

Editor: David Powell

A free newsletter to all who share our interest in these fascinating and often enigmatic pieces. Please send the editor at least one 300 dpi JPEG scan, or a sharply focused photo print, of any interesting leaden token or tally in your collection. Send images as email attachments to dmpowell@waitrose.com or david@powell8041.freemove.co.uk. Please note that the old *LTJ* Editor@aal.com address advertised on some earlier versions of *LTJ* is no longer active.

Picture Gallery

My thanks this month to Mark Jennings for sharing some more Thames finds. Fig.1, 20mm and 7.2gm, is enigmatic; it hints of a ship, anchor, mitre or shield, without being conclusively any of them. The size, weight & slightly deteriorating reverse style suggest mid-late 17th cent at least, possibly even early 18th.



Fig.2, 17mm, 2.1gm and uniface, depicts a delightful goblet. I like the 3-D effect, which is most effectively conveyed. The slight crudeness of execution and the blank reverse argue end-17th cent rather than middle, although the size would certainly be right for the latter. Fig.3, 16mm and 4.3gm, and again uniface, is also controversial; it could be (i) an A with a metal defect, (ii) an A with a heart or ball superimposed, or (iii) a compass or divider, if you remember such things from school, which can be a symbol of freemasonry. Or perhaps just a craftsman's tool. To me the size suggests mid-late 17th cent, although Mark favours a later date. I don't know much about freemasonry, but I thought it had an early 18th cent start date, in which case he might be right.

Fig.4, 24mm and 3.8gm, is definitely 18th cent, a well engraved but totally vague type 9 irregular geometric; the hole could be an invalidation mark, but equally it could be for enabling use as a pendant. If a pendant, could be an ornament, although I am not sure that humble folks went in for jewellery in those days; or alternatively, perhaps a beggar's badge. Just a couple of guesses, I am sure there are other possibilities. There is just a solitary initial on the back, rather than two; if it was worn by a beggar, perhaps that is the initial letter of the parish who licensed him. The shape of the hole is unusual, and worth noting.



Fig.5, 19mm and 6.6gm, depicts a typically mid-17th cent concept, seen on main-series pieces, with a subject, in this case a dog, surmounted by an initial, D, above; earlier in the century and the dog would always get the whole side to itself. The style is starting to degenerate, however, so I would guess quite a late 17th cent date; at that weight, it is unlikely to be earlier.

Fig.6, 21mm and 4.1gm is a beauty, with the horse surprisingly well executed. I am trying to work out what to read into the sack like shape with the quite distinctive notch at the top. The FLO apparently thinks that it is mere sprue, but it is just that little too big and deliberately shaped for my liking. I feel it might have had some definite purpose, like having something tied around it. It is likely to have been a badge or pass. The vague veins on the back are sufficiently numerous that one calls it uniface with some difficulty, even if they don't seem to amount to much.



Fig.7, 12mm and 1.6gm is a typical early-mid 17th cent, standard initial layout, with obverse as discussed in May; I've taken the liberty of scaling it up by 3:2, as I did in the illustrations of that article. They are nice pieces, but 12mm is a bit small! The reverse is a pierced heart, shot through on this occasion with two arrows rather than one.



The 17th Century, continued: An Analysis of Lead Token subject matter in the light of Williamson

Our chronological journey through the history of British lead tokens since 1450 has now reached its midpoint in the middle 17th cent, at the very time when copper and brass tokens were making their first major widespread appearance; namely, 1648-1672. This happens also to be the only major series of very local tokens in the lead period which has been extensively documented; by Boyne {1858} and Williamson {1889}, and more recently by Messrs. Thompson and Dickinson in the last quarter of a century.

Williamson's work remains the standard reference most frequently quoted, and in addition it contains a dozen very useful indices at the back of its final volume whereby certain features are cross-referenced. One of these pertains to subject matter, and another to guild arms; so, with such a resource at our disposal at the very period when the use of lead tokens is evolving and expanding, it would be very foolish not to avail ourselves of it as a measure against which to judge the subject matter on our minimally documented lead.

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Williamson's subject matter index goes into far more detail than I can give here, but on pages 3-6 of this issue I produce a summary, grouping like with like as far as I can. I have kept Williamson's own terms for the most part, and placed against each:

- The type within my own classification system to which it will usually belong.
- The approximate number of occurrences of the item within Williamson {see note on page 5}.
- One or more conjectured reasons for the choice of subject matter on main series 17th cent tokens {these almost invariably being applicable to crude lead as well}.
- Additional reasons why the same choice of subject could be made by crude lead manufacturers.

The last mentioned arises because, whereas Williamson's pieces were almost invariably substitute pennies, halfpennies and farthings, crude lead tokens potentially cover a much wider range of activity. Substitute money, although the most important of these lead usages, was but just one of a number.

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The purposes of this exercise are:

- To give some ideas of the purpose and origin of pieces exhibiting specific themes.
- To give some idea of how frequently these themes occur on main series 17th cent pieces, so that the frequency of the same subjects on lead can be compared.
- To compare the same two series, as to what subject matter is absent or present.
- To reassess my classification system in the light of a better-known contemporary series, and to review whether it needs any changes.

The answer to the last question is, "a few minor tweaks, but not many". A couple of types have been subsumed into others and a couple of new ones introduced, for reasons which I explain later {starting on page 6} I will produce a more detailed update of the main classification document shortly, and make it available on the website.

The summary on pages 3-6 reflects the new lead classification revisions. In some places it is a little over-simplistic about what exactly the Williamson specimens include, so starting with next month's LTT, I shall fill in some of the gaps by expanding {with illustrations!} those categories where the variety of material justifies further explanation.

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	Powell Type	No.in W'son	Possible reasons for selection of design {copper & brass 1648-72}	Additional possible reasons on crude lead
Petals {stylistic}	1	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	Traditional stock token
Initials	2	many	Any	
Wheel {ordinary}	3	6	Business sign; miller's wheel	Traditional stock token
Treadmill	3	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	Milling; prison token
Catherine wheel	3	17	Business sign	
Fleur-de-lis	4	124	Business sign; royalist sympathies	Traditional stock token
Feathers	4	51	Business sign; royalist sympathies	Traditional stock token
Anchor	5	102	Business sign; dockside trade	Pass to dock area; traditional stock token
Ship	6	132	Business sign; dockside trade	Pass to dock area
Fishing boat	6	1	Business sign; dockside trade	
Galley	6	3	Ferry; river portorage	
Barge	6	1	Ferry; river portorage	
Boat	6	23	Ferry; river portorage	
Ark	6	5	Business sign	
Grid	7	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	Counting house; miller's threshing stone; poor-house stonebreaking; poor imitation of portcullis
Checker-board	7	27	Business sign; counting house	
Initials	8	many	Any	
Irregular geometric	9	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	Personal badge; poor imitation of objects found on other types
Head {general}	10	46	Business sign; private portrait of issuer	
Bust {general}	10	53	Business sign; private portrait of issuer	
Face	10	2	Business sign; private portrait of issuer	
Head {specific}	10	111	Business sign; royalist sympathies; desire to simulate regal coin; private portrait of issuer	
Bust {specific}	10	15	Business sign; royalist sympathies; desire to simulate regal coin; private portrait of issuer	
Flagon	11	4	Place of refreshment	
Goblet	11	2	Place of refreshment; communion token	
Tankard	11	7	Place of refreshment	
Jug	11	5	Place of refreshment	
Cups	11	17	Place of refreshment	
Jar	11	6	Place of refreshment	
Bottle	11	6	Place of refreshment	
Candlesticks	11	3	Place of refreshment; tallowchandler	
Platter	11	1	Place of refreshment	
Plate	11	3	Place of refreshment	
Bread	11	11	Place of refreshment; communion token; baker	Municipal charity
Cheeses	11	3	Place of refreshment; grocer	
Bacon	11	2	Place of refreshment; grocer; butcher	
Piecrust	11	3	Place of refreshment; grocer	
Cloves	11	39	Place of refreshment; grocer	
Cooking utensils	11	10	Place of refreshment	
Quartered geometric	12	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	Personal badge; millstone; embellishment of traditional cross-type stock token
Ladder/stretchers	13	0	Portering	
Gates	13	14	Business sign; toll gates	Pass
Other structures	13	6	{various}	Use/hire/manufacture of misc hardware/facilities
Cross	14	66	Ecclesiastical, including distribution of charity	Traditional stock token; mistaken mill sails
Mitre	15	25	Business sign; ecclesiastical	
Crozier	15	2	Business sign; ecclesiastical	

	Powell Type	No.in W'son	Possible reasons for selection of design {copper & brass 1648-72}	Additional possible reasons on crude lead
Coat of Arms	16	3	) Trade guild arms indicating nature of	) personal arms
Shields	16	22	) employment;	) indicating use as a
Crest	16	11	) personal arms indicating use as money	) pass on a country
Armorial fragments	16	62	) on a country estate	) estate
Tree	17	68	Business sign	Farming
Bush	17	13	??	Farming
Sprig	17	4	??	Farming
Leaves	17	6	??	Farming
Flowers	17	69	Floristry ??	Farming; picker's token
Fruit {edible}	17	58	Greengrocery	Farming; picker's token
Fruit {non-edible}	17	8	Greengrocery	Farming; picker's token
Vegetables	17	1	Greengrocery	Farming; picker's token
Thistle	17	8	Scottish origins	Agricultural waste disposal
Vine	17	5	Wine merchant; place of alcoholic refreshment	Issuer's pass; picker's token
Swan	18	114	Business sign	
Cocks & hens	18	96	Business sign; farming; transport to market; poulterer;	Throwing at shycocks
Duck	18	2	Business sign; farming; transport to market; poulterer;	
Geese	18	5	Business sign; farming; transport to market; poulterer;	
Eagle	18	73	Business sign	
Bird {various other}	18	230	Business sign; farming; transport to market; poulterer;	Throwing at shycocks; wildlife/vermin control
Uncertain quadruped	19	4	Business sign; farming; butchery; transport to market	
Domestic animals	19	463	Business sign; farming; butchery; transport to market	
Wild indigenous animals	19	269	Business sign	
Wild overseas animals	19	79	Business sign	
Mythological creatures	19	127	Business sign	
Marine	19	87	Fishing industry; transport to market	
Insects	19	7	??	
Merchants' marks	20	76	Business sign	
Monogram	20	22	Business sign	
General manufacturing	21	9	Manufacturing	
Smithing equipment	21	41	Manufacturing	
Weaponry & armour	21	116	Military provision	
Small tools	21	26	Manufacturing	
Cutting tools	21	52	Manufacturing	
Blunt instruments	21	49	Manufacturing	
Transportation	21	10	Transport of goods and people	
Storage equipment	21	164	Trade logistics; refreshment {various}	
Agricultural	21	179	Farming	
Saddlery	21	6	Saddlery	
Fishing	21	5	Fishing	
Clothing trade	21	250	Clothing	
General provisions	21	558	Selling of food	
Cooking & baking	21	33	Selling of food; place of refreshment	
Domestic	21	106	Supply of items for household maintenance	
Distillation	21	60	Refreshment	
Unidentified articles	21	2	Depends on identity of object {various}; some will be business signs	
Music	21	66	Entertainment, possibly pub/inn related	
Bell	21	85	Business sign; bellfounder	
Map	21	1	Locality	
Other	21	101	Depends on identity of object {various}; some will be business signs	

Note: The two sections of type 21 above represent those items which are more obviously associated with trade and those which aren't {i.e. the old type 27}; however, it may well be that some of the latter are in fact trade-related without us particularly appreciating it.

	Powell Type	No.in W'son	Possible reasons for selection of design {copper & brass 1648-72}	Additional possible reasons on crude lead
House {general}	23	1	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Windmill	22	33	Milling	
Building {general}	23	15	Municipal small change; storage	Municipal charity
Church	23	17	Municipal small change; communion token	Municipal charity
Tower	23	133	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Warehouse	23	1	Trade logistics	
Market house	23	4	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Shop	23	4	Trade	
Bridge	23	11	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Arch	23	1	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Town Hall	23	1	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Temple	23	1	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Street	23	1	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Building {specific}	23	7	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Uncertain characters	24	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	Various
Roses	25	179	Business sign; royalist sympathies; features in guild arms of issuer's trade	
Crowns	25	174	Business sign; royalist sympathies; features in guild arms of issuer's trade	
Lion	25	302	Business sign; royalist sympathies; features in guild arms of issuer's trade	
Portcullis	25	12	Business sign	
St. George & dragon	25	117	Business sign	
Orb	25	1	Business sign	
Sun	26	70	Business sign	) Astronomical event,) when combined with
Moon	26	46	Business sign	
Star	26	119	Business sign; personal badge {mullet}	) other celestial objects
Globe	26	30	Business sign	
Comet	26	1	Business sign	Astronomical event
Rainbow	26	3	Business sign	
Clouds	26	1	??	
Wreath	28	4	Commonwealth sympathies	Traditional design
Inscription	29	many	Name and/or location	
Pellets	30	1	Municipal/personal badge	
Triangle	30	2	Municipal/personal badge	
Square	30	12	Municipal/personal badge	
Pentagram	30	1	Municipal/personal badge {too early for Freemasonry}	
Rectangle	30	1	Municipal/personal badge	
Lozenge	30	3	Municipal/personal badge	
Diamond	30	6	Municipal/personal badge	
Cinquefoils	30	2	Municipal/personal badge	
Ball	31	34	Personal/municipal badge; entertainment	
Annulet	31	2	Personal/municipal badge	

Note concerning business signs: The term “business sign”, when used in this table and in subsequent discussion, refers to what we would today describe as a pub sign; however, I would remind you again that at this date any commercial business would usually be distinguished by a sign, so that its many illiterate customers, unable to read names over doors, could find it.

Note concerning “number in Williamson”:

The “number of occurrences in Williamson” shown above is intended primarily as an approximate guide of relative frequency, rather than a statement of an absolute total. The latter would be meaningless, anyway, as some 1500 to 2000 pieces have come to light since Williamson was produced and more are continuing to do so. The figures above are approximate to the extent that they have been calculated by counting the number of pages on which a feature is referenced in Williamson’s index 11, which means that the total will be one light in respect of a small number of incidences where a feature occurs twice on the same page; in addition to which, I may occasionally have erred, by virtue of some ambiguity in Williamson’s description, in my attribution of a feature to a type. By and large I have discounted ambiguous entries to prevent that occurring.

	Powell Type	No.in W'son	Possible reasons for selection of design {copper & brass 1648-72}	Additional possible reasons on crude lead
Figures {unknown}	32	20	Business sign	Municipal charity
King	32	14	Business sign; royalist sympathies	
Queen	32	12	Business sign; royalist sympathies	
Foreigners {non-specific}	32	24	Business sign	
Soldiers & sailors	32	20	Business sign	
Peasantry	32	329	Municipal small change	
Angel	32	79	Business sign	
Mythological characters	32	42	Business sign	
Trade in action	32	38	Business activity	
Country pursuits	32	2	Business sign; entertainment, possibly pub/inn related	
Ecclesiastical	32	14	Business sign; ecclesiastical	
Entertainers	32	2	Business sign; entertainment, possibly pub/inn related	
Judiciary	32	1	Business sign	
People {other specific}	32	125	Business sign; celebratory personal/municipal badge	
Arms + hands	33	135	Clothing trade; glovers ??		Brothel
Legs & feet	33	70	Bootmaking; hosiery ??	
Genitals	33	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	
Parts of head & face	33	18	Hairdressing; dentistry ??	
Bones	33	4	Business activity {possible type 21 hybrid}	
Halved geometric	34	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	
Toothcomb/halfbeard	35	0	{not found in 17th cent main series}	{not seen on British lead}
Heart	36	72	Business sign	Love token; communion token
Town/city {specific}	37	4	Municipal small change	Municipal charity
Other scenic view	37	5	Municipal small change	{not seen on British lead}

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Review of the Powell Classification System

A look at my classification system shows that I first drafted it on the final day of 2003. It is now the middle of 2010 and it has been in use, like LTT, for about five or six years. In the light of two or three years' practical use I undertook a minor review, which introduced a few small improvements, in late 2007 {see LTT_33, Dec 2007}, and I now feel inclined to do so again. Those of you who have got used to the previous version will, like last time I hope, not find too many changes, but hopefully those that there are will be for the better. I would expect, after this latest modification, that the system should be nearing its final state.

The classification system has to date been based very much on visual impact, as with minimal documentation of the lead series nothing else was really feasible. To a considerable extent this still applies, but Williamson, and books on adjacent subjects like trade signs, merchant marks, heraldry etc have helped very much to focus on what goes with what. The latest revision attempts to embody that extra supporting information, plus knowledge gained from an extra two years of handling lead and corresponding with LTT readers.

New Types

I propose to introduce just two of these: Type 36 {hearts}, and Type 37 {scenery}.

Type 36. At the earlier review I took all body parts out of type 27 {other objects} and gave them a type, number, 33, all of their own. However, hearts are different from the others, and occur on a strangely wide range of series: 17th cent, crude lead and communion tokens, to name but a few.

Hearts are internal parts of the body, and their meaning is probably intended to be symbolic; whereas hands, feet, and genitals are external and visible. The 17th cent main series adds one or two more, albeit rare, items to the list: teeth and hair, for example. So, the type 33 pieces may conjecturally be the issues of glovers, cordwainers, brothel keepers, dentists, barbers and the like; some of them may even be business signs; but the heart, sometimes pierced and sometime not, is enigmatic. I wish therefore to give it a type of its own. For discussion of its varieties, plentifully illustrated, see LTT_48 {Mar 2009}.

Type 37 covers a theoretical gap. If the classification system is employed for modern coins and tokens, it will certainly be required; even in the 18th cent main series, scenery is not unusual. On the 17th cent main series it is very rare, and in the British crude lead series {tokens, as opposed to modern medals} it is virtually unknown. I have not seen one, other than on the fairly modern oriental piece on the right {16½mm, magnified 3:2}, but who knows! it may yet occur. To be a type 37, no one component of the scene must predominate; if any people, animals, trees or buildings loom large, such as to suggest themselves as the main subject, then the piece should be assigned to its respective type {32,18,17 or 23} as appropriate.



Reassignment of Categories of Material to other Types

Types 21 & 27. By hindsight, the worst mistake made in constructing a classification system predominantly based on the visual aspect was to include three types {15,21,22} based on usage. This inconsistency has made it difficult to reconcile these three types with other classes which appear to overlap, in particular type 27, and in the light of the large volume of data presented by Williamson it appears that nearly all the inanimate objects formerly assigned to type 27 are trade related in some way, either as (i) business signs, (ii) items for sale by their issuers or (iii) the means of producing them. Even those which are not, obviously, may be. It seems sensible, therefore, that types 21 and 27 should be combined.

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Type 22, milling-related, is more complex. What have in the past appeared to have been a set of mill sails divorced from a building seem now more likely to be an elaboration of a cross; either the expanded cross design which evolves at the end of BNJ54 type M c.1480-1500, or the wide-banded variant of the ordinary cross which is frequently found shaded or latticed. It is proposed that definite mill buildings go in type 23 {albeit none yet seen on lead}; that the above elaborated crosses go in type 14.

This leaves the various grid or quartered geometric designs which, it has been previously thought, might represent threshing floors. This attribution looks tenuous, and these pieces should be assigned to type 7 or 12 as appropriate. I suggest that these should probably now be regarded as traditional stock types or meaningless decorative filler; or possibly, thanks to a recent and very plausible new suggestion by Ted Fletcher, stonebreakers' pieces. Stonebreaking was a job to which workhouses and municipal authorities frequently put the able-bodied unemployed, and in support of his theory Ted has found a number of pictures of grids through which the stone had to pass in order to satisfy the overseers that the breakers had done their job adequately.

The net result of the above is that type 22 becomes redundant.

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Type 15. This leaves only type 15 of the usage-based types. An argument might be made for absorbing it similarly, except that ecclesiastical subject matter stands out rather more clearly from that of commercial trade. It seems therefore acceptable to keep it separated, notwithstanding that some symbols, e.g. mitres, may be used as business signs.

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Type 1/17 Flower heads. I have never been really happy with including depictions of flower heads of various descriptions in with the extremely common symbolic stock pieces depicting 3-8 petals, typically five or six, radiating outwards from the centre to the rim. After some wavering I shall therefore reassign the genuine flowers to their original home in type 17 {trees and plants}, where I feel they more properly belong, and leave type 1 for the stock types alone. A few examples of pieces thus returned to type 17 are shown.



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Hybrids

The concept of hybrids introduced in the last review {LTT_33} still stands:

- Rather than try and force pieces in to one type or another, there will be, as a regular feature of the classification system, a concept of hybrids. Far too many pieces clearly {or arguably, depending on the accuracy of your identification} borrow significant features from two types, and occasionally from three or four; therefore, we will admit this, and describe them as hybrids.

Herewith a few; is Fig.1, for example, meant to be an anchor or a plant? Is Fig.2 a whorl {comet}, a radiant sun, or just a plain cartwheel? Fig.3 is three-quarters cartwheel, with what looks like a letter and number, “H2”, thrown in, whilst Fig.4 has a thoroughly varied mix of letters, objects and designs..



Finally, Fig.5; simple petals, or a clover? The bottom elements are not joined.



Hybrids are more of an issue in the 18th cent, when the deteriorating quality of execution causes increasing numbers of lead pieces to become ambiguous. I intend when our chronological history reaches that period to examine the way in which designs deteriorated over the years, and included in that analysis will be a discussion of hybrids commonly found, complete with a table and illustrations.

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Grenetis/Wreath issues

In the previous review {LTT_33}, prior to the acceptance of hybrids, I proposed that wreath/grenetis issues alone be regarded as a special case and treated, effectively, as hybrids now are. This still stands, with slight modification:

- There are a variety of outer rim types: for example wreaths on Roman tesserae, varieties of rim filler on mediaeval pieces {to which Forgeais assigns the word grenetis} and, slightly later, radial dashes. The presence of such a surround should not be ignored, but neither should it distract from the main subject of another type within.
- Because nearly every filled outer rim {grenetis} and wreath has some such content which can be assigned elsewhere, I think it better to assign it to that type and merely treat the grenetis/wreath as a property; e.g. “cross and pellets with a grenetis around”, such as occurs frequently in BNJ54 type M, would become ”type 14 with grenetis”, rather than being described as a hybrid. I think that this is less cumbersome than trying to use hybrid terms like “28.14” as I originally visualised.



Apart from lone unaccompanied wreaths and outer rims, known only very occasionally, type 28 is now therefore redundant.

Note: Robert Thompson, one of the recognised experts on the 17th cent main series, has asked me why I adopted the French word “grènetis” and anglicised it for my own use, rather than simply using the English word “graining”. The answer is that, whilst graining is indeed the most common filler in some subseries {e.g. BNJ54 type M}, the lead series as a whole contains many and varied fillers, not all of which approximate to graining. Examples include circles, pellets, segments and nothing {i.e. a blank rim, colloquially known as a Durham grenetis}; see illustrations below. I therefore felt the need to employ a more generic term.



Observations: Williamson v Crude Lead

Following on from the above review, we now examine how the Williamson main series 17th cent material fits into the Powell classification. Generally, quite well; there are some unrepresented or almost unrepresented types in Williamson, because

- The latter hardly ever employs traditional lead stock types.
- Given the superior quality of production when using other metals lead’s occasional undecipherable characters and blobs do not exist on copper and brass.

A list of relative rarities for the various types is given below and overleaf, using the following rarity values; where there is significant difference, an explanation is given.

EC	Exceptionally common
VC	Very common
C	Common
S	Scarce
R	Rare
VR	Very rare
ER	Extremely rare, almost non existent

It is appreciated that the difference in range of subject matter between the two series cannot, for some of the types below, be conveniently condensed into a table of this size; therefore, for those types which differ substantially in the distribution of what they depict, a series of articles, commencing next month, will expand in further detail.

Type	Description	Rarity in lead series	Rarity in Williamson	Possible reason for the difference in rarity, where the latter is significant
1	Petalled flower	VC	ER	17th cent main series has few if any traditional crude lead stock types
2	Initials	EC	EC	
3	Segments	VC	S	17th cent main series has few if any traditional crude lead stock types, although trades such as wheelwrights and millers will have issued.
4	Lis	VC	C	17th cent main series has few if any traditional crude lead stock types, although the lis and Prince of Wales feathers still occur reasonably frequently as elements of heraldry
5	Anchors	VC	C	17th cent main series has few if any traditional crude lead stock types, although the anchor still appears as a business sign or to indicate maritime connections

Type	Description	Rarity in lead series	Rarity in Williamson	Possible reason for the difference in rarity, where the latter is significant
6	Ship	S	C	
7	Hatching, or grid	C	R	17th cent main series has few if any traditional crude lead stock types, nor would it relate to workhouse stonebreaking
8	Numeral	C	C	
9	Irregular or compound geometric	VC	ER	This type on crude lead is probably a degenerate form of merchant mark or personal badge, covered by type 16 or 20 in the main series
10	Heads and busts	C	C	
11	Tavern or other drinking utensils	S	S	
12	Quartered geometric	VC	ER	On crude lead probably an attempt either to elaborate a type 14 stock design or to create a personal badge; in the former case no such stock tokens in the 17th cent main series, in the latter the need will be covered by type 16 or 20.
13	Framework	R	VR	Greater potential for depicting an activity may be possible on copper or brass, causing the piece to fall under another class; e.g. portering may be represented by a stretcher on lead and by people carrying it on superior metals.
14	Crosses	VC	C	The 17th cent main series makes little use of traditional crude lead stock types, and is only likely to use the cross for other reasons.
15	Religious	R	S	
16	Arms, shields or heraldic designs	S	VC	Difficulty in depicting large amounts of fine detail on crude lead, hence other forms of personal badge (e.g. type 9) are preferred instead.
17	Trees, plants and their produce	C	S	
18	Birds	C	C	
19	Animals, including fish and insects	C	VC	
20	Merchant marks & other monograms	S	S	
21	Trade equipment and produce, other than milling	VC	VC	
22	Mill-related	S	S	
23	Buildings	S	C	Castles are frequently used on the 17th cent main series to represent symbols of municipal authority
24	Obscure characters	S	ER	
25	Misc objects {royal and imperial}	C	C	
26	Misc objects {celestial}	S	C	
27	Misc objects {other}	(VC)	(VC)	
28	Outer rim or grènetis or wreath design	C	VR	The grènetis is a traditional design, dating from the 15th cent & largely foreign to non-lead series; only the Commonwealth wreath is a common element.
29	Words or significant abbreviations	R	EC	Lead has difficulty accommodating lengthy inscription, compared to copper & brass.
30	Pellets or other unaccompanied simple designs	C	S	Probably a form of personal badge, 17th cent main series issuers tend to go for more sophisticated choices.
31	Circular or elliptical geometric	R	S	On crude lead possibly a form of personal badge, on 17th cent main series probably a specific object.
32	People, other than heads	S	VC	Lead has difficulty accommodating detailed depictions, compared to copper & brass.
33	Body parts, other than heads/hearts	S	C	
34	Halved geometric	R	ER	As quartered geometric {type 12} above.
35	Toothcomb, or halfbeard	ER	ER	A traditional design from French mediaeval lead, barely relevant to any British series.
36	Hearts	S	S	
37	Scenery	ER	VR	

Powell Classification System: Summary of Revised Types

The following table is an attempt to summarise the changes discussed in the preceding pages. The main classification paper on the website, giving fuller detail, will be reissued shortly.

Type	Description	Notes
1	Symbolic petalled flower	Slight renaming Aug 2010 to exclude flower heads
2	Initials	
3	Segments	
4	Lis	
5	Anchors	
6	Ship	
7	Hatching, or grid	
8	Numeral	
9	Irregular or compound geometric	
10	Heads and busts	
11	Tavern or other drinking utensils	
12	Quartered geometric	
13	Framework	
14	Crosses	
15	Religious	
16	Arms, shields or heraldic designs	
17	Trees, plants and their produce	Now includes non-symbolic flower heads again
18	Birds	
19	Animals, including fish and insects	
20	Merchant marks & other monograms	
21	Inanimate objects	Ex-"trade related"; renamed to absorb type 27
22	..{spare}	Spare, subsumed into types 14,23 in Aug 2010
23	Buildings	
24	Obscure characters	
25	Misc objects {royal and imperial}	
26	Misc objects {celestial}	
27	..{spare}	Spare, subsumed into type 21 in Aug 2010
28	Outer rim or grènetis/wreath series	Only now used when no other subject matter
29	Words or significant abbreviations	
30	Unaccompanied simple designs	
31	Circular or elliptical geometric	
32	People, other than heads	
33	Body parts, other than heads	Introduced Dec 2007, formerly part of type 27
34	Halved geometrical	Introduced Dec 2007
35	Toothcomb, or halfbeard	Introduced Dec 2007
36	Hearts	Introduced 2009, formerly part of type 33
37	Scenery	Introduced 2010