

## Staxton Motel, Staxton: Assessment of pottery and flint

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### Background

Pottery and a flint flake was submitted for identification and assessment from four contexts: 1004, 1011, 1025 and 1031. The medieval pottery was identified and recorded using terminology based ultimately on the Museum of London Archaeology Service system and the Roman pottery using the system developed by Jason Monaghan for the York Archaeological Trust.

The flint flake, from context 1025 appears to be a snapped blade, possibly retouched along one edge. It could be Mesolithic, Neolithic or even Bronze Age in date. The two Roman sherds came from contexts 1004 (3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> C) and 1011 (2<sup>nd</sup> century or later). Neither is particularly fresh and they therefore date the deposits in which they were found to the Roman period or later. Context 1031 produced a sherd of Staxton ware which should date it to the later 12<sup>th</sup> century or later (Staxton was apparently producing pottery into the 15<sup>th</sup> century) and context 1000 produced a second Staxton ware sherd together with two sherds of late medieval Humber ware.

### Description

#### Wares

The wares present are listed in Table One. The two medieval types are likely to be of local origin but with one possible exception (the Blackware from 1006) the post-medieval pottery is unattributable and could be made in Staffordshire, Leeds or elsewhere.

Code:	Full Name	Comments
YATG0	Greyware	2 <sup>nd</sup> -century or later greyware. Unprovenanced.
YATK0	Calcite gritted ware	3 <sup>rd</sup> - or 4 <sup>th</sup> -century calcite tempered ware. Produced in the Vale of Pickering, at kilns in and around Malton.
STAX	Staxton ware	Handmade, oxidized sandy ware produced at Staxton and Potter Brompton in the later 12 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> centuries.
HUM	Humber ware	Produced at a number of centres, including Cowick and Holme upon Spalding Moor mainly during the 14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> centuries. Late Humber wares continue this tradition into the 17 <sup>th</sup> century.

#### Forms

The sherds are in general too small to assign to a form. The exception is the sherd of Staxton ware from context 1031 which is from a jar, probably used in cooking.

### Recommendations

The finds indicate prehistoric, Roman and medieval activity. They should be retained for further study and comparison with future finds.

## Appendix One

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Context:	cname:	Form:	Nosh:	NoV:	Weight:	PART:	Description:
1000	HUM	HOLLOW	2	2	17 BS		PURPLE SHEEN EXT
1000	STAX	HOLLOW	1	1	7		
1004	YATK0	HOLLOW	1	1	7 bs		
1011	YATG0	OPEN	1	1	11 bs		Abr
1025	FLINT	BLADE	1	1	3		POSSIBLE RETOUCH ALONG ONE EDGE;BROKEN
1031	STAX	JAR	1	1	14 B		

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