

Clay Tobacco Pipes

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The Clay tobacco pipes from the Combe Down Stone Mines were recorded in accordance with MAP2 (English Heritage xxxx) standards. They comprise an assemblage which includes not just those pipes recovered from the mines during the infilling and stabilisation project between 2001 and 2008, but also a large number of pipes collected by the author in 1985 and deposited in the Roman Baths Museum. During 1985 a total of 355 bowls and over 1,150 stems were excavated in the mines, while 84 bowls and 132 stems were recovered during the stabilisation project. Together, this is a total of 439 bowls and over 1,400 stems.

The majority of the pipes in 1985 came from the excavation by the author of silt in what later became context 6101, the others coming from the foot of the L4 steps in **Area 5**. The pipes recovered during the stabilisation project were throughout the stone mines complex. Whereas the 19th century pipes are a fairly standard group of the period, the 18th century pipes found between 1985 and 2008 are the largest group of complete bowls for that period found in the city and forms an important reference collection for Bath and the surrounding area.

Date range

The earliest two pipes in the assemblage are reliably dated to 1700-1710 but no later based on the maker's date of death, while there are three pipes dating from after 1694 but no later than 1739, again based on the maker's date of death. The vast majority of the remaining pipes date to the 1750-1790 period and were excavated from context 6101 in 1985, where a smaller number dated to 1790-1810 were also recovered. Only a very small number of pipes from this latter period were found during the stabilisation work. The other pipes found in 1985 came from the foot of the L4 steps and date to the middle part and second half of the 19th century, as also do most of the pipes found during the stabilisation work. A small number of pipes found between 2001 and 2008 might possibly date to the early 20th century.

Manufacture series

The two earliest pipes from the mines were made in Norton St Philip, while those of the 1694-1739 period were made in Bath. The vast majority of the pipes from the second half of the 18th century were probably made in Bath, but there is one stem from Bristol (stamped WILL/NICH/LAS dating c. 1750-1776 found in 1985). Eight pipes from the period 1790-1810 with makers' marks attributable to Bath makers were found in context 6101. The pipes from the first half of the 19th century are again most probably made in Bath, with just one bowl (SF850) which can be positively attributed to Bristol. From around 1850 onwards there are a number of pipes which can be sourced to Bath by the initials JS on the spur, while a small number (SF 53, 55, 194 and 528) might come from Bristol or further afield.

Four cigar holders from context 5300, identical to nine others found at the foot of the L4 steps in 1985 and the only examples recorded in Bath to date, might have been made in Bath, but could equally have been made in Bristol or elsewhere. The four porcelain pipes (SF 47-49, 494) are of the Berliner Stummel type, normally mounted with a horn mouthpiece, and were made in Germany in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These are the first known examples to have been found in Bath, and fifth example, also from the mines, is in the possession of a local resident. These would have been far more expensive than the average pipe, and their inherent risks the Combe Down stone mines seem an unlikely place for their breakage to have been risked.

Makers' marks

The following makers' marks have been identified in the assemblage:

AJ on sides of spur. One example in context 5300 during the stabilisation.

CW on sides of spur. Six examples. Four found in 1985 and two during stabilisation.
G on sides of spur. 10 examples found in 1985.
IS on sides of spur with Bacchus scene on back of bowl. 12 examples found in 1985.
IS on sides of spur. Two examples. One found in 1985 and one during stabilisation.
IS on sides of spur with initials JC on side of bowl. Two examples found in 1985.
JE on side of bowl. One example found during stabilisation.
JS on sides of spur. 11 examples. Eight from 1985, four from stabilisation.
RO/CARP/ENTER/BATH. Three examples found during stabilisation.
RICH/GREEN/LAND. Two examples found during stabilisation.
WILL/NICH/LAS on stem. One example found in 1985.

The pipe makers

AJ. Made by Abaham Jones of bath, 1836-1855.

CW. These initials probably represent a partnership between Richard Ward and Thomas Clarke of Bath (Lewcun 1994, 135) and date to 1790-1810.

GD. Probably made by George Davis of Bath. Apprenticed to Robert Carpenter in 1726 (Lewcun 1994, 1304), the pipes are of a type dateable to 1750-1790.

IS on side of sur, with Bacchanalian scene on the back of the bowl depicting a cherub sitting astride a barrel, holding a bottle in one hand and a glass in the other. Made by Jeremiah Smith of Bath, apprenticed to his father and made a freeman of the city in 1762. Smith was the surety for Wiliam Stawell to keep the Bottle and Glass alehouse in St James' Street during the period 1777-1778 (Lewcun 1986, 8-9). The pipes can be dated between 1762 and his death in 1780, but were more probably made in the 1770s.

IS on sides of spur. Of a type dateable to 1790-1810, these were made by Joseph Smith of Bath, brother of Jeremiah (Lewcun 1994, 133-4).

IS on sides of spur and JC on sides of bowl. Made by James Clarke between 1810 and 1820 after purchasing the moulds, tools and trade of Joseph Smith (Lewcun 1994, 134). These pipes also appear in quantity in Norton St Philip, and it is possible that Smith repurchased this particular mould and set up business there soon afterwards (Lewcun forthcoming).

JE. Probably made by Joseph dwards II of Bristol, who was working 1774-1823 (Price and Jackson 1979).

JS. Produced by Joseph Sants of Bath, 1836-1877 (Lewcun 1994, 139-41).

RICH/GREEN/LAND. Made by Richard Greenland of Norton St Philip, near Bath (Lewcun 1994, 129).

RO/CARP/ENTER/BATH. Robert Carpenter was making pipes in Bath from around 1694. He died in 1739, but might have retired *c.* 1732-1733 (Lewcun 1994, 130).

WILL/NICH/LAS. Attributable to William Nicholas of Bristol, who was working 1730-1776 (Price and Jacksons 1979). The pipe from the mines probably dates to after 1750.

Decorated pipes

A number of the pipes from the mines are decorated, ranging from no more than leaves along the mould seams on the front and back of the bowl to more elaborate designs such as the Bacchanalian scene on the back of the 18th century bowls in context 6101. The Bacchus pipes are unparalleled in Britain and twelve examples were found in context 6101 in 1985, with only a small number found elsewhere in the city. Ornamentation on pipes in the second half of the 18th century is uncommon, and decoration does not make a general appearance until the early years of the 19th century.

From the period 1810-1840- two bowls found during the stabilisation works are decorated. One from context 4163 (SF 321) has plain or stylised leaves along the mould seams, while a bowl from a pillar ledge in **Area** 113 (SF 865) has more detailed decoration of a form more commonly produced in Bristol. The latter bowl is one of three identical examples found in Bath, where it was more likely to have been made in this case. From around 1840 onwards decorated pipes become more common, and from the mines are nine pipes with better-defined

leaves along the seams of the mould, nine with ribs on the sides of the bowl and one of a panelled style, all quite commonly found in Bath.

Slightly more elaborate styles of decoration appear on three bowls found during the stabilisation work. Moulds were being machine cut during the later years of the 19th century and many are almost identical, and thus it is difficult to say whether these pipes were produced in Bath, Bristol or perhaps Broseley, where the Southorn family produced pipes which were sold throughout Britain, including Bath as testified by advertisements in a number of editions of the Bath Chronicle newspaper. One bowl with hatched panels intersected by lines of beading (SF 55) is of a type described as a 'French Common Cutty' in a Manchester company's catalogue of c. 1906 (Jung 2003, 209). The bowl with the initials RAOB and buffalo horns of the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (SF 528/4) is a common type in the later 19th and early 20th centuries. The Buffaloes, initially organised by actors and stage technicians in Drury Lane, London, were in existence by at least 122, becoming a philanthropic and charitable body as time progressed. Pipes with the RAOB design were being produced by at least 1880 (Hammond 1985, 61) and probably would have been on open sale to anyone in the streets who had a liking for the design. With the earliest patented example of a football pipe being registered in 1889 (Hammond 1985, 74), the 'football' bowl (SF 194) is of a common form of which there are numerous variations dating from around 1880 onwards and into the 20th century, and would have been slightly more expensive to buy than the average or common pipe.

Pipes recovered during the stabilisation scheme to which small finds (SF) numbers were allocated, with dates of manufacture:

- SF1. Area 1. Bowl. 1810-1840
- SF2. Area 1, u/s. Bowl. 1810-1840
- SF12. Area 5, ctx 189. Six stems. 1750-1920.
- SF30. Found near Combe Lodge Hotel. Decorated bowl with ribbed sides and plain panel below the lip. Spur embossed J/S. 1850-1877
- SF42. Area 6, u/s. Stem, stamped RICH/GREEN/LAND. 1700-1710
- SF47. Area 9, ctx 132. Complete porcelain pipe with short stem. Stem and lower half of bowl brown-glazed, upper half of bowl white. 1875-1900
- SF48. Area 9, ctx 132. Complete porcelain pipe, identical to SF47. 1875-1900
- SF49. Area 9, ctx 132. Porcelain pipe, identical SF47 but incomplete. 1875-1900
- SF50. Area 101, ctx 1056. Bowl, lip milled, spur missing but bowl is of a type produced by Joseph Sants of Bath. 1850-1900
- SF51. Area 9, ctx 132. Bowl decorated with oak leaves along mould seams. 183-1900
- SF52. Area 9. Incomplete bowl, spur embossed J/S. 1835-1880
- SF53. Area 9, ctx 132. Incomplete spurless bowl. 1850-1900
- SF54. Area 9. Bowl, spur embossed J/S. 1835-1880
- SF55. Area 9, ctx 132. Decorated bowl of 'beaded' or 'French Cutty' type with hatched panels intersected by lines of beading. 1850-1921
- SF58. Area 9, ctx 132. Bowl, spur embossed J/S on right. 1835-1877
- SF61. Area 1, u/s. Incomplete bowl with stem stamped RICH/GREEN/LAND. 1700-1710
- SF62A. Area 9, ctx 132. Three stems. 1750-1921
- SF62B. Area 9, ctx 132. Stem with green-glazed mouthpiece. 1840-1920
- SF63. Area 6, u/s. Bowl. 1790-1810
- SF65. Area 13, ctx 65. Bowl. 1800-1840
- SF72. Area 13, ctx 86. Bowl. 1800-1840
- SF77. Area 13, ctx 295. Stem. 1690-1710
- SF79. Area 206, ctx 2095. Bowl. 1810-1840
- SF121. Area 402, ctx 4041. Bowl. 1810-1840
- SF128. Area 6, ctx 449. Bowl. 1810-1840
- SF144. Area 16, ctx 440. Bowl with bent spur. 1810-1840

SF163. Area 405, ctx 4098. Incomplete bowl. 1810-1840
SF191. Area 22, ctx 1770-1830. Incomplete bowl. 1810-1840
SF192. Area 23, ctx 564. Stem. 1750-1920
SF193. Area 103, pillar ledge. Bowl. 1790-180
SF194. Area 405, u/s. Almost complete pipe, lower part of bowl in form of a boot kicking a football, tip or mouthpiece bulbed and green-glazed. 1899-1920
SF204. Area 24, ctx 582. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF213. Area 23, ctx 558. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF214. Area 23, pillar jad slot. Bowl, spur broken. 1810-1840
SF215. Area 23, pillar joint. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF218. Area 23, ctx 583. Bowl, spur embossed C/W. 1790-1811
SF226. Area 16, ctx 625. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF230. Area 109, u/s. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF249. Area 26, ctx 1108. Two stems. 150-1921
SF250. Area 23, pillar ledge. Incomplete bowl. 1810-184
SF278. Area 209, u/s. Incomplete bowl, spur broken. 1760-1800
SF279. Area 109, ctx 2155. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF285. Area 209, ctx 2155. Stem. 1750-1920
SF294. Area 210, ctx 2160. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF321. Area 407, ctx 4163. Small decorated bowl with simple leaves along the mould seams and a plain, narrow spur. 110-1840
SF322. Area 407, ctx 4163. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF339. Area 407, ctx 4169. Bowl reconstructed from 14 cemented fragments. 1790-1810
SF342. Area 601, ctx 6010. Bowl, spur embossed C/W. 1790-1811
SF368. Area 503, pillar. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF407. Area 410, pillar ledge. Incomplete bowl. 1760-1800
SF453A. Area 1202, ledge. Bowl. 1770-1830
SF453B. Area 1202, ledge. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF485. Area 1203, ctx 12009. Bowl. 1770-1830 but more probably 1770-1810
SF494. Area 5. Complete porcelain pipe, front of bowl decorated with design of a tower, perhaps of a church, flanked by foliage with a path and gatepost to the front. A copper rim is attached to the mouth of the bowl, with a clasp for a hinged lid on right side. 1875-1900
SF522. Area 214, ctx 2299. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF528. Area 506, u/s. Pipes from the Firsfield and Byfield Mines, collected in the 1990s
SF528/1. Area 506, u/s. Faceted or panelled bowl with stem. 1850-1877
SF528/2. Area 506, u/s. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF528/3. Area 506, u/s. Bowl. 1790-1810
SF528/4. Area 506, u/s. Bowl embossed RAOB with buffalo horns. 1850-1921
SF528/5. Area 506, u/s. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF528/6. Area 506, u/s. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF528/7. Area 506, u/s. Bowl. 1750-1780
SF528/8. Area 506, u/s. Bowl. 1810-1820
SF541. Area 309, pillar ledge. Incomplete bowl. 1810-184
SF547. Area 903, pillar recess. Bowl with long stem. 1810-1840
SF568. Area Road 12, ctx 12011. Incomplete bowl. 1810-1840
SF586. Area 1204, ctx 12020. Bowl. 1780-1830
SF627. Area 202, pillar jad slot. Bowl. 1800-1830
SF667. Area 112, ctx 904. Bowl. 1810-1840
SF658. Area 34, ctx 749. Bowl with stem stamped RO/CARP/ENTER/BATH. 1694-1720
SF685. Area 1205, ctx 12063. Stem. 1750-1921
SF698. Area 5, ctx 464. Stem. 1750-1921
SF725. Area 5, ctx 197. Bowl with stem stamped RO/CARP/ENTER/BATH. 1700-1739
SF812. Area 1205, ctx 12090. Stem. 1800-1921
SF813. Area 1205, ctx 12090. Stem. 1750-1921

- SF814. Area 173/189, ctx 5377. Bowl with long stem. 1810-1840
- SF815. Area 13, ctx 904. Decorated bowl with ribbed sides and chain below lip. 1810-1840
- SF816. Area 5, ctx 905. Bowl with stem stamped RO/CARP/ENTER/BATH. 1694-1739
- SF846. Area 114. Bowl. 1810-1840
- SF847. Area 1205. Bowl, spur embossed I/S. 1790-1810
- SF850. Area 1205. Bowl stamped with simple leaf decoration along mould seams. Ornate initials JE embossed on right side. No initials on spur. 1800-1820
- SF865. Area 113, pillar. Decorated bowl with simple leaf decoration along mould seams. On the sides of the bowl, ribs extend upwards from the spur up to a row of lozenges flanked by two lines parallel with the mouth of the bowl, immediately below which is a line of pellets. 1810-1840
- SF880. Area 1205, ctx 12331. Incomplete bowl. 1810-1840
- SF887. Area 1205. Bowl. 1810-1840
- SF888. Area 1205. Curved stem 276 mm long. 1750-1840
- SF890. Area 1206, ctx 12157. Incomplete bowl. 1750-1790
- SF915. Area 102, pillar. Incomplete bowl. 1750-1790

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