

Simple measuring, volumes, heights, and the photography of small interior and other marks of our Old Pewter.

Sadly a little money, though not a lot, might need to be spent on equipment to attain good easy results.

This article suggests that -

Measurements (sizes) can give easy comparisons with other pieces.

Volumes - can give a clue as to when a piece was made.

A good photo of an interior mark is possible now due to advances in technology.

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Measurement.

A simple way to measure height, base size, rim size, and whatever else is by the use of digital callipers. In the UK a larger set measuring up to 12" or 30cms or larger can be bought through Amazon for less than £30. Measuring in metric or imperial with a clear simple read out. No longer do you need the tape measure used for the carpet!



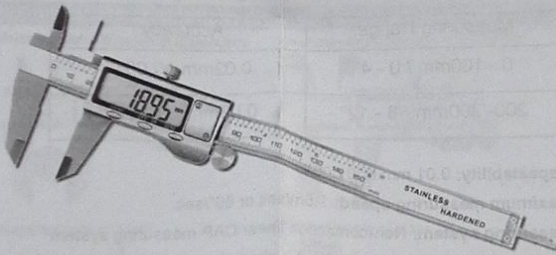
162.82 millimetres (16.282 centimetres) about $6 \frac{4}{10}$ inches.



Digital Caliper

Metal Cover

OWNER'S MANUAL



03.04.0487ECC



**FOR YOUR SAFETY, and
CARE OF THIS TOOL**
Please read these instructions
carefully and retain them for future use.



Product Service

In accordance with the
European Directive
ROHS 2002/95/CE
D4 06 07 60503 001

STAINLESS
HARDENED

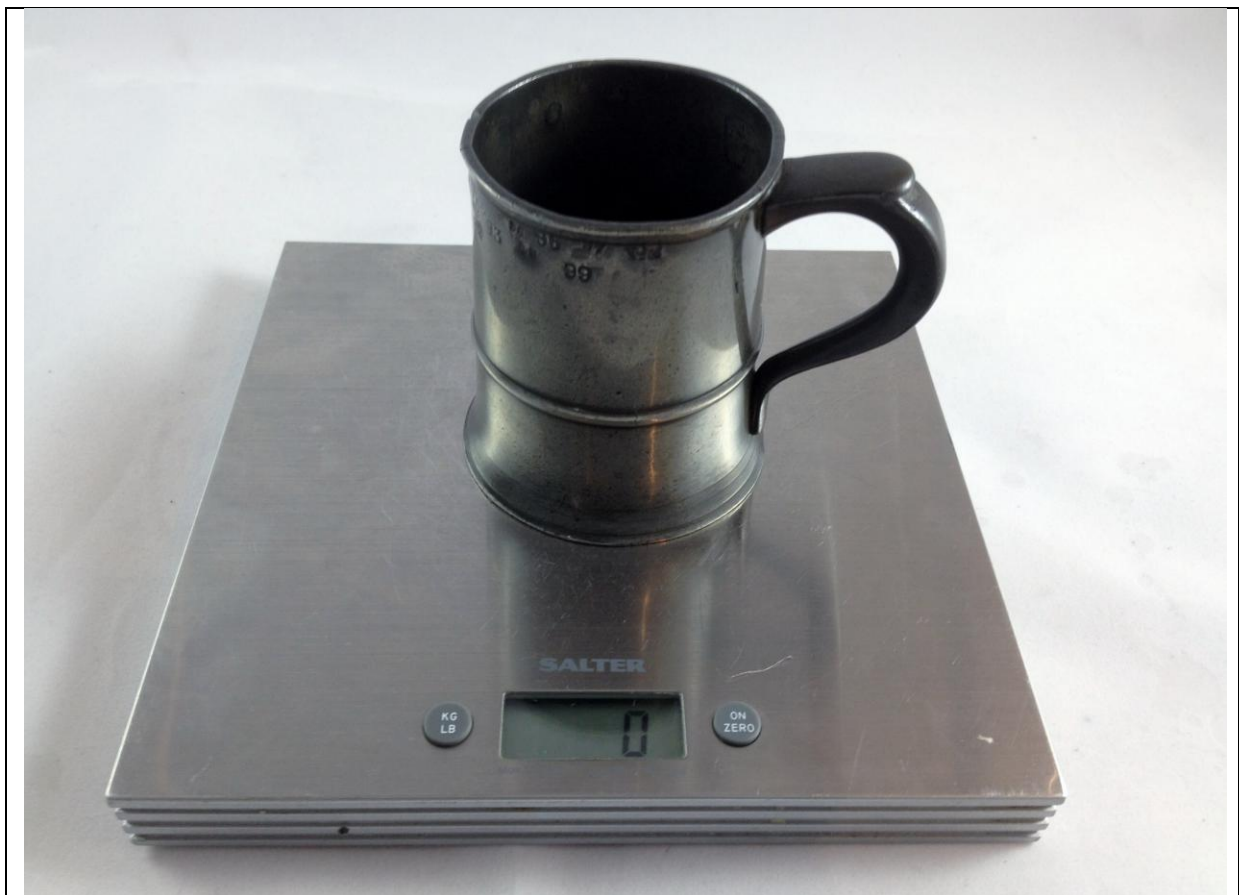
Volume

Volume is very important it can give you a really good clue as to when your Mug /Tankard/Flagon piece was made.

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An easy way to find the volume is to use a set of domestic kitchen scales with a digital display.

Place the Mug (or whatever) on the scales and then turn on and set the display to zero.



Add water and fill until no more can be got in. If it overflows then use blotting paper or kitchen paper to remove the excess.



this is actually very full of water

This then will give you a volume reading in weight of grams.

Allow that 1 gram of water = 1 millilitre (ml) and 1 fluid ounce is 28.413 ml.

So simply divide the grams shown by 28.413 and this will give you the volume in fluid ounces.

The previous shown is then clearly (an Abbot) 1/2 pint Imperial measure Mug. (Abbot - made in Gateshead NE England and Imperial - sometime after 1826)

A scale shown in the book mentioned below will give you the best clue as to the purpose intended by your pewter vessel - that is - how much was it made to hold - that also gives you a clue as to when it was made.

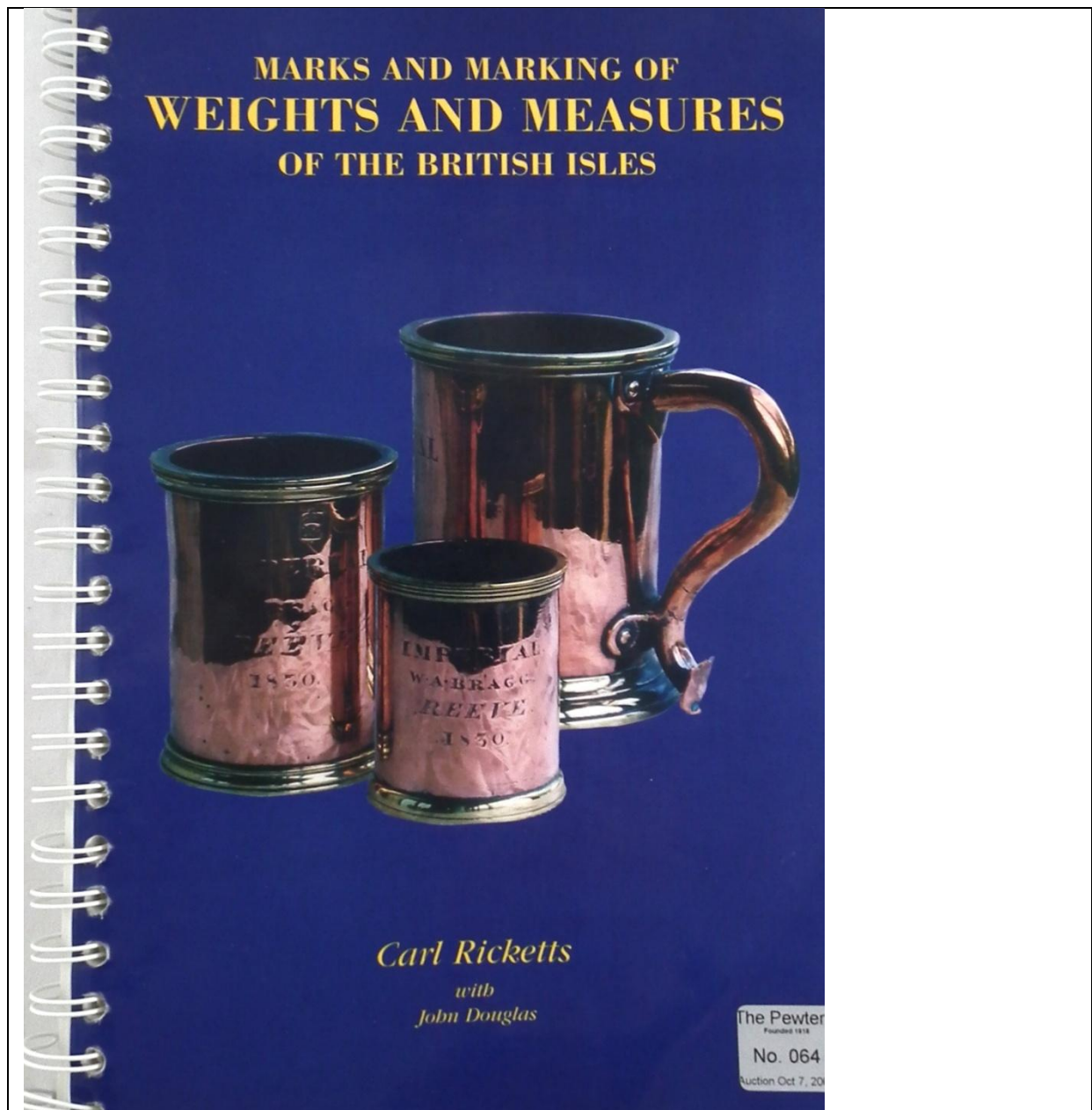
TABLE 19 - ALIQUOT PARTS OF LIQUID MEASURES WITH THEIR NAMES AND CAPACITIES (in fl. oz.)

	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X
ENGLISH GALLONS	Gallon	½ Gallon or Pottle	3 Pints	Quart	1½ Pint	Pint	¾ Pint or 3 Gills	½ Pint	1½ Gill	Gill or Quartern
Imperial	160.0	80	60	40	30	20	15	10	7.5	5
Old English Ale	162.7	81.4	61	40.7	30.5	20.3	15.2	10.2	7.6	5.1
Winchester (1641 Pottle*)	156.9	78.5		39.2		19.6		9.8		4.9
Old English Wine	144.2	72.1	54	36	27	18	13.5	9	6.8	4.5
Old English Wine	133.2	66.6	50	33.3	25	16.7	12.5	8.3	6.2	4.2
IRISH GALLON	125.5	62.8		31.4		15.7		7.8		3.9
'REPUTED QUART'				[Bottle]				[½ Bottle]		
	106.3	53.1		26.6		13.3		6.6		3.3
SCOTS PINTS	Pint		Chopin		Mutchkin or 4 Gills		½ Mutchkin		Gill	
Scots Ale	64.3		32.1		16.1		8		4	
Scots Stirling Jug	60.6		30.3		15.1		7.6		3.8	
JERSEY POT (1/10th Cabot)	Pot		Quart		Pint		½ Pint		Noggin	
	69.5		34.75		17.4		8.7		4.3	
* John Renold's 1641 Pottle is an extant standard (wine) measure based on a gallon of c250 cubic inches which probably represented the continuing use of Henry VII's wine standard. The Guernsey gallon was of equivalent capacity.										
CONVERSION FACTOR: 1 FLUID OUNCE = 28.413 MILLILITRES										

The best book published to help with this is -

Marks and Markings of Weights and measures of the British Isles - a private publication by Carl Ricketts with John Douglas only obtainable new from Carl Ricketts (rarely found second hand but

holds its value surprisingly well as a second hand book) Carl is at - carl.ricketts@btinternet.com - this book deals also with volumes over the years, - the main subject of it is however - **Verifications** - the little marks on measures/mugs that might indicate where and when used and size.



Here is another example -



immediately above is very full of water, (top is empty)

This might tell you that the above piece is 3 Gills of an Old English Ale gallon - and thus likely predates imperial measure.

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Photos - of those little marks inside the old pewter piece.

Or - to give clarity to those on the outside.





Saved and edited from previous photo

This is another half pint piece and you can see on the lap top behind that it is one that is rare to find - "Abbot "Crown "Star" mark in a lozenge within a circle. This writer will be surprised if this is not the clearest view (probably the only view) you have ever seen of this mark (though it is elsewhere on this website!)

This is a "pen microscope camera" - from Amazon in the UK you find them at around £100 - in China they might be found at around £30 or US \$. So if you are travelling it might pay to look around.

They can be used on far deeper measures. the wire can be held firmly in a Eurobar - the sprung plastic binder for holding A4 documents together - the whole length then held in a laboratory pipette stand which again can be sourced on Amazon for about £30.

That is as shown below -

