APPENDIX 4: THE FINDS

Cinder Hill, Cutacre: Prehistoric Material

Prehistoric stone artefacts

Caroline Bulcock

In total, nine pieces of worked flint and two pieces of worked chert were recovered from Cinder Hill (*Ch 2, p 21*; Table 25; full details are contained in the site archive). In addition, a large pebble, probably basaltic, shows evidence of modification through use.

Methodology

Each of the artefacts was assessed to identify diagnostic features, enable broad definitions of type, and allow some assessment of potential date ranges to be made. Data collected comprised the raw material type and quality, and the relative reduction sequence of each piece. Any visible bulb of percussion was also examined to ascertain what sorts of tools were used to work the stone, and the identification of attributes such as retouch or abrasion. An examination of the dorsal face and any remaining platform and/or termini was also carried out to determine the probable knapping technique employed, and the evident degree of skill and preparation with which it was carried out.

The assemblage

The variety in colour and quality of the raw material exploited is striking; of the 11 pieces collected, eight different types are apparent. With the exception of one very small piece of translucent honey-coloured material (Unstratified/1128), all is relatively poor-quality, opaque, and grainy, often mottled, or containing structural imperfections. This suggests that it was collected opportunistically from relatively local secondary sources, such as river-terrace gravels, coastal deposits, and boulder clays.

The two chert flakes were similar in colour and texture, and may have been derived locally from limestone or sandstone, within which chert is known to occur (Crofts *et al* 2012). Each appeared to have been struck from small abraded pebbles of raw material, further supporting the suggestion of an entirely locally sourced assemblage.

The assemblage comprises two primary, five secondary, and four tertiary pieces. It would be misleading, however, to suggest that all stages of working are represented equally, as many of the primary and secondary pieces are complete and usable tools rather than debitage. The relatively large proportion of cortical pieces shows how maximum benefit was being made of minimal available raw material. This is emphasised by the fact that two tools were produced by the modification of naturally fractured thermal flakes.

The quantity of artefacts is very small, with only five being from sealed contexts, at least one of which (***726***/1095) was almost certainly residual in a much later feature. The assemblage consists of three flakes, one blade fragment, four scrapers, two microliths, and a bladelet core. None can be dated with precision: the flakes could feasibly be anywhere from Late Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age in date, and the blade is from the Mesolithic or Neolithic period. Although side scrapers of this sort are common in Early Neolithic assemblages, they, too, could have been produced at any time between the Mesolithic period and the Bronze Age (Rowe 1998), form often being a product of function rather than chronology (Young 1987, 57-8). The bladelet core can, however, be dated to the Mesolithic or Early Neolithic period and the two microliths are Mesolithic, one most probably a Later Mesolithic type.

The pebble (Unstratified/1078) is of volcanic origin and is probably a type of basalt. It is either a glacial erratic, or a manuport, and is likely to have originated in Cumbria or Wales (Stone 2010; Howells 2007). It has two distinct types of use-wear evident, although its precise function is unclear, two adjacent flat faces and a small area on the side of the narrow end appearing to have been smoothed by repeated grinding. The rest of the narrow end is pecked, presumably through being utilised as

Area	Context/OR	Material/ colour	Reduction	Artefact Type	Comments	Potential date range
42S	Topsoil ***501***/1113	Flint; patinated light buff	Tertiary	Microlith	Backed down one lateral edge; microlith prepared for hafting?	Mesolithic
42S	Fill ***529***, in tree-throw ***517***/1130	Flint; mottled grey	Secondary	Flake	Hinge-fractured flake; hard-hammer-struck; negative scar on dorsal face shows removed from a core with more than one platform	Late Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age
42S	Fill ***529***, in tree-throw ***517***/1130	Flint; dark greyish-black	Primary	Flake	Poor-quality raw material; no cortex as such but dorsal face pitted and abraded, suggesting this was primary flake struck from rolled gravel-flint pebble	Late Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age
42S	Fill ***824***, in tree throw ***825***/1126	Flint; patinated grey	Tertiary	Broken proximal blade fragment	Soft-hammer struck; abrasion at proximal end of dorsal face suggests struck from carefully prepared core; unidirectional scarring on dorsal face	Mesolithic-Neolithic
42S	Fill ***905***, in gully ***971***/1129	Flint; mottled light brown/ buff	Secondary	Side scraper	Crude side scraper on thermal flake; semi-abrupt retouch down one lateral edge; opposite edge retains cortex; flakes removed from both faces to thin and facilitate handling	Mesolithic-Bronze Age (most common in Early Neolithic assemblages)
42S	Unstratified/ 1128	Flint; translucent honey-coloured	Tertiary	Microlith	Good-quality raw material; crescent-shaped microlith	Later Mesolithic
42 S	Unstratified/ 1125	Flint; dark brown	Secondary	Side scraper	Manufactured on long flake, retaining cortex down one lateral edge; opposite edge slightly convex with semi-abrupt retouch becoming more invasive at thicker proximal end	Mesolithic-Bronze Age (most common in Early Neolithic assemblages)
42S	Unstratified/ 1127	Chert; dark greyish-black	Primary	Small end scraper	Broken primary flake invasively modified at thick curved distal end, with invasive retouch to produce small convex scraping edge	Mesolithic-Bronze Age

Table 22: Prehistoric flint and stone artefacts

Area	Context/OR	Material/ colour	Reduction	Artefact Type	Comments	Potential date range
42S	Topsoil ***501***/1040	Chert; dark greyish-black	Tertiary	Flake	Squat, soft-hammer-struck flake; feather termination; negative scarring on dorsal face shows flake removed from core with more than one platform	Late Mesolithic-Early Bronze Age
42S	Unstratified/ 1078	?Basalt; grey	N/A	Hammer/ grinding stone	Four-sided stone; smoothed on two faces and side of narrow end; rough, with concave pecked areas on remaining two faces; narrow end pecked	?Prehistoric
42N	Unstratified/ 1115	Flint; reddish-brown	Secondary	Bladelet core	Single platform core with scarring from three bladelet removals evident; platform is flat with abraded edges, suggesting careful preparation, although at least one hinge-fractured flake has also been struck from the piece	Mesolithic-Earlier Neolithic
42N	Fill ***726***, in pit ***727***/1095	Flint; dark brown	Secondary	End and side scraper	Manufactured on thermal flake; semi-abrupt retouch down one lateral edge and one end; cortex retained on one face to facilitate handling; opposite face shows evidence for attempted thinning of flake; working edges abraded	Mesolithic-Bronze Age

Table 22: Prehistoric flint and stone artefacts (cont'd)

a hammerstone, and concave areas in the centre of each of the two remaining faces also seem to have been produced by pecking. It is difficult to be more precise than to suggest that this stone was used for a variety of activities, including grinding and hammering, and that this activity could be prehistoric in date.

There seems to have been a concentration of prehistoric activity in this area (*Ch 2*). This could be supported by the fact that all of the sealed archaeological deposits containing worked lithics, with the exception of the scraper that was residual in a pit (***727***) at Site 42N (*Ch 2, p 24*), were located in Site 42S. More than half of the assemblage is residual, however, collected from the topsoil or unstratified, so it may be that the prehistoric activity represented took place over a wider area, with the material eventually eroding downslope to where it was found.

One of the scrapers was excavated from the fill of a shallow gully (***906***, part of gully ***971***; *Ch 2, p 25*) and may thus be of significance in assigning a date and/or function to this feature. Two flakes and a blade fragment were excavated from the fills of two different tree-throws (***825*** and ***517***; *Ch 2, p 25*) and, although these may also be residual, there is

plenty of evidence that such natural features may have held some significance, since these often seem to be a focus of deposition (Evans *et al* 1999).

Prehistoric Pottery

Chris Cumberpatch

In total, 15 fragments (164 g) were identified as prehistoric pottery, derived from the Middle Bronze Age settlement at Cinder Hill (*Ch 2, p 25*). All was from securely stratified contexts associated with the Bronze Age roundhouse and four-post structures and, as several of the sherds can be shown to join, the number of vessels represented is probably no more than six.

Methodology

The pottery was dried and brushed with a soft paintbrush to remove dust and dry soil on the surface. The sherds were examined with a x10 hand lens and binocular microscope, with a view to identifying the range and type of coarse inclusions in the clay body, but this exercise was limited by the condition of the surface of the sherds.

The assemblage

All of the pottery examined was handmade. None of the sherds were decorated and more than one fabric was perhaps present, though this was difficult to establish fully. In all cases, however, there was an absence of quartz and calcite within the fabrics.

Several of the sherds were recovered from the four-post structures to the north-east of the roundhouse. Of these, five (OR 1201) were derived from posthole ***555*** (fill ***554***), which formed an element of the primary four-post structure (*Ch 2, p 29*), and also produced a radiocarbon date of 1440-1230 cal BC (3091±38 BP; SUERC-56418; *Appendix 2*). The sherds seemingly once formed a single sherd (62 g), distinguished by a thick black deposit internally and an uneven oxidised surface externally. In cross-section, the sherd appeared to contain angular non-crystalline rock fragments, but the exact nature of these was not determined, as it was not possible to clean the edges sufficiently without risking damage to the sherds.

In addition to these fragments, seven others were recovered from the postholes associated with the replacement four-post structure. These comprised two sherds and one small chip (OR 1194), including the only rim sherd from the assemblage, which were recovered from posthole ***839*** (fill ***838***; *Ch 2, p 29*). The rim (49 g) had a simple, slightly inturned form, somewhat thickened on the inner side, and with a slightly flattened, inwardly sloping top. The irregularity of the rim and the short length represented by the sherd meant that it was difficult to determine the precise angle of orientation and thus the form of the pot, but it is likely that it was a barrel-shaped jar. The surface had been smoothed, but the coarse inclusions protrude, giving a distinctive uneven surface. A body sherd (9 g) from the same posthole had a freshly broken surface, and examination of this indicated that the fabric appeared to resemble the sherds from posthole fill ***554***/1201 (*above*) more closely than it did the rim sherd from the same context. This may suggest that originally these sherds were derived from the primary four-post structure. The chip appeared to be part of this sherd.

Posthole ***811*** (fill ***810***), forming another element of the replacement four-post structure (*Ch 2, p 29*), also contained three fragments (OR 1199), which joined to form one object (12 g). However, it is unclear whether this was part of a vessel, and there is even some doubt about whether it is actually ceramic. Two of the sherds form part of an edge, but it has no detectable curvature and resembles more a flat plate or thin slab with an edge that is partially rounded.

Finally, a small body sherd (6 g; OR 1200) was recovered from posthole ***853*** (fill ***850*** in post-pipe ***851***; *Ch 2, p 29*), which also contained material that produced a radiocarbon date of 1420-1210 cal BC (3052±38 BP; SUERC-56420; *Appendix 2*). Only the internal surface of this sherd survives, seemingly coated with a hard black, possibly burnt, deposit. The external surface has been removed, leaving prominent angular non-crystalline rock fragments protruding from the clay body. The sherd curves slightly, indicating that it was part of a vessel, although the character of this is unclear.

The remaining sherds were derived from the roundhouse (*Ch 2, p 25*). These included two (OR 1195) from posthole ***869***, which formed part of the house's porch. This posthole might have secured a timber that formed an element of a refurbishment and also produced material that was radiocarbon dated to 1370-1050 cal BC (2968±38 BP; SUERC-56428; *Appendix 2*). One of these sherds was a small abraded fragment with a single surviving surface (1 g), which was significantly different from all other sherds in the assemblage in terms of its texture and the absence of large angular inclusions. The second sherd, if such it is, was heavy for its size (14 g) and it is not impossible that it is actually a piece of soft fine-grained sandstone. Drip-gully ***970*** (fill ***592***; *Ch 2, p 28*) also produced a body sherd (11 g) with both surfaces surviving and no surface deposits, internally or externally. As with other sherds in the assemblage, it was distinguished by smoothed surfaces internally and externally, with large angular non-crystalline rock fragments protruding to give a pimply surface. Externally, it

was buff in colour, and dark grey internally. The fabric clearly resembles that used in the sherds (OR 1195, OR 1200, and OR 1201) recovered from the four-post structures and can be considered as the dominant fabric in the group as a whole.

Discussion

Although the assemblage is small and fragmentary, it holds considerable significance, as it represents the only securely dated late second millennium cal BC domestic pottery yet to have been recovered from Greater Manchester. Given its date, and based on the limited details present for its form and character, the pottery appears to be part of the Middle Bronze Age Deverel-Rimbury tradition. This is characterised in northern England by plain, or only simply decorated, bucket-shaped vessels, often coarsely tempered with calcined flint (Allen 2007a, 223), although in the east Midlands, tempers can be more diverse, including grog, shell, and quartz (Allen *et al* 1987). However, variations in temper are likely to reflect the casual use of whatever materials were available locally, rather than having any particular cultural significance (Martin and Allen 2001). The Deverel-Rimbury tradition is thought to have emerged in 1700-1500 cal BC, with its *floruit* dating to *c* 1500-1200 cal BC (Needham 1996, 133, fig 3), and it is found in both settlement and funerary contexts (Gibson and Woods 1990, 104).

Medieval Pottery from Cinder Hill and Wharton Hall, Cutacre

Jeremy Bradley

In total, 42 sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from four contexts at Cinder Hill (*Ch 3, p 44*; Site 42N), whilst five sherds came from Wharton Hall (*Ch 3, p 43*; Site 70). Those from Cinder Hill were derived from pit ***727*** (fill ***726***), pit ***715*** (fill ***503***), gully ***700*** (fill ***701***), and also from the topsoil (***500***), and those from Wharton Hall were from the topsoil (***1108***), a relict seventeenth-century horticultural soil (***1109***), and drain ***1284*** (fill ***1283***).

Some of the sherds from Cinder Hill came from features that also produced radiocarbon dates, including pit ***715*** (fill ***503***), which produced a date of cal AD 1300-1440 (544±38 BP; SUERC-56426; *Appendix 2*). This might, therefore, broadly date the medieval pottery contained within it. Charcoal from gully ***700*** was also dated. This, however, produced an early medieval date (*Appendix 2*), and thus the charcoal would appear to have been residual. It is also worth noting that the medieval pottery from pits ***727*** and ***715*** at Cinder Hill (*Ch 3, p 50*), and relict soil ***1109*** and drain ***1284*** at Wharton Hall (*Ch 3, p 44*), were residual artefacts that had been incorporated into later features/deposits.

The assemblage

Generally, the condition of the pottery was good, although, with the exception of those from gully ***700*** (*Ch 3, p 49*), most of the sherds were under 50 mm in size. Some of the material was quite abraded, although this was probably more to do with the quality of the fabric than reworking or plough damage. For instance, in pit ***715*** (*Ch 3, p 50*), some of the pottery (notably Fabric 1, which was quite hard-fired) was in better condition than sherds in other fabrics.

Three main fabric types were present (Fabrics 1-3; Table 23), all in the Northern Gritty tradition. This group of heavily gritted fabrics has a wide geographical distribution over northern England, and comparative material from elsewhere in the region would suggest a broad date range between the twelfth and fourteenth centuries (McCarthy and Brooks 1988).

Fabric	**Description**
Fabric 1	Hard, partially reduced, unglazed and coarse-grained gritty fabric with an orange exterior and blue-grey interior
Fabric 2	Partially reduced gritty fabric, with an orange exterior and a pale green glaze. The fabric may have been under-fired and was quite soft
Fabric 3	Partially reduced buff fabric with a pale, speckled olive-green glaze
Fabric 4	Broad category comprising the remaining gritty wares, which are generally partially reduced and small in sherd size

Table 23: Medieval pottery fabrics

Discussion

The dearth of medieval pottery from archaeological excavations in the North West has been highlighted in a review of medieval ceramic studies by English Heritage (now Historic England; Mellor 1994). Moreover, where significant groups of pottery have been discovered within the region, such as in Lancaster (Miller and White forthcoming), research into its supply is severely restricted by a lack of knowledge of production sites. However, excavations at Samlesbury, within the Ribble Valley, have revealed evidence of pottery production originating in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries (Wood *et al* 2008), and the Cutacre material would suggest similarities with the Gritty ware produced at that site, with particular reference to the rim sherd recovered from pit ***715*** (*Ch 3, p 50*).

Post-Medieval Pottery

Rebekah Pressler

A small assemblage of post-medieval pottery, totalling 2948 sherds, was recovered from Cutacre (from Ashes, Cinder Hill, and Wharton Hall; *Chs 5* and *8*), whilst a similar small assemblage (2375 sherds) came from the excavations at the Kingsway Business Park (derived from Lower Moss Side Farm (*Chs 4* and *6*); Moss Side Farm (*Chs 4* and *6*); Higher Moss Side Farm (*Chs 4* and *6*); Haigh Field (*Chs 4* and *6*), Lower Lane Farm (*Chs 4* and *7*); Cherry Tree Farm (*Chs 4* and *7*); and Pyche Farm (*Chs 4* and *7*)). Both assemblages were assessed, with a view to providing date ranges for selected contexts (full details are lodged within the respective site archives).

Cutacre

Ashes

Fragments of Midlands Purple or Midlands Purple-type ware of sixteenth- to seventeenth-century date were present, which may perhaps be attributed to a production site such as Ticknall, in Derbyshire (Spavold and Brown 2005), or one of the 'John Dwight' redwares (Museum of London 2007). A significant amount of (probably local) blackware was retrieved, dating from the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries, and other utilitarian wares, such as mottled ware and seventeenth-century manganese-mottled wares, were also present. A number of fragments can be attributed to the Staffordshire potteries (Pl 190), including a sherd of Staffordshire blackware of seventeenth-century date, and fine slipwares of seventeenth- to eighteenth-century date (Brears 1971; Barker 1993).

Plate 190: Early Blackware vessels

Cinder Hill

A large proportion of the assemblage from Cinder Hill (*Ch 3, p 44*) comprised small sherds that were difficult to date precisely, only a small percentage coming from stratified contexts. The bulk of the material seems to date to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, although the topsoil did contain some seventeenth-century material.

Wharton Hall

The largest assemblage of post-medieval pottery came from Wharton Hall, from a variety of contexts, relating both to the agricultural landscape and the occupation of the hall, from the seventeenth to twentieth centuries. Many of the sherds derived from topsoil and twentieth-century demolition deposits, however. The pottery bears close similarities to the assemblage from Ashes, thus providing a good comparator with regard to the range and type of wares available to early post-medieval farms in the locality.

The earliest post-medieval pottery was dominated by blackwares in a range of fabrics, such as hard- and soft-fired iron-rich redwares, ranging in colour from purple to light red, and a cream-buff fabric. Many of the redwares probably derive from the earlier Cistercian-type tradition, which seemingly overlapped with the production of black-glazed red wares during the latter half of the seventeenth century (Barker 1986). These wares are difficult to assign to a specific production site, but it is likely that they derived from several centres, such as Prescot or Rainford in Lancashire, or other, more local, kilns (Davey 1989; Davey and Morgan 1978). Thin-walled blackwares, with a cream fabric similar to those from Ashes, have been recovered from eighteenth- and nineteenth-century deposits at Bedlam Green,

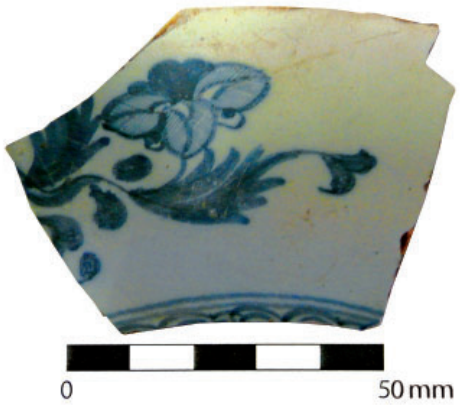

Plate 191: A tin-glazed plate rim

Bury, where it was suggested that they were locally produced (OA North 2008b; Miller and Gregory 2010). Other datable fabrics included small amounts of Midlands Purple-type wares (ten fragments), Yellow-bodied wares (ten fragments), and early Staffordshire trailed slipwares (12 fragments), which all date to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. These came from structural foundations and the subsoil.

The remainder of the pottery derived from the eighteenth- and nineteenth-century occupation. These included tin-glazed plates (Pl 191), press-moulded Staffordshire-produced slipwares, white salt-glazed stonewares (Pl 192), and mottled wares, apparently deriving from a similar range of sources to the assemblage from Ashes. There were, in addition, relatively large amounts (114 sherds) of Nottingham- and Brampton-type stonewares, which generally date to the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries (Draper 1984). These were supplemented by a wide variety of utilitarian black-glazed and yellow-slipped red earthenwares, and a wide range of white earthenwares, which include underglaze transfer-printed and hand-painted creamwares, pearlwares, industrial slipwares (Pl 193), black basalts, and porcelains, all being produced within the broad date range of the seventeenth to nineteenth centuries (*cf* Lewis *et al* 2011, 117; Cotter 2000, 253; Noel Hulme 2001, 224; Rickard 2006; Hildyard 2005).

Kingsway

Lower Moss Side Farm

A small range of wares dating to the seventeenth to twentieth centuries came from Lower Moss Side Farm (*Ch 4, p 25*; *Ch 6, p 140*). Several hollow-ware vessels of seventeenth- to eighteenth-century date were the earliest pottery of note, including a cream-coloured earthenware hollow-ware vessel, with a yellow-glazed interior and black-glazed exterior, with red slip-trailed decoration under black glaze, and a high-fired purplish blackware. Later wares, dating to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, included white earthenware, brown-grey glazed stoneware, pearlware, and bone china.

Plate 192: White salt-glazed stoneware plate rims

Plate 193: An industrial slipware vessel

Moss Side Farm
A small range of wares came from Moss Side Farm, which date to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries (*Ch 4, p 70; Ch 6, p 151*). Noteworthy material includes an everted-rimmed globular purple earthenware jar and a yellow-ware press-moulded dish(?) with moulded circular motifs. Several yellow-glazed cream-coloured earthenware vessels were also present, such as a tankard(?), with red slip-trailed decoration, a fine cup(?), with trailed-and-combed red and white slip on the exterior, and a lid with red-slip decoration. A crudely formed blackware pedestal base, possibly a waster, was also recovered, which dates to the eighteenth century. Later wares include white earthenware vessels dating to the earlier part of the twentieth century.

Higher Moss Side Farm
Several black-glazed red earthenware vessels (Pl 194) came from Higher Moss Side Farm, dating to the seventeenth to early twentieth centuries (*Ch 4, p 68; Ch 6, p 155*). These include jars, crocks, pancheons, and dishes. In addition, the site produced a Creamware plate and tankard dating to the mid-late eighteenth century, and a red and white slip-trailed buff-coloured earthenware coarseware vessel, dating to the seventeenth or eighteenth century, along with several brown stoneware pancheons, bowls, and jugs, dating to the seventeenth to twentieth centuries.

Haigh Field
The only vessel of note from Haigh Field (*Ch 6, p 162*) is a fine mottled-ware hollow-ware vessel, with white slip-trailed decoration, which dates to the seventeenth-eighteenth century.

Lower Lane Farm
Lower Lane Farm produced a small collection of eighteenth-century vessels (*Ch 4, p 73; Ch 7, p 169*). These include beaded Creamware tableware, a slip-decorated red earthenware dish, with wavy incised decoration, and brown stoneware hollow-ware.

Cherry Tree Farm
Several seventeenth-eighteenth century vessels were recovered from Cherry Tree Farm (*Ch 4, p 77; Ch 7, p 172*), including a fine mottled-ware(?) vessel and a fine black-glazed red earthenware hollow-ware vessel with zigzag(?) white slip-trailed decoration. In addition, a black-glazed red earthenware crock was present, which dates to the seventeenth to early twentieth century.

Pyche
Pyche (*Ch 4, p 81; Ch 7, p 184*) produced a small amount of seventeenth-eighteenth-century pottery, including a press-moulded red earthenware dish, with a pie-crust edge and red, orange, and white slip decoration. However, the majority of the assemblage dated to the nineteenth or twentieth century. This latter material included: blue and green transfer-printed earthenware bowls and plates; bone china saucers; white earthenware cups, bowls, and jars, and an ashet (a shallow oval pie dish); gilded and relief-moulded white earthenware plates; brown stoneware pots; and white earthenware sponge-printed mugs.

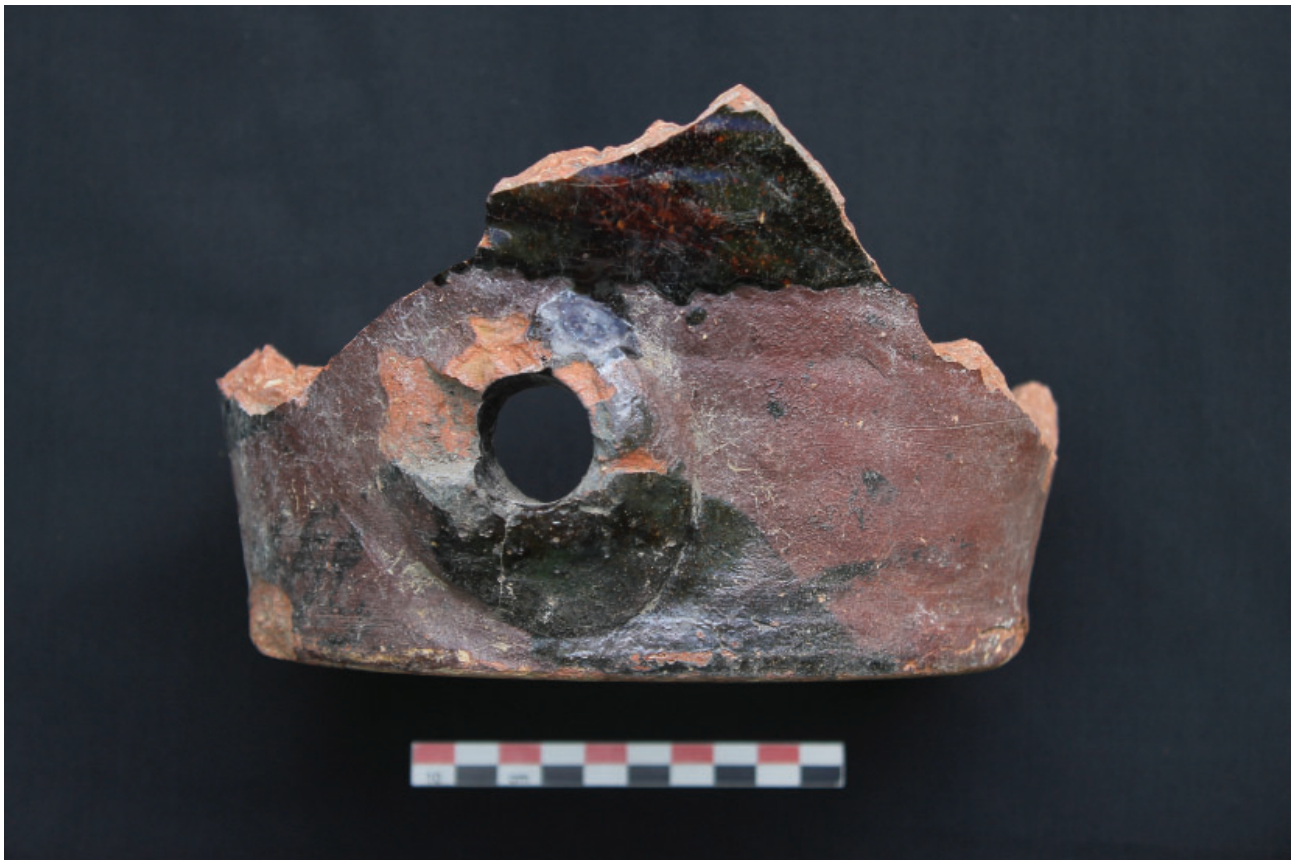

Plate 194: A black-glazed earthenware vessel, used for storing liquid

Discussion

Overall, the post-medieval pottery assemblages were comparable, in that they contained a range of commonly encountered fabric types, comprising kitchenwares, storage vessels, and a range of better-quality tablewares. Many of the fabrics can be attributed to the industrial-scale Midlands producers, including Wedgwood (Hildyard 2005), and the Nottingham stoneware producers, who, by the end of the eighteenth century, were dominating the national markets (Draper 1984). There were, in addition, several more locally produced wares, predominantly utilitarian redwares, drawing on a number of local potteries, possibly including those of Buckley in North Wales (Amery and Davey 1979). There was also a group of earlier wares (principally within the Cutacre assemblage), largely from the Cistercian-ware tradition, which, in the North West, appears to have followed a slow and ostensibly seamless transition into the high-quality, hard-fired blackwares of the seventeenth century (Moorhouse and Roberts 1992). It is also worth noting that whilst much of the pottery was utilitarian in function, some of the post-medieval vessels appear to have been ritually deposited. Specifically, these included complete eighteenth-century earthenware vessels at Cherry Tree Farm (*Ch 4, p 80*), Moss Side Farm (*Ch 6, p 152*), and Higher Moss Side Farm (*Ch 6, p 156*).

To date, there are few relevant post-medieval pottery assemblages from north-west England, although that from Old Abbey Farm, Risley, in Cheshire (Howard-Davis 2004), provides a good comparator in terms of period and context, as does the assemblage from Norton Priory, also in Cheshire (Vaughan 2008), and groups excavated at Grand Arcade, Wigan (OA North 2008c), Greengate Towers, Salford (Gregory and Miller 2015), the Rock Triangle, Bury (OA North 2008b; Miller and Gregory 2010), and Prescot, Millfield Lane, and the Liverpool waterfront, all in Merseyside (Davey 1989; Gregory 2015; Gregory *et al* 2014).

Clay Tobacco Pipes

Chris Healey

Some 432 fragments of clay tobacco-pipe were recovered from Cutacre, whilst 396 fragments came from the Kingsway Business Park. All were examined and catalogued (full details are contained in the respective site archives).

The majority of the fragments from Cutacre are small (<80 mm) lengths of stem, three of which have been adapted into mouthpieces, and the remainder are

whole or fragmentary bowls. Only two of the stem fragments appear to have been partially glazed. The bowls include examples from the earlier seventeenth- to the late nineteenth centuries. Bowl decoration is quite varied, with rouletting evident around the rim of two examples, moulded fluting decoration on two examples, and animal or society designs are also present. Leaf seams appear on six examples, and in two cases the spurs are decorated. Two of the bowls are stamped, a single incuse example apparently originating from Dublin, and a seventeenth-century stamp adorns the base of a pedestal-type spur (Oswald 1975).

The Kingsway assemblage comprises many plain clay tobacco-pipe stems, along with two marked fragments, one being a '[Fo]otball pipe', and another marked '…olden / Rochdale'. The assemblage also contains a selection of bowls. The earlier bowls (mid- to late seventeenth century) are the most numerous, with plain bulbous examples, many milled and with the initials 'IB' inside a circle stamped on the front, and also one with the initials 'IB' on the spur, suggesting that they were produced in Rainford (*cf* Davey 1985, fig 6.161, type K). Later bowls (nineteenth-century) include decorated examples, such as three identical unfettled bowls with leaves along the seam (Oswald 1975).

Ceramic Building Material

Christine Howard-Davis

Both the Kingsway and Cutacre projects produced fragments of ceramic building material (23 fragments from Kingsway and 70 from Cutacre). The majority were glazed ceramic drain pipes, bricks, and roof and floor tiles, dating to the eighteenth to twentieth centuries. However, several fired-clay fragments from Wharton Hall, Cutacre (*Ch 3, p 44*), bore grass impressions, and could have been burnt daub, perhaps from an outbuilding that could have pre-dated or been contemporary with the earliest phase of the post-medieval hall.

Metalwork

Christine Howard-Davis

Cutacre

In total, 96 fragments of iron, six copper-alloy objects, and a fragment of lead pipe were recovered from Wharton Hall (*Ch 5, p 121*). Lesser amounts came from Ashes (*Ch 5, p 94*) and Cinder Hill (*Ch 2, p 21*). These comprised 29 objects of iron, four of aluminium, four of lead, and two of copper alloy. Of these, four objects of ironwork from posthole ***916*** (*Ch 2, p 27*) were certainly intrusive, as this formed part of the Middle Bronze Age settlement. In view of the derivation of most of the ironwork, from late nineteenth-century backfills and topsoil, no x-radiography was undertaken.

Kingsway

The metalwork assemblage from the Kingsway Business Park includes 26 fragments of iron, 25 copper-alloy objects, 11 fragments of lead, and 25 coins. The iron objects are highly corroded and fragmentary, and their form and function could not be discerned. However, horseshoes, nails, hinges, a possible cauldron base, and a multi-tool penknife were identified. The copper-alloy objects were generally in good condition, and their general form and function could be identified. They included fittings, handles, a large ring, a buckle, buttons, and a teaspoon marked 'Taylor / Silversmith Rochdale' in a garter mark. The only lead artefacts were fragments of window kame.

The condition of the coins was very varied, ranging from highly worn, battered, and corroded, to fairly crisp and legible. Amongst those (partially) identified were a 1901 Edward VII halfpenny, two George VI pennies, including one from 1947, and an Elizabeth II coin.

Glass

Christine Howard-Davis

Cutacre

A small assemblage (460 fragments) of glass was recovered, the majority (304 fragments) from Wharton Hall (*Ch 5, p 121*), including 150 fragments of vessel glass. These fragments, however, are extremely small. The remainder of the assemblage came from Ashes (*Ch 5, p 94*) and Cinder Hill (*Ch 3, p 44*).

Wharton Hall

The bulk of the material from Wharton Hall is of eighteenth-century or later date, with the exception of a small group of medieval window glass. In general, the group was in good condition, although the medieval glass was completely demineralised and opaque, and several of the eighteenth-century fragments were iridescent, or beginning to develop an opaque skin.

Although the fragments are small, it is clear that the medieval material derives from a leaded window. The design preserved on one fragment suggests a simple

grisaille pattern, a technique popular in the thirteenth to fifteenth centuries, increasingly associated with secular houses (Crewe 1987, 19). It seems likely that there was a high-status building in the proximity of the site during the medieval period, and grisaille glass such as this would probably have been used in small quantities in a hall or a family chapel within the main building.

Eighteenth-century glass is not common in the Wharton Hall assemblage but there are part-vessels. These include fragments of green case bottles and part of the base of a possibly late seventeenth-century wine bottle in dark green metal. This group is supplemented by the presence of several small fragments of greenish window quarries in 'Forest Glass' (Hurst Vose 1980), again probably of late seventeenth- to eighteenth-century date. The later glass comprised small fragments from a range of common storage vessels, dating from the late nineteenth to (probably) the mid-twentieth century, as well as twentieth-century plain and textured sheet glass.

Cinder Hill and Ashes

The glass from Cinder Hill and Ashes comprises a single, homogeneous group of late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century storage vessels, mainly mineral water bottles and small jars. Nothing pre-dates this period, although a few fragments are more recent. Many of the fragments are small, but there is little evidence of serious abrasion or other post-depositional damage, except that the presence of three melted lumps might suggest some contact with reasonably high temperatures, perhaps in domestic refuse.

Many of the fragments are from embossed machine-blown mineral and beer bottles. Where the necks have survived, they are either cork-stoppered or had the typical constricted neck of Codd bottles. The latter, patented in 1870, were out of use in Britain by *c* 1935 (Talbot 1974) and must provide a broad date range for most of the vessel glass from the site. The window and other sheet glass is again clearly of late nineteenth-century date or later.

Kingsway

The majority of the glass fragments from the Kingsway Business Park (188 items) were from bottles, many of which were marked. They include drinks containers such Codd bottles, wine bottles, and those with crown closures, and also other containers, such as burst-lip bottles, jars with external threaded closures (external screw top), and chemists' bottles. Some painted and labelled bottles are also present. Small quantities of glass tableware vessels were recovered, including pressed, painted, and labelled, and other colourless vessels, and glass with an internal layer of red.