

Help needed for research on Carson City Half Dollars

For the last couple of years, I have been working on compiling a comprehensive registry by die marriage for 1870-CC, 1874-CC, and 1878-CC Half Dollars.

I have exhausted the internet auction archives and had a great deal of help from Bill Bugert as well. I am now reaching out to long time collectors for help completing this registry. In time I intend on publishing this as a resource for the community. The request is for high resolution pictures be sent to jeremyeaton1@gmail.com

I am also looking to purchase these dates from anyone willing to sell!



I've been collecting Carson Halves for 10 years now. I started the same way I expect most do as they are appealing for numerous reasons. Good size to appreciate and hold in your hand, rare enough to be challenging yet not impossible to find and of course tied to the mystique of the short-lived Carson City Mint in Nevada.

Around 5 years ago, I came across the Liberty Seated Collectors Club and soon thereafter I was introduced to a wonderful resource - Bill Bugert's breakdown of die marriages. If anything, this only grew my passion. Being able to examine my coins and identify markers that can trace to a particular die set in the manufacturing process piqued my interest as a collector.

While reading up on the series, I saw multiple estimates from experts over the years. For the three rarest dates, 1870-CC, 1874-CC, and the 1878-CC, the prevailing theories usually pinned them in the range of 150 to 250 specimens still available for collectors today. I took this as fact for quite some time, but after being inspired by Bill Bugert's "Registry" work on the 1878-S, I realized I could do something similar. Armed with a quarter century of auction archives with high resolution images, I set to work compiling every known 1870-CC half dollar I could find and sorted them by die marriage. I started with the '70 Carson City half dollar as it has the smallest estimated surviving population and in theory the easiest to be able to compile the majority of them. I later realized this was not the case considering it has the most known die marriages of the three dates, I was researching which really added to the time to analyze each one. After getting to a good place on those, I then moved my focus on to the '74 Carson City and did the same thing. I have not started the '78 Caron City yet but that is next on my to do list with the intention of one day publishing the three registries to be a resource for our community.

I have exhausted the internet auction archives and had a great deal of help from Bill Bugert as well. I am now reaching out to long-time collectors for help completing this registry. The request is for high resolution pictures of any of these three dates to be sent to Jeremy Eaton, LSCC #2895: jeremyeaton1@gmail.com

I am also looking to purchase these dates from anyone willing to sell! More next month...

(END)