

NEWSLETTER

45



Winter 1995

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## SOCIETY NEWS

The newsletters are out of synch with the seasons - the autumn issue appeared in winter, and this 'winter' issue will be distributed in spring (although as it has recently snowed I shan't feel too guilty!). The next issue, *SCPR 46*, will be compiled during April/early May in an effort to 'catch up', so if anyone has any items to send for inclusion please get them to me as soon as possible.

This issue has been a delight to compile: it contains items from members who haven't contributed before, as well as from frequent contributors, and also includes one of those coincidences that seem to happen now and again in the form of the article on grates by Allan Peacey and the item on the Worcester inventory which appears to include a mention of a grate. Work by members seems to have inspired other members to write or comment and I hope this continues to happen - feedback and comment are so important. Family history researchers are still writing, hoping for information about their ancestors and wanting to make contact with SCPR researchers. Apparently contacts *are* being made and some useful information is being exchanged; this issue includes articles written from differing viewpoints, one on the Turpin family and the importance of their pipes, and one on the Holland family by a descendant.

### Photographs

In the 'Notes for contributors' in *SCPR 44* I mentioned the possibility of scanning in photos. When I took the newsletter to the printer, she decided to scan in the two photos taken at the Beverley Conference; both then photocopied much better than if the originals had been used. Therefore, if anyone is thinking of sending in a photo, it should scan and photocopy reasonably well, provided the originals are not too dark.

### Stockholm meeting, 1-2 July 1995

Please remember to contact Arne Akerhagen as soon as possible if you are interested in attending; details were given in the last newsletter.

# THE ENIGMATIC 'N.W.': MORE EVIDENCE

Lloyd Edwards

'N.W.' is believed to have worked in Newcastle upon Tyne producing pipes of Tyneside Types 1-3 some time during the period c.1635 to 1675. His identity remains a mystery, although in *SCPR 25* it was suggested that he may have been a relative of the Newcastle tobacconist William Wilkinson who died in 1670. In 1988 it was thought that he had used a total of seven stamps, including six heart-shaped stamps on the base of the heel (Edwards 1988). To that list can be added a further three similar stamps, now referred to as 'N.W.' 8-10. The number of stamps now known for this pipemaker might suggest that he was working during much of the period c.1635 to 1675.

## 'N.W.' 8

'N.W.' with a ribbon above and below each initial. A single example known, on a Tyneside Type 2a/b bowl. Stem bore 7/64. Discovered in Newcastle in 1986-7 (Nolan *et al.* 1989).

## 'N.W.' 9

'N.W.' (reversed N) with star/pellet above each letter and an inverted foliate design below. A single example known, with bowl missing. Stem bore 8/64. Discovered in Durham City, 1989-92 (Edwards forthcoming).



Fig.1 'N.W.' stamps

## 'N.W.' 10

'N.W.' (reversed N) with pellet above each letter and a single ribbon below. Two examples known:

a) Tyneside Type 1a bowl. Stem bore 6/64.

b) Tyneside Type 3b bowl. Stem bore 7/64.

Discovered in a group of nine pipes marked 'Q.H.D.', and forming part of the J.E. Parsons Collection. This appears to be a small group from an excavation of unknown date or location. Eight of the pipes are of Tyneside Types produced before c.1690, and include an example of 'N.W.' stamp number 2 on a Tyneside Type 3b bowl. The ninth pipe is an Ally Slope(r) type of bowl of late 19th/early 20th century date.

## References

- Edwards, L.J., 1988, *Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century Tyneside Tobacco Pipe Makers and Tobacconists*, BAR 192
- Edwards, L.J., forthcoming, in A. Allen and M. Roberts, 'Excavations at Old Durham Gardens, Durham City, 1989-92'
- Nolan, J., R. Fraser, B. Harbottle, F.C. Burton, 1989, 'The medieval defences of Newcastle upon Tyne. Excavation and survey 1986-7', in *Archaeologia Aeliana*, 29-78

\* \* \* \* \*

## Exhibition: A Pipe Full of History!

29 March to 14 May 1995

Lloyd Edwards has organized a clay pipe exhibition at Bede's World, Jarrow Hall, Church Bank, Jarrow, Tyne and Wear. Pipes from the J.E. Parsons Collection and from various excavations in the area, including Jarrow and Monkwearmouth, are on display. There are also biographical details of pipemakers and tobacconists, and probate documents.

## ROBERT CARPENTER OF BATH

Bruce Waddell

Marek Lewcun's recently published article in *Bath History* (Lewcun 1994) was of great interest to me as I have spent many hours walking in ploughed fields to the north-east of Bath where some of the pipes mentioned by Marek are often found.

Marek includes a discussion of the work of Robert Carpenter (1674-1738/9) who started his trade c.1695, producing pipes with stamped heels which are now so rare that no complete bowl has been found as yet. The scarcity of these pipes may be due to the 17th-century heeled pipes being superseded by the early 18th-century spurred form. The maker's mark was subsequently transferred to a position on top of the stem, a short distance from the bowl.

During my walks in the fields, I have collected a good number of bowls although the majority are plain. The pipes which are stamped (either on the heel or the stem) tend to be of Bath manufacture, but the occasional Bristol mark also occurs.

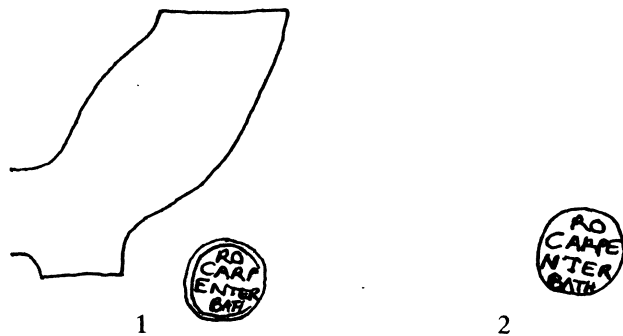


Fig.2 Nos 1-2 Robert Carpenter, Bath

I am pleased to say that in my collection from this area, I have 1 complete bowl, 9 broken heels marked with Robert Carpenter's most common stamp (Fig.2, No.1), and 2 broken heels with his rarest stamp (No.2). I hope in the future to find a complete bowl stamped as in Fig.2, No.2, but only time and luck will tell!

### Reference

Lewcun, Marek, 1994, 'The clay tobacco pipemaking industry of Bath', *Bath History V* [photocopies of this article are available from Marek; see *SCPR 44* for details (address inside front cover)]

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## A NEEDINGWORTH PIPEMAKER

Adrian Oswald (address inside front cover) has sent the following copy of a birth certificate in the Register Book of Births in the District of St Ives, in the counties of Huntingdon and Cambridge (from the file of the late Hugh Oak Rhind):

*15th June 1855 at Needingworth. Boy William Smith.  
Father. Thomas Reynolds Pipe Maker Master. Mother  
Mary Ann Reynolds formerly Smith [She made a mark]*

Thomas Reynolds occurs in directories at St Ives for the years 1850-85. Needingworth is a medium-sized village about 2 miles east of St Ives.

A Thomas Reynolds is recorded c. 1848-55 at Leighton Buzzard (Gault 1979, 403) and in 1856 onwards at Birmingham (Peter Hammond, pers comm; Peter can confirm that the Needingworth Reynolds is not the same Thomas of Leighton Buzzard and later of Birmingham.)

### Reference

Gault, W.R., 1979, 'County lists of clay tobacco pipe makers', BAR 63

**THOMAS MORGAN OF LONDON,  
PIPEMAKER AND MURDERER**

**Marek Lewcun**

The following account is taken from several editions of the *Bath Journal* in the 18th century, and will be of interest to researchers:

*Bath Journal*, Monday 26 August 1745

'LONDON, August 22 ... Tuesday about Noon, the Wife of one Thomas Morgan, a Pipe-maker in Bedfordbury, was found murder'd in her Room having fifteen Wounds about her, supposed to be given to her by her Husband, who was with her about half an Hour before, when she was heard by the Neighbours to cry out Murder; but it was what they had heard so frequently that they paid no Regard to it. He immediately made off.'

*Bath Journal*, Monday 9 September 1745

'LONDON, September 5 ... Thomas Morgan the Pipe-maker, who murdered his wife in Bedfordbury, is secured and heavy loaded with Irons in Oxford-Castle.'

*Bath Journal*, Monday 23 September 1745

'LONDON, September 17 ... Saturday the Sessions ended at the Old Bailey, when the following Persons receiv'd Sentence of Death, viz. Thomas Morgan, a Pipe-maker, for the murder of his wife in Bedfordbury, Covent-Garden.'

The above is just one of a number of items of interest resulting from an on-going page-by-page search of the *Bath Journal*, which was first published on 26 February 1744. The newspaper has already produced numerous references to local manufacturers and journeymen, ranging from fires at workshops to pipemakers hanging themselves. It is anticipated that further references to pipemakers will be found as the search progresses; any items of interest to researchers outside Bath (such as the following item) will appear in the SCPR Newsletter in due course.

**KENT PIPEMAKING PARTNERSHIP BANKRUPT**

**Marek Lewcun**

The following appears in the *Bath Journal* of Monday 14 November 1757 (microfilm copy, Bath Reference Library):

'Sunday's and Monday's Posts. London, November 12.  
Bankrupts. William Herbert and Edward Slater, late of Chatham, in Kent, Pipe-makers and Co-partners'

\* \* \* \* \*

**'RUN-AWAY'**

G. Berlyn writes: I came across the advertisement (below) in an early Shropshire newspaper, the *Shrewsbury Chronicle* (No.751, 28 October 1786, Vol.XV; Shrewsbury Record Office). It poses several questions such as was Thomas Legg a hard employer, were working conditions very harsh, or was Eleanor simply homesick? We might never know!

**R U N - A W A Y.**  
**W**Hereas **ELEANOR BAILEY**, (late of the Parish of Roddington, in this County) an Apprentice to Thomas Legg, Pipemaker, of the Parish of Brosley, did on the 12th of this Instant, (without any just Cause) Elope from her Place. Had on when she went away, a Striped-Linley Gown, a Woollen Hat, and a Pair of Boy's Shoes. — Whoever (after this Notice) shall Refuse or Detain the said Apprentice, shall be Prosecuted as the Law directs, by Thomas Legg, of Brosley aforesaid.

## BROSELEY PIPEWORKS

Rex Key

Pipemaking was once again carried out at the famous Broseley pipeworks in September 1994, at the original work benches, and with the original equipment - though perhaps not with the original skill.

Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, with Bridgnorth District Council and English Heritage and European grants, is turning the premises into a museum telling the story of the local clay tobacco pipe industry.

On 10 and 11 September 1994 more than 1,000 people visited the former Southorn's pipeworks for a glimpse of how the project is progressing. The occasion was part of a number of Civic Trust Heritage Open Days up and down the country. Further work has to be carried out on the buildings before the public can be allowed in on a regular basis, from late this year.

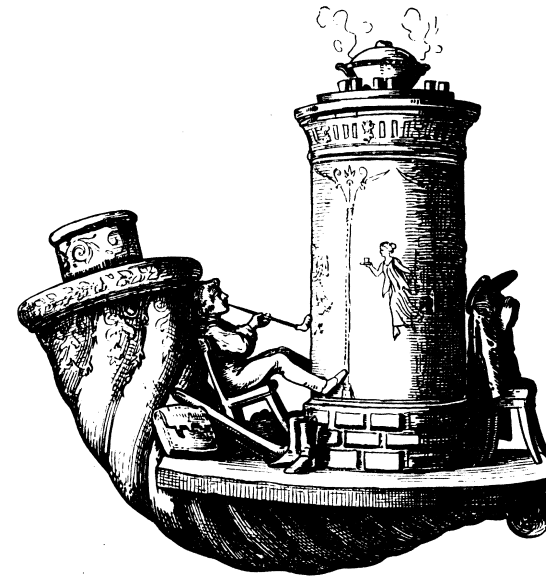
Friends of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum have spent several years cleaning and cataloguing documents and business records dating back nearly 100 years that had lain undisturbed in the factory for 30 years while it remained closed as a veritable time capsule. Some of these items were displayed with more than 200 Smitheman and Southorn pipes collected by me.

The local radio station broadcast live from the pipeworks for a couple of hours and the highlight of the weekend was the making of unfired pipes on site, with advice offered by a number of former Southorn employees who attended. Their recollections and anecdotes date back to the 1920s.

[*Editor's note:* the SCPR conference in 1995 will be held at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum (*see* p.32); the previous item concerns an apprentice of the Broseley maker, Thomas Legg; a request for information comes from a descendant of the Southorn family on p.20.]

## A 19TH-CENTURY ENGRAVING

Daniel Schavelzon (Arqueologia Urbana, Universidad de Buenos Aires, 1428 Buenos Aires, Argentina) has sent the following illustration from *Die Kunst des 19. Jahrhunderts*, suppl. der *Kunsthistorischen Bidelrbogen* (Leipzig, 1884), Verlag von E.A. Seeman. The artist of the engraving is Schwind.



## FAMILIES AND THE PIPEMAKING TRADE

### FURTHER EVIDENCE ON THE ORIGINS OF THE 'LINCOLN' STYLE OF BOWL MARKING

Peter Hammond

Documentary research frequently reveals that many pipe-making families were inter-related, and this in turn is useful in determining the way in which workshops changed hands and can show how particular styles of pipes may have been disseminated over a given region. Walker and Wells have already discussed how the so-called 'Lincoln' style of pipes developed in this way from the mid-18th century onwards (Walker and Wells 1979). These comprise pipes with bowls bearing the maker's name and town in relief around the rim, often combined with a fluted decoration, though other designs include wheatsheaves, and slaves kneeling to the figure of Liberty - the latter often has the writing in a ribbon below the decoration instead of around the rim. My own research into Nottinghamshire pipemakers and their pipes has demonstrated how this style spread into the county from Lincolnshire with the arrival of the pipemaker John Turpin, who moved from Lincoln to Newark in 1776 (Hammond 1985). When following up details of the Turpin family, further interesting links were discovered at Boston in Lincolnshire, and because these modify the conclusions given in the paper by Walker and Wells, it was felt desirable to publish the information in detail.

John Turpin of Newark was born in Lincoln in 1750, and baptised at St Martins on 19 December of that year, the son of Richard Turpin and his wife Ann (nee Sharpe). It is not known whether Richard Turpin was also a pipemaker but it is certainly possible because John's older brother William, who was baptised 9 April 1749, also became a pipemaker. Possibly both brothers served under a Lincoln maker such as James Naylor, though there is no evidence so far that they were actually apprenticed. William Turpin married a Mary Winn at St Martins on 27 November 1772, whilst his brother John married Alice Tenman of Boston at St Swithins in Lincoln ten days later on 7 December (at which time Alice was over eight months pregnant). The *Lincoln Poll Book* of



*Location map of Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire*

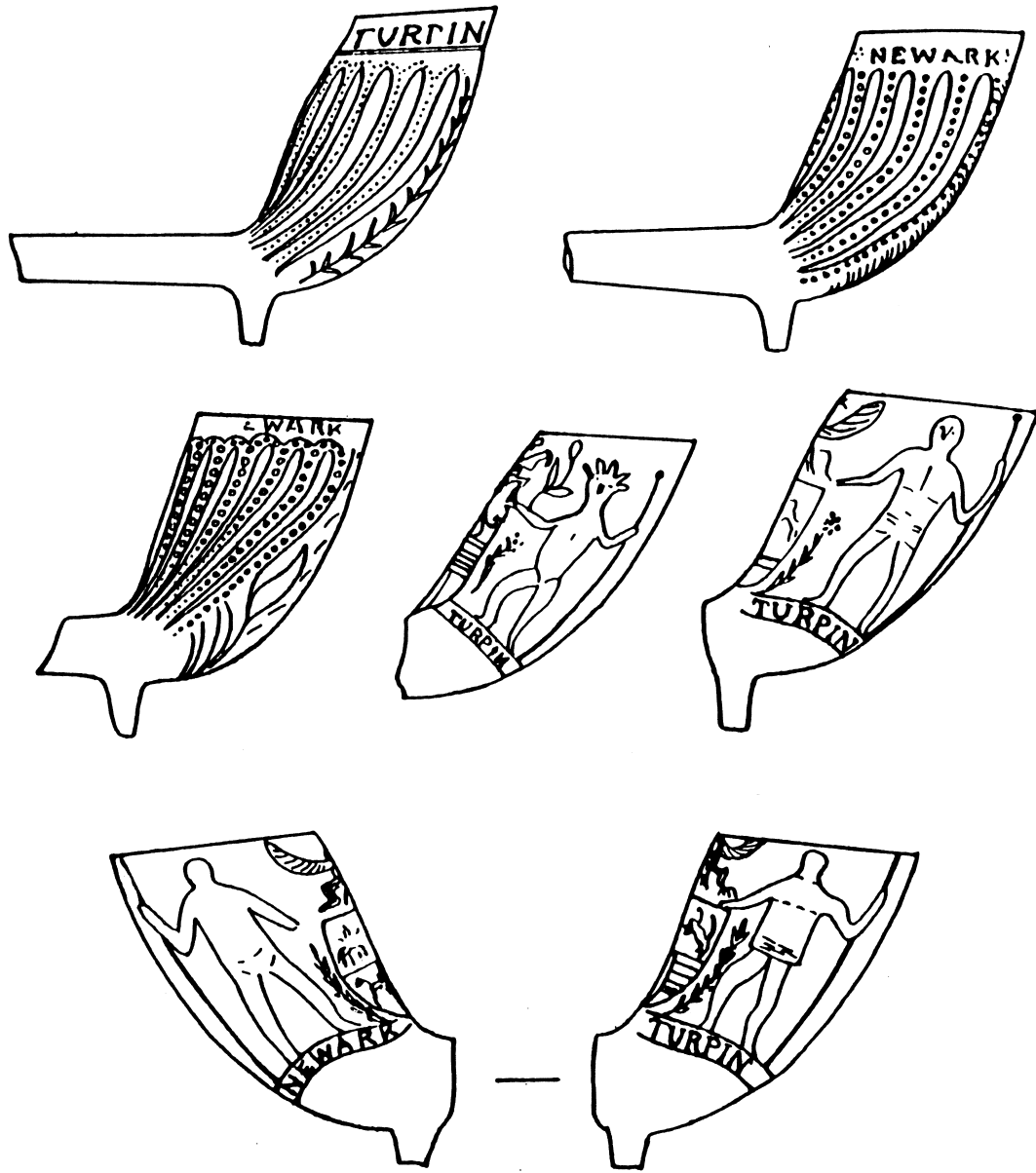


Fig.3 Turpin of Newark

1774 shows that William Turpin had moved to Boston by that year, whilst a settlement certificate dated 19 October 1776 confirms the date when John Turpin and his wife and two children moved from Lincoln to Newark. Here John operated a workshop on Appleton Gate and evidently prospered for he built some property there in 1807. He remained in Newark for the rest of his life, transferring the running of the pipemaking business to his eldest son, William, c.1805 after which John Turpin was generally described as a gentleman. Both John and his son William produced 'Lincoln' style pipes marked TURPIN - NEWARK (Fig.3).

Meanwhile, William Turpin of Boston was producing fluted pipes marked TURPIN - BOSTON which were strikingly similar to those produced by his brother (illustrated in Walker and Wells 1979, 14, fig.4, no.7). They were also very similar to those produced by the Lincoln maker James Naylor whom Walker and Wells suggest was the originator of the 'Lincoln' style (Fig.4). Whether Lincoln was the place where this style of pipe was first produced is still a matter of conjecture; Hull could easily have an equal claim, as illustrated by Gareth Watkins at the 1994 SCPR Conference. However, as far as Lincoln is concerned, James Naylor clearly had a strong influence within the local pipemaking community, taking on no less than nine apprentices - at least three of whom (John Hurst, William Bartram and his son John) went on to produce pipes of a similar style. Contemporary with pipes made by James Naylor are ones marked ROBINSON LINCOLN (illustrated in Walker and Wells 1979, 14, fig.4, no.2), but despite exhaustive searches, this maker still remains unidentified. Perhaps, like Drury of Newark (discussed in Hammond 1985) he may have been a merchant or grocer rather than specifically a pipemaker.

James Naylor's son John had moved to Boston by 1768 as he is listed in a Poll Book of that year. Hence he moved there prior to William Turpin, and assuming that 'Lincoln' style pipes were in production by then he would have been the first Lincoln maker to introduce this form of marking elsewhere (see Fig.4). The fact that it was in production by 1774 is suggested by both the Turpin brothers adopting identical forms of marking following their respective moves to Boston and Newark, though the possibility of one being influenced by the other at a subsequent date cannot be discounted. Fluted bowl forms are described as an English bowl form by the Frenchman Duhamel du Monceau



(1771) and it is clear that James Naylor would have had ample time to popularise this style with the 'Lincoln' form of marking for we know that he did not retire until 1787. In that year his latest apprentice, James Kew, who had served two years of his apprenticeship was reassigned to the pipemaker John Hurst (previously apprenticed to Naylor in 1771) and in his will dated 4 June 1787 James Naylor described himself as a yeoman (LAO, LCC 1788/126). He died at the age of 77 in early February 1788, and was buried in his home parish of St Swithins.

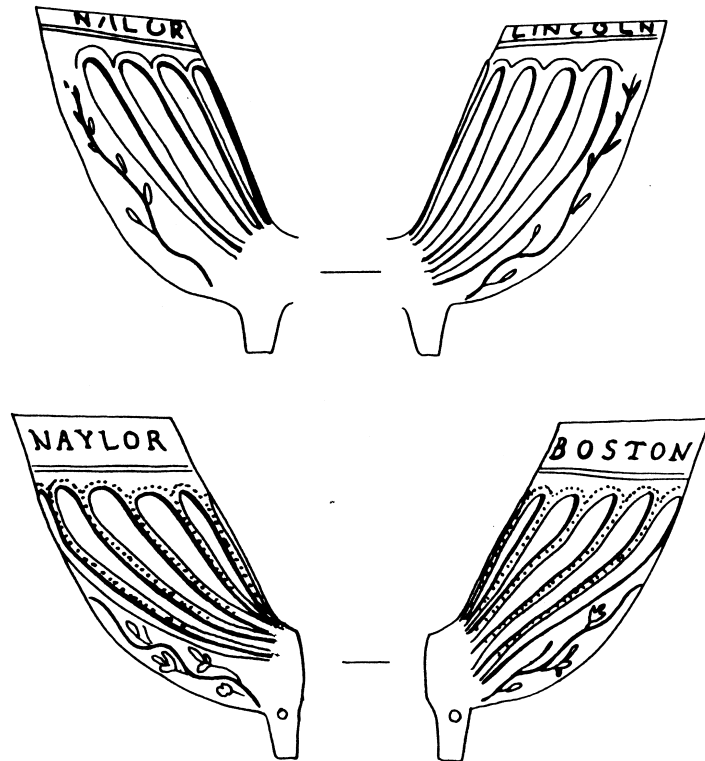


Fig.4 Naylor

Lincoln Poll Books for 1780 and 1790 list John Turpin of Newark and William Turpin of Boston, the latter Poll Book describing William as a pipemaker of Goat Street. In January 1785 William Turpin witnessed the marriage settlement of a Miss Susanna Morton to William Ingelow of Boston, gent, and the document was also witnessed by a William Squire of Boston, merchant (LAO, 2 Chat 1/354). William Squire must have been a close friend of Turpin for future documents confirm his close association. In 1789 following the death of John Turpin's father-in-law, Henry Tenman of Boston, letters of administration were signed by his widow Alice and also William Squire. William Turpin died in August 1795 at the age of 46, and his administration, dated 2 October 1795 was signed by 'Mary Turpin, widow and relict of William Turpin, late of Boston, pipemaker deceased' (LAO, Admons of Henry Tenman of Boston, 1789, and William Turpin of Boston, 1795). Other signatories were again William Squire, and also John Naylor, pipemaker - confirming too the close association with the Naylors.

Mary Turpin obviously required assistance in the pipemaking workshop for it was at about this time that John Winn (presumably Mary's brother) and his wife Charlotte arrived from Lincoln. Confirmation that their move took place in this period is borne out by the births of their children in Lincoln up until 1792 and in Boston from 1797. Again it is not known whether John Winn was pipemaking prior to his move to Boston or whether he was thrown in at the deep end but in either case he was soon producing 'Lincoln' style pipes marked WINN - BOSTON.

On 26 July 1796, less than a year after William Turpin's death, his widow Mary was married to William Squire by licence, and henceforth William Squire took responsibility for the pipemaking workshop, though it seems likely that John Winn occupied it or at least assisted in its operation. No pipes are known to the author that are marked SQUIRE

BOSTON and therefore it would appear that the Turpin moulds continued to be used. However, even if Squire did produce marked pipes, their period of manufacture would have been very brief, because he died five years later on 25 June 1801, when he was aged 60 years. Both he and William Turpin were commemorated on the same gravestone in Skirbeck churchyard. In his will, dated 29 May 1801, William Squire, who still described himself as a merchant, bequeathed to his wife Mary:

all my stock of tobacco pipes and the clay and materials for the making of the same, together with all the working tools, utensils, fixtures, and other things belonging to the business of a pipe maker which shall be at the time of my decease remain on hand and be in and about the several offices and places used for the purpose of making, burning and vending of pipes, and also all and every the book debts and sums of money due and owing to me on account of the said business of a pipe maker by and from any person or persons whomsoever, she my said wife paying thereout all the debts which shall be due and owing from me at the time of my decease on account of the said business of a pipe maker as aforesaid

His total estate was valued at under £5,000 - a very considerable sum and much higher than the £600 stated for William Turpin (LAO, 1801/ii/221).

Mary Squire took responsibility for the workshop for another one and a half years and then retired in favour of John Winn, who, as mentioned, is likely to have been her brother. A notice was published in the *Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury* of 28 January 1803 as follows:

M. SQUIRE, Pipe-maker, BOSTON begs leave humbly to return Thanks to the trade of Boston and its vicinity for the many Favors [sic] she has received in the PIPE-MAKING Business; and to inform that she has DECLINED the same in Favour of Mr. JOHN WINN.

Mr. J. WINN, PIPE-MAKER, WEST STREET, BOSTON, begs leave to inform the Trade of Boston and its vicinity that he has taken the Stock in Trade of MRS. SQUIRE, she having declined Business in his favour.

Those who please to honor [sic] him with their Commands, may depend upon every Attention being paid, and all Favors gratefully acknowledged.

25th January 1803

It is certainly not a coincidence that the following child born to John and Charlotte Winn, who was baptised on 21 October 1803, was named Mary Ann Squire Winn (she unfortunately died at the age of 3 in 1807). John Winn appears to have continued manufacturing pipes until his death in 1831 at the age of 73. His son Robert also became a pipemaker, marrying in 1813, and working until he pre-deceased his father at the age of 39 in 1828. Hence pipes marked WINN - BOSTON would have been made within the twenty-eight-year period 1803 to 1831 and possibly even longer if John Winn was also marking them with his own name when his brother-in-law and his sister were in charge from 1795.

Following the death of John Winn, the workshop was taken over by Joseph Manning and James Rylott, and became known as Manning, Rylott & Co., listed in directories between 1835 and 1849. Ownership of the property, however, was still in the hands of the Turpin family and remained so for many more years. We know this because when John Turpin of Newark made his will on 24 April 1823 he bequeathed to his son William his property in Appleton Gate, Newark, and to his son Richard, cabinet maker, his freehold land in Skirbeck Quarter and his 'three tenements with the Pipe Offices and Appurtenances thereto belonging situate standing and being in West Street in Boston' which he states were formerly the property of his late brother William deceased (NAO, PRNW John Turpin, 1824). It is not yet known precisely how the Boston premises passed to John Turpin but this was presumably in trust from either William or his former wife after the decease of her second husband William Squire. Confirmation that Richard Turpin continued to own the property is revealed in a surviving Book of Reference submitted by the East Lincolnshire Railway in 1845, partial details of which have been referred to by Wells (1979, 129). Any

railway company planning new lines and extensions had to submit detailed plans of their proposals along with full details of the ownership, occupancy and use of all property concerned. In this respect we are fortunate that the East Lincolnshire Railway was planned to have been built in this part of Boston though in reality it was later built further to the west and thus the buildings within its original proposed line were rerieved. The Book of Reference describes a corner plot on the west corner of Pipe Office Lane and West Street comprising three houses and yards which are very small on the plan (two of them being unoccupied) along with Pipemaker's Workshops and a yard actually fronting West Street in the occupation of Joseph Manning and James Rylott (LAO, Holland CC/346). They also occupied a large yard to the north of the small houses in Pipe Office Lane which was presumably used for storage or stabling. Richard Turpin was stated as being the owner at that time. We know from the census that both Rylott and Manning were residing in nearby Rosegarth Street in both 1841 and 1851, and Directory entries confirm that the West Street workshop must have ceased operation by 1849 with subsequent manufacturing of pipes taking place in Rosegarth Street. Locations of both the West Street and Rosegarth Street workshops have been drawn by Wells (1972), and the Rosegarth Street kiln has been excavated and published (Wells 1970). Both James Rylott and Joseph Manning died soon after the 1851 census, Rylott being buried at the age of 49 on 26 November 1852 and Manning at the age of 55 on 16 November 1854 (LAO, Boston parish registers). Neither left a will.

In their paper, Walker and Wells assumed that William Turpin listed in Newark after 1805 must have been the same William as that previously in Boston. We now know that they were different people, William of Newark being the eldest son of John Turpin, and William of Boston was John Turpin's older brother. Therefore the map showing the development of the Lincoln style of marking shown as fig.8 (Walker and Wells 1979, 22) should be modified by deleting the line from Boston to Newark and replacing it with one from Lincoln to Newark (though as stated, the Turpin link between Newark and Boston may still be valid to some extent if the brothers influenced each other's products). Furthermore, the Newark date can be revised to 1776 while that for Boston can be amended to 1768. Clearly further work is now required on Hull pipes and makers from this period in order to better determine the actual origins of the so-called 'Lincoln' style of marking.

### Acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge Lincolnshire Archives Office, Nottinghamshire Archives Office, Lincoln City Archaeology Unit, Newark Museum and Boston Museum for their assistance in the preparation of this article. The illustrated pipes belong to the above mentioned museums. Finally I wish to thank Peter Wells for helpful correspondence over the years.

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## FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCHERS

Miss Caroline Mosey (Flat No.8, 7 St Gregory's Road, Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6UH) has written to say that her mother's maiden name was HOPWOOD, and her grandfather, great-uncle, and great-grandfather were all clay-pipemakers in SCARBOROUGH from about 1817 to 1875. The latter, THOMAS HOPWOOD, moved from Leeds to Scarborough in about 1815. She would very much like to know if he was apprenticed to the trade in Leeds. He would have been 33 in 1815.

She is also very interested in MANASSEH LONSDALE, another pipemaker in Leeds. A directory of 1841 shows him working in Golden Cock Yard. Thomas Hopwood married Elizabeth Lonsdale, and there is a close connection between the families in that Manasseh called one of his daughters Elizabeth Hopwood Lonsdale. Manasseh also moved to Scarborough where he became innkeeper at the 'Leeds Tavern' (1851 census). He was then aged 52. Caroline wants to find out just what the relationship was, but so far has not found his baptism in Leeds, or an apprenticeship. She has sent a copy of the poem written in 1870 about her great-grandfather, Joseph Lonsdale Hopwood (see *SCPR 41* (Winter 1994), p.25, where some of the verses have been reproduced).

Nicholas Young (11 Lakeside, London W13 8HN) is a descendant of the Southern pipemaking family of Broseley, Shropshire. EDWIN SOUTHORN (1820-76) married Judith Menhinick on 22 December 1852 in St Breoke, Cornwall. Nicholas would be interested to hear from anyone who has evidence that Edwin Southorn got the clay for his pipes from Judith's father's farm. He has traced the Southorn family back to 1540; their paths cross other well-known pipemaking families, notably the Rodens of Broseley, Noah, Samuel and Thomas. During the 17th century the Rodens intermarried with the Deakin/Deacon family of pipemakers. If anyone has information on any of the families mentioned Nicholas would be very pleased to hear from them.

Mrs Shirley Toms (36 Aroona Avenue, Buddina 4575, Queensland, Australia) has been tracing her husband's ancestors and has found that GEORGE PYE was a clay pipe manufacturer in Midlothian, Edinburgh, Scotland. On 9 September 1850 he married Margaret Robertson. One of their sons, Archibald Robertson Pye, went out to New Zealand in 1854 and married a Mary Ann Amos who was born in Kent (UK). Mrs Toms would like to correspond with anyone with information on clay pipe manufacture and anyone interested in the Pye family. She has a lot more information on the Pye family if anyone is interested.

Mrs Jean Skinner (1/105 East Tamaki Road, Papatoetoe, Auckland, New Zealand) has at least two ancestors who were pipemakers: her 3rd great-grandfather was JOSEPH FLANDERS, born 21 January 1812 in King's Lynn, Norfolk. His factory was at 5 St Anns Street. GEORGE FLANDERS, born in Peterborough in 1798, is mentioned in a census, with two of his children, Algernon and Mary, who also made clay pipes. Joseph's parents were ROBERT (born 1771), a pipemaker, and Elizabeth (née Witton), who were married in 1797 in Peterborough. Joseph, married to Mahala Bown, was the last of the family to make clay pipes. Mrs Skinner's uncle, Harry Flanders, who still lives in King's Lynn, recalls how he used to wear a tall black hat and would load up his barrow with his pipes and take them around the town to sell.

[Editor's note: Atkin 1985 lists George Flanders, 1839; Robert, 1822-45; and Joseph, 1846-88. Figure 5 illustrates two bowls marked RF, presumably Robert (KLM, DLS 154 and DLS 180): from S. Atkin, 'The clay pipe-making industry in Norfolk', *Norfolk Archaeology*, XXXIX, pt II (1985), 118-49.]

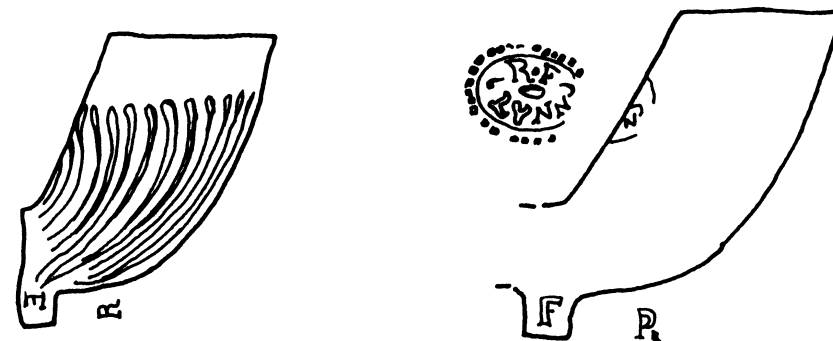


Fig.5 RF and RF LYNN: King's Lynn

## **The Holland family, pipemakers of Weymouth, Dorset**

### **Sheila White**

I am the great-great-granddaughter of George and Jane HOLLAND of Weymouth. George was baptised at St Mary's Church, Melcombe Regis, Weymouth, on 26 December 1770 (I think this is the correct baptism, as a double check of the Hampshire Hollands has failed to reveal another baptism for a suitable George). He was the son of George and Mary Holland; George senior was a cooper in Melcombe at the time of his marriage to Mary Thom(e) (10 November 1764). George junior married Jane Olding (Olden) at St Michael's Church, Southampton, Hampshire, on 8 May 1792, and had ten children from 1792 to 1812/13. George Holland died in 1824 aged 51, and Jane died in 1849 aged 77. George, Jane and John Holland (my great-grandfather) are mentioned in the trade directories for Dorset/Weymouth and Melcombe Regis as follows:

1823 and 1828: George HOLLAND - Pipe Manufacturers - Chapel Haye  
[the George listed in 1828 must be the son of George and Jane baptised in 1802]

1830: Jane HOLLAND, pipemaker, tobacco, Chapel Hay

1840: John HOLLAND [my great-grandfather, baptised in 1811],  
Pipemaker, Chapelry

1842 and 1844: no mention

1848: Mrs Jane HOLLAND, pipemaker, Chapelry, Weymouth

1855: John Holland, tobacco pipe maker, Chapelry, Weymouth

1865, 1869, 1880: no mention.

John Holland died in 1865, and his occupation on the death certificate is shown as 'formerly Master Pipemaker'. The death was registered by his sister, but there is no trace of the death or burial of his wife, Eliza, prior to 1865. She is listed on the 1861 census. On the 1871 census, Lydia Holland (my grandmother), youngest daughter of John and Eliza, is listed as an occupant of the Weymouth workhouse, but, on the 1881 census, is shown as servant to a doctor in Weymouth.

A pipe marked GH on either side of the spur was published in Watkins 1966 - could this be one of George Holland's pipes? Alf Cooksey, who was researching Dorset clay pipemakers, advised that there had been no pipes attributed to the name Holland in his research. Any information on

the following would be very gratefully received: Weymouth clay pipemakers; the Holland family and possible connections with Holland pipemakers in other towns; the death of Eliza Holland (John's wife) between 1862 and July 1865; and the baptism of a son, Charles William, born about 1862.

My research so far has shown a sort of riches to rags story (for my grandmother, anyway) over a period of about forty years. I have a theory regarding the 1862 to 1871 stage but am unable to verify this as I cannot find a death or burial date for Eliza Holland, nor baptism for Charles William, in spite of extensive research.

Since the oldest son, William (baptised 1792) is also listed as a pipemaker, I imagine that the three surviving sons of the family took over the business in 1824, with their mother, after George senior's death. John and Eliza Holland and family are listed on the 1861 census living in Weymouth. Lydia is the youngest child listed at this time. Charles William married in 1883, aged 21, a private in the Coldstream Guards, Chelsea Barracks, his father John Holland, pipemaker. I wonder if Eliza was ill after Lydia was born in 1859, and died in 1862 either after Charles William was born or in childbirth. John would then have been left with five children under the age of ten to care for, a daunting prospect at 51. I imagine that his sister, Ann Frost (who registered his death), either took the family in or moved into John's home (she was a widow) and brought them up whilst he sought work. The clay pipe business seems to have declined as John was living in Chickerell, near Weymouth, and when he died his occupation was listed as 'formerly Master Pipemaker'. Ann Frost died in 1870, which probably accounts for Lydia going into the workhouse, aged 12.

## EARLY PIPE-MAKING IN WORCESTER

David Guyatt

Among the 17th-century wills and inventories of the City of Worcester can be found that of Francis Barker, pipemaker, of the parish of St Nicholas. He died between July and September in 1676. He was of moderate wealth, his inventory being valued at £40 18s 6d, and his premises comprised a kitchen, shop, chamber over the kitchen, another over the shop, two little chambers at the stairhead, and a clay house. Unusually, no hall is mentioned. In his inventory the entries for the shop and clay house are as follows:

### In the Shopp

Three skrenes thirteen payer of moulds one fire shovell and tonges one [undecipherable object] one Branch [candlestick] one Blocke one bench Two chaires three Joyned stooles two other stooles three working boards and Gratts and Boards and other Implements Belongeing to the Shopp vallued at £4 1s 0d

### In the Clay house

In Clay and Pipes vallued at 10/3d.

At his death he left four sons, Francis, Richard, Joseph, and Samuel, to each of whom he bequeathed one shilling, and his widow Mary to whom, so long as she remained single, he left his estate. This included the shop and clay house, and these afford us this rare glimpse of early pipemaking in the county.

[*Editor's note:* in the list of pipemakers published in Oswald 1975, and in the newly up-dated list for Worcestershire (Oswald, in progress, for publication by SCPR), there is no one by the name of Barker. The earliest makers are given as Browne in 1691-2 and Thomas Beardmore in 1699-1700; both are mentioned in the Churchwardens Accounts of the city centre parish of St Nicholas.]

## GRATES: AN OLD PROBLEM REVISITED

Allan Peacey

As long ago as 1977 Iain Walker speculated as to the meaning of the term 'grates' occurring in certain documents listing pipemakers' belongings. The examples quoted at that time were the inventories of the Spalding pipemaker John Fox, dated 1671; the Arundel pipemaker William Artwell, dated 1727; and sale particulars relating to the goods of the Pentonville pipemaker Ebenezer Church, dated 1894 (Walker 1977, 183-5).

Neither of the two inventories are very informative; both lump the 'greats' or 'grates' together with other items leaving quantity, purpose and value obscure. The sale particulars, on the other hand, lists numbers of grates in various sizes: 20 10in grates, 48 15in grates, 36 15in grates, 4 18in grates, 24 old boxes and large grate. The sizes, 10, 15 and 18 inches sound remarkably like stem lengths suggesting some function linked with specific products.

With the publication of the will of Abraham Pratt, dated April 1830, things became a little more clear (Lewcun 1991, 8-11):

Such as Books debts, Household goods, Stock in Trade, wood, clay, Moulds, Screws, and Iron work, Grates, Boards, Benches, & Shades, and whatsoever is used for carrying on the Trade of Tobacco pipe making. The Grates Boards Benches shades stock in Trade to be disposed of at her disposal - But the Moulds Screws & Iron work to be preserved for one of my sons if he chuses to follow the Trade aforesaid - And also that all the Toolles &c be removed as soon as the Family leaves the premises ware the Business or Trade is carried on.

Both times that 'grates' are mentioned they are linked with the 'boards, benches and shades', whilst the moulds, screws and iron work are similarly linked. That the former are to be disposed of and the latter retained testifies to their relative value or uniqueness to the trade of pipemaking. Presumably the grates, boards, benches and shades would

either be of use to other trades or be easily replaceable. What is clear is that the grates are not made of iron. Following the publication of this document, this author, in correspondence with Adrian Oswald, suggested that grates might be timber drying frames for pipes of different lengths.

The recent publication of Colin Tatman's MPhil thesis on the pipemaking industry of Newington parish, Southwark, provides confirmation of this identification (Tatman 1994). Colin refers to notes and sketches made by Wally Hensher who made pipes at Spitalfields until 1959. Copies of these notes were deposited by Alfred Hensher with Croydon Reference Library, Croydon History Club, and Tower Hamlets Library; there may be others. Of grates Hensher writes:

The same BOARDS(14) which carry the bunches of the ROLLS(12) are used to put the moulded pipes on also, but only for short pipes, not for Church Wardens, these are sometimes 12 inches, 18 inches or 24 inches long which require special GRATES(10), shaped to give the pipes the shape they have in the stem or shank.

The numbers in parentheses refer to a page of small sketches; that depicting a grate is included in Figure 6.

It is clear then that grates were used for long-stemmed pipes and that the sizes refer to the lengths of the pipes for which they were intended. In Hensher's case at least these grates were curved to impart this shape to the pipe stems. The choice of the term grates as opposed to boards would seem to derive from their construction from a number of parallel slats. The OED definition of the word grate ('medieval Latin grata: a framework of bars or laths parallel to or crossing each other'), lends credence to this.

This identification provides a further means of compiling stem-length data. Previous work in this field has relied on surviving complete pipes, surviving moulds, contemporary illustrations, and the reconstruction from fragments pioneered by David Higgins (1982, 197-9). As data from these sources are scarce, any additional insight is of value. Although many of the early inventories listing grates include no dimensions, it is worth bearing this point in mind when recording such documents. Any record of grate sizes is worthy of special attention.

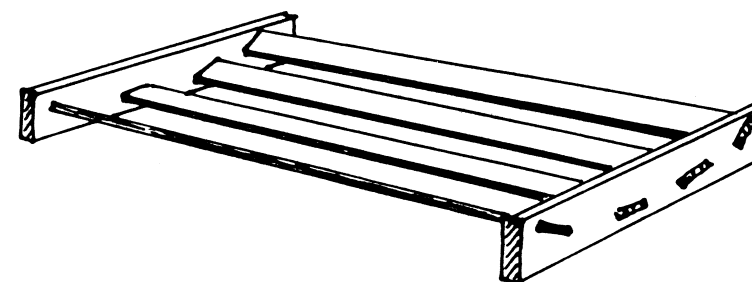
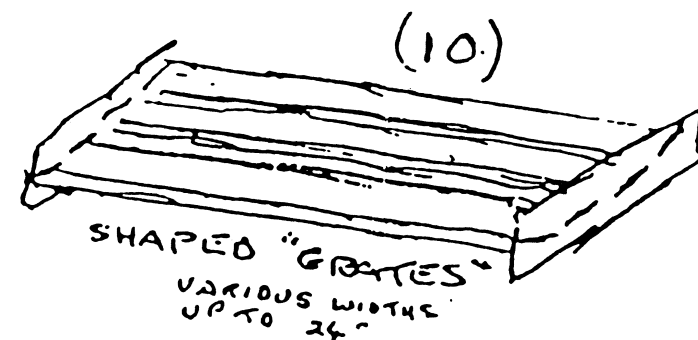


Fig.6 top: Hensher's sketch of a grate; below: drawing based on Hensher's sketch

The Church sale particulars list 10, 15, and 18 inch grates together with one large grate of unspecified dimension. The Hensher notes list grates of 12, 18, and 24 inches. Stem length has implications respecting the firing process where changes in kiln chamber and furniture design have already been linked with exaggerated stems introduced in the third quarter of the 19th century (Peacey forthcoming).

**References**

Higgins, D.A., 1982, 'Reconstruction and interpretation of the pipes', in Davey *et al.*, 'Excavation on the site of a 17th century clay pipe kiln in Rainford, Merseyside', BAR 100, 189-251  
 Lewcun, M., 1991, 'An early 18th-century pipemaking partnership - the Pratt family of Taunton, Somerset', *SCPR 31*, 8-11  
 Peacey, A.A., forthcoming, *The Development of the Clay Tobacco Pipe Kiln in the British Isles*  
 Tatman, C., 1991, *The Clay Tobacco Pipe Industry in the Parish of Newington, Southwark, London*, BAR 239  
 Walker, I.C., 1977, *Clay Tobacco Pipes with Particular Reference to the Bristol Industry*, Parks Canada

[Editor's note: see also the preceding item, where mention is made of 'Gratts'.]

\* \* \* \* \*

**HELP!**

**COLOGNE and JG**

Kelly Dixon (Dept of Social Sciences, Michigan Tech University, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, Michigan 49931, USA) would appreciate any information about a marked pipe found during archaeological investigations of the Ohio Trap Rock copper mine, a mid 19th-century 'ghost town' in upper Michigan. One pipe bears the word COLOGNE impressed on the pipe-stem, near the junction of the bowl and stem, facing the smoker. The letters JG are impressed on the pipe's spur. She has a hunch that the pipe was imported from Germany, but cannot find anything definite.

**Pipe found in Calstock, Cornwall**

Eric Ayto (12 Green Lane, Clanfield, Waterlooville, PO8 0JU) would like to hear from anyone who can identify the pipe illustrated in Figure 7, or who can throw some light on its purpose, origin and maker. The pipe was dug from a garden in Calstock, Cornwall.

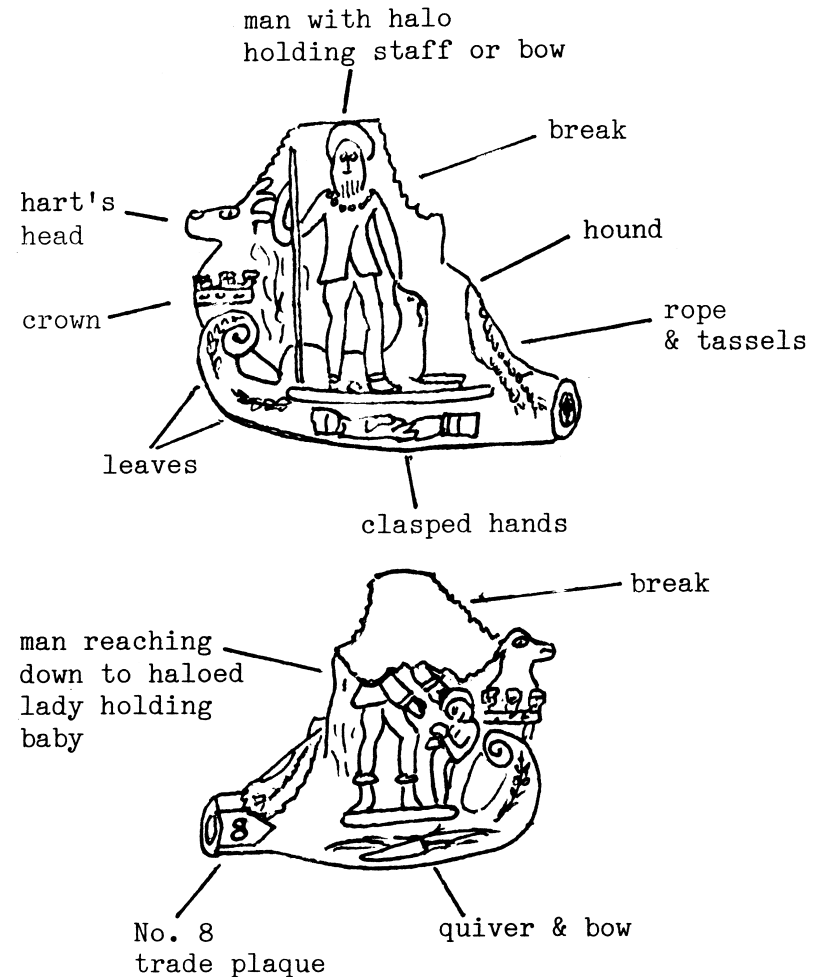


Fig.7 Pipe found in Calstock, Cornwall



## A PIPE-CLAY WHISTLE FROM DOVERCOURT, ESSEX

David Bedlington Jones

During April 1980, I spent an interesting holiday in Colchester, and was very pleased to be given a copy of Laurence Harley's pamphlet (Harley 1963), signed and dated by the author. I got into conversation with one of the local inhabitants in a pub, and was surprised later in the week when he presented me with a paper bag containing clay pipes.

The pipes were all late 19th century, and reportedly had been recovered from a refuse tip at Dovercourt, near Harwich. There was a sinister-looking skull pipe (unmarked), which I later fitted with a cherrywood stem and smoked. Three pipes were marked CORK on the bowl; two were picked out in colour; one bore the Arms of Australia; and one was marked JJ on the spur. The JJ pipe is large, with a complete bowl, and a good proportion of the stem intact. I attributed this to Joseph Jennings (1863-1902), of George Street, Colchester (Harley 1963, 30, 31, 36). This attribution has never been confirmed. Perhaps I was being over-optimistic in my enthusiasm for Colchester!

The most intriguing item of the sixteen pieces given to me was described as a 'cigar holder' which proved to be a pipe-clay whistle. The whistle is 92mm long, and 19mm at the widest point. The open end of the shaft has been provided with a 5mm sleeved section. Presumably, this was to allow the fitting of a metal ferrule-like closed cap, thus enabling the whistle to be sounded. The piece is cigar shaped in appearance and size, with a relief pattern simulating the veins on a cigar wrapper leaf.

An elderly acquaintance of mine examined this piece. He claimed to remember, as a boy, similar whistles being available before the First World War. Has any member of the Society discovered similar whistles? I should be very pleased to hear of other examples, with any comments and observations.

### Reference

Harley, Laurence S., 1963, *The Clay Tobacco-pipe in Britain, with special reference to Essex and East Anglia*, Essex



Fig.8 Pipe-clay whistle (Scale 1:1)

\* \* \* \* \*

### POINTS ARISING ...

#### Admiral Vernon

Richard Le Cheminant (30 Elsenham Street, Southfields, London SW18 5NS) writes: I read with interest Lloyd Edward's account in *SCPR 44*. Some years ago I wrote a short paper on a bowl from the Thames which commemorated Admiral Vernon's 1741 victory over the Spanish fleet at the Battle of Cartagena (Le Cheminant 1981). On it, a well-moulded image of the admiral, with name below, is shown in the act of accepting the sword of surrender from his kneeling opponent, Admiral Don Blas. Vernon's flagship lies in the background. This large bowl, with forward pointing spur, is stylistically typical of the period.

The illustration of the Durham example suggests a date from the early 19th century. If it celebrated a naval victory, could it have been against the French rather than the Spanish? There were, of course, also a number of taverns named after admirals of the day.

### Reference

Le Cheminant, R., 1981, 'A note on the Vernon bowl', *BAR 97*, 87-9

## NEW MEMBERS

Miss Olwyn Britton, First Floor, 5 Leighton Road, Ealing, London W13 9EL

Mrs E. Joy Cross, 31 Abbotsbury Road, Broadstone, Dorset BH18 9DB

Allan Knight, 38 Scraley Road, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex CM9 7BL

Paul Reckner, John Milner Associates, Foley Square Lab., 6 World Trade Center, US Customs House, Room B26A, NYC, NY 10048, USA  
Special interest: 19th-century manufacture, especially in the US.

Olaf Rennebeck, Dorfstr. 33, D-21763 Neuenkirchen/land Hadelin, Germany

Special interest: collection and research of clay pipes found in Cuxhaven county.

\* \* \* \* \*

## SCPR CONFERENCE, 1995

The annual conference is being organized by David Higgins and Rex Key, and will be held at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum, Shropshire. If anyone who is working on pipes from the Broseley area and the West Midlands would like to give a talk, or bring along some pipes, please contact David Higgins (297 Link Road, Anstey, Leicester LE7 7ED).

Rex Key's description of a pipemaking event at the Museum is on p.8; see also p.20 for a family history researcher who is related to the Southorns, one of the Broseley pipemaking families.

More details when they become available; a form will probably be distributed with the next issue of the Newsletter.

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