

Assessment of the pottery from Galand Bridge, Fountains Estate, North Yorkshire (OSA03 EV09)

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Sixty artefacts from an archaeological evaluation at Galand Bridge, Fountains Estate, North Yorkshire carried out by On Site Archaeology were submitted for identification and assessment (Site Code OSA03 EV09). The finds came from four contexts and included no material earlier than the mid/late 18th century and some finds which are probably of very late 19th or early 20th century date.

Table 1

class	300	307	308	309	Grand Total	
CBM		2		2	4	
COPP			1		1	
IRON			3		3	
PMGL			10	4	14	
POTTERY		8	19	7	3	37
WOOD			1		1	
Grand Total		10	34	13	3	60

Description

Ceramic Building Material

Fragments of brick, pantile and possibly flat roof tile were recovered. The brick is heavily abraded and all the fragments are small.

Copper Alloy

A cartridge case from a shotgun was recovered from context 307. It would be possible to establish the date and function of this case more precisely with further study but given that it is likely to be late 19th or early 20th century this is not recommended.

Iron

The strap handle of a tinned vessel was recovered from context 307. The vessel is most likely an oil can or paint pot, probably used in an outhouse rather than the main domestic residence. A fragment of wire of unknown function was also present. Wire had many functions and this piece might have been used in furniture or agricultural equipment. A large nail was also found, bent at right angles at the tip, indicating that the nail was not recycled for reuse.

Post-medieval glassware

A range of post-medieval glass vessels were found. The earlier is a hand-blown bottle neck from a vessel with a short neck, possibly a square case bottle. The remaining fragments probably all come from moulded vessels of various colours and forms. They included beer bottles, spirit bottles, medicine bottles and a small jar with a wide mouth. This latter piece is probably the latest datable type present and might be either a paste jar or ointment pot. There is a lack of lemonade and ginger beer bottles of ovoid form and this suggests that the majority of the collection is late 19th rather than early 20th century.

Pottery

Thirty seven fragments of pottery were found. The coarseware vessels include possible chamber pots and jars, bowls and large pancheons. They include several with a fine red calcareous body, of the type used at Sunderland (SUND, 9 sherds) as well as vessels made from Coal Measure red-firing clays (with streaks of light-firing clay). Some of the vessels have a white slip on the inside, under a clear lead glaze (in one case the glaze has deliberate streaks of brown).

Staffordshire slipwares are represented by a single mottled glazed vessel of unknown form (STMO). Vessels with this fabric and glaze were produced into the late 18th century although their main period of manufacture was earlier.

Factory-made vessels with refined fabrics were the most common types found. They include Creamware (CREA) and Pearl ware (PEAR), both first produced in the late 18th century, a buff-coloured jar or jug with bands of slip decoration and a band of mocha decoration (NCBW), and five sherds of transfer-printed ware (TPW).

Two stoneware vessels were found. One is a salt-glazed inkwell with a mottled grey/brown surface and the other is a cylindrical jar or bottle base with a feldspathic glaze inside and out. Neither vessel can be provenanced.

Wood

A cork stopper was recovered from context 307. Presumably it was preserved because it was still in the neck of the vessel it was used for when buried. It is likely to have been used in one of the glass medicine bottles. The only other vessel found with a suitably narrow neck was the stoneware inkwell but the cork shows no sign of ink staining.

Assessment

Most of the finds could be assigned a fairly close *terminus post quem* (date after which they must have been deposited). These dates are shown in Table 00. From this we can see that context 300 could have been deposited in the late 18th century or later, context 307 not until the early 20th century, context 308 in the late 19th century and context 309 in the late 18th century.

However, it must be remembered that most of these finds had a long period of currency and the actual deposition date could well be much later in every case. Furthermore, since the majority of the finds from all contexts have *tpqs* of late 18th century and the smaller assemblages tend to have this date as a *tpq* this too argues for a strong possibility of a later date for their deposition.

Context	17.2	18.1	18.2	19	19.2	20.1Nd	Grand Total
300	1		8				10
307	1	1	16	1	12	1	34
308			9		2		13
309			3				3
Grand Total	2	1	36	1	14	1	60

The three finds with late 17th and early 18th-century *tpqs* are all types with long periods of use and the earliest material in the collection is probably late 18th or early 19th century. It would not be surprising to find material of this date still in use in a household in the second half of the 19th century.

The range of finds present suggests that this is debris from a domestic household and there is evidence for writing, the use of medicine and hunting as well as the standard food preparation and serving and the drinking of alcohol and tea. The classification used is recorded in the appendix.

There does not appear to be any difference in function in the four assemblages, although once again it is important to note their small size (Table 2).

Table 2

function	300	307	308	309	Grand Total
drinking		2	6	2	10
food prep		3	7	4	15
hunting			1		1
medicine			3	2	5
nd			4		4
serving		1	7		9
storage			4	2	6
structural		2	1	2	5
tea		2	1	1	4
writing					1
Grand Total		10	34	13	60

None of the finds requires illustration or any further study at this stage. The metal finds are probably not stable but no treatment is recommended considering the mundane nature of the finds and their late date.

Appendix

Context	class	cname	Form	subfabric	Nosh	NoV	Description	date	Part	Condition	function
300	CBM	PMTIL	FLAT		1	1		nd	BS		structural
300	CBM	PMTIL	PANT	FINE-GRAINED CALC	1	1		17.2	BS		structural
300	POTTERY	CREA	CUP		1	1	1WRYTHEN MOULDING EXT	18.2	BS		tea
300	POTTERY	CREA	TANK		1	1		18.2	BS		drinking
300	POTTERY	PEAR	CUP		1	1		18.2	R		tea
300	POTTERY	PEAR	TANK		1	1	1OG PAINTED FLOWERS	18.2	R		drinking
300	POTTERY	SUND	BOWL		1	1	1WHITE SLIPPED INT	18.2	BS		food prep
300	POTTERY	SUND	BOWL		2	2	2WHITE SLIPPED INT	18.2	BS		food prep
300	POTTERY	TPW	BOWL		1	1		18.2	B		serving
307	COPP	COPP	CARTRIDGE		1	1	1CAP FROM CARTRIDGE 22MM DIAM	19.2	BS		hunting
307	IRON	IRON	NAIL		1	1	1RECT-SECTIONED SHAFT	nd	BS		structural
307	IRON	IRON	VESS		1	1	1TINNED STRAP HANDLE	19	BS		nd
307	IRON	IRON	WIRE		1	1	1125MM LONG;CIRCULAR SECTION	nd	BS		nd

Context	class	cname	Form	subfabric	Nosh	NoV	Description	date	Part	Condition	function
307	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKGR	1	1	HAND BLOWN;SHORT NECK	18.2	R		drinking
307	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	BROWN	1	1	TALL	19.2	BS		drinking
307	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKGR	1	1		19.2	BS		drinking
307	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKGR	1	1	TALL FORM	19.2	BS	WATER-ROLLED	drinking
307	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKGR	1	1		19.2	BS		drinking
307	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKBL	1	1	HEXAGONAL MOULDED	19.2	R		medicine
307	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKGR	1	1	TALL;MOULDED;SLIGHTLY SWOLLEN NECK	19.2	BS		drinking
307	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKBL	1	1	POLYGONAL MOULDED	19.2	BS		medicine
307	PMGL	PMGL	JAR	CLEAR	1	1	SHORT JAR;PASTE?;CREAM?	20.1	BS		storage
307	PMGL	PMGL	VESS	CLEAR	1	1	MOULDED WITH VERTICAL RIBS	19.2	BS		nd
307	POTTERY	BERTH	BOWL	A Q >0.1MM;M FE >0.2MM	1	1	BROWN GL INT AND EXT;MOULDED BASE	18.2	BS		food prep
307	POTTERY	BL	JAR/CHP	A Q >0.2MM;S CALC	1	1	BLACK INT AND EXT GL	17.2	BS		storage
307	POTTERY	CREA	PLATE		1	1		18.2	BS		serving
307	POTTERY	CREA	PLATE		1	1		18.2	BS		serving

Context	class	cname	Form	subfabric	Nosh	NoV	Description	date	Part	Condition	function
307	POTTERY	ENGS	JAR/BOT		1		1BRISTOL GLAZE INT AND EXT	19.2	BS		storage
307	POTTERY	NCBW	JUG/JAR		1		1MOCHA BAND	18.2	BS		storage
307	POTTERY	PEAR	CUP		1	1		18.2	R		tea
307	POTTERY	PEAR	PLATE		1		COARSE COMBING ON BASE;PLAIN 1BASE	18.2	BS		serving
307	POTTERY	SLIP	BOWL	A ILL-SORTED SA Q >0.5MM	3		1WHITE SLIPPED INT	18.2	BS		food prep
307	POTTERY	STMO	VESS		1		1UNKNOWN FORM	18.1	BS		nd
307	POTTERY	SUND	BOWL		2		1WHITE SLIPPED INT	18.2	BS		food prep
307	POTTERY	SUND	PANC		1		1BL GLAZE INT	18.2	R	ROLLED	food prep
307	POTTERY	TPW	BOWL		1	1		18.2	BS		serving
307	POTTERY	TPW	BOWL		1		1WILLOW PATTERN	18.2	BS		serving
307	POTTERY	TPW	PLATE		1		1WILLOW PATTERN	18.2	BS		serving
307	POTTERY	TPW	PLATE		1		1DKGR INK	19.2	R		serving
307	WOOD	WOOD	STOPPER		1		1CORK BOTTLE STOPPER;9MM DIAM	19.2	BS		medicine
308	CBM	PMTIL		CALC;A Q >0.2MM	1	1		nd	BS		structural
308	CBM	PMTIL	BRICK	A Q >0.2MM	1	1		nd	BS		structural

Context	class	cname	Form	subfabric	Nosh	NoV	Description	date	Part	Condition	function
308	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKGR		2	1SLIGHTLY SWELLING NECK	18.2	BS		drinking
308	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	CLEAR		1	1MOULDED;SQUARE SECTIONED	19.2	BS		medicine
308	PMGL	PMGL	BOT	DKGR		1	FLUTED OVAL 1SECTIONED;MOULDED	19.2	BS		medicine
308	POTTERY	BL	BOWL	A SA Q >0.2MM		1	1INT BL GL	18.2	BS		food prep
308	POTTERY	BL	PANC	CMRED		1	1	18.2	BS	ROLLED	food prep
308	POTTERY	BL	PANC	CMRED		1	1	18.2	R	ROLLED	food prep
308	POTTERY	PEAR	CUP			1	1FLARING RIM	18.2	R		tea
308	POTTERY	SUND	JAR			1	1BROWN GL INT AND EXT	18.2	BS		storage
308	POTTERY	SUND	JAR/CHP			1	1EXT BLACK GL	18.2	BS		storage
308	POTTERY	SUND	PANC			1	1INT BL GL	18.2	BS		food prep
309	POTTERY	CREA	PLATE			1	1	18.2	BS		servicing
309	POTTERY	ENGS	INKWELL			1	1TIGER SKIN EXT GLAZE	18.2	R		writing
309	POTTERY	PMLOC	BOWL	A Q >0.2MM		1	WHITE SLIPPED INT;MOTTLED 1BROWN INT GL	18.2	BS		food prep