Assessment of the finds from Kirk Barn Grange, Garton-on-the-Wolds (OSA03 EV10)

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A small number of finds from an archaeological evaluation at Kirk Barn Grange, Garton-on-the-Wolds, was submitted for identification and assessment (Site Code OSA03 EV10). The finds consist of ceramic building material and a fragment of stoneware drainpipe and are likely to be of 19th or 20th-century date.

Description

Ceramic Building Material

Eight fragments of brick were recovered, all of which had the same fabric and appearance. The fabric is oxidized and generally fine-textured with sparse large inclusions, which include flint, angular white sandstone fragments (some of which are fragments of rounded pebbles) and sandstone with a haematite-rich cement. This fabric probably indicates that the bricks were made from local boulder clay, which outcrops extensively in East Yorkshire to the south and east of the chalk wolds.

A single fragment of a pantile has a much finer fabric, appearing very similar to tiles from sites as far afield as London and the West of England (where the tiles, in part, were made at Bridgewater). The source of this particular tile is unknown, but it was clearly not made alongside the bricks. Pantiles became common in eastern England in the later 17th century and are found throughout England by the 19th century, often, but not exclusively, being used for outhouses and sheds rather than dwellings.

Pottery

A single fragment of a stoneware drainpipe was recovered. These drains were first used in the late 19th century but continue to the present day.

Assessment

The finds are probably debris from 19th- or 20th-century building(s). The lack of pottery or other domestic debris may indicate that the structure(s) was not a dwelling but an outhouse or ancillary building such as a barn. The drainpipe may have been used for field drainage but is more likely to have been used for the disposal of water from a dwelling.

The finds might be of use in a future study of the distribution of ceramic building material fabrics and it is recommended that at least a fabric series is retained.

Appendix

Context	Description	Cname	Form	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Subfabric	Part	class
A2	BROWN SALT GL	PMTIL	BRICK	1	1	60	S LARGE SST INCLUSIONS	BS	СВМ
A3		PMTIL	PANT	1	1	24	FINE SAND	BS	CBM
A4		PMTIL	BRICK	1	1	250	S LARGE SST INCLUSIONS	BS	СВМ
A5		PMTIL	BRICK	3	3	112	S LARGE SST INCLUSIONS	BS	СВМ
A6		ENGS	DRAIN	1	1	10		BS	POTTERY
A7		PMTIL	BRICK	1	1	22	S LARGE SST INCLUSIONS	BS	СВМ
В3		PMTIL	BRICK	1	1	8	S LARGE SST INCLUSIONS	BS	СВМ
C12		PMTIL	BRICK	1	1	145	S LARGE SST INCLUSIONS	BS	СВМ