

MOLD MARKS ON MOGADORE, OHIO, REED STEM TOBACCO PIPES

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A large sample of 19th century reed stem clay tobacco pipes has been recovered from a village dump in the town of Mogadore, Summit County, Ohio. This site has been badly disturbed by collectors digging for tobacco pipes and bottles, but fortunately broken tobacco pipes were generally ignored, so that an adequate sample of the styles represented could still be obtained at the time of our work.

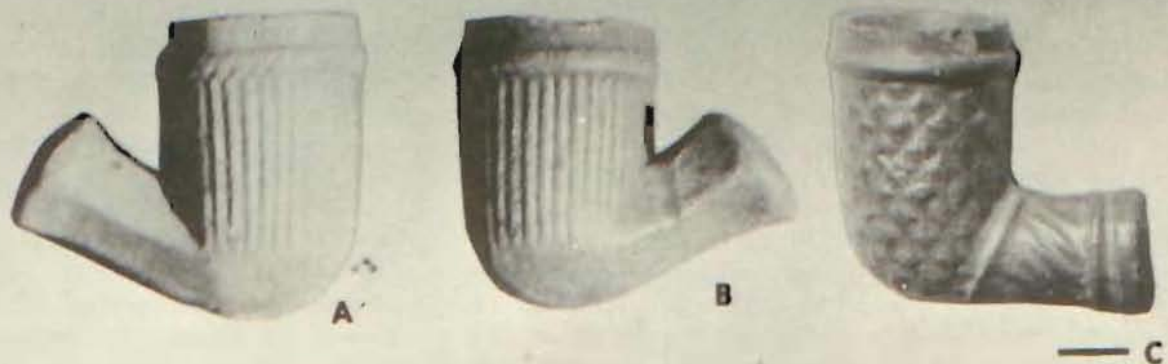
The bulk of the pipes are clearly factory rejects and were doubtless made by the Akron Smoking Pipe Co., which operated in Mogadore from 1885 to about 1895. Some of the pipes may have been made by the predecessor of that company, Fenton & Co., which operated from 1883 to 1885. Rarer types found at the Mogadore dump can less certainly be ascribed to either of these two companies and may be "imports" from other areas.

A detailed description of the pipes recovered from the Mogadore dump is in preparation. The purpose of this note is to report the hitherto overlooked presence of characteristic mold marks on a number of Mogadore pipe styles. These marks consist of a variety of letters and symbols embossed on the inner base of the pipe bowl. Although not present on all specimens, these mold marks are common enough to be of aid in identifying pipes from the Mogadore factory. It is believed, for example, that the hexagonal stemmed pipes illustrated by Cresthull (1969: Figure 2, 15-16) from Camden County, New Jersey, and the specimen illustrated by Heite (1972: p. 212, No. 14) from Pamplin, Virginia, are Mogadore pipes. Heite believes that his specimen was made by the Pamplin pipe factory, but I consider this unlikely unless considerable numbers of this particular style were recovered at Pamplin. If his specimen bears a typical Mogadore mold mark, I think it would be conclusive proof that the pipe was manufactured at Mogadore. Although the collection described by Heite came from near the Pamplin factory, it came from a drug store, the stock of which may well have been obtained from several different factories. It is noteworthy that the Akron Smoking Pipe Co. continued production of tobacco pipes at plants in Point Pleasant, Ohio, and Hampton, Virginia, as late as 1908, after production had ended at Mogadore. Unfortunately, in so far as the question of the provenience of the Pamplin hexagonal stemmed pipe is concerned, inquiries directed to Mr. Heite and to the National Park Service museum at Appomattox Court House, where the "Pamplin" collection is housed, have gone unanswered.

The hexagonal stemmed ribbed or milled Chesterfield pipe form, as illustrated in Figure 1a and 1b, is the most common pipe style at the Mogadore dump. In a sample consisting of 302 bowls with the base preserved, the following mold marks are present:

Mold Mark	Number of Specimens
F	1
K	55
M	64
≠	17
R	27
+	58
⌘	8
No mold mark	52
Undeterminable	20
Total	<u>302</u>

It is believed that these mold marks are distinctive of smoking pipes produced by the Akron Smoking Pipe Company and may be used to distinguish the products of this Mogadore industry. Other pipe styles, identical to those illustrated by Cresthull (1969: Figure 2, Nos. 10, 12-13), as well as an undescribed type characterized by a fine diamond pattern on



(a, b) Two views of a complete Mogadore hexagonal stemmed milled Chesterfield pipe. Specimen from the East Liverpool Historical Society museum, courtesy of William H. Vodrey and Harold Barth.

(c) Mogadore Diamond-Stamped pipe from the Mogadore village dump. A purchased specimen.

(d-j) Mogadore hexagonal stemmed milled Chesterfield pipes. Broken specimens from the Mogadore village dump bearing the following mold marks: (d) "K"; (e) "M"; (f) a retrograde "Z"; (g) "R"; (h) an asterisk; (i) a plus sign; (j) an unusual tree-like symbol. Bar scales represent one cm. Figures (a) and (b) are natural size.

bowl (Figure 1c), have been recovered from the Mogadore dump, representatives of each type bearing typical Mogadore mold marks.

The Akron Smoking Pipe Company began making electrical insulators in 1895 (Stout: 1923) and stopped manufacturing tobacco pipes at Mogadore shortly afterwards. Production of tobacco pipes was continued at Point Pleasant, Ohio, where pipes had been manufactured since the 1860s, and at Hampton, Virginia, as recently as 1908 (Doyle: 1908). No pipes definitely ascribable to the Hampton, Virginia, plant are available, but a collection has been obtained from the site of the Point Pleasant factory. This collection contains no examples of the hexagonal stemmed milled Chesterfield type so common at Mogadore, nor do any of the Point Pleasant pipes exhibit mold marks.

REFERENCES

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1923 History of the Clay Industry in Ohio, pp. 7-102 in Wilber Stout et al., Coal Formation Clays of Ohio, Ohio Geological Survey, 4th Ser., Bulletin 26.