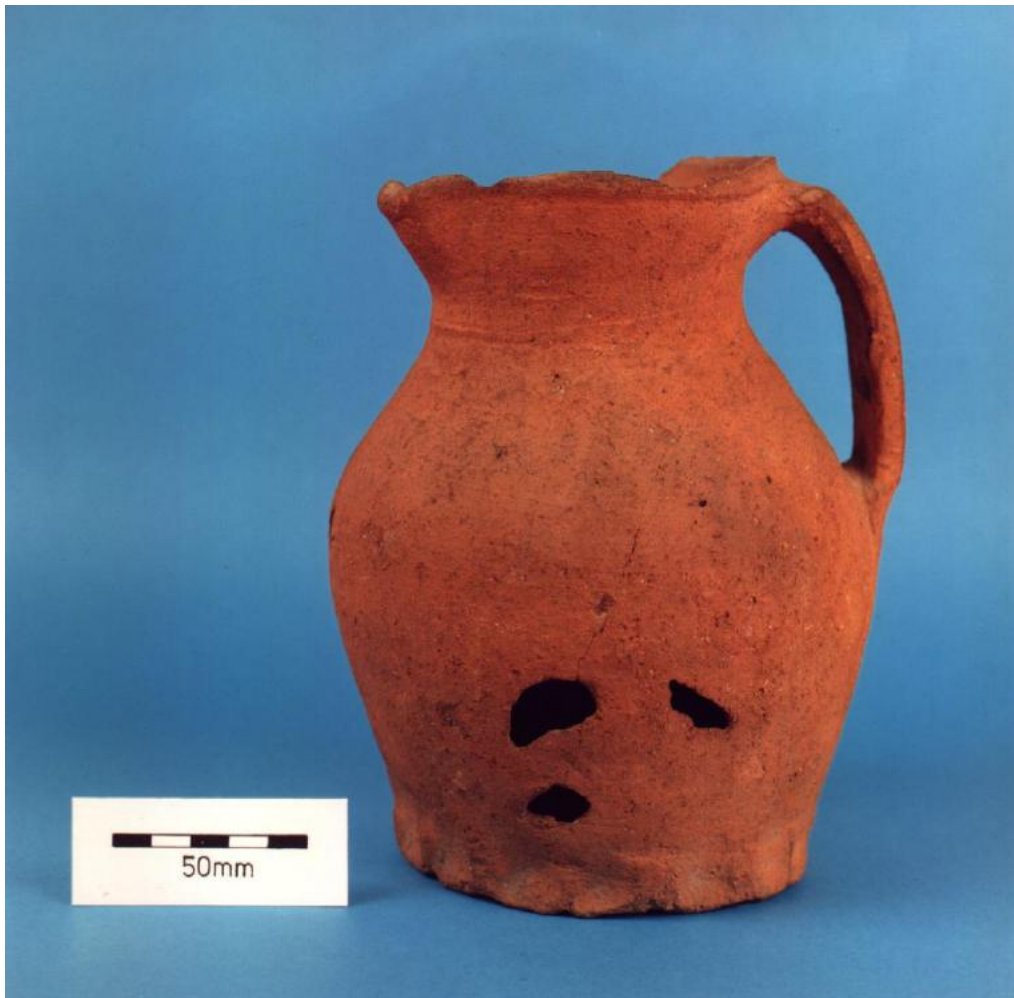


Manorfield Detectives.



Well, you don't need to think very hard to know what this is. Do you have any idea how old it might be though?

It was found in 1889, in the course of quarrying in Stoney Stanton. The Mountsorrel Granite Company donated it to the Leicestershire Museums Service in 1940.

The jug is virtually complete, which is quite astounding really when you discover how old it is. Do you notice the base of the jug; it's made by the potter pressing their thumbs to

squeeze the clay together. If we were able to look more closely, we might be able to see their thumb prints. It was made completely by hand.

The type of pottery is called Potters Marston Ware. Yes, there were kilns discovered in Potters Marston during World War 2, now the name of the village makes sense.

In fact, Reverend Burford, St. Michael's rector at the time of World War 2 was a member of the group when excavation on the site began in 1945. His daughter, Alison Burford, who was an archaeologist, also helped.

The village of Potters Marston is known as a 'deserted medieval village'. It was called Meristone in the Domesday survey of 1086. The first time the pottery prefix appears is at some point during the reign of Henry III (1216-1272) when the village is called Le Potteres Mersitone and later Potteresmerston.

The link below shows you the jug from Stoney Stanton and tells you a little more about it. You should now be able to work out roughly how old it is.

If you have access to some air drying clay, maybe you could try and make your own replica jug. If not, how about papier mache-using old paper and watered down glue. See what you can create.

http://leicsfieldworkers.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/pottery_id_sheet_10_potters_marston_ware.pdf

http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/henry_iii_king.shtml

https://kids.kiddle.co/Henry_III_of_England