

CAROLYN NYGREN CURRAN MINIATURE POTTERY

OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTS

Repository:	Folklife Center Crandall Public Library Glens Falls, NY
Creator:	Curran, Carolyn Nygren
Title:	Carolyn Curran Miniature Pottery
Dates:	unknown
Quantity:	1 box (7 miniature pieces)
Identification:	Folk Art & Artifacts
Accession #:	ACC 2023.2
Abstract:	Seven miniature pottery pieces created by Carolyn Nygren Curran of CNC Pottery.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Carolyn Nygren Curran, formerly of Glens Falls, crafts miniature pottery under the studio name CNC Pottery. She is known for her miniature stoneware and often exhibited and sold at the library, the Old Fort Museum, and the Chapman Museum, where she ran programs after which she would recreate historic stoneware in exchange for a photograph of the original piece. As of 2023, she is located in Haverford, PA. The Folklife Center also has a miniature Fort Edward Stoneware wagon (ACC 2022.21.1) with several of Curran's pieces attached.

From the Haverford Guild of Craftsmen website:

"A Fellow of the International Guild of Miniature Artisans since 1998, Carolyn is probably best known for authentic mini replicas of traditional pottery from many different cultures.

Born in Mineola, NY on Long Island, she lived in Glens Falls, NY for 40 years, then 14 years in New Bern, NC. Carolyn relocated to this area in October 2019.

Carolyn was majoring in French literature at Pembroke College at Brown University, but after she came back from her junior year in France, she switched to Art History, taking courses in her senior year at Rhode Island School of Design. The RISD courses made her realize she should stop taking the advice of those who said 'art can be an

avocation'. She received a scholarship to Pratt School of Architecture two years later but circumstances but her on another route. When Carolyn and her husband moved to upstate NY with two small children, it became evident that architecture was not going to work for her situation. In 1968 she took a 6 week adult ed course in pottery and was hooked! With a kick wheel made from a kit, a tiny second hand kiln and a LOT of books, she began her career as a self-taught potter. CNC Pottery was established in 1971. Her learning with a very small kiln, and a chance encounter with a shop owner wanting 1" scale miniatures led to her specialty of small scale and miniature pottery. Though she works with both big and small pots, the minis have been her mainstay since 1976. Past customers have included the museum shops of the Smithsonian, Museum of American Folk Art, Bennington Museum and other museums, as well as collectors of full scale decorated stoneware and other traditional pottery. She is currently making 1" scale red ware miniatures for Landis Valley Museum in Lancaster....

Carolyn's exhibitions include the annual shows of IGMA and juried miniature shows across the country. In 2000, she had a one person show at LARAC in Glens Falls, NY and received a decentralization grant from NYS for a project involving glaze ingredient use of natural materials from Warren County, NY..."

INDEX TERMS

Topics: Pottery
Miniature pottery
Ceramics
Reproductions

Places: Glens Falls—Warren—New York

Important People: Curran, Carolyn Nygren

Form/Genre: Realia

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation: Carolyn Nygren Curran Miniature Pottery
Folklife Center
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY

Accession Information: Purchased in 2023

Processing Information: Arranged and described by Amanda Franzoni, June 2023

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECTS

Seven miniature pieces include:

Brown and white stoneware crock, 1" x 0.75"

Blue and white pitcher, 0.75" x 0.5"

Red colander with handle, 0.25" x 0.75"

Brown and white stoneware jug, 1" x 0.5" (at widest points)

Three stacking red bowls, 1/2" x 1"; 5/16" x 3/4"; and 1/4" x 1/2"