

KETTLES 'n COOKWARE

ENDORSED BY THE GRISWOLD & CAST IRON COOKWARE ASSOC.

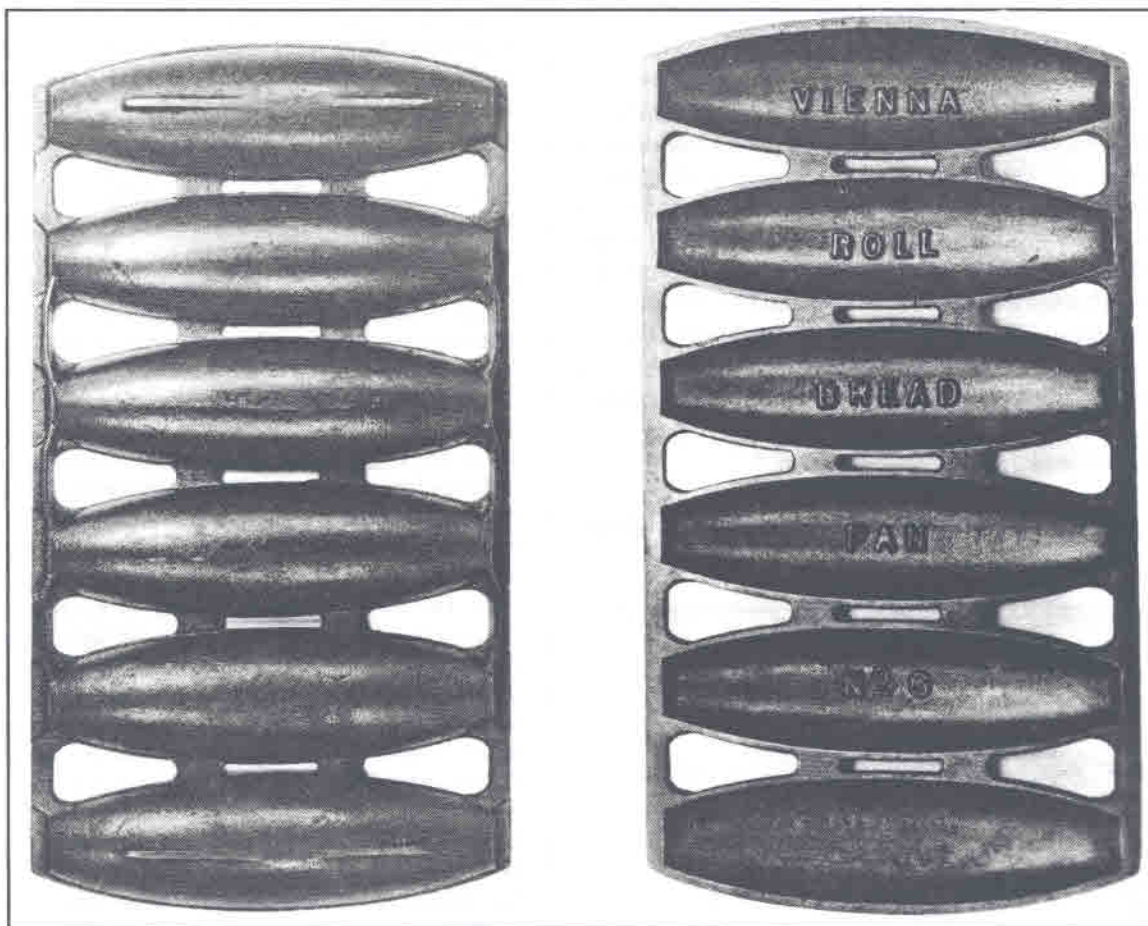


Figure 1: Front and back of the six section Vienna Roll Bread Pan No 6.

IS THIS PIECE GRISWOLD?

by D.G. Smith

For years the question has been asked, "Is the six section Vienna roll pan marked 'Vienna Roll Bread Pan No 6' with raised letters inside the sections, Griswold?" This pan (fig 1) has no identifying marks tying it to a specific manufacturer, or does it?

It is not unusual for a pre-1900 piece not to be marked. It is also very typical of ERIE era Griswold.

So how do you identify unmarked pieces?

Identification can frequently be made by characteristics. I use two terms (other than "I don't know") about unmarked pieces: It is possible or, it is probable. Probability is established by creditable evidence, not of the least being characteristics.

Let's build a case for the Vienna Roll Pan in figure 1. Notice the "o" in No 6 is underlined. This

See Griswold, continued on page 23

FROM THE EDITOR —

The summer season is coming to an end and with it the prime flea market and show season, at least here in the northeast.

I had the privilege to experience Brimfield for all three events this year. For those of you who have never been to Brimfield (Mass.), you don't attend that event, you experience it! Competition by buyers of cast iron cookware is intense, consequently it is hard to come up with a "find", even there.

I set up a booth at the Madison Bouckville (NY) show in August. We were deluged with rain, ultimately closing the show. We, as well as a few hundred other dealers were towed off the field behind a tractor because of the mud. Bouckville was an experience this year also.

I am continuing to refine Kettles 'n Cookware in response to your suggestions. From now on the issues will be punched so they can be saved in a binder. I have had to place a maximum of 100 words on classifieds. I think that is more than fair for the price. Also, to add punch to your ad and get your name out there, you might want to try a display ad.

I am looking for any information, catalogs, flyers, articles, etc. on Wagner and Wapak. If anyone of you have information you are willing to share, I am willing to pay for catalogs, reprints, etc. Thanks to you who have sent me articles and information.

Dave



Dear Mr. Smith: I secured your name from Linda Franklin's book on Kitchen Collectibles. Are you familiar with the following companies who have made iron ware: B.O. #1 Schofield, Leflinger-Gensing? RH.

Dear RH: In the late 1800s, the Schofield Mfg. Co., located at 14 E. 14th St., New York City, produced, among other things, Flop Griddles, and a six section, as well as an eight section "Ornamental Gem Pan". The cups of this gem pan were shaped in the form of various fruits and vegetables,

similar to what we know as a Harvest Pan. The Schofield pan, however, was much more delicate and had contour sides. I am not familiar with B.O. #1, nor the Leflinger-Gensing mark. Can anyone else help? - Ed.

Dave: I appreciate Kettles 'n Cookware and its timely arrival. During a visit to the Puget Park Swap Meet ... I came across a chrome plated #6 Sidney Hollow Ware Co. skillet. It has cooked a good many meals but is a well finished piece with the smooth inside normally found in Griswold. I can't find Sidney Hollow Ware Co. in any publication I have. Was (Is) the Sidney Hollow Ware Co. a going concern? FS

Dear FS: The Sidney Hollow Ware Co. is an early mark for Wagner, probably about turn of the century. An earlier mark was "SIDNEY", sometimes in script. Early Wagner was of exceptional quality, equal to, and sometimes surpassing Griswold. I will have more information on Wagner in future issues. - Ed.

Dear Mr. Smith: I've come across a few items that are unknown to me. I thought if anybody would know it would be you. The first is a #8 skillet, made in Canada, with G.S.W. in the middle of a shield on the bottom. Any help of who made it, and value? The 2nd item is a cast iron small roaster. There is a name on the lid of "John Wright". Ever hear of this name? The lid has a 3" hole in the center, with a cork in it. Weird! ... Do you have any Meat Loaf Pans for sale? BS

Dear BS: The skillet you have made in Canada was, I believe, made in Hamilton, Ontario. I cannot remember the first of the three letters. The last two stand for Steel Works. I just can't recall the first name. As to value, I have found the skillet to be of little interest as a collectible therefore the value is about \$10. The John Wright Foundry is an old foundry and is located in Wrightsville, PA. It is still turning out iron pieces today. They are a primary producer of fancy reproductions. They mark their repros either JW or John Wright. I have no idea of the age of your piece. Perhaps one of our readers will know. I do not have any Loaf Pans for sale, however, see Craig Leverage's ad in this issue. - Ed.

Dear Mr. Smith: I have a Seldon Griswold Mail Box. There is no number on it but across the front it has the word HEROLD. Your thoughts as to what this might mean? I also have a #8 Dutch Oven with lid. When I purchased it was all black. During the cleaning process a copper color appeared, top, bottom, and bail. Could this have been electro plated. WR

Dear WR: Re the mail box - I really don't know. Come on readers, help me out on this one! When I have cleaned some early skillets, some appear to possibly have some brass in them, but it is probably just a variation in the iron ore. I have never experienced it in a Dutch Oven except in a WAPAK piece which had similar characteristics as the Indian Head skillets. The bail is steel however, so I don't know why that would appear that way. Help me again readers. - Ed.

Griswold & Cast Iron Cookware Association

As word gets around, membership in the Griswold & Cast Iron Cookware Association continues to grow. It is certainly encouraging.

Joe Noto has advised me that the Constitution and Bylaws have been overwhelmingly approved by the membership. Procedures for the Association are now official.

The committee has been working diligently to find the best location for next year's Annual Meeting. The location and date have been set. The Annual Meeting will be held the weekend of April 3rd, 1993, at the Holiday Inn South, in Erie, PA. Save that date and plan to attend. Everyone had a great time at the last meet. Complete details will be included in the next issue of Kettles 'n Cookware.

Until then - Happy Hunting.

Larry

For information about membership in the Griswold & Cast Iron Cookware Association contact Larry Foxx, President, 400 Creek Rd., Carlisle, PA 17013.

REPRODUCTION ALERT

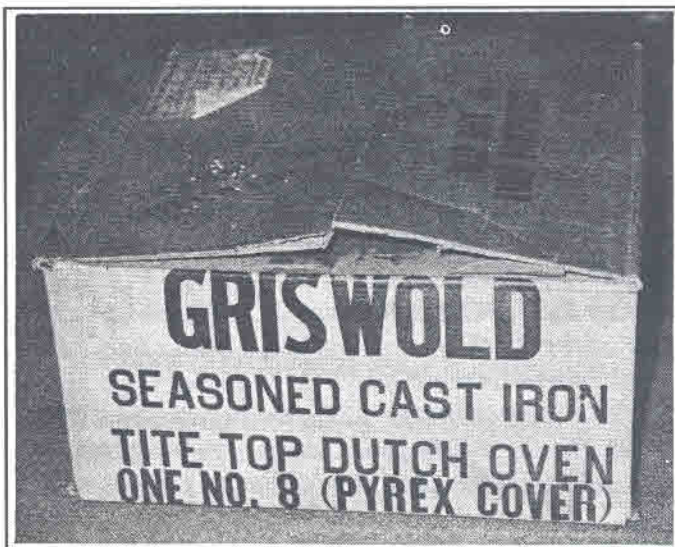
A repro of a No. 4 Wapak Indian Head Skillet has hit the market. The reproduction is easily identified by the handle. Wapak Indian Head Skillets have a very unique handle, straight sides which widen towards the end. The end is squared off with a protrusion (point) at the center of the end of the handle. The handle on the reproduction is like the standard handle on almost any skillet, rounded at the end.



Joan Baldini, who with her husband, Joe, owns the Folly Antique Mall in Erie, PA, recently acquired a Griswold Dutch Oven with a Pyrex cover.

She states, "I wanted to share this with our members. I was always told that Pyrex didn't make the glass lids for Griswold, or if they did make them, they said Griswold on them. Well, I bought this Dutch Oven in the box which had never been opened. It doesn't have Griswold anywhere on the lid, it just says Pyrex. The price marked on the box was \$2.98. The lady got two for wedding gifts. She used one and put one away.

(Editor's Note: Notice the style of the handles on this oven. The Dutch Oven with this style of handle didn't have a bail, and is the proper one for the glass cover).





FIFTEEN MOST WANTED

I want to thank 147 people for their tremendous response to my question concerning the 15 most wanted GRISWOLD items. With this many letters I think it is a fairly accurate survey. (Sorry, Dave Smith and C.F. McClendon, they don't appreciate the muffin pans as much as we do).

Chuck Wafford

1. Toy size "0" Waffle Iron
2. No 13 Skillet Lid
3. Skillet Clock
4. Spider Skillet
5. No 1 skillet, No 411 (yes, it does exist)
6. Griswold Bundt Pan
7. No 50 Hearts Star Gem Pan
8. No 14 Bailed Handle Skillet
9. Coffee Grinder
10. No 13 Skillet
11. Loaf Pan No 877 with lid
12. 5 Tier Dutch Oven Rack
- 13 No 13 Dutch Oven
14. Ham Boiler
15. No 13 Turks Head Muffin Pan



Folly Antique Mall

654 W. 26th St.
Rt 20
Erie, PA 16508

Joe & Joan Baldini
owners
Specialize in Griswold

Phone
(814) 459-2503
868-1316

Your Business Card or two inch

Display Ad (camera ready).....\$10.00

Larger ads are.....\$5.00 per column inch
or fraction thereof.

Ads with photos..... \$8.00 extra

Griswold, continued from front cover

is a trait used consistently in early Griswold pieces. Also, this pan is the same size as the No 6 Vienna Roll Pan without the letters inside, and which is marked with the pattern number 958. It is generally accepted by experienced collectors that a piece marked with a three digit pattern number, usually appearing to be hand inscribed, is sufficient to establish the piece as Griswold. Also, when I state the "same size" I don't restrict it to exact, I mean within a sixteenth of an inch or so because there can be a slight fluctuation or inconsistency in the sand casting process. Now we have established two points of evidence: the "o" in No 6 is underlined, and it is the same size as a piece marked with a pattern number.

Point Number 3: An 1890-91 Griswold Catalog illustrates the No 1 Single Vienna Roll with letters inside. The illustrations in that catalog are artists drawings, not photos, but the illustrations do add to the case of probability.

A Double Vienna Roll Pan without the letters inside exists and is marked with No 2 (Griswold's designated style number) (fig 2). Also, the small "o" is underlined which is characteristic of early Griswold pieces. This pan is also marked with the three digit pattern number 956 which, in my opinion, identifies it as Griswold.

See Griswold, continued on page 24

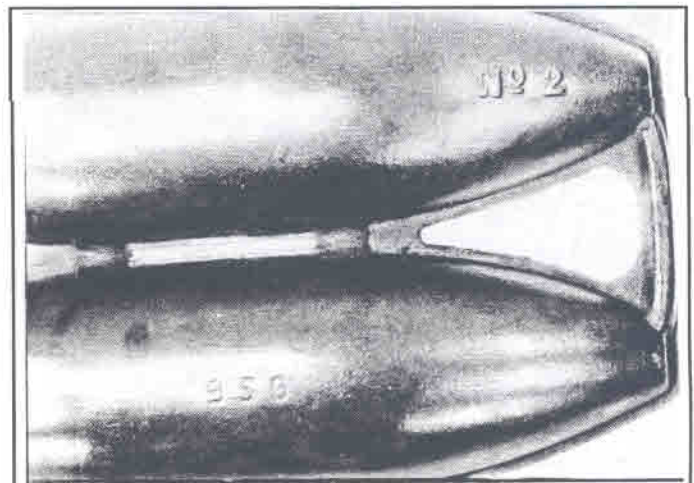


Figure 2: This double Vienna Roll Bread Pan is plain inside. It is marked "No 2, and with the pattern number 956". Note the reinforcements in the casting indicated by the arrows.

Also note the casting reinforcements (indicated by the arrows). This is very significant!

The Double Vienna Roll Bread Pan in Fig 3 has the raised letters inside. On the underside it is marked "No 2" with the typical Griswold trait of the "o" being underlined. Also note the reinforcements in the casting (fig 4). They are identical to the double Vienna with the pattern number (fig 2). Now we have tied the Double Vienna with the lettering inside to the one marked with the Griswold pattern number.

Let's sum up the known. We know the 1890-91 Griswold Catalog illustrates a Single Vienna Roll Pan with raised letters inside. We know the two section Vienna Roll Pan with the raised letters is identical to the plain two section Vienna Roll Pan with the Griswold pattern number. Therefore, we have established a high probability that Griswold did manufacture a Double Vienna Roll Pan with raised letters inside. Now being they made the Double Vienna with the raised letters, wouldn't it be logical to believe they also made the six section? And, being the Six Section Vienna Roll Pan with raised letters inside is identical in size and design to the plain six section marked with pattern number 958, it is highly probable the piece is Griswold. In fact, it is my opinion, based on the evidence, the Six Section Vienna Roll Bread Pan with the raised letters inside is definitely Griswold!

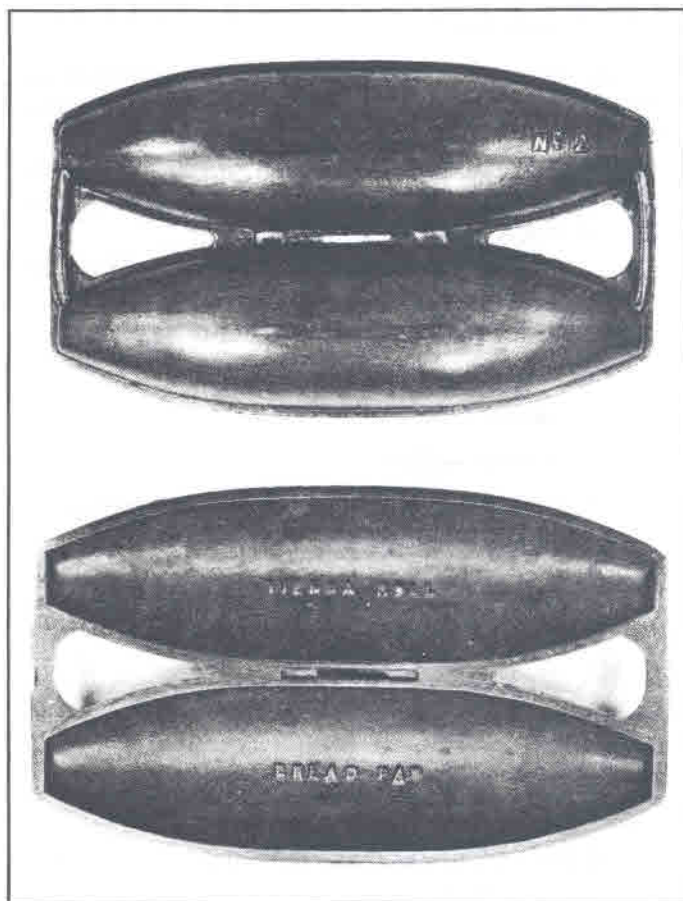


Figure 3: Front and back of the double Vienna Roll Bread Pan with raised letters inside the sections.

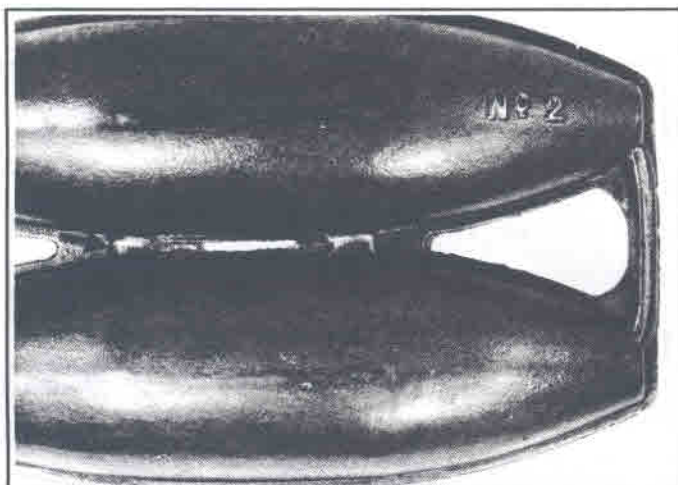


Figure 4: Close-up of the back of the double Vienna Bread Pan with the raised letters inside. Note the reinforcements in the casting indicated by the arrow. Also note the "o" in No 2 is underlined.

Kettles 'n Cookware is published bimonthly on even numbered months, six issues per volume.

COPYRIGHT 1992 - All Rights Reserved.

No part of this work may be reproduced without written permission from the publisher.

Subscription:

\$15.00 per volume, including all prior issues of the volume, regardless of when you subscribe.

Checks payable to:
Kettles 'n Cookware

Mail all correspondence to:
David G. Smith, Publisher
Drawer B
Perrysburg, NY 14129