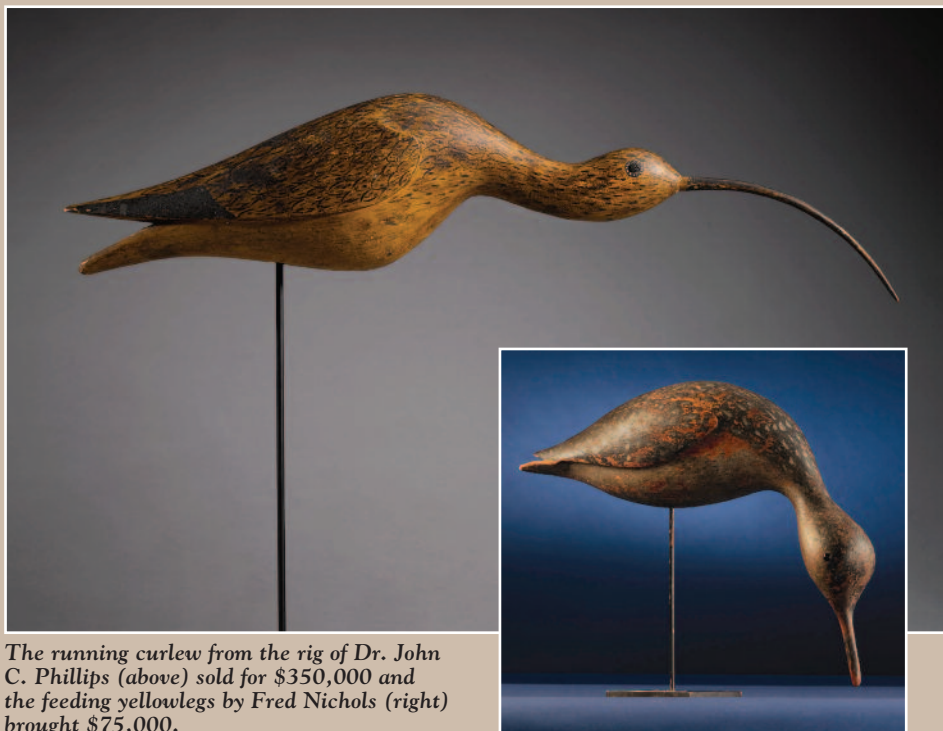


Phillips rig curlew sells for \$350,000 at Sotheby's Americana sale

THE LAST TIME the running curlew from the hunting rig of Dr. John C. Phillips hit the auction block was at the Guyette & Schmidt summer sale in Ogunquit, Maine in July 1997, when it sold to David Tieger for \$335,500, which set a price record at the time for any decoy sold at auction. It was among a handful of decoy lots from the Tieger collection that was sold at Sotheby's January 20th Americana auction in New York City, where it brought \$350,000.

A feeding yellowlegs by Fred Nichols of Massachusetts sold for \$75,000 and an upright example by the same maker brought \$10,000; some collectors question the attribution of these sculpturally pleasing shorebirds. A curlew by Thomas Gelston by Quogue, Long Island, New York sold for \$15,000. And one of those hollow-bodied Canada geese with the serpentine necks and "T. Gray" brands sold for \$10,000.



The running curlew from the rig of Dr. John C. Phillips (above) sold for \$350,000 and the feeding yellowlegs by Fred Nichols (right) brought \$75,000.

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