

VIETNAM SHIPWRECKS

Binh Thuan, Hoi An, Ca Mau, Vung Tau (Hon Cau Wreck), Phu Quoc I - included for information only, Hon Dam Shipwreck (Phu Quoc II), Phu Quoc II (A), Phu Quoc III (Kien Giang Wreck), Song Doc (Ca Mau Town Wreck), Quang Ngai, Phu Yen (Binh Dinh) Shipwreck, Binh Thuan No. 2 (Yuan shipwreck), Song Doc - Ming wrecksite, Vung Tau No. 2 wrecksite, Tet Shipwreck, Quang Ngai No. 2, Tang Wreck, Quang Ngai (Binh Chau) - Yuan Shipwreck, Con Dao Island Wreck, Phan Thiet Shipwreck, Unidentified shipwreck No. 1, Unidentified shipwreck No. 2, Unidentified wrecksite No. 3, Unidentified wrecksite No. 4, Unidentified wrecksite No. 5.

Binh Thuan – discovered between 1999 and 2000 about 40 nautical miles east of Phan Thiet town near Phu Qui Island, southern Vietnam (latitude 10 degrees 30' N and longitude 108 degrees 30' E) at a depth of 39 meters. The official survey of the wrecksite of the Chinese junk was done in August 2001 by Michael Flecker's Maritime Explorations Company together with the government owned Vietnam Salvage Corporation (Visal). The official excavation was conducted from 13 September 2002 to 22 October 2002 by the Binh Thuan People's committee (BTPC) jointly with Visal, and with Maritime Explorations providing project management services and archeological consultancy.

A total of approximately 34,000 ceramics were recovered consisting almost exclusively of Swatow wares dated to the late 16th century to early 17th century. The primary types of Swatow (Zhangzhou) ceramic recoveries consisted of the following: blue and white, polychrome enamel, blue and white along with polychrome enamel, as well as monochrome white, green and brown. Specific shapes and objects included bowls (small, medium and large), plates (small, medium and large), stem cups, sweetmeat dishes (9 piece sets) both blue and white and polychrome enamel, spoons, small jarlets (blue and white with deer, lion, horse or floral, and monochrome white),

blue and white square shaped dishes (with fish, sage, or floral motif), and very large basin shaped dishes with recessed base (blue and white and polychrome). This cargo is the first dedicated shipment of Swatow ware ever to be found. Also recovered were a variety of jarlets, cover boxes, and storage jars of various shapes, sizes, decorative treatments and glazes from the Guangzhou kilns in Guangdong province, China.

The officially recovered ceramics were retained by the government of Vietnam, with a large quantity subsequently sold at auction and a large number of representative specimens and the unique examples kept for museum display and heritage conservation. The sale at auction was conducted by Christie's, Melbourne "The Binh Thuan Shipwreck," March 1 and 2, 2004 with a total of 760 lots consisting of 15,242 items and realizing A\$1,908,693 (US\$1,450,606) including the 17.5 percent buyer's premium. This equates to an average price of just under US \$100 per item (Auction Note - many of the lots were sold to Far Eastern buyers; in some of the larger lots the provenance stickers seem to have been applied to only half of the items in the lot). Christie's announced that a share of the proceeds from the sale would go to the construction of a museum in the city of Phan Thiet in Binh Thuan province, Vietnam that would exhibit ceramics from the shipwreck and provide related information as well.

Vast quantities of the Binh Thuan wreck ceramics were also available in the antique shops of Saigon. These included very large numbers of all of the items included in the auction, along with additional material as well. This additional material, as available in the antique shops, primarily consisted of cover boxes with a retractable knob on the cover, small jarlets with fluted sides and flared mouth rim, and rabbit shape covered boxes, among others. The first two items mentioned, although illustrated and referenced in the auction catalogue, were not included in the actual sale.

Binh Thuan ceramics (134) included in the collection are as follows

(M-260 to M-498):

M-260 – Swatow blue and white large bowls (4) with a heron or lion in center, exterior with ducks or floral décor, D: 20.5 cm. (\$200)

M-265 – Swatow blue and white plates (2 - pair) with confronting phoenix in center, D: 27.3 cm. (\$82)

M-266 – Swatow stemcups (3) with vestiges of polychrome enamel, H: 5.8 cm. (\$82)

M-267 – Swatow spoons (3 - set) monochrome white, L: 12 cm. (\$10)

M-268 – Swatow blue and white square shaped dishes (3 - set) with fish, D: 8.1 cm. (\$24)

M-269 – Swatow jarlets (4) blue and white with deer (2) and monochrome white (2), H: 3.6 cm. to 5.4 cm. (\$38)

M-270 – Swatow plates (2 - pair) polychrome enamel with confronting phoenix in center, D: 25.7 cm. (\$34)

M-271 – Swatow jarlets (6 - set) monochrome white, H: 3.7 cm. (\$24)

M-272 – Swatow bowls (4 - set), underglaze blue *shou* character, D: 12 cm. (\$21)

M-273 – Swatow cover boxes (4) in variety of shapes, decorative treatments and glaze colors, D: 6.1 cm. to 7.1 cm. (\$40)

M-274 – Swatow blue and white jarlets (7 - set) with deer, H: 4.7 cm. to 5.5 cm. (\$72)

M-275 – Swatow sweetmeat dishes (9 - set) traces of poly-chrome enamel, D: 10.9 cm. (No. 1 to No. 8) and 13.8 cm. (No. 9). (\$61)

M-276 – Swatow stemcups (3) with vestiges of polychrome enamel, H: 5.2 cm. to 5.9 cm. (\$40)

M-277 – Swatow blue and white square shaped dish with sage, D: 8.1 cm. (\$5)

M-278 – Swatow blue and white dishes (6 - set) with phoenix, D: 16.8 cm. to 17.3 cm. (\$54)

M-279 – Swatow large monochrome white plate, D: 38.3 cm. (\$51)

M-280 – Swatow blue and white sweetmeat dishes (9 - set) with floral sprays, D: 10.8 cm. (No. 1 to No. 8) & 13.7 cm. (No. 9). (\$115)

M-286 – Swatow cover box, floral medallions décor, overglaze enamel degraded, D: 9.1 cm. (\$3)

M-288 – Swatow blue and white large bowl with ducks, erect heron surrounded by aquatic plants in central medallion, D: 20.6 cm. (\$80)

M-290 – Swatow blue and white bowls (2 - pair) with monkey and deer, D: 10.9 cm. (\$30)

M-291 – Swatow blue and white bowls (2 - pair) with floral scroll, D: 11.3 cm. (\$20)

M-292 – Swatow cover box, with molded fish and green glaze, D: 5.2 cm. (\$20)

M-293 – Swatow blue and white bowls (3) variously decorated, D: 10.9 cm. to 14.1 cm. (\$16)

M-294 – Swatow jarlets (3) with lobed sides, green glaze or brown glaze, H: 5.2 cm. to 5.4 cm. (\$17)

M-295 – Swatow cover box, high dome cover, polychrome enamel, H: 12.4 cm. (\$41)

M-296 – Swatow blue and white dishes (2 - pair) with *chilong*, D: 16.9 cm. (\$41)

M-297 – Swatow cover box (2), overglaze enamels degraded, D: 8.9 cm. and 11.7cm. (\$11)

M-298 – Swatow blue and white bowls (2 - pair) floral scroll, D: 11.3 cm. (\$18)

M-299 – Swatow cover boxes (2), rabbit shape with green glaze, seal mark, L: 6.6 cm. (\$33)

M-300 – Swatow large polychrome plates (2) with phoenix, D: 37.2 cm. (\$326)

M-301 – Swatow cover boxes (2 - pair), retractable knob, caramel brown glaze and brown lacquer accents, D: 8.1 cm. (\$32)

M-302 – Swatow blue and white bowls (3) with boys or monkey and deer, D: 10.9 cm. (\$150)

M-303 – Swatow cover boxes (2), brown lacquer, molded floral head, D: 4.7 cm. and 7.5 cm. (\$23)

M-304 – Swatow monochrome brown jars (2 - pair), H: 11.8 cm. (\$40)

M-305 – Swatow blue and white large bowls (3) lion in center, overglaze enamels degraded, D: 19.3 cm. to 20.2 cm. (\$45)

M-306 – Swatow blue and white large bowl with ducks, erect heron surrounded by aquatic plants in central medallion, D: 20.2 cm. (\$122)

M-308 – Swatow blue and white bowl, roundels and petal sprays on exterior; interior center with a leaf roundel, D: 14.1 cm. (\$10)

M-353 – Swatow blue and white jarlets (3 - set) decorated on the sides with two lions alternating with ribboned cash symbols, H: 6.8 cm to 7.2 cm. (\$75)

M-355 – Swatow blue and white dish in the central medallion a conch with ribboned streamers and a band of lappets surrounding, sides with four ribbon tied flutes, D: 11.5 cm. (\$6)

M-356 – Swatow blue and white bowl decorated on the sides with two clusters of bamboo with floral sprays separated by a star form In the central medallion a floral spray, D: 10.8 cm. (\$25)

M-357 – Swatow blue and white jarlet on the sides two peach sprays with undulating stems and fluidly rendered leaves, H: 7.2 cm. (\$30)

M-376 – Swatow blue and white bowl, roundels and petal sprays on exterior; interior center with a leaf roundel and at midpoint on the sides an underglaze blue potter's mark, D: 13.9 cm. (\$23)

M-377 – Swatow bowl with large underglaze blue *shou* character in the center surrounded by a single line border, D: 11.7 cm. (\$10)

M-381 – Swatow blue and white jarlet decorated with two galloping horses alternating with ribboned streamers, H: 7.5 cm. (\$50)

M-401 – Swatow blue and white small dishes (2 - pair) with trellis/diamond diaper border at mouthrim, a lake side scene decorates the center, D: 9.9 cm. and 9.8 cm. (\$30)

M-402 – Swatow polychrome plate with phoenix in center, steep wide cavetto has four green enamel symbols, D: 22.1 cm. (\$50)

M-403 – Swatow polychrome plate with erect phoenix in center, cavetto has four floral spray medallions, D: 25.6 cm. (\$30)

M-404 – Swatow blue and white small shallow bowls (2 - pair) decorated with an aquatic scene featuring ducks, lotus and waterweeds; D: 11.3 cm. and 11.1 cm. (\$55)

M-413 – Swatow blue and white dishes (2 - pair) in central medallion a conch with ribboned streamers and a band of lappets surrounding, sides with four ribbon tied flutes, D: 11.5 cm. and 11.3 cm. (\$40)

M-420 – Swatow medium size monochrome brown jar, flared mouth; base inscribed with four Chinese characters, H: 15.0 cm. (\$0-)

M-430 – Swatow blue and white jarlets (2 - pair) with deer reserved in white against underglaze blue shrubs and foliage, H: 5.0 cm. (\$25)

M-431 – Swatow blue and white jarlet decorated on the sides with two galloping horses alternating with ribboned streamers; lotus petals in outline form encircle the shoulder, H: 6.7 cm. (\$60)

M-461 – Swatow stemcups (2 - pair) with vestiges of polychrome enamel, H: 5.7 cm. and 5.6 cm. (\$30)

M-472 – Swatow blue and white jarlet decorated on the sides with two floral spray panels separated by overlapping fish scale filler; neck encircled by a collar of leaf tips H: 4.6 cm. (\$20)

M-498 – Swatow blue and white bowl, roundels and petal sprays on exterior; interior center with leaf roundel and unique feature of a collar of petal forms surrounding central medallion, D: 14.2 cm. (\$9)

Total - \$2,599

References

Adhyatman, Sumarah, 1999. *Zhangzhou (Swatow) Ceramics: Sixteenth to Seventeenth Centuries Found in Indonesia*. Jakarta: Himpunan Keramik Indonesia.

Brown, Roxanna - July 2004. Personal discussions in Thailand.

Bui Minh Tri, Vietnam Institute of Archeology, Hanoi - April 2002. Personal discussions in Hanoi.

China Daily, 2004. "400-Year-Old Treasure," China Daily, 26 February 2004.

Christie's Melbourne, 2004. *The Binh Thuan Shipwreck, Auction Catalogue, March 1 & 2, 2004*. Melbourne: Christie's.

Field Notes: Bangkok - February 2002, Saigon and Hanoi - April 2002, and Phnom Penh - January 2006.

Flecker, Michael, 2003. A Cargo of Zhangzhou Porcelain found off Binh Thuan Province, Vietnam, *Oriental Art*, 48/5 (Winter): 57-63.

Flecker, Michael, 2004. Talk delivered by Dr. Michael Flecker on the Binh Thuan wreck during a Regular Monthly Meeting of the Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines held at the residence of Lourdes Montinola. Manila: Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines.

Flecker, Michael, 2004. "Treasures of the Binh Thuan Shipwreck," *Heritage Asia Magazine*, Vol. 1 No. 4, June-August 2004.

Flecker, Michael, 2004. *The Binh Thuan Shipwreck - Archeological Report*. Singapore: Maritime Explorations.

Harrisson, Barbara, 1979. *Swatow*. Leeuwarden: Museum Het Princessehof.

Le Thi Thanh Ha, 2004. *Gom Su Thoi Minh (The Ming Dynasty's Ceramics)*. Hanoi: National Museum of Vietnamese History.

The Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines Newsletter, April 2008, "The Binh Thuan Shipwreck Archeological Report - 1," by Michael Flecker, pages 5 - 8.

The Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines Newsletter, May 2008, "The Binh Thuan Shipwreck Archeological Report - 2," by Michael Flecker, pages 5 - 8.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM), Bangkok University - Shipwreck Data Base References and Photos.

Tai Lieu, 2003. *Co Vat Tinh Hoa (Vietnam Antiques Magazine)*, No. 4, December, pp. 14 - 19. "Vietnamese Sea and the Ancient Ceramics - Porcelain Road."

Tan, Rita C., 2007. *Zhangzhou Ware Found in the Philippines - 'Swatow' Export Ceramics from Fujian 16th - 17th Century*. Manila:

Publication Partners - Yuchengco Museum & the Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines.



Hoi An (Cham Island Wreck) – discovered near Cham Island, Hoi An Town, Quang Nam Province at latitude 16 degrees 04' 00" N and longitude 108 degrees 30' 00" E at a depth of 72 meters by fisherman in 1996. Exploration of the wrecksite of the Thai junk started in May 1997 and the official excavation was begun in late spring of 1998 and extended through July 1999, under extremely difficult conditions and at a great depth with the complicated salvaging requiring the use of a diving bell and a pressurized chamber. The exploration and excavation was conducted jointly by the government owned Vietnam Salvage Corporation (Visal) and Saga Horizon Sdn. Bhd, a Malaysian private company, with Mensun Bound of the Oxford University Maritime Archaeological Research and Excavation Unit (MARE) serving as the Excavation Director. Recovered ceramics consisted of approximately 240,000 Vietnamese ceramics from the Chu Dau and My Xa kilns, Hai Duong Province, along with some Cham wares and limited quantities of Thai and Chinese ceramics - all dated to the late 15th century. The small quantity of Thai ceramics recovered included over 30 large stoneware jars and one earthenware kendi attributable to the Singburi kilns of central Thailand, along with 5 Sisatchanalai jarlets. A total of 24 of these large brown glazed Thai storage jars from the Ban Rachan kilns in Singburi Province were included in the main

auction sale. Also recovered were approximately one-half dozen Chinese blue and white porcelains and half that number of Chinese celadons. The range and quantity of Vietnamese ceramics recovered was indeed impressive and while consisting primarily of blue and white decorated ware, it also included polychrome enamel decorated pieces, some accented with gold, as well as monochrome white and monochrome blue, and brown and white glazed ware with underglaze blue accents. Of particular interest were medium sized vases in *yuhuchunping* shape with faceted sides and four large reticulated openwork panels containing a molded parrot décor with gilt accents; unglazed openwork panels with *qilin* above base, and on the shoulders smaller panels with molded floral décor - all surrounded by an overlapping wave design in underglaze blue. The flaring neck of these vases with flattened mouthrim is encircled by upright plantain leaves in underglaze blue.

The recovered ceramics were retained by the government of Vietnam, with a vast quantity subsequently sold at auction and a large number of representative specimens and the unique examples kept for museum display and heritage conservation. The main auction sale was conducted by Butterfields, San Francisco, "Catalogue of Treasures from the Hoi An Hoard - Important Vietnamese Ceramics from a Late 15th/Early 16th Century Cargo," from October 11 to October 13, 2000 consisting of approximately 2,300 lots (about 25,000 items) and realizing a total of US\$ 2,961,600 (includes the buyer's premium of 15 per cent of the first \$50,000 of bid price and 10 per cent of amounts over \$50,000). A second sale was conducted by Butterfields, San Francisco, "Catalogue of Fine Asian Works of Art Including Treasures from the Hoi An Hoard," on December 3, 2000 consisting of 862 lots of Hoi An material and realizing a total of US\$ 373,263 (includes the buyer's premium of 15 per cent of the first \$50,000 of bid price). Since many of the lots in the second sale consisted of Hoi An material, the cover of the catalogue for the auction featured the shard of a large Hoi An blue and white plate with a mythological creature in the center.

Additionally, large quantities of the Hoi An material were also offered for sale on eBay. This online auction material consisted of some 12,000 lots totaling approximately 60,000 items and grouped by category of ware: dishes, bowls, boxes, jarlets, etc. The eBay auction sale started on October 14, 2000 and continued for approximately six months. Vast quantities of Hoi An ceramics were also available in the antique shops of Saigon, Hanoi and Hoi An town. These included very large numbers of nearly all of the items included in the auctions. Considerable quantities of Hoi An material also surfaced in the shops of Phnom Penh, Aranya Prathet, Bangkok, Manila, Singapore and Jakarta.

There have been various reports of a second Hoi An shipwreck - Hoi An No. 2 - being found in the year 2002 in approximately the same location as the original Hoi An wreck. Reportedly considerable quantities of ceramics, virtually identical to the material from the original Hoi An shipwreck, were recovered from this new wrecksite in 2003 and later. However, these reports have never been conclusively substantiated.

Hoi An ceramics (77) included in the collection are as follows (V-027 to V-272):

V-027 – blue monochrome box bottoms (2), D: 5.2 cm., 6.4 cm. (\$8)

V-035 – blue and white dish with a bird perched among branches, base coated with chocolate wash, D: 13.9 cm. (\$35)

V-042 – blue and white small jarlets (3), bird decoration, H: 4.4 cm. to 5.4 cm. (\$95)

V-043 – cover boxes (4) in a variety of shapes and sizes, decorated in blue and white (3) in various motifs, and monochrome white (1), D: 6.1 cm. to 7.0 cm. (\$80)

V-069 – cover box with underglaze blue decoration of a landscape scene, D: 6.0 cm. (\$11)

V-101 – covers (2), 1 monochrome blue and 1 molded with a fantastic beast, D: 5.2 cm. and 7.8 cm. (\$10)

V-103 – blue and white plate with bird perched upon a flowering prunus tree, classic scroll at rim; chocolate base, D: 24 cm. (\$338)

V-116 – monochrome blue teacup, chocolate base, D: 6.7 cm. (\$4)

V-120 – barbed rim plates (4 - set) with polychrome enamel and underglaze blue, decorated with mythical beasts or birds, base coated with chocolate wash, D: 28 cm. (\$2,875)

V-121 to V-125 – blue and white plates (5) with fish, base coated with chocolate wash, D: 24 cm. (\$4,600)

V-126 to V-133 – blue and white plates (10) with birds, base coated with chocolate wash, D: 23 cm. (\$3,160)

V-134 – large blue and white plates (2 - pair) with peony, base coated with chocolate wash, D: 34.9 cm. (\$3,450)

V-135 – blue and white bowls (2 - pair) sacred jewel and flames, base coated with chocolate wash, D: 13.7 cm. (\$168)

V-136 – brown glazed cups (8 - set) incised on exterior and with underglaze blue accents on interior, D: 7 cm. (\$132)

V-147 – monochrome blue plate, chocolate base, D: 24.4 cm. (\$78)

V-233 – turtle shape water droppers (2 - pair) with straw color glaze, D: 4.7 cm. and 5.5 cm. (\$53)

V-234 – blue and white small jarlets (6), various decoration, H: 4.2 cm. to 5.3 cm. (\$93)

V-235 – blue and white bowls (3) with lotus scroll, D: 13.8 cm. to 16.0 cm. (\$50)

V-236 – turtle shape water dropper with green glaze accents, D: 5.5 cm. (\$20)

V-237 – limepots (2 - pair), miniature, white glaze, H: 7.1 cm. (\$40)

V-239 – blue and white cover boxes (2) with floral décor, D: 3.6 cm. to 4.9 cm. (\$41)

V-242 – cover boxes (8) in a variety of shapes and sizes, decorated in blue and white in various motifs, D: 4.0 cm. to 5.2 cm. (\$27)

V-244 – blue and white jarlets (2), with water weed and bird motifs, H: 5.0 cm. to 5.3 cm. (\$21)

V-251 – blue and white plate with *yu* (jade) character in the center, cavetto with a lotus scroll; chocolate base, D: 22.7 cm. (\$135)

V-252 – blue and white plate with *yin-yang* symbol in the center, fluted cavetto; chocolate base, D: 22.7 cm. (\$135)

V-254 – plate with an underglaze blue chrysanthemum spray in the center, remainder of decoration in polychrome enamels including green, red and yellow - now deteriorated; chrysanthemum meander adorns the steep cavetto; chocolate base, D: 22.6 cm. (\$11)

V-272 – Hoi An shipwreck study collection fragments (3) from two vases and one dish. Represented is underglaze blue décor, overglaze polychrome enamels, and molded panels with incised accents. Each fragment further described: No. 1 - large *yuhuchunping* pear shape blue and white vase with plantain leaves, cloud scrolls, and lotus petal panels; No. 2 - *yuhuchunping* pear shape hexagonal faceted vase with relief medallions and blue and white décor; and No. 3 - small dish, in center an iron-red enamel floral spray with green leaf accents, under mouthrim a band of enameled diaper; a band of leaf tips outlined in green and red enamels just above the high foot; flat deep-set base covered with chocolate wash. H: 16.3 cm. & 8.4 cm., D: 13.6 cm. (\$20) **Total - \$15,690**

References

Bound, Mensun - October 2000. Personal discussions in San Francisco.

Bound, Mensun, 2001. Aspects of the Hoi An Wreck: Dishes, bottles, statuettes and chronology, *Taoci: Revue Annuelle de la Société Française d'Étude de la Céramique Orientale*, No. 2 (December): 95-104.

Brown, Roxanna - October 2000. Personal discussions in San Francisco.

Bui Minh Tri, Vietnam Institute of Archeology, Hanoi - April 2002. Personal discussions in Hanoi.

Bui Minh Tri, et. al., 2001. The Cu Lao Cham (Hoi An) shipwreck: How to date and identify ancient Vietnamese porcelains and celadons excavated?, *Taoci: Revue Annuelle de la Société Française d'Étude de la Céramique Orientale*, No. 2 (December): 105-110.

Butterfields San Francisco, 2000. *Catalogue of Treasures from the Hoi An Hoard - Important Vietnamese Ceramics from a Late 15th/Early 16th Century Cargo*, October 11 - 13, 2000. San Francisco: Butterfields.

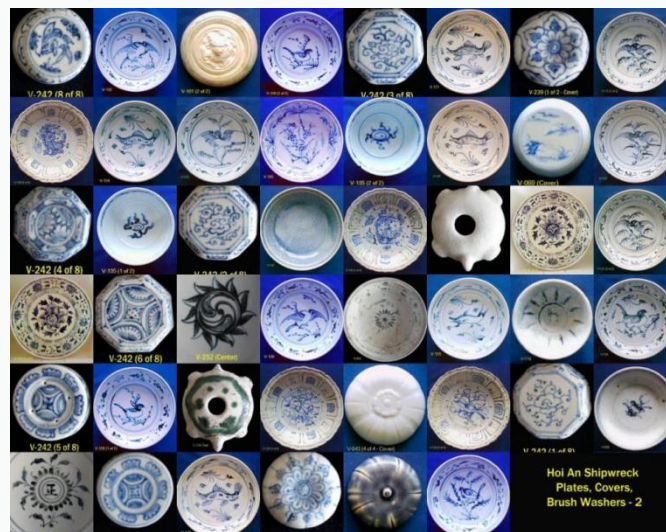
Butterfields San Francisco, 2000. *Catalogue of Fine Asian Works of Art including Treasures from the Hoi An Hoard*, December 3 - 4, 2000. San Francisco: Butterfields.

Field Notes: Saigon - March 1999, Hoi An - April 2001, and Hanoi - April 2002.

Guy, John - June 2007. Personal discussions in Thailand.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM), Bangkok University - Shipwreck Data Base References and Photos.

Tai Lieu, 2003. *Co Vat Tinh Hoa (Vietnam Antiques Magazine)*, No. 4, December, pp. 14 – 19. “Vietnamese Sea and the Ancient Ceramics – Porcelain Road.”



Ca Mau Wreck – discovered near Ca Mau Island about 90 nautical miles south of Cape Ca Mau, southern Vietnam at latitude 07 degrees 41' 12" N and longitude 105 degrees 25' 18" E at a depth of 36 meters in the summer of 1998. The official excavation of the wrecksite was conducted from August 8, 1998 to October 16, 1999 by the government owned Vietnam Salvage Corporation (Visal), the National Museum of Vietnamese History, and the Museum of Ca Mau. A total of over 130,000 ceramics along with numerous broken items and shards dated to circa 1725 of the Yong Zheng reign (1723 to 1735) of the Qing Dynasty were recovered from the wrecksite. This total includes official recoveries as well as material recovered earlier by fishermen. The ceramic recoveries consisted of Jingdezhen porcelain, Dehua porcelain, and Guangzhou (Guangdong Province) stoneware including tea bowls, jars, vases, ewers and figurines. The Jingdezhen porcelain included a charming and varied assortment of blue and white cups, saucers, plates, bowls, teapots, vases, jarlets and kendis. Blue and white tea services, boxes, mugs, polychrome dishes and figurines were among the recovered porcelains. European motifs of landscapes and figures in European dress were depicted on many of the items. Also included among the Jingdezhen blue and white wares were pieces with the reign mark of Emperor Yongzheng (1723 to 1735) of the Qing Dynasty.

The recovered ceramics were retained by the government of Vietnam with future plans including construction of a purpose built museum for display and sale at auction of a large quantity (89,336 artifacts) of the recovered material. Large numbers of the Ca Mau wreck ceramics were also sold in antique shops throughout the country, especially in Saigon where huge quantities of all of the items recovered in the official excavation were available.

Ca Mau Wreck Auction

Sotheby's, on November 2, 2006 announced the sale of the Ca Mau shipwreck Chinese ceramics of the Yong Zheng period (1723 to

1735). The sale to be conducted in Amsterdam on January 29, 30 and 31, 2007 and consisting of over 76,000 pieces in approximately 1,500 lots, with estimates ranging from Euro 100 to Euro 10,000 per lot. Sotheby's projected the sale would realize a total in excess of Euro 2,000,000. Actually several years have passed since the discovery and excavation of the shipwreck. One can only speculate as to reasons for the delay in scheduling the auction. As indicated above, large quantities of the Ca Mau wreck ceramics have earlier been sold in antique shops throughout Vietnam, especially in Saigon where huge quantities of all of the items recovered in the official excavation were available. Ca Mau material also reached the antique shops of Bangkok, and even up to the present day is available in limited quantities. The popularity of Ca Mau blue and white pieces, in fact, has prompted the manufacture of fakes, which may be mistaken as authentic by the unwary. The auction material, having been put aside early on, would not be affected by this deceptive practice.

This is the ninth in a series of sales of ceramics recovered from shipwrecks in Southeast Asian waters. Earlier sales were the Binh Thuan, Hoi An, Vung Tau, Nanking Cargo, Diana Cargo, the Hatcher Ming sales, Tek Sing, and the Bernardo sale (Christie's - Amsterdam, 11 December 1989, *The Ceramic Cargo of a Medieval South Asian Trading Vessel*).

The actual results of the Ca Mau sale were reported by Sotheby's Amsterdam on 31 January 2007: all 1176 lots offered consisting of 76,000 items were sold realizing a total of EUR 3,046,716 (US\$ 3,899,888) including the 23.8 percent buyer's premium (along with credit card fees of 4.75%, personal check charges of EUR 100, and possible VAT charges) this represents an average of US\$ 51 per item. Some lots did, of course, far exceed this average price. For example, lot 94, a "three friends" red, blue, and green vase sold for EUR 19,200; and lot 366, a 69 piece "boy on a buffalo" tea service realized EUR 49,200. Still the results of this sale were considerably

less than the earlier sale of comparably dated shipwreck material. Auction items did include one base fragment with a six character Yongzheng reign mark (part of lot 361) and nine wine cups with a four character Yongzheng reign mark (lots 109, 110, and 111). It is generally accepted that the former was made in the imperial kiln at Jingdezhen and the latter were made in the *minyao* (popular kilns). The prices realized for these lots were: lot 361 – EUR 600, lot 109 – EUR 3,360, lot 110 – EUR 3,600, and lot 111 – EUR 3,600. While Sotheby's promoted this sale under the "Made in Imperial China" slogan, the cargo contents were clearly not imperial ware made for the exclusive use of the emperor and palace.

It was earlier reported (*Viet Nam News* of 10 March 2005) that Sotheby's would "cover all the costs of the Ca Mau auction," but would "take 20 percent of the revenue from the sales." Salvaging the ceramics cost the Vietnamese government approximately VND16 billion (US\$ 1,000,000). Proceeds from the sale will be used by the Vietnamese government to fund further salvage operations and provide research and display facilities, according to Sotheby's.

Ca Mau ceramics (127) included in the collection are as follows (C-029 to C-249):

C-029 – blue and white saucers (6) and cups (2) decorated variously with fishermen, birds and flowers, D: cups – 6.9 cm and saucers – 11 cm. (\$150)

C-030 – blue and white cover boxes (3) with floral spray, D: 6.9 cm to 10.2 cm. (\$60)

C-034 – cup and saucer (2 - set) decorated on the interior with overglaze enamels, the exterior with dark brown glaze, D: cup – 6.8 cm and saucer – 10.9 cm. (\$30)

C-035 – blue and white cup decorated with a fisherman on a promontory casting his net, D: 6.8 cm. (\$15)

C-037 – cover boxes (2) decorated in overglaze enamels with underglaze blue borders, floral décor, D: 10.5 cm. (\$10)

C-057 – blue and white cover box with floral spray, D: 6.4 cm. (\$5)

C-058 – large domed covers (2) decorated in underglaze blue with three peony blossoms alternating with foliage rendered in outline form, floral décor, D: 12.7 cm. and 13.1 cm. (\$25)

C-059 – earthenware dish decorated in the center with incised floral sprays painted in various colors - including pink, aubergine, green, yellow and rust brown; cavetto incised with eight floral sprays light green and yellowish toned on a rust brown ground, D: 21.5 cm. (\$55)

C-067 – cover glazed brown and decorated with three *famille rose* enamel leaf shaped reserved panels, D: 9.7 cm. (\$10)

C-087 – blue and white saucer with lakeside scene of two figures on a low bridge flanked by a tall pine tree, to the left a large rocky outcropping with a two storied structure, and above a pavilion framed with trees and rocks; in the distance hills with a five tiered pagoda and trees; diaper border at the mouthrim, D: 11.6 cm. (\$64)

C-097 – blue and white saucers (2 - pair), floral spray in a double circle in the center surrounded by 2 floral sprays with trailing leaf forms alternating with two butterflies, cross-hatched diaper at the mouthrim, D: 11.8 and 11.7 cm. (\$24)

C-098 – blue and white saucers (2 - pair), fence in trellis form, with prunus blossoms and flowering chrysanthemums to the sides; overhead a dragonfly hovering, cross-hatched diaper at the mouthrim; brown glaze on underside, D: 10.8 cm. (\$24)

C-099 – blue and white saucers (2 - pair), lake side scene with a sage on a promontory near a low bridge amid bushes, a spreading tree to the right; on nearby lake 2 boats, and a pagoda on the distant hills; blossom forms reserved in white on a blue ground at the mouthrim; brown glaze on underside, D: 11.1 and 11.0 cm. (\$24)

C-100 – blue and white saucers (2 - pair), and accompanying cup (1) in the center an aquatic spray featuring lotus, rushes and mallow; overhead two dragonflies hovering; cross-hatched diaper interrupted by floral sprays at the mouthrim; brown glaze on underside, D: 10.6, 10.5 and 6.6 cm. (\$34)

C-101 – blue and white saucers (2 - pair), an ornamental rock flanked by bushes of flowering chrysanthemum and peony, with a

butterfly above; blossom forms reserved in white on a blue ground at mouthrim; brown glazed on underside, D: 11.0 and 10.9 cm. (\$24)

C-102 – blue and white saucers (2 - pair), lake side scene with a sage on a promontory under a tree amid bushes and a small hut to the right; on the nearby lake two boats, and a pagoda on the distant hills, birds overhead; cross-hatched diaper and floral sprays at the mouthrim; two branches on underside, D: 10.3 and 10.2 cm. (\$24)

C-103 – blue and white saucers (2 - pair), 3 arabesque-like volutes alternating with floral sprays issuing from rock forms, and in the center a small floral spray surrounded by small blue accents; cross-hatched diaper and floral sprays at the mouthrim; on underside 2 branches (No. 1) and light brown glaze (No. 2), D: 10.9cm. and 10.8 cm. (\$24)

C-104 – blue and white saucers (3), lake side scene on each of the saucers with a solitary figure variously on a promontory, bridge or hillock amid bushes and with a spreading tree and a hut to the right; on the nearby lake boats and a pagoda on the hills in the distance; there are differing mouthrim treatments on each saucer; brown glaze on underside of all, D: 11.1, 10.8 and 10.1 cm. (\$36)

C-105 – blue and white saucer, main motif is an ornamental rock flanked by bushes of flowering chrysanthemum and peony, with a butterfly floating above; cross-hatched diaper interrupted by floral sprays at mouthrim; brown glaze on underside, D: 10.9 cm. (\$12)

C-106 – blue and white saucer, floral spray in center surrounded by 2 floral spray clusters with trailing branch alternating with pairs of birds; cross-hatched diaper at mouthrim; plain underside, D: 11.1 cm. (\$12)

C-107 – blue and white saucer, in the center a peacock on an ornamental rock, flanked by flowering bushes; cavetto molded with four panels with landscape scenes alternating with floral sprays; cross-hatched diaper interrupted by floral sprays at the mouthrim; two branches on underside, D: 12.7 cm. (\$12)

C-108 – blue and white cups (4), decorative treatment in center of each cup distinctly rendered, but all include a landscape scene with

hills, a pagoda and trees in the background: cross-hatched diaper at the mouthrim; brown glaze on underside, D: 6.7 and 6.4 cm. (\$40)

C-124 – blue and white saucer with two carp and two catfish swimming amid waterweeds, blossom forms reserved in white on a blue ground on rim; brown glazed underside, D: 11.3 cm. (\$15)

C-125 – blue and white saucer with two pheasants flanked by flowering prunus and bamboo, cross-hatched diaper on rim; four leaf sprays on the underside, D: 10.9 cm. (\$15)

C-126 – blue and white saucer has a lake side scene with a sage on a promontory under tree with a large rock to the right, blossom forms reserved in white on a blue ground on rim; brown glazed underside, D: 10.1 cm. (\$15)

C-127 – blue and white cup has a fence in trellis form with prunus blossoms and chrysanthemums to the sides, cross-hatched diaper at the mouthrim; brown glaze on underside, D: 6.7 cm. (\$15)

C-149 – caramel brown glazed small bowls (6 - set), upright mouthrim and upright foot, slightly convex base glazed white, D: 8.5 to 8.6 cm. (\$102)

C-158 – blue and white saucer medallions (3) each with figural representations: ladies in garden, scholar astride a donkey, and boy riding buffalo, D: 9.9, 9.5, and 8.8 cm. (\$5)

C-160 – small bowl with underglaze blue floral sprays with enamel accents, base mark is enamel blossom within an underglaze blue circle, D: 12.0 cm. (\$17)

C-163 – dish adorned with a complex medley of underglaze blue, underglaze red, celadon, and lightly carved accenting; featuring a lake side scene with three scholars, D: 21.1 cm. (\$9)

C-221 – Kraak style blue and white medallions (2 - set) decorated in the center with two flowering bushes emerging from a rocky base, horizontal line accents; further surrounded by a darkly shaded scalloped border. The center then encircled by panels of diaper pattern filler in overlapping small circular motifs alternating with panels of swastika symbols, D: 12.2 cm. and 9.5 cm. (\$5)

C-223 – Kraak style blue and white medallions (2 - set) decorated in the center with two flowering bushes emerging from a rocky base,

horizontal line accents; further surrounded by a darkly shaded scalloped border. The center then encircled by panels of diaper pattern filler in overlapping small circular motifs alternating with panels of swastika symbols, D: 13.4 cm. to 13.1 cm. (\$40)

C-241 – Kraak style blue and white medallions (**23 - set**) decorated in the center with two flowering bushes emerging from a rocky base, horizontal line accents; further surrounded by a darkly shaded scalloped border. The center then encircled by panels of diaper pattern filler in overlapping small circular motifs alternating with panels of swastika symbols, D: 13.8 cm. to 9.0 cm. (\$127)

C-242 – Ca Mau shipwreck study collection blue and white medallions (**11 – 5 pairs and 1 other**) with various décor including endless knot, falcon, pair of chickens, scholar with fan, and horse with rider, D: 7.1 cm. to 6.2 cm. (\$22)

C-243 – Ca Mau shipwreck study collection fragments (**13**) in various forms: plate, dish, cup, cover, jar, ewer, and earthenware plate. Represented are blue and white, Batavia type (includes brown glaze), and polychrome enamel wares. Decorative motifs include dignitary with horse, buffalo, scholars, aristocratic ladies, and various floral and vegetal treatments. D: 21.9 cm. to 6.7 cm. (\$80)

C-244 – Ca Mau shipwreck study collection stand and tray fragments (**8**) from tea sets and related sets consisting of blue and white, Chinese Imari (underglaze blue, with the iron-red and gilt now eroded), polychrome enamel, and monochrome-white pierced examples. Decorative motifs include female figures in a garden setting, floral and leaf sprays, interior scenes, and pierced blossoms. The trays are in a variety of shapes and with various rim treatments. D: 15.9 cm. to L: 8.5 cm. (\$40)

C-246 – Ca Mau shipwreck study collection Kraak fragments (**5 - set**) from plates of the same series in five different sizes. The border pattern surrounding the central medallion on all the plates is a darkly shaded scalloped border outlined in white, and the center then further encircled by panels of diaper pattern filler in overlapping small circular motifs alternating with panels of swastika symbols reserved in white on a mottled blue ground. The central medallion is

decorated with two flowering bushes emerging from a rocky base against a background including horizontal and diagonal line accents along with swirls. The steep cavetto and upward slanting flatted rim is adorned with a four panel series in various combinations filled alternately with daisies, two swastika symbols reserved in white on a mottled blue ground with a bannered symbol (trigram on fragment No. 3) in-between, a parasol, and diaper pattern filler in overlapping small circular motifs with a bannered symbol (trigram on fragment No. 3) in the middle. L: 24.6 cm. to D: 13.1 cm. (\$50)

C-249 – blue and white base fragment medallion from a dish adorned with various personages in an outdoor setting consisting of two ladies, an aristocrat, and two male attendants. On the base is an underglaze blue mark consisting of a four character commendation mark within a double circle, which has been translated as “precious treasure from the collection of Ruo Shen” or “precious collection of the seemingly old” (若深珍臟), D: 10.3 cm. (\$5) **Total - \$1,276**

References

Asian Art, 2006. December, “Made in Imperial China,” page 23.

Brown, Roxanna - April 2006. Personal discussions in Thailand.

Field Notes: Saigon - April 2006.

McGlyn, Hugh - April 2007. Personal discussions in Bangkok - Hugh McGlyn of London attended the Ca Mau auction in Amsterdam and provided a firsthand account of the proceedings.

Nguyen Dinh Chien, 2002. *The Ca Mau Shipwreck*. Hanoi: The National Museum of Vietnamese History.

Sotheby's , 2006. Press Release, November 2, 2006. *Made in Imperial China: Sotheby's to sell vast cargo of 18th century Chinese Porcelain recently recovered by the Vietnamese Government after*

280 years lost on the sea bed of the South China Seas. London: Sotheby's.

Sotheby's Amsterdam, 2007. *Made in Imperial China – 76,000 Pieces of Chinese Export Porcelain from the Ca Mau Shipwreck, circa 1725, Auction Catalogue, 29-31 January 2007.* Amsterdam: Sotheby's.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM), Bangkok University - Shipwreck Data Base References and Photos.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter, 2006. Volume III, Number 6, November – December. "Ca Mau shipwreck," p. 1.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter, Volume IX Number 2, October 2015 - January 2016, "Unique Bowl – Ca Mau Shipwreck," page 3. (See **Research Papers Prepared Section**)

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter, Volume X, Number 1, June - September 2016, "Tibetan Sanskrit *Lanca* Characters – Chinese Porcelain," page 6. (See **Research Papers Prepared Section**)

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter, Volume X Number 2, Oct 2016 – Jan 2017, "Ca Mau Shipwreck – New Discoveries (Part I)," page 3. (See **Research Papers Prepared Section**)

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter, Volume X Number 3, Feb 2017 – May 2017, "Ca Mau Shipwreck – New Discoveries (Part II of II)," page 3. (See **Research Papers Prepared Section**)

Tai Lieu, 2003. *Co Vat Tinh Hoa (Vietnam Antiques Magazine)*, No. 4, December, pp. 14 – 19. "Vietnamese Sea and the Ancient Ceramics – Porcelain Road."

Viet Nam News, May 11, 2004. *Ca Mau Plans Shipwreck Artifact Auction.*

Viet Nam News, March 10, 2005. *Ca Mau Auction Article.*

Research Papers Prepared Section: Ca Mau Shipwreck - Blue & White Dish with Underglaze Red, Celadon, & Incising.



Vung Tau (Hon Cau Wreck) - discovered close to Cau Islet Ba Ria, approximately 15 kilometers from Hon Cau Island, in Vung Tau Province, southern Vietnam at a depth of 40 meters (latitude 8 degrees 38' 15" N and longitude 106 degrees 48' 50" E) just prior to June 1990. The Vietnam Salvage Corporation (Visal) conducted a preliminary excavation of the wrecksite from June to August 1990. A license to excavate the shipwreck in a joint venture with Visal was obtained by Sverker Hallstrom, and the primary excavation was directed by Michael Flecker from 23 March 1991 to 2 July 1991. A total of about 60,000 ceramics dateable to approximately the year 1690 of the Kangxi reign (1662 to 1722) of the Qing Dynasty were recovered in an operation conducted jointly by the government owned Vietnam Salvage Corporation (Visal) and the Swedish Company Hallstrom Holdings Oceanic, assisted by the archeologist Michael Flecker. This included 48,000 items of export and provincial porcelain recovered from the wreck by the Swedish salvor, Sverker Hallstrom. The date of 1690 is derived from an ink stick included in the cargo and dated accordingly.

All of the ceramics were Chinese wares and primarily consisted of Jingdezhen blue and white in a variety of shapes - notably garniture sets of covered jars and vases some decorated with a distinctive canal house motif, along with a wide variety of small and miniature bottles and vases. These blue and white wares also included bowls, cups, saucers, kendis, small cover boxes, tea pots, salt dishes, tall beakers, tazzas, goblets, and mustard pots. These Jingdezhen blue and white wares were clearly destined for the European market. Also recovered among these wares were rather unusual covers with two Western royal personages in the center surrounded by ten panels of supplicants alternating with leaf sprays (example referenced below at C-036). Covers in this series are illustrated in Christie's (Amsterdam), *The Vung Tau Cargo, Auction Catalogue, April 7 & 8, 1992*, lot 856 – 25 covers with the same motif (the only ones included in the auction); and in Jorg and Flecker, *Porcelain from the Vung Tau Wreck: the Hallstrom Excavation*, page 60, Fig. 40. The sale price at auction for the 25 covers in lot 856 was Dfl. 24,150 (US\$13,197 or \$528 each).

A very high proportion of the Jingdezhen blue and white porcelains contained base marks, but there is virtually no published information on this subject. Independent study of several hundred Vung Tau blue and white porcelains has resulted in the identification of 18 distinct underglaze blue base marks along with one vase with a gilded base. The firsthand examination of actual objects included 74 items from the collection of this writer, a total of 38 items from the collection of the Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM) at Bangkok University, and hundreds of other items from a number of various sources in Vietnam and elsewhere. The extensive and interesting variety of base marks on this mid - Kangxi cargo provides a wealth of information and is an invaluable aid in the identification and dating of early Qing dynasty porcelain. For details refer to the **Research Papers Prepared Section - Vung Tau Shipwreck Porcelain Base Marks.**

A variety of Dehua white wares was also recovered including bowls, cups, saucers, dishes and spoons. Also included among the white wares was an extremely unusual and appealing plate molded in the center with a sunburst flanked by two stylized phoenix. A variety of white ware figurines were also recovered including delicately rendered Dehua statuettes of Guanyin along with other figures, as well as animal and crustacean forms. Additional blanc de Chine wares consisted of jarlets and cover boxes.

Also found were approximately fifty delicately rendered small figures covered in dark gray wash, but with hands and faces in biscuit and each uniquely rendered as an individual piece. A very limited number of rather curious figurines, reportedly eleven, graphically named the "terrible peeing lady" were also included among the recoveries. Various utilitarian wares were also recovered including medium sized light greenish glazed jars, larger jars with brown glaze, mortars and pestles, small cooking utensils, and plain earthenware lamps. Also included among the recovered ceramics were a small group of blue and white kendis, ewers and hookah bases most assuredly destined for the Islamic market.

The cargo also included Swatow bowls with overglaze polychrome enamel decoration, and small blue and white saucers which may also be classified as Swatow on the basis of reports of the excavation of similar specimens from the Zhaoan kiln sites in the Zhangzhou District of Fujian Province. The Swatow bowls are decorated in polychrome enamels and have steeply rounded sides and a straight mouthrim. The central medallion of the bowls is adorned with a floral spray surrounded by a single line border. Cavetto and exterior of these bowls are decorated en suite. Only remnants and fugitive outlines of the original polychrome enamel floral decoration typically now remain. Although substantially eroded, red, green and yellow enamels are visible on various areas of the bowls, predominantly the interior. The bowls are covered with the distinctively Swatow waxy textured glaze ranging in tone from milky white to light grayish blue. The glaze extends to the vertical foot, square-cut at the rim and in

some instances markedly outward sloping on the interior. Adherent kiln grit is found on the foot and continues onto the base. The lightly glazed base of the bowls is generally slightly convex, nipped and deep-set; body where exposed is compact and light putty colored. The diameter of these bowls ranges from approximately 11.9 cm. to 14.8 cm. The inclusion of these bowls and blue and white saucers, as well as large blue and white Swatow type bowls with dragon and phoenix, in the recoveries from the Vung Tau shipwreck clearly demonstrates that the production of mainstream Swatow ware continued up to approximately the year 1690 of the late 17th century and possibly even beyond.

Also included among the Fujian provincial wares made for the local Southeast Asian markets were blue and white bowls of varying quality and adorned in a range of motifs, along with conical shape bowls with flared, flattened mouthrim and covered with light bluish-gray glaze. These latter bowls are adorned on the exterior sides with four equidistantly spaced underglaze blue Chinese characters. The interior has single blue line borders encircling the edge of both the flattened mouthrim and the central medallion, which contains a single underglaze blue Chinese character.

The recovered ceramics were retained by the government of Vietnam, with a large quantity subsequently sold at auction and a large number of representative specimens and the unique examples kept for museum display and heritage conservation. A sale at auction was conducted by Christie's (Amsterdam), *The Vung Tau Cargo*, on April 7 and 8, 1992 with a total of 1,011 lots consisting of 28,000 items. All of the lots were sold and realized a total of Dfl 13,288,480 (US\$7,291,167) including the 15 percent buyer's premium; this represents an average of US\$ 260 per item. Harrods of London reportedly was the successful bidder on 10% of the lots on offer. A later auction including Vung Tau ceramics followed in November 2001 at Phillips Auctioneers in London. Large numbers of the Vung Tau wreck ceramics were also available in the antique shops of

Vietnam, particularly in Saigon. Ceramics identical to all of the items recovered in the official excavation were available in large quantities, and even up to the present day may be found. One Saigon dealer, for example, reportedly purchased approximately 26,000 of the recovered Vung Tau ceramics directly from the Vietnamese government. This purchase included the full range of the Vung Tau material recovered. The popularity of Vung Tau blue and white pieces, in fact, prompted the manufacture of fakes, which may be mistaken as authentic by the unwary.

Vung Tau ceramics (126) included in the collection are as follows (C-032 to C-264):

C-032 – large blue and white cover, floral décor, D: 13.9 cm. (\$20)

C-033 – study collection shards (11), blue and white decorated with floral motifs; several with base marks, D: 12.6 cm. to 6.7 cm. (\$40)

C-036 – assortment of covers (6) decorated in underglaze blue with floral motifs, one cover with two Western royal personages, D: 8.8 cm. to 7.6 cm. (\$120)

C-060 – Swatow bowls (3) decorated in polychrome enamels with steep sides and straight mouthrim, central medallion with a floral spray, cavetto and exterior decorated en suite; only remnants of the original enamels now remain, D: 11.9 cm. to 12.3 cm. (\$90)

C-061 – Swatow bowl decorated in polychrome enamels with steep sides and straight mouthrim, central medallion with a floral spray, cavetto and exterior decorated en suite; only remnants of the original enamels now remain, D: 14.8 cm. (\$40)

C-062 – blue and white bowls (2) with three roundels containing a deer, a crane, and a Chinese character or a floral spray alternating with floral sprays, unglazed central medallion, D: 14.8 cm. and 15.0 cm. (\$80)

C-063 – conical shape bowls (2) with flattened mouthrim, covered with light bluish-gray glaze, exterior sides with four underglaze blue Chinese characters, central medallion contains a single character, D: 12.2 cm. and 12.5 cm. (\$60)

C-064 – saucer underglaze blue with a landscape scene with a rabbit, a three Chinese character inscription above, and to the right an ornamental rock with bamboo above, D: 12.2 cm. (\$40)

C-065 – study collection shards (3), decorated in underglaze blue with an assortment of landscape and floral motifs; each has an underglaze blue base mark (Chinese character *wan*, crouching mouse, lotus); L: 9.0 cm.– No. 1, H: 5.8 cm. – No. 2, D: 5.5 cm.– No. 3. (\$40)

C-068 – Swatow saucer with steep sides painted with a riverine scene with a fisherman in a boat with a four Chinese character inscription above; a rocky promontory with a pavilion at the end surmounts the scene, to the right cloud forms and the rising sun, D: 12.2 cm. (\$25)

C-070 – white ware small bowl covered with even toned creamy white glaze, fine crackle overall; center encircled by a lightly incised line, D: 7.6 cm. (\$25)

C-071 – Swatow bowl decorated in polychrome enamels with steep sides and straight mouthrim, central medallion with a floral spray, cavetto and exterior decorated en suite; only remnants of the original enamels now remain, D: 12.0 cm. (\$55)

C-072 – conical shape bowl with flattened mouthrim, light bluish-gray glaze, exterior sides with four underglaze blue Chinese characters, a single character in central medallion, D: 11.7 cm. (\$65)

C-093 – study collection base fragment medallions (27) from dishes, cups, bowls and vases, blue and white with a variety of motifs, all with underglaze blue base mark, D: 4.1 cm. to 15.8 cm. (\$345)

C-094 – white ware dish and small bowl covered with even toned creamy white glaze, fine crackle overall; center of bowl encircled by a lightly incised line, D: 9.5 cm - dish and 7.6 cm - bowl. (\$50)

C-095 – Swatow saucer with steep sides painted with a riverine scene with a fisherman in a boat; a rocky promontory with a tree and clouds above surmounts the scene, to the right a small hill with vegetation, D: 12.2 cm. (\$50)

C-096 – Swatow type blue and white dishes (2 - pair) with steep sides and decorated with a large *Artemisia* leaf filled with blue wash; to

the right of the leaf Chinese characters and a seal mark; mouthrim edged with dark brown wash; D: 16.1 cm. and 16.2 cm. (\$100)

C-128 – tall blue and white beaker vase with various blossoms with long curving stems rendered in outline form with hatched line filler and including peonies, mum, lotus; base is gilded, H: 17.4 cm. (\$50)

C-129 – study collection shards (3), decorated in underglaze blue with an assortment of floral and leaf motifs, each has an underglaze blue base mark (*lingzhi, ting*), D: 5.1 cm. to 6.2 cm. (\$30)

C-134 – conical shape bowl with flattened mouthrim, covered with white glaze, D: 11.5 cm. (\$42)

C-141 – study collection shards (3), variously decorated in underglaze blue with roundels with birds and blossoms reserved in white; vignettes containing a musician, a row of European style houses, a ship's officer, and a smaller row of buildings; song birds perched among leaf sprays with tendrils emerging. Each shard has an underglaze blue base mark (six character commendation mark, cross-hatched square, twin fish), D: 12.5 cm. to 9.5 cm. (\$60)

C-146 – Swatow saucer with steep sides painted with a riverine scene with a fisherman in a boat; a rocky promontory with a tree and clouds above surmounts the scene, to the right a small hill with vegetation, D: 12.5 cm. (\$54)

C-148 – white ware small bowl covered with even toned creamy white glaze, fine crackle overall; upright mouthrim, D: 7.8 cm. (\$55)

C-152 – Swatow saucer with steep sides painted with a riverine scene with a fisherman in a boat; a rocky promontory with a tree and clouds above surmounts the scene, to the right a small hill with vegetation, D: 12.1 cm. (\$5)

C-157 – study collection base fragment medallions (42) from dishes, cups, bowls and vases, blue and white decorated with a variety of motifs, all with underglaze blue base mark; many of the fragments have marine encrustation to some extent ranging from considerable to minimal, D: 4.7 cm. to 15.2 cm. (\$95)

C-245 – study collection cover fragments (2) from two monochrome white *blanc-de-chine* type cover boxes; flattened domed cover is

decorated with a molded peony spray with twisting stem, tightly spaced vertical ribbing on the sides, D: 7.2 cm. and 6.2 cm. (\$4)

C-262 – Large blue and white Swatow type bowl with dragon and phoenix, D: 20.3 cm. (\$125)

C-263 – Earthenware oil lamps (2 - pair) shallow form, flaring sides, tab handle has *ruyi*-head, brown glaze, D: 9 cm. & 8.9 cm. (\$25)

C-264 – Swatow type blue and white large dishes (2 - pair) decorated with a large Artemisia leaf filled with blue wash; to the right of the leaf a seal mark and then two rows of Chinese characters; mouthrim edged with dark brown wash; D: 19.7 cm. (\$225) **Total - \$2,015**

References

Brown, Roxanna - April 2006, March 2007 and April 2008. Personal discussions in Thailand .

Bui Minh Tri, Vietnam Institute of Archeology, Hanoi - April 2002. Personal discussions in Hanoi.

Christie's Amsterdam, 1992. *The Vung Tau Cargo, Auction Catalogue, April 7 & 8, 1992.* Amsterdam: Christie's.

Crick, Monique, et. al., 2003. *L' Odyssee De La Porcelaine Chinoise – Exhibition Catalogue.* Paris: Editions de la Reunion des musees nationaux.

Field Notes: Saigon - March 2007 to August 2013.

Flecker, Michael. Excavation of an Oriental Vessel of c.1690 off Con Dao, Vietnam; *International Journal of Nautical Archaeology*, Volume 21(3), 1992.

Ha Van Dinh, M. B. A., of Saigon - November 2005 to November 2010. Personal discussions in Saigon - Ha Van Dinh permitted complete access to his collection of Vung Tau ceramics, which is the most extensive in Vietnam.

Jörg, C., and Flecker, M, 2001. *Porcelain from the Vung Tau Wreck: the Hallstrom Excavation*. UK: Sun Tree Publishing Ltd. (Christiaan Jörg is head of the department of Oriental ceramics at the Groninger Museum, the Netherlands).

Jorg, Christiaan, 2001. The Porcelain of the Vung Tau Wreck, *Taoci Revue Annuelle de la Société Française d'Étude de la Céramique Orientale*, No. 2 (December): 117-122.

Sheaf, Colin. *Arts of Asia*, Vol. 22 No.4, July – August 1992, “Christie’s Amsterdam – The Vung Tau Cargo, Chinese Export Porcelain,” page 117 – 118.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM), Bangkok University - Shipwreck Data Base References and Photos.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter, Volume VIII Number 3, Feb - May 2015, “Vung Tau Shipwreck Porcelain Base Marks,” page 6. (See Research Papers Prepared Section)

Tai Lieu, 2003. *Co Vat Tinh Hoa (Vietnam Antiques Magazine)*, No. 4, December, pp. 14 – 19. “Vietnamese Sea and the Ancient Ceramics – Porcelain Road.”



Phu Quoc I – discovered off Phu Quoc Island, southern Vietnam sometime prior to 1975. No formal excavation conducted, but recovered items included Sisatchanalai underglaze iron decorated cover boxes, medium sized black glazed storage jars, and fragments of dark green celadon bowls with incised decoration. Also recovered were Chinese blue and white bowls with conch or lotus motif and bowls with four horsemen on the exterior and a sage under a tree in the interior. The ceramics are datable to the period of approximately 1520 to 1580.

There are no Phu Quoc I shipwreck ceramics included in the collection.

References

Brown, Roxanna, 1977. *The Ceramics of South-East Asia, Their Dating and Identification*, p.11. Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press. Second edition, 1988.

Brown, Roxanna - May 2002. Personal discussions in Thailand.

Green, Jeremy, and Rosemary Harper, 1987. *The Maritime Archaeology of Shipwrecks and Ceramics in Southeast Asia*. Freemantle: Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology Special Publication No. 4.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM), Bangkok University - Shipwreck Data Base References and Photos.

Hon Dam Shipwreck (Phu Quoc II) – lies off the southern tip of Phu Quoc Island about 1.6 nautical miles from the small island of Hon Vang in Kien Giang Province, Vietnam at latitude 9 degrees 56.6' N and longitude 104 degrees 02.2' E. The wreck lies at a depth of 11 meters to 40 meters (reports vary) with some parts buried under up to 1 meter of sand. The ship measured about 25 to 30 meters long

and 7 meters wide. In August 1991, at the invitation of the Vietnam Salvage Corporation (Visal), archaeologists Michael Flecker from Australia and Warren Blake of New Zealand conducted a preliminary investigation of the wrecksite. However, the wreck was reportedly known by local fisherman since prior to 1975 with some of the cargo sold on the antique market in South Vietnam at that time. The artifacts immediately above the surface of the wreck were concreted in large blocks of oyster shell. The items recovered during the preliminary investigation consisted almost exclusively of Sisatchanalai celadons with over 1200 intact or very nearly intact ceramics datable to the early to mid 15th century found: jarlets – 706, fluted jarlets – 96, small bowls – 215, very small bowls – 130, plates – 31, storage jars – 41, and various other forms in quite small quantities. Surface shards indicate that plates made up a significant portion of the cargo although only a limited number of intact pieces were recovered. The jarlets, bowls and plates are all celadon ware from the Ban Ko Noi, Sisatchanalai, Thailand kilns. The storage jars are from the Mae Nam Noi kilns in Singburi Province, central Thailand. A number of small bowls with everted rim were also found and may be of Vietnamese origin. There were not any Chinese ceramics originally reported as being included in the ship's cargo.

Upon the completion of the preliminary investigation, Visal decided that any further excavation efforts would be performed by themselves. The only further details initially available in this respect were that several thousand additional ceramics were later recovered by Visal. A selection of the ceramics recovered from the Hon Dam Shipwreck (Phu Quoc II) was displayed in the Ho Chi Minh City Art Museum and the remainder was offered for sale.

More current reports indicate that including the later recoveries by Visal there were a total of about 16,000 Thai Sisatchanalai celadons and Thai brown glazed wares, which included storage jars from the Mae Nam Noi kilns in Singburi Province, recovered from the wreck

and dateable to the early to mid 15th century. The celadons included plates, bowls of various sizes, dishes, jarlets (plain and fluted), squat bottles, and beakers - many of excellent quality and color. There also appear to have been very limited numbers of Chinese ceramics included among the recoveries (celadon jarlets and large brown glazed jars), but information on this is not precise and reports vary. It was earlier reported (Flecker and Blake) that two extremely eroded Chinese coins were recovered from the wreck; a subsequent report indicated a Chinese coin made in 1403 – 1424 (Yongle period of Ming dynasty) was also found.

In mid 2016 Visal (Vietnam Salvage Corporation) sold limited quantities of the Hon Dam Shipwreck Thai ceramics including the bowls listed here at TH-567 (4 of 4).

Hon Dam Shipwreck (Phu Quoc II) ceramics (4) included in the collection are the following:

TH-567 - celadon bowls (4 – set) graduated in size and covered with light turquoise bluish-green crackled glaze, fluting on the exterior (except No. 3); the glaze ends unevenly above the foot with a couple of glaze runs continuing lower (except No. 4), foot is upright or slightly splayed and outward sloping on interior, base is nominally convex and unglazed with compact body; inscribed with the artifact registration number; D: 7.5 cm. to 13.5 cm. (\$125)

References

Brown, Roxanna - April 2003. Personal discussions in Thailand.

Flecker, Michael and Warren Blake, 1994. *The International Journal of Nautical Archaeology*, 23.2, pp. 73 - 91. "A Preliminary Survey of a South-East Asian Wreck, Phu Quoc Island, Vietnam."

News VietNamNet. "Deep-sea treasures of Vietnam - 10,000 artifacts from the Hon Dam ancient ship," 1 June 2013.

<http://english.vietnamnet.vn/fms/special-reports/57213/deep-sea-treasures-of-vietnam.html>.

Nguyen Dinh Chien, Pham Quoc Quan, 2008. *Ceramics on five ships off the coast of Viet Nam (Gom Su Trong Nam Con Tau Co)*.

Tai Lieu, 2003. *Co Vat Tinh Hoa (Vietnam Antiques Magazine)*, No. 4, December, pp. 14 – 19. “Vietnamese Sea and the Ancient Ceramics – Porcelain Road.”

Thailand Tech Diving. “15th Century Thai Pottery Found in Ancient Vietnamese Wrecks,” 10 June 2009.

TSEATC.com, The Southeast Asian Treasure Connection. “Deep-sea treasures of Vietnam - 10,000 artifacts from the Hon Dam ancient ship,” 31 January 2013. www.tseatc.com/smf/index.php?topic=2288.0.

Field Notes: Saigon - November 2016



Phu Quoc II (A) – extremely limited information is available about this shipwreck, here designated wreck Phu Quoc II (A) to distinguish it from the other Phu Quoc area finds. It reportedly was discovered by local fishermen in approximately 1998 near Phu Quoc Island. The primary material salvaged appears to be rather large quantities of

Sisatchanalai cover boxes with underglaze black décor – in small, medium, and large sizes. Also recovered in more limited numbers were Sisatchanalai zoomorphic shape ewers and jars in pear-shape vase form, also with underglaze black décor. The shipwreck is dateable to the 16th century.

Phu Quoc II (A) ceramics (2) included in the collection are the following:

TH-285 – covered box decorated in underglaze iron-brown with panels of diaper alternating with vegetal sprays, D: 11.4 cm. (\$283)

TH-495 – underglaze iron-black pear-shape vase decorated on the body with a wide band of three panels of leaf sprays alternating with three trellis panels; on the shoulders a band of stylized pendant leaf forms, neck surrounded by upright leaf forms, H: 13.6 cm. (\$23)

Total - \$306

References

Field Notes: Saigon - October 1999.



Phu Quoc III (Kien Giang Wreck) – reportedly discovered by fisherman in approximately 2001 near Phu Quoc Island, Kien Giang Province and dated to the late 14th to early 15th century. Salvaged ceramics included: Sisatchanalai celadons – jarlets, plates, bowls and vases; Sukhothai plates 24.5 centimeters in diameter and bowls with underglaze black fish, flower and plain décor; and small Sukhothai vases with underglaze black floral decoration. Also recovered were medium sized storage jars from the Mae Nam Noi

kilns in Singburi Province, central Thailand. Among the Sisatchanalai celadons recovered were large vase shaped bottles, small and medium jarlets both plain and fluted with loop handles, tiny rimmed dishes, medium sized and very small bowls, large plates with carved floral and vegetal motif both with barbed rim and plain rim. The only other material reported found on the shipwreck was Ming celadon of late 14th/early15th century date, and consisting of the following: plates 24 centimeters in diameter with plain and fluted well and impressed/molded decoration, mostly floral; similar medium sized bowls; various smaller dishes with impressed floral and fish motif; and larger jars with covers about 25 centimeters in height. There were no Sisatchanalai underglaze black decorated ceramics recovered from the wrecksite.

Phu Quoc III ceramics (44) included in the collection are as follows (TH-255 to TH-494 and M-287 and M-289):

TH-255 – celadon bowls (4) covered with a light green crackled glaze, D: 9.3 cm. to 10.6 cm. (\$27)

TH-256 – celadon plate with light sea-green crackled glaze, center encircled by two incised lines, D: 29 cm. (\$181)

TH-302 – Sukhothai underglaze iron-black fish plates (2); triple line border at flattened mouthrim upturned at edge, D: 24.5 cm. (\$143)

TH-315 – Sukhothai bowls (5) decorated in underglaze iron-black with fish, flower or plain décor, D: 16.5 cm. to 15.2 cm. (\$77)

TH-316 – celadon glazed jarlet of globular form, H: 7.0 cm. (\$8)

TH-317 – Sukhothai plates (2) decorated in underglaze iron-black with fish or flower décor, D: 24.2 cm. and 25.8 cm. (\$43)

TH-318 – large celadon plate with foliate rim, incised floral décor, D: 29.2 cm. (\$33)

TH-319 – Sukhothai *yuhu chun p'ing* vase decorated in underglaze iron-black flower décor, H: 15.0 cm. (\$30)

TH-333 – celadon jarlet with two loop handles, carved grooves down the sides. H: 8.1 cm. (\$15)

TH-338 – Sukhothai bowl decorated in underglaze iron-black with a floral spray, D: 16.7 cm. (\$33)

- TH-339** – celadon jarlets (5) with loop handles, variously with plain bodies and carved grooves down sides, H: 6.3 cm. to 6.8 cm. (\$80)
- TH-340** – large celadon plate with foliate rim and incised floral décor, D: 30.0 cm. (\$67)
- TH-395** – large celadon plate with plain rim and incised floral décor, D: 28.9 cm. (\$100)
- TH-397** – large celadon stem-dish with light sea green glaze, plain rim and incised floral décor, D: 23.4 cm. (\$67)
- TH-398** – Sukhothai *yuhuchunping* shape vase decorated in underglaze iron-black flower décor, H: 15.6 cm. (\$40)
- TH-450** – celadon small bowls or cups (3) with light turquoise blue glaze, D: 7.3 cm to 8.6 cm. (\$15)
- TH-451** – celadon jarlet of extended ovoid shape with a cup-like mouth, two loop handles; light turquoise blue glaze, H: 6.7 cm. (\$25)
- TH-466** – celadon bowls (4) covered in various tones of green glaze and each with fluting on the exterior (except No. 4) and some incised detailing; on all the bowls the glaze ends unevenly above the foot, which is slightly splayed and outward sloping on the interior; base is nominally convex or flat, unglazed and with the biscuit varying in color on each bowl, D: 12.8 cm. to 11.4 cm. (\$34)
- TH-468** – Singburi storage jar with ovoid shaped baluster body, dark brown glaze; four horizontal loop handles high on the shoulder, thickened mouthrim with rounded edge, H: 27.8 cm. (\$85)
- TH-489** – shipwreck study collection (4) variety of small celadon items consisting of a jarlet, a small bowl, and two miniature cups; all with considerable marine encrustation except for cup No. 3, H: 6.5 cm. and D: 8.6 cm., 6.1 cm. and 6.0 cm. (\$2)
- TH-494** – celadon glazed large *yuhu chun p'ing* shape vase decorated with carved vertical grooves enclosed within triple incised line bands; constricted neck spreads to flared mouthrim encircled by seven incised lines; turquoise colored glaze (degraded), H: 23.2 cm. (\$21)
- M-287** – small celadon dish with two fish impressed in center; petal forms molded on underside, D: 12.7 cm. (\$20)
- M-289** – small celadon dish, a floral spray molded at the center and incised accents; lotus leaves carved on underside, D 12.3 cm. (\$20)

Total - \$1,166

References

Brown, Roxanna - April 2003. Personal discussions in Thailand.

Field Notes: Saigon - March 2003, Hoi An - July 2004, and Phnom Penh - July 2004.

Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - March 2003. Personal discussions in Saigon - Nguyen Van Hoa traveled to Phu Quoc Island in January to February 2003 and accompanied the fisherman on salvaging trips, witnessing ceramic recovery efforts and results.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM), Bangkok University - Shipwreck Data Base References and Photos.



Song Doc (Ca Mau Town Wreck) – reportedly located in the Doc river near Ca Mau town, Ca Mau Province – Southern Vietnam and discovered in early 2002. Excavations done by fishermen resulted in the recovery of large quantities of Vietnamese ceramics datable to the period circa 1375 to 1400. Also reportedly found were one or more Chinese blue and white bowls and a limited quantity of Yingqing ware including saucer dishes. The Thai ceramics recovered consisted of a limited quantity of Sankampaeng plates and a very few Sisatchanalai large celadon plates with plain rim, incised floral décor, and three spur marks. The Vietnamese ware consisted of underglaze blue decorated pieces, items with underglaze iron decoration, combined underglaze blue and underglaze iron decorated pieces, monochrome white items, and celadon jarlets.

Underglaze blue pieces included large plates 28.4 cm. to 29.6 centimeters in diameter, bowls in medium and small size, attractive crucible shaped vessels with bucket shaped sides, medium and small dishes both plain rim and scalloped, and small jarlets. Underglaze iron decorated items included all of the foregoing except for the crucible shaped vessels, which were actually decorated in a combination of underglaze blue and underglaze iron. The monochrome white wares recovered are referred to as white celadon, because they are a clearly identifiable category of stoneware which displays all the properties and attributes of celadon (greenware) with the exception of the color. These wares included medium and small bowls with carved exterior sides as well as plain sides, medium dishes similarly presented, and small cups. The celadon jarlets were small in size with bulbous body and narrow mouth, bases were both plain and coated with chocolate wash. The coating of bases with chocolate wash is a feature which appears indiscriminately among all the wares from this shipwreck.

The Sankampaeng plates recovered had an attractive light greenish-blue finely crackled glaze on the interior with incised accents. The mouth rims are unglazed, nominally thickened and set off from the cavetto by a slightly flattened narrow band with a lightly molded single line border. The outside walls are steep, with white slip visible at the mouthrim, and very lightly brushed in a transparent glaze. The color of the glaze of these plates is quite unusual for a product of the Sankampaeng kilns, and is more representative of Sisatchanalai wares. It is quite unusual to encounter a Sankampaeng plate in an export context as in the case of these examples (see references below at TH-287 and TH-394). Export wares were primarily produced by the Sisatchanalai kilns and the Sukhothai kilns. Wares from the Northern Thai kilns are seldom seen as export items.

While this shipwreck was never officially excavated, considerable quantities of Song Doc material appeared in the antique shops of

Vietnam, principally in Saigon, as well as to a limited extent in some of the Bangkok antique shops.

Song Doc ceramics (47) included in the collection are as follows (V-152 to V-270, TH-287, TH-393, TH-394, and Y-058):

V-152 – bowl with underglaze iron brown chrysanthemum spray in the central medallion, base with chocolate wash, D: 16.8 cm. (\$64)

V-153 – white celadon bowl with carved lotus leaf on exterior, base with chocolate wash, D: 14.0 cm. (\$9)

V-199 – blue and white dishes (2 - pair) with foliate rim, the central medallion with chrysanthemum spray, base with chocolate wash, D:14.4 cm. (\$50)

V-200 – white celadon dishes (2 - pair) with carved lotus leaf on exterior, base with chocolate wash, D: 14.0 cm. (\$24)

V-201 – blue and white bowls (3) the central medallion chrysanthemum spray, base with chocolate wash, D: 16.7 cm. to 17.3 cm. (\$123)

V-202 – white celadon bowl with carved lotus leaf on exterior, base with chocolate wash, D: 15.8 cm. (\$20)

V-203 – white celadon bowl with plain exterior, base with chocolate wash, D: 12.9 cm. (\$10)

V-204 – white celadon cup with plain exterior, base with chocolate wash, D: 6.8 cm. (\$7)

V-205 – large blue and white plate, the central medallion with chrysanthemum spray, base has chocolate wash, D: 29.6 cm. (\$222)

V-206 – bowl with underglaze iron brown chrysanthemum spray in the central medallion, base with chocolate wash, D: 16.8 cm. (\$20)

V-207 – jarlets (2 - pair) with underglaze iron brown classic scroll, chocolate base on jarlet No. 1, plain base on jarlet No. 2, H: 3.7 cm. and 4.0 cm. (\$20)

V-208 – cup (2 - pair) with underglaze iron brown chrysanthemum spray in the central medallion, D: 9.5 cm. (\$41)

V-209 – blue and white crucible form bowls (2 - pair) with chrysanthemum spray in central medallion, base with chocolate wash, D: 8.9 cm. (\$72)

V-210 – celadon jarlets (2 - pair), plain base on jarlet No. 1, chocolate base on jarlet No. 2, H: 3.7 cm. and 4.0 cm. (\$51)

V-211 – small bowl with underglaze iron black chrysanthemum spray in the central medallion, D: 9.4 cm. (\$14)

V-212 – jarlet with underglaze blue classic scroll and underglaze iron brown single line borders, H: 3.7 cm. (\$12)

V-219 – greenish-white glazed bowl, incised cloud scrolls, D: 16.9 cm. (\$27)

V-220 – bowls (3) with underglaze iron brown flaming pearl (No. 1) and chrysanthemum (Nos. 2 and 3) in central medallion, D: 16.7 cm. (\$102)

V-222 – white celadon bowl with plain exterior, base with chocolate wash, D: 16.5 cm. (\$27)

V-224 – greenish-white glazed dish, six incised cloud scrolls; central medallion accented with incised scrolling D: 16.2 cm. (\$34)

V-225 – bowls (3) with underglaze iron brown, spray of rushes (No. 1), chrysanthemum (Nos. 2 and 3) in central medallion, D: 15 cm. (\$71)

V-226 – blue and white crucible form bowl with flaming pearl in central medallion, base with chocolate wash, D: 8.8 cm. (\$30)

V-227 – jarlets (2 - pair) with underglaze iron brown classic scroll, chocolate base on jarlet No. 1, on No. 2 plain base, H: 3.8 cm. (\$20)

V-228 – dish with underglaze iron black chrysanthemum spray central in medallion, base with chocolate wash, D: 12.7 cm. (\$10)

V-229 – cup with underglaze iron brown chrysanthemum spray in the central medallion, D: 9.8 cm. (\$10)

V-241 – blue and white crucible form bowl with flaming pearl in central medallion, base with chocolate wash, D: 8.8 cm. (\$0-)

V-243 – large blue and white plate, the central medallion with chrysanthemum spray, chocolate wash on base, D: 28.4 cm. (\$175)

V-247 – light green glazed bowl with molded design of spheres filled with geometric, floral or aquatic décor, D: 15.8 cm. (\$20)

V-248 – bowl with straw colored glaze, plain exterior and interior, D: 16.5 cm. (\$20)

V-270 – light green glazed bowl with molded design of spheres filled with geometric, floral or aquatic décor, D: 15.9 cm. (\$25)

TH-287 – Sankampaeng plate with light greenish-blue glaze, incised accents, D: 18.5 cm. (\$56)

TH-393 – large celadon plate with plain rim, incised floral décor, three spur marks, D: 25.8 cm. (\$30)

TH-394 – Sankampaeng plate with light greenish-blue glaze, incised accents, D: 19.5 cm. (\$10)

Y-058 – Yingqing saucer dish with mottled light blue glaze, sides curve upward rather sharply, mouthrim is upright, D: 12.7 cm. (\$10)

Total - \$1,402

References

Brown, Roxanna - April and May 2002. Personal discussions in Thailand and personal correspondence.

Brown, Roxanna, 2004. *The Ming Gap and Shipwreck Ceramics in Southeast Asia*. University of California, Los Angeles, PhD dissertation.

Bui Minh Tri, Vietnam Institute of Archeology, Hanoi - April 2002. Personal discussions in Hanoi.

Field Notes: Hanoi and Saigon - April 2002.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM), Bangkok University - Shipwreck Data Base References and Photos.

Sjostrand, Sten - December 2013. Personal correspondence.



Quang Ngai Shipwreck – very little information is available about this shipwreck. It was reportedly discovered by local fishermen in approximately the year 1996 near Cham Island, central Vietnam and is dated to the Yuan Dynasty (1271 to 1378). The recovered ceramics included small blue and white bowls 6 centimeters and 10 centimeters in diameter, small blue and white jarlets, large blue and white plates; small monochrome white bowls also 6 centimeters and 10 centimeters in diameter; medium sized brown jars and small brown jarlets with globular body and narrow base without footrim, approximately 5.5 centimeters in height; and small celadon dishes with bucket-shaped sides and recessed base without footrim. The small celadon dishes have a very lightly incised single line border at the bottom of the cavetto, an upright mouthrim with thickened edge on the underside, and glaze covers the interior - except for an unglazed stacking ring in the central medallion; they are approximately 12 centimeters in diameter. Only ceramics of Chinese origin were reportedly recovered from the wrecksite.

Quang Ngai ceramics (3) are included in the collection as follows:

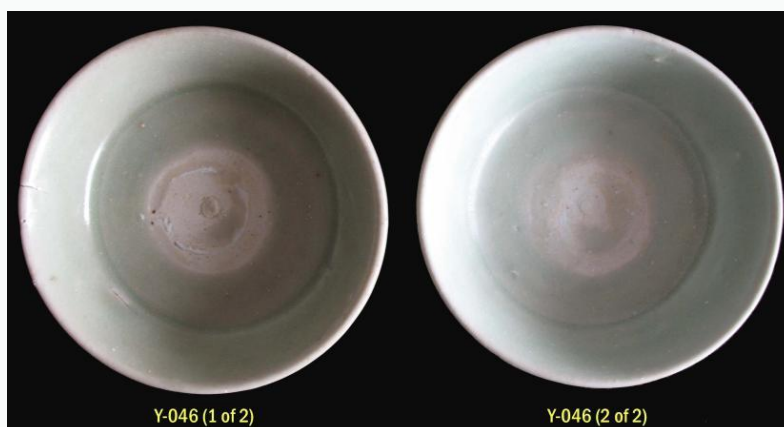
Y-045 – small jarlet glazed brown with globular body and narrow unglazed base without footrim, H: 5.5 cm. (\$13)

Y-046 – Longquan celadon shallow bowls (2 - pair) with bucket-shaped sides and recessed base without footrim, unglazed stacking ring in the central medallion, D: 11.8 cm. (\$90)

Total - \$103

References

Field Notes: Saigon - April 2006 and March 2007.



Phu Yen (Binh Dinh) Shipwreck - the Phu Yen shipwreck was reportedly discovered by a fisherman in June 2006 in the extreme north of Phu Yen Province near the Binh Dinh Province border in central Vietnam, approximately 20 kilometers offshore and at a depth of about 30 meters. The fisherman, it is reported, salvaged only a very limited number of items and sent half of the material to Saigon and half to Hanoi to test the market in each location. The salvaged material consisted of Chinese ceramics dateable to the early 14th century.

The ceramics were predominately celadon ware, but were also reported to include some monochrome white pieces and *yingqing* ware. The celadons included plates 33.5 centimeters in diameter with both foliated rim and plain rim, molded or impressed floral motifs in the center, and some with incised floral décor in the cavetto. Celadon bowls were also recovered approximately 16 centimeters in diameter with incised floral décor in the cavetto, everted mouthrim and unglazed base. A variety of celadon dishes approximately 11.8 to 12.5 centimeters in diameter, the bases unglazed, was also recovered. These included shallow dishes with a flattened, flared mouthrim as well as dishes with an upright mouthrim, with molded or incised floral motifs in the center. Some of the dishes have incised detailing on the flattened rim and incised lotus petals on the exterior sides. Other dishes were found with rather high bucket shaped, lobed sides molded into sections and without any incising on the interior.

Celadon jarlets globular in shape were recovered ranging in height from approximately 4 to 6 centimeters: the smallest and the larger jarlets were plain with lipped mouthrim and narrow unglazed concave base; and the intermediate sized have molded floral and classic scrolls, two loop handles, lipped mouthrim and narrow unglazed concave base. Also salvaged were larger *kuan* shaped celadon jars (potiches) approximately 14 centimeters high with

vertical ribbing on the sides, unglazed mouthrim, glazed interior and glazed bases.

The monochrome white ware reportedly consisted of cover boxes both 8 to 10 centimeters and 20 centimeters in diameter some with molded floral décor, some with plain sides and some with foliated or ribbed sides. Also reportedly recovered were a number of *yingqing* jarlets, the larger sized with molded floral decoration and the smaller ones plain.

There were no reports of underglaze blue decorated wares associated with the wrecksite. The similarities of this shipwreck material with that of the Sinan wreck found off the west coast of South Korea in 1976 and dated 1311 to 1330 are readily apparent. In fact in the publication *Relics Salvaged from the Seabed off Sinan* three celadon dishes are illustrated which are virtually identical to the Phu Yen recoveries: refer to page 60, Plate 48, No. 70 – dish with flattened rim with incising, No. 71 – dish with plain flattened rim, and No. 72 – deep dish with bucket shaped, lobed sides.

Available information indicates that shortly after the fisherman's initial salvaging of the shipwreck the authorities learned of its existence and began surveillance of the wrecksite to prevent further salvaging attempts. These efforts have apparently proved successful since no further material from the shipwreck has appeared on the antique market in Vietnam.

Phu Yen ceramics (14) included in the collection are as follows (Y-047 to Y-081):

Y-047 – Longquan celadon saucer dishes (3) with incised décor, D: 11.9 cm. to 12.5 cm. (\$125)

Y-048 – Longquan celadon deep dish, bucket-shaped sides molded with fluting, D: 11.8 cm. (\$35)

Y-049 – Longquan celadon saucer dish, impressed décor,

D: 12.3 cm. (\$30)

Y-050 – Longquan celadon jarlets (2 - pair) with molded floral and classic scroll decoration, H: 5.0 cm. (\$60)

Y-051 – Longquan celadon jarlets (2 - pair) with globular body, H: 5.6 cm. (\$60)

Y-052 – Longquan celadon jarlets (2 - pair) with globular body and very brief neck, H: 4.1 cm. (\$50)

Y-081 – white glazed covered boxes (3) very lightly potted and of compressed circular form with the rounded sides of the flattened cover and lower section ribbed, D: 8.8 cm. to 8.6 cm. (\$30)

Total - \$390

References

Aga-Oglu, Kamer, 1975. *The Williams Collection of Far Eastern Ceramics, Tonnancour Section*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan.

Brown, Roxanna - March 2007. Personal discussions in Thailand .

Bureau of Cultural Properties, Ministry of Culture and Information, 1985. *Relics Salvaged from the Seabed off Sinan (Materials I)*. Seoul: Dong Hwa Publishing Co.

Field Notes: Saigon - March 2007.

Sotheby's (New York), *Catalogue of South-East Asian and Early Chinese Export Ceramics*, October 4, 1974.

Sotheby's (New York), *Catalogue of Later Chinese Ceramics and South East Asian Wares*, April 10, 1974.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter, Volume IV Number 3, May-June 2007, "Two ships both circa AD 1300 found, 2 different fates," page 1.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum (SEACM), Bangkok University - Shipwreck Data Base References and Photos.

Southeast Asian Ceramic Society, 1979. *Chinese Celadons and Other Related Wares in Southeast Asia*. Singapore: Arts Orientalis.

Tuoi Tre, 14 July 2006, "Phat hien mot tau dam chua co vat," page 2 (Vietnamese language newspaper article about the Phu Yen shipwreck).

Wiesner, Ulrich, 1983. *Seladon Swatow Blauweiss*. Köln: Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst.

Wiesner, Ulrich, 1977. *Chinesische Keramik Auf Den Philippinen*. Köln: Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst.



Binh Thuan No. 2 - Yuan Shipwreck - the Binh Thuan No. 2 - Yuan Shipwreck was reportedly discovered by fisherman in April 2007 in the South China Sea near Phu Qui Island approximately 100 kilometers offshore of Phan Thiet town in Binh Thuan Province of southeastern Vietnam. The salvaged material consisted of Chinese ceramics dateable to the second half of the 14th century. The ceramics were predominately brown glazed ware, but also included *ying qing* ware, monochrome white pieces and celadon. There were no reports of underglaze blue decorated wares associated with the wrecksite. The area of the wrecksite is reportedly under surveillance

by government authorities to deter further unsanctioned recovery of materials. Reportedly less than 20 percent of the total ceramics cargo has been recovered. It is speculated that, because of their relative weight and the small quantity recovered to date, celadon wares may lie in abundance toward the as yet unsalvaged bottom portion of the cargo. There were no reports in the local Vietnamese media with respect to this wrecksite. All of the types of wares recovered were available in the antique shops of Saigon. A considerable quantity of the brown glazed wares, primarily covered boxes, also reached the antique shops of Bangkok in Chatuchak market and the River City Antiques Center. This material was brought to Bangkok from Vietnam via the Poipet, Cambodia - Aranya Prathet, Thailand border crossing point. There were no white wares, *yingqing* wares or celadon wares from this shipwreck available in antique shops in Thailand.

A wide variety of brown glazed ware was recovered including foremost covered boxes, along with several types of jarlets and cups. An abundance of brown glazed medium and large jars - many with loop handles, ewers, and bowls were also recovered. The brown glazed covered boxes are of compressed circular form with flattened cover and rounded sides curving in sharply to the base. The unglazed flattened top of the cover of the boxes is generally covered with a pale coffee-colored wash and decorated with crisply molded floral sprays enclosed within a border of studs or cross-hatching. While the vast majority of the boxes are adorned with a floral spray on the cover a very limited number have other décor including twin fish, a deer, a peacock, and a dragon. The diameter of the boxes ranges from 10.2 centimeters (the largest), to 8.8 centimeters, to 7.3 centimeters (the smallest). Brown jarlets included the following: globular shaped with two opposing loop handles flanking a short neck with narrow mouth and flared or upright mouthrim - approximately 6.7 to 7.1 centimeters in height; jarlets glazed brown and flattened globular shaped with two opposing loop handles flanking the short neck with upright mouthrim, six or seven gouges

carved down the sides - 4.0 to 6.3 centimeters in height; jarlets glazed brown and in flattened globular shape, two opposing loop handles at the short neck with upright mouthrim, square-cut at the edge - 4.7 to 5.2 centimeters in height; jarlets in flattened globular shape covered with dark brown crackled glaze, the short neck with slightly flared mouthrim rounded at the edge - 4.4 centimeters in height. Included among the jars is a medium sized (approximately 20 to 21 centimeters in height) ovoid shaped jar with long neck and flared mouthrim. This jar has the unusual feature of the glaze only extending from the underside of the mouthrim to the shoulder of the jar, with the remainder of the jar unglazed (see reference below at Y-103). A smaller sized version of these jars (approximately 8 centimeters in height) was also recovered later.

The monochrome white ware recovered consisted of deep dishes and bowls. The white ware deep dishes have flaring sides, angular profile, are covered with warm hued light straw colored glaze, and are sized in three distinct diameters: 16.1 centimeters, 13.9 centimeters and 12.2 centimeters. On the white ware bowls the light straw colored glaze ends in an irregular swirl around the unglazed central medallion. Sides are steep with upright mouthrim thickened at the edge. Prominent wreathing marks distinguish the exterior of the bowls. The diameter of the bowls ranges from approximately 15 centimeters to 16 centimeters.

Also recovered were a limited number of *yingqing* dishes and bowls, the smaller ones with molded floral decoration and the larger sized plain. The small bowls and dishes are lightly molded with a floral décor on the interior sides. The light blue glaze is even toned and uniformly applied, and the unglazed base reveals the compact sugary textured cream colored body studded with impurities. The approximate diameter of both the dishes and small bowls is 12 centimeters. The larger sized *yingqing* pieces are plain deep dishes with flaring sides, thickened mouthrim and very narrow base. Glaze and body material is similar to the forgoing smaller items, but of

perhaps a slightly higher quality. The diameter of the deep dishes is approximately 16 to 17 centimeters.

The celadons recovered included a few bowls with lightly molded lotus panels on the interior and interior, everted mouthrim, partially glazed base, and a diameter of approximately 15 centimeters. Also bowls glazed light gray-green with 6 vertical indentations lightly incised down the sides resulting in a lobed effect, a single line incised around the center; and a faintly lobed everted mouthrim, diameter 12.5 centimeters, such as the bowl referenced below at Y-084. Recovered as well were a very limited number of celadon plates in a variety of sizes with carved floral décor on the interior, and in some cases on the exterior also. The range of sizes of the diameter of the plates is as follows: 40 centimeters, 33 centimeters, 27 centimeters and 22 centimeters. Additionally, green glazed saucer dishes devoid of decoration with steep cavetto and upright mouthrim slightly thickened at the edge; diameter 11 to 12 centimeters, such as the pair of dishes referenced below at Y-085.

Binh Thuan No. 2 - Yuan Shipwreck ceramics (75) included in the collection are as follows (Y-053 to Y-158):

Y-053 – brown glazed covered boxes (3) of compressed circular form with flattened cover and rounded sides, the cover with a pale coffee-colored wash and decorated with molded floral sprays, D: 8.8 cm to 10.2 cm. (\$217)

Y-054 – brown glazed covered box of compressed circular form with flattened cover and rounded sides, the cover lightly glazed and decorated with two crisply molded fish, D: 10.0cm. (\$72)

Y-055 – brown glazed covered boxes (2) of compressed circular form with flattened cover and rounded sides, lightly glazed flattened top of the cover decorated with crisply molded geometric décor, D: 7.3 cm and 7.4 cm. (\$87)

Y-056 – brown glazed cups (2 - pair) with everted mouthrim and steep sides, covered with lustrous dark caramel brown glaze, D: 6.7 cm and 6.9 cm. (\$43)

Y-057 – jarlets (2) glazed brown and globular shaped with two opposing loop handles flanking the short neck with narrow mouth and flared mouthrim, D: 6.7 cm and 6.9 cm. (\$43)

Y-059 – jarlet glazed brown and globular shaped with two opposing loop handles flanking the short neck with narrow mouth and flared mouthrim, D: 7.1 cm. (\$29)

Y-060 – bowl with caramel brown glaze ending in an irregular swirl around the central medallion, sides are gently curved with upright mouthrim rounded at the edge, D: 16.1 cm. (\$35)

Y-061 – brown glazed cup with evenly spaced horizontal wreathing marks on the nearly vertical steep sides, D: 9.3 cm. (\$29)

Y-062 – jarlet glazed brown and flattened globular shaped with two opposing loop handles flanking the short neck with upright mouthrim, six gouges carved down the sides D: 9.2 cm. (\$29)

Y-063 – jarlets (2) glazed brown and flattened globular shaped with two opposing loop handles flanking the short neck with upright mouthrim, D: 6.8 cm and 7.4 cm. (\$38)

Y-064 – jarlet glazed brown and flattened globular shaped with two opposing loop handles flanking the short neck with upright mouthrim, seven gouges carved down the sides D: 6.8 cm. (\$20)

Y-065 – jarlet in flattened globular shape covered with dark brown crackled glaze, short neck with slightly flared mouthrim rounded at the edge, D: 6.4 cm. (\$15)

Y-066 – brown glazed cups (2 - pair) with everted mouthrim and steep sides, covered with lustrous dark caramel brown glaze, D: 7.7 cm. (\$53)

Y-076 – white ware bowls (4) with light straw colored glaze ending in an irregular swirl around the unglazed central medallion, sides are steep with upright mouthrim thickened at the edge, prominent wreathing marks on exterior of bowls, D: 14.7 cm. to 15.6 cm. (\$40)

Y-077 – yingqing small bowl with light blue glaze, steep sides and everted mouthrim, on the interior lightly molded with a floral scroll décor, D: 11.5 cm. (\$15)

Y-078 – brown glazed cup with everted mouthrim and steep sides, D: 6.9 cm. (\$5)

Y-079 – white glazed deep dishes (4) light straw colored glaze, sides are flaring with everted mouthrim, on the exterior the sharply angled sides turn in abruptly just above the foot, D: 16.1 cm., 13.9 cm., and 12.2 cm. (\$100)

Y-080 – brown glazed covered boxes (2) compressed form with flattened cover and rounded sides curving in sharply to the base, covers decorated with deer and with phoenix, D: 9.3 cm. and 10.1 cm. (\$175)

Y-082 – yingqing small deep dish with light blue glaze, everted mouthrim, the interior lightly molded with a floral scroll décor, D: 11.9 cm. (\$50)

Y-083 – brown glazed covered boxes (2) of compressed circular form with undecorated flattened cover and rounded sides, D: 7.3 cm. and 5.1 cm. (\$57)

Y-084 – bowl glazed light gray-green with 6 vertical indentations lightly incised down the sides resulting in a lobed effect, a single line incised at center; faintly lobed everted mouthrim, D: 12.5 cm. (\$10)

Y-085 – green glazed saucer dishes (2 - pair), the glaze of dish No. 1 assuming a light gray cast; both dishes devoid of decoration with steep cavetto and upright mouthrim slightly thickened at the edge, D: 11.6 cm and 11.0 cm. (\$20)

Y-086 – yingqing medium deep dishes (2 - pair) light blue glaze, everted mouthrim, the interior lightly molded with a floral scroll décor, D: 15.7 cm. and 15.6 cm. (\$70)

Y-095 – brown glazed covered boxes (2) compressed form with flattened cover and rounded sides curving in sharply to the base, covers decorated with a deer and with a dragon, D: 9.4 cm. and 9.3 cm. (\$60)

Y-096 – brown glazed deep bowls (2 - set) bucket-shaped steep sides and upright mouthrim, interior center left unglazed in biscuit form, D: 11.8 cm. and 9.7 cm. (\$8)

Y-097 – brown glazed bowls (2 - pair) with steep sides and flared mouthrim thickened at the edge, D: 15.0 cm. and 15.3 cm. (\$4)

- Y-098** – yingqing very small bowl or cup with crackled very light blue glaze; steep, shallow sides curve upward sharply to the upright mouthrim; very narrow base nipped and unglazed, D: 8.6 cm. (\$2)
- Y-099** – dark brown glazed jarlet in severely flattened globular shape, along with a cover surmounted by two stepped ridges and small knob handle, D: 7.3 cm. and H: 5.3 cm. (\$4)
- Y-100** – brown glazed bowl with steep sides and everted mouthrim; markedly concave base without footrim, D: 11.5 cm. (\$4)
- Y-101** – caramel brown glazed bowls (2 - pair) with the glaze ending in an irregular swirl around the central medallion; sides gently curved, upright mouthrim rounded at the edge, D: 16.3 cm. and 16.6 cm. (\$10)
- Y-102** – brown glazed covered box of compressed form with rounded sides curving in sharply to the base; flattened cover decorated with a dragon amid waves enclosed in classic scroll border, D: 9.1 cm. (\$50)
- Y-103** – jar of medium size *kuan* shape with light brown glaze confined to the gently sloping shoulders and very slightly constricting neck; concave base has no actual footrim, H: 13.5 cm. (\$20)
- Y-104** – yingqing small deep dish with light blue glaze, everted mouthrim, the interior lightly molded with a floral scroll décor, D: 12.0 cm. (\$25)
- Y-105** – yingqing small deep dishes (2 - pair) with light blue glaze, everted mouthrim, the interior lightly molded with a floral scroll décor, D: 11.8 cm. and 11.5 cm. (\$45)
- Y-106** – yingqing small bowl with light blue glaze, steep sides and everted mouthrim, on the interior lightly molded with a floral scroll décor, D: 12.7 cm. (\$20)
- Y-113** – jar of medium size *kuan* shape with light brown glaze confined to the gently sloping shoulders and very slightly constricting neck; concave base has no actual footrim, H: 14.2 cm. (\$25)
- Y-114** – caramel brown glazed dishes (2 - pair) with the glaze ending in an irregular swirl around the central medallion; sides gently curved, upright mouthrim rounded at the edge, D: 13.5 cm. and 13.2 cm. (\$30)

- Y-115** – yingqing medium bowl with light blue glaze, steep sides and mouthrim everted, in interior a lightly incised ring, D: 15.1 cm. (\$50)
- Y-116** – yingqing very small bowl or cup with crackled light blue glaze; steep, shallow sides curve upward sharply to the upright mouthrim; very narrow base nipped and unglazed, D: 8.5 cm. (\$10)
- Y-117** – yingqing small bowls (2 - pair) with light blue glaze, steep sides and everted mouthrim, on the interior lightly molded with vertical fluting, D: 12.0 cm. and 12.2 cm. (\$60)
- Y-118** – yingqing bowl with light blue glaze, steep sides and everted mouthrim, in interior two lightly incised rings, D: 12.3 cm. (\$30)
- Y-119** – jar of medium size globular shape with dark brown glaze, four loop handles high on the shoulders, flared neck and flattened mouthrim; concave base has no footrim, H: 17.2 cm. (\$30)
- Y-120** – jar of medium size *kuan* shape with lustrous dark brown glaze; steep shoulders, constricted neck and flattened mouthrim; concave base has no footrim, H: 15.9 cm. (\$30)
- Y-121** – yingqing diminutive saucer dish with very pale blue glaze, the center surrounded by an unglazed firing ring; sides are steep and the mouthrim upright, D: 7.2 cm. (\$5)
- Y-122** – jarlets (2 - pair) *kuan* shape with light brown diffused glaze; stepped covers slightly domed with a tiny knob handle; concave base no footrim, H (including cover): 8.7 cm. and 8.2 cm. (\$17)
- Y-123** – jarlet in flattened *kuan* shape with dark brown glaze; domed cover surmounted by a stepped ridge and small knob handle; concave base without footrim, H (including cover): 7.0 cm. (\$8)
- Y-128** – yingqing small deep dish with light blue glaze, everted mouthrim, the interior unadorned, D: 12.1 cm. (\$5)
- Y-140** – brown glazed covered box of compressed circular form with flattened cover and rounded sides, the cover lightly glazed and decorated with a crisply molded fish amid concentric waves and enclosed within a dissolved classic scroll border, D: 9.8cm. (\$30)
- Y-142** – brown glazed covered box in compressed form with flattened cover and rounded sides curving in sharply to the base, cover decorated with a crisply molded phoenix, D: 8.7 cm. (\$30)

Y-158 – plate with mouthrim upward projecting at edge and encircled by a recessed wide groove; only traces remaining of the crackled straw colored glaze; circle is incised around mid-point of cavetto; prominent wreathing marks encircling the unglazed underside, D: 20.4 cm. (\$10)

Verified Total - \$1,874

References

Brown, Roxanna - April 2008. Personal discussions in Thailand.

Field Notes: Saigon - April 2008, February and November 2009, and June 2010.



Song Doc - Ming wrecksite - this wrecksite is reportedly located in the Doc River near Ca Mau town, Ca Mau Province, Southern Vietnam

and was discovered in approximately the middle of the year 2000. Fishermen recovered a limited quantity of Ming blue and white porcelains dateable to the mid to late 16th century. Blue and white jarlets with a floral motif were the most numerous items recovered. Among the other material recovered were kendis with horse and flower décor, bowls with a floral motif, cover boxes with floral sprays and on the base a hare mark reserved in white on a dark blue ground, and unusual sprinkler type vessels. The total number of ceramics recovered was limited to approximately 300 to 500 items. Also recovered was a quantity of decayed ivory. Subsequent efforts to find more material proved to be unsuccessful and nothing further was ever found.

The “perfume” sprinkler type vessels recovered have a globular body raised on a spreading base and decorated with three dragons separated by a cloud scrolls. Six arched tubes painted with “Y” form diaper rise from the shoulder to the sides of the cup shaped sprinkler on top. The sprinkler is pierced with six round apertures and decorated with floral décor. Deep set base has a rabbit mark reserved in white on a blue ground in the center. The height of these vessels is approximately 22 centimeters. This kind of vessel was made in China during the Ming dynasty for export to the Eastern Islamic countries. There are additional sprinklers in this series in the collection of Madame Marcos in the Philippines, the Topkapi Saray Museum in Istanbul and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Also another sprinkler in this series was included in a Christie's auction in 1999.

The blue and white jarlets are typically decorated on the ovoid sides with two lotus sprays with undulating stems and fluidly rendered leaves enclosed within line borders. The shoulders are softly rounded and adorned with two or three cloud sprays - either in solid form or in outline form. The neck is nearly cylindrical and has linear or globular accents with single line borders below and at the edge of the upright mouthrim. Above the base of some of the jarlets is a narrow band

containing two cloud sprays. Bluish-white glaze covers the jarlets and extends to the very slightly recessed base without foot. The nearly flat unglazed base reveals the compact light cream colored body. The interior of some jarlets is partially glazed and on others is unglazed. The approximate height of the jarlets is 8.3 centimeters.

Song Doc - Ming wrecksite ceramics (4) included in the collection are as follows (M-354 to M-380):

M-354 – blue and white jarlets (2) decorated on the ovoid sides with two lotus sprays with undulating stems and fluidly rendered leaves, nearly flat unglazed base, H: 8.3 cm. (\$75)

M-379 – lower section of a cover box decorated in underglaze blue with a pair of floral sprays with undulating stems and spiky leaves, the floral sprays separated by small insect forms; base contains a hare mark reserved in white on dark blue ground, D: 10.1 cm. (\$11)

M-380 – blue and white bowl, the steep sides with four flower heads, alternating with pairs of smaller blossoms, amid a background of detached leaves; on the interior the central medallion is decorated en suite and cavetto is plain, with a double line border just under the flared mouthrim, D: 14.2 cm. (\$50)

Total - \$136

References

Krahl, Regina, 1986. *Chinese Ceramics in the Topkapi Saray Museum Istanbul, Volume II - Yuan and Ming Dynasty Porcelains*. Convent Garden, London: Philip Wilson Publishers Ltd.

Field Notes: Saigon - April 2008.

Tira Vanichtheeranont, Annam Antiques and Gifts - Bangkok, Thailand - April 2008. Personal discussions in Saigon and in Thailand - Khun Tira acquired one of the “perfume” sprinkler type vessels and generously shared detailed information and photos.



Vung Tau No. 2 wrecksite - reportedly in approximately early 2001 a fisherman recovered a small quantity of blue and white Chinese ceramics from deep water drag nets off of Vung Tau City in Ba Ria - Vung Tau Province, southern Vietnam. The material is dateable to the 18th to early 19th century and consists of small landscape motif dishes approximately 15 cm. to 16 cm. in diameter and small cups with a fish motif. The ceramics were found in the fisherman's nets after a day of trawling at a depth of approximately 100 meters; therefore the wrecksite location was not pinpointed. Subsequent efforts to find more of the material proved to be unsuccessful and nothing further was ever found.

Vung Tau No. 2 wrecksite ceramics (1) included in the collection are as follows:

C-066 – blue and white dish with a lake side scene of a sage sitting next to a tree, a small pavilion at hand and in the distance mountains loom above the scene; base mark of two underglaze blue Chinese characters surrounded by a double circle, D: 15.6 cm. (\$80)

References

Field Notes: Saigon - April 2008.



Tet shipwreck - was discovered by a fisherman in an initially undisclosed location in Vietnam just before Tet in 2009 (Tet is the Vietnamese lunar New Year, which occurred in late January 2009). Later reports indicated that the wrecksite was located somewhere between Phu Quoc Island and two or three kilometers from mainland Cambodia at a depth of approximately 20 meters. No further information is presently available with respect to the location of this wrecksite.

Initially the salvaged material was confined to Chinese ceramics dated to the second half of 15th century - Tianshun period (1457 to 1464) to Chenghua period (1465 to 1487) wares, along with three Thai celadon figurines and a Thai celadon plate. The very limited amount of Chinese ceramics recovered included approximately 50 Longquan celadon bowls with various motifs including flower, bird, and deer (the latter on only one bowl). One celadon jar with incised floral décor was also recovered with an approximate height of 28 centimeters. A single blue and white plate was found as well with a qilin in the central medallion surrounded by lappets and cross-hatching at the rim, approximately 33 centimeters in diameter. The large and rather unique Thai celadon figurines recovered were an elephant with attendants positioned at each leg and two more mounted on its back, approximately 22 centimeters in height; a horse with mounted rider, approximately 28 centimeters in height; and a horse with a standing attendant, approximately 26 centimeters in height. The Thai celadon plate had incised accents with foliated rim and was approximately 30 centimeters in diameter.

Also recovered was a single blue and white six centimeter square-shaped jarlet in typical 14th century Yuan style with chrysanthemum sprays on each side. The two horizontal loop handles of the jarlet had a flaming pearl opposite one handle and a *lingzhi* fungus opposite the other. The attribution of the jarlet was confirmed by firsthand examination, which very convincingly revealed that all its salient characteristics were unmistakably Yuan period. This jarlet had been promptly purchased by a Vietnamese collector who quite understandably understood the rareness and desirability of the item. The presence of heirloom or antique ceramics in a ship's cargo, as in the case of this Yuan jarlet, has been encountered in a number of other instances: the Sinan shipwreck found off of South Korea (dated to the 14th century - also included 12th century Korean ceramics [3] in its cargo), the Brunei shipwreck (dated to the late 15th to early 16th century also included 2 Yuan ceramics - a gourd shaped ewer and a small blue and white jar), and the Pandanan shipwreck discovered in the Philippines (dated to the mid 15th century - also contained 4 Yuan ceramics, which included a couple of small yingqing gourd shaped ewers).

Subsequent to these initial findings limited amounts of further recoveries were made including Chinese blue and white wares along with Thai ceramics and a very small quantity of Vietnamese wares. The Chinese blue and white porcelains recovered totaled approximately 300 items and included bowls, jarlets and plates. The majority of the small bowls and all the jarlets had unglazed bases, with the latter also being devoid of footrim. A few of the small bowls did have lightly glazed or fully glazed bases. The bowls were of small, medium and large size with approximate diameters of 8.5 centimeters, 15 centimeters, and 35 centimeters and with the principal décor including flowers, aquatic plants, and the three friends of winter motif (pine, bamboo and prunus). Many of the small bowls (examples of which are referenced below at M-414 and M-415) were adorned with an underglaze blue character in the

central medallion including the Chinese character *fu* (福 - good fortune), and a Tibetan *lanca* character - both characters framed by a double line border.

Jarlets were of globular and ovoid shape in small and medium size ranging in diameter from 5.5 centimeters to 9 centimeters with the décor including lotus and fruit sprays. Plates consisted of small, medium and large sizes with approximate diameters of 14.5 centimeters, 30 to 35 centimeters, and 57 centimeters and with the principal décor including flowers, frolicking boys, a lion, and a qilin. A single plate or charger in the largest size (diameter of 57 centimeters) was recovered containing a floral motif. A very large monochrome white jar approximately 80 centimeters in height completely intact and with shiny lustrous glaze was also reportedly recovered. Also recovered was a very limited quantity of kendis, some of which contained underglaze blue characters on the base. In addition to the above Chinese blue and white material there were reports of approximately 200 blue and white plates, also from this shipwreck, being offered on the market in Phnom Penh for US\$ 2,000 each. The plates were primarily 30 to 33 centimeters in diameter with a floral décor, but did include a few with a lion motif. In addition, a few of the plates were of smaller size, 20 to 22 centimeters diameter, and all decorated with a lion motif.

Thai material recovered included underglaze black decorated cover boxes (small, medium and large), storage jars with horizontal loop handles primarily in medium and large size with dark brown and blackish brown glaze, small brown glazed gourd shaped jarlets (example referenced below at TH-485), earthenware kendis, and celadon bowls - some with incised floral décor. The predominant decoration of the cover boxes is a vine scroll and cross-hatched diaper motif with the treatment of the covers including a lotus bud knob, mangosteen fruit stalk handle, and plain center. Also salvaged were Thai celadon jars of extended ovoid shape with a cup-like

mouth, two loop handles, and narrow vertical grooves carved from shoulder to just above the foot (refer to TH-493 below); small brown glazed potiches with covers (see TH-490 below); and bottle vases, celadon glazed and brown glazed, of extended ovoid shape with a cup-like mouth with rolled rim flanked by two vertical loop handles (refer to TH-492 below).

The very small amount of Vietnamese material was confined to blue and white jarlets and vases, 15 centimeters and 27 centimeters in height, with floral décor, along with small polychrome floral decorated jarlets (example referenced below at V-261).

Tet shipwreck ceramics (31) included in the collection are as follows (M-408 to M-419, TH-477 to TH-518 and V-261):

M-408 – Longquan light turquoise blue glazed celadon bowl with steep sides and fluidly incised floral décor; the sides with two large lotus blossoms separated by sprawling arabesque form leaf sprays; a band of continuous keyfret under the upright rim, repeated on the exterior, D: 16.5 cm. (\$100)

M-409 – Longquan celadon bowl with steep sides and a lightly molded floral spray decorating the central medallion; an incised single line border on the exterior just under the upright mouthrim with thickened, rounded edge; flat base is unglazed with the exposed body compact and light russet colored, D: 14.8 cm. (\$40)

M-410 – blue and white globular shaped jarlets (2 - pair) decorated around the body with a lotus scroll, a band of scallops at the neck; base is unglazed, D: 5.4 cm. and 5.3 cm. (\$145)

M-411 – blue and white bowl decorated on the sides with aquatic plants, vajra symbol in central medallion; base is unglazed, D: 9.8 cm. (\$30)

M-412 – blue and white dish decorated in center with two boys in garden setting, lotus scroll on underside; lightly glazed base, D: 14.4 cm. (\$130)

M-414 – blue and white bowl decorated on sides with aquatic plants, lanca character in central medallion; base unglazed, D: 9.3 cm. (\$20)

M-415 – blue and white bowl on the sides pine, bamboo and prunus: *fu* character in central medallion; base unglazed, D: 8.5 cm. (\$25)

M-416 – blue and white globular shaped jarlet decorated around the body with two peach sprays, base is unglazed, D: 5.4 cm. (\$50)

M-417 – blue and white bowl decorated on sides with peach sprays, floral spray in central medallion; base is glazed, D: 9.5 cm. (\$30)

M-418 – blue and white bowl decorated on the sides with aquatic plants, *lanca* character in central medallion; base lightly glazed, D: 9.8 cm. (\$25)

M-419 – small elongated globular shaped brush washer covered with light olive green celadon glaze on the bulbous sides and flattened top, D: 6.4 cm., H: 5.7 cm. (\$22)

TH-477 – Sisatchanalai celadon bowl covered with light emerald-green crackled glaze, the exterior with carved vertical flutings on the steep sides; incised accents on the interior, D: 11.8 cm. (\$10)

TH-481 – celadon jar of extended ovoid shape with a cup-like mouth, two loop handles; narrow vertical grooves carved from shoulder to just above the foot; glazed light turquoise blue, H: 14.2 cm. (\$35)

TH-482 – Sisatchanalai cover boxes (3 - set) all decorated in underglaze iron-black and with the covers sealed; sides of cover and body with panels of vine scrolls alternating with panels of cross-hatched diaper, D: 9.2 cm., 7.0 cm. and 6.9 cm. (\$90)

TH-483 – Sisatchanalai medium size jar, *kuan* form ovoid body with dark brown glaze; three horizontal loop handles, D: 18.2 cm. (\$50)

TH-484 – small jarlet in globular *kuan* shape with upright neck and square-cut mouthrim; body of jarlet decorated with randomly spaced brown dots, H: 4.1 cm. (\$5)

TH-485 – small brown glazed gourd shaped bottles or jarlets (2 - pair), globular body with a tall bottle-shaped neck, everted mouthrim; two loop handles on shoulder, H: 6.6 cm. and 6.4 cm. (\$30)

TH-490 – potiches with covers (2 - pair) with the brown glaze now eroded, upright mouthrim with unglazed beveled edge; high domed cover with flattened rim surmounted by lotus bud knob; three loop handles high on the shoulder, H (including cover): 10.1 cm. and 9.9 cm. (\$30)

TH-491 – small brown glazed gourd shaped jarlet, globular body with a tall bottle-shaped neck and everted mouthrim, two loop handles on shoulder, H: 6.9 cm. (\$5)

TH-492 – bottle vases (2 - set) with the glaze now eroded (celadon glaze on No. 1 and brown glaze on No. 2), extended ovoid shape with cup-like mouth with rolled rim flanked by two vertical loop handles, H: 11.5 cm. and 9.7 cm. (\$10)

TH-493 – celadon jar of extended ovoid shape with a cup-like mouth, two loop handles; narrow vertical grooves carved from shoulder to just above the foot; glazed light turquoise blue, H: 13.9 cm. (\$20)

TH-517 – Sisatchanalai cover box decorated in underglaze iron-black, the cover sealed; sides of cover and body with panels of vine scrolls alternating with panels of cross-hatched diaper, D: 6.7 cm. (\$20)

TH-518 – celadon jar of extended ovoid shape with a cup-like mouth, two loop handles; narrow vertical grooves carved from shoulder to just above the foot; glazed light turquoise blue, H: 13.0 cm. (\$40)

V-261 – polychrome jarlets (2 - pair), decorated in overglaze enamels with two iron-red flower sprays and green glazed leafy stems; on the shoulders overlapping iron-red leaf tips and circular green accents, H: 6.4 cm. and 6.2 cm. (\$20)

Total - \$982

References

Bureau of Cultural Properties, Ministry of Culture and Information, 1985. *Relics Salvaged from the Seabed off Sinan (Materials I)*. Seoul: Dong Hwa Publishing Co.

Diem, Allison, 1997. *Oriental Art*, Vol. XLIII No. 2, pp. 45 - 48. "Exhibition Review: The Pandanan Wreck 1414: Centuries of Regional Interchange."

Dizon, Eusebio Z., 1998. *European Association of Southeast Asian Archeologists*, pp. 1-16. "Underwater Archaeology of the Pandanan Wreck: a mid-15th century A. D. vessel, southern Palawan, Philippines."

Field Notes: Saigon - February 2009 and June 2010.

L'Hour, Michel, editor, 2001. *The Sunken Treasures of Brunei Darussalam* (Volume 1 – Archaeologist's Logbook, Volume 2 – Scientific Study, and Volume 3 – Sketchbook). Paris: Editions Textuel.

Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - February 2009 and June 2010. Personal discussions in Saigon.

Richards, Dick, 2003. *Lost for 500 Years... Sunken Treasures of Brunei Darussalam*. Sydney: Art Exhibitions Australia, Limited.

Richards, Dick - July 2007. Personal discussions in Bangkok.

Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter, Volume VII Number 3, February - May 2014, "Preliminary Report - Tet Shipwreck, Vietnam," page 2. (See Research Papers Prepared Section)



Quang Ngai No. 2 shipwreck - a quite limited amount of information is available about this shipwreck. It was reportedly discovered by local fishermen in approximately mid 2010 off of Quang Ngai Province in south central Vietnam and is dated to the 19th century.

The recovered ceramics totaled about 2,000 items and consisted of a variety of blue and white bowls and plates in various sizes with the décor including dragons and phoenixes. The maximum diameter of the bowls was approximately 20 centimeters and the largest plates were approximately 27 centimeters in diameter. Only ceramics of Vietnamese origin believed to have been produced in the vicinity of Bat Trang in northern Vietnam were recovered from the wrecksite. The Saigon dealers failed to express any interest in the material so the bulk of it was reportedly sold to a dealer from the Philippines.

Quang Ngai No. 2 shipwreck ceramics (1) included in the collection are the following:

V-262 – blue and white basin shaped shallow bowl decorated in underglaze blue with two confronting dragons chasing a flaming pearl, interior of the bowl is unglazed; a black ink two Chinese character inscription signifying “year of the snake” is on the center of the base, D: 13.6 cm. (**\$15**)

References

Field Notes: Saigon - November 2010.



Tang Wreck - reportedly the first recoveries from this wrecksite were made by a fisherman in approximately mid 2006 somewhere off of Quang Ngai Province south of Danang in south central Vietnam. It is speculated the ceramics were found using deep water drag nets. Therefore, the fisherman was not able to identify with any precision the location of the wrecksite. These recoveries consisted of

Changsha wares dated to the 9th century of the Tang Dynasty. Recovered wares included ewers approximately 20 centimeters in height as well as similar sized jars. The ewers have three loop handles, straw colored glaze and brown glaze, and are decorated with leaf roundels or with human figures. Also recovered were large light brown glazed globular shaped jars with three small handles and approximately 35 centimeters high. Subsequently, additional similar material has been found from time to time over the years.

In mid 2011, in addition to the more customary recoveries of ewers and jars, a quantity of small bowls, numbering less than 100, was also found. These were the first bowls recovered from the wrecksite. The bowls are decorated in the center with a variety of abstract motifs which tend to elicit rather fanciful interpretations including the following: phoenix, bat, crab, dancing girl, rooster, *ling chi* (fungus of immortality), clouds, and others. Additionally there are also other motifs represented on the bowls including floral sprays, blossoms, and vegetal sprays. Three examples of these bowls are referenced below at T-014. The bowls are reminiscent of the very similar recoveries from the Belitung shipwreck in Indonesia which is dated to the year 826 of the Tang Dynasty. Total ceramic recoveries from this Tang wreck number approximately 200 items, although the actual precise location of the wrecksite has not yet been determined.

Tang wreck ceramics (5) included in the collection are the following:
T-014 – bowls (set of 3) painted in brown and green under a transparent finely cracked light greenish tinged yellow glaze; center of each bowl decorated with a distinct abstract motif - lotus blossom, dancing girl, or phoenix in flight; at everted mouthrim of each bowl are four small brown splashes; unglazed narrow base is shallow and nipped, D: 14.0 cm. - No. 1, 13.5 cm. - No. 2 and No. 3. (\$300)
T-015 – greenware conical shape bowls (2 - pair) with dark olive green glaze, upright mouthrim; narrow glazed base with recessed central portion, D: 15.1 cm. and 15.0 cm. (\$100)

Total - \$400

References

Field Notes: Saigon - November 2011.

Nguyen Van Hoa - November 2011. Personal discussions in Saigon - Nguyen Van Hoa shared firsthand knowledge of Tang wreck ceramics recovered over the years of 2006 to 2011.



Quang Ngai (Binh Chau) - Yuan Shipwreck - was discovered by local fishermen on 7 September 2012 near Binh Chau Village, Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province, approximately twenty kilometers east of Quang Ngai City in central Vietnam. The shipwreck is located fifty meters offshore at an extremely shallow depth under about three meters of sand. The discovery resulted in rather violent confrontations between the fishermen and the police. There is some speculation that the Chinese vessel, which reportedly measures approximately 20 meters in length and 4 to 5 meters in width, may be relatively intact. If so this would provide archeologists with an excellent opportunity for study and analysis of the construction materials and shipbuilding techniques. The wrecksite area is now under heavy guard by the Vietnamese government authorities. A contract to salvage the wreck has already been awarded to a Saigon firm and excavation is expected to be done next year (2013).

Only Chinese ceramics, dated to the early 14th century of the Yuan Dynasty (1271 to 1368), were recovered and amounted to a few

thousand items, which includes intact as well as broken wares. The ceramics consisted primarily of celadon wares from both Longquan and the southern China kilns such as those in Fujian and Guangdong. Also recovered were a limited number of small Jingdezhen jarlets with two loop handles and faceted sides, as well as plain sides, and with various décor: plain yingqing ware (Y-155), with spotted iron decoration as in Y-147 below, blue and white of rather poor quality, and underglaze red in extremely small amounts. A large blue and white plate (broken in half) was also reportedly recovered, but this could not be verified.

Longquan celadons included small censers or incense burners as described in Y-132 below; large plates (approximately 33 to 36 centimeters in diameter) with foliated rim, fluted cavetto, and with floral décor, fish, deer, or dragon; smaller plates, about 26 centimeters in diameter some with twin phoenix, some with pie crust rim; medium bowls with the motif in the central medallion consisting of a lightly molded floral spray, twin fish, or a pair of people (for an example refer to Y-130 as described below). Other celadons (some similar to the Karang Cina finds in Indonesia dated to the early Yuan dynasty), included small shallow bowls with unglazed interior, medium size conical shape deep dishes with unglazed center (see Y-131 below), jarlets with two loop handles and molded floral décor (see Y-133 below), and small dishes with unglazed mouthrim and very lightly molded twin fish motif as in Y-139 below. Also recovered were medium size celadon bowls with foliated mouthrim decorated variously with molded phoenix, dignitaries or floral décor (example of latter at Y-143). Brown glazed wares were also recovered, consisting only of medium sized and larger basins with foliated rim as described in Y-129, Y-141, and Y-148 below.

The authorities confiscated large quantities of the wares recovered by the fishermen. However, very limited numbers of the Quang Ngai ceramics were available in a few of the antique shops in Saigon. There is considerable speculation about the remainder of the cargo,

much of which centers upon the possibility of significant quantities of Yuan blue and white material possibly being recovered. We will have to wait and see!

However, since the shipwreck was found 50 to 100 meters from shore (depending on which account you believe) why wasn't the cargo removed when it sank or thereafter? Is it possible the most valuable cargo - Yuan blue and white - was in fact already salvaged?? Who knows!

Brief descriptions of the ceramics referenced above (Y- 129 to Y- 155), along with a List of References are included below. The Quang Nai (Binh Chua-Yuan) Wreck - Preliminary Report in the **Research Papers Prepared Section** contains photos of each item described under Y-129 to Y-155), including the base; it also includes photos of additional ceramics recovered from the Quang Ngai Shipwreck, along with further information.

Quang Ngai (Binh Chau) - Yuan Shipwreck ceramics (27) included in the collection are as follows (Y-129 to Y-155):

Y-129 – brown glazed basin shape deep dishes (2 - pair), the unglazed flattened mouthrim with a foliated flange at the edge; the lustrous dark caramel brown mottled glaze covers the interior, terminating just under mouthrim; D: 21.1 cm. and 21.0 cm. (\$75)

Y-130 – large celadon bowl covered in light mint green crackled glaze, a lotus spray is lightly incised in the center, with an incised ring encircling the central medallion; underside is encircled by a band of five lightly incised lines just under the mouthrim; exposed biscuit is compact and light grayish-brown colored; D: 18.9 cm. (\$150)

Y-131 – conical shape deep dish, a counter clockwise potting swirl etched in the unglazed center; the glaze assumes a distinct grayish tone from the underlying body, D: 18.5 cm. (\$30)

Y-132 – celadon censers (2 - pair) cylindrical body encircled by two molded bands, with the flattened mouthrim flanged on the rounded interior edge; light sea-green glaze extends briefly to otherwise

unglazed interior; unglazed base of both censers is markedly nipped, the biscuit where very compact and light beige colored; three short, stubby feet are provided for adornment since the censers are fully supported by the base; D: 9.5 cm and 9.0 cm. (\$176)

Y-133 – celadon jarlet covered with a light sea-green faintly crackled lustrous glaze, flattened globular body and slightly constricted neck with two small vertical loop handles; around the shoulders and upper body a distinctly molded floral scroll consisting of two chrysanthemum alternating with two lotus; molded band of three leaf sprays interspersed with two Buddhist swastika symbols encircles lower body, ending just above base; D: 9.5 cm. (\$88)

Y-139 – saucer dishes (2 - pair) very lightly molded with a pair of opposite facing fish in the central medallion encircled by a single line border, at the bottom of the cavetto two tiers of molded lotus petal tips with a double line border above; unglazed band around the edge and interior of the mouthrim reveals the smooth and very compact light putty colored body, D: 14.3 cm and 14.1 cm. (\$80)

Y-141 – brown glazed basin shape deep dishes (2 - pair), the unglazed flattened mouthrim with a foliated flange at the edge; the lustrous dark caramel brown mottled glaze covers the interior, terminating just under mouthrim; D: 21.0 cm and 21.2 cm. (\$80)

Y-143 – large celadon bowl with light sea green glaze, clearly molded aquatic plants with volutes, swirls and curved accents girth the interior wall, central medallion surrounded by outlined *ruyi* head elements and contains a blossom spray; splayed foot, unglazed base is medium textured and grayish brown colored; D: 17.9 cm. (\$140)

Y-147 – yingqing iron-brown spotted *balimbing* jarlets (2 - pair) with faceted sides divided into eight lobed sections; two small loop handles just below the slightly constricted brief neck. The light bluish tinged glaze has a patterned distribution of mottled blackish brown irregularly shaped iron spots. H: 6.4 cm – No. 1 & 2. (\$300)

Y-148 – large brown glazed basin shape deep dish, the unglazed flattened mouthrim with a foliated flange at the edge; the lustrous caramel brown mottled glaze covers the interior, extending to just under the mouthrim; D: 25.8 cm. (\$60)

Y-149 – celadon bowls (2 - pair) with light mint green glaze, except for a clearly incised ring encircling the central medallion, the bowls are unadorned; sides are rather shallow. Considerable marine encrustation on base of both, D: 14.3 cm and 14.0 cm. (\$60)

Y-151 – large celadon bowl with very even toned light mint green glaze, everted mouthrim with closely spaced foliations; clearly molded aquatic plants with volutes, swirls and curved accents girth the interior wall, central medallion surrounded by outlined *ruyi* head elements and contains a lotus pod; splayed foot, unglazed base is medium textured and grayish brown colored; D: 18.2 cm. (\$200)

Y-152 – yingqing *balimbing* jarlets (2 - pair) with faceted sides divided into eight lobed sections; two small loop handles are positioned just below the slightly constricted brief neck. The lustrous light bluish tinged glaze ends at or just above the concave unglazed base without footrim; nominally sugary textured biscuit is medium textured and very light grayish-beige colored, H: 6.4 cm. and 6.1 cm. (\$400)

Y-154 (1 of 5) – celadon plate fragment, light turquoise-blue green crackled glaze, molded floral spray in center (perhaps peony) with unusual spiky tipped appendage, molded scrolling elements with scalloped edges encircling cavetto, upright rim thickened at edge; glazed foot inward slanting on interior, unglazed firing ring on base with concave center, exposed body compact and brown colored, at fractures light gray colored. D: 25.6 cm. (\$20)

Y-154 (2 of 5) – celadon bowl fragment, light sea-green crackled glaze, molded in center two male figures, of apparent Middle-Eastern origin, grappling in wrestling posture, mouthrim everted; glazed foot inward slanting on interior, considerable kiln grit on flat base, exposed body compact and brown to dark gray, at fractures light gray. D: 18.7 cm. (\$10)

Y-154 (3 of 5) – celadon bowl fragment, light sea-green crackled glaze, chrysanthemum spray molded in center, mouthrim everted; foot inward slanting on interior, flat base unglazed, exposed body compact and light beige colored, at fractures light gray. D: 16.3 cm. (\$10)

Y-154 (4 & 5 of 5) – dish fragments (2 – pair) lightly molded with pair of opposite facing fish in central medallion encircled by a single line border, at bottom of cavetto molded lotus petal tips; unglazed band around the edge and interior of the mouthrim with smooth and very compact light gray colored body on No. 4, light beige on No. 5; vestigial foot, very slightly recessed and narrow unglazed base roughly finished. The glaze on dish No. 4 light gray in tone, on No. 5 light bluish in tone and finely crackled. D: 13.8 cm. and 13.5 cm. (\$10)

Y-155 – yingqing globular jarlets (2 - pair) with two loop handles flanking the brief slightly spreading neck, mouth with medium sized aperture has a flattened, lipped rim rounded at the edge; the lustrous soft blue glaze covering the jarlets ends at an uneven line just above the concave unglazed base without footrim. (\$300)

Total - \$ 2,189

References

Field Notes: Saigon - November 2012, August 2013, January 2014, November 2014, March 2015, and January 2016.

Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - November 2012. Personal discussions in Saigon - Nguyen Van Hoa traveled to Quang Ngai on two occasions in September to October 2012 and spoke with the fishermen concerning their ceramic recovery efforts and results.

Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - January 2013. Personal correspondence.

Brown, Roxanna editor, 1989. *Guangdong Ceramics From Butuan and Other Philippine Sites*. Manila: The Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines. Kuala Lumpur: Oxford University Press.

Bureau of Cultural Properties, Ministry of Culture and Information, 1985. *Relics Salvaged from the Seabed off Sinan (Materials I)*. Seoul: Dong Hwa Publishing Co.

Crick, Monique, 2010. *Chinese Trade Ceramics for South-East Asia from the 1st to the 17th Century* : Collection of Ambassador and Mrs Charles Muller. Milan, Italy: 5 Continents Editions.

“Ancient shipwreck attracts attention of local, int’l archeologists.” *SaiGon Giai Phong* (English edition), 17 September 2012.

“Authorities ask antique finders to hand them in.” *Báo Tuổi Trẻ* (English edition), 11 September 2012.

“Authorities halt antique rush on new shipwreck discovery.” *dtinews*, 11 September 2012.

"Bảo tàng cổ vật." <http://vietbao.vn>, 21 September 2012.

“Bidding opens for excavation of recently discovered shipwreck.” *News.chaobuoisang.net*, 17 September 2012.

“Bidding opens for excavation of recently discovered shipwreck.” *News VietNamNet*, 18 September 2012.

“Cultural Heritage Bureau checks wrech [sic] with 500-year-old antiques.” *News VietNamNet*, 14 September 2012.

“Finders keepers?” *Thanh Nien Daily*, 21 September 2012.

“Finders should be keepers: Vietnamese fight for right to loot sunken ship.” *Thanhniennews*, 14 October 2012.

“Fishermen attack policemen guarding shipwreck.” *SEAArch - Southeast Asian Archaeology Resources*, 18 October 2012.

“Fishermen attack police over 700-year-old artifacts.” *Báo Tuổi Trẻ* (English edition), 15 October 2012.

“Fishermen on look-out to collect artifacts from shipwreck.” *SaiGon Giai Phong* (English edition), 10 September 2012.

“Hunters in rush for undersea antiques.” *The Saigon Times Daily*, 17 September 2012.

Kha Di, 2012. “Hundreds of fishermen collect shipwreck antiques.” *News VietNamNet*, 18 October 2012.

“Police to stop theft of shipwreck antiques.” <http://vietnamnews>, 11 September 2012.

“Quang Ngai: Hundreds of fishermen collect shipwreck antiques.” *Vietnamnet*, 10 September 2012.

“Quang Ngai prevents fishermen from looting shipwreck.” *SaiGon Giai Phong* (English edition), 15 October 2012.

“Quang Ngai authorities seek to salvage antiques from sunken ship.” *thanhniennews*, 23 September 2012.

“Shipwreck yields treasures dating from 14th century.” *People’s Army Newspaper Online*, 17 September 2012.

“Shipwreck yields treasures dating from 14th century. *News VietNamNet*, 18 September 2012.

“Shipwreck yields treasures dating from 14th century.” *Vietnam News Agency*, 19 October 2012.

***Southeast Asian Ceramics Museum Newsletter*, Volume VI Number 2 - 3, 2013, “Preliminary Report Quang Ngai Shipwreck, Vietnam,” page 6. (See Research Papers Prepared Section)**

Southeast Asian Ceramic Society, 1979. *Chinese Celadons and Other Related Wares in Southeast Asia*. Singapore: Arts Orientalis.

“Sunk ship draws Quang Ngai to antique hunt.” *dtinews*, 10 September 2012.

“Quang Ngai to protect antiques from shipwreck.” *VietNam News*, 20 September 2012.

“Quang Ngai to strengthen antiques from shipwreck.” *Vietnamese Tourism*, 20 September 2012.

Theo Võ Minh, 2012. “Quảng Ngãi: Mò cổ vật trong xác tàu đắm.” *Tuổi trẻ*, 9 September 2012.

Thu Ha, 2012. “Quang Ngai blockades the shipwreck with 500-year-old antiques.” *News VietNamNet*, 18 October 2012.

“Trúng bạc tỷ cổ vật quý hiếm từ con tàu đắm?” <http://vietbao.vn>, 11 Sep 2012.

“Vietnamese Shipwreck Reveals 14th Century Yuan Dynasty Porcelain.” *Shipwreckology*, 18 September 2012



Con Dao Island Wreck - discovered by local fishermen in the vicinity of Con Dao Island, off of Vung Tau city, Birria Province, southern Vietnam. The exact location is a well guarded secret. The wreck was originally found in mid 2009, but limited ceramic material was recovered until 2011 when some quantities of blue and white porcelain emerged along with additional amounts of other material. Due to the location and difficult conditions diving and recovery is only possible one month out of the year. In addition to the ceramics described below, considerable quantities of Hong Wu (1368 to 1398) coins were also recovered. The wrecksite is datable to the early 15th century.

A single dealer in Saigon purchased nearly all available material or approximately 2,000 items from the fishermen at a cost reported to range from US\$4,000 to \$6,000 and on up to \$ 20,000. The lower figures are probably the more accurate. This dealer has a near monopoly, with few Con Dao items seen in any of the other shops. He is attempting to sell the ceramics at high prices given the quality and quantities of the material. As a sales technique he has produced price lists, tags and labels modeled after Sten Sjostrand's "Ming Wrecks" material.

Thai ceramics formed the bulk of the cargo and recoveries included 94 Sisatchanalai celadon coconut jars decorated in a wide variety of motifs (50 of the jars were subsequently sold to the dealer in the adjacent shop along with a variety of other items). Also recovered were a very limited number of underglaze black decorated celadons (2 medium to large size bowls and 2 plates); a wide variety of Sisatchanalai celadons including a very large quantity of small plates 18 centimeters in diameter (with plain, piecrust and foliated rim), as well as larger plates, small globular jarlets with two loop handles, rather unusual larger jarlets with fluted sides and loop handles as in TH-545 below (total of approximately 50 observed), bowls - small and medium, and elegantly shaped small cups as described in TH-546 below (total of approximately 60 observed). Small sized

Sisatchanalai celadon plates are very seldom encountered in a shipwreck context or in kiln site recoveries or in old collections. For the only other small Sisatchanalai celadon plate in the Collection other than the Con Dao shipwreck plates see TH-289. Compare also the larger Sisatchanalai celadon plate from the Royal Nanhai shipwreck, illustrated in Brown and Sjostrand, *Maritime Archaeology and Shipwreck Ceramics in Malaysia*, Color Plate 59; and another from the Royal Nanhai shipwreck at TH-416.

Recovered also were Singburi brown glazed jars - large size (total of 8 observed), medium and smaller. Fishermen are reported to have in excess of 100 additional large Singburi jars in their possession. Sukhothai wares include fish plates with a floral scroll in the cavetto, which are very similar to the recoveries from the Nanyang wreck in Malaysia, medium size very shallow dish with narrow base as described in TH-547 below (only one observed), and medium bowls approximately 16 centimeters in diameter with a floral motif or fish in the central medallion.

Chinese wares included blue and white porcelain and Longquan celadon. Blue and white consisted of small jarlets with floral motif (see M-446 below), medium bowls approximately 18 centimeters in diameter with floral motif, and plates with floral decor and with lion motif (approximately 20 centimeters and 30 centimeters in diameter). Small celadon dishes with fluted exterior sides as well as plain sides and with molded twin fish and floral motif, as well as with an incised floral motif were also recovered. Examples of these dishes are described below at M-447, M-448 and M-449.

Brief descriptions of the ceramics referenced above (M-446 to M-449 and TH-545 to TH-563), along with a List of References are included below. The **Research Papers Prepared Section** contains a report on the Con Dao Island wreck with photos of each item described under M-446 to M-449 and TH-545 to TH-563, including the base; it also

includes photos of additional ceramics recovered from the Con Dao Island wreck along with further information.

Con Dao Island wreck ceramics (25) included in the collection are as follows (M-446 to M-449, TH-545 to TH-563):

M-446 – small blue and white jarlet, globular shape decorated with two fruit sprays and a profusion of leaves, underglaze blue is heavily applied; concave base without footrim is unglazed, D: 6.9 cm. (\$72)

M-447 – small celadon dish with light green glaze, two small fish impressed at center, wide flared mouthrim; underside molded with petal forms, vertical foot, base partially glazed, D: 13.0 cm. (\$30)

M-448 – small celadon dish with light green glaze, a floral spray is molded at the center, wide mouthrim flared; underside molded with petal forms, vertical foot, base partially glazed, D: 12.9 cm. (\$15)

M-449 – small celadon dish with light green glaze, a floral spray lightly incised in the center, angular sides are bucket shaped with mouthrim very slightly flared; underside plain, vertical foot, base unglazed, D: 12.7 cm. (\$15)

TH-545 – celadon jarlets (2 - pair) with vertical sides, two vertical loop handles and narrow cup-like mouth, molded and incised lotus leaves on the flattened shoulders; fluted sides, unglazed sharply convex narrow base, H: 10.1 cm. and 9.5 cm. (\$40)

TH-546 – celadon cups (2 - pair) deep gouges carved down the gently curving sides, base flat without footrim, D: 7.1 cm. and 6.6 cm. (\$20)

TH-547 – Sukhothai dish decorated with a large fish extending over the entire bottom of the dish, four spur marks in center, sides are plain, mouthrim everted; high foot, narrow base, D: 19.3 cm. (\$30)

TH-553 – Sukhothai bowls (2 - pair) decorated in iron-black on a cream slip under a straw colored glaze, in the center a fish facing to the left superimposed with five spur marks; just under the everted mouthrim a band of chevron elements interspersed with dots and enclosed within single line borders, D: 17.3 cm. and 17.0 cm. (\$15)

TH-554 – celadon “coconut” jar, carved diagonal accents enclosed within incised line borders radiate down the shoulders, short neck is flanked by two loop handles, carved vertical fluting on the lower

body extends to the upright foot; H: 13.8 cm. and D: 14.5 cm. (\$20)

TH-555 – Mon type extended ovoid shaped jar with very short spreading neck and flared mouthrim, two vertical lo-op handles extend from high on the shoulders to the upper portion of the neck; dark brown glaze now eroded in areas, H: 11.3 cm. (\$6)

TH-556 – small celadon plates (4 - set) with a variety of rim treatments and various incised decorative motifs, including elaborate stylized peony spray; all have carved fluting radiating down the exterior sides, solidly constructed upright foot (nominally inward slanting on plate No. 4) outward sloping on the interior, and flat bases with compact light cream-beige colored body; D: 18.2 cm. to 16.7 cm. (\$120)

TH-559 – small celadon plates (4 - set) with a variety of rim treatments and various incised decorative motifs, including an unrecorded variant of the onion skin motif; all have carved fluting radiating down the exterior sides, solidly constructed upright foot (slightly inward slanting on plate No. 4) outward sloping on the interior, and flat bases with compact light cream to beige colored body; D: 19.2 cm. to 16.4 cm. (\$130)

TH-560 – large celadon bowl with underglaze black floral décor; unglazed base with medium textured light grayish beige body and a blackened circular firing scar; D: 20.6 cm. (\$90)

TH-563 – celadon “coconut” jars (3) with carved and incised accents, short neck flanked by two loop handles, and cup-like narrow mouth with thickened rolled rim; traces of marine encrustation on the exterior, H: 14.4 to 12.9, D: 14.4 to 13.3. (\$200)

Total - \$803

References

Field Notes: Saigon - November 2012, August 2013, January 2014, and March 2015.

Ha Van Dinh, M. B. A., of Saigon - November 2012, August 2013 and January 2014. Personal discussions in Saigon.

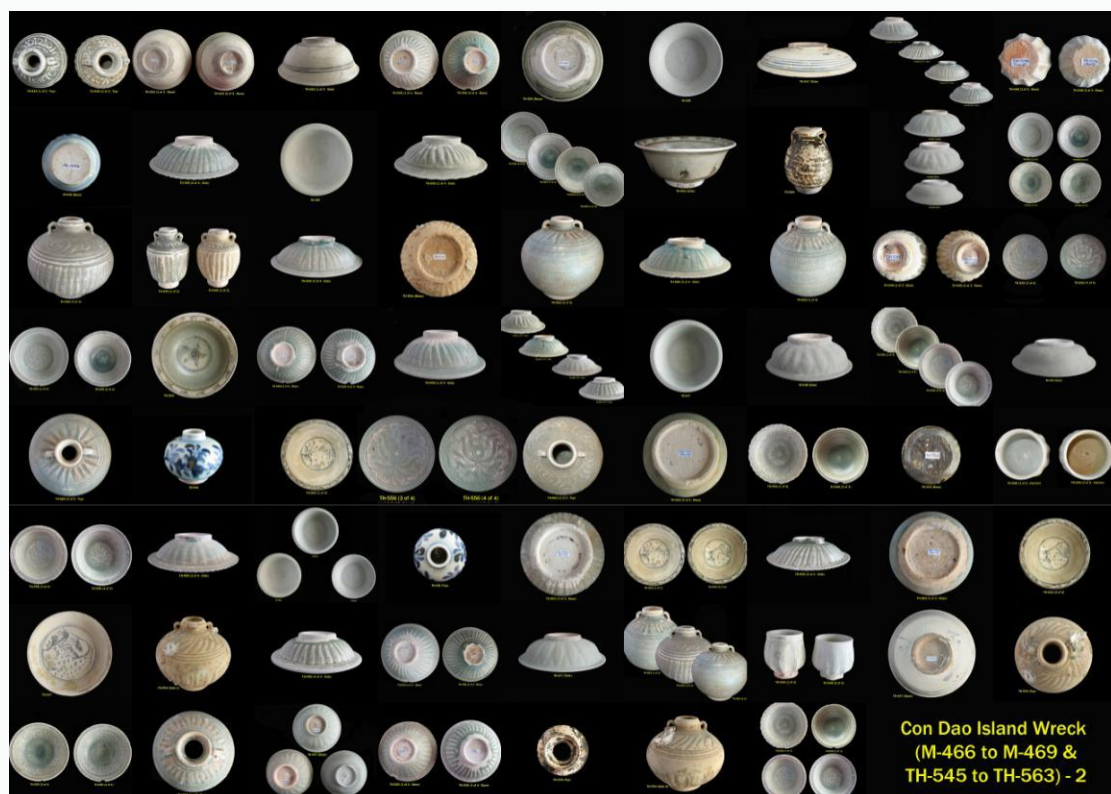
Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - November 2012. Personal discussions in Saigon.

Sten Sjostrand - August 2012. Personal discussions in Endau, Malaysia.

Brown, Roxanna and Sten Sjostrand, 2002. *Maritime Archaeology and Shipwreck Ceramics in Malaysia*. Kuala Lumpur: Department of Museums and Antiquities.

Richards, Dick 1977. *Thai Ceramics*. Adelaide: Art Gallery of South Australia.

Research Papers Prepared Section: Con Dao Island wreck - Preliminary Report.



Phan Thiet Shipwreck - was discovered by local fishermen in June 2013 off the coast of the town of La Gi, Ham Tan District, Binh Thuan Province, a distance of approximate 50 kilometers southwest of

Phan Thiet City. The only ceramics recovered were Chinese wares consisting of Fujian or Guangdong celadon-type ceramics datable to the early Ming dynasty: late 14th century - Hongwu period (1368 to 1398) to Jianwen period (1398 to 1402).

According to one observer recoveries included beaker type vessels with inward curving mouthrim in the following quantities: small - 50, medium - 200, and large - 50. A much lesser quantity of the same type of vessels was also found with upright mouthrim (for an example of a small one see M-465 below). A limited number of medium size celadon plates with plain rim (refer to M-463 below), and a much reduced amount of larger celadon plates with foliated mouthrim, approximately 33 centimeters in diameter, were also recovered.

The largest quantity of any wares recovered consisted of about 3,000 medium size bowls. A variety of smaller bowls and dishes were also recovered in limited numbers, such as those included in M-464 and M-466 below. These utilitarian wares, which were all plain and unadorned celadon-type ceramics, were not of much interest to the dealers in Saigon. Consequently, very limited quantities were available in a few shops only.

Also recovered in addition to the ceramics were a sizeable quantity of Chinese coins, some of late Yuan dynasty date, and approximately 1,000 kilos of ivory in a rather advanced state of decomposition. There is no further information currently available with respect to this shipwreck.

Phan Thiet Shipwreck ceramics (21) included in the collection are as follows (M-463 to M-505):

M-463 – celadon plates (2 - pair) glazed olive green with broad rim rounded at the thickened edge, a circle incised at edge of central medallion and firing spur marks around the center; narrow, unglazed

base is flat and nipped; body is compact and light gray colored on plate No. 1, light beige on plate No. 2, D: 21.4 cm. (\$65)

M-464 – celadon bowls (2) with slightly everted mouthrim thickened at the rounded edge, spur marks around the interior center; slightly spreading foot outward sloping on interior, and unglazed narrow convex base with compact light gray colored body, D: 15.2 cm. and 15.7 cm. (\$45)

M-465 – small celadon beaker, mouthrim upright, a circle incised at edge of interior center; unglazed base, no footrim, D: 7.9 cm. (\$20)

M-466 – celadon saucer dish with slightly everted mouthrim rounded at thickened edge, around the bottom of the steep cavetto an incised ring; unglazed base slightly convex with a carved circle around the edge, exposed body fine textured, compact and dark brick-red colored, D: 10.8 cm. (\$10)

M-469 – celadon deep dish, dish and bowl (3 - set) with olive green glaze extending unevenly to the upright foot, outward slanting on interior; slightly convex unglazed base is nipped in center, body fine grained and dark putty colored, D: 10.9 cm to 11.5 cm. (\$60)

M-470 – celadon saucer dish with marine green glaze, flattened mouthrim with piecrust edge, around the central medallion an incised ring; unglazed base convex, the body fine textured and light brown colored, D: 12.2 cm. (\$20)

M-477 – celadon jarlets (2 - pair) with globular body, very brief constricted neck, upright mouthrim with rounded edge, and medium sized aperture; covered with light sea-green crackled glaze, D: 5.3 cm and 5.1 cm. (\$30)

M-478 – celadon dishes (4) with olive green glaze ending unevenly above or at the foot, outward slanting on the interior. Slightly convex unglazed base is nominally nipped in the center; body is compact and fine to medium grained, D: 11.9 cm to 10.7 cm. (\$70)

M-505 – celadon beakers (5), mouthrim upright, a circle incised at edge of interior center; unglazed base, variously with or without footrim, D: 7.9 cm. to 11.1 cm. (\$110)

Total - \$430

References

Roxanna Brown, editor, 1989. *Guangdong Ceramics From Butuan and Other Philippine Sites*. Manila: The Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines, Inc.

***China Westward, Chinese Export Ceramics from 12th C. to 15th C.*, 2003. Hong Kong.**

***Exhibition of Ceramic Finds from Ancient Kilns in China*, 1981. Fung Ping Shan Museum, University of Hong Kong.**

Field Notes: Saigon - August 2013 and January 2014.

Rita C. Tan, et al., 1991. *Chinese and Southeast Asian Greenware Found in the Philippines*. Manila: The Oriental Ceramic Society of the Philippines.

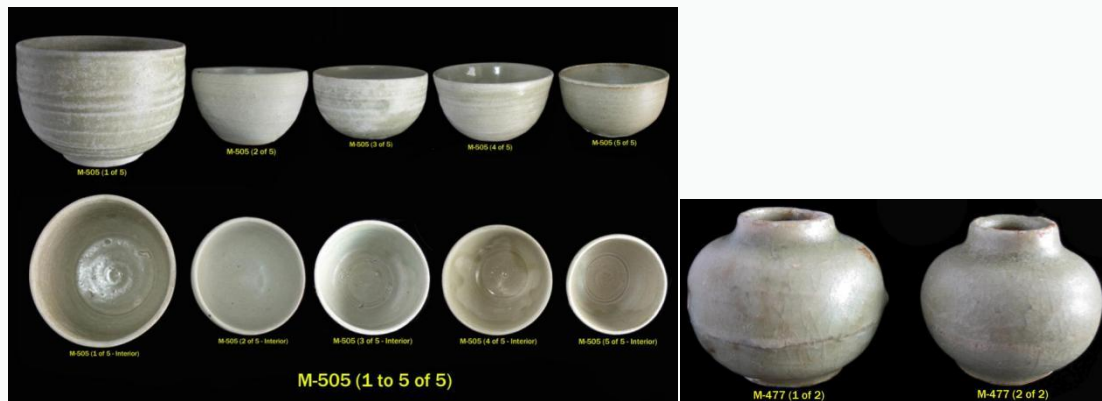
Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - August 2013 and January 2014. Personal discussions in Saigon.

Nguyen Van Hoa (Brother) of Saigon - August 2013. Personal discussions in Saigon.

Peter Lam Y. K., et al., 1985. *A Ceramic Legacy of Asia's Maritime Trade, Song Guangdong Wares and other 11th-19th Century Trade Ceramics found on Tioman Island, Malaysia*. Selangor, Malaysia: Southeast Asian Ceramic Society.

Southeast Asian Ceramic Society, 1979. *Chinese Celadons and Other Related Wares in Southeast Asia*. Singapore: Arts Orientalis.

Stevenson, John and John Guy, 1997. *Vietnamese Ceramics, A Separate Tradition*. Chicago: Art Media Resources, Ltd.



Phu Quoc/Cambodia Shipwreck - is located between Phu Quoc Island and Cambodia in or near Kien Giang Province, southern Vietnam at a considerable depth of about 60 meters. It was discovered by a local fisherman, who has maintained the precise location of the site a closely guarded secret, in the last quarter of 2013. The actual location of the wrecksite may in fact lie within Cambodian territorial waters.

The wreck contained a mixture of Thai, Chinese, and Vietnamese ceramics with Thai celadons predominating, and is datable to the early to mid 15th century. The Sisatchanalai celadons included bowls in a variety of small to medium sizes such as TH-561 below, “coconut” jars with carved and incised décor (TH-562 is an example), as well as medium sized and larger celadon plates with incised décor ranging from 24 centimeters to 30 centimeters in diameter. Large dark brown glazed Singburi type storage jars were also recovered along with unglazed kendis.

The limited quantity of Chinese porcelains recovered included small to medium plain celadon bowls, as well as blue and white bowls (small, medium and large) along with blue and white plates from 16 centimeters up to 34 centimeters in diameter. Vietnamese ceramic findings included small blue and white jarlets 10 centimeters in height along with blue and white plates 12 centimeters in diameter. Also recovered were 5 small bronze cannons 70 centimeters in length and each weighing approximately 4 kilograms.

Phu Quoc/Cambodia shipwreck ceramics (4) included in the collection are as follows:

TH-561 – Sisatchanalai celadon bowls (3) with crackled green glaze of a different tone on each and all with incised geometric or floral décor; bowl No. 1 has a band of distinctive squiggly arabesque-like elements in multiple line borders; D: 14.8 cm to 12.5 cm. (\$75)

TH-562 – Sisatchanalai celadon globular shaped “coconut” jar with light sea-green crackled glaze, two loop handles and cup-like narrow mouth with thickened rolled rim; carved vertical gouges high on the shoulders within incised triple line borders, mid body unadorned; above the foot band of crisply carved, slightly diagonal, extended gouges within incised double line borders, H: 14.4 cm. (\$150)

Total - \$225

References

Field Notes: Saigon - January 2014.

Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - January 2014. Personal discussions in Saigon.



Quang Ngai (Binh Chau) - Qing Shipwreck - was discovered by local fishermen on 15 August 2013 near Binh Chau Village, Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province, approximately twenty kilometers east of Quang Ngai City in central Vietnam. The shipwreck is located approximately 200 meters offshore at a shallow depth of around 1.5 meters, and about 100 to 150 meters northwest of the Yuan wreck discovered one year earlier. It was promptly reported that “Officials have ordered full-time security at the site and asked experts to quickly work on a excavation plan, together with Ho Chi Minh City based salvage company Doan Anh Duong that helped with another boat...”

Only a limited quantity of Chinese ceramics, dated to the Daoguang period (1821 to 1850) – circa 1820 to 1825 of the Qing Dynasty (1644 to 1911), were recovered. The ceramics, including intact as well as broken items, consisted primarily of blue and white wares and some overglaze enamel decorated wares and are attributable to the Fujian kilns of south China. Among the recovered wares were blue and white bowls, along with overglaze enamel decorated bowls, similar to those salvaged from the Tek Sing shipwreck in Indonesia (dated to 1822). The Tek Sing wreck included, for example, blue and white “spiral lotus” bowls and dishes, and very similar examples were found on this Vietnam wreck as well. For examples from the Tek Sing wreck see C-238 (2 sets of spiral lotus dishes and accompanying bowls) and the individual dishes at C-049 and C-050. Additionally, the Diana Cargo (found in Malaysia and dated to 1817) also included comparable “spiral lotus” bowls with more simple décor in the interior, see C-089 for an example.

Quang Ngai (Binh Chau) - Qing Shipwreck ceramics (2) included in the collection are the following):

C-248 – bowl with rather steep flaring sides decorated with iron-red enamel under the everted, flared mouthrim with a band of leaf spray panels alternating with panels of cross-hatch diaper. Below this band is a narrow undecorated band, and then a band of rather widely

spaced triple vertical line accents just above the foot. All the bands are enclosed within double line borders. The center of the interior is surrounded by a rather wide unglazed ring edged with iron-red and covered with bluish-green hued wash. Interior sides are plain. The foot is high and upright with beveled unglazed rim; deep-set glazed base is rather narrow and slightly convex, D: 16.3 cm. (\$9)

C-265 – diminutive blue and white spiral lotus bowl with lotus petal panels alternately containing *lingzhi* fungus and fruiting peach sprays; mouthrim edged with dark blue glaze, D: 7.8 cm. (\$10)

Total - \$19

References

Field Notes: Saigon - August 2013, January 2014, November 2014, March 2015, and November 2016.

“Second ancient shipwreck unearthed in Quang Ngai.” *VietNam News*, 17 August 2013.

“Second shipwreck with ancient potteries discovered in Quang Ngai.” *News VietNamNet*, 19 August 2013.

“Vietnamese fisherman find another old shipwreck near central coast.” *Thanhniennews*, 18 August 2013.



Unidentified shipwrecks - Vietnam

Ceramics included in the collection from unidentified shipwrecks in Vietnam are as follows.

Vietnam Unidentified shipwreck No. 1 - a very limited number of ceramics datable to the Transitional period (1620 to 1683) - mid 17th century were reportedly recovered sometime in early 2010 from an unidentified wrecksite in Vietnam. The recovered material consisted primarily of blue and white porcelains small in size and including bowls with a floral motif, and cover boxes with a molded star shaped element on the top with a diameter of approximately 7 centimeters. A very few monochrome white pieces were also recovered. Because of the limited quantity found, the ceramics may have been recovered by a fisherman using deep water drag nets and therefore not able to identify with any precision the location of the wrecksite (no further information available).

Vietnam unidentified shipwreck No. 1 ceramics (2) included in the collection are as follows:

C-139 – blue and white bowls (2 - pair) decorated with four flower heads alternating with small “T” shaped elements, under the mouthrim a band of sparsely rendered leaf scroll; at the interior center a floral spray encircled by a double line border; very slightly inward sloping tall foot, which is vertical on the interior, base is rather narrow, convex and glazed. Exposed body at the unglazed edge and interior portions of the footrim is fine grained and cream colored; edges of the unglazed areas with apricot tingeing, D: 9.5 cm. and 9.7 cm. (**\$45**)

References

Field Notes: Saigon - November 2010.

Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - November 2010. Personal discussions in Saigon.



Vietnam Unidentified shipwreck No. 2 - a very limited number of ceramics datable to the late Ming period - early 17th century were reportedly recovered sometime in 2009 to 2010 from an unidentified wrecksite in Vietnam. Because of the limited quantity found, the ceramics may have been recovered by a fisherman using deep water drag nets and therefore not able to identify with any precision the location of the wrecksite (no further information available).

Vietnam unidentified shipwreck No. 2 ceramics (2) included in the collection are as follows:

M-421 – Swatow blue and white bowls (2 - pair) decorated with two phoenix separated by peony sprays, mouthrim adorned with a dissolved trellis/diamond diaper border on the interior; the central medallion inscribed with an underglaze blue stylized Chinese character representing *shuāngxǐ* (Double Happiness). The bluish tinged milky white glaze covers the footrim and continues to the base, kiln grit adheres to footrim, D: 11.2 cm. and 11.4 cm. (**\$47**)

References

Field Notes: Saigon - November 2010.



Vietnam Unidentified wrecksite No. 3 is reportedly located in the vicinity of Phu Quoc Island, southern Vietnam and said to contain a mixture of Chinese, Thai, and Vietnamese ceramics. The Chinese ceramics include small celadon dishes such as M-471 below along with blue and white wares. Vietnamese ceramics recovered include celadon dishes with chocolate base and are represented by V-269. The recovered ceramics are datable to the 15th century. Ceramics from the wreck first appeared on the antique market in Saigon in late 2013; there is no further information available with respect to this wrecksite.

Vietnam unidentified shipwreck No. 3 ceramics (2) included in the collection are as follows (M-471 and V-269):

M-471 – small celadon dish, flared rim, unglazed central medallion encircled by a lightly incised ring; base unglazed, D: 11.4 cm. (\$30)

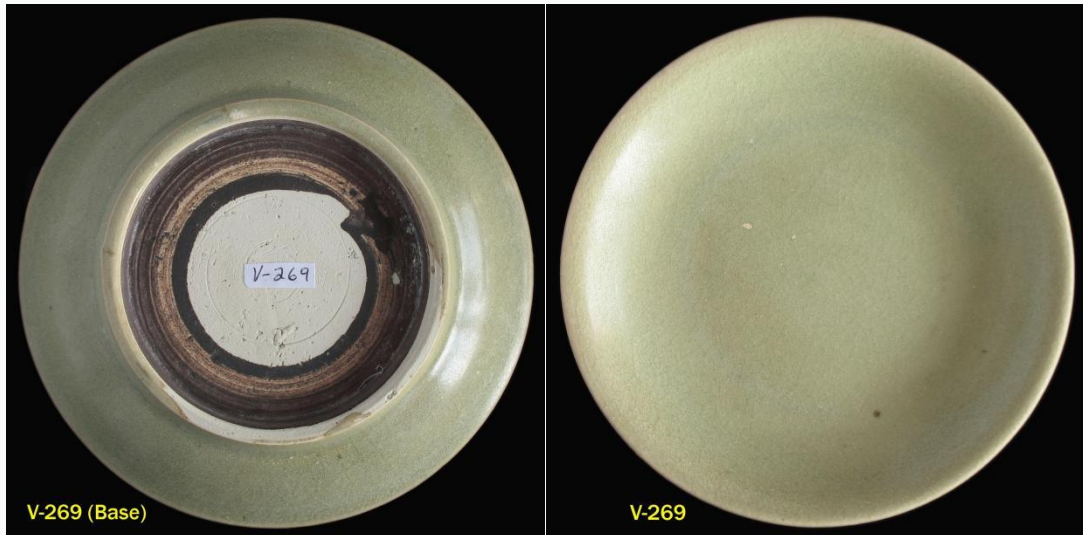
V-269 – celadon shallow dish, very slightly everted rim, chocolate base, D: 14.3 cm. (\$30)

Total - \$60

References

Field Notes: Saigon - January 2014.

Nguyen Van Hoa of Saigon - January 2014. Personal discussions in Saigon.



Vietnam Unidentified wrecksite No. 4 is reportedly located off of Quang Ngai Province in central Vietnam. A chance find by a fisherman resulted in the recovery of only a very few early 14th century Yuan wares similar to the spotted deep bowl referenced below. An extremely limited number of ceramics from the wrecksite first appeared on the antique market in Saigon in early to mid 2014 (confined to one dealer only); there is no further information available with respect to this wrecksite.

Vietnam unidentified shipwreck No. 4 ceramics (1) included in the collection are as follows:

Y-150 – large beaker shape deep bowl with the nearly cylindrical sides curving in sharply to the foot; covered with yingqing type glaze and with a random distribution of irregularly shaped black iron spots fairly large in size. The upper portion of the bowl, under the upright mouthrim with rounded edge, is encircled by a series of prominent wreathing marks. D: 14.3 cm. and H: 10.2 cm. (**\$100**)

References

Field Notes: Saigon - November 2014 and March 2015.



Vietnam Unidentified wrecksite No. 5 is reportedly located off of Phu Quoc Island, Kien Giang Province, southern Vietnam (near Cambodia) and was discovered by a trawling fisherman in early 2012. Recovery was limited to blue and white Kraak ware dated to the late Wanli period (1572 to 1620) – approximately 1620. There is no further information available with respect to this wrecksite.

Vietnam unidentified shipwreck No. 5 ceramics (1) included in the collection are as follows:

M-497 – Kraak plate fragment decorated in underglaze blue, the center with two birds in a garden setting flanked by three large chrysanthemum blossoms and rocky outcropping to the left, with swirling clouds above. The central medallion with an octagonal shaped double line border surrounded by a narrow white frame. It is then encircled by a narrow border of four panels of diaper pattern filler with small overlapping circular motifs shaded blue, alternating with panels of swastika symbols reserved in white on a blue diaper ground, and panels of swastika symbols shaded blue on a blue diaper ground. On the cavetto wide and narrow panels filled alternately with a floral spray, two swastika symbols reserved in white on a blue ground with another motif in-between (perhaps a pearl with streamers or ribbons), an auspicious symbol with tassel and ribbons (visible in two of the wide panels is a portion of the wheel of Buddha with ribbons, visible in another is a portion of a leaf with ribbons and tassel), and diaper pattern filler in small overlapping circular motifs with another motif in-between (perhaps a

pearl with streamers or ribbons). The intact plate would have contained sixteen such panels alternately wide and narrow. The underside is similarly divided into alternately wide and narrow panels with sparse perfunctory line and circle décor. D: 23.8 cm. (\$22)

References

Field Notes: Saigon - January 2016.

