

Greenwell's Glory and Wickham's Fancy

Two British Wet Flies That Made the Big Time in the USA

Both of these wet flies were invented in England in the 19th and were popular in US during the early 20th century.

Greenwell's Glory was invented in 1854 by the Rev. William Greenwell, a canon in the Anglican church. In the English speaking world outside the North America, as both a wet fly and a dry fly, it's considered the most famous trout fly of all time, and in its dry fly version is sometimes referred to as the "British Adams." The wet fly version seems to have lost something in crossing the Atlantic. Here are a British version from 1916 and the American version from 1938.

	British version	American Version
Wings:	Hen Blackbird wing, bunched and split	Slate mallard quill
Body:	Yellow silk, well waxed	Olive Floss
Rib:	4 turns fine gold wire	Gold tinsel
Hackle:	Cochybondhu Hen	Dark Brown Furnace

Cochybondhu and furnace both refer to brown feathers with a black stripe down the middle; cochybondhu is a light reddish brown and furnace is a darker brown.

Wickhams's Fancy was invented in the 1880's by T.C. Wickham. (The "Fancy" part of the name just refers to the tinsel body, not that Wickham took a fancy to the fly.) It often tied with a tail, but since it makes such a great caddis imitation, I usually omit it. It's also tied as a dry fly.

Rib:	Fine gold wire
Body:	Fine gold tinsel
Hackle:	Brown Hen, palmered
Wing:	Slate or brown mallard quill