

Supplementary Information on Marked North Carolina Wares within the Trogdon-Squirrel Creek Assemblage

Coarse Earthenware

All of the coarse earthenwares recovered from the site were locally produced. Locally made earthenware vessels included jars, a pot, a chamber pot, milk pans, and dirt dishes. Recovered sherds comprised red to buff bodied wares that were lead glazed on the interior and/or exterior and accounted for 55 percent (n=2,123) of the locally made ceramic assemblage. One hundred and sixteen fragments of coarse earthenware were decorated, including 98 incised, stamped, or molded fragments and one slip-decorated fragment. The vast majority of the incised fragments come from a jar with a sine wave decoration incised around the shoulder that was lead glazed on the interior and exterior (Photo 1).



Photo 1: Locally Made Coarse Earthenware Jar Fragment with Sine Wave Decoration, Attributed to Nathan Dicks

In addition to the decorated fragments of coarse earthenware, there was also a single vessel with a maker's mark. The mark, which was on the shoulder of an interior and exterior lead glazed chamber pot, consists of "N B. DIX." that has been partially stamped and incised (Photo 2). The mark likely belongs to Nathan B. Dicks, a Quaker potter in Randolph County who lived between 1855 and 1918 and was producing pottery starting in the late-nineteenth century (Pugh and Minnock-Pugh 2010:78–83). The jar with the sine wave decoration around the shoulder is also attributed to this maker, based on the form and decoration, which was a common motif on Dicks' wares.



Photo 2: Locally Made Earthenware Chamber Pot with N.B. Dicks Mark.

Stoneware

Like the coarse earthenwares, all of the stonewares recovered from the site were locally produced. Stoneware, which comprised gray to dark brown bodied wares salt glazed on the interior and/or exterior, accounted for 45 percent (n=1,703) of the locally made ceramic assemblage. Two hundred and sixty-one fragments of stoneware were decorated with rouletting and incising. Rouletted decoration generally consisted of lines around the body and shoulder of vessels, but also included a number “3” on a vessel, denoting its capacity. Other incised decoration denoting the capacity of vessels included two vessels with “2” incised in them. Stoneware vessel forms recovered from the site included jugs, pots, butter churns, a mug/small tankard, a milk pan, and plates.

Four stoneware vessels in the assemblage were marked by their makers. Three of the marks were stamped initials and names, while one mark consisted of incised initials. The incised initials “WMNC” were located on the shoulder of a jug and likely represent the initials of William N. Craven, a Randolph County potter who lived from 1820 to 1903, and likely produced pottery in North Carolina from 1842 to 1857, when he moved to Missouri (Scarborough 2005:34–35) (Photo 3).

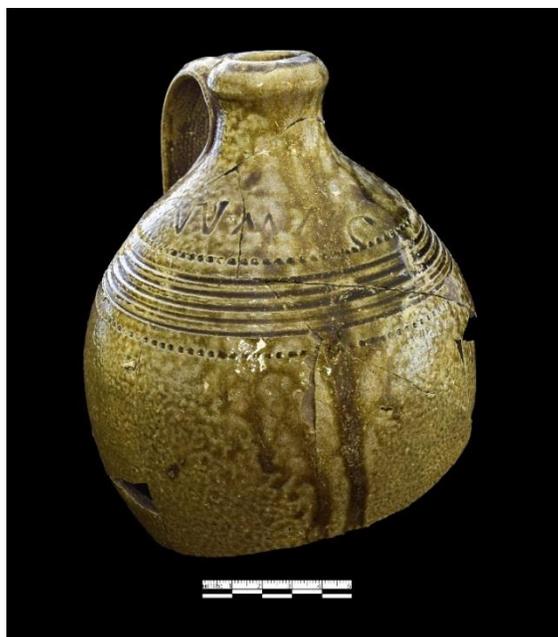


Photo 3: Locally Made Stoneware Jug with W.N. Craven Mark.

The remaining maker's marks were stamped and include two other members of the Craven family of potters. One stoneware jar was stamped with "E.S. CRAVEN" representing the pottery of Enoch S. Craven (Photo 4). Enoch Craven, who lived from 1810 to 1893, resided in Randolph County and likely started producing wares in the early-nineteenth century (Scarborough 2005:25–27). The final Craven potter represented in the assemblage was identified based upon a stamped "J.D. CRAV(EN)" fragment of a jug or jar (Photo 5). This stamp represents Jacob D. Craven, who lived from 1827 to 1895. Jacob started potting in Randolph County, but moved to Moore County around 1854, where he resided and potted until his death. The "J.D." for this mark is larger than the "Craven" indicating that it could be one of his earlier marks, possibly from when he still resided in Randolph County. The final stamped mark consists of a fragmentary "ODY" on a hollow vessel (Photo 6). Originally, this mark would have read "A.L. MOODY" for Alfred L. Moody. Moody, who lived from 1860 to 1924, was a Randolph County potter, who likely started producing wares in the late-nineteenth century (Zug 1986:442).



Photo 4: Locally Made Stoneware Pot with E.S. Craven Mark.



Photo 5: Locally Made Stoneware Jug or Pitcher with J.D. Craven and Capacity Mark



Photo 6: Locally Made Stoneware Vessel with A.L. Moody Mark.

One final stoneware vessel possessed decoration that was unique enough to assign a maker (Photo 7). This dark brown stoneware jug was incised with a large bird with small x-shaped marks in front

the of the bird's beak, resembling insects. Detail on the bird was finely executed, including feathers, and the vessel was marked with an incised and stylized "2" located above the bird, indicating that the jug held 2 gallons. This decoration is attributed to Chester Webster, who lived from 1799 to 1882. Webster was born into a prominent family of potters from Connecticut, but moved to Fayetteville, North Carolina to ply his trade around 1830. By 1840, he was living in Randolph County and producing pottery in the workshops of Solomon and B.Y. Craven (Scarborough 1984:35–40). Based upon the color and decoration on this vessel, it likely dates to Webster's early period of Randolph County production, in the 1840s or 1850s (Tommy Cranford, personal communication 2016).



Photo 7: Locally Made Stoneware Jug with Bird Decoration Attributed to Chester Webster.

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