

Assessment of the Medieval and Late Pottery from Broad Quay/6-22 Marsh Street, Bristol (BQB06)

Alan Vince and Kate Steane

Excavations at Broad Quay, Bristol, revealed a sequence of land use starting in the mid 13th century and continuing, intermittently, to recent times. The pottery associated with this sequence was submitted to the authors for identification and assessment. It includes a moderately high proportion of imported wares, mainly from southwest France and Portugal, and a number of highly-decorated medieval Bristol ware vessels whose shape and decoration should be reconstructable. The pottery both confirms the suggested dating of the sequence and informs us about the trading contacts of this part of Bristol in the later 13th century and later.

Description

Medieval wares earlier than the mid 13th century

Few examples of the late Saxon and Saxo-Norman wares found at sites such as St Mary le Port and Bristol Castle were present (Watts and Rahtz 1985; Ponsford 1974). These types were certainly current prior to the Norman Conquest and probably well into the 12th century.

The only example is a handmade ware which was current during this period but continued in use later, Bristol C (BRISC; BPT 2, 10, 194 and 309). This group of fabrics contains carboniferous limestone, and one of the distinctive characteristics is the presence of crinoid stems. The source of this ware could therefore be very close to Bristol, since such limestone outcrops at Clifton and Long Ashton. Three featureless body sherds from handmade jars were present; all had been used for cooking.

A single sherd from a handmade jar whose fabric includes sandstone fragments was recorded (MEDLOC).

Handmade redware jars and whiteware jugs of Ham Green ware were present (HGR; BPT 32, 48 and 65 and HG; BPT 26, 27, 65, 241 and 248 respectively). The sherds come from vessels paralleled closely by material from Ham Green excavated by Barton (Barton 1963). Most of the jug sherds could come from the later, Ham Green B, vessels which have horizontal grooving and applied self-coloured strip decoration, with thumbled bases as opposed to the potentially earlier Ham Green A vessels which have diamond roller stamping and plain sagging bases. However, two roller-stamped sherds were present.

Other wares of probable later 112th to mid 13th century date consist of Bath Fabric A handmade jars (BATHA; BPT 46, 73 and 134). These vessels were made from a silty micaceous clay tempered with polished quartz sand of lower Cretaceous origin. The nearest The Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy, 25 West Parade, Lincoln, LN1 1NW
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potential source to Bristol would have been in west Wiltshire and placename evidence suggests that Potterne and Crockerton, near Warminster, are potential sources. Vessels of this type were present at Bath in pre-conquest period deposits but they first appear in Bristol in quantity in the later 12th century, and were redistributed from there to sites in the Severn valley, Wales and Ireland (Vince 1984). In addition to sherds from no more than 76 jars, two examples of “west country vessels” were present. These vessels have similar diameters and rim forms to the jars but are much shallower with acute base angles. Examples with pre-firing circular holes in the body are known.

Handmade Minety ware jars with glaze on the inside of the rim and base were present together with a single tripod pitcher (MINETY; BPT 18, 18E, 84 and 145). The jars are sometimes known as Selsley Common ware as a result of the publication of material from this site by Dunning (Dunning 1949). This type was probably produced at Minety, on the Gloucestershire/Wiltshire border, from the early 12th to the mid 13th centuries when these handmade vessels were superceded by wheelthrown vessels produced in the same fabric.

Five sherds of South-East Wiltshire ware were recorded (SEW; BPT 17, 18C, 249, 363). Four come from handmade jars in a similar fabric to that used to produce scratch-marked ware in the late 11th to 13th centuries. However, none of the sherds has this distinctive decoration. A single sherd from a wheelthrown jug of similar source was recorded. Such vessels were produced at Laverstock but are coarser in texture than the true Laverstock ware (Musty and Ewence 1969).

Five sherds of Worcester sandy ware jugs were recorded (HERC2; Vince 1985a). These vessels were produced in the suburbs of Worcester in the early to mid 13th century and the industry went into sharp decline in the later 13th century as a result of competition with potters based in the Malvern Chase. Two of the sherds have roller-stamped decoration. The industry is notable for the use of complex roller-stamping, often covering the entire exterior of the vessel.

Late 13th to 14th-century wares

Six hundred and twenty-eight sherds of wares of later 13th to 14th-century date were recorded. By far the most common of these wares was Bristol medieval ware (AKA Bristol Redcliffe ware). This ware fired to an off-white colour and is tempered with quartzose sand, a distinctive feature of which is the presence of a dull red coating on the majority of the grains. Pellets of relict clay are also present and in some instances have a blue or dark grey core as a result of an organic content (BR; BPT 67, 67A, 68, 72, 74, 85, 103, 117, 118, 120, 123, 125, 126, 154, 166, 208, 230, 242, 247, 294, 316, 324 and 357).

Three distinct phases in the production of Bristol medieval ware vessels can be discerned. In the first, the vessels have elaborate plastic decoration, often in both a self-coloured and red-firing clay. At least three vessels of this type were recorded from Broad Quay, but none come

from stratified medieval deposits, and it is possible that they were introduced to the site in the post-medieval period with dumped make-up.

In the second phase, the decoration became more standardised and was used more sparingly. Bases in this second phase were often flat with a footring rather than the thumbled sagging base found on the first phase vessels. A good example of this phase is the use of moulded face bridge spouts (Ponsford 1979, Fig 22.2). Several examples of this type were recorded at Broad Quay including one from a Period II dump from Evaluation Trench 27. The third phase consists of the complete absence of decoration and often the use of an internal glaze with the exterior left unglazed. No examples of this third phase were noted at Broad Quay.

The second most common ware in this phase was wheelthrown Minety ware. Sherds from no more than 20 vessels were recorded. Most of these were jugs but one was the base of a footed vessel, either a cistern or a skillet. Such vessels are usually late medieval in date and the stratigraphic context of this example should be examined closely (context 2755).

Four examples of a sandy wheelthrown glazed redware were present. The sand consists of red-coated polished quartz, derived from lower Cretaceous sandstone, and this indicates that these vessels came from the Nash Hill, Lacock, kilns (McCarthy 1974).

The remaining wares in this group are imported wares. They consist of 142 sherds of south-western French whiteware, usually known in British and Irish literature as Saintonge ware. Eighty-nine sherds, from no more than 74 vessels, have a mottled copper-green glaze. Most of these are from baluster jugs but two come from mortar, with added quartzose gravel temper. Eleven sherds from no more than 7 vessels were decorated in the polychrome style (SAIP); 12 sherds from no more than 9 vessels have a homogenous copper-green glaze (sometimes known as all-over-green). The use of this glaze was contemporary with the polychrome style and some polychrome vessels have an all-over-green internal glaze. Lastly, 28 sherds have either no glaze at all or mere spots of copper-green glaze. These must come from vessels with either a sparse glaze or no glaze. Such vessels are particularly characteristic of the later medieval period and are not found in mid to late 13th-century deposits on the Thames waterfront in London (Vince 1985b). Dendrochronologically-dated assemblages at Billingsgate Lorry Park and Swan Lane in the City of London suggest that the first Saintonge whitewares appear in the mid 13th century and that in large deposits of c.1270 there are no polychrome or all-over-green vessels, just mottled green-glazed ones and rare sgraffito-decorated vessels (a type absent from Broad Quay). The Period II deposits at Broad Quay therefore seem to be later than c.1270.

Single sherds of Iberian Red Micaceous ware (Hurst 1977; SPAM; BPT 282) and unattributed "Spanish" oil jars (Hurst 1977; SPOW) were recovered from medieval deposits. The red micaceous ware vessel is probably a standing costrel. Sherds of similar vessels are known from the city of London from late 13th century deposits but they are much more

frequent in deposits of mid 14th century and later date (Vince 1985b). In total, 22 sherds of these types were recorded, from no more than 15 vessels. Some of the red micaceous ware vessels are of large bowls, of the lebrillo type (i.e. large conical bowls, similar to British pancheons). Red micaceous ware vessels other than standing costrels are mainly found in late medieval and early post-medieval contexts and it is therefore possible that these vessels, none of which is stratified in a medieval deposit, are of early post-medieval date. However, the similarity in appearance between their fabric and that of the stratified example suggest that one might expect them to be of similar date. It may be that the Period II example is intrusive, or that the date of the Period II deposits is slightly later than expected.

Later medieval wares

Twenty-three sherds of late medieval date were recorded. They consist of sherds of wheelthrown, glazed Malvern Chase ware vessels (Vince 1985a; HERB4; BPT 168 and 197) and a single sherd of Valencian lustreware (Hurst 1977; VALE; BPT83). Malvern Chase glazed wares were produced from the later 13th century onwards but their production rose during the 14th century. Some of those stratified in Period IV deposits are probably of later 15th or early 16th century date whereas those from Period II and III deposits could possibly be of later 13th century date although they are interpreted here as being probably intrusive. Valencian lustreware was first produced in the later 14th century but continued to be produced into the later 16th century. This example has lost any lustre decoration and does not have a distinctive datable form and can only be dated late 14th to late 16th century.

Post-medieval wares

One hundred and forty-eight sherds of types dating between the late 16th and the mid 18th centuries were recorded. They represent no more than 100 vessels. The most common ware is North Devon Gravel-tempered ware (NDGT). Several of the vessels present can be reconstructed and none are present in the typology of North Devon Gravel-tempered ware published by Allan (Allan 1984). Most of these come from two contexts, 2535 and 2541.

The next most common ware was South Somerset ware. This is an untempered silty red earthenware. Similar wares were produced at several centres utilising both lower Cretaceous Gault clay and Quaternary silts from the Somerset Levels. Without further analysis it is not possible to assign any of these vessels to a source but the sherds lack the fine fragments of siltstone and slate which characterise Nether Stowey products and also do not contain the abundant rounded black iron-rich grains found in Crockerton products. The most likely sources are Donyatt, near Ilminster, which is certainly the source of much of the late 17th and later slipware found in Bristol, and Wanstrow, near Shepton Mallet, which is about 25 miles south of Bristol. None of the Broad Quay examples are slip-decorated and the most likely date for these vessels, as a group, would be early to mid 17th century, since they lack the large jugs decorated with a sgraffito band which are characteristic of the later 16th century (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988).

Twelve North Devon Gravel-free ware vessels were present (NDF; BPT 108 and 222). Most of these were slipware bowls but jugs were also present. This fabric appears to have been introduced in the early 17th century but is common from then until the end of the industry in the early 20th century.

Ten examples of Malvern Chase pink ware were present (HERB5; Vince 1985). This fabric was in use in the Malvern Chase potteries by the 1530s and is present in groups from Acton Court which are probably associated with the renovation of the house in preparation for a royal visit in 1535 (Vince and Bell 1992; Vince and England 2004; Bell and Rodwell 2004). The industry seems to have collapsed at the time of enclosure of the chase in the 1632 but evidence from Hereford and Gloucester suggests that the industry was in decline for some decades before this.

Ten tin-glazed vessels of probable English manufacture were present (TGW; BPT 99). Three were undecorated vessels, a chamber pot, a bowl and a cup or jug. The remainder had painted decoration, either blue on a white or pale blue ground or in one case blue and green. One of the vessels was a plate whose back was glazed with a lead glaze with less tin content than the front. This is a mid 17th-century style whereas the remaining vessels are likely to be of later 17th to early 18th century.

The remaining post-medieval wares are represented by a handful of sherds each and are briefly listed in Table 1. The various English wares follow the pattern of supply typical of Bristol and its environs and are, for example, paralleled in close detail at the East Gate in Gloucester (Vince 1983). Of note, however, are two sherds of Isabella Polychrome and one sherd of Melado ware. These two types were both produced in Seville in the later 15th and 16th centuries and their presence at Broad Quay reflects the strong links which Bristol maintained with southwest Spain at this time.

Table 1

Code	source	description	date	reference	BPT	NoV
AK	Ashton Keynes, North Wiltshire	Red sandy earthenware with sparse calcareous and iron-rich inclusions	Late 16th to Mid 18th centuries	Vince 1983, TF80	-	2
BORDG	Surrey/Hampshire Border	Border ware with a copper-green glaze	Late 16th to Mid 18th centuries	Pearce 1992	-	3
BORDY	Surrey/Hampshire Border	Border ware with a yellow glaze (i.e. lead glaze with no added colourants)	Late 16th to Mid 18th centuries	Pearce 1992	-	1
CHPO	China	Chinese export porcelain	Early 17th century onwards		-	1
CSTN	South Gloucestershire	Cistercian ware	Early 16th to early 17th centuries	Vince 1983, TF60	93, 266, 275	3

ISAB	Seville	Isabella polychrome ware	late 15th to 16th century	Hurst, Neal, and van Beuningen 1986	333	2
MELADO	Seville	Melado ware	late 15th to 16th century	Hurst, Neal, and van Beuningen 1986	-	1
SAIG	Southwest France	Saintonge ware	Late 16th to Mid 18th centuries	Hurst 1974	40, 227	2
SNTG	South Netherlands	South Netherlands Maiolica	Early 16th to early 17th centuries	Gaimster 1999	344	1
STBRS	Bristol/Staffs	Brown stoneware of Staffordshire type	Late 17th to Mid 18th centuries	Horne 1985	-	1
STCO	Bristol/Staffs	press-moulded slipware with a light-coloured body of Staffordshire type	Late 17th to Mid 18th centuries	Vince 1983, TF72	100	2
STMO	Bristol/Staffs	Mottled ware of Staffordshire type	Late 17th to Mid 18th centuries	Vince 1983, TF74	211	1
STSL	Bristol/Staffs	Wheelthrown slipware with a light-coloured body of Staffordshire type	Late 17th to Mid 18th centuries	Vince 1983, TF58	100, 331	5
WEST	Westerwald	Westerwald stoneware	Late 16th to Mid 18th centuries	Hurst, Neal, and van Beuningen 1986	95	1

Early Modern wares

Fourteen vessels of later 18th century or later date were recovered. They are briefly listed in Table 2.

Table 2

cname	source	description	Date	BPT	NoV
TPW	Various, mainly the Staffordshire Potteries	Transfer-printed Ware	Late 18 th century onwards	278	4
CREA	Various, mainly the Staffordshire Potteries	Creamware	Late 18 th century onwards	202, 223, 326	4
ENGS	Unknown but possibly Bristol	Misc English Stoneware	Late 17 th century onwards	-	1
PEAR	Various, mainly the Staffordshire	Pearlware	Late 18 th century	202	2

WHITE	Potteries Various, mainly the Staffordshire Potteries	Misc Refined Whiteware	onwards Mid 19 th century onwards	202	3
Grand Total					14

Stratigraphic Context

Evaluation Trench 25

A total of 87 sherds of pottery were recovered from evaluation trench 25.

Period III

Eighty-one sherds of pottery of post-medieval or later date were recovered from eight Period III deposits (Table 3). The terminus post quem for deposition of each deposit, based solely on the pottery recovered from the layer is given in Table 1. In most cases, the date depends on a single sherd, which on a complex urban excavation might easily be redeposited or intrusive. However, contexts 2535 and 2541 produced joining sherds of several vessels which are therefore more likely to have been contemporary with the period of deposition. The two deposits between them produced seven vessels which could be illustrated, providing a good example of late 17th to early 18th-century ceramics. As a group, the two deposits indicate the importance of the southwest (North Devon and South Somerset).

Table 3

Context	Description	TPQ	AK	CREA	HERB5	NDF	NDG	PEAR	SPOW	SSOM	STBRS	STSL	TGW	TPW	WEST	WHITE	Grand Total
2521	Reddish brown clay silt deposit	Later 16 th century			1		1										2
2528	Lower fill of possible service trench 2533	Late 17 th century								1	1						2
2532	Homogeneous deposit	Late 17 th century	2				4			3		1	2				12
2534	Ash deposit	Late 18 th century		1					3	1							5
2535	Black ash deposit	Late 17 th century				7	26			3		1	3				40
2540	Sandy silt deposit	Late 18 th century						1							1		2
2541	Dark brown silty sand deposit	Late 17 th century					10					3					13
2546	Bedding layer for large limestone block 2514	Mid 19 th century		1										1		3	5
Grand Total			2	2	1	7	41	1	3	8	1	5	5	1	1	3	81

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Period IV

Context 2514 is phased by the excavators to the early modern period but the only pottery found is medieval in date and therefore presumably residual.

Evaluation Trench 27

Period 1

A single sherd of Saintonge polychrome jug was recovered from context 2757. Unless intrusive, it indicates that the natural alluvium was still accumulating in this area into the late 13th or early 14th centuries.

Period 2

Seven contexts assigned to Period 2 produced pottery (Table 4). A total of 222 sherds, representing no more than 108 vessels and weighing in total 4.236Kg was recovered. A single sherd of North Devon gravel-tempered ware from context 2711 is presumably intrusive and the remaining pottery in this context and others provides a late 13th century deposition date. The presence of Saintonge polychrome and all-over-green ware in contexts 2709, 2749, 2750, and 2755 dates the deposition of these deposits to the very end of the 13th century at the earliest and the sherds of unglazed Saintonge ware from context 2709 are more consistent with a mid 14th century or later date, as is the Iberian micaceous ware vessel from context 2755. The presence of sherd families (smashed vessels) in contexts 2709, 2711, 2745, 2749, 2750 and 2755 suggests that these assemblages at least are contemporary with the period of deposition.

Given that much of this material is probably associated with or at least stratigraphically related to the construction of the Marsh Wall, these groups deserve to be fully catalogued and analysed.

Table 4

Context	Description	TPQ	BR	NDG	HG	HGR	MEDX	MINETY	SAIG	SAIM	SAIN	SAIP	SAIU	SPAM	Grand Total
2709	Back fill of construction cut 2710	Late 13 th century	4				1					1	6		
2711	Alluvial deposit	Late 16 th century (or late 13 th century)	11	1			6	2		1					
2745	Mortar deposit	Late 13 th century	6			1									
2749	Thin clay deposit	Late 13 th century	13				1	1	1			1			
2750	Charcoal rich dumped deposit	Late 13 th century	66						1	2					
2755	Occupation deposit	Late 13 th century	49		2	1	3	17	8	6	1	6		1	
2801	Rubble foundation layer for buttress 2708 and also possibly city wall 2707	Late 13 th century	2												
Grand Total			151	1	2	2	11	20	10	9	1	8	6	1	2

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Period III

A single context, 2748, assigned to Period III, produced a small assemblage of pottery which dates to the later 18th century or later.

Period IV

A single context, 2716, a make-up layer assigned to Period IV, produced an assemblage of medieval and post-medieval sherds together with a single sherd of Pearlware which dates deposition to the late 18th century or later.

Area 3

Period II

Two contexts assigned to Period II produced pottery: 3102 and 3115. In both cases the contexts produced single small sherds for which a later 12th century or later date is likely.

Period III

Two contexts assigned to Period III produced pottery. 3084 produced a small assemblage of medieval pottery which is presumably all residual whilst 3099 produced an assemblage of 90 sherds, most of which are of medieval date. The exceptions are a sherd of Surrey-Hampshire border ware of later 16th-century or later date and five sherds from three Malvern Chase vessels (two bowls and a jug) which might date to any period between the later 14th and the mid 16th centuries.

Period IV

Fourteen contexts assigned to Period IV produced pottery. A total of 217 sherds were recovered, the majority of which were of medieval date. Late medieval and later pottery consisted of 78 sherds and using these sherds only TPQs for the deposition of eleven contexts were given (Table 5). None of these contexts produced large coherent assemblages of later medieval or post-medieval date and it is quite likely that the actual deposition date for these deposits is much later, or that the late date is based on a small number of possibly intrusive sherds. Context 3038 is a case in point, where a single sherd of Creamware provides a TPQ of late 18th century but the latest remaining pottery could be a century earlier. As a group, these late sherds do not have the high frequency of North Devon wares seen in some of the post-medieval assemblages and do include types which were current in the later 15th and 16th centuries (such as Isabella Polychrome and Melado wares and South Netherlands maiolica). Nevertheless, seven of the deposits do include sherds which are no earlier than the later 17th century in date and it may be that this late 15th to 16th century element is itself redeposited.

Table 5

Context	Description	TPQ	Grand Total
3025	Cellar wall	Late 17 th Century	5
3035	Clay base of 3034	Late 17 th Century	2
3038	Clay levelling layer	Late 18 th century or Late 17 th Century	7
3046	Brick drain	Early 16 th century	1
3047	Dump deposit	Late 16 th century	1
3063	fill of 3062	Early 17 th century	5
3065	Reddish brown make up layer	Late 16 th century	2
3078	Bedding layer	Early 17 th century	2
3079	Backfill of 3100	Late 16 th century	30
3091	Rubble backfill of 3090	Early 17 th century	10
3092	Bedding layer for 3101	Late 17 th century	6
Grand Total			78

Period V

Four contexts assigned to Period V produced pottery. Context 3001 produced a mixed assemblage in which the latest sherds are of later 16th century or later date. Context 3028 produced an assemblage of early 13th century date. Context 3029 produced a sherd of North Devon gravel-tempered ware, dating the deposit to the later 16th century or later and context 3080 produced a sherd of North Devon gravel-free ware which dates deposition to the late 16th century or later.

Area 5

One hundred and forty sherds of pottery were recovered from Area 5.

Period II

Six contexts assigned to Period II all are associated with reclamation or alluvial deposits.

Two of the three alluvial deposits produced pottery of later 12th to mid 13th century date (5030 and 5031) which might therefore indicate that these deposits pre-date the reclamation of the marsh. The third, 5026, produced a group of later 13th century or later date. However, in total these three deposits only produced 10 sherds.

The three reclamation deposits include one, 5003, which produced two sherds which could be of later 12th to mid 13th-century date, and two which produced small groups of later 13th century or later date (contexts 5004 and 5025). Of these one (5025) included sherds of unglazed/sparingly-glazed Saintonge ware which are more common in the 14th than the 13th century.

Period III

A single context, 5001, assigned to period III produced pottery. The assemblage consisted of a later 13th century or later assemblage together with two sherds of mid 19th-century or later refined whiteware.

Period IV

A single context, 5000, assigned to period IV produced pottery. The assemblage consists of 28 medieval sherds of mid 13th century date or later and four sherds of early modern date, the latest of which is a sherd of refined whiteware of mid 19th century or later date.

Area 6

Period II

Two contexts (6040 and 6041) were assigned to Period II, both levelling deposits. Both produced small assemblages which can be dated to the mid 13th century or later.

Period III

Ten contexts assigned to Period III produced pottery. Most produced small assemblages of medieval pottery dating to the later 13th century or later (6003, 6005, 6025, 6026, 6027, 6030 and 6037). Three, however, produced sherds of South Somerset ware (and in one case a sherd of Cistercian ware) which date deposition to the later 16th century or later. These are 6011, 6028 and 6033. Each is dated by a single sherd.

Area 7

Period II

Four contexts assigned to Period II produced pottery (a total of 54 sherds, representing no more than 53 vessels and 485 gm). That from deposit 7031 (and "probably 7031") can be dated to the very late 13th century or later by the presence of Saintonge Polychrome ware whilst that from deposit 7032 could be slightly earlier, but still mid 13th century or later.

Discussion

Early Exploitation of the Marsh

The only pottery assigned to a pre-Marsh Wall phase from the excavations came from Evaluation Trench 27 and consisted of a single sherd of Saintonge Polychrome ware which is no earlier than the very late 13th century.

There is also a complete lack of material dating to the Saxo-Norman period residual in later contexts on the site and nothing which need be dated to the 12th century.

A small quantity of material is of types which are probably of later 12th to mid 13th century date and in some cases this material occurs in deposits which contain no later types. It may represent disturbed material from pre-Marsh Wall contexts but also might have been brought onto the site with levelling material at a much later date.

The Marsh Wall

The only material which is said to be stratigraphically related to the construction of the Marsh Wall comes, again, from Evaluation Trench 27. This material includes types which might have been current in the very late 13th century but are more commonly found in 14th-century deposits. The pottery is therefore important, either in demonstrating that these types are indeed present before the end of the 13th century or that the Marsh Wall in this area was not actually built until the 14th century.

The pottery assigned to Period II from other trenches and areas mainly comes from deposits which are described as alluvium or levelling and these too are likely to be roughly contemporary with the construction of the Wall. The material from Areas 3 and 5 includes earlier 13th-century types which are less common or even absent in Evaluation Trench 27 whilst that from Areas 6 and 7 is more similar to that from Evaluation Trench 27. This suggests that there might be earlier activity in Areas 3 and 5.

Medieval Activity post-dating the construction of the Marsh Wall

None of the contexts assigned to Period II which produced pottery appear to be related to later medieval activity on the site, unless some of the alluvium and levelling layers described above actually post-date the construction of the wall. Furthermore, there is no real evidence for the substantial presence of later medieval activity on the site, even as disturbed or residual material.

Post-medieval reclamation

Pottery was recovered from Period III contexts but much of this was residual medieval material of similar types to that present in Period II. Material from Area 6 includes late 16th or later pottery which includes no definite later 17th-century or later types. This material is therefore likely to reflect reclamation in the later 16th or earlier 17th century. However, the quantity of post-medieval pottery in any group is very low and therefore it would be difficult to refine this dating.

Industrial use

Some of the Period III contexts in Evaluation Trench 25 consists of smashed vessels, mainly of North Devon wares. They indicate the use of this part of the site in the later 17th to early 18th centuries and provide a collection of probably near-contemporary wares. None of the other areas have material of this date.

Victorian

Later 18th century and later pottery was rare on the site and was found only in three contexts in Evaluation Trench 25, one in Evaluation Trench 27 and one in Area 5. Since all of these deposits are assigned to Period III it is likely that all the sherds are intrusive.

Recommendations

Only two groups of pottery from the Broad Quay site have high potential for further study: the late 13th to 14th century pottery from Period II and the later 17th- to early 18th-century material from Period III, Evaluation Trench 25.

The Period II pottery consists of no more than 232 vessels. Of these, most are body sherds, some of which had applied decoration but most of which are probably not worth further study. Forty-five vessels are presented by featured sherds (rims, bases, handles, spouts and so on). At most, therefore, these might require 45 illustrations but 13 of these sherds are unremarkable Bristol medieval ware jugs bases and a more reasonable estimate would be 30 illustrations (Tasks 1 to 3).

Fifteen Period II vessels would be worthy of fuller investigation of their source, using thin section and/or chemical analysis. In total, one thin section and sixteen chemical analyses are recommended (Tasks 4 and 5).

The later 17th- to early 18th-century assemblage consists of seven illustratable vessels (Tasks 6 and 7).

The remaining pottery is useful for confirming the dating and phasing of the site put forward on stratigraphic grounds but does not amplify either the history of pottery use in Bristol or the history of the Broad Quay site in particular. The information provided in this report can be used without further input to provide this dating information, unless it is subsequently found

that the stratigraphic phasing requires modification, in which case an input may be required (Task 8).

The one exception to this is the pottery of Iberian origin. A total of 26 sherds were recovered, of which only three were stratified in late 13th to early 14th century deposits. These are of two types (SPAM and SPOW). Material of similar character was found associated with other later 13th to 14th-century wares in post-medieval and later deposits and can probably be accepted as further examples of this early Iberian trade and are worthy of further study (Tasks 9, 10, 11). Four sherds of later 15th or 16th-century date were also recovered and these too are sufficiently unusual to warrant further work (Task 12).

The other major group of imported wares, from southwest France, includes 145 sherds from no more than 105 vessels. Here too, there is no real evidence that the material stratified in later deposits is different in character from that found in medieval deposits (apart from a sherd of chafing dish), but in this case only three sherds come from vessels not represented in the stratified collection: a mortar and a sherd of a possible perfume pot. Catalogue entries should be provided for these, together with illustrations (Tasks 13 and 14). Nevertheless, the residual French wares can, in the main, be excluded from further study.

Table 6

Task	Description	Costing (at 2007/8 rates)	Revised Costing June 2008
1	Selection and cataloguing of Period II vessels for illustration	£100.00 plus VAT	£104.00 plus VAT
2	Illustration of Period II vessels	CA	CA
3	Production of publishable report	£200.00 plus VAT	£208.00 plus VAT
4	Thin-section analysis	£25.00 plus VAT	-
5	Chemical analysis (ICP-AES)	£400.00 plus VAT	-
6	Selection and cataloguing of Period III vessels for illustration	£50.00 plus VAT	£52.00 plus VAT
7	Illustration of Period III vessels	CA	CA
8	Revision of dating and stratigraphic interpretation on receipt of revised stratigraphic phasing	£100.00 plus VAT	£104.00 plus VAT
9	Cataloguing and study of Iberian imports	£50.00 plus VAT	£52.00 plus VAT

10	Illustration of Iberian imports	CA	CA
11	Characterisation studies of Iberian imports	£475.00 plus VAT	-
12	Cataloguing of late/post-medieval Iberian imports	£25.00 plus VAT	£26.00 plus VAT
13	Cataloguing of unusual French imports	£25.00 plus VAT	£26.00 plus VAT
14	Illustration of unusual French imports	CA	CA
Total (excluding CA input)		£1450.00 plus VAT	£572.00 plus VAT

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