

ROYALTY WRIGGLEWORK FROM BRAZIL

There is evidence this was made by John Somers in Minas Gerais province in Brazil.

He appears to produce pewter in his name from the 1960s perhaps to 1990 after that the name was used by another firm. (perhaps Canadian).

John Somers honestly produced repro pewter and marked it with his own pewterers hall marks –



1st and 3rd photo by Hillary Bagshaw

John Somers mark used 1968-81 (by itself) with letter T indicates made in 1988.
BRAZIL is the mark for export to USA. or Germany



The following shows what could be achieved in those years – and there is no reason a good craftsman/artist could not produce the same in the 1920s – marking it as thought best then, in difficult trading times, to produce a sale.

**William and Mary Coronation Vessels
Circa 1688.**



Reproduction tankard and beaker beautifully decorated in a style of engraving called wriggle work. Features portrait of King William the III and Queen Mary with the lion and unicorn of the British coat of arms. Based on artifacts in the Victoria and Albert Museum of London.

VA7 W&M Coronation Tankard, 6.5" tall.

VA3 W&M Coronation Beaker, 6.75" tall.

A collector says they remember this being sold in the V&A shop.

The above trade advert is unlikely to be an advert produced by John Somers as his knowledge of history is good and 1688 found William III invading England about November 5th with matters not entirely settled by December 30th.

The piece in the V&A also shows clearly a date of 1698.

Regarding Pewterware in Brazil extract from Pewterbank article –

(use pewterbank.co.uk search box for - Somers)

“Some of the world's finest pewter is made in Brazil by John Somers in the town of Sao Joao del Rey, Minas Gerais. John Somers’s factory opened in 1968 and the unique quality of his work has already been recognized by connoisseurs all over the world.

The city of São João del-Rei produces the only pewter in Brazil. Its quality is recognized worldwide. The largest number of shops is concentrated here, and the most highly skilled pewter artisans in all of Latin America are trained locally. There are ancient records of metal mines in the region and of incipient pewter artifacts back to the 19th century.

However, it was the vision of pioneer John Somers that definitely put the name of São João del-Rei on the pewter map as of 1968, as well as in international pewter artistry catalogues.

In the beginning, his production was inspired in original English and Portuguese pewter models, replicas of models that the antique collector gathered from all over the world, which today make up a magnificent museum in his namesake.

It was in this true school of arts and crafts that the vast majority of artists and artisans were trained, which today produces the world-famous pewter of São João del-Rei.”

Lid of the tankard



Another and perhaps later mark, enlarged

