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**Scan assessment of the clay tobacco pipes from the watching -brief stage, Crossrail, Soho (XRX10 WB)**

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***Introduction and methodology***

The Watching Brief stage of the excavation produced a total of 185 pieces of clay pipe weighing 1367 g. from 53 contexts. This brings the overall site total to 937 pieces weighing 6514 g. from 149 contexts. Only the WB material is reported on here (for the main assemblage of 752 pieces, see elsewhere), but a few additional comments on marked pieces from the main assemblage are provided below. These have been spot-dated and given a basic catalogue. The catalogue records, per context, the quantity of stem, bowl and mouth fragments, the overall sherd count, weight, and comments on condition and any makers' marks or decoration present. The comments field has been expanded in this instance to include additional information on parallels and any other observations worthy of note. Pottery spot-dates from the WB have been added for comparison; these show that some of the material is residual - mainly in the small number of contexts containing 19th-century pottery. The pipe assemblage (like the pottery) spans the 17th and early 18th centuries. No 19th-century pipes were recovered from the WB stage.

***Summary of the assemblage***

In total there are 40 pieces of pipe bowl, 5 pieces of mouth and 141 stem pieces. This brings the overall site total to 277 pieces of pipe bowl, 15 pieces of mouth and 646 stem pieces. The pipes are in a variable condition but on the whole are fairly fresh, with many complete or nearly complete bowls present and also some fairly long stem pieces. One pipe bowl has 150 mm. of stem still attached (5541). As with the main assemblage most pipes, however fresh, are stained to varying degrees with a brown cassy deposit typical of cess pits and some are also coated in a limey or sandy deposit. The maximum number of pipe fragments from any WB context is 16 (Context 5570); most produced just a handful of pieces.

Most of the pipe bowls can be reasonably closely paralleled with those published in Oswald's simplified national typology (Oswald 1975, fig. 3G-4G). The earliest bowls (three examples) date to c 1640-1670; three others to c 1660-1680. Most date to c 1680-1710 (25 examples) and only two to c 1700-1740. In general the dating emphasis is the same as the main assemblage except the latter contains a few earlier and a few later pipe bowls and stems. No pipe bowls from the WB bear makers' marks. Of the few makers' marks present in the main assemblage none has been positively identified as yet. These latter include one or two 19th-century pipe bowls with spurs marked 'GS' and 'IC'. Several 19th-century London pipemakers with these initials are, however, recorded (Atkinson and Oswald 1969, 233, 218). Broadly speaking, the pipes are what one might expect from a London assemblage with a 17th- and early 18th-century dating emphasis.

***Bibliography***

Atkinson, D. and Oswald, A. 1969 'London clay tobacco pipes', *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* XXXII, 171-227.

Oswald, A, 1975 *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist*, BAR 14.