

1.1 Assessment of Fired Clay and Building Material

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Introduction

- 1.1.1 Three hand excavated contexts from the watching brief produced a total of 13 small fragments (138 g). The assemblage includes tile, structural clay from walls or ovens and amorphous fragments.
- 1.1.2 The recovery and study of the material was undertaken in accordance with the Fieldwork Event Aims (see section 2, main report), in particular 3.

Methodology

- 1.1.3 All of the assemblage was analysed and quantified by count and weight. A record was made of type.

Quantification

- 1.1.4 Table 1.3 presents a breakdown by context of the types of fired clay. The small assemblage includes tile fragments of Roman and Medieval date, structural clay with surfaces and in one case a single wattle impression and oxidised amorphous clay that probably derives from an oven or hearth.

Table 1.3: A breakdown of the assemblage of fired clay by context.

Context	Count	Weight	Type	Period	Comments
(51+400) 4	2	22g	Tile fragments	Undated	
(52+000) 44	8	110g	Structural clay	Roman	Wattle impression
(53+300) 29	3	6g	?tile, amorphous fired clay	Pmed	
Total	13	138g			

Provenance

- 1.1.5 There are no significant groups of material (Table 1.3). Two tile fragments of probable medieval date were found in layer 4 (natural subsoil). Pit 42 (fill 44) contained small fragments of structural clay of which one had a single wattle impression. Pit 26 (fill 29) contained amorphous fired clay and a possible tile fragment.

Conservation

- 1.1.6 The material has no specific requirements.

Comparative material

- 1.1.7 For the fired clay and tile there is comparative material within the White Horse Stone group of sites and an attempt should be made to match the fabrics.

Potential for further work

- 1.1.8 The structural clay from the pits provides indirect evidence for domestic occupation in the Nashenden Valley.
- 1.1.9 The relatively small assemblage has little potential for further work.