

**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
SECKFORD HALL HOTEL
GREAT BEALINGS, WOODBRIDGE IP13 6NU
ON
SATURDAY
15 OCTOBER 2016

AUCTION NOTES

Auction Co-ordinator: Russell Maclean: email: rmaclean999@aol.com
Auctioneer: Nick Drewe: email: nick.drewe@btinternet.com

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 2016, London

Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£		
1	40	11	240	21	25	31	35	41	35	51	20	61	30
2	30	12	240	22	95	32	30	42	35	52	35	62	30
3	25	13	35	23	70	33	55	43	25	53	30	63	140
4	70	14	40	24	50	34	5	44	170	54	55	64	200
5	190	15	95	25	60	35	30	45	25	55	20	65	15
6	130	16	20	26	30	36	95	46	35	56	20	66	10
7	35	17	10	27	50	37	45	47	180	57	65	67	320
8	50	18	25	28	60	38	30	48	50	58	130		
9	40	19	300	29	150	39	40	49	200	59	50		
10	50	20	30	30	190	40	130	50	300	60	80		

w/d withdrawn

Fire Mark Circle Auction 15 October 2016

1. **Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Co.** Copper. W105B. A good example of this second variant still showing some dulled background colour, no tears or splits or flattening. (£30-£40)
2. **Norwich Union Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W29C. A very good example of this early copper variant, no original colour, no damage or flattening to the mark. (£50-£60).
3. **Norwich Union Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W29P. A fair example of this last copper variant, no original colour, some fatigue holes. **PLUS. Phoenix Assurance Co.** Copper. W23K. A good example of this copper variant still showing some original colour, no flattening or fraying. (£40-£50).
4. **Protector Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W80A. A good example of this mark, no original colour, no flattening, only one of two marks that show a fireman fighting a fire on their mark, the design being produced by *R Smirke R.A.* (£50-£60)
5. **Insurance Co. of Scotland.** Copper. W58A. A very good example of this single issue mark from a company that was only in business for 20 years, no original colour but sound in all other aspects. (£120-£140)
6. **Sun Fire Office.** Lead. W3D, Policy No 789554. A good example of this fourth variant issued in 1799, no original colour or gilding, no damage to the sun, small solder repair to back. **PLUS. Sun Fire Office.** Copper. W3H. A good example of this first copper variant issued in 1839, all original gilding, no flattening, one lug missing. (£70-£80)
- 7 **Imperial Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W40E. A good example of this mark, no original colour or flattening to the crown. (£30-£40)
8. **County Fire Office.** Copper. W45B. A good example of this second variant, no original colour, some gilding in the recesses, no flattening or tearing at the nail holes. **PLUS. County Fire Office.** Copper. W45D. A very good example of this later variant, all original colour, no flattening or tearing at the nail holes. (£40-£50)
9. **Birmingham Fire Office Co.** Copper. W42D. A very good example of this rarely seen mark, no original colour or damage to the mark, a must for the determined collector. (£100-£120)
10. **Royal Insurance Co.** Copper. W95B. A very good example of this second variant still retaining its original colour and gilding, some minor paint loss to the raised parts. **PLUS. Notts & Derby Fire & Life Assurance Co.** Zinc. W87E. A fair example of this variant, no original colour and the garter end is missing. (£40-£50)
11. **Manchester Fire & Life Assurance Co.** Tin. W71E. A good example of this last variant still retaining its dulled original colour, no surface rust. (£40-£50)
12. **County Fire Office.** Copper. W45B. A good example of this second variant, some original colour and gilding, no flattening or tearing at the nail holes. **PLUS. A similar County Fire Office W45D variant in good condition with full colour.** (£30-£40)
13. **West of England Fire Insurance Co.** Tin. W48D. A good example of this later tin variant, no original colour or damage to the surface of the mark. (£40-£50)
14. **Birmingham Fire Office Co.** Copper W42B. A fair example of this second variant showing some gilding in the recesses, some stress fractures and tearing at the nail holes. **PLUS another Birmingham Fire Office Co.** Copper W42C. A good example of this third variant no flattening or tearing at the nail holes, a good solid mark and one of two examples of a company's mark using the image of a fireman (£70-£80)

- 15. London Assurance.** Copper. W9I. A very good example of the last copper mark issued by the company in 1824, some original colour and gilding remains, no flattening or surface damage. **PLUS London Assurance.** Tin. W9I. A poor example of this mark with no colour remaining and surface rusting to the edges and back. (£40-£50)
- 16. Caledonian Insurance Co.** Copper. W43A. A rare chance to acquire a mark not seen for some time in this condition, although no gilding remains the green background is still evident. (£70-£80)
- 17. North British Assurance Co.** Tin. W53A. A fair example of this Scottish mark issued in 1809, the mark has been repainted and some strengthening at the back of the panel is noted (£70-£90)
- 18. British Fire Office.** Copper. W30E. A very good example of this copper variant, still retaining some of its original colour, no flattening to the lion or tearing at the nail holes. (£50-£60)
- 19. Bath Sun Fire Office.** Copper. W16B. A good example of this copper variant, no original colour but evidence of gilding in the recesses, no flattening to the sun's face. **PLUS. Sun Fire Office.** Copper. W3I. A good example of this second copper variant issued in 1850, all original gilding, no flattening, both lugs present. (£70-£80)
- 20. Norwich Union Fire Insurance Soc.** Copper. W29O. A good example of the last copper variant issued by the company in the late 19th cent, no original colour or flattening to Justice. **PLUS . Norwich Union Fire Insurance Soc.** Tin. W29E. A fair example of this first tin variant, no original colour, some adhesive still on the rear of the mark when it was fixed to a board. (£50-£60)
- 21. British Fire Office.** Lead. W30B. An excellent example of this early company mark issued at the turn of the 18th century, no original colour or other surface damage, not seen in this condition for some time. (£300-£350)
- 22. Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10F. Policy No 155360, issued in 1796. A very good example of this variant, although some minor stress fractures are showing at the base of the crown. (£80-£100)
- 23. Salop Fire Office.** Lead. W20A. Policy No 1675, issued in the late 1700s. A good example of this first issue mark repainted in original colours. (£100-£120)
- 24. Hand in Hand Fire Office.** Lead. W2B. Policy No 52852, issued in 1726. A very early mark in excellent condition, no original paint but showing a good patina. (£200-£250)
- 25. Sun Fire Office.** Lead. W2B. Policy No 178018, issued in 1760. A good example of this second variant, no original colour and showing some splits in the sun's rays. (£50-£60)
- 26. Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10F. Policy No 153416, issued in 1796. A very good example of this variant, no original colour or other surface damage. (£90-£110)
- 27. Essex & Suffolk Equitable Insurance Soc.** Tin B732. A good example of this rare late 19th century mark primarily used for overseas business, some slight surface rusting. (£80-£100)
- 28. Northern Assurance Co.** Copper. W88A. A very good example of the first variant from this Scottish company, still showing traces of the original colour. (£40-£60)
- 29. Kent Fire Office.** Lead. W36A(iv). A very good example of this later first variant still showing traces of the painted *KENT* on the panel and some white on the horse, no background colour. (£300-£350)

- 30. Westminster Fire Office.** Lead. W5C(iii). Policy No. 52476, issued in 1807. An excellent example of this last lead variant still showing traces of the original gilding, no surface damage. (£140-£160)
- 31. Worcester Fire Office.** Lead. W27B. Painted policy numbers cannot be identified. A mark in very good condition, some strengthening on the rear of the mark where the panel meets the oval, top tab missing. (£300-£350)
- 32. Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10D. Policy No 37191, issued in 1758. A good example of this early variant, no original colour some damage to the RHS of the crown. (£100-£120)
- 33. Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10J. Policy No 213876, issued in 1805 to the Bell Inn (Faringdon, Berks). A good example of this later lead variant, some original colour and gilding with policy documents and photograph of the Inn. Policy No. 213875 was also issued to the Inn (£50-£70)
- 34. Northern Assurance Co.** Copper. W88A. A very good example of the first variant from this Scottish company, still showing traces of the original colour. (£40-£50)
- 35. Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10K. A good example of this last lead variant, no original colour or surface damage. (£20-£30)
- 36. West of England Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W48C. A good example of this variant, no original colour although some gilding remains, some damage to the panel, last letter "R" is missing. (£30-£40)
- 37. Phoenix Assurance Co.** Copper. W23K. A good example of this copper variant still showing most original colour, no flattening or fraying, fixing lugs intact. (£40-£50)
- 38. District Fire Office.** Copper. W83A. A good example of this first variant, no original colour and some minor stress fractures to the raised parts. (£30-£40)
- 39. Farmers & General Fire & Life Insurance Ins.** Copper. W92B. A good example of this mark, no original colour or flattening of the wheatsheaf. (£40-£50)
- 40. London Assurance.** Tin. W9I. A fair example of this mark with some original colour remaining and surface rusting to the edges and back. **PLUS. Guardian Fire & Life Assurance Co.** Copper. W57B. A good example of this mark, no original colour or flattening to Athene. (£50-£60)
- 41. Landschaftliche Brandkasse.** Enamel. Similar to B1342, A good example of this Hannover mark, no chips to the enamel. **PLUS. Feuer Versicherungs.** Enamel. Not recorded in Bulau, a similar German mark. (£20-£30)
- 42. Norwich Union Fire Insurance Soc.** Copper. W29O. A good example of the last copper variant issued by the company in the late 19th cent, no flattening to Justice and has been carefully repainted in original colours. **PLUS. Yorkshire Fire & Life Insurance Co.** Copper. W77B. A fair example of this second variant, no original colour and showing several tears and stress fractures. (£40-£50)
- 43. Commercial Union Assurance.** Tin. W100A. A poor example of this tin mark, no original colour and surface rust to both sides. **PLUS. Kent Fire office.** Copper. W36C. A poor example of this mark, with damage to both panels fractures to the horse. **PLUS. Phoenix Assurance Co.** Copper. W23G. A poor example of this mark with only the Oval remaining. (£30-£40)
- 44. Imperial Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W40E. A good example of this mark, some gilding on panel, no original colour or flattening to the crown. (£30-£40)
- 45. North British & Mercantile.** Tin. (*Similar to B932*). A good example of this tin variant, no original colour and some surface rust. (£30-£40)
- 46. Alliance Fire & Life Insurance Co.** Copper. W63C. An excellent example of this last variant still retaining its original colour and gilding. (£40-£50)

- 47. Queen Insurance Co.** Copper. W99A. A very good example of this difficult to come by mark, most original colour remains although dulled by age. (£50-£60)
- 48. District Fire Office.** Copper. W83A. A fair example of this first variant, no original colour and some minor stress fractures and tearing to the raised parts.
PLUS. District Fire Office. Copper. W83E. A good example of this last variant, no colour but evidence of gilding to the shield and lettering. (£50-£60)
- 49. Victoria Insurance Co.** Copper. B1756. A very good example of this Australian mark still retaining its original colour and gilding, some slight paint flaking. (£30-£40)
- 50. West of England Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W48F. A very good example of this variant still retaining its original colour and gilding, no flattening to Arthur or tearing at the nail holes. (£50-£60)
- 51. Westminster Fire Office.** Copper W5D, issued in the 1830s. A very good example of this last variant still showing traces of the original gilding, no background colour or surface damage. (£70-£80)
- 52. Salop Fire Office.** Copper. W20B. A good example of this mark still showing some gilding, no flattening minor stress fractures to a leopards' head. (£50-£70)
- 53. Guardian Fire & Life Assurance Co.** Copper. W57B. A good example of this mark, no original colour or flattening to Athene. **PLUS. Union Assurance Soc.** B573 Brass reproduction arm badge. (£50-£60)
- 54. West of England Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W48G. A good example of this variant, no original colour or gilding, no flattening to Arthur or tearing at the nail holes which still retains an original nail, the panel has been reinforced at the back. (£40-£60)
- 55. Royal Insurance Co.** Copper. W95B. A good example of this second variant still retaining some original colour and gilding. **PLUS,** another similar **Royal Insurance Co.** Copper. W95B. (£35-£45)
- 56. Notts & Derby Fire & Life Assurance Co.** Zinc. W87E. A very good example of this variant with its original colours dulled by age, garter tab intact. (£50-£60)
- 57. Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10F. Policy No.154231, issued in 1796. A very good example of this variant, no original colour or surface damage. **PLUS Royal Exchange Assurance.** Lead. W10K. A good example of this last lead variant, no original colour or surface damage. (£110-£120)
- 58. Sun Fire Office.** Lead. W3D, Policy No 786654. A good example of this fourth variant issued in 1799, no original colour or gilding, no damage to the sun. (£50-£60)
- 59. Northern Assurance Co.** Tin. B879. A very good example of the last variant from this Scottish company, still showing traces of the original colour. (£40-£50)
- 60. Yorkshire Fire & Life Insurance Co.** Copper. W77B. A good example of this second variant, no original colour or other damage (£40-£50)
- 61. Atlas Assurance Co.** Copper. Not recorded in Bulau or Addis, but similar to W50A. A very good example of this rarely seen single issue mark still retaining the original gilding, where the atlas latitude lines are not present and replaced by a series of random wavy lines, a must for the serious collector. (£100-£120)
- 62. Shropshire & North Wales.** Brass. W89B. A very good example of the second of two brass variants still retaining its original colour and gilding. (£60-£80)
- 63. Farmers & General Fire & Life Insurance Ins.** Copper. W92B. A good example of this mark, no original colour or flattening of the wheatsheaf. (£40-£50)
- 64. Protector Fire Insurance Co.** Copper. W80A. A good example of this mark, no original colour, no flattening only one of two marks that show a fireman fighting a fire on their mark, the design being produced by *R Smirke R.A.* (£50-£60)

65. London & Lancs Fire Insurance Co. Copper. W101B. A good example of this second copper variant still retaining some original colour, small repair to the back of the mark. (£30-£40)

66. Liverpool & London & Globe Insurance Co. Copper. W105B. A very good example of this second variant still showing some dulled background colour and gilding, no tears or splits or flattening. (£30-£40)

67. Patriotic Assurance Co of Ireland. Tin. B944. A good example of this oval lithographed mark still retaining its full colour, some slight rusting to the edges. £40-£50)

68. Birmingham Fire Office Co. Copper W42C. A good example of this third variant showing some gilding in the recesses, no tearing or flattening, one of two marks to show a fireman in action with his manual pump (£40-£50)

69. Phoenix Assurance Co. Copper. W23G. A good example of this first mark using a painted number panel, (*no number is legible*), very end of spear tip missing.

PLUS. Phoenix Assurance Co. Copper. W23K. A good example of this copper variant still showing some original colour, no flattening or fraying, fixing lugs intact. (£60-£70)

70. CTPAXOBOE TOBAPNWECTBO 1846 (Salamandra Ins Ass). Tin. Not listed in Bulau. A good example of this Russian mark, no original colour, or rust. (£20-£30)

71. Reproduction Lead marks to include: - Royal Exchange.W10J. Worcester W27B. Salop.20A. (£15-£20)

72. Bath Sun Fire Office. Lead. W16A(iv). A very passable reproduction painted in original colours, weighing. 2.24kg. (£20-£30)

End of Fire Marks

73. Footprints of Assurance by Alwin Bulau, a regulation copy. (£10-£15)

74. The British Fire Mark 1680-1879 by Brian Wright. (£10-£15)

75. British Fire Marks from 1680 by George Fothergill, published 1911. (£20-£30)

76. Selection of fire and fire insurance related books. (£15-£20)

77. Selection of fire and fire insurance related books. (£15-£20)

78. Framed Sun Fire Office Insurance Policy details number 691841 (1799) to Thomas Cooke, Ludlow, together with its framed proposal. **PLUS. Framed Plate Glass** Insurance Policy details number 32054 (1860) to William Pugh, Bishops Castle. (£25-£30)

79. Framed Shropshire & N Wales Insurance policy details number 5842 (1865) to Richard Davies of Gt. Ryton. Salop, together with the **Shropshire & N Wales W89B** fire mark mounted on a board from the insured property. (The policy was issued to the grandfather of Stanley Davies a long time member of the circle. (£50-£60)

Arm Badges

80. Sun Fire Office Fireman's Arm Badge No 10 hallmarked 1798 by Robert and David Hennell of London. This arm badge was found incorporated into a jug and was one of 25 arm badges given to company managers when no longer required by firemen. (£1800-£2000)

81. Royal Exchange Assurance Fireman's Arm Badge No 32 hallmarked London 1823 by Rebecca Eames & Edward Barnard. 15cms. 291gms. *Sold Christies, June 2001, Lot 46 for £2350.* (£1400-£1800)