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## **An Archaeological Excavation at Oakes Street, Liverpool.**

NGR SJ 3567 9070

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## **Summary**

This report describes the results of an excavation conducted in July 2018 at Oakes Street, Liverpool by the Museum of Liverpool archaeology team. This excavation aimed to explore the remains of courtyard housing on that site, with the objectives of: verifying the potential for archaeological deposits to survive in this area of Liverpool; understanding the methods, date, and phases of construction of the buildings; considering the changes made to the structures in their period of use of housing; exploring the material culture of life within the court houses.

The demolished section of the court houses now lies within an area used as car parking which was made accessible for excavation for one week. The excavation opened just one trench 4.5m wide by 8m long, which revealed the area of the courtyard, the fronts of houses on both sides and around 1.5m into the cellar rooms of the houses on the east side of the court.

A great number of finds from the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century were recovered which provide important information about life within court housing in that period.

The project was supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and made possible through the partnership of Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine and the Museum of Liverpool.

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## **An Archaeological Excavation at Oakes Street, Liverpool (NGR SJ 35679 90704)**

### **1. Introduction**

This report relates to an archaeological excavation of an area of land to the south side of Oakes Street, Liverpool. This excavation was conducted as part of the 'Galkoff's and the Secret Life of Pembroke Place' project.

The project (funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund) is a joint undertaking by Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM) and Museum of Liverpool who worked in partnership to explore the history of the area.

The excavation site lies on the fringes of the historic core of Liverpool and was gradually incorporated into the town's suburbs between 1800 and 1840. There are two listed buildings in the vicinity: Galkoff's Kosher butcher's shop at 29, Pembroke Place and court housing at 35-39 Pembroke Place. Galkoff's butchers shop opened in 1907 in a building originally constructed as a domestic dwelling in the 1820s and was a supplier of Kosher foods to the passenger ships that sailed to and from Liverpool. The 1930s green faience tiles which clad the shop's frontage are a distinctive feature on Pembroke Place, but have been falling off the derelict building over the past 20 years. LSTM acquired the building in 2012.

The buildings of 35-39 Pembroke Place is the last remaining example of court housing left in Liverpool, and one of the few examples of this housing type that remains in the UK. This type of property - a full scale reconstruction of which can be found in the People's Republic gallery at the Museum of Liverpool - was used as a form of high density, low quality housing which became widespread in the city during the 19th and 20th centuries.

Through map sequencing it was identified that there was good archaeological potential for the survival of underground remains of cellars to Missionary Buildings / Court 2 Oakes Street. These houses were constructed in the 1830s/1840s in two phases: the west range by 1835 and the east range between 1835 and 1848.

### **2. Historical Background**

Liverpool does not appear in the Domesday Survey of 1086, the earliest reference to Liverpool is as *Liuerpul* and occurs "in a charter dated between 1190-04 issued to Henry son of Warine de Lancaster by John, Count of Mortain (the future King John)" (Nicholson 1981, 7). As the historic map sequence shows heathland or fields in large sections of the study area on Oakes Street even as late as Horwood's plan of 1803, it seems likely that there was little in the way of settlement or development in the area until the Industrial Revolution.

Liverpool's rapid expansion in the late 17th and 18th century was linked with the town's maritime trade and in particular the opening of the Old Dock in 1715 (Nicholson 1981, 21; 33). Indeed, Corry (1825, 685) stated of this period that: "the population of Liverpool continued to increase in full proportion to the increase of its prosperous commerce".

Pembroke Place existed by at least the mid-18th century and probably earlier as a road linking the town to the east, and is marked on Eyes' map of 1796 as the 'Road to Wavertree'. Oakes Street appears in the 1810s and is possibly named after 'Mr Oakes', Thomas Oakes, a druggist, whose house is marked on Pembroke Place on the 1803 Horwood map of Liverpool. Map and archaeological evidence shows that the area around

Shaw's Brow and Lime Street c. 500 m to the east was associated with the local ceramics industry during the 18<sup>th</sup> century though there is no evidence that this industry extended up London Road and onto Oakes Street.

Over the first three decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the street became populated with houses and businesses and by the time of the 1816 Kaye 'Plan of Liverpool' around half the plots are occupied with buildings. The site which was later to become the second Infirmary (opened in 1824) on Brownlow Street was earmarked at this time as for 'Intended Free School'. The Royal Infirmary (as it became after a Royal visit in 1851) expanded to incorporate the block fronting onto Pembroke Place when it was rebuilt 1887-1890 and this building is now in use as the Brownlow Group Practice, doctor's surgery.

Through the 20<sup>th</sup> century the Liverpool University medical departments, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, the Dental Hospital, and other health institutions have expanded. The east end of the street has become characterised by these large institutions with substantial, often grand buildings. The west end of the street retains some smaller buildings, including 12, Pembroke Place, a late Georgian brick, double-fronted house, now a nursery.

The last surviving examples of Liverpool court housing stand within thirty metres of the excavation site and are considered of special interest, "That they remain the only survival in Liverpool, however, gives the group exceptional interest from a social historical and architectural perspective, as well as for their communal value" (De Figueiredo 2014, 14). The houses on the Oakes Street site were also constructed during the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century as part of the contemporary urbanisation of the landscape and their varied character reflects the diverse social make-up of the area at the time. Most of the buildings constructed along Oakes Street in the first half of the 19th century seem to have been similar domestic dwellings.

### 3. Site Description

#### 3.1. Site Location

The site lies in the centre of modern Liverpool, just north-east of the present retail and business centre of Liverpool and is centred at NGR SJ 35679 90704 (*Figure 1*).



### *Figure 1: Site Location*

The excavation area lies on the southern side of Oakes Street which is aligned broadly east-west from Liverpool city centre.

### **3.2. Geology and Soils**

The site is underlain by Permo-Triassic fine to medium-grained, locally micaceous, cross-bedded and flat-bedded sandstones of the Helsby Sandstone Formation (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> consulted 6/1/17).

No drift deposits are recorded in the area and it is unsurveyed for soils (Hall & Folland 1970). Due to the depth of the historical human interventions on the site, in only one area of the excavation natural deposits of boulder clay were recorded.

### **3.3. Topography and Land Use**

The site of the modern car park occupies an area of approximately 1500 square metres. The site is used as a carpark by LSTM staff and surfaced in tarmac, some of which clearly overlays concrete blocking. The nearest benchmark is 39.694m AOD at SJ 3551 9073, and an onsite temporary benchmark was established at +0.20 AOD = 39.894m AOD.

## **4. Methodology**

### **4.1 Aims and Objectives**

The project will undertake building recording of the standing remains of a court house, and excavate buried remains of court houses and cellars. The aims of the project are:

- To explore the history of Liverpool's court housing in the context of a project about the history of the street Pembroke Place.

The specific objectives of the site works are:

- Verify the potential for archaeological deposits to survive in this area of Liverpool.
- Understand the methods, date, and phases of construction of the buildings.
- Consider the changes made to the structures in their period of use of housing.
- Explore the material culture of life within the court houses.

Fieldwork and post excavation analysis follow ClfA (2008), United Kingdom *Institute* for Conservation (UKIC) (1990) and Historic England (2015) standards and guidelines.

### **4.2 Field Methodology**

One trench was opened within the car park area and avoided potential anomalies identified during CAT scanning of the area. The trench aimed to locate the courtyard location and any extant cellars of the 'Missionary Buildings' identified in detail on the 1835 Gage and 1850 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map. A geophysical (radar) survey of an adjacent car park, off Pembroke Place had revealed some reinforced concrete and some voids, directing the excavation to this alternative site to explore the courts in an area which was more accessible for opening a large trench, away from extant buildings (Pope-Carter 2016).

The trench was opened using mechanical plant to the upper surface of undisturbed archaeological deposits or geological deposits as appropriate. All excavation by machine was by toothless 'ditching bucket'. All work took place under the direct supervision of an experienced archaeologist familiar with machine excavation monitoring. Subsequent

excavation by hand was carried out in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to meet the aims and objectives of the investigation.

All work was carried out by appropriately qualified archaeologists in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations produced by the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists (2008) and with the ClfA Code of Conduct.

The excavation opened just one trench 4.5m wide by 8m long, (aligned north – south) which revealed the area of the courtyard, the fronts of houses on both sides and around 1.5m into the cellar rooms of the houses on the east side of the court (*Figure 2*).

The site has been recorded through a full written, drawn and photographic record of all archaeological features using a system of pro-forma context sheets. This is accompanied by a site plan created via Photomodeller and is tied to the OS grid.

Digital photographs have recorded the excavation and all features revealed. In addition to records of archaeological features, a number of general site photographs were also taken to give an overview of the site and the scope of the works taking place.

Finds have been treated in accordance with the Historic England guidance document 'A strategy for the care and investigation of finds' (1995) and stored in controlled conditions where appropriate. All artefacts will be retained, cleaned, labelled and stored as detailed in the guidelines of the ClfA. Conservation, if required, will be undertaken by approved conservators. United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) guidelines will apply (UKIC 1998). The site archive will be accessioned into the Museum of Liverpool's Regional Archaeology collection. The finds retained for the collection will be selected following the Selection, Retention and Disposal guidelines.

Excavation and backfilling was undertaken with a view to avoid damaging archaeological deposits or features which appeared worthy of preservation *in situ*.





*Figure 2: Oakes Street excavations 2018*

## **5. Stratigraphic Narrative**

The trench exposed the archaeological evidence for 'Missionary Buildings', later known as 'Court 2, Oakes Street'. The archaeology provided evidence for the construction and use of this court housing, which complements and enhances the evidence provided through maps, photographs, historic written descriptions, and oral histories. Courts were a form of high density, low quality housing built back-to-back around courtyards which ran at right-angles off streets (Stewart 2019).

### ***Phase I Natural Deposit***

Only in one area of the trench was natural identified. This was orange boulder clay which appeared at 38.37m AOD, and was identified during machine excavation in the western side of the trench.

### ***Phase II West range of court housing***

Map evidence demonstrates the earliest standing building on the site was the range of houses on the west side of the court. This was revealed only as front wall appearing in the east-facing section of the trench, aligned north-south, context 31 (*Figure 3*). This is probably the wall to a lightwell as it was only revealed in an area measuring 230x110x75mm, and does not extend along the length of the trench.



*Figure 3: east-facing section showing brick wall, context 31*

In the south west corner of the trench there were two returns in the wall of the western side of the court housing, both aligned broadly east-west, contexts 28 and 30 (*Figure 4*). These represent an opening to an alley seen on historic mapping as a route to Anson Terrace and were only partially exposed extending into trench edge.





*Figure 4: east facing section at south east corner of trench, showing wall returns contexts 28 and 30 locating alley to Anson Place*

### ***Phase III East range of court housing and sewer***

Context 5, the mixed fill under the original (lost) surface of the courtyard is contemporary with the eastern buildings of the court housing. The structural elements of this comprise: contexts 13 (front wall of cellars of eastern range of houses); 22, 23 (walls to lightwells) 19, 20, 21 (coal hole); and 24 (drain). The front of the houses are aligned north-south.

The structure of the court housing was brick-built in 'American' bond of five courses of stretchers then one course of headers (*Figure 5*). The sections revealed were:

stretcher  
stretcher  
header  
stretcher  
stretcher  
stretcher  
stretcher  
stretcher  
header  
stretcher



*Figure 5: brick coursing of context 13*

The front wall of the housing was not fully excavated, extending into the trench edges at both north and south ends, and running the full 8m length of the trench.

Butting the front wall of the house, context 13, were two walls of lightwells, contexts 22 and 23. These walls seem to have been original to the structure as the cellar window openings do not show any sign of alteration. However, the walls of the lightwells are not bonded to the front wall, context 13, and context 22 and 23 are far more roughly built and the bonding is not so consistent (*Figure 6*). This poor quality construction indicates sections of the buildings which were erected quickly.



*Figure 6: View of trench from north, showing eastern range of court houses*

A coal hole was located in the north east corner of the trench, interpreted through the presence of coal and a dark matrix within it, context 6. The wall of this feature, context 21, butted the wall of the lightwell, and was not bonded to it. Again the brickwork and lack of evidence for alteration in the front wall of the cellar, context 13, suggest that this coal hole was contemporary with the construction of the houses, but poorly built.

There is some evidence for water-handling from the buildings, with a square feature in the south east corner of the trench, context 24, interpreted as a drain from a downspout. It was not possible to excavate this to a depth beyond around 30cm due to the confined nature of the feature (*Figure 7*).



*Figure 7: downspout outlet, context 24*

Within the courtyard, below context 5 a sewer, context 32, was revealed. To the eastern side of the sewer the context remained mixed at this level – the lower levels of context 5. To the western side the natural subsoil was revealed (see ‘Phase I’, above) (*Figure 8*).





*Figure 8: View of base of trench, facing north, showing sewer, context 32*

The sewer was not revealed to its full extent, but was brick built and arched. The top of the arch was at 38.76m AOD, it was revealed to an area of 760x920mm. The sewer was located in approximately the centre of the courtyard. It is probable that the sewer was added when the eastern range of the court housing was built, Phase III of the site. The sewer cut natural to the west, and there were mixed deposits to the east. The natural soil to the west side would have been left in situ to support the existing building, while the area to the east was dug out to put in new cellars at the same time. The 1850 Ordnance Survey map shows a small building at the south end of the court, where the courtyard turns at right angles, this area was not excavated, but it could be interpreted that this was a toilet (privy) block, which the sewer could have served.

#### **Phase IV Infilling of cellar and lightwells**

The cellar of the east range of court housing had its windows blocked, each with a single brick wall, contexts 14 and 15 (*Figures 9 and 10*). This blocking probably happened between 1900 and 1914. These lightwells had then filled with rubbish, which were excavated fully. These sealed damp contexts enabled good survival of a range of finds (see 'Finds', below). This was part of a late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century process of infilling cellars. As early as the 1860s journalist, Hugh Shimmin commended the action of some landlords in sealing up the cellars to prevent people trying to live in them, children from playing in them, or accidents when people fell down the steps into them. He cites the example of Duggan's-buildings (Walton and Wilcox 1991, 119).



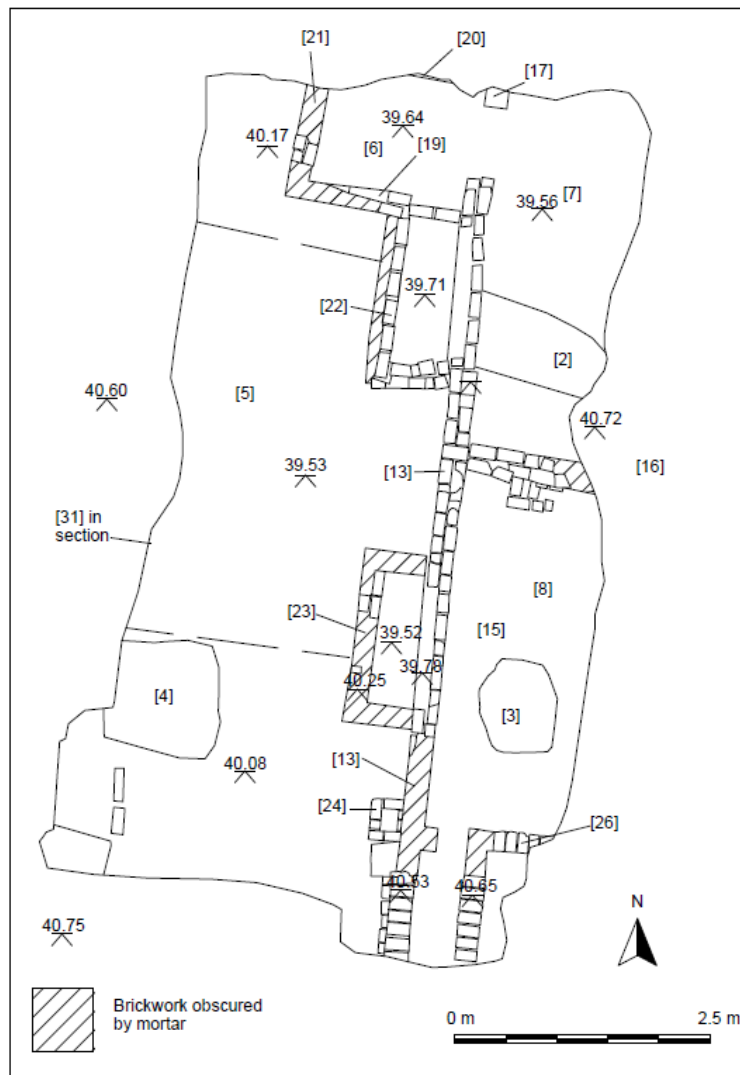
*Figure 9: View of trench from the south showing N-S aligned wall of eastern range of court houses*



*Figure 10: Base of lightwell following excavation*

Domestic waste was also recovered from within a coal chute, contexts 6, see 'Finds', below.

The trench revealed the full front wall of the east range of houses, and located in the section the front wall of the western range – enabling a good understanding of the size, construction, and changes to the buildings (*Figure 11*).



*Figure 11: Plan of the site showing the main contexts associated with the court housing.*

## Phase V Demolition and reuse of site

The court housing on this site was demolished c.1935. It is likely that at this time useful materials, like the stone slabs of the courtyard surface, were removed and reused.

The site was a builder's yard in the mid-20th century before becoming a car park. Features from this phase were revealed, including concrete stanchions as pads for buildings, contexts 2, 3 and 4. In the south-east corner of the trench the foundations of a 20<sup>th</sup> century wall, context 26, cut part of the court housing wall.

## 6. Dating

### 6.1 Map sequence

Although maps of central Liverpool exist from the 1640s onwards, the present site lay well outside the core of the city until the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and hence no development is shown in this area on earlier maps such as Chadwick (1725), John Eyes (1765) or George Perry's 1769 survey (*Figure 12*).





Figure 12: *Pembroke Place, known as 'Road to Wavertree', Gore Plan of Liverpool, 1796*

John Gore's 'Plan of the Town & Township of Liverpool' printed in 1796 shows the site as agricultural land owned by Mr Gildart. Richard Gildart was a merchant and slave trader who was mayor of Liverpool (Figure 13).



Figure 13: *Richard Gildart by Joseph Wright of Derby  
Walker Art Gallery Collection*

The road later to be named 'Oakes Street' is not yet present. Although claiming to be 'From an actual survey made in the Year 1796' John Gore's 'Plan of Liverpool' is clearly based heavily upon Eyes 1785 plan updated with changes to the docks and significant Liverpool buildings. The site is just off this map but appears to have been still in agricultural use and was probably unchanged from the 1780s.



R. Horwood's 1803 'Plan of Liverpool' does not mark 'Oakes Street' but does mark Mr Oakes house, as one of the first buildings on Pembroke Place. It's likely that Oakes Street was named after Mr Oakes a druggist (pharmacist).



Figure 14: Kaye's 1816 map shows the site undeveloped, but with buildings starting to occupy nearby plots

Thomas Kaye's map, published with *The Stranger* of 1816 is the first to mark Oakes Street and shows the present site with blocks of buildings adjacent to the east, but gives little detail (Figure 14). The accuracy of this map is doubtful because the lines of Oakes and Anson Street do not compare well with the line shown on later maps and it is possible that Kaye was depicting intended developments in this area.

William Swire's 'Liverpool and Environs' of 1823-4 suggests that the site had yet to be built upon. The orientations of Anson Street and the western end of Oakes Street correspond well with those on the 1848 OS map.

A map published with the 1829 '*The Stranger in Liverpool*' seems to show a single block of properties occupying the whole of the site with vacant plots to its west, though later mapping suggests that this is at best a schematic representation.

The 1835 Gage and Bennison maps of Liverpool seem to be the first reliable maps of the site. These show the western range of buildings at right angles from the street, with an open space to the east of them, determining the interpretation that this court was built in two phases (Figure 15).



*Figure 15: Gage Map, 1835, showing Oakes Street and the western side of Missionary Buildings*

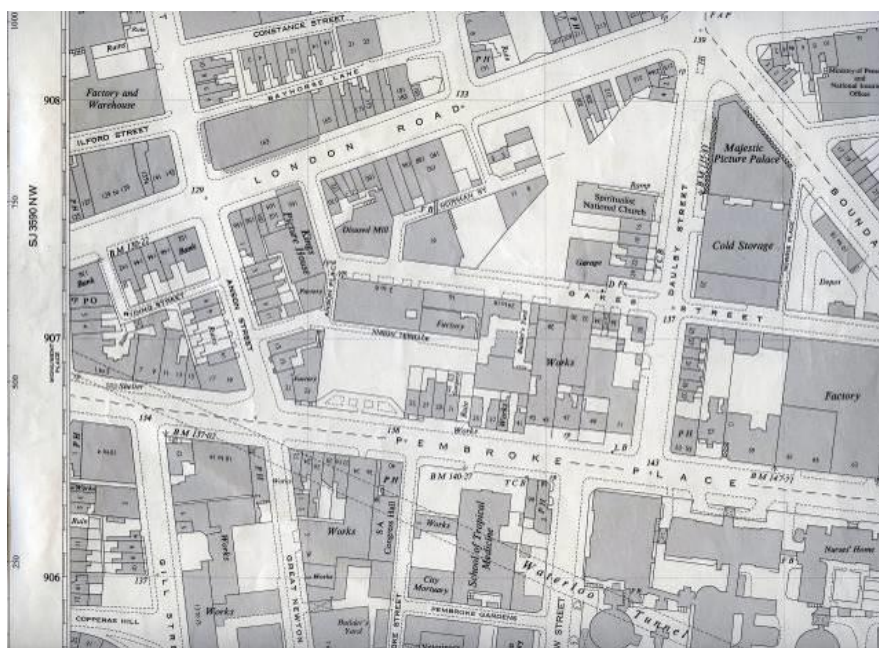
The first detailed map of the site is the 1850 Ordnance Survey 5 feet to the mile. Sheet 25 was surveyed in 1848 and published in 1850 and shows the whole block of court dwellings, 'Missionary Buildings', fronting on to Oakes Street (*Figure 16*). The court clearly extends at its south end around a corner, with an additional range running east-west, which is unusual.



Figure 16: First Edition OS Map, surveyed 1847, published 1848



Post-war OS mapping shows this area in use for light industry, with houses and shops remaining on the main thoroughfares of Pembroke Place and London Road and Oakes Street taking a different character (*Figure 17*).



*Figure 17: 1959 OS map, showing a builder's yard on the site*

An OS 1:1250 base map of 1971 with annotations to 1977 shows little change to the study area. Numbers 43-47 are annotated as a furniture works whilst the 'ruins' occupying the site of number 51 in the 1950s have been rebuilt.

## 6.2 Painting and Photographic Evidence

Images held by Liverpool Record Office and other sources were researched as part of the 'Secret Life of Pembroke Place' project. Appendix One lists all the images of Oakes Street at the Record Office. These include some images which show the street at the time when the courts were there (*Figure 18*).



*Figure 18: Oakes Street from Daulby Street, painted in 1909 by Edwin Beattie  
© Liverpool Libraries and Archives*

There are also two photographs of Missionary Buildings in the Liverpool City Engineers collection which capture the buildings shortly before demolition in the 1930s (*Figures 19 and 20*).



*Figure 19: Missionary Buildings looking north towards Oakes Street*  
© Liverpool Libraries and Archives



*Figure 20: Missionary Buildings looking south, from Oakes Street*  
© Liverpool Libraries and Archives

One photograph shows the street in the 1960s, when the site would have been in use as a builder's yard – on the right past the light coloured building (*Figure 21*).



*Figure 21: Oakes Street in 1967.*  
© Liverpool Libraries and Archives

## 7. The Finds

The finds from this excavation provide a wealth of evidence about material life in Liverpool courts, building on the historical sources and expanding the detailed knowledge of court lifestyles.

The majority of the finds came from two lightwells to cellar rooms formerly part of 'Missionary Buildings', later known as 'Court 2, Oakes Street'. The basement windows would appear to have been blocked up c1900-c1914 allowing for the build-up of a waste or rubbish deposit in the open cavity into the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These lightwell fills, contexts 10 and 11, contained sealed dumps of finds which were not well drained, so there was good survival of organic remains such as leather.

A coal hole fill, context 18, also contained dumped rubbish, with only a small amount of coal remnant, widely distributed at the base, among a dark matrix.

Context	Context description
1	Concrete slab
2	Concrete stanchion base
3	Concrete stanchion base
4	Concrete stanchion base
5	Cleaning layer
6	Demolition debris
7	Demolition debris
8	Demolition debris

Context	Context description
9	Demolition debris
10	Demolition debris - north lightwell
11	Demolition debris - south lightwell
12	Demolition debris in alley to Anson Terrace
13	West wall of Missionary Buildings, east range
14	Blocking to window in [13] (north)
15	Blocking to window in [13] (south)
16	Internal wall within Missionary Buildings
17	Continuation of [13]
18	Dark fill of coal hole
19	South wall coal hole
20	North wall coal hole
21	West wall coal hole
22	Wall to northern lightwell
23	Wall to southern lightwell
24	Drain, south end [13]
25	Wall butting south end [13]
26	20th century wall in SE corner
27	Make-up layer for courtyard
28	E - W aligned wall in west edge of trench
29	N - S aligned wall in west edge of trench
30	E - W aligned wall in west edge of trench
31	N - S wall exposed in western limit of excavation
32	Sewer

### **Pottery**

There are a total of 693 sherds of pottery weighing some 14.9kg. The average weight is only 21.4g showing that the assemblage is fairly fragmentary and broken, although some fairly sizable pieces did survive. There are a number of near complete vessels and it was possible to reconstruct a variety of other vessels from broken fragments.

The pottery is quite variable, ranging from very plain white utilitarian wares to some quite beautiful and what might be considered to be higher status ceramics, such as the Chinese porcelain, although the print is quite poorly applied and might be considered 'seconds'. Very few pieces have matching designs, suggesting they were bought as one off pieces rather than as dining sets, the exception again being the Chinese-style porcelain where there are three vessels with similar design.

### **Porcelain**

There are 31 sherds of porcelain, weighing 492.8g; of these over half by count (17) have a polychrome decoration, forming over 69% of this group by weight (341.8g).

- MOL.2018.53.87; context 6; two joining pieces from a bowl with a polychrome transfer-printed tree/flower design, the rim having a blue geometric design border (*Figure 22*).





Figure 22: MOL.2018.53.93/94/615 Polychrome bowl

- MOL.2018.53.93/94/615; contexts 6 and 7; five joining sherds (weight 26.7g) from a bowl with a poorly applied transfer-printed Chinese landscape design, the rim having an interior blue geometric design border.
- MOL.2018.53.88; context 10; sherd of polychrome painted porcelain with butterfly motif.
- MOL.2018.53.89; context 11; sherd of polychrome painted porcelain with green/red leaf/flower
- MOL.2018.53.444; context 6; a tea cup with poorly applied transfer-printed; painted flower and patterned design.
- MOL.2018.53.430; context 11; fragment from a possible cup with moulded decoration highlighted in gold and a deep blue primary colour to the exterior.

A number of other probable porcelain vessels have simple gold line decoration:

- MOL.2018.53.198; context 10; joining sherds of a cup.
- MOL.2018.53.442; context 6; a near complete egg cup probably porcelain.
- MOL.2018.53.358; context 11; a saucer with a red border and repeated gold lines. The form and decoration are simple and utilitarian rather high quality decorative pieces.

The remaining sherds are relatively small, often plain and white, and more utilitarian although in a porcelain fabric they are more consistent with lower status housing.

A small number of items of porcelain: MOL.2018.53.87, MOL.2018.53.88 and MOL.2018.53.89, are on display as part of the 'Galkoff's and the Secret Life of Pembroke Place' exhibition in the Museum of Liverpool and have not been recorded here in detail.

### **Transfer-printed earthenware**

There are a total of 134 sherds of transfer-printed pottery, weighing 1.8kg. Whilst there are a relatively large number of items many are quite fragmentary making it difficult to identify shapes and patterns. A number of pieces carry a makers' backstamp, or part of one, which will aid in dating and discussion of some of the designs present.

Transfer printing is a process by which a pattern or design is etched onto a copper (or other metal) plate. The plate is then inked and the pattern is "transferred", via a special

tissue, to an already bisque fired ceramic item, which is then glazed, and fired for a second time.

The designs were often printed in blue, with over half of all pieces having a blue design, but red, brown, green and black prints also appear within the assemblage.

- MOL.2018.53.501; context 11; moulded cup with 'willow pattern' design inspired by Chinese porcelain, highlighted with gold trim.
- MOL.2018.53.106; context 10; heavy, thick, large, oval, serving plate.
- MOL.2018.53.146; context 11; 12 fragments from a small plate or saucer with a blue floral transfer-printed design and backstamp trade mark, which reads:

ROYAL PREMIUM  
T & R BOOTE  
ENGLAND  
R<sup>d</sup> N<sup>o</sup> 33645

T.R. Boote operated from the Waterloo Pottery, Burlsem, up to 1906 and from 1906 concentrated on the manufacture of tiles.

From Jan 1884 registered designs were numbered consecutively prefixed with 'R.N.' or 'Rd. No.' The design number found on the Oakes Street plate, 33645, is associated with the 'TOURNAY' pattern which was registered in 1885. The requirement to add the word 'ENGLAND' to the mark came following the McKinley Tariff Act of 1890, to show the place of manufacture for goods entering the USA. The plate was therefore made some time between 1891 and 1921, when this requirement changed, adding the words 'MADE IN ENGLAND' to the mark.



*Figure 23: MOL.2018.53.309 Denon's Egypt base*

- MOL.2018.53.309; context 5; two joining fragments from a soup tureen base. Whilst the transfer-printed design does not survive the printed maker's mark lists the design name: 'Denon's Egypt' and initials 'E.J.' (*Figure 23*).

The design is believed to originate from a Staffordshire potter Elijah Jones and inspired by popular scenes illustrated following Napoleonic expeditions to Egypt. Jones probably started out at the firm of 'Jones & Son' in Hanley around 1826-28 before moving to the Phoenix Works, Shelton in 1831 and the Villa Pottery at Cobridge 1832. By 1845 the company was in the control of Edward Walley, a former business partner. Around 1848 the Newcastle based 'Maling' firm of potters acquired the 'Denon's Egypt' printing plates and continued to produce wares with the same designs. The Maling potters produced Denon's Egypt with a backstamp which omitted the EJ lettering, potentially identifying this example as a Staffordshire example dating between 1831 and 1848 (Coysh and Henrywood 1997, 69; Pye 2009, 3). However, this would have made this a relatively old item to be deposited at this site after around 1900.

- MOL.2018.53.308; context 10; base fragment from serving dish with simple blue floral band, marked with a 'Ridgways' and a trade mark 'bow and quiver' backstamp.

Ridgways was an earthenware manufacturer at the Bedford works, Shelton, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent which operated between 1879 and 1920. The bow and quiver backstamp was registered in 1880. Unfortunately the stamp recovered from Oakes Street is incomplete, but is potentially a later 19<sup>th</sup> century example of the stamp, although a simple 'bow and quiver' trade mark does appear with a diamond mark from c.1927+.

- MOL.2018.53.738; context 8; curved body sherd from a large thick heavy plate or bowl. The design would appear to be a Chinese style landscape, with tree and single storey building.
- MOL.2018.53.181; context 10; two small plates or saucers with a similar brown printed design (*Figure 24*).



*Figure 24: MOL.2018.53.181 Transfer-printed plate*

- MOL.2018.53.37; context 10; saucer with faint black, floral, transfer-print and a partial makers backstamp mark (*Figure 25*), which reads:

ENGLAND  
SEMI-PORCELAIN  
(greyhound dog)  
TRADE MARK  
E.[M. & Co.]



*Figure 25: MOL.2018.53.37 Malkin stamped sherd*

Edge, Malkin & Co., of Burslem, was an earthenware manufacturer operating between 1870 and 1902. The trade mark was registered in 1873, with the word "ENGLAND" added after 1891. By 1902 the business was bankrupt but after voluntary liquidation and later iterations of the company added new elements to the backstamp not present on our example – dating it to between 1891 and 1902.

- MOL.2018.53.469; context 10; fragment from a flat base from a large plate with a partial print showing a garden or landscape scene with a planter held up by three cherubs. On the reverse is a partial backstamp with a probable pattern name within scrollwork, including the letters 'CHA....' (Figure 26).

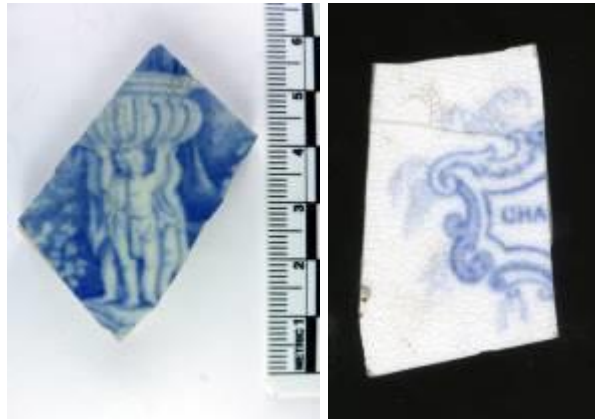


Figure 26: MOL.2018.53.469 Transfer-printed sherd

- MOL.2018.53.160; context 11; lidded jar with printed stamp.

Central flag of four ovals arranged in a diagonal cross, surrounded by name of company in circular banner – “THE CHARENTE[ STEA]M SHIP COMPANY LIMITED” (Figure 27).



Figure 27: MOL.2018.53.160 Charente Steam Ship Company stamped sherd

T&J Harrison shipping line was founded by brothers Thomas and James Harrison in 1853. It ran both cargo and passenger services, focussing on the import of brandy and wines from the Charente area around Cognac. The Charente Steamship Company was founded in 1871, and Thomas and James Harrison were the managers. In 1884 to take advantage of the Limited Liability Law, the Charente Steamship Company Limited was formed. The 'Limited' title of the company places this vessel no earlier than 1884.

- MOL.2018.53.35; context 10; saucer with a floral print design. A very partial backstamp suggests a pair of a donkey or horse's legs.

- MOL.2018.53.341; context 11; three fragments of mug/jug with a maroon transfer printed floral decoration. Possibly 'Cartwright & Edwards' of Longton, which operated between 1859 and 1987.
- MOL.2018.53.107; context 10; black transfer-printed plate with an untraceable partial maker's mark within scrollwork (*Figure 28*), which reads:

...ON &  
 ....TT  
 .... OS



*Figure 28: MOL.2018.53.107 partial maker's mark*

- MOL.2018.53.467 blue transfer-printed plate with fragmentary maker's mark showing a circular belt with letters 'WAR...' at top, possibly for 'WARRANTED', rather than a makers, or pattern, name.
- MOL.2018.53.232 a tiny fragment of pottery with the surviving printed word 'VENICE' (*Figure 29*). Unusually the mark is potentially on the interior of the vessel and incorporated in the design.



*Figure 29: MOL.2018.53.232*

### **Flow Transfer printing**

Known as flow blue, its main characteristic was that the blue printed design was encouraged to flow or seep into the glaze during the firing process creating a blurred effect. The transfer printed designs tend to be dark in colour (Snyder 1997).

There are four very fragmentary sherds of pottery with such blurred blue printing, which are potentially flow transfer print, including:

- MOL.2018.53.109; context 10; three fragments of flow blue transfer-printed ware.
- MOL.2018.53.153; context 11; fragment of earthenware vessel, blue floral transfer printed decoration.

### **Hand-painted earthenware**

There are 12 fragments from hand-painted earthenware vessels, weighing 110.3g. These types of decorative Staffordshire pottery were shipped through the Port of Liverpool in their millions to the USA and around the world in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The relative lack of such material from Oakes Street may suggest they were less fashionable by the latter years of the century.

- MOL.2018.53.829; unstratified; small domed lid possibly from a jar or teapot, although no vent hole is present. The lid is painted with red tulips.

- MOL.2018.53.857; context 12; tiny fragment with very partial painted image which depicts a young girl with floral crown, hugging, and in turn being hugged by, an adult.
- MOL.2018.53.334; context 11; flat base fragment from a white glazed earthenware vessel with red painted symbols on or under base. They may represent simple hand-painted bird forms or if under the base a possibly incomplete Chinese character.
- MOL.2018.53.503; context 11; fragment from a moulded cup with a blurred, uncertain, hand-painted grey floral design at the rim.
- MOL.2018.53.711; unstratified; saucer with a painted green foliage design.

### **Victorian Majolica**

'Victorian majolica' is a term sometimes used to describe mass-produced polychrome earthenware decorated with brightly coloured, vibrant, lead glazes. The term is used here to capture a small group of fragmentary vessels with brightly coloured glazes and usually moulded similar to antique jardinières.

There are a total of 38 sherds, weighing 374g. Whilst only a very small number they stand out as being significantly different to the other material present on the site as white-bodied with brightly coloured glazes and hard-wearing.

Majolica was introduced into England by Minton's art director Leon Arnoux in 1850, initially copying the Italian tin-glazed 'maiolica', but the term came to be applied to a wide range of earthenwares decorated with semi-translucent coloured glazes (Godden 1972, 272). Other English potters also made the ware (Savage and Newman 1985, *Majolica*).

- MOL.2018.53.197; context 10; moulded rope and interlocked buckle decoration, with pale; yellow, blue and green glaze.
- MOL.2018.53.191 and MOL.2018.53.201 (probably same vessel); context 10; moulded floral decoration, coloured in bright yellow, green and brown glaze.
- MOL.2018.53.204; context 10; MOL.2018.53.347; context 11; and MOL.2018.53.906; context 11; (probably the same fragmentary vessel) with vibrant purplish-red glaze.
- MOL.2018.53.364; context 11; moulded vessel with bright green exterior glaze.
- MOL.2018.53.365; context 11; moulded vessel with exterior brown glaze.
- MOL.2018.53.419; context 11; with vibrant orange-red glaze.
- MOL.2018.53.575; context 5; open bowl with interior moulded decoration coloured pale to dark-green with high-lighted flowers in pinkish-red.
- MOL.2018.53.360; context 11; moulded jar or teapot base with brown glaze and yellow interior.

### **Plain White China**

There are a total of 245 sherds, weighing 3432.5g, from vessels largely without decoration and being predominantly white in colour; two-thirds of which are completely undecorated, and many are quite fragmentary pieces; 159 sherds weighing 2071.5g. These include five sherds with a creamy glaze colour which may in fact be earlier creamware or just discoloured.

However, there are a number of sherds which have some simple decoration. There are 15 sherds, weight 283.4g, with a painted line or lines around or at the top of the rim in a



variety of colours: including blue, brown, red and green. There are also a seven pieces (47.4g) with lustrous gold or silver lines. These are retained in this category for the simple nature of the decoration and the predominance of the white glaze. There are also 50 sherds (799.5g) from vessels with a moulded decoration but otherwise with no added colour.

Whilst much of this assemblage is quite fragmentary in nature there are a few vessels which it was possibly to largely reconstruct.

- MOL.2018.53.871; context 10; oval pie dish with no decoration; trivet maker's marks under the base. There is a partial impression possibly of a stamp.
- MOL.2018.53.166; context 10; near complete simple cup.
- MOL.2018.53.165; context 10; cup with simple moulded form.
- MOL.2018.53.172; context 10; cup with moulded decoration, highlighted with gold lustre.
- MOL.2018.53.155; context 11; mug base with joining body.

Very few of the pieces have datable makers' marks, except:

- MOL.2018.53.439; context 6; and MOL.2018.53.631; context 7; large round plate with a moulded leaf design around the rim, made up of seven joined pieces (*Figure 30*). The green printed makers' mark reads:

'SEMI-PORCELAIN  
(crown mark)  
WEDGWOOD & C<sup>o</sup> L<sup>d</sup>  
ENGLAND.



*Figure 30: MOL.2018.53.439 Wedgwood mark*

Pottery stamps from Wedgwood & Co. (Ltd.) can be mistaken for those of Josiah Wedgwood & Sons Ltd. Wedgwood & Co. were earthenware manufacturers based at the Unicorn and Pinnox Works in Tunstall, Staffordshire (Godden 1991, 655). Stamps including the word 'Ltd.', standing for 'limited company', occur from 1900 and similar simple stamps with the Crown logo, with or without the words 'Imperial Porcelain', occur from 1906 (Godden 1991, 655-6).

- MOL.2018.53.161; context 11; a fragmentary base from a saucer with no visible decoration and with a partial 'Royal Ironstone' China backstamp (*Figure 31*) which reads:

ROYAL IRONS[TONE CHINA]  
{above a Royal Coat of Arms}



*Figure 31: MOL.2018.53.161 Royal Ironstone mark*

Various attempts were made during the 19<sup>th</sup> century to perfect a cheap but durable earthenware body (Godden 1972, 204). Mason's patent Ironstone China was the most successful and the name 'Ironstone China' quickly caught on as a tough yet delicate china-like ware. Examples of marks like MOL.2018.53.161 appear with at least three Staffordshire potters using the 'Royal Ironstone' as a trade name in conjunction with the Royal Crest: A.J. Wilkinson, Alfred Meakin and Johnson Bros. These stamp designs date from 1896, 1897 and 1883 respectively. Whilst it is virtually impossible to know for certain which potter made the plate it would seem to date to no earlier than the later years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

- MOL.2018.53.699; a saucer with a moulded decoration with a printed backstamp (*Figure 32*) which reads:

(Crown logo)  
THO<sup>S</sup> HUGHES & SON L<sup>TD</sup>  
ENGLAND



*Figure 32: MOL.2018.53.699 Hughes and sons mark*

Thomas Hughes was originally based at the Waterloo Works, Burslem (c.1860 to 1876), worked at the Top Bridge factory, Longport in the early 1880s and at 'Unicorn Pottery' 1884-1957. Marks incorporating '&SON L<sup>TD</sup>' date from after c.1910. MOL.2018.53.699 was therefore made between 1910 and 1935, after which date 'Made in England' was used.

- MOL.2018.53.736; context 8; and MOL.2018.53.836; unstratified; simple plain plates with concentric blue painted lines around rim. Marked under the base with an impressed stamp 'TILL'. Two pieces from either the same plate or plates of similar design. 'TILL' may refer to makers Thomas Till & Son (later sons), which operated 1850-1928, although a stamped makers' mark for this company is unusual.
- MOL.2018.53.812; context 5; small rim fragment from a cup with the same simple blue line decoration as the TILL plate. This may suggest a possible service rather than individual vessels.
- MOL.2018.53.754; context 18; medicinal (or toy) cup.

### **English 19th Century Lustreware**

There are eight fragments from vessels with lustrous decoration, weighing 49g. There are also a number of plainer vessels with simple highlighting or added lustrous gold or silver line decoration.

Lustre decoration, most common from the 1790s-1860s, was formed by applying thin metallic films to ceramics; mostly in silver (derived from platinum) or copper (from gold). They are applied either as embellishments or as a complete or near complete covering (Godden 1972, 214).

- MOL.2018.53.196; context 10; jug with bands of copper lustre interspersed with a decorated band of blue with further applied decoration.
- MOL.2018.53.576; context 5; cup with a green ground decorated with a gold lustrous design.

### **Vessels with sprigged decoration**

- MOL.2018.53.470; context 10; a small cup fragment in a pale off-white glaze with blue applied sprig decoration. Sprigged work or decoration is relief decoration shaped in a separate mould, removed and immediately applied or 'sprigged' on to the body of the ware before firing (Hughes and Hughes 1968, 140).

### **Maypole Dairy Jar**

- MOL.2018.53.346; context 11; four joining fragments from an earthenware Maypole Dairy cream jar, with a greyish glazed interior. The body near the base has an impressed stamp "MAYPOLE CREAM", both words forming an oval shape. The base has an uncertain impressed "H" (?). From about 1890 until the early 1920s cream was sold in pots by many dairies throughout the country.

### **Stoneware Pottery**

#### **White Stoneware Toothpaste Jar Lid**

- MOL.2018.53.879; context 18; stoneware jar lid with transfer-printed label. Dating from 1860 to 1910. The complete label reads:

WOODS ARECA NUT  
6d  
TOOTH PASTE  
For removing Tartar  
and whitening the teeth  
without injuring the Enamel  
PROPRIETOR  
W.WOODS  
CHEMIST  
PLYMOUTH

This was a common toothpaste brand in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. William Woods Chemists and druggists are listed at 50, Bedford Street in Plymouth in 1879.

### **Jam jars**

There are a total of 15 sherds, weighing 661.7g, from white stoneware jam jars recovered from the site. Many of the examples are quite fragmentary, with only one profile present (MOL.2018.53.852), and none of the pieces are stamped.

### **Ceramic/Stoneware Bottles**

There are a number of stoneware bottles amongst the assemblage.

Small Brown Stoneware bottles:

- MOL.2018.53.433; context 11; brown stoneware bottle with partially surviving paper label (*Figure 33*); which reads:

PAR...  
CRYSTA..  
....d prepared after...



...e upon all wo...  
... very small quantities ...  
...n Polishing with a ...  
.... mad ...

*Figure 33: MOL.2018.53.433 Stoneware jar with label*

- MOL.2018.53.159; context 11; complete brown stoneware polish bottle.
- MOL.2018.53.162; context 11; near complete brown stoneware polish bottle.

White stoneware bottle base:

- MOL.2018.53.357; context 11; a fragmentary base.

### **Coarsewares**

#### **Late Dark-Mottledware**

A refined earthenware where the glaze is heavily coloured with iron forming a fairly even dark-brown colour, over a pale fabric. The forms are teapots.

#### **Late dark-glazed wares**

There are a total of 27 sherds from dark-glazed earthenwares, five from finer tablewares such as teapots and cups. 22 sherds from coarser heavier jars and conical bowls usually associated with the kitchen.

- MOL.2018.53.567; context 5; a finely potted large and heavy teapot.

#### **Unglazed flower-pot**

The assemblage includes 26 sherds, weighing just over 1kg, from unglazed ceramics, mostly flower-pots.

- MOL.2018.53.629; context 7; unglazed earthenware bowl rim with highly unusual scratch marks into the rim, seemingly done before firing.

### **Other Ceramics**

#### **Saggars**

- MOL.2018.53.704; context 5; two large fragments from saggars. Saggars were large fire boxes used during the production of fineware pottery to protect smaller delicate wares from the heat of the fire during firing. Most commonly found on ceramics production sites, their presence at Oakes Street may indicate re-use for other functions, or dumping of waste from elsewhere. A number of porcelain or tin-glazed producers operated on the edge of the then town during the later 18<sup>th</sup> century. Other finds from the Oakes Street site are consistent with a domestic site, suggesting potential reuse of these objects here.

### **Ceramic Figurines**

Four fragments from ceramic figurines were recovered, three bisque (without glaze), and one a glazed earthenware.

- MOL.2018.53.184; context 10; two fragments from a moulded unglazed human figurine or figurines, possibly of bisque 'Parian ware' type.
- MOL.2018.53.230; context 11; fragment of a partially glazed, small 'Parian ware' type human figure; a man sitting on the stump of a tree.
- MOL.2018.53.492; context 11; arm fragment from a small 'Parian ware' type human figure, with coloured cuff to sleeve. Parian ware is described as a 'highly vitrified

translucent frit porcelain, invented by W.T. Copeland in 1842, for the purpose of making statuary figures' (Hughes & Hughes 1968, 119).

- MOL.2018.53.225; context 11; fragment from a glazed earthenware figure, possibly of a dog.

### **Ceramic Eggs**

Two ceramic eggs were recovered from the excavations one complete and one fragmentary. The fragmentary egg shows that they are hollow, made from a white-firing earthenware, and glazed to the exterior. Being hollow, they are fairly light, the complete egg weighing only 36.7g.

- MOL.2018.53.92; context 11; a complete ceramic egg with crazed glaze and some dimpling towards top (*Figure 34*).
- MOL.2018.53.180; context 10; fragment from a hollow ceramic egg with crazed glaze.



*Figure 34: MOL.2018.53.92 Ceramic egg*

The eggs are believed to have been used with chickens to encourage them to lay in a preferred location and prevent them from pecking and therefore damaging their real eggs. While there is no photographic evidence, these finds suggest the keeping of chickens in the courtyards of court housing.

### **Unidentified Ceramic**

Three pieces (MOL.2018.53.645; context 10; MOL.2018.53.646; context 10; MOL.2018.53.790; context 11) of a coarse, bowl-like vessel with applied, possibly decorative, features attached to the rim. All the pieces may be from the same vessel, but it is not complete enough to give a true impression of the overall form. The material is discoloured white reminiscent of a stone, but the attached material to the rim demonstrates it was made from a pliable material, such as clay.

### **Tobacco Pipes**

A total of 47 fragments from clay tobacco pipes, weighing 234.4g, were recovered. The assemblage comprises 16 bowls or part of bowls, 26 stem fragments and four mouthpieces.

Fifteen pipe fragments were recovered from context 10 (8 bowls, 6 stems and 1 mouthpiece) the northern window light, with a further 20 from context 11 (7 bowls, 11 stems and 1 mouthpiece) the southern window light. The next largest group were recovered from context 5 a cleaning layer with six stem fragments and a single

mouthpiece. A bowl and one stem was also recovered from the coal hole, context 18, alongside a 'amberite' pipe mouthpiece (MOL.2018.53.749) with screw in end.

The pipe stem bores fit in 4-5/64<sup>th</sup> range, typical of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century date, with a single slightly larger bore (6/64<sup>th</sup>) from context 5 (MOL.2018.53.572). Ten of the bowls are sooted, showing they were smoked.

Of the 16 pipe bowls, five have thorn decoration, with clay being pulled out to resemble briar thorns on the bowl and junction with the stem, all are from short-stemmed "cutty" pipes which can be dated after 1850 (Higgins 2017). All examples of the pipes with this decoration and form were recovered from the infilled lightwells, with four examples from context 11 (*Figure 35*).

- MOL.2018.53.102; context 10; small fragment from a thorn decorated bowl.
- MOL.2018.53.481; context 11; part of a thorn decorated bowl.
- MOL.2018.53.483, the most complete example of a bowl with this decoration, encrusted with iron staining. Sooted/smoked.
- MOL.2018.53.889; context 11; smaller fragment of thorn decorated bowl.
- MOL.2018.53.893; context 11; (4/64<sup>th</sup>); pipe stem, from the junction of the bowl and stem, with thorn decoration and stamped with incuse moulding the number '267' along stem on one side, probably a pattern number. Moulded marks or pattern numbers on the sides of the stem were introduced around the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and became the most widespread and common form of marking thereafter (Higgins 2017).



*Figure 35: Clay pipe fragments*

### *Workman Pipes*

A group of six fragments of coarse pipes: stumpy, short and thick, would appear to be workman-type pipes, designed to be more robust than ordinary pipes. The form appears from 1850 and was common until at least 1910:

- MOL.2018.53.886; context 11; (5/64<sup>th</sup>); incuse moulded stamp reading '...KMANS PIPE...' (*Figure 36*). More complete examples have been found elsewhere and the complete stamp probably refers to 'The Workman' or 'The Workman's Pipe'. This was a popular pattern name that appears on a short-stemmed 'cutty' pipe, post 1850 (Higgins 2017).





Figure 36: MOL.2018.42.886 WORKMANS [sic] PIPE

- MOL.2018.53.98; context 10; rouletted at rim; large thick workman type bowl fragment.
- MOL.2018.53.621; context 7; short dumpy piece possibly from 'workman's pipe'; with cut end.
- MOL.2018.53.747; context 18; (5/64<sup>th</sup>); smoked, large, heavy, thick, near-complete pipe bowl with a short stem (*Figure 37*). The broken stem ends where it has been roughly trimmed to a narrower dimension. Unusual form.

There were a large number of branches of the British Workmen Public Houses in Liverpool listed in the directory for 1900. This list includes three on London Road and one on Pembroke Place. They were temperance houses, not selling alcohol, and the Workman's Pipe may have been produced for these establishments. It is interesting to note that the company was also involved in stores, bakeries and mineral water manufacture.



Figure 37: MOL.2018.53.747 Tobacco pipe

- MOL.2018.53.858; context 11; (4/64<sup>th</sup>); a complete, thick, undecorated pipe bowl with cut edge; thick pipe possibly from a 'workman pipe', of a form typical of 1850-1910 (*Figure 38*).

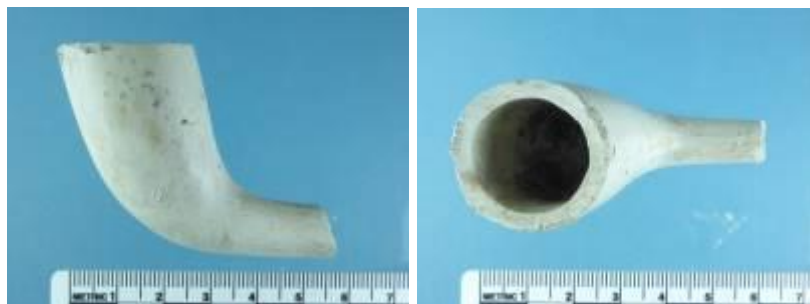


Figure 38: MOL.2018.53.858 Tobacco pipe

#### *Nipple mouthpieces*

- MOL.2018.53.887 (5/64<sup>th</sup>); context 11; Mouthpiece with a flattened diamond and simple or poorly formed nipple.
- MOL.2018.53.97 (4/64<sup>th</sup>); context 10; Clay tobacco pipe mouthpiece; diamond shaped with nipple (*Figure 39*).



*Figure 39: MOL.2018.53.887 and MOL.2018.53.97 Tobacco pipes with 'nipple' mouthpieces*

#### *Decorated pipe bowls*

- MOL.2018.53.888; context 11; (5/64<sup>th</sup>); large, smoked, un-decorated, complete bowl with cut rim and spur, in three joining parts.
- MOL.2018.53.99 context 10; a partial, fine, largely un-decorated, pipe bowl with moulded milling at the rim.
- MOL.2018.53.417; context 5; (5/64<sup>th</sup>); simple cut mouthpiece.
- MOL.2018.53.95 (5/64<sup>th</sup>); context 10; smoked, moulded bowl with cut rim with thistle and leaf decoration and spur (*Figure 40*).



*Figure 40: MOL.2018.53.95 Moulded pipe bowl*

- MOL.2018.53.96 (4/64<sup>th</sup>); context 10; moulded bowl with cut rim and fluted decoration in two joining pieces.
- MOL.2018.53.890; context 11; cut bowl fragment with simple raised diamond, as decoration with relief, but partially worn, with a cross-hatched design (*Figure 41*).



MOL.2018.53.96      MOL.2018.53.890

*Figure 41: decorated pipe bowls*

### **Other Pipe-clay Objects**

There are also a small number of unusual items made in pipe clay:

- MOL.2018.53.891; context 11; an unusual moulded object, round with a rounded hollow and flat base. It is made of a pipe-clay and formed by squashing a pellet of clay into a mould. The base appears to have been cut flat, although it is damaged.
- MOL.2018.53.178; context 10; two fragments of thin sheeting made of the same white ball clay. These resemble fragments found on pipe production sites from kiln coverings. These would seem an unlikely find on a domestic site unless a pipe works operated locally.

### **Non-ceramic smoking objects**

One other object of note was an amberite mouthpiece, MOL.2018.53.749, from coal hole context 18. Amberite is an artificial material used for making detachable pipe mouthpieces, imitating amber (Higgins 2017, section 10 glossary and National Pipe Archive Glossary).

### ***Ceramic and Glass Beads***

There are four beads, three complete and one glass bead broken into three pieces. All are spherical with a central hole. They were all recovered from context 18, the dark fill of the coal hole.

- MOL.2018.53.752; context 18; two small ceramic pink beads, 9 and 10mm in diameter.
- MOL.2018.53.759; context 18; opaque white glass bead in three parts, 15mm diameter.
- MOL.2018.53.894; context 18; pink glass bead with white swirls, 10mm diameter with much finer hole than the others.

During the later 19<sup>th</sup> century there was a new and vast market for jewellery at prices the middle class could afford and with the adoption of new mechanised production they became available to the masses in a way they had never been before.

### **Glass**

One of the largest groups of material was glass forming some 20% of the overall assemblage. There were 515 fragments of glass weighing some 14.9kg; almost half (by count) were window or flat glass fragments with a further quarter from bottles, although bottles form a much larger proportion by weight. The higher weights for bottles largely caused by the number of complete or near complete bottles recovered. There were also a number of glass or vessel fragments.

Glass vessel type totals			
Material	Type	Total	Weight (g)
Glass		4	6.9
Glass	Bottle	118	8960.1
Glass	Glass	27	646.3
Glass	Glass bottle stopper	1	22.5
Glass	Object	32	79.2
Glass	opaque vessel	2	12.9
Glass	Personal Ornament Bead	4	4.4
Glass	Vessel	67	921.3
Glass	Vessel/bottle	3	9.5
Glass	Flat/window glass	233	4146.2
Glass	blue	2.00	11.80
Glass/plastic	Blue (possible blue milk glass)	16.00	92.80
Glass/plastic	Vessel	1.00	2.70
Glass?		1.00	3.20
Glass?	Vessel	4.00	23.70

## Glass objects

### *Glass bottle stopper*

- MOL.2018.53.465; context 11; ground glass ‘bullet’ bottle stopper.

### *Phials/chemistry vessels*

Nine fragments of glass phials, eight from context 18 (MOL.2018.53.750 and MOL.2018.53.764) and one unstratified. These narrow glass vessels usually have a scientific or medical function.

Twenty four fragments of very fine glass tubing (MOL.2018.53.779 and MOL.2018.53.782; all context 18), with a total weight of 63.8g, are probably also associated with medical, pharmaceutical or scientific work in the locale.

## Vessel Glass

### *Decorative vessel glass*

- MOL.2018.53.317; context 11; vessel, with tubular body projecting to a flaring, crimped lip in blue milk glass. ‘Milk glass’ is an opaque or translucent, milk white or coloured glass that can be blown or pressed into a wide variety of shapes and sizes. Pressed Milk glass was produced throughout the Victorian era and later, by British manufacturers Sowerby, Davidson and Greener but also in France and USA. Many published examples of blue milk glass vases with the tall flaring and pinched rim appear to be French in origin (left); possibly from Portieux Vallerysthal. Milk or ‘opaline’ glass was a decorative style of glass made in France from 1800 to the 1890s, but particularly popular during the 1850s and 1860s.

### *Glass Bottles*

Nine moulded and embossed bottles were recovered. As bottles were made of relatively heavy/thick glass they represent a significant element of the glass objects in the assemblage. Product information and/or the bottle makers stamps provide a wealth of supplies. The glass was thick to enable reuse, and the selection of bottles recovered might reflect patterns of use and reuse. Almost all are local and contained mineral waters. The



lack of evidence for alcoholic drinks may reflect lifestyles or a different return policy for bottles.

### **Snowdrop Bottles**

- MOL.2018.53.13; context 10; near complete clear bottle with faint green tinge, embossed with:

‘SNOWDROP REG<sup>d</sup>. N<sup>o</sup>. 47713  
J Lyon & Co  
LIVERPOOL’

- MOL.2018.53.69; context 11; fragmentary bottle made of two pieces was recovered.

‘Snowdrop Mineral Waters’ is a brand name of John Lyon & Co. of Liverpool, Birkenhead and Manchester.

John Lyon & Co. mineral water manufacturers are listed at 54, Brownlow Street East/Pembroke Place in 1900 (Gores Directory) and Lyon, John & Co. as a mineral water factory at Hamilton Lane/Price Street in Birkenhead. Lyon John & Co. are also listed as ‘mineral-water manufacturers’ at 21 to 25 Oldham Street West, at Renshaw Street in Liverpool. They also made cider [Lyon: John and Co. champagne cider for exportation awarded three gold medals for purity and general excellence, Oldham Street Liverpool, W] and cordial.

A further entry lists them as ‘Lyon, John and Co.’s Aromatic Ginger Ale, extra super Lemonade, Champagne Cider, Soda Water, &c., are specially prepared and highly recommended for exportation - awarded 20 gold medals for purity & general excellence Oldham street Liverpool, w’. The business continues to operate until at least the 1940s.

### **Strawson Bottles**

- MOL.2018.53.20; context 10; a complete dark brown bottle embossed with the company name of 'STRAWSON & C<sup>o</sup>. PRACTICAL CHEMISTS LIVERPOOL', side on down the reverse of bottle. The front has a central logo of an oval, or torpedo shaped Hamilton bottle with the word 'FILTERED' side on down the middle of the bottle, which is surrounded by a banner containing the words 'TRADE MARK REGISTERED' (*Figure 42*).
- MOL.2018.53.61; context 11; a complete light brown bottle embossed as above.



*Figure 42: MOL.2018.53.20 Strawson bottle*

The Commercial Directory of Liverpool, and shippers' guide 1871 lists Paul Strawson as a mineral water manufacturer at 45 Islington and 1, Clare Street East and a Vincent Strawson as Chemist at 35, Islington East.

The 1900 Gore's Trades Directory for Liverpool lists Strawson & Co. at 8 and 10 Carver Street east side as aerated water manufacturers and 'SODA WATER, GINGER BEER AND MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS' (Previously Thorne Strawson and Co. Limited in 1894). A Vincent Strawson, repeated as Strawson Vincent Valentine Latham, is listed as 'druggist and chemist', both references at 23, Moss Street east side (London Road) at the junction of Devon Street. The business continues to operate until 1908.

### **Joseph Thompson bottles**

- MOL.2018.53.21; context 10; two complete dark-green glass bottles made for Joseph Thompson. A further more fragmentary bottle made up of 6 joining pieces has the same embossed label; MOL.2018.53.66 context 11.

The plain central logo with large, hollow, 'J.T' trade mark; surrounded by two banks of curved lettering as shown below. The word 'THOMPSON' appears, side on, down the reverse of the bottle. The 'J.T' is plain with raised edges to the letters (*Figure 43*).

J. THOMPSON  
Joseph Thompson  
TRADE J.T MARK  
REGISTERED  
LIVERPOOL



MOL.2018.53.21



MOL.2018.53.65

Figure 43: Thompson bottles

- MOL.2018.53.65; context 11; and MOL.2018.53.67; context 11; joining fragments from a near complete dark-green bottle. The embossed label shows a variation to the design above with Joseph's complete name and a dashed infill to the hollow or plain 'JT':

JOSEPH THOMPSON  
TRADE MARK  
Joseph Thompson  
J.T  
REGISTERED  
LIVERPOOL

There is also a vertical 'THOMPSON' down the reverse and the same manufacturer mark under the base with the same pin logo surrounded by 'N & Co.' and the number '822'.

- MOL.2018.53.62; context 11; a near complete clear glass bottle in 2 joining pieces. The embossed label shows an incomplete variation to the Joseph Thompson design on the green bottles:

JOS... .HOMPSON  
..... MARK  
Joseph Thompson  
J.T  
REGISTERED  
LIVERPOOL

The JT in the design is solid of a more intricate lettering. There is also no vertical 'THOMPSON' down the reverse. The manufacturer mark under base has the same '822' number and a well defined 'pin' logo but no Nuttall mark.

In 1894 a Joseph Thompson 'botanic beer manufacturer' is listed in Kelly's Directory for Liverpool at Lytton Street in Everton. Joseph Thompson is listed in Gore's Trades Directory for Liverpool 1900 as a 'Mineral Water Manufacturer' with 'office and works' at 99 Rose Place, off Scotland Road; with a house Cressington Park. By 1911 the listings include Mrs Jane Thompson but not Joseph Thompson.

The mark under the base, 'N & Co.', can be attributed to the makers of the bottle 'Nuttall & Co.', of St. Helens, and can be dated between 1872 and c.1900. In the centre of the bottle base is an offset "keyhole" or 'teardrop' The numbers '822' appear on the bases, which may refer to size and type of bottles/moulds.

- MOL.2018.53.728; context 8; Nuttall bottle with base mark "N & Co 1712", dating it to after c.1900 and indicating a different mould size/form.

### Martindale bottles

- MOL.2018.53.19; context 10; near complete clear bottle with green tinge to the colour with the words; 'THE [PROPERTY OF H. MARTINDALE & Co. L<sup>d</sup> .. REGIST<sup>d</sup>' diamond trade mark with the words 'ESTAB<sup>d</sup> .. MARTINDALE .. 1801' and running parallel outside the words 'TRADE MARK', under this 'LIVERPOOL'. Around the base 'CHAPMAN & SON BIRKENHEAD'
- MOL.2018.53.58; context 11; complete clear bottle embossed with the words; 'THE [PROPERTY OF H. MARTINDALE & Co. L<sup>d</sup> .. REGIST<sup>d</sup>' diamond trade mark with the words 'ESTAB<sup>d</sup> .. MARTINDALE .. 1801' and running parallel outside the words 'TRADE MARK', under this 'LIVERPOOL'. On reverse 'REDFEARN BROS MAKERS BARNSELY'.
- MOL.2018.53.59; context 11; complete in two joining pieces clear glass bottle; as MOL.2018.53.19; context 10; Light green glass bottle with the top missing.
- MOL.2018.53.63; context 11; the top and neck of a fragmentary bottle with an incomplete embossed label.

**Oakes street (Anson street),**  
London road to Boundary place.  
MAP K 5, K 6.

**NORTH SIDE.**

1 to 9 Macmildrow Peter & Co.  
timber merchants  
.....here is Norman st.....  
17 Wright Peter, furn. remover  
Globe Furnishing Co. cabinet  
makers  
37 Tague Hugh, milk dealer  
..here are Daulby st. & Norris pl..  
Gabbutt Edmund, builder

**SOUTH SIDE.**

2 Roberts Mrs. Mary Eliza, shpkpr  
4 Donnelly John, boot maker  
22 Tague Daniel, coal dealer  
24 & 26 Kelly John, coal dealer  
Martindale H. & Co. Limited,  
mineral water manufacturers  
32 Stewart Alexander, blacksmith  
34 Vevosti John, ice cream maker  
.....here is Daulby st.....  
Gabbutt Edmund, contractor

Although the bottle states that H Martindale was established in 1801, the first reference found to the company is Henry Martindale's listing in Gore's Directory 1843 at '1 Bold Street' Lyceum Place, Bold Street, next to the Lyceum News Room and Library. He is shown as a 'Soda Water and Ginger Beer Manufacturer'.

Until the 1860s he remains in the Bold Street area as a soda-water and lemonade manufacturer, and cigar dealer. By 1869 the company moved to 80, Duke Street, Liverpool, where it remains until the 1880s.

In 1894 'Martindale H. & Co. Limited mineral water manufacturers' 'works' is listed in Kelly's Directory for Liverpool between 26 and 32 Oakes Street.



The 'Aerated water, ginger beer and soda water manufacturers and exporters 'Martindale & Smythe Limited' are listed in the 1911 Kelly's Directory at 62, and 83, Clare Street, Islington, Liverpool. It is possible that this is an amalgamation of H. Martindale with the firm of John Smythe, which was listed separately in 1894 at 92, Great Crosshall Street and Graham Place, Fontenoy Street.

'Martindale & Smythe Limited' is listed under mineral water manufacturers in the 1938 directory still based in Clare Street.

The Martindale bottles recovered at Oakes Street have distinctive rims, hand-formed with the addition of extra molten glass to the top of the moulded bottle, and the rim being shaped with a moulding tool.

### Heinekey, White & Co. Bottles

- MOL.2018.53.22; context 10; dark green glass bottle with the top missing. On the front an embossed label with a central trade mark of entwined letters possibly 'W H W' with '& Co.' interleaved, surrounded by a curved 'HEINEKEY WHITE & Co. LIVERPOOL' (Figure 44). Blank on reverse.



Figure 44: MOL.2018.53.22 Heinekey, White & Co. Bottle

- MOL.2018.53.80; context 11; clear glass bottle fragment with a partial embossed label, with the partial word 'HEIN ..'. Possibly from the same company as above but with no trade mark. On the reverse is a partial mark '.... & C<sup>o</sup>.' and closer to the base a single letter '..... T'.

Heinekey, White & Co. were based for a time at 43 Pembroke Place, Liverpool where they worked with reference to 'Ladas Cream Baking Powder' (Royal Society for the Promotion of Health 1895, 468). This may suggest they were a general grocers, whose products included mineral water sold in bottles like those recovered at Oakes Street.

**HEINEKEY, WHITE & Co., 43, Pembroke Place, Liverpool.**  
*Ladas Cream Baking Powder.*

Heinekey is an unusual name which does not appear in Liverpool street directories. A report in The London Evening Standard for August 7<sup>th</sup> 1895 lists 'Heinekey, White and Co.'; describing them as 'bottling agents', under the heading 'Partnerships Dissolved'.

By 1900 43, Pembroke Place is occupied by the 'Kops Ale Stores', see the Kops Ale Stores vulcanite bottle stopper below.

### Schofield Brothers bottles

- MOL.2018.53.326; context 18; fragments of a bottle with partial embossed label: '..... BROS/...MARK' and a separate fragment embossed with '...FIE.../...EGIST...', possibly from the same bottle as above.
- MOL.2018.53.74; context 11; fragment from a glass bottle embossed with an incomplete mark '..YMPL.. /LIVERPOOL', for the 'Schofield Bros' of Dalrymple Street, Liverpool. With a St Helens maker's mark near the base.

The complete mark would read:

'SCHOFIELD BROS  
REGISTERED  
TRADE [intertwined SB] MARK  
DALRYMPLE ST  
LIVERPOOL  
  
.....ST HELENS

Although the glass has a slightly different colour and no joining pieces could be found this may be the same bottle as MOL.2018.53.78 below.

- MOL.2018.53.78; context 11; clear glass, with green tinge, thick, heavy, bottle base with partial maker's mark embossed [C]'ANNINGTON SHAW & C<sup>o</sup> L<sup>d</sup>' around, and the number '2860' under, the base.  
Built c.1880 as a "model" factory it closed in the 1990's. The Schofield brothers were Thomas, John William and Samuel.

### Edgar Dow bottles

Two fragmentary bottles may be from the same producer, although neither stamp is complete.

- MOL.2018.53.7; context 10; partial embossed label 'EDGA...'
- MOL.2018.53.81; context 11; partial embossed label '..... R DO..' with uncertain trade mark.

The matching lettering would seem to complete the name 'EDGAR DO....'. An Edgar Dow is listed in the 1894 directory for Liverpool as a 'mineral water manufacturer' and 'soda Water, lemonade or ginger beer manufacturer' at 19 Baker Street, West Derby Road. No other reference to an Edgar Dow appears in the other directories accessed.

### Other embossed bottles

- MOL.2018.53.73, MOL.2018.53.76 and MOL.2018.53.77; context 11; three incomplete examples of clear glass, with green tinge, thick, heavy, bottle with the same embossed label, '1D 4 -- / DEPA .../ CHA ...' and partial stamp '... APWORTH & CO. ...' to other side.
- MOL.2018.53.79; context 11; clear glass, with green tinge, thick, heavy, bottle base with partial embossed design showing an uncertain logo with 'TRADE MARK' either side, and under the words 'LIVERPOOL .... STON'.
- MOL.2018.53.6; context 10; green glass bottle base embossed with 'T. TURNER & CO. MAKERS/ DEWSBURY'; the mark of bottle maker: T. Turner & Co referring to

Thomas Turner & Co., at the Savile Town Glass Works, Dewsbury, Yorkshire dating from the 19th-20th century. The mark would normally be at the rear of the bottle with the brewery name embossed to the front.

- MOL.2018.53.71; context 11; pale green glass bottle with internal screw thread and partial embossed stamp which reads 'H.L & ...'.
- MOL.2018.53.729; context 8; embossed with "AA" underneath, possibly for Alfred Alexander & Co.
- MOL.2018.53.700; context 6; fragment from the body of a pale blue medicine bottle. The fragment features the embossed letters "TAB..." as well as various line measures. Research suggests that the "TAB.." is a partial of "TABLESPOON" and the line measurements equate to the dosage taken. Probable late 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

### **Other bottles**

- MOL.2018.53.70; context 11; complete, small, medicine bottle
- MOL.2018.53.75; context 11; complete, small, sauce or ketchup bottle; at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century sauces such as ketchup were seen as additives to sauces not as a separate identity.
- MOL.2018.53.86; context 11; complete clear glass possible perfume bottle with broken cork stopper with attached metal spike into bottle with a sponge at the end. Under base a simple 'horse shoe' like mark containing the number '17' (*Figure 45*).



*Figure 45: MOL.2018.53.86 Possible perfume bottle.*

### **Rubber screw bottle stoppers**

Two bottle stoppers were recovered at Oakes Street. These are made from hard, non-elastic, India rubber, also known as 'vulcanite' or 'ebonite'. The process of "vulcanisation" involves heating the rubber to 115°C with sulphur and linseed oil, converting it into a more durable material. Ebonite was the brand name for the vulcanised rubber patented by Charles Goodyear in 1846. Stoppers would usually have an additional rubber washer or gasket, below the head of the stopper which sealed against the rim of the bottle. These stoppers often carried the company names and trademarks.

### *Kops Ales*

- MOL.2018.53.849; context 11; store embossed with:

KOPS ALE STORES  
H.W. & Co.  
LIVERPOOL

Henry Lowenfeld (born Henryk Loewenfeld in Warsaw) founded The Kops Brewery in Fulham, London in 1890. He was the first brewer of non-alcoholic ales and stouts in Britain. George Macbeth is listed as agent under the 'Non-Alcoholic Brewers' section of the 1900 directory for Liverpool at the 'Kops Ale Stores' at 43, Pembroke Place.

**AGENT—BREWER'S—NON-ALCOHOLIC.**  
**Macbeth George Andrew, Kops Ale stores**  
**43 Pembroke place, E**

### ***Window/Plate Glass***

There were a total of 233 fragments of flat glass weighing over 4kg, most likely window glass. It occurred in a number of types; plain clear thin glass (2-3mm thick), thick plate glass (6-9mm thick) mottled, or frosted and etched, or opaque or ribbed bathroom glass, and even a few fragments of painted glass.

Context number	Context description	Total pieces	Weight (g)
US		4	466.5
5	Machining - cleaning layer	18	755.2
6	Demolition debris	7	169
7	Demolition debris	6	267.2
8	Demolition debris	10	462.4
10	North lightwell	40	804.4
11	South lightwell	48	730.4
18	Dark fill of coal hole	100	485.5
		233	

The thinner fragments were typical of glass windows from domestic housing whereas the thicker fragments may have come from more industrial buildings or some may be more modern armoured windows.

Flat glass was recovered from a dark-fill within the coal bunker (context 6), including the painted glass, with further larger numbers from the two window lights (contexts 10 and 11). The rest were recovered demolition debris (contexts 5) and include pieces from later 20<sup>th</sup> century development on the site.

- MOL.2018.53.23; context 10; window glass had red painted edges, likely to have been as a result of one of the buildings being redecorated. This may relate to the red painted fragments of wall plaster and have occurred at the same time.
- MOL.2018.53.625; context 7; flat glass with an unusual bevelled edge.



### *Painted Glass*

- MOL.2018.53.767 context 18; decorative painted glass. Nine fragments from a painted window with gold swirled decoration which may be from a public house window.
- MOL.2018.53.874; a small fragment of unstratified window lead possibly associated with the painted glass.

### **Metalwork**

#### **Iron/Steel**

There were a total of 206 fragments, weighing 8350.9g. Whilst the damp excavation conditions proved a fertile environment for the survival of organic objects it has resulted in much of the metalwork being corroded, encrusted and adhered to other materials. Objects include damaged steel cans, iron bolts or nails and other fixings but much of the metalwork is unidentifiable.

- MOL.2018.53.509; context 11; possibly part of a padlock, but with no visible keyhole.

#### **Copper Alloy**

There are 22 copper alloy objects weighing 306.9g, these include four fragments from lamps and three coins, nails, sections of wire, a hook, and flat copper sheeting.

- MOL.2018.53.31; context 10; base fragment from the wick assembly of an oil lamp burner (*Figure 46*).



*Figure 46: MOL.2018.53.31 underside detail of wick hole and gear mechanism*

- MOL.2018.53.588; context 5; thin moulded plate possibly shaped as part of an oil or paraffin burner, probably too large for a lamp.
- MOL.2018.53.539; context 11; two oil or paraffin lamp burners. The smaller example has a decorative ring and the larger four individual prongs; these are differing systems to support the clear glass chimney which would have sat over the flame (*Figure 47*).

Paraffin lamps were in common use in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. They had a wick and a clear glass chimney with air drawn from below. Most lamps also had a larger shade around the chimney often of opaque glass to diffuse the light. Some of the glass fragments from the Oakes Street assemblage may be from such a diffuser, but their incompleteness makes positive identification as such impossible.



Figure 47: MOL.2018.53.539 Lamp burners

### Coins

Three copper alloy coins were recovered from the excavations. Two were found during cleaning after machine clearing of the site, located on top of the walls blocking the cellar windows, contexts 14 and 18. This could suggest they were built into those walls, but as the find was discovered immediately after clearing this is uncertain. One is a half penny dating from 1842 (MOL.2018.53.823) OBVERSE: VICTORIA DEI GRATIA: Head left. 1842 below bust. REVERSE: BRITANNIA R REG FID DEF: Britannia seated right flowers in the exergue (Spink no. 3950) (Skingley 2009). The second is a half penny dating from 1917 (MOL.2018.53.824), recovered from the top of one of the blocked up window walls during general cleaning after machining. OBVERSE: GEORGEIVS V DEI GRA BRITT OMN REX FID DEF IND IMP: bust facing left. REVERSE: HALF PENNY: Britannia facing right, 1917 below (Spink no. 4056) (Skingley 2009).

A further coin, a half penny dating from 1928 was found in demolition debris (MOL.2018.53.614; context 7). Obverse smaller head left. Lettering should read: GEORGEIVS V DEI GRA:BRITT:OMN:REX FID:DEF:IND:IMP. REVERSE: Britannia seated right. Lettering: HALF PENNY 1928.

Other copper alloy objects recovered:

- MOL.2018.53.508; context 11; thin plate with a frame at the front, possibly a frame for a name plate.
- MOL.2018.53.757; context 18; a copper alloy pin with hooked eye, attached to corroded iron. The hooked eye and length of pin is similar to cotton thread guides seen on Victorian sowing machines.
- MOL.2018.53.28; context 10; and MOL.2018.53.694; context 6; nails.

### Lead

There are six lead objects, weighing a total of 679.2g, although the majority of that is made up of a section of lead piping.

- MOL.2018.53.104; context 10; badly corroded fragments of lead object.
- MOL.2018.53.554; context 11; a large strip of lead with unknown purpose.

- MOL.2018.53.676; context 5; fragment from a lead water pipe.
- MOL.2018.53.822; context 18; a small hem weight to hold down the hem of a ladies skirt or to weigh down a curtain. Two perforations in the central circular depression to secure object with thread. Flat on the opposite face. Undecorated.
- MOL.2018.53.874; unstratified; a small fragment of window lead, possibly associated with the fragments of stained glass from context 18.

### Industrial Waste

There were a small number of metallic fragments, which could only be described as industrial waste. Whilst this would normally only occur as a bi-product of industrial process, in this case the material is more likely broken off fragments of corrosion products from the various mangled pieces of ironwork, intermingled with other materials from the deposit.

### Paint fragments

- MOL.2018.53.697; context 6; three fragments of unknown substance, potentially paint. Same substance found on inner surface of jar fragments in item MOL.2018.53.696; context 6; likely to have been used as a jar to store paint.
- MOL.2018.53.783; context 18; eight fragments of possible dried paint.

### Gaming Pieces

A small number of gaming pieces were recovered.

#### Domino

- MOL.2018.53.90; unstratified; bone face from a domino (*Figure 48*).



*Figure 48: MOL.2018.53.90 Bone domino*

A bone face of a domino which would originally have sat within a wooden body. There is no piercing to this bone front, so attachment must only have been by glue (not by the pin sometimes used). The dots were originally made by drilling shallow holes into the bone that could then be inlaid with darker material.

#### Jacks

- MOL.2018.53.169; context 10; 'jack', white glazed earthenware, gaming piece. Used for a game variously known as 'Fivestones, Jacks or Knucklebones'. Some are simply painted; others have been glazed and coloured blue, white, black, green and red-brown.

#### Ceramic marbles.

There are six marbles weighing 68.6g, from contexts 5, 10, 11 and 12. No glass marbles were recovered.

- MOL.2018.53.129; context 6; two large marbles with white glazed surfaces; 28mm and 23mm respectively
- MOL.2018.53.164; context 10; unglazed, small, marble; 17mm

- MOL.2018.53.480; context 11; unglazed, small, irregular, marble; 17mm
- MOL.2018.53.598; context 5; partial, larger marble with white glazed surface; 23mm
- MOL.2018.53.854; context 12; larger marble with white glazed surface; 22mm.

### **Rubber ball**

A number of fragments from what appear to be a much deflated and degraded painted rubber ball were recovered.

- MOL.2018.53.57; context 11; and MOL.2018.53.182; context 10; fragments with red, black and yellow design likely to be from a rubber ball.

### **Leather**

Leather rarely survives well on most archaeological sites unless under sealed damp or waterlogged conditions. However, the window lightwells at Oakes Street seem to have provided a near perfect environment for the survival of a number of organic objects including leather. A total of 37 pieces, weighing 1119.4g were recovered.

### **Boots and shoes**

- MOL.2018.53.50; context 11; near complete boot (*Figure 49*) with evidence of a number of repairs, where small sections of leather had been sown onto the boot covering areas of wear to the upper and to the sole (*Figure 50*).



*Figure 49: MOL.2018.53.50 Boot before conservation*



*Figure 50: MOL.2018.53.50 Area of boot repair*

- MOL.2018.53.60; context 11; fragment from leather boot with sewing holes (*Figure 51*).





*Figure 51: MOL.2018.53.60 boot shoelace eyehole with metallic rim*

- MOL.2018.53.45; context 11; worn wooden heel to a boot or shoe.
- MOL.2018.53.60; context 11; sole and worn upper toe from a shoe.
- MOL.2018.53.55; context 10; decorative stitched leather band formerly attached to a woman's boot, showing holes for the laces.
- MOL.2018.53.44; context 11; belt fragments

### **Bone**

There were a total of 369 pieces of animal bone and fragments, weighing less than 2kg, many with butchering marks. A number of cranial fragments with surviving teeth were also present. The assemblage appears to show a range of species, with a few larger bones, likely to be from cattle, but many more, smaller, bones likely to be from sheep/goats or pigs (*Figure 52*).



*MOL.2018.53.209*



*MOL.2018.53.265*



*MOL.2018.53.266*

*Figure 52: Animal bone*

There are also a few unusual bones, some are fine and tiny possibly from small birds and there are also some, almost translucent, possibly from fish.

- MOL.2018.53.538; context 11; includes a cloven hoof bone.
- MOL.2018.53.909; context 18; fish bones (*Figure 53*).



Figure 53: MOL.2018.53.909 Fish bone

### Skull Fragments

There are 18 fragments from various sheep/goats skulls: including a number of upper jaw bones (maxilla) and one lower jaw bone (mandible), with attached teeth; from at least four, small, individual animals. The various cranium fragments may have come from any of these skulls.

Further research on the animal bone assemblage will be undertaken by The University of Liverpool during 2019 – 20.

### Bone Objects

There are three items made from bone.

- MOL.2018.53.277; context 11; bone knife handle
- MOL.2018.53.177; context 10; bone object washer/ring; 27.3mm diameter with a 9.5mm hole

A bone domino is discussed above; see 'Gaming Pieces'.

### Wooden items

Normally wooden items do not survive archaeologically and a total of 24 fragments, weighing 41.3g, mostly degraded and undiagnostic were recovered.

### Wooden needle or stylus

- MOL.2018.53.389; context 18; needle or stylus with sharpened end, 67mm long 4.1mm diameter. Possibly incomplete.

### Pegs

Hand-turned wooden 'dolly' pegs for hanging out clothes on the washing line.

- MOL.2018.53.650; context 10; two fragments of wooden clothes pegs.
- MOL.2018.53.850; context 11; peg fragment

The presence of pegs shows that such everyday occupations as hanging out the washing in the street was happening in Missionary Buildings.

### **Wooden bottle stoppers**

- MOL.2018.53.651; context 10; wooden bottle stopper with domed finial and degraded rubber washer. 25mm long, with 15mm diameter shank and larger 20mm washer
- MOL.2018.53.904; context 11; wooden bottle stopper with domed end and degraded rubber washer. 25mm long, with 15mm diameter shank and larger 24mm washer.

### **Brush**

- MOL.2018.53.652; context 10; partial head of a brush with holes and a few surviving worn strands.

### **Needle**

- MOL.2018.53.648; context 10; fragment of wooden needle with a pointed, and splintered, ends.

### **Corks**

There are 19 cork bottle stoppers, weighing c.34g, from contexts 10 and 11. Most have dried out and lost shape since excavation, and probably some weight, but still maintaining their general shape.

- MOL.2018.53.654; context 10; a larger flat cork bottle stopper; c. 35mm diameter 12mm thick. Possibly for larger water bottle.
- MOL.2018.53.655; context 10; ten bottle stoppers; of fairly regular size, c.35mm long 20mm diameter, and one much smaller, c. 22mm long by 10mm diameter.
- MOL.2018.53.848; context 11; four cork bottle stoppers of various size; 30mm long by 20mm diameter, 34mm by 18mm and two 28mm long by 15mm diameter
- MOL.2018.53.900; context 11; an unusual small cork bottle stopper with what appears to be a metallic plug in the tip of the shank, and a spacer for a missing rubber washer.
- MOL.2018.53.903; context 11; unusual cork bottle stopper in the form of a vulcanite stopper with ridged and wider finial, a rubber washer and screw threaded shank.

Finds MOL.2018.53.655 and MOL.2018.53.848 are formed of 14 individual plain cork stoppers of various sizes. It was originally thought that they most would have been from wine or beer bottles but, as the bottles have shown, it is more likely they come from some of the many mineral water bottles found on the site.

### **Shellfish**

There were 157 shell fragments, weighing 691g, from edible shellfish. Five main types could be identified: winkle, mussel, cockle, oyster and flat periwinkle (in frequency by number) all species commonly found around Liverpool Bay and the coast line of North Wales. The presence, numbers and varieties of shell indicates their use in domestic food preparation at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The edible oyster is a common find on Victorian sites but the range of shells identified amongst the assemblage gives us a much wider picture of the range of locally produced shellfish being eaten.

#### *Common Winkle (Littorina obtusata)*

- MOL.2018.53.280, MOL.2018.53.283, MOL.2018.53.285, MOL.2018.53.291, MOL.2018.53.300; context 10; MOL.2018.53.384, MOL.2018.53.385, MOL.2018.53.453; context 11; Dark grey or black shell up to 1¼ inches, with fine

lines. Top of aperture rounded where it meets top of shell. 49 fragments, weighing 97.6g.

*Common Mussel (Mytilus edulis)*

- MOL.2018.53.281, MOL.2018.53.284, MOL.2018.53.286, MOL.2018.53.290, MOL.2018.53.294, MOL.2018.53.295, MOL.2018.53.296, MOL.2018.53.297, MOL.2018.53.304, MOL.2018.53.207, MOL.2018.53.378, MOL.2018.53.379, MOL.2018.53.381, MOL.2018.53.382, MOL.2018.53.383; context 10; MOL.2018.53.456, MOL.2018.53.459, MOL.2018.53.461; context 11; MOL.2018.53.457; context 7; MOL.2018.53.391, MOL.2018.53.905; context 18; Widespread and common on rocky shores and river estuaries; and is also present in the Liverpool docks. Shell exterior is blue-black in colour, inside is white graduating to dark blue. Up to 4 inches long. 35 fragments weighing 58.2g

*Cockle (Cerastoderma edule)*

- MOL.2018.53.305; context 10; MOL.2018.53.455, MOL.2018.53.458, MOL.2018.53.460; context 11; MOL.2018.53.573, MOL.2018.53.667; context 5; MOL.2018.53.755; context 18; a very common bivalve of sandy shores, the shell has evenly spaced ribs. Size up to 2 inches. Common on sandy beaches and sandbanks. 25 fragments weighing 39.2g.

*Flat Periwinkle (Littorina littoralis)*

- MOL.2018.53.452; context 11; and MOL.2018.53.753; context 18; up to ½ inch long, distinctive flat bottom (no spire). Colour is variable, yellow, brown, red, olive or purple. Feeds on wracks, so usually found on rocky beaches. Eight individual fragments, weighing 4g.

*Edible Oyster (Ostrea edulis)*

- MOL.2018.53.393; context 6; MOL.2018.53.278, MOL.2018.53.279, MOL.2018.53.288, MOL.2018.53.289; context 10; MOL.2018.53.454; context 11; MOL.2018.53.405; context 7; Rounded shell, up to 4 inches. Pearly white on inside. 16 fragments weighing 425 g.

*Cowrie Shell (Cypraeidae)*

- MOL.2018.53.302; context 10; There was also one cowrie shell, abundant in the Indian Ocean it is likely to be an exotic import and its presence on site suggests it was a souvenir from abroad, either a sailor travelling the world or as a tourist souvenir.

**Nuts**

Two small nut fragments, weighing 0.3g, were identified with 2 pieces of coconut.

- MOL.2018.53.43; context 11; a single fragment from a probable hazelnut shell.
- MOL.2018.53.653; context 10; fragment of possible coconut shell

**Other Organic Materials**

There are ten recorded fragments of fur, weighing 63.9g

- MOL.2018.53.51; context 10; ten fragments of probable fur-lined leather recovered alongside separate pieces of possible fabric (*Figures 54 – 56*). Possibly part of a natural leather hide but more likely part of a fur coat or stole.





Figure 54: MOL.2018.53.51 fur



Figure 55: MOL.2018.53.52 fragmentary knitted woollen item possibly a sock.



Figure 56: MOL.2018.53.52 piece of fine fabric with possible elastication

### **Coal**

Relatively little coal was recovered, a total of just 33 pieces, weighing 450.7g.

- MOL.2018.53.611; context 10; 24 pieces of coal, possibly anthracite, weighing 321.9g.

Context 18, fill was recovered from a brick lined room extending out under the central court and interpreted as a coal hole. This fill produced numerous finds, but despite its dark colour produced few pieces of coal, potentially as it was all used or removed for use elsewhere before the buildings were abandoned.

### **Rubber**

A total of 15 objects made from rubber were recovered weighing 58.7g, were recovered. Ten of the 15 were fragmentary pieces probably from the same degraded rubber ball (see 'Gaming Pieces' above), and two vulcanite rubber bottle stoppers (see 'Glass Bottles', above).

- MOL.2018.53.484; context 11; and MOL.2018.53.775; context 18; fragments of tube, of degraded rubber. Likely to be a rubber hose fragment possibly from an early washing machine.

### **Plastic**

There were a very small number of intrusive plastic objects or fragmentary objects recovered all from later demolition debris. These included:

- MOL.2018.53.702; context 6; hair brush/comb or hair clip.
- MOL.2018.53.773; context 18; single frame from a film negative strip
- MOL.2018.53.844; context 7; a small piece of black plastic.

An amberite pipe mouthpiece was recovered (see 'Tobacco Pipes' above).

### **Ceramic and other building material**

There were 45 pieces of ceramic building material, weighing over 15kg. Much of it mundane undecorated, utilitarian, material.

Type	Number	Weight (kg)
Glazed Wall Tile	16	0.5
Brown salt-glazed stoneware drain/sewer pipe	16	3.7
Chimney pot	3	0.2
Common house brick	9	8.3
Floor tile	1	2.7
	45	15.4

### **Glazed Wall Tiles**

There were 16 fragments from glazed wall tiles, weighing 4.73kg.

- MOL.2018.53.156; context 11; a fragment from a glazed wall tile with transfer-printed design, highlighted in what appears to be areas of coloured glaze/enamel, which has peeled off part of the green leaf design (*Figure 57*).



Figure 57: MOL.2018.53.156 Tile

- MOL.2018.53.321; context 11; two small, square, plain, white glazed mosaic or border tiles with a backstamp 'MH', possibly for Minton Hollins & Co. tile makers.
- MOL.2018.53.624; context 7; iridescent blue glazed tile; damaged or worn.
- MOL.2018.53.595; context 5; early 20<sup>th</sup> century brown glazed tile. With a partial back stamp which simply states 'Made In', which suggests it was made after the 1912 amendment to the 1890 USA McKinley Act, which required all imports to have the name of the country of manufacture with the instruction to add 'Made in' to 'England' in 1912.
- MOL.2018.53.224; context 11; small square brown glazed tile, with a bubbled blistered glaze; 52mm square; thicker than the other tiles at 12mm thick.
- MOL.2018.53.703; context 6; fragment of marble tile made of polished natural stone.
- MOL.2018.53.591; context 5; and MOL.2018.53.128; context ; modern white glazed tiles, likely to be from later development on the site.
- MOL.2018.53.594; context 5; Victorian glazed tile
- MOL.2018.53.398; context 27; a large, almost complete, undecorated floor tile; 230mm x 232mm x 38mm.

The Victorian tiles were used not only on floors but also on fireplace surrounds, washstands, and to decorate hallways, porches and public houses as well as the grander public buildings. The number of glazed tiles recovered is very small and may represent either a small proportion of tiles used within the houses, or reuse or discard from nearby buildings.

### **Brick**

Nine fragments of brick were recovered from the sealed contexts window lights 10 and 11 two near complete examples from the Court buildings.

Two bricks were retained from the structures of the buildings excavated:

- MOL.2018.53.660; context 13; near complete brick from west wall of Missionary Buildings court housing, east range.
- MOL.2018.53.661; context 15; near complete brick from blocked cellar window in court house.

### **Chimney Pot**

Amongst the unglazed ceramic fragments are three relatively small pieces which are heavily sooted to the interior suggesting they have come from chimney pots.

### **Salt-glazed Sewer/drain pipe**

Fifteen fairly chunky fragments from brown salt-glazed sewer pipes weight 3.4kg. The disturbed central area in the court came down onto a brick lined Victorian sewer the pipes are likely to have fed into the sewer and are the surviving demolition fragments from the buildings.

### **Wall plaster**

There are 58 fragmentary pieces of fragile wall plaster (weighting 1.5kg), many of them painted; showing that at least some of the rooms had been decorated with green and red painted walls. Some of the window glass was also edged with a similar-coloured red paint.

- MOL.2018.53.801; context11; painted wall-plaster or possibly concrete.

## Concrete

There are seven recorded fragments of concrete, weighing 1.7kg, much of it discarded after initial recording.

- MOL.2018.53.724; context 10; a large piece of rectangular concrete, unknown purpose, c.29cm long and 6cm wide.
- MOL.2018.53.796; context 11; a piece of concrete with corroded iron embedded.
- MOL.2018.53.820; context 18; piece of concrete with a fragment of possible lead or iron pipe embedded.

## Other Building Materials

### Stone

There were a total of eleven fragments of stone weighing over 20kg.

- MOL.2018.53.590; context 5; flat red sandstone fragment, weight 141.8g
- MOL.2018.53.632; context 18; uncertain light stone, weight 17.5g.
- MOL.2018.53.703; context 6; a fancy polished, marble wall tile, weight 0.6kg.
- MOL.2018.53.720; context 10; tiny fragment of sandstone, weight 10.5g.
- MOL.2018.53.793; context 11; natural pebble attached to a corroded iron object, 17.6g.
- MOL.2018.53.799; context 11; thin solid cylinder or pointer, material appears to be stone, of very small weight, 2.5g.
- MOL.2018.53.809; context 5; fragments from a micaceous tile of a type sometimes used as roofing.

Three large stone fragments are believed to be remaining pieces of the court flagstones, possibly from the central drain, broken during demolition and left on site whilst all the surviving flagstones appear to have been removed from the site for re-use.

- MOL.2018.53.657 context 5; stone fragment, weight 6.5kg.
- MOL.2018.53.658 context 5; stone fragment, weight 7.5kg.
- MOL.2018.53.659 context 5; stone fragment, weight 3.3kg.

### Slate

Twenty-six pieces of Welsh roofing slate were recovered, weighing almost 7kg, Most were small undiagnostic fragments which were discarded. None of the slate was recovered from the window lightwells and the majority came from the disturbed demolition or machining layers. The largest piece from context 27 the make-up layer for courtyard

Slate			
Context	Context description	Total	Weight (g)
0	Unstratified	2	275.6
5	Machining - cleaning layer	11	3956.6
6	Demolition debris	5	461.5
7	Demolition debris	3	393.8
8	Demolition debris	1	126.3
18	Dark fill of coal hole	3	447.9
27	Make-up layer for courtyard	1	1106.7

A small number of larger pieces of more interest were retained:

- MOL.2018.53.400; context 27; one large almost complete example with surviving fixing hole.
- MOL.2018.53.805; context 5; three large fragments of roof slate.

- MOL.2018.53.815; context 5; three pieces of slate roof tile, two very large pieces with visible nail holes and one smaller fragment.

### **Linoleum floor covering**

- MOL.2018.53.56; context 11; fragment of linoleum.

### **Graphite**

- MOL.2018.53.760; context 18; Pencil 'lead' graphite.

## **8. Conclusions**

The excavation at Oakes Street, Liverpool in July 2018 revealed an area of the cellars of 'Missionary Buildings' and the area of the courtyard. This is the first excavated evidence in Liverpool for the nature of the construction of court housing. The buildings were found to be of relatively flimsy construction, the lightwells not bonded to the walls of the houses.

Court construction is described in written sources:

*'A very large majority of the working classes of this town reside in 'courts'. Those constructed before the Health of Towns Bill passed [in 1847] are ill-contrived, badly ventilated, miserable looking dwellings. In some districts there are whole streets composed almost entirely of such; for instance, look at Duckinfield-street in the east of the town; Albert-street and others adjoining in the south; and Hornby or Paul-street in the north. These court houses are frequently four stories high, 'straight up and down', and contain four apartments – a cellar, living room, and two bedrooms; and often in these houses two and sometimes three families reside. At the top of the court stand the open cesspool and privy. The houses adjoining these are sometimes let at a lower rent: thus poor creatures have a premium offered for the loss of their health and the possibility of cutting short their days.'* (Hugh Shimmin, Liverpool Porcupine, quoted in Walton and Wilcox 1991, 108).

A wealth of small finds provide new data on the living conditions within the courts, and provides new insights into Liverpool court housing so well recorded historically but not previously investigated archaeologically.

Some of the objects recovered are seemingly of higher status than might be expected to be associated with 'slum' housing, as courts became known. Items like Chinese porcelain, fur clothing, and perfume bottles demonstrate some high quality products on the site, potentially within the ownership of the people living in the courts. However, there were few ceramics sets. An exception is a cup (MOL.2018.53.237, context 11) and saucer (MOL.2018.53.181, context 10) have a matching pattern. This suggests that the owners potentially bought individual pieces as required when items broke or when they could afford them.

A large number of bottles were recovered, but it has been found that all those embossed with 'labels' about their content are linked to companies making minerals, not alcoholic drinks. This might be due to differentiation in returns policies for different types of drinks, i.e. a penny back for a beer bottle and not for a mineral bottle. Alternatively it could relate to the role of the Liverpool City Mission in the buildings named 'Missionary Buildings', they



may have required temperance in the homes. Alternatively it may have been choice of the occupants or chance of survival.

Children's toys demonstrates the presences and activity of children around the courts, playing out in the street and losing their marbles, jacks and other toys, including down the lightwells.

The richest areas of the excavation for finds were the lightwells. The dating of these contexts (10 and 11) is between c.1900 and c.1914. A photograph, Figure 19, taken in the 1930s, shortly before demolition of the buildings, shows the lightwells concreted over.

This short excavation has revealed a great deal about court housing, especially c.1900-1914. Similar excavations in Manchester have provided information about housing there (Nevell 2011), and ongoing research is recommended (Newman and McNeil 2000). Further investigations of court housing could enhance our understanding of a life experience common to so many people living in Liverpool from the 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

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## Appendix One: Images of Oakes Street held at Liverpool Record Office

Class Number	Subject	Description
	Oakes Street from Daulby Street	Watercolour painting by Edwin Beattie
52 ENG/2/7261	No 2 Court Oakes Street (Missionary Buildings)	A view of a court with three storey terraced houses lining either side. The court is narrow, with a drainage channel set into the centre of the flagged yard. The houses are in shadow so their condition is difficult to ascertain, but staining on the walls implies that it is poor. People can be seen moving around on Oakes Street.
352 ENG/2/7262	20-26 Oakes Street	A view of a court between two three-storey terraced buildings. The buildings are poorly lit so details are difficult to make out. Three people stand to the right of the court. To the extreme left is the premises of Bird & Son, contractors. The top of the image is slightly scratched but this scratching may have been carried out on the negative.
296.1 HOP	Oakes Street Jewish Cemetery	Herdman watercolour in Ettinger, P: 'Hope Place' in Liverpool Jewry, etc 1930
352 PSP/111/1638/1	No 2 Court Oakes Street (Missionary Buildings)	View of Oakes Street, L3, showing No.2 Court. 18 April 1935
352 PSP/111/1638/2	Oakes Street	View of Oakes Street, L3, looking eastwards towards Boundary Place. 16 October 1967
770 PLA/1/2/73	Oakes Street Car Park	6 photos, showing Oakes Street car park and a variety of workshops (some marked on the back, corner of Anson Place, corner of Daulby Street)
333 COR	Land Sale Plan Oakes Street	Oakes Street, nos.41 and 43: plan of land and premises for sale, 1869. Scale: 10ft = 1in