

## Broadgate Ticket Hall Pile Line GWB (XSM10)

Ian M. Betts

28th February 2012

### Summary Note on Building Materials

Four fragments of building material were recovered from this phase of XSM10 (contexts [888], [890] and [915]). These comprise two pieces of decorated tin-glazed 'delft' wall tile and two brick samples.

The building material from XSM10 has been fully recorded and the information added to the Oracle database.

Listed below is a summary of the building material in each context:

Context	Fabric	Type	Date
888	3067	Delft wall tile	1700–1750
890	3086	Delft wall tile	1700–1800
915	3033, 3042	Brick	1550–1666/1700

### Discussion

#### ***Brick***

The bricks from context [915] lack diagnostic dating features but, based on their size, are probably 1550–1666 in date. The difference in fabric suggests they may originate from two different London brickyards.

#### ***Delft wall tile***

The delft tile from context [888] <288> shows the bottom right corner of a landscape scene with buildings. The landscape, which is painted in blue on white, is set in an octagonal powdered purple border with blue on white fleur-de-lis corners. Part of a similar tile was found at King Edward Street, London (Betts and Weinstein 2010, 149, no. 302) whilst Pluis (1997, 544, C.02.00.16) show a complete Dutch tile with a similar combination of corner and border design. The XSM10 example is also Dutch and dates to around 1700–1750. Few tiles of this type seem to have been used in London.

The blue on white delft tile from context [890] <287> is unusual in having parts of the design outlined in black and pale black. The careful use of highlighting suggests it could be an 18th century Dutch biblical tile. The presence of what appears to be hammer suggests the biblical scene depicted could be 'The building of the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11). Horne (1989, 77, no. 448) shows what would be a different version of the scene on a London-made tile of 1740–60.

## **References**

Betts, I M, and Weinstein, R I, 2010 *Tin-glazed tiles from London*, London

Horne, J, 1989 *English tin-glazed tiles*, London

Pluis, J, 1997 *The Dutch tile: designs and names*, Leiden