



Pictured above are Red Wing Colored Kitchen Ware Covered Casseroles (yellow, ivory and blue), Pitchers (ivory and green), a covered Remekin (green) and a 2-pint Beater Pitcher (yellow).

RED WING COLORED KITCHEN WARE

Story by RWCS Member Brent Mischke, with contributions from RWCS Hall of Fame Members Terry Moe & Dennis Nygaard

At the 2014 MidWinter GetTogether, RWCS Hall of Fame Member Dennis Nygaard revealed the shards he dug from Pottery Road that hinted at a previously unknown line of Red Wing kitchenware. He also showed several complete pieces, including a mixing bowl, a tea pot and a covered casserole that matched the shards. Dennis encouraged his fellow Red Wing collectors to look for this new line whenever they were out antiquing. In the months following MidWinter, a number of pieces were found that seemed to be part of this line.

In June, a package of Red Wing literature from 1932 was auctioned on eBay. One part of this package included a previously unknown Red Wing Union Stoneware Co. circular that showed the “Red Wing Colored Kitchen Ware” line. The official company name of Dennis’ discovery was now known, along with

line drawings of the pieces available. A price list gives the colors available as green, yellow, blue and ivory, and points out that this line had a “white ware body”, perhaps, something new for Red Wing at the time.

Newly inducted into the RWCS Hall of Fame, Terry Moe’s current hypothesis for early Red Wing dinner-ware is that production of solid-colored kitchenware by the Red Wing companies began with this “Colored Kitchen Ware” line. The “Pansy” line followed, then the “Wreath” line, and finally, the “Gypsy Trail” line which was a full line of both kitchenware and dinnerware.

A variation from the brochure has already been found. There is only one size of tea pot listed, but two sizes are now known. The photos shown here were taken during the July 2014 Convention.



Above: 5 oz. Custard Cup (ivory), large Teapot (yellow), 8-inch Mixing Bowl (ivory) and small Teapot (green). Below: 8-inch Mixing Bowl (green), Pitcher (yellow) and 6-inch Mixing Bowl (green).



The circular at right lists the Red Wing Colored Kitchen Ware line: 1. Nappy (6", 7" and 8" diameter) 2. Beater Pitcher with Beater (2 pints) 3. Cookie Jar and Cover with Rattan Handle (6 pints) 4. Four piece Refrigerator Set with Covers (2 3/4", 3 1/2", 4 1/2" and 5 1/2") 5. Mixing Bowls (6", 8" and 10") 6. Covered Nappy (1 1/2, 2 1/2 and 3 1/2 pints) 7. Custard Cup (5 oz.) 8. Casseroles with Covers (7" and 8") 9. Remekin with Cover and Stand (3 1/4") 10. Covered Nappy with Stand (1 1/2, 2 1/2 and 3 pints) 11. Teapot (6 cups), Creamer (7 oz.) and Sugar (12 oz.) 12. Pitchers (1/2 and 1 pint)



HISTORY OF THE CIRCULAR

We know part of the history of this “Red Wing Colored Kitchen Ware” circular. On April 16, 1932, A.A. Zimmerman of Mankato, Minn. placed an order with the Red Wing Union Stoneware Co. for “1 60 gallon jar”. He also requested catalogs of their “fancy wares”. The jar was shipped on the 19th of the same month, and the company sent Mr. Zimmerman two mailings containing several brochures advertising their wares. This kitchenware circular was included. According to the cover letter from H. H. Varney, vice-president of the RWUSCo., “We have a really fine line of this material”. This package of catalogs and brochures remained together for more than 80 years until an eBay seller from Mankato listed it all for auction this past June.