

Assessment of the Finds from The Green, North Newbald, East Yorkshire (OSA05 EV05)

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One hundred and nine artefacts recovered from an archaeological evaluation carried out by On-Site Archaeology Ltd at The Green, North Newbald, East Yorkshire were submitted for identification and assessment. These artefacts represent no more than 92 objects and weigh in total 3.126Kg (Table 1).

The finds range in date from the Roman period (possibly) to the modern. They include a group of early Anglo-Saxon potsherds which from their appearance either come from domestic occupation or inhumation burials. These indicate a site of high potential for early Anglo-Saxon archaeology. The remaining finds indicate domestic occupation from the 12th or 13th century onwards.

Table 1

class	Sum of Nosh	Sum of NoV	Sum of Weight
ANBN	1	1	3
CBM	50	48	2352
CTP	1	1	13
COPP	1	1	2
FCLAY	2	2	9
GLAS	1	1	4
IRON	3	2	36
PLASTER	6	1	36
POTTERY	36	33	491
SLAG	1	1	163
STONE	4	1	30
Grand Total	106	92	3126

Description

Animal Bone

A bone pin or needle was recovered from context 203. The shaft swells towards the tip and the end is broken. It is crudely made and therefore perhaps unlikely to be a decorative pin and it may have been a needle. If so, its size would suggest it was used for netting. It may be of Anglo-Saxon or medieval date.

Ceramic Building Material

Ten fragments of brick and one fragment of pantile were recovered. The bricks all have a soft, silty fabric with some voids from the presence of organic matter in the body. This fabric is similar in appearance to that produced at Beverley in the later medieval period. The pantile fragment is of post-medieval date and its appearance suggests perhaps a quite recent date.

Clay Tobacco Pipe

A single fragment of clay pipe stem, with a bore diameter indicative of an early to mid 17th-century date, was found in context 301.

Copper Alloy

A bronze farthing of George VI was recovered.

Fired Clay

Fragments of fired clay were found in contexts 203 and 204. Although numerous pieces have a flat face, there is no evidence for wattle impressions, and some pieces appear to have been plastered onto a flat surface, such as a wooden structure. Thicknesses of 13mm to 25mm were recorded.

Glass

A single fragment of 19th or 20th-century moulded jar, made in a clear glass, was recovered.

Iron

A thin straight strip of metal, now bent in several directions, was recovered from context 203. Its function and date are not known.

An object consisting of a rod of iron with semi-circular bends at either end is of unknown function and date.

Plaster

Six fragments of plaster were recovered from context 301. They have impressions of reeds and laths on the back and this suggests a late medieval, post-medieval or even more recent date (reeds were still being used to reinforce plaster in the late 19th century).

Pottery

Roman

A single possible sherd of Romano-British greyware was recovered from an unstratified context. It is not particularly abraded but is spalled. It may, in fact, be part of an early Anglo-Saxon vessel.

Early Anglo-Saxon

Eleven fragments of early Anglo-Saxon pottery were recovered. Some of these are large and show no signs of weathering. They also retain the delicate soot and food deposits on their surfaces. Their condition suggests that they are derived from activity on the site itself and have not been subjected to ploughing.

The sherds come from four different fabrics:

- CHARN. Large angular biotite granite fragments with few other inclusion types present
- ECHAF. Tempered with abundant organic inclusions, probably derived from either dung or chaff.
- LIM. Large angular fragments of bioclastic and oolitic limestone and thin-walled bivalve shell fragments.
- SST. Abundant fragments of angular quartz, overgrown grains derived from an orthoquartzite.

All four fabrics are well-known from sites on the Yorkshire Wolds and in particular are present at the cremation cemetery at Sancton.

Two vessel forms are presented in the collection: small straight-sided bowls, used for cooking, and large globular jars. Two of the jar sherds are decorated, one with a raised boss with incised lines to either side and the other with horizontal grooved lines below a simple rounded rim (with no neck). Body sherds from large jars were also present, recognisable by their curvature and the use of a tool to scrape the interior surface. Similar vessels occur as cremation containers at Sancton. However, of the five jar sherds present, three have traces of being used for cooking. In one case the soot is thick and encrusts the decorated surface of the vessel. The Sancton jars rarely, if ever, show such evidence.

Medieval

Eighteen sherds of medieval date were recovered, ranging in date from the later 11th to the 15th centuries. All are in fresh condition, indicating activity on the site during this period.

A single sherd of York Gritty ware (YG), probably produced in West Yorkshire in the later 11th to mid 13th centuries, was recovered from context 303. Eight sherds of a local ware (QC), possibly produced at North Newbald itself, were found, in contexts 301 and 303. Four

sherds of Beverley glazed ware (BEV1B) were recovered from unstratified contexts. This ware was produced at Beverley from the mid 12th to the 14th centuries. Their fabric contains a mixed sand containing individual ooliths and quartz sand. Evidence from Beverley, Wawne and North Newbald itself suggests that this is a later 12th to 13th or 14th-century industry. Five sherds of Humberware (HUM) were present. This ware was produced from the later 14th to the 16th centuries but these sherds have no diagnostic features which would allow a closer date to be assigned.

Post-medieval

Two sherds of glazed red earthenware (GRE) were present in context 301. This ware dates to the late 16th to 18th or 19th centuries and was produced at numerous centres in Yorkshire and elsewhere.

Slag

A single fragment of slag was recovered from context 303. It has not been submitted to a specialist in metalworking debris and appears to be of fairly recent date.

Stone

A lump of burnt oolitic limestone was recovered from context 303. The limestone is only loosely cemented and is probably an unworked fragment of local origin.

Assessment

Five contexts produced finds. Those from Trench 2, contexts 201, 203 and 204, contain only early Anglo-Saxon pottery, together with the fired clay, and the iron objects. The condition of the pottery suggests that these are occupation deposits, or have been disturbed from such deposits and immediately reburied. The fired clay is certainly not from a wattled structure and is probably most likely to come from a corn-drying oven.

The finds from Trench 3 (contexts 301 and 303) also include early Anglo-Saxon potsherds but also include the medieval and post-medieval pottery, the clay pipe stem and the plaster. Again, the material is fresh and suggests activity in this area in the medieval and post-medieval periods.

The only modern finds come from unstratified contexts.

The early Anglo-Saxon finds are of some importance since this area is both the site of a 'productive site', possibly the sites of fairs, markets or other meeting places, as well as being close to the major cemetery at Sancton. The condition of the pottery and the traces of use on the jars, suggests that it is from domestic occupation rather than a cemetery. The fired clay indicates the existence of a permanent structure of some sort.

These finds should be studied further and the results prepared for publication. This further study could include the scientific analysis of the fabrics of the pottery and fired clay and illustration of the drawable pieces. The iron objects should be drawn and the drawings submitted to a specialist in Anglo-Saxon ironwork for identification and a report.

Costings

Task	Description	Cost/unit	Total Cost
1	Illustration of early Anglo-Saxon pottery	4 drawings at £15.00 plus VAT	£60 plus VAT
2	Thin Section analysis	9 samples at £23.00 plus VAT	£207 plus VAT
3	Chemical analysis (Inductively-Coupled Plasma Spectroscopy)	9 samples at 23.00 plus VAT	£207 plus VAT
4	Illustration of bone and ironwork	3 illustrations at £20.00 each	£60 plus VAT
5	Specialist report on small finds, inc admin, postage and packing	£200	£200 plus VAT
6	Preparation of report	£180	£180 plus VAT
Total			£914.00 plus VAT

Appendix

Trench	Context	Action	class	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Part	Description	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Use	Condition	Diam
2	201	TS;ICPS	POTTERY	LIM	A A LST (SOME OOL?);M THIN-WALLED SHELL	BOWL	BS	STRAIGHT-SIDED	1	1	10			0
2	201	TS;ICPS	POTTERY	SST	S SSTMG <2.0MM;M ORG;SILTY MICACEOUS MATRIX	JAR	BS		1	1	0			0
2	201		POTTERY	SST	A SSTMG;S ORGANIC	JAR	BS	SCRAPED INT;WIPED EXTLARGE VESSEL	1	1	11			0
2	203		ANBN	ANBN		NEEDLE	BS		1	1	3		TOP BROKEN AWAY	0
2	203	DR;TS;ICPS	POTTERY	CHARN	S A NIOTITE GRANITE;FINE GROUNDMASS	BOWL	R	CRUDELY-MADE SLIGHTLY CURVED SIDES AND ROUNDED RIM	1	1	43	BLACK DEPO INT;SOOTED EXT		0
2	203	TS;ICPS	POTTERY	ECHAF	A CHAFF;S R MED SST (JURASSIC/LC?)	BOWL	BS		3	1	26	BLACK DEPO INT		0
2	203		FCLAY	FCLAY	SILTY	DAUB?	BS	FLAT FACE	1	1	3			0
2	203		FCLAY	FCLAY	SILTY	LOOM WEIGHT?	BS	CONVEX SURFACE	1	1	6			0
2	203		IRON	IRON		STRIP	BS		2	1	21			0
2	203	DR;TS;ICPS	POTTERY	SST	A SSTMG	JAR	R	NO NECK, ROUNDED RIM;HORIZ GROOVES AND EXT BURNISHING	1	1	10	SOOTED EXT		0
2	203	DR;TS;ICPS	POTTERY	SST	A AQ <0.3MM;FINE GROUNDMASS WITH SOME MICA	BOWL	R	STRAIGHT-SIDED, FLAT-TOPPED RIM	1	1	61	BLACK DEPO INT		0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	UNEVEN ALL OVER; SOME THICKER THAN ABOVE	15	15	166			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	8			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	15			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	3	1	30			0

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Trench	Context	Action	class	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Part	Description	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Use	Condition	Diam
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	21			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	21			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	8			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	11			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	14			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	11			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	13			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	21			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	21			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	41			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	53			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	43			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	39			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	40			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	45			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	29			0
2	204		FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS	SURFACE WITH UNEVEN BACK	1	1	12			0
2	204		IRON	IRON		LATCH?	BS	ROD OF IRON, HOOKED AT EACH END	1	1	15			0
3	301		POTTERY	GRE		BOWL	BS		2	2	29			0
3	301		POTTERY	HUM		JUG/JAR	BS		1	1	9			0
3	301		POTTERY	HUM		JAR	BS		1	1	6			0
3	301		CBM	MTIL	BEVO	BRICK	BS		1	1	385			0
3	301		POTTERY	PIPECLAY		CLAYPIPE	STEM	17TH CENTURY BORE	1	1	4			0
3	301		PLASTER	PLASTER			BS	SURFACE BACKING ONTO LATHES AND REEDS	6	1	36			0

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Trench	Context	Action	class	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Part	Description	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Use	Condition	Diam
3	301		CBM	PMTIL	BEVO	PANT	BS		1	1	342			0
3	301		CBM	PMTIL	BEVO	BRICK	BS		1	1	196			0
3	301		CBM	PMTIL	BEVO	BRICK	BS		1	1	279			0
3	301		CBM	PMTIL	BEVO	BRICK	BS		7	7	338			0
3	301		POTTERY	QC		JAR	B	LIGHT-COLOURED OXID INT	1	1	7	SOOTED EXT		0
3	303	PH;DR	POTTERY	CHARN	BIOTITE GRANITE	JAR	BS	BOSS WITH VERTICAL GROOVES ON EITHER SIDE	1	1	4	BLACK DEPO INT		0
3	303		STONE	GEO	OOLITE		BS		4	1	30			0
3	303		POTTERY	HUM		JAR	BS		1	1	5	SOOTED EXT		0
3	303		POTTERY	HUM		JUG/JAR	B;BS		2	2	148			0
3	303		POTTERY	HUM		JAR	BS		3	3	14			0
3	303		POTTERY	QC		JAR	B		1	1	11	SOOTED EXT		0
3	303		POTTERY	QC		JAR	BS		2	2	4	SOOTED EXT		0
3	303		POTTERY	QC		JAR	B		1	1	11	SOOTED EXT		0
3	303		POTTERY	QC		JAR	R	ROLLED OUT RIM;OXID EXT	1	1	15			0
3	303		POTTERY	QC		JAR	BS		1	1	12			0
3	303		POTTERY	QC		JAR	R	SQUARED RIM	1	1	9			0
3	303		SLAG	SLAG			BS	modern	1	1	163			0
3	303		POTTERY	SST	A SSTMG;S ORGANIC	JAR	BS	SCRAPED INT	1	1	4	SOOTED EXT		0
3	303		POTTERY	YG		JAR	BS		1	1	13			0
		U/S	POTTERY	BEVO1A		JAR	B;BS		2	1	4	SOOTED EXT		0
		U/S	POTTERY	BEVO1A		JAR	BS		1	1	1			0
		U/S	POTTERY	BEVO1A		JUG	BS		1	1	2			0
2	U/S		COPP	CU ALLOY		COIN	BS	GEORGE VI FARTHING, 1937-48	1	1	2			20
		U/S	FCLAY	FCLAY		DAUB	BS		1	1	1			0

Trench	Context	Action	class	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Part	Description	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Use	Condition	Diam
	U/S		GLAS	GLASS	CLEAR	BOTTLE	BS	MODERN MOULDED	1	1	4			0
	U/S		POTTERY	HUM		JUG/JAR	BS		1	1	13			0
	U/S		CBM	PMTIL		BRICK	BS		1	1	149			0
	U/S		POTTERY	RPOT			BS		1	1	5			0