

Ceramic Sherds from Southeast Asia— The Freer Study Collection and its Donors

David P. Rehfuss

Introduction

The ceramic material related to Southeast Asia in the Freer Gallery of Art is divided among two collections. The Permanent Collection consists of the objects that can be displayed in the museum's galleries, while the Study Collection contains potsherds, kiln wasters, and complete pieces of lesser quality. As the largest single component of the Study Collection, the ceramics associated with Southeast Asia include over 3300 potsherds from Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam, as well as from China and the Middle East, recovered in Southeast Asia from kilns sites, ancient *entrepôts* and harbors, graves, and consumer sites.

John Pope, director of the Freer Gallery from 1962 to 1971, made a concerted effort to assemble sherds, wasters, and kiln tools for use in study and technical analysis by the museum's Department of Conservation and Scientific Research and by other scholars. Dr. Pope was one of some three dozen donors to the Study Collection. The bulk of the material was donated by interested amateurs, business executives, and U.S. Foreign Service employees who lived and collected in Asia.

One interesting discovery of this review of the Study Collection's ceramics found in Southeast Asia is the relatively limited quantity of Chinese material (approximately 250 examples, about 7.5 percent.) This low percentage seems somewhat surprising. From at least the ninth century, Chinese ceramics were popular trade goods for Southeast Asian consumers, who used and collected these pots and often buried them to accompany the deceased on their next voyage. Chinese celadons and porcelains inspired and stimulated potters in the region.

Their limited numbers notwithstanding, donated Chinese ceramic fragments were found mixed with local wasters and potsherds at kiln sites and in fields and habitation sites throughout Southeast Asia. Victor Hauge (see below) picked up Chinese Ming dynasty porcelain potsherds that were intermingled with contemporaneous Northern Thai (Lan Na) sherds at various Lan Na kiln sites. John Pope found thirteenth-century Longquan celadon and *qingbai* fragments mixed with Khmer sherds at the royal palace site in Angkor Thom.

The maritime trade that crisscrossed Southeast Asia from the first millennium grew tremendously beginning in the twelfth century. Arab, Persian, Chinese, and Southeast Asian traders bartered ceramics, silk, and iron goods for spices and forest products. The demand

was vast. The Southeast Asian trading ship that foundered off Hoi An, Central Vietnam, in the late fifteenth century carried some 750,000 Vietnamese ceramics bound for insular Southeast Asia. Almost all of the ceramic materials in the Study Collection acquired in the Philippines and Indonesia were originally trade goods. On the other hand, much of the Angkorian and Northern Thai material gathered by Victor Hauge was made for domestic consumption and was rarely found far from its place of production.

There is still much to be understood about historical ceramics in Southeast Asia and the traders who bartered them, but students and scholars of Asian art will be nearer to the answers because of the wealth of material here. This material has come to the Freer Gallery since the 1950s. This listing introduces those who collected it and what they donated.

Donor: Dr. Sarah M. Bekker

Date of donation: 1996

Accession numbers: FSC-P-4715–40

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, Iron Age–19th century

Ayutthaya earthenware	Nos. 4729–30
Kamphaeng Phet, Wat Chang Rob	Nos. 4732–37
Phimai Black ware	No. 4731
San Kamphaeng	Nos. 4724, 4726–28
Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)	Nos. 4717–21, 4725, 4740
Wat Chalem Phra Kiat	Nos. 4715–16, 4722–23, 4739



FSC-P-4716: Wat Chalem Phra Kiat

China — Ceramics, 16th century

No. 4738

Provenance: Collected by the donor from various locations in Thailand.

Biographical note: Dr. Sarah (née McInteer) Bekker, a social psychologist, lived in Burma/Myanmar (1958–61) and Thailand (1964–71) with her husband Konrad, who served in the U.S. Foreign Service. Bekker, a careful scholar of the cultures and arts of Burma and Thailand, has donated Asian works of art to the Freer and Sackler Galleries; the Center for Burmese Studies at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb; the University of Michigan, Ann

Arbor; The Walters Museum of Art, Baltimore; Denison University, Granville, Ohio; and the University of Wisconsin.

Donor: H. Otley Beyer

Date of donation: 1960

Accession numbers: FSC-P-3453–71

Contents:

Philippines — Ceramics, 17th–18th century
Manila (Makati) area earthenware Nos. 3453–71 (19 pieces)

Provenance: Philippines

Biographical note: Professor Henry Otley Beyer (1883–1966) was an American anthropologist who was among the first to excavate Thai and Vietnamese ceramics together with Chinese export wares in the Philippines. He spent sixty years in the Philippines and is known as the “Father of Philippine Anthropology.” His excavation reports include *Chinese, Siamese and Other Oriental Wares in the Philippine Islands* (1930).

Donors: John Callahan and Robert James Sistrunk

Date of donation: 1998

Accession numbers: FSC-P-4748–49

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 20th century Nos. 4748–49

Provenance: Thailand, ca. 1975

Curatorial note: These two vessels are twentieth-century copies of prehistoric Ban Chiang earthenware, as verified by thermoluminescence (TL) testing.

Donor: Dr. Cooper-Smith

Date of donation: ca. 1963

Accession numbers: FSC-P-530–32

Contents:

China — Ceramics, 16th–17th century
Zhangzhou / Swatow No. 530

Malaysia – Ceramics Nos. 531–32

Provenance: Kota Tinggi, Johore State

Donor: Nelly Ducommun

Date of donation: 1984

Accession number: FSC-P-2773

Contents:

China — Ceramics, 19th–20th century

Jingdezhen or other southern Chinese kiln No. 2773

Provenance: This polychromed stem dish made for the Thai market, an example of so-called Bencharong ware, came from a collection formed in Indonesia by the donor's father.

Donor: Orville Emory

Date of donation: 1965

Accession numbers: FSC-P-2587–2608

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century

Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)

Sukhothai

Nos. 2587–2605

No. 2606



FSC-P-2594: Si Satchanalai



FSC-P-2594

China — Ceramics, 13th–16th century

Jingdezhen

Longquan

No. 2608

No. 2607

Provenance: Thailand

Donor: Dean F. Frasc 

Date of donations: 1984, 1986, 1989

Accession numbers: FSC-P-2939–78, 3628–32, 3856

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century

Ban Kruat

Nos. 2956–74

Kalong	Nos. 2944–55
Phan	Nos. 2941–4
Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)	Nos. 2939–40

Burma (Myanmar) — Ceramics

Pagan	
Phar Ceti stupa in Mimalaung-Kyaung group	No. 2975
Myinkaba village (kiln)	Nos. 3628–32

China — Ceramics, 12th–13th century

<i>qingbai</i>	No. 3856
not otherwise identified	Nos. 2976–78

Provenance: The donor collected most of the Thai wares at or near their kiln sites. Tile fragments from Burma (Myanmar) were surface finds in Pagan. The Chinese pieces were collected in Thailand.

Biographical note: Dean Frasc  (1906–1994) was an American business executive who spent much of his working life in East Asia. His ceramic interests started in the 1930s in the Philippines, where he was employed as a surveyor for the Belgian government. After World War II he ran Union Carbide Corporation’s tin mining operations in Thailand. Frasc  curated *Southeast Asian Ceramics: Ninth through Seventeenth Century*, the first major exhibition of Southeast Asian ceramics in the United States, at the Asia Society, New York City, in 1976, and also authored the catalogue of the exhibition.

Donors: Mr. and Mrs. Roy Galloway

Date of donation: 1999

Accession numbers: FSC-P-4750–72

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century

Ban Thung Hua	No. 4750
Ban Kruat	Nos. 4751–59, 4762–72

China — Ceramics, 12th–14th century

Jingdezhen (<i>qingbai</i>)	Nos. 4760–61
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Provenance: The Ban Thung Hua sherd was collected by the donor at its kiln site in Northern Thailand in 1974. The Ban Kruat and Chinese pieces were collected by the donor during three trips in 1973 to the Ban Kruat kiln site in Northeast Thailand.

Biographical note: J. R. (Roy) Galloway (b. 1914) worked in Asia as a businessman both before and after World War II. During the war he served on General Douglas MacArthur’s staff. He was a colleague and close friend of Dean Frasc , and several of Galloway’s stonewares from a little-known kiln that he and Frasc  found at Ban Thung Hua, in Northern Thailand, were included in Frasc ’s 1976 Asia Society exhibition, *Southeast Asian Ceramics: Ninth through Seventeenth Century*.

Donor: Robert P. Griffing, Jr.

Date of donation: unknown

Accession no. FSC-P-2807

Contents:

Vietnam — Ceramics, 15th–16th century

Red River Delta

No. 2807

Provenance: Gift from Griffing to John Pope.

Biographical note: An art historian, Robert Griffing was director of the Honolulu Academy of Arts from 1947 until 1963. His article “Dating Annamese Blue and White” in *Oriental Art* (May 1976) was an important early statement on Vietnamese ceramics. He classified underglaze blue-and-white stonewares of the late fifteenth and sixteenth century from the Red River Delta of North Vietnam and publicized the existence of this beautiful ware as a type quite separate from Chinese porcelain. Griffing also curated the 1968 exhibition *The Art of the Korean Potter* (New York: Asia Society).

Donors: Victor and Takako Hauge

Dates of donations: 1996–2005

Accession numbers: FSC-P-4290–4714, 4857–6770, 6773

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 11th–20th century

Ban Kruat

Nos. 4290–4714, 5906–6233, 6773

Chiang Mai (20th century)

No. 6764

Kalong

Nos. 5888, 6351, 6398–6654, 6755

Lampang

Nos. 6235–6285

Phan

Nos. 4864, 4873–5030, 5032–48,
6660–6721, 6726–54, 6761–63

San Kamphaeng

Nos. 6286–6350, 6655–57, 6659,
6756, 6758–60

San Sai

Nos. 5435–55

Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)

Nos. 4660–93, 4704, 5578–5622,
5625–83, 6354–57, 6359–64, 6366–97

Sukhothai

Nos. 4857–63, 4865–72, 5823–87,
5889–5905, 6352–53, 6765–70, 6658

Wang Nua

Nos. 5684–5793, 5795–5822, 6495

Fields near U Thong, Suphanburi
province

Nos. 5051–5278, 62

Habitation sites near Chiang Rai,
Chiang Rai province

Nos. 5279–5434



FSC-P-6439, 6441, 6496: Kalong



FSC-P-6743, 6747: Phan



FSC-P-4930, Phan



FSC-P-5281, Si Satchanalai



FSC-P-6377: Si Satchanalai



FSC-P-5902: Sukhothai



FSC-P-5658: Sukhothai



FSC-P-5658



FSC-P-4869: Sukhothai



FSC-P-4869

China — Ceramics, 15th–18th century
Jingdezhen

Celadon not otherwise identified

Nos. 5031, 5049–50 (from U Thong habitation site), 5623–24, 5794, 6722–25

Nos. 6358, 6365 (found at Si Satchanalai [Sawankhalok])

Vietnam — Ceramic, 19th–20th century
Saigon vicinity

No. 6757 (mask from shoulder of storage jar)

Provenance: FSC-P-4290–4714 (425 pieces) were collected by Victor Hauge during a single visit to the kiln sites surrounding the district town of Ban Kruat in Buriram province, Northeast Thailand, in 1972. FSC-P-4857–6770 (1914 pieces) were collected by Victor Hauge during personal visits to the kiln sites during 1970–72, when Victor's older brother Osborne and his wife Gratia were living in Bangkok.

Curatorial note: Chinese blue-and-white porcelain potsherds were found intermingled with contemporaneous sherds of Northern Thai (Lan Na) ceramics at kiln and habitation sites. For example, a Chinese blue-and-white sherd (No. 5794) was picked up at the Wang Nua kiln site. Most of the sherds from near U Thong are unglazed and glazed earthenware sherds of cooking jars and other domestic wares. The sherds from near Chiang Rai consist largely of fine stoneware potsherds—brown-painted Kalong ware, Wang Nua celadon, and painted San Kamphaeng ware.

Biographical note: See next entry.

Donors: Osborne and Gratia Hauge, and Victor and Takako Hauge

Date of donation: 2005

Accession numbers: FSC-P-6783–99

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–17th century

Kalong

No. 6786

Maenam Noi

No.6788

Phan

Nos. 6792, 6795

San Kamphaeng	Nos. 6783, 6790–91, 6793, 6796
Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)	Nos. 6789, 6794, 6797
Chiang Mai	No. 6798
Wang Nua	Nos. 6784–85, 678

Vietnam — Ceramics, 18th–20th century
 Central Vietnam No. 6799

Provenance: The Thai sherds were collected by Victor Hauge during visits to the kiln sites in 1970–72. The Vietnamese sherd was acquired while Osborne and Gratia Hauge were living in Saigon.

Biographical note: Victor and Takako Hauge and Osborne “Bud” Hauge (1914–2004) and Gratia Hauge (d. 2000) jointly made major gifts of ancient Iranian, Islamic and Southeast Asian ceramics to the Sackler Gallery. The Hagues formed these collections during the 1960s and early 1970s. The two brothers, who were born in Minnesota and graduated from St. Olaf College, were a part of the American Occupation in Japan after World War II. Osborne served in the U.S. Administration for International Development (USAID) from 1961 to 1974, based in Tehran, Bangkok, and Saigon. Victor lived in Japan, working for the U.S. Information Service, until the late 1950s. He and Takako co-authored *Folk Traditions in Japanese Art*, Tokyo and New York (1978), the catalogue for the 1979 exhibition at the Asia Society, New York, and the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco.

Donor: Fujiwara Hiroshi

Date of donation: 1997
 Accession number: FSC-P-4743
 Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 11th–12th century
 Ban Kruat No. 4743



FSC-P-4743



FSC-P-4743

Provenance: Acquired in the early 1980s, probably in Bangkok.

Biographical note: Mr. Fujiwara lived in Bangkok in the early 1980s, when Angkor period ceramics (and their copies) were widely available in the antiques market in Thailand. He arranged for this sherd of a “two color” jar to be sliced in order to understand how the ware was made; the cut revealed that two clay bodies of different colors were used in combination with two different glazes.

Donor: Jack H. Kent

Date of donation: 1986
 Accession numbers: FSC-P-3642–3645
 Contents:

- Vietnam — Ceramics, 13th–15th century
 Red River Delta Nos. 3642–44
- Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–15th century
 Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok) No. 3645

Donor: Ann S. Ling

Date of donation: 2004
 Accession numbers: FSC-P-6780–81
 Contents:

- China — Ceramics, 16th–17th century
 Zhangzhou Nos. 6780–81
 (2 mold-formed covered boxes)



FSC-P-6780



FSC-P-6781

Provenance: Acquired by Helen D. Ling (see below) during her residence in Singapore, 1951–82. These boxes appeared in the exhibition of the Ling collection and were published in the catalogue, *Helen D. Ling Collection of Chinese Ceramics*, ed. by Jason Kuo (College Park, MD: The Art Gallery, University of Maryland, 1995).

Biographical note: Ann Ling is the daughter-in-law of Helen D. Ling and a docent at the Freer and Sackler Galleries.

Donor: Helen Dalling Ling

Date of donation: ca. 1986

Accession numbers: FSC-P-979–1015

Contents:

China — Ceramics, Ming and Qing dynasty wares	
celadon	No. 979
blue-and-white	Nos. 980–1006
Malaysia — Ceramics	
Malayan stamped earthenware	Nos. 1007–12
Thailand — Ceramics – 14th–16th century	
Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)	Nos. 1013–15

Provenance: Helen Ling found these potsherds in 1955 at Kota Tinggi, Johore, also known as Johor Lama (Old Johore), an old trading port in south Malaysia.

Curatorial Note: The Malayan stamped earthenware potsherds found at Kota Tinggi are similar to Neolithic pottery excavated in Fujian province, south China. Ling's potsherds, however, were found mixed with blue-and-white Ming and Qing Chinese and Thai export wares in an unstratified site subject to frequent flooding. Similar earthenwares were being made in Johore until the nineteenth century.

Biographical note: Mrs. Helen (née Dalling) Ling (1901–1982) was a collector, dealer and connoisseur of Chinese art. Born in Ohio, in 1928 she married Tien-Gi Ling, a Chinese research chemist. They lived in South China, Hong Kong, and Singapore. Ling operated antique and gift shops in Shanghai from 1938 to 1950 and in Singapore from 1953 until her death in 1982. She was a co-founder of the Southeast Asian Ceramic Society, Singapore, in 1971.

Donors: Cecilia and Leandro Locsin

Dates of donations: 1964, 1968, 1978

Accession numbers: FSC-P-2698, 3561–76

Contents:

China — Ceramics, 10th–14th century	
Dehua	No. 3576
Earthenware with lead glazes	No. 3569, 3571
Fujian Song or pre-Song gray ware	No. 3562–64, 3566–68, 3570, 3572–74
Jingdezhen	
<i>qingbai</i> (copper-red spotted)	No. 2698
<i>qingbai</i> (unpainted)	No. 3561
not otherwise identified	No. 3565



FSC-P-3576: Dehua



FSC-P-3576

Vietnam — Ceramics, 15th–16th century
Red River Delta

No. 3575

Provenance: Most of the pieces were excavated in the Philippines in the early 1960s, at sites including the Santa Ana site near Manila, and were given by the Locsins to John Pope in 1964.

Biographical note: The Locsin Collection represents one of the greatest private collections of export ceramics of China and Southeast Asia (Locsin and Locsin 1967). It was formed over many years, starting in the 1960s, from excavations in the Philippines and purchases from dealers in the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Indonesia.

Donor: Elizabeth Lyons

Date of donation: 1963

Accession numbers: FSC-P-624–31

Contents:

China — Ceramics, 15th–16th century
Jingdezhen

Nos. 624–31

Provenance: Recovered from the bed of the Chao Phraya River at Ayutthaya, the former capital of Siam (Thailand). Ayutthaya was a major international trading port during the fourteenth through eighteenth century.

Biographical note: Elizabeth Lyons was an archaeologist and museum administrator specializing in Southeast Asia. She first went to Thailand in 1955 as a Fine Arts Consultant under a U.S. Department of State program. She was a frequent visitor to Thai archaeological sites in the 1960s while associated with the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia) and later with the Ford Foundation. The university worked closely with the Thai Department of Fine Arts, Bangkok, on several prehistoric excavation sites. Lyons was a key actor in putting together the important joint Thai-University of Pennsylvania Ban Chiang expedition in 1974. She also served as director of the University Museum. In the early 1980s she was Research Associate for Southeast Asia and China at the University Museum, University of Pennsylvania.

Donor: Dr. Forrest McGill

Date of donation: 1990

Accession numbers: FSC-P-3891–3904, 3905–3932

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century
Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)

No. 3891

Burma (Myanmar) — Ceramics
Pagan

Nos. 3892–3904

Holland — Ceramics

Nos. 3905–32



FSC-P-3905 (right), FSC-P-3921 (left)

Provenance: The Burmese pieces were surface finds in Pagan, circa 1971. The Dutch Delft-type blue-and-white tile fragments were surface finds at the ruins of the Wihan Somdet Palace, Ayutthaya, 1975–76.

Biographical note: Dr. Forrest McGill is Chief Curator and Wallis Curator of South and Southeast Asian Art at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. He received his Ph.D. in Asian art from the University of Michigan and was a professor and curator of Asian art, including a stint as Assistant Director of the Freer and Sackler galleries, for twenty-five years before joining the Asian Art Museum in 1997. He authored or co-authored a number of scholarly publications on Asian art, including *The Kingdom of Siam: The Art of Central Thailand* (San Francisco, 2004).

Donor: Sherry Matz

Date of donation: 1994

Accession numbers: FSC-P-4254–55

Contents:

Vietnam — Ceramics, 14th–16th century
Red River Delta

Nos. 4254–55

Provenance: Acquired in Indonesia in the 1960s.

Donor: John R. Menke

Dates of donations: 1985, 1986

Accession numbers: FSC-P-3452, 3646–88, 4773

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 11th–16th century

Ban Kruat	No. 3452
Kalong	Nos. 3675–80
Phan	Nos. 3684–88
San Kamphaeng	Nos. 3681–83
Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)	Nos. 3646–61
Sukhothai	Nos. 3662–74

China — Ceramics, early 17th century

Jingdezhen (<i>bleu de Huè</i>)	No. 4773
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Provenance: No. 3452 was acquired in Cambodia. Nos. 3646–74 were surface finds at the kilns in Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok) and Sukhothai in 1985. Nos. 3675–83 were gifts to the donor from John Shaw, ceramics scholar and author of the major text on Northern Thai ceramics (see entry below). Nos. 3684–88, Phan ware, were surface finds at the Ban Pong Sali arboretum, ten kilometers south of Chiang Rai.

Biographical note: John and Betty Menke donated major examples of Northern Vietnamese ceramics to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and the Freer Gallery of Art. As a nuclear physicist, Mr. Menke worked in Southeast Asia on acquisition of uranium and formed much of his collection of Southeast Asian ceramics at that time. He was a close friend of Robert Griffing of the Honolulu Academy of Arts.

Donor: National Museum of Bangkok

Date of donation: 1960 or 1961

Accession number: FSC-P-960

Contents:

China — Ceramics, Song dynasty	No. 960
Fujian province, possibly Dehua	

Provenance: Excavated at Phimai, Thailand, and subsequently given to John Pope.

Donor: Stanley J. O’Conner

Date of donation: 1966

Accession number: FSC-P-2697

Contents:

China — Ceramics, Yuan dynasty, 13th century

Jingdezhen (<i>qingbai</i>)	No. 2697
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Provenance: Surface find at Sating Prah, on the east coast of peninsular Thailand, about thirty miles north of Songkhla.

Biographical note: Stanley J. O’Conner is professor emeritus of art history and was also a member of the Southeast Asia Program at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Interested in the emergence of Hindu and Buddhist art in early Southeast Asia, he conducted research in Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

Donor: Mrs. Gardner Palmer

Date of donation: November 1983

Accession number: FSC-P-2786

Contents:

China — Ceramics, Qing dynasty, 18th–19th century
bleu de Hue No. 2786

Provenance: unknown.

Curatorial note: This porcelain dish decorated with underglaze cobalt was probably made for the Vietnamese market. It is an example of “later” *bleu of Hue* probably made in Fujian or Guangdong province for the ordinary Vietnamese consumer, not for the royal court or the mandarin.

Donor: John Alexander Pope

Dates of donations: various, including 1957, 1978

Accession numbers: FSC-P-442–66, 942, 950–51, 2250–2586, 2725, 2727–35, 2802–04, 2930, 2934–38, 3271–86, 3499, 3501–60

Contents:

China — Ceramics, 8th–16th century	
Jingdezhen	Nos. 950–51, 2310–11, 2382
<i>qingbai</i>	Nos. 446–7, 449, 2803, 3517, 3521, 3549–50, 3553
blue-and-white	Nos. 2539–42, 2802, 3283–8
Longquan	Nos. 444, 451–53, 455, 457–58, 463, 3540
Guangdong province	Nos. 445, 454
Fujian province	No. 2383
Modern	No. 3499
Celadon or green glaze	Nos. 3511–14, 3516, 3518–19, 3523–39, 3541–46
White glaze	Nos. 3547–48, 3551–52

not otherwise identified	Nos. 442–43, 448, 450, 461, 464, 2930, 3273–82, 3501–10, 3515, 3520, 3522, 3557–60
Malaysia — Ceramics Sarawak earthenware	Nos. 3554–56
Middle East — Ceramics	Nos. 3271–72
Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century	
Ban Kruat, Buriram	Nos. 456, 459–60, 465–66, 942
Kalong	No. 2731
San Kamphaeng	Nos. 2435–2538, 2543–86, 2725, 2727–30, 2732–35, 2937–38
Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)	Nos. 462, 2278–2309, 2312–81, 2384–2434, 2804, 2935–36
Sukhothai	Nos. 2250–77, 2935–36



FSC-P-2479: San Kamphaeng



FSC-P-2256, 2257, 2259: Sukhothai



FSC-P-2409: Si Satchanalai



FSC-P-2409: Si Satchanalai



FSC-P-5626: Si Satchanalai



FSC-P-5626

Provenance: The Chinese ceramics were collected in Angkor, Cambodia (Nos. 442–66, 942, 950), Jakarta (No. 951), Palau Kra Island, Sarawak, Malaysia (Nos. 3501–60), Laguna site, Philippines (No. 2930), Ko Kha Kao island, Thailand (Nos. 3273–86), and Thailand (No. 3499). The Thai ceramics were collected at the kiln sites in February 1957.

Curatorial notes: The Chinese blue-and-white potsherd No. 950 was collected by Pope in 1957 at Phnom Bakheng, Angkor, Cambodia. From the pool by the royal palace site in Angkor Thom, Pope collected Nos. 442–466 and 942, including Chinese celadon and *qingbai* and Thai sherds intermingled with Khmer glazed stoneware fragments. Large numbers of Chinese ceramics have been uncovered in Khmer habitation areas in and around Angkor, supporting the view of archaeologists and art historians that Chinese ceramics were an important trade item for Khmer Empire inhabitants.

The Middle Eastern pieces (Nos. 3271–72) are small fragments with molded design under turquoise glaze. They are part of a group (Nos. 3271–86) collected by Dean Frasc  in 1965 on Ko Kha Kao island and subsequently given to Pope. The sherds include Middle Eastern and Chinese material dating to the Tang dynasty. They suggest the important maritime trade that had sprung up at least by the eighth century for trade goods, including ceramics, linking Persia and Egypt, India, Southeast Asia and south Chinese ports like Canton (Guangdong). For details on this island see *Federation Museum Journal*, vol. VI, 1961 (Kuala Lumpur: Museums Department, Federation of Malaya).

Biographical note: John Alexander Pope, Ph.D. (1906–1982), museum administrator and art historian, had a long association with the Freer Gallery of Art, serving as director from 1962 to 1971. He is known for his two pioneering studies of early Chinese blue-and-white porcelain, *Fourteenth Century Blue and White* (1952) and *Chinese Porcelains from the Ardebil Shrine* (1956).

Donor: Mrs. John A. Pope

Date of donation: 1997

Accession numbers: FSC-P-4746–47

Contents:

China — Ceramics, Yuan dynasty, 14th century

Jingdezhen

Nos. 4746–47

qingbai with cobalt decoration



FSC-P-4746: Jingdezhen



FSC-P-4747: Jingdezhen

Provenance: These two porcelain jarlets were in the collection of John A. Pope, who probably acquired them in the Philippines when he attended the Trade Ceramics Seminar in Manila in 1968.

Donor: Abu Ridho

Date of donation: 1957

Accession numbers: FSC-P-425–441

Contents:

Vietnam — Ceramics, 15th–16th century

Red River Delta

Nos. 425–34, 438, 440–4



FSC-P-425–434: Red River Delta



FSC-P-425–434

China — Ceramics, 9th–14th century

Jingdezhen

No. 435

Chiung-Lai kiln, Szechwan province

No. 439

Middle East

No. 436

Iran?

Not otherwise identified No. 437
stoneware, origin unknown

Provenance: Jakarta, Indonesia, given by National Museum curator Abu Ridho to John Pope. The five Vietnamese wall tile fragments were excavated at an unknown date in Java at Trowulan, the old capital of the Majapahit Empire (Eastern Java, 1293 to 1527). After the empire's demise, unbroken wall tiles probably were removed to other buildings; several still decorate mosques in east and central Java.

Biographical note: Long-time curator of the National Museum, Jakarta, Abu Ridho (b. 1927) was educated as an archaeologist in Jakarta at the University of Benteng Utara and the University of Indonesia. He is author of a number of books and articles on ceramics found in Indonesia, including *Annamese Ceramics in Museum Pusat* (1974, with Cheng Lammers); *Oriental Ceramics, The World's Great Collections, Vol. 3, Museum Pusat*, (1977); *Tempayan – Martabans in Indonesia* (1984, with Sumarah Adhyatman); and *The Pulau Buaya Wreck – Finds from the Song period* (1998, with E. Edwards McKinnon).

Donor: Miriam McNair Scott

Date of donations: 1981, 1990
Accession numbers: FSC-P-2714–24, 3884–89
Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century
Kalong Nos. 2714–24
Phan Nos. 3884–89

Provenance: Collected by the donor at the Kalong kiln site and possibly at the Phan kiln site, in Northern Thailand.

Biographical note: Mrs. Scott (d. 1989) lived in Thailand for many years. She was the author of *The Art of Sukhothai: Thailand's Golden Age* (1981, with Carol Stratton), and her manuscript co-written with Carol Stratton was the basis for *Buddhist Sculpture of Northern Thailand*, by Carol Stratton (2004).

Donor: John C. Shaw

Date of donation: 1987
Accession numbers: FSC-P-3837–51, 3853
Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century
Late Haripunchai (Lamphun) No. 3851
Kalong Nos. 3837–43, 3853
Lampang No. 3850
Nan No. 3849
Phan No. 3848
Phayao Nos. 3844–46

China — Ceramics, 12th–13th century
 Provincial kiln in southeast
 China, probably Fujian No. 6777

Thailand — Ceramics, 11th–14th century No. 6775
 Buriram province

Provenance: Acquired in Cambodia within the precincts of Angkor Wat, 1954–57. The donor purchased these three jarlets from a workman who had just found them as he was cleaning out the two rectangular pools that flank the causeway leading to the temple.

Biographical note: Mary Shephard Slusser, an anthropologist and archaeologist, and her husband Robert, who worked with USAID, lived in Saigon/Ho Chi Minh City during 1954–57 and visited Angkor many times during that interlude. The Slussers subsequently lived in Nepal, where Mary became a founding board member of Kathmandu Valley Preservation Trust. Her scholarship, including *Nepal Mandala* (1981, 1998), has documented the valley’s art and architecture. She is a research associate at the Freer and Sackler galleries.

Donor: Mrs. Walter (Carol) Snowden

Date of donation: 1977
 Accession numbers: FSC-P-3301–02
 Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century
 Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok) Nos. 3301–02



FSC-P-6601–6602: Si Satchanalai



FSC-P-6601–6602

Provenance: Kiln site surface finds at Si Satchanalai, Thailand.

Biographical note: Mrs. Snowden was living in Bangkok when she collected these tubular supports, examples of kiln furniture.

Donor: Mrs. and Mr. Robert E. Snyder

Date of donation: 1997
 Accession numbers: FSC-P-4270–71

Contents:

China or Vietnam — Ceramics, 18th–20th century Nos. 4270–71



FSC-P-4270



FSC-P-4270: detail

Provenance: Purchased by the donors in Pakse, Laos, in 1974 from peddlers living in the nearby upland area.

Curatorial note: Acquisition of these storage jars from members of communities living in the uplands of southern Laos makes quite possible their manufacture at a kiln in Central or Southern Vietnam, which would have been the nearest source of ceramic jars for landlocked Laos. The jars were sold to the Snyders by peddlers coming down from the highlands of the Bolivan plateau. They did not learn exactly where the jars came from.

Biographical note: Robert Snyder and his wife lived in Laos from 1966 to 1975, first in Pakse, then in Vientiane. Mr. Snyder worked for the U.S. highway department as a maintenance specialist on loan to USAID to maintain the road systems, including de-mining and repairing bridges in the southern provinces. His wife worked for the Philippine-run hospital.

Donor: Charles Nelson Spinks

Dates of donations: various, including 1969

Accession numbers: FSC-P-401–24, 955–59, 3486–98, 3500, 3577–3608, 4744–45

Contents:

Thailand — Ceramics, 11th–13th century

Buriram province

Nos. 3500, 4744

Thailand — Ceramics, 14th–16th century and modern

Ayutthaya (modern)

Nos. 3605–06

Phan

Nos. 3590–3602

San Kamphaeng

Nos. 404, 406, 408, 410–19, 422–24,
3603–04

Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok)

Ban Koh Noi	Nos. 401–3
Ban Pa Yang	Nos. 405, 409, 420
“Chaliang”	No. 421
not otherwise identified	Nos. 3487–90, 3577–86, 4745
Sukhothai	Nos. 407, 3486, 3491–98, 3587–8
China — Ceramics, Ming to modern period	
Guangdong	No. 3589
Blue-and-white	Nos. 955–57
not otherwise identified	Nos. 958–59

Provenance: The sherds were collected from kiln sites or as other surface finds in Thailand. The Chinese potsherds, Nos. 955–59, were collected at Wat Maha That, in Ayutthaya, the old capital of Siam/Thailand and a major international trading center from the fourteenth through eighteenth century.

Curatorial note: Chaliang is an earlier term for Si Satchanalai (Sawankhalok) brown-glazed wares but is no longer used. Spinks did not otherwise identify the kiln of this Chalieng piece.

Biographical note: Charles Nelson Spinks, Ph.D. (Stanford University, History Department) (1906–1980), was an author and art historian. Spinks spent eighteen years in the American foreign service as an officer of the U.S. Information Service (USIS), including two long postings at the American embassy in Bangkok. Before World War II he taught at the University of Commerce, Tokyo. His publications include *Siamese Pottery in Indonesia* (1959) and *The Ceramic Wares of Siam* (1965).

Donor: Maria Worthington

Date of donation: 1968

Accession number: FSC-P-954

Contents:

China — Ceramics, 13th–14th century	
Jingdezhen, blue-and-white	No. 954

Provenance: Philippines

Biographical note: Maria Worthington lived in the Philippines with her husband, Amos, who worked for the U.S. foreign assistance program. She collected Asian ceramics and eventually dealt in Asian antiques when she returned to the U.S.

Donor: Unrecorded

Date of donation: unknown

Accession numbers: FSC-P-39–40

Contents:

Vietnam — Ceramics, 15th–16th century

Red River Delta

Nos. 39–40



FSC-P-39–40: Red River Delta

Provenance: Found in the middens of Old Cairo (Fostat).

Curatorial note: Fostat was the first capital of Egypt under Arab rule. Built in 641, the city reached its peak in the twelfth century, with a population of approximately 200,000. Fostat was the center of administrative power in Egypt until its vizier ordered it burned in 1168 in order to keep its wealth out of the hands of the invading Crusaders. The remains of the city were eventually absorbed by nearby Cairo. Numerous archaeological excavations in Fostat have revealed the wealth of its buried material. The Fostat middens are an important source evidencing the sizeable Middle East–China trade. Tons of ceramic potsherds have been harvested from this old rubbish dump. While the vast majority are Islamic, many Chinese potsherds have also been recovered. The discovery of North Vietnamese blue-and-white stonewares documents that Vietnam wares were also part of this China–Middle East trade.