

# **Assessment of Pottery from Central Garage, Broad Street, Hay-on-Wye, Herefordshire (CGH08)**

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A small collection of pottery was recovered from an archaeological evaluation at the Central Garage, Broad Street, Hay-on-Wye, Herefordshire carried out by Foundations Archaeology.

The collection ranges in date from the medieval period (12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century) to the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is predominantly of 19<sup>th</sup> century or later date.

## **Description**

### **Ceramic Building Material**

Seven fragments of ceramic building material were recorded. Three of these come from press-moulded refined whiteware wall tiles of later 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>-century date and the other four are fragments of red earthenware bricks. These bricks have three distinct fabrics: a silty micaceous fabric, similar to that produced from the Devonian marl; a fine fabric with a mixed quartz/calcareous sand temper, also used as moulding sand; and a fine fabric tempered with a fine-grained sandstone sand. One of the silty micaceous fabric pieces appears to come from a press-moulded frogged brick and is therefore of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century or later date.

### **Clay Tobacco Pipe**

Two fragments of clay pipe were recorded. One of these is an unmarked stem with a bore diameter typical of later 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>-century pipes and the other comes from a pipe with no foot (bowl form not discernable). This has an undecipherable two-line stem stamp. The top line ends "RN" and the bottom line ends "[space] 5". This is certainly a 19<sup>th</sup>-century or later pipe.

## **Pottery**

### **Medieval**

A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. This is a body sherd from a handmade jar with a sooted exterior. The fabric contains abundant angular flint fragments up to 2.0mm across and sparse well-rounded, polished quartz. These inclusions identify the sherd as Bath Fabric A, a ware produced in west Wiltshire between the late 11<sup>th</sup> and the early 14<sup>th</sup> centuries and exported extensively into Wales and the Welsh borderland via the port at Bristol (Vince 1984). The discovery of this ware at Hay-on-Wye, however, is quite unusual, since although the ware is common at the mouth of the Wye at Chepstow it is rare or absent at sites further up river (such as Monmouth, Goodrich Castle and Hereford). This suggests some sort of

direct connection between Hay and the mouth of the Wye (or elsewhere on the south Welsh coast).

### Post-Medieval

Thirteen sherds dating between the later 16<sup>th</sup> and the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century were recorded.

Five of these come from fine-textured, slightly micaceous red earthenware produced at one of the country potteries in the Welsh borderland. The closest to Hay-on-Wye, was at Whitney-on-Wye, about 4.5 miles to the northeast. This pottery definitely survived into the late 17<sup>th</sup>/early 18<sup>th</sup> century since wasters of slip-trailed vessels similar to those produced at Newent were found there (Vince 1977). However, the Hay sherds consist of fragments of a dripping dish, with soot coating one of the sides but not the base, indicating that it was used to sit underneath a roasting spit to catch the dripping, and an abraded sherd of an internally-glazed bowl.

Sherds of slipware from the Staffordshire or Bristol industries were also present. These include sherds from Staffordshire coarseware bowls, which suggest that the slipwares too are Staffordshire products. These include two sherds of slip-trailed press-moulded dishes, of mid to late 18<sup>th</sup>-century date; a sherd of mottled ware and a sherd of a wheelthrown light-firing posset pot with a brown slip inside and out. No decoration survives on this vessel but similar vessels normally date to the very late 17<sup>th</sup> or early 18<sup>th</sup> century. The final sherd is of a London stoneware jar of very late 17<sup>th</sup> or, more likely, 18<sup>th</sup>-century date (1999).

### Early Modern and later

Fifty-two sherds of late 18<sup>th</sup> century or later date were recorded. All of these come from factories located outside the county but which without considerable further work cannot be closely sourced.

A large proportion of this material is of types which were produced in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries (Creamware – CREA; Pearlware – PEAR; Derbyshire Stoneware – DERBS; buffware – NCBW; Nottingham stoneware – NOTS; Transfer-printed ware – TPW). Of these, the earliest is Nottingham stoneware, since the decline of that industry is well-documented and was complete by c.1810 (Nottingham stoneware ceased to be produced as Derbyshire stoneware, produced at Codnor Park on the Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire border, started up).

A smaller number come from types which were only current in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century or later (Un sourced English stoneware – ENGS; Misc Refined Whiteware – WHITE). One of the ENGS sherds comes from a drain or sewer pipe and is definitely of later 19<sup>th</sup> century or later date.

### Glass

Nine fragments of glass were recorded.

Three fragments come from window glass, one with a light blue tinge and the other two clear. The former is probably of later 17<sup>th</sup> to mid 18<sup>th</sup> century date and the latter of mid 18<sup>th</sup> century or later date.

Three fragments come from dark green tall bottles of mid 18<sup>th</sup> century to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century date and one comes from a dark brown tall bottle blown into a two-part mould of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century or later date.

One fragment comes from a bottle of unknown form made in an amber-coloured glass, of later 19<sup>th</sup> century or later date and one complete small moulded bottle with an oval cross-section and a dark brown plastic/Bakelite screw top. This is also of later 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>-century date.

### **Slag**

A single fragment of black vesicular slag was recorded. This contains numerous fragments of bone(?) and may be fuel ash slag from a domestic stove rather than waste from an industrial process.

### **Stone**

Two fragments of grey slate roof tiles were recorded. These may be of north Devon or North Welsh origin.

### **Assessment**

The finds range in date from the medieval period to the 20<sup>th</sup> century but are mostly datable to the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and later. All the earlier finds are residual in later deposits although some are fresh in appearance.

### **Trench 1**

Finds come from four contexts in Trench 1: 103; 104, 106 and 114.

Those from 103 give a TPQ of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century or later. Those from 104 give a TPQ of early 19<sup>th</sup> century or later. Those from 106 give a TPQ of late 11<sup>th</sup> century and those from 114 give a TPQ of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century or later. Both contexts 104 and 114 are fills of the same pit, 115, which is therefore of later 19<sup>th</sup> century or later date and context 106 is a wall which cuts this pit, indicating that the medieval sherd is redeposited. Context 103 is a dump overlying these features and includes plastic and so is actually deposited in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **Trench 2**

The only finds from Trench 2 come from context 207 and provide a TPQ of late 18<sup>th</sup> century or later. Context 207 was the earliest excavated deposit in the trench.

### **Trench 3**

Three deposits in Trench 3 produced finds. Context 303 has a TPQ of early 19<sup>th</sup> century; context 308 has a TPQ of 20<sup>th</sup> century; and Context 312 has a TPQ of late 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Since context 303 is tarmac, overlying 308 this too cannot have been deposited until the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Context 312, however, is the earliest excavated deposit in the trench and produced one of the sherds of red earthenware dripping dish.

### **Trench 5**

Two contexts, 503 and 504, in Trench 5 produced finds, in each case giving a mid 19<sup>th</sup> century TPQ.

### **Retention**

Given the late date of many of these deposits and the mixed nature of the finds, it is arguable that much of the collection could be discarded. The medieval and post-medieval pottery should definitely be retained.

### **Further Work**

The medieval sherd is an unusual find in this area but the identification seems secure and no further work is therefore required. None of the other finds require further work.

### **Bibliography**

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## Appendix 1

Context	class	date	Form	Nosh	NoV	Description	Part	eves	Weight	diameter	Use	L	B	TH	Condition
103	POTTERY	19.2	DRAIN	1	1	SALTGLAZED	BS	0	39	0					
103	POTTERY	19.1	BOWL	1	1		BS	0	5	0					
103	POTTERY	18.2	JAR	2	1	STAMPED	R	0	53	0					
103	PLASTIC	19.2	JAR	1	1		BS	0	1	0					
103	PMGL	19.2	BOT	1	1		BS	0	11	0					
103	PMGL	18.2	WIND	2	1		BS	0	1	0					
103	STONE	ND	FLAT	2	2		BS	0	15	0					
103	CBM	19.2	WALT	1	1	GREY GLAZE	BS	0	0.5	0					
103	POTTERY	19.2	PLATE	1	1		R	0	0.5	0					
103	CBM	19.2	WALT	1	1	PRESS-MOULDED	BS	0	6	0					
104	POTTERY	18.2	CUP	1	1		R	0	0.5	0					
104	POTTERY	19.1	BOWL	1	1	MOCHA BAND	B	0	111	0					
104	POTTERY	19.1	BOWL	1	1	FLANGED RIM	R	0	17	0					
104	POTTERY	19.1	BOWL	1	1		BS	0	5	0					
104	POTTERY	18.2	BOWL	5	1	INDUSTRIAL SLIP	R	0	39	0					
104	POTTERY	18.2	-	1	1		B	0	1	0					
104	CBM	ND	BRICK	1	1		BS	0	3	0					
104	POTTERY	17.2	BOWL	1	1		B	0	22	0					
106	ANBN	-	-	2	2		BS	0	28	0					
106	POTTERY	11.2	JAR	1	1	HM	BS	0	20	0	SOOTED EXT				
114	ANBN	-	-	3	3		BS	0	56	0					

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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.net/potcat/pdfs/avac2008093.pdf>

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114	COPP		BUTTON	1	1	CIRCULAR DISK; TRACES OF SOLDER ON BACK	BS	0	1	20			3
114	COPP		SHEET	1	1	RECTANGULAR SHEET FOLDED IN HALF	BS	0	7	0	30	26-35	1.5
114	COPP		SHEET	1	1	IRREGULAR OFFCUT	BS	0	0.5	0	36	7	1.5
114	POTTERY	19.1	BLACKLEADING JAR	1	1		BS	0	8	0			
114	POTTERY	19.2	PLATE	1	1	OG ENAMELS	PROF	0	29	0			
114	POTTERY	17.2	-	1	1		BS	0	1	0			
114	POTTERY	17.2	BOWL	1	1		BS	0	13	0			ABR
114	POTTERY	17.2	JAR	1	1		BS	0	21	0			
114	POTTERY	19.1	BOWL	2	2		BS	0	4	0			
114	POTTERY	18.2	BOWL	1	1	INDUSTRIAL SLIP	BS	0	0.5	0			
114	CTP	18.2	PIPE	1	1	L18TH/19TH C	BS	0	0.5	0			
114	PMGL	18.2	TALL BOT	1	1		BS	0	8	0			
114	PMGL	17.2	WIND	1	1		BS	0	0.5	0			
114	CBM	ND	-	1	1		BS	0	4	0			
114	SLAG	ND	-	1	1	VESICULAR BLACK WITH LARGE ?BONE INCLUSIONS	BS	0	30	0			
114	POTTERY	18.2	DISH	1	1	WIDE-SPACED WHITE TRAILED LINES;ML18TH C	BS	0	9	0			
114	POTTERY	17.2	BOWL	1	1		BS	0	12	0			
114	POTTERY	17.2	BOWL	1	1		R	0	9	0			
114	POTTERY	17.2	POSS	1	1	BROWN SLIP INSIDE AND OUT	B	0	26	0			
114	POTTERY	18.2	CUP	1	1		BS	0	1	0			
114	POTTERY	18.2	PLATE	3	3	WILLOW PATTERN	BS	0	40	0			
114	POTTERY	18.2	CUP	1	1		H	0	3	0			
114	POTTERY	18.2	DISH	1	1		BS	0	3	0			
114	POTTERY	19.2	PLATE	2	2		B	0	11	0			
207	POTTERY	18.2	DISH	1	1	PIE CRUST EDGE;WIDE SLIP TRAILS;ML18TH C	R	0	4	0			
207	POTTERY	18.2	PLATE	1	1		BS	0	0.5	0			

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303	POTTERY	19.1	INKWELL	4	1		B;BS	0	94	0
303	POTTERY	18.2	BOWL	2	1	INDUSTRIAL SLIP	BS	0	10	0
303	POTTERY	18.2	BOWL	1	1	WILLOW PATTERN	BS	0	9	0
303	POTTERY	18.2	PLATE	1	1	WILLOW PATTERN	BS	0	3	0
308	POTTERY	19.2	JAR	1	1	FLUTED BODY	BS	0	1	0
308	POTTERY	17.2	DRIP	2	1		BS	0	39	0
308	CTP	19.1	PIPE	1	1	UNFOOTED BOWL;STAMPED STEM "...RN/..? 5"; 19TH C	BS	0	3	0
308	PLASTIC	20	BOTTLE TOP	1	1	BLACK THREADED	BS	0	2	0
308	PMGL	19.2	BOT	1	1	SMALL MOULDED OVAL-SECTIONED VESSEL	BS	0	38	0
308	PMGL	19.2	TALL BOT	1	1	MOULDED	BS	0	25	0
308	POTTERY	18.2	PLATE	1	1		R	0	8	0
308	POTTERY	18.2	PLATE	3	3	WILLOW PATTERN	BS	0	8	0
308	POTTERY	18.2	PLATE	1	1	CARTOUCHES CONTAINING GREEK NAMES "KPHTH" "MAKEΔONIA" "OΞΣΣAΛIA"	BS	0	24	0
308	POTTERY	18.2	PLATE	1	1		B	0	9	0
308	CBM	19.2	WALT	1	1	UNGLAZED	BS	0	41	0
312	POTTERY	17.2	DRIP	1	1		B	0	53	0
										SOOTED SIDE
503	POTTERY	19.1	BOWL	2	2		BS	0	8	0
503	POTTERY	18.2	BOWL	1	1		R	0	2	0
503	POTTERY	18.2	BOWL	1	1	INDUSTRIAL SLIP	BS	0	1	0
503	PMGL	18.2	TALL BOT	2	1		B	0	33	0
503	CBM	19.2	BRICK	1	1	FROGGED?	BS	0	10	0
503	CBM	ND	BRICK	1	1		BS	0	136	0
503	POTTERY	17.2	BOWL	1	1		BS	0	16	0
503	POTTERY	18.2	PLATE	1	1		BS	0	6	0
504	POTTERY	18.2	BOWL	1	1		BS	0	9	0
504	POTTERY	19.2	PLATE	1	1	LIGHT BLUE SPRIGGED	R	0	9	0

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504	POTTERY	19.2	JAR	1	1	MOULDED BASE ".AS."	B	0	25	0
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