

Three fragments of tobacco pipe from Fort Rinella, Kalkara

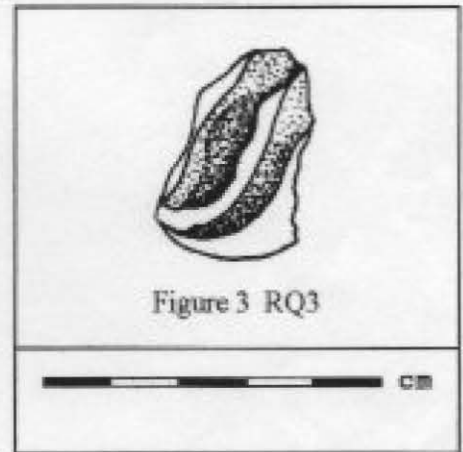
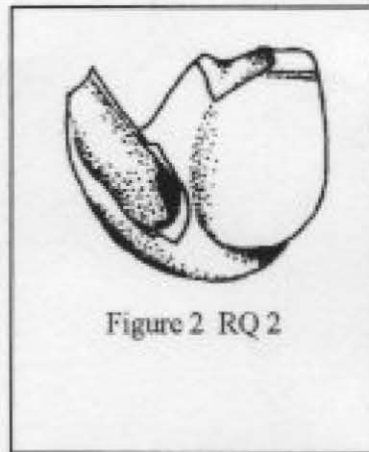
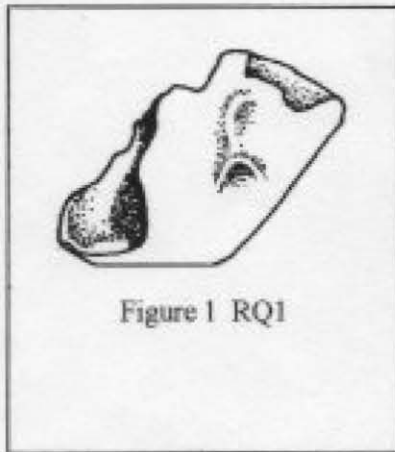
Fort Rinella was built by the Royal Engineers near the mouth of Grand Harbour. It was made to accommodate a single 100 ton gun and was constructed between 1878 and 1886 using local labour. It lasted in service until 1906.

Most of the clay pipes found during recent restoration work¹ are of the British or Northern type and have been well documented by Denis Darmanin. His 'CLAY PIPES; A Victorian soldier's vice' is forthcoming. Mr. Darmanin was kind enough to show me three fragments of reed pipe unearthed in adjacent fields. They could equally well have been used there by civilians. They are described here:

RQ1 (Fig. 1) A fragment of bowl and shank. All the edges are broken. Pale orange clay. A much abraded decoration is moulded into the shank.

RQ2 (Fig. 2) A Bowl and shank fragment. Rich brown slip over black clay.

RQ3 (Fig. 3) Fragment of bowl with keel attachment. Terracotta.



¹ Fort Rinella, run by the *Fondazzjoni Wirt Arma*, is open to the public most days of the year.