

BRIMFIELD SHOW GUIDE

MAY 13-18, 2025



THE JOURNAL OF
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Anniversary
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2000-2025





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Welcome to Brimfield!

Join the many collectors, dealers, designers, decorators, and “home curators” who scour the 19 show fields at Brimfield Antique Shows for the items from the past that draw their interest. Whether you are seeking antique, vintage, historic, or one-of-a-kind finds that come with fascinating tales, you have come to the right place.

Brimfield can be overwhelming for new visitors, and this Guide highlights the how’s, where’s, and when’s to find what you are searching for.

- **Show Schedule: Page 3** – Turn to page 3 to see a list of the fields that line this stretch of Route 20, when they open and close, and how to reach the show field managers/owners.

- **Map of Showfields: Page 5** – Take a few minutes to explore the area map. Learn where the parking is located and where ATMs can be found. (FYI, cash is the payment of choice for most dealers in the fields.)

- **Showfield and Buying Info: Page 7** – This is where you will find all kinds of information about the amenities offered at different fields, including food trucks, Opening Day admissions for some locations, and pet policies, along with helpful hints on how to shop this plethora of picks set out by the thousands of dealers throughout the show.

Want more? Read the advertisements for more information on this show, the region, antique and vintage shops, upcoming shows, and more. Visit our website (journalofantiques.com) and Facebook pages for more insights, and monitor our Instagram page (@journalofantiques) to get a real feel for what is happening at the Brimfield Shows. Then, return in July and September for more excitement and fresh finds in the fields.

Happy hunting and collecting!



Celebrating 25 years of sharing the joy of antiques & collecting!

Advertise your Antique Show, Shop, or Auction with us!

For more information, visit journalofantiques.com



Brimfield Show Guide

Publisher / Business Manager

Nick Boschetto
Nick@joac.online

Managing Editor

Judy Gonyeau
editor@joac.online

Art Director

Lynn Cotterman

Production

Jill Montague-Kaitbenski

Info

Info@joac.online

Sales

Sales@joac.online

508-347-1960

JOURNALOFANTIQUES.COM

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Here Before Brimfield Week? Check Out These May PRE-Brimfield Shows

May 8-12: Marier's Antique Flea Market, Rte 20, Palmer, MA, Open 7am

May 12: The Sturbridge Show, Sturbridge Host Hotel, Rte 20, Sturbridge, MA
Early Bird at 8 am, General Admission at 10 am

| Dealer | Opening Day | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|---|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Black Swan Meadows , 212-300-5999 www.brimfieldantiqueshow.com | Tues. 8 am | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Brimfield Antique Shows, Hertans , 781-324-4400, www.brimfieldlive.com | Wed. 12 pm | | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Brimfield Auction Acres , 413-245-3436 www.brimfieldauctionacres.com | Fri. 8 am, Sat. 9 am | | | | ★ | ★ | |
| Brimfield Barn , 727-415-2081 | Tues. 7 am | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Central Park Antique Shows , 413-455-4655, www.brimfieldcentralpark.com | Tues. 6 a.m. | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Collins Apple Barn Antique Show , 413-237-6659, Showtime No. 413-245-4575 | Tues. Daybreak | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Crystal Brook , 413-245-7647 | Tues. Daybreak | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Dealer's Choice , 508-347-3929 www.brimfieldantiquescenter.net | Tues. 11 am | ★ | | | | | |
| Grand Trunk Antique Shows , 866-858-0789 413-519-3321 | Tues. Daybreak | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Green Acres , 413-245-6118 www.greenacresantiques.com | Tues. Daybreak | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Heart-O-The-Mart , 413-245-9556 | Wed. 9 am | | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Mahogany Ridge , 413-245-7220 | Tues. Daybreak | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| May's Antique Market , 413-245-9271 www.maysbrimfield.com | Thurs. 9 am | | | ★ | ★ | ★ | |
| Midway , 508-347-3929 www.brimfieldantiquescenter.net | Tues. 6 am | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| N.E. Motel Antique Shows , 508-347-2179 508-347-2179 during show www.antiques-brimfield.com | Wed. 6 am | | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Quaker Acres Antique Shows , 413-245-6185 | Tues. Daybreak | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Shelton Antique Shows , 413-245-3591 www.brimfieldsheltonshows.com | Tues. Daybreak | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Stephen's Place , 413-245-3185 | Tues. 6 am | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Sturtevant's Antique Shows , 413-245-7458 www.sturtevantantiqueshow.com | Tues. Daybreak | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ | ★ |
| Treasure Trunk Tuesday , 413-245-3436 <i>Held at Brimfield Auction Acres</i> | Tues. 8 am | ★ | | | | | |
| Weekend Warrior Show , 781-420-3375 <i>Held at Brimfield Antique Shows, Hertans</i> | Sat. 8 am | | | | | ★ | ★ |

May 2025 Brimfield Show Schedule



**BRIMFIELD
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Antiques & Vintage Events & Auctions!*



2025 SCHEDULE OF SHOWS

BRIMFIELD ANTIQUE SHOWS—HERTANS
May 14-18 • July 9-13 • September 3-7

Hertans Show Field, 6 Mill Lane Road, Brimfield, MA

WEEKEND WARRIOR SHOW
May 17-18 • July 12-13 • September 6-7

Free Admission • Hertans Show Field, 6 Mill Lane Road, Brimfield, MA

BRIMFIELD NORTH!
NEW HAMPSHIRE'S LARGEST ANTIQUE FLEA MARKET
Memorial Day Weekend: May 24-25 • October 11-12

Deerfield Fairgrounds, 34 Stage Road, Deerfield, NH

BRIMFIELD ADIRONDACKS
July 25-27

North Hudson, NY

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Advance Tickets are Available on Our Website. Apply to Be a Vendor for Any of the Shows on Our Website. Call 781-324-4400 for more information.

Map to Brimfield Show Fields



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Showfield Features

Information subject to change.

Check showfield websites for up-to-date information.

| | Opening Day Admission | Parking (addl. lots on map) | Food Trucks & More | # of Dealer Spaces | Pet Friendly on lease |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Black Swan Meadows | ★ | ★ | ★ | 250 | ★ |
| Brimfield Antique Shows, Hertans | ★ | ★ | ★ | 200+ | ★ |
| Brimfield Auction Acres | ★ | ★ | ★ | 300+ | |
| Brimfield Barn | | | | 12 | ★ |
| Central Park Antique Shows | | ★ | ★ | 130+ | ★ |
| Collins Apple Barn Antique Show | | ★ | ★ | 20+ | |
| Crystal Brook | | | ★ | 35+ | ★ |
| Dealer's Choice | ★ | ★ | ★ | 250+ | ★ |
| Grand Trunk Antique Shows | | ★ | ★ | 50+ | |
| Green Acres | | ★ | | 75+ | ★ |
| Heart-O-The-Mart | ★ | ★ | ★ | 350+ | |
| Mahogany Ridge | | | ★ | 150+ | ★ |
| May's Antique Market | ★ | | ★ | 300+ | ★ |
| Midway Antique Shows | | | ★ | 30+ | ★ |
| N.E. Motel Antique Shows | ★ | ★ | ★ | 250+ | ★ |
| Quaker Acres Antique Shows | | ★ | ★ | 150+ | ★ |
| Shelton Antique Shows | | ★ | ★ | 100+ | ★ |
| Stephen's Place | | | ★ | 20+ | ★ |
| Sturtevant's Antique Shows | | ★ | ★ | 75+ | ★ |

Handled by Dealers –

Restrooms:

Every showfield has porta-potties and wash stations.

Types of Antiques/Vintage Goods:

Each dealer buys and sells the types of goods they specialize in with some special finds and good stories. Have something in mind you hope to find? Ask the dealer. Usually there are more boxes of items still to be unpacked and displayed or a dealer has nearby access to their inventory. If they don't have it, or don't deal in that type of antique, ask if they know someone who does.

How To Pay

Cash is king, as they say, but many dealers will accept credit/debit cards, Venmo, PayPal, ApplePay, and more. ATMs are available at some fields. Dealers will likely hold what you wish to purchase while you get money or retrieve your checkbook. Many take checks if they are local and have your contact information.

Return Policies

Most of the time during a show like this it is a matter of buying "as is, where is" and no returns are allowed. However, if you are making a larger purchase, be sure to talk with the dealer about their return policy and how that would be handled.

Buying After the Show

If you spot something you really like but are not ready to make a purchase, ask for the dealer's information and about the chance to purchase later if you change your mind. You may wish to take a picture of the item to refer to later.

Delivery

If you are visiting from far away, you may want to get your purchases delivered. It is not up to the Dealer to manage that, but some may. Otherwise, you can reach out to area offices for FedEx, UPS, USPS, etc. to see what they are offering for Brimfield Shows – some have on-site pickup.

Brimfield Showfield & Buying Info



Walker Homestead's
Antiques & Primitive Goods Show
 Saturday, June 14, 2025
 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Admission \$10.00, No Pets Allowed
 19 Martin Road, Brookfield, MA 01506
www.walkerhomestead.com 508-867-4466

THE TAILGATE

2025 DATES

Questions?
 Call Ian
 860-781-0081
 or Kris
 508-341-6870

Saturday, April 19th
 Saturday, May 24th
 Saturday, June 28th
 Saturday, July 26th
 Saturday, August 30th
 Saturday, September 20th
 Saturday, October 18th
 Saturday, November 15th

Shop Opens at 8 am
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Antiques & Primitive Goods Show



Saturday, September 27th
 10 am - 3 pm

Admission \$10, No Pets Allowed
 19 Martin Road, Brookfield, MA 01506
www.walkerhomestead.com 508-867-4466



Black Swan Meadows
40 Palmer Road • Route 20, Brimfield, MA

Spaces Available
May 13-18

July 8-13 • September 2-7
Opening Day, Tuesday 8am
\$5 Admission Opening Day



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July 8-13 September 2-7

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Email: Quakeracres@aol.com Lee Adams, Manager

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We are located @ New England Motel "backside of the Motel & Food Court" M-7

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July 8-13
Sept 2-7
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Route 20, BRIMFIELD, MASS.

2025 SHOWS
May 13-18
July 8-13, September 2-7

DEALER SPACE AVAILABLE
Call or Write: Diane Sturtevant,
P.O. Box 468, Brimfield, MA 01010 **413-245-7458**

Schoharie Colonial Heritage Association presents the Spring Antiques in Schoharie

New Location
May 31 & June 1, 2025
Sat. 10am-5pm
Sun. 11am-4pm

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schoharieheritage.org

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Come Meet Jake!



Breweriana and Rob Wolfe: A Passion for Collecting

Among the many categories of collectibles I encounter, one that stands out for historical significance and nostalgic appeal is breweriana. This niche area of collecting encompasses items related to the beer and brewing industry. It includes everything from vintage beer cans and bottles to advertising signs, tap handles, coasters, trays, and beer-related clothing. Over time, I have uncovered some of the most unique pieces.

The golden age of breweriana is considered to be the late 19th and early 20th centuries when breweries across the United States flourished. During this time, companies used creative and colorful advertising to stand out in a competitive environment. Each item tells a story reflecting the cultural, economic, and social trends of its time. Breweriana is more than just a hobby – it's a way to preserve a piece of American history.

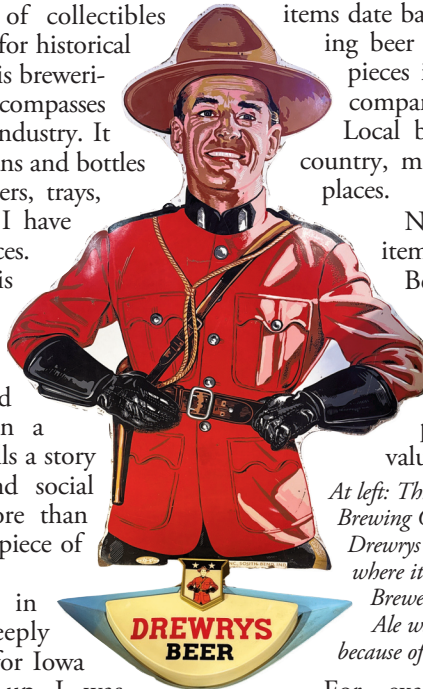


Blackhawk came from the Davenport, IA, factory in the 1930s. This bottle is valued at \$1,500.

My interest in Breweriana is deeply rooted in my love for Iowa history. Growing up I was exposed to the world of antiques and collectibles at an early age. Some of my favorite memorabilia are from local places like Black-hawk Brewery, Independent Malting Company, and Potosi Brewery in Wisconsin.

I have had the opportunity to explore countless collections, many of which include rare and unique brewery items. Beer trays, coasters, tap handles, and bottle openers are items that are often overlooked. I have found several vintage tap handles, some of which were custom-made by specific breweries for bars.

Whether it's pre-prohibition beer bottles, a neon sign from a defunct brewery, or a vintage beer tray, I approach each find with genuine excitement and respect for its history. Numerous



At left: This Canadian Mountie represents Drewry's Brewing Company, founded in McHenry, IL, in 1877. Drewry's originated in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, where it was called Drewry's Lake of the Woods Brewery. After moving, the first case of Drewry's Ale was shipped to President Franklin D. Roosevelt because of his involvement in repealing Prohibition.

items date back to the 1900s. Neon signs advertising beer brands are some of the most iconic pieces in breweriana because many of these companies were only open for a short time. Local breweries once thrived all across the country, many of which were central gathering places.

Nostalgia draws many collectors to these items as they remind them of their youth.

Beer advertising signs, in particular, often invoke these memories with their bold colors, playful imagery, and catchy slogans. Breweriana offers a tangible connection to the past. Each item reflects the trends, values, and challenges of its time.

For example, pre-prohibition items are reminders of when the brewing industry was thriving, only to be brought to a halt by the 18th Amendment. Alternatively, post-prohibition items celebrate the resurgence and the creativity of breweries that worked to rebuild their brands.

With so many different types of items to choose from, collectors can focus on specific categories, such as signs, bottles, and tap handles, or build a more eclectic collection. This diversity ensures there's always something new to discover, making breweriana a lifelong passion for many. It's irresistible.



Porcelain beer trays. Value ranges from \$600 to \$2,500.

Best known for his co-hosting role on The History Channel's long-running hit, American Pickers, Rob Wolfe is also a seasoned antique dealer. From vintage signs to antique cars and motorcycles, and everything in between, Rob has an extensive knowledge of, and passion for, all things antique. He's been collecting unique items and learning about their history since early childhood and today that passion can be seen at his showroom in Bettendorf, Iowa, where Rob hosted the annual Bettendorf Americana Car Show and Antique Auction.

Rob Wolfe of *American Pickers* Meet & Greet at Brimfield Auction Acres May 16: 10-11AM and 2-3:30PM



BRIMFIELD, MA – Brimfield Auction Acres, birthplace of the world-famous Brimfield Antique Shows, will host a special Meet and Greet with Rob Wolfe, of History Channel’s popular reality show *American Pickers*.

Rob will be out and about throughout the day, filming, interacting with dealers & shoppers with two scheduled “meet & greet” sessions on the property at the Brimfield Winery Wine Garden. The two meet-ups are from 10-11AM, and 2-3:30PM.

More about Rob: With an impressive track record spanning over 35 years, Robert has tirelessly pursued his passion for all things vintage and motorized. His unrelenting quest has taken him to the far corners of the world, unearthing treasures and unraveling the captivating stories behind each piece he discovers.

Rob’s journey as an everyday archaeologist began at a tender age of 8 when he stumbled upon the joy of refurbishing bicycles for profit. This early experience ignited a lifelong fascination with historical artifacts, prompting him to expand his expertise to encompass a diverse range of antique items. Guided by the belief that every object holds a narrative waiting to be retold, Robert strives to restore these treasures to their rightful place in history.

As the brother of Mike Wolfe, Rob has had the honor of joining forces with him on the popular reality show, *American Pickers*, featured on the History Channel. Together, they have traversed the length and breadth of the United States, delving into forgotten barns and garages, unearthing what they affectionately term “rusty gold.”

Whether you are a collector, fellow enthusiast, or simply captivated by the allure of the past, Robert invites you to join him for this interactive discussion at Brimfield Auction Acres.

To learn a little bit more about Rob’s insight into picking, here are three tips he shared with the *Des Moines Register* last July:

Tip 1: Keep listening, especially to people in the picking and antiques businesses.

“When I was growing up, I got out of high school, and I think most high school students think this way. They think to themselves, ‘Well, school’s over. I get to stop thinking. I get to stop learning.’” he said.

What he learned, though, was to really listen to the people at swap meets and antique shows, the people who were selling their treasures.

“Back in those days, there was no Google. We didn’t have a computer. We didn’t have a cellphone, so that kind of forced you into reading books, reading magazines, listening to old guys at swap meets,” Wolfe said. “... I’m like, ‘Hey, if you can just stop and learn, if you go to a swap meet, listen to an older guy talk.’”

Tip 2: Collect things you like.

Wolfe has a sweet spot for old Americana, vintage cars and advertising memorabilia.

“It doesn’t matter what you buy in this world, but if you buy something, buy it because you like it, not because you think you’re going to make money on it,” Wolfe said.

Tip 3: Listen to and seek out the stories behind the items you’re buying.

Anyone who has watched *American Pickers* knows that the people who sell their antiques always have a tale to tell about how something came into their possession ... “The story is the key to any of the stuff that we’re doing,” he said. “I mean, you can buy an item and it can be a \$5 item, but that \$5 item has the most awesome story that goes with it.”



Tip 4: A “no” doesn’t mean you can’t learn.

“I love when they tell me flat out, ‘Nothing’s for sale.’ And I love to turn the tables on that and be like, ‘OK, I don’t want to buy it. I just want to learn.’” Wolfe said.

Tip 5: Get your family involved.

Wolfe said to talk to family members about some of the prized possessions they own so you know the story behind the object. That item becomes more personal when you know the story behind it.

Meet & Greet: Don’t miss the opportunity to meet Rob Wolfe, professional picker (and one of the favorite columnists for *Journal of Antiques and Collectibles*). Saturday, May 16 from 10-11AM and 2-3:30PM.

BRIMFIELD

Tuesday Thru Sunday
Central Park
Antique Shows

July 8-13
Sep 2-7 **May 13-18** Antiques & Collectibles

Opening at 6 AM Free Admission
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OUTDOOR Weekly Shows (2025):
Oakcrest Cove
#34 Quaker Meeting House Rd.
Sandwich, MA

Wednesdays: 6am - 12pm Apr. 2 ~ Oct. 29
Sundays: 7am - 12pm Apr. 27 ~ Oct. 26


INDOOR Monthly Shows (2025):
The American Legion Hall
#20 Rt. 130 · Sandwich, MA

Saturdays
8am - 12pm
Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar. 8

TheSandwichBazaar.com The Sandwich Flea Market for more info call Lisa 508.685.2767


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 JULY 2 - 7
 AUG. 25 - SEPT. 1

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www.gnflea.com | info@gnflea.com | (609) 397-0811 | New Restrooms

THE STURBRIDGE SHOW

2025 MONDAYS

MAY 12 • JULY 7 • SEPT 1

EARLY BIRD ADMISSION **GENERAL ADMISSION**
 8 AM - 10 AM • \$50 10 AM - 5 PM • \$20

STURBRIDGE HOST HOTEL • Route 20, Sturbridge, MA
 (jct. 90 Mass Pike & I-84 • GPS Address - 366 Main Street
 www.TheSturbridgeShow.com • TheSturbridgeShow@gmail.com

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ANTIQUES on

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*Open: Mon.-Sat. 11am-5pm,
 Sun. 12pm-5pm*



The Original
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- FORMERLY J&J PROMOTIONS -



BIRTHPLACE OF THE
Brimfield Rush

2025 SHOW DATES (FRI & SAT ONLY)

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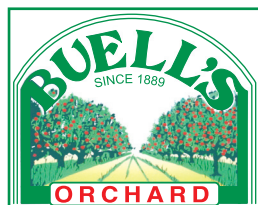
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THE PSYCHOLOGY OF COLLECTING

BY SHIRLEY M. MUELLER, M.D.

A Human Brain Turned to Glass

As a collector, I am always looking for the next best thing. The thought of it delights my brain even more than having it. That anticipation nourishes me, sparks me, and invigorates me. Now, I've discovered a piece any collector would be proud to add to her collection – a human brain that is crystallized into glass. Here's the story.

In 79 CE, Mount Vesuvius threw what can best be described as nature's ultimate temper tantrum. When it finished spewing ash and volcanic fury over Pompeii and Herculaneum, it had tragically—and efficiently—destroyed two bustling Roman cities. Amid the chaotic horror, one poor soul in Herculaneum met a uniquely bizarre fate – his brain turned to a vitreous mass.

Picture this: a young man lounging on his wooden bed, possibly dreaming of lunch, suddenly confronted by a blistering pyroclastic flow barreling through town at 510°C or 950°F. With no time to react, not even for a last gasp, the fluids in his body vaporized instantly. His brain literally boiled in his skull. But here's where it gets truly peculiar: that brain tissue didn't just vanish into oblivion; it turned into glass.

This oddity was detailed by Giordano et. al. (2025) in *Scientific Reports*, making researchers sit straight in their lab chairs. Inside this unfortunate man's skull were obsidian-like shards of vitrified brain tissue, neurons, and axons still visible in stunning, if gruesome, detail. Advanced imaging like Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscopy showcased structures that should have been obliterated but instead were preserved as microscopic curiosities.

Why does brain matter turn into glass instead of just incinerating into oblivion? The answer lies in the extreme conditions – a lightning-fast bake-and-freeze scenario almost impossible to replicate even in the most daring lab experiments. The rapid heating vaporized brain fluids, and the immediate cooling trapped the liquefied remnants into glass.

In nature, glass formation is rare. Ordinary window glass is made from silica sand that is melted at a high temperature and cooled quickly. Organic materials (like a brain) are much harder to vitrify because they contain lots of water and

will decompose or burn under intense heat. For an organic substance to form glass, it must be heated well above its boiling point and quenched so fast that even water vapor and organics solidify amorphously. The tissue must solidify at a higher temperature than the surrounding environment.

Knowing this process is essential to the intellect of a glass collector who studies glass techniques and craftsmanship. Glassblowing, mold-making, engraving, cutting, and coloring glass involve meticulous skills that collectors deeply admire. Knowledgeable collectors often dedicate considerable time researching artists, production methods, and the science behind glassmaking. Understanding annealing processes, color chemistry, and tool evolution enhances appreciation and deepens the sense of participation in preserving knowledge and tradition. But a glass brain! It goes below all this to the sublime.

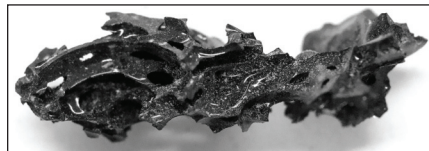
This unprecedented find has profound implications across various fields. For volcanologists, it demonstrates the terrifyingly fast temperature swings within pyroclastic flows. For forensic scientists and archaeologists, it offers a rare window

into studying neural preservation under extreme conditions.

And for the rest of us? It's a fascinating reminder that beneath history's dramatic eruptions lies a delicate human vulnerability. This discovery combines the macabre, the scientific, and the strangely mesmerizing –

highlighting humanity's frailty when confronted by Earth's explosive wrath.

As a collector, I chase the extraordinary – rare and unique artifacts that tell profound stories through their very existence. This brain turned to glass embodies the ultimate intersection of rarity, science, and human history. It reminds me why I collect in the first place: to grasp, if only momentarily, the elusive wonders of nature and the fragility of life itself.



Archaeologists excavated Herculaneum's Collegium Augustalium (a Roman religious building) in the 1960s and found a carbonized skeleton lying on a wooden bed. The victim, a man in his early 20s, was believed to be the building's guard or caretaker. He died suddenly in the eruption's first moments. This young man's remains were peculiar from the start. His bones were charred and brittle from extreme heat yet still articulated in the bed where he perished. Inside his skull, archaeologists noticed a hardened, shiny black material amid the ash.



Shirley M. Mueller, M.D., is known for her expertise in Chinese export porcelain and neuroscience. Her unique knowledge in these two areas motivated her to explore the neuropsychological aspects of collecting, both to help herself and others as well. This guided her to write her landmark book, Inside the Head of a Collector: Neuropsychological Forces at Play. In it, she uses the new field of neuropsychology to explain the often-enigmatic behavior of collectors. Shirley is also a well-known speaker. She has shared her insights in London, Paris, Shanghai, and other major cities worldwide as well as across the United States. In these lectures, she blends art and science to unravel the mysteries of the collector's mind.



All Dressed Up

Militaria is a very popular category for collectors. One of the most interesting types of militaria to collect is uniform buttons. Let's take a peek at their history and the popular ones to collect.

The Allure of Military Button Collecting

Military uniform buttons are miniature works of art and historical documents. Each button, with its distinctive design, material, and markings, provides insights into the evolution of military fashion, technological advancements, and the changing face of warfare. Collectors are drawn to these buttons for their historical significance, artistic merit, and researching and authenticating rare specimens.

A Brief History of U.S. Military Buttons

The history of U.S. military buttons dates back to the country's founding. Early buttons were often imported from Europe, but as the nation grew, domestic production started. The 19th century saw the rapid expansion of various designs, with each branch of service and individual units often having their own unique buttons."

Materials and Manufacturing

Early military buttons were typically made of brass, gilt, or silver-plated metals. As technology advanced, new materials were introduced, including white metal, horn, and eventually plastic. The manufacturing process evolved from hand-crafted pieces to mass-produced items, with companies like Waterbury Button Company becoming prominent suppliers.

Identifying Antique Military Buttons

Key factors include specific symbols and designs, materials, size, and shape. Backmarks, which are manufacturer stamps, can also be good indicators. Some buttons can also be dated based on how they are attached. Loops, holes, and shanks were used at various points in history.

The Most Sought-After Military Buttons: U.S. Army

While all branches of the U.S. military have produced collectible buttons, those from the U.S. Army are often considered the most sought-after among collectors. This preference stems from the Army's long and varied history, which has resulted in a diverse array of button designs spanning multiple conflicts and eras.

• Civil War Era Army Buttons

Civil War-era Army buttons are particularly prized by

collectors due to their historical significance and relative scarcity. These buttons can feature intricate designs that reflect the unit or state of the soldiers who wore them.



• Artillery Officer Buttons

Among the most desirable are artillery officer buttons from the 1860s. These typically feature an eagle with an "A" in the shield on its breast, symbolizing the artillery branch. The backmarks of these buttons, such as those from Horstmann of Philadelphia, can provide valuable information about their origin and age.

• Post-Civil War to World War I

Following the Civil War, the U.S. Army underwent significant changes, reflected in its uniform buttons. The period from 1880 to 1902 saw distinctive designs for different branches. Eagles were featured often on general service buttons. Branch-specific buttons existed for cavalry, artillery, and infantry. Meanwhile, staff officer buttons had more intricate designs.

• World War I and II Buttons

Buttons from the World Wars represent a significant shift in design and manufacturing. The General Service Eagle button, introduced in 1902, became standard issue and remained in use with minor modifications through World War II. These buttons, while more common, are still sought after by collectors.

Factors Affecting Value and Collectability

Several factors influence the value and desirability of antique U.S. Army buttons. Rarity is perhaps the most prominent. Many buttons from specific units were very limited in terms of production and are thus more difficult to find now.

The next most significant factor is often historical significance. Buttons worn during famous battles or by notable figures tend to be more desirable and more expensive. Buttons from specific conflicts, especially the Civil War, are also quite interesting to collectors.

Beyond that, complete sets of buttons from a certain era or uniform type are popular, but as with nearly any other collectible one can think of, the condition often impacts value.

Finally, authenticity is a major issue. Many buttons have been reproduced over the years. Obviously, originals are worth more than those reproductions.


Jessica Kosinski has been a freelance researcher and writer since 2001. She developed a passion for pre-1990s television and films as a child and she has never grown out of it. Recently, she turned that passion into a retro TV and film blog. Follow along with her at https://medium.com/@jkos_writing, as she dives deep into the characters, actors, quirks, and trivia that brought us some of the greatest films and shows in TV history and also discusses some of the more obscure films and shows most of us may have forgotten.

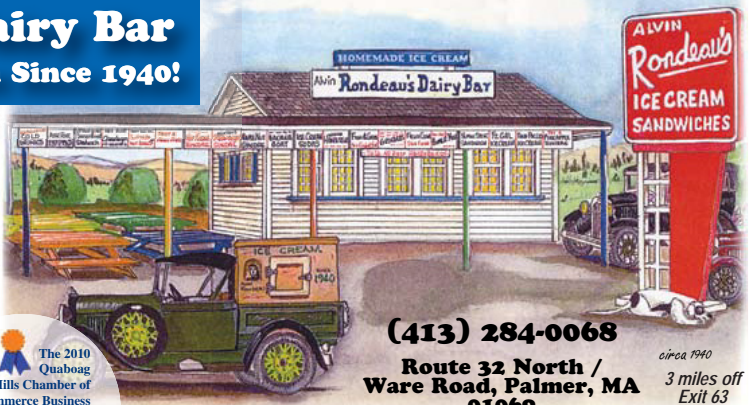
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Continuous Shows & Flea Market Guide

January-December: Alameda, CA

Alameda Point Antiques Faire

3900 Main Street
1st Sunday of the Month, 6am-3pm
510-522-7500, www.alamedapointantiquesfaire.com

January-December: Los Angeles, CA

Santa Monica Antique & Vintage Market

1st & 4th Sunday Every Month, 7am-3pm
Santa Monica Airport Interim Open Space,
3233 Donald Douglas Loop S
310-909-9001 Phone or Text
www.santamonicaairportantiquemarket.com

January-December: Jewett City, CT

College Mart Flea Market

Slater Mill Mall, 39 Wedgewood Drive
Sundays 9am-4pm
860-376-3935, www.leoneauctioneers.com

January-December: Lambertville, NJ

Golden Nugget Antique Flea Market

1850 River Road, Route 29
Wed., Sat. & Sun. 6am-4pm, Indoor Shops open 8am,
Open 6am-4pm
609-397-0811, info@gnflea.com, www.gnflea.com

January-December: Wallingford, CT

Redwood Country Flea Market

170 South Turnpike Road
Open Every Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Fri. 6am-1pm, Sat./Sun. 6am-3pm
203-269-3500
www.facebook.com/redwoodcountryfleamarket

January-December: Washington, D.C.

The Flea Market at Eastern Market

7th & C Street SE, Capital Hill
Every Sunday, 10am-5pm
Diverse Markets, 202-215-6993
info@easternmarket.net, www.easternmarket.net

January 5-March 23: Barre, VT

Montpelier Antiques Market

The Canadian Club, 414 E. Montpelier Road (Rt 14)
Sundays, 8am-1pm
Don Willis Antiques, www.montpelierantiquesmarket.com

January 1-April 2: Dover, NH

First Wednesday Antiques Flea Market

Dover Elks Lodge, 282 Durham Road
8am-12noon
Gurley Antique Shows, Rachel Gurley
207-396-4255, rachelgurley@gmail.com
www.gurleyantiqueshow.com

January 18-March 8: Sandwich, MA

Winter Sandwich Flea Market

34 Quaker Meeting House Road
Sundays, 8am-12noon
Lisa, 508-685-2767, www.thesandwichbazaar.com

March-December: Woodbury, CT

Woodbury Antiques and Flea Market

44 Sherman Hill Road (Jct 6 & 64)
Saturdays, 7:30am-2:30pm, weather permitting
203-263-6217, thenewwoodburyfleamarket@gmail.com,
www.woodburyflea.net

March 30-December: Seekonk, MA

Seekonk Flea Market

1710 Fall River Avenue
Every Sunday, 7am-1pm
Linda, 401-263-5737, www.seekonkfleamarket.com

April 2-October 29: Sandwich, MA

Sandwich Weekly Antiques & Collectibles Show

34 Quaker Meeting House Road
Wednesdays, 7am-12noon
Lisa, 508-685-2767, www.thesandwichbazaar.com

April 27-Oct. 26: Puslinch (Guelph), Ontario, Canada

Aberfoyle Market Sundays Only Market

57 Brock Road South
8am-4pm
877-763-1077, www.aberfoyleantiquemarket.com

April 27-October 26: Sandwich, MA

Sandwich Weekly Antiques & Collectibles Show

34 Quaker Meeting House Road
Sundays, 7am-12noon
Lisa, 508-685-2767, www.thesandwichbazaar.com

May 4-October 12: Brookline, NH

Outdoor Spring & Summer Brookline Antique Market

Brookline Event Center, 32 Proctor Hill Road
7am-11am
603-673-4474 brooklineantiquemarket@gmail.com
www.brooklineantiquemarket.com

May 17-October: Woodstock, NY

Mower's Saturday & Sunday Flea Market

Maple Lane
9am-5pm
845-679-6744, woodstockfleamarket@hcc.rr.com
www.mowerssaturdayfleamarket.com

November 2, 2025-March 29, 2026: Brookline, NH


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Brookline Event Center, 32 Proctor Hill Road
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