

1.1 Assessment of the Prehistoric Pottery

by Alistair Barclay

Introduction

- 1.1.1 A total of 72 sherds of later prehistoric pottery were hand-retrieved during excavations at Church Lane.
- 1.1.2 The material was recovered to provide dating evidence for the site, in accordance with the Fieldwork Event Aims for the project, which are set out in section 2 of the main document, above.

Methodology

- 1.1.3 All of the material was examined. The assemblage was quantified by count and weight and a note was made of principal fabrics, forms and decoration. Spot dates were based on the presence of diagnostic forms and particular fabrics. Later Bronze Age fabrics tend to contain calcined flint. Iron Age fabrics can be either flint, shell or sand tempered or can contain a mixture of sand and flint.

Quantification

- 1.1.4 The assemblage comprises 72 sherds of pottery and is mostly of middle Bronze Age date, with some Iron Age sherds. Diagnostic forms include a cordoned sherd and a rim sherd from Bucket Urns of Deverel-Rimbury type and everted rims of middle-late Iron Age date. The assemblage indicates low-level activity of middle Bronze Age date across the site and provides a date for two of the ditches. Table 1 gives the overall quantification by count and weight as well as a breakdown of the assemblage by context. Most of the material identified as middle Bronze Age occurs as thick-walled sherds with coarse flint-temper. Diagnostic sherds include a squared rim with finger-tip impression and a thick-walled sherd with an applied cordon.

Provenance

- 1.1.5 Middle Bronze Age pottery was recovered from palaeosol 502 and ditches 508 and 512 and indicates that the features and deposits could be of this date. The remainder of the assemblage mostly occurred as residual material (contexts 500-1, 525, 527). Some of the flint-tempered body sherds that are worn and featureless from these contexts could be of middle-late Iron Age date.

Conservation

- 1.1.6 The pottery is adequately bagged and boxed for long term storage and will require no further conservation.

Comparative Material

- 1.1.7 There is relatively little published material from this area of Kent. Similar fabrics and forms occur elsewhere on CTRL. Other published assemblages with comparable material are known from north Kent (eg Barclay 1994).

Potential for Further Work

- 1.1.8 The assemblage has little potential for further research in terms of the CTRL project strategy, but as there is relatively little published material of this date from this area of Kent, it is recommended that a minimum record is produced and made available for wider dissemination.

Bibliography

Barclay, A J, 1994, The Bronze Age pottery, in The excavation of a later Bronze Age site at Coldharbour Road, Northfleet' (A Mudd), *Arch Cant* 114, 363-410

1.2 Assessment of the Late Iron Age and Roman Pottery

by Malcolm Lyne

Introduction

- 1.2.1 A number of small groups of pottery were recovered during excavations at East of Station Road and Church Lane.
- 1.2.2 The material was hand-retrieved on site.
- 1.2.3 It was collected in order to provide dating evidence for the sites, and evidence for economic activity, in accordance with the Fieldwork Event Aims for the project which are set out in section 2 of the main document, above.

Methodology

- 1.2.4 All of the pottery assemblages were subjected to general sherd count, weighing and spot-dating. None of the assemblages was considered large enough or significant enough for detailed quantification.
- 1.2.5 Fabrics were identified with the aid of a x8 lens with built-in metric scale for determining the sizes, nature, form and frequency of inclusions. Finer fabrics were further examined using a x30 magnification pocket microscope with built-in artificial illumination source and all were classified using the Canterbury Archaeological Trust's codings (Macpherson-Grant *et al.* 1995).

East of Station Road

Quantification

- 1.2.6 The site produced a total of 269 sherds (1708 g) from 46 late Iron Age and Roman contexts. Most contexts produced three or fewer fragments (Table 3). These assemblages are further tabulated by phase in Table 4.
- 1.2.7 As with the material from the Boys Hall site (URS 2000), the late Iron Age to AD 70 pottery is totally dominated by sherds from bead-rim jars and other forms in the 'Belgic' grog-tempered ware fabrics B1 and B2 (92%). The remainder of the sherds consist of fragments in the 'Belgic' grog-tempered fabric B2.1 with pale siltstone grog, a sherd in sandy black B8 fabric from the Folkestone area and bodysherds from a Gallo-Belgic Whiteware flagon. There are no sherds in the glauconitic B9.1 fabric from the Medway valley.
- 1.2.8 The few post-AD 70 sherds include South Gaulish Samian, Upchurch ware, a fragment from a BB2 pie dish of post-AD 200 date and two sherds from a Verulamium region Whiteware flagon. Both the Verulamium and the earlier Gallo-Belgic Whiteware flagons may have been used for the transport of wine to the area.
- 1.2.9 There is no observable bias in the collection of material.

Provenance

- 1.2.10 There are few fresh assemblages in what is otherwise a collection of very small and somewhat abraded pot sherds. The most substantial assemblages are the 44 sherds from Context 6007 in the fill of the natural channel and the 97 fragments from the

upper fill of natural gully 6006. Both of these assemblages can probably be dated to the period *c* AD 40-70 towards the end of Phase 1 and include fresher sherds than are normal for this site.

Conservation

- 1.2.11 There is no need for further conservation and all of the material should be retained.

Comparative Material

- 1.2.12 The frequently abraded nature of the pottery assemblage is similar to that from the Boys Hall Balancing Pond and Blind Lane sites at Sevington only a short distance to the west (URS 2000 and 2000b). The few rims and other diagnostic sherds, however, makes the citing of specific parallels difficult.
- 1.2.13 What can be said is that the total domination of the late Iron Age-AD 70 dated assemblages by 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares is rather surprising: one would expect that the proximity to Folkestone would have led to a more significant showing of sandy soot-soaked wares in the local B8 and B9 fabrics (Thompson 1982, 14). The reason for this anomaly could be chronological and due to the Phase 1 material being entirely post-Conquest in date

Potential for Further Work

- 1.2.14 Aside from providing dating evidence, the pottery from this site is limited in its application to the research aims of the CTRL project except perhaps in the study of patterns of pottery distribution and possibly wine trade in the local late Iron Age and early Roman economy.

Church Lane

- 1.2.15 The site yielded sixteen sherds of Late Iron Age pottery from the excavated topsoil and colluvium contexts. These comprise one sherd in glauconitic fabric B9.1,13 in 'Belgic' grog-tempered fabric B2 and two in fabric B3 (Table 1). The sherds are all very abraded and probably from field marling.
- 1.2.16 The material is of very limited value other than throwing some light on the extent of the arable land at east of Station Road.

Bibliography

Macpherson-Grant, N, Savage, A, Cotter, J, Davey, M, Riddler, I, 1995 *Canterbury ceramics 2. The processing and study of excavated pottery*

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1.3 Assessment of the Medieval and Post-Medieval Pottery

by Paul Blinkhorn

Introduction

- 1.3.1 Small groups of medieval and post-medieval pottery were hand-retrieved during excavations at Church Lane and East of Station Road.
- 1.3.2 The material was collected in order to provide dating evidence and economic information, in accordance with the Fieldwork Event Aims for the sites, which are set out in section 2 of the main document, above.

Methodology

- 1.3.3 The pottery from both sites was examined visually and recorded using the codes and chronologies of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust Fabric series for the county of Kent (Cotter forthcoming a and b), with the following types noted at Church Lane:

- M1, Tyler Hill sandy ware, 1225-1350. 2 sherds, 16g.
- M38A, N or W Kent Sandy ware, Maidstone kiln? 1175/1200-1400. 2 sherds, 18 g.
- M38B, N or W Kent fine sandy ware, 1225/50 – 1400. 1 sherd, 2 g.
- M40B, Ashford/Wealden sandy ware, 1200/25 - 1400. 3 sherds, 43g.
- PM1: Red earthenware, 1550-1800. 1 sherd, 35 g.
- LPM7BJ, Bone china, transfer printed, 1770-1925+. 5 sherds, 23 g.

- 1.3.4 The following fabrics were identified at East of Station Road:

- EM3A, E Kent shelly-sandy ware 1075/1100-1200/25. 1 sherd, 6 g.
- PM1, Red earthenware, 1550-1800. 3 sherds, 121 g.
- PM5, Frechen Stoneware, 1525-1750. 1 sherd, 27 g.
- PM38, Notts/Derby Stoneware, 1670-1770. 2 sherds, 8 g.
- LPM5, Yellow ware, 1825/50 – 1900. 1 sherd, 29 g.
- LPM10, modern English Stoneware, 1800-1940. 1 sherd, 35 g.
- LPM15D, Later Staffordshire blue-bodied earthenware, 1875/1900-?1940. 1 sherd, 8 g.

Church Lane

Quantification

- 1.3.5 The medieval and post-medieval pottery assemblage from Church Lane comprised 58 sherds with a total weight of 383 g. One sherd (35 g) was early post-medieval, and five sherds (23 g) dated from the 19th century. The rest of the group (52 sherds, 325 g) comprised medieval wares. Most appear to have been redeposited in later contexts, with only four sherds stratified. The range of fabrics present indicates that the main period of medieval activity took place in the mid-late 13th-14th centuries. The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context is shown in Table 2.

Provenance

- 1.3.6 All but two of the medieval sherds were found in topsoil and subsoil contexts (500, 501, 502, 525 and 527) with the result that the entire assemblage was highly fragmented, and abraded to a greater or lesser degree. The remaining two sherds were found in the primary and upper fill of ditch 505, the only feature which may be medieval in date. Because of the poor contexts in which the medieval and post-medieval pottery was found it is impossible to provide a refined chronology other than to suggest that the medieval activity was largely limited to the mid/late 13th – 14th centuries.

Comparative Material and Potential for Further Work

- 1.3.7 All the wares are well-known in the area, although little has been published. Although the pottery is not in primary context, and is of little significance in terms of the interpretation of the site, it is nonetheless of some interest in terms of the ceramic chronology of the area.

East of Station Road

Quantification and Provenance

- 1.3.8 The post-Roman pottery assemblage from East of Station Road comprised ten sherds with a total weight of 226 g. All the post-Roman pottery was post-medieval, and dateable to the 18th century or later apart from a single residual medieval sherd. The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context is shown in Table 5.
- 1.3.9 A single residual and heavily abraded medieval sherd aside, all the post-Roman pottery was post-medieval, and dateable to the 18th century or later, with most dateable to the 19th or 20th centuries. All the post-medieval sherds were unabraded, suggesting that they had been subject to little post-depositional disturbance. Apart from a small number of unstratified sherds, it was all found in the primary fill of ditch 1204=1324 where it may have become deposited as a result of some local disturbance.

Potential for Further Work

- 1.3.10 The post-Roman pottery from this site is of little significance in terms both of the interpretation of the site and the CTRL research aims.

Acknowledgements

- 1.3.11 Grateful thanks go to John Cotter and Nigel McPherson-Grant of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust for their kind help in identifying and dating this material.

Bibliography

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Table 1: Church Lane - summary of Prehistoric and late Iron Age and Roman pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
500	10	162	MBA, IA	large cordoned sherd from MBA Bucket Urn, also IA (MLIA?) including everted rim
501	24	105	MBA, LIA, Roman	residual MBA
502	2	20	MBA	MBA bucket urn, flint fabric
509	9	62	MBA	MBA bucket urn sherds, flint fabrics
512	10	76	MBA	MBA bucket urn sherds, flint fabrics
525	5	16	MBA, MIA?	possibly residual MBA
527	12	56	MBA, LIA-AD 70	residual MBA
532	1	1	?	
Total	73	498		

Table 2: Church Lane - summary of medieval and post-medieval pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Date	Comments (CAT fabric series codes)
500	34	201	19thC?	M38A, M38B, M40B, M1, LPM7BJ
501	13	60	19thC?	M38B, M40B, LPM7BJ
502	1	12	1225/50 – 1400	M38B
506	1	2	1225/50 – 1400	M38B
507	1	4	1200/25 - 1400	M40B
525	1	6	1200/25 - 1400	M40B
527	7	98	M16thC	M38A, M38B, M40B, M1, PM1
Total	58	383		

Table 3: East of Station Road: summary of late Iron Age and Roman pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments (CAT fabric series codes)
unstrat	2	11	LIA-AD 70+	unstratified, B2 jar
1006	1	5	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1010	5	15	AD 120-AD 150	R42 DR 18/31
1014	1	3	AD 130-AD 250	R14 pie dish
1016	4	10	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jat sherd
1021	1	13	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar sherd
1116	6	3	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1118	1	8	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1211	1	6	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1215	1	4	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1220	1	2	LIA-AD 70+	B2
1300	4	10	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar sherd
1307	2	11	AD 55-150	R65 flagon
1325	1	11	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1330	11	59	AD 70-100	R42 Dr 35, R16, R17, 2 sherds from soil sample 19
1338	3	6	early Roman	early Roman, R109 sherds
1345	1	1	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1346	1	6	AD 50-100	B2 jar, R16
1350	2	2	LIA-AD 50	B1 sherds
1353	1	5	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar sherds
1371	1	65	LIA-AD 70+	B2.1
1379	1	3	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1382	3	13	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar sherds
1386	1	3	LIA-AD 70+	B2 closed form
1618	1	3	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
1621	1	1	Roman	R17 sherd
1710	1	1	LIA?	
1726	2	39	LIA-AD 70+	B1 corded jar
5011	3	7	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar sherd
5019	10	86	LIA-AD 70+	B2.1 bead rim
6000	6	82	LIA-AD 70+	B2.1 jar
6004	97	617	AD 40-70	B2 bead rim jar, C-B plate, bowls etc.
6005	3	35	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar foot ring
6007	44	295	AD 40-70	B2 bead rim flange
6010	2	21	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar sherd
6028	2	13	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
6030	1	3	LIA-AD 50	B1 jar sherd
6031	3	30	LIA-AD 70	B2 bead rim
6032	1	9	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
7004	2	28	LIA-AD 70+	B2.1 jar
7008	3	10	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
7011	2	8	LIA-RO	B2 jar
7022	16	67	LIA-AD 70	B2 bead rim
7025	1	4	LIA-AD 50	B1
7030	1	3	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
7034	6	8	LIA-AD 50	B1 jar
7036	1	27	LIA-AD 70	B2 bead rim
8000	5	43	LIA-AD 70+	B2 jar
9005	2	5	LIA-AD 50	B1 jar
Total	272	1720		

Table 4: East of Station Road - summary of main assemblages of late Iron Age and Roman pottery by phase

Phase	Main locations	Spot date	No. of contexts	Count	Weight
1	Ditches 5012, 6011, 7004, 7009, 7012, 7020, 7031, 9004, 1007, 1017, 1117, 1219, 1324, 1333, 1341, 1352, 1381, 1616, 1711, Pit 1349, Channel deposits	Late Iron Age - AD 70+	37	243	1591
2	Ditches 1011, 1015, 1326, 1331, 1337, 1358	AD 70 - 200+	9	26	117
Total			46	269	1708

Table 5: East of Station Road: summary of post-medieval pottery

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Date	Comments (CAT fabric series codes)
600	3	14	18/19thC	EM3A, PM38
1332	7	220	20thC?	PM1, PM5, LPM5, LPM10, LPM15D
Total	10	234		