

MOM'S JOY ROOM

2964 Fairmont Road, Morgantown, WV 26501 | (304) 282-3671

CERTIFICATE OF DESCRIPTION & VALUATION

Staffordshire England Lustware Double Horse Mantel Clock — President Quartz Movement — 14.5"



MARKET VALUE

\$85–165

Realistic quick-sale price via shop, site, or collector market

ESTIMATED WORTH

\$175–260

Ceiling for a well-preserved lustware example in excellent display condition



Cream lustware ceramic mantel clock featuring a double-horse sculptural design with iridescent glaze. President quartz movement, Staffordshire England. 14.5 inches tall.

DESCRIPTION

A vintage decorative mantel clock from **Staffordshire, England**, measuring approximately 14.5 inches in height. The clock features a dramatic **double-horse sculptural design** rendered in cream-toned **lustware** — a lustrous, iridescent ceramic glaze technique with deep roots in Staffordshire pottery tradition. Two spirited horses are modeled in full gallop, their manes and tails flowing, mounted on a sculpted ceramic base that incorporates the round clock face. The movement is a **President quartz mechanism** — a widely used German-engineered quartz movement fitted into decorative ceramic clock bodies by various Staffordshire potteries during the late 20th century.

HISTORY & CONTEXT

Staffordshire, England is one of the most significant ceramics-producing regions in the world, with a pottery tradition stretching back to the 17th century. The area — encompassing Stoke-on-Trent and its six towns (Tunstall, Burslem, Hanley, Stoke, Fenton, and Longton) — was home to legendary potteries including Wedgwood, Spode, Minton, and Royal Doulton. Among the distinctive techniques associated with Staffordshire is **lustware** — a ceramic glazing method that produces a shimmering, metallic, iridescent surface by applying metallic oxide compounds (platinum, gold, silver, or copper) over the glaze and refiring at controlled temperatures. The result is a finish that seems to glow and shift with the light, giving the piece an air of luxury and warmth.

Staffordshire lustware has been produced since the early 19th century, initially in copper and pink (Sunderland) lustre, and later in a wider palette including the cream, gold, and mother-of-pearl effects seen on 20th-century pieces. While the finest antique Staffordshire lustware (c. 1820–1900) commands premium prices at major auction houses, the tradition continued well into the 20th century. By the 1970s–1990s, several Staffordshire-area potteries were producing decorative mantel clocks

using traditional ceramic bodies and lustreware glazes, but outfitting them with modern **quartz movements** rather than mechanical ones — a practical upgrade that made the clocks more reliable and easier to maintain while preserving the traditional aesthetic.

The **President quartz** movement used in this clock was a commonly fitted German-engineered quartz mechanism widely used in decorative clocks of this era. President-branded quartz movements were installed in clocks from multiple ceramic and case manufacturers, including Staffordshire pottery firms, and are known for their reliability and accuracy — a significant improvement over the temperamental mechanical movements found in earlier ceramic clocks. The presence of a quartz movement dates this piece to the **late 1970s through 1990s**, placing it in the "vintage" rather than "antique" category, while still benefiting from the traditional Staffordshire ceramic and lustreware glazing techniques that give it its character and charm.

The **double-horse motif** connects this piece to a broader tradition of equestrian-themed decorative arts that has been popular in England for centuries — from aristocratic sporting art to the famous Staffordshire pottery horse figurines that graced Victorian mantelpieces. The galloping pair captures the energy and nobility associated with horses in British culture, while the warm cream lustreware finish gives the piece a soft, luminous quality that reads as both elegant and approachable. At 14.5 inches, this is a substantial mantel piece — large enough to serve as a focal point on a shelf or mantel, but not so large as to dominate the space.

NOTABLE FEATURES

- ◆ **Staffordshire, England origin** — one of the world's most renowned ceramics-producing regions
- ◆ **Cream lustreware glaze** — traditional iridescent ceramic finish with deep Staffordshire pottery roots
- ◆ **Double-horse sculptural design** — two horses in full gallop, more complex than single-horse versions
- ◆ **President quartz movement** — reliable, modern German-engineered mechanism; low maintenance
- ◆ **14.5 inches tall** — substantial, display-worthy size for a mantel or shelf
- ◆ **Late 20th century vintage** — quartz era (1970s–1990s), not antique, but crafted using traditional ceramic and glazing techniques
- ◆ **Cross-collectible appeal**: attractive to clock collectors, Staffordshire pottery enthusiasts, and equestrian-themed decor buyers

"Two horses forever racing across a Staffordshire mantel — caught in cream and light, keeping perfect time."

Collector's note: This piece is distinct from the Anker (Germany) double horse ceramic clock also in the Mom's Joy Room collection. The Staffordshire clock is English-made with a traditional lustreware glaze and a modern President quartz movement, placing it in the vintage (late 1970s–1990s) era, while the Anker clock is German-made with a mechanical movement and a bronze-copper lusterware finish from the mid-20th century postwar era. Both share the double-horse motif but represent different manufacturing traditions, eras, and glazing techniques. Comparable cream and lustreware horse mantel clocks sell in the \$73–\$145 range on Etsy and eBay, with larger, well-preserved examples commanding the higher end. The 14.5" size and confirmed working quartz movement support the upper portion of the valuation range. Attribution to Staffordshire, England is based on the maker's marking; the President quartz movement is a commonly fitted German-engineered mechanism, not specific to one pottery.

