

A SPECIAL NON-PRODUCTION PIECE

By Dusty Ware

Here is a very special piece of McCoy Pottery that they chose to never produce. Of course, why they made that decision we will likely never know. But when you start looking at the detail of this specific example, there are a couple of things that lead us to other information that makes this story even more interesting



As you can see in the cover photo or in this photo upper right, this example is a black glaze on the main planter piece and a fall type orange color on the beautiful leaves. (See Society web site for full color article). McCoy Pottery must have given this prototype piece serious consideration as the black/white studio photo here is a statement in itself that the piece made it to the final stages of a production product. And also, interesting that the photo shows a light color base planter glaze with a dark color glaze of the leaves...likely green?



In terms of size, the planter is 12 inches long, about 4 inches wide and around 4-1/2 inches in height to the highest point of the leaf attachment.

Right is a photo of the back view of the planter showing how the leaves attachment piece is positioned on the planter. Below right is a closeup of the leaf attachment piece from the back.



Directly below, we have a bottom photo of the piece showing the typical McCoy mark of this era.



To further look at the past of this wonderful piece we now look at the photo right of the production McCoy "Vase with Applied Leaf". The Catalog image shows the Vase with an applied pottery piece with leaf design. Note that the applied piece is the same piece as applied to the special Planter! The photo below shows the production color offering with the "shrimp" color one the right and the chartreuse color on the left and both with a little white over drip as described in the catalog description. And then the green glaze leaf design piece applied to each.



Now we examine another special example. Here is the production vase but with the same black glazing on the Vase body and orange glazed leaf piece! So, it is clear that both this Vase and our Planter highlighted in this article were glazed in similar colored fashion in the development of both of these pieces for potential production product.



So why did this Vase with Applied Leaf make it into production and the Planter with Applied Leaf not? Why was this planter body not used in some production configuration? Questions we will likely never have answers to but so interesting for Collectors of McCoy to be able to "peek a little" into the past and see how products may have been prototyped and colored to consider for their company's line.

This wonderful Planter with Applied Leaf resides in the collection of McCoy Pottery Collector Society's member Randy Boyer in Cincinnati, Ohio. We thank him for sharing this for all to have just another little fragment of the history of McCoy Pottery!