

Assessment of the finds from the Sharpness to Lydney pipeline (SHL02)

Finds from the Sharpness to Lydney pipeline were submitted for identification and assessment. They came from 12 separate plots and ranged in date from the prehistoric to the post-medieval periods. Most of the finds were potsherds but clay tobacco pipes (CTP), worked flint, lead alloy, post-medieval glass (PMGL) and stone (Table 1).

Table 1

Sitecode	POTTERY	CTP	FLINT	LEAD	PMGL	STONE	Grand Total
shl02 0/2		3					3
shl02 0/3	5	1				1	7
shl02 1/4	41		1		1	3	46
shl02 2/5	19		1		1		21
SHL02 2/7	1						1
shl02 3/11	1						1
shl02 3/12	4						4
shl02 3/13	16						16
shl02 3/14	8	2					10
shl02 3/15	21			1		1	23
SHL02 3/8	4				1		5
shl02 6/2			1				1
Grand Total	123	3	3	1	4	4	138

Summary by Site

shl02 0/2

Three fragments of post-medieval pottery, ranging in date from the 17th to the late 18th centuries, were recovered.

shl02 0/3

Pottery of medieval and post-medieval date was recovered. The medieval material is heavily abraded whereas the post-medieval pottery, dating to the 17th or 18th centuries, is not. A fragment of post-medieval glass phial, probably of 18th or 19th century date, and a clay pipe stem, whose bore diameter indicates a 17th century date, were also found.

shl02 1/4

The earliest find from this site is a retouched flint blade which can only be broadly dated between the Mesolithic and early Bronze Age. The next earliest material is medieval pottery. There are 23 sherds,

coming from 13 vessels. Three of these are Forest of Dean sandstone-tempered ware jars, of 12th or 13th century date and the remainder are from various sources and of later 13th to 15th century date.

Eighteen sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered. They range in date from the late 16th to the mid 17th-century. Finally, a single sherd of Pearl ware, dating to the later 18th or 19th centuries was present together with a fragment from a tall dark green wine bottle of mid 18th or 19th-century date.

Three fragments of unburnt coal were recovered but cannot be independently dated.

shl02 2/5

An undated but probably prehistoric flint flake was recovered from this site, which also produced a single sherd of Roman pottery.

Eleven medieval pots sherds were found. They range in date from the 12th/13th century to the late 13th to 15th centuries but unlike SHL02 1/4 the assemblage contains no specifically late medieval wares and so may have a cut-off date in the mid 14th century.

Six sherds of post-medieval/early modern pottery were found. These are likely to date to the 18th or 19th centuries, indicating a sizable hiatus, from perhaps the later 14th to the late 17th or later century. A fragment of pantile is also likely to be of 18th or 19th century date. Finally, a fragment of clear window glass of modern date (i.e. 19th/20th century) was present.

SHL02 2/7

A single fragment of Roman pottery was recovered.

shl02 3/11

A single fragment of Roman pottery was recovered.

shl02 3/12

Four fragments of Roman pottery were recovered.

shl02 3/13

The site produced three abraded sherds of Roman pottery, 12 sherds of medieval pottery, mostly abraded, and a sherd of modern pottery. The medieval pottery ranges in date from the 12th/13th centuries to the late 14th/15th century.

shl02 3/14

This site produced two sherds of medieval pottery, both of which are probably late medieval (perhaps into the 16th century), 7 sherds of post-medieval pottery (17th/18th century) plus one 17th-century clay pipe stem and one 19th-century one.

shI02 3/15

This site produced two sherds of medieval pottery, of 12th/13th and later 13th to 15th century date. It also produced 16 sherds of post-medieval pottery and 2 post-medieval pantile fragments. The post-medieval pottery includes both 17th and 18th-century types. There is a single fragment of early modern pottery (transfer printed willow pattern) and a fragment of burnt coal measure shale. Finally, a thin rectangular lead sheet stamped (?) with the number 7 was recovered. The date and interpretation of this object are both unknown but the character of the number suggests a post-medieval date.

SHL02 3/8

Two fragments of early modern pottery, probably of 19th century date, were recovered from this site. A fragment of clear window glass is unusual in that it is from the centre of a spun pane although the glass itself is colourless and appears to be of later 18th or 19th-century date, by which time spun panes were rarely produced.

shI02 6/2

A fragment of a flint blade, broadly datable between the Mesolithic and early Bronze Ages was recovered from this site.

Description

Pottery

Roman

Ten sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered. All were somewhat abraded and some sherds more noticeably than others. The most common ware present was Severn Valley Ware, produced from the later 1st to the 4th centuries. None of these sherds had any diagnostic features which would allow a closer dating. Two sherds of a micaceous greyware (Gloucester TF5) were found. That from 3/12 is the profile of a 'dog dish', probably of later 3rd or 4th-century date. A rim sherd of a Dorset Black Burnished ware jar of 2nd/3rd century date was found at 3/11. Finally, two sherds of Samian ware and one Oxfordshire colour-coated ware bowl were recovered. The sherds from 3/12 are larger and fresher than the remainder and a probably evidence for occupation on or near the site rather than a background manuring scatter which probably accounts for the other finds.

Medieval

Fifty fragments of medieval pottery were recorded (Table 2). The earliest type present is Forest of Dean sandstone-tempered ware (FOD). This was not present in late 11th/early 12th-century deposits at Chepstow but occurred on the site of Lydney castle in the early/mid 12th century. By the later 13th century it had ceased to be traded to either Chepstow or Gloucester but there is evidence from sites in Lydney to suggest that it was still being made into the high medieval period for local consumption, although some of these later vessels were glazed and/or wheelthrown whereas the earlier ware is handmade and unglazed, as are the sherds from this pipeline. A single sherd of a type used in Gloucester in the 12th/13th century, Gloucester TF43, was found at site 3/13. These are the only medieval wares found which might date before the middle of the 13th century.

Late 13th to 15th-century pottery of several wares was found. These are Bristol Redcliffe ware (BR), Hereford A7B ware, most of which was probably locally-produced in the Forest of Dean (HERA7B) and Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAM).

Two late medieval to early post-medieval wares were present: Minety ware and Malvern Chase glazed ware. Both wares were being produced in the later 13th to early 14th centuries but become much more common in the later medieval period.

Much of this medieval pottery is abraded or even very abraded and probably the result of manuring. The exception is Site 1/4 which produced sherds of 7 unabraded vessels.

Table 2

Sitecode	FOD	GLOS43	BR	HERA7B	MEDX	OXAM	MINETY	MALV	Grand Total
shl02 0/3	1			1				1	3
shl02 1/4	13			4				3	20
shl02 2/5	3			7			1		11
shl02 3/13	4		1 2	2	1			1 1	12
shl02 3/14								1 1	2
shl02 3/15	1		1						2
Grand Total	22		1 3	14	1		1	2 6	50

Post-medieval

Thirty-eight sherds of post-medieval pottery spanning the 16th to the 18th centuries was recovered from the pipeline.

Fourteen sherds were of types which can be dated to the 16th or 17th centuries. These are Cistercian ware (CSTN), Frechen stoneware (FREC), Hereford A7D (HERA7D), Malvern Chase pink ware (MALVP) and Stroat ware. These wares come from four sites: 0/2, 1/4, 3/14 and 3/15.

A further five sherds are of fabrics which were used over a longer period of time, namely South Somerset (SSOM) and Ashton Keynes (AK) wares.

The remaining wares are of types which, in this part of the Severn Valley, are likely to be of later 17th or 18th-century date. These come from six sites: 0/2, 0./3, 1/4, 2/5, 3/14 and 3/15. These wares are Andalusian coarseware, a little-recognised imported coarseware from the Malaga area of Southern Spain (ANDCO), Cranham ware, North Devon gravel-free and gravel-tempered wares (NDF and NDGT), Refined redware (REFR) and Staffordshire coarseware (STCOAR).

The ANDCO vessel is an unusual find and the only other examples known to the author are from the Eaton Grey to Minety Pipeline (Sitecode EGM00 Plot 29), Southampton and the City of London (Vince 1982).

Early Modern

Only 9 sherds of late 18th-century or later date were recovered from the pipeline, from 6 separate sites.

Ceramic Building Material

Eleven fragments of ceramic building material were recovered, one of high medieval date, two of late or early post-medieval date and eight dating to the later 17th or 18th century. The medieval tiles are ridge tiles, from the Glamorgan and Malvern Chase industries, both of which types were present at Chepstow (Vince 1991). Several of the tiles are Staffordshire Coarseware pantiles with black glazed upper surfaces. Such tiles are not common finds in the Severn Valley and probably all come from one structure (site 2/5).

Clay Tobacco Pipe

Two fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered. On the basis of their stem bore diameters one dated to the 17th century and the other to the 19th century.

Flint

Three fragments of flint were recovered. All were struck from nodules in which the cortex remains and is relatively fresh. In other words, they were struck from mined flint or at least from unweathered flint from the surface of the outcrop rather than from detrital pebbles. Two of the three pieces were retouched blades but this high proportion of 'tools' to waste is insignificant in such a small collection.

None of the pieces is closely datable.

Lead alloy

A single lead alloy object was recovered (as described above). The object, a thin sheet stamped with the number 7, is apparently complete and has no means of attachment although it is likely to have been a label or tag. The most likely interpretation of this piece is that it is of recent (18th/20th century) date and used in an agricultural context, either as part of a piece of machinery or on the farm.

Post-medieval glassware

Four pieces of post-medieval or modern glass were recovered. All appear to be of later 18th century or later date. The absence of earlier glass, even from sites with evidence for 16th to early 18th-century activity, is probably due to the fragility and chemical instability of glass of this period.

Stone

The only stone objects recovered from the pipeline are related to the use of coal as fuel. The three fragments from site 1/4 are unburnt. Given the lack of early modern material from this site a post-medieval date is possible, but unprovable. The fragment from site 3/15 is a burnt piece of Coal Measures shale, presumably accidentally included in a consignment of coal. Again, the lack of early modern or later material from the site might suggest a post-medieval date.

Bibliography

Vince, A. G. (1982) "Medieval and post-medieval Spanish Pottery from the City of London." in I. J. C. Freestone and T. Potter, eds., *Current research in ceramics: Thin-section studies. The British Museum Seminar 1980*, Brit Mus Occas Pap 32 135-44.

Vince, A. G. (1991) "The Ridge Tiles." in R. Shoesmith, ed., *Excavations at Chepstow 1973-1974*, Cambrian Archaeological Monographs 4 The Cambrian Archaeological Association, Bangor, 83-91.

Appendix One

Sitecode	Context	class	cname	phase	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Description	Part condition
shl02	1/4	3	ceramicCSTN	eppot		CUP	1	1		BS fresh
shl02	1/4	89	ceramicFREC	eppot			1	1		BS fresh
shl02	0/2	2	ceramicCREA	emod		PLATE	1	1		B fresh
shl02	1/4	3	ceramicFREC	eppot			1	1		BS fresh
shl02	0/3	41	ceramicMALV	mpot		JAR	1	1	VABR	BS vabr
shl02	3/14	69	ceramicANDCO	lppot	A A SCHIST >4.0MM	JAR	1	1		BS fresh
shl02	2/5	39	ceramicCRANHAML	lppot		BOWL	1	1		BS fresh
shl02	2/5	32	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	2	2	GLAZED;VABR	BS vabr
shl02	0/3	7	PMGL	PMGL	pmgl DK GREEN	PHIAL	1	1	WORN BASE;LOOKS 18TH/19TH CBS	fresh
shl02	3/15	82	ceramicFREC	eppot			3	3		BS fresh
shl02	1/4	3	ceramicPEAR	emod		PLATE	1	1		B fresh
shl02	1/4	3	STONESTONE	emod	COAL	FUEL	3	3	NO SIGN OF BURNING	BS fresh
shl02	2/5	29	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	2	2	GLAZED;VABR	BS vabr
shl02	1/4	83	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	10	10	MODERN BREAKS	BS fresh
shl02	1/4	3	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	2	2	SOOTED EXT	BS fresh
shl02	2/5	23	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	1	WIDE STRAP HANDLE WITH DIAG SLASHES;VABR	BS vabr
shl02	1/4	44	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	1	HORIZ WHITE STRIP;DARK GL EXT	BS fresh
shl02	1/4	3	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	1	INT GL	BS fresh

shl02 1/4 3	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	1FLAT BASE SHERD	BS	fresh
shl02 2/5 26	ceramicFOD	mpot	A SST AND RQ SAND >1.0MM	JAR	1	1OR RPOT?;VABR	R	vabr
shl02 1/4 84	ceramicMALV	mpot		JUG	1	1SMALL VESSEL;KT BASE ANGLE	B	fresh
shl02 1/4 18	ceramicMALV	cbm		RIDGE	1	1THIN PLAIN GL	BS	fresh
shl02 1/4 16	ceramicMALV	cbm		RIDGE	1	1THIN PLAIN GL	BS	fresh
shl02 1/4 13	ceramicMALV	mpot		CIST	1	1OVAL FOOT;INT CUGL	BS	fresh
shl02 3/13 58	ceramicBR	mpot		JUG	1	1VERT RED APP;VABR	BS	vabr
shl02 3/13 59	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	1VABR;PLAIN GL	BS	vabr
shl02 3/13 51	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	1VABR;CUGL	BS	vabr
shl02 3/13 54	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1VABR	BS	vabr
shl02 0/3 11	CTP CTP	ctp		PIPE	1	117TH C BORE DIAM	BS	fresh
shl02 3/14 77	CTP CTP	ctp		PIPE	1	117TH C BORE DIAM	BS	fresh
shl02 1/4 3	ceramicSTROAT	eppot		BOWL	1	1GLAZED INT	BS	fresh
shl02 1/4 3	ceramicSTROAT	eppot		BOWL	1	1GLAZED INT AND EXT	BS	fresh
shl02 3/13 65	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1VABR	BS	vabr
shl02 3/14 61	ceramicSTROAT	eppot		BOWL	1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 0/2 87	ceramicHERA7D	eppot		BOWL	1	HORIZ GROOVES EXT;INT AND 1EXT PLAIN GL	BS	fresh
shl02 1/4 3	PMGL PMGL	pmgl	DK GREEN	BOT	1	1BASE SHERD FROM TALL	BS	fresh

				BOTTLE			
shl02 1/4 85	ceramicPMTIL	cbm	A A Q >0.1MM;S MUSC >0.1MM;S RQ >0.5MM;S OOLITHS >1.0MM;S A FE >1.0MM	BRICK	2	2?MIDDLE/UPPER LIAS?	BS fresh
shl02 0/3 10	ceramicHERA7B	mpot	LIGHT-BODIED;V MICACEOUS	JUG	1	1ABR;PLAIN EXT GL	BS abr
shl02 3/15 82	ceramicHERA7D	eppot		BOWL	1	1	BS fresh
shl02 3/15 82	ceramicHERA7D	eppot		BOWL	1	1	BS fresh
shl02 1/4 90	ceramicMALVP	eppot		BOWL	1	BROWN SLIP INT AND EXT;PLAIN 1GL INT	BS fresh
shl02 1/4 12	FLINT FLINT	flint		BLADE	1	1LONG SIDE	BS fresh
shl02 2/5 31	ceramicOXAM	mpot		JUG	1	1CUGL	BS fresh
shl02 0/3 8	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	1	1ABR	BS abr
shl02 1/4 86	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	1	1ABR	BS abr
shl02 1/4 3	ceramicGLAM	cbm		RIDGE	1	1ABR	BS abr
shl02 2/5 25	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	1GLAZE SPOTS ON BASE	BS fresh
shl02 1/4 3	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	1ABR	BS abr
shl02 2/5 30	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	1	1	B fresh
shl02 2/5 28	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	1	1SOOTED EXT;HM	B fresh
shl02 1/4 3	ceramicMALV	mpot		JAR	1	1ABR;SOOTED EXT	BS abr
shl02 1/4 3	ceramicMALVP	eppot		JAR	1	1BROWN SLIPPED INT	BS fresh
shl02 1/4 14	ceramicMALVP	eppot		JAR	1	1ABR;INTURNED RIM	R abr

shl02 2/5 20	ceramicPMTIL	cbm	A SA FE-COATED Q >.05MM;M CALC AND MICROFOSSILS (INC OSTRACODS?) >0.5MM;S A FE >2.0MM	PANT	1	FLANGED EDGE;BLACK GLAZE;MOULDING SAND ON 1BASE	BS	fresh
shl02 1/4 46	ceramicNDF	lppot		JAR/JUG	1	1INT GL	BS	fresh
shl02 2/5 37	ceramicSTCOAR	cbm		PANT	1	FLANGED EDGE WITH 1CUTOUT;BLACK GLAZED	BS	fresh
shl02 2/5 21	ceramicSTCOAR	cbm		PANT	2	BLACK GLAZED, MOULDED TILE 2WITH MOULDING SAND ON BASE	BS	fresh
shl02 2/5 19	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 2/5 35	PMGL PMGL	pmgl	CLEAR	WIND	1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 2/5 42	FLINT FLINT	flint		FLAKE	1	1	BS	fresh
SHL02 2/7 38	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 3/11 55	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 3/12 50	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 3/12 73	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 3/12 79	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 3/12 80	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1	BS	fresh
shl02 3/13 64	ceramicENGS	emod		JAR	1	MOULDED MARMALADE 1JAR;WHITE GLAZE INT AND EXT	BS	fresh
shl02 3/14 71	ceramicNDF	lppot		PLATE	1	1SGRAFFITO DEC	R	fresh

shl02	2/5	24	ceramicNDGT	lppot		JUG	1	KEELED OVAL-SECTIONED 1HANDLE	H	fresh
shl02	3/14	72	ceramicNDGT	lppot		BOWL	1	1	BS	fresh
shl02	3/14	70	ceramicNDGT	lppot		BOWL	1	1	BS	fresh
shl02	3/13	53	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	1	1	BS	fresh
shl02	3/13	63	ceramicGLOS43	mpot		JAR	1	1LEACHED	BS	fresh
shl02	2/5	27	ceramicHERA7B	mpot		JUG	1	VERT WHITE STRIP UNDER 1GLAZE;ABR	BS	abr
shl02	3/13	88	ceramicBR	mpot		JUG	1	1ABR;CUGL (OXBLOOD)	BS	abr
shl02	3/13	66	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	2	1ABR	BS	abr
shl02	3/13	62	ceramicMEDX	mpot	A RQ >0.5MM IN RED EARTHENWARE;A SA Q >0.5MM;M R WHITE CLAY PELLETS >0.5MM IN CMW	JUG	1	RED EARTHENWARE STRAP HANDLE LUTED ONTO CMW 1BODY;CUGL ON BOTH FACES	BS	fresh
shl02	3/13	60	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	1	1ABR	BS	abr
shl02	3/13	67	ceramicMALV	mpot		JUG	1	1APP WHITE STRIP;ABR	BS	abr
shl02	3/13	68	ceramicMINETY	mpot		JAR	1	EVERTED RIM;SELSLEY 1COMMON TYPE;ABR	R	abr
shl02	3/13	56	ceramicRPOT	rpot			1	1ABR	BS	abr
shl02	75		CTP	CTP	emod	PIPE	1	119TH C BORE DIAM	BS	fresh

3/14										
shl02										
3/14	81	ceramicMALV	mpot		PANC	1	1INT PLAIN GL;16TH C?	B	fresh	
shl02							UNGLAZED;LEACHED;LOOKS			
3/14	78	ceramicMINETY	mpot			1	1LATE MED	BS	fresh	
shl02										
3/15	82	ceramicNDGT	lppot		JUG	1	1	B	fresh	
shl02										
3/15	82	ceramicNDGT	lppot		BOWL	5	5	BS	fresh	
shl02										
3/15	82	ceramicNDGT	lppot		BOWL	1	1	R	fresh	
shl02										
3/15	82	ceramicREFR	lppot		TANK?	1	1TURNED BASE	B	fresh	
shl02 1/4	17	ceramicAK	ppot		BOWL	1	1ABR;INT GL;SHL=3	BS	abr	
shl02 1/4	15	ceramicAK	ppot		BOWL	2	1INT GL;ABR;SHL=3	BS	abr	
shl02 1/4	3	ceramicAK	ppot		BOWL	1	INT GL;ABR;SOOTED AROUND 1BASE;SHL=15	B	abr	
shl02										
3/15	49	ceramicTPW	emod		PLATE	1	1WILLOW PATTERN	BS	fresh	
shl02										
3/15	85	STONESTONE	emod CM SHALE		FUEL	1	FRAGMENT OF BURNT COAL 1MEASURES SHALE	BS	fresh	
shl02										
3/15	76	LEAD LEAD	emod		OBJECT	1	THIN RECTANGULAR PLATE STAMPED "7" IN APPROXIMATE CENTRE. NO SIGNS OF 1ATTACHMENT	BS	fresh	
shl02										
3/15	48	ceramicBR	mpot		JUG	1	1THUMBED FRILL BASE;CUGL;ABRBS	abr		
shl02										
3/15	47	ceramicFOD	mpot		JAR	1	1SOOTED EXT	BS	fresh	

SIDES;CORTEX SURVIVES AT
PERCUSSION END
