

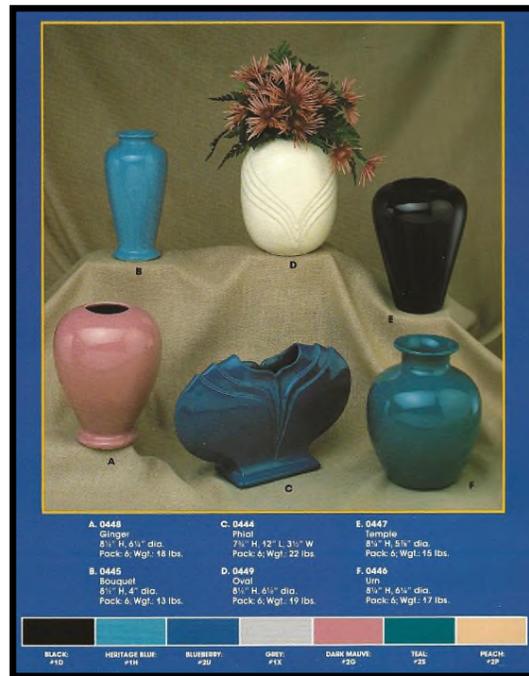
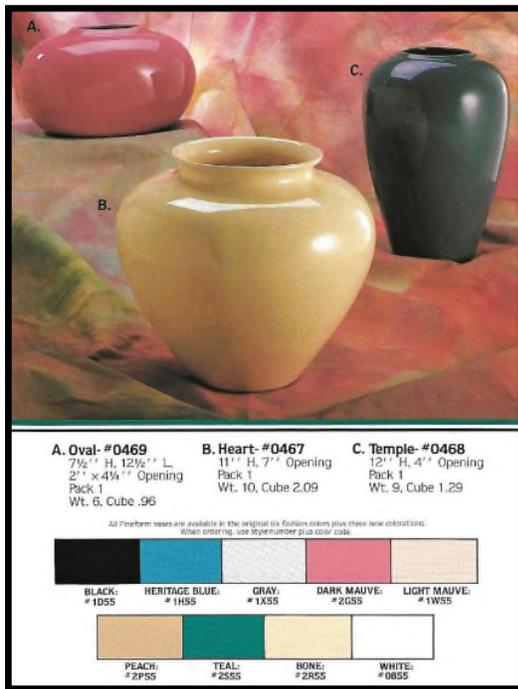
# Fineforms – Evolution of the Line

By Ben Collectin

In the mid-1980s, the Fineforms Line was one of the last Lines released for sale by the Nelson McCoy Pottery Company while still owned by Lancaster Colony. After Designer Accents bought the Company in 1985, they continued to sell the Line. We have run an article before on this line (that past article is included in the Articles tab on the Society web site), but we wanted to add just a few facts related to the Fineforms Line as it evolved thru the few years that it was being sold from the mid to late 1980s.

In those final Lancaster years, the Fineform pieces Line were sold in the following solid glazed colors: Black, Heritage Blue, Gray, Dark Mauve, Light Mauve, Peach, Teal, Bone and White. (See example catalog page below left – This article will be on web site in color for reference).

After the Company was part of Designer Accents, the Light Mauve and White colors were dropped and the Blueberry color was added. (See example catalog page below right. Bone is not included on that page but was offered during that time.) So, if you have a Fineform piece in one of those three colors, that will definitely help date it to one or the other time frames of ownership. It also tells you why White and Light Mauve as well as Blueberry, are not as commonly found as many of the other glaze colors.



At some point into their selling effort on this line, Designer Accents decided to add some additional detail to the pieces to enhance the aesthetic look. The catalog image to the right shows one piece with the new look. They took the finished product and then engraved various designs into the piece.



To the right, another catalog image of a couple other design shapes with an engraving addition.



Something a bit interesting for you “detailed” collectors, the three photos below are of engraved examples of the same design on the same Fineform piece. Look at the close detail...note the feather height from the hats....and also several other related areas in the images are not exactly the same. This tells us that the engraving process was a little loose in terms of totally consistent from one piece to another.



Designer Accents quickly discovered that the engraving design process left a very thin wall after the engraving was completed. In some cases, the engraving actually broke through the wall!

As a result, these engraved designs were shelved and that helps explain why they are rather difficult to find today. So instead of the engraved designs, they moved into a new option for added aesthetics by adding some lovely decals. The catalog image to the right shows a wide range of decals offered on one of the Fineform shapes!!



The three photos presented directly below show the same Fineforms design shape Vase with the evolution of the designs. The Vase is called "Temple" and stands twelve inches tall. It is marked on the bottom with the catalog designation, "0468". (see closeup photo) The first Vase photo is the plain glazed piece in the solid glaze color. Secondly, we have an engraved design (kind of art deco in appearance). And finally, the same Vase once again but with an applied decal. (We would like to thank Society Member Jonathan Reynolds for sharing this decal example photo for this article!)



The catalog image to the right shows this same "0468" Fineforms Vase design shape with the several decal options for the buyer!



So, if you come across a Fineforms Vase, whether with a plain glaze, engraved feature or an applied decal, you will have a good idea of just when it was likely produced.