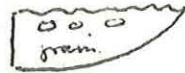


GODMANCHESTER, UNIGATE SITE, LEATHER

67/751096

Leather section, roughly triangular in shape, very deteriorated. All the edges appear to be cut ones and the largest is scalloped with grain/flesh stitch holes c. 6.0mm. apart. These holes lie in a slightly moulded border rather like the lasting margin of a shoe upper but the scalloping ~~is~~ ^{and} very small hole size do not support this view. There are several other larger holes within the section but it is not clear whether these were made deliberately. Purpose unknown. 155mm. (largest edge) x 100mm.

(Draw grain up)



Also a ~~very~~ small section. 70mm. x 30mm. with no identifiable features.

61/751097

Leather fragments (about 12).

(a) The largest ~~is~~ roughly triangular in shape with both cut and torn edges; no identifiable features. 82mm. x 70mm.

(Draw grain up)



(b) A torn section with a slight trace of stitching along a short length of one edge (apparently the original one). The section is now moulded with two bulges but its purpose is not apparent; it may be the back part of a shoe upper. 80mm. x 70mm.

(Draw to show bulges and be stitched edge)



(c) Two pieces of strap, 70mm. and 25mm. long respectively and each 13mm. wide and 2.5mm. thick. No identifiable features.

74/751098

(a) Rectangular section of leather, 206mm. x 118mm. x c.1.5mm. thick. Covered with short grooves on the grain side, parallel to the long edge and with a hole at each end and many with rusted metal wire in them. There is a margin of c. 15mm. from one end before the holes occur and alternate rows of grooves are staggered starting c. 4.0mm. further in than the others. The rows are c. 2.5mm. apart and the grooves themselves c. 5.0mm. long. On the reverse side (flesh) the holes appear rather larger but not the grooves, the general appearance being that of transverse ridges. Both sides are encrusted with corroded iron.

It seems probable that this specimen is a "card" used for combing wool and other fibres and consisting of wire hooks inserted in leather. The flesh side still feels rough, possibly because of embedded wire ends. Some small holes round the margin of the specimen probably indicate where it was tacked to a board. The leather is probably cow hide.

(GODMANCHESTER, UNIGATE, LEATHER)

751098

(b) Waist portion of shoe sole, left foot, front and rear edges cut suggesting that the original forepart and seat were cut away and replaced. The outside edge (left) has a ~~stitching~~ stitching channel now quite close to the present edge being set in c. 4.0 - 5.0mm. ; this would have originally been a much wider margin. Although masked by deterioration the original stitch length appears to have been c. 6.0mm. There is a second (and possibly a third) set of holes further in, very irregularly spaced indicating a repair. There are also traces of two sets of transverse holes either ~~set~~ ^{side} of the waist again indicating the limits of the toe and seat repairs mentioned above.

On the flesh side the impression of the upper lasting margin is visible, particularly at the inside waist where, as normal, the margin is wider than at the outside edge. 130mm. x 98mm. Probably part of a late 16th or early 17th century welted sole.

(Draw from both sides)



751098.

(c) Seat portion of shoe sole with repair additions, very deteriorated. The original piece has marginal stitch holes c.4.0mm. apart and carries the impression of the lasting margin on the flesh side. The repair addition has scattered holes but the absence of iron rust suggests that thread or pegs may have been used. The right side back of the seat is more worn away than the left suggesting a right foot specimen, in which case this piece does not belong to (b) above. 90mm. x 25mm.

(Draw from both sides)

751098

(d) Piece of welt showing the welt seam (uniting insole, upper and welt) with a stitch length 8.0-9.0mm. and the sole seam (uniting welt and sole) with a stitch length of c. 4.0mm.; this suggests a date of c. 1500 onwards.

(Draw to show cross-section with missing sections)



751098

(e) Small fragment with a few holes; may be part of a sole repair.

75/751099

Parts of a small welted shoe, right foot, comprising vamp, quarters, stiffener, insole (incomplete - toe-end missing); no welt or sole.

Vamp: thick leather (c.3.0mm.), grain outwards; square cut throat with central slit 25mm. long; edge/flesh seam c. 4.0mm. stitch length presumably where a binding was attached in the centre and the vamp wings to the fronts of the quarters.

The curved lasting margin shows the impression of the welt and has lenticular holes with their axes in the line of stitching and a stitch length of 7.0-8.0mm. Length, toe-throat: 90mm.)

Quarters; grain outwards, one-piece with no back seam; in poor condition most of the top edge and lasting margin having deteriorated. The inside (left) quarter extends into an instep strap but the outside (right) ^{extension} ~~has~~ has now gone. The front edges of both sides have an edge/flesh seam corresponding to those on the vamp throat and wings. The lasting margin remains along the inside lower edge and is still moulded but it has gone from the outside (right) edge. An impression of the stiffener shows on the flesh side (interior).

Stiffener: thick leather with the grain outwards tapering from c. 5.0mm. near the bottom to 3.0mm. at the top. It is firmly moulded and fits exactly into the quarters. The top edge has the usual scallop and stitch holes, ~~stitch~~ stitch length c. 5.0mm., where it ~~was~~ overstitched to the inside surface of the quarters. Back height: 45mm.; length (round bottom edge: 115mm.

Insole: waist and seat only. Shows a slight elevation at the inside waist, which is normal for a right foot. Edge/flesh stitch holes c. 7.0-9.0mm. apart corresponding with those on the upper. The leather is rather flabby indicating that it came from an inferior part of the hide, the normal practice for an insole. Present length: 112mm; width at fore-end: 45mm.; at waist: 24mm.; at seat: 32mm.

The general character of this shoe, welted construction with instep tie straps suggests a date of c. 1600.

(Draw with parts reassembled using the stitch holes for matching)

751100, A and B Parts of a small brass-bound wooden box; no connection with shoes. c 65mm. x 35mm. x 23mm. Flat brass strips, 7.0mm. wide are nailed to the wooden frame and on the remaining complete side there are two wider strips, c. 9.0mm., with decorated bosses round the nail heads,

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