

Basic Detail Report

Title Mug

Date 1790-1820

Primary Maker Unknown

Medium Wheel-thrown cream-colored earthenware with maroon underglaze decoration

Description Cylindrical mug of cream-colored earthenware, a type of ceramic known as creamware. The mug has a flat bottom, vertical sides, and a pulled and applied handle opposite an underglaze transfer-printed maroon design. An oval scene appears below the words "BY VIRTUE AND VALOUR, WE HAVE FREED OUR COUNTRY,/ EXTENDED OUR COMMERCE, AND LAID/ THE FOUNDATION OF A GREAT EMPIRE." The oval scene shows a man in late eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century military uniform, holding a sword, and standing on the body of a lion. A ship floats in a harbor in the background on the right, and there is a small town on the far shore. Three soldiers stand at attention in the background on the left. The oval is surrounded by a relatively plain border with a few motifs representing liberty emerging from the top edge. These motifs include a liberty cap, trumpet, flag, rifle, and a spear. From below the oval, two wreaths curve up around the oval. A small pile of ordinance---cannons, cannon balls, and a barrel of powder---appear where the two wreaths meet. There are many small spots of discoloration or dirt on the rough glaze on the handle and on the rim immediately surrounding the handle.

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Dimensions Primary Dimensions (height x width including handle x depth): 4 7/8

x 4 3/4 x 3 1/2in. (12.4 x 12.1 x 8.9cm)