Assessment of Mixed Finds recovered from an area of the evaluation trenching carried out for the Brecon to Tirley Gas Pipeline (BRT-54 Mobilisation Area)

Alan Vince and Kate Steane

A small collection of pottery, glass and iron was recovered during archaeological fieldwork on the line of the Brecon to Tirley Gas Pipeline by Network Archaeology Ltd.

A single sherd of medieval pottery was found and the other finds were all of early modern or recent date.

Description

Glass

49 fragments of glass were recovered from context 65404. One was part of the rim and neck of a mid 17th to mid 18th-century dark green bottle, with an added coil of glass around the rim. Another was a wall sherd from a cylindrical bottle, either of mallet or tall form, and no earlier than the mid 18th century in date. The remainder were window glass, all of which appear to be of recent date, including pieces of colourless frosted glass of late 19th century date at the very earliest.

Iron

A single iron nail was recovered and is not closely datable.

Pottery

Medieval

A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. The sherd is probably of Hereford Fabric A6 and is datable to the mid 13th to 15th centuries (Vince 1985). This ware could have been produced over an extensive part of the Herefordshire plain and neighbouring parts of Wales.

Early Modern

Four fragments of various refined whitewares were recovered. The earliest type is Creamware, datable to the 1760s or later and probably no later than the mid 19th century. Two sherds of Transfer Printed Ware cannot be closely dated and are of late 19th or 19th century date and one fragment of buff ware (NCBW) is no earlier than c.1800 and is of a type which continued to be produced throughout the 19th century.

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Assessment

The single medieval pot sherd could have arrived at its findspot through manuring and is not a sure indication of settlement. The early modern pottery is most likely to be of 19th century date and apart from a tureen handle consists of small scraps. All could also have been spread on the fields with manure. The glass, however, is part of a strange group all from the same context, which also produced the nail and three of the sherds. Although it contains clearly recently material some of the other pieces date to the post-medieval period.

Since the material is unstratified, only the medieval sherd should be retained for future study.

No further work is recommended on these finds.

Bibliography

Vince, A. G. (1985) "Part 2: the ceramic finds." in R. Shoesmith, ed., *Hereford City Excavations: Volume 3. The Finds*, CBA Research Report 56 The Council for British Archaeology, London

Appendix 1

class	Context	Date	cname	subfabric	Form	Description	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight	ASW	Condition
PMGL	65404	20	PMGL	CLEAR BUT WITH SLIGHT GREEN TINGE	WIND		BS	31	31	189	6.10	
PMGL	65404	20	PMGL	CLEAR	WIND		BS	15	15	19	1.27	
PMGL	65404	17.2	PMGL	DKGR	ВОТ	ADDED GLASS AROUND NECK;L17TH/18TH	R	1	1	12	12.00	
PMGL	65404	18.2	PMGL	DKGR	ВОТ	POSSIBLY MALLET OR LARGE TALL BOTTLE	BS	1	1	1	1.00	
PMGL	65404	20	PMGL	CLEAR	WIND	MOULDED FROSTING ON ONE FACE	BS	1	1	1	1.00	
POTTERY	65404	18.2	CREA		-		BS	1	1	0.5	0.50	
POTTERY	65404	18.2	TPW		PLATE	WILLOW PATTERN	BS	1	1	2	2.00	
POTTERY	65404	19.2	NCBW	WHITE SLIPPED INT	-		BS	1	1	1	1.00	
POTTERY	65401	13.2	HERA6		JUG		BS	1	1	3	3.00	ABR
POTTERY	65401	18.2	TPW		TUREEN	MOULDED MOCK- ROPE HANDLE	Н	1	1	44	44.00	
IRON	65404	nd	IRON		NAIL	CIRCULAR SHAFTS AND HEAD	COMPLETE	2	2	5	2.50	CORRODED

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