

NEWSLETTER

23



July 1989

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SCPR Conference - Norwich

Susanne Atkin very kindly agreed to organise this meeting and details are given in the enclosed leaflets. We hope to meet you all in Norwich on 23 September.

A. Cretal
E. Gallard
à Rennes

An archaeological excavation took place on the site of a clay tobacco pipe factory in Rennes, Brittany, France, between 3 and 13 July 1989. The excavation was directed by Patricia Poirier of Rennes for the Direction des Antiquités Historiques. SCPR members who helped with the work included Benedict Goes from Holland, and Peter Hammond, Karen Parker and Reg and Philomena Jackson from England.

The excavation was an important initiative taken by French archaeologists to test the potential of the site and to increase their knowledge of the clay pipe making industry. The work was funded by the City of Rennes and administered by the Direction des Antiquités Historiques, Direction Regionale des Affaires Culturelles, Rennes under the supervision of Charles Tanguy Leroux and Patrick Thollard. Apart from members of SCPR the excavation team comprised Michèle and Romain Gislard and Laurence Lepron. We are very grateful to them for putting up with four English people who could speak hardly any French and for valiantly trying to teach us the French vocabulary for such archaeological essentials as pick, shovel, blisters, tea-break, etc.

The pipe factory at 19 - 23 Rue d'Antrain, Rennes, was owned by A. Cretal and E. Gallard. It was in production from about 1810 to 1863, being burnt down in 1857. A schematic plan of 1854 survives and shows the various factory buildings including old and new pipe kilns, an enamelling kiln and workshops. A plan and sectional drawing of a kiln proposed for the Cretal-Gallard factory and dated 1856 also exists. Unfortunately parts of the site have been damaged by the construction of a new school, a cinema, electricity sub-stations, and unauthorised excavations by pipe collectors. However, some of the site, mainly comprising an unfinished road, is now in public ownership and it was here that the excavation took place. The site is approached down a narrow passageway from the street and some of the outbuildings at the rear of the houses fronting the Rue d'Antrain may be parts of the pipe factory. Pipe kiln wasters from the factory were found nearby in the Rue de St. Malo during previous excavation.

The road surface was first removed by machine and then the site excavated by hand. Structural remains of the factory buildings were found together with working surfaces made from crushed pipes and kiln furniture. Large quantities of complete and fragmentary clay pipes were recovered. The pipes produced at this factory were very well made and included many finely modelled and often elaborately decorated figurals as the example illustrated shows (Fig. 1). This pipe commemorates the alliance of France, England and Turkey in the Crimean War against the Russians from 1854-1855. The head may be that of Napoleon III while falling from his mouth, which is held open by fingers on each hand, are 5 franc coins and the names of famous battles and sieges - Odessa, Alma, Sebastopol and Bomarsund. The crescent on the figure's forehead bears the name of a town on the River Danube called Silistria, captured by the Turks in 1854. Many pipes bore the stem mark shown at the beginning of this article 'A. Cretal/E. Gallard/a Rennes'. Patricia Poirier will be producing a final report on the excavation.

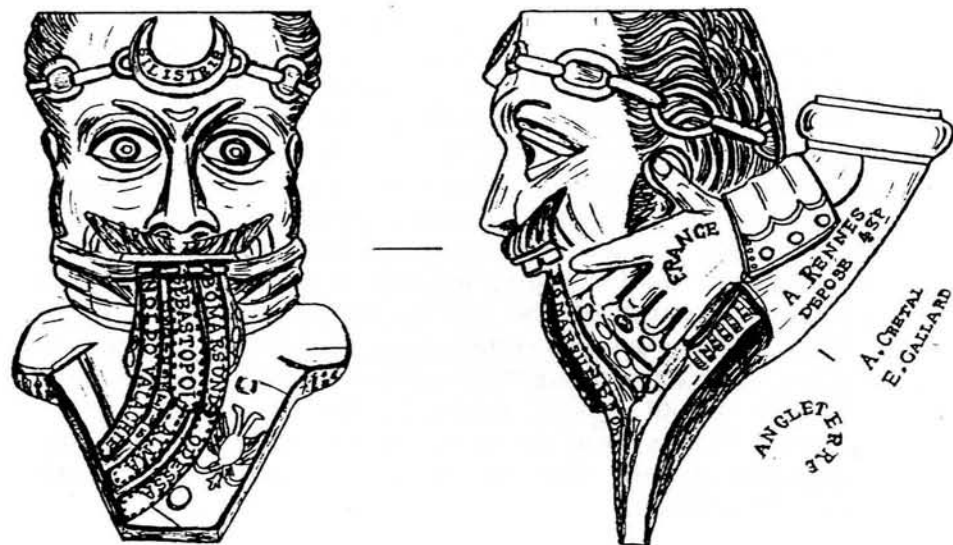


Fig. 1

During our stay in Rennes we were able to see much of the old city, which has a medieval quarter containing many fine 16th and 17th century timber-framed buildings, as well as the Musée de Bretagne and the famous Thabor Gardens. Further afield we were able to visit the pipe factory of Cretal Aine and Company which was established in 1858 and still stands in the Chaussee du Sillon, St. Malo, although now converted to other uses.

The excavation fortunately coincided with the 200th anniversary celebrations of the French Revolution when firework displays, military parades, dancing and other events took place. There was also a local festival in Rennes, Les Tombées de la Nuit, which included street entertainment ranging from local Breton bagpipe players to jazz bands, and from mime artists to acrobats. French café nightlife with crêpes and Breton cider soon became a favourite pastime of the visiting archaeologists.

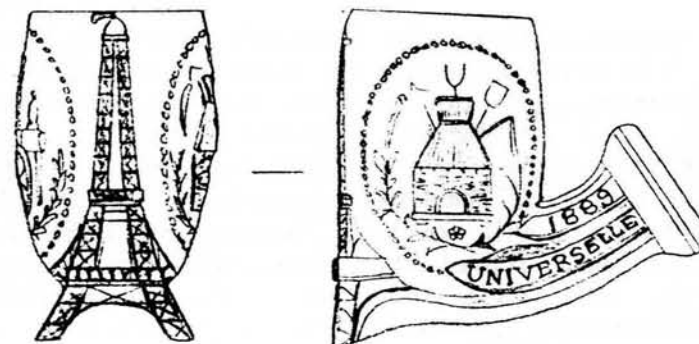
The highlight of the fortnight, apart from the excavation, was the memorable trip to Mont St. Michel and the superb medieval fortress of Fougères with Michèle and Bernard Gislard whose kindness, together with that of their children Romain, Delphine and Estelle, was greatly appreciated. We were very grateful to Laurent Beuchet, the archaeologist in charge of excavations at Fougères, for showing us around the castle. What we will remember most of all was the warmth of the Breton hospitality shown to us by Patricia and her colleagues in holding parties in their homes, providing meals and introducing us to their friends all of which made us feel very welcome. Special thanks must go to Catherine Reguer who kindly lent her lovely flat in Rennes to provide us with accommodation.

Reg and Philomena Jackson
Pipe drawings by Peter Hammond

Eiffel Tower 1889 - 1989

Fig. 2 shows a detachable bowl commemorating the opening of the Eiffel Tower in 1889, with the exhibition that took place at the time. One side of the bowl is decorated with a thatched hut with farming implements protruding from the roof, and the other depicts some sort of steam and mechanical apparatus. Each is surrounded by sprigs and a dotted border. The front of the bowl is shaped as the Eiffel Tower itself, being coloured blue and pink. On the stem part, in relief, is 'PARIS UNIVERSELLE EXPOSITION 1889'. The pipe is very well made and though no maker's mark is present Fiolet or Gambier are likely.

Peter Hammond



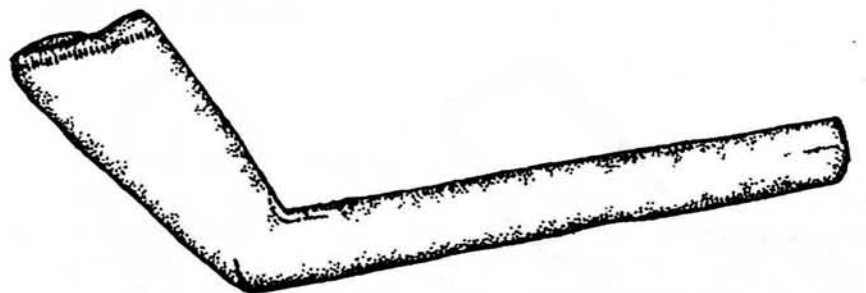
The 'Pipe Wreck' at Monte Christi

The Monte Christi shipwreck lies in four metres of water off Monte Christi, on the north coast of the Dominican Republic (Fig. 3). It is commonly referred to as the 'pipe wreck' due to the large number of clay smoking pipes which were possibly the principal cargo. The ship has been salvaged extensively over the past three and a half centuries, however, her keel, keelson, bottom planking, ballast and assorted cargo survive. Investigations by archaeologists and treasure hunters have yielded different theories regarding the ship's origin, but all agree that she dates to the first half of the seventeenth century.

A recent report indicates that in 1978, treasure hunters recovered sherds of Bellarmine ceramic, brass and silver candlestick holders, a brass scale, an oil lamp, an iron cooking cauldron, brass bell clangers, bone knife handles, five brass leather pouches, thousands of 'gold-washed' needles, and numerous clay smoking pipe fragments.

Thousands of these pipe fragments have been examined, both from the wrecksite and from the Fortaleza Ozama Laboratory collection in Santo Domingo, where many of the wreck artifacts are stored. Due to prolonged exposure on the sea floor, most identifying marks have been obscured. Two basic bowl types are prevalent: a 'belly-bowl', with four variations in both bowl size and shape, and a 'funnel-elbow' bowl, with two variations in shape and angle (Fig. 4). The 'belly-bowls' all contained the same double initial maker's mark on the heel, however, only the second letter, a 'B', could ever be clearly discerned.

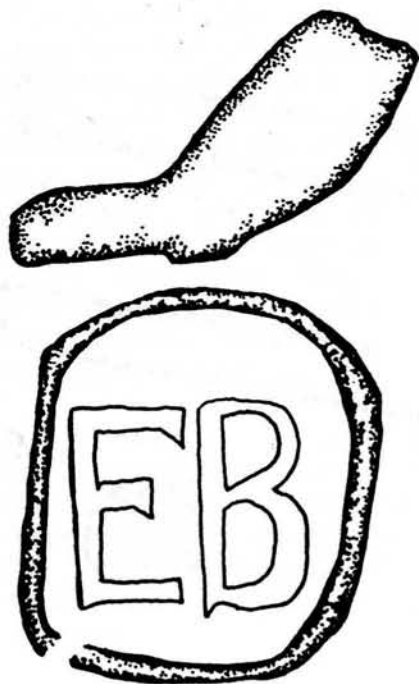
Not knowing if the pipes were British or Dutch, the bore diameters of thirty-one pipe stem fragments from the wrecksite, as well as five hundred and seven fragments from the Fortaleza were measured. Using the Binford Regression Equation for pipe stem bore diameters, dates of 1639 and 1640 were respectively indicated.



In 1987, a single 'belly-bowl' with an 'EB' in relief (Fig. 5) identified the pipemaker as Edward Bird, an Englishman who manufactured his wares in Amsterdam between the years 1630 and 1665. The 'funnel-elbow' bowls, all bearing the Dutch 'rad' (wagon-wheel), have yet to be identified.

Steps are now being made to locate, collect, research, and conserve many of the artifacts from the Monte Christi 'pipe wreck'. Some have already been sent to Texas A & M University for conservation, with the understanding that they will be returned to the Dominican Republic when the study is completed. It is hoped that a complete examination of the extant cargo and hull remains, and specifically the clay smoking pipes (many of which still lie in the wrecksite), will provide information regarding both the origin of the vessel and its presence on the north coast of the Dominican Republic.

Jerome Lynn Hall



5

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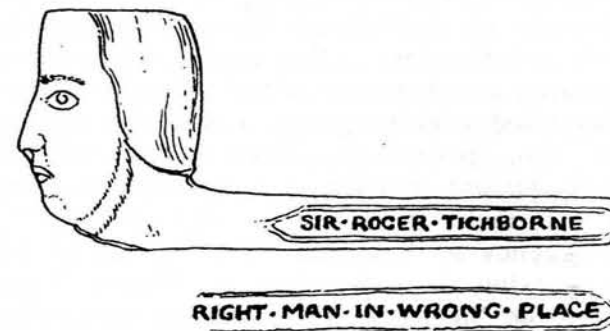


6

9

The 'Tichborne' Pipe

The figural pipe illustrated (Fig. 6 - author's collection) with its curious inscription: 'SIR ROGER TICHBORNE/[The] RIGHT MAN IN THE WRONG PLACE', relates to a famous trial of the 1870's. The background and events leading up to the trial are worth relating and make a true Victorian melodrama.



The 'Tichborne Prophecy'

The story begins in the days of Henry I, when Mabella, wife of Sir Roger de Tichborne of Hampshire, petitioned her husband to distribute on Lady Day a 'dole' of bread to every hungry person who should come to their house. She was so dedicated to this yearly charity that she was said to have threatened the downfall of the house if any of her successors abolished it. In later years when the dole was abandoned, local folks still believed the family 'must ere long become extinct'. This prophecy was finally fulfilled during the 1850s.

The Wreck

Sir Roger Charles Tichborne was the heir at that time. After an unsuccessful proposal of marriage to his first cousin, he sailed for Peru in 1853 to forget his sadness;

but the ship was wrecked in a storm and he was never to return. In a few months the news reached Tichborne House, where only Lady Tichborne and Roger's younger brother Alfred now lived.

The Claimant

Years passed but Lady Tichborne believed he was still living and a lamp was kept burning at the house. Local stories tell of a succession of sailors finding their way to Tichborne talking of survivors who were carried away to Australia. They were duly rewarded for their information. The belief that her son was alive became an obsession after Alfred's early death. She advertised widely, giving a full description of Sir Roger's age, parentage, description and place of shipwreck, almost inviting an impostor to take up the guise. At last, an attorney representing a missing persons' agency in Australia wrote to say he had found a man working as a butcher in Wagga Wagga, who claimed to be Sir Roger. He was at first reluctant to emerge. The agency is quoted as saying:

'But for the impudent fellow's habit of carving the initials R.C.T. on mantel-pieces, and marking them on his pipe and smoking it under the attorney's nose and just at the time when the dowager's advert was flourishing in the papers that simple attorney might never have discovered his secret.'

Money was sent to pay off the claimant's debts, a condition of his leaving the country. He left Sydney on 2 September 1866 and the long lost heir was expected by the dowager in Paris within two months. Meanwhile her solicitor gave warning that letters received from her 'son' in Wagga Wagga bore no relation to surviving examples of the baronet's letters. But her delusions continued. Later in Paris she saw the man in a darkened hotel room and the 'ceremony of recognition was complete'.

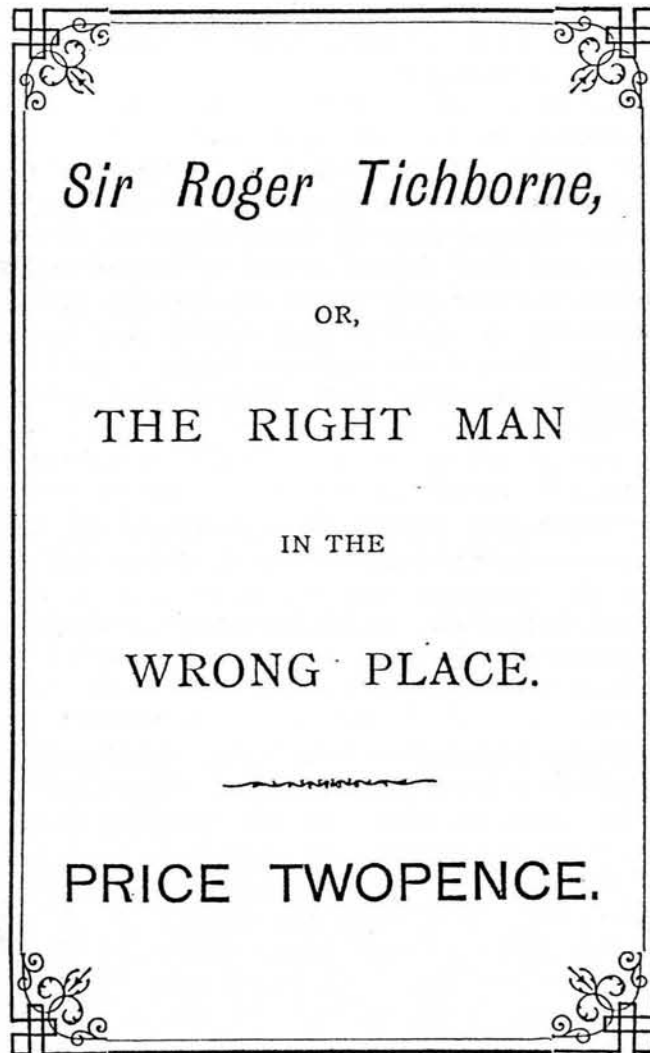
But when the claimant came to live in a house in Croydon, Surrey, pending his 'return' to Tichborne, the dowager is reported to have been conscious of the fumes of tobacco and strong drink, which distressed her. More suspicion arose when he was seen looking up relations in Wapping!

The Trial

Other family members soon asserted that he was an impostor and tried to prove that he was Arthur Orton, who had jumped ship to South America in 1849. The claimant brought a legal action to secure the Tichborne inheritance (1871-72) but he was at last pronounced an impostor at a second trial (1874) and sentenced to fourteen years imprisonment with hard labour for perjury. Released in 1884 he died in poverty in London in 1898.

The 'Tichborne Romance' was taken up with great enthusiasm by the public. At theatres, music halls and fêtes the claimant was exhibited and a journal was founded called the *Tichborne Gazette* which informed the public of the case.

The above information was taken from pamphlets and broadsides in the British Library. The pipe inscription can be dated to 1874 and was possibly based on the poem frontispiece (Fig. 7) printed in that year. The pipe and poem are pro-claimant. Extracts have been included (Fig. 8) to show the flavour of the propaganda following Orton at that time. The head on the pipe is that of Orton's which compares well with the drawing of his portrait (Fig. 9) taken at the trial (traced from an engraving). The print of the smoker with the two pipes (Fig. 10) is meant to be Orton (from a poem called '*Trial of the Claimant*', published during his trial). The print is taken from a much earlier reference, probably Georgian.



7

Extracts from 'Sir Roger Tichborne, or, The Right Man
in the Wrong Place'

*A tale of truth I'm going to tell,
Deny that if you can,
No powers on earth can make me think
The claimant's not the man.*

*Deceive a mother, No! indeed
Do that you never can;
Though demons, with an angel's face,
May swear he's not the man.*

*A one sided trial is now on the way,
Determined an innocent man to betray;
To rob Sir Roger out of his right
The Jesuit priests are determined to fight.*

*Like Daniel Sir Roger is cast in a den,
Where lions exult o'er their prey,
But God's guardian angels that den never leaves,
No, they watch it by night and day.*

*All ye who have acted a treacherous part,
Like Ahab will tremble and fear;
If Sir Roger in prison should perish and die
His blood on your souls will appear.*

Fig. 8



Fig. 9

To conclude, here is an anagram made by a wit of the time composed from the words: Sir Roger Charles Doughty Tichborne, Baronet; You horrid butcher, Orton - biggest rascal here.

I would be interested to hear of any other pipes known relating to this trial.

References

'Pamphlets etc. relating to the Tichborne trial'. 1875. Ref: 1888 C 20. British Library.

'Tichborne Times'. London. 1872? B.L. Ref: P203/5

Colin Tatman



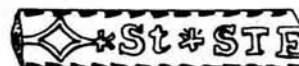
Fig. 10

A Pipe Stem From Hickling, Norfolk

I am most grateful to David Williams of Reigate, Surrey, for passing on to me a pipe stem which he picked up by a footpath near Hickling in Norfolk (NGR TD 407239). The stem has relief moulded decoration consisting of small 'arrows' flanking the seams and parts of a bold inscription along either side (Fig. 11).



11



The style of the lettering and decoration is typical of the first quarter of the nineteenth century in general and in particular parallels can be found amongst the products of the Norwich makers.^{1, 2} Hickling lies about 15 miles north-east of Norwich which would have been a likely supply source for pipes. Amongst the list of Norwich makers published by Karshner³ only members of the Browne family, who worked at St. Stephen's, would fit this fragmentary inscription. They certainly produced named stems of this type since similar examples are illustrated by Oswald. This particular pattern does not appear to have been previously illustrated but it can almost certainly be attributed to one of the Browne's of St. Stephen's, c1800-30.

References

1. Oswald, A. (1979) *Identifiable pipes of the Norwich makers*, BAR 63, 353-359.
2. Woodcock, D.J. (1985) *Pipes attributed to William Hensell, clay tobacco pipe maker of Norwich, Norfolk*, BAR 146(ii), 325-336.
3. Karshner, M. (1979) *The clay tobacco pipe making industry in Norwich*, BAR 63, 295-352.

David Higgins

EDWARD VII STATUETTE

Figure 12 shows a pipeclay statuette (actual size) acquired last Autumn on a stall at Greenwich antique and collectors' market. I knew such a statuette existed following my research into registered designs, Charles Crop & Sons of Homerton having registered it on 4 December 1901 (Rd. No. 384121). A similar statuette depicting Queen Alexandra was also registered on the same date (Rd. No. 384122).

I have never seen an example until this one was spied on top of an antique stall, but recognised immediately for what it was and thus very pleased to be able to purchase it. As is characteristic of the pipes made by Charles Crop & Sons the statuette is coated in 'meerschaum-wash', which has the appearance of varnish and thus makes the surface shiny. It has been made in a two-piece mould and has been trimmed with great care so that the seams are barely noticeable. The statuette is hollow from the base (extending up as far as the crown) and this appears to have been done by using a type of stopper as in the pipes (Fig. 13). Therefore the base would have been trimmed in the conventional way and smoothed afterwards.

Now it is a question of finding a Queen Alexandra statuette ...

Peter Hammond

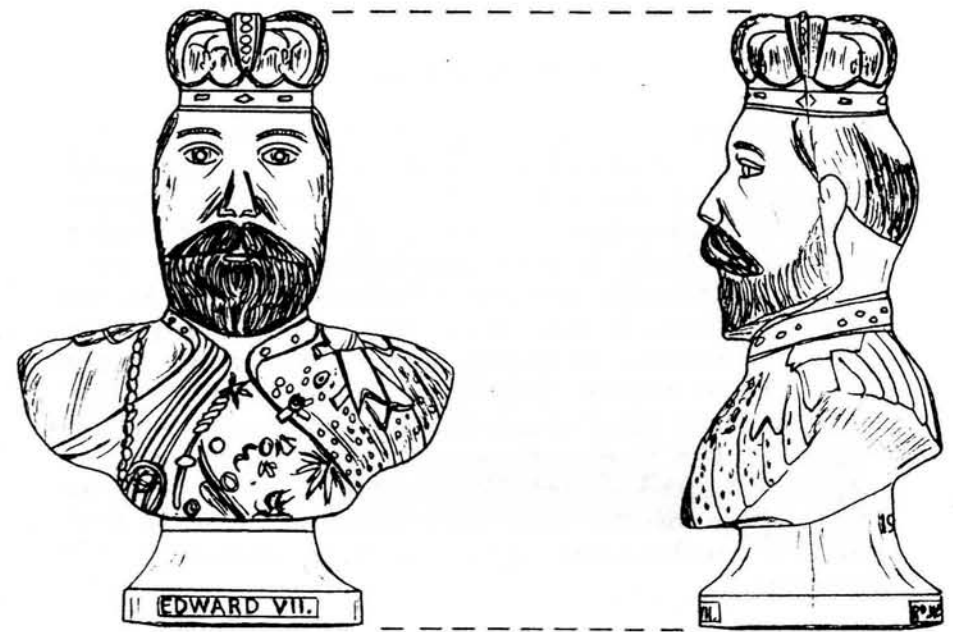


Fig. 12

1902

Rd. No. 384121

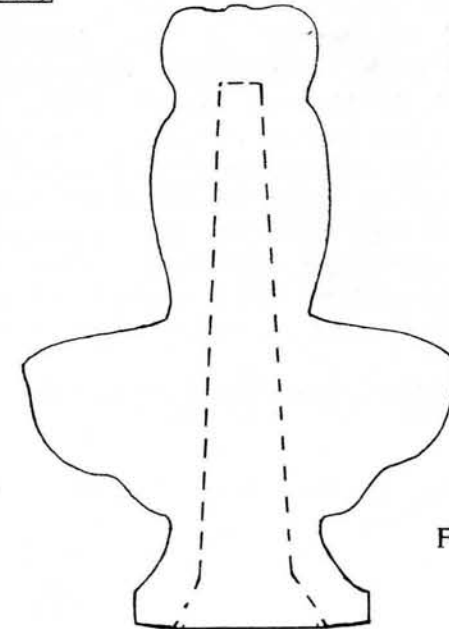


Fig. 13

A Pig in a Smoke

A remarkable clay pipe (Figs. 14 & 15), London-made and dating c1600-1610 came into my possession recently. The moulded bowl is decorated in a baroque style as a boar's head viewed upside-down, with behind the tusks a Tudor rose on either side where the stem begins. Recovered from the Thames foreshore in the City of London, it was presumably a special order for an inn or tavern. In listing nearly three dozen 'Boars Head' public houses, Lillywhite¹ records that the sign was commonly found in London from the mid-fourteenth century. The pipe, buff white and polished, measures overall 3.5 inches (9 cm) to the stem break; judging by the position of the 6/64 inch diameter bore at that point, it can have been no more than 4 inches (10 cm) complete.

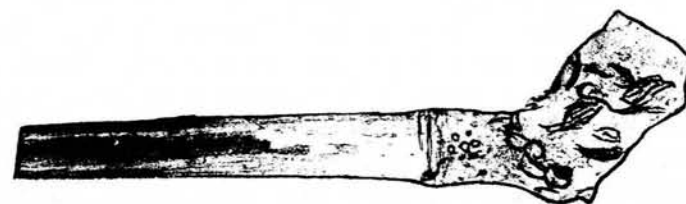
The pipe is extraordinary in that it appears to incorporate by over 30 years the earliest recorded English moulded bowl decoration, as well as predating by at least a decade the first Dutch example. (A possibly contemporary figural bowl, whereabouts now unknown, is illustrated in the Guildford Museum Catalogue of 1908). Elaborately decorated pipes were manufactured in Holland from c1625, and as the industry there had London origins, one might reasonably expect a variety of similar English bowls from c1600, particularly as all pipes were mould-made by then. That no other has come to light suggests they must have been exceedingly uncommon. But the intricacy and highly competent workmanship of this specimen makes it unlikely to have been the pioneer in its class.

Thanks to Adrian Oswald for information.

Reference

1. Lillywhite, Bryant (1976) *London signs*. George Allen and Unwin.

Richard Le Cheminant



14



15

A Pipe Mystery Solved - After 36 Years!

In 1949 our family moved from Lancing near Worthing, to Steyning, an old town with Saxon origins, about 5 miles inland and on the north side of the Sussex Downs.

It very soon became apparent to me as I explored the area that it was rich in pipe deposits. Due to the lack of modern housing development at that time there were ploughed fields and allotment gardens all around the outskirts of the town, over which people had clearly been spreading town rubbish for centuries - pottery back to Norman, Saxon and even Roman abounded, and, from more recent times, the indestructable clay pipes.

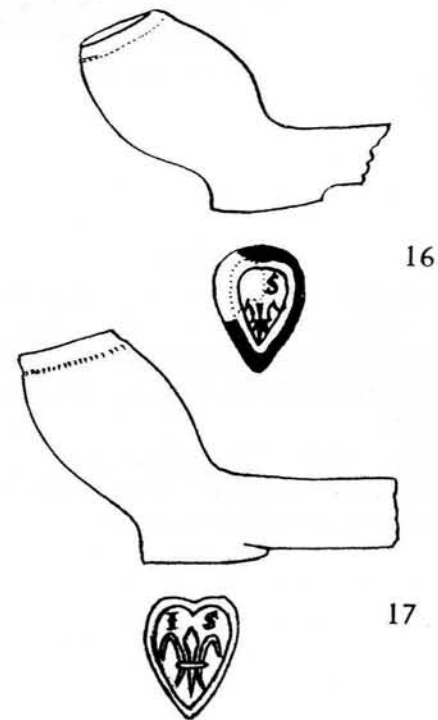
One day, while walking up the Downs, from which one obtains a bird's eye view of the whole town and its environs, I spied a valley I'd not seen before, part of which was ploughed. At one end was a modern rifle range, right up under the lee of the hills and at the town end a disused water mill and millpond.

A stately line of old elm trees and a hawthorn hedge divided the ploughed part of the valley from the rest, which was pasture. Unless you knew where the gate was leading to this secluded valley it was completely hidden from view from the town itself. When I finally found my way there I discovered part of a large field, full of cabbages which had gone to seed. Imagine my amazement when I saw, lying around on the surface, several mid-17th century clay pipe bowls, together with numerous stems. One of these bowls had a large, heart-shaped heel instead of the usual Sussex round one, and stamped on it was a mark in relief. Alas, a chip out of the heel had removed part of the mark, but the letter 'I' had survived together with part of some plant or similar device at the base of the heart-shaped frame.

In the succeeding two or three years I visited this field whenever it had been ploughed or harrowed (with the farmer's permission) and picked up over 200 bowls of the period c1630-1730. As is usual in Sussex, which was a backward county, the pipes were mostly unmarked, but every time I searched I hoped for another example of my mystery mark. One day I picked up a stem with half the heel attached - and there, tantalisingly, was the lower half of the same mark. No other specimen ever came to light. The mark as it was known then, still incomplete, was illustrated (Fig. 16) in my first pipe article, in *The Archaeological News Letter* Vol. 6, No. 5, 1958, on 'Sussex Clay Tobacco Pipes'. The years passed and no other pipe with this mark was recorded in Sussex or anywhere else. Then one day in 1987 Peter Elkins was showing me a quantity of marked bowls he had dug up on the Thames foreshore in recent years when, lo and behold, there it was, or more correctly, there they were! Two or three complete bowls with large, heart-shaped heels, all bearing undamaged examples of the mystery mark from Steyning of 36 years ago. The pipe may be seen illustrated in BAR 97, p.132, fig. 32, (Clay tobacco pipes from London and the South East)

described by Richard le Cheminant among pipes he had found in London. This was published in 1981, but at the time (1987), I had not seen the article. A drawing of a specimen given me by Peter Elkins is seen here (Fig. 17).

Seventeenth century pipes in Sussex are almost exclusively round heeled and unmarked. However, in London pipes appear from early on in the century with large heart-shaped heels and continue thus right up to the 1680s, though most of the type I have seen are unstamped. It would seem, therefore, that this maker, I.S., whose mark usually consists of such small initials with a huge fleur-de-lis, worked in London, since examples of these pipes are not known from anywhere else. The question remaining is, how did two of his pipes come to be in a ploughed field near a small market town in Sussex among a large scatter of contemporary local products?



In centuries gone by central Sussex was notoriously bad for transport and communication due to the sticky Wealden clay. Thus most necessities were locally produced. From the evidence of later producers Steyning obtained its pipe supplies right up until after 1850 (when the railways changed everything) from local towns like Brighton, Lewes, Worthing, Horsham and Chichester. But the absence of marks on the plain 17th century pipes means we can only guess at their origin. There is no record of any pipe industry in Steyning itself. However, it is known that at different times in history there were army camps around the town, and uniform buttons and musket balls are well known local finds. Additionally, the field in question is locally known as Archery Field or The Range Field. So perhaps it was soldiers camping there who left their broken pipes in the grass - including one who had still got a few from a London tavern in his pocket.

David Atkinson

Correction

There was a typing error in the article by Peter Hammond on 'English Pipemakers Emigrating to America' in **SCPR** 22. The entry for Benjamin Ogle should have read:

'Benjamin Ogle, aged 23, pipemaker of Newcastle, sailed from London February 1774 on the ship 'Planter' to Virginia as an indented servant'.

A Far Eastern Pipe

The pipe illustrated (Fig. 18) was found by a colleague on a recent holiday in Thailand and had been in current use. It is in black clay and the flat bottomed bowl has a thick base so that the bore turns through an angle and enters the bowl almost vertically.

I would be interested to hear of any further information on clay pipes from this area.

Nigel Melton



18

Millgate Brewery Site, Newark

A small number of pipes have been found during recent development work at the Millgate Brewery site at Newark (Figs. 19-22).

The earlier of the seventeenth century examples can be compared with a Lincoln type.¹

Of particular interest are the nineteenth century pipes. Four bowls were found, two marked 'SIMNITT/NEWARK' and two others from the same mould but without the upper section of the bowl. John Lyne Simnitt is recorded as working at Millgate c1815-1826.²

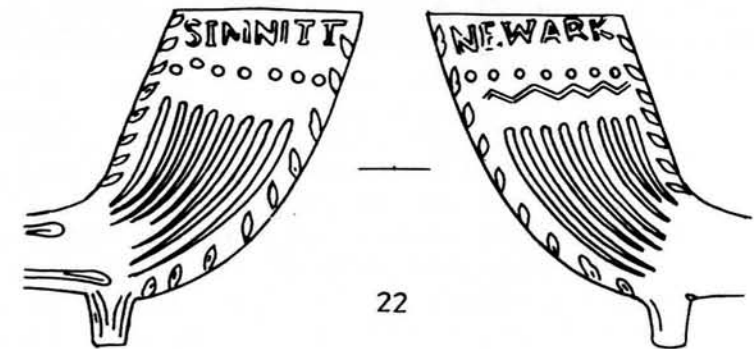
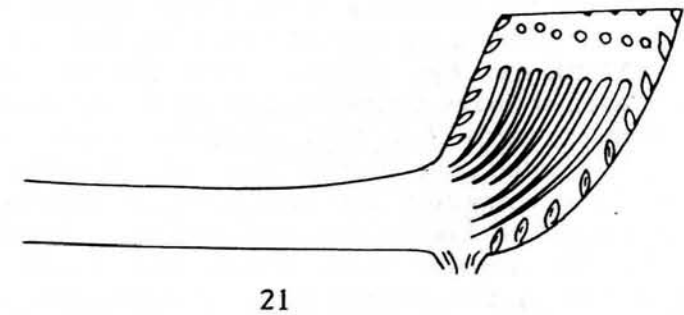
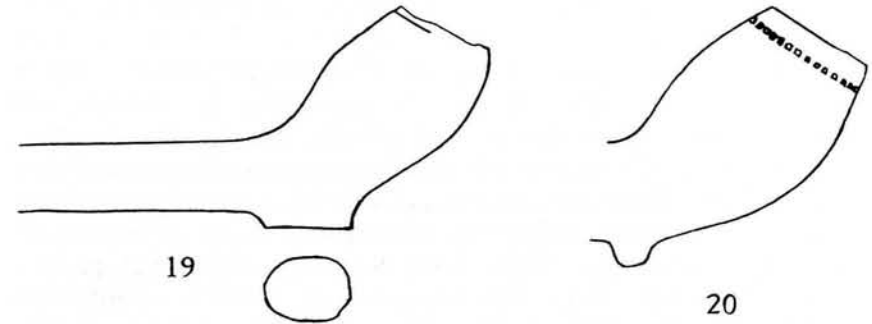
The Simnitt pipe illustrated here (Fig. 22) was described by Peter Hammond. He also illustrated another Simnitt pipe with a beehive/windmill design, which has been found both with and without the upper bowl section bearing the maker's name. The beehive pipes were found close to Millgate within a dump of material which also contained pipes marked 'EDMUNDS/NEWARK'.

The beehive pipes had originally been produced with the maker's initials on the spur and were subsequently increased in height to enable the full name to be incorporated on the bowl. The brewery site pipes, however, have been reduced in height to remove the maker's name, as slight traces of letters have been left at the rim. Why John Simnitt should produce pipes with his name deliberately removed is unclear at present.

References

1. Mann, J. (1977) *Clay pipes from excavations in Lincoln 1970-74*. Lincoln Archaeological Trust Monograph series Vol. XV-1.
2. Hammond, P. (1985) 'The clay tobacco pipe making industry of Newark'. *Thoroton Transactions* Vol. LXXXIX.

Nigel Melton



Blessed John Kemble
A Patron 'Saint' for Clay Pipe Researchers?

Born about 1599 at St. Weonards, Herefordshire, John Kemble went to a seminary at Douai, France and was ordained a Catholic priest on 23 February 1625. By 4 June 1625, he had returned to work first in London and then near Monmouth as a Catholic missionary priest. Although Catholicism was outlawed, and also associated with the Royalist cause, Catholics practised their religion secretly and were ministered to by priests such as John Kemble. Thus John Kemble continued quietly carrying out his priestly duties, which continued uneventfully until 1678 when he was almost eighty years old.

At that time the infamous Titus Oates alleged that Catholics had plotted to murder the King and set the Duke of York on the throne. This resulted in a backlash against many Catholics who were imprisoned. With large rewards for their capture priests were particularly hunted, but despite this John Kemble did not flee the country and was imprisoned at Hereford. He was brought to London for trial and was visited in prison by his accuser Titus Oates who could not implicate him in the alleged plot. Despite this John Kemble was tried for being a seminary priest and, without the benefit of any legal assistance at his trial, was convicted and sentenced to execution. Having undergone the arduous return journey to Hereford he was executed on 22 August 1679. The execution of John Kemble was reported in the 'English Intelligencer' on 30 August 1679:

"Broomyard, August 23rd. Yesterday, John Kemble, a Popish Priest, whom the Papists call a secular Priest, was executed at Hereford; he was near ninety years of age and very infirm, and, therefore, said little at his death, but only to this effect; 'I thank God I am not so much as charged with any crime, but my Priesthood; and I heartily forgive all the world, and desire all good people to pray for me.'

Then after some Private Prayers he was turned off, and after he was cut down his head was cut off, and his friends had his body."

Why do I suggest him as a patron 'saint' for us? On his death he was given the usual condemned man's last request. He replied he was prepared to die but he asked for a smoke of a final pipe (clay pipe of course) of tobacco and it is said traditionally that he was joined in this last smoke by the Under Sheriff who attended his execution, Mr. Humphrey Digges. One tradition is that he smoked this last pipe as he was driven in a cart to his execution, and the following old poem gives the story:

*'And they say he stopped upon his road
At some remembered door,
To smoke the friendly social pipe,
As he was wont of yore;
And in these parts, where custom still
Preserves each ancient type,
The man who takes a parting puff,
Calls it his Kemble-Pipe.'*

The phrase 'a Kemble Pipe' was used on the Herefordshire/Welsh borders for the last pipe of the evening at social meetings.

Some relics of John Kemble are still preserved at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Monmouth, Gwent, and he is still remembered there at a pilgrimage held on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of his death on 22 August. He is known as 'Blessed' as he is beatified but not a saint, although revered as a holy and venerable man.

Amongst his famous relatives were the actor John Kemble and the actress Sarah Siddons who visited his tomb at Welsh Newton on a tour of the Wye Valley in the 18th century.

I am indebted to Keith Kissack of Monmouth, Gwent for information about John Kemble.

References

Canning, J.H. (undated) *BL John Kemble*, The Catholic Truth Society, London.

O'Keefe, M.C. (1970) *Four martyrs of South Wales and The Marches*, The Archdiocese of Cardiff.

Philomena Jackson



The Under Sheriff and John Kemble

Pipe Auction

The auction of a pipe collection took place in Bath, England, on 10 April. The sale, comprising 215 lots and held by Phillips, Son and Neale, included meerschaum pipes; meerschaum cheroot, cigar or cigarette holders; porcelain pipes; briars, fruitwood and other wooden pipes; ethnological pipes; glass pipes; and, of course, clay pipes. A number of members of our Society, including Don Duco from Leiden and Nick Magnum from Barnstaple, were amongst the 150 buyers who attended. To quote from the auctioneer's spokesperson Clare Fletcher "The clays went for a colossal amount of money. I never realised there was so much interest in them. We had telephone bids from abroad for some of the lots". The complete collection fetched £25,493.

Members may be interested in the prices fetched by the clays, details of which are given below:

- A mounted collection of 17 small clay pipes. £35
- Three large commemorative clay pipes; 'London Exhibition', 'Archer and Donovan', 'Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year'. £110
- Three cased clay pipes and 11 other assorted pipes. £55
- Two black clay pipes; two figureheads, one with an ebony stem and two Churchwarden clays. £85
- A long yellow-glazed French clay pipe, inscribed 'St. Nicholas Society, NY', the bowl forming a man's head wearing a tricorne hat. £65
- Twelve various clay pipes, some unused, three glazed. £22

Thirteen mixed clay pipes, including some 18th century pipes and an Essex Regiment pipe.

£32

A comic clay pipe entitled 'The Whole Dam Family'; another two entitled 'The Arrest' and 'Victory', three RAOB's, a fish, an eagle claw, and a small black clay.

£100

A collection of black clay pipes, known to have been presented to Stanley Baldwin; also six white clay pipes.

£55

Clay pipes by Gambier, Paris; R.L. Stevenson, Lord Beaconsfield, French Soldier, Attaturk and a laughing man.

£150

Clay pipes by Gambier, head of a cockerel, head of a bulldog, Bacchus, Le Vrai Jacob, and a hand holding a torch.

£70

Clay pipes by Gambier, France: Bacchus, Turk in a Turban, Death, and another Turk.

£180

A display box containing ten clay pipes.

£45

A box of assorted clay pipe bowls; a large commemorative clay bowl depicting a football match; and a Jacob pipe.

£28

A display box containing thirty-five clay pipe bowls.

£48

A gentleman's clay pipe by Gambier - No. 155B, silver band (cased); and three others.

£95

A clay pipe commemorating the Crystal Palace (and 4 briars).

£48

A pair of miniature clay pipes, 3 cm, flowers to either side of the bowl.

£40

A clay pipe by T. Holland, No. 227 in the form of a bearded negro and a pair of yellow glazed clay pipes inscribed 'DD' and with a figure standing by a barrel of wine.

£48

Reg Jackson

Points Arising . . .

Marek Lewcun writes:

With reference to David Atkinson's article on the Harden family of Salisbury (SCPR 22) there is further relevant information which can be added. William Harden I is first recorded in 1683, after which there are many references to him as a pipemaker in the city including a number during the period 1698-1718. He died early in 1733, and it was indeed his son, William Harden II, who took Nathaniel Harden apprentice later in the year, and there are further references to the son employing known later Salisbury pipemakers during their early years. The references at the Wiltshire Record Office for the two indentures illustrated by David are G23/1/198 bundles 2 and 3 respectively; both halves of Joel Sanger's indentures survive (a rarity).

I have studied all the eighteenth century Sarum makers in some considerable documentary detail, with much interesting information coming from obscure sources. By 1735 there were two pipemakers of the name Joel Sanger working in the city, father and son, and there are references to the younger working as a pipemaker elsewhere in the county. Sarum makers have also appeared in the records of other known pipemaking centres in Wiltshire and Somerset, and there is clear evidence of the trade encountering severe problems in the city during the later years of the century as demand for pipes dropped.

The results of my research into the industry in Salisbury and elsewhere in the county will appear in a forthcoming publication on the pipemakers of Wiltshire as soon as the large volume of information has been correlated and put into a full local and national perspective.

Publications

Tobacco and the Collector Catalogue

In September Jean-Leo will publish a catalogue offering for sale about 500 books, pamphlets, etchings, ephemera, smoking antiques and collectables, including a strong pipe section of about 150 items with numerous clay pipes. This will be mailed on request and on receipt of two International Postal Coupons. Write to Jean-Leo. Le Grenier du Collectionneur, 88A Avenue du Polo, 1150 Brussels, Belgium.

'The Story Behind a Unique Gravestone'

by Peter Hammond. Published in *The Nottinghamshire Historian* No. 42, Spring/Summer 1989. (Details of purchase price from Peter Hammond - address inside the front cover of this Newsletter).

Members who attended our conference in Nottingham last year will remember seeing the unique gravestone made out of pipeclay in St. Mary's churchyard. It was made by the pipemaker William Sefton and records the deaths of his children Elizabeth and Mary in 1707 and 1714 respectively. In this article Peter provides an accurate drawing of the gravestone and a history of the Sefton pipemaking family.

New Members

Bewdley Museum, Load Street, Bewdley, Worcestershire.

Flowerdew Hundred Foundation, 1617 Flowerdew Hundred Road, Hopewell, Virginia 23860, USA.

Jerome Lynn Hall, Nautical Archaeology Program, Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas 77843-4352, USA.

17th century Dutch clay pipes; any pipes found in archaeological or archival association with those manufactured by Edward Bird. Portuguese manufactured pipes especially from the 17th century.

Anthony Lee, [redacted]
9JW.

Rupert Patrick [redacted]
WD2 3PL.

Patricia Poirier, [redacted]
France.

Change of Address

Bert van der Lingen, [redacted]
Noorden, Holland.