

Hand-made pottery from Field 141, Catterick (A1L2B): An assessment

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Introduction

The pottery assemblage from Field 141 was examined by the author in July 1017. It consisted of just ten small sherds of hand-made pottery weighing 16 grams, details of which are summarised in Table 1.

The pottery

Ten sherds of pottery were recovered from context 7108 in Field 141. The sherds were classified using the system established by Didsbury (2009, unpublished, Didsbury and Vince 2011) and refined by the author (Cumberpatch 2016, unpublished, Cumberpatch and Leary 2016). All of the sherds were body sherds and it was not possible to determine the shape of the vessel or vessels from which they were derived. The H3 fabric is a slightly unusual one in that it includes both calcareous and non-calcareous (quartz) grains, the former somewhat coarser than the latter.

Discussion

The limited quantity of hand-made pottery from Field 141 precludes a detailed discussion of its significance although once considered in the wider context of later prehistoric and Roman activity in the field and neighbouring fields (as represented by Romano-British and other wheel-thrown wares), it may be possible to draw some broader conclusions from the data.

Further work

Unless specific questions are posed by others working on the data from Field 141, no further work is required on the pottery assemblage discussed in this report.

Archiving and curation

Many questions remain to be addressed regarding the later prehistoric and Roman period and later hand-made wares from eastern and northern Yorkshire and neighbouring areas. Although this assemblage is small in size it is too early to determine what contribution it might make to the resolution of the many issues surrounding the production, consumption and discard of pottery during these periods. For this reason the assemblage should be retained in its entirety in the appropriate museum or finds depository where it will be available for further study in the future.

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