

Note on clay tobacco pipes from Pit 4, XSM10

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Introduction

The clay tobacco pipes from XSM10 were recorded in accordance with current MOL Archaeology practice and entered onto the Oracle database. The pipe bowls have been classified and dated according to the Chronology of London Bowl Types (Atkinson and Oswald 1969), using the prefix AO, with the dating of 18th-century pipes refined by reference to Oswald's Simplified General Typology, distinguished by the prefix OS (Oswald 1975). Quantification and recording follow guidelines set out by Higgins and Davey (1994; Davey 1997).

The clay pipes

A total of nine clay pipe bowls and two stem fragments were recovered from contexts [732] and [733]. There were no decorated or marked pipes and hence no accessioned items. All identifiable pipe bowls are typical of London manufacture and all show signs of having been smoked.

The pipe bowls range in date from c 1660–80 for the earliest examples, to c 1730–80 for the latest. The only types recorded within the earlier range are AO15 and AO18, which are the most common types found in London during this period. Context [733] yielded one example of each and no later pipes, so has been dated to c 1660–80. One type AO15 and two type AO18 pipe bowls were found in context [732], together with one bowl of type OS11 and one of type OS12, which give this context its later date. In the absence of makers' marks there is no possibility of refining the clay pipe chronology further.

Bibliography

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