

Genevieve Baker's Biblical Lamps



North Dakota Badlands,

Lincoln House,

&

The White House

Background: Patent Documents

ST. Paul's Cathedral

&

British Parliament





St. James Bible Scene

&

Space Exploration

GENEVIEVE BAKER'S LAMPS

THE ORIGINAL IDEA FOR THESE LAMPS CAME TO GENEVIEVE IN 1955 WHEN SHE WAS PREPARING TO TEACH A SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS ON THE LIGHT OF CHRIST AND HIS RULER SHIP (JOHN 8:12 & REV. 5:13). SHE THOUGHT OF THE CROWN AS RULER SHIP, SCEPTER AS AUTHORITY, AND THE ORB AS CONTROL OF THE WORLD. SHE MADE A WORKING MODEL, USING A SMALL STAINLESS STEEL KETTLE AS THE BASE, AND HAVING COPPER TUBING WELDED TO THIS FOR THE ELECTRIC CORD TO CONNECT TO THE TOP, WHICH WAS AN ORDINARY LAMP GLOBE. WIRE PRONGS WERE WELDED TO THE SOCKET TO SUPPORT THE GLOBE. SHE THEN PAINTED THE GLOBE AND ADDED DÉCOR OF GEMS.

IN 1963 GENEVIEVE TOOK HER WORKING MODEL TO A SOUTH DAKOTA INVENTORS CONGRESS, WHERE IT WAS VOTED THE MOST POPULAR INVENTION OF THE COMPETITION. SHE WAS AWARDED \$25.00. IN SILVER DOLLARS AND A SILVER TRAY AND DECORATED WITH A RIBBON. SINCE HER FIRST MODEL WAS SYMBOLIC OF BRITISH RULER SHIP, PICTURING THEIR PARLIAMENT, SHE APPLIED FOR A PATENT THROUGH A BRITISH PATENT ATTORNEY AND RECEIVED SIX PATENTS ON HER LAMPS. SHE THOUGHT THIS WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO FIND A MANUFACTURER TO PRODUCE THEM. A FIRM IN THE BRITISH CROWN COLONY OF HONG KONG WAS AGREEABLE TO MAKE THEM; BUT THEN THE COST OF SHIPPING WAS TOO GREAT AS TO MAKE THE IDEA TOO PROHIBITIVE. THESE SEVEN LAMPS, THEREFORE, ARE THE ONLY ONES IN EXISTENCE. A COPYRIGHT FOR THEM IS ALSO IN THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON.

AFTER STORING THE LAMPS IN HER ATTIC FOR MANY YEARS, GENEVIEVE CONTACTED THE DICKEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY WHEN THE GROUP WAS FIRST PREPARING TO TURN THE OLD FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OAKES INTO A HERITAGE CENTER IN 1994. THEN IT WAS THAT HER ONE OF A KIND LAMPS WERE GIVEN THERE, ALONG WITH AN ATTRACTIVE DISPLAY CASE. SHE IS HAPPY THAT HER IDEA OF BIBLICAL LAMPS ARE ON PERMANENT EXHIBIT THEREFORE VISITORS TO ENJOY, AS THEY REALIZE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CHRIST'S LOVE AND RULE.

SHOW IN THE EXHIBIT ARE ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL AND THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT IN LONDON, THE NORTH DAKOTA FIRST CAPITAL AND THE BADLANDS, THE ILLINOIS CAPITAL WITH THE LINCOLN HOUSE, THE WHITE HOUSE AND U.S. CAPITOL, ST. JAMES BIBLE, AND OUTER SPACE OF EXPLORATION.

GENEVIEVE BAKER WAS A LONG TIME RESIDENT OF THE GUELPH AREA IN DICKEY COUNTY UNTIL MOVING WITH HUSBAND, LESLIE, TO ABERDEEN, S.D. IN 1997.