

Assessment of the Pottery from Land to the rear of The Poacher Inn, Front Street, Acomb, North Yorkshire (OSA05 EV03)

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A small collection of pottery was recovered from an archaeological evaluation carried out by On-Site Archaeology Ltd on land to the rear of the Poacher Inn, Front Street, Acomb (Site code: OSA05 EV03). The pottery consists of sherds of Romano-British and medieval date.

Description

Pottery

Roman

Three sherds of Roman date were recovered. They come from two separate vessels. All are of Eboracum ware (1997; E1). The sherd from context 302 is the rim of a white-slipped flagon. This form was used in the later 1st and early 2nd century. The sherds from context 105 appear to be from the same vessel but they are too small to identify the form. Eboracum ware was made from the later 1st to the mid 3rd century on the outskirts of the fortress at York.

Medieval

Five sherds of medieval pottery were recovered. They include types which are not thought to be coeval and indicate activity on the site from at least the early 13th century to the early 14th century.

The wares present are York Gritty ware (YG), which is common in York from the later 11th to the mid 13th century; Scarborough ware (SCAR), produced at Scarborough mainly in the 13th century, Humberware, produced at numerous sites in Yorkshire from the early 14th century onwards and common in York from the mid 14th century onwards; and Brandsby-type ware, produced at sites along the fringes of the North Yorkshire Moors from the later 13th century onwards.

The Humberware sherd has a coarse fabric, containing rounded fragments of sandstone and angular quartz. It is coarser in texture than the Humberware produced in York (Fishergate and Walmgate), Holme-upon-Spalding Moor and West Cowick and is thus evidence for an unknown Humberware production site.

Discussion

The Roman pottery indicates activity in the area during the earlier part of the Roman period. Although the sherds are small, the two from context 105 are not particularly abraded and the rim from context 302 is only moderately abraded.

The medieval pottery from context 102 is fresh and is probably present as the result of direct rubbish disposal rather than manuring (in which midden material was carted onto the fields as fertiliser). The medieval activity seems to be long-lived, from at least the early 13th to the mid 14th centuries.

Bibliography

Monaghan, Jason (1997) *Roman Pottery from York*. The Archaeology of York 16/8 York, Council for British Archaeology.

Appendix 1

Context	class	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Part	Description	Nosh	NoV	Weight
302	POTTERY	YATE01		FLAG	R	WHITE-SLIPPED	1	1	7
102	POTTERY	HUM		JUG	BS	CUGL OVER A WHITE SLIP;CORRUGATED NECK	1	1	11
102	POTTERY	YG		JAR	BS		1	1	11
102	POTTERY	SCAR		JUG	BS	CUGL	2	1	5
102	POTTERY	BRAN		JUG	BS		1	1	9
105	POTTERY	YATE01		JAR?	BS		2	1	3