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THREE PIGEONS

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PIPES IN A BOX: A COLLECTION OF OLD ENGLISH LONG CLAY "CHURCHWARDEN'S" PIPES IN A SCRATCH BUILT POKER-WORK BOX

rare survivors

5 hand-made clay pipes, 18th Century pattern, with an acorn shaped bowl and long curvilinear stem and waxed mouth piece

DIMENSIONS: 66cm (26") High, 7cm (2³/₄") Wide, 10cm (4") Deep

STOCK CODE: 46900



HISTORY

Clay pipes were made to be ephemeral and consumable: millions were made. They invariably broke and would be used in their shortened form until they were known as "nose-burners" and would be thrown away - which explains why the Thames foreshore in central London is littered with many thousands of clay pipes - the stem and the bowl - to be found centuries later by Mudlarks between the tides. The longest pipes, giving a cool smoke, were prestige - but being fragile are rare survivors.