

Note on a single architectural fragment from XTE12

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- A single architectural fragment of stone accessioned as <13> was recovered from Context [228] which was a post-medieval brick wall.
- The stone measures 280 x 100 x 340mm.
- Its petrology is Reigate Upper Greensand which is a Late Cretaceous sandstone. The stone was historically been quarried from an outcrop running from Godstone to Brockham in the North Downs of Surrey until the 1930s.
- The moulding is extremely fragmentary, weathered and covered in secondary use mortar, however it seems to be an ovolo with some possible recutting. There is some evidence that the moulding was originally limewashed,
- The stone is far too fragmentary to positively identify its original function within a building, and it is entirely possible that it could be part of an architrave, a window head, a mullion, a cornice or a string course.
- The precise dating of this simple moulding is not possible as it is found in Classical, medieval and post-medieval architecture. However the proximity of the stone to the medieval monastic foundation of Charterhouse makes that a possible point of origin.
- A narrow v-shaped groove has been let into the bed of the stone 145 x 30mm in dimension. This does not seem to be a grout or glazing channel. The fact that one end of the channel is very finely worked with strong mitre-lines and flared corners suggests that it may have been part of a tutorial in letter-cutting by masons prior to laying the stone.

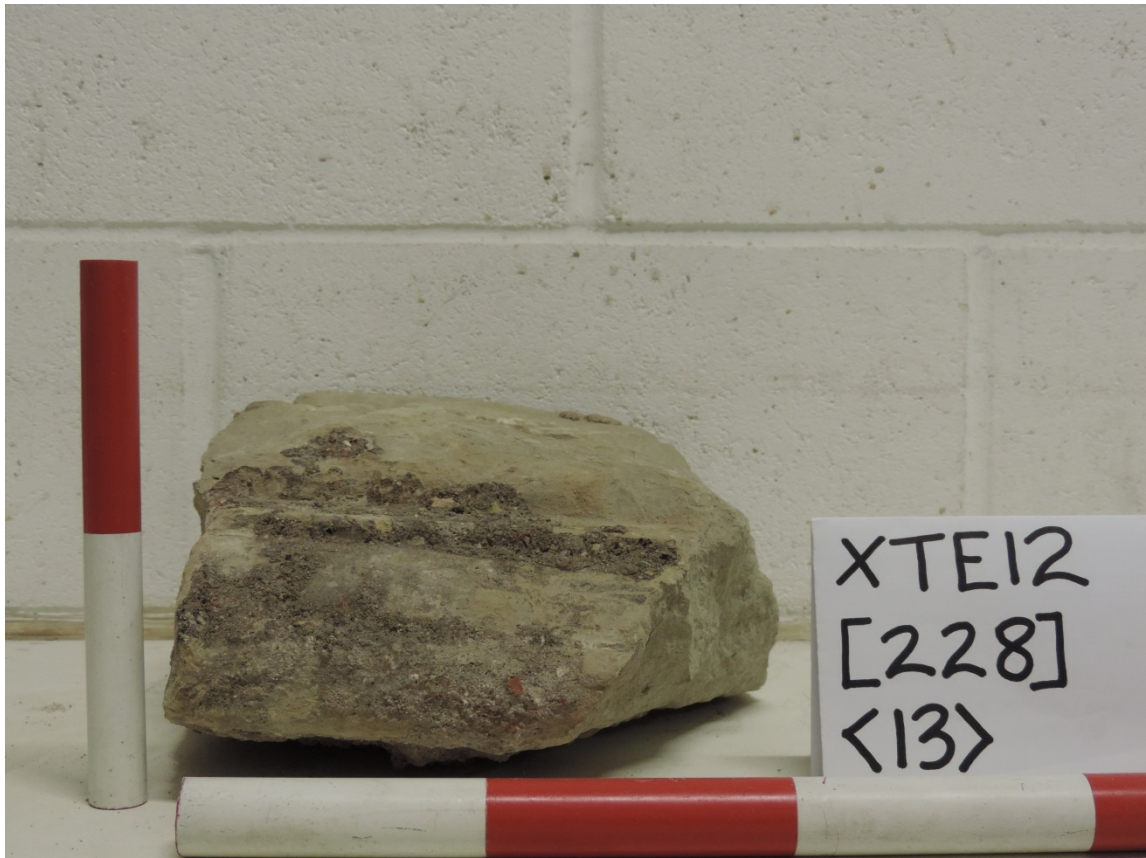


Fig 1 The face of the moulding of stone <13>

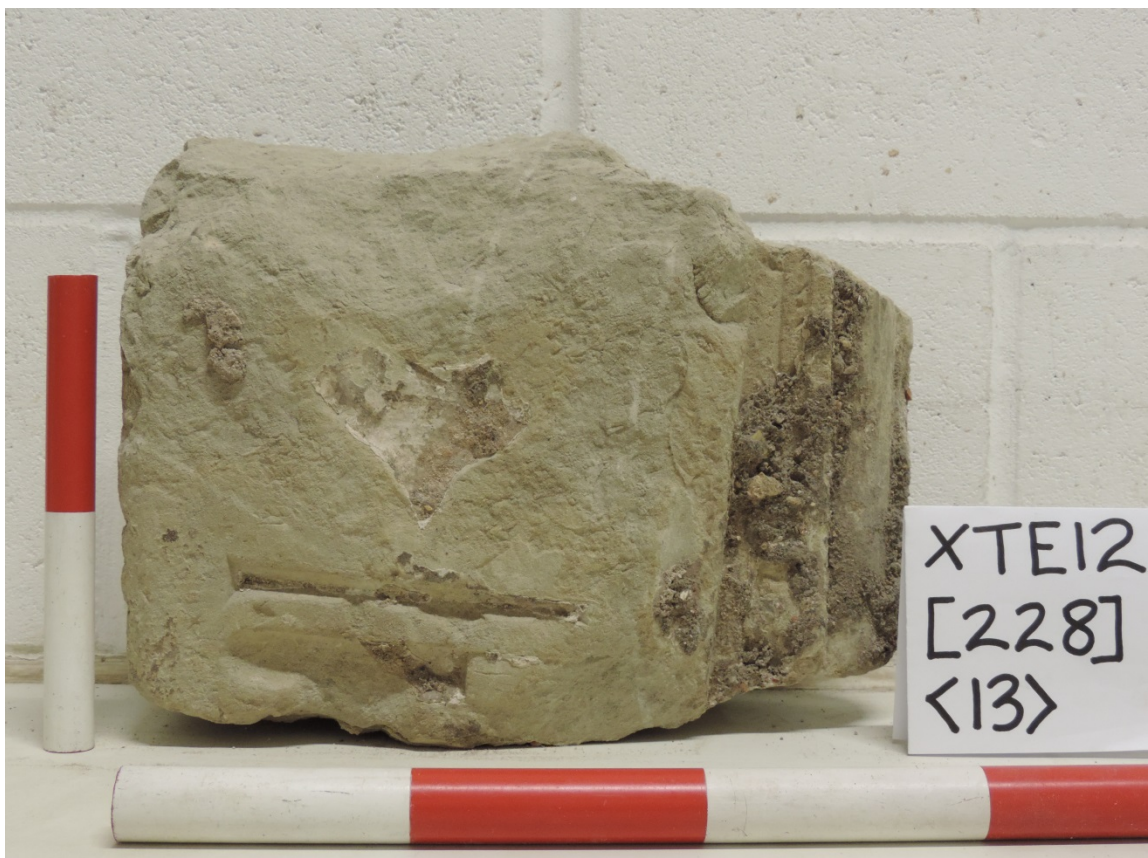


Fig 2 Bed of stone <13> showing the finely worked v-shaped cut