

Assessment of the Finds from Clockhouse Brickworks, Capel, Surrey (CCS 05)

Alan Vince

A small collection of modern ceramic building material and a fragment of post-medieval pottery were recovered from archaeological fieldwork carried out by Richard Moore on behalf of Network Archaeology Ltd at the Clockhouse Brickworks, Capel, Surrey (Site Code CCS 05).

Description

Ceramic Building Material

A fragment of unglazed floor tile and a collection of fragments of box flue tile, probably of early 20th-century date, were recovered.

The floor tile is from a square tile, with sides 195mm, which was scored before firing so that it could be snapped into two rectangular tiles. The tile was produced in a fine sanded mould and the sides then trimmed with a knife. The surface is worn with no sign of glaze, which would probably have survived if present.

The fabric is fine-textured, with a fine silty groundmass.

The flue tiles were produced in a mould and their outside surfaces are corrugated. Both inside and outside of the tile has a thin slip, of similar colour to the groundmass and possibly a by-product of the manufacturing process.

The fabric contains sparse angular fragments of clay/ironstone which vary in colour from off-off-white to dark brown and had a finer groundmass than the floor tile. The fragments vary considerably in hardness and colour and a probably waste.

The floor tile is of a type used in kitchens, wash-houses and other outbuildings in the 19th and 20th centuries whilst the flue tiles are of 20th-century date.

Pottery

A fragment of a Frechen Stoneware bottle with an applied medallion with a floral pattern was recovered from context 7. These vessels, usually known as Belarmine bottles or *Bartmankrug* were imported from the Rhineland from the early 17th century until the late 17th

The Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy, 25 West Parade, Lincoln, LN1 1NW

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century, when they were replaced partly by English-made stoneware vessels and partly by the use of dark green bottles for storage.

Assessment

The Clockhouse Brickworks lies on the Lower Cretaceous Lower Weald Clay and it is likely that this clay was being used by the brickworks, of which the tiles from context 9 must be examples.

The floor tile, however, is in a different fabric and is probably not a product of the brickworks, and could well be earlier in date.

None of the finds requires further work.

Appendix 1

Context	class	Cname	Form	Part	Description	Nosh	NoV	Weight
8	CBM	PMTIL	FLOOR	BS		1	1	1283
9	CBM	PMTIL	BOX FLUE	BS		7	7	427
7	POTTERY	FREC	BEL	BS	FLOWER MEDALLION;17TH C	1	1	8