

Assessment of the Pottery and Other Finds from 4 Fishergate, York (OSA06 EV23)

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A small quantity of pottery, clay tobacco pipes and glass from an archaeological evaluation at 4 Fishergate, York, carried out by On-Site Archaeology Ltd was submitted for identification and assessment.

The finds range in date from the later 17th century to the later 19th century.

Description

Ceramic Building Material

A single fragment of pantile was recovered. Pantiles were introduced into England in the later 16th century but only became common in the later 17th century or, in some regions, even later.

Clay Tobacco Pipes

Two fragment of clay tobacco pipe were recovered. One is a plain stem with a bore diameter typical of 18th/19th century pipes and the other is a stem with the beginnings of a decorated moulded bowl. The decoration consists of fluting but is more elaborate and reaches further down the stem than is normal with mid 19th-century fluted pipe bowls and it is probably from a later 19th century bowl with elaborate decoration.

Glass

The rim and shoulder of a small phial in light green glass was recovered. Such phials were produced from the later 17th century onwards and were used to contain medicines. Typically, by the mid 18th century they are made of a light blue-tinged glass and in the 19th century are made from a colourless glass.

Pottery

All of the pottery is of types which occur in the early modern period onwards. They consist of a blackware vessel (BL); the rim of a flagon of Derbyshire stoneware (DERBS); the base of a cylindrical bottle in a miscellaneous stoneware fabric (ENGS); the rim of an unglazed, flanged vessel of unknown function, made in a similar fabric to local flowerpots (LPMLOC); several sherds of transfer-printed ware vessels (TPW) and part of a refined whiteware object, probably the surround to a door knob or possibly part of an electric light socket (WHITE). The latter object is probably of later 19th century date whilst the others could date to any time within the 19th century or in some cases the late 18th century.

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Assessment

The finds come from three contexts. Context 009 produced finds of early 19th-century or later date. Context 12 produced the whiteware door/light socket fitting and is probably of later 19th or later date. Context 13 produced a sherd of transfer printed ware and a fragment of pantile and is of late 18th century or later date.

Retention

The finds come from stratified deposits and should therefore be retained for future study.

Further Work

No further work is required on any of these finds.

Appendix 1

Context	class	Cname	Subfabric	Description	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight
009	POTTERY	ENGS			BOT	B	1	1	201
009	POTTERY	DERBS			BOT	R	1	1	28
009	POTTERY	TPW			BOWL	BS	2	2	19
009	POTTERY	LPMLOC		FLANGED	FLP	R	1	1	48
012	PIPECLAY	PIPECLAY		18-19TH BORE; 19TH STYLE DEC; 105MM OF STEM; MOULDED STRANDS TRAILING ALONG STEM FROM BOWL	CLAYPIPE	STEM	1	1	9
012	PIPECLAY	PIPECLAY		18-19TH BORE	CLAYPIPE	STEM	1	1	2
012	POTTERY	WHITE			DOOR KNOB SURROUND	PART	1	1	10
012	POTTERY	TPW			PLATE	R;B	2	2	22
012	POTTERY	BL			JAR	R	1	1	4
012	PMGLASS	PMGLASS	LTGR		PHIAL	R	1	1	4
013	CBM	PMTIL			PANT	BS	1	1	88
013	POTTERY	TPW			PLATE	R	1	1	5

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