



FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 293, Fall City, WA 98024

fallcityhistorical@juno.com

www.fallcityhistorical.org

## In Olden Times...

One of many down-to-earth donations from our friend Edith Sillery was this enameled metal chamber pot! (We include it in our WHAT IS IT? display popular at school events. You can imagine some of the responses...)

In the days of outhouses, it must have been a welcome alternative to heading out in the cold, or in the dark, sure to be inhabited by monsters of some sort. Even just getting out of bed and dealing with a “cold pot” does not sound very inviting!

One wonders what the routine was for dealing with the pot once it was used. Where its contents were emptied is no mystery.

But where/how (and how thoroughly) it was washed, and by whom?? Surely this varied between households. It is probably a good guess, however, that it was not the menfolk who stepped up for the task.

It was possible, of course, to be more elegant about the whole “toilet set,” as noted in the 1902 Sears, Roebuck ad shown below. Perhaps reserved for guests in most homes. Such pieces are likely to be spotted these days as décor in upscale bed-and-breakfast quarters.



**OUR KOSMO TOILET SET.**  
THE FINEST TOILET SET WE FURNISH. NOTHING BETTER MADE.

**THE LATEST PRODUCTION OF THE POTTERS' ART.** A tapering tankard effect that is very shapely, modeled and carved with great skill. A perfectly clear white semi-porcelain body, with gracefully curved embossed lines, which are exquisitely traced in rich, yellow gold. This white and gold design will harmonize with any color decoration in bedrooms. Every set is carefully packed in a barrel and shipped direct from the pottery in Eastern Ohio.

No. 2R406 10-Piece Toilet Set, consisting of wash bowl and pitcher, covered chamber, covered soap dish, hot water pitcher, brush vase and mug.  
Price.....\$3.95

No. 2R408 12-Piece Toilet Set. Same assortment as 10-piece set, with large slop jar and cover, as illustrated.  
Price.....\$5.95

**ANOTHER NOVELTY IN THE KOSMO TOILET SHAPE.** The top of this set is tinted a dark olive green, gently blending toward the center to a soft salmon color, and finally receding to the same rich green at the bottom, matching the top tint. The effect of this handsome and striking combination of perfect coloring is made more attractive by the rich, full gold tracing on all embossed lines, giving it a most luxurious appearance. We have made a special effort to avoid everything gaudy, and feel this combination will appeal to the most refined taste. Every set is carefully packed in a barrel and shipped direct from the factory in Eastern Ohio.

No. 2R410 10-Piece Toilet Set, consisting of wash bowl and pitcher, covered chamber, covered soap dish, hot water pitcher, brush vase and mug.  
Price.....\$5.50

No. 2R412 12-Piece Toilet Set. Same assortment as 10-piece set, with large slop jar and cover added. Price.....\$7.98