

**FIRE
MARK
CIRCLE**
CATALOGUE

of

FIREMARKS and

FIRE MEMORABILIA

ILLUSTRATING THE HISTORY OF

FIRE INSURANCE and FIRE BRIGADES
TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION
AT THE

FIRE MARK CIRCLE
AUTUMN MEETING

TO BE HELD AT
RAF SCAMPTON
LINCOLN

ON
SATURDAY
11 OCTOBER 2014

AUCTION NOTES

Auction Co-ordinator:

Auctioneer:

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Condition and Description

The condition of the marks is given in accordance of the FMC standard guide.

Guide Price

The guide price reflects the value of the items expressed by the vendors, commensurate with the rarity and condition of the individual lot.

Reserves

Some lots have a reserve set by the vendor.

Commission Bids

If you are unable to attend in person commission bids will be accepted. Bids should be confirmed by email or in writing in advance of the auction date to the Auction Co-ordinator, contact details above. Commission bidders are requested to reimburse the postal costs. Marks will be sent 'Signed For' and will require a signature on delivery.

Payment for Lots

Payment for Lots purchased will be at the Auction, unless alternative arrangements have been made previous to the Auction. Successful commission bidders will receive an invoice with the amount due. On payment, their Lots will be dispatched. Members who are both buying and selling at the auction must pay for the Lots bought and not expect them to be offset against those sold.

Overseas Bidders

Successful Overseas Bidders should send their payment by bank transfer, and will be sent the necessary account information with their invoice. Payment should be specified to be in British Pounds and Fees paid, with the bidder's name and "Auction" as the reference/additional comment. Auction Lots will not be released until full payment is received. Overseas bidders unable to pay by bank transfer should contact the Auction Co-ordinator before bidding. Payments in foreign currency or by foreign cheque will be subject to a surcharge for exchange fees and administration costs, which may be substantial.

Disputes

In the event of any dispute the Auctioneer's decision is final.

Prices achieved at Fire Mark Circle Auction, April 2014, London

Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£
1	30	11	50	21	30	31	40	41	500	51	35	61	120	71	50
2	60	12	220	22	15	32	40	42	55	52	260	62	35	72	50
3	40	13	220	23	15	33	2300	43	50	53	25	63	100	73	50
4	130	14	400	24	20	34	75	44	n/s	54	20	64	n/s	74	30
5	45	15	30	25	20	35	320	45	130	55	60	65	40	75	10
6	40	16	520	26	60	36	60*	46	50	56	30	66	100	76	25
7	40	17	35	27	320	37	100	47	60*	57	460	67	50	77	40
8	n/s	18	20	28	340	38	780	48	55	58	20	68	40	78	30
9	20	19	120	29	50	39	110	49	110	59	3800	69	150	79	40
10	30	20	50	30	30	40	60	50	70	60	130	70	120	80	20

* - sold after action

n/s – not sold

Fire Mark Circle Auction October 2014

1. **Britannia Fire Assoc.** Copper. W108A, a good example of this single issue company mark that was only in business for 11 years, no flattening to the figure or raised parts, repainted in original colours. (£60-£80)
2. **Phoenix Ass Co.** Copper. W23K, a good example of this later variant still retaining its original colour and top lugs, no flattening but a slight stress fracture at one edge. (£30-£40)
3. **Bristol Crown Fire Office.** Lead. W6A(ii), a very good example of this early lead mark, no original colour or evidence of the painted number. (£400-£500)
4. **Worcester Fire Office.** Lead. W27C, a good example of the top of this mark, the panel is unfortunately missing. (£40-£50)
5. **British Fire Office.** Lead. W30C, a good example of this lead variant, no original colour and a small stress fracture to the top of the mark. (£200-£250)
6. **Westminster Ins Office.** Lead. W5B. Policy No 13005, an excellent example of this early mark issue in the 1750s, no original colour or gilding with no damage to the surface of the mark. £350-£400)
7. **Sun Fire Office.** Lead. W3B. Policy No 12345, a good example of this early variant, no original colour, the mark was issued in 1756 to a John Steadman of Darlington, copy of the register details included. (£50-£60)
8. **Scottish Union Ins Co.** Copper. W75D/B850, a very good example of this later variant, still retaining its original colour and gilding, with an aging patina. (£70-£80)
9. **Federal Fire Ins Co.** Tin. B976, a very good example of this rarely seen mark from a company that was only in business for 2 years, still retaining its original colour and no surface rust. (£200-£250)
10. **Herts, Cambs & County Fire Office.** Copper. W67A, a good example of this single issue mark from a company that was only in business for 7 years, no original colour or flattening to the raised parts. (£130-£150)
11. **Union Fire Office.** Copper. W4F, a good example of this later variant still retaining its original red background colour but no gilding, small tear at nail hole. (£30-£40)
12. **Norwich Union Fire Ins Soc.** Copper. W29L, a good example of this *Gaudio* variant of 1860, some original colour, missing top finial. **PLUS. Liverpool & London & Globe.** Copper. W105B, a good example of this second variant still showing some original colour, some fraying at the edges. (£100-£140)
- 13 **Westminster Ins Office.** Lead. W5C(iii). Policy No 50469, an excellent example of this lead variant issued in 1810, no original colour but some gilding remains. (£250-£300)
14. **Norwich General Ass Co.** Lead. W28A. Policy No 6426, an excellent example of this early mark issued in the 1790s, no original colour remains. (£300-£400)
15. **Westminster Ins Office.** Lead. W5B. Policy No 29811, a good example of this early mark issue in the 1750s, top right lug missing, no original colour. (£200-£250)

16. **Hand in Hand Fire Office.** Lead. W2A. Policy No 68736, an excellent example of this early variant issued in 1740, no original colour or flattening to the hands. (£230-£250)
17. **Shropshire & N Wales Ass Co.** Brass. W89A, a good example of this brass mark, no original colour, and some small stress fractures. (£40-£50)
18. **New Bristol Fire Office.** Copper. W12B. Policy No 10710, an excellent example of this painted policy number variant, no original colour or gilding remains. (£120-£150)
19. **Reading Ins Co.** Copper. W60A, a good example of this rarely seen mark, no original colour but some gilding remains, no flattening, some small stress fractures. (£200-£230)
20. **Union Fire Office.** Lead. W4A. Policy No 22153, an excellent example of this early mark issued in the 1760s, no original colour or damage to the surface of the mark, a must have for the serious collector. (£600-£700)
21. **County Fire Office.** Copper. W45B/C/F. **Three examples** in good/fair condition some with original gilding but no colour. (£30-£40)
22. **Lancashire Ins Co.** Tin. W98A, a mint example of this first issue mark, a colour remaining. (£40-£50)
23. **Licensed Victuallers Fire & Life Ins Co.** Copper. W86A, a good example of this difficult to come by mark from a company which only did business for 22, no original colour, no flattening to the grapes, but some minor stress fractures on the lettering. (£100-£120)
24. **Union Fire Office.** Copper. W4E/F, **Two examples** in good condition, some background colour, no gilding or surface damage. (£60-£80)
25. **Protector Fire Ins Co.** Copper. W80A, a good example of one of the few marks to show a fireman in action, no colour but some gilding showing through, no flattening or tearing at the nail holes. (£50-£70)
26. **London Assurance.** Lead. W9E. Policy No 12247, an excellent example of this lead variant issued in 1730, no original colour or any damage to the surface of the mark, it comes with a 2 inch sq lead print block of the company's seal, a mark not to be missed. (£550-£600)
27. **Alliance Fire & Life Ins Co.** Copper. W63B/C, **Two examples** in very good condition, both with original colour and gilding, no flattening or surface damage. (£50-£60)
28. **Bath Sun Fire Office.** Lead. W16A(iv). Policy No 5176, an excellent example of this rarely seen variant with a painted number panel, small amounts of background colour and gilding remain, slight stress fracture to *R.H.S.* of face, a mark not to be missed. (£800-£1000)
29. **Car & General Ins Co.** Tin. B1003, an excellent example of this early 20th cent lithographed mark, all original colours with some slight scuffing to the raised parts, differentiated from a similar variant with the word *AGENCY* on the bottom (£120-£140)

30. **Suffolk Fire Office.** Lead. W37C, an excellent example of this company's third variant, being rectangular in shape and containing only text, no surface damage to the mark, and the mark speaks for itself. (£600-£800)
31. **Royal Exchange Ass.** Lead. W10F. Policy No 102342, a good example of the first convex variant, no original colour and the crown has been replaced; it was issued to a William Smart of Darlington, policy details with the mark. (£40-£50)
- 32 **West of England Fire Ins Co.** Copper. W48B/C, **Two good examples** of the first and second variants from this company which dominated the west country's insurance business for all of the 19th cent, some original colour and gilding on both. (£60-£70)
33. **Hibernian Ins Co.** Lead. W13A(ii). Policy No 5542, an excellent example of this rare mark not seen in this condition for some time, a flawless example. (£500-£600)
34. **Liverpool Fire Office.** Lead. W17A(ii). Policy No.1527, an excellent example of the second issue with the larger policy numbers from a company that only traded for 18 years, a flawless and very rare mark from the NW of England. (£1200-£1500)
35. **British Fire Office.** Copper. W30D, an excellent example of this Irish variant, differing from the other variants by the inclusion of the *harp*, no original colour or gilding or flattening to the lion, a sound example. (£300-£400)
36. **Westminster Ins Office.** Copper. W5D, an excellent example of this copper variant issued in 1830, the mark has been painted in the original colours, no damage to the edges or flattening to the crown. (£150-£200)
37. **Bath Sun Fire Office.** Copper. W16B, an excellent example of this copper variant still showing its original gilding but no background colour. **PLUS. Sun Fire Office.** B551, a near mint example of this promotional mark issued in 1910 to commemorate the company's bicentenary. (£70-£80)
38. **Phoenix Ass Co.** Lead. W23B. Policy No 14161, an excellent example of the second variant from this company, no original colour remaining and the spear point has been professionally strengthened. (£400-£500)
39. **Scottish Union Ins Co.** Copper. W75D/B850, a very good example of this later variant, still retaining its original colour and gilding, with an aging patina. (£70-£80)
40. **Royal Exchange Ass.** Lead. W10E. Policy No 70408, an excellent example of this mark issued about 1777, no damage to the surface of the mark, some minor reinforcing on the back of the crown. (£110-£130)
41. **Norwich Union Fire Ins Soc.** Copper. W29F(i), a very good example of this variant, no original colour or any damage to the surface of the mark. (£40-£50)
42. **Norwich Union Fire Ins Soc.** Lead. W29A, an excellent example of the first mark issued by the company, no original colour remains but the painted panel with the word UNION is still clearly visible. (£500-£600)
43. **Hibernian Ins Co.** Lead. W13B(ii), a good example of this rare mark, with the policy panel containing the word *Hibernian*, not seen in this condition for some time, top *R.H.S.* part of crown missing. (£300-£500)
44. **Salop Fire Office.** Lead. W20A. Policy No 14359, a very good example of this company's first issue lead mark dating from about 1830. (£200-£250)

45. **Herts & Cambridge Fire Office.** Copper. W68A, a very good example of this mark, an enigma in insurance company histories as no date is attributed to its existence other than that of its predecessor, the Herts, Cambs & County (1831), no damage to the face of the mark and some gilding is evident. (£130-£150)
46. **Norwich Union Fire Ins Soc.** Copper. W29C, an excellent example of this variant from this multi issue company, no damage to the mark and some gilding is showing through. (£120-£150)
47. **Globe Ins Co.** Tinned Copper. W38A. Policy No 3726, an excellent example of this tinned mark from the early 1800s, no original colour but the policy number is clear. (£120-£150)
48. **Phoenix Ass Co.** Copper. W23G. Policy No 157956, a very good example of this last copper numbered variant dating from 1799, no flattening or tearing and the spear tip is intact, some background colour and gilding still showing. **PLUS Phoenix Ass Co.** Copper. W23J(i), a good repainted example with spear tip. (£70-£100)
49. **Leicester Fire Office.** Tin. W84A, a good example of this small round rare mark from a company that was only in existence for 9 years, no original colour and two small pellet holes. (£70-£90)
50. **Royal Exchange Ass.** Lead. W10K, a very good example of this last lead variant, no original colour but some gilding remaining. (£15-£20)
51. **Royal Exchange Ass.** Lead. W10D. Policy No 75734, an excellent example of this mark issued about 1778, no damage to the surface of the mark. (£110-£130)
52. **Hand in Hand Fire Office.** Lead. W2A. Policy No 91313, an excellent example of this early variant issued in 1780 to Basil Hearne of Paternoster Row (*policy details enclosed*), no original colour or flattening to the hands. (£230-£250)
53. **Queen Ins Co.** Copper. W 99A & 99D, **Two good examples** of the first and last marks, some original colour and no damage to either. **PLUS** a reproduction W99B (£50-£60)
54. **Norwich General Ass Co.** Copper.W28D. Policy No 18970, an excellent example of this early mark issued in the 1820s, some original colour and gilding remains, no surface damage. (£180-£200)
55. **Farmers and General Fire & Life Ins.** Copper. W92A & 92B, **TWO** good examples of the only marks the company issued, no original colour remaining and some slight stress fractures on both. (£50-£60)
56. **Palladium Fire & Life Ass Co.** Copper. W72A, an excellent example of the only mark ever issued by the company in its 30 year history, no original colour or flattening to the figure, a sound mark.(£120-£140)
57. **Kent Ins Co.** Copper. W36C, a good example of this mark still retaining most of its original colour and gilding, no flattening to the horse or tearing at the edges. (£70-£80)
58. **Newcastle Upon Tyne Fire Office.** Copper. W24C, a very good example of this last mark issued by the company before it ceased trading in 1859, no original blue background colour or gilding, no flattening to the castles, a sound mark. (£200-£250)
59. **St Patrick Ins Co of Ireland.** Copper. W74A, an excellent example of this rarely found mark from a company that ceased trading in 1827 after only 4 years, no

damage to the mark and a must for the serious collector being the star of the auction. (£500-£550)

60. **Salop Fire Office**. Lead. W20A. Policy No 3995, a very good example of this company's first issue lead mark, dating from November 1805. (£200-£250)

61. **Manchester Fire & Life As Co**. Copper. W71D, a very good example of this variant, all original colour, some slight scuffing to the raised parts. (£40-£50)

62. **London Assurance**. Tin. W9I, a very good example of this last mark issued by the company still retaining its original colour. **PLUS. District Fire Office**.

Copper. W83A, a good example of the company's first mark, no surface damage, some slight stress fractures. (£40-£50)

63. **Royal Exchange Ass**. Lead. W10D. Policy No 76184, an excellent example of this mark issued about 1779, no damage to the surface of the mark. (£110-£130)

64. **Caledonia Ins Co**. Copper. W43C, an excellent example of this mark still retaining its original colour. **PLUS** another **Caledonia**. Tin. W43C, good condition with no surface rust or colour, issued for overseas use. (£40-£50)

65. **State Ass Co**, Tin. B982, **PLUS** B983, two very good examples of this late 19th century company's marks, both with original colour, and opportunity to acquire both variants together. (£100-£120)

66. **Hand in Hand Fire Office**. Lead. W2A. Policy No 92006, an excellent example of this early variant issued in 1780, no original colour or flattening to the hands, (£230-£250)

67. **Yorkshire Fire Ins Co**. Copper. W77B, a good example of this second variant, no original colour and some tearing at top nail hole. **PLUS. Birmingham Fire Office**. Copper. W42C, a good example of this mark, one of only two to show a fireman and manual engine, no original colour or flattening. (£80-£100)

68. **Bath Fire Office**. Lead. W11A(i). Policy No 5268, an excellent example of this very rare mark, some original colour, no surface damage and a must for the discerning collector, issued in the early 1770s. (£800-£1000)

69. **Royal Exchange Ass**. Lead. W10F. Policy No 155451, a good example of this mark issued about 1790, no damage to the surface of the mark but the panel has been reattached, issued to a Thomas Quantril of Waltham Willows, Suffolk, policy details with the mark. (£40-£50)

70. **Wilts & Western Ass Soc**. Lead. W26A. Policy No 1705, an excellent example of this rare lead mark, no original colour or damage to the integrity of the mark, some gilding in the recessed parts. **PLUS Wilts & Western Ass Soc**. Copper. W26B.

Policy No 3501 a fair example of this second variant with some original gilding and the number still visible, part of the top *L.H.S.* ribbon missing, an opportunity not to be missed to acquire the two marks in one lot. (£600-£700)

71. **Northern Ass Co**. Copper. W88A, good condition, no original colour, no flattening to the lion. **PLUS. Northern Ass Co**. Tin. W88A, fair condition, some minor surface rust, for overseas use. (£40-£50)

72. **Phoenix Ass Co**. Tin. W23H. Policy No 442733, a good example of this numbered tin mark, no surface rusting but some slight tearing at the panels *R.H.* nail hole. **PLUS. Phoenix Ass Co**. Copper. W23J(i), a good example of this variant still

containing its spear tip, mounted on a board with an inscription as to its provenance. (£40-£50)

73. **Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10J. Policy No 199864, issued in 1803, a very good example of this variant, no original colour or damage to the surface of the mark, plus a similar good lead reproduction (£50-£60)

74. **Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10J. Policy No 192518, issued in 1801, a very good example of this variant, no original colour or damage to the surface of the mark. **PLUS. Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10K, a good example of this last lead variant, no original colour but some gilding remaining. (£70-£80)

75. **Royal Ins Co.** Tin, W95E, a very good example of this last variant, all original colour and no surface damage. **PLUS. Royal Ins Co.** Copper, W95D, a fair example of this mark, some fraying at the edges and it has been repainted. (£25-£30)

76. **District Fire Office.** Copper. W83C, a good example of this company's mark, no original colour or damage to the surface or edges. **PLUS. District Fire Office.** Copper. W83E, a fair example of the last variant of the company, some fraying at the edges. (£50-£60)

77. **London & Lancs Fire Ins Co.** Copper. W101B. a very good example of this mark still retaining its original colour with some slight scuffing to the raised parts. **PLUS. Licenses & General Ins Co.** Tin. B978, a very good example of this late 19th cent company's lithographed mark still retaining its full colour. (£70-£90)

78. **Phoenix Ass Co.** Tin. B687, an excellent example of this lithographed mark issued primarily for overseas use. **PLUS. Globe Ins Co.** Tin. W83D, a very good example of this variant still retaining its original colour, minor paint loss to some edges. (£70-£80)

79. **Kent Ins Co.** Copper. W36C, a good example of this mark still retaining most of its original colour and gilding, no flattening to the horse or tearing at the edges. **PLUS. Kent Ins Co.** Copper. W36D, another good example of the last variant, no colour or flattening, unfortunately the top left and right hand parts of the octagonal background has been trimmed. (£90-£100)

80. **London & Provincial.** Tin. B912, a good example of this rarely seen mark issued in 1891 from a company that lasted only 10 years, no original colour and some surface rust. **PLUS. Property Ins Co.** Tin. B998, another good example of a lithographed mark from the late 19th cent, still retaining its original colour with some background loss round the border. (£70-£80)

END OF FIRE MARKS

There will be an additional sales table of both British and European marks on sale at a fixed price together with some fire related memorabilia.