



## THE ANTIQUE DETECTIVE

Anne Gilbert



### Colorful Majolica Has Long History

There is Majolica that is currently popular with collectors, and there is "Maiolica," the earliest known form of this tin-glazed pottery.

A couple of decades ago it was Maiolica that brought the biggest price at auction. These days it is the 19th century Majolica that gets bidders' attention, with prices often running into the high thousands. However the more common-place forms such as jugs and candlesticks sell at auction for \$300 to \$700.

Historically the earliest pieces of Maiolica was made in Spain as early as the eighth century. By the 12th century it appeared all over Italy. By the 19th century Majolica was made in England, France Germany and America. It differed in appearance from the earlier Maiolica using brightly colored, heavy white earthenware with embossed nature motifs.

When you look at its prices today it is hard to believe that some of it was given as premiums in American grocery stores. On the other hand, in England, revered names like Wedgwood and Minton and Company created some Majolica masterpieces in everything from serving dishes to whimsical figurines, monumental vases, and urns.

In the late 1970s there were

few serious Majolica collectors. So out-of-fashion was it that some examples turned up at flea markets covered with white paint.

It was carefully removed by savvy collectors. Prices in those days for even unusual pieces were from five dollars to \$50 in American shops.

When Herbert Minton, of the long respected Minton pottery firm, first introduced his "imitation Majolica," at the English Great Exhibition of 1851, he acknowledged he had been influenced by the early Maiolica of the Italian Renaissance.

While there was interest in his works, it wasn't until other displays at such exhibitions as the 1853 New York Crystal Palace Exhibition, that Majolica caught on. From then on it was known as Victorian Majolica. With its bright, often gaudy colors and excess of motifs it was symbolic of the Victorian "design overkill." The perfect example were a pair of eight four-inch-high Majolica elephants made by Minto for the Paris exhibition of 1889.

Wedgwood, known for its classical subjects, monochrome decoration and low-relief ornaments in contrasting colors, began making Majolica by the 1860s. The colors of bright blues, greens, yellows, and browns were a radical change. Popular motifs, like those of Minton, were nature, oriental

and Egyptian motifs, historical and mythological. There were also the always popular sea creatures and shell motifs.

Staffordshire, Worcester, and former potters with Minton, such as George Jones, began making Majolica.

In America, Majolica was made from the late 1870s to 1900, when the public had tired of it and moved on to the newer craze of art pottery.

CLUES: The green English leaf plates and the fish form pitcher have been reproduced for many years. Since much Majolica has no maker's signatures, knowing glazes and forms is a help. Wedgwood had impressed marks. George Jones pieces, considered to be choice, can be recognized by their mottled green and brown glazed undersurface.

His thumbprint, is a clue, which left a white mark. A pat-

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Wedgwood Majolica jug from England, c.1867. Photo credit: Skinner Galleries, Boston, Mass.

## Public Auction

**SATURDAY  
AUGUST 16, 2003  
8:00 A.M.**

**ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES  
FURNITURE COINS GUNS PERSONAL PROPERTY**

**LOCATION:** 2818 Roundtop Road, Middletown, Londonderry Township, Dauphin Co., Pa. from Rt. 743 between Hershey & Elizabethtown near Country Meadows Restaurant - turn West onto Ridge Road at Crystal Pool sign and proceed 2 miles to 2nd stop sign. Right .6 mile on Steinruck Road to 4 way stop sign - left on Roundtop Road to 2nd farm on right.

Victorian jelly cupboard; Empire dresser; 2 pc. high dry sink; High leg china closet; Plank rocker; Small wooden desk; Depression cedar chest; Ash drop leaf ext. table w/4 boards; 3 section stackcase; Glass door store cabinet; Blind door corner cupboard; 4 pc. Depression bedroom suite; Oak S roll top desk; Ext. table w/6 boards; Victorian washstand; Double bed; 4 pc. cherry bedroom suite; New marble top table; Console stereo; Coffee/end tables; Player piano (no player); Kitchen table w/6 chairs; Hotpoint refrigerator; Auto washer and dryer; Hotpoint 40" elec. range; New platform rocker; Modern hutch; Small wooden desks; Upright freezer; Kenmore microwave; Pfaff sewing machine w/cabinet; Metal base cabinets; Cradle, 2 seat outhouse and other furniture.

(25) asst. crocks; (10) milk cans; Sleigh bells; Kerosene lamp; Tiger tobacco tin; Fromm, Hbg. & Conewago milk bottles; Cherry seeder; Iron shovels; Bupps dairy sign; Agate; Glass banks; Noritake; Cast iron dog; Salt box; Chicken on nest; Sno Crest bottles; Shawnee; Pictures; White House vinegar jugs; Peanut butter glasses; Stangle; Roseville; Glass candy containers; Longeberger baskets; Childrens toys; Marmalade jars; Bavaria chocolate pot; Satin gone with the wind lamp; Bear bank; **Glassware:** pressed & pattern, opalescent, Depression, colored, thistle vase, ruby berry set, vaseline, milk white, etc.; Assorted china; Hull; Squeak toys; 1900 Atlas (as is); Stuffed toys; Rolling pins; Egg scale; Tin ware; Dollies; McCormick & Buch sales catalogs; Adriance & Plano machinery catalogs; Ertl bank; Marble chaser; (6) Hess trucks; Canning jars; (2) mantle clocks; Express wagon; Sleds; Dinner bell w/tower; Buch #5 Farmers butcher furnace; (2) butcher kettles; Brinser grain cradle; Hand well pump; Childrens toys; Avon bottle; **Collectible dolls** including Effenbee, Madam Alexander, Precious Moments, Snow Bunnies, Cherished Teddies, Calico Kittens, etc.; (15) Ashton Drake dolls; Towels, bedding, material, handkerchiefs, etc.; Golden childrens books; Rockwell items; Puzzles; Cradle; Squeak toys and many other unlisted items.

**Guns - 12:00:** Rem. 12 ga. model 29 pump; Savage 222 bolt rifle w/4x12 scope; Standard Arms 35 cal. pump rifle; Mossberg 22 bolt; Crescent 12 ga. single shot; 12 ga. single shot.

**Coins - 8:00:** Barber, Mercury & Roosevelt dimes; 1797, 1829 & 1831 large cents; 1826 half cent; Liberty, Franklin & Kennedy halves; quarters, cents, nickels, Indian head cents; Austria and German Pfennigs; assorted foreign coins, etc.

TERMS: Cash or good local check. Buyers unknown to auctioneer or sellers must provide a current bank letter of credit. No out of state checks. **AUCTION ORDER:** 8:00 coins-box-lots-small items 12:00 guns 12:15 furniture followed by balance of small items - good mixture of merchandise throughout auction. Food and toilet facilities. Parking in field next to auction site. Inspection of items auction day only after 7:00 a.m.

and BLAINE RENTZEL - AUCTIONEER

**HARRY H. BACHMAN**  
AUCTIONEER  
2051 HORSESHOE PIKE  
ANNVILLE, PA 17003-8850  
(717) 867-1809

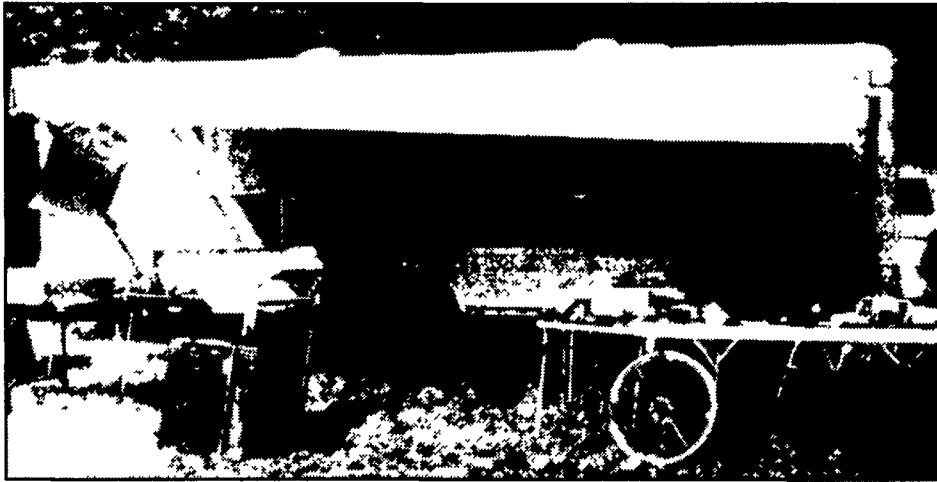
**Auction for  
Russell & Mary  
Shissler Estate**

PUBLIC LIQUIDATION AUCTION  
**BAUMGARTEN'S**  
1909-27  
MODEL  
**T**  
PARTS

## 10 A.M. SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 2003 RIDGE FIRE COMPANY

Along Rt. 23, between Phoenixville, PA & Rt. 100 West of Valley Forge. One hour North of Wilmington, DE or one hour South of Allentown, PA (3 miles East of Rt. 100)

PUBLIC LIQUIDATION AUCTION  
**BAUMGARTEN'S**  
1909-27  
MODEL  
**T**  
PARTS



After 44 consecutive years as a vendor at the AACA Hershey Show, John Baumgarten has (reluctantly) decided to liquidate his stock of new and N.O.S. Model "T" Ford parts. Also for sale is the custom-built Haulmark 22 ft. vending trailer that contains them. Additionally, we will load onto & into our 14 ft. super duty and open 20 ft. trailer as many used Model "T" parts as the tires will stand:

K.R. Wilson rear end dolly; Various tools; Frames; Front ends; Rear ends; Wheels & rims; Blocks; Short blocks; Heads; Manifold; Pistons; Valves; Carbs; Early & late quick-change bands; Hog's heads; Tranny parts; Early kero side & tail lights; Brackets; Windshields; Top bows; Starters & generators; Steel coil boxes; Old & new coils; High & low steel dashboards; Radiators back to brass; Steering wheels & col. assy.; Axles; R & P's; Mag. coils

(some rebuilt); Antique gasket display; Springs; Driveshafts; U-Joints; Floorboards & mats (new); Hasslers; Round & oval gas tanks; Jumbo trans.; Brake shoes; Elec. head lamps, etc. Various N.O.S. parts to be included!

In the 5-ton vending trailer is a \$40,000.00 inventory of brand new repro parts from radiator caps to spare tire covers. This is a rare opportunity for the "T" driver to stock up on mechanical parts for restoration or repair. Various & Sundry Ruxtell parts are available, as well as various & Sundry Speedster parts and Torpedo parts. Also selling books & pamphlets on Fords. Vending trailer will also be sold separately. We think the trailer contents will run to 500 lots, constituting a day of selling in itself. Two auctioneers may be selling in separate rings to complete the auction efficiently.

**Dealers: Bring your sales tax exemption number.  
No Buyer's Premium.  
Exhibition Friday, Noon till Five**

**TED MAURER (AU-000593-L)**

Successful Auction Management

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