

ABBOT OF GATESHEAD

A European attempt to make a reproduction of an Abbot Mug



This feels as though made mid or later 20th C. It is interesting in that it is the same weight (306 gms) you might expect for an Abbot half pint - and the same height (3 1/2" - 9 cms) and rim diameter (6.5cms). The thumb-rest is neater and crisper but structurally looks the same. Possibly made in Italy.

The year dates used different stamps but notice the even spacing of the fake marks and in line with similar spacing between. The year marks are nonsense being randomly numbered but evenly spaced.

The Coronet over the scales is unknown as a UK verification mark.

The central fillet is most like the double fillets used in London and central southern England and not often found in the North and also very definitely not an Abbot feature.

No mark to the inside but underneath this unusual mark - Italian?

A good sense of the difference - is if you flick your fingernail at a real Abbot you get a nice resonant ding, - at the re-pro and it is a clang - like with BM - so making one think it is entirely machined and not cast? Though it looks as if cast.

It is surprising that someone thought it worth copying the Abbot half pint (also assume the other sizes.) It is a complement to the style of the Abbots.



A collector comments -

Likely made in the traditional way, cast and then turned or burnished (either way - on a lathe). The body with the bottom and handle cast separately and soldered together and finally polished to take out the turning marks.

Most early mugs still show the turning marks on the bottom but this one does not suggesting that the bottom is perhaps forged or cut from a rolled sheet of pewter.

Here is a quite well made mug - that would fill the need for a modern reproduction pewter mug, apparently of good quality metal.

Being labelled pint (is it misspelt on the mug itself) suggests it is a continental piece for the U.K. market.