

## **A Clay Tobacco Pipe from the Lower Witham Environment Scheme (LWES04)**

### ***Alan Vince***

A single clay tobacco pipe bowl from the Lower Witham Environment Scheme was submitted for identification and assessment.

### **Description**

Context 1303. Clay tobacco pipe bowl with a broken spur and stem. Decorated on either side with relief figures of a male North American Indian. Each figure holds a staff or spear in one hand and an unidentified object in the other (perhaps a pipe of peace?). The seams of the bowl are decorated with leaves.

Such bowls were produced at a number of centres in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and a very similar pipe found in Lincoln is illustrated by Mann (1977, Fig 22.199) where it is dated to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, c.1840-60.

### **Assessment**

There is much to be gained from the study of stray finds of clay tobacco pipes and in this instance the differences between the illustrated Lincoln pipe and the current piece may indicate that they come from different moulds. The bowl should be retained for future study and which point it might be worth illustrating by line drawing or photography.

### **Bibliography**

Mann, J E (1977) *Clay tobacco pipes from excavations in Lincoln 1970-74*. The Archaeology of Lincoln 15-1 London, Council British Archaeol.