

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain



Rob Perrin

Study Group for Roman Pottery
Occasional Paper No.1

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

ROB PERRIN

STUDY GROUP FOR ROMAN POTTERY OCCASIONAL PAPER NO. 1

Published by The Study Group for Roman Pottery (www.sgrp.org.uk)

Copyright © Individual author 2011

ISBN 978-0-9511130-2-8

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

This project was supported by: English Heritage

This volume is published with the aid of a grant from



ENGLISH HERITAGE



Page layout: Anne Irving, The Ceramic Consultancy, Sleaford, NG34 7JF

Front cover illustration: An experimental kiln firing by Beryl Hines at the Study Group for Roman Pottery annual conference, Nottingham 2010. Photograph © Chris Lydamore

Rear cover illustration: Pottery viewing and discussion at Cotswold Archaeology, Study Group for Roman Pottery annual conference, Worcester 2005. Photographer unknown

Printed in Great Britain

CONTENTS

Abbreviations	iii	Western Britain	32
Acknowledgements	iii	National	35
Summary	iii	THE RESEARCH STRATEGY	37
INTRODUCTION	1	Summary of the main issues and initiatives stemming from the questionnaire and survey	37
Aims and Objectives	1	The SGRP Research Strategy Objectives	38
Methodology	2	National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (NRFRC)	40
The SGRP Questionnaire	2	Kilns	41
The joint survey	2	Regional Roman fabric reference collections	43
Literature search	3	Pottery practice	44
Project Personnel	3	Museum collections	46
RESOURCE ASSESSMENT	4	Training initiatives	47
Personnel	4	Scientific initiatives	48
The Profession at Work	6	Review of sites mentioned in SGRP Regional/National Research Agenda	50
Current employment	6	Mortarium stamps	51
Working practices	7	Gillam typology	52
Scientific analysis	10	Influencing	53
Reference collections	11	Liaison	55
Research designs, research frameworks, and agenda	12	A Roman pottery taxonomy	56
Facilities	12	Correlation with other Research Agenda, Strategies, and Surveys	57
Costs, selection, and scope	13	Medieval Pottery Research Group	57
Constraints	14	Samian ware	57
Publication, dissemination, and outlets	15	Regional, county, period, and specialist Survey of Archaeological Specialists 2010–11	57
House styles, content, and integration	16	NEXT STEPS AND FUTURE WORK	59
Literature Search	18	REFERENCES	60
Comparison with other Roman pottery-related Surveys	18		
Fulford and Huddleston 1991	18		
Andrew Peachey 2005	19		
The Monteil and Rayner survey of samian ware specialists 2010	20		
The View of the Wider Profession in 2010	21		
Local government archaeologists	21		
University archaeological departments	21		
Archaeological journals	22		
Museums	22		
Contracting Archaeological Organisations	22		
RESEARCH AGENDA	23		
Progress towards updated resource assessments and Research Agenda	23		
Regional	23		
North of Britain	24		
Southern England	27		
East Midlands and East Anglia	29		

TABLES

Table 1 Responses to joint survey	2
Table 2 The major constraints to work on Roman pottery	15
Table 3 North of Britain research agenda themes (Evans and Wills 1997, SGRP 2002)	24
Table 4 Western Britain research agenda themes (Booth and Willis 1997, SGRP 2002)	32
Table 5 National research agenda (Willis 2004) required research infrastructure	35
Table 6 National research agenda (Willis 2004) issues and research objectives relating to major site types	35
Table 7 National research agenda (Willis 2004) issues and research objectives relating to themes and specialist areas in Roman pottery study	35
Table 8 SGRP Research Strategy objectives aims	39
Table 9 Correlation with other Research Agenda, Strategies, and Surveys	58

FIGURES

Figure 1 The range of methods by which respondents have learnt their pottery skills (6.1)	4
Figure 2 Respondents' work context for studying ceramics (1.1.2)	4
Figure 3 How long respondents have been in their current post (1.1.8)	5
Figure 4 Respondents' competence to report on specialist wares (1.1.11)	5
Figure 5 Other related skills reported by respondents (1.1.14)	5
Figure 6 Respondents' experience of applying for grant funding for research (1.1.17)	5
Figure 7 Respondents' involvement in outreach (6.3)	6
Figure 8 Respondents' current employment (1.1.3)	6
Figure 9 Time spent working on pottery and in other role(s) (1.1.4)	6
Figure 10 How many hours a week respondents work on Roman pottery (1.1.5)	7

Figure 11 Frequency with which respondents work on pottery from an area for which their knowledge is limited (1.1.10)	7
Figure 12 Other pottery and/or finds which respondents also study (1.1.6)	7
Figure 13 Routine opportunities to discuss the site with the site director (3.1.3)	8
Figure 14 Means of communication with other pottery specialists (6.2)	8
Figure 15 Assistance in processing pottery, production of final report, and archiving (2.1.7)	10
Figure 16 Specialists routinely consulted by respondents (2.3.1)	10
Figure 17 Processing carried out by respondents on behalf of other specialists (2.3.4)	10
Figure 18 Basis of pottery reference collections reported by respondents (2.2.1)	11
Figure 19 Content of reference collections reported by respondents (2.2.3)	11
Figure 20 Types of research designs and frameworks available for consultation (3.2.1)	12
Figure 21 Equipment and facilities available to respondents during processing and publication (2.4.1)	12
Figure 22 Criteria used by respondents for selecting which material should be fully analysed (4.1.1)	13
Figure 23 Criteria used for deciding the form and extent of the analysis of pottery (4.1.2)	13
Figure 24 Criteria used by respondents to decide which pottery should be illustrated (4.1.3)	13
Figure 25 Number of sites which warranted more study than respondents were able to carry out (1.2.6)	14
Figure 26 Reasons the site(s) warranted more study than respondents were able to carry out (1.2.7)	14
Figure 27 Perception of proportion of sites worked on which have progressed/will progress to publication (1.2.8)	15
Figure 28 Perception of proportion of site reports which have been/will be deposited with the relevant HER (1.2.5)	15
Figure 29 Perception of where sites analysed by respondents have been/will be published (1.2.9)	16
Figure 30 Published format of reports recently completed by respondents (5.7)	16
Figure 31 Wider profession awareness	21

ABBREVIATIONS

AAF	Archaeology Archives Forum
ADS	Archaeology Data Service
AHRC	Arts and Humanities Research Council
AIP	Archaeological Investigations Project [http://csweb.bournemouth.ac.uk/aip/aipintro.htm]
ALGAO	Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
BAR	British Archaeological Reports
CAO	Contracting Archaeological Organisations
CBA	Council for British Archaeology
cbm	Ceramic building material
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
EAA	East Anglian Archaeology
EH	English Heritage
FAME	Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
JRPS	Journal of Roman Pottery Studies
MPRG	Medieval Pottery Research Group
NERC	National Environment Research Council
NRFC	National Roman Fabric Reference Collection
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations
PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
PD	Project Design
RD	Research Design
RRT	Roman Research Trust
SGRP	Study Group for Roman Pottery
SMA	Society of Museum Archaeologists
SWG	Samian Working Group
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many individuals and institutions contributed to the completion of this document. Thanks are due to the SGRP Steering Group and all those SGRP members who returned the questionnaire, attended the two regional workshops, and provided feedback. I would also like to thank those who responded to the online joint survey. I am especially grateful to Anne Irving (MPRG) for her help and support, particularly in organising the joint survey, helping with the SGRP wiki website and for formatting the research strategy document for publication. I am grateful to Nicole Orford of Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery, and Fiona McClean and Sandra Bond of University College, London for their assistance with the two regional workshops. Kathryn Whittington assisted with publicising the project through the IfA. Kathy Perrin of English Heritage provided invaluable guidance throughout the project. Sarah Jennings of English Heritage was instrumental in the setting up of the project but, sadly, was unable to see it through to completion. The project and its publication were funded by English Heritage, with a small contribution from Historic Scotland; thanks go to Noel Fojut of that organisation. Kath Buxton was the English Heritage project assurance officer. Rachel Edwards carried out a copy edit.

SUMMARY

The Research Strategy sets out Roman pottery sector-driven priorities for the next five years, with a view to informing and influencing all archaeologists, particularly those involved in the development of local, regional, and national research programmes, period-specific strategies and planning guidance at local authority and national level. The report comprises three sections: a *Resource Assessment* of those involved in Roman pottery studies and a survey of the wider archaeological profession with regard to Roman pottery studies, a *Research Agenda*, including updated assessments of the published and unpublished regional and national Roman pottery resource, and a *Research Strategy*.

INTRODUCTION

The *Research Frameworks for the Study of Roman Pottery* (Willis 1997a), produced by the SGRP following two years of work by selected members of the Group, contained sections entitled: 'The National Research Framework' (Willis 1997b), 'Research Framework for the Study of Roman pottery in the North of Britain' (Evans & Willis 1997), 'Research Framework for the Study of Roman pottery in Southern England' (Huson 1997), 'A Research Design for the Study of Roman pottery in the East Midlands and East Anglia' (Martin & Wallace 1997) and 'Research Framework for the Study of Roman pottery in Western Britain' (Booth & Willis 1997). A few changes, not in all cases by the original authors/contributors, were made to the sections in c 2002 (SGRP 2002) prior to the document being posted on the Group's website (SGRP.org.uk) and the national section was further updated later by Steve Willis, with contributions from four other SGRP members (Willis 2004). The 2004 update added references to publications, studies, and research since 1997, revised many sections, added some new sections, and updated much of the rest. The arrangement of the sections varies considerably, however, and none now conform fully to the concept of a research framework which, as currently defined by English Heritage (EH), should consist of three separate elements:

- A resource assessment, which is a summary of what is currently known about the resource in question, in this case the discipline of Roman pottery studies
- A research agenda, which identifies the gaps in current understanding and sets out an un-prioritised wish list of what we want to know
- A research strategy, which sets out a prioritised action plan for the delivery of some of those objectives over a set time period

All the existing SGRP documents have resource assessments and agenda elements in varying forms, but these are not set out in clear, separate sections. None of them, however, contain a research strategy which sets out priorities and the mechanisms whereby these would be taken forward. The absence of such a strategy was noted as a crucial omission at the time the original documents were submitted to English Heritage. In July 2009 English Heritage agreed to

provide funding to the SGRP for the compilation of an updated Research Framework and Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain which would contain the all-important missing Research Strategy.

A similar parallel project for medieval pottery was commissioned by EH. This has since been published (Irving 2011) and includes the results from the joint survey of sectors of the wider profession which were carried out.

This document, the SGRP questionnaire and the joint survey, and the responses to them, together with the results of the literature search will be placed on the SGRP website (SGRP.org.uk).

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The project is primarily concerned with Roman pottery studies but takes account of, and is linked to, other relevant research agenda and strategies, especially in respect of shared aims and objectives. It includes work undertaken in Scotland and Wales. The aims are devised to fit the programme of heritage and wider priorities set by English Heritage, Cadw, and Historic Scotland, as well as to complement other Regional and Artefact Frameworks.

The project had three main aims:

- To produce an updated assessment of the discipline of Roman pottery studies.
- To update the current resource assessments and research agenda.
- To produce a strategy, agreed by the sector and containing clear, firm priorities, which would be reviewed annually and refreshed on a five-year basis.

The project objectives were:

- To undertake an updated assessment of the current status of the discipline of Roman pottery studies comprising:
The human resource: including the numbers of people involved, work and specialist areas, age

range, means of employment, location, infrastructure.

Training and support: identifying skills lacunae and needs, courses, local or regional research groups.

Source material: including the availability and accessibility of local reference collections, published material and grey literature, and archives.

Analysis and reporting methodologies: identifying differing approaches and standards.

Supporting analysis: including fabric analysis, residue analysis and statistical analysis.

- To compile updated resource assessments and research agenda
- Assessing achievements since the last research agenda and identifying areas in the previous research agenda not addressed together with new areas or developments.
- To produce a research strategy in consultation with the wider discipline, identifying prioritised programmes and projects within the research agenda and possible resources and funding streams.

METHODOLOGY

The information used to compile the assessment of the discipline of Roman pottery studies, the updated resource assessments and research agenda and the research strategy was obtained from responses to a questionnaire sent to the SGRP membership and a survey of the wider profession (conducted jointly with the MPRG), from a rapid search of relevant literature published in the last ten years, from workshops held in Peterborough and London, from a presentation at the 2010 SGRP annual conference, and from responses to information posted on the SGRP website and on an online interactive discussion forum (wikispace).

The information received has allowed a reassessment of the discipline of Roman pottery studies, an update of the current resource assessments and research agenda, and the production of a research strategy.

The SGRP Questionnaire

A questionnaire was circulated to current SGRP members, the results of which provided information

on the numbers of people involved in Roman pottery studies, their employment status, age range, location, infrastructure and skill areas, current Roman pottery initiatives, studies and research, potential skills lacunae and shortages, training provision and needs, the number of existing reference collections and where they are located, who is nominated to curate them, whether they are actively updated and curated in practice and how easy they are to use.

The questionnaire was sent out in September 2009 by e-mail and post to the then 179 members of the Study Group. A short deadline for responses was originally given but the deadline was extended until the end of 2009 because of the initial slow pace of responses.

Fifty-eight completed or partially-completed questionnaires were returned and a further 30 members indicated that they could not complete the questionnaire in a meaningful fashion for various reasons.

The joint survey

It was agreed with the MPRG that the wider archaeological profession should be consulted on aspects relating to pottery studies. Accordingly, five sectors were identified – local government archaeologists, university archaeological departments, archaeological journals, museums, and contracting archaeological organisations (CAOs). Separate online surveys were set up by the MPRG in 2010 containing a range of questions, devised by the SGRP and MPRG and specific to each sector being consulted (Irving 2011, 2-3). A limited time-frame was initially given for responses, but was extended for museums, following an initial problem with the publicising of the survey:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s/255743/local-government-ceramic-survey>
<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s/255807/university-ceramic-survey>
<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s/255819/museum-ceramic-survey>
<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s/255849/contracting-unit-ceramic-survey>
<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s/255853/journal-ceramic-survey>

The number of responses varied as follows:

Local government archaeologists	30
University archaeological departments	10
Archaeological journals	13
Museums	33
Contracting Archaeological Organisations	10

Table 1 Responses to the joint survey

Literature Search

A series of visits were made to the libraries of the Society of Antiquaries of London and English Heritage at Fort Cumberland, Portsmouth. All of the available national and regional journals, monographs, research series, and other reports published in the last ten years were examined, together with a number of online journals or publications. A list of publications has been compiled and the contribution they make to the existing regional and national agenda has been assessed. Details of the publications will be placed on the SGRP website (SGRP.org.uk).

PROJECT PERSONNEL

The project was overseen by a Steering Group of the SGRP who also provided academic overview and advice. A Project Executive monitored the conduct of the project and the delivery of outcomes on behalf of the SGRP. The bulk of the project work was undertaken on behalf of the group by a consultant, who also provided progress reports for the SGRP and English Heritage. Members of the SGRP were kept informed through the Group's Newsletter and website, and an interactive, online discussion forum which was created (*SGRPORG.wikispaces.com*).

Consultant: Rob Perrin

SGRP Project Executive: Roberta Tomber

Steering Group: Ted Connell, Jane Evans, Louisa Hammersley, Ruth Leary, Gwladys Monteil, Jude Plouviez, Louise Rayner, Steve Willis

English Heritage project assurance officer: Kath Buxton

RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

PERSONNEL

The information in this section is based on the results of the questionnaire sent to SGRP members and the responses to the surveys of the wider profession carried out in conjunction with the MPRG. The totals in some of the graphs (given in brackets after the chart titles) are greater than the number of returned questionnaires because respondents were often able to tick more than one answer. The relevant questionnaire number is given in each chart caption.

BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

The majority of those who responded have been working on Roman pottery, not necessarily all the time or full time, for over five years. Of those who gave a more precise figure, two have been working for between five and 10 years, 10 between 10 and 20 years, 12 between 20 and 30 years, 11 between 30 and 40 years and seven over 40 years. The highest was 50 years. Almost 50 of those who responded still expect to be involved in five years, though some of these, however, hope to be researching rather than being a contractor by this stage. While the results are encouraging in the short term, concerns remain about the number of experienced Roman pottery researchers who will be practicing in the longer term.

The manner in which researchers gained their pottery analysis skills varies with over half being self-taught in some capacity. Most of those who possessed a degree noted that it was in fact postgraduate study. Learning on-the-job often involved help and guidance from other pottery researchers, either on a regular basis, or through regional and national conferences, extra-mural courses or even on excavations. Those involved in the study of specialist wares clearly received a lot of help and guidance from other specialists. Some respondents queried whether any currently available degree course would provide the necessary skills.

How skills learned (126)

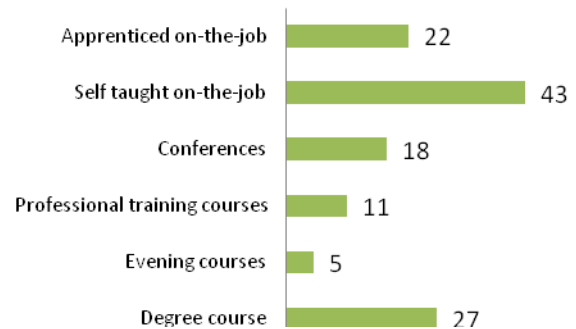


Figure 1 The range of methods by which respondents have learnt their pottery skills (6.1)

Most of those who responded consider that they work in a professional capacity. This covers working roles other than ceramics, such as university lecturer, museum staff, editorial, and research. Interestingly, some who are not paid for pottery work considered that this automatically means they are amateurs. Those people who work in CAOs, universities, museums, and local government often have the opportunity to take on different or multiple roles.

Work status (62)

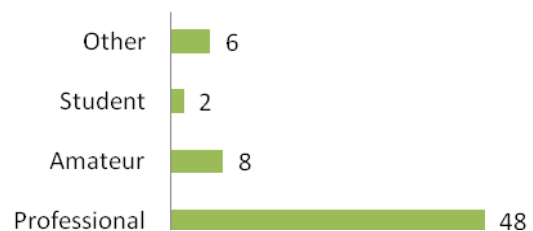


Figure 2 Respondents' work context for studying ceramics (1.1.2)

The large number of respondents who have been in their present position for over five years appears to indicate a certain degree of stability or permanency, whether employed or freelance. Promotion, however, is often only possible with a change of roles.

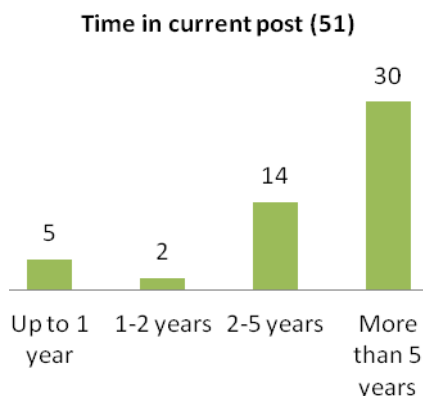


Figure 3 How long respondents have been in their current post (1.1.8)

A number of researchers other than the known specialists regularly deal with samian ware, mortaria, and amphorae. In terms of samian, a number of respondents feel competent to deal with plain wares, but still feel the need to consult a specialist on decorated wares and stamps. There is a belief that the publication of the volumes on samian stamps (several already published - Hartley *et al* 2008a, 2008b, 2008c, 2009a, 2009b, 2010, 2011) will be of great assistance, although help will always be required with the reading of some stamps. Similarly, a number of respondents feel able to recognise the main amphora forms and it is often possible to identify stamps, but specialist advice is still sought regularly. The identification of mortaria remains the area where it is usual to seek information from a specialist, especially regarding stamps. Other respondents noted competence to report on other specific wares, namely Severn Valley ware, Lower Nene Valley ware, Gallo-Belgic wares and imported fine wares. Other areas on which people are consulted are Hadham Ware, fabric series where they exist, and cbm.

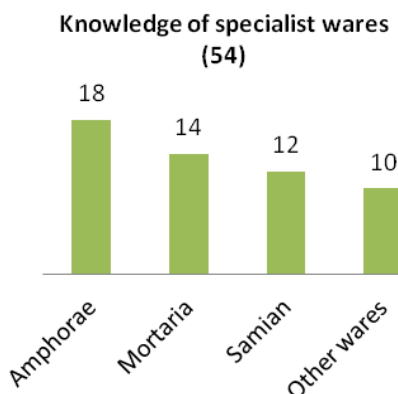


Figure 4 Respondents' competence to report on specialist wares (1.1.11)

Many pottery researchers have additional archaeology and pottery-related skills. In addition to the main categories, some expertise/knowledge was noted for databases, desk-top publishing, copy editing, proof reading, exhibitions, outreach, firing technology, and excavation. No-one had any practical experience of residue analysis.

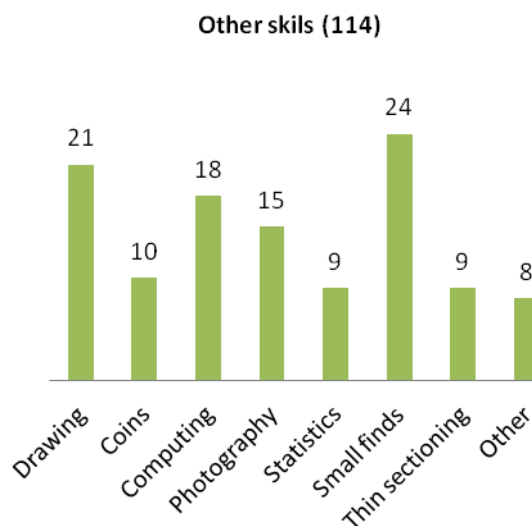


Figure 5 Other related skills reported by respondents (1.1.14)

The number with direct experience of grant applications was quite low, though there is at least some experience within the Group in dealing with English Heritage, the Roman Research Trust, the Roman Society, the British Academy, the Leverhulme Trust, the Wellcome Trust, the British School at Rome, the Society of Antiquaries of London, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Culture bids, as well as some local societies.

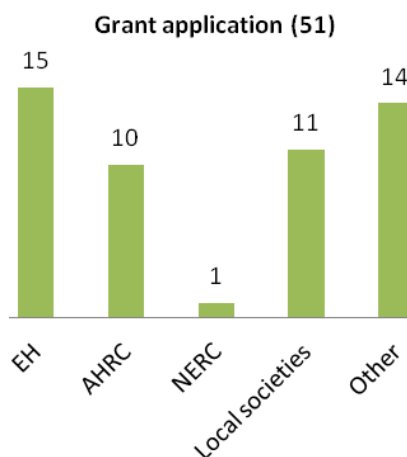


Figure 6 Respondents' experience of applying for grant funding for research (1.1.17)

SGRP members are involved in a wide range of activities which might be termed ‘outreach’. In the ‘other’ category here are activities for children/families and adults via open days/road shows/workshops, working with volunteers, student/school placements, occasional events at museums, libraries, CAOs, and excavations and training excavations.



Figure 7 Respondents’ involvement in outreach (6.3)

THE PROFESSION AT WORK

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

The responses highlight the increasing number of multiple roles in terms of workplace, work undertaken, and time spent on pottery. As regards workplace, some respondents, for example, are working for CAOs which are university based, some in both a freelance and employed capacity, some for a museum or local authority, some either paid or unpaid, or both, and some as a volunteer. What is clear is that, compared with the situation in 1989 (Fulford and Huddleston 1991), fewer people are now employed by CAOs than are working as freelance or in another capacity.

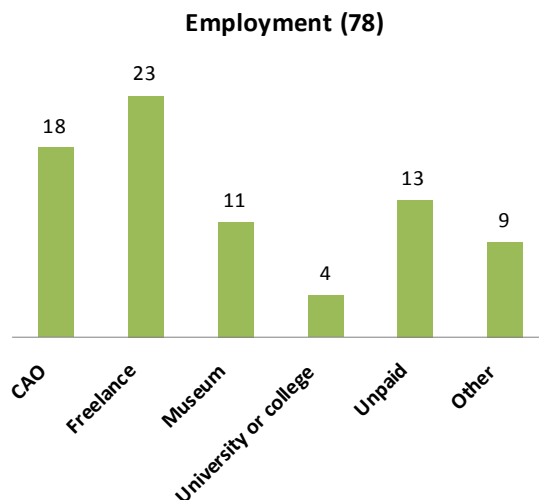


Figure 8 Respondents’ current employment (1.1.3)

In terms of principal job specification and the ratio of time spent on pottery, a number are also project or post-excavation managers or lecturers/speakers, while others are involved in various aspects of museum work. Other roles listed are site director, geophysical survey, councillor, magistrate, housewife, and retired. The effect of these multiple roles is that the hours worked on pottery varied from none to full-time, depending on what individuals are required to do, or the nature of a specific project.

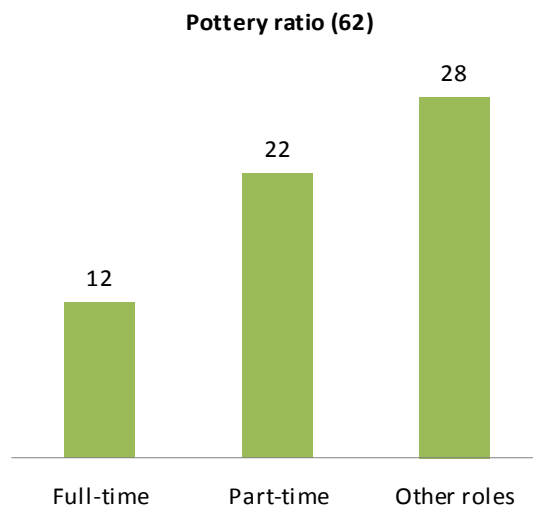


Figure 9 Time spent working on pottery and in other role(s) (1.1.4)

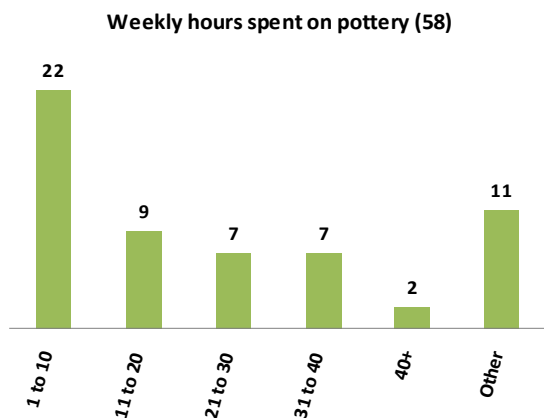


Figure 10 How many hours a week respondents work on Roman pottery (1.1.5)

The majority of the respondents work on Roman-period pottery with Iron Age pottery being the most common additional area. A few also handle medieval and/or post-medieval pottery from time to time. Specialists dealing with samian ware, mortaria and amphorae work on material from all over the country. The only town which is worked on with some degree of isolation is London; otherwise work on particular towns takes place in tandem with other sites in their region. Most people work on assemblages from more than one region, although these are often adjacent, eg East Anglia and East Midlands. The nature of commercial archaeology, however, means that more Roman pottery researchers, either employed by CAOs, or working freelance on assemblages excavated by them, are increasingly working on pottery, some unfamiliar, from many different parts of the country. Some respondents work occasionally on pottery from abroad. There are less Roman sites in Scotland and Wales and, consequently, fewer researchers working on assemblages from them.

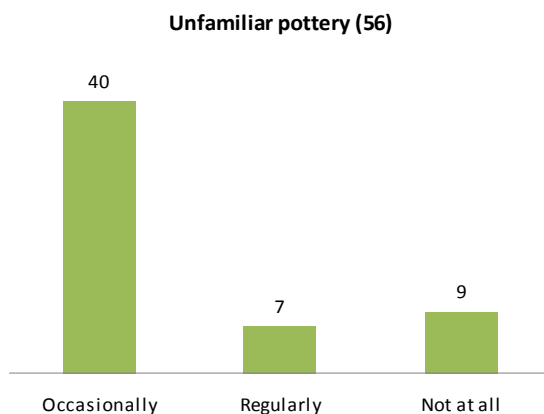


Figure 11 Frequency with which respondents work on pottery from an area for which their knowledge is limited (1.1.10)

In terms of other materials, it is probably to be expected that many Roman pottery researchers also work on Roman cbm. Perhaps more surprising is the number that work on other finds. The commonest category here is small finds, again mainly Roman, which occasionally includes glass and coins and, more rarely, fired clay/daub, briquetage, clay pipes, flint, lithics, and organic finds. Museum-based staff often deal with a wide range of materials, though not necessarily at a specialist level.

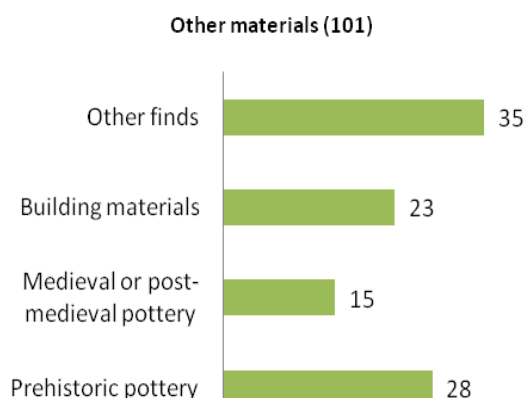


Figure 12 Other pottery and/or finds which respondents also study (1.1.6)

WORKING PRACTICES

Project liaison and communication

The results in terms of consultation within a project team, when a project design/written scheme of investigation (PD/WSI) is being compiled for a project likely to involve Roman pottery, show differing practices in CAOs and in the treatment of consultants. Responses also suggest that some project managers will put in estimates based on previous projects for which specialists were consulted while others are trying to take measures to improve liaison between finds and site staff. Many PDs/WSIs contain standard clauses on methodology etc. for the processing and analysis of pottery and finds.

Most pottery researchers get to discuss the site with the site director at some point, though the fact that there are one 'never' and two 'rarely' responses is a matter of concern. The relatively high number of respondents who say that there is liaison during fieldwork and before processing is encouraging, but the number indicating no discussion at tender stage and before fieldwork is disappointing. Clearly, the main interaction stage is during processing, which is perhaps to be expected. Respondents note that the level and stages of liaison will often depend on the

type and size of the site and the duration of the fieldwork, and that other finds colleagues might act on their behalf. Liaison also depends on the excavators, whose attitude varies from interested to unapproachable and completely indifferent. Some researchers note that, having provided information at assessment stage, they do not always know if there is any subsequent analysis.

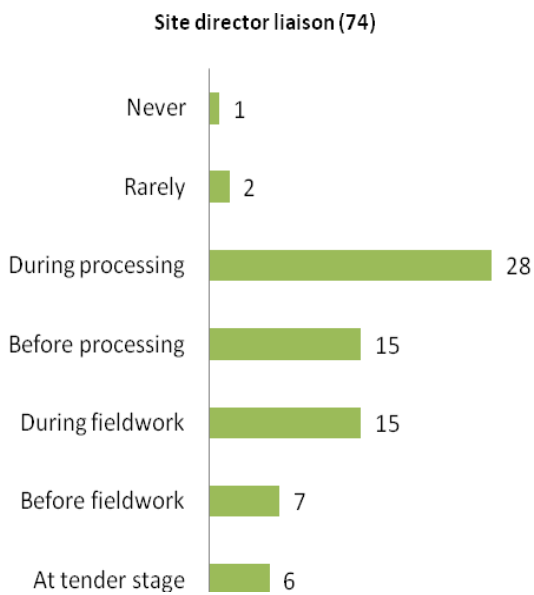


Figure 13 Routine opportunities to discuss the site with the site director (3.1.3)

The receipt of adequate information about the site and its phasing has long been an area of frustration and contention for pottery researchers. The results show that the incidences where the receipt of inadequate or no information are, thankfully, relatively small; though there should, of course, be none at all. Information is mainly provided before or during processing, though the responses suggest that it sometimes has to be requested, and often several times. The amount and type of information provided also varies considerably, with background information and information on previous work in the area sometimes being difficult to obtain. The amount and type of information provided also varies depending on the type and size of the site. Some site directors are worse than others, even where they work for the same unit which should, in theory, have an overall standard. Consultants also seem to fare worse than in-house researchers, no doubt because they are based at a different location.

The responses show that it is the norm for various specialists involved in the project to liaise, but it is a concern that it is not standard procedure in all workplaces. The other specialists with whom liaison

takes place are those who deal with samian, mortaria, amphorae, medieval pottery, finds, animal and human bone, environmental remains, and coins. It is clearly easier where other specialists are in-house, though a project manager should ensure that all of the necessary liaison can and does take place; specialists should also make it clear with whom they wish/need to liaise. It is noted that some of the larger-scale projects have meetings of specialists. Respondents who work in CAOs will usually communicate daily with in-house colleagues. The frequency of communication with specialists and with, or by, consultants depends on what projects are current, and contacts can vary from many in one day to just a few over a year. Regional, national and specialist group meetings are seen as being extremely important in permitting and stimulating communication. Email is becoming the key medium for general communication.

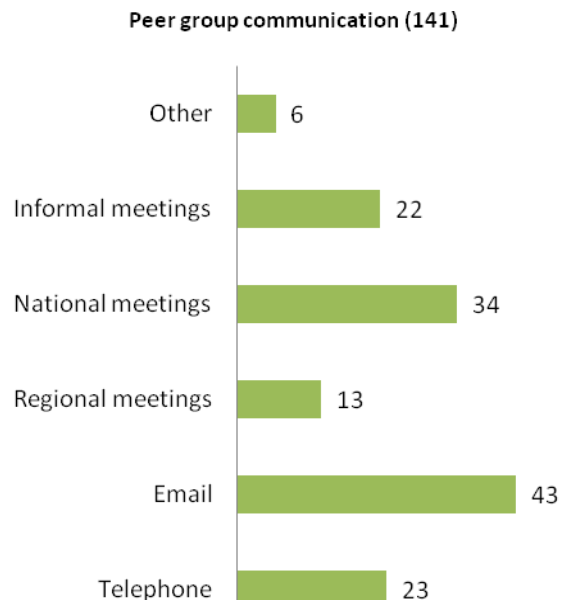


Figure 14 Means of communication with other pottery specialists (6.2)

Recording and analysis

The majority of respondents try to follow the SGRP guidelines (Darling 1994, 2004) where possible, though some people now record in a sufficiently different way as to feel that they do not follow the guidelines. The main reason for this is that, in commercial archaeology, usually as a result of funding and/or other circumstances, the project stages are not always so clearly separated or defined as in the guidelines and can vary from project to project. For example, a small project might go straight into full analysis after a basic assessment and, with a large site,

more information might be recorded at the primary site data stage allowing this to form a basic ceramic archive from which selected key groups will be studied in more detail. Variations in recording and analysis approaches often reflect the need to reduce double-handling. Pottery researchers will often, therefore, fully quantify at assessment stage groups which are clearly significant, rather than returning to them to add extra data at a later stage. The selection of sherds for the catalogue, for illustration and for analysis etc. may also take place at this stage. Other variations at the primary site data stage were recording weight as well as count, or a presence/absence record only. At ceramic archive stage, most respondents recorded sherd count, weight, and estimated vessel equivalents (EVEs), though some used sherd count only for clearly residual layers and others also estimated vessel numbers, or minimum numbers of vessels (MNVs). Implicit in the responses is that the guidelines may require amendment to reflect current practice.

While some respondents commented on the drawbacks of quantification *per se*, the need for some form of quantification is generally accepted, as is the need for a standardised approach. The recording of sherd count and weight, together with some information on vessel forms, is strongly advocated at assessment stage. There are differing opinions over whether simple presence/absence of forms is sufficient; some advocate an approximation of numbers of each (usually based on rims). Similarly, some people advocate notation of other attributes at assessment stage and others believe that EVEs might as well be recorded as it does not take much more time.

There is wide consensus that specialist wares, especially samian, should be recorded in the same way as other wares so that the data is compatible and a full picture can be obtained. The main objection to this is that the nature of samian ware, and to a lesser extent mortaria and amphorae, enables a fairly accurate estimate of minimum numbers of vessels to be calculated, and this is seen as a much more valid quantification measure (though some feel it is too subjective or a poor method). It is also recognised that the additional quantification that can be carried out on specialist wares can add to the overall picture and to refinement of dating (eg numbers of samian bowls by certain workshops). The main drawback of minimum numbers of vessels is that this is difficult to record for the majority of coarsewares in an assemblage, other than by rims and bases, and the measure is therefore very subjective.

The recording of EVEs is the subject of debate with considerable differences of opinion. Some people are

strongly in favour, while others feel they are not as useful or valid as argued. Some people advocate the recording of base as well as rim EVEs and other attributes which were suggested are average weights, diameters and vessel thickness. It was noted that recording estimated vessel numbers or MNVs can be very useful, especially when there is not the time to record EVEs. It is generally recognised that more time should perhaps be spent on locating cross-joins from different contexts but time and space are seen as the main constraints to this; it is obviously easier with certain fabrics and forms, or when there are unusual characteristics.

The impression, backed up by published reports, is that it is common for type series to be compiled for (usually) fabrics and (sometimes) forms, especially with larger assemblages from bigger or major sites or where the assemblage warrants it/them (see also discussion of reference collections below, pp 11-12). With both CAOs and consultants, these are often in-house or personal systems which allow the recording of fabrics and forms at a generic level, thus precluding the need to construct new free-standing series for each site. Similarly, existing type series for an area or region can form the basis for a new site and form series are also often related to published material. Type series are also a longer-term goal for some sites/areas. The exceptions are generally where most fabrics/vessels can be paralleled in published works, though financial constraints and the attitude of project managers and editors can also seemingly be an occasional hindrance or bar. All respondents recorded the more well-known regional, traded and imported wares in the same way, following the nomenclature in established corpora and other substantial publications (though the precise codes may vary). Encouragingly, almost all the respondents cross-reference the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (NRFRC). There is less consistency with regard to other local and regional wares.

In terms of assistance, volunteers or local non-professionals undertake a noticeable proportion of pottery work carried out by local societies and museums, but are less commonly used in commercial archaeology. The implied number of people involved in pottery through work experience (including workplace bursaries) or as 'apprentices' is encouraging, although many of the former are school-based students who do not maintain any interest in the subject. The involvement of other specialists is to be expected as is, unfortunately, the low level of project managers. Listed as 'others' providing assistance were editors, students, and finds assistants.

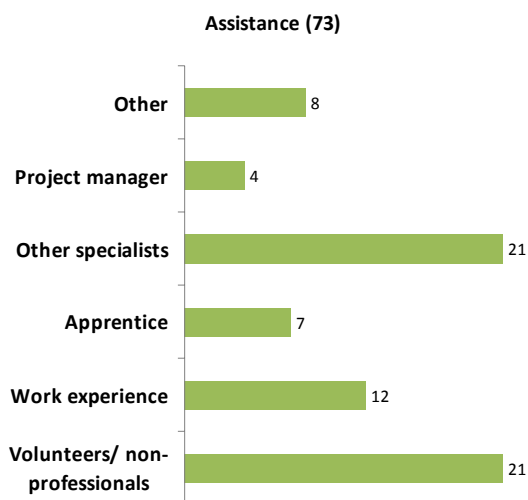


Figure 15 Assistance in processing pottery, production of final report, and archiving (2.1.7)

Specialists

The results confirm that a number of respondents feel competent to deal with plain samian, but still feel the need to consult a specialist on decorated wares and stamps. Similarly, with mortaria, the specialist is primarily consulted for stamps. The numbers suggest that more people feel competent to deal with amphorae. The scientific consultations are for analyses when required by the material, providing funding is available. The ‘other’ category included others who could provide advice, and an epigraphist.

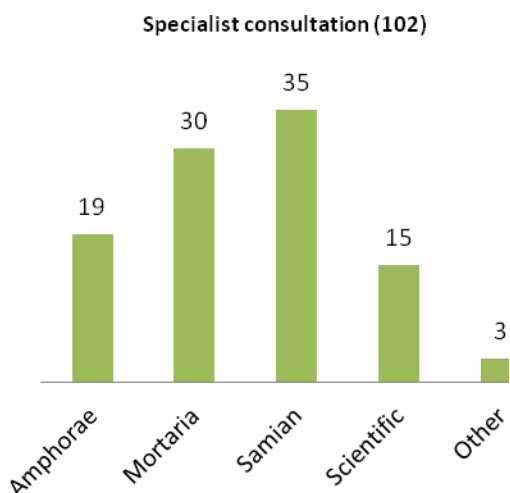


Figure 16 Specialists routinely consulted by respondents (2.3.1)

It is common for only a proportion of an assemblage to be sent to the specialist. The main reasons for this appear to be the nature of the site, the value of the assemblage, funding, and in-house competence in

dealing with some of the assemblage. Key contexts or pottery groups are often the main reason for selection, as well as pieces that present particular issues in identification. The presence of a graffito is another criterion. All the specialist material can be sent, however, if the specialist was not involved in the assessment stage. A high number of respondents quantify material on behalf of the specialist. The main reason for this is to ensure that the material is quantified in the same way as the rest of the assemblage. The need to do this is highlighted elsewhere in the questionnaire responses. It is possible that the number of researchers carrying out stamp rubbing will increase as the publication of scanned rubbings supersedes conventional illustration.

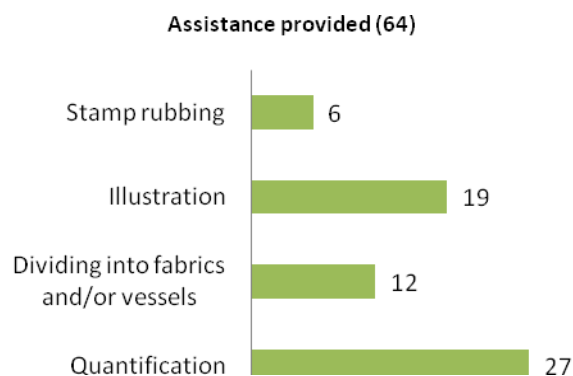


Figure 17 Processing carried out by respondents on behalf of other specialists (2.3.4)

Overall, there does not appear to be a major problem with specialist availability, other than for samian stamps. Otherwise, the main problem is a specialist not being able to carry out the work in the desired timescale. Several respondents did, however, think that there is likely to be shortage of capacity in the future. Archaeological groups or organisations (often amateur or local societies) which carry out excavations, but which have no funds, can sometimes find it difficult to find a specialist willing to work for free.

SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS

The main scientific technique mentioned in the responses was thin sectioning. Occasionally, as with Worcester, a larger programme of thin sectioning has been carried out, but, generally, thin sectioning has only been used rarely. Kiln sites, specific wares, oddities, or unusual fabrics appear to be the main targets for isolated thin sectioning, and the availability of resources is a major hindrance. There were individual examples of chemical analysis, X-Ray

Fluorescence (XRF) and inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICPMS) having been used. Only one respondent had had samples analysed for lipid content, unfortunately unsuccessfully. Otherwise, a limited amount of analysis of visible residues has taken place. There is a general consensus that it is difficult to procure residue analysis as part of a developer-funded project. It is also noted as being expensive and one comment suggested that there is currently no commercial provision of analysis of sufficient quality.

Thin sectioning has been/is used quite extensively to underpin reference collections, but some respondents felt that between only 10% and 15% of the type series are underpinned by fabric analysis. It is also apparent that new additions to a type series may not have had their fabrics analysed in the same way or at all. Specialist wares such as amphorae tend to have been subjected to far more routine fabric analysis. Some of the responses noted that the analysis is often based on microscopic examination at x20 only.

REFERENCE COLLECTIONS

The number of type series is encouraging in terms of a base on which to build, although the variety of subject matter indicates a lack of a standardised approach. There is also variation within areas or regions, and some type series are for fabric only. The creation of type series is an aim of many respondents where this is feasible; but it is generally not possible for those who work on material from many areas or as freelance consultants. Some respondents note that, while there may not be a formal type series for an area, local pottery assemblages are accessible.

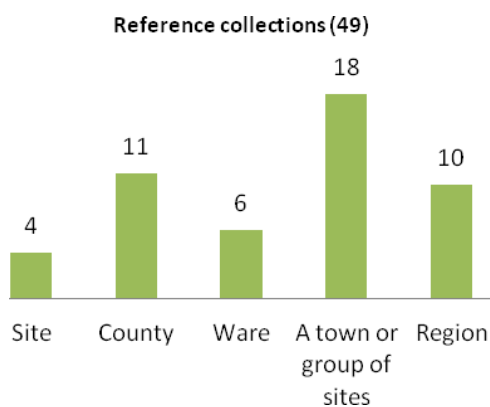


Figure 18 Basis of pottery reference collections reported by respondents (2.2.1)

The scope of the various type series appears to be fairly uniform, which is encouraging. Somewhat oddly, however, some do not always include local kiln products. In many cases, the form series relating to

fabrics comprises published, unpublished, or archive illustrations, rather than actual vessels. The results show a varying picture in terms of correlation where there are more than one type series, probably reflecting a shortage of resources to achieve cross-compatibility. The worst case is where more than one type series have been established, by different organisations, for the same place but these have not been correlated. Sometimes published reports act as the type series. The same recording codes are often used for the more recognisable widely-traded fabrics (the NRFC is of relevance here).

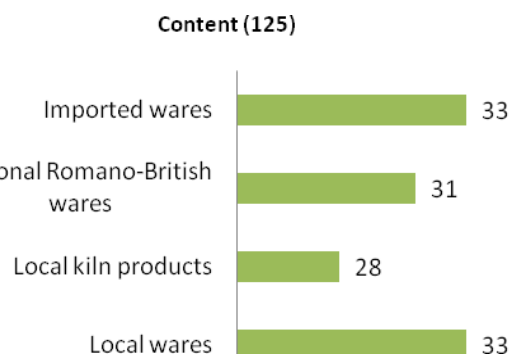


Figure 19 Content of reference collections reported by respondents (2.2.3)

The majority of the existing type series are either housed in the local museum or at a place of work, which includes a CAO, a site, or within local government offices. There are a number of incidences of joint locations, such as a museum and a place of work, or a museum and with an individual. One online example was noted. Some hindrances to access were noted in relation to some of the physical type series, such as the need to make an appointment, and only one was fully online; the others had only partial online access. The issue of long-term curation raises some concerns. Those based at museums and local government offices are probably more secure than those at CAOs or in the hands of individuals. The main problems are that the majority of type series are not actively curated or updated, and lack financial support. This means that many have become fossilised and, when different people are involved over time, maintaining consistency of descriptions can also be a problem. An associated issue is that physical collections can get separated from their associated paper archive.

In terms of physical access, the results suggest that, even where a type series exists, it might be more difficult for a non-local researcher to gain access. Very few type series can be accessed via the internet. The

results clearly show the isolation in which a lot of the processing of pottery is carried out.

RESEARCH DESIGNS, FRAMEWORKS AND AGENDA

The main controlling factor in terms of being able to refer to Research Designs, Frameworks or Agenda is, not surprisingly, whether such documents have been compiled for a town, region, period or material category. Some regional research frameworks and agenda still do not exist, or are still in the production stage or hardly refer to ceramics in any useable way. On the whole, respondents consult as many relevant documents as they can, but not all, perhaps surprisingly, refer to the SGRP research framework and agenda. Some only refer to the bare minimum, while others will routinely seek to identify new research questions. The ‘other’ category comprised researcher’s own research framework/agenda which they have built up over the years, site and pottery reports, and the samian research agenda.

themselves. Many others do their own illustration and a library may be a personal one; the content of other libraries is very variable. The microfiche readers may in fact be ones housed at a local library and some people appear to have access to the facilities at other places, such as local university departments.

Top of the list in terms of additional facilities that researchers would like, or consider should be made available, was more space and an adequate working area. A number of respondents expressed a wish for a computer-linked microscope which could easily photograph magnified fabrics. Better access to finds/environmental specialists was another request. The lack of a photographer, archives officer, or editor was a problem for some and others expressed the need for better library facilities. The need for fabric and form type series and reference collections, ideally internet-based, was again raised by some respondents. The availability of facilities seems to be a particular issue for freelance consultants working at home.

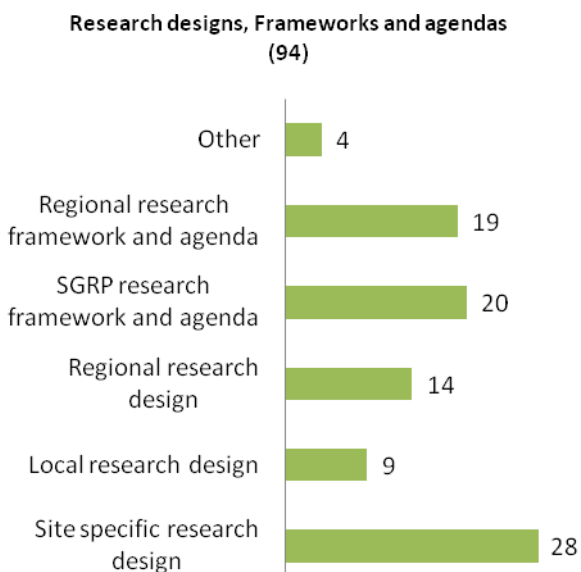


Figure 20 Types of research designs, frameworks and agenda available for consultation (3.2.1)

FACILITIES

The facilities available to a freelance consultant are likely to be less extensive than those working in a commercial organisation, a museum, or local government but, on the whole, most people have the main facilities they need. The main areas which are not adequately covered appear to be access to scientific equipment, archives, and editing. Some of those without a binocular microscope use a hand lens and few respondents have access to professional photographers, tending to do the photography

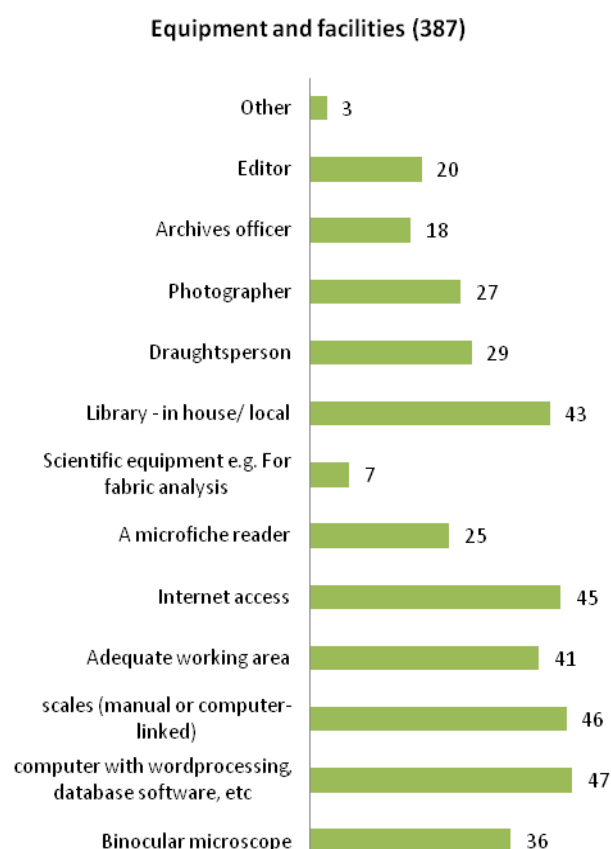


Figure 21 Equipment and facilities available to respondents during processing and publication (2.4.1)

COSTS, SELECTION, AND SCOPE

The means for calculating the cost of processing and analysing the pottery varies. It is not surprising that day rate and rate per box are the most common but it is disappointing that the figures for the ‘what someone else decides’ and ‘sum available’ categories are relatively high. Other means of estimating were number of sherds per day, sherd count and hourly rate. A number of respondents noted that the rate often depends on the type or size of site and the level of detail of assessment or report required. Occasionally, perhaps disturbingly, no charge appears to be made.

The results show that a wide range of criteria can be used for determining the extent of analysis carried out, although some assemblages fall into more than one category. Finances are often the deciding factor in the context of commercial archaeology, where limited resources are often available. On this basis, relevance to project design, time needed and cost appear to be the deciding factors, followed by pottery criteria. Despite financial constraints, some respondents note that all material is often fully analysed, except for residual or unstratified material. Specialist wares are also often fully analysed.

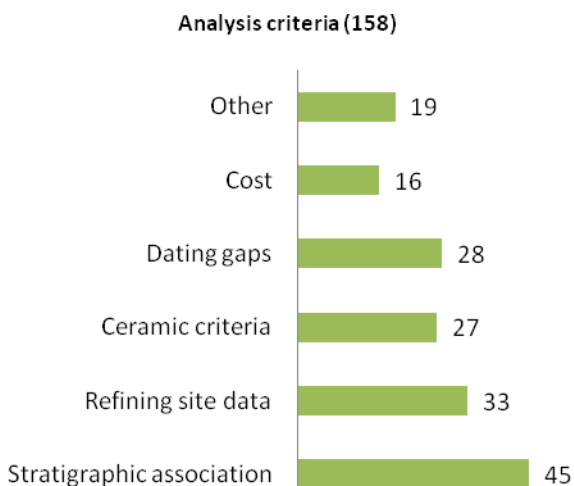


Figure 22 Criteria used by respondents for selecting which material should be fully analysed (4.1.1)

The range of criteria used as the basis for analysis to be undertaken is again varied. Some respondents note that there is an in-house proforma which is followed and others have their own standard analysis components, regardless of the assemblage character. Sometimes the form of the analysis and publication depends on what has been done in the area/on the site previously or on what the local journal prescribes. Client requirements are another factor.

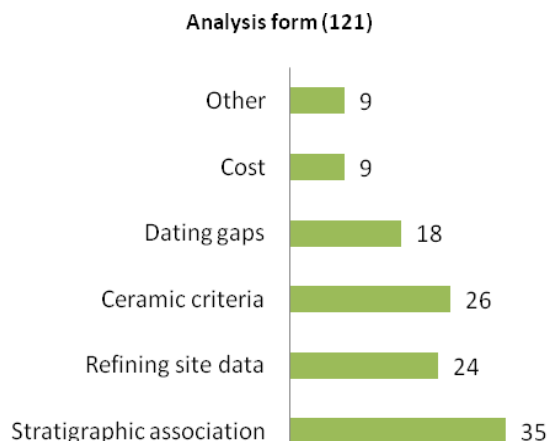


Figure 23 Criteria used for deciding the form and extent of the analysis of pottery (4.1.2)

Pottery researchers clearly take many different aspects into account when deciding what warrants illustration and categories are often mixed, eg pottery to illustrate stratigraphic sequence, good groups, and sherds of intrinsic interest. Most of the responses in the ‘other’ category could be linked to ceramic criteria, such as the need for a type series, new forms, or examples of a particular ware not common locally. Cost, however, is again a significant factor, as is the existence of previous publications and illustrations from the area or site. What the local journal is prepared to accept is sometimes a key influence. Specialist wares are often fully illustrated, though rubbings are becoming the more common, and preferred, method for illustrating complex designs, such as on decorated samian ware.

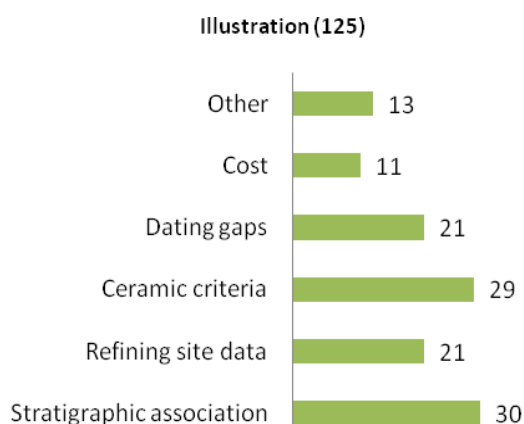


Figure 24 Criteria used by respondents to decide which pottery should be illustrated (4.1.3)

Most researchers have a policy to avoid duplication where adjacent sites produce similar assemblages of

material. Clearly, as one respondent points out, duplication can be significant, but it is a moot point whether this would only need to be commented on or whether the duplication should be fully brought out by illustration as well. The results suggest that assemblages which duplicate already well-published material will only be referenced, though there would still be full quantification, if not illustration, unless there is a good group. Avoiding duplication can be difficult where more than one contractor is working on the same site or area. Some respondents are concerned that, without full publication, there are no means of assessing someone’s identifications and conclusions. Others note that checking and referring to other reports can also be very time consuming.

Researchers note that there is usually something else that could have been done with most assemblages, with a significant number of sites stopping at assessment when further work would have been justified. Researchers try to do all they can with the material in the face of various constraints, and the size of the assemblage is, not surprisingly, a key factor in this. The loss of information can be slightly offset if assemblages are initially recorded as part of a broader town/county/regional database. Irving notes (2011, 12) that the results of the MPRG survey of this aspect suggest most commercial ceramics analysis does not exceed the basic level of work, resulting in little opportunity for research and synthesis to take place.

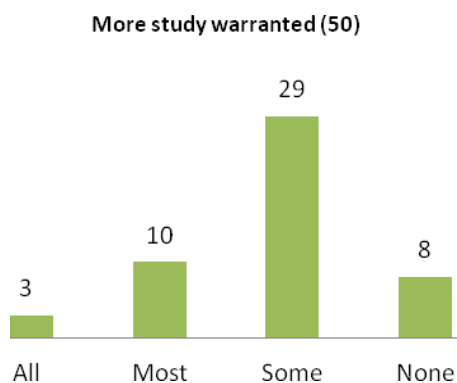


Figure 25 Number of sites which warranted more study than respondents were able to carry out (1.2.6)

The reasons given why more work would have been justified varied as expected, but a number raise concerns. Assemblages from kiln sites and sites that are of national significance clearly warrant full study as do assemblages which represent the first group from a site/area. The number of sites of regional significance where more research could have been carried out is also worrying, and pottery studies are always in need of more good groups, good sequences, and dating wherever these occur. It is also important to know as much as possible about newly identified

fabrics and forms. The ‘other’ category comprised further interpretation, pottery which could not be securely assigned to period, and pottery from fieldwalking.

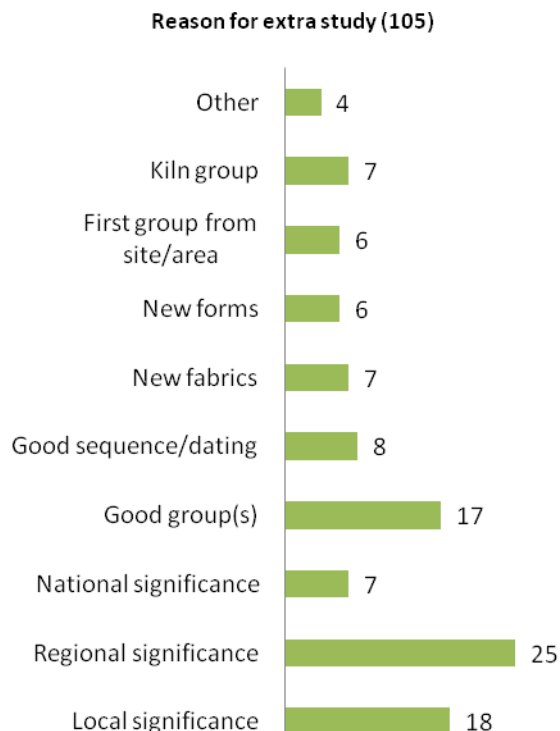


Figure 26 Reasons the site(s) warranted more study than respondents were able to carry out (1.2.7)

CONSTRAINTS

The questionnaire asked for the constraints to be ranked in order of importance. Not all of the respondents ranked their answers, however, and some only ranked what they considered to be the major constraints affecting them. Constraints which were not ranked have been given an equal rating (Table 2). Perhaps not surprisingly, time and money are seen as the major constraints, filling most of the top two places and, with one exception, never falling lower than fifth. Looking at the subtotal of ranked constraints and the overall totals (taking into account equal rankings), access to reference collections, to museums, to publications, to other data, and scientific support feature strongly. Taken together, the constraints relating to work environment – attitude, access, understanding, site recording, and facilities – are significant and of concern. In the ‘other’ category were failure to publish, lack of standardisation in recording (especially where there is more than one CAO/person working on a site/area) and lack of training.

CONSTRAINT	RANK												TOTALS			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	sTot	Equal	Tot	%
Time	14	12		1	1								28	12	40	18%
Money	17	4	1	3	1							1	27	11	38	17%
In-house facilities		1	1		1	1	1	1		2	1		9	3	12	5%
Access to reference collections	2		6	1	1	2	1			1			14	6	20	9%
Access to reports/libraries/ Databases	2	4		4	3	2	1	1	1				18	5	23	10%
Access to museums					1	2	2		2			1	8	4	12	5%
Scientific support	1	1	4	1	1	2	1				1		12	5	17	7%
Access to colleagues		1		1				1	1		3		7	3	10	4%
Attitude of employer	1	2	3	1				2		1			10	3	13	6%
Attitude of field director/staff		2		2	2			1	1	1		1	10	1	11	5%
Poor site recording	1	2	5			1	3		1	1			14	2	16	7%
Understanding of requirements		1	1	5		1		1	1				10	2	12	5%
Other			2										2	1	3	1%

Table 2 The major constraints to work on Roman pottery

PUBLICATION, DISSEMINATION, AND OUTLETS

It is generally assumed that the assessment reports end up as grey literature, with a note about the excavation in the local journal and/or even *Britannia* (and occasionally OASIS). The most worrying aspects of the responses to this section, however, are that a number of people do not know what happens and that others think nothing may happen to completed assessment reports.

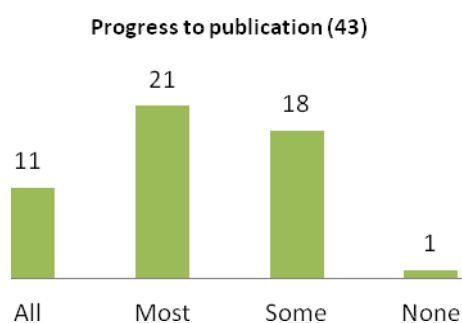


Figure 27 Perception of proportion of sites worked on which have progressed/will progress to publication (1.2.8)

Again, it is generally assumed that assessment reports are lodged with the local HER or the developer, and the results suggest that this is correct. A number of people, however, again either do not know, or think that nothing may happen to completed assessment reports.

HER deposition (38)

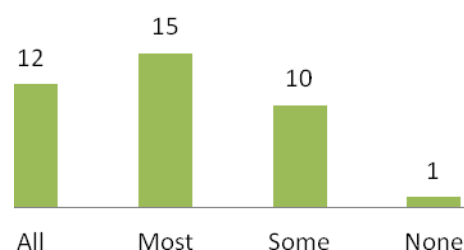


Figure 28 Perception of proportion of site reports which have been/will be deposited with the relevant HER (1.2.5)

The results for sites which have been analysed show the expected range of publication outlets, with the 'other' category comprising in-house reports, client reports/grey literature deposited with the HER, and thematic volumes or study series. There is no indication from these figures that finding outlets for pottery reports is problematic, though it is noted by some respondents that lack of resources can occasionally prevent any form of publication. Once again, researchers are apparently not always told that a site has been published, and there is some uncertainty about the process of depositing reports with the relevant HER.

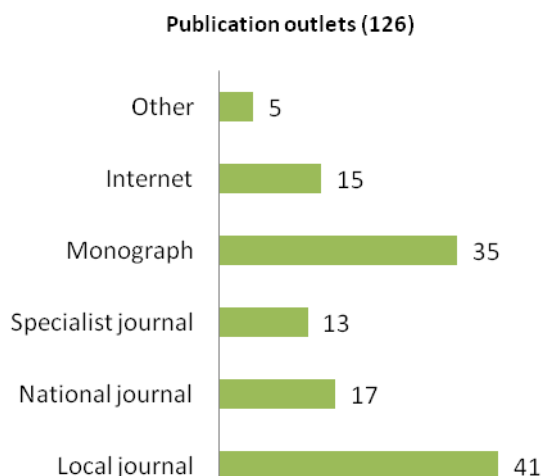


Figure 29 Perception of where sites analysed by respondents have been/will be published (1.2.9)

Of the reports recently completed, the high number published as grey literature reflects the proportion of evaluations and watching briefs being carried out. Some CAOs now routinely place such reports on their own websites, which means that they are not 'buried' grey literature. The number of other internet publication sites, such as the Oxford Journal of Archaeology, OASIS, AIP, ADS, and the British Library is of interest and some journals now offer access to past publications on the internet; other articles and even these are becoming available through the internet. In the 'other' category were popular publications, museum or library publications, and client reports. Microfiche are being rapidly replaced by CDs. Irving (2011, 9) notes that 'By late 2010 OASIS alone contained over 7000 archaeological reports' and that 'a move towards digital media is unsurprising given the near total lack of restriction offered by digital media in terms of the accessibility, size, and varied scope of resources that can easily be dealt with in a cost effective manner'. Moreover 'Bodies overseeing archaeological work and those that offer funding increasingly favour projects which utilise new media in disseminating their results. Therefore, it seems likely that the amount of information available digitally will continue to expand'.

Many reports still await publication, including some by local groups or individuals who might not have an obvious outlet. In terms of the time taken for a report to be published, the quickest turn around seems to be with reports which go onto a website, either of a CAO or other outlet. At the other end of the scale, some reports have been in the pipeline for over 25 years and some may never be published. It is generally accepted that any report appearing within two years of completion is an excellent result. Where the

timescale is more than three to five years, concerns are expressed as this means that the information is not feeding into new work, is going out of date, and would need revision itself before it should be published.

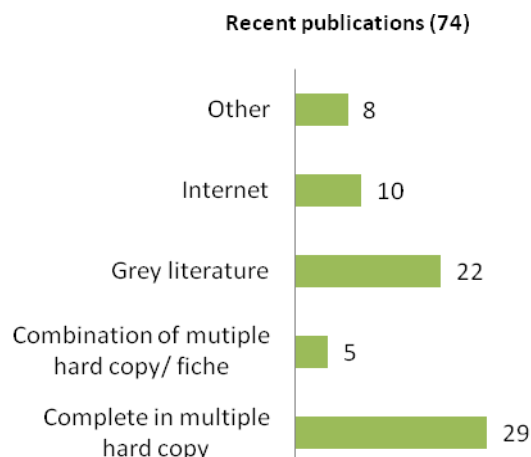


Figure 30 Published format of reports recently completed by respondents (5.7)

HOUSE STYLES, CONTENT, AND INTEGRATION

Various house styles seem to be in operation, often based on those of key publishers like the CBA, BAR, or EAA. The same organisation can have both a style for in-house publications and follow that of the outlet where a report is to be published. All these editorial policies cover all elements of a publication and are not specific to ceramics *per se*. The nature, content, and size of a pottery report tend to be decided pre-editorial stage, but its location in the report is usually an editorial decision. More reports, or parts of reports, are beginning to be placed on CD, which is the medium that has replaced microfiche, and directly on to the internet.

The results suggest that most respondents seek to include their aims and objectives, methods and constraints in a report, although all of these will not always appear in the published version; some are often placed in appendices. Other information included by some researchers in their reports comprised the scope of the report, the nature and potential of the group, size of the group, and taphonomy. The nature and size of the assemblage frequently determines the content of the report.

The task of integrating the results is not always one carried out by the ceramic specialist and varies according to the project, the site, and the nature of the assemblage. It is probably to be expected that most sites are not considered in terms of the province,

but the figures for integration with other finds and historical research are disappointingly low. Resources are obviously a factor here, as are what the researcher is asked to do and what supporting information is given. Phasing and dating are often all that is required by the site director or the person tasked with writing the excavation report.

The integration of the pottery report with the site description and discussion is usually carried out by another person and the figures for reports being compiled in isolation are disappointingly high. Having said this, there is often an aspiration to integrate the reports into a wider study, though available resources clearly have a bearing on what is possible.

The results show that, while there is the overall intention to link sites to the wider urban or regional picture, the extent to which this is carried out varies depending on the type of report required and the client; sometimes there is no wider study to link into. Too many sites still appear to be treated in isolation from their wider context. Another concern, raised by a number of respondents, is that the operation of different organisations and specialists in the same region/town at the same time can hinder the integration of information.

There is considerable variation in the amount of input that researchers have into the final shape of the pottery report, as this is usually dependent on the client or organisation. People can also see a report at one stage but not at a later stage when changes have been made, sometimes by those unqualified to make such changes. It is noted that, ideally, authors should expect to be part of the process of interpreting the site with the main report author, in any peer review/refereeing stage and in the processing for publication; unfortunately this does not seem to happen very often.

LITERATURE SEARCH

A key part of the resource assessment part of the project was a rapid search of relevant literature published in the last ten years. All of the available national and regional journals, monographs, research series, and other reports were examined, together with a number of online journals or publications. A list of publications was compiled and will be placed on the SGRP website. Some 400 site reports containing pottery sections were noted, together with approximately another 150 reports dealing with specific aspects of pottery, including specialist wares, methodology, trade and economy and usage. All the county journals were represented, although the number of reports in each varied from one to 34. The East Anglia and East Midlands region had the most reports, followed by the South, then the South West with the North having the least; Scotland and Wales had similar, quite low, numbers. These figures confirm the results of the questionnaire in showing that publishing pottery reports is not problematic.

COMPARISON WITH OTHER ROMAN POTTERY-RELATED SURVEYS

FULFORD AND HUDDLESTON 1991 (FH)

A previous review of Roman pottery studies, commissioned by English Heritage, was carried out in 1989 and published in 1991 (Fulford and Huddleston 1991). The aim of this review was that:

'... future available resources should be targeted as effectively as possible onto the most worthwhile areas of study.'

In a foretaste of the later programme of research frameworks which is still ongoing, the reasoning of English Heritage was that:

'... the most effective way to ensure the best use of resources, and to facilitate future decision making, is to have available a clear statement of the current state of knowledge for each field of study. On the basis of such reviews, the potential for further work can be examined, and those aspects of study which

will advance our understanding of the past can be established as priorities for the future.'

The review comprised a review of the literature (achievements of the 1970s and 1980s), a review of current working practices and work in progress, and an assessment of the coverage of towns, major settlements, and rural areas in England. A number of conclusions, including objectives, were drawn, and recommendations were made on the basis of the results of these reviews.

The literature reviews undertaken as part of the SGRP's regional and national research frameworks (Booth and Willis 1997, Evans and Willis 1997, Huson 1997, Martin and Wallace 1997, Willis 2004) and this project have obviously updated the FH reviews of literature and the coverage of towns, major settlements, and rural areas in England. The SGRP's regional and national research framework documents noted progress against the FH recommendations, particularly as regards methodology, standards, archives, and training; a number of the desired studies of important sites, kilns, and wares mentioned in FH had also appeared in the interim, including a National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (Tomber and Dore 1998). The current strategy project shows further progress has been made, especially in terms of important sites and kiln and ware studies, including samian ware and mortaria, together with further training initiatives. Many of the FH objectives and recommendations remain valid, however, particularly the need to publish certain key kiln sites and corpora, the need for consistent recording and quantification methodologies, the need for regional reference collections, and the importance of, and need for, training.

The FH review also addressed the then current working practices, including career structure and pay, and work in progress. Section 1 of the 2009 questionnaire, circulated to members as part of this strategy project, has provided some information on current working practices, career structure and pay. Although there are differences between the 1991 and 2009 sets of questions, the results can be compared.

The fact that most of those who responded to the 2009 questionnaire have been involved with Roman pottery for more than five years, suggests that many who were active in 1991 have continued to be involved and that it has been possible to find ongoing employment in ceramics. The number of respondents who carry out additional roles as well as researching Roman pottery has clearly increased, as has the number of Roman pottery researchers employed as consultants rather than being core staff. These

increases suggest that there is still not a career structure in the accepted sense for ceramics and that it is necessary to move into other roles in order to progress up the career ladder and pay scales. The variation in roles of those now involved with Roman pottery makes it difficult to assess whether there has been an improvement in overall rates of pay. Generally, the impression is that, pro rata, remuneration is better than it was, though still generally below that which could be earned in other professions, given the level of qualifications held by most practitioners. The principal methods by which skills are learned remain the same, as does the perception that a structured training programme is still both lacking and required.

The impression given in the 2009 survey is that levels of proficiency have increased since 1991. This includes the ability to report on specialist wares, although most of those working more generally on Roman pottery still look to specialists to provide detailed information. Developer-funded work has, however, resulted in an increase the number of people being required to report on unfamiliar, non-local, material. The existence of, and access to, reference collections is important in this respect and it would seem that the overall situation has not altered much in the period between the two surveys. The popular use of the internet is something that has developed in the intervening period.

The current situation regarding communication between the pottery researcher and the site director seems to be similar to that in 1991. The role of developer funding has, of course, grown significantly since 1991 and has brought with it additional areas for potential problems such as the need for communication prior to tendering. In terms of the profession as a whole, however, communication has been revolutionised by email and the internet.

In terms of the range of facilities available, there have been considerable advances in computing and most researchers now have reasonable access to the most important facilities (see Figure 21, p 12 above). There would appear to be less variation in what is available than in 1991, but the increase in freelance consultants means that facilities do vary. The access problems relating to the use of microfiche is not the issue that it was in 1991, with additional data and information now being placed on CDs or online.

The emerging quantification methodologies apparent in 1991 were formally set out in the SGRP's 1994 guidance (Darling 1994; 2004) and have been largely followed since. Some of the general issues remain a subject for debate, such as the quantification of specialist wares and the relative merits of EVEs or

MNVs. Similarly, there are instances where established procedure is modified (see 'Recording and Analysis', pp 8-9 above).

The FH review reflected the concern at the time that the additional cost to enable research to put a site into a wider context was likely, in most cases, to be outside what would be appropriate to expect a developer to pay. The 2009 survey shows that concern was justified but, as in 1991, researchers take every available opportunity to contextualise on a local and regional, or even national, level. Again, as in 1991, the larger organisations appear to offer the best opportunities for this though, at the same time, working in different, unfamiliar areas and the increased numbers of freelance consultants often prevents discussion beyond site-specific level.

ANDREW PEACHEY 2005

Andrew Peachey, a SGRP member, carried out an informal survey of members following an annual review of *Jobs in British Archaeology* (Drummond-Murray 2004) which demonstrated that the average annual income of general 'specialists' had plummeted between 2003/2004 after several years of fluctuating but generally positive progress. The aims of the survey were to profile members anonymously, to assess the demographics of the Group, and then to canvas opinions on the future direction of the Group. The results, summarised below, are published in two SGRP newsletters (Peachey 2005; 2006).

Around 50 members responded (A. Peachey, pers. comm.). A little fewer than 50% of professionals amongst these were involved in the day to day recording and analysis of pottery, though several in other post excavation, management, and academic roles indicated that they were also still irregularly involved in pottery studies at this level. Academic members were clearly the best paid, illustrating a gap between developer funded and academic archaeology. Managers in CAOs were also understandably relatively very well paid. The average income brackets of pottery specialists in CAOs and freelance specialists was similar. In theory, those within CAOs had the opportunity to advance through a company pay scale, and progression was also possible through a move between companies, allowing pottery specialists to move up to other post-excavation and management roles; there were, however, very few opportunities for pottery specialists to rise to this level in practice. Such role changes tended to curtail active/everyday involvement in pottery recording/analysis.

Only two members indicated that they would definitely be leaving pottery studies due to

retirement, but several commented that they may consider leaving due to conditions in commercial or freelance archaeology. In terms of age, it was encouraging to note a concentration in the younger age brackets as specialists in CAOs. Numerous comments relating to job position and job titles made it clear that many were frustrated by the lack of structure and career development in all but the largest of organisations. These concerns came both from those working as specialists and those wishing to become specialists.

As regards future directions in communication, 82% of SGRP members were in favour of some form of web-based message board and revisions to the style and content of the SGRP website to include such items as sections on study aids/guides for both professionals and amateurs, updated bibliographies possibly including grey literature, some form of online fabric series, regional group sections, promotion of new initiatives/research projects/funding sources and more extensive links. The SGRP journal was a source of satisfaction, though there were a few comments on its content/format.

One of the key responses on training was the idea of a system of mentoring for younger or less-experienced members. The need to set standards was agreed, but it was noted that, while the IfA's Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (Institute for Archaeologists 2001) and the SGRP's Guidelines for the archiving of Roman pottery (Darling 1994; 2004) were fundamentally important documents, both were static and in some respects out-of-date. There was a concern that more specific guidelines (Darling *op cit*; MPRG 2001; PCRG 2010) were not being referred to by curators and contractors.

THE MONTEIL AND RAYNER SURVEY OF SAMIAN WARE SPECIALISTS 2010

In June 2009, following submission of a detailed project design, English Heritage commissioned a project to explore the current state of samian ware studies. This was to consist of a survey of current views and practices in samian ware recording, reporting, and publishing in Britain. Based on a detailed questionnaire, the project canvassed a range of archaeological sectors involved in samian related work to understand the consistency of approaches, the availability of specialists and the nature and purpose of samian work (Monteil and Rayner 2010). The project had a number of research aims:

- RA1A Capture information on the relevance and role of samian research in the wider archaeological process
- RA1B the range of samian training opportunities and needs in the UK.
- RA2 Ascertain the variety of recording methods and research priorities.
- RA3 Planning for a successful succession management by measuring current availability of samian specialists and quantifying potential samian work.
- RA4 Addressing future standards of samian recording and reporting.

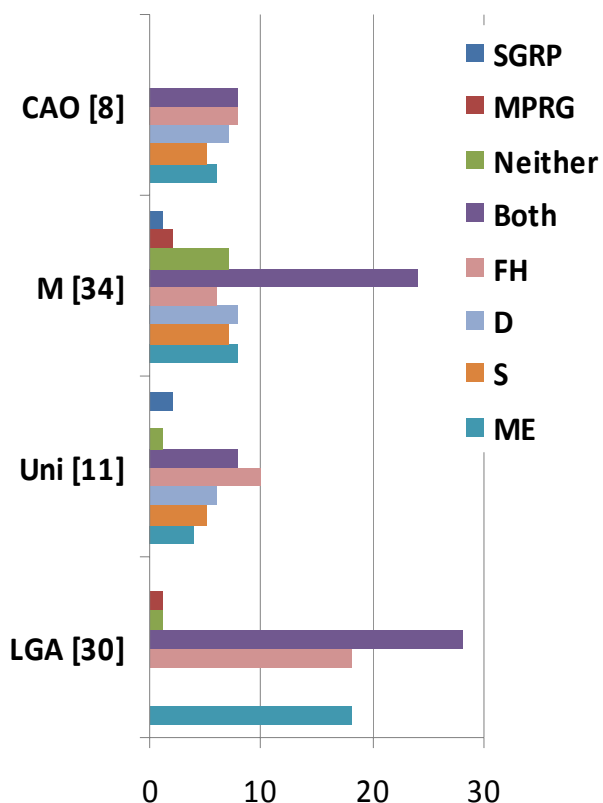
A number of key issues, previously identified by samian specialists, were confirmed by the survey:

- Discrepancies in the levels of samian recording carried out by CAOs.
- Clear differences in the views held by the commercial sector and by samian specialists about the usefulness of samian reports and the different standards of recording.
- Poor communication between samian specialists and people commissioning, using, and publishing samian reports.
- The need for training a new generation of samian specialists and the difficulties involved.

The project identified mechanisms whereby standards would be defined, raised, and standardised, training opportunities would be developed, the use of samian corpora would be updated and widened, and the profile of samian reports and their relevance to Roman archaeology would be raised. Key actions outlined include

- defining minimum reporting and publication standards and requirements
- ensuring that recommendations are integrated into policy and development control documents
- developing identification skills for the recording and reporting on samian ware
- undertaking further initiatives to train a new group of samian specialists
- raising awareness of the full suite of information that the study of samian ware can provide.

THE VIEW OF THE WIDER PROFESSION IN 2010



CAO – Contracting Archaeological Organisations, M – Museums, Uni – Universities, LGA – Local Government Authorities
 FH - Fulford and Huddleston 1991, D - Darling 1994, 2004,
 S - Slowikowski *et al* 2001/PCRG 2010, ME – Mellor 1994

Figure 31 Wider profession awareness

Responses (Table 1, above p 3; Figure 31) to the joint SGRP and MPRG survey of the wider archaeological profession also contributed to the development of some of the strategy objectives.

All the sectors barring journals were questioned about the existence of the SGRP and MPRG. All of the CAOs and most of the local government archaeologists and university departments have heard of the SGRP and MPRG, though some, oddly, are only aware of one of the two groups. More puzzling is where neither is known about, especially in the case, apparently, of seven of the museums.

The same sectors were also asked whether they knew about and/or referred to certain key pottery documents in the course of their work (Fulford and Huddleston 1991, Darling 1994, 2004, Slowikowski *et al* 2001/PCRG 2010, Mellor 1994). Here there is a great deal more variation. Only 18 of the local government archaeologists have heard of Fulford and Huddleston and only 18 (not the same ones) of Mellor (they were not asked about Darling or Slowikowski *et al*/PCRG 2010). Knowledge is low for all of the documents within the museum sector but higher within the CAOs; this latter sector, however, should be the one which knows of and uses all of them. The figures suggest that university departments are more likely to know about Roman pottery-related documents than those for the medieval period.

The rest of the questions varied according to the target sector.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ARCHAEOLOGISTS

The survey responses show variations in the standards required of pottery reports. Irving (2011, 11) notes that 28% of local authorities expect finds to be recorded in line with museum deposition policies, 22% in line with MPRG and SGRP minimum standards, and 13% in line with standards set by the local authority. Encouragingly, 35% also expect reference to established ceramic type-series. There are also variations in the level of monitoring of reports that is carried out, from quite detailed appraisal (especially where the officer has some personal knowledge of ceramics) to an assumption that a specialist will know what is appropriate (the experience/CVs of proposed specialists are sometimes checked). Reports are regularly checked against the proposals in the WSI/PD and the RD and, occasionally, the advice of other specialists or third parties is sought. Clear briefs with good supporting guidelines are seen as key. Interestingly, seven of the respondents indicated that they were often not happy with the content of some reports. The chief complaints were the lack, often, of adequate illustrations and good photographs, inadequate quantification and references to type series or other comparative material relevant to the region in which the site lies, and a lack of consideration about what pottery can tell us about the functioning or use of the site. Some assessment reports lack clear recommendations for further work.

UNIVERSITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENTS

Although four have modules which include ceramics at undergraduate level and two at postgraduate level, none currently offer modules or subsidiary courses which focus primarily on ceramics. Courses tended to cover all periods, and the content varied, but could include topics such as typology, seriation, fabric analysis, form and function, trade and exchange, production and technology, macroscopic, microscopic, and elemental analyses, as well as theoretical issues. Four universities use external ceramic specialists to provide additional input to training for students. A number of research projects including ceramics of various periods and sometimes involving foreign subjects/sites, were being undertaken. Funding involving ceramics included publication grants, fieldwork projects, and specialist databases or analysis.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL JOURNALS

All of these still accept reports on pottery-related subjects or reports with a large pottery component and most do not use microfiche. Half levy charges, for example a publication grant for developer-funded site reports. Some occasionally limit the size of the pottery component of reports, mainly with costs or overall volume length in mind but also, for example, preferring more synthesis-type reports which were more likely to appeal to the journal readership. Online resources, such as the ADS or OASIS, are seen as more appropriate repositories for large amounts of data.

MUSEUMS

All but one of the museums which responded have ceramic collections resulting from archaeological projects and are still accepting material; one, however, is to restrict its catchment area soon. The facilities available to would-be visiting researchers vary from a room only to a proper research room equipped with laying-out areas, microscopes, photographic lights, scales, and database, and library access. One museum does not have enough room for a permanent study area. The main access restrictions/problems were the restricted opening hours of the museum, the need to make an appointment, the availability of staff, material stored off-site, and material poorly packaged and documented. One museum asked researchers to submit a proposal based on their research policy and another required researchers to deposit copies of their research, as well as retaining the copyright of any images of items in the museum collections taken as

part of the research. Eight museums had had no visits by researchers in the last year and 14 had less than five; the most was over 20.

Eleven of the museums hold a fabric type series and six a form type series. Twenty-four have documents related to the specialist analysis of ceramic assemblages. Twenty-one curators consider themselves to be knowledgeable in pottery but thirteen do not. Two museums have a discard policy but twelve do not; 17 depend on recommendations by the specialists. A number of the museums run ceramic-related projects ranging from outreach and education programmes and activities involving the community, particularly groups of children, to documentation projects and training in pottery and cbm identification for volunteer community archaeologists. Programmes of repackaging, the analysis of unpublished excavations, and a collections review are also taking place at different museums.

CONTRACTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL ORGANISATIONS

Of the 10 CAOs that responded, seven hold documentary archives relating to specialist analysis of ceramic assemblages and six archived ceramic collections resulting from archaeological projects. The main reasons for this appear to be delays in post-excavation analysis, disputes with the developer or because a suitable repository is full/non-existent. Five hold a fabric type series and three a form type series. Two of the CAOs had had single requests to examine their archives. All the responding CAOs employed internal specialists and three stated that they also used external specialists.

RESEARCH AGENDA

PROGRESS TOWARDS UPDATED RESOURCE ASSESSMENTS AND RESEARCH AGENDA

In the years since the SGRP regional and national resource assessments and research agenda were compiled, considerable progress has been made in Roman pottery studies and many of the recommendations in the document(s) have been achieved at both national and regional level. The responses to certain targeted sections of the questionnaire, together with information on published material resulting from the literature search, have provided some details of these advances. The actual updating of the current resource assessments and research agenda was, however, to be finalised at the planned regional workshops, not all of which took place.

REGIONAL

The project used the same regional divisions as those used for the previous SGRP resource assessment. North of Britain covers northern England north of the Humber-Mersey line, the Cheshire Plain and north Wales, together with Scotland. Western Britain covers the western side of Britain, approximately south of a line from Aberdovey to Crewe, specifically the West Midlands, the Welsh borders, the South West of England and most of Wales. The East Midlands and East Anglia covers the civitates of the Catuvellauni, Corieltauvi, Iceni and Trinovantes which roughly corresponds to the East Midlands and East Anglia. Finally, Southern England incorporates London and its hinterland (some of south Essex, Middlesex etc.), Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, south Berkshire, and east Wiltshire.

Two regional workshops (Southern England; East Midlands and East Anglia) were convened, and much of the discussion at these focused on national issues. As a result of this, and the fact that the original

documents do not contain clear, separate, and focused research agenda against which progress can be easily assessed, it has not been possible at this stage to produce fully revised assessments and research agenda for the regions. The regional agenda, however, remain intrinsically important to the national strategy, which is presented here. Their updating will be achieved through Research Strategy Objective 8, by re-working the regional documents to more closely match the ideal framework sections; the work will include reviewing the significance of key unpublished sites listed. It should be noted that, despite the shortcomings of the existing SGRP regional research framework document(s), much of what they contain remains valid. The nature of some research items, of course, means that they will never be fully addressed.

The following section mainly provides information on sites which have been published or are expected to be published in the near future and which are either mentioned in the existing framework document(s) or are thought to be relevant to the planned revisions through Research Strategy Objective 8.

Full references for sites mentioned will be included in the SGRP website bibliography.

NORTH OF BRITAIN

The publications have the potential to contribute to many of the themes in the previous North of Britain research agenda (Evans and Willis 1997, SGRP 2002), especially:

3	Military sites and military supply
3.2	Military sites and military supply – Scotland
3.3	Military sites and military supply – mortaria
3.4	Military sites and military supply – Flavian-Trajanic groups
3.7	Military sites and military supply – deeply stratified sites
3.8	Military sites and military supply – samian
3.9	Military sites and military supply – ceramic evidence for the organisation of the Roman army
3.10	Military sites and military supply – the role of military markets in developing and sustaining regional pottery industries in southern Britain, north Gaul and the Rhineland
3.11	Military sites and military supply – long term effects of the presence of the Roman army
4	Sites with military association, vici etc
5	Cemeteries
6	Urban sites
7.2	Rural sites – research questions
7.3	Rural sites – hinterland projects
8.1	Samian
8.2	Mortaria
9	Kiln sites
12	Roman and native interaction/ Romanisation
13	Market mechanisms and supply
14.2	Other research themes – differences in the distribution of imported pottery in civilian & military areas

Table 3 North of Britain research agenda (Evans and Willis 1997, SGRP 2002) themes

Publications have appeared for various sites and kiln sites mentioned in the existing agenda:

CUMBRIA

Brougham cemetery (Evans *et al* 2004)

DURHAM:

Piercebridge (Cooper & Vince 2008)

LANCASHIRE:

Ribchester (Dickinson *et al* 2000)

NORTHUMBERLAND:

Housesteads (Dore 2009)

Wallsend (Griffiths 1993; Snape & Bidwell 1994)

YORKSHIRE:

Kilns:

Goodison Boulevard, Cantley (Buckland & Magilton 2005)

Holme-on-Spalding Moor (Halkon 2002)

Rossington Bridge (Buckland *et al* 2001)

Site:

Castleford Vicus (Rush *et al* 2000)

SCOTLAND:

Carpow (Dore 1999)

Cramond (Wallace 2000; Dickinson 2003, Ford 2003; Hartley 2003)

Elginhaugh (Dore 2007; Hartley, B 2007; Hartley, K 2007)

Westerwood (Webster 1994-5)

In addition, there have been important publications for sites and kiln sites not mentioned in the existing agenda:

CHESHIRE

Holditch (Garner 2007; Lucas 2007a)

Manchester (Hartley & Leary 2007; Leary 2007)

Middlewich (Leary 2008; Ward & Dickinson 2008)

Wilderspool (Lucas 2007b)

CUMBRIA

Kilns:

Carlisle (Johnson & Anderson 2008)

Muncaster [kiln products] (Bidwell *et al* 1999; Hartley & Croom 1999)

Sites:

Beckfoot (Welsby 2004).

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

Birdoswald (Dickinson & Mills 1997; Evans & Willis 2009; Hartley 1997; Hird 1997)

Burgh-by-Sands (Evans 2002; McBride *et al* 2009)

Carlisle (Hird 1992, 2000)

Hardknott (Bidwell *et al* 1999; Hartley & Croom 1999)

Milefortlet 21 (Dore 1998)

DURHAM

Chester-le-Street (Todd 2006)

Greta Bridge (Croom & Bidwell 1998)

NORTHUMBERLAND

Corbridge Bypass (Dore 1995)

Hadrian's Wall at Westgate Road, Newcastle (Macpherson & Bidwell 2001), Byker (McKelvey & Bidwell 2005) and Throckley (Frain *et al* 2005)

Castle Garth, Newcastle upon Tyne (Bidwell & Croom 2002; Hartley 2002)

Vindolanda [samian, mortaria, amphora] (Birley 2007; Marliere 2007)

YORKSHIRE

Kilns:

Brough-on-Humber (Darling 2000; Darling 2005)

Catterick (Evans 1996)

Crambeck (Bidwell 2005)

Norton (Bidwell & Croom 1997)

Sites:

Aldbrough (Hartley 2002; Snape *et al* 2002; Willis 2002)

Beadlam (Evans 1996)

Carr Naze, Filey (Monaghan 2000)

Castleford (Rush *et al* 2000)

Catterick (Bell & Evans 2002; Evans 2002a,b,c; Williams 2002)

Caythorpe (Dore 1996)

Malton (Bailey 1997; Bidwell & Croom 1997; Braithwaite 1997; Hartley 1997; Hartley & Croom 1997; Williams 1997a,b)

Melton (Didsbury 1999)

M1-A1 Link Road sites (Evans 2001; Knowles 2001)

Roecliffe (Dore 2005; Manby 2005)

Victoria Cave, Settle (Buckland *et al* 1998)

Shiptonthorpe (Evans 2006)

Thurnscoe (Didsbury 2004)

York (Cool *et al* 1999; Cool 2002; Monaghan 1997)

NORTH WALES

Bryn Eryr, Gwynedd (Evans 1998)

Bush Farm, Gwynedd (Evans 1998)

SCOTLAND

Balmuildy (Wallace 2007)

Barochan Hill (Webster 1996-7)

Carriden (Webster 1997)

Drumquhassle (Evans 2002)

Dunning (Thomas 1995b)

Inveravon (Hartley 1995; Thomas 1995a)

Kinneil (Webster 1996)

Traprain Law (Erdrich *et al* 2000)

Furthermore, the following sites are likely to be published in the next five years:

CESHIRE

Chester amphitheatre

Chester extra-mural

Manchester (Barri Jones excavations overview)

Nantwich

CUMBRIA

Birdoswald vallum

Carlisle, Fisher Street (pottery)

Carlisle, Lanes 2

Carlisle fort Millennium Project

Study Group for Roman Pottery Occasional Paper No. 1
A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

DURHAM

Binchester
Faverdale, Darlington

Chester 1960s sites

Chester samian

Nantwich

LANCASHIRE

Lancaster vicus (?)
Walton-le Dale
Wigan

LANCASHIRE

Irby
Lancaster
Latham
Manchester - Barri Jones
Thorpe
Walton-le-Dale

NORTHUMBERLAND

Wallsend

NORTHUMBERLAND

High Rochester
Risingham

YORKSHIRE

Armthorpe, Doncaster
West Heselton

YORKSHIRE

Kilns:

Appletree Farm, Hewarth
Crambeck Hutton Hill

Sites:

Castleford Wakefield Museum sites
Doncaster fort
Gargrave villa
Garton and Wetwang Slack

NORTH WALES

Anglesey A55

SCOTLAND

Cardean (samian)

SCOTLAND

Bearsden
Croy Hill

A number of other relevant articles, some with less site-specific regional subject matter, have also appeared (full references will be placed on the SGRP website):

Birley 2007; Creighton 1999; Fitzpatrick 2003; Gerrard 2008; Halkon & Millett 1999; Hind 2005; Lloyd Jones 2005; Poulter 1998; Swan, 1995, 1999, 2002, 2005, 2008, 2009a, 2009b; Ward 2005; Wild 2002, forthcoming; Willis, 1996, 2003.

On the basis of the recent questionnaire responses, the following sites are considered to be priorities for publication:

CHESHIRE

Kilns:

Cheshire Plain industry
Holt

Sites:

Chester, Defences
Chester, Extra-mural volume 2

Other priorities noted were re-establishing and continuing the work carried out as part of the Holt Research Project and an analysis programme to source coarse wares in the North.

SOUTHERN ENGLAND

The SGRP research agenda for Southern England (Huson 1997, SGRP 2002) identified various research and publication priorities, including industries and kilns, site and area studies and comparative studies. Publications which have appeared that address these are:

HAMPSHIRE

Kilns:

Alice Holt/Farnham (Birbeck *et al* 2008; Lyne 2000)

Rowland's Castle (Dicks 2009)

Sites:

Silchester (Eckardt 2006; Timby 1997, 2000, 2006)

Winchester (Rees 2010; Holmes & Matthews 2010)

KENT

Kiln:

Cooling (Miles 2004)

Sites:

Ashford, Westhawk Farm (Bird, 2008; Lyne 2008)

Channel Tunnel Rail Link, Section 1 (Booth 2009)

Reculver (Bennett 2005; Bird 2005; Hartley 2005)

LONDON

Kiln:

Cripplegate (Seeley 2004)

Moorgate, Walbrook Valley (Seeley & Drummond-Murray 2005)

Sites:

Amphitheatre (Bateman 2008; Bird 2008; Dickinson 2008; Hartley 2008; Hassall 2008; Richardson 2008)

Eastcheap (Symonds, 2007)

Fenchurch Street (Richardson 2004; Seeley 2006)

Ironmonger Lane (Symonds 2004)

Shadwell (Bird 2002; Dickinson 2002; Seeley 2002)

Southwark (Cotton 2008; Lyne 2006,2007a; Rayner & Seeley 2002, 2008,2009)

Cemeteries/burials:

Bishopgate (Swift 2003)

Eastern Roman (Symonds, 2000)

Houndsditch (Featherby 2007b)

Western Roman (Watson 2003)

Southwark (Mackinder 2000)

SURREY

Ewell (Cotton 2001)

SUSSEX

Kilns:

Chiltington, Wickham Barn (Butler & Lyne 2001)

Littlehampton (Laidlaw 2003; Lyne 2003)

Sites:

Alfoldean [Weald] (Luke *et al* 2001)

Brighton (Gilkes 1997)

Boxgrove (Middleton & Rudling 1996)

Burgess Hill (Lyne 2000)

Chichester and area (Bradley 1992)

Fishbourne (Dannell 1996a,b,2005,2006; Dickinson 1995,2005,2006; Hartley 2005a,b; Rigby 1996; Lyne 2005a,b; Williams 1996,2005a,b,2006)

Hassocks cemetery (Lyne 1995)

Horsham [Weald] (Lyne 2008)

Pevensy (Lyne 2009)

Westhampnett (Mephram *et al* 1997)

Over the next five years, the following publications, which will also contribute to the existing agenda, are expected:

HAMPSHIRE

Alice Holt

Claudentum

Fishbourne (Isle of Wight)

Hayling Island

Shedfield

Sparsholt

Winchester Rural

Jones 2009; Keller 1996; Lyon 2007; Lyne 1994,1999,2001a,b,2003,2007b; Monteil 2008; Parfitt 1999; Pearson 2002; Philp 1996; Philp & Chenery 2002; Philp *et al* 1999; Powell & Schuster 2009; Rees *et al* 2005; Rigby 1999; Savage 1998,1999,2006; Seager Smith 2000; Sibun 2001; Symonds 2001; Tomber & Williams 1996; Walker & Farwell 2000

KENT

Canterbury Whitefriars

Northfleet

Springhead

LONDON

Cheapside

Gresham Street

Highgate Wood

No. 1 Poultry

SURREY

Staines

SUSSEX

Barcombe

Bardown

Shippams Chichester

Two of these, Highgate Wood and Alice Holt (1974, 1977–9) were noted as being important unpublished sites; other significant sites still awaiting a publication date are Eccles and London sites excavated in the late 1980s.

A number of other articles have also appeared which contribute to the existing regional agenda; some cover less site-specific subject matter (full references will be placed on the SGRP website):

Allen & Fulford 1996; Andrews 2001; Andrews *et al* 2009; Barber 1998, 1999; Bateman 2008; Brigham & Woodger 2001; Brown & Durham 2008a,b; Cowan & Hinton 2008; Davies 2001,2004; Dicks 2007; Durham 2008a,b,c,d; English 2005; Featherby 2007a; Graham & Graham 2009; Greatorex 1999; Hart 1997; Haynes 2008; Hicks 1998; Hoskins *et al* 2005; Houliston 1999;

EAST MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA

The SGRP regional agenda for the East Midlands and East Anglia varied markedly from the others in having regional themes related to the regional tribes (Martin and Wallace 1997, SGRP 2002). The counties or part-counties covered by the tribes are as follows:

The **Catuvellauni** - south Northamptonshire/north Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

The **Corieltauvi** - south Derbyshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Rutland and bordering parts of Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire.

The **Iceni** - Norfolk and northern Suffolk.

The **Trinovantes** - Essex, the London area and the Hertfordshire border.

The themes addressed the potential of museum and other collections, kiln groups and production sites, early military sites, consumer sites and ceramic traditions (wares and vessel styles).

The following reports published in the last ten years involve sites mentioned in the agenda:

CATUVELLAUNI

Kilns:

- Godmanchester (Evans 2003)
- Greenhouse Farm (Gibson & Lucas 2002)
- Harrold (Brown 1994)
- Milton, Penfold Farm (Frend 1998)
- Stibbington (Perrin 2010)
- Swavesey (Willis *et al* 2008)

Sites:

- Milton Keynes (Featherby 2006; Parminter 1996)
- Stagsden by-pass Bedfordshire (Slowikowski 2000)
- Durobrivae*, Water Newton (Hartley & Perrin 1999; Perrin 1999)
- Settlement on the Bedfordshire Claylands (Stansbie 2007)

CORIELTAUUI

Kilns:

- Dragonby (May *et al* 1996)

Hazelwood (Leary 2003)

Ockbrook (Leary 2001)

Roman Pottery Industry of West-Central Leicestershire (Pollard 2005)

ICENI

Kilns:

Ellingham, Postwick and Two-Mile Bottom, Norfolk (Bates & Lyons 2003)

Ellingham mortaria (Gregory 1997; Hartley & Gurney 1997)

Hatcheson (Arthur 2004; Hartley 2004; Plouviez 2004; Rigby 2004; Seeley 2004)

Snettisham, Norfolk (Lyons 2004)

Spong Hill, Norfolk (Gurney 1995)

TRINOVANTES

Kiln:

Orsett Cock Enclosure, Essex (Cheer 1998)

Ardleigh, Essex (Going & Belton 1999)

Bourne Hill, Wherstead, Suffolk (Rigby 2001; Symonds 2001)

Ivy Chimneys, Witham, Essex (Turner-Walker & Wallace 1999)

Sites:

Ardleigh, Essex (Going & Belton 1999; Sealey 1999)

Colchester (Eckardt 1999,2002; Going 1996; Symonds & Wade 1999)

Stanway: (Benfield 2007a,b; Crummy 2007; Dannell 2007; Rigby 2007; Sealey 2007)

Numerous other site reports which can address the many themes have also appeared:

CATUVELLAUNI

Baldock (Wells 2009)

Bassingbourn (Hancocks 2001)

Cambourne (Seager Smith 2009)

Cambridge (Dickinson 1999; Farrar *et al* 1999; Hull 1999; Hull & Pullinger 1999; Pullinger 1999; Pullinger *et al* 1999)

Cambridge clay uplands (Lyons 2008)

- Chatteris (Hill & Lucas 2003)
- Courteenhall (Hancocks 2006)
- Deanshanger (Timby 2006)
- Dunstable (Timby 2005)
- Earls Barton (Mackreth 2004)
- Foxton (Lucas 1997)
- Godmanchester (Evans 2003; Going 1997; Hancocks 2003)
- Haddon, Peterborough (Evans 2003, Vince 2003; Willis 2003)
- Harlington (Wells 2001)
- Higham Ferrers (Timby 2004)
- Kempston (Parminter & Slowikowski 2004)
- Linslade (McSloy 2007)
- Little Barford (Lucas 1997)
- Longstanton (Hancocks 2001)
- Magiovinium (Woodfield 1995)
- Orton Hall Farm (Perrin 1996; Perrin & Hartley 1996)
- Orton Longueville (Rollo 2001)
- Oundle (Timby 2005)
- Paston (Hancocks 2001)
- Ruxox (Parminter & Slowikowski 2004)
- Stanion (Friendship-Taylor 2008)
- Stevenage (Wagh 1999)
- Stoke Hammond (McSloy 2007)
- Stonea (Cameron 1996; Hartley 1996,2006; Johns 1996a,b; Keay & Carreras 1996; Rigby 1996a,b)
- Verulamium (Bird 2005; Bird 2006; Dickinson 2006; Hartley 1999; Lyne 1999a,b,2006; Rigby 1999; Webster 2006; Williams 1999,2006)
- Wendover (Woodfield 2003)
- Ware (Green 2004-2005)
- West Haddon (Fawcett 2006)
- Wimpole (Lucas 1994)
- Wootton, Bedford (Pollard & Baker 1999)
- A1(M) Alconbury to Peterborough (Hancocks *et al* 1998)
- CORIELTAUVI**
- Ashby Folville to Thurcaston (Leary 2009)
- Bottesford (Darling 2009)
- Brough-on-Noe (Leary 1993a,b)
- Besthorpe (Booth 2000)
- Dragonby (Elsdon 1996; Gregory 1996; Parminter & Hartley 1996; Rigby & Elsdon 1996)
- Empingham (Cooper 2000a,b)
- Holbeach St Johns (Gurney 1999a,b,c)
- Leicester (Clark 1999; Marsden 1996,2004)
- Lincoln (Darling 1999, 2001,2006)
- Littleborough on Trent (Buckland & O'Connor 1995; Hartley 1995)
- Little Chester (Martin 2000; Symonds 2002)
- Lound (Leary 1995)
- Worksop (Palmer Brown & Munford 2004)
- A millennium of Saltmaking (Precious 2001; Vince 2001)
- ICENI**
- Beck Row, Mildenhall, Suffolk (Bales 2004; Tester 2004)
- Brettenham, Norfolk (Rollo 2002)
- Saham Toney, Norfolk (Lyons 2000)
- Scole, Norfolk (Lyons 2009)
- Snettisham, Norfolk (Flitcroft 2001a; Gurney 2001; Lyons 2004)
- Weeting (Gregory 1996)
- A millennium of Saltmaking (Darling 2001)
- TRINOVANTES**
- Brightlingsea (Martin 1996b)
- Canvey Island (Hedges & Martin 2002)
- Chignall (Wallace & Turner-Walker 1998)
- Great Chesterford (Miller 1995)
- Great Dunmow (Fawcett 2005; Wallace 1997)
- Great Sampford (Martin 1998)
- Hatfield Peverel (Martin 1996)
- Heybridge (Croom 1997; Martin 2003)
- Little Oakley (Barford 2002)

Lower Blackwater Valley (Horsley & Wallace 1998)
North Shoebury (Leary 1995; Thompson 1995)
Stebbing Green (Going 1999)
Thaxted (Biddulph 2007a)
Salt industry and the Red Hills (Sealey 1995)
Stansted Airport (Wallace 2004)
A120 between Stansted Airport and Braintree (Biddulph 2007b)

The following reports which can address some of the themes are expected to be published in the next five years:

CATUVELLAUNI

Daventry International Railfreight Terminal
Earith
Stanwick (?)
Horningsea
Little Paxton
Woodhurst (in prep)

CORIELTAUVI

Fosse Way
Lincoln Corpus
Market Rasen
Thistleton (?)
Winterton

ICENI

Cedars Park, Stowmarket, Suffolk

TRINOVANTES

Elms Farm, Heybridge, Essex
Settlement hierarchies in Roman Essex

In addition, a number of reports dealing with less site-specific, but relevant, subject matter have also appeared (full references will be placed on the SGRP website):

Barr 1997-2003; Biddulph 2005; Condron 1997; Cool 2006; Braithwaite 2009; Dannell 2006; Dawson 2004; Edwards *et al* 2005; Fitzpatrick 1994-6; Foster 1998-9; Gillam 2005; Going 1996; Green 1984; Gurney 1998; Isserlin 2005; Leary 1996; Martin 1997; Mudd 2007; Pitts 2005; Pitts & Perring 2006; Taylor 2004; Willis 1996,2003; Woodfield 2005

The survey undertaken for this project has identified the additional unpublished sites, as priorities for publication:

CATUVELLAUNI

Warren

CORIELTAUVI

Brough-on-Noe, Barri Jones
Lincoln
Market Rasen

ICENI

Pakenham, Suffolk
Scole, Norfolk

WESTERN BRITAIN

The reports have the potential to address the following existing SGRP agenda items for western Britain (Booth and Willis 1997, SGRP 2002):

4.1	Chronology – the Iron Age-Roman interface
4.2	Chronology – the late Roman to early Saxon transition?
5.2	Military pottery and ‘Romanisation’
5.3	Wales
6	Urban assemblages
7.	Rural assemblages
8.1	Trade – military & civilian trade
8.2	Trade – distributions of the major regional industries
9	Functional trends in pottery
11.	Site status

Table 4 Western Britain research agenda (Booth and Willis 1997, SGRP 2002) themes

A large number of reports on kilns and other sites mentioned in the existing agenda have been published as follows:

BIRMINGHAM

Longdales Road, King’s Norton (Jones *et al* 2008)

Metchley (Green & Evans 2002; Hancocks 2005; Hartley 2005; Willis 2005)

CORNWALL

Cornish Gabbroic ware (Harrad 2004; Roberts & Quinnell 1998/1999)

Duckpool, Morwenstow (Quinnell 1995; Williams 1995)

Halangy Down, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly (Ashbee 1996; Samuels 1996)

Penryn (Quinnell 2007)

St Austell (Quinnell 2004a,b)

DEVON

Bury Barton (Todd 2002)

Exeter (Salvatore 2001)

Hembury (Dannell 2007; Todd 2007)

The A30 Honiton to Exeter (Seager Smith 1999)

DORSET

Kilns:

Arne (Lyne 2002/3)

Redcliff (Lyne 2002/3)

Stoborough (Lyne 2002/3)

Sites:

Hamworthy, Poole (Lyne *et al* 2009)

Isle of Portland (Sparey-Green 2009)

Portesham (Lyne 2003/4; Seager Smith 1996/7)

Weymouth (Seager Smith & Mephram 2008)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Bishop’s Cleeve (Timby 2007)

Cirencester (Cooper 1998; McSloy 2008)

Cotswold water park (Booth 2007)

Dymock (Timby 2007; Wild 2007; Williams 2007)

Frocester (Timby 2000)

Gloucester (Timby 2008)

Great Witcombe Roman Villa (Leach *et al* 1998a,b)

Lydney Park (Dore 1999)

OXFORDSHIRE

Alchester (Cooper 2000; Evans 2001a,b)

Hatford (Booth 2000)

Standlake (Timby 1995)

Wilcote (Hands 1998a,b, 2004)

Chalgrove to East Ilsley gas pipeline (Wilson 2008)

SHROPSHIRE

Kilns:

Meole Brace [Pulley] (Evans 1999)

Wroxeter, Bell Brook (Faiers 2006)

Sites:

Eardington (Booth 2000)

Wroxeter (Darling 2002; Evans 2004; Symonds 1997; Timby 2000,2006; Tomber 1997; White 1997; Wild 1997)

Wroxeter Hinterland (Dickinson 1994; Evans 1994,2007; Hartley 1994; Williams 1994)

Worcester (Bryant & Evans 2004; Edwards *et al* 2002)

Strensham to Worcester Aqueduct (Jackson *et al* 1996)

SOMERSET

Bath (Bidwell & Croom 1999; Gerrard 2007)

Crandon Bridge (Timby 2008; Wild 2008)

Shepton Mallet (Dickinson 2001; Evans 2001)

STAFFORDSHIRE

Rochester (Bevan 2000; Bevan & Hartley 2000; Williams 2000; Willis 2000)

Whitemoor Haye Quarry (Evans 2006; Hancocks 2002)

A5 Weeford to Fazeley (Booth 2008)

WARWICKSHIRE

Alcester (Booth 2001; Evans 2001; Evans & Ward 2001; Ferguson 1996, 2001a,b)

Arrow Valley (Evans 2000)

Coleshill (Booth 2006; Dickinson 2006; Hartley 2006)

Mancetter (Dickinson 2000; Greene 2000; Hartley 2000; Hartley *et al* 2006; Scott 2000a)

Rugby (McSloy 2007)

WILTSHIRE

Atworth Roman villa (Dickinson 2008; Timby 2008)

Devizes (Corney 2002)

Great Bedwyn (Wilmott 1997)

South Marston Park (McSloy 2009)

Wanborough (Anderson 2001; Hartley 2001; Mephram 2001; Seager Smith 2001)

WORCESTERSHIRE

Kiln:

Great Malvern (Evans *et al* 2000)

Sites:

Droitwich (Barfield 2006a; Rees 2006)

Ripple (McSloy & Dannell 2008)

SOUTH WALES

Kiln:

Gelligaer (Webster 2005)

Caerleon (Webster *et al* 2004)

Sites:

Caerleon (Compton & Webster 2000; Evans 1997; Hartley 2000; Seager Smith 2000; Webster 1995)

Barlands Farm Romano-Celtic Boat (Webster 2004)

Carmarthen (Brennan & Hartley 2003; Brennan & James 2003; Webster & Dickinson 2003; Williams 2009)

Chepstow (Evans 1996)

Cowbridge (Evans 1996; Evans *et al* 1996; Webster & Greep 1996)

Gwent levels (Lyne 2001)

Llawhaden (Brennan 1998)

Loughnor (Webster 1997)

Monmouth (Webster 2001)

RAF St Athan (McSloy 2006)

The following important reports are likely to be published in the next five years:

DORSET

Bestwall Quarry

HEREFORDSHIRE

Ariconium

Kenchester, Yazor Brook

OXFORDSHIRE

Dorchester on Thames

Gill Mill

Yarnton

Study Group for Roman Pottery Occasional Paper No. 1
A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

STAFFORDSHIRE

Rocester

WILTSHIRE

West Swindon

WORCESTERSHIRE

Beckford

Childswickham villa

Worcester – St Johns

Worcester – The Butts (various sites)

Worcester – Royal Infirmary, Castle Street

WORCESTERSHIRE

Worcester Magistrates Court

WALES

Caerwent

Caer Gai pottery

Cefn Caer pottery

Dinorben

Rhyn Park

In addition, a survey of the Malvern kiln area and a reassessment of Severn Valley ware were considered to be important projects.

A few reports dealing with less site-specific, but relevant, regional subject matter have also appeared (full references will be placed on the SGRP website):

Booth 2001,2007; CBA 1997; Gerrard, 2005; Lloyd Jones 2005; Moorhead 2009; Palmer 2009; Timby 2001; Turner & Gerrard 2004)

As with the other regions, respondents to the questionnaire have added to the list of priorities for publication for Western Britain.

BIRMINGHAM

Sherifoot Lane, Sutton Coldfield kiln

OXFORDSHIRE

Abingdon

Churchill Hospital, Oxford

West Oxfordshire' industry

SHROPSHIRE

Pentrhyling fort, Brompton

WARWICKSHIRE

Lapworth

Mancetter-Hartshill

Tiddington

WILTSHIRE

South Wiltshire white-slipped

North Wiltshire wares

NATIONAL

The national research agenda produced in 1997 (Willis 1997b, 2002) had three main themes: required research infrastructure, issues and research objectives relating to major site types, and issues and research objectives relating to themes and specialist areas in Roman pottery. These headings were retained when the agenda was revised in 2003, although some of the sub-headings were altered.

The sub-headings in the 2004 document (Willis 2004) are as follows:

3. REQUIRED RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

3.2	A National Database of Roman Pottery Collections
3.3.1	The National Collection
3.3.2	Regional Fabric and Form Series
3.4	Scientific Analysis
3.4.1	Routine Scientific Analyses
3.4.2	Residue Analysis
3.4.3	Neutron Activation Analysis
3.4.4	New Science based Research Projects
3.4.5	Collaborative Research
3.5	Methodology
3.5.1	Quantitative Study
3.5.2	Standardised Recording
3.5.3	The Potential of the <i>JRPS</i> annotated Bibliography of Pottery publications
3.6	Professional Standards, Expertise and Training
3.6.1	General Points
3.6.2	Research Fellowships
3.7	Strategic Publications assisting efficient pottery work

Table 5 National research agenda (Willis 2004) required research infrastructure

4. ISSUES AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES RELATING TO MAJOR SITE TYPES

4.2	Urban Sites
4.2.1	Importance and General Research Potential
4.2.2	The Scope for Spatial Analysis
4.2.3	The Potential of Large Urban Groups
4.2.4	The need for Consistent Methodology - enabling comparative analysis
4.2.5	Publications
4.2.6	Residuality
4.3	Military Sites
4.3.1	The Unique Value of Military Sites and Pottery
4.3.2	Importance in terms of Chronology and Dating

4.3.3	Spatial Analysis
4.3.4	Supply
4.3.5	The Northern Frontier
4.4	Kiln Sites
4.4.1	Publication Priorities
4.4.2	Updating the RCHME Kilns Volume
4.5	Rural Sites
4.5.1	Importance and General Research Potential
4.5.2	Methodologies of Study
4.5.3	Spatial Analysis
4.5.4	More Publication Needed for Rural Sites
4.5.5	Sampling Rural (lower status) Sites
4.5.6	Using Information from 'Evaluations'
4.5.7	Comparing Rural and Urban Assemblages
4.5.8	Hinterland/Landscape Projects
4.6	Cemeteries
4.7	'Backlog' sites

Table 6 National research agenda (Willis 2004) issues and research objectives relating to major site types

5. ISSUES AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES RELATING TO THEMES AND SPECIALIST AREAS IN ROMAN POTTERY STUDY

5.1	Chronology
5.2	Trade, Supply and Distribution
5.3	Samian
5.3.2	Existing Concerns: Training and Updating Corpora
5.3.3	Samian Distribution and Incidence Study
5.3.4	Excavated samian assemblages: Publication Priorities
5.3.5	Quantification of samian
5.4	'Romanisation' / Roman and Native Interaction
5.5	Pottery and the Organisation of the Roman Army
5.6	Functional Trends
5.7	Site Status
5.8	Spatial Patterning and Integrated Finds Studies
5.9	Social and Cultural Identity
5.10	Ritual Sites and Ritual Practice
5.11	Roman Pottery Production and other Roman Industries
5.12	The End of the Romano-British Economy

Table 7 National research agenda (Willis 2004) issues and research objectives relating to themes and specialist areas in Roman pottery study

Some specific progress has been made. The publication of reports on the Brougham cemetery, Piercebridge, and some sites at Alice Holt, in the Lower Nene Valley and in South Yorkshire (see regional sections, pp 24-34 above) have addressed some of the national publication priorities; reports on Mancetter/ Hartshill, Hadham, kilns in the Wattisfield area, Suffolk, Alice Holt (the 1974 and 1977-9 excavations), Brampton, a Holt corpus, Eccles, and

Morley St Peter are still required. A number of samian ware training initiatives have taken place and there is now a samian ware research group, the Samian Working Group (SWG). An English Heritage-funded survey of current views and practices in samian ware training, recording, reporting, and publishing has provided important information (Monteil and Rayner 2010; see p 20 above). The ongoing publication of Brian Hartley's legacy both in the shape of the publication of the Leeds Index of Potters' Stamps (Hartley *et al* 2008a, 2008b, 2008c, 2009a, 2009b, 2010, 2011) but also in the digitising and publishing of all of his decorated samian rubbings (<http://www.sgrp.org.uk/14/0.htm>) will make all these previously inaccessible archives more available. A suite of databases to do with South Gaulish decorated ware is already available online (login procedure required):

<http://www1.rgzm.de/samian/home/frames.htm>

The corpus of stamps on Gallo-Belgic ware can now be accessed interactively via the internet

<http://gallobelgic.thehumanjourney.net>

and a number of other internet-based resources have become available:

<http://potsherd.net/atlas/potsherd.html>

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/museum/samian.php>

<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/collections/blurbs/688.cfm>

<http://www.worcestershireceramics.org/>

http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/archive/amphora_a_hrb_2005

<http://ceipac.gh.ub.es/>

http://intarch.ac.uk/journal/issue1/tyers_index.html

A number of other reports which deal with wider or non site-specific issues have also been published and some of the larger site reports have taken the opportunity to examine additional aspects of pottery assemblages. Progress has also been made with scientific analyses, while debate on quantification and other methodologies continues apace. Much of the content of the responses to the questionnaire, in terms of strategy, related to national objectives and this was repeated in the two workshops which took place. It is not surprising, therefore, that the strategy closely reflects the national agenda.

THE RESEARCH STRATEGY

The following Research Strategy sets out a prioritised action plan for the delivery of the SGRP's objectives for the study of Roman pottery over a set time period. It seeks to identify prioritised programmes and projects within the research agenda and possible resources and funding streams. The Strategy has been compiled from the responses to the SGRP membership questionnaire, from the responses to the joint survey, from the results of the workshops, and from comments received from the SGRP membership.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ISSUES AND INITIATIVES STEMMING FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE AND SURVEY

Recording and analysis

- Need for standardisation
- Appropriate statistical measures
- Agreed terminology for aspects such as firing technology
- Revisions to approaches and guidelines to match current archaeological practice
- Criteria for the selection and retention of pottery to be curated
- Scientific analyses

Reference collections

- National Roman Fabric Reference collection online
- Swan kiln volume online
- Web-based regional fabric and form type series
- Revised and extended online 'Gillam' typology
- A web-based resource for mortaria and mortarium stamps
- National database of pottery analyses

SGRP Regional agenda

- Revisions to existing documents

Museum and other archives

- National database of pottery collections lodged in museums, with CAOs, with individuals and elsewhere
- Issues relating to access to pottery collections
- Criteria for retention and disposal of pottery

Training and research

- CPD courses
- Improve opportunities for synthesis
- Managing succession to ensure adequate future numbers of pottery specialists
- Mentoring
- Seminars and workshops
- Workplace learning
- Research fellowships for existing specialists
- More pottery-based PhDs to encourage new specialists
- Improved SGRP website

Publication, dissemination, and outlets

- Need for a website which holds information on pottery published as grey literature
- Criteria for internet publication of pottery
- Mechanisms to ensure HER deposition of reports which include pottery
- Website(s) holding information on pottery in grey literature and HER reports

Liaison, communication, and influencing

- Raise profile of ceramics, specialist study groups and key documents in wider profession, including commercial archaeology
- Raise profile of ceramics with developers

- Ensuring that ceramics are properly addressed in new policy documents, research designs, written schemes of investigation, archaeological briefs, research frameworks, agenda, and strategies
Input to by Local Government archaeological planning documents and briefs to ensure good quality of pottery processing and reporting in projects funded by developers
- Closer collaboration with universities to increase profile of ceramics at all taught levels
- Closer collaboration with museums over aspects including selection and retention, access to collections, educational use of collections
- Joint conferences with other professional archaeological bodies or groups
- Promote studies which integrate pottery with other specialist material
- More liaison with Continental scholars

Finance

- Investigate new potential sources and types, including non-UK

THE SGRP RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVES

There was a substantial level of consensus within the SGRP on which objectives should be prioritised over the next five years. Thirteen objectives were identified. Most have an overall national perspective, resting on regional building blocks and to be initiated within a regional context. In this respect, they are a natural progression from the SGRP's previous national framework (Willis 1997b, 2002, 2004). The objectives can be considered separately or grouped under a number of wider aims (Table 8) and the strategy is related, where relevant, to other Research Strategies. The full list of Research Strategy objectives is as follows:

- 1 The National Roman Reference Collection**
- 2 Kilns**
- 3 Regional Roman Reference Collections**
- 4 Pottery practice**
- 5 Museum etc collections**
- 6 Training initiatives**
- 7 Scientific initiatives**
- 8 Review of sites mentioned in regional/national research agenda**
- 9 Digitising of mortarium stamps**
- 10 Extending the 'Gillam' typology**
- 11 Influencing**
- 12 Liaison**
- 13 A Roman pottery taxonomy**

While some objectives can be achieved internally by the SGRP, the majority can only be taken forward through joint action, conceived as partnerships with external people or organisations. The objectives are outlined below indicating with whom partnerships might fruitfully be established, principally the specialist groups dealing with artefacts and ecofacts, local government archaeologists, museum curators and university academic staff. Other potential partners will be identified throughout the course of the programme, as will potential funding bodies.

The objectives represent the current thinking within the SGRP and comprise an ambitious programme. It is unlikely that all of the objectives can be achieved within the five-year period and pragmatic considerations in terms of availability of staff and funding will play a role in terms of which objectives are prioritised and tackled. An annual review by the SGRP will ensure that the strategy will be responsive to changes in the sector, new findings nationally or regionally, scientific advances etc., and there will be a full review after five years which English Heritage will seek to fund.

Study Group for Roman Pottery Occasional Paper No. 1

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

Aim	Research Objective	Task
Maximising the potential of existing resources and developing these (making more accessible, updating)	National Roman Fabric Reference Collection (NRFRC)	1A Digitisation
		1B Put digitised NRFRC online
	Kilns	2A Digitisation of Swan 1984
		2B Add details of kilns post 1984
		2C Add type series
		2D Add break section photographs
		2E Add photographs of special features (eg spouts)
		2F Establish extent of Roman thin sections
		2G Add thin section etc info
		2H Put digitised kiln database online
	Regional Roman fabric reference collections	3A Compile data on existing fabric/form reference collections*
		3B Identify locations for and establish other reference collections*
		3C Place reference collections online
	Museum collections	5A Compile database of Museum collections*
5B Identify collections currently held elsewhere*		
Regional/national research agendas	8 Review of sites in regional/national research agenda; identification/reiteration of key sites for publication	
Mortarium stamps	9 Scanning of mortarium stamps and digitising for publication online	
Gillam typology	10 Extending the ('Gillam') typology for 'coarse' pottery in Northern Britain to the rest of the province of Roman Britain	
Maintaining, developing and promoting appropriate professional standards	Reviewing pottery practice	4A Revise guidelines to reflect current working practice*
		4B Check status of other SGRP documents. Select ones to take forward
		4C Review of quantification and statistical analysis*
		4D Establish correct terminology for firing technology*
		13 Develop a regional Roman pottery taxonomy
Maintaining, developing and promoting the human resource	Training initiatives	6A Compile list of topics for undergraduate and postgraduate research*
		6B University teaching *
		6C Liaise with museum curators to use collections as educational resource*
		6D Study days based on collections*
		6E Themed workshops*
		6F Website as training tool
Developing new techniques	Scientific initiatives	7A Establish the extent of scientific analysis undertaken on Roman pottery
		7B Samples for residue analysis
		7C Residue analysis
		7D Samples for rehydroxylation analysis
		7E Samples to help identify sources
		7F Kiln site location
Strengthening relationships across the historic environment sector	Influencing policy	11A Curators/contractors: grey literature, development briefs, monitoring reports)*
		11C Planning policy guidance and artefact research*
		11B Museums: Archive storage (access and retention)*
		11D Research: Related research frameworks and agenda*
	Liaising with other groups	12A Other specialist finds/environmental groups*
		12B Local societies/'amateur' groups*
		12C Museums*
		12D Universities*
		12E English Heritage, Historic Scotland, Cadw*

* Liaison with other groups

Table 8 SGRP strategy objectives aims

RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 1: THE NATIONAL ROMAN FABRIC REFERENCE COLLECTION

The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection was compiled between 1993 and 1996 and an accompanying handbook published in 1998 (Tomber and Dore). This is acknowledged by the majority of SGRP members as being one of the most important and influential publications on Roman pottery and the fabric and coding descriptions are now widely used by Roman pottery specialists. It has been recognised for some time, however, that the value and potential of the information in the handbook would be greatly enhanced by being available through the internet. Accordingly, R Tomber, in conjunction with the

Museum of London, has initiated a programme for the digitising of the handbook and making it available on the internet. The work is being funded by the RRT and the data will be housed and maintained on the Museum of London website. The work is well advanced and it is hoped that the website will be active within the next year. The physical reference collection will continue to be housed and curated by the British Museum. It is hoped that this initiative will facilitate the updating and amending of the collection – one of the original project aims which has been difficult to carry out.

1. National Roman Fabric Reference Collection		Internal	Who Partners	Externals	How	When 1 year	Funding
1A	Digitisation of NRFRC	R Tomber	Museum of London	photographer		Underway	Roman Research Trust
1B	Put digitised NRFRC online	R Tomber	Museum of London		On MOL website	Underway	Roman Research Trust

RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 2: KILNS

Knowledge and understanding of the centres where the pottery was produced are fundamental to the study of Roman pottery. The late Vivien Swan's seminal work, *The Pottery Kilns of Roman Britain*, produced while at the RCHME, has been a crucial source book since its publication in 1984. One of the drawbacks to this publication, however, is that much of the data on the individual kiln sites is contained in the relatively-inaccessible medium of microfiche. The inclusion of information on kilns, taken from Swan's book, on Paul Tyers' *Potsherd* website (<http://potsherd.net/>) has helped to offset this problem, but it has long been an aim of the SGRP to digitise the report fully and to make the information available on the internet. Accordingly, the SGRP has made funds available and the results of the first stages are now available (http://mapdata.thehumanjourney.net/vgswandb_index.html). When fully developed, the website will be hosted by the University Museum, Nottingham (*Objective 2A*).

A large number of kilns have been recorded since Swan concluded gathering the information contained in the 1984 publication. Some represent entirely new kiln sites, while others are additions to kiln sites which were already known; some of the latter have increased the area of known production and/or have led to a renaming of an industry. Many of these sites have been published, some with the aid of comment from Vivien Swan. In addition, a number of studies have increased the knowledge of some kiln sites and their products.

It is crucial that this new information is made available in a similar format to that in Swan's volume and the SGRP will initiate a programme whereby this can be achieved, most probably through working parties tasked to deal with each region. The project will be initiated as a pilot study on a single county.

The SGRP considers that it is essential to compile all available information on the location, format, structure, chronology, and products of kiln sites. The starting point for this is an updated list of kiln sites, but the overall aim is to significantly enhance this through the addition of a type series of products, fabric thin-section and other fabric analysis data, photographs of fabrics, and the main form types and important features (such as spouts, decoration, base 'cheese-wire' patterns, fingerprints etc). Much of this information already exists in some form, though many kiln sites have not been analysed in any way. The scale and scope of what is required will vary and some existing datasets or reports, such as the NRFRC (Tomber and Dore 1998) and the Worcestershire

online reference collection

(<http://www.worcestershireceramics.org>) will be of use for some aspects.

The first stage, therefore, will be to assess what information is readily available and accessible for kiln sites, which sites require work and what resources are needed to complete the full range of supporting information for all sites. The potential exists for this initiative to encompass kiln or production sites of all periods, working in conjunction with the MPRG and Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group (PCRG). While it may be possible to carry this out using internal resources (over a considerable period of time), it would probably be a suitable project for a university to undertake, or to receive external funding. The additional information would be added to the website to be hosted by the University of Nottingham (*Objective 2B*).

While some of the initial assessment can be carried out within the SGRP, it represents a large undertaking and would benefit from external funds being available to enable dedicated staff to be assigned; this would also greatly reduce the lifetime of the project. Additional external funds will also be required to provide some of the supporting information, such as illustrations of the unpublished kiln sites, thin section or other fabric analysis, and photographs. The additional information would be added to the website to be hosted by the University of Nottingham Museum (*Objectives 2C–2H*).

Study Group for Roman Pottery Occasional Paper No. 1

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

2. Kilns		Who			How	When <i>Over next 5 years</i>	Funding
		Internal	Partners	Externals			
2A	Digitisation of Swan 1984		Nottingham University Museum		Nottingham University Museum website	Underway	SGRP
2B	Add details of kilns post 1984	Regional members/groups	Nottingham University Museum, MPRG, PCRG		Identify and add new kilns since 1984 including unpublished		SGRP, EH, Other?
2C	Add type series	Regional members/groups	Nottingham University	Illustrator	Compile and scan illustrations Arrange for drawings to be done where none exist		SGRP, EH, Other?
2D	Add break section photographs	Regional members/groups	Nottingham University	Photographer	Select material and arrange for photographs to be done		SGRP, EH, Other?
2E	Add photographs of special features, eg spouts	Regional members/groups	Nottingham University	Photographer	Select material and arrange for photographs to be done		SGRP, EH, Other?
2F	Establish the extent of Roman thin sections (see 7A)	tbc	MPRG		Alan Vince & other databases; reports.		SGRP, EH, Other?
2G	Add thin section etc info	tbc	Nottingham University	University department	Arrange for additional analyses to be done		SGRP, EH, Other?
2H	Put digitised kiln database online	tbc	Nottingham University	Web designer	Design database, Sample		SGRP, EH, Other?

RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 3: REGIONAL ROMAN REFERENCE COLLECTIONS

Most pottery specialists now find that they have to deal with assemblages from diverse areas, including those with which they are unfamiliar. While all tend to use basic fabric/form etc. series which have a measure of compatibility with each other, and utilise standard terminology, as contained in publications such as the NRFRC and the SGRP's Student's Guide to Roman Pottery (Webster 1969), it has long been an aim to promote regional reference collections that can be used to ensure consistency irrespective of who is carrying out the work. A number of these exist in various forms and are held in different locations, but the overall coverage is limited and patchy.

Access to such collections can be difficult. Only one of the existing reference collections is available online and a number of the others cannot be easily accessed physically. Moreover, the nature of the funding for

commercial archaeology is such that there is seldom enough money to permit travel from one area to examine the reference collection in another.

The first stage for achieving this objective will be to compile data on the existing fabric/form reference collections, which would include an assessment in terms of content, accessibility etc, and the measures/resources that will be required to bring them to a required standard and compatibility (*Objective 3A*). Following this, areas which would benefit from reference collections, suitable locations for them, and the measures/resources required to establish them, would be identified (*Objective 3B*). Finally, in order to ensure maximum accessibility, the reference collections would be placed online, using the template used by a current, successful, online reference collection (eg Worcestershire <http://www.worcestershireceramics.org>) This objective would be initiated by identifying a pilot area and would eventually aim for multi-period reference collections (*Objective 3C*).

3. Reference collections		Internal	Who Partners	Externals	How	When <i>Over next 5 years</i>	Funding
3A	Compile data on existing fabric/form reference collections	Regional members/groups	Local gov, Museums, Universities, FAME/CAOs, MPRG, PCRG, local societies		Assess content, accessibility etc		SGRP, MPRG, PCRG Local gov, Museums
3B	Identify locations for and establish other reference collections	Regional members/groups	Local gov, Museums, Universities, FAME/CAOs, MPRG, PCRG				SGRP, EH, LG, MPRG, PCRG, Local gov, Museums, Other?
3C	Place reference collections online	Regional members/groups	Local gov, Museums, Universities, FAME/CAOs, MPRG, PCRG		Pilot area using existing as models		SGRP, EH, LG, MPRG, PCRG, Other?

RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 4: POTTERY PRACTICE

Part of the SGRP's role is to provide guidance to pottery specialists on the analysis of pottery, in order to promote best practice and consistency, and a number of documents have been produced to promote this aim. A key publication has been the *Guidelines for the Archiving of Roman Pottery*, (M Darling), first circulated in 1994 and then published in 2004.

These extremely successful and influential guidelines were produced in response to the then new approach to the management and funding of archaeological research promoted by English Heritage (The Management of Archaeological Projects – MAP2, 1991) following the advent of 'developer funding' enshrined in new planning policy guidance (PPG 16: Planning and Archaeology 1991). The conduct of commercial archaeology has changed in various ways since its inception and pottery specialists working in, or for, contracting organisations have noted that the *Guidelines* no longer fully reflect the current situation. It is proposed, therefore, that a working party is set-up to revise the *Guidelines* to reflect current practice and to bring them into line with current planning guidance. Moreover, as specialists working on the ceramics of all periods are similarly affected, it is further proposed that the working party includes members of the MPRG and PCRG (*Objective 4A*).

Two other documents produced by the SGRP are also of importance in terms of promoting best practice and consistency. *Romano-British coarse pottery: a student's guide* was first produced in 1969 (Webster 1969); it has been out of print for some time, though available through the ADS (http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/arch-281-1/dissemination/pdf/cba_rr_006.pdf)

and some work has been done on producing a revised version. The first volume of JRPS contained a 'Dictionary of Roman pottery terms' (Cameron 1986). It is uncertain how much this has been used and how many other, similar, 'dictionaries' have appeared in the interim. In addition, the SGRP has been working intermittently on other documents, including a Roman pottery glossary and an update to the *Guidelines for the processing and publication of Roman pottery from excavations* (Young 1980). A working party will be set up to look at these documents to decide which need to be taken forward and the resources that would be required (*Objective 4B*).

It has long been accepted that the quantitative recording of pottery data enables inferences to be made on fundamental aspects such as chronology,

function, status, ritual, trade, and economy. Although the current guidelines recommend varying levels of recording according to the project stage (Darling 1994, 2004 and see 'Recording and Analysis', pp 8-9 above), there is still a lack of consensus as to what measures should be recorded and how they should be interpreted. The nature of specialist wares, for example, allow a level of accuracy in terms of calculating numbers of vessels that makes some specialists, perhaps understandably, reluctant to spend time recording other quantification measures which they regard as both superfluous and inferior. The problem with these differing approaches to quantification between 'ordinary' and specialist wares is that the lack of consistent measures prevents full comparison. More generally, the statistical validity of some of the measures and the way in which the data is used is open to question.

Accordingly, the strategy includes a review of the various quantification measures that are used and the other attributes which are routinely recorded. This will determine the key attributes that should be recorded and identify the quantification measures which are statistically reliable. A working party will be set up which will include archaeological statisticians and, given that this is an aspect which affects ceramicists of all periods, representatives of the MPRG and PCRG (*Objective 4C*).

The validity, understanding, and use by pottery researchers of a number of descriptive terms such as oxidised, reduced, and slow-wheel has been questioned by practicing potters. It is important that descriptive terms are valid and accurate and a working party will be set up to address this. It will include practicing potters and, given that this is also an aspect which affects ceramicists of all periods, representatives of the MPRG and PCRG (*Objective 4D*). The working party will consider existing publications/glossaries on the subject.

Study Group for Roman Pottery Occasional Paper No. 1

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

4. Pottery Practice		Internal	Who Partners	Externals	How	When 1-2 years	Funding
4A	Revise guidelines to reflect current working practice	tbc	MPRG, PCRG, SWG		SGRP working party		SGRP
4B	Check status of other SGRP documents	tbc			SGRP working party to decide which need to be taken forward and resources		SGRP
4C	Review of statistical analyses	H Cool, C Orton	MPRG, PCRG	Statisticians	SGRP working party		SGRP
4D	Establish correct terminology for firing technology	members who are potters	MPRG, PCRG	Potters	SGRP working party Input from members who are potters		SGRP

**RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 5:
MUSEUM ETC. COLLECTIONS**

The pottery which has been excavated is obviously the most important part of an archive. Museums continue to be the main repositories for pottery assemblages, but some are held by CAOs, individuals, or local societies. Uncertainty over funding for museums means that assemblages located elsewhere than in a museum may have to be held for a long time, or perhaps even indefinitely. In order to assess the value of all pottery archives as a research tool, it is imperative to know where pottery archives are stored,

how complete they are, what condition they are in, what supporting documentation is stored with them and how easy they are to access and research. Such information is vital for other strategy objectives (especially 11B).

Data from the online survey of museums and from surveys previously carried out by the PCRG and Patrick Ottaway (2010) will be examined, as part of a first stage of information gathering. A pilot area will then be chosen; the results will also, hopefully, provide an indication of how difficult it may prove to gather all the information that is sought (*Objectives 5A and 5B*).

5. Museum etc collections		Who			How	When 2 years	Funding
		Internal	Partners	Externals			
5A	Compile database of museum collections	Regional members/groups	PCRG, MPRG, Museums		Contact Patrick Ottaway and PCRG for information on their surveys Start with pilot area		SGRP, MPRG, PCRG, EH, AAF, SMA
5B	Identify collections currently held elsewhere	Regional members/groups	FAME/CAOs, EH, Universities, local societies		Start with pilot area		SGRP, Museums, EH, AAF, Others?

RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 6: TRAINING INITIATIVES

It is envisaged that the SGRP could liaise constructively with universities by providing a list of topics suitable for undergraduate and postgraduate research and by assisting with the teaching of pottery-related subjects or modules. Studentships, student placements, and mentoring are other possible areas that could be explored. Suitable research topics could include significant unpublished sites which only need a little extra work or resources for completion or significant sites where the analysis and/or publication is in limbo or under threat. As a first stage, the SGRP will liaise with selected universities to discuss the potential for cooperation and how it might be achieved (*Objectives 6A, 6B*).

Museum pottery collections represent a significant resource with enormous educational potential, not just for those directly involved with ceramics. Such collections can be used as the basis for study days and

themed workshops on numerous topics, and can be allied with practical activities such as potting and kiln firing. More broadly-based themes could combine ceramics with other materials from museum collections. Initially, a pilot area would be chosen where SGRP members could discuss possibilities with local museum curators; the discussions could include representatives from the MPRG, the PCRG and other finds groups (*Objectives 6C, 6D and 6E*).

These training initiatives will also help to identify new researchers, to keep people informed of new developments and to improve their knowledge and ability. In terms of information, the internet has now become an important and powerful research tool and the use of the internet to hold the results of the other strategy objectives reflects the SGRP's appreciation of this. The SGRP also recognises that its own dedicated website (<http://www.sgrp.org.uk>) has great potential as an educational and training resource. It will therefore seek to upgrade to website in order that this potential can be fully realised (*Objective 6F*).

6. Training initiatives	Who			How	When <i>Over next 5 years</i>	Funding
	Internal	Partners	Externals			
6A Compile list of topics suitable for undergraduate and postgraduate research	tbc	Universities, FAME/CAOs		Regional members/ groups, placements, mentoring, studentships		SGRP, Universities, EH, IfA
6B University teaching	tbc	Universities		As part of modules		Universities
6C Liaise with museum curators to use collections as educational resource	tbc	Museum curators		Pilot area, regional members/ groups		SGRP, SMA
6D Study days based on collections	tbc	MPRG, PCRG, Museums		Pilot area, regional members/ groups		SGRP, SMA, EH
6E Themed workshops	tbc	Universities, FAME/CAOs, Museums, MPRG, PCRG, Finds		Including joint and wider material culture topics		SGRP, MPRG, PCRG, SMA, EH, Universities, FAME/CAOs, Museums, Finds
6F Website as training tool	Committee		Web designer?	Select topics		SGRP

RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 7: SCIENTIFIC INITIATIVES

The recent National Heritage Science Strategy document on 'The use of science to enhance our understanding of the past' has noted the low use of science in artefact studies (including pottery) in relation to environmental archaeology (Section 3.4, <http://www.heritagesciencesstrategy.org.uk/>).

The first task of this objective (7A) is to evaluate the existing scientific resource, particularly through the thin-section database compiled by the late Alan Vince, through unpublished reports commissioned and held by EH, and through personal knowledge of members and university departments. By highlighting those pottery types that have been scientifically characterised, the potential for an ongoing characterisation programme with thin section and other techniques will be highlighted. This can be undertaken both on distinctive groups whose source region is unknown and on kiln groups, the latter in tandem with the kilns project (*Objective 2F*).

Residue analysis is increasingly providing useful information on the function of pottery. Here too we lack information on the existing resource and collation of this information is the first step in evaluating future strategies. A better understanding of the existing resource will be achieved by collating information from universities active in this field, from the examination of reports, from existing surveys, and from the personal knowledge of members (*Objective 7B*). Here as for Objective 7A, the approach can be multi-period and the database will include information provided by the MPRG and PCRG.

Despite the range of information obtained from residue analysis, on function, diet, food preparation, cooking methods, and ¹⁴C dates, there has not been a coordinated approach to residue analysis in the past. The SGRP, in collaboration with the EH Regional Science Advisors (RSAs) will be consulted and therefore seek to establish a programme of residue analysis on at least one class of pottery.

Black-burnished ware 1 is an instantly-recognisable cooking ware which was widely exported across much of Roman Britain from the 2nd century to the end of Roman occupation and which was used by both military garrisons and civilians. It is therefore considered a perfect vehicle for a residue analysis project examining possible variations in, and changes to, diet and cooking methods across the province through time. It would be relatively easy to collect representative samples and the analysis would be an ideal subject for a studentship or postgraduate study (*Objective 7C*).

A new dating technique, rehydroxylation analysis, is potentially of enormous significance (Wilson *et al* 2009). The process is still in a proofing stage and the SGRP will therefore liaise with the scientists involved to provide samples from independently well-dated contexts which will help with further testing and 'trudging'. The EH RSAs will be consulted (*Objective 7D*).

More information on the full extent of some known kiln sites could be obtained, and kiln sites could be identified at locations where they might be expected to be sited, through the collection of samples for thin-section analysis and selected and targeted geophysical and other surveys (*Objectives 7E and 7F*).

Study Group for Roman Pottery Occasional Paper No. 1

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

7. Scientific initiatives		Internal	Who Partners	Externals	How	When 2 years	Funding
7A	Establish the extent of scientific analysis undertaken on Roman pottery	tbc	Universities, MPRG, PCRG, EH		Contact Universities; scan EH reports; A Vince thin-section database		SGRP
7B	Samples for residue analysis	Regional members/groups	Universities	EH RSAs	Collection of samples		SGRP, AHRC
7C	Residue analysis - function of BB1 cooking wares	tbc	?Bristol/ Reading (Hella Eckardt)		Studentship Collection of samples		AHRC, FSA, Other?
7D	Samples for rehydroxylation analysis	Regional members/groups	Manchester, Edinburgh Universities	EH RSAs	Collection of useful samples	Depending on progress with process	
7E	Samples to help identify possible sources/locations	Regional members/groups	Universities	EH RSAs	Collection of samples		SGRP, AHRC
7F	Kiln site location	tbc	Universities, Commercial	EH RSAs	Identify sites		

RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 8: REVIEW OF SITES MENTIONED IN SGRP REGIONAL/NATIONAL RESEARCH AGENDA

Members attending the two workshops which took place in London and Peterborough (p 2 above) considered that it was more important to focus on national strategy objectives, most of which clearly had a regional element or basis, and that purely regional

objectives would be best considered by the regional groups. Research Strategy Objective 8 will involve the reworking of the existing regional framework documents to more closely match the ideal framework sections. This will include reviewing the significance of the key unpublished sites listed in the agenda and to add any that are now also considered to be priority sites (*Objective 8*).

8. Review of sites mentioned in SGRP regional/national research agenda		Who			How	When	Funding
		Internal	Partners	Externals			
8	Review of sites mentioned in regional/national research agenda. Identification/ re-iteration of key sites for publication	Regional members/ groups			Regional members/ groups	<i>Over next 1-2 years</i>	SGRP

**RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 9:
DIGITISING OF MORTARIUM STAMPS**

The recent success of the projects to digitise and place online potters' stamps on Gallo-Belgic ware (<http://gallobelgic.thehumanjourney.net>) has raised

expectations that the same could be achieved with the hugely significant archive of mortarium stamps compiled through a lifetime's study by Kay Hartley. Mrs Hartley's preferences and requirements would clearly be paramount and a pilot programme could be initiated as a priority in the near future (*Objective 9*).

9. Digitising of mortarium stamps		Who			How	When 1-2 years	Funding
		Internal	Partners	Externals			
9	Scanning of mortarium stamps and digitising for publication and putting online	SGRP KFH		Scanning assistant	Pilot of potter/industry		SGRP, EH, AHRC, RRT

**RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 10:
EXTENDING THE ‘GILLAM’ TYPOLOGY**

The late John Gillam’s seminal publication *Types of coarse pottery vessels in northern Britain* (Gillam 1957 and 1968) has often mistakenly been used for the analysis of sites elsewhere in the province. It was always John Gillam’s aim of to extend the type series to include much of the rest of Roman Britain and he devoted a great deal of time and energy in the pursuit of this aim. The task was continued after his death by Vivien Swan and John Dore, and some progress was made, especially with the collating of Gillam’s archive. Following their deaths, the cards for Gillam’s types have passed to the Tyne and Wear Museum, where

they will be sorted and then transferred to the Great North Museum collections. A Hadrian’s Wall Ceramic Database was conceived as a way of updating Gillam’s Types, or rather replacing them by identifying the types within industries, and quite a lot of progress has been made with funding from ‘Renaissance in the Regions’. This funding source is rapidly drying up, however, so the project will probably stall if further funding cannot be found (*Objective 10*).

It will be necessary to start with an evaluation stage to determine the value of updating the typology and how it would fit into regional collections and the kiln objectives.

10. Extending ‘Gillam’ typology		Internal	Who Partners	Externals	How	When 1-2 years	Funding
10	Extending the ‘Gillam’ typology	tbc	University of Newcastle, Tyne and Wear Museum		Evaluation, Pilot of area or industry		SGRP, EH, AHRC

groups, perhaps working through ALGAO and/or the IfA may be the way forward (*Objective 11A*).

RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 11: INFLUENCING

The influencing objectives comprise issues which also affect other specialists in pottery, finds, and environmental research. In these areas joint approaches are appropriate.

The questionnaire responses and workshop discussions raised a number of issues concerning the publication of pottery reports including grey literature reports, the reference to pottery in development briefs and the monitoring of standards in recording and reporting for developer-funded sites. Amongst the publication issues raised were the following:

- that authors are not always told that a publication has appeared,
- that reports get stalled or take years to appear with no opportunity to revise,
- that authors sometimes do not get to see page proofs, or that changes are made to reports without the author's knowledge,
- that some publication outlets are becoming increasingly reluctant to take reports containing a lot of pottery data,
- that pottery reports often get consigned to CDs accompanying site reports,
- and that some grey literature reports do not get lodged with the relevant Historic Environment Record.

The survey of local government archaeologists revealed a wide range of attitudes to pottery research, resulting in variations in the content of development briefs and in the standards required for, and in the monitoring of, recording and reporting. It is clearly in the interests of the profession as a whole that there are standard approaches, and this should be relatively easy to achieve. Working parties involving representatives of ALGAO and the specialist

A major issue that has been affecting archaeology for some time is the problem of the storage of, and access to, archaeological archives. Many museums do not have the capacity to take new archives, while some have actually shut or are not taking any new material; most CAOs and some universities now hold archaeological archives. Some archives, wherever they are housed, either temporarily or permanently, are not stored in ideal conditions. Various initiatives have been undertaken to try to address this parlous situation, with little actual progress: currently, for example, the idea of regional resource centres appears to have stalled. The SGRP will liaise with other interested parties to try to keep the debate alive and to press for a resolution to the problems; the recent study by Patrick Ottaway (2010) will be useful in this respect. The SGRP believes that the successful completion of its other objectives will provide the framework for a policy on the retention or disposal of Roman pottery and help towards initiatives such as sustainable local collection policies (*Objective 11B*).

Numerous new initiatives are underway in relation to the new planning policy guidance for the Historic Environment (PPS5) which has replaced PPG16 (and PPG15) and with it the notion of 'Preservation by Record'. It is important that, where relevant, these take account of any issues relating to artefact research and, in particular, the fundamental role it can play in the knowledge and understanding of a site (asset) and the assessment of its significance. This will be best achieved in conjunction with other groups through national bodies such as ALGAO and the IfA (*Objective 11C*).

Research Frameworks, Agenda, and Strategies are a long-running English Heritage initiative. Synergies between this strategy and existing Research Framework, Agenda, and Strategy documents are considered in section 10, but it is important that Roman pottery is fully considered in any that are still being compiled or are yet to start and in any future revisions (*Objective 11D*).

Study Group for Roman Pottery Occasional Paper No. 1

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

11. Influencing		Who			How	When 1-2 years	Funding
		Internal	Partners	Externals			
11A	Recording, reporting and publication issues, including grey literature reports, development briefs and monitoring of reports	tbc	ALGAO, FAME/CAOs, IfA, ADS, OASIS, Grey literature group, Journals, PCRG, MPRG, SWG, Finds, Environmental		SGRP working party to improve communication and liaison, Joint 'pressure' groups, Through IfA?		ALGAO, IfA, ADS, EH, SGRP, PCRG, MPRG, Finds, Environmental
11B	Archive storage, including access and retention	tbc	ALGAO, FAME/CAOs, IfA, PCRG, MPRG, Finds, Environmental, AAF, SMA		Joint 'pressure' groups		
11C	Policy	tbc	ALGAO, FAME/CAOs, IfA, MPRG, PCRG, SWG, Finds, Environmental	English Heritage, Historic Scotland, Cadw			
11D	Frameworks and Agenda	tbc	ALGAO, EH, SWG, Other groups		Input to relevant sections		EH

**RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 12:
LIAISON**

Many of the SGRP objectives are relevant to other specialists in pottery, finds, and environmental research, hence the joint wider survey initiative. It is important, therefore, that there is regular, effective liaison. The best way to achieve this would be through working parties, together with meetings etc. organised through the IfA, and occasional joint conferences, seminars, and workshops. The working parties could be based on those CAOs which have core and regular consultant staff dealing with pottery, finds, and environmental material (*Objective 12A*).

Pottery studies have benefited hugely in the past from the involvement of interested ‘amateurs’ and local society members. This cooperation continues today through membership of the SGRP and through joint events. Opportunities for further liaison will be identified (*Objective 12B*).

Museum collections are of fundamental importance to many of the SGRP objectives and, in this respect, the

poor response to the museum survey was disappointing. This initiative will be revived, and followed up with an attempt to establish regular and effective liaison. The membership of the SGRP and other groups includes museum staff and these would be the logical first points of contact, with a working party perhaps the best forum for discussion (*Objective 12C*).

Similarly, university participation is crucial to the success of some of the SGRP objectives and regular and effective liaison, is therefore important. The membership of the SGRP and other groups includes university staff and these would again be the logical first points of contact, with a working party again perhaps the best forum for discussion (*Objective 12D*).

It is vital that effective liaison is maintained with the three national historic environment organisations. This can be achieved through contact with staff in, or working with, local and regional offices, through attendance and participation at relevant meetings, seminars etc and through funded projects (*Objective 12E*).

12. Liaison		Internal	Who Partners	Externals	How	When 1-2 years	Funding
12A	Other specialist pottery, finds, environmental groups	tbc	MPRG, PCRG, Finds, Environmental		Working parties, FAME/CAOs, Joint conferences, Through IfA?		SGRP, PCRG, MPRG, Finds
12B	Local societies ‘Amateur’ groups	tbc	Museum curators		Working party		SGRP, EH
12C	Museums	tbc	Curators, MPRG, PCRG, Environmental		Working party liaising with museums, Through SMA?		SGRP, MPRG, PCRG, SMA
12D	Universities	tbc	Lecturers etc., MPRG, PCRG, Environmental		Working party liaising with Universities		SGRP, MPRG, PCRG, Universities
12E	English Heritage Historic Scotland Cadw	tbc	EH RSAs, MPRG, PCRG, Finds, Environmental				EH, HS, Cadw

**RESEARCH STRATEGY OBJECTIVE 13: A
ROMAN POTTERY TAXONOMY**

The need for standardisation and consistency is fundamental and underpins objectives 3 and 4. It has been suggested that pottery studies need to adopt a taxonomical approach to recording similar to that used, for example, in the study of insects, in order to achieve a form of standardisation and consistency that would enable all data to be properly and fully

interrogated. This would be a major undertaking, but the work on the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection and Swan’s Roman pottery kiln volume (Objectives 1 and 2 above) would provide the ideal context. It is suggested that a trial area be chosen to test the hypothesis, identify the problems and determine the methodology and resources that would be required to achieve national coverage. The project could be one that would work well as a study based in a university (*Objective 13*)

Develop a Roman pottery taxonomy		Who			How	When 1-2 years	Funding
		Internal	Partners	Externals			
13	Develop a Roman pottery taxonomy	tbc	MPRG, PCRG, University		By region, based on Swan 1984. Start with pilot area. University project		SGRP, EH? Universities

CORRELATION WITH OTHER RESEARCH AGENDA, STRATEGIES, AND SURVEYS

MEDIEVAL POTTERY RESEARCH GROUP

The MPRG's parallel project to update its previous Research Framework and Agenda, and to produce a Research Strategy for the study of medieval pottery in Britain has been completed and published (Irving 2011). The obvious correlation between this project and that of the SGRP led to one jointly-undertaken element (the Joint Survey) and many of the SGRP strategy objectives have synergy with those identified by the MPRG, in particular SGRP objectives 2, 3, 4 (parts), 5, 6 (most) 7, 11, and 12 (c/w *ibid.*, A1-A8).

SAMIAN WARE

The actions recommended by the Monteil and Rayner survey of samian ware specialists (2010) have synergy with objectives in the SGRP strategy, in particular 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, and 12.

REGIONAL, COUNTY, PERIOD, AND SPECIALIST

English Heritage has been supporting the compilation of regional, county, period and specialist research frameworks, agenda, and strategies. A number of these have been completed and published, but others are still in preparation, or do not have all three elements, or are yet to be commissioned or to start. The methodology for their production is standardised, but there can be variations in the final product. It is envisaged that these documents will be regularly reviewed and revised. As regards Scotland and Wales, the development of the Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF) is underway while there are frameworks for the four Wales regions.

Seventeen documents (those for Wales counted as one) were examined for correlations with the SGRP

strategy objectives; copies of another two which are known to exist (for Lincolnshire and the Roman Society) were not available. Those strategies still in preparation, being updated, yet to be published or yet to start are: English Heritage Roman, Yorkshire and the South East (Thames-Solent and Kent). It is perhaps not surprising that there were few instances where the SGRP strategy objectives were exactly matched, but it is encouraging to note that many could be closely or approximately paralleled in most documents.

The English Heritage SHAPE guidance (2008) has sub-programmes which correlate to all of the SGRP strategy objectives. The objectives that feature in the most documents are those relating to museum and other collections (12), and the various training initiatives (15). The concept of influencing features in 11 documents, liaison in nine, kiln studies in eight, and scientific analysis documents in 10. Two other objectives (reference collections and pottery practice) are reflected in eight of the documents, and the need for the review of the content of research agenda in six. The more specific objectives, (digitisation of the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection, mortarium stamps, the 'Gillam' typology), only feature in one or two of the documents.

SURVEY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SPECIALISTS 2010–11

This report (Aitchison 2011) was completed at the point when this strategy document was being prepared for publication. In view of this timing, it was not possible to address the full implications of the findings of this survey to the strategy, or to explore their correlation with the SGRP strategy objectives. Some of the key results and recommendations, however, concerned specialists' rates of pay and conditions, the need to train and mentor new specialists and to provide CPD for specialists and those who work with them. Issues relating to pay and conditions do not feature in any of the strategy objectives, but training, mentoring and CPD all correlate with aspects of strategy objectives 6 and 12.

Study Group for Roman Pottery Occasional Paper No. 1

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

SGRP OBJ	Research Agenda/Strategy																	Total
	NE	NW	EM	E	SW	LO	GT	BE	F	HW	EHS	SCI	SAM	MPRG	FH	WA	SAS	
1											12212.310 51321.110				4.3.7 5.4.3			2
2	Ri-Rv		12.1.1	II		R1 R13 TE1	3.5.1.10		19.7		12212.310 51321.110				5.1 5.5			8
3	SU8							✓	19.7	M	12212.310 51321.110		5.4	A7	4.3.6 5.4.2-3			8
4		3.32 3.43							19.8	M	14162.110 14171.310	✓	5.2	A1 A5 A6 A7	4.3.2-3 4.6 5.4.1			8
5	EM11 SU11	3.1- 3.2 3.25 3.31			RA 11	TC4	3.7	✓	19.1 19.2	C	11111.610 11113.110 12212.310 43213.110 53151.110	✓	5.3	A6				12
6	Ri-Rv ET2 SU17 R2 MG4-7, 9, 33	3.2			RA 13	TC4	3.7	✓	19.1 19.7	H M	11111.610 13221.110 13222.110 41241.110 41244.110 43221.110 43221.210 43222.110 43224.110 53151.110	✓	5.3	A3 A4	4.4 5.5 5.6	ENE SW	EL 1-3 CPD 1-8	15
7	Ri-Rv	3.5 3.42	12.1.4		RA 16	TC1					14111.110 14171.210 14171.310	✓		A8	4.7	ENE NW SE		10
8		3.26			RA 13				19.2 19.6	E K	11111.510				5.4.2			6
9											11111.510				5.4.2 5.5			2
10											11111.510				5.4.2			2
11	Strategic MG19, 20, 34	3.2 3.5 3.31			RA 12		3.7		19.1	M	41123.110 43223.110		5.2- 5.5	A1	4.8 5.1 5.2.1 5.3	✓		11
12	Strategic MG34					R3	3.7				11113.210 12211.110 23344.110 43224.210	✓	5.5	A1 A2 A3 A4	5.2 5.3		EL 1-3 CPD 1-8	9
13											14171.310							1
	7	6	2	1	5	5	5	3	7	6	13	5	6	7	9	3	2	Total

Table 9 Correlation with other Research Agenda, Strategies and Surveys

NE: North East - Petts & Gerrard 2006

NW: North West – Brennand 2006, 2007

EM: East Midlands - Cooper 2006

EA: East Anglia – Brown & Glazebrook 2000; Glazebrook 1997

SW: South West – Webster 2008

LO: London – Nixon *et al* 2002

GT: Greater Thames Estuary - Williams & Brown 1999

BE: Bedfordshire – Oake *et al* 2007

F: Fishbourne and Chichester - Manley 2008

HW: Hadrian's Wall - Symonds & Mason 2009

EHS: English Heritage Shape 2008

SCI: UK National Heritage Science Strategy – Williams 2009 a,b,c; National Heritage Science Steering Group 2010

SAM: Samian Ware - Monteil and Rayner 2010

MPRG: Medieval Pottery Research Group – Irving 2011

FH: Fulford-Huddleston 1991

WA: Wales - Aldhouse-Green *et al* 2003; Davies 2003; Plunkett Dillon 2003

SAS: Survey of Archaeological Specialists – Aitchison 2011

NEXT STEPS AND FUTURE WORK

The Research Strategy document will be circulated to members of the SGRP, Local Government archaeologists, CAOs, Museums and University departments. It will also be made available free of charge through the SGRP website in pdf format. The documentation and information underpinning the Strategy and revisions to the SGRP regional research frameworks will also be posted on the SGRP website. It is intended that the SGRP wikispace or an equivalent will provide an active forum for discussion of all aspects and issues relating to the Strategy and the SGRP regional research framework revisions. The SGRP website will provide updates on progress with the various strategy objectives that are being taken forward. The project archive will be lodged with the ADS.

The successful undertaking and completion of the numerous strategy objectives will require a great deal of coordinated and targeted effort by many people. As a first stage, the SGRP committee will need to decide which objectives can be taken forward, when they

might start and the resources required. It is clear that the SGRP involvement will necessitate a number of working groups with lead members and, most probably, someone, or perhaps more than one person, to oversee progress with all, or logical groups of, objectives which are ongoing. It will also be necessary at an early stage to identify contacts within any partner or external bodies that are likely to be involved. In terms of ratification of, and support, for the strategy, it will be important to continue to seek input from English Heritage and other key bodies.

The lead members of the various working groups will provide reports which will enable the SGRP committee and members to assess progress. Progress reports will be posted on the SGRP website and wikispace website. The strategy priorities will be assessed annually by the SGRP who will also review the strategy on a five-year basis. A mechanism for updating/amending datasets, reference collections, and websites will need to be identified, in conjunction with partners and externals.

REFERENCES

- Aitchison, K, 2011 *Survey of archaeological specialists 2010–11*. Landward Research Ltd. Available: http://www.heacademy.ac.uk/assets/hca/documents/archaeology/Survey_of_Archaeological_Specialists_HEH06.pdf Accessed 30 August 2011.
- Aldhouse-Green, M, Brewer, R J, Evans, E M, Guest, P, Manning, W H, Marvell, A G, Trett, R, & Webster, P V, 2003 *A research framework for the archaeology of Wales. Regional seminar paper, south-east Wales*.
- Booth, P, & Willis, S, (eds), 1997 *Research framework for the study of Roman pottery in the western Britain, in Willis 1997a*.
- Brennand, M, (ed), 2006 *The archaeology of North West England. An archaeological framework for North West England: Volume 1: Resource Assessment, Archaeology North West*, **8** (18).
- Brennand, M, (ed), 2007 *The archaeology of North West England. An archaeological framework for North West England: Volume 2: Research Agenda and Strategy, Archaeology North West*, **9** (19).
- Brown, N, & Glazebrook, J, (eds), 2000 *Research and archaeology: a framework for the eastern counties. 2 Research Agenda and Strategy, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper* **8**.
- Cooper, N J, (ed), 2006 *The archaeology of the East Midlands. An archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda, Leicester Archaeology Monographs* **13**.
- Darling, M, 1994 (ed.) *Guidelines for the archiving of Roman Pottery*, Study Group for Roman Pottery. Available online as Darling, M, 1994 at <http://sgrp.org.uk/05/Contents.htm> Accessed 17 August 2011.
- Darling, M, 2004 Guidelines for the archiving of Roman pottery, *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies*, **11**, 67–74.
- Davies, J L, 2003 *A Research Framework for the archaeology of Wales. Regional Seminar Paper, North-east Wales; Regional Seminar Paper, Northwest Wales*.
- Drummond-Murray, J, 2004 Jobs in British Archaeology 2004, *The Archaeologist*, **56**, 41.
- English Heritage, 2008 *SHAPE 2008: A strategic framework for historic environment activities and programmes in English Heritage. Guidance for external grant applicants*.
- Evans, J, & Willis, S, (eds), 1997 *Research framework for the study of Roman pottery in the north of Britain, in Willis 1997a*.
- Fulford, M G, & Huddleston, K, 1991 *The current state of Romano-British pottery studies: A review for English Heritage, English Heritage Occasional Paper* **1**.
- Gillam, J P, 1957 Types of coarse pottery vessels in northern Britain, *Archaeologia Aeliana*, 4 Ser **35**, 180–251.
- Gillam, J P, 1968 *Types of Roman coarse pottery vessels in northern Britain*, Oriol Press.
- Glazebrook, J, (ed), 1997 *Research and archaeology: a framework for the eastern counties. 1 Resource Assessment, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Paper* **3**.
- Hartley, B R, Dickinson, B M, Dannell, G B, Fulford, M, Mees, A W, Tyers, P A and Wilkinson, R H, 2008a *Names on terra sigillata. An index of makers' stamps & signatures on Gallo-Roman terra sigillata (Samian ware), Vol. 1, A to AXO*. University of London, Institute of Classical Studies, London, UK.
- Hartley, B R, Dickinson, B M, Dannell, G B, Fulford, M, Mees, A W, Tyers, P A and Wilkinson, R H, 2008b *Names on terra sigillata. An index of makers' stamps & signatures on Gallo-Roman terra sigillata (Samian ware), Vol. 2, B to CEROTCUS*. University of London, Institute of Classical Studies, London, UK.
- Hartley, B R, Dickinson, B M, Dannell, G B, Fulford, M, Mees, A W, Tyers, P A and Wilkinson, R H, 2008c *Names on terra sigillata. An index of makers' stamps & signatures on Gallo-Roman terra sigillata (Samian ware), Vol. 3, CERTIANUS to EXSOBANO*. University of London, Institute of Classical Studies, London, UK.

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

- Hartley, B R, Dickinson, B M, Dannell, G B, Fulford, M, Mees, A W, Tyers, P A and Wilkinson, R H, 2009a *Names on terra sigillata : an index of makers' stamps & signatures on Gallo-Roman terra sigillata (Samian ware), Vol. 4, F to Klumi*. Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies. Supplement ; vol. 102. University of London, Institute of Classical Studies, London, pp464.
- Hartley, B R, Dickinson, B M, Dannell, G B, Fulford, M, Mees, A W, Tyers, P A and Wilkinson, R H, 2009b *Names on terra sigillata : an index of makers' stamps & signatures on Gallo-Roman terra sigillata (Samian ware), Vol.5 L to Masclus I*. Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies. Supplement ; vol. 102. University of London, Institute of Classical Studies, London, pp414.
- Hartley, B R, Dickinson, B M, Dannell, G B, Fulford, M, Mees, A W, Tyers, P A and Wilkinson, R H, 2010 *Names on Terra Sigillata. An Index of Makers' Stamps & Signatures on Gallo-Roman Terra Sigillata (Samian Ware), Vol. 6, MASCLUS I-BALBUS to OXITTUS*. BICS supplement, 6. University of London: Institute of Classical Studies, London, pp338.
- Hartley, B R, Dickinson, B M, Dannell, G B, Fulford, M, Mees, A W, Tyers, P A and Wilkinson, R H, 2011 *Names on terra sigillata. An index of makers' stamps & signatures on Gallo-Roman terra sigillata (Samian Ware), Vol. 7, P to RXEAD*. University of London, Institute of Classical Studies, London, UK.
- Huson, S, 1997 *Research framework for the study of Roman pottery in southern England*, in Willis 1997a.
- Institute for Archaeologists, 2001 *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*. Revised 2008. Available: http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa_standards_materials.pdf
- Irving, A, 2011 *A revised Research Strategy and Agenda for post-Roman ceramic studies in Britain*, Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 6.
- Manley, J, (ed), 2008 *The archaeology of Fishbourne and Chichester. A framework for its future*, Sussex Archaeological Society.
- Martin, T S, & Wallace, C R, (eds), 1997 *A research design for the study of Roman pottery in the East Midlands and East Anglia*, in Willis 1997a.
- Mellor, M, 1994 *Medieval ceramic studies in England: A review for English Heritage*. English Heritage.
- Monteil, G, & Rayner, L, 2010 *Who needs a samian report? A survey of current views and practices in samian ware training, recording, reporting and publishing. A report for English Heritage*. Archaeology South East.
- MPRG, 2001 *Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics* Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 2 2001.
- National Heritage Science Strategy Steering Group, 2010 *National Heritage Science Strategy Report 4: Our Vision and Strategy For Heritage Science* (March 2010).
- Nixon, T, Mcadam, E, Tomber, R, & Swain, H, (eds), 2002 *A Research Framework for London Archaeology* (Molas).
- Oake, M, Luke, M, Dawson, M, Edgeworth, M, & Murphy, P, 2007 *Bedfordshire archaeology. Research and archaeology: Resource Assessment, Research Agenda and Strategy*, Bedfordshire Archaeology Monograph 9.
- Ottaway, P, 2010 *Assessment of archaeological collecting*. MLA (Museums, Libraries, and Archives Council) Renaissance Yorkshire. Available: <http://www.mla.gov.uk/what/programmes/renaissance/regions/yorkshire/~media/Yorkshire/Files/Assessment%20of%20Archaeological%20Collecting%20Renaissance%20Yorkshire%202010.ashx> Accessed 30 August 2011
- PCRG, 2010 *The Study of Later Prehistoric Pottery: General Policies and Guidelines for analysis and Publications*. Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group Occasional Paper No1 and No 2. 3rd Edition Revised 2010. Available: <http://www.pcr.org.uk/Publications1-2.htm>
- Peachey, A, 2005 *Urning a living? A survey of the opinions and concerns of Roman Pottery specialists*. SGRP Newsletter 40, December 2005. Available: <http://www.sgrp.org.uk/04/2005-12.htm>
- Peachey, A, 2006 *Further Survey Feedback*. SGRP Newsletter 42, December 2006. Available: <http://www.sgrp.org.uk/04/2006-12.htm>

A Research Strategy and Updated Agenda for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain

- Petts, D, & Gerrard, C, (eds), 2006 *Shared visions: the North-East Regional research Framework for the Historic Environment*, Durham County Council.
- Plunkett Dillon, E, 2003 *A Research Framework for the archaeology of Wales. Regional seminar paper, south-west Wales*.
- SGRP, 2002 Updates to the SGRP regional and national research frameworks posted on the SGRP website (various authors). Available: <http://www.sgrp.org.uk/07/N/Contents.htm> Accessed 31 August 2011.
- Slowikowski, A, Nenck, B, & Pearce, J, 2001 – see PCRG 2010.
- Swan, V, 1984 *The pottery kilns of Roman Britain*, RCHM Supplementary Series 5.
- Symonds, M F A, & Mason, D J P, (eds), 2009 *Frontiers of knowledge. A Research Framework for Hadrian's Wall. Part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site, Volume I, Resource Assessment and Volume II, Agenda and Strategy*, Durham County Council and Durham University.
- Tomber, R, & Dore, J, 1998 *The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection: a handbook*. MoLAS Monograph 2. Available: http://www.molas.org.uk/projects/fabrics_tei.asp?report=nrfc Accessed 22 August 2011
- Webster, G, (ed), 1969 *Romano-British coarse pottery: a student's guide*, CBA Research Report 6. Available: http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/catalogue/adsdata/arch-281-1/dissemination/pdf/cba_rr_006.pdf Accessed 22 August 2011
- Webster, C J, (ed), 2008 *The archaeology of South West England. South West Archaeological Research Framework: Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*, Somerset County Council.
- Williams, J, & Brown, N, (eds), 1999 *An archaeological framework for the greater Thames estuary*, Essex County Council.
- Williams, J, 2009a National Heritage Science Strategy Report 1: The role of science in the management of the UK's Heritage (April 2009).
- Williams, J, 2009b National Heritage Science Strategy Report 2: Use of science in understanding the past (July 2009).
- Williams, J, 2009c National Heritage Science Strategy Report 3: Understanding capacity in the heritage science sector (September 2009).
- Willis, S, (ed), 1997a *Research Frameworks for the Study of Roman Pottery*, Study Group for Roman Pottery.
- Willis, S, (ed), 1997b *The National Research Framework*, in Willis 1997a.
- Willis, S, (ed), 2002 *Research Frameworks for the Study of Roman Pottery*, rev edn. Study Group for Roman Pottery. Available: <http://sgrp.org.uk/07/Doc/Contents.htm> Accessed 30 August 2011.
- Willis, S, 2004 The Study Group for Roman Pottery: Research Framework Document for the Study of Roman Pottery in Britain, 2004, *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies* 11, 1–17.
- Wilson, M A, Carter, M A, Hall, C, Hoff, W D, Ince C, Savage, S D, Mckay, B, and Betts, I M, 2009: Dating fired-clay ceramics using long-term power law rehydroxylation kinetics *Proceedings of the Royal Society A*, **465**, 2407-2415 first published online 27 May 2009 doi: 10.1098/rspa.2009.0117.
- Young, C J, (ed), 1980 *Guidelines for the processing and publication of Roman pottery from excavations* Directorate of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings Occasional Papers No. 4.

The Study Group for Roman Pottery Research Strategy sets out Roman pottery sector-driven priorities for the next five years, with a view to informing and influencing all archaeologists, particularly those involved in the development of local, regional, and national research programmes, period-specific strategies and planning guidance at local authority and national level. The report comprises three sections: a *Resource Assessment* of those involved in Roman pottery studies and a survey of the wider archaeological profession with regard to Roman pottery studies, a *Research Agenda*, including updated assessments of the published and unpublished regional and national Roman pottery resource, and a *Research Strategy*.



ISBN
NUMBER