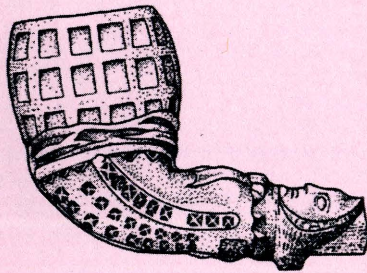
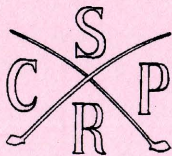


SOCIETY *for* CLAY PIPE RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER

70



Autumn/Winter 2006

## 'Squatter's Budgerie' Pipes Revisited

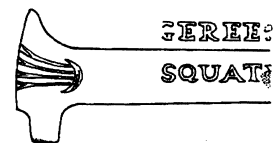
by Ron Dagnall

Readers may recall an article by Denis Gojak in Newsletter 48 in which he wrote about clay pipes excavated at Cadmans Cottage in Sydney, Australia and in particular he illustrated a pipe bearing the legend **SQUATTERS/BUDGEREE** along either side of the stem (Gojak 1995, Figure 7.10). This article prompted me to write a follow-up article in Newsletter 50 about a single fragment of bowl/stem junction with the moulded incuse letters **SQUAT.../...GEREE** (Dagnall 1996, Figure 21.1) from a deposit of kiln waste which I had collected many years earlier during fieldwalking in Mill Lane, Rainford. From the associated bowls marked **DS** on the spur I attributed this material to David Swallow, pipemaker at the nearby Hill Top Pipe Works.

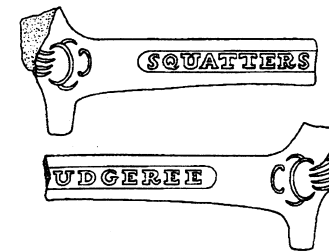
Although no other source for the Cadmans Cottage pipe has been identified, either in Australia or here in the UK, one small fragment seemed rather flimsy evidence on which to base a provenance. When a suitable occasion arose I returned to the field, armed with the knowledge of the decorated bowl illustrated by Gojak to which this stem possibly belonged, in the hope of finding an identifiable fragment of such a bowl to reinforce the claim that Swallow was, in fact, the manufacturer of the Sydney pipe. Despite collecting 236 pieces of bowl, stem or kiln material, including four new bowl types and four stem fragments with spurs marked **DS**, I found nothing relating to this pipe. Occasional checks on this field in the years following never showed any sign of new debris being brought to the surface by cultivation.

In 2004 a planning application was submitted for a proposed golf course on land that includes this particular field. From that time cultivation ceased and the field was soon overgrown with weed, thus preventing any further fieldwalking. The planning process dragged on and early this year, I noticed that part of the field had been ploughed, including the roadside edge where the pipe waste was found. This ploughing had been unusually deep and in three or four places had brought up a sandy subsoil containing fragments of broken pipes. A return visit produced 637 finds including fourteen new types of plain bowls, two marked **DS**, and eight spurs marked **DS**, but still no bowl or fragment of bowl with the decoration illustrated by Gojak.

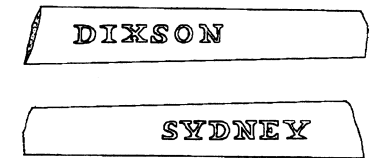
However I did find two bowl/stem junctions with the partial legend **SQUAT.../...GEREE** identical to my original find (Figure 1) and identical to Gojak's original illustration, and also a single bowl/stem junction with almost the full legend **SQUATTERS/UDGEREE** (Figure 2). This latter piece is from a different mould



*Figure 1: The original find with a partial legend. Actual size. (Drawn by the author).*



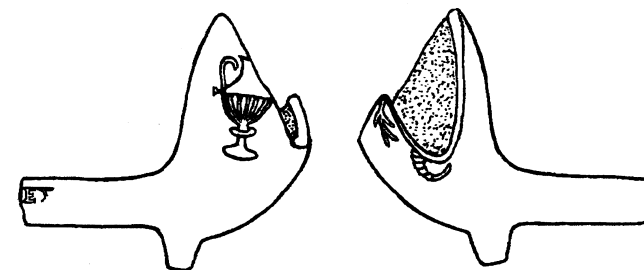
*Figure 2: The recent find with the full legend. Actual size. (Drawn by the author)*



*Figure 3: Advertising pipe for Sydney tobacconist Hugh Dixon. Actual size. (Drawn by the author).*

than all the other specimens as the letters start much nearer to the bowl and the decoration at the base of the bowl terminates in a more complex arrangement of curved lines. This difference indicates that more than one version of this type of pipe was being made at Hill Top and improves the suggested provenance. Further evidence of the Australian connection was found in the form of two stem fragments with the words **DIXSON/SYDNEY** in mould-imparted incuse letters on either side (Figure 3). Yet again these came from two different moulds as the lettering does not align between the two fragments. Gojak also mentioned similar marked stem fragments as advertising a prominent Sydney tobacconist. 'A number of pipes made for the tobacconist Hugh Dixon and bearing this mark have also been found at Lake Innes Estate in Port Macquarie, New South Wales' (Courtney, forthcoming a).

A further Australian connection was found in a broken bowl with sufficient decoration surviving to reveal on the right hand side a vase or trophy with a curved handle and on the left hand side, a curled tail end and a hint of foliage (Figure 4). An almost identical pipe from Cadmans Cottage was illustrated in Gojak's article (1995, Figure 6, No 7). The Rainford specimen has more stem surviving and the letters **EY** (? **SYDNEY**) can just be made out at the broken end of the right hand side. It is an obvious kiln waster being highly over-fired to a mottled buff colour with fine



*Figure 4: Decorated pipe similar to a Sydney specimen. Actual size. (Drawn by the author).*

particles of slag adhering.

The question of what type, or types, of decorated bowl had been attached to the various lettered stem fragments still remains unanswered but these additional finds provide positive evidence that the Hill Top Pipe Works was producing pipes for export to Australia during the time of David Swallow's ownership (c1860-1880). I have no direct documentary evidence for the distribution of Swallow's pipes but local newspapers from the 1920s, containing articles on the Rainford pipe industry generally, reported that sixty years ago (i.e., 1860s) three cart loads of pipes went to Liverpool every week, many destined for the colonies, especially South Africa. No mention was ever made of Australia in any of these articles.

From further correspondence with archaeologists in Australia I learn that 'this pipe type with **SQUATTERS OWN** and **SQUATTERS BUDGEREE** is found fairly regularly, if in small numbers, in Australian sites: examples have been found in the Sydney sites of Cadman's Cottage, the Rocks (Gojak 1995); First Government House and Hyde Park Barracks, Sydney, and Port Arthur, Tasmania (Wilson and Kelly 1987, 6). It was also identified at Lake Innes, Port Macquarie, New South Wales (Courtney, forthcoming a) and in at least one New Zealand site: the Victoria Hotel Site in Auckland (Brassey 1991, 29). No examples of pipes of this name or iconography have been documented from North American or other overseas sites. Probably not of Australian manufacture, this pipe is almost certainly an example of a pipe made overseas specifically for the Australian market.' (Courtney, forthcoming b). Without some further archaeological or documentary evidence I cannot claim that Hill Top Pipe Works was the source of all these finds.

As a postscript to this article I regret to say that the proposed golf course was granted planning permission on 8 May 2006 and within ten days the site of these very interesting finds was stripped of its topsoil and a hardcore access road had been laid.

My thanks are due to Kris Courtney of Melbourne for her comments and additional information.

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#### Reviews

Nicky David 'Appendix 4: Clay Tobacco Pipes', pages 231-278, in K. J. Barton 'The Archaeology of Castle Cornet, St. Peter Port, Guernsey', *Guernsey Museum Monograph No. 7*. Published by The Guernsey Museum and Art Gallery, 2003.

This report by Nicky David deals with a very substantial group of clay tobacco pipes from the excavations at Castle Cornet, Guernsey, comprising over 1,850 complete or near complete bowls, over 1,500 bowl fragments and nearly 10,100 stem fragments. These pipes range in date from the late sixteenth century through to the latter part of the nineteenth century, with the bulk of the material ranging from c1580-1760 in date. A single introductory page describes the work and discusses the likely origins of the pipes recovered during the excavations, which includes France, the Netherlands and the British Isles. A map on page 232 (Figure 37) shows the sources of the pipes found at Castle Cornet.

The bulk of the paper comprises a catalogue of 481 different bowl forms and marked or decorated pipe fragments recovered from the assemblage. The entries are arranged chronologically and then in broad geographical groups such as 'London Styles' or 'West Country Styles', but also including groupings such as 'products of the Sidney family of Southampton' and 'pipes produced for the Irish market'. For each entry the context in which the pipe was found is given. In some instances this is the only information that is offered, other than the date, which is given at the head of each group. Where more than one example of a particular fragment exists the quantity is expressed in brackets after each context number, for instance two examples of a particular bowl form from context A2 is written as 'A2 (2)'. This information is very useful in that it gives an idea of the numbers of individual bowl forms that were recovered from the site, something that is sadly lacking in many published reports.

The catalogue is followed by no less than 34 A4 pages of drawings providing an excellent and useful corpus of reference material. Most, but not all of the stamp



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