



White Ironstone China Association E-News

Volume 2, No. 1, January 2021

Happy New Year!

Thank you to all who supported this publication through questions, photos, and stories during its first four issues. We couldn't have done it without you! To review our first three issues click any of the following links:


[September E-News](#)

[October E-News](#)

[December E-News](#)

Is White Ironstone “Queensware”?

While researching the James Edwards Massey & Caldwell's mark which appeared in the [December E-News](#), Jean-Pierre Dion and Jacqueline Beaudry Dion found this advertisement which appeared in the Wednesday, March 3, 1852, issue of the *Louisville Daily Courier* in Louisville, Kentucky. It was for 50 crates of white ironstone china from the factory of James Edwards & Son. This advertisement called white ironstone “Queensware”. The result was the research presented here.



WHITE IRON STONE CHINA.—
Just received per Belle Key and Glendy Burke
50 crates Queensware, from the celebrated
factory of James Edwards & Son.

Soup and Sauce Toureens, Sauce Boats;
Covered Dishes; Bakers' Pickle Stolls; Dishes;
Pitchers, all sizes; Toilet Ware;
450 dozen Plates, different sizes and patterns;
200 do Coffee Cups and Saucers;
500 do Tea do do;
200 Tea Pots, Sugars and Creams, new patterns;
Together with a large assortment of edged, painted,
and C C Goods, for city and country trade. Call and
see; we give great bargains for cash.

A. JEAGER & CO.,
119, Mozart Hall, Fourth st.

mh2

This is an important advertisement for several reasons:

- It confirms that James Edwards & Son was in business in 1852.
- Ironstone could be purchased as single items rather than sets.
- Names of items may be different than those used in the 21st century.
- Ironstone was transported by steamboats including the Belle Key and the Glendy Burke; the latter was in the lyrics of a song written by Stephen Foster in 1851.
- White ironstone is referred to as Queensware.

Queen's Ware had its origins with Josiah Wedgwood in the 18th century. Queen Charlotte had accepted a service of his cream-colored earthenware in 1762 and later commissioned a larger service which incorporated modifications to the manufacturing process. Wedgwood named this earthenware "Queen's Ware" in her honor. After 1775 when the 1768 patent and subsequent monopoly by William Cookworthy of Plymouth, England, ended, Wedgwood further improved his Queen's Ware by incorporating the use of Cornish china-clay and china-stone. Because he did not patent these improvements, other potters also created the cream-colored Queen's Ware which became popular in many world markets.

Research has found that Wedgwood was exporting his Queen's Ware to the North American market in the 18th century as early as 1768, and continued doing so into the 19th century. Other potters followed and the cream-colored Queen's Ware was very well received. (Reference: G. Bernard Hughes, *English and Scottish Earthenware 1660-1860*, 1961, Chapter 8.)

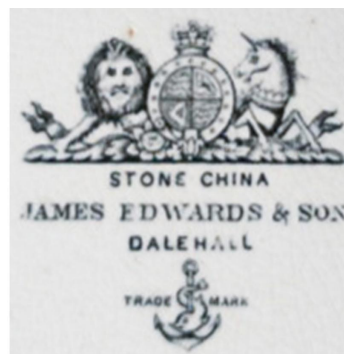
As the 19th century progressed, the North American market applied the phrase Queen's Ware to many types of earthenware including ironstone china and even Rockingham and yellow ware regardless of manufacturing process, potter, or country of origin. (Reference: W. P. Jervis, *Encyclopedia of Ceramics*, New York, 1902, page 472.) An article in *The Baltimore Sun* on Wednesday, April 14, 1847, reported that Edward (Edwin) Bennett had applied to erect a "Queensware Manufactory". The company was actually called The Edwin Bennett Pottery Company. Photos of the factory have been found and the name on the building was "Bennett's Queensware Factory."

In the 1850s, the firm exhibited yellow ware and Rockingham at the Maryland Institute and received silver and gold medals for "superiority of Queensware". (Reference: Edwin A. Barber, *Pottery and Porcelain of the United States*, 1893, page 195.)

Queensware Manufactory — We understand that Mr. Edward Bennett, who has been successfully engaged in the manufacture of Queensware in the city of Pittsburg, has in contemplation to erect a similar manufactory in our city. From the examinations he has made of the clay in the vicinity of Baltimore, he thinks a superior article can be manufactured therefrom. His application to the Council for permission to erect his establishment at the corner of Eastern avenue and Albemarle street, has failed, from the objections made by the citizens of that neighborhood, who are prejudiced against the erection of it, from the supposition that it would be similar to an ordinary pottery; we are, however, informed that a manufactory of this kind is entirely free from all such objection, as the smoke and vapor is carried off by a lofty chimney. We hope Mr. Bennett will obtain a suitable situation for his works, where there can be no opposition to its erection.

New James Edwards Body Style – July 31, 1878

While browsing in a New Hampshire antique shop, Jim and Mara Kerr spotted this chamber pot by James Edwards & Son, Dale Hall, Burslem, Staffordshire, with a diamond registry mark which translates to July 31, 1878. They took photos and did a bit of research.



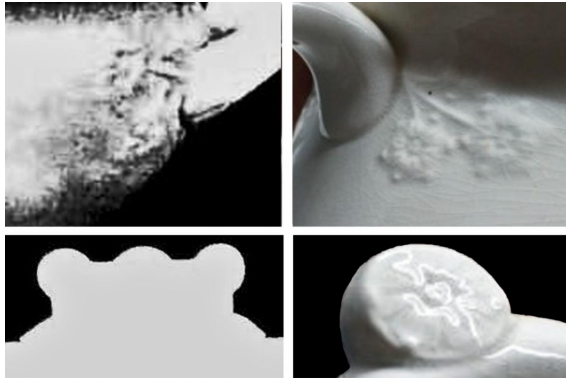
Not finding it in the A-Z book they went to the 2010 research done for WICA in the Public Records Office of the National Archives in Kew Gardens, London, England. They found the registry information for a vegetable tureen which was registered on the same date--July 31, 1878.



*James Edwards & Son
Mitchell, Burslem,
Staffordshire.*

While the registry photo is not very clear, the chamber pot and the vegetable tureen have very similar characteristics. The detail at the top of the chamber pot's handle resembles the vegetable tureen's finial. The floral embossment at the side of the chamber pot handle and at the sides of the vegetable tureen handles may be the same.

Please [*let us know*](#) if you have any items in this new body style and if there are any marks which identify a name.



Elsmore & Forster Cameo Sugar Box



This Elsmore & Forster sugar box or sugar bowl with a cameo finial and handles was recently found by Jeneen Berry. Kowalsky's *Encyclopedia of Marks* indicates the Elsmore & Forster mark was used between 1853 and 1871.

In her books on white ironstone china, Jean Wetherbee referred to cameos as, "human masks." The faces usually include a helmet and an elaborate collar.



While several potters produced items with cameo finials and/or handles, Elsmore & Forster is not mentioned as having done so in any of Jean's books or in any of the

Dieringer publications. [Click here](#) to let us know you have an Elsmore & Forster cameo item and provide photos of the item and the mark.

Volume 8, No. 3, Winter 2001 of *White Ironstone Notes* was devoted to cameos and faces. The use of cameos was popular during the revival of Classical and Gothic styles in the 19th century and could be found on sculpture, furniture, jewelry, ceramics and other objects as well as in architecture.

Pictured on page 10 of the article is an octagonal sugar box lid with a finial face which resembles a tragedy and comedy mask. An oval sugar box has a Pharaoh's head finial and handles. [Click here](#) to send us photos including the marks of any sugar boxes, with or without cameos or other faces, you may have in your collection.



WICA's Kew information indicates James Edwards first registered a Cameo Gothic tureen on June 11, 1847. Other potters to register cameo-decorated designs include J. & M. P. Bell & Co, Glasgow Pottery in 1851 and 1862; William Brownfield, Cobridge, Staffordshire in 1862; Messrs. T. C. Brown Westhead, Moore & Co. Cauldon Place, Staffordshire Potteries in 1872.

Holy Cow \$26!

Barb Stewart sent this photo of a circa 1856-1862 Baltimore Shape ewer by Brougham and Mayer, Tunstall, along with a story of how she acquired it.

Barb explained: In early March I was getting ready to leave my volunteer job at the Hospital Thrift Shop when out of the corner of my eye, I spotted something white. It turned out to be a ewer!! I checked the price, Holy Cow \$26! Needless to say, I went home with a ewer!!

At home, I thumbed through A-Z and found that it was Baltimore Shape. I had never paid any attention to that pattern. It has a subtle branch for a handle and half way up there is a spot where the branch was pruned. A-Z says not many pieces of this pattern have been found. [Click here](#) to send us photos including the marks of any Baltimore Shape items you may have in your collection.



Have You Made Your 2021 New Year's Resolution to:

- Submit to *E-News* questions about identification and age of white ironstone

- items in your collection. WICA does not provide value/appraisal information.
- Provide additional information regarding prior *E-News* topics.
- Provide photos of an item and its mark(s) on a body style/pattern you have not been able to identify.
- Provide photos of an importer's mark and the item on which it was found.
- Tell a story and show a photo of an item in your collection and how you acquired it.
- Contribute suggestions for future issues of *White Ironstone Notes*, which is issued in printed form three times per year.
- Take advantage of our "Member Classified Ads - For Sale and Wanted Section" and place your advertisement for an upcoming issues of *E-News*. *White Ironstone Notes* will no longer have advertisements of any type.
- Purchase books from the WICA Shoppe. Use the PayPal links below.
- Become a WICA member if you are not already a member.

[Click here](#) to share ironstone photos, marks, stories, suggestions, and ads.

Coming Soon to WICA

- **First Quarter 2021: New WICA Website**
- **February, 2021: *White Ironstone Notes*, Volume 27, No. 3. *William Adams (and Sons) - 1840s to 1970s* by Stephanie Lowery and Adele Armbruster.** This interesting article reviews in chronological order the body styles produced and marks used by several generations of this firm.

If You Are Not A WICA Member

Membership Benefits

- Receive the *White Ironstone Notes* newsletter, which is published three times per year. The newsletter is filled with educational information. [Click here to view a sample newsletter.](#)
- Receive the periodic e-newsletter, *White Ironstone China Association E-News*, to keep informed of WICA projects. Members may also use the E-News to 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 Only section of the upcoming WICA website for additional WICA information.
- Receive the Membership Roster.
- Purchase educational reference books from the WICA Shoppe.
- Provide assistance with WICA activities and projects.
- Meet people who enjoy and appreciate white ironstone.

Membership Year

- The cost is \$40 per year for up to two people living at the same membership address.
- A membership year is June 1 to May 31 of the following year.
- A new member will receive via email any *White Ironstone Notes* newsletters issued between June 1 and the date the membership was paid.

To Become A Member:

1. Click on the PayPal link below to pay the one-year membership fee.
2. [Click here to access the Membership Form.](#) Copy and complete the form.
3. Mail the form to the Membership Chairperson or attach it to the following link to send it via e-mail.

Buy now with 

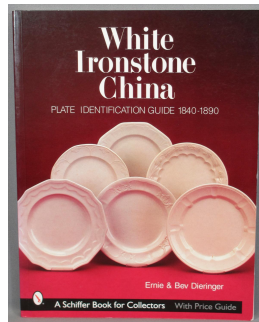
Click here to contact the Membership Chairperson and/or attach and send the form.

From the WICA Shoppe

All prices include shipping within the United States.

Questions? [Click Here to Contact David and Karen Klein](#)

White Ironstone China Plate Identification Guide 1840-1890 by Ernie and Bev Dieringer and published by

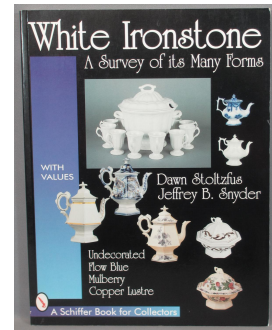


Schiffer Publishing in 2001. An important comprehensive and easy-to-use reference for collectors of English white ironstone, this softcover book contains 327 color photographs and 252 drawings of plates and rims, potter's marks, and registry marks.

Buy now with 

Price: \$35

White Ironstone, A Survey of Its Many Forms by Dawn Stoltzfus and Jeffrey B. Snyder and published by



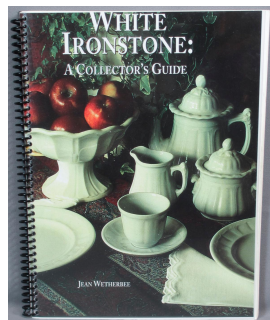
Schiffer Publishing in 1997. This softcover book is ideal for the collector who wishes to gain a broad understanding of undecorated white ironstone, Flow Blue, Mulberry, and Copper Lustre. Over 700 color photographs will help to easily identify items.

Buy now with 

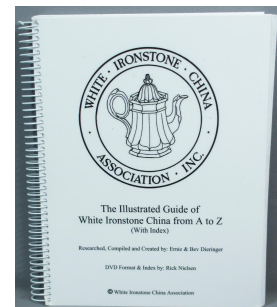
Price: \$35

White Ironstone: A Collector's Guide by Jean Wetherbee.

This 2005 spiral bound book is a reprint of Jean's last book published in 1996 by Antique Trader Books. It traces



The Illustrated Guide of White Ironstone from A-Z, was researched, compiled, and created by Ernie and Bev Dieringer. It is a comprehensive, fully



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)**

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**

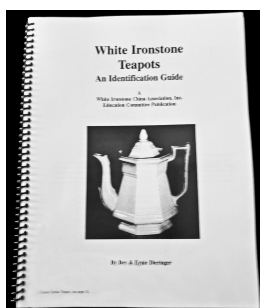
Buy now with **PayPal**

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

Buy now with **PayPal**

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

**White
Ironstone
Teapots, An
Identifica-
tion Guide** by
Ernie and Bev
Dieringer.

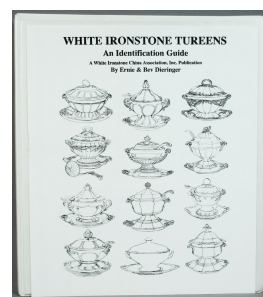


Photos, descriptions, and marks of over 280 19th century teapot body styles produced by more than 115 potters are featured in this spiral-bound book. Publisher: White Ironstone China Association, Inc., 2002.

Buy now with **PayPal**

Price: \$20

**White
Ironstone
Tureens, An
Identifica-
tion Guide** by
Ernie and Bev
Dieringer.

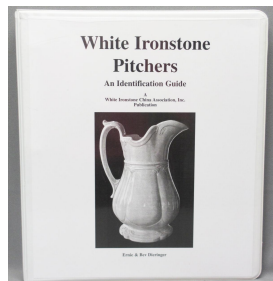


Photos, descriptions, and marks of over 140 19th century English soup, stew, and sauce tureen body styles are featured in this three-ring binder containing 28 pages. Publisher: White Ironstone China Association, Inc., 2004.

Buy now with **PayPal**

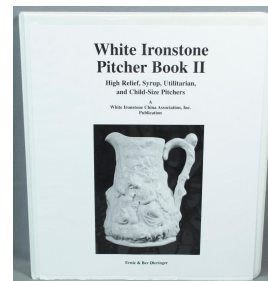
Price: \$20

**White
Ironstone
Pitchers, An
Identifica-
tion Guide** by
Ernie and Bev
Dieringer.



Packaged in a three-ring binder are descriptions, photos, and marks of tableware and toiletware pitchers in over 300 white ironstone body styles produced by more than 130 English potters in the 19th century. Publisher: White Ironstone China Association, Inc., 2003.

**White
Ironstone
Pitchers
Book II, An
Identifica-
tion Guide** by
Ernie and Bev
Dieringer.



High relief, syrup, utilitarian, and child-size pitchers of the 19th century are the subject of this book, packaged in a three-ring binder. Over 315 body styles by more than 110 potters are identified with photos, descriptions, and marks. Publisher: White Ironstone China Association, Inc., 2007.

Buy now with **PayPal**

Price: \$20

Buy now with **PayPal**

Price: \$20

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 Gravy Boats
\$35 each plus postage and insurance

- Sharon Arch, Wedgwood
- Memnon Shape, J. Meir
- Ceres Shape, Unmarked
- Baltic Shape, Unmarked

Wheat and Clover Handleless Punch Bowl/Toddy Bowl, Small Size
(4 1/2" Tall and 7 1/2" Diameter)
Turner & Tompkinson
\$250 plus postage and insurance

**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

Wanted

Cochran's Ring and Arched Wheat
by Robert Cochran
Any Items

Janice Stork

Wanted

- Davenport Scalloped Decagon 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

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:

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
- Comptes by any manufacturer in any body style

Bill and Carol Lancaster

Wanted

- John Meir and Sons Ivy Wreath basin, creamer, dinner plates,

- Teapot Lids: Washington Shape, Corn & Oats, Nile, and Hidden Motif
- Sugar Bowl Lids: Dover Shape, Sydenham Shape, and Ivy Wreath
- Brush Vase Underplate: Memnon Shape
- Chamber Pot Lids: Grand Loop and Boote's 1851 Octagon
- Soap Dish Base: Potomac Shape
- Soup Tureen Underplates: Vintage Shape and Oval President
- Soup Tureen Lids: 1851 Octagon - 7 3/4" and Sydenham Oval
- Hot Beverage Lid: Full Panel Gothic

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

Wanted

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

Ed Rigoulot

coffee cups and saucers

- W. Baker and Co. Potomac Shape saucureen

Gerald Goar

You Can Help WICA - Just [*Click Here*](#)

- 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.

Communications Committee

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



Talk To Us