Assessment of the Ceramic Building Material, Worked Stone and Heat-Affected Clay from the excavations of the Salt End to Aldeburgh electricity cable route, East Yorkshire (SEA-16)

Alan Vince and Kate Steane

A collection of ceramic building material, fired clay and stone from the excavations on the Salt End to Aldeburgh electricity cable route, East Yorkshire, carried out by Network Archaeology Ltd, was submitted to the authors for identification and assessment.

Description

Ceramic Building Material

Seventy fragments of ceramic building material were submitted. Twenty-four were too small or abraded to identify and the remainder were mainly of types current in the post-medieval and later periods (Table 1). One of the brick fragments has salt-surfacing and was therefore produced from calcareous clay with some brine content. The field drain fragments include one from a U-shaped drain.

Table 1

Form	Dating	Sum of Nosh	Sum of Weight
AIRBRICK	Modern	1	4
BRICK	Post-medieval or later	27	452
BRICK?	Post-medieval or later	1	88
CBM	Undatable	24	70
FIELD DRAIN	Modern	4	154
PANT	Post-medieval or later	6	140
PANT/FIELD DRAIN	Post-medieval or later	7	98
Grand Total		70	1006

Fired Clay

One hundred and sixty-six fragments of fired clay were recorded (Table 2). Two were definitely from wattle and daub structures and retain wattle impressions. Five fragments have no wattle impressions but do have a flat surface and might be daub. The remaining fragments are not identifiable but include 14 fragments which are either from daub or an unidentifiable object and two which might come from a mould.

None of the fragments have signs of being heated in contact with brine, nor for overfiring and it is therefore unlikely that they were associated with salt production.

Table 2

Form	Description	Sum of Nosh	Sum of Weight
DAUB	STICK GROOVE 10 DIA	1	17
	STICK GROOVE 13 DIA	1	18
DAUB?	ONE FLATTISH SURFACE; NO JOINS BUT	5	88

The Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy, 25 West Parade, Lincoln, LN1 1NW
http://www.postex.demon.co.uk/index.html

A copy of this report is archived online at
http://www.avac.uklinux.net/potcat/pdfs/avac2007116.pdf

	COULD BE PART OF ONE SURFACE		
	POSS SURFACE; POSS GROOVE	1	22
DAUB?	GROOVE 15 DIA; CURVED EXT SURFACE	2	18
OBJECT?			
	GROOVE 9 DIA; CURVED EXT SURFACE	1	7
	GROOVE; CURVED EXT SURFACE	10	34
	SMOOTH CURVED SURFACE	1	33
FCLAY		136	501
	FINGER MARKS ON IRREGULAR SURFACE	1	40
	POSSIBLE SURFACE	3	12
	STICK GROOVE 9 DIA	1	11
	TINY BITS	1	1
MOULD?	TWO GROOVES INT; CURVED EXT SURFACE	2	44
Grand Total		166	846

Stone

Fourteen fragments of stone were submitted. Ten of these showed no sign of human working and are interpreted as erratic cobbles. The remainder consist of two small fragments of roof slate, probably of post-medieval or modern date, a fragment which has bore holes which might be evidence of human working but which might be formed by water or burrowing animals such as shellfish and a fragment which might be a stone anchor. The latter has two pecked surfaces and might perhaps be an anchor which broke during manufacture.

Assessment

The fired clay is probably evidence for structures or prehistoric to medieval date and these are most likely to be of a domestic nature. The ceramic building material includes no definite medieval material and most of the types present are either certainly or probably of early modern date (i.e. later 18th century or later). The possible anchor fragment is potentially the most interesting object found, although it is by no means certain that it is an artefact.

Further Work

The anchor fragment should be illustrated.

Retention

None of the ceramic building material need be retained unless if comes from a stratified deposit and might be useful to date the period of deposition. The anchor fragment and the fired clay should be retained.

Appendix 1

REFNO	Trench	Context	class	Cname	Description	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Condition	Use
	N10	10029	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	1		
	N10	10031	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	2		
	N10	10033	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	2	2	7		
	N10	10037	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	7		
	N10	10039	CBM	PMTIL		PANT	BS	1	1	16		
	N10	10044	FCLAY	FCLAY	TINY BITS	FCLAY	BS	1	1	1		
	N10	10044	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	3	3	33		
	N10	10044	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	2	2	40		
10727	N10	10044	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	2490		
10700	N10	10044	STONE	DARK GREY CRINOIDAL LIMESTONE	POSSIBLE BORE HOLES BY WATER? ANIMAL? HUMAN?	WORKED?	BS	1	1	2148		
	N10	10049	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	4	4	35		
	N1	1005	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	2	1	20		
	N1	1005	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	1		
	N1	1005	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	5		
	N10	10063	FCLAY	FCLAY	FINGER MARKS ON IRREGULAR SURFACE	FCLAY	BS	1	1	40		
	N10	10063	FCLAY	FCLAY	STICK GROOVE 13 DIA	DAUB	BS	1	1	18		
	N10	10063	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	2	2	31		
	N1	1008	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	13		
	N1	1009	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	3		
	N10	10127	FCLAY	FCLAY	TWO GROOVES INT; CURVED EXT	MOULD?	BS	2	1	44		

					SURFACE					
	N10	10127	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	11	11	52
	N1	1014	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	1
	N1	1016	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	7
	N10	10169	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	6
	N10	10176	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	2	2	4
	N10	10178	FCLAY	FCLAY	POSS SURFACE; POSS GROOVE	DAUB?	BS	1	1	22
	N10	10178	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	5	5	6
	N13	1018	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	3
	N10	10203	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	3	3	34
	N10	10212	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	16
	N10	10222	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	2	1	1
	N10	10226	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	2	1	10
	N10	10234	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	2
10729	N10	10234	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	1981
10728	N10	10234	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	539
10730	N10	10234	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	172
	N10	10236	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	2	1	5
	N10	10248	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	3	2	17
	N10	10250	FCLAY	FCLAY	STICK GROOVE 9 DIA	FCLAY	BS	1	1	11
	N1	1026	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	27
	N10	10265	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	6
	N10	10273	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	3
	N10	10297	STONE	IGNEOUS ROCK	2 PECKED SURFACES; PART MADE ANCHOR BEFORE STONE BROKE?	ANCHOR?	BS	1	1	20000

	N10	10320	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	3	3	28
	N10	10400	FCLAY	FCLAY	GROOVE 15 DIA; CURVED EXT SURFACE	DAUB? OBJECT?	BS	1	1	13
	N10	10400	FCLAY	FCLAY	GROOVE 9 DIA; CURVED EXT SURFACE	DAUB? OBJECT?	BS	1	1	7
	N10	10400	FCLAY	FCLAY	GROOVE 15 DIA; CURVED EXT SURFACE	DAUB? OBJECT?	BS	1	1	5
	N10	10400	FCLAY	FCLAY	GROOVE; CURVED EXT SURFACE	DAUB? OBJECT?	BS	10	1	34
	N10	10403	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	13
	N10	10403	FCLAY	FCLAY	ONE FLATTISH SURFACE; NO JOINS BUT COULD BE PART OF ONE SURFACE	DAUB?	BS	5	5	88
	N10	10403	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	4	4	16
	N10	10415	FCLAY	FCLAY	POSSIBLE SURFACE	FCLAY	BS	3	3	12
	N10	10415	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	8	8	18
10715	N10	10415	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	16
10717	N10	10423	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	19
	N10	10430	FCLAY	FCLAY	STICK GROOVE 10 DIA	DAUB	BS	1	1	17
SF111	N10	10430	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	4
	N10	10517	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	3	3	48
	N10	10552	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	4
	N10	10561	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	1	1	33
	N10	10577	FCLAY	FCLAY	SMOOTH CURVED SURFACE	DAUB? OBJECT?	BS	1	1	33

SF10708	N10	10577	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	2	2	33
10724	N10	10577	GEO	GEO		GEO	BS	1	1	1827
	N31	31004	FCLAY	FCLAY		FCLAY	BS	60	60	16
	N33	5002	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	1
	N3	5003	CBM	PMTIL		PANT/FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	15
	N3	5006	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	10
	N4	5007	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	10
	N4	5008	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	3
	N4	5009	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	5
	N4	5010	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	5
	N4	5012	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	2
	N4	5014	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	3
	N4	5015	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	1
	N4	5018	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	24
	N4	5019	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	25
	N4	5020	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	16
	N4	5021	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	4
	N4	5022	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	111
	N5	5024	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	2
	N5	5025	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	14
	N5	5026	CBM	PMTIL		PANT	BS	1	1	8
	N5	5027	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	20
	N5	5028	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	7
	N5	5029	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	65
	N5	5030	CBM	PMTIL	U-SHAPED	FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	82
	N5	5031	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	14
	N5	5032	CBM	MOD		AIRBRICK	BS	1	1	4

N5	5035	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	7	
N5	5036	CBM	PMTIL	U-SHAPED	FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	26	
N35	5037	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	3	
N9	5037	CBM	PMTIL		FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	2	
N5	5038	CBM	PMTIL		PANT	BS	1	1	47	
N8	5039	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	3	
N5	5039	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	3	
N7	5040	CBM	PMTIL		PANT	BS	1	1	9	
N7	5041	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	10	
N7	5042	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	1	
N7	5043	CBM	PMTIL		PANT/FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	12	
N7	5043	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	3	
N7	5044	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	3	3	10	
N7	5045	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	1	
N7	5046	CBM	PMTIL		PANT/FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	11	
N7	5047	CBM	PMTIL		PANT	BS	1	1	26	
N7	5048	CBM	PMTIL		PANT/FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	11	
N9	5049	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	6	
N9	5050	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	20	
N9	5052	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	1	
N9	5053	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	1	
N9	5054	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	2	
N9	5055	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	3	
N9	5056	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	4	
N9	5059	CBM	PMTIL		PANT/FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	22	
N9	5060	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	3	
N9	5061	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	5	SALT SURFACING

N9	5063	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	3	
N9	5064	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	2	
N10	5070	CBM	PMTIL		PANT	BS	1	1	34	
N14	5080	CBM	PMTIL		PANT/FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	4	
N11	5104	CBM	PMTIL	U-SHAPED	FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	44	
N25	5150	STONE	SLATE		ROOF SLATE	BS	1	1	13	
N25	5152	STONE	SLATE		ROOF SLATE	BS	1	1	6	
N1	5198	CBM	PMTIL		PANT/FIELD DRAIN	BS	1	1	23	
N1	5199	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	8	
N33	5247	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS	1	1	9	
N33	5252	CBM	PMTIL		CBM	BS	1	1	7	
N34	5265	CBM	PMTIL		BRICK?	BS	1	1	88	ONE GRIMY SURFACE