

Watt Pottery Pitcher



Watt pottery pitcher #15 - rustic Tulips USA Vintage

Description:

Classic pitcher from Watt Pottery of Ohio. Tulip motif appears on one side only. Marked "Watt, Made in USA, 15." Partially unglazed on the bottom. Please note there are a few crazes along the bottom rim and three chips along the spout.

Winning Bid:

\$200.50

Ended: 12/3/06
History: 8 bids
Starting Bid: \$9.97
Winner: Wisconsin

Viewed

000210 X

Watt Pottery Pitcher

Sally's Story (eBay ID: kimbesascloset)

I should have remembered Watt Pottery from Lynn's second *100 Best* book (item #7) although that was the American Red Bud (Tear Drop) pattern and this pitcher is the Tulip pattern.

I didn't buy this the first time I saw it at one of my favorite local thrift stores because of the crazing and chips. But it was still there after three weeks, on a day when red tags were half price, and I liked it. So I bought it for the half-off price, 99 cents.

I listed it on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, and started the bidding at \$9.97. It got its first bid almost immediately (a good sign) and within a couple of days was in the \$50 range. That got my attention! I decided I'd better do some research. Information was not hard to find.

Watt Pottery was a family-owned business in Perry County, Ohio. The Tulip pattern was introduced around 1961. Watt closed in 1965, after the factory burned down. Today there is an active collector website and the bidding on eBay for Watt pieces is usually quite lively when they come up for auction. Tulip, not to be confused with another pattern called Dutch Tulip, appears to be less common than some of other Watt patterns.

The Tulip pitcher turned out to be my first dramatic experience with a low-cost item that ended up selling for a tidy profit. It was also exciting to see what I learned from this experience.

First, expect to find goodies, no matter how picked over you think a store or sale may be. Thrift store employees are not looking up everything, even things that are well

marked. In this case, the pitcher had bold embossed lettering on the bottom. You couldn't ask for better marking, and information was easy to find.

Second, keep adding to your knowledge. I'm continuing to work my way through all the books about pottery, china and glass that are available through my local library co-op. I'm also adding to and constantly reviewing my personal book collection, which includes Lynn's *100 Best* books, so I can absorb everything in them!

Third, don't be afraid to experiment. After all, how can you learn if you don't try new things? If you're not making any mistakes, you're not learning. (I keep reminding myself on a regular basis.)

We're fortunate here in the Midwest because I believe geography works in our favor when it comes to some of the great pottery that was made in Ohio in the last century. No matter what you're searching for, everything you want is out there waiting for you to find it, and you will if you keep looking.

Believe me, yellowware in general, and Watt in particular, is at the top of the shopping list I take with me on my dish safaris!

