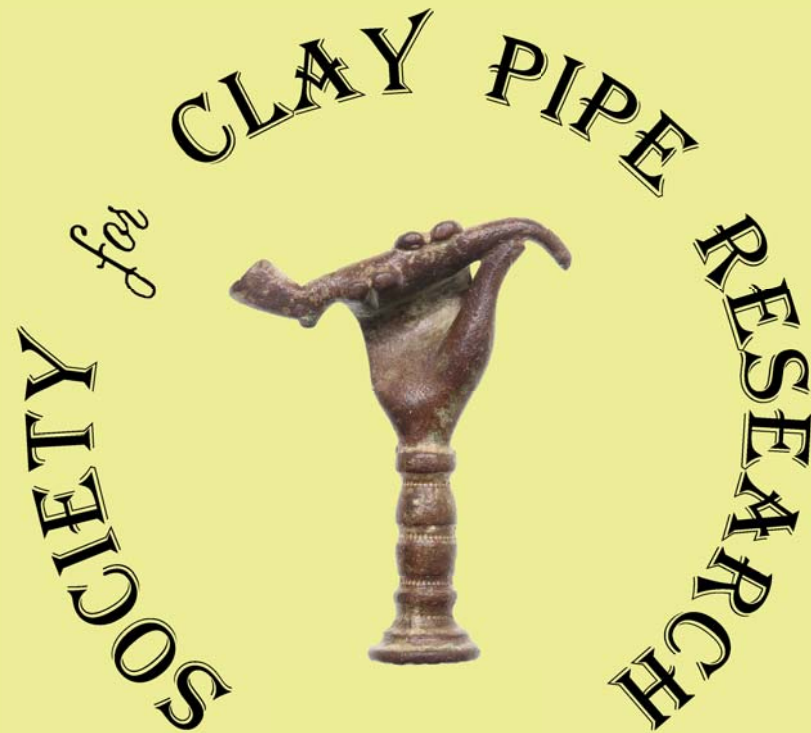




## NEWSLETTER

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193136 – James Turner). His heirs were his three surviving children; Josiah (by this time using the name George), Arthur and Ernest.

The Trundleys appear to have been a dysfunctional family in Britain and Australia, stability only emerging late in their lives, but having damaged and abused those around them along the way. Josiah came to Australia having sold his share of what seems to have been a successful business, and his former partner Herbert Gross kept the name when he had no need to do so. Josiah brought his pipemaking gear with him, potentially with the intention of working, unless Thomas had already persuaded Henry Bradley that he needed to begin making his own clay pipes. This latter course seems less likely as neither father or son seems to have been good at playing a long game, and more than once lied their way into or out of situations. For Josiah / James, to begin pipemaking in the free-trade colony of Sydney was probably not an option, and this may have made Victoria, which imposed levies on imported clay pipes, more attractive.

After arriving on the *Hohenzollern* in Sydney in February 1887 using his own name, Josiah became James Turner in Australia before the end of the year. It would be tempting to believe that this underlined a change in his behaviour, but the two divorce proceedings show that he was still capable of violently abusing and threatening his wife Emily, drinking heavily and becoming uncontrollable. He gained success in business and seems to have had no further involvement in his father's trade.

Around the time that Josiah left Adelaide for Sydney in 1906-07, his father was a grocer in Parramatta, but also making clay pipes there and in Newtown. It is quite possible that Josiah got his hands in the clay once again before Thomas closed his business a year or two later.

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## A Possible George Smith Pipe from Garth, Near Wrexham

*David Higgins*

A pipe fragment of c1680-1730 with an abraded maker's mark on the heel has been found at Garth, which is a small hillside community located about 3 miles east of Llangollen, in Wrexham County Borough. The surviving fragment (Fig. 1) has a distinctive flared heel with a tail extending back under the stem, which is a form characteristic of the Shropshire pipemaking industry (Atkinson 1975; Higgins 1987).



**Figure 1:** Pipe fragment from Garth, found at approximately SJ 25590 42892 and recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database as WREX-B1A965. Die detail at twice life size. Photos by Susie White.

The pipe itself is made of a very coarse, gritty fabric with a stem bore of 7/64". Although the mark is very weathered, it clearly had a hand or gauntlet mark in the middle, separating the maker's initials – a style of mark that was particularly used by pipemakers operating in the Much Wenlock area of mid-Shropshire (Higgins 1987). The Christian name initial is not legible, but faint traces of the surname initial 'S' can just be made out.

Research by the author into the Shropshire pipemaking industry has only recorded two different sets of initials that occur as a circular mark with a hand or gauntlet mark in the middle and the surname initial 'S' – GS and RS. The first mark is usually attributed to George Smith and the second to either Richard Sir or Richard Smith, all of whom are thought to have worked in the Much Wenlock area. The RS marks are much less common and tend to have a large, rounded hand motif, whereas the GS marks are more common and had a hand motif that looks more similar to the Garth example, leading to the conclusion that the Garth example is most likely to have been a GS mark.

In Newsletter 100, the author published a study of the pipes made by George Smith, showing that this maker appears to have marketed his products up to 40-50 miles from Much Wenlock, but with a particular focus on the area to the south-west of the town (Higgins 2021, and p. 41 of this Newsletter). Garth lies around 35 miles to the NW of Much Wenlock and in an area where George Smith marks have not been recorded previously. It is also much closer to places such as Oswestry, Wrexham or Buckley, which all had pipemakers operating at this time (Higgins 2020), and would have

provided closer supply sources. This underlines how the good-quality pipes produced in the Much Wenlock area were able to out compete more local supply sources, even when the cost of carriage most likely made them more expensive products.

In conclusion, although this is a poor and abraded example, it adds to our knowledge by providing a new destination to the known market area of George Smith pipes. This clearly demonstrates the importance of accurately recording the findspots of these early marked pipes, which can help build up a picture of the distribution patterns for individual makers or production centres. It also shows how even relatively remote rural communities in late seventeenth or early eighteenth-century Wales were able to obtain their goods from a variety of different sources, and that these were not necessarily the nearest or cheapest ones.

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## Master Pipe-Makers and their Apprentices

*Roger Moore*

The growth of commercial scale production centres of clay tobacco pipes in the early seventeenth century saw an increase in the need to establish loyalty through quality. One option was to establish a skilled workforce, with apprentices at the heart of the business. The restrictions on the apprentice minimised absconding, "theft" of trade secrets, and directly personal matters such as fornication and gambling, while the provision of a skill, term employment, provisions etc., was a good balance, and better than being in poverty.

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