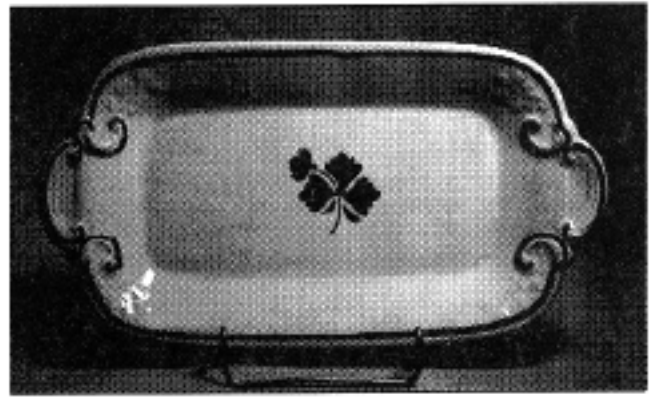
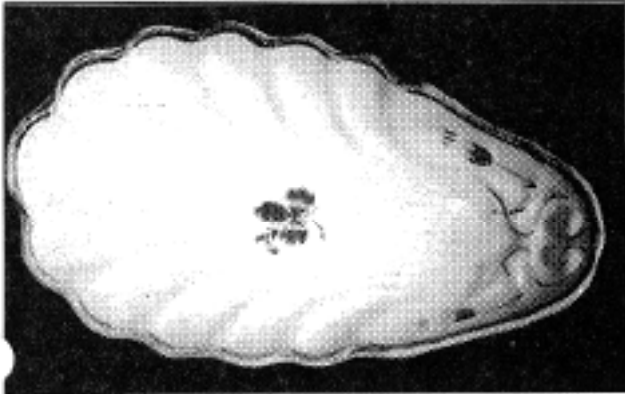


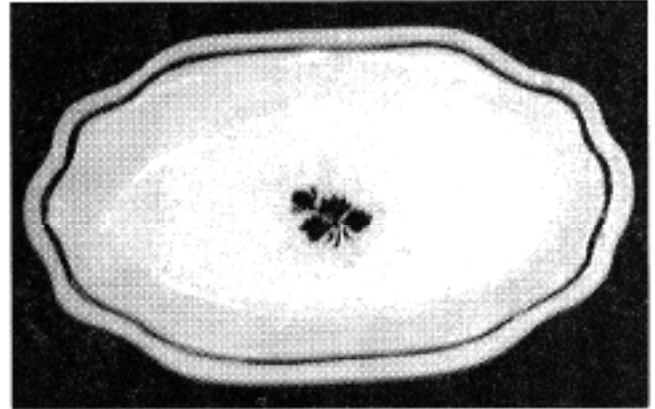
Left:
Wedgwood
& co.
Tea Leaf
Fleur-de-lis
Chain
Est. Registry:
1890-1899



Right:
Arthur J.
Wilkinson
Tea Leaf
Maidenhair
Fern
Est. Registry:
1890-1899



Left:
East End
Pottery
(Attributed)
Tea Leaf
Unknown
Est. Registry:
1890-1899



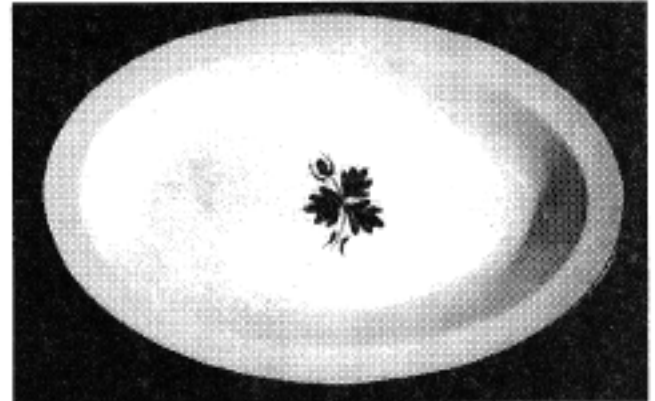
Right:
Cumbow Tea
Leaf
Unknown:
Scalloped Rim
Est. Registry:
1961-1980

About the Author and her Family



Right
Cumbow
(Marked
Johnson Bros.
Tea Leaf
Plain Round I

Left: The
Armbrusters
Front row
(LtoR): Kelly,
Adele; back
row
(LtoR): Dick,
and Patrick



Dick and Adele Armbruster are charter members of TLCI. They began collecting Tea Leaf in 1977 when a family doctor decided to sell his collection of 100 pieces, including Anthony Shaw Chinese Shape handleless cups and saucers.

That started them on the road to collecting early embossed white ironstone shapes adorned with the copper Tea Leaf or any of the variants. Their favorite Tea Leaf variant potters include Shaw, Elsmore & Forster, Walley, and Clementson.

The Tea Leaf contagion spread and they also collect white ironstone, gaudy ironstone and children's miniature ironstone sets. A collection of Argus flint glass goblets complements the ironstone. Other collections include Scottish penny banks and Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy books written by Johnny Gruelle.

The primary focus of their lives is their children, Patrick (age 14) and Kelly (age 10). Both have been attending Tea Leaf conventions since they were infants. Aside from collecting, the Armbrusters enjoy traveling and have explored the Canadian Maritimes and Northwest and the U.S. Northwest, Northeast, and Rocky Mountain states.

Both Adele and Dick enjoy researching the historical aspects of ironstone including potters and their marks, decorative motifs, and the various shapes and sizes in which the ironstone was potted. Adele has long been active in the Tea Leaf Club International. Her 1998 convention program entitled "The Cherished Relish," which was forerunner to a major exhibit featuring 90 examples, was one of the convention highlights. She is also active in the White Ironstone China Association.