

Assessment of Pottery from Ulverscroft Priory, Leicestershire (LVP07)

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A small collection of pottery from archaeological fieldwork at Ulverscroft Priory carried out by Field Archaeology Specialists Ltd was submitted for identification and assessment. The finds range in date from the 18th to the 19th centuries.

Description

Pottery

Post-medieval

Six sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered. All are of Staffordshire-type wares, most likely produced either in the Staffordshire potteries (58 miles west-northwest of Ulverscroft) or at Ticknall, which is much closer to Ulverscroft (only 16 miles to the northwest). Three types were present: wheelthrown, slipwares made from a light-firing clay, which in this case was subsequently coated in a dark brown slip (STSL); press-moulded combed slipware (STCO) and coarse blackware, produced from variegated red- and cream-firing clays (STCOAR). These types were all produced from the late 17th century onwards and the slipwares ceased to be produced in the mid 18th century whilst the blackware continued to be produced into the 19th century.

Early Modern

Fifteen sherds of early modern date were recovered. Most have a long period of currency, from the second half of the 18th century and throughout the 19th century. These include Creamware (CREA); Pearlware (PEAR), Transfer-printed ware (TPW) and local country pottery (LPMLOC). Four sherds are of types which only came into use in the 19th century: two of buff ware (NCBW, also known as Yellow ware) and two of miscellaneous refined white (WHITE) which unlike Pearlware does not rely on cobalt in the glaze to give a brighter white colour.

Assessment

Chronology

The finds come from three contexts. Context 1000 is dated to the mid 19th century or later by the presence of WHITE sherds. Context 1003 is dated to the late 17th to mid 18th centuries by the presence of STSL sherds and context 1004 is dated to the later 18th century or later by the presence of TPW.

Retention

All of the finds come from stratified deposits and should therefore be retained for future study which might refine the dating or interpretation of the deposits.

Further Work

No further work is recommended on the finds.

Appendix 1

Context	class	Cname	Form	Description	Part	Nosh	NoV	Weight
1000	CBM	PMTIL	PANT		BS	1	1	4
1000	POTTERY	STSL	POSSET	BROWN SLIP UNDER GLAZE INT; BROWN SLIP EXT	B	1	1	2
1000	POTTERY	STCO	DISH		BS	1	1	1
1000	POTTERY	STCOAR	BOWL		BS	2	2	18
1000	POTTERY	PMLOC	FLP		B	1	1	114
1000	POTTERY	PMLOC	FLP		R	1	1	7
1000	POTTERY	TPW	PLATE		BS	3	1	12
1000	POTTERY	WHITE	CUP		BS	1	1	1
1000	POTTERY	TPW	BOWL		BS	1	1	13
1000	POTTERY	PEAR	BOWL	HAND PAINTING IN YELLOW AND CRIMSON	BS	1	1	5
1000	POTTERY	NCBW	BOWL		BS	2	2	5
1000	POTTERY	CREA	LID OF DISH		BS	1	1	5
1000	POTTERY	CREA	PLATE		BS	1	1	1
1000	POTTERY	WHITE	JUG?	MOULDED DEC; GREEN EXT GLAZE; PINK INT GLAZE	BS	1	1	1
1000	POTTERY	PMLOC	FLP		R	1	1	5
1003	POTTERY	STSL	CUP	BROWN SLIP SMEARED ON BASE; CLEAR GLAZE INT	BS	2	1	2
1004	POTTERY	TPW	BOWL		R	1	1	3

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