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Description: Regional Typology – West Country. Extracted from Oswald, A. (1975) *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist*, British Archaeological Reports, **14**, 207pp.

Comments: For each typology there is a short piece of text, illustrations and captions for the illustrations noting where the examples are from.

Key Words: Oswald, typology, West Country

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The West Country (Fig. 10,W)

Pipes from this area overlap, to some extent, with those of Bristol and Central Southern England. The very small early ones from Plymouth, no. 1, are quite closely paralleled in London (Fig. 2, no.2) and may originate from there, but the forward projecting bowl persists in the West throughout the 17th century. Nos 2 and 6 are also from Plymouth and, by their quantity, are of local manufacture. No. 6, in shape c.1640-60, is a forerunner of no. 12, c.1660, and no. 22 is about the same date. The shape persists in the Poole area until about the last decade of the 17th century. Pipes of the But family, nos 3 and 4, anticipate in shape the later pipes of Chard and Taunton, nos. 17 and 18. No. 5 by George Webb is closer to Bristol types of the mid 17th century, but the same maker was producing pipes in Chard closely resembling no. 8, by Thomas Brian, from the Sherborne area. The Dorset pipes, nos 7,8 and 9, are closely related to the Central Southern pipes of the Devizes, Marlborough and Salisbury area (Fig. 8) and the boundary between the purely Western types of Devon and Cornwall would seem to lie in Western Dorset and west of Taunton.

There are, however, some narrower territorial peculiarities. For instance, the probable Cornish pipes, nos 10, 13 and 21, are distinguishable mainly by their wide, heavy stems and not very white clay. Nos 16, 19 and 20 are from the west of Devon and the east of Cornwall and although the style of mark is Bristol the basic shape may be well seen at Plymouth. Common and characteristic of Plymouth are the early eighteenth century pipes with a pronounced overhanging bowl (no. 15). The cylindrical bowls with a spur no. 11 and no. 14, with raised mark at the neck of the stem and at the back of the bowl, have a

shape unlike spurred bowls further east, although it may well be hard to distinguish them from some London types.

FIGURE 10: West Country Pipes

1. Plymouth Mus. c.1590-1610. Unmarked.
2. Plymouth Mus. c.1600-30. Incuse.
3. Honiton Mus. c.1630-40. Incuse.
4. Downside Abbey. George Butt of Taunton. c.1660-80. Incuse.
5. Taunton Mus. George Webb. c.1660-90. Some pipes marked Chard. Incuse.
6. Plymouth Mus. c.1630. Incuse.
7. Shaftesbury Mus. c.1660-80. Incuse.
8. From Sherborne. c.1670-90. Incuse.
9. Shaftesbury Mus. c.1670-90. Incuse.
10. Star Castle, Scilly. c.1680-1710. Relief.
11. Dorchester Mus. John Paul, Merriott, Somerset. 1728. Relief.
12. Barnstable. Perhaps Peter Stevens apprenticed 1647. c.1670. Relief.
13. Star Castle, Scilly. Everard Thurleby. Truro. 1643-65. c.1660. Relief.
14. Poole. c.1690-1710. Perhaps John Guy. 1675. Relief.
15. Plymouth Mus. c.1700-30. Unmarked.
16. Launceston Castle. c.1700-30. Relief.
17. Taunton Mus. c.1700-30. Incuse.
18. Taunton Mus. c.1690-1730. Maker also uses Taunton as a place name. Incuse.
19. Launceston Castle. I. Parnt. Maker unknown. c.1720-40. Relief.
20. River Dart. c.1720-50. Relief.
21. St. Mary's, Scilly. Simon Earle of Bodmin. ob.1683. Relief.
22. St. Mary's, Scilly. Perhaps John Barnard of Bodmin. ob. 1670. Relief.

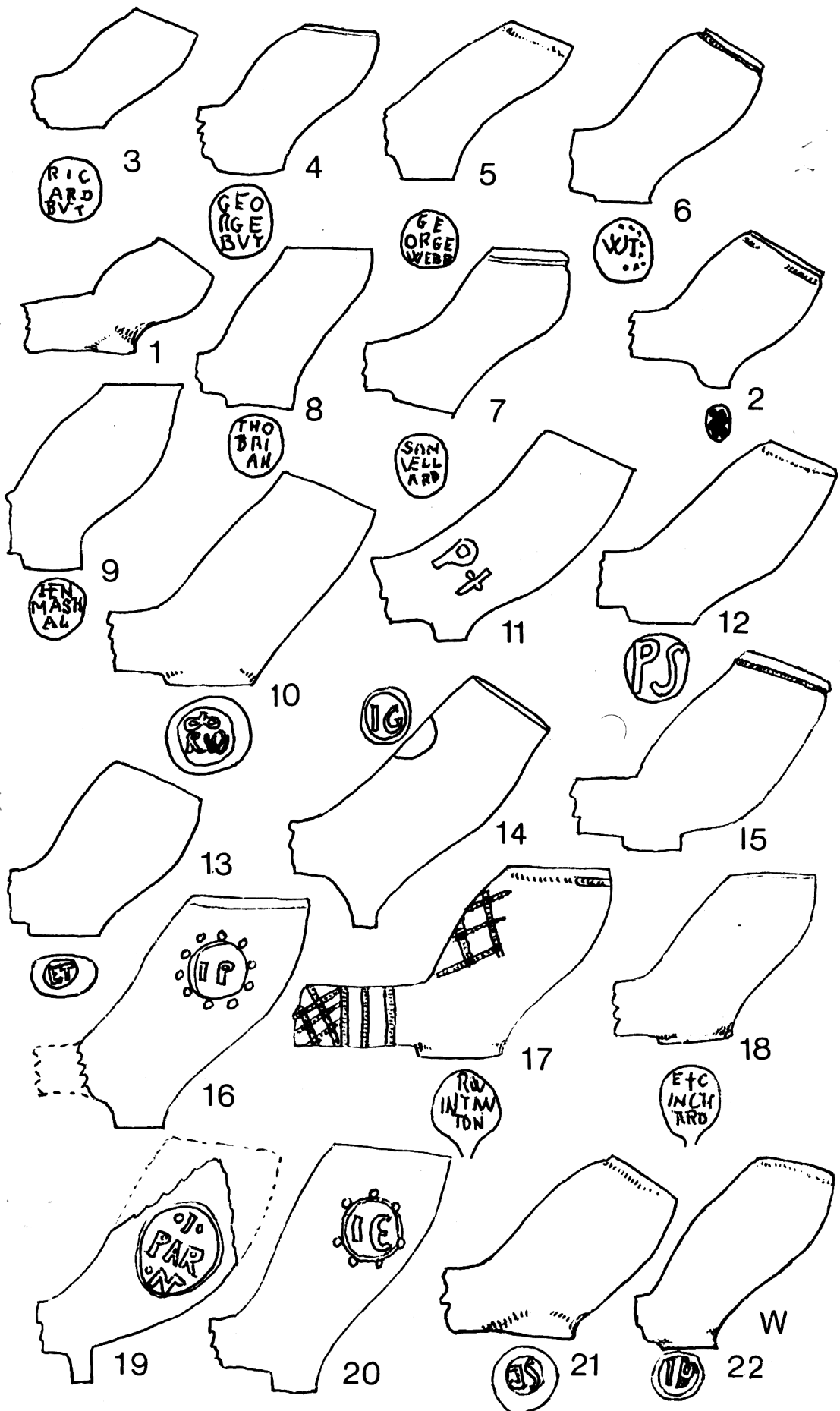


Fig. 10: West Country Pipes