

## Voysey's aluminium clocks: addendum to *The Orchard* no. 5

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At the time of completing my article on Voysey's aluminium clocks, published in *The Orchard* no. 5, I had not had the opportunity to study in detail the third Voysey aluminium clock that I assumed was the one photographed in *Der Moderne Stil* and therefore exhibited at the 1902 Turin International Exhibition and the 1903 Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society. This clock is now on loan from the Frua-Valsecchi Collection to the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, and I have recently had the opportunity to see and handle it.

I am pleased to say this has confirmed the supposition in my article. That is to say the Frua-Valsecchi clock has the same dial, with the distinctive number "2", as that reproduced in 1904 in *Der Moderne Stil*, Volume VI, plate 59. See comparative images of the clock in figures 1 and 2. It is also not front winding, so distinguishing it from the V&A clock. Its size is identical to the other two clocks suggesting it is from the same castings. The movement is identical to that of the John Scott clock as is the back which has no holes drilled for sound unlike the V&A model. One final observation is that the Frua-Valsecchi clock also has an old glass fitted face over the copper dial, very similar to the John Scott clock. This is an unlikely coincidence and suggests an improvement to the clock introduced at or shortly after original manufacture. It is possible that the original photos of the clock, which suggest no glass dial cover, were taken with the glass covers removed to aid photography and minimise reflections.



Hence to repeat the summary of my full article, the V&A's clock seems not to have been exhibited and presumably, given its provenance, always remained with the Voysey family. The Frua-Valsecchi clock is exactly as shown at the 1902 Turin Exhibition and 1903 Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society and the John Scott clock is possibly from the 1906 New Zealand International Exhibition and certainly the one photographed on the drawing room mantelpiece around 1906 at Holly Mount, built for CT Burke. Voysey's affluent client and inventor WH Tingey assisted with the casting and production of all the clocks at the WC Barker Foundry, Strood.

Photographs © The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge.  
On loan from a private collection.

1, far left  
Voysey aluminium clock as published  
in *Der Moderne Stil*

2, 3 & 4, left and above  
Voysey aluminium clock on loan  
from the Frua-Valsecchi Collection to  
the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge