

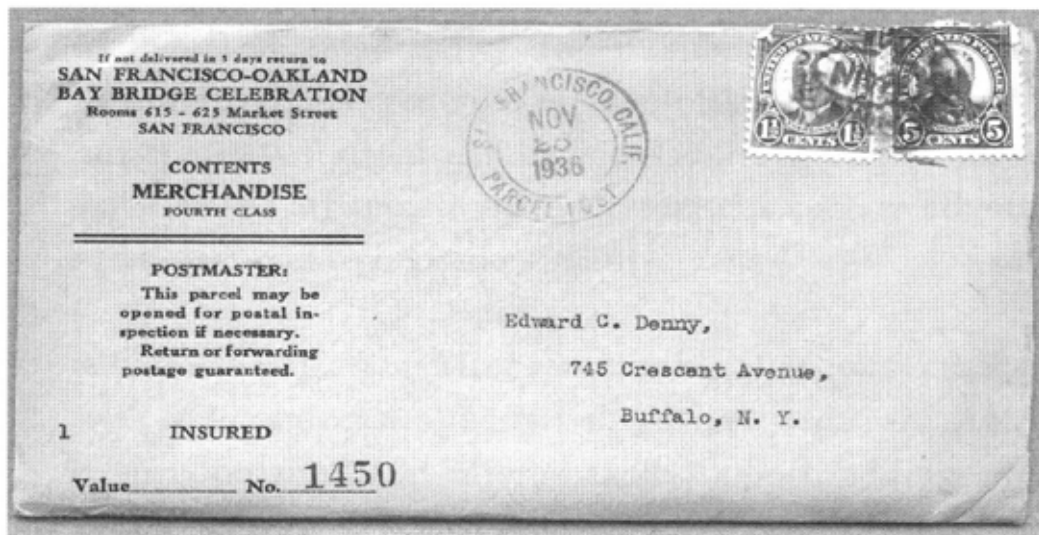
Carson City GSA Memorabilia

By Mitchell Yee

#RM-0147

Introduction

An interesting way to enhance any Carson City mint coin collection, especially the classic Morgan dollar series, is the addition of memorabilia materials that build context and depth. For example, the classic US commemorative coin collector has the opportunity to add a wide range of materials such as official order forms or official holders and mailers.



(Bay Bridge commemorative half dollar holder.)

The Norfolk Commemorative Half Dollar

(New Bill introduced in Congress on January 6, 1937—In the Senate by The Honorable Carter Glass and in the House by The Honorable Norman R. Hamilton, Second District of Virginia)



1. On one side of the coin will appear the official seal of the City of Norfolk. On the other side is a miniature reproduction of the Norfolk Mace. The Mace was presented to Norfolk when it was a borough—in 1783, by Lieutenant Governor Dinwiddie, as a token of his esteem for the borough. The Mace is one of Norfolk's greatest historic treasures and Norfolk is the only city in the United States with a Mace.

2. The issue will be for 20,000 coins from one mint—perhaps the Philadelphia Mint.

3. Tentative orders are now being received and will be filled on the basis of "first come, first served," with preference being given to orders with cash, certified checks or money orders.

4. Every possible effort will be made to insure that coins will be distributed to private collectors rather than dealers. The maximum limit on any one order for any one person is twenty (20) coins.



5. The price which will be asked for the Norfolk Commemorative Half Dollar will be \$1.50 for each coin, plus fifteen cents for the first coin on the order and five cents for each additional one, to cover postage, insurance and handling.

6. Net proceeds from the sale of coin will be used to defray the expenses for Norfolk Antivivarians Year Program.

7. William Marks Simpson, a native son of Norfolk and now Director for Rinehart School of Sculpture, Baltimore, Md., prepared and executed the designs and models for the Norfolk Half Dollar.

8. It is believed the coins will be ready for distribution by not later than March 25, 1937.

9. All communications from coin collectors with regard to the Norfolk Half Dollar and to which an answer is expected should contain postage to cover such reply.

(Norfolk commemorative half dollar application.)

Carson City mint coin collectors are fortunate when compared to collectors of other series of US coins because of the fabled General Services Administration (GSA) sales of Morgan dollars in the 1970s and the prodigious advertising and publicity efforts used to ensure the disbursement of over 2 million coins.

The history of the fabled GSA horde of "CC" Morgan dollars and subsequent auction sales have been documented elsewhere (references #1 and #2 at the end of article). The intent of this article is to catalog known GSA marketing materials and perhaps

to inspire other collectors to bring to light other GSA materials not seen previously. An estimate of the relative scarcity of the forms appears by each type gleaned from monitoring on-line auctions and bourse sales. However, given the vast quantity of forms that were distributed, these estimates might be more correctly stated as guesstimates.

Form and Appearance

The early US commemorative coin memorabilia involved almost every conceivable form and shape for order forms, mailers, holders and accessory materials because virtually every issue had its own charter to sell coins. However, GSA auction materials had a similar format and appearance. Almost all of the GSA auction sales materials were printed on 8 ½ inch by 11 inch (letter) paper, with three folds, printed on both sides and with quarter-toned color or black and white photographs.

Coins were encased in either a hard acrylic sonically welded case (the first slab) or a sealed soft Mylar package, depending on the mintmark or condition of the coin. If the dollar was a “CC” mintmarked coin in Uncirculated condition in the hard package, an imprinted certificate accompanied the coin. In the upper right hand of the certificate, a long number was imprinted with the first two digits denoting the date of the coin.



(1880-CC GSA certificate #80000785.)

For example, the card appearing in the photo above contains the number 80000785, denoting the 785th coin dated 1880. Surprising to many established dealers and collectors, GSA cards recently have become collectible, with the cards for the 1879, 1890 and 1891 dates the most valued.

Brochures

The first phase of the GSA sales by mail auction was launched in 1972. Prospective bidders received a brochure proclaiming "The Great Silver Sale" in late November. This form heralded the sale of the 1882, 1883 and 1884-CC Morgan dollars at a minimum accepted price of \$30. This form is scarce but will more often appear without the bid tear-off portion at the bottom. Complete forms are prized and worth at least twice as much as incomplete forms.

THE COIN THAT JESSE JAMES NEVER GOT!

THE GREAT SILVER SALE

THE CARSON CITY SILVER DOLLARS

They used them as the final part of the Prize and the Hatchery west of Newham, Champagne and across the western of Virginia City, Nevada. Many early gold, silver, and copper coins were found in the Carson City and the Carson City. The Carson City, Nevada, was the site of the Carson City Silver Dollar. The Carson City, Nevada, was the site of the Carson City Silver Dollar. The Carson City, Nevada, was the site of the Carson City Silver Dollar.

Buy the rest of existing ones high, and the demand for the coins will be great. Expressions of interest in the Carson City Silver Dollar are being received from all over the country. The Carson City Silver Dollar is being sold in Carson City, Nevada, and in Carson City, Nevada. The Carson City Silver Dollar is being sold in Carson City, Nevada, and in Carson City, Nevada. The Carson City Silver Dollar is being sold in Carson City, Nevada, and in Carson City, Nevada.

Now, the last silver of the Old West, in the form of these Carson City Silver Dollars, has been rediscovered in the vaults of the U. S. Treasury. There is only one place to buy them, and that is Carson City, Nevada. Buy them now before they are gone.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE OF RARE SILVER DOLLARS

1. Sales of the Carson City Silver Dollars are limited to citizens of the United States. In submitting this order, the bidder certifies that he or she is a citizen of the United States.
2. Each bidder may submit only one bid in each of the Carson City Silver Dollars. The bidder certifies that he or she is a citizen of the United States. The bidder certifies that he or she is a citizen of the United States. The bidder certifies that he or she is a citizen of the United States.
3. Bids shall be in "conventional" form and generally be sealed in envelopes. The bidder certifies that he or she is a citizen of the United States. The bidder certifies that he or she is a citizen of the United States. The bidder certifies that he or she is a citizen of the United States.
4. Payment for the full price of the Carson City Silver Dollars shall be made in cash or by check. Payment for the full price of the Carson City Silver Dollars shall be made in cash or by check. Payment for the full price of the Carson City Silver Dollars shall be made in cash or by check.
5. Carson City Silver Dollars will be accepted for sale in Carson City, Nevada. Carson City Silver Dollars will be accepted for sale in Carson City, Nevada. Carson City Silver Dollars will be accepted for sale in Carson City, Nevada.
6. All bids shall be received by the Carson City Silver Dollar Office. All bids shall be received by the Carson City Silver Dollar Office. All bids shall be received by the Carson City Silver Dollar Office.

U.S. GOVERNMENT SALE

- **collector's item**—the only coin with a double eagle design (DC). The rare Carson City U.S. Mint was the only one ever authorized to use more than one letter as its mint mark.
- **unparalleled rarities**—these coins are an extra, ordinary value because they are exactly as found in the original sealed cases large and were never in public circulation.
- **the last of the 1907 Carson City Dollars**—today's U.S. coins have a maximum of 90% silver.
- **minted from the Carson City**—a year ago, these coins were made from the silver mined from the famous Carson City lode.
- **prize-winning Carson City Dollars**—these are not common, antique medals but rather real early American silver dollars.
- **excellent for investments or gifts**—the value of these coins is high since the demand is great and the supply is limited.

But now for these historic coins, genuine mementos of our American heritage. Be sure you take advantage of this unique opportunity to own a rare collector's item, packaged in an attractive presentation case including an historical account of the Carson City Silver Dollar treasure. Free these coins yourself or present them as gifts to friends and family.

Minted in Carson City, these Silver Dollars are the last true mementos of the Great Silver Bonanza and the Old West. They are annual investments, but most of all they are something you will be proud to own.

You may bid on only one coin of each year. The years to be offered are 1907, 1908, and 1909. The Federal Reserve Administration has established a maximum price for each coin, but you may bid above the price if you wish to acquire your choice. If there are enough coins for an annual, any amount bid over the maximum price (which will be returned) However, if there are not enough to go around, coins will go to the highest bidder in descending order. Bids for The Great Silver Sale will be accepted until January 31, 1978. Complete the coupon below, include your check or money order and mail now before you miss this opportunity to own one of these Carson City Silver Dollars!

BIDS IN WHOLE DOLLARS ONLY

CASE NO.	COIN	PRICE	AMOUNT
1907-CC	100.00	100.00	100.00
1908-CC	100.00	100.00	100.00
1909-CC	100.00	100.00	100.00
TOTAL			300.00

PRICE INCLUDES: COIN AND CASE, POSTAGE

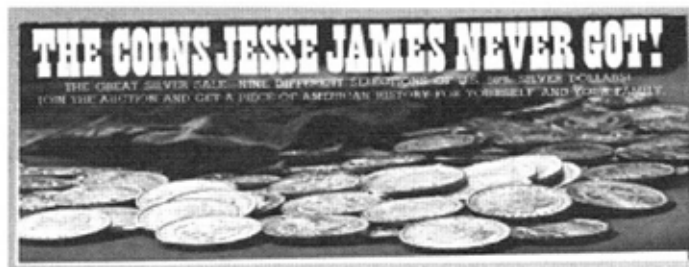
SEND TO: CARSON CITY SILVER DOLLARS, P.O. BOX 100, CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89401

MAIL TO: CARSON CITY SILVER DOLLARS, P.O. BOX 100, CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89401

MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO TREASURER OF U.S.

(“Great Silver Sale” brochure, front and back)

The grand sale of GSA dollars was launched with the tri-fold color brochure with a front logo boldly proclaiming “The Coins That Jesse James Never Got!” superimposed on a color photograph of a large number of silver dollars.



THE POTLUCK!

Many coins, many years... what a lot! These great choices are available in uncirculated Morgan and Peace 90% silver dollars. Coins will be sorted at random and be shipped to highest bidder. Some specific choices of years and mint marks not available.

Minimum bid \$3
SELECTION #1: mixed uncirculated Morgan and Peace silver dollars - mixed years from various mints. Packaged in a major display pocket and presented in a protective enclosure.

Minimum bid \$5
SELECTION #2: uncirculated Morgan and Peace silver dollars - mixed years from various mints, including Carson City. Packaged in a desirable display case.

THE SILVER BONANZA!

So little could buy so much history! Mixes of 90% silver coins from 1838-1925 silver mixed from the Carson City. Each is packaged in an attractive presentation case.

Minimum bid \$15
SELECTION #3: Carson City Silver Dollars (mixed 1878, 1890 & 1891) coins taken directly from U.S. Government mints out of the Government's holdings of silver dollars since they are not used for standards for "uncirculated" due to their age and wear.
SELECTION #4: 1878 uncirculated Carson City Silver Dollars.

THE CARSON CITY '90/'84!

Historical specimens from the Carson City - a group of silver dollars, waiting for your bid at auction or the Carson City Mint. Each is packaged in attractive lowest presentation case.

Minimum bid \$30
SELECTION #5: 1890 Carson City uncirculated silver dollar.
SELECTION #6: 1884 Carson City uncirculated silver dollar.

CC TRIPLE CHOICE!

Three ways to have a piece of history of your own. This is one of our American heritage treasures in your bid.

Make a minimum bid of \$30 on the following uncirculated Carson City Silver Dollars, packaged in the attractive Carson City Dollar lowest presentation case.
Minimum bid \$30
SELECTION #7: 1891 Carson City uncirculated silver dollar.
SELECTION #8: 1892 Carson City uncirculated silver dollar.
SELECTION #9: 1893 Carson City uncirculated silver dollar.

Behind these 90% Silver Dollars...

The late 1800s and early 1900s saw America become a nation. Every three feet there down, the West was truly won, and the railroad was finished there they used to count. First, for silver coins of Nevada were 90% silver coins to use the pockets of miners in America. And today, the Carson City Silver Dollars continue to tell the story of our nation's growth. See the number one bid for your bid and you have a piece of American history. In addition to other dollars mixed in Carson City leads a variety of 90% silver dollars including a limited number of uncirculated and uncirculated Morgan and Peace Dollars from various U.S. mints.



In all, there are four different selections of United States 90% silver dollars here which you can choose. You and every member of your family could get one of these uncirculated specimens. The coins include excellent gifts or souvenirs. Just take the money! You could get one of the silver dollars from your own pit.

These coins are being offered on our center authority given to the favor of the Group of Services Administration, Public Law 95-407.

Sale Period:
June 1 - July 31, 1973

("The Coins Jesse James Never Got" GSA literature, both sides)

This sale marked a significant event in the GSA sales with the first sales of the better dates of 1878, 1890 and 1891 in accompaniment with the mixed-all categories of Circulated and Uncirculated but not meeting GSA quality standards (i.e. toned, tarnished or just different looking) Morgan dollars.

The next series of sales for GSA dollars started in October 1973 with a tri-fold auction form with the three dates 1880, 1881 and 1885 appearing on the front portion.



**1880
1881
1885**



During the U.S. Government's tender of the 1880, 1881 and 1885 postmarked Carson City Silver Dollars, being offered for the first time on this date, the only specimens of the present issue were among specimens to which experts are familiar.



The 1880 is not an over-mint variety. During production of the 1881 issue, inspectors discovered a previously unknown variety. This new variety has several marks, which are shown. The only specimen known of the Carson City Silver Dollars minted in 1880 showed up in the USA holdings.



For each of the three years referred the number listed in this form represents approximately 1% of a portion of the total silver dollars struck in the Carson City mint during those years for the years of the 1880, 1881 and 1885. There were approximately 300,000 silver dollars struck at Carson City in each year.

**U.S. Government
Sale**
Bids must be
postmarked by
October 31, 1973

\$60

Per Coin
Minimum
Bid

SILVER DOLLAR COINAGE

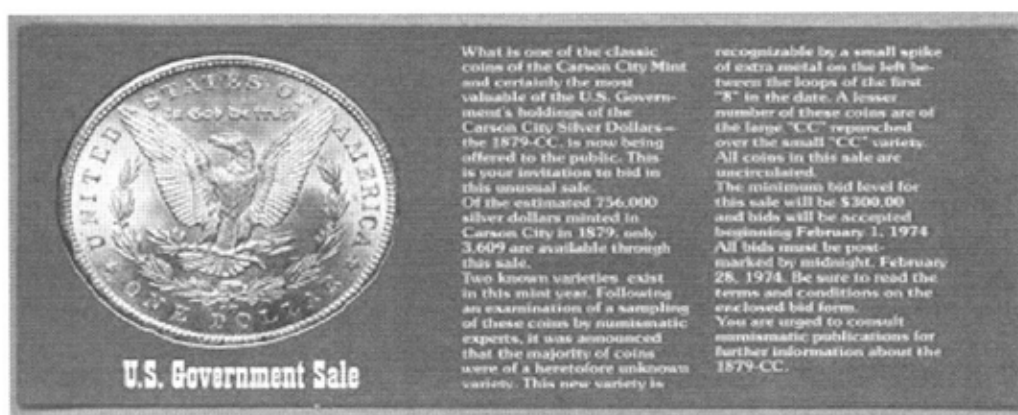
YEAR	TOTAL MINTED STATES MINTAGE	TOTAL MINTED CITY MINTAGE	CC'S PER 100 STATES U.S. MINTAGE	NUMBER AVAILABLE THIS SALE	% OF TOTAL U.S. MINTAGE IN THIS SALE
1880	27,287,205	581,200	2%	14,586	0.4%
1881	27,827,875	796,800	3%	122,498	0.2%
1885	28,697,787	728,800	3%	130,800	0.5%

The above chart was prepared to provide the prospect with a better view of the amount of silver dollars struck at Carson City during the years 1880, 1881 and 1885.

and specimens that are available in this sale. Every bidder is urged to consult the number of specimens for each year listed in the chart.

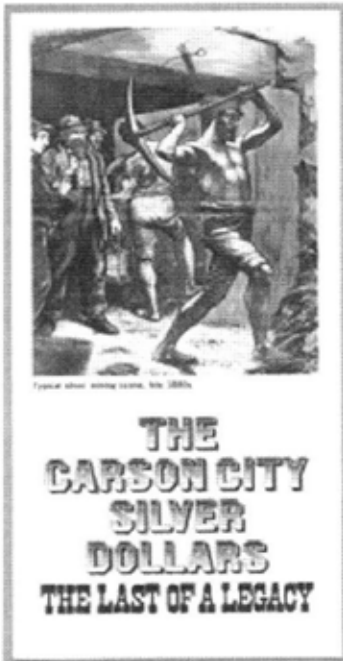
(1880-CC, 1881-CC, 1885-CC tri-fold auction form)

In early 1974, the fabled 1879-CC auction commenced with an 8-inch by 3.5 inch postcard inviting prospective bidders. This card is very scarce.



(Auction cards for 1879-CC GSA silver dollars)

In mid-1974, the next round of GSA sales was announced with a multi-colored tri-fold brochure heralding “The Last of a Legacy”. This brochure is the most common GSA form found in today’s market. This sale was a major attempt to sell out the remaining “CC” dollars. However, at this time, the market was essentially saturated; and following this auction, sales were suspended until a consensus could be developed on how to liquidate the final portion of the horde.



Six-guns and overnight millionaires . . .
 were consequences of the rise of the Carson City Silver Dollar. These were the times when men were rich and when they were poor. . . .

Mixed CC Dollars
 These were the times when men were rich and when they were poor. . . .

1883-CC
 Northern Pacific Railroad
 Total CC Silver Dollars Available 1,200,000
 Minimum Bid: \$25.00

1884-CC
 Northern Pacific Railroad
 Total CC Silver Dollars Available 1,200,000
 Minimum Bid: \$25.00

1885-CC
 Northern Pacific Railroad
 Total CC Silver Dollars Available 1,200,000
 Minimum Bid: \$25.00

1886-CC
 Northern Pacific Railroad
 Total CC Silver Dollars Available 1,200,000
 Minimum Bid: \$25.00

1887-CC
 Northern Pacific Railroad
 Total CC Silver Dollars Available 1,200,000
 Minimum Bid: \$25.00

1888-CC
 Northern Pacific Railroad
 Total CC Silver Dollars Available 1,200,000
 Minimum Bid: \$25.00

1889-CC
 Northern Pacific Railroad
 Total CC Silver Dollars Available 1,200,000
 Minimum Bid: \$25.00

THE ASSOCIATED SILVER BUYERS AND SELLERS OF AMERICA, INC. (ASBSA)
 1875 17TH ST. SW. SUITE 111
 CARSON CITY, NEVADA 89401
 Tel: 702-644-1111
 Fax: 702-644-1112

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Please send additional bid forms.

If you require additional bid forms, you may use the coupon to obtain one quickly and inexpensively. The bid form for additional bid forms contains a pre-addressed return envelope. The bid form for additional bid forms contains a pre-addressed return envelope.

The story behind the Carson City Silver Dollars

The Carson City Mint in Nevada produced only 23 years of the silver dollar designed by George T. Morgan. Because of the Morgan dollars, they all bear the unique "CC" mint mark - the only mint to use more than one letter on its coin. The Carson City Mint was closed in 1893 and no coins have been struck there since that year.

All coins struck there were shipped to other mints and Federal Reserve Banks throughout the country. But, with the large hoards of silver dollars in circulation of the late and the general popularity of new dollar bills, there was no demand for the silver "carbonate" produced at Carson City.

In the early 1980s, the demand for silver to support the world market in precious metal rose sharply. The silver dollar coins were thought to have been lost in the melt. However, in 1982, when silver was no longer used in coins or for the redemption of silver certificates, the General Accounting Office made an audit of the Treasury's silver dollars and discovered nearly three million unrecruited silver dollars from the long closed Carson City Mint.

Under Public Law 97-407, Congress authorized the Federal Security Administration (FSA) to sell the last of the Government's holdings of 90% silver dollars. The law requires FSA to adhere to the sale plan approved by the Joint Committee on the Coinage in 1982.

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("Last of A Legacy" order and information form, three views.)

The final phase of the GSA sales was heralded in February 1980 with a highly detailed form that described a convoluted order process in a time when the price of spot silver was highly volatile due to the market manipulations of the Hunt brothers. This form is surprisingly scarce.

90% Silver... 100% History

The Carson City Dollars


Acquire a piece of Americana for yourself... your family... your friends.

These beautiful coins, designed by George T. Morgan and struck between 1873 and 1893 at the long closed Carson City Mint, are 90% silver and 10% copper.

Hidden away in Treasury vaults for more than 60 years... suddenly capturing the attention of silver coin collectors in the 1930s... the secret of their numismatic identity was uncovered in 1964.

Each silver dollar in this offering... from the last of the Government's hoarding... has been purchased by a handsome silver coin and placed in a volume-bound gift box containing a brief history of the coin.

Carson City silver dollars are... I collect them... I treasure as mementoes of a bygone era... or give to others as gifts of the future.



1883-CC
1 Unaltered
Eigh (minted) 1,200,000
Total in this sale: 70,000

1884-CC
Unaltered
Eigh (minted) 1,200,000
Total in this sale: 65,000

Mixed Years-CC
1870-85, 1889-93
Total in this sale: 295,000

A complete catalogue of 72 different... new, varied designs... for the collector... will be... available... in a... volume... bound... in... leather... with... a... gold... and... silver... coins... and... medals... and... a... price... list... and... a... list... of... dealers... and... a... list... of... agents... and... a... list... of... distributors... and... a... list... of... retailers... and... a... list... of... wholesalers... and... a... list... of... exporters... and... a... list... of... importers... and... a... list... of... brokers... and... a... list... of... agents... and... a... list... of... distributors... and... a... list... of... retailers... and... a... list... of... wholesalers... and... a... list... of... exporters... and... a... list... of... importers... and... a... list... of... brokers...

The Carson City Dollars

Important Notice - Please read carefully!

The Carson City silver dollar sale begins February 6, 1980. Because of widely fluctuating silver prices on the current world market, no prices appear on this order form.

Please watch for the announcements of Carson City silver dollar prices in advertisements appearing on February 6--and periodically thereafter--in many major daily newspapers and in the economic and business press.

Prices will also be available on and after February 8 by calling the nearest Federal Information Center (listed under "U.S. Government" in the white pages of your telephone books), or in the continental U.S. by calling this special toll free number: (1-800-336-4743). (In the District of Columbia call 357-1900.)

Please carefully read the terms and conditions of sale; below. Fill out the order form properly, being sure to make mathematical calculations of price and quantity accurately. Sign your name and mail your order and remittance as soon as possible. Order forms not correctly completed will be returned.

The Government reserves the right to reduce the quantity of coins ordered and to cancel the sale.

How to Order

1. Order form to be submitted on the forms below.
2. Please carefully read the terms and conditions of sale, below.
3. Make your name and address clearly legible in the space on the order form.
4. Fill in the price or the dollar equivalent of your order.
5. Check the number of dollars you are ordering.
6. If you are ordering more than \$1,000, you must attach a check for the total amount of your order to the order form and mail it to the address on the order form.
7. If you are ordering less than \$1,000, you must attach a check for the total amount of your order to the order form and mail it to the address on the order form.
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20. If you are ordering more than \$1,000, you must attach a check for the total amount of your order to the order form and mail it to the address on the order form.

Terms and Conditions of Sale

1. Orders may not be cancelled or returned.
2. Orders may not be transferred.
3. Orders may not be resold.
4. Orders may not be used as collateral.
5. Orders may not be used for any other purpose.
6. Orders may not be used for any other purpose.
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19. Orders may not be used for any other purpose.
20. Orders may not be used for any other purpose.

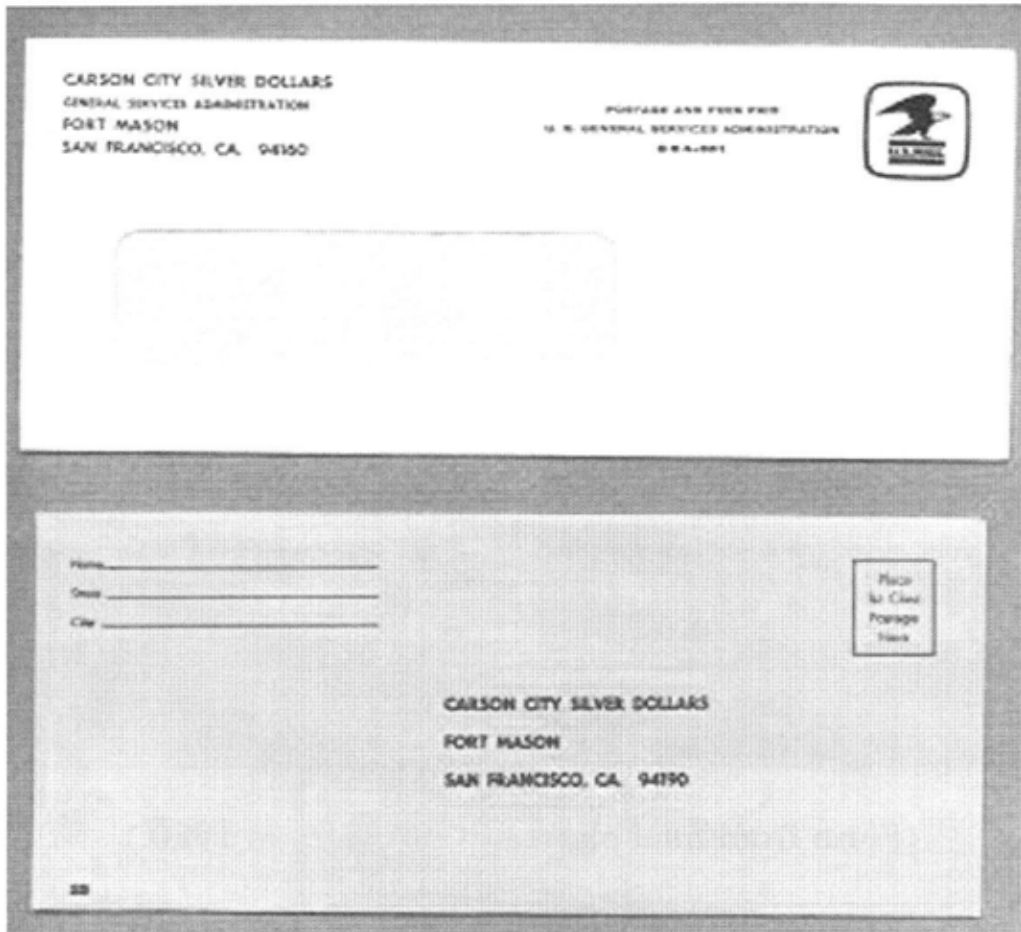
(Form from final phase of GSA sales in 1980.)

The Minors

Minor GSA collectibles include official correspondence, bid acknowledgement postcards, award certificates, and official envelopes. Here's a sampling:

GSA FORM 104 INSTRUCTIONS			BIDS IN WHOLE DOLLARS ONLY		
1. All numbered blocks must be completed.					
2. Enter the dollar amount of your offer(s) in block 2. The dollar amount of each offer may not be less than \$30.00.					
3. Enter the total of your offer(s) in block 3, and make payment equal to this total amount by check or money order, payable to Treasurer of the United States.					
I hereby agree to the terms and conditions on the reverse of this form.					
1. SIGNATURE		TA. DATE		1882 -CC 530.00 00	
R. BOLLEN				1883 -CC 530.00 00	
PO BOX 7				1884 -CC 530.00 00	
GENESECO				3. TOTAL 00	
19548926		PRICE INCLUDES POSTAGE DO NOT SEND CASH			
IL 61254		IMPORTANT: For a SECOND CHANCE check the box below. If, due to a sell out in a category, I am unsuccessful, I agree to accept another coin in the offering, if available, at my bid price, under the same terms and conditions.			
<input type="checkbox"/> If address above is incorrect, check box and complete. (Print or type)		HAS ORDER TO: CARSON CITY SILVER DOLLARS FORT MASON SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94160			

(Bid form from 1973 GSA.)



(GSA Envelopes.)

**GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
CARSON CITY SILVER DOLLARS**
FOUR MASON
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94102

EACH COIN WILL BE MAILED SEPARATELY

BIDDERS NAME AND ADDRESS	ORDER NO.	CATEGORY	AMOUNT YOU BID	PRICE COIN WAS AWARDED	AMOUNT REFUNDED
M YEE	2203511	80	100.00	60.00	40.00
SAN FRANCISCO	CA 94121	81			
		85			
<small>* An asterisk in the category column indicates that due to a default of the coin you requested, you have been awarded this coin under the "second chance" program as indicated on your order form.</small>		TOTAL AMOUNT RECEIVED		TOTAL AMOUNT AWARDED	TOTAL AMOUNT REFUNDED
<small>Category: MU - Mixed mint marks undervalued; ML - Mixed mint marks circulated; MY - Mixed years</small>		100.00		60.00	40.00

BID SUMMARY GSA FORM T-589-2 (4-75)

CARSON CITY SILVER DOLLARS
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94102
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
GSA-361

FIRST CLASS

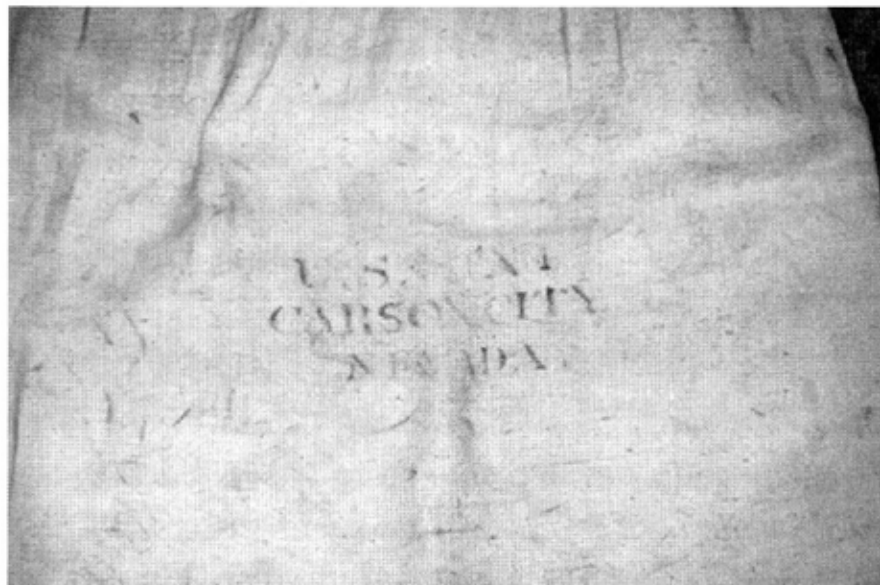
ORDER NUMBER
2203511

M YEE
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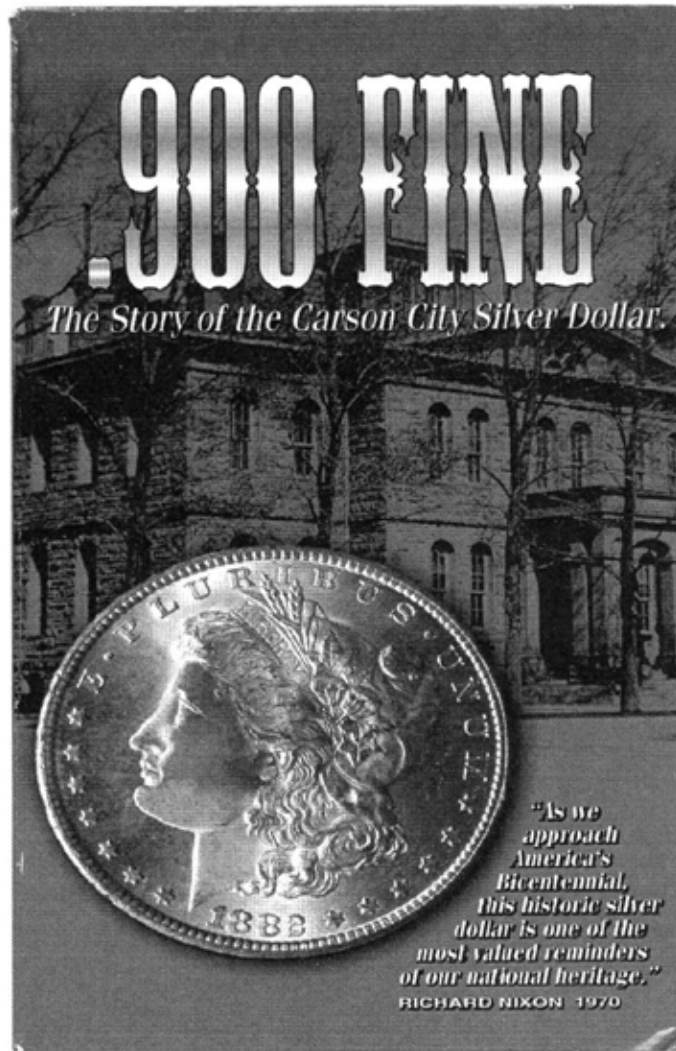


GSA FORM T-582 (4-75)

(GSA bid form and acknowledgement postcard.)



(Carson City Mint silver dollar sack, 1884)



(.900 Fine Video.)

This video produced in 1971 and re-released to the public in 1998 is a short VHS video documenting the history of the coins and includes film produced during the handling of the GSA Morgan dollar horde in the 1970s.

What's Missing

A regrettable hole in this collection is the dearth of bid forms, either completed or unused. These forms were imprinted with a customer number and the name of the prospective bidder by the GSA.

Finding and Buying Memorabilia

Despite the millions of forms that were mailed out in the 1970s, today's strong prices have not brought large quantities of forms out into the open market. Nevertheless, one should not be surprised with the appearance of forms in quantity if today's strong prices continue. The bourse floor is always a good forum to start the hunt. There are several dealers who appreciate GSA dollars and maintain a stock. Other possible venues are the Web based auction sites such as eBay, Heritage, Teletrade and Yahoo auctions. Although the appearance of GSA memorabilia is infrequent, when they do appear, eBay has been the site of choice.

GSA Memorabilia is not immune to the whims of a market place that prizes condition and originality. In short, prices are substantially higher for intact forms without any detracting features such as stains, writing, folds, or tears.

Human nature is inevitably reflected in all activities where people from all crosswalks of life are involved and even esoteric pastimes such as coin collecting are not exempt. Like their numismatic brethren, counterfeits exist for GSA brochures. The most often copied brochure is the "Last of a Legacy" color brochure. It is possible, but difficult, to distinguish counterfeits from their originals. In the 1970s, color printing technology was much different than today's 21st century printers.

Personal Reflections, With Thanks

I am fortunate to have a semi-packrat father. During the GSA sales, he was certainly much smarter than I when it came to carefully documenting his efforts for each auction. Because the GSA encouraged bidding by multiple members in a household (remember, they had a lot of silver dollars to get rid of), he requested multiple

copies of order forms. More importantly, he kept the unused forms. In the mid-1980s, I had started my US commemorative memorabilia collection. During one of the times when I was sharing that collection with him (probably in the early 1990s), he pulled out his folder of GSA materials and wondered if the contents would be interesting to anyone. You could imagine the dope-slap I gave myself with the words of that great philosopher Homer Simpson, “DOHHH!”

(Images from author’s personal collection.)

About the author:

I’ve been a long time dollar and early commemorative collector. After building and selling a substantial toned commemorative coin and memorabilia collection, I’m rebuilding my neglected GSA collection with Deep Mirror Prooflikes. Got DMPLs? Send them my way!

References:

#1 - Goe, Rusty; *The Mint on Carson Street*; 2003 Southgate Coins, Reno, Nevada

#2 - Sonnier, Brian; “GSA Dollars”, <http://www.coinresources/articles/gsa.htm>

#3 - Van Allen, Leroy and A. George Mallis; *The Encyclopedia of Morgan and Peace Silver Dollars*, 3rd edition, 1991, DLRC Press, Virginia Beach, VA