Medieval Pottery from site HES97, Hereford

Alan Vince

Introduction

A small collection of medieval pottery from site SMS97 was submitted for identification and assessment.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of the assessment were to identify the finds, to establish their date range and their significance for the history of the site.

Description

Five sherds were submitted. In chronological order, that from context 1017 is of $10^{th}/11^{th}$ century date (a G1 cooking pot, probably produced at Stafford), the two sherds from context 1012 are of later 11^{th} or 12^{th} -century date (a D2 cooking pot and a small fragment tentatively identified as an A8 cooking pot. It is the latter type which suggests the slightly later date. The former could be of immediately preconquest date). Finally, another sherd of D2 cooking pot and sherd from an A3 tripod pitcher were unstratified. The tripod pitcher is of later 12^{th} or, more probably, early 13^{th} -century date and the sherd has a strap handle with a shallow groove running down its back.

Context	cname	Form	Nosh	NoV	Action	TSNO	Photo	Description
u/s	A3	TP	1	1	PH			handle/body join. strap handle with shallow groove
u/s	D2	CP	1	1				sooted ext; depo int
1012	D2	CP	1	1				sooted ext
1012	A8	CP	1	1				small sherd so identification uncertain
1017	G1	CP	1	1				sooted ext;depo int

Recommendations

If the dating of context 1012 is crucial then the identify of the A8 cooking pot could be confirmed by binocular microscope examination or thin-section. However, the use of a destructive technique on a small sherd is not recommended.