NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
CLAY TOBACCO-PIPES
AND
PIPEMAKERS

W.R.G. MOORE
A smoking scene
Decoration on a wine-cooler made by Davenport, Staffs, c 1800–15.
Northampton Museums
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
CLAY TOBACCO-PIPES
AND
PIPEMAKERS

by

W. R. G. Moore

Keeper of Archaeology
Northampton Museums
and Art Gallery

Northampton Museums and Art Gallery
1980
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Preface

Fragments of clay pipes are some of the most familiar objects found in the soil. Their fragile nature, low cost and continual use during three centuries has resulted in pieces being scattered everywhere. Almost any disturbance of the soil around a town or village will produce at least a few portions of pipe stems.

During the last twenty-five years, several detailed studies of English clay pipes have been made, with a particular emphasis on dating by typology and on matching makers’ marks with documented pipemakers. Both in Britain and North America, clay pipes have proved invaluable in the dating of excavated sites and in tracing patterns of trade and distribution.

This particular study, which is concerned with the county of Northampton, attempts to describe and illustrate the local industry and its products, relating it to a wider context. It is hoped that the work will be of interest to both the archaeologist and the local historian.

I should like to express my sincere thanks to a number of people who have kindly supplied me with information or examples of Northamptonshire clay pipes. I should like to mention in particular the following: D. R. Atkinson, R. Butlin, R. Colliass, Mrs. J. de Goris, G. Freeston, W. R. Gault, B. L. Giggins, A. Golds-worthy, R. Harper, B. E. Hensman, G. Hockley, T. R. Key, R. E. Kitchener, R. Lakin, Mrs. L. R. Moore, H. Oak-Rhind, L. B. Scarratt, Mrs. J. Scouse, B. Sherlock, T. J. Shirley, J. Small, S. Upex, Mrs. D. Warren, R. Waters, A. Whitehead and J. Williams.

Through the personal recollections of several Northampton residents, I have gained a valuable insight into local pipe-making during the early part of this century. Thanks are due to Mrs. E. Barrett, Mrs. L. E. Dove, Mrs. E. E. Gardner and Miss F. Roberts, grand-daughters of the pipemaker A. Roberts (1); T. Chick, grandson of the pipemaker J. Chick (2); and S. W. D. Kent for their generous help.

The staff of Northamptonshire Record Office, Northampton Reference Library and colleagues at Northampton Museum have been a constant source of information and their help is gratefully acknowledged. The illustrations are by Paul Goff and I am particularly grateful for his careful work. The manuscript was read by Adrian Oswald and I wish to thank him for his encouragement and helpful advice. I should also like to thank Victor Hatley for commenting on the manuscript. My wife Pauline has been an invaluable help throughout and to her go my warmest thanks.

Finally, I am indebted to the Curator, W. N. Terry, and the committee of Northampton Museums for the support which made the publication of this work a possibility.
The Introduction of Smoking

The smoking of tobacco using a clay pipe was a habit copied from the North American Indians and brought to England during the reign of Elizabeth I. It soon became a well-known practice. William Harrison, writing of the year 1573 in his Great Chronologie, observed that 'In these daies the taking-in of the smoke of the Indian herbe called "Tobaco" by an instrument formed like a little ladell . . . is gretlie taken-up and used in England'. The high price of tobacco, however, made smoking an expensive luxury. During the seventeenth century tobacco prices declined and smoking became commonplace. In 1614 Barnaby Rich remarked that tobacco 'is a commodity that is nowe as vendible in every tavern, wine and ale-house, as eyther wine, ale or beare'.

The earliest evidence for smoking in Northamptonshire comes from the excavation of a windmill-mound at Lamport, where a few clay-pipe stems were discovered in a context probably of late-sixteenth-century date.

Many disapproved of smoking. In a letter of 1608, for example, John Isham of Lamport Hall is praised for not taking up the habit: 'I am gladd thatt our Englysh Champyon hath the vyctorye over thatt Indyan fume'. Nevertheless smoking spread rapidly and by 1637 tobacco was being sold in almost every county of England. Accordingly we find a probate inventory dated 1640 of stock owned by John Pettiver, a mercer of Kettering, includes the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco pipes</td>
<td>£2 10s. 0d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco stalks</td>
<td>2s. 6d.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
<td>£6 0s. 0d.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The clay pipes used in Northamptonshire before 1640 would have been obtained from pipemakers outside the county, as local production did not begin until about that time.

Pipemaking in Northamptonshire
(Figs.1,2)

Early Development 1640-1720

Clay pipes were made in England from c. 1570 and within thirty years the industry was well established. The main centre of production during the first half of the seventeenth century was London. The industry was controlled by monopolies which attempted to restrict to the capital the importation of tobacco and clay as well as the manufacture of pipes. However these restrictions were never totally successful and when the monopolies were lifted in 1638–9, pipemaking was already becoming an established industry in some English towns and ports.

Pipemakers began work in several Northamptonshire towns and in at least one village between 1640 and 1680. The earliest records of pipemaking in the county refer to: Northampton, from 1641; Stanwick, from 1670; Daventry, from 1675. The first reference is found in the Northampton apprenticeship rolls, when in 1641 William Wilby (1) became apprenticed to Andrew Guill, a woolen-draper, to learn the trade of a tobacco-pipe maker. Guill was presumably a part-time pipemaker who learned his skills elsewhere, perhaps in London. After completing his apprenticeship in 1648, William Wilby (1) took a succession of apprentices, indicating that pipemaking was a flourishing and an expanding trade. At Daventry pipemaking was in existence by 1670, when Thomas Hollowell (1) was granted his freedom. Thomas, together with his son, trained six apprentices between 1672 and 1704 and a thriving industry is evident here as in Northampton.

With the survival of apprenticeship and freedom rolls, the records of Northampton and Daventry are particularly full. Unfortunately, the records for the rest of the county are more sporadic and only three other seventeenth-century pipemakers have been noted: Joseph Kingston and Peter Davis of Towcester and Edward Ward of Stanwick and Higham Ferrers. In view of the flourishing industry at Northampton and Daventry during the later seventeenth century, pipemaking was perhaps more significant in other Northamptonshire towns than the few surviving references might suggest.

By the latter part of the seventeenth century the popularity of smoking had increased considerably. This had been made possible by the continuing reduction in tobacco prices. At Bristol, for example, the cost of best tobacco in 1638 was one shilling an ounce; by 1681 the price had fallen to two shillings a pound. The accounts of the borough of Northampton show that pipes were regularly purchased between 1692 and 1741 for use in the town hall. Pipes were normally mentioned together with candles, but in 1698 '2 grosse of Pypes' were obtained for three shillings and in 1703 half a pound of tobacco was purchased for one shilling.

Fragments of clay-pipe bowls of the later seventeenth century are very often found in Northamptonshire. The most common of all in the Northampton area are those of the period c. 1660–80.

The total number of recorded pipemakers continues to rise until c. 1720 and it appears that pipemaking was more widespread at the beginning of the eighteenth century than at any other time.
Fig. 1 Distribution of Northamptonshire pipemakers 1651–1900

Fig. 2 Numbers of pipemakers working in Northamptonshire
A Weakening Industry 1720-1820

There was a decline in the number of pipemakers working in Northamptonshire c 1720–1820, although there was some regional variation. This fall in numbers in the western half of the county was particularly noticeable and no further references to pipemakers at Towcester, Bugbrooke and Whittlebury are found after 1740. A different situation is found in the east of the county, where at Wellingborough and Oundle there was an increase in the number of pipemakers during the second half of the eighteenth century. This trend is paralleled in neighbouring Lincolnshire. It has been observed that snuff-taking became fashionable during the eighteenth century. Fairholt suggested that it increased considerably during the reign of Queen Anne. In 1773 Dr Johnson could say that 'Smoking has gone out' and Cowper wrote in 1782:

Says the Pipe to the Snuff-box, I can't understand
What the ladies and gentlemen see in your face,
That you are in fashion all over the land,
And I am so much fallen into disgrace.

A general decline in pipemaking in England during the course of the eighteenth century has been suggested by Oswald, who attributes this to the increasing use of snuff. Some believe, however, that snuff-taking was never widespread and that pipes remained in popular use. Clay-pipe bowls of the period c 1710–80 are noticeably rare from the Northampton area and account for only about five per cent of the bowls found. A similar rarity has recently been observed in Lincoln and Cambridgeshire.

Revival 1820-60

A second period of expansion in the clay-pipe industry took place during the nineteenth century and there is a considerable rise in the number of known pipemakers c 1820–60. Some of this is due, no doubt, to the fact that trades were now more frequently recorded than ever before in the documents. Nevertheless, a period of considerable activity is proved by the large numbers of nineteenth-century pipe fragments found in the county, made to supply the growing industrial population. A general revival of pipemaking was apparently taking place in many industrial areas of England, from London, through the Midlands, to Lancashire and Yorkshire. Whereas in earlier times most pipemakers seem to have been of local origin, the census records show that during the period 1841–71, sixty-eight per cent of Northamptonshire pipemakers were born outside the county. The development of better communications, particularly the railways, was giving rise to a considerable mobility of population (Fig. 3).

The Final Years 1860-1920

The clay-pipe industry virtually collapsed in the second half of the nineteenth century. After 1860 the number of recorded pipemakers declines continuously. The industry, as previously indicated, had died out in two places during the 1850s. It is then last documented at Brackley in 1867 and at Wellingborough in 1871. Finally, in Northampton, pipemaking lasted until c 1920.

During the eighteenth and earlier nineteenth centuries the use of clay pipes survived the introduction of snuff, meerschaum pipes and cigars. However, the introduction of the sturdy briar pipe, which reached England c 1856, and then the cigarette, proved to be the downfall of the fragile clay pipe. French briar pipes were expensive at first. Fairholt said that in 1859 briars were
Manufacture and Distribution

Sources of Clay

‘Of Tobacco-pipe-Clay an Excellent Sort . . . is digg’d up in Northampton Field, on the East Side of the Town’. Morton then continues with a useful description of the Northampton pits, which he visited in 1705.27 The clay was found over an area of many acres. It was black or grey in colour and was usually found at a depth of about six feet, but in places was only two feet deep. The clay was taken to neighbouring and more-distant counties. Consequently, Morton tells us that by c 1705, ‘So much of it has been digg’d up at Northampton in the last Thirty,
less, the clay continued to be exploited during his day they were ‘upon the outmost Eastern Part of Northampton Field, almost under Abington Wall’.

Perhaps other clay pits in Northamptonshire were used by pipemakers during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries but the only known reference is to some inferior clay from Moulton. 30 Presumably at some time during the period c 1771–1830 local supplies of pipe-clay were exhausted and Devon clay came into use. 31 Pipes made in the middle and later nineteenth century from Devon clay are generally smoother and whiter than pipes of earlier date, made with local clay.

Pipe Manufacture

Pipemakers lived and worked usually in the back streets of towns where low-value property could be found and the smoke from the kilns would be tolerated (Fig.4). 32 At the rear of a terraced house or cottage (Pl.1), pipes would be made in a small workshop and fired in a kiln often situated in the yard. 33 A stable would frequently be situated nearby, as many pipemakers kept a horse for the distribution of their wares.

The following account, published in 1906, gives a good impression of the process of manufacture:

First, the clay is washed and ‘sifted’ to rid it of extraneous substance. It is then well soaked and tempered by hammering with a heavy iron bar; this renders it soft and malleable. After a further soaking the operator, taking a small lump, rolls it out on a table, first by hand, then by means of a shaped board, until it obtains the rough form of a pipe with long stem and knob at the end to represent the bowl. The rough shapes are left to dry partially. When ready one is taken and pierced right up the stem with a long steel instrument (a delicate operation requiring a nice sense of touch) and placed in an iron mould, which is made in halves closely fitting together, and the exact shape of the finished pipe. The mould is inserted into a small machine, consisting of a screw, gin-head, and lever handle, and pressure induced by the lever compresses the clay until it entirely fills the mould, and at the same time hollows the bowl of the pipe. The shaped clay is now released from the mould, the piercer is withdrawn, and the pipe placed in a rack to dry further. It is then taken by the finisher, who scrapes off any roughness and once more introduces the piercer, to make sure the draught is clear. After further drying the pipes are packed in fire-brick boxes, termed ‘saggers’, and baked in a coke-heated kiln for eight hours. After the withdrawal and cooling of the pipes sealing wax is applied to each stem-end to prevent adhesion to the lips of the smoker, and the process of manufacture is complete. 34

Methods of production changed very little through the centuries. The ‘screw’ (a small benchvice) and the moulds are sometimes mentioned in seventeenth-century sources, for instance in the probate inventory, dated 1674, of Edward Ward of Higham Ferrers (Pl.2). However the use of coke and saggers35 in the kiln and ‘sealing wax’ on the end of the pipe stems were probably nineteenth-century innovations.

Pipemakers’ tools are described and illustrated by Oswald. 36 Unfortunately no tools or moulds used by Northamptonshire pipemakers have been preserved. 37

Distribution

The distribution pattern of pipes, established by recording the find-spots of fragments with makers’ marks, results from a whole series of activities. Initially, distribution took place when the pipemaker delivered consignments of new pipes to numerous inns, public houses, tobacconists and shops. Transport was usually by packhorse, horse and cart, or hand-cart, 38 which limited the marketing area to a radius of twenty or thirty miles. 39 Further dispersal outside the marketing area occurred when pipes were purchased and taken to more-distant destinations. Eventually, when broken and discarded, pipe fragments were thrown into gardens, fields, rivers and rubbish dumps.

Before c 1640 most of the pipes used in Northamptonshire were probably obtained from London. Pipemaking outside the capital was unusual at this period and London pipes were being used throughout England. 40 A pattern of more localised distribution developed during the later seventeenth century as pipemaking became widespread. Most pipes are found within an area of up to thirty-miles radius. Those from Northamptonshire, for instance, of the period c 1780–1850 have been found up to eighteen miles from their sources. 41

Distribution after c 1850 became wider with the development of the railways, cheaper transport and a more mobile population. Furthermore, a decreasing number of manufacturers meant that pipes of surviving makers were in demand over a wider area. 42 Pipes found in Northamptonshire include examples from France, London, Glasgow, Bristol, Coventry, Leicester and Broseley. The last Northampton manufacturer, A. Roberts, dominated the local area from c 1885, selling pipes up to thirty miles from Northampton. 43 Some Roberts’ pipes
were carried further afield and have been found up to sixty miles from their source (Fig. 5).
Clay pipes were sold for very little: their wholesale price in the mid-nineteenth century was about one shilling and fourpence a gross. They were retailed at about a farthing or halfpenny each, according to size, and some public houses even gave them away to regular customers.

**Northamptonshire Pipes**

**Identification and Dating**

**Unmarked Bowls**
These have been dated approximately by reference to Oswald's general typology. Dating is approximate because changes in bowl form did not occur simultaneously over the whole country and local dating evidence from archaeological excavations is so far absent. Unmarked bowls cannot be attributed to individual makers, but as most pipes had a limited distribution, one can assume that types found frequently in the Northampton area would have been made in the county.

**Plain Stems**
Both thickness and stem bore tend to decrease with time. Typical stem bores of Northamptonshire pipes, measured in sixty-fourths of an inch, are as follows:

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<th>Century</th>
<th>Bore</th>
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<tr>
<td>Seventeenth</td>
<td>8, 7, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eighteenth</td>
<td>6, 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nineteenth</td>
<td>5, 4</td>
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**Makers' Marks**
A maker's initials can be found on the base of the bowl, on the spur beneath the bowl, or more rarely on the bowl itself or on the stem. Initials have been assigned to a documented pipemaker only when:
- the shape of the bowl and the style of mark are of the correct period,
- several examples of the mark have been found in an area up to thirty miles from the presumed source of manufacture.

Although a number of different makers' initials have been found on pipes in the county dating from c 1640 none have been attributed to Northamptonshire makers until the period c 1780–1820, when large initials (3–4mm high) were appearing (Fig. 7). Smaller initials (1½–3mm high) were found after c 1825 (Figs. 8, 9). After 1850, Northamptonshire pipes were often marked incuse with a full name and town of origin along the stem and the moulding of initials on the spur gradually went out of fashion.

**Decoration**
A standard feature of seventeenth-century bowls is a narrow band of rouletting just below the lip of the bowl. The rouletting might not be continuous around the bowl or it might sometimes appear as a groove. This feature became less noticeable and then disappeared c 1710. With the exception of rouletting, Northamptonshire pipes were undecorated until c 1780–1820, when broad fluting appeared on a few bowls. Well-executed, simple decoration of oak leaves and narrow fluting was frequent c 1825–50 as seen, for example, on the pipes of F. Street of Northampton (Fig. 8). After c 1850 more complex designs appeared, under the influence of meerschaums and French clay pipes. The wide range of patterns made by A. Roberts of Northampton c 1885–1920 illustrate some of the numerous types in use at the end of the period. All over England similar designs were being made by different pipemakers during the nineteenth century as the moulds were obtained from a very small number of mould-makers.

**Overall Length**
There are no complete pipes surviving of pre-nineteenth-century date, but examples from London show that the overall length grew from about eight inches in the mid-seventeenth century to about fifteen inches in the late eighteenth century. Complete pipes made by A. Roberts, c 1885–1920, exist in three lengths: 5 inches, 11 inches and 19½ inches.

For the seventeenth and eighteenth century the general types of pipe bowls found and probably made in the county are illustrated. The types correspond to those defined by Oswald and are preceded by G. Their rarity is indicated by:
- (R) rare — up to five examples known,
- (C) common — more than twenty examples known.

From c 1780 products attributed to individual makers are illustrated. The stem-bore diameters (s.b.) of figured pipes are given in sixty-fourths of an inch. Figured types are in Northampton Museums (N.M.) unless an individual's collection is mentioned. All pipes are drawn at full size.

**The Pipes (Figs. 6 - 14)**

**Fig 6 Bowl types c 1600—1710**
The general trend throughout the century was an increase in bowl size. Rouletting around the lip was normal.

1. Small bowl with flat base, s.b.7; Boughton Green. G4, c 1640–40. (R)
2. Larger bowl with flat base, s.b.7; Bridge Street, Northampton. G5, c 1640–60. (C)
3. Increase in bowl size. Base often more protruding than illustrated example, s.b.7; Boughton Green. G6, c 1660–80. (C)
4. Bowl with almost straight sides, s.b.7; Drapery, Northampton. G7, c 1660–80.
5. Bowl with fairly small spur, s.b.7; Bridge Street, Northampton. G17, c 1640–80. (C)
Fig. 6 Bowl types c 1600–1710
Fig. 7 Bowl types and spurs c 1700–1820
Fig. 8 Pipes made by F. Street, Northampton 1826–50
Fig. 9 Pipe bowls c. 1825–70 and full-name marks c. 1850–1900
6. Larger bowl with spur, s.b.7; College Street, Northampton. G18, c 1660–80. (C)

7. Long bowl with flat base, s.b.7; Fish Street, Northampton. G9, c 1680–1710.

8. Long bowl with straighter front and flat foot, s.b.6; Northampton. G8, c 1680–1710. (R)

9. Long bowl with spur, s.b.7; Fish Street, Northampton. G19, c 1690–1710. (C)

Fig. 7 Bowl types and spurs c 1700–1820

The lip of the bowl became almost parallel with the stem and rouletting virtually disappeared c 1700. Bowls became much thinner through the century. In Northamptonshire, bowls of c 1700–80 are uncommon finds and they do not easily conform to Oswald’s general types. During the period c 1780–1820, large initial letters in relief are found on square spurs.

10. Bowl with well-curved front and small, pointed spur, s.b.6; Paulerspury. G21, c 1700–40. (R)

11. Fairly thick bowl with long spur, s.b.7; Cotton End, Northampton. c 1700–40. (R)

12. Thinner bowl, narrowing towards mouth, and a large, flat foot, s.b.5; 4 Derngate, Northampton (p. 29). G10, c 1700–40 (R)

13. Fairly tall bowl with straight sides and small, flat foot, s.b.5; Cotton End, Northampton. G12, c 1730–80. (R)

14. Bowl with lip at a rising angle and long, forward spur, s.b.5; Fish Street, Northampton. G22, c 1730–80. (R)

15. Bowl with fairly straight sides and long spur, s.b.6; Wood Street, Northampton. G23, c 1760–1800.

16. Tall, thin bowl with wide mouth, thin stem and square, flat-based spur with initials ?/R, s.b.5; Market Square, Northampton. G13, c 1780–1820. (R) (cf. G12, c 1730–80 and see no. 17).

17. Bowl (incomplete) decorated with broad fluting. Initials R/R on a square spur, s.b.5; Boughton Green. Twenty-one examples of spurs with large R/R recorded from Boughton Green, Duston, Northampton and Rothwell. Some known from N. Bucks. Possibly R. Roberts (1), Northampton, 1760–1818 (ob.).

18. Large initials I/F on a square spur, s.b.5; Boughton Green. Probably J. Fennell, Wellingborough, 1824 (ob.). Eighteen examples recorded from Blisworth, Boughton Green, Brixworth, Chapel Brampton, Northampton, Scaldwell and Towcester.

19. Large initials I/T on a square spur, s.b.4; Towcester. Probably one of the J. Testers, Wellingborough, 1762–97. Thirty-five examples recorded from Blisworth, Boughton Green, Duston, Ringstead, Towcester and Wellingborough. One from N. Bucks.

Fig. 8 Pipes made by F. Street, Northampton 1826–50

Pipes made during this period generally have thin-walled bowls, a small spur with maker’s initials in relief and a stem bore of 4 or 5. Decoration is frequent.

20-28 Pipes with medium or small initials F/S on a small spur, s.b.4 or 5. Made by F. Street, Northampton, 1826–50. Between 350–400 examples recorded, mostly from Northampton, but also (up to 18 miles away) from Blisworth, Boughton Green, Brixworth, Bugbrooke, Chapel Brampton, Duston, Earls Barton, Scaldwell, Towcester, Yardley Gobion (Northants) and Bletchley, Bradwell, Hanslope, Stoke Goldington and Stony Stratford (Bucks).

A pit group of the 1840s excavated near St. Peter’s Street, Northampton in 1974 contained several examples associated with pipes of Hurst, Cow Cross Street, London. (p. 29). G10, c 1850–1900.

20. Bowl with wide mouth and oak-leaf design, front and back.


22. Small bowl with oak-leaf design at front.

23. Plain bowl with pointed spur.

24. Small, forward-drooping bowl with oak-leaf design at front.

25. Bowl with the heart-in-hand symbol of the Oddfellows (Whitehead coll.).

26. Bowl with six ribs each side and oak-leaf design front and back.

27. Similar, but shorter bowl.

28. Bowl decorated with fluting.

Fig. 9 Pipe bowls c 1825–70 and full-name marks c 1850–1900

29. Bowl with oak-leaf and acorn design at the front and initials T/S on the spur (see no. 30).


31. Bowl with oak-leaf and acorn design at the front and initials J/S on the spur. Maker unknown, but probably worked at 18 Horseshoe Street, Northampton. Forty-four examples recorded from Blisworth, Boughton Green, Duston and Northampton.

32. Plain bowl with initials J/C on the spur. Maker probably J. Chick (1), Northampton, 1837–74, but other makers have same initials. More than thirty-six examples recorded from Blisworth, Boughton Green, Brixworth, Chapel Brampton, Cogenhoe, Culworth, Duston, Earls Barton, Hardingstone, Northampton, Scaldwell, Towcester and Wellingborough. Others found in N. Bucks.
33. Stem with incuse mark CLEEVER/WELLINGBROUGH. Made by J. Cleaver, Wellingborough, 1851–61. Four examples recorded from Boughton Green and Wellingborough. One found in N. Bucks.

34. Stem with incuse mark H. ROBARTS/NORTHAMPTON; small bowl with basket design (N.M. and Kitchener coll.). Made by Mrs. H. Roberts, Northampton, 1864–84. Eight examples known from Northampton, Scaldwell and Towcester. Some found in N. Bucks.

35. Stem with incuse mark BROOKS/HUGHES. Made by Brooks & Hughes, Northampton, 1864–77. Six examples known from Northampton. Several found in N. Bucks.

36. Stem with crude relief mark J. CHICK/NORTHAMPTON. Made by J. Chick (2), Northampton, 1861–1903. One example known from Walgrave. Another found in N. Bucks.

37. Stem with (usually shallow) incuse mark J. CHICK/NORTHAMPTON; small bowl decorated with trellis pattern and fleurs-de-lis. Made by J. Chick (2), Northampton, 1861–1903. Twelve examples of mark recorded from Boughton Green, Long Buckby, Northampton and Towcester. Also some from N. Bucks.

Figs. 10—14 Pipes made by A. Roberts, Northampton c 1885–1920

A wide range of pipes were made by this Northampton manufacturer. They are recognisable from the incuse, moulded mark along the stem or the rare, incuse mark on either the stem (Figs. 10, 11) or the back of the bowl (Fig. 14). Most pipes were short stemmed but long pipes were still in use. Large bowls with thick walls were made along with smaller, thin-walled types and some imitate wooden pipes. Decoration is frequent. Stem bores are 4 or 5 with few exceptions. More than 150 examples of pipe fragments with the A. Roberts' mark have been recorded, mostly from Northants and N. Bucks, as follows: Blisworth, Boughton Green, Brington, Brixworth, Burton Latimer, Church Brampton, Cosgrove, Duston, Earls Barton, Finedon, Little Addington, Little Houghton, Northampton, Rushden, Scaldwell, Southwick, Thrapston, Towcester and Wellingborough (Northants); Aylesbury, Iver, Langley, Newport Pagnell, Olney, Ravenstone, Stoke Goldington, Stony Stratford, Weston Underwood, Whaddon and Wolverton (Bucks); Bedford and Leighton Buzzard ( Beds); Elton (Cams); Long Sutton (Lincs); Coventry (Warks) and Oxford (Fig. 5).

Fig. 10

38. Bowl with ridge at front and back. Ornate frame around maker's mark. The pipe is complete with curved stem. Total length 11 inches.

39. Plain, forward-drooping bowl without spur (Colliass coll.).

40. Bowl with extremely thick walls, 6 mm at lip (Colliass coll.).

41. Large, plain bowl (N.M. and Lakin coll.).

42. Pipe with a very thick bowl, imitating a briar. Small, incuse mark on stem (Colliass coll.).

43. Large, plain bowl. Small incuse mark on stem. The pipe is complete with a curved stem. Total length 19½ inches — the 'churchwarden' type.53

Fig. 11

44. Large, thick bowl with large protrusions, rouletted mouth and a heavy spur. The pipe is glazed.

45. Fragment from similar pipe (Kitchener coll.).

46. Fragment probably from a pipe similar to no. 47 with incuse maker's mark (Kitchener coll.).

47. Short pipe decorated with protrusions. Stem oval in cross-section (Whitehead coll.).

48. Pipe with bowl in the form of a tree stump (Kitchener coll.).

Fig. 12

49. RAOB pipe (Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes).

50. Fragment of similar pipe with spur in the form of a hoof (Kitchener coll.).

51. RAOB pipe with buffalo's face and heavier spur (N.M. and Colliass coll.).

52. Pipe with fairly small bowl decorated with a ship and anchor, recalling the well-known public-house name (N.M. and Colliass coll.).

Fig. 13

53. Large bowl with the heart-in-hand symbol of the Oddfellows (cf. earlier type, Fig. 8. 25) (Kitchener coll.).

54. Large bowl with feather pattern (N.M., Lakin and Colliass coll.).

55. Large bowl with thistle-head and leaf decoration (N.M. and Colliass coll.).

56. Large bowl with simplified tree-stump design (Lakin and Kitchener coll.).

Fig. 14

57. Pipe commemorating Kruger and Buller, opponents in 1899 during the Boer war. Incuse mark on the back of the bowl similar to no. 58 (Dunkley coll.).

58. Fairly thin bowl with rouletted mouth and thin stem. Incuse mark on the back of the bowl, imitating the type of mark used in London during the mid­nineteenth century54 (N.M. and Sherlock coll.).

59. Pipe in the form of a claw holding the bowl. Fired black.
Fig. 10 Pipes made by A. Roberts, Northampton c 1885–1920
Fig. 11 Pipes made by A. Roberts, Northampton c 1885–1920
Fig. 12 Pipes made by A. Roberts, Northampton c 1885–1920
Fig. 13 Pipes made by A. Roberts, Northampton c. 1885–1920
Fig. 14 Pipes made by A. Roberts, Northampton c 1885–1920
Northamptonshire Pipemakers

Introduction

In the lists which follow, entries are arranged using Oswald’s convention: the order is alphabetical according to the initial letter of the surname, then the initial letter of the first name. This arrangement facilitates cross-reference with makers’ marks. To avoid confusion, dates before 1752 have been changed to correspond to the present system, where the year begins on 1st January rather than on 25th March. The known working period of each pipemaker is given after the name.

The lists have been compiled from many documentary sources. The most productive have been parish registers, apprenticeship and freedom rolls, trade directories and census returns. Trade directories are the least reliable source and contain errors and outdated information. Details that help to define or illuminate the working life of each pipemaker have been collected. Nevertheless, since documentation is frequently incomplete, often only part of a pipemaker’s working life is known. In addition, it is in many cases unclear in the records whether the home address was also the place of work. In many instances, of course, they were the same; but during the nineteenth century (and perhaps before) many pipemakers, especially employees, lived a short distance from their place of work (Fig. 4).

Five categories of pipemakers can be found in the lists:

Master pipemakers
Those owning a business and whose names therefore appear in trade directories during the nineteenth century. In earlier times they were probably the pipemakers taking an apprentice or owning property. (*Distinguished by *)

Employees
It is unlikely that any local pipemaker employed more than about three men at any time. Employees are not easily identified from the records and can be confused with pipemakers of the previous group. A few are described as journeyman pipemakers, but some of those described merely as pipemakers were probably employees. The situation after 1840 is slightly clearer, with more details available from census records and trade directories. Many employees were born outside the county, travelled from one town to another and lived in lodgings near the pipe workshops. Employees are also identifiable in the nineteenth century as being those not listed in the trade directories. Part-time employees may well have been significant in pipemaking but this group is hardly recognisable at all from the documents.

Apprentices
Apprenticeship was the usual method of entering the trade. The apprentices, coming from neighbouring towns and villages, were normally taken on at about fourteen years of age for a seven-year term and would live in their masters’ households. Few apprentices are recorded during the nineteenth century. Their place seems to have been taken by itinerant employees.

Pipe trimmers
The trimmers had a delicate task and, no doubt, most pipemakers’ wives or daughters helped in this way. However their work is rarely mentioned in the documents.

Trade names
A few pipemaking businesses used trade names, which appear in trade directories after 1850, e.g. James Chick and Sons.

Based on the above criteria, the Northamptonshire list contains:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>47 Master pipemakers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75 Employees (or uncertain status)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Apprentices</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Pipe trimmers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Trade names</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Makers’ marks on pipes should relate only to names in the first or last groups. Eleven makers or firms produced recognisable marks in Northamptonshire, but others may eventually be identified.

Pipemaking required long hours of hard, repetitive work and was financially unrewarding. Consequently some pipemakers had a second occupation. Many apprentices were originally ‘poor children’ in the care of the parish, but others were the sons of pipemakers. It was rare for more than two or three generations of one family to remain in the trade. A notable exception was the remarkable Roberts family of Northampton, who made pipes for eight generations, over a period of 250 years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Working Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valentine</td>
<td>1667–1715 (ob.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timothy</td>
<td>1710–1757 (ob.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William</td>
<td>1744–1763 (ob.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert (1)</td>
<td>1760–1818 (ob.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert (2)</td>
<td>1795–1830?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward (1)</td>
<td>1831–1863 (ob.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred (1)</td>
<td>c 1855–1900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred (2)</td>
<td>c 1885–1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward (2)</td>
<td>c 1895–1913</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Abbreviations

Admon. Administration
Ap. Ind. Apprenticeship Indenture
Ap. R. Apprenticeship Rolls
Beds. R. O. Bedfordshire County Record Office
B.R.O. Buckinghamshire County Record Office
B. Tr. Bishops’ Transcripts of Parish Registers
D. Directory (ies)
F.R. Freedom Rolls
H.I.L. Transcripts by H. Isham
Mil. Lists Militia Lists
N.B.C. Northampton Borough Council
N.G.C. Northampton General Cemetery, Registers of Burials
N.L. Northampton Central Library
N.M. Northampton Museums
Nor. Merc. Northampton Mercury
N.R.O. Northamptonshire Record Office
ob. Died
P. Recs. Parish Records
P. Reg. Parish Register
Rate Bks. Rate Books
S. Cert. Settlement Certificate
Tithe Bks. Tithe Books
W.R.G. Information from W. R. Gault
( ) Variations in spelling of surname
* Master pipemaker
** Master pipemaker (or business) producing marked pipes

List of Northamptonshire Pipemakers

ANDERSON, John (1) 1723 (ob.)
Wellingborough. Buried in 1723 (B.Tr.).
*ANDERSON, John (2) 1724–60 (ob.)
Wellingborough. Two children baptised, 1724,
1726 (B.Tr.). Will, made in 1755, mentions his two
houses and stables (N.R.O., 5th series, 19 Sept. 1760).
Died in 1760 (B.Tr.).
AGER, William 1706–pre 67 (ob.)
Northampton. Apprenticed to J. Wilby (1) in 1706
when his son has freedom granted in 1767 (F.R.).
BOTT, Edward 1713–17
Northampton. Possibly the son of T. Bott (F.R.,
1708). Married at All Saints’ in 1713 (P.Reg.).
Wife and son buried in 1717 (All Saints’ P.Reg.).
BRANKLIN, George 1725–9 (ob.)
Wellingborough. Moved from St. Paul’s parish,
Bedford in 1725 (N.R.O., 108.1, S.Cert.).
Son baptised in 1727 (B.Tr.). Buried in 1729 (B.Tr.).
BATES, John 1686
Daventry. Apprenticed to T. Hollowell (1) (H.I.L.).
BOTT, John 1706–51 (ob.)
Northampton. Possibly the son of T. Bott (F.R.,
1702). Married at All Saints’ in 1718 (P.Reg.).
Moved to St. Sepulchre’s parish in 1718 (N.R.O.,
S.Cert.); Buried at All Saints’ in 1751 (P.Reg.).
BISHOP, John 1710
Oundle. Daughter baptised (B.Tr.)
BRAFIELD, John 1768
Northampton. Poor boy aged 14, apprenticed to
BOOTH, John James 1840
Northampton, St. Mary’s Street. Son baptised at All
Saints’ (P.Reg.). Working at Warwick in 1841 (W.R.G.).
*BROOKS, John Thomas 1851–95 (ob.)
Northampton, Horsemarket, 1851. Aged 22; born at
Brighton, Sussex (Census). Working at 18 Horseshoe
Street, 1864–93 (D.). Lived in Gregory Street, at
various houses and shops, 1854–80 (Rate Bks.).
Occupied 51 Castle Street and the ‘Golden Lion’,
1883–4 (St. Sepulchre’s P.Reg., marriage of son;
D.). Lived at 62 St. Andrew’s Street, 1885–95;
three daughters married, 1885–9 (St. Andrew’s P.
Reg.). Died in 1895, aged 67 (N.G.C.).
*BROOKSBANKS, Nathaniel 1784–97
Oundle. Took four apprentices: A. Holmes in 1784,
W. Roughton in 1793, D. Houghton in 1792 and S.
Oliver in 1797.
BARTLETT, Nicholas 1854
Northampton, Horseshoe Street. Married at All
Saints’ (P. Reg.).
BROWNE, Richard 1724
Daventry. Apprenticed to T. Church (H.I.L.).
*BOTT, Thomas 1666–86
Northampton. Apprenticed to W. Wilby (1); freedom
granted in 1666 (F.R.). Took W. Peters as apprentice
Saints’, 1666–86 (P.Reg.).
**BRANKLIN, Thomas** 1726

**BROOKS, Thomas** see John Thomas Brooks: the first name was frequently omitted.

**CHICK, James (1) 1837-74 (ob.)**
**CHICK, James and Son(s) 1870-96**
**CHICK, James (2) 1861-1917 (ob.)**
**CLEAVER, Joseph 1851-61**
**CLEEVER, Ann 1851**
Wellington, Jackson's Lane. Pipe trimmer, aged 64; mother of and living with J. Cleaver (Census). Born at Barrow upon Soar, Leics.

**CHICK, James (1)**
1837–74 (ob.)
Northampton. Poor boy apprenticed to J. Morgan in 1871 (Ap.R.). When aged about 22, `ran away' from his master after his freedom had been granted in March 1722 (Nor. Merc., 3 May 1722; F.R.). Moved from St. Sepulchre's to St. Giles' parish in 1725 (N.L., S.Cert.). Four children baptised at All Saints', 1736–52 (P.Reg.). Deceased by 1762, when a son was granted his freedom (F.R.).

**CHICK, James (2)**
1861–1917 (ob.)
Daventry. Apprenticed to T. Church in 1716; freedom granted in 1725 (H.L.L.).

**BROUGHTON, William**
1851

**CLEEVER, Ann**
1851
Wellington, Jackson's Lane. Pipe trimmer, aged 64; mother of and living with J. Cleaver (Census). Born at Barrow upon Soar, Leics.

**CHICK, James (1)**
1837–74 (ob.)
Northampton. Foundry Street, 3 Court 2. Born at Portsea, Hants (Census, 1861). Occupied house and shop in Court 2, sometimes called `Pipe Yard' or 'Pipe-makers Yard', 1837–73 (Rate Bks.; Tithe Bks.; Census; D.). Died in 1874, aged 64 (N.G.C.).

**CHICK, John 1847–51**
Daventry. From Boughton. Apprenticed to J. Chick (1) (Census). Lived in a cottage next to his business ceased and he moved to 2 Queen's Street (D.). Continued to work part-time after 1894 (Oral inf.).

**FENNELL, Edward (1) 1721-74 (ob.)**

**FENNELL, Edward (2) 1766–99**

**FENNELL, Edward (1)**
1721–74 (ob.)
Daventry. Apprenticed to T. Church in 1721; granted freedom in 1731 (H.L.L.). Probably the same man `from the Poorhouse' who died in 1774 (P.Reg.).

**FENNELL, Edward (2)**
1766–99
Daventry. Three children baptised, 1790–99 (B.Tr.). Took T. Watts as apprentice in 1791. The above three references perhaps do not relate to the same Edward Fennell.

**FRYERS, Henry**
1825
Brackley. Daughter baptised at St. James' (B. Tr.).

**FENNELL, John (1)**
1824 (ob.)

**FENNELL, John (2)**
1828–71
Wellington, Junction's Lane. Married in 1828; six children baptised, 1830–47 (B.Tr.). Buckwell End, 1851–71; aged 40 in 1851; described as a journeyman (Census 1851, 1861, 1871).

**GUILL, Andrew**
1641
Northampton. Although described as a woollendraper, took W. Wilby (1) as an apprentice pipemaker (Ap.R.). The first reference to pipemaking in Northamptonshire.
**BROOKS & HUGHES 1864-77**

**HUGHES, Francis** 1846-77 (ob.)

**HOLLOWELL, Thomas (1)** 1670–1712 (ob.)

**HOLLOWELL, Thomas (2)** 1680–1714 (ob.)

References to the two Hollowells are not easily divisible.

**HARRIS, Thomas** 1675

**HOLLOWELL, Thomas** 1670–1712 (ob.)

**HARRIS, Thomas** 1675
Northampton. apprenticeship terminated in 1773-4
Harrington, Leics. in 1861 (W.R.G.).

**GREEN, Maurice** 1702

References to the two Hollowells are not easily divisible.

**HARRIS, Thomas** 1675

References to the two Hollowells are not easily divisible.

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References to the two Hollowells are not easily divisible.

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**HARRIS, Thomas** 1675

References to the two Hollowells are not easily divisible.
*MARRIOTT, Mary 1696
  Daventry. Took N. Marriott as apprentice.

MARRIOTT, Nicholas 1696
  Daventry. Apprenticed to his mother, M. Marriott (H.I.L.).

MARRIOTT, Samuel 1683
  Daventry. From Harpole; apprenticed to T. Marriott (H.I.L.).

*MASSON, Thomas 1672–83
  Daventry. From Kislingbury; apprenticed to T. Hollowell in 1672 (H.I.L.; N.R.O., Daventry 3382, 131). Took S. Marriott as apprentice in 1683.

MORGAN, Thomas 1724–34
  Northampton. Moved from St. Sepulchre’s to St. Giles’ parish in 1724 (N.L., S. Cert.). Daughter baptised at All Saints’ in 1734 (P. Reg.).

(MARSDEN), William 1861
  Wellingtonborough, Buckwell End. Aged 54; born at Manchester; children born c 1850–60 at Burton on Trent, Gilford (Staffs), Daventry (Northants) and Birmingham suggests movement around the Midlands (Census). Working at Coventry in 1841; re-married here in 1848, then working at Nottingham in 1851 (W.R.G.).

NEWMAN, Thomas 1861–2
  Northampton, 57 Kingswell Street. Lodger, aged 22 in 1861; born at Bedford (Census). Mill Street, 1862. Daughter baptised at All Saints’ (P. Reg.).

OLIABER, Francis 1762
  Wellingtonborough (Mil. Lists.).

(ORLIBAR), John 1722–9
  Wellingtonborough. Four children baptised (B. Tr.).

*OWEN, Richard 1701–17

OLIVER, Samuel 1797
  Oundle. Poor boy from Kettering, aged 12, apprenticed to N. Brooksbanks (Kettering P. Regs.).

PRETTY, Daniel 1850–51

PHILLIPS, Edward 1704–pre 21
  Brackley. Son baptised in 1704 (P. Reg.). An indenture of 1721 mentions a property on W. side of High Street, formerly occupied by Edward Phillips (N.R.O., Ag IV 36 a).

PARR, Frederick 1871
  Wellingtonborough, 15 Herriot’s Lane. Aged 26; born at Leicester (Census).

PEND, John 1707–15

PALMER, John 1850–51
  Northampton, Gregory Street, Court 1. 'In attendance' during F. Street's illness in 1850 (N.M., Death Certificate of F. Street). Aged 37; born at Chelmsford, Essex (Census, 1851).

PALMER, Margaret 1851
  Northampton, Gregory Street, Court 1. Pipe trimmer, aged 39, born in Scotland; wife of J. Palmer (Census).

*PETERS, William 1666–1715 (ob.)

*ROBERTS, Alfred (1) c 1855–1900

**ROBERTS, A. c 1885–1920
  Northampton, 63 Scarletwell Street (known as 'Pipemakers Yard'; Pl. 1). A trade name used by A. Roberts (1) and his sons, Alfred (2) and Edward (2) (Oral inf.).

*ROBERTS, Alfred (2) c 1885–1920

ROBERTS, Charles 1861
  Northampton, 63 Scarletwell Street. Aged 15; son of E. Roberts (1) (Census).

RUSCOE, David 1818–21
  Wellingtonborough, Jackson’s Lane. Married in 1818 (B.Tr.). Two children baptised, 1819, 1821 (B.Tr.).

*ROBERTS, Edward (1) 1831–63 (ob.)
  Northampton. Born 30 May 1809, son of R. Roberts (2) (St. Giles’ P. Reg.). Married at All Saints’ in 1831 (P. Reg.). Foundry Street, 1831–2 (Polls). Queen’s Street, 1832; daughter buried at All Saints’ (P. Reg.). St. James’ Street, 1833–5; daughter baptised and buried at All Saints’ in 1835 (Rate Bks.; P. Reg.). 63 Scarletwell Street, 1837–63 (D.; Census); daughter baptised at St. Sepulchre’s in 1837 (P. Reg.). Buried at St. Sepulchre’s in 1863 (P. Reg.).

ROBERTS, Emma c 1885–1920
  Northampton, 63 Scarletwell Street. Pipe trimmer; wife of A. Roberts (1) (Oral inf.). Died in 1926, aged 82 (N.G.C.).

ROBERTS, Edward (2) c 1895–1913

**ROBERTS, Harriett 1864–84

ROBERTS, Harriett Roe 1883
  Northampton, 63 Scarletwell Street. Daughter of E. Roberts (1), married at St. Katharine’s, aged 24 (P. Reg.).

*RICHARDS, Robert 1701
Plate 1 63 Scarletwell Street, Northampton
The photograph was taken c. 1955 shortly before demolition. The house on the left was no. 63, where the Roberts’ family lived and made pipes between c. 1837 and 1920. The door on the extreme left led to a court — an enclosed group of cottages. The wider door to the right of the property was the entrance to the stables.

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Plate 2  Probate inventory of goods belonging to Edward Ward, pipemaker, of Higham Ferrers, 1674
The seventh item is of particular interest: 'It (em) in the Shopp the Screw & moulds, Rack & other materials for making of pipes . . . £1 6s. 8d.'
(Full transcript p. 28)
Reproduced by permission of Northamptonshire Record Office
ROBERTS, Richard (1) 1739

*ROBERTS, Robert (1) 1760–1818 (ob.)
Northampton. Born 1 March 1746 (All Saints’ P. Reg.).
Son of W. Roberts, apprenticed to him in 1760 with £5 from the Norwood Charity (N.L., 5731 and Ap. Ind.).
Granted freedom in 1767 (F.R.).
St. Giles’ Street, 1768, at about SP 75616047 (Poll; N.L., Election Plans).
Fish Lane, 1774–1818 (Polls).
Married in 1764 and again in 1811 at St. Giles’ (P. Reg.).
Took W. Walker as apprentice in 1785, R. Roberts (2) in 1795 and possibly J. Marriott in c. 1802.
Also Keeper of the Town Gaol in Fish Lane, sited at SP 75686052, c. 1798–1818 and Town Crier, c. 1785–1818 (Neil, 1812, 436–7; Nor. Merc., 8 Aug. 1818, obituary; N. Daily Rep., 12 Nov. 1901, 3).
Died in 1818 (N.R.O., Will, 5th series, 2 Sept. 1818; St. Giles’ churchyard, gravestone).

ROBERTS, Richard (2) 1790
Northampton, Sheep Street (Poll).

ROBERTS, Robert (2) 1795–1830?
Northampton. Born 28 Nov. 1779 (St. Giles’ P. Reg.).
Married in 1800 at St. Giles’ (P. Reg.).
Granted freedom in 1801 and received a Sir Thomas White loan (F.R.; N.L.).
Dychurch Lane, 1815–18; daughter baptised at St. Giles’, 1815 (P. Reg.; Poll, 1818).
Fish Lane, 1819–20; son baptised in 1819 at St. Giles’ (P. Reg.; Poll, 1820). Later details uncertain, but probably the same person in Foundry Street, 1828–30 (Rate Bks.).

ROBERTS, Robert (3) 1851–6
Northampton, Foundry Street, Court 2. Aged 15,
apprenticed to J. Chick (1) and living with him in 1851 (Census).
Grafton Street, 1856; married at St. Sepulchre’s (P. Reg.).

RISK, Samuel 1841
Northampton, St. Mary’s Street. Aged 35–9; born outside Northants (Census).

ROBERTS, Timothy 1710–57 (ob.)
Northampton. Baptised in 1679 at All Saints’ (P. Reg.).
Son of V. Roberts; freedom granted in 1710 (F.R.).
Daughter baptised in 1722 at St. Giles’ (P. Reg.). Buried in 1757 at All Saints’ (P. Reg.).

*ROBERTS, Valentine 1667–1715 (ob.)
Northampton. Baptised in 1650 at St. Sepulchre’s (P. Reg.).
Married at St. Sepulchre’s in 1671 (P. Reg.).
Freedom granted in 1672 (F.R.).
Three children baptised at All Saints’, 1679–86 (P. Reg.).
Took W. Corbit as apprentice in 1680 and J. Pen and W. Hutchins in 1707. Described as a barber and pipemaker, 1679–1707. Buried at All Saints’ in 1715 (P. Reg.).

*ROBERTS, William 1744–63 (ob.)
Northampton. Baptised in 1719 at St. Giles’; son of T. Roberts (P. Reg.).
Freedom granted in 1744 (F.R.).
Married at All Saints’ in 1744 (P. Reg.).
Two children baptised at All Saints’, 1746–7 (P. Reg.).
Took B. Fox as apprentice in 1747 and R. Roberts (1) in 1760.
Occupied premises on N. side of St. Giles’ Street in 1763 (N.B.C. Deeds, 646, will of T. Fisher of Rushden, proved 1766). Buried at St. Giles’ in 1763 (P. Reg.).

REVE, William (1) 1762
Brackley (Mil. Lists).

ROUGHTON, William 1793–1834
Oundle. Poor boy, aged 14, from Kettering, apprenticed to N. Brookbanks in 1793 (Kettering, P. Recs., Ap. Ind.).
Son baptised in 1834 (B.Tr.).

*REEVE, William (2) 1831–67 (ob.)
Brackley. Banbury Road (Poll; D.).
Son baptised in 1833 (P. Reg.).
Aged 52 in 1851 (Census). Pipemaker and a beer retailer, 1854–64 (D.).
Buried in 1867 (P. Reg.).

SANCTY, Caleb 1716 (ob.)
Daventry. Journeyman pipemaker, buried in 1716 (P. Reg.).

STREET, Charlotte 1851

STREET, Caroline 1861
Northampton, 18 Horseshoe Street. Pipe trimmer, aged 20; daughter of T. Street (Census).

**STREET, Francis 1824–50 (ob.)
Oundle, West Street, 1824 (D.).
Northampton, Dychurch Lane, 1826–34 (Polls; Rate Bks.).
Pike Lane, 1835–40 (Polls; Rate Bks.).
Horseshoe Street, 1840–50; with a workshop in Gregory Street, 1840–42, then in Horseshoe Street (Rate Bks.; D.).
Born outside Northants (Census, 1841).
Died in 1850, aged 66 (N.M., Death Certificate).

STREET, Sarah 1859–61
Northampton, 18 Horseshoe Street (Rate Bks.; D.).
Daughter of T. Street (Census, 1851). Aged 22 and described as a pipe trimmer in 1861 (Census).

**STREET, Thomas 1838–59 (ob.)
Northampton, Pike Lane, 1838. Son of Thomas Street, pipemaker, married at All Saints’ in 1838 (P. Reg.).
Castle Street, 1839; daughter baptised at All Saints’ (P. Reg.).
Horseshoe Street, 1840–59 (Rate Bks.; D.).
Aged 41 in 1851; born at Shoreditch, London (Census).
Died in 1859 (N.G.C.).

SANDERS, William 1762
Oundle (Mil. Lists).

SMITH, William 1851
Daventry, Brook Street. Lodger, aged 40; born at Sheffield, Yorks (Census).

TOMKINS, Hephzibah 1851
Wellingborough, St. John’s Street, Terrace. Aged 25, wife of W. Tomkins (Census).

TOMKINS, Martha 1851
Wellingborough, St. John’s Street, Terrace. Aged 25, wife of W. Tomkins (Census).

TESTER, James (1) 1762–87?
Wellingborough, 1762 (Mil. Lists). He, or James (2), took W. Jelly as apprentice in 1787.

TESTER, Jno. 1777
Wellingborough (Mil. Lists).

TESTER, James (2) 1781
Wellingborough (Mil. Lists).

TESTER, Joseph 1797
Wellingborough (N.R.O., Admon. of F. Adson, 8 Aug. 1797).

*TOMPKINS, James 1834–53 (ob.)
Wellingborough, Jackson’s Lane, c. 1834–50 (Rate Bks.).
Advertised that he had moved to St. John’s Street. The property in Jackson’s Lane with the tobacco-pipe kiln and, at the front of the premises, a grocery and retail business, was to be let (Nor. Merc., 9 Feb. 1850). St. John’s Street, 1850–53. Died in 1853, aged 51, having made a will describing himself as a builder and pipe manufacturer (B. Tr.; N.R.O., 5th series, 11 May 1853).

TAYLOR, Matthew 1716
Whittlebury. Poor boy from Buckingham, apprenticed to R. Owen (B.R.O., PR 29 14 67).

TOMKINS, Martha 1851
Wellingborough, St. John’s Street. Pipe trimmer, aged 12; daughter of J. Tomkins (Census).
*WILBY, John 1663–1715

TOMKINS, William 1851–2 (ob.)
Wellingborough, St. John’s Street, Terrace. Aged 20 in 1851 (Census). Died in 1852 (B. Tr.).

VEERS, James 1768
Northampton, Kingswell Lane (Poll).

WILSON, Charles 1851
Oundle, Stoke Road, Chapel End. Aged 16; son of R. Wilson; born at Leicester (Census).

WARD, Edward 1668–74 (ob.)

WHETHERS, Edward 1841
Oundle, West Street. Lodger, aged 62; born outside Northants (Census).

WEBSTER, Edward 1704–63 (ob.)
Daventry. Apprenticed to T. Hollowell in 1704 (H.I.L.). Buried in 1763 (P. Reg.).

WEBSTER, John 1857 (ob.)
Northampton. Married at St. Sepulchre's in 1857; son of W. Webster (1); married at St. John's in 1857; aged 23; buried four months later (P. Reg.).

BROWN, William (2) 1839–77
Peterborough. Son of W. Brown (1); baptised at St. John's in 1839; married at St. John's in 1845 (P. Reg.). Boy apprenticed to J. Fennell in 1839; four children baptised, 1841–9 (P. Reg.). Boonfield, 1841–51; aged 33 in 1851 (Census).

Some references of 1668–91 could relate to W. Wilby (2).

The Soke of Peterborough

The Soke of Peterborough, formerly the N.E. part of Northamptonshire, was transferred to Cambridgeshire in 1794. A list of pipemakers is included here for reference, but details have not been used in the discussion, nor have any pipes been illustrated or described.
baptised at St. John's, 1840-53 (P. Reg.). Boonfield, 1841–77 (Census, 1841; D.): 6 Boonfield Terrace, 1861–71 (Census); Pipe Lane, 1862–77 (D.). Two pairs of plain moulds used by W. Brown (2) were given to Peterborough Museum in 1895 (G 436, G 437).


DAVIS, John 1841 Peterborough, Boongate. Aged 40–44; born outside Northants; sharing a house (Census).

JOHNSON, George 1861 Peterborough, City Road. Lodger, aged 24; born at Boston, Lincs; described as a pipemaker and fireman (Census).

MUNTON, Daniel 1835 Peterborough, Westgate (Poll).

MOTLEY, Thomas 1717 Stamford Barron. Poor boy from Eye, apprenticed to S. Saunders (N.R.O., Eye 32).


*SAUNDERS, Samuel 1709–17 Stamford Barron. Took J. Bullimore as apprentice in 1709 and T. Motley in 1717.

TABOR, William 1815–17 Peterborough. Married at St. John's in 1813; two sons baptised, 1815–17 (P. Reg.).

WILSON, Charles 1762 Peterborough Mil. Lists).

**WALKER, George 1792–8 Peterborough (D.). Took W. Pacey as apprentice in 1792.

*TABOR, William 1815–17 Peterborough. Married at St. John's in 1813; two sons baptised, 1815–17 (P. Reg.).

WILSON, Charles 1762 Peterborough Mil. Lists).

**WALKER, George 1792–8 Peterborough (D.). Took W. Pacey as apprentice in 1792.

WALKER, Mary 1830 Peterborough, Boongate (D.).

Rejected Names

The names listed below have been excluded from the Northamptonshire lists for the following reasons:

(a) three were probably not pipemakers at all, but have previously been recorded as such; 
(b) the remainder were pipemakers, but there is no indication that any of these actually worked in the county.

Thomas BARNARD
His son, John, aged 28, married at St. Sepulchre's, Northampton in 1915 (P. Reg.).

William BETTS
Woolmonger Street, Northampton, 1768 (Poll). The Election Minute Book shows this man was a papermaker (N.L.).

James BRANKLING

John CORT
His son, John, aged 26, married at All Saints', Northampton in 1875 (P. Reg.).

Nicholas HARDY
Issued a farthing token in Peterborough: c. 1670 showing a roll of tobacco and two pipes (Wells, 1910, 324).

Probably a tobacconist.

Robert HENSHER
His son, Robert, born in Middlesex, aged 28 in 1871 (Census), was married at St. Sepulchre's, Northampton in 1869 (P. Reg.).

Mrs. Ellen HUGHES
Pipe trimmer, born at St. Anne's, Middlesex; aged 39 when visiting Castle Street, Northampton in 1851 (Census).

James MCCARTY
His son, John, aged 24, married at Daventry in 1866 (P. Reg.).

Mrs. Mary MIDDLETON
Aged 64 and born at York, visiting Bearward Street, Northampton in 1851 (Census).

John ROBERTS
Mentioned by Markham and Cox (1898, 87) and Muscott (1906, 309). A mistake for R. Roberts (1).

William WATTS
His daughter, Mary, married at St. Sepulchre's, Northampton in 1846 (P. Reg.).

APPENDIX A

Probate Inventories

Transcripts of two probate inventories, relating to Edward Ward of Higham Ferrers60 (1674 ob.) and John Nevill of Peterborough61 (1689 ob.), are given below. They present an interesting contrast.

Edward Ward lived in a fairly small house consisting of hall, parlour, and buttery, with chambers above, a workshop and barn. The few items of furniture were of little value. The pipemaking tools (p. 5) in the workshop included a screw, rack and moulds. The wood over the workshop and in the barn was perhaps used to fire the pipe-kiln.

John Nevill was a reasonably wealthy pipemaker. His well-furnished house consisted of at least nine rooms, two workshops, a stable and yard. The listing of beer-making utensils suggests a possible second source of income. The (two) pipe workshops were well equipped with three benches, five screws, eight moulds, six core boards62 and eight tons of clay. They also contained grates — presumably associated with the pipe-kiln(s). The horses in the stable were probably used for the distribution of pipes. Evidently Nevill was a successful and an important pipemaker during the 1680s.

Note on the transcription: The transcripts retain original spellings and punctuation. Common abbreviations, such as It for Item, have been extended, superfluous noughts have been removed from the figures and bold type has been used where necessary. Words not in present-day use can be found in books such as Farm and cottage inventories of mid- Essex 1635–1749 by F. W. Steer (1950) or in a good dictionary.
Inventory of Goods belonging to Edward Ward, 1674

A true & perfect Inventory of the goods & chattells of Edward Ward late of Higham Ferrers in the County of Northampton Pipe maker deceased had & made the tenth day of April 1674.

Imprimis his wearing apparrell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In the Chambers one Coffer &amp; bedding &amp; other things</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item in the Parlour one Flockbed with curtains &amp; vallence, one Presse Cubboard &amp; one Chest</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item in the Buttery 2 Barrells &amp; twoe kettles</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item in the Hall, one Table, 2 stools, one Livery Cubboard one little table, Fyre shovell &amp; other lumber</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 3 little Pewter dishes &amp; 1 Pewter Porringer</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item in the Shopp the Screw &amp; moulds, Rack &amp; other materials for making of pipes</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item the wood over the Shopp</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item the wood &amp; some other things in the barne &amp; the Curbe of the well</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 3 sheetes</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(see Pl. 2)

Inventory of goods belonging to John Nevill, 1689

A true and Perfect Inventory of the Goods Chattels, Debts & Credits of John Nevill late of peterborough in the County of Northampton Tobacco pipe maker Deceased Taken & Apprised the 25th day of March Annoque Domini 1689, by us whose names are Subscribed

Imprimis his purse & Apparrell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In the Parlor</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one Bedstead, matt, cord, rods, Curtaines Vellens one Wool bed, 2 pillows, one bolster one blanket &amp; rugg</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one pair of Andirons with brasses, fire-Shovell &amp; tongs brass, &amp; fire fork</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one round Table, one Chest of drawers, six Chaires, 2 window Curtaines, one looking-glass &amp; some odd things</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the Hall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
<th>d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Item one pair of grates, fire shovell &amp; tongs, one horse, one Jack, two spitts &amp; other peices of iron belonging to the Chimney, two frying pans, One Warming pan three brass potts, 4 brass kettles, one Iron pott, 17 pewter dishes, 13 pewter plates, 5 pewter tankards, 4 flaggons, two pair of Candlesticks &amp; other odd peices of pewter</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item Clock, one pewter Case &amp; Dresser, one Cooberd, one pair of Andirons, one Table, 5 matted Chaires, one wicker Chair one running Candlestick, one great flaggon &amp; Lumbar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item two Hogsheads of strong beere, Beer-stall &amp; Lumbar</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one Copper &amp; grate, one mash fatt, one Cooler, one kneading-trough, one hogshead, one Working fatt &amp; Lumbar</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the Little Buttery</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 2 empty hogsheads &amp; Beerstall</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the Clouded Chamber</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one Bedstead, Curtaines, matt, Cord one flock bed, one blanket, one rugg, two pillows, one bolster, &amp; 4 Chaires</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item in the Chamber over the Hall</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item two Bedsteads, Curtaines, Vellens, mats, &amp; Cordes, one flock bed, one fly bed, 3 bolsters, two pillows, 2 blanketts, 2 ruggs one Table, fire shovells tongs &amp; Lumbar</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one Bedstead matt, Cord, Curtaines &amp; Vellens, one feather bed, one feather bolster 2 pillows, one Trundle bed &amp; flockbed, one rugg, 3 blanketts</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one pair of Andirons fire shovell &amp; tonge</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one Table, six matted Chaires, one Coffer, one box, two window Curtaines &amp; rodd</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the Chamber over the Parlor</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 2 beds &amp; furniture &amp; Lumbar</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item Six core boardes &amp; grates</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 5 skrews, 8 pair of moulds</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 8 Tunn of Clay</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item 3 benched &amp; Lumbar</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item one pair of Andirons fire shovell &amp; tonge</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item the Lynen</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sum Total 103 14 8
APPENDIX B

Finds from Kiln/Workshop Sites

Northampton, 4 Derngate (SP 75616042). Eight pipe bowls of c 1700–40 were found at the rear of the premises in 1949 and 1976. One stem fragment is a waster and ‘dozens’ of other stem fragments were reported (H. C. R. Frost; N.M.).

Northampton, 18 Horseshoe Street (SP 75146032). The site of the clay-pipe workshop established by F. Street was bulldozed for road widening in March 1974. An intensely burnt area was seen and fragments of vitrified clay and hundreds of pipe fragments were found (Northamptonshire Archaeology, 10 (1975), 173).

The following quantities of marked fragments were found: Relief marks on spurs — F/S (153), J/S (39), T/S (28), B/H (6), J/S/CK (5), J/C (3), H/W (1), asterisk (48), circle (8), dot (1), shield (2). Incuse marks on stems — BROOKS/HUGHES (4), E. (or W.) SOUTHERN, BROSELEY (4).

Northampton, Chalk Lane (SP 749605). A deposit of waste material from a clay-pipe workshop was discovered in November 1964. It consisted of hundreds of pipe fragments and several pieces of baked clay, some partly vitrified, containing lengths of pipe stems — evidence for the use of a muffle kiln (Oswald, 1975, 20). The 30 fragments with maker’s initials were all marked F/S. It is reasonable to suppose, therefore, that the material was dumped here from the workshop of F. Street, who worked in nearby Pike Lane, 1835–40.

Towcester, Park Lane (SP 692487). During archaeological excavations in 1976, hundreds of pipe fragments were discovered in a small pit containing ash and in a burnt area nearby. A preliminary examination of the pipe bowls suggests a date of c 1670–80.

APPENDIX C

Index of Makers’ Marks

The index contains details of all makers’ marks recorded on pipes (or pipe fragments) found in Northamptonshire. Those which can be attributed to Northamptonshire makers have been illustrated (Figs. 7–14). Many, however, are either unidentified or relate to makers working outside the county; the process of distribution has previously been discussed (p. 5). The find-spots and numbers of fragments found (if exceeding one) are listed together with place and date of manufacture, if known. Uncertain readings of marks are bracketed. The following abbreviations are used to indicate unusual marks:

b.b. mark on the back of the bowl
i. incuse
r. relief
s. mark on the stem

The initials of a pipemaker are often found on a spur beneath the pipe bowl. It is important to remember that:

(a) When holding the pipe with the stem towards you, the initial of the first name is found on the left side of the spur; the initial of the surname is found on the right side of the spur. (A few exceptions might be found.)

(b) Until the nineteenth century the letter I is used in place of the letter J.

The marks have been divided into five broad groups:

1. Initials usually in relief beneath the foot in a circular frame, or less frequently, on the back of the bowl or on the stem c 1640–1740.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Place and details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>Badby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FB</td>
<td>Long Buckby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IB</td>
<td>Badby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PC</td>
<td>Kettering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Badby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Brixworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ID</td>
<td>Towcester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AG</td>
<td>Northampton (Oswald, 1975, 65, is no. 3, but wrongly provenanced)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TH</td>
<td>Northampton area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WK</td>
<td>Towcester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RL</td>
<td>Abington (Oswald, 1975, 81, A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TL</td>
<td>Southwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WL</td>
<td>Boughton Green (2), Lamport, Northampton (2 or 3), Wellingborough (1?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM</td>
<td>Boughton nr Kettering, Boughton Green (2) (Oswald, 1975, 81, A)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM</td>
<td>Badby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IM</td>
<td>Badby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP</td>
<td>Badby (3), Billing (Oswald, 1975, 49, no. 3, 105. A Coventry maker is suggested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I(P)</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(V)R</td>
<td>Northampton (Oswald, 1975, 65, is no. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Boughton Green, Northampton? (2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WR</td>
<td>Evenley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS</td>
<td>Northampton, Wellingborough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IW</td>
<td>Badby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WW</td>
<td>Boughton Green</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Large initials in relief on a fairly large spur or foot c 1700–1820.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Place and details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C/B</td>
<td>Blisworth, Boughton Green (6), Towcester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/B</td>
<td>Blisworth, Boughton Green (3), Little Houghton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M/C</td>
<td>Boughton Green (3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I/F</td>
<td>see Fig. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(W)/H</td>
<td>Northampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(G)/I</td>
<td>Wellingborough</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/L</td>
<td>Southwick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Medium or small initials in relief on a medium or small spur c 1820—70.

Mark Place and details
A/&S Boughton Green
T/B Northampton
W/B Boughton Green
J/C see Fig. 9
JS/CK Blisworth, Boughton Green, Brixworth, Duston, Northampton (8)
S/C Long Buckby
W/C Culworth
(I)/F Towcester
T/F Boughton Green
B/H Blisworth, Northampton (7), Towcester (3)
F/H Southwick
J/H Long Buckby (2), Towcester (7)
S/H Brackley area
C/J Culworth, Thorpe Mandeville
T/J Towcester
(K/K) Duston (2)
G/L Southwick (4)
S/L Southwick (2)
R/R Thorpe Mandeville
S/R Culworth
F/S see Fig. 8
J/S see Fig. 9
R/S Boughton Green (7)
T/S see Fig. 9
J/T Wellingborough
H/W Duston, Northampton
(I)/W Wellingborough
J/(W) Boughton Green

4. Marks, usually incuse, along the stem or sometimes on the back of the bowl, using complete names or words c 1830—1920.

Mark Place and details
)Bi-Centen...
)15 Revive...
BROOKS/HUGHES see Fig. 9
BURNS CUTTY Northampton
CARTER/BANBURY Brackley area, Towcester (Banbury, 1857—76)
CARTER/BANBURY (r.) Culworth (2), Potterspury, Towcester (2) (Banbury 1857—76)
CARTER BANBURY (b.b.) Culworth (Banbury, 1857—76)
J. CARTER/BANBURY Stoke Bruerne (Banbury, 1861—74)
J. CHICK/NORTHAMPTON see Fig. 9
J. CHICK/NORTHAMPTON (r.) see Fig. 9
CLEEVER/WELLINGBROUGH see Fig. 9
CORK Hardingstone, Towcester, Wellingborough (Widely made in England, c 1880—1910)
DONT CAGE Northampton
DUBLIN (b.b.) Northampton (2), Rushden (2) (Widely made in England, c 1880—1910)
DUBLIN Boughton Green
F(abri)que... Wellingborough (French, 19th century)
Fiolet Little Houghton (St. Omer, France, 19th century)
... a St. Omer Dépose Northampton (Fiolet, St. Omer, 19th century)
WILLIAM GR(EENWOOD)/Boughton Green
(LOWER N)AGS HEAD (Pollock’s, Manchester)
(GR)OUT/(WI)LL(IAMS) Towcester (London, c 1860)
(H)AWLEY & SON/BRISTOL
HIGGl../(CUT)TY PIPE Rushden (Bristol, 1884—90)
HOLT/COVENTRY Duston
HOLT/COVENTRY Towcester (Coventry, 1868—1920)
J. HOLT/COVENTRY Duston (Coventry, 1868—1903)
J. HOLT NUNEATON (b.b.) Badby (Nuneaton, 1850—66)
HURST COW X STR (b.b.) Northampton (20) (J. Hurst, London, 1808—49)
LA... (r.) Duston
LO(N)... Northampton
.../LONDON Northampton (London, 19th century)
McDOUGA(LL & Co)/(GL)ASGOW Scaldwell (Glasgow, 1847-1968)
S. McLARDY MAKER (b.b.) Blisworth (Manchester, 1869-1930?)
Noël Paris Blisworth (Paris, 19th century)
O'BRIEN'S No. 6 DUBLIN (b.b.) Finedon (Dublin, c 1860-90)
O'BRIEN'S 61 (b.b.) Newnham
O'BRIEN 203 (b.b.) Wootton
H. ROBERTS/NORTHAMPTON see Fig. 9
ROBERTS NORT.H (b.b.) see Fig. 14
A. ROBERTS/NORTHAMPTON see Figs. 10-14

5. Miscellaneous marks

Mark

CHESTER (oval mark in relief across stem)
JG (very small, incuse letters beneath bowl)
L (relief, with crown above, on back of bowl)
M... OUNDLE (relief around upper part of bowl)

L/S (relief on spur)
and
LA.../SL(AND) (incuse on stem)
SS (relief on stem)
T/W (large initials on spur)
and
WOOD (incuse in circle on back of bowl)
TW (very large, incuse mark on back of bowl)
A gauntlet (incuse on base of 17th-century bowl)
A dot, circle or star (relief on spur)

Place and details
Towcester (Chester, c 1700-50)
Blisworth (Probably French, 19th century)
Northampton (c 1880-1900)
Stamford, Lincs (Oundle c 1780-1820: inf. from A. Oswald)
Rushden (c 1840-80)
Boughton Green (19th century)
Towcester (c 1880-1900)
Paulerspury (9) (S. English style: Atkinson, 1970, 212-3)
Very common marks on pipes of c 1820-1920
Notes

1 The general background is provided by Oswald, 1975, 3–6 and Mackenzie, 1957, 76–87.
2 Oswald, 1975, 3.
3 Mackenzie, 1957, 92.
4 Posnansky, 1957, 72.
5 Northamptonshire Record Office, I.C. 113.
6 Mackenzie, 1957, 136. Licences to sell tobacco are to be found at the Public Record Office, entered on the Patent Rolls (C 66).
7 Northamptonshire Record Office, Wills, 2nd series, E 261.
8 Details in this paragraph are derived from Oswald, 1960, 41–3 and Oswald, 1975, 5–9.
9 The only general study of pipemaking in Northamptonshire previously published is Muscott, 1906.
10 Jackson and Price, 1974, 10, 15.
11 Markham and Cox, 1898, 65, 174, 481, 483.
12 Markham and Cox, 1898, 174.
14 Fairholt, 1859, 258.
15 Mackenzie, 1957, 197.
16 Mackenzie, 1957, 199.
17 Oswald, 1960, 45. The decline at Bristol is illustrated by the falling numbers of pipemakers taking their freedom between 1730 and 1800: Jackson and Price, 1974, 15.
18 Mann, 1977, 3, 46; Atkinson, 1975, 12. Although Atkinson claims that only the upper classes took to snuff, the numbers of recorded pipemakers at Broseley fell considerably during the second half of the eighteenth century.
19 Mann, 1977, 22.
20 Flood, 1976, 10.
21 Oswald, 1960, 45–6.
24 Oral information from S.W.D. Kent, Northampton.
27 Morton, 1712, 70–71.
28 Northampton Mercury, 13 June 1726, 28; 6 Feb. 1744, 175; 1 June 1747, 35; 5 June 1749, 39; 2 Dec. 1771, 150. Four of these advertisements are quoted in Muscott, 1906, 309.
29 Northampton Daily Reporter, 12 Nov. 1901, 3. The modern Geological Survey map shows Jurassic clay of the Estuarine Series in this area.
30 Northampton Mercury, 5 June 1749, 39.
31 Muscott (1906, 309) says that the change to Devon clay took place 'some time before the year 1850'. It is possible that clay was imported into the county following the connection of Northampton to the canal network in 1815: Hatley, 1965, 243. At a later period, c 1900–10, clay was brought to Northampton from Devon or Cornwall by rail (Oral inf.).
32 There were exceptions, particularly in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries: some pipemakers worked along what are now main streets in the towns, whilst others were operating from villages.
33 The workshop used by the firm of A. Roberts of Northampton is remembered as being a long, white-washed room at the back of the house, on the first floor, with work-benches around the perimeter. An external staircase led down to the yard, where the two (?) kilns were situated. They were constructed of brick, partly below ground level, and were circular, about 3–4 feet in width and height. They were provided with doors at the front and shelves inside and were probably coke-fired. (Oral inf.). The house and outbuildings were still standing in 1955 (Chronicle & Echo, 1 March 1955, 4) but were demolished shortly afterwards. No workshops or kilns are now known to survive in the county.
34 Muscott, 1906, 310.
35 Oswald, 1975, 20.
36 Oswald, 1975, 14–19.
37 A photograph of two pairs of iron moulds used by A. Roberts of Northampton was published in the Chronicle & Echo, 1 March 1955, 4. The moulds have since disappeared.
38 The firm of A. Roberts of Northampton used a hand-cart for local deliveries and a horse and cart (or 'van'—a four wheeled, enclosed waggon) for more-distant deliveries, c 1900–10 (Oral inf.).
39 Oswald, 1975, 102–9, 114; Atkinson, 1977, 33.
40 Oswald, 1975, 42, 102–3.
42 Three grand-daughters of A. Roberts (1) remember that pipes packed among wood shavings in boxes were delivered by A. Roberts (2) on a horse and cart, c 1900–20. The pipes were conveyed to numerous public houses and a few shops in Northampton and the surrounding area, including: Billing, Bletchley, Blisworth, Cogenhoe, Coventry, Daventry, Harrowden, Kettering, Little Houghton, Moulton, Old, Pitsford, Rushden, Stoke Bruerne and Wellingborough. (Oral inf.).
43 Fairholt, 1859, 179.
44 Oral information from S.W.D. Kent, Northampton.
45 Oswald, 1975, 37–41.
46 Large groups of stem fragments can sometimes be closely dated by the statistical analysis of stem-bore diameters: Oswald, 1975, 92–5; Walker, 1967. Stem bores are measured using the butt-ends of drill-bits.
47 Although probably not made in the county, twelve examples of bowls decorated with the 'mulberry' pattern have been recorded from Badby, Boughton Green, Lamport, Northampton, Stanion and Towcester. Dating to c 1660–80, they have a series of about 21 raised dots arranged in a triangle on each side of the bowl. Many similar examples have been recorded across the Midlands and elsewhere: Oswald, 1975, 96, 106–7.
33

Oswald, 1975, 110–11. A selection of Victorian and Edwardian pipes are illustrated by Webb and Childs, 1976, although identifications are not totally reliable.

Atkinson and Oswald, 1969, 209.

Oswald, 1975, 37–41.

Descriptions of some post-1820 decorated pipes include a reference to more than one collection. In these cases, a drawing has been constructed from two or more fragments of identical pipes.

Atkinson and Oswald, 1969, 209.

Oswald, 1975, 37–41.

Descriptions of some post-1820 decorated pipes include a reference to more than one collection. In these cases, a drawing has been constructed from two or more fragments of identical pipes. 

Northamptonshire Archaeology, 10 (1975), 172–3.


Atkinson and Oswald, 1969, 181–93.

The information was collected during 1974–8 mainly from documents held by Northamptonshire Record Office, Northampton Central Library, Northampton Museums and the Public Record Office, London. Information about some Northamptonshire pipemakers has been published in Muscott, 1906; Kitchener, 1971 (which incorporates work by H. Oak-Rhind) and Gilbert, 1974. To avoid possible errors, details from these secondary sources have been excluded.

I doubt whether many documented pipemakers have been left out of the lists. Unfortunately, a number of the earlier makers were probably never recorded, as occupations are often omitted in pre-nineteenth-century documents. However, further work on certain sources—probate records for instance—might yield additional information.

For example W. Marsden of Wellingborough.

The Northampton firm of A. Roberts employed various itinerant pipemakers during the period c 1900–20; they usually lived in nearby lodgings (Oral inf.).

Presumably because from c 1860 pipemaking was a declining industry.

N.R.O., Admon. taken 10 April 1674.

N.R.O., Peterborough Inventories and Admons., 434.

An unusual term: perhaps the boards on which the clay-pipe blanks were rolled out.

This line has been added as an afterthought.

The reading of this line is open to question.
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