Brother Jonathan Exhibit - Photo Exhibit


The Brother Jonathan before 1852 retrofit. Photo credit: San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park, Doris Chase Collection.

The Brother Jonathan after 1861 retrofit. Photo notes: Photo credit: San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park, Doris Chase Collection.

Double Eagles $20.00 Gold Piece. This was one of the gold coins recovered from the wreck. It was minted in San Francisco, and was placed aboard the Bro. Jonathan for shipment to Seattle. Uncirculated pieces like this one have been recently valued around $6000 each (Bressett: 1999).

Coronet Type $10.00 Gold Piece. This was another coin recovered from the wreck. This piece was minted in 1849, the year of the California Gold Rush. The current value of coins like this one range from just under $1,000 to well over $10,000. This series was minted from 1838 to 1866 (Bressett: 1999).

Coronet Type $5.00 Gold Piece. This coin, minted in 1852, was recovered from the Bro. Jonathan wreck like the others. Coins like this one currently carry a value from $170 - $8,000 for the "D" series (Bressett: 1999).

Reverse side of the coin shown above.

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Dishes and other crockery scattered and partially buried in the area surrounding the wrecked hull.

First six items recovered from the Brother Jonathan.

Steam cylinder built by Morgan Iron Works of New York and installed in the Brother Jonathan with a rebuilt engine from the steamer, Atlantic.

Port paddlewheel drive shaft and hub from the Brother Jonathan. This was one of the features that helped identify the wreck as the Brother Jonathan.

Steam and water piping connecting boilers and pistons.

The Del Norte County Historical Society Museum where the Brother Jonathan artifacts are housed.
The actual newspaper advertisement for the Brother Jonathan's (last) voyage to Portland, Oregon and Victoria, B.C.

These glass bottles and a plate are just some of the items being preserved at the Del Norte County Historical Society Museum.

Miraculously, fine glass artifacts went down with the wreck without injury. These items are also being conserved at the Del Norte County Historical Society Museum.

An etching depicting the wreck of the Brother Jonathan.

Examples of pottery that were recovered from the wreck. Shown are two pitchers and a chamber pot. These items are still undergoing conservation at the Del Norte County Historical Society Museum.

Samuel J. DeWolf Captain of the Brother Jonathan when she sank.