APPENDIX 1 - CERAMICS

1.1 Assessment of Late Iron Age and Roman Pottery

by Malcolm Lyne

Introduction

1.1.1 The small assemblages of late Iron Age and Roman pottery recovered from the five areas covered in this assessment report are discussed individually by areas below. The methodology used in assessing each was the same. The recovery and study of the pottery was undertaken in accordance with the Fieldwork Event Aims (see Section 2.2). In particular the pottery is used to assist in dating and characterising the deposits from which it was recovered.

Methodology

1.1.2 All of the pottery assemblages were subjected to general sherd count, weighing and spot-dating. None of the assemblages were considered suitable for more detailed quantification because of their small size.

1.1.3 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 artificial illumination source. Fabrics were classified using the Canterbury Archaeological Trust's codings where applicable (Macpherson-Grant *et al* 1995).

Hurst Wood

Introduction, Quantification and Provenance

1.1.4 This site produced just 10 Iron Age and early Roman sherds of pottery (27 g) from five burnt pit contexts (Table 15). The sherds are very comminuted and comprise five middle to late Iron Age calcined-flint tempered chips from burnt pit 27, two similar fragments from burnt pit 49 and another from burnt pit 143. A further calcined flint tempered sherd was present in the topsoil and a fragment possibly from an early Roman Hoo flagon came from burnt pit 46.

Potential for Further Work and Conservation

1.1.5 The comminuted nature of the sherds and the fact that they are all from the upper fills of the features suggests that they are residual in features which could be charcoal-burners' clamp bases of much later date. The material may have been raked up with the soil used to smother the clamps. The citing of parallels would be invidious and all of the sherds could be discarded after cataloguing.

East of Newlands

Introduction

1.1.6 A few sherds of Roman pottery were recovered during the watching brief and a few more from a trench excavated across a suspected hollow way thought to be of Roman date.

Quantification

1.1.7 The watching brief yielded 1 sherd (8 g) of pottery from a single context (Table 16); the excavation produced 21 more (89 g) from the fills of the possible Roman hollow

way (Table 16). The latter material is very comminuted and abraded. Five more sherds came from the backfill of the MOLAS trial trench.

Provenance

1.1.8 The putative Roman hollow way produced 22 sherds of 1st to 2nd century pottery. A fragment from a South Gaulish Samian Dr.33 cup (*c* AD 43-110) was recovered from the top fill of the feature during the watching brief. Fifteen abraded fragments from a jar in 'Belgic' grog-tempered fabric B2 and a rim sherd from a jar of Monaghan's Type 4A2.2 (1987; *c* AD 110-200) were recovered from the upper fill of the trackway during the excavation, as were two ground-up pellets of prehistoric pottery. The sherds are greatly abraded and do not provide very good dating evidence, although the absence of any later material supports a broadly late Iron Age or Roman date for the feature.

Conservation

1.1.9 No further conservation is required. The Dr.33 cup fragment and other rim sherds from the road should be retained but the more abraded pieces can be discarded.

Comparative Material

1.1.10 The small amounts of Roman pottery and the poor condition of the sherds makes any search for published parallels pointless. All that can be said is that the fabric breakdown of the assemblage is fairly typical for this part of Kent.

Potential for Further Work

1.1.11 The potential for the pottery from the site to contribute to the aims of the CTRL project appears to be very limited, other than providing the only available dating evidence for the road.

Newlands Stud to East of Pluckley Road

1.1.12 Pit 66 produced just nine tiny flakes from closed forms in 'Belgic' grog-tempered B2 fabric (Table 17). The sherds are all oxidised to a greater or lesser degree and two of the fragments have external combed decoration. In the absence of rim or other diagnostic sherds, the closest date range that it is possible to arrive at is *c* 75 BC - AD 100+. The only way in which such a tiny assemblage can contribute to the aims of the CTRL project is to confirm the late Iron Age/early Roman date of the activity on the site.

Leacon Lane

Introduction

1.1.13 Small amounts of comminuted and abraded late Iron Age and early Roman potsherds were recovered from the excavation of pits on the site. Larger amounts were recovered unstratified from subsoil contexts. Quantities are insufficient for anything other than the dating of features.

Quantifications

1.1.14 The site yielded 48 sherds (132 g) of late Iron Age-early Roman pottery from seven excavated features (Table 18). A further 125 sherds were recovered unstratified from the subsoil.

Provenance.

Late Iron Age - AD.70

1.1.15 Nineteen sherds of heavily comminuted 'Belgic' grog-tempered pottery of this date were recovered from the upper fills of Pits 20, 26 and 29. A further 16 sherds came from the fill of Ditch 39. All of the latter were from a single small jar in grog-tempered fabric B2.1, which was missing its rim.

c AD 70-200

1.1.16 Ten sherds of this date were present in the fills of the intercutting pits 53 and 69 (Contexts 54 and 70): the eight sherds from the earlier Pit 53 include a fragment from a second-century Thameside greyware jar and the two from the later Pit 69 comprise a sherd in 'Belgic' fabric B2 and a piece from a small jar in the sandy over-fired fabric LR2.2 which could be as late as the 3rd century.

Conservation

1.1.17 No further conservation is required. The stratified material should be kept but that from the subsoil can be discarded.

Comparative Material

1.1.18 The small amounts of stratified pottery and the lack of rims (only one rim sherd was present) severely limits the search for published parallels. It can be said, however, that the assemblage fabric make-ups are broadly what one might expect for this area of Kent.

Potential for Further Work

1.1.19 The potential for the pottery from the site to contribute to the aims of the CTRL project is severely limited. It indicates occupation from the Late Iron Age until AD 200 or slightly later and has some limited application in determining the changing patterns of pottery supply to the site.

Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottages

Introduction, Quantification and Provenance

1.1.20 The four pits yielded 61 sherds (953 g) of pottery between them of which 17 (564 g) are large fresh fragments from the lower part of a jar in 'Belgic' B2.1 fabric found in pit 5 (Table 19). This feature also produced nine other sherds of late Iron Age-AD 60 character, including a fragment in glauconitic sand tempered fabric B9.1. The presence of a chip of Roman tile does, however, indicate that the pit was dug after the Roman Conquest and is unlikely to be earlier than *c* AD 60.

1.1.21 Pit 1 is probably of similar date and produced five sherds, including one each in Upchurch fineware fabrics R16 and R17. The other pit assemblages are less closely datable but are of late Iron Age character.

Potential for Further Work

1.1.22 An interesting feature of the assemblages from Pits 1 and 10 is the presence of small fragments of salt container in fabric BER15 from salterns on the coast of East Kent. This adds to our knowledge of salt trade within the region during the late Iron Age and pre-Flavian periods. Apart from this, the very small pottery assemblages contribute little to the aims of the CTRL project other than in the fields of settlement

pattern and pottery distribution within the area. The quoting of parallels is impossible because of the lack of vessel rims and other diagnostic forms.

Bibliography

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Monaghan, J, 1987 *Upchurch and Thameside Roman pottery*, BAR Brit Ser 173

1.2 Assessment of the Post-Roman Pottery

by Paul Blinkhorn

Introduction

1.2.1 Small assemblages of medieval and post-medieval pottery were found at East of Newlands and Leacon Lane. In both cases they were recovered from topsoil or subsoil contexts. The recovery and study of the pottery was undertaken in accordance with the Fieldwork Event Aims (see Section 2.2). In particular the pottery is used to assist in dating and characterising the deposits from which it was recovered.

Methodology

1.2.2 The pottery was examined visually, and sherd counts and weights recorded. The codes and chronologies of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust Fabric series for the county of Kent (Cotter forthcoming a) and b)) were used.

East of Newlands

1.2.3 The post-Roman pottery assemblage comprised a single small sherd of Red Earthenware (2 g) from the topsoil (8; Table 20). This material is categorized as fabric PM1 in the Canterbury Archaeological Trust Fabric series for the county of Kent (Cotter forthcoming a and b), and dated 1550-1800. This single sherd has no potential in terms of the CTRL research aims or of the interpretation of the site and may be discarded.

Leacon Lane

1.2.4 Just seven sherds (33 g) of abraded medieval pottery were found on the site in contexts which also contained Iron Age and Roman pottery. The following fabric types were noted:

- M38B, N or W Kent fine sandy ware, 1225/50 – 1400. 5 sherds, 20 g.
- M40B. Ashford/Wealden sandy ware, ?1200/25 – 1400. 2 sherds, 13 g.

1.2.5 The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 21.

1.2.6 The assemblage comprised two relatively large groups of abraded Iron Age and/or Romano-British pottery with a few sherds of medieval wares mixed in. The medieval pottery was all found in subsoil contexts. The range of ware types indicate small-scale activity during the 13th or 14th centuries. This material has little potential except as evidence for activity in the general area in this period.

Acknowledgements

1.2.7 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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1.3 Assessment of the Ceramic Building Material and Fired Clay

by Susan Pringle

Introduction

1.3.1 A small amount of fired clay and ceramic building material, totalling 0.376 kg, was recovered from three sites: Hurst Wood, East of Newlands and Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottages. It was hoped that this material would provide evidence for activities and structures, and their date.

Methodology

1.3.2 All of the ceramic building material and fired clay was examined. The fragments have been counted and weighed, and notes made of the most distinctive fabrics and any unusual inclusions. Exceptionally reduced (blackened) or vitrified material has been noted. The presence of original surfaces, imprints and tempering has been noted. No analytical work has been carried out on the fabrics.

Quantification and Provenance

Ceramic Building Materials

East of Newlands

1.3.3 Ceramic building material was found only at East of Newlands. Five fragments of peg or plain tile (0.094 kg) came from the backfill of a test trench excavated during the evaluation (Table 23). The tile fragments, of which two conjoin, are in a calcareous orange-red fabric, and have medium to coarse moulding sand. Part of one round nail or peg hole is present. No glaze was noted. This type of tile is hard to date as the form changes little over the centuries, but, on the evidence of the moulding sand and the shape of the nail hole, these could be as early as the 15th century.

Fired clay

Hurst Wood

1.3.4 A total of 40 small, abraded fragments (0.022 kg) of sooted and reduced daub is present, from the fill of tree-throw hole 11 (Table 22). Most are abraded, but the largest fragment contains quartz sand which seems to be worn. The material may be the remains of an earth floor, although trampling during excavation must be a possibility.

East of Newlands

1.3.5 Seven fragments of fired clay (0.009 kg) were found in two contexts at East of Newlands (Table 23). All were in a sandy fabric, but that from context 3005, the upper fill of the trackway, is so heavily vitrified that it resembles slag. It may originally have been iron-working debris reused for road-surfacing, as at the Bardown Romano-British ironworking site at Wadhurst, Sussex (Cleere 1970, 8-9), although here it was found in the upper fill and thus does not appear to have formed the original surface of the trackway. The remaining fired clay was found in a subsoil context (3002).

Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottages

1.3.6 The total weight of the twelve fragments of fired clay is 0.251 kg (Table24). Most is undistinguished orange, sandy daub, which occurs in pits 5, 9 and 10, but two fragments of fired clay (from contexts 3 and 6 in pits 1 and 9 respectively) have overfired or vitrified surfaces.

Conservation

1.3.7 Further analysis may be needed on some of the material, so it should not be placed in long term storage until this has been carried out. The condition of the material is fairly abraded, but there is no risk to its preservation. There are no special requirements for long term storage, other than the use of robust packaging materials and a dry environment.

1.3.8 At this stage, all the material should be retained. In the future, the majority can be discarded. Material to be retained includes the fired clay which has features of interest and is likely to be of assistance in the interpretation of funerary or industrial practices, or to provide useful comparanda with similar material from other sites.

Comparative Material

1.3.9 Since these small quantities of material derive from contexts which are generally of little archaeological interest, little would be gained by comparative analyses.

Potential for Further Work

1.3.10 The tile at East of Newlands was found in the backfill of an earlier trial trench and thus has no potential in terms of the interpretation of the site. The fired clay from the same site is from the upper fill of the trackway and the topsoil and thus also contributes little to our understanding of the site. The fired clay at Hurst Wood was found in a tree-throw hole and is not obviously related to the function of the pits. It has little potential. The fired clay from Westwell Leacon and Leda cottages is of little intrinsic interest, and has no potential for further analysis; as it is suggestive of a nearby structure the information contained in this assessment should be taken into account in any further analytical work on the site.

Bibliography

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Table 15: Hurst Wood: summary of LIA and Roman pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
1	1	4	LIA	
28	5	11	M-LIA	crude flint tempered
47	1	4	*c* AD 70-150	?Flagon
52	2	7	MIA	
143	1	1	M-LIA	crude flint temper

Table 16: East of Newlands: summary of LIA and Roman pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
3004	5	5	LIA- AD 70+	abraded and cominuted
3005	21	8	LIA-2nd C AD	abraded and cominuted; rim from Monaghan jar type 4A2.2
22	35	164	LIA	LIA - 1 sherd + MIA saucepan pot
2	73	462	MBA-LBA bucket urn	
18	1	8	AD 43 - 100+	South Gaulish R42 Dr 33?

Table 17: Newlands Stud to East of Pluckley Road: LIA and Roman pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
65	9	13	LIA-AD 100+	oxidised fabric B2 + combed decoration

Table 18: Leacon Lane: summary of LIA and Roman pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
22	6	31	LIA-AD 70+	
43	16	51	LIA-AD 70+	
2	36	139	LIA-AD 70+	also medieval
3	90	471	LIA-AD 200+	also medieval
21	5	9	LIA-AD 70+	
28	3	9	LIA-AD 70+	
31	12	27	LIA-AD 70+	
52	2	2	LIA-AD 70+	
54	8	32	late 1st C - 2nd C	
70	2	2	late 1st C - 2nd C	

Table 19: Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottages: late Iron Age and Roman pottery

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
4	17	195	LIA-AD 50+	fabrics B2, B2.1 and BER 15 salt container frags
6	20	493	LIA	fabrics B2.1 and B9.1
7	8	23	LIA	B2 and B9.1 sherds
12	2	6	LIA-AD 50+	very abraded
2	4	4	AD 40-70	also M-LIA
11	9	66	LIA-50+	includes B2 fabric and BER15, East Kent salt container frags.

Table 20: East of Newlands: post-medieval pottery

Context	No sherds	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
8	1	2	PM	fabric PM1, Red Earthenware; date range 1550-1800

Table 21: Leacon Lane: medieval pottery

Context	No sherds	Weight (g)	Period	Comments
2	2	7	MD	M38B; date range M13-14? century
3	4	18	MD	M38B, M40B; date range M13-14? century
72	1	8	MD	M40B; date range E13-14? century
Total	***7***	***33***		***M38B, M40B***

Table 22: Hurst Wood: summary of fired clay

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Type	Comments
4	40	22	Fired clay	Small abraded daub frags, all reduced/sooted. Largest looks worn - ?from earth floor.

Table 23: East of Newlands: summary of fired clay and ceramic building material

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Type	Period	Early date	Late date	Comments
3002	5	2	Fired clay				Sandy fabric, some sooted/reduced areas.
3004	5	94	Peg tile	MD; PM	1150	1700	2 conjoin; orange-red calc fabric; med to coarse mldg sand; unglazed. Part round n/hole.
3005	2	7	Slag?				Vitrified and ?iron-rich - vitrified daub or slag.

Table24: Westwell Leacon and Leda Cottages: summary of fired clay

Context	Count	Weight (g)	Type	Comments
3	1	80	Fired clay	Vitrified surface
4	1	14	Fired clay	Orange sandy daub; flat surface
4	3	7	Fired clay	Whitish x 2; orange x 1
6	1	14	Fired clay	Orange sandy - vitrified surface?
12	2	136	Fired clay	Orange sandy daub