

DOLLY CLIFF PATTERN BOOK PART 6

'Batanga'



Cup and saucer decorated in 'Batanga' (5340)



Pattern book watercolour for 'Batanga' 5340



'Batanga' backstamp

Dolly Cliff's 'Batanga' is one of the many patterns that Dolly Cliff produced in the mid 1920's that represented A.J. Wilkinson's response to European folk art pottery. Her range was characterised by stylised floral patterns decorated underglaze and on a stark white body.



Pattern book watercolour for 'Batanga' 5341

First produced in 1926, 'Batanga' was released in two forms. As Newport pattern number 5340, 'Batanga' was depicted as a shoulder design that leaves the centre of the ware clear. As pattern number 5341, a central motif was added inside the border. The same design arrangement was maintained when the design was re-released on Honeyglaze in May 1928 under Wilkinson numbers 8462 (shoulder version) and 8463 as the full design with centre motif. 'Batanga' is one of the

few Dolly Cliff patterns for which the original factory name is known.

In keeping with the practice of naming patterns after exotic locations that was established by John Butler, the Art director, Dolly Cliff named her pattern after the coastal town of Batanga in the West African country of modern day Gabon. Clarice Cliff was to continue this factory tradition in the 1930's.

'Cherries'

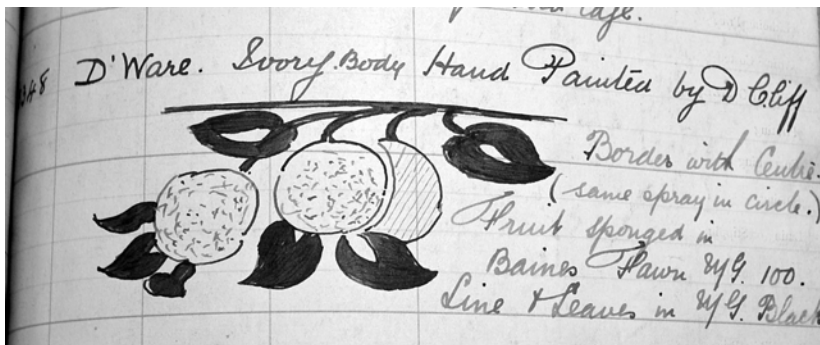


Watercolour for 5348 'Cherries'



Watercolour for 5349 'Cherries'

Shortly after 'Batanga', in 1926 Dolly Cliff released her tableware pattern 'Cherries'. This pattern was released in two colourways that carry the pattern numbers 5348 and 5349.



Pattern book instructions for 'Cherries' (5348)

The design shows three sprays of cherries evenly spaced about the shoulder of the plate. A circle in the centre of the plate contains a fourth spray of fruit. Both patterns were decorated underglaze on a white (Ivory) body.

Pattern number 5348 shows the fruit decorated in fawn and the leaves in black. The pattern book instructions indicate that the fruit is to be sponged. This means that rather than applying the colour with a pencil (brush) a small piece of sponge is used to dab the colour onto the ware. This will produce a mottled effect that adds visual texture and interest to the design.

Pattern number 5349 shows the design coloured in a more naturalistic fashion. The leaves are painted green and the fruit has been sponged in a combination of pink and claret brown.

These tableware patterns from 1926 show that Dolly Cliff's fine sense of design produced many distinctive hand painted tableware patterns. That these patterns were decorated underglaze is a tribute to the skill of the paintresses that she trained and developed.