

Clay Pipes

We also found a number of white clay pipe bowls and stems. Some of these had numbers on them and decorations on them. I have to say that historical archaeologists really appreciate finding pipe material. There has been a tremendous amount of research done on smoking pipes.

Decades and decades of research covering where these pipes were made, how they were then transported here to North America, the manufacturing companies, the moulds for decoration, the size of the bore holes in the stems, and the lengths of the stems. There's different shapes of the bowls and how they changed over time. That tremendous amount of research has really contributed to a very fine identification of smoking pipe material found at archaeology sites. So we did collect some [clay smoking pipe material] at Africville and we were able to use those reference tools to identify those smoking materials.

-- -- Catherine Cottreau-Robins, Curator of Archaeology, Nova Scotia Museum