

Three 19th Century Bellied Mugs -

No. 1 - **Old Talbot 1626.....!!!**

A website reader brought this along to show. He said that his Grandfather had found it on a building demolition site

What does it tell us? The verifications shown in the right hand picture are

a) Crown over VR over 477 - for Burnley - the number 477 was used from 1888

and Crown over GR over 477 - Burnley after 1910

b) Crown over VR over HB over H - for Haslingden used 1865 - 1888 (near Accrington not far from Burnley)

c) the Squiggle next to Pint is likely to be the Old Cotton Flower used in the Cranes mouth atop the Old Burnley Coat of Arms The Borough was granted its status in 1862 so it is likely this piece was first verified after that, when it is noted that this form of verification was used.



There is an X seen inside on the base of this Mug. The X is one with bars to each leg ending of the X. It might help identify a maker though



enlarged

was not rare in its use.	
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Old Talbot 1626 ? - There was an inn opposite the main Burnley town church of St Peter's called the Old Talbot that was replaced with The Talbot in 1888. R Pollard is likely the first licensee of The Talbot (1888)

Perhaps - and we can only guess - that this mug was used in the Old Talbot sometime after 1862 and went to the new pub/inn - The Talbot in 1888 - and was still being used after 1910. The style of Mug (noting the repaired lower handle and lower handle terminal) is the style of the 1830s to the 1860s.

The simple wrigglework patterning under the wording Old Talbot 1626 to the rim is a little unusual in that it was a skill without much use at that date.

A collector adds - *the bellied pint that you showed with local marks is interesting with that multiple reeding in the centre. That feature is quite uncommon and I've only seen a couple with that on 1/2 pints.*

Another collector suggests -

Joseph Morgan Pewterer of Manchester made Pewter Mugs c1828- c1880. He used the same style of X in the base of his mugs, and uncrowned as here – amongst other styles.

Here follows an example of one such piece. I have not seen examples though of the reeding to the centre body on his pieces and this handle is the more conventional. He was in a likely place to supply mugs throughout North West Lancashire.



We can compare the above with two bellied mugs bought by an Australian Collector.

Firstly then the Quart -



See comments below with the Pint



See comments below with the Pint



See comments below with the Pint



There was a repaired casting fault or even later split from the front central rim downwards for 4cms - there were no marks in the base.

Finally the Pint -



This style looks like those made in the period 1820 to 1840, one difference being a slightly shallower handle terminal than the one that preceded it.



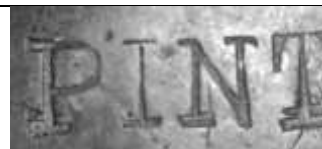
Essex verification 176 was adopted in or after 1879



Before the 1830s EX over 2 indicated district no 2 of Essex - these are the earliest recorded Essex marks.



The Crowned G IV is over a quartered circle with an upward pointing sword in the top right section and this was the mark used likely before 1830 for the London City next to Pint stamped to the rim using individual letters – see further below



Pint stamped poorly to the Centre front.

There were no marks of any kind in the base.

The Australian Collector commented as follows (before he received these) -

The G IV mark looks like the City of London mark which was superseded by a W IV mark with the dagger in the top left corner of the quartered circle.

It is thought that the City of London marks were used only during the time of the monarch concerned, or close to.

Hence the W IV mark was also superseded by a VR mark so the G IV mark in this case indicates made in his reign, not complying with the Act of 1826.

There is some debate about the marks of G IV and W IV as being more an

indication of complying to the Act of 1826 Imperial Standard and Act of 1835 where capacity had to be stamped.

I have another of these low/ squat-bellied pints, with similar mark, the G IV being partially covered by the handle which suggests that the maker stamped the G IV mark, not an inspector.

Yates, Birch and Spooner and Yates & Birch (of Birmingham) also made similar measures but I think that the Y & B ones were from left-over stock of Y,B & S. I think that some of these are illustrated in that article I wrote for you on bellied measures on your web-site.

As to the handle, that, too, is a bit of an indicator re age as the ball-finial is a carry-over from baluster days. It disappeared in Birmingham by c 1840 but did survive in London with Gerardin & Watson.

I don't think that these are by them as they tended to make bellied measures with a thick central seam, not plain-bodied and turned.

I might add that stamping with individual letters for capacity probably dates the stamping close to 1835-36 after the Act of W IV 1835

Finally the type of handle is known as a 'CRANK' type of handle and was commonly thought to be made from 1820 to 1840.

As stated above by the Australian Collector -Yates Birch & Spooner (1829 to 1839) of Birmingham produced mugs similar to all three of these (succeeded by Yates and Birch 1839 to 1860) The X used in the base of the Old Talbot mug is similar to that used by this firm - though theirs was usually found under a crown.