

## #75 Moorcroft Pitcher

**\$15.00**

**Grandma Paid**

**From: Grandma**  
A gift



### **OLD Moorcroft Pitcher/Cruet—RARE—Signed Script**

#### **Description:**

Beautiful piece of Moorcroft pottery is a pitcher or small cruet. 4 1/2" by 2 5/8" tall. 1912 to 1915 or so and it is stamped with a "12" and "W Moorcroft" in a script signature. It is the lovely "Pomegranate" pattern with a green/blue background. Rare piece in excellent condition.

**Winning Bid:**

**\$1,092.00**

**Ended:** 5/19/03

**History:** 19 bids

**Starting Bid:** \$99, \$499 reserve

**Winner:** Monmouthshire, GB

**Viewed**

**000541 X**

# Moorcroft Pitcher #75

## The Story

My grandmother always loved Moorcroft pottery. It was not easy to find and she only ever had two pieces. One was this small pitcher or cruet that she had bought in England. Sometimes on rainy days we would take a break from pricing and she would show me her collections. She was telling me about this Moorcroft piece on one such day and I told her how beautiful I thought it was. She said, "You like it, it's yours." "Grandma, you give me far too many things." "No, I want you to have it," she said. "Don't say another word." She got one of the little scrap cards that were always around and wrote "Property of Lynn Dralle" and taped it to the base. We usually left the things that she gave us in her home in her cupboards so that she could still enjoy them. But we knew that they were now ours.

When my grandmother started in the antiques business in the 1940's, there weren't a lot of written materials available to help dealers learn about their wares. Antiques reference guides were few and far between. One of the ways my grandmother acquired some of her knowledge was by reading antiques magazines like *Hobbies* and *Antiques Dealer*. One of her favorites in later years was the *Antique Trader*. We bought and sold many things through this great publication. She would cut out any pertinent advertisements or articles and place them inside the items they referred to. This Moorcroft pitcher had one of those little scraps of paper

tucked inside. It was a clipping from the *Antique Trader* in 1990 which listed a Moorcroft vase for sale for \$1,010, so we knew the pitcher was a good piece.

Moorcroft was originally founded in 1897 in England as a studio within a larger company, Macintyre Potteries. The designer was 24-year-old William Moorcroft, who soon began to sign or initial each piece of pottery he produced. This did little for the Macintyre company, and in 1912 William Moorcroft went out on his own. He began making his most popular "Pomegranate" ware around 1914. Queen Mary collected his pottery, and in 1928 he was named "Potter to the Queen." He passed away in 1945 and control of the company went to his son, Walter. The company is still in business and their pottery is fabulous.

I decided to sell this piece and found that it had the script signature of the actual William Moorcroft! The other piece my grandmother had was just signed with a stamped signature. I knew this made it a great piece and I put it on with a \$499 reserve. It sold for \$1,092 and went back to Great Britain. We got more than she had thought it was worth in 1990. She would have been happy!

