

Hand-made pottery from Field 143, Catterick (A1L2B): An assessment

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Introduction

The pottery assemblage from Field 143 was examined by the author in July 1017. It consisted of one sherd of hand-made pottery weighing 36 grams, details of which are summarised in Table 1.

The pottery

Just one sherd of hand-made pottery, the base of a jar or similar vessel, was recovered from context 7043. The sherds were classified using the system established by Didsbury (2009, unpublished, Didsbury and Vince 2011) and refined by the author (Cumberpatch 2016, unpublished, Cumberpatch and Leary 2016). The sherd was identified as belonging to the H2 Fine quartz group although, as documented in the references cited above, this is one of the commoner types of fabric dating to the pre-Roman Iron Age and the Roman period and cannot be dated with any degree of accuracy.

Discussion

The limited quantity of hand-made pottery from Field 143 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 143, 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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