

BNPG5 was organised by:

Christoph Keller, LVR-Amt für Bodendenkmalpflege im Rheinland (venue / excursions) Christian Röser, LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn (venue / excursions) Torbjörn Brorsson, Kontoret för Keramiska Studier (management) Erki Russow, Archaeological Research Collection, Tallinn University (book of abstracts)

Previous BNPG meetings:

BNPG1 – Stockholm, 07.–08.04.2016 BNPG2 – Tallinn, 12.–13.04.2018 BNPG3 – Stralsund, 15.–16.10.2020 BNPG4 – Bergen, 07.–08.04.2022

Cover: Cologne/Frechen stoneware, mid 16th century (photo: Jürgen Vogel, LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn) Programme and proof-check of abstracts: Erki Russow

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Go West...

In April of 2016, a larger group of people with medieval and later pottery in their minds gathered for the first time up in the North at the Historical Museum in Stockholm. The aim was simple – to get to know each other, share the latest results of our research, and last but not least, build a network of colleagues doing the same thing around the Baltic and North Sea areas. As an outcome of this meeting, we established a loose band of "potheads" known as the Baltic and North Atlantic Pottery Research Group (BNPG) who have now travelled from the northern (Stockholm, 2016) to the eastern (Tallinn, 2018) and southern (Stralsund, 2020) shore of the Baltic, and from there up to the North again, where in April 2022 we had another superb conference in Bergen, hosted by the University of Bergen and the Bryggens Museum. After four meetings, we can safely say that it has become a tradition, and our travelling fellowship of pottery enthusiasts is always looking forward to another assembly.

The present meeting is our first milestone – we are getting together for the fifth time! –, and yet also absolutely a new path for us. Until now, we have always met around the littoral zone and in significant Hanseatic centres that were major consumer sites. This time, the BNPG goes to the West, deep into the heartland of the medieval and early modern potting universe. This decision was made in unison – where else to meet if not there where all the nice stuff came from? Most of us are familiar with the names we use almost daily – Siegburg, Westerwald, Cologne, and Rhine, to name a few, yet visiting the core area of the medieval and later pottery production is like a ceramic pilgrimage for many among the participants of the BNPG5.

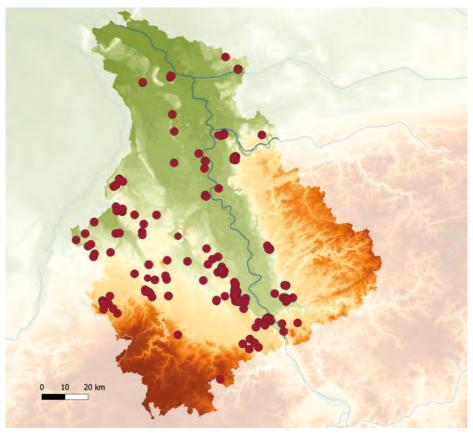
Therefore, we are sure that we will have another successful conference with some new additions to the programme (excursion, posters) as well as new members to our group. Both are vital to keep the BNPG fresh and relevant. We hope that the feeling is mutual and that the present meeting creates once again a lot of positive emotions, just like all the previous ones.

In the name of the organising team,

Frki

Introduction Exploring Networks via Ceramics and Ceramics Trade in the Baltic and North Atlantic Region

For the 5th time the Conference of the Baltic and North Atlantic Pottery Research Group (BNPG) is providing us with a forum for academic discourse on the historical and contemporary aspects of ceramic production and trade. This year's venue is the city of Bonn, located in the Rhineland, which despite its geographical distance from coastal areas had a major impact on the maritime trade networks and consumption in Northern Europe. We can see this in the distribution of pottery at least since the Early Middle



Archaeologically investigated Medieval and Post-Medieval pottery production sites in the Rhineland (Map: C. Keller/LVR-Amt für Bodendenkmalpflege im Rheinland)

Ages. Later, several Rhenish towns like Cologne, Neuss, Duisburg and Wesel were also included in the Hanseatic league, what shows that they were part of a well-established and far-reaching trade system.

Of greatest importance for its connectivity to coastal trade routes was the river Rhine, which allowed for efficient shipment of all kinds of commodities. It was not by chance, that the City of Cologne became a central hub for merchants and crafts, since this was the region where the Rhine was finally deep enough to use ships with greater draught and larger transport volume.

The region provided the potters not only with a beneficial infrastructure but also with all the necessary resources, especially with high quality clays. This facilitated the production of stoneware since the late Middle Ages, which was produced in enormous quantities and became an export hit across large parts of Europe. The most prominent stoneware productions could be found in Siegburg, Frechen, Langerwehe, Raeren and the Westerwald, though also a few smaller workshops complete the picture. Still the Rhineland can't be reduced to its stoneware production, since many more wares travelled from here to different places in Northern Europe, be it the Carolingian Badorf ware, the High Medieval red painted earthenware or the led glazed and slip decorated earthenwares in Early Modern Times.

But not only was the region an important area for pottery production in historical times: Even for contemporary researchers, the Rhineland has a unique feature to offer, as archaeological remains of pottery production have been uncovered to an extent which can only be found in few other regions in Europe. Over 800 find spots are known today and even if this only covers the tip of the iceberg of the original production, this archaeological treasure offers unique opportunities for analysing and understanding these widespread ceramics and its cultural history. The photos in this booklet try to give a few impressions of the scope of pottery production in the Rhineland.

Christian

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 11.04.2024

8.15-9.00 Registration

9.00-9.10 Welcome words

1st session

01: 9.10–9.30 – Volker Demuth, Pottery in a changing world – how to relate archaeological research on ceramics to contemporary academic trends?

02: 9.30–9.50 – Lisa Robson, Changing Practices of Ceramic Display in the Museums by offering a Haptic Interface

03: 9.50–10.10 – Martin Rogier, Observations on stick-powered potter's wheels based on practical experience

04: 10.10–10.50 – Aleike van de Venne and Sebastiaan Ostkamp, The Deventer system as a tool: an introduction (Aleike) and opportunities internationally (Sebastiaan)

COFFEE BREAK 10.50-11.15

2nd session

05: 11.15–11.35 – Alise Gunnarsone, Medieval pottery from Koknese castle as a signifier of the dominant trade relations

06: 11.35–11.55 – Riikka Tevali, Pottery as a trade good

07: 11.55–12.15 – Maxime Poulain, Medieval German presence in the Zwin harbour system as seen through ceramics

08: 12.15–12.35 – Jesper Langkilde, Medieval pottery from the episcopal town of Roskilde, Denmark

09: 12.35–12.55 – Derek Hall, Stoneware pottery in Scotland and Ireland

LUNCH 13.00-14.30

3rd session

10: 14.30–14.55 – Stephanie Rátkai, Crowland Abbey Ware: what is it, where is it and why is it?

11: 14.55–15.15 – Yannick Signer, Potting landscapes: a novel approach to study the development of pottery production in the medieval landscapes of Northern England

12: 15.15–15.35 – Detlef Wilke, Christian Röser and Christoph Keller, The multitude of yellow iron painted earthenwares – geochemical provenancing of high medieval Rhenish pottery

13: 15.35–15.55 – Niels Jennes, Vince Van Thienen and Elly Heirbaut, Rhenish-style pottery production in the Kempen area (Flanders, Belgium)

14: 15.55–16.15 – Christoph Keller, Langerwehe – An overview on 850 years of pottery production

16.15–16.30 – NEXT MEETING, FUTURE PROSPECTS
16.30–18.00 – A view of finds from the Rhenish production sites

20.00 OFFICIAL DINNER

.Em Höttche' Markt 4, Bonn (not included in the conference fee)

FRIDAY, 12.04.

1st session

15: 9.00–9.20 – Rachel King, The new Thomas Bequest of German Stoneware at the British Museum: Examining a Time Capsule

16: 9.20–9.40 – Marion Roehmer and Erki Russow, Renaissance-era Siegburg Stoneware in Estonia: Finds and Sites, Motifs and Messages

17: 9.40–10.00 – Stefanie Bilz, A world of images in shards. Stove tiles from the late Gothic period in Saxony

18: 10.00–10.20 – Joakim Kjellberg, Erik Johansson and Torbjörn Brorsson, Medieval glazed redware from Uppsala, Sweden – local production or import?

19: 10.20–10.40 – Arvi Haak, Ragnar Saage and Erki Russow, Ceramic cupels in Tartu and Tallinn

COFFEE BREAK 10.40-11.15

2nd session

20: 11.15–11.35 – Mathias Bäck and Georg Haggrén, Putting together the very first and the latest pottery find from Turku, Finland

21: 11.35–11.55 – Ilze Reinfelde, Assemblage of Ceramic vessels from the latrine filling in Riga, Mārstaļu Street: An Example of Rigaers' Household Culture in 17th–18th century

22: 11.55–12.15 – Michał Starski, A well set of finds. Assortment of ceramic vessels from a well in Puck, Gdańsk Pomerania from 17th and 18th centuries

23: 12.15–12.35 – Sören Pfeiffer, Lyn Blackmore, Torbjörn Brorsson, Nigel Jeffries, Vanessa Harding, Christoph Keller, Natascha Mehler, Erik Odegard, Jacqui Pearce, Marion Roehmer, Christian Röser, Michael Schmauder and Beverly Straube, Bartmann goes global – from the Rhineland into the world

LUNCH 12.40-14.00

3rd session

24: 14.00–14.20 – Robert Bergman Carter, Red clay tobacco pipes made in Gothenburg in the 1630s

25: 14.20–14.40 – Natascha Mehler, Clay pipes and tobacco in Orkney and Shetland: understanding global trade and consumption

26: 14.40–15.00 – Vaiana Vincent, A century of earthenware production in Lille through ten years of urban archaeological operations

27: 15.00–15.20 – Veronica Forsblom Ljungdahl, Jeanette Gustavsson and Tom Wennberg, Import of Chinese porcelain to Gothenburg by the Swedish East India Company 1735–1806

COFFEE BREAK 15.20-16.00

4th session

28: 16.00–16.20 – Maija Helamaa, The other ceramic objects – a case study from an early modern town

29: 16.20–16.40 – Vineta Skalberga, An Overview of the Pottery Collection at Bauska Castle (16th–17th century)

30: 16.40–17.00 – Michael Lingohr, Politicized ceramics. 'Religiöses Brauchgut' in the service of catholic self-preservation in Nazi Germany

31: 17.00–17.20 – Thomas Kersting, Ceramics in NS Camp Contexts

SATURDAY, 13.04.

Excursion (extra charge of 30 EUR)

8.30 - Departure from Bonn

10.00 – Visiting the Museum at Höhr-Grenzhausen, Westerwald

Annette Zeischka-Kenzler will kindly give us a guided tour of the museum

12.00 – Transfer to Siegburg and lunch in Siegburg 14.30/15.00 – Visiting the City Museum Siegburg Marion Roehmer will give us a 2-hour guided tour

17.00 - Departure to Bonn

Trains

There are trains from Siegburg/Bonn (Siegburg station) to Frankfurt (M) Flughafen Fernbhf. (airport train station):

Siegburg 14:17 > Frankfurt 15:09

Siegburg 15:25 > Frankfurt 16:06

Siegburg 16:19 > Frankfurt 17:50

POSTERS

Magdalena Bis

Workshops and wares. Current state of research on slipware in post-medieval Poland

Torbjörn Brorsson and Sonia Jeffery

The medieval pottery from Lödöse in western Sweden – a cultural historical and scientific study

Niels Jennes

A new 9th/10th century regional production from the eastern part of Flanders, Belgium?

Hauke Jöns, Katrin Struckmeyer and Torbjörn Brorsson A new project on Early Medieval shell-tempered pottery in northwestern Central Europe

Markus Wehmer Slipware dishes and flower pots. 18th century pottery assemblages from Einbeck, Lower Saxony

Sören Pfeifffer et al.

The "Bartmann goes global" project



Pot from Mayen, late Merovingian period (photo: J. Vogel, LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn)

ABSTRACTS

01

Volker Demuth

Pottery in a changing world – how to relate archaeological research on ceramics to contemporary academic trends?

Eight years after the first BNPG meeting in Stockholm may be an appropriate occasion to look both back and a bit further on our fellow scientific interest in archaeological pottery. Most of my remarks will be based on my research interests in medieval and early modern stoneware in the Hanseatic realm, yet not exclusively.

In my opinion, we always must start archaeological pottery investigations with the factual data of technology, typology and chronology. This is an inevitable precondition, without these basics, no study can be called scientific, and I suppose most of us will agree on that. It seems we have come a long way in this direction and via intensified cooperation, increased attention on international research and new methods we will hopefully reach new degrees of common understanding. As we deal here with verifiable facts, these are issues that are not controversial for the 'ceramic community', yet it is much more difficult to attract attention for this research in a broader archaeological, academic and not to mention the broader audience.

One way to strengthen the perception of pottery studies as a highly relevant discipline may be to carve out the perspectives of a ceramic view' on widely discussed topics. Pottery has proven to be a source for important issues such as international trade patterns, religious conflicts or migration. Phenomena such as face masks and Bartmann jugs can hardly be fully understood without discussing gender aspects. Finally, objects such as stoneware vessels in American, Caribbean, African or Asian settings can add significant information on the history of colonization. If our community of informed scholars will not act, we may miss a chance to strengthen our discipline and these issues will be left to actors with less insight into material facts and the legacy of ceramic objects.



Lisa Robson

Changing Practices of Ceramic Display in the Museums by offering a Haptic Interface

This presentation plans to outline how museums are risk-averse when it comes to offering haptic engagement of objects to museum visitors. However, utilising artists and makers in museum settings has proven to be a successful tool in bringing museum objects back to life for the visitor. This presentation advocates incorporating ceramic handling opportunities for museum visitors to further enhance the history of the objects and cultivate a knowledge of material culture. This presentation would aim to convince museum and exhibition curators to take a leap of faith, to push the boundaries of display. Touch can enrich the museum visitor's knowledge of history, and material culture and extend the museum's reach of inclusivity.

03

Martin Rogier

Observations on stick-powered potter's wheels based on practical experience

There are medieval and modern-period potter's wheels consisting of a spoke-wheel, powered by hand using a stick. Iconographic evidence for these wheels dates back to the 13th century, archaeological evidence even about one century earlier, with their main focus area in western Europe. They possibly trace back to similar Roman-period poledriven potter's wheels. Aside from those, different types of foot-powered kick-wheels were in use in the medieval and early modern period.

The author works as a potter with a reconstructed, stick-powered potter's wheel in the Carolingian-period open-air museum "Campus Galli", and hence could make various observations and notions about potter's wheels: e. g. the construction of their pivot bearing, their footing in the ground, the interrelation between the sense of rotation and wheel type, work posture and ergonomics, and the comparison of the spoke wheel with the kick wheel etc.

The kickwheel is often regarded as an improvement, more efficient and ergonomic in contrast to other potter's wheels like the stick-powered wheels. Due to the author's own practical experience as well as to ethnographic observation, this sweeping judgement should be modified and differentiated. The advantages of kick-wheels are overrated, and there are even some disadvantages. The huge differences in ergonomics and performance between types of kickwheels and, on the other hand, between different types of



Reliefband amphora from Brühl-Badorf, 9th century (photo: C. Keller/LVR-Amt für Bodendenkmalpflege im Rheinland)

stick-powered potter's wheels should be taken into account. Thus, stick-powered wheels should be regarded as efficient devices, coequal to the kickwheels.

04

Aleike van de Venne and Sebastiaan Ostkamp The Deventer system as a tool: an introduction (Aleike) and opportunities internationally (Sebastiaan)

In the Netherlands, a classification system for the research of pottery and glass from the Middle Ages and modern times was introduced in 1989. Since the first publication, approximately 500 reports and publications have been published, containing more than 30.000 objects. All these objects have been online since 2019. As more and more catalogues are published according to the so-called Deventer system, an ever-expanding reference collection is created. This provides insight into the breadth of variation, but also into the dates linked to specific pottery forms (types). It has therefore become an ideal tool (for archaeologists) for identifying pottery and glass. The different shape types are visible at a glance and you can search by baking group, shape, and specific features such as decoration, dating, location, etc. A side note is that by publishing all items side by side, 'mistakes' made in the past first become clearly visible. Several objects (from the early years) are now attributed to a different shape type, objects have been split into new types or have been combined. As the years and the number of publications increase, knowledge also increases, which occasionally leads to changing insights. The data need to be reinterpreted and improved. It is clear that this dataset offers unique opportunities to compare the find complexes, both locally and regionally, but also internationally.

This dataset certainly also offers opportunities internationally, for example for research into stoneware. The Rhenish products traded via the Netherlands are found here in large numbers and therefore form an important component of the described find material. Using some local and regional chronotypologies we are gaining more and more insight into the locally and regionally produced utilitarian pottery. By drawing up comparable overviews of imported pottery, such as stoneware, insight is provided into the shapes that are the same for all regions, although local or regional differences may of course occur in the composition of the various import groups. With this lecture, we want to show what the Deventer system has to offer internationally.



Alise Gunnarssone

Medieval pottery from Koknese Castle as a signifier of the dominant trade relations

Koknese Castle is one of the oldest stone castles in Latvia. The location has been periodically inhabited since the beginning of the Common Era till as late as 1701. At least from the 10th century onwards, the location was an important power centre with widespanning trade and political connections. Large excavations were conducted at the site in the 1960s and the gathered pottery assemblage totals 15133 sherds.

A notable shift in the direction of the dominant trade connections was induced by the crusades 13th century and the resulting shift in political allegiances. We can see the change in trade connections not only in the written records but also in the excavated pottery assemblage. The imported goods from the 10th–12th century mostly represent the connections with the East. Most notable of these are multiple finds of Byzantine Amphorae. However, in the 13th–15th century, with the change in ownership, the western direction becomes dominant for trade relations. This is best represented by the sudden influx of German stoneware. Koknese Castle is an ideal site for observing how political connections and allegiances affect the archaeological material.

06

Riikka Tevali

Pottery as a trade good

Pottery is virtually unknown as a trade good in the historical written sources, but pottery cargoes are the most visible archaeological find in shipwrecks in the Finnish archipelago. One example is the so-called Graharun wreck, which is dated to the end of the 16th century. The wreck has been surveyed only superficially, but its cargo included at least 200 dishes of North Netherlandish cooking and serving pottery. The ship was also carrying a barrel of Hessian stoneware crucibles, which were lifted from the wreck in 2023. The paper presents these finds and discusses pottery as a bulk trade good in the Baltic Sea in the early modern period.



Spouted jug from Brühl-Pingsdorf, 11th–12th century (photo: J. Vogel, LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn)

Maxime Poulain

Medieval German presence in the Zwin harbour system as seen through ceramics

Medieval Bruges has been coined as 'the cradle of capitalism'. Its reputation is due to a tidal inlet, called the Zwin, linking the city to the rest of Europe. The Zwin was dotted with several outports at its banks, of which one, Hoeke, was characterised by a strong Hanseatic presence. For example, the maritime law of Lübeck (1299) explicitly mentioned this town as the seat of the Lübecker Hanse. Recent excavations at Hoeke give an unprecedented insight into these German merchants and their material culture in the late 13th and early 14th century. Pottery mainly consists of Rhenish stoneware, with numbers that are exceptional for the County of Flanders but rather line up with proportions found in other North German Hanseatic towns. However, these merchants did not rely exclusively on imported commodities. Large numbers of frying pans possibly show how local material culture was instrumentalised in sustaining a more meat-based diet compared to the surrounding countryside. Finally, various other ceramic imports from the Mediterranean and England complement the image of a vibrant harbour town, where goods and ideas were exchanged at a local and international scale.

08

Jesper Langkilde

Medieval pottery from the episcopal town of Roskilde, Denmark

The town of Roskilde emerged in the decades around 1000 AD as a royal and ecclesiastical administrative centre in the recently Christianized kingdom of Denmark. From 1022, at the latest, the town had a bishop's seat and around 1070 the chronicler Adam of Bremen labelled Roskilde the 'seat of the Danish kings'. The town quickly developed into one of the largest and wealthiest towns in medieval Denmark. By the mid-13th century, the town had a cathedral with a chapter and cathedral school, 13 parish churches, 5 monasteries and 3 hospitals, covering a fortified town area of 73 hectares, plus several suburbs. Though situated at the sea, trade does not seem to have been the primary driver for the town's growth and wealth, but rather the many ecclesiastical institutions and their elite households, which generated a cosmopolitan environment and attracted foreign merchants, artisans, materials and goods.

The presentation will attempt to give an overview of the composition of pottery found in some of the recent archaeological excavations in Roskilde, to see how this special urban



environment is reflected in ceramic assemblages. The presentation will focus on the period c. 1000–1400.

09

Derek Hall

Stoneware pottery in Scotland and Ireland

Medieval Scotland always looked towards Continental Europe for its trade and contact and this is probably best expressed in William Wallace's 'Lubeck letter' of 1297 after his victory over the English at the Battle of Stirling Bridge telling everyone that Scotland was open for business again. This strong relationship is reflected in the wide range of imported pottery that is recovered from excavations in the burghs and monasteries of what was a vibrant independent Kingdom until its Union with England in 1707. Stoneware vessels from Germany and France begin to appear in Scotland from around 1350 and are recovered from excavations in the major Scotlish burghs and monastic houses. This paper will consider the results of more than 40 years of excavation, largely in advance of development, and assess what sorts of vessels are represented, where they are coming from, how they got to Scotland and why Stoneware manufacture in Scotland is not something that really happens until the massive Industrial boom of the 19th century. A brief overview of stonewares excavated from Dublin in the Republic of Ireland will also be given.

10

Stephanie Rátkai

Crowland Abbey Ware: what is it, where is it and why is it?

Crowland Abbey ware, named after the place it was first found, became a 'hot topic' in the 1980s, spurred on by Alan Vince's ICP analyses. It soon became clear that Crowland Abbey ware was found not only in Eastern England and London but to the west in Ireland and to the northeast in Scandinavia. The ware can be dated to the 11th century but otherwise, it is surprisingly elusive. To date, no place of manufacture is known and the distribution appears haphazard, although often linked to ecclesiastical sites.

After a decade or so of interest, Crowland Abbey ware has now rather disappeared from view and few people are familiar with it; and yet, we have barely skimmed the surface of our understanding of this enigmatic ware.

This paper is prompted by the discovery of a sherd of Crowland Abbey ware where it had no right to be. The results of its ICP analysis provided a surprising link to Scandinavia but



further research also showed how unfamiliar Crowland Abbey ware now is. The paper therefore, aims to reintroduce this little understood ware to a wider audience, to present a synopsis of what is known and to speculate on why a single sherd of it was found miles from anywhere and outside its normal distribution zone.

11

Yannick Signer

Potting landscapes: a novel approach to study the development of pottery production in the medieval landscapes of Northern England

In the last few decades, studies investigating the medieval wares produced in the North of England have been few and far between. This lack of research has meant that little has been learned about how potting techniques evolved in the aftermath of the Norman Conquest of 1066 and as such, potential social and economic drivers of such changes are largely unknown. Additionally, pottery and its production are rarely integrated into wider discussions of medieval life and society in these areas of Northern England (e.g. Yorkshire). This is unfortunate as the detailed examination and contextualisation of a ware's production locations (e.g. kilns), production processes (e.g. chaîne opératoire) and products is an extremely insightful avenue of research.

This paper presents the interim results of a research project aimed at addressing this need for more research by investigating the development of pottery production in Yorkshire between the 11th and 13th centuries. The paper focuses on how data from handspecimen analysis, thin-section petrology and x-radiography are combined with additional historical data (e.g. historic maps, deeds etc.) and then presented at a landscape scale. By establishing these 'potting landscapes' for individual wares, the socio-economic dimension of medieval pottery production sites can be investigated and compared across space and time. Based on this approach, the first insights into how and why pottery production changed in Northern England from the 11th century onwards can be proposed, highlighting a close connection between the natural, social and economic aspects of medieval life.



Detlef Wilke, Christian Röser and Christoph Keller The multitude of yellow iron painted earthenwares – geochemical provenancing of high medieval Rhenish pottery

It is for good reason generally assumed that a dominant share of regional as well as long-distance export pottery from 800 and 1100 AD has been produced in Badorf, Eckdorf and Pingsdorf at the eastern slopes of the Cologne-Bonn promontory. However, there were other potting sites in the greater region, like Schinveld in South Limburg, which operated on a significant production scale exceeding local demand. Furthermore, potteries from the Meuse region in the West to Hesse and Lower Saxony in the East were engaged in the production of red-painted earthenware similar to the renowned Rhenish forms and designs, which at least as highly fragmented settlement finds are difficult to distinguish. We used non-destructive XRF spectrometry to establish reference groups of the Rhenish and most other North German production sites of yellow iron painted earthenwares, demonstrating that large-scale, small fragment provenancing of archaeological find material is principally possible.

13

Niels Jennes, Vince Van Thienen and Elly Heirbaut Rhenish-style pottery production in the Kempen area (Flanders, Belgium)

In 2014 and 2019, two pottery kilns were excavated in Beerse (prov. Antwerp, Belgium). These kilns yielded a Carolingian-style pottery in Rhenish tradition: buff-coloured, wheel-turned, roulette stamps, convex bottoms, spouted as well as spherical shaped non-spouted forms. In a region where pottery is dominated by handmade vessels, this is a unique find.

A pilot study, funded by the Flemish Heritage Agency, will conduct an exploration of this pottery type by characterizing the forms, types and fabrics recovered from the kilns. Subsequently, a comparative study with both similar finds from the region and imported productions will investigate if the kilns at Beerse represent a local production for local consumption or indicate the existence of a hereto unknown production workshop, imitating Rhenish pottery, with a regional distribution.

This paper will present the setup of the project and its preliminary results.



Jug from Langerwehe, 15th century (photo: J. Vogel, LVR-Landes-Museum Bonn)

Christoph Keller

Langerwehe – An overview of 850 years of pottery production

The village of Langerwehe, along the road from Düren to Aachen in Western Germany, has a long tradition of pottery production. At the end of the 12th century first workshops were recorded within Langerwehe and nearby Jüngersdorf and Frenz producing greywares and yellow earthenwares of 'Pingsdorf' style. Since then Langerwehe has been closely connected to the pottery production centres in South Limburg (Brunssum, Schinveld) as well as Aachen and Raeren.

Like other ceramic centres in the Rhineland, the potters at Langerwehe started to produce highly fired wares during the 13th century and finally managed to make stoneware with a brown engobe during the 14th and 15th centuries. These show great similarities to the pottery produced in nearby Aachen and Raeren. During that period stonewares from Langerwehe were imported in large numbers into the Netherlands and the British Isles. During the 16th century potters changed their repertoire and concentrated on producing large water jugs and storage jars (Baaren), often decorated with applied medallions. Probably at the same time, others started to produce lead-glazed earthenwares and stove tiles. Pottery production continued on a decreasing scale up to the 20th century.

The paper will present an overview of the archaeological research into pottery production in Langerwehe and the development of its products.



Friday

15

Rachel King

The new Thomas Bequest of German Stoneware at the British Museum: Examining a Time Capsule

In Summer 2023, 50 years after his death, the British Museum finally received the long-awaited collection of German stoneware formed by English timber merchant Frank Thomas (1888–1971). Stretching to upwards of 200 items, this body is one of the finest assemblages ever amassed in Britain. Formed overwhelmingly in the two decades after 1936 and acquired almost exclusively from English sources, the collection is known to British aficionados through the two-volume facsimile manuscript catalogue (2001) but has yet to be the subject of extensive research.

This paper will introduce these new additions to the British Museum's highly respected stoneware collection and outline initial work to contextualise the construction and complexion of the collection. In line with modern expectations of due diligence, extensive provenance research has been conducted, uncovering hitherto unknown information about the collecting of German stoneware in late Victorian and Edwardian England.

This paper will also preview further planned work on the Thomas Bequest, foremost among which is the comprehensive digital cataloguing of the collection, at the end of which the British Museum aims to have complete and publicly available documentation for circa 400 specimens of Frechen, Cologne, Siegburg, Raeren, Creussen, Grenzhausen and Westerwald stoneware. Given the individual artefacts are as yet unresearched, the meeting in Bonn presents a unique opportunity for exposure, reflection and advancement of what is anticipated to be a multi-year project.

16

Marion Roehmer and Erki Russow Renaissance-era Siegburg Stoneware in Estonia: Finds and Sites, Motifs and Messages

Siegburg stoneware as a commodity was well-known throughout northern Europe between the 13th and 16th centuries. However, the later Renaissance-era products from the same pottery centre had less widespread use, and thus it is quite common to regard early modern period highly decorated Siegburg stoneware as a rare and exclusive article, used only in selected households. The recent study of the related finds from



Funnelneck beaker from Siegburg, 15th century (photo: J. Vogel, LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn) Estonia shed some light on whether this is so. In our paper, we will present a general overview of what kind of contexts one finds Renaissance-era Siegburg stoneware as well as discuss the meaning of the iconographic scheme. In all, the analysis should confirm that despite the difficult times for this region in the latter part of the 16th century, Siegburg's highly decorated stoneware was more widespread than initially thought.

17

Stefanie Bilz

A world of images in shards. Stove tiles from the late Gothic period in Saxony

The following paper summarizes the results of my PhD thesis, in which I analyzed stove ceramics from different sites all over Saxony and thereby was able to provide the first broad overview of the used stove-tile types, their chronology, development plus motives and mainly their interregional embedding.

Based on the focus of archaeological excavations, the selected sites were mostly cities, rarely castles, and in one case a former castle, which had become a monastery. The material finds from all these places show the pan-European cultural influences for the used stove-tile types as well as the motives on the Saxonian stove tiles; especially from the Upper Rhine Region, Central Germany and Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia. For the latter, the Saxonian finds mark the most northwestern distribution of these motives and their characteristic woodcut-like style. Currently, the influence from the regions mentioned above can be traced all over Saxony, regional differences are at the moment only hypothetical. All these observations are based on finds and lead to comprehensive questions, which should be the subject of further research.

18

Joakim Kjellberg, Erik Johansson and Torbjörn Brorsson Medieval glazed redware from Uppsala, Sweden – local production or import?

This paper discusses the provenience of medieval glazed redware pottery in Uppsala and the networks and contacts between Uppsala and South Scandinavia, the Baltic and Western Europe through the use of pXRF and ICP-MA/ES analysis. The paper presents the results of a recent research project focusing on the chemical composition of ceramics, with the further aim of exploring the comparison and combination of the two methods. The ceramic material comes from Studentholmen, excavated by Knut Stjerna in 1907,



leaf and acorn decoration from Cologne, 16th century (photo: J. Vogel, LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn) and is one of the largest collections of medieval pottery in Uppsala, comprising 2414 sherds of different wares, of which hundreds of fragments are defined as medieval glazed redware. Earlier research has suggested a possibility that some of the simpler jugs came from local productions.

By analysing the chemical signature of nearly 70 rim- and base sherds using non-destructive pXRF, the aim was to define possible clusters from which representative samples could be analysed using ICP-MA/ES and compared with a database containing more than 14 000 samples, providing local or foreign productions. This method aims to make ICP-MS analysis more qualitative and provide known proveniences for the clusters obtained using pXRF, hence streamlining the chemical analysis of large materials without destructive sampling.

19

Arvi Haak, Ragnar Saage and Erki Russow Ceramic cupels in Tartu and Tallinn

Ceramic cupels, i.e. vessels used for melting lead-rich glass, usually for making beads, have been known for decades. Starting with the short article by Andris Caune for Riga [1974], such vessels have been recognized in the archaeological literature regarding the Eastern Baltic region. Regarding Estonia, vessels for cupellation have been found from two sites in Tartu, namely the Botanical Gardens and the medieval moat at Munga Street, while in Tallinn, a site with similar finds has been excavated at Sulevimägi 4/6. All these finds can be dated to the 13th and 14th century.

In the presentation, we analyse the finds from Tartu and Tallinn, including the typological and technological features of these ceramic items. The intact items have a diameter of 7–8 cm and contain up to 2–3 mm of glassy substance on their inner side. We introduce their archaeological context, but also the results of chemical analysis of their contents. The wider background of these finds will be provided by contextualisation of the production sites with regions of known inhabitants of Orthodox and ethnic Russian backgrounds. In addition, the role of the cupellation areas in the development of local ceramic tradition will be discussed.



Mathias Bäck and Georg Haggrén

Putting together the very first and the latest pottery find from Turku, Finland

It was during the summer of 1901 when archaeologists for the very first time systematically began to collect medieval finds in Turku. Some weeks earlier antiquarians had noticed that among the soil and debris that had during the months before been dug on two different construction sites were a large number of medieval objects. This assemblage collected by sieving soil dumps was soon almost forgotten, and following that it has hardly ever been thoroughly analyzed. However, it had recently turned out that some of the vessel fragments there belong to the oldest ones ever found in Turku.

In 2023 Muuritutkimus Ltd made excavations close to one of the two 'find productive' sites noticed in 1901. Once again, archaeologists could analyze some of the oldest contexts ever found in Turku. Putting together the first and the latest pottery finds from Turku we can get new information of the very beginning of the urban settlement in Turku.

A second viewing of the material from Turku has been done. Today we have some good reference material from well-dated, stratified sites in eastern Sweden (Nyköping and Enköping). The Turku material is fully comparable with the material culture from East Swedish urban sites, as well as Estonian. There seems to be a quite extensive, common use of the same pottery products in much of the Baltic region, thus making assemblages from a range of different consumer sites comparable. In this paper, we will focus on the dating of different wares, to cast new light on the earliest dating of Turku.

21

Ilze Reinfelde

Assemblage of ceramic vessels from the latrine filling in Riga, Mārstaļu Street: An Example of Rigaers' Household Culture in 17th–18th century

The enormous archaeological ceramics collection of Riga is still at the beginning stage of investigation. Continuing the studies of the collection, there have been analysed pottery finds from several cesspits and wells from site Mārstaļu Street 17 excavated in 2001, 2002 and 2004. In the investigated territory total of 10 cesspits and 2 wells from different chronological periods have been discovered.

The paper will present the complex of ceramic vessels from one of the early modern period latrines, which is considered to be the richest within the investigated area. There are sherds from at least 28 vessels, mostly kitchenware and tableware. A part of them was



Matrice from Siegburg, 16th century (photo: J. Vogel, LVR-Landes-Museum Bonn) possible to reconstruct fully. The assemblage represents several types of imported and probably local pottery: glazed redware, slipware, unglazed late Baltic ware, tin-glazed majolica and faience items. Provisionally the finds of the latrine cover period from the 2nd half of 17th and 18th century. The vessels of the complex give insight into Rigaers' table and household habits and the trade contacts of the city in the relevant period as well as help to improve the overview of Riga's early modern period pottery and give the base of knowledge for further investigations.

22

Michał Starski

A well set of finds – Assortment of ceramic vessels from a well in Puck, Gdańsk Pomerania from 17th and 18th centuries

During wide-area excavations at 1 Maja 5 Street in Puck, a level of activities from the 17th and 18th centuries with a three-bay tenement house in the front part and a stone well in the backyard was recognized. The residential building was probably destroyed in the first half of the 17th century, whereas the well functioned longer. However, it began to be filled in the second half of the 17th century, and this process lasted at least until the end of the 18th century.

A massive collection of fragments of ceramic vessels (c. 12,000) was recovered from both of these structures, which, in addition to numismatic finds and dendrochronological dating, is the basis for dating the time of the creation of the tenement house and well debris. However, these products primarily allow for the presentation of the structure of ceramic vessels used in a household in a small town in Gdańsk Pomerania in the 17th and 18th centuries. The present paper will aim to characterize individual trends in production, their provenance against the background of local production and the range of used vessels.

23

Sören Pfeiffer, Lyn Blackmore, Torbjörn Brorsson, Nigel Jeffries, Vanessa Harding, Christoph Keller, Natascha Mehler, Erik Odegard, Jacqui Pearce, Marion Roehmer, Christian Röser, Michael Schmauder and Beverly Straube Bartmann goes global – from the Rhineland into the world

Early modern period Bartmann Jugs are a very common phenomenon in archaeological contexts on the European Continent and – in smaller numbers – all around the world. The-



se finds show that the jugs were part of an international trade network and thus offer the opportunity to work out these relationships more clearly. Although many scholars are familiar with these vessels, produced by Rhenish potters, there are many aspects about which we are uncertain, for example, the meaning of the bearded face mask. The UK-German joint project 'Bartmann Goes Global – the Iconic Object in the Early Modern Period' aims to address many of the unanswered and unasked questions, such as direct trade networks, function, and many others to determine the cultural impact of these phenomena. This presentation, based on the project proposal, shows the variety of questions and wealth of sources available to researchers when studying early modern pottery. In addition to investigating questions of cultural history, it will also examine chronology and typology.

24

Robert Bergman Carter Red clay tobacco pipes made in Gothenburg in the 1630s

A number of clay tobacco pipe bowls made from red-firing clay with the heel mark 'crowned PM' have been recovered at archaeological excavations, primarily in Gothenburg, but also in Bohuslän on the Swedish west coast. The bowls are morphologically similar to pipes made in the Netherlands between the 1630s and 1640s, yet the mark is not known in the Netherlands and hardly any Dutch pipe makers are known to have used red-firing clays before the 19th century.

To determine the origin of these pipes, stem and bowl fragments recovered in Gothenburg and two recovered in Bohuslän were analyzed using ICP-AES. The analysis shows that the clay used had been sourced from the Gothenburg area, linking these fragments to a pipe maker known from late 1630s census records.

As clay tobacco pipe makers in Gouda mixed clays of different origins to achieve the desired characteristics of the clay, it has generally been assumed that applying ICP-AES to identify the origins of clays used in the pipe-making industry is pointless. For pipes made in Sweden however, recent attempts show that ICP-AES-analyses have the potential to assist in identifying not only the origins of the clays used but also pinpoint the location of at least one previously unknown clay pipe workshop. In conjunction with evidence of pipe making from the documentary record, these results are also significant as they have enabled certain pipe fragments to be applied for obtaining chronometric data.



25

Natascha Mehler

Clay pipes and tobacco in Orkney and Shetland: understanding global trade and consumption

The consumption of tobacco through clay pipes reached the Northern Isles of Scotland (i.e. Orkney and Shetland) during the 17th century. This paper will present the results of an examination of previously excavated clay pipes found in Orkney and Shetland which were produced in England, Scotland and the Netherlands. Written sources from the local archives don't specify the origin of pipes and tobacco but biographic details of traders such as Peter Winchester help to understand origins and trade routes. The paper focuses on the earliest pipes until c. 1740.

26

Vaiana Vincent

A century of earthenware production in Lille through ten years of urban archaeological operations

Over the last ten years, the city of Lille has been involved in several development projects that have led to archaeological operations, both diagnostic and works supervision. These operations have led to the discovery of many rejects from Lille's various earthenware factories. This paper sets out to present these discoveries, including the shapes produced, the decorations and their influences, the elements involved in the earthenware production process and, of course, the chronology of these artefacts.

27

Veronica Forsblom Ljungdahl, Jeanette Gustavsson and Tom Wennberg Import of Chinese porcelain to Gothenburg by the Swedish East India Company 1735–1806

This paper will give a short presentation of the different types of porcelain that were imported to Gothenburg during the era of the Swedish East India Company 1735–1806. An estimation has been made that approximately 100 million objects were imported during these years. Most of them were auctioned out to foreign traders, for reselling all over Europe. Despite the export, Chinese porcelain from this trade is a common find from excavations all over Gothenburg.



St. Silvester in Eschweiler-Lohn, coin hoard, dated post-1652 (photo: J. Vogel, LVR-LandesMuseum Bonn)

Although a vast amount of porcelain flowed through Gothenburg, we are lacking detailed knowledge of what types were imported for each year. We often use a broad general understanding of the Chinese porcelain typology while dating sherds in Gothenburg archaeological excavations. Comparisons between some of the older and recent excavations can bring a more detailed understanding of some different types in particular.

A few important assemblages from excavations in Gothenburg will be presented. These are the sites of the Swedish East India Company offices in central Gothenburg, recent excavations of the harbour area and the wreck of the East Indiaman Gothenburg shipwrecked just outside Gothenburg in 1745.

28

Maija Helamaa

The other ceramic objects - a case study from an early modern town

Crucibles, sugar moulds, candle holders, toys etc. are among the items that are made of burned clay. A lot of these types of artefacts were found in the recent excavations in the present-day Market Square in Turku, Finland. This paper gives an overview of those ceramic 'non-kitchen' objects, dating from the mid-17th to early 19th century.

These uncommon types can be used to study different groups of people (the manufacturers and users) and different activities on smaller and larger scale, such as small-scale industry and craftmanship, for example. Part of my research concentrates on these objects reflecting the activities within the town and its households and the use of space in the town plots. Also, the use, reuse and discarding as part of the object's life course are considered

29

Vineta Skalberga

An Overview of the Pottery Collection at Bauska Castle (16th-17th century)

In the southern part of Latvia, close to the Lithuanian border, set in a beautiful landscape on a strip of land between two rivers stands Bauska Castle. It was built by the Livonian Order during the Late Middle Ages and extended in the 16th century to serve the court of the Duke of Courland and Semigallia. The castle is an architectural monument of national importance, one of the greatest examples of mannerism in architecture, and was reconstructed in 2008. Artefacts of daily life and military artefacts, pieces of stone carvings and



stove tiles, as well as shards of crockery associated with the history of the castle in the 16th and 17th centuries, were found during archaeological excavations that took place in the territory of the Bauska castle ducal seat from the early 1970s to 2013. Documental evidence shows that the Dukes of Courland, along with their courts, would stay at the castle periodically from 1564 to 1603. The same can also be concluded from the crockery shard findings: there are singular pieces witnessing the produce of Italian majolica, Iznik pottery, and Delftware, as well as the produce of pottery centres in Rhineland and Westerwald in Germany. The southern wing of the castle, once home to the lord of the castle and staff, featured a kitchen with a large fireplace. In an archaeological excavation in the 1980s, a great amount of red clay pottery was found. It was later used to reconstruct plates and polychrome bowls featured in a kitchen exhibition and an educational program presenting the daily life of the court. Among these finds, one can recognize the works of potters from the North German town of Husum, as well as pottery from Lower Saxony (Hannoversch-Münden, Lüneburg). The museum continues to gradually explore and restore its pottery collection to prepare a collection catalogue and a crockery exhibition.

30

Michael Lingohr

Politicized ceramics: 'Religiöses Brauchgut' in the service of catholic selfpreservation in Nazi Germany

This paper will introduce an unknown partnership in German ceramic production during the NS-period: The cooperation between the Majolika State-Manufacture Karlsruhe and the catholic publisher St. Georg-Verlag in Frankfurt. The discovery of this cooperation discloses a ceramic mass production of objects for catholic religious life, private as well institutional, intended to be affordable but at the same time of artistic quality. Further, this cooperation allows for a focused in-depth analysis of the relationship between Catholicism and national socialism on various levels.

Confessional level: The ceramic objects, e. g. the patron-saint reliefs, were produced for private everyday use and contemplation. Simultaneously they were meant to strengthen the relationship between parishian and parish since the NS authorities successfully restricted catholic activities to the church-room and tried to bully catholic youth out of catholic youth organizations to join the Hitlerjugend instead. Church authorities as well as convinced catholics tried to find ways to vitalize communities by activating laics, reviving catholic customs, processions and others. The St. Georg-Verlag contributed to promoting catholic self-preservation through publications and



not the least by creating parish-patron-saint-reliefs as visual symbols of the parish community.

Organizational level: These activities were most likely not centrally steered. Nonetheless, we can associate them with the laic movement of Catholic action, in every diocese enacted to a different extent, though. A central advisory institution, however, existed in Düsseldorf and seems to have spread ideas and strategies of self-preservation: the "Pfarrgemeindliche Beratungsstelle" (Parish advice centre).

Church-political level: The ceramic cooperation and the activities of the St. Georg-Verlag mirror the different steps in the repression of catholic life, as well as the hesitation of the different NS offices to take drastic action depending on the overall political situation and regional strategies.

Practical Church-political level: This directs us from official to local and practical church-politics. These could vary considerably according to the NS offices involved and to regional economic or demographic structure and others. This differentiation helps explain why the cooperation could be continued on a high level until 1943, even though the founders of the St. Georg-Verlag from the start in 1934 were regarded as politically unreliable and from 1937 onwards were the permanent focus of the SD, and at the same time the Karlsruhe State-manufacture was encouraged to terminate the cooperation. The efforts in self-preservation were effective to a certain degree.

31

Thomas Kersting Ceramics in NS Camp Contexts

While in the older archaeological periods pottery still makes up the majority of finds, this is different in archaeological investigations at former Nazi campsites. But even in this period, the proportion of pottery is not small, even if practically all the material is never recovered, but often only a subjective selection made directly during the excavation. The spectrum of pottery ranges from tableware, canteen and pharmacy porcelain to earthenware, glazed or unglazed, to flowerpot-like wares and, in some places, camp-typical special products.

In addition, unlike in conventional archaeological periods, there is a large proportion of technical ceramics: building accessories for infrastructure such as electrical installations (insulators) for barracks and electric barbed-wire-fences, and sanitary ceramics including tiles and pipes. However, there are also unusual ceramic groups such as toys and devotional objects, including medical dental products and cremation accessories



Tankard from Peter Loevenich (Siegburg), 19th century (photo: J. Vogel, LVR-Landes-Museum Bonn) (urn marks).

Industrial manufacturers' stamps and inscriptions often allow precise chronological and functional classification, which ultimately provide insights into the system of economic interdependence of the profiteers / the production companies and clients / SS and Wehrmacht.

Rather rare are individual adaptations and personalized inscriptions, as they are typical for finds made of other materials in camp contexts. Certainly because the brittle and fragile, yet hard material offers few possibilities here. But they are also present in this group of materials.

Also in contrast to other archaeological periods, it is not the pottery itself that is the object of research here, but its function for perpetrators and victims in camp life under conditions of scarcity, terror, coercion and in the field of tension between demonstration of power and subversion.

POSTERS

Magdalena Bis

Workshops and wares. The current state of research on slipware in post-medieval Poland

My poster will deal with issues related to slipware in the Polish lands in the 16th–18th centuries. Archaeological discoveries of pottery workshops, production waste and pottery shards will be the basis for consideration. The relics of pottery kilns will be briefly characterised, as well as the forms and ornamentation of the vessels acquired. In this way, it will be possible to compare this type of ceramics to the level and extent of other domestic pottery production at that time.

Furthermore, an assessment of the current state of research and study of this type of earthenware will be presented. Issues relating to the consumption of this type of pottery that have already been identified, as well as those that require further research, will be highlighted. This will lead to outlining the place of post-medieval slipware in historical archaeology research in Poland.

Torbjörn Brorsson and Sonia Jeffery The medieval pottery from Lödöse in western Sweden – a cultural-historical and scientific study

Lödöse was one of Sweden's earliest commercial towns, and in the Middle Ages, it was Sweden's only port to the west. For 400 years there was a thriving urban settlement, with a friary, royal castle, parish churches, German merchants, and craftsmen of various kinds. Since 2015, nearly 45,000 ceramic sherds from 60 years of excavations have been processed, and the archaeological material confirms the historical sources. The pottery is predominantly German, but there is a relatively large number of vessels from Denmark, England, France, and the Low Countries.

However, there is also a substantial number of locally made ceramics and we have been able to establish that there was a major ceramic production in Lödöse. This production began in the twelfth century with Baltic ware, but there is also wheel-thrown greyware (*Harte grauware*) and different types of lead-glazed redware made locally. The key to identifying these productions has been the use of ICP-analyses.

More than 220 ICP-analyses have been made and the results will change, not only how we study medieval ceramics in Scandinavia, but also how all the different assemblages

may be interpreted. The large number of locally made glazed redwares from 13th and 14th centuries has surprised us, and these vessels have previously been interpreted in Scandinavia as imports from the Low Countries and northern Germany.

The work with the ceramics from Lödöse will hopefully end in 2024 and the most important results will be highlighted in this paper.

Niels Jennes

A new 9th/10th century regional production from the eastern part of Flanders, Belgium?

Hauke Jöns, Katrin Struckmeyer and Torbjörn Brorsson

A new project on Early Medieval shell-tempered pottery in northwestern
Central Europe

Markus Wehmer Slipware dishes and flower pots. 18th century pottery assemblages from Einbeck, Lower Saxony

Sören Pfeiffer et al.
The "Bartmann goes global" project

Images from the past:

BNPG 2 - Tallinn 2018



BNPG 3 - Stralsund 2020



BNPG 4 - Bergen 2022



