

An Annotated Bibliography of the Published Numismatic Writings of Walter H. Breen

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Introduction

The following bibliography is Part I of a larger project which will comprise bibliographies of all of the writings, published and unpublished, of Walter H. Breen. This larger project is a work in progress and may eventually be published in monograph form.

This part of the project lists all books, articles and notes published by Walter H. Breen on the subject of numismatics, with a few exceptions. Besides works entirely by Breen, this bibliography includes forwards, introductions and other supplementary material to publications written primarily by others; works written in collaboration with others; and posthumous works derived from the massive volume of manuscript material he left behind. When applicable, reprints and significant editions have also been mentioned.

Although errors of fact are occasionally remarked upon, it is not the purpose of this bibliography to determine what Breen got right and what he got wrong. Instead, this bibliography merely strives to present the reader with a listing of Breen's publications on numismatics, along with a brief discussion of each piece as it related to the numismatic context of the time of publication. Annotations reflect solely the opinion of the compiler when any opinion is expressed.

A surprising amount of Breen's work took the form of letters to the editor of numismatic publications or other brief notes touching on one small point relating to numismatics. Therefore, I have included works of this sort, however brief and ephemeral they may be.

This part of the project does not include auction catalogues to which Breen contributed, primarily because of the difficulty of attributing statements in an auction catalogue to a particular individual. Contributions to catalogues by Breen will be discussed in Part II.

There are certain to be omissions in this bibliography, as Breen frequently published in small and ephemeral publications. In addition, newspaper publications such as *Coin World* and *Numismatic News Weekly* are poorly represented here. The compiler invites readers to alert him to any such omissions of which they may be aware.

Bibliography

“1795 S-80a: A New, Old Copper Cent,” by Dan Demeo, followed by a comment by Walter Breen, *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 25, No. 6 (November 15, 1991; Serial 147), pp. 321-323.

A 1795 Jefferson Head S-80 cent with a lettered edge is described by Demeo and Breen as having been cherrypicked by Curtis Ray Whitson. Breen describes the coin in a brief note following Demeo’s fuller treatment of the subject.

“1795 Silver Dollar Struck over a 1794 Dollar,” *The Metropolitan Numismatic Journal*, Issue 1 (May-June 1961), pp. 2-6.

Breen describes a 1795 silver dollar he purchased which he then attributed as being overstruck on a 1794 dollar. Starting from this, he hypothesizes about what set of circumstances would lead the Mint to use 1794 dollars as planchets for the 1795 coins.

“The 1797 NC-7 — A New, Unlisted Variety,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 6 (November 15, 1968; Serial 9), pp. 218-219.

Describes the piece discovered by Jules Reiver in September 1968. Includes a new marriage diagram and much other information.

“1797 S-121a: A Legitimate Subvariety,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 24, No. 2 (March 15, 1990; Serial 137), pp. 61-62.

Breen defends the existence of the S-121a subvariety, noting, “I have examined dozens of examples of S120a, and almost all survivors of S121a. Despite their being listed as plain edge coins, all I have seen to date in fact show the same beaded edge as many S134, some S135, 136, 137; the same edge Dr. Sheldon described as ‘semi-gripped’ and mentioned only for 134, with a row of irregular raised pellets though no grip marks. (But all the NC-1’s I have seen have plain edge.) Had Dr. Sheldon known this in 1957, he might not have stubbornly denounced 121a’s as fraudulent alterations. He and I quarreled over this subvariety and never reached agreement; I could do nothing about the offending paragraph in *Penny Whimsy*.”

“The 1848 Quarter Eagle with CAL,” by Richard S. Yeoman, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 66, No. 7 (July 1953), pp. 674-686.

Q. David Bowers states in his *The American Numismatic Association Centennial History* (Wolfeboro, NH: Bowers and Merena Galleries for the American Numismatic Association, 1991) that “Research for the study was conducted by Walter Breen, although Breen was not credited. The dissertation subsequently won the Heath Literary Award” (809). (It won an honorable mention, according to Bowers’s appendix.) In *The Coin Collector* (issue 115), Bowers wrote, “Walter Breen ghost-wrote a lot of stuff, including one article in *The Numismatist* that earned a Heath Literary Award for someone else.”

“The 1856 Flying Eagle Cent,” *Rare Coin Review*, No. 11 (June-July 1971), pp. 55-56. Reprinted in *The Numismatist’s Bedside Companion*, edited by Q. David Bowers (Wolfeboro, NH: Bowers and Merena Galleries, 1987), pp. 117-121.

Examines the chronic difficulties the Mint had in maintaining an adequate supply of copper and the various experiments throughout the first half of the nineteenth century with other alloys. The nickel lobby’s influence is described in the form of Joseph Wharton and his suggested alloy of 88% copper/12% nickel for cents, which led to the 1856 Flying Eagle cents. Breen speculates on the original mintages and those of the restrikes. Breen noted in the May 1972 issue of *Penny-Wise* that “Bowers printed only the first half” of the article.

“The 1880 Legal Tenders,” *Paper Money*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (May-June 1977; Serial 69), pp. 133-141.

Examines \$1 through \$1000 emissions of large-sized legal tender notes of the 1880 series.

“The 1922 Type of 1921 Peace Dollar,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 27, No. 7 (July 1961), pp. 1721-1729.

The first description of the 1922 proof Peace dollars struck in high relief in the style of the 1921 issue.

“The 1943 Bronze Cents,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 26, No. 2 (February 1960), pp. 306-310.

Describes how these pieces were made, their discovery, the attempted refutation of their veracity by the Mint, the estimated population, and notes on the various kinds of fakes extant.

“Additional Comment on St. Patrick Farthings,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 7, No. 4 (December 1968; Serial 24), p. 233.

This piece is a follow-up to a conversation begun by Robert Vlack on the St. Patrick coinage (in Volume 7, Number 1). Breen had commented on Vlack’s piece (see his “Comment on St. Patrick Halfpence and Farthings”) in the following issue, in which he commented on the possible circulation of St. Patrick farthings in America. Eric Newman then entered the conversation in the next issue (Volume 7, Number 3), asking Breen to back up his claim of St. Patrick farthings being found in non-collector accumulations in America. Here, Breen backs off slightly, writing that while he has found such coins included in such accumulations, that the condition was so poor as to make it possible that they circulated “merely as coppers.”

“Additions and Corrections to Glossary,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 3 (May 15, 1968; Serial 6), pp. 75-76.

Changes to definitions which appeared in a glossary provided with *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 1, pp. 36-41. The title is not Breen’s: the corrections and additions are given as underlined additions to the original text.

“American Coin Symbols,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 67, No. 11 (November 1954), p. 1203.

Breen debunks the notion that the figure on the “Indian Head” cent is supposed to be an Indian, pointing out that both it and the head on St. Gaudens’s \$10 gold piece are supposed to be Liberty wearing Indian headdresses. He further notes that U.S. coins are gradually doing away with symbols of liberty and are replacing them with portraits of presidents, which he compares to the similar development in Roman coins from the period between the Republic and the Imperial era. Published in the “Notes and Queries” section of the journal.

“American Coin Type Names: An Essay in Ancestor Worship — or Something,” *The Whitman Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 5, No. 1 (January 1968), pp. 32-37; continued in Vol. 5, No. 2 (February 1968), pp. 71-75; Vol. 5, No. 3 (March 1968), pp. 157-161; Vol. 5, No. 4 (April 1968), pp. 217-221; Vol. 5, No. 6 (June 1968), pp. 343-347; Vol. 5, No. 7 (July 1968), pp. 393-398.

Breen combines his interest in folklore and numismatics by examining common nicknames for U.S. coins of various denominations (focusing on nicknames used while the particular coin was in circulation) and terms used to describe coin designs and motifs. The first installment looks at nicknames for half cents through three cent pieces; the second installment examines those for half dimes through dollars (including trade dollars) and continues to look at terms for gold coins including the \$50 San Francisco Assay Office issues. Breen shifts in the third installment to a discussion of the various terms used to describe coin designs, focusing in this piece on nomenclature used to describe early cent and half cent designs; in the fourth number of the series, Breen describes the head of Liberty introduced on cents in 1816 as “what is beyond doubt the ugliest female head ever inflicted on any obverse die of an American coin made under official auspices.” He later calls the design the Tammany Head, following Sheldon’s description of the design as resembling more closely an obese ward boss than a woman. The remainder of the piece examines the rest of the cent designs as well as those of two cent pieces and three cent nickels. The June installment (May being skipped) brings the reader through the twenty-cent piece and the final

(sixth) part discusses quarters all the way through double eagles. All told, the article adds little if anything novel, but makes for interesting reading, particularly the first two parts.

“Anatomy of a Coin Census,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 29, No. 7 (July 1963), pp. 1921-1929; continued in Vol. 29, No. 8 (August 1963), pp. 2245-2255.

Extensive comments on a sample census conducted by R.W. Julian on the holdings of 575 coin collectors and dealers. Examines what a census is, the methodology which must be employed, problems encountered and data enabled to be developed.

“Another Postscript to ‘Speculations on the New England Stiver,’” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (November 1977; Serial 50), TN-54B, p. 612.

Breen replies here to the postscript, published in the previous issue, to an article published in the January 1976 issue by David Gladfelter on “Speculations on the New England Stiver.” Breen refutes the suggestion that a connection possibly exists between the piece, thought to be a fabrication, and the “God Preserve Philadelphia” piece, which Breen identifies as being the work of Robert Bashlow.

“An Appeal for Assistance,” Letter to the Editor, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (March 1969; Serial 25), TN-13, p. 252.

Breen asks for the assistance of fellow collectors and scholars in obtaining specimens of Massachusetts silver for photographing for a book-length work on Massachusetts coins which sadly never saw publication. Adding to the pathos of the situation is that Breen begins by stating that the manuscript is with a printer and that “as I have a publisher for this work, we need not fear any such ghastly contretemps as killed the half cent and New Jersey mss.”

“Attribution Shortcuts for 1838 Cents,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 4, No. 4 (July 15, 1970; Serial 19), pp. 145-147.

As the title suggests, this is simply a list of quick ways to attribute the cents of this date.

“An Autobiography,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (January 15, 1977; Serial 64), pp. 23-26.

Breen reveals much about his early years and non-numismatic interests in this autobiographical statement written at the request of the editors.

“The Billon Sous Marques of Canada,” *The Whitman Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 8 (August 1965), pp. 581-590; continued in Vol. 2, No. 9 (September 1965), pp. 644-653; Vol. 2, No. 10 (October 1965), pp. 752-761.

An underappreciated work of Breen’s due to the fact that it deals with non-U.S. coinage. Based on the research he conducted in preparation for cataloguing New Netherland’s 59th auction sale (during which Breen drew heavily on the Norweb collection of sous marqués), the article is a systematic attempt to classify these coins by mint and variety. Breen discusses the history of the widely-circulating coins, speculates on their possible circulation in the Louisiana territories and explains the counterstamps frequently encountered on surviving specimens. Most valuable as an attribution guide. An expanded treatment of the subject appears in Breen’s “North American Colonial Coinages under the French Regime (1640-1763).”

“Blundered Dies,” *The Whitman Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 12 (December 1965), pp. 867-872; continued in Vol. 3, No. 1 (January 1966), pp. 25-29; Vol. 3, No. 4 (April 1966), pp. 259-263; Vol. 3, No. 5 (May 1966), pp. 325-329; Vol. 3, No. 6 (June 1966), pp. 433-438; Vol. 3, No. 7 (July 1966), pp. 483-487.

A series-by-series and date-by-date examination of die varieties demonstrating mintmade errors (e.g., clearly repunched mintmarks, overdates, etc.). According to an editorial comment in the February

1966 issue (p. 83), the article was intended to “form a portion of Mr. Breen’s monumental work on mint errors of all sorts, which Whitman will publish in due course.” As so often was the case, however, this book never saw publication.

Blundered Dies of Colonial and U.S. Coins,” *Empire Topics*, No. 2 (July-September 1958), pp. 15-18.

A relatively early treatment of a subject Breen would revisit on a number of occasions.

“Book Review: *A Guide Book of United States Coins, 1951-2*, by Richard S. Yeoman,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 64, No. 4 (April 1951).

If Breen were affiliated with the competing *Standard Catalog* at this point, it seems odd that he would be asked to review this book.

“Book Review: *A Guide Book of United States Coins, 1952-3*, by Richard S. Yeoman,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 65, No. 5 (May 1952), p. 506.

Breen reviews the “Redbook,” mostly describing the ways in which the prices reported therein have changed since the previous edition. He also draws attention to certain errors in the text, most of which he states he reported previously to the publisher. As Breen was affiliated with the competing *Standard Catalog* at this point, it seems odd that he would be asked to review this book.

“Brasher and Bailey: Pioneer New York Coiners, 1787-1792,” *Centennial Publication of the American Numismatic Society*, edited by Harald Ingholt (New York: ANS, 1958), pp. 137-145; plate 12.

A useful and important paper for a few reasons, Breen traces the history, insofar as it can be established, of the metal smithing businesses of Ephraim Brasher and John Bailey, both of whom separately petitioned the state of New York to coin coppers. They also were business partners for a time. After giving a full account of the surviving Brasher New York and Lima “doubloons,” as well as the various foreign gold coins with the EB counterstamp (which Breen believes was intended to certify an assay), Breen speculates on why the coins were minted, and on their circulation or lack thereof. Breen then turns to John Bailey, seconding previous research suggesting he made the Fox type New Jersey coppers and then revealing that the P and quatrefoil punches on these New Jersey coppers are identical to those used on the Brasher doubloons and the Nova Eboracs (with the exception of the small head variety). This suggests more questions than it firmly answers, as Breen admits, but establishes a firm connection between the pieces.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 13, No. 7 (July 1966), p. 38.

The first installment in a new series (taking up from one of the same name which had run in *Coin World*) which provided Breen with a soapbox for nearly twenty years. Most of these articles are only one page long and are highly subjective and often amusing. While rarely containing important numismatic information, Breen thought enough of them to bother keeping in his own library, cutting them out from the magazine and throwing the rest away. This first piece is a lament on the difficulties faced by the professional coin authenticator: not the difficulties involved with authenticating coins, but the difficulties involved with dealing with the people involved.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 13, No. 8 (August 1966), p. 21.

Breen’s gripe in this column is the sorry state of modern proof coins and the bizarre fascination of novice collectors and investors with “rare” foreign proof sets cranked out by governments hungry for U.S. cash.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 13, No. 9 (September 1966), p. 22.

Breen comments on some recently-discovered overdates, including the 1880/79 dollars of various mints, 1893/92 dimes and reports of Philly and Denver 1918/17 quarters. Mentions his book on dimes, which was never published, as close to publication.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 13, No. 10 (October 1966), p. 44.

Breen begins to criticize the 1966 half dollars, comparing them to the new clad coinage, which he finds ugly and easily copied. This is a subject he would write about at some length, and from the perspective of nearly 40 years later, it’s hard to see why. He seems convinced that the copper-nickel clad coins would wear down, exposing the copper core, and that they would be easy prey for counterfeiters (he never goes on to explain why he thinks counterfeiters would waste their energies on small change). In this essay, he likens the ’66 40% silver coins to the billon productions of the 18th-century French mints.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 13, No. 11 (November 1966), p. 37.

An open letter to the U.S. Mint asking why some numismatists (not named) are barred from the Mint, why Mint records are frequently inaccessible, and what are the present attitudes of the Mint toward mint errors and patterns and their possession by collectors.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 13, No. 12 (December 1966), p. 53.

More on clad coins, focusing on how the planchets do not strike as well as the old 90% silver ones, resulting in blurred images and poor definition.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 1 (January 1967), p. 26.

Yet more on the failings of clad coins: “The majority of clad quarters one finds in circulation look nondescript, and there is little difference in appearance between those from freshly opened bags from the federal reserve last week or last year and those which have been making the rounds of supermarkets and laundromats in West Jackrabbit, Texas.”

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (February 1967), p. 31.

Breen attempts to clarify what the term “proof” means, in light of the prevalence of the euphemism “prooflike.”

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 3 (March 1967), pp. 62-63.

Breen describes the various realms of knowledge which those aspiring to become numismatic authenticators must study and pitches the Institute of Numismatic Authenticators, founded by Breen and Don Taxay.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 4 (April 1967), p. 28.

Describes what Breen terms “The Great Silver Dollar Boondoggle,” the question of what to do with the Treasury’s apparent hoard of three million silver dollars. Notes that releasing the coins, as many collectors wanted, would likely drive down the values of the dollars those same collectors already own.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 5 (May 1967), p. 30.

Describes how modern counterfeits are produced and cites some specific cases of fabrications like the 1921 Milan double eagles and the totally dubious 1904-S eagles.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 6 (June 1967), p. 31.

Breen attacks the fad for marketing as “rare” proof, pattern or commemorative (or all three) coins from either bogus countries or from countries who do not accept the coins as legal tender and who do not intend to follow up their issue of “patterns” with a legitimate coinage.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 7 (July 1967), p. 36.

Breen discusses recent efforts to either establish a mint in a different city or close an existing one and move it, in neither of which suggestion he finds much merit.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 8 (August 1967), p. 25.

Breen discusses the notion that there is a shortage of small change in the country and ties much of the problems facing the nation’s small change problems to the recent clad coinage (even going so far as to say that “national security is at stake”).

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 9 (September 1967), p. 29.

Breen lauds Eric Newman’s recently-published *The Early Paper Money of America*, which he believes will likely create much new interest in Colonial currency and, hence, likely raise prices.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 10 (October 1967), p. 25.

Breen enthusiastically reviews Don Taxay’s *Illustrated History of U.S. Commemorative Coinage*, which Breen feels is a masterpiece.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 11 (November 1967), p. 33.

Breen castigates the Mint for sticking to its old story that any 1943 copper Lincoln cent must be counterfeit because the Mint does not make mistakes.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 14, No. 12 (December 1967), p. 31.

Breen laments the idiocy behind the Office of Domestic Gold and Silver Operations, which at the time interfered with collectors attempting to purchase coins from overseas.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 1 (January 1968), p. 33.

Breen discusses the Josiah K. Lilly coin collection, which was in the process of being offered to the Smithsonian Institute in exchange for a federal tax deduction. Breen describes the collection and why it is vitally important.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 2 (February 1968), p. 27.

The 1968 proof sets are Breen’s topic, and he derides the Mint plans to resume proof production in San Francisco, suggesting that the quality of the coins will be little better than those in the Special Mint Sets.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 3 (March 1968), p. 41.

The gradual withdrawal of silver coins from circulation by the government is the subject of Breen’s monthly *cri de coeur*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 4 (April 1968), p. 46.

With the discovery of 1966 half dollars which are missing the engraver’s initials, Breen compiles a quick list of other North American coins which for one reason or other were struck sans attribution to the artist.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 5 (May 1968), p. 43.

More on the problems inherent in “fantasy” coins with no legal value in the issuing state.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 6 (June 1968), p. 47.

Breen smiles as the Mint admits that it has been having some trouble with clad coins debonding, a problem Breen pointed out before the coins were made.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 7 (July 1968), p. 31.

The assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., and calls for him to be portrayed on a commemorative coin are discussed by Breen, who points out that the only people who would profit from such a commemorative would be "hearse-chasing coin dealers."

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 8 (August 1968), p. 43.

Breen notes the removal of the gold cover from Federal Reserve notes as taking away the last links between our currency and any precious metal, a situation which he fears will lead to massive inflation and a loss of confidence in the dollar.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 9 (September 1968), p. 31.

Breen notes the prevalence of buffed or similarly-treated coins being sold as proofs (or at least as prooflike), comparing the practice to gold-plating farthings and passing them as guineas.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 10 (October 1968), p. 49.

The decision by the Treasury to sell the remaining three million silver dollars is discussed by Breen, who believes that it will prove to be far less exciting an event as is being envisioned.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 11 (November 1968), p. 47.

Breen laments the trend toward coins being sold less by knowledgeable dealers and more by fly-by-night operators bent on a quick buck.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 15, No. 12 (December 1968), p. 41.

Breen reviews a recent work on paper currency by William Donlon, comparing it to Freidberg's and noting its deficiencies and other attributes.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 1 (January 1969), p. 42.

Breen discusses the need of casinos for silver dollars and the effects that this has had on the monetary policy of the United States as it relates to coinage, touching on the subject of the 1964 Peace dollars.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 2 (February 1969), p. 55.

A review of Lynn Glaser's *Counterfeiting in America*, a book Breen admires, though he does point out a few problems with it.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (March 1969), p. 29.

Breen plays at being prophet, foretelling an increase in the official price of gold (still regulated by the government at the time) which will affect the national debt as well as cause gold coins to rise considerably in price.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 4 (April 1969), p. 43.

Breen comments on the recent publication of Charles Jackson Affleck's *The Obsolete Paper Money of Virginia* (Vol. 1), by which he is impressed.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 5 (May 1969), p. 43.

Breen notes the attempts to get the American Numismatic Authentication Trust (ANAT) off the ground and compares it to his own ill-fated Institute of Numismatic Authenticators.

"Bristles and Barbs," *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 6 (June 1969), p. 48.

The illegal melting of U.S. silver coins by profiteers is discussed by Breen, who adds his speculation as to where the current precious-metals situation will wind up.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 8 (August 1969), p. 40.

Breen discusses the recent suggestion to begin striking half dollars in the same clad composition in which the quarters and dimes were already being struck. He also notes that the Treasury is thinking of doing away with the laws against private melting of coins. Note that there is no “Bristles and Barbs” for July 1969, the first of a number of lacunae in the series.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 9 (September 1969), p. 47.

The possibility of the Mint resuming the production of dollar coins is discussed with Breen, who also touches on previously discussed subjects including the use of dollars in casinos.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 11 (November 1969), p. 25.

The use of the “In God We Trust” motto on U.S. coinage and the inaccurate description of mass-produced medals as “coins” are discussed in this article.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 16, No. 12 (December 1969), p. 41.

The Mint’s refusal to allow numismatists access to historical documentation is discussed by Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 17, No. 1 (January 1970), p. 43.

The plan to issue Eisenhower dollars is discussed by Breen, who sees no purpose for them whatsoever.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 17, No. 2 (February 1970), p. 59.

Breen reviews Louis van Belkum’s *National Bank Notes, 1863-1935*, discussing its advantages over Friedberg and its limitations. This is his last column until August — 1970 was a bad year for Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 17, No. 8 (August 1970), p. 34.

Breen laughs at the Mint plans to issue uncirculated and proof Eisenhower dollars in 40% silver.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 17, No. 9 (September 1970), p. 43.

A New York City subway fare increase affects the tokens used and promotes illicit experiments with low-value foreign coins which can fool the turnstiles.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 3 (March 1971), p. 29.

Breen discusses the foreign minting of copies of U.S. gold coins, not for counterfeiting purposes, but as full-weight bullion coins; he links this to the issue of other officially sanctioned copies such as the Maria Theresa thalers.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 4 (April 1971), p. 64.

Recent discoveries which have caused conventional wisdom to be rewritten are discussed by Breen, including early U.S. proofs and branch mint proofs.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 5 (May 1971), p. 44.

The 1970-S half dollars (available only in proof sets) and the 1970 no mintmark proof dimes are discussed by Breen, who foresees the 1976 bicentennial half dollar and the resumption of commemorative coins. Part of a paragraph is missing due to a production error.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 6 (June 1971), p. 45.

The revised second edition of Overton’s half dollar book is reviewed, with Breen finding it much improved over the first edition, but not up to the quality of Sheldon’s *Penny Whimsy* for large cents.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 7 (July 1971), p. 70.

Breen reviews Taxay’s *Scott’s Comprehensive Catalogue and Encyclopedia of U.S. Coins*, calling it “without a doubt the most ambitious project ever attempted in American numismatics.”

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 8 (August 1971), p. 72.

Returning to his April 1968 topic, Breen discusses U.S. coins struck without designer initials.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 9 (September 1971), p. 30.

Breen focuses on identifying proof coins which are often confused with circulation strikes (commemoratives issued in small quantities, matte proofs, and heavily tarnished coins).

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 10 (October 1971), p. 40.

Breen makes predictions on subjects including the rising value of gold and the abandonment of New York city by the major coin dealers. Breen mentions having been editor of *Sybil Leek’s Astrology Journal* (“perhaps one of the weirder things I’ve had to do to make a living during a depressed market”).

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 11 (November 1971), p. 50.

Positive review of Kenneth W. Lee’s *California Gold Dollars, Half Dollars, Quarter Dollars*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 12 (December 1971), p. 38.

Positive review of Cornelius Vermeule’s *Numismatic Art in America*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 1 (January 1972), p. 40.

Breen speculates on whether the Nixon administration’s commodity price freeze would apply to coins and how.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 2 (February 1972), p. 70.

Breen shares his concerns over the Nixon administration’s decision to float the value of the dollar on the world markets.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 3 (March 1972), p. 82.

Reviews Robert P. Harris’s *Gold Coins of the Americas* and Haxby and Willey’s *Coins of Canada*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 4 (April 1972), p. 56.

Breen discusses how to recognize a new batch of counterfeit quarter eagles and \$3 gold pieces.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 5 (May 1972), p. 52.

The effects which a proliferation of counterfeits can have on the market for a particular coin series (or indeed the market as a whole) is discussed in this piece, with Breen focusing on new 1877 and 1883 counterfeit quarter eagles and 1871, 1876 and 1877 fake half eagles, the characteristics of which he describes to readers.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 6 (June 1972), p. 44.

A debate over the authenticity of a 1907 St. Gaudens \$10 gold with rolled edge and periods evolves into a real headache for those trying to sell the (legitimate) coin.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 7 (July 1972), p. 59.

The apparent sale of an unknown mystery 1936 Lincoln cent for the ridiculous amount of \$25,000 is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 8 (August 1972), p. 51.

The seeming death of an act of federal legislation to require copies of coins to be marked as being such has Breen upset. Among other things, he writes, “here is an opportunity for the ANA to justify its own continued existence, to accomplish something worthwhile for once.”

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 9 (September 1972), p. 25.

The reprinting of the seven-part auction catalogue of the Albert A. Grinnell collection of paper money is noted by Breen, who believes it will be a valuable addition to collectors’ libraries, though he laments that it does not include the Mehl offerings of Grinnell duplicates and fractionals.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 10 (October 1972), p. 51.

A Senate bill to allow private citizens to possess gold if and when the Treasury discontinues holding gold backing currency has Breen at his most paranoid, worrying about the massive inflation which would result if the government then printed unlimited quantities of paper money.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 11 (November 1972), p. 40.

Breen reviews Gene Hessler’s *New Official Guide to United States Currency*, which, despite its poor production values, he admires.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 12 (December 1972), p. 96.

1804 dollars, and particularly the status of the Class I dollars, are the topic of Breen’s monthly column.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 1 (January 1973), p. 46.

A review of Harry Forman’s *How to Make Big Profits Investing in Coins*, which Breen admires, though acknowledging its faults.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (February 1973), p. 61.

Breen responds to an unnamed dealer’s allegations that auctions are a poor place for coin owners to sell their collections, pointing out that this criticism is both self-serving and false.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 3 (March 1973), p. 68.

Breen discusses Raphael Thian’s *Register of the Confederate Debt*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 4 (April 1973), p. 55.

The increasing market for large cents and the effect on that market of the Early American Coppers club is discussed. Breen also mentions the Bust Half Nut Club.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 5 (May 1973), p. 60.

Old falsehoods that had commonly been accepted about coins and their eventual exposure through research are Breen’s topics of the month.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 6 (June 1973), p. 46.

A positive review of the first edition of Van Allen and Mallis’s *Guide to Morgan and Peace Dollars*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 7 (July 1973), p. 39.

Breen examines past fads in coin collecting, as well as the correlation between the popularity of a series and the availability of a decent reference work on the subject.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 8 (August 1973), p. 64.

The mass production of foreign commemorative coins, often of dubious legal value, to feed the appetite of collectors is examined by Breen as it relates to previous collecting manias in numismatics.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 9 (September 1973), p. 54.

The problem of fewer customers for retail coin dealers is examined, with Breen offering suggestions on how to drum up further interest in the hobby.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 10 (October 1973), p. 88.

Breen notes that while the 1960s were a seller's market in numismatics, that dealers now have to pay more attention to customer service — and not just for the few affluent collectors.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 20, No. 11 (November 1973), p. 66.

Some practical suggestions on how to bring new blood into the hobby are made by Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 1 (January 1974), p. 64.

The visit of the Mint Assayer to the GENA convention brings about a discussion on the feasibility of continuing to strike one-cent pieces.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 2 (February 1974), p. 56.

The proposed commemoratives honoring San Francisco's cable cars (never issued) are discussed by Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 3 (March 1974), p. 78.

A fad for collecting silver “art” bars is discussed by Breen, who likens it to the late 18th-century fad for Conder tokens and various mules of 19th-century American tokens.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 4 (April 1974), p. 56.

Breen discusses the laws regarding the making of items “in similitude of United States currency,” holding up as a ridiculous example the seizing of a silver bar, part of whose illustration mimicked a dollar bill.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 5 (May 1974), p. 50.

The declining value of the paper dollar in terms of gold is revisited in this column.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 6 (June 1974), p. 70.

The seizure of satirical works of art resembling paper money which are critical of the government is discussed by Breen, who views it as a form of political harassment.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 7 (July 1974), p. 57.

The possibility of striking cents in aluminum is discussed, with Breen mentioning the historical background of aluminum coins and the ways in which such a change would have to be brought about.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 8 (August 1974), p. 32.

The legalization of the ownership of gold restrikes dated prior to 1960 officially made by several sovereign states is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 9 (September 1974), p. 59.

Two new Quarterman reprints are reviewed by Breen: Jose Toribio Medina's *Medallas de Proclamaciones y Juras de los Reyes de España en América* and Grand Duke George Mikhailovich's *Monnaies de l'Empire de Russie, 1725-1894*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 10 (October 1974), p. 42.

Breen comments on a shortage of one-cent pieces in the Bay area which had led some businesses to provide small change in one-cent stamps.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 11 (November 1974), p. 32.

Breen speculates on which U.S. coins would be likely to hit the \$100,000 mark if sold at auction, including in his list the New England threepence, Nova Constellatio patterns, Brasher doubloons and several other rarities.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 21, No. 12 (December 1974), p. 32.

The differences between the Imperial systems of weights and measurements and the metric system as they pertain to coin weights and values is Breen’s topic.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 1 (January 1975), p. 60.

The copying, sharing and plagiarizing of designs between coins and stamps are Breen’s topics of the month.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 2 (February 1975), p. 81.

The latest shots fired in the hundred-year war between the Mint and collectors are examined by Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 3 (March 1975), p. 54.

Breen discusses exhibits at coin shows and the problems encountered when dealing with volunteer (often ill-trained or flat-out ignorant) judges.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 4 (April 1975), p. 69.

The possibility of some Arab nations basing currency on crude oil is examined by Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 5 (May 1975), p. 59.

The Quarterman reprints of the Fonrobert catalogue and the Edgar H. Adams catalogue of the Julius Gutttag collection of Latin American coins are examined..

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 6 (June 1975), p. 60.

Ways to annoy coin dealers..

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 7 (July 1975), p. 58.

Legal attempts to change (or thwart) the government’s approach to the gold standard are examined.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 8 (August 1975), p. 70.

The different approaches between collectors and investors are discussed..

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 9 (September 1975), p. 44.

Breen discusses a rash of fake California fractional gold.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 10 (October 1975), p. 65.

Returning to his earlier topic of coins which could be worth \$100,000, Breen examines the notion that some of the coins included in this exclusive group (such as the 1804 dollar and 1913 V nickel) are illegitimate.

- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 11 (November 1975), p. 44.
Proposals that a woman should be featured on the \$2 bill are examined by Breen.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 22, No. 12 (December 1975), p. 41.
Changes in mailing rates are examined as they possibly construe a hardship for smaller hobby publications to the point where freedom of press and speech becomes an issue.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 1 (January 1976), p. 68.
Review of Richard H. Rosichan’s *Stamps and Coins: Spare Time Guides #5*, which Breen says proves bibliography need not be dull (and so say all of us).
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 2 (February 1976), p. 43.
The ANA Grading Board is the topic of the month, and Breen suggests the publication of an ANA grading book along the lines of Brown and Dunn and *Photograde*.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 3 (March 1976), p. 70.
Breen discusses the grading of coins, pointing out the merits and deficiencies in several proposed systems.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 4 (April 1976), p. 44.
Topics vary between the sale of silver ingot “art bars” in numismatic papers to the destruction of 1974 aluminum cents.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 5 (May 1976), p. 43.
The sale of government medals at inflated (well over bullion) prices is Breen’s topic of the month.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 6 (June 1976), p. 76.
The mandated mintages of bicentennial proof and mint sets are discussed..
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 7 (July 1976), p. 77.
The Mint’s destruction of the 1974 aluminum cents is the topic of Breen’s monthly column.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 8 (August 1976), p. 49.
A review of several books: R. Duphorne’s publication on early quarters, the Quarterman collection *A Survey of American Trade Tokens*, the Stackpole reprint of Adams on California gold, and the Stefanellis’s *Beauty and Lore of Coins*, the last of which he recommends heartily.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 9 (September 1976), p. 78.
Breen reviews the 1976 edition of *Scott’s Catalogue and Encyclopedia of U.S. Coins* (by Don Taxay) and *Detecting Altered Coins* (by Bert Harsche).
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 10 (October 1976), p. 79.
The prosecution of satirical “currency” artist Gale Wagner is discussed by Breen.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 11 (November 1976), p. 50.
The ANS publication of *Studies on Money in Early America* is hailed by Breen.
- “Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 23, No. 12 (December 1976), p. 50.
Chuck O’Donnell’s *Standard Handbook of Modern U.S. Paper Money* is reviewed by Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 1 (January 1977), p. 52.

Breen reviews two Quarterman publications: the anthology *U.S. Large Cents, 1793-1857* edited by Lapp and Silberman, and the reprint of Attinelli’s 1876 masterpiece *Numisgraphics*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 2 (February 1977), p. 44.

Breen speculates on rifts between the ANA and ANACS.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 3 (March 1977), p. 52.

The possibility of eliminating the cent from current Mint production has Breen concerned.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 4 (April 1977), p. 58.

The relative uselessness of the U.S. Assay Commission in an era of clad coinage is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 5 (May 1977), p. 42.

The suggestions made by various hobbyists for the ANA’s grading manual are discussed by Breen, who finds most of them to be inane attempts to force Sheldon’s 70-point grading system to work.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 6 (June 1977), p. 79.

A very positive review of the bicentennial edition of Eric P. Newman’s *Early Paper Money of America*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 7 (July 1977), p. 45.

A new revision of Van Allen and Mallis’s *Comprehensive Catalogue and Encyclopedia of Morgan and Peace Dollars* is favorably reviewed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 8 (August 1977), p. 42.

The possibility of minting smaller dollar coins is discussed, as is a technical report on the subject by Alan Goldman.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 9 (September 1977), p. 57.

Breen notes a few new publications: Mike Kliman’s *The U.S. 2-Cent Piece and Varieties*; the Quarterman reprint of Valentine on half dimes (supplemented with other works on the topic); and Wayne Miller’s *Analysis of Morgan and Peace Dollars*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 10 (October 1977), p. 57.

Breen takes considerable offense at a statement by a popular investment counselor to the effect that coins make a lousy investment.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 11 (November 1977), p. 58.

Breen responds to suggestions made to revive the two-cent piece and decrease the size of paper currency.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 24, No. 12 (December 1977), p. 50.

Exactly what makes for a die variety is discussed, with some thoughts on minor versus major varieties.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 1 (January 1978), p. 43.

The elimination of positions on the U.S. Assay Commission for citizen observers, ostensibly to save money, is criticized. Beginning with this column, a different photo of Breen is used.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 2 (February 1978), p. 50.

Breen reviews some new publications from Quarterman: *Canadian Tokens and Medals*, an anthology; a reprint of Stewart’s *History of the First U.S. Mint*; a new edition of the Fulds’s *U.S. Civil War Store Cards*; the anthology *Monographs on Varieties of Cents, 1793-1794* edited by John W. Adams; and the similar anthology on the cents of 1795-1803 edited by Denis Loring.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 3 (March 1978), p. 44.

The state of research on paper currency is discussed, with emphasis on the sixth edition of Chuck O’Donnell’s *Standard Handbook of Modern U.S. Paper Money*, which Breen greatly admires.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 4 (April 1978), p. 60.

Breen submits a list of numismatic pipe dreams.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 5 (May 1978), p. 58.

A review of the sixth edition of the Judd book on U.S. pattern coins, which Breen says he had no part in revising this time around (and, hence, can ethically review).

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 6 (June 1978), p. 58.

Breen suggests the creation of a Numismatic Hall of Infamy and proposes a dozen honorees.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 7 (July 1978), p. 57.

The furor over the “In God We Trust” motto on U.S. money and the efforts on the part of some to have it eliminated is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 8 (August 1978), p. 45.

A bill which could restrict the importation of ancient and medieval coins is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 9 (September 1978), p. 52.

Breen reports on the “silly season,” including the activities of the U.S. Assay Commission, Madeline Murray O’Hare, proposals for the Mint to issue gold bullion coins and a report that coins can cause cancer in rats.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 10 (October 1978), p. 52.

The possibility of issuing commemorative coins again is discussed, with Breen giving several suggestions for the upcoming years (including Washington’s 250th birthday in 1982).

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 25, No. 12 (December 1978), p. 60.

Breen positively reviews R.W. Julian’s *Medals of the U.S. Mint*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 1 (January 1979), p. 61.

The possibility of the U.S. Mint issuing gold bullion coins is examined by Breen, who suggests the name “Carterrands” for them.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 2 (February 1979), p. 52.

A review of Gene Hessler’s *Comprehensive Catalogue of U.S. Paper Money* (1977 edition).

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 4 (April 1979), p. 91.

Gold hoarding and demands for payment in silver have Breen concerned yet again over fiat money and related topics.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 5 (May 1979), p. 80.

The topic of the month is cleaning coins, particularly with commercial dips and other strong acids.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 6 (June 1979), p. 78.

The possibility that anticounterfeiting laws (as written) apply to gambling counters and other tokens is discussed by Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 7 (July 1979), p. 84.

The difficulties in keeping dollar coins in circulation is discussed, with Breen pointing out that vending machines and other coin-operated devices keep coins off the streets far more than collectors.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 8 (August 1979).

Whether gold bullion in the form of coins (albeit noncirculating ones) can be subjected to sales tax is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 10 (October 1979), p. 53.

An exhibit at a coin show (“Take a Closer Look before You Buy,” by Steve Bergman) wins kudos from Breen.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 11 (November 1979), p. 72.

The use (or lack thereof) of the cent and the possibility of disposing with mint marks are Breen’s topic.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 26, No. 12 (December 1979), p. 58.

Breen reviews Dave Bowers’s *Adventures with Rare Coins*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 1 (January 1980), p. 81.

A review of Kenneth W. Lee’s *California Gold Dollars, Half Dollars, Quarter Dollars*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 2 (February 1980), p. 86.

The public response to SBA dollars is examined.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 3 (March 1980), p. 66.

Breen reviews Q. David Bowers’s *A History of United States Coinage as Illustrated by the Garrett Collection*.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 4 (April 1980), p. 79.

The sale of half a million CC silver dollars by the GSA is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 5 (May 1980), p. 78.

A lawsuit regarding dollar bills with the photos of celebrities replacing the engraving of Washington is Breen’s topic.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 6 (June 1980), p. 58.

Mint fears of coin collectors speculating in SBA dollars are discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 8 (August 1980), p. 80.

The melting of lower-grade examples of somewhat scarce date/mintmark combinations of silver coins during the height of the silver boom is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 9 (September 1980), p. 79.
Another article on the poor circulation of the SBA dollars.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 27, No. 10 (October 1980), p. 43.
Laws requiring coin dealers to register purchases with the police and pay various taxes on coins sold at show have Breen concerned.

“Bristles and Barbs,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 2 (February 1981), p. 68.
Breen apologizes for his recent absence from the pages of *Coins* and recites an impressive litany of sorrows and misfortunes which have recently befallen his family and friends. He pulls himself together, however, and gets back to complaining about SBA dollars.

“Bristles and Barbs: Trends for the ‘80s,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 3 (March 1981), p. 53.
Breen looks at the past decade and tries to foretell what the ‘80s will bring. The first of the “Bristles and Barbs” columns in *Coins* to have a subtitle of its own.

“Bristles and Barbs: Deja Vu Susie,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 4 (April 1981), p. 60.
The proposed payment of military personnel only in SBA dollars (which ended up not happening) is compared to the illicit payment of some factory workers in the nineteenth century with Trade dollars (only worth 83 cents or so).

“Bristles and Barbs: Expecting the Apocalypse,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 5 (May 1981), p. 60.
Breen compares the effects of having “Ronny the Ray Gun” as president instead of “Jimmy the C” on numismatics.

“Bristles and Barbs: Gold Standard’s Cost,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 6 (June 1981), p. 60.
The causes of inflation and the ways in which they are related to numismatics are Breen’s monthly topic.

“Bristles and Barbs: Where Confusion Reigns,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 7 (July 1981), p. 59.
The 11-point grading scheme adopted by the ANA has Breen concerned.

“Bristles and Barbs: Commemorative Questions,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 9 (September 1981), p. 42.
The possibility of Washington commemorative half dollars being released is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs: Dubious Awards,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 10 (October 1981), p. 42.
Another installment of awards given to dubious achievements in numismatics.

“Bristles and Barbs: Mixed Bag Reopened,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 11 (November 1981), p. 87.
Quick reviews of Bernard Nagengast’s *Jefferson Nickel Analyst*, Russell Rulau’s *Hard Times Tokens*, James Koutsoures’s *The Identification of the Feuchtwanger Cents, Low 120*, John A. Wexler’s *Encyclopedia of Double Dies*, LeRoy Van Allen’s *Dollar Varieties and Errors Scrapbook* and James G. Johnson’s *Fair to Very Fine*.

“Bristles and Barbs: Zinc Cent Folly,” *Coins*, Vol. 28, No. 12 (December 1981), p. 78.
Breen talks about the proposal to strike cents in copper-coated zinc.

- “Bristles and Barbs: End Harassment,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 1 (January 1982), p. 86.
A federal suit against Time, Inc., for using images of dollar bills is held up to ridicule by Breen.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Questions Coinage,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 2 (February 1982), p. 43.
The possibility of Olympic commemorative coins is the topic of the month.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Call of Cassandra,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 3 (March 1982), p. 52.
Coin conventions without exhibits are deplored and the educational value of such exhibits is discussed.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Survival Goals,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 4 (April 1982), p. 50.
Advice to young numismatists.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Knocking ANACS,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 5 (May 1982), p. 78.
Criticizing ANACS has taken the lead over criticizing the ANA as collectors’ fallback hobby.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Mixed Bag,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 6 (June 1982), p. 78.
A few book reviews: the *Gobrecht Journal Collective Volume I*; Jules Reiver’s *Mature Head U.S. Copper Cents, 1843-1857*; Fred Schwan’s *Military Payment Certificates*; and Don C. Kelly’s *National Bank Notes: A Guide with Prices*.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Bagging Turkeys,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 7 (July 1982), p. 81.
Breen examines three axioms on grading and pricing developed by Donald Kagin.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Try Eye Test,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 8 (August 1982), p. 50.
A few issues confronting ANACS get Breen’s attention, including conducting eye tests on graders and authenticators and the use of sliding scales for services.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Review Exhibit Rules,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 9 (September 1982), p. 64.
Breen brings up a couple problems with the ANA’s revised rules for exhibits, particularly pointing out how some coins could fit in multiple categories.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Great Gold Grab,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 10 (October 1982), p. 78.
A recommendation that the Mint begin issuing gold bullion “Eagles” is examined, particularly as it pertains to tax evasion and money laundering.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Bronx Cheer,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 11 (November 1982), p. 86.
Numismatic booby prizes include one to the New York Public Library for disposing of its numismatic book collection.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Plutocrats’ Gold,” *Coins*, Vol. 29, No. 12 (December 1982), p. 79.
Breen brings up a number of possible problems with the Mint getting into the gold bullion business.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Stop It Now,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 1 (January 1983), p. 52.
Breen believes that making gold bullion widely available will result in a lessening of investments in the stock market and in other areas.
- “Bristles and Barbs: Chocking Hobby,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 2 (February 1983), p. 87.

Laws designed to help track stolen property are examined as they could pertain to the “second-hand” coin business.

“Bristles and Barbs: In the Bag,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 3 (March 1983), p. 69.

Reviews Russell Rulau’s *Early American Tokens* and *U.S. Merchant Tokens 1845-60*.

“Bristles and Barbs: Radical Book,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 4 (April 1983), p. 78.

Reviews Robert P. Hilt, II’s controversial *Die Varieties of Early U.S. Coins*, which Breen finds valuable despite its over-reliance on statistical methods and occasional errors.

“Bristles and Barbs: Supports Gold, but...,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 5 (May 1983), p. 91.

Breen explains and clarifies his feelings against a totally open bullion market.

“Bristles and Barbs: Hobby Truths,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 6 (June 1983), p. 43.

Breen offers ten laws or axioms regarding the coin business, most of them funny (as least cynically so).

“Bristles and Barbs: Need New Method,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 7 (July 1983), p. 61.

IRS regulations requiring dated descriptive sales slips for coins (if one has to file for an exemption due to robbery of uninsured material) are discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs: H.R. 1783: ‘Anti-Hobby Act,’” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 9 (September 1983), p. 88.

A legislative bill requiring extensive records of every transaction involving rare coins is the topic of the month.

“Bristles and Barbs: Coin Photography,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 11 (November 1983), p. 80.

The difficulties of coin photography are discussed, with Breen using two examples of recently-published books to show the extremes: Wayne Miller’s *The Morgan and Peace Dollar Textbook* (where the photography is not up to the job, in Breen’s estimation) and Gerald Hoberman’s *The Art of Coins and Their Photography*, in which the photos are the highpoint.

“Bristles and Barbs: The Story behind the C-Note’s Demise,” *Coins*, Vol. 30, No. 12 (December 1983), p. 85.

The possibility that the \$100 bill will be retired is discussed.

“Bristles and Barbs: Krugerrand Ban and Olympic Coins,” *Coins*, Vol. 31, No. 3 (March 1984), p. 73.

Breen discusses the possibility of slapping a 2% import tax on Krugerrands. The sole column for the year.

“Bristles and Barbs: The Stuff of Auction Catalogues,” *Coins*, Vol. 32, No. 2 (February 1985), p. 37.

In a fascinating column that should be reprinted, Breen discusses the history of writing for auction catalogues and talks about his own role in trying to set a better standard.

“Bristles and Barbs: How to Get Rich — Maybe,” *Coins*, Vol. 32, No. 3 (March 1985), p. 43.

Breen’s remarks at Scott Travers’s Coin Collector’s Survival Conference. The last “Bristles and Barbs.”

California Pioneer Fractional Gold: Historic Gold Rush Small Change, 1852-1856, and Suppressed Jewelers' Issues, 1859-1882, by Walter Breen with the collaboration of Ronald J. Gillio (Santa Barbara: Pacific Coast Auction Galleries, 1983). Issued in a limited edition hardcover bound in half morocco and regular edition paperback, 160 pages.

The standard work on the series, a second, revised edition of this was published in 2003 (not included in this bibliography as Breen wasn't around to work on it). The limited edition features two photographic plates with tissue guards, is bound in blue half morocco, gilt, and has marbled endpapers. Though the limited edition was to be of 100 copies, apparently only 49 or 50 were actually bound for subscribers. An inscribed copy in the February 29, 1992 numismatic literature auction held by Charles Davis (lot 761), includes a note by Breen about a contributor to the volume reading: "... without whom this would have been a better work; he lost or suppressed some illustrations, and made other changes against my wishes, without my consent, and against my better judgment..."

The Care and Preservation of Rare Coins (Albertson, New York: First Coinvestors [FCI Press], 1977). 7.5 inch plastic audio record in 4 page card stock booklet.

A "talking book record," the first of what was apparently planned to be a series issued by FCI. Scarce.

"Cent Collectors' Forum," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 1 (January 1957), pp. 25-26.

The first appearance of this incarnation of the series, Breen precedes his article with the following introduction: "This initiates a monthly feature to be devoted to the interests of collectors of large cents, early and late dates alike. We expect to publish here any and all new discoveries in the field, whether new die varieties or sub varieties, new specimens of Rarity 7 or 8 coins, or even unlisted die breaks. For the first few issues we propose to go through the series from 1793 to 1857 and bring collectors up to date on the discoveries that have been made since the Sheldon and Newcomb books came out." This installment covers the 1793 NC-1, NC-2, NC-3 and S-7.

"Cent Collectors' Forum," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 2 (February 1957), p. 136.

This installment covers the 1793 S-8, NC-4 and S-15 as well as the 1794 NC-1, S-37, NC-2 and NC-4.

"Cent Collectors' Forum," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 3 (March 1957), p. 280.

This installment covers the 1794 NC-5, S-48 and S-50, as well as the 1795 S-73, S-75, S-76 a, S-76b, S-78 and S-79.

"Cent Collector's Forum," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 4 (April 1957), p. 419.

This installment covers the 1795 NC-1 and S-80; 1796 general information, S-90 and NC-1; and provides further data on the 1793 strawberry leaf cents and S-15. Note: title of series usually "Cent Collectors' Forum."

"Cent Collector's Forum," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 5 (May 1957), p. 514.

This installment covers the reverse emission sequence of the 1796 S-93 through NC-3, then individually the 1796 NC-2, S-96, NC-3, NC-4, S-106, NC-5, S-114 and S-117; and 1797 S-121, S-122, NC-3 and S-123. Note: title of series usually "Cent Collectors' Forum."

"Cent Collectors' Forum," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 6 (June 1957), pp. 658-660.

This installment covers the 1797 S-124, S-125, S-127, S-128, S-129, S-131, S-132, S-134, S-136, S-138, NC-5 and S-142; 1798 general information, S-148, S-149, S-154, NC-2, S-162, S-163, S-166, S-169, 170 and 171, S-173, S-177, S-178, S-180, S-183, S-184, S-186 and S-187; 1799/8 NC-1; 1799 S-189;

1800/99 S-193; 1800/90 S-195, NC-1 and NC-2; and 1800 S-197, S-198, NC-3, S-201, S-203, S-204, S-205, S-207, S-210, S-212 and NC-4.

“Cent Collectors’ Forum,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 7 (July 1957), p. 807.

This installment covers the 1801 general information, S-213, S-214, S-215, NC-1, S-217, S-219, NC-2, NC-3 and S-224; and 1802 S-225, NC-1, S-227 and S-228.

“Cent Collectors’ Forum,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 8 (August 1957), p. 922.

This installment covers the 1802 NC-2, S-233, S-234, S-235, S-237 and S-240; and 1803 S-249, NC-1, S-251, S-256, S-259, S-262, S-263 and S-264.

“Cent Collectors’ Forum,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 11 (November 1957), p. 1322.

This installment covers the 1809 S-280; 1810 S-282, S-283, S-284 and S-285; 1811/10 S-286; 1811 S-287; 1813 S-293; 1814 S-294 and S-295; and 1816 N-1.

“Cent Collectors’ Forum,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 71, No. 2 (February 1958), p. 170.

This installment covers the 1805 S-268 and S-269; 1806 S-270; 1807 S-271, S-272, S-273, S-274, S-275 and S-276; and 1808 general information, S-278 and S-279.

“Cent Collectors’ Forum,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 71, No. 3 (March 1958), p. 293.

This final installment covers the 1816 N-2, N-3, N-4, N-5, N-6, N-7, N-8 and N-9. In a letter to Charles Ruby from February 1960, Breen mentioned that “When I get around to it I will revive the Cent Coll. Forum thing in the *Numismatist*; but ... I have so many other things to do” (quote taken from George Kolbe’s transcription of excerpts from the letter in his sale of June 13, 1998, lot 244). Apparently, either Breen simply never did get around to reviving the department or the *Numismatist* felt that there was insufficient interest in the middle-date cents to continue with it.

“*Le Chameau* Treasure,” historical commentaries, Parke-Bernet Galleries A auction catalogue of December 10-11, 1971.

The *Chameau* was a ship which sank in 1725 with a large cache of French colonial coins on board. Later scavenged, these were sold in large part in this auction.

“Chasing Rainbows,” *Paper Money*, Vol. 16, No. 2 (March-April 1977; Serial 68), pp. 69ff.

On the series 1869-1874 and 1875-1878 notes.

“Coin’ Notes Nearly Bankrupted Treasury,” *Numismatic News*, Vol. 25, No. 12 (March 19, 1977), pp. 8ff; continued in Vol. 25, No. 14 (April 2, 1977), pp. 14ff; Vol. 25, No. 24 (June 11, 1977), pp. 10ff; Vol. 25, No. 26 (June 25, 1977), pp. 12ff.

“Coinage for Colonial Virginia,” book review, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 2 (February 1957), pp. 170-171.

A review of Eric P. Newman’s *Numismatic Notes and Monographs* work on the subject, which Breen warmly admires.

“Coinage of the New Orleans Mint in 1861,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 64, No. 4 (April 1951), pp. 387-394.

“The Coinage Patterns and Proposals of 1791-1792 Featuring Washington’s Portrait and Other Federal Types,” *Numismatic News Weekly*, October 23, 1973; continued through

December 3, 1973 [?]. Reprinted in adapted form in the Stack's catalogue of Part II of the John J. Ford, Jr. collection (May 11, 2004).

Surprisingly long and detailed for a newspaper series, Breen's article discusses the background of the 1791 Washington "cents" in great depth, providing much historical context and even delving into the art history behind the various drawings and engravings that may have influenced the designs. The Stack's catalogue reprints only the first part of the article.

"A Coiner's Caviar": Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Proof Coins, 1722-1977 (Albertson, New York: FCI Press, 1977). Hardcover with dust-jacket, (8), 324 pages. Revised second edition published as *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins, 1722-1989: With Additions and Corrections to the 1977 Volume* (Wolfeboro, New Hampshire: Bowers and Merena Galleries, 1989). Paperback, (8), 338, (2) pages.

Traces the history of proof coinage, spending much time establishing what exactly a proof is and how one is made. (Breen cringed at how most collectors thought of "proof" as a condition instead of the product of a separate manufacturing process, and loathed the meaningless term "prooflike" for encouraging such thinking.) Breen shows how, throughout history, the notion of what proofs are and the reasons for their striking have changed, even in the relatively short period encompassed by U.S. history. Breen then examines all proofs made in what are now the United States, providing information which had frequently never before been published. Subsequent chapters discuss the possibility of proofs from the Confederate mint, the provisional U.S. Mint in San Francisco during the 1850s, the 1856 Flying Eagle cents, fantasy pieces and restrikes, branch mint proofs and other exotica. While some of his claims on early proofs are at times controversial, this is one of his most important works. The revised 1989 edition includes revisions and corrections in a 14-page supplement; the text is otherwise unchanged.

"A Collection of Observations on TN-31, 'A Biennial Pairing Puzzle,'" letter to the editor, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 11, No. 3 (September 1972; Serial 35), pp. 372-373.

In this letter, Breen refutes statements made in an earlier article by Richard Buckley suggesting that certain Connecticut copper die varieties held to be different are in fact the same. Breen states that the confusion lies in the fact that the dies share the same hub, but do exhibit differences in the hand engraving needed to clarify the features of the design. While Breen then draws a comparison to the same sort of thing happening with 1794 half cents, he did not suggest the same thing about the 1794 cents until significantly later (see "Robert Scot's Earliest Device Punches"). Note that the title given is not Breen's but is merely the heading under which his letter (and others on the subject) were printed.

"The Collector's Necessary Equipment," *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 29, No. 3 (March 1963), pp. 653-659.

Colonial American Coin Club. A Service of First Coinvestors, Inc. N.p.: First Coinvestors, n.d. [c. 1973]. Loose sheets in three ring binders.

The only known example of this was included as lot 214 of the Ford Library Sale (Kolbe and Stacks, June 1, 2004). It's difficult to know if this should be included as a published work in this bibliography, as it seems likely that it was a sample prepared as a prototype for a program developed by First Coinvestors. The sheets contain notes on a variety of different colonial coins.

"Colonial Overstrikes," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 5, No. 2 (December 1963; Serial 10), p. 72.

An overview of the various colonial series with known overstrikes extant. Breen begins, "When my New Jersey ms returns I can give you a nearly complete rundown on known kinds of overstrikes bearing the NOVA CAESAREA legend. In the meantime let me give you what I can by memory for all Colonial series...."

“Comment on First Paper Money Issued in Ohio,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (November 1977; Serial 50), G-4A, p. 609.

Breen replies to an article by J.N. Spiro in the previous issue on the first paper currency issued in what is now Ohio, noting the existence of a 12-cent note and the role Col. William Duer played in the Fugio cent scandal.

“Comment on St. Patrick Halfpence and Farthings,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 7, No. 2 (April 1968; Serial 22), pp. 214-217.

Breen responds to a technical note by Robert Vlack on the St. Patrick coinage which appeared in the previous issue. Breen begins by apologizing for contributing in this form, as Vlack had asked Breen for any updates previously — a request Breen was unable to fulfill due to a long illness (which he says lasted from late 1965 to 1967). He argues that the coins date from the 1640s and were issued by the Tower mint from dies made by Nicholas Briot. Breen then speculates on the coins’ arrival in North America and provides a list of die varieties. This series of hypotheses was dispelled with the publication of Brian Danforth’s “St. Patrick Coinage” in the *Colonial Newsletter (CNL)* for December 2002.

“Comments from the Members,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 6 (November 15, 1968; Serial 9), p. 221.

Includes a couple comments by Breen on Sheldon’s assessment of Howard R. Newcomb and on the Parmelee Strawberry Leaf. Title not Breen’s.

“Comments from Walter Breen,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 4, No. 4 (July 15, 1970; Serial 19), pp. 132-134.

Includes comments on the rarity of middle and late date cents, the 1783 UNITY STATES Washington piece, 1822 cent obverses and other topics. Title presumably not Breen’s.

A Complete Course in Numismatics (Beverly Hills: American Institute of Professional Numismatics, n.d. [c. 1970]), 21.5 by 28 cm, (1), 70 pages. Blue heavy paper cover, staple bound.

Apparently a promotional educational text published by the American Institute of Professional Numismatics. The text deals primarily with how to grade coins, and may be the most extensive treatment of coin grading by Breen. A copy described as being spiral-bound sold as lot 414 in Remy Bourne’s October 6-7, 2000 auction for \$98. The present compiler’s copy has a duplicate page 10, but I do not know if this appears in every copy. A final exam takes up the last four pages and is to be filled out and sent in to the publishers, who would send those who passed a certificate stating that they passed (see Breen’s *The Minting Process* for a similar test). Scarce.

“Complete Description of the Recently Discovered, New, 1795 Large Cent,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 3, No. 4 (July 15, 1969; Serial 13), p. 126.

Breen describes the 1795 NC-2 cent being sold by Lester Merkin and illustrated in his March 1969 auction sale.

The Comprehensive Catalogue and Encyclopedia of United States Coins. 1971 edition. Edited by Don Taxay. Omaha: Scott Publishing Company, 1970.

Breen is cited as a consultant and contributor.

The Comprehensive U.S. Silver Dollar Encyclopedia, by John W. Highfill (Broken Arrow, Oklahoma: Highfill Press, 1992), xlv, 1233 pages.

Breen served as Editor-in-Chief of this volume, which brings together a number of articles on various aspects of the denomination. Precisely what the position of "Editor-in-Chief" entailed, this compiler couldn't say.

"Confederacy Operated the Charlotte Mint in 1861," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 64, No. 6 (June 1951), pp. 606-607.

"Connecticut Shilling," RF-17, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 6, No. 2 (December 1965; Serial 16), p. 162.

Of uncertain authorship: listed in the Harry Bass Foundation's databases as being Breen's work, the authorship of this short piece is unclear in the original publication, though it may have been written by Richard Picker. It follows a longer Breen work, but I have no particular reason to assume it is by Breen.

"Constellatio Nova," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 13, No. 3 (September 1974; Serial 41), TN-46, pp. 453-455.

Breen argues that the so-called Nova Constellatio coppers should be read Constellatio Nova for several reasons ranging from die alignment to the fact that the phrase scans better in hexameter verse. Breen also touches on the pattern decads of 1785 reading Inimica Tyrannis America(na).

"Davy on Mint Processes in 1794," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 64, No. 8 (August 1951), pp. 870-872.

"A Descriptive Essay of the Liberty Seated Half Dimes with Arrows of 1853-55," *Gobrecht Journal*, Vol. 1, No. 2 (April 1975), pp. 9-11.

Dies and Coinage (New York: Robert Bashlow/QWERTYUIOPress, 1962). Self covered, 40 pages. Reprinted as part of Hewitt's Numismatic Information Series (Chicago, 1965).

In this important monograph (expanded from Breen's 1951 article "How Our Coinage Became Mechanized"), Breen traces the development of modern coinage technology, beginning with the earliest ancient coins. Part One focuses on dies: Breen discusses the variations on the hammer method of coin production, the manufacture of early dies and punches, the use of engraving tools and the ways in which the artistry behind coin designs deteriorated from the ancient through medieval eras. He discusses the development of rolling and rocking dies, as well as other experiments through the screw press. The historical development of hubs is described in detail, as are the annealing processes. Boulton's experiments with steam-powered presses is discussed, as is the development of the closed collar and the introduction of tracing machines capable of inscribing designs in different sizes based on one model. This increased industrialization of the minting process leads to a discussion of hand-finishing and, hence, the phenomenon of die varieties, discernable only by close examination of coins struck from dies made with identical hubs and then finished by hand. Breen then discusses modern practices, from the original sculpted models to the various hubs and dies. He then discusses problems which arise during coin production: clash marks and die breaks are examined, as is rust. Part Two of the monograph is concerned with planchets and the ways in which uniform quality is achieved while aesthetic attributes are maintained. Planchet chemistry is discussed, with emphasis on the effects of particular alloy inhomogeneities. The difficulties encountered in manufacturing planchets of uniform weights are discussed, as are the methods of rolling ingots to the appropriate thickness. The gradual mechanization of the weighing process is described, as is the proofing process. Breen describes the various alloys used in modern times in the U.S. and British mints and the ways in which assaying is conducted. Raised rims and the role they will play in the striking process are also mentioned. The third and final section of the monograph deals with striking. Breen describes the advantages and disadvantages of each striking method, not only on the coins themselves but on those doing the actual work. He also describes the advantages and disadvantages of the closed and open collars. Edge ornamentation is looked at towards the end of the monograph. An important overview of the minting

process, a process Breen firmly believed every coin collector needed to understand and which he knew few did.

“Early American Tokens from Birmingham: Who, Where, Why?,” *Italiam fato profugi Hesperinaque venerunt litora: numismatic studies dedicated to Vladimir and Elvira Eliza Clain-Stefanelli*, edited by R.G. Doty and T. Hackens (Louvain-La-Neuve: Dép. d’archéologie et d’histoire de l’art, 1996), pp. 69-79.

The Early Quarter Dollars of the United States, 1796-1838, by A.W. Browning. Completely updated by Walter Breen with the collaboration of Robert W. Miller, Sr. New commentary by Q. David Bowers. With notes on rarity, attribution, new varieties, pedigrees of finest known specimens, etc. Edited and compiled by Michael Hodder (Wolfeboro, New Hampshire: Bowers and Merena Galleries, 1992). 183 pages. Reprinted in 1998 by Sanford Durst.

Breen’s revision of Browning’s 1925 original. This book combines Browning’s original text (which Breen considered the best numismatic work written on the first try) with updated variety information, census figures, and other documentation and commentary. The regular edition was published in both hardcover and card covers; a limited edition of 25 copies was prepared by George Frederick Kolbe in large format, with actual photographic plates superior to any other edition, bound in full morocco.

Early United States Half Eagles, 1795-1838, Hewitt’s Numismatic Information Series (Chicago: Hewitt, n.d. [c. 1966-1967]). Card covers, 72 pages.

The earlier parts of the series of *Scrapbook* articles published as “United States Half Eagles: 1795-1929” combined in a more convenient monograph form.

The Empire Guide to United States Half Cents, 1793-1857, by Q. David Bowers and James F. Ruddy (Johnson City, New York: Creative Printing, 1962). Card covered, (2), 47, (3) pages.

In Breen’s *Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents*, Breen notes of this small volume that “most of the information therein derives from auction catalogues written by me, or questions I answered” (p. 10). Dave Bowers has clarified this information for the present compiler, establishing that the text was essentially Breen’s, though Bowers did contribute to it as well. Breen did not want the volume to bear his name, however, due to other commitments. The idea was simply to get an update to Gilbert published and readily available. The volume, printed on rectos only, with versos left blank for notes, is very basic, with few illustrations, but is a step up from Gilbert’s then-standard text. All published are stated to be a “deluxe edition,” and many were signed by Bowers and Ruddy. Note that the front cover’s title is truncated as *United States Half Cents, 1793-1857*.

The Encyclopedia of United States Silver and Gold Commemorative Coins, 1892-1954, by Walter Breen and Anthony Swiatek (New York: FCI Press/Arco Publishing, 1981). Hardcover, xxii, 362 pages. Revised edition published as *The Encyclopedia of United States Silver and Gold Commemorative Coins, 1892-1989*, by Walter Breen and Anthony Swiatek (Wolfeboro, NH: Bowers and Merena Galleries, 1990). Paperback only, xxii, 386 pages.

An important work on an important subject, but marred by both its reliance on alphabetical arrangement (as opposed to the chronological arrangement of just about every other listing of commemorative coins) and its use of a downright hokey scheme in which the authors arrange all of each coin’s relevant info as if they were describing a mystery, with a corpus delicti, clues, opportunity, motive, suspects, accessories, modus operandi and collateral evidence — a device that gets tired fast. Still, this is a very good overview of each coin, with supplementary material on investment opportunities and the rare commemorative proofs (i.e., ones produced for the original 1852-1954 commems, not those produced by

the millions to commemorate the 38th anniversary of the eradication of scurvy in the U.S. or some similar festivity). The revision features a new introduction, supplement by Breen and corrections, all of which are tacked on to the end of the original text, which is not itself updated.

“The Evolution of American Numismatics,” *Numismatic News*, Vol. 14, No. 11 (May 23, 1966), pp. 12-13.

The Fantastic 1804 Dollar, by Eric P. Newman and Kenneth E. Bressett; associates in research: Walter H. Breen and Lynn Glaser (Racine, Wisconsin: Whitman Publishing, 1962).

This is the book generally credited with having definitively discarded any notion that the 1804 dollars were minted in 1804. Breen’s and Glaser’s research on the subject was made available to Newman and Bressett, who were spearheading the project. That an unreleased first printing of the first edition of this work exists is fairly well known. The volume was scheduled to be released in August 1962. That very month, at the annual convention of the American Numismatic Association, David Spink and James Risk announced the discovery of the King of Siam set, which contains an 1804 dollar which was unknown to the writers. Publication was immediately halted while information was compiled on the newly-discovered (or recovered) specimen and changes were made to the text to account for the Siam coin. A few copies of the original (pre-Siam) pages were bound at the request of the authors and were given to friends and colleagues as mementoes of what almost was. Bressett, in a 2001 article (*The Asylum*, Vol. 19, No. 3 [Summer 2001], pp. 71-72), recalled there being 20 to 24 copies of the first printing bound in boards identical to those used in the regular printing, which was released on October 1, 1962. For an examination of the differences between the two printings (which are not marked as being different printings or editions), see Wayne K. Homren, “Diagnostics of the *Fantastic 1804 Dollar* book,” *The Asylum*, Vol. 19, No. 3 (Summer 2001), pp. 73-74.

“Federal Shinplasters,” *Numismatic News Weekly*, serial beginning July 18, 1972.

Part of longer series, “New Looks at Old Notes,” running 1971-1974, according to the *Complete Encyclopedia*’s bibliography.

“A Few Unpublished Major Varieties of U.S. Coins,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 66, No. 6 (June 1953), pp. 569-572.

Breen discusses three major design varieties of U.S. coins which had previously been almost universally ignored: the two obverse hub varieties on the 1886 Indian Head cents; the two reverse hub varieties on the 1892 Barber quarters; and the three different obverses and two different reverses used on trade dollars. He also mentions a number of smaller variations, including what he terms an “1869/8” cent, and the 13 and 14-star varieties of the 1804 quarter eagle. Some of these have now been recognized as important distinctions while others are still fairly obscure.

“Fifty-fourth New Netherlands Auction,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 73, No. 6 (June 1960), pp. 740-742.

Gives an overview of the coins sold and prices realized at this sale and draws some lessons regarding both the state of the coin market and the presentation of material in auction catalogues.

First Coinvestors Presents the Walter Breen U.S. Rare Coin Portfolio. N.p.: First Coinvestors, n.d. [1973]. Two volumes in three ring binders.

The most complete example of this was included as lot 212 of the Ford Library Sale (Kolbe and Stacks, June 1, 2004) and apparently did not sell. It’s difficult to know if this should be included as a published work in this bibliography, as it seems likely that the few known copies (in varying states of completeness) were samples prepared as prototypes for a program developed by First Coinvestors. The two volumes contain notes on a variety of different U.S. coins, mostly type coins, on loose pages arranged by tabbed sheets in sections in the binders.

“First Crowned Rose Pattern for the Rosa Americana Coinages,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 8, No. 3 (September 1969; Serial 27), TN-15, p. 267.

A detailed description of a piece offered in the November 20, 1968 auction of Lester Merkin (lot 26), which Breen catalogued. The piece appears to be an early pattern for the type described, featuring a royal portrait far older looking and generally less pleasing than the design adopted.

“The First Perfectionist,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 6, No. 4 (July 15, 1972; Serial 31), pp. 127-134.

Breen traces many of the cents originally appearing in the Beckwith collection (April 27, 1923; sold by S.H. Chapman) to the present day.

“Fiscal Year of the U.S. Mint,” letter to the editor, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 67, No. 10 (October 1954), p. 1097.

Breen responds to comments by ANA Historian Jack W. Ogilvie in the August 1954 issue claiming that confusion in mintage figures is the result of differences between the Mint’s fiscal year and the calendar year. Breen points out that the Mint’s fiscal year was the calendar year until the end of 1856.

“Fish Scales to Forgotten Sleepers,” *Coins*, Vol. 19, No. 8 (August 1972), pp. 55-61.

Article dealing with silver three-cent pieces.

“From Junk to Gems: Half Cents Then and Now,” *Rare Coin and Stamp Advisory*, December 1979; reprinted in *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 14, No. 2 (March 15, 1980; Serial 77), pp. 81-84.

A nice capsule history of the denomination, with notes on rarity, survival rates, striking characteristics, etc., written for a more general audience of coin collectors. The first printing of this was in *First Coinvestors/First Stampvestors’* house organ.

“From Walter Breen,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 8, No. 2 (July 1969; Serial 26), pp. 255-256.

This short piece (if it can be called a single publication and not two separate ones) is in the form of a response to Research Forum submission number eight (RF-8). Breen asks if anyone knows of a 1787 Immunis with an ornamented edge device, mentioning the one noted in Edgar H. Adams’s notebooks in the ANS library. Breen then goes on to bring the reader up to date on New Jersey coinage research, providing a listing of mints involved in the NJ coinage and listing die varieties attributable back to those mints. The article/note/letter has been catalogued as “Variety Breakdown by Mint” by the Harry Bass Foundation.

A Guide Book of United States Coins, by R.S. Yeoman (Racine, Wisconsin: Whitman, various dates).

Breen is credited in different ways throughout the years: as a contributor; for counsel and advice; for service and data. From the 13th through 18th editions, he is not named, but credit is given to the *Standard Catalogue* for information.

“Half Cent Miscellany,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 19, No. 12 (December 1953), pp. 1170-1171.

True to its title, this piece sees Breen address a number of areas of his concern, most dealing with the book on half cents he expected to publish shortly: a 1793 Smith counterfeit half cent upon which he needed information; a 1797 half cent overstruck by a 1796 large cent in the Congress Hall, Philadelphia exhibit; correct mintage figures for the first few years of cents and half cents; the issue of non-proof 1831 half cents; new die variety discoveries in half cents; and a plea for assistance in locating suitable examples of certain varieties for photographing for his proposed book.

“Hancock’s Revenge,” *Numismatic News Weekly*, 1971, serial.

The Washington coinage, especially the so-called Roman head cent of 1792, is the subject of this article.

“Head of Copper, Feet of Clay: Dr. Sheldon after 35 Years,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 18, No. 6 (November 15, 1984; Serial 105), pp. 337-342.

Breen’s memoir of his conflicting relationship with Dr. William H. Sheldon. Breen’s goal, he wrote, was to write a history of the man “without allowing a tradition of uncritical admiration to distort our perceptions of him and what he has done for numismatics — or to it.” Some felt Breen’s assessment of Sheldon’s character and science fairly harsh and questioned the printing of this since Sheldon was dead by this time and hence unable to defend himself. Since then, of course, other aspects of Sheldon’s life have become known throughout the hobby and the uncritical admirers of Sheldon are rather the fewer.

“The High Cost of Money,” *The Whitman Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 3, No. 12 (December 1966), pp. 866-874; continued in Vol. 4, No. 1 (January 1967), pp. 50-58.

A two-part article on the economic bases upon which rest the establishment of the value of numismatic objects. Breen discusses the notion of “fictitious value” and the role chance plays in establishing market value.

Highlights from the Kenneth Lee Collection, by Walter Breen and Ron Gillio. 240 35 mm slides showing coins from the Lee collection of California gold, accompanied by a six-page text by Breen. 1983.

A copy of this was sold in the February 29, 1992 auction of numismatic literature held by Charles Davis.

A Historic Sketch of the Coins of New Jersey, by Edward Maris. Reprint (Lawrence, Massachusetts: Quarterman, 1974), vii, 21 pages, double page plate.

Foreword by Breen.

“The Historic Wreath Cent,” *Coins Magazine*, Vol. 14, No. 11 (November 1967), pp. 24-26.

A historical piece describing the state of events leading up to the production of the 1793 wreath cents.

The History and Future of American Numismatics (Chicago, August 1991), produced by the American Numismatic Association. Moderated by Ken Hallenbeck, featuring Ken Bressett, Q. David Bowers, Elvira Clain-Stefanelli, Eric Newman and Walter Breen. Video tape, 120 minutes.

A forum on the history and future of American numismatics which took place at the 1991 centennial convention of the ANA. The roundtable discussion touches on a number of issues pertaining to the topic at hand. Features Breen one month prior to his arrest. In the video, Breen pays homage to those who came before him, in particular to those whom he considers mentors. He also looks to the future and commends the scholarship of certain young numismatists. In answer to questions, he suggested that the term “grading” should be spelled G-R-E-E-D-I-N-G when it comes to commercial grading and notes that “numerical grading is not a substitute for thought.”

“History of the Fractional Currency Specimen Sets,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 30, No. 1 (January 1964), pp. 22-29; continued in Vol. 30, No. 2 (February 1964), pp. 298-305.

“The History of the Silver Dollar,” by John W. Highfill and Walter H. Breen, *The Comprehensive U.S. Silver Dollar Encyclopedia*, by John W. Highfill (Broken Arrow, Oklahoma: Highfill Press, 1992), pp. 2-5.

A quick overview of the history of large-size silver coins, from those of the Habsburg Archduke Sigismund of Tyrol to the silver-clad U.S. Eisenhower dollars. Mainly focuses on the U.S. dollars.

“How Coins Are Made,” Beverly Hills: American Institute of Professional Numismatists, c. 1970. 14 by 21.5 cm.

“Single sheet printed in blue ink on light blue stock” — Kolbe, Sale 79, lot 1515.

“How Our Coinage Became Mechanized,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 64, No. 3 (March 1951), pp. 284-287.

Later updated and expanded as the monograph *Dies and Coinage*.

“How to Stay Ahead of the Coin Forgers,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 29, No. 5 (May 1963), pp. 1329-1333; continued in Vol. 29, No. 6 (June 1963), pp. 1648-1655.

Examines the various ways in which forgers make or alter coins.

“The Hundred Year Vendetta,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 28, No. 8 (August 1962), pp. 2177-2189.

Breen describes the history of the poor relations between U.S. Mint officials and coin collectors, going into detail over various misunderstandings and shaking his head over the stupidity of it all.

“I Remember Dr. Sheldon,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 11, No. 6 (November 15, 1977; Serial 63), pp. 276-277.

A fond remembrance of Sheldon, written by one of his greatest apostles shortly after Sheldon’s death, this is devoid of some of the bitterness that Breen later used to characterize his relationship with Sheldon.

The Indian Cent Numisma: 1856-1909, edited by Bruce A. Vogel (Longmont, Colorado: 1998), 277 pages.

A collection of notes assembled posthumously by Vogel. These “Numisma” collections of old notes published by Vogel barely registered on the numismatic radar.

“Just Walter,” *John Reich Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 1 (January 1987), pp. 8, 34.

Silver coinage of the United States is discussed. Title not Breen’s.

“A Key to 1837 Large Cents,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 4, No. 6 (November 15, 1970; Serial 21), pp. 218-220.

Breen renumbers the Newcomb varieties to assist in understanding the cents of this date.

“Large Cents of the U.S. 1816-1857; New Varieties and Additions,” book review, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 67, No. 11 (November 1954), pp. 1199-1200.

Breen compares the new die variety and state information to be found in George Davis and Otto C. Steinberger’s broadside “Large Cents of the U.S. 1816-1857; New Varieties and Additions” with the information he had gathered together on the same subject.

“The Legacy of ‘Silver Dick,’” *Numismatic News*, Vol. 23, No. 16 (April 19, 1975), pp. 6ff; continued in Vol. 23, No. 21 (May 24, 1975), pp. 22ff; Vol. 23, No. 26 (June 28, 1975), pp. 37-38; Vol. 23, No. 30 (July 26, 1975), pp. 14ff; Vol. 23, No. 34 (August 23, 1975), pp. 14ff; Vol. 23, No. 36 (September 6, 1975), pp. 18ff; Vol. 23, No. 42 (October 18, 1975), pp. 16ff; Vol. 23, No. 45 (November 8, 1975), pp. 18ff; Vol. 23, No. 48 (November 29, 1975), pp. 20ff; Vol. 23, No. 49 (December 6, 1975), pp. 14ff; Vol. 23, No. 51 (December 20, 1975), pp. 24ff; Vol. 23, No. 52 (December 27, 1975), pp. 14ff; Vol. 24, No. 1 (January 3, 1976), p. 12.

“Legal and Illegal Connecticut Mints, 1785-1789,” *Studies on Money in Early America*, edited by Eric P. Newman (New York: ANS, 1976), pp. 105-133.

Discusses the various mints within and without Connecticut which produced Connecticut coppers. Also discusses how one can determine the mint of origin of a particular coin. Good historical background.

“Let’s Visit an Auction,” *The Whitman Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 5, No. 6 (June 1968), pp. 327-330.

An overview of Lester Merkin’s March 6-7, 1968, auction sale (Merkin sale 8), Breen mostly limits his comments to descriptions of what particular lots brought and how the prices realized either reflected the market or were indicative of climbing values.

“A Letter from Walter Breen,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 6, No. 3 (May 15, 1972; Serial 30), p. 88.

Breen apologizes for his absence and comments on some recent discussions concerning auction sales, grading, electrotypes and works by Jeff Oliphant and Ray Williamson. Title not Breen’s.

“A Letter from Walter Breen,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 8, No. 2 (March 15, 1974; Serial 41), pp. 91-92.

Breen comments on the Smithsonian collection’s S-75, the late date cent manuscript he was working on, grading, bidders at the Naftzger sale and the ill-termed “turban head” appellation. Not Breen’s title.

“Letter from Walter Breen,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 20, No. 1 (January 15, 1986; Serial 112), p. 11.

Primarily regards the variations to be found on edge lettering of early cents and how this creates new subvarieties. Not Breen’s title.

“A Letter from Walter Breen — Finally,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 9, No. 4 (July 15, 1975; Serial 49), pp. 173-175.

A long letter in which Breen discusses why he believes a photographic grading guide to large cents would not work very well, how *Penny-Wise* is essentially a fanzine, the ethics of being a dealer and a collector, various large cent engraving errors, the chemical properties of patinas on coppers, Ray Williamson’s proposed token design, and a few other things. Not Breen’s title.

“Letter to and from Walter Breen,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 10, No. 6 (November 15, 1976; Serial 57), pp. 270-271.

This consists of a letter written to Breen from the new owner of a Jefferson Head cent asking for more information on the possibility of the coin being a pattern made by John Harper while seeking a federal coin contract. Breen’s response clarifies his research on the subject and describes where the correspondent might turn for more information. Not Breen’s title.

Letter to the Editor, *The Asylum*, Vol. 1, No. 4 (Summer 1981), pp. 57-58.

Written in response to a letter by Roger S. Cohen, Jr., also published in this issue of *The Asylum*, alleging that Breen had deliberately ignored Cohen's research on half cents in Breen's article published on the subject in the previous issue ("A Review of Half Cent Literature," *The Asylum*, Vol. 1, Nos. 2-3, [Fall-Winter 1980], pp. 33-38). Breen states that the article in question predates Cohen's work, as was stated in the original article.

Letter to the Editor, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 2, No. 1 (January 1961; Serial 2), p. 7.

Breen's letter records his positive response to the initial issue of *The Colonial Newsletter* and reports on the "1700" Voce Populi coins, Massachusetts cents and Albany church pennies. See next.

Letter to the Editor, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 2, No. 1 (January 1961; Serial 2), p. 7.

Breen writes to update his comments noted above by adding news of the discovery of a specimen of the Fugio 19-SS and a 1787 Massachusetts 4-J cent. See previous.

Letter to the Editor, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 2, No. 3 (July 1961; Serial 4), p. 17.

Reports the discovery of a Pine Tree Shilling mule (Noe 26 obverse, 27-8 reverse); the rediscovery of Crosby's 2b-A2 Pine Tree variety; a 1722/1 H Colonies Francoises sou plain overdate. Also includes notes on authorized weights of New Hampshire and Virginia coinage.

Letter to the Editor, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 5, No. 6 (March 1965; Serial 14), p. 131.

In the "Reports, Letters, etc." section, it is noted that Breen has reported the discovery of "a New Jersey 12-G in about uncirculated condition; perhaps the finest known specimen."

Letter to the Editor, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 6, No. 5 (April-June 1967; Serial 19), pp. 187-188.

Breen responds to a Pine Tree Shilling described in TN-4 (technical note 4) by Robert Vlack in the previous issue. Breen states that the coin cannot be genuine and goes on to describe a die state of Noe-17 which he has seen and which makes the description in TN-4 that of a modern forgery. He also appends descriptions of other "predecessor and reworked die states of Massachusetts silver" and says a few words about Massachusetts coppers.

Letter to the Editor, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 10, No. 3 (September 1971; Serial 32), TN-20A, p. 333.

Responds to an earlier article by T.D. Howe on the time of manufacture of the Mark Newbie coinage and their possible circulation in the 1660s. Listed as "Mark Newbie Halfpence: Comment on Time of Manufacture," in the Harry Bass Foundation databases.

Letter to the Editor, *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 24, No. 4 (April 20, 1958), p. 902.

A very brief response to two queries printed in the March 1958 issue's "What Others Say" department, the first regarding an alleged 1804 dollar with Washington's portrait on it and the second regarding the strength of magnet required to attract a 1943 steel cent. Published in the "What Others Say" department of the magazine.

Letter to the Editor, *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 23, No. 1 (January 15, 1989; Serial 130), pp. 48-52.

The first of two letters published here, this one is addressed to Harry Salyards, editor of *Penny-Wise*, and updates Salyards on the events in Breen's life (particularly the health of Breen's wife, Marion Zimmer Bradley). Also touches on the discovery of an S-229 large cent with a retained cud.

Letter to the Editor, *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 23, No. 1 (January 15, 1989; Serial 130), pp. 48-52.

The second of two letters published here, this one is addressed to Bill Fivaz, and regards a 1799/8 S-188 State IV large cent. Breen writes, "no other known obverse die of any date among the Draped Busts has a break exactly matching this one." He then gives a listing of other known examples with provenances.

Letter to the Editor, by Charles Davis, *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 27, No. 4 (July 15, 1993; Serial 157), p. 297.

Davis quotes several lines from a letter written by Breen to Herb Silberman in March 1968.

"Letters from Members," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 4, No. 3 (May 15, 1970; Serial 18), p. 125.

Includes comments from Breen to John Wright on date logotypes, die punches and other topics. Title not Breen's.

"Letters from Walter Breen," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 3 (May 15, 1968; Serial 6), pp. 84-86.

Breen responds to a number of previously published comments appearing in *Penny-Wise*. Not Breen's title.

The Lincoln Cent Numisma: 1909-1997, edited by Bruce A. Vogel (Longmont, Colorado: 1998), 285 pages.

A collection of notes assembled posthumously by Vogel. That Breen died in 1993 while the publication in question spans the emission of Lincoln cents from 1909 to 1997 should make the absurdity of the publication apparent.

"Location of Unique 1786 Connecticut 5.3-B.2," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 8, No. 4 (December 1969; Serial 28), Comments on RF-26, p. 283.

Not really a publication, but more of a paraphrased note, reading in its entirety, "Walter H. Breen observes that a great many of the Miller specimens went into the F.C.C. Boyd collection where, he believes, the estate maintains them intact today."

"Major Varieties of the United States Three Dollar Gold Pieces," *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 30, No. 12 (December 1964), pp. 3285-3290; continued in Vol. 31, No. 1 (January 1965), pp. 266-268; Vol. 31, No. 2 (February 1965), pp. 596-600; Vol. 31, No. 3 (March, 1965), pp. 903-906.

One of the few works on the topic, Breen's work in his 1960s series of articles and monographs on U.S. gold die varieties is very strong. This particular group of articles gives the historical background of the series and of the previous numismatic scholarship surrounding the series, then focuses on examining every type, date and variety of which he was aware. Exhaustive work, still cited today.

Major Varieties of the United States Three Dollar Gold Pieces, Hewitt's Numismatic Information Series (Chicago: Hewitt, n.d.). Card covers, 19, (1) pages.

The above series of *Scrapbook* articles combined in a more convenient monograph form.

"Major Varieties of U.S. Gold Dollars," *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 29, No. 10 (October 1963), pp. 2813-2819; continued in Vol. 29, No. 11 (November 1963), pp. 3134-3140; Vol. 29, No. 12 (December 1963), pp. 3446-3453.

This series of articles is one of the most important publications on the topic. Breen gives the historical background of the series and of the previous numismatic scholarship surrounding the series, but

then focuses on examining every type, date and variety of which he was aware. Exhaustive work, still cited today.

Major Varieties of U.S. Gold Dollars, Hewitt's Numismatic Information Series (Chicago: Hewitt, 1964). Card covers, (2), 24, (6) pages.

The above series of *Scrapbook* articles combined in a more convenient monograph form.

"Making Half Cents: How the Early American Coiners Prepared Planchets," *COINage*, Vol. 21, No. 2 (February 1985), pp. 8ff.

MANA News. (Later *MANA Journal*.) Various issues, 1953-1959.

The *MANA News* (later changed to *MANA Journal*) was the journal of the Middle Atlantic Numismatic Association. It first appeared in July 1953 with Breen sharing the editorship with Dick Johnson. Breen continued as editor through the name change in 1957. By October 1957, he is listed as associate editor, in which capacity he continued through 1958. The issues for 1959 name him only as a contributor, after which he seems to have not been involved with the publication.

"Massachusetts Silver — A Tentative Checklist," *The Metropolitan Numismatic Journal*, Issue 1 (May-June 1961), pp. 6-9.

The introduction states, "The following is an attempt to enumerate the known varieties of NE, Willow, Oak and Pine Tree coins as of April 1961 (exclusive of forgeries) with rarity ratings and other comment not included in any of the printed sources." Continued in the *Numismatic Journal*, successor to the *Metropolitan Numismatic Journal*.

"Massachusetts Silver A Tentative Checklist," *Numismatic Journal*, No. 2 (November 1961), pp. 22-26.

Continued from the listing begun in the sole issue of the *Metropolitan Numismatic Journal*, this is a listing of all known die varieties of NE, Willow, Oak and Pine Tree coins as of April 1961.

"Medals Challenge to Artisans for Centuries," *Coin World*, No. 101 (March 23, 1962), p. 10.

Breen discusses the Lee Memorial medal and gives some biographical information on Anthony de Francisci, who designed the piece. He also discusses some of the problems which are encountered when designing medals (as opposed to coins) and comments on the opportunities available through being able to work in higher relief.

"Members Comment on ANACS Sale," letter to the editor, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 103, No. 9 (September 1990), pp. 1389-1390.

Breen applauds the decision to sell ANACS to Amos Press, a business arrangement he believes is a success for both parties. Title not Breen's.

"The Metal Called 'Tutanaigne,'" *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 19, No. 2 (July 1980; Serial 58), TN-93, p. 732.

Breen comments briefly on the metal named by Crosby as a synonym for zinc with the spelling given in the title and notes that other spelling variants are "tutenaga" and "tutenaigue," with the former being a known word of supposed Portuguese Indian origin for white metal, most often zinc. The metal was used for some of the Rosa Americana coinage of William Wood.

"Metallic Composition of the Continental Currency," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 6, No. 1 (September 1965; Serial 15), TN-1, p. 146.

In this short note, the initial contribution to *The Colonial Newsletter's* "Technical Notes" section, Breen notes that the "pewter" Continental Currency Dollars are actually almost entirely made of tin.

"Metallic Panaceas: Gold Bugs, Silver Crusaders, and the Wizard of Oz," *America's Gold Coinage*, Coinage of the Americas Conference Proceedings No. 6 (1989), ed. William E. Metcalf (New York: ANS, 1990), pp. 33-54.

An overview of the fight for the gold and silver standards, bimetalism and Breen's take on Frank L. Baum's *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* as commentary on them.

The Metropolitan Numismatic Journal, edited by Walter Breen and Lynn Glaser, No. 1 (May-June 1961), 16 pages, self-covered.

The only issue published, the second number was called *The Numismatic Journal* (Breen may have only been involved with the first issue). According to Ken Lowe ("American Numismatic Periodicals from 1860 to 1960: An Overview Based on Remy Bourne's Book of the Same Name"), "apparently between 200 and 300 copies of the first issue were produced. The second issue, dated November 1961, was renamed *The Numismatic Journal* as Glaser took over the journal and withdrew from the Metropolitan Coin Company which had moved to New York City where it was operated by Paul Weinstein. The issue was a rather low quality, mimeographed booklet. Apparently even fewer copies of the second number were produced. Regardless, for whatever reason, this scholarly journal produced by two outstanding numismatic scholars only survived for two issues." Apparently a third issue (also under the *Numismatic Journal* title) unknown to Lowe was published, but consisted solely of a reprint of Vol. 1, No. 1 of *The [American] Numismatist*.

"Mintage Figures for the New Jersey Coinage from the Receipt Books of James Mott, Treasurer to the State of New Jersey," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 9, No. 1 (March 1970; Serial 29), pp. 295-297.

Breen analyzes the receipt book of the treasurer of the State of New Jersey during the period of 1783 to 1799 and deduces from this the quantities of NJ coppers produced at the Morristown and Rahway Mints based on the fees mintmasters paid.

The Minting Process: How Coins Are Made and Mismade (Beverly Hills: American Institute of Professional Numismatists, 1970). (2), 162, (4) pages, one leaf (two page) final exam bound in. Orange card covers, staple bound. 21.6 by 14 cm.

A textbook on minting methods, this in some ways is an expansion of Breen's *Dies and Coinage*, a work he held to be important as it dealt with a topic he felt vital to all coin collectors. It was intended to be used in a course of study offered by the Institute of Professional Numismatists, an organization in which Breen and Ronald Gillio were involved. Topics dealt with include terminology, coining routines, what coins struck on the wrong planchets tell us about the minting process, the manufacture of dies, and blundered dies. Includes a test at the end, which was to be completed by the student/reader and sent in for grading. Scarce.

"Miss Liberty's American Debut," by Walter Breen and Lynn Glaser, *Numismatic Journal*, No. 2 (November 1961), pp. 3-17.

Breen and Glaser discuss the use of devices which are emblematic of Liberty on U.S. coins, tracing the history of such usage to ancient coins. Also discusses the designs used on 1776 coppers attributed to Paul Revere. This is the first issue of *Numismatic Journal*, which had previously appeared (for one issue) under the title *Metropolitan Numismatic Journal*.

"The Money Censors," *COINage*, Vol. 8, No. 8 (August 1972), pp. 70-72.

“More About Longacre’s Indian Cent Model,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 17, No. 4 (April 1951), pp. 297-299.

Breen argues that the head on the Indian Head cent is actually not an Indian at all, but is simply Liberty in Indian headdress. He also debunks the myth that Longacre used his daughter as the model.

“More on Early Usage of the Horse Head Design,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 17, No. 1 (April 1978; Serial 51), TN-68A, p. 627.

Breen points out a connection between the “nag’s head sinister on torse” design of the New Jersey coppers and depictions of the Arms of the State of New Jersey on early paper money, particularly the issues of January 9, 1781 and those of 1784 and 1786, the last of which best resemble the design used on the coins.

“More on H.N. Rust Research,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 15, No. 3 (October 1976; Serial 47), RF-21I, p. 569.

Referring back to *CNL* page 549 in the previous issue, Breen sheds some light on the relationship between Horatio N. Rust and C. Wyllys Betts, particularly as it concerns the “New Haven” dies, which Breen suspects were outright fabrications made by or for Rust.

“More on the Importation of 1749 Halfpence and Farthings,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 1 (March 1977; Serial 48), TN-57A, p. 585.

Breen comments on an apparent miscalculation by Eric Newman relating to the number of halfpence and farthings imported into Massachusetts in 1749, stating that Newman’s figures conflict with the data given by Crosby. As it turns out, however, Breen was in error in assuming that the figure reported by Crosby was correct: see Eric Newman’s response in the *CNL* for July 1979, pp. 681-684.

“Mr. Breen Answers Mr. Slife,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 27, No. 10 (October 1961), p. 2590.

“My Friend Walter,” by John D. Wright, *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 27, No. 3 (May 15, 1993; Serial 156), p. 251.

Wright’s remembrance of Breen includes Breen’s poem “Paradox,” written while in prison.

“The Mysterious Miss Liberty,” by Walter Breen and Michael Turoff, *Coins*, Vol. 18, No. 10 (October 1971), pp. 62-65.

“New Discoveries in the Early Cents,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 5 (September 15, 1968; Serial 8), pp. 163-165.

Describes the 1794 NC-8, 1800 NC-5 and 1801 NC-4.

“New Jersey Center Dots,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 15, No. 3 (October 1976; Serial 47), TN-56A, p. 566.

A short response to an article by J.C. Spilman appearing in the previous issue (“Center Dots on New Jersey Reverses”). Breen agrees with Spilman’s comments on the origin of center dots, though points out that they are also known on Vermont, Connecticut and Massachusetts coppers as well as Philadelphia Mint issues. Breen also argues that letter punches are “far more reliable” as clues to a die-sinker’s identity than are the presence or absence of center dots.

“New Looks at Old Notes,” *Numismatic News*, Vol. 20, No. 38 (September 19, 1972), pp. 16, 29; continued in Vol. 20, No. 39 (September 26, 1972), pp. 12, 30.

Possibly part of a longer series, "New Looks at Old Notes," running 1971-1974 in *Numismatic News Weekly*, according to the *Complete Encyclopedia's* bibliography.

"New Looks at Old Notes," *Paper Money*, Vol. 15, No. 4 (July-August 1976; Serial 64), pp. 207ff.

Possibly a reprinting of the above entry.

"New Specimen of 1797 NC-1 Discovered," by Rob Retz and Walter Breen, *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 24, No. 2 (March 15, 1990; Serial 137), pp. 62-63.

Breen notes that the fifth specimen of the 1797 NC-1 large cent, discovered by Rob Retz, is the earliest known die state and then describes the other known examples of the variety.

"A New Sub-variety of 1794 Cent," *The Metropolitan Numismatic Journal*, Issue 1 (May-June 1961), pp. 10-12.

An S-20 1794 large cent with both the 1793 style edge lettering as well as that of 1794 is discussed by Breen, who finds it no mere error but a legitimate subvariety.

New Varieties of \$1, \$2.50 and \$5.00 United States Gold, Hewitt's Numismatic Information Series (Chicago: Hewitt, n.d.). Card covers, 16 pages.

This was published as a supplement to the four monographs on gold die varieties which had so far been published by Lee Hewitt (reprinting them from the original articles published in Hewitt's *Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*): the ones on gold dollars, quarter eagles, three-dollar gold pieces and early half eagles (the remaining monographs on later half eagles and eagles had yet to appear).

"A New Variety of 1795 Silver Dollar," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 66, No. 7 (July 1953), p. 706.

Notes the discovery of a 1795 dollar with a Bolender-7 obverse and a new reverse found in the Eliasberg collection.

"The New York Immunis: A Mystery Unraveled," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 18, No. 1 (April 1979; Serial 54), pp. 668-676.

Unlike most of Breen's contributions to the *CNL*, this is a full-length article examining the questions of who created the so-called "New York" 1787 Immunis Columbia coppers, when they were produced and for what purpose. Breen discusses the relationship between these coppers and the Immune Columbia coppers of 1785 and the 1786 Immunis/Shield coppers as well as how the 1787 Immunis issues relate to the Excelsior pattern coppers, the Non Vi Virtute Vici coppers, the state coinages of New Jersey, Connecticut and Vermont, the Machin's Mills issues, the George Clinton piece, the Liber Natus Libertatum Defendo issue and Walter Mould's patterns for the Confederation. In the end, though, Breen shows that the closest relation is with the Fugio coppers, though not because they were made by the same person. Instead, Breen argues that General Matthias Ogden, who stood as the surety bond for the Rahway mint, produced the 1787 Immunis Columbia pieces as patterns for a proposed federal coinage. He submitted a plan to Congress, but, due to the fact that the head of the Board of Treasury, Col. William Duer, had been bribed with \$10,000 by James Jarvis, the contract was awarded to Jarvis, who, of course, made an insufficient number of coppers before absconding to Europe with the proceeds. Breen suggests that the dies made for the patterns (by James Atlee at Rahway Mills) were subsequently used by Ogden to make coppers for general circulation. Breen reiterated these findings in his *Complete Encyclopedia* (1988). However, Michael Hodder, in an important article in the *CNL* appearing in 1991, called Breen's interpretation of the pieces seriously into question and proposed a new set of hypotheses for the coins ("The 1787 'New York' Immunis Columbia: A Mystery Re-ravelled," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 31, No. 1 [January 1991; Serial 87], pp. 1203-1235).

“‘New-merical’ Grades?,” letter to the editor, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 99, No. 9 (September 1986), p. 1787.

Breen ridicules suggestions to expand the range of “uncirculated” to encompass 11 different numerical grades, stating that the creation of a standard for these 11 grades, much less adherence to it, would be impossible for every series and would result in resubmissions of coins to be regraded by ANACS. Happily, everyone came to their senses and this never happened (cough).

“North American Colonial Coinages under the French Regime (1640-1763),” *Studies on Money in Early America*, edited by Eric P. Newman (New York: ANS, 1976), pp. 43-74.

A comprehensive overview of the coins produced for the French (Canadian) colonies of North America. Important.

“Notes on Early Quarter Dollars,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (February 1954), pp. 137-146.

A systematic attempt to update the Browning book on quarters, Breen examines the various varieties and provides updates on rarity, new die varieties, corrections to Browning, and other information. A rather detailed article and indicative of Breen’s considerable interest in the subject.

“Notes on the Confederate Restrike,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 63, No. 12 (December 1950), p. 846.

Included in the “Notes and Queries” section. Apparently Breen’s first published numismatic work. David Gladfelter wrote to the present compiler on August 4, 2002, that “Breen told me on 6/23/84 that this letter at 63 Num. 846 was his first numismatic publication.” Breen identifies a double-struck example of Scott’s Confederate half dollar restrike as having belonged to J.N.T. Levick, then provides some contemporaneous background to the restrike in the form of quotations from Frossard’s *Numisma*.

“Notes on United States Quarter Eagles,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 30, No. 4 (April, 1964), pp. 901-906; continued in Vol. 30, No. 5 (May, 1964), pp. 1235-1240; Vol. 30, No. 6 (June, 1964), pp. 1571-1574; Vol. 30, No. 7 (July, 1964), pp. 2071-2074; Vol. 30, No. 8 (August, 1964), pp. 2120-2123; Vol. 30, No. 9 (September 1964), pp. 2625-2628; Vol. 30, No. 10 (October 1964), pp. 2666-2669. Later published in monograph form as *Varieties of United States Quarter Eagles*.

One of the few works on the topic, Breen gives the historical background of the series and of the previous numismatic scholarship surrounding it, then focuses on examining every type, date and variety of which he was aware. Exhaustive work, still cited today.

“Notes That Almost Weren’t,” *Paper Money*, Vol. 16, No. 1 (January-February 1977; Serial 67), pp. 5-14.

The first part in a series (published with differing titles), possibly based on earlier pieces originally published in *Numismatic News Weekly*.

“Numbered Seats and 4-Year Terms Questioned,” letter to the editor, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 93, No. 3 (March 1980), pp. 595-596.

Breen writes to object to plans to change the way the ANA membership elects governors, in particular objecting to the notion of having numbered seats, which, Breen points out, leads to the possibility of two highly qualified people running for the same seat while two unqualified people battle over another (with the result that one of the highly qualified people won’t be elected while one of the unqualified ones will). Also discusses why Breen stays out of internal politics in numismatic and other organizations.

Numisma, edited by John J. Ford, Jr. and Walter Breen. New Netherlands Coin Company, 1954-1960.

The periodical publication of one of the finest numismatic businesses to grace the hobby, the team of Ford and Breen wrote some of the best auction catalogues the hobby has ever seen. They also wrote and edited *Numisma*, one of the finest and most entertaining house organs of the twentieth century and a fitting successor to Frossard's original periodical (the less said about certain new publications going under the name the better). Though modest in format and perpetually behind schedule, these are essential to the library of anyone interested in United States coins.

Numismatic Directory for 1957, by D. Wayne Johnson, joint compiler Walter Breen (St. Louis, 1957), 101 pages.

From Dick Johnson: "This grew out of a project for an advertising class at Washington University. I sent out questionnaires and gathered all the data; Walter compiled a list of all numismatic publications (I suspect from a visit to ANS library). I rented a proportional spacing typewriter and typed the entire text myself. An art student at Washington U created the logo and cover design."

"Observations on RF-27, the Danske Americansk," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 10, No. 3 (September 1971; Serial 32), p. 330.

Letter regarding an article appearing in the December 1969 issue of the *CNL* on the subject of Danish West Indies coins issued during and shortly after the period of "colonial" America. Discusses where these coins fit into those generally included as "colonials." Breen states clearly that he thinks it best not to include these in the category of American colonials. Note that the title given is not Breen's, but merely a heading under which several letters appear.

"Old Time Collectors and Dealers," written in collaboration with Warren A. Lapp, *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 3, No. 4 (July 15, 1969; Serial 13), pp. 136-141.

Breen and Lapp provide brief biographies of some of the more important nineteenth- and early twentieth-century U.S. coin dealers and collectors.

"On Crosby's 'Missing Letter,'" *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 1 (March 1977; Serial 48), TN-58A, p. 586.

Breen responds to a technical note by Ray Williamson suggesting that the discovery of a letter Crosby mentioned as "missing" may provide evidence that the Massachusetts Mint was functioning as late as November 1684. Breen argues that this is impossible due to both the revocation of the Massachusetts Bay charter in October 1684 and the expiration of the seven-year mint contract held by John Hull and Robert Saunderson in May 1682 (not to mention Hull's subsequent death in October 1683). In the same issue of *CNL*, Williamson agreed with Breen's points and withdrew his claim.

"On Freeman's Two Cent Series," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 67, No. 8 (August 1954), pp. 837-838.

Breen addresses the reasons for two-cent pieces being coined and suggests that Freeman's attempts to distinguish all die varieties in the series are essentially futile, since for some dates over 100 dies were made, all of them mechanically. Published in the "Notes and Queries" section of the journal.

"On the Eckfeldt Process at the First U.S. Mint," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 15, No. 3 (October 1976; Serial 47), G-1B, p. 571.

Breen responds to a reprint from *The Franklin Journal* (1826), appearing in the previous issue of the *CNL*, concerning die hardening processes. While he heralds the discovery of the publication as providing proof that was needed to explain the fact that after 1795, instances of die failure due to caving in resulting from softness are almost unheard of, Breen argues against Jim Spilman's assertion (G-1A) that it would have been possible for former New Jersey mintmasters Albion Cox or John Harper to have contributed this method of die hardening to the Mint.

“An Open Letter to U.S. Treasurer Angela M. Buchanan,” letter to the editor, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 95, No. 8 (August 1982), pp. 1943-1945.

Breen writes to commend the new Treasurer’s desire to put an end to the antagonistic relationship which has often existed between the U.S. Mint and collectors, and suggests several steps which could be taken to make the ceasefire complete and permanent.

“An Original Breen Attribution Guide for Cents of 1822, 1827, 1828,” by Ed Janis, *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 27, No. 4 (July 15, 1993; Serial 157), pp. 283-287.

Janis tells the story of discussing the die varieties of these years with Breen, who then composed an easy-finder list for Janis, which he includes in this remembrance.

“Our \$3 Coin: Born to Placate the Gold Interests,” *Coins Magazine*, Vol. 15, No. 8 (August 1968), pp. 27-30.

Provides historical background for the \$3 gold piece.

“Our Warlike Heraldic Designs,” letter to the editor, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 64, No. 2 (February 1951), pp. 167.

Breen responds to a note by William Guild published in the December 1950 *Numismatist* in which he speculates on the fact that certain U.S. coins portray the eagle holding arrows in the dexter claw instead of the sinister as usual. Breen corrects a statement made by Guild as to which coins include this anomaly and provides information on pattern pieces which also exhibit the characteristic. He attempts to correlate the dates during which these reverses occurred with dates when the U.S. was in or near a state of war, but acknowledges that these are simply speculations unconfirmed by facts. Appeared in the “Notes and Queries” section of the journal.

“An Outstanding Collection of Connecticut Coppers,” *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 13, No. 2 (June 1974; Serial 40), TN-45, p. 446.

A detailed overview of the collection later sold as part of the EAC/Pine Tree auction of February 15, 1975.

“Paper Coins,” *COINage*, Vol. 8, No. 9 (September 1972), pp. 42ff.

“Penny Quiz,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 3, No. 6 (November 15, 1969; Serial 15), p. 178.

Breen tries his hand at writing the bimonthly quiz for *Penny-Wise*, and comes up with what quiz editor John Wright calls “a real toughie.”

Penny Whimsy: A Revision of Early American Cents, 1793-1814: An Exercise in Descriptive Classification with Tables of Rarity and Value, by William H. Sheldon with the collaboration of Dorothy I. Paschal and Walter Breen (New York: Harper & Brothers for the John J. Ford, Jr. Numisco Series, 1958), xii, 340 pages, 51 halftone plates. Hardcover with dust-jacket. Reprint: (New York: Harper & Row for Krause Publishing Company, 1965), “exactly as printed in 1958 except for corrections of proofreaders’ errors,” xii, 340 pages, 51 plates. Hardcover with dust-jacket. Reprint: (Lawrence, Massachusetts: Quarterman, 1976), best plates and corrected text (reissued 1981), xii, 340 pages, 51 plates. Hardcover with dust-jacket. Reprint: (New York, Durst, 1990), xv, 340 pages; 51 plates, text is exactly as 1958 with proofreader’s corrections, worst plates, new introduction and appendices by Denis Loring. Hard cover, no dust jacket.

The classic work on the early cents, eclipsed only by Breen’s own posthumously-published encyclopedia (compiled with the assistance of Del Bland, Mark R. Borckardt and other members of the

Early Cent Revision Committee of the Early American Coppers club). *Penny Whimsy* was, as the subtitle explains, a revision of Sheldon's previous *Early American Cents* (New York: Harper, 1949). Sheldon's work is not simply a technical guide to die varieties, but a philosophical exercise as well, and is considered by many to be perhaps the best single volume written on a series of U.S. coins, even if it has since been superseded by later works. Sheldon introduced the 70-point grading system (intending it only for large cents), which plenty of people have since regretted. See John Kraljevich, "An Attribution Guide for Sheldons," *The Asylum*, Vol. XI, No. 3 (Summer 1993), pp. 18-21.

"Pennymanship to the Editors," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 11, No. 4 (July 15, 1977; Serial 61), p. 181.

A letter to the editor describing the impending publication of Breen's *Coiner's Caviar* (which actually occurred) as well as the impending publication of a book to be called *Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Colonial and American Coins but Never Knew Where to Ask* (which didn't). Title (of the letter) not Breen's.

"Pennymanship to the Editors," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 18, No. 6 (November 15, 1984; Serial 105), p. 380.

Breen notes his relative absence from the recent pages of *Penny-Wise*, pointing out that the publication of his book (with Ron Gillio) on California gold and the half cent *Encyclopedia*, as well as his work on the *Complete Encyclopedia* has left him little additional time. He notes that his attention is now coming back to large cents, and mentions his ANS talk on Robert Scot. Not Breen's title.

"The Peter Principle Meets the Mint: Scot, Barber and the 'Arabic' Dates," *New England Journal of Numismatics*, Vol. 1, No. 1 (Summer 1986), pp. 3-9.

The work of Mint engravers Robert Scot and Charles E. Barber is discussed as well as the influence the two had on the Mint's use of the work of others, including Augustus St. Gaudens.

"Philadelphia Story: 1791-1794," *Coin World*, No. 105 (April 20, 1962), pp. 82, 84; continued in No. 106 (April 27, 1962), p. 42; No. 107 (May 4, 1962), p. 76.

"Philadelphia's Original Flying Disks: Early American Coppers — Blanks, Sources, Identifying Marks," *The American Numismatic Association Centennial Anthology*, edited by Carl W.A. Carlson and Michael Hodder (Wolfboro, New Hampshire: Bowers and Merena Galleries, 1991), pp. 35-50.

An important article, Breen traces the sources of the copper purchased by the U.S. Mint in its early years and attempts to draw correlations between these disparate sources and the edge markings on various die varieties. The text includes charts showing the various copper purchases as well as estimates of when various varieties were struck, how many were struck, and information on their survival rates.

"Pick Nits, Get Lice," *The Repository*, Vol. III, Nos. 1-2 (January-March 1985), pp. 1-2.

Breen responds to a negative review of his half cent encyclopedia written by Bill Weber. Examining Weber's main criticisms, Breen responds to each point. Most importantly, he states that Weber saw early drafts of the manuscript and made no criticisms until after the book had been published. "Mr. Weber thought I was pontificating *ex cathedra*. I thought he was friendly. We were both wrong." Breen mentions preparing an errata for the half cent book, but does not appear to have done so.

"Pointers Regarding the 1838 Large Cents," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 4 (July 15, 1968; Serial 7), p. 123.

Focuses on the 1838 N-9, N-11 and N-13.

“Preface,” *Early United States Dimes, 1796-1837*, David J. Davis, Russell J. Logan, Allen F. Lovejoy, John W. McCloskey and William L. Subjack (Ypsilanti, Michigan: John Reich Collectors Society, 1984), p. vii.

“‘Processed’ Coins,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 28, No. 5 (May 1962), pp. 1293-1295.

“Profile — Walter Breen,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 3 (May 15, 1968; Serial 6), p. 80.

Of uncertain authorship, this was at least written with Breen’s cooperation, as it includes a few tidbits of information which had not previously appeared in print about Breen.

Proof Coins Struck by the United States Mint, 1817-1921, *Coin Collector’s Journal*, Vol. 20, Nos. 2-3 (March-June 1953; Serial 148-149), 48 pages. Reprinted by Sanford J. Durst (New York, 1983), with new supplement by Durst, 57 pages.

A very important work which is the predecessor to Breen’s 1977 *Coiner’s Caviar*. In it, Breen focuses on pre-1858 proofs, examining first the historical background of proof/specimen/presentation pieces, then looking at their manufacture, the problems of uncertain mintages, restrikes and proof sets. Separate sections on silver and minor coins and gold coins are supplemented by tables on proofs struck by calendar year, corrected mintage figures, a section on dies and die varieties of coins known in proof, 1817-1857, \$3 gold restrikes, and tables on proof coinage, delivery and disposal. Breen’s monograph comprises the entirety of this double issue of the *Coin Collector’s Journal*. The Durst reprint (which Breen considered pirated) contains a hilariously pointless supplement by Durst, the research for which was apparently conducted by opening a Redbook.

“Proof Large Cents,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 9, No. 3 (May 15, 1975; Serial 48), pp. 138.

Breen describes how one determines what is a proof large cent, what the criteria for “proof” are and what difficulties one encounters in collecting proof large cents.

“Proof Large Cents — Preliminary Notes,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 3, No. 3 (May 15, 1969; Serial 12), pp. 83-90.

Breen’s first substantive, original article for *Penny-Wise*, this takes the form of a listing of all known varieties of large cents known in proof form, with information given on previous auction appearances and provenances.

“The Proofing Process,” *The Whitman Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 1 (January 1965), pp. 37-41; continued in Vol. 2, No. 2 (February 1965), pp. 123-127; Vol. 2, No. 3 (March 1965), pp. 175-181; Vol. 2, No. 4 (April 1965), pp. 229-233; Vol. 2, No. 5 (May 1965), pp. 345-349; Vol. 2, No. 6 (June 1965), pp. 399-402; Vol. 2, No. 7 (July 1965), pp. 489-493.

These articles form the basis of the opening chapters of the early draft of Breen’s book on proof coins, which was not published until 1977. Breen discusses early proof coins, describing what makes a proof a proof and the technology behind them. He then focuses on those made in the colonial era in what is now the U.S. He provides lists of colonial coins which he believes exist in proof form and discusses them in considerable detail. Later installments cover federal coins and (briefly) Canadian specimen coinage.

“Proper Care of Your Coin Collection,” audio cassette tape, approximately 13 minutes, 40 seconds. Part of *Home Study Course in Fundamentals of Rare Coin Collecting and Investing* (New York: Institute of Numismatic and Philatelic Studies, Adelphi University, 1981), a collection of 20 cassettes with various numismatists speaking on different topics.

Also includes 104 page booklet (loose sheets) describing the various lessons in varying detail and including an exam and course evaluation.

Breen's discussion focuses on the metallurgical aspects of coin toning and degradation, and describes various metallurgical reactions, how different metals react with air, moisture and materials from coin holders, what can be done to slow or eliminate reactions, notes on cleaning, and so forth. The booklet contains only a brief biography of Breen, with no text accompanying his audio presentation.

"A Quintet of Problems Concerning Number of Silver Certificates Issued," *Paper Money*, Vol. 13, No. 4 (July-August 1974; Serial 52), pp. 155ff.

The Rare Gold Management Investment Portfolio of _____ with Special Monographs by Walter Breen. N.p.: First Coinvestors, n.d. [1973]. Three ring binder.

The only known example of this was included as lot 213 of the Ford Library Sale (Kolbe and Stacks, June 1, 2004) and apparently did not sell. It's difficult to know if this should be included as a published work in this bibliography, as it seems likely that it was a sample prepared as a prototypes for a program developed by First Coinvestors. Text apparently covers all federal gold issues, as well as commemorative gold and California gold.

"The Rarest American Colonial and United States Gold Coins," *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 23, No. 6 (June 1957), pp. 1065-1071.

"Rarity and Value: A New Scientific Approach," *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 23, No. 2 (February 1957), pp. 209-215.

"Recut Dates and Overdates," *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 21, No. 2 (February 1955), pp. 161-168.

The differences between recut/reengraved coins and ones featuring overdates are explained, and Breen includes a listing of 98 U.S. coins he considers overdates, with comments concerning them. (He notes that a full listing of recuts would be overly lengthy for an article.) Finally, Breen discusses the use of dated hubs and the effect this has on the production of seemingly recut dates and overdates.

"Regarding RF-43 (*CNL*, April 1973, p. 398) Why Were the Early American Halfpence Called Coppers Rather Than Halfpence, and What Is the Origin of the Term 'Coppers?,'" *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (October 1973; Serial 38), RF-43A, p. 416.

Breen responds to a Research Forum question with the simple explanation that the coppers did not circulate as halfpence but at varying rates such as 14 to a shilling. Note that the title as given is not Breen's, but rather the heading under which several responses to this question were printed.

"Regarding RF-44 (*CNL*, April 1973, p. 398) 'Counterfeit "peices of brass and tin,"'" *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (October 1973; Serial 38), RF-44A, p. 417.

Breen suggests that the counterfeits circulating in 1700 were likely either cast halfpence of William III (in brass) or cast copies of British tin farthings of Charles II. Note that the title as given is not Breen's, but rather the heading under which several responses to this question were printed.

"Regarding RF-46 (*CNL*, April 1973, p. 399), 'The Questionable Coinage of Machin's Mills,'" *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (October 1973; Serial 38), RF-46A, p. 421.

Breen clarifies that the coppers produced at Mackin's Mills are closer in weight to 70 pieces to a pound rather than the 48 to a pound rate assumed by the author of the Research Forum query to which Breen is responding. Breen goes on to describe some of the further difficulties one runs into when trying to

determine the date of production of some pieces punch-linked to the operation at Mackin's Mills. Note that the title as given is not Breen's, but rather the heading under which several responses to this question were printed.

“Replies to Chuck Funk’s Letter,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 9, No. 2 (March 15, 1975; Serial 47), pp. 62.

Breen responds to a few comments in a letter by Chuck Funk which precedes this response in this issue of *Penny-Wise*. Among other things, he mentions his work on the 1975 EAC auction catalogue, which has since become famous for its Connecticut coppers. Responding to Funk’s question as to the status of the Newcomb update, Breen wrote, “The answer to this one would be unprintable. Not worth the adrenalin.” Not Breen’s title.

“Reply on Washington Half Dollar, 1792,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 67, No. 9 (September 1954), p. 974.

In answer to a query regarding the so-called Washington half dollars of 1792, Breen notes that most of the information being sought can be found in his *The U.S. Patterns of 1792* monograph, except for the number of Idler copies made. Published in the “Notes and Queries” section of the journal.

“Research in the Archives: Gold Coinage Revisions by Dates — Philadelphia,” *Coin Collector’s Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 6 (November-December 1951), pp. 123-124.

The final 1951 installment of Breen’s groundbreaking archival research conducted on behalf of Wayne Raymond.

“Research in the Archives: Report in the Proofs, Essais, Restrikes and Related Material,” *Coin Collector’s Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 2 (March-April 1951), pp. 30-34.

Wayne Raymond had hired Breen to conduct research in the National Archives in order to determine the proper mintages of U.S. coins. Here, Breen begins to publish the results of his research.

“Research in the Archives: Revised Copper Coinage Figures, 1793-1857,” *Coin Collector’s Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 3 (May-June 1951), pp. 51-56.

Breen continues to report on his research findings from the National Archives.

“Research in the Archives. Silver Coinage Figures Revised,” *Coin Collector’s Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 5 (September-October 1951), pp. 104-116.

Breen continues to report on his research findings from the National Archives.

“Research in the Archives: Silver Coinage Figures Revised, Philadelphia Mint,” *Coin Collector’s Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 4 (July-August 1951), pp. 81-89.

Breen continues to report on his research findings from the National Archives.

“Response to Comments,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 19, No. 1 (January 15, 1985; Serial 106), pp. 12-15.

Breen’s response is part of a section of this issue devoted to discussing what some saw as problems with his *Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents*. In particular, Breen is responding to criticism levied against the book by Frank Wilkinson. Breen takes on Wilkinson’s comments one at a time, acknowledging a couple errors, but standing up for his substantive comments. Following this, the *Penny-Wise* editor declared a ceasefire between the Cohen and Breen half cents camps, writing “I don't know why half cent collectors seem to enjoy a brouhaha so much, especially when it relates to a recent article or book on half cents.”

“A Review of Half Cent Literature,” *The Asylum*, Vol. 1, Nos. 2-3, (Fall-Winter 1980), pp. 33-38.

This article is significant less for what it is than for the furor it caused. An overview of significant published works on the U.S. half cent, the article appeared with an editor's note stating that it had been written in 1966 and, hence, no works published since then had been included. This resulted in a furious letter from Roger Cohen, author of the then-standard guide to the series, *American Half Cents*, which was not included in Breen's article since it first appeared in 1971. Among other things, Cohen declared that the editor of *The Asylum*, Jack Collins, was “a liar and a bigot,” and, quite famously, “a coprophagist.” This letter was followed by a reply from Breen, who stated that the article was taken from a copy of his half cent manuscript, “written 1953-56, completed 1956, revised 1965-66.” A few revisions since 1966 had been made to account for (among other things) the death of collector Joseph Brobston, but nothing substantive had been added (such as, say, mention of Cohen's book). This was Breen's attempt at peace-making, and what effect it may have had is hard to say since it was followed by Collins's own response to Cohen, which took Breen's olive branch and set about beating Cohen with it: “In my opinion, *American Half Cents* is what a coprophagist would wrap his lunch in!” Perhaps not the most noble episode in our hobby, but certainly one of the more entertaining.

“Robert Scot's Earliest Device Punches,” Coinage of the Americas Conference Proceedings No. 1 (1984), *America's Copper Coinage 1783-1857* (New York: ANS, 1985), pp. 9-29.

A very important article. In it, Breen demonstrates that device punches were used on the 1794 cent dies, exposing as unfounded the traditionally-held belief that all of them had been hand-engraved. Instead, each die was begun with device punches and then individually hand tooled to emphasize particular details: it is this later retooling which gives each die its individual flavor.

The Secret History of the Gobrecht Coinages, 1836-1840, *Coin Collector's Journal*, Vol. 21, Nos. 5-6 (September-December 1954; Serial 157-158), 28 pages.

Breen's monograph comprises the entirety of this double issue of the *Coin Collector's Journal*. In it, he presents documentary evidence, largely in the form of correspondence between R.M. Patterson, director of the Mint, and various government officials, establishing the history of the Gobrecht coinage. A very interesting examination of the Mint's internal affairs at the time, Breen examines the hiring of Gobrecht, the development of the Liberty Seated obverse and flying eagle reverse designs, the approval process which the Mint had to go through to have the designs accepted, and the technological changes which were taking place in the Mint at the time. Breen also deals with the subject of restrikes, which plague this series. Gobrecht's work on gold dollar and two-cent piece patterns is also discussed. Subsequent sections deal with the 1836 reeded edge half dollars and the half dollar patterns of 1838 and 1839.

“Semiofficial Restrikes of the Philadelphia Mint,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 66, No. 10 (October 1953), pp. 1038-1039.

Examines two letters written by Mint Director James Ross Snowden, which together demonstrate that while Snowden requested permission of the Secretary of the Treasury to sell restrikes of rare patterns and issues, he had already agreed to do so before requesting said permission. The earlier letter, which offers to restrike 1851 dollars, is written to early collector and dealer John K. Curtis.

“Several Questions Answered,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 2 (February 1957), pp. 152-153.

The several points addressed include early counterfeit half dollars, cents struck by allegedly scratched dies, edge lettering on U.S. patterns, counterstamps and the difficulty in establishing provenance. Published in the “Notes and Queries” section of the journal.

Silver Coinages of the Philadelphia Mint, 1794-1916, *Coin Collector's Journal*, No. 159 (1958), 28 pages.

Breen's monograph comprises the entirety of this issue of the *Coin Collector's Journal*. This work examines the legislation and history behind the Philadelphia Mint's silver coins and presents important new information on mintages, the number of varieties known (or number of dies known to have been used), dates of production and commentary on significant varieties. Most important for the earlier dates.

"A Silver Dollar's Story," *Gobrecht Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 54 (July 1992), p. 38.

Poetry.

Silver Dollars and Trade Dollars of the United States: A Complete Encyclopedia, by Q. David Bowers (Wolfeboro, NH: Bowers and Merena Galleries, 1993).

Second appendix on nomenclature used for the US dollar by Breen. It is also worth noting that Breen proofread this while it was in manuscript.

"Six Connecticut Mints?," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 13, No. 3 (September 1974; Serial 41), TN-48, p. 459.

Breen proposes the hypothesis that there were six mints involved in the production of Connecticut coppers (plus the possibility of "half a dozen varieties which may conceivably represent private enterprise unrelated to the major mints").

"Some Legendary Liberty Seated Rarities," *Gobrecht Journal*, Vol. 3, No. 7 (November 1976), pp. 3-5.

"Some Neglected Colonials," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 6, No. 2 (December 1965; Serial 16), pp. 160-162.

Breen's update to his *Whitman Numismatic Journal* article on the French billon sous of North America; gives new varieties and updates previously published information on them and the "old sous" or "Mousquetaires."

"Some Thoughts on the Quantities of Small Pine Tree Shillings," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 17, No. 1 (April 1978; Serial 51), TN-75, p. 624.

Breen examines the legend that John Hull paid his daughter's dowry in her weight in Pine Tree Shillings and speculates on the amount of money this would come to and the amount of coins Hull would have had to mint in order to earn such a fee based on his percentage. Not Breen's finest work, as it doesn't take into account the fact that much of what Hull minted was for himself using silver he provided and for which he did not pay a fee; nor does Breen have a marriage date for Hannah Hull which would allow for examination of the extant ledgers for confirmation. Breen's thesis was quickly laid to rest by Ken Bressett, writing in the *CNL* for October 1978, who quotes Hull's diary to make it clear that the wedding of Hannah took place before the production of small planchet Pine Tree Shillings and during a period when the mint was inactive and that her dowry was not paid in cash (or very little of it was).

"Some Unpublished Gobrecht Rarities," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 5 (May 1957), pp. 531-532.

Breen describes two new varieties of Gobrecht coinage which came to light following the publication of his monograph, *Secret History of the Gobrecht Coinages*. The first is an 1838 dollar restrike struck over an 1859 dollar, with the undertype visible. Breen states that Henry Richard Linderman was at least as culpable as Mint Director Snowden in the creation of dubious restrikes. Breen then describes the second discovery, a new variety of 1838 pattern half dollar discovered by Q. David Bowers.

"The S.S. *Central America*: Tragedy and Treasure," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 103, No. 7 (July 1990), pp. 1064-1072; 1126-1130; 1166-1167.

This article won the first place 1990 Heath Literary Award presented by the ANA. In it, Breen discusses the S.S. *Central America*, its fateful voyage, contemporary accounts of its sinking and the rescue missions attempted, and its cargo, before turning to the attempts to locate the wreckage, the technology used to remotely monitor it and the recovery of some of the coins it had been carrying. Breen then turns his attention to the coins themselves, giving an overview of what had been on board and what had been recovered.

The Standard Catalogue of United States Coins from 1652 to the Present Day, edited by Wayte Raymond (New York: Wayte Raymond, various dates).

First published in 1935, the *Standard Catalogue* was exactly that: the standard reference work on U.S. coins for all collectors, whether beginners or advanced students. The 16th and 17th editions (dated 1953 and 1954-1955, respectively, though published in 1952 and 1954, respectively) credit Breen for the research for the volume. The 18th (1957, final and finest) edition gives him credit for "compilation and basic research." Both editions were largely under the editorship of John J. Ford, Jr., although Raymond is credited as editor of the 16th and 17th editions and O.E. Raymond is given editorial status for the 18th edition.

"The Stepney Hoard: Fact or Fantasy?," by Philip L. Mossman, with contributions from Eric P. Newman, John Kleeberg, Robert M. Martin, Q. David Bowers, Michael Hodder, Jeff Rock, Terry Lenz, Neil Rothschild and Thomas Kays, *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 38, No. 2 (August 1998; Serial 108), pp. 1809-1851.

This extensive overview of the group of coins frequently known as the Stepney Hoard includes the first publication of a manuscript written by Breen on the subject (pages 1811-1818). The rest of the article deals with Breen's writings, often in the form of letters, on the subject and as such is a good secondary source on Breen's writings.

"Stop the Presses! Bulletin!!!!," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 11, No. 4 (July 15, 1977; Serial 61), p. 176.

The reported discovery of an 1800 NC-4 with die cracks where the rim breaks were later to appear causes Breen to alert those working on the early large cent revision that they may have to rethink the emission sequences for this, S-208 and S-209.

"The 'Strawberry' Leaf Cents of 1793," *Empire Topics*, No. 8 (November-December 1959); reprinted in *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 6 (November 15, 1968; Serial 9), pp. 210-212; reprinted in *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 35, No. 3 (May 15, 2001; Serial 204), pp. 199-201.

Breen describes the current state of knowledge concerning the so-called "Strawberry Leaf" 1793 cents, which he believed at this point were engraved by Wright. Includes a census on known examples and some provenances.

"A Suggested Classification of Mint Errors," *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 23, No. 4 (April 1957), pp. 660-665.

"Survey of American Coin Hoards," *The Numismatist*, Vol. 65, No. 1 (January 1952), pp. 7-24.

A thorough chronological overview of 17 of the most significant coin hoards and other seemingly non-collector accumulations of coins found in what is now the United States. Well illustrated, particularly with a plate showing the die varieties of cents included in the Nichols find. This article (taken presumably with its supplement, which follows) won third place in the Heath Literary Award competition for the 1952 volume.

“Survey of American Coin Hoards,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 65, No. 10 (October 1952), pp. 1005-1010.

The introduction states: “Since the previous publication in the January, 1952 issue of *The Numismatist*, the following three hoards have been brought to my attention.” Oddly enough, the article goes on to describe four hoards: the Thayer County, Nebraska, hoard of Kellogg \$20 gold pieces; the second Boothbay Harbor, Maine, hoard of unspecified “treasure”; the Hull, Texas hoard of double eagles (which contained Paquet reverse examples); and the Aaron White hoard of mostly copper coins put together during the Civil War. Breen gives information regarding the sale by Ed. Frossard of the remnants of the last of these hoards in his sale of July 20, 1888. Also appended to this article are corrections and updates to hoards described in his previous piece on the subject.

“Through Darkest Los Angeles with Glass and Notebook,” *Rare Coin Advisory*, March 1973.

Rare Coin Advisory was the monthly publication of First Coinvestors, Inc. I haven’t seen these and they are rather difficult to find. Breen did publish other articles in the publication but I’ve yet to find the necessary bibliographic information to include them herein.

“Tips for Convention Exhibitors,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 71, No. 5 (May 1958), pp. 526-527.

Good advice on what makes an exhibit memorable and what makes one forgettable. Would be well worth reprinting.

“Trade Dollars of 1884 and 1885,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 65, No. 7 (July 1952), pp. 684-686.

Breen discusses the probable history of these pieces, concluding that they are almost without question the product of chicanery within the Mint.

Travers’ Rare Coin Investment Strategy, by Scott A. Travers. New York: Prentice Hall, 1986; second edition, 1990. 142 pages.

Breen wrote the introduction, in which he applies the basics of game theory to the coin market.

“Trial Piece Designed for U.S. Cent 1792,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 64, No. 12 (December 1951), pp. 1310-1313.

“The Twentieth Century U.S. Notes: Part IV,” *Paper Money*, Vol. 16, No. 5 (September-October 1977; Serial 71), pp. 266ff.

The “Part IV” in the title refers back to the articles Breen published (under different titles) in numbers 67 to 69 of this journal.

“A Unique Liberty Seated Dollar: 1851-O,” *The Comprehensive U.S. Silver Dollar Encyclopedia*, by John W. Highfill (Broken Arrow, Oklahoma: Highfill Press, 1992), pp. 106-108.

The bizarre 1851-O proof restrike dollar coin, whose sharp rim and mintmark have largely been filed down, is Breen’s subject. He traces what we know of the illegitimate restrikes of the period, names Theodore W. and George J. Eckfeldt as the likely minters of this fantasy piece, and speculates on the circumstances behind the striking of this coin.

“United States Coins,” *Encyclopædia Britannica* (Chicago, 1965); reprinted in the 1967 edition (Vol. 16, pp. 775-776) and possibly others.

“United States Copper Cents 1816-1857,” book review, *The Numismatist*, Vol. 70, No. 2 (February 1957), p. 169.

A review of the second printing of Howard R. Newcomb’s masterwork, which Breen points out is barely different from the first edition and does not include new varieties discovered in recent years. He lists five auction sales which included significant new varieties not to be found in here.

“United States Eagles,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 33, No. 9 (September 1967), pp. 1723-1729; [and issues to] Vol. 34, No. 4 (April, 1968), pp. 673-677.

Reprinted in monograph form (see following entry).

As with the rest of his series of examinations of U.S. gold coins by die variety, Breen gives the historical background of the series and of the previous numismatic scholarship surrounding it, then focuses on examining every type, date and variety of which he was aware. Exhaustive work, still cited today.

United States Eagles, Hewitt’s Numismatic Information Series (Chicago: Hewitt, n.d. [c. 1968]). Card covers, 59, (5) pages.

The above series of *Scrapbook* articles combined in a more convenient monograph form.

“United States Half Cents: Addenda and Corrections to Gilbert,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 65, No. 5 (May 1952), pp. 461-462.

A quick listing of varieties, with information not found in the Gilbert work, and corrections to erroneous data. Breen writes, “The following is intended as preliminary data to a forthcoming standard work on U.S. Half Cents which will provide descriptions of some new varieties, correct many errors and misconceptions both of description and of rarity, and also solve the question of restrikes in this series.”

United States Half Dimes: A Supplement, *Coin Collector’s Journal*, No. 160 (1958), 16 pages. Reprinted in D.W. Valentine, *The United States Half Dimes* (Lawrence, Massachusetts: Quarterman, 1975).

Breen’s monograph, an update of the 1931 Valentine reference, comprises the entirety of this issue of the *Coin Collector’s Journal*. With this issue, Wayne Raymond’s seminal publication ceased publication.

“United States Half Eagles 1795-1929,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 31, No. 4 (April 1965), pp. 978-981; continued in Vol. 31, No. 5 (May 1965), pp. 1277-1284; Vol. 31, No. 6 (June 1965), pp. 1852-1859; Vol. 31, No. 7 (July 1965), pp. 2157-2162; Vol. 31, No. 8 (August 1965), pp. 2413-2418; Vol. 31, No. 9 (September 1965), pp. 2680-2683; Vol. 31, No. 10 (October 1965), pp. 2964-2969; Vol. 31, No. 11 (November 1965), pp. 3257-3261; Vol. 31, No. 12 (December 1965), pp. 3515-3519; [and issues to] Vol. 33, No. 6 (June 1967), pp. 1201-1202. Reprinted in two parts in monograph form: *Early United States Half Eagles, 1795-1838* and *Varieties of United States Half Eagles, 1839-1929*.

As with the rest of his series of examinations of U.S. gold coins by die variety, Breen gives the historical background of the series and of the previous numismatic scholarship surrounding it, then focuses on examining every type, date and variety of which he was aware. Exhaustive work, still cited today.

The United States Minor Coinages, 1793-1916, *Coin Collector’s Journal*, Vol. 21, No. 3 (May-June 1954; Serial 155), 16 pages.

Building on his previously published research from the National Archives, Breen examines the mintages of the minor (non-silver or gold) coinage and comments on the documentation which exists concerning these coins. Includes a nice gallery of illustrations of coins executed by the various Mint engravers and designers. Breen’s monograph comprises this entire issue of the *Coin Collector’s Journal*.

The United States Nickel Five-Cent Piece: A History and Date-by-Date Analysis, by Michael Wescott and Kendall Keck (Wolfeboro, New Hampshire: Bowers and Merena Galleries, 1991), 191 pages.

Introduction by Breen.

United States Pattern, Experimental and Trial Pieces, by J. Hewitt Judd, with the collaboration of Walter H. Breen and Abe Kosoff (Racine, Wisconsin: Whitman Publishing, 1959), 253 pages. Revised second edition (1962; 260 pages). Revised third edition (1965; 260 pages). Revised fourth edition (1970; 260 pages). Revised fifth edition (1974; 260 pages). Revised sixth edition (Racine, Wisconsin: Western Publishing, 1977; 276 pages). Revised seventh edition (Racine, Wisconsin: Western Publishing, 1982; 276 pages).

The Judd book was only a slight revision of the Adams and Woodin book published half a century earlier, except that it had research notes by Breen and prices by Kosoff. Breen noted that the research of William Guild was also important to the project. Breen stated that the fourth edition was the one he “rewrote in detail, though most of what I wanted to include didn’t get in” (copy inscribed to Mark Auerbach). Breen stated (in his May 1978 “Bristles and Barbs” column) that he had no part in the sixth edition revision, though as he was responsible for content appearing in earlier editions (some of which, presumably, made the cut), I include it above.

The United States Patterns of 1792, Coin Collector’s Journal, Vol. 21, No. 2 (March-April 1954; Serial 154), 16 pages.

The rare and curious patterns of 1792 are examined in detail in this work. Breen’s monograph comprises this entire issue of the *Coin Collector’s Journal*.

“The United States Peace Dollar: Its Roots in History,” *The Whitman Numismatic Journal*, Vol. 1, No. 11 (November 1964), pp. 25-33; continued in Vol. 1, No. 12 (December 1964), pp. 41-48.

The impetus behind the writing of this article was the Congressional authorization of the continued production of Peace dollars, which had not been minted since 1935. The article explores the history of the various designs and motifs utilized on coins bearing the dollar denomination and leads up to and discusses the particular history of the Peace dollar. As it turned out, while over 300,000 specimens of 1964 Peace dollars were struck in Denver during May 1965, none were released for circulation and production of the coins was stopped, with all extant specimens melted. Rumors of 1964-D Peace dollars continue to this day, though the legality of their ownership is questionable (a possible explanation for the lack of known specimens).

“Unlisted Massachusetts Threepence,” *The Numismatist*, Vol. 65, No. 1 (January 1952), p. 45.

Breen announces the discovery of the controversial Noe-35 Oak Tree Threepence, two examples of which he notes as existing. See Bowers and Merena’s Norweb Sale 1 (October 12-13, 1987), lot 1184 for a good overview of this coin. Appeared in the “Notes and Queries” section of the journal.

“U.S. Gold Coins: Some Unsolved Problems,” *The Numismatic Scrapbook Magazine*, Vol. 30, No. 3 (March 1964), pp. 593-598.

Varieties of United States Half Eagles, 1839-1929, Hewitt’s Numismatic Information Series (Chicago: Hewitt, n.d. [c. 1967]). Card covers, 45, (3) pages.

The later parts of the series of *Scrapbook* articles published as “United States Half Eagles: 1795-1929” combined in a more convenient monograph form.

Varieties of United States Quarter Eagles, Hewitt's Numismatic Information Series (Chicago: Hewitt, n.d.). Card covers, 32 pages.

The series of *Scrapbook* articles published as "Notes on United States Quarter Eagles" combined in a more convenient monograph form.

Walter Breen Answers Your Numismatic Questions (Seattle, 1990). Video tape, 1 hour, 22 minutes.

Numismatic Theater program, ANA Convention, 1990.

Walter Breen Answers Your Questions about Numismatics, audio cassette (ANA, 1989), 1 audio cassette, 90 minutes.

Numismatic Theater program, ANA Convention, August 11, 1989.

Walter Breen Answers Your Questions about Numismatics, video tape (Pittsburgh, 1989), 43 minutes.

Numismatic Theater program, ANA Convention, August 11, 1989.

"Walter Breen Comments," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 4 (July 15, 1968; Serial 7), pp. 126-127.

More excerpts from letters from Breen, commenting on material appearing in previous issues of *Penny-Wise*, among other things. Interesting comments on building a large cents library. Title not Breen's.

"Walter Breen Comments," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 2, No. 5 (September 15, 1968; Serial 8), p. 172.

More comments from Breen, including information on counterstamped cents. Title not Breen's.

"Walter Breen Comments," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 3, No. 5 (September 15, 1969; Serial 14), pp. 155-156.

More comments on proof large cents and other matters. Notes that "there is nothing new yet on the publication dates for my books," a refrain Breen would unfortunately end up repeating often in life. Title presumably not Breen's.

"Walter Breen Comments on 'Penny-Wise' No. 11," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 3, No. 3 (May 15, 1969; Serial 12), pp. 93-94.

Breen comments on a number of topics, particularly on John Wright's article on 1794-1807 reverse types. Title presumably not Breen's.

"Walter Breen Comments on the 1795 G-3, CMM #2a Half Cent," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 8, No. 2 (March 15, 1974; Serial 41), p. 69.

Breen comments on an article by Milton B. Pfeffer which appeared in the November 1973 issue of *Penny-Wise*, largely concerning emission sequences of 1795 half cents. Not Breen's title.

"Walter Breen Replies," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 7, No. 6 (November 15, 1973; Serial 39), p. 260.

Breen responds to an open letter to him from Roger Cohen, Jr., which challenges some comments Breen made in his cataloguing of the Goldberg collection for Superior Galleries. Already, the tone of both Cohen's letter (which directly precedes Breen's response in this issue of *Penny-Wise*) and Breen's response is strained at best, if not openly combative. The topics of the letters include half cent emission sequences and mintages. Not Breen's title.

“Walter Breen Replies,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 24, No. 2 (March 15, 1990; Serial 137), p. 101.

Breen responds to an inquiry from Pete Smith about the engraved NON DEPENDENS STATUS piece.

“Walter Breen Speaks,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 3, No. 1 (January 15, 1969; Serial 10), pp. 11-12.

Notes on the current condition census on a number of varieties. Title presumably not Breen’s.

“Walter Breen Speaks Out,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 10, No. 5 (September 15, 1976; Serial 56), pp. 222-223.

Breen discusses die hardening techniques at the early Mint, 1821 obverse characteristics, the *Colonial Newsletter*, Jack Collins’s desire to publish a photographic grading book on large cents, and early engraver James Hillhouse; he also pesters Jules Reiver about answering his letters. Not Breen’s title.

“Walter Breen to Dick Young,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 29, No. 6 (November 15, 1995; Serial 171), p. 303.

A letter from Breen written April 30, 1989, to Dick Young concerning the edge blunder ONE HUNDRED A DOLLAR found on an S-21 large cent.

“Walter Breen Writes,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 3, No. 2 (March 15, 1969; Serial 11), pp. 56-58.

Notes on a number of topics, including updated information on the Strawberry Leaf cents, the 1795 NC-2 and some middle date varieties. Title presumably not Breen’s.

“Walter Breen Writes,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 4, No. 2 (March 15, 1970; Serial 17), pp. 72-73.

Breen writes on a number of topics, including his working definitions for use in the Newcomb revision, cherry-picking points and the answers to his earlier quiz. Title presumably not Breen’s.

“Walter Breen Writes,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 7, No. 1 (January 15, 1973; Serial 34), pp. 3-4.

Breen comments on the minimal circulation most half cents received, the inclusion of estimated prices in auction catalogues, ANA expulsions and Playboy Club toothpicks (!), among other topics. He also mentions that he spent part of his childhood in Wheeling, West Virginia, a little-known biographical fact: “I spent too many years of my own childhood in ... Wheeling, West Virginia, being an inmate of St. John’s Home (the orphanage run by the Sisters of St. Joseph in Elm Grove) 1937-1941, going to Central Catholic High School part time after that, graduating in 1944.” Title presumably not Breen’s.

“Walter Breen Writes,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 7, No. 3 (May 15, 1973; Serial 36), pp. 98-99.

Breen comments on the Smithsonian Institute’s holdings of large cents, among other topics. Not Breen’s title.

“Walter Breen Writes,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 11, No. 2 (March 15, 1977; Serial 59), pp. 83-85.

This letter contains comments on the 1857 half cent hub, the problems EAC had been experiencing with the post office, protecting books from insect damage, a “new” 1852 variety and reverse leaf position notations for later date cents. Not Breen’s title.

“Walter Breen Writes,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 12, No. 1 (January 15, 1978; Serial 64), pp. 19-20.

Breen commends the editors for the special issue on Sheldon’s death and then replies to some criticisms of his work on proof half cents from Ernest J. Montgomery. Not Breen’s title.

“Walter Breen Writes to David Hall,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 25, No. 5 (September 15, 1991; Serial 146), p. 274.

Breen writes to Hall to caution PCGS against beginning to slab colonial coins, pointing out a number of reasons this is an ill-formed idea. Hall responds to Breen in the same issue.

“Walter Breen Writes to Denis Loring,” *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 26, No. 1 (January 15, 1992; Serial 148), p. 54.

In a brief note Breen gives Loring permission to circulate, Breen claims that the criminal charges he is facing are false.

Walter Breen’s Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins (New York: FCI/Doubleday, 1988). Hardcover with dust-jacket, xiv, 754 pages.

Possibly the greatest single attempt to discuss all U.S. coinage, including colonial and private coinages, in a single volume. Sections deal with early American coins; federal minor coinages; federal silver and sandwich-metal coinages; federal gold coinages; commemorative coinages; the United States Provisional Branch Mint at San Francisco (1851-53); private, pioneer, and territorial gold coins; and other authorized local issues. Supplementary material includes a glossary, bibliography, metrological information, indices and a “How to Use This Book” section. While some have focused on the text’s occasional errors and the volume’s production problems (weak binding entirely unsuited to the task), it would be tough to name another reference work that includes so much solid information. While not the final word on any subject, it should certainly be referred to at the beginning of any numismatic project that falls within its scope. Breen stated that the first copies rolled off the press on May 6, 1988.

Walter Breen’s Encyclopedia of Early United States Cents, 1793-1814, written in collaboration with Del Bland; edited by Mark R. Borckardt (Wolfeboro, New Hampshire: Bowers and Merena Galleries, 2000). Hardcover, 857 pages, 34 plates, (5) pages.

The successor to Sheldon’s *Penny Whimsy*, Breen’s manuscript was edited and revised by Bland and Borckardt, among others. Very nicely arranged and highly readable, including updated census information and important provenance data. Introductions to each year of coinage help establish proper historical context. Supplementary materials include information on how the early cents were made, a survey of the principal literature on the subject, a standard bibliography, a bibliography of auctions cited in the census information (which is a great introduction to building a large cents library), indices and plates. In addition to the regular issue hardcover, two special issues were published: a deluxe hardbound issue and a leatherbound presentation issue.

Walter Breen’s Encyclopedia of United States and Colonial Proof Coins, 1722-1989, see entry for “A Coiner’s Caviar”: *Walter Breen’s Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Proof Coins, 1722-1977*.

Walter Breen’s Encyclopedia of United States Half Cents, 1793-1857 (South Gate, California: American Institute of Numismatic Research, 1983). Hardcover, x, 501, (2), [11 plates,] (4) pages.

Although a controversial book in an area of coin collecting which seems to be inexorably split into Cohen and Breen camps, any objective observer would have to admit that Breen’s half cent encyclopedia is well worth owning, the occasional wart notwithstanding. While some of the data included are subject to debate (though not always framed as such by Breen), the sheer amount of information he includes makes

this essential to any collector of half cents, and the amount of detail present on topics relevant to all early U.S. Mint activities and products is such that the book belongs on the shelf of anyone interested in early U.S. coins. Supplemented by Jack Collins's photography, which takes the volume out of the realm of coin guide and into that of the art book. Besides variety-by-variety examinations of the half cents of each date, Breen includes information on: how coins were made in the early years of the Mint; the literature on the subject; patterns and prototypes; rarity and condition; proofs and restrikes; counterfeits; die punches; errors; off-metal striking; half-cent tokens; and detailed provenances. No special edition was issued, despite being advertised.

Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Proof Coins, 1722-1977, see "A Coiner's Caviar": *Walter Breen's Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Proof Coins, 1722-1977*.

Walter Breen's Numisma: The United States Cent, 1793-1814, edited by Bruce A. Vogel (Longmont, Colorado: 1998). Hardcover and paperback issued, 403 pages.

A collection of notes assembled posthumously by Vogel. These "Numisma" collections of old notes published by Vogel barely registered on the numismatic radar. Hardcover issued to extent of 24 copies, according to ANS catalogue.

Walter Breen's Numisma: The United States Cent, 1816-1857, edited by Bruce A. Vogel, (Longmont, Colorado: 1998). 365 pages.

A collection of notes assembled posthumously by Vogel. These "Numisma" collections of old notes published by Vogel barely registered on the numismatic radar.

"Walter Mould and the Morristown Mint," *Penny-Wise*, Vol. 11, No. 4 (July 15, 1977; Serial 61), pp. 162-167.

Reacting to the discovery by Herb Silberman of the location of Walter Mould's Morristown Mint, Breen gives an account "of Mould's coining activities, 1785-88, so far as they can be reconstructed from the scanty existing documentation and the coins." Describes the legislation and other documentation relating to the coins, as well as what can be learned by studying various traits of the coins themselves.

"Weights of Sommer Islands Coins," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (November 1977; Serial 50), TN-72, p. 612.

Breen reports that examples of the Sommer Islands coins vary widely in weight: by a quarter or more of total weight in some cases. He also remarks on a "secret marking" each denomination seems to incorporate into its design.

"What Were the Coppers Brought over by the Quakers in 1682?," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (November 1977; Serial 50), G-3B, p. 610.

In reference to a quotation from a 1682 newspaper regarding a shipload of Quakers setting out for Pennsylvania with over 300 pounds worth of half-penny and farthing pieces reprinted in the previous issue, Breen speculates on what these coppers could have been, suggesting four possibilities: privately minted farthing pieces; London elephant halfpence; 1642 "Kilkenny" halfpence and farthings; or "Armstrong" farthings of 1660-1661.

"Who Are Portrayed on the Voce Populi Coppers?," *The Colonial Newsletter*, Vol. 16, No. 3 (November 1977; Serial 50), TN-71, p. 606.

Breen speculates on the identity of the subjects portrayed on the Voce Populi issues and the meaning of the *P* found on some of them. Breen argues in favor of the *P* standing for "Prince," or even more likely, "Principis" and the subject on these issues being James Francis Edward Stuart, known

variously as James III or as “the Pretender.” The Irish connection with these pieces backs up this speculation.

Acknowledgments

Many people have helped me gather information for this bibliography, though I alone am responsible for those errors which probably crept in and those omissions which I’m certain have been made. The ANS Library’s online catalogue, as well as their Numismatic Literature series, were important starting places, as was the Harry W. Bass, Jr. Foundation’s Numismatic Index to Periodicals. Other invaluable sources of information have been the ANA Library and, of course, the bibliographies published in various publications of Breen’s. The auction catalogues of numismatic literature dealers have been a great source of information as well. A number of individuals also came to my assistance, including Q. David Bowers, Jane Colvard (formerly of the ANA Library), Charles Davis, Dick Johnson, George Kolbe, John Kraljevich, Clifford Mishler and Terry Stahurski. My sincere apologies to anyone I’m forgetting.