

Assessment of the Pottery from Lotherton Park Farm, Aberford, West Yorkshire (OSA07 EV03)

Alan Vince and Kate Steane

A small quantity of pottery was recovered from an archaeological evaluation at Lotherton Park Farm, Aberford, West Yorkshire, undertaken by On-Site Archaeology Ltd (Site Code: OSA07 EV03). The finds consist of sherds of Roman and medieval pottery. The condition of the Roman pottery indicates settlement in the immediate area.

Description

Roman Pottery

Five sherds of pottery of Roman date were recovered, representing three vessels. The vessels show weathering of the surfaces, typical of finds from shallowly-buried pottery, but are relatively large and probably had not been subjected to ploughing. Two of these sherds come from different contexts (106 and 110) but appear to come from the same vessel, a flanged bowl of early 2nd to early 3rd century date. This vessel and a sherd of a greyware jar appear to be York products (Monaghan 1997, E1 and G1 respectively). The York industry flourished between the late 1st and the early 3rd centuries.

The other ware represented in the collection is probably a Crambeck greyware of late 3rd to 4th century date (Monaghan 1997, B12).

Medieval Pottery

A single sherd of York Gritty ware (YG) was recovered. This ware was probably made in West Yorkshire between the late 11th and mid 13th centuries. One of the probable production sites was at Potterton, less than 4 miles to the northwest of the site.

Assessment

The pottery indicates Roman activity in both the middle and later parts of the Roman period. The pottery is all of types made or present in York and although the collection is much too small to support strong conclusions it is nevertheless interesting that the links are with York rather than Castleford, which both had its own pottery industry and was supplied with coarsewares from south Yorkshire (the Doncaster area).

The single medieval sherd could be present either through occupation of the site in the period between the late 11th and mid 13th centuries or through the manuring of fields during that period with refuse from the farmyard or midden of the community farming the site.

The Alan Vince Archaeology Consultancy, 25 West Parade, Lincoln, LN1 1NW

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

A copy of this report is archived online at

<http://www.avac.uklinux.net/potcat/pdfs/avac2007035.pdf>

Retention

The finds should be retained for future study.

Further Work

The collection from this evaluation is not in itself worthy of further work, but should other fieldwork take place on this site then the source of supply of the pottery should be established through analysis of the pottery fabrics using thin sections and chemical analysis.

Appendix 1

Context	Cname	Description	Form	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight	Condition	Use
	G1		JAR	BS	1	1	5		
	B12		JAR	B	2	1	36	ABRA	
	YG		JAR	BS	1	1	5		SOOTED EXT
110	E1	POSS SHL=106	JAR	R	1	1	13	ABRA	
106	E1	POSS SHL=110	JAR	R	1	1	15	ABRA	

Bibliography

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