

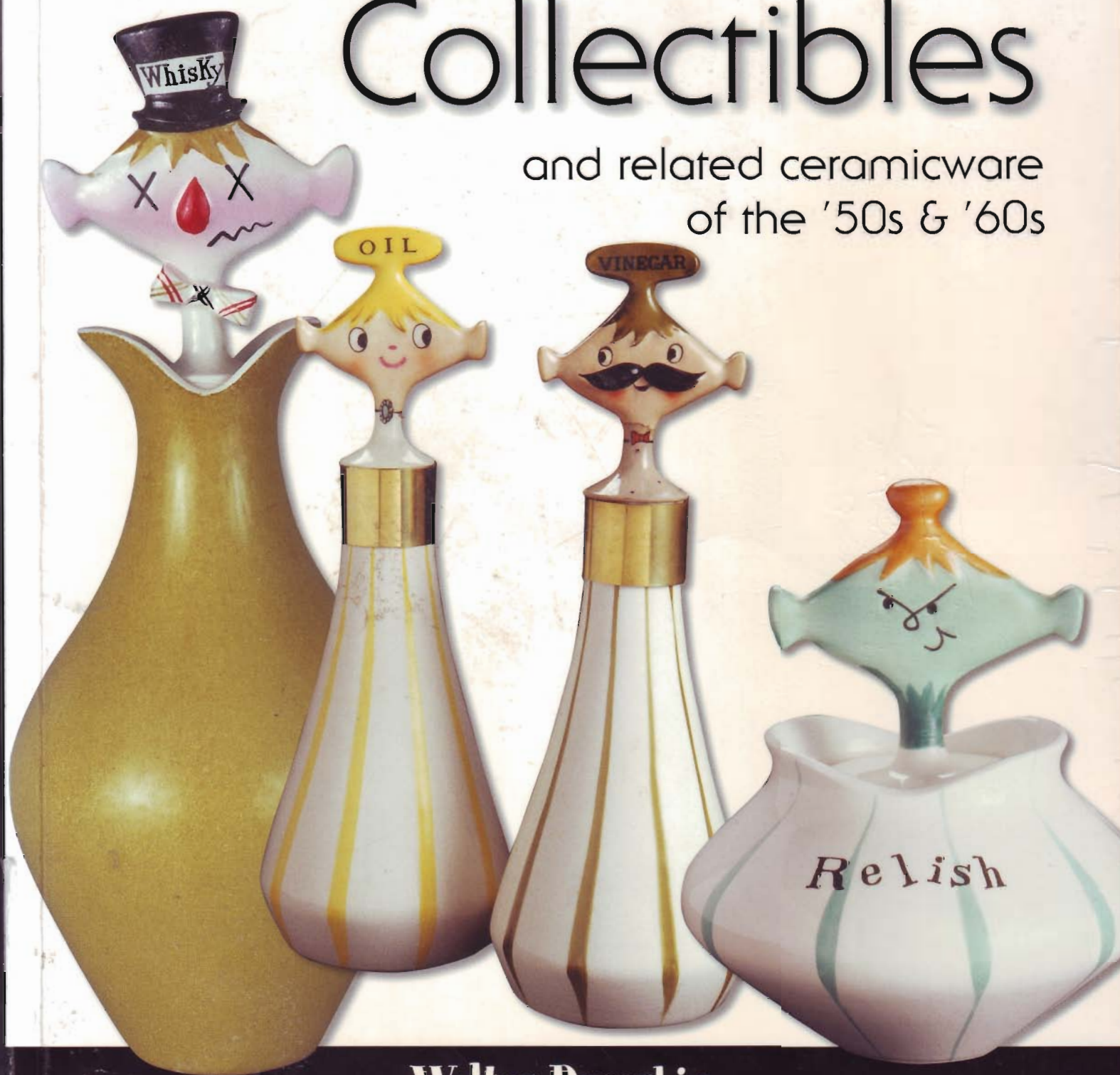
Price Guide to

2nd edition

Holt-Howard

Collectibles

and related ceramicware
of the '50s & '60s



Walter Dworkin

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Dedication

This book is dedicated to Randy Vaccaro, a true friend and companion who really knows the meaning of giving and without whose support and help this book would never have been possible.

Also to Florence Dworkin and in loving memory of Bernard Dworkin, two wonderful loving parents whose lifelong support and caring have always meant the world to me.

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Christine Cuddeback has been so wonderful in sharing her Holt-Howard eagle, pheasant and mallard collections for this book, and her adorable Holt-Howard cubs collection. Thanks, Christine, for all your great photos and support for this book.

Jane Tischler donated many wonderful photos of her Holt-Howard cats and I am grateful for all her photos and support to make the Cozy Kittens chapter and John Buck Cozy Kittens of this book complete.

A very special thank you to Maddy Gordon for all her help with Chapter 15 of this book. Maddy is the president of the Head Vase Club. The organization consists of more than 600 members, issues a quarterly newsletter entitled "Head Hunters," and holds its annual national convention in Florida. For more information, contact Maddy Gordon at P.O. Box 83H, Scarsdale, NY 10583, or by telephone at (914) 472-0200.

Thank you so much, Judy Yates, for sharing your wonderful collection with me and supplying me with so many rare photos for this book. Your efforts have provided many missing links for this book and I am grateful for all your help.

Fate was shining brightly on me the day I found the photographers for this book. I can't help but express a world of gratitude to Mary and Joe Van Blerck of Van Blerck Photography for all their wonderful photography for my first edition.

Today, I am so grateful to Brenner Lennon Photo Productions for their creative talent, photographic expertise, and dedication to this book. Many thanks to Chris Holm, a talented photographer from the Brenner Lennon studio whose dedicated support and creativity are much appreciated. Brenner Lennon Photo Productions, 125 Newtown Road, Plainview, NY 11803; Web site: www.brennerlennon.com; e-mail: info@brennerlennon.com; phone: (516) 752-0610 or (212) 741-9733.

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On a very special note of memory and thanks:

I can't help but to express so much appreciation once again to the late Jon Brecka of Krause Publications. We both worked together on my first volume of Holt-Howard, and he was a wealth of support and expertise in his field. Although Jon is no longer with us, I am grateful for all his professionalism, guidance, and encouragement to create my first book. Jon would have been so proud to see this second edition of Holt-Howard.



Introduction

Welcome to Yesteryear

Welcome to a world of novelty ceramic collectibles from yesteryear. The time was the late 1950s through the early 1960s when so many collectibles were being manufactured in and imported from Japan. This era has become a nostalgic time for us in the United States, always reminding us of past holidays and times gone by. Although this era is gone forever, it has left us with a treasure-trove of wonderful novelty collectibles to seek, purchase, display and enjoy.

For Baby Boomers who grew up in the late 1950s, it was a wonderful period of creativity and transition. Rock 'n Roll was born, which turned our country upside down. Beautifully designed streamlined cars with large tailfins that looked like rocket ships were invading our highways. Danish modern furniture was the home-decorating rage, pushing almost all of grandma's antiques out the front door. It was a time of Dick Clark's *American Bandstand*, sock hops, poodle skirts, bobby socks and greasy D.A. hairdos. The *I Love Lucy* show took America by storm, and Marilyn Monroe and James Dean had risen to movie-idol status.

The 1950s was also a time of expansion. New homes were cropping up everywhere, affording people the luxury of space (both indoors and out). As a result, many families now had full-size kitchens, dining rooms and dens to display their cherished belongings and collectibles. Best of all, barbecue grills were popping up everywhere, which created a market for condiment jars of all kinds. Americans now needed portable containers and jars to transport condiments and other goodies outdoors to picnic tables and grill areas.

During the late 1950s, with almost perfect timing, a most creative and clever company named Holt-Howard was developing a revolutionary new concept in deep-glazed ceramics called "Pixiewares." These containers included covered condiment jars featuring whimsical pixie heads on top.

Due to the huge success of Pixiewares, other novelty companies such as Davar, Lefton, Lipper & Mann, and Napco, all began to copy Holt-Howard's style. While each company made creative condiment jars, the Davar Company practically copied the Pixieware copyrighted design. Although many other companies' jars were different, they were all competing for sales around the same time—the 1950s and early 1960s. Today, many of these condiment jars have also become highly collectible and some are commanding top dollar at antiques and collectibles shows.

A Collector Is Born

My first encounter with Pixiewares was in a hardware store that carried a large line of kitchen-related items. While paying for hardware supplies at the register, I looked up at a row of about 10 Pixiewares adorning a shelf. I decided to purchase four of them as an anniversary gift for my parents. My parents adored the gift. Every day, these pixies were a part of our family meals in the kitchen. After many years, my folks changed residence to a smaller apartment and I was asked to adopt them.

For years to follow, these four jars were on display in my home and I always regretted not purchasing more of the now-discontinued set. (Little did I know that there were more than 60 pieces to the set.) It wasn't until friends stopped by one day and mentioned that they saw Pixiewares at various flea markets and collectibles shows that I realized that there was a possibility that I could hunt for more of these whimsical novelties. Soon the hunt was on and the rest is history.

I guess I was always a closet collector but never faced up to it until the Holt-Howard Company came into my life. My very first awareness of the Holt-Howard Company was with my Pixieware collection. I never knew what else the company manufactured or sold. As I pursued my hunt for the elusive pixies, other adorable Holt-Howard novelty ceramics began popping up at collectibles shows. A whole new world opened up for me, and a collector was born.

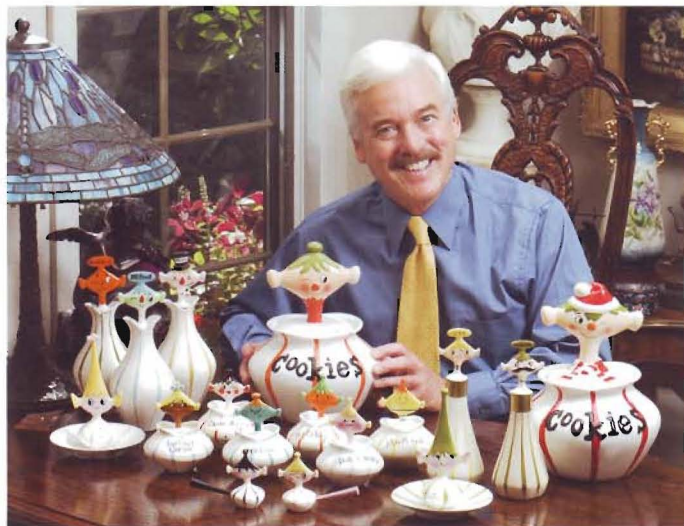
The Need for This Book

Very little had been written about Holt-Howard or the competing companies until my first edition was published in 1998. Now it gives me great pleasure to introduce a second edition with updated prices and twice as much information, including eight more chapters.

In the past, while attending collectibles shows and flea markets, I had noticed Pixieware heads on the incorrect jar bottoms and even other companies' jar components mixed with Holt-Howard's. After seeing these mix ups, it became evident that a reference on this subject was necessary. I'm pleased to report that now many of these mismatches have been cleared up. Today, because of my first book, buyers and sellers "in the know" are seeing and purchasing condiment jars with the correct components.

Although The Holt-Howard Company existed until 1990, this book focuses on the whimsical products it

created from the late 1950s through the early 1960s. But I have also included many of pieces from competing companies as well. This information will help you distinguish Holt-Howard's products from others. Also in this second edition are many exciting discoveries of condiment jars, knockoffs and copy cats, as well as updated pricing.



About the Author

Walter Dworkin was raised in Queens, N.Y. A graduate of Far Rockaway High School, he attended Queens College in Flushing, N.Y., as a foreign language major. During his long career with the New York Telephone Company, he served as an assistant engineer and purchasing agent.

In 1994, after 30 years of telephone service, he took advantage of an early retirement incentive and is presently enjoying a second career at Hicks Nurseries, Westbury, Long Island, N.Y., one of the most famous and prestigious nurseries in the country, pursuing his other hobby and second love, horticulture. Walt has served as president and a member of the board of directors of many horticultural societies on Long Island. He has created several new hybrids and is a nationally recognized hybridizer of begonias. He has written several articles for local and national collectibles magazines, as well as horticultural organizations; also, The Brooklyn Botanical Gardens and National Begonian published his experiences on hybridizing begonias.

In 1998, Walt published his first book with Krause Publications, titled *Holt-Howard Collectibles and Related Ceramicwares of the '50s & '60s*. The book's success not only created nostalgic excitement with established collectors, but also created an entire new generation of Holt-Howard collectors. Walt has been featured in numerous magazines, and has appeared on several TV shows, including *Treasures In Your Attic*, HGTV's *Ultimate Collectors*, and TV Channel

21 News with Chancy Howell. Walt is also an adviser to *Warman's Antiques and Collectibles Price Guide*.

In 2004, Walt published his second book with Krause Publications, titled *Vintage Christmas Ceramic Collectibles*, which explores the vintage world of Christmas collectibles that were made in Japan from the 1950s through the early 1960s.

About the Prices

The prices in this book were formulated as guidelines and should not be used to establish a fixed price. The prices are a compilation of averages from different parts of the country. Prices vary from region to region. In certain areas of the country, Holt-Howard and other collectibles are more plentiful than in others, so supply-and-demand can affect prices. Scarcity of a highly desirable collectible influences the price that a collector is willing to pay. Rare pieces will always command more money than common ones. Rare pieces are generally the result of a limited production of an item, or the piece's fragility (causing it to break easily and almost become extinct over the years).

Another factor governing the true value of a piece is its condition. Any collectible that is chipped, cracked or faded should not be bought or sold at top dollar, as if it were in perfect condition. As a devout collector, I would rather purchase a rare piece with minor damage than never have the opportunity to possess it again in my lifetime; however, I would not expect to pay top dollar for a flawed collectible.

The cost a dealer incurs to purchase an item will also affect the final resale price. The decision is yours as to whether or not to make the purchase, but bear in mind that you will probably want to recover your costs should you decide to part with your cherished possession.

The price guidelines in this book are retail prices—what you can expect to pay for an item from a dealer at a collectibles show or flea market. Although auction prices that appear on the Internet and other sources have been factored into these prices, they cannot be used exclusively to determine value. Auction prices often involve bidding wars and are not a reflection of true market prices.

Also, keep in mind that prices can change. A sudden influx of new collectors with new money could raise the entire Holt-Howard market in a few years. As a final note, remember that the publishing world is not a perfect one, and typographical or other unintended errors might sneak into this book. If you see something you believe is wrong, please bring it to my attention so it can be corrected in future printings or editions. Neither the author or publisher of this book are responsible for monetary losses that may occur to any person consulting this book for pricing information.

The Holt-Howard Company

The Birth of a Legendary Company

The Howards, brothers John and Robert, grew up in Walpole, Mass. They met Grant Holt of Evanston, Ill., while all three were students at Amherst College, in Amherst, Mass. Their parents encouraged the three students to go into business for themselves, and their families loaned them \$9,000 to do so. John and Robert Howard and Grant Holt started the Holt-Howard Company in 1949 in an apartment on East 35th Street in Manhattan, New York. Not having its own official office, the new company used 475 Fifth Ave. in Manhattan as its mail-drop address. Eventually, as the company grew, the three entrepreneurs opened an office at 126 E. 28th St., Manhattan, and a showroom at 225 Fifth Ave., also known as Manhattan's Gift Center Building.

While all three loved to sell, Robert Howard took responsibility for product development, John Howard took over sales management, and Grant Holt handled financial affairs and office operations. In the early days, the company tried to conduct all its transactions within the United States. It was only later that it became primarily an importer. The concentration in the first few years was strictly on Christmas items. John Howard recalled that Holt-Howard's first successful holiday item was an "Angel-Abra." Shortly after releasing the "Angel-Abra," Holt-Howard's Christmas line became extremely successful and launched the young company on the road to success.

John Howard said that Christmas and kitchen-related giftware items were the company's most feasible and popular commodities in the 1950s. Although Christmas and holiday items were important to the growth of the company, Holt-Howard did not want to become a seasonal company only, so it branched out into kitchen-related items. The firm's confidence in the success of kitchen-related items was the catalyst that led to the creation of the famous Pixieware line. As Holt-Howard continued its expansion into kitchen accessories, it also started designing Santa coffee mugs and pitchers. The company's Santa coffee mugs became so popular that it began creating coffee mugs for daily use.

Because of this success, Holt-Howard was credited with pioneering the coffee mug as we know it today. Prior to 1950, mugs were not common.

In 1955, Holt-Howard moved its headquarters from New York City to Spruce Street in Stamford, Conn. Holt-Howard remained a Connecticut-based company, eventually moving to 7 Market St. and finally to 200 Henry St. Even though Holt-Howard had relocated, it still maintained its showroom in New York and issued new catalogs annually. Holt-Howard was comprised of four companies: Holt-Howard Canada, Holt-Howard West, Holt-Howard International, plus it had 45 percent ownership of John E. Buck & Co. Ltd., in Colchester, England. Its distribution and warehousing centers were located in Stamford; San Rafael, Calif.; and Toronto, Canada. During the 1950s, the U.S. West Coast market was much smaller, but Holt-Howard eventually expanded into California and opened its first showroom in Los Angeles. The fact that the West Coast expansion took place later is perhaps the main reason why Pixieware and other Holt-Howard collectibles have always been less prevalent on the West Coast than on the East Coast.

The End of an Era

General Housewares Corporation purchased Holt-Howard in 1968 and made it, and the Colonial Candle Company, part of its Giftware Group. Shortly thereafter, headquarters were moved to Hyannis, Mass. By 1974, the three original partners had left the company. The focus of the new owners changed, and the business slowly deteriorated. Finally, in 1990, Kay Dee Designs of Rhode Island bought what remained of Holt-Howard. There is no longer a line carrying the Holt-Howard brand name.

John Howard remains active managing a houseware importing company called Grant-Howard Associates in Norwalk, Conn. Robert Howard died in 1990, and A. Grant Holt is retired.

Signatures and Stickers

Holt-Howard marked and copyright dated most of its collectibles with an ink stamp. However, certain tiny pieces were not marked because of a lack of space, so a foil sticker was sometimes applied instead. These items may have just read "HH" or nothing at all.

On Holt-Howard collectibles made abroad, the word "Japan" was included as part of the ink backstamp or printed on the foil label. Occasionally, Holt-Howard used numeric identification codes such as 6128L or 6457 to identify its merchandise.

Foil labels were used on many Holt-Howard collectibles displayed in this book, especially on collectibles from the late 1950s and early 1960s. The label colors varied from black and gold, silver and gold, and red and gold. Most Pixieware pieces had the black and gold label. The Christmas collectibles usually had the red and gold version of this label, but during the early 1960s, the rectangular silver and gold foil label was also used.



1958 ink backstamp (Photo by Van Blerck Photography).



1958 ink backstamp (Photo by Van Blerck Photography).



1959 ink backstamp (Photo by Van Blerck Photography).



1960 ink backstamp (Photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Black and silver foil label (Photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Red and gold foil label (Photo by Van Blerck Photography).

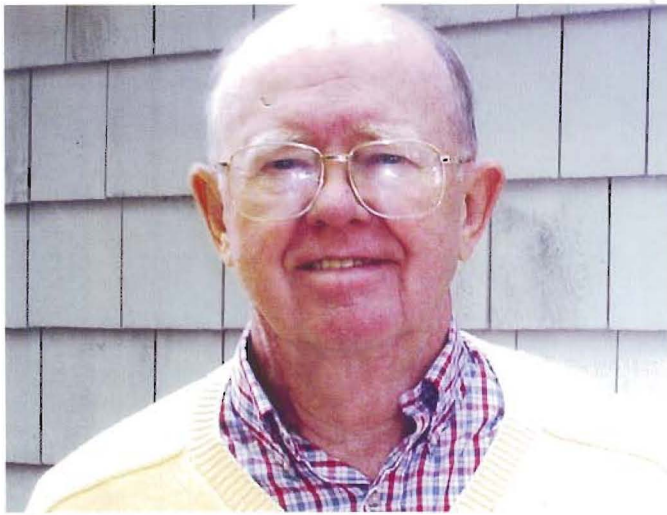


Black and gold foil label (Photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Silver and gold foil label (Photo by Van Blerck Photography).

A Word from John Howard: Strategic Planning and The Holt-Howard Company



John Howard

"In the very early days of Holt-Howard, strategic planning was not part of our vocabulary. We operated more on a day-to-day survival plan, where it was a case of sell, sell, sell and keep the overhead down. We persevered and were able to progress from an office in our apartment to a Fifth Avenue mail drop, and within two years a real office on E. 28th Street in Manhattan. Finally, within another couple of years we had our own showroom in the important 225 Fifth Avenue Trade Showroom Building.

"In Walter's first book, Grant Holt related how Holt-Howard learned that product uniqueness and innovation were critical to the growth of the business. Also that competitive cost factors pretty much required that we source overseas in Japan if we were to remain in the hand-decorated ceramic business. In the post World War II years, Japan had the reputation of producing low-cost, low quality products. We soon found out, however, that Japan had top-quality ceramic manufacturers if you were willing to pay a little more for your product. We also found that only the better quality sources were able to interpret and produce our unique new shapes and designs. Thus, we slowly developed a group of capable and loyal quality suppliers who welcomed the challenge of creating our designs and whose products enabled us to market a top-quality product at excellent prices.

"While the product development capability was being expanded, we were growing our sales force with coverage in all states and with showroom representatives in all major markets. It was at about this point that we found we needed to plan further ahead for what we had been doing. In today's world it would be called strategic planning, but in those days it was simply longer-term planning. We could no longer fly by the seat of our pants. The marketing areas of product development and sales were our prime consideration, but we also had to grow the important support areas of the business at the same time.

"The demand for continuous innovative product, frequent overseas trips, and follow-up communications called for enlarging

our product development staff, which Bob Howard managed and was the chief creator. He generally found that hiring designers right out of art school worked best. A talented group of designers were brought on board during the following years, one of whom, Curt Blanchard, had a very successful career with Holt-Howard and, later on with his own development company. To give the group its own identity, it was called Holt-Howard International. In later years, HHI found time to do creative work and sourcing for other companies, one of which was Colonial Candle.

"We were keeping our factories so busy working on so many new products that they finally raised the minimum orders to undertake production. This requirement, which couldn't always be satisfied by our existing sales organization, forced us to find ways to meet them.

"Our first step was to review and enlarge our sales distribution within the 48 contiguous states. Our West Coast sales reps had long complained about the negative impact of high freight costs from our Stamford, Conn., warehouse. We knew it was a problem, but the requirements of duplicate inventories and staffing deterred us. The West Coast market was growing faster than the rest of the country, and it responded strongly to our designs, so after much research, we worked out a warehousing program with a northern California manufacturer/distributor, and thus was born Holt-Howard West.

"We had also found a receptive market in Canada. After many trips to Toronto and Montreal, we set up Holt-Howard Canada Ltd. The original home was in Montreal, and subsequently, the operation was moved to Toronto.

"So within a couple of years we had added over 30 percent in sales volume, which along with the steady growth of the base company (HHA), enabled us to satisfy factory minimums and in some cases forced them to increase their capacity.

"Maintaining and supplying three warehouses put a strain on our finances, but our banks liked our numbers and supported our expansion efforts with the necessary funds. Our North American expansion was completed in the early 1960s.

"While the foregoing was taking place, we had taken a couple of trips to Europe to explore distribution opportunities there—specifically in England, France, Germany, Holland, and Denmark. We had inquiries in response to trade ads that prompted this effort. It became apparent after discussions with retailers and distributors in these countries that our styling and designs were more compatible with the English market than with the others. However, even there, significant differences existed. For example, in the kitchen storage area there was no acceptance of cookie jars or canisters. On the other hand, the Christmas decoration tastes were quite similar, and this was still a big part of our business.

"At a meeting with a major London department store, we were given the name of John E. Buck & Company as a progressive and creative top-notch importer. After a couple of meetings, we agreed to work together, with JEB becoming the exclusive distributor for Holt-Howard products in Great Britain. There was one major obstacle to selling HH Japan products in Europe. This was the small quota established post-World War II by each country's government to protect local industries. Even if an importer was able to obtain some

of the quota, it was so small that an aggressive marketing program couldn't be supported by product. John Buck showed great flexibility with the philosophy, 'If we can't buy from Japan, let's try to make it in England or Europe.' The subsequent long-time association with John Buck was a beneficial and pleasurable one for HH, and we ultimately became a 45 percent investor/owner in John E. Buck & Co. Ltd.

"Product-wise, Holt-Howard initially developed and sold Christmas related products. After the first year, it became apparent we needed products to sell year round in order to grow and survive. Over the next couple of years, we probed different fields by developing/selling products to the stationery, decorative giftware, and gift houseware markets. We eventually found our greatest success in the gift houseware market, which would best be described as functional kitchen or tabletop products that are made more saleable by adding decorative features.

"Our decision was made largely by the immediate acceptance of and sales created by coffee mugs. Prior to the mid-1950s, drinking coffee or tea from anything but a cup/saucer was unheard of in the Canadian and European markets, and to a lesser degree in the U.S. We were often told we couldn't be serious if we thought the traditional serving way would change. Within five years consumer convenience clearly won out over tradition, particularly in North America, as mugs became a permanent part of everyday living. Ultimately, Europe was won over to the convenience and functionality of coffee mugs.

"We then proceeded to build our kitchen accessories line by developing new shapes and designs in salt and peppers, canister sets, cookie jars, napkin holders, spoon rests, condiment holders, trivets and cutting boards.

"En route to focusing on gift houseware, we developed the famous Pixieware and Cozy Kittens lines. They were huge successes and carried the company for several years while we were seeking the basic product medium that would provide a more permanent base for the company. Our product development staff was always seeking 'home runs' in new novelty groupings, but this emphasis would slow down as the base became more established and demanded more attention.

"Holt-Howard continued to prosper throughout the '60s. Finally, the financial demands for continued growth forced us to seek funds beyond what our local banks could provide. The options were to seek financing through underwriting or to seek out a merger. The latter opportunity arose when a N.Y. Stock Exchange Company, General Housewares, proposed that HH become the nucleus of a new division they would set up to be called The Giftware Group.

"The merger took place in 1970, and we helped bring Colonial Candle and Carousel Candle into the group. We, the principals of Holt-Howard who were entrepreneurs at heart, found the confinements of the larger corporate culture a bit restrictive. Eventually we left to form new companies: Bob Howard to start an International Design and Sourcing company called IBC, and Grant Holt and John Howard later on to start Grant-Howard Associates, a gift houseware marketing company. Both companies still exist today while, unfortunately, Holt-Howard as a business entity has faded away. However, its legacy is secure in the demand for its collectibles and in the established lifestyle characteristic of the coffee mug."

—John Howard



Tomato Soup and Sandwich Snack Set, \$15-\$20 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Holt-Howard Tomato and Sandwich Snack Set

Holt-Howard created this set in 1962 for the Campbell's Soup Company for a Campbell's Soup promotion.

Holt-Howard 1958 Pixieware

Pixieware Memories

As I reflect on the last nine years since my first Holt-Howard Book was published, I remain in awe at the tremendous response from collectors all over the country to the Holt-Howard Company's Pixieware line. These cute condiment jars and related household imps have truly stolen everyone's heart and turned out to be one of the hottest collectibles in America today. Collectors both young and old can't get enough of them. My first book was able to clear up all the confusion that existed for decades about the Pixieware clan and their cousin knockoffs. Today it gives me great joy to attend collectibles and antique shows and see all the correct pixie heads on their proper bases due to the education my readers have obtained from my book.

I can't help but reflect over so many of the Pixieware questions that collectors have always asked me. The foremost asked question is whether a pixie cookie jar was ever made. The answer is not during the 1950s; however, as you will see in Chapter 4, an entire second generation of Pixieware was created from 2002 to 2004 by Mr. John Howard and Curt Blanchard (both of the former Holt-Howard company).

Mr. Howard and Mr. Blanchard established an agreement to create more Pixieware. As a result, two wonderful cookie

jars were created to match the vintage pixies of yesteryear, along with 16 other second-generation Pixieware.

The second most asked question is how many Pixies were created in the 1950s, and how many are needed to complete a set. The total number of vintage U.S. Pixieware pieces is 64 (excluding the Australian orange pixie Hors d' Oeuvres girl and the British Pixieware). These 64 include both the solid-colored and striped Pixieware liquor decanters, and the cocktail Cherries, Onion and Olives.



Pixieware Hang Tag



Parry Pretzel Pixies Hors d' Oeuvres embellished with snacks to replicate a vintage Holt-Howard catalog advertisement (*Dworkin collection, photos by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Party Pretzel Pixies Hors d' Oeuvres Dishes, Small Size, \$190-\$200, Large Size, \$275+ (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).

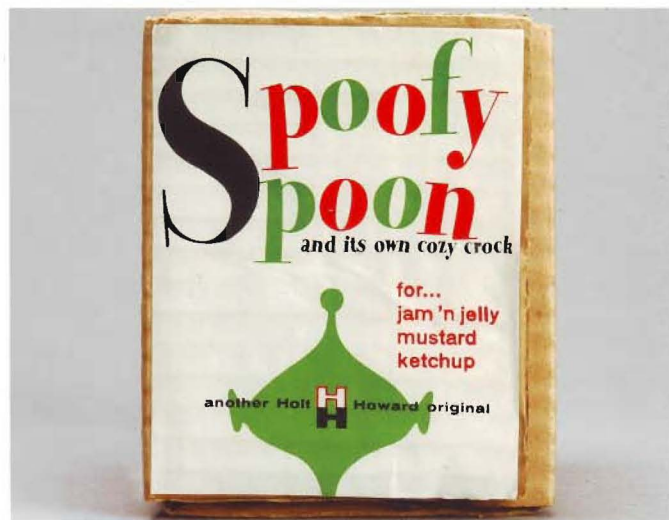
Party Pretzel Pixies Hors d' Oeuvres

Another big question is why the Party Pretzel Pixies Hors d' Oeuvres dishes have such huge cone-shaped top knots. The answer is that their shape and size make it easier to stack pretzels on their heads. Some of us are fortunate enough to have copies of vintage Holt-Howard catalogs, and if you look in the Pixieware section, you can see the girl pixie all decked out for an evening of entertaining. In this catalog, she is adorned with hors d' oeuvres scattered about her underplate, stuck in her body with toothpicks, and her head stacked high with pretzels. On page 12, I have duplicated the vintage Holt-Howard catalog advertisement of the girl pixie and her flirtatious boyfriend. These photos demonstrate just how useful this pair can be for entertaining friends and family.

Small and Large Party Pretzel Pixies Hors d' Oeuvres

I must admit I was taken aback when a Holt-Howard collector submitted the above photo for my book. I couldn't believe what I was seeing—a super large Party Pretzel Pixies Hors d' Oeuvres dish! The normal size is 7-1/2" h., but this larger size is 9-1/2" h.! I couldn't wait to contact Mr. Howard to receive his feedback on this piece. Mr. Howard informed me that the larger Party Pretzel Pixies Hors d' Oeuvres dishes were the first mold samples from Japan, but eventually Holt-Howard decided to make these pixies all at a reduced 7-1/2" h. This larger size also has much larger ears and 14 stripes on its underplate compared to the 12 on the smaller pixie, and has seven stripes around its body compared to six on the smaller standard version. The larger-size boy Party Pixie is featured in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog because he has the very different shaped ears that are more pronounced and deeper cut. These larger-sized pixies are very rare pieces and will command a lot more dollars than their standard-size counterparts.

The Pixieware condiment jars were my introduction to the Holt-Howard Company. My journey began in the 1980s as I was on a mission to find all the pixies and complete my childhood family's collection. In those days it was very difficult, since the Internet was not yet available.



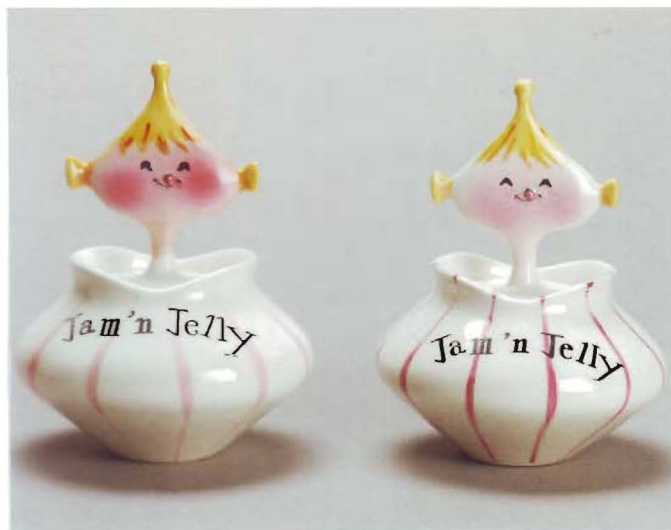
Original Box (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

I searched numerous flea markets, antique shows, and collectibles shows. I ventured from state to state attending all kinds of sales and was thrilled when I located a pixie peeking out from a sale table. At that time, I had no idea how many Pixies Holt-Howard had created. I thought that perhaps the number of pixies created was about 12. As a child I had seen a lineup of pixies in a store, but could only afford four of them. As time went on, each new pixie discovery would unfold a different surprise of another adorable face and colorfully designed condiment jar. Little did I know that there were 64 pieces to this set and that my search would go on forever! There were no Pixieware catalogs to refer to back then, so everything was a guessing game.

As my determination grew, my hunting became quite exhausting, so I made drawings of the pixies and handed them out at shows to sellers who were more than happy to assist me in my obsession. I usually went to sellers who dealt in kitchen-related collectibles, since they would have the best chance of recognizing my Pixieware pieces. Because of my persistence, I soon became known as "Mr. Holt-Howard." Some sellers at that time kept calling the pixies "those Martian's with the pointed heads," which I kind of resented, but I put the blame for the alias on the Olives Jar because it did look like a green character from outer space! And now that I have discovered one of the original boxes, I have to acknowledge that these sellers had a point. If you look at the box cover, you'll see that the pixie does look like he's from Mars!

Original Box

Above is the box that Holt-Howard originally used to package its Pixieware. On this box the pixie image is green, has no eyes, and looks like a Martian! There is a big play up on the Spooky Spoon and its own cozy crock, and the word Pixieware is not present. It appears that this box design was created for only the Jam 'n Jelly, Mustard, and Ketchup. The wording on this box leads me to believe that it was the design used when Pixieware was first born. Later on, as the Pixieware family grew, it seems the packaging was changed to include all the pixie condiments, and each name was featured on the cover individually next to a pink pixie's head on an orange-striped box. (See end of Chapter 3).



Two versions of Jam 'n Jelly. The one on the right has longer, darker stripes that extend over the Pixie's collar (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Australian Party Pixie, \$450+ (*Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates*).



Mustard, Ketchup and Jam 'n Jelly, \$70-\$80 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Jam 'n Jellies

When I purchased the box, the pixie inside was the one on the right. This is one of the first Jam 'n Jelly jars released. The one at right has much darker pink stripes compared to the one on the left. The stripes are also thinner than on the rest of the other Pixieware jars. Also, the tops of the stripes continue up and over the pixie's collar, which is not the case on the other condiment jars.

Australian Party Pixie

John Howard informed me that this orange Party Pixie Hors d'Oeuvres dish was made only for the Australian market. One of Mr. Howard's customers had liked the girl Party Pixie a great deal and asked him if he could make the piece in orange, which was a very popular color among Australians. Mr. Howard agreed to do a special order, and all were exported from Japan to Australia—none were released in the United States.

Mustard, Ketchup and Jam 'n Jelly

In 1958, Holt-Howard introduced these first three Pixie condiment jars. In these pieces is the beginning of the artistic creativity, wonderful styling and detailing of facial expressions that made Pixieware so appealing. The Mustard appears annoyed and unhappy in an effort to conceal his spicy condiment, while his Ketchup and Jam 'n Jelly companions seem content. The Pixies' facial expressions were so adorable that they sparked an instant love affair with collectors, sellers and gift givers. As the Mustard, Ketchup and Jam 'n Jelly jars made their debut, their great popularity paved the way to Pixie stardom throughout America.

Each of these condiments is 5-1/2" h. and most had 11 colorful vertical stripes around its base, although stripe counts varied. Although the Ketchup pixie was advertised as red, the color is actually a tomato red—more orange in appearance—and should not be confused with the true red that appeared on the later Cherries and Chili Sauce jars.

The Mustard, Ketchup and Jam 'n Jelly were sold separately and were individually boxed. They are copyrighted "1958 Holt-Howard." Since these three pieces were the very first pixies Holt-Howard created, more of these were produced than any other, resulting from numerous annual manufacturing cycles of 100 dozen (1,200) per run from 1958 through 1962. As a result of this mass production, they are the most commonly found pieces today. Forty years have passed since these three pixies made their debut in 1958. Today, the age and availability of these pieces place them at a market value of \$70-\$80 each.

Note: Although Holt-Howard individually boxed and sold the Mustard, Ketchup and Jam 'n Jelly, they were also featured in B. Altman & Company's 1958 Christmas catalog and were sold as a three-piece set for \$4.95. The enormous popularity of the three pixies soon gave birth to an entirely new line of Pixieware and created a new concept in condiment jar designs in the late 1950s and early 1960s.



Sugar and Creamer, \$150-\$160 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Mustard, Ketchup, and Jam 'n Jelly Spoofy Spoons (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Instant Coffee (view of gasket and bow on back of head), \$250-\$260 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Lil' Sugar and Cream Crock

The name Lil' Sugar is significant since she is only 5" h. And while most others measure 2-1/2" to 2-5/8" ear to ear, hers is only 2-1/4" w. Accordingly, her sugar bowl is much smaller than the rest of the Pixieware bowls. Lil' Sugar's aqua bow in her hair matches the 10 aqua stripes on her jar. The matching Cream Crock, which measures 2-3/4" h., also has 10 aqua stripes. The Cream Crock was not designed with a pixie head and merely serves as a plain creamer.

The two pieces, copyrighted 1958, were sold as part of a three-piece boxed set (sugar, creamer, and spoon). Lil' Sugar and the Olives jar were two of the first winking pixies Holt-Howard created.

Spoofy Spoons

Holt-Howard gave special attention to and employed unique design techniques with its spoofy (hidden) spoons. The Mustard and Ketchup spoons were cleverly designed to spread their condiments. The Jam 'n Jelly's curved spoon is different—it was designed to scoop and hold its contents. Other pixies had holes in their spoons to drain liquids, and the Olives pixie featured a spear attachment.

Instant Coffee

This impish pixie cousin is 5-1/2" h. She was advertised as "Miss Coffee-Bean Herself." She has a seal-tight, white rubber gasket around her lid to keep instant coffee airtight, fresh and dry.

The Instant Coffee pixie wears two light blue bows in her hair, one on top and the other in the back of her head. These bows match her jar's 11 stripes, which was typical of Holt-Howard's color coordination. (Some color in the pixie's head would always match the color of the condiment jar's base.) This color coordination assures the novice collector that the heads and bases of these pieces correctly match.

The Instant Coffee is copyrighted 1958, and today she is hard to find in mint condition.

In today's collectible market, this piece is extremely desirable. Because of her coffee-colored face, she is regarded as a crossover collectible by collectors of black memorabilia.



Cocktail Olives, \$125-\$135; Plain Olives, \$100-\$110 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Cocktail Olives Fork (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Cocktail Cherries, \$135-\$145; Plain Cherries, \$120-\$130 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Cocktail Onions, \$150-\$160; Plain Onions, \$145-\$155 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Cocktail Olives Jars

The Olives pixie was the only Pixieware condiment without a spoon; instead, he wielded a single or double-pronged stainless-steel spear.

Originally, the Cocktail Olives pixie was part of a trio that included Cocktail Cherries and Cocktail Onions. Holt-Howard advertised the three pieces with the first "Happy Party Gremlins" liquor decanters and a four-piece set of pixie liquor bottle bracelets to form a complete bar-set series.

As time passed, the lettering "Cocktails" was removed from the Olivès, Cherries and Onion jars. This change was employed as a marketing strategy to remove the bar and alcohol association of these three pieces to allow for more versatility and individual consumer uses.

The Olives pixie wears his namesake as a nose (an olive with two leaves), and a pimento forms his smile. He was individually boxed, 5-1/2" h. and copyrighted "1958."



Cherries and Onions Drip-Dry Spoons (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Solid Base Liquor Decanters, \$590+ each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Cocktail Cherries and Cocktail Onion Jars

The Cherries and Onions heads were the only two pixies with a hole in the base of their "Spoofy Spoons." This allowed them to drain their contents so they could serve without spilling.

Both imps bore their namesakes as noses and were originally issued with the lettering "Cocktail" included in their names; however, as mentioned previously, the alcohol association with these pieces was eventually removed. Each piece was individually boxed and copyrighted "1958."

Solid Base Liquor Decanters

The "Happy Party Gremlins" liquor decanters were the first Pixieware decanters Holt-Howard made. They were originally issued with solid-colored deep-glaze ceramic bases, but while they had a well-coordinated decorative design, they were not what the public wanted. Consumers wanted the striped bases that matched and complemented the rest of the Pixieware clan, so within a short time, Holt-Howard

reissued the decanters with the traditional stripes. The plain decanters were the only non-striped Pixies the company ever produced.

Large Pixieware pieces such as these decanters were manufactured in limited production runs of 300 pieces each, compared to the condiment jars at 100 dozen (1,200) each. As a result, fewer liquor decanters were produced and are a rarer find today.

The "300 Proof" Gremlin was made in 1950s vintage aqua color, which was so popular back then, and his aqua base matches his hair. "Devil Brew" has a pitchfork for a nose to embellish his sinister face. The base of "Devil Brew" was created in olive green, which was another hot color in the '50s. The "Whisky" decanter was more of an amber shade, which matches the color of the pixie's hair. Although the "Whisky" decanter's base should be amber colored, it does have an amber glow, and is not as dark as the olive base of "Devil Brew." John Howard explained that the colors sometimes vary on these pieces because some Japanese manufacturing plants occasionally exercised minor liberties and slightly altered a product's color scheme.



Whisky, 300 Proof and Devil Brew Striped Liquor Decanters, \$580+ each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Four Bottle Bracelets, \$95-\$110 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Stacking Seasons, \$175-\$185 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Striped Base Liquor Decanters

When Holt-Howard reissued this trio, it used the colors from the solid bases as the stripe colors on the new decanters. Both the solid- and striped-base decanters are 10-1/2" h. and hold about three cups (24 oz.) of brew.

The decanters were individually packaged, not sold as a set. Both the solid and striped decanters are copyrighted "1958." All Holt-Howard liquor decanters were manufactured in limited productions.

Bottle Bracelets

As part of its cocktail bar line, Holt-Howard also introduced ceramic "Whiskey Whimsy" liquor-bottle bracelets. Each pixie's head was labeled with a specific libation and was designed to mimic the heads in the liquor decanter set. Individual

in personality, each imp's head was attached to a bright brass chain that slipped over a liquor bottle. The bottle bracelets came packaged as a set of four in a 10-1/2" by 2-1/2" rectangular box with a see-through cellophane window.

Stacking Seasons

This set of two salts and two peppers was ingeniously designed to be portable for picnics or patios. Each shaker has two notches on its sides to lock it into place with the other two supportable wooden dowels. These dowels, when tied together at top, held all four stacked shakers securely on their wooden base.

The four striped shakers (blue, green, pink and yellow) match the Pixieware condiment jars. Each shaker has eight stripes. The "Stacking Seasons" were sold as a set, complete with a wooden rack and copyrighted "1958."



Pixie Spoons, \$140-\$150 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Sam 'n Sally Salad Set (oil and vinegar cruets), \$175-\$185 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Pixie Spoons

Each pixie spoon has a ceramic head with stainless-steel base. The back metallic portion of the spoons reads, "Stainless Steel Japan," accompanied by the famous Holt-Howard paper sticker label on the back side of each pixie's head. (These pieces were unmarked.) They were produced in 1958 and sold as a set of four. They measure 6-1/2" l., 2-1/4" from ear to ear, and 3" from their necks to the top of their heads.

Sam 'n Sally Salad Cruet Set

Both Sam and Sally had corks and shaker spouts to control the dispensing of their contents and both have brass fitting rings attached to their necks to hold their heads tight on their bases.

Sally's yellow hair with the lettering "OIL" on it matches the 10 yellow stripes on her cruet base. Sam's green hair with "VINEGAR" inscribed on it matches his 10 green stripes. Each cruet is 9" h. Sam and Sally were sold as a pair and are copyrighted "1958." They are difficult to find in perfect condition.

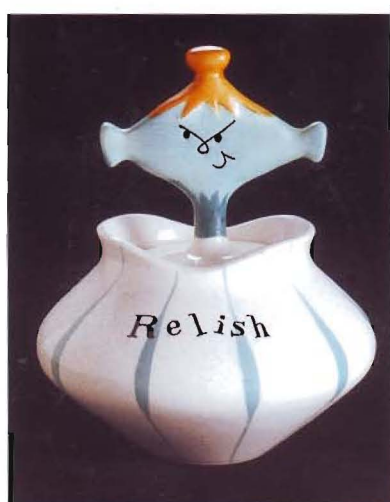
Holt-Howard 1959 Pixieware

In Chapter 2, we saw the first of 28 Pixieware pieces that pioneered and greatly affected the 1958 collectibles market. These eye-catching imps were making their debuts in stores such as B. Altman & Co., specialty giftware shops, top-of-the-line department stores and some mail-order companies. In an almost overnight success story, the public's demand for Holt-Howard's Pixieware became intense and resulted in true superstar status for the pixies.

The pixie's rise to fame in one short year stimulated competition, resulting in numerous other companies

creating their own line of condiment jars. But unbeknownst to its competitors, Holt-Howard was already introducing a new line of more than 30 pixie gift items.

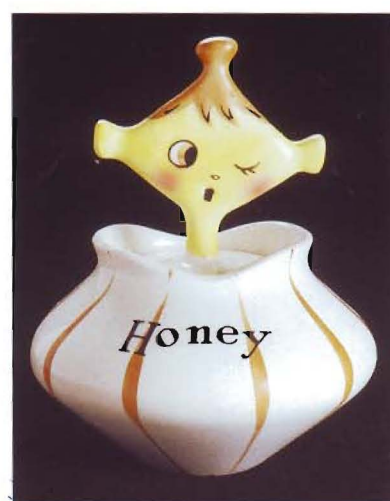
Holt-Howard relocated to 639 Canal St., Stamford Conn., and was now preparing its 1960 catalog for release to introduce not only more condiment jars, but also salad dressing jars, shallow bowls, ashtrays, an hors d'oeuvre set, towel hooks, a hanging planter, candleholder hurricane vases and much more.



Relish, \$215-\$225 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Mayonnaise, \$185-\$195 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Honey, \$725+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Relish

On the 1959 Pixieware condiment jars, the pixies' heads changed to more of a diamond shape. The relish jar is the only Pixieware piece of the original 12 jars that has such an elongated head from ear to ear. The peevis expression on his face makes him seem annoyed because someone pulled on his ears and stretched his face!

The relish is sporting the new pixie hairstyle for the 1959 pixies—a rounded, somewhat elliptical balled-end knob. All previous 1958 pixies had spoke-like hairdos (except for the Onions and Olives, which were flat tops).

The Relish has a scallion-leafed neck, is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959," and is 5-1/2" h.

Mayonnaise

Mayonnaise is a winking pixie, like her cousins Honey, Chili Sauce, Lil' Sugar, and Olives. An interesting observation in the 1959 pixies is that three out of four are winkers.

Mayonnaise is 5-1/2" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

Honey

This is another winking pixie, but she is the only one with a brown eye. Two rumors concerning the Honey jar's scarcity in today's marketplace are certain. First, because the neck on the Honey jar was somewhat fragile and snapped from consumers scooping the heavy, sticky honey, many jars were tossed into the garbage. Second, because of Holt-Howard's limited production of this jar, she is a very difficult piece to find.

Honey is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959" and is 5-1/2" h.



Chili Sauce, \$365+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Chili Sauce

Chili Sauce is one of the five original winking condiment jar pixies, but she is the only one of the original 12 condiment jars who has a differently designed base. She has 10 vertical stripes with six black oval droplets to suggest dried, spilled-over chili sauce.

Due to limited production in 1959, Chili Sauce is probably the second most difficult piece to find today (compared to the Honey jar). She is 5-1/2" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

Party Pixies Hors d' Oeuvre Dishes

This hors d'oeuvre set was referred to as "Party Pixies" and "Pretzel Pixies" in two of Holt-Howard's catalogs. These pixies' extra large ears help support the stacking of goodies on their heads.

Both the boy and girl pixies have 18 perforated holes (three between each stripe) to insert and hold toothpicks. For easy cleaning, each pixie is removable from its 5-3/4" d. underplate by a metallic brass screw and nut. Each underplate base has 12 vertical stripes. They were sold as a pair, are 7-1/2" h., and are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."



Party Pixies Hors d' Oeuvre Dishes, \$190-\$200 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Salty and Peppy Shakers

This set was named "Salty and Peppy" in Holt-Howard's 1959 catalog. Both pieces feature wooden handles painted and color coordinated to match the eight colorful vertical stripes on each pixie's shaker.

They are marked with the © and an "HH" paper sticker that covers their rubber stoppers. They aren't dated, but were part of the 1959 Pixieware releases. They are 4-1/2" h. and are a rare find.



Salty and Peppy Salt and Pepper Shakers, \$330-\$350 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

SNACK PIXIES SET

In a successful attempt to market more versatile Pixieware pieces, Holt-Howard created Pixieware shallow bowls in 1959. There were 10 bowls in the set: seven are snack pixies and three are sundae servers. Holt-Howard gave each of its snack pixies a name to indicate its function: Mustard Max, Ketchup Katie, Pickle Pete, Onion Annie, Olive Oscar, Tartar Tom and Peanut Butter Pat.

The bowls featured handle heads and were a fun way of serving condiments. All pieces are backstamped 1959 and were boxed and sold individually.



Mustard Max, \$650-\$675 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Ketchup Katie, \$650-\$675 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Onion Annie, \$660-\$685 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Pickle Pete, \$650-\$675 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Mustard Max

Mustard Max displayed a color design similar to the 1958 mustard condiment jar. Mustard Max has orange hair and black stripes on his neck like his mustard predecessor, but he is more of a butterscotch color.

Ketchup Katie

Ketchup Katie has the true tomato-red color of the 1958 Ketchup condiment jar. She and Mustard Max were pictured together in Holt-Howard's catalog, and although the two seem to belong together, they were sold separately.

Onion Annie

Onion Annie's crossed and slanted eyes and red nose suggest she is asphyxiating from her overwhelming task of serving onions.

Pickle Pete

Pickle Pete bears his namesake as a nose, and in true Pixieware fashion, he stares cross-eyed.



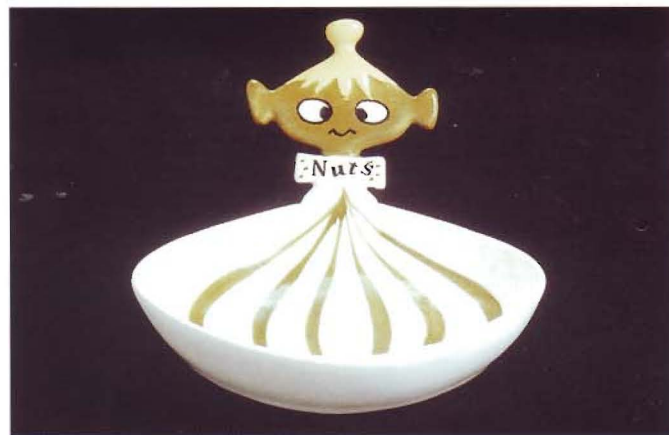
Oscar Olives, \$560-\$575 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Peanut Butter Pat, \$650-\$675 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Tartar Tom, \$825-\$850 (*Joe Feigley collection, photo by Richard F. Baker*).



Nuts, \$580-\$600 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Oscar Olives

Oscar Olives is one of the most vividly colored snack pixies, with his olive-green face and turquoise stripes.

Peanut Butter Pat

Peanut Butter Pat truly advertises her function in living color of peanut butter tan. She carries out one of the Pixieware traditions of being a winking pixie.

Tartar Tom

Although Tartar Tom bears a strong resemblance to his cousin "Pickle Pete," his main purpose is to serve tartar sauce.

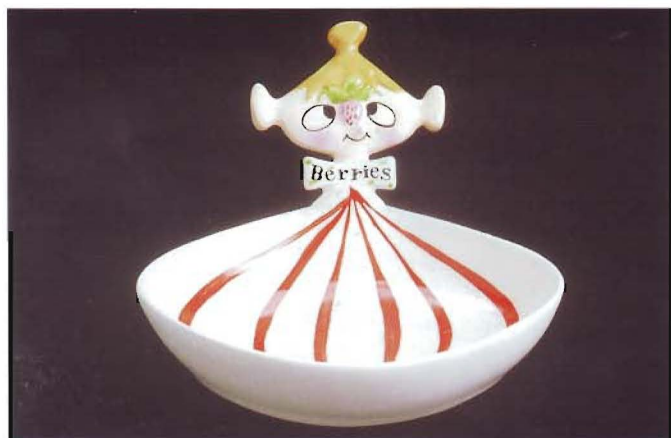
SUNDAE SERVERS

This trio was also released in 1959 as part of the original 10 serving bowls. These imps were specifically designed to accommodate "fixin's" for ice cream sundaes. What differentiates them from their snack pixie cousins is the bowtie around their necks. Each bowtie explains the purpose of each piece, such as "Nuts," "Berries" or "Goo."

The sundae servers are 5" w. and can also be used to serve other desserts such as puddings or pies. Each of these three pieces was sold individually and was backstamped "1959."

Nuts

This sundae server's bowtie is decorated with seven olive-green polka dots and black letters, which spell out "Nuts." This pixie's deliberately crossed eyes comically demonstrates that he is actually faking being "nuts" and just wants to bring a smile to dinner guests. The Nuts dish seems easier to find today because apparently more Nuts were produced than Berries and Goo.



Berries, \$825-\$850 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Goo, \$1,100+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Berries

This Berries server's bowtie states his purpose, and he has six green polka dots that match the color of the leaves on his nose. This piece is becoming very scarce and few have ever been listed for sale on the Internet.

Goo

When the first edition of this Holt-Howard book was written, Goo had never surfaced. Six months later (and just one week after the book was released), a lucky seller in Texas located Goo and put him up for auction on the Internet. He sold for over \$4,000, with many bidders fighting over him. Since then the Goo dish has shown up numerous times for sale but is still rare and commands well over \$1,100. He's the only one of this sundae trio who is not cross-eyed. This pixie's bowtie has numerous red polka dots and spells out "Goo."

Teapot Candleholder Hurricane Vases

This pair of pixie teapots was designed not only to act as candleholders, but also to serve as vases for cut flowers. Each piece has an insert for holding a candle and features a clear glass hurricane lamp to surround the burning candle. The teapot portion can hold water and has six teardrop-shaped holes in the center of each pot to accommodate cut flowers.

The candleholders stand 8-1/4" h. (including the hurricane globe), were sold individually and are copyrighted "1959."



Teapot Candleholder Hurricane Vase, Girl, \$260-\$285 with globe (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Teapot Candleholder Hurricane Vase, Boy, \$260-\$285 with globe (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Flat Head Salad Dressings (Russian, French, Italian), \$130-\$140 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Round Head Salad Dressings (Russian, French, Italian), \$120-\$130 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Flat Head Salad Dressing Jars

This smiling trio of salad dressing jars are the flat-headed pixieware salad dressing jars. Each of these distinguished fellows has a face and hat that suggests his country of origin: Russia, France and Italy. A snug-fitting cork is located at the base of each head to keep the dressing fresh and spill-proof. Each dressing jar is equipped with its own built-in spout to pour out its contents.

All three containers have eight vertical stripes and hold about 8 oz. (one cup) of liquid. The Italian's green hat matches his jar's stripes, the Russian's neck (stopper) matches his stripes, and the Frenchman's nose matches his red stripes. Each piece is 7" h. and is copyrighted "1959." These three dressings were sold as a six-piece set (tops and bottoms). When properly displayed as a three-piece set, the Russian looks left, the Italian looks right, and both look at their winking French companion in the center.

Round Head Salad Dressing Jars

These three original dressing jars are the only round-headed Pixieware pieces Holt-Howard ever manufactured. They are truly atypical of Pixieware, but there is a definite family resemblance to their flat-headed cousins.

There are many structural changes in the round-headed design of this salad dressing trio:

- The round headed jars are 1/4" shorter than the flat heads.
- Round-headed jars have only seven vertical stripes, compared to eight on the flat heads.
- The ears of the round heads are smaller and more rounded than the larger pointed ears of the flat heads.
- All three round heads have flesh-colored noses instead of the whimsical red and orange noses of their flat-headed cousins.
- All three round heads have eyes that look in the same direction (to the left), whereas their predecessors do not.
- Round heads have circular lips expressing concerned emotions, rather than the large smiling lips of the flat heads.

Although the round-headed trio exhibits many structural and design changes, they are also copyrighted "1959," the same as the flat-headed versions.

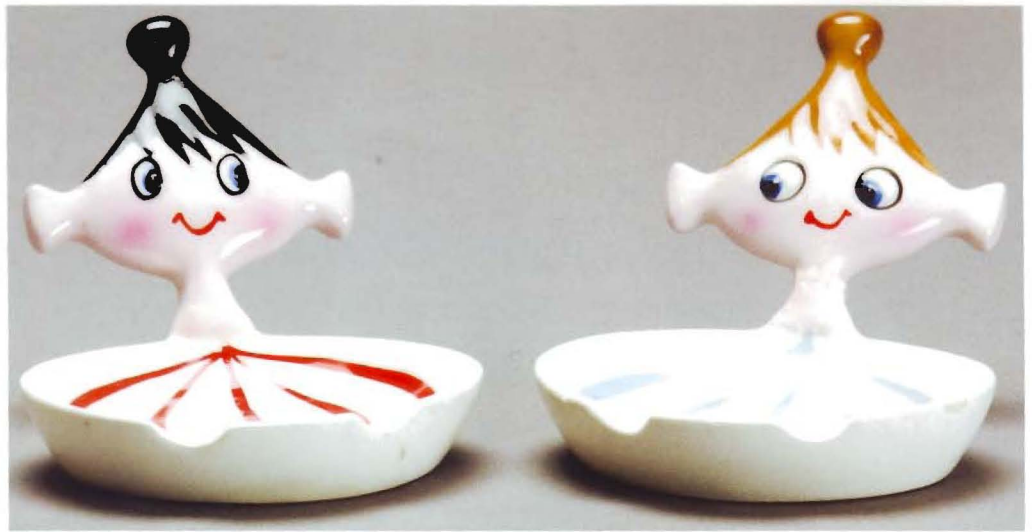


Table Favor Pixies, Serviettes, \$145-\$160 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Table Favor Pixies (Serviettes)

These table favor pixies were sold as a set of four and were referred to as "Serviettes." Many collectors today refer to them as ashtrays, spoon rests, tea bag holders and nut bowls. Actually, these adorableimps can serve all of these functions. Each 3" w. "Serviette" is versatile for table service, and all have two cut-out areas at their front ends to accommodate cigarettes.

The pixie's head can be used as a handle to pass its bowl's contents about the table or for quick cleaning up of cigarette ashes or used tea bags. All the Serviettes have similar hairdos, but each one has a different hair color, and all have different color stripes. They are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

Hanging Pixie Planter

It's rare to see a full-bodied Holt-Howard pixie in the flesh (except on the teapot candleholders), but here we see one climbing the chains of Holt-Howard's only Pixieware planter. This ceramic pixie measures 2-3/4" l. from head to toe. This hard-working imp's main function is twofold: First, to wrap her arms around the three 9" l. brass chains to gather them together and, second, to act as an adjuster, sliding up and down the chains to lock the opening into place to accommodate the size of the container's plant.

The ceramic planter bowl has 10 pink vertical stripes and sweeps up into two points above its rim. The rim is equipped with three holes to hold the chains. Although this planter mimics the bases of the condiment jars, it is actually wider and measures 13" in circumference (at center) and 2-1/2" d. at its opening rim. This item was sold as a three-piece set, including bracket. The entire piece measures 12" l. (including the chains) and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."



Hanging Pixie Planter, \$450+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Towel Hooks, Mother and Dad, \$140-\$150 each (Collection of, and photo by Hall/Glascock).



Towel Hook, Brother, \$140-\$150 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Towel Hook, Sister, \$140-\$150 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Towel Hooks

These four smiling pixie hooks are for hanging dishtowels, potholders or other items.

Both the Mother and Dad, and Brother and Sis towel hooks are flat and are 4" h. Each piece has a rectangular opening behind the figure's head (for a nail) to hang the piece onto a wall. The base of each figure has a drilled-through hole that accommodates a screw hook to secure the piece and prevent it from sliding.

The Mother and Dad hooks, and Brother and Sis hooks were sold as separate sets and each were gift boxed. All four pieces are backstamped "1959."

Original Boxes

Most of the original 12 condiment jars were sold in the boxes below, the packaging featuring a pink Martian-like head and vertical orange stripes representing the famous Pixieware stripes. Each box was individualized only in the upper left corner where the specific condiment jar's name was printed. A corresponding four-digit catalog identification number on a 1-1/4" by 2-1/4" white label read, "Made in Japan." The words "Spoofy Spoon" were prominently displayed on each box to promote the spoons.



Original boxes that held the condiment jars (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

The Retro Second-Generation Pixieware

Today's Generation of The Fun Fifties Characters

Holt-Howard never made a Pixieware cookie jar during the 1950s, even though cookie jars were very much in demand and made in mass back then. So it's been surprising to many of today's collectors that, as large as the Pixieware family was, a pixie cookie jar was never made to go along with the rest of the clan. For the last five decades, Pixieware collectors have wished for a cookie jar that never was. But little did we know that our hopes for a pixie cookie jar would eventually be fulfilled.

In 2002, just four years after the first edition of my Holt-Howard book was published, Mr. John Howard (former co-owner of Holt-Howard and present owner of Grant-Howard Associates) had seen all the excitement surrounding his vintage Pixieware. Mr. Howard felt that with the wave of nostalgia sweeping the country the timing was perfect for a retro pixie cookie jar to be added to his famous Pixieware line. To create his new pixie, Mr. Howard teamed with Curt Blanchard, a former Holt-Howard employee and present-

day designer. Together, they designed a new pixie jar with all the charm of the original pixies. Mr. Howard decided to call this jar a "second generation" pixie to avoid devaluing the vintage Pixieware marketplace.

The first retro pixie cookie jar was released in the summer of 2002, but was only available through one mail-order catalog company. In no time at all, this beautiful orange-striped cookie jar was drawing attention, and Mr. Howard had to arrange for more production in China to keep up with the demand. The jar became known as "Chuckie's cookie jar." When Chuckie first came on the scene, some folks called him a reproduction, but he was far from that! Chuckie was the first original one-of-a-kind retro pixie cookie jar to impact the present-day collectibles market.

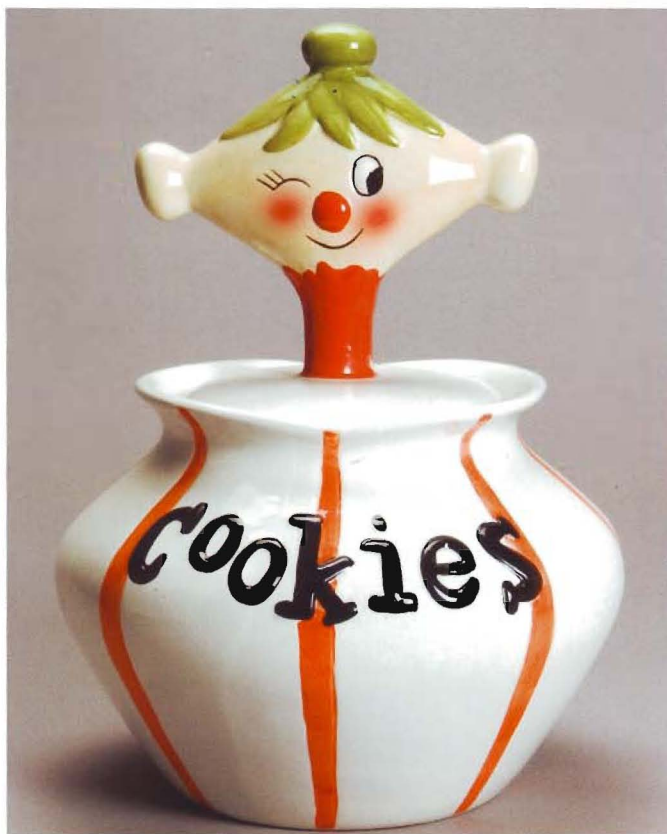
All the new second-generation pixies were made in China and are ceramic, except for the "Party Pixies" cheese spreaders and Tamy and Tommy bottle toppers. The spreaders and toppers were made of resin (although they look like ceramic) to ensure optimum strength.

Chuckie's Cookie Jar, \$39-\$49

(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Chuckie's Cookie Jar

With green hair, blushing cheeks and winking eye, Chuckie's Cookie Jar became a retro superstar and paved the way for an entire new line of Pixieware to steal collectors' hearts once again. Chuckie's Cookie Jar is 11-1/2" h., 8-1/4" w. and is engraved on his base "GHA" (for Grant-Howard Associates).



Curt Blanchard's Career with Holt-Howard —Then and Now

"In 1967, four years after receiving my BFA in illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design, I joined Holt-Howard Associates in Stamford, Conn. The three principals in the company were A. Grant Holt and two brothers, John and Robert Howard. Grant handled the finances, John was responsible for sales, and Bob was the creative component of the company. Bob interviewed me to assist him with product design and overseas sourcing. After our interview, he phoned me to tell me that I was hired and to ask me to meet him in Tokyo only a couple of weeks later! That first three-week exposure to Asia and to working with ceramics factories was an eye-opener for me. Bob was a great teacher and mentor, and I learned, as he had, that the ability to draw is a universal language. We frequently worked with factories where no one spoke English. Being able to explain what you want by drawing it is what Bob Howard had learned and trained me to do. Bob's creativity and sense of humor was infectious and served him well.

"In addition to Asia, we had factories in Europe where Holt-Howard was working closely with ceramic factories in Italy and Portugal. We also were involved in England where John E. Buck & Co. was located and sold the Holt-Howard product line throughout the UK. John Buck, another creative entrepreneur, was an enthusiastic supporter and has become a lifelong friend.

"After a year or so, I began working in Asia and Europe on projects I developed on my own, as Bob had his hands full with a variety of customers, including Colonial Candle of Cape Cod. I focused on the Holt-Howard products in both everyday and Christmas designs.

"In the early '70s, General Housewares Corp. bought both Holt-Howard and Colonial Candle and consolidated the headquarters

for this group in Hyannis, Mass. Only a sales manager and I made the move to Cape Cod. Within a couple of years, styles and tastes had changed so that Holt-Howard's emphasis was less on novelties and more on well-designed houseware—less kitsch and more function.

"I eventually served as Vice President of Product Development for the group, and in 1992 after the group was sold, I relocated to California, where I eventually was an owner/partner in Treasure Craft, a major player in licensed cookie jars and kitchen coordinates. In 2000, we sold Treasure Craft and I began working for myself designing and having products made in China for a variety of customers.

"John Howard remained in the kitchenware business, and over the intervening years, I kept in touch with him. In 2002, I began having cookie jars made for him and we discussed developing and reintroducing the Pixieware collection that Bob Howard had originated in the 1950s. We decided, in fairness to the many pixie collectors, not to duplicate any of the 1950s items, but rather to create new pieces that were never part of the original collection. I started with a cookie jar and gradually expanded the offerings to include six collectible pixie pots, a salt and pepper set, a salsa dish, a spoon rest, a Christmas cookie jar and other pieces including Bob's Cozy Kittens recreated as a cookie jar. The reaction from collectors to this homage to Bob Howard was very enthusiastic. This rebirth of the pixies sold for about three years and was finally discontinued during the 2006 Christmas season.

"I continue to design and develop consumer products for a variety of customers using many of the skills I learned from Bob Howard."

—Curt Blanchard



Rudy's Cookie Jar, \$39-\$49

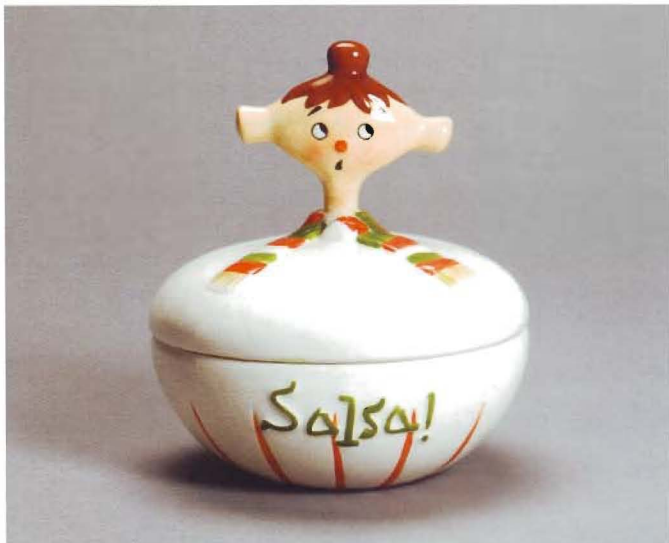
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Rudy's Cookie Jar

Rudy's Christmas Cookie Jar with holiday candy-cane colored scarf and flopped-over Santa cap was released in 2003 and created great excitement with not only Holt-Howard collectors, but also collectors of Christmas memorabilia. Rudy is 11-1/2" h., 8-1/4" w. and is engraved on his base "GHA" for Grant-Howard Associates. Because this new line of Pixieware was so successful, we were all waiting with great anticipation to see what the very first second-generation condiment jar was going to look like. In 2003, Grant-Howard Associates released an adorable Salsa condiment jar that soon became known as "Sammy Salsa." One of John Howard's most important goals was to create more pixies but make them different in sizes and shapes so as not to devalue the vintage Pixieware. Sammy Salsa is larger than his 1950s ancestors, measuring almost 6" h., 5-1/2" w. and 5" d.



Cozy Kittens Cookie Jar, \$65-\$75 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Sammy Salsa Condiment Jar, \$20-\$30 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Flirting Pixie Shakers, \$35-\$45 pair (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Spanky Spooner Spoon Rest, \$15-\$23 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Tamy and Tommy Bottle Toppers, \$15-\$20 pair (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Party Pixie Cheese Spreaders, \$20-\$39, set of four (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Cozy Kittens Cookie Jar

Since Holt-Howard never created a Cozy Kittens cookie jar in the 1950s, this retro jar creation was a special treat for today's collectors. The double cat cookie jar was released in 2003, took America by storm, and sold out very quickly. The cats' paws and tails are airbrushed as they were in the 1950s. The jar is 10-1/2" h.

Sammy Salsa Condiment Jar

Sammy wears a Mexican serape, relating to our Mexican neighbors and one of their favorite snack dishes. "GHA" is engraved on his base. Sammy is the only retro condiment jar to be released by Grant-Howard Associates.

Flirting Pixie Shakers

This flirtatious boy and girl pixie salt and pepper set have the famous Pixieware stripes on their bases. They were released in late 2003 and measure 4-1/4" h. and 4" w. from ear to ear.

Spanky Spooner Spoon Rest

A spoon rest was another Pixieware product that Holt-Howard never originally created during the 1950s. This spoon rest, named "Spanky Spooner," has orange vertical stripes reminiscent of his ancestors from the 1950s. Spanky is approx. 8-1/2" l., 4-1/4" w. and is engraved "GHA" for Grant-Howard Associates.

Tamy and Tommy Bottle Toppers

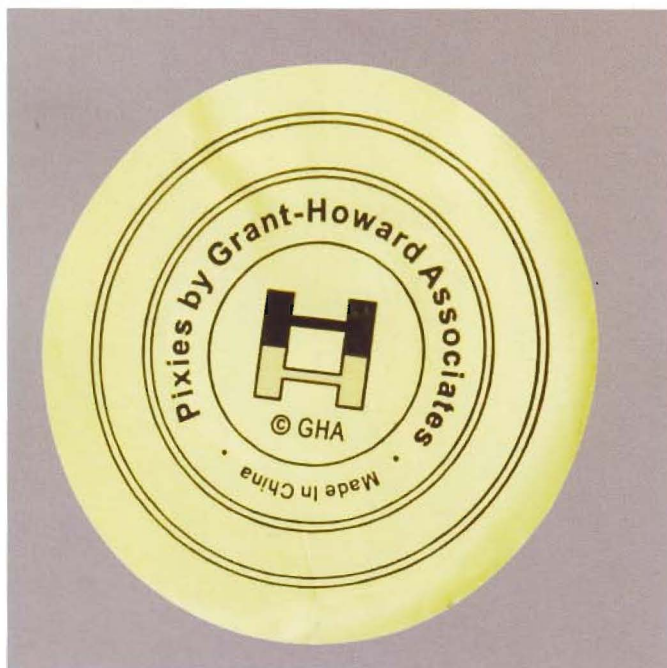
Tamy and Tommy are pixie bottle toppers with cork stoppers for oil and vinegar jars, salad dressing jars or wine bottles. Each pixie topper is 3-3/4" h. and has a paper label reading "GHA" (for Grant-Howard Associates) on its cork. Tamy and Tommy are made of resin to ensure strength for everyday tasks.

Party Pixie Cheese Spreaders

This set of four cheese spreaders consists of two boy and two girl pixies. The boys' decorated necks are reminiscent of the vintage Relish pixie, and the bows in the girls' hair relates to the vintage Instant Coffee girl jar. The boy with the green hair and the girl with the white hair are a couple and are flirting with each other. The pixie with the orange hair licks his lips in sheer delight as his blond girlfriend looks on. The four spreaders are approx. 5-1/4" h. and have stainless-steel blades engraved "GHA" for Grant-Howard Associates. The cheese spreader pixies were created in 2003.

THE PERSONALITY PIXIES FIGURINES (SET OF SIX)

This set of six pixie figurines was called the “Personality Pixies” because each has a name on its base to represent a disposition. Gift-givers could purchase a pixie that represented a friend, relative, or co-worker and give it to the person to use as a paperweight for the home or office desk. The set includes Bea Decked, Giggle’n Grinn, Justa Flirt, Opt O’Mistic, Natalie Attired, and Devil Maycare. All six pixies have blushing cheeks like their vintage cousins from the ’50s, but these pixies are strictly figurines and not condiment jars. They have 10 stripes and are 5” to 5-1/2” h. and 3-1/2” w. Each has a large gold foil sticker that reads “HH Pixies by Grant-Howard Associates” (HH standing for Holt-Howard) and “copyrighted GHA” (for Grant-Howard Associates). This large foil sticker was designed to pay homage to the vintage Pixieware. Under this foil sticker these pixies are engraved “GHA.”



This gold foil sticker commemorates vintage Pixieware (photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Bea Decked, \$12-\$18 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Devil Maycare, \$12-\$18 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Giggle'n Grinn, \$12-\$18 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Justa Flirt, \$12-\$18 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Natalie Attired, \$12-\$18 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Opt O'Mistic, \$12-\$18 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Bea Decked Personality Pixie

Bea Decked is decked out in red earrings, a red necklace and red ornamentation around her blond top knot.

Devil Maycare Personality Pixie

Devil Maycare is much like his vintage cousin pixie Mustard condiment jar from the 1950s.

Giggle'n Grinn Personality Pixie

Giggle'n Grinn is all smiles wearing a pink necklace and matching earrings. Her face is reminiscent of her vintage cousin Jam 'n Jelly condiment jar.

Justa Flirt Personality Pixie

Justa Flirt winks and smiles with a grin. This pixie has one of the largest top knots.

Natalie Attired Personality Pixie

Natalie Attired is decked out in her wonderful vintage '50s color combination of aqua and green. Her green bow look is reminiscent of her cousin the vintage Instant Coffee jar. Natalie's green bow matches her earrings, necklace and band on her base.

Opt O'Mistic Personality Pixie

Opt O'Mistic resembles his vintage cousin Sam the Vinegar Cruet; he even has a red bowtie like Sam.

John Buck and British Pixieware

British Pixieware



John Buck on board the *Queen Elizabeth I* returning to England from an annual Holt-Howard product meeting in the U.S.

During one of my interviews with John Howard in the summer of 1995, I was going through some old Holt-Howard catalogs, and I was shocked to discover another crop of Pixieware. These were British Pixieware and were all featured in a Christmas catalog produced by John E. Buck & Co. Ltd., of Wellington, London, England. Some of these Pixies were redesigned to fit the needs of the British marketplace, especially the creation of a marmalade jar. Marmalade has always been popular in England, and it was very important to create such a jar for the British consumers. (You'll notice in this book that, of all the whimsical condiment

jars created for the U.S. market, only The Lefton Company created a marmalade jar.) In the John E. Buck & Co. catalog there was also a very different pair of pixie salt and pepper shakers. Mr. Buck's catalog also had England's versions of the American Cozy Kittens. Mr. Howard informed me that Holt-Howard owned a 45 percent interest in John E. Buck & Co. Ltd, and as I wrote in the first edition of my book, Holt-Howard was comprised of four companies: Holt-Howard Canada, Holt-Howard West, Holt-Howard International, and John E. Buck & Co. Ltd.

When John Buck started with Holt-Howard, his company was located in Colchester, England, but he attended all of the biannual product meetings in the U.S. Many times Mr. Buck returned to England by sea on the *Queen Elizabeth I*, arriving in South Hampton, England. Mr. Buck stated that traveling by sea had many advantages. During the early 1960s, sailing was cheaper than flying, and it enabled him to bring home large quantities of Holt-Howard samples from the States to mass-produce in England. Mr. Buck was able to work in his cabin every day, so by the time he arrived in South Hampton, he had already calculated (in an era before personal computers) the selling prices of all the samples from the U.S. and still had time to work out various merchandising deals. Best of all, Mr. Buck arrived home and had no jet lag and could immediately go to work well rested with all the British pricing done.

A Legendary Partnership Begins

In 1960, John Howard came to England to find a company with whom Holt-Howard could develop a joint purchasing and marketing alliance. John Howard visited several British companies including John E. Buck & Co. Ltd. and found that John Buck from England and John Howard from the U.S.A. had similar ideas and could potentially work together. Subsequently, John Buck's original partner, who took no part in the running of the business but who had helped financially in the early days, was happy to sell his part of John E. Buck & Co. Ltd. to Holt-Howard, who then owned 45 percent of the British business.

Holt-Howard's clever and amusing products intrigued Buck, particularly the pixie group, and he was convinced they would sell well in Britain. But these product groups were made in Japan for Holt-Howard, and there were still import restrictions remaining from World War II that prevented the import of ceramics to Britain from Japan, so John Buck had to find a local manufacturer. At that time, John E. Buck & Co. Ltd. was having products made by a small company named Holkham Pottery, so he approached the firm and asked them to produce pixies and kittens.

Holkham Pottery was located in Holkham Hall, a Palladian mansion built in 1734 and was the seat of the Earls of Leicester.

The pottery was started by the then Countess of Leicester as a semi-hobby. She had appointed a manager but took a keen interest in the business. She was frequently away as she was a lady-in-waiting to Her Majesty the Queen and traveled with the Queen wherever she went. Interestingly, a problem arose at the pottery that required a meeting between Buck and the Countess of Leicester. The countess suggested that the meeting be held at Buckingham Palace in her room there. Imagine John Buck in the private apartments at the palace just down the corridor from the royal children!

Holkham produced lots of pixies and kittens. The kittens, particularly the kitten string holder, sold better than the pixies, so much so that John E. Buck & Co. Ltd. arranged for additional production in Portugal, where import laws didn't restrict them. John E. Buck & Co. Ltd. produced a quantity of Holt-Howard designs that sold well throughout Britain just as they did in the U.S.

During all the years that John E. Buck & Co. Ltd. was a part of Holt-Howard, the largest sales came from mugs. It is hard to believe that in 1960 there was no such thing as a fancy mug on either side of the Atlantic. Mugs, as we know them today, were a Holt-Howard concept. At that time, Britain had the largest concentration of ceramic companies in the world, yet none produced fancy mugs.



John Buck stands in front of a wooden Holt-Howard mug rack designed to hold up to 152 mugs. This rack was used in store setups and at trade shows.

Memories from John Buck

"We, of the Holt-Howard organization, imported mugs in earthenware, stoneware, porcelain and bone china. There were mugs in many different shapes, colors and decorations. In Britain there seemed to be a market for special mugs designed exclusively for a particular customer and where smaller quantities were needed.

BRITISH PIXIEWARE VERSUS U.S. PIXIEWARE

Although we see many familiar faces in the British Pixieware, most of their names have been changed or modified. As noted previously, England did not have a license to import from Japan in the late 1950s and 1960s; consequently, the British Pixieware was manufactured in England and Portugal, not made in Japan, so because of the difference in the manufacturing process, there were bound to be vast differences in the British pixies.

There were a number of differences between the U.S. and British Pixieware. The U.S. Russian, French and Italian dressing jars became England's oil, vinegar and dressing jars. The U.S. Mustard became Marmalade; however, a design change must have gone into effect from the catalog to the production lines. To date, the only actual Marmalade jars that have surfaced from England all look like the head of the British pixie salt and pepper shakers, and we can only assume that this is the correct head. Also the U.S. Jam 'n Jelly became the British Jelly and also became Honey. There was only one Pixieware shallow bowl manufactured in England. We recognize this bowl as Peanut Butter Pat, and she was advertised as a nut bowl.

One important feature that we now know was missing from the British pixies was the "Spoofy Spoon," as can be seen in his photo of the Marmalade Jar. There is no spoon attached to the lid, and the lid has a built in lip to keep it secure on its jar (the U.S. pixies did not have this lip—their lids are flat on both sides). John Buck had

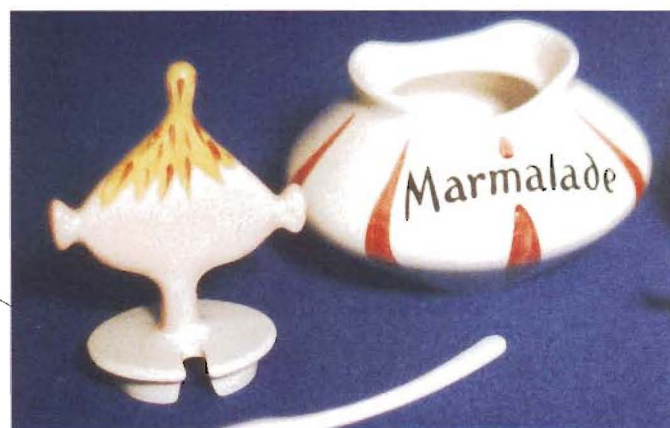
With this in mind John E. Buck & Co. Ltd. set up its own pottery production unit and it gave great pleasure to make special mugs for Sacks, Macy's, Marshall Field—sending us back to where it started! For many years a special mug was produced for Harrods.

"In Britain, we found Holt-Howard with all their product groups: salt and peppers, jumbo cups and saucers, trivets, chopping boards, beer mugs, pitchers, amongst some, and the famous Coq Rouge collection. This collection was made in England and, while it was a huge success in the U.S., it was not as good for us in Britain as some of the other collections. This was the only time that U.S. styles and ideas didn't seem to suit our market.

"All the products mentioned were everyday year 'round items but, of course, Christmas goods had always been, and always were very strong indeed. (As already mentioned, it was through Christmas goods that John Buck and John Howard first met.) I always remember during our first meeting, when John Howard showed Christmas samples to me, that with many of them I felt that they wouldn't sell in my home market. I was wrong! For years John E. Buck & Co. Ltd. was the number one supplier to "shops within a shop" at many major department stores, and it was a proud boast that there was no town of any size throughout the country where we didn't have at least one customer. To augment the super Holt-Howard Christmas designs, we set up our own Christmas production department and had an enormously successful group of brass items decorated with fir cones and greenery. (The brass came from India from a Holt-Howard supplier!)"

—John Buck

also written that he had decided not to have the spoons attached to the lids of his pixies, because it was difficult for production in those days. Mr. Buck believed the spoons would easily break, so they decided to make a notch in the lid into which an ordinary teaspoon would fit (similar to a U.S. sugar bowl design).



Marmalade Jar with lid off (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).

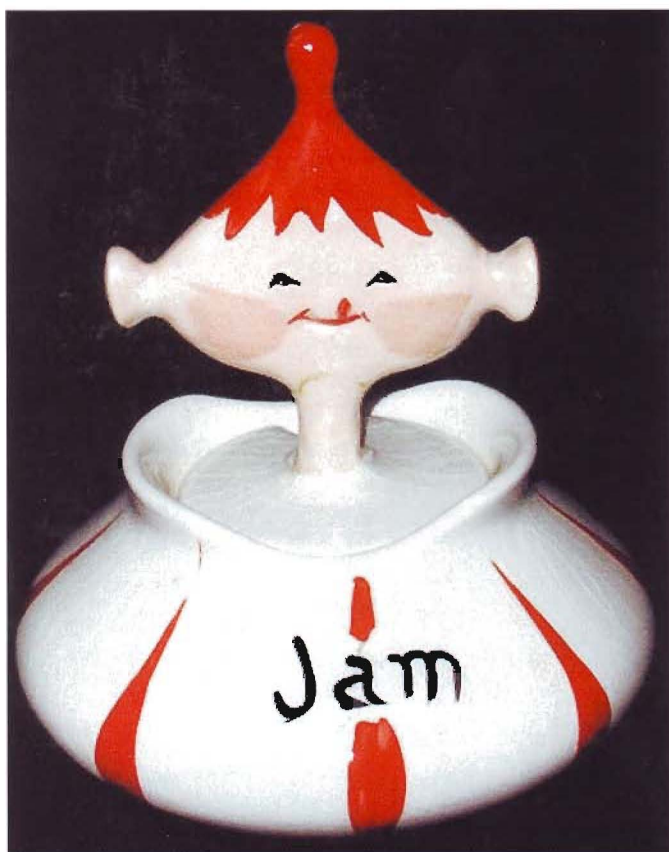
Sometimes design techniques differ depending which side of the Atlantic you live on. For example, sugar bowls in Europe always have a notch for a spoon; in the U.S. they seldom do. Also, European salt shakers usually only have one very large hole, while in the U.S., they have many. In Europe when you eat a hard-boiled egg and you want to dip it in salt, you pour out a little pile of salt with a one-holer!

British Pixies Marmalade and U.S. Jam 'n Jelly

Another important difference is that the British pixies are larger, as can be seen in the photo here where the British pixies Marmalade is next to the U.S. Jam 'n Jelly jar. According to one collector, the Marmalade jar is 1/4" higher than the U.S. Jam 'n Jelly jar, and the bottom is wider (approximately 1/2" more at the widest point). The inside opening is about 1-3/4" measuring from the inside rim across, and about 2-5/8" from the top rim of the jar across widest point. The jar is about 16" around mid bottom at the widest point. Also, this collector reported the British pixie head is heavier and thicker, although not quite as heavy as the Davar pixies.



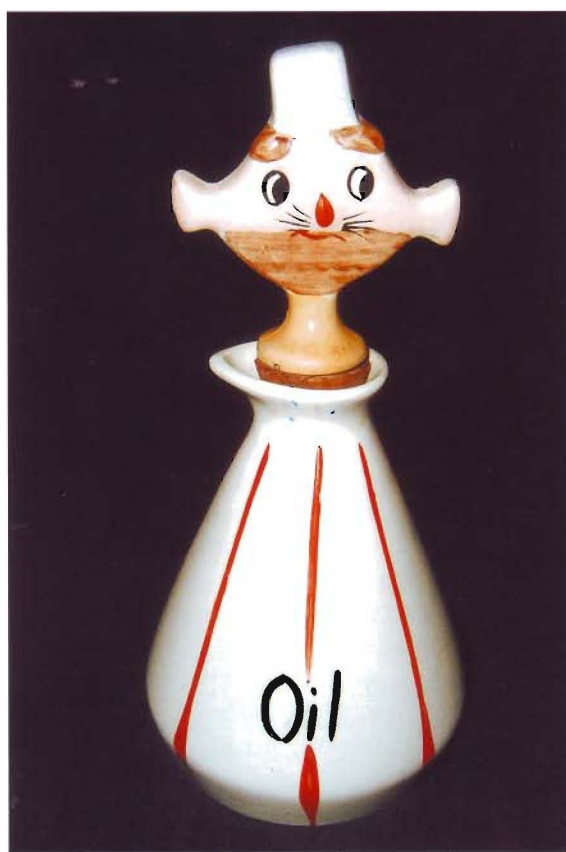
British Pixies Marmalade beside U.S. Jam 'n Jelly (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



British Pixie Jam Jar (Collection of, and photo by Keysign Collectibles, England).

British Pixie Jam Jar

The British Jam Jar bears a strong resemblance to the American Jam 'n Jelly pixie, but this pixie has red hair and stripes, and its cheeks are brush stroked rather than airbrushed like the U.S. pixies. To date, only a handful of these jars have ever appeared on the Internet, so it is not fair to set a price on them. The few that were listed ranged from \$850 to \$1,200.



British Oil Jar (Collection of, and photo by Bob Alberti, Atomic Age Exchange, Denver, Colo.).

British Pixie Oil Jar

This British oil jar was fashioned after the U.S. Russian dressing cruet jar. The British cruet looks similar to his U.S. counterpart, but his mouth is different, and his beard doesn't have the fine detailing of the U.S. Russian jar. Also, his stripes are red and thinner and, of course, his jar reads "Oil."

THE BRITISH COZY KITTENS

I'm very happy to report that we have had much better luck locating the British Cozy Kittens than we have had with the Pixieware. To date, all the British Cozy Kittens have surfaced, except the covered butter dish.



Cozy Kittens Cheese Board, \$145-\$150 (Collection of, and photo by Jane Tischler).



John E. Buck & Co. Cozy Kittens String Holder, \$45-\$55 (Collection of, and photo by Jane Tischler).



John E. Buck & Co. Cozy Kittens Coin Kitty, \$95-\$100 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

British Cozy Kittens Cheese Board

There's a strong possibility that John E. Buck & Co. manufactured this cat cheese board in England or Portugal. The piece appeared in the firm's 1961 Christmas catalog. This cheese board has the two cats on top (similar to our U.S. Cozy Kittens Cottage Cheese Crock), but the two cats look quite different (these are probably the exact cats that appear on top of the British butter dish). The cheese board is 5-1/2" w. at its widest part, 2-1/4" w. at its narrowest, 6-1/4" l., and 2-1/4" h. to the top of the cats. Even though this piece is Holt-Howard, it should be marked "JB," but there is no backstamp for John E. Buck & Co.

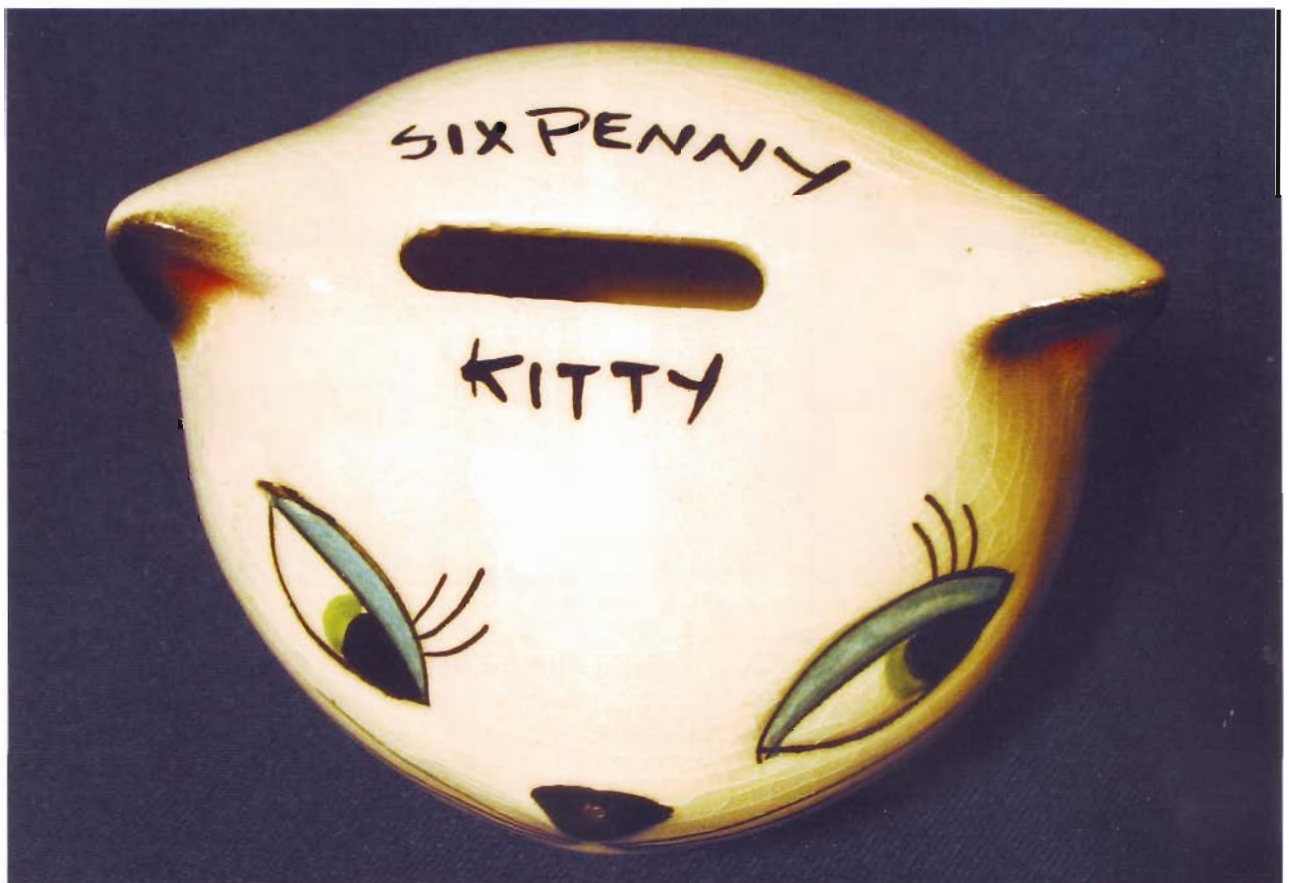
British Cozy Kittens String Holder

The Cozy Kittens String Holder was one of John Buck's biggest sellers; in fact, the demand became so great in England that John Buck's factory couldn't keep up with the demand, so he had to find

factories in Portugal to increase his supply. The British cat string holder doesn't differ much from the U.S. version in quality, but it does have darker details around the cat's ears and a less intricate plaid design. Also, the cat's eyelids are a little larger, and the end eyelash is very long. This string holder is 4" h. and is backstamped "JB." This piece is not as rare as some other cat items because it was made in enormous quantities.

British Cozy Kittens Coin Kitty Bank

This is a British Coin Kitty that appeared in the John E. Buck 1962 and 1963 Christmas catalogs. This proud cat wears the famous plaid cap and bears the English pound sign on his scarf. He is 4" h., 3-5/8" d., and is backstamped "RE Secla Portugal." (This factory is still in business today.) This coin bank was another Kitten item that John Buck eventually had to produce in Portugal to meet demand.



John E. Duck & Co. Cozy Kittens Six Penny Kitty Bank, \$95-\$100 (Collection of, and photos by Jane Tischler).



John E. Buck & Co. Cozy Kittens Salt and Peppers, \$75-\$85 for pair (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



John E. Buck & Co. Cozy Kittens Memo Minder, \$90-\$100 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).

British Cozy Kittens Six Penny Bank

There was also a girl "Six Penny Kitty" bank. Her eyes looked to her left and she wore a polka-dot scarf.

British Cozy Kittens Salt and Peppers

Although these salt and peppers look familiar, they are the British version. In England, the male cat wears the famous plaid cap. This pair also appeared in the John E. Buck 1962 and 1963 Christmas catalogs.

British Cozy Kittens Memo Minder

This British Cozy Kittens Memo minder is similar to the U.S. version, except that this one has the words "memo minder" written on its base in front, whereas the U.S. version has it printed on the scarf around the cat's neck.

Note: A covered butter dish was made solely for the British market. The two kittens that sit on the top are reminiscent of those on the 1958 Cozy Kittens Cottage Cheese Crock.

The Davar Pixie Knockoffs

The Davar Company's principal location was in New York City at 15 W 26th St. in Manhattan. This novelty products firm filed its certificate of incorporation on February 18, 1957, and began to manufacture and import from Japan a wide range of condiment jars, liquor decanters and associated giftware items. The company was dissolved on March 24, 1992.

Davar was probably the only other company that used pixies as its main character in its knockoff, or imitation, condiment jars. Almost all other companies created fruit, vegetable, or human-type heads as the closures to their jars. Davar copied the Holt-Howard Pixieware line so

closely that, even today, collectors are confused between the original Pixieware and these knockoffs.

The next few chapters are devoted to clearly and simply identifying the differences between the original Holt-Howard Pixieware and the knockoffs created by numerous competing companies in the United States. Keep in mind that Holt-Howard was the creator and copyrighted owner of the name "Pixieware," so even though Davar also manufactured pixies, the name "Pixieware" should not be attributed to Davar products.

Flat Heads

All Davar pixies had flat heads that were somewhat thicker than Holt-Howard's. Although the Davar pixies were adorable too, there was no presence of diversified creativity among the pieces. All pieces were created with flesh-colored faces with minor modifications in their hairstyles. The individual pixie's hair color was sometimes color coordinated to match the stripes on its base, but this was not always the case.

The four stripes on each Davar pixie's jar were always horizontal, compared to Holt-Howard's Pixieware, whose stripes were always vertical. One very interesting design feature in the Davar jar was the company's use of flesh-colored pixie arms (often found on sugar bowls), which could be used as handles. Inexplicably, the Davar pixies were made with two different styles of condiment lettering: one in script and the other in print. All the jars with print have erect hairstyles that form a point, while the script jars have short ponytails that flop over to one side.

Spoons

All Davar pixie heads were equipped with spoons. These spoons were styled identically, with no difference in shape or added features like drainage holes. The necks of the pixies were decorated with two black necklace-type lines. The size of these pixie's heads were not always standardized or compatible with other bases of the same product line. For example, sometimes one ketchup head was somewhat larger than another and would not fit properly onto another jar of the same type condiment.

More often than not, Davar marked and copyrighted its products; however, today, many of this company's pieces are found without signatures or identifying foil labels. The script pixies are generally marked, but the print pixies are not. From what we have seen in circulation today, it appears that this line of condiment jars was limited and nowhere near as large in scope as the Holt-Howard Pixieware.

All Davar pixies are copyrighted "1959" only. Many also had a red- and gold-lettered foil label affixed to their bottoms that read, "Davar Originals Japan." The signature "O" with a "V" inscribed over it is another Davar trademark and was found on the oil and vinegar jars. This design mimics the shape of the foil label and the large letter "V" in "DaVar."

Identifying Davar Pixies

When shopping at local flea markets and collectibles shows, novice collectors can identify Davar's pixies by the following characteristics:

1. All Davar pixies have flesh-colored faces.
2. The stripes on the condiment's container are always horizontal. (The condiments have four stripes, while the oil and vinegar have nine.)
3. Each container has two flesh-colored arm handles (except the oils and vinegars).
4. All Davar pixies have flat heads.
5. All the pixie faces have round red noses.



Davar Mustard (print and script), \$65-\$75 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Cocktail Cherries (print and script), \$75-\$85 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Ketchup (print and script), \$65-\$75 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Jam 'n Jelly (print and script), \$65-\$75 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Mustard (Print and Script)

These are two quite unhappy Davar mustard pixies, each with characteristic Davar flesh-colored faces. The mustards have black stars for eyes, and their yellow hair matches the stripe color of their bases. Notice the mustard with the printed name has an erect pointed hairdo, while its script twin has a flopped-over ponytail. This hairstyle treatment is commonplace in all of Davar's pixies. In comparing this pair with the Holt-Howard mustard, we can see the same type of annoyed facial expression.

Cocktail Cherries (Print and Script)

These pixies have triangular eyes that stare upwards, as if perplexed. Their black hairdos are not color coordinated with their gray-striped bases. All the Davar pixies (except ketchup) have their condiments inscribed in black letters (similar to Holt-Howard); however, the bar-set trio also has additional condiments inscribed in red for "cherries," yellow for "onions" and green for "olives."

Ketchup (Print and Script)

This cheerful twosome has red-colored pixie hairdos to identify each as the correct heads for the ketchup bases. Although their red hair does not match their jar's green stripes, their hair color does match the red lettering "Ketchup" identifying their jar's contents. The flesh-colored arms on these condiments serve as handles and are standard design on all Davar pixies. The Ketchup jar is inscribed in red lettering instead of black.

Jam 'n Jelly (Print and Script)

These Jam 'n Jelly pixies have big smiles, sleepy eyes and green pixie hairdos. One interesting trait is that their green hair doesn't match anything on their bases, so the novice collector could never be sure if these heads were matched correctly. This pair's hair color can vary from light to very dark green; however, they are the correct match for the Jam 'n Jelly base. The four purple stripes around their bases may symbolize grape jelly.

These pixies have triangular eyes that stare upwards, as if perplexed. Their black hairdos are not color coordinated with their gray-striped bases. All the Davar pixies (except ketchup) have their condiments inscribed in black letters (similar to Holt-Howard); however, the bar-set trio also has additional condiments inscribed in red for "cherries," yellow for "onions" and green for "olives."



Davar Cocktail Onions (print and script), \$65-\$75 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Cocktail Olives (print and script), \$75-\$85 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Oil and Vinegar, Red/Blue (script), \$115-\$125 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Cocktail Onions (Print and Script)

One nice feature that this duo has in common is that its blue hair matches the four stripes on its jars, so the inexperienced collector knows there is a match. The word "onions" is painted in yellow.

Cocktail Olives (Print and Script)

Here again, we see a color match between the pixie's hair color and the four tan stripes around its base.

Party Gremlins Oil and Vinegar

When the first edition of this book was published in 1998, I was sure I had collected a complete set of Davar oil and vinegar decanters (one pair of script and one of print). Much to my surprise, however, I discovered that Davar had created decanters in many color combinations, both in script and print bases. I also found an original box on which Davar actually named these fun characters their "Party Gremlins" (the same nickname Holt-Howard had used for its liquor decanters). The most interesting feature of all these sets is that Davar seemed to create a script and print version of each color scheme it created. To date, three color schemes have been found: red and blue; green and lavender; and yellow/tan and gray/black.

Oil and Vinegar (Script) Red and Blue

This duo proves there is a difference between the hairdos on the printed and script jar heads. Here, we see that the heads on the script jars have hairdos with plopped-over ponytails. We know that these are the correct heads because their striped collars are removable and match the color of their bases. The vinegar's blue hair and collar stripes match his base, while the oil's red collar stripes match her base. The vinegar has stars for eyes and a frowning mouth, while the oil has closed eyes and a very contented smile.

Oil and Vinegar (Print and Script) Green and Lavender

Here is the print and script lettering version of the same green and lavender color scheme. Notice the difference in their hairdos (erect and plopped over). The oil guys seem to have almost a sinister look in their eyes, while the mouths of the red-haired vinegar cruets are showing much displeasure from the tangy vinegar that they have to conceal. These pieces stand 8" h. and are equipped with corks inside their collars to hold their heads on tight and seal their contents. Their bases have nine stripes, and their collars have two thin and two bold stripes that match. Each jar can hold 9 oz. (more than one cup) of liquid.

Oil and Vinegar (Print and Script) Gray/Black and Yellow/Tan

Here we have two smiling oil jars with gray bottle stripes and black collar stripes to match their black hair. Their companion vinegar cruets have yellow stripes with tan collars to match their hair. The vinegar cruets appear to be frowning over the vinegar they are storing in their jars. This set is marked "Davar 1959," but many of the other cruets have the Davar foil sticker and an oval sign with the V in the center of it.

Other Collectible Davar Items

As far as we know, the above-mentioned pieces were the only pixies created by Davar; however, there are other Davar pieces that are very collectible today and are worthy of mention in this chapter.



Davar Oil and Vinegar, Green/Lavendar (print and script), \$115-\$125 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Oil and Vinegar, Gray/Black and Yellow/Tan (print and script), \$115-\$125 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

DAVAR SPRING HEADS

The Davar company created many interesting spring-headed condiment and medicine jars, and also a cookie jar. The spring-headed pieces are delightful to watch because the moment they are touched, they sway as if the wind were blowing them.



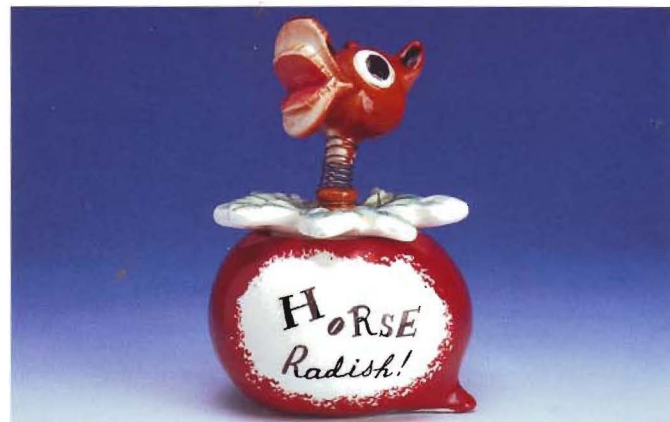
Davar Saccharin Spring Head, \$80-\$90 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Chef Spring-Head Cookie Jar, \$185-\$195 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Garlic Spring Head, \$110-\$125 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Horse Radish Spring Head, \$125-\$135 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Saccharin Spring Head

Davar created this small jar entitled "Saccharin Is Better For Me." A little bee is perched atop a small spring and dances with delight every time its jar is touched. The entire piece stands 3-3/4" h. (including bee) and is 3" d. at its widest point. The container's mouth opening is 1-1/2" across. This piece has 12 turquoise stripes on its lid and base and is copyrighted "1959." This Saccharin jar also comes in two other versions: pink-striped and yellow-striped. Because of the vertical stripes, many novice collectors confuse this design with Holt-Howard's condiment jars.

Chef Spring-Head Cookie Jar

I believe this is one of the largest vintage nodder spring heads I have ever seen! This chef is kind of a takeoff on the Campbell's Soup kids and has special openings inside his arms to hold a wooden cooking fork and spoon. (The utensils shown are not original, but are very similar.) The moment you touch him, his large nodder head dances about in all directions. The Chef is 10-1/2" h. and holds lots of cookies. He is backstamped "Davar."

"Garlic is Wonderful" Spring Head

Another of Davar's spring heads is the garlic fellow who seems elated over the garlic he is storing in his jar. This guy has big blushing cheeks and a protruding nose to sniff his garlic. His head moves around as soon as you touch his jar, which reads "Garlic is Wonderful!" This jar stands 4-1/2" h. and is marked "Davar Products." His lid has a lock-in lip to prevent it from falling off.

Horse Radish Spring Head

This Horse Radish is a very creative condiment jar by Davar. You can't help but smile once you see the horse's head attached to a large radish. The horse's head dances around as he is moved, and he stands 4-1/2" h. and is 3" w. at his widest point. Beneath the horse's lid is an attached spoon. He's marked "Davar," but not dated.



Box for Davar Pill Boy Set (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).

MEDICINE BOTTLE SPRING HEADS

These fun characters are part of an apothecary set of six whimsical members, all of whom appear to be perched on top of the cure for what ails them. Each stands 4-1/2" h., and the set is copyrighted "1959." Originally sold with storage rack. Each jar lid has a lock-in feature that keeps it from falling off. All jars are backstamped "Davar Pro. 1959," and some still have their original red and gold Davar foil stickers.



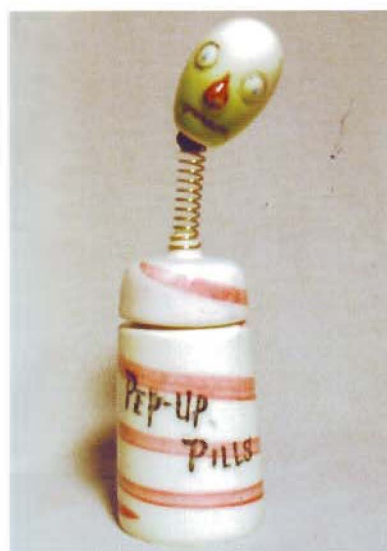
Davar Aspirin Medicine Bottle,
\$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Hay Fever Medicine Bottle,
\$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Lan' Sakes Medicine Bottle,
\$85-\$95 (Collection of, and photo by
Judy Yates).



Davar Pep-Up Pills Medicine Bottle,
\$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Pills for Chills Medicine Bottle,
\$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Tranquillizers Medicine Bottle,
\$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Rye and Scotch Liquor Decanters

Although these Rye and Scotch decanters are not pixies, they do share one Davar characteristic in common: handle-shaped arms. In the Davar pixies, the arms are flesh colored; here on the decanters they are covered and decorated with clothing. The Rye and Scotch pictured above are both marked "Davar Pro." (no date). Each decanter holds 2-1/2 cups of liquid, and each has cork surrounding its stopper to seal its contents.

Vodka Liquor Decanter

Due to his large Russian hat, this Vodka gentleman stands about 1/2" taller than the rest of the decanters pictured here; however, all the decanters are between 9" and 10" h. On the bottom of the Vodka, a blue and white sticker reads "Made in Japan." Although the Vodka is unmarked, it is obviously part of the series.

Rye Liquor Decanter

The Rye decanter is the shortest of this group, barely measuring 9" h. This base is somewhat smaller than the other decanters and is only capable of holding 2 cups of libation. This piece is also unmarked and has the same blue and white paper sticker as the Vodka.

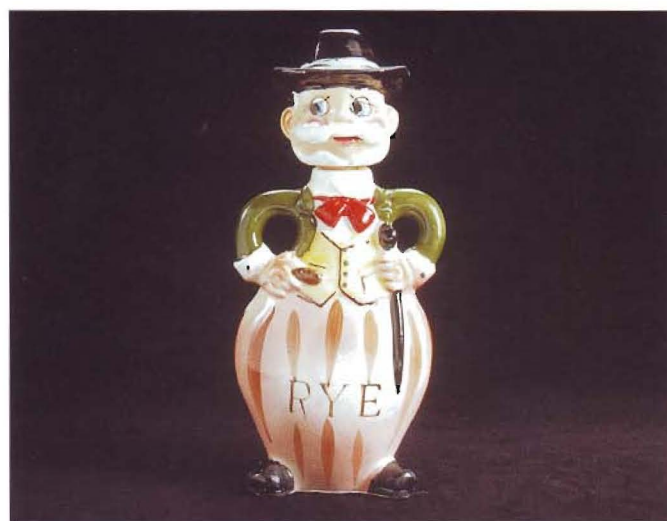
It should be noted that some of these liquor decanters have been showing up at flea markets and collectible shows with different paper labels from other novelty ceramics companies, leading us to believe that Davar may not have designed this entire line, but may have just been "buying off the shelf" in Japan.



Davar Rye and Scotch Liquor Decanters, \$45-\$55 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Vodka Liquor Decanter, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Rye Liquor Decanter, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Fallen Angels Liquor Decanters

All of these liquor decanters represent fallen angels, except "Agnus Pura," who is praying for all of them. Each decanter stands 9" h. and holds slightly more than 2 cups of liquid. These decanters are copyrighted "Davar 1962."

Davar Fallen Angel Decanters, \$65-\$75 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Fallen Angel Vodka Decanter, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Davar Fallen Angel Bourbon Decanter, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Davar Fallen Angel Rye Decanter, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Clown "Lollipops" Jar, \$55-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Stoverop Chefs Shakers, \$18-\$23 set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Davar Mom and Pop Napkin Holder/Salt and Pepper, \$35-\$40 for set (John Clay and Judy Shute collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Pan and Kettle Napkin Holder/Salt and Pepper, \$35-\$40 for set (John Clay and Judy Shute collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Lion King Pin Cushion/Tape Measure, \$18-\$23 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Davar Boy and Girl Napkin Holder/Salt and Pepper, \$55-\$60 for set (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Clown "Lollipops" Jar

A wonderful lollipop jar that resembles Pinocchio but is actually a clown. The clown's jar reads, "I've plenty of lollipops for a good child." This jar is 9" h. and 4" w. and has the red Davar foil sticker.

Stovetop Chefs Shakers

These stove-top chefs are 7-1/2" h. Both hold frying pans and have their condiments posted on their hats. Each has three pouring holes.

Mom and Pop Napkin Holder/Salt and Pepper

Mom and pop salt and pepper shakers are "hanging out," but hooked onto their yellow car napkin holder. The napkin holder stands 3-3/4" h. and has a Davar foil sticker.



Kitchen Maids Salt and Pepper, \$18-\$23; Spoon Rest, \$23-\$28 (John Clay and Judy Shute collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Pan and Kettle Napkin Holder/Salt and Pepper

These amorous frying pan and teakettle salt and pepper shakers wink at each other while hanging onto their house-shaped napkin holder. The napkin holder stands 3-3/4" h. and has a foil sticker label that reads, "Davar Originals Japan."

Lion King Pin Cushion/Tape Measure

This lion king is another example of Davar's giftware lines. He stands 6-1/4" h., and his crown serves as a pin cushion. The opening above his nose holds additional sewing tools, and he is equipped with a pull-out tape measure located behind his left leg.

Boy and Girl Napkin Holder/Salt and Pepper

The boy and girl salt and pepper set hook onto a brass napkin holder. This couple is reminiscent of Holt-Howard's Pixieware because of the lettering on the tops of their heads and their pixie hairdos. This three-piece set is unmarked but has the Davar foil sticker.

Kitchen Maids Salt, Pepper, and Spoon Rest

The Davar Kitchen Maids salt and pepper set and matching spoon rest are copyrighted "Davar Products 1966." The shakers stand 4-3/4" h., and the spoon rest is 7" l. There are more pieces to the Davar Kitchen Maid Series, such as a soap-pad holder and other kitchen maids.

Busty Ladies Ashtrays

A complete set of four Davar "Busty Ladies" with openings in front to be used as ashtrays. All pieces are backstamped "Davar."



Davar "Busty Ladies" Ashtrays, \$40-\$50 each (Florence and Bill Bouma collection, photo by Florence Bouma).

Lefton Fruit and Vegetable Heads and Companions

When people hear the name Lefton, they usually think of fine china dinnerware and exclusive china patterns. But this versatile company has also been manufacturing figurines and novelty collectibles for decades.

George Zoltan Lefton founded the Lefton Company in Chicago in 1941. After World War II, like other ceramic and giftware companies of his time, Lefton established manufacturing relationships in Japan because of its inexpensive labor. Over the years, Lefton created numerous everyday and holiday-related collectibles. Its line of Christmas items was extensive and highly collectible and, because of its success, the company became a major producer of ceramic giftware and fine china throughout the world. The company maintained its main showroom at 225 Fifth Ave., New York, and had numerous other showrooms throughout the United States. The Lefton China Company was sold in early 2001.

With Holt-Howard's success in the 1950s and 1960s, Lefton, like other companies, created similar condiment jars. The firm created a line of fruit-, veggie- and human-headed jars. Lefton's condiment jars, however, have vertical-striped bases, topped off with rounded, fully dimensional heads. The jars have higher collars than Holt-Howard's and are more cylindrical rather than rounded.

Compared to Holt-Howard, Lefton probably had the second-largest selection of condiment jars to offer. Most of Lefton's condiment jars are unmarked by the company, but are identified by a series of black numbers. All of the

jars originally had a red and silver foil label sticker read "Lefton Reg. U.S. Pat. Off. Exclusives, Japan." Over time, however, most of the stickers fell off.

Also in this chapter are condiment jars backstamped "ESD Japan" that also have a black numeric identification series. ESD (Enterprise Sales & Distributors, Ltd.) was a Canadian company allied with Lefton China. The companies went on buying trips together to Japan and purchased their items jointly, especially from the Miyawo Company (see Chapter 16). The friendship between the two companies helped cut down the costs of shipping and other expenses to the U.S. and Canada. ESD was allocated a certain percentage of Lefton's condiment jars for import from Japan, and the remainder was imported to the United States. ESD's jars were shipped to Canada and backstamped "ESD Japan," while the jars imported to the U.S. were backstamped with Lefton's name. Because of this partnership, identical items can be found today with two different backstamps. ESD is no longer in business today.

The bottoms of Lefton's standard jars average 3-1/2" h., but vary slightly in height according to the type of head closure they have. All jars have 13 vertical stripes that do not necessarily match or correspond in any manner with the color of their heads. This lack of color coordination between the tops and bottoms of these pieces can make it somewhat difficult for novice collectors to be sure they are purchasing the correct match. However, tops of some of the jars do give an indication of where they belong.



Lefton Ketchup, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Mustard with Hamburger Head, \$90-\$100 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Mustard with Hot-Dog Head, \$90-\$100 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Relish, \$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Jam 'n Jelly, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Marmalade, \$90-\$100 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Ketchup

It's obvious that this ketchup head is a tomato showing off her tomato-leaf hairdo. In this jar, the pale red stripes match the color of her face. The piece stands 6" h. and is numbered "1484."

Hamburger-Head and Hot-Dog Head Mustards

This is an interesting pair. These barbecue pals keep appearing at personal collections and at collectible shows with both heads as being the correct one for the base. Interestingly, the two pieces gaze adoringly at each other and appear to be a pair. The hamburger bun head is wearing a pickle for a hat. Even though there is no yellow in this hot dog's head to match its stripes, no condiment goes better with a hot dog than mustard. The hamburger head was featured in one of Lefton's catalogs on the mustard base, but the hot dog was nowhere to be found. Unfortunately, there aren't sufficient historical records or catalogs to shed light on this mystery. We can only assume that this piece was issued twice with these different heads. Both pieces stand 5-1/2" h. and are numbered "1482."

Relish

Most collectors see this onion head and assume it belongs on an onion or cocktail onion base, but according to Lefton's catalog, the onion is the correct head for the relish jar. Since onion is a prime ingredient in relish manufacturing, it seems to make sense. The piece is 6" h. and is numbered "1481."

Jam 'n Jelly

This apple fruit head is predominately red with a green patch of color on the right side of her head; the red matches perfectly with her jar's stripes. The Jam 'n Jelly stands 5-1/2" h. and is numbered "1485."

Marmalade

It's not too often that we see marmalade condiment jars in the United States, since marmalade is more popular in England than here; however, this orange fruit head is a companion to the Jam 'n Jelly.

The dark hunter-green stripes on the base do not match any of the color in the top. Marmalade is made from oranges, however, so of course this is the correct match. If we include the upright leaf on her head, she stands 6" h. and is numbered "1483."



Lefton Garlic, \$80-\$90 (Collection of, and photo by Hall/Glascock).



Lefton Cocktail Olives and Cocktail Cherries, \$150-\$160 for complete set with tray (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Cocktail Cherries, \$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Cocktail Olives, \$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Garlic

Garlic is shaped differently than the rest of the Lefton clan and is shorter at 5-1/4" h. Although the jar is shaped differently, it still has 13 vertical stripes. There isn't a spoon attached to this sad looking guy's head. Instead, a cork liner around the lid seals in the overwhelming smell. The jar is numbered "1960."

Cocktail Olives and Cherries Set

This adorable winking couple is much smaller than Lefton's other jars, each measuring a little more than 4" h. Both have 13 vertical stripes that match the color on the back portion of their heads. Although the spoons don't have holes, they do have scalloped edges to help drain juices. They came equipped with a personalized bar tray/ashtray (7-3/4" x 4"), which has recipes for cocktails. All three pieces to this set are numbered "1480."

Cocktail Cherries

The cocktail cherries and cocktail olives in this set are unique: the jars' back sides are highly decorated with roosters and associated cocktail paraphernalia such as liquor bottles, shakers, glasses, lemons, limes and so on. This piece has a hole in its spoon to drain juices and only has seven red stripes on the front. The container's stripes match the child's cherries in his mouth, on his nose and atop his head. Cocktail Cherries is 6-1/4" h., marked "ESD Japan," and numbered "7858."

Cocktail Olives

This winking olive head is showing off a pimento-stuffed olive in his mouth. He has a hole in his spoon to drain liquids and seven green stripes in front that match the color of his head. The back of this piece is also highly decorated, similar to the Cocktail Cherries, but different in design components. This piece is 5-3/4" h., marked "ESD Japan" and numbered "7859."



Lefton Instant Coffee, \$110-\$120 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Sugar and Creamer, \$100-\$110 for set (Collection of, and photo by Georgette Stock).



Lefton Coffee, \$55-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Instant Coffee

This instant coffee is very collectible, especially for collectors of black memorabilia. The cover to her lid is slightly smaller in diameter than other jars in this series and sits down lower in the jar's neck; hence, the piece seems to appear to have a higher collar above the jar's opening, but it's really the same as the others. Ms. Coffee wears a tropical flower in her hair and has a spoon. This piece has 13 coffee-brown stripes around the base with eight coffee beans pictured on the front of the jar. She stands 5-3/4" h., is marked "ESD" and numbered "7860."

Sugar and Creamer

Sweet Lil' Sug is another small jar that only measures slightly more than 4" h. and whose size is similar to the small Lefton Cocktail Cherries and Olives. She has a built-in spoon and 13 blue stripes on her jar that match some of the color of the bow in her hair. She is numbered "1425" and has a matching blue-striped 3" companion named "Lil' Cream Jug."



Lefton Tea, \$55-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Coffee

This coffee head, a "go along" with the instant coffee condiment jar, has the same face, flower and hairdo, but is also part of a two-piece coffee and tea set. Her lid has a cork around it to keep coffee airtight and fresh. She is in the shape of a coffee pot. This piece is 5" h., marked "ESD" and numbered "21728."

Tea

This Asian-faced boy is the companion piece to the coffee girl's head pictured above. The boy's head is in the shape of a teapot and reads "TEA." It is 5" h. and has its original Lefton foil label, but no backstamp, and is numbered "2194."

Lefton Sweetie Syrup, \$80-\$90 (*Florence and Bill Bouma collection, photo by Florence Bouma*).



Lefton Salt and Pepper, \$45-\$55 for pair (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Lefton Oil and Vinegar, \$95-\$110 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Syrup

Sweetie Syrup features a built-in underplate to prevent drips. She has 12 yellow stripes around her jug and matching yellow stripes on her underplate. The blonde-haired girl is licking her lips and bears the same resemblance to the head on the Lefton Sweet Lil' Sug. Sweetie is 4-1/4" h. and numbered "1333."

Salt and Pepper

This girl's face on the salt shaker resembles Sweet Lil' Sug's; she is even licking her lips in a similar fashion. The little blond boy

is her pepper companion to the set. Each shaker has nine stripes on its base, is about 4" h., and is numbered "1646."

Oil and Vinegar

This oil and vinegar set is a wonderful complement to the Lefton collection. The olive head is content and flirtatious, while the lemon head companion seems to be frowning. Each piece is about 9" h. and has a plastic pouring spout inside surrounded by cork to prevent spills. Each cruet is numbered "1334."



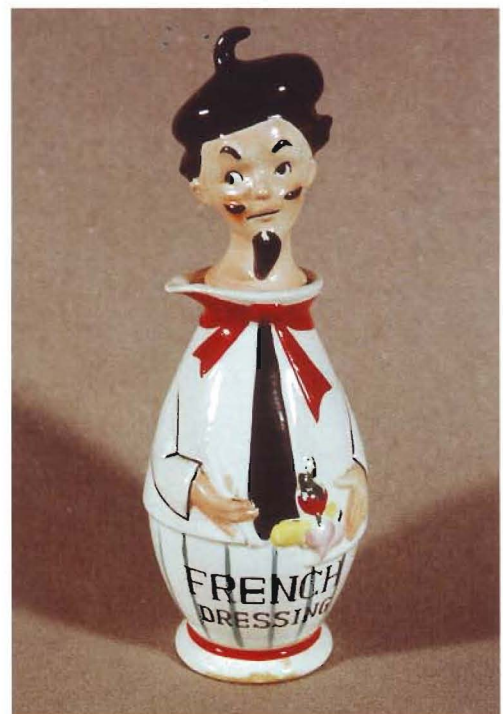
Lefton Russian Dressing, \$105-\$115 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Lefton Italian Dressing, \$105-\$115 (*Collection of, and photo by Hall/Glascock*).

DRESSINGS

Lefton created three dressing cruets: Russian, Italian, and French. The three jars are individualistic and well decorated. The one characteristic that they all have in common is that each is holding vegetables for the preparation of salads. The jars are numbered as follows: Russian, "2090"; Italian, "2091"; and French, "2089."



Lefton French Dressing, \$105-\$115 (*Collection of, and photo by Hall/Glascock*).

Ms. Hot Coffee

A coffee jar with lid to keep coffee hot. This coffee gal is 6" h. and was made by the Lefton Company.

Barbershop Quartet Guy Liquor Decanter and Matching Shakers

These Barbershop Quartet guys were featured in Lefton's 20th Anniversary Catalog in 1961. The Barbershop guy decanter is approximately 7-1/2" h. and originally included six little matching mugs (shot glasses) with small handles that were actually replicas of his head and face. The decanter is numbered "1691." The salt and pepper shakers are part of the same set and are 3-1/2" h. and numbered "1945."



Lefton Ms. Hot Coffee, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Jeff Quinton).

Lefton Barbershop Quartet Guy Liquor Decanter, \$45-\$55; Matching Salt and Pepper Shakers, \$28-\$38 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).





Lefton Barbershop Quartet Planter, \$35-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Barbershop Quartet Planter

If you look closely at this barbershop quartet planter, you'll see two of the same characters from the salt and pepper set. They may differ in hair color or in an article of clothing, but they are the same guys. This planter is 4-1/4" h., 5-1/2" l. and 5-1/2" w., has a Lefton red foil sticker and is numbered "2170."

Mr. and Mrs. Claus Jam 'n Jelly and Relish

Mr. and Mrs. Claus gaze lovingly at each other and wear an identical Santa cap. Both stand 6" h. and have 13 red stripes around their jars. Santa is numbered "1651"; Mrs. Claus, "1652."

Sweet Santa and Lil' Cream Jug

Sweet Santa, only 4-1/2" h., is a miniature version of the Jam 'n Jelly Santa. This piece comes equipped with his own personalized Lil' Cream jug, which stands 3" h. Both are numbered "1650." This Lefton Santa set also came with a matching Mr. and Mrs. Claus oil and vinegar set.

Author has the tops reversed
in this picture



Lefton Mr. and Mrs. Claus Jam 'n Jelly and Relish, \$65-\$75 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Lefton Sweet Santa and Lil' Cream jug, \$95-\$105 for pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Flower Girls and Floral-Base and Polka-Dot Base Girls

This chapter is dedicated to condiment jar girls that have either floral-bases or polka dot-bases. They were all created around the same time, and many sets share some common traits. This first collection, created by

L&M, not only has floral bases, but the girls also have beautiful large flowers that surround and decorate their heads.

LIPPER & MANN FLOWER GIRLS

The Lipper & Mann (L&M) novelty ceramic company, located in New York, was started in 1949 by business partners Seymour Mann and Hal Lipper. In the mid-1960s, the name of the business was changed to Lipper International when Seymour Mann left the partnership. Lipper International is still in business today in Wallingford, Conn., and is run by President Amy Lipper. Its main showroom is located at 225 Fifth Ave., New York City.

L&M created the "Flower Girls" condiment jars. All the pieces to this set are girls that have similar white bases decorated with small green six-petaled daisies, but each vary in the flowers that decorate their heads. The unique flowers surround the girls' faces and serve as large bonnets completely covering the backs

of their heads. Beneath these flowers is a wide array of hairdos that further distinguish each girl.

L&M flower girls are unmarked, but they all have red ink-stamped identification numbers under their bases and a red and gold foil sticker (shaped like a condiment jar) that reads "Lipper & Mann creations Japan." Most of the condiment jars in this series have the number "23/71" on their bases. Evidently, L&M used the same identification number on all bases of the same physical design, even though the condiment names written on the fronts of these jars were different.

Some of the pieces in this set appear to have been issued twice, with two different heads and different-colored flowers. Examples of this duplication are the salts and peppers and instant coffee jars.



L&M Mustard and Ketchup, \$75-\$85 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Mustard and Ketchup

Ms. Mustard has a four-petaled yellow flower for a bonnet, while her companion Ketchup wears a seven-petaled pink flower. These sisters stand 6-1/2" h. and have built-in spoons to scoop out the mustard and ketchup. Both are numbered "23/71."



L&M Jam 'n Jelly, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Jam 'n Jelly

Ms. Jam 'n Jelly sports a five-petaled purple flower on her head, which is typical of her condiment jar sisters. She has 15 daisies that decorate her base. This piece is numbered "23/71."



LGM Relish, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



LGM Oil and Vinegar, \$115-\$125 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



LGM Instant Coffee Jars, \$100-\$110 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



LGM Salt and Peppers, \$60-\$70 per set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Relish

The relish girl wears a seven-petaled blue flower bonnet and is numbered "23/71."

Oil and Vinegar

These Oil and Vinegar girls stand 8" h. and have corks under their lids to seal in their contents. Each cruet has 15 green daisies decorating its base, and each girl's neck is adorned with a white beaded necklace. Both pieces are numbered "23/72."

Instant Coffee

The proof of duplication in the Flower Girls series is evident here as we examine the two instant coffee jars. These are specially designed heads with cork surrounding the bases of their lids to seal in coffee freshness. These heads are not compatible with any other pieces to this set and will only fit the coffee bases. This duo is structured somewhat differently from their sisters, and because they don't have a spoon under their lids, they come equipped with a built-in spoon holder on their sides. These sisters are a little larger than the rest of their family and stand 7" h. Each piece is numbered "23/73."

Salt and Pepper

These two sets of salts and peppers are conclusive proof that two versions of some of the pieces to this set were manufactured. Each stares at her companion and is 5-3/4" h. Notice how similar the purple and yellow shakers are to the oil and vinegar set, while the blue and pink shakers have a strong resemblance to the ketchup and relish jars. These pieces are the only ones to the set that have green leaves decorating their bottoms. All shakers have seven green daisies that adorn their bases and are numbered "23/70."



L&M Cream and Sugar, \$95-\$105 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Cream and Sugar

The cream and sugar seem miniature compared to the rest of the set. The sugar measures 5" h. The creamer is barely 3" h. (at top of head), 2-3/4" w. and 3-1/2" l. Both pieces have 12 green daisies decorating their bases. The sugar is not numbered, but the creamer is marked "23/74."

Jam Girl/Jelly Boy

Although the Jam Girl and Jelly Boy don't have floral bases, I placed them in this chapter because we discovered that Lipper & Mann made them. The 6-1/2" pieces each have five horizontal stripes and a large scoop spoon attached to its lid. The pair smiles as they lick their lips from all the sweetness in their jars. The boy is backstamped "L&M" with two crossing blue arrows (a Lipper & Mann backstamp).



L&M Jam Girl, \$48-\$58 (Florence and Bill Bouma collection, photo by Florence Bouma).



L&M Jelly Boy, \$48-\$58 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



L&M Jelly Girl, \$48-\$58 (Dworkin collection, Photos by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Jelly Girl/Jam Boy

Here we see the same girl and boy jars with a different base design, where the girl is Jelly and the boy is Jam. Both of these jars lack a backstamp but were obviously made by Lipper & Mann. Each is 6-1/2" h. and each has a large spoon attached to its lid.

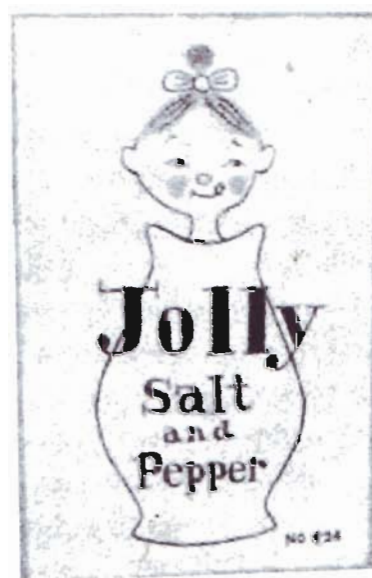


L&M Jam Boy, \$48-\$58 (Collection of, and photo by Jeff Quinton).

JOLLY FLORAL GIRLS

The "Jolly Floral Girls" have never appeared with a signature or manufacturer's label. I once attended a major collectibles show and was fortunate enough to find the salt and pepper set in mint condition in its original box. All that was printed on the box cover, however, was "Jolly salt and pepper set."

Jolly Floral Girls seem to share the same type hairdos, similar dresses and a close family resemblance to each other, but they have different shaped eyes. When purchasing Jolly Floral Girls, the novice collector should make sure the color of the bow in the girl's hair matches her shoes and the flowers on her dress; this will ensure the head is correctly matched with the base.



Jolly Salt and Pepper Box



Jolly Ketchup and Mustard, \$75-\$85 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Ketchup and Mustard

These Jolly Floral Girls have 15 daisy flowers adorning their dresses. All four condiment jars come with a spoon attached to serve their contents. The mustard, however, has a spreader rather than a spoon. Both pieces are 5-1/2" h.



Jolly Jam 'n Jelly, \$75-\$85 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Jolly Relish, \$85-\$90 (*Deanna and Gale Longnecker collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Jolly Mayonnaise (Australian), \$150+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Jolly Girls Oil and Vinegar, \$275-\$300 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Mayonnaise (Australian)

This Jolly mayonnaise is a special condiment jar, since she was only released and exported to Australia, and more than likely in very limited production because she is rarely seen. She has the same coloring and styling as her sister relish jar, but she has a completely different face. She is 5-1/2" h. and has a spoon attached under her lid.

Oil and Vinegar

This oil and vinegar cruet set stands about 8-3/4" h. These girls were made in very limited production and are a rare find. (there are also versions w/ green flowers & purple flowers)

Honey

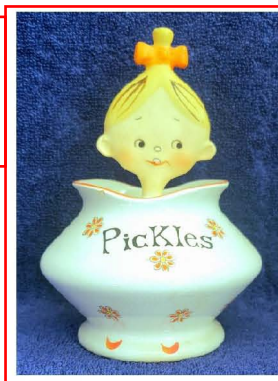
Here's another piece that has been found only in Australia and appears to have been made strictly for that market. She's similar to her sister jar mustard, but the green on this piece is different from any of the others in this set. She is 5-1/2" h. and is a rare find.

Pickles

This jar also found only in Australia, is a sister of the pickles jar. Her face seemingly has the same expression and orange flowers in the same shade. She is 5-1/2" h. and is indeed an uncommon find.

Jolly Girl Honey Jar, \$235-\$245
(Collection of, and photo by Jason Margetts).

Jolly Girl Pickles Jar, \$150+
(Collection of, and photo by Kevin McDonald).





Jolly Salt and Pepper, \$45-\$55 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Salt and Pepper

This shaker set is decorated with six daisies on their dresses that match the bows in their hair. Each stands 5" h.

Asian Salt and Pepper

These Jolly Girls are a rare find since they have an Asian influence to them. They are similar in shape and size to their sister shakers, but have no shoes. They are decorated with gold Asian Lotus blossom flowers rather than daisy flowers. They have no markings.



Jolly Asian Girls Salt and Pepper, \$55-\$65 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

THE DOLLY GIRLS BY M-G, INC.



We recently discovered that Menschik-Goldman actually named this series "Dolly Girls," and the original box states that information on it.

Cream and Sugar

Ms. Cream can hold one cup of liquid and has a pouring handle in back of her dress. Ms. Sugar has a built-in spoon. Both pieces are 5" h.

Mustard and Ketchup

M-G (Menschik-Goldman, Inc.) created this set of polka-dot skirted girls. Little information exists about this company, which will probably best be remembered for the girl condiment jars, Christmas items, kitchen-related collectibles, and salt and pepper shakers it produced during the 1960s.

All pieces in this set are girls with bows in their hair. The color of their bows always matches the polka dots on their dresses and the collar ring around the jar's opening, and their hair color always matches the three bottom horizontal stripes that adorn their dresses.

This set was copyrighted in 1960; unfortunately, only some of these pieces are backstamped and dated. The rest may only have a green and silver foil sticker that reads, "M.G. Japan."

The Mustard and Ketchup look at each other with blue eyes that have very large black pupils, which is typical of this set. Both have spreader-type spoons attached underneath their lids. This duo stands 5" h.

Jam and Relish

These two pieces have standard-shaped spoons, rather than spreaders, attached to their lids. Both are 5" h.



M-G Cream and Sugar, \$165-\$175 for pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



M-G Mustard and Ketchup, \$85-\$95 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



M-G Jam and Relish, \$85-\$95 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



M-G Match Holders, \$95-\$105 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Also has yellow bow variation which I own. 03/11/2020

Match Holders

Ms. Match Holders are 5-1/4" h. The one on the left has three yellow stripes on her dress (on either side of match holder) that match the color of her hair. Beside her is her sister match holder with all the same characteristics, except that she has pink polka dots and honey-colored hair instead of blond. Both are backstamped "M-G Inc. 1960." **There is also a yellow polka-dot version.**

Saccharin

Ms. Saccharin is a true miniature at only 3" h. This piece also has a tiny built-in spoon to scoop out the saccharin.



M-G Saccharin, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Salt and Pepper

This duo stares at each other and is 4" h. The pepper has three small pouring holes behind her shoulders, while the salt has two larger holes.



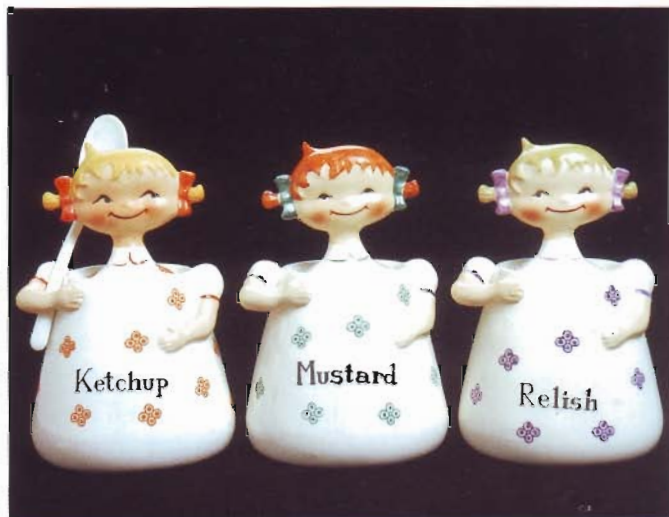
M-G Salt and Pepper, \$45-\$55 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Norcrest

Ketchup, Mustard and Relish

Hide Naito started the Norcrest China Company in Portland, Ore., in 1917. The business was called "The H. Naito Company," but after World War II, the company branched out into two businesses and became the Norcrest China Company and Pacific Orient Company. The two companies imported and distributed novelty ceramics in the United States and Canada. Eventually, Pacific Orient was absorbed into Norcrest China. Norcrest China has survived for more than 70 years and is still in business today in Portland.

The girls have two ribbons in their hair, which match the color of the daisy-like flowers on their dresses. Each base is decorated with 17 flowers, and two more flowers appear on the lid at either side of the girl's neck. The girls don't have spoons attached to their lids; instead, special oval openings are located in the back of their lids to hold a 4-1/2" plastic spoon. This set is unmarked, but is numbered (relish is "J-488," mustard is "J-489," and ketchup is "J-490"). All three pieces have a green and gold foil sticker that reads, "Reg. US Pat. Off. Norcrest Japan." Each jar is 5-3/4" h.



Norcrest Ketchup, Mustard and Relish, \$110-\$120 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Jam 'n Jelly

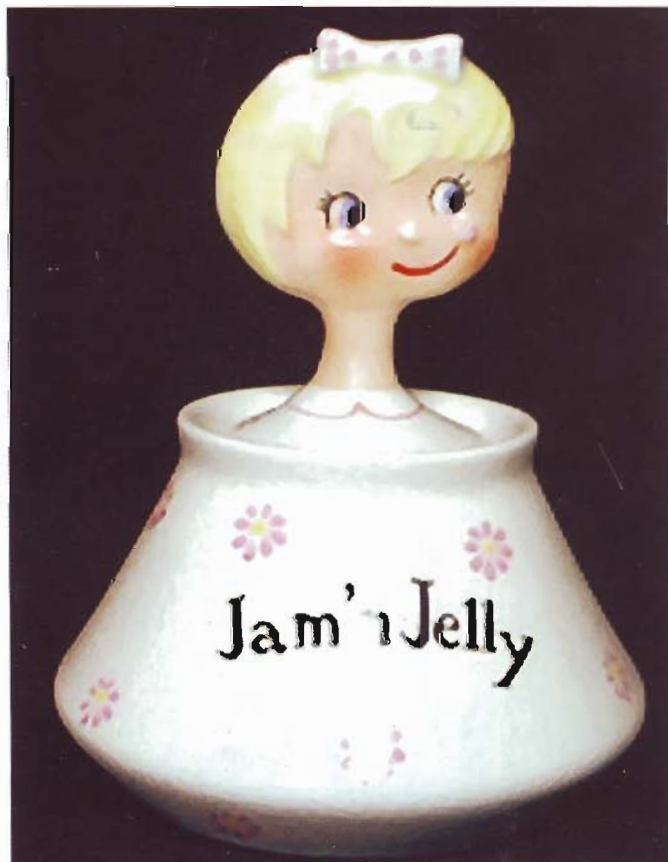
This Jam 'n Jelly is numbered "J-487."

Look-Alike

This girl looks exactly like the Norcrest girls, but is not marked.



Norcrest Jam 'n Jelly, \$110-\$120 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Norcrest Look-Alike, \$85-\$95 (Mike Van Heel collection, photo by Jim Ashley).

Other Condiment Knockoffs “Made in Japan”

This chapter covers condiment jars and related novelty items that fall into the category of “Others Made In Japan.” Included are condiment jars similar in construction to Holt-Howard’s Pixieware line. Many are unmarked; unfortunately, to this day, many remain anonymous. Also covered are many of Napcoware’s ceramic condiments, which are numbered on their bases or at least have the company’s well-known silver foil sticker to identify them. Also presented are full-headed condiment jars completely different from Pixieware.



Unmarked Mr. Impersonator Jam 'n Jelly, \$175-\$185 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Black Americana condiment jars Mustard and “Catsup,” \$95-\$105 each (Collection of, and photo by Walter Dworkin).



Unmarked Little Ms. Sweet Shop Sugar, \$125-\$135 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Mr. Impersonator Jam 'n Jelly

I was excited to discover this cross-eyed pixie knockoff, as I hadn't known before that it existed. I named him “Mr. Impersonator” since he's a dead ringer for Holt-Howard's adorable faces and top knots, except that he has a round head. A cork beneath his lid keeps contents fresh (no spoon is attached). He is 6-1/2" h. and wider than Holt-Howard's pixies. Around the jar's collar is a fine green line that matches his hair and ears. Mr. Impersonator was made in very limited production, or possibly as a prototype.

Mustard and “Catsup”

These natives appear to be reaching out over kettles that they are sitting in. Both are 5-1/2" h. and originally came in a very large gift box accompanied by matching napkins and napkin rings.

Little Ms. Sweet Shop Sugar

This adorable winking girl wears a pie on her head and has green peppermint-striped arms and top body. She has an attached spoon and her arms serve as handles. She is backstamped “Japan #8700.”

BETSON

All these Betson jars seem to be round fruit heads, measure 5-1/2" h., and have a built-in spoon under their lids. None of the pieces in this set are marked. Some, however, are ink-stamped "Japan," while others have a blue and white rectangular paper sticker that reads "Japan." One consistent characteristic is that their heads are always colored to match the color of their two buttons and the lower part of their base.



Betson Mustard and Ketchup, \$65-\$75 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Betson Strawberry Jam and Marmalade, \$65-\$70 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Mustard and Ketchup

The entire Betson jar family seems to be happy, except for the mustard, who, like other mustards, is upset.

Strawberry Jam and Marmalade Jars

Another two Betson jars: one is a strawberry jam jar; the other is a grape-colored marmalade jar.

Jam 'n Jelly Jars

At first glance, the two jars look the same; however, one is obviously a pear head, while the companion piece appears to be a yellow apple.



Betson Jam 'n Jelly Jars, \$65-\$75 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Unmarked Chefs Ketchup and Mustard, \$45-\$55 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Unmarked Chefs Jam 'n Jelly and Relish, \$45-\$55 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Unmarked Blondies Ketchup, Mustard and Relish, \$50-\$60 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Unmarked Blondie Jam 'n Jelly Jar, \$55-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

The Chefs: Ketchup, Mustard, Jam 'n Jelly, and Relish

I've always called this set "The Chefs" because of the chef hats on all the pieces. Many collectors call the blond-haired girls "Campbell's Soup Kids look-alikes." These pieces stand 5" h. and have very narrow spoons attached under their lids. The pieces are unmarked and only have a white paper sticker with black letters that reads "Japan."

The Blondies: Ketchup, Mustard, and Relish

I've always called this set "The Blondies." Each little round-headed girl has blond hair with a blue bow and stands 5" h. Even though all the girls look identical, each piece's lid is decorated around its edges with the same color to match the eight vertical stripes on its base. All the girls are cross-eyed and have arm handles.

Blondie Jam 'n Jelly

This Blondie Jam 'n Jelly Jar surfaced a few years ago and was a nice surprise, since we didn't even know she existed. She resembles her sisters in every aspect and has pink stripes that decorate her body, but no indication of the maker.



Unmarked Ms. "All Purpose" Blondie, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Ms. "All Purpose" Blondie

This Blondie is different from the others because she has no designated function and can be used to serve almost anything. She is the only Blondie with blue-colored arms and buttons. She has the same attached spoon as the other Blondies.

Swirl Girls: Mustard, Jam & Jelly, Ketchup, Cherry, and Onion

This unmarked series is bizarre, for they were evidently manufactured in a flat-head and round-head series. The flat-headed girls have pixie-type hairdos and ears, while the round headed ones do not. We now also have a flat-head boy Olives jar. The construction of the jars and built-in spoons are identical on both the flat and round heads. Each jar has eight swirled stripes. These pieces are unmarked, except for the words "Japan" on their bottoms.

Cherry top is on ketchup jar. ketchup top is round w/pink bow(inset). Duplicate onion top on cherry jar.



Unmarked Swirl Girls Round-Headed Mustard and Jam & Jelly, \$70-\$80 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Unmarked Swirl Girls Flat-Headed Ketchup and Cherry, \$70-\$80 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Unmarked Swirl Boy Olive, \$70-\$80 and Swirl Girl Onion, \$70-\$80 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Mustache Guy Mustard, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Mustache Guy Jam 'n' Jelly, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



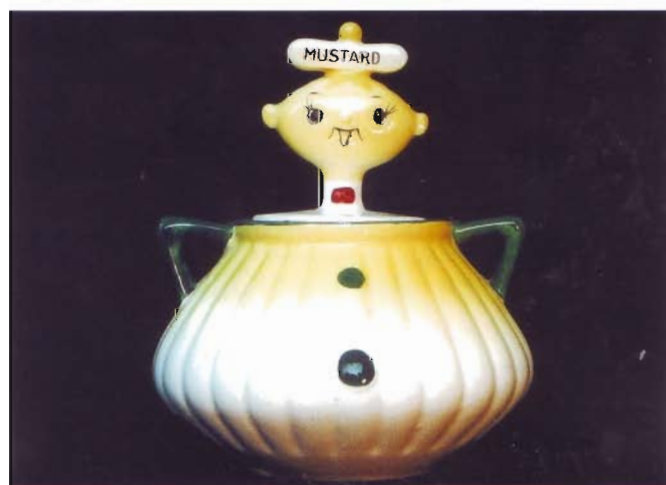
Unmarked Mustache Guy Ketchup, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



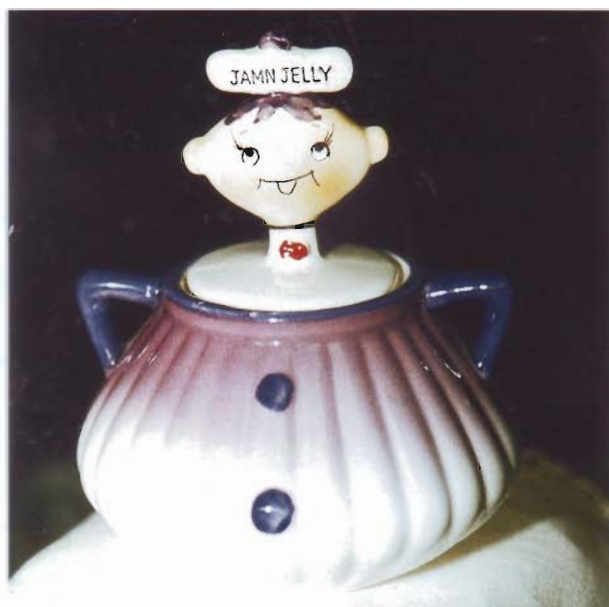
Unmarked Mustache Guy Relish, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Ketchup Guy with Arm Handles, \$95-\$105 (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).



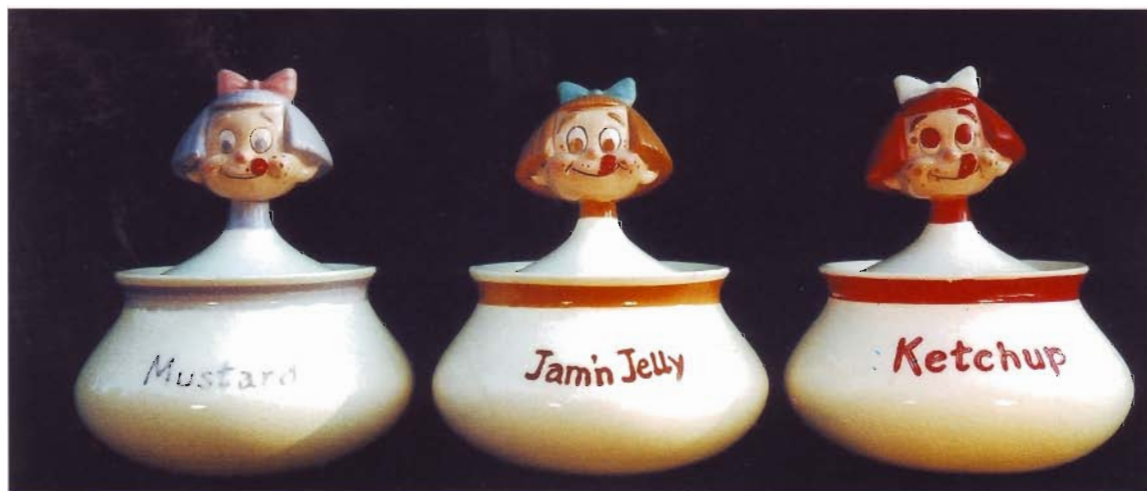
Unmarked Mustard Guy with Arm Handles, \$155-\$165 (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).



Unmarked Jamn Jelly Guy with Arm Handles, \$155-\$165
(Florence and Bill Bouma collection, photo by Florence Bouma).



Unmarked Jam-N-Jelly Boy Jar with Arm Handles, \$120-\$135
(Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).



Kreiss Trio of Jars, \$75-\$85 each (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).

Four Mustache Guys

These four gents are colorful and stand 5-1/4" h. They all share a pink bowtie in common and a blue and silver foil label sticker that reads, "Exclusive BP Japan."

Ketchup Guy with Arm Handles

This Ketchup Guy has red handles with matching colored buttons, and is part of a three-piece set.

Mustard Guy with Arm Handles

This mustard condiment jar is part of the same set as the Jamn Jelly guy above, and wears the same attire with his yellow and white base, green handles, and matching green buttons.

Jamn Jelly Guy with Arm Handles

The Jamn Jelly fellow appears to have a Pixieware-type hairdo and lettering atop his head similar to the Pixieware liquor bottles. He stands 5-1/4" h. and has no maker mark.

Jam-N-Jelly Boy Jar with Arm Handles

A boy with candy-cane stripes arms is licking his lips in delight, as his head covers the jar's sweet contents below him. The back of this two-sided jar reads, "yum-ee-yum." This condiment jar has a few accessory pieces including a cookie jar.

Trio of Jars

A set of three basic condiment jars created by the Kreiss Company: Mustard, Jam'n Jelly, and Ketchup. All three girls are licking their lips. To verify that the head is correctly matched to its base, make sure the girl's hair color matches the color of the band at the top of the jar. Each piece is 5-1/2" h. and is backstamped "Kreiss."

NAPCO

This popular family-owned novelty ceramics company was started in the late 1930s. Napco stands for National Potteries Company of Cleveland, Ohio. Napco was an importing company as well as a distributor. It sold a wide variety of novelty ceramics from Japan, including figural items, salt and pepper shakers, planters, banks, liquor decanters and other holiday-related products. Napco was especially well known for its extensive Christmas product lines. Napco usually used alpha/numeric letters to identify its products, accompanied by a silver foil sticker shaped like an artist's palette that read, "National Potteries Co. Cleveland/Made in Japan." Sometimes, it used a stamp with just the letter "N" with a "C" around it (designating the Miyawo Company of Japan) or the letter "c" with a circle around it for copyright (plus the Napco name) on the base of a ceramic piece.

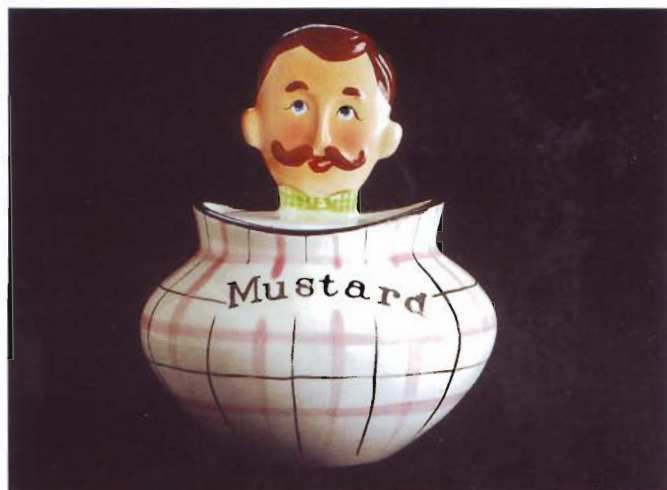
In 1960, a relative of the family started another company called Inarco. Napco and Inarco produced separate lines of novelty ceramics until 1991, when the companies merged to handle the same product lines, resulting in a new company named "LBK," which is still flourishing today, producing beautiful ceramics with its headquarters located in Jacksonville, Fla. The ketchup and onion jars are two examples of Napco's condiment jars, identified easily by their charcoal and pink plaid-striped bases. Each piece comes with a built-in spoon and is 5" h.



Napco Baby Jam Jar, \$95-\$105 (Michael Van Heel collection, photo by Jim Ashley).



Napco Ketchup and Onion, \$95-\$105 each (Dworkin collection; photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Napco Human Head Mustard, \$95-\$105 (Deanna and Gale Longnecker collection; photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Napco Jam and Mustard, \$40-\$50 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Baby Jam Jar

This jar is 5-1/4" h. and was made by Napco.

Ketchup and Onion

The ketchup is numbered "K3948" and the onion "K3949."

Human Head Mustard

This mustard piece is 5-1/4" h. and is numbered "K3947."

Jam and Mustard

In addition to creating the previously mentioned condiment jars, Napco also created a line of full-headed jars with large hats that identified their contents. The jam jar is 4-3/4" h. with the silver Napco foil sticker and is numbered "K2596." The mustard jar is 4-1/4" h. and has the same sticker and number "K2597" on its bottom.



Napco Relish, \$38-\$48 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Napco May O'Naise and Onion, \$45-\$55 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Relish

This Relish is unusual looking, with her squashed down face and flat hat; and isn't that a serving of relish on top of her hat? This piece is 3-1/2" h., has the silver Napco foil sticker and is numbered "K2595." The Napco Mustard, Jam and Relish all have an opening on the side of their heads for inserting a spoon.

May O'Naise and Onion

The Napco May O'Naise is 4-1/4" h. and has an opening for a spoon on the side of her head. May O'Naise is numbered "K2968." The sad-looking Onion fellow is 4-1/2" h. and his head is fluted all around. This piece also has an opening on its side for a spoon and is numbered "K2967."

"Big Cheeses"

The Big Cheese with the smaller hat is 4" h. and has a side opening to insert a spoon to remove grated cheese. He was made by Napco and is numbered "K2969." The DeForest Big Cheese with the white hat is 4-1/2" h. and has a "C1956" marking engraved behind his head.



Napco and DeForest "Big Cheeses," \$38-\$48 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Chef Mustard Jar

This jar is 5" h. Napco created an entire series of this chef, including other condiment jars, creamer and sugar set, four-piece spice rack, shakers, a teapot and a spoon rest.

Granny Ketchup and Mustard

These Granny Ketchup and Mustard jars are 4-1/2" h. and have built-in spoons under their lids. Both pieces are backstamped "Napco" and are numbered "5F4760." This set also has a matching salt and pepper.



Napco Chef Mustard Jar, \$40-\$45 (Collection of, and photo by Jeff Quinton).



Napco Granny Ketchup and Mustard, \$30-\$35 each (Collection of, and photo by Jeff Quinton).

DEFOREST

DeForest was a California-based business that operated from 1950 through 1970. The company was a family-run business, founded by Margaret and Jack DeForest and their sons, with Jack DeForest serving as the corporation's president. DeForest and Napco created similar full-headed condiment jars; sometimes it's hard to differentiate between the two competing companies' product lines. All the DeForest condiment jars represented in this chapter are marked "DeForest of California Hand Painted." Interestingly, some of them may have been released two years before Pixieware. Some of these DeForest pieces have a copyright "C" on the rear base of their heads, which seems to be accompanied with a date such as "1956" or "1958." DeForest not only created human-type, but also vegetable, herb, cheese and other whimsical heads.



DeForest Jam, Mustard and May O'Naise, \$38-\$48 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Jam, Mustard and May O'Naise

These are three of DeForest's human type heads: Jam, Mustard and May O'Naise. All three pieces have openings on the sides of their heads for inserting a spoon. On the backs of their heads, the Jam has a "C '56" and May O' Naise has "C 1957." The Mustard only has a "C" and no date.

Mr. and Mrs. Garlic

Mr. and Mrs. Garlic, are 4-1/2" h. and decorated with garlic leaves around the base. There's a small air exchange hole in its lid to allow for a fresh air flow to keep garlic cloves fresh.



DeForest Mr. and Mrs. Garlic, \$48-\$58 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



DeForest Pat O'Dip, \$50-\$60 (Collection of, and photo by Evan Pazol).

Pat O'Dip

This party helper is named Pat O'Dip, and he was created to serve your favorite dips.

Big Cheese Slice and Matching Shakers

Big Swiss Cheese slice is 4-3/4" h. and has an opening on its side for inserting a spoon. The Swiss Cheese Chefs shakers look like they were made by DeForest, but are not marked. The shakers are 3-1/4" h.



DeForest Big Cheese Slice, \$38-\$48; Matching Shakers, \$15-\$20 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



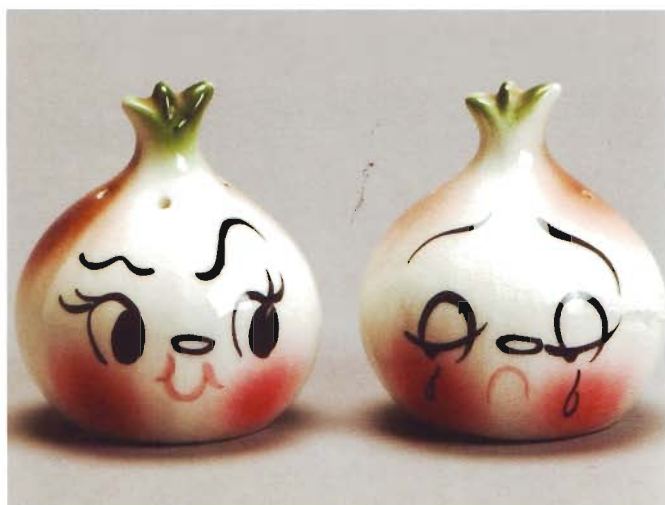
DeForest Onions and Garlic, \$38-\$48 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

DEFOREST ONION BAR-B-CUTIE SERIES

The DeForest Company also created an anthropomorphic onion set, which it named “Bar-B-Cutie.” This series was released with both green and brown lids, but the green lids seem more prevalent.



DeForest Onion Bar-B-Q Sauce, \$80-\$90 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



DeForest Onion Salt and Pepper Set, \$35-\$45 set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Bar-B-Q Sauce

It's very possible that Bar-B-Q is the piece responsible for the series' name “Bar-B-Cutie.” He may have been the first piece created for barbecues.

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Salt and Pepper Set

Here's another onion set. Both shakers are 3" h.

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Oil and Vinegar Set

In this oil and vinegar set, both have ceramic onion leaf tops that seal in their contents (no corks) and are 8" h. The oil is marked “DeForest.”



DeForest Onion Oil and Vinegar Set, \$85-\$95 set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



DeForest Four-Piece Onion Canister Set, \$475+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



DeForest Creamer and Sugar, \$105-\$115 pair; Mug, \$23-\$28 (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).



DeForest Garlic Jar, \$80-\$90 (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Four-Piece Canister Set

Truly a wonderful four-piece canister set with four adorable different faces. The set includes the following canisters: Flour 8-3/4" h.; Sugar, 7-1/2" h.; Coffee, 6-1/4" h.; and Tea, 5-1/4" h.

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Creamer and Sugar and Mug

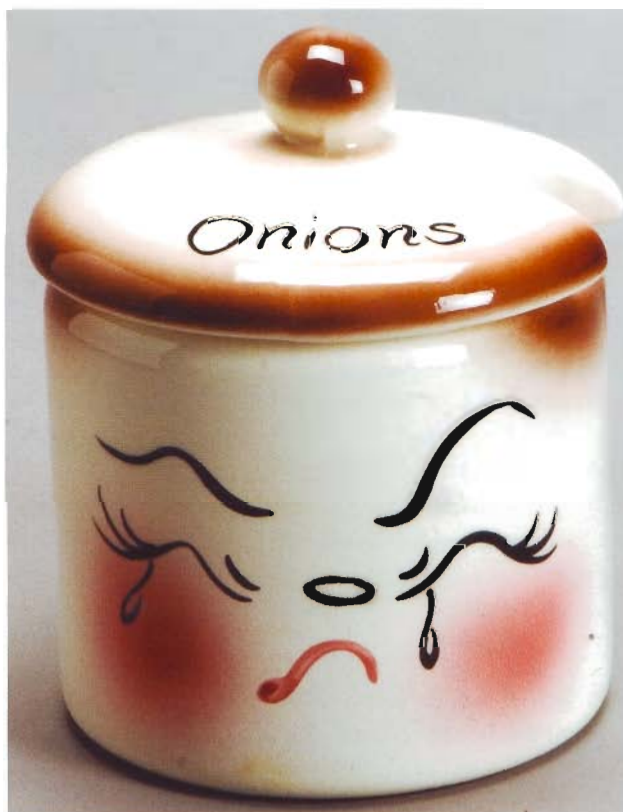
The smiling sugar bowl has an onion-leaved lid and looks over at the crying creamer. The sugar is 5" h. and 4" w.; the creamer is 5-1/4" h. and 4" w. Between them is a 4" h. coffee mug backstamped "DeForest of California."

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Garlic Jar

This comical Bar-B-Cutie is the Garlic jar. Mr. Garlic is 5-1/4" h. The lid contains a tiny pinhole for the exchange of air.



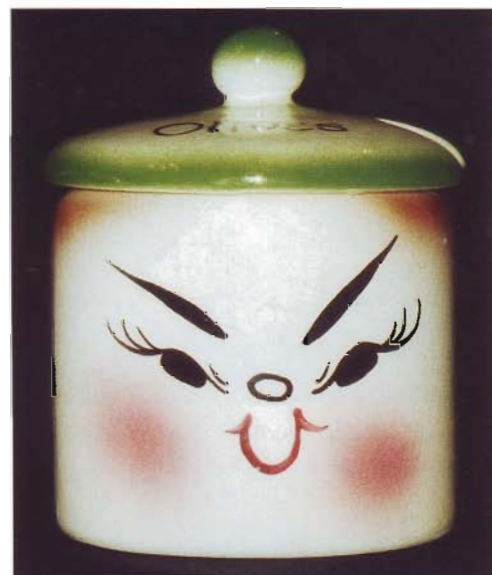
DeForest Onion Soup Tureen and Matching Onion Ladle, \$145-\$155 set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



DeForest Crying Onion Jars with Green and Brown Lids, \$70-\$80 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



DeForest Jam Jars, \$70-\$80 (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).



DeForest Olives Jar, \$80-\$90 (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).



DeForest Relish Jar, \$80-\$90 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Soup Tureen and Matching Onion Ladle

An onion-faced soup tureen with matching ladle. The whimsical smiling soup tureen is 8-1/4" h. and 8-3/4" w.; the smiling onion-faced ladle is 9-1/2" l. and 3-1/4" w.

Crying Onion Bar-B-Cutie Jars with Green and Brown Lids

These lids indicate that DeForest pieces were made with both green and brown lids. Both jars are 5-1/4" h., and their lids have openings to insert a spoon.

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Jam Jars

One Bar-B-Cutie Jam jar looks to her left while the companion piece looks up. They are identical to each other in every other aspect and are 5-1/4" h. Their lids have openings to insert a spoon.

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Olives Jar

The DeForest Olives jar has eyes that are quite different from the rest of his clan. He is 5-1/4" h., and his lid has an opening to insert a spoon.

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Onion Relish Jar

This Relish jar is 5-1/4" h. and the lid also has an opening for a spoon. The base of the jar is marked "DeForest of California."



DeForest Onion Jumbo Platter, \$65-\$75; Salad Plate, \$20-\$30; Berry Bowl, \$15-\$20 (Collection of, and photo by Ann Brocker).



DeForest Onion Divided Plate, \$30-\$40 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Jumbo Platter, Salad Plate and Berry Bowl

Here we have the DeForest Jumbo Platter (with the rosiest cheeks of all) at 15-1/2" h. and 13-1/2" w.; the salad plate, 9-1/2" h., 7-3/4" w. and 1-1/2" deep; and a berry/soup bowl, 6-3/4" h., 5-1/2" w., and 1-1/2" deep.

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Divided Plate

This guy is a divided dish 11-1/2" l. and 8" w. and is backstamped "DeForest of California."

Onion Bar-B-Cutie Large Salad Bowl

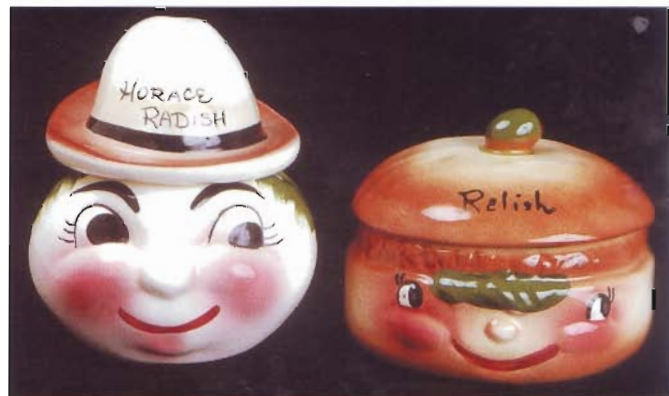
A large DeForest salad bowl that measures 13" h., 10-3/4" w., and 2-1/2" deep.

Horace Radish and Hamburger-Head Relish

The DeForest hamburger head is 3-1/2" h. and has a "C '56" behind its head. Horace's whimsical name represents horse radish, which is not common in the world of condiment jars.



DeForest Large Salad Bowl, \$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Ann Brocker).



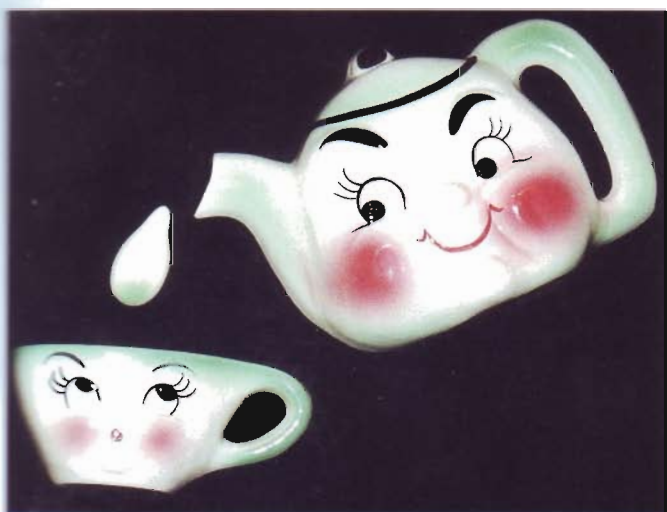
DeForest Horace Radish, \$55-\$65; Relish, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



DeForest Rolling Pin Planter Wall Pocket, \$95-\$105 (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).



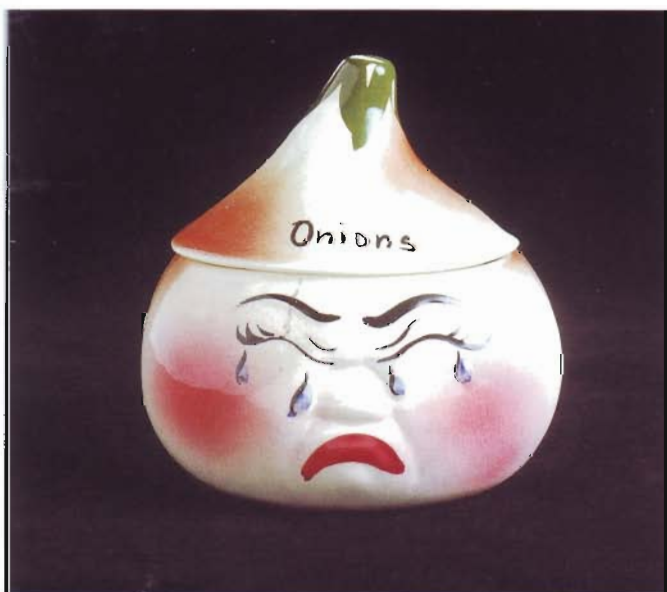
DeForest Pickle Condiment Jar, \$38-\$48; Matching Shakers, \$15-\$20 (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).



DeForest Teapot and Teacup, \$85-\$95 for three-piece set (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).



DeForest Coffee Pot and Mug, \$85-\$95 pair with original coffee drop (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).



Starnes Crying Onion with Pointed Head, \$38-\$48 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Rolling Pin Planter Wall Pocket

A whimsical kitchen rolling pin that was made to hang on the wall and serve as a planter. Written on the rolling pin is "Beware" and "Don't dally in this galley!" This planter is 14-1/2" l., 2-1/2" h. and is backstamped "DeForest of California."

Pickle Condiment Jar and Matching Shakers

This jar has a Starnes label. The pickle condiment jar is 3-3/4" h., and the shakers are 3" h. The shakers' chef hats read "Salt" and "Pepper."

Teapot and Teacup

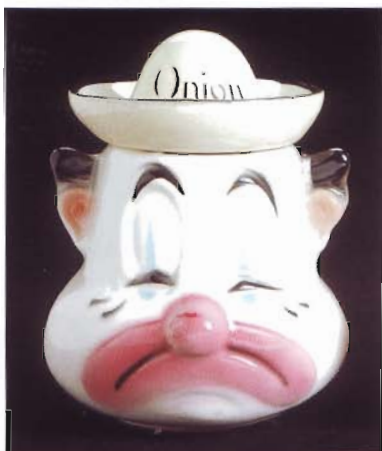
The teapot in this set is a wall plaque; however, the teacup is a wall pocket that can hold a plant or flowers. The teapot is 7-1/2" l. and 5" w. The cup is 2-1/2" l. and 5" w. The drop is approximately 2". Both the teapot and cup are engraved "DeForest of California."

Coffee Pot and Mug

This amorous pair are wall plaques; however, the mug is also a wall pocket that can hold a plant or flowers. The pair was originally sold with a small coffee drop (pictured with teapot) that would be hung on the wall between them. The coffee pot is 7-1/4" l. and 5-1/2" w.; the mug is 4-1/2" l. and 5-1/4" w.

Crying Onion with Pointed Head

This crying onion is 5" h. and was made by The Starnes Company.



American Bisque Clown Onion Jar, \$50-\$60 (Lori Smith collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Matching American Bisque Clown Shakers, \$15-\$20 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Clown Onion and Shakers

This sad-faced clown Onion jar is not backstamped, but is believed to have been manufactured by American Bisque and possibly distributed by Cardinal. The Onion clown stands 5-1/2" h., and has an opening behind his head to accommodate a spoon. This clown also has a matching cookie jar that looks just like him. These clown salt and pepper shakers are the matching pieces to the American Bisque clown Onion condiment jar, and wear the "S" and "P" on their hats; however, they were made by Relco and are numbered "1819" on their bottoms. Both shakers are 3" h. and are backstamped "Japan."

Relish and Jam

American Bisque was well known for its kitchen-related ceramics, such as condiment jars, salt and pepper shakers, cookie jars, planters and so on. The company manufactured on a large scale, not only for itself, but for other distributors, too. This novelty pottery company was founded in 1919 in Williamstown, W. Va., Virginia, and went out of business during the mid-1980s. American Bisque also created a line of full-headed condiment jars. These gentlemen are a little larger than other companies', with the jam standing at 5-3/4" h., and the relish at 5". Both pieces have openings in the back of their heads to accommodate a spoon. Although these pieces are unmarked, they are thought to be manufactured by American Bisque, possibly issued under the Cardinal Company label.

Freckle-Faced Jam

This freckle-faced girl condiment is not backstamped; however, this piece is also believed to have been manufactured by American Bisque and possibly distributed by Cardinal. This Jam jar has a matching cookie jar that looks exactly like her. The girl jar wears a blue bow in the back of her hair and is 4-1/2" h.



American Bisque Relish and Jam, \$50-\$60 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



American Bisque Freckle-Faced Jam Jar, \$50-\$60 (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).



American Bisque Big Cheese, \$50-\$60 (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).



Lego Egg Cup Couples, \$75-\$85 each pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



American Bisque Garlic Jar, \$50-\$60 (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).



Betson Cherry n' Lemon, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Big Cheese Jar

A freckle-faced boy wears a "Big Cheese" hat for storing all kinds of cheeses. He is approximately 5" h.

Egg Cup Couples

These smiling couples were created by the Lego Company. The guys wear yellow hats and the girls wear green. It's apparent that a guy and girl were created for each of the four condiments: Jam'n Jelly, Mustard, Ketchup, and Relish. All of these condiments have openings on the side of their hats to accommodate spoons. All stand 5" h. and are marked "Lego 1959," accompanied by a red and silver foil sticker that reads, "Fine Quality Lego Japan."

Garlic Jar

This Garlic jar sports a colorful green hat and is about 5" h.

Cherry n' Lemon

This Cherry n' Lemon has an unusual combination of fruits. The cherry head has a built-in drip-dry spoon with a hole that is attached underneath her lid. This piece stands 5-1/2" h. and was made by the Betson Company.



American Bisque Creamer and Sugar, \$65-\$75 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Creamer and Sugar

This creamer has a small spout for pouring right under its handle hook. At 3" h. and 2-1/2" w., the creamer is much smaller than its companion covered sugar, which is 4-1/2" h. and 3-1/2" w. Both are backstamped "52/712." The handles are not original.

Mustard and Ketchup

This Mustard and Ketchup set of two little girls was created by the Commodore Company. Each girl is 4-3/4" h. and has a built-in spoon attached underneath her lid.



Commodore Mustard and Ketchup, \$35-\$40 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Unmarked Chefs Oil and Vinegar, \$110-\$125 for set; egg cups, \$15-\$20 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Unmarked Chefs String Holder, \$60-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Chefs Oil and Vinegar, Mustard, and Egg Cups

This chef set is unmarked, but has a blue and white rectangular paper sticker label that reads "Japan." All the pieces shown are ceramic. The Oil and Vinegar are 7-1/4" h.; the Mustard is 4-1/4" h. All store neatly in their red-and-white striped metal canopy organizer. The matching egg cups are 3-3/4" h.

Chef String Holder

This Chefs String Holder is part of the cruet set pictured in this section. He measures 5-1/2" h. and is not backstamped, but has a blue rectangular paper sticker that reads "Japan."

Chefs Measuring Cups with Rack

A complete set of Chefs measuring cups: 1 cup, 1/2 cup, 1/3 cup, and 1/4 cup, which are 3-1/2", 2-3/4", 2-1/2", and 2" h. respectively. The red-and-white striped rack that houses them is 12" l. and 4" h. Four hooks hold the measuring cups and there are round brackets at top to mount this piece to the wall.



Unmarked Chefs Measuring Cups with Rack, \$65-\$75 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Chefs Spice Jars, \$55-65 for set of four (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Chefs Spoon Rest, \$25-\$35 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Pixie Rye Decanters with mustache and without mustache, \$75-\$85 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Chefs Spice Jars

Four pieces in complete set: Allspice, Cinnamon, Nutmeg, and Paprika. Each jar is 3-1/4" h. The original set included a rack (not original rack in photo) with a top with seven red stripes similar to the Chef's Oil and Vinegar, and Measuring Set.

Chefs Spoon Rest

The Chefs Spoon Rest is 10" l. and 3-1/2" w. at his face.

"How Dry I Am" Pixie Decanters

Many collectors associate these decanters with Holt-Howard's Pixieware line because of their pixie-type faces and the style of lettering on top of their heads. Each decanter is 11-1/2" h. and has a built-in music box beneath its base. When the decanter is lifted, the music box plays "How Dry I Am." Although both of these pixies have "Rye" on top of their heads, they are different. There is also a Scotch decanter and surely more pieces to this set. These pieces are unmarked.



Unmarked Vodka Decanter, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Vodka Decanter

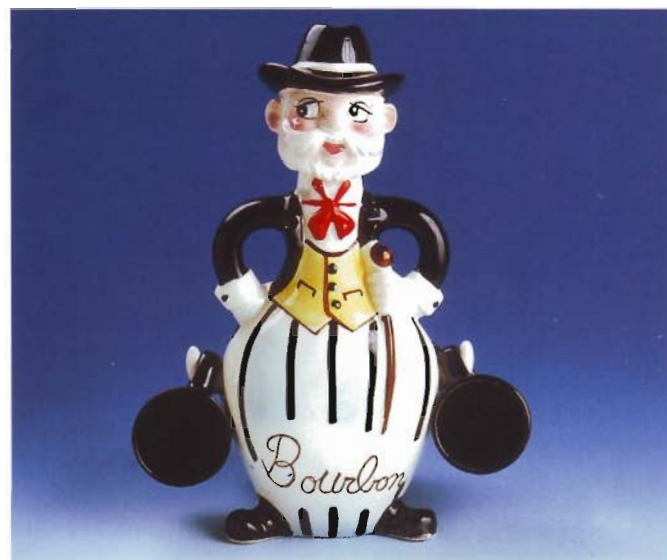
This colorful guy is playing the accordion. He has a red and gold foil sticker that reads, "Artmark Japan." This decanter is 10" h.

Mermaids Condiment Jars, Set of Three

A very rare set of Mermaid condiment jars. Each has unique body graphics on the jars showing the mermaid's body and the condiment to use for each type of cocktail: cherries for a Manhattan, olives for a martini, and onions for a Gibson.



Unmarked Mermaids Condiment Jars, set of three, \$80-\$90 each (Collection of, and photo by Walter Dworkin).



Unmarked Bourbon Decanter, \$38-\$48 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Bourbon

This Bourbon's face bears a strong resemblance to the face on the Davar Rye bottle. Both this Bourbon and the Davar Rye decanters have similar yellow vests, and both hold a baton in their left hand. This Bourbon fellow is unusual because he has four ceramic hooks that protrude from his base to accommodate four black shot glasses. This piece is unmarked.

Holt-Howard Salt and Pepper Shakers

When Holt-Howard advertised salt and pepper shakers in its catalogs, the advertisements began with the quote "Spice the Season" because the company made holiday as well as everyday salt and pepper shakers (see Christmas shakers in Chapter 20). Holt-Howard's other most popular shakers were its animals, which have cartoon-like facial expressions accompanied by beautiful detailing.

It's hard to believe, but back in their heyday, these shakers were so reasonably priced that they were considered low-end Japanese collectibles. Today, five decades later,

collectors are fighting over these shakers on the Internet, which has caused many prices to rise. There is a huge demand for Holt-Howard novelty shakers.

Although Holt-Howard created hundreds of salt and pepper shakers, this chapter focuses on the whimsical ones sold in the late 1950s to early 1960s during America's "Kitsch" period. This chapter represents a sampling of some of Holt-Howard's well-known whimsical shakers. More, however, are scattered throughout the book because some of them comprise parts of other sets or related series.



Kissing Piggies Sweethearts, \$28-\$38 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Kissing Lambs, \$28-\$38 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Kissing Babies, \$12-\$18 for set (*Collection of, and photo by Marion Howard*).



Kissing Pups, \$18-\$28 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Panda Bears, \$12-\$18 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Easter Bunny Couple, \$30-\$40 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Holly Elf Girls, \$35-\$45 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Daisy 'Dorables, \$35-\$45 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Kissing Piggies Sweethearts

The boy pig is a little taller at 4-1/2", while his blushing girlfriend is 4-1/4". They were featured in Holt-Howard's catalog and are related to two other pig collectibles featured in Chapter 18.

Kissing Lambs

This pair exudes the classic Holt-Howard charm as the male gazes at his blushing sweetheart. The female stands a little taller at 4-1/4". Her mate is on all fours at 3-3/4". The couple was featured in Holt-Howard's catalog.

Kissing Babies

These kissing baby salt and peppers are 4-1/4" h.

Kissing Pups

Another couple of sweethearts. Both stand approximately 4-1/4" and have "HH Japan" foil stickers.

Panda Bears

These Panda Bears are 3-1/4" h. and are done in matte-type non-glaze finishes. They are a later Holt-Howard product since they have the square "HH" foil stickers.

Easter Bunny Couple

A festive colored set of Easter Bunnies that resemble candleholders, but are actually shakers. Both stand 2-3/4" and have spaghetti art tails dusted in gold highlights. This set is related to other Holt-Howard Easter collectibles and can be seen with them in Chapter 19.

Holly Elf Girls

This pair of holly elf-girl shakers is decorated in holly leaves and berries. The holly is shaped in an "S" on one and like a "P" on the other. Each is 4" h. and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

Daisy 'Dorables

This set is 3-1/2" h. and is part of a series of at least eight known related collectibles made by Holt-Howard in 1959. (See Chapter 18, where the girls are together with the rest of the set.) The pieces are backstamped "HH" and have original foil stickers.



Merry Mice, \$38-\$48 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Merry Mice

Both mice are made in a "Creamstripe" design, are 3-3/4" h., and have noisemakers in their bases that squeak when shaken. Because the noisemakers are in their bases, their refill holes and stoppers are located in the backs of their heads. They are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958" and are now a famous part of the Merry Mouse series of at least nine known pieces (see Chapter 18).

Peppermint Girl Angels

A pair of peppermint-striped "Lil' Pepper" and "Lil' Salt" girl angel shakers that are 3-1/2" h. The blue-eyed angels look at each other and are backstamped "HH" and are numbered "#6055." This set has a matching pair of candleholders in Chapter 20.

Dutch Boy and Girl

This cute pair of Dutch kids are both wearing large Dutch shoes and stand 3-1/2" h. They are a later Holt-Howard product since they have a square rectangular gold and silver "HH Japan" foil sticker. The boy pepper only has one pouring hole and his girlfriend salt has three.

Holly Elves

These are known as Holly Elves because they have green holly leaves and red berries that decorate them. The pair is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960" and still have red and gold "HH Japan" foil stickers. These elves are 2-3/4" h. and are part of a large series of Christmas collectibles (see Chapter 20).



Peppermint Girl Angels, \$23-\$33 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Dutch Boy and Girl, \$12-\$15 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Holly Elves, \$40-\$50 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Tigers, \$18-\$23 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Tigers

These shakers are 3-1/4" h. and are part of a matching tiger series by Holt-Howard (see Chapter 18 for rest of collection).

Rudolph and Santa in Bed

Rudolph is the pepper shaker, Santa is the salt, and the bed with the Holly-decorated blanket is their holder. This piece is 2-3/4" h., 5-1/2" l. and 2-1/2" w. Behind the bed is a built in candleholder. This piece is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1962."

Rock 'n Roll Santas Salt and Peppers

Rock 'n Roll Santas salt and peppers wink at each other and dance back and forth on their festive red springs the moment they are touched. The duo stand about 5-1/2" h. and are copyrighted "1959."

Rock 'n Roll Kids Salt and Peppers

These Rock 'n Roll shakers are placed atop coil springs with a heavy ring at bottom. A shake of the hand will make them rock and roll! The dancing dolls are 7" h. and are copyrighted "1959."



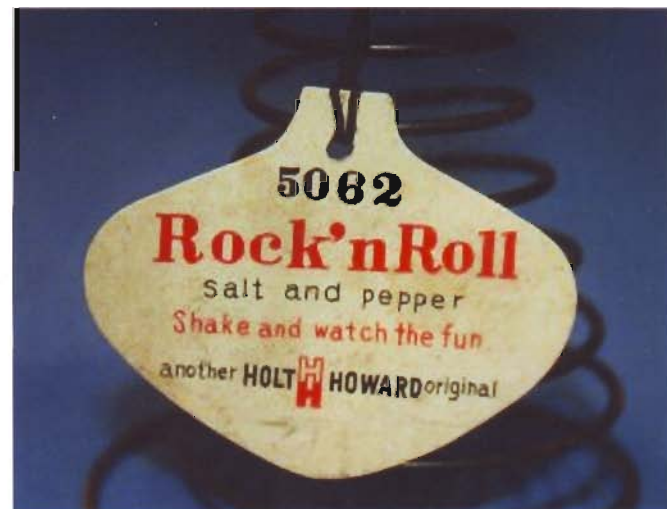
Rudolph and Santa in Bed, \$78-\$88 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Rock 'n Roll Santa Salt and Peppers, \$75-\$85 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Rock 'n Roll Kids Salt and Peppers, \$80-\$90 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography; hang tag photo courtesy of Robert G. Cole).





Poodle and Cat Salt and Peppers, \$45-\$55 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Bell Bottom Gobs Salt and Peppers, \$48-\$58 for set (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).

Poodle and Cat Salt and Peppers

These shakers are known as "Puss and Poodle." They are definitely a pair and were featured together in Holt-Howard's catalog. The poodle is taller and stands 4-1/2", while the cat stands 4". The pair also appeared on top of a tall Holt-Howard ceramic gift box. Neither piece is marked, but both have an "HH" gold sticker. There were also companion pieces in a variety of snack trays that featured the two animals kissing on a striped background (see Chapter 18).

Bell Bottom Gobs Salt and Peppers

These "Bell Bottom Gobs" salt and pepper sailors are 4" h. and double as dinner bells, with built-in clangers in their base. These sailors were featured in Holt-Howard's catalog.

Lovebirds Salt and Peppers

Each Lovebird has a "Lift 'n Listen" noise device built into its base. They are 3-1/2" h. and are marked and copyrighted "1960."

Chattercoons Salt and Peppers

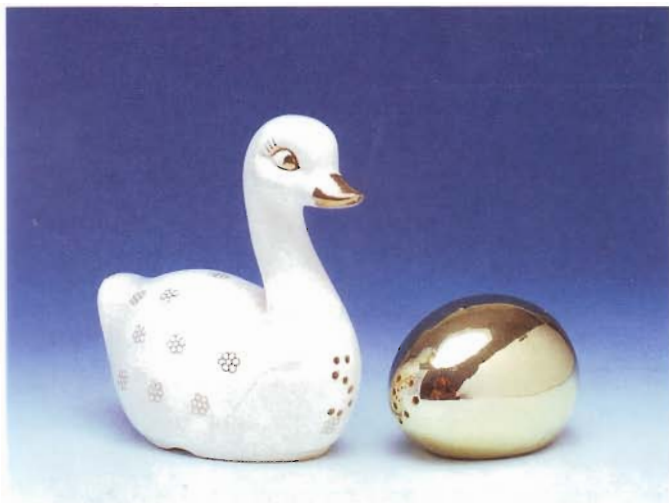
These "Chattercoons" salt and peppers squeak when shaken. They are 4" h. and were featured in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog.



Lovebirds Salt and Peppers, \$35-\$45 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Chattercoons Salt and Peppers, \$35-\$45 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Goose 'n Golden Egg Salt and Peppers, \$30-\$40 for set (John Clay and Judy Shute collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Snowmen with Gifts, \$25-\$35 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Christmas Snow Babies Salt and Peppers, \$28-\$38 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Goose 'n Golden Egg Salt and Peppers

Holt-Howard advertised this two-piece set of 24K gold-on-white shakers as "folklore for the table." This set is numbered "5285" and copyrighted "1958."

Snowmen with Gifts

These 2-3/4" h. snowmen hold gifts in their hands that are marked "S" and "P" for salt and pepper.

Snow Babies Salt and Peppers

Backstamped "1959," these snow babies salt and peppers are 3" h. Holt-Howard's Snow Babies collection is featured in Chapter 20.

Christmas Reindeer

These sponge-gold decorated reindeer are celebrating the holidays by flirting. The male stands 3-3/4" h. with his antlers, while the female stands 3-1/4" h. This set has a companion creamer and sugar set (see Chapter 20).



Christmas Reindeer, \$45-\$55 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Holt-Howard Ceramic Clips

In its 1958 catalog, Holt-Howard introduced what it called “funny, fanciful, fabulous clips for house or office.” These Crazy Clips—with colorful, cartoon-like faces and expressions ranging from happy-go-lucky to annoyed—are reminiscent of the Pixieware. Not surprisingly, the designer who created the vivacious faces was Robert Howard, partner and designer of Holt-Howard’s Pixieware and the company’s other product lines. Today these wonderful characters are selling for top dollar and collectors can’t get enough of them.

The positive-action clips were made of bright chrome with ceramic faces, with each clip portraying a personality related to its function. Two were sold together as a related pair in a gift box, with a total of 16 pieces* belonging to the set. Clips were 2-1/2" and were sold to retail stores for \$1 per pair.

According to John Howard, the reason the clips are difficult to find is that they were produced when Holt-Howard was becoming more focused on kitchenware products, but these clips were considered stationery products. The company hoped its sales department could sneak the clips into kitchenware departments. In most circumstances, however, this crossover sales strategy doesn’t work. Consequently, the clips may have been produced in test runs of only a few hundred of each type to test sales, resulting in smaller supplies today. Also, not all clips were produced in equal amounts. Certain ones, such as the “Homework” and “Dates” clips are rarer than others. In this chapter, all the clips are priced individually because it is difficult to find them as boxed pairs now.

It is with deep appreciation that I thank Darline Comisky for sharing her Crazy Clips collection with me.



His and Hers Clips, \$125-\$135 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

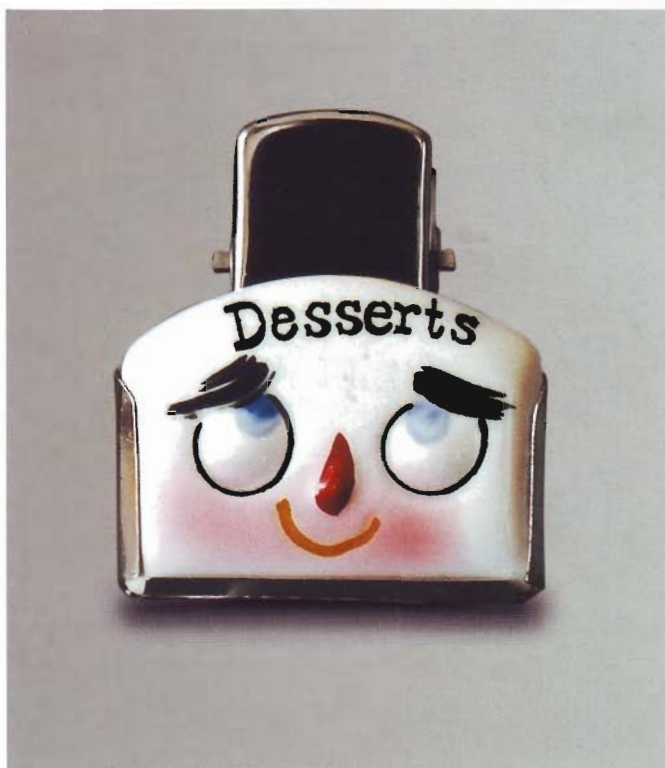
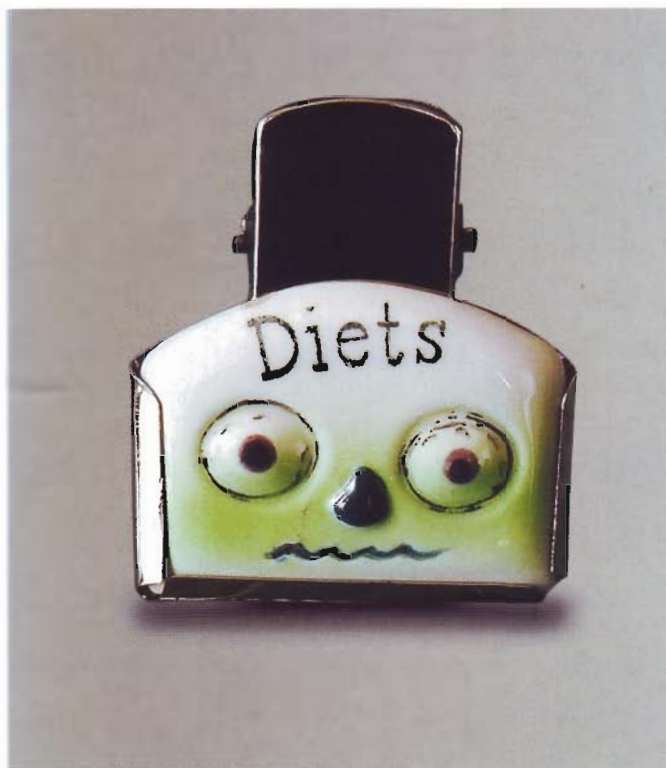
His and Hers Clips

The “His” clip is sporting a winking eye towards the “Hers” clip as she responds with a big smile and affectionate eyes. This blushing couple was the ideal gift to ensure organization in the household.

***Note:** In a recent discovery of an old Holt-Howard catalog, I noticed that four additional clips (two sets) were listed. They were definitely add-ons to the main catalog, but we are not sure if they ever went into production. The clips are “Appointments” and “Messages,” also “Junk (assorted)” and “Junk (special).” This would increase the total collectibles series from 16 to 20 clips. Mr. Howard said that once these clips were added to the catalog, at least five or six of each would have been produced as prototypes, but may have never gotten to production lines in Japan.



Urgent! and Mañana Clips, \$90-\$100 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



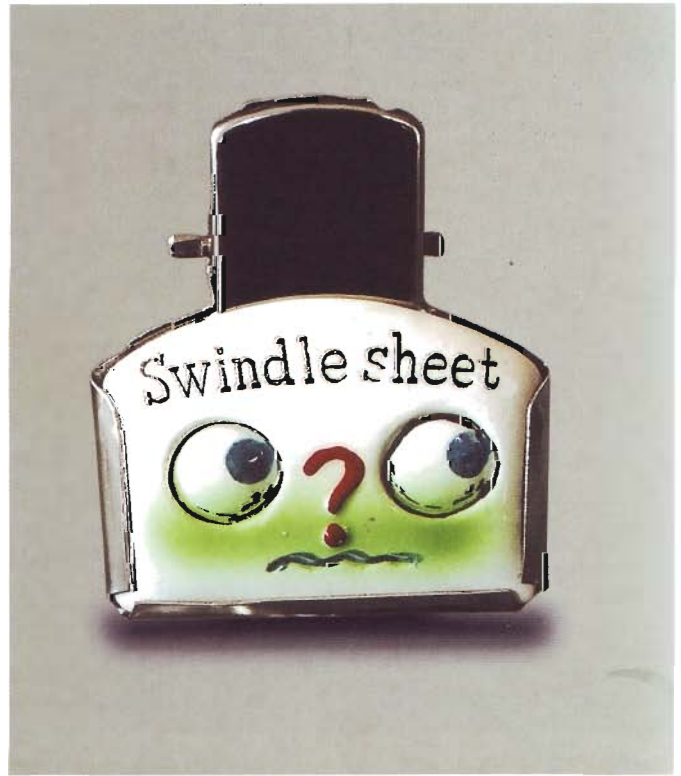
Diets and Desserts Clips, \$80-\$90 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Urgent! and Mañana Clips

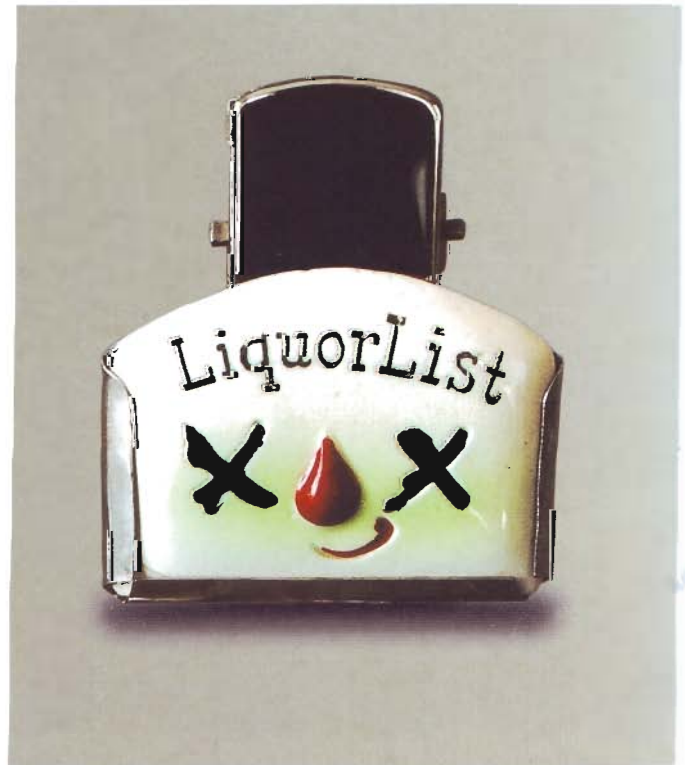
Here we see the contented "Mañana" clip putting everything off until tomorrow, accompanied by companion "Urgent" clip, who is showing signs of extreme pressure to get his job done.

Diets and Desserts Clips

The "Diets" clip is preoccupied and concerned, while the "Desserts" clip appears tempted to indulge.



Tax Deductions and Swindle Sheet Clips, \$75-\$85 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



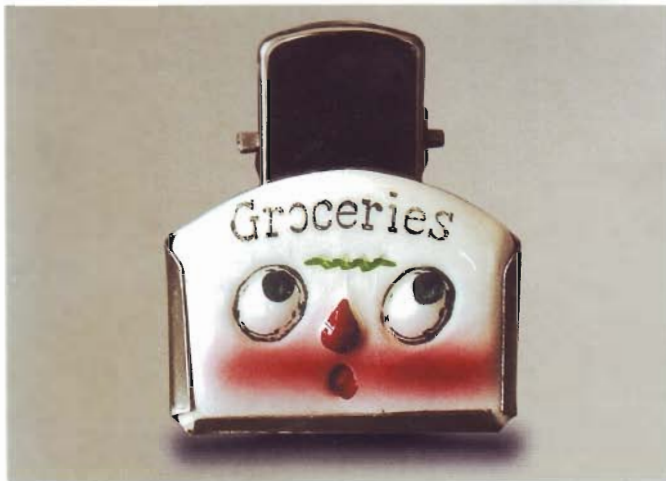
Party List and Liquor List Clips, \$80-\$90 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Tax Deductions and Swindle Sheet Clips

A well-organized "Tax Deductions" clip with a winking eye and smile indicates a job well done. The companion "Swindle Sheet" clip seems confused and making bad judgments.

Party List and Liquor List Clips

The "Party List" clip with crossed eyes appears overwhelmed from too much stress, while the "Liquor List" clip is ready to snooze away all his cares.



Groceries and Recipes Clips, \$95-\$105 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Paid and To Be Paid Clips, \$75-\$85 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Dates Clip, \$125-\$135 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Groceries and Recipes Clips

The diligent "Groceries" clip is planning her list, while her partner "Recipes" clip is reaping all the rewards of her hard work and licking her lips in sheer delight.

Paid and To Be Paid Clips

The "Paid" clip reveals a satisfied but overworked smile, while the "To Be Paid" clip is overwhelmed with the pressure of meeting payment deadlines.

Dates Clip

The "Dates" clip is daydreaming about affairs of the heart. Her companion is the "Homework" clip, but is not shown.

Homework, Messages & Appointments clips not pictured



Holt-Howard Cats

Holt-Howard had a hit when it created these kittens for the kitchen. During their debut in the late 1950s, they became the perfect gift for millions of cat lovers all over the country. Today, these tabbies and toms are some of the hottest cat collectibles in the country. Although Holt-Howard called them “Cozy Kitchen Kitties,” many of the pieces were versatile enough to be used in other rooms of the house. After their success, other companies copied them (see Chapter 13).

The kittens were made around the same time as Pixieware, starting in 1958 and continuing into the early 1960s. They were inspired by Walt Disney’s production of *Lady and the Tramp*, which was released in 1955. In this movie, the wonderful Siamese cats sang the insolent song, “We are Siamese-ees, if you do please, we are Siamese-ees, if you don’t please” and the cats’ voices were sung by Peggy Lee. In today’s collectible market, some of Holt-Howard’s cats are still common while others are as rare to find as “hen’s teeth.”

Unfortunately, some of the cats were unmarked and only had a foil sticker, which often fell off. Most of the kittens in this series have either polka-dotted or plaid scarves around their necks, but this is not always the case, since the sugar and soap shakers, Merry Measure and butter dish do not wear scarves. The male kittens wear scarves of blue or green with polka dots, while the females wear pink scarves with polka dots. Some other cats wear dark pink and black plaid scarves. Many of the cat pieces have the famous green and black plaid incorporated into their design. Some male cats wear the plaid pattern design on their hats, while the plaid is also used on pillows and around other border designs throughout the set.

Note: In addition to the ceramic pieces in this series, Holt-Howard also created a fabric toaster cover, wall cache, and napkin holder. Also in Chapter 5, you can see a few British “Cozy Kitchen Kitties” made in England as part of Holt-Howard, but released by John E. Buck & Co.

Tea Bag Toters

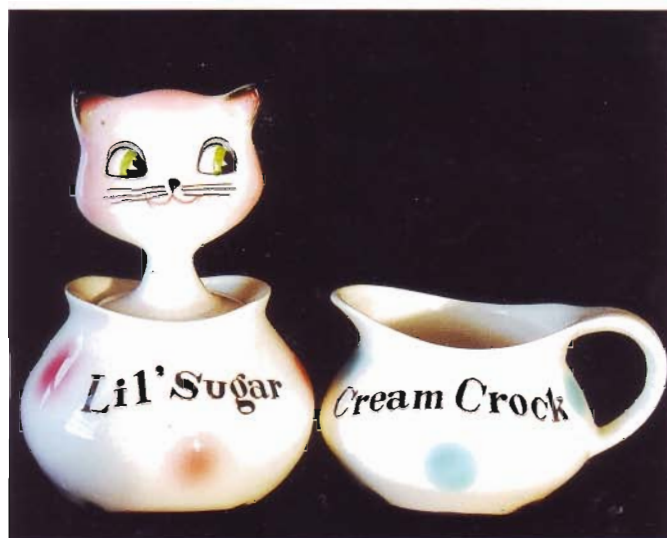
The Cozy Kittens Tea Bag Toters were originally sold as a five-piece gift set including a rack. Each tea bag holder is 3" l., 3-5/8" w. and backstamped “Holt-Howard 1961.”



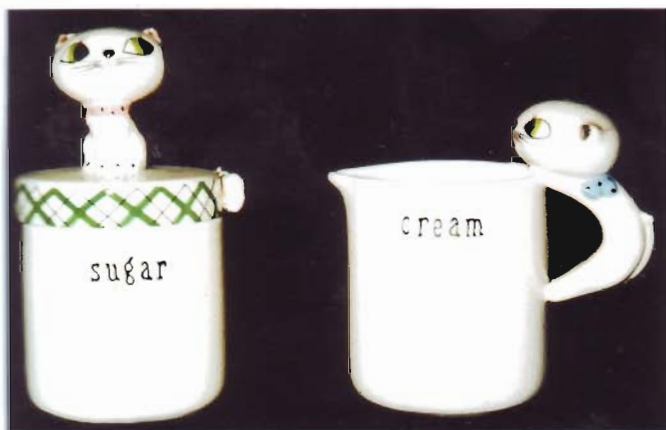
Cozy Kittens Tea Bag Toters, \$125-\$135, set of four (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Cozy Kittens Grease Crock, \$350+ (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Cozy Kittens Cream Crock and Lil' Sugar, \$225-\$235 for set (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Cozy Kittens Sugar and Creamer, \$295-\$305 for set (Collection of, and photo by Jane Tischler).

Grease Crock

Holt-Howard had stated in its wholesale catalog that it had so many requests for bacon fat containers that it created the "Keeper of the Grease." This crock is a very difficult piece to find today. It was made in a limited production, so it is not a common piece. The crock is 4" d. and is especially useful for storing bacon and other fats.

Cream Crock and Lil' Sugar

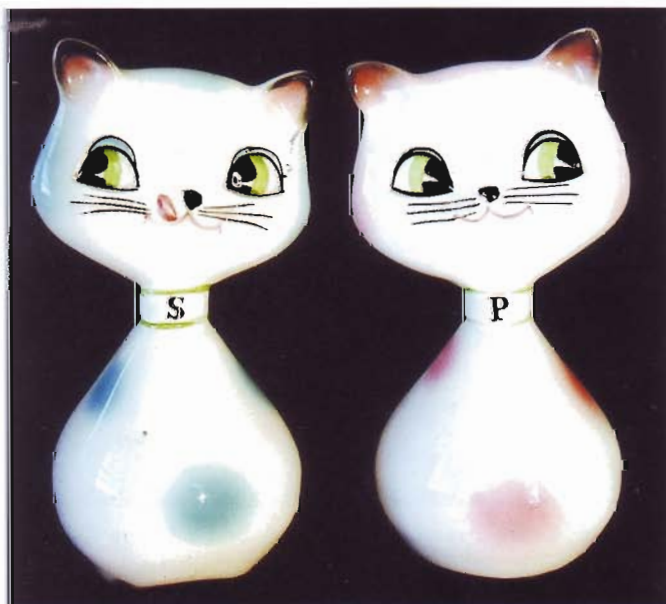
Although this set was in a later Holt-Howard catalog, most collectors have never seen it. This set matches the other Cozy Kittens condiment jars in this chapter and is part of the same series. The sugar is 5" h., and the cream crock is 2-1/4". This three-piece set is not common.

Sugar and Creamer

Here's another rare Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens three-piece set that has finally surfaced a few times. This set is comprised of a 5" h. covered sugar bowl and a 4" h. creamer. The creamer has a lift-and-listen "meow" squeaker.

Salt and Pepper Set

This set was in one of Holt-Howard's later catalogs after the original Cozy Kittens "meow" shakers were released. This set was an afterthought, but was not made in large volume because it would compete with the sales of the original Cozy Kittens. This set is 4-1/2" h. and actually has the same colored circle designs and matches the Cozy Kittens condiment jars, which were also created at a later date. The shakers have pouring holes in their backs below their necks. The salt has two pouring holes and the pepper has three.



Cozy Kittens Salt and Pepper Set, \$145-\$155 for set (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Cozy Kittens Salt and Peppers with Tail Handles, \$295-\$305 for set (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Cozy Kittens "Meow" Cups, \$35-\$40 each (Collection of, and photo by Jane Tischler).



Salt and Pepper Set with Tail Handles

This is one of the rarest Cozy Kittens shakers sets today. The set uses cat tails as handles for pouring out the salt and pepper. Mr. Howard confirmed that his company did create this set, but it may have only gone into limited production, as it would have competed too much with the musical "meow" shakers, whose sales were still skyrocketing at the time. Pieces found today will probably be unmarked because this set was a small test run.

"Meow" Cups

These 4 oz. "lift-and-listen" kitty cups match the 24 oz. *kitty* pouring pitcher. The cups were sold as a pair, two to a box.



Cozy Kittens Asian-Eyed Salt and Peppers, \$15-\$20 for set
(Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Cozy Kittens Large-eyed Salt and Peppers, \$15-\$20 for set
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Salt and Peppers in Baskets, \$45-\$55 for set
(Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Asian-Eyed Salt and Peppers

This salt and pepper set has become almost an icon of Holt-Howard because it is always in plentiful supply at flea markets and collectible shows. The pieces are 4-1/2" h. and have noise mechanisms underneath that make a "meow" sound when turned upside down. Due to their age, the "meow" mechanisms rarely work. This set is backstamped "1958."

Two types of Cozy Kittens shakers were made, one set with Asian eyes, the other with a wider body and bigger eyes. This smaller Cozy Kittens was made by the Pearl company in Japan (which is no longer in business today). The set was so successful on its test run in Canada that many thousands sold in only six months. The demand for these shakers became so overwhelming that Pearl could not supply enough pieces, so Holt-Howard arranged for another factory in Japan to make more. This second factory had to make some design adjustments (see following). Both the Asian-eyed and large-eyed sets of kittens were produced in large numbers, and are in plentiful supply for collectors today.

Large-Eyed Salt and Peppers

Many collectors believe these cats were knockoffs, but they are Holt-Howard originals, as explained above. This is the second set of Holt-Howard's Cozy Kittens shakers that were made in Japan, but in a factory other than Pearl. This other factory made noisemaker products, too, and had its own source to supply the meow mechanism. Its finished cat product had to be slightly larger than Pearl's to conform to its own noise mechanism; hence, Holt-Howard produced two sizes of meowing salt and pepper shakers.

Although both sets are almost the same height (4-1/2"), this set is much wider. This set of Cozy Kittens also has noise mechanisms underneath that "meow" when turned upside down, and are backstamped "1958" (some are also dated up until 1962).

Basket Salt and Peppers

These salt and pepper peeking pets were sold in their own wicker baskets and stand 3" h. Why the baskets? According to Holt-Howard, "no particular reason, just cute, we guess."



Cozy Kittens Outside Baskets (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Cozy Kittens Winky-Blinky "Meow" Salt and Peppers, \$40-\$50 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Merry Measure, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens String Holders, \$55-\$65 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Cozy Kittens Memo Minder, \$75-\$80 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Winky-Blinky "Meow" Salt and Peppers

This winky-blinky salt and pepper set wink, blink, and meow when lifted. Their tails serve as handles to make pouring easy. They are 4-1/2" h.

Merry Measure

The Merry Measure sewing room tool is 3" by 3-1/2" and is backstamped "1958." The kitten's red felt tongue pulls out and becomes a 36" tape measure, while the pillow's lid is removable for storing pins, needles, clips, etc.

String Holders

These string holders are made to hang on the wall and have an opening in their scarves to accommodate a pair of scissors. The proud cat with center-focused eyes measures 4-1/2" w. by 4-1/2" h. and is backstamped "1958." The second cat with eyelashes and eyes looking to its right was quite a find. The right looking cat is larger and measures 5" w. by 4-3/4" h. and appears to be backstamped "1959." Both pieces were originally sold with scissors in the box.

Memo Minder

This kitten Memo Minder with pad and pencil hangs on the wall; it is 6" h. This piece was originally sold with an enclosed blue "calendar pencil 1960."



Cozy Kittens Cottage Cheese Crock, \$50-\$60 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Bud Vases, \$140-\$150 for pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Caddy, \$55-\$60 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Cottage Cheese Crock

The Cottage Cheese Crock is 4-1/2" by 4-1/2" and is backstamped "1958." The container holds 8 oz. of cottage cheese.

Bud Vases

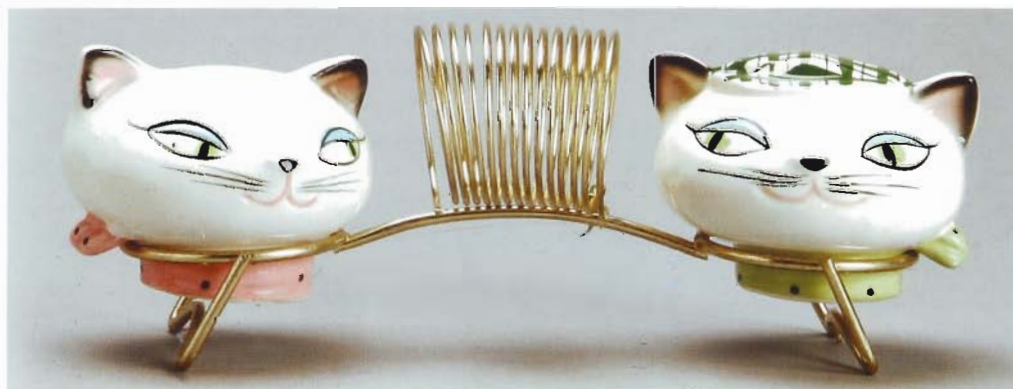
Holt-Howard called these bud vases "Tabby and Tom Charmers." They have openings on top of their heads to accommodate cut flowers. The boy kitten wears the traditional Holt-Howard green-and-black plaid design in his hat. Both pieces are 6-3/4" h. and are backstamped "1958."

Caddy

This Caddy is 6-1/2" h. and is backstamped "1958." It has an open pocket atop its head for storing pens and pencils. The spring on the kitten's back holds letters. This piece is versatile since it can also hold flowers and napkins.

Napkin Holder/Salt and Peppers

The Napkin Holder/Salt and Pepper Rack measures 7-1/2" by 3". The salt and pepper shakers sit at each end of the highly polished brass rack, which can hold up to 20 napkins.



Cozy Kittens Napkin Holder/Salt and Peppers, \$60-\$70 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Ashtray/Match Holder, \$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Cozy Kittens Bee Bothered, \$190-\$200 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Ashtray/Match Holder

This kitten sits on the traditional plaid pillow, which is an ashtray that measures 4-1/2" across. The kitten extends his paw upward to his cheek to hold a shiny brass matchbook holder. The piece is backstamped "1958."

Bee Bothered Kittens

The Bee Bothered Cozy Kittens are 3" l. and have fabric bees attached to their bodies by a spring. When the kittens are moved, the bees dance to create a fun decoration for a flowerpot, table arrangement or shelf. The kittens wear the famous plaid decoration as hats and were sold as a set.



Cozy Kittens Wall Caddy, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Wall Caddy

This wall caddy is versatile and can hold keys, wristwatches, trinkets or many other items on its tail or arm. The kitten's head has an opening on top to serve as a planter or to accommodate cut flowers. The wall caddy was originally sold as a two-piece set, as it had a circular metal key ring hanger that hung from the kitten's tail. The kitten is about 7" l. from the curve of its tail to the tip of its ear. The entire piece (with ring) measures 11".



Cozy Kittens Stackable Sugar and Creamer, \$70-\$80 for set
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Stackable Sugar and Creamer

This stackable three-piece set holds a creamer on the bottom and covered sugar on top. The kitten wears the traditional plaid hat that forms the lid to the sugar bowl. This piece stands 4-1/4" and is backstamped "1959."

Spoon Rest

Holt-Howard advertised this decorative spoon rest as a "Stove topper delight" because it serves as a spoon rest and holds recipes. It is 6" l.

Stacking Seasons

This totem-pole of stacking seasons is 5" h. and has two salts and two peppers. The portable set stacks neatly on its wooden rack. Each kitten wears a different colored bow around its neck.

Butter Dish

Two young kittens peek out from beneath a tablecloth design, which is the lid to this 7" butter dish. On the back side of the tablecloth, the kittens' tails stick out and are lovingly locked together. The underplate's border is decorated in the famous cat plaid. This two-piece set is perfect for holding a quarter-pound stick of butter and is backstamped "1958."



Cozy Kittens Spoon Rest, \$85-\$95 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Cozy Kittens Stacking Seasons, \$65-\$75 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Butter Dish, \$95-\$105
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Sugar Shaker, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Soap Shaker, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

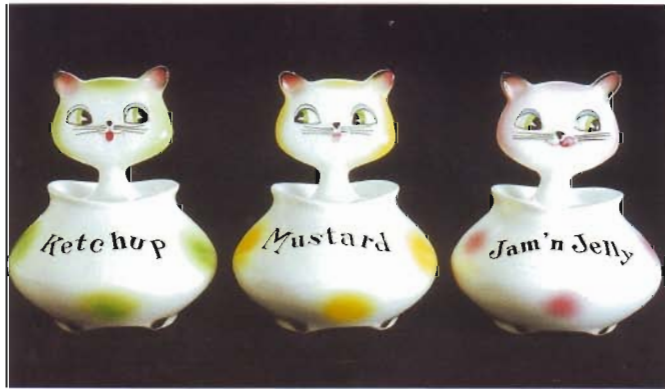


Cozy Kittens Match Dandy, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photos by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

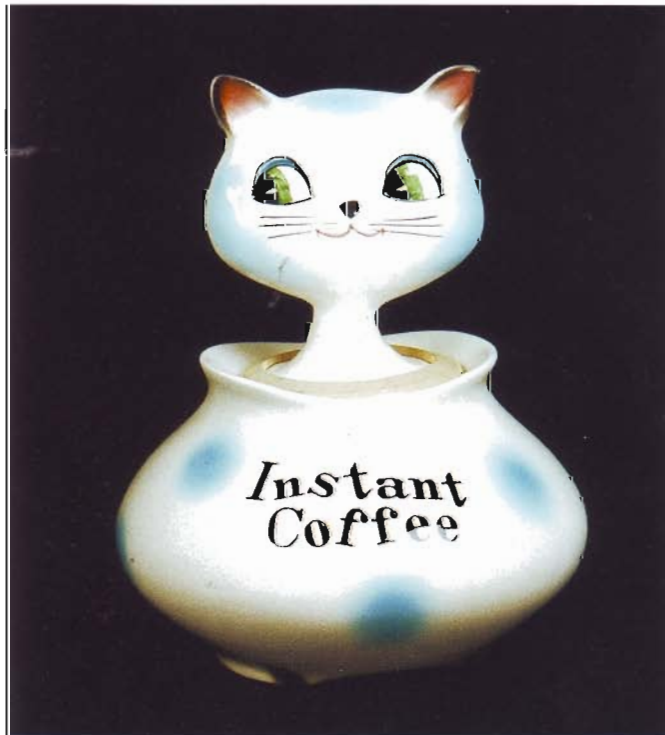




Cozy Kittens Spice Set, \$115-\$125 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cozy Kittens Ketchup, Mustard and Jam 'n Jelly, \$170-\$180 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Cozy Kittens Instant Coffee, \$180-\$190 (Ann and Ken Storms collection, photo by Chris Camera Center).

Sugar Shaker

Sugar can be shaken from the top of the kitten's head or can be poured from the sack on the side. A tight-fitting cork plug seals the pouring spout when not in use. The shaker is 6-1/4" h.

Soap Shaker

This soap shaker holds 12 oz. of detergent or cleanser and stands 6-3/4" h. There are seven holes atop her head to shake out the contents, and a large cork plug in the base.

Match Dandy

This cat is all grown up and smoking a pipe. He holds matches in the opening atop of his head. His coat is stippled for scratching to strike matches, and another opening in the cat's back accommodates used matches. This dapper cat is "dressed to the nines" while sporting the famous plaid cat cap, a handsome coordinated sport jacket and a cane on his arm.

Spice Set

Mama cat and three baby kittens comprise this adorable spice set. The four pieces hang from a vertical black wrought-iron wall rack, with mama cat on top, then nutmeg, paprika and cinnamon kittens descending below her. The entire five-piece set (when displayed complete with rack) measures 10".

Ketchup, Mustard, and Jam 'n Jelly

The kitten condiment jars (Ketchup, Mustard and Jam 'n Jelly) are part of a series of five jars and a cream crock featured in a 1962 Holt-Howard catalog. Interestingly, the Mustard and Ketchup have attached spreaders like the Pixieware, instead of scoop-style spoons that the Jam 'n Jelly has. According to John Howard, these adorable condiments were not manufactured on as large a scale as some of the earlier cat series and consequently are a harder find in today's collectibles marketplace.

Instant Coffee

A fourth jar to the cat condiment series is "Instant Coffee," which has blue splotches on its base and a blue halo surrounding the kitten's face. It also has the seal-tight white ring around its lid and a scoop spoon attached, just like the Pixieware Instant Coffee. All of these jars have spoons attached to the kittens' lids and each is 5" h. This condiment series is unmarked, but was featured in Holt-Howard's catalogs.

"Meow" Oil and Vinegar

These kitten cruets gaze lovingly at each other and "meow" when lifted to perform their tasks. The boy wears the famous plaid hat and has a "V" for vinegar inscribed on his front, while his companion piece has an "O" for oil. They are 8" h. and were sold as a pair.

"Meow" Mug with Squeaker

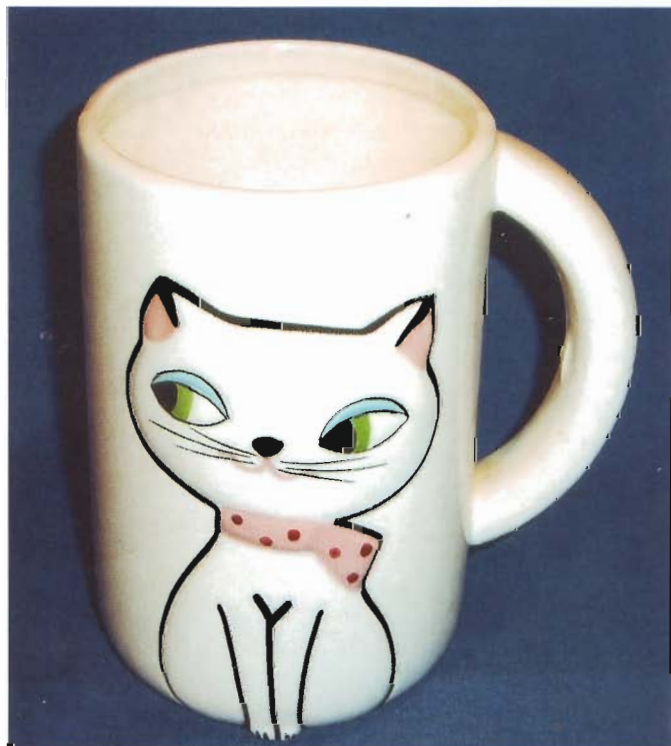
This 8 oz. mug has a lift-and-listen squeaker.

Winky-Blinky "Meow" Mug with Squeaker

This Winky-Blinky mug is similar to the previous "Meow Mug," but this kitty has a different shaped bow around his neck and his eyes blink open and closed. This mug also holds 8 oz. and has a "meow" mechanism underneath.



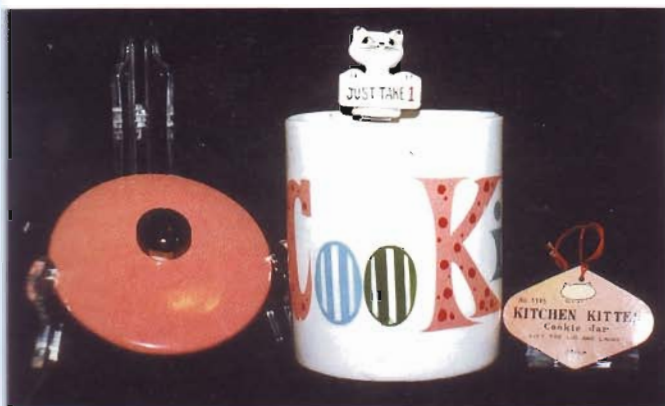
Cozy Kittens "Meow" Oil and Vinegar, \$210+ for set (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Cozy Kittens "Meow" Mug with Squeaker, \$30-\$40 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Cozy Kittens Winky-Blinky "Meow" Mug with Squeaker, \$30-\$40 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Cozy Kittens Pop-Up Cookie Jar, \$260+ (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Cozy Kittens "Meow" Pitcher, \$125-\$135 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Cozy Kittens Original Boxes (John Clay and Judy Shute collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Pop-Up Cookie Jar

Every time the cookie jar lid is lifted, a kitty pops up and displays a sign that reads "Just Take One." This jar is 6-1/4" h.

"Meow" Pitcher

This pouring pitcher is 7-1/2" h. and holds 24 oz. The bottom of the pitcher has a "lift-and-listen" squeaker and is backstamped "1960." The pitcher was sold separately from the 4 oz. "lift-and-listen" cups shown in the beginning of this chapter that match it.

Original Boxes

These are two original Cozy Kittens boxes for the twine holder and the salt and pepper set. The twine holder has a rectangular red and white inspection label with numbers. It reads, "Passed" and "Made In Japan."

Kitty Catch Clip

The clip portion of this "Kitty Catch" clip is chrome-plated, and the entire piece measures 4-3/4". Holt-Howard referred to this piece as a "Sure Action Clip." It is multifunctional and can be used for towels, paper bags, lunch containers, bibs or notes.



Cozy Kittens Kitty Catch Clip, \$45-\$55 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

The “Copy Cats”

When Holt-Howard created its line of Cozy Kittens products, no one realized the tremendous impact these kitties would have on the 1950s competitive collectibles market. The Holt-Howard cats created so much interest that many other companies “got on the bandwagon” and started creating their own kitties. Some of the other companies closely copied Holt-Howard’s products (especially the salt and pepper shakers). Today collectors have to investigate

and research carefully to see if they are buying a genuine Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens collectible.

Following are many of the Cozy Kittens’ cousins. All were made in Japan during the Cozy Kittens’ era, but none are the “real McCoy.” Even though they are not Holt-Howard, collectors today still adore these knockoffs, and many are commanding high prices on the Internet and at collectibles shows and flea markets.



Norcrest “Meow” Cat Shakers, \$40-\$45 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

“Meow” Shakers

These salt and pepper shakers stand 4-3/4" h. and are truly dead ringers for the Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens line, except that their bodies are adorned with pink roses. They feature the “meow” noisemaker mechanisms in their bases just like Holt-Howard shakers, and their tails are in back and curve in the same manner as the Cozy Kittens shakers. Each has three pouring holes atop their heads and their plugs are in the back base of their heads. They are not numbered or backstamped but do have a “Norcrest Japan” blue and gold foil label.

Caddy

This tabby stands 6-1/2" h. and looks just like the Holt-Howard cat caddy, except this one is covered with decorative roses that adorn its front and back. There is an opening on top of the cat’s head to store pencils or pens, and she is numbered “J497” with the “Norcrest Japan” blue and gold foil label.



Norcrest Cat Caddy, \$65-\$75 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Norcrest Yellow Cat Caddy, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Male Caddy with Hat, \$55-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Girl and Boy Shakers, \$60-\$65 for set (Collection of, and photo by Janet Paruolo).

Yellow Caddy

A Norcrest cat that stands 6-1/2" h. and closely resembles the Holt-Howard cat caddy, except that this one is all yellow with chocolate-brown ear trim and sports a big pink bow with polka dots around its neck. This tabby also has an opening on top of its head to store pencils or pens, and is numbered "T610" with the "Norcrest Japan" blue and gold foil label.

Male Caddy with Hat

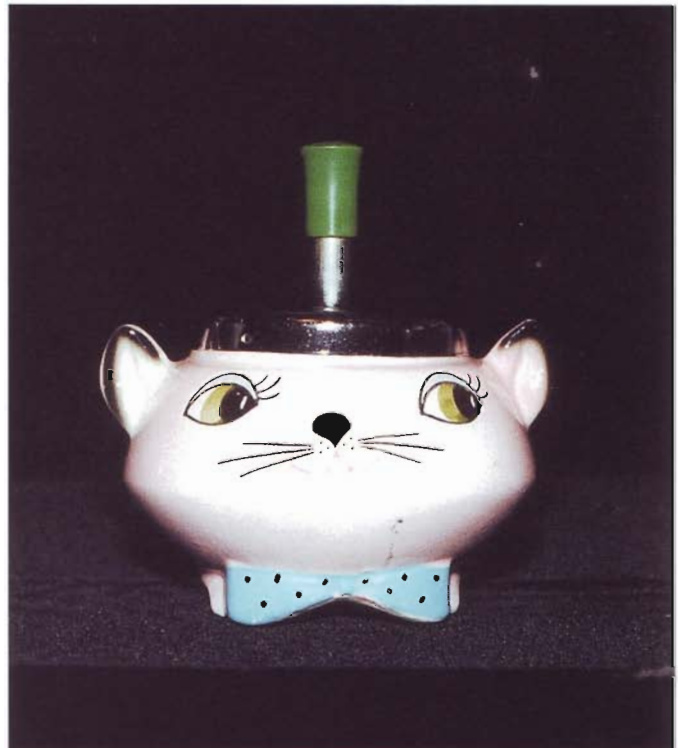
This male tabby has the Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens eyes and ears and copies the caddy style. He stands 6" h. and does not have an opening in his hat for storage of pencils or pens. He is backstamped "Japan."

Girl and Boy Shakers

It's hard to believe these cats weren't produced by Holt-Howard. At first we thought they may have been a Holt-Howard prototype that never went into production, but Mr. Howard has confirmed that they are just good copies.



Unmarked Cat Yarn/String Holder, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Unmarked Cat Plunger Ashtray, \$30-\$35 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Yarn/String Holder

Many collectors have this piece, and it always appears unmarked. To date, there's no proof that this cat yarn/string holder is Holt-Howard, and there aren't any Holt-Howard records to confirm this piece as a Holt-Howard original.

Plunger Ashtray

Here's another "Cozy Kitten" Holt-Howard look-alike. The top of the cat's head is an ashtray and has a push-down plunger handle to dispose of ashes in the cat's head. This item came in different color combinations.

String Holder

This cat string holder resembles some of the Holt-Howard cats with polka-dotted scarves, but this one was made by another company. The kitty is 5" h. and 4" w.



Unmarked Cat String Holder, \$60-\$70 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Mustard and Ketchup, \$95-\$105 for set (Collection of, and photo by Crystal McLain).



Unmarked Cat and Mice Drum Bank, \$33-\$38 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Closed-Eye "Meow" Kitten Shakers, \$45-\$55 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Eyes-Forward "Meow" Shakers, \$12-\$18 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Mustard and Ketchup Set

This cat condiment set is truly an incredible copy of the Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens line and has all the quality and detailing of genuine Holt-Howard pieces. Notice the whimsical misspellings of "Mastard" and "Ketchap," using the Holt-Howard lettering style. One cat looks right and the other looks left. They even have the plaid hats to mimic the Cozy Kittens line.

Eyes-Forward "Meow" Kitten Shakers

Most of the copycats look at each other, but this couple looks straight forward. They mimic the Holt-Howard style and colors and have meow noisemakers. They display a hang tag that reads "Cats Meow." They are 4-1/4" h. and have three pouring holes atop their heads. The female has a cork stopper, but the male doesn't. (Possibly a factory error?) They are backstamped "Japan" and have no maker mark.

Cat and Mice Drum Bank

Here a cat holds onto a mouse while a second mouse hides inside the bank with a worried look on his face. This mouse stares up through the slot in the bank at all the commotion above. Many collectors misidentify this bank as a Holt-Howard piece. The drum bank is approximately 4-3/4" h., 4-1/4" w. and is not backstamped.

Closed-Eye "Meow" Kitten Shakers

You just can't get any closer to Holt-Howard than this pair. They even have the same colored scarves. They are the only pair of knockoffs with closed sleepy eyes and they have their arms folded behind their backs instead of being in front like all the other copycats. They also have the built-in meow noisemakers in their bases, three pouring spouts each and cork stopper at the back base of their heads. They are 3-3/4" h. and have no maker's markings or stickers.



Unmarked Stove Top Cat Shakers, \$40-\$45 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Stove Top Shakers

These tall cats were made 6" h. for stovetop use rather than for tableware. The red-scarfed salt cat has an "S" on his chest and two pouring holes, while the companion green-scarfed pepper has a "P" on its chest and three pouring holes. Both look forward, have plugs in their bases and are unmarked.

Kitties on Pillows Shakers

This couple mimics the Cozy Kittens plaid pillow design and polka-dot scarves. Although they resemble Holt-Howard, they were made by a different company. The kitties are 3-1/2" h. The pepper shaker with the yellow scarf has two pouring holes, and the salt shaker mate with the pink scarf has three. They are unmarked but do have an oval red and gold "Japan" foil sticker.

Winky Blinky "Meow" Cat Shakers

This knockoff pair has Winky Blinky eyes that open and close when the shakers are shaken up and down. They also have the Holt-Howard-type meow mechanisms in their bases. The girl has two pouring holes and the boy three, and their stoppers are located in the center of their backs. This set stands 5" h. and both have the blue and white rectangular "Japan" paper sticker, but no maker is identified.

Norcrest-Type Shakers

This couple looks like Norcrest but are unmarked. They are a little shorter and thinner than the Norcrest meow shakers. Each has three pouring holes, a stopper in its base, and is 4-1/2" h.



Unmarked Kitties on Pillows Shakers, \$23-\$28 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Winky Blinky "Meow" Cats Shakers, \$20-\$25 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Norcrest-Type Shakers, \$25-\$30 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Ucagco "Meow" Shakers, \$12-\$15 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Unmarked Tea-For-Two Tea Strainer, \$28-\$33 (*Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates*).



Unmarked Stretch Cat Shakers, \$25-\$30 for set (*Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates*).

Ucagco "Meow" Shakers

This couple with pronounced eyes mimics the Holt-Howard cats and have meow noisemakers in their bases. The cat with the yellow scarf has two pouring holes; the cat with green scarf has three. Both have tails that wrap around their sides and stoppers in the back of their heads. The cats are 4" h., were made by Ucagco and have the blue and white rectangular "Japan" paper sticker.

Tea-For-Two Tea Strainer

Many collectors believe this tea strainer set is Holt-Howard because of the two little kittens on top that closely resemble the Cozy Kittens Cottage Cheese Crock, but this is a copy made by another company.

Stretch Cat Shakers

These smiling, stretched-out tabbies certainly resemble Holt-Howard but are copies. They have plugs underneath their bodies and are backstamped "#665."

Lady Cats with Bonnets Shakers

These lady cats exude the warmth and persona of the Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens line and at times are mistaken for them. Both cats wear bonnets with flowers and matching necklaces. The blue bonnet cat has two pouring holes, the orange three. They are 5" h. and have touches of sponge-gold details on their thighs. Each has an oval blue and white "Japan" paper sticker but no maker mark.



Unmarked Lady Cats with Bonnets Shakers, \$45-\$55 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Holt-Howard “Wanna Bees”

This chapter is devoted to Holt-Howard “Wanna Bees.” It encompasses a lot of collectibles that frequently show up on the Holt-Howard Internet sales site and that nearly everyone thinks are Holt-Howard, but are not.

This chapter also includes many collectibles that have the “Holt-Howard look” about them and may be knockoffs, or just copies of the Holt-Howard style. It’s very important to educate the public about these items and the companies that may have created them. Some of these collectibles do

not have maker marks on them or backstamps of any kind. I know through my interviews with Mr. John Howard, however, that the collectibles in this chapter are not products of his company. This does not mean that these “Wanna Bees” are not highly valued collectibles, because so many of them are. Some of these “Wanna Bees” are rare items, and collectors seek them, but it’s important for the devoted Holt-Howard collector to know which is the “real McCoy.”

International Barmen Bottle Bracelets

You just can’t help but think of Holt-Howard’s Pixieware bottle bracelets when you look at these six bottle markers made by The Shields Company, Japan. They look similar, except they are men’s heads instead of pixies. This complete set of six includes Bourbon, Brandy, Rye, Scotch, Vodka, and Wine. The pieces range in size from 2-1/4" to 2-1/2" h. and indicate the country of origin of some of the liquor.



Shields International Barmen Bottle Bracelets, \$65-\$70 for set of six (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Relco Pixie Pin Money Banks, \$45-\$55 pair; with original rack, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Relco Peeper and Tweeter Shakers, \$18-\$23 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Relco Pixie Salt and Pepper Shakers, \$38-\$43 for pair with brass rack (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Relco Spring Kids Bank, \$40-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Pixie Pin Money Banks

These His and Hers pin money banks are almost always mistaken for Holt-Howard Pixieware. They have the pixie faces, ears, and even the Pixieware stripes, but the Relco Company made them. They have slots for coins on top of their heads and black rubber stoppers in their bases. Both pieces have protruding hooks under their necks both in front and back because originally they were sold with a gold wire frame rack that looks like the scale of justice. The banks were hooked onto each end of the wire frame; the heaviest would tilt the scale in its favor. Each bank is 4-1/2" h.

Peeper and Tweeter Shakers

This Peeper and Tweeter set resembles Holt-Howard's "Peepin' Tom and Tweetie" and the "Slick Chicks," but Relco made this Easter salt and pepper set. These chicks have the same noisemakers as Holt-Howard's to make them peep when moved. Each chick is 4-1/2" h. and has a plug in the back of its head.

Pixie Couple Salt and Pepper Shakers

This salt and pepper couple mimics Holt-Howard's Rock 'n Roll kids on springs (especially this girl pixie, who so closely resembles the girl Rock 'n Roller shaker, especially with the same matching gold earrings). These shakers are 4" h., and both have pixie-type ears and blushing cheeks, but were made by the Relco Company, Japan. Originally this duo was sold with a shiny brass, wire-frame bicycle built for two, which was their storage rack.

Spring Kids Bank

This bank is reminiscent of Holt-Howard's Rock 'n Roll Spring Kids shakers. These sweethearts are puckered up and ready to kiss. As the bank fills with coins, the heart bank drops lower and pulls the couple's heads closer together. The boy wears a yellow cap, and his sweetheart wears burgundy bows on her pigtailed. The bank reads, "For Your Happiness." The coin slot is on top and the stopper is on the right side. This 6-1/4" h. piece was made by the Relco Company.



Norcrest Totem Pole Snowmen Candleholder, \$38-\$48
(Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



M-G Pig Chefs Salt and Pepper Set with Noisemakers, \$33-\$38 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Bride and Groom Fish Shakers, \$15-\$18 for set
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Piggy Bank with Derby Top Hat, \$18-\$23 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Totem Pole Snowmen Candleholder

Almost anyone looking at this piece could easily be convinced it is Holt-Howard, but the Norcrest Company made it.

Piggy Bank with Derby Top Hat

This piggy bank is dressed up in a blue suit and brown derby hat. He is 7" h., and his coin slot is in the back of his head. He imitates the Holt-Howard pig shakers set and Market Piggy.

Pig Chefs Salt and Pepper Set

These Pig Chefs salt and peppers have built-in noisemakers in their bases like the Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens, but were made by M-G Inc. (Menschik-Goldman Inc.), the same company that created all the Dolly Girls polka-dot condiment jars. Their condiments pour out of their chef hats, and their cork plugs are in the backs of their heads. One pig holds a recipe book and the other a large spoon. Both are 3-1/2" h.

Fish Salt and Pepper Shakers

A kissing pair of bride and groom fish salt and pepper shakers. The groom wears his top hat and his bride has a big veil on her head. The pair mimic Holt-Howard's Professor Perch shakers. The nautical couple are 2-1/2" h. and have no maker marks.



Double Piggy Bank on Treasure Chest

Here's an unusual double piggy bank. The pig on the left wears the famous Holt-Howard plaid cap from the Cozy Kittens series. Both pigs have a slot on their head and drop coins into the treasure chest bank. Their arms are extended just enough to hold a coin in place. The bank is 7-1/2" h. and has no maker mark.

Granny Tea Bag Holders and Rack

This set of Granny tea bag holders are dead ringers for Holt-Howard's Granny Li'l Old Lace series, but these grannies were made by Enesco and all four still have their foil stickers. While all four grannies hold pocketbooks, one carries an umbrella, and one holds a gift. Each is 3-1/4" l. and 2-1/4" w. The set comes with a 5" l. shiny brass storage rack.

Unmarked Double Piggy Bank on Treasure Chest, \$75-\$80

(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Enesco Granny Tea Bag Holders and Rack, \$45-\$50 set of four with rack (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Granny Salt and Pepper Shakers, \$23-\$28 for each set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Enesco Granny Mug Planter, \$28-\$33 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Unmarked Granny Spoon Rests, \$45-\$50 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Granny Shakers

These salt and pepper sets also resemble Holt-Howard's Granny Li'l Old Lace series. The grannies are busy talking while they are out shopping. All are 4" h. and have their pouring spouts behind their heads. The blue grannies are the pepper shakers; the pink ones are the salt shakers.

Granny Mug Planter

Although this Granny looks like a coffee mug, she is actually a planter. She is 5-1/2" h. and has a matching head vase wall pocket featured in this chapter. This Granny has the Enesco red and silver foil sticker.

Granny Spoon Rests

Three spoon rests also look exactly like Holt-Howard's Granny series. The pieces are 6-3/4" l., and although they are unmarked, they resemble the Enesco tea bag holders (especially the lavender and pink spoon rests).



Unmarked Green Granny Spoon Rest, \$50-\$60 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Granny and Grandpa Spoon Rests, \$30-\$35 for pair (Dworkin Collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Enesco Granny Head Vase Wall Pockets, \$120-\$130 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Green Granny Spoon Rest

Another Holt-Howard Granny look-alike, who is carrying her groceries home. At 5-1/2" h., she is smaller than the two granny spoon rests at left and has no maker mark.

Granny and Grandpa Spoon Rests

These spoon rests have nail hole openings in the back of their shoulders to be wall mounted. The Granny holder reads, "No use crying over spilt milk," while Grandpa's reads, "Keep conscience clear, then never fear."

Granny Head Vase Wall Pockets

One granny wall pocket is wearing a green hat, and is in a state of shock over something. This green hat Granny is 5-3/4" l. and 6" w. at top. Her companion piece with the pink bonnet is 5-1/2" l. and 6" w. at top. Both pieces have "Enesco" red and silver foil stickers.



Unmarked Figural Baby Cows, \$12-\$15 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Figural Baby Cows

The male cow wears a bowtie, and his girlfriend wears a daisy. Both wear large red cow bells. The pair is Holt-Howard-like in designs and facial expressions, but were made by another company. They stand 4-1/2" h. and have no maker mark.

His and Hers Chopper Hoppers

Although this couple may resemble condiment jars, they are in no way related to storing food because they are "Chopper Hoppers," and were used for storing dentures overnight. Each is 4-3/4" h.

His and Hers Chopper Hoppers

Another set of "Chopper Hoppers" with different styling and a little larger (5" h.).

Unmarked His and Hers Chopper Hoppers, \$35-\$40 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked His and Hers Chopper Hoppers, \$35-\$40 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).





Unmarked Bear in Mind Notepad Holder, \$30-\$35 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Kitchen Maid Notepad Holder, \$55-\$60 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Kitchen Chef Notepad Holder, \$38-\$43 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Bear in Mind Notepad Holder

This bear memo pad "bears" a close resemblance to Holt-Howard's Polar Bear Kitchen Cub Memo Pad. He stands about 7" h. and has two holes in the back of his head so he can be mounted on the wall.

Kitchen Maid Notepad Holder

The Kitchen Maid shows a strong resemblance to the Kitchen Chef and evidently was made by the same company, since the number on her base is "3766." But the Maid is shorter at about 5-1/2" h. and was designed to hold a smaller notepad. She has two mounting holes in the back of her head.

Kitchen Chef Notepad Holder

This kitchen chef has a smiling face, chef's hat and dishtowel, and is ready to help with kitchen tasks and shopping. He stands about 6-1/2" h. and is numbered "3790" on his base. There is an opening in his right shoe to hold a pencil that goes through his right arm to hold it in place.



Unmarked Elephant with Bonnet Notepad Holder, \$38-\$43 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Old Couple Shakers Set and Napkin Holder, \$25-\$30 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Cheese Wedge Crock and Mouse, \$18-\$23 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Lefton Cheese and Mouse Shakers, \$23-\$28 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Elephant with Bonnet Notepad Holder

She is a unique memo pad, since she is freestanding and is fully three-dimensional (not flat in back for wall hanging). She has an opening in her left bottom side to hold her pencil and was designed to hold a small notepad.

Old Couple Shakers Set and Napkin Holder

Both shakers are 3" h. and have no maker mark. The combination holder and napkin rack is 6" l.

Cheese Wedge Crock and Mouse

The cheese crock is reminiscent of Holt-Howard's Stinky Cheese Crock, but this piece was made by another company and is unmarked. The crock with mouse is 4" h. and 5-1/2" l.

Cheese and Mouse Shakers

A contented chef mouse saltshaker sits by his cheese wedge peppershaker as if he ate too much. The mouse is 3" h., and the cheese is 1-1/4" h. and 2-1/4" l. Both shakers are numbered "H260" and have the Lefton foil sticker.



Unmarked Mr. and Mrs. Squeakers Mice Shakers, \$23-\$28 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Clown Candle Climbers, \$25-\$35 for set (Ed Whitkowski collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Betson Chicken and Rooster Cruets with Egg Shakers, \$40-\$45 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Rabbit Oil and Vinegar Cruets, \$50-\$55 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Mr. and Mrs. Squeakers Mice Shakers

Both Mr. and Mrs. Mouse have noise mechanisms built in their bases like the Holt-Howard mice so they squeak when shaken. They are 4" h. and have a gold foil label that reads, "A Quality Product Japan."

Rabbit Oil and Vinegar Cruets

A set of rabbit cruet bottles with corked heads. Each cruet is 7" h. They have no markings.

Clown Candle Climbers

These clowns are hugging the candles on their way up to the top. They are 3" h. and are backstamped "Japan."

Chicken and Rooster Cruets with Egg Shakers

A five-piece set consisting of a rooster oil cruet, a chicken vinegar cruet, two salt and pepper shakers, and a matching stand. The matching stand is marked "Betson Company." The entire set is 7" h. and 6-1/2" l.



Unmarked Rooster Spice Rack, \$23-\$28 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Tilso Egg Cups/Salt and Pepper Girls, \$38-\$43 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Rooster Spice Rack

This rack is similar to Holt-Howard's red rooster set and makes a nice "go-along" to it. The seven-piece set consists of three shakers with pouring holes: Nutmeg, Pepper, and Salt; plus three covered jars with lids: Allspice, Cinnamon, and Cloves; and a round rack with handle for storage and transport. The entire set is 6-1/2" h., including rack with handle. This spice rack is stamped "Japan" but has no maker mark.

Egg Cups/Salt and Pepper Girls

A set of egg cups with matching salt and pepper nested on top. The shakers are 3" h.; the whole set is 6-1/2" h. The girls' arms serve as handles to the egg cups. Both pieces have a Tilso foil label.

Abstract Children Stovetop Shakers

These abstract children salt and pepper shakers are nearly always assumed to be Holt-Howard. The set is large enough to serve as stovetop shakers because they are 6" h. and have a large capacity.



Unmarked Abstract Children Stove Top Shakers, \$13-\$18 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Mom and Pop Egg Cups/Salt and Peppers, \$35-\$40 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Chicken-Faced Egg Cups/Salt and Peppers, \$28-\$33 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Bride and Groom Egg Cups, \$18-\$23 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Chicken-Faced Shakers, \$18-\$23 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Mom and Pop Egg Cups/Salt and Pepper Set

These Mom and Pop egg cups wear their large hats as salt and pepper shakers. Each piece in the set is 6" h.

Chicken-Faced Egg Cups/Salt and Pepper Set

These chicken-faced egg cups/salt and pepper shakers have some other "go-along" pieces to the series but not necessarily made by the same company. The heads come off and serve as shakers, and the bases are egg cups. Both have a rectangular blue and white paper sticker that reads, "Japan" but have no maker marks. The set is 4" h.

Bride and Groom Egg Cups

Both pieces are 4" h. but have no maker marks.

Chicken-Faced Shakers

Here's one of the "go-along pieces" that match the chicken-faced egg cups. The pair, from Japan, is backstamped in red ink with the letter N with a circle around it. The set is 4-1/2" h.



Unmarked Chicken-Faced Spice Rack, \$115-\$125 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Unmarked Mama Bluebird Nesting Salt and Pepper Shakers, \$30-\$35 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Chicken-Faced Spice Rack

This set incorporates an entire barnyard of chicken-faced condiment shakers, including Allspice, Cinnamon, Cloves, Ginger, Nutmeg, and Pepper. The shakers are paired, with three girls in polka-dot blouses and three boys (roosters) in suit jacket tops. All shakers have four pouring holes, are 3" h., and are backstamped "Japan" but have no maker marks. The wooden spice rack, designed to be hung, is 3-3/4" h. and 12" l.

Mama Bluebird Nesting Salt and Pepper Shakers

A proud mama bluebird with floral hat and red bow sits on her nest of egg-shaped salt and pepper shakers. Beneath mama are the two egg shakers in an indented space. This set is similar to Holt-Howard's Peepin' Tom and Tweetie thermal egg warmers, but instead of real eggs, these are shakers. This piece is 4" h., the nest 4-1/2" l. and 3-1/2" w., and the eggs 1-3/4" l. The set is backstamped "Japan" but has no maker marks.



Unmarked Mr. Bluebird and Norcrest Mrs. Bluebird Nesting Salt and Pepper, \$60-\$65 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Enesco Bar-B-Que Chefs Shakers, \$18-\$23 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Mr. and Mrs. Bluebird Nesting Salt and Pepper Shakers Set

Mr. and Mrs. Bluebird are sitting on their nests of egg-shaped salt and pepper shakers. Under the lids are two egg-shaped shakers nestled in an indented space. This set, too, resembles Holt-Howard's Peepin' Tom and Tweetie thermal egg warmers. This piece is 4" h., the nest 4-1/2" l. and 3-1/2" w., and the eggs 1-3/4" l. These two pieces may not be a set since their nests are designed differently, and Mrs. Bluebird has a Norcrest foil sticker and is numbered "H-555," but Mr. Bluebird has no markings.

Bar-B-Que Chefs Shakers

The green plaid apron on one of these chefs reminds collectors of the Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens pillows, hats, and scarves, so many collectors think these salt and pepper shakers are Holt-Howard, but they were made by Enesco. The chef on the right has a tiny barbecue pit and holds a metal cookout fork. His companion is carrying a "P" for pepper shaker and other goodies on his tray.



PY Musician Angels Salt and Pepper Series, \$18-\$23 each set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Lefton Mermaids Set, \$35-45 pair; single Lefton mermaid, \$18-\$23 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Unmarked Dog String Holder, \$50-\$60 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Musician Angels Salt and Pepper Series

Here is a set of six musician angels: two playing the accordions, two the tuba and two others are singing from song sheets. All have polka-dot dresses, but different hats or bows on their heads. All are backstamped "Japan" and were made by PY.

Mermaids

The two mermaids on the left are a pair. The taller one is 6" h., and her mate is 5". The mermaid with the ball was also made by The Lefton Co., is 5-1/2" h. and numbered "3107."

Dog String Holder

This dog string holder has the same face, expressive eyes and whiskers as Holt-Howard's famous cat string holder, and his scarf and scissors holder mimics the cat's. Most people think he's related to the cat, but he's not Holt-Howard. He has a blue rectangular paper sticker that reads "Japan" and is 4-1/4" h. and 4-3/4" w.



Unmarked Stacking Totem Bagels Salt and Peppers, \$30-\$38 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Stacking Family Soupers, \$38-\$43 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Leo Goldman Kangaroo Bank, \$60-\$70 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Stacking Bagels Salt and Pepper Sets

A unique concept of four stacking shakers that imitates the Holt-Howard "Stacking Seasons" and its "Stacking Santa Shakers" totems. With wooden base and pole rack, the entire piece measures 7" h.; each Bagel is 2-1/2" w. The two salts and two peppers each have a different face and read "salt" or "pepper" in script. The bagels have a foil sticker that reads "Japan."

Stacking Family Soupers

This six-piece totem pole set of stacking soup bowls serves the entire family. The baby's cap at top entitled "Soupers" serves as a lid to keep bowl contents hot. Dad is at bottom (3" h.), Mom with pearl earrings is next (2-3/4" h.), then brother, sister, and baby with cap (all three are 2-1/4" h.). All five bowls are 4-1/2" w. The ears on the cups serve as handles. All pieces are engraved "Made In Japan."

Kangaroo Bank

One of the original advertisements for this piece called it a double savings bank because it has two coin slots. This "mama kangaroo with babies" bank has many Holt-Howard features; however, it was imported by Leo Goldman Inc., of New York City. The large slot in the mama's head reads, "for Uncle Sam"; the smaller slot by the babies at the pouch says, "for me."

Cow Cottage Cheese Crock

This cottage cheese crock is a takeoff of the Holt-Howard Cozy Kittens Cottage Cheese Crock. This covered crock was made by Lipper & Mann and is approximately 4-1/2" h. and 4-1/4" d.

Cows Covered Butter

Here are the Lipper & Mann covered butter and underplate with embracing cows, which also mimic Holt-Howard's Cozy Kittens Cottage Cheese Crock. The set is 6" l. and 3-1/2" h., and is backstamped "Lipper & Mann Inc."

Matching Cows Creamer and Sugar

These are the creamer and sugar bowl that match the Lipper & Mann Cottage Cheese Crock. The creamer is 2-1/2" h., the sugar bowl 4" h. The sugar bowl has a red Lipper & Mann foil sticker.



Lipper & Mann Cow Cottage Cheese Crock, \$40-\$50 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Lipper & Mann Cows Covered Butter, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Lipper & Mann Matching Cows Creamer and Sugar, \$28-\$33 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).





Lipper & Mann Santa Coffee and Jam Jars, \$65-\$70 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Lipper & Mann Santa Liquor Decanter, \$90-\$100 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Viking Mouse Cheese Crock, \$28-\$38 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Santa Coffee and Jam Jars

Both pieces have one of Santa's arms open with a flat surface inside to hold a spoon. The jam jar is 5-1/2" h. and numbered "17/387"; the instant coffee is 7-1/2" h. and numbered "17/381."

Santa Liquor Decanter

This Santa liquor decanter matches the Lipper & Mann coffee and jam set. Santa is 10" h. and has a cork stopper. He is numbered "17/383."

Mouse Cheese Crock

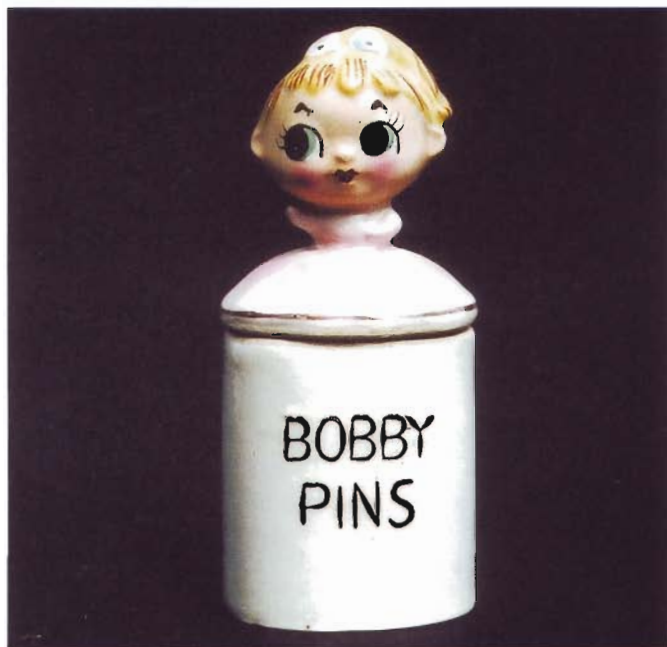
Many collectors confuse this cheese crock with Holt-Howard's Merry Mouse collection. This piece is 4-1/2" h. and its lid is 4-1/2" d. It reads, "Our Favorite Stinky Cheese." It was made by Viking and is marked "Made in Japan."

Mr. and Mrs. Claus Cheese Crock

A festive cheese crock reminiscent of Holt-Howard but made by Lipper & Mann. The Clauses serve as the lid's handle. The crock is 4-1/2" h., 4-1/4" d. and is numbered "17/382."

Lipper & Mann Clauses Cheese Crock, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Norcrest Holly Girls NOEL Look-Alikes, \$55-\$65 for set
(Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Commodore Girl Bobby Pins Jar, \$45-\$55 (Collection of Patrick Haggerty, photo by Christine Whalon).



Unmarked Scottie Dog Planter, \$55-\$60 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Boy Cat Biscuit Jar, \$50-\$60 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Girl Cat Biscuit Jar, \$55-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Royal Sealy Girl Cat Biscuit Jar, \$55-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Boy Chef Dog Biscuit Jar, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Boy Chef Cat Biscuit Jar, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Holly Girls Look-Alikes

These Holly Girls Holt-Howard look-alikes are exactly the same as Holt-Howard's, except that instead of bending their bodies to form the NOEL letters, they hold the NOEL letters on top of their bodies. Norcrest produced this four-piece set.

Bobby Pins Jar

This storage container is for bobby pins. It features a built-in magnet under the lid to pick up pins. This jar is 4" h., 1-5/8" d., and was made by the Commodore Company.

Scottie Dog Planter

This Scottie Dog mimics Holt-Howard's style, especially because he is wearing the Cozy Kittens plaid hat. This planter is quite large at 8-1/2" h., 8" l., and 5-1/2" w.

Boy Cat Biscuit Jar

This guy is 6-1/2" h.

Girl Cat Biscuit Jar

This girl cat is 6" h.

Royal Sealy Girl Cat Biscuit Jar

A girl cat that is 5-1/2" h. Made by Royal Sealy.

Boy Chef Dog Biscuit Jar

The dog chef stands 5-1/4" h.

Boy Chef Cat Biscuit Jar

This cat holds a cooking spoon in his right arm and a canister in his left. He is 5-1/4" h.

Dog Biscuit Jar

The dog on jar lid seems entertained by three smaller dogs on the base with matching hats, who are dancing to the musical notes above their heads. The jar is 8" h.

Military Santa Shakers

After many years, we discovered that a collectible source was incorrectly stating that Holt-Howard made these military Santa shakers. With the help of the Salt & Pepper Society, we have determined that The Napco Company produced them. The pair of military Santas with the rifles are a set, but the other two are singles. One Santa holds a drum, and the other a bugle. These Santas are 3-1/4" h.



Unmarked Dog Biscuit Jar with Pink Hat, \$30-\$35 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Napco Military Santa Shakers, \$12-\$15 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

THE "OTHER" PIXIES

The 1950s were a magical time for pixies. Everyone was in love with these bizarre characters and they appeared everywhere, even lending Santa a hand at Christmas time. Of course pixies were believed to be a great source of labor in those days. But what made them so popular and one of the biggest series in yesteryear's collectibles? I think they offered us an escape to a world of fantasy, frolic and whimsical follies. Many of the pixies in this chapter wear a gold heart, which at first one would just imagine to be a button.



Betson Smiling Pixie Biscuit Jar, \$60-\$70 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Smiling Pixie Biscuit Jar

This pixie biscuit jar has a red-striped ruffled collar around his neck, and his hands serve as the handles to his jar. His base is decorated with two large buttons and airbrushed polka dots. He is 8" h. and was made by The Betson Company.

Pixie Chefs and Matching Shakers

Both pixies wear chef hats and aprons and are 6-1/2" h. Pictured with the large chefs are the matching smaller shakers. Both sets are stamped "Japan."



Unmarked Pixie Chefs, \$33-\$38 pair, and matching shakers, \$18-\$23 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Grantcrest Pixie Ashtray, \$18-\$23 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Enterprise Exclusive Pixies-on-Tree-Stumps Salt and Pepper Shakers, \$15-\$20 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Pixie Ashtray

This unusual pixie extends his hands to serve as cigarette holders for the ashtray. He is 7" l. and has a sticker inside that reads, "Souvenir of Milford Conn." He is marked "Grantcrest."

Pixies-on-Tree-Stumps Shakers

This shaker set is 4" h. and has a foil sticker that reads, "An Enterprise Exclusive Toronto Canada."

Trio of Pixie Musicians

Each of these musicians is 6-1/4" h.



Unmarked Trio of Pixie Musicians, \$45-\$50 set of three (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



UCAGCO Pixie-on-Tree-Stump Vase, \$18-\$23 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Pixie-on-Tree-Stump Vase

This pixie rests against a tree stump, which serves as flower vase. He is 5-3/4" h., 4-3/4" l. and was made by UCAGCO.

Pixies at Rest

These two pixies appear related, but the one with his hands on his knee has red and gold polka dots and is numbered "#7468." The blond pixie with his feet together was made by Lego. Both are 5" h.

Pixie Golfers

A matching pair of pixie golfers. They are 6" h.



Lego Pixies at Rest, \$18-\$23 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Pixie Golfers, \$33-\$38 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Pixie Baseball Players, \$35-\$40 set of four (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Pixie Baseball Catcher and Wales Football Player, \$18-\$23 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Unmarked Pixie Tennis Player, \$18-\$23 with matching shakers, \$15-\$20 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).





Unmarked Pixie Cymbalist, \$15-\$20 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Pixie Baseball Players

This set includes a batter, catcher, pitcher and umpire. They are 5" h. and are backstamped "Japan" but have no maker mark.

Pixie Baseball Catcher and Football Player

A related pair of pixie sportsmen. The catcher is 6" h. and is stamped "Japan"; the football player is 6-1/2" h. and was made by the Wales Company.

Pixie Tennis Player and Matching Shakers

This pixie tennis player is 6" h. Pictured with him are the matching salt and pepper shakers. The shakers are 3-1/2" h. and are stamped "Japan" but have no maker mark.

Pixie Cymbalist

This pixie is definitely part of a band series of pixies. He stands 5-1/2" h.

Sitting Pixies

These sitting pixies are 6" h.



Unmarked Sitting Pixies, \$18-\$23 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Daddy Pixie with Babies, \$23-\$28 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Pixie Skiers Shakers, \$18-\$23 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Unmarked Pixie Firemen of Ladder Company #7, \$28-\$33 set of four (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Relco Pixies on Rocket Ships Shakers, \$30-\$35 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).





Daddy Pixie with Babies

An odd sight to see a daddy pixie with his two babies. The dad is 5" h.

Pixie Skiers Shakers

These pixie skier shakers are 3-1/2" h. and are stamped "Japan" but have no maker mark.

Pixie Firemen

This set of hard working pixie firemen from "Ladder Company #7" hold an axe, hose, ladder, and hatchet and are 3" h.

Pixies-on-Rocket-Ships Shakers

This rocket ship shaker set is 3-1/4" h. and was made by The Relco Company.

HOUSE PLANTERS

Each of the three planters displays an inscription on its base to represent the various stages of mortgage payments on the way to ownership of a house. The planters are 11" l., 5-1/2" h., and have two holes in back to mount it on a wall. All were made by DeForest of California 1961.

"God Bless Our Mortgaged Home!"

This smiling house is in the beginning stages of ownership.

"99 Years and It's Ours!"

Next, the house has a worried look on its face, its mouth frowning, and an ice pack on its head.

"Don't Laugh - It's Paid For!"

Finally, the house looks tattered and has bushes growing up to the roof. The roof is caving in and shutters are falling, but a "paid" sign is hanging on the roof.



DeForest House Planters, \$55-\$65 each (Catherine Giordano collection, photos by John Giordano).



Unmarked Rabbit Bobble-Head Planter and Rabbit Bobble-Head Bank, \$65-\$75 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Dickens Mr. and Mrs. Duck Bobble-Head Planters, \$65-\$75 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Unmarked Mark Mr. and Mrs. Claus Head Vase Wall Plaque Planters, \$150-\$175 pair (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Rabbit Bobble-Head Planter/ Rabbit Bobble-Head Bank

The yellow rabbit is a vintage bobble-head planter. The moment he is touched, his head starts to dance. The other rabbit is a bobble-head bank with a coin slot in back by his waist. He is covered with sponge-gold highlights and is reminiscent of the Holt-Howard bobbing banks.

Mr. and Mrs. Duck Planter Bobble-Head Planters

Mr. and Mrs. Duck planters are 8" h., and are vintage bobble heads (noddors). Mr. Duck has a "Dickens Japan" foil label. Both have their planters in back.

Mr. and Mrs. Claus Head Vase Wall Plaque Planters

These planters are similar to Holt-Howard's Nursery Rhyme Wall Plaque Planters, but they have two planting areas in each unit: in the head vase portions at top, and in the suspended planter gift and gift bag. Both the tops and bottoms can hold Christmas greens or holiday flowers. Santa and the Mrs. are 9" l., 5" w. and are backstamped with a black laurel wreath with a three-leaf clover in the middle.

“My Fair Lady” and Her Descendants

There’s nothing better than taking a walk down memory lane to discover where so many of our beloved collectibles originated. Many of the roads we walk during this nostalgic stroll lead us back to the 1950s and early 1960s into Japan’s golden age of manufacturing. During this time, thousands of head vases were produced in Japan’s factories and exported to the United States. Although huge numbers of head vases were entering the U.S., very few Christmas lady head vases were made because they were limited to holiday use only and not high-volume sellers during the rest of the year.

I felt compelled to do a chapter on Holt-Howard’s famous “My Fair Lady” head vase because so many collectors are getting confused about the many blue-eyelid lady collectibles that have been surfacing in the last few years. Because Holt-Howard’s “My Fair Lady” head vase has gained so much popularity recently, many collectors associate her with all the other blue-eyelid collectibles in today’s nostalgic collecting arena and think they are all Holt-Howard. The truth is that Holt-Howard only created one blue-eyelid lady head vase, and it is the original grandmother of all the other knockoff descendants. These descendants include other head vases, planters, and salt and pepper shakers, which are all in the same family, but made by different companies during the Holt-Howard era of manufacturing in Japan. It’s plain to see that whether these blue-eyelid collectibles are Holt-Howard or not, they are “hot” items in today’s collectibles market and people find them irresistible.

During my early years of collecting before the Internet, I was drawn to Holt-Howard collectibles and discovered this beautiful Christmas lady head vase. Her backstamp read “Holt-Howard,” and even back then she had a hefty price tag on her. This festive lady has holly leaves and red berries for hair and her blouse is decorated with holly also. This piece is the original Holt-Howard head vase creation named “My Fair Lady” and was featured in Holt-Howard’s catalog. During one of my many interviews with Mr. Howard, I questioned him about the “My Fair Lady” head vase and asked him if Holt-Howard actually created the blue-eyelid lady, or if she was just a hot item on the market that many companies were copying. Mr. Howard confirmed that the blue-eyelid lady with both eyes closed was his company’s creation. She was actually part of the Christmas line, which was booming like crazy. But what really intrigued me about this piece was her unusual blue eyelids and bizarre-looking eyelashes. These eyelids, along with their overdramatized abstract eyelashes, seemed to be so peaceful and captivating that they made “My Fair Lady” stand out from many other head vases.

I can honestly say that you can’t blame folks for confusing some of the collectibles in this chapter with Holt-Howard. There is such a similarity in design, especially with some of the head vases. This design copy makes them all look like they are descendants of the same clan.

Holt-Howard “My Fair Lady” Christmas Head Vase/Candleholder

This piece is named “My Fair Lady” and is fully decorated with Christmas holly. When I first purchased her, I thought she was only a head vase, but I was surprised to learn that she is also a candleholder. A 1/2" candle fits into her neck socket. This versatile piece is backstamped 1959 and stands 4" h. Although she is not wearing her original earrings, these reproductions are very similar. The original earrings were a little more pointed at their bases.

Holt-Howard “My Fair Lady” Head Vase/Candleholder, \$85-\$95 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).





Unmarked Lady Head Vase with Pink Roses, \$85-\$95 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Unmarked Blue-Eyelid Lady with Pink Roses

As my collecting and hunting trips continued, I was stunned when I came upon this head vase with pink roses in her hair. She was the exact same blue-eyelid lady as Holt-Howard's, except that the Christmas decor was missing and replaced with pink roses. I had thought I had come across a very rare Holt-Howard piece or prototype that never went into production, but later discovered that this newly discovered piece was not made by Holt-Howard at all. This lady is unmarked, and instead of having holly leaves and berries as a hairdo, she has roses and rose leaves. Her blouse is decorated with painted pink roses and leaves. This lady head vase is 4" h. and wears a pearl necklace. She has no maker mark.

Unmarked Blue-Eyelid Lady with Violets

Here is what appears to be the sister piece to the pink roses lady head vase. This lady is unmarked and instead of having roses and rose leaves as a hairdo, she has violets with violet leaves. Her blouse is decorated with painted purple violets. This lady head vase is 4" h. and wears a necklace. She is missing her original earrings, and has no maker mark.

Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Lady with Yellow Daisies

This lady is yet another version of the same blue-eyelid theme; however, this lady is taller than the others, measuring 5-1/4" h. and is marked "Lipper & Mann Inc." She wears a pearl-like necklace also, and her hair and blouse are adorned with yellow daisies.



Unmarked Lady Head Vase with Violets, \$85-\$95 (*Maddy Gordon collection, photo by Maddy and Bruce Gordon*).



Lipper & Mann Lady Head Vase with Daisies, \$90-\$100 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Tilso Lady Head Vase, \$160-\$175 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Ries Lady Head Vase, \$160-\$175 (*Maddy Gordon collection, photo by Maddy and Bruce Gordon*).

Tilso Blue-Eyelid Lady Head Vase Wall Pocket

This is a unique piece, since it is a left and right facing two-piece set. This lovely lady head vase is large and stands 7" h. She wears mercury glass earrings and has two nail-hole openings in the back of her head so she can be wall mounted. She was made by The Tilso Company and is numbered "53/425." We are still searching for her mate.

Ries Blue-Eyelid Lady Head Vase Wall Pocket

Here is another lady head vase wall pocket that is part of a set of two (left and right facing). This lovely lady head vase has honey blond hair and cherries decorating her blouse. She wears a pearl necklace, mercury glass gold-colored earrings, and holds her hand up to the right side of her face. Her mate, not shown, is the reverse, with her hand up to the left side of her face. (We are still searching for her mate.) She has two nail-hole openings in the back of her head for wall mounting, is 7-1/2" h. and was made by the Ries Company.

Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Lady Head Vase with Violets Hat

This head vase with the Holt-Howard "My Fair Lady" look is wearing a hat decorated with violets. She wears a necklace and gold-colored mercury glass earrings, and her blouse is decorated with violets. This piece is a little over 5-1/2" h., was made by Lipper & Mann and is numbered "15/61."



Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Head Vase with Violets Hat, \$230+ (*Maddy Gordon collection, photo by Maddy and Bruce Gordon*).



Tilso Blue-Eyelid Lady Bank, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Tilso Blue-Eyelid Lady Bank

This beautiful bank is always listed for sale on the Holt-Howard Internet listings because collectors believe it is a Holt-Howard piece; however, this lady bank was created by The Tilso Company. She sports a big ponytail on top of her head. She measures 8-1/2" h. Her coin slot is in back, and she is numbered "58/373."

Tilso Blue-Eyelid Lady Salt and Pepper Set

Make no mistake about it, even some the most experienced collectors will tell you that these shakers are Holt-Howard originals, but these pretty ladies were made by The Tilso Company and are numbered "53/524." These shakers are definitely head-vase-type shakers and are 4" h.

Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Lady with Daisy Hat

Another head vase that resembles Holt-Howard's "My Fair Lady." She wears a necklace and earrings, and her blouse and hat are decorated with daisies. This is the sister piece to the blue-eyed lady with violets. She is a little over 5-1/2" h., was made by Lipper & Mann and is numbered "15/61."



Tilso Lady Head Vase Salt and Peppers, \$38-\$48 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Head Vase with Daisy Hat, \$230+ (Maddy Gordon collection, photo by Maddy and Bruce Gordon).



Lipper & Mann Flower Children Planter with Purple Flowers, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Sonsco Flower Children Shakers with Pink Roses, \$35-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Lipper & Mann Flower Children Planter with Daisies, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Flower Children Planter with Purple Flowers

Another takeoff of the blue-eyelid ladies is this couple. Both have matching flowers on their ears, closed blue eyelids and lashes, and are made by Lipper & Mann. They are numbered "15/30" and are 6-1/4" h. Behind the children is an open planter 4-1/4" l., 1-1/4" w. and 3-1/2" h.

Sonsco Blue-Eyelid Flower Children Shakers with Pink Roses

This set of salt and pepper shakers portrays a boy and girl with blue eyelids and pink roses. Notice how the roses in the children's hair mimics the pink roses lady head vase. The boy and girl are 4-1/4" h. The set was created by The Sonsco Company.

Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Flower Children Planter with Daisies

The boy's yellow daisy on his head is right side up, while the girl's daisy is upside down and looks like a bonnet. Both children have matching flowers on their ears and have closed blue eyelids and lashes. This planter was made by Lipper & Mann, is 6-1/4" h. and numbered "15/69." Behind the children is an open planter 4-1/4" l., 1-1/4" w. and 3-1/2" h.



Lipper & Mann Flower Children Shakers with Yellow Daisies, \$35-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Lipper & Mann Flower Children Shakers with Violets, \$35-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Flower Children with Yellow Daisies

Another version of salt and pepper shakers featuring flower children with blue eyelids, but this time with yellow daisies. Here again, the daisies in the children's hair mimic the ones in the yellow daisy lady head vase. Both are 4-1/4" h. and are numbered "15/62." The set was created by Lipper & Mann.

Lipper & Mann Blue-Eyelid Flower Children with Violets

These children are wearing violets that mimic those in the violet lady head vase. They are 4-1/4" h., numbered "15/62," and created by Lipper & Mann.

Note: A fourth set of shakers incorporates flower children who wear holly leaves and berries in their hair, resembling the "My Fair Lady" head vase.

Smiley-Faced Produce and Flower People

This chapter is dedicated to anthropomorphic smiley-faced fruit, veggies and flowers. Most of these pieces were manufactured in the 1950s and 1960s and many were sold on the marketplace around the same time as Holt-Howard's Pixieware. Of course, almost all of these characters were made in Japan, like the rest of their whimsical cousins.

Many of the collectibles in this section were created by Lefton, Napco and PY. Lefton and Napco are companies that also had alliances with PY. We already explored the Lefton Company in Chapter 7 and the Napco Company in Chapter 9. Many of the fruit and veggie pieces in this chapter were also created by PY, a company worthy of background information.

The PY/Miyao Company was founded in Japan in 1931, but did not interact with America until after World War II. The company created mostly kitchenware items for export to American and Canadian businesses. The PY/Miyao Company originated in Yokkaichi City, Japan, and the company also used the mark "Miyao" (Miyawo Company) from which the PY backstamp originated. PY/Miyao produced high quality pottery, and American businesses were drawn to them to purchase items at affordable prices. Some of the American businesses that bought from this company were Enesco, Lefton, Napco, UCAGCO (United China & Glass Co.), Borgfeldt, Woolworth, and Mikasa. In 1981, the Miyawo Company celebrated its 50th anniversary and is still in business today after 75 years.

Many PY collectibles also have a foil sticker that reads, "Coronet." The Coronet label represents a small crown

and was a trademark patented by Geo. Borgfeldt & Co. This foil label is usually found on the Miyawo Company's collectibles that were made exclusively for Borgfeldt. The most common backstamp of vintage collectibles from the Miyawo Company is the green letters PY in an ellipse, sometimes followed by the letter N with a letter C over the N (the later markings more than likely just being Japanese government backstamps).

The Miyawo Company also produced many novelty collectibles for Lefton, as well as for Napco. Because of these partnerships, it's not unusual to find collectibles with both the PY backstamp and another company's backstamp as well. For example: Lefton's popular Bluebird series often has a Lefton backstamp alongside a PY backstamp. The same is true of Napco's smiley-faced fruit and veggie collectibles, in which it is not uncommon to see the PY backstamp next to the Napco foil label.

If you're collecting PY salt and peppers, or oil and vinegar sets for the first time, make sure you are buying a pair and not two duplicates. Almost all matching pairs are looking at each other. (Most of the time, their eyes show flirtatious expressions.) This characteristic makes it rather simple to verify that two single pieces form a pair.

Today, these novelty condiment jars, cruets, shakers and cookie jars are prized. Collectors adore their expressive cartoon-like faces that brighten your day and make you want to smile back. This type of wonderful styling and creativity are reminiscent of yesteryear and will probably never be captured in porcelain collectibles again.

Unmarked
Dancing
Bananas Family Oil and
Vinegar with Matching
Shakers, \$95-\$105 for four-
piece set (Dworkin collection,
photo by Brenner Lennon Photo
Productions).





Lefton Apple-Head Farmer Planter/Wall Pocket, \$38-\$48
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Lefton Beet-Head Farmer Planter/Wall Pocket, \$38-\$48
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Lefton Carrot-Head Farmer Planter/Wall Pocket, \$38-\$48
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Dancing Bananas Oil and Vinegar Cruets with Matching Shakers

Mr. and Mrs. Banana cruets are dancing up a storm with their two children salt and pepper shakers. Mr. Banana has a "V" on his back for vinegar and the Mrs. has an "O" for oil. The dancing children have an "S" and "P" on their backs and are attached to each other. The cruets are 5" h. and the shakers are 3". All the pieces to this set are numbered "8424" and have a "Japan" paper sticker but no maker mark.

Apple-Head Planter/Wall Pocket

This veggie planter wall pocket was offered in Lefton's catalogs in 1958 and 1959, with four in the set: apple, carrot, tomato and beet. Here the busy farmer is tending to his apple crop and taking his harvest away in a wheelbarrow. This planter has two openings in back of the planter to insert nails for hanging. This guy is 5-3/4" h., has the remains of a Lefton foil label and is numbered "488." All pieces in this set are numbered the same.

Beet-Head Planter/Wall Pocket

Here is the beet-head farmer tending to his corn crop with his shovel in hand. He is 5-3/4" h., is numbered "488," and is also part of the Lefton farmer series.

Carrot-Head Planter/Wall Pocket

This carrot-head farmer is tending to his tomato plants and is proudly showing off his crop. He is 5-3/4" h., and is numbered "488." He is also part of the Lefton farmer series.



Unmarked Onion Scarecrow with Corn Companions Sugar, Creamer, and Matching Shakers, \$55-\$65 for five-piece set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Corn Napkin Holder and Matching Shakers, \$35-\$45 for three-piece set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Onion Scarecrow with Sugar, Creamer and Matching Shakers

The onion scarecrow pulls a farm wagon filled with smiley-faced corn companions that comprise a sugar/creamer and salt/pepper set. The creamer and sugar are 2-1/2" h., the shakers are also 2-1/2" h. The shakers have built-in hooks to hang onto the side of the wagon. The entire set is 7" l., 3" w., and 5-1/4" h. The set has no maker mark or labels.

Corn Napkin Holder and Matching Shakers

This smiling corn napkin holder is 5-1/2" h. and is accompanied by two matching salt and pepper shakers that are 3" h. The three pieces are not marked.

Calla Lily Wall Pocket

This Calla Lily flower is peeking out of her flower. She is a combination planter and wall pocket and is 7" l. She is backstamped "PY Japan" and has a Coronet foil label.



PY Calla Lily Wall Pocket, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



PY Tiger Lily Wall Pocket, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



PY Daisy Wall Pocket, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



PY Blue Poppy-Face and Daisy-Face Wall Pockets, \$65-\$75 each (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).

Tiger Lily Wall Pocket

The flower girl peers from her tiger lily flower and looks to her left. She is a combination planter and wall pocket and is 7" l. She is backstamped "PY Japan" and also has the Coronet foil label.

Daisy Wall Pocket

This blue and purple daisy flower has blond hair and a smiling face. She is a planter wall pocket combination and is 5-1/2" h. She is not backstamped.

Blue Poppy and Daisy Wall Pockets

This blue Poppy-faced wall pocket is 6-1/4" h. and is backstamped "PY." The pink-and-yellow-faced daisy wall pocket is 5-1/2" h. and is backstamped "PY Japan."

Unknown Mark Red Peony
and Sunflower Wall Pockets,
\$65-\$75 each (Catherine Giordano
collection, photo by John Giordano).



Unmarked Cabbage and Onion Wall Pockets, \$28-\$33 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Red Peony and Sunflower Wall Pockets

The red Peony smiling flower wall pocket is 7" h. and backstamped "PY." The cheerful yellow sunflower has two flower buds below her, is 6-1/4" h. and backstamped with a laurel wreath.

Cabbage and Onion Wall Pockets

These smiling cabbage and onion planter wall pockets hold plants or flowers. The onion planter is 3-1/2" h. and the cabbage is 4" h. Neither has a maker mark.

THE NAPCO FAMILY SERIES OF FARM GIRLS

The Napco Company created the following six sets (12 pieces) of salt and pepper shakers in this series. Many of the figures play musical instruments, while others are painters or homemakers. Each set is paired with its proper mate, and when they are collected as pairs, these photos demonstrate how they are related to one another. All pieces have either an "S" on its outfit for salt, or a "P" for pepper, are backstamped "Napco," and are 4" h.



Napco Tomato and Cucumber Shakers, \$45-\$55 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Napco Orange and Lemon Shakers, \$45-\$55 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Napco Banana and Pear Shakers, \$45-\$55 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Tomato and Cucumber Shakers

The musical tomato plays the harp, while the cucumber sings from a songbook.

Orange and Lemon Shakers

The artist orange holds a paintbrush and palette, while her lemon companion shows off a painting.

Banana and Pear Shakers

Here the banana plays cymbals, while the pear plays a horn.



Napco Carrot and Onion Shakers, \$45-\$55 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Napco Turnip and Corn Shakers, \$45-\$55 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Carrot and Onion Shakers

This pair are homemakers: the carrot holds a broom, while her companion holds a shopping basket.

Turnip and Corn Shakers

Two more musicians: the corn plays a flute, and her companion plays the violin.

Apple and Strawberry Shakers

Here are the string players: the apple plays the guitar, and the strawberry plays the banjo.

Red Apple Jam and Jelly

This red-apple couple gaze lovingly at each other as they hold their jam and jelly contents. Included are their original spoons. This attached side-by-side condiment is backstamped "PY" and is 4" h.



Napco Apple and Strawberry Shakers, \$45-\$55 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



PY Red Apple Jam and Jelly, \$75-\$85 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



PY Salad Plate, \$30-\$40 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



PY Apple Snack Set, \$45-\$55 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



PY Cabbage Rose Jam Jars, \$75-\$85; Salt and Pepper, \$55-\$65 for pair (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Salad Plate

This red apple salad plate is all smiles and decorated with apple leaves around his face. He is 7" d. and backstamped "PY Japan" with the letter "N" and a circle around it.

Cabbage Rose Set

This is an unusual attached side-by-side cabbage jam-and-jelly condiment with rose flower faces and rosebud-handled lids. The matching salt and pepper have rosebuds on their heads. All pieces are backstamped "PY" and are 4" h.

Apple Snack Set

This smiling apple plate is 7-3/4" w. and has an indented insert to hold the coffee cup. This set is backstamped "PY" with the letter "N" and a circle around it.

Pear Jam and Jelly Jars

The pear on the left winks at his mate in this side-by-side pair of jam and jelly jars. Their lids have openings in them to insert spoons. They are 7-1/2" l., 4-1/2" h. and backstamped "PY" with the letter "N" and a circle around it.



PY Pears Jam and Jelly, \$75-\$85 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



PY Red Apple Oil and Vinegar, \$115-\$125 for pair (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



PY Red Apple Covered Butter Dish, \$135-\$150 (*Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano*).



PY Pears and Lemons Oil and Vinegar Sets, \$100-\$120 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



PY Red Apple Oil and Vinegar Combination, \$100-\$120 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Red Apple Oil and Vinegar

The cruets in this red apple oil and vinegar set have an "O" or "V" to identify their contents. Both pieces have ceramic stoppers, are 7-1/2" h. and are backstamped "PY."

Red Apple Oil and Vinegar Combination

This couple looks at each other lovingly as the vinegar winks at his oil mate. The set is 5-1/2" h. and is backstamped "PY Japan" with the letter "N" and a circle around it.

Red Apple Covered Butter Dish

This covered butter dish was made by PY. The cover is 6-1/4" l., the base 7-1/2" l., and total height 2-1/2".

Pears and Lemons Oil and Vinegar Sets

These side-by-side pears and lemons form combination oil and vinegar cruets that are also joined at their heads. The ends of their pouring spouts are marked "O" for oil and "V" for vinegar. Both sets have cork stoppers and are 5-1/2" h. Each set is backstamped "PY" and has a paper label that reads, "Coronet."



Relco Onion Oil and Vinegar, \$60-\$70; with Matching Shakers, \$28-\$38 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Onion Oil and Vinegar, \$60-\$70 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Onion Oil and Vinegar Set with Matching Shakers

The oil shows concern as she watches her mate crying his eyes out. The pair stands 5-1/2" h., and each has a paper sticker that reads, "GNCO." Also pictured are the 4" h. matching salt and pepper shakers, which appear to be exhibiting the same emotions. The oil and vinegar set was also made by The Relco Company.

Onion Oil and Vinegar

This combination of oil and vinegar branches into two pouring spouts. The letters "O" and "V" designate each compartment. This piece has no maker mark, but is stamped "No. 8301" (could be Napco).

Lemon Teapot with Creamer and Sugar

This lemon teapot measures 6" h. and is backstamped "PY." The lemon-covered sugar (4-1/4") and creamer (3-3/4"), also backstamped "PY," are part of the same set that includes pieces such as a cookie jar, planter and wall pocket. Interestingly, except for the side-by-side jam jars, all the lemons gaze to their left. Even the creamer and sugar don't look at each other.



PY Lemon Teapot, \$135-\$155; PY Lemon Sugar and Creamer, \$55-\$65 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



PY Yellow and Green Apple String Holders, \$100-\$110 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Miyao Crying Pear Cookie Jar, \$260+; PY Smiling Pear Cookie Jar, \$185-\$220 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Grantcrest Red Apple Cookie Jar, \$165-\$180; Unmarked Lemon Cookie Jar, \$130-\$150 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



PY Corn-Face Cookie Jar, \$300+ (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).

Apple String Holders

These two string holders are not a pair, but certainly complement each other. Each apple can store a ball of string inside its head, and each has an opening in its mouth to access and pull the needed amount of string. They have a mounting hole in back so they can be hung on a wall. Both are 5" h. and are backstamped "PY."

Pear Cookie Jars

The yellow jar looks happy, but the green jar is unhappy and crying (an oddity). Both jars have a green leaf and polka-dotted pink bow as handles and are 7" h. The crying jar is backstamped "Miyao"; the smiling jar is backstamped "PY."

Apple and Lemon Cookie Jars

The red apple cookie has large flirtatious blue eyelids and is backstamped "Grantcrest." This apple has brown handles and is 7" h. The odd multicolored cookie jar is most likely a lemon, since much of its surface has a pitted texture. This piece has yellow handles, is 7" h. and is not backstamped.

Corn-Face Cookie Jar

A very rare corn-face cookie jar that is 7-1/2" h., 6" d., and backstamped "PY."

Watermelon Planter and Shakers

Mama watermelon planter is 4-1/2" h. and sports a proud smile while watching over her offspring salt and pepper shakers, which are 2-1/4" h. Mama is backstamped "PY" and has a Coronet foil sticker.

Happy and Sad Pear Planters

The happy PY yellow pear planter is a perfect match to the pear cookie jar in this section; it has the same pink eyelids and pink bow on her head. The sad crying planter matches the crying cookie jar. Both pieces are 4-1/2" h. and backstamped "PY"; the happy pear has a Coronet foil sticker.

Strawberry Planter and Matching Shakers

The strawberry planter is 4-1/2" h. and has the Miyawo backstamp. The matching strawberry girls salt and peppers are 3" h., and are backstamped "PY."



PY Watermelon Planter, \$65-\$75; Unmarked Salt and Pepper, \$55-\$65 for set (Collection of, and photo by Francine Sholty).



PY Happy and Sad Pears Planters, \$75-\$85 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Miyawo Strawberry Planter, \$50-\$60 and PY Shakers, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Turnip and Celery Planters

This turnip planter was made by The Miyao Company in Japan and is backstamped with the letter "N" with a circle around it. The celery planter is 5" h. and is backstamped with a green laurel wreath and "Made in Japan." The Miyao Company used this backstamp exclusively for F.W. Woolworth department stores.



Miyao Turnip Planter, \$55-65, Miyao Celery Planter, \$65-75
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Angry Pineapple Planter with Puppy

This pineapple planter appears to be upset that a puppy is popping out of his side! The planter is 5-1/2" h. and is unmarked.



Unmarked Angry Pineapple Planter, \$28-\$38 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Cabbage Planter with Matching Salt and Pepper

This cabbage girl planter is 4" h., has a backstamp with a small olive branch peace wreath, and reads, "Hand Painted Japan." The matching set of salt and pepper shakers are 2-1/2" h. and have no maker mark.



Unmarked Cabbage Planter, \$65-\$75; Matching Shakers, \$40-\$45 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



PY Orchid Wall Pocket, \$75-\$85, PY Sunflower Wall Pocket, \$65-\$75 (Catherine Giordano collection, photo by John Giordano).



Unmarked Watermelon Girl Bank, \$35-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Orchid and Sunflower Wall Pocket

A smiling face peaks out of her orchid flower head to greet the day. This orchid wall pocket is 7-1/2" l. and is backstamped "PY." The smiling sunflower wall pocket is 6-1/2" h. and backstamped "PY."

Watermelon Girl Bank

This watermelon girl bank can hold plenty of coins. She is 5" h. and has a coin slot in the back of her head. This piece has no maker mark.

Strawberry and Pineapple Salt and Peppers

The strawberry shakers wear pink and yellow hats and are 3" h. The pineapple girls salt and peppers are both backstamped "PY."



PY Strawberry and Pineapple Salt and Peppers, \$45-\$55 for each set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Pear and Lemon Salt and Peppers

Both salt and pepper sets have the Napco foil sticker.



Napco Pear and Lemon Salt and Peppers, \$45-\$55 for each set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Pineapple and Apple Chefs Salt and Pepper Set

This set of fruit-headed chefs are 5" h. and appear to be gazing at each other's culinary creations. They are backstamped "Japan" but have no maker mark.

Apple Condiment Set

This miniature serving set of shakers and mustard pot comes with a leaf serving tray. The shakers are 2-1/4" h. and the mustard pot 2-3/4" h. The serving tray is 6-1/2" l., 5-3/4" w., and is numbered "2T2851."



Unmarked Pineapple and Apple Chef Shakers, \$38-\$48 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Napco Apple
Condiment Set,
\$50-\$60 for set
(Dworkin collection,
photo by Brenner Lennon
Photo Productions).





Unmarked Flower Angel Vase, \$15-\$32; Flower Angel Figurines, \$12-\$18 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Unmarked Pepper Shakers, \$12-\$18 pair; Turnip Shakers, \$28-\$38 pair (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Flower Angel Vase and Flower Angel Figurines

Only two of these flower girls are related (the blue and purple), but all three are angels with green leafy wings. The girls are busy cleaning house and practicing archery. The blue and purple flower girls are 4-1/2" h. and 4" h., respectively. The tall yellow and orange flower angel vase is 5-1/2" h. All three pieces are backstamped "Japan," but have no maker mark.

Pepper and Turnip Salt and Pepper Shakers

This colorful pair of peppers sport red and blue bows with polka dots around their necks. Both peppers are 4" h. and are numbered "10010"; each has a red foil "Japan" sticker but neither has a maker mark. One turnip has two pouring holes; the other has three. Both turnips wear leafy dresses with bows on their heads, are 5" h., and have a "Japan" paper sticker but no maker mark.



Unmarked Celery Shakers, \$18-\$23 for set; Onion Powder Shaker, \$12-\$18; Carrot Shakers, \$12-\$18 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



PY Mushroom Salt and Pepper, \$40-\$50 for set; Unmarked Yellow Mushroom Salt and Pepper, \$18-\$23 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Mushroom and Onion Salt and Pepper Sets, \$35-\$45 for each set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Peanut Salt and Peppers, \$38-\$48 each pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Unmarked Tomato Girl Maid Condiment Jar, \$30-\$40 (Collection of and photo by Jeff Quinton).

Onion Powder Shaker/ Celery and Carrots Salt and Peppers

Here are helpers for making homemade soup! The Onion shaker in the center looks like he was made to pour onion powder. He has eight pouring holes around his leaves at top. He is 4-1/2" h. and has no maker mark. The smiling Celery shakers are large stovetop shakers and are 6-1/2" h. The Celery shakers have a "Japan" paper sticker but no maker mark. The worried-looking Carrot shakers are 4-1/2" h. and are engraved "Japan," but have no maker mark.

Mushroom Salt and Pepper Sets

The mushrooms wearing the white collars are 2-3/4" h. They were made by "PY" and have the Napco foil sticker. The yellow mushrooms are different sizes: the boy with open eyes is the pepper and is 3-1/4" h. His girlfriend is 2-3/4" h. Both of these shakers are backstamped "Japan" but have no maker mark.

Mushroom and Onion Salt and Pepper Sets

This set of mushroom salt and pepper shakers can spice up any table. The pink and yellow shakers are 4-1/2" h. One shaker has two pouring holes; the other has three. Both are numbered "52/784" and have a "Japan" paper sticker. The other shaker set is a pair of onions playing violins. They are 3-1/2" h. and have "Japan" paper labels, but no maker mark.

Peanut Salt and Pepper Sets

Mr. and Mrs. Peanut seem preoccupied as they gaze at each other. He wears a top hat and she a bonnet. Both are 3-1/2" h. and are backstamped "Japan" with no maker mark. The other set of peanut shakers are jovial as they hold signs indicating which condiment they are storing. This set is also 3-1/2" h., and both are numbered "TM-694," but have no maker mark.

Tomato Girl Maid Condiment Jar

This smiling tomato girl wears a white band on her head. She has the PY-type eyes, but was made by another company.



Unmarked Tomato Maid Salt and Peppers, \$15-\$20 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Commodore Teacups Tea Bag Holders, \$28-\$38 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Tomato Maid Salt and Pepper Set

These Tomato Maids are the matching salt and pepper shakers to the previous Tomato Maid condiment jar. They are 3" h. and backstamped "Japan" but have no maker marks. The pepper shaker has three pouring holes, and its cork plug is triple the size of the salt's plug. The salt has four pouring holes.

Teacups Tea Bag Holders

These four teacup tea bag holders are 3" h. and were sold with their own brass rack. The set was made by The Commodore Company. Each piece is also freestanding.



Napco Tea Bag Holders, \$35-\$45 for set (Ed Witkowski collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Original Napco Box for Fruit Heads Tea Bag Holders (Ed Witkowski collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Fruit Heads Tea Bag Holders

This six-piece set consists of apples, a pear, and grapes, and all the pieces can also stand on their own. All the pieces to this set wear derby hats or caps similar to many of the related salt and pepper sets in this chapter. These pieces are all numbered "B2676," and were made by The Napco Company. This set comes with its original box and was not packaged with a brass rack.

Fruit Heads Original Box

It's fun to see the original boxes in which many of our favorite collectibles were packaged. This gift box shows the pear member of the fruit tea bag holders made by Napco. The rest of the box is decorated with white poodles on a gray background and signs reading, "best wishes" and "Joy."

Holt-Howard “Coq Rouge” Roosters

Roosters have always been and continue to be a highly collectible item. Holt-Howard incorporated the collectibility of roosters with a beautifully stylish tabletop accessory set that the company named “Coq Rouge” (French for red rooster). And, as Holt-Howard stated in its advertising, this crisp and striking set is certainly worth crowing about.

John Howard said that during the late 1950s, Holt-Howard believed the role of the kitchen in the American household was drastically changing. It was becoming a place for families to gather for a meal or socialize while the meal was being prepared, rather than just a small room to prepare food. With this in mind, Holt-Howard designed Coq Rouge and advertised it as “table flair” to brighten and decorate America’s kitchens. And, for the record, Robert Howard designed this beautiful set.

The company released the first pieces of this set in 1960; additional items were introduced as its popularity increased through 1964. During the mid-1960s through the early 1970s, Holt-Howard maintained kitchen collection displays in many major stores like Sears, Macy’s, J.C. Penney’s, Bullock’s and B. Altman’s. These displays were called “Kitchen Fashions by Holt-Howard” and many were quite extensive, featuring coffee mugs, cookie jars, salt and peppers, trivets, spoon rests and canisters, along with coordinates such as Coq Rouge. Holt-Howard also designed and manufactured other dinnerware patterns

such as “Terraware,” “Orchardware,” “Apple Jack” and others, but Coq Rouge appears to be the most sought-after pattern today and evidently one of the company’s most famous patterns. Coq Rouge was a complete breakfast service set and offered accessories such as salt and peppers, napkin holders, egg cups, candleholders and butter dishes.

The wonderful part about this set is not only its gaily colored pattern and serviceability, but the giftware portion of the set contains numerous beautiful figural pieces that are highly sought after in today’s market. The giftware items were so extensive that they even included ashtrays and a vase, plus color-matched felt, burlap, and wooden accessories, including a 10" pot holder; a 24" fly swatter; a 13" by 24" kitchen wall caddy; a 14" tote bag with vinyl interior; a 14" memo minder; a 40" yard stick caddy with pocket for scissors; an 8" by 15" breadboard; nest of baskets ranging from 6" to 8"; 8" place mats; and an 8" twine holder and scissors.

Most of the ceramic items in this set were marked in black letters that read, “Holt-Howard” and the copyright year, plus the black and gold “HH” paper sticker. Coq Rouge was advertised as “color boost for dining roosts,” and the famous gaily colored rooster in shades of red, orange, yellow, brown, ochre and white was, according to Holt-Howard, “worth crowing about!” The stylish rooster appears on all pieces, except the creamer and coffee saucers.

Dinner Plate

This dinner plate measures 9-1/2" and is backstamped “1962.”



Dinner Plate, \$12-\$18 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Cereal Bowl, \$12-\$18 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Sugar and Creamer, \$45-\$55 for set (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Pitchers, 32 oz., \$55-\$65, 12 oz., \$35-\$45 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Cereal Bowl

This cereal bowl measures 6" d., and is backstamped "1962."

Sugar and Creamer

The sugar is 4-1/2" h., while the creamer is 2-1/2" h., and is backstamped "1961." There's no handle on the creamer, but an indented area was added for secure handling.

Juice Pitchers

This 32 oz. juice pitcher is 8-1/4" h. and is backstamped "1964." The rooster's tail serves as the pitcher's handle. The smaller pitcher is 12 oz., and has a plain handle. Due to the success of this set, pitchers were made in at least three different sizes: 12 oz., 32 oz., and 48 oz.

Pitcher with No Handle

A unique pitcher that has no handle but was designed with two indented areas for firm grasping and pouring. This pitcher is 7-7/8" h. and 3-1/2" w., including the spout, and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1962."

Large and Small Salt and Peppers

There are two sets of shakers to this set. The smaller version only stands 3-3/4" h., versus the standard 4-1/2" set. The larger 4-1/2" salt and peppers are backstamped "1960." The larger set has the "S" and "P" printed on the roosters' chests, but the smaller set does not.

Snack Tray and Cup

The snack tray is indented to hold a coffee cup securely in place and was featured in Holt-Howard's catalog with this solid-gold colored coffee mug that was color-coordinated to match the gold colors in the rooster. The tray is 9-5/8" l. and 6" w. The cup is 2-1/8" h. and 5" w. to handle. This set is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1962."



Pitcher with No Handle, \$50-\$60 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Small Salt and Pepper Set, \$10-\$15; Large Salt and Pepper Set, \$20-\$30 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Snack Tray and Cup, \$23-\$28 for set (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).





Napkin Holder, \$28-\$38 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Rooster Vase, \$33-\$38 (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).



Small Nut Dish, \$15-\$20, Large Nut Dish, \$18-\$23 (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).



Cookie Jar, \$95-\$110 (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).

Napkin Holder

This rooster napkin holder is 7" h. and has two holes at its top so it can also be used as a wall hanger. It is backstamped "1961."

Vase

This figural rooster vase complements the dinnerware set. The vase is ideal for a center floral piece for the table, is 6" by 5", and is backstamped "1961."

Nut Dishes/Snack Dishes

The larger rooster nut/snack dishes were sold as part of a table tray set of four pieces, all identical in size and shape, 6-1/8" l., 4-7/8" w. and backstamped "1961." The smaller dish is 4-9/16" l., 3-1/2" w., and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960." The snack dishes were used for nuts, jam, condiments, or even as ashtrays.

Cookie Jar

The cookie jar is 7-3/4" by 5-3/4" and is backstamped "1961."

Coffee Pot, \$60-\$70; Cup, \$15-\$20 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Ketchup, Jam 'n Jelly, and Mustard, \$55-\$65 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Syrup Pitcher, \$35-\$40 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).





Egg Cups, \$18-\$23 each (Collection of, and photos by Darline Comisky).



Candleholders, \$33-\$38 for pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Coffee Pot and Cup

This six-cup coffee pot was sold as a hotpot with a 5-foot cord. The coffee cup is an 8 oz. size and was sold as a set of four.

Ketchup, Jam 'n Jelly, and Mustard

There are three covered condiment jars to this portion of the rooster set: ketchup, jam 'n jelly, and mustard. All are similar in appearance and are 4" h. There's also an additional 4-1/2" h. jam jar with the rooster perched on top that is similar in size and shape to the sugar jar. All are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1962."

Syrup Pitcher

The small syrup pitcher pictured here is often mistaken for the creamer mate to the sugar bowl, but as seen previously, the

creamer is all white with only one red ring at its base. This syrup pitcher is 5" h.

Egg Cups

These egg cups measure 3-3/4", are backstamped "1961" and were sold as a four-piece set. There are two different sizes of egg cups in this set: one with a single red band on top and the other with a red band on its base.

Candleholders

The candleholders are 4-3/8" h., were sold as a pair and are backstamped "1960." The matching vase (not shown) is 6" by 5" and backstamped "1961."

Ashtrays, \$25-\$30 for pair
(Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

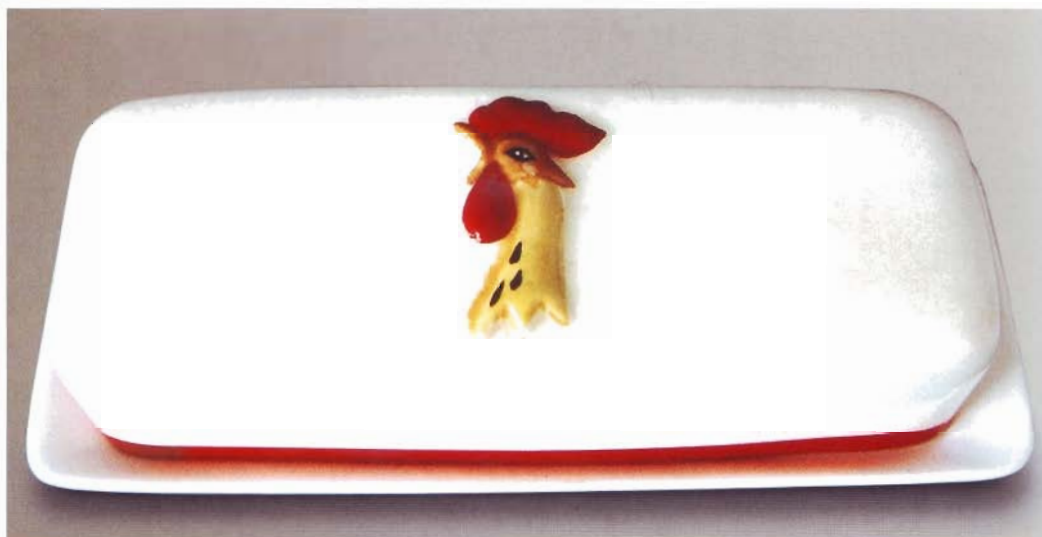


Spoon Rest, \$23-\$28 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Recipe Card Holder, \$60-\$70 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Butter Dish, \$55-\$65
(Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).





Egg Broiler, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photos by Darline Comisky).



Trivet, \$15-20 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Ashtrays

These 6" ashtrays are indented at rear of the rooster to hold cigarettes and were sold as a pair. They are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1964."

Spoon Rest

The rooster's head is indented on top of the spoon rest to accommodate a spoon handle. The spoon rest is backstamped "1961."

Recipe Card Holder

This all-metal recipe cardholder box has a pop-up rooster inside. This box came with yellow paper recipe dividers, and is 5-1/4" w., 3" l., and 3" h. The pop-up rooster is 2-3/8" h. This piece has not appeared backstamped; it reads only "Made in Japan."

Butter Dish

This butter dish shows off the gaily colored rooster on top of its lid. The bottom dish is 6-7/8" l. and 2-9/16" w. The lid is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1961."

Egg Broiler

This egg broiler can cook four eggs at a time and features the rooster on top. The broiler is 5-1/4" h. and 5-11/16" w. (bottom). The metal plate below reads, "120V 500W" and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960."

Trivet, Square Design

There are at least three different versions of the rooster trivet. This one is square and is ceramic tile surrounded by black wrought iron. The tile insert is 4-1/4" square, and the entire trivet is 10-1/2" l. by 5" w. The trivet is backstamped "Holt-Howard."

Holt-Howard Animals and Figurals

Holt-Howard created so many wonderful and unique figural collectibles that it would be almost impossible to describe all of them in one book. This chapter focuses on the whimsical side of Holt-Howard's collectibles, especially some of its more popular animal and figural

novelty items so much in demand today at antiques and collectibles shows and flea markets. Most of these collectibles were issued from the late 1950s through the early 1960s.

HOLT-HOWARD'S KITCHEN CUBS

After Holt-Howard created a successful line of animal collectibles, the company ran a test of polar bear cubs. This series of what we believe to be ten items (or 14 pieces with pairs) was the last series of animal collectibles that Holt-Howard created for the kitchen. At the time, Holt-Howard was unsure just how many more animal collectibles would be successful for kitchen themes.

Once an item was in a test run, very few were made for the first production. If the item sold well, then a full production schedule was planned. Some of these polar bear cubs may only be mold samples or prototypes that never even went into production because all were unmarked. **They did appear in the 1958 Holt-Howard catalog,** however. Some of the mold samples and prototypes found their way to the buying public or may have just been given away.

Mr. Howard said that if a new item was added to a Holt-Howard catalog, it at least went through the sample stage. Five or six mold samples or prototypes would have been created to ensure quality, but sometimes only two of the original mold samples returned to

the U.S. from Japan. At that time, decisions were made to cancel or continue with the items. If the decision was made to go forward with a piece then a master mold was created. According to Mr. Howard, there was a concern with some of the textured surfaces of the cubs at the sample stages, and indeed some of the scheduled production may never have taken place. But today we know that some of these cubs are around. If you locate one, consider yourself lucky because these Holt-Howard cubs of yesteryear are rare!

Holt-Howard described these kitchen cubs in its catalog as "Fun ... with function. Kitchen Cubs... Chipper, cute, created to serve." Because many of them never went into full-scale production, they are not backstamped or marked, but most carried the blue and white rectangular paper "Japan" label. This label was not common, but was used for small test runs or samples until Holt Howard decided to put its name on the pieces. All the cubs in the polar bear series are perched on icebergs.

Kitchen Cubs Salt and Pepper

These rare prototype cub shakers never went into full production, but Holt-Howard's catalog described them as "Kitchen Cubs... Chipper, cute, created to serve" and "shake and listen cubs that really chatter!" One cub is in a sitting position and the other standing as they look at each other. The letters "S" for salt and "P" for pepper are dotted on their pink ears. Both stand 4-1/2" high on icebergs. The cubs have built-in noisemakers in their bases to chatter when shaken.



Kitchen Cubs Salt and Pepper, \$85-\$95 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Kitchen Cubs Notepad Holder, \$120-\$130 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Kitchen Cubs String Holder, \$110-\$120 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Combination Polar Bears thermal egg cups with matching salt & pepper, \$75-\$85 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Walter Dworkin).



Kitchen Cubs "Butter Berg" Butter Dish, \$135-145 (Collection of, and photo by Christine Cuddeback).

Kitchen Cubs Notepad Holder

This cub is reminiscent of Holt-Howard's Cozy Kittens Memo Minder with his polka-dot scarf and big smile. He has his original blue and black calendar pencil dated 1960. The pencil has all the calendar months in 1960 and reads, "Made in Japan" on top. He also had his original note pad, which says, "I'm your Kitchen Cub..... another labor saver. To mind your memo is my job. I hold a pencil right at hand! And offer paper on demand!" This cub is 7-1/4" h. and can be wall mounted.

Kitchen Cubs String Holder

This Kitchen Cub wears the same blue scarf with black polka dots as the rest of his clan. His scarf is open on the side to hold scissors, and

his mouth has an opening for string. He is 4-1/2" h., 4-3/4" w., and has two holes for hanging.

Kitchen Cubs Egg Cups/Salt and Pepper

I purchased this extremely rare Kitchen cubs set on eBay just before the book went to the printer. The shaker covers keep the eggs warm until they are ready to be eaten. The cubs are 4" tall and the bases are 2-1/2" square.

Kitchen Cubs Covered Butter Dish

This cub, 6-1/4" l. and 1-1/2" h., appears to be resting on the side of an iceberg.

Kitchen Cubs sugar, creamer and saccharine server, \$135-\$145 set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



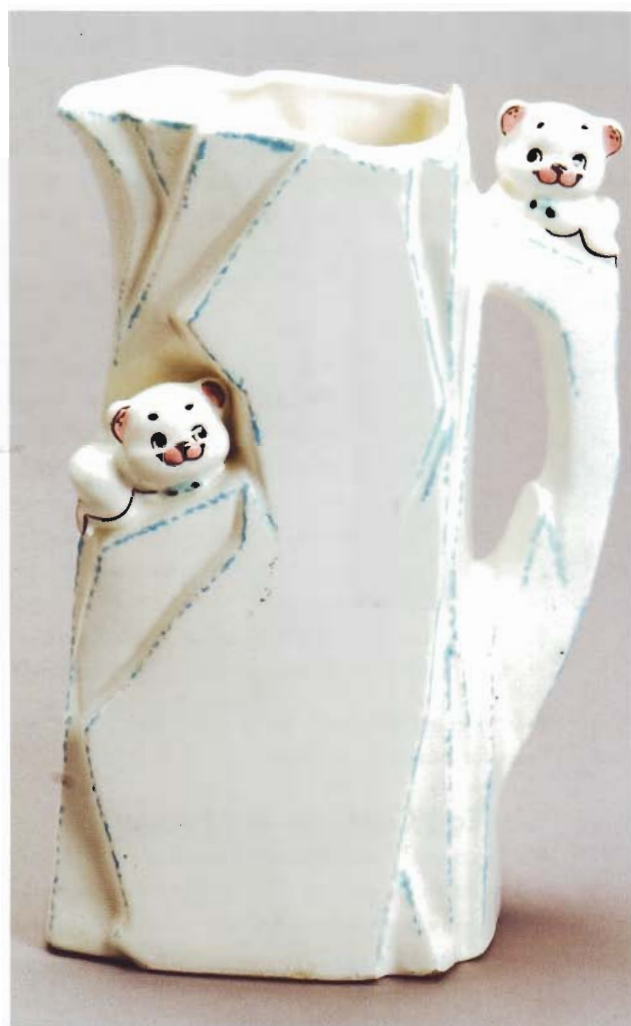
Kitchen Cubs Creamer Crock, Sugar Crock and Saccharine Server

This is a three-piece creamer and sugar set. The sugar lid has a built-in saccharine server with a convenient opening to pour out tablets. The cream crock is 3" h.; the sugar 4-1/2" h.

Kitchen Cubs Pitcher

Here two cubs are climbing on their iceberg pitcher, which holds 36 oz. One cub rests on the pitcher's handle; the other looks up at him from the other side. The pitcher is 7-1/4" h.

Note: There are four other pieces in this set: a three-piece napkin holder with two 4"-h. cub salt and pepper shakers; an iceberg ashtray with a big and small cub sitting on it and a built-in match pad holder; and a iceberg spoon rest with built-in recipe card holder with two cubs playing on top of the iceberg.



Kitchen Cubs Pitcher, \$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Merry Maids International

In its catalog, Holt-Howard described the six Merry Maids as "helping hands from other lands, each with pockets for plants, cut flowers, pens & pencils, spoons.... fetching in their native dress." All Merry Maids are 5-1/2" h. The Asian girl still has its original hang tag, and identifies her as "Choy Lin." The tag says, "I'm an Oriental gal, to tend bouquets and spoons, or be your pencil pal." The Merry Maid with the rose in her hair and pink dress with blue and green trim is from India. Each of the maids has a name typical of her native country.

Clown Desk Set and Matching Candleholders

This brightly decorated clown is 6" h. and is a desk set that originally had a ballpoint pen featuring flags of the world. Featured with him are matching clown "Caddies" that watch the candle flame burning. This two-piece set stands 4-1/4" h. All the clown pieces have the black and gold "HH" foil stickers.

Clown Thermometer Switchplate

Here is yet another matching piece to the Holt-Howard clowns. This 5-1/4" h. switchplate has a built-in thermometer to show the temperature of a child's room. Holt-Howard advertised it as "safe nonconductive ceramic."



Merry Maids International all-purpose holders, \$28-\$33 each (Collection of, and photo by Marion Howard).



Clown Desk Set, \$55-\$65; Marching Candleholders, \$45-\$55 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Clown Thermometer Switch Plate, \$28-\$38 (Collection of, and photo by Marion Howard).



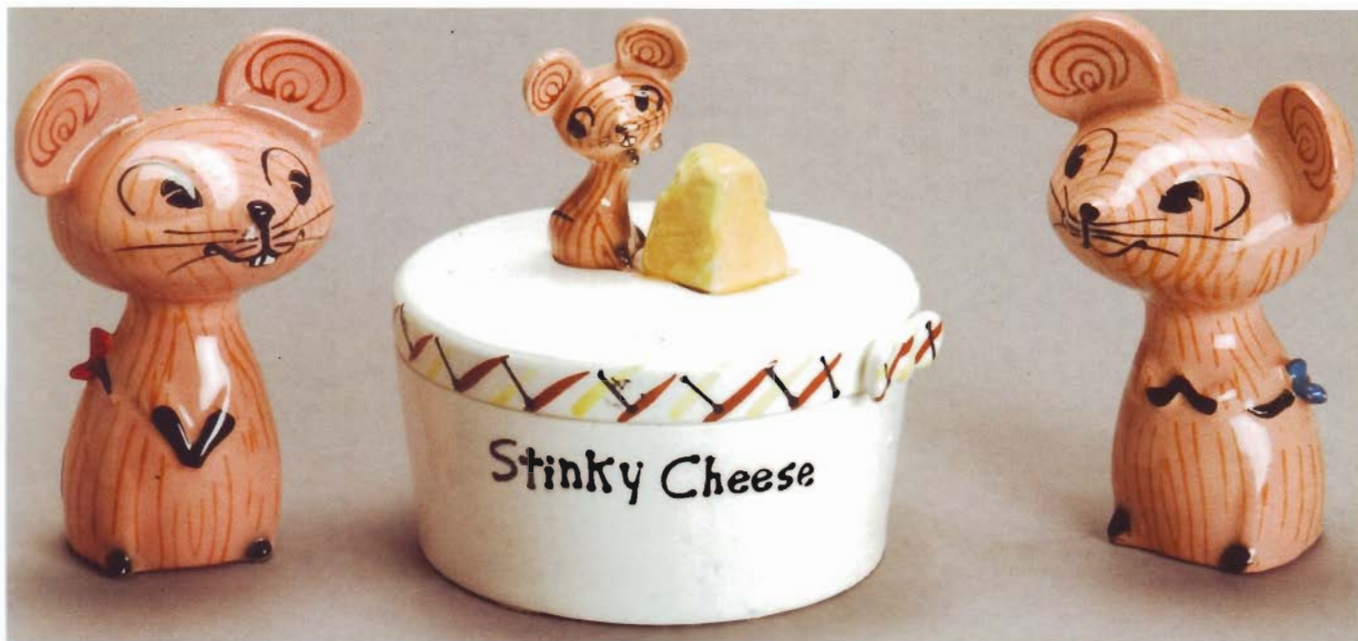
Merry Mouse Cocktail Kibitzers Mice, \$115-\$125 for set of six (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

(Right) Merry Mouse Desk Set, \$85-\$95 set (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



(Below) Desk set in center is much smaller than salt and pepper shakers on either side (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).





Merry Mouse "Stinky Cheese Crock," \$50-\$60; Shakers, \$38-\$48 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Merry Mouse "Match Mouse," \$75-\$85 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Merry Mouse Cocktail Kibitzers Mice

Holt-Howard called its mouse collection "The Merry Mouse" series and stated that "for every house we've got a mouse! Don't be nervous, they're made for service." All the mice in this series were given the unique Holt-Howard "Ceramistripe" glaze. The Cocktail Kibitzers Mice hang on cocktail glasses, and their toothpick tails hold cocktail cherries, olives, onions, etc. The mice are 1-1/2" h. and were sold six per box with two dozen toothpicks. They appeared in the 1960 catalog.

Merry Mouse Desk Set

One mouse in the Merry Mouse Desk Set has a pencil sharpener behind his head, and is 3-1/4" h. His companion is the same height and has an opening in his head to hold pencils. The pieces appeared in the 1958 catalog. The second photo illustrates the difference in size between the much smaller desk set mice and the salt and pepper set.

Merry Mouse Stinky Cheese Crock and Shakers

The "Stinky Cheese" crock has a tight fitting lid that seals in cheese odors. This piece is 4" d. and is copyrighted "1958." On either side of this crock are the matching mice. (See salt and pepper shakers in Chapter 10).

Merry Mouse Match Mouse

The "Match Mouse" holds wooden matches in his head and cigarettes in the seat of his pants. He sports a rough-textured "scratch on vest" to light the matches. To be complete, the Match Mouse must have a cane in his right arm and a cigar in his mouth. This piece is unmarked but was featured in the 1960 catalog.



Merry Mouse Spindle Set, \$90-\$100 and Desk Pen Pal, \$75-\$85 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).

Merry Mouse Spindle Set and Desk Pen Pal

The Merry Mouse Desk Pen Pal rests on the lid of a box that stores stamps or paper clips. An opening in his lower back holds a ballpoint pen. The Desk Pen Pal is 5-1/2" by 5-1/2" and was sold individually. The Merry Mouse Spindle Set (6-1/4" by 4-1/2") has a tall tail for holding elusive notes and receipts. Both mouse pieces were featured in the 1958 catalog.

Merry Mouse Corner Coaster/Ashtray

The Merry Mouse corner coaster/ashtray features two coasters (one in each corner). These coasters are set into a weighted ceramic holder for stick-free beverage service. The mouse portion of these pieces is an ashtray. The mice have coiled tails to hold cigarettes. The coasters appeared in the 1960 Holt-Howard catalog.



Merry Mouse Corner Coaster/Ashtray, \$48-\$58 each (Dvorkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

PUSS AND POODLE

Holt-Howard created a kissing cat and poodle series named Puss and Poodle. Most of these pieces appear related to playing cards: spade, heart and diamond-shaped ceramic trays accompanied by heavily lacquered wooden rectangular trays. All the backgrounds are white with vertical yellow stripes. On nearly all the pieces, the two animals are kissing. However, on two of the diamond-shaped trays, the cat and the poodle are separated. All of the ceramic pieces have the Holt-Howard foil sticker, and the wooden tray is backstamped "Holt-Howard." Mr. Howard said this series was an attempt to develop home entertainment collectibles, but most of the pieces in this series were made in limited test runs (except for the salt and pepper shakers—see Chapter 10).



Puss and Poodle Diamond-Shaped Jar, \$120-\$130 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).

Puss and Poodle Diamond-Shaped Jar

This diamond-shaped ceramic storage jar features the cat and poodle on top of the lid. The jar is 6" h. and has the "HH" foil sticker.

Puss and Poodle Spade-Shaped Tray

This tray seems to be one of the larger pieces to this series, measuring 9" l. and 9" w.



Puss and Poodle Spade-Shaped Tray, \$95-\$105 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



Poodle Diamond-Shaped Tray, \$75-\$85 (Collection of, and photo by Marion Howard).

Poodle Diamond-Shaped Tray

Here the poodle is featured alone, but with his eyes open searching for his cat companion. The tray is 7" l. and 5-1/2" w.



Puss Diamond-Shaped Tray, \$75-\$85 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



Puss and Poodle Heart-Shaped Tray, \$75-\$85 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



Puss and Poodle Wooden Tray, \$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).

Puss Diamond-Shaped Tray

In this tray, the pink cat has her eyes open to search for her poodle companion. This tray is 7" l. and 5-1/2" w.

Puss and Poodle Heart-Shaped Tray

Here again we see the cat and poodle embracing on a 4" square, heart-shaped tray.

Puss and Poodle Wooden Tray

This heavily lacquered rectangular wood tray is 8-1/4" l. and 5-1/4" w.

Jeeves Olives, Cherries, and Onions Jars

Collectors have nicknamed these fellows "The Butler Series," but their actual name is "Jeeves." The "If You Please" bar set is made in bright red with white, black and gold. The olive jar has a built-in metal spear to grab elusive olives, while the cherries and onions jars have drip-dry spoons to drain liquids. The pieces are 5" h. and are copyrighted "1960," except for the olives jar, which is copyrighted "1961." The entire set was featured in Holt-Howard's 1961 catalog.



Jeeves Olives, Cherries, and Onions Jars, \$130+ each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Jeeves Martini Shaker Set, \$185+ for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Jeeves Chip Dish, \$75-\$85; Dip Dish, \$70-\$80 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Jeeves Martini Shaker Set

The Jeeves martini set has a shaker and four, 4 oz. tumblers. The shaker holds 18 oz. of martini mix, and his head has a muddler attached for stirring.

Jeeves Chip Dish and Dip Dish

This 6-3/4" chip dish is perfect for chips or crackers. The companion dip dish is 5-1/2". The butler's head serves as a handle for the serving pieces.



Jeeves Ashtrays, \$55-\$65 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Jeeves Ashtrays, Set of Four

This set of four Jeeves ashtrays was originally issued with two red-striped and two black-striped ashtrays. Each ashtray is 4".

Jeeves Decanter

The "Jeeves" decanter holds a bisque sign for writing on "contents" and a cork stopper to keep the libation fresh. The decanter is 10-1/2" h. and is copyrighted "1960."



Jeeves Decanter, \$150+ (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Bluck Photography*).

BOBBING COIN BANKS: CATS, CLOWNS AND LIONS

These banks with spring-mounted heads are nodders that move with air currents or a slight touch. When money is deposited inside, the banks rock back and forth. Some of the banks have the coin slot in back, while others are in front. These fun characters are all about 6-1/2" h. and have a metal mechanism underneath that turns to unlock and release coins. Holt-Howard's catalog includes the following description of Bobbing Banks: "Heads bob and bodies roll as coins drop in! Sure to stop traffic as air currents cause bobbing heads on your counter. Parents remove money through metal mechanism at bottom."



Original Bobbing Bank Box (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Dandy-Lion-with-Crown Bobbing Bank, \$135+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Dandy-Lion-with-Hat Bobbing Bank, \$150+ (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Original Bobbing Bank Box

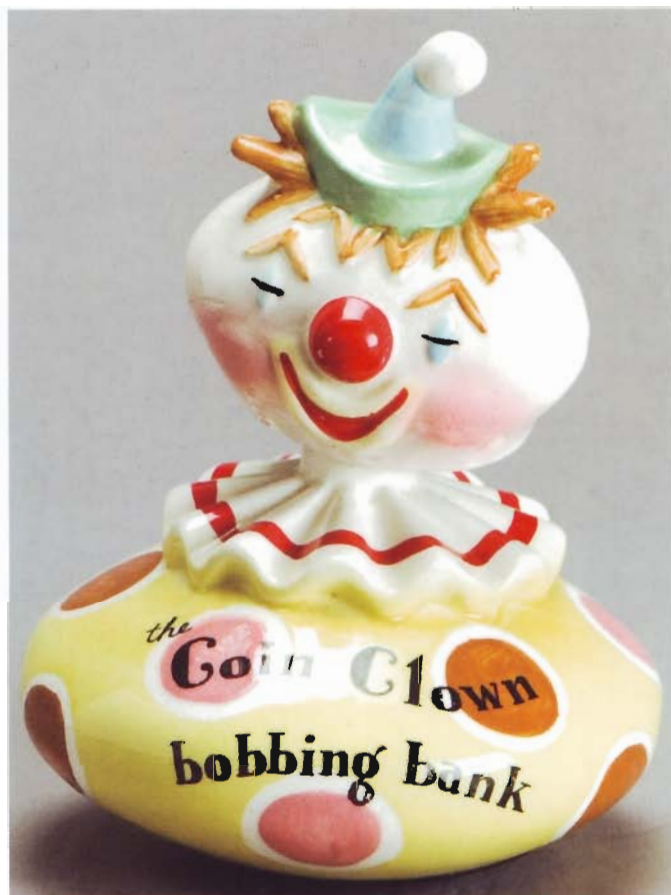
This vintage box is one Holt-Howard's Bobbing Banks. The box cover shows two comical cartoon-like bobbing bank figures looking at each other. The green bank reads, "lovable and colorful ceramic!", while the orange bank states "more fun than money." The left side of the figures reads, "goes every which way."

Dandy-Lion-with-Crown Bobbing Bank

This cute lion is wearing his crown as "king of the jungle" and has blue eyes and wears a collar around his neck. He sports a big smile and has rosy cheeks. Dandy-Lion has his coin slot in back and is unmarked, but was featured in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog.

Dandy-Lion-with-Hat Bobbing Bank

This is a quite different version of the Dandy-Lion bank. This lion wears a red-rimmed crown, his mane circles and encompasses his entire face, and his eyes and facial expression are completely different from his brother. He is marked Holt-Howard and his coin slot is in the back.



Yellow Clown Bobbing Bank, \$135+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Blue Clown Bobbing Bank, \$165+ (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Yellow Clown Bobbing Bank

This clown bank is sleepy, but when you drop a coin in him he wakes up and starts moving. He has blushing cheeks, a big smile, and wears large brown and pink polka dots. Coin Clown is backstamped and copyrighted "Holt-Howard 1958."

Blue Clown Bobbing Bank

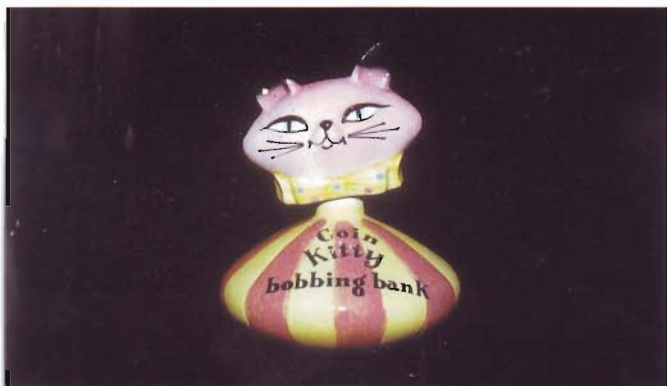
This is another smiling clown, but his eyes are wide open. Pink and yellow colored circles decorate his blue bank; his coin slot is in his back. He was featured in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog and is backstamped and copyrighted "Holt-Howard 1958."

Coin-for-the-Kitty Bobbing Bank

This is one of the rarer finds in today's collectibles market and may have been a Holt-Howard prototype that never went into full production. It has the Holt-Howard foil label.



Coin for the Kitty Bobbing Bank, \$250+ (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



Pink Cat Bobbing Bank, \$165+ (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).



Gray Cat Bobbing Bank, \$130+ (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).



Black and White Kitty Bobbing Bank, \$145+ (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).

Pink Cat Bobbing Bank

This colorful bobbing bank is 6-1/2" h., her coin slot is in the back, and she is marked and copyrighted "1958." Of the four cat banks shown here, this is the only one that has Siamese cat eyes; all the others have rounded eyes.

Gray Cat Bobbing Bank

This gray tabby wears the same blue bow as his brown and white tabby brother. His coin slot is in the front. Coin Kitty is unmarked, but is believed to be Holt-Howard, since no other companies copied these bobbing banks.

Black and White Kitty Bobbing Bank

This black and white beauty sports a big pink bow shaped exactly like the blue bow on the brown and white tabby. Her bow also matches the colors of her lettering, which reads "Bobbing Bank." Her coin slot is in front, and she is marked and copyrighted "1958."



Brown Cat Bobbing Bank, \$130+ (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Brown Cat Bobbing Bank

This brown tabby also wears the same blue bow as his gray and white tabby brother, and seems to be the same in every detail but color. His brown stripes run down the back of his head and body, and his tail is curved below the stripes. His coin slot is in the front. This bank is unmarked, but definitely related.

DAISY 'DORABLES DRESSER ITEMS

Holt-Howard called this the "Pretty Lil' Pony Tail Princess" series. The set was designed primarily for dresser duty, except for the salt and pepper set. The little girl is always smelling a daisy, which covers her nose and mouth. Holt-Howard called them "Charming, colorful, ceramic cuties. Dainty and demure in delicate pink, blue and yellow—an eye full of appeal." Following are most of the pieces. (See Chapter 10 for matching salt and pepper set.)



Daisy 'Dorables Candleholder, \$35-\$45 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Daisy 'Dorables Bud Vase, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Daisy 'Dorables Candleholder

This pony tail tot is one of a pair of candleholders that measures 3-1/2", and were sold as a pair. The ponytail girls are attached to a daisy candleholder.

Daisy 'Dorables Bud Vase

This bud vase is 5-1/2" h. The pony tail girl stands upright and has opening in her head for flowers. She can also be used as a pencil holder. She is backstamped "1959."

Daisy 'Dorables Covered Box

This covered box is 5" d. The pony tail girl is lying on top of the daisy lid. This storage box is for pins, buttons or powder. There is a "go-along" piece to this box, which is a 6-1/2" d. covered box in which the pony tail girl stands upright on the daisy lid.



Daisy 'Dorables Covered Box, \$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Daisy 'Dorables Lipstick Holder, \$60-\$70 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Daisy 'Dorables Bookend Wall Pocket Planter, \$38-\$48 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Daisy 'Dorables Two-Section Dish, \$75-\$85 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Daisy 'Dorables Ashtray, \$40-\$50 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Daisy 'Dorables Lipstick Holder

Holt-Howard's catalog described the lipstick girl as follows: "M'Lady's fashion requires several shades. Here's the holder to end frantic searches. Holds Eyebrow Pencils, Lipstick Brushes, Mascaramatic." The holder is 4" d.

Daisy 'Dorables Bookend Wall Pocket Planter

Holt-Howard referred to this piece as "double duty dorables." The bookends were sold as a pair and could be used as bookend planters or hung as wall planters. Each bookend is 4" h.

Daisy 'Dorables Two-Section Dish

This is a 7-1/2" two-section dish that holds almost anything around the house, including sweets.

Daisy 'Dorables Ashtray

The pony tail girl stands upright on this 5-1/2" d. daisy-shaped ashtray.

Note: There was also a Daisy 'Dorables 4-1/4" cigarette holder, a tall ceramic cylinder with the little girl on the removable top. According to Holt-Howard, the holder was "Sized for Kings" (large cigarettes) and had a cover to keep cigarettes fresh.



Li'l Old Lace Magnet Salt and Peppers, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Li'l Old Lace Floral Candelabra, \$48-\$58 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Li'l Old Lace Floral Vases Candleholders, \$28-\$38 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Li'l Old Lace Magnet Salt and Peppers

Holt-Howard referred to these salt and pepper shakers as "Hammy Grannies." The grannies are dancing with glasses in their hands, while a pair of magnets (attached to their heads) helps hold them up. The shakers are 3-3/4" h.

Li'l Old Lace Floral Candelabra

Many collectors refer to these pieces as "The Granny" collection, but they are actually called "Li'l Old Lace." Holt-Howard advertised them as "Gray but gay—naughty but nice." All pieces

were offered in lavender and blue. The "Li'l Old Lace" collection was featured in Holt-Howard's 1960 catalog. The floral candelabra in the middle serves a dual function: candleholder and stem tender. The stem tender is located behind grandma and serves as a holder for floral arrangements; it is backstamped "1959."

Li'l Old Lace Floral Vases Candleholders

These candleholder bonnet bases are also vases that can be filled with water and flowers. There are holes around granny's bonnet to insert cut flowers. The pieces to this set are 3-1/2" h.



Li'l Old Lace Cardholder/Moneyholder Hat,
\$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Valeska
Jefferies).



Li'l Old Lace Ashtray, \$48-\$58 (Collection of, and photo by Chris
Mahlock).

Li'l Old Lace Cardholder/Moneyholder Hat

This 5" h. granny cardholder is large enough to accommodate gambling cards while holding money in her hat.

Li'l Old Lace Ashtray

Granny seems to be in quite a predicament in this fun-making ashtray, which is 5-1/2" h.

Moo Cow Salt and Peppers

Two sets of these cow salt and peppers were made. One set is called "Moo Cow," since it has a voice mechanism in it. The other set is called "Smackin' Boss and Bossy." Both sets are 3-1/4" h. and are very similar. However, the Moo Cow is licking her lips, while "Smackin' Boss and Bossy" have moveable tongues. These shakers were featured in the 1958 catalog.



Moo Cow Salt and Peppers, \$38-\$48 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Smackin' Boss and Bossy Salt and Peppers, \$50-\$60 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cow Tumbler, \$55-\$65 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cow Sugar Shaker and Milk Pitcher, \$70-\$80 for set (Collection of and photo by Donna and Steve Wisniewski).

Smackin' Boss and Bossy Salt and Peppers

At first glance you might think these are the same shakers as the Moo Cow salt and pepper set, but these Smackin' Boss and Bossy cows are different because they have tongues that pop out when inverted. The cows are 3-1/4" h. and have no voice mechanisms. They are smaller in diameter (2-1/4" d.) than the Moo Cow shakers, which are more than 2-1/2" d. They are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958."

Cow Tumbler Moo Voice

This piece named "Bossy the Cow" was featured in the Holt-Howard catalog, and is backstamped "1960." The tumbler is 5-1/2" h. and holds 8 oz. of milk. When the tumbler is turned over, the voice mechanism makes a "moo" sound. The piece came with a hang tag picturing a cow's face. The tag read, "Don't immerse voice box in water."

Cow Sugar Shaker and Milk Pitcher

This unique sugar and creamer are extra large at 4-1/2" h. each. The sugar has 13 holes in the back of her head and a cork in her base to hold in her contents. The creamer has a handle attached to his back for pouring out cream. This duo was sold as a set and is copyrighted "1958."



Fisherman Image Ashtray, \$95-\$110 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Hunter Image Ashtray, \$95-\$110 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Golfer Ashtray, \$95-\$110 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Sportsman's Ashtray Hang Tag

Fisherman Image Ashtray

These pieces are known as "image ashtrays" because the bottom portion serves as the ashtray while smoke curls through their mouths and ears. This fisherman is holding his fishing rod (not the original rod). He is 5-1/4" h. and is copyrighted "1961."

Hunter Image Ashtray

Here we have the hunter with his rifle. This ashtray is 5-1/4" h. and is copyrighted "1961."

Golfer Image Ashtray

This smiling sportsman is the third in the series of image ashtrays. The golfer is 5-1/4" h. and is copyrighted "1961." He must have his golf club to be complete.

Happy Birthday Candle Misses Candleholders, \$55-\$65 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Happy Birthday Candle Misses Candleholders

Holt-Howard advertised the Candle Misses as follows: "To say Happy Birthday the really unusual way, let these ceramic Candle Misses herald the occasion." Both angels are 4" h. and have their candleholders in back.

Bride and Groom Candleholders and Rings

This bride wears a real veil! The candleholders are attached and located behind the bride and groom. The couple was sold as a four-piece set with matching gold and white wedding bell candle rings. Both pieces have the "HH" label and are 4" h.

Bride and Groom Candelabra

This bride and groom form a double candelabra, which is 4-1/2" l. and 4-1/2" h. The bride wears a real veil, like the previous two-piece set. Each side holds candles to match the bride's bouquet for bridal showers or parties. This piece is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958."

Bride and Groom Shadowbox Candleholders

Back in the 1950s, Holt-Howard called these pieces the latest design in candleholders. This series of candleholders features characters inside their bases. This set features an adorable child bride and groom gazing lovingly at each other. This set is 4-1/2" h. and is marked "Holt-Howard 1959."

Holiday Figurine Shadowbox Candleholders

This candleholder set features a Christmas shepherd with a lamb in one candleholder and the baby Jesus in the other. The inside of this shadowbox is airbrushed light blue and has two blue stars on the inside back wall of the base. The set is 4" h. and is marked "Holt-Howard 1959."

Boy and Girl Shadowbox Candleholders

A boy points his bow and arrow from the base of his shadowbox candleholder toward a girl holding an apple. This pair of candleholders is 5-1/2" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."



Bride and Groom Candleholders and Rings, \$40-\$50 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Bride and Groom Candelabra, \$45-\$55 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Bride and Groom Shadowbox
Candleholders, \$28-\$38 for
set (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Holiday Figurine Shadowbox
Candleholders, \$28-\$38 for
set (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Boy and Girl Shadowbox
Candleholders, \$28-\$38 for
set (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Reindeer Sweethearts Shadowbox Candleholders, \$28-\$38 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



"Wee Wings" Candle Rings, \$55-\$65 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Reindeer Shadowbox Candleholders

A pair of reindeer sweethearts peek out of these candleholders and peer at each other. This pair is 4-1/4" h. and marked "Holt-Howard 1959." The insides of the bases are airbrushed pale green.

"Wee Wings" Candle Rings

A sweetheart couple of candle rings. The set was sold with a matching pair of candleholder floral vases with holes to support flowers and retain water. Both candle rings are marked "Holt-Howard 1958."

Bluebird Candle Rings and Bases

Bluebird candle rings are 1-1/2" and come with candleholder vases that are 3-1/2" h. This four-piece set is copyrighted "1959."



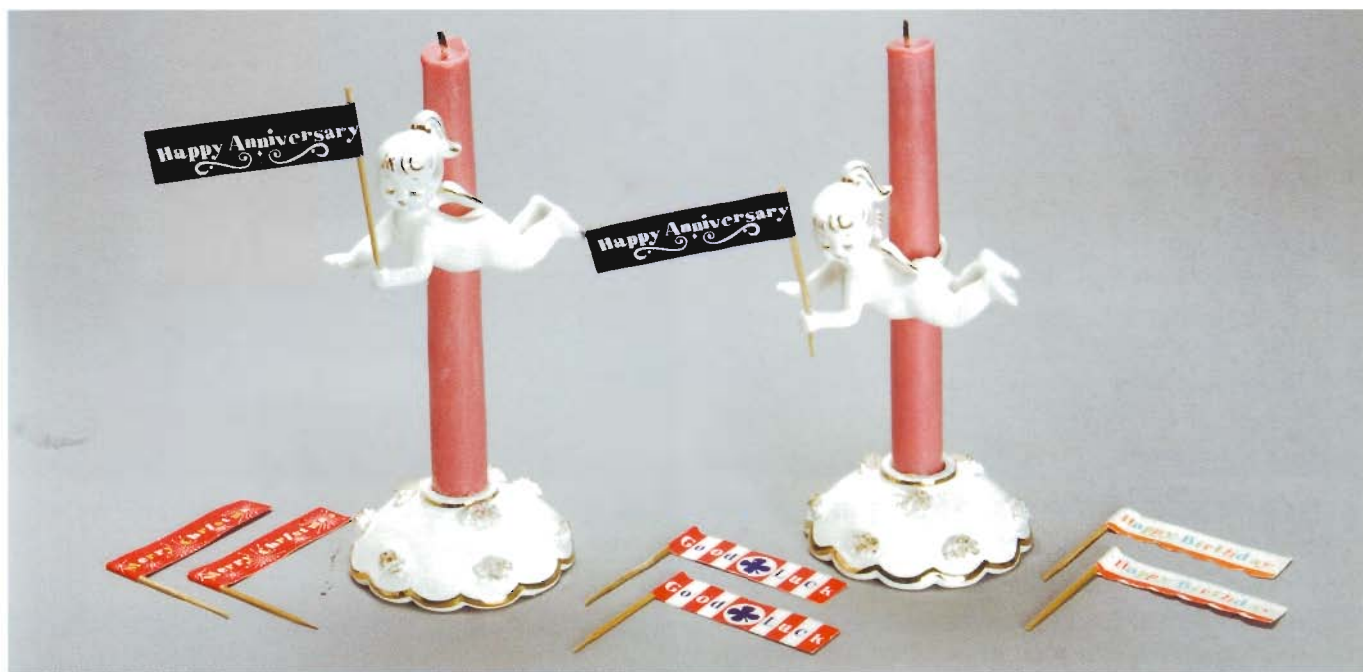
Bluebird Candle Rings, \$45-\$55 for set; complete set with bases, \$75-\$85 (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).



Ballerina Candle Rings, \$55-\$65 for set; complete set with bases, \$78-\$88 (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).



Angel Candle Climbers with Bases, \$38-\$48 for pair; \$65-\$75 for four-piece set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Occasion Angels Candle Rings, \$45-\$55; Entire Set, \$78-\$88 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Ballerina Candle Rings

This four-piece set of ballerina candle rings was offered in pink, blue or yellow and is copyrighted "1958." They are 4" and their matching bases are 3-1/2".

Angel Candle Climbers with Bases

These cherub candle climbers slide down the candles and are decorated in 24K gold. The bases are adorned with rosettes highlighted in 24K sponge gold and have "HH" gold foil labels. The cherubs are 4" l. and the bases 3-1/2" d.

Occasion Angels Candle Rings with Bases and Banners

This is a four-piece set of angel candle rings and rosette-base candleholders. The angels are 3-3/4" l. The bases (3-1/2" d.) are decorated with 22K gold and adorned with rosettes of spaghetti art accented with 22K sponge-gold highlights. The set has four pairs of banners ("Good luck," "Happy Anniversary," "Merry Christmas," and "Happy Birthday") for the angels to hold for different occasions. The angels and bases are all marked "Holt-Howard 1958."



Angel Candleholder Floral Vases, \$18-\$23 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Angel Candleholder Floral Vases

These angel candleholder floral vases are highlighted in 24K gold, with bases heavily decorated in sponge gold accents. The angels face in opposite directions. Each holder is 3-3/4" h. and has 15 holes around the candleholder to insert flowers or greens. The bases hold water to keep flowers fresh and are marked "Holt-Howard 1958." This particular set was advertised in the company's catalog as having "clusters of artificial flowers included."

Giraffe, Horse and Puppy Hot Plates

These hot plates were made for children's meals. Each has a vent for hot water (the tail of each animal has a cork attached). Holt-Howard called these dish animals "fun mates for hot food and happy eating." The giraffe measures 8" by 5"; the horse, 9" by 5"; and the puppy, 8" by 4".



Giraffe Hot Plate, \$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Horse Hot Plate, \$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Puppy Hot Plate, \$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



**Pelican Pete Tape Dispenser/
Storage Container, \$70-\$80**
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner
Lennon Photo Productions).



**Chickadee Pencil Sharpeners/
Tape Dispensers, \$70-\$80
each** (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Chickadee Desk Organizer, \$110-\$125 (Collection of, and photo by
Marion Howard).

Pelican Pete Tape Dispenser/Compartment

"Pelican Pete" is a dispenser that holds the standard 800" of scotch tape. The upper portion of Pete's large beak is removable and the inside serves as a storage compartment for clips, tacks, stamps and so on. Pete is 8-3/4" l., about 4" h. and is backstamped "1958."

Chickadee Pencil Sharpeners/Tape Dispensers

These are two versions of Holt-Howard's "Chickadee Sharpen Tape Tote." Each piece is equipped with a pencil sharpener in his mouth and a tape dispenser capable of holding the standard 800" of scotch tape. One piece was issued in gold and white and the other in turquoise and walnut. These dispensers' heads are removable to dispose of pencil shavings. They are 5" h. and copyrighted "1958."

Chickadee Desk Organizer

This Chickadee turning desk set is an organizer that isn't seen too often these days, especially in such good condition. It has four separate ceramic desk organizers that stand on a revolving brass stand. The compartments hold thumbtacks, rubber bands, paper clips, stamps, etc. Pens and pencils pop into the Chickadee's head for storage. This organizer is 5" by 8". Companion pieces to this series include chickadee clips, which are ceramic birds with positive action clips. They were sold as a four-piece set of two pairs per set and were available in assorted colors. Each clip is 2" l.



Chickadee Sharpen Hold 'Em Set, \$75-\$85 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Cock-A-Doodle Sharpen Hold 'Em Set, \$80-\$90 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Chickadee Pencil Sharpener/ Pencil Holder Set

One chickadee sharpens pencils while his companion holds them. The sharpener chickadee originally came with a pair of eyeglasses that rested on top of his beak. The set is 4" h.

Cock-A-Doodle Pencil Sharpener/ Pencil Holder Set

One bird has a pencil sharpener mouth, while his companion is a pencil holder. The set is 6" h.

Professor Perch Pencil Sharpener/ Pencil Holder Set

Professor Perch is also a two-piece set that sharpens and stores pencils and is 2-1/2" h.

Smiling Whale Candle Sharpener

This guy was a bit of an enigma when he was first discovered because we thought he was a pencil sharpener, but the opening in his mouth is much too large for pencils. It turns out that he is a candle sharpener to reduce the base of a candle if it is too wide to fit in a candlestick or candelabra. At his base is a white rubber stopper that can be removed to empty out accumulated wax. He is 3-1/2" h., 4-1/2" l., and is marked "Holt-Howard 1960."



Professor Perch Sharpen Hold 'Em Set, \$55-\$65 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Production).



Smiling Whale Candle Sharpener, \$23-\$33 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

HOLT-HOWARD'S BIRD "DESK AND DEN DANDIES"

In 1958 Holt-Howard created a line of desk and den accessories consisting of richly detailed eagles, mallards, and pheasants. The company called them "Desk and Den Dandies," and many of them depicted wildlife scenes. Each accessory was available in all three bird forms (eagles, mallards, and pheasants).



Mallard Letter Holder, \$35-\$40 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Mallard Desk Caddy, \$23-\$28 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Mallard Pen Set, \$38-\$48 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Mallard Letter Holder

The mallard has a gleaming brass coil to hold letters, is 4-1/2" h., and can also serve as a memo tender.

Mallard Pen Set

This Mallard pen set is 7" h. and holds a pen.

Mallard Desk Caddy

Holt-Howard called this Mallard piece "the overnighter" because it was designed to store wallet, watch, change and other personal belongings at night. It is 8-1/2" h. and doubles as a planter for the office.

"Weekend Willie" Plant Waterer

"Weekend Willie" was probably the first whimsical plant waterer. Although tube-type plant waterers, which gradually release water through a porous nonglazed cone, were in existence 40 years ago, Holt-Howard was the first to incorporate a ceramic head. Willie was made in different colors and was promoted and introduced by B. Altman & Co. Willie is 6" l.



Weekend Willie plant waterer, \$25-\$35 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Booze Hound-Dog Bottle Stoppers

These hound-dog bottle stoppers have hats that store five dice underneath. The hounds have dollar signs painted on their stopper bases to represent the gambling associated with the dice. Holt-Howard advertised the stoppers as follows: "Stopper the bottle and roll for the drinks."

Sunbonnet Miss Napkin Holder Doll

The Sunbonnet Miss napkin holder dolls also function as candleholders. Napkins can be placed in the openings of their dress, and candles on tops of their heads. Holt-Howard called this collection "real party perkers." These ladies were made in three poses, and each pose was created in three colors: pink, blue or yellow (for a total of nine pieces). Originally, these dolls were offered with eight rice-paper napkins and color-coordinated candles. They appeared in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog.



Booze Hound-Dog Bottle Stoppers, \$22-\$27 each (Collection of and photo by Darline Comisky).



Sunbonnet Miss Napkin Holder Dolls, \$80-\$90 each (Courtesy of Bobbie Bryson, from *Collectibles for the Kitchen, Bath, & Beyond, A Pictorial Guide*, published by Krause Publications).



Bow Girls Candleholders, \$28-\$38 each (Collection of, and photo By Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Pony Pal Penny Bank, \$25-\$35 (Collection of, and photo by Marion Howard).



Pony Pal Pincushion/Button Box, \$28-\$38 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



Market Piggy Desk Organizer, \$75-\$85 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Bow Girls Candleholders

These "Candle Miss" candleholders were offered in different colors. To date they have been found in blue, red, yellow, and pink. They are 4-1/2" h. and were featured in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog.

Pony Pal Penny Bank

This bank is 5-1/4" h. Other pieces to this set include a pair of 6" bookends and a 6" lamp.

Pony Pal Pincushion/Button Box

This two-piece set for storing pins and buttons has a built-in pin cushion on top of the pony's bank. It is 4" h.

Market Piggy Desk Organizer

This organizer came with string holder, pad, ball pen with calendar, and a pair of scissors. It is 6" by 8" and was featured in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog.



Market Piggy Candleholder, \$28-\$38; Shakers, \$28-\$38 for pair (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Chickadee Citronella Candle Hanger, \$45-\$50 (*Collection of, and photo by Marion Howard*).



Minnie and Moby Powder Jar and Pill Box, \$55-\$65 each (*Collection of, and photo by Evan Pazol*).

Market Piggy Candleholder and Matching Shakers

This Market Piggy 6" l. candleholder holds a 15-hour citronella candle. Accompanying the Market Piggy is the companion salt and pepper set also found in Chapter 10.

Chickadee Citronella Candle Hanger

The citronella chickadee is 6" l. and originally included a 15-hour citronella candle. This piece can be hung on a tree or set on a table. Her ceramic finish is called "Stippletex." The chickadee hanger was featured in the 1958 catalog.

Minnie and Moby Powder Jar and Pill Box

Holt-Howard introduced a series of childlike mermaids called Minnie and Moby and described them as "mer-moppets." Minnie and Moby adorned a host of ceramic items for the bathroom and bedroom. The pieces were colored sea blue and yellow on white. This series was not produced in large numbers, so they are not common collectibles today. This photo shows a 3" d. powder box with Minnie on top. Moby is atop the matching pill jar.

Minnie Cottonball Dispenser

Minnie is pulling at the cotton from atop the cottonball dispenser, which is 4-1/2" h. and 2-3/4" w. It is backstamped "1959."



Minnie Cottonball Dispenser, \$80-\$90 (*Collection of, and photo by Hall/Glascock*).



Moby Ashtray, \$55-\$65 (Collection of, and photo by Evan Pazol).



Moby Matchbox Holder, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Evan Pazol).



Minnie Soap Dish, \$70-\$80 (Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates).



Minnie and Moby Bath Bottles, \$95-\$110 each (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).

Moby Ashtray

Behind Moby is a recess to hold a book of matches. The Moby ashtray is 4".

Moby Matchbox Holder

This Moby matchbox holder measures 5".

Minnie Soap Dish

This 4-1/2" Minnie soap dish was sold with an 8 oz. tumbler as a two-piece set.

Minnie and Moby Bath Bottles

Minnie and Moby grin at each other while lying on the cork tops, which seal the bottles. The containers hold bubble bath, dusting powder or lotion. The bottles are 7-1/4" h. and are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."



Moby Brush, \$75-\$85 (Patrick Haggerty collection, photo by Christine Whalon).



Minnie and Moby Sea Horse Wall Planters, \$90-\$105 each (Collection of, and photo by Evan Pazol).



Dresser Dollie Stackable Organizer, \$50-\$60 (Collection of, and photo by Chris Mahlock).

Moby Brush

Evidently this piece was made in very limited production. The Moby brush is part of a two-piece set, with the other being a Minnie nail file. Both pieces were featured in Holt-Howard's catalog, but Moby was supposed to be the nail file and Minnie the brush. The Moby brush is 5", and the Minnie nail file is 4-3/4" (Minnie nail file, \$75-\$85).

Minnie and Moby Sea Horse Wall Planters

Minnie and Moby are riding the sea horse wall planters. The 6-3/4" h. pieces were sold as a set and appeared in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog.

Note: Other pieces in the Minnie and Moby set include a 4-1/2" Minnie and Moby atomizer set, \$65-\$75 each.

Dresser Dollie Stackable Organizer

A Dresser Dollie atop a stackable organizer. It is 5" h. and features three sections for storing pins and clips. The top piece has a built-in tape measure.

Elephant Soup-and-Sandwich Snack Tray

The elephant soup mug is 2-1/2" h. and 3-1/2" w. The sandwich tray is 9-1/4" l. and 5-1/2" w. The tray has orange and other colored circles on it, and the orange ones match the elephant's cheeks. His big lavender ears are slightly raised, and his trunk is the mug's handle. Both the mug and tray are marked "Holt-Howard 1962."

Clown Soup-and-Sandwich Snack Tray

The clown pieces are the same size as the similar elephant set, and both the mug and tray are marked "Holt-Howard 1962." The nose on the clown mug forms the handle, and the orange circles on the tray match his cheeks.

The Artist Ashtray

Each of these figures has a fitted ashtray attached to its base. When a cigarette is placed in the ashtray, smoke rises from an opening in the figure's head. Here, an artist with red cap draws on his sketchpad. The smoke comes out of the artist's eyes, but rises from a different place on each of the other three pieces. The artist is designed to hold one cigarette; two of the others have spaces for two smokers. All are 11" h. and are marked "Holt-Howard 1959."

The Doctor Ashtray

Smoke comes out of the doctor's large nose, which is pointed up in the air. He seems removed from reality while carrying his medical bag. He has two holders for cigarettes.

The Musician Ashtray

The musician seems "in tune" as he leads the orchestra with his wand, but little does he know that cigarette smoke can pour out of his ears at any time. He has a holder for one cigarette.

The Professor Ashtray

The professor is lecturing to his heart's content as he holds his ABC's of learning. Smoke curls from the professor's mouth when a cigarette is placed in his dual cigarette holders.



Elephant Soup-and-Sandwich Snack Tray, \$38-\$48 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Clown Soup-and-Sandwich Snack Tray, \$38-\$48 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Artist Ashtray, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Doctor Ashtray, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Musician Ashtray, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Professor Ashtray, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Tiger Napkin Holder, \$18-\$23; Tiger Salt and Pepper, \$18-\$23 for pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Tiger Cookie Jar, \$38-\$48 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Tiger Child's Mug, \$18-\$23 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Tiger Napkin Holder and Tiger Salt and Pepper

This tiger is a handy napkin holder. He is 3-3/4" h., is marked "Holt-Howard 1973" and is numbered "5238." On both sides of the napkin holder are the matching salt and pepper (see salt and pepper shakers in Chapter 10).

Tiger Cookie Jar

The tiger series is a later product from Holt-Howard, mostly dated 1973. This cookie jar is marked but many have no markings.

Rest assured, however, that this tiger is Holt-Howard. This guy is 8-1/2" h., is marked "Holt-Howard 1973 Japan" and has a gold "HH" sticker.

Tiger Child's Mug

This child's mug is 3-1/2" h. and is engraved on bottom "Holt-Howard, 1973 Japan," and is numbered "*373."

NURSERY RHYME PLANTERS

Humpty Dumpty Puppet Planter

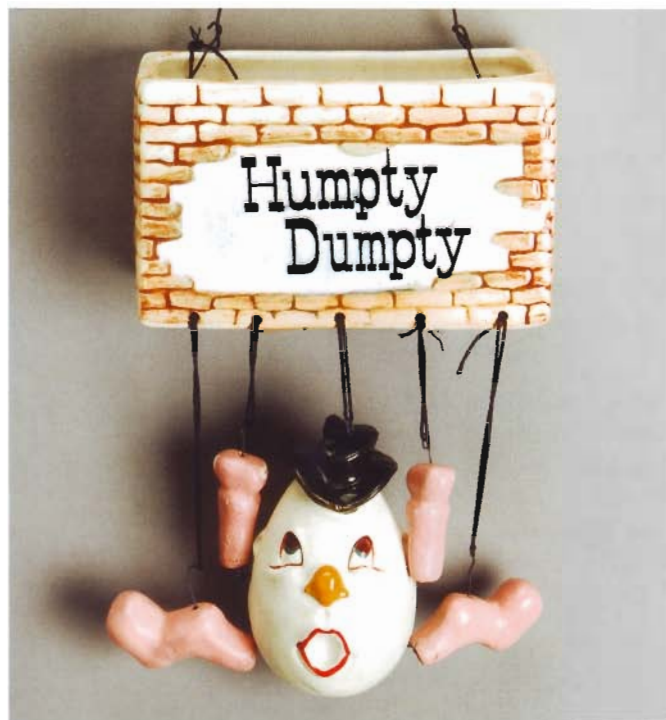
This 11" l. planter with dangling Humpty Dumpty puppet was featured in the Easter section of Holt-Howard's catalog. The ceramic planter can hold a live plant and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958."

Little Red Riding Hood Planter

This nursery rhyme planter has Little Red Riding Hood all dressed up in her red cap and shoes suspended from the planter that bears her name.

Jack and Jill Planter

Jill is sitting at top of the planter with a pail of water. Jack fell down and is suspended as the puppet part of the planter.



Humpty Dumpty Puppet Planter, \$35-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Little Red Riding Hood Planter, \$35-\$45 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Jack and Jill Planter, \$35-\$45 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).

Holt-Howard Easter Collectibles

Although Holt-Howard never created a large Easter catalog, the few whimsical items it did create for Easter were certainly festive and are cherished by Holt-Howard

collectors everywhere. Today these Japanese-made collectibles are almost 50 years old and capture an era that brings back wonderful memories of yesteryear.

Set of Three Rabbit Candleholders, \$65-\$75 for set
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Rabbit Candleholders

A three-piece set: each bunny holds a different color candleholder base in yellow, pink and blue. All three candleholders are dusted with sponge gold highlights and are polka-dotted. All three pieces stand 3" h. and are unmarked, but do have "HH" foil stickers.

Totem Pole Chicks Candleholder

These Easter chicks stand on each other's backs to form a totem pole candleholder with three openings for 1/2" candles. The two bottom chicks look at each other while the top chick seems to be adoring his candleholder hat. This piece is 8" h., numbered "5117" and backstamped "Holt-Howard." The totem pole chicks were featured in the 1958 Holt-Howard catalog.

Candelabra Rabbits

This bunny trio candelabra is 8" l. and 5" h. at center. Each bunny holds a candleholder that supports 1/2" candles. All three have spaghetti-art tails in back dusted with sponge-gold highlights. The center bunny has gold stars that match and border the "Happy Easter" letters on the front base. Although this piece is not backstamped, it does have a Holt-Howard foil sticker.

Totem Pole Rabbits and Matching Shakers

The three rabbits are stacked on each other's shoulders to form an 8" h. Easter totem pole. Each rabbit holds a 1/2" candleholder. This candleholder has the "HH" foil sticker and was featured in Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog. On either side of the totem pole is the matching set of salt and pepper shakers featured in Chapter 10.

Bunnies Out-of-Baskets Shakers

Here are the bunnies outside their baskets. The sets come in three colors of daisies: pink, green and yellow. The pink and green daisies have yellow centers, and the yellow daisies have green centers. All shakers have a black letter "S" or "P" on the back of their heads, and all



Totem Pole Chicks Candleholder, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

six have only two pouring holes each. All six pieces are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958" and have the rectangular blue and white "Japan" sticker, which is seldom seen on Holt-Howard pieces. Two of the sets are backstamped in green ink, which is also rare for Holt-Howard pieces. All the bunnies have red eyes and all look to their right. Even though they are mated pairs, they do not look at each other.



Candelabra Rabbits, \$58-\$68
(Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner
Lennon Photo Productions).



Totem Pole Rabbits
Candleholders, \$45-\$55;
Matching Shakers, \$25-\$35
pair (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Bunnies Out-of-Baskets Shakers, Three Sets, \$20-\$25 each pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Bunnies Salt and Peppers in Baskets, \$28-\$38 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Winking Wabbits Shakers, \$58-\$68 for set (*Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky*).



Easter Candleholder Frogs, \$18-\$23 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Bunnies Salt and Peppers

The bunny salt has four pouring holes in its head; the pepper has two. The bunnies are 3" h. and peek out of their baskets. The shakers are marked in green ink and copyrighted "1958." They were sold as a four-piece set of two bunnies and two baskets.

Winking Wabbits Set

This three-piece "Winking Wabbits" set consists of a pair of salt and pepper shakers that hook onto the 4" by 3" cabbage-patch napkin holder. The set appeared in the 1958 Holt-Howard catalog.

Easter Candleholder Frogs

A pair of Easter candleholders that also served as floral vases (frogs) to hold spring flowers or greens. There are 10 holes inside to insert flowers, and the bases hold water to keep flowers fresh. This set is 1-1/2" h., 3-1/2" w. and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958." Although these holders were sold separately, they were perfect accessories to hold the Honey Bunny Candle Climbers.



Honey Bunny Candle Climbers, \$35-\$45 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Honey Bunny Candle Climbers

Holt-Howard named these candle decorations Honey Bunny Candle Climbers. The pair is 3-1/2" and fits all standard candles. This duo appeared in the Easter section of Holt-Howard's 1958 catalog.



Cracked Eggs Candleholder Frogs, \$18-\$23 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Feathered Chicks Candle Climbers, \$35-\$45 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Cracked Eggs Candleholder Frogs

This set of candleholders looks like cracked eggs and serves as an accessory to hold up the feathered Easter chicks candle climbers. These candleholder vases contain 16 holes each inside to insert Easter floral arrangements. The pair stands 1-1/4" h. and 3-1/2" w. These candleholders were once featured in Holt-Howard's catalog with the feathered chicks candle climbers. The four pieces are great together and look like a set; however, Mr. Howard said they were sold as separate items.

Feathered Chicks Candle Climbers

These feathered chick candle climbers are scaling the candles with big Easter smiles on their faces. They are copyrighted "1958" and are 2-3/4" h.



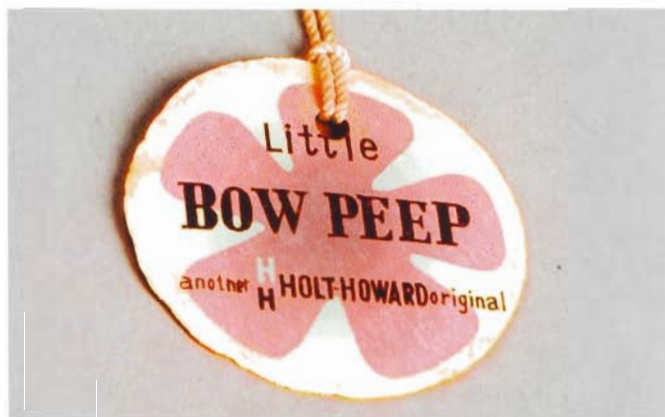
Slick Chick Egg Cups with Salt and Pepper Tops, \$55-\$65 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Slick Chick Egg Cups/Salt and Pepper

Holt-Howard named this duo "Slick Chick Egg Cups." The chicks are salt and pepper shakers, with gold letters "S" and "P" on top of their heads. The chicks are removable from their egg cup bases and serve as thermal tops to keep eggs warm. This set stands 4" h. and was sold as a four-piece set.



Candle Warmer for Sauces, \$68-\$78 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Little Bow Peep Hang Tag (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Covered Butter Dish, \$60-\$70 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Candleholder Frog, \$35-\$45, and Salt and Pepper, \$25-\$35 for pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Thermal Egg Cups with Salt and Pepper Tops, \$55-\$65 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Sugar, Creamer and Saccharin Server, \$78-\$88 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Trio of Chicks Nesting Trays, \$38-\$48 for set of three (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

PEEPIN' TOM AND TWEETIE

Holt-Howard created the Peepin' Tom and Tweetie giftware collection in 1959. The series was also known as "Little Bow Peep" because the chicks are decorated with pink bows. This set is of particular interest to today's collectors because it demonstrates a transition in design to create more streamlined and abstract pieces as Holt-Howard approached the modernistic 1960s. This set appears to be one of Holt-Howard's first attempts at a more stylized animal than any of its earlier creations. The pieces have a more streamlined appearance, without eyelashes or wings, nor much in the way of tail feathers. This was a dramatically different style for Holt-Howard, since so much of the company's earlier creations were very detailed. The new design was a success and created a set of chicks that today's collectors love.

Candle Warmer for Sauces

This is a two-piece set consisting of a chick's head with a pouring spout in front and a handle in the back. The chick's head is used to warm butter, sauces and gravies. The base holds a candle, which when lit, keep the contents of the chick's head warm. In its heyday, Holt-Howard sold this as a three-piece set because a 10-hour candle was included with the set. The piece is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959" and stands 4-1/2" h.

Covered Butter Dish

The two-piece butter dish uses the chick's elongated body as its top cover with a matching floral base dish holder. It is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959" and is 7" l.

Candleholder Frog and Salt and Pepper Shakers

This candleholder has an insert in the center to hold a candle, but also serves as a vase for cut flowers. Around the center insert for the candle are six holes to insert flowers or greens for table decoration. The chick's body holds water to keep flowers fresh. The candleholder chick and frogs were sold two per box. Also pictured here are Peepin' Tom and Tweetie matching salt and pepper shakers which are 4-1/2" h. with noisemakers.

Thermal Egg Cups with Salt and Pepper Tops

These thermal-topped egg cups cover eggs to keep them warm and also hold salt and pepper to flavor the eggs. Inside the chicks' heads are corks to hold the salt and pepper, and each chick has three pouring holes within its beak. The bottoms are oval egg cups to hold eggs in place. The bottoms also have a rim and lip to hold the tops firmly in place. The chicks are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959" and are 4" h.

Sugar, Creamer and Saccharin Server

This three-piece set is not only a creamer and sugar bowl, but the chick's head on the covered sugar bowl has a storage compartment for saccharin, which holds up to 100 tablets. Holt-Howard referred to this piece as a "double duty dandy." The chick's beak on the creamer serves as the pouring spout for milk or cream. Both pieces stand 4-1/2" h.

Trio of Chicks Nesting Trays

This three-piece set of stackable nesting chicks can be used for serving condiments, sauces, jam, nuts, etc. They measure 3-1/4", 4", and 4-1/2" l. respectively.

Holt-Howard Christmas Collectibles

Welcome to the world of fantasy! For any of us who grew up believing in Santa Claus and the magic of Christmas, Holt-Howard captured these memories for us forever in its Christmas-related giftware. There was something magical about the way Holt-Howard designed its Santas. It only takes a glance at a flea market or collectible show to recognize a piece as a Holt-Howard collectible. Whenever Holt-Howard developed a new holiday line, it always created an entirely different and exciting Santa, yet they all had the familiar Holt-Howard look.

As mentioned earlier, many of the Santa mugs in this chapter were so popular they paved the way for the creation of the coffee mug as we know it today. Some of these mugs were also filled with holiday candles and sold

as “mug lites” candleholders. But it wasn’t only the Santas that were superstars. When it came to Christmas giftware, Holt-Howard encompassed a wide array of decorative and serviceable holiday collectibles. Everything from small salt and pepper shakers to large pitchers and cookie jars brought a smile to the holiday shopper’s face.

Although Holt-Howard created numerous paper, cardboard, foil, wood and other Christmas decorations, this chapter will be primarily dedicated to the company’s ceramic creations. This chapter represents only a sampling of many of the great Christmas collectibles by Holt-Howard, but certainly enough to capture the essence of this most creative company.

“North Pole Jet Stream” Santa Ashtray, \$85-\$95 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



“North Pole Jet Stream” Santa Ashtray

This ashtray creation features Santa flying on a reindeer airplane. The side of the plane reads “North Pole Jet Stream,” and the entire plane is decorated with sponge gold highlights. On each wing is an indentation to hold a cigarette. This piece is 4" h., 6" w., 6-1/2" l., and is backstamped “#6074” with the red and gold “HH” foil sticker.



Santa and Friends Candleholder/Frog Vase

Here Santa is playing the piano with a singing group comprised of a reindeer, cat and mouse. The top of the piano is a frog vase with eight holes to insert holiday greens and holds water to keep them fresh. On each side of the piano is a candleholder. This piece is 3" h. and is backstamped “Holt-Howard 1960.”

Santa and Friends Candleholder/Frog Vase, \$40-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Santa Locomotive Candleholder

Santa drives his Christmas locomotive as a reindeer guides it. The candleholder is 2-3/4" h., has the "HH" red foil sticker, numbered "6183."

Peppermint Angel Candleholder Vases and Shakers

This pair of Candy Cane Peppermint Angels is a combination of candleholders and vases in one unit. Both have a candleholder in the center of a large opening to insert fresh Christmas greens or flowers. They are 5-1/2 h., backstamped "Holt-Howard," and numbered "6054." (See Chapter 10 for matching Candy Cane Peppermint Angels salt and pepper set.)

Santa Locomotive Candleholder, \$30-\$40 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Candy Cane Peppermint Angel Candleholder Vases, \$45-\$55; shakers, \$23-\$33 for pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Lauren Lennon, Photo Productions).



Santa Pulling Reindeer in Sleigh, \$85-\$95 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Huge Santa Planter, \$245-\$250 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Santa NOEL Figures, \$95-\$100 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Santa Pulling Reindeer in Sleigh

An example of reverse-role playing! Santa wears gold reindeer antlers as he pulls a reindeer in a sleigh. Santa is 2-1/4" h.; the reindeer with sleigh is 4" h. and 6-1/2" l.

Huge Santa Planter

This is a very rare Holt-Howard Santa planter that measures 13-1/2" h. and 8" d. Mr. Howard said oversized planters were primarily special orders for commercial use in store displays. This

Santa is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959" and still has the "HH" red and gold foil sticker.

Santa Noel Figures

Each Santa in this set poses in a different position to spell out NOEL. These are figural pieces and were not created as candleholders. All the Santas are 3-1/2" h. and are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."



Angel NOEL Candleholders, \$115-\$120 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Elf Girls Twin Planters/Candleholders, \$85-\$95 pair (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Elf Girl NOEL Candleholders, \$33-\$38 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Angel Noel Candleholders

This is a larger and more substantial version of most NOEL candleholders produced during the '50s. The angels are decorated with gold stars on their white gowns. Each piece is 4-3/4" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

Elf Girls Twin Planters/Candleholders

These holly-decorated girls create a matching pair of planters that also hold holiday candles. Both are 4-3/4" l., 5-1/4" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959." (See Chapter 10 for the matching Elf Girls salt and pepper set.)

Elf Girl Noel Candleholders

This four-piece "NOEL" candleholder set consists of four holly-decorated elves, whose bodies spell out "NOEL." All four components to this set are 3-1/2" h. and backstamped "1958."



Elf Girls Bells, \$50-\$55 for pair; \$23-\$28 for single bell (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Santa Head Planter, \$30-\$35 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Santa Candle Climbers with Matching Bases, \$55-\$60 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Elf Girls Bells

In this group of elf girl bells, the white bells are a set, and the red bell has a mate also. All three pieces are 2-1/4" h. and have red and gold "HH" foil labels.

Santa Head Planter

This Santa planter has spaghetti art decorating his cap, and his beard is adorned with vintage gold stars. Santa is 5-1/2" h., with an attached planter in back.

Santa Candle Climbers with Matching Bases

Two Santas are climbing up holiday candles holding the banners that came with them from their original box. Chimney-type candleholder bases support and hold the candles in place. The Santas are 2-3/4" h.; their bases are 3-1/2" l. and 3-1/2" w. The set is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958."



Angel Bell Trio Tree Ornaments,
\$55-\$60 set (*Dworkin collection,*
photo by Brenner Lennon Photo
Productions).



Trio of Choir Boys Candleholder,
\$38-\$43 (*Dworkin collection, photo*
by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Angel Bell Trio Tree Ornaments

Three Christmas girls comprise this set of holiday tree ornaments. The girls wear the same hat, but each one wears a different dress and holds different holiday gifts. Each angel is 3" h. and has an opening in her bonnet to hang her on a Christmas tree.

Trio of Choir Boys Candleholder

This trio of choir boys candleholder supports two large candles at either end. It is 5-1/4" h. and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1964."

"Chris Moose" Candleholder

Holt-Howard named this fellow "Chris Moose" in its Christmas catalog, and in the advertisement his antlers are decorated with tiny mercury glass ornaments. Chris wears a red bow and holly decor. In back is a red candleholder. Chris is 6" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1961."

"Chris Moose" Candleholder,
\$30-\$35 (*Dworkin collection, photo by*
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

THE SNOW BABIES

In 1959, Holt-Howard created a line of small Snow Babies. They were always dressed in white snowsuits and red mittens while frolicking in the snow. (See Chapter 10 for the matching Snow Babies salt and pepper set.)

Snow Babies Candleholder, \$65-\$75 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Snow Babies Ashtray, \$25-\$30; Snow Babies Figurines, \$4-\$8 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Snow Babies Candleholder

Two Snow Babies are skiing and two are iceskating. The two skiers are not permanently attached, so they can be lifted out. (They have rubber stoppers under their skis.) The iceskaters are stationary and cannot be removed. The four Snow Babies are less than 2" h. The candleholder holds three candles and is 4-1/2" h., 7-3/4" l., and 4" w. It is backstamped and numbered "6116 Holt-Howard 1959."

Snow Babies Ashtray and Figurines

Here are more Snow Babies figurines dressed in white snowsuits and red mittens. Also shown is the Snow Baby ashtray with a Snow Baby skiing at top. This Snow Baby is removable for easy cleaning and has a rubber plug under her skis to insert her back into place. These Snow Babies are 2" h.



Snow Babies in Igloos Candleholders, \$33-\$38 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Snow Babies Candy Holders, \$15-\$20, Snow Babies Planters, \$23-\$28 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Snow Babies in Igloos Candleholders

These two Snow Babies are peeking out of their igloos and peering at each other. The tops of the igloos hold the candles in place. Each piece is 2-1/2" h., numbered "6110," and dated "1959."

Snow Babies Small Candy Holders and Planters

The smaller Snow Babies climbing up on Santa's boots are slightly more than 2" h., backstamped "1959" and numbered "6109." Santa's boot was probably used to hold Christmas candy, and it appears that's what these little guys are looking for! Also here is the larger version, which is actually a planter. The planter is 5" h. and has the "HH" red and gold foil sticker.

Angel Candleholders, \$50-\$55
for set (Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Mouse on Chamber Candle-
holder, \$33-\$38 (Dworkin
collection, photo by Brenner Lennon
Photo Productions).



Angel Head Candleholders,
\$45-\$50 for set (Dworkin
collection, photo by Brenner Lennon
Photo Productions).





Merry Whiskers Beverage Set, \$65-\$75 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Winking Santa Punch Bowl Set, \$140-\$150 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Cloud Santa Salt and Pepper and Coffee Mugs, \$20-\$25 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

Angel Candleholders

A pair of angels, each holding its own greeting star. Their candleholders are located in back. Both are 4" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960."

Mouse on Chamber Candleholder

This mouse is tucked in for the evening under a plaid blanket in a chamber candleholder. The candleholder is 2-1/2" h. and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958."

Angel Head Candleholders

These angel head girls look at each other while singing, and have large wings in back by their candleholders. They are 3" h.

Merry Whiskers Beverage Set

Holt-Howard introduced a variety of Santa Claus pitchers, mugs and tumblers for all kinds of holiday entertaining. All the Santas were different, and each series was offered with numerous related

giftware items. The beverage set was named Merry Whiskers and consisted of a 36 oz. pitcher and six 4-1/2 oz. mugs. The pitcher was also sold separately. All pieces are backstamped "1959."

Winking Santa Punch Bowl Set

This 10-piece "Jolly Mr. Claus" set has a 3 quart punch bowl, eight 6 oz. mugs and candy cane-striped ladle. Although the Santa punch bowl has both eyes open, he is part of the Winking Santa series, since all his mugs are winkers. Some of the mugs wink to the right and others to the left. This set is backstamped "1962" and was made in limited numbers.

Cloud Santa Salt and Pepper Shakers and Coffee Mugs

This set of shakers matches the Cloud Santas. The shakers are 3" h. and have the Holt-Howard foil sticker, but no backstamp. Also here are the Cloud Santa coffee mugs, which are 2-1/2" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1967."



Starry-Eyed Santa Pitchers, \$25-\$35 (left) and \$30-\$40 (center); Mugs, \$18-\$23 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Starry-Eyed Santa Salt and Peppers, \$25-\$30 for set; Mugs, \$15-\$20 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Santa Chamber Candleholders, four versions, \$15-\$20 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Santa on Candy Canes Candleholders, \$40-\$50 (Dworkin Collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Spinning NOEL Umbrella with Santa Candleholder, \$95-\$105 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).

Starry-Eyed Santa Pitchers and Hot Chocolate Mugs

The large 44 oz. Starry-Eyed Santa pitcher is 8-1/2" h. and is accompanied by a matching 16 oz., 5-1/2" h. pitcher. Both are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960." The matching hot chocolate stackable mugs are 2-1/2" h. and "backstamped 1959."

Starry-Eyed Santa Salt and Peppers with Mugs

Here is a set of Starry-Eyed Santa salt and peppers and matching coffee mugs. The mugs are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960."

Santa Chamber Candleholders

To date, four Santa Chamber candleholders have been found: The Cloud Santa, the Winking Santa, the Starry-eyed Santa and a Gold-Eyed Santa. Most of the Santa nightlight chamber candleholders are about 2" h., except for the Cloud Santa, which is about 2-1/2" h. The saucers are approximately 5-1/2" d. The Cloud Santa has a gold and beige "HH" foil sticker, the Winking Santa is backstamped "HH 1960," the Starry-Eyed Santa is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959," and the Gold-Eyed Santa is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

Santa on Candy Canes Candleholder

Santa is sitting on the gold garland striped letter "H" of the word "Hi." The candleholder holds two large candles (one at either end) and is 6" h.

Spinning Noel Umbrella Santa Candleholder

An ingenious Santa candleholder from yesteryear! When the candle is lit, the rising heat spins Santa's umbrella. Behind Santa is a sign that reads, "North Pole." This piece is 6-1/4" h. with a 4" w. umbrella and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1962."

Girl Candleholders, \$35-\$45 for set (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Santa Candleholder, \$35-\$45 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Carolers Trio Candleholder, \$23-\$33 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Girl Candleholders

These Christmas candleholders are 3-1/2" h. and are stacked with gifts. They are backstamped "1959."

Rembrandt Santas

In this set of Rembrandt Santa candleholders, both Santas hold an artist's palette and stand 4" h. The candleholders in the back are Santa's toy sacks and are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960."

Carolers Trio Candleholder

This Christmas-caroler trio candleholder is 4-1/2" h. and holds a holiday candle on either side. The piece is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."



Reindeer Candleholders, \$40-\$50 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Snowmen Candelabra, \$35-\$45 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Ole' Snowy Candle Climbers, \$38-\$48 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).

Reindeer Candleholders

These reindeer candleholders are decked out for Christmas. Both reindeer have gold antlers and bonnets stuffed with holiday ornaments and greens. They are 5-1/2" h. and sport big red bows that hang from their bonnets. Their sides are decorated with holly and berries.

Snowmen Candelabra

The snowmen-trio candelabra is 7-3/4" l.; the center snowman is 5" h. It has no backstamp, but has an "HH" foil sticker. A matching set of snowmen shakers is shown in Chapter 10.

Ole' Snowy Candle Climbers

These snowmen candle climbers are named "Ole' Snowy." This character appeared in Holt-Howard's catalogs not only in ceramic form, but also as a pencil sketch character for the Christmas section of the company's catalogs. He wears a big smile, carrot nose and decorated Christmas tree hat.



Ole' Snowy Candleholders, \$45-\$50 for set (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Ole' Snowy and Santa Candleholder Hurricane Lamps, \$55-\$60 each, with original globe (*Collection of, and photo by Judy Yates*).



Snowie Clips, Set of Four with Original Box, \$38-\$43 (*Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter*).

Ole' Snowy Candleholders

Here is Ole' Snowy in the form of candleholders that are 3-1/2" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1958."

Ole' Snowy and Santa Candleholder Hurricane Lamps

Ole' Snowy and Santa stand on chamber candle bases inside original hurricane globes. Ole' Snowy and Santa each hold one small candle

in their head, are 3-1/2" h. (without globe) and are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

"Snowie" Clip Set/Original Box

A four-piece set of "Snowie" snowmen clips featured with their original box. These snowmen clip onto the branches of a Christmas tree. Clips are from 1-1/2" h. to 1-3/4" h.



Winter Green Santa Pop-Up Cookie Jar, \$135-\$150 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Santa Letter and Pencil Holder, \$38-\$48 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Set of Three "Belle" Girl Christmas Bells, \$12-\$18 each (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Santa Planter, \$30-\$35 (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).

Winter Green Santa Pop-Up Candy Jar

This Winter Green pop-up Santa candy jar is a hard piece to find! Santa pops up with his "Merry Christmas" sign from the candy jar base, which is 4-1/4" h., 4" square and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1962."

Santa Letter and Pencil Holder

Santa wears a red wire-coil cap to hold letters and has a small red wire-coil at his side to hold his original candy-cane striped pencil.

Belle Girl Christmas Bells

These 3" angel bells are part of a "Jingle" boys and "Belle" girls set designed for a Christmas tree, mantle or table decoration. The bell set ranges from 3" h. to 4" h. These bells are 3" h. and are marked "#6021."

Santa Planter

This Santa planter stands 7-1/2" h. and has plenty of room in his toy sack to accommodate a plant or floral arrangement. This planter is backstamped "1961" and numbered "6457."



Girls with Christmas Trees, \$45-\$55 for set (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Ermine Angel Star Planter, \$65-\$75 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).

Ermine Angels Salt and Peppers, \$25-\$30 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Girls with Christmas Trees

Two little girls hold beautifully decorated Christmas bottle brush type Christmas trees. This pair is 7" h., backstamped "Holt-Howard 1961" and numbered "6456."

Ermine Angel Star Planter

This hard-to-find Ermine Angel has a white star planter behind her embellished with sponge-gold highlighting. The planter is 4-9/16" h. and has a small built-in candleholder on her left side. She is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

Ermine Angels Salt and Peppers

Holt-Howard named one of its Christmas series "Ermine Angels." Almost all the pieces to this set were created as pairs and sold as a set of two. One angel held a pair of red holiday bells, while her sister angel always wore a muff. All these bisque-faced angels were

decorated with trim around their heads and dresses. Holt-Howard called this trim "ermine"; today, collectors refer to it as "spaghetti art," since all the trim is made up of tiny spaghetti-like ceramic pieces. Ermine angel shakers stand 3-3/4" h. and are marked with the letters "HH" accompanied by an "HH" foil sticker.

Ermine Angels Candleholders/Rings

Ermine Angel candleholders are 4-1/4" h. and have attached candleholder bases behind them. Each candleholder, backstamped "1958," originally came with a snowflake candle ring that slides over the candle. These snowflake candle rings match the snowflakes on the Ermine Angel planters (shown following).

Ermine Angels Planters

These planters are 3-1/2" l. and 4" h. The front of the planters are decorated with three large snowflakes. Both are backstamped "1958."



Ermine Angels Candleholders/
Rings, \$43-\$48 for set of four
pieces (*Dworkin collection, photo by
Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Ermine Angel Planters, \$33-\$38 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

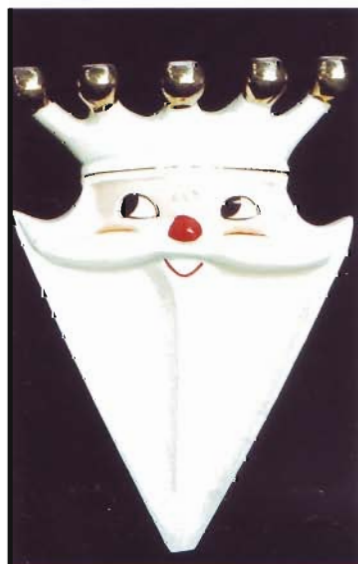
Santa King Smoking Set, \$30-\$35 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Santa King Candleholder, \$35-\$40; Candleholder/Vase, \$40-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Santa King Tray, \$40-\$50 (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Wee Three Kings Candleholders, \$50-\$60 for three-piece set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Santa King Decanter and Glasses, \$95-\$100 for set (Dworkin Collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Santa King Smoking Set

Santa's five stackable crowns serve as ashtrays, while his base holds cigarettes. This six-piece smoking set is backstamped "1960."

Santa King Candleholders and Candleholder/Vase

The Santa King candleholder on the right is 4-3/4" h. and has a 1" opening in the center of Santa's crown to accommodate a large candle. The other Santa is a 5" combination candleholder/vase. This Santa has two small red candleholders with 1/2" openings that form part of the crown design. His head has three holes to hold live Christmas greens. Both pieces are backstamped "1960."

Santa King Tray

A holiday party server, this Santa king divided tray is 9" l. and 6-1/2" w. to hold lots of holiday goodies. The tray is backstamped "1960."

Wee Three Kings Candleholders

Holt-Howard named this trio "Wee Three Kings." Each has a 1" opening in his crown to hold a large candle. The three kings are 4-1/2" h. and are backstamped "1960." There is also a different version of Wee Three Kings, in which the kings are smaller, measuring only 3-1/2" and are combination bell/candleholders, with a bell clanger inside each base. Their crowns are only in the front and do not extend completely around their heads. These items have only 1/2" openings in their crowns, so they hold much smaller candles than their larger brothers. The set shown here is backstamped "1960."

Santa King Decanter and Glasses

This Santa King liquor set includes a decanter with four matching crown-shaped shot glasses.



Santa Boys Ornaments, \$12-\$15 each; \$50 for complete set (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Naughty Choirboys Candleholders, \$28-\$33 for set (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Totem-Pole Santa Candleholders, \$20-\$25 each (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Camel Candleholders, \$33-\$38 for pair; planter, \$35-\$40 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography*).



Red angel NOEL Candleholders, \$55-\$65 for set (*Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter*).

Santa Boys Ornaments

A set of three Santa boy ornaments, each holding a different holiday item. The boys range from 2-3/4" to 3-1/2" h.

Naughty Choirboys Candleholders

These choirboys are mischievous: one boy has a sling shot and the other a gun in holster (plus a black eye).

Totem-Pole Santa Candleholders

Each Santa in the totem poles extends his arms to hold a candle. Both totem poles are 8-1/2" h. and backstamped "1958."

Camel Candleholders and Planter

The heads of these highly decorated camel candleholders are adorned with jewel-like metallic foil and beads. Both camels are 4" l.,

3-1/2" h. and have 1" openings on their backs to accommodate large candles. They are backstamped "1960" and numbered "6416." The camel planter is part of the set and is 6-1/2" l., 4-1/2" h., backstamped "1961" and numbered "6417."

Red Angel Noel Candleholders

These four NOEL angels hold up white letters embellished with 24K sponge-gold highlights. They are 4" h. and their candleholders are attached in back.



Santa Wall Pocket, \$38-\$48 (Dworkin Collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Girl Christmas Tree Wick Air Freshener, \$35-\$45 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Santa and Reindeer Planter with candleholders, \$55-\$65 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Reindeer Creamer and Sugar, \$40-\$50 for set (Collection of, and photo by Darline Comisky).



Sisters Holding Christmas Trees, \$65-\$75 for set (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Boy Angel Candleholders and Rings, \$35-\$45 for set (Dworkin collection, photo by Van Blerck Photography).



Girl Angel Candleholders and Rings, \$35-\$45 for set (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).

Santa Wall Pocket

Santa holds a gift while standing on what appears to be a beautiful Christmas ornament; it is, in reality, a wall pocket for Christmas greens or plant.

Girl Christmas Tree Wick Air Freshener

Girl Christmas tree air freshener is 6-1/2" h. and is backstamped "1959." She holds wicks to fill the air with the scent of pine or spruce for the holidays. Her original tag reads, "Fill with salad oil, immerse wick before lighting, each filling will burn 4-5 hours."

Santa and Reindeer Planter

Santa holds the reins while his planter sleigh is being pulled by his two candleholder reindeer.

Reindeer Creamer and Sugar

A reindeer couple decked out in holiday trim comprise this sugar and creamer set. The sugar has an antler lid and is 3-1/2" h., while

his creamer mate is 2-1/4" h. Both are numbered "6182." (See Chapter 10 for matching salt and pepper shakers.)

Sisters Holding Christmas Trees

Twin sisters are holding Christmas trees. Their dresses are decorated with sponge-gold highlights. They are 9" h., backstamped "Holt-Howard 1961" and numbered "6455."

Boy Angel Candleholders and Rings

Two brother angel candleholders are ringing their candle-ring bells. The pair is backstamped "1960." The big brother is 4" h., the little brother 3-1/2".

Girl Angel Candleholders and Rings

This is the girl version of the boy angel candleholders. Two sister angels are tending to their candle ring bells. Both have dresses embellished with vintage gold stars and are backstamped "1960."



Santa Snack Set, \$35-\$45 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Reindeer and Stove Candleholder, \$18-\$23 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).



Christmas Choirboys, \$10-\$12 each (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).



Three Kings Children, \$12-\$15 each (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Mice-in-Fireplace Planter, \$15-\$20 (*Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter*).

Santa Snack Set

This waving Santa snack set was packaged as a four-piece set of two dishes and two mugs. The dish is 8-1/2" d., and the mug holds 8 oz. The set was marked "Dishwater and detergent proof red," a major breakthrough in the 1950s/'60s world of cold paint that was always painted on top of the glaze.

Reindeer and Stove Candleholder

This reindeer and potbelly stove candleholder reads, "My tale is told." The candleholder is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1963" and is 4" h.

Christmas Choirboys

A complete set of Christmas choirboys constructed of ceramic-faced heads with paper and felt outfits. All three hold songbooks in their hands and are 7-1/2" h.

Three Kings Children

A complete set of Three Kings Children constructed of ceramic-faced heads with paper and foil outfits. All three Wise Men are bearing gifts and are 7-1/2" h. (The Wise Man on the left does not have his original crown).

Mice-in-Fireplace Candleholder

Two mice awaiting Santa's visit adorn this combination planter and candleholder, which is 4-1/2" h. and has the red "HH" foil sticker.



Santa Pin and Earring Set, \$35-\$45 (Collection of, and photo by Jason Wormington and John Frownfelter).

Santa Bracelet, \$38-\$48 (Collection of, and photo by Marion Howard).



Set of Holly Elves Planters, \$28-\$33 (Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions).

Santa Pin and Earring Set with Matching Bracelet

Ceramic-faced Santas comprise this three-piece holiday pin and earring set. The set has its original box. Beside the set is the matching Santa bracelet.

Holly Elves Planters

In this pair of elf planters, one faces left, the other right. They are 4-1/2" h. and are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."

Holly Elves Boot Planter and Pitcher

These pieces were quite a surprise when they finally surfaced because we never knew they existed. The planter portrays an elf climbing up the side of a boot, while his legs dangle in midair. The planter is 5-1/4" h. and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959." An elf serves as the handle of the pitcher, which is 7" h., holds three cups of liquid and is backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960."

Holly Elves Candleholders

These elf candleholders are 3" h. and are backstamped "Holt-Howard 1960." The elf chamber candleholder was also a big surprise when he surfaced. The chamber candleholder is 5-1/2" across to handle, 3" h. and backstamped "Holt-Howard 1959."



Holly Elf-Climbing-Boot Planter, \$28-\$32; Holly Elf Pitcher, \$38-\$48 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).



Holly Elves Candleholders, \$20-\$25 pair; Holly Elf Chamber Candleholder, \$35-\$40 (*Dworkin collection, photo by Brenner Lennon Photo Productions*).

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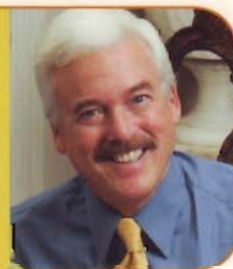


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About the Author:

Walter Dworkin is one of the world's leading experts on ceramicware of the 1950s and '60s and has been an enthusiastic collector of these items for more than 20 years. He has been featured in numerous collectibles magazines and has appeared on TV shows such as *Treasures in Your Attic* and HGTV's *Ultimate Collectors*. He is also an adviser to *Warman's® Antiques & Collectibles Price Guide*.



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