

## Assessment of the Ceramic Building Material and Pottery from the King's Lynn to Wisbech Field Survey (KLW06)

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A small collection of ceramic building material and pottery was collected during fieldwalking between King's Lynn and Wisbech, undertaken by Network Archaeology Ltd.

The finds are mostly of post-medieval and modern date.

### Description

The finds were identified and a record made of their findspot, ware name, form, and quantity (measured by fragment count, number of vessels/objects represented and weight in grams, App 1).

The collection consists mostly of pottery with a much smaller quantity of ceramic building material (Table 1).

*Table 1*

class	Cname	Sum of Nosh	Sum of NoV	Sum of Weight
CBM	PMTIL	5	5	40
POTTERY	BERTH	2	2	58
	BOUD	1	1	10
	CREA	2	2	5
	ENGS	1	1	19
	GRE	8	8	38
	LONS	1	1	24
	MEL	1	1	9
	PEAR	1	1	2
	RPOT	1	1	5
	SWSG	1	1	16
	TPW	2	2	4
Grand Total		26	26	230

### **Ceramic Building Material**

Five fragments of ceramic building material were recovered. They consist of a fragment of field drain, of 19<sup>th</sup>- or 20<sup>th</sup>-century date, three fragments of brick, all heavily abraded, and one unidentified lump. The brick fragments are not of the silty, sometimes calcareous fabric produced in the fens in the late medieval and early post-medieval periods and are probably of 18<sup>th</sup>- to 20<sup>th</sup>-century date.

### **Pottery**

#### Roman

A single fragment of a wheelthrown, oxidised vessel with external cordons from Plot 10 is from a bowl of early Roman date, probably 2<sup>nd</sup> century (RPOT, pers comm B Precious).

#### Medieval

A fragment of internally-glazed bowl from Plot 112 has a fabric similar to that of Medieval Ely ware, which has a groundmass with a high carbon content and few visible inclusions (of Upper Jurassic origin) and is tempered with a sand which includes rounded, polished quartz grains. This ware was produced throughout the medieval period, from the 12<sup>th</sup> to at least the 15<sup>th</sup> century (Alan Vince 1999; Alan Vince 2000; Alan Vince 2001).

A fragment from a Bourne D jar (BOUD) was recovered from Plot 104. This ware was produced in the later medieval and early post-medieval period (Young and Vince 2006).

### Post-Medieval

Twelve sherds of pottery dating between the later 16<sup>th</sup> and the mid 18<sup>th</sup> centuries were recovered (Table 2). Few of the types are closely-datable and some continued in production and use into the early modern period. These include the brown-glazed earthenware (BERTH), glazed red earthenware (GRE) and London stoneware (LONS). The earliest possible date for the LONS vessel is the 1670s. The rim of a moulded white salt-glazed stoneware plate from Pl.112 can be dated to the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century.

**Table 2**

Trench	Cname	BOWL	JAR	PLATE	Grand Total
PL.7	BERTH	1			1
PL.13	BERTH	1			1
PL.14	GRE		1		1
PL.16	LONS		1		1
PL.112	GRE	6	1		7
	SWSG			1	1
Grand Total		8	3	1	12

### Early Modern

Six sherds of late 18<sup>th</sup>-century or later pottery were recovered (Table 3). The Creamware (CREA), Pearlware (PEAR) and Transfer-printed ware (TPW) are types which were current in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century but continued to be produced into the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Misc English stoneware jar (ENGS) is probably of later 19<sup>th</sup> century or later date.

**Table 3**

Trench	Cname	BOWL	DISH	JAR	PLATE	TANK	Grand Total
PL.112	CREA	1					1
	PEAR	1					1
	TPW		1				1
PL.119	CREA					1	1
	TPW				1		1
PL.16	ENGS			1			1
Grand Total		2	1	1	1	1	6

### Assessment

Given the size of the collection of metal finds from this project, the quantity of ceramic building material and pottery is very low. There are at least ten metal objects from the project, of which

only one occurs on the same plot as one of the two sherds of pottery (Table 4). Furthermore, the metal finds, and in particular the three silver coins, are in good condition. Nevertheless, the metal finds have the same thin scatter pattern as is often found with medieval and later pottery which has arrived on agricultural fields with manure rather than being disturbed from *in situ* occupation deposits. Few of the finds come from the immediate environs of modern settlements which may have a medieval origin (Table 4). This lack of evidence for manuring may be due to the use of this area for pasture, in which case the circumstances of loss of the metal finds requires some interpretation. Many are personal belongings and dress accessories.

**Table 4**

Trench	Location	COPP	LEAD	PEWTER	POTTERY	SILV	Grand Total
PL.10	West Bilney	3					3
PL.15	West Bilney	1					1
PL.22	West Bilney					1	1
PL.56		1					1
PL.97	White House Farm, Tilney St Lawrence		1			1	2
PL.104	Tilney Lodge Farm, Walpole Highway				1	1	2
PL.112	Little West New Field, Walpole Highway				1		1
PL.128				1			1
Grand Total		5	1	1	2	3	12

## Bibliography

- Alan Vince (1999) *Petrographic and Chemical Analysis of Medieval Pottery from Ely, Cambridgeshire*. AVAC Reports 1999/47 Lincoln, Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy
- Alan Vince (2000) *Characterisation studies of medieval pottery from Potter's Lane, Ely 1995*. AVAC Reports 2000/1 Lincoln, Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy
- Alan Vince (2001) *Petrological analysis of Medieval Ely wares from consumer sites*. AVAC Reports 2001/2 Lincoln, Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy
- Young, Jane and Vince, Alan (2006) *A Corpus of Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln*. Lincoln Archaeological Reports Oxford, Oxbow

*Appendix 1*

Context	class	Trench	Cname	period	Description	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Condition	Use
13/009	POTTERY	PL.7	BERTH	PMED		BOWL	B	1	1	57		
13/013	POTTERY	PL.10	RPOT	ROM		JAR/BOWL	BS	1	1	5	ABRA	
13/018	CBM	PL.13	PMTIL	PMED		?	BS	1	1	1		
13/020	POTTERY	PL.13	BERTH	PMED		BOWL	R	1	1	1		
13/021	CBM	PL.13	PMTIL	PMED		BRICK	BS	2	2	25	ABRA	
13/129	POTTERY	PL.104	BOUD	MED		JAR	BS	1	1	10	ABRA	
13/129	POTTERY	PL.14	GRE	PMED	GLAZE INT/EXT	JAR	BS	1	1	2		
13/137	POTTERY	PL.112	SWSG	PMED	MOULDED DEC	PLATE	R	1	1	16		
13/138	CBM	PL.112	PMTIL	PMED		FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	5		
13/139	POTTERY	PL.112	GRE	PMED		BOWL	BS	1	1	7	BURNT	
13/140	POTTERY	PL.112	GRE	PMED		BOWL	BS	2	2	12	ABRA	
13/140	CBM	PL.112	PMTIL	PMED		BRICK	BS	1	1	9		
13/141	POTTERY	PL.112	GRE	PMED	GLAZE INT/EXT	JAR	BS	1	1	1		
13/149	POTTERY	PL.119	TPW	EMOD		PLATE	BS	1	1	1		
13/150	POTTERY	PL.119	CREA	EMOD		TANK	BS	1	1	3		
13/223	POTTERY	PL.16	LONS	PMED		JAR	BS	1	1	24		
13/224	POTTERY	PL.16	ENGS	EMOD		JAR	B	1	1	19		
15/013	POTTERY	PL.112	CREA	EMOD	WITH BANDS OF INDUST BROWN SLIP	BOWL	BS	1	1	2		
15/014	POTTERY	PL.112	GRE	PMED		BOWL	BS	1	1	3	ABRA	
15/015	POTTERY	PL.112	GRE	PMED	GLAZE INT/EXT	BOWL	B	1	1	11	ABRA	
15/016	POTTERY	PL.112	TPW	EMOD	OVERGLAZE DEC IN GOLD	DISH	R-B	1	1	3		
15/017	POTTERY	PL.112	MEL	MED		BOWL	BS	1	1	9	ABRA	WHITE DEP INT
15/018	POTTERY	PL.112	PEAR	EMOD		BOWL	BS	1	1	2	ABRA	
15/018	POTTERY	PL.112	GRE	PMED	GLAZE INT/EXT	BOWL	BS	1	1	2	ABRA	