

Bowl

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Restaurant bowl from the Dupuis Frères store. White in color, it has a blue border around the rim. The Dupuis Frères logo appears on the rim.

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Marchand Dupuis Frères

Fabricant / Éditeur W H Grindley

Date 1920 c

Materials ceramics, fine glazed earthenware

Measurements 6,2 x 17,2 cm

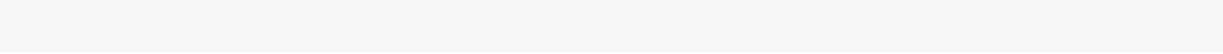
Historical context

This bowl, designed by The Grindley Hotel Ware Co. Ltd, an English manufacturer founded in 1908 in Stoke-on-Trent, is part of a dinner service that once belonged to the restaurant of Montreal department store Dupuis Frères, as its logo indicates. Although the English manufacturer generally produces similar models for the hotel trade, the specific color of this object is unique to Dupuis Frères, making it a very special piece.

This tableware was used in the store's various restaurants. While a lunch counter was present before the 1920s, it was during the 1923 expansion that Dupuis Frères added a restaurant. Over time, this service diversified: there was an employee restaurant on the 6th floor, a snack bar in the basement, and a restaurant for clergy and distinguished guests.

Depending on the period, Dupuis Frères has different sets of crockery. Although closely similar, they can be identified by the logo used. The one on this bowl probably only came into use in the early 1910s. Prior to this period, the store had no official logo.

This emblem was probably created at the instigation of Armand Dugal, a key company executive who arrived in 1912. It is the most iconic Dupuis Frères logo. Representing the store's golden age, it has been reused by the store many times. The visual identity of Dupuis Frères changed many times, however, and this emblem was to be found on the store's wall nameplates until 1970.



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