

19TH CENTURY FRENCH GLAZED TERRACOTTA AND BRASS WOOD-BURNING STOVE

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A remarkable example of 19th-century French craftsmanship, this antique wood-burning stove combines practical heating design with richly decorated ceramic artistry. Crafted in Lyon, France circa 1870, the substantial cylindrical stove stands nearly five feet tall and is constructed of glazed terracotta in four separate stacked sections.

The sculptural body features a softly flared upper section crowned with a domed lid, embellished with raised floral and acanthus leaf motifs. A distinctive openwork finial forms the top, while molded bands, scrolling foliage, rosettes, and decorative garlands accentuate the architectural silhouette. The ceramic surface is finished in a soft cream-white glaze, beautifully contrasted with raised decoration in warm buttery yellow, creating a refined two-tone palette.

The central cylindrical section is fitted with a hinged brass door decorated with symmetrical scrollwork, providing access to the firebox for burning wood or coal. A second brass door at the lower section opens to an ash collection compartment. Both doors are framed by raised foliate decoration, while the rounded lower body rests on four substantial bun feet.

The stove displays the decorative influence of the Louis XV and Louis XVI revival styles, blending classical ornamentation with the functional design of traditional French ceramic heating stoves. Its modular construction reflects the craftsmanship of the period, when glazed earthenware stoves were valued for their ability to retain and gradually release heat.

The antique stove is in excellent condition commensurate with age and use, retaining its attractive glazed finish, richly molded details, and beautifully patinated brass fittings. With its impressive proportions and unusual decorative character, this architectural piece would make a distinctive focal point in a kitchen, dining room, or country house interior.

Dimensions: 26” Diameter x 58” H.

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