Assessment of the medieval pottery from Glenmore, Church Road, Penn, Bucks (CRP 04/104)

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Two sherds of pottery were recovered from an archaeological evaluation carried out by Sian Anthony for TVAS at Glenmore, Church Road, Penn, Bucks.

The sherds were recovered from the fill of a ditch, [1], observed in Trench 1 and the fill of a feature, [2], observed in Trench 3 which is interpreted as the terminal of the same ditch.

Description

Medieval Pottery

The sherd from the filling of Feature 1, context 52, is a fresh base sherd from a sand-tempered vessel with abundant rounded quartz temper. The base is slightly sagging and the vessel has an oxidized surface and dark brown core and interior. It is visually similar to handmade vessels found in southern Buckinghamshire, northwest Middlesex and southeast Oxfordshire and probably dates from the later 11th or earlier part of the 12th century.

The sherd from the filling of Feature [2], context 54, is a weathered sherd which appears to come from a small, wheelthrown sandy greyware jar. It is just possible, given the poor condition, that this is a Romano-British greyware. However, the fabric characteristics are identical to those of the ware known, amongst other names, as Hertfordshire Greyware, although it is known to have been produced in Middlesex (e.g. Uxbridge) as well as in Hertfordshire. This ware was first produced in the mid 12th century and is common throughout the 13th and early 14th centuries. Given the condition of the sherd, it is likely to have arrived in this deposit in the 13th century or later.

Assessment

On the evidence of the pottery, the correlation of the two features cannot be proved sionce one contains a fresh sherd of 11th/12th-century date and the other an abraded sherd of later 12th to 14th-century date. However, more pottery finds would be required to make any definitive statement.

The sherds should be retained for future re-examination and study and require no further treatment.

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Table 1

REFNO	Context	Cname	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight
[2]	54	SHER	JAR	BS	1	1	3
[1]	52	DENHAM	JAR	BS	1	1	17