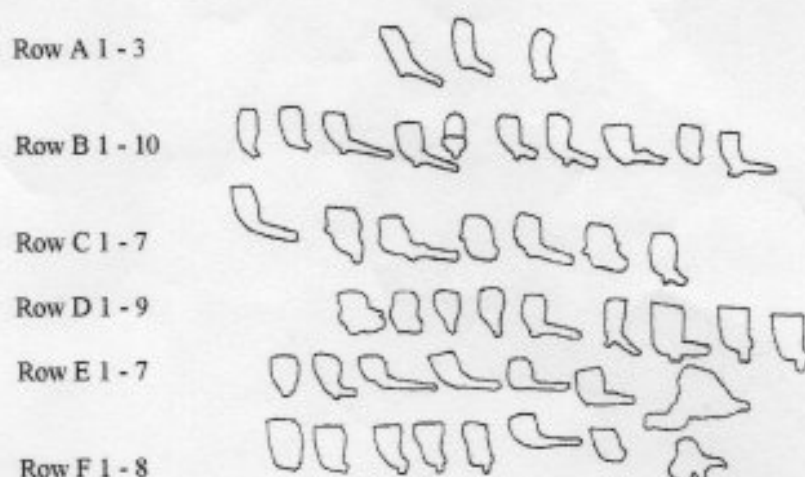


A collection of tobacco pipes at Floriana, Malta

These pipes were shown to me by Mario Farrugia, director at Fort Rinella. There is no provenance with this collection. Limited time afforded little more than a cursory glance, therefore this description is brief.

The pipes were arbitrarily sorted in 6 rows, A-F and numbered left to right, then photographed *en masse*. There are some basic notes about every item. Anomalies were singled out e.g. the 'Rat pipe' Figure 2 is Floriana, row B, no. 8 (FB8). The results were shown to Dr. David Higgins, at the University of Liverpool, Merseyside, UK.



Floriana June 1999

Dr. Higgins' comments follow: "The Floriana collection is interesting. It seems to contain a lot of late C19 to early C20 pipes, many of which look like London products. The rat pipes were certainly popular there, and I think the crocodile one is also a southern (English) type. Thorn and Irish types were more widespread but tend to be made with finer stems and thinner walls in the south. I suspect that the heel of Fig.5 FD7 was marked with Irish harps".

"Of the earlier material the example with a crowned star or sun mark (FA2) is certainly a London type of c1700-70. Crowned marks were typical of the London Makers and this particular type is well known from the capital". (Photo attached).

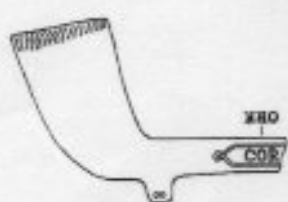


Figure 1 FB7

Figure 1 FB7 has two raised dots on the left hand foot and what looks like one dot inside another on the right foot.



Figure 2 FB8

Figure 2 FB8 (photo enclosed) and FE1 are similar 'Rat' pipes.



Figure 3 FB9 has a five holed grate at the level shown. I have seen several Ottoman pipes with a similar grate. They have been described as 'hashish' pipes but I don't know what truth there is in that theory

Figure 3
FB9



Figure 4 FD1 A crocodile? the tail is wrapped right around the bowl.

Figure 4 FD1



Figure 5 FD7 has ...ORK on the right hand stem and a harp (or is it a heart?) on the foot.

Figure 5 FD7



Figure 6 FF3 has a raised shamrock on the foot.

Figure 6 FF3