

Swordmaking at Hounslow

In 1621, King James I declared that he needed military swords for 12,000 men (for the Thirty Years War, 1618–1648). Previously, he had to buy most of his swords from foreign sources, mostly from swordsmiths from Solingen, Prussia, a German kingdom. At that time, the Greenwich Royal Armouries were providing very few swords. The king hoped to enlarge England's arms making capacity and provide employment for his subjects.

In early 1621, he granted Thomas Murrey (cutler and secretary to the Prince of Wales; probably the wardrobe supplier to the prince) a patent for the sole manufacture of sword and rapier blades in England.

On June 13, 1621, by order of the court of the Cutlers Company, master John Porter, past master Thomas Chesshire, and royal cutler Robert South inspected an engine (machine for the making of sword blades, i.e., a blade mill or factory) and were to report their findings to the court at the next meeting. It was probably Thomas Murrey's blade mill.

In July 1621, Thomas Murrey presented his first group of sword blades to the Cutlers Company for inspection. The company rejected them, saying they needed much more work to come to "perfection," and the expense to make them was too large.

In 1624, King James I contracted with the Cutlers Company to provide 5,000 swords with hangers and girdles a monthly "to be used by the Earle of South Hampton and other honorable persons employed beyond the seas." The company purchased blades from bladesmiths in Solingen, Prussia, which were sold at a fixed rate to the members making the swords when the blades arrived (eight months later). The first purchase was for 48 dozen blades on April 29, 1624. They were sold to 16 members in groups of 24 at 5 pounds per 24. Over the next three years, blades were also purchased from merchants in London and Birmingham. All swords were delivered to the Tower of London.

In 1629, King Charles I and Sir John Heyden (Lieutenant of the Ordnance) decided to bring more German swordsmiths to England. Heyden was the younger brother of William Heyden, previous Lieutenant of Ordnance who was killed in 1623. Many German armourers and swordsmiths who had immigrated to England earlier worked in the Greenwich Royal Armouries (in operation 1511–1644). When Charles was Prince of Wales, his father, King James I, presented him with a sword made by Clemens Horn of Solingen, Prussia, so Charles knew of the quality of German sword blades.

It all started when Sir John Heyden, while on a diplomatic mission in Holland (probably Rotterdam) on behalf of King Charles I, encountered some German swordsmiths. The Germans were supposedly refugees fleeing from the terrors of the Thirty Years War. He persuaded some of them to immigrate to England and work under royal patronage. These swordsmiths were members of several sword-related crafts from Solingen, including:

Schwertschmeides (swordsmiths),

Klingenschmieldes (bladesmiths/blade forgers),

Schwertschleifer (sword/blade grinders),

Schwertfegers (sword/blade polishers),

Schwertharters (sword/blade hardeners).

The route to England from Solingen went through the Netherlands and coastal Holland to Rotterdam and then to London. That is why many documents of the time referred to the Solingen Germans who immigrated to England as Dutch and why they called their blades “Dutch” blades. Solingen is located on the southern edge of the Ruhr Valley on the Wupper River. The Wupper is a tributary of the larger Rhine River, which runs through Germany and the Netherlands to Rotterdam, Holland’s largest seaport. The German swordsmiths could easily travel the Wupper River to the Rhine, down to Rotterdam, and by boat to London.

The German swordsmiths were settled at Hounslow Heath, a fairly flat farming area about 12 miles from London on the Staines Road (part of the old London road to Bath). They built their homes, workshops, and blade mills along the New Cutt River (later called the Duke of Northumberland River), which was actually a man-made canal. The river provided fast running water to turn waterwheels, which ran the equipment in their mills such as bellows and trip hammers.

The leading Germans who set up blade mills were bladesmiths of some stature in Solingen (i.e., guild members) who employed other Germans. The following German bladesmiths (probably blade mill owners) signed their blades:

- Peter Munsten the Younger (changed name to Peter English), c. 1629–1642
- Johann Kindt (Kinndt, Kennett), c. 1629–1659
- Johannes Hoppe (Hoppie) the Younger, c. 1633–1642
- Caspar Karn (Carnis), c. 1629–1642
- Clemens (Clamas) Meigen, c. 1629–1642
- Caspar Fleisch, c. 1629–1642
- Johannes Dell (Bell), c. 1649–1685

Other known German swordsmiths and bladesmiths working in Hounslow were:

- Johann Konigs (Connyne), c. 1629–1642
- Clemens Horn the Younger, c.1629–1642
- Ceile Herder, c. 1649–1659
- Peter Henekels (Henkell), c. 1660–1685
- Johannes Meigen, c. 1629–1642
- Heinrich (Henry) Hoppe (Hoppie) the Elder, c.1629–1642
- Joseph Hoppe Hoppie, c. 1629–1642

Benjamin Stone, a London cutler, played a large part in the sword and blade making center of Hounslow. Born c. 1591, Stone was the son of yeoman John Stone of Arundel, Sussex. He apprenticed to well-known London cutler William Bals (Balls) from 1604–1613. Stone became a freeman (allowed to sell his wares in London) of the Cutlers Company of London in 1613. His London shop was on Bartholemew Lane. Stone’s identified apprentices are:

- Robert Salisbury, 1614
- Simon Connell, 1614
- William Handiday, 1620
- William Holmes, 1620–1628
- Ellia Browne, 1623
- Joseph Roger, 1626

- Robert Cooper, 1628
- William Hall, 1629
- John Mashrother, 1631
- John Hester, 1631
- James Hagan, 1638
- Thomas Hunt, 1647

Stone became a large purveyor of swords and blades to the Office of Ordnance. As time went on, he had many conflicts with the Cutlers Company and the royal cutler Robert South about the way he conducted his business. He was fined many times and even jailed over such things as striking other cutlers, putting incorrect marks on his products, buying knives made outside of London, swearing at officers of the company, and keeping unregistered apprentices. He also made enemies among cutlers in the Cutlers Company of London by complaining that their swords were of poor quality.

During this time (1613–1628), Stone was a typical London cutler, i.e., an assembler of swords and knives. He would buy finished blades from local bladesmiths and bladesmiths from Solingen, Prussia, Venice and Milan, Italy, and Toledo, Spain. He then fitted hilts (i.e., handle and guard) and leather scabbards, which he made or bought himself, to the blades. Many of his hilts were of cast brass, so Stone must have had a brass foundry. He also made or bought sword belts.

In 1621, Stone bought 30 swords from cutler Jacob Fulwater, son of Henry Fulwater. On June 27, 1628, he delivered 800 swords to the Office of Ordnance for the arming of troops recruited for Buckingham’s proposed expedition to relieve La Rochelle. Of these swords, 350 were Italian swords from Venice and 450 were “Dutch” swords from Solingen. All of them had Irish (basket) hilts. On June 30, 1628, Stone sold 150 blades to the Office of Ordnance. Knowing the king’s need for military swords and blades and the availability of rough blades from the Germans who the king had brought to Hounslow, Stone set up a sword mill in Hounslow Heath in 1629 by converting an existing mill on the New Cutt River. His operation was actually a sword finishing mill—he bought rough-forged blades from the Germans (who mostly used imported German steel, which was better than English steel), grinded and polished them, then fit them with hilts and leather scabbards. The mill was powered by a waterwheel that operated the grinding stones and polishing wheels. Most swords and blades were sold to the Office of Ordnance and delivered to the Tower Armoury. He also refitted and refurbished swords for the Office of Ordnance and sold many blades to London cutlers who assembled swords. The German bladesmiths at Hounslow could obtain German steel through the port of London, and Stone could ship blades and finished swords from London to other English ports or overseas.

Hounslow Heath was a rather open farming area located approximately 12 miles from London in the county of Middlesex. It was on the Staines Road, a section of the old Roman road that led from London to Bath. The road went through the towns of Hammersmith, Staines, Bedfont, and Horton (Old Cohnbrook) before finally ending in Bath. Bedfont and Horton were in Hounslow Heath, as was the town of Isleworth. The Isleworth River (later called the Crane River) ran through Hounslow Heath. Joseph Jenks built a sword blade mill in Isleworth in 1639. Hounslow Heath was a perfect spot for Stone to set up a sword

mill. It was far enough away from London so the Cutlers Company of London and the Royal Cutler could not interfere with his production. (The rules and regulations of the Cutlers Company didn't apply to this suburban area.) Brass hilts, which were cheaper and easier to make than steel hilts, could be used at Hounslow, whereas the Cutlers Company did not allow London cutlers to use brass, at that time considered a poor and soft metal. Many brass hilts could be cast from the same mold, while steel hilts had to be made one at a time (cast steel had not been invented).

On June 20, 1632, Stone signed a lease for the land where his sword mill was located. (He probably rented the land between 1629–1632.) He leased three acres, which included a mill (probably a grain mill) on the New Cutt River, from George (Lord) Berkeley (Mowbray, Segrave and Bruce) at the east end of the town of Bedfont, parish of East Bedfont Cum [and] Hatton, county of Middlesex. Stone's sword mill straddled the New Cutt River, which ran between the Colne and Isleworth Rivers. The mill was located near the confluence of the New Cutt and Isleworth Rivers near the Baber Bridge. The Staines Road ran over the Baber Bridge, which straddled the Isleworth River. Stone's lease began on the feast of Michaelmas (September 29, 1632) and ran for 21 years. It stated that he could not sublease the land or change the sword mill to any other kind of mill. He was to pay Lord Berkeley 32 pounds a year in four payments of 8 pounds each, to be paid at the feasts of St. Thomas the Apostle, the Anunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John the Baptist, and St. Michael the archangel (Michaelmes). Stone was to pay all taxes on the property and properly maintain the land and mill. Stone converted Lord Berkeley's mill into a sword mill. It had grinding and polishing stones powered by a waterwheel on the New Cutt River. He provided steel (probably German) to the German bladesmiths, who took the material to their workshops for shaping. (They probably also obtained German steel themselves.) Their sword blade mills, also located along the New Cutt River, included blade forges (furnaces) with bellows and trip hammers run by a waterwheel. The rough blades were taken to Stone's sword mill. Stone paid the Germans by the piece, then finished the blades by grinding and polishing, attached hilts, and fitting each with a leather scabbard. As well as English workers, Stone had German Schlieferers (grinders) and Fegers (polishers) working for him. He sold blades to London cutlers (assemblers), but most finished swords were sold to the Office of Ordnance. Stone's Hounslow sword mill was now in direct competition with the cutlers of London for sword contracts with the Office of Ordnance.

Besides purchasing rough sword blades from the Hounslow German bladesmiths, Stone bought blades from Birmingham bladesmiths and imported blades from Solingen bladesmiths. He did not forge any blades at his mill. The German bladesmiths of Hounslow did not like to share their blade-making techniques with the English. The guilds in Solingen had harsh penalties for any bladesmith and his family who allowed German blade-making techniques to be shown to foreigners, including jail and death.

Around 1630, the king, in desperate need of military swords, granted John Kirke, an armourer and sword maker with the Greenwich Royal Armoury, a patent to make sword and rapier blades.

In 1630, when William Bals (Balls), Stone's previous master, died, Stone petitioned the Cutlers Company for Bals' mark (a bunch of grapes). The court delayed its approval until he paid a 10 shilling fine that he owed the Company. Stone obtained the mark in 1631. In 1631, the royal cutler Robert South was advanced 100 pounds by the Cutlers Company of London to investigate the making of sword and rapier blades "for the good of the company and the kingdom."

On July 18, 1631, Stone delivered 4,356 swords (at 6 shillings each) with Irish (basket) hilts to the Office of Ordnance. They were to be used to arm the force raised by the Marquis of Hamilton to assist the king in his intervention in Sweden during the Thirty Years War.

In 1636, Stone advertised as follows: I have perfected the art of blade making and my factory at Hounslow Heath could produce blades as good and cheap as any to be found in the Christian world. The price being fortified by the long experience and quality on the part of my German blade makers.

On July 1, 1636, Stone petitioned the king to have the Office of Ordnance purchase the 2,000 blades he had ready. He needed prompt payment because he was deeply in debt. He also needed a letter of protection so the bailiffs wouldn't arrest him for nonpayment of his debts. Attorney General Bankes and Solicitor General Littleton confirmed his claims and that the 2,000 blades were ready. They indicated that Stone, had been, at great charge, making sword, rapier, "skein" (knife), and other blades for the king's stores and for the service of his subjects, which for the most part had, up to that time, been made in foreign countries. They indicated that Stone could produce 3,000 more blades by Michaelmas (September 29).

On July 9, 1636, Stone received a royal patent from Charles I for making swords and blades. The patent read as follows: A special privilege granted to Benjamin Stone, sword blade maker, and his assignees, for the term of 14 years next ensuing, (starting at Michaelmas) within England, Ireland, and Wales, to make and work all manner of sword blades, fauchions (falchions) skeynes (skeines, or knives) rapyer (rapier) blades and blasts (blade poles) serving for rests of muskets, of any fashion or kind whatsoever, according to a way or invention, by him devised, by the help of mill or mills and the same to sell at moderate rates, of divers [diverse] form & fashion, paying therefore XL's [40 shillings] yearly to the crown, amount during the said term, with the ordinary proviso for making this grant void in case it shall be found to be contrary to law and inconvenient to the state. The sword blades mentioned in Stone's patent were mostly backswords (single-edged broadswords) with one wide fuller in the middle of the blade. The German bladesmiths engraved their names in the fuller, and many blades had the word "Hounslow" or one of its many variations (Hounslow, Hunslo, Hounslow, Honslo, Hunsloe, Housslo, Houn) engraved in the fuller. The "fauchions" mentioned were falchions—single-edged short swords—such as infantry hangers, naval cutlass', hunting swords, and pioneer swords, some with sawtooth blades. The "skeynes" were skenes (skeines), daggers, dirks, and knives. The "rapyer" (rapier) blades were long, narrow, straight blades with a wide fuller in the middle, mostly fitted with swept or cup hilts.

On December 12, 1636, Stone was made an official supplier of the Office of Ordnance. He now called himself "His majesties blade maker for the Office of Ordnance."

In early 1637, Stone petitioned the Privy Council to complain that the Office of Ordnance had just ordered 4,000 swords from the Cutlers Company. Stone said that their swords were old, of poor quality, and used foreign (German) blades. He asked that only English blades be accepted by the Office of Ordnance and indicated that he could turn out 500 blades a week and had large quantities ready to deliver. He also said that he had spent 6,000 pounds in perfecting the art of blade making.

On April 14, 1637, Stone delivered 500 new swords at 75 shillings, 6 deniers each to the Board of Ordnance for naval use. Later in 1637, Stone complained to the Privy Council that the swords supplied by the Cutlers Company to Capt. William Leggel, Master of the Tower Armoury, had not been proofed (inspected) by the Lieutenant of Ordnance before storing them in the tower.

At the end of 1637, Stone complained again to the Privy Council that the swords supplied by the Cutlers Company had still not been proofed and that he had 3,000 blades already mounted but had not received payment. In 1638, Stone petitioned to the Council of War that he had spent 8,000 pounds on facilities to manufacture blades and was now delivering 1,000 good and serviceable swords to the Office of Ordnance monthly. He asked for a monopoly of sword supply to the Office of Ordnance over the Cutlers Company. Secretary of State Edward Nicholas did not agree, but he indicated that all good and serviceable swords would be taken from Stone.

Also in 1638, Stone again petitioned the Council of War about his 8,000 pound expense and the monopoly of sword supply he wanted for himself. He also wanted a warrant to prevent the cutlers of London from striking Spanish, German, and other foreign blade makers' marks on their blades.

In 1638, Stone delivered to the Office of Ordnance 5,000 sword and rapier blades. He subcontracted them to three other blade makers: the Nicholas Brothers, John Harvey, and John Hayes (probably from London). His subcontracted blades were to be delivered to Capt. William Legge, Master of the Tower Armoury, under Stone's name. Stone was contracted to hilt and make scabbards for 3,000 of the 5,000 sword blades. Robert South (royal cutler) and William Cave were each contracted to hilt and make scabbards for 1,000 of the 5,000 sword blades.

On July 6, 1639, Stone bought 200 swords at 75 shillings, 6 denier each from George Page, a London merchant, for resale to the Office of Ordnance.

In February 1640, the Cutlers Company of London informed its membership as follows: There is to be provided for his majesties service, within one month, to the number of 3000 swords, ready trimmed [assembled] to be brought to the cutlers hall by several workman of this company. Every workman is to bring in those swords that he maketh (not trimmed with Irish [basket] hilts nor black blades [iron] blades) and every blade to be above nine handfull long.

On March 14, 1640 Stone delivered 870 new swords at 75 shillings, 6 denier each to the Board of Ordnance. The debenture books of the Office of Ordnance showed that they had hired a London cutler named John Damm to proof Stone's blades delivered to the Tower Armoury. Payments were made to Damm on May 12, 1639, and August 10, 1640.

On June 30, 1642, Stone contracted with the Board of Ordnance to refurbish scabbards and make new scabbards for 400 swords for naval use. It was his last contract before the English Civil War of 1642–1651.

On May 19, 1643, during the English Civil War, Stone delivered some refurbished swords with scabbards to the royal stores at Oxford, the king's headquarters during the war. In 1642, when parliamentary forces took over the blade and sword center at Hounslow, Stone must have followed King Charles I to his Oxford headquarters. He probably was the one who set up the king's sword mill at Wolvergate near Oxford. A blade mill was also set up at Glouster Hall in Oxford.

Stone was still in business in 1647 because on October 26, 1647, one of his apprentices, Thomas Hunt, became a freeman of the Cutlers Company of London. Since a term of at least seven years was required, Hunt's apprenticeship would have begun at Hounslow in 1640–1642 and continued at Oxford from 1642–1647.

When the parliamentary forces took over the Hounslow sword and blade center in 1642, they confiscated the mills of the German bladesmiths obedient to the king.

The only bladesmiths to remain, obedient to the parliamentary forces, were the Germans Johann Kindt (Kinndt), Ceile Herder, and Johannes Dell (Bell) and Englishman Henry Risby. The other German bladesmiths followed King Charles I to his new headquarters at Oxford, where they would have worked at the blade mill at Glouster Hall, Oxford, or the sword mill at Wolvercote, near Oxford. They were Peter Munsten (English) the Younger, Caspar Fleisch, Clemens Horn the Younger, Johannes Hoppe (Hoppie) the Younger, Heinrich (Henry) Hoppe (Hoppie) the Elder, Johannes Meigen, Clemens (Clames) Meigen, and Caspar Karn (Carnis).

In 1643, Prince Rupert, a royalist commander, ordered 15,000 sword blades from Robert Porter of Birmingham. The parliamentary forces destroyed Porter's factory in retaliation. In 1645, the wardens of the Cutlers Company of London provided 3,000 infantry swords with belts and 200 horseman's swords (all at 5 shillings each) to the parliamentary force's "New Model" army under Gen. Sir Thomas Fairfax.

In May 1649, some Hounslow bladesmiths petitioned the Council of State (Commonwealth under Oliver Cromwell) against unfair taxes on their residences and work houses (mills). Their tools and stock had been confiscated for nonpayment of taxes. The Council of State had the tools and stock returned and reduced their future taxes.

In 1650, Paul and Everard Ernions (Ernious) had a sword blade mill at Hounslow. In that year, an order was written to deliver to them ten trees out of Windsor Forest. The timber was to be used to repair their work houses at Hounslow.

On January 31, 1655, John Cooke of London petitioned the Council of State to encourage his manufacture of hollow ground (concave) small sword and rapier blades at Hounslow. In 1658, he supplied 600 Hounslow-style hangers to the Office of Ordnance for naval use (cutlasses), so he must have had a sword mill at Hounslow. He was located in London c. 1658 and used the cross and star mark in 1670.

William Walker had a sword mill at Hounslow. On April 1, 1653, Walker provided 1,000 new swords "with strange Irish [basket] hilts and large for ye hand, well joyned over ye shoulder of ye blade" (probably imported blades) to the Commonwealth under Cromwell.

On June 3, 1658, Walker supplied 200 Hounslow hangers with scabbards, 215 English hangers, and 171 Dutch (German) hangers, all at 45 shillings, 6 denier each, for sea service to the Commonwealth under Cromwell. In 1659, Walker supplied 1,410 hangers for land service and 1,509 hangers for sea service (cutlasses) to the Commonwealth under Cromwell. In 1660, he supplied 1,000 hangers for sea service to the Board of Ordnance under King Charles II.

In 1660, John Gale (Hounslow 1636–1642, Oxford 1642–1659, Hounslow 1659–1670) petitioned King Charles II to be given the office of postmaster in the stage at Hounslow as compensation for the suffering he and his family endured for their loyalty to the king's father, Charles I. Gale described himself as the mill man to Charles I. He supposedly had worked at Hounslow and, when the parliamentary forces took over in 1642, was imprisoned, his house plundered, and his family turned out of doors. Eventually (c. 1645), he got himself to Oxford to work for King Charles I at his sword blade mill at Glouster Hall. Capt. William Legge, Master of the Tower Armoury in 1660, called Gale a sword blade maker who had worked at Oxford.

In 1672, Heinrich (Henry) Hoppe (Hoppie) the Elder and Peter Munster (English) the Younger, last survivors of the German bladesmiths at Hounslow, petitioned King Charles II for a charter to reestablish their craft and set up a factory (mill) in Hounslow to manufacture small swords with hollow ground (concave) blades. Hoppe and English were supposedly the last of the German swordsmiths who were brought to England by King Charles I in 1629. They were forced to follow the king to Oxford when parliamentary forces took over the Hounslow area with the start of the English Civil War in 1642. No charter was issued. Their 1672 petition reads as follows: Statement of Henry Hoppe & Peter English sword makers to the King [King Charles II]; that in 1629 they were brought over to England by William Heyden and the late King [Charles I] and set up their manufacturies at Hounslow; that in the wars they followed his majesty to Oxford, for which Cromwell took their mills [at Hounslow Heath] from them and converted them into powder mills; that they [Hoppie and English] only remain who know the Art [making hollow ground blades] and foreign [Solingen, Prussia] workmen are hard to obtain, as they are obliged to swear, on leaving the trade [in Solingen, Prussia] not to discover it [show others the secret of making hollow ground blades] on the pain of death; that his majesty ordered the late Colonel Legge [Master of Armoury] to see them [Hoppe and English] provided for, which he doubtless would have done had he lived; and that his majesty desire of setting up the said manufacture in England [hollow ground blade mill] may be performed by the instructions [set up and operated by] of the said Hoppie and English, if they receive his majesty's encouragement [charter].

On March 19, 1674, Henry Hoppe the Elder and Peter English talked to the masters of the Cutlers Company of London, again trying to establish a hollow ground sword blade factory in Hounslow. Nothing happened.

By 1675, production at Hounslow had slowed considerably. The John Ogilby map of 1675 (entitled *Itinerarium Anglias*) shows a sword mill on the Crane River at Hounslow located on the south side of the Staines Road, south of the Baber Bridge (not Benjamin Stone's old mill).

By 1685, there was very little sword production at Hounslow. The German swordsmiths had left for London or the new Shotley Bridge sword and blade making center, as follows:

- Peter Munsten (English) the Younger was in London, c. 1646–1675.
- Johann Konigs (Connyne) was in London, 1642–1661.
- Johnannes Bell (Dell) was in Shotley Bridge, 1685–1690.
- Heinrich Hoppe (Hoppie) the Elder was in London, 1646–1675.
- Heinrich Hoppe (Hoppie) the Younger was in London, 1646–1685.
- Joseph Hoppe (Hoppie) was in London, 1646–1685.
- Peter Henekels was at Shotley Bridge, 1685–1702.

GERMAN BLADESMITHS WORKING AT HOUNSLOW

Peter Munsten the Younger

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Immigrated from Solingen, Prussia, in 1629.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades PETER MUNSTEN ME FECIT.
- Changed his name to Peter English.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford in 1642 when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow.
- Moved to London 1649–c. 1675.
- His mill was converted to a powder mill by parliamentary forces.

Johann Kindt (Kinndt)

- At Hounslow 1629–1659.
- Immigrated from Solingen, Prussia, in 1629.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades JOHAN KINNDT HOUNSLO 1630 and JONNES KINNDT FECIT HOSLO.
- Became a naturalized citizen.
- Changed his name to John Kennet.
- Stayed in Hounslow when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow in 1642.
- Because he provided swords to the parliamentary forces, he may have taken over Benjamin Stone's sword mill.
- In 1642, in a letter to the Parliamentary Office of State, Sir Walter Waller and Sir Arthur Hasselrig, parliamentary army commanders, asked for 200 swords from Kennet.

Caspar Karn (Carnis)

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Immigrated to London from Solingen, Prussia, in 1621.
- Moved to Hounslow, c. 1629.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades CASPAR CARNIS.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford when parliamentary force took over Hounslow in 1642.
- His mill was converted to a powder mill by parliamentary forces.

Johann Konigs (Connyne)

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Immigrated to London from Berg and Solingen, Prussia, in 1607.

- Worked in London, 1607–1629.
- Changed his name to John Connyne.
- Moved to Hounslow in 1629.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- With the start of the English Civil War in 1642, moved back to London.

Johannes Bell (Dell)

- At Hounslow 1649–1688.
- Immigrated to London from Solingen, Prussia, in 1635.
- Moved to Hounslow in 1649.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades JOHANNES DELL ME FECIT.
- Moved to Shotley Bridge in 1685.

Caspar Fleisch

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Immigrated to Hounslow from Solingen, Prussia, in 1629.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades CASPAR FLEISCH ME FECIT.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow in 1642.

Clemens Horn the Younger

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Immigrated to Hounslow from Solingen, Prussia, in 1629.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow in 1642.

Johannes Hoppe (Hoppie, Hoppy, Hopper)

- At Hounslow 1634–1642.
- Immigrated to Greenwich from Solingen, Prussia, in 1629 and worked at the royal armouries there.
- Moved to Hounslow in 1634.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades JONNES HOPPIE ME FECIT and ION HOPPIE ME FECIT HONSLO.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow in 1642.
- Moved to London in 1649 and died in 1662. (Listed in Chapter 9 as John Hoppy.)

Heinrich Hoppe (Hoppie, Hoppy, Hopper) the Elder

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Immigrated to Hounslow from Solingen, Prussia, in 1629.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow in 1642.
- In c. 1649, moved to London with his sons Joseph and Henry the Younger and stayed until c. 1675.
- In London, listed as Henry Hoppe.

Joseph Hoppe (Hoppie, Hoppy, Hopper)

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Son of Heinrich Hoppe the Elder.
- Born at Hounslow c. 1629.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow in 1642.
- In c. 1649, moved to London with his father and stayed until c. 1685.
- Master of the Cutlers Company in 1649.
- In London, listed as Joseph Hopper.

Heinrich Hoppe (Hoppie, Hoppy, Hopper) the Younger

- Son of Heinrich Hoppe the Elder.
- Born in Oxford c. 1642.
- In c. 1649, moved to London with his father and stayed until c. 1685.
- In 1685–1702, moved to Shotley Bridge.
- In Shotley Bridge, listed as Henry Hoppe.

Ceile Herder

- At Hounslow 1649–1659.
- Immigrated to Hounslow from Solingen, Prussia, in 1649.
- Worked at Hounslow during the parliamentary control period.
- Changed name to Cecil Furber.

Johannes Meigen

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Immigrated to Hounslow from Solingen, Prussia, in 1629.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow in 1642.

Clemens (Clemas) Meigen

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.
- Immigrated to Hounslow from Solingen, Prussia, in 1629.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades CLAMAS MEIGEN.
- Followed King Charles I to Oxford when parliamentary forces took over Hounslow in 1642.

Peter Henckels (Henkell)

- At Hounslow 1660–1685.
- Immigrated to Hounslow from Solingen, Prussia, c. 1660.
- In 1685, moved to Shotley Bridge as Peter Henkell as resided there until 1702.
- Called Peter Henkell at Shotley Bridge.

ENGLISH SWORD AND BLADE MAKERS WORKING AT HOUNSLOW

Joseph Jenks

- Located in London, Parish of St. Anne Blackfriars, B1599–1625 (see London listing in Chapter 9).
- Son of John Jenks (a German).
- Moved to Hammersmith County of Middlesex (three miles from Blackfriars, London), 1625–1629.

- Moved to Isleworth (Hounslow Heath), 1629–1641.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades JENCKES ME FECIT HOUNSLOE.
- Immigrated to America in 1641, settling in Lynn, Massachusetts, in 1642.

Richard (Recardes) Hopkins

- At Hounslow 1655–1659.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades RECARDUS HOPKINS FECIT HOUNSLO.
- Moved to London, 1659–c. 1675.
- Master of the Cutlers Company in 1671.

Henry Risby

- Located in London, c. 1612–1633.
- At Hounslow 1633–1649.
- Operated a sword blade mill.
- Signed his blades HENRY RISBY.

Benjamin Stone

- At Hounslow 1629–1642.

(See detailed discussion above.)

Paul and Everard Ernions (Ernious)

- At Hounslow 1650.
- Operated a sword blade mill.

John Cooke

- At Hounslow 1655–1658.
- Operated a sword blade mill and sword mill.

John Gale

- At Hounslow 1630–1644.
- Imprisoned by parliamentary forces in 1642 when they took over Hounslow.
- His family was turned out of their home.
- Moved to Oxford c. 1645 and worked as mill man for King Charles I.

William Walker

- At Hounslow 1649–1660
- Operated a sword mill
- Supplied many swords to parliamentary forces and to the Board of Ordnance in 1660.

SWORD MILL OWNERS AT HOUNSLOW

Benjamin Stone 1629–1642

Johann Kindt 1642–1659 (Stone's mill)

John Cooke 1655–1659

William Walker 1649–1660

SWORD BLADE MILL OWNERS AT HOUNSLOW

Peter Munsten the Younger 1629-1642

Johann Kindt 1629-1642

Caspar Karn (Carnis) 1629-1642

Johannes Dell (Bell) 1649-1685

Caspur Fleisch 1629-1642

Johannes Hoppe 1634-1642

Clemens Meigen 1629-1640

Joseph Jenks 1629-1641

Richard Hopkins 1655-1659

Henry Risby 1633-1649

Paul and Everard Ernions 1650