Commemorative Wall Plate of the VSKhV Agricultural Exhibition in Moscow, Budy Faience Factory, circa late 1950s.

This 24 cm (nearly 9.5") plate shows the exhibition's Pavilion of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Georgia, a very typical piece of Stalinist architecture. Note the stylized inscription BCXB (VSKhV) at the top and the name of the pavilion at the bottom. The reverse has provision to hang the plate on the wall (two pre-drilled holes for a cord) and shows the trademark of the Faience Factory "Sycle and Hammer" in Budy, Ukraine (fig. #78 in Volume One of Marks on Soviet Porcelain, Faience, and Majolica, 1917-1991 by Nasonova et al). Note the red rectangular stamp reading "1 COPT | 19" on the bottom next to the factory's trademark. The red color and "1 COPT" signify that this is the top-quality product. The number to the right of the vertical slash (19 in this case) is the number of the group of workers who actually worked on this plate.
Please note that the pen in the final photo is for size reference.

Very good to excellent condition. The artwork is perfect. There are minor scuffs and a couple of barely noticeable imperfections to the gilt border and two small chips on the edge, virtually invisible when the plate is in its vertical position. There are no cracks. A distinctive decorative item of the Khrushchev era.

The All-Union Agricultural Exhibition (VSKhV) in Moscow was originally conceived in 1935 but opened only in 1939, two years behind schedule. The idea of an exhibition promoting the successes of Soviet agriculture and rewarding the best farmers was a part of the change of course after the years of forced "total" collectivization and famine. The exhibition ran for three years and was suspended during the war years, reopening only in 1954. In 1959, it was transformed into the grandiose All-Union Exhibition of Achievements of National Economy (VDNKh).

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