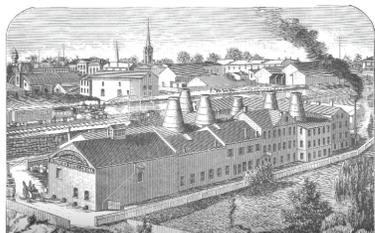


TRENTON POTTERIES

Newsletter of the
Potteries of Trenton Society



POTS Receives Grant to Develop Website

The Potteries of Trenton Society (POTS) recently received a grant of \$3,000 from the Mercer County Division of Culture and Heritage, in partnership with the New Jersey Historical Commission, Division of Cultural Affairs/ Department of State, to help hire a website designer who will produce a draft design of a new website for the organization. POTS will match the grant dollar for dollar. The new website will incorporate the Trenton Potteries Database, historic images, maker's marks, examples of wares made in Trenton, and additional research resources to help educators, collectors, archaeologists, and curators understand Trenton's key role in America's ceramics industry.

The Potteries of Trenton Society was organized in 1999 by a small group of archaeologists, collectors, curators and scholars who recognized the value of the Trenton Potteries Database, a digital compilation of basic information about nearly 200 of Trenton's potteries. The database was created by Hunter Research, Inc. under the auspices of the New Jersey Department of Transportation [NJDOT] and New Jersey Historic Preservation Office [NJHPO] to offset the impacts of NJDOT projects on Trenton pottery sites. We expected it to be used primarily as a research tool for historic archaeologists, especially those working on historical sites in New Jersey. Organized by geographic location, each entry includes information on the pottery's location, owners, products and years in operation. Where available,

historic maps, advertisements, maker's marks, photographs and engravings were scanned into the database.

In 2001, with the help of NJDOT, the New Jersey Historical Commission and the Trenton Convention & Visitors Bureau, we published a booklet, *From Teacups to Toilets: A Century of Industrial Pottery in Trenton, Circa 1850 to 1940*, for New Jersey educators. Five thousand copies were distributed free of charge to local schools, interested educators, POTS members, and symposia attendees, and is now available for download on our website. This publication summarizes the basic history of the city's ceramics industry.

In 2005, NJDOT turned over stewardship of the Database so that POTS could develop it further as a tool for collectors, curators and scholars who want Trenton to assume its place of importance in American ceramic history. Our goal has long been to create a site that demonstrates the history of the nearly 200 potteries that were active in the city and its environs by combining historical documents about companies and workers, a compendium of marks of the potteries, and a gallery of the wares produced. We also want to make the site useful for educators who want to address Trenton's ceramic history in their classrooms. Bibliographies and research reports will be included on the website.

Considering the success of our current website (it averages between

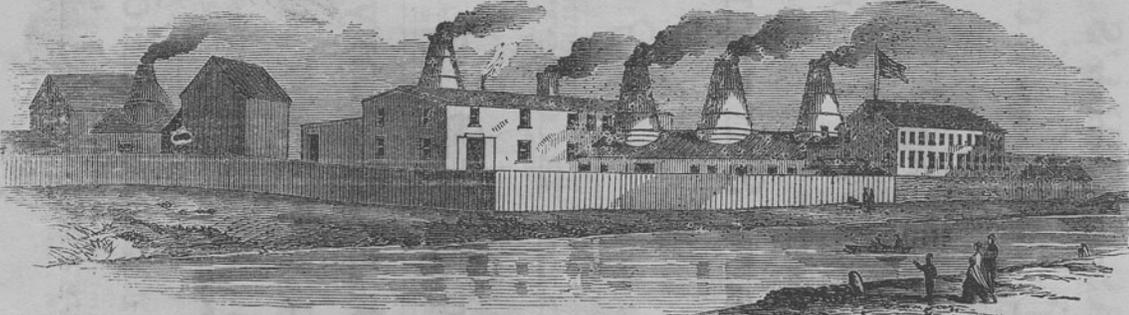
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The Potteries of Trenton Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study and preservation of Trenton's ceramic past. Officers: President – Patricia Madrigal; Treasurer – William Liebeknecht; Secretary – Sally Lane Board: Ellen Denker, John Hatch, Richard Hunter, Meta Janowitz, Sally Lane, William Liebeknecht. Newsletter Editor: Patricia Madrigal

WM. YOUNG'S SONS,
ESTABLISHED 1853.



MANUFACTURERS OF

PORCELAIN, HARDWARE TRIMMINGS

White Granite, Dipped, Blue Edge and C. C. Wares,
CANAL, above Junction, TRENTON, N. J.

William Young's Sons advertisement from the 1872 Trenton City Directory published by J. Lant.

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12,000 and 18,000 hits monthly), and the series of thirteen annual symposia, POTS board has been pleased with the public interest in the history of Trenton's ceramics industry. We are encouraged to seek a wider audience for our research and documentation through a multi-dimensional website that will be useful to archaeologists wishing to identify excavated wares, curators and collectors curious to establish identity for collection objects, and educators who wish to explore the many aspects of Trenton's ceramic industry, including business, technology, labor and design.

Initially we viewed the website as a way to generate interest in our symposia. Later we added pdfs of our quarterly newsletters and images of pottery that collectors and curators want to share. The latter category has not been properly curated, but it represents an aspect of the site that we want to develop, beginning with manufacturers' back stamps and expand-

ing to full objects that demonstrate the breadth of design and production. Eventually, we hope to work on agreements with the New Jersey State Museum Cultural History Bureau and the Trenton Museum Society (which holds the collections on view at the City Museum) to photograph and document their Trenton-made ceramics collections. Subse-

quently, we hope to add material from private collections using a rigorous documentation process developed by Winterthur Library for its Decorative Arts Photographic Collection. Initial inquiries to stewards of the two museum collections and to our collector members indicate great enthusiasm for this aspect of the website.

All of these activities have demonstrated POTS' commitment to compiling and interpreting a wide variety of resources regarding the history of Trenton's potteries as a way to demonstrate the city's important economic, technological and artistic contributions to America's pottery industry. This grant from Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission will help us continue to expand access to the information and insights we have gathered and will continue to gather through the website.

POTS welcomes any and all contributions to help us meet our financial commitment to this grant.

POTS Annual Meeting, April 29

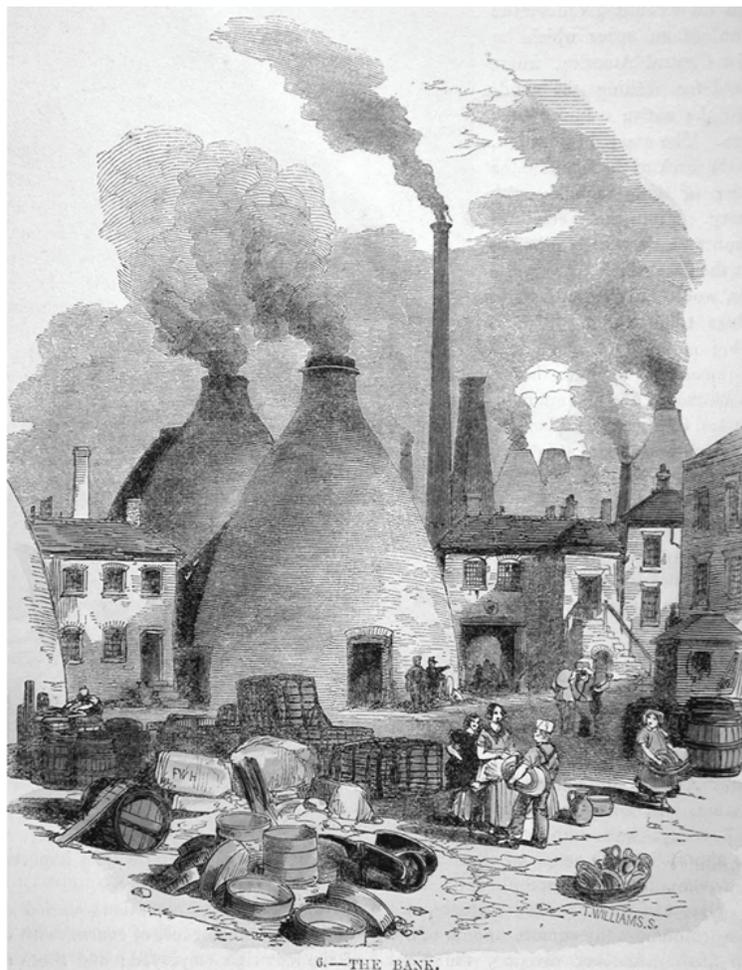
The Potteries of Trenton Society is pleased to announce that Miranda Goodby will be the guest speaker at its annual meeting on Sunday, April 29 in Trenton, New Jersey. The meeting will be held in the Stokes Library of Trenton's historic Masonic Temple at 100 Barrack Street. The lecture, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 1:30 p.m. Parking is available across the street from the Temple next to the Old Barracks. Light refreshments will follow the lecture. The annual meeting of POTS members will begin at 3:00 PM.

Goodby's talk, *Bringing Old Skills to a New Land: Staffordshire Migrant Potters in the Mid 19th Century*, will be about the experiences of British potters who migrated in the 1840s and 1850s to the Delaware, Ohio, and Mississippi River valleys, such as those who established Trenton's pottery industry. Her lecture will draw on the letters that emigrant potters wrote from the United States to their families in Stoke, many of which give a fascinating and often poignant account of their new lives and the pottery they made here.

Miranda Goodby is Senior Curator of Ceramics at The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent Museums, where she curates the largest collection of Staffordshire pottery in the world – over 30,000 pieces from the seventeenth century to the present day – not including European, East Asian, and Middle Eastern ceramics. She studied History of Design and the Visual Arts at Staffordshire University and Museum Studies at the graduate level at Manchester University. She has taught ceramic history at both the

undergraduate and graduate levels, and has spoken at numerous conferences and to specialist societies in the United States. She is interested in eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Staffordshire earthenwares and stonewares, especially the documentation relating to the Burslem potters and their factories, and the development of the Staffordshire pottery industry from the 1750s onwards.

For more about the Potteries of Trenton Society, please visit www.potteriesoftrentonsociety.org. A map and directions to Trenton's Masonic Temple can be found at www.trentonmasonictemple.com.



6.—THE BANK.

POTS Membership

Membership in the Potteries of Trenton Society is open to all interested in Trenton's pottery industry and the ceramic products manufactured here. We welcome pottery workers, historians, archaeologists and collectors. Your contribution is used to support newsletter, lecture, meeting, and conference costs.

Annual Membership \$25

Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

email _____

Please make your check payable to the Potteries of Trenton Society and mail to:

Potteries of Trenton Society

120 W. State Street

Trenton, NJ 08608