

Linn's Stamp NEWS

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Two varieties exist of new Ferns coil stamps

The stamps in rolls of 10,000 have a 2014 year date, while those in rolls of 3,000 include a 2015 year date.

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Medal of Honor stamps for Vietnam War

The three forever stamps to be issued May 25 picture Medals of Honor for the Army, Navy and Air Force.

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Remainderd stamps of Costa Rica

These early 20th-century stamps that were overprinted with bars are called barradas, meaning "the barred ones."

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'Lady Cotswolds' find of rare China blocks to be auctioned in Hong Kong May 22-23

By Michael Baadke

Three blocks of rare stamps from China, undiscovered in an English attic for more than a century, will be offered during the May 22-23 auction by Kelleher & Rogers Fine Asian Auctions in Hong Kong.

Described by Kelleher & Rogers as "The Lady Cotswolds Missionary Find" and the "Three Sisters" blocks, the stamps are all 1883 5-candareen Large Dragon issues with wide margin setting on thin paper, unused with original gum, never hinged.

In the Scott *Classic Specialized Catalogue of Stamps and Covers*, the stamp is Scott 6 and listed as orange yellow. In the Chan *Colour-Illustrated Stamp Catalogue of China*, the stamp is also No. 6 and listed as yellow ocher.

The single unused stamp is val-

ued by Scott at \$16,000. These three blocks are suddenly among the largest of the very few multiples known for this elusive issue.

Details of the remarkable find were reported by *Linn's* editor Charles Snee on page 1 of the March 9 issue.

The stamps were originally purchased in a nonphilatelic auction that had estimated the lot of 35 stamps in three blocks for £800 to £1,000 (around \$1,200 to \$1,500).

The lot was purchased for £79,000 (approximately \$120,000) by Allan Grant of the stamp firm Rushstamps. Laurence Gibson of Kelleher Auctions, an expert in Chinese philately, plated and expertized each stamp.

The blocks will be offered by Kelleher & Rogers individually, and

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With 19 stamps, this is the largest of three blocks of China Scott 6 comprising the Lady Cotswolds Missionary Find that will be offered at auction May 22-23 by Kelleher & Rogers in Hong Kong.

New owner of 1¢ Magenta to be revealed

By Michael Baadke

The 1856 British Guiana 1¢ Magenta, once again crowned the world's most valuable stamp, will be on public display almost continuously for at least the next couple of years.

And the identity of the still-anonymous collector who spent \$9.48 million last year to buy the

unique stamp will soon be revealed.

The stamp will be exhibited in the William H. Gross Stamp Gallery at the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C., but plans call for it to be exhibited in Monaco later this year, and in New York City in 2016.

To announce the Washington exhibit, the museum is preparing a press release scheduled for June 4, the opening day, and will disclose the identity of the new owner then.

The 1¢ Magenta was sold at auction on the evening of June 17, 2014, for \$9.48 million, the highest price ever paid for any single stamp. It was hammered down in a special sale at Sotheby's in New



The world's most valuable stamp, the unique 1856 British Guiana 1¢ Magenta, will be exhibited in Washington, D.C., beginning June 4. The identity of the stamp's owner will be revealed that day as well.

York City that was attended by philately's elite.

The final bid of \$7.9 million was augmented by a 20 percent buyer's fee.

The identity of the winning bid-

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\$2.50

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1¢ Magenta in U.S., Monaco

Continued from page 1

and present owner was never revealed.

The National Postal Museum's exhibit of the 1¢ Magenta will open June 4, according to the museum's website. It's expected to remain there "for approximately 2½-3 years," according to the museum's public relations manager, Marshall F. Emery, who noted the exact date for the end of the exhibit has not been determined.

The museum is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue N.E. in Washington. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and admission is free.

The museum's website specifically notes two stretches when the stamp will be absent, however.

The first is from Nov. 27 to Dec. 9, when it will be out for display at Monacophil 2015, the stamp show and exhibition taking place Dec. 3-5 at the Monaco Stamp and Coin Museum, Terrasses de Fontvieille in Monaco.

The Monacophil website at www.monacophil.eu has announced that the stamp will be on display as part of its "traditional exhibition of 100 world rarities."

The second absence is planned for May 23-June 10, 2016. Those

dates correspond to the schedule for World Stamp Show-NY 2016, which is taking place May 28-June 4 at the Javits Center in New York City.

The New York show has not announced that the stamp will be on display there, but show officials made it clear shortly after the stamp sold at auction last year that they would welcome the opportunity to host the famous stamp for exhibit.

Emery told *Linn's* that there are plans to show the stamp at the New York event, but that the details have not yet been worked out.

The museum also notes that the stamp "may be temporarily unavailable for viewing should preservation, conservation or presentation issues unexpectedly arise," and advises checking in advance for specific exhibit dates and availability.

The British Guiana 1¢ Magenta is the only example known of the stamp, Scott 13. The imperforate and dark colored stamp has a worn appearance and is cut to the shape of an octagon, but it has attracted the attention of some of the world's most famous collectors.

Issued in 1856, the stamp was discovered in 1873 by a Scottish

schoolboy named Louis Vernon Vaughan who lived in British Guiana with his family. He sold it for 6 shillings, and the price has escalated ever since.

Its owners over the years have been few, including Thomas Ridpath, Count Philippe la Renotiere von Ferrary, Arthur Hind, Frederick Small and a consortium of buyers headed by Irwin Weinberg.

In 1980, the stamp was auctioned by Robert A. Siegel of New York, and purchased anonymously by John E. du Pont for \$935,000 (including a 10 percent buyer's premium).

Du Pont died in a Pennsylvania prison Dec. 9, 2010, where he was serving a sentence for the Jan. 26, 1996, shooting death of Olympic wrestler David Schultz.

Other stamps from the du Pont collection have been auctioned in recent years, including the rest of his British Guiana collection, offered by the Swiss firm David Feldman on June 27, 2014.

Other than its appearance at last year's New York auction, the 1¢ Magenta has not been displayed publicly since it was on view almost 30 years ago at the 1986 Ameripex international stamp exhibition in Chicago. ■

WASHINGTON POSTAL SCENE

daily attendance at Appomattox is about 100 visitors a day.

"There were some stamp collectors in attendance, but most were those interested in the Civil War," Miller said.

"I think most of the people attending the [first-day] ceremony, at least those standing, saw something was happening and just stayed to watch out of curiosity," said Berger.

What they got was a first-day ceremony that lasted about 15 minutes, according to Miller, followed by a series of speeches.

"Given that this was the 150th anniversary of one of the major events in U.S. history, and given the difficulty finding a hotel room at a reasonable price within a half hour of Appomattox, I wasn't surprised by the attendance," said Miller. ■

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All items listed unless otherwise indicated.
LH = Lightly Hinged, H = Hinged, @ = Used.

CAMBODIA		CAMBODIA		CAMBODIA		CAMBODIA		JAPAN	
75541	2.25	984	2.15	11835	1.70	148014	4.25	856 U	13.80
7424	1.70	989/95	2.08	11868	1.70	148150	3.70	14851 LH	30.00
74951	1.30	995	2.08	118905	2.65	148204	4.70	1558 LH	28.50
7528	2.25	997/1083	3.28	1194	1.95	1485	2.88	15830 Soma	
767	2.00	1034	1.88	11971201	2.88	14318	2.98	Tamago	11.00
76374	2.00	1035/7	1.58	1202	2.28	143630	2.35	16070 LH	68.00
77783	2.15	1038/11	1.58	1208	2.28	14346	2.98	16073 LH	80.00
784	2.00	1011/7	3.28	1217	2.88	143741	2.45	16083 LH	108.80
7853	1.50	1018	2.08	121828	2.88	1442	2.35	2005	6.00
7853	2.00	1018/25	2.65	1223	2.08	14485	2.98	2009	3.50
79345	2.00	1025	1.98	12348	2.88	144650	3.65	21021 (218 LH)18.00	
796	2.55	1027/9	1.58	1229	2.08	14526	3.68	21021 SHEETS	
797803	1.00	1037/6	1.58	1229	2.08	14527	2.08	(20)	575.80
884	1.70	1038/6	2.65	1235	2.08	145880	2.35	225% Mo Gum 21.00	
88511	2.80	1037	2.08	1236-40	1.98	14670	2.98	225%	575.80
9128	2.15	1038/44	2.25	1281	2.08	146870	4.95	225 LH	
919	1.80	1045	1.48	12826	1.98	1471	2.98	(225 Camato) 20.00	
9302	1.70	1046/5	2.25	12835	1.70	147882	4.98	225%	32.00
9330	1.80	1056	1.95	12863	2.25	1483	2.98	230/23 LH	17.00
94450	1.00	1057/83	2.35	12882	2.45	148480	4.45	234 LH	2.75
951	1.90	1058/78	2.88	12883	1.95	14816	4.98	234	4.25
9528	2.45	1071	2.08	12848	2.25	1487502	4.98	234 B&L	42.00
959	2.45	1072/9	2.45	1289	2.08	1583	2.98	2805 LH	10.00
9806	2.45	1080/6	2.45	1295/9	2.08	15846	2.75	295 U	25.00
9806/4	1.90	1087	1.98	1306/11	2.25	15140	4.78	298/302	4.80
987	2.35	1088/98	1.58	131	1.25	15205	4.78	347 LH	2.80
98374	2.15	1091/7	3.28	13126	1.88	1526	2.98	347	3.20
98782	2.00	1093	2.08	1317	1.98	154850	3.58	348/50 LH	5.00
989	2.65	1093/85	3.28	131821	1.70	15516	4.78	361	35.00
98940	2.85	1106	2.08	1322	1.88	1557	2.98	371 LH	55.00
98940/4	2.65	1114	2.08	13348	4.75	158963	4.78	391a	0.00
9957	2.65	1115/7	2.08	1339	2.88	15848	4.78	392/5	5.50
9957	2.80	118204	3.78	1390/4	3.48	158971	2.15	53940	15.00
9957	2.80	1125	2.45	1395	2.08	15726	3.58	551 S/S	75.00
9957	2.80	1126/52	3.28	1396/51	4.75	1577	2.25	552/3	16.00
9957	2.80	1133	2.08	1352	2.88	1578	2.25	556	7.00
9957	2.80	1134/6	1.70	1356/3	2.45	15806	5.65	567/8	8.00
9957	2.80	1137/45	2.88	1379/83	3.78	15891803	0.15	587a	14.00
9957	2.80	1152/9	3.75	1384	1.98	168410	7.15	595a	55.00
9957	2.80	1156/65	2.88	1385/9	3.85	161820	1.48	607	8.50
9957	2.80	1188	1.98	1390	2.08	16218	1.48	611	15.00
9957	2.80	1197/75	3.75	1391/5	3.78	163493	4.78	617/21 LH	25.00
9957	2.80	1174	2.08	1396	1.95	1645/7	1.38	622 LH	63.00
9957	2.80	1175/81	3.28	13971401	4.25	1676/7	1.38	622	40.00
9957	2.80	1182/6	2.25	1402	2.98	1678-82	15.95	685	8.50

JAPAN		JAPAN		JAPAN		VIETNAM		VIETNAM	
423	34.00	6045	5.08	1031b	2.48	288/90 Impart	12.00	708/103	0.80
425	580.00	605	3.68	1087a	13.08	428/50	4.50	718/122	1.50
426	325.00	605 S/S	30.08	1271 S/S	1.65	428/50 Impart	7.50	715	1.00
427	25.00	608a	15.08	1442 S/S	1.58	476/77	4.00	714/17	7.00
4445	3.35	600	40.08	1486 S/S	1.58	575	1.00	724/28	5.50
453a	22.00	613a	15.08	1534/43	6.58	596	1.25	738/4a	1.75
457 LH	40.00	615a	3.45	1630	4.25	588/70	3.00	731/38	5.00
457	80.00	616 LH	5.08	1678a	6.25	653/56	3.00	738/41	3.00
460 LH	2.00	616	7.08	812 LH	5.58	611/12	2.00	743/4a	1.50
460/3 LH	9.80	617 S/S	22.08	815	6.58	621/232a	1.50	743/44	1.75
465 LH	7.00	621 LH	5.08	810/10 LH	12.08	625/68	2.50	745/50	5.00
475a	3.00	630	6.00	814a/31a	20.08	627	1.00	753/8a	1.50
479 LH	40.00	634 S/S	10.08	845	0.98	628/202	2.75	753/54	1.75
479	60.00	635	0.58	88 HINGED	75.00	638/57	10.00	755/82	6.00
479a	40.00	636	13.08	813 LH	104.00	638/40	3.00	763/67	1.75
480/7 LH	75.00	638a	22.08	813	200.00	641/43	4.00	768/55	5.00
480/7	150.00	637	0.78			644/49	8.00	770/77	2.50
481	4.00	640a	1.75			651	1.80	778/81	2.50
481	2.25	655	2.65			652	1.80	782/85	6.00
581a	140.00	672	21.08			653/56	8.00	788/88	2.75
581b	80.00	688/90	4.58			657/53	4.00	794/67	7.50
581a LH	82.50	691	0.98			658/62	2.25	798/85	7.00
518	52.00	700	18.08			663/64	1.50	808/15	2.50
518a	2.75	704	9.08			665/66	4.50	816/18	2.50
518a	4.25	712/23	10.08			667/68	2.00	818/20	2.00
518a	24.50	745/54	47.08			668/74	7.00	821	1.00
521e	190.00	789	4.08			675/76	7.00	821	3.00
522	3.50	807	4.08			677/73	6.00	1290/21	5.00
522 S/S Like		807A/11A	40.08			685/85	2.00	1456/37	5.00
Tamago	30.00	808 S/S	1.58			687/80	5.50	21.1	6.00
523/4	25.00	1021 S/S	1.58			691/92	3.00	M/5	1.50
525/26	70.00	1025 Gold	2.48			695/97	3.00	M/7	1.25
527/8	13.00	1050 S/S	1.58			698/101	4.00	M/8	2.00
529/30	15.00	10225 Silver	2.48			703/97	5.00	029/22	8.00

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