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Knockcroghery - An Irish Pipemaking Centre

The mass appeal of the cigarette was one of the major factors in the demise of the clay pipe as a smoking medium in the early years of this century. Major pipemaking centres and individual makers were gradually going out of business in the face of new smoking habits. For most, this was a gradual process, diminishing sales leading to final closure. In the well-known pipemaking centre of Knockcroghery, Co. Roscommon (National Grid Ref: M937584) however, the end was sudden and violent. Before we come to its demise a brief account of its history is in order.

The first recorded pipemaker in the village was a Thomas Buckly, who was working in the mid-18th century.¹ The next reference occurs some 80 years later, when a description of the village and the pipe industry located there was given by Isaac Weld in 1832.² While Weld does not, unfortunately, give the names of any of the makers, he does give what is probably one of the best accounts of the time of the industry in Ireland.

The industry, according to Weld, had been located for a considerable time in the village, it having been brought there by a settler who was acquainted with the process, and from whom others picked it up. At the time of his visit there were eight kilns in operation, with a somewhat smaller number of masters, employing some 24 journeymen-moulders. The average production was about 500 gross per week. This was a drop on the previous production of around 1000 gross a week which figure nevertheless was still sometimes achieved. The price was 1/- per gross; formerly it was 2/6d a gross.

He described the pipes as 'of the most humble description, short in the stem and small in the bole'. They were held in low esteem, even in Roscommon itself, where their chief market was for use at wakes. This small pipe was known as a 'Lord ha' Mercy'. The pipes were hawked through the country by pedlars, who purchased them from the makers and then re-sold them. The clay for their manufacture was obtained locally, in later times it was imported from England. The moulds and all other machinery were fashioned by the local smiths. The moulds were of iron and cost about 25/- a pair. According to Weld they lasted but 'several years' before becoming worn and imperfect. In 1825, during a speculation boom, investors went to the village to see about investing in, and enlarging, the industry on a more organized basis. After several days of checking the possibilities of such an investment the scheme was abandoned.

One interesting observation by Weld was on the refusal to allow women to participate in the work except in a minor and unimportant role. He tried to argue this point, saying that in Holland he had seen women engaged in all branches of the industry. He was informed, however, that the journeymen would not allow it; evidently they kept a tight control over the trade.

At the time of Weld's visit there were eight kilns in operation; some 70 years later there were seven families engaged in the making of pipes. These included two families of Curley, two of Lyons, and one each of Gavin, Cunnane and Fitzgerald. By this time also, women were now being employed, usually as finishers and packers.

The peace of this rural community was shattered in the early hours of Tuesday June 21 1921. A contemporary newspaper account graphically relates what followed:³

'Roscommon was startled on Tuesday morning by a report that during the previous night the town of Knockcroghery had been practically burnt out. Inquiries resulted in the confirmation of the report that out of nearly fifty houses in the town, not more than four escaped the conflagration.'

Later reports stated that the town was still burning three days afterwards. The raiders arrived in lorries from the Athlone direction, and after clearing the houses at gunpoint set about burning the entire village. In October of that year claims for compensation were heard: one of these is of interest. Patrick Curley, pipemaker, claimed for a pipe manufactory and two houses. On the night in question, two men in trilbies and trenchcoats entered his house; they forced his father Andrew (a man aged 82) to leave his bed; they then sprinkled the room with petrol and set it alight. Patrick Curley claimed £1755 for his gross turnover: after expenses he had an annual profit of £496. He sent his pipes by cart a radius of 50 miles from Knockcroghery and by rail to more distant parts. He entered as evidence samples of his moulds and also a 'Lord of Mercy' pipe of the type used at funerals. Damages were assessed at £1989.

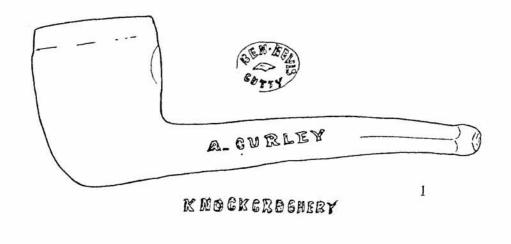
Knockcroghery never recovered as a pipemaking centre. The village was rebuilt, but the pipemakers moved into other areas of livelihood.

Fig. 1 shows a typical late-19th/early 20th century pipe; short stemmed, thick walled, manufactured by Andrew Curley, father of Patrick.

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Joe Norton

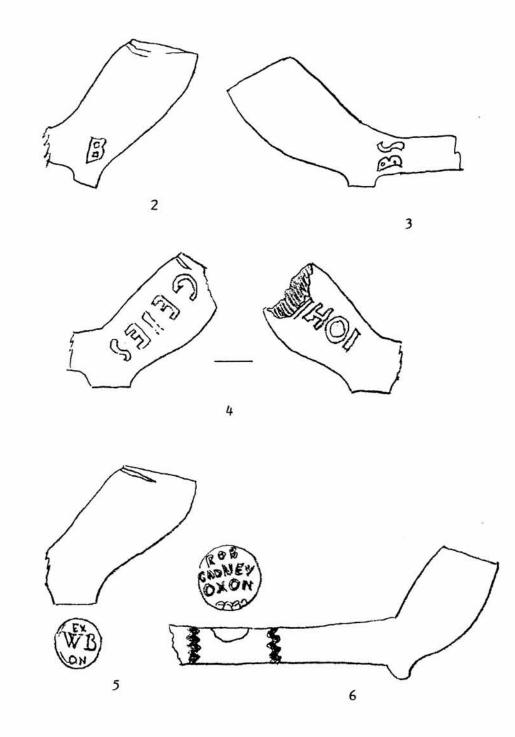


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Some Regional Markings in the 17th and 18th Centuries

The second half of the 17th century saw some new styles of markings on pipes. The most notable and most studied are the square Broseley base marks of full names. In certain areas there was a fashion for marking in relief on the sides of the bowl. The cartouche marks on one side of the Bristol bowls which start about 1690 are well known, but relief initials on one or both sides of the bowl are found in other areas in various forms (Figs. 2 & 3). The style of Fig. 2, where the initials are in the lower half of the bowl on both sides, is found from the Humber to Suffolk, with an outlier at Portsmouth from the Oyster Street kiln. With the initials at the junction of stem and bowl as Fig. 3, the marks centre on Dorset. Marks placed more centrally on the bowl are found inland at Lincoln, Coventry, Gloucestershire and Ipswich.¹ The date range of these marks is from c1670-1740. Possibly ' the clay trade between Dorset and East Anglian ports introduced the style to the latter area, but it cannot be said that the East Coast series is later than those from Dorset.²

Allied to this series of initials is the occurrence of full names in relief on both sides of the bowl in the counties of Northants, Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire. Previously, I have noted such pipes by Samuel Benbow working in the Stoney Stratford area and recorded from 1694-1709.³ Further names can now be added: George Weaver working 1694 (Recs Bucks, Q.S.R.), pipes from Winslow and the Castle Street kiln, Aylesbury, William Benbow in the Bedford Museum c1680-1700, John Geies or Getes (Fig. 4) from Syresham near Brackley and from Stoney Stratford.⁴ The date range of these pipes is from 1680-1710 on bowl style. In the South West, at Exeter Thomas Woodward (free 1708) signed across the bowl and added the place name Exon. Contemporary with him were William Burgess Snr and Jnr, working from 1691-1734, who signed on the base of the bowl and also added the place name $^{5}(Fig. 5)$.



This place name addition raises the question of such occurrences elsewhere and the dates thereof.

In England, Robert Gadney Snr and Jnrs, working from c1665-1725 at Oxford, used 'Oxon' on stems and bases (Fig. 6) probably antedating the Exeter examples.⁶

However, in Scotland about the same time or (perhaps) slightly earlier, makers were using the bottom letter in their three-letter base marks to identify the place.⁷

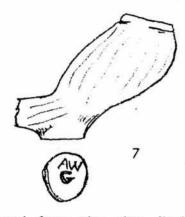


Fig. 7 shows a bowl from the city ditch at Londonderry of Scottish shape c1670, presumably made by Alexander Watson of Glasgow, recorded 1668-74. Suggested places for other bottom letter-marks on Scottish pipes are B for Bannockburn, E for Edinburgh, G for Glasgow, L for Leith and S for Stirling. At the other end of Britain, pipes marked RW over B (presumably Barnstaple) are found in the Bideford/Barnstaple area.⁸ These date to c1700.

Late-17th century pipes with makers initials and place names on the base are found in the West Country, eg I.P. over BID (presumably Bideford); George Web(b) in Chard; AH, EC, LC, RP, WV and RW in Taunton, and IP in Tops(h)am.⁹ Robert Carpenter of Bath, married 1699 died 1719, records the name Bath both on the base and stems of his pipes and seems to mark the transition of the place name from the base to the stem in the early 18th century. Stem place-name markings increase in the 18th century and place names on bowls and stems are a commonplace in the 19th. In the hope that others will add to it, I append a list of place names on stems of which I have a record for the 18th century.

Finally, sometimes, only the place name is given eg Topsam c1690-1710, Barum (probably Barnstaple) c1680-1720, Winton (Winchester) c1750, Chester (but incorporated in the City arms) c1720.

Curiously, I have seen no record of the name London within the period given.

18th century	stem	marks	with	place	names
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Lancaster	(?Andrew) Edkin	c1770
Derby	George Salisbury	married 1759
,	Richard Pain	1762-5
Nottingham	William Sefton	1704-37
0	Henry Sefton	1717 (dated
a 1 · · ·		pipes)
Cambridge	S. Wilkinson	1762
Broseley	Sam Acton	1731-48
	James Gethin	c1740-70
	William Harper	c1730-40
Benthall	George & John Bradley	c1740-60
Gloucester	Richard Mathews (1) or (2)	1740-1800
	John Powel	free 1702
Salop	Sam Roden	c1720-50
(?Shrewsbury)		
Bristol	John Okely	1732-49
	George Viner	1747-65
	George Ebbery	1721-86
Staines	Spur initial M. Staines on base	е
Fareham	Sayer (probably Richard)	c1700-20
Portsmouth	Richard Hoar	c1720-40
Deferences		÷.
References	oln and Ipswich. Oswald, A.	(1975) Clay
	our and iponioni condidi in	

Por Efficient and Ipswich. Osward, A. (1979) Clay pipes for the archaeologist BAR 14, Fig.14 Nos.2 & 3, Pl.IV.13. Gloucester. Peacey, A. (1979) Clay tobacco pipes in Gloucestershire Fig.3.25. Coventry. Muldoon, S. (1979) Marked clay pipes from Coventry BAR 63, Fig.5.28

- E. Anglia. Atkin, S. (1985) Clay pipe industry in Norfolk Norfolk Arch. Soc. 39, Pt.II, Fig.4. Dorset. Series of excavations, Dorchester, Poole, etc.
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- 4. Aylesbury. Moore, J. (1979) 17th Cent. Kiln Castle Street *Recs Bucks* 21, Fig.5.5. Remainder personal correspondence.
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- 7. Gallagher, D. (1984) Scottish three letter basal stamps SCPR 3, p.9.
- 8. Grant, A. & Jemmett, D. (1985) Pipes and pipemaking in Barnstaple BAR 146 (ii), p.452.
- 9. In this series one should perhaps include the giant 'Cadger' pipe signed G.B. 1698 Amesbury which is in Salisbury Museum but this appears to be a one off piece as distinct from the production models quoted.

Adrian Oswald

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4

London Tobaccopipe Makers in the Guildhall Library Trades Directories, 1763-1800

The series of 18th century London trades directories in the Guildhall Library is the most comprehensive of its kind in the world. Although pipemakers are, on the whole, not well represented, such information as there is remains a useful source of primary information: but since the vast majority of the directories are unclassified, information on any particular trade is not easily accessible. In the list of London pipemakers, in his monumental work Clay pipes for the archaeologist (BAR 14, 1975), Adrian Oswald has made use of information from the directories provided by the Lambeth Archaeological Society. It appears, however, that the information for the 18th century has been derived from only two directories - that of Mortimer (1763) and Holden (1799). Whilst these two directories contain the highest number of pipemakers in the 18th century series (19 and 17 makers respectively), some other directories of the period also contain useful information.

In connection with another project, the writer has been through all the directories in the Guildhall series for the 18th century (some 120 volumes in all) and has noted all the entries for tobaccopipe makers.

The 18th century series starts at 1736. The first mention of pipemakers does, in fact, occur in Mortimer's directory of 1763. Kent's directories for the period list 4 makers between 1765 and 1799; Lowndes's (1772-1799), Boyle's (1794) and Fenwick's (1796) list only 1 each; the Universal British Directory (London area) of 1791 lists 6; Andrew's (1789) lists 9; the Wakefield's directories of 1790 and 1794 between them list 15; and, as mentioned above, Holden's (1799) lists 17. Just over 50 different makers are listed in all.

In the list given here, where the information from the directories adds to the information in Oswald's listing, a single asterisk has been placed beside the maker's name. Where the name does not appear in Oswald's list, two asterisks have been inserted. It should be noted that the names of makers are often inconsistently spelt in the directories: alternative spellings are noted in the list.

The writer thanks the Corporation of London, Guildhall Library, for permission to reproduce information from their directory series, and his colleague, Dr Roger Price, for his assistance in the preparation of this article.

David Wright

London	Tobacco	nine	makers	in	the	trades	directories	-	* .	Cuildhall	Library	1763-1800.
London	TODACCO	hibe	makers	m	the	u aues	directories	ın	the	Guildhall	Library,	1763-1800.

condon robucco pipe makers in	the trades directories in the Guildhan L	101 al y, 1703-18
* Benson, George	50 Gray's Inn Lane	1785
Blundell, -	Kent St, Southwark	1763
* Bourne, John	Booth St Spitalfields	1794
Bourne, James	Booth St Spitalfields	1799
Brown, George	Gray's Inn Lane Road	1799
Charlton, Mathew	74 Cowcross St, Smithfield	1799
' Clark, George	246 High Holborn	1789
**Coare, Thomas	74 Cowcross St.	1790
Cole, -	Chequer Ally, Whitecross st.	1763
Cole, Richard	Nag's Head Court, Golden Lane	1799
* Dormer, Thomas	Hermitage, Wapping Brewhouse Yard, Hermitage	1763-1769 1770-1771
**Duggan, Thomas	Tobacco pipe clay merchant	
(Duggin, Dougin)	Shad Thames . Saviour's Dock, Southwark	1789-1790 1791
* Greenland, William	60 Lower East Smithfield	1785 - post 1802
Hebblethwhite, Nathaniel	Gray's Inn Lane	1763
Hedges, Thomas	West St. West Smithfield	1799
**Heming, Joseph	Bow	1785
Hillary, -	Windmill St	1763
**James, -	Crown Court St. Giles's	1763
Jones, James	11 Whitecross St.	1799
* Jones, John	Bow, Middx Mile End Old Town	1794 1799
**Kirby, William	Little Aycliffe St	1784
Lewis, Samuel	14 New St. Horsleydown	1799
* Manbey, Edward	Hermitage Bridge	1763
(Manby)	2 Lower East Smithfield	1769-1771
**Morgan, John	2 Brewhouse St. Bedfordbury	1790
Morris, George	295 Kent St. Borough	1799
Mould, John	12 Cross Lane Drury Lane 10	1799

1	Payne, John	30 Great Windmill St.	1799
(Pollhill, N.R. (see Rogers) (Polhill)	2 Hermitage Bridge 2 Lower East Smithfield	17 9 4, 1799
		Liquor pond St. Gray's Inn Lane	1763
**	Reffell, H	18 West St. West Smithfield	1794
	Ridout, -	Peter St. Westminster	1763
	Rogers and Pollhill (Polhill)	2 Hermitage Bridge 2 Lower East Smithfield	1785-1796
	Romaine, -	Old St.	1763
**	Ruscoe, Thomas	45 Lower Shadwell	1789
×	Ruscoe, Thomas junior	Bell Wharf Lower Shadwell 7 Narrow St. Limehouse	1789-1799 1799
	Rutledge, -	Vinegar Yard St. Giles's	1763
	Saltenstall, -	Brick St. Hyde Park Corner	1763
	Savill, -	Whitecross St	1763
	Savill, John (Savil, Savell, Savel)	Featherstone St. Bunhill Fields 56 Featherstone St. Moorfields Dove Court Pavement, Moorfields	1763 1789-1794 1799
	Ścourfield, William (Squalfield)	254 Whitechapel Road	1791-1799
**	Smith, James	Anchor Court, Old St.	1790
**	Smith, John	Gray's Inn Lane Road	1799
*	Smith, Thomas	Charlotte St, near Hermitage St. Wapping	1774-1775
	Stray, -	Execution Dock	1763
	Thompson, -	Warwick St Golden Square	1763
**	Waddington, William	Narrow St, Limehouse	1785
**	Warner, William	10 Wood St Bethnal Green	1794 ,
*	Webb, George	Hungerford Stairs, Strand	1794
**	Weeks, Thomas	Broad Wall, Christ Church, Surrey	1794
	Wilder, -	Playhouse Yard, Whitecross St	1763
	Williams, -	Oxford Road	1763
*	Wood, - } Wood, Jane }	Chequer Alley, Whitecross st	1763 and 1789
٠	Woodroffe, James	106 Old St. 11	1789-1799

A Pipe Mould Used in Norfolk

Two recently published articles have noted one of three iron pipe moulds in Newarke Houses Museum, Leicester, reputedly used in the business of R.W. Taylor of Great Yarmouth, Norfolk.

The mould was described as producing a plain pipe with a 15" (38 cm) long stem.¹ However, both Higgins² and myself³have noted that it has a mark on the spur. The staff of the Newarke Houses Museum have kindly supplied an impression of it taken after cleaning the spur area in 1984 (Fig. 8). The main interest of this mould, though (and not mentioned by Daniell), is the mark on the exterior of one of the mould halves - JONES LONDON.

Ç.

The name may be connected with a firm mentioned by John Harris jnr, a Yarmouth pipemaker and contemporary of R.W. Taylor, who was interviewed in 1927 for the Yarmouth Mercury. He said 'moulds ... of iron ... [were] made 60 years ago by Jones and Bagshaw of London! No firm of this name has so far come to light, but Adrian Oswald (in correspondence) suggested a mouldmaker named Henry Bradshaw (or Bagshaw) working in Earls Court in 1861-66, and Peter Hammond lists a Richard Jones and Son of Kent Street (?Borough), c1845-62, as a pipemaker and pipe mould maker.⁴

It is very possible that 'Jones and Bagshaw' made moulds for both the Harris and Taylor families during the 19th century. There are several links between them: John Harris snr (£1 1850s and 1860s) worked for James Taylor jnr (£1 c1849-190; father of R.W. Taylor) until 1852. In 1859 Harris snr took over the premises of James Taylor snr (£1 1830-53) in Black Swan Row, Great Yarmouth.

The pipe shape produced from the Leicester mould probably dates to the early or middle years of the 19th century which would make it more likely to have been used by Taylor snr or inr than by Richard William Taylor. who was not born until 1856. Daniell did not explain how the connection between R.W. Taylor and the pipe mould came to be made. Certainly an iron mould made in the mid 19th century could have remained in use by father and/or son (James snr and jnr) for 30 to 50 years,⁵ though it would probably have been unfashionable and/or worn by the grandson's time. The mould was accessioned in 1908 - and between 1900 and 1916 both R.W. Taylor and John Harris jnr were still working on North Quay, Yarmouth (nos 60-1 and 10a respectively). Perhaps it was R.W. Taylor who sold or disposed of the Leicester mould used by his father or grandfather, rather than actually using it in his business as claimed by Daniell.

It would be interesting to hear of any further references to Jones and Bagshaw of London - perhaps one or other of them supplied moulds to makers in other parts of the country.

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- 5. Oswald, A. (1985) On the life of clay pipe moulds BAR 146(i), p.5.

Susanne Atkin

Editors note: Further details concerning London tobaccopipe mould makers, including Richard Jones, were given in SCPR 7. I have referred to these in various publications in recent years. Another instance has come to my notice as follows:

From the London rubbish tips dating to c1890-1900 by the canal at Iver, Bucks., a well produced spurless pipe showing a sailing ship on one side of the bowl and a cabled anchor on the other. Incuse along the stem is HARRISON HIGHGATE / NAVAL EXHIBITION. From the same deposits a pipe from the same mould but which has had the inscription cut out from both sides of the stem.

As the maker's name has also been removed it would appear that the mould originally produced as a commemorative pipe of the 1891(?) Naval Exhibition, came into the hands of a later maker who reused it for the ordinary market, it being an attractive design.

The maker Harrison of Highgate does not appear in the London 19th century lists though there are several earlier Harrisons who worked in London, and at least one stamped his pipes on the back of the bowl or had his name on the stem.

Harrison of Highgate produced pipes of exceptionally good quality in the moulding, an outstanding example of which appears to commemorate the death of the Duke of Clarence. This shows a portrait of the Duke on the base of the bowl facing downwards, and the bowl itself is covered with representations of his orders and decorations. On the stem, incuse, it has HARRISON HIGHGATE / LATE DUKE OF CLARENCE.

Part of another pipe which may have been produced by this interesting maker has on the stem LORD NELSON / NAVAL EXHIBITION.

Perhaps a member can throw more light on this interesting late 19th century London maker.

David Atkinson

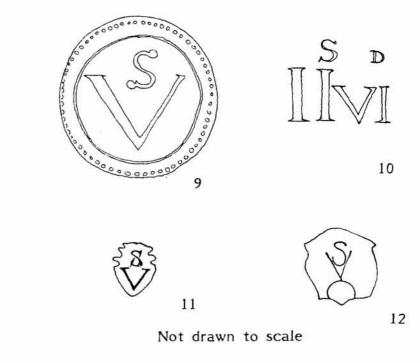
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Regarding the parallel between SV silver-ware and pipe marks, referred to by David Barker in SCPR 10, similar marks can be seen on 'Ormonde' money. Minted in Ireland from 1643-9, denominations included crowns, half crowns, shillings, sixpences, groats, three-pences and two-pences, and was named after the Duke of Ormonde,¹ Lord Lieutenant of Ireland in 1643. They were struck as emergency money for Charles I. The mark in this case should read VS (Fig. 9) and represents the value: five shillings. As a further example, Fig. 10 shows a mark on another coin in the series: two shillings and six pence.

Another SV mark has been noted on a gold porringer dated 1674^2 (Fig. 11) and, like the silver-ware marks illustrated by Barker, has a companion maker's mark, in this case TG.

Finally, a papermark (Fig. 12) dated to 1555,³ shows an SV in similar style on a scroll or shield.



It could be that, as Barker suggests, the SV pipe and silver-ware marks are related as known indications of quality - something like a British Standards Kite mark but the known existence of a WV pipe mark must throw doubts on this.⁴

However, the various SV/VS marks noted above show that coincidence may be playing a part here - the result of a satisfactory monogram design in general use. This is well exampled by the TS/ST cyphers in Fig. 13, all taken from various contexts.⁵

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- 5. a: pipe base mark c1610-40. Relief. Thames.
 - Queenhithe. b: Goldsmith's mark 1635. Ref. as 3 above, No.2, p.456.
 - c: Goldsmith's mark 1640-1. Ref. as 3 above, p.317.
 - d: Pottery mark c1875-98. Godden, G.A. (1964) Encyclopaedia of British pottery and porcelain p.751.

Colin Tatman

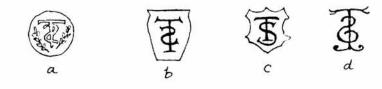


Fig. 13 Not drawn to scale

On 11 June 1685 the exiled James Duke of Monmouth returned to England and landed at Lyme Regis in Dorset with a small army of just over 80 men. As he made his way through Dorset, Devon and Somerset many local people joined him in rebellion against the government of King James II and swelled his ranks into thousands of men of all ages, classes, religions and trades. The revolt finally ended at the Battle of Sedgemoor, Somerset, on 6 July 1685 when Monmouth's army was crushed; many were killed on the field and more were captured and imprisoned, while the remainder fled back to their respective parishes in the belief that they had escaped any retribution from the crown.

The rebels who survived Sedgemoor, including those who had apparently escaped, became the victims of what became known as the 'Bloody Assizes' of Judge George Jeffreys, who rooted out all participants of the uprising so that they could be punished in such a way as to deter any recurrence of the events of June-July 1685. The constables of all parishes within the area of rebellion were instructed to compile lists of all persons absent from their homes during the period in question and, known as the Constables Presentments, these lists are the main source of information concerning the occupations of the rebels. Using these and the numerous other sources available a descriptive list of all the known rebels has been compiled and published, and from it the following information concerning pipemakers has been extracted.

Roger Briant alias Hooper of Lyme Regis, Dorset, pipemaker: tried at Dorchester and transported for Sir Jerome Nipho from Dorchester goal on the 'Betty' to Barbados, where he was sold to Thomas Linton.

Christopher Cooper of Honiton, Devon, pipemaker: held prisoner in Devon Workhouse, tried at Exeter, and transported for Nipho from Exeter goal on the 'Betty' to Barbados and sold to Charles Thomas & Co. He was buried at St. Michael's, Barbados, in 1686. Samuel Dolbeare of Honiton, Devon, pipemaker: held in Bridgwater prison, tried at Dorchester, and transported for Nipho from Weymouth on 25 November 1685 on the 'Betty' to Barbados, where he was sold to William Marchant.

John Howell of Rode, Somerset, tobacco pipe maker: tried at Wells, hanged at Wincanton; his land forfeit and for sale.

John Warmouth of Taunton, Somerset, pipemaker: described as aiding the rebellion.

All those who were tried at the various courts were found guilty of high treason. The occupations of many of the rebels are still not known, they simply being described as yeomen in the contemporary documents, and it is therefore possible that other pipemakers besides those listed above were involved. It is unfortunate that these others are unlikely to be positively identified.

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank Dr. Robert Dunning for first confirming that John Howell 'yeoman' of Rode was the pipemaker, and for all assistance given to me in my research.

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Marek Lewcun

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Editor's note: Is it possible that any of the transported pipemakers practised their trade in the Caribbean? It is known that the Bristol Port Books of the 17th century list pipe clay as one of the goods exported.

Further Notes on the Stonehouse Brothers of Hull

John and Oliver Stonehouse are known to have worked as Stonehouse Bros. at Marlborough Terrace, Hull between 1904 until 1929. After this date Oliver is listed alone as a shop keeper. The Stonehouse brothers also appear in the Grimsby directories for 1885-9. Their brother George was working in Gateshead from 1902-35 and is on record saying he came from an old established family of pipemakers of Hull. Their father Francis is recorded as working at West Street in 1882-5 and Marlborough Terrace 1888-1903; he is recorded as a marine stores dealer in 1888 and as working in Grimsby in 1892. Thomas F. Callis is recorded as a pipe clay merchant in directories of 1885 and 1879, with premises in High Street.

Bernard Stonehouse, son of John (pipemaker)

Recently I had an article printed in the Hull Daily Mail about clay tobacco pipes. A Mr. Bernard Stonehouse contacted me as he is the son of the pipemaker and has many memories of his father's work.

His earliest recollection is from when he went to see the kiln being burnt, or 'burning the clay' as he terms it. This was at the age of six in 1929. He describes the kiln as a 'bottle-shaped' type, with a hole in the top to allow the smoke to escape, and with an observation hole. His father would take a red-hot pipe (test piece) in a pair of tongs, and would throw his arms up and down to help cool the pipe. He would then closely inspect the pipe for even the smallest flaws. If it happened to be cracked or mis-shapen, it could mean that the whole batch could need re-making.

He also decribes how the clay was prepared. He calls this 'beating the clay'. This would involve beating a 2' x 2' (60 cm x 60 cm) block of clay with a large iron bar for as long as two hours. As he struck the clay, he would flick his wrists so that the bar would not become embedded in the clay. Finished pipes would be packed for distribution in wooden crates, separated into layers by straw and cardboard. He remembers the workshop as being situated behind a grocer's shop which was also run by his father John, and his uncle Oliver. A passage ran down the side of the shop which led to some wooden stairs, up which was the pipe workshop. The kiln was situated behind these premises. A certain 'Sam Brown' was employed by Stonehouse Bros. and it has been printed in local papers in the past that he was Hull's last pipemaker. He says that Oliver, John and George were all pipemakers in the footsteps of his grandfather Francis, who originally came from Grimsby. He also recalls his father getting his pipe clay in a wheel barrow from a dealer down High Street. Also he remembers the tools, gin press and moulds and describes these in quite some detail.

In or about 1937, before the outbreak of war, someone visited his father to see if he would donate his complete workshop with all its equipment to the museum. This request was granted and his shop removed and reconstructed in Thomas Sheppard's dream street along with many other old Hull buildings. (This is where York got their idea for such a reconstruction.) Sadly, however, the dream was shattered when the street was destroyed by a stray bomb during the war.

Martin Stothard

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A 17th Century Pipemaker's House in Gateshead

Recent research into the early clay tobacco-pipemaking industry in Newcastle and Gateshead has revealed some 140 pipemakers working in those towns between c1630 and c1800.¹ Whilst it is sometimes possible to discover in which street an individual lived and/or worked, it is quite rare to discover the precise location of such premises. One such example is the house of John Bowman, pipemaker of Gateshead, who died in 1689.

The earliest reference to Bowman occurs in the Parish Registers of St. Mary's Church, Gateshead, and records his marriage to Elizabeth Pearson on 4 November 1645. He was one of the persons named in the Charter granted to the Pipemakers, Grocers and Apothecaries of Gateshead by Bishop Crewe of Durham in September 1675 (Public Record Office. Durham 3/118, mem.1d, No.1).

Bowman's will of September 1689 describes his 'dwelling house' in Hillgate, Gateshead. He left the house to his second wife, Ann, and her assigns 'for and during her naturall life only'. After her death the property was to pass to the Church Wardens of Gateshead 'for ever'. They were directed to distribute the yearly rent from the property to the poor of the Parish (Dept. of Palaeography and Diplomatic, University of Durham, No. T 171 1689).

This gift was commemorated by an escutcheon in St. Mary's Church, Gateshead. In 1789 the inscription on the escutcheon was recorded as

Jo... pipemaker who died October ... 1689. By his last will he gave to the poor of the Parish of St. Maries in Gateshead - a house in Hillgate let at 61 per annum.'²

Unfortunately, this memorial no longer exists.

An indenture, dated March 1848, relating to the John Bowman Charity has an illustration of the groundplan of Bowman's house (Figs. 14 & 15) (Durham County Record Office, No.EP/Ga/SM 12/17 2). The building measured c7 metres by 11 metres on a north-south axis. It was divided into two interconnecting rooms and a yard entered from the southern room. The latter room, c5 metres square, also had an access to a staircase (which presumably led to a first floor), and a doorway opening onto Church Walk. The northern room, c4.75 metres by 3 metres north to south, had a doorway giving access to the rear (north) of the property. Both rooms had a fireplace in the east wall.

It would seem quite likely that little if any alteration had been done to the house since Bowman's death. In 1829 it was described as 'an old house in which five or six persons reside, who are placed there by the Parish Officers'. The 1848 indenture describes it has having been 'lately used as a lock-up house with a piece of land to the north', and proposed its demolition and rebuilding.

Correspondence of the John Bowman Charity relating to the sale of the land prior to the building of Tyne Bridge in 1926 describe the premises as 'comprising an area of 216 square yards situated in Church Walk, Gateshead, and known as No. 4, Church Walk' (Durham County Record Office. ibid.).

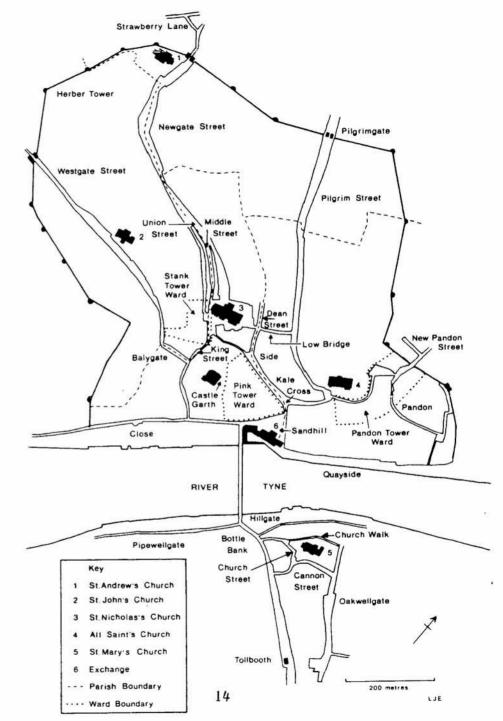
The building of Tyne Bridge probably destroyed the archaeological evidence of Bowman's house. One of the bridge piers now stands on, or very near, the site of the house.

References

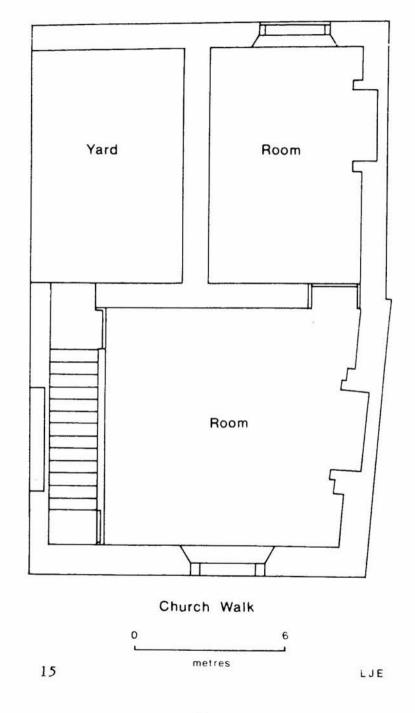
- 1. Edwards, L.J. (1986) Tobacco pipes, pipemakers and tobacconists in Newcastle and Gateshead until c1800: an archaeological study. Unpublished M.A. thesis, Dept. of Archaeology, University of Durham.
- Brand, J. (1789) History of Newcastle upon Tyne Newcastle, Vol.1, p.498.
- 3. Mackenzie, E., (1834) History of Durham Newcastle, p.92.

Lloyd Edwards

NEWCASTLE and GATESHEAD



JOHN BOWMAN'S HOUSE



National Stamp Catalogue

At the first meeting of the Society last September it was proposed that a national stamp catalogue be set up. Despite a note in the following newsletter (SCPR 8) the overall response can only be described as dismal. So few members got round to offering advice or practical help (and my warmest thanks to those who did) that it has been impossible to make any serious attempt at a national catalogue. I have however started to compile a regional catalogue which may be regarded as a trial run.

This consists of a card index on which drawings and data about pipe marks are held. It is based on pipes from the West Midlands - principally the Broseley and associated types, but drawn from an area ranging between Oxford and Stoke, Leicester and the Welsh borders. The primary classification is by the initials of the maker (with sub sections for symbol marks), and being on loose cards new variations can easily be added. It is hoped to be able to produce a provisional catalogue of this area by the end of the year.

Although I am still happy to receive details of stamps from any area, I would particularly like those members with collections, or access to collections including any West Midlands or Broseley material to send me details of any stamped pipes so that I can make this list as complete as possible. The information I require is as follows:

- 1. A good, clear drawing of the stamp, preferably twice life size (make sure you actually say how big it is!), together with a note of whether it is relief or incuse, and where it occurs on the pipe (if a stem stamp specify whether along or across the stem).
- 2. The findspot (county, area and site or address).
- 3. The number of examples found (it may be significant if there is more than one).
- The bowl type preferably from a recognised typology - if in doubt draw it.

- 5. The suggested date range for the mark, and maker if known.
- 6. The name and address of the owner or museum collection where the pipe is stored.

The best way of recording this information is to divide up a piece of paper (preferably A4, sideways if necessary) into suitably sized columns into which the information can be easily inserted. If you know of any marks from this area, especially if they are 'a long way from home', please send me details as soon as posible so they can be added to the catalogue.

David Higgins

The Carter Pipe Collection

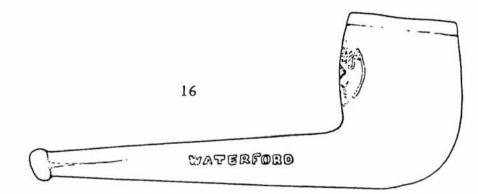
We were recently pleased to assist Mike and Angela Overton, the owners of Sally Lunn's Refreshment House, with the preparation of a clay pipe collection for display in their museum. The collection, which contains some good examples of locally made 17th century pipes and some fine 19th century figurals, was assembled by Marion and Derek Carter of Bath and 70 pipes have been selected for exhibition.

Sally Lunn's House is at 4 North Parade Passage, Bath, Avon and was an important coffee house in Georgian times. The Kitchen Museum is open 6 days a week from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm and the curator is Tom Seager. It is certainly well worth a visit.

Reg & Philomena Jackson and Marek Lewcun

Peter Hammond replies:

1. Following David Higgins' piece concerning Irish pipes in SCPR 10 I would like to make a few additions to his notes. First, the pipe illustrated by Hanley & Co. of Waterford was in fact intended to have 'BEN NEVIS CUTTY' on the bowl, this bowl stamp being fairly common in both Scotland and Ireland. Another similar stamp, though less common, was 'CAVE HILL CUTTY'. Having recently corresponded with David over this point he has sent me a drawing of a complete Hanley pipe which he has just seen in the Woodstock Museum collection confirming the correct stamp (Fig. 16). I also have an identical example in my own collection.

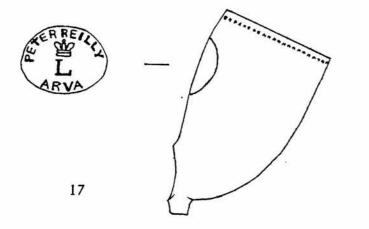


Second, David also mentioned the former makers in Knockcroghery - again I have examples of pipes marked 'W. CURLEY' (large plain cutty) and 'P.(?) LYONS' (plain cutty with an oval stamp 'IRISH CUTTY' on the back of the bowl). Other pipes by Irish makers in my possession (excepting the widely produced and copied 'O'BRIEN -DUBLIN') are as follows:-

J.CUNNINGHAM - Belfast M.CUNNINGHAM - Dublin P.DEVLIN - Dublin EVANS - Dublin FITZGERALD - Cork John HAMILTON - Belfast M.HARTNEY - Limerick J.KIVLEHAN - Limerick M.McDOWALL - Dublin T.S.McKEE - Belfast J.McKERNA...(N?) - Derry McLOUGHLIN & Sons - Dublin W.MURPHY - Wexford D.O'CONNOR - Dublin R.REID - New...(ry?) Peter REILLY - Arva (Arvagh?) ULSTER PIPE WORKS - Belfast

In addition I have one marked 'D.FULLERTON -TOBACCONIST - LARNE'.

While on the subject of Irish pipes, does anybody know the origins of the 19th-century pipes marked on the back of the bowl with a crown and the letter 'L'? Usually they do not have the maker's name present though one exception in my collection concerns the above maker Peter Reilly which bears the name above the crown and 'L' motif (Fig. 17).



2. Following David Bedlington Jones' query concerning the GRAMWILL miniature pipe, these were in fact made as novelties by the firm of W. G. Ingram at the Gramwill Rubber Works, Old Ford, London who advertised as tobacconists and manufacturers of advertising balloons. tobacco pouches and novelties. Some of their miniature pipes were marked 'W.G.I. JR.' (W.G.Ingram junior) on one side of the stem with 'GRAMWILL' on the other. The pipes were sold in small yellow card or tin boxes complete with a miniature box of matches and a tobacco pouch with tobacco in it! In fact, it would be possible to smoke such a pipe though I hardly think it would be worth the effort. I have yet to check Ingram in the London Directories but suspect that the firm would have been active in the late 19th/early 20th century.

Joe Norton replies:

In SCPR 10 Hugh Oak-Rhind referred to a note in Anthologia Hibernica Vol.1 (1793), p.352. I enclose a copy of the original (Fig. 18).

ANTHOLOGIA HIBERNICA. 352

FOR MAY 1793.



No. 7. is an ancient tobacco-pipe, of which they threw into the hire, the afcoarfe earthen-wave, found at Brannockf- cending finoke of which the company, town, in the county of Kildare, flicking feated round the fire, collected; and between the teeth of a human fkull, in with which they were as much intoxi-1784. On digging in an elevated field, cated 2s the Greeks with wine ; caufing near the banks of the river Liffy, the them to dance and fing. Strabo, alfo, labourers found an intrenchment filled fays, that they had a religious order with human bones, among which was a among them, who frequently finoked number of these pipes; under the bones for recreation. L. vii. 296. Which, lay a number of flone coffins, formed of flag flones, without cement : in each cof- linus, c. 15. they received through long fin was a fkeleton. A battle was fought tubes. All the German and northern here, according to Keating, between nations, who are defcendants of those the Irifh and Danes in the 10th century ; the pipes most probably belonged to the cultivated, tobacco; which they fmoked 1)anes.

Those who have been accullomed to confider the ufc of tobacco of a modyrn date, and to have originated in America, will not be inclined to think the Danes were acquainted with that herb in an early period. However, Ile. rodoms, in lib. i. fc.9. 36. afferts, that the Maffagetæ, and all the Scythic nations, had among them certain herbs.

according to Pomp. Mela. z. and So-Scythar, were early acquainted with, and through wooden and earthen pipes. The caftern Scythæ, Tartars, and Turks ufed long tubes ; but the Goths and northern nations flort ones, as flill practifed among the lower people of Germany. Pipes, alfo, fimilar to those now under confideration, are frequently dug up in England, and there universally attributed to the Dancs.

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Robin Smith replies:

In SCPR 10, in the article titled 'British Pipes in Panama', David Higgins refers to a McDougall/Glasgow pipe bearing the mould number 450. The 1900 Scottish pricelist indicates that by 1900 McDougall had reached mould number 410. It is my understanding that pipes produced after 1891 were marked with Scotland rather than Glasgow, in keeping with the McKinley Tariff Act. The same Scottish pricelist, however, lists a W. White pipe with the mould number 450. The pipe is the 'Extra L Ulster Derry' and sold for $9\frac{1}{2}$ d per gross. I would suspect that the pipe described was in fact the White pipe and not a McDougall product.

Correction to 'Stamps and Mouldings on Clay Pipes Found in London' (BAR 146 (ii), 1985)

Text for no. 2 should read: Depressed outline of flowerhead with leaves, on oval base. Petals and central 'seed' formed by pellets in relief. Stem is thin, hard and polished. Size and type suggests a pre-1630 date. Greenwich. S.B.D. 3mm.

Addendum

Since finishing the article in 1983, a possible maker has been found for the bowl stamped 'Hedge' (Fig.5, No.48). A James Collins Hedge, pipemaker, baptized a daughter 5 June 1836 in the parish of St. Mary's Newington, Lambeth. It is hoped a full list of nineteenth century makers from this parish will be published in the future.

Colin Tatman

'The clay tobacco pipe industry of Newark', Transactions of the Thoroton Society.

This contains a description of the development of the industry of the town, drawings of all known Newark pipes, full details of the makers, and a report of the excavation on a pipe kiln waste site in Newark in 1983. Offprints (or photocopies depending on availability) are obtainable from the author, Peter Hammond, for £1.25 including postage. His address is inside the front cover.

Help!

Peter Hammond is seeking information from anyone who has examples of pipes by either Church or Ford of London. Please contact him at the address given inside the front cover.

John Smith requires information on a William Sturgeon who was associated with pipe clay dealing in Rouen, France, in 1776. If anyone has any record of William Sturgeon as a pipemaker, pipe clay dealer or potter then John would be pleased to have details. He can be contacted at 147 Parkfield Road, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 1HL.

Robin Smith would be interested in hearing from any researchers in Scotland, Ireland or England who have come across pipes marked 'BANNERMAN/GLASGOW'. He knows of three finds in North America of pipes thus marked: one at a site outside Ottawa, a second at a site in New Mexico and a third at a site in South Carolina.

He would also like to hear from any researchers in the Manchester area who have come across pipemakers by the name of Spooner or Dixon. These are two families which appear as pipemakers in Montreal, originally coming from Manchester. In Canada, they were members of the Unitarian Church. Any material would be of use. Robin can be contacted at the address given inside the front cover.