

Red Wing Dinnerware & the African Artware Plates

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The information presented here has been gleaned from vintage Red Wing brochures, catalogs, price lists and internal documents as well as trade journals and magazines. In this discussion, a "pattern" is a dinnerware set in a particular shape with a unique handpainted design or color scheme. A "line" is a group of patterns that share the same shapes but have different handpainted designs or colors. Some of the introduction and exit dates presented have not been verified because of gaps in available documentation. When uncertain, an estimated date is provided. The end point of a pattern can be difficult to ascertain. In the 1940s and 1950s a discontinued pattern no longer appeared on price lists; in the 1960s patterns that were no longer in production remained on price lists as "limited stock" with only a few pieces listed. Here a pattern is considered to be discontinued when a full range of items was no longer available and orders were limited to remaining stock.

Each pattern has been assigned an Availability rating and a Collector Interest rating as described below. Availability represents an average for the pattern in question, however the scarcity of certain pieces within the pattern may differ. Collector Interest refers to the pattern in general, but there may be specific pieces in any pattern that are of greater interest to specialty collectors (teapots, pitchers, salt & peppers, etc). Please keep in mind these ratings are the authors' observations; your experience may vary.

Availability

- 1 - Rare
- 2 - Very scarce
- 3 - Hard to find
- 4 - Average
- 5 - Readily available

Collector Interest

- 1 - Highly sought, demand exceeds supply
- 2 - Primarily of interest to specialty collectors
- 3 - Above average
- 4 - Average
- 5 - Below average

African Artware Plates

Availability: 1

Interest: 1

Years: July 1941 - August 1942

The 14 inch Chop Plate from the Provincial line was used to produce a series of artware plates that were intended to be hung on a wall.

Three different African native caricature scenes were produced on two background colors - tan or light blue. The foot ring on the back of these plates had two small holes through which a hanging wire could be strung. These plates were sold as decorative art pieces, not as dinnerware.

As indicated above, these pieces are hard to find and quite desirable, as they appeal to a wide range of collectors. ■



The tan-colored African Artware plates shown above are quite difficult to find, but the blue plates pictured below are even scarcer. This complete set of plates mounted on wood bases is on display at the Schleich Red Wing Pottery Museum in Lincoln, Neb.



Editor's Note: The Introduction to Dinnerware series will take a well-deserved vacation this fall, but it will return in the December issue of the RWCS Newsletter.