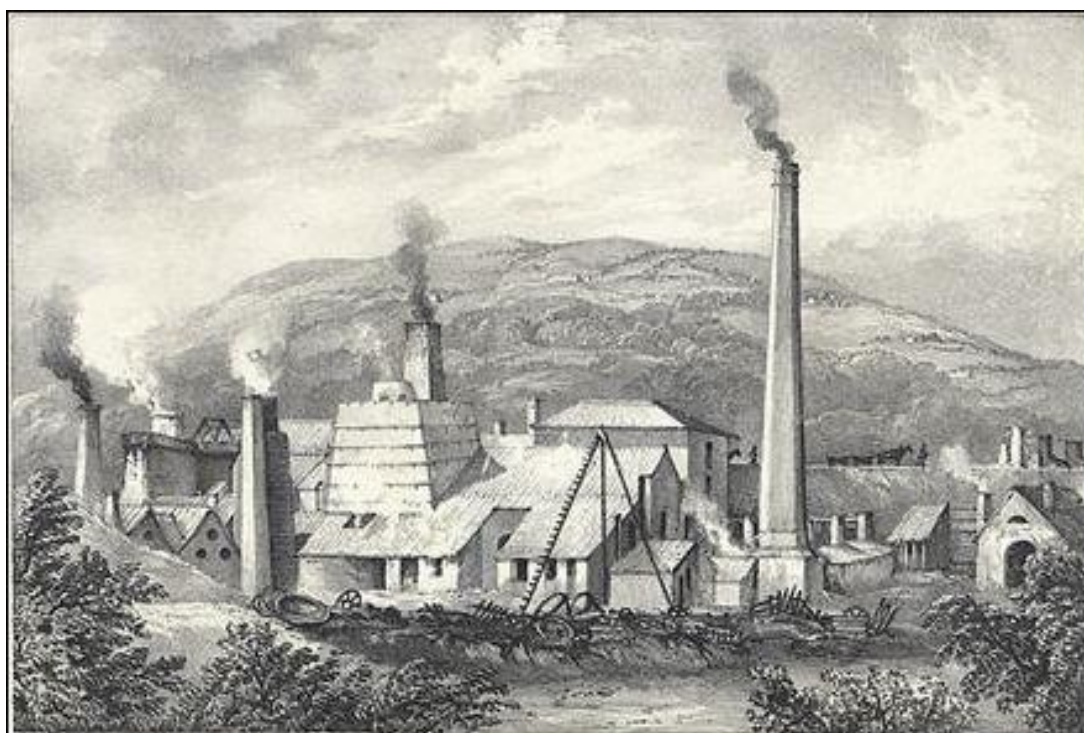


DOCK BOLLARDS MANUFACTURED BY YNISCEDWYN IRON WORKS

BRISTOL AVON AND FLOATING HARBOUR

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In his remarkable book "The Brecon Forest Tramroads: The Archaeology of an Early Railway System" Stephen Hughes¹ referred to bollards manufactured for the docks at Bristol and Swansea in the mid-1800s by Yniscedwyn Iron Works. The Works, on the west bank of the River Tawe just south of Ystradgynlais in the Swansea Valley, grew out of a long period of iron-making in the area. There were supplies of iron ore, limestone and timber locally and the introduction of hot-blast furnaces made it possible to use the plentiful local supplies of anthracite coal. The Works produced goods which were exported all over the world. Little of the original Works remains.



Yniscedwyn Iron Works, c1860

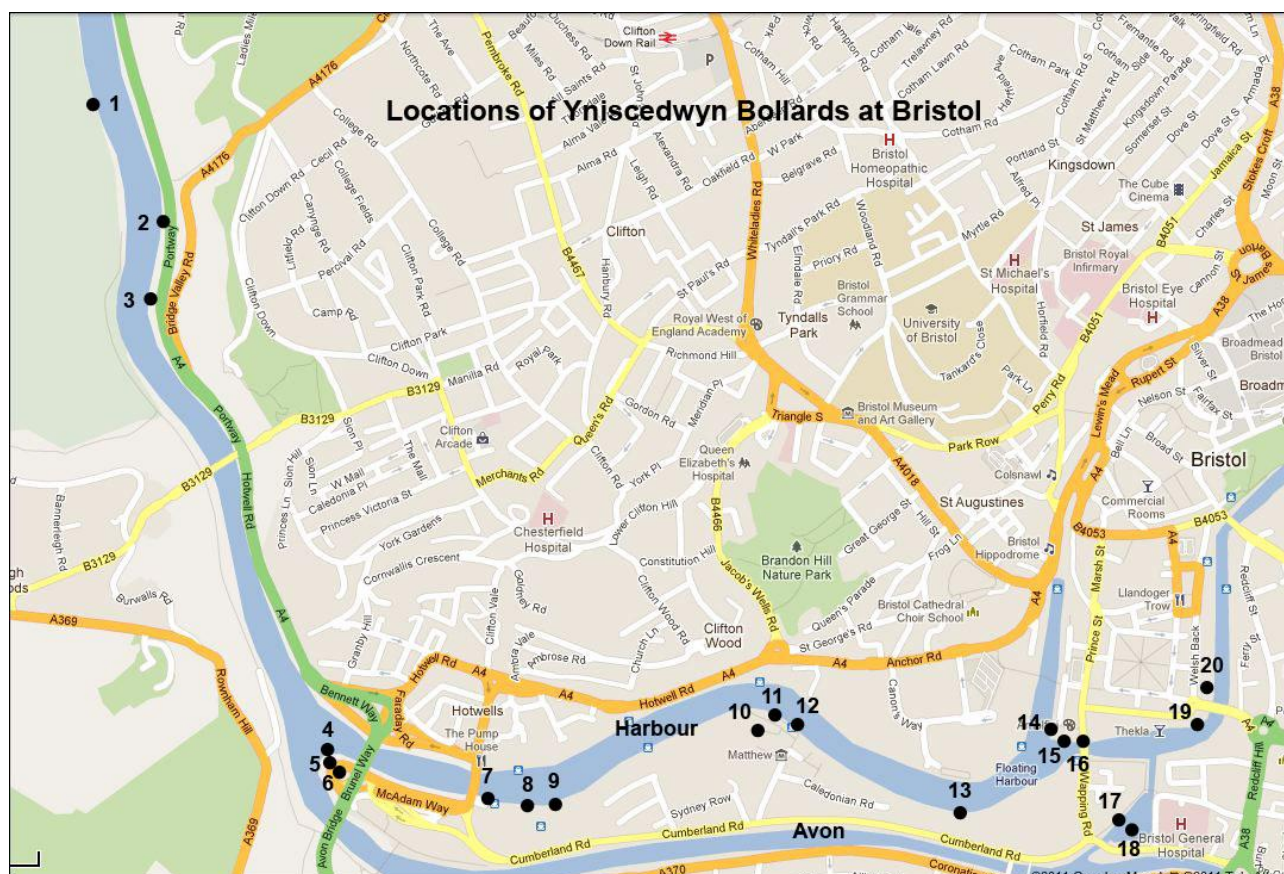
In the light of Hughes' book I thought it would be of interest to look for and map any surviving Yniscedwyn bollards at Bristol and Swansea. Below I list Yniscedwyn bollards which I have found alongside Bristol's Floating Harbour and the River Avon. I have yet to visit Swansea.

It emerged that Grahame Farr had listed Floating Harbour bollards in 1970². I found three types of Yniscedwyn bollard as did Farr, though we differ in numbers³. Each has "Yniscedwyn Iron Works" embossed on its top surface in a standard format. Below is a map of the central area of Bristol showing the Floating Harbour with the Avon flowing right to left beside Cumberland Road and under the Suspension Bridge (B3129). The Yniscedwyn bollards are numbered 1-20.

¹ Stephen Hughes, Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales, pp 80-81 (1990).

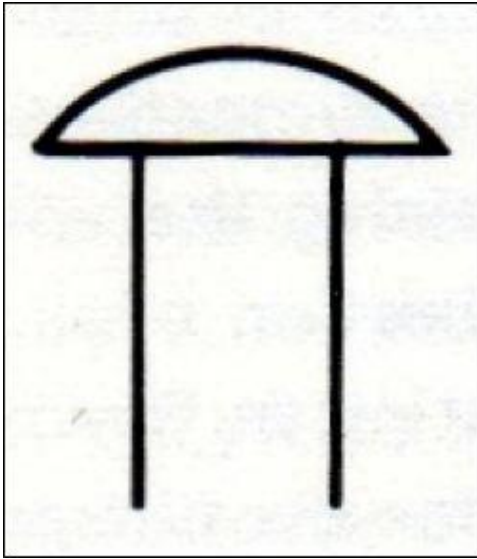
² Journal of Bristol Industrial Archaeological Society (BIAS), Vol 3, 1970. I am grateful to Maggie Shapland of BIAS for this information.

³ I found 17 around the Harbour (and 3 downstream), Farr found 13. Bollards may be more accessible now than in 1970. Some may have disappeared during developments along the waterside (such as that which Farr found by the old gas works). Some may no longer be in their original positions.

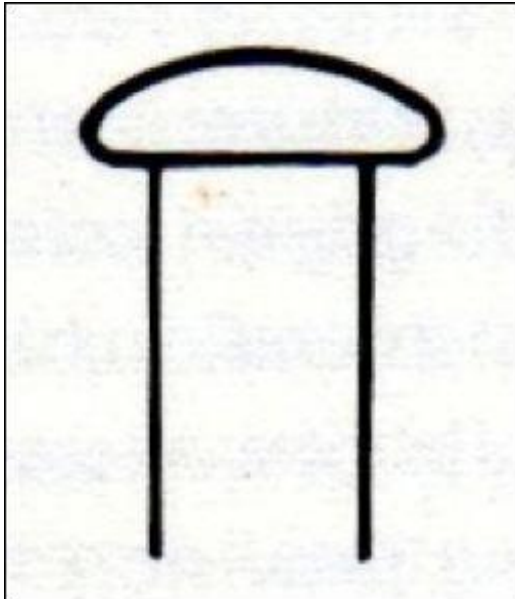


Bollard	Type	OS Grid Ref ST	Location
1.	1	5613 7400	By railway retaining wall beside footpath on west bank of Avon, about 1km north of the Suspension Bridge, opposite white navigation post across Avon.
2.	3	5620 7360	Grass verge on west edge of A4 Portway, about 450m north of the Suspension Bridge.
3.	1	5618 7353	Grass verge on west edge of A4 Portway, about 420m north of the Suspension Bridge.
4.	3	5669 7245	On "island" adjacent to lock.
5.	2	5670 7243	On "island" adjacent to lock.
6.	2	5675 7240	On "island" adjacent to lock.
7.	2	5713 7225	In front of Dock Cottages.
8.	1	5724 7218	Between Underfall Yard and Cottage Inn.
9.	1	5728 7220	Between Underfall Yard and Cottage Inn.
10.	3	5760 7228	40m up slipway by Marina Office.
11.	3	5773 7245	25m west of "Great Britain" bow.
12.	1	5783 7245	Beside "Great Britain" gift shop.
13.	2	5835 7220	Beside Fairbairn steam crane.
14.	3	5855 7238	In front of Arnolfini building.
15.	3	5858 7238	In front of Arnolfini building.
16.	2	5860 7238	In front of Arnolfini building.
17.	2	5868 7215	Bathurst Basin, north-west side.
18.	2	5873 7213	Bathurst Basin, south side.
19.	3	5890 7243	60m west of Redcliffe Bridge.
20.	1	5893 7248	Welsh Back 20m north of Redcliffe Bridge, now inaccessible behind security fence.

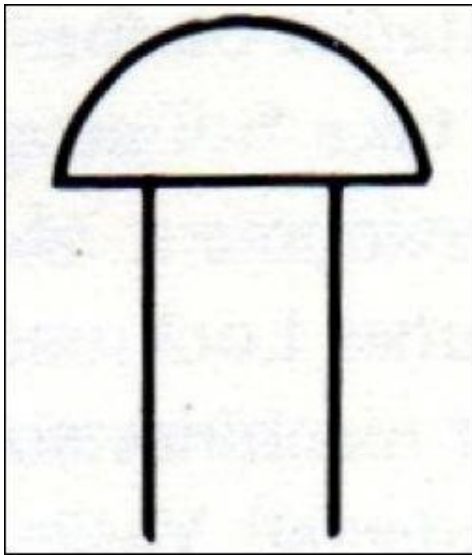
BOLLARD TYPES



Type 1 - head diameter 38cm, body diameter 23cm, approx.



Type 2 - head 41cm diameter, body 30cm diameter.



Type 3 - head 43cm diameter, body 36cm diameter.

All Type 3 bollards are embossed "Society of Merchants" after Bristol's ancient Society of Merchant Venturers which managed the Harbour with Bristol Corporation. In three cases (2, 11, 19), the text "Yniscedwyn Iron Works" can be read as above, left. In four cases (4, 10, 14, 15), the text is inverted (right).