

## **APPENDIX 3: ASSESSMENT OF CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL /ASSESSMENT OF FIRED CLAY**

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### **1. Introduction**

1.1 To establish the full extent and the morphology of structures and other archaeological remains. All the building material from ARC CRS 98 came from three contexts and consists of daub, roofing tile (probably peg tile), glazed wall tile and unidentified fired ceramic. The ARC 330 98 material comprises mainly daub with a small quantity of ceramic Roman tile and post-medieval peg roofing tile and brick. A small quantity of stone rubble is also present.

1.2 Study of the material should assist with the following field event aims:

- To establish the full extent and the morphology of structures and other archaeological remains.
- To establish a dated sequence of occupation and use.

### **2. Methodology**

2.1 All the material was examined and recorded for the assessment.

2.2 The daub assemblage has been counted and weighed.

2.3 The data have been entered on an ORACLE database and transferred to RLE Datasets.

2.4 All the material has been retained for future analysis.

### **3. Quantifications**

3.1 The assemblage size from ARC CRS 98 is fairly small, just 280g, of which 250g is daub, 20g roof tile, 5g as unidentified fired ceramic. There are 28,793g of building material from ARC 330 98, mainly daub, with 1380g of peg roofing tile, 18,360g of brick, 310g of Roman roofing tile and 50g of stone rubble. From the chainage (CH) sites are 685g of mainly peg roofing tile with a small quantity, 20g, of post-medieval brick.

3.2 The daub from contexts ARC CRS 98 [4] and ARC 330 98 [691] is mainly grey or partially grey in colour indicating that it has been subject to heat. It is somewhat unusual in being made with large flint inclusions (up to 13mm across). The probable daub from contexts ARC 330 98 [373], [458] (Pit [374], Figure 7), and [1187] (Pit [1174], Figure 6) is very unusual in containing crushed fragments of chalk up to 5mm across (fabric type CRS1). The probable daub in context [529] (Pit 537, Figure 10) is characterised by organic impressions in the clay matrix.

3.3 There is a curved fragment of building material with a smoke blackened inner surface (context [1182], Pit [1172], Figure 6). This may be daub or it could be an underfired corner of a Roman box flue tile in fabric group 2815 (type 3006). A

fragment of abraded fired ceramic in context [455] looks Roman although there is no definite proof. Definite Roman tile was recovered from contexts [536] (imbrex), [538], [688], and [1210] (tegula).

- 3.4 The only definite medieval peg tile is from CH 43+000 and has a glazed upper surface. All the other peg tile is probably late-medieval or, more likely, post-medieval in date. A number of bricks were recovered from the brick kiln [720], Figure 11 (contexts [464], [691], [717]) . These measure 224-232 mm in length, 108-112 mm in breadth by 48-56 mm in thickness. It is not possible to accurately date bricks based on size by they were associated with pottery dated 1740-1780 in context [691], which would suggest a mid-late 18<sup>th</sup> century date. Some have indented borders in their top edges, which is normally a feature of pre-Great Fire of 1666 brickwork in London. However, there is no reason why the use of the mould base to flatten down the brick edges (which is the cause of these marks) could not have persisted in a Kent brickyard long after 1666.
- 3.5 The small fragment of wall tile (context ARC CRS 98 [15]) is probably Victorian in date or later. The base is smoothed off whilst the top surface is decorated with a pale yellow glaze. The tile is 8 mm thick and is made with a red clay fabric containing common very small quartz and calcium carbonate inclusions (up to 0.2mm). It appears to be machine-made, although this is not absolutely certain.

#### **4. Provenance**

- 4.1 The precise provenance of the ARC CRS 98 material is not known at this stage. The daub may be Bronze Age, but the remaining material probably derives from the large pits of presumed post-medieval date. The phasing and the location of the ARC 33098 material has not yet been examined.

#### **5. Conservation**

- 5.1 None required, but care should be taken to store the daub in a dry environment.

#### **6. Comparative material**

- 6.1 If the daub is of Bronze Age date then it should be compared with daub of similar date from other sites in the project, such as Cobham Golf Course (Area 330 Zone 5 ARC CGC 98).
- 6.2 The fabric of other bricks should be examined to see if they match those used in the brick kiln.

#### **7. Potential for further work**

- 7.1 The assemblage appears to comprise material of two, or possibly three periods, the Bronze Age, probable Roman and the post-medieval period. It has some limited potential to answer information on the following original Landscape Zone aims and Field Event aims:

- *Farming communities (2,000-100BC)*
- 7.2 The daub could provide evidence for the use of this material for structural or other purposes in the Bronze Age
- *Towns and their rural landscapes (100 BC-1700 AD)*
- 7.3 The scatter of Roman roofing tile and other small unidentified fragments, suggest the presence of a Roman building somewhere in the vicinity, but its abraded quality indicates that it has been subjected to some disturbance over the centuries, probably from the affects of ploughing. Similarly there is no definite evidence for medieval occupation apart from one fragment of glazed roofing tile, which may well have derived from elsewhere. Post-medieval occupation is indicated by ceramic roofing tile and brick.
- *The recent landscape (1700-1945 AD)*
- 7.4 The roofing tile may provide evidence for the type of roof covering used on building in this part of Kent during the post-medieval period, whilst the wall tile gives an indication as to the type of internal decoration employed. The fabric type indicated movement of building material as the fabric of the roof tiles suggests an origin in the London area. The mid-late 18<sup>th</sup> century bricks derive from the only structure from this period, thought to be a brick kiln.
- 7.5 Tasks: building materials
- Combine the stratigraphic and dating information to determine the chronological and spatial patterning of the assemblage.
  - Comparison with daub of similar date from other sites in the project
  - Further analysis of the wall tile to determine a more precise date and if possible place of manufacture.
  - Illustration of two bricks from the kiln, one showing the indented border and the other a ridge of clay running along the top edge
  - Write publication report

## 8. Bibliography

None

Table 9: Assessment of Ceramic Building Material /Assessment of Fired Clay ARC CRS 98

Event code	Context	Count	Weight	Type (brick/ tile etc.)	Period (spot date)	Comments (decoration/ glaze/ fabric)
ARC CRS 98	4	13	250	Daub	UN	3102, most burnt, undated
ARC CRS 98	8	1	10	Peg?	PM	2586, abraded, 1480-1800
ARC CRS 98	8	2	10	Peg	PM	2271, x1 sanding near 2276, 1480-1800
ARC CRS 98	8	4	5	?	UN	Fired ceramic, undated
ARC-CRS 98	15	1	5	Wall tile	PM	Victorian?, pale yellow glaze, 1800-1900

MoL ceramic fabric types: 3102 (daub), 2271, 2276, 2586

Table 10: Assessment of Ceramic Building Material /Assessment of Fired Clay ARC 330 98

Event Code	Context	Count	Weight	Type	Period	Comments
ARC 330 98	373	3	35	Daub?	UN	CRS1, undated
ARC 330 98	455	1	5	Fired clay	RO	2815, 50-400
ARC 330 98	691	3	35	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	741	2	10	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	1173	22	95	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	1176	21	135	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	1178	69	540	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	1179	1	10	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	1180	27	190	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	1181	35	180	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	1182	14	115	Daub	UN	3102, undated
ARC 330 98	1182	1	10	Daub?	UN	3102? Or RCBM Flue Tile, undated
ARC 330 98	1187	1	20	Daub?	UN	CRS1, undated

MoL ceramic fabric types 3102 (daub), 2815