

An Unlisted Small China Button

By Bob Ferguson



I've been admonished many times for spending great lengths of time looking through seas of common white china buttons. I have always marvelled at the vast number of different body shapes and sizes, placement of holes, size of holes in regard to body size, etc., to be found in the average accumulation of plain, ordinary, white china buttons. And, on rare occasion, a scarce body shape, pattern, or vari-

ety may be found. Such is the case with the button pictured here.

The pattern on the button consists of a grid of very small squares with recessed centers, or perhaps it could be thought of as a screen design, and is on a very flat button front. There are twelve squares across the widest part of the button. The back of the button has a flat center, and is flat to within about one-sixteenth of an inch from the edge, at which point it tapers at about a thirty degree angle to the button edge. The diameter of the button is just a trace over nine-sixteenths of an inch, and the thickness is just over one-sixteenth inch. The color of the button is pure white.

Another interesting feature of this button is the closeness of the spacing between the sewing holes — they are much closer than one would expect to find on a button of this size.

Although I have been fortunate to find several rare varieties of China buttons, this is the only two-hole one which I have discovered of which I can find no mention in the button literature. I have a few other interesting finds which I shall share with you, but at another time. Meantime study your china button literature, and perhaps soon you will have a rarity which you can share with me. You'll have fun looking!

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