

An interesting coffee pot

This is not a scholarly paper – more a plea for help! The story starts with one of those irritating episodes where one sees a coffee pot in an auction that one really wants – only to find that it is lotted with another and they are totally dissimilar types. And you don't get two for the price of one!

This is very much a pearlware pot. It measures 27cm high and 21cm across from handle to spout (or 10½ by 8¼ inches to most of us). The Transferware Collectors Club has given it an assigned name of “Island Temple with Willow” – they must have been struggling for something original! It is on their database with pattern number 13550, which shows a teabowl and saucer. The pot is shown below from all four sides.





The teabowl and this pot have fluted sides, in the case of the pot halfway up the body to just above the spout attachment, where there is a most distinctive break followed by plain sides to the rim. Maybe the body was made in two sections. The lid is nicely fluted. The base turned on a wheel has nine narrow grooves closely spaced over 7mm with an overall diameter of 6cm. Since purchase, the loss to the spout has been restored.

The pattern around the top rim of the pot may be indicative so here are two views of the rim without the lid.



But, who made it? I presume that it dates from 1795 to 1805. Another collector, who showed an interest, thought it could be Swansea but Jonathan Gray has dismissed that idea. A spurious dealer label inside the pot suggested “Liverpool”, quickly discarded on advice from Robin Emmerson of the NCS and Loren Zeller of the TCC.

As you know, earthenware is not my forte – so over to the LCC membership for views on origin. Opinions may be diverse – all can be reported via this forum. If it is of interest to any member, I would be happy to release it to a better home. The previous home was that of Sadie Walsh, who may have been known to some members.

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February 2021