
	<h1>Ceramics of Drink</h1> <p>2nd– 3rd June</p>	 <p>Centre for Historical Archaeology</p>
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MPRG / CHA JOINT CONFERENCE 2017: 'CERAMICS OF DRINK'

Abstracts

Gaëlle Dieulefiet: Between Land and Sea: archaeological studies on circulation and consumption of ceramics of drink and storage on the French littoral, XIIIth-XVth centuries.

Ceramics of drink and for storing are attested in sea and land archaeological contexts. Accordingly, our study proposes to follow paths taken by these objects and to define their places of consumption. Comparing data from harbour dumpsite and civilian habitats provides us with valuable clues on product types exported by major production centres such as Tuscany (Italy) and Catalonia (Spain) and those consumed on the coastline of Provence (France). This approach finally allows us to question the traditions of liquid consumption in the material culture of coastal societies in the medieval world.

Miglė Urbonaitė-Ubė: Between innovation and tradition: case study of drinking vessels from Medieval Vilnius

Medieval and post-medieval Vilnius, the capital of Grand Duchy of Lithuania, is often referred to as fringe area between Western Christian and Byzantine civilisations. Christianization happened only at the end of 14th century, therefore local pagan communities only slowly adopted some western and orthodox cultural traditions.

The presentation will focus on late medieval (late 13th-15th century) ceramic drinking vessels from Vilnius. The archaeological record from this period is very diverse and full of locally produced artefacts. However, imported pottery, which is mostly drinking vessels or liquid containers, is found to a lesser extent but still provides us with valuable information about social and economic factors in medieval Vilnius. As most of the recovered pottery is of local production, and only a small quantity consists of imported vessels, this leads to an assumption on that only a small part of the community (of high social status?) adopted new traditions while the rest kept to their common habits. Therefore, vessels are assessed as evidence of encounters between different cultural traditions.

Yvonne de Rue: Roman Catholic fathers drinking tea

This paper presents 18th and 19th century ceramic finds from a cess pit in Hulst (Zeeland, The Netherlands). The finds are the refuse of premises where in the 18th century lived a

community of Roman Catholic fathers. It provides an insight in drinking habits of an upper class religious community.

The ceramic assemblage shows a strong predominance of objects related to drinking tea. It contained numerous pieces of tea sets in Chinese porcelain, and British and continental industrial wares. In a time when inhabitants of inland regions of the Low Countries hardly knew what tea drinking was, these people used at least 22 different tea sets.

The results of this ceramic study sheds light not only on tea drinking practices, but also on display function, shifting fashions, the importance of sea trade, and patterns in the spreading of ideas and goods in the Low Countries.

Chris Jarrett: Bed and breakfast (lunch and dinner) in post-medieval London

Analysis of closed groups of finds (pottery, glass, metal and clay tobacco pipes) from inns on Borough High Street, a tap room from the Fleet Prison and a dining room from late 19th-century Walham Green, Fulham, give an insight into the material culture of establishments used for eating and drink.

Craig Cessford: Form, fabric and function: ceramic choices at Clapham's Coffeeshouse, Cambridge

An assemblage deposited in Cambridge, England, in c. 1775-80 that can be unambiguously associated with Clapham's Coffeeshouse provides extremely rich archaeological insights into the consumption of various drinks at a particular time and place. With a substantial number of vessels linked to the consumption of coffee, tea, chocolate and a range of alcoholic beverages this assemblage demonstrates how different ceramic forms, fabrics and types of decoration were associated with different drinks. This paper will explore why certain forms and fabrics were associated with particular beverages. In addition to examining this particular context, it will also consider its relationship to both the global consumption of beverages in the mid/late 18th century and to longer term local trends.

Rachel Askew: "It Comes In Pints?" Measuring Capacity in Early Modern Ceramics

The seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries witnessed increasing control over alcoholic measures. This is most clearly seen in ceramic mugs produced in the reigns of William III and Anne, which bear their respective initials to demonstrate they held an official capacity. However, a study of contemporary documents by the *Intoxicants Project*, a collaboration between the University of Sheffield and Victoria and Albert Museum, have demonstrated the complex social discourse surrounding measures and capacity. Court cases demonstrate the confusion caused by separate systems of measurement for grain, ale, beer and wine, as well as highlighting the presence of unscrupulous innkeepers only too happy to serve short measure. This paper explores the relationship between ceramic drinking vessels, capacity and measure and demonstrates how such artefacts, rather than being passive containers, were very much active in the consumption of alcohol during this period.

Julie Edwards: A 16th century tin-glazed ware cup and cover from Chester: origins and affinities

The paper will examine the evidence for the provenance of a tin-glazed ware cup and cover in the form of an owl found during excavations at Chester Amphitheatre, a joint project between Historic England and Cheshire West and Chester Council. The vessel was found in a large pit backfilled with debris from a substantial feast including a range of drinking vessels; the role of the cup and cover in the event represented by the pit and its association with 16th century drinking rituals will be discussed.

Stephanie Rátkai: Bacchus' Cup: A look at glass and stoneware usage in the West Midlands.

The paper will look at the relative proportions of Rhenish stoneware and vessel glass in assemblages principally from Dudley Castle and Stafford Castle. What does this tell us about those using these items at a time when both castles were not occupied by their respective aristocratic owners? Is there significance in the ratio of decorated to undecorated stonewares, of glass drinking vessels to stoneware ones? How much is the picture affected by missing elements of an assemblage?

Cameron Moffett: Post-Roman amphora reuse at Tintagel, Cornwall: the evidence of paraphernalia

Recent work on the collections for Tintagel Castle has focussed on the large number of slate amphorae stoppers dating to the 5th – 6th century recovered from the site. Made at Tintagel of the local slate, these stone discs indicate the reuse of amphorae imported from the eastern Mediterranean on a considerable scale. The evidence at Tintagel is interpreted as relating to the reuse of the amphorae as containers for the storage of an alcoholic drink other than wine. This is likely to have been mead.

Tânia Casimiro and Sarah Newstead: 600 years of water drinking: Medieval and Early Modern pottery cups in Portugal

Since the early medieval period water consumption in Portugal seems to have been associated with the production of specific pottery shapes. The most common of these forms, the *pucaros*, are believed to have stemmed from Islamic influences in the region. This paper will demonstrate how these water ceramics evolved from the 13th through 18th centuries in various Portuguese production centres, based on archaeological and written evidence. Water ceramics were widely desired and used in Portugal and its colonies. They also developed an appreciation and use in other European countries and colonies and have the potential to demonstrate the important social and cultural impact of Portuguese pottery both domestically and internationally.