

Antique or Junque: Pottery pays off

by Anne McCollam

Q: Enclosed is a photo of a pottery vase that is leaf green and stands over nine inches tall. I am curious about its history and value. Marked on the bottom is the name "McCoy" in relief. The vase is in excellent condition.

What can you tell me about it?

A: Nelson McCoy Pottery made your vase. They have produced earthenware and stoneware in Roseville, Ohio, since 1848. The mark you described has been used from 1940 to the present time. Your vase was made around 1948. The mark in relief or embossed was cast into the mold. A picture of your vase can be seen in "The Collectors Encyclopedia of McCoy Pottery," first edition, by Sharon and Bob Huxford.

The value of your vase would probably be \$75 to \$125.

Q: Recently I bought a set of china at a garage sale for \$12. The set consists of eight five-piece place settings plus a platter and a vegetable bowl. The dishes are decorated with gray wheat and yellow dots and are in mint condition. I have enclosed the mark that is on each piece.

MCCOY VASE - The Nelson McCoy Pottery Co. of Roseville, Ohio, made this vase about 1948. It would be worth between \$75 to \$125. CNS Photo.

TAYLOR, SMITH & TAYLOR MARK - Taylor, Smith & Taylor has made semi-porcelain goods in Chester, W.V., from 1901 to 1981. CNS Illustration.

What can you tell me about the maker and vintage of my china?

A: Taylor, Smith and Taylor made your dishes around 1960. They produced semiporcelain in Chester, W.Va., from 1901 to 1981. John Gilkes was a designer for Taylor, Smith and Taylor in the 1950s and 1960s. Over the years, they made dinnerware, kitchenware and the popular, collectible LuRay, Vistosa, Pebbleford and Reville Rooster lines.

Q: Back in the early 1980s, my husband worked for a large printing company in the Los Angeles area. This

company printed all of Ansel Adams' posters. Adams decided to have his signature on some of his posters, so he came to the shop and signed his name 11 times on a signature board. He then chose the one he wanted to use and printed the words "Use this one." and drew an arrow pointing to it. Several months later while walking to the water cooler, my husband noticed the signature board in the trashcan. Thinking it might be worth something one day, he retrieved it and brought it home.

We still have it and wonder what its value might be.

A: American photographer Ansel Adams was born in 1902 and died in 1984. His black-and-white photographs of California's Yosemite Valley are well-known and extremely desirable works of art. He was also a concert pianist and environmentalist. President Jimmy Carter presented the Presidential Medal of Freedom to him in 1980.

His autographs on the signature board would probably be worth \$1,000 to \$1,500. The collection could go higher at auction.

Q: I have a copy of a "Gone With The Wind" program that I received when I attended the first showing of the film at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. It is in excellent condition and contains color pictures of the main actors and actresses as well as a 17-page complete story of the making of the film.

I would like to know the value of my program.

A: You have the third edition of the "Gone With The Wind" movie program and it was printed throughout the 1940s. The first edition included a picture of Hattie McDaniel as "Mammy," the second only showed the artistic drawing of "GWTW" scenes.

Your program is the last and final publication and would probably be worth \$150 to \$200.

