

CLAY TOBACCO PIPES FROM BATH

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INTRODUCTION

This short article has been prompted by the occurrence of pipes on excavations in recent years. I thank Mr. A. Oswald, M.A., F.S.A., for identifying some of the pipes and Mr. D. Atkinson, with whom I have been in correspondence, for his permission to mention conclusions which he has reached as a result of his exhaustive research. All the pipes here described are to be found in the Roman Baths Museum, Bath.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PIPES¹

- Fig. 1. No. 1 A pipe of Type 4a with a fleur-de-lis stamp on the heel.
- No. 2 Pipe of Type 4.
- No. 3 Pipe of Type 5b stamped on the heel with the name of Richard Earle, who possibly worked at Salisbury 1660-1690.²
- No. 4 Pipe of Type 4 to 5.
- No. 5 Pipe of Type 5a.
- No. 6 Pipe of Type 5a with a gauntlet on the heel.
- No. 7 Pipe of Type 5 with stamp of Thomas Hunt on the heel; there are six similar examples.
- No. 8 Pipe probably of Type 5c with what appears to be John Hunt on the heel.
- No. 9 Pipe of Type 5 with a variant stamp of Thomas Hunt.
- No. 10-11 Pipes with stamp T.H. probably Thomas Hunt.
- No. 12 Pipe of Type 5 with Jeffry Hunt on the heel.
- No. 13 Pipe of Type 5 with W. stamped on the heel.
- No. 14 Pipe with I.R. on the heel. The initials indicate one of many different makers.
- No. 15 Pipe with an undecipherable stamp on the heel.
- No. 16 Pipe of Type 5 with stamp I.H. possibly Jeffry Hunt.
- No. 17 Pipe of Type 5 with an undecipherable stamp on the heel.
- Fig. 2. No. 18-19 Pipes of Type 5 with Richard Greenland on the heel, spelt Grenland.
- No. 20 Pipe of Type 7 with stamp R.C. or R.G. on the heel.
- No. 21 Pipe probably Type 5.

¹ Oswald A. "The Evolution and Chronology of English Clay Tobacco Pipes," *Arch. News Letter* 5, No. 12 (1955).

Oswald A. "Archaeology and the Economic History of English Clay Tobacco Pipes," *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* 23 (1960).

² Mr. Atkinson considers him to be a Somerset maker; he does not appear in the Salisbury archives.

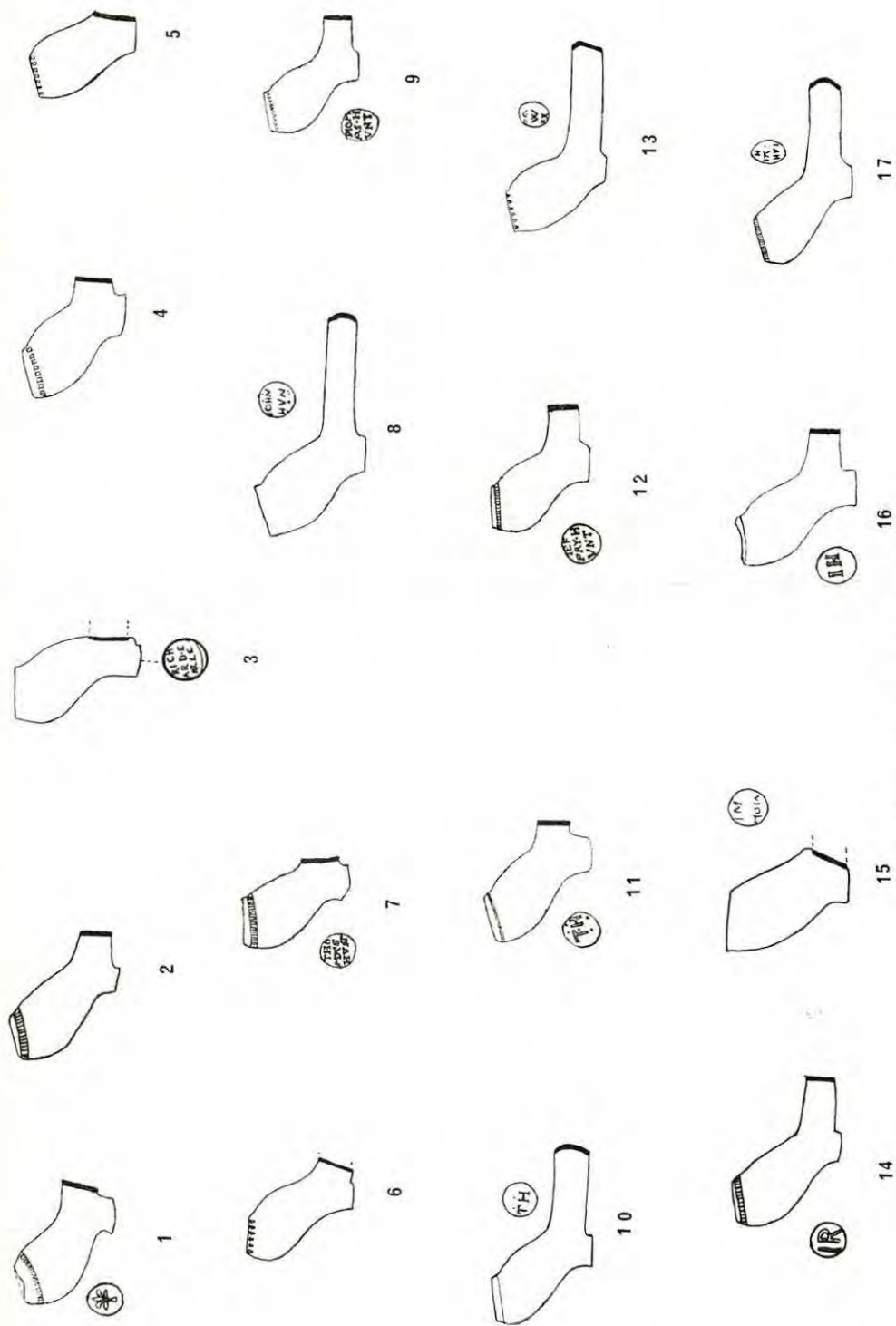


FIG. 1 Clay Pipes from Bath (4)

- No. 22 Pipe of Type 7 with Richard Greenland on the stem.
- No. 23-24 Pipes of Type 7 with Ro. Carpenter, Bath, stamped on the stem.
- No. 25 Pipe of Type 7.
- No. 26-31 Pipes of Type 11 one with I/S on the spur, suggesting one of the J. Smith's.
- No. 32 19th century pipe of O'Brian of Dublin.
- No. 33 Stem of 19th century pipe of J. Cleever of something Hampton — the vital piece is missing.

DISCUSSION

The pipes with the fleur-de-lis and the gauntlet could belong to one of many makers but certainly the pipe of type 4a with the fleur-de-lis (No. 1) is the earliest pipe so far discovered in Bath.

The preponderance of pipes of Thomas Hunt is of great interest and provides a problem, as yet, partially unresolved. There are pipes of this maker from a number of places ranging in date from 1640-1700 which almost certainly means that more than one Thomas Hunt was involved. There seems little doubt that a Thomas Hunt worked at Marlborough, as the borough records contain several of his apprenticeship indentures dating between 1667 and 1689. It is tempting to suggest that a Thomas Hunt worked at Bath, but, as the archives do not remain intact for the 17th century, this theory cannot be tested.

Whether Thomas Hunt was related to the Bristol Hunts is unknown. Flower and Jeffry Hunt are known, the latter receiving his freedom there in 1651. John Hunt is a further complication in an already complicated history.³

The earliest products of Richard Greenland date from 1660-1680 and occur over quite a wide area. They are stamped on the heel with Richard Greenland, or R.G. with a fleur-de-lis. He probably worked at Marlborough but pipes of a later date with a spur and Richard Greenland on the stem do not occur there. Whether the same man is involved is not certain, although it is possible that he moved his practice elsewhere.

Apprenticeship Rolls survive in Bath for the years 1706-1776 and from these it has been possible to discover a number of makers. Robert Carpenter (*see* Nos. 23/24, stamped "Ro. Carpenter, Bath") was manufacturing pipes by 1718. Whether a reference to a freedom of Robert Carpenter in October 1718 refers to him is unknown; but on November 5th 1718 he took two apprentices, his son John, and Corderoy Carpenter who is not stated to be a son. On February 14th, 1725 he took a further apprentice, George Davis. John Carpenter was still alive, and presumably still producing pipes in 1760, when there is an indenture of a son of his apprenticed to another trade.

³ Atkinson finds no evidence for Jeffry Hunt either being a freeman of or working in Bristol. He found, however, three successive John Hunts in the Bristol Freedom Rolls c. 1650-1700.

Clay Tobacco Pipes from Bath

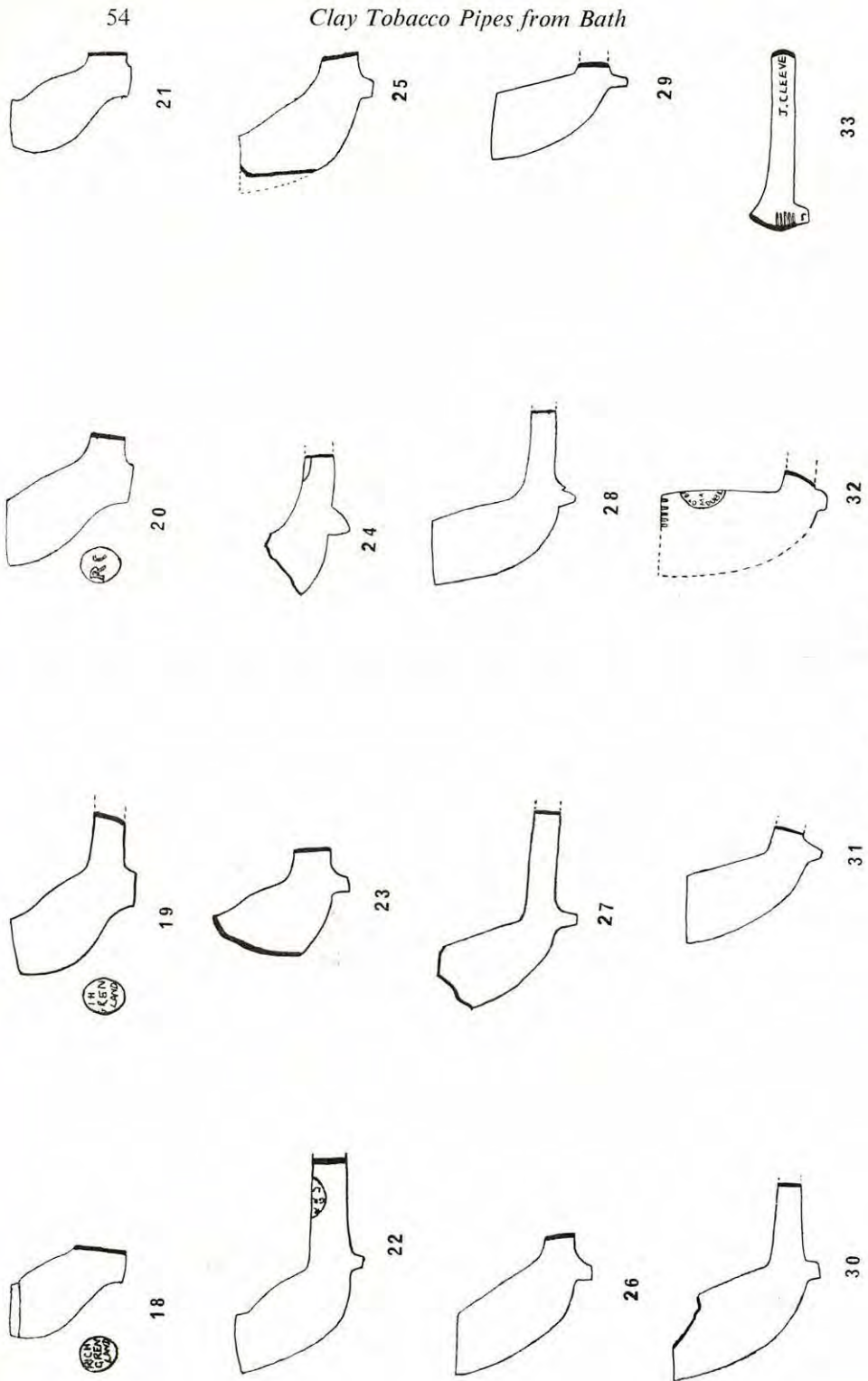


FIG. 2 Clay Pipes from Bath ($\frac{1}{2}$)

A John Smith must have been producing pipes prior to 1743, as on 14th November of that year he took an apprentice Thomas Node. So begins a complex series of J. Smiths. On March 1st, 1754 John Smith took his son Jeremiah and then on June 4th, 1763 took another son, John, as apprentices. In the meantime he had also taken as an apprentice on February 12th, 1762, John Smith, son of Sara Smith, widow. There are, then, by 1764 three John Smiths and four J. Smiths all at work.

A LIST OF BATH PIPE MAKERS OR POSSIBLE BATH MAKERS

Thomas Hunt *c.* 1660-1700.

Richard Greenland if he moved to Bath.

Robert Carpenter.

John Carpenter after 1718.

Corderoy Carpenter.

George Davis.

John Smith by 1743.

Thomas Node.

Jeremiah Smith.

John Smith apprenticed 1762.

John Smith apprenticed 1763.