

A hybrid version of Urbato

(AND I DON'T MEAN "A TURBO")

By Chris Watkins

We are used to two main series in The Urbato range produced by Wileman: the 1000 series of pattern numbers is the sgraffito design where a clay base was added to by another clay layer which was scraped away to create the design - see example on left: Urbato 1014 with orange clay body and green clay layer. In some cases more than one coloured clay was added to create the design. The 4000 series of Urbato was a completely different approach - tube-lined ware, in which liquid clay is piped onto the surface of the body of the vase - see example on right Urbato 4014A (see Gerry Pearce's article in Newsletter Issue 107 and his recent Seattle talk)



Then the one in the middle appears with sgraffito AND tube-lining, backstamp 4014. Of those who know about these things, no-one I've contacted has seen this version.



There are other versions of decorations we could call hybrids, reflecting the creativity of Frederick Rhead and the team at that time. For example Faience 12000 series of pattern numbers had sgraffito as the base, but with drip glazes over-running - called Primitif ware in the 1899 Article.

(Finally, the bracket sub-title reflects the way the new vase was described at auction - it was spelled Urabato, and the next item was Urabto!! Lucky we don't depend on alerts!)

So, our collection of Shape 14 expands again!



Intarsio 3014



Intarsio 3041



Intarsio 3207



Urbato 4014B



Urbato 4014B