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## **Assessment of the pottery from Worcester College Quad (OXWOSM 16 WB)**

*by John Cotter*

### **Introduction**

A total of 21 sherds of pottery weighing 879g were recovered from three contexts. This of mixed medieval and post-medieval date. The condition of the material is generally good. The earliest piece is a sherd of East Wiltshire/Kennet Valley B ware (OXAQ, c1150-1350). There is quite a lot of 17th-century pottery, but this all appears to be residual in 19th-century contexts. Domestic pottery typical of Oxford sites is represented. Given the small size of the assemblage a separate catalogue has not been constructed and instead the pottery is simply described and spot-dated below. Fabric codes referred to for the medieval wares are those of the Oxfordshire type series (Mellor 1994) whereas post-medieval pottery fabric codes are those of the Museum of London (MoLA 2014). No further work is recommended.

### **Context (100) Spot-date: c 1850-1900**

Description: 13 sherds (340g). 1x scrap possibly from ?teacup in transfer-printed whiteware (TPW) with 'flow blue' decoration ext (Mid 19C+). 1x rim from bone china saucer (BONE, c1796+) with gilded border lines. 1x frag Staffs-type whiteware figurine - possibly a human leg or an arm - with red painted lines and dots (REFW PNTD, c 1840+). 1x small handle frag Staffs white stoneware (SWSG, 1720-1780). 3x sherds (2 body, 1 handle) from jugs in Frechen stoneware (FREC, c1550-1700). 2x joining flat base sherds from vertical sided bowl in post-medieval red earthenware (PMR) with dark brown glaze allover int and ext (probably 18C). 3x sherds Brill/Boarstall ware (OXAM) incl rod handle from late medieval drinking jug with stabbed dec down the back and patchy green glaze ext, and body sherd (bo) from jug/jar with int green glaze (possibly 15/16C), and including one sherd (43g) from an unusual late medieval (15C?) green-glazed form - possibly a condiment dish (lacking rim) attached to a larger dish (possibly square or rectangular) with a short flaring plain rim and flat base (knife-cut/trimmed). 1x large fairly fresh sagging base from a cooking pot in East Wiltshire/Kennet Valley B ware (OXAQ, c1150-1350).

### **Context (110) Spot-date: c 1820-1900**

Description: 7 sherds (508g). 1x flat base sherd from plain dish in refined white earthenware (REFW, c1806-1900). 2x joining wall sherds from moulded dish possibly in Wedgwood-type creamware with green glaze (CREA GRN, c1760-1830), quite thick-walled with moulded radial foliage and buds internally in the style of Wedgwood cabbage leaf bowls, green-glazed int and with a thinner very decayed green glaze allover ext. 2x large fresh joining sherds from the pad base and lower wall of large jug/flagon with unusually flaring walls in grey salt-glazed English stoneware (ENGS), probably first half of 19C. 1x FREC Bellarmine mask c 1640-1660 with hourglass mouth, on neck sherd. 1x sherd from damaged filled base of globular drinking mug in Raeren stoneware (RAER, c1480-1550).

### **Context (114) Spot-date: c 1550-1700**

Description: 1 sherd (31g). 1x yellow-glazed Border ware (BORDY), body sherd from dish wall. Fairly fresh.

### **Clay tobacco pipe**

*by John Cotter*

A total of 7 pieces of clay pipe weighing 40g were recovered from three contexts. The condition of the material is fairly poor. Given the small size of the assemblage a separate catalogue has not been constructed and instead the pipes are simply described and spot-dated below.

### **Context (100) Spot-date: Late 18th to 19th century**

Description: 5 pieces (29g): 5x stem fragments probably from separate pipes. 1 with stem bore diameter of c 2mm (burnt), L18-19C. The rest probably 17C and late 17C to early 18C.

### **Context (110) Spot-date: c 1650-1690**

Description: 1 piece (10g): Damaged bowl base with stubby spur. Probably Oxford Type B c 1650-1690.

**Context (119) Spot-date: Late 18th to 19th century**

Description: 1 piece (1g): Stem fragment. Slender with narrow bore diameter of c2mm.

**Ceramic building material (CBM)**

*by John Cotter*

A single piece of CBM was recovered. This has not been separately catalogued but is described below. No further work is recommended.

**Context (100) Spot-date: c 1820-1925**

Description: 1 piece (163g). Fragment from the rim/collar area of a brown salt-glazed stoneware drainpipe of large diameter. 19C rather than later.

**Bibliography**

Mellor, M, 1994 'Oxfordshire Pottery: A Synthesis of middle and late Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval pottery in the Oxford Region' *Oxoniensia* **59**, 17-217.

MoLA 2014 Medieval and post-medieval pottery codes (<http://www.mola.org.uk/resources/medieval-and-post-medieval-pottery-codes>)