



White Ironstone China Association E-News

October, 2020

Welcome to the Second Edition of the Monthly *White Ironstone China Association E-News*

This is the place to keep in touch with and exchange white ironstone-related information with our present and past members and WICA Facebook members.

A big thank you to those who responded to items in our September issue. We received photos regarding (1) importer's marks (2) body styles manufactured by the firm of William Adams, and (3) a body style that had not previously been reported.

Also in this issue is an article in remembrance of Jean Wetherbee, the lady who was the cornerstone of WICA.

Remember to take a close look at the advertisement which appeared in the August, 1961, issue of *Ladies Home Journal*.

Take advantage of our "Member Classified Ads - For Sale and Wanted Section" and place your advertisement for the November E-News. *White Ironstone Notes* will no longer have advertisements of any type.

Any of the "Click Here" links may be used to send us (1) photos and/or information about any of the topics presented or (2) new ideas. We look forward to hearing from you and sharing your photos and information.

If You Are Not A WICA Member and Would Like to Join. . .

Membership is just \$40 per year for one or two persons at the same membership address. Benefits include:

- Receive the *White Ironstone Notes* newsletter, which is published three times per year. The newsletter is 8-16 pages in length and filled with educational information.

To Become A Member:

Click on the PayPal link below to pay the one-year membership fee:

Buy now with **PayPal**

AND

- Receive the monthly *E-News* to keep informed of WICA projects. Members may also advertise for wanted items or for sale items.
- Attend our annual convention and auction and any WICA events such as member-hosted get-togethers.
- Access the Members Section of the WICA website www.whiteironstonechina.com for additional WICA information .
- Receive the Membership Roster. Members have the option to not be listed in the directory.
- Purchase educational reference books from the WICA Shoppe.
- Participate in and provide assistance with WICA activities and projects.
- Meet people who enjoy and appreciate white ironstone.

Click Here to Send the Following Information to the Membership Chairperson

Name of Person 1, E-Mail, and Phone Number

Name of Person 2, E-Mail and Phone Number

Address

City/State/Zip

White Ironstone Collecting Interests

Indicate if you do not want to be included in the Membership Directory.

Indicate if you are interested in participating on a WICA committee.

Coming in October to White Ironstone Notes

William Livesley's Legacy to Whiteware in Canada and the United States by Jacqueline Beaudry and Jean-Pierre Dion. Learn about Livesley's move from the famed English firm of Livesley & Powell to several well-known North American potteries. The Dions spoke at our Syracuse, New York, convention in 2017.

These Are A Few of Our Favorite Things by Tom and Olga Moreland. As the Morelands, who are founding members of WICA, tell this very enjoyable tale of their 45 years of collecting white ironstone, they present ten rare, unusual, and very cherished items which date from the 1840s to the 1860s.

A Look At . . . Jean Wetherbee



As a former teacher and reading specialist she was a natural researcher and writer. She was also talented in drawing the different patterns/shapes she found. Her first book, *A Handbook on White Ironstone*, was self-published in 1974. It was printed locally and sold by mail order from her home in Canajoharie, NY for \$5.00 plus a 25 cents handling charge!

With an overwhelming response from collectors and white ironstone

The name Jean Wetherbee is synonymous with WHITE IRONSTONE! For those who may not know why she can definitely be considered the

“cornerstone/foundation” of how WICA came to be, here’s a little background about her.

Jean grew up in the rural Mohawk Valley of New York State and remembered the old white dishes used for utilitarian purposes on her childhood family farm. As an adult she became interested in finding out more about the history of white ironstone but found little printed information on the topic. She began researching in available books as well as examining as many pieces of white ironstone that she could locate and gathering as much information that could be gleaned from them such as patterns/shapes, maker's marks, and types of pieces. Her enthusiasm enlisted the help of many collectors and owners of white ironstone dishes at the time as well as antique dealers in her local area and beyond.

enthusiasts to her first book she continued examining, drawing, photographing and researching white ironstone and published her second book, *A Look At White Ironstone*, in 1980 through Wallace Homestead. Just five years later (1985), with much more information to share, her next book, *A Second Look at White Ironstone*, was again published by Wallace Homestead.

With much encouragement from Jean, WICA was formed in 1994 and her last book, *White Ironstone: A Collector's Guide*, published by Antique Trader Books, was released for sale at the 2nd Annual WICA Convention in Delroy, Ohio, in April, 1996.

With her death in 2012, the ironstone world lost a true White Ironstone pioneer. We are forever grateful for the information she shared. The greatest tribute we can all give her is to faithfully keep the researching, examining, and sharing of white ironstone information alive! And, of course we should all keep on collecting ironstone, too!!!!

Update on Importer's Marks

In September we put out the call for importer's marks. Do you have one or more pieces of white ironstone with an importer's mark? If so, please take photos of the item, its manufacturer's mark, and its importer's mark and send them to us via the link below.

[Click Here](#)

***Mason's Patent Ironstone Gothic Hexagon Soap Box
Imported For: Biddle House, Detroit, Michigan
Imported by F. Wetmore***



This **Gothic Hexagon Soap Box**, submitted by Janice Stork, is marked "**Mason's Patent Ironstone China, Biddle House Detroit, Imported by F. Wetmore.**"

The Biddle House was a luxury hotel which opened in Detroit Michigan, on June 7, 1851. Frederick Wetmore was the proprietor of a china, glass and crockery store in Detroit. Evidence has been found that Wetmore was in business as early as 1846 and continued until at least the 1880s. According to *The Illustrated Guide to Mason's Patent Ironstone China* by Geoffrey A. Godden, Charles James Mason was declared bankrupt in 1848. Three years later, however, he participated in the Great Exhibition of



1851 as "Charles Mason, Longton, Staffordshire—Designer, Manufacturer and Patentee." Among the items he exhibited were: "A plate, a dish, a tureen, a covered dish, a tall coffee cup and saucer, and a sugar-basin, made of the white patent ironstone china, as used in the hotels of the United States of America." Charles Mason continued in business to a limited degree until circa 1853. Godden speculates that the ware shown at the exhibition were "in all probability indistinguishable from the ware of the 1840s." The angular outline of the crown mark is consistent with Mason wares in the late 1840s. The Gothic Hexagon body style of the soap box is consistent with Hexagon body styles produced by other English manufacturers in the 1840s.

***Plain White Ironstone Pitcher
Marked "Warranted, Real English Ironstone China"
McCarthy & Bayless, Louisville, KY***



Shelley Micali provided these photos of a **Plain White Ironstone Pitcher** marked “**Warranted, Real English Ironstone China,**” **McCarthy & Bayless, Louisville, KY.** Her research indicates Bayless-McCarthy (sometimes spelled McCarthy) was an importing and jobber house based on Main Street in Louisville and was operating under this name from 1871 to 1901 before continuing under an

incorporated name. The company used several different name variations including McCarthy & Bayless.

The English manufacturer of this pitcher is not known. Its simplicity suggests it is a circa 1900 piece of ironstone. Does anyone have any further information about McCarthy & Bayless or from whom they imported English white ironstone?

Historical Advertisements Containing White Ironstone



Who would have thought to use white ironstone to help advertise UNDERPANTS?! Well, The Carter Co. did just that in their August, 1961, ad in *Ladies Home Journal*.

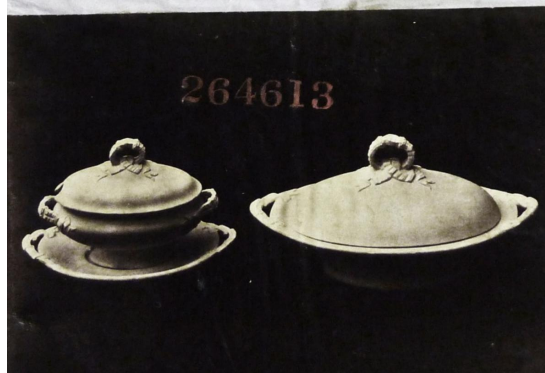
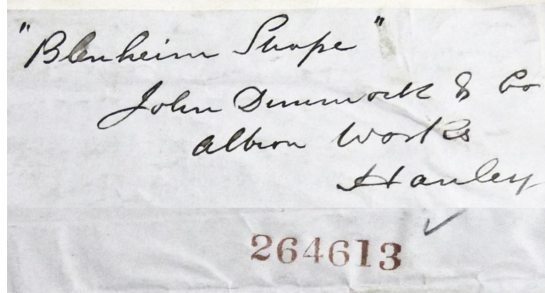
Notice the Ceres Shape miniature tea set on the dresser that is featuring their “Spanky Pants” in the open drawer. The text below it reads: “Carter’s Spanky Pants: smart collectors treasure them. You, too, can be a Spanky Pants collector.”

It’s fun to watch for print advertising (old and new) that randomly includes white ironstone. If you have any or see any be sure to share them with us. Just click below.

[Click Here](#)

New Body Style

Blenheim Shape by John Dimmock & Co.
Albion Works, Hanley, England
Patent Registration 264613



David Klein submitted photos of this gorgeous vegetable tureen and its diamond registry mark which translates to January 22, 1869.

The KEW information WICA received identified the name of this body style as Blenheim Shape and provided the name and location of the firm but did not provide a registry date.

Do you have an item in a body style which has not yet been identified in *The Illustrated Guide of White Ironstone China from A to Z*? If so, please take photos of the item and mark(s) and click on the link below to send them to us. We will feature it in another monthly issue of *E-News*.

[Click Here](#)

WANTED

William Adams & Sons - Photos of Items and Marks

In February, 2021, *White Ironstone Notes* will feature the white ironstone body styles of the William Adams firm from the 1840s until 1865. The June issue will be devoted to body styles from the late 1860s to the 1960s. We are in need of photos for both newsletters.

We Need Your Help

- Please check your collection for items by Adams.
- Take clear photos of each item and its mark(s).
- Click on the link below, attach the photos to the email, and send.

[Click Here](#)

Responses Received So Far



This photo of four graduated sizes of **Adams Empress** Micratex pitchers was submitted by Sylvia Maconaghy. Empress was registered (Patent Registration 828345) in the United Kingdom on December 7, 1961, and remained in production into the 1980s. Heights of these pouring vessels from left to right are 3", 5", 6", and 7" tall.

The Illustrated Guide of White Ironstone China from A to Z indicates that the Adams firm produced **Athenia Shape** and that Patent 194194 was registered January 3, 1866, by J. T. Close & Co. Jeneen Berry has an Athenia Shape teapot base, but look closely at the mark which states "W. Adams, Albin China, **A La Mode**." If you have a piece of Athenia Shape or "A La Mode" by Adams, please send us photos of the item and the mark.



Columbia Shape was registered in 1855 and was produced by several potters. Jeneen Berry provided WICA with its first piece of Columbia Shape which bears an Adams mark. Please provide us with photos and marks of Adams Columbia Shape items in your collection.



Please Provide WICA with Photos and Marks
of Items by Williams Adams in Any Body Style and
Especially the Following Body Styles

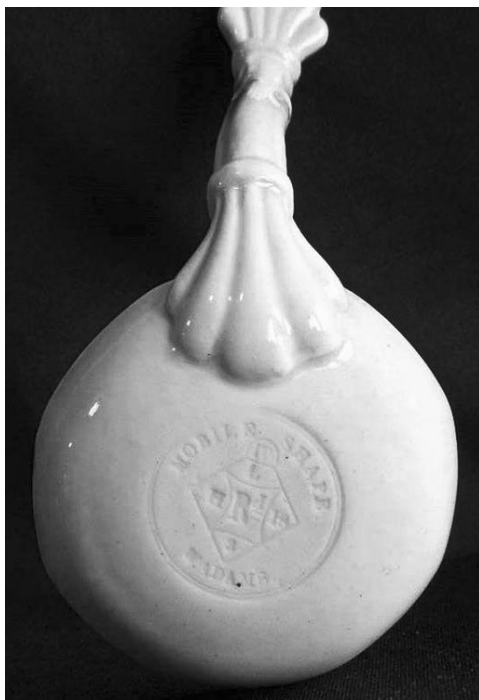
[Click Here](#)



Primary Gothic, Ca. 1840s-1850s is the earliest plain Gothic shape and was produced by at least 18 potters, including William Adams. In the WICA archives we found a child's teapot that was labeled Adams, but the mark was not included.



Adams Classic, Ca. 1850s was identified in the *White Ironstone China Plate Identification Guide* as being similar to Mayer's Classic. This is the only photo we have of this body style. Do you have anything similar?



Mobile Shape was registered in 1856. This Mobile Shape ladle has an Adams mark. Do you have any Mobile Shape items with an Adams mark?"



This vegetable tureen is the mystery item shown in the September issue of *E-News*. If you have an Adams piece in this body style, please share a photo of the item and its mark."

Dominion Shape by W. Baker & Co. Registered June 9, 1877

David Klein found this photo of Dominion Shape while surfing the web. It was also registered as Water Lily Shape on June 13, 1877. The body styles are identical except for the finials. Dominion Shape has a beaver finial and Water Lily Shape has a bud finial. Please send photos of interesting or unusual items.

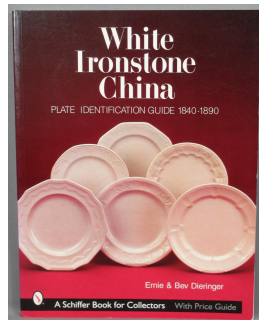


[Click Here](#)

From the WICA Shoppe
All prices include shipping within the United States.

White Ironstone China Plate Identification Guide 1840-1890

by Ernie and Bev Dieringer and published by Schiffer Publishing in 2001. An important comprehensive and easy-to-use reference for collectors of English white ironstone, this softcover book contains 327 color photographs and 252 drawings of plates and rims, potter's marks, and registry marks.

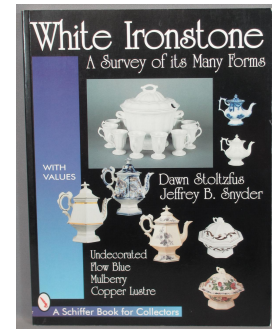


Buy now with **PayPal**

Price: \$35

White Ironstone, A Survey of Its Many Forms

by Dawn Stoltzfus and Jeffrey B. Snyder and published by Schiffer Publishing in 1997. This softcover book is ideal for the collector who wishes to gain a broad understanding of undecorated white ironstone, Flow Blue, Mulberry, and Copper Lustre. Over 700 color photographs will help to easily identify items.

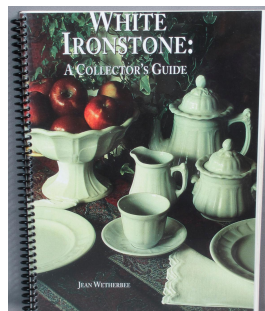


Buy now with **PayPal**

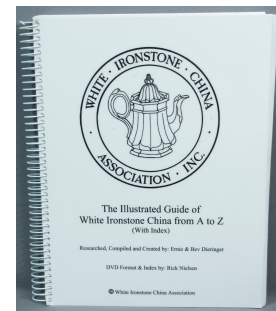
Price: \$35

White Ironstone: A Collector's Guide

by Jean Wetherbee. This 2005 spiral bound book is a



The Illustrated Guide of White Ironstone from A-Z, was researched,



reprint of Jean's last book published in 1996 by Antique Trader Books. It traces the history of ironstone manufacture and reveals the story of the large North American ceramics trade. Emphasis is on the gleaming white earthenware shapes produced during the middle and late nineteenth century by Staffordshire potters.

Buy now with **PayPal**

Price: \$35

Buy now with **PayPal**

**A-Z Book +
Collector's
Guide: \$75 (Save \$10)**

compiled, and created by Ernie and Bev Dieringer. It is a comprehensive, fully illustrated collection of 19th century white ironstone body styles manufactured as dinner, tea, and toilet set items. Purchase book only or book plus DVD.

Buy now with **PayPal**

**Book Only
Price: \$50**

Buy now with **PayPal**

**Book + DVD
Price: \$80**

Buy now with **PayPal**

**A-Z Book +
DVD +
Collector's Guide: \$100 (Save
\$15)**

[For Additional Information Click Here to Contact David and Karen Klein](#)

Save the Dates: June 9-11, 2022



**The next White Ironstone China
Association Convention will be
at the
Wyndham Garden York
2000 Loucks Road
York, Pennsylvania**

See You There!

Member Classified Ads - For Sale and Wanted

Note: This section will no longer appear in *White Ironstone Notes*. To contact an advertiser click on his/her name and an email note will open. If the advertiser does not have an email, other contact information will appear.

**To place a free classified ad in next
month's issue or to delete an ad:**

[Click Here](#)

For Sale
White Ironstone **LIDS**

Wanted
• Davenport Scalloped Decagon

\$15 each plus postage.

Measurements are to outside of rims.

- Sydenham Shape soap dish lid, 8 sided, crazed, 4-3/8" x 5-1/2"
- Victory/Dolphin sugar lid, flake/chip on inner rim, 2-3/4" x 3-3/8"
- Paneled Grape sugar lid, 3-1/2" diameter.
- Corn and Oats sugar lid, 3-1/4" diameter
- Ceres Shape with Rope sauce tureen lid, 5" x 6-1/2"

Jim and Mara Kerr
Cavern View Antiques

For Sale - Proceeds Go to WICA

Flour sack towels in 100% cotton. Choice of four hand screen marks as shown on photos of actual towels below. Pankhurst and J&G Meakin towels are white. Elsmore & Forster and J.F. towels are cream color.



\$15 Each or Two for \$25
Shipping Included

Jeneen Berry

For Sale

Variety of items available.

Please contact:

sauce tureen lid

- T&R Boote 1851 Octagon child's sugar bowl lid
- T&R Boote Sydenham Shape chamber pot lid (adult size)

Kris Wagner

Wanted

- Teapot Lids: Washington Shape, Corn & Oats, Nile, and Hidden Motif
- Sugar Bowl Lid: Dover Shape and Ivy Wreath
- Memnon Shape brush vase underplate
- Chamber Pot Lids: Grand Loop and Boote's 1851 Octagon
- Soup Tureen Underplates: Vintage Shape, Bordered Hyacinth, and Oval President

Jeneen Berry

Wanted

- Adriatic Shape oval soup tureen lid and underplate
- Adriatic Shape round soup tureen lid and underplate
- Atlantic Shape vegetable tureen lid
- Baltic Shape teapot lid
- Budded Vine brush vase
- Vintage Shape hot toddy lid
- Forget-Me-Not soup tureen underplate
- Forget-Me-Not brush vase underplate
- St. Louis Shape brush tray lid
- Potomac Shape hot beverage jug lid
- Sharon Arch brush vase
- Bordered Fuchsia teapot lid
- Meadow Bouquet sugar bowl lid

Rick Nielsen

Ed Rigoulot

Wanted

- Soup Tureen Underplates: Athens Shape, New York Shape, St. Louis Shape
- Lily of the Valley syrup pitcher
- Tuscan sugar bowl
- James Edwards Rose basket
- Embossed mugs by any manufacturer in any body style
- Compotes by any manufacturer in any body style

Bill and Carol Lancaster

Wanted

- Laurel Wreath decorated with George Washington
- Laurel Wreath sugar bowl lid
- Full Ribbed Creamer

Ed Rigoulot

Wanted

- John Meir and Sons Ivy Wreath basin, creamer, dinner plates, coffee cups and saucers
- W. Baker and Co. Potomac Shape sauce tureen

Gerald Goar

You Can Help WICA - Just Click the Link

- Provide ideas for and assistance with articles for the monthly *E-News* and/or *White Ironstone Notes*.
- Create an article with photos of several items in your collection that are of special significance to you.
- Share your research and/or photos.

- Ask questions regarding an item you have found.
- Volunteer to speak at or have suggestions for speakers for an upcoming convention.
- Let us know of upcoming events in your area such as auctions, estate sales, etc. so we may send out a special bulletin notifying WICA members.

[Click Here](#)

Communications Committee

- Adele Armbruster, Editor
- Jeneen Berry
- Jim Kerr, Associate Editor
- Stephanie Lowery
- Suzanne Nielsen

[WICA Website](#)



[Talk To Us](#)