

Decorative Plate in Commemoration of Mikhailo Volkov, the discoverer of coal in the Kuznetsk Basin, Prokopyevskiy Porcelain Factory, circa late 1970s - late 1980s.

Porcelain, over the glaze painting; measures 12" in diameter, a very large and impressive piece. The inscription in stylized font resembling old Church Slavonic reads "Mikhailo Volkov, the Discoverer of Coal in the Kuzbass, 1721". The back shows maker mark of the Prokopyevskiy Porcelain Factory, the kind used starting from 1976. There are also inventory marks and a retail price of 15 rubles - a hefty sum of money at the time. /This uncommon trademark is shown as fig. 589 on page 199 in Volume One of Marks on Soviet Porcelain, Faience, and Majolica, 1917-1991. /

The plate is in excellent condition. The artwork and inscription are perfectly preserved, and even the gilt border along the rim is completely intact and bright.

The area in Western Siberia where Volkov made his discovery during the reign of Peter the Great is now known as Kuznetsk Basin (Kuzbass) in the Kemerovo Region. During the Soviet times, it was one of the USSR's principal sources of coal, second only to the Donbas Region of Ukraine. The Prokopyevskiy Porcelain Factory is located in the same Kemerovo area. The plate was probably intended for a senior coal mining manager, senior party official or possibly a local museum. In all likelihood, only a tiny number of these were made.

Please note, pen in our photos is for size reference.

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**\$240.00**





