

## Assessment of the Ceramic Building Material from the Skegness to Ingoldmells Pipeline (SIP 04): Area 1

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A collection of ceramic building material was recovered from archaeological investigation on the line of the Skegness to Ingoldmells Pipeline, carried out by Network Archaeology Ltd, and submitted to the authors for identification and assessment. This assessment covers the material from a single site, Area 1, Plot 3B.

### Description

#### Fabrics

The fabric of the brick was not examined closely for this assessment since it was clear that the majority of the fragments came from late deposits (late 18<sup>th</sup> century or later).

The flat roof tile, on the other hand fell into fabric groups which were recognisable from other sites in this part of east Lindsey. These consist of a fine, sandy oxidized fragment which has an inclusionless groundmass (Fabric 2); and a calcareous yellow fabric (Fabric 4). The first two of these fabrics were probably produced in East Lindsey, although their source is unknown. The calcareous yellow tiles are of a type which occurs on numerous sites along the east coast. They were produced in the Low Countries in the late medieval period but could also have been produced from Upper Jurassic marls, either locally or in Cambridgeshire.

Finally, two fragments of refined whiteware (WHITE) wall tile were recorded.

#### Forms

The majority of the ceramic building material from Area 1 consists of brick (Table 1). No complete lengths were present but six had measurable widths, ranging from 105mm to 133mm, and 7 had measurable thicknesses, ranging from 40mm to between 60mm.

The remaining objects (flat tiles, field drain, floor tile, and pantiles) were undiagnostic fragments.

The wall tiles have moulded and painted relief decoration.

*Table 1*

Form	Sum of Nosh	Sum of NoV	Sum of Weight
BRICK	55	50	5704
FIELD DRAIN	1	1	18
FLAT	4	4	274
FLOOR	1	1	28

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<http://www.postex.demon.co.uk/index.html>

A copy of this report is archived online at

<http://www.avac.uklinux.net/potcat/pdfs/avac2006007.pdf>

PANT	5	5	581
TILE	1	1	43
WALT	2	2	42
Grand Total	69	64	6690

## Assessment

### Plot 3B Area 1

A total of 69 fragments, representing no more than 64 objects and weighing 6.690 Kg, was recovered from Area 1. The material is analysed here using provisional site phasing provided by J Sleep.

#### Period 1

No ceramic building material was recovered from Period 1 deposits.

#### Period 2

Thirteen fragments of ceramic building material were recovered from Period 2 deposits (Table 1). All of these were bricks.

#### Table 2

context group	Context	BRICK	Grand Total
GP 1	2087	1	1
GP 3	2074	1	1
GP 4 ROAD	2002	3	3
	2016	6	6
	2033	2	2
Grand Total		13	13

Pottery from the same features is dated to the late medieval period (Groups 1 and 3) and the late 18<sup>th</sup> century or later (Group 4). No features on the bricks either confirm or refute this dating.

#### Period 4

Fifty-six fragments of ceramic building material were recovered from Period 4 deposits (Table 3). Brick fragments are the most common find, followed by pantiles, flat roof tiles and wall tiles. The pantiles indicate a post-medieval date, from the later 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards, whilst the field drain is probably 19<sup>th</sup> century or later and the wall tile fragments certainly of later 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>-century date.

#### Table 3

context group	Context	BRICK	FIELD DRAIN	FLAT	FLOOR	PANT	TILE	WALT	Grand Total
DEPOSITS 2048	2048	10							10

AVAC Report 2005/

DITCH 2108	2109			1	1	1		2	5
DUMPED DEPOSITS 2046/2047	2047	1							1
GP 5	2039					1			1
GP 7	2026	1							1
PIT 2071=2072	2059	1							1
	2061	5							5
	2062	2							2
US	2004	22	1	3		3	1		30
Grand Total		42	1	4	1	5	1	2	56

**Recommendations**

The ceramic building material from Area 1 includes a small quantity from contexts which are stratified earlier than the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and a small quantity which, although found in later deposits are likely to be of later medieval date. It is recommended that these two brick fragments and the flat roof tiles are examined at x20 magnification and compared with those from the later deposits and other sites to determine whether or not they are of similar character and, if so, whether they indicate a late date for the bricks (in which case they may indicate that the Group 1 and 3 deposits were either deposited in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century or later or were late medieval deposits which have been contaminated). Given the small size of the pre-Early Modern collection it is unlikely that any further analysis would be rewarding.

*Table 4*

Task	Description	Time/amount	Cost (2006-7 prices)
1	Examination of bricks at x20 magnification	2 hours at £24.00 plus VAT	£48.00 plus VAT
Total			£48 plus VAT
Grand Total inc VAT			£56.40