

A rare, mid-18th century delftware, bowl with the arms of Henderson (formerly of Fordel) and the inscription

Sold



Description

The inside decorated with the Henderson (formerly of Fordel) arms flanked by floral sprays, and the inscription "Chris Henderson of Biglands in Cumberland". The outside decorated with a large and a small floral spray and flying insects interposed. Hairline crack around the centre of the bowl. Decorated in blue on a blue-grey glaze. Probably Liverpool, third quarter of the 18th century.

Reference: This is the only, known, recorded example of these arms and inscription on delftware.

Diameter: 26.00 cm./10.25 in.

According to Field's Armorial for Cumberland (1937) Christopher Henderson removed to Biglands in 1704 and later removed to Longburgh. Biglands is a hamlet situated in the hinterland of Burgh-by-Sands in Cumberland and so called because of the abundance of "big" (a grain similar to barley) growing there.

The coat of arms which may be described heraldically as "Three piles issuing from the sinister, upon a chief a crescent between two ermine spots" is a clear indication of Henderson's claim to be descended from Henderson of Fordell in Fifeshire. The earliest record of the coat of arms is in Sir David Lyndsay's Roll of 1542. The crest is "an eagle's head coupé, holding in the beak an ermine spot".

The Hendersons of Fordell include Sir John Henderson created Baronet by Charles II in 1664; he was son of John Henderson who was knighted by Charles I. The family may be traced back to Thomas Henderson who was Clerk of Inverkeithing Cocket in 1406.

There are several baptisms of individuals named Christopher Henderson in the period 1650-1675 all being Northumberland, Durham and Cumberland and it is unsafe to speculate upon which refers to Christopher Henderson of Bidglands.