

Assessment of the Pottery and Clay Tobacco Pipes from Lucy Tower, Lincoln Castle, Lincoln (LCC'08)

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A small collection of pottery and clay pipe fragments was recovered from fieldwork undertaken by Field Archaeology Specialists Ltd at Lincoln Castle (Site Code: LCC'08).

The finds consist of medieval pottery, mainly of early 13th-century date, and post-medieval and later pottery and clay pipe fragments.

Description

Ceramic Building Material

Ten fragments of ceramic building material were recovered. All were examined by Jane Young and compared with the Lincoln CBM fabric series.

Examples of five fabrics were present of which one, LSWA – Lincoln Glazed Ware Fabric A, is also a pottery fabric (Young and Vince 2005). The remainder are specific to ceramic building material and thin section analysis suggests that they were all produced in the city, probably at the tile house situated behind the church of St Botolph at the southern end of the Wigford suburb (2003).

All the fragments probably come from flat roof tiles and one, from C1010, has mortar attached and was clearly used, either in walling or roofing. The two LSWA fragments are both abraded which might suggest that they are earlier than the remainder.

The Tilehouse was operating from the mid 12th century into the 16th century.

Clay Tobacco Pipes

Ten fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered. All were featureless stem fragments whose stem bore diameters suggest an 18th to 19th century date.

Pottery

Medieval

Eighteen sherds of medieval pottery were recovered. Two of these are shelly wares which probably did not continue in use into the 13th century (LEMS – Lincoln Early Medieval Shelly ware - and LFS – Lincoln Fine-Shelled ware). The remainder consist of sherds of LSWA from a variety of vessel types (all varieties of jug or pipkin). Form and decoration, which includes a thumbed jug base with at least three contiguous thumb impressions, suggests that

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the latest types present date to the early 13th century. A single sherd of an unknown medieval ware bowl, probably of local origin (MEDLOC) was present.

Post-medieval

Two sherds of post-medieval blackware, both of Staffordshire type (ie made from mixed light- and red-firing Coal Measure clays) are either of post-medieval or early modern date.

Early Modern

Two sherds of Nottingham stoneware (NOTS) are probably of later 18th century date and one sherd of buff ware is of early 19th century or later date (NCBW).

Assessment

Intervention 1

Intervention 1 was dug to investigate a blocked opening on the west side of the tower. Two deposits produced finds considered here. C1005 was a buried soil assumed to be contemporary with foundation F2, although its direct relationship was removed by a 19th-century drain. This produced fragments of flat roof tile and pottery which as a group probably date to the early 13th century. This soil was covered by topsoil C1000 which produced finds which provide a TPQ of early 18th-century.

Intervention 2

Intervention 2 was dug to investigate a blocked opening on the east side of the tower. A stair head was found which led out of the tower, on the outside of the curtain wall. This was blocked and the blocking, C1010, produced pottery and tile consistent with an early 13th century or later date for the blocking. Topsoil in this trench, C1006, produced a mixture of medieval, post-medieval and early modern finds.

Retention

The finds should be retained for possible future re-examination.

Further work

No further work is recommended.

Bibliography

- Jones, M. J., Stocker, D., and Vince, A. (2003) *The City by the Pool*, Oxbow Books, Oxford
- Young, Jane and Vince, Alan (2005) *A Corpus of Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Lincoln*. Lincoln Archaeological Reports Oxford, Oxbow

Appendix 1

Trench	Context	REFNO	class	Cname	Description	Subfabric	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Condition	Use
INT 1	C1000	RF1	PIPECLAY	PIPECLAY		18-19TH CENTURY BORE	CLAYPIPE	STEM	2	2	7		
INT 1	C1000	RF1	PIPECLAY	PIPECLAY		18TH CENTURY BORE	CLAYPIPE	STEM	1	1	2		
INT 1	C1000	RF1	POTTERY	LSW2	pocked reduced glaze		jug	BS	1	1	4		
INT 1	C1000	RF1	POTTERY	NOTS			mug	BS	1	1	5		
INT 1	C1000	RF1	POTTERY	BL	thin walled	fine red fabric;Staffs ?	jar	BS	1	1	13		
INT 1	C1000	RF5	CBM	PNR		LSWA	FLAT	BS	1	1	24	ABR	
INT 1	C1000	RF5	CBM	PNR		Fabric 7	FLAT	CORNER	1	1	257		
INT 1	C1005	RF1	POTTERY	LSW2			jug	base	1	1	16		
INT 1	C1005	RF1	POTTERY	LSW2			jug	BS	1	1	9		
INT 1	C1005	RF1	POTTERY	MEDLOC		Fabric A	jar/bowl	base	1	1	5		SOOT
INT 1	C1005	RF1	POTTERY	LSW2	central hollow to handle		pipkin	handle	2	1	70		
INT 1	C1005	RF6	CBM	PNR		LSWA	FLAT	BS	1	1	29	ABR	
INT 1	C1005	RF6	CBM	PNR		Fabric 1	FLAT	CORNER	1	1	28		
INT 1	C1005	RF6	CBM	PNR		Fabric 7	FLAT	BS	1	1	110		
INT 2	C1006	RF3	PIPECLAY	PIPECLAY		18TH CENTURY BORE	CLAYPIPE	STEM	2	2	4		
INT 2	C1006	RF3	PIPECLAY	PIPECLAY		18-19TH CENTURY BORE	CLAYPIPE	STEM	5	5	16		
INT 2	C1006	RF3	POTTERY	LSW2			small jug/jar	base	1	1	17		
INT 2	C1006	RF3	POTTERY	NCBW			large bowl?	BS	1	1	14		

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Trench	Context	REFNO	class	Cname	Description	Subfabric	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Condition	Use
INT 2	C1006	RF3	POTTERY	BL	near vitrified; internal glaze	Staffs MP type	large jar	BS	1	1	23		
INT 2	C1006	RF3	POTTERY	LSW2			small jug/pipkin	BS	1	1	2		
INT 2	C1006	RF3	POTTERY	NOTS			small jar/bowl	base	1	1	58		
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LSW2			jug	BS	1	1	2		
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LSW2	copper mottled pocked glaze; thin walled; APPLIED VERTICAL STRIPS		jug	LHJ	1	1	60		
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LSW2	copper mottled glaze		miniature jug	BS	1	1	6		
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LSW2	untrimmed base		small pipkin	base	1	1	10		
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LSW2	thumbed basal angle 3+		jug	base	1	1	20		SOOT
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LSW2	cu glaze		jug	BS	1	1	2		
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LSW2			jug	BS	1	1	4		
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LEMS			large jar/bowl	base	1	1	32		SOOT
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LFS			jar	BS	1	1	5		
INT 2	C1010	RF4	POTTERY	LSW2	reduced glaze		small jug	BS	1	1	3		
INT 2	C1010	RF7	CBM	PNR		Fabric 17/20	FLAT	BS	1	1	162		MORTAR
INT 2	C1010	RF7	CBM	PNR		Fabric 7	FLAT	BS	1	1	130		
INT 2	C1010	RF7	CBM	PNR		Fabric 7	FLAT	BS	1	1	63		
INT 2	C1010	RF7	CBM	PNR		Fabric 16	FLAT	BS	1	1	35		
INT 2	C1010	RF7	CBM	PNR		Fabric 1	FLAT	CORNER	1	1	137		