CROWN & CURIOSITY

PICKARD

Poppy Cream, Sugar & Sifter

Gold and orange poppies · Signed LEROY and H.N.

A cream jug, a covered sugar and a sifter: the small, useful trio that once sat at a breakfast table, close to the coffee and the cloth.

In the 1890s, Wilder Pickard began a china-decorating studio, first in Wisconsin and then in Chicago. For decades his painters covered fine porcelain in flowers, fruit and generous gold. The artists often signed their work, and those names are still sought today.

This set is painted with gold and orange poppies on a cream ground, the gilding running over handles, rims and the sifter's pierced top. One piece is signed LEROY, another H.N.

A painted garden for a table that still makes room for ceremony.