

Greenwood Pottery

7B

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Other Names | Greenwood Pottery Company; Greenwood China Company |
| Present Day Municipality | City of Trenton |
| Historic Municipality | City of Trenton |
| Historic Location | E. Canal St. near Grand; E. Canal St. near Creek; E. Canal St. on State St.; E. Canal near Mercer Cemetery; Canal near Creek; E. Canal near Grand Ave.; E. Canal near Clinton; 2 Canal near S. Clinton Ave. |
| Years in Operation | 1868-1931 |
| Owners/Operators | Greenwood Pottery Company (1868-1890); Greenwood China Company (1890-1931); James Tams and James P. Stephens (1882) |

PRODUCTS

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| Tableware <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Garden Ceramics <input type="checkbox"/> | Rockingham <input type="checkbox"/> | Other <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Hardware <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Art Ceramics <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Toilet Sets <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Sanitary ware <input type="checkbox"/> | Hotel China <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Electrical porcelain <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |

ADDITIONAL PRODUCT INFORMATION

vitrified hotel china, hotel goods a specialty, dinner, tea and toilet ware in half-thick, decorated sets, knobs, lock finishings, electric supplies, etc. of vitrified ware, while novelties (Industries of New Jersey 1882:167); vitrified and translucent china, hotel ware and specialty items (Woodward and Hageman 1883); "American China" (Young 1879:463); vitrified chinaware (Industrial Directory 1901, 1906, 1909, 1912, 1918); vitrified hotel china (Industrial Directory 1927); vitrified china (Industrial Directory 1931)

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MAP REFERENCES

- Beers 1870: shown as "Greenwood Pottery Co."
- Everts & Stewart 1875: shown as "Greenwood Pottery"
- Robinson 1881, plate K: shown as "Greenwood Pottery"
- Haven 1882: shown as "Greenwood Pottery"
- Sanborn 1874 (1886), plate 10: shown as "Greenwood Pottery Co."
- Sanborn 1890, plate 23: shown as "Greenwood Pottery Co."
- Scarlett & Scarlett 1890, plate K: shown as "Greenwood Pottery Co."
- Lathrop 1905, plate 7: shown as "Greenwood Pottery Co."
- Sanborn 1908, vol. 2, plate 105: shown as "Greenwood Pottery Co."
- Sanborn 1927, vol.1, plate 16: shown as "Greenwood Pottery Co."
- Franklin 1930, plate 17: shown as "Greenwood Pottery Co."

IMAGE REFERENCES

- Woodward and Hageman 1883:692
- Trentoniana Collection, Trenton Public Library: historic photograph

DUN COLLECTION

NOTES

"Be it enacted by the State and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey that Charles Brearley, James P. Stephens, James Tams, Isaac Stephens, George Brearley and their Associates be, and are hereby created a body politic and corporate, in fact and in law, by the name and style of the `Greenwood Pottery Company' for the purpose of manufacturing, selling and dealing earthenware and crockery of various descriptions... approved March 5, 1868" (Acts of the Ninety-Second Legislature 1868:238).

"On July 1st, 1868, a stock company was formed, and the works were improved and doubled in

capacity ... Their manufactures are vitrified hotel china, and hotel goods are made a specialty. They make dinner, tea and toilet ware in half-thick. Decorated sets are supplied to order ... An important branch of the business, and a comparatively new one, is the manufacture of knobs, lock finishings, electric supplies, etc. of vitrified ware, while novelties of all kinds are being produced and perfected. The premises are 250x125 feet in dimensions, on which has been erected from time to time various buildings, devoted to the several departments of the business, two and three stories in height, built of brick, but which have now been united and brought under one roof on the east, forming a front of 225 feet, with a west wing 50x125 feet, another 50x100, and a third 50x80 feet. There are also the usual sheds, stables, etc., a railroad switch, and every convenience for shipment by rail or water, as well as the receipt of coal, clays, etc. There are six kilns and kiln sheds, three devoted to gloss and three to bisque, while the capacity is equal to seven of ordinary size. Two decorating kilns are also in use. A thirty-horse engine supplies the motive power and heats the buildings by means of steam pipes.

Steady employment is given to 150 hands ... The officers of the Company are James Tams, President, and James P. Stephens is the Secretary and Treasurer. They own the fine property they occupy, the lot being 600x125 feet in dimensions. The capital is \$200,000, of which \$74,400 is paid in" (Industries of New Jersey 1882:167).

In 1881 the Greenwood Pottery Co. operated six kilns and employed one hundred fifty hands (Woodward and Hageman 1883:693).

"Until 1876 they made white granite or stone china ware. The mark used from 1865 to 1876 was the coat-of-arms of the State of New Jersey above the words 'Ironstone China' and 'G. P. Co.' This was printed black underglaze. The first table porcelain made at this pottery was stamped 'G. P. Co.'" (Newark Museum Association 1914:22).

A fire broke out on the site in October 1882 (Harney 1929).

"The company made white granite ware, stone china, vitrified and translucent china, and a wide assortment of electrical and hardware items.

Greenwood also made a fine porcelain art line, typically decorated in the Royal Worcester style ..." (Robinson and Feeny 1980:66).

"The pottery was incorporated in 1868 as the Greenwood Pottery Co. By that date, it had five kilns, which made it among the largest potteries then in operation. It continued to expand, absorbing the defunct National Pottery Co. into its complex. The company also formed the Greenwood China Co. in 1890 consisting of a new plant on Muirhead Avenue and the Eagle Pottery on Clinton Street" (Goldberg 1998:48).

Note: no clear evidence from maps that the Greenwood Pottery ever expanded on to the site of the

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National Pottery Company on the north side of Grand Avenue.

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1870 Industrial Census

Greenwood Pottery

7B

Pottery Name in Census

Greenwood Pottery Co.

Capital Invested

\$50,000.00

Materials (Including Mill Supplies and Fuel)

| Kinds | Quantities | Value |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Clay | 600 tons | \$9,000 |
| Flint & Spar | 450 tons | \$9,000 |
| Coal | 1300 tons | \$7,000 |
| Chemicals | 25 tons | \$5,000 |
| Total | | \$30,000 |

Products

| Kinds | Quantities | Value |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------|
|--------------|-------------------|--------------|

Motive Power

| Power Type | Horsepower |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Steam & Hand Engine | 30 |

Machines

| Name or description | Number |
|----------------------------|---------------|
|----------------------------|---------------|

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1870 Industrial Census

Greenwood Pottery

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Blungers, Grinding
Pans, Pug Mill

Hydraulic Presses 25

Ware [illegible] Hand &
Steam

Average Number of Hands Employed

Male Hands Above 16 50

Female Hands Above 15 15

Children 35

Yearly Wages \$35,000

Months in Operation 8

1880 Industrial Census

Greenwood Pottery

7B

Pottery Name in Census

Greenwood Pottery Co.

Capital Invested

\$135,000.00

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Number of Hands | 150 |
| Males Above 16 | 100 |
| Females Above 15 | 25 |
| Children | 25 |
| Work Hours in a Day (May to November) | 10 |
| Work Hours in a Day (November to May) | 10 |
| Skilled Mechanic Wages Per Day | \$3 |
| Ordinary Laborer Wages Per Day | \$1 |
| Total Wages in Year | \$53,500 |
| Months in Full-time Operation | 12 |
| Months in 3/4-time Operation | 0 |
| Months in 1/2-time Operation | 0 |
| Months Idle | 0 |
| Value of Material (Including Mill Supplies and Fuel) | \$75,000 |
| Value of Product | \$117,000 |
| Number of Boilers | 2 |
| Number of Engines | 1 |
| Horse Power | 25 |