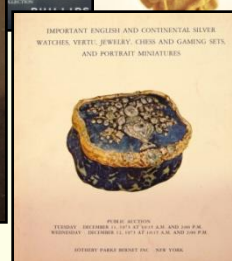
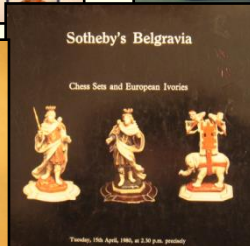
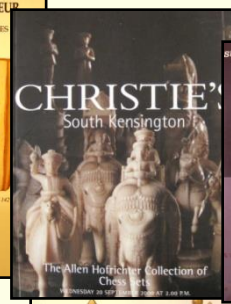
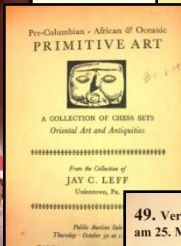
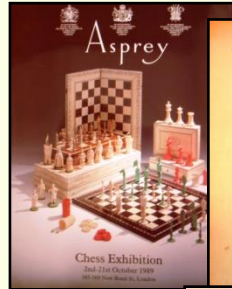
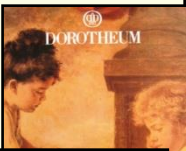
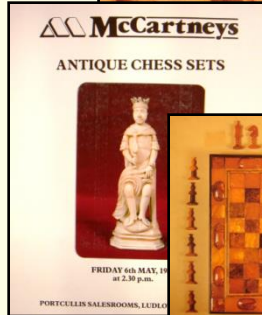
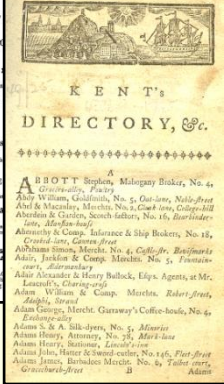
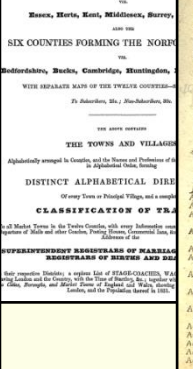
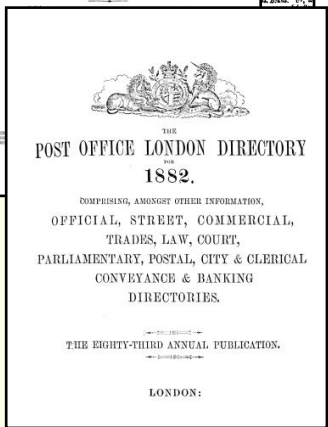
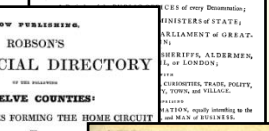
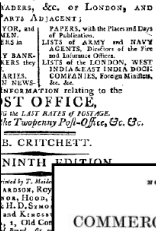
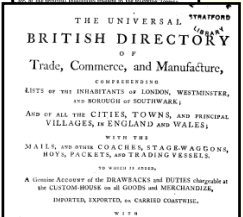
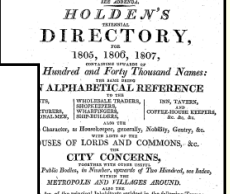
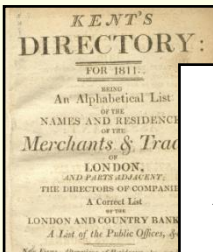


INFORMATIVE RESOURCES FOR CHESS COLLECTORS



JON CRUMILLER
JULY 2, 2010

A Quick Introduction



Jon Crumiller

Princeton, New Jersey USA

Tournament player since 1972

Chess collector since late 2002

My collection focuses on antique / antiquarian chess items:



Sets

Boards



Timers

Books



...etc.

A Quick Introduction

Today we'll look at some helpful resources for chess collectors:



The London Directories



The Auction Catalog Project

The London Directories

Antique chess collecting often uncovers more questions than answers.

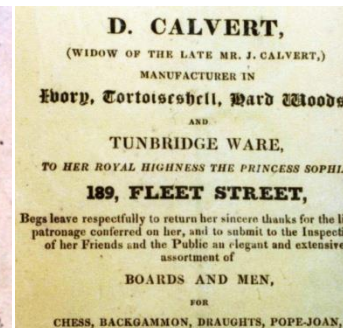
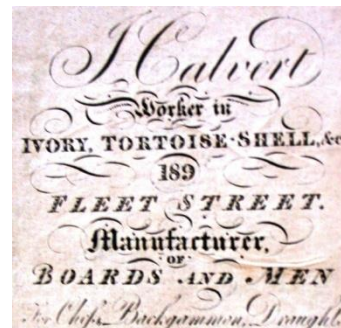
W. Howard?



J. Feltham?

John Calvert?

Dorothy Calvert?



William Lund? Thomas Lund?



Edwards & Jones?



John Barr?



Miles & Edwards?

Farlow John King, ivory & hardwood turner, billiard ball & chess manufacturer, 5 Crooked lane, City ??

The London Directories

However, there are some excellent sources of information for solving the mysteries of chess manufacturers and retailers of prior eras. Here is an important resource that can help clarify the Victorian London chess scene: *The London Directories*.



THE
Post-Office Annual Directory
For 1808.

COURT of ALDERMEN.
LIST of the BANKERS in LONDON.
LIST of the COUNTRY BANKERS, with the BANKERS they draw on in LONDON.
LIST of PUBLIC NOTARIES.
LIST of the LONDON NEWS-
GENERAL INFORMATION relating to the
POST OFFICE,
INCLUDING the LATEST RATES of POSTAGE.
Regulations of the Twopenny Post-Office, &c. &c.
By **B. CRITCHETT.**
THE NINTH EDITION,
London: Printed by T. Austin for the Proprietors,
And sold by J. RICHARDSON, Royal Exchange; J. ASHERS, Cornhill; VERNOR, HOOD, and SHARPS, Fenchurch; J. WALKER, & H. D. SIMONS, Paternoster-Row; BLACK, PARRY, and KINGSBURY, Leadenhall-Street; And R. LEE, 1, Old Compton-Street, Soho.
[Price 3s. Sewed, 3s. 6d. Bound. Or, with the Coach and Carriage Guide, 4s. 6d. Bound.]

	18 th	19 th	20 th century
<i>Merchant Directories</i>	●	●	
<i>Trade Directories</i>	●	●	●
<i>Post Office Directories</i>		●	●
<i>Street Directories</i>		●	●
<i>Business Directories</i>		●	●
<i>Shipping Directories</i>			●
<i>Telephone Books</i>			●

The London Directories

Each Directory provides an accurate snapshot of status, location(s), and trade(s) of the relevant people for that given year.



Blissatt Edward, Turner and Toyman, 209, Piccadilly

Calvert John, Turner & Dealer in Ivory, 189, Fleet-street

Dunnet Malcolm, Perfumer and Toyman, 3, Cheap-side

Jaques Thos. Ivory-turner and Tunbridge-ware-manuf. Dealer in Ivory, Tortoiseshell and Foreign Woods, 65, Leather-la. Holborn

Leuchars J. Fancy Head-dress-maker, 47, Piccadilly

Lund Tho. Pen, Quill, Sponge, Filtering Stones, &c. 57, Cornhill

Morley & Thornhill, Cutlers, 137, New Bond-street

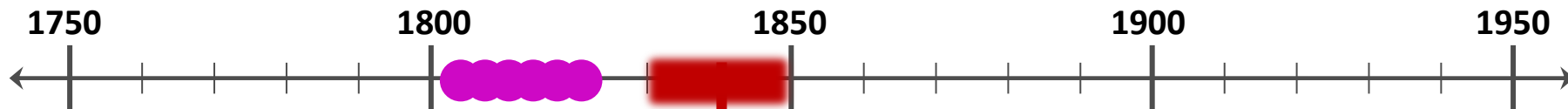
Wegwood Josiah & Byesley, Potters to the Queen, York-street St. James's, and Etruria in Staffordshire

THE
Post-Office Annual Directory
For 1808.

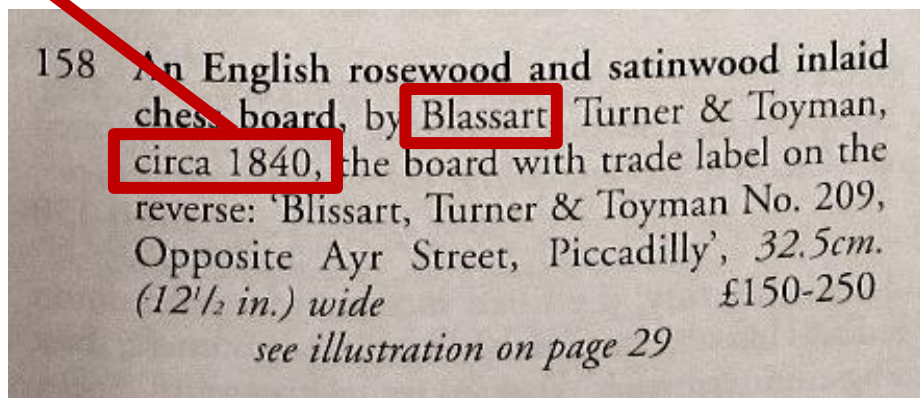
COURT of ALDERMEN.
LIST of the BANKERS in LONDON.
LIST of the COUNTRY BANKERS, with the BANKERS they draw on in LONDON.
LIST of PUBLIC NOTARIES.
LIST of the LONDON NEWS-PRINTERS.
GENERAL INFORMATION relating to the POST OFFICE, INCLUDING the LAST RATES of POSTAGE. Regulations of the Twopenny Post-Office, &c. &c.
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The London Directories

By obtaining Directory entries over a period of time, these snapshots come together to provide a fuller reference for each person.



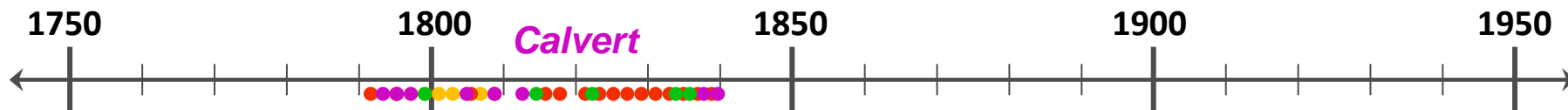
- 1805 Blissatt, Edw. turner and toyman, 209, Piccadilly
- 1808 Blissatt Edward, Turner and Toyman, 209, Piccadilly
- 1809 Blissatt Edward, Turner and Toyman, 209, Piccadilly
- 1811 Blissatt Edw. turner , &c. 209, Piccadilly
- 1814 Blissatt Edward, Turner and Toyman, 209, Piccadilly
- 1815 Blissatt Edward, Turner and Toyman, 209, Piccadilly
- 1816 Blissatt Edward, Turner & Toyman, 209, Piccadilly
- 1817 Blissatt Edw. turner & toyman, 209, Piccadilly
- 1819 Blissatt Edward, Turner & Toyman, 209, Piccadilly
- 1821 Blissatt Edward, Turner and Toyman, 206, Piccadilly
- 1822 Blissatt Edward, (and turner) 206 Piccadilly [Toy Dealers--Retail.]
- 1823 Blissatt Edward, Turner and Toyman, 206, Piccadilly



Phillips Auction Catalog 2000-Nov-07

The London Directories

Using the London Directory date ranges as “anchors,” one can find corroborating evidence of dates and events in other sources, such as *The Times*, the *Illustrated London News*, and the National Archives.



- 1791 Calvert John Ivory Turner, 189, Fleet-street
- 1793 Calvert John Ivory Turner 189, Fleet-street
- 1794 Calvert John, Ivory & Hard Wood Turner, 189, Fleet street
- ⋮
- 1819 Calvert John, Turner & Dealer in Ivory, 189, Fleet Street
- 1821 Calvert John, Turner & Dealer in Ivory, 189, Fleet-street
- 1822 *Calvert Dorothy, 189 Fleet Street [Turners; * marked thus are Hard Wood and Ivory Turners]
- 1823 Calvert Dorothy, 189 Fleet-st [Ivory and Hard Wood Turners.]
- ⋮
- 1838 Calvert D. & Son, Ivory turners, 189 Fleet st
- 1839 Calvert Dorothy (Mrs.), Turner & Dealer in Ivory, 189 Fleet st.

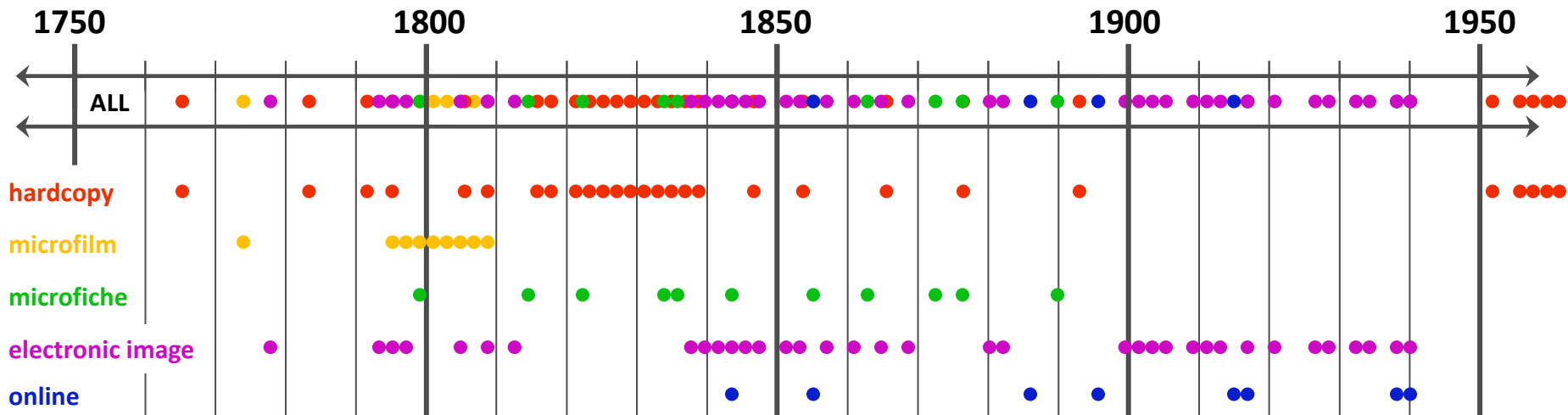
Calvert chess sets 1791 – 1839
 John Calvert 1791 – 1821
 Dorothy Calvert 1822 – 1835

The Times – July 24, 1835

SELLING-OFF.—Mrs. D. CALVERT, 189, Fleet-street, Ivory Turner to their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria, begs to inform her friends, the nobility, gentry, and public generally, that she is about retiring from business, and is, in consequence thereof, DISPOSING OF her extensive STOCK of chess and backgammon boards and men, a superior assortment of various articles in ivory, tortoiseshell, and pearl; horn shavings for stoves, spinning-wheels, household turnery, brushes archery, &c., at the lowest prices.—189, near Chancery-lane, Fleet-street.

The London Directories

The chronology of London-based Victorian chess manufacturers and retailers becomes clear with the use of many sequential Directories.



I've extracted the applicable entries for all identified Victorian London-based chess manufacturers and retailers –

- 136 London Directories spanning the years 1765-1979, with no significant gaps from late 18th century to mid 20th century
- 84 chess manufacturers & retailers
- Approximately 4000 entries

The London Directories

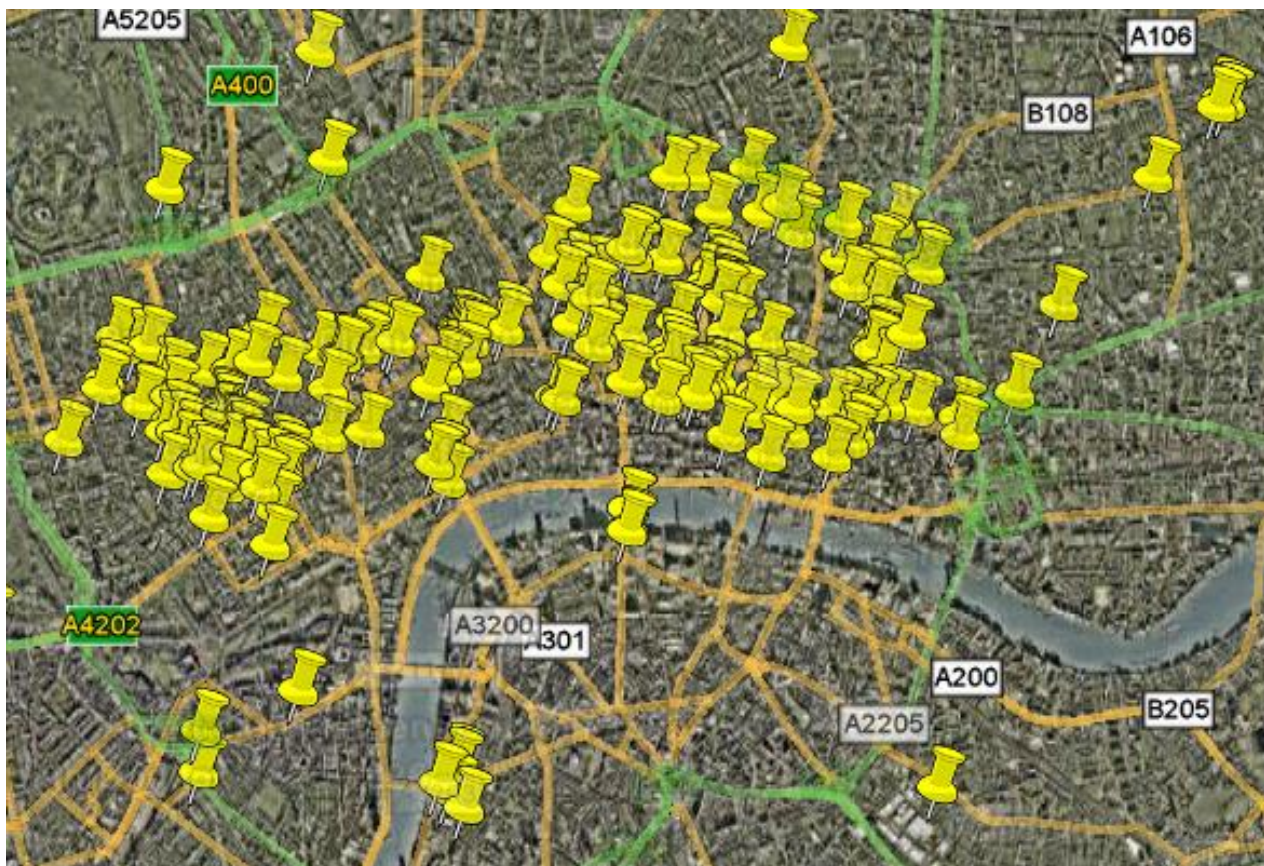
The chronology of London-based Victorian chess manufacturers and retailers becomes clear with the use of many sequential Directories.

Introducing... a grid of these Directory entries – the London Grid.

The image displays a large grid of directory entries, organized into columns labeled A through Z and rows labeled with names or categories. The grid is dense with text, representing a 'London Grid' of chess manufacturers and retailers. The content is repetitive, typical of a directory listing. The grid is organized into columns labeled A through Z and rows labeled with names or categories. The content is dense and repetitive, typical of a directory listing.

The London Directories

Proximity and manufacturing-retailing patterns also becomes clear with the use of sequential London Directories, coupled with geocoding of addresses based on contemporary London maps.



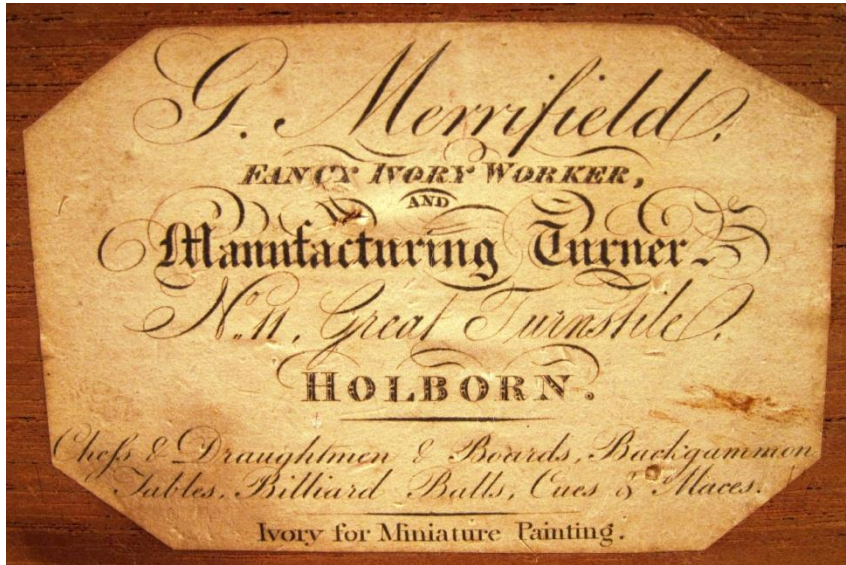
The London Directories

Based on the street addresses and geocoding with Victorian maps, we can see the view from William Lund's store at 24 Fleet street.



The London Directories

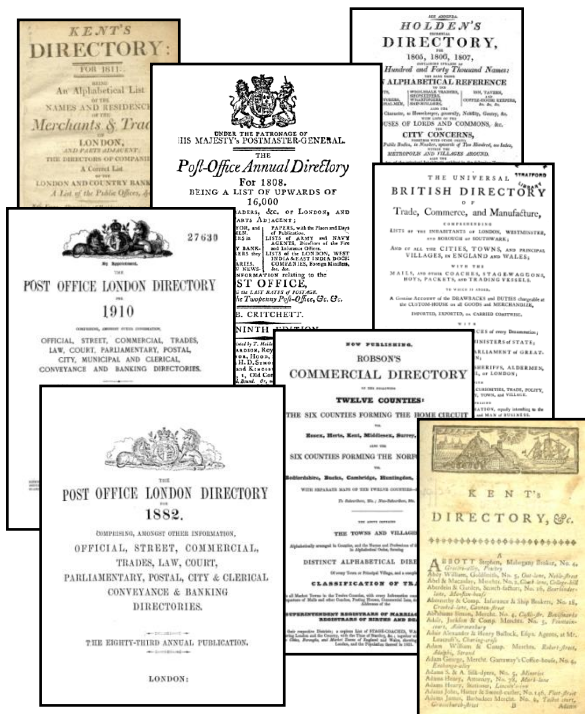
How accurately can we date this set?



George Merrifield
11 Great Turnstile

1819 – 1828

Next on the Agenda...



The London Directories



The Auction Catalog Project

The Auction Catalog Project

Chess collecting can bring more questions than answers.

- Haven't I seen this Kholmogory set somewhere before?
- That type of French faience set and board is supposedly rare. How rare?
- Have the Spanish Pulpit sets risen in value? What's their overall trend? What about other types of sets?
- Hmm... there's a chessboard by Edward Blissatt. Have any other Blissatt chess items ever turned up?
- What was the hammer price of that French figural set in the Cholet auction?
- What are the relative price ranges of Jaques ivory sets – 11cm, 10cm, 9cm, 8cm?
- I recall seeing another set with that same type of bishop, but where and when?
- I've just acquired an interesting set. Has this particular set ever sold in auction?
- How much have similar sets sold for in the past?
- I'm sure I've seen an unusual Soviet Propaganda set – but not in porcelain. It was definitely ivory.



The Auction Catalog Project

It's almost impossible to remember what, when, how much...



...until now.

The Auction Catalog Project

A step-by-step explanation of how the project came to fruition:

1

Acquire as many chess auction catalogs as possible, using the “three-B” technique:

Buy, Beg, Borrow



112 catalogs

2

Photograph all catalog pages that have chess auction lots.



3

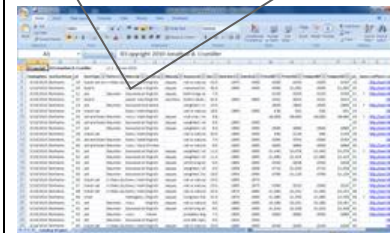
Consolidate the information into a database with chess auction lots, photographs, exchange rates, and inflation rates.



4

Create a spreadsheet that chess collectors can use to find auction lots.

ItemType	Pattern	Material
travel-set and	In Statu Qu	bone / ma
board		rosewood
set	Staunton	boxwood



The Auction Catalog Project

CatalogProject [Compatibility Mode] - Microsoft Excel

Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Developer

Clipboard Font Alignment Number Styles Cells Editing

A1 © Copyright 2010 Jonathan B. Crumiller

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T																									
1	© Copyright 2010 Jonathan B. Crumiller				v1.1 06-Jun-2010																																								
3	CatalogDate	AuctionHouse	Lot	ItemType	Pattern	Material	Country	Manufa	Keywords	Size	DateStart	DateEnd	PriceGBP	PriceUSD	TodayGBP	TodayUSD	Lot	Same	LotPhoto	LotTe																									
4	5/19/2010	Bonhams	19	travel-set an	In Statu Qu	bone / mahc	English	Jaques	red vs natura	23.0	1870	1900	£300	\$433	£300	\$433	19		http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>20</td> <td>board</td> <td></td> <td>rosewood, n</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>rosewood an</td> <td>46.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£696</td> <td>\$1,005</td> <td>£696</td> <td>\$1,005</td> <td>20</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>21</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>both kings st</td> <td>7.0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£240</td> <td>\$346</td> <td>£240</td> <td>\$346</td> <td>21</td> <td>Y</td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>22</td> <td>board</td> <td></td> <td>papier mach</td> <td>English</td> <td>Leuchars</td> <td>Gothic taste</td> <td>52.0</td> <td>1855</td> <td>1865</td> <td>£432</td> <td>\$624</td> <td>£432</td> <td>\$624</td> <td>22</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>23</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood and ebony</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>weighted / in</td> <td>10.0</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>23</td> <td>Y</td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>24</td> <td>travel-set</td> <td></td> <td>bone / mahc</td> <td>English</td> <td></td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>18.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£36</td> <td>\$52</td> <td>£36</td> <td>\$52</td> <td>24</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>25</td> <td>set and boar</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>ivory / mahc</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>club size / re</td> <td>9.8</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£6,000</td> <td>\$8,660</td> <td>£6,000</td> <td>\$8,660</td> <td>25</td> <td>Y</td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>26</td> <td>set and book</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>weighted / wh</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>26</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>27</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>weighted / wh</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>27</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>28</td> <td>travel-set</td> <td></td> <td>bone / mahc</td> <td>English</td> <td></td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>20.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£96</td> <td>\$139</td> <td>£96</td> <td>\$139</td> <td>28</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>29</td> <td>set and boar</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>bone / leath</td> <td>English</td> <td></td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>7.0</td> <td>1830</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£384</td> <td>\$554</td> <td>£384</td> <td>\$554</td> <td>29</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>30</td> <td>set and boar</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>ivory / lacq</td> <td>Chinese</td> <td></td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>8.0</td> <td>1830</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>30</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>31</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>weighted / wh</td> <td>11.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£1,440</td> <td>\$2,078</td> <td>£1,440</td> <td>\$2,078</td> <td>31</td> <td>Y</td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>32</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>weighted / wh</td> <td>11.0</td> <td>1885</td> <td>1895</td> <td>£1,680</td> <td>\$2,425</td> <td>£1,680</td> <td>\$2,425</td> <td>32</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>33</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>white king st</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>1885</td> <td>1895</td> <td>£456</td> <td>\$658</td> <td>£456</td> <td>\$658</td> <td>33</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>34</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>weighted / wh</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>1858</td> <td>1858</td> <td>£720</td> <td>\$1,039</td> <td>£720</td> <td>\$1,039</td> <td>34</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>35</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>weighted / bc</td> <td>10.0</td> <td>1955</td> <td>1965</td> <td>£780</td> <td>\$1,126</td> <td>£780</td> <td>\$1,126</td> <td>35</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>36</td> <td>travel-set</td> <td>In Statu Qu</td> <td>bone / mahc</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>24.0</td> <td>1865</td> <td>1875</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>36</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>37</td> <td>travel-set</td> <td>In Statu Qu</td> <td>bone / mahc</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>25.0</td> <td>1865</td> <td>1875</td> <td>£360</td> <td>\$520</td> <td>£360</td> <td>\$520</td> <td>37</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>38</td> <td>travel-set</td> <td>In Statu Qu</td> <td>bone / mahc</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>42.0</td> <td>1875</td> <td>1885</td> <td>£1,560</td> <td>\$2,252</td> <td>£1,560</td> <td>\$2,252</td> <td>38</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>24</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>39</td> <td>timer</td> <td></td> <td>mahogany, i</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>Congress Che</td> <td>31.0</td> <td>1870</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£1,080</td> <td>\$1,559</td> <td>£1,080</td> <td>\$1,559</td> <td>39</td> <td>Y</td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>41</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>ivory</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£2,280</td> <td>\$3,291</td> <td>£2,280</td> <td>\$3,291</td> <td>41</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>26</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>42</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>white king st</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£1,620</td> <td>\$2,338</td> <td>£1,620</td> <td>\$2,338</td> <td>42</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>43</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>ivory</td> <td>Indian</td> <td></td> <td>probably Ang</td> <td>7.5</td> <td>1830</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>£600</td> <td>\$866</td> <td>43</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>44</td> <td>set</td> <td>Staunton</td> <td>boxwood ar</td> <td>English</td> <td></td> <td>one WN repl</td> <td>9.0</td> <td>1925</td> <td>1935</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>44</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a href="http://</td> </tr> <tr> <td>29</td> <td>5/19/2010</td> <td>Bonhams</td> <td>45</td> <td>travel-set</td> <td>In Statu Qu</td> <td>bone / mahc</td> <td>English</td> <td>Jaques</td> <td>red vs natura</td> <td>23.0</td> <td>1800</td> <td>1900</td> <td>£240</td> <td>\$346</td> <td>£240</td> <td>\$346</td> <td>45</td> <td></td> <td>http://www	<a 26="" 341="" 948="" 971"="" data-label="Page-Footer" href="http://</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Ready Catalog Project 100%</p> </div> <div data-bbox="> <p>Informative Resources for Chess Collectors – v2.8</p>

The Auction Catalog Project

FUN FACTS

What are the top 5 chess set patterns in the auction catalogs?



#1 Staunton



#2 Chinese



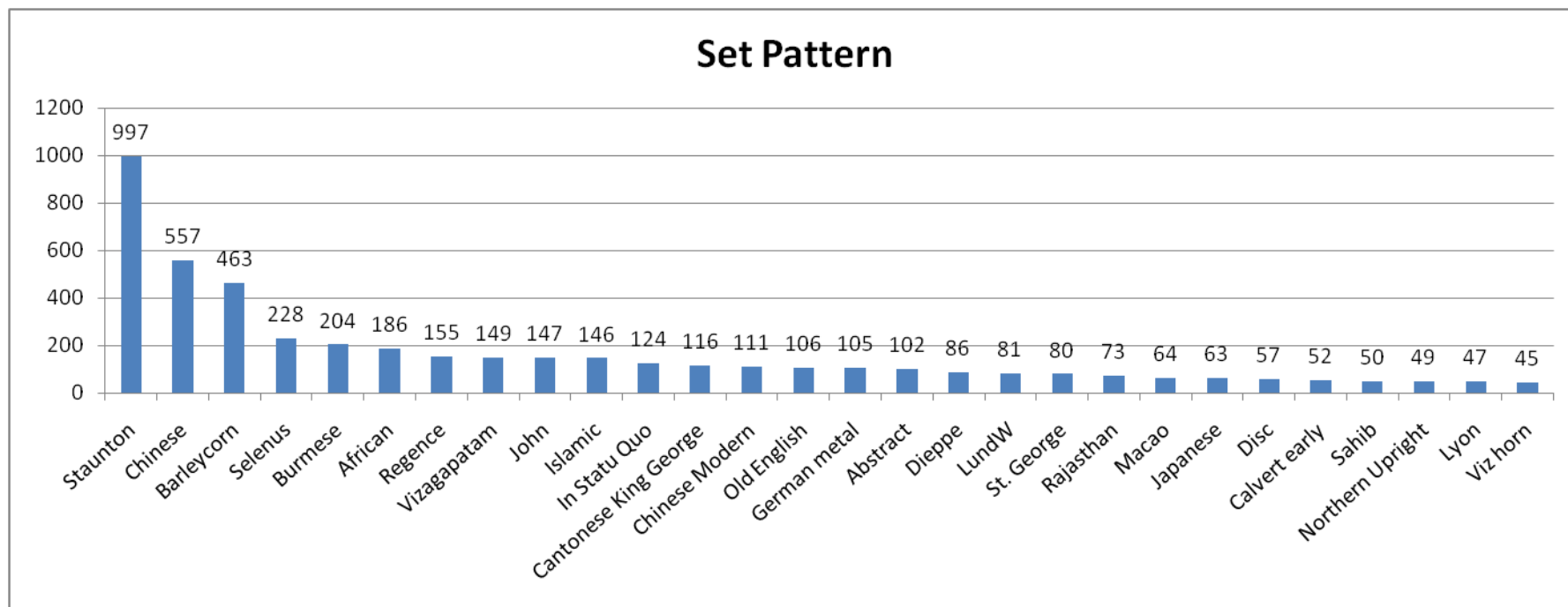
#3 Barleycorn



#4 Selenus



#5 "Burmese"



The Auction Catalog Project

FUN FACTS

Who are the top 5 chess manufacturers in the auction catalogs?

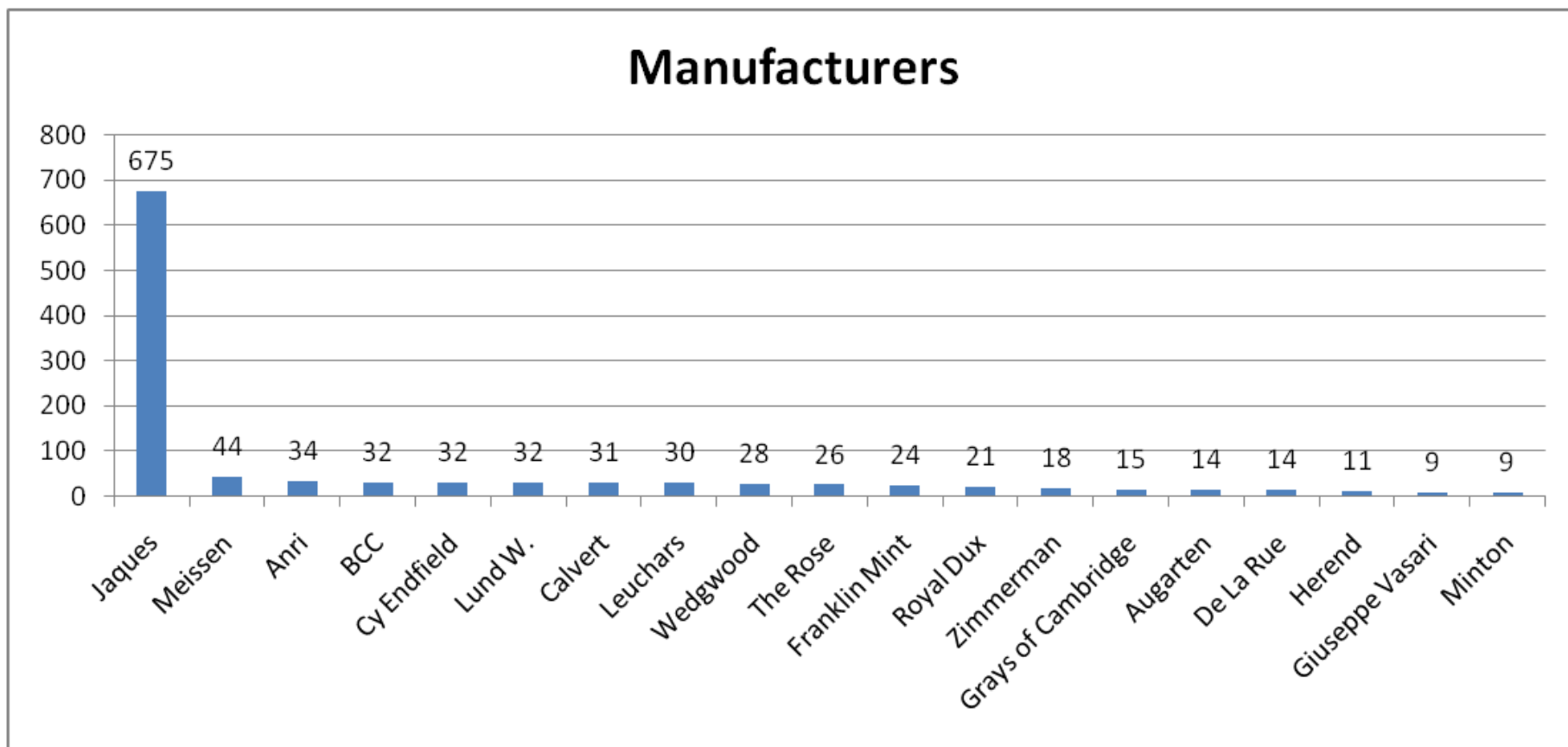
Jaques
#1

Meissen
#2

Anri
#3

BCC
#4

Cy Endfield
#5



The Auction Catalog Project

FUN FACTS

What are the top 5 materials (in the catalogs) used to make chess sets?

ivory

#1

wood

#2

bone

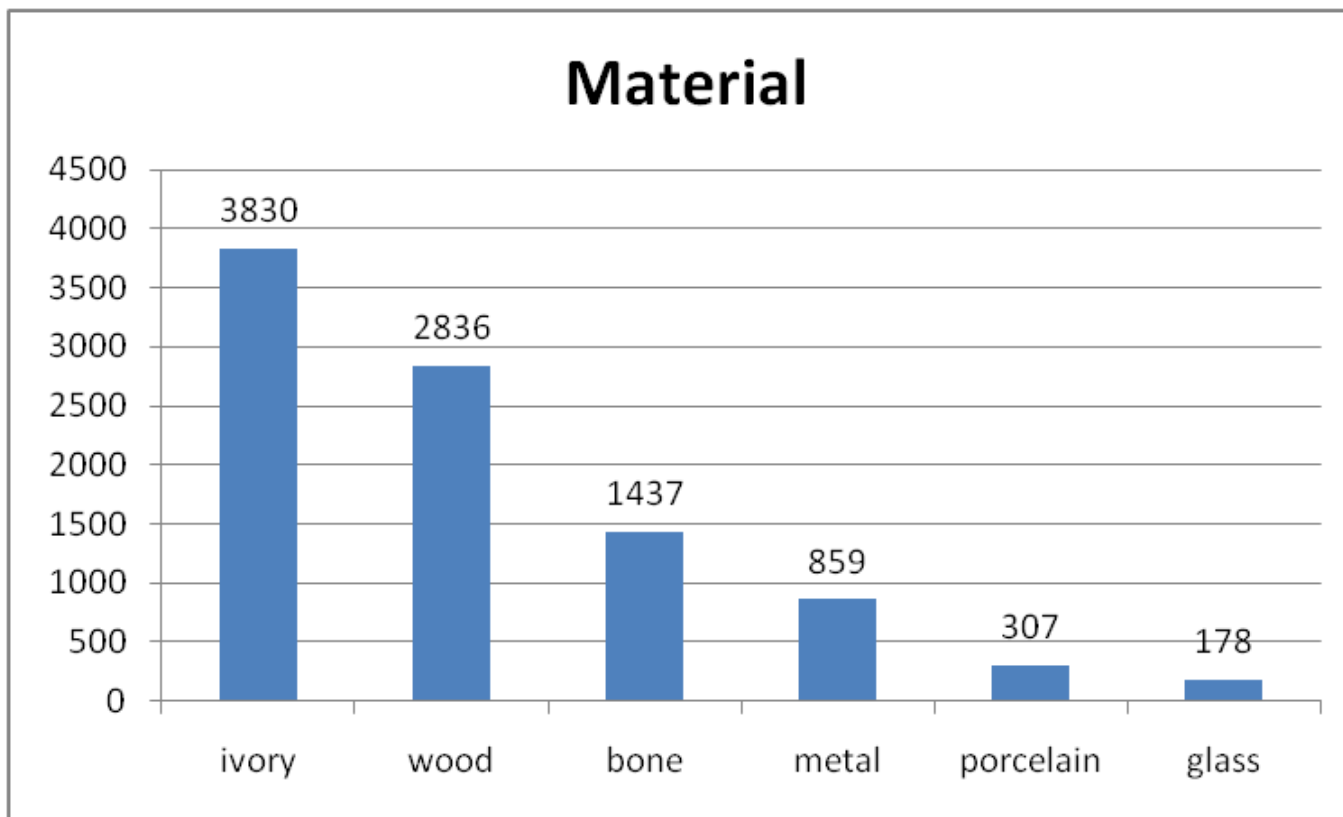
#3

metal

#4

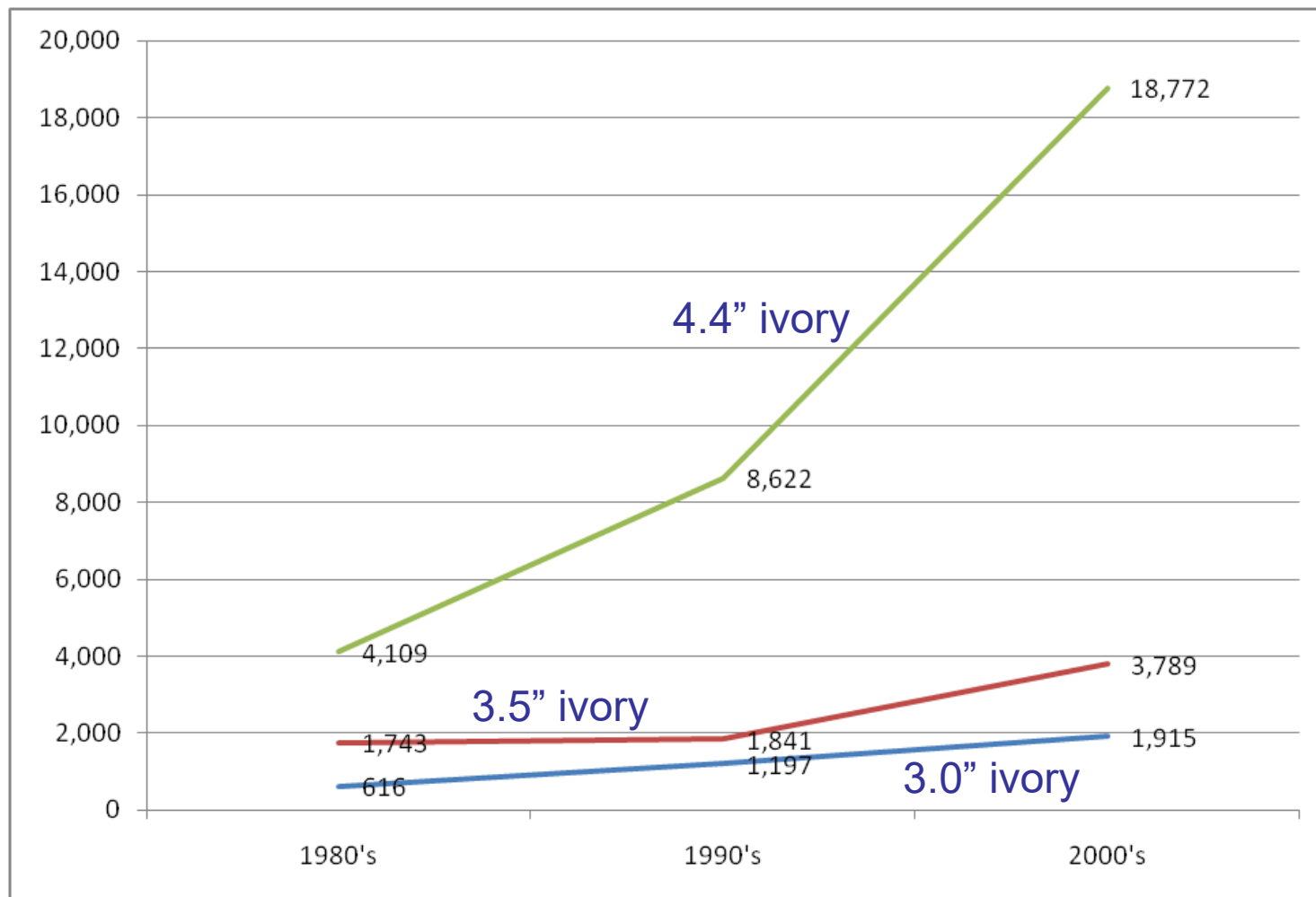
porcelain

#5



The Auction Catalog Project

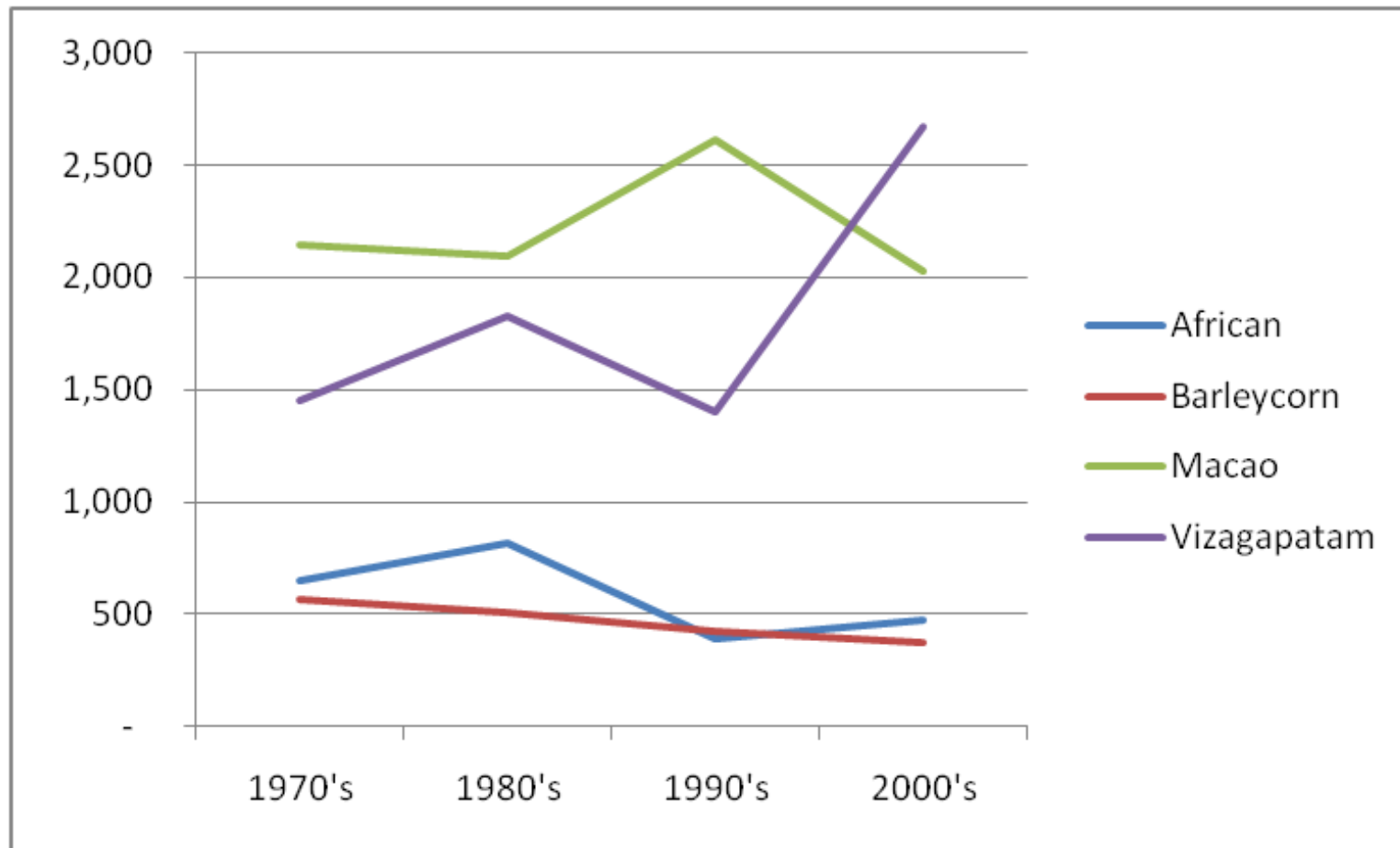
It is even possible to compute the value of Jaques ivory sets over time.



Values are given in today's GBP based on inflation rates

The Auction Catalog Project

...As well as other types of sets.



Values are given in today's GBP based on inflation rates

OK – we’ve covered today’s topics, so...



The London Directories



The Auction Catalog Project

Informative Resources for Chess Collectors

Thanks to the following people who contributed one or more catalogs for the Auction Catalog Project:

Peter Armit

Alan Fersht

Floyd and Bernice Sarisohn

Mick Deasey

Billy and Hope Levene

(I hope I remembered everyone)

Ole Drønen

Michael Mark

You may download these resources from the following web folder:

www.chessreference.com/projects

These projects took a lot of time and effort, so attribution is appreciated.

Thank you for your time and attention today!

