

*With Heart &
Hand:
Art Pottery in
Queensland 1900-1950*

13 September - 3 November 2018

Exhibition
Labels

With Heart & Hand:

Art Pottery in Queensland 1900-1950

With Heart & Hand: Art Pottery in Queensland 1900-1950 is the most comprehensive survey of the art pottery produced in an Australian state. This exhibition includes over one hundred potters from Brisbane and regional areas, whose practice during the early twentieth century significantly influenced art pottery throughout Australia.

This exhibition takes as its nucleus the work of pioneering artist Lewis Jarvis (L.J.) Harvey, his students, and the distinctive style that became a hallmark of what is now known as the Harvey School. Harvey's hand-building method was unique globally while firmly grounded in the British Arts and Crafts Movement, which advocated the revival of hand-production methods.

Harvey's pottery classes, initiated in 1916 at the Central Technical College in Brisbane, operated for over thirty years. They encouraged students to work local clays by hand, a distinct and purposeful alternative to factory-made household items during a period of burgeoning mass manufacture.

The major publication *With Heart & Hand: Art Pottery in Queensland 1900-1950* contains new information highlighting the character of the flourishing artistic scene

in Brisbane in the first decades of the twentieth century, surveying and contextualising the social histories intrinsically linked to the medium.

Research undertaken for the book has uncovered the work of regional potters and revealed the importance of art therapy in post-World War I Queensland. This project also re-evaluates the role of women in building the state's art sector, highlighting the work of women practitioners overlooked by past research, credited as hobbyists or "unknown" creators.

The exhibition *With Heart & Hand: Art Pottery in Queensland 1900-1950* has been curated by one of the most respected voices in Queensland art history, curator Glenn R. Cooke. Cooke has brought several decades of knowledge and research to the project, after having enriched our collection with a gift of over two hundred pottery objects in 2012.

We are indebted to the diverse community of pottery collectors for their generous loans and to the public institutions for their loans and support of this exhibition that reveals fresh narratives about Queensland visual culture and provides new insights into our artistic heritage.



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Publication Sponsor:



Exhibition Partners:



Gloria Lovelock

(1905–1995)

Dragon jar c.1936

Earthenware, hand-built covered ginger-jar with vigorously modelled dragon applied to the exterior; sepia, blue and green glazes

Collection: Steve and Kim Petterson, Brisbane

Evelyn Buggy

(1901–1984)

Dragon bowl 1940

Earthenware, hand-built, flattened spherical bowl set on four scrolled feet; rim decorated with a carved scale pattern and a modelled dragon with head overlapping the rim and extending around the body; green glaze with the dragon in black

Collection: Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. Gift of Mrs S. Gould, the artist's daughter, 1985

Left to right:

Muriel MacDiarmid

(1878–1941)

Log vase c.1938

Earthenware, hand-built in the form of a hollowed out log with branch collars and modelled with two birds perched on the rim; green glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Nell Bott

(1870–1943)

Tall hexagonal vase c.1934

Earthenware, slab built on four small feet with a carved border beneath the rim; green and blue glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

M.E. Smith

(Unknown dates)

Sandwich dish c.1940

Earthenware, hand-modelled figure-of-eight exercise; green and plum-brown glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Sheila Walsh

(1918–2015)

Jug 1937

Earthenware, hand-built bulbous form with prominent lip; green and yellow glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Walsh was one of Harvey's first remedial students and although she didn't develop the fine motor skills necessary for complex decoration, the simplified form and glaze appealed to the contemporary eye, as it was described in newspaper reports as a "modernist ceramic".

Nell Watkins

(1904–2003)

Inlaid vase c.1936-40

Earthenware, hand-built white clay of angular section set on four feet and with two handles at the neck. Inlaid leaf and flower design in dark green and white clays; light green glaze

City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Gift of Mrs. Helen Starke, 1991

Grace Harris

(Unknown dates)

Vase 1938

Earthenware, hand-built swelling form with everted neck and three spouts, applied with anthermia and fleur de lys motifs; green glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Ida Carmody

(1887–1967)

Covered dish c.1939

Earthenware, hand-built and carved and incised with a design of vegetables; glazed green with yellow knob

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Annie Mitchell

(1875–1961)

Bowl with butterflies c.1935

Earthenware, slab built hexagonal form on ball feet, pierced and incised with butterfly motifs; mottled green glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Mitchell's bowl is incised "Goodwood, SA". She clearly brought the template and design with her as a slab bowl of a very similar form pierced with insect motifs that had been produced in Brisbane by Madeline Huybers. Mitchell's student, Winnie Webb, created a bowl to this template in May 1938.

Ida Martin

(1906–1990)

Pine-cone bowl 1939

Earthenware, hand-built on three feet and modelled with large overlapping pinecone segments; green glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Left to right:

Mary Lawrence

(1867–1955)

Low green bowl c.1922

Earthenware, slab and hand-built with four feet and vertical sides applied with modelled fruit and leaves; green glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

B. Littlejohns

(Unknown dates)

Gum leaf vase 1923

Earthenware, hand-built tapering cylinder form on four feet, dipped in brown clay slip and incised with a design of gum leaves; green glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Gloria Lovelock

(1905–1995)

Vase (fish) c.1940

Earthenware, hand-modelled spherical form dipped in rust and ochre clays carved with a design of fish swimming amongst water weeds; green glaze

Collection: Steve and Kim Petterson, Brisbane

Daisy Nosworthy

(1890–1978)

Breakfast set 1937

Wheel thrown earthenware; mottled green glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn Cooke, 2012

Nosworthy's Breakfast set would be amongst the most functional and modernist ceramic that was produced in Brisbane at that time.

Edith White

(1886–1968)

Vase 1933

Hand-built earthenware, extended acorn shape dipped brown and gold clays; green glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

This is an unusual vase form in the Harvey School. The intense colour of Queensland clays in the double scraffito technique is overlaid with a strong transparent green glaze to particularly striking effect.

Denise Thorpe

(Unknown dates)

Lidded round box c.1940s

Earthenware, hand-built on four feet and carved; deep green glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn Cooke, 2012

Nell Campbell

(1888–1977)

Bamboo vase 1940

Earthenware, hand-built in the form of a section of bamboo with applied leaves; glazed green and dark green

City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Purchased 1979

Campbell was a family member of the saw milling and pottery firm James Campbell and Sons. She supposedly studied with Harvey in the 1920s but the Bamboo vase is highly unusual in this context and may have even been glazed and fired at the family's pottery.

Florence Bland

(1890–1982)

Pelican jardinière c.1924

Earthenware, hand-built, squat oval body set on four ball feet (incised with claws) and everted lip. A modelled head of a pelican carved with breasts and wing shapes forms the handles; glazed blue/green and green

Bland Family Collection, Brisbane

Daisy Nosworthy

(1890–1978)

Oval dish 1926

Earthenware, hand-built set on four feet and applied with finely modelled gum leaves and nuts; sea-green glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Val McMaster

(1913–1983)

Pierced vase c.1936

Earthenware, extensively carved and pierced with formalised scrolling motifs; glazed deep green

Private collection, Brisbane

Left to right:

Adele Miller

(Unknown dates)

Hexagonal vase c.1932

Earthenware, slab built white clay dipped rust and ochre clays and caved in the double scraffito technique with winged dragons; clear glaze

Collection: Bob and Margaret Farley, Brisbane

Unknown Harvey School potter (F.H.)

Slab vase c.1931

Earthenware, slab built

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Mona Barton

(1894–1966)

Scraffito vase with dragon 1928

Earthenware, slab built white clay dipped rust and ochre clays and decorated in the double scraffito technique with a stylised dragon; clear glaze

Harvey Family Collection, Brisbane

Left to right:

Marjory Clark

(1908–1996)

Covered jar 1929

Earthenware, hand-built swelling white clay form with four prominent ridges terminating in points above lip and continued on lid. Running brown and ochre slips carved with “crazy paving” design; clear glaze

Collection: Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. Gift of the artist, 1983

Winifred Ferguson

(1883–1969)

Covered box 1930s

Earthenware, slab and hand-built white lay dipped ochre and burnt sienna and carved in the double scraffito technique with grotesque masks and scrolls; clear glaze

Collection: Bob and Margaret Farley, Brisbane

Olive Moase

(1895–1966)

Double scraffito vase (renaissance birds) c.1937

Earthenware, slab built white clay dipped brown and ochre clays and incised decoration of birds amongst scrolls

Private collection, Brisbane

Edith White

(1886–1968)

Double scraffito vase c.1928

Earthenware, hand-built white clay with swelling shoulder, dipped caramel and deep brown clays and carved with stylised butterflies and foliate motifs; clear glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Florence Bland

(1890–1982)

Double scraffito vase c.1927

Earthenware, slab-built white clay swelling rectangular shape set on four feet, dipped in brown and ochre clay slip and carved with a stylised floral and scroll motif and moth at the bottom; clear glaze

Bland Family Collection

Nell Marlay

(1874–1959)

Double scraffito vase 1931

Earthenware, slab-built white clay dipped brown and ochre clays and incised with a formalised foliate motif; clear glaze

Collection: Richard Gill and Ruth Johnson, Brisbane

Left to right:

Nell Bott

(1870–1943)

Leaf and berry bowl 1954

A low brown bowl featuring leaves and berries; the lip of the bowl undulates in an art nouveau style
Griffith University Art Collection. Purchased 2012

Shirlie Archer

(1914–unknown)

Large vase 1936

Earthenware, hand-built two-handled vase modelled with nuts and leaves; glazed sepia and colours
Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn Cooke, 2012

Nell Watkins

(1904–2003)

Pierced footed bowl c.1936-40

Earthenware, hand-built and set on six splayed feet and elaborately pierced with a scrolling design; sepia and green glaze

City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Gift of Mrs. Helen Starke, 1991

Helen Hope

(Unknown dates)

Double gourd vase 1937

Earthenware, hand-built, heavily carved with scrolls and foliate motifs; blue, green and amber glazes
Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Unknown Harvey School potter (M.S.)

Hexagonal Box c.1935

Earthenware, slab built and set on ball-feet and carved with leaf and berry decoration; sepia and green glaze with red

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Florence Archer

(1898–1947)

Jardinière 1936

Hand-built earthenware, swelling form with flaring lip on four feet, incised with palmettes and scrolls; colourful running glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Roy Prentice

(1893-1957)

Large Vase 1930s

Earthenware, hand-built baluster shape with carved foliate design around the shoulder, glaze sepia and colours

Griffith University Art Collection. Gift of Marion Diamond, Judy Powell and David Powell, 2018

Roy Prentice

(1893-1957)

Small vase 1936

Earthenware, hand-built baluster shape with carved design of stylised iris around the body, glaze sepia with blue and green details

Griffith University Art Collection. Gift of Marion Diamond, Judy Powell and David Powell, 2018

Left to right:

Lorna Harding

(Unknown dates)

Wall pocket 1930s

Earthenware, slab and hand-built. The opening is modelled as a naturalistic branch with pendant gum leaves and nuts in green and brown with applied blue beetle against a brown ground

Collection: Steve and Kim Petterson, Brisbane

Nell Bott

(1870–1943)

Wall pocket 1936

Earthenware, slab and hand-built. The opening is modelled as a naturalistic branch with pendant gum leaves and nuts in green and red with applied blue beetle against a brown ground

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Essie Hayes

(1881–1960)

Wall pocket 1937

Earthenware, slab and hand-built, with opening is modelled as a naturalistic branch with pendant gum leaves and nuts in green and red and applied blue beetle against a brown ground

Griffith University Art Collection. Gift of Donna L'Estrange 2017

Mary Lawrence

(1867–1955)

Wall pocket c.1935

Earthenware, slab and hand-built the rim modelled with naturalistic branch with gum leaves and nuts pendant and model of a beetle; light green-blue glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Left to right:

Gloria Lovelock

(1905–1995)

Four handled vase 1930s

Earthenware, hand-built with four handles extending from the lip to the shoulder and carved with a fleur de lys motif beneath each; glazed brown and green

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Ethel Mills

(1907–unknown)

Potpourri bowl c.1939

Earthenware, hand-built exercise, pierced and incised with insect motifs on lid and shoulders, modelled with gum nuts and leaves; amber glaze with pink and green details

Collection: Richard Gill and Ruth Johnson, Brisbane

Unknown Harvey School potter

Squat vase 1933

Earthenware, slip-cast white body with brown Art Deco stepped design against a scale ground; clear glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Daisy Hutchison

(1888–1972)

Covered jar c.1920-25

Earthenware, hand-built large ginger-jar shape on four small feet. Applied swirling plant decoration in the Art Nouveau manner; amber glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Essie Hayes

(1881–1960)

Desk companion 1938

Earthenware, slab built with incised and pierced scroll decoration and eight petalled daisy motif with sepia and coloured glaze. Glass ink containers

Collection: Richard Gill and Ruth Johnson, Brisbane

Most of the ceramics produced by members of the Harvey School are containers of various sorts and styles which makes this desk companion a remarkable example. It commemorates the death of her husband, Frederick, a decade earlier.

Shirlie Archer

(1914–unknown)

Gum leaf basket c.1931

Earthenware, slab and hand built oval base with handle applied with large gum leaves and nuts; glazed brown with red and green

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Nelly Harries

(1876–1956)

Jardinière c.1925

Earthenware, hand-built on four feet with dragonhead handles rising from the shoulder; running sepia glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Edith White

(1886–1968)

Log vase 1930s

Earthenware, modelled in the form of a log with a broken branch and applied gum leaves and nuts; brown, green and red glazes

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Winifred Ferguson

(1883–1969)

Large vase c.1930-40

Earthenware, hand-built with four prominent handles extending from the shoulder and carved with fleur de lys motifs; sepia and green glaze

Collection: Bob and Margaret Farley, Brisbane

Left to right:

Adele Miller

(Unknown dates)

Grape jug c.1935

Earthenware, hand-built jug with prominent lip and modelled with fruiting grape vine and leaves; glazed sepia with mulberry and green

Collection: Steve and Kim Petterson, Brisbane

Winifred Ferguson

(1883–1969)

Butterfly wall pocket c.1939

Earthenware, slab and hand-built, carved design of butterfly wings with cobalt, ochre and brown details

Collection: Steve and Kim Petterson, Brisbane

Gloria Lovelock

(1905–1995)

Corinthian jug c.1935

Earthenware, slab and hand-built circular form with centre hole. Carved with grape and leaf motifs; glazed mulberry and green over sepia

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Verlie Tainton

(1922-2000)

Bowl c.1941

Earthenware, hand-built flattened spherical form incised with wave design around rim; brown glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Gift of Glenn R. Cooke 2018

Frances Carnegie

(1901–1988)

Vase 1935

Earthenware, hand-modelled swelling form with carved decoration of floral garlands and lion's-head lugs; brown and green glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Nelly Harries

(1876–1956)

Low bowl c.1927

Earthenware, hand-built on four feet and with dragon headed handles and carved with five flowers against a stipple ground; glazed brown with green and red

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Mary Macdonald

(1868–1955)

Jug 1931

Earthenware, hand-built with two lettered panels carved within circular reserves; deep brown glaze
Harvey Family Collection, Brisbane

There are numerous examples within the Harvey School of carved and incised lettering of folksy sayings, such as “A BOOK AND A LIGHT/ WHAT OF THE NIGHT” inscribed on a candlestick by Gladys Shepherd. Mary Macdonald’s Jug is exceptional as it is carved with Robbie Burns’s epitaph for William Muir: “FEW/ HEADS Wi’/KNOWLEDGE/ SO/ INFORM/ ED and FEW/ HEARTS/ LIKE HIS/ Wi’ VIRTUE/ WARMED.”

Shirlie Archer

(1914–unknown)

Vase with grapes c.1935

Earthenware, hand-built shouldered vase with uneven rim and modelled with fruiting grape vine and leaves; glazed brown with mulberry and green

City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Purchased 1983

Unknown Harvey School potter

Grape wall pocket 1938

Earthenware, hand-built circular shape with rusticated edges and modelled with a fruiting grape vine; glazed sepia with green and mulberry.

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Shirlie Archer

(1914–unknown)

Rose bowl c.1935

Earthenware, hand-built low bowl. The uneven rim modelled with fruiting grape vine and leaves; glazed brown with mulberry and green

City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Gift of the City Hall Historical & Arts Committee, 1979

Left to right:

Alice Bott

(1879–1952)

Jardinière 1930s

Earthenware, slab built on four square feet with moulded panel of a fish with spiky fins and weed; blue and red glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Alice Bott's design for the carved detail of a spiky-finned fish among shells and waterweeds on this slab-built jardinière was copied by at least three of her students.

Muriel MacDiarmid

(1878–1941)

Corinthian Jug c.1934

Earthenware, slab and hand-built with circular hole in the centre and elaborately carved with scrolling forms; cobalt blue glaze

Collection: Royal Historical Society of Queensland

Margaret McLean

(1907–1978)

Lidded canister c.1930

Earthenware, hand-built with applied gum leaf and nut decoration; purple, green and yellow glazes
City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Gift of Miss M. McMahon, 1986

Margaret McLean's work is generally of a simple profile with Art Deco-inspired decoration, in this case gum leaves, which are quite restrained to emphasise the quality of the glaze.

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

The wave 1930s

Earthenware, hand-built free form bowl representing waves modelled with two faces; glazed sepia and blue

Private collection, Brisbane

Eunice Reid

(1899–1977)

Vase (gum leaves) c.1920-23

Earthenware, press-moulded, carved on the shoulder with six arched and pendant gum leaves and nuts; cobalt glaze with deep burgundy at the pierced neck

Private collection, Brisbane

Evelyn Buggy

(1901–1984)

Dragon jug 1940

Earthenware, hand-built flattened oval form with projecting spout with carved scrolls, the rim further embellished with a modelled dragon; glazed brown and blues

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Margaret McLean

(1907–1978)

Slab vase c.1930

Earthenware, slab built with carved crest and stylised plume; glazed blue, green, and yellow

City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Gift of Miss M McMahan, 1986

Front to back, left to right:

Elizabeth Monz

(1908–1988)

Coffee set 1929

Earthenware, hand-built tapering cylindrical shape with applied handle and spout, carved decoration; pink glaze splashed sepia and blue

Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. Gift of the artist, 1985

Glazing of Harvey School works at Stone's Pottery could be haphazard as there are numerous instances of the maker's instructions being ignored. This unexpected colour combination, pink, amber and cobalt proved popular amongst Harvey's students and scattered examples are found through the 1920s and 1930s.

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

Large potpourri 1920

Earthenware, hand-built, inlaid with rosebuds and a swag, prominent peaked lid; rose-coloured glaze

Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. Gift of the Reverends David and Bruce Noble in memory of their mother Elsie Harvey Noble through the Queensland Art Gallery Foundation, 2008

Harvey's experimentations with his inlaying technique began by 1919, and by the following year, he was able to include additional inlay colours. The piercings necessary to the function of a potpourri added to the complexity of the work.

Maud O'Reilly

(1886–1971)

Vase 1926

Earthenware, thrown baluster shape; deep plum Chun-type glaze

Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. Gift of Mr E.B. & Mrs M.E. Whitehouse, 1988

O'Reilly's sojourn in London in 1926 coincided with a fulfilling period in her life when she experimented with wheel throwing and Chinese inspired glazes. Unfortunately, she did not continue in this direction when she returned to Australia as the skills required to fire to such high temperatures were well beyond the capabilities of even the most adventurous potters here.

Bessie Devereux

(1877–1948)

Large scraffito vase c.1935

Earthenware, hand-built with scraffito decoration of Australian fauna

Griffith University Art Collection. Gift of Cilla Warre, 2016

Left to right:

D. Kay

(Unknown dates)

Deco jug 1939

Earthenware, slab and hand-built flattened spherical form in a simplified Art Deco shape; running red, blue and green glazes

Collection: Steve and Kim Petterson, Brisbane

The potter who produced this modernist jug with its startling glaze in 1939 is known only by initials on several pots, including other attractive Art Deco-inspired pieces. They are quite removed from Harvey's influence and suggest that she was a student of Margaret McLean.

J.F. Beaumont (Hustwit school)

(Unknown dates)

Punchbowl 1953

Hand-built ceramic with carved feet and rim with nine fleur de lys motifs; bright maroon glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Charles Astley

(1869–1929)

Vase (grape trellis) c.1920s

Earthenware, press-moulded baluster shape carved with grapes and leaves; mulberry over oxblood glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Elvin Harvey

(1913–2008)

Potpourri jar c.1934

Earthenware, hand-built, carved and pierced with elaborate scrolling motifs at the shoulder and lid; glazed red and blue

Harvey Family Collection, Brisbane

Fanny Brett

(1860–1949)

Bowl on footed stand 1926

Earthenware, hand-built on four legs with stretchers and modelled with floral and leaf motifs above the legs; glazed red with colours

Collection: Richard Gill and Ruth Johnson, Brisbane

Muriel MacDiarmid

(1878–1941)

Waterlily jug c.1927

Earthenware, hand-built carved and modelled with a waterlily beneath the spout and lily pads on each side; red glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

W.J. Williamson

(Unknown dates)

Large baluster vase 1936

Earthenware, hand-built, and carved with floral and foliate motifs; red and purple glaze

Collection: Steve and Kim Petterson, Brisbane

This impressive vase is evidence that under Harvey's tutelage, Mrs Williamson, who first exhibited in the RNA in 1934, became a skilled practitioner within two years.

Student of Alice Bott

Jardinière with fish motif c.1940

Earthenware, slab built on four square feet with moulded panel of a fish with spiky fins and weed; red and green glaze

Collection: Bob and Margaret Farley, Brisbane

Left to right:

Beryl Davis

(1904–1999)

Hexagonal box c.1937

Earthenware, slab built and carved with foliate decoration; pink, green and blue glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Dorothy Julian

(Unknown–1952)

Lion mask bowl 1937

Earthenware, hand-built on four small feet, modelled with four lion masks and leaf motif; pink and mulberry glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Dorothy Harvey

(1894–1966)

Clock case c.1938

Earthenware, slab built with carved and modelled decoration; pink and mulberry glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Ethel Matheson

(1890–1965)

Pansy boat 1937

Earthenware, hand-built with a prominent prow shape at each end and a covered central section pierced with hearts and holes; glazed sepia. Varicoloured pansies applied to the outside

Collection: Bob and Margaret Farley, Brisbane

In the Harvey School unique shapes were devised to accommodate the short stems of flowers picked from the garden.

Frances Stewart

(1876–1959)

Jug c.1926

Earthenware, hand-built white clay carved gum leaf decoration; mottled red, green, blue and orange glazes

City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Purchased 1982

Fanny Brett

(1860–1949)

Bowl on footed stand 1926

Earthenware, hand-built on four legs with stretchers and modelled with floral and leaf motifs above the legs; glazed red with colours

Collection: Richard Gill and Ruth Johnson, Brisbane

Fanny Brett was one of Harvey's most prolific students of the 1920s. This footed bowl featured in a special display of her work in the Arts and Crafts Society of Queensland's Annual Exhibition in 1927.

Left to right:

Bessie Devereux

(1877–1948)

Jug (native fauna) c.1924-25

Earthenware, hand-built buff clay spread eagle beneath lip, still leaves and of Australian animals including pelican, swan, possum, fruit bat, snake etc

Private collection, Brisbane

This group of ceramics was acquired by the owner's grandmother in the 1920s.

Bessie Devereux

(1877–1948)

Handled vase c.1921-24

Earthenware, hand-built tear-drop shaped form with two handles at the neck; running green and mulberry glaze

Private collection, Queensland

Bessie Devereux

(1877–1948)

Jug (geometric decoration) c.1925

Earthenware, wheel-thrown buff clay underglaze decoration in dark and light brown and intense blue geometric design and blue bands

Private collection, Brisbane

Bessie Devereux

(1877–1948)

Low vase (stiff-leaf decoration) c.1923-24

Earthenware, wheel-thrown buff clay underglaze decoration in dark and light brown and intense blue stiff leaf motifs

Private collection, Brisbane

Alice Bott

(1879–1952)

Sandwich box c.1932

Earthenware, slab built and carved with foliate motifs; sepia, pink, green and blue glazes

Collection: Bob and Margaret Farley, Brisbane

Mary Darling (Hustwit school)

(c.1913–1963)

Pierced jug c.1950

Earthenware, hand-built, with panels of pierced decoration; matte white glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Winnie Webb

(Unknown dates)

Bowl with butterflies 1938

Earthenware, slab built hexagonal form on ball feet, pierced and incised with butterfly motifs; mottled green and pink glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Unknown Harvey School potter (C.W.)

Vase with four handles c.1938

Earthenware, hand-built with handles terminating in foliate motif; running pink, blue and green glazes

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Vera Ucinski

(Unknown dates)

Vase 1930s

Earthenware, slab built on four feet with carved scrolling decoration; pink glaze mottled with blue and green

Collection: Bob and Margaret Farley, Brisbane

Left to right:

Bessie Devereux

(1877–1948)

Onion-shaped vase c.1920s

Earthenware, hand-built form with bulbous neck; running blue and green glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Nell Bott

(1870–1943)

Jardinière c.1923

Earthenware, hand-built on four feet with carved fleur de lys decoration and animal head handles; green and cobalt glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Unknown Harvey School potter (J.H.)

Iris jug c.1922

Earthenware, hand-built squat form, modelled iris leaves and flowers; green glaze splashed cobalt

Private collection, Brisbane

Maud O'Reilly

(1886–1971)

Double gourd vase 1923

Earthenware, hand-built double gourd shape with three handles; glazed green shaded to blue shaded to green

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

O'Reilly's Double gourd vase, like the work of Bessie Devereux in the early 1920s, shows the influence of British art pottery. Although ultimately based on a Chinese model, it is probably the progenitor of the form that became more prevalent in the succeeding decade.

Unknown Harvey School potter (C.J.M.)

Landscape vase 1924

Hand-built earthenware with four applied feet and river scene in brown and gold slip; turquoise glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn Cooke, 2012

In 1917 Harvey designed an onion-shaped vase with landscape design in natural coloured clay slips overlaid with a deep cobalt glaze. It is a ceramic version of the crepuscular landscapes common in turn of the century painting and remained a popular style of decoration with Harvey's students throughout the 1920s.

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

Evangelene c.1924

Earthenware, modelled bust of a young woman with natural coloured clays; deep blue-green glaze
Harvey Family Collection, Brisbane

Bessie Devereux

(1877–1948)

Vase with handles 1920s

Earthenware, wheel-thrown cylindrical form narrowing to rim with angular handles; glaze shaded light to darker blue and green

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Artcraft Studio

(1923–1929)

Vase c.1925

Earthenware, wheel-thrown; blue and green glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn Cooke, 2012

Mary Lawrence

(1867–1955)

Footed bowl with handle 1924

Earthenware, hand-built the spherical body carved with Celtic inspired strap motifs around the edges; glazed blue green

Private collection, Brisbane

Martin Moroney

(1872–1917)

Carnation plate c.1904

Earthenware, hand-painted with a border of scrolling carnations, pink and green against a red ground and naturalistically painted carnations in the centre

Private collection, Brisbane

Left to right:

Mona Barton

(1894–1966)

Hexagonal vase 1927

Earthenware, slab built and carved with a Celtic-inspired design; blue glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Adele Miller

(Unknown dates)

Vase on footed stand c.1933

Earthenware, hand-built globular body supported by four curved legs on a platform supported by four shaped feet; blue glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

Butterfly vase 1918

Earthenware cylindrical form incised with butterfly motifs; deep blue glaze

Harvey Family Collection, Brisbane

Roy Prentice

(1893-1957)

Covered jar c.1935

Earthenware, hand-built ginger jar shape with slip; decorated white cherry blossoms and blue glaze

Griffith University Art Collection, Gift of Marion Diamond, Judy Powell and David Powell, 2018

Ethel Matheson

(1890–1965)

Slab vase 1938

Earthenware, slab built tall form with carved cartouches; blue and green running glazes

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn Cooke, 2012

Frances Stewart

(1876–1959)

Jug 1926

Earthenware, hand-built white clay, carved gum leaf decoration; mottled blue and orange glazes

City of Brisbane Collection, Museum of Brisbane. Purchased 1982

Florence Bland

(1890–1982)

Tall waisted vase c.1926

Earthenware, slab built hexagonal shape incised with foliate motifs and highlighted in cobalt beneath clear glaze

Bland Family Collection

Martin Moroney

(1872–1917)

Carnation plate c.1907

Earthenware, Stone's Pottery blank with underglaze cobalt; clear glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Martin Moroney

(1872–1917)

Vase (waratah design) 1914

Earthenware, Stone's Pottery white clay blank with cobalt underglaze; black, green and red overglaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Clem Ainslie

(1888–1979)

Sandwich box 1927

Earthenware, slab built with slip decoration of a river scene featuring large trees in the foreground; blue glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Gloria Lovelock

(1905–1995)

Box with cherry blossoms c.1935-1940

Earthenware, slab built white clay with handle in the form of a (deep blue) tree branch extending over the lid and sided with blossoms applied in yellow and white slip; clear glaze

Collection: Richard Gill and Ruth Johnson, Brisbane

In the 1920s, twilight landscapes were applied in natural coloured clays at the Harvey School, but in the late 1930s, stained slips were painted onto the surface. Most examples were of formal designs but Lovelock's is an exceptional naturalistic depiction.

Left to right:

Fanny Brett

(1860–1949)

Jug 1926

Wheel thrown earthenware, gunmetal blue under a clear glaze with moulded decorative gum nuts and leaves on body

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn Cooke, 2012

Unknown Harvey School potter

Gum leaf vase with handles c.1920s

Earthenware, hand-built with handles extending from the shoulder to the everted neck, modelled pendant gum leaves and nuts; mulberry and cobalt glaze

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

Vase (Andromeda) 1936

Earthenware, hand-built tall form with unglazed female mask at the top and a modelled dragon below; glazed in browns and blue; "Andromeda" incised below dragon

Private collection, Brisbane

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

Figurine: Parrot c.1926

Earthenware, modelled in the form of a macaw set on a hollow stump applied with gum nuts and leaves; glazed mulberry with cobalt, red and yellow

Harvey Family Collection, Brisbane

Unknown Harvey School potter (E.R.)

Vase 1925

Earthenware, hand-built bulbous shape with two handles rising to the rim and carved with a band of foliate motifs; mulberry and blue glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Bessie Devereux

(1877–1948)

Vase 1920s

Hand-built earthenware, squat form with narrowing shoulders and three handles rising to neck; mulberry and blue glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Muriel MacDiarmid

(1878–1941)

Jug 1926

Earthenware, hand-modelled with decoration of gum leaves; mulberry glaze. Incised beneath spout 'AQUA PURA'

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

Small footed pot c.1922

Earthenware, wheel-thrown with four feet, and four carved heart motifs; glazed mulberry, blue and green

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn Cooke, 2012

Daisy Hutchison

(1888–1972)

Slab vase 1922

Earthenware, slab-built with carved decoration of stylised wisteria flowers in the manner of the Glasgow school; blue and mulberry glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Jessie Philp

(1893–1962)

Gum leaf trough c.1925

Earthenware, slab-built on four feet applied with gum leaves and nuts; green and mulberry glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Left to right:

Mona Elliott

(1872–1964)

Vase 1927

Earthenware, hand-built terracotta with modelled koalas and burnished white clay ground; unglazed

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Sheila Walsh

(1918–unknown)

Covered Jar 1938

Earthenware, handbuilt white clay with running rust and ochre slips and cobalt blue glaze beneath clear glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

Jug for Milo House 1925

Earthenware, slab-built and hand-built, with dragon handle and carved with “FEH”; “LJH”; brown, yellow and blue glazes

Harvey Family Collection, Brisbane

One of the characteristics of Harvey School pottery is the very personal connections of pieces made for mothers, fathers, husbands, wives or friends and so incised. The teapot exercise was frequently produced as a token of affection for the maker's mother. Harvey made this jug for his own home Milo and engraved it with his and his wife's initials.

Frances Carnegie

(1901–1988)

Vase 1935

Earthenware, hand-modelled swelling form with carved decoration of floral garlands, lion's-head lugs, brown and green glaze

Private collection, Brisbane

Nell Bott

(1870–1943)

Bowl with frog and dragon 1937

Earthenware, hand-built oval bowl on four feet with modelled frog peering over the flaring lip at a dragon; sepia and green glazes

City of Brisbane, Museum of Brisbane. Gift of the City Hall Historical & Arts Committee, 1979

Gloria Lovelock

(1905–1995)

Vase (log) 1939

Earthenware, hand-built in the form of a vertical hollow log, applied with two birds, two beetles and four rabbits around the base; sepia and coloured glazes

Private collection, Brisbane

Lovelock's log vase, embellished with birds, insects and rabbits, is one of the very few vertical format log vases in the Harvey School.

Val McMaster

(1913–1983)

Six-sided vase c.1930-35

Slab built brown earthenware with bird motif in ochre and brown slips; white underglaze and cobalt details

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

The decoration of McMaster's vase is complex. Apart from the brown and gold clays used in the double scraffito technique, the body of the bird is glazed white then finished with cobalt details.

Nell Bott

(1870–1943)

Vase (Art Nouveau) 1924

Earthenware, hand-built with foliate motif applied with brown slip and blue-green glaze

Collection: Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. Gift of Lorna Pirie through the Queensland Art Gallery Foundation, 1999. Donated through the Australia Government's Cultural Gifts Program

L.J. Harvey

(1871–1949)

Figurine (Jackie tobacco) c.1930

Earthenware, modelled kookaburra with detachable head on pedestal in the style of Martin Brothers, England; naturalistic colour glazes and integral carved wood base

Collection: Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art. Gift of the Reverends David and Bruce Noble in memory of their mother Elsie Harvey Noble through the Queensland Art Gallery Foundation, 2008

English art potters, the Martin Brothers produced a series of whimsical, quizzical and sometimes disturbing birds known as “Wally birds” which are now highly collectible. Some, like Jackie tobacco, have detachable heads which justify their usage as tobacco jars. The Australian kookaburra was a favourite subject with Harvey in wood carving, pottery and leatherwork.

Maud O'Reilly

(1886–1971)

Kookaburra 1926

Slip-cast, hand-finished, glazed earthenware in the form of a kookaburra with gum nuts and leaves, with underglaze painting

Private collection, Brisbane

Right to left:

Nell McCredie

(1901–1968)

Slab vase c.1925-27

Earthenware, white clay slab built vase (exercise five shape), dipped ochre and dark terracotta slips and incised with a formalised design on leaves; clear glaze

Collection: Stephen Mahoney, Brisbane

Unknown Harvey School potter (A.B.)

Jug c.1930

Earthenware, slab built jug (exercise five shape) with prominent lip and modelled iris and leaves to sides; glazed brown and colours

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Unknown Annie Mitchell School potter (T.O.W)

Slab vase c.1940

Earthenware, slab built vase (exercise five shape) with modelled rose leaves applied; ochre glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

E.N. Webb

(Unknown dates)

Jug 1939

Earthenware, slab built jug (exercise five shape) with a kookaburra on one face and gum-leaves on the other; glazed pink

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Lilly Wilson

(1901–1990)

Slab vase c.1921

Earthenware, slab built vase (exercise five shape), incised decoration; yellow and mulberry glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Gift of Marian Cahill, 2015

Left to right:

Margaret Illidge

(Unknown dates)

Slab vase c.1920s

Earthenware, slab built (exercise five shape) incised with papyrus design through brown slip; blue-green glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Frida Hein

(1896–1971)

Slab vase c.1936

Earthenware, slab built vase (exercise five shape) without feet, carved motifs; green glaze with blue details

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Sheila Walsh

(1918–unknown)

Small slab jug 1941

Earthenware, slab built jug (exercise five shape) with incised floral design; green and colour glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

H Finleyson

(Unknown dates)

Small slab vase c. 1930

Earthenware, slab built jug (exercise five shape) with applied gum leaves and nuts; mulberry and blue glaze with green and brown details

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Unknown Harvey School potter (I.Z.)

Gum leaf jug 1930s

Earthenware, slab built jug (exercise five shape) with prominent spout and light ivory glaze with naturalistically coloured gum leaves and nuts

Collection: Rod Jensen, Brisbane

Muriel Gregory

(1888–1975)

Inlaid slab vase c.1922

Earthenware, slab built vase (exercise five shape) inlaid with brown and ochre clay; mulberry glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Unknown Harvey School potter (E.L.U.)

Vase 1922

Earthenware, slab built vase (exercise five shape) with contrasting slip inlay; clear glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Unknown Harvey School potter (E.B.D.)

Vase 1923

Earthenware, slab built vase (inverted exercise five shape) with lip and carved fleur de lys motifs within an oval; mulberry glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Unknown Harvey School potter (I.Z.)

Slab vase c.1930

Earthenware, slab built vase (inverted exercise five shape) modelled with gum nuts and leaves; pink glaze with brown and green detail

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012

Unknown Harvey School potter (R.M.L.)

Slab vase 1946

Earthenware, slab built vase (exercise five shape) modelled with gum leaves and nuts, and bun feet; running brown and green glaze

Griffith University Art Collection. Donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Glenn R. Cooke, 2012