

Other Names Rhodes & Yates; Rhodes Yates & Co.; Higginson, Rhodes & Titus; Higginson, Rhodes & Yates; Yates & Titus; Yates & Titus City Pottery; Yates, Bennett & Allen; City Pottery Company

Present Day Municipality City of Trenton

Historic Municipality City of Trenton

Historic Location Perry St. between East Canal St. and Carroll St.; Canal St. corner of Perry St.; Delaware and Raritan Canal above Rose; Perry near Carroll; Carroll near Perry; Ewing corner of Ogden; Carroll and Ewing; Perry, Carroll and Ewing; Perry corner of Canal

Years in Operation 1859-1875

Owners/Operators James Yates and William Rhodes (1859); Higginson, Rhodes & Titus (1861); Higginson, Rhodes & Yates (1862); Yates & Titus (1864-1870), also known as Trenton City Pottery (1869); Yates, Bennett & Allen (1870-1875)

PRODUCTS

Tableware Garden Ceramics Rockingham Other
Hardware Art Ceramics Toilet Sets
Sanitary ware Hotel China Electrical porcelain

ADDITIONAL PRODUCT INFORMATION

the first white earthenware (Rhodes & Yates) (Boyd 1877); C.C. (cane-colored) and W.G. (white granite) wares (Trenton State Gazette, Monday, August 27, 1866)

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MAP REFERENCES

Beers 1870: shown as "Yates & Titus Pottery City Pottery"

Everts & Stewart 1875: shown as "City Pottery"

IMAGE REFERENCES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

DUN COLLECTION

January 28, 1861: Higginson, Rhodes & Titus – “first rate business & doing a large & lucrative business ... their real estate is worth \$8K to \$10K” (1 [44]:36).

February 3, 1862: Higginson, Rhodes & Yates – “have almost stopped business ... no work and no demand for ware ... they become somewhat embarrassed too ... own some valuable real estate” (1 [44]:36).

July 30, 1862: Higginson, Rhodes & Yates – “are doing a large business” (1 [44]:36).

February 15, 1864: Rhodes & Yates – “reports as ‘Rhodes & Yates’ ... doing a large & good business” (1 [44]:36).

May, 1865: Rhodes & Yates – “Rhodes dead ... now James Yates along ...” (1 [44]:36).

August 16, ?1865: Yates & Titus – “reports as ‘Yates & Titus’ ... are doing a good business ...” (1 [44]:36).

NOTES

"The second pottery was built by Mr. Attersley [sic], on the property where the establishment of Messrs. Yates & Titus now stands. This he worked in connection with Mr. William Young, and commenced the manufacture of porcelain door knobs and trimmings. These potteries were subsequently purchased by Messrs. Yates & Rhodes, who in 1857 introduced the manufacture of white crockery, known to the trade as C.C. (cane color), and W.G. (white granite) wares" (Trenton State Gazette, Monday, August 27, 1866).

Detailed description of the operation of this pottery in 1866 is provided in "The Manufactories of Trenton. Article III. The Pottery Trade - Continued" (Trenton State Gazette, Wednesday, August 29, 1866).

"The 'New Jersey Agricultural Society' awarded them a medal in 1860 for the best assortment of fine stone chinaware, and the 'Maryland Institute' awarded them a gold medal for the finest display of superior dinnerware at its exhibition held in the city of Baltimore in 1873" (Everts & Stewart 1875:XII).

"Since its establishment by Rhodes & Yates there have been a great many changes in the firm. After Rhodes & Yates, it was Higginson, Rhodes & Yates. In 1865, Yates & Titus; in 1870, Yates, Bennett & Allen, and on October 1, 1875, it was organized under the manufacturing laws of New Jersey" (Mains and Fitzgerald 1879).

"The first pottery fitted up for the exclusive manufacture of white granite and cream-colored ware was that of Rhodes & Yates, in 1859, at the present City Pottery, on Perry Street" (Young 1879:461).

Detailed retrospective provided in "The Trenton Potteries 20 years Ago and To-Day" (Trenton State Gazette, Monday, October 6, 1879). Narrated by James Yates: "I have said that machinery was comparatively speaking, unknown in the formation of ware twenty years ago, but we soon found it expedient to make the experiment, and we gave a few ideas to more than one of our Trenton machinists which resulted in the introduction of several machines which afterwards became in general use. In 1862 we heard for the first time of the introduction of the clay presses in England, the same which are now in use in all the potteries in Trenton and other places, which superceded the slip kiln. At an expense of four hundred dollars we procured drawings of them, and had two made by Moses Golding, at a cost of about seven hundred dollars more, with the required pipes and attachments. Four years after we were informed the presses were patented in England, when it became necessary to secure by purchase the right for the United States, which was done by three or four gentlemen of Trenton, for which we advanced three or four hundred dollars more. We expected to receive this sum back from the sale of rights. A great many rights were sold, and so were we as we never received a dollar after having paid in all seven hundred dollars more than the presses cost for building. We also bought the first throwers wheel and a turner's lath, in England, at a heavy expense, which machines were afterwards made in Trenton for the other potteries."

A new pottery was established here by Rhodes & Yates. Complex succession of ownership: Higginson, Rhodes & Yates; Yates and Titus; in 1865 Yates, Bennett & Allen; in 1870 it was incorporated as City Pottery Co. (Harney 1929).

The City Pottery was the first factory in America to produce only white and cream wares exclusively when it opened in Trenton in 1859 (Goldberg 1998:27 quoting Raum 1871).

Yates and Large tried to sell the pottery in 1859, but were not able to find a satisfactory tenant or purchaser. Yates then entered into a partnership with William Rhodes to operate the pottery (Goldberg 1998:27).

1860 Industrial Census

City Pottery

3C

Pottery Name in Census

Rhodes, Yates & Co.

Capital Invested

\$25,000

Raw Materials Used, Including Fuel

Kinds	Quantities	Value
Clay	275 tons	\$900
Quartz	100 tons	\$2,500
Spar	60 tons	\$720
Coal	600 tons	\$2,400
Other Materials		\$2,500

Annual Products

Kinds	Quantities	Value
Queens, White Granite & Rockingham Ware		\$30,000

Kinds of Motive Power, Machinery, Structure or Resource

Hands and Steam Engine

Average Number of Hands Employed

Male 48 **Female** 3

Average Monthly Cost of Labor

Male \$1,220 **Female** \$36

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1870 Industrial Census

City Pottery

3C

Pottery Name in Census

Yates & Titus City Pottery

Capital Invested

\$70,000.00

Materials (Including Mill Supplies and Fuel)

Kinds	Quantities	Value
Clay	400 tons	\$6,000
Quartz	100 tons	\$2,500
Feld Spar	100 tons	\$2,000
Coal	1200 tons	\$8,400
Wood	50 cords	\$8,000
Other Materials	60 tons	\$250
Total		\$27,150

Products

Kinds	Quantities	Value
White Earthen Ware	1600 crates & casks	\$58,550

Motive Power

Power Type	Horsepower
1 Steam Engine	15

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

1870 Industrial Census

City Pottery

3C

Machines

Name or description	Number
Grinding Pans & Jiggers	15

Average Number of Hands Employed

Male Hands Above 16 31

Female Hands Above 15 6

Children 14

Yearly Wages \$26,000

Months in Operation 10