

Leningrad Nuclear Power Plant Table Medal commemorating beginning production of electricity in 1973, by Leningrad Mint, sculptor A. Korolyuk, 1975.

In solid bronze, uncommonly octagonal, 62 mm across, 5 mm thick between the highest points on either side, and weighing 105 g. Only 1,203 pieces struck. The artwork by A. Korolyuk emphasizes the perception of the "peaceful atom" by depicting the power plant framed in tall trees on the verso, while the reverse presents an almost fairytale image of pine trees, an ancient wooden fortress, and modern residential high-rises, ancient wooden Russia and the modern nuclear age in perfect harmony. The power plant is located near the city of Sosnovy Bor ("Pine Grove"), hence the pine trees. The first block of the power plant used the same type of reactors as in Chernobyl and Kursk.

In excellent condition, no significant wear or damage of any kind visible to the naked eye. The dark coating has rubbed off on some of the high points on the reverse, adding to the 3D volume of the sculpted relief of the artwork, very attractive.

In 1975 when the medal was issued, the harmony of the old and the new was broken by a serious accident at the first block, which, according to available sources, released into the atmosphere radioactive isotopes to the tune of about 1.5 million curie.

/Commemorative [Table] Medal of the Soviet Period, 1919 - 1991, by A. Shkurko and A. Salykov, fig. 968/.

Please note that the penny in our photo is for size reference.

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