

# ZANESVILLE ART POTTERY IN COLOR

by  
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and  
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By  
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and  
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Photography By  
THE IDEAL ART STUDIO  
Zanesville, Ohio

Printed By  
WALLACE-HOMESTEAD CO.  
Des Moines, Iowa

Items on front cover: Sicard vases formerly displayed in Weller Theatre, Zanesville, Ohio. Vase on right signed "Sicard Weller Zanesville, 23-7 mo. 1902." Other two vases signed "Sicard Weller" on side. Center vase 36 inches high, two side vases 25 inches high.



White Pillars Antiques, Norwich, Ohio

All items illustrated are from the collection of over 1,000 pieces owned by Louise and Evan Purviance and displayed at White Pillars Antiques, Norwich, Ohio.

## PLATE I. S. A. Weller

Zanesville was called "The Clay City" at the beginning of this century. This title was deserved because the largest art potteries and largest tile works in the world operated there. The ceramic industry was started by Samuel Sullivan at Third and Market streets in 1810. Farmers south of Zanesville found clay in abundance in the hills on their farms. They turned and fired jars and crocks in quantities that made Muskingum County one of the three largest centers of stoneware manufacture in Ohio.

Samuel A. Weller (1851-1925) started one of these small pot shops at Fultonham in 1872. He visioned a new market for decorated ware. First he coated flower pots with house paint. His business prospered and in 1882 he moved to Zanesville. At the Chicago World's Fair in 1893 he saw Lonhuda ware made at Steubenville, Ohio. William A. Long (1844-1918), a druggist, had successfully duplicated the underglaze, slip decorated blended brown line of the Rookwood Pottery in Cincinnati. Long formed a company with W. H. Hunter and Alfred Day and named his line from the first letters of their last names.

Weller brought Long to his Zanesville plant in 1894 and made Lonhuda there for a year. He soon learned Long's processes. Long, unwanted and embittered, worked for other local plants and later made Lonhuda in Denver, Colorado. In 1896 Weller continued to produce that line as Louwelsa, a word formed from the first name of his daughter Louise, the first three letters of his surname and his first two initials. Louwelsa was made in 500 shapes and sizes until 1915. Artists frequently signed the early lines.

Top Row—1. Small jardiniere, 6 inches high, made in Steubenville. "Lonhuda, 1892" impressed on bottom. 2. Vase, 4 inches high, made in Zanesville, marked with impressed shield containing letter L with F superimposed for Lonhuda Faience Company. 3. Covered candy dish with same mark as No. 2. 4. Vase, 8 inches high, with "Denver, Lonhuda" and same shield as in Nos. 2 and 3 impressed on bottom.

Middle Row—1. Vase, 14 inches high, signed on side by M. Mitchell, with "Louwelsa Weller" mark copied from Barber on Plate 3. All following Louwelsa pieces on this page have same mark except as noted. 2. Clock case, 10 inches high, signed by Ferrel. 3. Vase, 15 inches high, signed by Ferrel (sometimes he spelled his name with two l's).

Bottom Row—1. Vase, 13 inches high, signed by K. Kappes. 2. Vase, 16 inches high, signed by L. J. Burgess, "Louwelsa Weller" impressed on bottom in circle. 3. Vase, 15½ inches high, signed L. J. B.

## PLATE 2. S. A. Weller

In the first decade of the 20th century the Zanesville art potteries employed talented artists from this country and Europe. Weller brought Charles Upjohn (1866-1953) to his art department in 1895. Under his direction Weller produced three types of Dickens ware. (Hearing that Charles Dickens wrote about Sam Weller, the Zanesville potter said he would return the compliment by naming a line after the English novelist.)

The first Dickens line was characterized by solid dark colors with underglaze decorations painted in colored clay or slip. It was made in 1897-98. Here it should be explained that Zanesville potteries were not as systematic or accurate in their marking as Rookwood. Many pieces came out of the plants unmarked. Others were mis-marked. For example, a fine piece of Turada had the Dickens ware mark. The potteries had no hesitation in changing shape, color or decoration to promote sales.

Upjohn designed the second Dickens ware line. The decorations were incised into the soft clay with a needle by the sgraffito method, colors were added by brush and the piece was finished in semi-matt glaze. This type was made until Upjohn left in 1905. For a short time he operated his own pottery in Zanesville. Later he taught for twenty-five years at Columbia University. The pieces were decorated with scenes from Dickens's novels, Indians, golfers, inn scenes and many others. This line has become a favorite of collectors.

Top Row—1. Louwelsa blue vase, 9 inches high, with Louwelsa mark on Plate 3. 2. Louwelsa matt vase, 16 inches high, signed by Ferrell, with mark on Plate 3. 3. Louwelsa vase with silver applique, 10 inches high, with mark on Plate 3.

Middle Row—1. Jardiniere, first Dickens line, 8 inches high, signed by L. C., with Dickens ware mark on Plate 3. 2. Vase, 12 inches high, with "Auroro Weller" incised on bottom. 3. Vase, 11 inches high with portrait signed by R. G. T. and Dickens ware mark illustrated on Plate 3.

Bottom Row—1. Incised vase, 16 inches high, glossy glaze, scene and quotation from *Bleak House*, with Dickens ware mark on Plate 3. 2. Incised vase, 18 inches high, signed "C. B. Upjohn, 1902," with "Dickens Weller" incised on bottom. 3. Incised vase, 16 inches high, signed by A. D., with Dickens ware mark on Plate 3.

## PLATE 7. S. A. Weller

After World War I Weller discontinued most of the expensive hand-decorated lines and produced less artistic commercial ware. Rudolph Lorber became modeler and he was assisted later by Mrs. Dorothy England Laughead. At least one new line was introduced every year and many utilitarian items were made.

Collectors should realize that the blended brown lines of all the Zanesville potteries were most frequently decorated with flowers and that the portraits pictured in this book are rare. The best available examples of all lines have been selected for illustrations.

Top Row—1. Ardsley vase, 7 inches high, marked "Weller Ware" in circular rubber stamp. 2. Small jardiniere, Jewel line, 6 inches high, no mark. 3. Cameo planter, 4 inches high, "Weller" impressed in large block letters on bottom.

Middle Row—1. Muskota vase, 9½ inches high, "Weller" impressed in large block letters on bottom. 2. Coppertone frog, 5½ inches high, marked with rubber stamp of vase in form of half circle, with "Weller Pottery" on top. 3. Pearl line vase, 9½ inches high, "Weller" impressed in large block letters on bottom.

Bottom Row—1. Blue ware vase, 11½ inches high, "Weller" impressed in large block letters on bottom. 2. Forest vase, 12 inches high, no mark. 3. Baldin vase, 12 inches high, "Weller" impressed in large block letters on bottom.

## PLATE 8. S. A. Weller

In the early 1920's John Lassell, also spelled Lessell (1871-1926), designed and made the overglaze line marked "LaSa" on the side. It is decorated with slender, dark trees on a rose gold and silver background of sky, water and land.

Catalogs collected for use in compiling *Zanesville Art Pottery* in 1963 and this book have been deposited in the library of the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus, Ohio. Lines included in those catalogs but not pictured here are listed below:

Anco	Comet	Glendale
Ansonia	Cornish	Gloria
Arcadia	Crystalline	Golbrogreen
Ardsley	Darsie	Goldenglow
Atcola	Delsa	Graystone
Atlantic	Delta	Greenbriar
Atlas	Dorland	Greora
Auroral	Eclair	Hobart
Baldwin Flemish	Elberta	Ivoris
Blue Decorated	Eldora	Ivory
Bonito	Euclid	Jet Black
Bouquet	Evergreen	Kenova
Bradley	Fairfield	Lavonia
Breton	Flemish	Lido
Bronze Ware	Fleron	Lorbeek
Chelsea	Floral	Loru
Clarmont	Florala	Louvella
Classic	Florenzo	Luster
Cretone	Frosted Matt	
Clinton Ivory	Fruitone	

(Continued on next page)

Top Row—1. Vase, 11 inches high, marked "Lessell" on side. 2. Vase, 12½ inches high, marked "Weller LaSa" on side. 3. Chengtu vase, 8 inches high, no mark.

Middle Row—1. Lamar vase, 9 inches high, no mark. 2. Lamar vase, 12 inches high, no mark. 3. Barcelona vase, 10 inches high, "Weller Barcelona" rubber stamped on bottom.

Bottom Row—1. Hudson vase, 13 inches high, "Weller" in block letters impressed on bottom. 2. Hudson vase, 8 inches high, same mark as No. 1. 3. Hudson vase, 12 inches high, signed by Pillsbury, same mark as No. 1.

## PLATE 12. The J. B. Owens Pottery Company

J. B. Owens (1859-1934) operated a stoneware plant in the southern part of Muskingum County. In 1891 he moved to Zanesville and in 1896 he began the manufacture of art pottery. Although he made pottery for only a decade, collectors respect the excellent quality of his decorations and glazes. Among his ceramists and modelers were Karl Langenbeck, John J. Herold, William A. Long, John Lassell, Hugo Herb, Guido Howarth and Frank Ferrel.

Many designers and artists moved from one pottery to another for higher wages. Owens soon duplicated Weller's Louwelsa and called it Utopian. Lotus was similar to Utopian with lighter background. Designs were cut into the moist clay of the Henri Deux line and the incisions were filled with plastic decorations in color. Aqua Verdi contained embossed figures.

One mark impressed lightly on the bottom was a torch with horizontal ribbon containing the word "Owensart."

Top Row—1. Henri Deux vase, 8½ inches high, incised, not marked. 2. Henri Deux vase, 11 inches high, incised, not marked. 3. Henri Deux vase, 7 inches high, "Owensart" incised on bottom.

Middle Row—1. Vase, 6½ inches high, matt glaze, "Owens Utopian" impressed in block letters on bottom. 2. Aqua Verdi vase, 9 inches high, "Owens" impressed in block letters on bottom. 3. Lotus pitcher, 6 inches high, no mark.

Bottom Row—1. Vase, 12 inches high, portrait of Segó Shoshone by Mae Timberlake, marked "Utopian J. B. Owens" in block letters on bottom. 2. Poster line vase, 12 inches high. "Poster" impressed in block letters and "J. B. Owens" incised on bottom. 3. Vase, 12 inches high, portrait of Christ signed by A.W. "J. B. Owens Utopian" impressed on bottom.

## PLATE 14. The Roseville Pottery Company Zanesville, Ohio

George F. Young (1863-1920) was secretary and general manager of the Roseville Pottery Company when it was organized in the southern part of Muskingum County in 1892. The firm made flower pots and cuspidors. No art pottery was made at Roseville, Ohio. In 1898 Young moved the business to Zanesville and kept the original name.

In Zanesville Young continued to make ware coated with house paint. He employed Ross C. Purdy (1875-1949) to develop an art line in 1900. Purdy produced a duplicate of Louwelsa and Utopian called Rozane, a word formed from Roseville and Zanesville. This line, like the blended brown ware of other companies, was frequently decorated with flowers, but finer pieces contain artistic portraits. Originally called Rozane, this line was soon named Rozane Royal to distinguish it from Rozane Mongol, Rozane Mara, Rozane Egypto and Rozane Woodland pictured in color in a rare 1905 catalog.

The first mark was "Rozane RPCo" impressed on the bottom. This was later changed to a raised seal consisting of a double circle containing the words "ROZANE WARE" superimposed upon the stem of a rose. To this circle the name of the specific line was added in curved extension at the bottom.

Top Row—1. Rozane vase, 9 inches high, signed by M. Timberlake, no mark. 2. Ewer, 7¼ inches high, signed by V. Adams, marked "Rozane Ware Royal" as on Plate 15. 3. Vase, 9 inches high, portrait signed by Dunlavy, marked in block letters on bottom "Rozane R.P.Co."

Middle Row—1. Vase, 14 inches high, marked "Rozane Ware" in circle. 2. Tankard, 16 inches high, marked "R P Co." on bottom. 3. Rozane vase, 11½ inches high, signed by J. Imlay, not marked.

Bottom Row—1. Vase, 14 inches high, portrait of Charles Dickens signed by A. Dunlavy. Mark, "Rozane Ware" in circle. 2. Vase, 17 inches high, signed by P. Steele. "Rozane R. P. Co." impressed on bottom. 3. Vase, 14½ inches high, portrait signed by A. Williams. "Rozane, R. P. Co." impressed on bottom.



## PLATE 21. Smaller Zanesville Potteries

The Zanesville Majolica Company, 1882-3. The Zanesville Stoneware Company, 1889—. The Bohemian Pottery, 1900-1918. The Ohio Pottery, 1900-1923, was reorganized as The Fraunfelter China Company, 1923-1939. Zanesville Art Pottery, 1900-1920, made La Mora. Peters and Reed, 1901-1920, became Zane Pottery, 1920-1941, and was operated as Gonder Ceramic Arts, 1941-1957. The Faience Pottery Company, 1902-1906. A. Radford and Company, 1903, made jasper ware with moulds brought from Wedgwood plant in England where Radford had previously worked. His plant became Arc En Ceil, 1903-1905, under management of John Lessell. The plant operated as The Brighton Pottery, 1905-1907. The C. P. Upjohn Pottery, 1904-1905. Neilson Pottery Company, 1905-1906. The Brush Company, 1906 to present. LePere Pottery, 1936-1962. The Shawnee Pottery Company, 1937-1961. The Ohio Porcelain Company, 1941-1951. Imperial Porcelain Company, 1946-1950. Nouvelle Pottery, 1945 to present.

Top Row—1. Radford, 11 inches high, marked No. 22 on bottom. 2. Radford, 5 inches high, marked "Radford Jasper" in block letters impressed on bottom. 3. Radford, 10 inches high, marked No. 23 on bottom.  
Middle Row—1. La Mora vase, 8 inches high. Mark, "La Mora" impressed in block letters on bottom. 2. Vase, matt glaze, 7½ inches high. Mark, "La Mora" impressed in block letters on bottom. 3. Vase, 6 inches high. Mark, "La Mora" impressed in block letters on bottom.  
Bottom Row—1. Arc En Ceil tankard, 13 inches high. Mark, "Arc En Ceil" in circle on bottom. 2. Zanesville Majolica tile, 6½ inches high. Mark, "Zanesville Majolica Company" in oval on back. 3. Tankard, 17 inches high, signed on side by C. B. Upjohn. No mark on bottom.

## PLATE 22. American Encaustic Tiling Company

The American Encaustic Tiling Company, established in 1875, was one of the first producers of floor and wall tile in the United States. Under the direction of Herman Mueller, this firm made large decorative tile with classic adult and child figures. Displays of this company won gold medals at Paris in 1900 and at the Pan-American Exposition in 1901. The firm made a large variety of novelties, including a wine bottle in the shape of a monk with removable head. Some of these novelties are unmarked. Others have A. E. T. Co. on the bottom or back. The Zanesville plant closed in 1936. This firm made many plaques with Greek and other figures in relief. Some of the smaller decorative pieces are pictured.