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Guy, "Vietnamese Ceramics in International Trade," in Stevenson and Guy, eds., *Vietnamese Ceramics*, 51.

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Pajot purchased the ewer in Thanh Hoa Province in 1924.

81. BOWL

Tran dynasty, 13th century
Stoneware, H: 8.8 cm × D: 15 cm
National Museum of Vietnamese History, Ha Noi, LSb 22719

82. EWER WITH BROWN GLAZE

Thanh Hoa Province, Ly-Tran dynasties, 12th–14th century
Stoneware, H: 14 cm × D: 13.3 cm
National Museum of Vietnamese History, Ha Noi, LSb 12475

81. A sherd of a celadon bowl found beneath the ash strata at Sakai, a port on Osaka Bay (Kyoto) that suffered a fire in 1399, tells us that Vietnamese green wares were exported to Japan prior to that date.¹¹ Since we are still attempting to establish an export chronology for Vietnamese ceramics, this information provides one of the few fixed dates that confirm export of the monochrome wares so popular in Viet Nam prior to the production of blue-and-white. The thirteenth and fourteenth centuries appear to be the period of most intense celadon production.

Potters used both incised and molded decoration on the northern Vietnamese ceramics that were produced from the thirteenth century. This celadon bowl is minimally decorated with a carved flower on the interior base and two lines encircling the exterior body below the shoulder, while lotus-petal incisions rise from the base. The glaze extends down to the foot, but the lip of the bowl is unglazed, and there is no evidence that supports were used to stack it in the kiln, which suggests that such bowls would have been stacked lip to lip, foot to foot. The shape is characteristic of Vietnamese bowls, with the bulbous body narrowing slightly to the wide mouth and more emphatically to a small base. The base has no iron-oxide wash.

82. Ewers, probably used for wine, were produced from the beginning of the Ly period (1009–1225), during which time they bear a relationship to the ivory-colored, barrel-shaped jars with inlaid brown décor. Over the centuries, they took on a variety of shapes, sizes, and decorations. The earliest were produced in a range of monochrome glazes, though by the middle of the Tran dynasty (1225–1400), some also exhibit iron-oxide underglaze, and later, underglaze blue. Ewers with animal-shaped spouts and handles appear in the fifteenth-century export period.

This elegant small ewer¹² has a deep, rich brown glaze that fits the body closely. The handling of the iron-oxide glaze is quite sophisticated as it thins over the ridges of the upper shoulder, causing some fine variation of the color of the neck, shoulder, and the scalloped edge at the top of the body. The tiny spout balances the delicate handle. The potter has left a slightly raised ridge above the foot, which is roughly carved on the bottom. Since the glaze does not reach the base, the fine buff body is revealed.

LITERATURE

Co Vat Viet Nam (Vietnamese Antiquities), 2003.

