

BARTLAM POTTWORKS POTTERY



In the 18th century Britain's industrial revolution was led by the massive transformation of the ceramics and textile industries through driving innovation that created huge factories.

John Bartlam was not only the first English potter in South Carolina, he was one of those amazing 18th century ceramic innovators. Within five years of arriving he produced the first porcelain in colonial America.

In fact, the only known porcelain teapot made by Bartlam sold to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City for just over \$800,000 in Sept of 2018. Bartlam's third and most successful pottworks was established in Camden, South Carolina in 1774.



Historic Camden has a working pottery in our Bradley House.



BARTLAM POTTWORKS KILN & CLAY PROCESSING



Historic Camden is seeking funding to build an 18th-century wood-fired kiln and development of 18th-century clay processing equipment.

Porcelain Earth (Kaolin clay), need to make fine English pottery was discovered on Historic Camden property in 1751-52. We believe that our porcelain earth was used by John Bartlam to make America's first porcelain.

We will be using 18th Century tools and technology to process our Kaolin and other wild clays. These same clays, found in Historic Camden clay pits, would have been used by Camden's first brickworks from 1768 - 1927.

We are also constructing a type of wood-fired kiln that would have been used in the 18th century for firing pottery made at Historic Camden.

