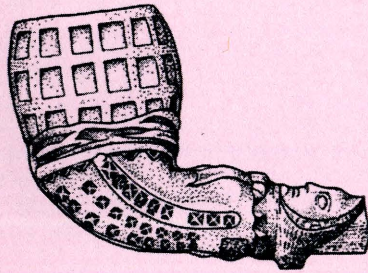
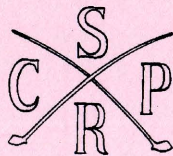


SOCIETY *for* CLAY PIPE RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER

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Autumn/Winter 2006

A Pipe Fragment from Croatia

by John Wood

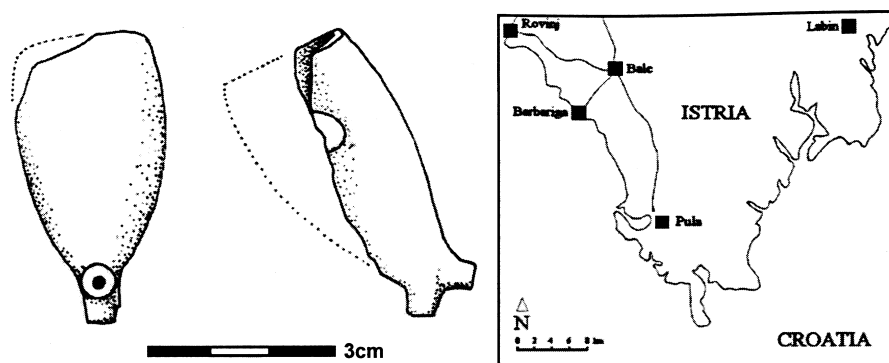


Figure 1: Pipe (left) and location of find spot (right). (Drawings by the author).

This pipe was a stray underwater find in 2005, 30m offshore in the region of Barbariga, between Rovinj and Pula.

The whole artefact is abraded and encrusted in marine growth. The form is reminiscent of a nineteenth century Dutch style c1830. A raised 4 x 2 mm rectangle on the side of the heel is almost certainly a Gouda shield, indicating place of manufacture (D. Higgins *pers. comm.*)

Croatia was the Ottoman Empire frontier. The province of Istria however was dominated by the Venetians until 1797 and then subject to Austro-Hungarian rule until 1918. Pipes found across Croatia are mostly imports, which have been attributed to Turkish, Italian, Austro-Hungarian or English origin (Bekić 2001, 44). The Italian and English pipes are confined to coastal areas (Bekić 2000).

A tobacco factory was opened in Rovinj in 1872 in the hope of reviving a stagnating economy. A number of pipes from that area and from neighbouring Poreč have already been published (Bekić 2000; Kovačić 2002).

Given the global scope of Dutch influence this find is relatively close to home. Perhaps it will serve as a parallel for other pieces, which may turn up in the area.

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Selby Clay Pipemakers: The Seventeenth Century

by C. M. Ann Baker

Existing lists of clay pipemakers include two in Selby in the latter part of the seventeenth century. The first is Richard Taite, named in a sale of land, 1669-1680. The second is Nicholas Tarboton (i) who was free of Selby before 1682. To date, virtually nothing is known about Nicholas' circumstances in Selby, although aspects of his subsequent career in Hull and its vicinity, and of the careers of his sons, Nicholas (ii) and Thomas (ii), also pipemakers, have been catalogued (Oswald 1975; White 2004). This paper extends knowledge of the Tarboton family and adds two more names to the list of seventeenth-century Selby pipemakers.

Information about the Tarboton family comes from four wills (Collins 1912, 160-162). The earliest, dated 17 July 1655 is that of Jane Tarboton of Selby, widow. She left personal items, including '...one gold ring, one silver thimble, one silver spoon....', furnishings, and at least three properties including a close at New Cross Hill. After some small individual bequests the residue went to '...my children Nicholls [*sic*] and Elizabeth Tarboton....'. The inventory of Jane's effects was appraised on 31 July 1655, but no value was given.

The next will is that of Nichols [*sic*] Tarboton of Selby, tanner, dated 29 September 1668. The date suggests that he was the previously named son of Jane Tarboton. Nichols' will stated 'I give to Thomas Tarboton, my eldest sonne, 12d in full satisfaction of his filiall porcon. The rest of my goods I give to Ann, my wife and John, Nichols, Ann, Jane, Joseph and Benjamin Tarboton, my true and lawful children....'.

Nichols' effects were appraised on the 3 December 1668 and were valued at £52.3.10. Most items were connected with his trade. There were also '...one byeble and some other books...' valued together at ten shillings. The small library suggests literacy and the books were probably heirlooms. The will, dated 21 April 1633, of Thomas Niccolls [*sic*] yeoman left, *inter alia*, six named books including '...one great bible...' to his grandson Nicholas Torbotton [*sic*] son of Thomas' daughter, Jaine Torbotton (Collins 1912, 120-121).

Nichols also left weapons ‘...one fouleing peece, one halbert and one fawchent [a falchion, a curved broad sword (Corèdon and Williams 2004, 118)]...’ valued together at £1.0s.0d. The weapons are a reminder that Selby was fought over several times in the Civil Wars of 1637-1651, culminating in the Battle of Selby, 1644 which was the key to the Battle of Marston Moor (Baker 1995). There is no indication whether Nichols fought for either side or whether he was only prepared to defend his property from looters. He might not have fought at all, but acquired abandoned equipment as a souvenir or as an investment.

The date of the above will suggests that the son named Nichols was the clay pipemaker Nicolas Tarboton (i) who, after he was free of Selby went to Hull c1682. This reference is supported by the records of the Peculiar Court of Selby, which include a marriage bond dated 17 July 1683 in respect of Nicholas Tarboton, Kingston upon Hull, batchler [*sic*] and Frances Plummer (Collins 1912, 201).

Nicholas seems to have kept in touch with Selby as he is named in the wills of his mother, Ann Tarboton of Selby, widow, and of his brother, Thomas. The will of Ann Tarboton of Selby, widow, was dated 8 February 1695. The inventory of her effects, appraised 24 April 1697, gave a total value of £6-9-0. They were not itemised but the will specifies the disposal of household effects and property. The latter included two closes at Tod Hill. The property of Jane Tarboton at New Cross Hill was not mentioned.

Ann’s will named five children ‘...my well beloved son, Thomas Tarboton...Nichols, Ann, Jane and Benjamin...’. With Ann’s grandsons John and Thomas Tarboton, they shared the estate apart from some minor bequests.

The will of Thomas Tarboton of Selby, schoolmaster, was dated 8 August 1706, and appraised 20 August 1706. Collins (1912, 162) noted that ‘The will and inventory are mouse-eaten in places’ but extracted some information. Nicholas (i) had died in 1698 (White 2004, 181) but Thomas left ‘...to everyone of my brother Nicholls children, £3...’ suggesting that the brothers had remained in contact. Various other relatives were left small legacies but the bulk of the estate was divided between Thomas’ surviving siblings, Ann, Jane and Benjamin.

Thomas’ will adds to the information about the family. Ann was married to a sailor, William Wadworth. Jane was married to William Feasant, a lining (linen) draper. Their brother Benjamin Tarboton of Roccliffe, had followed his father in to the leather trade as had a nephew Thomas Tarboton. The last two men were described as cordwaners [*sic*] (cordwainers).

Thomas’ personal belongings reveal multifarious interests. Twelve stone of line (flax) indicate a connection with the linen trade, as an additional business or as a barter payment for professional services. ‘One parcel [*sic*] of books £1’ and paper, also valued at £1.0s.0d, agree with his profession of schoolmaster. Thomas may also have

taught music as he left ‘...2 violins, 1 howby [hautbois] and one citherane, £1....’ The howby was a wind instrument associated with the waits, i.e., civic minstrels employed by a town, as was known for Beverley and York. The cittern was a string instrument played with a plectrum valued at £3.7s.0d. It was considered of lower social status than a lute, but was popular in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Thomas was catering for the popular music of his day (see entries in Sadie 1980a and 1980b, and Baines 1992).

Thomas also left ‘...one silver watch £2..’ that would have been a mark of above-average status. His funeral expenses support this assessment, as they came to £4.7s.0d. out of a valuation of £52-3-0 for his total effects. There are records of higher funeral expenses, but these represent lower percentages of the estates administered.

These four wills establish that the Selby Tarbotons were a family of at least moderately successful tradesmen over five generations, and that at least one, Thomas moved into a profession. There is no indication of kinship with the clay pipemaker Thomas Tarboton (i) of Hull, who is known from the burial of his wife Mary on the 14 May 1648 (White 2004, 182).

Collins (1912, 153) provided evidence for at least two other Selby clay pipemakers in the late seventeenth century. William Smith and William Wray, who were bound on 14 December 1693, to administer the estate of William Smith’s father, also William Smith. No occupation was given for the latter. William Wray’s effects were valued at £3.7s.0d. but so far no further information concerning him has been found. William Smith, clay pipemaker, was recorded in the Parish Register of Selby Abbey (The church of Our Lord, St. Mary and St. Germain) at the baptism of his son, another William Smith, in 1700.

At present it is not known if William Smith or William Wray, and possibly other clay pipemakers, overlapped with Nicholas Tarboton (i), who left Selby for Hull c1682. Often an apprentice had to agree not to set up in an area served by his master, without the latter’s permission. Even if there were not such agreement, Nicholas may have decided that there was not enough trade to support another clay pipemaker. He found a similar situation in Hull and had to set up his business in Sculcoates (White 2004, 181).

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank my husband, Clyde Manwell, for reading and discussing this paper and especially for his advice about music. I would also thank the librarians at Selby Public Library for their help and Susie White for typing up my handwritten manuscript.

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Clay Tobacco Pipes from Hallcroft Rd., Babworth, Nottinghamshire

by Susie White

Archive report prepared for the Archaeological Research and Consultancy at the University of Sheffield (ARCUS). Reproduced here with slight revisions with their kind permission.

Introduction

The clay tobacco pipes discussed in this report were recovered by a team from the Archaeological Research and Consultancy at the University of Sheffield (ARCUS) during the archaeological evaluation of a site in Hallcroft Road, Babworth, Nottinghamshire. The site code used for this work was 802b.

The excavations produced a total of 18 clay tobacco pipe fragments comprising four bowls and 14 plain stems from seven different stratified pipe-bearing contexts. There were also three unstratified pieces (two fragments in Bag 45 and one in Bag 47). No mouthpiece fragments were recovered.

The Bowls

Four bowl fragments were recovered from the excavation, one decorated and three plain. The decorated fragment was recovered from Context 38 and dates from c1800-1820 (Figure 1). Only one side of the bowl survives, that on the smoker's left. This depicts a standing Indian figure holding a spear in his right hand and supporting a shield that would have faced the smoker, with his left.

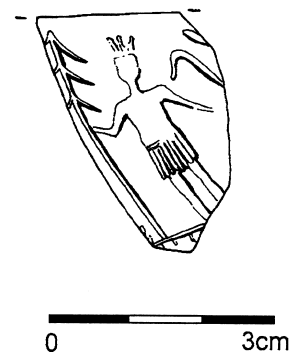


Figure 1: Fragment of a pipe bowl with an Indian supporter for a shield. Scale 1:1. (Drawn by the author).

Indians supporting a coat of arms is a particular decorative scheme that is found in parts of Lincolnshire and Yorkshire although the individual elements of the design do vary. On some examples the arms depicted are those of Lincoln (Mann 1977, 32, Figure No. 198), whilst on others it is the Prussian arms (White 2004, 271, Figure No. 53.3). Occasionally these bowls also have moulded lettering giving the name of the maker and/or the place of manufacture, for example William Bannister of Lincoln (Mann 1977, 31, Figure No. 194), George Spencer Watkinson of Market Rasen (Mann 1977, 33, Figure No. 200), and Thomas Westerdale of Hull (White 2004, 418, Figure No. 6).

The example from Hallcroft Road is only a fragment and the lower part of the bowl that would have borne any lettering is missing. It does appear, however, that originally it would have been marked as the top part of a scroll, which would have contained the lettering still survives. The arms that would have faced the smoker are also missing although but what little does survive most closely parallels examples that bear the Prussian Arms.

The three remaining bowl fragments are all plain and are very small. The first from Context 1 is a fragment from the bowl wall. As a result none of the more easily datable features such as a heel/spur, or rim survives. The thickness of the wall, however, and the fabric, would both suggest a late seventeenth to early eighteenth century date. The only heel fragment to be recovered comes from an unstratified deposit (Bag No. 45) and is part of a small heel with a stem bore of 7/6". The form of the heel and the nature of the fabric would suggest a date in the second half of the

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