

Antique or Junque: Vase blooms in profit

by Anne McCollam

Q: We inherited the pottery vase seen in this photo around 10 to 15 years ago. It originally belonged to my husband's grandmother. The swirled colors are cream, blue-gray and brown. It stands 18 inches tall and is in perfect condition. Impressed into clay on the bottom of the vase is the word "Niloak."

We plan to keep it in the family and pass it down to our son.

What can you tell us about the maker, age, and value of our vase?

NILOAK VASE - The Niloak Pottery Co. made this vase around 1910. With a lid, it would probably be worth \$700 to \$1,000. CNS Photo. A: Niloak Pottery Co. made your vase. They were in business in Benton, Ark., from 1910 to 1947. "Niloak" is kaolin, a type of clay, spelled backwards.

Your vase with its swirled or marbled pattern is an example of their Mission Ware line and was made on the potter's wheel. Based on the shape and the colors of your vase, it is a rose jar that originally had a lid and was made around 1910.

If you can find the lid, your vase would probably be worth \$700 to \$1,000.

Q: Perhaps you can help me identify the maker of my white teapot. I have enclosed the mark that is on the outside edge of it. The teapot stands over 6 inches tall and is in mint condition.

I would like to know who the manufacturer was, where it was made, and its value.

A: Podmore, Walker, and Co. made your teapot. They have produced earthenware and ironstone in Staffordshire, England, since 1834. Pearl Stone Ware is name of their line of ironstone that was made from 1834 to 1859.

The value of your teapot would probably be \$125 to \$225.

Q: I have a 1901 antique calendar. There are six pages that measure 12 inches by 18 inches. Each page has two calendar months below a photograph of a young woman. The seventh page is the cover and has a photograph of the same woman along with the words "Maude Adams Calendar - R.H. Russell Publisher - New York."

I would appreciate any information as well as an idea of its value.

A: Maude Adams was an American actress who was born in Salt Lake City in 1872. She was well known for her role in Peter Pan as well as other James M. Barrie plays. She was the inspiration for the character Elise McKenna in the book "Bid Time Return" and the film that was based on the book, "Somewhere in Time." Adams died in 1953.

Vintage calendars are collectible. Yours would probably be worth \$125 to \$150.

Q: We are hoping you can help shed some light on an antique silver mesh purse with a silver chain strap. My wife received it as a gift from a friend around 25 years ago.

Recently we were told the frame is silver plate, and mesh purses were status symbols in the early to mid-1920s. On the frame are the letters "DRLR," which apparently are initials of the original owner. There is no manufacturer's mark that we can find.

What do you think it is worth?

A: Mesh purses were all the rage from around 1900 through the 1920s. Many were made by Whiting Davis Co. and often engraved with the name or initials of the owner.

Similar mesh purses are seen on the Internet selling in the range of \$90 to \$135.

Address your questions to Anne McCollam, P.O. Box 247, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Items of a general interest will be answered in this column. Due to the volume of inquiries, she cannot answer individual letters.

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