

NEWSLETTER

14



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Honorary President: Adrian Oswald, 10 Lacks Close, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire.

Editor of this Issue: Reg Jackson, 13 Sommerville Road, Bishopston, Bristol BS7 9AD.

Treasurer: Philomena Jackson.

Contributors

John Andrews, 39 Chatford Drive, Meole Brace, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY3 9PH.

David Atkinson, 116 Phyllis Avenue, Peacehaven, East Sussex BN9 7RQ.

David Barker, 47 Sayes Court, Addlestone, Surrey KT15 1NA.

Ken Brand, 22 Park Road, Harwich, Essex.

Ron Dagnall, 14 Old Lane, Rainford, St. Helens, Merseyside WA11 8JE.

Don Duco, Pijpenkabinet, Oude Vest 159a, 2312 XW Leiden, The Netherlands.

Peter Hammond, 81 Ena Avenue, Sneinton Dale, Nottingham NG2 4NA.

David Jemmett, 18 King Edward Street, Barnstaple, North Devon.

Marek Lewcun, 13 Cedric Road, Bath, Avon BA1 3PD.

Adrian Oswald, 10 Lacks Close, Cottenham, Cambridgeshire.

Michael Schmaedecke, Landesdenkmalamt Baden-Württemberg, Colombistrasse 4, 7800 Freiburg, West Germany.

Colin Tatman, 69 White Horse Hill, Chislehurst, Kent.

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Notes on the State of Clay Tobacco Pipe Research in South-West Germany

In the south-west of Germany, as in other regions, clay tobacco pipes were frequently found at archaeological excavations in cities and castles. Unfortunately there are no treatises of these findings and only in a very few cases have they been published in catalogues as have other material groups. Therefore we have general problems in dating them and locating their provenance.

Because of the wealth of literature, it is in many cases possible to recognize and to date the Dutch material. But it is very difficult to get comparable material on pipes produced elsewhere, which moreover often try to imitate the Dutch.

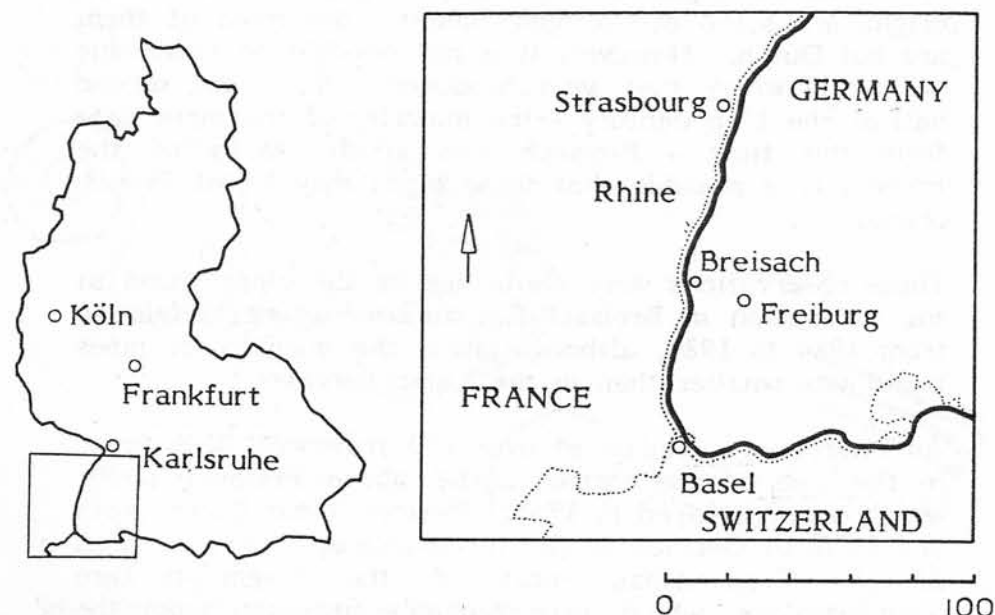


Fig. 1
General map of the Federal Republic of Germany
with the cities mentioned in the text

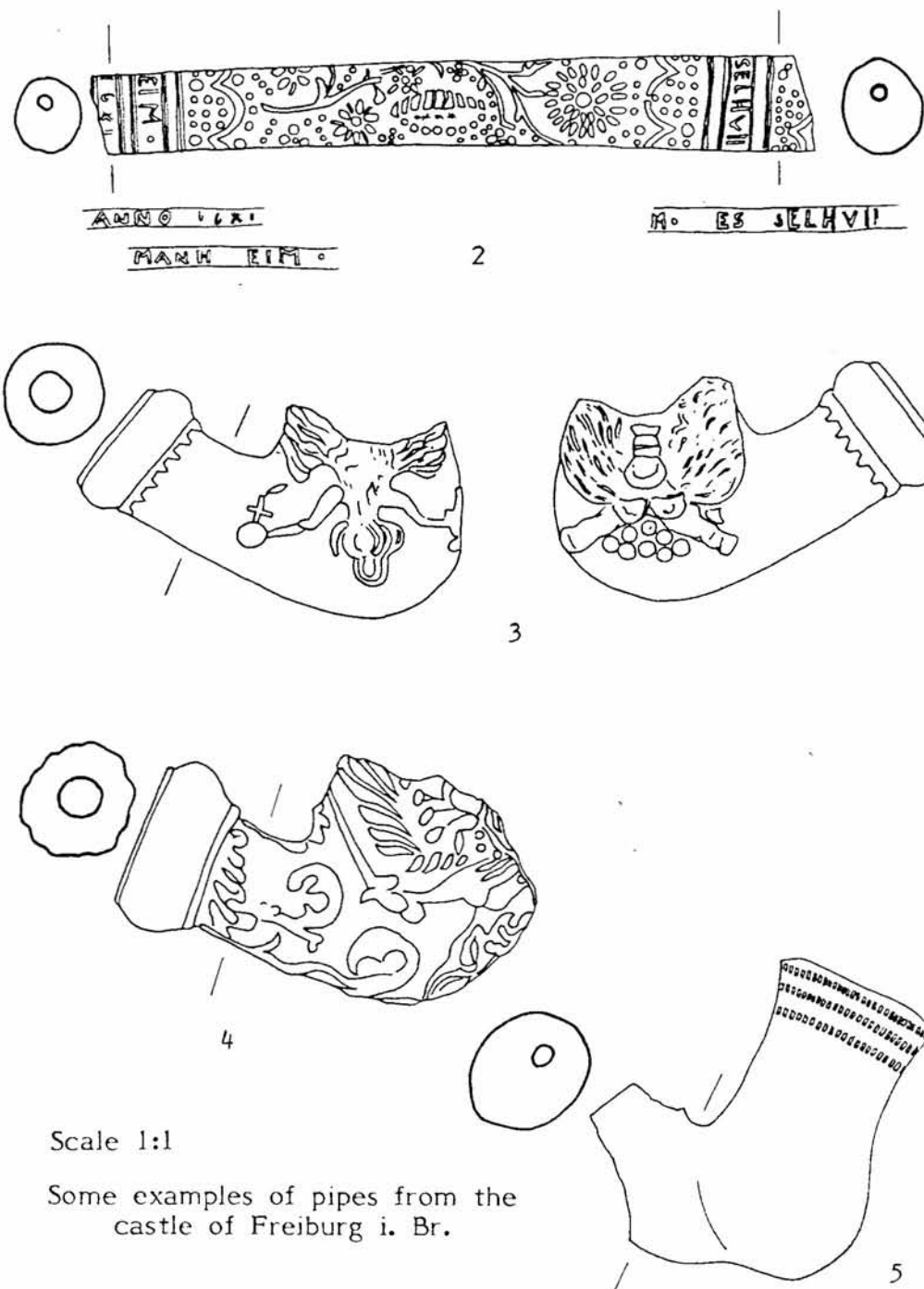
As far as the south-west of Germany is concerned, we are familiar with pipes produced at Frankfurt, Mannheim and Frankenthal, not far from Mannheim, since the middle of the 17th century. These pipes have bands with the name of their place of production and date around their stems. From written sources we also know of the production of clay pipes in Strasbourg and Durlach near Karlsruhe at the beginning of the 18th century, but unfortunately nothing is known about the appearance of these pipes.

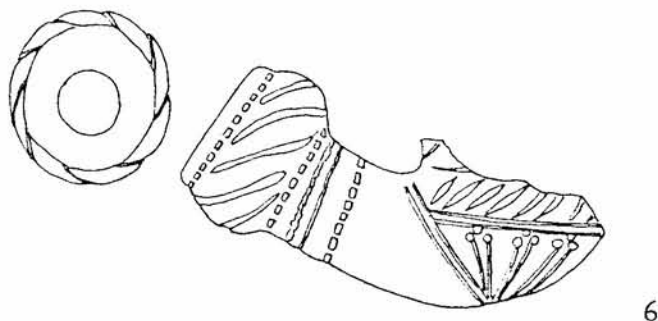
During the excavation in Breisach Kapuzinergasse, a big complex with 287 fragments was found in 1980-1983. They have been commented on by Don Duco of Leiden.¹ The earliest pipes date from the middle of the 17th century. That contradicts the current opinion, that clay pipes were already introduced here by soldiers during the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648).

A few of the pipes of the Kapuzinergasse are of Dutch origin, and some are of good quality, but most of them are not Dutch. However, it is not possible to determine definitely where they were produced. As in the second half of the 17th century - the majority of the pipes date from this time - Breisach was in the hands of the French, it is possible that these pipes may be of French origin.

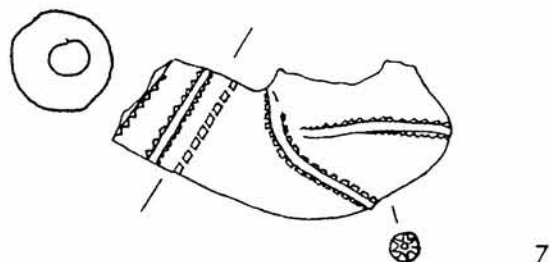
These observations were confirmed by the pipes found at the excavation in Breisach-Rathausweiterung/Tiefgarage from 1984 to 1986, although there the quantity of pipes found was smaller than in the Kapuzinergasse.²

An interesting complex of over 100 fragments was found in the area of the former castle above Freiburg i. Br. which was destroyed in 1745. Besides some Dutch pipes and some of German origin, for example, Mannheim (Fig. 2) and Frankenthal, most of the fragments are manchets-pipes, which were probably imported from the Mediterranean area.

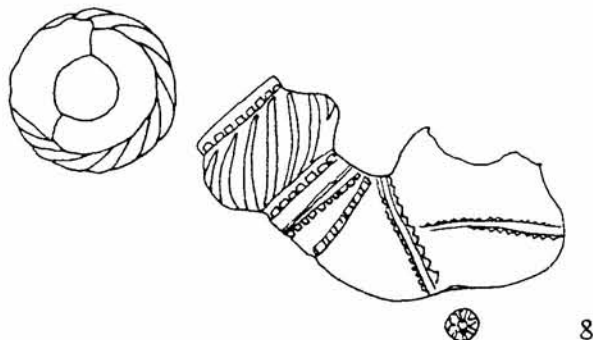




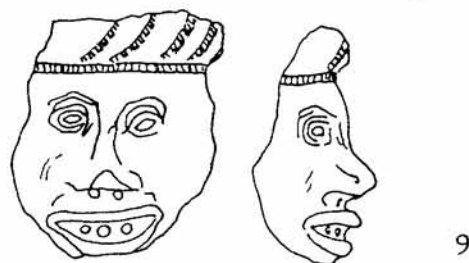
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Some examples of pipes from the castle of Freiburg i. Br.

Acknowledgement

I thank Mrs. Judith D. Lott for revising the English manuscript.

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1. Duco, D. (forthcoming 1988) 'Die Tonpfeifen aus der Kapuzinergasse in Breisach', In: M. Schmaedecke et al *Breisach-Kapuzinergasse, Mittelalterliche und neuzeitliche Befunde. Forschungen und Berichte der Archäologie des Mittelalters in Baden-Württemberg*.
2. Schmaedecke, M. (forthcoming 1987) 'Tonpfeifenfunde aus der Grabung Tiefgarage in Breisach am Rhein', In: *Archäologische Ausgrabungen in Baden-Württemberg 1986*.

Michael Schmaedecke

Clay Pipes from the North Devon Library Site, Barnstaple

When plans to build a new Area Library in Barnstaple, North Devon, threatened the archaeological deposits of the 17th century pottery production centre, an excavation was planned for the Summer of 1985.

The new Library site lies in the north-west area of the medieval town (Fig. 10). Excavation work in the early 1970s had revealed an Anglo-Saxon cemetery within the grounds of the Castle Mound, waste heaps of pottery and the workshop of the potter, William Oliver.

During the Norman period the area lay in the shadow of the castle, and within the area of the outer bailey. By the 1500s the castle was in ruins and the Castle Green had been sold and was being used for pottery production and other industrial purposes.

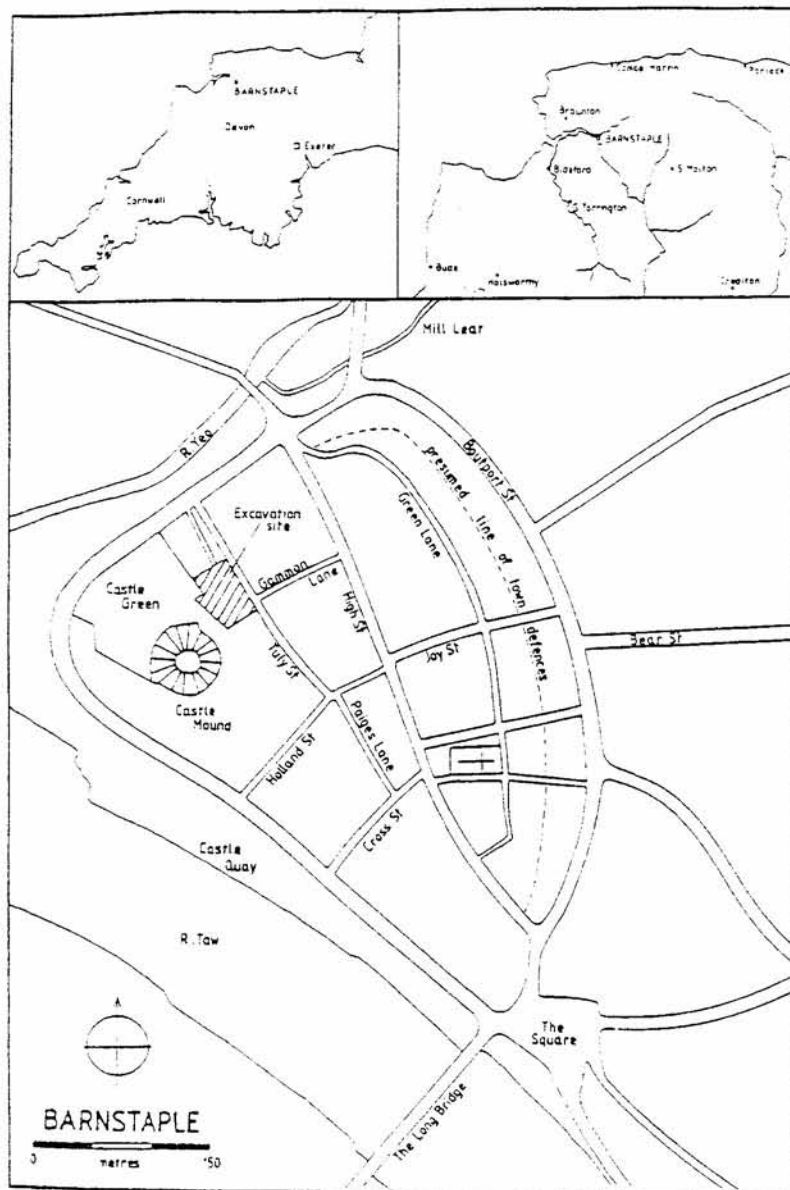


Fig. 10
Location Map

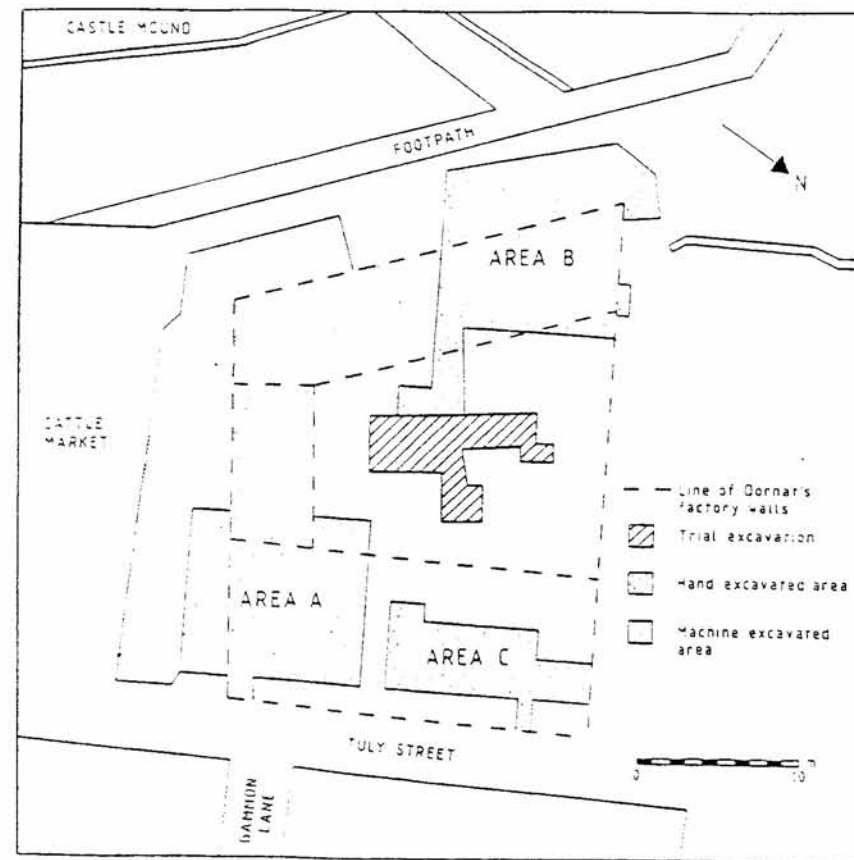


Fig. 11
Plan of Excavation

In 1618 the Town Council built a Bridewell (prison) on the site and in the 1700s this became the town workhouse. This is how it remained until 1839 when the building was used by a firm of wool merchants, Hitchcock and Maunder Company, for the manufacture of serges. The building was empty from 1853 to 1870 when a Camille Dornat set up a mineral water manufacturing business. Dornat's carried on using the building until the 1970s when the firm closed and the building was left vacant.

During December 1984 and January 1985 a trial excavation was undertaken on the central courtyard area of Dornat's to see what archaeological deposits existed (Fig. 11). The significant find was that of the workhouse period - namely a small cellar of 1700 which was filled with clay pipes and nearly complete North Devon sgraffito-ware plates.

The cellar context gave the following data:

Context 027: Main fill of cellar	
Total number of pipe fragments	158
Total number of bowls	44
Mean stem bore	5.98/64"
Binford date	1696 \pm 16
Bowl form date range	1680-1720

In total, this preliminary excavation produced 226 pipe fragments, including 51 bowls, from 15 contexts. All the bowls were local and contained various forms of the Barum stamp.

From July to August 1985, after the Dornat's building had been demolished, a large scale excavation of the area was undertaken and many interesting features were uncovered:

- a) The castle ditch - though badly cut into by later building
- b) A ditch and hollow way - probably Saxon, that ran parallel with Tuly Street

- c) A medieval pottery kiln
- d) The workhouse
- e) A post-medieval pottery kiln
- f) Bell casting pits and furnaces.

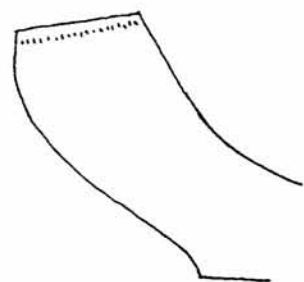
Again, considerable amounts of pipe material were recovered from the site. In all, some 60 contexts produced a total of 651 pipe fragments, including 58 bowls. All the material is of local origin and where sufficient material existed in a context the consistent Binford date of 1696 \pm 16 emerged from the data recorded.

The Pipes

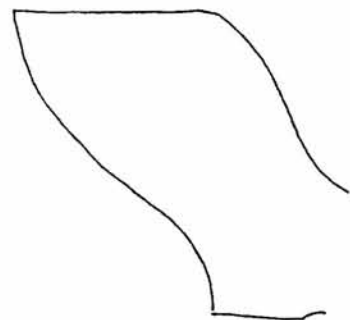
Only a representative sample of the forms and stamps are illustrated to show the range of material.

Figs

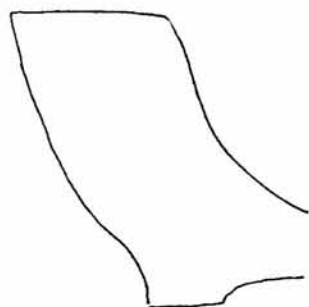
- 12-22 Contains unstamped local forms, some of which are previously unrecorded.
- 23-31 Local forms with Barum stamps on heels, the stamps are shown in Figs 32-37.
- 32 Barum stamp. Die i - this die is of a wide lettering type, but with a curved tail to the letter 'R'.
- 33 Barum stamp. Die ii - wide lettering type, the 'R' is straight, but the 'M' has a high joining bar to the letter.
- 34 Barum stamp. Die iii - wide lettering, straight letter 'R' and the 'M' has a low joining bar to the letter.
- 35 Barum stamp. Die iv - narrow lettering, but otherwise same type as Die ii.
- 36 Barum stamp. Die v - narrow lettering, a curved tail to the 'R' and a low bar to the 'M'.
- 37 Barum stamp. Die vi - narrow lettering, the 'R' has a curved tail and the 'M' has a high connecting bridge.
- 38 Stamp BA / I:H - previously recorded, but as yet no known maker can be attributed to this stamp.
- 39 Stamp RW / B - Roger Whitchurch (1719 - died 1765)
- 40 Stamp TW / B - Thomas Wickey, potter, but making pipes (1690-1750s).



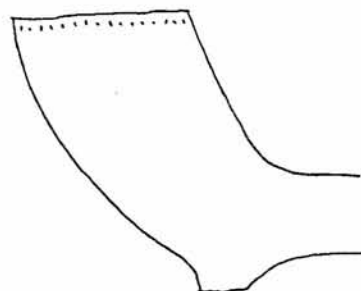
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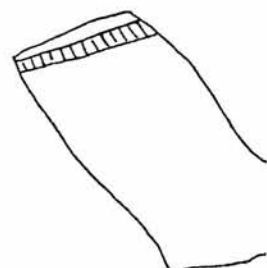
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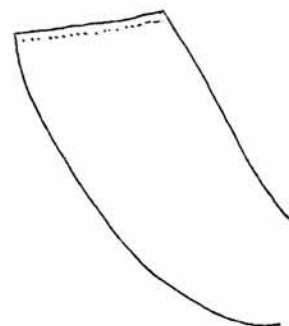
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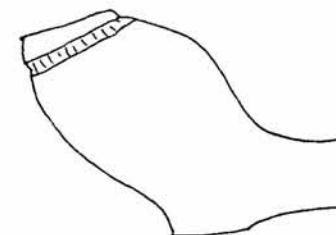
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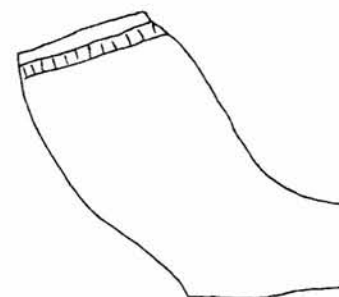
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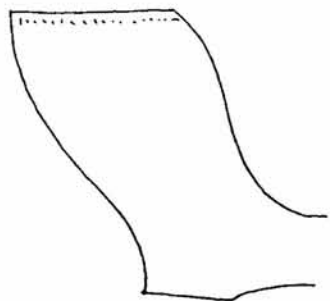
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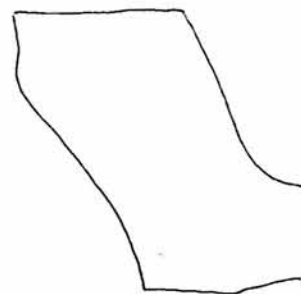
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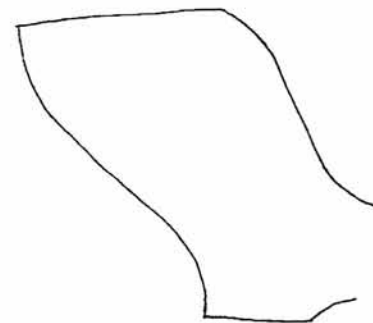
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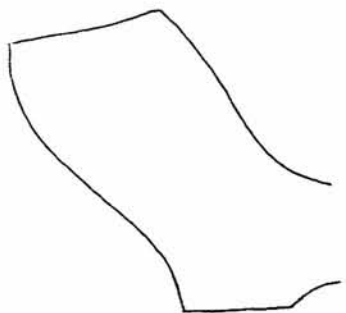
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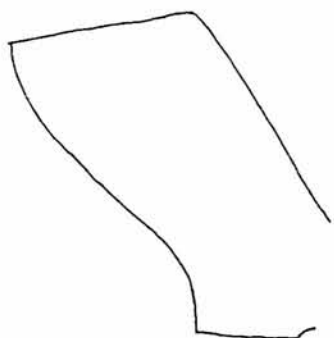
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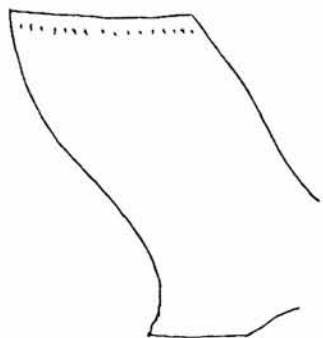
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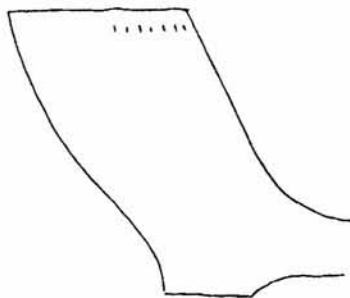
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BA
RVM

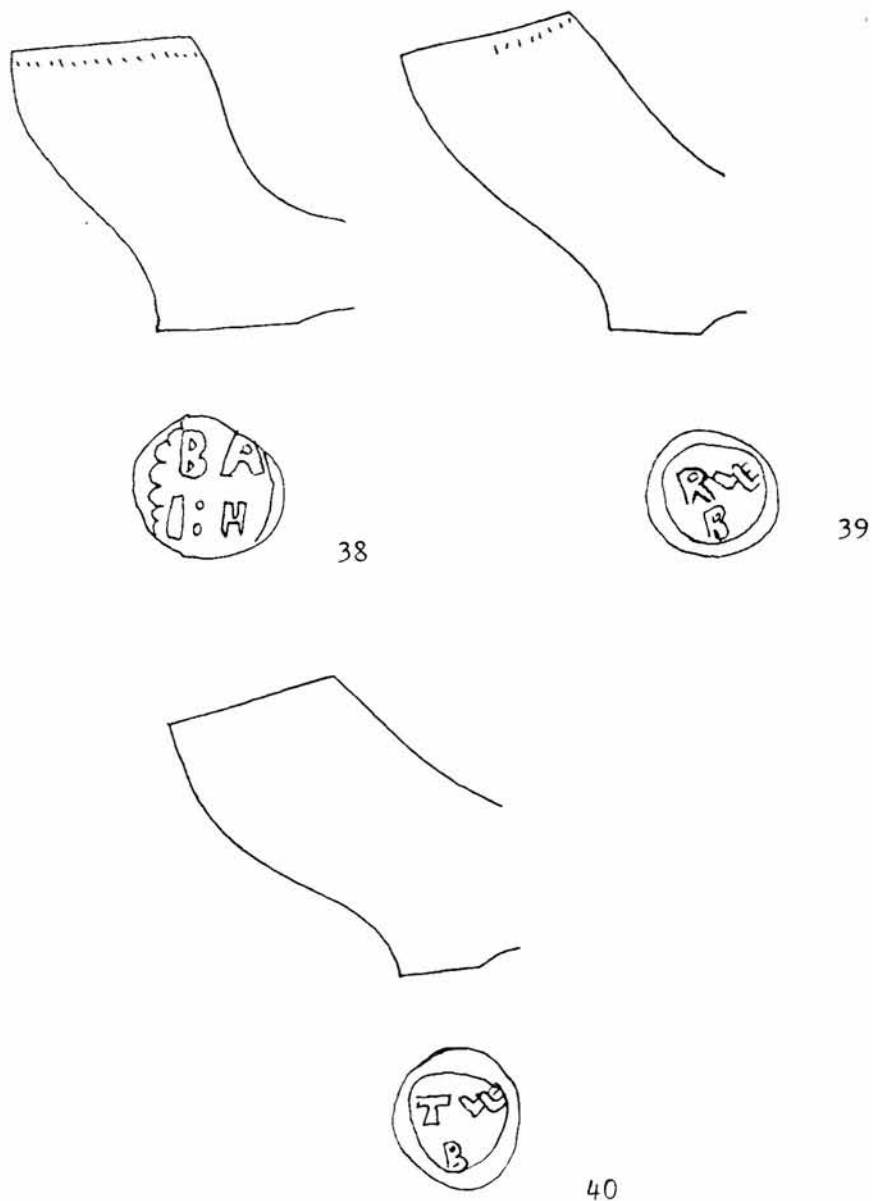
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BA
RVM

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BA
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37



With so much development going on in Barnstaple over the next few years, I hope it will be possible to publish short reports on the sites in future Newsletters. At the moment I am working on the pipes from two more sites - one of which is Seldon's Pipe Factory - and I hope to have the reports ready later this year.

Acknowledgements

My thanks go to Linda Blanchard and the staff of the North Devon Rescue Unit for allowing me to work on the site and providing access to the excavated material.

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Information has been taken from the following sources:

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2. Grant, A. and Jemmett, D. (1985) *Pipes and pipe-making in Barnstaple, Devon*. **BAR** 146(i).
3. Grant, A. (1983) *North Devon pottery: the seventeenth century*. University of Exeter.
4. Information from Trevor Miles
5. *Dornat's Summary Report*. North Devon Rescue Unit.

David Jemmett

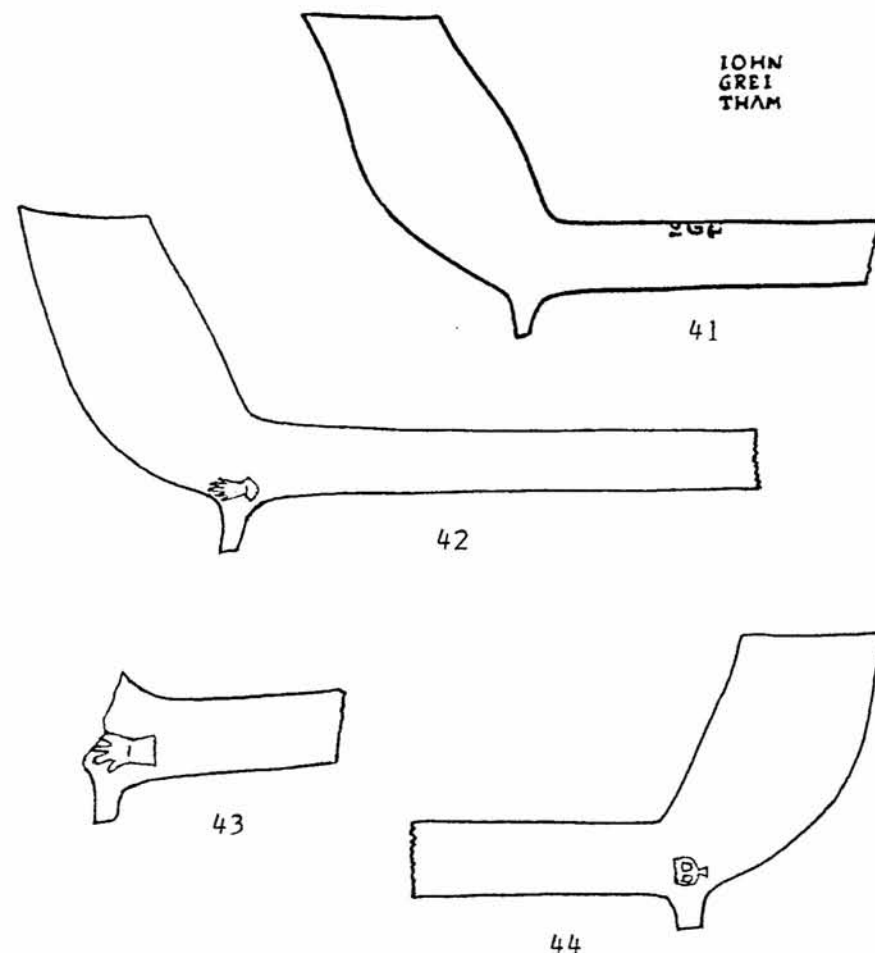
'Wiltshire Spur' Type Pipes Apparently Made in London

Much has now been written about the regional varieties of clay tobacco pipes which began to appear in the 1680s and lasted until about the mid-18th century, when they merged into a common style found over all the country.

London has its own distinctive shapes in this period which are generally confined to the Home Counties and the South-East of England, though at Hull, for instance, some makers favoured them, and this also happened as far west as Winchester and Southampton.

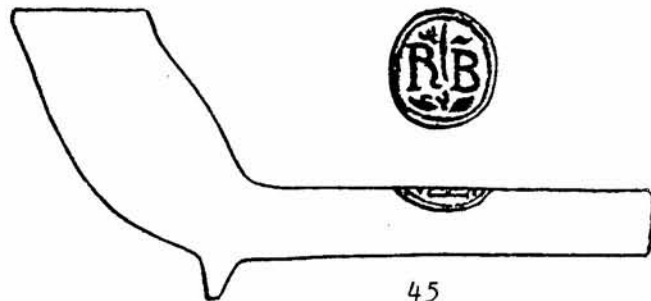
However, regional variants from further afield were not normally produced in London itself, though from material excavated and collected on London sites in the last 30 to 40 years it is apparent that many were brought in and discarded. Thus examples of the 'Wiltshire Spur' type with the name typically stamped incuse on the stem are recorded from London for Richard Cutts (East Woodhay), Richard Sayer (West Wellow), Thomas Widdos (Marlborough), etc., etc. Thus this attractive shape must have been familiar to smokers in the Capital. It appears, surprisingly, that some London makers decided to adopt this type (albeit, perhaps, as only an addition to their normal line), and produced them in some quantity, as follows:

1. The only one which is an exact copy of the type, including the full name stamped on the stem, was produced by an as yet little-known maker, John Greitham (Fig. 41). A considerable number of these have turned up in the River Thames between Putney Bridge and London Bridge and to my knowledge are not known outside London.
2. The second example which occurs on London sites combines the Wiltshire shape with a London form of marking, but this consists of a famous West Country trade-mark, the 'gauntlet', found in relief on either side and just above the spur (Fig. 42). A variant shows a much larger gauntlet (Fig. 43), while a further type occurs which has a crown on one side



and the gauntlet on the other (Fig. 44). Pipes of the common London type A & O 25² occur with crowns and gauntlets in combination with an initial or other symbol but are not known with two gauntlets only; however, the same type does occur with the crown/gauntlet combination and examples are known in Surrey and Sussex. Thus it would appear that the tradition of the Gauntlet products from Amesbury in Wiltshire survived into the 18th century as far off as London. As far as is known at present the Gauntlet family business died out by about 1700.

3. Finally, a most unusual 'hybrid' (Fig. 45). This is another typical 'Wiltshire' bowl shape but it has an extraordinary stem mark - a very large relief initial mark of typical North Country type, including a plant between the letters. Marks very similar to this one, stamped on heels, were illustrated in 1912 and attributed to Robert Burrill of Hull (1683).³ Who did make the pipe? Why a West Country shape combined with a North Country mark? Was it produced in London? To my knowledge only one example is so far recorded, but it is so well made both in bowl form and mark that I am sure it must have been produced in quantity somewhere.



References

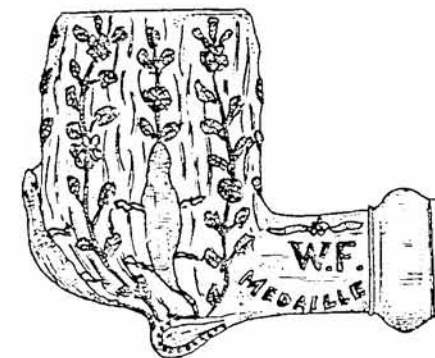
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Atkinson, D.R. (1970) 'Clay tobacco pipes and pipemakers of Salisbury, Wiltshire' *Wilts. Arch. & Nat. Hist. Mag.*, Vol. 65.
2. Atkinson, D. & Oswald, A. (1969) London clay tobacco pipes *Journal of the Arch. Association* Vol. 32.
3. Shepherd (1912) *Early Hull tobacco pipes*. It is interesting to note that several of the marks illustrated by Shepherd in this booklet from the then Hull Museum collection (destroyed during the War) are often found in London even though they do match contemporary Hull makers - perhaps they came down regularly with the coastal coal trade?

David Atkinson

A Misleading Text

The manchette-bowl illustrated (Fig. 46 - Duco Collection No.4975) was designed by the Gambier firm in France. During their advertising campaign in magazines and newspapers, which lasted for many years, this bowl was illustrated with another one of the same type, decorated with the head of a billygoat.¹ The pipe bowl is decorated with three rats, the tails going down and meeting near the heel of the pipe. The open spaces on the bowl are filled with twigs and leaves. As a result of the advertising campaigns, this type of pipe was generally popular from the 1850s onwards.

It is not surprising that other manufacturers tried to profit from the success and popularity of the Gambier pipes. Good copies of Gambier designs were developed but there were slight differences to avoid the risk of prosecution.



46

The pipe illustrated is an example of such a design which was developed by the factory of Wingender Frères in Chokier on the River Meuse near Liège, Belgium. There was a limit to the extent to which the Gambier pipe could be copied so the inscription 'GAMBIER A PARIS' and the mould number of that factory were not included. Instead they marked the left side of the pipe with their own initials 'WF' and the inscription 'MEDAILLE'. On the right the text 'A PARIS 1878' was hammered into the mould using punches. The complete inscription 'MEDAILLE A PARIS' relates to the World Fair held in Paris in 1878. However, if it was not read carefully, the text 'A PARIS' could be mistaken to mean the pipe was made in Paris, and the year could be mistaken for the mould number of the Gambier firm.

Certainly the success of Gambier would have been a stimulus and a source of inspiration to Wingender, and they both exhibited at the Paris Fair. However, Wingender undoubtedly deceived many of his customers with the misleading inscription.

Like that of Gambier, this bowl is made of white firing clay. The rats and leaves are enamelled in white and, because the pipe has been extensively smoked, they now glitter nicely against the dark coloured clay.

References

1. Duco, D.H. (1981) 'Materiaal, vorm en versiering van de Gambierpijp' *Pijpelijntjes*, April/June 1981, p.20.
2. Jean-Leo (1971) *Les pipes en terre Française*, Bruxelles, p.15.

Don Duco

Chitterne Clay Pits, Wiltshire

Frequently cited when referring to the supply of tobacco pipe clay are the major outcrops in Dorset and Devon, which were exploited and clay transported to most parts of Britain to serve the pipemakers of the coastal regions and hinterland. Less well recorded are the numerous smaller inland outcrops dotted around the country, one of which lies in the parishes of Chitterne and Codford, Wiltshire (NGR ST 997425).

The earliest documentary references found so far to the extraction of clay there is on 14 July 1646,¹ when it was 'Presented' at the Quarter Sessions:

Wee present yt the high wey uppon the Cowe downe of Chitterne Mary is anoyd by certaine pits yt are digd there for clay & is very daungerous for passengers especially in the night. And wee desire yt the pits may be fild up againe, or the pits sufficiently bounded in by the Lo. Henry Paulet yt caused the pits to be made.

The same pits were Presented again on 20 July 1647:²

We pesent that the Clay pitts upon Chitterne Cowdowne neare the highway leading to New Sarum continewes as yet very dangerous to all passengers that travell that way especially by night, notwithstandinge it was presented here att Midsomer Sessions the last yeare, and is to be amended by Wm: Spender of Dilton in this County.

William Spender was Presented again on 4 July 1648³ and 11 July 1650.⁴ He was apparently making pipes at Dilton, Westbury, from c1640, and a 'William Spender Pipemaker' (either him or his son) was buried there on 4 October 1694.⁵

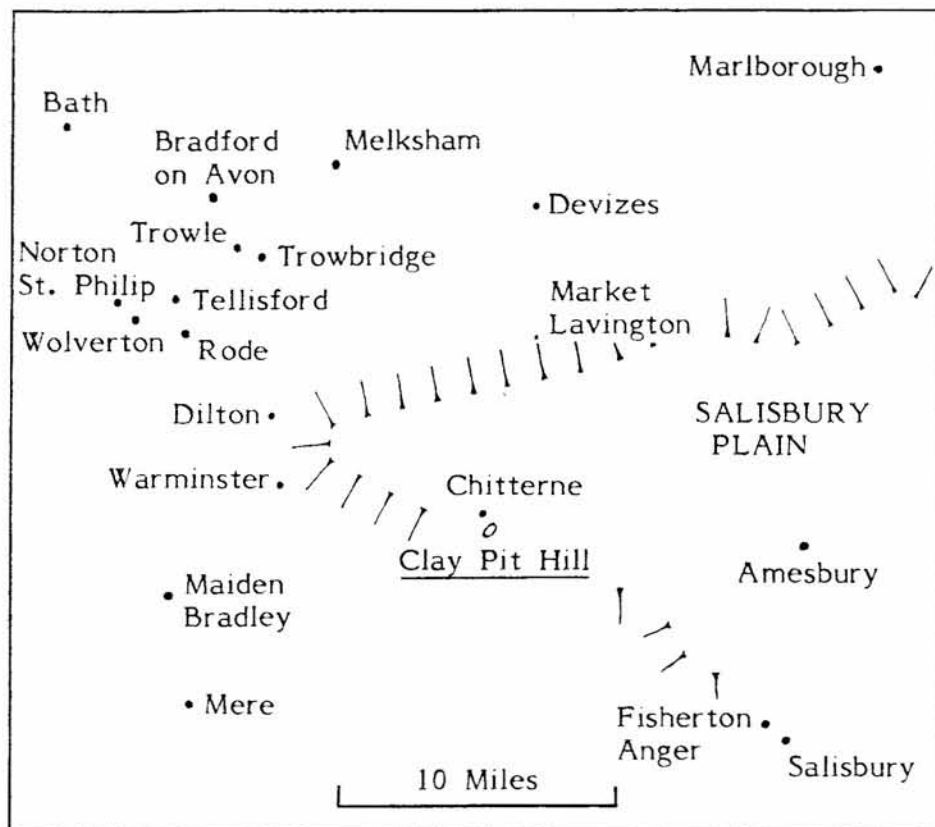


Fig. 47 - Map to show the position of Clay Pit Hill and the surrounding pipemaking towns and villages of Wiltshire and East Somerset.

On 18 July 1651 a Licence was issued⁶ by Henry Powlett (Pawlett) of The Grange, Hampshire, then Lord of Chitterne Manor, to Christopher Merriwether and Edward Fripp of Chitterne, Gentlemen, to extract clay from the Pits at Chitterne, valid for a year.

Henry Powlett for and in consideration of the sume of Tenn pounds ... hath given leave and Licence to the above bounden Edward ffrripp Christopher Merriwether and there Assignes to digg and carrye away one this side the five and twentieth day of July beinge in the yeare of our Lord 1652 Thirtie Loades of Clay to make tobacco pipes out of and from ye clay pitts in and upon the downe of Chittern Mary in the County of Wilts and not to Exceed that number. And that the saide Edward ffrripp Christopher Meriwether ... shall pay or cause to be pd unto the Lord Powlett or his Assignes Eyght gross of Tobacco pipes at the dwellinge house ... in Andevor called by the name of the Angell.

Between 1656 and 1691 John Aubrey wrote his *Natural History of Wiltshire* and in Chapter IV of Part I, entitled 'Soiles' he praised the clay of Chitterne:

Tobacco-pipe-clay excellent, or the best in England, at Chittern, of which the Gauntlet pipes at Amesbury are made by one of that name. They are the best tobacco pipes in England.

Again, in Chapter V of Part II, entitled 'Arts: Liberall and Mechanik' he states that:

Amesbury is famous for the best tobacco pipes in England, made by [Blank] Gauntlet ... The clay of which they are made is brought from Chiltern in this county.

At Chitterne itself, there appears to have been only one pipemaker, William Pryor, working c1670 onwards until 1716/17 when he was buried on 12 January.⁷ Five years

earlier, the parish registers⁷ record the burial of

*Tho: Morgan a Claydigger killed by ye foundern
of ye Pit.*

The clay from Chitterne probably served the numerous villages and towns scattered below Salisbury Plain, where many pipemakers were at work from at least 1630 until the rural decline of the 1750-1760 period (Fig. 47). By 1773, Cow Down, Chitterne, had become known as Clay Pit Hill and it probably continued to serve the pipemakers of Salisbury, where James Skeaines II was still working in 1881.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank the staff of the Wiltshire Record Office for their assistance during the preparation of this article.

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4. Great Roll T1650
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7. Parish registers: 1109/5
8. Andrews, J. & Dury, A (1773) *A topographical map of Wiltshire*

Marek Lewcun

A Collection of Curiosities - An Explanation

Following publication of my article concerning the discovery in a Rainford garden of some curious bits and pieces of clay pipes (SCPR 12) I have received new information which throws some light on the presence of these items. Readers will recall that some of the pieces were marked 'RICHARDSON'S PATENT' and investigation has shown that in December 1892 William Richardson of Churchside House, Rainford, blacksmith and tobacco-pipe mould maker made application to patent an invention for "*Improvements in Briar-root, Wooden, Vulcanite, Clay and all other Tobacco-pipes*" which was subsequently accepted (Patent No.23, 856).

The two page Specification is summarised at the end as follows:

- 1) *The mixture of any combustible material with clay to cause more porosity, and therefore more absorbing power, for liquids, as nicotines or saliva, or both, in tobacco pipes.*
- 2) *In the insertion into wooden or other pipes of an entire porous clay pipe as above described.*
- 3) *In the insertion of porous bowls & sections of tubes into wooden pipes as above described.*
- 4) *In the mixture of clay with combustible material - & in the special boring of stem by having one large bore or 3 or more small bores through the said stems - thus causing extreme lightness, as above described.*

The combustible materials suggested were "*malt-dust, very fine saw-dust or any other such combustible material which will disappear during the process of burning in the kiln*". This would account for the very light, porous, coarse textured fabric of the finds previously described.

His proposals for inserting entire porous clay pipes into wooden pipes involved either having the wooden pipe split in half longitudinally and the two halves hinged together to enclose the clay or cutting off the front portion of the bowl, inserting a whole porous clay and securing the front by a hinge at the bottom and a hoop at the top.

Another method was to insert a porous clay bowl into the wooden bowl and then a porous clay tube or tubes through the wooden stem and fitting into the clay bowl. The clay stem could be *"either in one piece or in sections of straight or bent tubes fitted or socketted one into the other"*. Not illustrated in my original article was one 4" (10 cm) length of stem curved to a radius of 3" (7.5 cm).

An added bonus of his invention was that *"the porous portions on becoming foul through long smoking can easily be removed & new ones replaced by the smoker at pleasure"*

William Richardson was born in October 1833, son of John Richardson, wheelwright of Pasture Lane, Rainford and by 1851 his parents had removed to neighbouring St. Helens, leaving him as a living-in apprentice to Robert Lawton, blacksmith of Chapel Lane, Rainford. Later Census Returns give William's occupation as blacksmith, or blacksmith and sexton, but they give no indication whether he was a master or journeyman or the whereabouts of his employment.

I am certain that there was never a smithy at Churchside House, his address at the time he registered his patent, but just across the road lay the smithy of Robert Lawton, now long since demolished. It was in the garden of Churchside House that these curiosities were discovered.

William died in February 1900, at the age of 66, leaving two sons to follow him in the trade of blacksmith and another son, William jnr., a teacher, who acted as agent in the application for the Patent.

Here again we have an instance of the combined trades of blacksmith and tobacco-pipe mould maker although nowhere else do I find William referred to as such. All the 19th century pipe moulds that I have seen have been cast in iron, the work of a founder rather than a smith, but it does appear that local blacksmiths were concerned in their manufacture.

Has any member ever seen a wooden pipe with a porous clay insert such as that described?

I am indebted to David Woodcock for discovering the Patent and furnishing me with a copy of the Specification and to Mr. F.R. Pope of Windle for biographical notes on William Richardson.

Ron Dagnall

**Mrs. Elizabeth Spaul & Company,
Clay Pipe Makers c1880-1942**

According to London Post Office Directories, the above company is London's most recent clay pipe making firm. Flourishing for more than sixty years, it was one of the few London companys to continue into the twentieth century, even outliving the famous C. Crop factory which ceased production in 1924. Perhaps the longevity of Crop's firm can be partly accounted for by the popularity and variety of the figural bowls he produced. However, in the case of E. Spaul & Co., expansion into other products alongside pipemaking sustained the production of pipes until 1942. A similar parallel to this is that of H. Leigh & Co. of Portchester, Hampshire, pipemakers from 1840 to 1932, who were also whiting and putty manufacturers, wholesale dealers in bath-brick and hearth-stone.¹

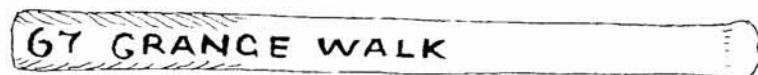
E. Spaul's period of production can be traced as follows:

Mrs. Elizabeth Spaul (Clay Pipe Man.)
1880-1899 31 Westcott Street, Tabard Street, S.E.
1900-1902 154 Bermondsey Street, S.E.
1903-1906 138 Bermonsey Street, S.E.
(See Fig. 48)



Fig. 48
Incuse stem mark
c1900-1906

Mrs. Elizabeth Spaul & Co. (Clay Pipe Man.)
1907-1943 67 Grange Walk, Bermondsey, S.E.
(See Fig. 49)



BERMONDSEY S. [E.] Fig. 49
Incuse stem mark
c1907-1943

From 1916 to 1978, the company is also listed in the Commercial Directory as 'Wholesale Glass & Bottle Merchants and Licensed Victuallers' Sundriesmen'.

From 1920 to 1926, A. Sleep is part of the concern. Presumably the Alfred Sleep listed in BAR 14 working in Bermondsey in 1899.²

In 1937, clay pipes were still being made by the company but are listed last in the directory reading, their commercial importance obviously fading. By 1943 clay pipe manufacturing stops, or at least it is no longer included in the directory reading. From 1978 to the present day the company has continued to be listed as a 'Wholesale China Ware Merchant'. Personal enquiries were made to see if any pipemaking equipment still existed but unfortunately any remaining items would have been cleared away when the firm's cellars were turned out a few months before the writer telephoned! The name 'E. Spaul' has been retained throughout to keep the original identity of the company. The date of her death is unknown. Late 19th century pipes are known marked 'H. Spaul' (Pers. com. A. Oswald, supp. London list) perhaps a precursor of the E. Spaul company.

Any other information concerning this company would be gratefully received.

References

1. Ayto, E. (1979) *Clay tobacco pipes*. Shire Album 37.
2. Oswald, A. (1975) *Clay pipes for the archaeologist* BAR 14.

Colin Tatman

Christopher Boyes, 1671-1725
Pipe and Trunkmaker of York

In SCPR 13 I reported the results of my documentary research into the pipemakers of York. This research is continuing and I give here details of further work on the pipemaker Christopher Boyes.

The death of Abraham Boyes in 1681 leaves us in some doubt regarding the continuation of his pipemaking business. The next known maker of this name, his son Christopher, was only ten years old and too young to have begun his apprenticeship. Indeed, there is no record of him having been indentured in the York Apprentice Rolls and it is not beyond the bounds of possibility that he served his apprenticeship elsewhere in the country.

Between Christopher's birth in 1671 (baptized 16 December) and the next trace of him in the records, 28 years had elapsed. On 30 May 1699 he married Dorothy Jackson of York and this was followed by the birth of a son, Abraham, on 5 March 1700 (Abraham was buried 6 days later). The record of his marriage is the first entry to refer to him as a trunkmaker and, since he did not become a freeman until 1711, we must presume he was working for someone else. He had the following children: Christopher, baptized 18 December 1702; Rebecca, baptized 16 July 1706; James, baptized 5 June 1707 but buried 16 October 1707; and Samuel, baptized 18 May 1708.

Christopher was freed, *per patres*, in 1711 at the age of 40. He became a respected member of the community, being called upon for jury service in 1719 and 1721, when his trade is still given as a trunkmaker. His wife, Dorothy, died and was buried at Holy Trinity, Goodramgate on 15 July 1721.

On 2 February 1722 Christopher took on as an apprentice George Hart, the son of a widow, Elizabeth Hart. On 29 September the following year he took on Charles Dunning, a poor boy, by indenture for 7 years and for the first time he was listed as a pipe and trunkmaker. In the same year he served on two further juries.

Christopher died in 1725 at the age of 53 and was buried on 13 August at St. Martin's, Coney Street. How far this affected his two apprentices is difficult to tell. They were freed in 1733, George Hart as a trunkmaker and Charles Dunning as a trunk and pipemaker.

Peter Hammond, researching in the wills in Probate of known pipemakers, has discovered the will of Christopher Boyes which, together with the inventory, gives important information on the study of pipemaking in York and its relationship to the trunkmaking business.

The will, dated 6 August 1725 and proved on 20th August, states:

I give unto my son Samuel Boyes and his heirs the back part of the same house with the kitchen, two chambers with chamber and garrets above and ye little yard and pipeshop with free passage ... and to my daughter Rebecca my leased house in North Street in the tenure of Mr Baynes and others ...

From his inventory dated 16 August 1725 the following details have been extracted:

3 Male trunks, 2 Port Pantles, 6 Trunks covered, 10 Trunks joined, Wigg Boxes, Pasteboard boxes, 2 hundred Paste Boxes Boards, 9 Horse Skins, 5 Cake Skins, 4 Seals, 20 Slit Deals (£1.10s) 18 Locks and Keys, 16 dozen Trunk Handles (5s 4d), several dozen Locks, Trunknails (1s). Iron Rack (3s 6d) 25 Drying Grates (£12.6s) 5 Brass Moulds (£1.7s) Clay by estimation 40 tons (£40) 6 gross stock in pipes (15s) 2 Washing Tubs (2s).

From this we may deduce that the trunks being made by Christopher Boyes were clothing trunks and not clay water pipes as previously suggested.¹ Of interest is the reference to wig and other boxes which shows the diversity of items being made.

No pipes with the initials CB are recorded in the city so either his pipes were unmarked or he produced few. However, it is unwise to place too much emphasis on negative evidence.

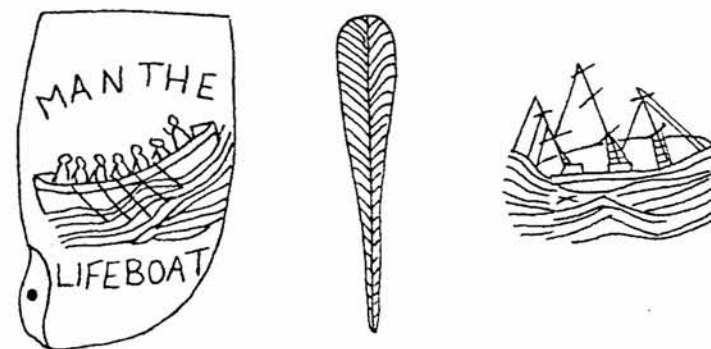
Reference

1. Lawrence, S. (1979) *York pipes and their makers* BAR 63.

John Andrews

Man The Lifeboat

I recently acquired this pipe bowl (Fig. 50) which was apparently found about 10 to 12 years ago in a Victorian rubbish tip on the north bank of the River Thames near Southend. On one side it depicts a pulling lifeboat propelled by ten oars and on the other the wreck of a three-masted vessel. On the front and back of the bowl is what could be a feather design.



50

This pipe is of particular interest to me as I am a crew member of the Harwich lifeboat and I have an interest in the history of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. I wonder if this bowl has any connection with the wreck of the 'Indian Chief', a three-masted barque, which grounded on the Longsand in 1881. The Harwich lifeboat 'Springwell', the Clacton lifeboat 'Albert Edward' and the Ramsgate lifeboat 'Bradford' were launched. The Ramsgate lifeboat reached the wreck and saved 12 of the people on board, another 17 being lost. I think there may be a connection due to the feathers on the bowl.

I have made enquiries via the Thames Estuary Research Group of the Lifeboat Enthusiasts Society without success. I wonder if any member of SCPR can date this bowl and say where it was made?

Ken Brand

Points Arising . . .

David Barker replies:

The 19th century pipe mould in Devizes Museum reported by Marek Lewcun (SCPR 12) and commented on by David Higgins and Karen Parker (SCPR 13) seems to have a close parallel in the collections of Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, USA. As illustrated, the Williamsburg mould is for fluted bowls and its overall length of 54 cms. appears to correspond with the Devizes example. The brief details note that it too is stamped 'COX LONDON' on the top of the stem section, but has the initials 'WP' on the spur. Although dated c1780 in the catalogue this mould would also seem to date to the 19th century.

The Williamsburg mould is stated to be made of cast iron. However, given the need for fine detail on the internal surface and of engraving and re-engraving

initials, etc., steel would seem to be a better medium for the purpose. Cast iron is also relatively brittle and porous, so constant handling and contact with damp clay would seem to make it an unsuitable material for mould making.

Reference

1. Clayton, M. (1985) *The collectors dictionary of the silver and gold of Great Britain and North America* p.274.

Peter Hammond writes:

1) Following the recent discussion on possible connections between the Fitt pipemakers of London and Norwich (SCPR 12 & 13) I have now been able to check the 1881 Census¹ for 8 Brighton Street, Kings Cross, London, for Noah Fitt and as suspected it confirms that Noah was indeed a native of Norwich. In the Census he is stated as being a Tobacco Pipe Manufacturer aged 63 employing 8 men, 4 women and 1 boy. Living with him at the time of the Census were two visitors and four lodgers, the latter including William H. Clamtree, a tobacco pipe maker aged 58, and William Snell, a tobacco pipe maker aged 30. According to the list of London makers published by Atkinson and Oswald,² Noah Fitt was working in partnership with a Clamtree in Brighton Street in 1854. Also in 1881 with Noah was his sister, Sarah, aged 43, a native of St. Pancras - therefore their parents must presumably have moved from Norwich to London between c1820 and the mid 1830s. According to the International Genealogical Index, a Noah Fitt was baptised at Norwich on 22nd March 1818, the son of John and Ann Fitt. Karshner³ lists a John Fitt, pipemaker, in his paper on the Norwich pipemaking industry though this John Fitt still appears to have been residing in Norwich in 1839 and 1841. However, no Census entry for 1841 is noted. Could John and Ann therefore have moved to London where Sarah was born at about that time?

On checking the death indexes at St. Catherine's House, Noah's age when he died in 1884 was stated as 65(!) and that of William Frederick Fitt, butcher of Norwich, who died a month previously was 63. Therefore, as suggested in the last Newsletter, Noah and William must undoubtedly have been brothers.

I still would not be surprised if the Samuel Fitt who was working at 4 William Street, Whitechapel, London, in the 1840s and 50s was somehow related, and likewise the Samuel who was later working at Old Ford. Further research is obviously required to substantiate this.

2) On a different note I would like to make two appendages to my article entitled 'Fire: The Pipemaker's Nightmare' (SCPR 13). Firstly, I now know that the marriage of William Naismith Christie to Agnes, the eldest daughter of William Tennant, took place in Newcastle in the Spring of 1887. Secondly, William Naismith Christie died on 5 December 1921 and not 1922 as stated.

References

1. 1881 Census: RG11/191
2. Atkinson, D.R. & Oswald, A. (1969) 'London clay tobacco pipes' *Journal of the Archaeological Association* Vol. XXXII.
3. Karshner, M. (1979) *The clay tobacco pipe making industry in Norwich* BAR 63.

Adrian Oswald replies:

With reference to the article in SCPR 13 by John Saysell and Reg Jackson on the numbered Carey pipes, I would like to draw attention to a series from Venice marked 'WM' incuse on the back of the bowl (Fig. 51). The numbers employed run 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 20, 21, 24, 25. Also, from Port Royal, Jamaica, there are bowls numbered 2 and 3 above the 'TD' mark;

from Caleb Pusey House and Louisbourg 'E' or 'F' over the 'TD' mark; and from Queenhithe there is 'L' or perhaps '4' over 'TD' and 'TD' on the spur. I think the WM and TD marks refer to William Manbey (2), 1719-63 Limehouse, and to Thomas Dormer, 1748-70, also of the Hermitage, Limehouse.



51

Bibliography

Contents of issues 32, 33, 34 and 35 of the *Pijpelogische Kring Nederland* (all in Dutch):

No.32:

- p.76-77 K. Faas
The Order of the Golden Fleece on pipe bowls.
- p.78-89 E.A. Zwaaneveld
The Dutch pipe industry. An old article about the Gouda factory P. Goedewaagen & Zn.
- p.91-99 R. de Haan and W. Krook
Thomas Laurensz (1581-1625), tobacco pipemaker in Amsterdam.

No.33:

- p.2-7 W. Krook
Pipes from the wreck of the 'T Vliegnd Hart'.
- p.8-12 P. von Hout
A 'Stapeltrumpet' from Alphen aan den Rijn.
- p.13-23 F. Tymstra
Bordollo-pipes from Grunstadt.

- No.34:
p.26-31 R. de Haan
Amsterdam pipes from the first half of the 17th century found in 's-Gravenland.
- p.32-34 F. Tymstra
The pipe market in Amsterdam.
- p.35-37 P.K. Smiesing
Dating Gouda pipes by means of the marks.
- p.38-43 J. Elferink
The use of tobacco in pre-Columbian Mexico.
- p.44-45 J. van der Meulen
Housemarks used by pipemakers.
- No.35:
p.50-51 K. Faas
Krijn Dirske: mouldmaker.
- p.52-58 M. Veen
Dirk Barunet (Bernet), master pipemaker in Gorinchem in the second half of the 18th century.
- p.62-64 J. Goderis
Harp music, from David in Roeselare to David in Zonnebeke (Belgium).
- p.65-68 J. van der Meulen
The labour relations at the end of the 19th century.
- p.69-71 P. Ritmeester
Pipemakers rubbish from 18th century Gorcum.

The articles are available from L. van der Berg, Bloemstede 22, 3608 TK Maarssenbroek, Holland.

De "Gouwenaars" van Alphen aan den Rijn
by J. van der Meulen (Dutch text). 120 pages. Many photographs, line drawings and plans.
Available from Repro-Holland bv, Prins Hendrikstraat 123, Alphen aan den Rijn, The Netherlands. Price about Dfl. 30.00.

This book is the result of an intensive study concerning the fake Gouda pipes produced in Alphen. Many documents and other sources have been used to provide a picture of the history of pipemaking, manufacturing techniques and details of the local pipemakers.

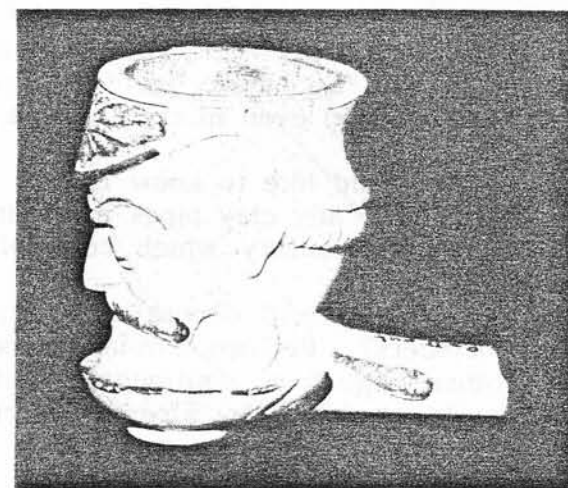
Help!

Marek Lewcun (address inside front cover) would like to know if anyone has any reference to a pipemaker called Abel Robinson, other than the one recorded at Little Broughton, Cumbria, 1698-1701 (SCPR 9). He has a note of one at Market Lavington, Wiltshire in 1703 (Wilts Record Office 632/124) and wonders if they are the same person or related.

Mr. M.R. Vroomans of Rietschans 23, 2352 BB Leiderdorp, Holland, would like information on the pipe illustrated here (Figs. 52 & 53). The pipe was found in Zutphen, Holland, and was probably made in France by Gambier as it is marked with the initials 'JG' in an asymmetrical



52



53

oval, surrounded by a rope of pearls, on the bottom of the bowl. However, it is not mentioned in the Gambier catalogue for 1894.

The bowl is 43 mm in height, 34 mm from front to back and 32 mm across. It depicts a man with a moustache wearing a German helmet. The chin stretches out and it looks as if it is resting on a dish. Chin, helmet, eyebrows, eyes, moustache and the decoration on the stem are painted with bronze-coloured glaze.

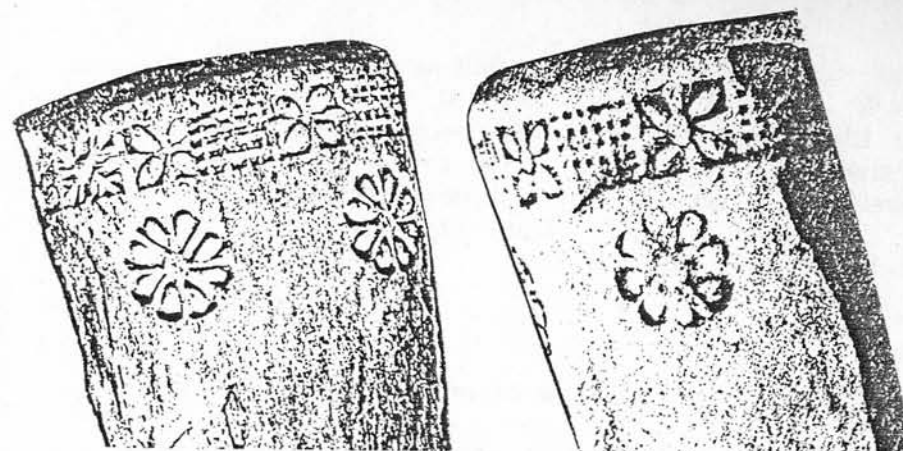
Mr. Vroomans would like to know:

- have you seen anything like the bowl before,
- who does the bowl depict, and
- when did Gambier start to use the heel mark 'JG'?

Matthew Emerson of the Department of Anthropology, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA, is an archaeologist researching locally-made decorated clay pipes from archaeological sites in the Chesapeake Bay region (Virginia and Maryland). These pipes were made in the last half of the 17th century of local red clays. Many of them are decorated with pointille motifs and some with bands and stamped designs (Figs. 54 & 55). He is particularly interested in the latter type of pipes and their decorations because they are so different from the former by their forms (Figs. 56-59), type of decorations and even mixture of clays.

What he would like to know is:

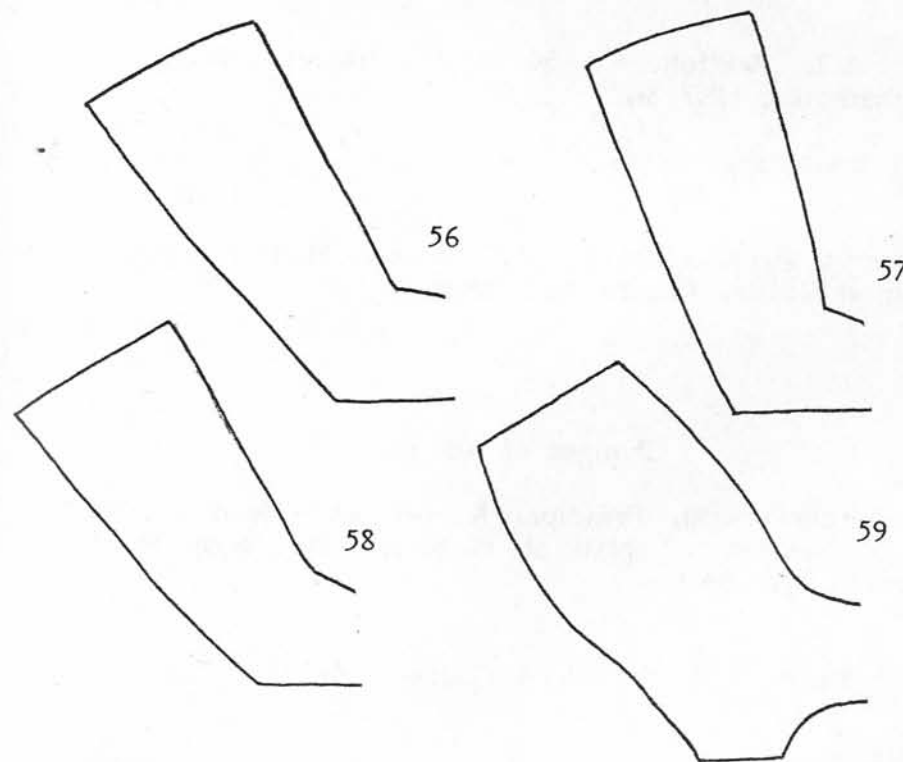
- Are there any clay pipes made in the British Isles in the 17th century which resemble the forms I have depicted?
- Are these band decorations familiar to any of our members? Perhaps similar decorations are found on other English or continental artifacts? If so, please could you send Mr. Emerson references and details.
- Do these decorations even 'look' English?



54

55

Bands and stamped designs around the top of the bowls
(Not to scale)



56

57

58

59

Congratulations

To Lloyd Edwards who has been awarded an M.A. in Archaeology at Durham University. The subject of his thesis was 'Tobacco Pipes, Pipemakers and Tobacconists in Newcastle and Gateshead until c1800: An Archaeological Study'.

New Members

Bert van der Lingen, ~~Hollandse Kade 18, 3651 LS
Woerden, Verlat, The Netherlands.~~

Collector of clay tobacco pipes and literature on antique pipes from all countries of the world.

Mr. A.J. Whitehead, ~~36 High Street, Blisworth
Northampton, NN7 2BJ.~~

Northamptonshire pipes.

Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society,
Taunton Castle, Taunton, Somerset.

Changes of Address

Ed. Jarzembowski, ~~Principal Keeper and Head of The
Booth Museum of Natural History, 194, Dyke Road,
Brighton BN1 5AA.~~

Robin Smith, R.R. 1, Fulford, Quebec J0E 1S0, Canada.