

Lámhóg/Piggin



NMI Handling Collection

What is it?

Lámhógs, also known as piggins, or pigín in some districts, were crude wooden drinking vessels that originated in Ireland. This lámhóg/piggin was turned from sycamore in 2015 by Ambrose O'Halloran, Claregalway, Co Galway. It is based on an example in the NMI Collection.

What was it used for?

These drinking vessels were turned and hollowed on a pole lathe, from a solid block of willow, elm, beech or ash. They were finished with hand tools, and the handle was gouged out from the same block.



Piggins from Co Kerry
NMI Collection

DID YOU KNOW?

The word 'piggin' is diminutive of 'pigskin', as these vessels were originally made from pig's skin.



Brief History

The origins of the *lámhóg* or *piggin* are obscure. It is thought they have been in use in inns and taverns across Ireland since at least the 14th century, and were still being used as late as the 20th century. In some instances, they were imported to taverns in Wales or the west of England.

Usage of the word *piggin* is diverse. In the English Dialect Dictionary, a *piggin* is described as, 'a small pail or tub, generally of wood; a milking-pail; a lading can; a wooden dish or basin'. For this reason, the word is frequently used to describe other wooden items that serve similar purposes.



Pole Lathe set up for the Spring Show in the RDS, 1936.
Mr Joseph Hughes, Banbrook,
Co Armagh

Image: NMI Collection

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Country Life

Lámhóg/Pigíní



Bailiúchán Láimhseála AMÉ

Céard atá ann?

Ba gharbhshoithí óil adhmaid iad lámhóga a tháinig chun cinn den chéad uair in Éirinn, ar a dtugtar pigíní freisin i gceantair áirithe. Dheil Ambrose O'Halloran, Baile Chláir, Co. na Gaillimhe an lámhóg/pigín seo as seiceamar in 2015. Tá sé bunaithe ar shampla i mBailiúchán AMÉ.

Cén úsáid a mbaintear as?

Deileadh agus rinneadh toll na soithí óil seo ar dheil chuaille, as bloc soladach sailí, leamháin, feá nó fuinseoige. Críochnaíodh iad le huirlisí láimhe, agus gúistíodh an chluas amach ón mbloc céanna.



Pigíní as Co Chiarraí
Bailiúchán AMÉ

AN RAIBH A
FHIOS AGAT?

Is díspeagadh é an focal 'piggin' ó 'pigskin' an Bhéarla, de thairbhe go ndearnadh na soithí seo as craiceann na muice.



Stair Ghairid

Tá bunús na lámhóg nó na bpigíní doiléir. Meastar go raibh siad in úsáid i dtithe ósta agus i dtithe tábhairne ar fud na hÉireann ón 14ú haois nó níos luaithe, agus iad á n-úsáid fós chomh fada le deireadh an 20ú haois. I gcásanna áirithe, rinneadh iad a easpórtáil chuig tithe tábhairne sa Bhreatain Bheag nó i Sasana thiar.

Tá úsáid éagsúla ag baint leis an bhfocal *pigín*. In 'English Dialect Dictionary', déantar cur síos ar phigín mar 'a small pail or tub, generally of wood; a milking-pail; a lading can; a wooden dish or basin'. Ar an gcúis seo, úsáidtear an focal go minic chun cur síos a dhéanamh ar mhíreanna adhmaid eile a úsáidtear chun críochnaíocht comhchosúla.



Deil Chuaille socruithe do Sheó an Earraigh san RDS, 1936. An tUasal Joseph Hughes, Banbrook, Co Ard Mhacha

Pictiúr: Bailiúchán AMÉ

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