Channel Tunnel Rail Link London and Continental Railways Oxford Wessex Archaeology Joint Venture

The early prehistoric pottery from North of Westenhanger Castle, Stanford, Kent (ARC WGC 98)

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1 INTRODUCTION

This assemblage consists of two undiagnostic, handmade, prehistoric body sherds which were recovered from contexts 84 and 155 (Table 1), the fills of medieval features ditch (85) and oven or large burnt pit (156) respectively. These were examined by Elaine Morris, Alistair Barclay and Emily Edwards but could not be assigned to a specific period.

Table 1: Pottery fabrics

Context	No.	Weight	Fabri	Fabric Description
	sherds	(g)	c	
84	1	7	F1	Well fired, hard but soapy, smoothed fabric. 5% moderately
				well sorted, sharp flint, ≥1 mm. 3% small rounded voids ≥
				0.5 mm.
155	1	7	NAT	Well fired, hard but soapy, smoothed fabric. 2% small
				rounded voids ≥ 0.5 mm. 2 % argillaceous pellets ≥ 0.5 mm.
				>1% Glauconite sand.
Total	2	14		

2 FABRICS

The material used to manufacture these sherds may have a source in the alluvial clays, Head Brick earth and the Sandgate beds. The source of the flint is not clear and may not be local. Fabric F1 could be either earlier Neolithic or late Bronze Age/early Iron Age in date. The untempered fabric, NAT, is more likely to be of later prehistoric date, although in the absence of comparative material this remains uncertain.

3 DISCUSSION

Sherds of this nature were recovered from otherwise undated contexts at Sandway Road and there, also, dating was not possible. These sherds do not contribute further to our understanding of this site.

4 BIBLIOGRAPHY

PCRG, 1997 The study of later prehistoric pottery: general policies and guidelines for analysis and publication, reprint, Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, Occasional Papers 1 and 2, Oxford