

## Section 45 Recreation

H B Duncan

Cross-references to Digital Supplement in red  
Cross-references to Printed Synthesis in brown

Finds of musical instruments, toys, and gaming pieces were neither frequent (ten in total), nor was their distribution restricted to any one building. Finds of this category were however, recovered only from domestic, as opposed to agricultural, buildings. Numerous clay pipes were recovered from later contexts. Both clapper bells and rumbler bells are discussed under Transportation and Animal Trappings [46].

### Clay pipes 45.02/1-10

A M Slowikowski and K Wilson

A total of 1306 fragments of clay pipes were recovered. The majority, 1136, are stem fragments. The bowls totalled 170 and were very fragmentary with few decorated or stamped pieces. A date range was allocated using Oswald (1975).

Most are associated with or come from the destruction of S16, and are consistently dated to the mid- to late 17th century, with only very few later examples [45.01].

Decorated fragments are limited to two bowls with a mulberry pattern in relief (see Baker and Hassall 1979b, 250, fig 154, no 1035) one with a possible anchor design (see Baker and Hassall 1979b, 249, fig153, no 1033) and one with what appears to be a fragmentary ring and spiral pattern. Rouletting or milling are more common. Rouletting is generally a simple square or rectangular notch, although one example of a more complex rouletted motif was found [45.01, 45.02/6].

Stamps are rare. Among the unidentified stamps were 'T.W' on the side of the heel of a pipe dating to c 1720 and 'TG' or possibly 'TC' encircled by a heart [45.02/9]. In the vicinity of S16 was found a stamped bowl reading 'GOR..E R.WEAVER', (George R Weaver?), the name running lengthwise on either side of the bowl [45.02/10]. Further away from the core of the site, a bowl stamped 'BISHOP.LEIGHTON' (E Bishop of Leighton Buzzard) was found in Area 3. This can be dated to 1877.

Period	S	Date	No	Comments	Period	S	Date	No	Comments
6.1	16	1640-1680	1		6.2-7	16A	1660-1710	2	
6.1	16	1640-1730	1		6.2-7	16A	1680-1710	4	
6.1	16D	1640-1680	2		6.2-7	16A	1640-1670	12	
6.1	16D	1680-1710	1		6.2-7	16A	1640-1680	6	
6.1	51A	Late 19th	1	RAOB	6.2-7	16A	1690-1710	3	
6.1	51A	1640-1680	1		6.2-7	16A	mid 17th	4	
6.1	65D	1700-1740	1		7	16A	1640-1670	2	
6.2	16A	1640-1670	1	Mulberry pattern	7	16A	1660-1680	1	
6.2	16D	1640-1660	1		7	16A	1680-1710	1	
6.2	16D	1640-1670	2		7	16D	mid-17th	1	
6.2	16D	1700-1740	2		7	16D	1640-1660	9	
6.2	63D	1640-1660	1		7	16D	1640-1680	2	
6.2	63D	1640-1670	3		7	16D	1660-1680	4	
6.2	63D	1690-1710	1		7	16D	1660-1710	2	
6.2-7	16A	1640-1660	12		7	16D	1680-1710	2	
6.2-7	16A	1640-1680	8		6.2-7	16A	1660-1680	8	
6.2-7	16A	1660-1680	8		6.2-7	16A	1660-1710	2	
6.2-7	16A	1660-1680	8		6.2-7	16A	1680-1710	4	

45.01 Table of identifiable clay pipes by phase and Structure, omitting unphased items (Wilson and Duncan)

Illus no	Period	Structure	Context	Comments
45.02/1	6.2	16	13/4.5.6	Plain bowl with flared heel
45.02/2	6.2	16	13/4.5.6	Plain bowl with flared heel
45.02/3	6.2	16	13/4.5.6	Plain bowl with flared heel
45.02/4	6.2	16	13/4.5.6	Plain bowl with flared heel
45.02/5	6.2	16	13/4.5.6	Plain S-shaped bowl
45.02/6	6.2-7	16	7/510 (F8)	Rouletted bowl
45.02/7	6.2-7	63	13/112	Plain bowl with milled edge
45.02/8		-	8/39.3	Upright bowl with small heel
45.02/9	us	16A	13/us	Plain bowl with stamp on heel 'TC' or 'TG' in a heart
45.02/10	6.2-7	16A	13/6	Stamped 'GOR..E R. WEAVER'

45.03 Table of illustrated pipes by phase and context (Wilson and Duncan)

## Musical instruments 45.04/314-316

H B Duncan

Bone tuning pegs were used on harps, lyres, and on simple lutes, such as fiddles (Lawson 1990, 713). The instrument strings were coiled round the pegs and their tension adjusted by turning the pegs. Of the two types of peg identified by Lawson (1985, 152; 1990, 713), only Type A or long variety, in which the attachment of the strings is achieved by means of a perforation in the narrower end, was found. The squared end of [45.04/314] is suggestive of the use of a socketed key to adjust the pegs and the slight signs of wear on this end would support this. The squared, but flatter end of [45.04/315] is slightly broader than its counterpart and may have been hand turned (cf Lawson 1985, 153).

The date range for bone tuning pegs presently spans from around 1300 until well into the 17th century (Lawson 1990, 711). The two La Grava examples can be closely paralleled from the late medieval assemblage recovered from Battle Abbey (Lawson 1985, fig 45.28-38).

Three iron Jew's (jaw's) harps were recovered. Jew's harps of both copper alloy and iron are becoming increasingly common finds from medieval and post-medieval excavations, their origins stemming from as far back as the Crusades (Lawson 1990, 724). All the La Grava examples share the attributes of a rebate for attachment of the reed or tongue and a frame of diamond-shaped cross-section [45.04/316]; standard features on both copper-alloy and iron forms throughout their history. All three Jew's harps are from phase 6.2 and Period 7, one each from destruction deposits of S16 and S63, the third from topsoil. Neither the tuning pegs nor Jew's harps were concentrated in any one structure.

### 45.04/314

Sf 2167 T30 C117 [P5.4-6.1 S56]

Bone tuning peg, long variety, circular stem with transverse circular perforation 2mm from end. Opposite end rectangular in section. Lth 53.2mm

### 45.04/315

Sf 782 T13C 626 [P6.1 S17D]

Bone tuning peg, incomplete, long variety, stem rectangular in section with expanded end. Opposite end broken. Lth 38.6mm

### 45.04/316

Sf 1273 T7 C584 [P6.2 S16D]

Iron Jew's harp, diamond-sectioned frame, rebate for reed, remains of reed *in situ*. Lth 57.5mm

## Games and toys 45.04/317-321

H B Duncan

Two dice, one bone and one ivory, were recovered; both have the values arranged so that opposite faces total seven. This was the normal numbering system (Type A), used since Roman times, although an additional system (Type B) was in use from the 13th to 16th centuries (Brown 1990, 692-3). Both dice are solid, [45.04/317] is marked with a double ring and dot while [45.04/318] is marked with a single conical hole. A study of the Winchester dice assemblage (Brown 1990, 692-694) indicated that most Romano-British dice were marked with double ring and dot, medieval dice with a single ring and dot while only in the post-medieval period were dice marked with a single conical hole. Both La Grava dice were from phase 6.2 and Period 7.

A single ceramic counter, formed from a reused roof tile (Fabric 8), was identified [45.04/319]. This has been roughly shaped to form a circular disc. The fabric type, size, and roughness of this counter indicate use in the medieval game of tables (cf Brown 1990, 696). This game had a currency as early as 1100 and continued in popularity until around 1500 when draughts became popularly accepted (MacGregor 1985, 135).

Two possible buzz toys, one of bone and one of shell, were identified. [45.04/320], a pig metapodial bone, has a centrally bored hole. These objects have been variously described as toggles, dress fasteners, or bobbins and are found on numerous medieval sites, dating from the 11th century onwards. Current opinion interprets these objects as simple toys, a plaything to be mounted on a twisted string and spun first one way then another (MacGregor 1985, 102-3; Brown and Lawson 1990, 589). [45.04/321] is the upper valve of a swan(?) mussel and although incomplete, retains traces of four circular perforations. Although this may have been worn as a pendant, it is conceivable that it was used in a similar manner to [45.04/320].

45.04/317

Sf 737 T13 C214 [P6.2 S63]

Ivory(?) die, Type A, solid cube but irregular. Double ring and dot marking. Lth 10mm, wth 8.2mm

45.04/318

Sf 2321 T30 C1 [P6.2-7]

Bone (cattle) die, Type A, solid. Single conical-holed markings. Lth 5.2mm, wth 5.2mm

45.04/319

Sf 2014 T30 C1 [P6.2-7]

Circular ceramic tableman made from roof tile (fabric brick-red harsh), roughly shaped. Dia about 56mm

45.04/320

Sf 752 T13 C519 [P5.2 S20A]

Buzz toy(?), pig metapodial bone with centrally drilled perforation. Lth 65mm

45.04/321

Sf 1391 T7 C706 [P6.1 S16]

Upper valve of swan(?) mussel shell, a pair of perforations at either side edge (one edge damaged)