

Ethnohistorical collection

Bowl set stock

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Collections / bowl set





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Set of Paragon Company Queen Mary model stock bowls stored in a khaki green padded cover. The bowls have a circular shape with two gilded handles and a laurel flower motif on the outside. The inside of the bowls is decorated with a dark blue border and gilded laurel flowers and different sections of star and floral motifs. The center of the bowls is decorated with different bouquets of flowers.

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Marchand Maison Birks

Fabricant / Éditeur Paragon China Company

Artiste / Auteur Holland, Arthur Dale

Materials ceramics, fine soft porcelain, fiber, plastic

Measurements 12,8 x 28,5 cm

Historical context

This set of fine porcelain 'Queen Mary' stock bowls, dating from the 1950s, was produced by the Paragon China company in England. The bowls are part of a dinnerware set that includes cups, saucers and plates, all stored in their original protective covers. The set was presented to the donor as an engagement gift. It was purchased at Maison Birks, located at the corner of Sainte-Catherine Street and Union Avenue. The porcelain model was made in honor of the visit of Queen Mary (Queen Consort of the United Kingdom from 1910 to 1936) to the Paragon China production plant on April 22, 1913. In the late 1920s, the model became available to the general public. All pieces are hand-painted, and the artist's signature can be seen: A. D. Holland attributed to Arthur Dale Holland. This painter-ceramist, active in the 1940s and 1950s, offered his work to several major English porcelain manufacturers in the Stoke-on-Trent area, including Minton and Wedgwood.

Paragon China gained recognition from the Royal Family with their 'Two for Joy' series of cups commemorating the birth of Princess Elizabeth in 1926. In 1933, the company received its first Royal Warrant of Appointment, identifying it as the official supplier to the Royal Family. This mandate was perpetuated by Queen Consort Elizabeth (Queen Mother Elizabeth) in 1938 and by Queen Elizabeth II in 1955.