Taking In The View: 19th-Century Stereoview Photographs

From Our Files

By Andrew Richmond

Stereoview photographs (also called stereoscopic photographs or stereographs) did not come into existence until the 1850s, but, as is often the case with scientific advancements, the imaginative vision that gave birth to them was in place years earlier, in this case more than 200 years earlier. As far back as the early 17th century, visionaries were marveling in imagination.

Dime Struck On A Nail Brings $42,300 At Auction

A singular and spectacular U.S. Mint error coin, a Roosevelt Dime struck on a zinc-coated six penny nail graded MS65 PCGS sold for $42,300 on Jan. 6, in Heritage Auctions’ Florida United Numismatists (FUN) U.S. Coins Signature Auction in Tampa, Fla. The pre-auction estimate on the “coin” was $10,000.

It was purchased by a prominent American collector of many kinds of collectibles across a wide range of categories.

"Significant error coins are among the most sought-after in the hobby, as evidenced by the spirited bidding among collectors over this coin," said Greg Rohan, President of Heritage Auctions, "This is certainly among the most unique and mysterious errors to ever come to auction. The truth is, no one really knows how or why it was struck."

Henry Ossawa Tanner Painting

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Yale Bowl: Part Of Football History

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Lait pur de la Vache

Sterilise

Masterful Art Nouveau Posters

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Firearms And Militaria Auction Delivers
Cordier Sale Forecasts Healthy Firearms Market

Cordier’s Firearms and Militaria Auction on Dec. 6, in Harrisburg, Pa., featured an exciting array of high quality handguns and long guns as well as edged weapons. Colts and Winchesters continue to deliver, among them a Colt Combat Cobra revolver in .357 magnum sold for $3,400 and a Winchester model 1895 rifle .35 W.C.F. sold for $3,100. Prices quoted are hammer prices and do not include a buyer’s premium.

Antique handguncs featured an Elliot’s ring trigger Derringer .32 Rimfire selling for $475. Military handguns were highlighted by a Mauser S42, 1939 Luger pistol in 9mm cal. selling for $900. In modern handguns, models by Colt and Smith & Wesson drove active bidding both from the room and online. A Colt engraved third generation SA Army .44-40 sold for $2,900, while a Colt Combat Cobra revolver .357 magnum brought $3,400. Among the Smith & Wessons, a handsomely outfitted model 657-5 limited hunting edition revolver in .41 magnum sold for $41,100 while a 125th anniversary model 25-3 in .45 long Colt hammered down at $1,100.

Antique long guns featured buffalo guns and muskets, including a J. Harder Spencer buffalo rifle ($2,100) and a Harper’s Ferry model 1816 musket .69 caliber ($1,300). In modern long guns, a number of high quality offerings from collectors including the estate of William Britcher of Newport, Pa., delivered good results and signs of a healthy gun market.

Winterthur Celebrates Cataloguing Milestone
60,000 Objects Catalogued In Winterthur’s Online Collections Database

In an effort that began 10 years ago, Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library has accomplished a significant milestone: 60,000 objects in the Winterthur collection have been catalogued or re-catalogued and made available to the public through Winterthur’s online collections.

In late summer of 2005, Winterthur welcomed new collections management software, and more than 70 staff and volunteer catalogers began the process of cataloguing or re-cataloguing the entire collection of nearly 90,000 objects. With the help of many grants, approximately 16,000 ceramics, 14,500 metals, 11,000 textiles and needlework, 3,500 prints and maps, 3,200 glass objects, 3,000 pieces of furniture, as well as architectural elements, paintings, toys, tools, games, and works on paper, and more have been catalogued. In addition, nearly 152,000 digital images have been added to Winterthur’s collection database.

"We are incredibly grateful to all of our cataloguers over the years, as well as to those agencies, organizations, and individuals who have contributed to this project. Creating our online collections has given the public and scholars important access to the Winterthur collection and the wealth of information it has to offer, and in doing so, the museum has been able to engage new audiences with its collection,” said Linda Eaton, John L. and Marjorie P. McGraw Director of Collections and Senior Curator of Textiles.

The original grant that started this process was given by the Jane du Pont Minter Residual Trust Fund, which also funded the purchase of digital photographic equipment. Several other grants from federal agencies, foundations, and generous private supporters have helped Winterthur reach this achievement. Four grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services made possible cataloguing discrete parts of Winterthur’s diverse collections of decorative and fine arts. The textile collection, an important resource for historians internationally, was partially catalogued through two grants for furnishing textiles and printed textiles. Winterthur’s collection of tools used by artisans in trades ranging from carpentry to silversmithing to needlework is the focus of the most recent grant that will be completed by June 2016. An additional grant from the National Endowment for the Arts scanned and photographed half of the maps and prints in the collection, which are now available online. A grant from The Coby Foundation catalogued quilts and other bed covers, while a grant from the Museum Loan Network was used to catalogue and photograph 100 pre-1860 English ceramics that were then made available for loan on the MLN website. The generosity of Leslie B. Durst has made it possible to catalogue and photograph the needlework collection.

Winterthur’s online collections can be accessed by visiting www.museumcollection.wintherthur.org.

Winterthur cataloguing assistants Alexander Till (left) and Margaret Powell (right) catalogued objects toward the milestone 60,000 added to Winterthur’s online collections database.