

COLLECTING SPODE

at Bayside Antique & Collectables Centre

Spoode china is highly collectable. A number of factors contribute to this popularity – as well as its quality and easily recognised patterns, Spode was a pioneer of its day and is still in production. The wonderful history of Spode china begins with Josiah Spode (1733-1797). After working for several years with other potters, Josiah went into business for himself and founded the Stoke-on-Trent pottery company, Spode, in 1770. The success of his venture allowed him to purchase the Church Street, Stoke factory in 1776 and Spode wares were made there continuously until 2008.

Josiah Spode was credited with two major achievements. The first was the perfection of blue under-glaze printing. In the late 1700s, blue and white Chinese porcelain was increasingly difficult to obtain as imports slowed. Josiah was recognised as having developed the technique for underglaze transfer printing on earthenware and having produced the first printed Willow patterns. Spode's blue and white wares were generally considered among the finest ever made and the most famous pattern Italian (1816) continues to be made to this day.

DEVELOPMENT of bone china

The second was his development of a new type of porcelain he originally called Stoke china but changed to bone china. It contained bone ash. This has been described as 'the single most significant development in the history of his industry – the perfection of the formula for fine bone china'. It outclassed all other English porcelains in both beauty and durability and is regarded as the forerunner of all modern English bone china.

Josiah's son, Josiah II (1754-1827) also trained as a potter and ran the firm's warehouse in London. He took over the factory on his father's death in 1797 and continued the business in partnership with William Copeland from 1813. In the early 19th century, the company grew to be the largest pottery in Stoke.

ROYAL warrants

Another significant event occurred when Josiah Spode II was appointed 'Potter to the Prince of Wales' when the Prince Regent visited the factory in 1806. The company has held royal warrants ever since.

After the death of Josiah II in 1827, his son Josiah III ran the business until his untimely death two years later. Ownership of the Spode business was purchased by William Taylor Copeland who became the sole owner in 1833. He took a partner, Thomas Garrett and the firm became Copeland and Garrett until 1847 when William Copeland continued on his own. The business remained in the Copeland family until 1966.

During the 19th and 20th centuries, the Spode brand name was used alongside the Copeland name, for example, Copeland late Spode. In 1970, the company name was changed to Spode Ltd to commemorate the founder, Josiah Spode.

Spode was part of Stoke-on-Trent's heritage for nearly 250 years. In 2008, the company called in administrators. In 2009, the Stoke-based Portmeirion pottery company bought Spode and Royal Worcester from the administrators. Spode continues to be manufactured by the Portmeirion Group at their factory in Stoke-on-Trent.

The purchase did not include the Royal Worcester or Spode factories and the original Spode factory site is now home to the Spode museum, housing a 'stunning collection of wares illustrating the unique contributions of the Spode and Copeland factories to the English Ceramics industry.'

A COLOURFUL legacy

It is worth noting that, while Spode's various blue and white patterns were the most popular in the market of the day and remain a favourite of today's collectors, there were also many other beautiful designs and colours manufactured. In the early 1800s, Spode developed other colours such as green, brown, purple, grey, black and, later on, pink. Two-colour underglaze printing, as well as other methods such as enamelling and gilded decoration, were implemented to expand the Spode range which included ceramic items for dinner and dessert, breakfast and tea, toilet and personal hygiene plus ornamental wares and toys.

Whether collectors confine themselves to the blue and white or the other pattern colours, whether they embrace all patterns and styles, there is no doubt they will be building a collection of both beauty and value.

ABOUT Bayside Antique & Collectables Centre

Find us one street block away from the long running and very popular Cleveland Markets. Open seven days a week, from 10 am to 5 pm, the centre can easily be reached by car, rail or bus: Just a 30-minute drive from Brisbane City with ample parking, a short flat walk from Cleveland Railway Station through Raby Bay Harbour and Cleveland CBD, or a bus stop right at the door.

Our dealers stock a wonderful array of antiques, collectables and old wares. Whether collecting, investing or simply searching for a gift for family or friend – there is something for everyone.

Visit Dolly's on the mezzanine floor for recycled fashions such as retro, vintage, pre-loved and labels. Whether for everyday wear, a special function or theme party, it's proving very popular, especially with younger customers, and offers great rummage value.

Look for our Roller Girl standing out the front each day. Pop in. Be surprised by the hidden nooks and crannies – the centre is larger than it looks! Its spacious layout ensures easy access for wheelchairs, motorised scooters, walkers and prams. Relax and enjoy a complimentary cuppa.

In addition, for those requiring products for wood care and maintenance of their favourite furniture pieces, Bayside is a stockist for the very popular Howard Products such as Restor-A-Finish, Feed'N'Wax, Orange Oil and Wax sticks.

Make a visit to Bayside the first part of a day spent enjoying everything the Redlands has to offer, from the bay and islands to the inland countryside. It's a great place to explore. Bayside – one visit and you'll be hooked! Enjoy our Spode display.



Check out our website and visit us on Facebook for a glimpse of what the centre has to offer. If you Like Us on Facebook, you can keep updated with information and photos of new stock.

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BAYSIDE ANTIQUE & COLLECTABLES CENTRE

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Open 7 days 10 am - 5 pm

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