Even though [Tremonti] sounded like he knew what he was talking about, I was still prepared to find an example of strike doubling. To my surprise, what I beheld was a Brilliant



Uncirculated example of the 1969-S Lincoln, Doubled Die cent."

Interest in the 1969-S Doubled Die cents has increased dramatically in recent years, and prices have skyrocketed in tandem. A recent sale by Bowers and Merena included an MS64 Red and Brown example, which sold for \$85,100, the current high price for this issue. Collector and dealer speculation has suggested that this representative might set a new record at auction. Among the authorities who have brought up the possibility is David Hall, one of the co-founders of the certification service PCGS. His commentary, as printed in the November 13, 2007 edition of *Numismatic News*: "I was totally amazed that this coin could turn up out of nowhere. The coin is completely original and full mint red. ... What an incredible find! This could be a six-figure coin."

The shining surfaces of this important cent are fresh copper-orange with a triangular area of peach-umber behind Lincoln's head. The strike is crisp, and the peripheral elements of the obverse show this variant's characteristic doubling, with the effect most prominent at LIBERTY and the date. Though a handful of marks are present in the fields, the devices are attractively preserved, and the overall effect is tantalizingly close to an even finer designation.

The combined certified populations of NGC and PCGS show just three Choice 1969-S Doubled Die cents as the highest-graded examples, all of which were certified by the latter firm (12/07). One was graded as Red and Brown, while the other two (including the present piece) were graded as Red. This recent discovery, at the acme of desirability for this challenging doubled die, presents an important opportunity for the series specialist.





# REMARKABLE DOUBLE DENOMINATION MULE 1993-D CENT WITH DIME REVERSE

by Heritage Auctions

*Sold for \$51,750*



*Featured in the January 2010 Orlando, FL FUN US Coin Auction #1136*

**1993-D Lincoln Cent--Struck with Dime Reverse Die--MS65 Red PCGS**



U.S. coins struck with dies of different denominations are extremely rare. Until recent years, none were known. The most famous among those are the Sacagawea dollar reverse, paired with a statehood quarter obverse, of which ten examples are known, per Fred Weinberg. In our April 2006 Central States Signature, a 1999 cent with a dime reverse hammered down for \$138,000, the largest prices realized for an error coin in a Heritage auction, excluding the 1944-S steel cent that sold for \$373,750 in our 2008 ANA Signature.

Aside from malfeasance of a mint worker, the muled denomination error is only possible when the denominations involved are similar in diameter. A cent is 19 mm, and a dime is 17.9 mm, a difference of 1.1 mm or approximately 5%. Given the billions of cents struck annually at the Federal mints, it was inevitable that an absent-minded worker would pair cent and dime dies. Presumably, the mistake was discovered and the

struck pieces were destroyed before dispersal, with the single exception of the present survivor.

This lustrous Gem shows the characteristics expected of a cent and dime mule. The dime side has a broad, tall rim, since metal was forced into the collar of the dime die by the wider diameter cent die opposite. As a result, the cent side has a soft strike near the rim, since metal in the vicinity flowed into the dime collar. The strike on the devices is normal. The lustrous surfaces are pristine aside from a solitary faint graze above the date. The color is predominantly orange, with shades of fire-red and olive-green occasionally present.

This auction provides an unusual opportunity to acquire two different cent/dime mules, one on a cent planchet and the other on a dime planchet. It is unlikely that such a fortuitous combination will again appear in consecutive auction lots.

REMARKABLE DOUBLE DENOMINATION MULE 1993-D CENT WITH DIME REVERSE









# AMAZING DOUBLE DENOMINATION CENT AND DIME MULE ROOSEVELT DIME WITH 1995 CENT OBLVERSE

by Heritage Auctions

*Sold for \$57,500*



*Featured in the January 2010 Orlando, FL FUN US Coin Auction #1136*

**1995 Roosevelt Dime--Struck With Cent Obverse Die--MS64 NGC**

## AMAZING DOUBLE DENOMINATION CENT AND DIME MULE ROOSEVELT DIME WITH 1995 CENT OBVERSE

**A**n astounding mint error that prior to the 1990s was believed impossible to occur. Only the narrow difference in die diameter between the cent and dime makes it plausible that a busy mint worker could erroneously pair dies of different denominations. Most likely, a press run was made from this die pairing and detected by an inspector, possibly the operator of the mint press. Perhaps the entire batch was melted, aside from the present coin.

This satiny near-Gem displays the characteristics expected of a dime struck with a cent obverse die. The obverse has only a partial rim. IN GOD WE TRUST and the L in LIBERTY are tight against the border. This is

because the dime planchet was less in diameter than the cent die. On the dime side, the border displays minor softness of strike, principally on ES OF AM. This was partly due to the die alignment, but also because of metal flow of the planchet toward the collar to fill the unexpectedly wide cent obverse die. The strike on the cent is sharp except for minor incompleteness on the truncation of Lincoln's bust near the VDB initials. As is the case with the prior lot, also an important cent and dime mule, the dies are rotated approximately 15% from usual coin turn. One hopes that the buyer of the previous lot also purchases the present piece, since these two extremely rare cent and dime mules belong together.

**AMAZING DOUBLE DENOMINATION CENT AND DIME MULE  
ROOSEVELT DIME WITH 1995 CENT OBTVERSE**





**AMAZING DOUBLE DENOMINATION CENT AND DIME MULE  
ROOSEVELT DIME WITH 1995 CENT OBTVERSE**



# UNIQUE 1999 LINCOLN CENT OBVERSE MULED WITH A ROOSEVELT DIME REVERSE

by Heritage Auctions

*Sold for \$138,000*



*Featured in the April 2006 (CSNS) Signature Auction #404*

**1999 Lincoln Cent Obverse Die Muled With a Roosevelt Dime Reverse  
on a Lincoln Cent Planchet MS66 Red PCGS**

This incredible error somehow escaped the scrutiny of Mint employees. We are uncertain how a Lincoln cent obverse die was paired with a Roosevelt dime reverse, but this coin proves that it happened. Only seven double-denomination mules had been certified by November 2003. Interestingly, the consignor of this piece also owns two of those coins, a 1993-D cent/dime on a cent planchet and a 1995 cent/dime on a dime planchet. This type of error occurred only recently, during the entire history of U.S. coinage that spans more than 200 years.

The obverse is sharply struck on the figure of Lincoln and the date, although the opposing dime die, being slightly smaller than the cent planchet, caused minor peripheral weakness on the obverse. In other words, nothing was behind the periphery of the cent die to force the expanding metal into the recesses. Naturally, the slightly smaller reverse dime die caused that side to be boldly struck.

Shortly after this phenomenon dropped from the (mismatched) dies, it was discovered in Erie, Pennsylvania by someone who found the coin in a roll of

1999 cents obtained from a local bank. The discoverer then sold the piece to Dempsey & Baxter, a local jewelry store. Dempsey & Baxter held onto the piece until the present consignor “made them an offer they couldn’t refuse” in 2003. The consignor had hoped to surprise his father with the coin as a Christmas gift; however, his father unexpectedly died on October 2 of that year, several days before the coin was actually to be purchased. The consignor went ahead and bought the coin after his father’s death and kept it alongside his other double-denomination errors.

It has since been carefully handled, and has developed no spots or other distractions. The coin remains a solid Premium Gem MS66, with full mint Red. For the error specialist, this would be the centerpiece of an advanced collection. Error collectors will long remember the present coin and hope that someday it will again be publicly offered. This piece was widely publicized in *Coin World* and *Numismatic News* soon after its discovery. This prize represents a unique opportunity. It is undoubtedly one of the most important highlights of this or any numismatic auction.



UNIQUE 1999 LINCOLN CENT OBVERSE MULED WITH A ROOSEVELT DIME REVERSE





UNIQUE 1999 LINCOLN CENT OBVERSE MULED WITH A ROOSEVELT DIME REVERSE



Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

# 2001-D LINCOLN CENT, MS66 RED MULED WITH A ROOSEVELT DIME REVERSE

by Heritage Auctions

*Sold for \$114,000*



*Featured in the June 2021 US Coins Signature Auction #1331*

**2001-D Lincoln Cent Muled With a Roosevelt Dime Reverse MS66 Red PCGS**



A mule is a coin struck from mismatched dies. In the long history of the U.S. Mint, mules are extremely rare. The best-known is the Washington state quarter obverse paired with a Sacagawea dollar reverse, struck circa-2000, which has a census of fewer of 20 pieces. A recent discovery is a 2014-D dollar with a Sacagawea obverse and a Presidential reverse. A February 8, 2021 *Coin World* article by Paul Gilkes describes the other mules known to that writer:

“A mule struck with Roosevelt dime reverse dies on a copper-nickel clad dime planchet; two examples of Washington quarter mules from two reverse dies, presumably struck at the San Francisco Mint circa 1965 to 1966; a unique 1993-D piece struck on a cent planchet with a Lincoln cent obverse die and [a] Roosevelt dime reverse die; and a 1995 piece struck on a dime planchet by a Lincoln cent obverse die and [a] Roosevelt dime reverse die.”

Additionally, Heritage auctioned a 1999 Lincoln cent with a Roosevelt

dime reverse as lot 5271 in our 2006 Central States Signature. The present lot is, then, the third-known Lincoln cent with a Roosevelt dime reverse. The 1995 piece was struck from similar dies, but on a clad dime planchet. The cent and dime have a similar diameter, respectively 19 mm and 18 mm, which undoubtedly contributed to the error. Reportedly, the U.S. Mint has taken steps in recent years to prevent mule errors.

The quality of the present lot is surprisingly high, given that it is the only known 2001-D mule. This lustrous orange-gold Premium Gem is devoid of contact. The strike is precise, and the grade is limited solely by scatted pinpoint obverse flecks. The Lincoln obverse has a normal appearance aside from an indistinct rim. The Roosevelt reverse has an unusually broad rim that consists of three concentric levels. The inner and outer levels are raised, while the middle level has a lower relief. The smaller diameter of the Roosevelt reverse die was responsible for the wider rim on that side.

**2001-D LINCOLN CENT, MS66 RED MULED WITH A ROOSEVELT DIME REVERSE**









# PCGS CERTIFIES A CENT BONDED TO A MAGNETIC SCREW

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)



This is one of only two known Lincoln cents that were bonded with a magnetic screw. The other Lincoln cent was bonded to a much smaller magnetic screw.

This one weighs 2.5 grams giving the total bonded error a weight of 5.6 grams. It is in gem mint state condition and certified in a PCGS oversized holder. It is one of the most eye appealing U.S. mint error coins ever discovered.

Fred Weinberg discovered this unbelievable mint error in a group of San Francisco error coins that he purchased from a long time collection and determined that this 1967 Lincoln cent was struck in the San Francisco Mint.

It is a very dramatic combination of a long magnetic screw being struck by cent dies and bonded into the obverse of this Lincoln cent.

# PCGS CERTIFIES A CENT BONDED TO A MAGNETIC SCREW



# PCGS CERTIFIES A CENT BONDED TO A MAGNETIC SCREW





# PCGS CERTIFIES A CENT BONDED TO A MAGNETIC SCREW



# PCGS CERTIFIES A CENT BONDED TO A MAGNETIC SCREW



# 1972-D LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON A 40-GRAIN MAGNETIC WASHER

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

Although there are a few known Lincoln Cents struck on washers, this one is very dramatic for several reasons. It is on a magnetic 40-grain washer

which has the same diameter of 19mm as a Lincoln Cent copper planchet. The hole in the center adds to the overall eye appeal of this amazing error coin.





# 1972-D LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON A 40-GRAIN MAGNETIC WASHER



# 1972-D LINCOLN CENT STRUCK ON A 40-GRAIN MAGNETIC WASHER





# **PCGS Certifies TRANSITIONAL 1989-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a 3.1 Gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)**

**by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)**





# **PCGS Certifies TRANSITIONAL 1989-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a 3.1 Gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)**

Coin World and Numismatic News have written articles on the discovery of a few 1983 Lincoln Cents struck on pre-1983 95 percent copper planchets (transitional mint errors). Heritage Auctions sold a 1983-P Lincoln Cent struck on a 95 percent copper planchet in AU 55 PCGS for \$16,450 in August of 2014. Stack's Bowers sold a 1989-D struck on a Pre-1983 cent planchet in MS 62 BN for \$22,325 in February of 2014. A regular 1983 Cent is copper-plated zinc and weighs 2.5 grams. These 95 percent copper planchet transitional mint errors are creating tremendous interest since they are similar to the world famous 1943 Copper Cents.

Cents struck from 1963 through mid-1982 are made up of 95 percent copper and 5 percent zinc. They weigh 3.1 grams.

The cents struck from mid-1982 to the present are struck on planchets made up of a solid zinc core (with a trace of copper) that are plated with pure copper and weigh 2.5 grams.

Here is an authenticated, certified and graded transitional Lincoln Cent struck in 1989. PCGS noted on the insert that it is on a pre-1983 Cent Planchet. This transitional striking is in gem mint state condition with beautiful original copper toning. It is incredible that a 95 percent copper planchet was used in 1989 to strike this coin. This transitional is dated 6 years after the 1983 transitional mint errors and is in a class by itself. It encompasses not only the popularity of the 1983 copper transitional Lincoln Cents but also the excitement and mystique of being struck by the Denver Mint 6 years later.

# **PCGS Certifies TRANSITIONAL 1989-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a 3.1 Gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)**





**PCGS Certifies TRANSITIONAL 1989-D Lincoln Cent Struck on a 3.1 Gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)**





# **PCGS Certifies Unique 1990-D Lincoln Cent TRANSITIONAL Struck on a 3.1 gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)**

**by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)**

Coin World and Numismatic News have written articles on the discovery of a few 1983 Lincoln Cents struck

on pre-1983 95 percent copper planchets (transitional mint errors).



## **PCGS Certifies Unique 1990-D Lincoln Cent TRANSITIONAL Struck on a 3.1 gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)**

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Heritage Auctions sold a 1983-P Lincoln Cent struck on a 95 percent copper planchet in AU 55 PCGS for \$16,450 in August of 2014. A regular 1983 Cent is copper-plated zinc and weighs 2.5 grams. These 95 percent copper planchet transitional mint errors are creating tremendous interest since they are similar to the world famous 1943 Copper Cents.

Cents struck from 1963 through mid-1982 are made up of 95 percent copper and 5 percent zinc. They weigh 3.1 grams. The cents struck from mid-1982 to the present are struck on planchets made up of a solid zinc core (with a trace of copper) that are plated with pure copper and weigh 2.5 grams.

Unbelievably, here is an

authenticated, certified and graded unique transitional Lincoln Cent struck in 1990. PCGS noted on the insert that it is on a pre-1983 Cent Planchet. This transitional striking is in gem mint state condition with beautiful original copper toning. This unique mint error was previously authenticated and certified by ICG.

It is incredible that a 95 percent copper planchet was used in 1990 to strike this coin. This unique transitional is dated 7 years after the 1983 transitional mint errors and is in a class by itself. It encompasses not only the popularity of the 1983 copper transitional Lincoln Cents but also the excitement and mystique of being unique and struck by the Denver Mint 7 years later.

# **PCGS Certifies Unique 1990-D Lincoln Cent TRANSITIONAL Struck on a 3.1 gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)**

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# PCGS Certifies Unique 1990-D Lincoln Cent TRANSITIONAL Struck on a 3.1 gram Copper Planchet (Pre-1983 Cent Planchet)

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# NGC Certifies Unique Double Denomination

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)



# Unique Double Denomination

This is a spectacular double denomination. It is a 1995 Lincoln Cent struck on a struck 1991 Roosevelt Dime. It's unique since it's a double denomination that is 4 years apart.

The Lincoln portrait is almost entirely visible over the Roosevelt Dime reverse design making this one of the most visually dramatic

and eye appealing double denominations known. The Roosevelt portrait is still almost entirely visible underneath the memorial design of the Cent. Both dates are clearly visible as well. It is in gem mint state condition, well struck and is one of the most fascinating United States mint errors known.





# Unique Double Denomination



# Unique Double Denomination



# Martha Washington Reverse Die Used To Strike 1 Cent Experimental Test Pieces For U.S. Judd #2180

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)





# Martha Washington Reverse Die

*Editor's Note: Although not a mint error, I wanted this Cent-Size Martha Washington Reverse Die to be included in this Lincoln Cent Special Edition.*

*There is only one other known Martha Washington Die in private hands. It was used to strike the half dollar obverse for the experimental patterns and is also not cancelled. This half dollar obverse Martha Washington Die was purchased by Mike Byers. It was featured in Coin Week and also featured on the cover of Mint Error News Magazine Issue 44 (Spring 2018).*

Here is the full story on the Martha Washington Test Pieces including my discovery in 2000 of the first (9) test pieces in different compositions and surfaces. Coin World featured my first Martha Washington Discovery test piece in a front page article in their August 7, 2000 Issue.

This is the only known Martha Washington Reverse Die in private hands for ANY denomination. The only other Die known in private hands is the Half Dollar Obverse

Die previously mentioned. This Die belongs in a collection of U.S. patterns or unique U.S. numismatic treasures. It is part of the ongoing U.S. Mint's history of experimenting and striking pattern coins prior to producing our nation's coins for circulation.

Both of these Martha Washington dies are featured in the U.S. Patterns website that references all U.S. patterns and related numismatic rarities.

# Martha Washington Reverse Die

## uspatterns.com



**J2180/P4100**

A cent struck using the Mint's Martha Washington dies has been reported and purchased by Michael Byers, uspatterns.com member #88. It was purchased

along with an example of [J2101/P2082](#). For more on this piece, click [here](#).

This design was first used in 1965. The obverse was designed by Edward R. Grove and the reverse is by Philip Fowler. This design has since become the Mint's all-purpose dies for testing new alloys.

It is likely that this piece was struck outside the Mint from one of the vendors the Mint gave these dies to. Among the possibilities include IDX Inc, PMX Industries and the Olin Brass Corporation. Because of this, we have assigned it number [P4100](#).

The reason for their striking may have been to test the new copper coated zinc planchets for the Mint. If this is the case, then this was probably struck around 1982.

The illustrated piece was offered in Heritage 11/03 sale and was graded NGC66RB. A second example, graded NGC64RED, was offered in Heritage 1/04 sale. Since that time several more have shown up and there are now over a dozen confirmed in the marketplace.

There are also at least 2 mint errors struck on dime planchets. For more on these pieces, click [here](#).

An obverse die trial in copper struck from either cent or dime dies is also known. For more on this, click [here](#).

Photo courtesy of Michael Byers.

# Martha Washington Reverse Die

I discovered the first known Martha Washington Test Pieces, of ANY denomination in 2000. It was struck on a U.S. cent planchet. Coin World featured this discovery on their front page on August 7th, 2000.

Since then, there have been Martha Washington Test Pieces struck on the 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c and \$1 size denominations. Different metal compositions and surfaces were used in these experimental test pieces.





# Martha Washington Reverse Die

The only other known Martha Washington Die (obverse or reverse) in private hands is an obverse die for the cent-sized U.S. Judd #2180.

Fred Weinberg displayed the Martha Washington Cent reverse die in his showcase at the Denver 2017 ANA and at previous Long Beach Expos.

**Below are the Martha Washington Test Pieces that I discovered in 2000:**



# Martha Washington Reverse Die

The U.S. Mint conducted metallurgical tests in 1999 on the golden colored manganese-clad planchets which would later be used for the Sacagawea Dollar.

For the first time, the U.S. Mint included representatives from Industry because the new Sacagawea Dollar would have to be completely interchangeable with the existing SBA Dollar. The electromagnetic fingerprint had to be identical. All of the metals combined changed the alloy's electromagnetic properties. Many tests were conducted including those at IDX Inc., Olin Brass and PMX Industries.

In a Coin World article on July 16th, 2001, James Halsey, President of IDX Inc. was interviewed. IDX Inc. is one of the firms contracted by the U.S. Mint to test prototypes. Mr. Halsey said "numerous samples in different alloys bearing the Martha Washington obverse and Mt. Vernon reverse dies - special designs used for experimental coinage - were shipped to IDX Inc. for testing. Some of the packages were insured for as high as \$250,000, with the recipients required to return any and all pieces supplied by the Mint for tests."

Two other firms under contract by the U.S. Mint include Olin Brass and PMX Industries. Both of these companies

supply the U.S. Mint with the manganese-clad strips from which the Sacagawea Dollars are struck. Olin Brass is a leading U.S. copper alloy producer and is located in East Alton, Illinois. PMX Industries is located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

According to a Coin World article in the June 24, 2002 issue, "anti-tarnish tests were conducted at the Philadelphia Mint on January 8, 2000, on Sacagawea dollar blanks struck with the experimental Martha Washington obverse, Mount Vernon reverse experimental dies, according to Mint e-mails." The article continued: "Seven processes were explored: one on circulation quality strikes, three on Uncirculated [Mint set] quality coins, and three on Proof quality strikes. The coins were struck on at least four different kinds of presses, with the blanks subjected to one of five burnishing methods."

I discovered one of the three known Martha Washington Test Pieces struck on a Sacagawea Dollar blank planchet. It was certified by NGC as a dollar-sized test piece weighing 8.0 grams and was graded MS 66. It is listed as Judd #2185 on page 294 of eighth edition of United States Pattern Coins, Experimental and Trial Pieces.

A Martha Washington Half Dollar struck

# **Martha Washington Reverse Die**

on a clad Quarter blank planchet sold for \$29,900 in a Heritage Auction at the 2003 Mid-Winter ANA. Click here for more info on the Martha Washington Half Dollar from [uspatterns.com](http://uspatterns.com).

I discovered the first Martha Washington Test Piece struck on a clad Quarter blank planchet. This coin is the plate coin for Judd #2115 on page 290 of the eighth edition of United States Pattern Coins, Experimental and Trial Pieces. Recently a second Martha Washington Quarter has been discovered. Click here for more info on the Martha Washington Quarter from [uspatterns.com](http://uspatterns.com).

The first Martha Washington Dime Trial Piece in private hands sold for \$51,750 at the 2003 Baltimore ANA. NGC authenticated and encapsulated this Martha Washington Dime in April of 2000. The second Martha Washington Dime Trial Piece is in the Heritage Galleries 2007 January Orlando, FL (FUN) Signature Coin Auction #422. It was certified AU 58 by NGC and is struck in cupronickel-copper (multi-layer composite). Click here for more info on the Martha Washington Dime from [uspatterns.com](http://uspatterns.com).

According to United States Pattern and Related Issues, by Andrew W. Pollock

III, "the only trial pieces purported to have survived metallurgical testing in 1965 were the Dime, Quarter Dollar, and Half Dollar equivalent strikes in copper-nickel clad over copper." There is one set of a Dime, Quarter and Half struck by the Martha Washington dies that are permanently housed in the Smithsonian Institute, embedded in blocks of lucite. Click here to view the Martha Washington patterns permanently housed in a block of lucite at the Smithsonian.

I also discovered a Martha Washington Test Piece struck on a copper-zinc Cent blank planchet. This Martha Washington Test Piece might have been used to test the new copper-zinc planchets for the U.S. Mint in 1982. This coin is the plate coin for Judd #2180 on page 294 of the eighth edition of United States Pattern Coins, Experimental and Trial Pieces. Starting in 1982 the composition and weight of the Cent planchet changed. Instead of weighing 3.11 grams and having a composition of 95% copper and 5% zinc, the weight is 2.5 grams with a composition of 97.5% zinc and 2.5% copper. Click here for more info on the Martha Washington Cent from [uspatterns.com](http://uspatterns.com).

In August of 2000, I discovered a Martha Washington Test Piece on a copper-



# Martha Washington Reverse Die

zinc Cent planchet that was struck 10% off-center with a uniface reverse. This discovery was a front page Coin World article on August 7th, 2000. In a response to the Martha Washington Test Piece that I discovered, the Mint announced that “the dies are available to the Mint’s metal and blank vendors for testing.” This die trial piece was discovered by a Brinks employee. It is in gem mint state condition with red and brown toning. The

obverse design of the die features a bust of Martha Washington facing right. In the right field is the inscription MARTHA WASHINGTON. Above the portrait is VIRGINIA and below the date 1759.

The evolving story about the Martha Washington Dies, test strikes and the discovery of these pieces is among the most interesting Numismatic stories in decades.

*Featured on the cover of Mint Error News Magazine Issue 14:*



# Martha Washington Reverse Die

*Mike Byers' discovery was featured in a front page article in Coin World*

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# CoinWorld

August 7, 2000 "Enriching coin collecting through knowledge"

**40 YEARS**

## Martha Washington 'error' may not be Mint product

Mint lends dies to private firms for tests  
By Victoria Stone Moledor  
COIN WORLD Staff

A recent discovery of a current Lincoln cent planchet with the off-center image of the U.S. Mint's trial Martha Washington dies led to an announcement from Mint officials: The dies are made available to the Mint's metal and blank vendors for testing, and therefore any item with the image of the trial pieces may not have been struck by the U.S. Mint.

The dies are not regulated by the U.S. Mint, said Michael S. White. Therefore, it is not outside the bounds of reason that the dies may at times be used in an "uncontrolled" manner, meaning that any item with the image of the Martha Washington pattern dies may have been struck outside the U.S. Mint, and would therefore not be considered a U.S. Mint product.

**A WEEKLY** struck cent planchet struck with the Mint's Martha Washington pattern test die may not be a genuine Mint product.

Please see **MARTHA** Page 16

## MARTHA from Page 1

By press time, the Mint could not confirm for *Coin World* how many years it has made the Martha Washington dies available to outside vendors for metallurgical testing, how many companies may have the dies and how many pairs are outside the Mint. The Mint also could not confirm if the pattern dies were employed recently for use in the U.S. Mint.

The item that drew comment from the Mint was submitted to ANACS by Michael S. Byers of Byers Numismatic Corp. Byers told *Coin World* the item was found in a Mint-sewn bag of 1999 Lincoln cents when it was opened in a Brink's Inc. counting room.

In light of the information provided by the Mint, said Michael Fahey, senior authenticator with ANACS, the coin was returned as a "no decision" item since it could not be verified as an official U.S. Mint product.

The item is uniface with a weak, 10 percent off-center strike. "There is a marked difference in coins that are struck on an ordinary machine press vs. a U.S. Mint coinage press," Fahey said. "This item could have easily been created with an ordinary machine press," he added.

The piece was struck on a copper-plated, zinc planchet of the type first used for the 1982 Lincoln cent and for all cents since 1983.

According to *United States Patterns and Related Issues* by Andrew W. Pollock III, the only trial pieces purported to have survived metallurgical testing in 1965 were the dime, quarter dollar and half dollar equivalent strikes in copper-nickel clad over copper. They are embedded in a block of Lucite displayed at the Smithsonian Institution.

According to an April 22, 1975, letter to pattern researcher Abe Kosoff from Eva

Adams, Mint director from October 1961 to August 1969, "... to be certain no coins were 'lost' while being viewed at official hearings, etc., we had them embedded in a large plastic 'block' which no one certainly could 'pocket' accidentally or otherwise. One of these was presented to the Smithsonian Institution. ..."

*Coin World* readers will recall that in April 2000, the Numismatic Guaranty Corporation of America authenticated and encapsulated a Martha Washington "dime." Eagle Numismatics submitted the dime trial piece to NGC, which graded the piece Mint State 65.


Readers will also recall that in 1999 as the Sacagawea dollar alloy was tested, Martha Washington pattern dies were used to test the alloy's suitability for coining. The dies were the size of the dollar, and *Coin World's* photo files dating from 1965 confirm that dies also exist in the half dollar, quarter dollar and dime size. The dies were used in testing potential replacement compositions for the 90 percent silver alloy

used for those three denominations since the 19th century.

Given the size of the image reproduction on the latest item, both the owner and ANACS staff surmised that an obverse dime die struck the coin.

Edward R. Grove, a sculptor, medallist and bank note engraver, is credited with preparing the Martha Washington obverse design. The test designs were used because of "the technical avoidance by the government of forging their own coins before they were passed into law," according to *The Numismatist* article.

Grove's design features a bust of Martha Washington facing right. In the right field is inscribed MARTHA WASHINGTON, with VIRGINIA above and 1759 below.


Another Mint engraver, Philip Fowler, is credited with executing the designs for the Mount Vernon reverse. The design features a three-quarters view of the Washington's Virginia mansion with MOUNT VERNON below. Inscribed around is HOME OF THE WASHINGTON FAMILY. 



# Martha Washington Reverse Die

This only known Martha Washington Half Dollar Obverse Die in private hands is featured in the U.S. Patterns website ([uspatterns.com](http://uspatterns.com)) that references all U.S. patterns and related numismatic rarities:

## uspatterns.com



**J2132/P2083**

This is the Martha Washington half dollar. The Martha Washington obverse was designed by Edward R. Grove and the reverse is by Philip Fowler.

Examples are believed to have been struck as follows:

Nickel **J2131** with an example offered in Heritage 10/14 sale.

Cupro-Nickel Clad **J2132** with over a dozen known including the illustrated piece above courtesy of Bowers and Merena from their July 2005 sale. An example was first offered in ANR's 12/03 sale and a second one was in Bowers & Merena's 7/05 sale and later reoffered in ANR's 1/06 sale. One is also known struck on a clad quarter planchet. A mint error, it was offered in Heritage 3/2003 and 8/2004 sales. To view this piece, click [here](#). It is unknown if these were struck inside or outside the mint.

50% Silver, 50% Copper **J2133**

Silver Clad **J2134** as used from 1965 to 1970 on the Kennedy half dollar. There are 6 examples, 3 each embedded in two blocks of blue lucite, along with **J2101/P2081** and **J2116/P2082** in the Smithsonian. To view one of these blocks, click [here](#).

Pollock inadvertently lists these Smithsonian pieces as being struck in cupro-nickel clad.

Columbium (type 1) **J2135**

Columbium (type 2) **J2136**

Zirconium **J2137**

Monel (nickel base alloy) **J2138**

Nickel-5% Silicon with Magnetic Core **J2139**

Stainless Steel (type 301-Type I) **J2140**

Stainless Steel (type 301-Type II) **J2141**

Stainless Steel (type 302) **J2142**


Copper Zinc Silver alloy **J2143**. In March 2016, NGC received an example for grading that is Cu 58.3%, Zn 34.3% and Ag 7.2%. This alloy does not match any mentioned in "A Study of Alloys Suitable for Use as United States Coinage". The piece was later offered in Heritage 1/17 FUN sale.

It is not known if any of the other alloys mentioned still exist.

These dies are now used by the U.S. Mint to test various planchet sizes and alloys. They were used in 1999 to test the new "brass" planchet used on the Sacagawea dollar. To view one of these trial pieces, click [here](#).

A waffle cancelled example appeared in Heritage 4/14 sale.

An obverse die for this pattern is also in private hands and is shown below courtesy of Mike Byers.





# Martha Washington Reverse Die

Here is the first Martha Washington half dollar size test piece that I discovered in 2000:



# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

by Christopher Talbot Frank, CTF Error Coins



Cent error coins are popular with many coin collectors. Some of the most popular cent errors are not very expensive and are reachable to the average collector. This article will highlight on the very rare and dramatic error types

coins. Serious cent error type collectors try to focus on finding a range of specific dramatic error coins. Below are just some of the rarer and more dramatic cent errors produced at the United States Mint.

# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

One of the most sought after and visually stunning error is the eleven cent piece. This occurs when a previously struck dime is then struck by cent dies resulting in two different denominations struck on one coin. This error type is called a double denomination.

Another very dramatic error type is the fold over error coin. This happens when a planchet enters the press vertically and is bent over upon striking leaving design on both sides of the coin.

The bowtie clip is a very popular and rare dramatic error coin. This happens when a planchet has two large clips opposite each other. Sometimes the planchet may have a third or fourth smaller clip. When struck, it looks like a bowtie.

Most error collectors will want a die cap coin in their collection. This happens when a planchet sticks to one of the dies as it expands around the die. This dramatic error will have look of thimble.

Struck thru cloth error coins are so cool looking that they are a must have for any serious error coin collector. This occurs when a piece of cloth, perhaps the rag used to wipe off grease from the coining press, gets struck by the dies into a coin planchet. This leaves an impression of cloth into the coin.

A very rare dramatic error that rarely happens is when a staple gets struck into a coin and retained in the coin. This error is different and rarer than a wire or a steel wire bristle stuck into



# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

a coin. The struck in staple error has a definite look as the stuck in item is clearly a staple.

The popular football shaped error coin is struck on a planchet that has been clipped. These are actually called an elliptical clip error, with the most dramatic examples having a clear football shape.

A split die cap error happens when a die cap starts to split apart leaving raised metal on the coin when struck. When a die capped die strikes another planchet, there is extreme pressure, often resulting in splitting the die cap apart.

An edge strike error occurs when a planchet enters the coin press vertically and is struck on the edges of the coin. These are

struck with less pressure than the fold over error coin. This instead leaves a bend in the coin with part of the design on the both edges that were struck by the coin dies.

Double struck and double dated error coins are highly sought after by the error coin collector. While it is easy to find double struck error coins, finding one with two full dates is a much harder search. These prized double struck coins with two dates, especially the ones with fantastic eye appeal, are a core part of any dramatic cent error coin collection.

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**ctferrorcoins.com**

# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**2002 NGC MS67 Cent Struck On Struck Dime  
Mint Error Rare Date Double Denomination  
(obverse)**



# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**2002 NGC MS67 Cent Struck On Struck Dime  
Mint Error Rare Date Double Denomination  
(reverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**PCGS MS64 Foldover Strike  
Copper Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(*obverse*)**



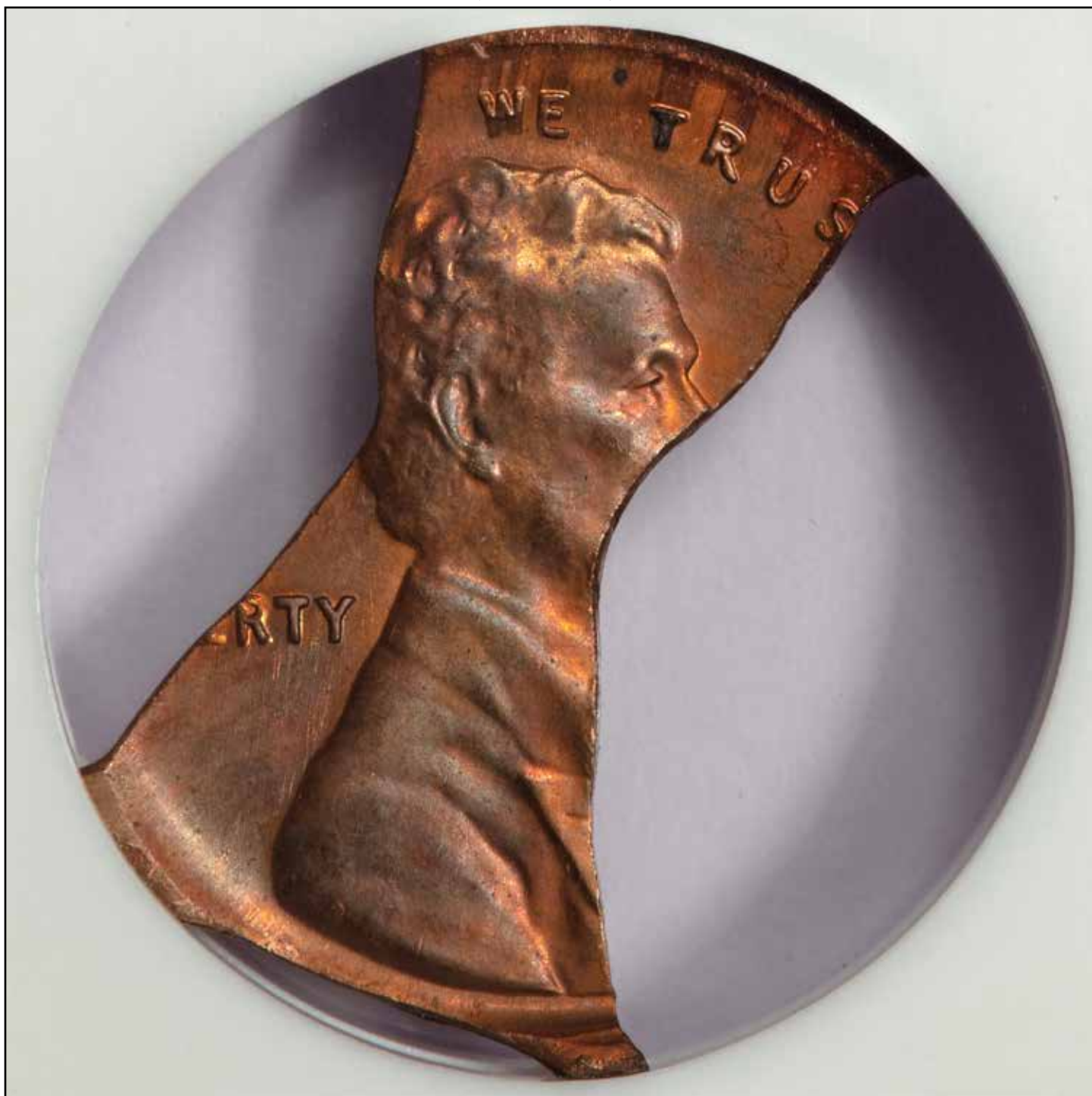
# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**PCGS MS64 Foldover Strike  
Copper Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(reverse)**



# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**NGC MS65 Struck On 1.08 Gram Bow Tie Scrap  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(obverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**NGC MS65 Struck On 1.08 Gram Bow Tie Scrap  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(reverse)**



# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

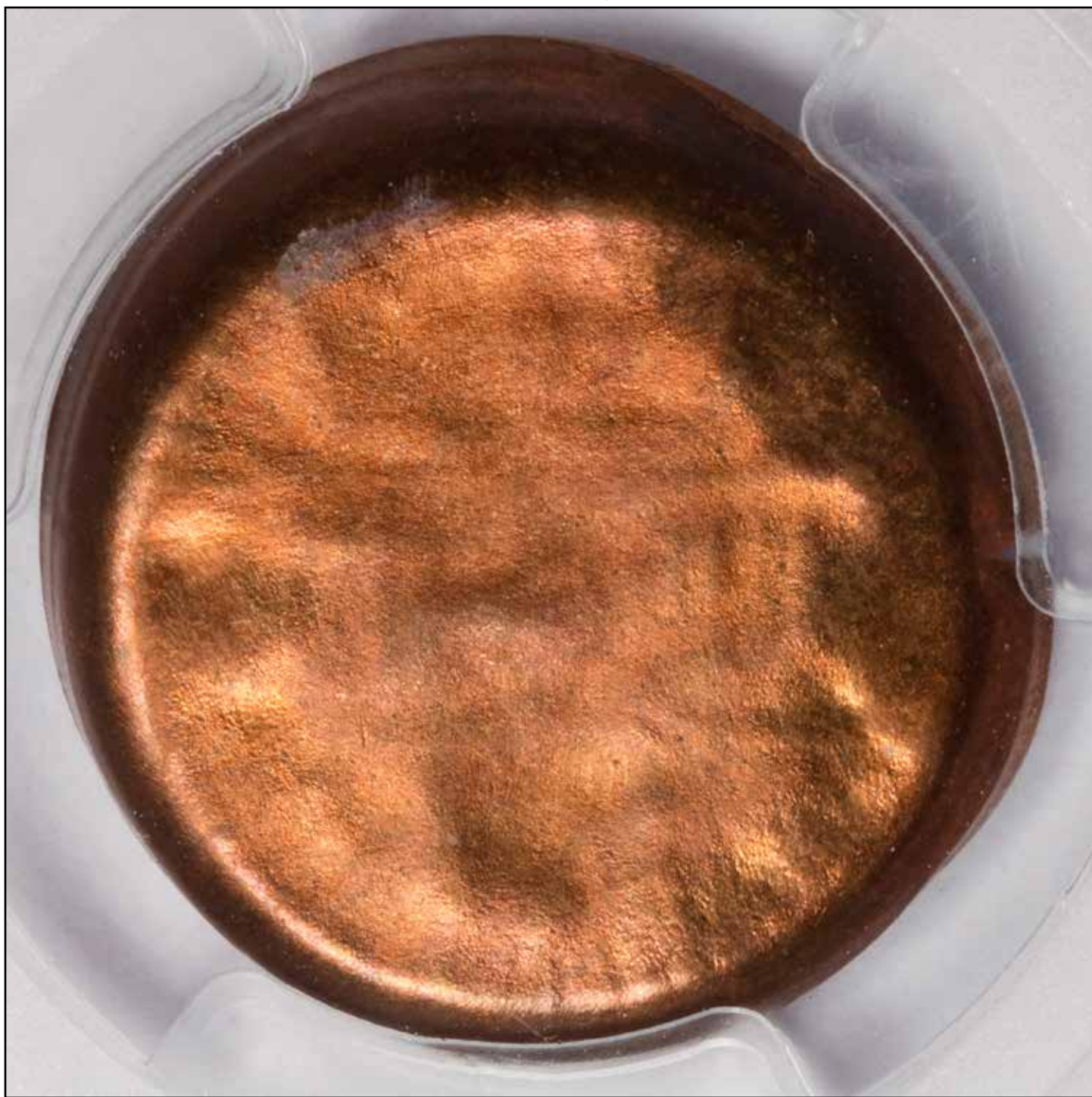
**1979 D PCGS MS64RD Deep Obverse Die Cap  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(obverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

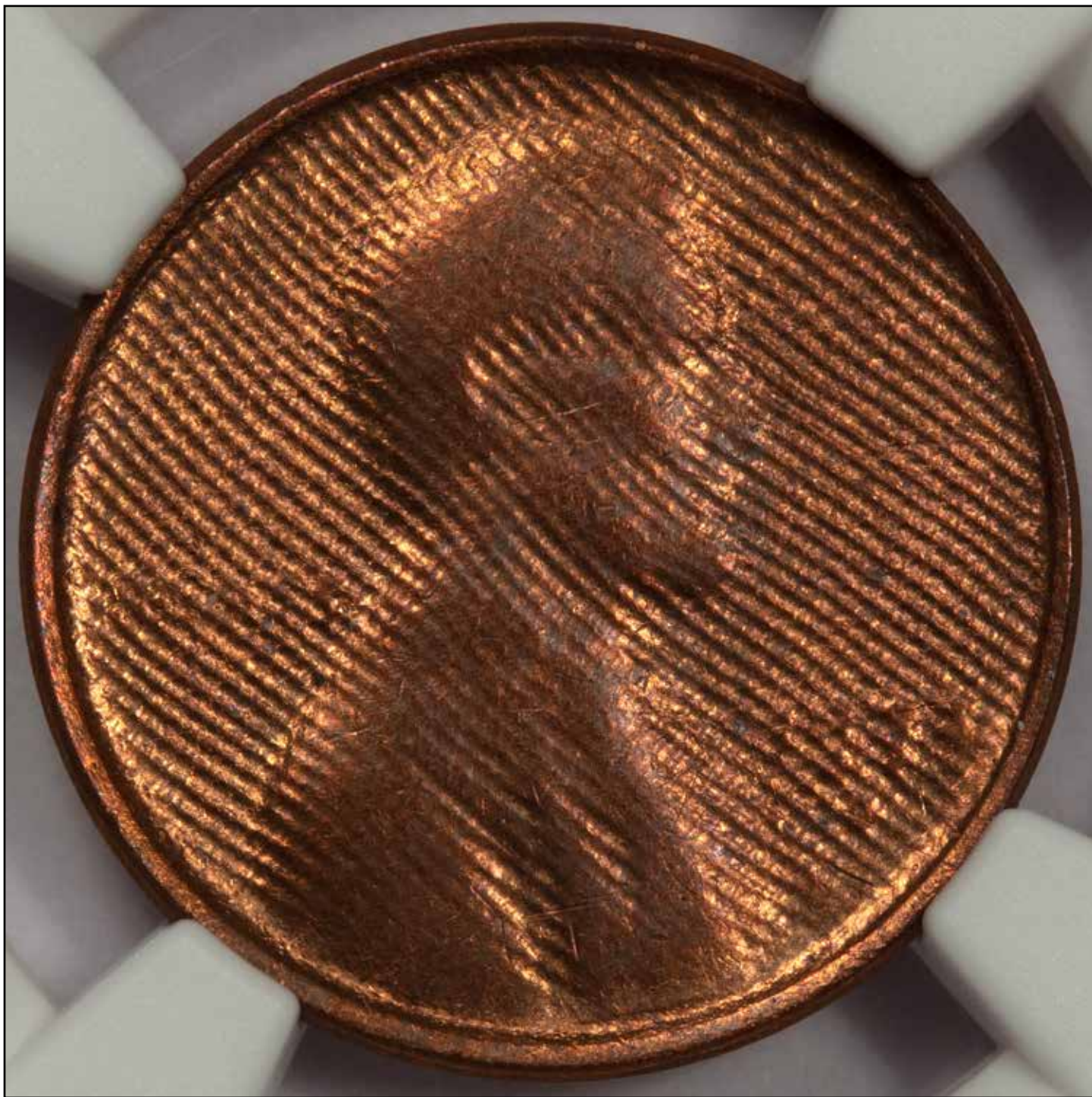
**1979 D PCGS MS64RD Deep Obverse Die Cap  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(reverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**1973 D NGC MS64 Struck Thru Cloth  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(*obverse*)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**1973 D NGC MS64 Struck Thru Cloth  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(reverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**1962 D PCGS AU55 Struck In Staple  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(obverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**1962 D PCGS AU55 Struck In Staple  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(reverse)**



# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**NGC MS65 RD Struck On Football Shaped  
Elliptical Planchet Wheat Cent Mint Error  
(obverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

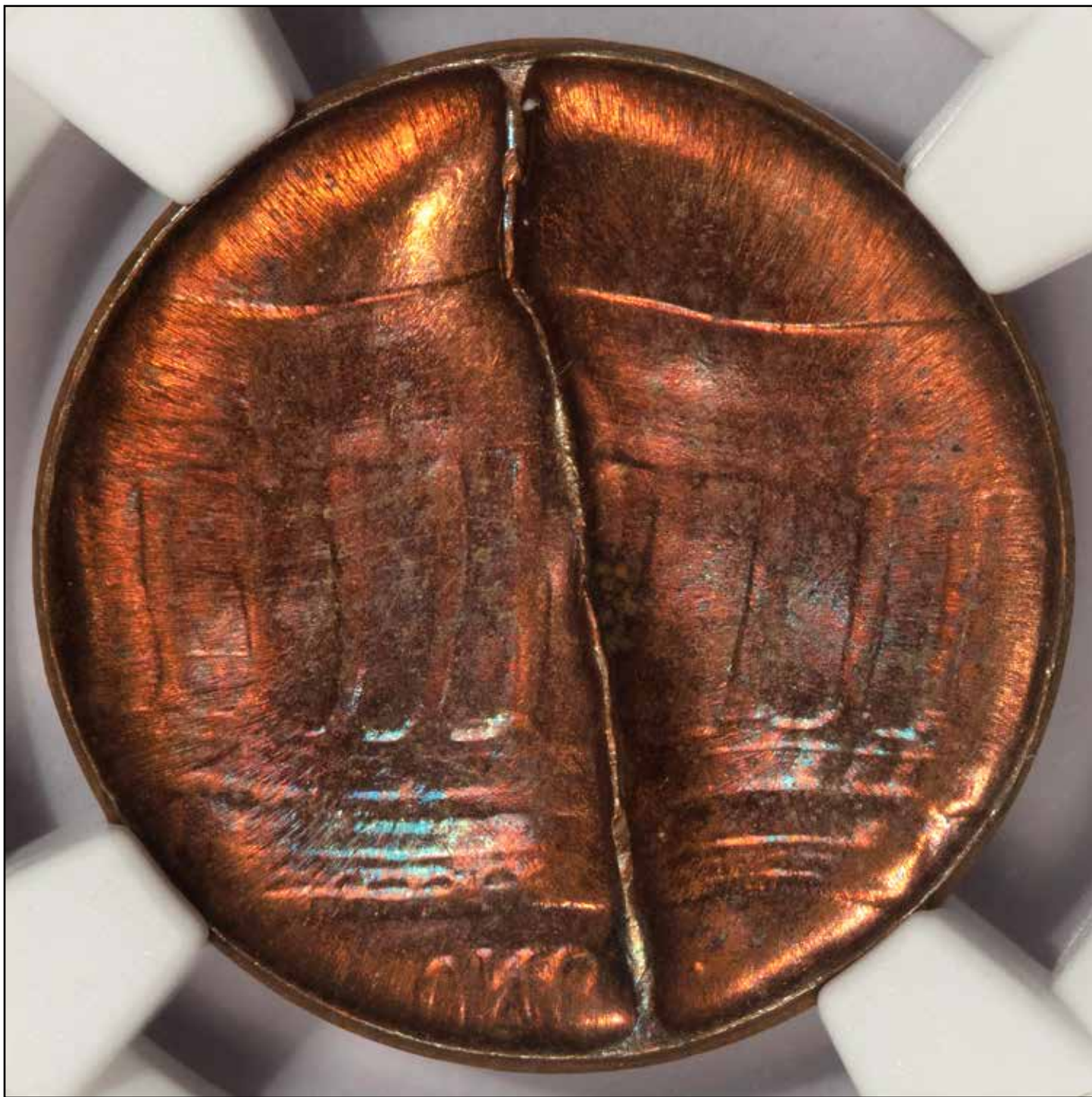
**NGC MS65 RD Struck On Football Shaped  
Elliptical Planchet Wheat Cent Mint Error  
(reverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**NGC MS65 Struck Thru Split Capped Die  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(*obverse*)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**NGC MS65 Struck Thru Split Capped Die  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(reverse)**



# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

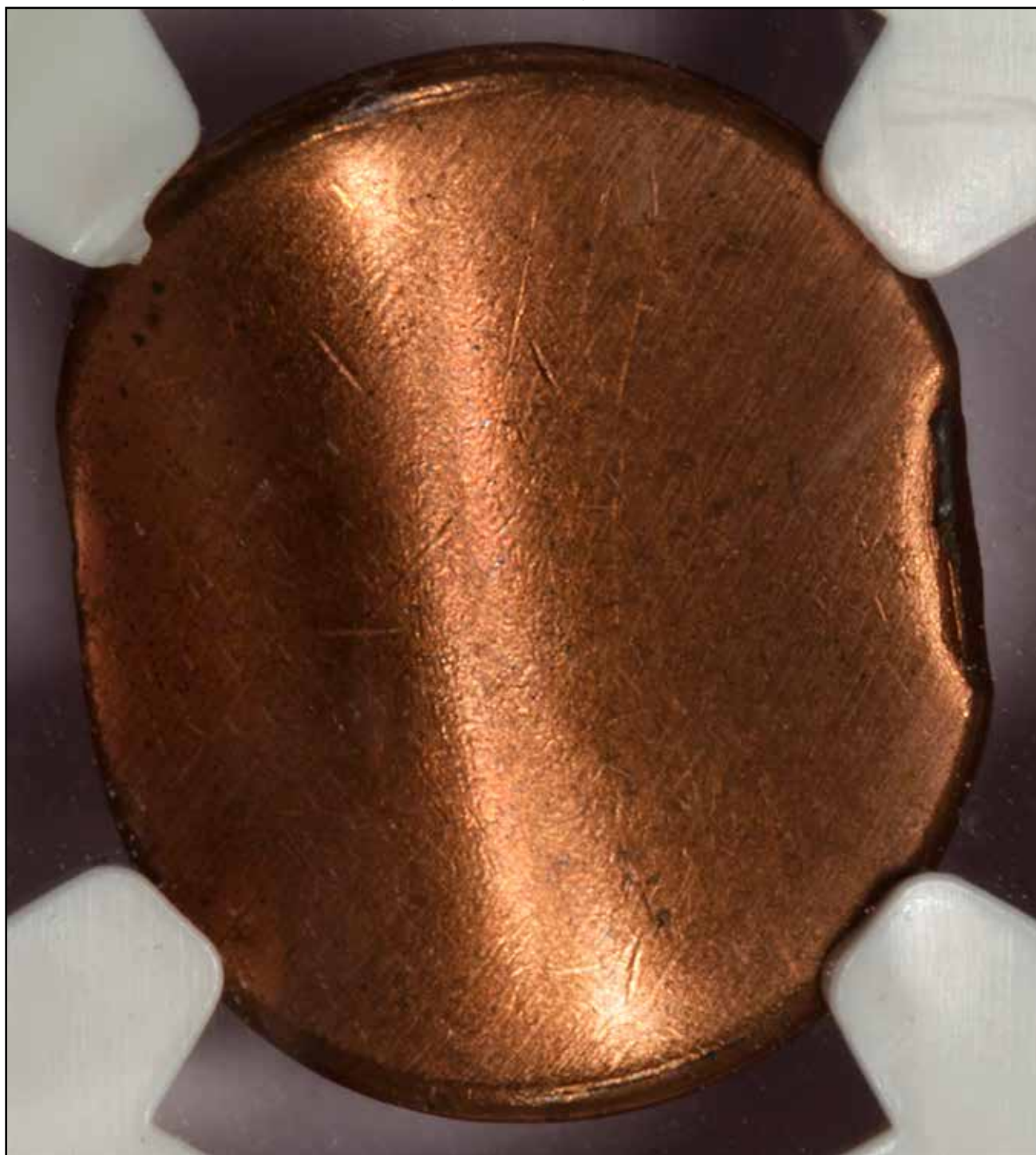
**NGC MS63RD Edge Strike  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(*obverse*)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**NGC MS63RD Edge Strike**  
**Lincoln Cent Mint Error**  
*(reverse)*



# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

## **1962 NGC MS64RB Double Date Double Struck Lincoln Cent Mint Error (obverse)**





# DRAMATIC CENT ERROR COINS

**1962 NGC MS64RB Double Date Double Struck  
Lincoln Cent Mint Error  
(reverse)**





# CTF Error Coins

Christopher Talbot Frank



Buying and Selling Major Mint Error Coins  
with Exceptional Eye Appeal



Find us on:      Instagram as [ctf\\_error\\_coins](#)



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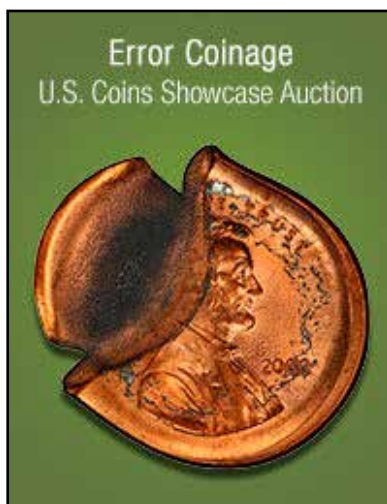
Website: [ctferrorcoins.com](http://ctferrorcoins.com)

(619) 698-0050

[ctfphoto@cox.net](mailto:ctfphoto@cox.net)

# LINCOLN CENT MINT ERRORS

## FEATURED IN THE UPCOMING JUNE 2024 ERROR COINAGE HERITAGE AUCTION



*The following Lincoln Cent mint errors are featured in the upcoming June 2024 Error Coinage US Coins Showcase Auction #60385.*

Images Courtesy of Heritage Auctions, HA.com

**1918-S Lincoln Cent -- Struck 40% Off Center -- MS64 Brown PCGS**



**1920 Lincoln Cent -- Struck 40% Off Center -- MS64 Red and Brown PCGS**



**1944 Lincoln Cent -- Double Struck 2nd Strike 25% Off Center -- MS65 Red and Brown PCGS**





**1944 Lincoln Cent -- Thick Planchet -- MS64 Red PCGS**



**1961-D Lincoln Cent -- Struck on 10C Blank -- AU55 NGC**



**1994 Lincoln Cent -- Double Denomination on 1993 Dime -- MS66 Red PCGS**



**1996-D Lincoln Cent -- Double Denomination on 1995-D 10C -- MS64 Brown PCGS**



**1969-S Lincoln Cent -- Major Die Break -- PR65 Red ANACS**



**1977-S Lincoln Cent -- Obverse and Reverse Struck Thru on 10C Blank -- PR63 NGC**





# LINCOLN CENT MAJOR MINT ERRORS FEATURED IN HERITAGE AUCTIONS

*The following Lincoln Cent major mint errors have sold in Heritage Auctions.*

Images Courtesy of Heritage Auctions, HA.com

1955/55 Doubled Die MS 65 Red PCGS  
\$59,225.00



# LINCOLN CENT MAJOR MINT ERRORS FEATURED IN HERITAGE AUCTIONS

## 1943 Lincoln Cent -- Overstruck on a Cuba 1 Centavo -- MS62 PCGS

\$38,187.50



## 1943 Lincoln Cent--Struck on a 1943 Mercury Dime--MS62 NGC

\$28,750.00



## 1983 Lincoln Cent -- Struck on a Copper Planchet -- MS63 Red and Brown PCGS

\$18,800.00





# LINCOLN CENT MAJOR MINT ERRORS FEATURED IN HERITAGE AUCTIONS

**1968-S Lincoln Cent -- Bonded With a Costa Rica 5 Centimos Blank -- MS63 Red PCGS  
\$15,000.00**



**1944 Lincoln Cent -- Overstruck on a 1944 Netherlands 10C, Doubled Denomination -- XF45 NGC  
\$12,600.00**



**1942 Lincoln Cent -- Struck on a Dime Planchet -- AU58 ANACS  
\$11,750.00**





# LINCOLN CENT MAJOR MINT ERRORS FEATURED IN HERITAGE AUCTIONS

**1974-S Lincoln Cent -- Reverse Brockage of a 1973-S Cent -- MS64 Red and Brown NGC  
\$11,400.00**



**1965 Lincoln Cent--Struck on a 90% Silver Dime Planchet--MS63 NGC  
\$9,200.00**



**1974-S Cent -- Obverse Die Break with Retained Piece of Die on Reverse -- MS63 Red and Brown NGC  
\$9,000.00**



# LINCOLN CENT MAJOR MINT ERRORS FEATURED IN HERITAGE AUCTIONS

**Undated Memorial Reverse Lincoln Cent -- Struck on Magnetic Washer -- MS66 PCGS  
\$8,700.00**



**1944 Lincoln Cent -- Struck on a Netherlands 25 Cent Planchet -- MS63 PCGS  
\$7,637.50**



**1957-D Lincoln Cent -- Struck on a Washer -- MS62 PCGS  
\$7,475.00**





## LINCOLN CENT MAJOR MINT ERRORS FEATURED IN HERITAGE AUCTIONS

### 1964 Lincoln Cent--Struck on a 2.3-gm Clad Dime Planchet, Transitional Off Metal--MS65 PCGS \$7,245.00



### 1972 Lincoln Cent -- Double Denomination Over 1964 Struck Silver Dime -- MS63 PCGS \$7,2300.00



### (1945-S) Lincoln Cent -- Overstruck on a Netherlands East Indies 1/10 Gulden -- AU58 NGC \$7,050.00





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Please submit all content to:

**[editor@minterrornews.com](mailto:editor@minterrornews.com)**

# Mint Error News Price Guide

*- Updated May 2024 -*

This price guide is brought to you by Mint Error News. It has been compiled by many of the top major mint error dealers.

This price guide is a guide. Prices fluctuate due to the date, grade, eye appeal and how dramatic the striking error is. Rarity is also a factor. The price is sometimes based on the rarity and grade of the type of coin as well as how rare the error is. The price can also vary depending on whether two collectors are bidding for the same rare major mint error. When purchasing a mint error, it is important to use multiple resources to determine value, as there are many mint errors that do not fit into one category.

## Proof Errors (Updated May 2024)



**P**roof coins are struck by technicians who hand feed the blanks into special presses. They are produced, examined, and packaged using extreme quality control. It is very unusual to find major proof errors. A few broadstrikes, off-centers, double strikes in collars and off-metals have been known to be found in sealed proof sets. Proof errors are aggressively sought after by many error collectors.

A very small group of Proof errors recently came from a collection that was auctioned by the State of California. The U.S. Secret Service inspected and released this collection to the State of California determining that it was legal to own. The State of California then auctioned the collection and it has been dispersed since the sale.

Denomination	Broadstrikes	Die Trials	Double/Triple Strikes	Off-Center Strikes	Partial Collar Errors
Proof Lincoln Cent	\$1,000 - \$1,500	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$1,500 - \$3,000	\$500
Proof Jefferson Nickel	\$2,500 - \$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$2,000 - \$5,000	\$1,000
Proof Clad Dime	\$3,000 - \$5,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$2,500 - \$5,000	\$1,250
Proof Clad Quarter	\$4,000 - \$5,000	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$1,500
Proof Clad Half	\$5,000 - \$7,000	\$4,000 - \$5,000	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$2,000
Proof Ike Dollar	\$15,000	-	\$25,000	-	\$4,000
Presidential Dollar	-	-	-	-	3 Known

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Broadstrikes (Updated May 2024)



A broadstruck error occurs when a coin is struck without the collar to form the rim and edge that is part of the shape of the coin. Coins can be broadstruck on either type one or type two planchets. When a coin is broadstruck the blank being fed into the collar will spread and distort outward as it is being struck because the collar isn't in the correct position to retain it.

Denomination	(Small) XF/AU	(Small) Unc	(Large) XF/AU	(Large) Unc
Large Cent	\$150	\$300	\$400	\$1,500
Flying Eagle Cent (1857 – 1858)	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$1,500	\$7,500
Indian Cent	\$50	\$150	\$200	\$350
Lincoln Cent 1930 and Earlier	\$50	\$150	\$100	\$250
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$40	\$100	\$75	\$200
Proof Lincoln Cent	N/A	\$1,500	N/A	\$2,500
3 Cent Nickel	\$250	\$1,000	\$400	\$1,500
3 Cent Silver	\$1,000	\$3,500	\$1,500	\$5,000
Shield Nickel	\$400	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$2,500
Liberty Nickel	\$150	\$300	\$200	\$600
Buffalo Nickel	\$100	\$200	\$200	\$500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$100	\$200	\$200	\$500
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	\$2,500	N/A	\$4,000
Seated Half Dime Legend	\$1,500	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$7,500
Seated Dime Legend	\$1,500	\$3,500	\$2,000	\$7,500
Barber Dime	\$150	\$250	\$200	\$400
Mercury Dime	\$40	\$150	\$150	\$250
Proof Clad Dime	N/A	\$3,000	N/A	\$5,000
Barber Quarter	\$600	\$1,250	\$1,000	\$2,500
Standing Liberty Quarter	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
Washington Quarter Silver	\$75	\$150	\$100	\$250
State Quarter	N/A	\$25	N/A	\$50
Proof Clad Quarter	N/A	\$4,000	N/A	\$5,000
Barber Half	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
Walking Liberty Half	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$7,000
Franklin Half	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$4,000
Kennedy Half Silver	\$150	\$250	\$200	\$300
Kennedy Half Clad	\$40	\$60	\$50	\$75
Proof Clad Half	N/A	\$5,000	N/A	\$7,000
Morgan Dollar	\$200	\$500	\$400	\$1,000
Peace Dollar	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$6,000	\$10,000
IKE Dollar	\$100	\$150	\$150	\$200
SBA Dollar	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$200
Sac Dollar	N/A	\$300	N/A	\$1,000
Presidential Dollar	N/A	\$1,500	N/A	\$2,500



# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Partial Collars (Updated May 2024)



**P**artial collar strikes occur when there is a malfunction of the striking press. This causes the collar to be in an incorrect position. The lower die (usually the reverse die) is recessed in the collar. This allows the coin which is going to be struck to have a formed rim. After a coin is struck the lower die raises upwards, pushing the struck coin out of the collar and ejecting it. If a blank entering the collar is not properly seated, it will only have partial reeding as it is struck. The edge of this coin will have a partial reeding and a partial blank surface area. Recently, the Mint has installed new machinery where either die can be installed in either position.

Denomination	XF/AU	Unc
Large Cent	\$100	\$200
Flying Eagle Cent (1857 – 1858)	\$500	\$1,500
Indian Cent	\$35	\$100
Lincoln Cent 1930 and Earlier	\$30	\$100
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$25	\$50
Proof Lincoln Cent	N/A	\$750
3 Cent Nickel	\$150	\$500
3 Cent Silver	\$250	\$750
Shield Nickel	\$200	\$600
Liberty Nickel	\$50	\$150
Buffalo Nickel	\$50	\$75
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$40	\$60
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	\$1,000
Seated Half Dime Legend	\$750	\$1,500
Seated Dime Legend	\$500	\$1,250
Barber Dime	\$75	\$150
Mercury Dime	\$30	\$100
Proof Clad Dime	N/A	\$1,250
Barber Quarter	\$300	\$750
Standing Liberty Quarter	\$1,250	\$2,000
Washington Quarter Silver	\$40	\$75
State Quarter	N/A	\$15
Proof Clad Quarter	N/A	\$1,500
Barber Half	\$1,000	\$1,500
Walking Liberty Half	\$1,500	\$3,500
Franklin Half	\$500	\$1,000
Kennedy Half Silver	\$50	\$100
Kennedy Half Clad	\$20	\$30
Proof Clad Half	N/A	\$2,000
Morgan Dollar	\$150	\$300
Peace Dollar	\$1,000	\$2,500
IKE Dollar	\$50	\$100
SBA Dollar	\$20	\$30
Sac Dollar	N/A	\$100
Presidential Dollar	N/A	\$400
\$1 Gold Type 1	\$2,500	\$5,000
\$1 Gold Type 2	\$5,000	\$10,000
\$1 Gold Type 3	\$2,000	\$3,000
\$2½ Liberty	\$2,000	\$3,000
\$2½ Indian	\$2,000	\$3,000
\$3	\$5,000	\$10,000
\$5 Liberty	\$4,000	\$5,000
\$5 Indian	\$4,000	\$6,000
\$10 Liberty	\$4,000	\$7,500
\$10 Indian	\$7,500	\$10,000
\$20 Liberty Type 3	\$7,500	\$10,000

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Uniface Strikes (Updated May 2024)



Uniface coins occur when there have been two blank planchets in the press at the same time. The other blank will obstruct the die on either the obverse or reverse side, which will prevent it from having that design on the coin. There are many different variations involving uniface errors. In addition to having a 100% blank obverse or reverse, a coin can be struck off-center, with a blank planchet in the collar which will obstruct one side of the off-center. There are also mated pairs which have a combination of multiple errors which can include a side which is uniface. Finally, there are uniface strikes due to a die cap which adhered to the die, forming itself in the shape of a die and striking blank planchets.

Denomination	Uniface Obverse XF	Uniface Obverse Unc	Uniface Reverse XF	Uniface Reverse Unc
Large Cent	\$1,500	\$4,000	\$1,250	\$2,000
Indian Cent	\$750	\$3,000	\$700	\$2,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$250	\$500	\$200	\$400
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$50	\$100	\$40	\$75
3 Cent Nickel	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$1,250	\$2,500
Shield Nickel	\$1,750	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$3,000
Liberty Nickel	\$2,000	\$3,500	\$1,500	\$3,000
Buffalo Nickel	\$2,250	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$2,500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$300	\$750	\$250	\$500
Jefferson Nickel	\$20	\$40	\$20	\$40
Barber Dime	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$2,500
Mercury Dime	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$1,250	\$2,250
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$100	\$150	\$100	\$150
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$40	\$75	\$35	\$60
Washington Quarter Silver	\$400	\$750	\$350	\$500
Washington Quarter Clad	\$100	\$125	\$75	\$100
State Quarter	N/A	\$300	N/A	\$500
Kennedy Half Clad	\$750	\$1,000	\$500	\$750
IKE Dollar	\$2,000	\$4,000	N/A	\$3,000
SBA Dollar	\$500	\$1,000	N/A	\$750
Sac Dollar	\$750	\$1,500	N/A	\$1,000

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Bonded Coins

(Updated May 2024)



**B**onded coins occur when the feeder system, which supplies blank planchets to the coin press, malfunctions and jams. When this occurs, a struck coin is not properly ejected and another planchet is fed into the collar and is struck. This struck coin will land on top of the previously unejected strike. These coins will then crush and bond together. This may occur many times as more coins bond.

Denomination	2 Planchets	3-4 Planchets	5-10 Planchets
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$5,000	\$15,000	—
Lincoln Cent Memorial	\$600	\$2,000	\$5,000 - \$10,000
Jefferson Nickel	\$1,250	\$5,000	\$6,000 - \$10,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$4,000	\$12,500	—
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$1,500	\$5,000	—
Washington Quarter Silver	\$7,500	—	—
Washington Quarter Clad	\$3,000	—	—
State Quarter	\$5,000	—	—
Kennedy Half Silver	\$12,500	—	—
Kennedy Half Clad	\$10,000	—	—
IKE Dollar	—	—	—
SBA Dollar	\$10,000	—	—
Sac Dollar	\$10,000	—	—



# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Struck Fragments

(Updated May 2024)



The blanking press takes the coils of metal strips and punches blanks out of it, ejecting the webbing at the other end. The webbing is cut into small scrap pieces to be melted and recycled. Occasionally a scrap piece will be mixed with the blank planchets and struck by the dies. Struck fragments are rare in the larger denominations. These can be uniface or die struck both sides and are very rare on type coins.

Denomination	Uniface	Die Struck Both Sides
Indian Cent	\$1,000	\$2,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$750	\$2,000
Lincoln Cent Memorial	\$75	\$125
3 Cent Nickel	\$3,000	\$3,500
Jefferson Nickel	\$100	\$200
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$500	\$1,000
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$150	\$250
Washington Quarter Silver	\$1,250	\$1,500
Washington Quarter Clad	\$200	\$300
State Quarter	\$750	\$1,000
Kennedy Half Silver	\$1,500	\$2,500
Kennedy Half Clad	\$750	\$1,250
IKE Dollar	\$4,000	\$6,000
SBA Dollar	\$2,000	\$3,000
Sac Dollar	\$2,000	\$4,000

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Mated Pairs (Updated May 2024)



**M**ated pairs involve two individual coins with different errors that were struck together at the same time. Mated pair error combinations can be found in most error types and come in many shapes and sizes. Mated pairs can be overlapped when one of the coins is struck off-center on top of another coin. Another type involves a brockage where a struck coin was perfectly centered on a blank and restruck. Some mated pairs involve a die cap where the cap and brockage coin are discovered together, but this is a scarce find.

The rarest mated pair type involves two die caps (obverse and reverse) where both dies were capped at the same time and both die caps are mated. This last type is extremely rare and there are only a few known examples of mated pairs involving an obverse die cap and reverse die cap. There are several of these mated pairs known on Kennedy Halves including two dated 1976, which is the Bicentennial year. One of the most spectacular mated pairs involve two Barber Dimes, an obverse die cap mated to a reverse die cap and are unique.

Mated pairs can also involve an off-metal where a smaller blank planchet or smaller struck coin was struck on top of a larger coin. This type is extremely rare. The most spectacular pair known is a double struck Franklin Half which was mated to a Lincoln Cent. The Lincoln Cent blank was on top of the obverse of the struck Franklin Half. This pair was then struck together. It is unique.

Denomination	Overlapping	Full Brockage	Die Cap	2 Die Caps
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$7,500	—
Lincoln Cent Memorial	\$500	\$750	\$750	\$1,250
Liberty Nickel	—	\$20,000	—	—
Jefferson Nickel (pre War Time)	—	—	—	\$15,000
Jefferson Nickel	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$2,500
Barber Dime	—	—	—	\$50,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$4,000	—
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$3,000
Washington Quarter Silver	\$5,000	—	—	—
Washington Quarter Clad	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$5,000	\$7,500
State Quarter	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$10,000	—
Kennedy Half Silver	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$12,500
Kennedy Half Clad	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$8,500
Kennedy Half Bicentennial	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$7,500	\$10,000
IKE Dollar	\$20,000	—	—	—
SBA Dollar	\$10,000	\$12,500	—	—
Sac Dollar	—	—	—	—

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Transitional Errors (Updated May 2024)



A transitional error occurs when a coin is struck on a planchet from a previous year with different metal composition. The most famous transitional is a 1943 copper cent struck on a 1942 copper blank. 1943 cents were struck in steel because of the copper shortage during World War II. Other famous transitionals include 1965 coinage struck in silver instead of clad.

There are also transitionals struck on blanks for the next year. An example is 1964 coinage in clad instead of silver. Most recently, transitionals were discovered involving the SBA and Sacagawea Dollars of 1999 and 2000. There are eight known 1999 SBA Dollars struck on the brass planchet for the 2000 Sacagawea Dollar, and four known 2000 Sacagawea Dollars struck on a clad planchet for the 1999 SBA Dollar.

Denomination	Off-Metal Planchet	Circulated	AU	Unc	Choice Unc – Gem
Lincoln Cent 1943 Transitional	Copper Cent Planchet	\$75,000	\$100,000	\$200,000	\$250,000
Lincoln Cent 1944 Transitional	Steel Cent Planchet	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$150,000
Lincoln Cent 1964 Transitional	Clad Dime Planchet	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000
Lincoln Cent 1965 Transitional	Silver Dime Planchet	\$2,750	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500
Roosevelt Dime 1964 Transitional	Clad Dime Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$8,500
Roosevelt Dime 1965 Transitional	Silver Dime Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$8,500
Washington Quarter 1964 Transitional	Clad Quarter Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$8,500
Washington Quarter 1965 Transitional	Silver Quarter Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$8,500
Kennedy Half 1964 Transitional	Clad Half Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$9,000
Kennedy Half 1965 Transitional	Silver Half Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$10,000
Kennedy Half 1964 Transitional	Clad Quarter Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$8,500
Kennedy Half 1965 Transitional	Silver Quarter Planchet	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$9,000	\$10,000
Ike Dollar Transitional	40% Silver Planchet	\$2,750	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000
SBA Dollar Transitional	Sacagawea Planchet	N/A	N/A	\$7,500	\$10,000
Sacagawea Dollar Transitional	SBA Planchet	N/A	N/A	\$7,500	\$10,000



# Mint Error News Price Guide

## U.S. Gold Errors (Updated May 2024)



Major mint errors on U.S. Gold coins are the most prized category of all mint errors. Gold errors are very rare and a few have traded in the \$75,000 to \$100,000 range. Even a broadstruck U.S. Gold coin can easily sell for \$15,000 to \$30,000 compared to a broadstruck Cent, Nickel, Dime or Quarter which all sell for well under \$10. Many serious collectors of Gold Errors have to wait patiently for months and sometimes even years to acquire that one special piece for their collection.

The prices listed here are for common dates in AU-Unc. Better dates and errors that are in gem condition are worth considerably more.

Denomination	Partial Collar	Broadstruck	Clipped Planchet	3% - 5% Off-Center	10% - 15% Off-Center
\$1 Gold Type 1	\$1,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$10,000	\$25,000
\$1 Gold Type 2	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$20,000	\$35,000
\$1 Gold Type 3	\$1,000	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$7,500	\$15,000
\$2½ Liberty	\$2,000	\$7,500	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$20,000
\$2½ Indian	\$2,000	\$7,500	\$2,500	\$7,500	\$17,500
\$3 Indian	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$15,000	\$35,000
\$5 Liberty	\$4,000	\$8,500	\$3,000	\$12,500	\$30,000
\$5 Indian	\$5,000	\$10,000	\$3,000	\$30,000	\$50,000
\$10 Liberty	\$4,000	\$20,000	\$3,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
\$10 Indian	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$30,000	\$60,000
\$20 Liberty	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$7,500	\$50,000	\$125,000
\$20 St. Gaudens	—	—	\$5,000	—	—
\$5 American Eagle	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$750	\$2,500	\$3,500
\$10 American Eagle	\$1,250	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$3,500
\$25 American Eagle	\$1,500	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$3,500	\$5,000
\$50 American Eagle	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$5,000	\$10,000

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Indents (Updated May 2024)



An indent error occurs when two blanks are fed inadvertently into the same collar, with one blank partly overlaying on top of the other. When the hammer die strikes this combination, the upper blank will be forced into the lower blank, creating a depression which is shaped similar to the upper blank. A scarce type of indent occurs when a blank intended for one denomination lands on top of a blank from a different denomination.

Denomination	10% - 25% XF	30% - 50% XF	10% - 25% Unc	30% - 50% Unc
Large Cent	\$300	\$600	\$750	\$2,000
Indian Cent	\$250	\$500	\$400	\$750
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$100	\$300	\$175	\$500
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$30	\$75	\$75	\$125
3 Cent Nickel	\$500	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$3,000
Shield Nickel	\$500	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$3,000
Liberty Nickel	\$400	\$1,000	\$750	\$1,500
Buffalo Nickel	\$300	\$1,000	\$600	\$2,000
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$200	\$400	\$400	\$750
Jefferson Nickel	\$10	\$25	\$15	\$30
Barber Dime	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$1,500	\$3,000
Mercury Dime	\$300	\$750	\$500	\$1,500
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$30	\$60	\$50	\$100
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$10	\$20	\$15	\$30
Washington Quarter Silver	\$100	\$200	\$150	\$300
Washington Quarter Clad	\$25	\$50	\$35	\$100
State Quarter	N/A	N/A	\$200	\$350
Kennedy Half Clad	\$150	\$300	\$200	\$400
IKE Dollar	\$350	\$1,000	\$500	\$1,500
SBA Dollar	\$200	\$400	\$250	\$500
Sac Dollar	\$300	\$500	\$400	\$750

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Die Caps (Updated May 2024)



**D**ie caps are caused when a struck coin sticks to the upper hammer die. Once the coin is struck to the die face, the reverse of the struck coin becomes the new die face. When the next blank is fed into the collar and the strike occurs, the reverse design of the adhered struck coin impresses itself into the new blank. This struck coin is a brockage strike. The coin that adhered to the upper die is known as a die cap. This process repeats itself as more coins are struck by the cap. The greater the number of strikes, the higher the cap metal will be pushed around the upper die shaft. Eventually, the cap brakes away from the die in the shape of a thimble.

Denomination	Obverse Cap XF	Obverse Cap Unc	Reverse Cap XF	Reverse Cap Unc
Large Cent	\$25,000	\$50,000	—	—
Indian Cent 1859	\$20,000	\$40,000	—	—
Indian Cent 1860-1864	\$15,000	\$40,000	—	—
Indian Cent 1864-1909	\$15,000	\$30,000	—	—
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	—	—	—	—
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$500	\$1,000
Lincoln Cent Memorial	\$150	\$200	\$50	\$100
2 Cent Piece	\$20,000	\$50,000	\$15,000	\$30,000
3 Cent Nickel	—	—	—	—
Shield Nickel	—	—	—	—
Liberty Nickel	\$12,500	\$25,000	—	—
Buffalo Nickel (1 Known)	—	\$30,000	—	—
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$10,000	—	—	—
Jefferson Nickel	\$200	\$350	\$150	\$250
Barber Dime	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$12,500	\$20,000
Mercury Dime (2 Known)	\$5,000	\$7,500	—	—
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$750	\$1,250	\$500	\$750
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$200	\$400	\$200	\$250
Barber Quarter	\$20,000	\$50,000	—	—
Washington Quarter Silver	\$1,500	\$4,000	\$1,500	\$2,000
Washington Quarter Clad	\$350	\$750	\$250	\$350
State Quarter	N/A	\$1,000	N/A	\$600
Kennedy Half Silver	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$3,000
Kennedy Half Clad	\$2,000	\$3,500	\$1,500	\$2,000
Kennedy Half Bicentennial	\$2,500	\$4,000	\$1,750	\$2,500
IKE Dollar	—	\$30,000	—	—
SBA Dollar	N/A	\$15,000	N/A	\$10,000
Sac Dollar	N/A	\$15,000	N/A	\$15,000



# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Die Adjustment Strikes (Updated May 2024)



**D**ie adjustment strikes are also known as die trials. This error occurs when a coin is struck from the press with very little pressure. When the press is being set up and adjusted, extremely weak strikes occur as the strike pressure reaches its optimum level. These die trials are destroyed after being struck and are rarely found in circulation.

Denomination	XF/AU	Unc
Indian Cent	\$1,000	\$2,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ear	\$200	\$300
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$750	\$1,500
Lincoln Cent Memorial	\$50	\$75
2 Cent	\$5,000	—
Liberty Nickel	\$3,000	\$5,000
Buffalo Nickel	\$4,000	\$7,500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$1,250	\$2,000
Jefferson Nickel	\$75	\$100
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	\$4,000
Barber Dime	\$2,500	\$3,500
Mercury Dime	\$1,000	\$1,500
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$350	\$500
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$100	\$125
Seated Quarter	\$4,000	\$7,500
Standing Liberty Quarter	\$7,500	\$15,000
Washington Quarter Silver	\$500	\$750
Washington Quarter Clad (Pre-State)	\$125	\$150
State Quarter	N/A	\$200
Walking Liberty Half	\$2,500	\$5,000
Kennedy Half Silver	\$500	\$750
Kennedy Half Clad	\$200	\$250
Proof Kennedy Half 40% Silver	N/A	\$5,000
Proof Kennedy Half Clad	N/A	\$4,000
Morgan Dollar	\$4,000	\$7,500
Peace Dollar	\$7,000	\$10,000
IKE Dollar	\$300	\$400
IKE Dollar Bicentennial	\$350	\$500
SBA Dollar	N/A	\$500
Sac Dollar	N/A	\$1,000

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Double Denominations (Updated May 2024)



One of the most expensive, popular, and desired types of errors are the double denominations. This error happens when a coin is struck on a previously struck coin of a smaller denomination. Examples are a cent on a struck dime, and a nickel on a struck cent. The most dramatic are those with considerable design visible from the original strike. There are a few known double denominations with different dates.

Denomination	Struck On	Circulated	AU	Unc
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	Mercury Dime	\$6,000	\$12,500	\$20,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	Roosevelt Dime	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	Foreign Coin	\$2,000	\$2,500	—
Lincoln Cent Memorial	Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000
Lincoln Cent Memorial	Roosevelt Dime Clad	N/A	N/A	\$750
Lincoln Cent Memorial	Foreign Coin	N/A	\$600	\$750
Jefferson Nickel	Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500
Jefferson Nickel	Lincoln Cent Memorial	N/A	\$750	\$1,000
Jefferson Nickel	Foreign Coin	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500
Jefferson Nickel	Roosevelt Dime	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500
Roosevelt Dime Silver	Foreign Coin	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$7,500
Roosevelt Dime Clad	Foreign Coin	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000
Washington Quarter Silver	Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$6,000
Washington Quarter Silver	Lincoln Cent Memorial	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500
Washington Quarter Silver	Foreign Coin	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500
Washington Quarter Silver	Jefferson Nickel	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$6,000
Washington Quarter Silver	Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500
Washington Quarter Clad	Lincoln Cent Memorial	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500
Washington Quarter Clad	Foreign Coin	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000
Washington Quarter Clad	Jefferson Nickel	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500
Washington Quarter Clad	Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000
State Quarter	Jefferson Nickel	N/A	\$5,000	\$7,500
State Quarter (Extremely Rare)	Any Other Denomination	N/A	\$10,000	\$12,500
Franklin Half	Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$7,500	\$12,500	\$25,000
Kennedy Half (Extremely Rare)	Any Denomination	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$12,500
IKE Dollar (Extremely Rare)	Any Denomination	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000
Sac Dollar	Maryland State Quarter	N/A	\$3,000	\$4,000

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Brockages (Updated May 2024)



A brockage error can only occur when there are two coins involved. One of the coins involved will always be a struck coin which has not ejected properly. That struck coin will find its way back between the dies and will be struck next to a blank planchet which was fed into the collar. The image of that first struck coin will be impressed into that side of the blank planchet. The result will be a second coin which has images of the first coin impressed into it. Those images will be pressed into the coin and the image will be in reverse. This incuse sunken image is known as a brockage.

Denomination	50% Brockage XF	100% Brockage XF	50% Brockage Unc	100% Brockage Unc
Large Cent	\$600	\$1,000	\$3,000	\$10,000
Indian Cent	\$500	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$4,000
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$350	\$500	\$650	\$1,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$125	\$200	\$200	\$350
3 Cent Nickel	\$1,250	\$2,000	\$3,500	\$5,000
3 Cent Silver	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
Shield Nickel	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$3,500	\$5,000
Liberty Nickel	\$1,250	\$2,250	\$2,000	\$4,000
Buffalo Nickel	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$4,000	\$7,500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$250	\$750	\$750	\$1,500
Jefferson Nickel	\$50	\$75	\$50	\$150
Barber Dime	\$1,500	\$3,500	\$5,000	\$12,500
Mercury Dime	\$750	\$3,000	\$1,500	\$4,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$100	\$200	\$150	\$250
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$50	\$100	\$75	\$150
Washington Quarter Silver	\$200	\$500	\$500	\$1,000
Washington Quarter Clad	\$75	\$150	\$150	\$250
State Quarter	N/A	N/A	\$750	\$1,500
Kennedy Half Clad	N/A	N/A	\$650	\$1,500
IKE Dollar	\$1,500	\$4,000	\$3,000	\$7,500
SBA Dollar	N/A	N/A	\$500	\$2,500
Sac Dollar	N/A	N/A	\$1,500	\$5,000



# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Double & Multiple Strikes (Updated May 2024)



When a blank planchet is struck by the dies, the normal procedure is for the feeders to eject the struck coin out of the collar and into a chute. If there is a malfunction and the struck coin isn't ejected, it may receive a second or third strike by the dies. A multiple struck coin can happen in many ways and have many combinations of errors.

(Since each double and multiple strike can vary from being 10% off-center to 90% off-center, the prices listed below can be substantially more based on the percent off-center and dramatic overall look.)

Denomination	XF/AU	Unc
Large Cent	\$1,000	\$7,500
Indian Cent	\$600	\$1,000
Lincoln Cent 1930 and Earlier	\$850	\$1,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$400	\$1,500
Proof Lincoln Cent	N/A	\$4,000
3 Cent Nickel	\$2,000	\$3,500
Liberty Nickel	\$4,000	\$10,000
Buffalo Nickel	\$5,000	\$10,000
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$750	\$2,000
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	\$5,000
Barber Dime	\$4,000	\$10,000
Mercury Dime	\$3,500	\$8,500
Proof Clad Dime	N/A	\$5,000
Standing Liberty Quarter	\$15,000	\$50,000
Washington Quarter Silver	\$200	\$350
State Quarter	N/A	\$350 – \$750
Proof Clad Quarter	N/A	\$6,000
Walking Liberty Half	\$10,000	\$25,000
Franklin Half	\$6,500	\$10,000
Kennedy Half Silver	\$1,500	\$2,500
Kennedy Half Clad	N/A	\$750
Proof Kennedy Half Clad	N/A	\$7,500
Morgan Dollar	\$10,000	\$25,000
Peace Dollar	\$15,000	\$40,000
IKE Dollar	\$2,000	\$4,000 - \$7,500
SBA Dollar	\$1,000	\$2,500 – \$4,000
Sac Dollar	\$750	\$1,250 – \$2,500

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Off-Center Strikes (Updated May 2024)



Off-center coins are one of the most common and best known types of errors. This happens when a blank which is supposed to be fed into the press, lands in the collar improperly. When this occurs only part of the blank is between the upper and lower dies. When the dies strike the blank, only that part will be struck with a design.

Denomination	10% - 15% XF/AU	25% - 60% XF/AU	10% - 15% Unc	25% - 60% Unc
Large Cent	\$400	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$10,000
Flying Eagle Cent (1857 – 1858)	\$2,500	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$20,000
Indian Cent	\$100	\$400	\$200	\$600
Lincoln Cent 1930 and Earlier	\$75	\$300	\$150	\$750
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$40	\$250	\$100	\$500
Proof Lincoln Cent	N/A	N/A	\$1,500	\$3,000
3 Cent Nickel	\$300	\$1,500	\$600	\$3,500
3 Cent Silver	\$1,000	\$5,000	\$2,000	\$7,500
Shield Nickel	\$750	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$7,500
Liberty Nickel	\$250	\$1,000	\$500	\$2,500
Buffalo Nickel	\$250	\$750	\$400	\$1,500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	\$100	\$500	\$200	\$1,000
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	N/A	\$2,000	\$5,000
Seated Half Dime Legend	\$3,000	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$15,000
Seated Dime Legend	\$2,000	\$7,000	\$3,500	\$10,000
Barber Dime	\$300	\$1,500	\$500	\$2,500
Mercury Dime	\$100	\$750	\$150	\$1,250
Proof Clad Dime	N/A	N/A	\$2,500	\$5,000
Barber Quarter	\$1,500	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$10,000
Standing Liberty Quarter	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$40,000
Washington Quarter Silver	\$50	\$100	\$75	\$150
State Quarter	N/A	N/A	\$75	\$300
Proof Clad Quarter	N/A	N/A	\$3,000	\$6,000
Barber Half	\$4,000	\$10,000	\$6,000	\$20,000
Walking Liberty Half	\$4,000	\$12,500	\$7,500	\$20,000
Franklin Half	\$2,500	\$4,000	\$3,500	\$7,500
Kennedy Half Silver	\$100	\$500	\$250	\$1,000
Kennedy Half Clad	\$60	\$250	\$100	\$400
Proof Clad Half	N/A	N/A	\$4,000	\$7,500
Morgan Dollar	\$3,000	\$15,000	\$10,000	\$50,000
Peace Dollar	\$20,000	\$35,000	\$50,000	\$100,000
IKE Dollar	\$125	\$1,250	\$150	\$2,000
SBA Dollar	N/A	N/A	\$100	\$500
Sac Dollar	N/A	N/A	\$1,000	\$3,500
Presidential Dollar	—	—	\$1,500	\$5,000

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Off-Metals (Updated May 2024)



Off-metal and wrong planchet errors occur when a correctly made blank from one denomination is accidentally fed into a press for another denomination. Examples are a nickel struck on a cent planchet and a cent struck on a dime planchet. The coin struck on an incorrect blank will weigh exactly what the denomination of that blank would have been. An even more dramatic wrong planchet error is a coin struck on a previously struck coin of a different metal.

Denomination	Off-Metal Planchet	Circulated	AU	Unc	Choice Unc – Gem
Indian Cent	Foreign Planchet	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$5,000	\$7,500
Indian Cent	Dime Planchet	\$20,000	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$75,000
Lincoln Cent Before 1919	Dime Planchet	\$4,000	\$6,500	\$10,000	–
Lincoln Cent Before 1919	Foreign Planchet	\$750	\$2,000	\$4,000	–
Lincoln Cent 1919 – 1940	Dime Planchet	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$4,000	\$6,000
Lincoln Cent 1919 – 1940	Foreign Planchet	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	Dime Planchet	\$1,500	\$2,500	\$3,500	\$7,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Transitional	Copper Cent Planchet	\$75,000	100,000	\$150,000	\$200,000
Lincoln Cent 1944 Transitional	Steel Cent Planchet	\$30,000	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$150,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears (1941-1964)	Dime Planchet	\$500	\$600	\$1,000	\$2,000
Lincoln Cent 1965 and Later	Dime Planchet	\$125	\$150	\$200	\$350
Lincoln Cent 1964 Transitional	Clad Dime Planchet	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$4,000
Lincoln Cent 1965 Transitional	Silver Dime Planchet	\$2,750	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500
Shield Nickel	Foreign Planchet	\$7,500	\$12,500	–	–
Shield Nickel	Cent Planchet	\$15,000	\$25,000	\$40,000	\$60,000
Liberty Nickel	Foreign Planchet	\$400	\$750	\$1,250	\$2,000
Liberty Nickel	Cent Planchet	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$6,000	\$7,500
Buffalo Nickel	Foreign Planchet	\$2,500	\$7,500	\$12,500	–
Buffalo Nickel	Cent Planchet	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$8,000
Jefferson Nickel Before 1950	Cent Planchet	\$250	\$500	\$750	\$1,000
Jefferson Nickel 1950 and Later	Cent Planchet	\$125	\$150	\$200	\$250
Jefferson Nickel 1943	Steel Cent Planchet	\$1,000	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$5,000
Jefferson Nickel 1964 and Earlier	Silver Dime Planchet	\$200	\$300	\$350	\$400
Jefferson Nickel 1965 and Later	Clad Dime Planchet	\$150	\$200	\$225	\$250
Roosevelt Dime Silver	Foreign Planchet	\$2,000	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,500
Roosevelt Dime Clad	Foreign Planchet	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,250	\$2,500
Roosevelt Dime 1964 Transitional	Clad Dime Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$10,000	\$12,500
Roosevelt Dime 1965 Transitional	Silver Dime Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$8,500
Washington Quarter Silver	Cent Planchet	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$750
Washington Quarter Silver	Nickel Planchet	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$600
Washington Quarter Clad	Cent Planchet	\$250	\$300	\$400	\$500



# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Off-Metals (Updated May 2024)

Denomination	Off-Metal Planchet	Circulated	AU	Unc	Choice Unc – Gem
Washington Quarter Clad	Nickel Planchet	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$250
Washington Quarter	Silver Dime Planchet	\$300	\$400	\$500	\$650
Washington Quarter	Clad Dime Planchet	\$250	\$300	\$350	\$400
Washington Quarter 1964 Transitional	Clad Quarter Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$12,500
Washington Quarter 1965 Transitional	Silver Quarter Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$8,500
State Quarter	Cent Planchet	N/A	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$8,000
Delaware State Quarter	Nickel Planchet	N/A	\$500	\$650	\$750
All Other State Quarters	Nickel Planchet	N/A	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500
State Quarter	Dime Planchet	N/A	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$6,000
Walking Half	Dime Planchet	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$50,000
Walking Half	Quarter Planchet	\$17,500	\$22,500	\$40,000	\$35,000
Walking Half	Foreign Planchet	\$10,000	\$15,000	\$30,000	\$25,000
Franklin Half	Cent Planchet	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
Franklin Half	Nickel Planchet	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
Franklin Half	Dime Planchet	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$5,500	\$6,500
Franklin Half	Quarter Planchet	\$600	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,250
Kennedy Half Silver 1964	Cent Planchet	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$2,000
Kennedy Half Silver 1964	Nickel Planchet	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500	\$2,000
Kennedy Half Silver 1964	Dime Planchet	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$2,000	\$2,500
Kennedy Half Silver 1964	Quarter Planchet	\$400	\$500	\$600	\$750
Kennedy Half Clad	Cent Planchet	\$750	\$850	\$1,000	\$1,500
Kennedy Half Clad	Nickel Planchet	\$750	\$850	\$1,000	\$1,250
Kennedy Half Clad	Dime Planchet	\$750	\$850	\$1,000	\$1,400
Kennedy Half Clad	Quarter Planchet	\$350	\$400	\$450	\$500
Kennedy Half 1964 Transitional	Clad Half Planchet	\$3,500	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$10,000
Kennedy Half 1965 Transitional	Silver Half Planchet	\$5,000	\$6,500	\$7,500	\$10,000
Kennedy Half 1964 Transitional	Clad Quarter Planchet	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$6,000	\$7,500
Kennedy Half 1965 Transitional	Silver Quarter Planchet	\$7,000	\$8,000	\$9,000	\$10,000
Ike Dollar	Cent Planchet	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$15,000
Ike Dollar	Nickel Planchet	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$15,000	\$20,000
Ike Dollar	Dime Planchet	\$7,500	\$8,500	\$10,000	\$12,500
Ike Dollar	Quarter Planchet	\$7,000	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$15,000
Ike Dollar	Half Planchet	\$1,600	\$1,750	\$2,000	\$3,000
Ike Dollar	Foreign Planchet	\$900	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,500
Ike Dollar Transitional	40% Silver Planchet	\$2,750	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$5,000
SBA Dollar	Cent Planchet	N/A	\$1,750	\$3,000	\$5,000
SBA Dollar	Nickel Planchet	N/A	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$8,000
SBA Dollar	Dime Planchet	N/A	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$10,000
SBA Dollar	Quarter Planchet	N/A	\$600	\$850	\$1,000
Sac Dollar	Cent Planchet	N/A	\$12,500	\$15,000	\$20,000
Sac Dollar	Nickel Planchet	N/A	\$12,500	\$15,000	\$20,000
Sac Dollar	Dime Planchet	N/A	\$8,000	\$15,000	\$20,000
Sac Dollar	Quarter Planchet	N/A	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Counterbrockages

(Updated May 2024)



A counterbrockage error involves a cap die and a previously struck coin. When a cap die strikes a previously struck coin, the obverse design from that struck coin will be impressed into the cap. The result will be a design where the cap face will be an incuse brockage. When a new blank is struck by this cap die with an incuse brockage image, the obverse will have a raised and spread image from that incuse design of the cap. This brockage impression is known as a counterbrockage.

Denomination	Circulated	AU	Unc	Choice Unc - Gem
Indian Cent	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$2,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	\$500	\$750	\$1,500	\$2,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	\$200	\$200	\$300	\$500
Lincoln Cent Memorial	\$40	\$50	\$75	\$100
Shield Nickel	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$5,000
Liberty Nickel	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$4,000	\$5,000
Jefferson Nickel	\$50	\$100	\$150	\$200
Barber Dime	\$3,000	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$10,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$300	\$500	\$750	\$1,000
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$100	\$150	\$250	\$300
Washington Quarter Silver	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000
Washington Quarter Clad	\$100	\$200	\$300	\$400
State Quarter	N/A	\$750	\$1,250	\$1,500
Kennedy Half Silver	\$1,250	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000
Kennedy Half Clad	\$500	\$750	\$1,250	\$1,500
SBA Dollar	N/A	\$2,000	\$3,000	\$4,000

# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Fold-Over Strikes (Updated May 2024)



A fold-over coin is one of the most dramatic types of errors. It occurs when the blank is standing vertically between the dies. During the strike, the force is so great that it bends and folds the blank. These fold-overs can be on-center or off-center, and come in many different shapes. There are a few fold-overs with multiple errors, either with an additional strike or fold-over. Denominations above quarters are very scarce.

Denomination	AU	AU Dated	Unc	Unc Dated
Indian Cent Memorial Copper	\$1,000	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,500
Lincoln Cent Memorial Zinc	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,250
Jefferson Nickel	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$4,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
Roosevelt Dime Clad	\$3,000	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$4,500
Washington Quarter Silver	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$10,000
Washington Quarter Clad	\$3,500	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$5,000
State Quarter	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,000	\$8,500



# Mint Error News Price Guide

## Martha Washington Test Pieces (Updated May 2024)



There is one set of a Dime, Quarter and Half struck by Martha Washington dies that are permanently housed in the Smithsonian Institute, embedded in blocks of lucite. According to United States Pattern and Related Issues, by Andrew W. Pollock III, “the only trial pieces purported to have survived metallurgical testing in 1965 were the Dime, Quarter Dollar, and Half Dollar equivalent strikes in copper-nickel clad over copper.”

Mike Byers’ discovery of the Martha Washington Test Piece on a copper-zinc Cent planchet struck 10% off-center with a uniface reverse was a front page Coin World article on August 7th, 2000.

Denomination	Unc	Choice	Gem
Martha Cent	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$6,000
Martha Nickel	\$4,500	\$6,000	\$7,500
Martha Dime	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$12,500
Martha Quarter	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$10,000
Martha Half Dollar	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$10,000
Martha Dollar (SBA Planchet)	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$15,000
Martha Dollar (Sac Planchet)	\$6,000	\$7,500	\$10,000

# MINTERRORNEWS MAGAZINE

Issues of Mint Error News Magazine are available for you to read online at:

[minterrornews.com](http://minterrornews.com)



Mike Byers is the Publisher & Editor of Mint Error News Magazine





# MINSHULL TRADING

1896-O \$1 NGC SP 63

**\$275,000**

Specimen. Likely intended as a Branch Mint Proof. If you weren't looking at the 'O' on the back of the coin you'd call it Proof!







# MINSHULL TRADING

1892-O 50¢ NGC SP 66★

**\$107,500**

SPECIMEN STRIKE. The Finest of 3 Known! Likely struck as a commemorative beginning of the Barber series! SP66★! For many years this coin has been touted as a “Branch Mint Proof” or at least something “very special” from the likes of Walter Breen, David Hall and the catalogers and auctioneers who have placed it on the market in the past. Clearly, consensus has been that this coin IS the Branch Mint Proof it has been proclaimed to be, but since mint records were so sparse in those days there is no existing documentation as to exactly why it was prepared. Of course, a few very plausible conclusions can be made. It’s 1892. It’s the first year of the Barber design and the inauguration of it at the New Orleans Mint, who would have had no reason not to show their prowess in creating a coin of this magnitude.



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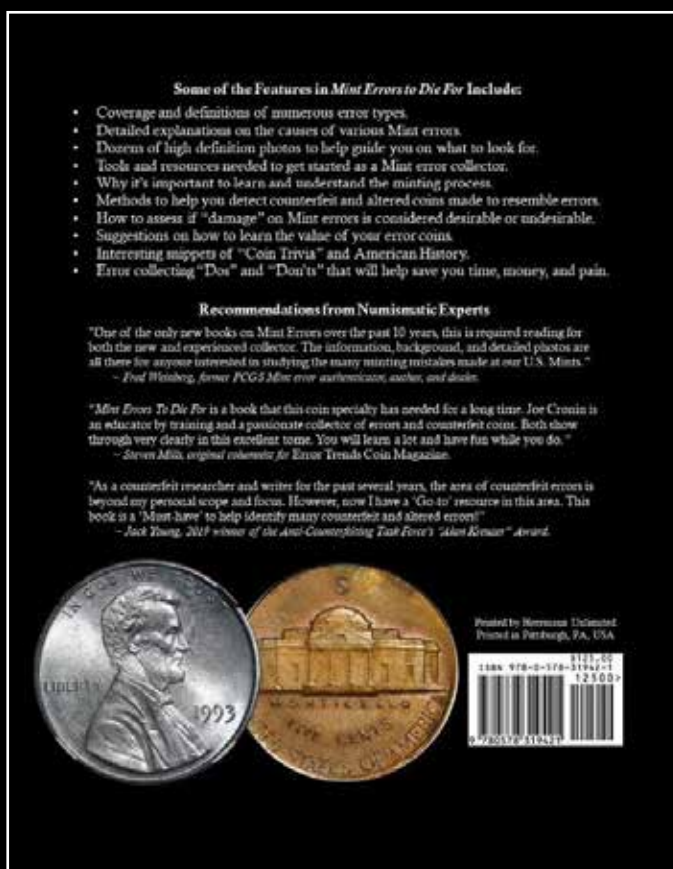
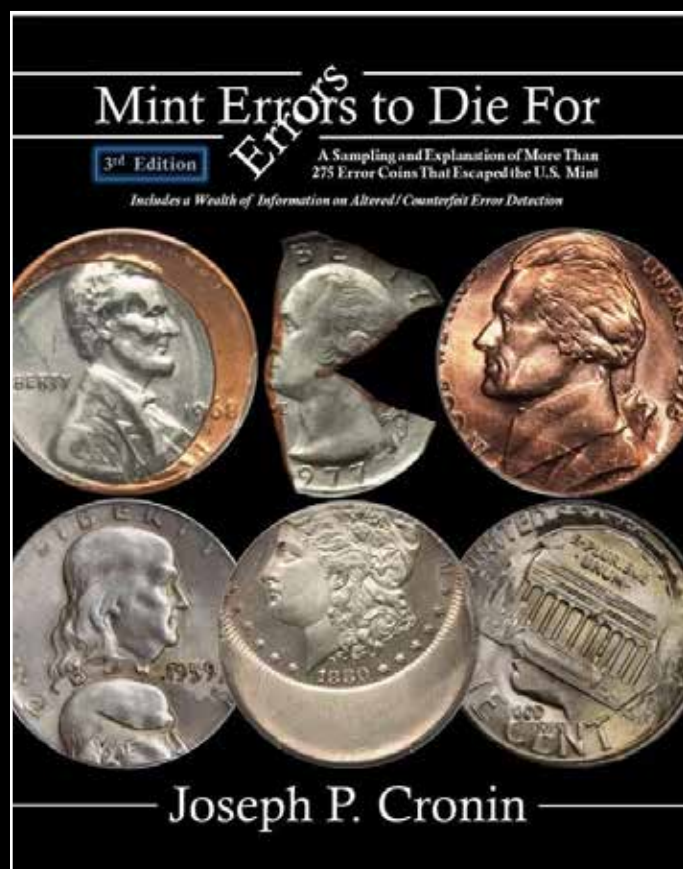
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# Mint Errors to Die For

A Sampling and Explanation of More Than 250 Error Coins That Escaped the U.S. Mint



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- Coverage and definitions of numerous error types.
- Detailed explanations on the causes of various Mint errors.
- Dozens of high definition photos to help guide you on what to look for.
- Tools and resources needed to get started as a Mint error collector.
- Why it's important to learn and understand the minting process.
- Methods to help you detect counterfeit and altered coins made to resemble errors.
- How to assess if "damage" on Mint errors is considered desirable or undesirable.
- Suggestions on how to learn the value of your error coins.
- Interesting snippets of "Coin Trivia" and American History.
- Error collecting "Dos" and "Don'ts" that will help save you time, money, and pain.

# Mint Errors to Die For

A Sampling and Explanation of More Than  
250 Error Coins That Escaped the U.S. Mint

## Non-gold Coins Struck on Gold Planchets



1913 photos PCGS® used by permission at PCGS.com/  
CoinFacts; NGC label photo courtesy of MikeByers.com



**Coin Trivia:** Though the 1913 Buffalo nickel is on a \$5 gold Half Eagle planchet, Mint errors on \$2.5 gold planchets include: Indian Head Cents: (3) 1900, 1905, 1906, and 1907. Lincoln Cents: 1911, 1915, and 1927

### 1913 (Type 2) Buffalo Nickel:

#### Struck on a \$5 Gold Half Eagle Planchet

Though there are nine known cents (six Indian Heads and three Lincolns) struck on gold Quarter Eagle (\$2.5) planchets, this is the only known Buffalo nickel struck on a gold planchet of any type; in this case, it's likely a \$5 gold Half Eagle planchet. (Some speculate it was made intentionally as were the five known 1913 Liberty nickels). Sadly someone cut into the rim on the reverse at 8 o'clock (see photo below) likely to prove it's just another plated novelty coin. Now even if you're 99.9% sure your suspect coin is a fake, don't ever, ever do that! As a result, PCGS gave it a "Genuine/AU Details" grade. It's no surprise that the psychological impact of PCGS' grade adversely affected its initial selling price: \$78,000 at Heritage Auctions in January of 2021 – a heck of a lot less than what many experts expected despite the damage.

In an interesting twist, Las Vegas rare coin dealer Mike Byers reacquired the coin and advocated it shouldn't have been given a "Genuine" label as there are a few other high-profile straight-graded coins/patterns with post-Mint alterations. NGC agreed and straight-graded it at AU-53; he later sold the coin privately for \$400,000! (Source: [MikeByers.com/6324417-001.html](http://MikeByers.com/6324417-001.html))



### What the Planchet Was Intended to Become

Below is a 1913 Indian Head \$5 gold Half Eagle, which is likely what the planchet for the featured 1913 Buffalo nickel was supposed to become. Seeing that U.S. Mint control of gold and silver planchets was so tight even back then, it is unknown if this is a true error or a Mint-assisted coin. (Photos courtesy of PCGS®  
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[josephcronin@protonmail.com](mailto:josephcronin@protonmail.com)



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# Saul Teichman's Want List

I am looking for the following off-metal errors:

Indian Cent

*on a*

Dime Planchet

Sacagawea Dollar

*on a*

Dime Planchet

[Saul.Teichman@ey.com](mailto:Saul.Teichman@ey.com)



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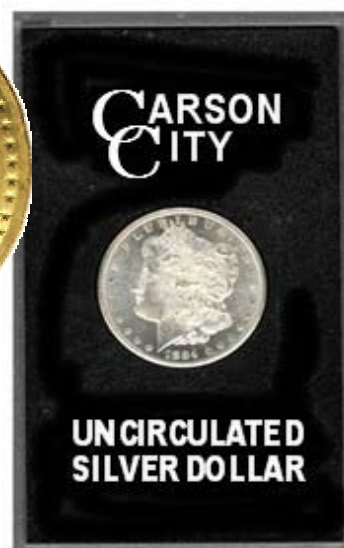


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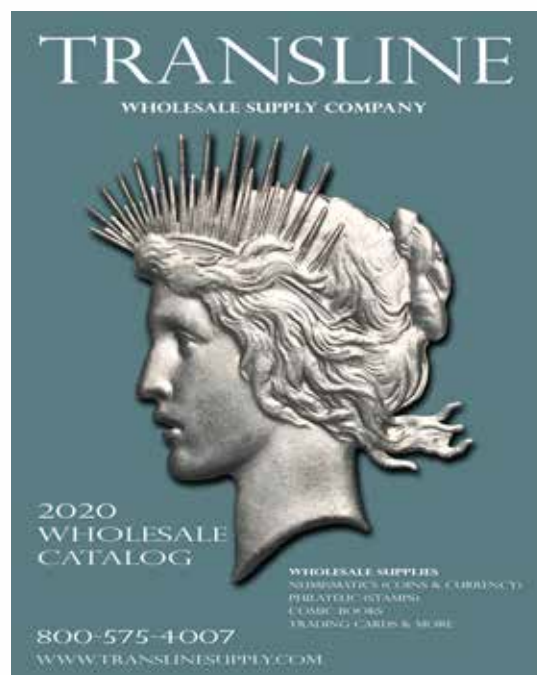
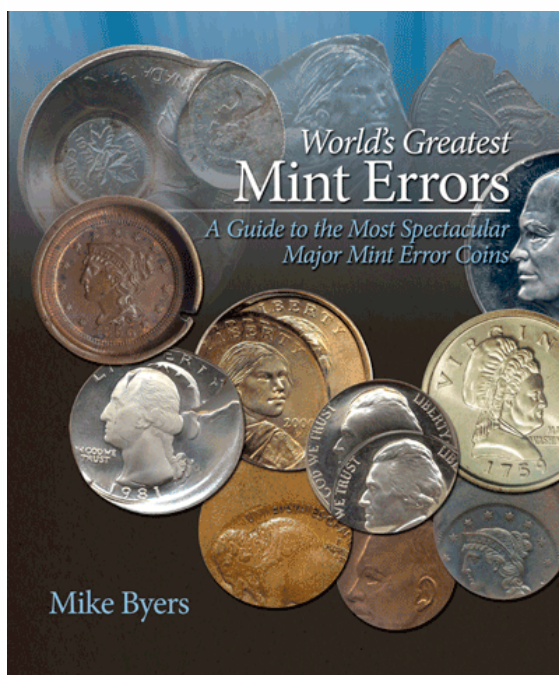


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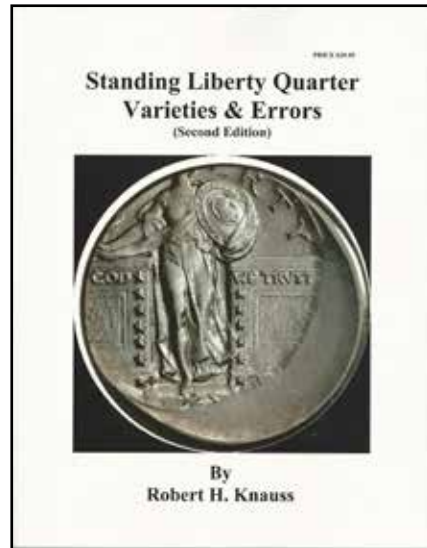
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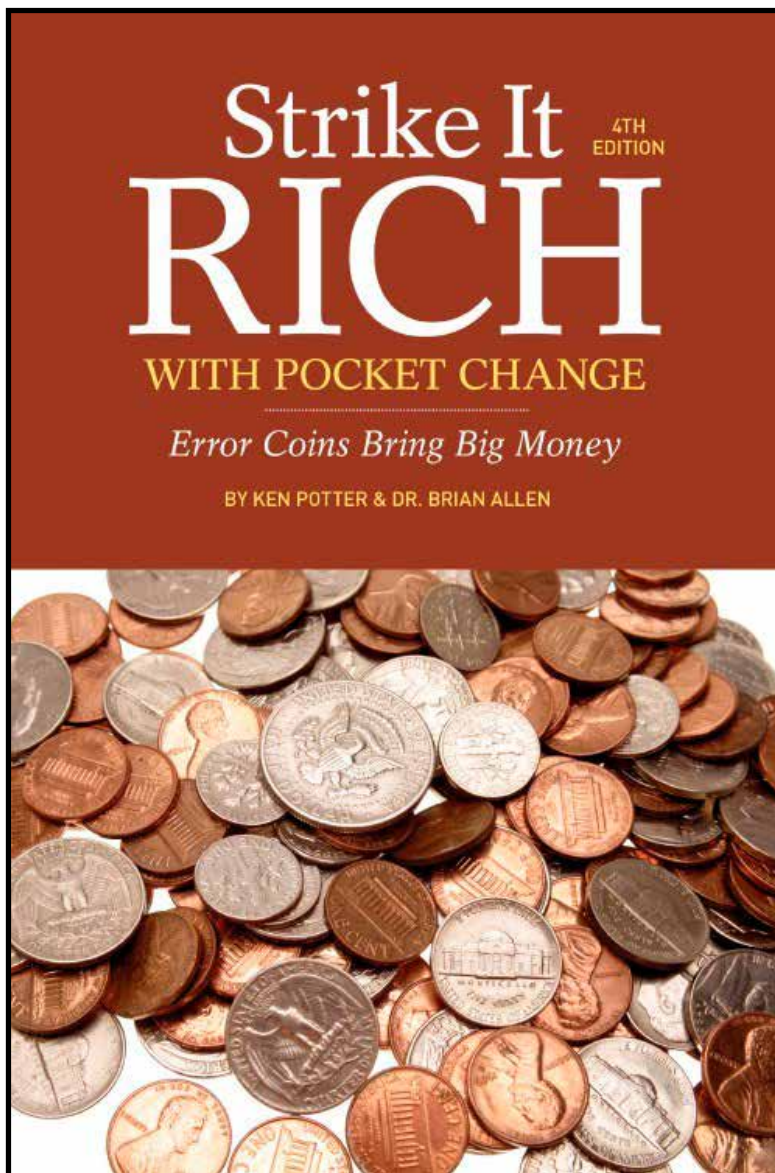
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# MINT*ERROR*NEWS GLOSSARY



## What Are Brockages?

A brockage error can only occur when there are two coins involved. One of the coins involved will always be a struck coin which has not ejected properly. That struck coin will find its way back between the dies and will be struck next to a blank planchet which was fed into the collar. The image of that first struck coin will be impressed into that side of the blank planchet. The result will be a second coin which has images of the first coin impressed into it. Those images will be pressed into the coin and the image will be in reverse. This incuse sunken image is known as a brockage.

This Type 3 \$1 Gold brockage is unique for the type, and only 1 of 2 known in the entire \$1 gold piece series from 1849 through 1889. The other known piece is a Type 2 \$1 Gold brockage and was authenticated and certified AU 55 by PCGS. It is a first strike obverse brockage of the reverse. It is in choice mint state condition with proof-like surfaces. This spectacular coin is from my personal collection and has been authenticated and certified by NGC and BYERS COLLECTION is noted on the insert.



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Mike Byers was born in the coin business attending coin shows since he was six years old. When he was seventeen, he issued his first coin catalog. He has been a Market-Maker in U.S. Gold Coins and a dealer in major mint errors. In 1987 he offered limited partnerships and rare coin funds. He has written articles for The Coin Dealer Newsletter and has been featured on the front page of Coin World numerous times with his numismatic rarities. Mike Byers is a contributing author on mint errors for CoinWeek. He also assisted with the mint error section of Coin Facts on the PCGS website. You can visit Mike Byers and view his rarities at the ANA, Central States, FUN show and the Long Beach Coin Expo.

Mike Byers has been a professional numismatist for forty years. He is one of the largest dealers handling U.S. Gold Coins, Patterns and Rarities certified by PCGS and NGC. He has handled major coin collections and attends every major coin convention. Mike Byers carries an extensive inventory as well as solicits want lists and is always looking to purchase fresh inventory and collections.

Mike Byers was a consultant to ANACS for Mint Errors from 2000 to 2006. He is also the Publisher and Editor of Mint Error News Magazine and the Mint Error News Website that was founded in 2003. In 2009, Mike Byers published his first book, *World's Greatest Mint Errors*, which received the NLG Award for Best World Coin Book and is available on Amazon.com.

Mike Byers is a life member of ANA since 1985, a charter member of NGC and a featured dealer/member of PCGS. He is also a life member of the Central States Numismatic Society and the Florida United Numismatists. He is a member of CDN Exchange (BYRS).



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