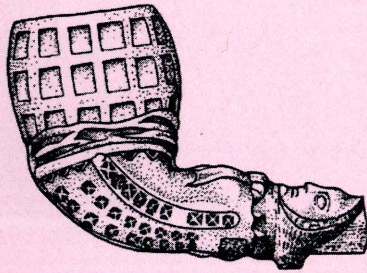


SOCIETY *for* CLAY PIPE RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER

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A search of the SCPR newsletters for parallels of this bowl did not provide any further information. I have not previously come across this design in London or elsewhere, but it may be of local manufacture. Its moderate quality would also suggest the bowl is not a product of the French pipe companies, Gambier or Fiolet, whose novelty pipes are occasionally found in London. However, the nineteenth-century London censuses show that an itinerant population was moving around London and this treasured item may have been brought from elsewhere in the country.

If any other tobacco pipe researchers can provide information on this pipe I would be interested to hear from them.

Acknowledgement

I am grateful to Helen Davis for drawing the pipe.

References

Atkinson, D. and Oswald, A., (1969) 'London clay tobacco pipes', *Journal of British Archaeology Association*, 3rd series, **32**, 171-227.

Douglas, A., (2000), *Phased summary and assessment document of excavations at 5-27 Long Lane, London Borough of Southwark, SE1*, unpublished document prepared by Pre-Construct Archaeology.

Editor's Note: The National Clay Tobacco Pipe Archive, which is housed in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Liverpool, has a similar pipe in its collections. This particular example (shown below) is an unprovenanced piece but may be from the Leicester area. Although very similar to the example from London it was clearly produced in a different mould.



Scale 5cm. (Photograph by Susie White).

The Longstaff Family of Tobacco Pipemakers

by Peter Hammond

A pipe-making family that figures prominently in Lincolnshire during the nineteenth century was the Longstaff family of Spalding. Like many other pipemaking families they spread their wings far and wide, ending up in places as far apart as Whitby, Birkenhead, Coventry and London.

This article focuses on the pipemaking members within this family, with brief genealogical histories provided for each individual.

The story starts with **Henry Longstaff** who was apprenticed on 28 June 1792 to the pipemaker **William Turpin** of Boston for the standard term of seven years (Hammond 2004, 27). As he would have been apprenticed at the age of 14 years this means that Henry would have been born c1778. He must therefore be the Henry baptised at Ashby by Partney on 26 April 1779, the son of Henry and Mary Longstaff (nee Blackith) who had married in Frampton in 1777. The fact that a Thomas Staveley Longstaff was baptised there in 1778 links very well with the fact that Henry the pipemaker later gave the same name to his eldest son. Furthermore the name Staveley appears further back in the female line (Christine Dring, 2006 *pers. comm.*).

Henry would have completed his apprenticeship with William Turpin in 1799, after which he appears to have moved to Spalding to set up business of his own. There he met Ann Sewell, the young daughter of Thomas Sewell of Swineshead, labourer, the couple marrying there on 13 July 1807. As she was under age a licence was obtained, dated 12 July 1807, in which Thomas Sewell gave his consent to his daughter's marriage, her age being stated as 20 years. Henry Longstaff's age was given as 28, and his occupation is confirmed as that of a pipemaker. This occupation is wrongly transcribed as a 'pin maker' in the index to marriage licences held within Lincolnshire Archives Office.

The couple had ten known children, all born and baptised at Spalding, as follows. All the names in bold are known to have been tobacco pipemakers.

1. **Thomas Staveley** (i). Born 3 July 1808, baptised 6 July. Died during the following year but no burial found so far [at Swineshead or Ashby by Partney?]
2. **Thomas Staveley** (ii). Baptised 13 December 1809. Moved to London where he married Mary Isabella Wolfe at St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, on 7 October 1839. She was the widow of **John Joseph Wolfe**, pipemaker, and daughter of **Samuel Clark**, pipemaker – being born on 13 June 1813. Thomas died in London in 1858 while his widow died in 1880 at the age of 67 years.

3. Elizabeth Betsey. Born 11 November 1811. Baptised 13 November. Married ? Hutchinson (marriage so far not traced) and living at Burgh Le Marsh as a widow at the time of the 1881 and 1891 censuses with sister Abigail.
4. **Charles**. Baptised 19 December 1813. Pipemaking in Coventry in 1841, and later in Spalding. Married Sarah Redshaw of Fleet in early 1848. Listed as a 'retired pipemaker' in the census of 1881 in Spalding. He died there in April 1883 aged 71 years, being buried in Spalding churchyard.
5. **George**. Baptised 24 December 1815. Pipemaking in Spalding in 1841. Married Mary Larks at All Saints, Stamford on 20 April 1846 and subsequently remained in Stamford. He died there in 1875 aged 59 years. Had eight known children. His widow continued the pipemaking business after his death, being listed in Directories at 15 Elm Street from 1876 to 1892, latterly also as a bookbinder. Two of her sons are subsequently listed as bookbinders and house decorators while Mary Longstaff appears to have died in 1916.
6. **William**. Born c1817. No baptism found. Pipemaking in Stamford in 1851. Appears to have died prior to 1881.
7. Mary Ann. Baptised 29 April 1818. No further details known. According to directory evidence she may have continued the business in Spalding after her mother died.
8. Abigail. Baptised 28 March 1821. In Spalding in 1841, and Burgh Le Marsh in 1881 and 1891 with her sister Elizabeth. Moved to Tranmere near Birkenhead after the census in 1891 (took place 5 April) to live or stay with brother **Sewell Longstaff**. Died at 434 New Chester Road on 15 June 1891 aged 70 years and buried in Bebington Cemetery three days later — the same month as her brother Sewell. Never married.
9. **James**. Baptised 29 August 1823. Pipemaking in Spalding 1841 and 1851, Howden 1861, Warwick 1871, and Coventry 1881 and 1891. Ended his days in Coventry Union Workhouse where he died in late 1891 aged 68 years. Never married.
10. **Sewell**. Baptised 24 December 1828. In Spalding 1841, Stamford 1850 and 1851. Was living in Smithfield in Sheffield during the mid-1850s, working as a journeyman pipemaker, probably for **William Erratt** who was a master pipemaker at 13 Smithfield throughout the 1850s. Both William Erratt and his younger brother **James**, who was also a pipemaker in Sheffield at the time, came from Whitby — perhaps this may explain Sewell's later movements. Married Caroline Stanton at Sheffield Register Office in 1855 and moved back to Lincolnshire — to New Sleaford — during the late 1850s. His whereabouts at the time of the 1861 census is still not known, though he was probably in

Stamford or Alford, but by 1865 he had moved to Church Street in Whitby, by which time he became a master pipemaker. Still in Whitby during the censuses of 1871 and 1881. Wife Caroline died in Whitby 24 May 1885 aged 49 years (buried Whitby cemetery on 27 May), after which he moved to Tranmere by 1891, where he died at 434 New Chester Road on 2 June aged 62 years. Buried at Bebington Cemetery three days later (followed shortly afterwards his sister Abigail).

Henry Longstaff died in Spalding in early July 1834 at the age of 55 years, being buried in Spalding churchyard on the 9 July. His widow Ann was living in Bourne Road, Spalding, at the time of the 1841 census with three of her sons, George, James and Sewell, and daughter Abigail. At that time her two eldest sons, **George** and **James**, were described as pipemakers. Close by in Sheep Market was **Daniel Mullins**, pipemaker, who more than likely would have been working for the Longstaffs at that time as a journeyman. He had been apprenticed in London and subsequently moved to Maldon in Essex and later back to London.

Ann Longstaff appears to have died prior to the census of 1851. There are three possible entries within the GRO indexes; one who died in Spalding in 1850 was not the correct one.

As seen above all the sons of Henry and Ann Longstaff became pipemakers, at least four of them, **Thomas Staveley**, **Charles**, **George** and **Sewell** becoming masters, while **William** and **James** appear to have remained as journeymen i.e., working for other master pipemakers.

So far the only member of the family who appears to have actually marked his pipes with his name was **Thomas Staveley Longstaff**. His pipes are stamped 'LONGSTAFF' upon the bowls (see Figure 1), the typical form of marking in London at the time. The only other known Longstaff pipes are marked 'GL' on the sides of the spur and occur around Stamford in Lincolnshire, where George Longstaff worked. No pipes appear to have been marked by Henry Longstaff in Spalding or Sewell Longstaff in Whitby — unless readers know otherwise.

It is apparent that at least some of the children of Henry and Ann remained in close contact during their lives, such as with the sisters Elizabeth Betsey and Abigail living in the same house in Burgh Le Marsh after their respective husbands died, and also with Abigail going to stay with Sewell in Tranmere — and both coincidentally being interred within thirteen days of each other in the same cemetery there. Abigail could initially have gone there on account of brother Sewell becoming ill, as she had been with her sister in Burgh Le Marsh at the time of the census.

Despite publishing details within the *Lincolnshire Family History Journal* (May 2006), no direct descendants of the Longstaff family have so far been found. Do any photographs of them survive? No members of the Longstaff pipemaking family

appear to have left wills and no gravestones apparently survive — unless any readers know different?

References

Hammond, P., (2004), 'Tobacco pipemakers extracted from the Inland Revenue apprenticeship books 1763-1810', *Society for Clay Pipe Research Newsletter*, 65, 22-30.

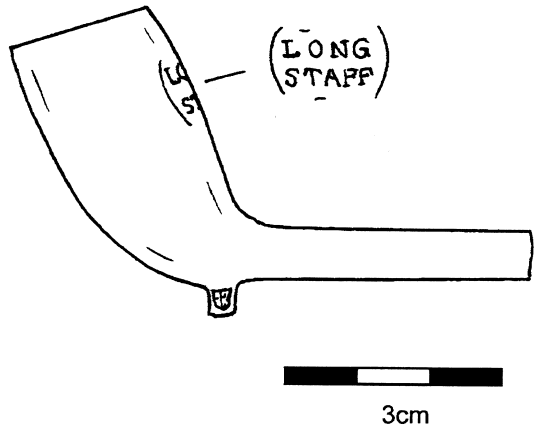


Figure 1: Pipe made by Thomas Staveley Longstaff stamped LONGSTAFF on the bowl facing the smoker. Pipe bowl at 1:1, stamp detail slightly enlarged. (Drawn by the author).



A Manx Pipe from Douglas

by Peter Davey

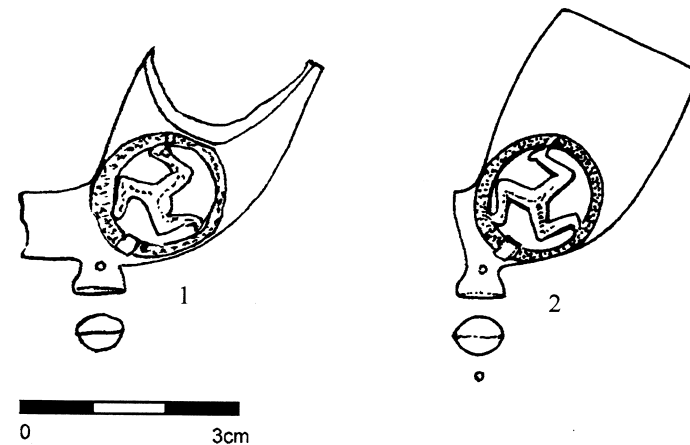
In January 2006, Mrs Diane Cliffe of Devonshire Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, brought into the Manx Museum for identification a clay pipe that she had recently found in her garden. The pipe (Figure 1) is a nineteenth-century bowl with the three legs of Man moulded within a circular frame on either side. There is a neatly moulded heel, oval at its base, with a small dot on either side. The upper part of the bowl is missing. A short portion of the stem survives, with a bore of 5/64". From internal residues it appears that the pipe had been smoked.

Until the mid-1990s it was assumed that the wide range of clay pipes recovered from

the Isle of Man containing some form of the three legs symbol had been made off-island, in major production centres such as Manchester or Glasgow. The demand for such pipes would have been increasing from the mid-nineteenth century due to the rapidly growing tourist industry. Makers' lists and catalogues include a number of Isle of Man cutties. For example, Pollock's of Manchester produced a Manx Pipe as their catalogue number 182 (Jung 2003, 72-73, Figure 47, Nos. 23 and 293) and there is an Isle of Man pipe on White's 1900 price list (Gallagher 1987, 153, No. 602). This view changed dramatically with the discovery in 1995 of pipe production waste in Drumgold Street in Douglas on the site of a new Marks and Spencer store. Here, a range of wasters, kiln furniture and kiln linings were recovered, dating from 1843 to 1861 and representing the manufactory of James Fell and Arthur and William Culum. Many of the pipes contained the three legs symbol and had been made in good quality moulds (Higgins 1999).

The Devonshire Road pipe closely matches one of the bowls from the kiln site (Figure 2). The two bowls have been compared in the hand and are undoubtedly from the same mould. The detail on the surface of the legs and in the surround on the kiln site example is rather less crisp, possibly implying that the new find was produced somewhat earlier than the end of the production period.

The pipe is important in a Manx context in that it is the first example of any of the kiln group to have been recovered from a domestic context. It shows that, for a period at least, the Drumgold Street factory did succeed in getting its products onto the domestic market.



Figures 1 & 2: 1. Pipe bowl from Devonshire Road, Douglas (Drawn by the author). 2. Pipe bowl from Drumgold Street, Douglas (Higgins 1999, 308, No. 7 - drawn by David Higgins).

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