

Assessment of pottery from the Golden Lion, Northallerton (OSA03 WB10)

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A small quantity of pottery from an archaeological watching at The Golden Lion, Northallerton, was submitted for identification and assessment.

The pottery came from two assemblages, 1025 and 2003. In both cases the latest types present were probably of later 17th or 18th-century date but the pottery from context 2003 includes medieval wares of later 13th-century or later date.

Description

Twelve sherds of pottery and three fragments of ceramic building material were submitted for identification.

Ceramic Building Material

Three fragments of flat roof tiles were submitted from context 2003. Such tiles were used from the middle of the 12th century onwards, and were the only type in use from the 13th to the 16th centuries, after which pantiles and, later, other moulded forms were used.

Pottery

Medieval

Sherds of Tees Valley ware, Low Countries Highly Decorated ware, York glazed ware, Brandby-type ware and Walmgate ware were present. The earliest of these is York Glazed ware, which is of later 12th to 13th century date.

Post-medieval

Sherds of Ryedale ware, an unidentified slipware and Late Humber ware were found. The Ryedale ware was in use in the 16th and 17th centuries whereas the slipware is likely to be later 17th-century or later, as is the Late Humber ware. Both wares continued in use into the modern period.

Assessment

Northallerton is on the southern fringes of the market area of Tees Valley ware, which has been found inland from sites between Richmond on the west and Hartlepool on the east. The remaining medieval wares mainly come from the widespread Hambleton Hills potteries, immediately to the south of the site. However, two vessels identified as Walmgate ware may suggest trade with York. Low Countries Highly Decorated ware sherds are relatively rare finds inland and to find an example in such a small collection suggests that the site was either in use by people with the resources to purchase exotic goods or was a place where people who might have these goods in their belongings might live. This suggests that the later function of the site as a coaching inn may have had its origins in the high or late medieval

period. A larger collection of medieval pottery from the site would probably one to choose between these two interpretations.

Appendix One

| Context | Description | Cname | Form | Nosh | NoV | Part | Sitecode | class |
|---------|------------------------------------|----------|------|------|-----|------|-----------|---------|
| 2003 | WHITE SLIP APPLIED ON WHEEL | TVW | JUG | 1 | 1 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 2003 | MOTTLED BROWN GL INT;KT EXT PMSLIP | | DISH | 1 | 1 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 2003 | | RYEDALE | BOWL | 2 | 2 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 2003 | APPLIED STRIP | WALMGATE | JUG | 1 | 1 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 2003 | THUMBED BASE | WALMGATE | JUG | 1 | 1 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 2003 | | YORK | JAR | 1 | 1 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 2003 | WHITE SLIPPED EXT | AARD | JUG | 1 | 1 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 2003 | CUGL;HORIZ GROOVES | BRANDSBY | JUG | 1 | 1 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 2003 | | MTIL | FLAT | 3 | 3 | BS | osa03wb10 | CBM |
| 1025 | REDUCED GREEN GL INT AND EXT | RYEDALE | CUP | 1 | 1 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |
| 1025 | | LHUM | BOWL | 2 | 2 | BS | osa03wb10 | CERAMIC |