

Coffee mug

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Collections / From the Conquest to the founding of Canada / coffee mug



The cup is complete. It is cylindrical in shape. The wall is almost straight, topped by a straight rim with a corrugated top. The cup rests on a flat foot in line with the wall. The bottom is recessed and flat. The cup is fitted with a vertical ear-shaped handle, with a small internal protrusion near its base. Its ends are bent downwards: the upper end is short and rounded, while the lower end is elongated and pointed. The cross-section is oval. There is a blue-printed mark below the base, consisting of a square containing symbols; the decoration is molded, painted over and applied by underglaze printing (Transfer printed); the painted decoration is gilded and the printed decoration is pale blue with an oriental motif (Two Temples). The molded decoration can be seen on the rim, which is wavy, and on the outer wall, which features rounded vertical ribs. Printed decoration is visible under the inner rim, on the inner base and on the outer wall. The handle has also been molded separately. The decoration under the inner rim consists of a complex frieze of five different motifs, some of which are repeated in alternation. Below the rim is a braid made of a row of small pearls in reserve, with a core. This is followed by a band composed of two alternating motifs, separated by a solid band in dark blue adorned with a half-flower and two scrolls in reserve; it is bordered at its base by a latticework with central crosses and itself bordered by a scroll. One of the main motifs is a latticework with central crosses; it is bordered by an acanthus leaf and features a central Chinese motif, the full Ju-i with a small core in reserve. This trellis supports two mirrored Greciques, bordered by a scroll and a cluster of pearls. The other motif features a hexagonal diamond background with a core bordered by a volute in dark blue, cut at the edge into two half-flowers to accommodate a butterfly with outstretched wings. The butterfly is encircled by two areas with a fish-scale motif and closed by scrolls. The decoration on the outer wall consists of an oriental scene of

islands, two of which are linked by a bridge spanning a river. On one of the islands are two tiered temples with dark blue roofs, each with an entrance and staircase; in one of them stands a figure. The temples are surrounded by trees, and tiered rocks lie on the shore. At the rear of the temples is a wall with three sections that intersect at right angles; one section has two open square windows, while the other has a rectangular window. The island borders a river to the left, spanned by a single-arched stone bridge, seen in profile, on which two bald figures stand, following one another. Behind the bridge, the temple island is enclosed by a fence with two angled compartments and a post; the compartments are decorated with a central rectangle. The bridge leads to another island lined with rocks and trees, including a willow tree. In the foreground, a fence crosses the river, with angled compartments decorated with swastikas. The rest of the wall is occupied by two islands with pavilions, a tiered pagoda, trees and rocks. A small boat sails past these islands. The frieze junction under the inner edge is barely visible. The decoration on the outer wall has been cut and is blurred in places. The handle also shows a trace of printed decoration. There is gilding on the rim, on the inner wall, which consists of a wide band followed by a line, supporting a row of alternating leafy and non-leafy plant stems, as well as a horizontal fillet on the base of the wall. The handle is decorated with a leafy stem, overlaid with gilding in the form of stylized elongated leaves.

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Fabricant / Éditeur Mason

Date 1813

Materials ceramic, fine porcelain Bone China standard

Measurements 6,3 x 9 x 6,9 cm

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Photo by René Bouchard