



1285-1290 France, “Knights Templar France 12 Penny Gros Tournois” (Tender Coin, 1268-1314)

The Order of the Templar Knights (The Poor Fellow-Soldiers of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon) were founded just after the First Crusade of 1096. The Order was initially formed to protect European pilgrims to Jerusalem and back following the conquest. The Knights received official endorsement by the Catholic Church in 1129 and flourished, growing in strength and wealth.

Around 1118, a French knight named Hugues de Payens created a military order along with eight relatives and acquaintances, calling it the Poor Fellow-Soldiers of Christ and the Temple of Solomon—later known simply as the Knights Templar. With the support of Baldwin II, the ruler of Jerusalem, they set up headquarters on that city’s sacred Temple Mount, the source of their now-iconic name, and pledged to protect Christian visitors to Jerusalem.

Members swore an oath of poverty, chastity and obedience. They weren’t allowed to drink, gamble or swear. Prayer was essential to their daily life, and the Templars expressed particular adoration for the Virgin Mary. As the Knights Templar grew in size and status, it established new chapters throughout Western Europe. At the height of their influence, the Templars boasted a sizable fleet of ships, owned the Mediterranean island of Cyprus, and served as a primary bank and lending institution to European monarchs and nobles.

A wealthy, powerful and mysterious order that has fascinated historians and the public for centuries, tales of the Knights Templar, their financial acumen, their military prowess and their work on behalf of Christianity during the Crusades still circulate throughout modern culture. In 1307, a bankrupt King Philip IV obtained permission from Pope Clement V to put an end to the Order. Many members in France and elsewhere were rounded up, charged with heresy, tortured, and burned at the stake

Philip IV le Bel (“The Fair”) ruled France from 1268 until 1314 AD. In league with the current Pope, Philip oversaw the arrest, torture, and execution of hundreds of Knights Templar. On Friday, October 13, 1307, hundreds of Knights Templar were rounded up in France under orders of Philip IV. They were tortured until admitting heresy. Some died under torture, many were burned at the stake for their “evil deeds.” From then on, Friday the 13th (especially in October) has become synonymous with bad luck and evil.

The order was officially disbanded in 1312 AD, but legend holds that a group of Knights Templar survived the massacre, went into hiding, and kept the Order alive and still exist even today.



1400-1499 France, Jeton de Tournai
Counter Token



Reverse



Reverse



1705 Russia, "Borodovoy znak; Rudenko 2, Brekke 3, counterstamped beard kopek" (Beard Tax Token, 1705-1724)

1705 Russia, "Borodovoy znak; beard kopek" (Beard Tax Token, 1705-1724)

Obverse Image: Nose, mustache, and beard with border around.

Obverse Text: ДЕНГИ ВЗИТЫ (Money Collected)

Reverse Image: Double headed eagle with leaf border around.

Reverse Text: АЩЕ ГОДУ (Year 1705)

1725 Russia, "Square Borodovoy znak; Novodel, counterstamped beard kopek" (Beard Tax Token, 1725-1772)

1725 Russia, "Square Borodovoy znak; beard kopek" (Beard Tax Token, 1725-1772)

Edge 4 lettered: "The beard is an unnecessary burden"

Three line legend and date within ornamental border and plain field within leafed border.

1698, Russian Czar Peter the Great decreed that Russians should dress more like other Europeans and outlawed beards and other facial hair.

In 1705, Peter instituted a tax (ukase) (oukaz) on beards as part of his plan to modernize and westernize his backward country. This tax was collected from 1705 to 1772.

Peasants and clerics were exempt, but everyone else who wanted to wear a beard had to pay an annual fee and carry a medal as proof of payment. The first tokens were round showing a nose, mustache and beard on one side and the imperial eagle on the reverse. Later issues were diamond shaped and dropped the images but bore the legend, "The beard is an unnecessary burden."

Randolph Zander, writing in *The Numismatist* ("Russian Beard Tokens," December 1948), noted: "The law provided for checkpoints at the entrance to towns, where officials would deny passage to any bearded person who could not produce a beard token. In addition, law enforcement agencies were enjoined to arrest and fine bewhiskered individuals on sight if they carried no beard license." The payment was levied according to rank from 2 dengops (denushkas) for poor peasants and 30 to 100 rubles for average individuals to wealthy merchants.

Beard tax tokens are prized by collectors, partly for their novelty and partly for the bazaar tax concept. Extremely rare, they sell for thousands of dollars when they appear at auction.



1850-1870 Trancoso Hacienda, Zacatecas Mexico “Trancoso TAR Mesquite Rulau Zac-13” (Labor Scrip)

Trancoso, a stock-raising estate, was one of the largest and most important haciendas in the Zacatecas state of Mexico. Just ten and a half miles east of Guadalupe it was founded with Spanish land grants between 1670 and 1680 as a cattle ranch.

The estate was owned in the 18th century by the Beltran family and in the 19th century by Jose Leon Garcia an industrialist and investor in ore and metal mining. Garcia was the governor of Zacatecas State from June 15 – September 16, 1902. Jose Leon Garcia and his family owned the haciendas:

Trancoso, Rancho Grande, Tacoaleche, San Pedro, Piedra Gorda, Banuelos,
San Nicolas de Quijas, San Isidro Bocas, San Jose de Lourdes, San Mateo, Mezquite

Trancoso was huge, the estate covered more than 35,000 acres or about 55 sq. miles of area. By 1857 it pastured more than 60,000 head of cattle and 70,000 sheep and in July, 1900 possessed 54,000 sheep and almost 13,000 goats. The gardens of the hacienda produced beans, wheat and chili peppers.

In the 19th century it became one of the largest wool exporters in Latin America. Like many haciendas of that era it was engaged in a wide range of enterprises including growing grain, animal husbandry, a distillery and a church. The hacienda fell on hard times after the 1910-1920 Mexican Revolution resulting in violent conflicts between the owners and peasants. Eventually the land was expropriated and much of it given to families who lived on the Hacienda. Today the municipality of Trancoso oversees what was the hacienda. The church and the grand buildings that were part of the hacienda still stand, though many have been vandalized in recent years.

The hired workers were compensated for working cattle and sheep shearing with TAR branded Rulau Zac tokens carved from dark mesquite wood in various diameters from about 24mm to 32mm with a number 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 carved into the reverse to signify the total number of sheep sheared. The letters STA or TZ can also be found on the backs of some tokens. The Rulau ranges included:

Zac 13, 24mm – 32mm no number on the reverse, Grove 2028

Zac 14, 27mm – 30mm carved number on the reverse usually 5, 6, 7, or 8, Grove 2028



1856 Nova Scotia, CA. "Halifax/Normandy Half Penny Token" (Historical Token Necklace)

As World War I raged in Europe, the port city of Halifax, Nova Scotia bustled with ships carrying troops, relief supplies, and munitions across the Atlantic Ocean.

On the morning of December 6, 1917 the Norwegian vessel Imo left its mooring in Halifax harbor for New York City. At the same time, the French freighter Mont Blanc, its cargo hold packed with highly explosive munitions including 2,300 tons of picric acid, 200 tons of TNT, 35 tons of high-octane gasoline, and 10 tons of gun cotton was sailing through the harbor's narrows to join an Atlantic military escort convoy.

At approximately 8:45 a.m., the two ships collided, setting the picric acid ablaze. The Mont Blanc was propelled toward the shore by its collision with the Imo, and the crew rapidly abandoned the ship, attempting without success to alert the harbor of the peril of the burning ship. Spectators gathered along the waterfront to witness the spectacle of the blazing ship, and minutes later it brushed by a harbor pier, setting it ablaze.

The Halifax Fire Department responded and was positioning its engine next to the nearest hydrant when the Mont Blanc exploded at 9:05 a.m. in a blinding white flash.

The massive detonation was the most devastating manmade explosion in the pre-atomic age. It killed more than 1,800 people, injured another 9,000 including blinding 200 and destroyed almost the entire north end of the city of Halifax, including more than 1,600 homes. The resulting shock wave shattered windows 50 miles away, and the sound of the explosion could be heard hundreds of miles away.

Almost 2 miles from the initial blast a tattered leather change purse was found. Inside were two things, the written name of Joseph McDonald and this 1856 Nova Scotia Half Penny. During the following months the list grew of those lost including 11 people with the last name McDonald, but Joseph was never found or identified and is assumed to be among the more than 400 people that simply vanished in the instant of the tremendous explosion.

Eventually this Half Penny made its way overseas as a private souvenir where a young American soldier, Dewey Davis of Tuskegee, Alabama stationed in WWII England purchased it as a good luck charm. On June 6, 1944 this Half Penny was inside the pockets of Dewey Davis as he joined the allied forces during the ferocious battles of the D-Day beach landings in Normandy, France.

After the end of World War II, Dewey returned to the United States and married. This ever fateful Half Penny had a small hole drilled into it and as a chain necklace it was worn for many years. When Dewey passed on in 1994 his daughter inherited the Half Penny in the estate and kept it for 26 years until this collection acquired it in May, 2020 directly from Dewey's son-in-law. Although not of significant monetary value, this piece represents a historical path unlike any most coins would ever experience.

More than 100 years of human experience and the impact of several notable historical events all indelibly captured in one brass 1856 Half Penny.



Reverse

1860 / 1880 Ft Benton, MT. "Baker Street Ferry, M.L. Lynch 50 cent Token" (Transportation Scrip)

Fort Benton on the Missouri River was well established by 1860, but there was no Baker Street Ferry then. In 1860, Michael Lynch, who ran the ferry from 1881-1887, was a 4-year-old boy living in Ireland. No one knows exactly why Lynch decided on the 1860 mint date for his tokens, but it may have been in honor of the arrival of the first steamboats at the Fort Benton levee in 1860. The original tokens were most certainly minted after 1880.

In 1959, there were 1000 aluminum restrikes of the 25-cent token and 1500 restrikes in brass of the 50-cent token made from the original dies held by the Montana Historical Society. According to the Atwood Transportation token catalog, 500 more were made a few years later with 1000 restrikes of the 25 cent token in aluminum. There are 8 known 25 cent original tokens and very few known of the 50 cent token. A clean 25 cent version or especially a fine grade 50 cent example can demand strong prices and are a highly prized addition to any quality token collection.



1900's Lordsburg, NM.
"Railroad Club Saloon/Billiards"

Parrot Sales Co. #1 Trade Check
Pretaded Only by 0, 00 and 000

10 Pfennig Wert Marke
1871-1948 Germany **Rare W**



1111



Friendship Club
C.I.A.



Parking For
North Shore

1861-1865 Civil War Era Tokens



1863 G Lindenmueller
Louis Roloff



1863 Not One Cent
Louis Roloff



1863 ~~Not~~ One Cent
Louis Roloff
(Not) Strikethrough



1863 Not One Cent
Louis Leichtweis



1863 Good For 1 Cent
William H. Bridgens
Knickerbocker



1863 IOU 1 Cent
William H. Bridgens
Knickerbocker



1863 Broas Pie Baker
Charles D. Horta
Broken Obverse Die



1863 Broas Pie Baker
Charles D. Horta
Broken Obverse Die



1863 Broas Pie Baker
Charles D. Horta
Double Reverse Die



1863 M. S. Brown
Louis Roloff



1863 M. S. Brown
Louis Roloff
Broken Obverse Die



Obverse Double Stamp
UpDwn on Reverse
Heavy Strike



Obverse Double Stamp
UpDwn on Reverse
Light Strike



Obverse Die Stamp
UpDwn on Reverse
Heavy Strike
Extremely Rare



Broas Pie Baker Token, 1863 (United We Stand - Obverse) (One Country - Reverse)

Definition: A “shattered die” features numerous intersecting surface die cracks. Along with the profusion of die cracks, a shattered die can also incorporate other forms of brittle fracture marks such as die breaks and retained die breaks.

A shattered die generally indicates a terminal die state, i.e, a die just short of catastrophic failure.

The 1863 Broas Pie Baker Store Token obverse images shown below were struck by a shattered die. The obverse die shattered soon after it was placed into service, but it continued to strike many planchets. After this die finally failed, the manufacturers of the token used another obverse die in its place. The obverse images below show the shattered original obverse die pattern found in this token series.

Two different reverse Broas Pie Baker store token die images are seen in the images below. Notice the different positions of the H below the star, indicating that two different dies were used on those planchets. The obverse/reverse die H is the signature of the designer (Charles D. Horta).

Both reverse images below show two sets of die clash marks. The first set depicts the upside-down Indian head (obverse design) and the second set the normal reverse design (OUR COUNTRY) overstrike. Presumably the die clash marks of the Indian’s head occurred earlier when the obverse die was paired with another obverse die. This is a very rare die event that was prevalent on some of the Broas Pie Baker Token series.

Obverse



Shattered Die Example



Gentry Collection Example

Reverse



Obverse/Reverse Die Overstrike Example



Gentry Collection Example

M. S. Brown Eureka Token, 1863 ("W." S. Brown - Obverse) (Eureka - Reverse)

M.S. Brown, whose occupation isn't mentioned on his store cards, was a liquor and cigar merchant, a common business for period tokens. The name Eureka on the reverse of his store cards was likely the name of his business along with the 2 Warren St., New York address.

His store cards were obtained from fellow New Yorker Louis Roloff, a fairly well known collectible period copper token designer.

A total of seven custom dies were prepared, although two of the dies apparently were only used to strike numismatic rarities. Of the remaining five dies, four are similarly designed obverse dies and only one is a reverse die. The obverse dies were only used in combination with the single reverse die. All four obverse dies were used to strike tokens for circulation on copper planchets.

The rarest of the four circulating token varieties was struck from the obverse die that misspelled Mr. Brown's name substituting W for the initial M. The token with the spelling error is extremely scarce. The other three circulating varieties range from common to scarce in availability.

The Gentry Collection specimen was struck from a very late die state of the obverse die. There are numerous interconnected die cracks and a small area that has broken off the obverse die. Notice the smaller type font on the W.S. BROWN version compared the M.S. BROWN dies.



M.S. BROWN
Obverse
The Gentry Collection
630N-3A

W.S. BROWN



W.S. Brown
Obverse
630N-4A

M.S. BROWN



M.S. Brown
Obverse

M.S. BROWN



M.S. Brown
Shattered Obverse Die

M.S. BROWN



M.S. Brown
Shattered/Chipped Obverse Die
The Gentry Collection
630N-4A

M.S. BROWN



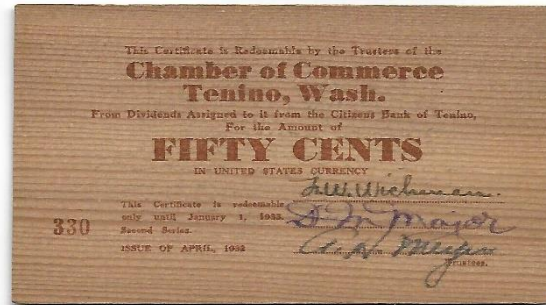
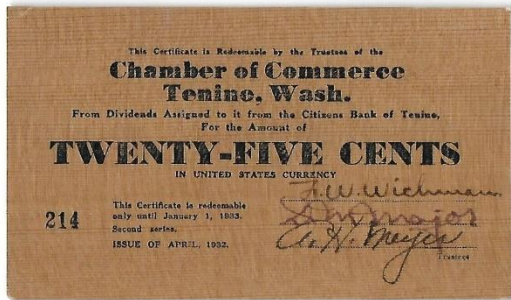
M.S. Brown
Shattered/Chipped Obverse Die
The Gentry Collection
630N-4A AU58



1923 Honolulu, HI. "Honolulu Rapid Transit Co. Ltd. Half Fare Token" Transportation Scrip
 1924 Honolulu, HI. "Honolulu Rapid Transit Co. Ltd. Full Fare Token" Transportation Scrip

The Bus' origin was The Honolulu Rapid Transit and Land Company, which operated buses and trolley lines mostly in the Honolulu district, while most outlying areas were serviced by competing bus companies. Honolulu Rapid Transit (HRT) was founded on June 6, 1898, the same day that Hawaii was annexed by the United States. HRT started streetcar operations in Honolulu in 1901. HRT operated streetcars from 1901–1941, motor buses continually from 1925 onward, and trolley buses from 1937-1957. Various issues caused its failure, including a series of strikes by union workers and reports of a hostile takeover of the company by its new owner Harry Weinberg in 1955.

The 1951 Honolulu token in brass is extremely rare as only a few were ever produced. Almost all existing 1951 tokens are zinc plated versions.



1932-1933 Tenino, WA. Wooden Depression Scrip (The First Wooden Currency)

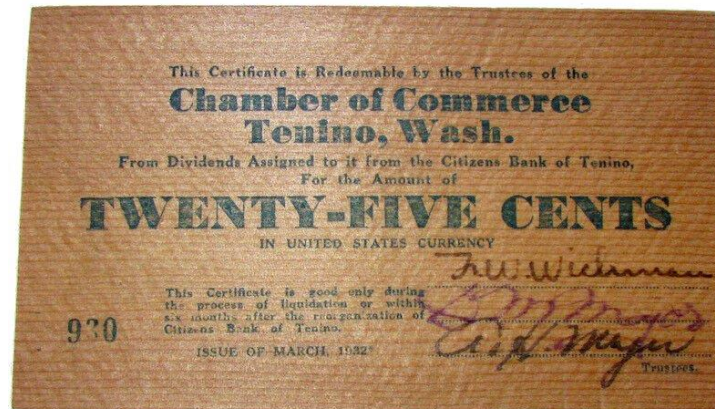
The year is 1931 and the United States is in the throes of the Great Depression. The small thriving town of Tenino, in Thurston County of Washington with almost 1,000 people, has yet to feel the major effects of the economic crisis. But just 20 days before Christmas, on December 5th, the Great Depression came knocking on the door with the failing of the Citizens Bank of Tenino. There was no longer any currency available for the exchange of goods and services. In an attempt to keep the town solvent, the Chamber of Commerce received permission from Congress to begin printing their own money. You could sign a form to pledge your assets, and they would give you 25 percent of your deposits in the form of (scrip).

The printing was done by Don Major, the publisher of the *Tenino Independent*, with the newspaper's 1890 Chandler & Price printing press. At the time, Major just happened to be in possession of some Sitka spruce and sliced cedar wood that he purchased from a Grays Harbor-based traveling salesman some time earlier and hadn't yet used for anything. And with that, the Tenino wooden currency was born. From the first wood run in January 1932 to June of that same year, when the town finally became solvent again, Eight scrip issues were printed between 1932 and 1933 with a total of \$10,308 of the wooden currency put into circulation — in denominations of 25 cents, 50 cents, and one dollar — of which only about \$40 was ever redeemed.

After a few attempts with paper money, the Chamber of Commerce decided to make currency out of wood, which was readily available. A committee was formed that included the town's physician, Dr. Wichman, dentist Dr. Meyer, and Don Major, the publisher of the local newspaper. By the second printing, in 1932, the word had spread outside of Tenino. The negotiable scrip was made for use, but instead of it being used, it went out to collectors and to this day is a very high dollar value collector's item. Today people from all over the world collect Tenino's wooden money and it shows up in unusual places. **A very rare piece of money, which is not in most museum collections.**



Front



Reverse



1933 Blaine, WA. "Peace Arch Wooden Nickel" Depression Scrip (The Original Wooden Nickel)

The wooden scrip from Blaine, Washington was issued during the 1930's Great Depression by the Blaine Relief Association. This wooden scrip came into existence in 1933 at the request of Albert Balch, then president of the Blaine Chamber of Commerce. Issued in denominations of 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, 50¢ and \$1.00, it was backed by non-interest-bearing warrants and merchants' notes. The warrants were issued as security for redemption of wooden money only and were redeemable in United States currency or gold. All wooden scrip was redeemable at par for merchandise at any store in Blaine. It was also used in payment for manual work labor on city infrastructure improvement projects.

The issue was nationally publicized and requests were received from every state in the union. Many of the requests were offering above par for this money. The most popular denomination was the nickel. Out of a total amount of \$1,900 issued, which included 8,850 wooden nickels, only \$350 remained extant. All issued pieces of Blaine depression scrip are very scarce.

This wooden scrip was designed by Whipple Y. Chester, an artist on the Bellingham Herald. It was press-stamped from three-ply sheet wood at the Blaine Journal. All coins were 34 - 42mm in diameter. The basic design is the same for all pieces, with denomination and text on the face, the Peace Arch at center, and the inscription around on the back. The amounts issued were:

5¢ – serial numbers 1 to 3,000; 10¢ – serial numbers 1 to 2,500; 25¢ – serial numbers 1 to 1,000; 50¢ – serial numbers 1 to 500. Each issued scrip coin was serially numbered by hand or stamp and initialed by one of the officers of the Blaine Relief Association. These officers were Earle L. McKinney (ELM); Reverend Floyd C. Green (FCG), Relief Association president and town treasurer; Albert Balch, Chamber of Commerce president; and Whipple Yale Chester, designer of the scrip. Rare to Very Rare Collection Piece.



1933

1934

1933 Chicago World's Fair "1833-1933 Century of Progress Indian Head Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Souvenir)

1934 Chicago World's Fair "1934 Century of Progress Indian Head Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Souvenir)

On May 27, 1933 Postmaster General James A. Farley officially opened the gates to A Century of Progress International Exposition. The fair was situated on 424 acres near the Chicago museum campus. When the fair closed October 31, 1934, thirty-nine million visitors had paid to walk through the fairgrounds. This wooden nickel promoted the Century of Progress 1833-1933 theme as a commemorative souvenir for visitors. The major archive for the Century of Progress International Exposition, including all of the official records from the event and the papers of Lenox Loehr, General Manager of the fair, are housed in Special Collections at the University of Illinois, Chicago. This souvenir wooden nickel is a limited collectible and the dark brown/red versions are rare.



1934 Chicago World's Fair "A Century of Progress Chicago" Red Poker Chip (Commemorative Souvenir)

1934 Chicago World's Fair "A Century of Progress Chicago" White Poker Chip (Commemorative Souvenir)

1934 Chicago World's Fair "A Century of Progress Chicago" Blue Poker Chip (Commemorative Souvenir)



1933 Hopkins' Wooden Nickel Depression Scrip (Early Private Issue Wooden Nickel)

In 1933 Nelson S. Hopkins of Williamsville, NY issued the Hopkins' Wooden Nickel. Designed of 1/16 in thick multi-plywood about 1 ½ inches in diameter with inferred cash value. There was no predefined value redemption date (just 1933?). The Hopkins' issue was printed in black, brown, red, yellow and white ink print. **Extremely Rare Collection Piece.**
 HOPKINS' WOODEN NICKEL WILLIAMSVILLE N.Y. 1933

1933 Guide Book of Wooden Money by Tom Hudson pp86

1933 December Issue, Numismatist pp781

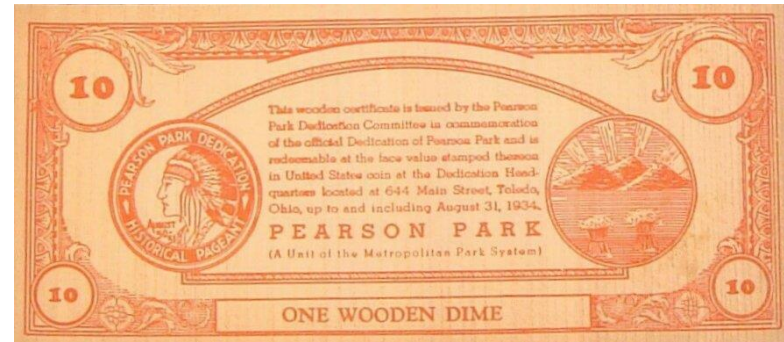
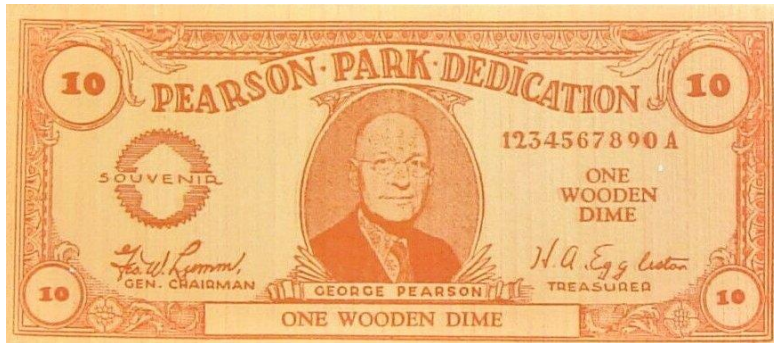
1935 Nineteenth Catalogue of Rare Coins, Tokens, Medals, Paper Money pp34



1933 Aberdeen, WA. "Chamber of Commerce Wooden Quarter" (Depression Scrip, July 1, 1933)

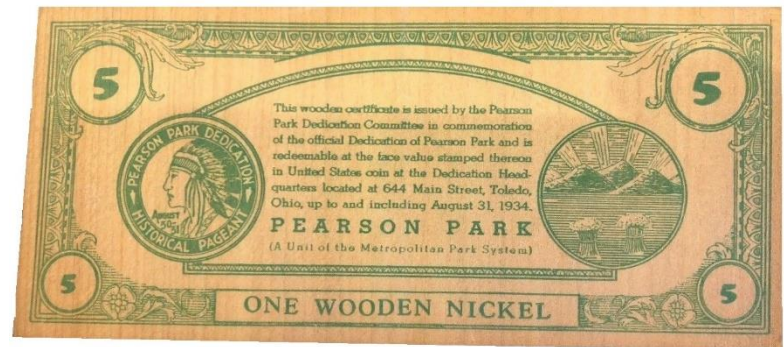
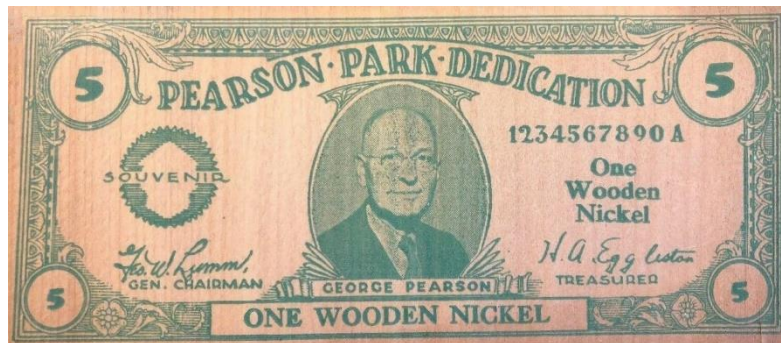
1933 Bremerton, WA. "American Legion Post 149 Wooden Quarter" (Depression Scrip, July 10, 1933)

1933 Longview, WA. "Chamber of Commerce Wooden Quarter" (Depression Scrip, October 17, 1933)



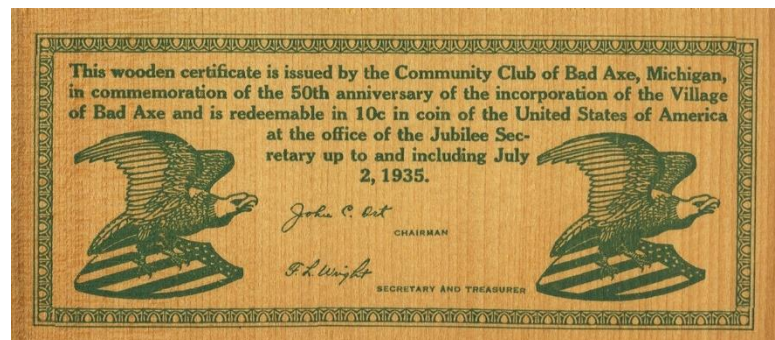
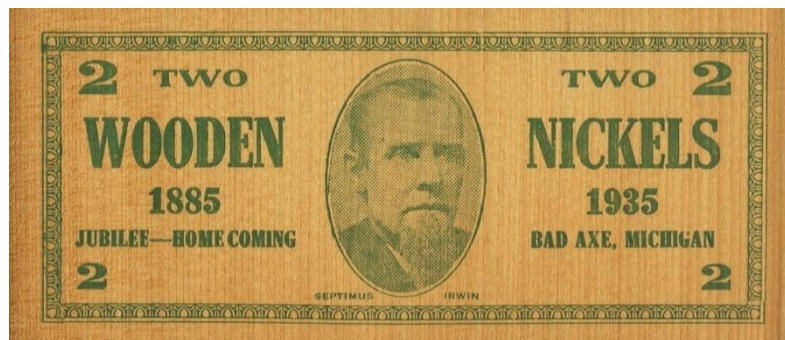
1934 Toledo, OH. "Pearson Park Dedication Wooden Dime" (Commemorative Note, August 31, 1934)

1934 marked the first true year for commercial wooden notes. This rare wooden dime and matching wooden nickel set are a scarce combination from an extremely short private run.



1934 Toledo, OH. "Pearson Park Dedication Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Note, August 31, 1934)

Approximately 620 acres in size, Pearson is the only Metropark that offers a remnant natural community of Ohio's former Great Black Swamp. Formerly called the Bank lands, George Pearson of The Toledo Blade was instrumental in acquiring Pearson Metropark. Pearson worked for The Blade from 1893 until 1947, an amazing span of loyal service virtually unheard of in business today and for 50 of his 54 years at The Blade, he wrote a daily column called "East Side News." This 1934 wooden nickel scrip is one of the first wave of "thin note" issues after Tenino, WA.

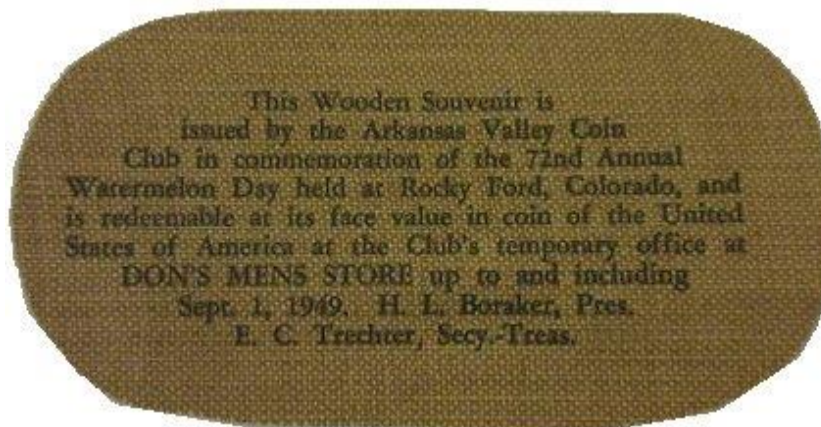
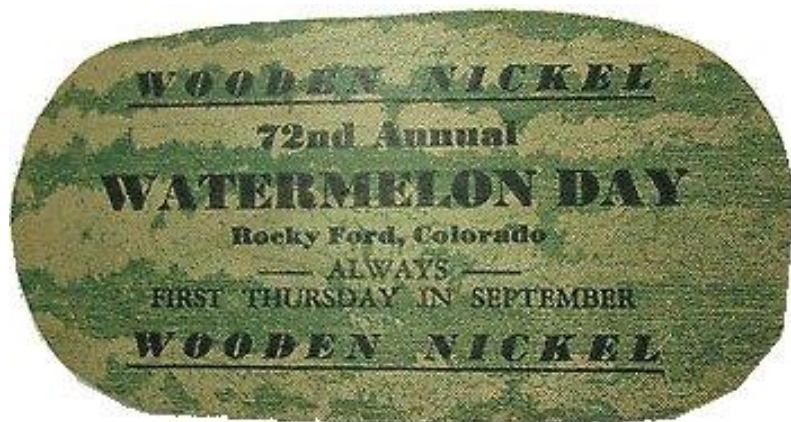


1935 Bad Axe, MI. "1885-1935 Jubilee Two Wooden Nickels" (Commemorative Note, July 2, 1935)

While surveying the first state road through the Huron County wilderness in 1861, Rudolph Papst and George Willis Pack made camp and found a much used and badly damaged axe. At Pack's suggestion, Papst used the name "Bad Axe Camp" in the minutes of the survey and on a sign he placed along the main trail. When Papst returned from the Civil War, the name was on the map.

Because of its remote location in the middle of a heavily forested county, very little activity took place here until the county supervisors selected Bad Axe as the new county seat in 1872. By 1875, the little village had a big brick courthouse and its first hotel, the Irwin House, and the community was off and running. Nearly everything burned in Great Fire of 1881 except for the brick courthouse which became a refuge for many of the town's citizens. The Great Fire along with the arrival of the railroad in 1882 opened the community to agriculture and more rapid growth.

Bad Axe was incorporated as a village in 1885 with Septimus Irwin, its first settler, as president; and it was incorporated as Huron County's first city on March 15, 1905 with Joseph Fremont as the first mayor. This wooden note is a somewhat rare two wooden nickels (dime) from a very scarce run. 1935 was the second year of progression for commercial wooden note designs.



1949 Rocky Ford, CO. "72nd Watermelon Day" (Commemorative Note, September 1, 1949) **Ext Rare**

The Arkansas Valley Fair, started in 1878, is the oldest continuous fair in the State of Colorado. Senator G. W. Swink, the originator of the celebration placed the timing on the first Thursday in September. The first celebration in 1878 was attended by about 25 people and one wagon load of melons was required. Today over 20,000 lbs. of watermelons are used in the celebration.

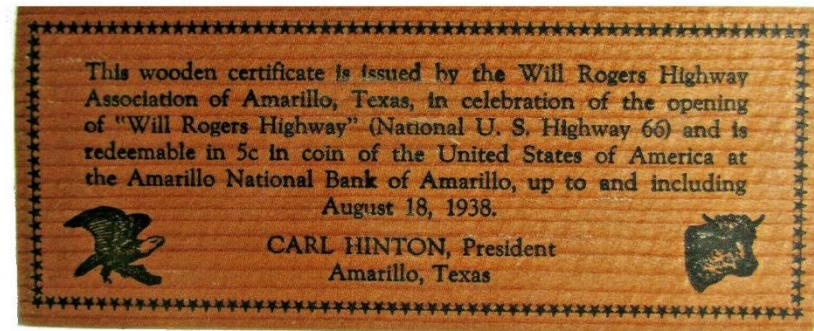
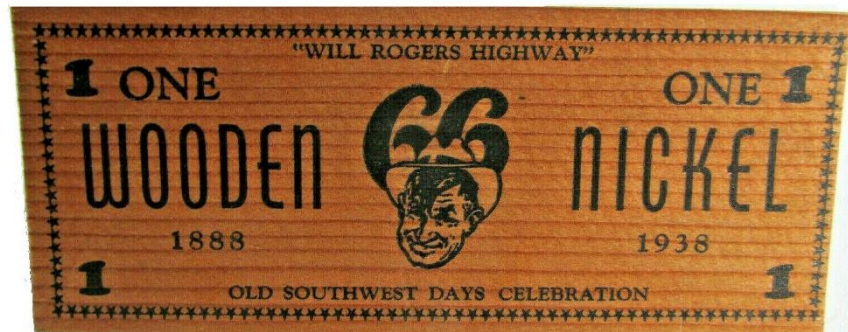


1936 Springfield, MA. "1636-1936 300th Anniversary Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Note, July 3, 1936)

In May 1636, William Pynchon, of Roxbury, an English colonist and fur trader and his band of Puritan followers sailed a ship they borrowed from Governor John Winthrop up the Connecticut River bypassing existing trading posts in Connecticut to settle an area as Agawam Plantation now known as Springfield, named for William Pynchon's home in England.

On Wednesday March 18, 1936 one of the most violent devastating floods in over 300 years roared down the Connecticut River inundating towns, destroying homes and bridges and leaving thousands homeless. In Springfield, home of James Naismith's invention of basketball in 1891, the 300th anniversary parade had to be cancelled due to lack of funds. The "1636-1936 Wooden Nickel" note is one of few commemorative items that survives today as a testament to the months of suffering and rebuilding following the "The Great Flood of 1936".

This note represents a growing number of similar design wooden commemorative notes issued from 1934 onward from various city and state events in the United States.



1938 Amarillo, TX. "1888-1938 Will Rogers Highway (US 66) Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Note, August 18, 1938)

US 66 served as a primary route for those who migrated west, especially during the Dust Bowl of the 1930s, and the road supported the economies of the communities through which it passed. People doing business along the route became prosperous due to the growing popularity of the highway. US 66 was known and regarded as the Main Street of America or the Mother Road.

This is an extremely rare 1938 souvenir Route 66 Will Rogers Highway wooden nickel, given out at the Old Southwest Day Celebration in Amarillo, Texas in August of 1938. During that month, Amarillo hosted ceremonies dedicating Route 66 as the Will Rogers Highway. A big parade included Mrs. Rogers and Will's favorite horse, "Soapsuds". Motorcades from Chicago and Los Angeles met in Amarillo. This wooden nickel is a much sought after and very difficult to find souvenir of the heyday (1935-1975) of public figures connected to America's infrastructure development.



1938 Greenville, OH. "150th Anniversary of the Northwest Territory 1793-1938 / Treaty of Greene Ville 1795" (Commemorative Token 1938)

Vintage wooden nickels commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Northwest Territory and the treaty of Green Ville, Ohio signed August 3, 1795. Dated 1793 - 1938. Known as The Treaty City, these wooden nickels hail from Greenville, Ohio and each one is a slightly different in design.

- #1- Features pictures of General Nathaniel Greene and Colonel William Darke.
- #2-Features Fort Greenville 1793.
- #3- Features General Arthur St. Clair-first Governor of the Northwest Territory.
- #4- Features the picture of Little Turtle.
- #5- Features the picture of Major General Anthony Wayne.



1938 Monticello, NY. "1938 Chamber of Commerce Two Bits" 25 Cents (December 1938)

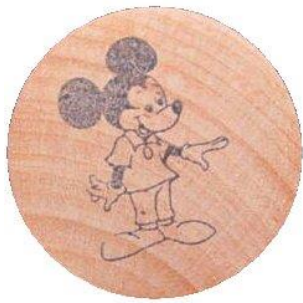
1939 Hoquiam, WA. "1889-1939 Paul Bunyan's Two Bits" 25 Cents (Aug 15, 1939) Guide Book to Wooden Money of the State of Washington 1931-1987



1939 Spokane, WA. "1889-1939 Columbia Cavalcade Wooden Money 5 Cents" Grand Coulee Dam (Aug 1-5, 1939)



1959 North Bend, OR. "1859-1959 Oregon Centennial Myrtlewood" 50 Cents (Commemorative Token, Sept 17, 1959)



Reverse



Reverse

1937 Burbank, CA. "Mickey Mouse Wooden Token" (Commemorative Token) **Rare**

1956 Anaheim, CA. Disneyland Park "Disneyland Frontierland Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Token)

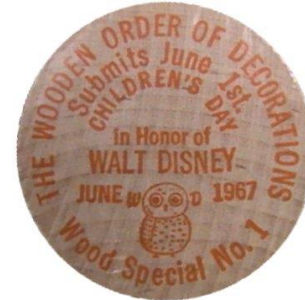
1971 Bay Lake, FL. Walt Disney World "Walt Disney World Frontierland Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Token)

The Frontierland Wooden Nickel from Disneyland Park and Walt Disney World features a "©Walt Disney Productions" mark. The earliest documented mention were examples that were offered at the Frontierland Indian Village circa 1956 and Frontierland in Walt Disney World during 1971.

Frontierland first appeared in Disneyland, July 17, 1955 as one of five original themed lands. Conceived by Walt Disney, the land did not initially contain many attractions, but centered on open expanses of wilderness which could be traversed by guests via stagecoach, pack mules, Conestoga wagon, and walking trails. Frontierland at Walt Disney World debuted with only three attractions: the Walt Disney World Railroad station, Davy Crockett's Explorer Canoes (which operated until 1994), the world debut of the Country Bear Jamboree and Tom Sawyer Island which opened in 1973.



Reverse



Reverse

1967 Wooden Order of Decorations "In Honor of Walt Disney Wood Special No. 1" (Commemorative Wooden Nickel June, 1967)

In honor of Walt Disney, The Wooden Order of Decorations released the Disney Wood Special No. 1 during a Mardi Gras truck parade. This was not believed to be authorized by Walt Disney Productions and today the black ink version is rare and the orange ink nickel is an extremely rare collectible. This wooden nickel combination is one of the most sought after of all Disney memorabilia and a key display in fine vintage Disney collections.



Original "Woodnik" Issue

Numismatic Flag

Apollo 1 Disaster

Vietnam Veterans

Charles Lindbergh

John Kennedy Assassination

1968 Olympic Games

1967 Wooden Order of Decorations (WOOD) CA. "Official Issue Series 1 – 6" (Commemorative Wooden Nickels Jan-June, 1967)

1968 Wooden Order of Decorations (WOOD) CA. "1968 Olympic Games Wood Extra No. 1" (Commemorative Wooden Nickel Oct, 1968)

The Wooden Order of Decorations, La Mirada, CA. was a group of enthusiasts established in January 1967 with the express purpose of fostering the tradition of the wooden nickel through issuing a new commemorative or memorial wooden nickel design each month for historic individuals and events. Their existence as a group was short lived ending by the winter of 1968.

The wooden nickels shown above represent many years of searching out one of the best collections of Wooden Order of Decorations issues. Each original inaugural "First Official Issue" was hand signed by "Charter Member" Joe Hytas #384, President of the Chagantton Coin Club, founder and president of WOOD. There are a total of six monthly original nickel issues and two special issues including the Walt Disney Wood Special No. 1. The full set is a scarce collectable.

1965 Chagantton Coin Club U.S. Spoofo Set "First Anniversary" (Commemorative Satire Token Coin Set 1965)

- Commemorating 50¢ Kennedy Half-Enough Silver "since" 1965
- Commemorating 25¢ Twenty Five Silver-less Triple-Deck Scents for 1965
- Commemorating 10¢ Sentimental Lacka-Sense "Sandwich" of 1965
- Commemorating Not 5¢ Worth of Horse-Sense in 1965
- Commemorating Only 1¢ Worth of Common Cents Year 1965
- Chagantton Coin Club 1965 US Spoofo-Set First Anniversary Wooden Nickel Good for Nothing

On this 1965 spoofo set issued by the Chagantton Coin Club the coin obverses show the five Presidents found in a 1965 Special Mint Set while the reverses bear specific satirical legends that generally lament the minting changes in fineness and quality from 1964 Proof Set issues. The wooden nickel sketch started rumors the Indian is shaking his tomahawk at the Big Chiefs in Washington. These rumors of message intent were denied by the Chagantton Club members.

THIS SET IS TODAY ONE OF THE RAREST OF ALL THE JOHN F. KENNEDY MEDALS EVER STRUCK. THE SET WAS ISSUED AS A JEST DIRECTED AT THE UNITED STATES MINT FOR REDUCING THE SILVER IN THE UNITED STATES COINAGE IN THE YEAR OF 1965. STRUCK BY THE OSBORNE COINAGE CO. FOR THE CHAGANTTON COIN CLUB OF LA MIRADA CALIFORNIA VERY FEW SETS WERE EVER PRODUCED. THIS SET WAS FIRST LISTED BY ED. ROCHETTE IN HIS BOOK THE MEDALLIC PORTRAITS OF JOHN F. KENNEDY PUBLISHED 1966 AND CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 169 AND IS LISTED AS K-65-8.





First Fraction Cents Sales Tax
Numista Rarity Rating - 97



Reverse



Reverse

1933 Kewanee, IL. "Kewanee – Chamber of Commerce 1/4 cent Sales Tax" Token (Kewanee, IL. Sales Tax Token, May 10, 1933-1947)

1935 Illinois "Department of Finance 1 1/2 Mills – Retailers Occupation Tax" Token (State Retailers Tax Token July 1, 1935-1947)

The structured plan for collection of fractional cents in tokens is generally believed to have originated in Kewanee Illinois in late March 1933. The Kewanee Chamber of Commerce adopted a schedule of tax collection to be standardized for their local merchants; this allowed the Chamber of Commerce to produce general use tokens for the municipality. On May 10, 1933 the 3% Illinois tax was rescinded. Most manufacturers of the tokens are not known, therefore most of the mintage figures are also not known. The second wave of sales tax token issues was on June 28, 1933 when the legislation passed the Retailers' Occupation Tax Act of 1933. The state tokens were scheduled for distribution July 1, 1935.



Reverse



1933 Beardstown, IL. Sales Tax
"1/4 cent"



1933 Carbondale, IL. Sales Tax
"Business Men's Association 1/4 cent"



1933 Effingham, IL. Sales Tax
"Chamber of Commerce 1/4 cent"



1933 Galva, IL. Sales Tax
"Chamber of Commerce 1/4 cent"



1933 Arcola, IL. Sales Tax
"Arcola Advertising Club 1/4 cent"



Reverse



1933 Litchfield, IL. Sales Tax
"1/4 cent"



1933 Paris, IL. Sales Tax
"Chamber of Commerce 1/4 cent"



1933 Rock Island, IL. Sales Tax
"1/4 cent"



1933 Tazewell County, IL. Sales Tax
"Pekin, Il. Association of Commerce 1/4 cent"



1933 Jacksonville, IL. Sales Tax
"Chamber of Commerce 1/4 cent"





1935 Missouri “Milk-Cap Sales Tax 1Mill” Token (Blue State Assistance Token, 1935-1937)
 1935 Missouri “Milk-Cap Sales Tax 5Mills” Token (Orange State Assistance Token, 1935-1937)

Sales tax tokens were fractional cent devices used to pay sales tax on very small purchases in many American states during the years of the Great Depression. Starting in early August, 1935 Missouri issued Milk-Cap tokens (called this because they resembled a milk cap and were produced in Kansas City by a prominent milk bottle cap manufacturer.)

The twelve states that issued these sales tax tokens were Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Utah, and Washington.



1935 New Mexico “1 Mill School Tax Token” Metal (Metal School Assistance Token, 1935 – 1942) Looking Up
 1935 New Mexico “5 Mills School Tax Token” Metal (Metal School Assistance Token, 1935 – 1942) Looking Up
 1935 New Mexico “1 Mill School Tax Token” Metal (Metal School Assistance Token, 1935 – 1942) Looking Forward
 1935 New Mexico “5 Mills School Tax Token” Metal (Metal School Assistance Token, 1935 – 1942) Looking Forward
1942 New Mexico “1 Mill School Tax Token” Fiber (White School Assistance Token, 1942) Exceedingly Rare
1942 New Mexico “5 Mills School Tax Token” Fiber (Black School Assistance Token, 1942) Exceedingly Rare
 1943 New Mexico “1 Mill School Tax Token” Plastic (White School Assistance Token, 1943 – 1949)
 1943 New Mexico “5 Mills School Tax Token” Plastic (Black School Assistance Token, 1943 – 1949)



Reverse

- 1935 Colorado "Retail 1/5 Cent Sales Tax Token" Metal (Metal State Retail Sales Tax Token, 1935-1937)
- 1937 Colorado "Retail 2 Mills Sales Tax Token" Metal (Metal State Retail Sales Tax Token, 1937-1941)
- 1942 Colorado "Retail 2 Mills Sales Tax Token" Fiber (Red State Assistance Token, 1942)
- 1942 Colorado "Retail 2 Mills Sales Tax Token" Fiber (Brown State Assistance Token, 1942) **Rare**
- 1943 Colorado "Retail 2 Mills Sales Tax Token" Plastic (Red State Assistance Token, 1943-1945)



- 1937 Oklahoma "Consumers Tax 1 Mill Check/Token" (Metal State Assistance Token, 1937-1941) Osborne Register Company
- 1941 Oklahoma "For Old Age 1 Mill Sales Tax Token" (White State Assistance Token, 1941-1942) Osborne Register Company
- 1941 Oklahoma "For Old Age 1 Mill Sales Tax Token" (Black State Assistance Token, 1941-1942) Osborne Register Company
- 1942 Oklahoma "For Old Age 1 Mill Sales Tax Token" (Brown State Assistance Token, 1942-1952) **Rare** Label House
- 1942 Oklahoma "For Old Age 1 Mill Sales Tax Token" (White State Assistance Token, 1942-1952) Label House
- 1942 Oklahoma "For Old Age 5 Mills Sales Tax Token" (Brown State Assistance Token, 1942-1952) **Rare** Label House
- 1942 Oklahoma "For Old Age 5 Mills Sales Tax Token" (Red State Assistance Token, 1942-1952) Label House

Tax tokens were created as a means for consumers to avoid being "overcharged" by having to pay a full penny tax on purchases of 5 or 10 cents. Issued by private firms, by municipalities, and by twelve state governments, sales tax tokens were generally issued in multiples of 1 mill. A mill is 1/1000th of a dollar or a tenth of a cent. People did not like having to carry a second set of coins, and to complicate matters, different states issued different tax tokens. 1 and 5 mills are most common, but other denominations include: 1/5 cent, 1 1/2 mills, and "Tax on 10c or less."



KS-S1

TC-89064 Manufacturer:
Osborne Register Company
Kansas Industrial Reformatory
Material: Zinc
Diameter: 16mm



KS-S2

TC-89065 Manufacturer:
Osborne Register Company
Kansas Industrial Reformatory
Material: Aluminum
Diameter: 16mm



Manufacturer:
Osborne Register Company
Kansas Industrial Reformatory
Material: Aluminum
Diameter: 23mm

State of Kansas Original Design Prototype

KS-S3 Sample
R-11 Unique Rarity

During 1937 there was public demand for a 1 Mill companion to the KS-S2, 2 Mill token issue.

The actual KS-S3 issue mirrored the KS-S2 in size with a 2.5 - 4mm hole replacing the center (K).

This KS-S3 Prototype Sample is the only 1937 design development specimen known to exist.

It is one of the most unique and rare state tax tokens in any numismatic collection.



KS-S3

TC-89063 Manufacturer:
Osborne Register Company
Kansas Industrial Reformatory
Material: Aluminum
Diameter: 16mm

1937 Kansas "KS-S1, 2 Mill Sales Tax Token" (State Retail Sales Tax Tokens, 1937-1939)

1937 Kansas "KS-S2 2 Mill Sales Tax Token" (State Retail Sales Tax Tokens, 1937-1939)

1937 Kansas "KS-S3 Prototype Sample 1 Mill Sales Tax Token" (State Retail Sales Tax Tokens, 1937-1939) **R11 Unique Rarity**

1937 Kansas "KS-S1, S2 1 Mill Sales Tax Token" (State Retail Sales Tax Tokens, 1937-1939)

Kansas didn't start issuing sales tax tokens until 1937. This was prompted by the introduction of a 2% sales tax started that same year. The initial contract for manufacture of the tokens went to the Osborne Register Company of Cincinnati, Ohio. This company was founded in 1920 and was in the business of manufacturing various types of tokens such as transportation and sales tax.

Tokens were distributed out of the State Tax Commission in Topeka, Kansas. They were issued in lots of 500. The initial demand for the tokens was strong but faded with time. The first Kansas token was a two mill token which represented the sales tax on a ten cent purchase. For purchases less than ten cents the two mill token represented over taxation. As a result of political pressure a one mill token was issued later in the year of 1937. There are 9754 different state, public and private documented Kansas tokens. The KS-S3 Prototype is an ultra-rare documented R10 token.

Fuld Rarity Scale

- R-1: Extremely Common 2000+
- R-2: Common 751-2000
- R-3: Fairly Common 351-750
- R-4: Scarce 151-350
- R-5: Very Scarce 75-150
- R6: Rare 31-75
- R7: Very Rare 16-30
- R8: Extremely Rare 8-15
- R9: Exceedingly Rare 4-7
- R10: Impossible 2-3
- R11: Unique (One Known Example)

Manufacturer: Osborne Register Company, Cincinnati, Ohio.

In 1835 a private mint, Z. Bisbee Co. was founded. In 1920, Wiley W. Osborne transformed it into the Osborne Register Company. That same year the firm had purchased the Murdock Stamp and Specialty Company -- owned by James Murdock Jr. and headed by his son Winslow Murdock.

Osborne Register Company, a respected firm with a heritage deep in Midwest history has minted billions of coins and tokens. In 1944, W.W. Osborne sold the firm to the Dayton Acme Company, which named it Osborne Coinage Company. Osborne Coinage is America's oldest private mint.



Reverse



Numismatic Archaeology of North America: A Field Guide



Front - Rarity 95

Reverse

1931 South St. Paul, MN. "O. Paape Billiard Hall Trade Token" (Aluminum Stamped Trade Tokens, 1900-1950)

1943 South St. Paul, MN. "O. Paape Billiard Hall Trade Token" (Red Vulcanized Trade Tokens, 1900-1950)

Sometimes called merchant tokens, sometimes called "Good Fors," trade tokens in the United States go back to the late 18th century, when event tokens were produced for circus acts and other performances. Custom patronage tokens became popular during the 1930's depression era in lieu of metal coinage and red fiber tokens such as these were used during the years of between 1930 – 1945 when metal was very scarce. Otto Paape was born in 1888. In 1913, at the age of 25, he opened the "Otto Paape Pool Hall" which over the years eventually became "Paape's Recreation, Otto Paape's Beer & Billiards". Paape's existed for almost 40 years in South St. Paul, MN until 1952. This set is a prime example of the red vulcanized fiber and various stamped aluminum tokens of the period that came in various shapes and sizes.



Reverse

1944 Office of Price Administration (OPA) "WWII Red XC Point Token – Offset Strike Error" (Ration Tokens, 1944-1945)

Rare Manufacture Control Error



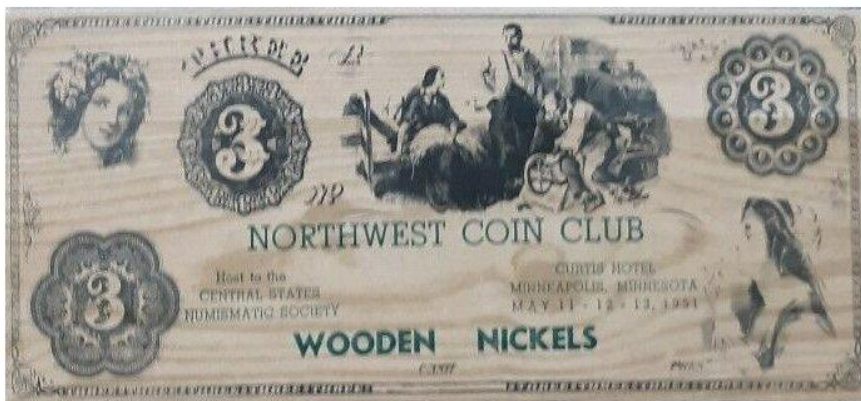
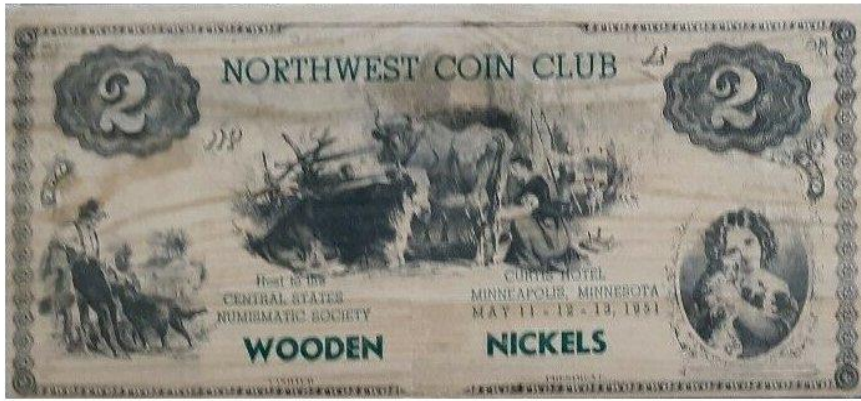
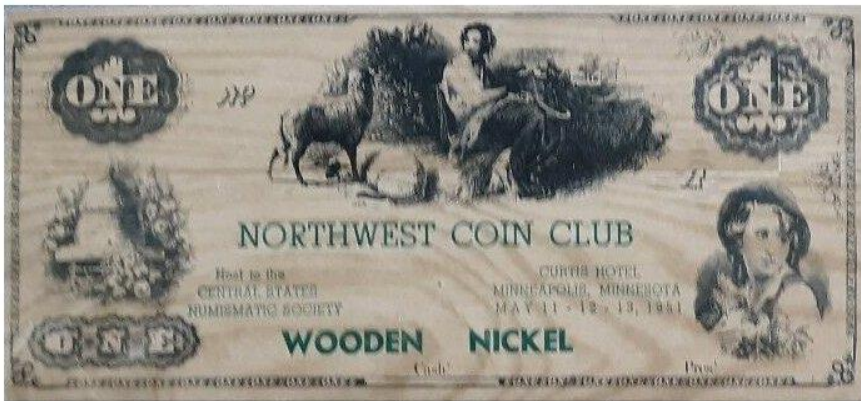
1944 Office of Price Administration (OPA) "WWII Red & Blue Point Tokens - Ration Stamps" (Ration Stamps & Tokens, 1944-1945)

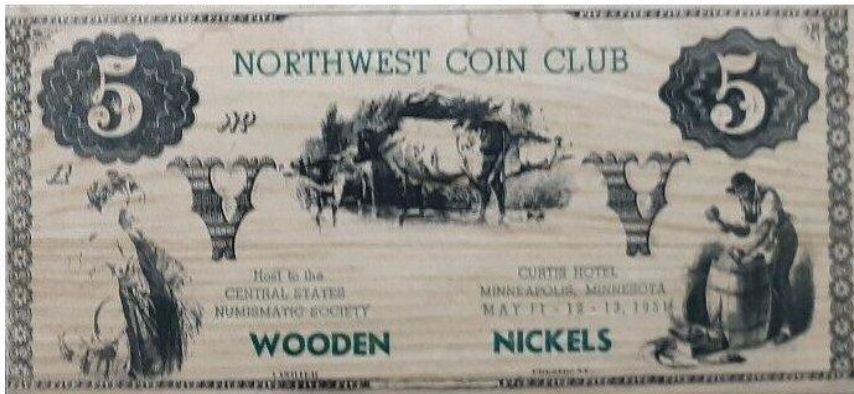
Ration Stamps and Tokens were issued towards the end of WWII (1944-1945). Many foods/items were rationed including meats, canned goods, gasoline, coffee, and sugar. There were both red stamps & tokens (for meats) and blue (for canned goods). A stamp was worth 10 points regardless of the number on the front and "change" was given in one point tokens. So, in 1945 you could have purchased 11 points worth of meat and 11 points worth of canned goods with these ration stamps and tokens. These OPA Red and Blue Point Tokens as well as the corresponding Red and Blue Ration Stamps are from Ration Stamp Book #4 issued in 1944. As a set they are limited to rare collectibles.



1944 Office of Price Administration (OPA) "WWII Red & Blue Point Tokens" (Ration Tokens, 1944-1945)

Red MV - **Extremely Rare** Red MM and Blue WC, WW, WH - **Rare** Red XC, YC and Blue WU, HX - **Semi-rare** tokens





1951 Minneapolis, MN. "Northwest Coin Club – Central States Numismatic Society Wooden Nickels" (Commemorative Note Set, 1952)

- 1951 "Northwest Coin Club – Central States Numismatic Society 1 Wooden Nickel"
- 1951 "Northwest Coin Club – Central States Numismatic Society 2 Wooden Nickels"
- 1951 "Northwest Coin Club – Central States Numismatic Society 3 Wooden Nickels"
- 1951 "Northwest Coin Club – Central States Numismatic Society 5 Wooden Nickels"

The Northwest Coin Club was founded on February 10, 1934, by the Reverend Elias Rasmussen who also served as first president.

The club soon joined the national American Numismatic Association (ANA) as member #4517 in May of 1934. The NWCC is the oldest coin club in the Minneapolis - Saint Paul, MN area and thought to be the 2nd oldest "regularly meeting" club in the United States.

Over the years the club has produced many items of memorabilia that are treasured within the club and have wide distribution throughout the numismatic community including club coinage, wooden flats and nickels and a 1979 ANA Souvenir card overprint in 1997. The NWCC has hosted several Central States Numismatic Society conventions.

The Central States Numismatic Society held their 1951 annual convention, May 11-13 at the Curtis Hotel in Minneapolis, MN hosted by the NWCC.

For the 1951 Central States Show, the Northwest Coin Club issued a series of four wood flats with the denominations of one, two, three and five wooden nickels. These flats were not wooden nickels in essence, but rather were printed on a single-ply cardboard. Sample proofs are known for all denominations. The text block referring to the Curtis Hotel is on the right and the text referring to Central States Numismatic Society is on the left when facing the notes.

"The sets were printed on three types of wood grain stock. There are two major printing variations and some minor variations. My reference collection includes 15 different items"
 Pete Smith, NWCC Historian, in communication with The Gentry Collection

These were hand signed by T. Donald Wallace, 1952-1953 president of the club or as "A. Sample." It is unknown how many were produced or how many still survive.

As a complete set that has survived seven decades these NWCC wooden nickel flats though not scarce are sought by discerning collectors that consider them to be some of the most intricate and beautiful wooden nickels designs ever produced. Their reverse design layouts mimic the ornate United States Note Legal Tender plate designs of 1862 and 1869.



1955 London Ontario, CA. "1855-1955 London Centennial – The Forest City" (Commemorative Token, June 30 - July 9, 1955)

A 6.30mm thick "Broomstick" wooden nickel this collectible token is rated a 90 on the Numista rarity scale.



1957 Waterloo Ontario, CA. "1857-1957 Waterloo Centennial" (Commemorative Token, June 26-July 1, 1957)



1957 Newmarket Ontario, CA. "1857-1957 Newmarket Centennial – The County Town" (Commemorative Token, Aug 15-Aug 18, 1957)



1959 Canada "Royal Visit – Queen Elizabeth & Prince Philip" (Commemorative Token, 1959)



1960 Dunnville Ontario, CA. "1860-1960 Dunnville Centennial" (Commemorative Token, July 29, 1960)



1967 Niagara Falls Ontario, CA. "1867-1967 Canada's Centennial Crown Jewels in Replica" (Commemorative Token, 1967)



1964 "The Beatles - Wooden Nickel Coin Souvenir" (Commemorative Token, 1964)

The Beatles were an English rock band formed in Liverpool in 1960. With a line-up comprising John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, they are regarded as the most influential band of all time. By early 1964, the Beatles were international stars, leading the "British Invasion" of the United States pop market and breaking numerous sales records. They soon made their film debut with *A Hard Day's Night* (1964).

The Beatles are the best-selling music act of all time, with certified sales of over 183 million units in the US and estimated sales of 600 million units worldwide. They hold the record for most number-one albums on the UK Albums Chart, most number-one hits on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, and most singles sold in the UK. The group were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1988, and all four main members were inducted individually between 1994 and 2015. In 2008, the group topped Billboard's list of the all-time most successful artists on the Billboard Hot 100. The band have received seven Grammy Awards, four Brit Awards, an Academy Award (for Best Original Song Score for the 1970 film *Let It Be*) and fifteen Ivor Novello Awards. Time Magazine named them among the 20th century's 100 most important people.

On February 7, 1964 the Beatles left the UK with an estimated 4,000 fans gathered at Heathrow, waving and screaming as the aircraft took off. Upon landing at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport, an uproarious crowd estimated at 3,000 greeted them. They gave their first live US television performance two days later on The Ed Sullivan Show, watched by approximately 73 million viewers in over 23 million households which represented about 34 percent of the American population.

"The Beatles - Wooden Nickel Coin Medallion" was produced soon after their appearance on The Ed Sullivan Show and is a rare early 1960's period example of Beatles memorabilia.



1955 "Sphinx Y X .Y. Sachems Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Masonic Token)

On December 16, 1773, a group of white colonists and members of the Sons of Liberty, met in Boston to protest the tax on tea imposed by England. When their protest went unheeded, they disguised themselves as their idea of Mohawk people, proceeded to Boston harbor, and dumped overboard 342 chests of English tea, the Boston Tea Party. The Improved Order of Red Men is a fraternal organization established in North America in 1834. Their rituals and regalia are modeled after those assumed used by Native Americans. Local units are "Tribes" presided over by a "Sachem" and a board of directors. Local meeting sites are called "Wigwams". The state level is called the "Reservation" governed by a "Great Sachem" and "Great Council" or "Board of Chiefs". The national level is the "Great Council of the United States" consisting of the "Great Inchoonee" (president), and a "Board of Great Chiefs".

As a Masonic emblem, the sphinx has been adopted as a symbol of mystery. Lodge/Order wooden nickels abound, but a Masonic token with internal Order meaning is extremely rare.



1950's Hartford, CT. "Wandy's Pies Wooden Nickel" (Food Scrip Trade Token, 1933-1961)

He was born before World War I. He fought in World War II. Yet the only thing crusty about him is the story about his legendary strawberry cream pies. Joe Wandy's plan was to be an actuary. In one lifetime, he managed to do just about everything else. William Howard Taft was in the White House when Wandy was born on Feb. 26, 1910. Forget "Titanic" the movie. The Titanic hadn't even sunk. After high school he went into the pie business with his mom. Wandy's Pies on Wyllys Street would become Hartford legend. "We invented the strawberry cream pie."

Lt. Col. Joseph Wandy, USAR Retired, died Saturday, February 21, 2009 five days short of his 99th birthday. His escapades and pies were amazing. This Wandy's Pies token is **extremely rare**.



1980's Aurora, OR. "Richmonville Restaurant Wooden Nickel" (Food Scrip Trade Token, 1980-2005)

One of the more successful American utopian communal societies in the nineteenth century was founded on the Pudding River in Marion County, Oregon in 1856. Originally named for a daughter of the leader of the Christian communal group, the Aurora Colony (or Aurora Mills, as it was also known) grew to a population of more than 600 individuals who followed the basic Christian beliefs of Wilhelm Keil (1812-1877). Almost of the families emigrated from the German kingdoms of Württemberg or Hesse. Wilhelm Keil, on the other hand, was Prussian.

In the early 1870s, after the death of his only remaining daughter, Keil began to transfer ownership of several parcels of colony land to individual households, with the intent to transfer more later. Keil died suddenly on December 30, 1877, without having made any further transfers. The trustees assumed leadership of Aurora and Bethel and decided to dissolve the two colonies, a process that took several years and was overseen by Judge Matthew P. Deady. The final settlement of the dissolution was declared on January 22, 1883.

Ten years after the dissolution of the Aurora Colony, the City of Aurora was incorporated. Many colony descendants continued to live in the area, and several colony buildings survived, although the Colony Church, the Gross Haus (Keil's home), and the Colony Hotel were among those lost to fire and demolition. In 1963, a group of descendants and other interested individuals formed the Aurora Colony Historical Society to preserve the buildings and artifacts of the Colony. In 1966, the Old Aurora Colony Museum was dedicated, and in 1974 twenty sites in Aurora were placed on the National Register of Historical Places. It was the first historic district of its kind in the state and now supports a population of more than 900.

This small town packs a big punch when it comes to antiquing, having been voted several times as a top destination in the United States for antique shopping. The town's 20 plus antique stores work with nearly 300 dealers to find one-of-a-kind pieces. The Richmonville Restaurant doubled as a restaurant to the townspeople and an antique store. These wooden tokens are extremely rare collectibles created and once used daily in one of the top antique/collectible locations in the United States.



1961 Bowness, Alberta, CA. "1911-1961 Bowness Jubilee Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Token, 1961)



1960/61 New York, NY. "Mickey Mantle Wooden Rain Check" (Commemorative Token, 1960-1962)



1965 McKeesport, PA. "1965 Wooden Money Proof Set" (Commemorative Token Set, 1965)



Reverse



"Astromonk" Bonny During Testing

1969 Cape Kennedy, FL. "Astromonk Bonny Earth Orbit Wooden Nickel" (Commemorative Token, June 28 – July 8, 1969)
Biosatellite 3, also known as abbreviated Biosat 3 and as Biosatellite D

Bonny was a 14-pound pigtail monkey from Thailand. He would be launched into space on June 28, 1969, on a 1,536-pound biosatellite for a planned 30-day mission to coincide with the Apollo 11 launch and lunar landing. As he settled into orbit, Bonny set about doing what was asked of him in his capsule. Everything was going fine for the first couple of days with the media across the world carrying glowing stories about the little monkey they dubbed the "Astromonk".

Just short of nine days into the flight, however, NASA became concerned enough with Bonny's welfare that the agency decided to cut short the monkey's space mission after just 130 orbits. Officials reported that Bonny had become sluggish and was no longer interested in performing his assigned tasks. They noted that Bonny's body temperature was dropping and they said they worried about him deteriorating further.

After his capsule splashed down near Hawaii, Bonny was rushed into intensive care at Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu. After initial reports said the monkey was "responding favorably," NASA announced the sad news that its little "astromonk" had died after returning home.



Reverse



1835 Turkey "Ottoman Empire Jeton" (Gaming Scrip Token, 1800-1922)

1920's Monte Carlo, Monaco /FR. "Monaco Societé Des Bains De Mer 20 Franc Jeton" (Bakelite Gaming Scrip Token, 1920-1929)

1930's Monte Carlo, Monaco /FR. "Monaco Societé Des Bains De Mer 20 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1930-1939)

1940's Monte Carlo, Monaco /FR. "Monaco Societé Des Bains De Mer 20 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1940-1949)

Société des Bains de Mer et du Cercle des Étrangers à Monaco (SBM) Cercle Prive' (Private Circle)

SBM manages and owns the Monte Carlo Casino, the Opéra de Monte-Carlo, and the Hôtel de Paris in Monte Carlo.



1950's Deauville, Cote Fleurie, FR. "Casino De Deauville 200 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1950-1960) **Rare 0014**

1960's Cannes, French Riviera, FR. "InterContinental Cannes Casino 5 Franc Jeton" (Clay Gaming Scrip Token, 1968-1972)



1970's Cannes, French Riviera, FR. "Cannes Casino Des Fleurs 20 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1970-1978)

1970's Cannes, French Riviera, FR. "Cannes Casino Des Fleurs 10 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1970-1978)



1970's Cannes, French Riviera, FR. "Cannes Casino Municipal 50 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1978-1982)

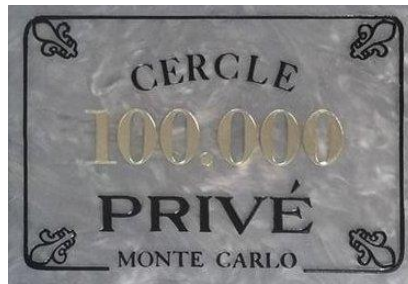
1970's Cannes, French Riviera, FR. "Cannes Casino Municipal 20 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1978-1982)



1970's Cannes, French Riviera, FR. "Cannes Casino Municipal 10 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1970-1975)

1970's Deauville, Cote Fleurie, FR. "Deauville Casino D'Hiver 10 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1970-1975)

1970's Monte Carlo, Monaco /FR. "Monaco Societé Des Bains De Mer 10 Franc Jeton" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1978-1982)



1980s Monte Carlo, Monaco /FR. "Societé Des Bains De Mer Casino de Monte Carlo Jeton Plaque" (Catalin Gaming Scrip Token, 1980-2000)

Chemin de fer (Chimmy) is the French form of the betting game of baccarat. Baccarat, the high roller's favored game, is played at stakes of up to \$250,000 a hand, perhaps 60 hands an hour. There is no skill in baccarat. Players each draw two cards to see who can get closest to a total of nine. It is a small group, of probably not more than a few score players throughout the world, who really play high. Special Jeton Plaques such as these are used on the gaming table where millions of dollars may be won or lost in a few hours. These tokens are not for the faint at heart.



1960 N1572 \$5



1952 N1561 \$5

Damaged in the 1960 Casino Fire



El Rancho Hotel & Casino, 1941-1960

The El Rancho Hotel & Casino opened on April 3, 1941 with great fanfare. At the time it was hailed as Las Vegas' first resort hotel and was partly owned by Wilbur Clark in the mid 1940's.

After World War II the El Rancho entered its glory days, attracting guests and celebrities alike; Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward were married there in 1958.

In the early morning hours of June 17, 1960 the quiet Las Vegas morning was pierced by the sirens of three fire companies as they raced to the El Rancho Hotel. The first hints of fire were detected in the backstage area of the Opera House Theater and despite the heroic actions of the firefighters and El Rancho employees who fought the fire it quickly spread to consume the main building, casino, shops, theater and steakhouse.

Eyewitnesses watched as the fire consumed the hotel and the iconic fifty foot windmill was turned into a symbolic funeral pyre of the hotel and eventually collapsed, its mock wind vanes flailing as it fell.

Thankfully, due to the quick actions of firefighters and El Rancho employees the hotel was quickly evacuated and no one was injured in the fire.

Although the owners vowed to rebuild the El Rancho, that never came to pass and the surviving rooms were converted into a motel operation that was just a shadow of its former self.

On May 20, 1970, Howard Hughes completed the deal negotiation to purchase the property.

For years the lot stood forlornly vacant, across the street from the Sahara Hotel & Casino, a monument to the glamour that once was but now it has a new lease on life re-invented as the Las Vegas Festival Grounds.



1941 Opening Day N0763 \$5



1944 V4027 \$5



1944 N0829 \$25



1941 Opening Day N0753 \$25



1946 N7673 \$5



1946 N6714 \$5



1943 N8209 \$5 VAGAS Error Rare



1940s N1563 \$5



1940s N1560 \$25



1943 V2360.C \$25 Rare VAGAS Error



1940s N1558 \$100



1950 N1565 \$25

El Rancho Hotel & Casino, 1941-1960



Original El Rancho Vegas Office Aerial Photograph
The Gentry Collection



1950's El Rancho Vegas Dice Rare "VEGASS" Error
1950's Hotel El Rancho Vegas Dice



1950's N8210 \$25



1950's N1559 \$25



1960 N0733 \$25



1945 N6715 \$25



1945 N6716 \$100



1948 V4030 \$25



1948 N1564 \$100



Last Frontier



E0601 Covered Wagon



1951 N1649 Silver Slipper



Hotel Last Frontier, 1942-1955

In 1929, a businessman from Detroit began building a night club on the then new highway to Los Angeles. He borrowed money from Frank Detra who had moved to Vegas in 1927.

Before the club was finished, the man backed out of the loan and Detra finished the club in 1930, naming it the Pair A Dice. On July 4, 1931, the Pair A Dice opened as a public nightclub.

For a short time around May of 1936, the club went under the name Ambassador Night Club.

In January of 1939, former Los Angeles Police Captain and Commander of the Vice Squad, Guy McAfee, bought the club, renovated it for approximately \$20,000, and renamed it the 91 Club. On March 15, 1939, the 91 Club opened with Fred L. Kreiger as manager and Harvey Bymen in charge of gaming. Club 91, whose phone number was 91, offered no cover charge.

R.E. Griffith, a theater magnate, and architect nephew, William J. Moore, saw the El Rancho Vegas in 1941, at the beginning of the three mile desert road accompanied by some bars and decided there was more than enough room for another western themed resort.

They proceeded to purchase five acres of land for \$1,000 an acre including the 91 Club plus 30 acres just to the right of the club. On October 30, 1942, 18 months after the El Rancho Vegas opened, the Strip's second casino hotel resort and R.E. Griffith's dream, Hotel Last Frontier opened with 105 rooms.

Where El Rancho rambled like a motor court, the Last Frontier was a single sprawling building. Several distinct but connected segments gave the appearance of an Old West town main street. Stagecoaches picked up guests at the airport, packed trips could be arranged, and a full stable stood out back.

In 1951 the stockholders decided to sell the resort to Jake Kozloff, 91 Club owner Guy McAfee, and Beldon Katleman of the El Rancho Vegas for \$5.5 million. Kozloff felt that Las Vegas was no longer the "last" frontier, and changed its name to "The New Frontier" in 1955.



1942 N6235 \$1



1945 N1317 \$25



1942 N6219 \$5



1940s N1652 \$5



1942 N6293 \$25



1940s N7021 \$25

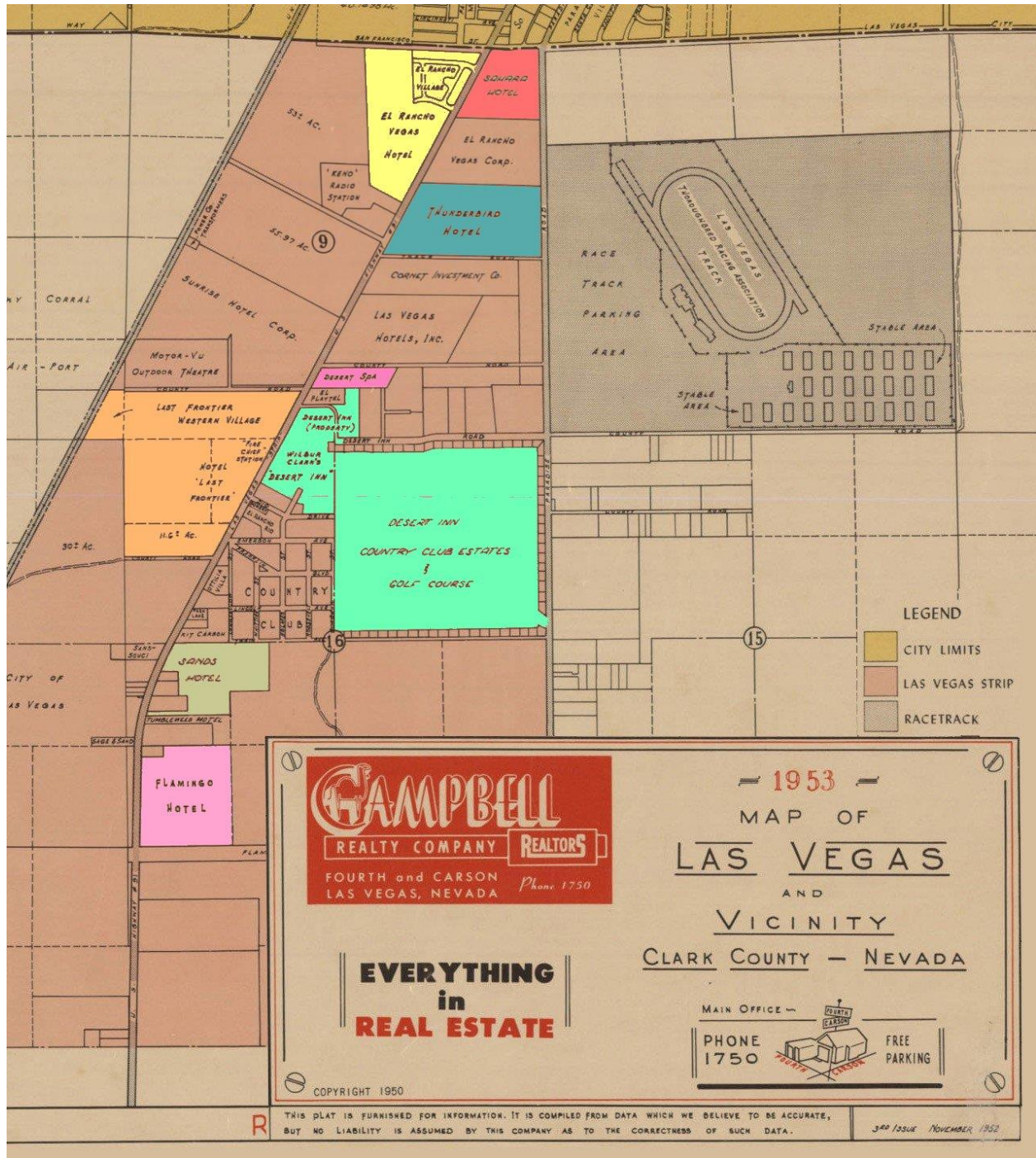


1942 N6180 \$100



1940s N1651 \$100





CAMPBELL
 REALTY COMPANY REALTORS
 FOURTH and CARSON
 LAS VEGAS, NEVADA Phone 1750

EVERYTHING
 in
REAL ESTATE

— 1953 —
 MAP OF
LAS VEGAS
 AND
 VICINITY
 CLARK COUNTY — NEVADA

MAIN OFFICE —
 PHONE 1750
 FREE PARKING

COPYRIGHT 1950

THIS PLAT IS FURNISHED FOR INFORMATION. IT IS COMPILED FROM DATA WHICH WE BELIEVE TO BE ACCURATE, BUT NO LIABILITY IS ASSUMED BY THIS COMPANY AS TO THE CORRECTNESS OF SUCH DATA.

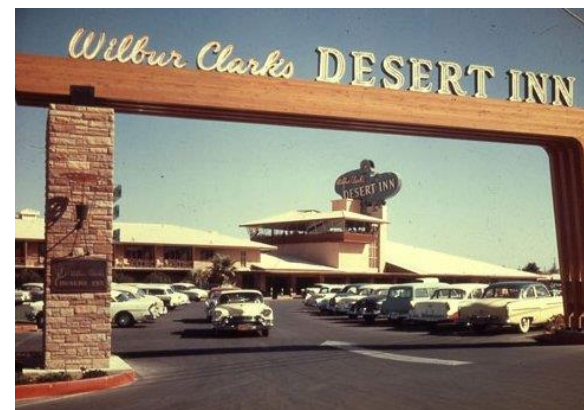
3RD ISSUE NOVEMBER 1950



1950 First Edition A B C Roulette Chip Set – The Gentry Collection



Desert Inn Blue & Purple 001 Dice



Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn, 1950-2000

The original Desert Inn was located at 3145 Las Vegas Boulevard South, positioned between Desert Inn Road and Sands Avenue. This famous hotel and casino on the Las Vegas Strip in Paradise, Nevada, was operated from April 24, 1950 until August 28, 2000. The original name was *Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn*.

It was the fifth resort to open on the Strip, the first four being El Rancho Vegas, The New Frontier, Flamingo, and the Thunderbird. The Desert Inn opened with 300 rooms and the Sky Room restaurant, headed by a chef formerly of the Ritz Paris, which once had the highest vantage point on the Las Vegas Strip. The Desert Inn was the first hotel in Las Vegas to feature a fountain at the entrance and the casino, at 2,400 square feet was one of the largest gaming locations in Nevada.

The premier performance venue at the Desert Inn was the Painted Desert Room, later the Crystal Room, which opened in 1950 with 450 seats. Frank Sinatra made his Las Vegas debut there on September 13, 1951 and became a regular house performer. The property included an 18-hole golf course which hosted the PGA our Tournament of Champions from 1953 to 1966.

The Desert Inn opened formally on April 24, 1950 at a two-day gala which was heavily publicized nationally. Journalists from all of the major newspapers and magazines were invited, and the hotel paid \$5,700 to cover air tickets. 150 invitations were sent out by Clark to VIPs with a credit limit of \$10,000. The Desert Inn became known for its "opulence" and top-notch service. During the 1950s, the hotel often hosted the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, Winston Churchill, Adlai Stevenson, Senator John F. Kennedy, and former President Harry S. Truman.

The Desert Inn's most famous guest, businessman Howard Hughes, arrived on Thanksgiving Day 1966, renting the hotel's entire top two floors. After staying past his initial ten-day reservation, he was asked to leave in December so that the resort could accommodate the high rollers who were expected for New Year's Eve. Instead of leaving, Hughes started negotiations to buy the Desert Inn. On March 27, 1967, Hughes purchased the resort for \$6.2 million in cash and \$7 million in loans. The reclusive Hughes lived in his penthouse suite at the Desert Inn for four years, never leaving his 250 square foot bedroom. Usually unclothed, he spent his time "negotiating purchases and business deals with the curtains drawn and windows and doors sealed shut with tape" and did not allow anyone from the hotel staff to come in and clean his room. He was carried out in 1970 and flown to the Bahamas.



1958 Chocolate Brown & Blue A Desert Inn Chips

1958 Red B & 1958 Beige B Desert Inn Chips

1959 Mauve 1 & Beige 2 Desert Inn Chips

Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn, 1950-2000



Early 1950's Edition Wilbur Clark Image Chips **Rare**

Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn, The Road Sign Logo

The 1948 Development Budget of the Resort was:

Cash and Bank Account: \$25,000.00;
 Property: Hotel Site - 825 feet, frontage at \$500 per foot; \$414,000.00
 Rear half of Players Club Property - \$15,000.00;
 Improvements - 62 units consisting of 72 rooms rear, including air conditioning/heating - \$375,000.00;
 Apartments on Players Club property - \$35,000.00;
 Architect's expense - 7-1/2% of \$1,500,000.00;
 Balance to complete front end rooms, 25,000 sq. ft. at \$12.50 including air conditioning/heating - \$312,500.00;
 Build Administrative Building including casino, restaurants, bars, kitchens, offices, etc. 25,000 sq. ft. at \$30 - \$750,000.00;
 Furniture/Equipment - \$250,000.00;
 Pool - \$25,000.00;
 Roads - \$25,000.00;
 Landscaping - \$50,000;
 Organization Expense - \$1,288.00;
 Total Assets - \$2,390,288.00;
 Proposed Mortgage - \$1,350,000.00;
 Capital Stock: Preferred - \$100,000.00; Common, 200,000 shares at \$1.00 - \$200,000.00;
 Paid in Surplus - \$740,288.00
 Total Liabilities/Capital - \$2,390,288.00.

Absolute Minimum for gaming wins; many months will exceed figures considerably:

Casino expenses: Salaries/Wages - \$25,000.00

Supplies including dice, cards, etc. - \$1,000.00

Salaries/Wages:

- President - \$2,500.00;
- Manager - \$1,000.00;

- Assistant Manager - \$350.00;
- Four Desk Clerks - \$800.00;
- Night Clerk - \$225.00;
- Secretary - \$225.00;
- Publicity Agents - \$500.00;
- Six Telephone Operators - \$1,050.00;
- Auditor - \$500.00;
- Four General Office Personnel - \$700.00;
- Resident Engineer - \$400.00;
- Assistant Engineer - \$275.00;
- Four Gardeners - \$700;

Music/Entertainment - \$20,000.00;

Insurance - \$1,000.00;

Utilities - \$500.00;

Payroll Taxes - \$3,930.00;

Depreciation - \$5,500.00.

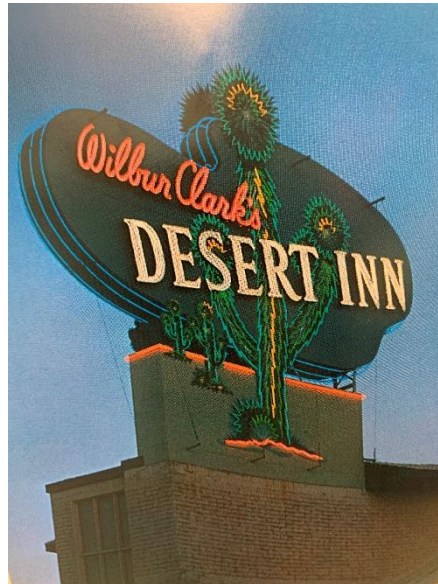
Net profit per month - \$62,375.00;

Net profit per year - \$748,430.00;

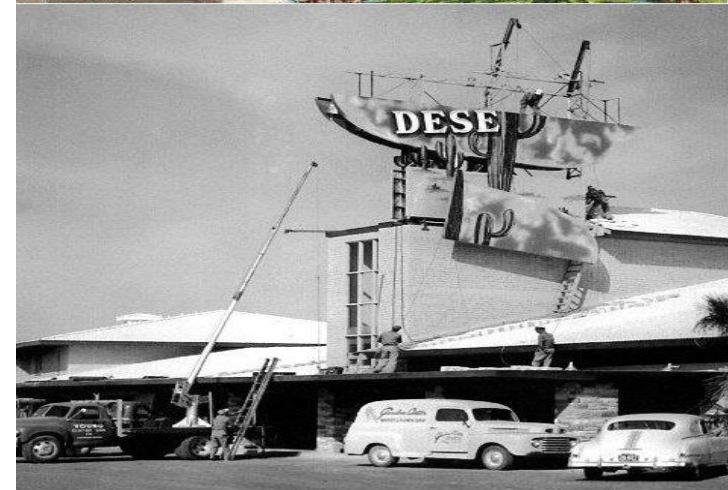
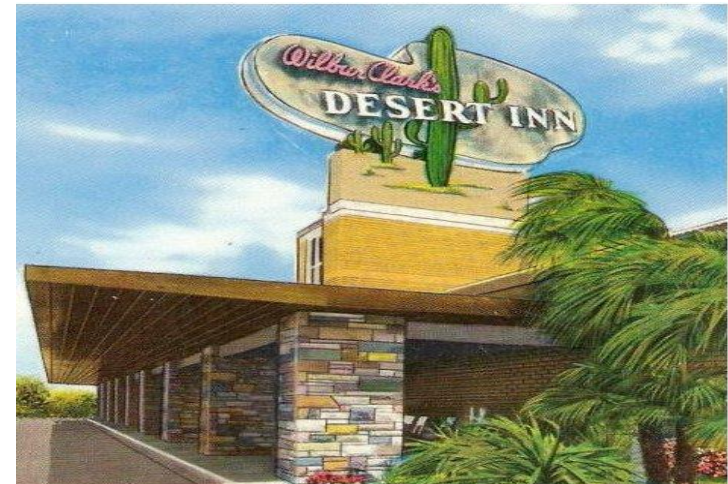
Federal Income Tax at 38% - \$284,430.00;

Net After Income Taxes - \$464,070.00.

Las Vegas Strip Historical Site - Copyright 1999-2020 Deena DeMatteo



Original Picture Provided by Rick Juleen, YESCO



The Desert Inn had a tower capped with a historic sign, a palette-shaped logo with rustic and script lettering scrawling;

Wilbur Clark's DESERT INN

The sheet metal sign by Hermon Boernge, Young Electric Sign Company grew from the central brick tower. "The best we can come up with is an early 1950 installation. Likely just before the grand opening of the Resort."

Rick Juleen, YESCO 2020

At night the logo sign was outlined in neon lighting. Clark linked the sign logo imagery with production dice, matchbooks, menus and souvenirs.

The original 1949 design dice were ordered BEFORE the 1950 sign install.

Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn, The Road Sign Dice

It was known by those in and around the 1950 opening of Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn casino that a five die stick or two of the original 1949 rough Road Sign logo design dice had existed. This has been the topic of countless discussions between older casino employees, casino owners and collectors.

The story was that Wilbur Clark, Allard Roen, the Desert Inn director and Ruby Kolod, the casino manager reviewed the original design and decided on a new colorful commercial design that better matched the 1950 Young Electric Sign Co. (YESCO) design, the logo on L1454 L1455 and L1456 dice.

The original Road Sign logo design dice simply vanished and for many decades were myth, Las Vegas casino legend mentioned in smoky late night casino discussions and sought by collectors worldwide. The dice eventually began to reemerge to be identified as the Rough Road Sign Logo L1225 variant.

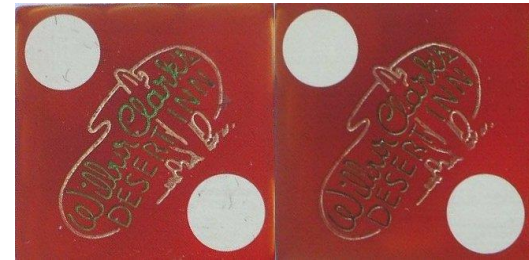
Only a few pair of original Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Road Sign design dice are known to still exist.



Original Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Road Sign - Young Electric Sign Company 1950



Original Black Ink Rough Road Sign Logo L1225 "Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn" Dice 1949-1950 R-10



1949-1950 Green Ink Road Sign Logo L1225 #2 R-10
The Gentry Collection



Other Known 1949-1950 Green Ink L1225 #3 – Bill Judge R-10



Fuld Rarity Scale

- R-12 Unknown
- R-11: Unique (One Known Example)
- R-10: Impossible 2-3
- R-9: Exceedingly Rare 4-7
- R-8: Extremely Rare 8-15
- R-7: Very Rare 16-30
- R-6: Rare 31-75
- R-5: Very Scarce 75-150
- R-4: Scarce 151-350
- R-3: Fairly Common 351-750
- R-2: Common 751-2000
- R-1: Extremely Common 2000+

Original Rough Design Road Sign "Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn" Logo 1949-50

1. "Wilbur Clark's" is more angled, broader Script, tail on S, Wording color
2. "DESERT INN" Printed in longer L1453 Font Style, arched, Wording color
3. Palette corners very close to "W" and ends into "D"
4. Cacti not defined, goes up through the L and A far from Palette Loop
5. Palette and Cacti same color, wording different color

Revised Production Road Sign "Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn" Logo 1950

1. "Wilbur Clark's" Script is tighter, flatter and smooth, no S tail, Palette color
2. "DESERT INN" Printed in shorter tighter L1454 Font Style, flat, Palette color
3. Palette sweeps up and away from "W" and ends below the "D"
4. Cacti more defined, goes up between R and T through the L close to Palette Loop
5. Palette and wording same color, Cacti different color



1949-50 Original Rough Design "Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn" Dice **R-10**
Possibly from the Original Design 5 Die Stick(s) – The Gentry Collection



1950 Early Edition "Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn" Dice **R-7**
L1455 Road Sign Blue Color Cacti Variant – The Gentry Collection

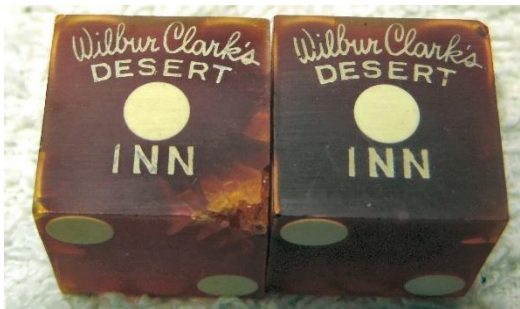
Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn, 1950-2000



1950 Early Edition Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn L1455 Dice – Road Sign Gray Color Cacti Variant R-7
Museum Grade - The Gentry Collection

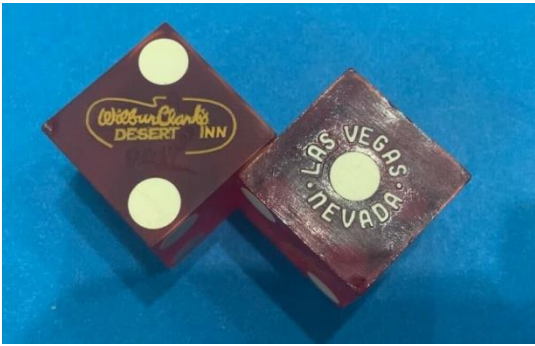


L1454 Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice – Road Sign
1950 Museum Quality R-9

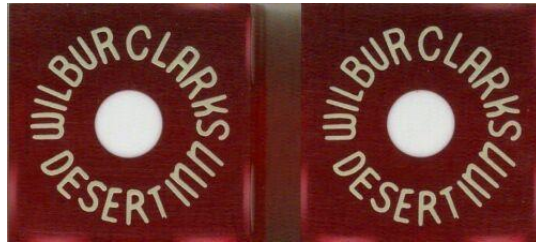


L1457 Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice R-8
Early 1950's

Desert Inn		3415 Las Vegas Blvd. So.	Opened 1950/Closed 1998
	L1453	1950 Red 11/16"	
	Solid spot. This issue is thought to be the original first issue used in 1950.		
		R-10	
	L1454	Early 1950's Red 3/4"	
	Solid spot. This variant features their roadsign as the logo on the two side.		
		R-9	
	L1455	Early 1950's Red 3/4"	
	Solid spot. Wilbur Clark roadsign logo was used on some different casino items.		
		R-7	
	L1456	Early 1950's Red 3/4"	
	Solid spot. Another sign variant.		
		R-7	
	L1457	Early 1950's Red 3/4"	
	Solid spot. A very different looking logo. Rare		
		R-8	
	L1458	1950's Red 3/4"	
	Solid spot. This starts a series of name dice, "Wilbur Clark's"		
		R-5	
	L1459	1950's Red 3/4"	
	Solid spot. This pair has no serial number.		
		R-5	
	L1460	1950's Red 3/4"	
	Solid spot.		
		R-5	



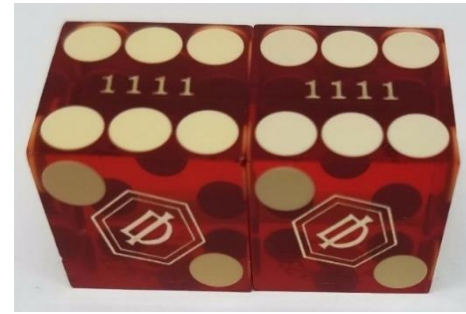
Early 1950's L1455 Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice R-7



Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice
 Early 1950's L1468 Numbered – DI 645 R-5
 Note the (=) Between Wilbur Clark's = Desert Inn

Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice
 Mid 1950's L1485 Sailboat R-8
 Extremely High Grade and Scarce

Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice
 Mid 1950's L1490 Boat Anchor R-8



1980's Desert Inn Country Club Dice – Matching 1111 Rare Number



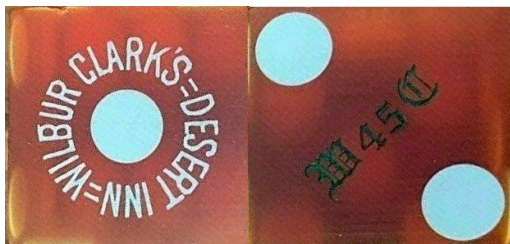
Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice
Mid 1950's Crown R-8

Undocumented in The Collector's Guide to Casino Dice



Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice
Mid 1950's L1473 Greyhound R-8

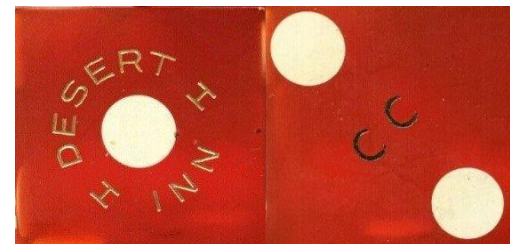
Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice
Mid 1950's Star R-8



Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice
1950's-1960's L1469 R-5



Wilbur Clark's Desert Inn Dice
1950's L4090 Emerald Green Bulls Eye R-9
5-6 Pair Known to Exist - The Gentry Collection



Howard Hughes Desert Inn Dice
1960's-1970's L1496 CC R-6

Las Vegas & Nevada 1930-Present

Rare & Original Casino Dice

The Gentry Collection houses some of the rarest casino dice in the world. History captured in scarce items protected by museums and private collections. The following are considered some of the most choice of all Las Vegas collectible dice.



Red Rooster Nite Club L2795 R-10
November 26, 1930-1933 Burned 1933-1946



The **Red Rooster Nite Club**, owned by Alice Morris was popular in the 1930s. The one-story, Spanish Mission-style building had a stage for a singer and orchestra, a dance floor and a restaurant. Awarded one of the first gaming licenses on April 1, 1931 it was raided for selling illegal Prohibition era liquor.

The early 1930s Rooster image only variant preceded the LAS VEGAS * NEV * wording addition and is an irreplaceable piece of Las Vegas gaming history.

1938-1946 LAS VEGAS * NEV * Variant
Bill Judge



Meadows Casino L4240 Ring Eye R-10
May 2, 1931-1931 Burned 1931-1942
Museum Quality



The **Meadows Country Club Casino** was also approved on April 1, 1930 for an early issue gaming license. Larger and more elaborate than other clubs it featured performers such as the Gumm Sisters that included Judy Garland in a New York/Hollywood style floorshow aptly called the "Meadows Revue".

Most dice of the period were solid pip only making these Ring Eye examples from the Meadows Casino extremely rare especially in high grade condition.

1931-1942 Meadows Casino, Solid Pip Variant
Joe Pavlik



Apache Club Café & Casino L1072 R-10
March 19, 1932-1941
Museum Quality



The **Apache Hotel & Casino** was at once a communal café, bar and restaurant in downtown Las Vegas. It evolved into SS Rex, Rex, Eldorado and Horseshoe. The Apache had the first elevator and fully carpeted casino. On 12/22/1944 the Meadows Casino owner rented the Apache casino creating the SS REX/Rex.

1946 Rex Solid PIP Variant
The Gentry Collection
R-10

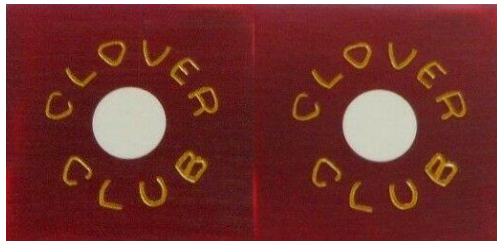


Las Vegas & Nevada 1930-Present

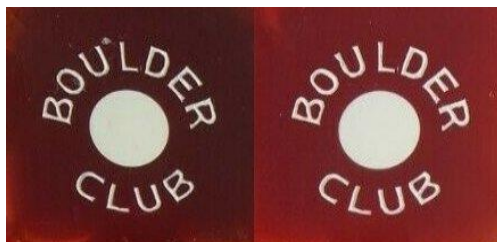
Rare & Original Casino Dice



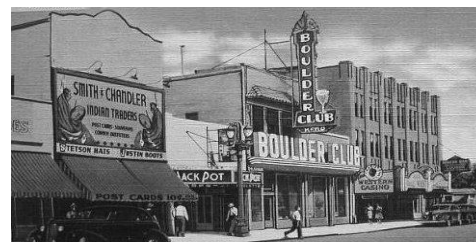
S.S. REX L-3216 Solid PIP R-10
March 3, 1945-Feb 7, 1946



Clover Club R-10
January 1, 1951-August 14, 1951



Boulder Club L1202 R-7
July 27, 1929-1960



The **S.S. REX** lived eleven months, the REX only four as primers for the 1947 Eldorado Club casino at Second and Fremont streets in downtown Las Vegas. Tony Cornero, a one-time 1920s bootlegger from California and his partners rented a large portion of the Apache Hotel and opened the S.S. Rex in 1945.

In 1951, Benny Binion would consolidate the Eldorado Club and Apache Hotel building space into his new Binion's Horseshoe Casino.

1947-1951 Eldorado Club L2669 Variant
The Gentry Collection



R-9

The **Clover Club** existed a mere seven months as the distressed successor to the Eldorado Club and brief predecessor of Benny Binion's Horseshoe Casino. Opening on New Year's Day 1951 the club was fraught with legal contention between the operators and the Silvagni family, founders of the Apache Hotel.

By mid-February the club closed for several weeks as the landlord and the lessees filed lawsuits. Even then the club was the bond between two famous casinos and these dice are especially rare.

1951 Clover Club Las Vegas L1418 Variant
The Gentry Collection



R-9

The **Boulder Club** was one of the first gambling halls on Fremont Street and the first to have a neon sign designed, the first neon sign created by YESCO. The Boulder Club was adjacent the Apache Hotel & Bar and Eldorado Casino.

A \$200,000 blaze swept through the second floor of the Boulder Club in 1956 as thousands of people lined Fremont Street to watch firemen save the city's then oldest gambling establishment from complete destruction.

1931-1960 Las Vegas Color L1212 Variant
The Gentry Collection



R-8

Las Vegas & Nevada 1930-Present

Rare & Original Casino Dice



Arizona Club R-10
1905-1942



The Gentry Collection includes items from the world class collections of:

Diana Hirst – Dice Bill Eichhorn – Dice
John Bittel – Dice Steve Clark – Chips
Mike Prero – Matchbooks Darrell Luedtke – Tokens

The **Arizona Club**, built in 1905 at 219 North First Street (Fremont) in what became known as the infamous Block 16 due to persistent local prostitution. In 1912, when the Arizona Club was sold, the new owner built a second floor bordello. The downstairs saloon became known as the "Queen of Block 16."

During the thirteen years known as Prohibition, until the law was repealed in 1933, the saloons on Block 16 operated and sold alcoholic drinks in secret as did other so-called "speakeasies" around the United States.

This was the Granddaddy saloon/bar of early Las Vegas lore. The real deal.



Northern Club R-9
April 1, 1920-1942
Museum Quality

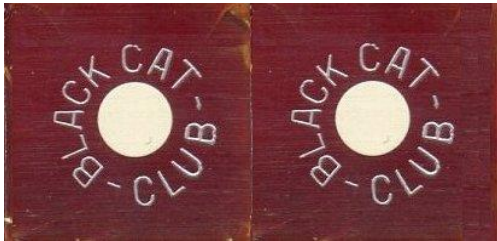


The **Northern Club**, was built in 1912 at 15 East Fremont and opened in 1913 as the Las Vegas Coffee House. In 1920 co-owner Mayme Stocker renamed it the Northern Club, offering liquor and gambling when both were illegal during Prohibition. Originally a soft drink emporium, "Northern" was a code word among railroad and mine workers for an establishment serving alcohol.

After the March 19, 1931 legalization of gaming in Nevada, the Northern Club received the first gaming license in Las Vegas and Mayme Stocker became the first woman to receive a lawful casino license on March 20, 1931.

Las Vegas & Nevada 1930-Present

Rare & Original Casino Dice



Black Cat Club/Inn L1151 R-9
1931-1942



1944-1960 Saddle Club Variant
The Gentry Collection



R-8



Bar of Music L1112 R-10
1948-1949

Pristine - Likely the Finest Pair That Exist



The **Bar of Music** run by Bob & Doris Lawrence opened at 3415 S. 5th Street (Highway 91) March 17, 1948. The club, a dine and dance, promised chicken and steak until one was full. It stayed in business from 3/1948 until 3/1949.

The club was Bon Aire Club 1945/46, Mondorey 1/8/47, Blue Heaven 9/8/47 and the Club Copa 3/1949. Al Cooper's Beachcomber was planned for 1951, but the club never opened and it evolved and expanded into Casino Royale.



1945-1946 Bon Aire Club L1153 R-10



1947 Mondorey Club R-10

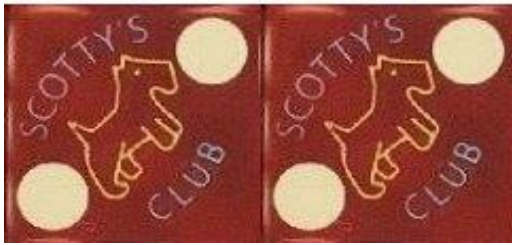


21 Club R-10
October 30, 1942-1957

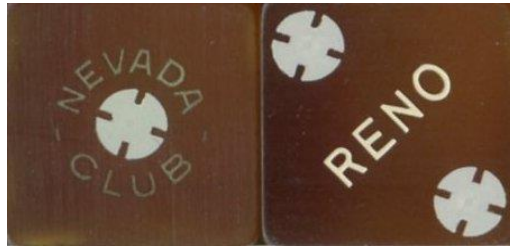


The **21 Club, Hotel Last Frontier** evolved from the Pair-O'-Dice Club, the first nightclub on Highway 91, the Las Vegas Strip. The Pair-O'-Dice was renamed to Ambassador Night Club by 1936. It was sold to become the 91 Club in 1939. Due to limited WWII supplies the building/casino was incorporated into the design of the Last Frontier resort in 1942 as the Carrillo Room and Club "21".

The Gay 90's bar inside the Last Frontier used the antique 40 foot mahogany bar with French beveled glass from the Arizona Club on Fremont Street. The hotel featured acts before they were famous like Liberace in the 1940's and Elvis Presley in the 1950's. The 21 Club preserved a part of original Las Vegas.



1954-1967 Scotty's Club S1573B R-9



1946-50's Nevada Club Amber/Green Maltese R-9



1958-59 Bird Cage L1149 Ring Eye R-9



1958-59 Desert Spa L1312 R-10



1948-1954 Hacienda Club L2064 R-10



1960-1971 Maverick Club R-9



1946-1970 Flamingo Tri-color L1758 R-8



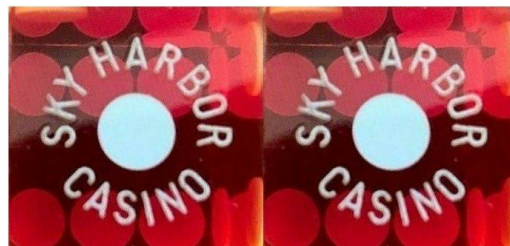
1948-1976 Thunderbird L2296 R-9



1942-1954 Hotel Last Frontier L4210 Bulls Eye R-8



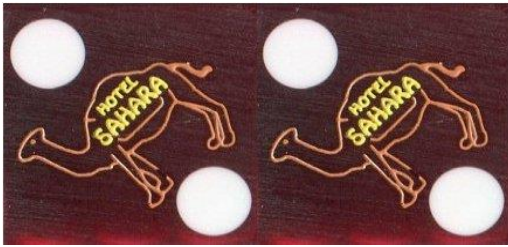
1946-1970 Flamingo Golden Tri-color L4126 R-8



1947-1954 Sky Harbor Casino R-10



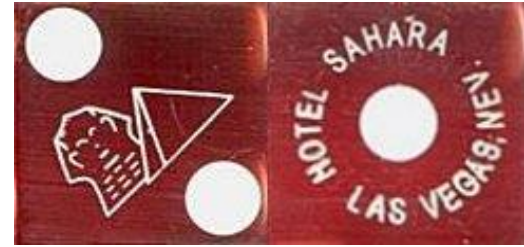
1942-1954 Hotel Last Frontier L2425+ Combo Bird's Eye R-10



1952-1959 Hotel Sahara L2920? Camel R-8



1952-1959 Hotel Sahara L2920 Nomad R-9



1952-1959 Hotel Sahara Sphinx Pyramid R-8



1950's Dunes L4096 Standing Sultan R-8



1950's Dunes Standing Sultan L1318 R-9



1950's Dunes L1558 Two Color Variant R-8



1977-1979 El Inca Casino L1358 R-9



1956 Dunes Sultan On The Strip L1551 R-7



1951-1953 Hotel Shamrock Casino L3052 R-9



1946-1970 California Club L1299 Bulls Eye R-7



1946-1970 California Club L1300 Golden Bulls Eye R-8



1946-1970 California Club Phil Long's Running Mouse R-7



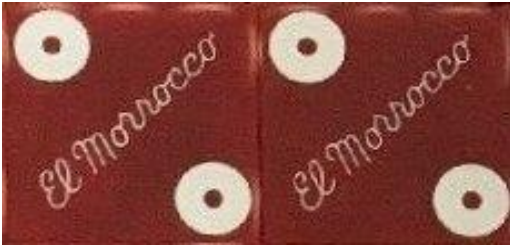
1960-1964 Royal Casino L2887 Blue Crown R-9



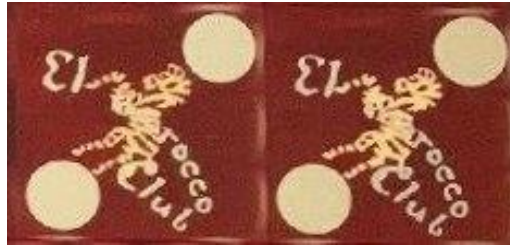
1960's The Castaways L1366 St. Patrick's Day R-9



1948-1980 Roadside Inn / Mom's Place ST2555B R-8



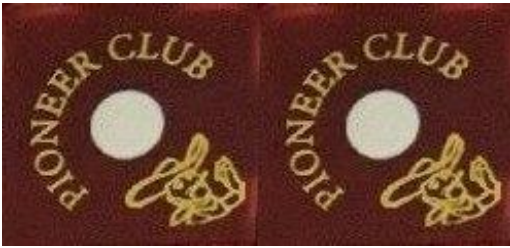
1945-1958 El Morrocco Club L1639 Ring Eye Error



1945-1958 El Morocco Club L1641 Zebra Variant R-9



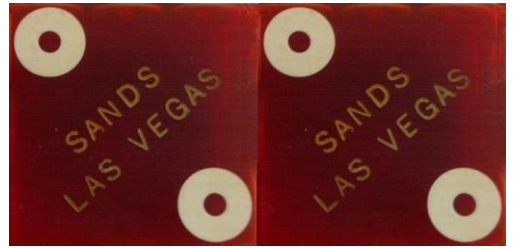
1965 Vic's Jolly Jug L2306 R-9



1950's Pioneer Club Early Variant



1950's Circus Circus L1397 Golden Bulls Eye



1952-1996 Sands Las Vegas Ring Eye Sm Font R-7



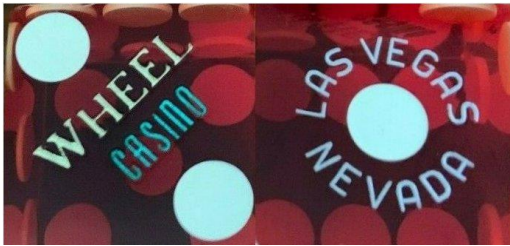
1942-1995 Pioneer Club Quad-color



1950's Carousel Emerald Green Variant



1937-1953 Ta Neva Ho T1368



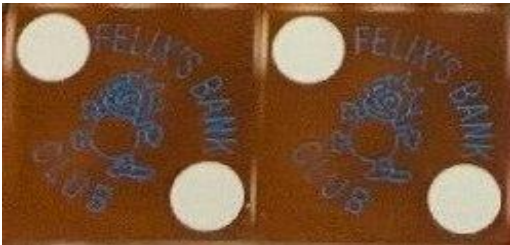
1974-1975 Wheel Casino L3490 R-9



1950's Bank Club Emerald Green STB6



1955-1967 New Frontier L2627 R-8



1960's Felix's Bank Club Golden Variant



1954-1964 El Rio Club L1695 Bulls Eye R-9



1946- Golden Nugget L1971 Original Sign Bird's Eye R-8



Stateline Wendover NV ST2688 Emerald Green R-8



1948-1982 Stateline Casino Wendover NV R-7



Stateline Wendover Will ST2662A R-8



1960's Aladdin "ALADIN" Misspell Error



1970-1977 Jackpot Casino L2271 Emerald Green



1982 El Rancho Casino



1950's Joe W Brown's Horseshoe Club



1960's Bonanza L4042 Bulls Eye R-6



1950's El Rancho Vegas



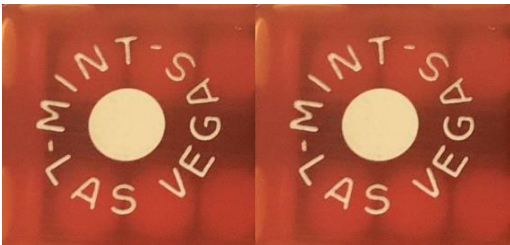
1977-78 20th Century Casino L1002



1960's-1970's Las Vegas Club



1970's Gambler's Hall of Fame L1925



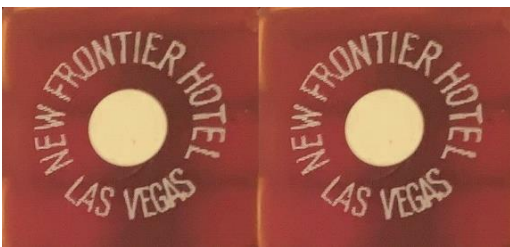
1957-1988 Mint - Las Vegas



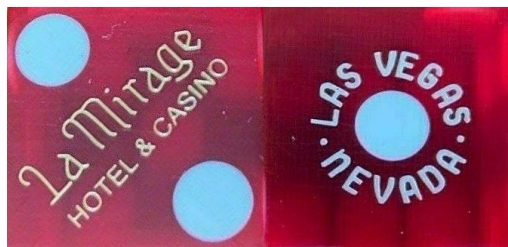
1970's Del Webb's Mint Hotel



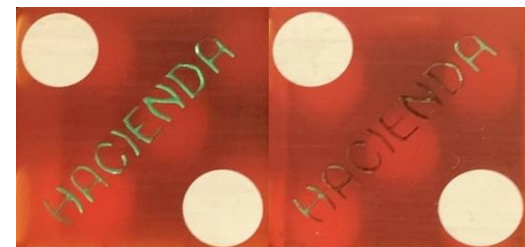
1950's El Cortez Hotel & Casino - Las Vegas



1955-1967 New Frontier Hotel



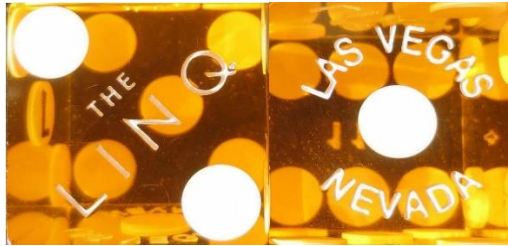
1986-1989 La Mirage Hotel & Casino L2332



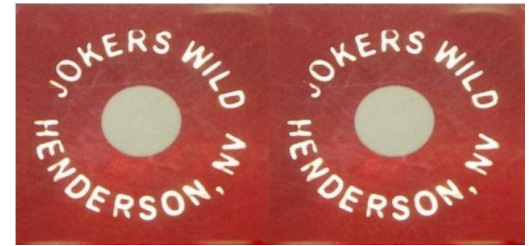
1960s Hacienda



1990 MGM Marina L2474



2014 The LINQ Golden #002 & #003
Grand Opening Week Only 10/30 – 11/7/2014



1993 Joker's Wild Henderson, NV



1984 Alhambra Casino - Aruba



Bally's Real Live Combo Bird's Eye #639



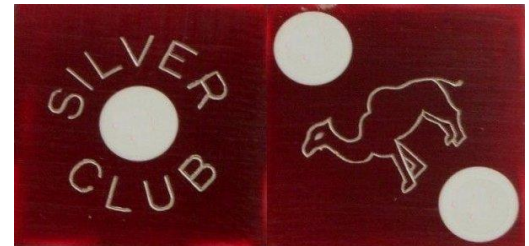
1956 Golden Gate Casino Combo Bird's Eye L1961



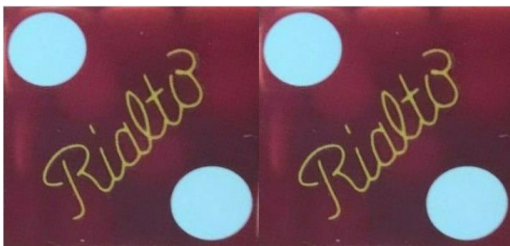
1950's Harrah's Club Ring Eye



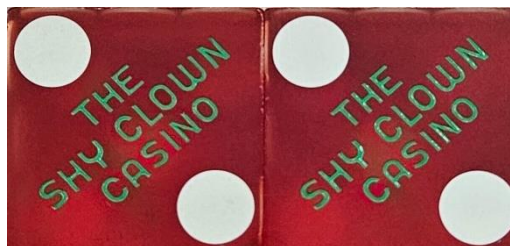
1992-1993 The Reel Deal L-2790 R-8



1932-1956 Silver Club L3109 R-8



1941-1945 Rialto Casino Elko NV ST2538 R-8



1972-1981 The Shy Clown R-8



1945-1955 Monte Carlo Club Bird's Eye L2554 R-8



1972 Sin-A-Bar Casino L3194 R-9



1972 Sin-A-Bar Casino Golden L4406 R-10



1946-1959 Cinnabar L4078 R-10



\$75,000 N8455 Golden Goose Casino \$5 Chip



The Gentry Collection Replica Example



Golden Goose Casino, 1975-1980

Herb Pastor bought the closed Mecca Slots casino at 20 Fremont St, and opened the Golden Goose. From a 2019 Interview with Pastor:

"I responded to an ad in the Wall Street Journal in late '74 and signed an agreement to purchase the location from Sylvia Sirotta in '74. I didn't get a gaming license until 5/75. It took at least three to six months for the Gaming Commission Investigators for complete their work and for the applicant to be summoned to appear before the Nevada Gaming Control Board.

I opened for business in 6/75 with an 'experienced' slot manager from a major strip casino. The GCB required me to employ someone who knew the slot business more than me.

Just one day after the Goose was installed atop the casino sign, it flew its coop. The Goose toppled off its ledge, falling to the ground, smashing a car parked at the curb. It [nearly] killed or maimed a couple people on the sidewalk. Luckily no one was hurt.

Within a week I knew my slot manager would lead me down a slippery slope into oblivion. I fired him, closed the Golden Goose for a couple weeks and reconfigured the entire joint to meet my image of what I thought it could be.

I re-opened on the weekend of 7/4/75 to what was called the worst flood in Las Vegas history. A monsoon flood caused me to pile sandbags two feet high along the full entranceway to the Golden Goose. Acquiring walk-by customers was a trick in itself since few folks opted to walk in the rain and even fewer were agile enough to hop over the sandbags. Yet, once the rain stopped the money poured in."

The lone Golden Goose blackjack table was only open between March 1976 and August 1977. When it closed all the chips went away. The original top hat mold design Golden Goose \$5 chip above is the most expensive casino gaming chip in the world. This chip, the only one known to exist, sold for \$3000 in the mid 1990's and \$75,000 in 2014.



Reverse

1975 Golden Goose Slot Token



1979 Golden Goose Slot Token

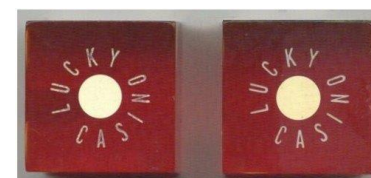
Original Tokens – The Gentry Collection



\$52,500 1963 N4020 Lucky Casino \$5 Chip



1963 N1883 Lucky Casino \$1 Chip
The Gentry Collection



1966 Lucky Casino Dice

Lucky Casino, 1963-1967

The Lucky Casino was open at 117 E. Fremont St. from 1963 to 1967.

The Lucky Casino opened on May 6, 1963 after a four-month remodeling job in the former Lucky Strike Club location. The remodeling included a new second-story bingo parlor and the city's only escalator

Al Garbian was the general manager of Lucky Casino at the time of its opening. He was born Nov. 6, 1912, in New York City and raised in Southern California. His career included being an executive in the early days of the Sahara, Fremont, Aladdin, Hacienda and California hotels. Garbian opened the Lucky Strike downtown in 1954 with Milton Prell's Prewin Foundation and owned the Carousel in the early 1970s. He lived in Las Vegas for 54 years before passing away there Feb 21, 2001.

The all new Lucky Casino's grand opening celebration was held on Thursday, May 16, 1963. There were cash prizes totaling more than \$10,000 and grand prize of \$1000 which was awarded on May 29, 1963. When the 17 story tall Lucky Casino sign was erected by the Young Electric Sign Company in 1963 it weighed in at 60 tons, had three miles of neon tubing and more than 11,000 lamps.

When the Lucky Casino closed in 1967 it was merged into the Golden Nugget Casino.

In June, 2014 the two most valuable and extremely rare collectible casino gaming chips in the world were sold through an open auction during the Casino Chip & Gaming Token Collectors Club Convention in Las Vegas. The first happened to be the Golden Goose \$5 chip shown previously and this blue and yellow Lucky Casino \$5 H mold chip sold for \$52,500.

Only two examples of the casino's rare \$5 gaming chip are known to exist.



1966 N1884 Lucky Casino Token & Roulette Chips
The Gentry Collection



Original 1965 Harrah's Proof-like Limited Edition \$1 Slot Token (Franklin Mint)
The Gentry Collection



Harrah's Casino, Reno & Lake Tahoe 1937-2020

In 1937, William Harrah, a young California businessman, opened a bingo parlor in Reno, Nevada. The venture quickly failed, but Harrah was persistent, opening another parlor closer to the action in the heart of Reno's downtown. Harrah's was born and quickly expanded.

By 1964 the price of silver had increased enough to make silver dollars more valuable than face value. People were taking the silver dollars out of the casinos faster than the casinos could replenish them. By the summer of 1964, the U.S. Treasury was running out of the bags of silver dollars that it had stored since the 1880's. With the last shipment of one million coins to Harold's Club in 1964, the treasury shopped all shipments.

Desperate to find a replacement for the silver dollars that had long been in use on gaming tables, the casinos went to great lengths to stop customers from walking out with the coins. Harrah's Club intentionally defaced bags of dollars in hopes of discouraging collectors. Harvey's Resort Hotel watched as the daily loss of coins went from 25,000 pieces per day to 45,000. Both Harvey's and Harrah's had to finally stop the use of dollar coins until replacements were found.

In 1965, Harrah's of Reno and Lake Tahoe, Nevada, was the first casino to adopt one dollar gaming tokens that were minted by the Franklin Mint. Eventually, by the end of 1965 other casinos followed suit. The first 1965 Harrah's tokens were produced with no dates and a special logo for the Franklin Mint. All sets following 1965 were to carry the year date on the token.

"Proof-like" tokens are limited edition versions made by the mint for collectors/presentation, they are usually identical to the casino's regular strike version, except that they are struck with a highly polished/reflective finish and produced in very limited quantities.

This token is larger, 39mm than the standard 37mm diameter \$1 token (standard \$1 slot size from 1965-2000s), heavier at 0.9 ounce versus the standard 0.7 ounce and made from solid Franklinium I, a cupro-nickel columbium alloy mixture. Only the original Harrah's token is made of Franklinium I, a highly magnetic material. All other tokens were made of Franklinium II, a non-magnetic material.



1948 N5136 Chip



1960 N6597 Chip R-6



1960 N7150 Chip R-7



1968 N8540 Chip R-9



1968 N5141 Chip



1970s N5753 Chip R-6

The Gentry Collection



Binion's Horseshoe Club
1986 24K Gold Inlay \$100 Token

.999 Silver Limited Edition Tokens



Benny Binion's Horseshoe Club, 1951

In 1951, the larger than life Texan, Benny Binion having gotten a taste of gaming in Las Vegas as a partner of Kell Houssels, Sr. bought the Eldorado Club and renamed it the Horseshoe Club.

Breaking with the traditional "sawdust joint" interior, Binion installed carpet. The Binion family went to work to make the new Horseshoe Club the go to casino on Fremont Street. Benny's wife Teddy Jane handled the books while sons Jack and Ted worked the casino floor. Benny and Doby "Doc" Cahill were good buddies and could often be found eating the Shoe's famous chili in the coffee shop at lunchtime.

In 1953, the Feds got him for tax related problems. Before "he went to college" (the local speak for him doing jail time), Benny sold the Horseshoe to Joe W. Brown. While Binion was in prison, Joe W Brown had his own name put on the facade though everyone knew that when he got released Benny would buy back the Horseshoe.

Benny was away at "college" for four years, and when he returned he bought back ownership in the Horseshoe. Although it would be 1964 before he fully acquired 100% of it. He removed Joe W. Brown's name from the front and hired YESCO to design a neon facade for the building.

In 1970, Benny made the news again by hosting the first World Series of Poker event. Unlike today's tournament, this was a small, but very elite group of poker players who made their living at playing the game professionally.

Benny also encased \$1 million dollars in an over-sized horseshoe and put it on public display. People came from around the world to have their pictures taken standing next to the display.



1950's/60's Binion's Horseshoe Club L2210 Dice

1954 N0345
\$100 Chip

1984 N1763
\$100 Chip



1953 N0384
25 cent Chip

1950s N1775
25 cent Chip

1989 N9979
\$100 Chip

1984 V4645
\$500 Chip



1953 V2814
\$5 Chip

1951 N0365
\$25 Chip

1980's V4648
\$1000 Chip

1980's E7175
\$5000 Chip

Mac's Reno, NV 1950-1951



Reverse

N7397 – 1950 R-9

V4782 – 1950 R-9

E7207 – 1950

V4783 - 1950 R-10

Mac's Cigar Aberdeen, WA N7598 - 1994

Jockey Club, NV 1974-1983

Casino Never Approved/Opened (Turf Club Closed 1998)



N1805.S \$1

N1804 \$5

N1803 \$25

N0879 \$100

N0886 \$500

N1039 \$500

Golden Slot Club Casino 1955-1958



N8474 - 10 Cents



N1734 - 25 Cents



N1735 - 5 Dollars



N6768 - 25 Dollars



1956 Golden Slot Club Dice

Diamond Jim's Casino, Jackpot, NV 1960-1964



N3728 - 1960 R-4



N8152 - 1964 R-5



E0335 - 1964



N3697 - 1964 R-5



N3793 - 1960



N8153 - 1960



N8154 - 1960



N8155 - 1960



E0336 - 1960

Lilly Belle's Casino 1992-1994, CO



1992 #97 \$1
5320 Prod R-1



1992 #69 \$5
727 Prod R-3



1992 #1055 \$25
45 Prod R-6



1992 #2089 \$1 Token
700 Prod R-3



1993 #2090 \$5 Token
133 Prod R-5



1992 CC & GTCY's
Chip of the Year 1992



Club Royale Cruise Ship 1995, Riviera Beach, FL July 1 - August 2, 1995 - Lost at Sea



1995 \$1



1995 \$2.50



1995 \$5



1995 \$25



1995 \$100



1995 \$500



Bally's Park Place
Atlantic City, NJ



1950's Plantation Casino
Hallandale, FL - Illegal



Red Dolly Casino \$1
1992 Black Hawk, CO



Red Dolly Casino \$5
1992 Black Hawk, CO



Artichoke Joe's
Chip of the Year 1991



The Teller House
Chip of the Year 1993



1948 Ta-Neva-Ho N6306 \$5
Lake Tahoe, NV



1960's Golden Nugget N1721



1984 Travelodge N2263



Hotel Thunderbird N2252

Hotel Thunderbird Dovetail Variants - Rare



1950's N3685 \$.50



1950's V5763 \$.50



1950's \$.50



1950's \$.50



1950's N2252.1 \$.50



1950's N2252 \$.50



1950's N3685 \$.50

Rare Error Casino Chips



Klondike Casino \$1
Thunder Bay, Ontario
\$25, \$1000, \$5000 Overprint



Harvey's Wagon Wheel
1992
Caesar's Palace Overprint



**Klondike Casino \$5
For Reference Only**



There are almost an endless array of casino tokens minted since 1965 and the move away from silver dollars. Here are a few noteworthy examples. These examples are in addition to those listed in specific casino areas above.



Caesars Riverboat
Harrison County, IN



1967 Big Bonanza
Las Vegas Full Proof



1967 Harolds Club \$5
Las Vegas Error Full Proof



1967 Harolds Club \$5
Reno Location Mint

Reverse

