

## **Assessment of the medieval pottery from land west of The Firs, 16 Main Street, Stamford Bridge (OSA03 WB12)**

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Thirty-nine finds from a watching brief at the Firs, 16 Main Street, Stamford Bridge (OSA03 WB12), were submitted for identification and assessment. They consisted mostly of medieval potsherds with a small collection of post-medieval finds, mostly of 19<sup>th</sup>-century date. The medieval pottery includes sherds of mid to late 12<sup>th</sup>-century, early 13<sup>th</sup>-century and late medieval date.

### **Description**

#### **Clay Tobacco Pipe**

A stem from a clay tobacco pipe with a bore diameter which suggests a 17<sup>th</sup>-century date was recovered from context 3004 (unstratified).

#### **Glass**

A lump of melted clear glass was recovered from context 1000. It is probably of modern date and melted due to accidental burning in a domestic fire.

### **Pottery**

#### **Medieval**

Twenty eight sherds of medieval pottery were recovered. Of these, only seven came from three contexts which did not also contain later finds. These sherds were mainly of York Gritty ware, which dates from the late 11<sup>th</sup> to early 13<sup>th</sup> centuries, and a single sherd of Staxton-type ware, dating from the mid 12<sup>th</sup> century or later.

Unstratified medieval pottery includes further sherds of York Gritty and Staxton-type wares together with other sherds of later 12<sup>th</sup> or early 13<sup>th</sup> century date. These consists of splash glazed ware of 12<sup>th</sup>-century date and York glazed ware, of late 12<sup>th</sup> to early 13<sup>th</sup>-century date. There was also a collection of later medieval sherds, consisting of Brandsby-type ware, Hambleton ware and Humber ware. The presence of Hambleton ware and the lack of Ryedale ware suggests that these sherds are of 15<sup>th</sup>-century date.

#### **Post-medieval to modern**

Nine sherds of post-medieval to modern date were recovered. Four sherds were stratified in contexts not containing modern finds. Those from context 1000 include a sherd from the lower part of a yellow-glazed bowl, similar to both Midlands Yellow ware and Staffordshire slipwares but with only an internal glaze. Those from context 1009 are mainly of medieval (15<sup>th</sup>-century) date but include two sherds from a black-glazed bowl. This bowl is likely to be of 17<sup>th</sup>-century or later date.

The remaining sherds are of 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>-century date.

### **Assessment**

The pottery from the Firs site indicates that the site was occupied in the later 12<sup>th</sup> century and again in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. The collection is too small to say whether or not there was also occupation of the site

in the later 13<sup>th</sup> and early 14<sup>th</sup> century. Sites definitely occupied in the 15<sup>th</sup>-century are uncommon, due no doubt in part to the collapse in population in the Black Death, but also because it is difficult to recognise finds of this date. It is possible that feature 1009 is actually of this date and that the Blackware sherds are intrusive. Further investigation of that context is therefore important, especially if there is any possibility of the feature being destroyed during further development.

Appendix

Context	cname	class	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Description	Part	Use	Condition
1000	PMR	ppot		BOWL	1	1		BS		
1000	STSL/MY	ppot		BOWL	1	1	INT YELLOW GL	BS		
1000	PMGL	PMGLCLEAR			1	1		BS		MELTED
1001	WHITE	ppot		TANK	1	1		BS		
1003	YG	mpot		JAR	1	1		B	SOOTED EXT	
1005	STAXT	mpot	A SA Q >0.3MM;S R MICACEOUS MUDSTONE PELLETS >2.0MM	JAR	1	1		BS		
1005	YG	mpot		JAR	1	1		BS	SOOTED EXT	
1005	YG	mpot		JAR	3	1		BS	SOOTED EXT	
1009	BL	ppot		BOWL	2	1		BS		
1009	HAMBLETON	mpot		JUG	1	1	1CU OVER HORIZ GROOVES	BS		
1009	HAMBLETON	mpot		JUG	1	1	1CUGL	BS		
1009	HAMBLETON	mpot	REDUCED INT	JUG	1	1	1CU OVER HORIZ GROOVES	BS		
1009	HAMBLETON	mpot	REDUCED INT	JUG	1	1	1CU	BS		
1009	HUM	mpot		JUG	1	1		BS		
1009	HUM	mpot		BOT/DJ	1	1		BS		
1009	HUM	mpot			1	1		BS		ABR
1009	PMR	ppot		BOWL	1	1		BS		
1009	YORK	mpot		JAR	1	1		BS		

Context	cname	class	subfabric	Form	Nosh	NoV	Description	Part	Use	Condition
1009?	BRANDSBY	mpot	REDUCED INT	JUG	1	1	CUGL	BS		
2004	YG	mpot		JAR	1	1		BS		
3004	YG	mpot		JAR	1	1		BS	SOOTED EXT	
3004	YORK	mpot	VERY FINE TEXTURED	JUG	1	1	EVEN CUGL EXT;CORDON AT NECK	BS		
3004/US	PIPECLAY	CTP		PIPE	1	1	7THC BORE	BS		
US	BRANDSBY	mpot	REDUCED INT	JUG	1	1	INTERMITTENT THUMBING	BS		
US	HUM	mpot		BOT/DJ	1	1		BS		
US	LHUM	ppot		BOWL	1	1	WHITE SLIP UNDER LIGHT YELLOW 1GL INT	BS		
US	NCBW	ppot		CLSD	1	1	BAND OF WHITE SLIP TRAILED 1LINES (MACHINE APPLIED)	BS		
US	STAXT	mpot		JAR	1	1		BS	SOOTED EXT	
US	TPW	ppot		PLATE	1	1		BS		
US	YORK	mpot		JAR	1	1	GLOB BODY WITH FLAT-TOPPED 1RIM CF SSW	R		
US	YORK	mpot		JAR	3	3		BS		
US	YORK	mpot		JAR	1	1		B		
US	YSPL	mpot		JAR	1	1	PLAIN SPLASH GLAZE	BS	SOOTED UNDER BASE	
US	YSPL	mpot	FINE-TEXTURED;LIGHT BROWN COLOUR	JUG	1	1		BS		