

Conestoga Auction Company Sells Part 1 Of Harry Hartman Estate



Previous Page: Auctioneers Phillip V. Nissley, left, and John M. Hess taking bids as one of the paint decorated corner cupboards was being sold.

By R. Scudder Smith

MANHEIM, PENN. — “We have been going to Conestoga auctions for years, and they have always been very good to us, so there was no question who we would look to

This 3-gallon stoneware pottery jug, made by P. Vidvard & Son, Utica, N.Y., has blue stencil and freehand floral wreath decoration, 15½ inches high, and sold for \$944.



when it came time to sell,” Oliver Overlander II said when announcing the auction dates for the estate of his

longtime business partner, Harry Hartman. Harry died on January 3, 2015, of a massive stroke, ending a



Three of the weathervanes offered the second day of the sale, shown with a selection of smalls.



◀ Several doorstops were in the sale, including this cast iron pig, painted ivory/yellow, $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches high by $11\frac{1}{4}$ inches long in good condition that went for \$324.

This chalkware cat nodder with painted features is of Pennsylvania origin, Nineteenth Century, and measures $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches high and 8 inches long. Active bidding in the gallery took the price to \$4,720. ▶





career in the antiques business that spanned close to 50 years. His name was synonymous with antiques from southeastern Pennsylvania and his talents for decorating and landscaping were well known.

The first of three two-day auctions was on May 15–16 at the Conestoga Auction Company gallery, now owned by the Hess Auction Group, when 743 lots were sold for a total of just over \$702,000, including the buyer's premium. According to Jeffrey C. DeHart, president of Conestoga



Pottery and paintings were shown at the front of the gallery, to the left of the room.



◀ Eric Sloane (American, 1905–1985) painted this signed oil on Masonite winter scene landscape, 23¼ by 31¼ inches sight, in primitive barn wood frame, that sold for \$10,620.

It took \$2,478 to buy this Pennsylvania softwood ► blanket chest, dated 1844, green ground paint with yellow initials "H.H.B. 1844" of the top front. Standing on high turned feet, it measures 23½ inches high, 38 inches wide and 18½ inches deep. The condition was listed as very good with minor wear.





and the man behind the catalog, “The contents of Harry’s shop and his personal collection are both being sold and we have divided the various categories into thirds so that some of each will be included in all six days of selling.” A few of Harry’s major interests included baskets, redware, stoneware, painted furniture, iron and weathervanes.

Blue mocha seaweed decorated yellowware pottery pepper pot, 4½ inches high, very good condition, sold for \$1,121.

A glass case was devoted to some of the ► redware pottery and stoneware that was sold on the second day of the auction. More of both categories will follow in future sales.



◀ This set of six Pennsylvania side chairs, \$1,239, have rose and foliate hand painted decoration on brown ground with yellow trim, 34 inches tall overall, seat height 18 inches, with all original surface.

The first lot of furniture to be sold was #680, a York County Federal grain paint decorated softwood two-part corner cupboard, attributed to John Rupp, Hanover, Penn., with bold decoration and in very good condition. The piece measures 85½ inches high, 48 inches wide and 22 inches deep, and sold for \$5,900.

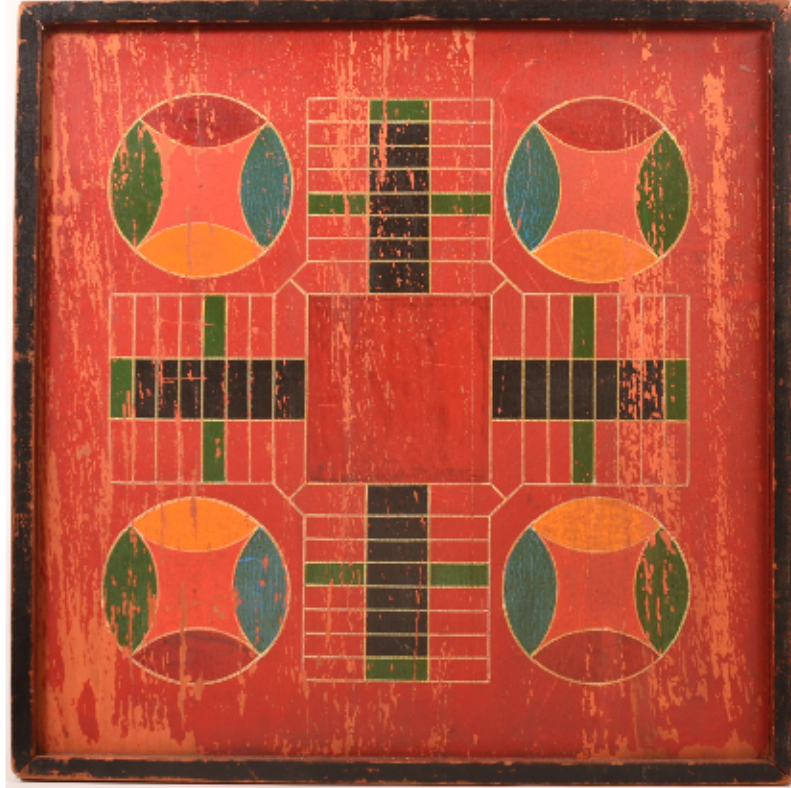
“We felt that the auction was well-attended, with more people on Saturday, and the Internet was active for each category of collecting. We were very happy with the sale,” Jeffrey noted. Holding seats in the front row of the gallery were Oliver and his wife Judy, along with several members of his family. “It is a sad day, but we are moving forward and the auction, overall, did well. As



An early Twentieth Century polychrome painted double-sided gameboard, Parcheesi and checkers, 25½ inches square, in a mitered frame, went for \$2,006.

usual, some of the lots we felt could have done better, and then there were

One of the top lots in the sale was a rare Soap Hollow miniature blanket chest, attributed to John Sala, signed "JKM 1851," grain painted with gilt stenciling, central horse and rider with a bird atop his head, measuring 14 inches high, 23 inches wide and 12½ inches deep. It was in very good condition and sold for \$35,400.



those that did far better than we ever expected. In the end, it all came out fine and we were pleased with the results,” Oliver said. The Friday

auction began promptly at 9 am, with John M. Hess calling the sale and starting things off with a pair of late Eighteenth or early Nineteenth Century wrought iron double ram's horn hinges with penny ends. Each measured 19 inches long and sold for \$248. All prices noted in this review include the buyer's premium. A few

lots following, a large cast iron frog doorstep or garden sculpture, painted green and measuring 11 by 12 inches, brought \$1,180, and a Pennsylvania Nineteenth Century toleware coffee pot, lighthouse form, dome lid with brass mushroom finial, 10¼ inches high, went for \$994. [\(Continued on page 42 inside the E-edition\)](#)

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