

(6 March 2015) POT & CBM

Scan assessment of the pottery from Paddington (Crossrail XSE 10)

by John Cotter

Introduction

A total of 17 sherds of pottery weighing 380g were recovered from a single context (2085). These are all 'Victorian'. The character of the material is entirely domestic. In general the pottery is in a fragmentary but fairly fresh condition with some quite large fresh sherds present.

Methodology

All the pottery was examined and spot-dated during the present assessment stage. For each context the total pottery sherd count and weight were recorded on an Excel spreadsheet, followed by the context spot-date which is the date-bracket during which the latest pottery types in the context are estimated to have been produced or were in general circulation. Comments on the presence of datable types were also recorded, usually with mention of vessel form (jugs, bowls etc.) and any other attributes worthy of note (eg. decoration etc.).

Summary

Context (2085) produced parts of three 19th-century vessels of mass-produced Staffordshire type. The character and decoration of the two dish rims suggests a date of c 1860-1900. The vessels include most of a plain teapot in Rockingham-type brown earthenware (ROCK). Also a dish rim in transfer-printed whiteware (TPW) and a dish rim in refined whiteware with a painted border (REFW PNTD). No further work on the assemblage is recommended.

Ceramic building material (CBM)

The excavation produced just two pieces of CBM weighing 89g from a single context (ctx 2076). These have not been separately catalogued but are fully described here. The two joining pieces come from a single flat roof tile in a hard dense and fairly sandy bright orange fabric with darker red-brown surfaces. The tile is fairly battered and worn and the sanded underside is partly covered with a rusty concretion containing flecks of charcoal or coal. There are also small patches of grey cement adhering here and there - including the broken edges. One of the broken edges has a slight upturn suggesting the tile had an upright flange along one side - it might be from the flattened side of a pan tile? The character of the piece suggests a later 19th or 20th century date. No further work is recommended.

Bibliography

LAARC, 2007 Post 1992 Museum of London code expansions: Post-Roman pottery.

http://www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/F0118AAF-EF24-4228-A07A-39F89E6F092E/0/post92mol_post_roman.pdf