

ENGELHARD LONDON'S British HALL-MARK COLLECTION 1969

100-GRAM LEGACY INGOTS HONORING FOUR PROMINENT REFINERS

By AGWire™
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It goes without saying that anything **Engelhard** that has "LONDON" stamped on it is rare, and highly collectible. Engelhard London ingots were of the earliest Engelhard bullion varieties produced, dating from about 1960 through 1969, making even the latest ones nearly 50 years old.

The Engelhard **British HALL-MARK COLLECTION 1969** was introduced on October 25, 1969 in London's "The Saturday Review"¹ and was Engelhard's first large promotional retail silver ingot campaign following their minimally advertised and highly exclusive London One Kilogram (KILO) line. These iconic sets featured four 100-gram ingots, each displaying a heritage hallmark stamping in tribute to one of England's premier refiners; **London**, **Birmingham**, **Sheffield** and **Edinburgh**. Individual photos of these four ingots can be seen above and on the AllEngelhard "Odd Size" Definitive Page. These ingots were originally offered by AG Associates, Inc. of New York as Engelhard Industries, Inc.'s sole International distributor, at a price point of \$79.95 for a complete set, and \$22.95 for individual 100-gram ingots.

¹ London's "The Saturday Review" October 25, 1969: This one page Advertisement is a must read in its entirety, not only for its nostalgia, but certainly for its time placement in silver history. [BRITISH HALL-MARK COLLECTION 1969 ADVERTISEMENT](#)

Original first-year production for this HALL-MARK COLLECTION series was slated at 25,000 sets, but revised estimates show that production was terminated very early in the run. It is estimated that only about 5000 Hall-mark sets were produced, translating to 5,000 100-gram ingots in each of the four hallmark varieties, thus, only 20,000 ingots in total, and no subsequent year production. And, as the story goes with collectibles that were not yet 'collectible,' sets were split up over the years, presentation cases were damaged and discarded, and, like other older ingots of this era, a high percentage were melted early on, especially in the great melts of 1979/1980. It is interesting to note that these ingots were of the very few varieties in Engelhard's entire production that did not have serial numbers.

The Hallmark set was issued in an attractive, purple-felt lined case, and included a booklet referencing hallmarks used throughout the ages. Sets in good condition are very hard to come by and the original Hallmark booklet is very rarely found with any set. Based on logged eBay sales over the past few years, individual 'loose' 100-gram ingots generally sell in the \$225-\$300 range, while complete sets average in the \$1,100 - \$1,250 range, and considerably higher if they are in a well-preserved original case with booklet. The scarcity and value of each individual ingot is similar to the 5 T.OZ Engelhard ingot which also had an estimated 5,000 mintage, although the 5 T.OZ ingots were obviously larger, produced 6-7 years later, and likely had a marginally higher probability of survivorship.

Make no mistake, these are highly coveted and collectible Legacy ingots, yet are occasionally found on eBay, for now anyway. So there still may be a short window to add one of these ingots, or a complete set, to your collection. But we have no doubt this will change as the collector audience grows, as one of our core contributors is very competitive and pursues complete hallmark sets with a passion. He emphatically denies that he is compulsive, but we know better. We've seen something come over him when he feels the need to have something right away and Engelhard's **British HALL-MARK COLLECTION 1969** ingots are often that something. Do you have one in your collection?

Collectively,

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Suggested Reading: Engelhard London Bullion Bars -- [AGWire ENGELHARD LONDON BULLION INGOTS 3-20-15](#)