



**Albany slip glazed “Vines on Gourd” vase
by the Anna Pottery,
Union County, Illinois. 5.8”h, 5.7”w. cc: 1880**

By Greg Mathis

The unique Kirkpatrick “Vines on Gourd” vase figural presents a strong religious communication in clay: Vines grow and thrive in difficult conditions, which symbolize the journey of life. John 15:5 states “I am the vine and you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.”

Gourds are a fruit and this gourd shaped vase represents the fruit of faith. A candle or oil lit in the center of this intricate gourd shaped vase well represents Christ at the center of our Lives, being “The Light of the world.”

Aside segment loss to a few vines, this creation survived in sound and totally original condition. Former Bess Kirkpatrick and nephew Cornwall E. Kirkpatrick IV collection.