

Assessment of the finds from 106 Laurence Street, York (OSA05 WB16)

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A small quantity of pottery was found during the watching brief at 106 Lawrence Street, York, carried out by On-Site Archaeology Ltd (Site Code OSA05 WB16).

Description

Pottery

Roman?

A single sherd may be Eboracum ware, datable to the later 1st to early 3rd centuries (Context 606). It comes from the lower part of a large closed vessel and has knife-trimming on the exterior. Despite the lack of glaze and the fact that it is completely oxidized, it is also possible that this is a late medieval Humberware jar base, in which case it would date to the late 14th to 16th centuries.

Medieval

Two small sherds of York Gritty ware were recovered, from context 607. This ware, probably produced in West Yorkshire using Coal Measure white-firing clay, was produced from the mid 11th to the mid 13th centuries.

Three sherds of York Glazed ware jar were recovered from context 607. This ware was produced in North Yorkshire, utilising Middle Jurassic mudstones from the fringes of the North Yorkshire Moors, from the late 12th century onwards, eventually being replaced by Brandsby-type ware, made in the same area from the late 13th century onwards.

Undated

A single jar rim, produced in a fine off-white fabric, with a clear glaze, appearing yellow, inside and out could not be identified. It may be a Midlands Yellow vessel, produced in various sites in the midlands and West Yorkshire in the late 16th to 17th centuries. The vessel appears to be a jar with an everted rim.

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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/avac2005109.pdf>

Assessment

The finds come from three contexts. The earliest of these, 607, is the fill of a foundation trench running parallel with Lawrence Street. The finds date its fill to the late 12th century or later but the assemblage is too small to give a precise date to.

Context 606, interpreted as a horticultural soil sealing the fill of the foundation trench, produced the Roman or medieval sherd and the unidentified glazed jar sherd, which might be of late 16th to 17th-century date, is in a bag marked context 603, a dark grey silt overlying 606, although the sherd itself is marked context 606.

None of the sherds require further treatment but all should be retained for potential further study.

Appendix 1

Context	class	Cname	Subfabric	Form	Part	Description	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Use
606	POTTERY	E1	POSSIBLY MEDIEVAL	JAR	B		1	1	20	
603	POTTERY	MISC		JAR	R	GLAZED INT/EXT; CONTEXT ON POT 606; ON BAG 603	1	1	40	
607	POTTERY	YG		JAR	BS		2	2	30	
607	POTTERY	YORK		JAR	R		1	1	15	
607	POTTERY	YORK		JAR	B		2	2	16	SOOTED EXT