

Assessment of Fired Clay from Rectory Farm, West Deeping, Lincolnshire (RFWD07)

Alan Vince and Kate Steane

A small quantity of fired clay was recovered from archaeological excavations at Rectory Farm, West Deeping, undertaken in 2007 by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) Ltd (RFWD07). The material is too fragmentary to identify the form of the material.

Description

Fired Clay

Forty-seven fragments of fired clay were recovered (App 1). They come from no more than 29 objects and weigh in total 368 gm.

All were examined at x20 magnification using a stereomicroscope. All contained rounded quartz sand up to 1.0mm across and rounded red ironstone. However, in comparison with the finds from the 2005 season, there is less evidence for calcareous inclusions and some indication that there are textural differences between fragments from different contexts. Some, though, do compare well with the 2005 material, which in the main consisted of fragments of Bronze Age to Iron Age cylindrical loom weights. There is no evidence that any of the fragments were subjected to high temperatures, again unlike the 2005 material.

Stone

A single fragment of limestone was present. It is probably an unworked pebble.

Assessment

The material is too fragmentary for the original form to be determined.

Further work

No further work is recommended.

Retention

All the fired clay fragments should be retained.

Appendix 1

Context	class	Cname	Description	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight
129	STONE	STONE		GEO	BS	1	1	3
135	FCLAY	FCLAY			BS	6	1	22
318	FCLAY	FCLAY			BS	7	1	57
388	FCLAY	FCLAY			BS	2	1	28
528	FCLAY	FCLAY			BS	1	1	5
552	FCLAY	FCLAY			BS	21	21	135
627	FCLAY	FCLAY	FLAT SURFACE		BS	4	1	7
627	FCLAY	FCLAY			BS	3	1	28
627	FCLAY	FCLAY	ONE WITH CURVED SURFACE		BS	2	1	46
674	FCLAY	FCLAY	MOULDED IRREGULAR SURFACE		BS	1	1	40