# A Register of 1849 WB-6 Dramatically Doubled Date Liberty Seated Half Dollars



by
Bill Bugert

With a Foreword by Dennis Fortier



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# **Foreword**

#### by Dennis Fortier Seated Half Society President

The Liberty Seated Half Dollar community is a close-knit group of collectors, so I expect that many of those reading this will already know of me and my friendship with Bill Bugert. Bill has been my mentor in collecting, specifically in collecting seated halves, for twenty years. As a dedicated collector of the series and past Vice-President of the Liberty Seated Collectors club, I also founded the Seated Half Society (for Liberty Seated Half Dollar enthusiasts) in 2021 with both urging and support from Bill.

Bill Bugert's focused study of the series, combined with ongoing and long-term collaborations with other seated half experts and enthusiasts, has made him the go-to authority on Liberty Seated half dollars. The book he published with Randy Wiley (*The Complete Guide to Liberty Seated Half Dollars, 1993*), and his series of six Registers (so Far) detailing every known Liberty Seated Half Dollar die variety have distinguished him as the foremost expert on seated halves. This singularly impressive body of work would be more than enough for most numismatists. Bill, however, always finds another project. In the present case, that project is a series of web-booklet registers beginning with the series key (1878-S) in 2020, and now expanding to include the so called BIG THREE varieties: the1849 Dramatically Doubled Date, the 1847 over 6, and the 1873 No Arrows Open 3.

This first of the big three varieties registers to be published documents the 1849 Dramatically Doubled Date WB-6. A rare variety, it has long been considered a must-have for seated half dollar variety specialists. The photos and histories in this web-booklet register will both provide collectors with valuable information and hopefully bring new attention to this rare variety.

Due to its rarity the 1849 Dramatically Doubled Date appeared so infrequently in auction records that it had been delisted by all major price guides for most of the last decade. Its absence from price guides contributed to prices for this rare issue plummeting well below previous values. After several years of effort Bill persuaded the *Redbook* editor to re-list it two years ago. Now, with the 1849 Dramatically Doubled Date's re-listing the variety will hopefully be sought more enthusiastically and find its price adjusted upwards to align more appropriately with its desirability.

Bill's 1849 Dramatically Doubled Date web-booklet offers detailed descriptions and photographs of every known example of the 1849 Dramatically Doubled Date that he has been able to study for over fifty years. These photos and histories provide an important resource for collectors and scholars now and in years to come. The web-booklets add to Bill Bugert's legacy while providing yet more examples of his detailed research and dedication to the series. It is an honor to write this foreword for such an accomplished numismatist and friend.

Dennis Fortier Seated Half Society President

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# Introduction

The 1849 WB-6<sup>1</sup> Dramatically Doubled Date Half Dollar is a rare variety and a key to the variety set of Liberty Seated Half Dollars. Long recognized as rare, ML Beistle in his 1929 Register<sup>2</sup> calls this variety "exceedingly rare." Noting Beistle's claim, early auction catalog lot descriptions from the 1960s exploit this variety's rarity, but with good reason. Walter Breen in his 1988 Encyclopedia<sup>3</sup> described this variety as "Fewer than 6 seen to date, all but one in low grades...As spectacular as 4775 (i.e., 1844/1844-O), 4782 (i.e., 1845-O), 4788 (i.e., 1846/H6), but less often seen and therefore less publicized." The surviving numbers are now much larger than 6, but in my experience, this variety is still rare and worthy of attention by the dedicated Liberty Seated half dollar collector. It is one of the rarest varieties in the series, popular only to

knowledgeable collectors, underrated and underappreciated, and easy to recognize with an unaided eye.

Depicted on the cover and page 14 of this Register, the date on this variety is dramatically repunched over a full digit's width to the right, hence its name.



In 2024, the President of the Seated Half Society<sup>4</sup>, Dennis Fortier, also recognized the rarity of this variety and authored an analysis of this variety in the Liberty Seated Collectors Club's printed publication, *The Gobrecht Journal*<sup>5</sup>. In this article Dennis cites not only the rarity of this variety but also price to rarity abnormality. For example, the finest known, an NGC MS64 BB-01, lost two-thirds of its value from \$20,700 in 2011 to \$6,300 in 2025. An XF45, BB-09, lost half its value in one year, 2009-2010. This variety does not get the interest and notoriety that I and other collectors think it should.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Bugert, Bill. <u>A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume VI, Philadelphia Mint 1856 to 1873 No Arrows</u>. Gettysburg, PA: Self-published, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Beistle, Martin Luther. <u>A Register of Half Dollar Die Varieties and Sub-Varieties</u>. Shippensburg, PA: The Beistle Company, 1929.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Breen, Walter. <u>Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of US and Colonial Coins</u>. F.C.I Press, Inc. and Doubleday, 1988.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Seated Half Society is a subset of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club dedicated collecting and advancing Libert Seated half dollars. Minimal requirements for joining are new members must have verified 100 half dollars of the Seated type.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The thrice yearly printed publication of the Liberty Seated Collectors Club. Members in good standing receive this publication.

Before the 1990s, auction companies often used few photographic plates and incomplete lot descriptions. For example, lot descriptions might mention repunched or recut dates. Unfortunately for the lot descriptions, there are multiple 1849 repunched dates making identification to the WB-6 or WB-102<sup>6</sup> difficult or impossible. Auction data from the mid-1990s improved and most instances in this Register of this variety are only cited since then. I have listed some open leads at the end of this Register so that, if additional information is forthcoming, identification of other examples might be possible.

There is another variety that some mistakenly believe to be the WB-6. On some EDS examples of the WB-1, there are raised splotches of metal to the left of the bases of the date (photo below). On more than one occasion, this has been mistaken for the rare dramatically doubled date variety (WB-6). It is not; it is a separate die marriage. This raised metal disappears with die wear and die polishing.



1849 WB-1 half dollar EDS date closeup, sometimes mistaken for the WB-6.

Although I was unable to find lengthy pedigree information on almost all the 1849 WB-6s in this Register, I sincerely hope this Register is useful, informative, and motivating to encourage interest in collecting this rare variety.

Lastly, I apologize as this Register is not as complete as it could be. Sadly, a few individuals not listed herein reported to me that they owned an 1849 WB-6 but were unwilling to share information on them. Perhaps these coins will appear in a future edition of this Register.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Wiley, Randy and Bill Bugert. <u>The Complete Guide To Liberty Seated Half Dollars</u>. Virginia Beach, VA: DLRC Press, 1993.

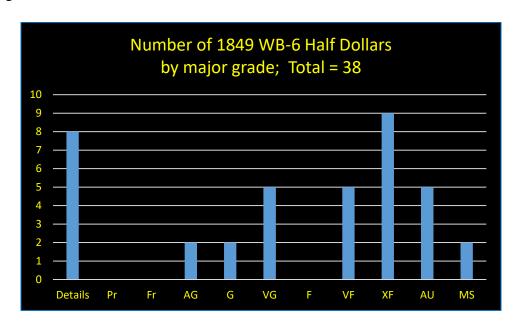
# **Miscellaneous Information**

<u>Purpose of this publication</u>. With this document, it is my desire and ultimate goal to record information (images, known pedigree, and miscellaneous notes) on all the 1849 WB-6 Dramatically Doubled Date half dollars. I believe there exists approximately 50 examples (38 are detailed here) and finding them all with useful pedigree information and images will be a worthwhile continual task with constant updates. This is my start (although I have been keeping records for decades) at that effort.

I have assigned a BB-## to each coin so that past and future presences of these coins may be easily tracked. Cross references to some of Randy Wiley's previously and currently owned coins are also contained herein as W-##.

<u>Disclaimer</u>. This *Register* is only as good as the information collected from many sources. I have taken great pains to remove inaccuracies, but I suspect some information included here may not be accurate and/or incomplete. I have listed "known pedigree details" for each coin and I admit that details are very sparse. Little is known to me about sales history of these coins.

<u>1849 WB-6 half dollars by grade</u>. The chart below depicts the census of examples listed herein by major grade.



From the chart depicted above, it is readily apparent that almost a quarter of the known coins are in "Details" grade while another quarter are XF. Others are spread across the grades with a heavy concentration in VG, VF, and AU. The "Details" graded coins range from Good to AU.

<u>How did I collect this data</u>? I acknowledge that a lot of information is missing from this *Register* and there may be some inaccurate data. I strived to have only accurate information. I researched this date using many sources. They are listed below:

- Person to person conversations. In most cases, I recorded the information I received; some was considered questionable until I was able to verify it or discard it.
- My personal numismatic library of auction catalogues going back to the 1930s. *Numismatic News' Auction Prices Realized for U.S. Coins* for individual years was a reference time saver. Older catalogues and many catalogues missing from individual libraries are now available on the Newman Numismatic Portal. This portal made many numismatic bibliophiles' libraries outmoded, but it is a great time saver.
- Modern online auction company archives. These reference libraries of auction results usually had great images, slab numbers, and good descriptions and notably included Heritage and Stack's Bowers.
- Numismatic and dealer publications. These include but are not limited to *The Gobrecht Journal, Coin World, Numismatic News*, and dealer price lists and announcements.
- Coin show bourse and dealer cases. Roaming the large coin shows sometimes produced an 1849 WB-6 half dollar in a dealer's case. Mostly, dealers were cooperative with allowing me to image or draw the details of the coin and record information. In all cases, past pedigree information was not offered.
- Third party grading companies' online records. I have more on this in the following sections, but this provided great information and leads for me to follow.
- My "other help." Many numismatic friends knew of my effort to document all rare half dollar varieties and were proactive in helping me with information. These friends would find them on bourse floors, online, and in publications a were helpful in my effort to complete this *Register*.
- Randy Wiley. Randy and I researched this date together for many years. In speaking with Randy, he acknowledges that this variety is indeed rare.

**Double Date 1849s stolen.** Coin World<sup>7</sup> reported that Buffalo coin dealer, Victor A. Drajem, Jr., had, among many other coins, "four to six 1849 Seated Liberty doubled date half dollars" stolen on the way home from the Empire State Numismatic Association Show on August 16, 1987. There was no indication in the article of double date variety.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "N. Y. dealer reports theft of coins, car" <u>Coin World</u>, September 9, 1987: 46.

<u>TPG encapsulation statistics</u><sup>a</sup>. The tables below depict the number of certified 1849 WB-6 half dollars as of the date specified. Most certified examples of the 1849 WB-6 half dollar are not variety attributed but identification is simple by observing the dramatically doubled date.

As of April 5, 2025:

| Grade | 2 | <u>3</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>6</u> | 8 | <u>10</u> | <u>12</u> | <u>15</u> | <u>20</u> | <u>25</u> | <u>30</u> | <u>35</u> | <u>40</u> |
|-------|---|----------|----------|----------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| PCGS  |   |          |          |          | 1 | 1         |           |           |           | 3         |           | 1         | 1         |
| NGC   |   |          |          |          |   |           |           |           |           |           | 1         |           |           |
| CACG  | 0 | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0 | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         |
| ANACS |   | 1        | 1        | 1        |   |           |           |           | 1         |           | 1         |           | 2         |

| Grade | <u>45</u> | <u>50</u> | <u>53</u> | <u>55</u> | <u>58</u> | <u>60</u> | <u>61</u> | <u>62</u> | <u>63</u> | <u>64</u> | <u>65</u> | <u>66</u> |
|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| PCGS  | 2         | 2         |           |           | 1         |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| NGC   | 2         |           |           |           |           |           |           | 1         |           | 1         |           |           |
| CACG  | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         | 0         |
| ANACS | 1         | 2         |           | 1         |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |

| Totals             | PCGS <sup>b</sup> | NGC <sup>b</sup> | CACG | ANACS <sup>b</sup> |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|------|--------------------|
| Total encapsulated | 17                | 5                | 0    | 19                 |
| Total graded       | 12                | 5                | 0    | 12                 |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> SEGS does not publish grading statistics.

**Photographs**. Most of the images of 1849 WB-6 half dollars depicted in this Register are from other sources. While some are not ideal for a modern state of the art publication, many are the best that I have or can get but are good enough to properly identify a specific coin.

<u>Confidentiality</u>. Much information provided to me in confidence (such as current owners) is omitted to protect individual privacy. That information, however, is included in my personal unpublished reference copy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Note: PCGS and NGC do not list separate "Details" grade coins but includes them in the total number graded. ANACS does separate "Details" graded coins by grade.

# Census of 1849 WB-6 Half Dollars by Grade and Authentication Service

| Grade | PCGS Slab #         | <b>BB-</b> # | NGC/NCS Slab #  | <b>BB-</b> # | ANACS<br>Holder/Papers | <b>BB-</b> # | Raw          | <b>BB-</b> # |
|-------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| MS64  |                     |              | 3462109-001     | 01           | _                      |              | MS65?        | 02           |
|       | 14771968            | 03           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
| AU58  | <del>21061431</del> | 03           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
|       | 42019773 (D)        | 33           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
| AU55  | 50080035            | 04           | 5130619-007 (D) | 30           | <del>3019674</del>     | 04           |              |              |
| AUSS  | 44784860 (D)        | 32           | 3130019-007 (D) | 30           | <del>3017074</del>     | 04           |              |              |
| AU53  |                     |              |                 |              |                        |              | Randy Wiley  | 05           |
|       | 26467366            | 06           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
| AU50  | 45562617            | 07           |                 |              | <del>NK</del>          | 04           |              |              |
|       | <del>81613406</del> | 07           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
|       | 35822424            | 08           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
| XF45  | 38231289            | 09           | 4882806-004     | 11           | 2820193                | 13           | Unknown      | 12           |
|       | 02290109            | 10           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
| XF40  | 27503686            | 14           |                 |              | EX3876                 | 15           | Unknown      | 16           |
| VF35  | 49380423            | 17           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
| VF30  |                     |              | 1787983-001     | 18           | NK (D)                 | 35           | Unknown (D)  | 34           |
| VF25  | 39197122            | 19           |                 |              |                        |              | Breen        | 21           |
| VF25  | 14947021            | 20           |                 |              |                        |              | Diceii       | 21           |
| VG10  | 19693958            | 24           |                 |              |                        |              | Bob Muzzi    | 22           |
| VGIU  | 19093936            | 24           |                 |              |                        |              | Unknown      | 23           |
|       | 28140657            | 26           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
| VG8   | 42710258 (D)        | 36           |                 |              | 910170 (D)             | 38           | Fred Clowe   | 25           |
|       | 20548132 (D)        | 37           |                 |              |                        |              |              |              |
| G6    |                     |              |                 |              | 7460011                | 27           | Unknown      | 28           |
| AG3   |                     |              |                 |              | 466710                 | 30           | Mike Perkins | 29           |

NK = Number Not Known (to Bugert)

(D) = Details holder

Note: SEGS does not publish grading statistics.

##### = Still in TPG database records

Strike thru = Specific coin's previous TPG number

# Information Needed on these 1849 WB-6 Half Dollars

# by Grade and Authentication Service

|       | <b>√</b>    |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
|-------|-------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|-----|--------------|
| Grade | PCGS Slab # | <b>BB-</b><br># | NGC/NCS Slab # | <b>BB-</b><br># | ANACS<br>Holder/Papers | <b>BB-</b> # | Raw | <b>BB-</b> # |
| MS66  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| MS65  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| MS64  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| MS63  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| MS62  |             |                 | NK             |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| MS61  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| MS60  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| AU58  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| AU55  |             |                 |                |                 | NK (D)                 |              |     |              |
| AU50  |             |                 |                |                 | NK, NK (D)             |              |     |              |
| XF45  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| XF40  |             |                 |                |                 | NK                     |              |     |              |
| VF35  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| VF30  |             |                 |                |                 | NK                     |              |     |              |
| VF20  |             |                 |                |                 | NK                     |              |     |              |
| F15   |             |                 |                |                 | NK (D)                 |              |     |              |
| F12   |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| VG10  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| VG8   |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| G6    |             |                 |                |                 | NK, NK (D)             |              |     |              |
| G4    |             |                 |                |                 | NK (D)                 |              |     |              |
| AG3   |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |
| FR02  |             |                 |                |                 |                        |              |     |              |

# 1849 WB-6 Half Dollars Summary

| Grade | Details                           | AG03   | G04 | G06 | VG8    | VG10       | VF25       | VF30 |
|-------|-----------------------------------|--------|-----|-----|--------|------------|------------|------|
| #     | 31, 32, 33, 34,<br>35, 36, 37, 38 | 29, 30 | 28  | 27  | 25, 26 | 22, 23, 24 | 19, 20, 21 | 18   |
| Page  | 48, 49, 50, 51,<br>52, 53, 54, 55 | 46, 47 | 45  | 44  | 42, 43 | 39, 40, 41 | 36, 37, 38 | 35   |

| Grade | VF35 | XF40       | XF45                      | AU50   | AU53 | AU55 | AU58 | MS64 | MS65 |
|-------|------|------------|---------------------------|--------|------|------|------|------|------|
| #     | 17   | 14, 15, 16 | 08, 09, 10,<br>11, 12, 13 | 06, 07 | 05   | 04   | 03   | 01   | 02   |
| Page  | 34   | 31, 32, 33 | 25, 26, 27,<br>28, 29, 30 | 23, 24 | 22   | 21   | 20   | 18   | 19   |

# Characteristics of a Genuine 1849 WB-6 Half Dollar

extracted from A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume V, Philadelphia Mint 1839 to 1852

### 1849 WB-6, Dramatically Doubled Date

# Obverse 3 Solvense 4 Solvens

• Dramatically doubled date (photos above and below) with all the digits of the date first punched to the west of the final date.

Additionally, the lower loop of an errant 9 protrudes from the rock support above (18)49. Note also the tine from the dentil below the right edge of the 9.





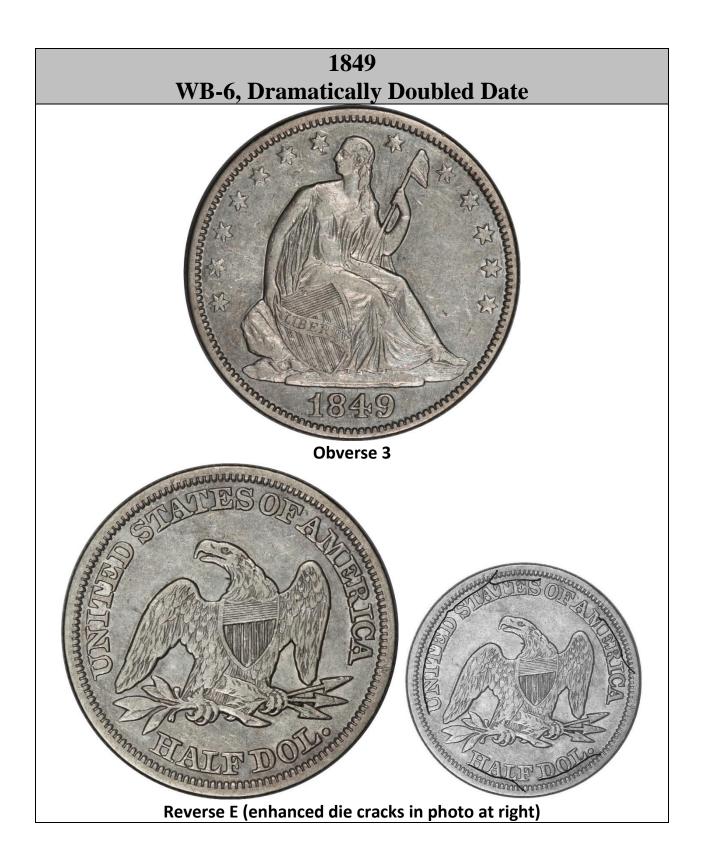
Reverse E

- Diagonal die lines in the upper left corner of the lower shield and other die lines in the bottom inside of the lower shield (photo)
- All examples seen: weak die cracks thru legend and denomination. (See enhanced die crack diagram on the next page.)

This is the only use of this obverse die and first use of this reverse die.

This die marriage is a naked eye rarity, popular, and a key variety in the series. It has one of the most dramatically repunched dates; hence, the nickname. Most are seen in low grades but a small number exist in nice AU. Finding one of these in any condition would be a centerpiece of a Liberty Seated half dollar collection.

| Date grid: M1, .018" 14:                |     | 5 reeds | Typical diameter = 1.201" |                       | Rarity - 5         |  |  |
|---|-----|---------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Drapery die state: Full Foot support: F |     |         | ull                       | Dentils: Obverse - Fu | ll; Reverse - Full |  |  |
| Grade of coin depicted: X               | F40 |         | Coin from the Bill Bu     | gert Collection       |                    |  |  |
| Cross reference: WB-102.                |     |         |                           | Version 82.S          |                    |  |  |



# **Table of Listings**

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| BB-02   | MS65 Raw         | 19          |
| BB-03   | PCGS AU58        | 20          |
| BB-04   | PCGS AU55        | 21          |
| BB-05   | AU53 Raw         | 22          |
| BB-06   | PCGS AU50        | 23          |
| BB-07   | PCGS AU50        | 24          |
| BB-08   | PCGS XF45        | 25          |
| BB-09   | PCGS XF45        | 26          |
| BB-10   | PCGS XF45        | 27          |
| BB-11   | NGC XF45         | 28          |
| BB-12   | XF45 Raw         | 29          |
| BB-13   | ANACS XF45       | 30          |
| BB-14   | PCGS XF40        | 31          |
| BB-15   | ANACS XF40       | 32          |
| BB-16   | XF40 Raw         | 33          |
| BB-17   | PCGS VF35        | 34          |
| BB-18   | NGC VF30         | 35          |
| BB-19   | PCGS VF25        | 36          |
| BB-20   | PCGS VF25        | 37          |
| BB-21   | VF25 Raw         | 38          |
| BB-22   | VG10 Raw         | 39          |
| BB-23   | VG10 Raw         | 40          |
| BB-24   | PCGS VG10        | 41          |
| BB-25   | VG8 Raw          | 42          |
| BB-26   | PCGS VG8         | 43          |
| BB-27   | ANACS G4(6)      | 44          |
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| BB-33   | PCGS AU details  | 50          |
| BB-34   | VF30 cleaned Raw | 51          |
| BB-35   | ANACS VF details | 52          |
| BB-36   | PCGS VG details  | 53          |
| BB-37   | PCGS VG details  | 54          |
| BB-38   | ANACS VG details | 55          |

# The Census of 1849 WB-6 Dramatically Doubled Date Half Dollars



Attractive blue/gold toning Small rim cud below (1)8(49) TIES OF THE STATE OF THE STATE

Attractive blue/gold toning
Noticeable gouge below the olive stem above
D(OL)

Certified: NGC MS64 #3462109-001 "1849/1849 Repunched Date FS-301, WB-102"

Grade: MS64

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

#### Unknown collector

ex-Heritage Auctions FUN Signature Auction 1/15/2025:5033 @ \$6,300

ex-Heritage Auctions Eugene H. Gardner Collection 10/27/2014: 98488 @ \$9,400

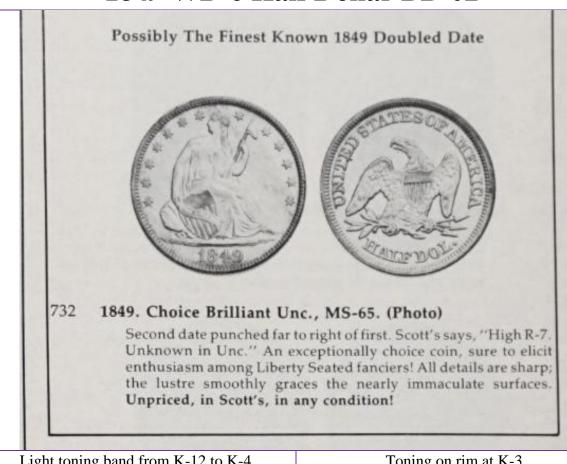
ex-Stack's Bowers Sale of the Dick Osburn Collection 8/18/2011:7034 @ \$20,700

Likely ex-Kagin's Sale of the 70s Public Auction, 11/2-3/1973:1242 @ NA. The unplated lot description sounds exactly like this coin "...Finest Known...glittering bluish golden PROOFLIKE (obverse)..."

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

#### Note:

1. Pending verification of the grade of BB-02, this is the finest known example of the 1849 WB-6 half dollar.



| Light tolling band from K-12 to K-4  | Tolling on Till at K-3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Toning below date  |                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grade: Catalogued as MS65  | Certified: Raw         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cross reference: WB-102  |                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <u>Known</u> Pedigree Details  |                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unknown Collector<br>ex-NASCA Sale of the Matthew Bryan Collection 11/2/1977:732 |                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |

#### Note:

1. The location of this coin is currently unknown. By photo matching auction plates, this coin appears to differ from BB-01, the NGC MS64. BB-01 has a noticeable gouge below the olive stem; this coin doesn't have that defect. Additionally, the toning is different although time and human assistance can alter that appearance. It could be the finest known.

Photo credit: Scan of the 1977 NASCA Auction Catalogue





Gorgeous toning

Gorgeous toning

Certified: PCGS AU58 #14771968 CAC ex-PCGS AU58 #21841431 not CAC "WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Grade: AU58

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known Pedigree Details** 

#### PCGS private collection

ex-Heritage Auctions Pioneer Boone (LSCC member James Bailey) Family Collection 5/16/2022:63184 @ \$7,200

ex-Heritage Auctions Eugene Gardner Collection 10/28/2015:98665 @ \$4,230

ex-Harry Laibstain, 9/2009

ex-Heritage Auctions 7/27/2003:7554 @ \$7,130 (as PCGS AU58 #21061431)

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com



Diagonal toning streak in the field to right of Liberty's head Rim cud below (1)8(49)

STATIES OF THE STATE OF THE STA

Scratch in the field above the right wing Dark spot above olive leaf #1

Grade: AU55

Certified: E6262 PCGS AU55 #50080035 ex-ANACS AU55 #3019674 ex-ANACS AU50 #not known "RPD FS-004.5 WB-102"

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

#### Carl Feldman Half Dollar Collection

- ex-Rare Coins of New Hampshire (at the 114<sup>th</sup> ANA bourse, San Francisco), 7/28/2005 @ \$5,950 (as PCGS AU55)
- ex-Heritage Auctions 7/30/2003: 7553 @ \$5,175 (as ANACS AU55 #3019674)
- ex-Heritage Auctions 11/22/2002: 7298 @ \$4,370 (as ANACS AU55 #3019674)
- ex-Heritage Auctions 10/5/2000: 6242 @ \$5,980 (as ANACS AU50 #NK)
- ex-Heritage Auctions 4/23/1999: 5771 @ \$5,980 (as ANACS AU50 #NK)

Photo credit: John Frost



Small mark in field above left shoulder Light toning around the stars and date Rim cud below (1)8(49) TOTE DO

Faint scratch to left of the eagle's beak Toning streak above (D)O(L)

Grade: AU53

Raw

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known** Pedigree Details

Randy Wiley Half Dollar Reference Collection, #W-23 ex-Julian Liedman, 5/1990

Photo credit: Scans of Bill Bugert's 1990 35 mm photos



Horizontal scratch in the shield's horizontal shield lines

Small mark in front of eagle's beak

Certified: PCGS AU50 #26467366 Grade: AU50

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known Pedigree Details**

Liberty Seated half dollar collector Michael Harmon ex-GFRC auction, 1/2021 @ \$4,000 ex-Cumberland County half dollar collection ex-Rich Uhrich Rare Coin sale



Dark toning Slight rim roughness at K-2 Rim cud below (1)8(49) Dark toning Two small hits above (HAL)F

Grade: AU50

Certified: PCGS AU50 #45562617 ex-PCGS AU50 #81613406

"WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

PCGS private collection

ex-DKRC eBay Buy-It-Now, circa 8/2023 @ \$4,950

ex-GFRC Seal Beach Collection Auction, 8/2020 @ \$4,000

ex-GFRC Grey Soldier Collection



Dark toning Darker toning spot by star 9 Rim cud below (1)8(49) Dark toning Small tick below (STATE)S Hits on base of (AMER)I(CA)

Certified: PCGS XF45 #35822424 CAC "WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Grade: XF45

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known Pedigree Details**

North Woods (Harry Wing) PCGS and NGC Registry Sets, 9/2024 ex- David Sunshine Rare Coins, 6/2019 @ \$3,650



Scattered marks in fields
Small dig near star 4 and in field by left elbow

Small marks in field below A(MERICA)

Grade: XF45

Certified: PCGS XF45 #38231289

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

ex-Scotsman Midwest Summer 2024 Sale, 7/18/2024:741 @ \$4,720

ex-Stack's Bowers 11/15/2019:7225 @ \$2,760



Rough, dirty surfaces Rim defect at star 11 Rim cud below (1)8(49

Rim cud below (1)8(49)

Grade: XF45

SCATES OF THE STATE OF THE STAT

Rough, dirty surfaces Small hits above the left wing

Certified: PCGS XF45 #02290109 "FS-004.5 Repunched Date"

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known Pedigree Details**

#### **Unknown Collector**

ex-Heritage Auctions 2/5/2010:1178 @ \$2,300

ex-Harry Laibstain Price List pricelist 11/2009 @\$4,500

ex-Reginald Mason Half Dollar Collection

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

#### Note:

1. This coin in hand looks much nicer than the images above.



Dark toning
Rough surfaces
Small dig on left forearm
Small cut in field to left of rock

Imaged by Heritage Auctions, HA.com

Dark toning Small marks between eagle's beak and left upper wing tip wing

Grade: XF45 Certified: NGC XF45 #4882806-004

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known Pedigree Details**

The Greene Collection

ex-eBay (Steve Teal, Roanoke IN Stateline Coin Exchange), 4/6/2020 @ \$2,450.

ex-Heritage Auctions 10/18/2019:3662 @ \$1,500

ex-APMEX coin inventory, date unknown

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com



Old scratch in the field from star 1 to left forearm

Scattered marks in right obverse field

Legend and denomination faintly outlined with toning Heavy mark above D(OL)

Raw

Grade: XF45

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known Pedigree Details**

Unknown Collector

ex-Greg Church, purchased from Randy 3/1992 @ \$2,500

ex-Randy Wiley #W-27

ex-Jonathan Kerns' Baltimore bourse 3/1992 @ \$1,200

Photo credit: Scans of Bill Bugert's 1990 35 mm photos



Deep blue toning Old scratches in field above left shoulder



Deep blue toning Scratch thru shield's upper left into left wing Scratches below and thru (UNITE)D

Certified: ANACS SWH XF45 #2820193 "RPD FS-004.5 WB-102"

Cross reference: WB-102

Grade: XF45

#### **Known Pedigree Details**

West Coast Coins (on Collectors Corner) price list (10/2021 - \$3,499; 8/2024 - \$2,250)

ex-Heritage Auctions 9/7/2018:3681 @ \$1,920 ex-Heritage Auctions 2/9/2006:1287 @ \$4,025

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com



Toning patch thru shield's lower stripes

Grade: XF40

Certified: PCGS XF40 #27503686

"WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known Pedigree Details** 

Big Bushy-120 PCGS Registry Set ex-Heritage Auctions U.S. Coins Signature Auction 7/14/2013:4989 @ \$2,585



Old scratch across Liberty's left thigh Old small scratch across Liberty's neck Rim cud below (1)8(49)

ALF DOLLING

Small nick behind the eagle's neck

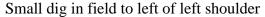
Grade: XF40 Certified: ANACS SWH #EX3876 "Breen 4816"

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known Pedigree Details** 

Unknown Collector ex-Stack's Bowers 3/2020:1381 @ \$1,680





TADE DOLLAR

Dark toning, scattered black spots Large black spot above H(ALF)

Raw XF40

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

#### Unknown Collector

Grade: XF40

ex-Ron Hunderfund Collection purchased in 1/1988 @ \$95

ex-Randy Wiley Collection #W-11 purchased in Summer 1987 @ \$55

ex-Walt Bodine Collection (I studied this coin at the 1987 ANA Convention)

ex-Norwood Mail Bid Sale, early 1987 @ \$55 unattributed

Photo credit: Bill Bugert



"WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known Pedigree Details** 

Bill Bugert Half Dollar Reference Collection ex-Coin Galleries Auction, 8/19/1987:1409 @ \$522.50

Photo credit: Courtesy PCGSCoinFacts.com

#### Note:

1. This coin is the 1849 WB-6 plate coin in A Register of Liberty Seated Half Dollar Varieties, Volume V, Philadelphia Mint 1839 to 1852.



Small dig above rock in field by the left wrist

Inspect to Hadron Antique 14 cm

Dirt under eagle's right talons Scattered marks in the field above and to the right of eagle's head

Certified: NGC VF30 1787983-001 "1849/1849 50C VP-001"

Cross reference: WB-102

Grade: VF30

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

Eagle Eye Rare Coins, Tucson, AZ, 2/28/2025 @ \$2,700 ex-Liberty Coins, Inc. (listed on Collectors Corner) 9/9/2024 @ \$3,100 ex-Heritage Auctions 8/12/2010: 4956 @ \$2,530

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com



Small mark in field by right knee
Dark swatch along Liberty's left arm

Few small marks above DOL Rim scratch below (HA)LF

Grade: VF25

Certified: PCGS VF25 #39197122

"WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

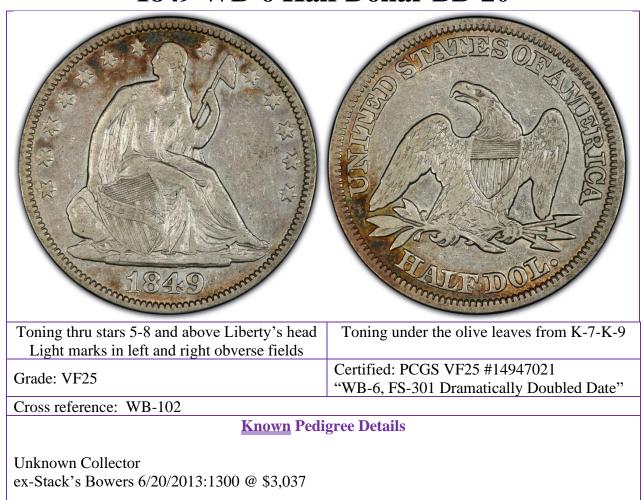
Redding Liberty Halves PCGS Registry Set, 9/2024 ex-Stack's Bowers 9/10/2020:94148 @ \$2,280

Photo credit: Courtesy PCGSCoinFacts.com

#### Note:

1. This coin is the variety plate coin for FS-50-1849-301 (004.5) in the *Cherrypickers Guide*<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Fivaz, Bill and J.T. Stanton, <u>Cherrypickers' Guide, Fourth Edition, Volume II</u>. Atlanta, Whitman Publishing, 2006.





Small dig in rock support above the right edge of the 4 above errant 9 Small diagonal gouge in the field below the left edge of the 4

Grade: VF25 Raw VF

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

#### **Unknown Collector**

ex-Randy sold it to Walt Bodine, 1/1988.

ex-Randy Wiley Collection #W-02 – Randy cherry picked it at a Fredericksburg, VA coin show in 2/1980 for \$20.

#### Photo credit: Scan of Bill Bugert's 1983 35mm photo

#### Note:

1. Randy Wiley supplied the photo above to Walter Breen for use in his Encyclopedia<sup>9</sup> as the Br-4816 plate coin. The image at the right is a scan of the listing from Breen's listing. The similarities are obvious.

4816 1849 Double date, first entered far to l. Ex. rare.
Beistle 5-E. Fewer than 6 seen to date, all but one in low grades. Cox:1920; Hirt:92. As spectacular a blunder as 4775, 4782, 4788, but less often seen and therefore less publicized.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Breen, Walter. <u>Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of US and Colonial Coins</u>. F.C.I Press, Inc. and Doubleday, 1988, page 397.







Small hits above right wing Scratch to right of (UNIT)E(D) Scattered marks above HALF

Grade: VG10 Certified: Raw VG10

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known** Pedigree Details

Bob Muzzi

ex-eBay, 10/2012 @ \$860

Photo credit: Bob Muzzi



Dirt spot in shield above (LIBER)TY
Peripheral toning



Dirt spot between (O)F A(MERICA)
Dark spot on rim above UN(ITED)
Scattered black spots
Dirt on rim at K-9

Grade: VG10 Certified: Raw VG10

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known** Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

Sold to Brian Greer in 7/1988.

ex-Randy Wiley #W-13 Half Dollar Collection. He cherrypicked it at the 7/8/1988 Lanham, MD coin show for \$17.

Photo credit: Scans of Bill Bugert's 1988 35mm photos



| Many scattered field marks | Marks in field below eagle's beak        |
|----------------------------|--|
|                            | Old scratch from S(TATES) to field above |
|                            | left wing                                |
|                            | Scattered marks above DOL.               |
| Grade: VG10                | Certified: PCGS VG10 #19693958           |
|                            | "WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date" |

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

Merrill PCGS Registry Set

ex-GFRC Newtown Collection Auction, 3/2024 @ \$1,400

ex-GFRC listing on Collectors Corner, 4/17/2023 @ \$1,600

ex-Newtown Collection GFRC Registry Set

ex-Heritage Auctions U.S. Coins Signature Auction 2/26/2018:8215 @ \$1,260



Dark toning
Old scratch from star 13 towards right knee



Small pits below eagle's left wing Small marks between A(MERICA) and eagle's neck

Grade: VG8 Certified: Raw

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known** Pedigree Details

Fred Clowe Half Dollar Collection ex-eBay (David Valin, Elmwood Park, NJ), 8/2022, \$710

Photo credit: Fred Clowe





Dark toning
Old vertical scratch in shield and scroll above
(LIB)E(RTY)

Old small horizontal scratch into field from drapery; another to right of the date Residue around devices Dark toning
Residue around devices
Small digs on rim above (U)N(ITED) and
(AM)E(RICA)

Grade: VG8

Cross reference: WB-102

Certified: PCGS VG08 #28140657

"WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

#### **Known** Pedigree Details

Dennis Fortier Half Dollar Collection ex-Heritage Auctions 10/5/2021:21285 @ \$900 ex-Heritage Auctions 8/16/2018:4345 @ \$870



Even attractive toning Small pin scratch off left shoulder Slight porosity in right field near stars 11-13

Grade: G4

STATE DOWN

Even attractive toning Dark splotches on AMERICA

Certified: ANACS G4 #7460011

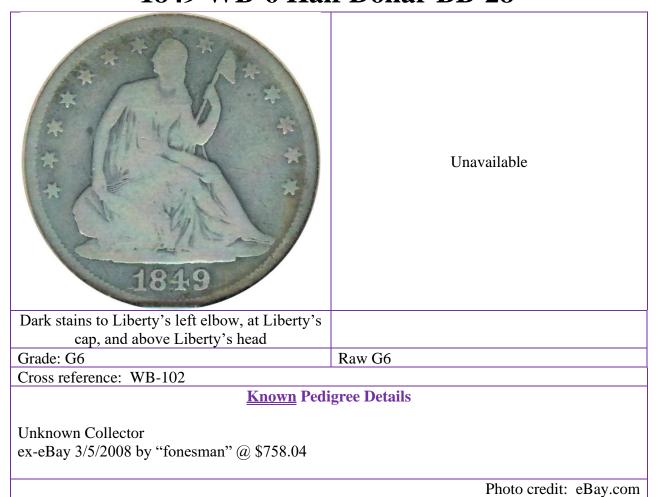
"RPD FS-301 WB-102 WB-6"

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known Pedigree Details** 

Dennis Fortier Half Dollar Collection ex-Great Collections 6/30/2024:140306 @ \$426

Photo credit: Great Collections.com





Worn but attractive toning Newer scratch across shield Three marks in field at knee

STATE DOVO

Newer scratch under eagle's left wing Line in field below (S)T(ATES)

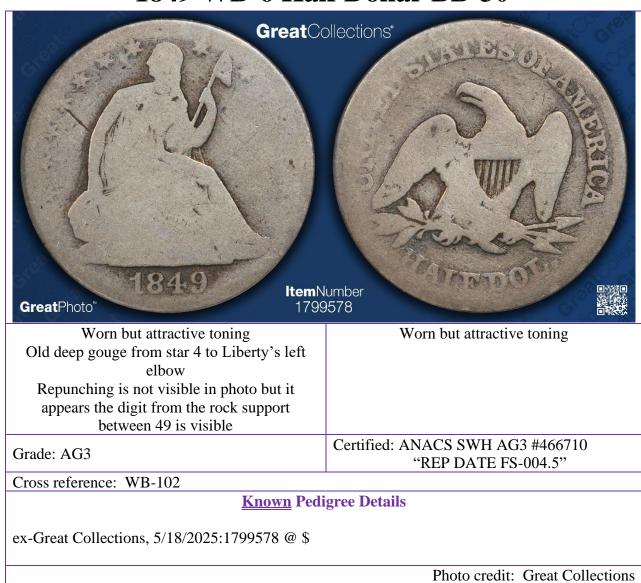
Grade: AG3 Certified: Raw

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known** Pedigree Details

West Coast (Mike Perkins) Half Dollar Collection ex-eBay 2/2021 @ ~\$350

Photo credit: Mike Perkins



Note 1. I have not seen this coin in hand and since the repunching is not visible, I have to trust the authenticators at ANACS that this is an 1849 WB-6.



Horizontal slide marks in rock Rim ding at K-7 Vertical scratch to left of left arm Horizontal scratches thru the rock



Rough surfaces Scratches below (O)F A(MERICA)

Grade: AU details Certified: NCS Details 5130619-007

Cross reference: WB-102

#### **Known Pedigree Details**

#### Michael Fey

- ex-Heritage Auctions 1/8/2009:2862 @ \$1,150 (NCS)
- ex-Stack's J.A. Sherman Collection 8/5/2007:686 @ DNS (raw)
- ex-Charleton Meyer Collection
- ex-Randy Wiley Inventory #14, purchased and immediately sold for \$2,000.
- ex-Bowers and Merena bourse stock, 1988 ANA. Sold for \$1,000 to Randy Wiley
- ex-Ed Hairfield (Morgantown NC collector) Collection<sup>1</sup>

Photo credit: Heritage Auctions.com

#### Note:

1. Bill Bugert discovered this coin in Ed Hairfield's half dollar collection at the 1988 ANA. Ed sold his complete collection to Bowers and Merena at the ANA; Wiley immediately purchased this coin, #W-14, for \$1,000 and resold it to Charleton Meyer for \$2,000.



Cleaned
Scattered marks including on Liberty's left arm and neck

Cleaned Small dig in field above (HAL)F

Grade: AU details

Certified: PCGS AU Details #44784860 "WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known Pedigree Details** 

Unknown Collector

ex-Stack's Bowers 4/2022:90387 @ \$960

ex-eBay listing, 8/2021 by "2013bruce13" Laguna Niguel, CA, listed at \$1,999.95



Cleaning hairlines
Diagonal scratch in field to left of stars 10-11

Cleaning hairlines
Diagonal digs in field above (HAL)F
Horizontal scratch above eagle's beak
Stain at left wing tip

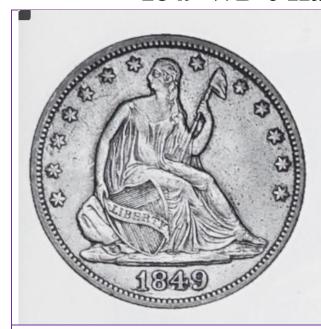
Grade: AU58 details

Certified: PCGS AU Details #42019773 "WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known** Pedigree Details

Roy Ash Half Dollar Collection ex-eBay 6/2020 @ \$1,500





Cleaned
Deep blue toning
Scattered marks in upper left obverse field
Small marks along Liberty's right leg

Cleaned
Deep blue toning
Scattered marks around the eagle's head

Grade: VF30 cleaned Certified: Raw

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known** Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector

ex-Heritage Auctions Long Beach Sale 10/7/1995:5372 @ \$2,640

Photo credit: Scan of Heritage Auction catalogue



Small hits on Liberty's left hip above the shield tip

Grade: VF30 details-cleaned Cross reference: WB-102

ALTERO CANALLA DO CANALLA DE CALLADA DE CALL

Dark stain at K-4
Horizontal scratch in field below eagle's beak
Certified: New ANACS holder # Unknown

**Known** Pedigree Details

Unknown Collector ex-DLRC Auction #300 11/2008:5834 @ \$3,950 DNS

Photo credit: DLRC.com



Scattered field marks
Bag mark in the field to right of right instep

Scattered field marks Prominent marks above (HA)LF Small edge bump at K-4

Grade: VG8 cleaned

Certified: PCGS VG Details #42710258 "WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known** Pedigree Details

Mike Perkins

ex-eBay, 8/2020 @ ~\$700



Bright from cleaning
Dark toning in crotch of right arm



Bright from cleaning
Few marks in the field on each side of the eagle's neck

Certified: PCGS Details #20548132

"WB-6, FS-301 Dramatically Doubled Date"

Grade: VG8 cleaned

Cross reference: WB-102

**Known Pedigree Details** 

Dennis Fortier Half Dollar Collection ex-Rich Uhrich Rare Coins, 2009 @ \$1,400

Photo credit: Bill Bugert

| Photos unavailable   |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |
| Grade: VG details tooled-cleaned   | Certified: ANACS SWH #910170             |  |
| Cross reference: WB-102  |  |  |
| <u>Known</u> Pedigree Details  |  |  |
| Unknown Collector ex-eBay online buy-it-now by "crc-1" on 5/1/2014 @ \$699 |  |  |
|  | Photo credit: Courtesy PCGSCoinFacts.com |  |

# 1849 WB-6 Half Dollar Open Leads and Nondescript Auction Lots

The following is a listing of 1849 WB-6 half dollars that, in the future, could possibly be traced to coins in this Register or to unlisted coins. There is incomplete information included on each of these but perhaps enough information to lead to proper identification.

- 1. BU, prooflike. Stack's Sale of the Queller Family Collection of United States Half Dollars, 10/15-16/2002:520 \$1,500. Described with "Dramatically Doubled Date...Small spot of discoloration on reverse rim at 8:45." No plates. "Ex Stack's privately, September 1983."
- 2. R.E. Cox's AU, Stack's 4/1962:1920 @ \$260. Although not specifically listed as such in the sale of his half dollars, this coin was likely in one of R.E. Cox's elaborate 3" x 4" handmade, hand-lettered cardboard holders. No images of this half dollar are in the catalogue so if it is out of the holder, identification will be difficult. It was described as "A shade from Uncirculated" without useful details. This coin was later in the Paramount Century Sale 5/1965:1196 @ \$76 without mention of Cox's holder nor plates for the lot.
- 3. Choice AU. Stack's Grant Pierce & Sons Sale, 5/6-8/1965:872 @ \$21. Previously, from the 1957 Stack's Empire Sale. No plates.
- 4. XF45. Jim O'Donnell discovered this coin in an old-time collection at the 1/1989 Long Beach Show, although Brian Greer pointed out to Jim that it was the dramatically doubled date. Jim wanted \$5,000 for it and turned down a \$4,000 offer from a collector.
- 5. The Casterline XF+, Superior 5/1989:2847 @ \$2,420 lot description at the right. Larry Briggs owned this coin, and it had a reverse mark where a mintmark would be.
- 6. ANACS EF40. Teletrade 4/22/1996:448 @ \$3,200.
- 7 1847-O and 1849 (2 pieces). Very Fine to Extremely Fine. The 1847-O is light russet and gray in color with a sharply repunched 184 of date. The first 1849 shows heavy repunching of the date, first a bit low, then corrected, this repunching is visible on all four digits. The second 1849 exhibits a recut date far to the left, Isee Breen #4816) then corrected. This variety is listed as "extremely rare" with fewer than six specimens known in the new Breen Encyclopedia. Several small rim cuds have formed below the date which perhaps hastened this dies retirement, accounting for the rarity of this repunched date. A very interesting trio for the variety specialist of Seated Half Dollar and destined for much discussion about days gone by at the mint. Lot of 3 coins.
- Described as "1849 FS-004.5 ANACS 40 Repunched Date; Brown toning, good strike, average wear, has a few scuff marks & hairlines, soft lustre, very scarce variety." No plates and no holder # for this lot.
- 7. Fine with a hole at obverse K-12. Discovered by Larry Briggs at the 1989 Mid-Winter ANA Show in Colorado Springs.
- 8. Good plus. The Abner Kreisberg Sale of the Herbert M. Bergen Collection 10/4-6/1979: 469 @ \$60 was described as "1849 over 1849. Double cut date, the first cut date was far to the left. Evenly worn **GOOD plus** with most of **LIBERTY** worn smooth...
- 9. Fair. Discovered by Brian Greer at a CA show in the early 1980s. There is currently no Fair graded coin in this register.

## **Abbreviations**

ANA American Numismatic Association

ANACS American Numismatic Association Certification Service

BB Bill Bugert

CAC Certified Acceptance Corporation
CSNS Central States Numismatic Society

D TPG Details Holder

DNS Did Not Sell

DORC Dick Osburn Rare Coins

FPL Fixed Price List

FUN Florida United Numismatists HLRC Harry Laibstain Rare Coins

JL Julian Leidman

LSCC Liberty Seated Collectors Club NCS Numismatic Conservation Service NGC Numismatic Guaranty Corporation

NK Slab number not known

O'D Jim O'Donnell

OGH (PCGS) Old Green Holder

PCGS Professional Coin Grading Service

RW Randy Wiley

SEGS Sovereign Entities Grading Service

TPG Third Party Grade(r)(d)

# Recognitions

I wish to thank Coast to Heritage Auctions, PCGS, Kagin's, Stack's Bowers, and Superior for using their images in this reference.

I also wish to thank John Frost and Dennis Fortier for their review and comments of this refence. Those comments were most helpful.

