

## THE ANTIQUE DETECTIVE

Anne Gilbert



### Late Victorian Era Focused On Surface Decoration

From pattern glass to painted china and every object used in daily life, the emphasis in American design from 1870 to 1900 was decorative surfaces. Artists and craftsmen treated surfaces of china, wood, and silver as if they were a canvas.

Among the many influences

were the bright nature themes from Japan. Colorful motifs included sunflowers, vines, birds, and seashells. It was quite a transition from the heavy, dark interiors of the mid-19th century. Although it is known as the "aesthetic movement" many of the design elements spilled over into the later arts and crafts movement. It has all been put together in the recently opened exhibition, "On the Surface: Late 19th Century Decorative Arts" at Charlotte, N.C.'s Mint Museum of Art.

"The late Victorian style was not so much one of form, but rather of decoration, ornamentation, and embellishment," said Dr.

Barbara Perry, Mint curator of decorative arts.

Among the many design influences of this eclectic period were Gothic, Greek Islamic, and Japanese. The latter being the most popular.

**CLUES:** Shapes became more angular, smoother, and less flamboyant. The once popular use of carvings and deep modeling was replaced with more linear and light decorations.

One of the most lasting and popular examples is American cut glass.

Interest began at the 1876 Centennial Exposition where several American glass companies showed their new design concepts. Along with their displays of clear and colored glass that was etched, cut engraved, molded, blown and pressed, was "rich-cut glass" known today as brilliant-cut glass. At the time it was introduced the pieces were mainly used for decorative purposes, not for daily use.

Hundreds of patterns were introduced from 1876 until it temporarily went out of fashion by the end of World War I. In the late 1970s it was being eagerly sought and collected.

Today signed pieces by quality glassmakers in the most intricate patterns can sell for more than \$3,000.

Because trademarks were often

acid-etched into the glass they are hard to spot.

Over the years patterns and designs changed. Each of the designs had a name, not necessarily in keeping with the actual design. There are many books on cut-glass patterns showing patterns and names.

Furniture designed during this period often used marquetry. It was in a variety of materials from colored woods, ivory, mother-of-pearl, thin sheets of metal and other precious materials. Often elaborate marquetry motifs included floral and nature subjects.

Ebonized wood, (wood that has been blackened) usually of cherry, showed off the marquetry designs. Gilding was also popular.

If you come across a chair with visible tack heads, they were often part of Modern Gothic design pieces. Other metal decorations used



Sultana punch bowl, c. 1898, is cut lead glass. Photo by Mint Museum, Charlotte, N.C.

used bronze, silver and nickel treated to look like brass and cut into various shapes and motifs, applied to the surface with brads or tacks.

If an object at first glance appears to be Japanese, a closer look may prove it to be late Victorian with Japanese influence. Known as "Japonism", furniture, silver, and painted china adapted Japanese motifs. A good example are the dragons used frequently by Rookwood pottery painters.

To learn more, send for the well-illustrated catalog, "On The Surface: Late Nineteenth Century Decorative Arts." The cost is \$25 plus shipping charges. Mail your order to Gift Shop, Mint Museum 2730 Randolph Road, Charlotte, NC 28207. Or E-mail SFisher@MintMuseum.Org.

The exhibition runs from now through August 12th.

### COLLECTIBLES • COLLECTIBLES PUBLIC AUCTION

SAT., JULY 14, 2001  
8:30 A.M.

Location: Kreamer Fire Hall on Rt 522 between Selinsgrove and Middleburg, PA From Williamsport, take Rt 11 & 15 South to Rt 522 S From Harrisburg, take Rt 11 & 15 North to Rt 104N to Rt 522N to town of Kreamer.

Hall Trees, Cedar Chest, Wooden Rocking Chair, Chest Of Drawers, Sm Blanket Chest, Quilts, Magazine And Other Wooden Stands, Kero Heater, Wash Stands, Sm Platform Scale, (15) Jardiniere, TINS: Heinz-Ideal-Maxwell House Coffee, Half & Half-Prince Albert-Raleigh Tobacco, Spice & Medicine, Beavertown Chip - Charles Chips, Pretzels & Cookie Cans; Bear Bank (No Lid), Graniteware, Straight Razors, Razor Strap, Baskets, Punch Bowl Set, Nascar Poster And TV Guide/Dale Earnhardt, Hershey's Fireman Parade Glass Mugs 1980-1992, Hand Crank Ice Crusher, MILK BOTTLES: Fisher's Dairy, Selinsgrove Dairy, Cara Farms, Ziwe's Dairy, Locust Lane Farms, Valley Farms And Blen Lock, SODA BOTTLES: Cloverdale, Upper 10, Big Bens, Hires, Catawissa, RC, Sanders, Ginger Ale And Pepsi, COKE: Sunbury, Williamsport And 32 Other States/Bottles - Bear - Cardboard Straw Box/Straws - Tin - Sign - Ice Pick - Brass Bottle Opener And Bottle Lighter, Flat & Sad Irons, Finger Lamps Matchbox Holder, Wooden Hat Stretcher, Oyster Cans, Winross PA House Trucks, 1992-1996, Big A Wrecker Bank, Ertl Turkey Hill And U S Universal Suppliers Trucks, Painted Milk Cans, Buffalo Pottery, Powder Jar, Shoe Bows, 85 Salt Cocks (Some Redware), Keystone 6 With Handles, Hawthorne Blue #2, JH - A M - A G C Dipple, Cowden Crocks & Jugs, Porcelain Ironstone - Depression Glass Candy Dishes, Spoon Holder, Sugars, Creamers (1 White Iris), Veg Bowls, Glass Baskets/App'l Handles, Bavarian, Derfts, Austria, Salt Dips, Compotes, Glass Water Bucket & Coal Bucket Sets, Cut Glass Sugar & Creamer Sets, Berry Bowls, 125 Toothpick Holders - Moon & Star, Button & Bow, Cut Glass, Heisey, Fenton Cats, Stumps Run & Ben Smith Plates, Cruets, Lenox Vase, PSSA-IOOF-LOOM-PO of A pins & ribbons, Shirley Temple Pitchers, Cups & Bowl, CHILDREN'S: Wooden High Chair, Youth Chair, Wicker Baby Carriage, Rocking Chairs, Western Clipper Sled, Games, Chalkboard, Tom Thumb Cash Register, Noise Makers, Books, Viewmaster, Record Player & Records, Iron & Iron Board, Rollfast Girl's Bike, Doll: Clothes - Bed, Metal House/Furniture And Cradle, Davol Glass Baby Bottles, Western Metal Train Engine, Lennon Sisters Paper Dolls, Metal Jacks, Hand Crank Metal Chicken, Mechanical Picnic Bear Plus Much More; Nickel Over Brass Sleigh Bells; Lanterns; 1 & 2 Man Saws; Wooden Planes, Meat Saw, Wapak #6, Wapak/Indian #6, Griswold #7 & #8; Monarch Push Grass Cutter (Nice); Ice Tongs; 1949 & 75 Fish Lic Buttons, 1907-18-56 Dog Tags; Butcher Knives - Ladle - Strainer And Fork, Hay Rake, Scythe, Copper Ford Oil Can Dated 1908; Ford Emerg. Kit Tin, Brass Blow Torch; Ira Lepley - Mattern Hatchery - Wilhard Shaffer - Wayne Feed - Erdleys Funeral Plus More Adv. Items; Coffee Grinder, 1858 Parasole; Trombone; Plus Much More.

Cash or Good PA Check No Out Of State Checks

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### EDWARD MILLER AUCTION SERVICE

60 COOKIE JARS, HUMMELS, TOYS,  
PFALTZGRAFF, NORMAN ROCKWELL, OIL  
LAMPS, 60 COLLECTOR PLATES,  
50 STONWARE CROCKS & JUGS,  
COLLECTIBLES, ANTIQUE FURNITURE  
DATE: JULY 8, 2001 1:00 PM

LOCATION: Nashville Fire Co Nashville PA.

DIRECTIONS: From I-83 York Pa Take Rt-30 West Follow Toward Gettysburg To A L/T On Rt-116 West Follow To Firehall On Right (Watch For Signs) 1-717-600-1225

#### ANTIQU FURNITURE

2 highboy victrolas, lowboy victrola, oak flat wall china, solid cherry sleigh style bed, 8 pc white wicker set, ratan couch & chair, Hubley cap & gun light, 2 old Force balance scales w/trays & wts Davis portable sewing machine w/oak cover, 2 old child's school desks, solid oak night stand Other furniture are not mentioned

#### TRAINS TOYS DOLLS

Many Collectible Toy, Hubley Cast & Tin, Wyandotte, Tootsie, Matel, Ertl, Buddy L, Match Box, Nylint, Tonka, Winn Ross, Old Tin Toys, Tin Trucks, 2 Hubley Cast Iron Race Car Hubley Tin Truck Too Many To Mention, Hubley Cap Guns, Old Board Games, Rubber Toys, Many Other Cap Guns, Plastic Toys, Walt Disney Toys, Tin Wind Up Toys Buddy L School Bus And Others, Hess Trucks, Ertl Truck And Banks, LGB Train Sets, Old Train Tracks, #10 Dolls Plastic, Porcelain, Ceramic Old Dolls Composition, Hook & Ladder Trucks, Large Train Set & Track, Most All Toys Have Boxes Original, Many Many Many Others Not Mentioned Info Please Call

#### 2:30 COOKIE JARS 2:30

App 60 Cookie Jars, Names Pfaltzgraff, McCoy, Shawnee, American Bisque, Hoegai, Treasure Craft, Sierra Vista, Devine, To Mention Some Jim Beam Fox C J, California Org Cookie Monster And Sitting Turtle, Pfaltzgraff Cookie Time No Lid, Also Pfaltzgraff Mugs Handsome Herman, Cocktail Charlie, Ash Tray, Pretzel Bar Tender, White & Black Seals, Clown Cookie Jars, Bears, Buses, Pigs, Dogs, Black Mammy, Lions, Elephants, Keebler Tree House, Butter Churn, Squirrels, Indian Head, Bee Hive Cookie Jars Too Many To Mention Cookie Jars Will Be Sold In Numerical Order Any Questions Please Call 1-717-600-1225

#### STONWARE, CROCKERY, REDWARE, JUGS

App. 50 Assorted Sizes Batter Crocks, Pickle Crocks, Kraut Crocks, Whiskey Jugs, Sugar Crocks, Miniatures, Glazed Pitchers, Roseville, Satsuma, Stoneware Butter Churns, To Name A Few, 5 Gal PF Craft, 2 Gal, Whiskey Jugs Blue Decor, Pfaltzgraff 8 Gal, 3 Gal, 1 Gal, And Other Blue Decorated Crocks, Bennington 8" Bowl, And Bennington Tea Pot And 7 Pc Benn Cider Get, Redware Turk Heads Mold, Sponge & Spatterware, Bennington Brown Glazed, Spittoon, Minter Whiskey Jug, Historic York White Rose City, Satsuma Vases And Budda Whiskey Jug, E S B&N Crock Mutigazed Pitchers & Others Too Many To Mention For More Info Call 1-717-600-1225

#### OIL LAMPS, COLLECTOR PLATES

App: 35 Old Oil Lamps, Pedalstool, Bracket, Finger, Many Patterns, App 60 Collector Plates, Hummels Years 1972, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, And Other Hummel Figures, Norman Rockwell And Schmid W Germany, Bing & Grandshl, Too Many Years & Name To Mention Most All Have Original Boxes. For Info: 1-717-600-1225

**AUCTIONEERS NOTE:** Sandy & Luther Marks Have Collected, Bought & Sold Antiques For Over 25 Years This Sale Is One Of Two Sales Being Held. The Other Being Held On Site On July 21st. Sale Bills To. Follow In Both Sale Many Items are Duplicated And All In Very Good Shape Hope To See You All There. New Items Not Mentioned Being Found Daily Door Open At 11 00 Sun July 8th Call For Info 1-717-600-1225

SALE FOR:

SANDY & LUTHER MARKS

Auctioneer:  
Edward E. Miller Auction Service  
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(717) 600-1225

York, PA.

### PUBLIC AUCTION

JOHN M. HESS AUCTION SERVICE, INC.  
ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES,  
& FURNITURE

MON., JULY 9, 2001  
2:30 PM

Location: Wolgemuth Auction Center 109 N Maple Ave., Leola, PA 17540

**Antiques & Collectibles:** Four train sets, including 1930's Lionel (249 engine & 5 cars) excellent condition in boxes, American Flyer, Santa Fe, Commodore Vanderbilt, Marx Diesel, large Weller jardiniere, several Roseville vases, nouveau style Weller vase, early candelabras, 125 pc. sterling silver flatware set, many sterling silver objects, including Tiffany & Kirk & Sons, Rosenthal nude, early art glass, large silver plate trays, cup & saucer collection, chicken collection, 2 motion lights, butter churn, early Disney items, including Mickey Mouse, peanut butter glasses, 40+ pieces of candlewick, pressed steel truck (Keystone Packard American Railway Express), Shirley Temple items, including creamer, bowl, & books, S&P collection, Aunt Jemima S&P & syrup, many paintings & prints, including oil on canvas, early and unusual Chinese and Japanese items, including Cloissine, 3 netsuke, Bronze statue, and other carved statues (jade, Bone, ivory and wood) small painted folk art container, cut & pressed glass, Depression glass, tin wind-up toys, German dishes, Vaseline glass, large 1800's camera, unusual hanging book shelf, decorative mirrors, 2 more dairy creamers, McCoy vase, yellowware mixing bowl, collectors plates & many items too numerous to mention!

**Furniture (6:30):** Mahogany bedroom suite, numerous unusual chests of drawers, drop-leaf tables, oak chest of drawers, marble top washstand, slant top desk, two section glass front stackable bookcase, mahogany dining room suite, rope bed, dovetailed blanket chest, mahogany china closet, numerous ornamental end tables, unusual small extension table, rocking chairs

**Auctioneer's Note: Cash or PA check! This is an exceptional collection of merchandise from 3 local estates.**

For more information & pictures, check our website at [www.hess-auction.com](http://www.hess-auction.com)

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