

Finds from the Yarmouth Roads Wreck site

Approximately 370 finds have been listed from the Yarmouth Roads Wreck site. The best of the artefacts are detailed below.

Made of wood

One of the worked timbers recovered from the wreck site. What part of the ship do you think this is from?



IWCMS:20000.15.5340

Built one brick at a time



This brick probably comes from the oven in the ship's galley (kitchen). A brick oven would be located in the hold, with a large copper cauldron built into the top of it.

IWCMS:20000.2.5094



Pins

It is not known what these three fixing pins were used for. They may have been secured into timber.

IWCMS:20000.2.5078, 2.5088 & 4.5145

Swinging the lead

This lead weight was possibly used as a 'sounding weight' which was used for measuring the depth of the water.

IWCMS:20000.8.5197





A swivel

These brass rings were used on a line to prevent it from tangling. A swivel allows the connected object to rotate horizontally or vertically. IWCMS:20000.2.5015

Mortar

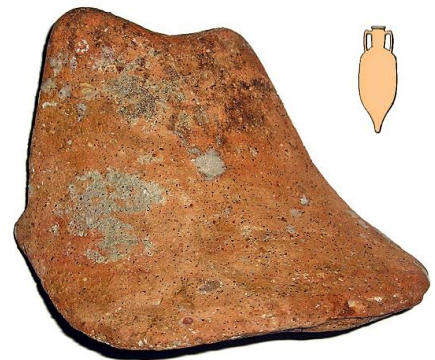
This cast bronze mortar may have come from the ship's kitchen or belong to the doctor on board. A mortar was used for grinding up herbs or medicine. Many mortars from this period were highly decorated. Some had handles with rings attached similar to one found on the Mary Rose. This mortar has unusual handles around its side that may have been modified. The accompanying pestle may have been wooden and has not been found.



IWCMS:20000.15.5339

A Roman find

This fragment of a Roman amphora was found on the Yarmouth Roads wreck site. This find is far earlier than the 16th century wreck (130BC to 100AD). Amphorae were generally used for holding wine or oil.



IWCMS:20000.2.5100

Bowl

Part of a glazed bowl.

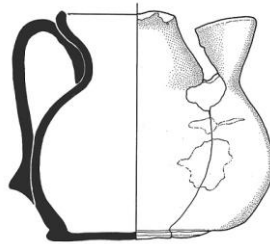
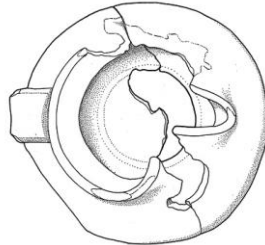
IWCMS:20000.25.5214



Jugs

Part of a majolica jug. Majolica is a type of pottery which was glazed with opaque tin enamel that would conceal the colour of the clay. Majolica ware has been made since the fourteenth century.

IWCMS:20000.4.5346.1



This small glazed jug has an unusual rim and pouring spout. Identified as '*Majolica*' ware, a tin-glazed pottery, it comes from North West Italy.

Small areas of the original green colouring can be seen; the black colouring is due to chemical reaction in the underwater environment.

IWCMS.20000.11.5314

Pottery sherd

Part of the base of a ceramic bowl.

IWCMS:20000.2.5082



Wine glass

This wine glass has an unusual join from the stem to the base.

IWCMS:20000.2.5002



Glass bottles

These bottle fragments are not contemporary with the 16th century wreck. The style of the base indicates the glass was not made until after the 1850s.



IWCMS:20000.5.5213 & 2.5122

A pipe dream

These parts of a clay pipe were used for smoking tobacco.

Tobacco was introduced to Europe in 1492.

IWCMS:20000.4.5154 & 2.5066

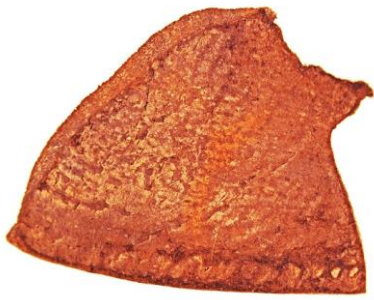


Bad hair day

These combs were used for everyday hair hygiene. The fine-toothed side of the comb helped remove nits and lice.

These two double sided or H combs are probably made from boxwood, the only European wood dense enough to allow a saw to cut fine teeth into it. The wood was cut along the grain to ensure its strength.

IWCMS:20000.8.5280 & 14.5333



Tough as leather

This leather object may have been part of a shoe. Very little organic material was recovered from the wreck site.

IWCMS:20000.2.5010

The Sconce

The 'sconce' is a part of a candlestick and would have held the candle. The candlestick may have been used on the Captain's table but could also have been cargo for trade.

IWCMS:20000.15.5382



Shine a light

This wooden object, possibly made of beech, is the top of a ship's lantern. Fire on a wooden ship was a major hazard, so the candle would be encased by thin translucent windows possibly made of glass or animal horn.

IWCMS:20000.15.5297

Unknown metal objects

This interestingly shaped object may have fitted onto a metal base.

We do not know what the brass ring would have been used for.

Do you have any ideas what these could have been?

IWCMS:20000. 25.5273 & 25.5185





Animal bone

What animals do you think these bones are from?

IWCMS:20000.2.5070 & 5.5164



Teeth

One of these teeth came from a horse and one from a pig.
Can you identify which is which?

IWCMS:20000.2.5095 & 4.5103



Very old gnashers

This is a fossilised tooth of an Alligator - *Diplocynodon hantoniensis*. It is 40 million years old, from the Oligocene Period.

IWCMS:20000:4:5137

The sea's currents and tides result in a continuous movement of sands and sediments. This causes artefacts of other periods to become part of the site.

Maritime archaeologists have to investigate carefully to discover which finds are related to the wreck.

The animal teeth and bone in this case may be related to the 16th century wreck but could have been washed onto the site in the moving sediments.

16th Century pewter

Pewter plates, a bowl and a tankard have been excavated from the Yarmouth Roads wreck site. In the 16th century, pewter was made from around 92 percent tin mixed with 4 percent copper and 4 percent lead.

The bowls and plates could have been for the personal use of the crew but it is more likely to have been carried as ship's cargo. The pewter ware was probably made in England

On four of the plates two '*touch marks*' can be seen on the upper rim. A touch mark is the maker's trademark. Unfortunately, most records of the early hallmarks (up to 1666) were destroyed in the 'Great Fire of London' that engulfed the 'Pewterers' Hall'.



Pewter plate with touch marks

Pewter tankard with lid

Pewter is traditionally known as 'poor man's silver'. It can be finished in many different ways.

IWCMS:20000.8.5184



Pewter plates on the seabed at the Yarmouth Roads wreck site. ©HWTMA





Pewter plates

Two of these pewter plates have been folded over, probably due to the weight of the ship's collapsing timbers. They have a shallow centre which dates them prior to 1600.

IWCMS:20000.9.5198, 15.5362, 2.5005, & 25.5233



Spoons

Two latten spoons. Latten is a copper alloy, a mix of brass or bronze with elements of tin or zinc.

IWCMS:20000.4.5155 & 8.5237

Phone 01983 823433

Email - museums@iow.gov.uk

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