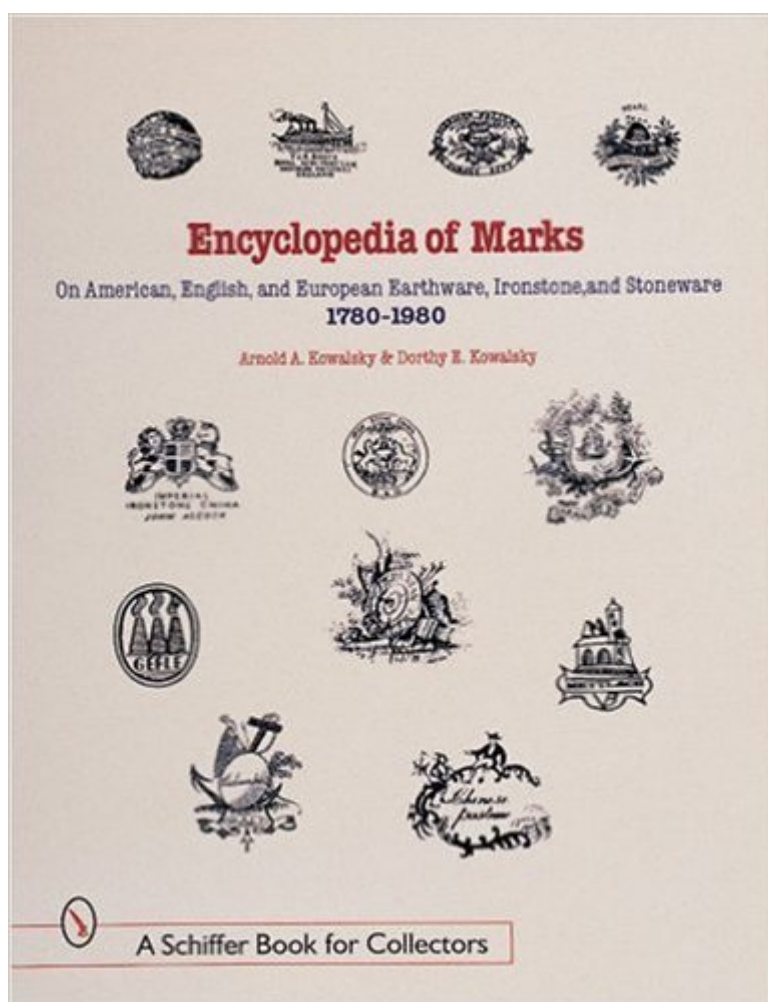


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Encyclopedia Of American, English, And European Earthenware, Ironstone, Stoneware, 1780-1980: Makers, Marks, And Patterns In Blue And White, Historic ... Ironstone (Schiffer Book For Collectors)





Synopsis

This authoritative reference work identifies thousands of marks from American, English and European potters. In the main body of the text, the marks are presented by potter in alphabetical order. Included in each potter's listing is the location of the firm, a brief history of the company, the span of years from the firm's establishment until its dissolution, and any former and subsequent company affiliations associated with that firm. The marks associated with that potter are presented in chronological order. Also provided are listings of further readings for those wishing either to delve deeper into the history of the firm or to view images of wares upon which these marks appear. American and Canadian importers, and the potters for whom they imported wares, are also identified. In addition, numerous appendices provide future information pertaining to ware types and printed patterns produced by the various potters, registry dates, and much more. A glossary of pottery terms and an extensive bibliography round out the presentation. This encyclopedia, years in the making, provides the most current research on potters spanning two hundred years and is the essential reference for everyone interested in ceramics.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

At first glance the big fat book of pottery marks that every historical archaeologist dreams of, this is actually a somewhat idiosyncratic albeit highly useful work. The subtitle is telling and more accurate than the title proper: "Makers, Marks, and Patterns in Blue and White, Historic Blue, Flow Blue,

Mulberry, Romantic Transferware, Tea Leaf, and White Ironstone." The presence of the word "Stoneware" in the title especially seems a bit unfortunate, however, since the book certainly does not cover materials generally thought of as stoneware in North America. In effect, the Kowalskys have created an enormous compendium of British and American marks found on pottery that interests them. It would not be my first choice for the purpose of identifying an unknown pottery backstamp; but, to be fair, that is not the intent of the book. As Geoffrey Godden, to whom the book is dedicated, aptly puts it in his studied foreword: "The end result may be rather uneven, due to personal taste, situation or pure chance but the benefit is undoubted." Although Godden is writing about specialist books and papers on different types of collectable ceramics in general, his words apply to the Kowalskys' compendium as well. Virtually a third of the book-- 224 pages-- is indexes and tables that are potentially quite useful in certain circumstances. If, say, one has a ceramic sherd bearing only the word "Best," Appendix B7 handily identifies this as made probably by either Mayer & Elliott or Livesley, Powell & Co. There are also tables of selected pottery chronologies, lists by name and by initials, a listing of patterns arranged by pottery, as well as a table of categories of ware produced by each pottery, various chronological listings of British potteries by Registry dates, and so forth.

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