

Assessment of the Finds from Nelson Street, Otley, West Yorkshire (OSA05 WB02)

A small collection of pottery and clay tobacco pipes was recovered from an archaeological watching brief carried out by On-Site Archaeology Ltd at Nelson Street, Otley, West Yorkshire (Site Code: OSA05 WB02). The finds range in date from the medieval period to the 19th century.

Description

Clay Tobacco Pipes

Two pipe stems were recovered, from context 1018. Their bore diameters suggest that one is of late 17th-century or late date and the other is of 19th-century date.

Pottery

Medieval

Five sherds of medieval pottery were recovered. All are unglazed and probably from jars. Two sherds come from a wheelthrown jar with an everted rim. All are of Northern Gritty ware, as defined at Wetherby (Vince 2005 #45973). This ware was produced from weathered mudstones of Carboniferous age and tempered with a coarse gravel composed mainly of quartz and feldspar fragments derived from the Millstone Grit. The ware appears to have been current in West Yorkshire from the later 12th to the 14th century, and probably later, and was probably made at several centres, of which the closest to Otley known was at Baildon Moor. Visually, however, these sherds are indistinguishable from those found at Wetherby, which were themselves shown to be distinguishable from Baildon products.

Post-Medieval

A base sherd from a brown-glazed jar, of Cistercian/Blackware type and probably produced at Wrenthorpe, was recovered from context 1018. It is probably of later 16th or 17th-century date.

Early Modern

Sherds of transfer-printed ware (TPW), a whiteware teapot with a brown external and internal glaze (WHITE) and whiteware bowls decorated with sponging were recovered from context 1018. All are probably 19th century in date.

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<http://www.postex.demon.co.uk/index.html>

A copy of this report is archived online at
<http://www.avac.uklinux/potcat/pdfs/avac2005098.pdf>

Assessment

Stratigraphic Context

The finds come from three contexts. Contexts 1012 and 1014 produced sherds of medieval probably 13th to 14th century date and context 1018 produced a mixed assemblage of post-medieval and modern finds.

Retention

All of the finds should be retained for potential future study. They are in a stable condition and require no special storage conditions.

Further Work

No further work is recommended for these finds.

Appendix 1

Context	class	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Part	Description	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Use
1012	POTTERY	NGR	F5		BS	RED SLIPPED	1	1	2	
1012	POTTERY	NGR	F2	JAR	R	WT;EVERTED RIM	2	1	21	
1014	POTTERY	NGR		JAR	BS		2	2	10	
1018	POTTERY	CSTN	CF WRENTHORPE	JAR	B	APPLIED VERTICAL STRIP;INT AND EXT BROWN GL	1	1	53	WORN BASE;SCRATCHED INTERIOR
1018	POTTERY	WHITE		TPOT	BS	MOTTLED BROWN INT AND EXT GL	1	1	4	
1018	CTP	PIPECLAY		PIPE	BS	L17TH C+ BORE DIAM	1	1	2	
1018	CTP	PIPECLAY		PIPE	BS	19TH C BORE DIAM	1	1	3	
1018	POTTERY	TPW		PLATE	BS	WILLOW PATTERN	1	1	5	
1018	POTTERY	PEAR		BOWL	BS	BLUE SPONGED DEC	2	2	7	