



Reading through FH Garner's *English Delftware* (1948) to help me attribute a number of pieces of recently acquired English delftware, one of which is shown in the photograph, I came across the following, 'All potteries made delftware of many tints, but the later Lambeth often has a slightly greenish-blue tint and the corresponding Bristol delftware a very light purplish-blue tint, which are quite distinctive once recognised; this latter tint can be seen notably on the Bristol '*bianco sopra bianco*' wares..'

The glaze in the above example certainly does have a hint of purple. Examples of similar Fazackerly style plates having the same glaze colour, now described as lavender, are to be found in the Longridge collection D169¹ and in the V&A C.688-1923². Anthony Ray³ also describes the glaze colour as lavender on a Bristol plate with *bianco sopra bianco* (bsb) decoration; that plate has a completely different polychrome design.

It would be interesting to know if all Bristol bsb wares set off the *bianco* with this lavender coloured glaze. If not then whether the lavender tinge was a later development.

Also was the lavender tinge to the glaze, as FH Garner suggested, confined to 18C Bristol delftware or did it appear on delft wares from other locations?

References

1. Currently <http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/DLDecArts/DLDecArts-idx?type=goto&id=DLDecArts.Longridge02&isize=M&submit=Go+to+page&page=194>
2. <http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O21120/plate-frank-richard/>
3. Ray, Anthony *English Delftware in the Ashmolean Museum* 2000 p70