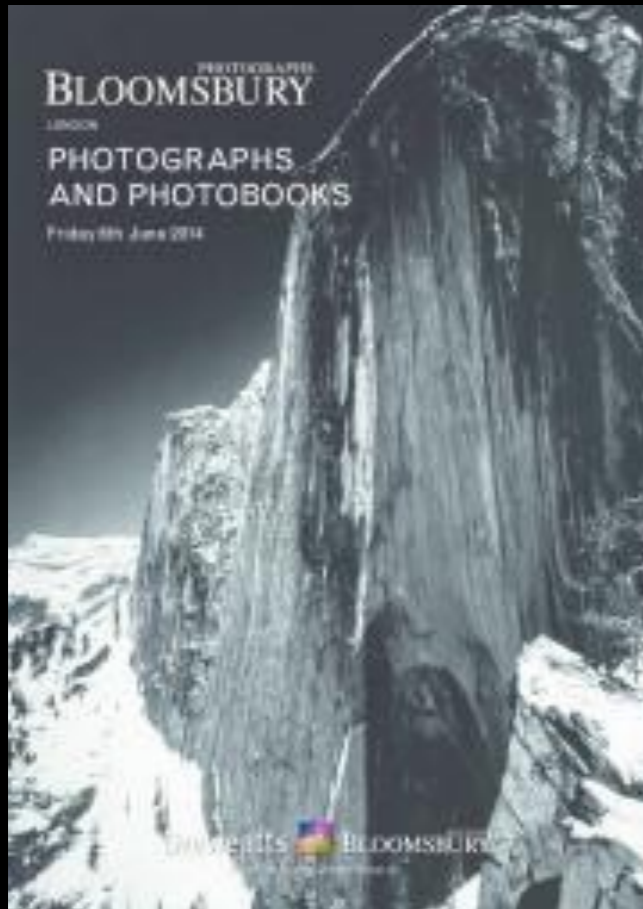


J.E. MOLLY SEEGER

ANALYSIS OF PHOTOGRAPHY AUCTION RESULTS SCRAPED FROM THE WEB USING PYTHON


WHY PHOTOGRAPHY AND DREWEATTS & BLOOMSBURY



- Became interested in the Auction House because I am QA'ing the website for the Frick Art Reference Library's Web Archiving Initiative
- As a student of art history/library science and as an archivist, I am passionate about the history of photography and will eventually be writing my art history master's thesis on the subject
- Want to investigate the circumstances that have led to the establishment of photography as an "accepted high art form" and that conception's subsequent influence on the sales of photography at auction
- Selected 6 auctions that were photography based
 - 2011, May
 - 2012, May
 - 2012, November
 - 2013, November
 - 2014, February
 - 2014, June

LOT (LÄT) - AN ARTICLE OR SET OF ARTICLES FOR SALE AT AN AUCTION

- Scraped information about:
 - Artist
 - Date Created
 - Price in GB Pounds for which the lot sold (or was Unsold)
 - Title
- Wrote out to JSON File



Dreweatts  **BLOOMSBURY** AUCTIONS
Part of The Stanley Gibbons Group plc

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Photographs & Photobooks | 06 June 2014

Showing 41–60 of 201 lots ◀ 1 2 3 4 5 ▶ Sort BY NUMBER (asc) 20 per page GBI

Lot no. 41	Herbert French (1872-1942) - Iris, 1909 and four others	Sold for £50
	Herbert French (1872-1942) Iris, 1909 and four others Five photogravures, four mounted on tissue thin Japan paper, each published in Camera Work between 1903 and 1909 more details...	
Lot no. 42 ^b	Dora Maar (1907-1997) - Portrait d' Assia Assise de Trois Quarts, Paris, ca.1934	Sold for £1450
	Dora Maar (1907-1997) Portrait d' Assia Assise de Trois Quarts, Paris, ca.1934 Gelatin silver print, 30 x 23.8cm Provenance: Les Photographies de Dora Maar, Une Dernière Rencontre, Piasa, Drouot more details...	

FILTER BY AUCTION
☒ Photographs & Photobooks 06 June 2014
☐ Past Auctions
☐ Future Auctions
Update

FILTER BY ANY FIELD
SEARCH
Update

FILTER BY LOT NUMBER
FROM to TO
Update

FILTER BY TITLE OF WORK
ANY

```

from bs4 import BeautifulSoup
import requests
import re
p = re.compile('[0-9]+\s')

all_lots = {
}

with open("june_2014_auction.txt") as lots_urls:
    for each_lot in lots_urls:
        lot_requests = requests.get(each_lot)
        lot_html = lot_requests.text
        soup = BeautifulSoup(lot_html)
        #print(lot_html)
        all_lots[each_lot] = {}

        all_links = soup.find_all("div" , attrs = {"class" : "wide-right-column" })
        for div_link in all_links:
            #print(div_link.text)

            artist = div_link.find("h4")
            artist = artist.text
            #print(artist)
            all_lots[each_lot]["artist"] = artist

            title = div_link.find("h5")
            title = title.text
            #print(title)
            all_lots[each_lot]["title"] = title

        p_in_div = soup.find_all("div" , attrs = {"class" : "right-column" })
        for p_link in p_in_div:
            #print(p_link.text)

            price = p_link.find("p", attrs ={"class" : "price sold"})
            price = price.text

            m = p.search(price)

            if m == None:
                #print("No interest")
                all_lots[each_lot]["price"] = "Unsold"
            else :
                #print(m.group(0))
                #print(price)
                all_lots[each_lot]["price"] = m.group(0)

            #def only_money_or_unsold





import json

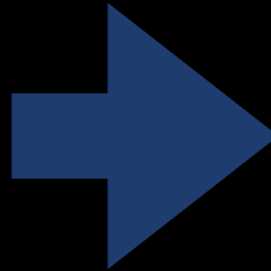
with open('june_2014_results.json' , 'w') as f:
    f.write(json.dumps(all_lots, indent=4))

```

the first code

FROM WEB CONTENT TO DATA

Lot no. 125	Elliott Erwitt (b.1928) - Las Vegas, 1957	Sold for £1600
	Elliott Erwitt (b.1928) Las Vegas, 1957 Gelatin silver print, printed no later than 1986, signed in ink in the margin, 36.6 x 55.7cm (14 3/8 x 21 7/8in) more details...	
Lot no. 126	Diane Arbus (1923-1971) - Family Beauty Contest at a Nudist Camp, PA, 1965	Sold for £3200
	Diane Arbus (1923-1971) Family Beauty Contest at a Nudist Camp, PA, 1965 Gelatin silver print, printed later by Neil Selkirk, stamped 'A Diane Arbus photograph', signed, titled, dated more details...	
Lot no. 127 ^b	Martin Parr (b.1952) - Last Resort, 1982-1985 and five others	Unsold
	Martin Parr (b.1952) Last Resort, 1982-1985 and five others Six digital colour prints, printed later, each signed, titled and dated and annotated in black ink with more details...	
Lot no. 128	Burt Glinn (1925-2008) - Nikita Khrushchev, Lincoln Memorial, Washinton DC, 1959 and five others	Unsold
	Burt Glinn (1925-2008) Nikita Khrushchev, Lincoln Memorial, Washinton DC, 1959 and five others Three gelatin silver prints and three chromogenic prints, printed later, each signed in pencil with "Magnum Magnum" more details...	



```
},
"http://www.dreweatts.com/cms/pages/lot/36045/55\\n": {
  "title": "Dordogne, France, 1991",
  "decade": "1990s",
  "price": "900\\n",
  "artist_count": 5,
  "date": "1991",
  "artist": "Edouard Boubat (1928-1999)"
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"http://www.dreweatts.com/cms/pages/lot/36045/127\\n": {
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  "decade": "1980s",
  "price": "Unsold",
  "artist_count": 0,
  "date": "1982",
  "artist": "Martin Parr (b.1952)"
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"http://www.dreweatts.com/cms/pages/lot/36045/98\\n": {
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  "price": "1600\\n",
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  "date": "1956",
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},
"http://www.dreweatts.com/cms/pages/lot/36045/203\\n": {
  "title": "Changing New York, 1939",
  "decade": "1930s",
  "price": "Unsold",
  "artist_count": 0,
  "date": "1939",
  "artist": "Berenice Abbott (1898-1991)"
}
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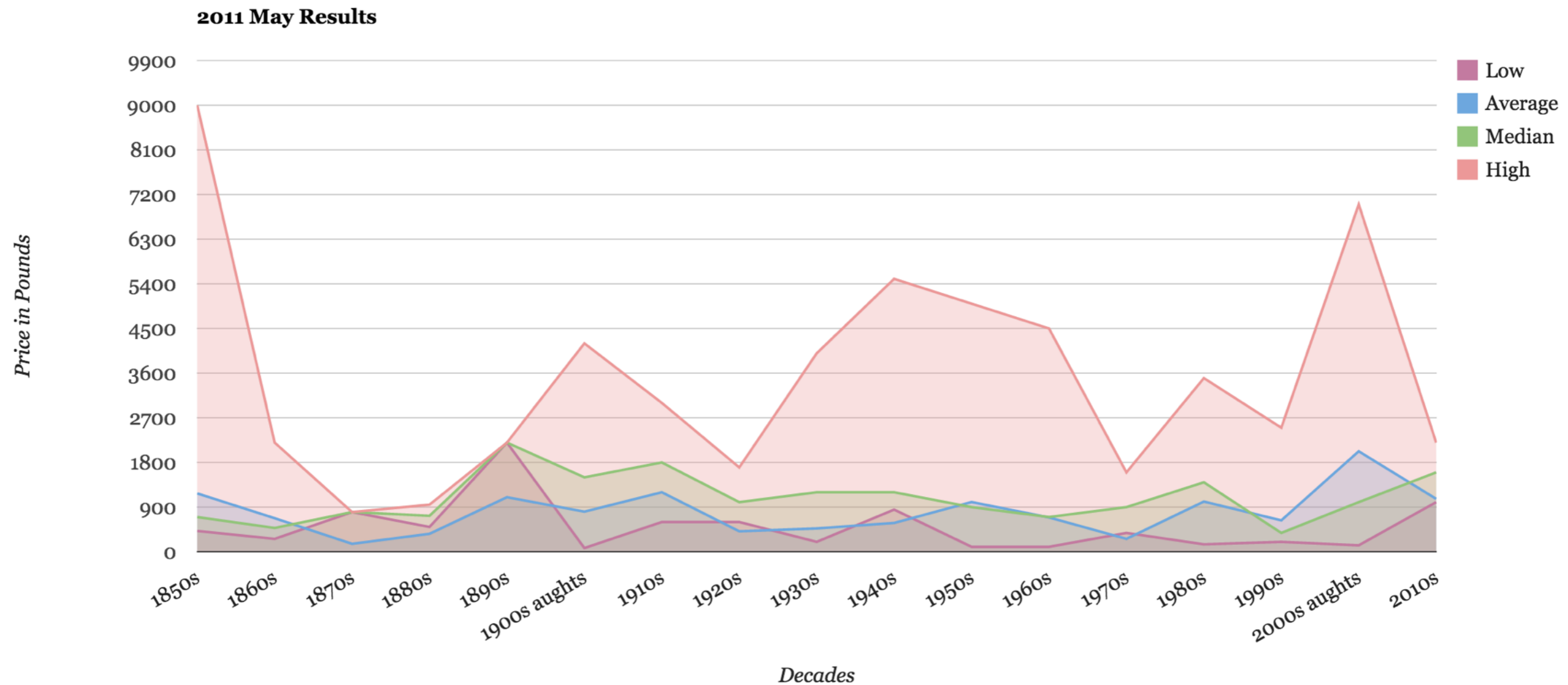
2011 May Auction Results



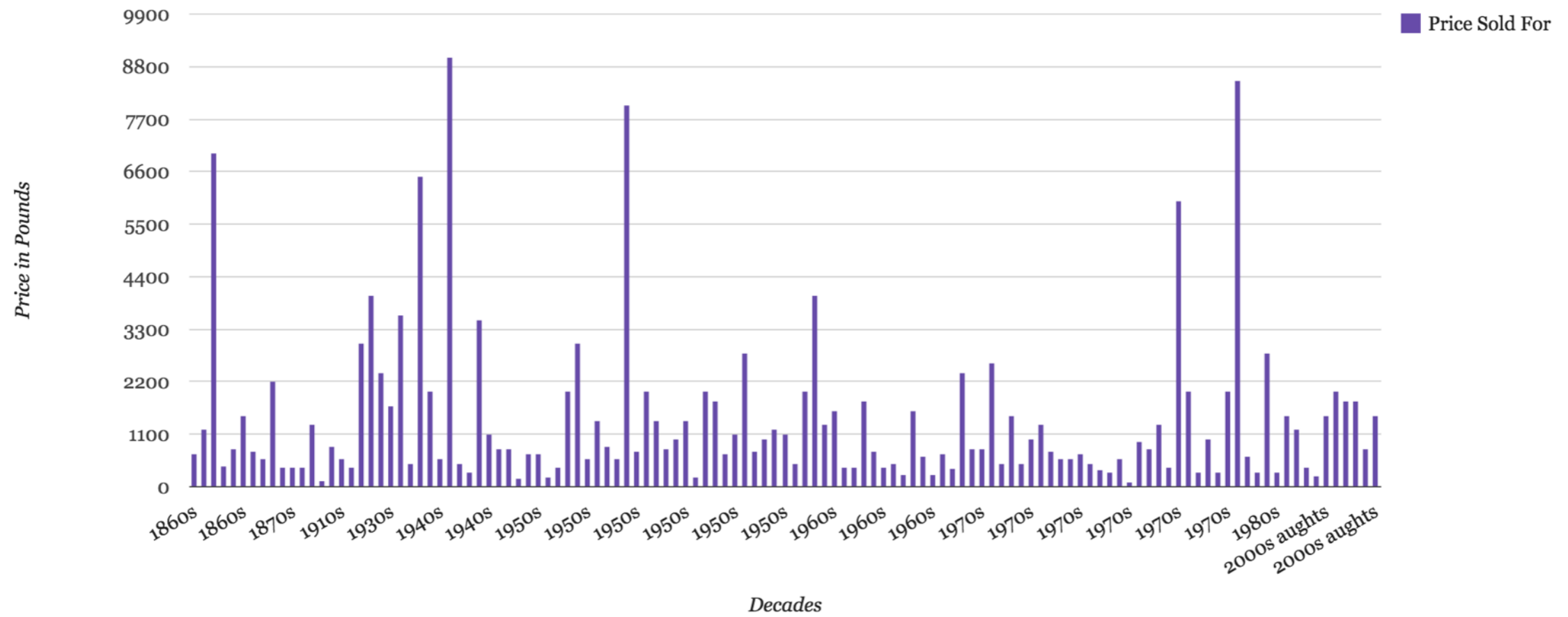
2011 May Number of Works Unsold Next to Total Number of Works



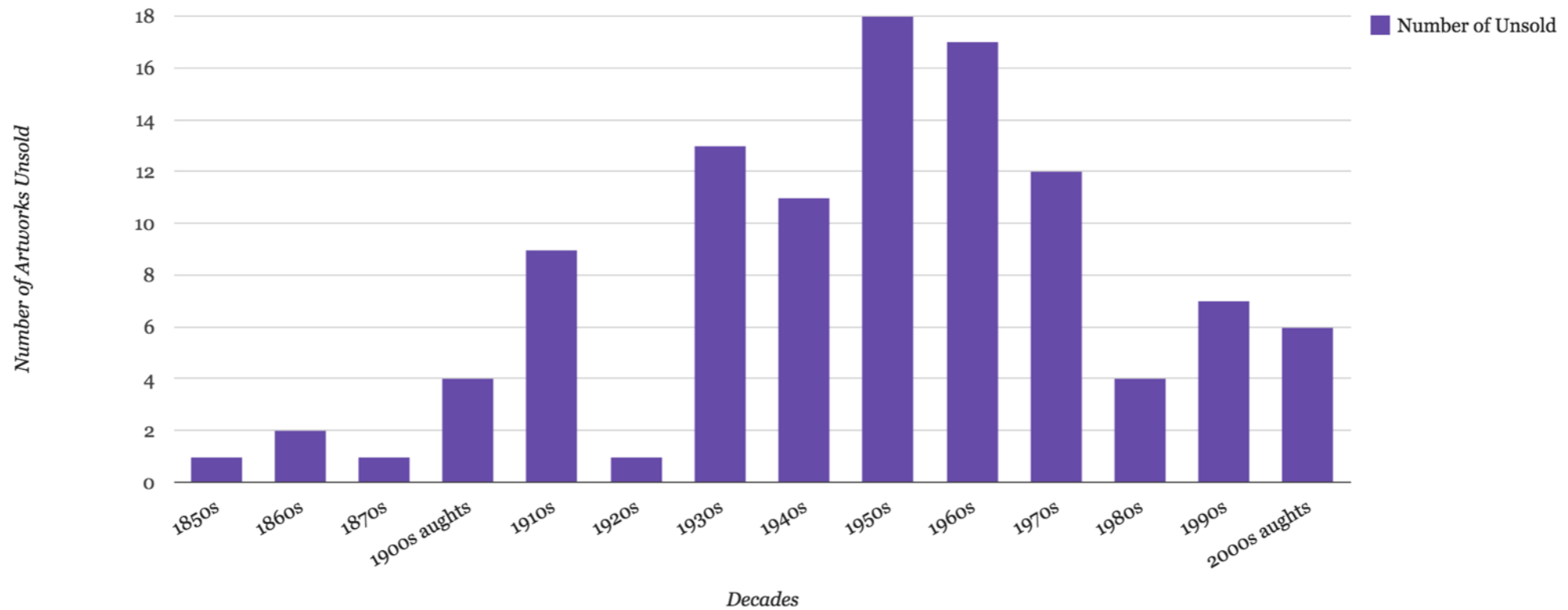
2011 May - High, Low, Median, Average

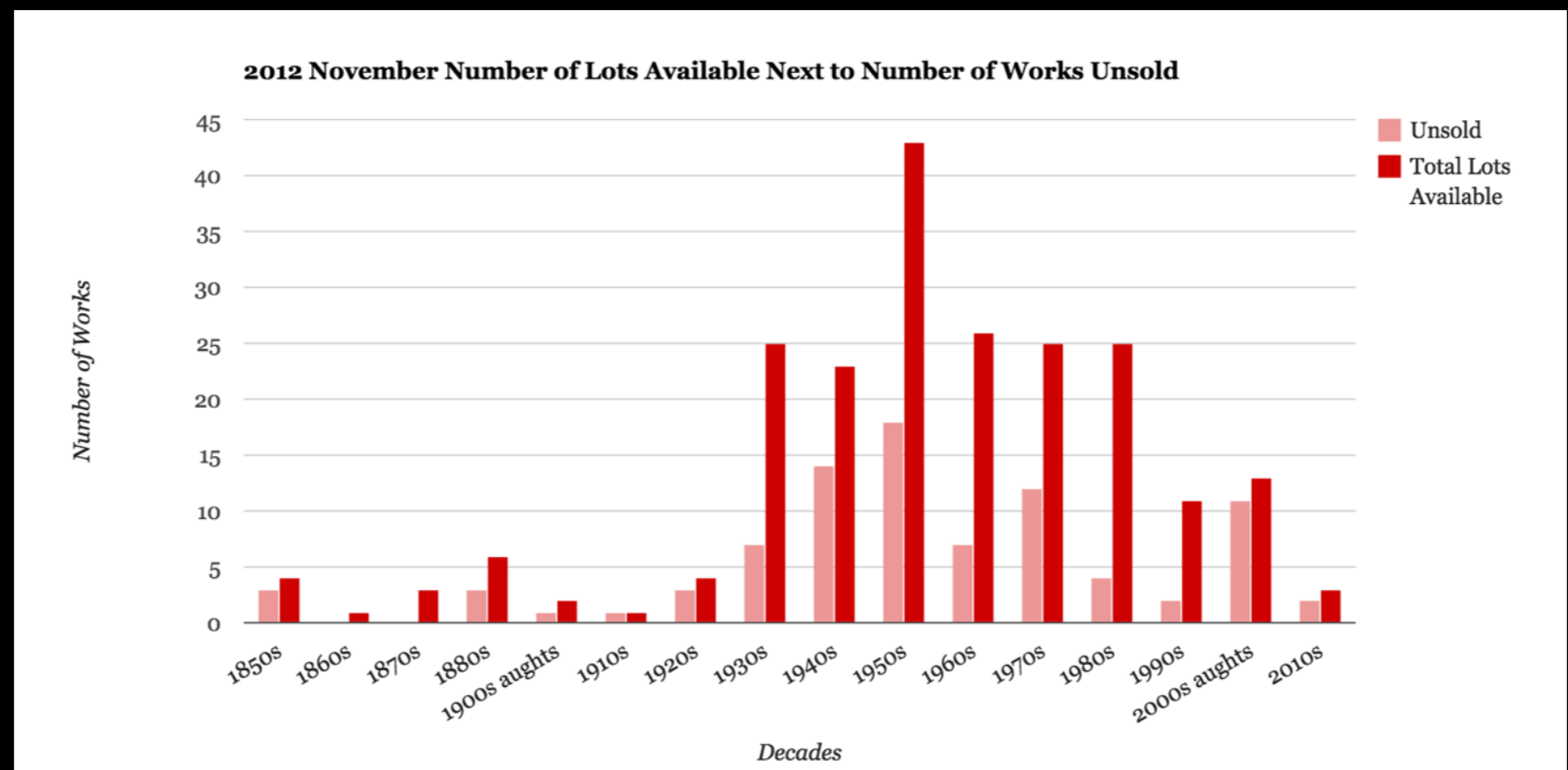
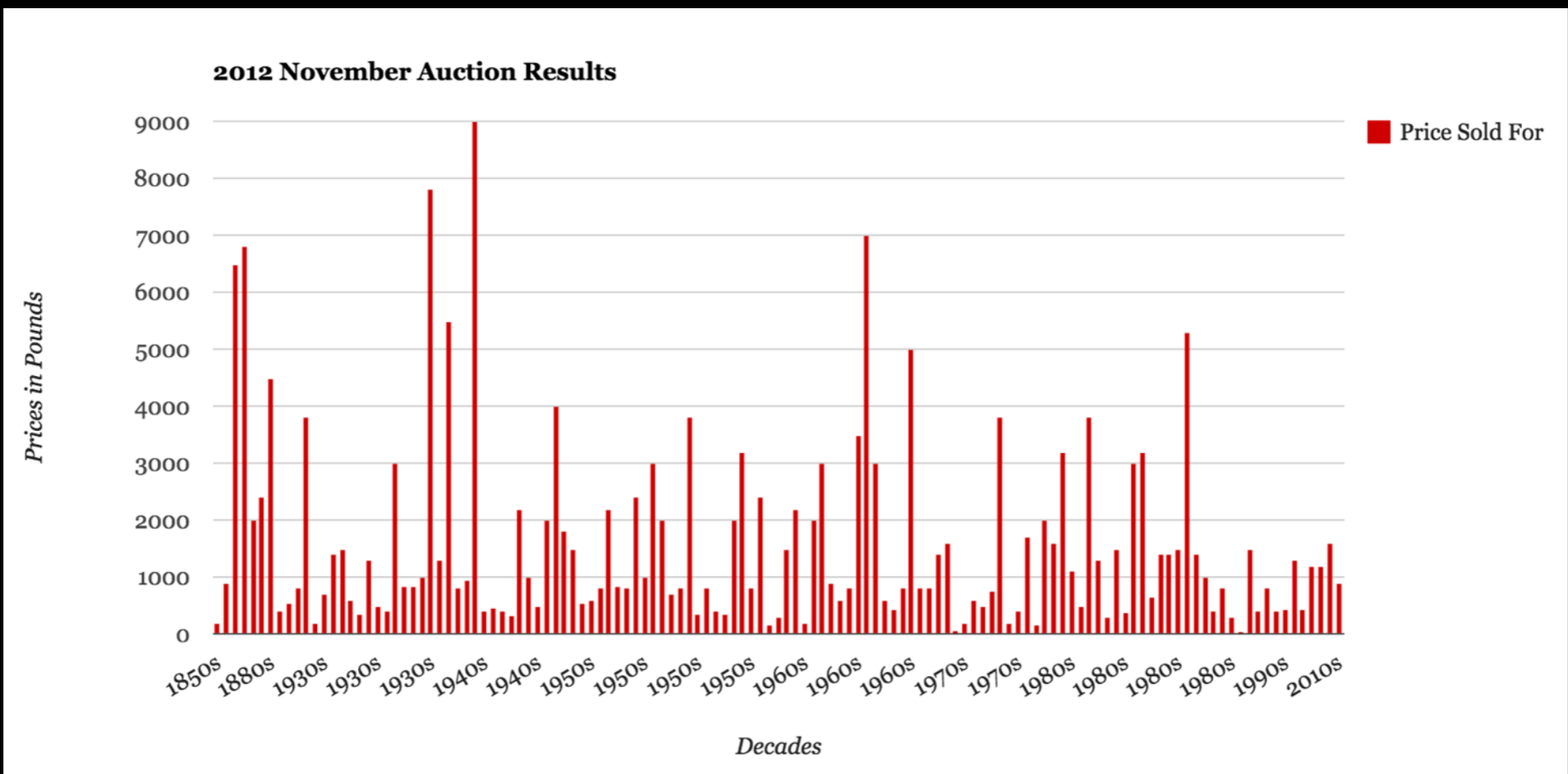


2012 May Auction Results by Decade Without 2 Outliers

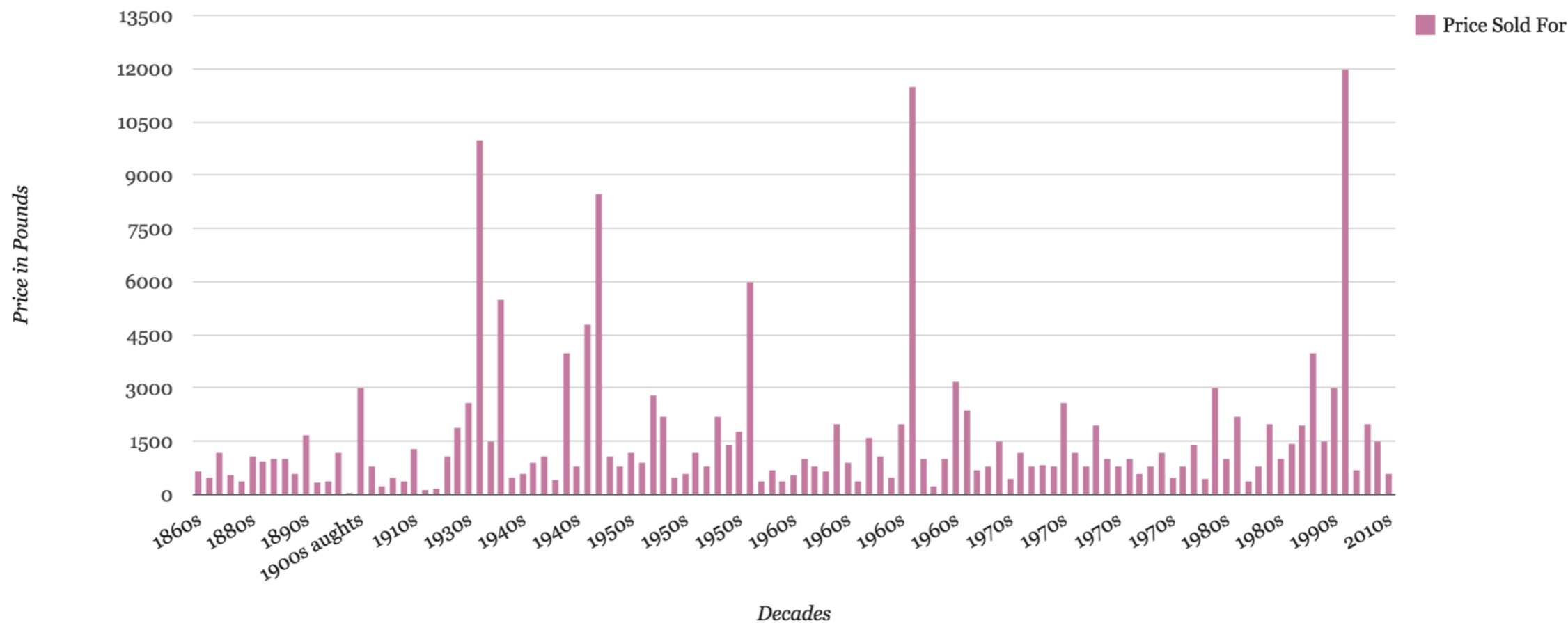


2012 May Auction Number of Unsold Works by Decade

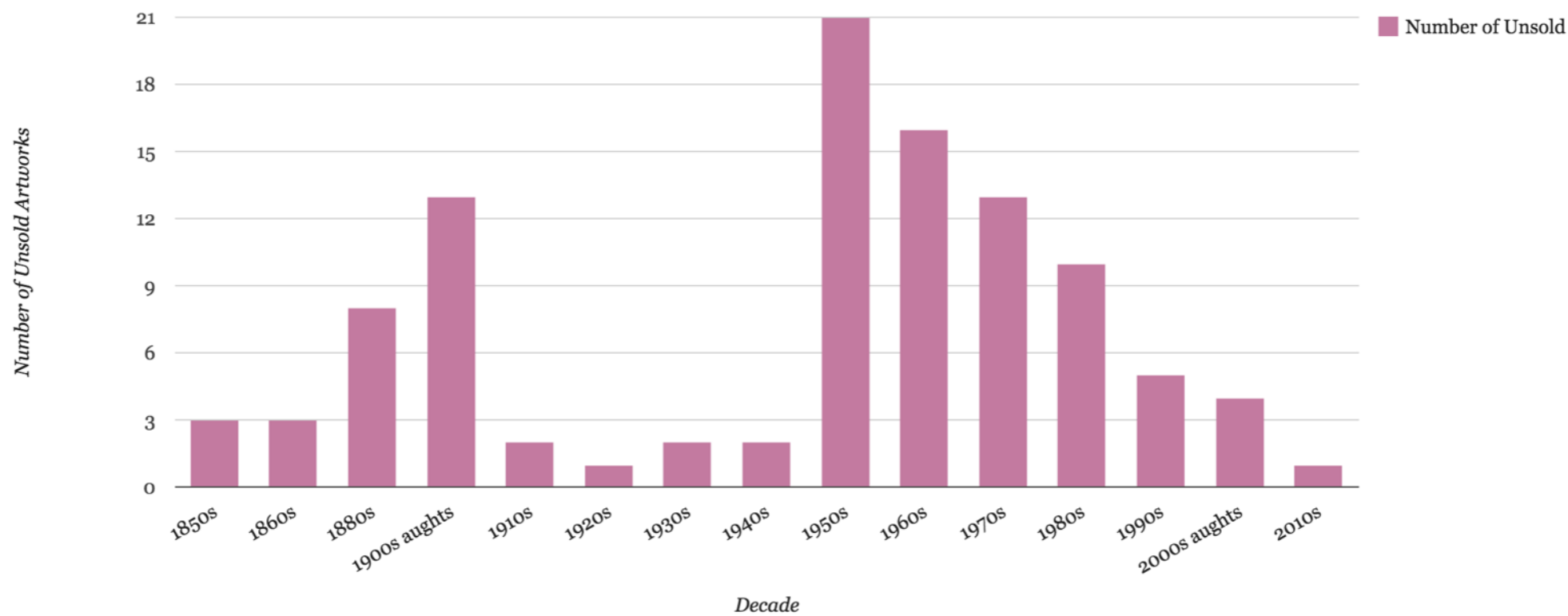




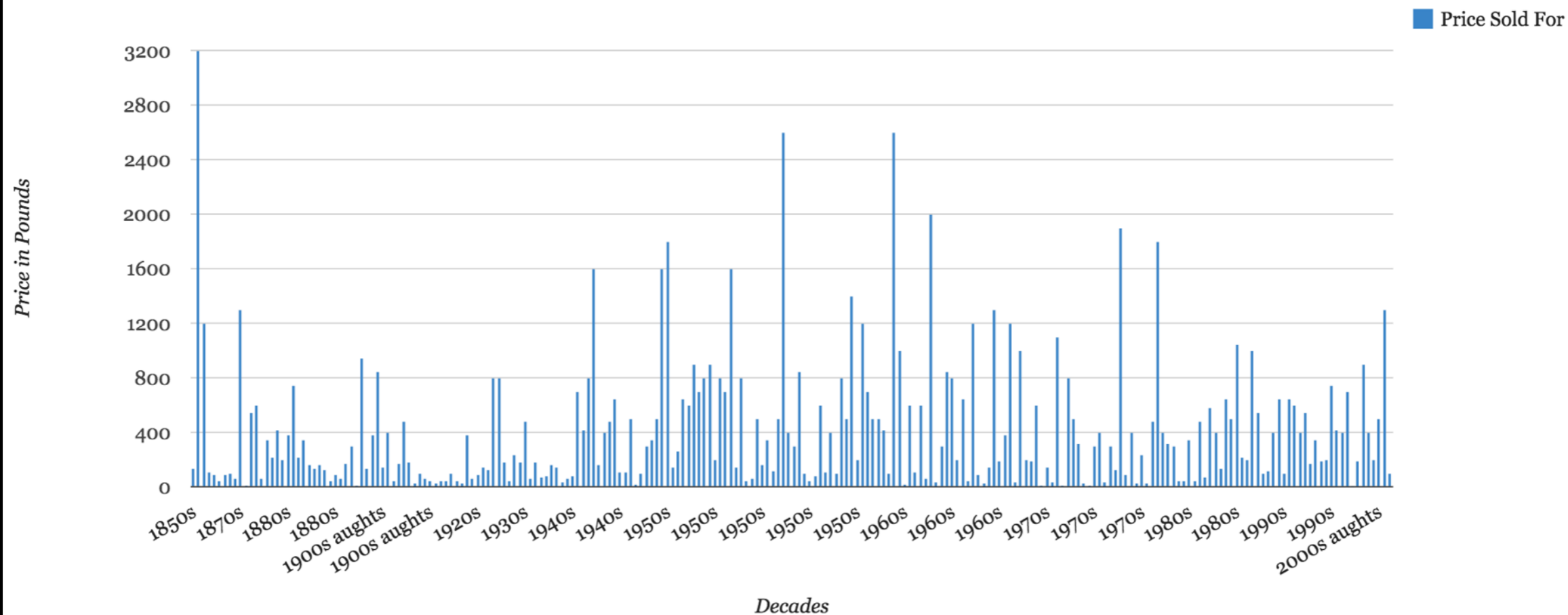
2013 November Auction Results



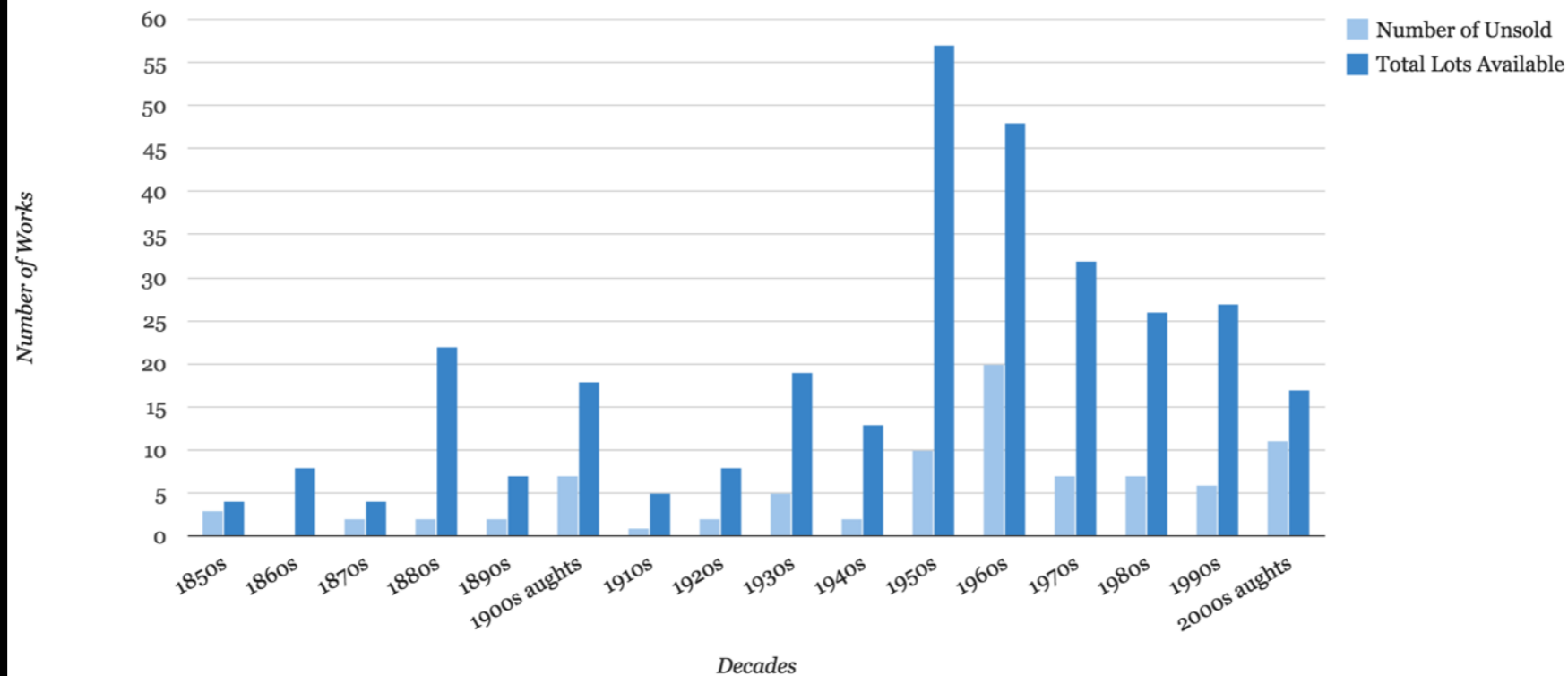
2013 November Auction Number of Artworks Unsold by Decade



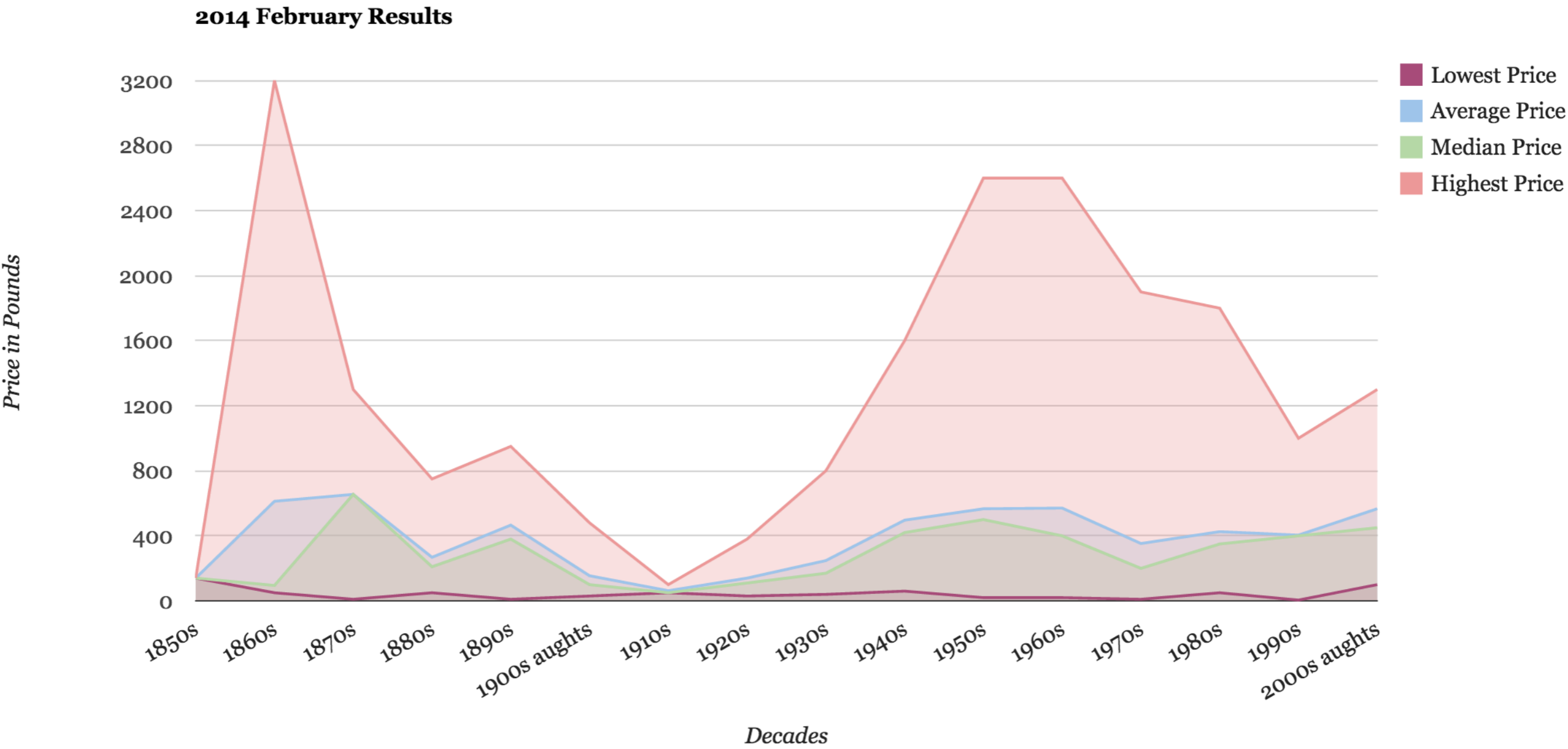
2014 February Auction Results



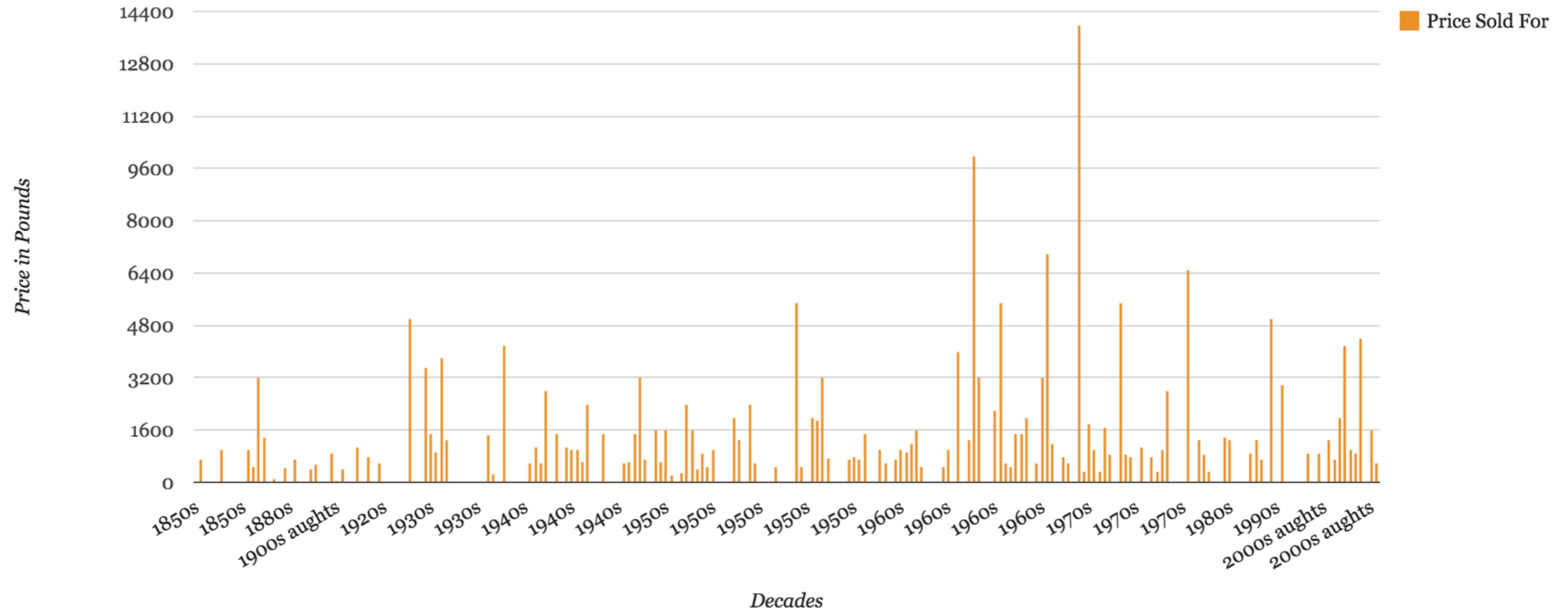
2014 February Number Works Unsold next to Total Number of Lots Available



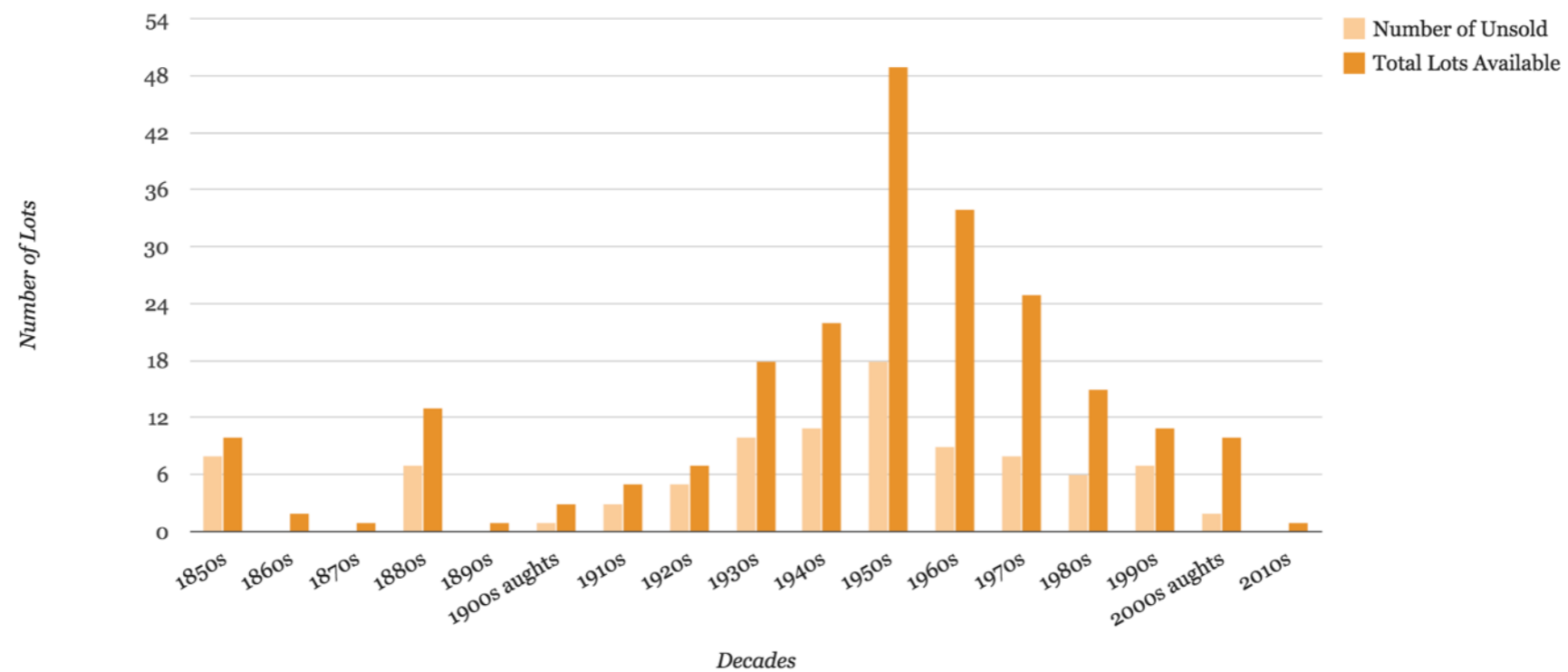
2014 February - High, Low, Median, Average



2014 June Auction Results



2014 June Number of Lots Available Next to Number of Works Unsold



2014 June - High, Low, Median, Average

2014 June Results

