

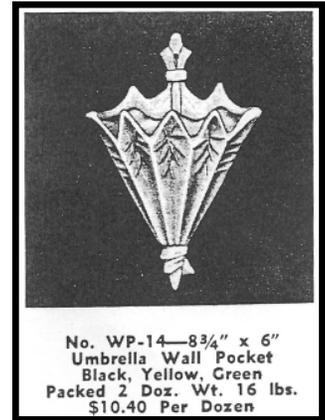
THE UMBRELLA & FAN WALL POCKETS

By Craig Nissen

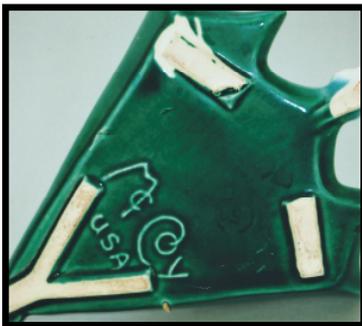
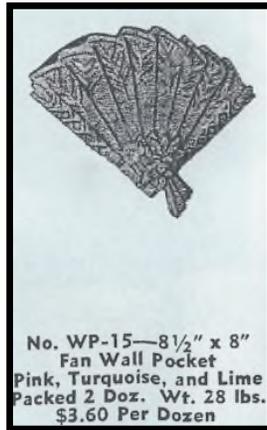
The Umbrella Wall Pocket was released for sale in 1955. The catalog number is "WP14". The wall pocket is 8-3/4" long and 6" wide. Watch the handle for repairs; easy to snap and break.

In 1956, the Fan Wall Pocket was introduced. Its catalog number is "WP15" and about 8-1/2" x 8" inches in size.

The Umbrella and Fan Wall Pockets were made in multiple production gloss colored glazes. The Umbrella gloss colors were black, yellow and green while the Fan was offered in gloss pink, turquoise and lime.



The Umbrella example below is the green color and the Fan below right is the lime color. A colored photo copy of this article will be placed on the web site once published.



To the left and right are photo of the back designs of the two Wall Pockets.



Right are photos of the other production glaze colors of the Umbrella. Yellow, Black and then the same green but with a yellow handle instead fo a white handle. Both handle colors are of similar availability.



The Umbrella is a rather common McCoy Wall Pocket in these production glazes. Without damage, all three are relatively similar in value ranging from \$20-30

Below are the other two production glaze colors of the Fan Wall Pocket, blue left and pink right. As with the Umbrella, the production color Fan wall pockets are commonly found and of approximate equal value between colors ranging from \$ 25-35 each with no damage.



This photo of two images of the umbrella is showing a difference in the design at the top back edge of the wall pocket, just below the colored handle. Notice the image on the left has a much wider area in that location as opposed to the example on the right. The left style is the one most commonly found. Although this is not fact, it would seem that the initial design may have been the right example style and then more support in that area was required and the change incorporated.



Here we have two examples of rarer Umbrella Wall Pockets. The one on the left has a matte black glaze decoration. There are probably 10-12 of these that have surfaced over the years to date. Current value is probably \$60-80

The other wall pocket is the standard green glaze body but it has a burgundy glazed handle. Only a couple of these are known to date. Value estimated \$75-100.





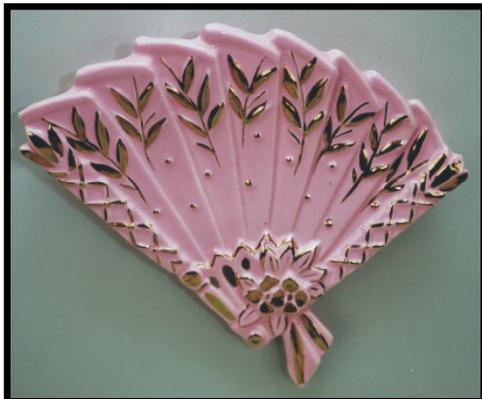
This Umbrella Wall Pocket has a green Marbleized style glaze decoration. Very unique. This surfaced as a pair many years ago but no others since. Estimated value \$75-125



To the right is a standard production yellow wall pocket but in addition, it has gold trim decoration. It also carries the Shafer gold trim stamp on the back. Estimated value \$ 80-100



Below we have two examples of Fan Wall Pockets with gold trim decoration. Standard pink glaze on the left and base blue glaze on the right. Both have the Shafer gold trim stamp on the back. The estimated current Value is \$80-100. The aesthetic is a little more dramatic on the Fan with the gold trim but the Umbrella with gold trim is a little rarer.



The Fan Wall Pocket pictured here is a different story. It is the only example known to date with the different web design on the piece from front to back. If you look at the comparison photo, you can see the production example wall pocket has the addition of a support. This piece was likely a prototype and the design modified for production.

In addition to the design, the piece is beautifully decorated with three different glaze colors

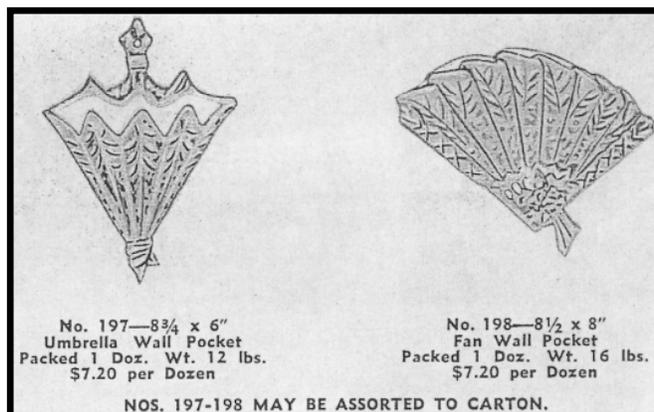
One other interesting characteristic is the presence of two mounting holes. The typical one is at the top center on the back which allows the piece to show the fan arc from left to right. If you use the other hole, it will hang at a 90-degree position. As collectors know, this second hole was not added to the production configuration.

Estimated current value \$500-700



SUNBURST GOLD UMBRELLA & FAN WALL POCKETS

The Sunburst Gold Umbrella and Fan wall pockets were introduced in 1957 as part of the Sunburst Line. Note in the catalog image for the two wall pockets that they were assigned different catalog numbers, "197" and "198" respectively, than the earlier release of the Umbrella and Fan. These Sunburst Wall Pockets were exactly the same size as the previous gloss glazed examples. The significant difference came with the addition of a "drip" design detail in both pieces as well as being completely glazed with a white finish and then the gold glaze finish added mainly just to the front and side surfaces of each wall pocket.



Examples right of the Sunburst Gold wall pockets with base white glaze and gold over the front and sides.

These production configurations are relatively common and currently valued in the \$15-25 each range.



Keeping these facts in mind, this explains how a completely white Umbrella or Fan Wall Pockets can be found on a very rare occasion. These wall pocket examples were meant to be pieces for the Sunburst Line, but simply never received the gold glazing step. This is further supported by the evidence of the drip design in these white wall pockets, which is only known to exist on the Sunburst Gold Line pieces.

White only examples found of each - simply no application of gold glazing after the white was applied.



For some unexplainable reason, the white only Fans seem to surface a little more frequently than a white Umbrella example. Current value estimates for white only examples: Umbrella \$ 50-75; Fan \$ 30-40.



In a very rare category, there are Sunburst Umbrella or Fan Wall Pockets that are pink or turquoise base glazed instead of using white and then have the gold glaze applied after in the standard fashion. Certainly not production items, likely “lunch time” pieces, but great collector’s pieces if they can be found!

Left is an example of the pink Umbrella with gold outside.



The above photos show the standard production Umbrella and Fan wall pockets in comparison to the very rare pink base glazed examples.

To the right..... a Turquoise / Gold Fan example

Values: Pink/Gold Umbrella or Fan, \$ 75-100

Turquoise/Gold Umbrella or Fan, \$ 90-110

