JOURNAL OF ROMAN POTTERY STUDIES

Volume 8

Roman Pottery from Excavations at and near to the Roman Small Town of Durobrivae, Water Newton, Cambridgeshire, 1956–58

J. R. Perrin

Journal of Roman Pottery Studies

Journal of Roman Pottery Studies

Volume 8

Roman Pottery from Excavations at and near to the Roman Small Town of Durobrivae, Water Newton, Cambridgeshire, 1956–58

Compiled by J. R. Perrin

Excavations carried out by F. Dakin, J. P. Gillam, E. Greenfield, B. R. Hartley and G. Webster in advance of the dualling of the A1 Trunk Road

Published by
Oxbow Books
for
The Study Group for Romano-British Pottery

Published by
Oxbow Books, Park End Place, Oxford OX1 1HN

ISBN 1 900188 84 8

ISSN 0958-3491

This book is available direct from
Oxbow Books, Park End Place, Oxford OX1 1HN
(Phone: 01865–241249; Fax: 01865–794449)

and

The David Brown Book Company
PO Box 511, Oakville, CT 06779, USA
(Phone: 860–945–9329; Fax: 860–945–9468)

or

from our website
oxbowbooks.com

Printed in Great Britain at
The Short Run Press
Exeter

This volume is dedicated to
the late F. Dakin, E. Greenfield and J.P. Gillam
and to all those who were involved during the excavations and subsequently.

"And though heavy-grounded ships await the tide upon your shores, yet, even like an ocean, you cannot hasten your tides"
KAHLIL GIBRAN – *The prophet*

Contents

Acknowledgements[1]

A. Dr G. Webster

Firstly, we would like to acknowledge the financial support and technical help provided most willingly by the then Ministry of Works and in particular to Mr J.R.C. Hamilton, Principal Inspector of Ancient Monuments, who was mainly responsible for the detailed liaison. Other officials who rendered great service were Mr L. Biek of the Ancient Monuments Laboratory, who co-ordinated the scientific survey; Mr W.C. Ramsey who was responsible for the operation of the Test Branch teams; Mr Eggitt, Estate Surveyor, who negotiated on our behalf with the landowners; and to Mr Bowen, the Regional Superintendent, for handling so efficiently all arrangements for labour and equipment; also to Mr T.G. Richards of the Ministry of Transport for his helpful liaison.

None of the land had at this time been purchased by the Ministry of Transport, and our grateful thanks go to those landowners who allowed us to enter and to put trenches on their land, and in particular to Alderman R.H. Waterworth, OBE of Maun Farm, Alwalton, and his son, Mr H. Waterworth of Maun House, Water Newton.

Accommodation for volunteers was provided through the kindness of the Huntingdonshire Education Committee at Stibbington School and considerable help was given by the Headmaster, Mr R.H. Forster.

The magnetometer survey[2] was carried out by Dr M. Aitken of the Oxford University Research Laboratory for Archaeology and Art, and Dr A. Rees, then of the Geo-Physics Department, University of Birmingham. Dr Aitken used his prototype proton-magnetometer which he was later to develop with such remarkable results, and Dr Rees the Askania Torsion magnetometer, a prototype model of which was flown over from Germany especially for this work, and we are grateful to the makers, Askania-Werke of Berlin – Friedenau, for making this instrument available through the agency of Dr J.C. Belshe, then of Cambridge University. We are grateful also to Professor J.K.S. St Joseph, OBE for providing his aerial photographs of this area.

The heavy burden of organising accommodation, feeding arrangements and many local services fell upon Mr Eric Standen and without his ready help and cheerful efficiency the operation would never have been possible; he was well supported by Mr Fred Dakin, who acted as Treasurer and the Mr Geoffrey Wilson who also gave assistance with the photography. During the work there were about 80 volunteers who stayed for varying periods and it would be impossible to acknowledge all by name, but we are especially grateful to Professor Harry Thorpe for arranging for a team of geography students from Birmingham University. The supervisory staff was accommodated at the Haycock, Wansford, and we are extremely grateful to the then proprietors, Mr and Mrs Ian Drayton, for providing many facilities and making our stay such a comfortable one.

It was anticipated that in this long stretch of land to be investigated there might develop many small independent excavations, and for this reason site supervisors were needed to take responsibility and we are grateful to Miss C. Phillips (now Mrs Woodfield), Miss M. Rennie, and Messrs G.V.D. Rybot, B. Stanley, R. Crocker and J.C. McCulloch, as well as our own assistants, Mrs K. Hartley, Mrs M.G. Sanders, Miss J. Jeffrey and Mr C. Daniels.

Finally we would like to express our indebtedness to Dr Philip Corder, the Assistant Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of London, for his advice and encouragement throughout the whole operation.

B. J. R. Perrin

Most of the pottery was illustrated at the Peterborough Unit by Miss Linda Purchas, now Mrs Meadows. Additional drawings were done by J.R. Perrin, K. Perrin and J.S. Crossley (who also redrew the Water Newton pottery from John Gillam's originals). The detail drawings of the Water Newton samian moulds and decorated sherds are the work of D.F. Mackreth. Most of the plans are those of the original excavators though some were redrawn by J.S Crossley and at the Peterborough Unit by R.P. Boyle.

Over the years a number of people have provided invaluable assistance and support. I would especially like to mention L. Rollo, K. Perrin, D.F. Mackreth, Dr J.P. Wild, M.D. Howe, I. Meadows and various staff at Peterborough Museum. E. Lyons, B. Attewell, M. Hitchen, M. Walkden and Mrs S. Keyte of the Central Archaeology Service of English Heritage provided the vital practical assistance that is required in the latter stages of any report of this nature.

List of Figures

1. Introduction

J. R. Perrin

The widening of the A1 trunk road between the villages of Water Newton and Chesterton in the mid 1950s (Fig 1) threatened areas of Roman occupation, known largely through the efforts of the early 19th century antiquary, E.T. Artis, who had carried out excavations and field-work (Artis 1828). Perhaps his most notable discovery was of kilns producing 'Castor ware'. This fine ware with its remarkable colour-coated, barbotine and painted decoration has always excited interest and invested the area with special significance, but at that time there was very little evidence of how it was made or of its chronological development. The road scheme seemed to be a notable opportunity for gaining important information.

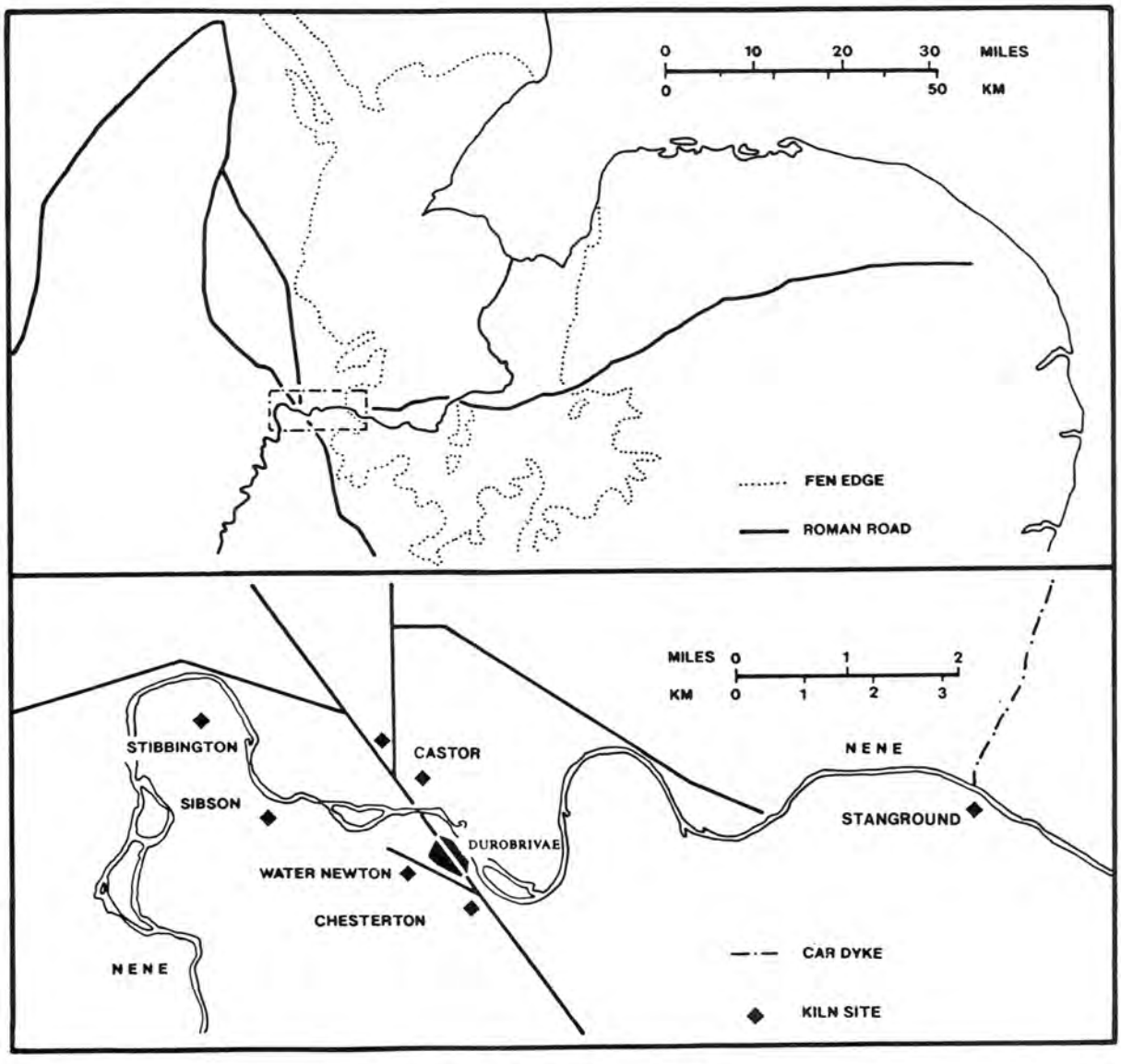


Figure 1. General Location Plan

The first area of road development was to the south and south-east of the Roman town of *Durobrivae* and E. Greenfield was detailed by the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments of the then Ministry of Works to carry out an archaeological investigation prior to the road construction. He supervised five main excavations (Fig 2) in the years 1956–8 on part of the wall and defences of the Roman town of *Durobrivae* (Site 1: 29 August-21 September, 1956); an area adjacent to the Billing Brook (Site 2: 20 May-29 May, 1957); a long strip along the line of the Roman road (Ermine Street) leading to the south-east gate of *Durobrivae* (Sites 3–4: 29th May-25th September 1957) and on an area of Roman burials further west of the Roman town (Site 5: 14–17th February 1958). A number of other smaller excavations were also carried out (Sites 6–7) during and at the end of the 1957 season.

When it became known in 1957 that there were plans to divert the A1 to by-pass the villages of Water Newton and Sibson the initiative to undertake further archaeological investigation was taken by the Iron-Age and Roman Research Committee of the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) and a small deputation was appointed by the CBA Executive Committee to meet the Ancient Monuments Inspectorate. At this meeting, held at Lambeth Bridge House on 25 October 1957, full agreement was reached on the extent and method of the operation. The offer of assistance from the CBA was welcomed and it was agreed that the project could best be organised by an excavation committee on which national and local archaeological bodies could be represented. This was called the Waternewton Excavation Committee (WEC).

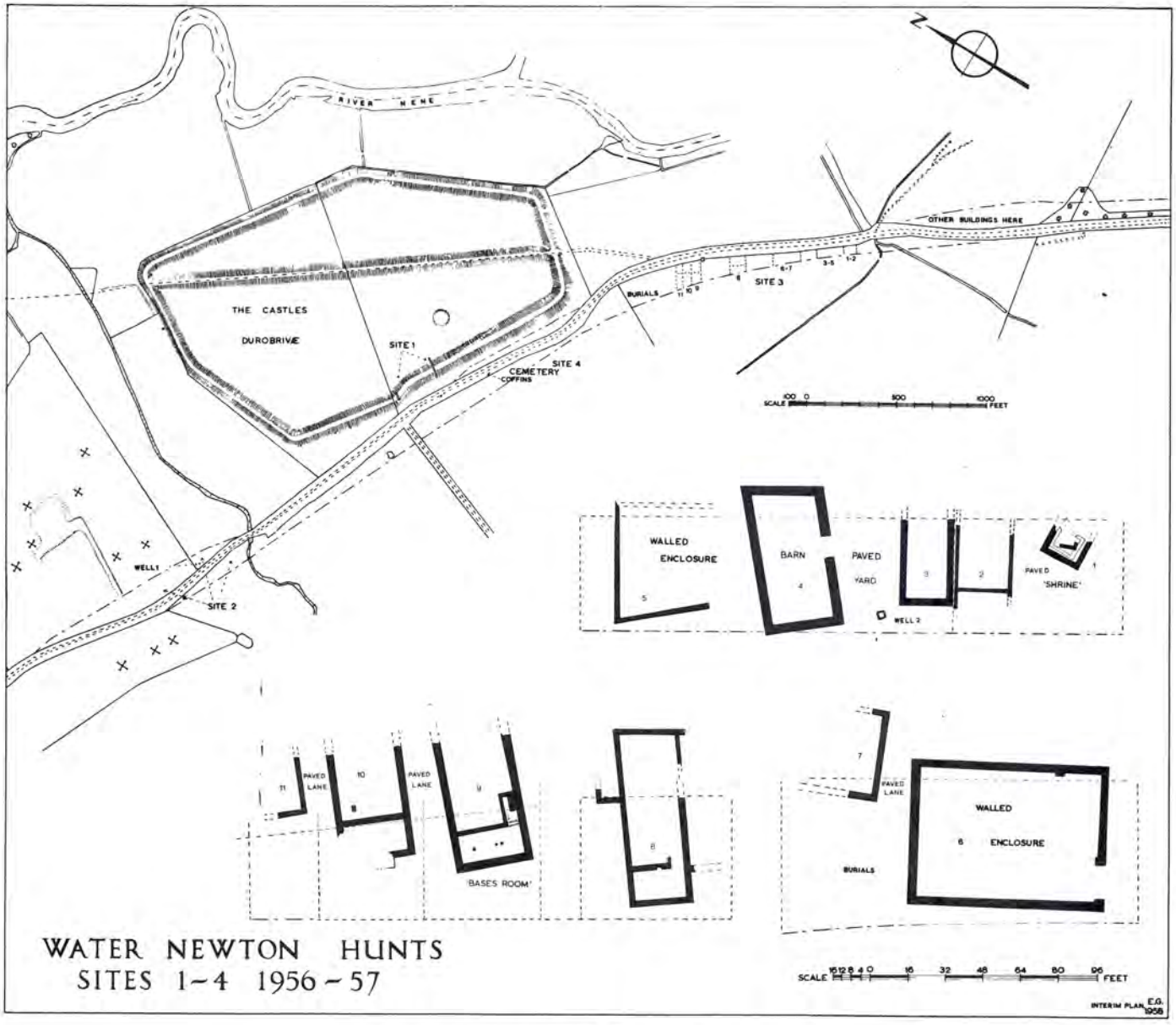


Figure 2. Location Plan of E. Greenfield's sites.

The Ministry of Works officials promised full financial support. The various excavations (Fig 3, Areas 1–9) were directed by J.P. Gillam, B.R. Hartley and G. Webster, each being considered as *primus inter pares* but with responsibility for selected lengths of the new road. The work was carried out during Easter 1958 by volunteers recruited by the CBA, supplemented by small groups of paid labour and members of the Peterborough Museum Archaeological Field Section under the leadership of F. Dakin (Areas 4–5).

E. Standen undertook the arduous task of local secretary with all the arrangements for accommodation of staff and volunteers that this entailed. The first meeting of the WEC was held in Peterborough on 7th March 1958, and full agreement was reached on all decisions previously made. As resolved at the outset, this Committee (later to become the Nene Valley Research Committee – NVRC) became a permanent body in order to keep the whole area under constant review, and, when pressing, to undertake further field-work and excavation.

The two trenches cut into the town of *Durobrivae* by Greenfield comprised one (Figs 28–9, Trench A) at right angles to the town wall and extending into the interior for a distance of 162 ft and another (Figs 28–9, Cutting B) 40ft long, on a north-east/south-west alignment across the line of the town wall where the south-western wall kinks. The Ermine Street excavation (Fig 34) was in fact two sites covering a distance of 1250 ft and varying in width from 50 ft at the south-east end to 160 ft at the north-west end. This area was examined by a system of 4 ft square testholes within a framework based on a 50 ft grid. Where significant features were revealed extensions were made by area excavations, test-hole extensions, trenches, cutting and grid-square excavations. The other sites were also investigated using the test-hole method.

The first town trench revealed the town wall with a clay ramp, a road-way, and occupation levels including pits, hearths, oven-bases, post-holes and metalled areas. The second suggested that there may have been a way through the wall at that point. The Ermine Street excavations revealed the foundations of 11 stone structures, two with earlier timber phases, with associated service road, pits, ditches, oven-bases, hearths, metalled areas, yards, post-holes, wells and burials. The Billing Brook excavation showed extensive Roman occupation including a stone-lined well, and the burial area excavation

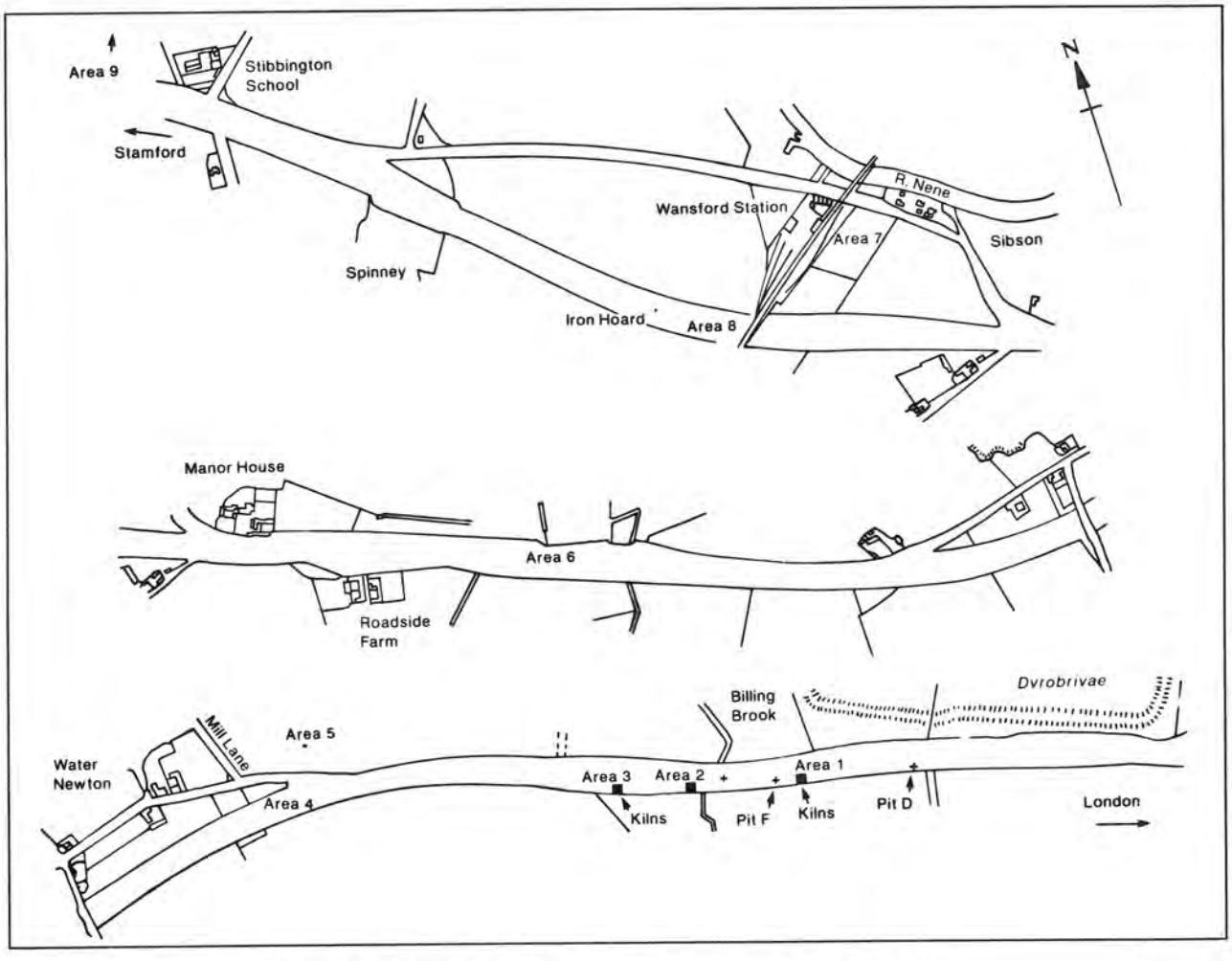


Figure 3. Location Plan of Waternewton Excavation Committee Areas

uncovered a series of inhumations including some contained in stone coffins.

The most difficult aspect of the work around Water Newton and Sibson was that of the shape and size of the area involved. The length of the new road was approximately two miles, and its width 150 ft. This made it impossible in the time available even to trial-trench such a large area. The importance of using any scientific instruments and any other means of prospecting was emphasised at the outset and the Inspectorate agreed to provide teams using resistivity meters from the Test Branch and plans were also made for palaeomagnetic surveys with magnetometers, instruments considered most likely to detect the presence of pottery kilns. The main results of the work undertaken by Hartley, Gillam, Webster and Dakin were the discovery of a number of pottery kilns and associated features.

A large amount of pottery, coins, glass, bronze, iron, shell, and animal and human bone was retrieved from all the excavations, especially the largest alongside Ermine Street.

History of the post-excavation work

During his excavations Greenfield used a simple but effective method of on-site recording using site codes, feature and layer numbers and so on. The finds from each layer were given sequential numbers and were recorded according to similarly sequential bag numbers. The finds were further subdivided according to material using appropriate prefixes (G for Glass, I for Iron etc.) In the 1950's a number of people had started to specialise in certain aspects of finds research and material from the excavations was duly separated out and sent off to them. At the same time a programme of finds illustration was instigated and, over the years, many metal, bone, stone and ceramic objects (including pottery) were drawn. In addition the then recent establishment of the Ancient Monuments Laboratory encouraged Mr Greenfield to take samples of various materials and those from the A1 excavations were among the first to be dealt with on an organised basis.

The problem with the A1 excavations was the amount of information and material recovered, despite the fact that a discard policy was carried out on site. Though the finds records were completed and he always intended and hoped to prepare reports as soon as possible on his A1 sites, Greenfield in the end never found enough time. The main reason was that he was primarily employed to undertake rescue excavation and recording through the supervision of teams of labourers and volunteers. Moreover the work on the A1 near *Durobrivae* was not the only activity threatening major archaeological sites at the time and, once his work there was finished, he was required to direct his attentions elsewhere. There appears to have been no clear committment or plan at the time within the Ministry of Works to write-up and publish the results of excavations and Greenfield was not often paid to do so, usually spending most of the spring to autumn excavating and much of the winter season involved in non-archaeological pursuits. He did, however, have the motivation and ability to produce reports on his excavations and brief descriptions of those at *Durobrivae* were published at the time in journals (*J Roman Stud*, Vol 48, (1958), 139–40; Vol 49 (1959), 117–18). Proper excavation reports were never prepared however and it would seem that no-one else was given this responsibility either. Greenfield died in January 1993. His death resolved one matter that had always been in question, however, namely whether he had managed to do more writing up than the records held by the NVRC and the (by then) Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (HBMCE – English Heritage) suggested. The truth was that he had not.

Sections from the draft texts which Greenfield was able to complete have been reproduced here where relevant. The rest of his descriptions and incomplete texts are stored with the archive.

Soon after their fieldwork the WEC formulated an ambitious and comprehensive programme for the publication of the results. This envisaged an introduction with acknowledgements, details of the reasons for the excavations, a section on the geology and an essay giving the general setting and background of the sites in the Roman period. This introduction was to be followed by reports covering the excavations and the discoveries according to areas. The number of chapters was increased to include the results of other local excavations away from line of the A1. Finally there were to be appendices dealing with the magnetometer surveys, aspects of pottery production and the results of the scientific analysis of some of the pottery. The reports on Greenfield's excavations were not included.

A number of main authors were involved, primarily Hartley, Webster and Gillam and these also took overall responsibilty for certain specialist reports. Gillam, for example, would write up the Water Newton kiln pottery, while Hartley dealt with that from Sibson together with the kiln structures and the samian ware. Other specialists were contacted to deal with the glass, the iron hoard, the coins, the mortaria and so on.

Good progress was made initially with Dakin, Webster, Gillam and various specialists producing first drafts in the early 1960s. B.R. Hartley produced and published a short paper which served as a synthesis of the work on the kilns and pottery production in the area (Hartley 1960). This impetus was not sustained, however and, as might be expected, the passage of time threw up myriad personal and professional developments which conspired to prevent progress and create delays. The members of the now NVRC tried to advance the work as best they could, but they were also anxious to follow-up the kiln dis-

coveries by investigating other other anomalies shown up by the use of the proton magnetometer in the area around *Durobrivae* (Stibbington, Normangate Field) as well as at other sites further afield (Stanground). Towards the end of the decade the NVRC became involved in new rescue projects resulting from the development of Peterborough and its environs. This culminated in the establishment in 1972 of a full-time archaeological Unit based in Peterborough.

Part of the brief of the new Unit was to try to assist and facilitate the completion of the A1 reports, but the staff were immediately involved in a full rescue excavation programme which continued for 10 years. It was now also the policy of the HBMCE to fund post-excavation work and, as a result, there was plenty of processing and report-writing related to the recent excavations to keep the small number of staff fully engaged. The A1 sites were not neglected, however, and some work was done involving the sorting out of records, illustration, typing of reports and so on. The Unit also undertook to write a report on the pottery from Greenfield's excavations and to co-ordinate other parts of the post-excavation work relating to them.

Work on the pottery report started in 1977 and continued alongside other work. A draft report was completed by J.R. Perrin in 1981 though certain aspects involving some of the specialist pottery were not finalised. At this time it was hoped that the work on this previously unavailable material would provide a filip to the other outstanding A1 chapters but this did not happen. It was decided, however, that the new pottery report should not be published separately, though this would not have been possible anyway without more information and time being made available; moreover the Unit's other post-excavation work was becoming more pressing. Details of the kilns were included in the RCHME's survey of Romano-British Pottery Kilns (Swan 1984).

In the mid 1980s financial constraints increased to the point where the closure of the Unit became inevitable. Resources were obviously now concentrated on the most recent "backlog" sites but in 1987 and 1988 English Heritage additionally funded a small programme of work aimed at assessing the situation as regards the A1 excavation reports and providing a possible framework for archiving and publication. The principal brief here was to identify those elements which could and should be fully published as well as those which, for various reasons (such as missing records or items, or research which had been superceded) were best lodged in an indexed archive. Subsequently further funds were made available to allow a number of the still important older reports to be updated and some additional work on the pottery, finds and general essays to be carried out. Reasonable progress was made but again other events intervened to prevent it being sustained, principally the closure of the Unit in 1988 and the dispersal of key staff to other employment.

Comments on aspects of the results as finally presented

Excavations were undertaken in advance of the A1 road widening and by-pass schemes because the area to be affected was known to contain significant Roman remains. It is true to say, however, that perceived as being of paramount importance amongst these was the possibility of the discovery of Roman pottery kilns associated with contemporary occupation deposits. The discoveries did not disappoint and many of them are still extremely important and warrant full publication despite the fact that they were uncovered over 40 years ago. All of those involved envisaged that the reports would be published within 10 years and it is particularly distressing that many those involved have not lived long enough to see some of the results of their labours finally appear in print.

The lack of an integrated plan and timetable for the publication of Greenfield's excavations and the problems affecting progress by the WEC have been noted above. The key problem since has been to decide what can and should be published, while at the same time attempting to produce as coherent a whole as possible bearing in mind the time that has elapsed since the excavations and the drafting of some of the original reports.

After much discussion and considerable reflection the compiler of this volume took the decision to concentrate on the main *raison d'etre* underpinning the investigations (and incidentallly the main area in which he has personally been involved) namely the pottery. What is presented here, therefore, is a somewhat restricted and selected version of the original comprehensive and ambitious publication programme that might have once been thought of for the Greenfield sites and was planned for those of the WEC. In adopting this approach there are a number of losers, particularly those specialists who prepared and, in some cases, updated reports of various categories of other finds. The inescapable truth, however, is that without properly researched and integrated excavation reports, especially that for Greenfield's sites, their information, in most cases, could not be presented in any meaningful way, whereas the pottery can stand on its own. Moreover in the decades since the excavations it is really only the pottery aspects which have been progressed in any logical or sequential manner and the rest needs a concerted programme to bring it together. It is not thought that this is an impossible task, merely one which always has been and remains beyond the remit and scope of the work which the editor of this volume was at any time employed to carry out.

It is to be hoped that this task will be done in the future, as part of an research project which seeks to integrate the results of both the other unpublished excavations adjacent to *Durobrivae* (particularly in Normangate Field) which were carried out in the 1960s and the various smaller investigations at places like Castor which have been published (Green *et al*, 1988). In order to facilitate this work as much of the extant archive from

the 1956–8 excavations as possible has been collated and lodged in Peterborough Museum.

Greenfield's excavations

The sections cut through the wall and into the interior of *Durobrivae* remain the only modern investigations of this important small walled town. Extracts of Greenfield's own observations are provided and have been supplemented by D.F. Mackreth (Mackreth 1995). Unfortunately the finds discard policy appears to have been particularly rigorous here, so the extant material and, consequently, dating evidence is restricted; what is still available and useful is presented.

The Billing Brook excavation only revealed a few relatively minor features but there were some good pottery groups which are discussed.

The major discoveries, however, were undoubtedly the buildings and other features located alongside the Roman road leading into *Durobrivae*. The records that exist suggest that Greenfield intended to write detailed feature and layer descriptions for all of the buildings uncovered but, in the event, was only able to complete a few of them. As noted above, there is no overall excavation report or discussion of the results. The building descriptions produced here are a distillation of his original notes.

The pottery from the excavations is one of the most important aspects and it is published as fully as possible. The exception to this is the samian ware. A large catalogue was compiled in the late 1950s and early 1960s by Mr B.R. Hartley but this has not been updated. For the purposes of this reports he and Miss B. Dickinson kindly agreed to update the material from the key groups, and this information is included. The original lists are in the archive. Updated reports exist for certain categories of specialised finds but it has not been possible to re-examine the bulk of the finds (some are now missing) although D.F. Mackreth has produced a catalogue report on all of the other extant finds and this is lodged with the original drawings in the archive. One exceptional assemblage, the Sibson Iron Hoard, has been recently published (Manning 1998). The whereabouts of many of the samples sent to the Laboratory is less certain, and for the most part the information that they did provide or would have provided has been superceded. The results are part of the archive. Generally speaking the animal bone was not retained in sufficient quantities to allow meaningful interpretation either at the time or subsequently.

The work of the WEC (later NVRC) and others

As noted above the key discoveries during this phase of the A1 work were kilns and other features associated with the production of Roman pottery. It was always intended that an overview of the Lower Nene Valley pottery industry would accompany the description of the individual kiln and settlement groups but, as these were never finished, none was possible other than that produced by B.R. Hartley (1960). With the additional excavation in the decades that followed, particularly that at Orton Hall Farm (Mackreth 1996) and the completion of the pottery reports for Greenfield's excavations, it became increasingly clear that such an overview would need to be much more detailed and would take far longer. It was decided during the beginning of the 1987–8 'assessment' phase that such a study would not be possible without increased funding and much more time. It seemed prudent to leave the necessary research to a future point when it could be a fully funded project in its own right.

What is presented here, therefore, is essentially the original texts as produced by the various authors, tidied up for publication, but without a great deal of alteration to bring them up to date, except where absolutely necessary. They were, after all, some of the foremost scholars in this field. It is hoped that this format in no way lessens the inherent importance of the assemblages which are as viable now as they would have been had they been published at any time during the last 40 years. In short the publication of these groups has been eagerly awaited since the time of discovery and their value and importance has not diminished in the interim. The excavations produced only limited amounts of material other than pottery and these are mentioned where necessary; the rest form part of the archive.

The format and order of the publication

As far as has been possible this publication follows the arrangement envisaged by the WEC so long ago with the exception of those sites away from the A1 road line. The Chesterton material is a large and important addition but this is offset by the loss of the Sibson Hoard to another publication (Manning 1998) and the absence of various sections intended to be written by B.R. Hartley. It is hoped that these will not be too long delayed.

As far as the illustrations are concerned both Greenfield and the WEC produced a number of adequate maps, plans and sections. These have been used where possible or redrawn for publication. It was decided to leave the scales on these as drawn and, similarly, not to alter any imperial measurements in the various texts. This, it was felt, helps to set the work by Greenfield and the WEC in the context of the era in which the excavations took place. To aid a more 'modern' interpretation an imperial/metric conversion table is provided below. A number of new illustrations have also been prepared.

Most of the pottery drawings have had to be re-done as the originals were inadequate or had deteriorated. Some, however, have been drawn recently for the first time. Drawings of pots not subsequently used in the reports are lodged in the archive, along with all pencil originals.

For the time the photographic archive is extensive and of good quality. A full index forms part of the archive.

Original typewritten texts have been retyped using

CONVERSION FORMULAE	
To Convert	*Multiply by*
Inches to Centimetres	2.54
Centimetres to Inches	0.39
Feet to Metres	0.30
Metres to Feet	3.28
Yards to Metres	0.91
Metres to Yards	1.09
Miles to Kilometres	1.61
Kilometres to Miles	0.62
Sq Inches to Sq Centimetres	6.45
Sq Centimetres to Sq Inches	0.16
Sq Metres to Sq Feet	10.76
Sq Feet to Sq Metres	0.09
Sq Yards to Sq Metres	0.84
Sq Metres to Sq Yards	1.20
Sq Miles to Sq Kilometres	2.59
Sq Kilometres to Sq Miles	0.39
Acres to Hectares	0.40
Hectares to Acres	2.47
Cu Inches to cu Centimetres	16.39

Inches		*Millilitres*	*Feet*		*Metres*
0.039	1	25.4	3.281	1	0.305
0.079	2	50.8	6.562	2	0.61
0.118	3	76.2	9.843	3	0.914
0.157	4	101.6	13.123	4	1.219
0.197	5	127	16.404	5	1.524
Yards		*Metres*	*Miles*		*Kilometres*
1.09	1.00	0.91	0.62	1.00	1.61
2.19	2.00	1.83	1.24	2.00	3.22
3.28	3.00	2.74	1.86	3.00	4.83
4.38	4.00	3.66	2.49	4.00	6.44
5.47	5.00	4.57	3.11	5.00	8.05
Sq Feet		*Sq Metres*	*Sq Yards*		*Sq Metres*
10.76	1.00	0.09	1.20	1.00	0.84
21.53	2.00	0.19	2.39	2.00	1.67
32.29	3.00	0.28	3.59	3.00	2.51
43.06	4.00	0.37	4.78	4.00	3.35
53.82	5.00	0.47	5.98	5.00	4.18
Cu Feet		*Cu Metres*	*Cu Yards*		*Cu Metres*
35.32	1.00	0.03	1.31	1.00	0.77
70.63	2.00	0.06	2.62	2.00	1.53
105.94	3.00	0.09	3.92	3.00	2.29
141.26	4.00	0.11	5.23	4.00	3.06
176.57	5.00	0.14	6.54	5.00	3.82

Table 1. Imperial/Metric Conversion Table.

computer word-processing software and copies are stored on computer disks in the archive.

Introduction to the pottery reports for the excavations by E.Greenfield

Nearly 2,000 sherds were recovered from Site 1, *Durobrivae*, just over 3,000 from Site 2, Billing Brook and just under 8000 from Sites 3–4 along the line of Ermine Street, Chesterton. Very little was recovered from sites 5–7. It should be noted that this pottery is biased in a number of ways. Constraints of resources, time and personnel meant that only a sample was retained after excavation with most of the wall sherds, especially in grey and and shell-gritted ware, being discarded after initial recording in the site notebooks. The extant pottery, therefore, comprises only the best or largest pieces, mostly rims. It is also noticeable that the retention policy reflected the contemporary thoughts about what was the most diagnostic pottery; for this reason there is a particular emphasis on local colour-coated ware. Most of the samian ware and mortaria were kept, but not the amphorae. In addition and not surprisingly, sherds have been mislaid since the excavations and were thus not available when this report was compiled. Some sherds, however, have been mentioned in earlier publications (eg Webster 1959).

Most of the specialist reports, including those for samian ware and mortaria, were written in draft form within a few years of the end of the excavations but were never integrated. A decision was taken to have these updated though for the former, as noted previously, this was confined to the material which was the most significant for the chronological sequences. The glass, finds and coin reports have also been updated or amended but references to these are also mainly confined to instances they are useful for dating layers, features or sequences.

Greenfield's recording method for finds has been described. Using the finds books, plans, section drawings and interim reports written at the time or soon after the excavations, it has been possible to relate most of the pottery to the buildings and features uncovered. Un-

fortunately, the depth of soil over the archaeology was never more than about 2 ft and there was extensive plough damage. This fact, together with the constraints already noted, reduced the number of sealed, or stratified, deposits or layers containing useful amounts of pottery, and much of the pottery is therefore either unstratified, or from unassociated or unrelated features. Moreover, the possibilities for the mixing of layers was considerable and sherds from the same vessel can be found in different contexts.

Despite the shortcomings, the sample of pottery particularly from Chesterton contained a great range of types and fabrics, and a reasonable proportion was from apparently fairly homogeneous, reasonably uncontaminated contexts, which can be dated quite accurately and with some security. Fortunately, there were enough of these of different periods to cover the lifespan of the occupation, apparently from the early 2nd to late 4th centuries. For Chesterton these main dated assemblages are illustrated separately and are also used, with the addition of pottery from other less well-dated or undatable contexts, to provide an idea of the range of fabrics and types from the excavations. Though the discard policy and the nature of the stratigraphy cause problems in the use and interpretation of statistical data it was thought useful to give some idea of the proportions of the various wares in these main groups. It has been concluded that rim percentages would seem to be the least biased measure and are, therefore, the only figures used (Fig 43).

Using the evidence of the dated groups an attempt is made to discuss the production life and use of each of the main wares represented. These were Lower Nene Valley grey ware (LNVGW); Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware (LNVCC); cream wares, including Lower Nene Valley (LNVCW) products; 'London-type' ware; other grey wares; shell-gritted wares (RSG) and miscellaneous wares.

Within each ware the pottery is grouped by class of vessel, and an attempt is made to order these chronologically. It should be noted that much of the evidence for date depends on the context of the vessel which, as noted above, is not always reliable and many of the groups, especially in the 3rd and 4th centuries, are dated solely by pottery, which raises the problem of 'circularity'. Much of the reasoning behind this dating of the pottery comes from research on material from other sites in the area, and it is not possible to outline details of this here. Each of the wares and most of the main vessel types occurring in them are discussed individually, and the short-comings of the evidence are often outlined or restated. Every attempt is made to provide accurate information but none should be regarded as definitive.

Much of the discussion has a wider emphasis, dealing with Lower Nene Valley pottery as a whole, rather than just the implications for the Ermine Street site itself. It is fully recognised that it is dangerous to use the pottery from the fragmentary remains of a few buildings, mostly of uncertain use, erected along or adjacent to a road leading to, but some distance from, the town of *Durobrivae*, to discuss the Lower Nene Valley Roman pottery industry as a whole. There is a need, however, for a fuller consideration of this industry than is currently available, and the Ermine Street pottery is probably of sufficient quantity, range and date to form a basis for this. It is noted many times in the following text that future excavation and research holds the key to a full understanding of the industry, but it is hoped that this report provides a useful and worthwhile start. It is emphasied that this is *not* a type series.

In the catalogue the pottery terms used are generally those of the *Romano-British Coarse Pottery: A Student's Guide* (Webster 1976). The colours are based on the *Munsell Range of Soil Colour charts*, given in a 'Colour-range (CR)' format (below). In many cases the match is not exact, especially in the case of grey wares. The term 'core' is used where there is a band in the centre of the fracture of a different colour to the rest of the fabric; the term 'core edge' refers to the thin band of colour noticeable on some sherds just below the surface, again of a different colour from the main fabric. Each entry is followed by its find number(s) and findspot(s). The dates are either noted individually where a range or development is concerned, or for a type as a whole. Reference is made to the main dated groups where necessary. Most of the dates should be regarded as a guide to when the vessels could have been in use, as the actual production life of many may eventually prove to have been of longer or shorter duration. The mortaria are considered separately, with cross-references to the dated groups. All the mortaria information was provided by Mrs K.F. Hartley; that for the samian ware by Mr B.R. Hartley and Miss B.M. Dickinson; and for the coins by Mr G.C. Boon.

As noted above, the colours of pottery fabric and surfaces (excluding samian ware and well-known non-local wares) are given in a 'range' form and prefixed by the letters **CR**. These, their Munsell codes and word descriptions are as follows:

1	weak red	10R4/4, 2.5YR4/2.
2	red	10R4/6, 2.5YR5/6, 2.5YR5/8.
3	light red	10R6/6, 2.5YR6/6, 2.5YR6/8.
4	(reddish yellow)	5YR5/6, 5YR5/6, 5YR6/6, 5YR6/8, 5YR7/6,
	(yellowish red)	5YR7/8, 7.5YR6/8, 7.5YR7/6, 7.5YR7/8, 7.5YR8/6.
5	pink	5YR7/4, 5YR8/4, 7.5YR7/4, 7.5YR8/4.
6	pinkish white	5YR8/2, 7.5YR8/2.
7	pinkish grey	5YR6/2, 5YR7/2, 7.5YR6/2, 7.5YR7/2.
8	reddish brown	2.5YR4/4, 2.5YR5/4, 5YR4/3, 5YR4/4, 5YR5/3, 5YR5/4.
9	light reddish brown	2.5YR6/4, 5YR6/4.
10	light brown	7.5YR6/4.
11	brown	2.5YR5/2, 7.5YR5/2, 7.5YR5/3, 7.5YR5/4, 10YR5/3.

12	dark brown	7.5YR3/2, 10YR4/3.
13	dark reddish brown	5YR2.5/2, 5YR3/1.
14	very pale brown	10YR7/3, 10YR7/4, 10YR8/3, 10YR8/4.
15	light brownish grey	2.5Y6/2, 10YR6/2.
16	greyish brown	10YR5/2, 2.5Y5/2.
17	dark/very dark greyish brown	10YR3/2, 10YR4/2, 2.5Y3/2, 2.5Y4/2.
18	light grey	5YR7/1, 7.5YR7/0, 10YR7/1, 10YR7/2, 2.5Y7/2, N7.
19	light grey/grey	5YR6/1, 10YR6/1, N6, 5Y6/1.
20	grey	10YR5/1, 5Y5/1, N5.
21	dark grey	10YR4/1, 5Y4/1, N4.
22	very dark grey	5YR3/1, 10YR3/1.
23	light olive grey	5Y6/2.
24	light blue grey	5B7/1.
25	dark greenish grey	5BG4/1
26	white	5YR8/1, 7.5YR7/0, 10YR8/1, 10YR8/2, 2.5Y8/2.
27	yellow	10YR7/6, 10YR8/6.
28	black/reddish black	10R2.5/1, 2.5YRN2.5/0, 5YR2.5/1, 10YR2.5/1, 2.5YN2.5/0, 5Y2.5/1, 5Y2.5/2.

Notation

1. Where a number of different colours occur arbitrarily on the same pot,the ranges are linked with a + (eg 18+24).
2. Where the core varies from the surfaces the colours are separated by a / (eg 18/14/18). In these cases, the internal surface colour is given first, then the core, then the external surface. The colours of the surfaces can vary (eg 18/14/22).
3. Where there is a 'sandwich' core, the colour(s) of this are separated from the surfaces by a // (eg 21//11/19/11//21).
4. Where the colour of a pot is uniform except for just one surface, a hyphen is used (eg 3–14). Sooting is not treated as a different colour.
5. If the surface(s) of the pot have different coloured zones or areas, these are distinguished by a comma followed by text (eg 18/5/18,21 patches).
6. Colour ranges are not given for non-local wares which are adequately described elsewhere.

2. Excavations by the Water Newton Excavation Committee

AREA 1: THE AREA EAST OF THE BILLING BROOK

Dr G. Webster

During his excavations at Billing Brook (Site 2, below) Mr E. Greenfield had noted that the area immediately to the east of the Billing Brook included kilns and numbers of rubbish pits and burials. Many of these features were discovered by Dr M. Aitken but unfortunately there was time only to examine a few. A large pit or pits was trenched and another, 'F', was completely excavated and its pottery is fully published below (Figs 9–10, 113–62). This pit had a clay filling at the bottom and this raises the possibility of these pits having been originally used as tanks or for puddling clay, subsequently becoming filled up with domestic refuse and pot wasters after they had gone out of use. Some patches of gravel were also noted and, if time and resources had allowed these areas to be stripped and studied in detail, it is probable that some timber buildings, workshops and houses would have been found.

Kiln P

This, the most southerly of the kilns, was circular in plan and four feet in diameter (Fig 4). It had been built of pre-fired clay bricks measuring about 12 x 6 x 2.25 ins thick, but some had been cut in half. Most of them

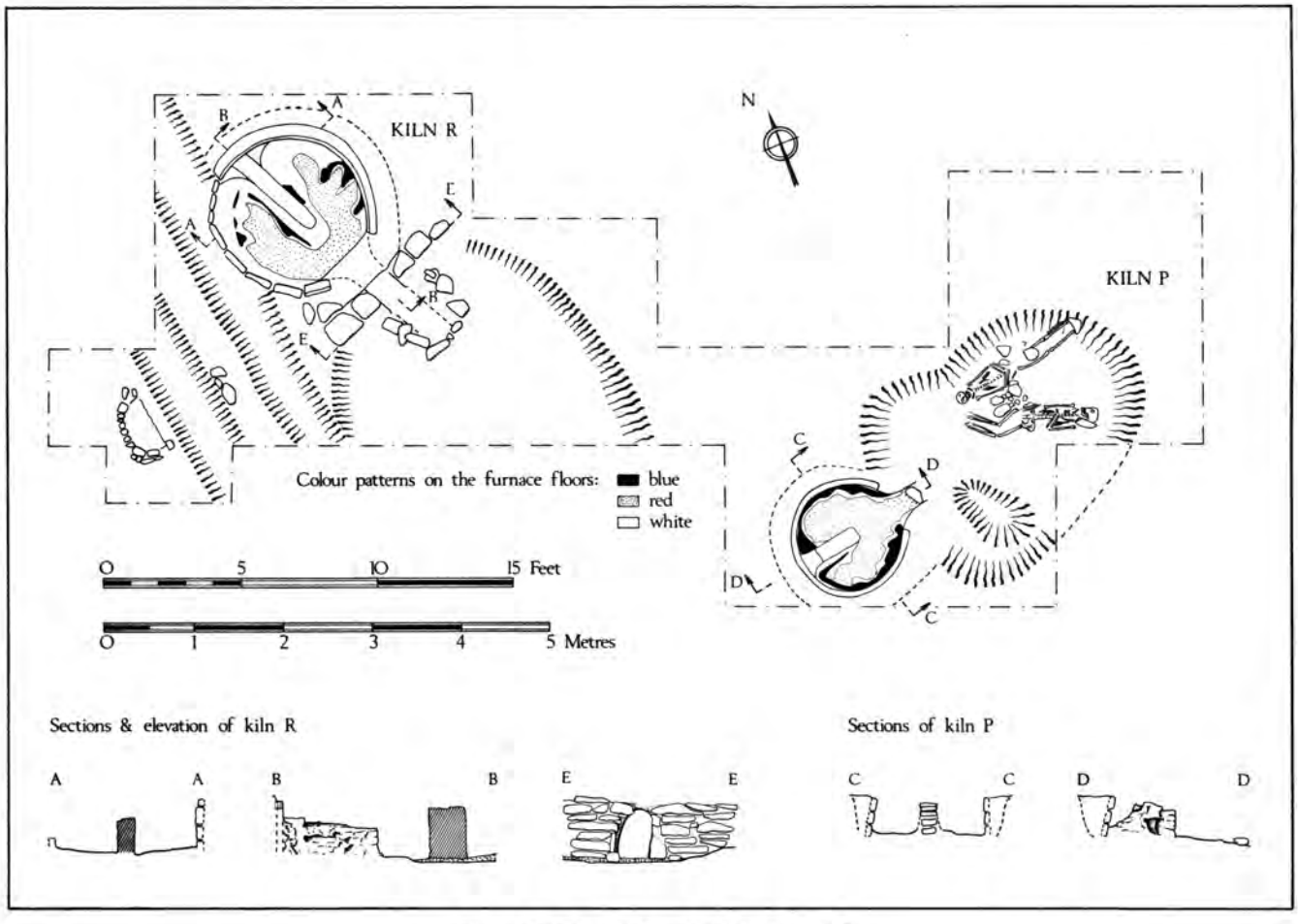


Figure 4. Plan of Area 1: Kilns P and R

had diagonal cross-lines lightly scored on the surface.[4]

The central tongue, which projected 2 ft 3 ins from the back of the kiln, was also constructed of these bricks which had been carefully laid and the joints neatly pointed with clay. An interesting feature of the tongue was its junction with the back wall, for only the lower 9 ins of the tongue actually joined the wall and above this point a curved slot had been formed, presumably to act as a flue to aid heat circulation. Although the kiln was full of debris from bricks, dome and firebars, there was no indication of the precise construction of the floor. A puzzling feature was the absence of a ledge on which the ends of the firebars forming the floor could rest. At the top of the permanent structure there were, in places, fragments of the upper part in position, composed of layers of daub 6 to 7 ins thick, and continuing the full width upwards (Fig 4).[5] A feature of both this kiln and Kiln R was the coloration of the floor of the furnace itself. After being cleaned and washed this showed a striking pattern of blue, red and white which must indicate the different degrees of exposure of the floor to the heat in the last firing.

It is difficult to relate the pattern in terms of the operation of the kiln and any structures which might have been on the floor. The flue was only 18 ins long and stones found in the jaws suggest it was blocked at the last firing. The stoke-hole had been disturbed by the insertion of two inhumations at a later date but to the east of the flue there was a deeper area which may have served either as an ash pit or sump or both.

Kiln R

This kiln, a few yards to the west of Kiln P, was slightly larger, being 5 ft 3 ins in diameter (Fig 4). It had been constructed in the same manner with the same size pre-fired bricks. The narrow tongue projected 3 ft 9 ins into the kiln, and although less of it had survived than in the case of Kiln P, it was evident that it was attached to the wall in a similar manner, leaving a flue below oven floor level. The floor (Fig 4) also showed a pattern of colours very much like that of Kiln P, but here one sees also an attempt at the junction of tongue and wall to provide a smooth curve at these corners which may account for the colour variations elsewhere. At a point 1 ft 8 ins above the furnace floor, the four courses of bricks had been set back to provide a narrow ledge. The function of this as a seating for the firebars was established by a series of five crudely made notches cut into the top of the bricks forming the ledge. There were also on the ledge several plugs of clay which seem to have been the seatings for bars at a later period when the floor was reconstructed. Where the ledge crossed the junction of the wall with the tongue, part of the dome had survived showing that there must have been a large vent,at least 1 ft 3 ins wide, in the floor at this point. This also suggests that the floor was not the solid vented type seen in the Chesterton kilns but was formed of firebars only and this might account for the absence of pieces of the floor in the debris. A drainage or boundary trench of later date, possibly associated with the cemetery, had cut through the western part of this kiln.

The main difference between the two kilns apart from size was that Kiln R had a stone front on the stoke-hole side like other Water Newton kilns. Some of the pieces of stone used are of the locally-known Alwalton 'marble'. A scatter of stones in the stoke-hole itself suggested either blocking or an attempt at revetting the sides of the stoke-hole by the jaws of the kiln. The stoke-hole was much larger than that of Kiln P and was not completely excavated.

An Oven

To the west of Kiln R there was the lower part of a small oven (Fig 4), 2 ft internal diameter which had been cut by another ditch 2 ft 3 ins wide and parallel to the one which had removed part of the kiln.

The date of the kilns

Although none of the coins was found in a critical relationship with the key groups, it is evident that there was considerable activity on the site in the second half of the 4th century, two of the coins being from some of the latest issues found in Britain. A pottery group from a cellar at Verulamium (Frere 1972, figs 134 and 135; filling dated to AD 310–315) contains a range of small beakers with trailed slip, which could have almost come from these kilns. There are a few sherds from the Gadebridge Villa (Neal 1974, 239, fig 106,306–308) in a mixed fill with a terminal date *c* AD 353 (*ibid* 235), with clearly places these types in the first half of the 4th century. There is very little difference between the groups from the lower filling of the stoke-holes of the two kilns, and they would appear to be almost contemporary. Until more Lower Nene Valley wares are closely studied and compared, any suggested date bracket must be regarded as provisional, but, on the basis of the available evidence, *c* AD 300–325 is favoured. There are later sherds in the upper filling of the kilns and their stoke-holes, and in the disturbed area of the burials which produced two flagon tops, 27 and 28 of distinctly later date. The filling of Pit F (Figs 9–10, 113–62) contains a chronologically more mixed assemblage.

The Small Finds and Pottery

Dr G. Webster
with minor amendments by J.R. Perrin
(Coin identifications by J.P.C. Kent)
* not illustrated

Kiln P (Fig 5)

FROM THE STOKE-HOLE ASH
(All from WA 336 except where stated)

1. Coin, AD 367–375. (WA 309).
2. A single handled jug with pouring spout in buff ware, with

light red colour-coat. Decorated with grooves, rouletting and a band of thick white slip.

3. A beaker with rounded rim in cream ware with a dark brown colour-coat, decorated with rouletting.
4. A beaker with a small base, rim missing, in cream ware with black colour-coat. Decorated with lines of rouletting and simple scroll in white slip.
5. A beaker in pinkish-buff ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with lines of rouletting and scrolls in thick white slip.
6. A base only of a beaker in cream ware with a dark umber colour-coat.
7. A beaker in cream ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with lines of rouletting and simple scroll in thick white slip.

8–18. Body fragments of beakers in dark colour-coat, usually black on the outside and reddish-brown on the inner, in buff to light red ware, decorated with scrolls in thick white slip. 8–10, 12–14, 17–18 from WA 309).

FROM FILLING ASSOCIATED WITH THE SKELETONS

19. Coin, AD 321–322. (WA 304).
20. A beaker in cream ware with dark red colour-coat. This is a plain vessel decorated only with a groove under the somewhat thickened rim and a broad collar at the junction of the neck and body. (WA 331).
21. A tall beaker in cream ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated on the body with rouletting. (WA 304).
22. A base of a beaker in cream ware with light red colour-coat, decorated with rouletting and scrolls in white slip. (WA 304).
23. A beaker in light red ware with dark brown colour- coat on the outside and red-brown on the inside. Decorated with

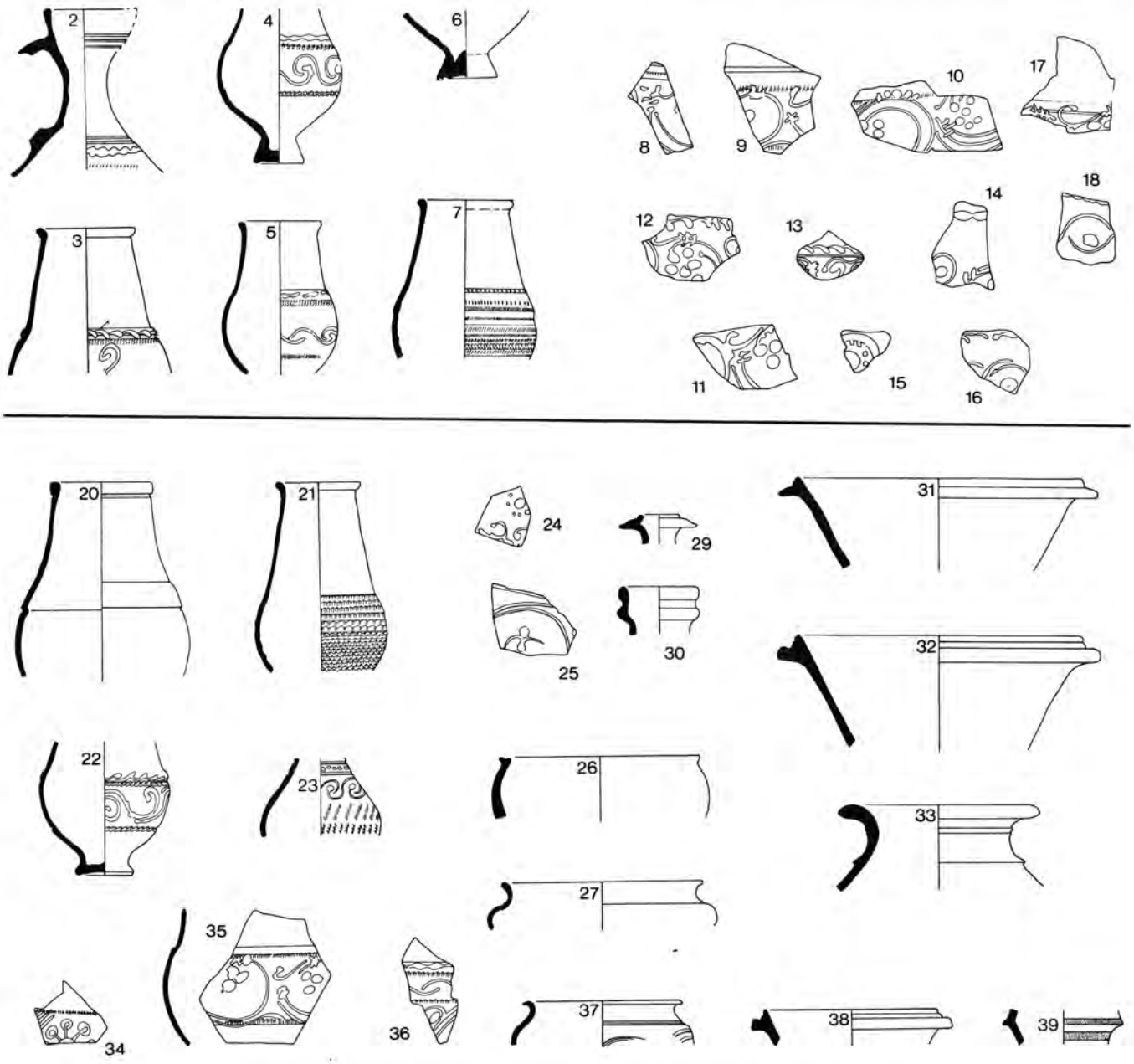


Figure 5. Pottery from Kiln P – Stokehole ash and fills associated with skeletons

rouletting and scrolls in white slip. (WA 304).

24. A body fragment of a beaker in red ware with black colour-coat and decorated with white slip. (WA 304).
25. A fragment of a beaker in red ware with black colour-coat decorated with scrolls barbotine. (WA 304).
26. A bowl with slightly channelled rim in cream ware with traces of brown colour-coat. (WA 325).
27. A jar in light grey ware with darker surface, the profile of which is probably distorted. (WA 320).
28.* A tubular handle of a shallow dish in light red shell-gritted ware, burnt black on underside with use on a fire. (WA 304).
29. A flagon top with a disc-type rim, in red-brown ware with black colour-coat. (WA 304).
30. A flagon top in cream ware with dark brown colour-coat. (WA 304).
31. A bead and flange bowl in buff ware with a dark brown colour-coat. (WA 304).
32. A bead and flange bowl with unusual profile in a cream ware with a black colour-coat. (WA 318).
33. A rim of a large jar in a hard light grey ware. (WA 318).
34. A fragment of a beaker in over-fired condition, decorated with white slip. (WA 318).
35. A fragment of a beaker in light red ware with black colour-coat on the outside and dark umber on the inside, decorated with a scroll pattern in white slip. (WA 304).
36. A fragment of a beaker in light red ware with black colour-coat on the outside and dark brown on the inside, decorated with scrolls in a thick white slip. (WA 304).
37. A small bead and flange bowl with a profile similar to 31 in an over-fired condition. (WA 318).
38. An indented beaker in cream ware with black colour- coat, decorated with barbotine scales. (WA 304).
39. Neck of a jar (?) in cream ware, decorated with narrow bands in red slip. (WA 333).

Kiln R (Figs 6–10)

FROM THE LOWEST FILLING IN THE ASH OF THE STOKE-HOLE

40. Two fragments of an indented beaker in light red ware with black colour-coat on the outside and brown on the inside, decorated with thick white slip. (WA 327).
41. A globular beaker in light red ware with black colour-coat on the outside and umber on the inside. The body is decorated with lines of rouletting, between which there is a design in white slip. (WA 308).
42. Rim and neck of a beaker in red ware with black colour-coat, decorated with rouletting. (WA 335).
43. The upper part of a beaker in cream ware with a red core and light brown colour-coat, decorated with rouletting and white slip scroll. (WA 327).
44–52. Body fragments of beakers in cream and light red ware with black or dark brown colour-coat, decorated with diagonals, roundels and other features in white slip. Some of these features (47–8,50) resemble a sitting bird, while 52 could be part of a letter from a 'motto' beaker. 50, an over-fired fragment, is very similar to 34 above. (44, 47 and 52 from WA 319; 45–6, 49–50 from WA 327; 48 and 51 from WA 343).
53. The base of a small beaker in cream ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with circular indentations and vertical grooves. (WA 319).
54. The base of a beaker in red ware with a black metallic colour-coat in a competent imitation of rhenish ware, decorated with round indentations and vertical grooves and light rouletting. (WA 319).

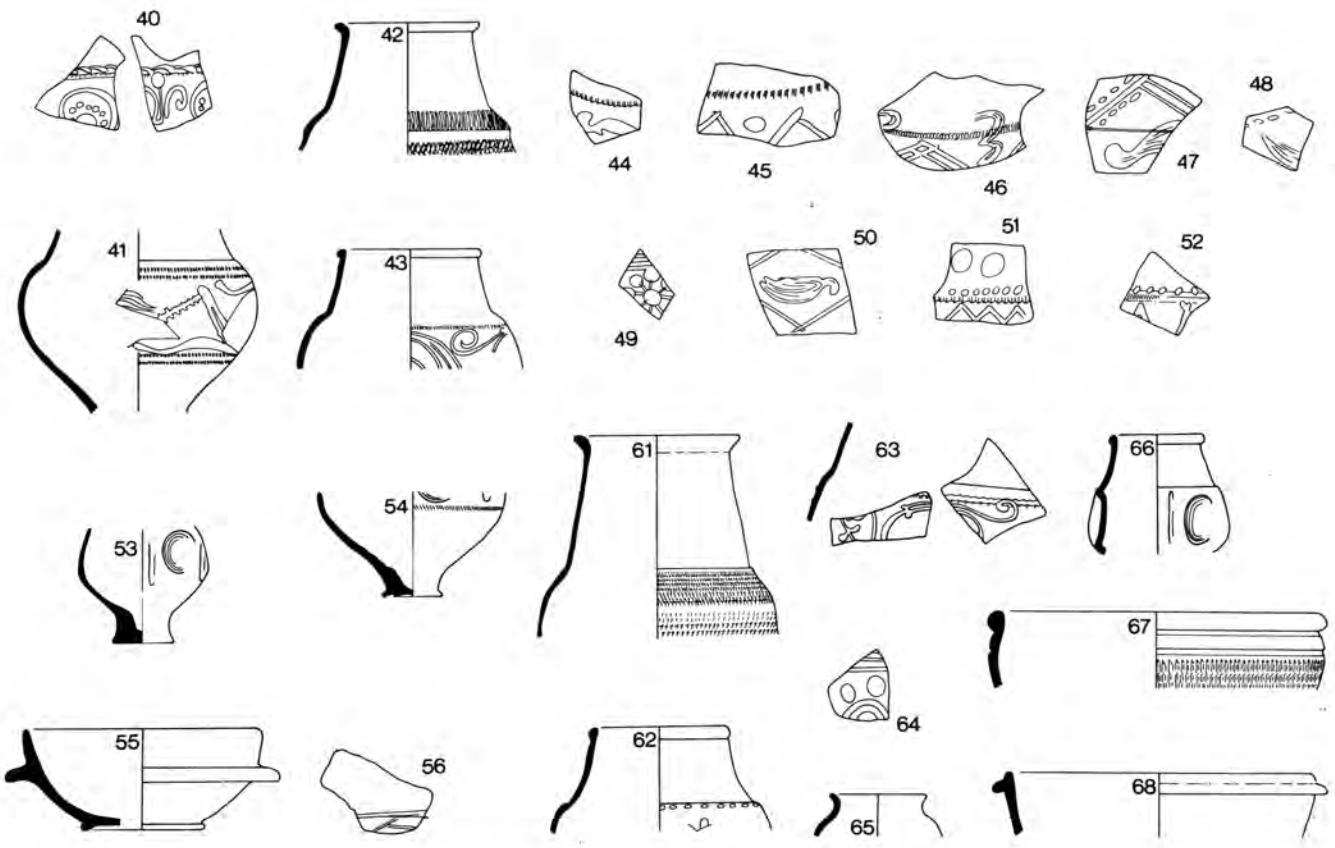


Figure 6. Pottery from Kiln R – Stokehole ash, lowest and upper fillings

55. A small hemispherical bowl with a centre flange in cream ware with dark red colour-coat. (WA 308).
56. A small body fragment of a black burnished cooking pot with very obtuse-angled latticing bordered with a groove. (WA 344).

FROM THE UPPER LEVELS OF ASH IN THE STOKE-HOLE

57–9. Coins, late 3rd century. (WA 303).
60. Coin, AD 364–367. Found in the upper filling of stoke-hole. (WA 317). (Carson and Kent 1960, ii, 966)
61. The upper part of a large beaker in red ware with black colour-coat decorated with rouletting. (WA 317).
62. The upper part of a beaker in buff ware with light brown colour-coat on the outside and dark brown on the inner, decorated with white slip. (WA 339).
63. Body fragments of a beaker in light red ware with a dark brown colour-coat, decorated with white barbotine. (WA 312).
64. A body fragment of a beaker in red ware with black colour-coat on the outside only, decorated with roundels and diagonals in white slip. (WA 339).
65. The rim of a small indented beaker in cream ware with light brown colour-coat. (WA 340).
66. The upper part of a small indented beaker in cream ware with reddish-brown colour-coat. The oval indents on the body alternate with deep vertical grooves. (WA 339).
67. Bowl in black burnished ware. (WA 303).
68. Imitation Dr 37 bowl in cream ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with grooves and rouletting. (WA 303).

FROM THE UPPER FILLING OF THE STOKE-HOLE

(All WA 302, except 70)

69. Coin, late 3rd century.
70. A body fragment of a large beaker in light red ware with dark brown colour-coat decorated with scroll pattern in white slip and rouletting. (WA 345).
71–4. Body fragments of beakers in cream and light red ware with black colour-coat, decorated with scrolls in slip. In the case of 73, the slip is very thick, giving a barbotine appearance.
75–6. Mortaria in cream ware with large black grits, both with flattened reeded rims. The pouring spout on 76 is a small groove made in the top of the rim.
77. A plain dish or bowl in cream ware with reddish-brown colour-coat.
78. A shallow bowl in cream ware with reddish-brown colour-coat, decorated with white slip arcades.

FROM THE INTRUSION IN THE TOP OF THE UPPER FILLING OF THE STOKEHOLE

(All WA 301)

79. Coin, AD 335–345.
80. A beaker in cream ware with black colour-coat, decorated with a white slip scroll.
81. A beaker in brownish ware with dark brown colour- coat, decorated with a white slip scroll.
82. A beaker in light red ware with dark brown colour- coat, decorated with white slip scroll.
83. A small beaker in light red ware with a dark brown colour-coat, decorated with white slip scroll.
84. A pentice-moulded beaker in cream ware with brown colour-coat, decorated with rouletting.
85. A small plain beaker in light red ware with black colour-coat.
86. Body fragment of a beaker in light red ware with a black colour-coat decorated with white slip. The bird-like feature

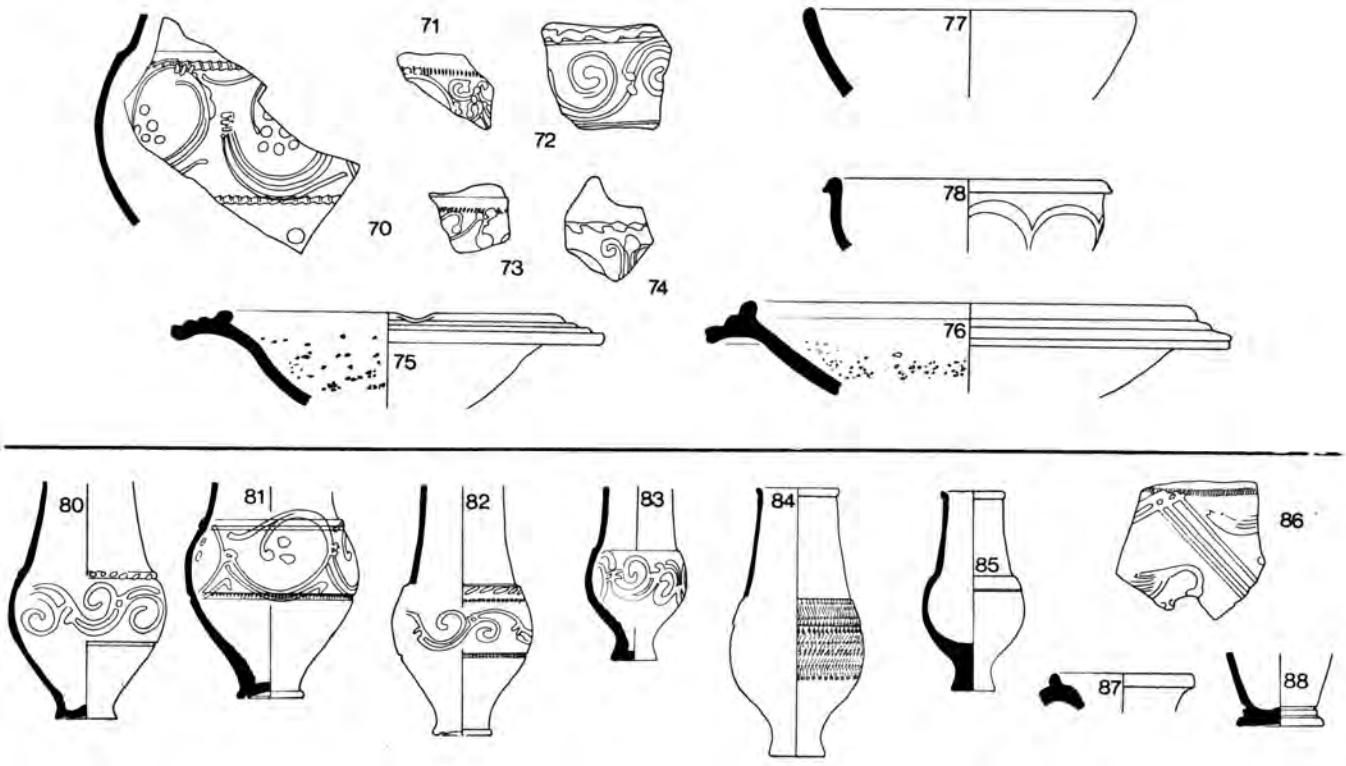


Figure 7. Pottery from Kiln R – Stokehole upper filling and intrusion into stokehole

and diagonal lines are similar to 47–8,50,52.

87. The rim of a handled flagon in buff ware with a black colour-coat

88. The carefully moulded base of a small vessel in buff ware with a dark brown colour-coat.

FROM THE FILLING INSIDE THE KILN, IMMEDIATELY ABOVE THE FLOOR

89. A small plain pentice-moulded beaker in light red ware with brown colour-coat. (WA 332).

90. The upper part of a large beaker in red ware with black colour-coat, decorated with a scroll in thick white slip. (WA 332).

91. Upper part of a large pentice-moulded beaker in cream ware, with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with light rouletting. (WA 332).

92. A small pentice-moulded beaker, very similar in shape to 56, in buff ware with brown colour-coat, decorated with rouletting. (WA 326).

93. The upper part of a beaker in buff ware with black colour-coat, decorated with horizontal grooves, rouletting and deeply-scored vertical grooves, giving the effect of corrugation. (WA 326).

94. The lower part of a beaker in buff ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with rouletting. (WA 326).

95. The upper part of a beaker in cream ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with cross-hatching in white slip and rouletting. (WA 332).

96. A body fragment of a beaker in reddish-buff ware and black colour-coat, decorated with a scroll pattern in white barbotine. (WA 326).

97. A Castor box lid in cream ware with a black colour- coat. (WA 326).

FROM THE FILLING OF THE CROSS-DITCHES

This is a mixed deposit with some pottery which could date as early as the 2nd century)

98. A mortarium with a thick bead and blunt flange flattened against the body, in cream ware with small grey grits. (WA 314).

99. A bowl with thickened rim in a hard light grey grogged ware. (WA 314).

100. A thick coarse dish in light brown shell-gritted ware. (WA 305).

101. A shallow bowl or dish with incurved rim in light grey ware with darker surface, probably imitating a Gallo-Belgic platter. (WA 305).

102. A Castor box in cream ware with light brown colour- coat on the surface and dark brown on the inside. (WA 314).

103. This appears to be part of a pottery plaque in cream ware

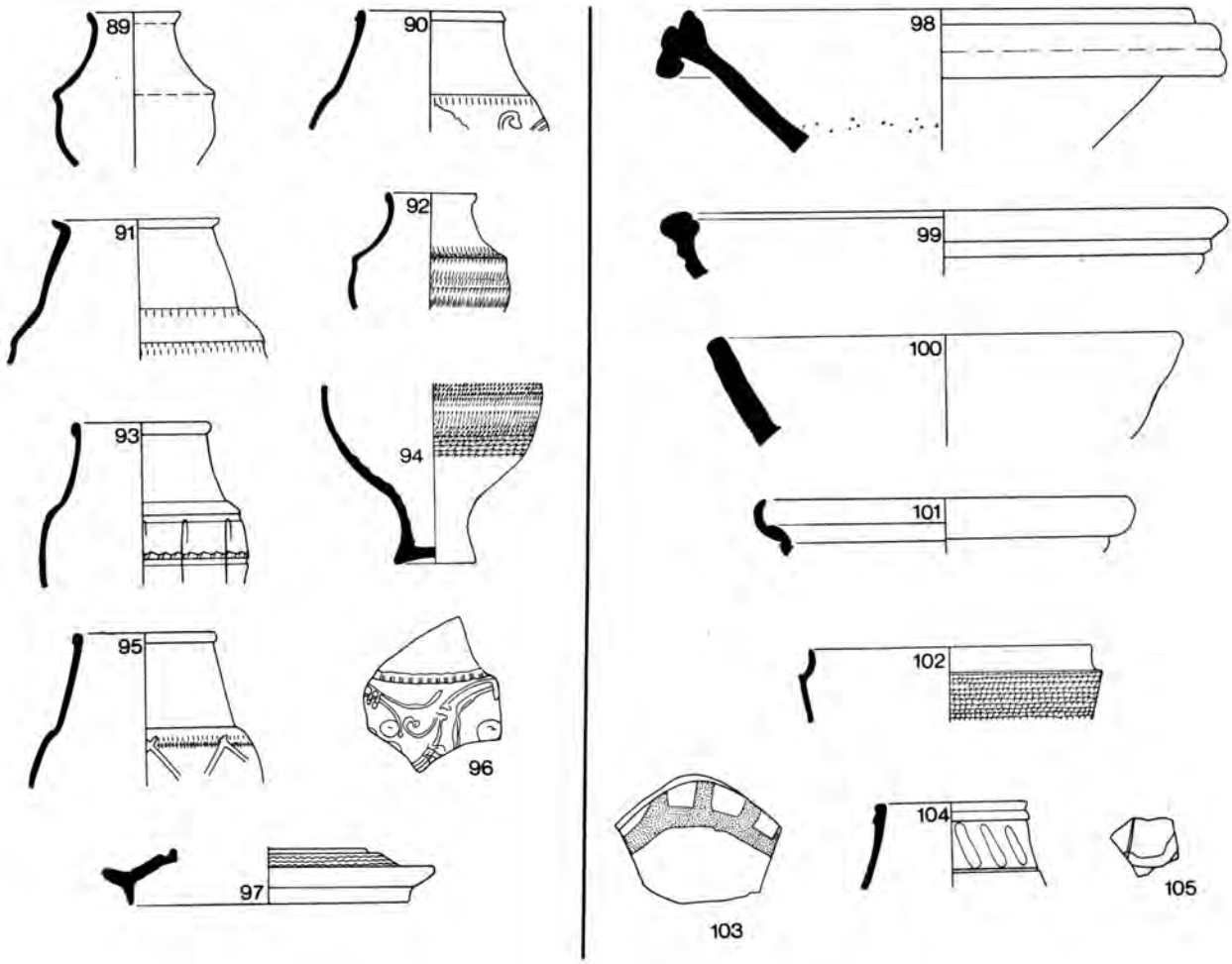


Figure 8. Pottery from Kiln R – Filling inside kiln; filling of cross-ditches

decorated with a border in a dark brown slip; possibly a fragment of a domestic shrine. (WA 314).

104. The upper part of a beaker in light red ware with black colour-coat, decorated with white slip on the neck and body. (WA 310).
105. A small fragment of a beaker in cream ware with light brown colour-coat, with an arm and hand holding a staff or spear, in barbotine. (WA 305).
106.* A lid in light red shell-gritted ware. (WA 314).

FROM PIT F

(All WA 605, except where stated)

107. Coin, AD 388–392. (WA 604).
108. Coin, AD 373–382. (WA 604).
109. Coin, AD 383–392. (WA 604).
110. Coin, AD 253–268.
111.* Bronze ring with blue glass intaglio (cf Henig, 1974, 78, pl XVIII.564–566) (WA 604).
112.* A small bronze pin with a rounded head decorated with curved grooves.
113. Part of the base of a colour-coated vessel with a name scratched on the surface: *AT*[...
114. A large thin indented beaker in buff ware with reddish-brown colour-coat. It has a tall hollow pedestal with a groove round the base and has six deep indentations over which there are four deeply combed girth grooves. This is the only example of this particular type of vessel found and it would appear to be analogous to the Colchester 407 (Hull 1963, fig 107,407a and 407b, p 190).
115. A beaker in pinkish-white ware with black colour- coat, decorated with six oval indentations separated by deeply cut vertical grooves and rouletting.
116. The lower part of a beaker in cream with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with seven indentations and rouletting, including a band across the middle.
117. A globular beaker with pentice moulding and sharply everted rim in light red ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with rouletting.
118. A large pentice-moulded beaker in light red ware with almost black colour-coat on the outside only, decorated with very sharp rouletting.
119. A small beaker in cream ware with light brown colour-coat on the outside and dark brown on the inside, decorated with indentations between a vertical scale pattern.
120. A large beaker in red ware with dark brown colour- coat, decorated with seven indentations and scale decoration on the ridges between.
121. A small pentice-moulded beaker in red ware with dark brown colour-coat, decorated with fine rouletting.
122. A beaker in cream ware with black colour-coat, decorated with a series of vertical grooves forming a corrugated surface, and rouletting.
123–8. Body fragments of beakers in cream and light red ware with black or dark brown colour-coat, decorated with white slip. Most of these are simple patterns of cross-hatching, but 123 appears to be part of an elaborate design or perhaps a feature similar to that of another Water Newton sherd (Webster 1959, 93, fig 1).
129. A small beaker in orange-buff, decorated with dark red slip.
130. A small body fragment of a 'hunt cup' beaker in cream ware with black colour-coat.
131. A large Castor box lid in light red ware with dark brown colour-coat on the outside and dark reddish on the inside, decorated with fine rouletting.
132. Part of a small Castor box lid in light red ware with a dark brown colour-coat. (WA 607).
133. A Castor box lid in light red ware with dark brown colour-coat.
134. The lower part of a Castor box lid in cream ware with dark brown colour-coat on the outside and light red on the inside.
135. A Castor box in a light red ware with red colour-coat.
136–9. Examples of tubular-necked flagons with a flange surmounting the handle, in cream ware. 136 and 137 have a black, 138 a dark brown, and 139 a red colour-coat.
140. The top of a small flagon of unusual form, in cream ware with red colour-coat.
141. The plain tubular rim of a flagon in cream ware with dark brown colour-coat. (WA 604).
142. The rim of a single-handled jug with pouring spout, in buff ware with dark brown colour-coat.
143. A thick coarse rim in cream ware, possibly a candlestick. (WA 607).
144. The rim and neck of a jar with double beaded rim in cream ware, with traces of a dark cream slip.
145. A flagon rim of unusual form in light red ware with traces of red colour-coat.
146. A shallow bowl in light red ware with red colour-coat.
147. A dish in cream ware with light red colour-coat.
148. A bowl with a triangular rim, in cream with a red colour-coat.
149. A dish in cream ware with light red to dark brown colour-coat. (WA 607).
150. A jar with everted rim in rather coarse light grey ware.
151. A shallow bowl with bead and flanged rim in cream ware.
152. A bowl with flanged rim in cream ware with black colour-coat.
153. A jar in the form of a flagon in cream ware with horizontal bands of orange-brown slip.
154. A jar with thick, double-beaded rim, in cream ware with a grey surface. (WA 607).
155. The rim of a similar vessel in cream ware, decorated below the rim with deeply cut grooves.
156. An imitation samian form 33, in light red ware with bright red colour-coat. (WA 607).
157. A jar in cream ware.
158. A deep bowl in cream ware with reddish-brown colour-coat on the outside and dark brown on the inside, with white slip arcades. (WA 606).
159. Neck and rim of a wide-mouthed jar in hard grey ware.
160. A small convex fragment of a pottery plaque with moulded and incised decoration. This could be from the top of a flagon with a face mask (cf Walters 1908, 427, fig 282).
161. A fragment of a flat piece of pottery shaped like the upper part of the numeral one, in cream ware with black colour-coat, decorated with white paint spots on one side only and the sloping edge. This is presumably part of a domestic shrine or plaque.
162. A dome-shaped lid with bead and flange in cream ware with black colour-coat on the outside and dark brown on the inside. Decorated with a white slip scroll on the flange and the two legs of a figure on the upper part in white paint with dark brown dots. The head may have been deliberately broken away. This has previously been published (Webster 1959, 94, pl XXV.7). It was suggested that the only parallel is the silver lid or cover in the Mildenhall Treasure (item 59 in Kent and Painter 1977, 35, and colour plate; see also Painter 1977, 29, pls 25–6, but here the flange belongs to the bowl and not the lid).

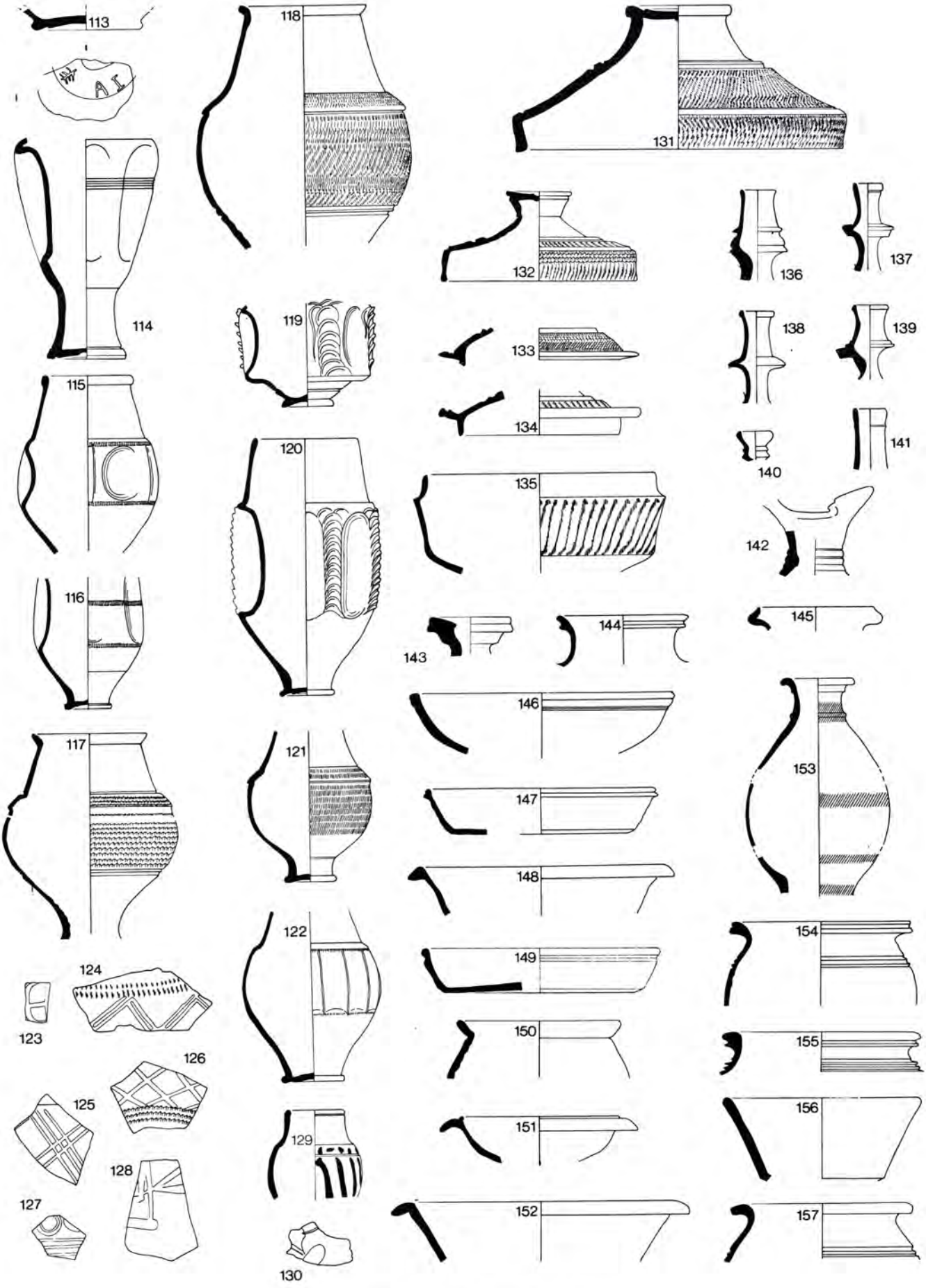


Figure 9. Pottery from Kiln R – Filling of Pit F.

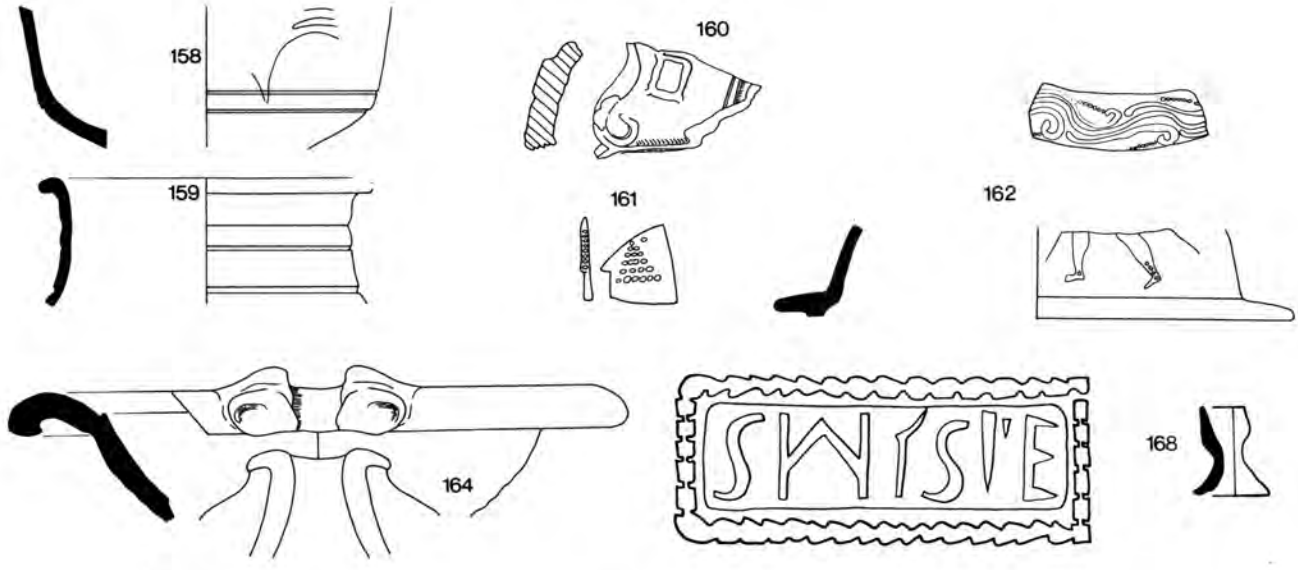


Figure 10. Pottery from Kiln R – Filling of Pit F, 158–68

FROM MISCELLANEOUS LAYERS

WA 104

163.* Iron bar broken in the middle, square in section and pointed at both ends. This could have been a potter's tool

WA 201+

164. Mortarium in cream fabric bearing the stamp of SIMILIS (retrograde). This potter worked at Mancetter but probably migrated to the Lower Nene Valley in the Antonine period. The fabric of this vessel suggests a Lower Nene Valley origin. (see M60–1, Fig 79, below).

WA 205

165.* Barrel padlock key

166.* Part of a neolithic axe which appears to have been reused, possibly by a potter. Professor J.W. Shotton identifies the axe as an example of a Group VI, an epidotised andesitic ash from the Langdale group of factories.

167.* Base of flat grey pottery with edge bevelled, possibly for use as a potter's tool.

168. Small pottery nozzle in cream ware with dark brown colour coat, complete in itself. It could have been used with a bag for applying thick slip.

AREA 2: A ROAD WEST OF THE BILLING BROOK

A drainage trench cut by the road contractor had revealed road metalling in Area 2. This was examined and was found to be cutting obliquely across the line of the modern fence towards the south-west. There were several surfaces laid onto a dark peaty layer and these would appear to be a series of layers put down in this soft peaty area near the brook until a firm surface was established. It does not seem likely that this represents an important highway but was probably a track leading towards groups of kilns or pits for clay or gravel along the edge of the brook. There are surface indications for this kind of activity in the appropriate direction but these were beyond the scope of the present investigation. Fragments of pottery from these surfaces suggested that they all belonged to the late 3rd or early 4th centuries.

AREA 3. KILNS A, B AND C AT WATER NEWTON

NOTE
The structural report on this excavation was to be written by B.R. Hartley but no text was available at the time when this volume was being collated. The results have been noted elsewhere (Hartley 1960b, 12–13, pl 1B; Swan 1984, 95–7).

The Pottery
J.P. Gillam

Summary of Conclusions
The evidence, discussed below, suggests that pottery manufacture began on the site about AD 160, and continued until about AD 200. In the immediate neighbourhood it went on until about the middle of the 3rd century and after that the whole area ceased to be used, and the industry was removed, possibly to Chesterton. Of four successive kilns, the first two, Kilns B and C, in that order, were dismantled in turn as they went out of use, Kiln B probably having never been used, while the structure of the third, Kiln A1, was incorporated in that of the latest, Kiln A2. About half the pottery made in the two or three earliest kilns was colour-coated ware, but vessels in light grey, white, shell-gritted, and other fabrics were also found. Intriguing and unique vessels were made, moulded in imitation of samian with fragments both of vessels and of a mould being recovered. The final, and possibly the only, firing of Kiln A2 was disastrous and it was abandoned without being entirely dismantled, with the lowest tier of the last loading of vessels being left on the oven floor. Of the 30 vessels concerned, all colour-coated ware, 19 were complete or still preserved a complete section. Among the 30 there was one 'hunt cup', and there were 12 other beakers, of widely distributed and approximately datable forms. There were nine examples of a wide-mouthed jar, or bowl, and also a further eight vessels, comprising either incomplete or less common forms. After it was abandoned, Kiln A2 became filled with rubbish, including charcoal, ash and much pottery; finally both it and the other remains became entirely covered with similar material.

Much of the pottery from within these sealing layers was of 2nd-century type, some of it perhaps brought to the surface by the digging of a large pit, Pit E, down into the stoke-hole of Kiln A1; there was, however, sufficient 3rd-century pottery, of local types, to show that pottery production was continuing in the near neighbourhood. Most of the pottery, from all the levels, had either certainly or probably been made on or near the site. There were mortaria and shell-gritted jars which may have come from elsewhere in the Nene Valley, but there was scarcely a piece typical of the products of any pottery outside the Lower Nene Valley.

The distribution patterns of the vessels from Kiln 2A provide an interesting example of zoning as the same kiln was being used at the same time to fire types with a province-wide distribution, and types with a restricted distribution.

General comments on the pottery
Several thousand fragments of pottery were found in the 15 square metres enfolding kilns A, B and C. As many of these are small undecorated wall-fragments, from common types of vessel, in closely similar fabrics, no accurate estimate is possible of the total number of vessels represented. Most of the fragments come from outside Kiln A, from a variety of contexts, both earlier and later than it. A representative selection from each context is illustrated.

So far as proportions of fabrics are concerned, a count made of all fragments, large and small, including all those illustrated, but inevitably excluding those unstratified wall fragments which had already been re-buried near the site to save transport, yielded the following results, expressed as percentages of the total. It is not, of course, claimed that these figures are completely accurate, but they are probably more or less representative and thus provide a rough guide to the position.

Colour-coated ware	56%
Light grey throughout	18%
White, or near white, including mortaria	10%
Fawn or orange, including mortaria	6%
Salmon-pink or orange; shell-gritted	3%
Colour-coated and mica-dusted	3%
Black and burnished, but neither BB1 nor BB2	2%
Mica-dusted but not colour-coated	1.5%
Black-burnished, including BB1 and BB2	0.5%

It is immediately obvious that the principal function of the kilns under consideration, and of other kilns in the immediate vicinity from which rubbish might have overflowed, was the production of colour-coated ware. This does not however exclude the possibility that pottery in other fabrics was also made on the site; this point is further developed in the discussions of the separate groups. The low yield of black-burnished ware (only a single vessel was represented by a fragment large enough to draw, Fig 19, 151, though there were several other fragments) shows that the ware was not marketed in large amounts in the Lower Nene Valley at this time.

A puzzling result of the fabric count is the complete absence of roughcast ware. Roughcast beakers, colour-coated on a white body, similar on macroscopic examination to Lower Nene Valley products, have been recorded on several sites, while the rim of some, but not all, resemble that found on other locally made beakers. It would seem, on the face of it, that they were made in the Lower Nene Valley, among many other

centres. A possible explanation of their absence may be that production of roughcast ware had ceased by the time that the present kilns were built and first used. In northern Britain roughcast ware, from various sources, is found throughout the century from the Flavian period to the mid-Antonine, but thereafter it becomes less common, and is represented only by undoubted survivals.

The group from the oven floor of Kiln A2 is the most important, and it is dealt with first and fully illustrated. On the oven floor were 30 vessels of 10 different types. This is a most valuable cross-section, for it is completely certain that all were made at the same time. Some of the vessels from inside the kiln though not all of them, are of widely distributed types, or types which have previously been studied. This makes it possible to work out an approximate date for the last firing of the kiln, and this in its turn helps with the dating of the other groups where the evidence from context or content is less clear.

Group from Oven Floor of Kiln A2 (Figs 11–12)

Of the 30 vessels recovered, eight are complete and undamaged, except for heat cracks; one is complete but broken; 10 are incomplete but preserve a complete section; while 11 are incomplete. It is interesting to note that the neck of every flagon had either been broken off (perhaps deliberately – for later re-use?) or lost in antiquity.

It goes without saying that all the vessels in the group are strictly contemporary, and if one is dated they are all dated. Nevertheless, an attempt is made to obtain an approximate date for each several type in isolation, in order to obtain a consensus date for the group. An indication is also given of where in the province generally similar vessels are found, whether made at Water Newton, at other centres in the Lower Nene Valley, or outside it.

Except where it is otherwise specified, the vessels are all in colour-coated ware with white or creamy-white bodies and matt dark grey coatings; this is darker than that of most similar vessels on the market, and it is doubtless the result of overfiring.

Barbotine-decorated Beakers

1. Complete; heat cracked; orange patches near base.
2. Warm brown coating; bead-rim, as compared with plain rim of 1 or cornice-rim of 3, is unusual.
3. Complete; heat-cracked; orange patches near base.

It has long been realised that during the time the barbotine-decorated beaker was on the market, there was a subtle but continuing change in form and proportions. Early vessels in the class tend to be bulbous (bag-shaped), while later vessels are more slender. While these changes in proportion cannot of course be used to obtain precise dates of manufacture, they may be used to obtain an approximate indication. 1 and 3 are not identical in proportion, 1 being slightly more slender than the earliest barbotine-decorated beakers to come on to the market in the south-east Midlands and in Scotland around the middle of the 2nd century, while both are somewhat less slender than the latest representatives of the class to be made in the first quarter of the 3rd century. 1 and 3 fall rather more than half-way through the development of the class, which indicates an approximate date about the turn of the 2nd and 3rd centuries.

Both the illustrated varieties of barbotine-decorated beakers were sold widely. The class, including earlier and later types which are similar but not identical, as well as the products of other British and Continental centres, is found, at least in small numbers, throughout the province, including Scotland; it is especially common in the region between the Nene Valley and the Thames Estuary.

Undecorated, Indented Beakers

4. Complete; heat-cracked.
5. Complete but broken.
6. Upper part of vessel incomplete since antiquity. The vessel was evidently dipped more than once in slip. for while most of it has the same dark colour-coats the majority of vessels in the group, the slip on the exterior of the base is lighter in colour and there is a distinct line of demarcation between the two zones.
7–10. Usual fabric; portions of all have been missing since antiquity. 10 had evidently become distorted at the shoulder during firing, in much the same way as a Colchester example (Hull 1963, 5, fig 5.4).

The proportions of 4, 5 and 6 are almost identical suggesting that they were certainly thrown at about the same time using standardised techniques and amounts of clay. The type-series to which the form belongs began, so far as this province is concerned, shortly after the Antonine Wall was given up, with bulbous indented beakers with short upright rims in a half-round curve. These were followed by vessels with taller upright rims, beaded and more lightly curved, which overlapped with the next stage in the development, the straight, in-sloping rim with an exaggerated bead, illustrated by the present examples. These were followed, in turn, by the "funnel-neck" beaker with a tall, straight, in-sloping rim, usually plain, though occasionally slightly beaded under the influence of Continental styles. Finally, and not until well into the 4th century, an extremely tall and slender indented beaker, with a high plain funnel neck emerged; by this time production of the class in the Lower Nene Valley had declined. Morphologically considered, the present examples, when rim-form and proportions are alike taken into consideration, fall after the beginning of the type-series but well before its end. Once again, as an approximation, a date round about the turn of the 2nd and 3rd centuries would seem not unlikely. Undecorated indented beakers are not common but occur in small numbers, over the whole province, except Scotland.

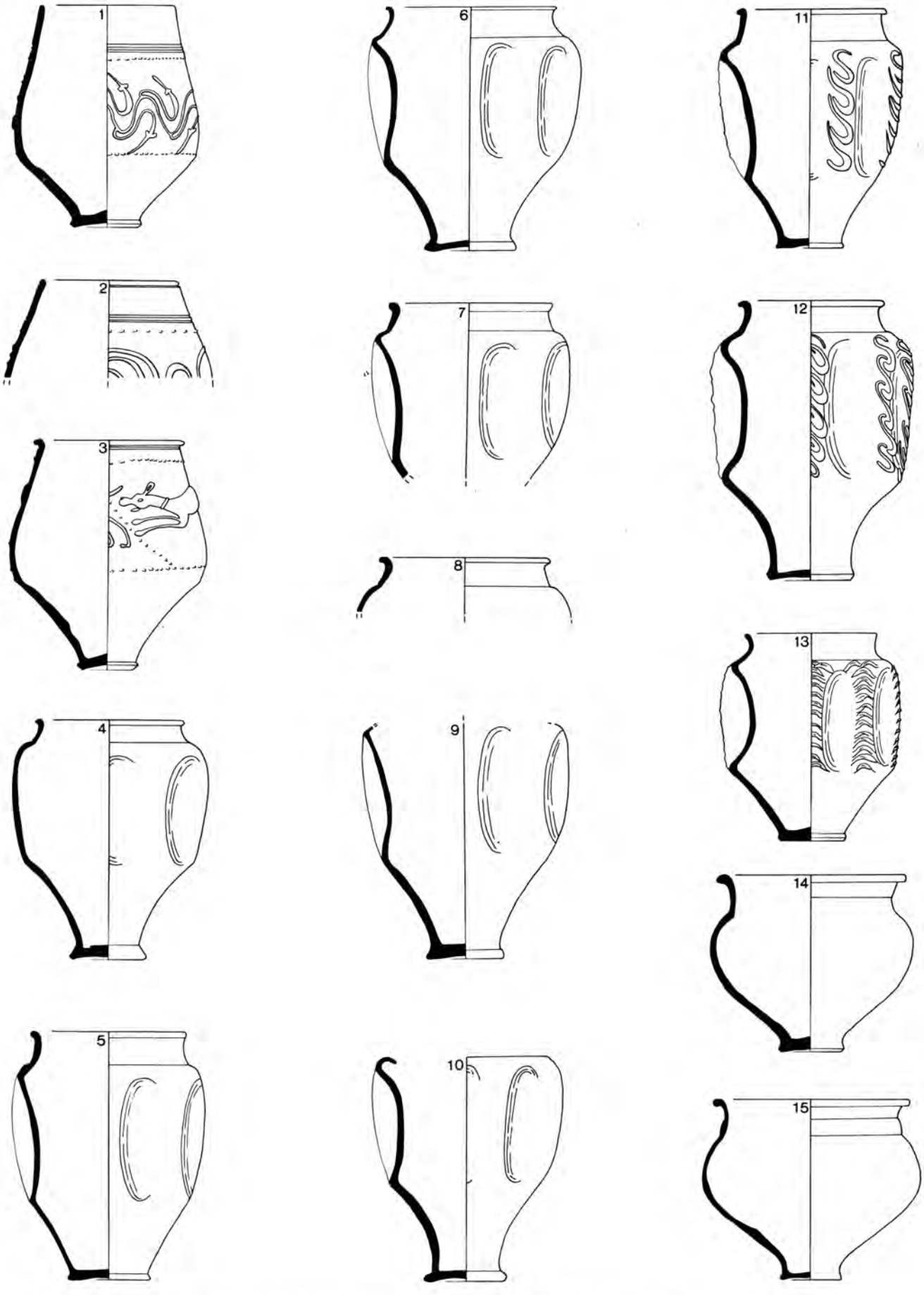


Figure 11. Pottery from Kiln A2 – Group abandoned on oven floor.

INDENTED BEAKERS DECORATED EN BARBOTINE WITH INTERLOCKING S-SHAPE OR "BUTCHER'S HOOK" MOTIF

11. Complete; heat-cracked.
12. Complete; cracked in antiquity other than by heat.

The proportions of 11 are the same as with 4, and are similar to 5 and 6, while 12 is slightly more slender than the other four. The decorated, indented beakers will have followed the same rules as the plain beakers, and a similar date may be assigned. This motif is far less common that the scale pattern but the type nonetheless has a wide distribution.

INDENTED BEAKER DECORATED WITH OVERLAPPING SCALE DECORATION

13. Complete; heat-cracked; orange patches near base.

Apart from the decoration, 13 is of the same basic form as the vessels in the two previous classes; its proportions are very close to those of 4, 5, 6 and 11. The lightly curved upright rim co-existed with the straight in-sloping rim and even if it had not been associated with the other vessels it would have been regarded as contemporary. Scale-pattern indented beakers, of various types, were

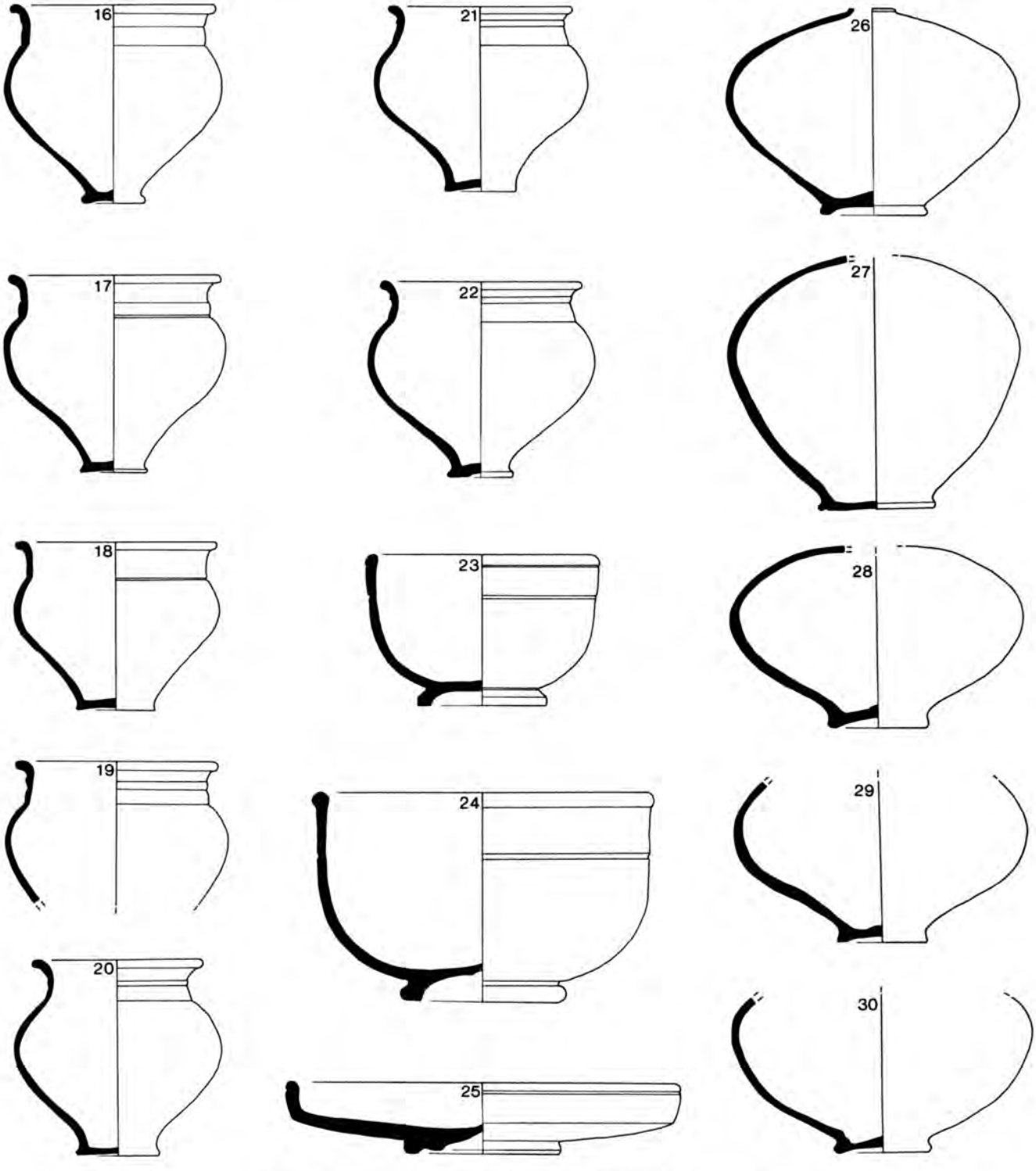


Figure 12. Pottery from Kiln A2 – Group abandoned on oven floor.

widely distributed and appear in most of the province, including Wales and both northern frontiers.

WIDE-MOUTHED JARS OR BOWLS

The external colour-coat of vessels 14 to 22 tends to be dark brown rather than the dark grey of many of the vessels, while the interior colour-coat is orange-brown.

14. Complete; rim heat-cracked; interior incompletely coated as if vessel had been carelessly dipped in slip, or an air lock had formed.
15. Almost complete; somewhat distorted in firing, and then broken in antiquity and scattered in kiln. Interior resembles that of 14, while, in addition, there is a large area on exterior, including base, which is without colour. The margin shows four changes of direction, that is four slip surface lines, suggesting that this vessel was either dipped four times but never totally immersed or that the slip was poured on in stages.
16. Almost complete; broken; colour distribution similar to 15.
17. Complete; rim heat-cracked; colour distribution similar to 15.
18. Almost complete; colour distribution similar to 15.
19. Usual fabric.
20. Almost complete.
21. Almost complete but broken; colour distribution similar to 15.
22. Almost complete; heat-cracked; colour distribution similar to 15.

There are nine vessels, 14 to 22, of this type in the group, almost a third of the total assemblage. Of these nine, all but one preserve a complete section. With the exception of 18, which is markedly shorter than average, they are all within a few millimetres of the same size. Except that 18 is somewhat more bulbous, and 20 somewhat less bulbous than average, the vessels are similar in their proportions. As well as being smaller and more bulbous, 18 also lacks the usual scored line or lines on the neck. It may have been thrown by a different potter from the others, which, like 4 to 6, exhibit signs of standardisation.

Although this is the best-represented type in the group, nine examples out of 30, it is of very little help in determining its date. Unlike 1 to 13, the wide-mouthed jar or bowl is not part of a well known type-series, and it is not therefore possible to assign a date to the type on the strength of its proportions, or on general morphology. The type is, of course, contemporary with the others in the group, but in itself it adds little dating evidence. It is well known locally particularly in grey ware, for example in a late 2nd century group from Horsey Toll (Hartley and Standen 1959, 3–5) and at Orton Longueville (Dakin 1961, fig 7,47) and also made at Sibson (Hartley 1960b, fig 3,4).

Eschewing the aid of associated pieces, we arrive at only a very rough dating, but, on general grounds, it seems unlikely that the type is much earlier, or much later, than the late 2nd century.

VESSELS IMITATING SAMIAN FORM 37

23. Broken in antiquity and about half missing; the coating is black and in places crazed and vesicular; further discussed on p 35.
24. Almost complete; fire-cracked and broken; usual colour; further discussed on p 35.

Approximate parallels, of the later 2nd century, are known from several sites and vessels of the same class, though not of the precise type, are widely distributed.

VESSEL IMITATING SAMIAN WARE, WALTERS FORM 79

25. Almost complete, but broken in antiquity; white with brownish-orange coat.

There is no parallel, and therefore no external evidence of date. The samian form which it is imitating emerged in the mid-Antonine period and continued into the 3rd century.

FLAGONS

26–30. All incomplete, fire-cracked and broken in antiquity.

In every instance the neck is not only missing, but no detached necks were found in the kiln. The maximum diameter of all five flagons is within 2mm, one way or the other, of 198mm – a striking uniformity, especially as it appears that there had been distortion after throwing. The body of each vessel had slumped, probably during firing rather than between throwing and firing, so that the body height is less in relation to the diameter than was intended. 26 shows signs of having been in contact with another vessel during firing. Nothing useful can be said about the dating and distribution.

The dating of the Group from the Oven Floor of Kiln A2

As there is no external dating for the kiln it can only be dated from the pottery found in it. The kiln was last fired on a definite date, and as there are 30 vessels to consider, known to be strictly contemporary, it ought to be possible, in theory, to obtain a very close dating for the last firing. In practice, it has not proved easy. Five vessels have lost their diagnostic features; a further 12 have no significant parallels, and, while there are abundant approximate parallels to the remaining 13 vessels of five different types, there is a shortage of precise parallels from closely dated deposits. Typological considerations suggest a date for the last firing round about the turn of the 2nd and 3rd centuries. This is approximate and not completely certain.

Vessels from Groups no later than the last firing of Kiln A2 (Figs 13–14)

The following 35 vessels are from various deposits which are discussed in more detail below.

Most of 31 was found embedded in the floor of the flue of Kiln A1; conjoined fragments were found in Pit E.

31. Light fawn; not colour-coated; decorated internally with reddish-brown paint.

32 to 39 were found while clearing Kiln B and probably represent rubbish from the functioning kilns C and A1, dumped in the abandoned or incomplete Kiln B.

32. White with brown coating; precise type in colour-coated ware not widely distributed, though generally similar vessels recorded from sites in eastern and southern England; some published examples assigned dates in later 2nd century.
33. Incomplete with complete section; white with black coating. Distinctive and widely distributed type recorded on sites as far north as Antonine Wall and has far west as Manchester, as well as nearer main production centres; all known examples colour-coated ware, though not necessarily Lower Nene Valley, let alone Water Newton, products. Dates assigned range from Hadrianic-Antonine to mid 3rd-century with scale-pattern decorated Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware reaching Old Kilpatrick by *c* AD 160 and Newstead by *c* AD 180. This vessel falls early in the type-series, having a shorter rim and broader proportions than 13, dated *c* AD 200. Its probable date, therefore, is third quarter of the 2nd century.
34. Chalky-white without colour-coat .
35. Light grey without colour-coat; probably related to 38.
36. Grey; decorated with an animal composed of V-section incised lines; technique of decoration generally similar to that on imitation samian mould 69; further discussed on p 36.
37. Light grey without colour-coat; incised decoration, possibly part of two 'ace-of-spades' motifs similar to those on 59, 106, 127 and 128. Technique of decoration differs slightly from that on 36 in that the cutting tool seems to have juddered in the groove, giving a serrated effect; further discussed on p 37.
38. Almost complete; light grey without colour-coat; smaller version, in different fabric, of 14 to 22 from kiln A2. Closest parallel, also in grey fabric, in the late 2nd-century group from Horsey Toll (Hartley and Standen 1959, fig 1,3).
39. Slightly orange-fawn, without slip; no grit survives suggesting that it may have been used. The form is known from other Lower Nene Valley sites and the same general shape was made in several other centres, and in various fabrics, in the later 2nd century. It is quite common in southern and eastern England and has been noted in North. The form could be confused with late 4th-century descendants of samian form 45.

The nine vessels, 31 to 39, were deposited after Kiln B went out of use, if it was indeed ever used, and before Kiln A2 was constructed, probably while Kilns C and A1 were in operation. The colour-coated ware vessels, 32 and 33, are certainly local; the fragments with incised decoration are characteristic of the site and of no other; the small wide-mouthed jars, 35 and 38, are close in form to the commonest type in Kiln A2; the mortarium, 39, is of a type known from the vicinity, though there was admittedly very little other evidence for the manufacture of mortaria on the site; little can be said about the jar, 34, though it is not a known product of any other centre. Therefore, while complete certainty on this point is lacking, and will always be lacking, it seems not unlikely that at least seven of these nine vessels had been made on the site, possibly in Kilns C and A1, over a period of time of unknown, but not necessarily very great length.

Three of the vessels are undatable; four are approximately datable, while only two are at all closely datable. The period of the deposit cannot therefore be ascertain with accuracy, but it may be said with some confidence that it fell within the second half of the 2nd century; possibly in the third quarter.

Vessels 40 to 45 would seem to have been deposited about the time that Kiln C ceased to function. 40, 44 and part of 41 came from a patch outside its flue in the combined stoke-hole which could serve all three kilns. 45 and another part of 41 came from the lower part of the filling of Kiln C, while a further part of 41 came from below this filling, as did 42 and 43.

40. White with light brown coating.
41. Six conjoined fragments, from three separate contexts, making up almost complete vessel. Matt light grey fabric without colour-coat and showing no sign that it was ever colour-coated. This type is less often recorded than its scale-pattern counterpart, but may have had equally wide distribution. It belongs to the same type-series as 4, 5 and 6 but is typologically earlier. The rim and proportions are almost identical with 33. Likely to date to the third quarter of the 2nd century.
42. Salmon-pink, grey in fracture, and heavily charged with fine broken shell. 87, below, is identical in form and fabric. Shell-gritted ware was present in all groups from the kiln area except inside Kiln A2. Not necessarily made on the site but probabaly local.
43. Light grey with glossy black surface; not closely datable but unlikely later than Antonine; only example from site, therefore uncertain whether made there or not.
44. Light grey, without colour-coat; five further examples found on site.

44, 48, 72, 73, 138 and 139 are similar in fabric and form and decoration; the type they represent is fairly common on the site, and has been recorded elsewhere in the Lower Nene Valley, though it seems to be neither widespread nor common in the province as a whole. It is probably a local product. Of the six illustrated examples, two come from later 2nd-century contexts, two from the lower filling of Pit E, which penetrated a later 2nd-century level, while two are unstratified; it would, therefore, appear to be a type of the later 2nd century.

45. Cream with warm, light brown coating. Castor-box lids reached Newstead by *c* AD 180 (Curle 1911, 260-1, pl LI.15), though the type, which is widely distributed, had very long life thereafter; cf 158 for example of box.

40, 41 and 45 were almost certainly produced on the site, while 44, probably, and 42, possibly, may also have been. The similarity between 41 and 33, and the fact that the group as a whole seems to be of similar date to the previous group, suggests that the interval between the use of Kiln B as a dump, and the abandonment of Kiln C, was short though it is not possible to say just how short. The disuse of Kiln C probably came measurably before the end of the 2nd century.

46 and 50 came from within the debris of the demolished Kiln C, thus from a later context than the preceding group, and earlier than the final firing of Kiln A2.

46. One large and 11 small fragments making up almost complete jar with slightly distorted rim. Matt orange-fawn fabric with neither inclusions nor colour-coat and a greyish-white patch throughout the thickness of wall. The vessel's condition suggests it was made on site. The general form is widespread and long-lived and the vessel need not be earlier than its context.
47. Restored graphically from nine fragments of which three conjoin. Light blue-grey with glossy vitrified surface outside and inside rim and neck; probably a colour-coated vessel grossly overfired. If the restoration is correct the vessel closely resembles the wide-mouthed jars from Kiln A2 and it is doubtless approximately contemporary.
48. Light grey, without colour-coat ; resembles 44.
49. Light grey with dark grey coating; possibly ill-fired colour-coated ware as for 54 and 153, which are not dissimilar, in shape are certainly in this fabric.
50. Cream with dark brown coating. Most examples of this particular variant of samian form 36 come mainly from the regional zone of colour-coated ware distribution and there are none on the northern frontiers; see p 35.

46 to 50 were almost certainly all produced on the site. Only 47 is datable; from its findspot it is earlier than *c* AD 200, but from its type not much earlier; the group as a whole is probably of the late 2nd century.

51 and 53 came from the burnt rakings which blocked the mouth of Kiln A1 and overflowed outside it into the stoke-hole; the deposit is earlier than Pit E.

51. 11 fragments making up almost complete beaker; dead white with dark brown, almost black, coating; decorated with diagonal barbotine lines below colour-coat which is worn in places allowing the underlying white to show through. Fractionally broader in proportion to height than vessel 1, of the same class. This might be explained by the fact that it may have been fired in Kiln A1 and been discarded shortly before the modifications which produced Kiln A2 in which 1 was fired.
52. Off-white fabric with dark grey coating; this lies outside normal range of 2nd-century colour-coated ware forms and is undatable.
53. Pinkish-buff without slip. As no grit survives it may have been used. Similar mortaria were made at other centres in the later 2nd century and, as it is the only example of the type from site, it was possibly introducted from elsewhere.

51 is a local product; 52 may be; 53 is probably not. The most closely dated vessel belongs to the closing years of the 2nd century.

Two separate fragments of 54 were each found embedded above the firebars in the fired clay of the floor of Kiln A2 on which vessels 1 to 30 were found.

54. White with mainly black coating, but with patches of reddish-brown which may be original, with the black being the result of re-firing. Essentially same type as 49 and 153; see p 35.

55 to 61 were found, either in the ash and other burnt material in the stoke-hole of Kiln A2, or in the burnt material over the remains of Kiln C.

55. White with dark brown coating.
56. White, without colour-coat.
57. Grey.
58. Grey; similar form to 36.
59. This vessel is a member of a small and unique group of vessels and moulds which are discussed further on p 34. 14 conjoined fragments providing a section complete but for the footstand which had been applied separately and has come away leaving a mark; complete circle of rim preserved. Very light grey body, almost pure white, with blue flecks, (like Gorgonzola cheese), which seem to be discoloration rather than inclusions; vessels 83 and 90 have a similar mottled fabric. Dark grey coating, perhaps intended to be red or brown, much of which has come away in antiquity, leaving irregular patches with curved outlines; mottled body shows through. 59 was made, certainly on site, in an incised mould similar to 69 and 160 (*sic*); 106 was made in the same mould. The vessel cannot be dated intrinsically as it is not known for how long the manufacture of imitations of samian form 37 in local potteries persisted after the decline of importation of Central-Gaulish prototypes. The stratification suggests a date towards the end of the 2nd century.
60. White with dark grey surface decorated with broad streaks of black paint,apparently applied with fingers; may have been white with red paint marks, discoloured in faulty firing or accidental re-firing.
61. Cream with dark brown coating; another variety of vessel derived from samian form 36, see p 35.

The colour-coated or ill-fired vessels are almost certainly local products, and the others may well be. The group, considered out of its context, is not closely datable; some of the vessels are quite undatable, though others would not be out of place in a group of the late 2nd century.

62 to 64 were found at the top of the stoke-hole of Kiln A2 where there is a possibility of contamination from later material, though the group was probably deposited at the time of the last firing.

62. Hard, matt, brick-red to light brown, inside and out, with grey core; lightly charged with white shell grit.
63. Light grey, without slip or coating.
64. Light grey with dark grey coating; possibly ill-fired colour-coated ware; resembles 50; see p 35.

62, 63 and 64, of which 64 was probably made on the site, and 62 in the region, are not closely dated, either by their character or by their slightly suspect context, but there is nothing to prevent their belonging to the turn of the 2nd and 3rd centuries.

65. Found in flue of Kiln A2; almost complete. Silvery-grey and matt, with no signs of colour-coat , probably a colour-coated vessel grossly overfired. The base differs slightly from those on vessels 14 to 22, but the form and proportions the same; possibly, like them, part of last loading of Kiln A2.

Origin and Dating of Vessels deposited no later than last firing of Kiln A2

Complete certainty that any given vessel was made on the site is possible only if it was found *in situ* in a kiln, is distorted, heat-cracked, badly discoloured or resembles, in form and fabric, vessels falling into one of these

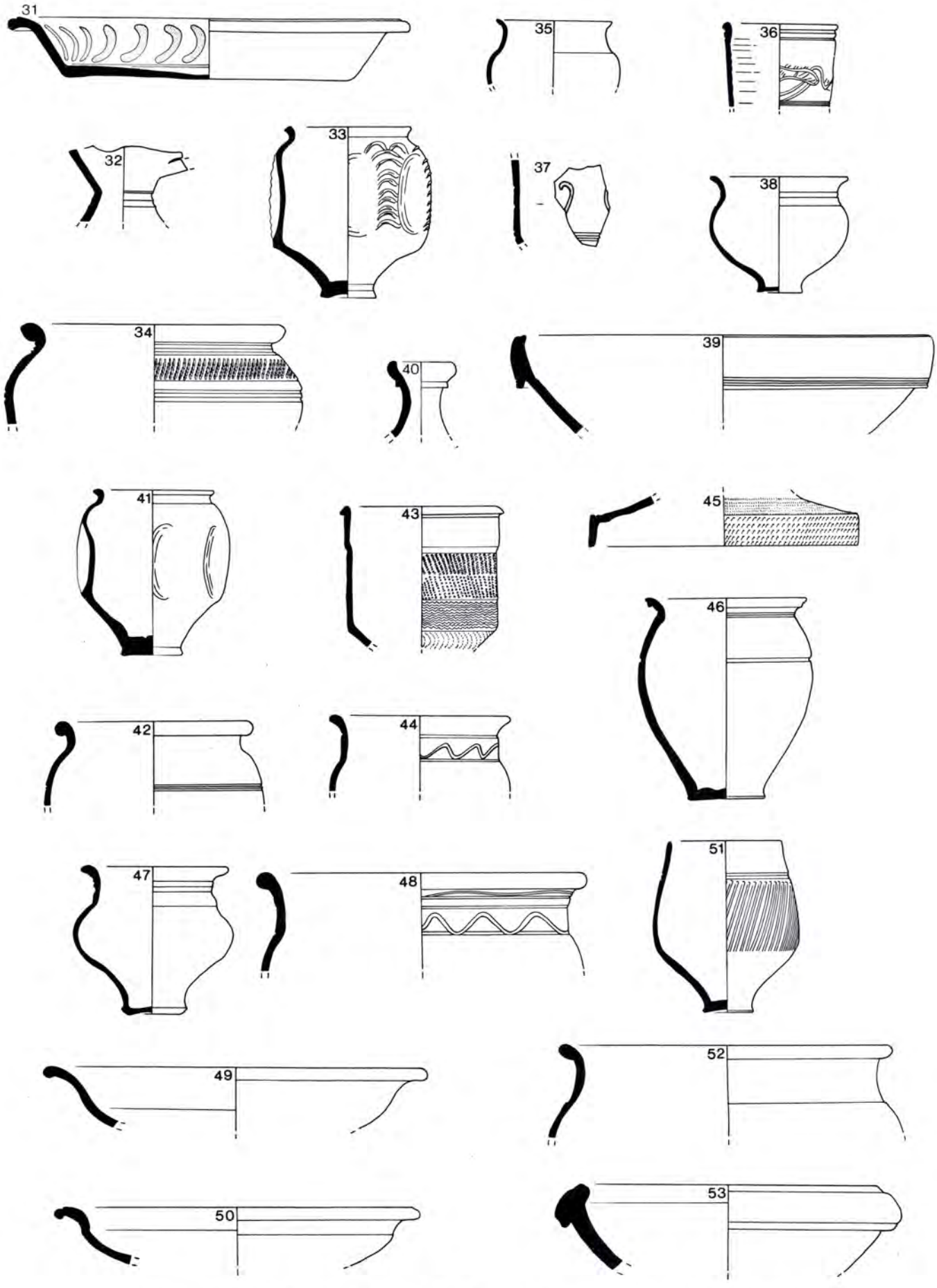


Figure 13. Pottery from Kilns A, B, and C – Groups no later than last firing of Kiln A2.

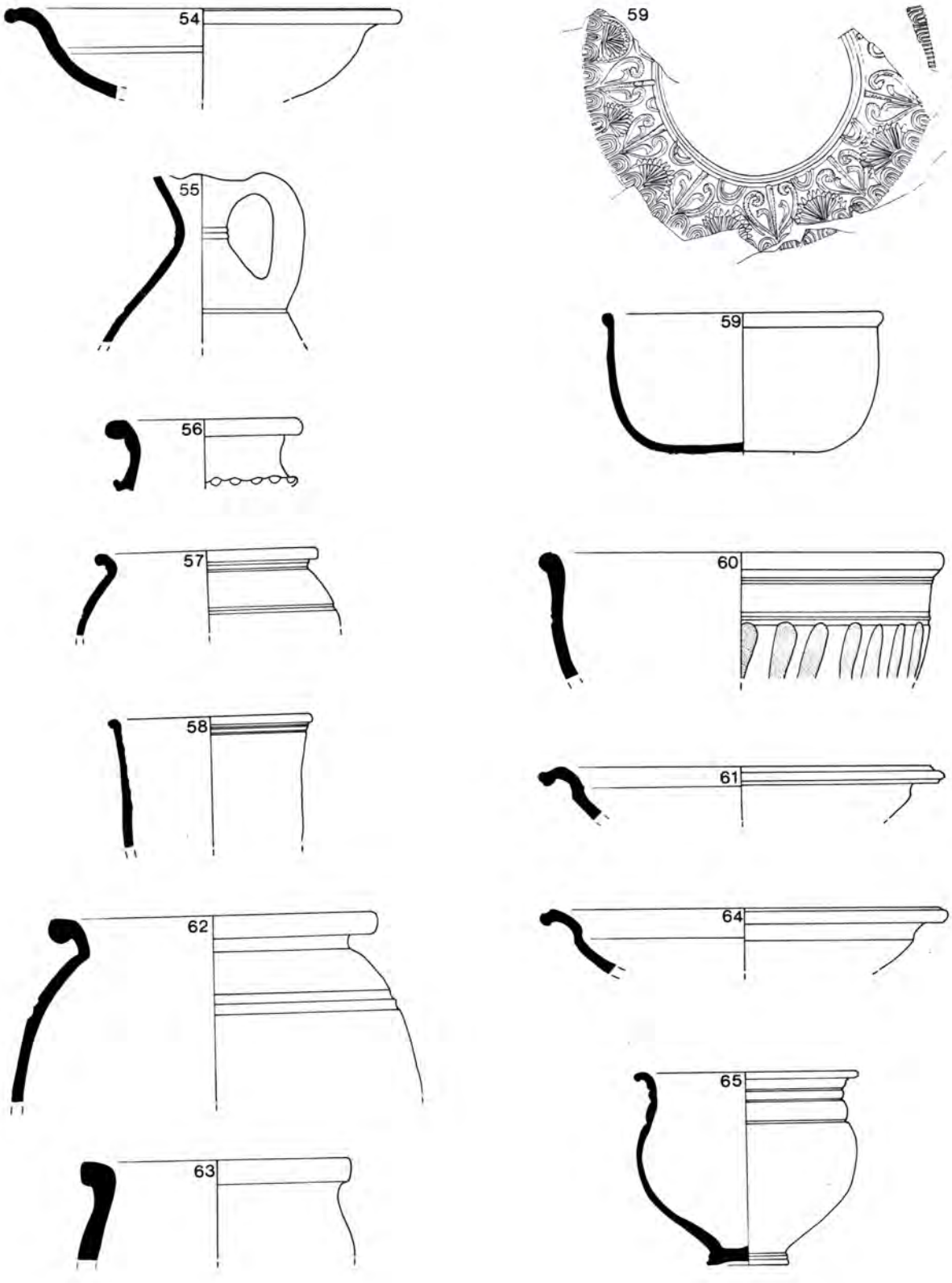


Figure 14. Pottery from Kilns A , B, and C – Groups no later than last firing of Kiln A2.

categories. However, as we have seen in the earlier discussion, it is by no means impossible that most of these 35 vessels had been made on the site, either in Kilns C and A1, or in undiscovered kilns in the near neighbourhood. It is usually the case that the bulk of the pottery found on a kiln site is waste from manufacture, and there is no reason why this site should be an exception. It is noticeable that, while there are general similarities, no vessel is identifiable as the known product of a pottery outside the Lower Nene Valley. From this it seems to follow that the potters did not confine their production to the standard colour-coated ware fabric and forms, but also made grey wide-mouthed jars or necked bowls, copies of samian forms, other forms in a variety of fabrics, and, less certainly, shell-gritted jars. It may be that as many as six-sevenths of the vessels numbered from 42 to 65 had been thrown near to the site and fired on it.

As we have seen in the earlier discussion, some of the 35 are fairly closely datable, some are only approximately datable, and some, in themselves, are quite undatable. However, if they are taken as a whole, with special attention to the more informative vessels, they seem to indicate a range of some 40 years, from *c* AD 160, the latest date at which 33 and 41 could well have been made, to *c* AD 200, the date already assigned to the last firing of Kiln A2. If this is correct, then this is the period of use of the particular patch of ground for pottery manufacture. The only structural features earlier than the recorded kilns, both in part overlaid by the probably unfired Kiln B, were what seemed to be a gravel pit, Pit F, and a smaller pit, Pit D, containing kiln debris, which implies that production had already begun in the neighbourhood. Just as there were no earlier kilns on the site, so there were no structures later than the unsuccessfully fired Kiln A2.

Vessels from Groups later than the last firing of Kiln A2 (Figs 15–17)

66 to 70 were found in a black filling within or over the oven of the abandoned Kiln A2.

66. Off-white with dark grey coating; probably residual 2nd-century.
67. Light fawn with brown coating. Typologically later than any vessel described so far, similar vessels have been recorded locally in 3rd-century contexts. Clearly an antecedent of the flagon with a tall flanged neck, which is widespread in the 4th century. This fragment probably derived from rubbish associated with a 3rd-century kiln operating outside the immediate area.
68. Grey, without slip or inclusions. Form already developed in the 2nd century, but was probably long-lived.
69. Six unburnished grey fragments from a mould for making bowls in imitation of samian form 37. The decoration in the mould is formed by V-section incisions, in almost cut-glass technique, with the edges of some incisions serrated as on the exterior of vessel 37. The style and technique of decoration are very close to that of 59, though, apart from the ovolo, the main elements of the decoration are bolder in the mould 69 than on the bowl 59. This is to be expected, especially if, for some reason, the manufacture of vessels using the mould did not always achieve a good impression of the design in the mould. There can be little doubt, however, that 69 and the mould in which 59 was made were the work of the same man and are, therefore, roughly contemporary. The mould is dated to the late 2nd or very early 3rd century. This intriguing aspect is further discussed on pp 35, 37.
70. Light grey with dark brown coating; mica-dusted (see below, p 34).

69 was quite certainly made on the site, or in its near neighbourhood, while the remainder of the group may well also have been. 67 is of later date than the 2nd century while 66 and 69 possibly survived as rubbish from the 2nd century. 68 might be either of 2nd or 3rd-century date.

71 to 75 were found in the lower filling of Pit E. Most of the pieces, if not all of them, from the lower part of Pit E seem to be residual and it seems almost certain that the pit had penetrated a 2nd-century level.

71. Creamy-white with light brown coating. Cup-mouthed ring-neck flagons are found in the east Midlands and eastern England usually in mid 2nd-century contexts and they are rarely colour-coated. 71 is possibly a rubbish survival from 2nd-century kilns.
72. Light grey, without coating; resembles 73, though fragments not from same vessel; also resembles 44.
73. Light grey with darker surface on outside and on inside of rim; cf 72.
74. Light grey fabric with dark grey coating; possibly ill-fired colour-coated ware; cf 150 for discussion of form.
75. Dark grey with dark colour-coating and mica-dusted. A long-lived type; probably local; cf 70 and below, p 34.

76 to 96 were found in the upper part of Pit E, between Kilns B and C.

76. White with brown coating; type with exaggerated up-turned spout and, when complete, broad base. Common, probably 3rd century. Base restored on drawing.
77. Warm pink fabric without slip Probably a 2nd century survival and not necessarily of local manufacture.
78. Light grey with darker core.
79. White body with pink core and black colour-coat; patch of colour-coat absent, suggesting that this vessel was in contact (stacked?) with another in kiln. Type absent from Kiln A2 and from contemporary or earlier groups and appears to be the lineal descendent of vessels 4 to 8, probably influenced by beakers from Rhine or Mosel. Present in the Lower Nene Valley by the mid-3rd century but start-date uncertain. Similar vessels widely distributed.
80. White with black coat; similar to 51, and probably residual.
81. White with light orange coat; similar to, but more bulbous than, 1; probably residual.
82. White with light orange coat; combines cornice rim of 3 with plant-form decoration of 1 and 81. This combination occurs regularly, but is less common than those of plant forms with plain rims, or animals with cornice rims. Probably residual.
83. 24 fragments making up greater part of beaker in white with silvery-grey surface, mottled with darker blue-grey and not unlike 59 and 90; almost certainly ill-fired colour-coat. The barbotine decoration, intended to resemble that on 11 and

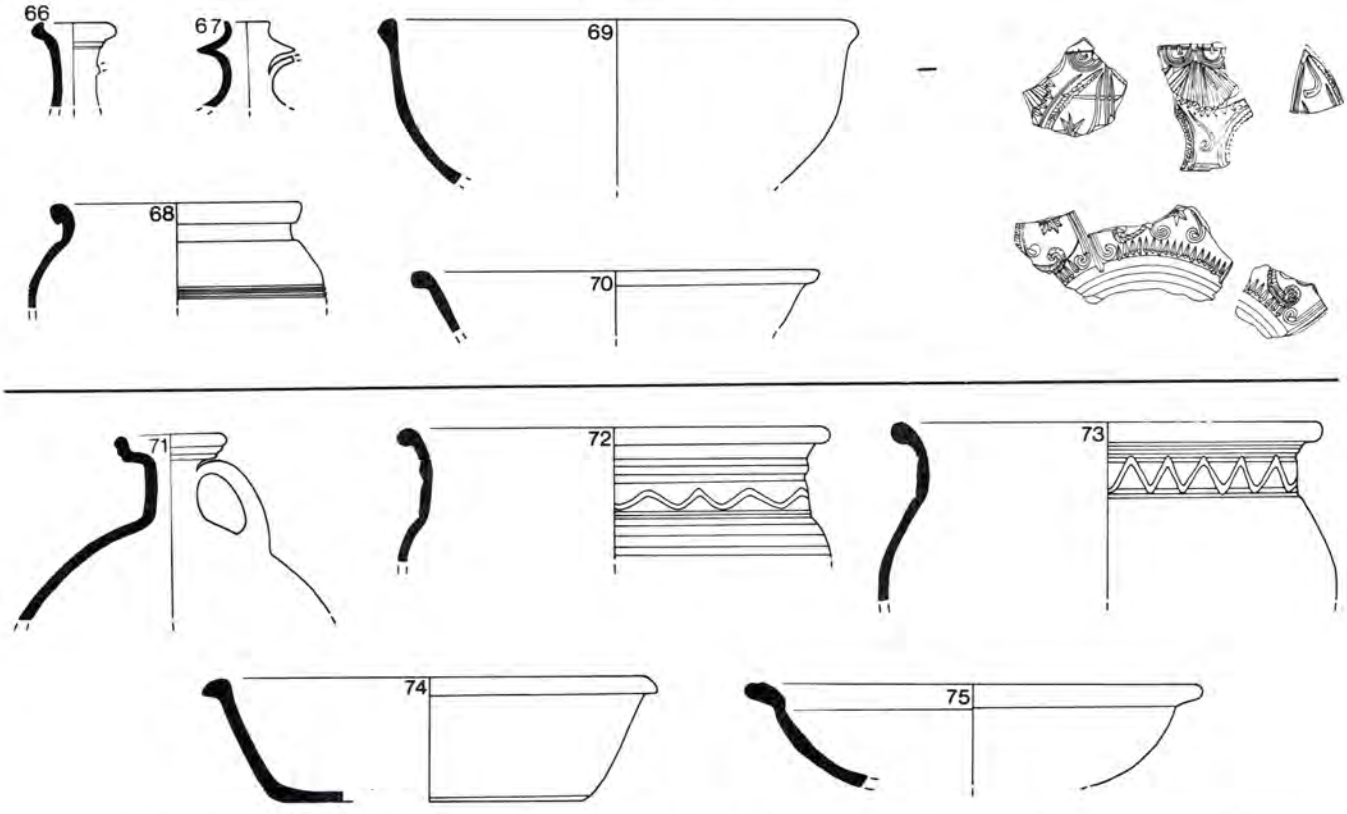


Figure 15. Groups later than last firing of Kiln A2: black filling within or over oven, 66–70; Pit E, lower filling, 71–5.

12, is seriously distorted between indentations. The proportions fall between those of 11 and 12 and the rim is not an exact match; 83 may, therefore, have formed part of last load of Kiln A2, or may have been fired in an undiscovered kiln in the neighbourhood. Most of the pieces came from the upper part of filling of Pit E, others from somewhat deeper in same pit and one was unstratified, some distance away.

84. Grey; may be 2nd-century.
85. Light grey.
86. Reddish-brown with shell grit.
87. Dark grey; heavily charged with small white shell grit; close to 42.
88. Light grey; resembles a miniature version of 14 to 22.
89. Light grey with dark brown to black colour-coat.
90. Light grey; speckled blue like 59, and close to 83; probably originally colour-coated; cf 150 for discussion of form.
91. Greyish-white with matt, very light grey surface; cf 150 for discussion of form.
92. White, without colour-coat, though possibly intended to be colour-coated; reminiscent of samian form.
93. Light grey, with smooth surface but no colour-coat; probably 3rd-century example of long-lived type; see p 35.
94. Creamy-white, without colour-coat; as 93, see p 35.
95. White with dark colour-coat and mica-dusted; form of rim absent from earlier deposits; cf 70 and p 34.
96. Light orange-buff, pink in fracture and mica-dusted. Conjoining fragments found in different levels of Pit E. Unusual vessel; might be local. Uncertain date; cf 70 and p 34.

Pit E had been dug down into the stoke-hole of Kiln A1. It would be scarcely surprising if rubbish from that level had found its way into the filling of the pit. That this was the case is indicated by the fact that some fragments of the distinctive vessel 31 were found embedded in the floor of Kiln A1, while others were found in Pit E. Of the 21 vessels found in the pit three seem to be of the 3rd century, seven of the 2nd, and 11 either undatable or of types which overlapped the turn of the century. 79 provides an approximate *terminus post quem*, in the mid-3rd century, or a little before, for the filling of pit E. Several of the vessels were quite certainly made on the site, while the majority of the remainder may well have been; none is the recognisable product of a pottery elsewhere.

Vessels 97 to 110 came from the level over Pit E, the latest of the stratified levels on the site.

97. Off-white with light grey surface; similar to 71 and possibly 2nd-century.
98. White with orange-brown colour-coat on outside and inside mouth; roughly similar to 67 and possibly 3rd-century.
99. Pink with dark brown colour-coat on outside and light brown on handles. A two-handled version of 98; possibly 3rd-century.
100. Single fragment; greater part of beaker with complete section. White with a dark brown colour-coat, less thickly applied towards the base. A less common type but one with a wide distribution. Examples usually assigned to the 3rd century.
101. Complete beaker with slightly damaged rim. White with light orange coat; cf 82. Proportions suggest a late 2nd rather than a 3rd-century date.

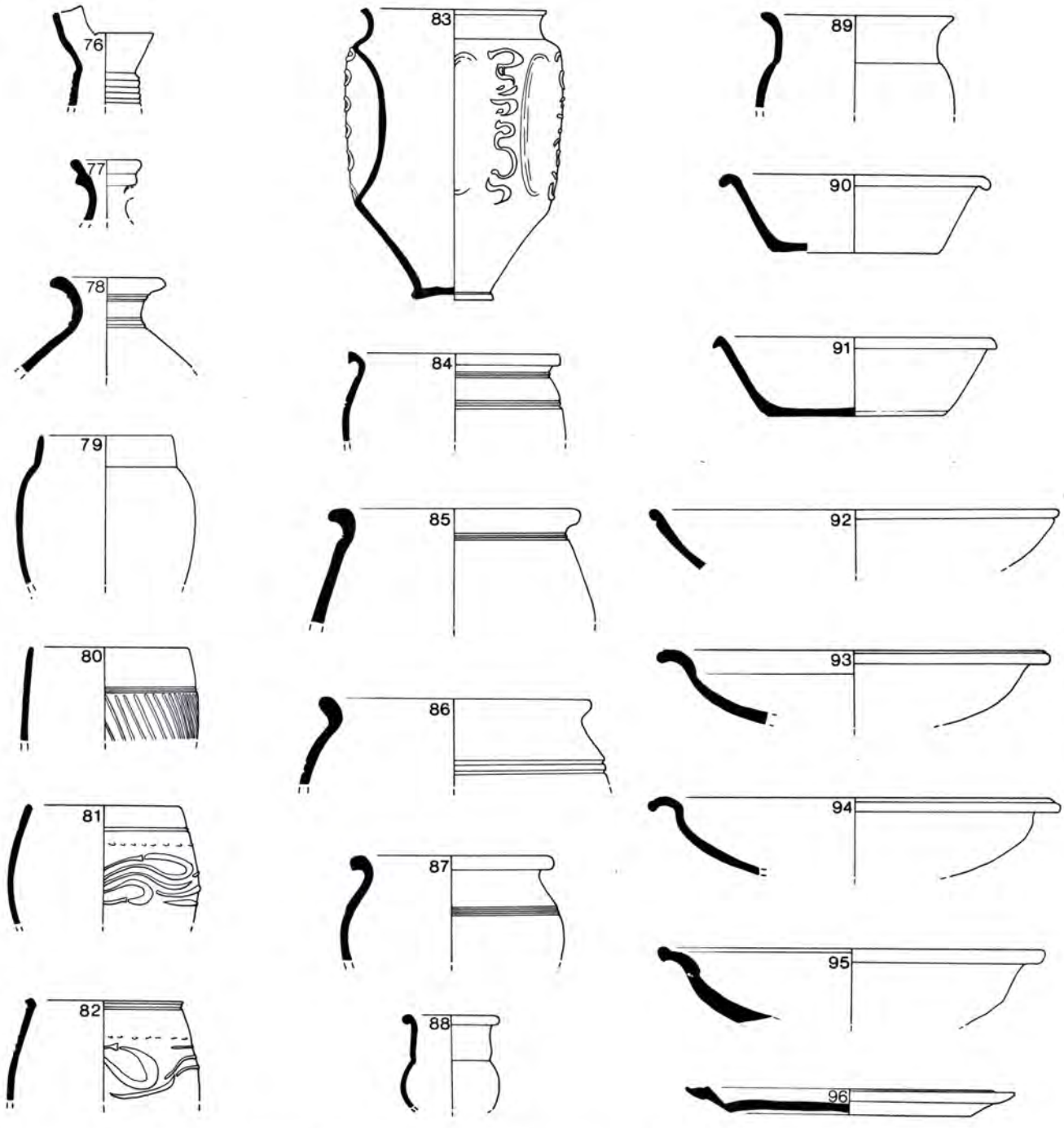


Figure 16. Pottery from Kilns A, B, and C – Groups later than last firing of Kiln A2: Pit E, upper filling.

102. Complete but for two small fragments missing from rim with open cracks in an otherwise intact body. White with warm dark brown colour-coat which is patchy, dark and cracked in places clearly the result of overfiring. The rim is similar to 4 though the sides are more vertical and the proportions more slender. The rim is, however, typologically earlier than 79 which is from an earlier context, so 102 is probably early 3rd-century in date and residual. While undoubtedly made on site, it was probably fired in any of kilns discussed.

103. 12 conjoined fragments. White with dark brown colour-coat; not overfired. Though larger, and with more pronounced bead than 13, the proportions seem to be similar. Probably not from last firing of Kiln A2, but roughly contemporary and therefore residual.

104. Reddish-orange with grey core and medium-sized shell grit. Surface has both deeply scored lines and faint rilling.

105. Light orange, without slip.

106. Four fragments from bowl of form 37. Creamy-white with orange-brown coat, not unlike colour of some samian, but lacking the gloss. Not another piece of 59, but certainly from same mould as the decoration overlaps and the diameter at the ovolo is 167mm in either case. Made on site towards end of 2nd century; further discussed on p 35.

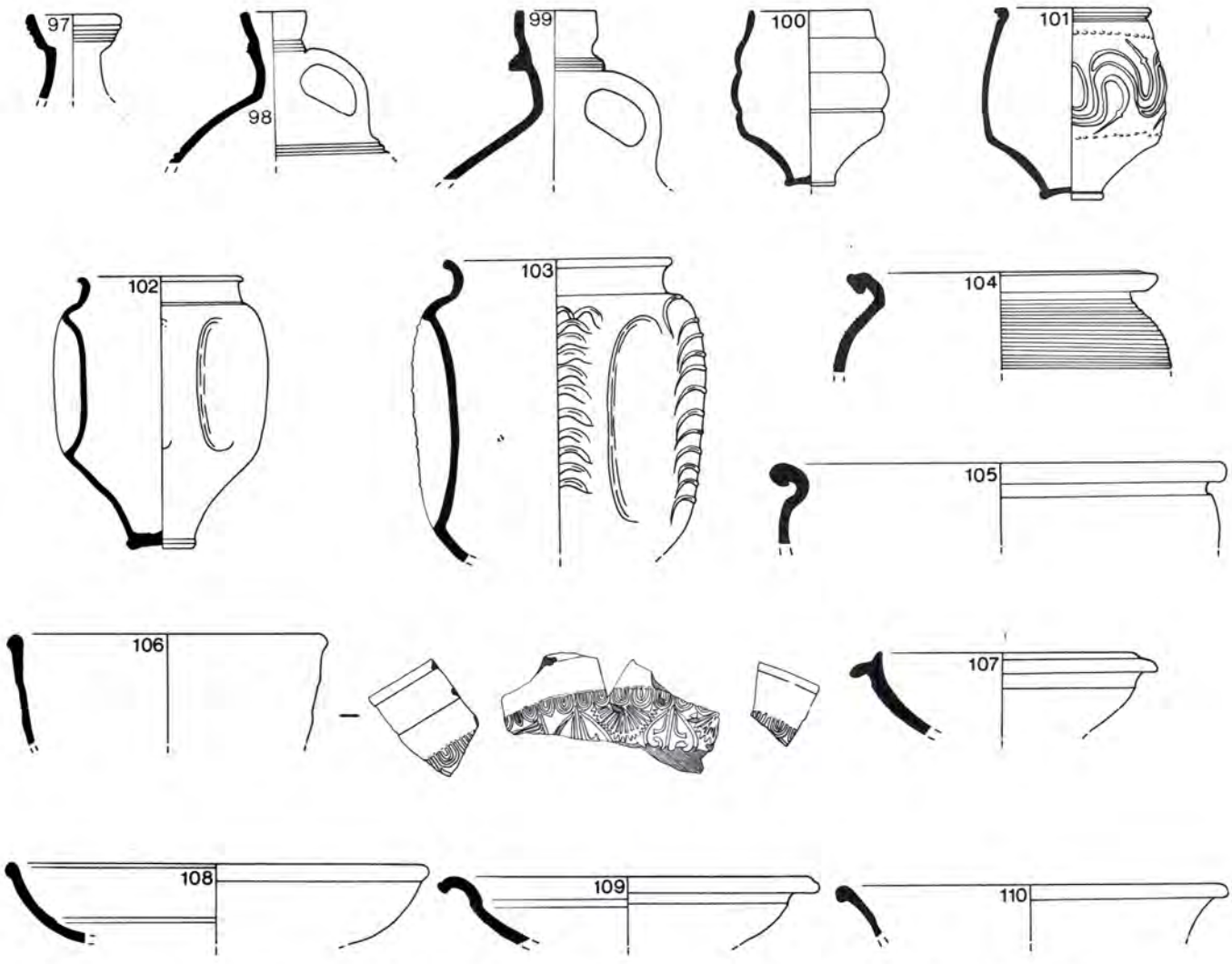


Figure 17. Pottery from Kilns A, B, and C – Over Pit E. Groups later than the last firing of Kiln A2.

107. White, with neither colour-coat nor red paint on flange; probably 3rd century.
108. Pinky-white with a light orange to fawn coating. Samian-inspired but undatable.
109. White with distinct grey core and a dark colour-coat with mica-dusted surfaces. Similar to 50, which is late 2nd-century; cf 70 and p 34.
110. Grey with brown coat; mica-dusted; cf 70 and p 34.

The group, 97 to 110, is roughly dated by its position over the approximately mid 3rd-century Pit E. Of the pieces in the group to which it has been possible to assign an estimated date, five seem to be of the 2nd century and seven of the 3rd. It is of course the 3rd century vessels which are contemporary with the deposit, but it is remarkable that the proportion of 2nd-century vessels is still high. 101 seems to have survived almost intact for close on three-quarters of a century, while 102, also almost intact, though probably of early 3rd-century date, is still earlier than the deposit in which it was found. On a kiln site these vessels can hardly have survived in use; 102 is in any case a waster. They were probably moved from the place where they were first discarded, along with other rubbish, in the course of digging fresh stoke-holes, flues or furnace chambers, in the neighbourhood, to be dumped where they were subsequently found, having suffered only minimal damage. 102 and 106 are quite certainly local, and several of the others almost as certainly, while none is an obvious import.

Vessels 111 to 159 are unstratified. (Figs 18–19)

111. White with dark brown colour-coat though a lighter brown shows through. The elongated spout is pulled further forward than with 76. Probably 3rd century.
112. White with dark brown colour-coat on outside, and on the inside of neck; cf 76 and probably 3rd century.
113. White throughout.
114. White with dark brown colour-coat on exterior and light brown on interior.
115. White with buff colour-coat.
116. White with orange-buff colour-coat.
117. Grey.
118. Grey with darker surface.
119. White with orange-brown colour-coat.

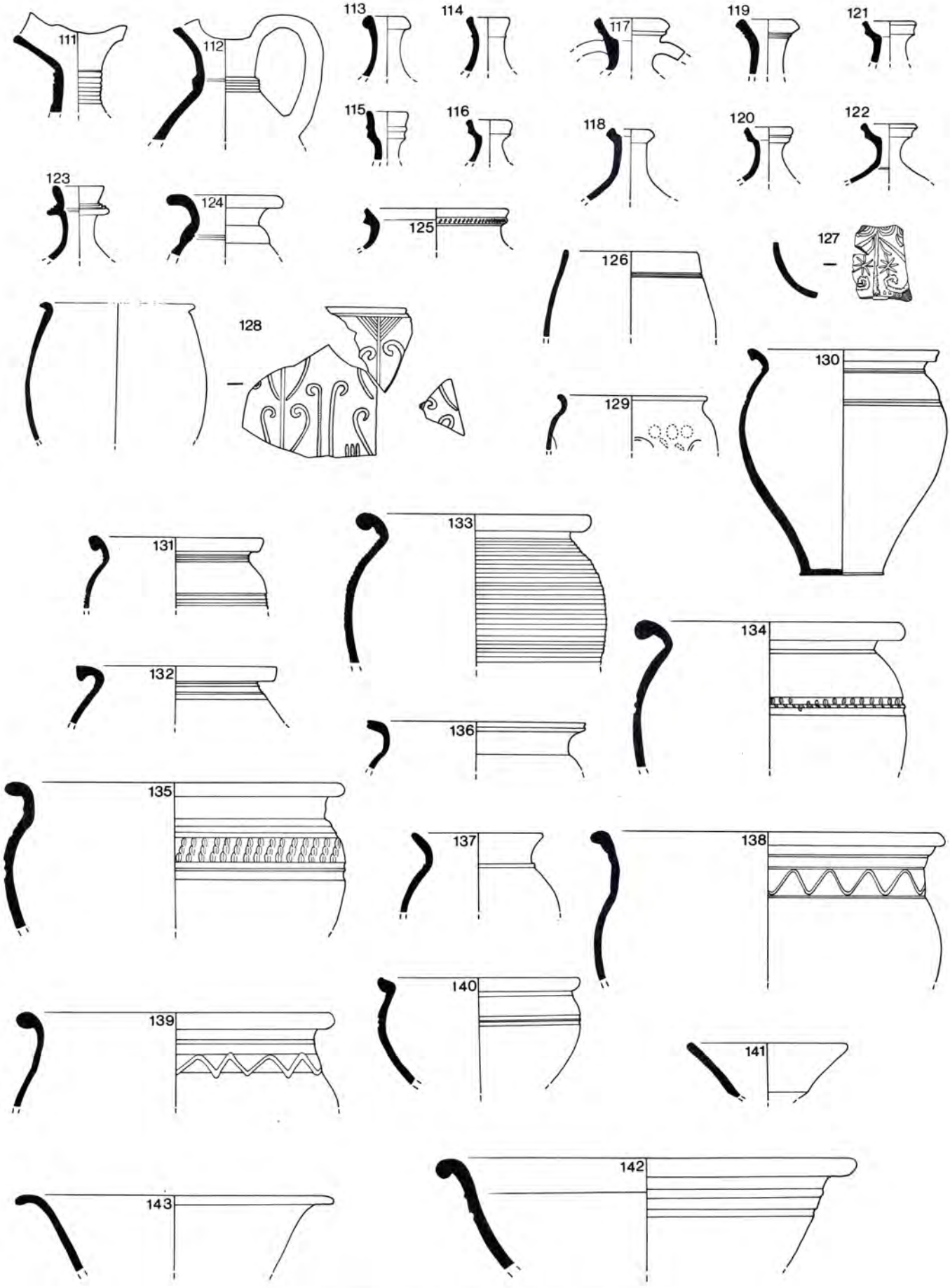


Figure 18. Pottery from Kilns A, B, and C – Unstratified.

120. Off-white with light grey surface.
121. Off-white with buff colour-coat.
122. Off-white, without colour-coat.
123. White with brown colour-coat; lighter brown in places. Except for second handle, similar to 67 and 98. Probably 3rd-century.

As many as 13 of the unstratified pieces which are capable of being drawn are flagon necks. This is more, relatively and absolutely, than in any of the stratified groups, though whether or not this has any significance is uncertain. There were doubtless many wall and base fragments from the same vessels, but, in the nature of the deposit and the circumstances of its excavation and processing, it was not possible to find joins in the way that it was between associated fragments in the stratified groups. Of the 13 necks, three, 111, 112 and 123, are distinctive, and datable to the 3rd century. Insofar as it is possible to say anything at all about the others, they seem to be reminiscent of 2nd-century forms. Nine are colour-coated, two white and two grey. The striking thing about these flagons is the great variety of types.

124. Light brown with grey surface.
125. Light grey.
126. Grey, with dark grey core and coat; like 1–2, 51, 80-1.
127. Two conjoined fragments from wall of moulded vessel imitation form 37. Light coloured with darker grey surface. Made in a mould of the same character as, but not identical with, that used for 59 and 106; closer to 69, but not from that mould. Some of the the incisions are serrated. Local product of the late 2nd-century. Further discussed on pp 35, 37.
128. Group of eight conjoined fragments, including two rim fragments; also one unattached. Light grey with darker grey colour-coat. Of colour-coated beaker form with simplified cornice rim. Not made in a mould but the incised decoration and inverted 'ace-of-spades' motif is similar to that on other vessels with incised decoration, in incised moulds, and on vessels made in incised moulds. The edges of some of the incisions are serrated, as on 37, 59, 69, 127–8 and 160. It is remarkable that the same style of decoration should be used, both directly on vessel of colour-coated form, and also in moulds for vessels of samian form. Made on site, probably in the late 2nd-century; further discussed on pp 35, 37.
129. Chalky-white with very dark grey colour-coat. Barbotine blobs, probably intended for scales, have broken away from space between surviving portion of two indentations, leaving white patches. Probably local and of late 2nd century date.
130. Nine conjoined fragments in whitish-buff with pinkish-fawn surface outside vessel and inside rim. Larger than, but similar in form and fabric to 46. Probably 2nd-century.
131. Light grey; similar to 68.
132. Pinkish-white.
133. Two large fragments from same jar; one orange and one grey. Small shell inclusions; cf 42. Possibly late 2nd-century.
134. Salmon-pink to orange, with shell grit.
135. White, with grey-fawn colour-coat.
136. Light grey.
137. Light grey.
138. Light grey; cf 44.
139. White; cf 44.
140. Creamy buff.
141. Creamy white, with dark grey overfired colour-coat; vaguely reminiscent of samian form 33.
142. Very light grey ware with dark brown colour-coat.
143. Greyish-white with horizontally burnished light grey surface.
144. Greyish-buff with pinkish-cream slip; trituration grit small and black. Form something between stepped flange and reeded hammer-head, recorded several times in or not far from the Lower Nene Valley and on Hadrian's Wall in both 3rd and 4th-century contexts. Almost certainly a Lower Nene Valley product, but probably not from this kiln area.
145. Cream with small to medium, black trituration grit. Probably a Lower Nene Valley product. Several mortaria of the same general kind have been found at Bewcastle, Cumbria, associated with slightly worn coins of the Tetrici, but none of Carausius or Allectus.
146. White, orange-fawn paint on rim; probably 3rd-century.
147. White with grey surface.
148. Light grey.
149. Greyish-white body with bright orange colour-coat.
150. Light grey.

In spite of obvious differences between them, 147 to 150, with which 74, 90 and 91 need also to be taken, have much in common with each other. The fabric varies; one vessel is in colour-coated ware, while others are either grey throughout or grey with a darker surface. There is some variation between the rims, though only between limits, for all are short, and several are down-turned; neither broad flat nor flanged rims appear. The proportions are similar; the height being of the order of 30% of the diameter. The angle of the side to the horizontal is also similar, close to 60° in each instance. All the dishes have a small but distinct chamfer. There can be little doubt that, while they are not all of the same type, they are related to each other. There can equally be little doubt that they, with similar vessels from many other contemporary production sites elsewhere in the province, are part of a demand or fashion for such vessels, possibly stimulated or instigated by the marketing of vessels in BB2.

The BB2 form which migh lie behind the pieces from the site was on the market between *c* AD 110 and *c* AD 180; both much earlier and much later dates have been suggested, in error, in the past. If 74, 90, 91 and 147 to 150 were contemporary copies, then all are residual in their contexts. They may however be belated copies, produced at a time when new forms were already being produced in the BB2 potteries of the Thames Estuary. Such conservatism is the repertoire of potters, especially where a popular product is concerned, has been noted before. If this applies in the present instance, then the stratified pieces need not be regarded as residual, and they can hardly have been made in any of the four 2nd-century kilns which have been studied, but rather in later kilns elsewhere in the neighbourhood.

151. BB1; surface reddened. This is the only BB1 fragment from site with sufficient shape to be drawn. Late 2nd to early 3rd -century.
152. Pinkish-white with dark colour-coat. Mica-dusted, cf 70 an below.

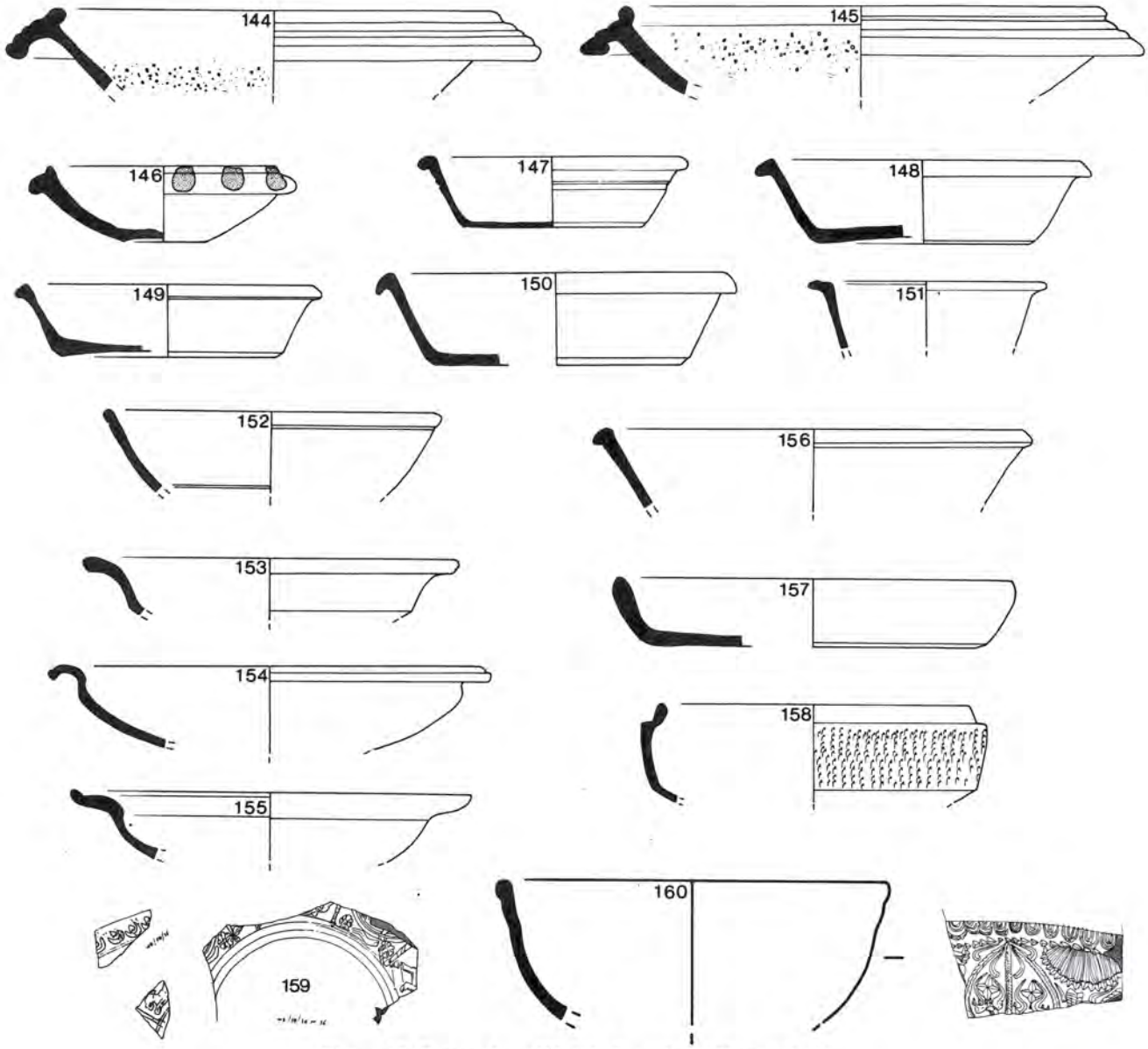


Figure 19. Pottery from Kilns A, B, and C – Unstratified.

153. Light fawn with a dark brown colour-coat on outside; cf 49 and 54, see p 35.
154. White; see p 35.
155. Very light grey with a fawn colour-coat. Mica-dusted, cf 70 and below, p 34.
156. Light grey with dark grey core with a burnished, black surface; neither BB1 nor BB2.
157. Cream body, with a black colour-coat. Probably an early example of colour-coated kitchen ware. Form still marketed to Great Casterton and Lincoln at close of Roman period.
158. Cream with warm brown colour-coat. 3rd-century type.
159. One large and two small fragments of moulded vessel imitating samian. Off-white fabric with orange slip; further discussed on p 35.
160. Not found in 1958. Plaster cast of a mould originally found on a rockery in Peterborough before the Second World War, and at first believed to have been lost or destroyed during the war. Re-discovered and published (Hull 1963, 46, fig 19.1, pl XIIIb); now preserved in Hull Museum; further discussed on pp 35–6.

Mica-dusted ware

Among the vessels or fragments fit to draw are eight with a mica-dusted surface (70,75,95–6,109–10,152,155). Of these, all but one, 96, are mica-dusted on top of a normal colour-coating. Although mica-dusted wares were already on the market, in both Britain and the Rhineland, by the Flavian period at latest, all the examples from the present site came from deposits of later date than the close of the 2nd century.

Vessels Resembling Samian (Fig 20)

Some of the output of the potters on the site seems to have been influenced by one or other samian form. Among

the vessels revealing the influence of samian are 92, 108 and 152, reminiscent of form 18/31; 141 of form 33; and 25 of Walters form 79. There is also a form of vessel, not once surviving with a complete section, of which 13 specimens are illustrated. It is curved and shallow, and has a rim which turns gently up and over, usually with a distinct line at change of direction. This form of vessel seems to owe something to samian form 36, though none of the vessels has barbotine ivy leaves, on the rim. The most characteristic examples are 50, 64, 93, 94, 109 and 154, while 75 is similar; each has a scored line on the top of the rim, near its outer edge; 49, 54 and 153 also have something in common with the form. 61 is a variant, with a groove on the outer edge of the rim. 95 and 155, both mica-dusted, have a sharp ridge running round the edge of the rim; this form appears elsewhere in other fabrics. Of the 13 illustrated pieces, six are colour-coated, four are mica-dusted, two are white and one is grey. The two earliest stratified pieces came from contexts a little earlier than the final firing of Kiln A2, and are therefore of the late 2nd century. The general form was both long-lived and common, but rarely travelled north.

Of particular interest are those vessels influenced by form 37, especially those where the production involved moulds. These have been already described and illustrated in the body of the text, together with their associated pieces, in their groups, stratified and unstratified. They now appear, for a second time, as an assemblage of mutually comparable pieces, to a scale of one-half linear. Most of the drawings of vessels in this section, and of the same vessels in the main schedule, have been made by Mr D.F. Mackreth.

Two vessels with complete sections, 23 and 24, were found in Kiln A2, in which they had been somewhat incompetently fired; they had been intended to be colour-coated ware. Each is quite undecorated, but the shape is closer to form 37 than to form 40. The three fragments of 159 do not join; the largest preserves part of the base, the smallest is from close to the base, while the other seems, indistinctly, to preserve part of the ovolo. The fabric is not samian, as usually defined, but the vessel, when whole, was probably intended by the potter to resemble samian in appearance. Very little of the decoration, which is moulded, survives, and what does is far from clear. It is however clear enough to show that it is much closer in style to that of genuine Central-Gaulish samian than is that of the bowls and moulds to be considered. It is within the bounds of possibility that the mould from which this vessel was made had itself been made from a genuine samian vessel. This would explain the lack of clarity; any figure-type or decorative motif on the bowl will be four times removed from the pattern used to impress the first mould.

Quite different from 159 are 59, 106 and 127. While all three vessels are colour-coated, only 106 preserves the originally intended orange-brown samian-like colour. The striking thing about these vessels is the decoration. All were made in incised moulds, similar to those to be discussed. They are remarkably similar in technique, in style, and even in the motifs used. The decoration, which is of course in relief on the bowls, consists of a crude and schematic ovolo, from which descend at fairly regular intervals, semi-circular motifs, each composed of broad straight lines radiating from a single centre, and each ending, on the half cirumference, in a small sharply pointed triangular or diamond-shaped terminal. Occupying most of the space between the semi-circular motifs are patterns formed by two symmetrically opposed curved lines, sometimes with serrated edges, divided by a straight vertical line, running from top to bottom of the decorated zone; the whole forms a kind of 'ace-of-spades' pattern. These motifs are common to all the bowls and moulds, though there are additional decorative details which vary from vessel to vessel. There are small semi-circles, horseshoes, vermiform squiggles, triangles, diamonds, four-pointed stars and eight-pointed stars.

59 and 106 are different vessels, but they were made in the same mould. The difference in appearence may be accidental, but the distance from the rim to the upper edge of the zone of decoration is 69mm on 59 and only 47mm on 106. On the other hand, the external diameter at the edge of the decoration is 167mm in both instances. More important, the surviving portion of the scheme of decoration on 106 overlaps part of that on either side of the break on 59. Minor accidental irregularities in a hand-cut mould match precisely on both vessels. The fragment 127 had not been made in the same mould.

By and large, the patterns within the group as a whole are so similar that they might almost be the work of the same man; they are without doubt the products of a single workshop, presumably during a short period of time. No example of a bowl decorated in this distinctive fashion has ever been found on another site, and, except for 160, to be discussed, neither has any mould.

Fragments of probably a single mould, 69, have been found on the site. Six mould fragments were found, all in unburnished mid-grey fabric. All come from the same context, that is within Kiln A2, in the black filling above the surviving vessels on the oven floor. This suggests that although they are not conjoined, the fragments all come from the same mould. The style and technique are precisely those of the bowls already discussed, the decorative motifs being made up of sharp V-section incisions.

The mould, 160, is without doubt in the same tradition as the other vessels and mould. Not only is the decoration the same, but the shape of the two moulds is also similar. The shape is quite different, in either case, from that of genuine Central-Gaulish moulds. It is by no means impossible that the mould had been found, at a much earlier date, on or near to the site of the excavation of 1958. Improvements were made to the old A1 in the 1930's, long before the construction of the by-pass which led, indirectly, to the discovery of the kilns. Local

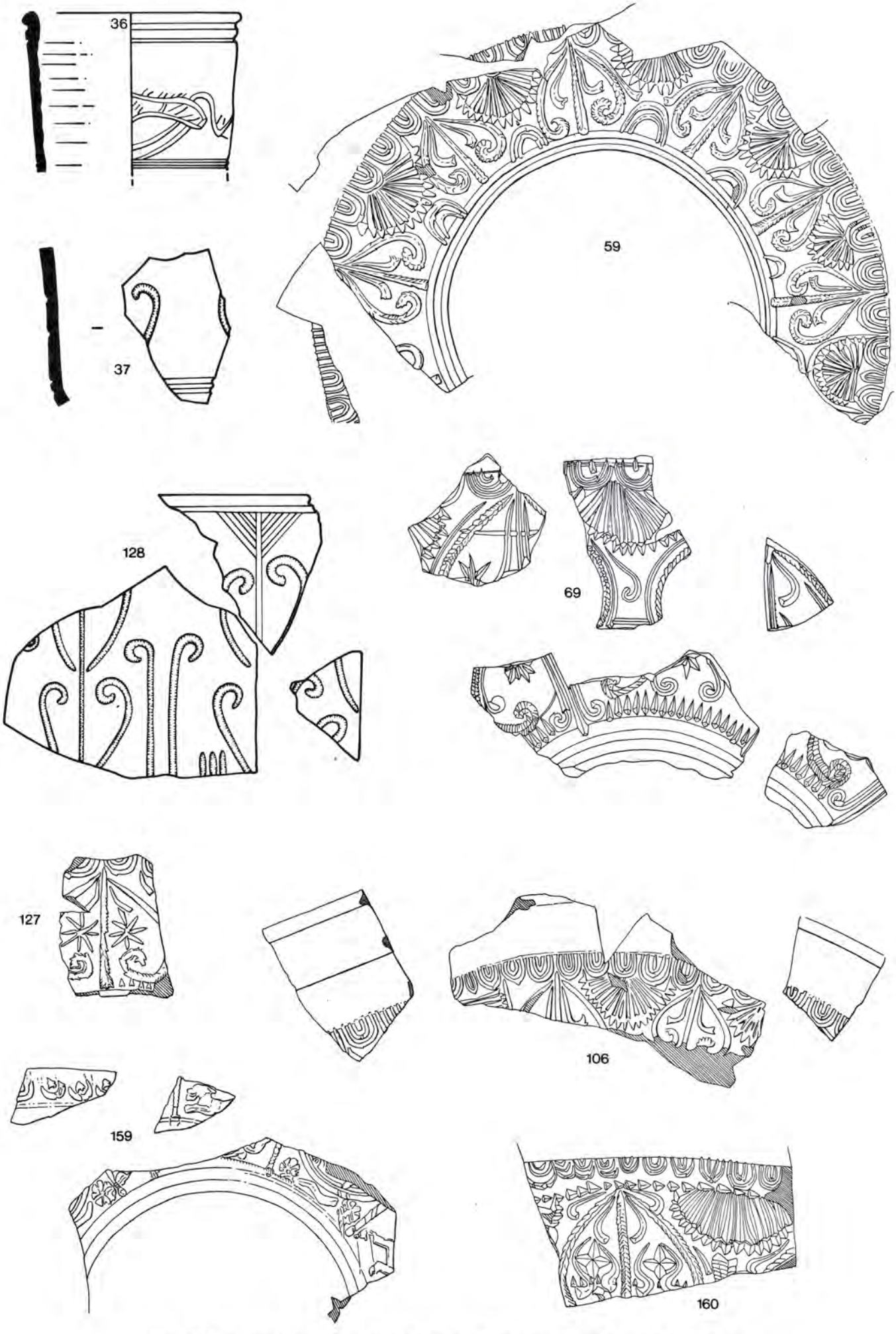


Figure 20. Pottery from Kilns A, B, and C – Vessels with incised or moulded decoration.

antiquaries and collectors are known to have gone round begging or buying antiquities from workmen, not always with regard to context. In this way, a mould fragment might easily have made its way from Water Newton to a rockery in Peterborough, a mere four miles away. The site of Kilns A, B and C was very close to the old A1, and 160 is probably just as much a part of the present assemblage as 59, 69, 106 and 127.

In addition to the moulded vessels and moulds, there are three vessels with incised decoration, different in design, but remarkably similar in style and technique. 36, a cylindrical vessel, has part of what looks like an animal incised on it. Its body, ears, tail and hind legs are clear, while parts of the neck and a fore leg are also visible. The fragment 37 also seems to be from a cylindrical vessel, though in a different fabric. There are parts of two curved motifs, incised and with serrated edges, similar to those in the moulds, and in relief on the bowls; they are also similar to those on 128. This seems to have the general form of a Castor beaker. The technique of incision is precisely that of the moulds, while the style of decoration is generally but not precisely the same. The 'ace-of-spades' motif is inverted, and two motifs are placed one above the other so that their centre lines extend from the upper edge of the zone of decoration to the lowest surviving portion of the incomplete vessel. At the top each centre line turns into a kind of straight-armed seven-branched candlestick; intermediate motifs consist of vertical grooves turned over at the top. When the measured interval of each main group of motifs is divided into the calculated circumference of the vessel it emerges that the pattern had repeated itself six times.

There remains the question of the date of manufacture of this fascinating group of moulded or incised vessels. 23 and 24, from Kiln A2, are fairly closely dated, but are neither moulded nor incised. 159 is both unstratified and, though moulded, in a different tradition. 36 and 37, from a context earlier than Kiln A2, belong to the late 2nd century, as therefore probably does also the third incised vessel, 128, though this was unstratified. 59, from a context earlier than Kiln A2, is of the late 2nd century, and as 106 was made in the same mould, so is it also, although found in a later context. The mould fragments, 69, came from the filling of the oven of Kiln A2 after it was abandoned. Whether the mould had been used on an adjacent part of the site after the last firing of Kiln A2, or whether the fragments were residual from the time when 59 was made, is difficult to decide, but the difference in time was probably short. From this it follows that the minor but unique industry flourished late in the 2nd century, and, just possibly, early in the 3rd.

AREAS 4 AND 5: EXCAVATIONS BY THE PETERBOROUGH MUSEUM ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SECTION AT WATER NEWTON

Introduction

F. Dakin

The work took place between March 1958 and November 1959 at the invitation of Mr Graham Webster and his colleagues who had been in charge of the WEC excavations on the Great North Road at Easter 1958. The results of surveys of the area by teams from both the Ministry of Works and the Oxford Research Laboratory for Archaeology were placed at the disposal of the Field Section. Two aerial photographs were also available.

It had been impracticable, owing to a young corn crop on the land, for excavation to be carried out at Easter but when the crop was removed the farmer kindly allowed digging to start. This was in November 1958 and attention was concentrated on features indicated by the proton-magnetometer and restitivity surveys. The areas excavated were numbered WN 1–10 (Fig 21).

In the course of road construction a drainage pipe trench was cut from the old Great North Road towards the mill on the banks of the River Nene. This two feet wide by four deep trench was aligned approximately north-south. On investigation members of the Field Section noted considerable amounts of pottery and what appeared to be a kiln-like structure in the trench side. Permission to excavate for a weekend in March 1959 was kindly given by the farmer; the areas were numbered WN 11–13K59.

The results of the excavations

F. Dakin

WN1 and 2 (Fig 22)

A trench five feet wide and some 60ft long was excavated. The eastern part was designated WN1 and the western 20 feet WN2. Natural soil was encountered at a depth of 1ft 2ins in WN1 underlying a thin occupation layer. Between 20 and 30 feet west of the eastern end a layer containing charcoal, pottery and bones was uncovered 2ft down, and the beginning of a narrow ditch aligned roughly north-south was located. A similar ditch on the same alignment, possibly a continuation, was later found some 30 feet to the north but there was no chance to properly excavate the intervening space. The WN2 section of the trench had considerable occupation evidence and was therefore extended northwards. Near the southern end was a rough surface of undressed flat limestone slabs. At the northern end the occupation layer was five feet below the surface and contained much pottery and some kiln debris. Unfortunately seasonal flooding prevented further investigation and by the time the area was dry it was required by the road contractor.

WN3

This 20 by five foot area was uncovered in order to locate a feature indicated by the aerial photograph but nothing substantial was discovered.

WN4

This was of similar size to WN3. The only finds were some shell-gritted sherds in a small area about a foot below the surface.

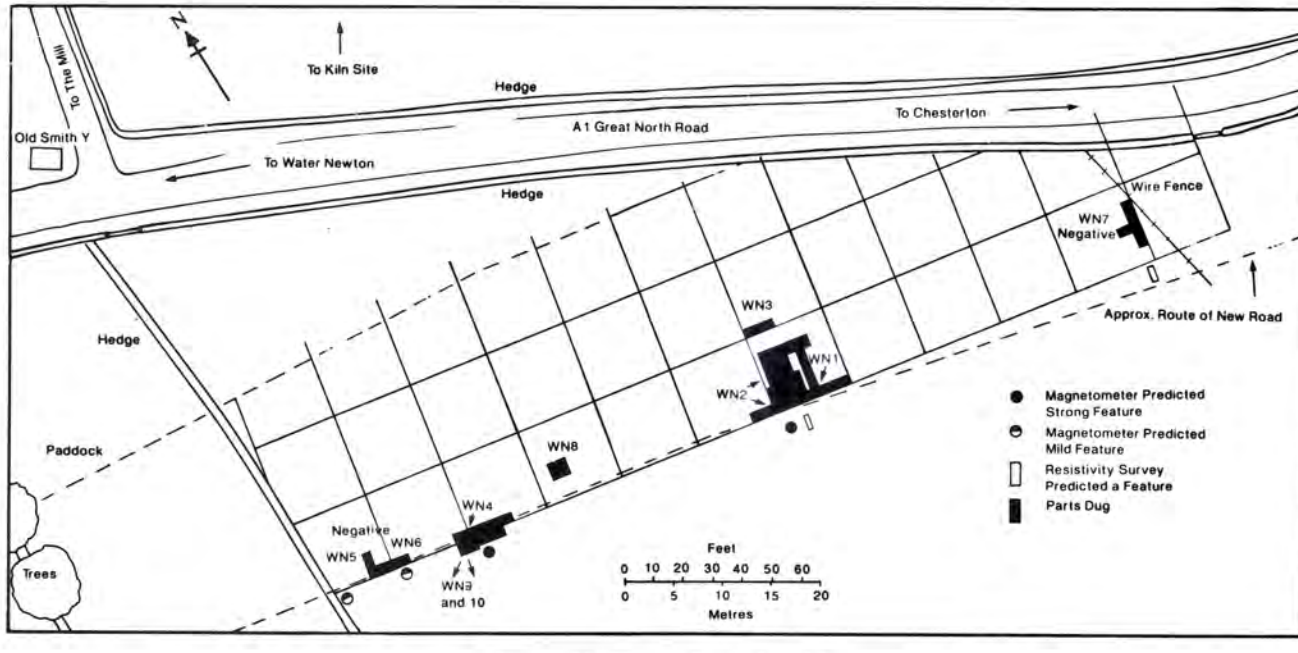


Figure 21. Plan of Areas 4 and 5

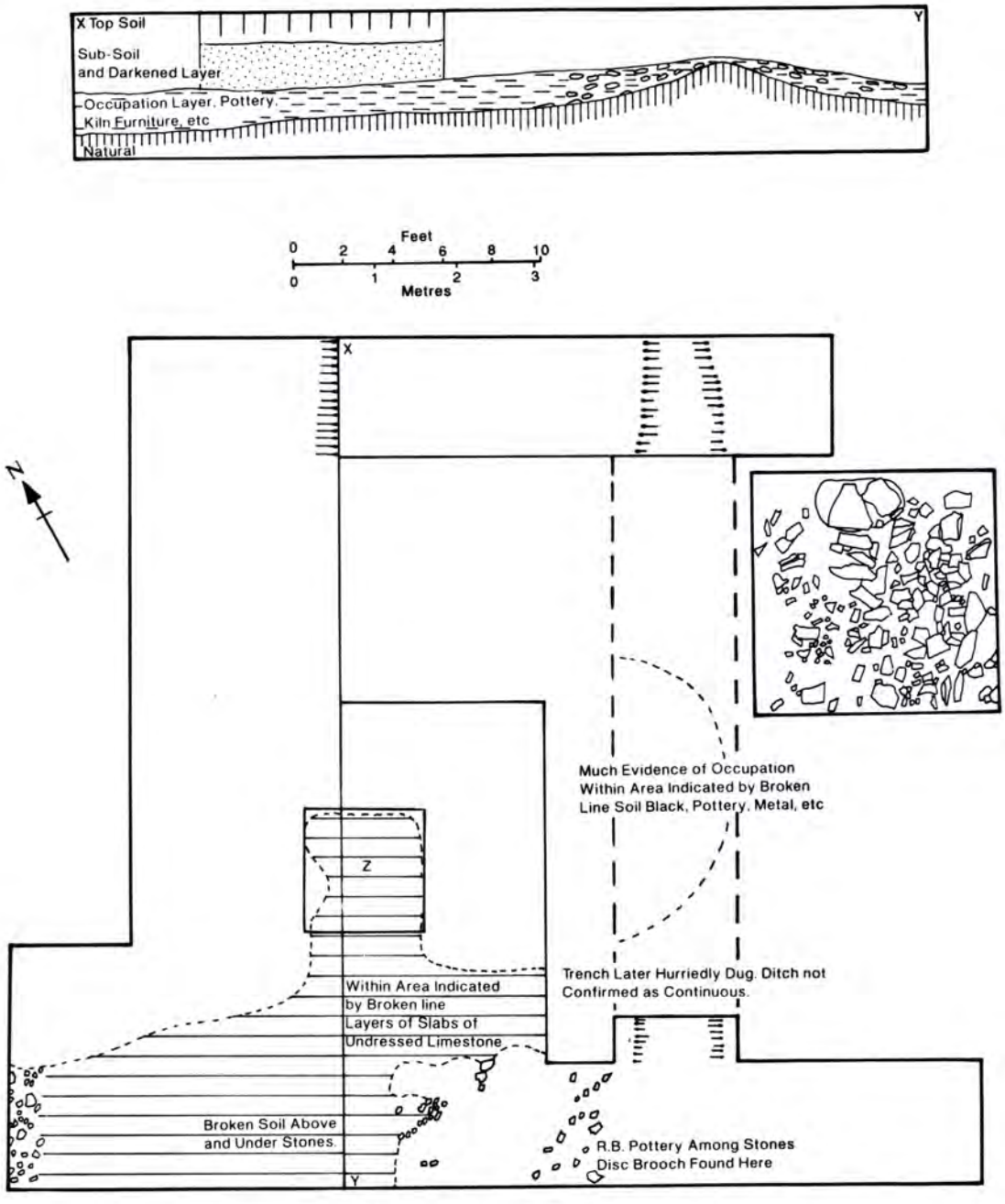


Figure 22. Plan of Area 4: Sites WN1 and 2

WN5, 6 and 7
In these areas the features suggested by the surveys did not exist.

WN8
A dark patch noted on an aerial photograph did not prove to be a feature as such but pottery, bone and a coin were recovered from a depth of about two feet.

WN 9 and 10
These were also opened in response to survey indications and some occupation evidence, in the form of pottery, burnt clay and a dog skeleton, was recovered.

WN11–13K59 (Fig 23)
The feature cut through by the drainage pipe trench was indeed a kiln and stoke-hole, though a half had unfortunately been removed by the mechanical ditch-digger. The particulars of the features, as far as could be discerned from the surviving sections, were:

Kiln: Of circular shape with a diameter of 4' 6" and a depth of 2' 6" this was clay-lined, with holes for fire-bars at a depth of 1' 8" to 2'. Much of the clay wall was burnt red indicating that the kiln had been used.

Stoke-hole: The part excavated was over six feet wide

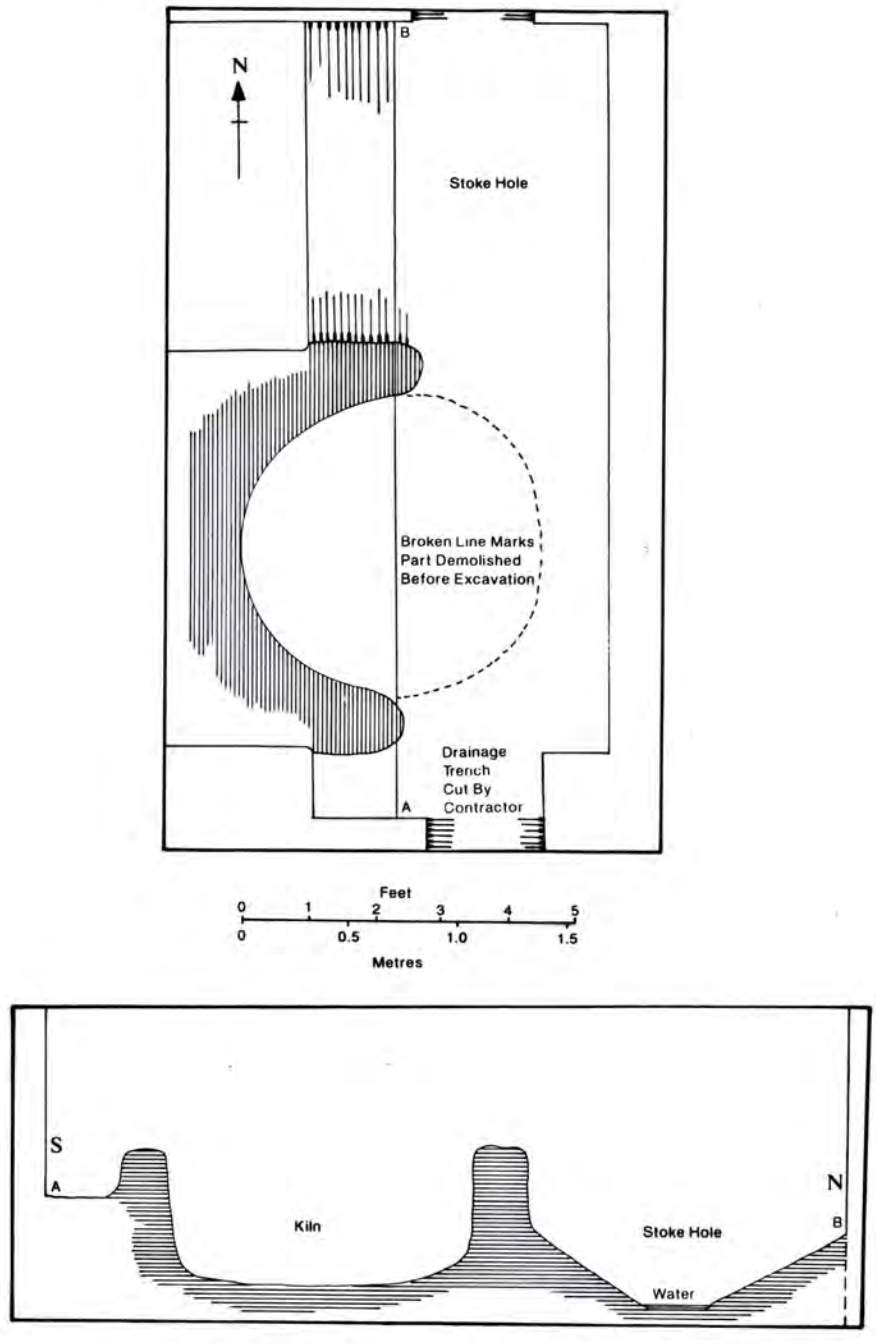


Figure 23. Plan and section of Kiln in Area 5, sites 11–13

at the surface and sloped to a depth of four feet in the middle.

The finds (J.R. Perrin)

WN1 (Fig 24)

Four sherds of South Gaulish samian ware were recovered including a form 37 dated *c* AD 85–105 and a form 27 of Flavian date. Fragments from about seven ring-necked flagons, including 1–3, in cream or buff ware were found and another sherd from one occurred in WN2. The base of a rather thick-walled mortarium also had sherds in both WN1 and WN2. One cream ware sherd, 4, had traces of a thin slip or wash. It is difficult to be certain of the vessel form but it was perhaps a beaker. Other sherds of cream ware could have come from carinated bowls. The grey ware included two jars, 5–6, and the base of another jar had been pierced before firing. Two additional grey ware vessels were, respectively, imitations of a gallo-belgic type dish and, 7, a samian form 37 with incised compass and stabbed decoration. Other pottery comprised shell-gritted ware, mainly from jars of various sizes, but

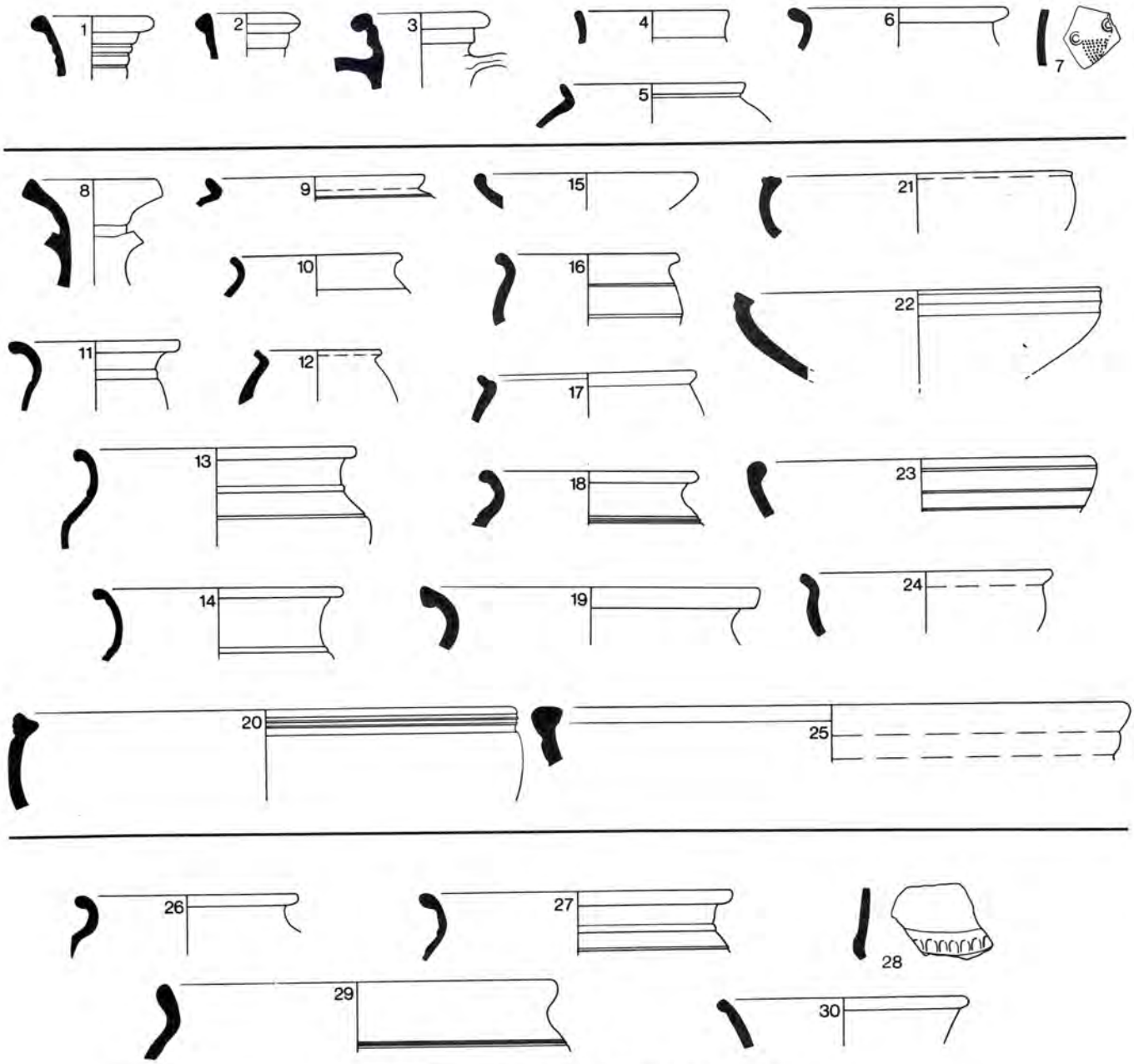


Figure 24. Pottery from Area 4 – sites WN1, 2 and 3

including a pierced base possibly from a strainer or similar vessel and a cream ware sherd possibly from an amphora-type vessel (cf Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 5,49).

The pottery from WN1 appears to date from the late 1st to the early 2nd centuries. A disc brooch of late 1st-century date was also found.

WN2 (Fig 25)

Fragments from around 16 different samian ware vessels were found. Forms represented were 15/17, 18, 18R, 18/31, 27, 29, 30, 35, 36, 37, 67 and Curle 11. Their date range was Flavian-Trajanic (*c* AD 60-120).

Cream ware flagons of similar form to those from WN1 occurred as well as one, 8, with a different rim type. Other cream ware sherds included one similar to 4 in apparently having a reddish-yellow wash or slip and may also have come from a beaker-like vessel. No 9 has traces of a mica-like slip. The grey ware, some poorly fired, occurred mainly as jars, including 10-14 with thin cordons around the neck, though the everted-rim vessel, 12, is possibly from a globular beaker. Fragments of grey ware jars with nodular 'rustic'- style or incised ('slashed') cordon decoration were recovered, together with a number of dishes and bowls, including 15. Some were underfired, particularly the illustrated vessel. One other grey ware sherd with some pierced holes is probably from a cheese-press.

The shell-gritted ware, mainly reddish-yellow in colour with occasionally a grey core, again mainly comprised

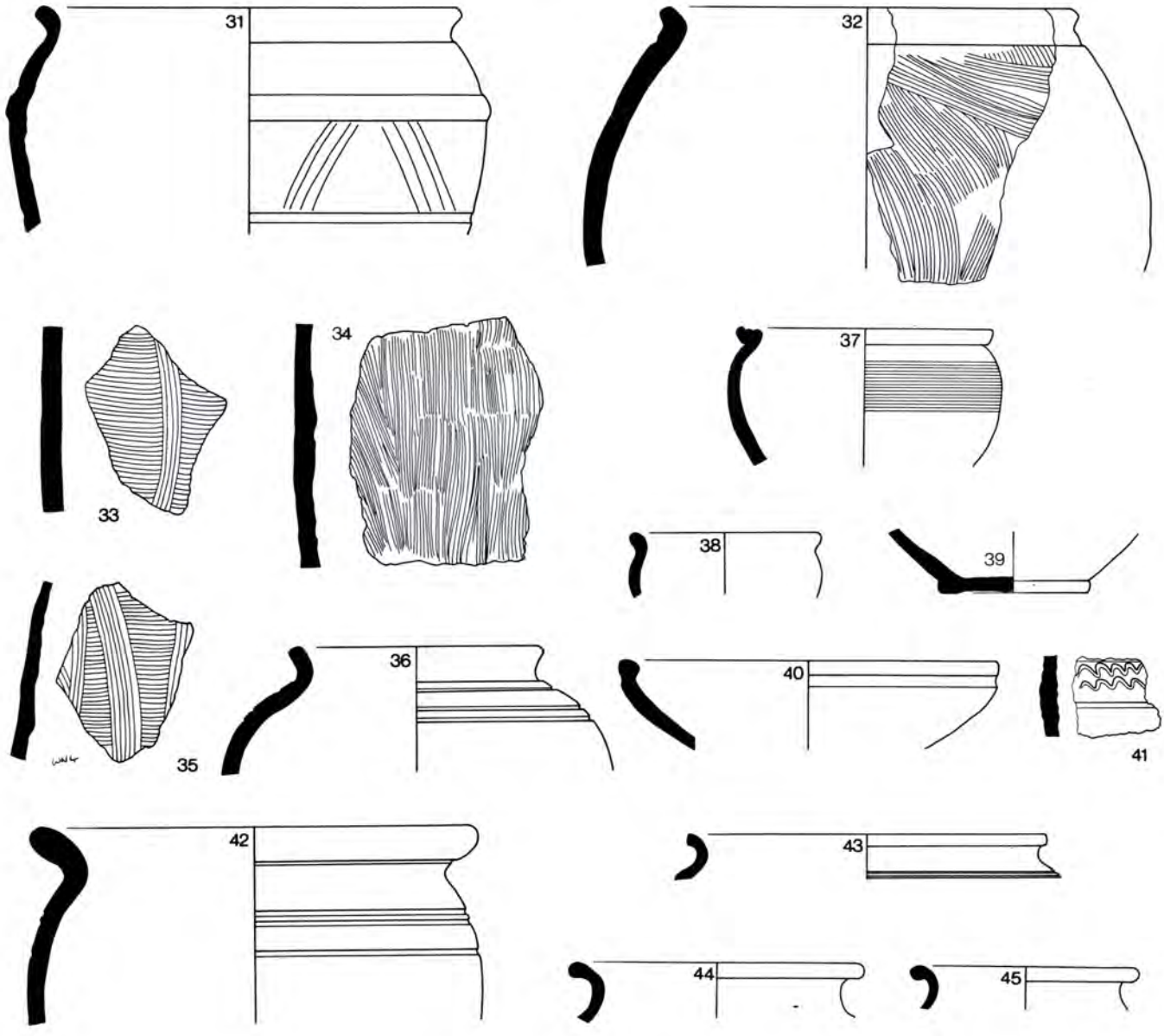


Figure 25. Pottery from Area 4 – site WN4

various jars, 16–19, including some of storage size, together with a number of dishes and bowls, 20-4. Some of the jars had horizontal rilling on the shoulder and girth while 16 and 18, dark greyish brown in colour, may be products of the Bourne-Greetham kilns (Bolton 1968). Several shell-gritted objects which were probably kiln furniture also occurred. These included clay plates, ranging from 7" to 9" in diameter with a thickness of about an inch, square-sectioned fire-bars with tapering ends, a prop, a lump with a flat base, probabaly part of a pedestal, and a piece of possible kiln-dome.

The wide-mouthed bowl, 25, appears to be in a grogged fabric and is similar to vessels found more frequently on sites further up the Nene Valley to the west, though it does occur on other local sites (see Fig 75, 516 below).

Dateable metal objects comprised two iron dolphin brooches, a copper-alloy strip brooch and a copper-alloy ring-headed pin. These together with the pottery indicate a late 1st to early 2nd-century date.

WN3 (Fig 24)

Two sherds of samian, one from a form 15/17 and the other a form 18/31, are respectively of Flavian and Trajanic date. Sherds of cream, grey, 26–28, and shell-gritted ware, 29, were also found along with a vessel of 'belgic' style, 30, in a fabric containing a few pieces of grog. A late 1st to early 2nd-century date is again indicated.

WN4 (Fig 25)

Most of the pottery from WN4 was shell-gritted ware, 31–45, though the fabric of some vessels also contained

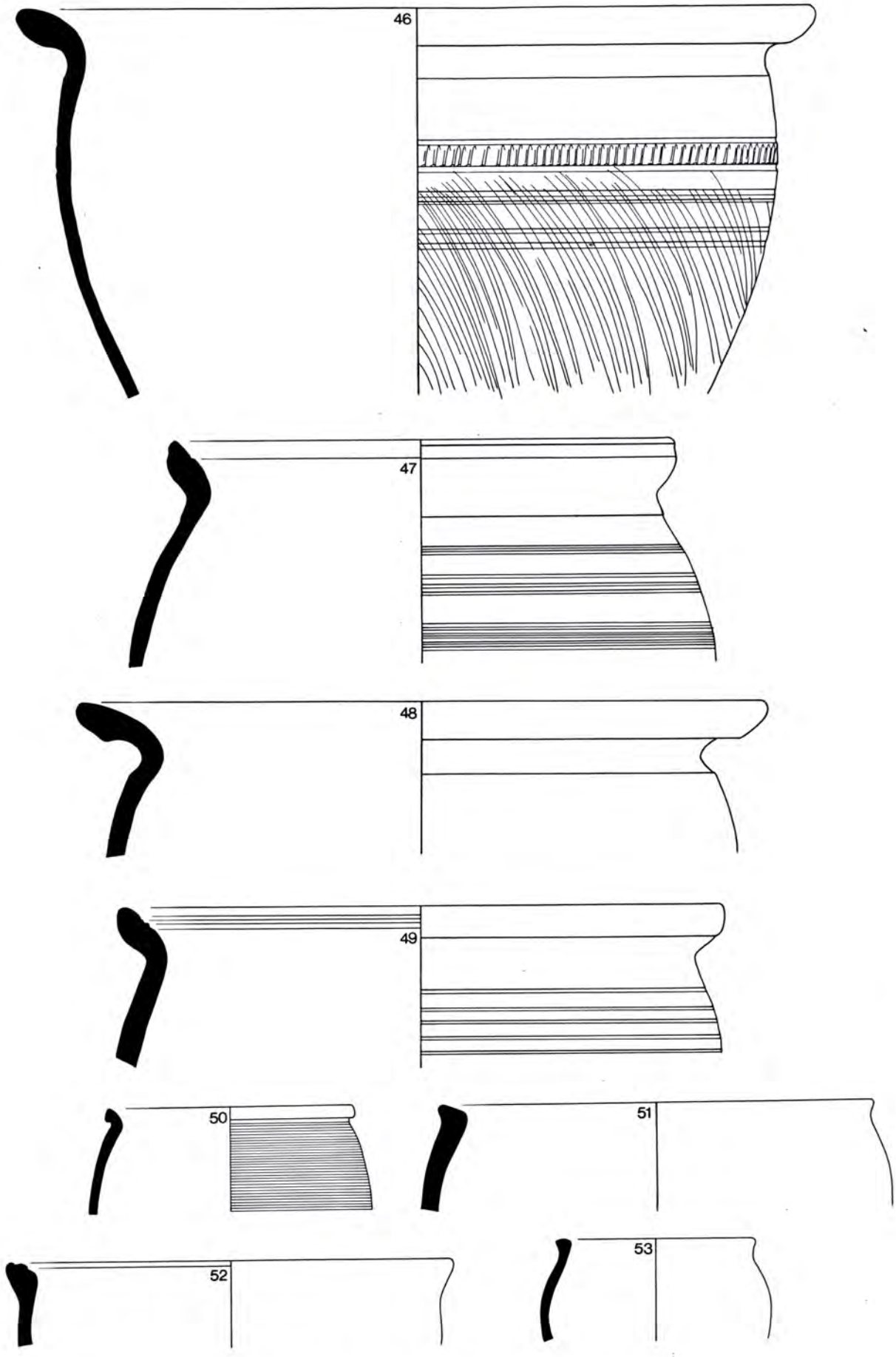


Figure 26. Pottery from Kiln in Area 5, sites 11–13

grog and/or limestone. 31 was dark-brown in colour and contained crushed shell while 44–5 were reminiscent of Bourne-Greetham products (*op cit*). There was some variation in both the colour, probably due to different firing temperatures and possibly technique, with some appearing hand-made and others wheel-thrown or finished. Two styles of decoration occurred – one basically linear horizontal and the other more curvilinear and multi-directional. The lack of other wares points to a mid-to-late 1st-century date, although their absence might reflect the activity from which the deposit derived.

WN8

All the sherds were of shell-gritted ware, mostly from jars but including two plain-rimmed dishes. A late 1st to 2nd-century date is probable.

WN9 and 10

Three sherds of shell-gritted ware and one of grey ware were recovered. A late 1st to early 2nd- century date is likely by analogy with the pottery in WN1 and WN2.

WN 11–13 K59 (Figs 26–7)

The pottery from the remnants of the kiln, stokehole and their immediate environs can be divided into two main fabrics, shell-gritted ware and grey ware.

Much of the shell-gritted ware comprised large storage jars, 46–9, 54–6, up to 20" in diameter and with a dozen different rim-forms. There were a few jars of smaller proportions with lid-seated rims, 50, and a number of large, deep bowl-like vessels, 51–2, with internal-angled plain or grooved rims. All of these types appeared to have been hand-made and wheel-finished. They had been well fired to a fairly uniform colour varying from very pale brown to red, with most a mixture of reddish-yellow and light red. There was one jar, however, which was dark brown in colour and had not been wheel-finished. The decoration on some of the larger jars (54–6) is of interest. Horizontal grooves occurred on most vessels and others had thin horizontal strips of raised, or incised, lines or notches. Curvilinear scoring was used on one vessel and another fragment.

Some of the grey ware was less well fired. Most had a dark grey core with reddish-brown core edges, but the surfaces varied in colour from very pale brown to reddish-yellow. The forms were imitations of gallo-belgic types and comprised dishes and butt-beakers. The former were more common and occurred with two rim-types – slightly incurved, 57–61, and internally grooved, 62. The fabric of 59–60 was partly vesicular and felt somewhat 'corky' while dish 61 was extremely friable. The butt-beakers, including 63 and possibly 64, seemed to be in a slightly finer fabric than the dishes, though the constituents appeared the same; perhaps a different degree of levigation was used. All the vessels had polished surfaces though the quality was variable with the butt-beakers having the highest sheen. There were a few other grey ware fragments including some with horizontal cordons similar to some of the jars noted, for example, amongst the pottery from WN2.

In addition to the pottery the stokehole, kiln and surrounding area contained a number of firebars and two kiln-props, 65–6.

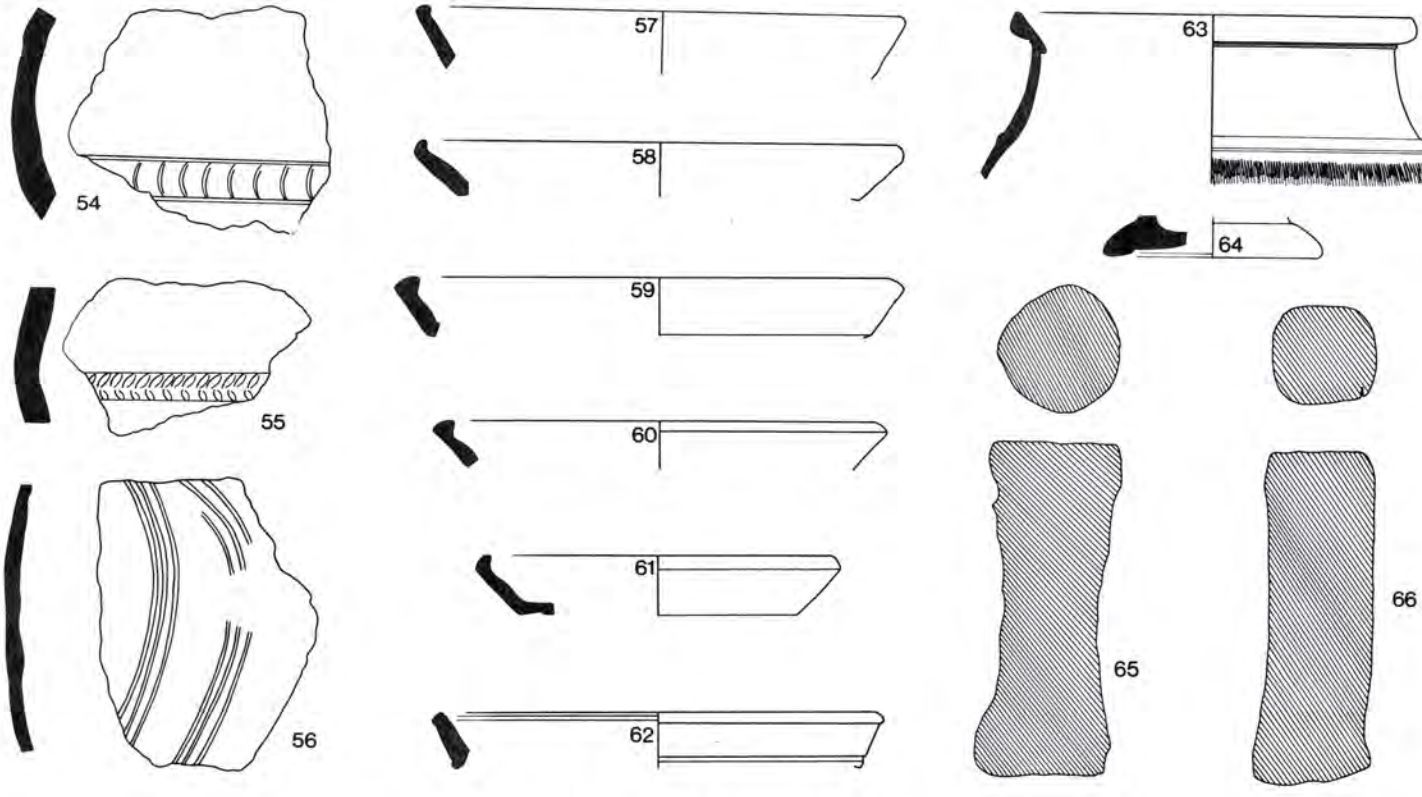


Figure 27. Pottery from Kiln in Area 5, sites 11–13

Discussion

J.R. Perrin

The most significant result of the work of the Field Section at Water Newton was the proof that pottery was manufactured in the area at an early Roman date. The quantity of shell-gritted ware and the character of much of the grey ware suggests that both were being produced, though they would have probably been fired in different loads and, possibly, kilns.

The shell-gritted vessels have decorative characteristics which hark back to the later Iron-Age, yet the quality of firing and the forms are indicative of post-conquest activity. The gallo-belgic imitations are also more obviously 'Roman', and a mid-to-late 1st-century date seems most likely for the manufacture of both assemblages. The character of the kiln and its furniture would support such a conclusion. In view, however, of the lack of both independent dating evidence and an understanding of the local economic conditions in the 1st century, a more precise date cannot be suggested.

The lack of similar shell-gritted and grey ware types from areas WN1–10 might indicate that the production had ceased by the end of the 1st century and perhaps even a decade or so earlier. The samian and grey wares from these areas shows that occupation continued into the 2nd century though, similarly, the absence of pottery which might be assigned to the main Lower Nene Valley kilns suggests that it may not have lasted long after the first quarter of the 2nd century. The kiln material from WN2 might have derived from the WN11–13 area but could equally have been from other, closer, kilns. It is interesting to speculate that some of the later, grey, cream and shell-gritted ware from the excavations might also have been produced in the vicinity.

3. Excavations by E. Greenfield

SITE 1 (WATER NEWTON). EXCAVATIONS ACROSS THE DEFENCES OF *DUROBRIVAE*

J.R.Perrin

Introduction

Between August 29th and September 21st 1956 Ernest Greenfield supervised the excavation of two trenches (Cuttings A and B) across the defences of the Roman town of *Durobrivae* (Figs 28–9). The following is an extract from his interim narrative.

> 'Cutting A was cut at right angles across the town wall and extended into the town interior for a distance of 162ft. on a north-east to south-west alignment. It was intended to cut across the full width of the ditch, but water flooded into the trench at 1ft 6ins, so the trench was terminated and only the inner slope was cleared. As much of the filling was removed as possible, but water again hampered the work at 4ft 3ins, so digging on this section was halted at this depth. Apart from a section of the earth ramp and the wall-base, the whole cutting was dug down to undisturbed natural sand and gravel (Layer 19). The wall base rested on a dry stone foundation, backed by a clay ramp. Overlying the tail of this and running parallel with the wall was a roadway showing six phases. Abutting against the north-east edge of this and in part overlying it were accumulated occupation levels which contained thirteen features, including a large circular pit, hearths, oven-bases and several post-holes. The drawn section of the cutting (A-B), shows the general stratification of 37 layers. All phases of occupation are of the Romano-British period and date from the late 1st to the 4th century AD. The Town Wall and ramp appear to have been constructed in the 2nd century AD. No evidence of Prehistoric or later than Roman activity was found.
>
> Cutting B was planned as a test excavation only and was cut on a north-east-south-west alignment across the line of the town wall where the south-western wall of the town kinks and where it has been suggested the road from Irchester entered the town. The trench was 41ft in length by 4ft in width and showed extensive robbing over a large area, with only the levels at the north-east end undisturbed. Here pebbled levels over a masonry footing were revealed and the footing appeared to be a broken down wall end, but the excavation was too small to prove whether this was part of the town wall or whether the pebbled levels were part of a planned entrance. The indications did suggest that there was a way through the wall at this point, but in view of a possible future excavation on a large scale, the excavation was not extended. The south-west end of the trench showed a large robbing pit of probable 3rd-4th-century date and was left unexcavated'.

Some 2000 sherds of pottery were recovered from the excavations but only around 800 were retained, of which about 200 were samian ware. 15 coins were also found. Cutting A contained most of the individual features and the few layers which have some bearing on the possible origins of the settlement. The missing finds mean that the dating evidence given below is tentative.

Pottery from Cutting A (Fig 30)

Layer 18 – 'Roman Humus'

A coin of Trajan was recovered from Layer 18. The samian ware ranged in date from the Flavian to the early-mid Antonine periods, while the mortaria were of all of 2nd century date and included Antonine vessels (including Fig 79, M65 dated AD 140–200). The other pottery comprised LNVGW, LNVCC, various grey wares, shell-gritted ware, including Bourne-Greetham ware (Bolton 1968), cream ware, grogged ware, 'London-type' ware and a sherd of Roughcast ware, possibly from Colchester. Most of the vessels occuring would also fit into a late 1st to mid–late 2nd century date range, the latest perhaps being a LNVCC beaker with barbotine scale decoration and cream ware ring-necked flagons with an exaggerated, bead-type, top ring.

1. Shell-gritted (?Bourne-Greetham) jar. CR17. (WN 1636–7).
2. 'London'/LNVGW ?Dr 30 with incised, combed decoration CR20/18//20//18/20. (WN 1217).

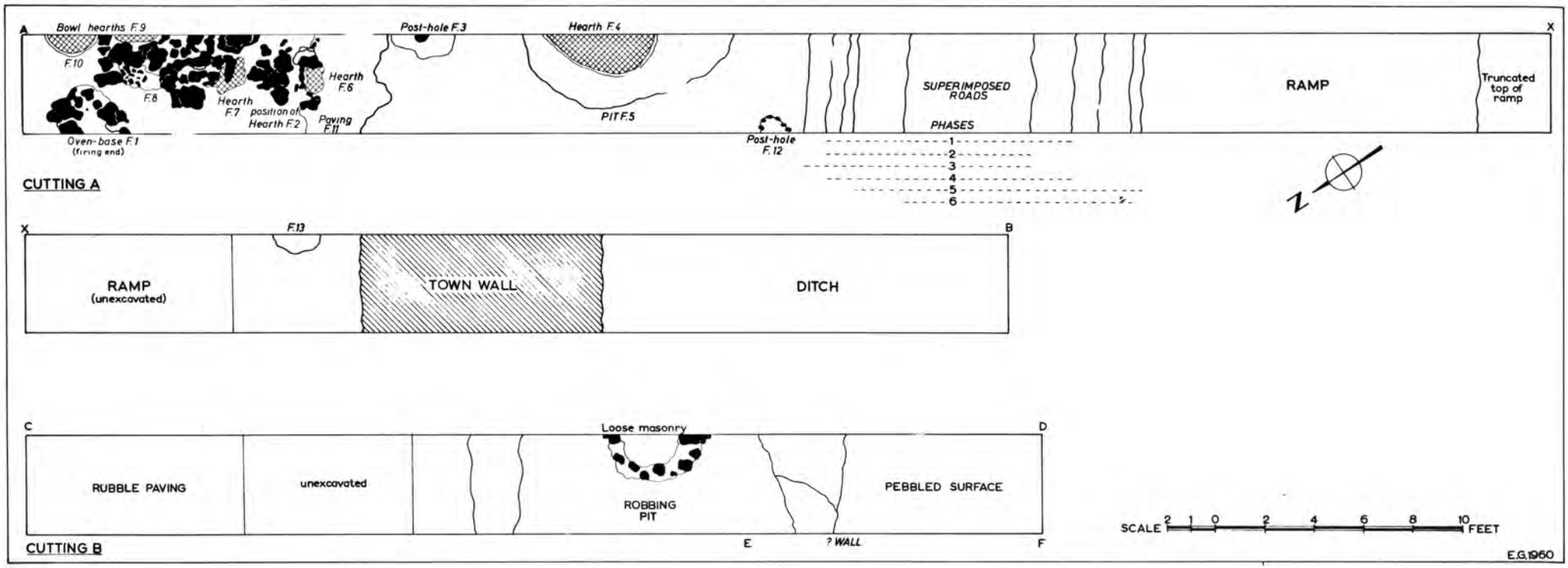


Figure 28. Site 1, Durobrivae: Plan of Cuttings A and B

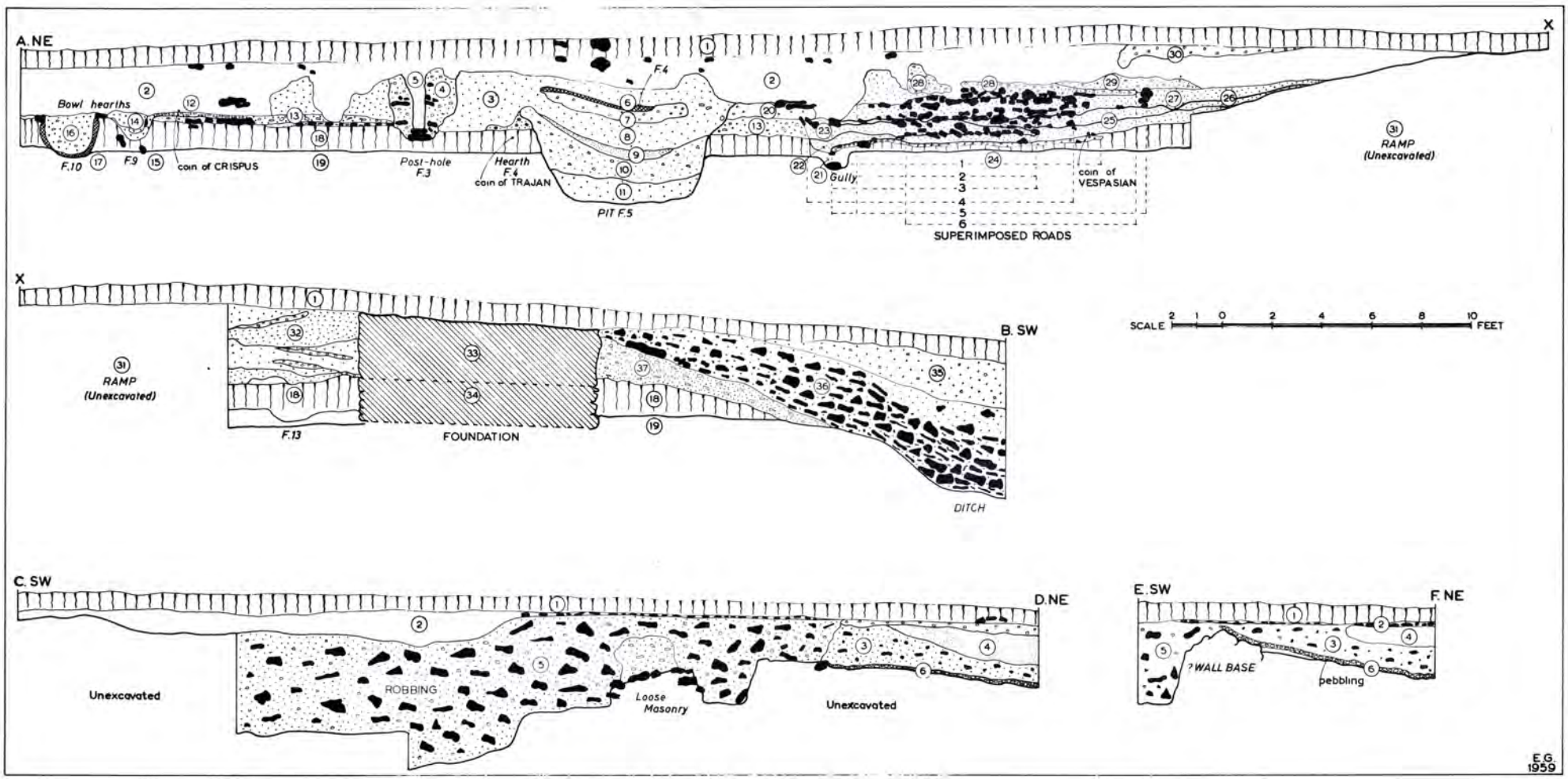


Figure 29. Site 1, Durobrivae: Sections of Cuttings A and B

3. 'London' carinated bowl with compass-inscribed decoration. CR7/21/7. (WN 257,1239).
4. Combed and stabbed decoration cf Chesterton 361–2. (Fig 67, below). CR5/3//21//3/5. (WN 1282).
5. LNVGW/'grey' LNVCC triangular-rimmed chamfered dish. CR17/19/17. (WN 1540).

Layer 13, above Layer 18

Samian ware from this layer was mainly of Antonine date and included a vessel attributed to Cinnamus; there was also a mid 2nd-century mortarium. The bulk of the other pottery consisted of LNVGW and LNVCC together with some shell-gritted ware (again including Bourne/Greetham products), cream ware and a piece of a rhenish ware beaker. The LNVCC included sherds from beakers with curved rims and one with white painted decoration. Some large shell-gritted fragments appear to be oven furniture, similar to that found at, for example, Chesterton and Grandford (see Fig 74 and p 124 below). The pottery evidence suggests a mid 2nd to mid 3rd-century date range for Layer 13.

6. Shell-gritted jar. CR11–4. (WN 363).
7. Bourne-Greetham shell-gritted jar. CR17. (WN 1302).
8. Bourne-Greetham shell-gritted jar. CR17. (WN 1730).
9. LNVGW jar. CR18/26/18. (WN 938,1300).
10. LNVCC curved-rim beaker. CR7/25/26;3 base. (WN 944).
11. LNVCC curved-rim beaker with painted design. CR17/14/17;26 paint. (WN 1305).

Hearth F4

The pottery consisted of late 1st and 2nd-century samian ware together with some shell-gritted ware, a dish with a mica-dusted surface and a sherd from a LNVCC indented beaker. The latter is the latest dated piece belonging to the late 2nd/3rd-century; the rest need not date later than the mid 2nd- century.

12. Bourne-Greetham shell-gritted jar. CR17. (WN 414).
13. Dish with mica-dusted surface. CR8/20/8. (WN 413).

Pit F5

No significant chronological variation could be noted in the pottery from the various layers so they are considered together. The pottery comprised almost entirely LNVGW and LNVCC. The LNVCC included a number of curved-rimmed beakers as well as the lid from a Castor box and a flagon. There were a number of jars and dishes in LNVGW and the remaining sherds were from vessels in shell-gritted ware and cream ware, together with the rim of a 'rhenish' ware beaker. Samian ware and a mortarium (Fig 79, M75) from the pit are of 2nd-century date and the other pottery can be mainly dated to later 2nd to early-mid 3rd century.

14. LNVGW jar. CR15/26/15. (WN 1710 Layer 8).
15. LNVGW bead-rim dish. CR20/26/20. (WN 420 General Layer).
16. LNVGW plain-rim dish. CR20/26//20//26/20. (WN 993 Layer 11).
17. Flagon. CR14;10 colour-coat. (WN 1008 Primary Silt?).
18. Beaker. CR4+11/26/4+11. (WN 284 General Layer).
19. LNVCC curved-rim beaker. CR22/26/22. (WN 1108 General Layer). cf Stanground products (eg Dannell *et al* 1993, fig 19,107–14).
20. LNVCC curved-rim beaker with barbotine S-shapes. CR22/26/22. (WN 995–9 Layer 11). cf Stanground products (eg Dannell *ibid*, fig 19,119–22).
21. LNVCC Castor box lid. CR1/14/1. (WN1106,1714 General Layer and Layer 8).
22. 'rhenish' ware beaker. CR28/26/28. (WN1101 General Layer).

Layer 36 Fill of Defensive Ditch

The few extant sherds comprise a flanged bowl and a plain-rimmed dish in LNVCC and the base of an Oxfordshire colour-coated ware bowl. A 4th- century date seems likely.

Pottery from Cutting B (Fig 30)

(Layers 2–6; no pottery from 6, 2 topsoil)

The pottery from all of the layers was similar in the fabrics occurring and the dates of the types. There is some evidence for early-mid 2nd-century occupation, especially from the samian ware, but the bulk points to activity in the later 2nd to mid 3rd century .

Layer 3

The pottery comprised LNVGW jars and a flat-topped dish or bowl, LNVCC cornice and curved-rimmed beakers, a cream ware hemispherical flanged bowl and a Bourne-Greetham shell-gritted ware jar.

23. LNVGW jar. CR15/14/15. (WN1072).

Layer 4

The pottery other than samian ware was all LNVCC including an indented beaker, the rim of a 'funnel-neck' beaker and a Castor box lid.

24. LNVCC indented beaker with curved rim. CR9/14/21. (WN1059,1064).

Layer 5

LNVGW and LNVCC again predominated together with a few sherds of a cream ware hemispherical flanged bowl. The LNVGW comprised jars, dishes and bowls with the LNVCC occurring as mainly beaker sherds as well as a Castor box.

25. LNVGW jar. CR15/14/15. (WN1827).
26. LNVGW jar. CR19/14/19. (WN1831).
27. LNVGW dish/bowl. CR17/14/17. (WN1830).
28. East Midlands grey ware lid-seated jar. CR18. (WN1823).

Summary of pottery from other layers from the excavations (Fig 31)

The pottery from the rest of the trench comprised LNVGW, LNVCC, shell-gritted ware (including Bourne-Greetham ware), cream ware, various grey wares (including East Midlands), 'London-type' ware, Oxfordshire

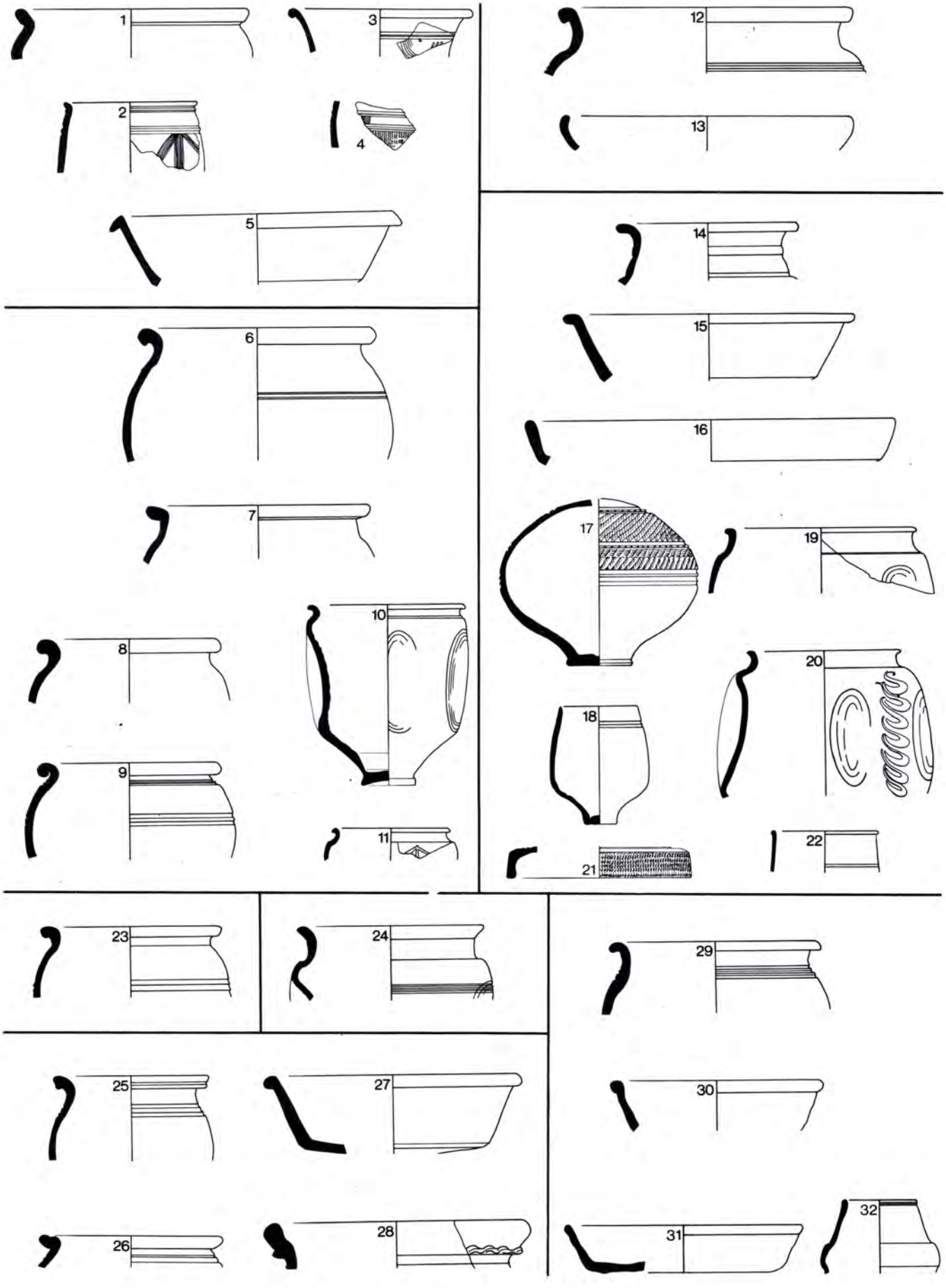


Figure 30. Pottery from Site 1 Durobrivae: Cuttings A and B

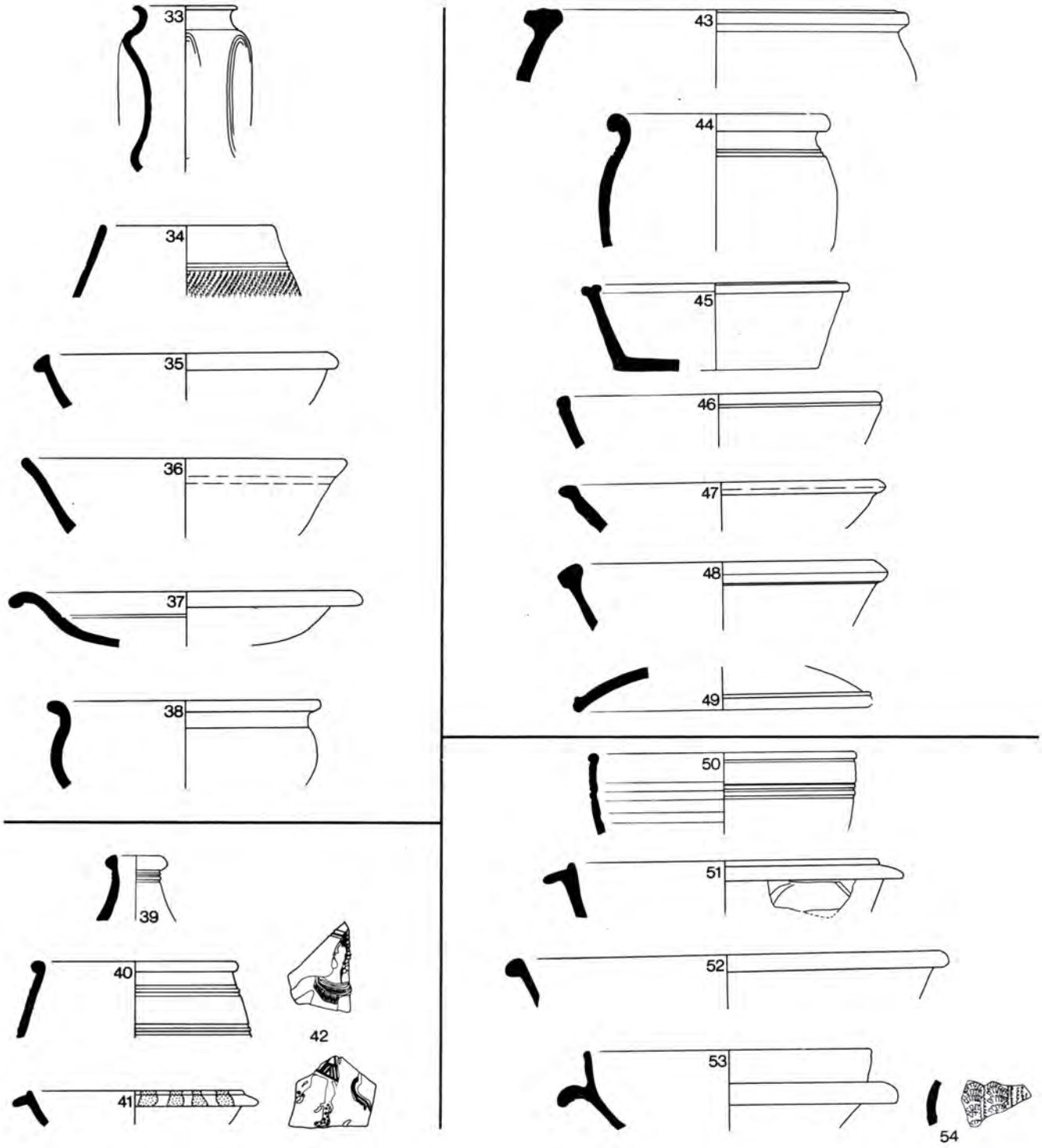


Figure 31. Pottery from Site 1 Durobrivae: miscellaneous layers

colour-coated ware and Black-burnished wares categories 1 and 2. LNVGW and LNVCC again predominated; various forms occurred as follows:

LNVGW

Jars including examples with 'slashed'-cordon decoration, dishes with flat-topped, plain and bead rims, an imitation samian form 37 with rouletted decoration.

29. Jar. CR20/26/20. (WN 859).
30. Bead-rimmed dish. CR18/14/18. (WN 1444 Layer 22).
31. Plain-rimmed dish. CR15+20/26/15+20. (WN 2143). cf 'grey' LNVCC.
32. Small plain-rimmed beaker. CR21/20/21. (WN 616).

LNVCC

Dishes with plain and bead rims, beakers with late cornice, plain, curved and 'funnel-neck' rims, flagons, Castor boxes and their lids, wide-mouthed jars or bowls, flanged bowls, bead-rimmed bowls with painted arc or rouletted decoration and an imitation samian form 36.

33. Beaker. CR16/26/17. (WN 234).
34. Beaker. CR11/26/13. (WN 865).
35. Rounded rim dish. CR8/14/8. (WN 1442 Cutting A Layer 2).
36. Plain-rimmed dish. CR8/14/8. (WN 2145).
37. Imitation samian form 36. CR22/18/22. (WN 867). cf Stanground products (eg Dannell *et al* 1993, fig 21,162).
38. Small wide-mouthed bowl. CR25/14/25. (WN 485).

CREAM WARE

Mortaria (Fig 77,M1,14–15,18,28 and Fig 78,M43), flagons, bowls – including the hemispherical flanged rim type with red-painted decoration, other vessels with red-painted decoration and ones with barbotine figures.

39. Flagon. CR14. (WN 1606 Cutting A Layer 25).
40. Jar or Beaker. CR5. (WN 300).
41. Hemispherical flanged bowl. CR26;4 paint. (WN 1762 Cutting A Layer 26).
42. Barbotine figure(s). CR14;4 paint. (WN 290–1 Cutting A Layer 2)

SHELL-GRITTED WARE

Mainly jars including large storage types, together with some dishes and bowls.

43. Large wide-mouthed jar. CR3/16/3. (WN 1590 Cutting A Layer 25).
44. Jar. CR4;sooted. (WN 651).
45. Bourne-Greetham flat, grooved-top dish. CR17. (WN 858 Cutting A Layer 26).
46. Grooved rim dish. CR5. (WN52).
47. Dish, probably Bourne-Greetham. CR17. (WN208–).
48. Rounded-rim dish or bowl, probably Bourne-Greetham. CR17. (WN 811).
49. Lid, probably Bourne-Greetham. CR17. (WN 1221).

MISCELLANEOUS

50. 'London-type' ware imitation samian form 37. CR16/28/16. (WN 483).
51. BB1 flanged bowl. CR28. (WN 246).
52. BB2 rounded-rim undecorated dish or bowl. CR28. (WN 294).
53. Oxfordshire colour-coated ware imitation samian form 38. CR4/20/4;2 colour-coat. (WN 688–90).
54. Oxfordshire colour-coated ware bowl with stamped decoration. CR2. (WN 67).

Also a BB1 plain-rimmed dish and Oxfordshire colour-coated ware mortarium.

SITE 2: (BILLING BROOK). EXCAVATIONS NEAR BILLING BROOK

J.R.Perrin

Introduction

Six months after the two cuttings across the defences of *Durobrivae* were completed, E. Greenfield returned to the locality to direct excavations in an area adjacent to the Billing Brook from May 20th to May 29th 1957. The following is an extract from his interim narrative.

> 'The whole area was examined by a system of 4ft square test-holes on a 50ft grid. Of the 45 holes dug, 13 produced features of Roman date and all revealed occupation levels. The features included a square, stone-lined well, 11ft in depth, a disturbed adult inhumation burial, an oven-base, post-holes, ditches and an extensive gravel working. On the west side of the Billing Brook a drain trench close to Water Newton Bridge and the new road-side ditch on the south-west limit of the area showed sections of super-imposed roads running roughly parallel with the brook.'

Around 3000 sherds of Roman pottery were recovered but two-thirds were discarded. Three useful groups occurred – from F10 (Test Holes 31–2), F12 (Test Hole 40) and the well (Test Hole 26).

F10 (Fig 32)

The pottery was mainly LNVCC including narrow-necked flagons, a jug and beakers with plain or 'funnel-neck' rims. A cream ware flagon or jar, a mortarium and some samian ware were also recovered. Much of the LNVCC is of 3rd-century date as is the mortarium. The samian, therefore, appears to be residual in this feature.

1 LNVCC narrow-necked flagon. CR17/14/17. (BB 163).
2 LNVCC plain-rimmed beaker with grooves. CR11. (BB 169,171).
3 LNVCC 'funnel-necked' indented beaker. CR1/14/1. (BB 161).

F12 (Fig 32)

The pottery comprised LNVGW, LNVCC and cream ware. The LNVGW was represented by jars of various types, dishes or bowls with plain, grooved, flat-topped and triangular rims, a hemispherical flanged bowl, a cheese-press and some beakers with curved rims. Beakers with cornice or curved rims accounted for a large proportion of the LNVCC and there were also some dishes or bowls with flat-topped rims, a flagon and a Castor box. A cream ware jar or flagon with unusual dark brown painted decoration was also recovered.

The absence of 'funnel-neck' beakers might be significant if there were none amongst the discarded pottery for this would suggest that F12 was infilled before the middle of the 3rd century. Certainly the remaining pottery is mainly of later 2nd to early 3rd-century date, occurring with some purely 2nd-century sherds.

4 LNVGW small jar. CR21/20.21. (BB 228). cf 'grey' LNVCC.
5 LNVGW jar. CR15. (BB ?).
6 LNVGW large jar with burnished wavy-line decoration on the neck. CR15/14/15. (BB 234).
7 LNVGW indented beaker. Little sign of surface colour. CR14–10. (BB 265).
8 LNVGW hemispherical flanged bowl. CR15/14/15. (BB 252).
9 LNVGW bead rim dish. CR20. (BB 229).
10 LNVGW grooved rim dish. CR10/14/10. cf 'grey' LNVCC. (BB 233).
11 LNVGW plain rim dish. CR20. (BB 260). cf Upper Nene Valley grey ware (eg Ecton – Johnston 1969, 81).
12 LNVCC flagon. CR8/18/8. (BB 280).
13 LNVGW jug. CR18. (BB 279).
14 LNVCC beaker with barbotine scales. CR13/14/11. (BB 271,284).
15 LNVGW bead rim dish. CR18/14/18. (BB 243).
16 LNVCC bead rim dish. CR8/14/8. (BB 239).
17 LNVCC plain rim dish. CR20/19/20. (BB 231). cf LNVGW.
18 Cream ware sherds with painted decoration. CR14; 12 paint. (BB 301–03).

The Well (Fig 33)

Just under 1000 sherds were recovered from the fills; around 650 from sieving those to a depth of 8 feet. All but about 100 of the latter were discarded together with two-thirds of the remainder.

The only complete vessel came from the bottom of the well and a pot from about 9 feet down was also substantially complete. There are some joining sherds between the top fills (down to 2 feet) and that between 8 and 9 feet down; the bulk of the pottery and bone was recovered from the deposits above 9 feet. There may, of course, have been other joining sherds amongst those that were discarded. Without the missing pottery it is difficult to identify definite chronological variation through the bulk of the fills and it is not certain whether most can be considered as one deposit, tipped in over a short period of time once the well went out of use. It has been decided, therefore, to treat the fills down to 9 feet as the result of one action, and to consider the bottom deposits as representing the use of the well.

POTTERY FROM BELOW 9 FEET

19 Complete flask. Probably LNVGW though could be 'London-type' ware if the blackened surface is not the result of staining. CR16/21//16//21/16. (BB 433).
20 Lid-seated jar in cream ware, with traces of a reddish-yellow wash (once mica-dusted?). The barbotine decoration depicting an altar, purse and (?) cockerel are indicative of the god Mercury. (From around the 9 foot level). CR 14;27 wash. (BB 422).

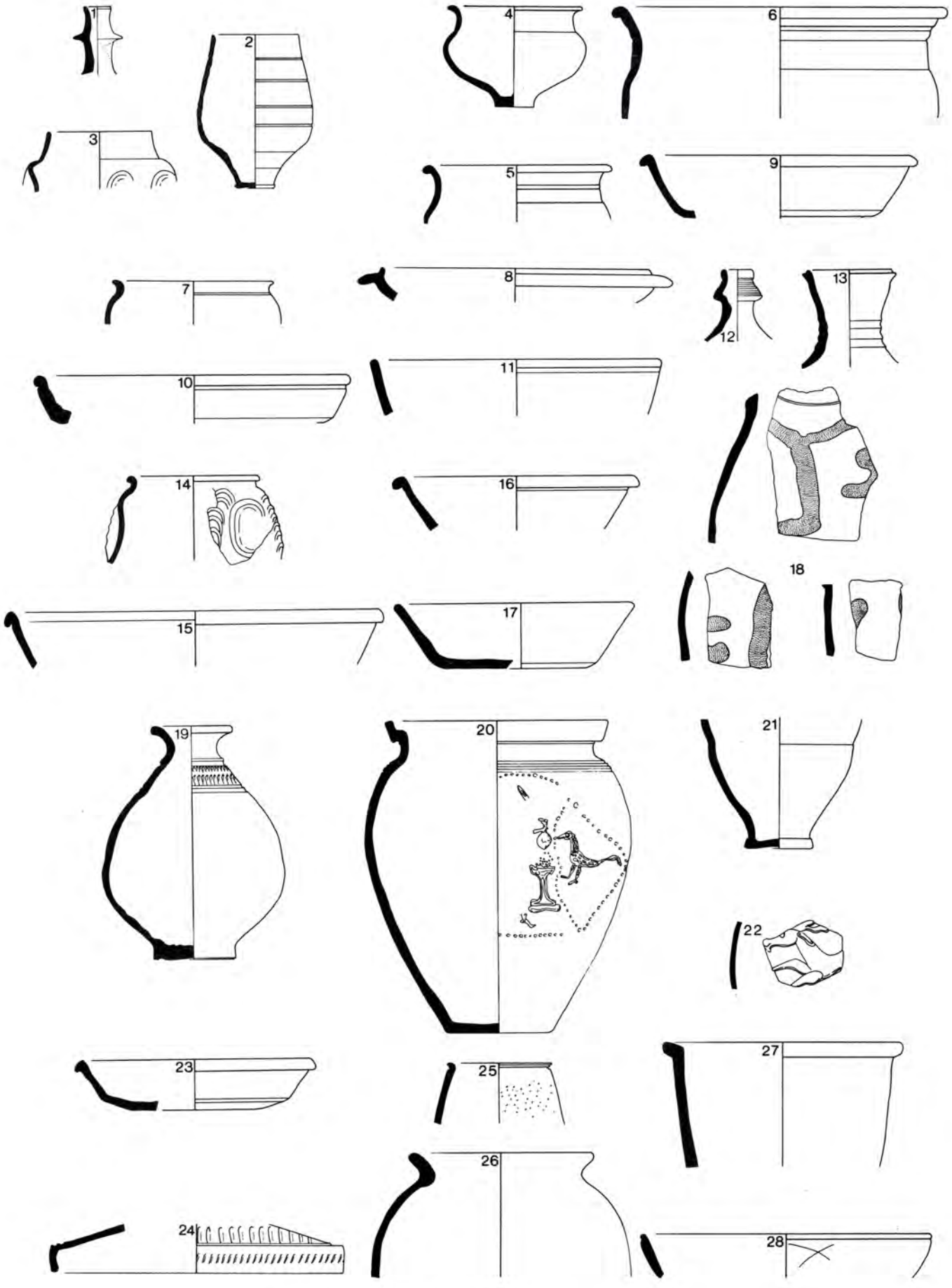


Figure 32. Pottery from Site 2, Billing Brook – F10 and F12

Also retained was a sherd of a LNVCC 'waisted' beaker with barbotine scale decoration (form as *Gillam* 51).

POTTERY FROM TOP TO 9 FEET

LNVGW

Vessels occurring comprised various jars, a dish or bowl with a bead rim, an imitation samian form 37 with rouletted decoration and an indented beaker.

21 Lower part of jar with constricted 'waist'. CR15/14/15. (BB 378).

Lower Rhineland colour-coated ware

22 Part of an Hunt Cup. CR17/26/17. (BB 388).

Lower Rhineland roughcast ware

23 Beaker. CR1/26/12. (BB 394).

LNVCC

Types represented were various beakers including indented with barbotine scale decoration (one with a 'funnel-neck' rim) and 'hunt cups', Castor boxes and their lids, wide-mouthed jars or bowls and flanged bowls (both from the upper levels), flagons and dishes with plain or triangular rims.

24 Dish with triangular rim. CR4/26/4. (BB 403).
25 Castor box lid. CR8/4/8. (BB 382–3).

Other fabrics

Apart from 20 above, sherds from another cream ware jar were retained together with part of an hemispherical flanged bowl with red-painted decoration and a mortarium of Mancetter-Hartshill origin. There were only a few fragments of shell-gritted ware including a deep bowl and some sherds from a jar of Bourne-Greetham manufacture. The grey ware included the top part of a jar, burnished externally apart from one thin horizontal band at the girth. A BB1 grooved rim dish with burnished decoration was also recovered.

26 Grey ware jar. CR17/9//20//9/16. (BB 320,326).
27 Shell-gritted ware bowl. CR4/20/4. (BB 372).
28 BB1 dish. CR17. (BB 339).

THE DATE OF THE WELL

Lid-seated jars in cream ware occur on most local sites, mainly in the mid–late 2nd century (eg Sulehay – Hadman and Upex 1975, fig 7,31 and Chesterton – below Fig 66, 318–21). If the flask is in 'London-type' ware a date before the mid 2nd century would be likely, but it need not be much later even in LNVGW. The Lower Rhineland roughcast beaker should also date before the mid 2nd century. Of the LNVCC the dish can be matched at Chesterton in mid–late 2nd- century contexts (eg Fig 63, 217, below) while the 'hunt cup' and 'waisted' barbotine scale decorated beaker could be early 3rd century at the latest. The grooving and the rouletting on the box lid fit an early to mid 3rd-century date. As noted above some of the upper layers contained later types of LNVCC perhaps extending the date to the later 3rd or 4th century. The Bourne-Greetham jar and the shell-gritted bowl are 2nd century types while the grey ware jar is probably 3rd century in date, perhaps from a source in the East Midlands/Lincolnshire. The cream ware hemispherical flanged bowl occurs on most local sites in later 2nd to mid 3rd-century contexts. The mortarium is dated *c* AD 160–210 and the samian ware ranges in date from the late Hadrianic to the early 3rd century.

The pottery evidence suggests that the well was in use by the middle of the 2nd century. As the bulk of the latest dateable pottery falls before the mid 3rd century it is possible that the well had become disused by then. If the latest LNVCC pieces, however, did not derive from later 'sag-infill' into the weathering cone, then the infilling is likely to have occurred by the early 4th century.

Pottery from the rest of the excavations

The pottery from the other features and layers suggests activity from the Antonine period through to the 4th century.

LNVGW

The main types were various jars, bead and plain-rimmed dishes, a flat-topped rim bowl, a carinated bowl and a flanged bowl.

29 Jar. CR20. (BB 127).
30 Jar. CR16/18/16. (BB 141).
31 Bowl. CR21/18/21. (BB 109).
32 Flanged bowl. CR15/18/15. (BB 78).

LNVCC

The remaining pottery was again heavily biased towards LNVCC. A comprehensive range of types occurred. Beaker varieties included indented with curved and 'funnel-neck' rims and decorative motifs comprised barbotine scales, rouletting and painted geometric designs. Castor boxes and their lids ranging in date from the later 2nd to 4th centuries were recovered as well as a number of 3rd century flagon types. Dishes and bowls with plain, bead or flat-topped rims, flanged bowls and a flanged dish, imitations of samian form 37 and 38, together with small bead-rim bowls with painted or rouletted decoration were also retained. Finally there were a number of LNVCC jar types, including wide-mouthed jars or bowls and a lid.

33 Flagon neck. CR14–17; sooted. (BB 200).
34 Beaker with scale decoration but possibly not indented. CR11/26/11. (BB 206).
35 Beaker. CR1/14/8. (BB 149).
36 Wide mouthed jar. CR12/14/12. (BB 148).
37 Bowl. CR21/15/21. (BB 77).
38 Imitation samian 37. CR4/26/4. (BB 48).

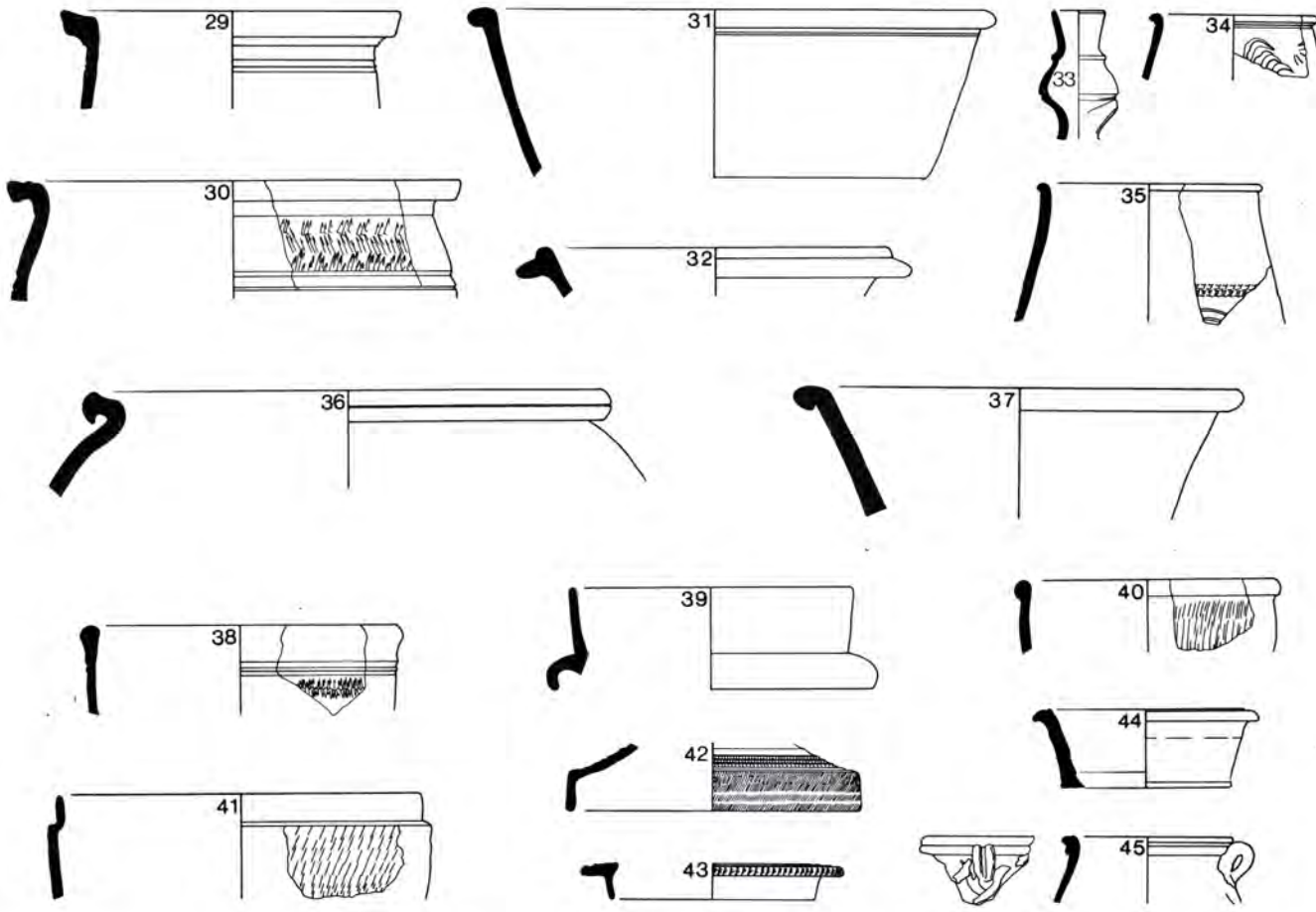


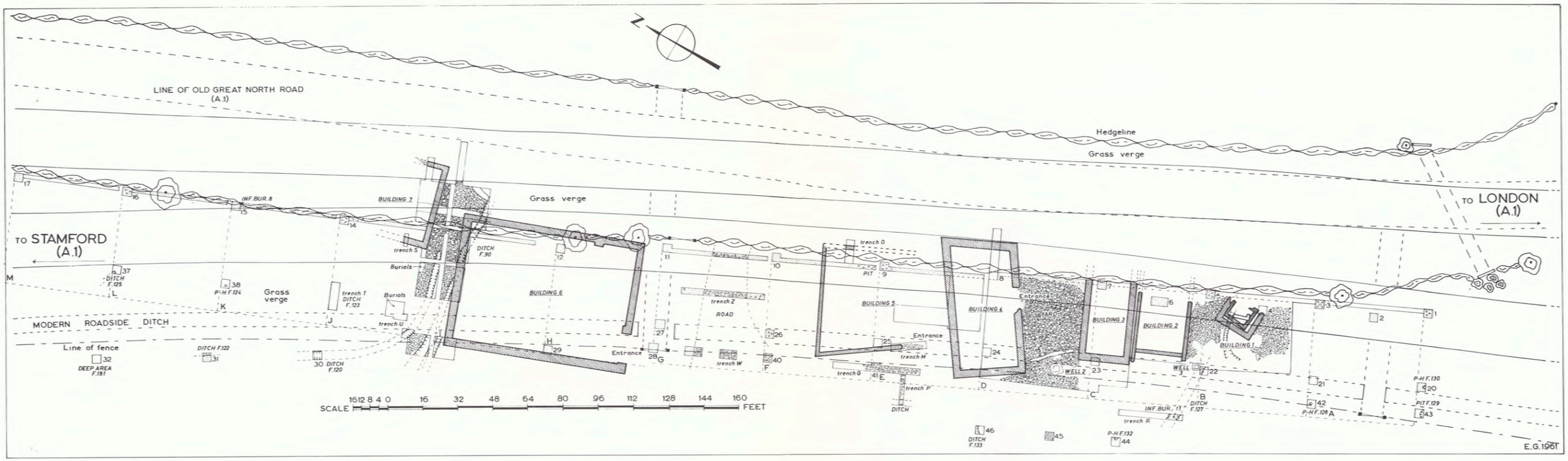
Figure 33. Pottery from Site 2, Billing Brook – Well and miscellaneous layers

39 Imitation samian 38. CR2/14/2. (BB 120).
40 Bowl with rouletting. CR12/26/12. (BB 63).
41 Castor box. CR4/14/4. (BB 204).
42 Castor box lid. CR4+11/14/4+11. (BB 153).
43 Lid. CR17/26/17. (BB 154).
44 Flanged dish. CR17/14/17. (BB 152) .

Other Fabrics

The cream ware included a handled jar similar to one found at Chesterton (Fig 66, 330, below) and there were a number of BB1 plain-rimmed dishes and flanged bowls. Shell-gritted ware and other grey wares occurred as a few sherds only. There were eight other mortaria (including Fig 78, 25–6,39 and 41) one produced at Mancetter-Hartshill in the Antonine period and the rest of Lower Nene Valley origin and dated to the 3rd or 4th centuries.

45 Cream ware handled jar with red-painted decoration. CR4;14 paint. (BB 151).



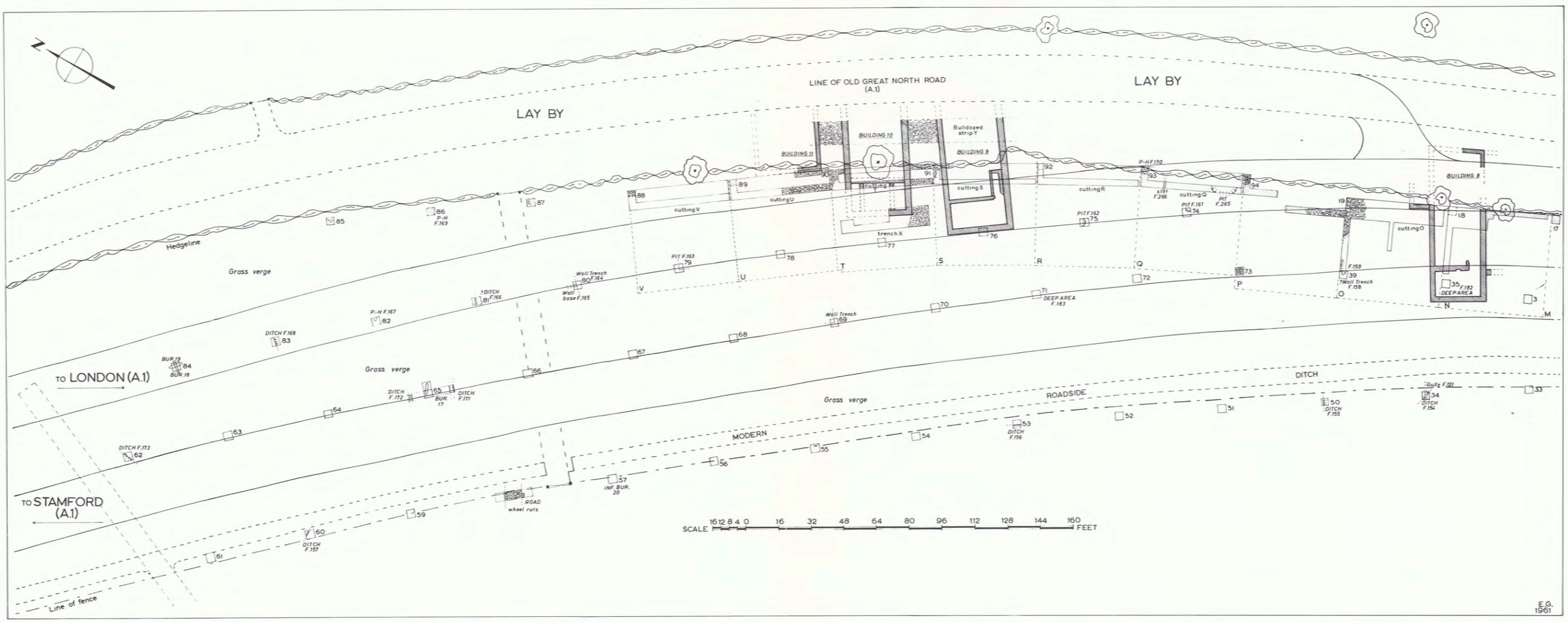


Figure 34. Plan of Buildings 1–11.

CUTTING Z
Coin hoard
c 237-240 • c 233-236
WALL TRENCH G
Foundation
Grass verge
Modern roadside ditch
SCALE 2 1 0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 FEET
Hedgeline
POST-HOLE
H NE
TH 8
I. NW
J. SE
POST-HOLE
Concrete lump
DITCH
POST-HOLE
DITCH
HEAVY PRIMARY METALLING
WALL TRENCH H
Foundation
edge of metalling
+ BROOCH
POST-HOLE F.38
Burnt BASE
OVEN-BASE F.49
INF. BUR. 3
HEAVY METALLING
POST-HOLE F.72
PIT F.37
POST-HOLE F.56
POST-HOLE F.77
ENTRANCE to BARN
Unexcavated
SLAB BASE
Burnt
OVEN-BASE F.48
ENTRANCE to TIMBER STRUCTURE
edge of PEBBLING
DRAIN F.53
PIT
F. SE
POST-HOLE F.35
WALL TRENCH F
POST-HOLE F.57
Post-hole 108
Depression
X
INF. BUR. 13
E NW
HEAVY PRIMARY METALLING
Foundation
DRAIN F.36
F.80
POST-HOLES
F.79
?POST-HOLE
F.32 ?POST-HOLE Vessel in filling
POST-HOLE F.31
YARD
POST-HOLE F.33
INF. BUR. 4
Foundation F.73
HEAVY METALLING
INF. BUR. 5
INF. BUR. 2
WALL TRENCH D
edge to Primary metalling
X
? POST-HOLE
INF. BUR. 12
DEPRESSION F.46
Hard sandy floor
OVEN-BASE F.45
Burnt edge
POST-HOLE
TH 24
POST-HOLE F.58
BROOCH
limestone footing over post-holes
DITCH F.68
Vessel under stone edging
Foundation
DRAIN F.42
NW EXTENSION
limestone footing
HEAVY PRIMARY METALLING
O.D. 24.25
Iron object in capping
WELL 2
INF. BUR. 6
DRAIN F.43
POST-HOLE F.82
limit of Well pit
HEAVY METALLING
WALL TRENCH E
SW
E.G.1960

BUILDING 4 (BARN) with underlying TIMBER STRUCTURE.

Figure 38. Plan of Buildings 4 and 4a.

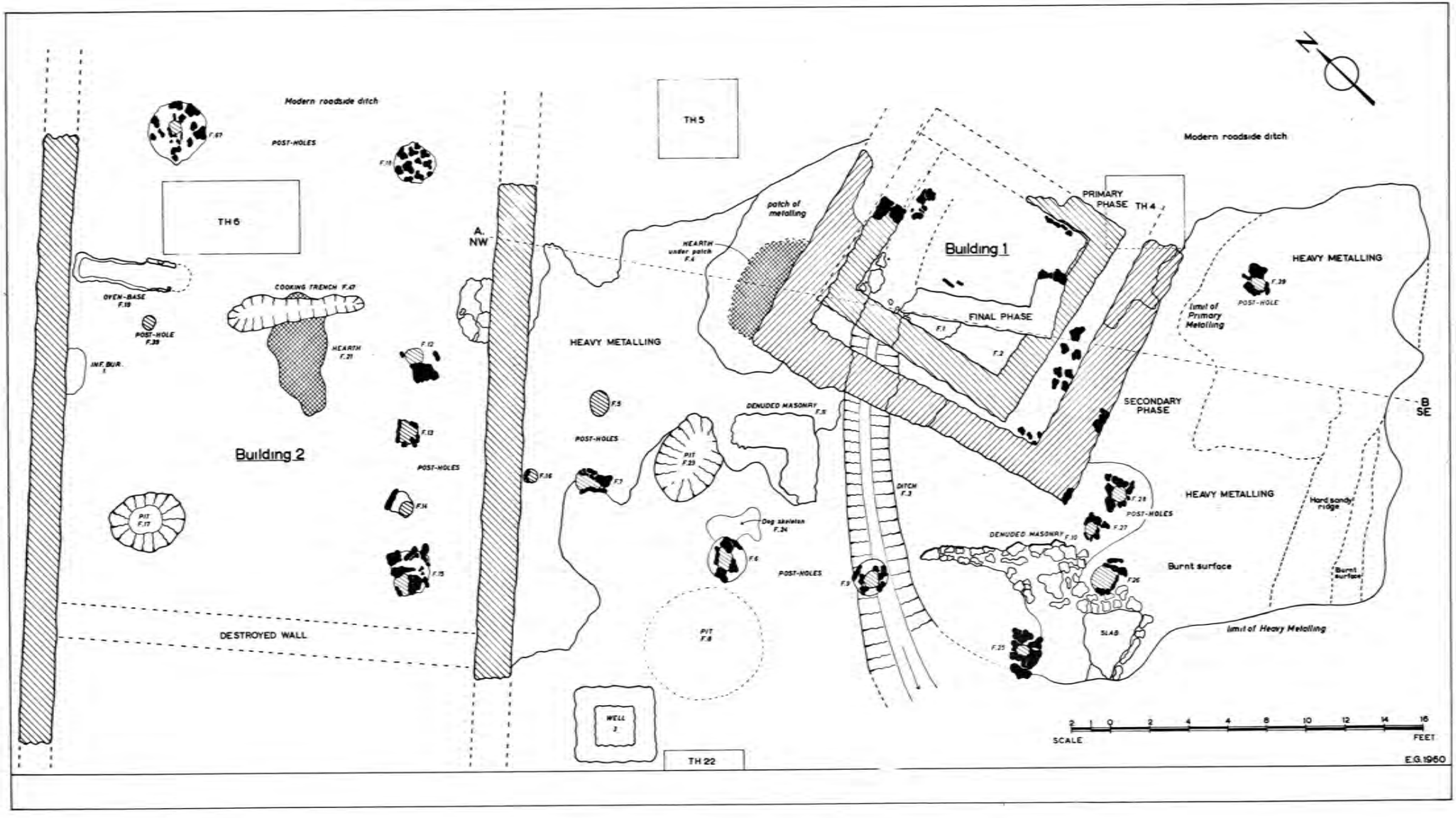


Figure 35. Plan of Buildings 1 and 2

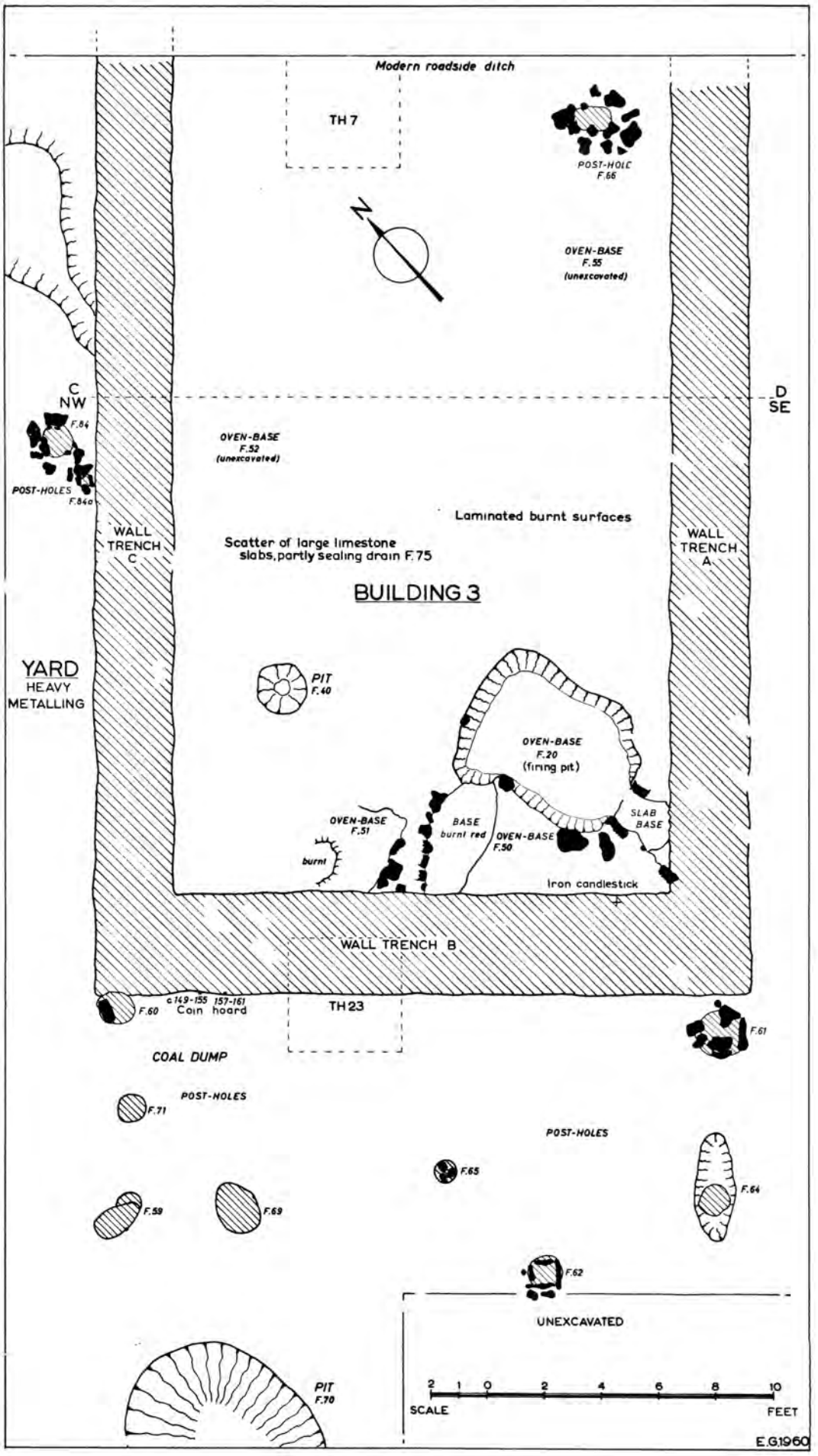


Figure 36. Plan of Building 3

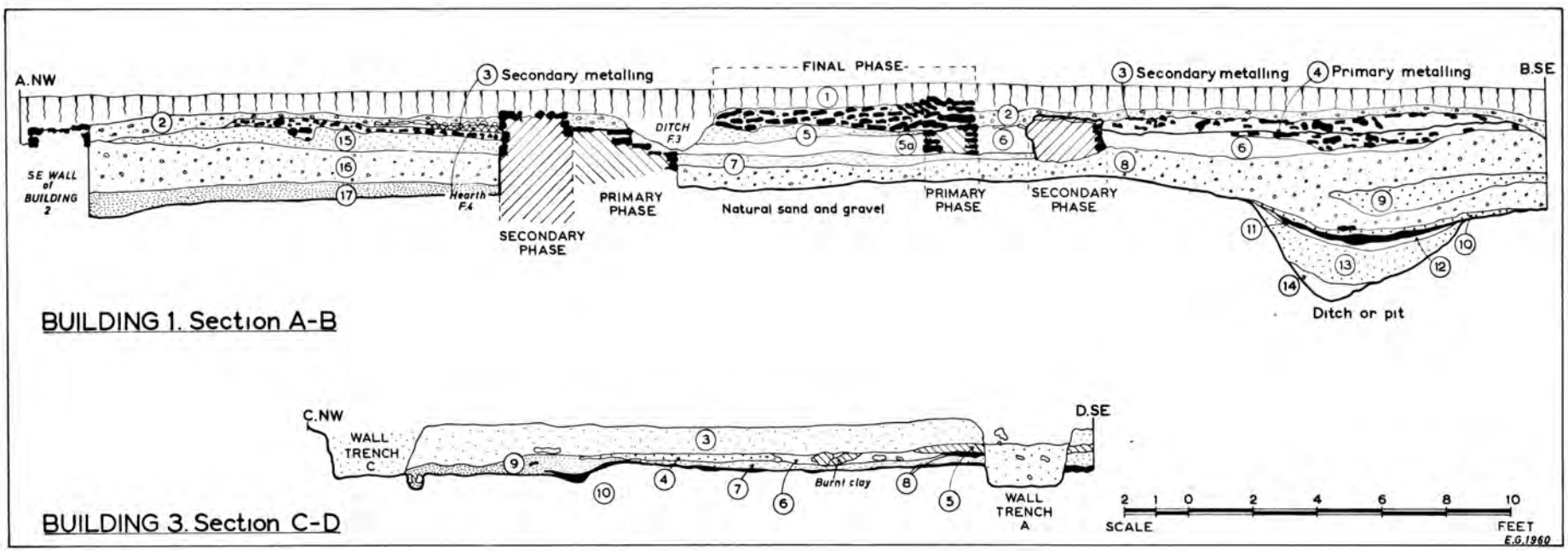


Figure 37. Sections of Buildings 1 and 3

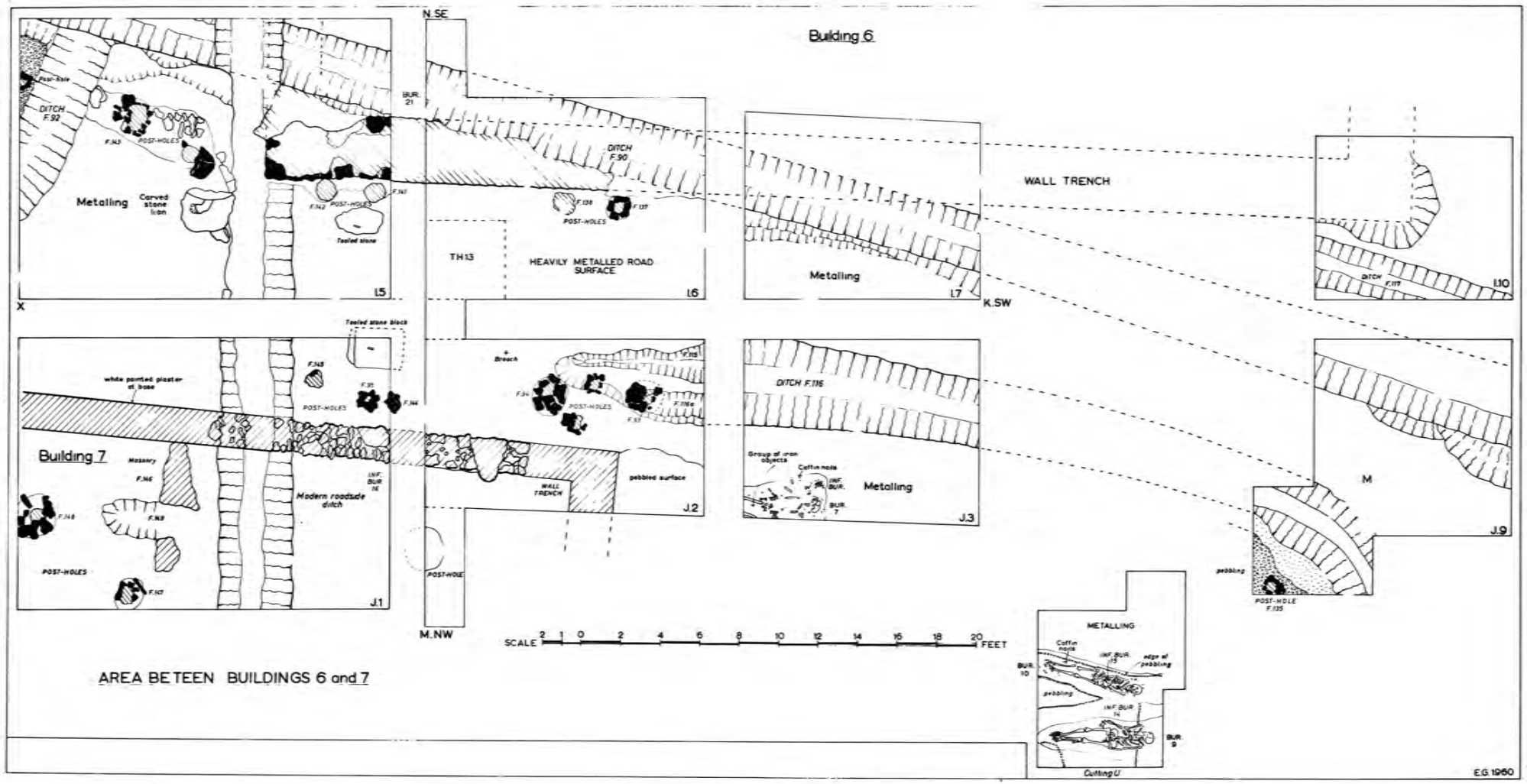
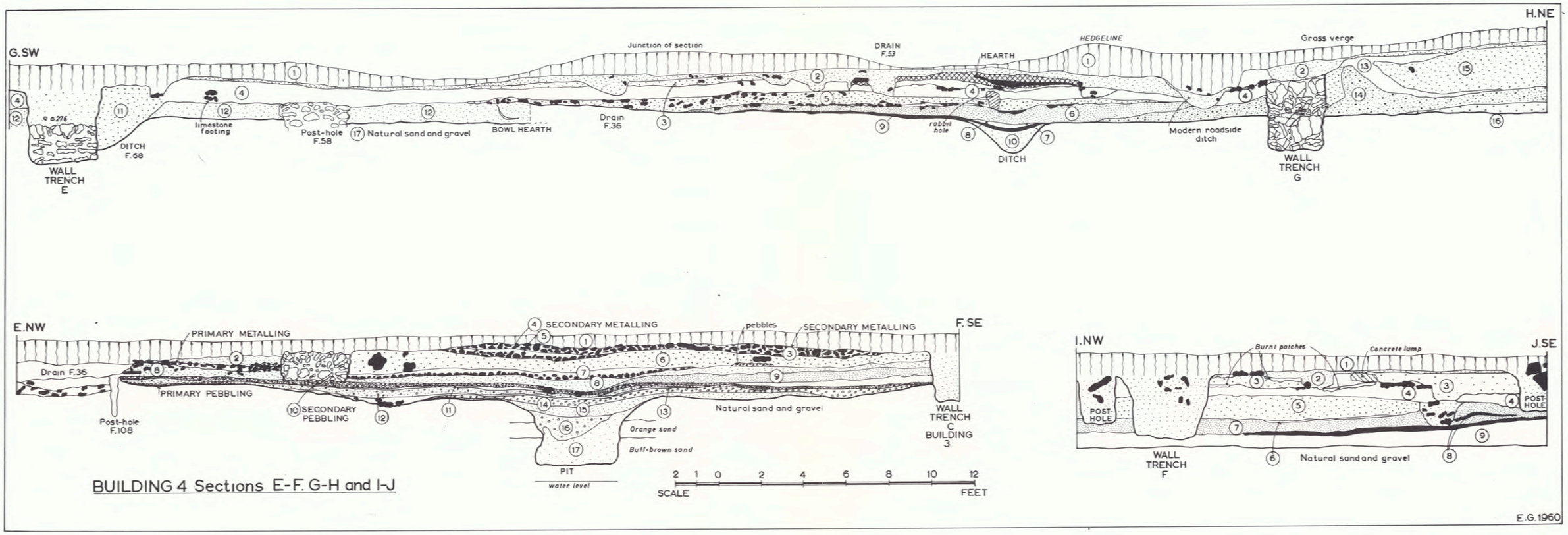


Figure 40. Plan of area between Buildings 6 and 7



BUILDING 4 Sections E-F. G-H and I-J

Figure 39. Sections of Buildings 4 and 4a.

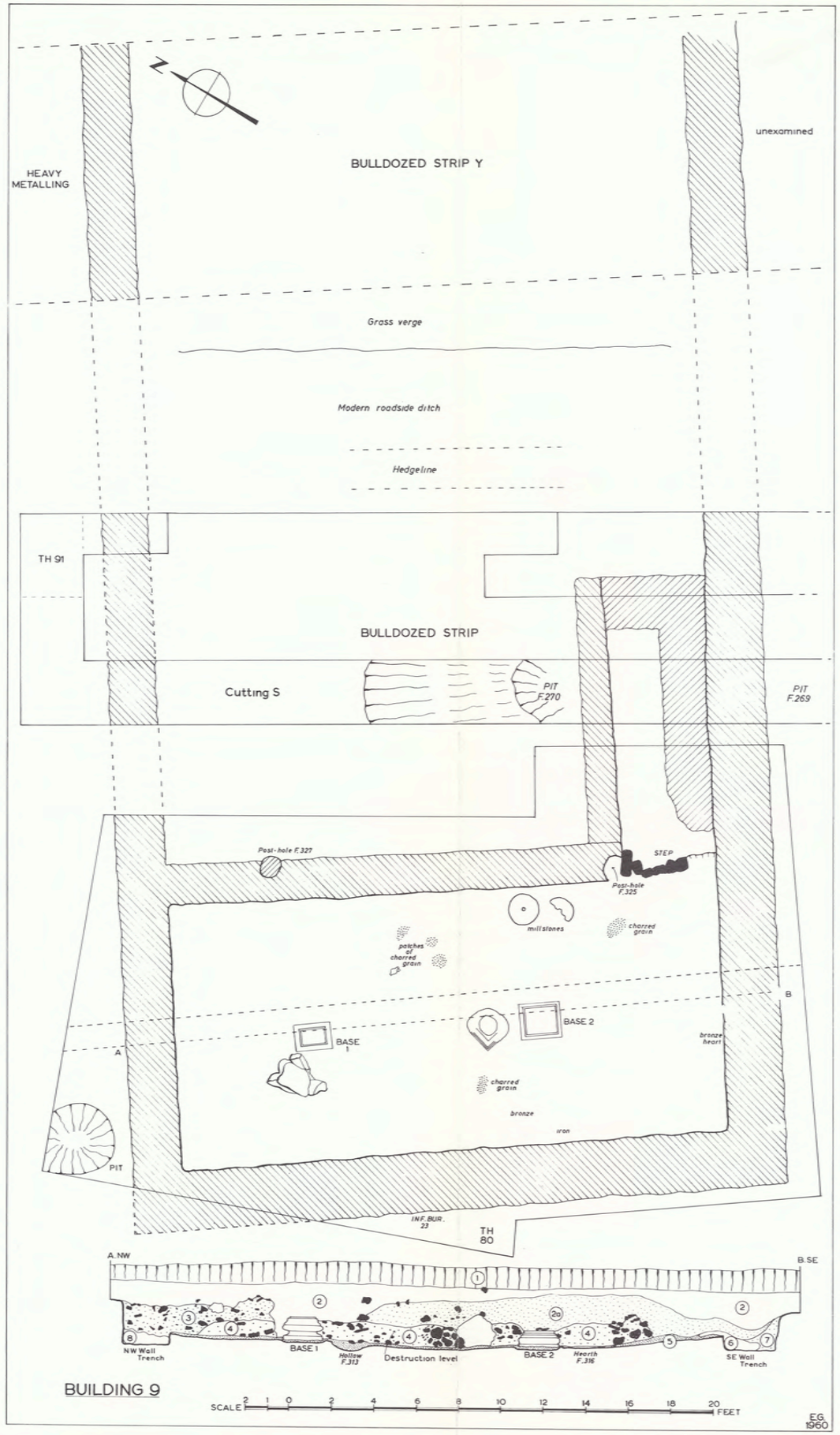


Figure 41. Plan and section of Building 9.

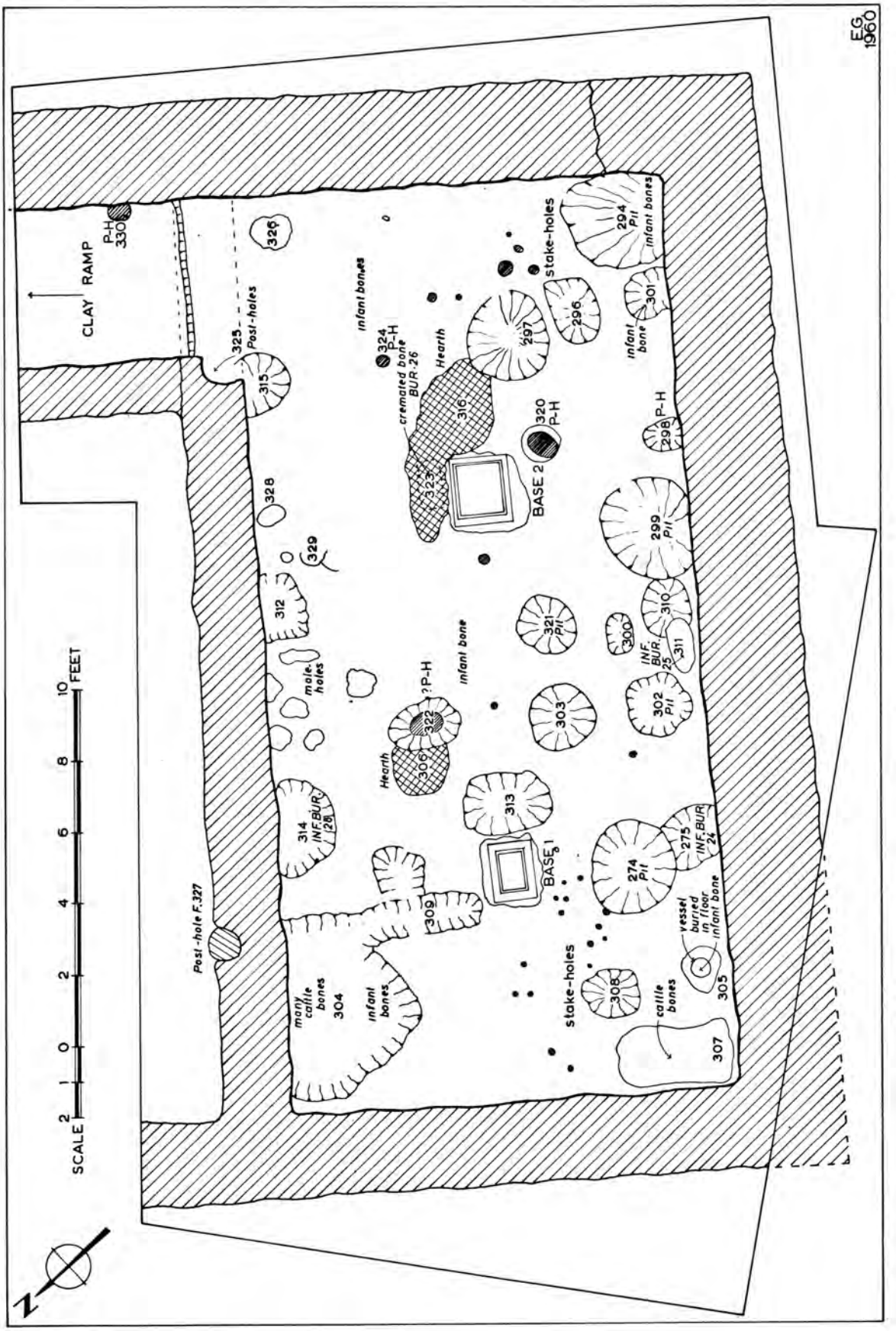


Figure 42. Plan of Building 9, Bases Room

SITE 3 (CHESTERTON). EXCAVATIONS ALONG THE LINE OF ERMINE STREET

E. Greenfield and J.R. Perrin

NOTE

Greenfield produced some fairly detailed layer descriptions for some of the Buildings and most of the test-holes and published some interim statements (see p 4). Extracts from these descriptions and narratives are used here to provide important information relevant to the dated pottery groups. The rest of the information is stored in the archive.

BUILDING 1 (Figs 35 and 37)

The most easterly of the structures uncovered, Building 1, was rebuilt twice and was surrounded by areas of heavy metalling which showed two distinct phases. All the structures were built of local limestone with lime mortar and were represented by foundations only. Their internal levels were of earth. The NE side of all the structures had been destroyed by a NW-SE ditch of 4th-century date. The primary building was surrounded by patchy metalling laid on earlier occupation levels while the larger secondary building, or the final building, was surrounded externally on the NW, S and SE sides by very heavy paving which extended outwards for 7ft. Eight post-holes on a NW-SE alignment in the surface of this paving are either contemporary or later. The final phase was represented by only a small L-shaped piece of rough masonry. Building 1 was provisionally interpreted, on the basis of its plan and some of the associated finds, as having been a shrine for part or all of its life.

On the NW side of the paved surround was a rectangular shaped room with a long axis running NE-SW. The NE wall had been destroyed by the late ditch and the remaining walls robbed to foundation level. The floor was intact and contained a central hearth, a circular pit in the W corner and an oven base against the NW wall. Close to this on the SW side was an infant burial.

On the SW side of Building 1 a well was located during the cutting of the roadside ditch and was completely excavated between the 19th and 31st May 1958. The machine had destroyed the SW side of the well top to a depth of 4 ft, but the NE side was intact. The filling below the destruction level was undisturbed. The well was of near square formation measuring 2ft 6 ins by 2ft 4ins and proved on excavation to be 8ft 8ins in depth. The lining consisted of roughly dressed limestone slabs laid horizontally without mortar against the edge of a narrow pit cut into the natural sand and gravel. The stone lining was supported on four cross-timber bearers each 4–5ins thick, laid horizontally on the natural gravel base. A tooled slab of Barnack stone had been incorporated in the lining in the S corner at a depth of 7ft 2ins.

The first building was erected over an existing occupation horizon, possibly dating to the Hadrianic period, represented by the ditch F186 and layer 17 to the north-west. It is not certain if layers 6–9 over the ditch and layer 16 above layer 17 were also part of the pre-existing occupation or in fact make-up for the first building phase; either way they are of use for dating. The disturbance of layer 6 by the second building phase might have led to contamination but, in the main, it was clearly below the primary metalling. It seems likely that the first phase of Building 1 was constructed in the later 2nd century.

Layers 7 and 15 most probably represent the use of Building 1 phase 1 and the evidence suggests that phase 1 lasted up to the second quarter of the 3rd century.

BUILDING 3 (Figs 36–7)

The wall trenches of three sides of Building 3 were uncovered and all had been cut through pre-existing occupation levels represented by layers 3–9 and the evidence suggests that Building 3 was erected in the early to mid 3rd century.

A hoard of coins found associated with wall trench B could provide additional dating evidence. This contained coins dated *c* AD 211–38, 222–35 and 235–8 and if the wall was used as a pointer to future recovery then the building must obviously have been in existence when the hoard was buried. There are, however, problems with the actual findspot. It is possible that the hoard had been in the ground before the building was constructed and that its location close to the wall was purely accidental. The coins could also have been a chance loss and not actually deliberately buried. It was the opinion of the excavator, however, that the hoard was buried in relation to the wall and this seems to be the most likely interpetation.

BUILDINGS 4 and 4a (Figs 38–9)

Test holes 8 and 24 revealed features which encouraged Greenfield to extend his excavation into the surrounding area, thereby uncovering what were subsequently became known as Buildings 4 and 4a. Associated with these were a paved yard, a walled enclosure and a well. The related layers contained substantial quantities of pottery and other finds and provide one of the best of the best chronological sequences from the whole site.

Building 4 was a substantial stone barn with a long axis running NE-SW and a wide entrance opening onto the paved yard on the SE side. The walls had been robbed down to the yard level and in part had been completely removed. Four post-holes on an E-W alignment from the SW side of the entrance on the interior suggested internal partitioning. Building 4a was found during the cutting of the long section and appeared to be the timber precursor of the stone barn. Post-holes and stake-holes at 1ft intervals were found on the same alignment of the SE

wall but the timber structure was only 10ft wide. Two large circular door post-holes were found coinciding with the entrance to the stone barn and internal rows of large post-holes indicate roof supports. Six infant burials were found alongside the SE fringe of the interior.

The yard extended from the NW wall of Building 3 to the SE wall of the barn and to the limits of the excavation on the NE and SW sides. Its surface was extremely solid and showed signs of much wear. When sectioned, four main stone levels over three hard-surfaced pebble levels were found.

There appear to have been four yard phases as represented by the primary and secondary pebbling, and the primary and secondary metalling; there may have just been two, however, if the pebbling and metalling were integral. The fact that all but the last run up to the foundations of the timber Building 4a suggest that this was long-lived, though the possibility of more than one earlier structures cannot be ruled out. The secondary pebbling and the primary metalling might also represent repairs to the original yard surface. The secondary metalling appears to coincide with the construction of Building 4 in stone.

The layers below the pebbling, and the fills of pit F184 represent either the accumulation of occupation debris, or perhaps part of a deliberate infilling in order to level the ground for the creation of the pebbled yard. Layers 8–9 and 6–7 are similarly either occupation levels or part of the make-up for the first and second paved yards, repectively. Layers 3–5 seem to constitute the secondary metalling but are more likely to represent its use.

The section across the long axis of Buildings 4 and 4a is a little difficult to interpret but all the layers under and including 4 are cut by the foundation for stone building 4 and must, therefore, predate it and be associated with the one or more timber phases, including Building 4a. Layers 2 and 3 and the hearth represent the use of the stone building.

The finds and pottery evidence suggests that the first building was erected in the Hadrianic period after earlier occupation of unknown character and represented solely by the lower fills of pit F184 and residual pottery in other layers. The use of this (and succeeding?) timber buildings continued throughout the 2nd century but the date at which Building 4 was constructed is not entirely certain. The character of the pottery in the latest of the levels associated with Building 4a is similar to that of a group dated *c* AD 170/180 at Fengate (Hayes 1984). This, together with a coin of Caracella and early 3rd century pottery in the associated yard layer 9, suggests that stone may have replaced timber in the later 2nd or early 3rd centuries. A late 3rd century coin hoard against wall trench G suggests that the building was still in use at that time. Later 4th century pottery was recovered from layers 2 and 3 within the building, but as these are basically disturbed topsoil it cannot be stated with certainty that the building continued in use into the later 4th century.

The well was 2ft 6ins square and was constructed of stone blocks in a purposely dug pit 10ft in diameter and 12 ft deep. The sides of the well shaft showed much wear and the lowest 2 ft of filling was waterlogged.

The walls of the enclosure had been completely robbed out. An metalled entrance was found on the SW side.

BUILDING 9 AND THE 'BASES' ROOM (Figs 41–2)

Of rectangular shape with a long axis running NE–SW the walls of this building had been robbed down to foundation level and in part were represented by wall trenches only; the SE wall had been completely robbed out and the NW wall partly so. The dividing wall between the larger area and the bases room was mainly intact as was the the SW wall of this room. Where intact it could be seen that the structure was built using local limestone bonded with a cream-brown mortar. The interior levels of the larger area were of earth. The entrance to the 'bases' room from the higher level was at the SE end of the dividing wall and access was via a gently sloping earthen ramp, terminating in a single step edged with stone at the bottom. The 'bases' room itself was a rectangular shaped room with a NW–SE long axis and it was destroyed by a fierce fire late in the 4th century. It was completely excavated.

The destruction level was found to have originally covered the entire internal floor area but had been disturbed at the edges during the robbing of the NW and SE walls. The level was covered by the fallen remains of the upper walls of the room which had collapsed during or after the fire. Wall plaster was found lying horizontally, face downwards and at angles, in part attached to sections of fallen wall. The majority of this plaster had been burnt and was blue-grey colour, but a few unburnt pieces showed the original scheme of bright red stripes on a white ground. Much of the stone wall rubble was burnt red-blue and had been shattered by heat and impact. Sealed beneath the wall-fall was a burnt layer containing charred wood in charcoal form, presumed to be the remains of some of the roof timbers; a few pieces of stone roofing tile were also found.

The first, middle, of the carved stone blocks was found while excavating this level. This block was lying partly on its side giving the appearance of having fallen. It is some 18 ins square with carved mouldings and was much damaged by heat, perhaps suggesting that it was a capital. Many pieces of a tooled pedestal or shaft were also found spread over the centre of the room and these had also been subjected to intense heat which had turned them to red-blue in colour. The other two stone blocks at this level were seated horizontally and seemed to be in their original positions. The destruction level sur-

rounded them on all sides but their tops were above it and, with the mouldings, were scorched red and had heat fractures.

The lower part of the destruction level contained the burnt debris of rubbish and materials in use at the time of the conflagration. On the NE side close to the step was a complete lower quernstone and the broken halfs of the upper stone. Patches of charred grain were found mainly around the centre of the room to its NE side. Pottery fragments and many coins littered the floor.

The lowest levels related to the pre-fire occupation horizon which was between 1 and 2 ins thick and was everywhere sealed by the destruction layer. In appearance it was a fine laminated greyish-green sandy silt which in places had been burnt hard. It contained pottery fragments and a large number of coins. During the removal of this layer many features (68 including stake holes) were found. These were mainly small pits and shallow depressions, many of which contained coins, animal bones and, in some cases, infant burials. One small pit close to the W corner of the room contained a complete pot which had a small piece of infant skull in its filling. A pit in the W corner seemed to have been dug deliberately in a shape to fit what can only be described as a side of beef. The bones of this were lying very close together, indicating that they had been buried with the flesh intact. In another pit against the SW wall was most of the lower leg of an ox or cow which was probably also buried whole. A very small hole against the NE wall seemed to have been dug to receive both jaws of a cow or ox. A total of 162 coins came from all levels and features, the latest being dated to the reign of Arcadius.

The subterranean, 'bases', room is on any set of criteria unusual and interesting and the altars, the quantity of coins and the burial of joints of animal meat strongly indicate religious or ritual use at some point. The deposits within the room can be divided into three groups – a floor/occupation level, pits cut into the floor and the destruction levels sealing both. Together they contained 120 coins ranging in date from the late 3rd to the late 4th centuries with three main 'groups' – *c* AD 260–80 (18), 310–50 (43) and 350–80+ (58).

The destruction of the building would appear to have occurred in the later 4th century on the basis of the six coins of post AD 379 found in the related levels.

The layers contained some interesting pottery. A complete small LNVCC jug seems to have been derived from a late beaker form and perhaps reflects changes in drinking fashion, function and requirements. The complete shell-gritted jar has the 'late' characteristics of tall neck, undercut rim and slack shoulder. Parallels for the Hadham ware mould-decorated jar can be noted at many places in Essex and Suffolk. Existing evidence suggests that this ware was traded widely after *c* AD 375.

THE DATED POTTERY GROUPS
J.R. Perrin

NOTE

A list of the illustrated vessels from the group is given at the end of the discussion. Related catalogue entries are to be found in the sections dealing with the various wares which follow the group section. The rough EVE quantification figures are given in Fig 43.

1. The earliest occupation, up to the middle of the 2nd century

The main group of pottery relating to this period was from *Pit F265, Grid Q*. A local parallel to the group is provided by pottery from two pit groups excavated in Normangate Field Castor (Perrin and Webster 1990, 37, figs 4–9).

F265 was a large pit containing over 200 fragments of pottery, including samian ware. Many of the fragments were large with some joining to give complete or near-complete vessels. The date for the group is provided by the samian ware with two decorated form 37 bowls attributed to Lezoux potters PATERCLUS, and ATTIANUS, being dated *c* AD 120–140 and *c* AD 130–150 respectively, and a form 18/31 stamped by METTIUS of Lezoux being dated *c* AD 150–155. The remaining samian, around 13 sherds, contained pieces dated to the Trajanic, Hadrianic and Antonine periods, with the majority being of Hadrianic or Hadrianic-Antonine date. There was also a fragment of a Lower Nene Valley or Mancetter-Hartshill mortarium dated typologically to *c* AD 150–200 (M66). Over all, the impression is therefore of a group of pottery used in the second quarter of the 2nd century, and discarded around the middle of that century.

The Normangate Field pit groups (*op cit*) together contained exact parallels to six, and similar vessels to a further fifteen of those in Pit F265. The general character of the pottery from the Normangate Field groups was also similar to that of Pit F265, with each containing early BB1 vessels, self-coloured flagons, shell-gritted ware and early mortaria. There can be little doubt that the pottery in the Normangate Field pit groups is of the same period as that in F265.

	Grey	London	LNVGW	LNVCC	LNVCW	RSG
F265	8	15	33	–	21	13
B4L4/5	3	4	47	8	18	15
CL8/17	–	–	40	23	20	14
B1	–	–	32	36	13	13
B1F8	–	–	26	42	16	17
CL3/7	–	–	44	30	11	11
B3L3/5	–	3	37	38	5	12
B3Coal	7	1	38	30	1	15
F90	4	–	4	67	–	17
B9L4/5	2	–	2	52	14	20

NB Only LNVGW, LNVCW and RSG in Courtyard layers 16–17.

Figure 43. Pottery from the dated groups – Quantification (figures are percentages of total rim length)

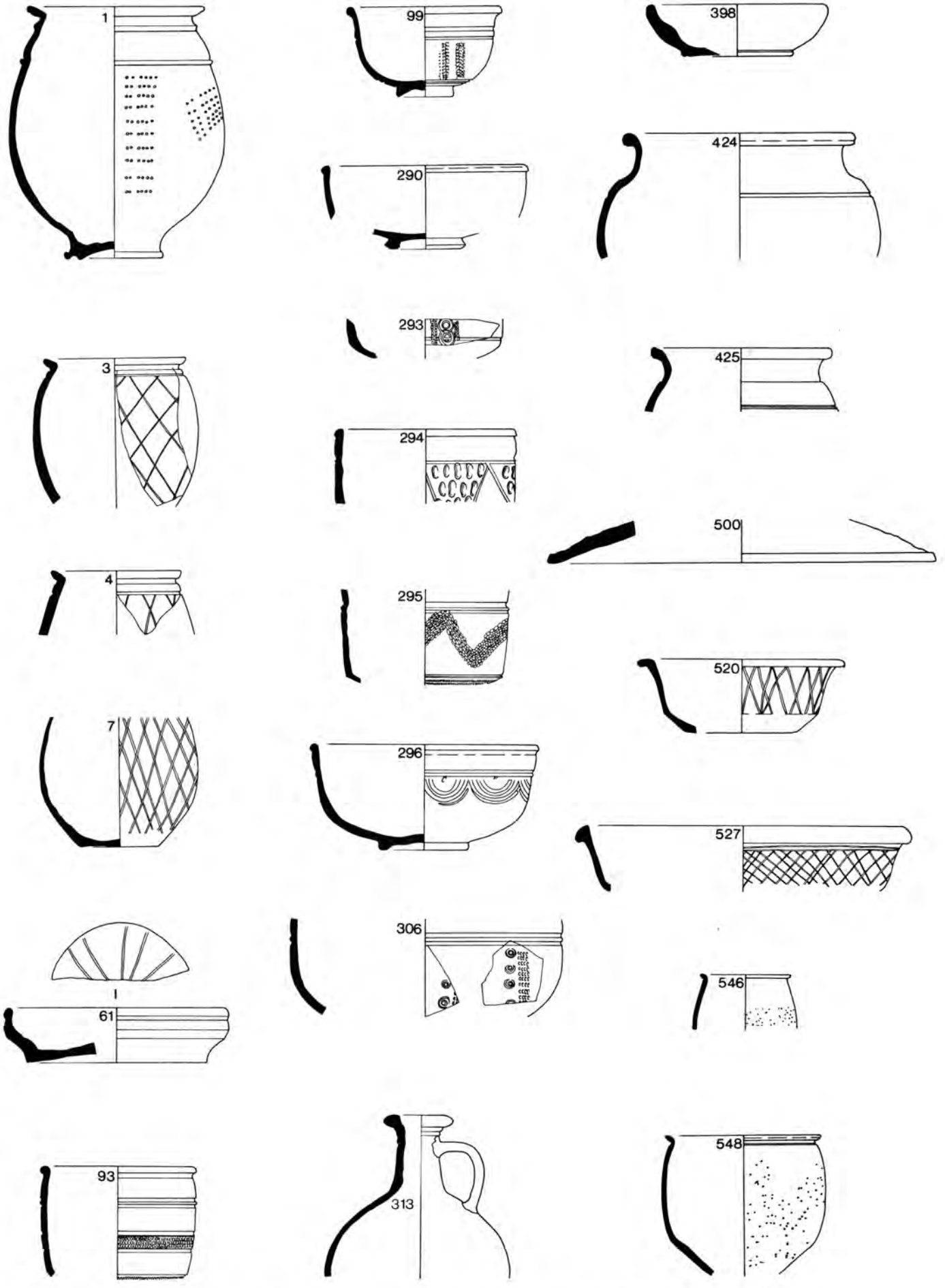


Figure 44. Pottery from the dated groups – Grid Q, F265

The Normangate Field groups were also dated by samian ware and mortaria. There were seven stamped and two attributable decorated sherds of samian ware vessels all dating within the period *c* AD 120–150, and two stamped mortaria, one of the potter VIATOR, dated *c* AD 120–160, and the other by an uncertain potter and dated to the Antonine period. Mr B.R. Hartley said of one of the groups (NGF (11) 2 and 3), "A date of deposit within a few years of *c* AD 135 seems highly likely".

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM F265 (FIG 44)

LNVGW	1,3,4,7,61,93,99
LONDON	290,293–6,306
CREAM	313
GREY	398,424
RSG	425,500
BB1	520
BB2?	527
LRRC	546
OTHER RC	548
MORTARIUM	66 (Fig 79)

2. From the middle of the 2nd century to the late 2nd/early 3rd century

In common with most other settlements and towns in the province, *Durobrivae* underwent considerable expansion in the Antonine period. There is a great deal of pottery from the Chesterton site which relates to this, with the main groups being *Building 1, Layers, 7, 8, 13, 15, 16, 17*; *Building 4, Layers 4 and 5* and the *Courtyard between Buildings 3 and 4, Layers 8 to 17* inclusive. The distance between the uppermost layers of these groups and the topsoil is relatively small, however, and there is a tendency for them to be more disturbed than those relating to the early to mid 2nd century. For this reason, it is difficult to place an accurate end date for the pottery from the layers: most of the layers mentioned are again dated on the evidence of the samian ware and mortaria.

Building 1, Layer 7 contained plain samian of Antonine date and two decorated sherds in layer 16 from form 30 and 37 bowls were dated Antonine and *c* AD 125–150 respectively; because of this it is possible that these lowest levels could be listed with the initial occupation. Layers 7 and 15 contained five stamped central Gaulish samian ware vessels, four of which were dated *c* AD 160–190, and the other *c* AD 165–200. There were also four decorated vessels dated *c* AD 150–185 and 32 of the other 35 samian sherds were of Antonine date. In addition, these layers contained four mortaria dated *c* AD 140–200, *c* AD 160–210, typologically *c* AD 230–350 (M29) and 3rd century. The latter two are from the top layer 7 and are indicative of the disturbance noted above.

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM B1 L7 ETC. (FIG 45)

LNVGW	27,57,62,71,88–9
LNVCC	142–3,152,158,160,171,198,227
LONDON	311
CREAM	321,334,337–8,340,349–50
GREY	369
RSG	428–9,465–6,483
MORTARIUM	29 (Fig 78)

Layer 5, in Building 4, contained a coin of Hadrian and sherds from possibly 12 samian ware vessels, two of which were of Flavian date, two of Hadrianic/early Antonine date, one *c* AD 125–140, and the rest Antonine. As with the lower levels of Building 1, an earlier occupation is suggested. Unfortunately, no finds came from the several layers underlying Layer 5. Layer 4 contained a great deal of pottery including sherds from up to 80 samian ware vessels, with decorated and stamped pieces dating to *c* AD 125–140, 130–135, 130–160, 140–165, 140–170, 150–180, 150–185, 150–190, 155–185, 160–190 and 160–200. There were no vessels of forms 38 or 45 however. Five mortaria are dated respectively *c* AD 160–210 (M82), *c* AD 170–200 (M56), *c* AD 135–65 (M73 and M74) and probably 3rd century (M88 – likely to be intrusive; see next dated group, Courtyard layer 3), and the layer also contained two Trajanic coins. It is possible that Layer 4 may be essentially a group of the third quarter of the 2nd century.

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM B4 L4–5 (FIGS 46–8)

LNVGW	5,6,8,11,12,15,16,21,25,26,32,40,49, 63–5,67,69,73,75,82,94,100,103,110–12
LNVCC	123–4,156–7,178,181,184,266–7
LONDON	291–2,302–3
CREAM	314,318–20,342,345–6,348,366
GREY	371–3,389–90,400,402–4,415,420
RSG	426,430–4,436,459,461,481–2,484, 498,501,509,514
BB2	533
LRRC	547
MORTARIA	56,73–4, (Fig 79) 82,88 (Fig 80)

The area between Buildings 3 and 4 probably underwent considerable disturbance during its lifetime because it was a yard. There appear to have been three phases of metalling, the earliest being of pebbles, which were probably often patched. It is therefore not as clear a chronological sequence when compared to the other groups in this section. As with Buildings 1 and 4, early occupation material is noticeable in the lowest levels, 17 and 16, but is thought that the other layers up to Layer 7 probably cover a similar period to Building 4, Layers 5 and 4. Layer 7 is a little problematical in that it is described by the excavator as being heavy metalling

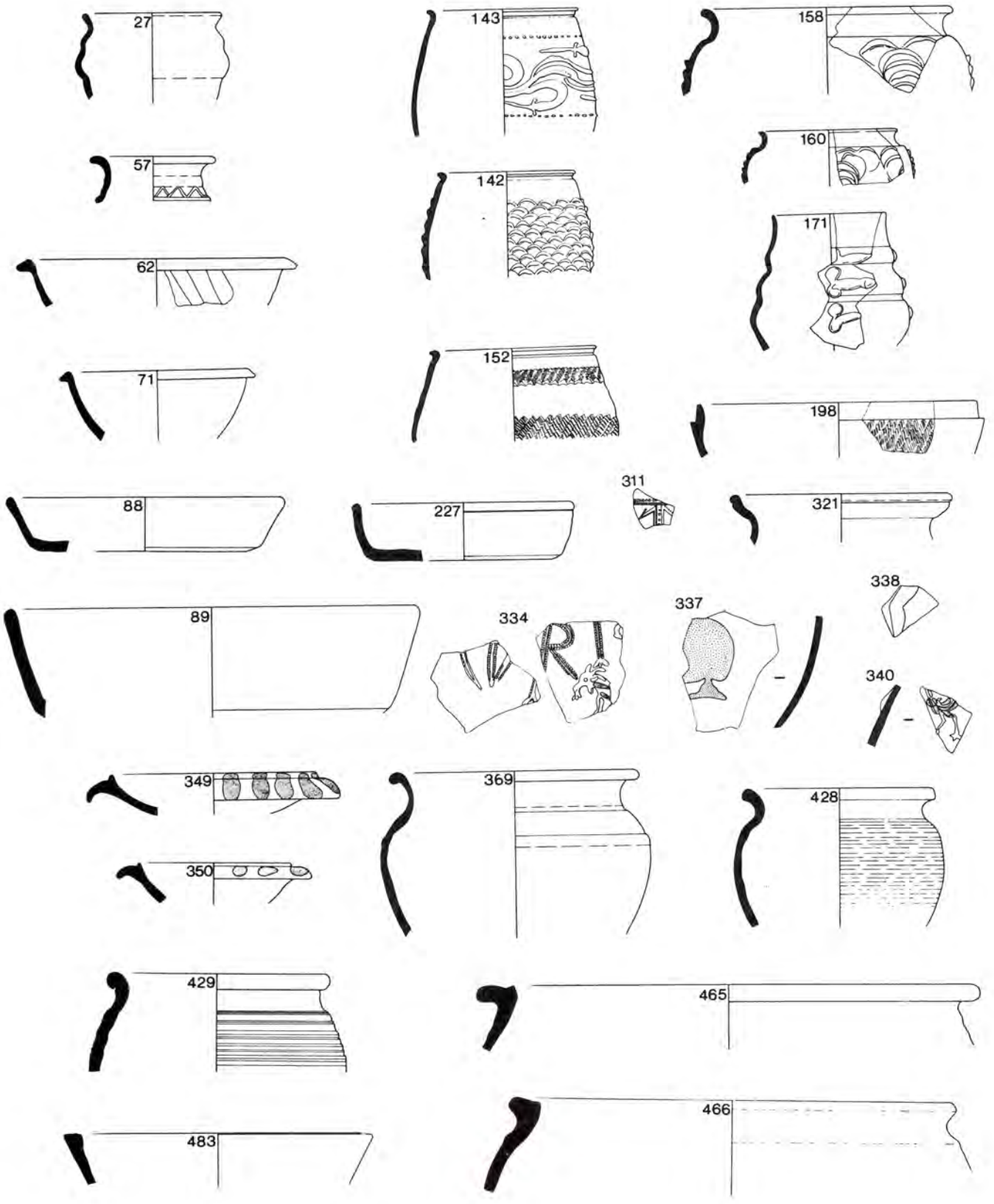


Figure 45. Pottery from the dated groups – Building 1, Layers 7,8,13,15–17

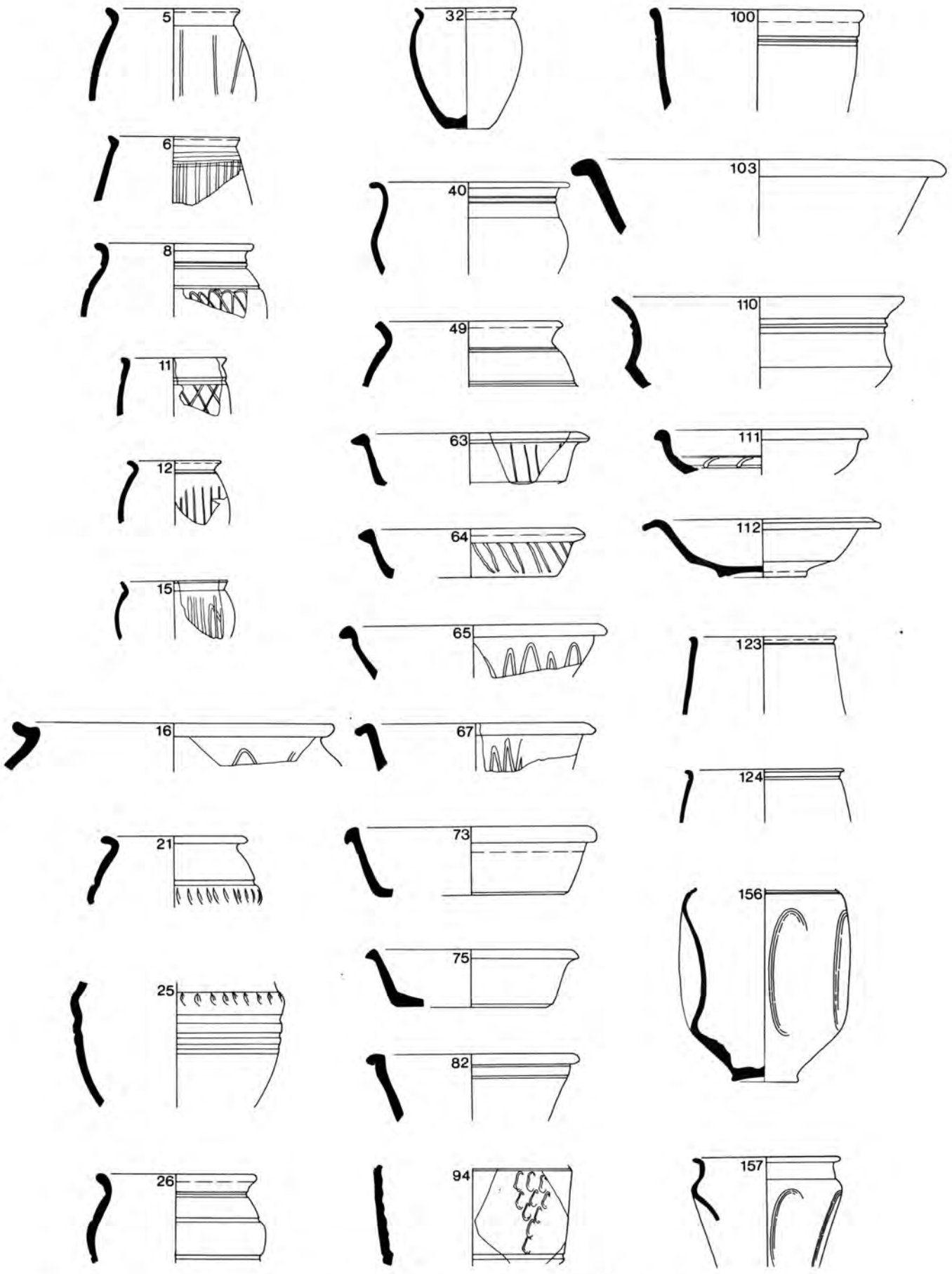


Figure 46. Pottery from the dated groups – Building 4, Layers 4–5

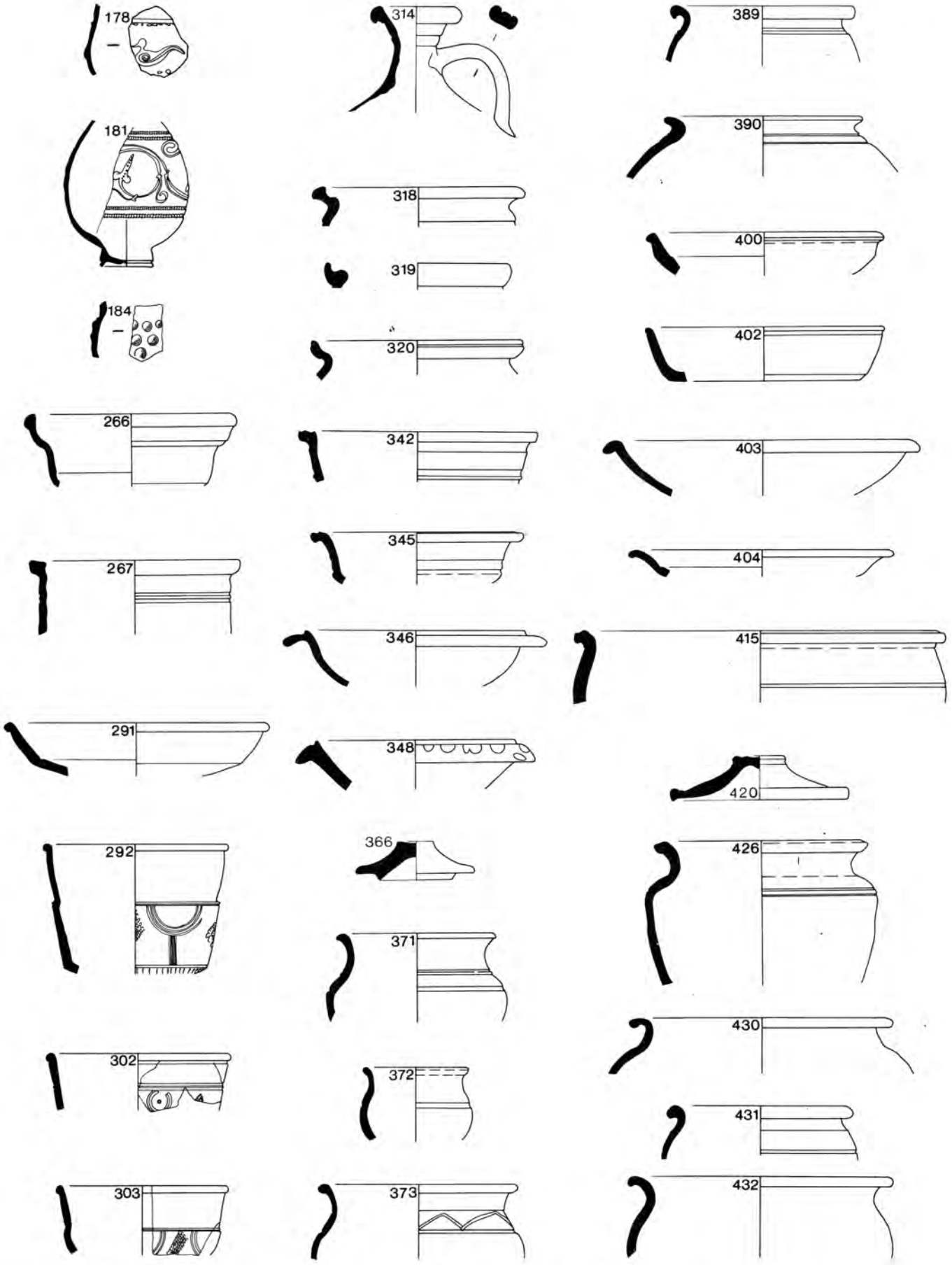


Figure 47. Pottery from the dated groups – Building 4, Layers 4–5

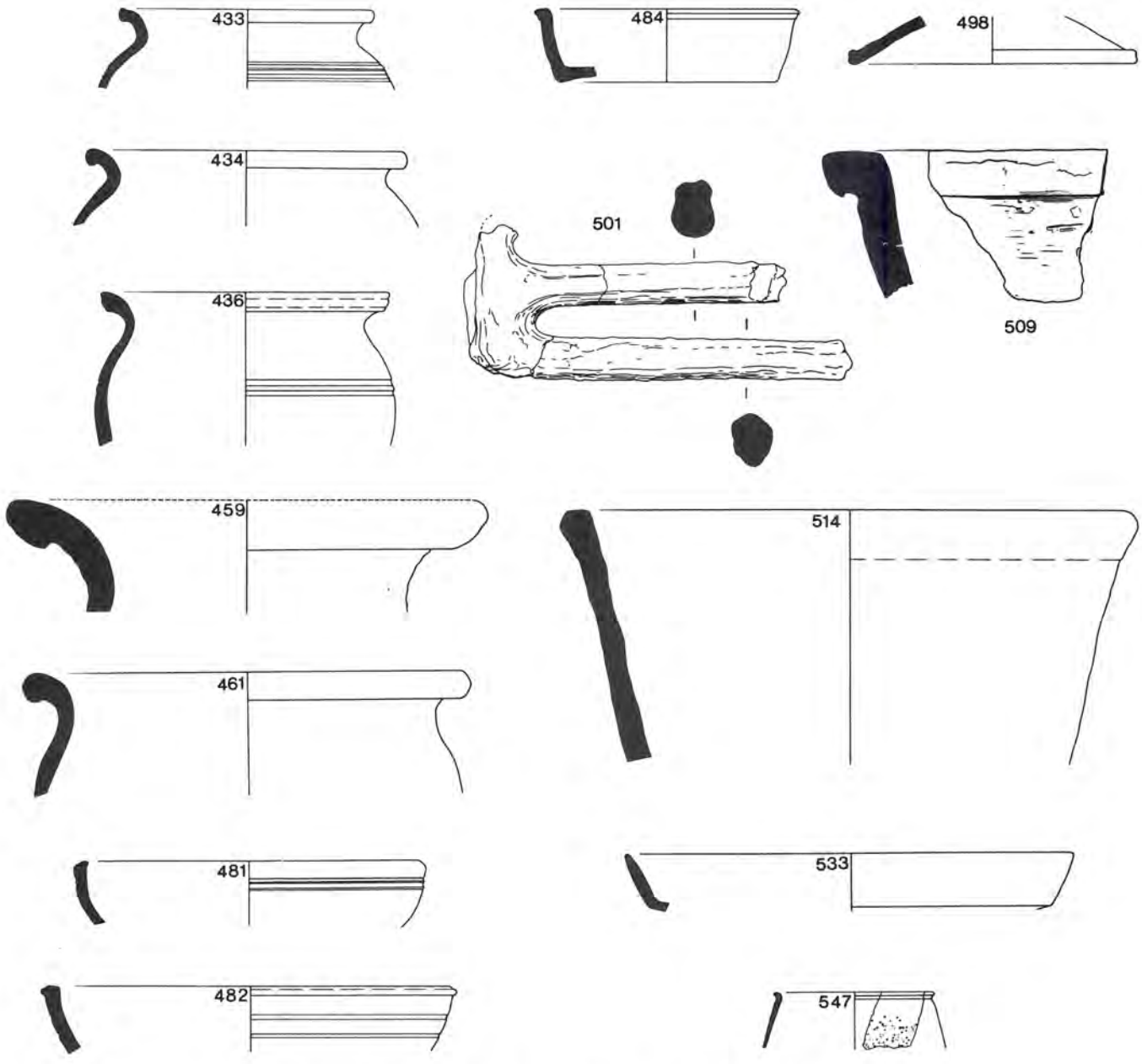


Figure 48. Pottery from the dated groups – Building 4, Layers 4–5

(limestone blocks), and it is uncertain if the pottery in it is from above, below or in-between the blocks. For safety, Layer 7 is therefore considered with the next chronological, essentially 3rd century, group (below). Two dated samian ware vessels from Layer 17 were *c* AD 100–125, and *c* AD 140–145 respectively. Layers 15 and 16 contained one samian ware vessel dated *c* AD 130–155, together with one of the early 2nd century, two of early Antonine, and twelve of Antonine date. Layers 10/11 contained six Antonine vessels, one dated *c* AD 160–190. Layers 9 and 8 included fragments of up to 60 samian ware vessels, mostly of Antonine date with stamped and decorated pieces dating to *c* AD 130–160, 140–170, 150–185, and 160–190. Layer 15 contained a fragment of a form 38, and layer 9 one of a form 45. Layer 8 produced three coins, one of Antonine Pius, one of Faustina and one of Trajan. A mortarium from F184 below the yard surfaces is dated 140–200 (M64).

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM C L8–17 (FIGS 49–50)

LNVGW	9,19,29–30,68,83,101
LNVCC	126,129,134,140,148,204,216,225–6, 228–9,283

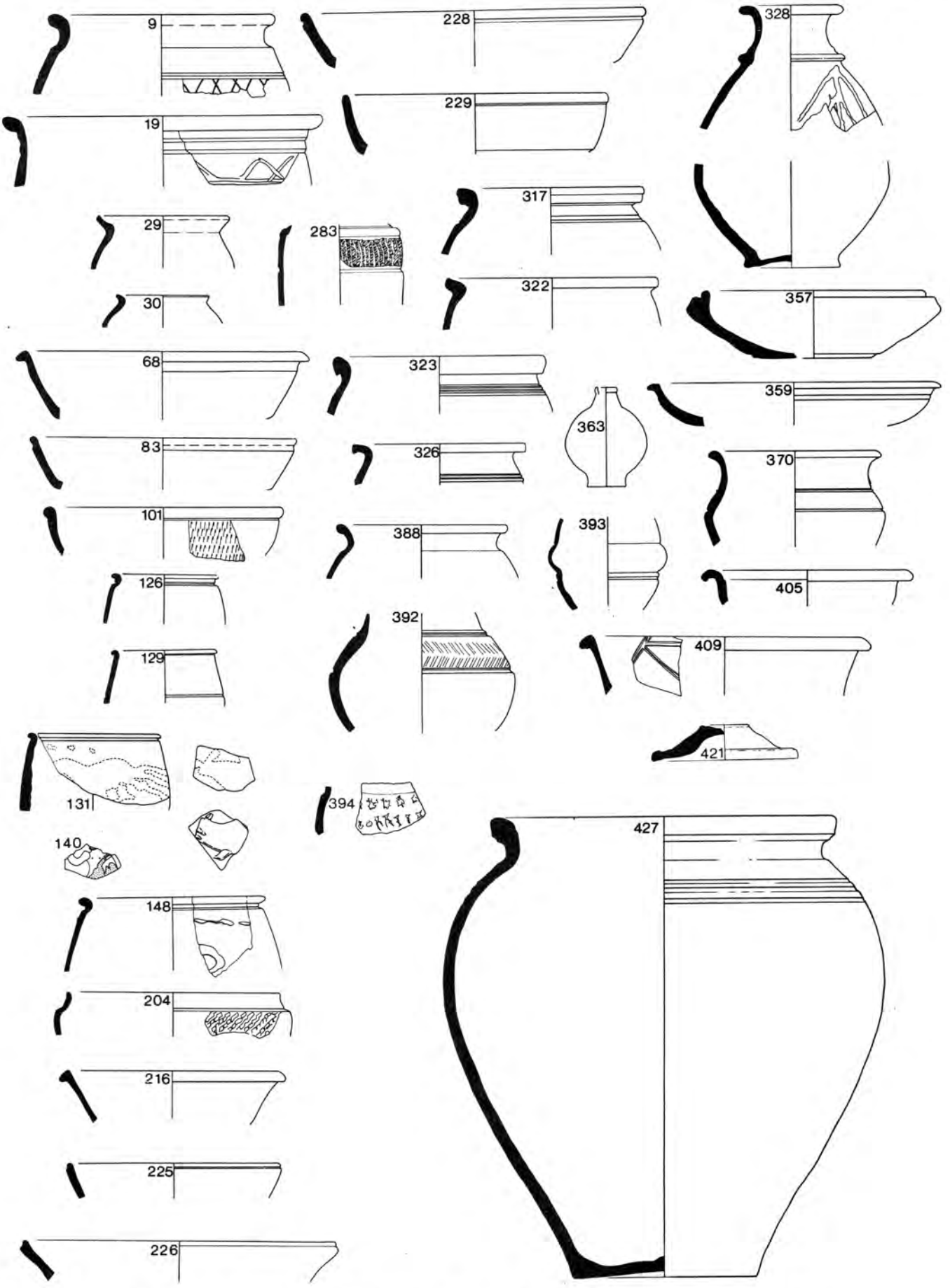


Figure 49. Pottery from the dated groups – Courtyard between Buildings 3 and 4, layers 8–17

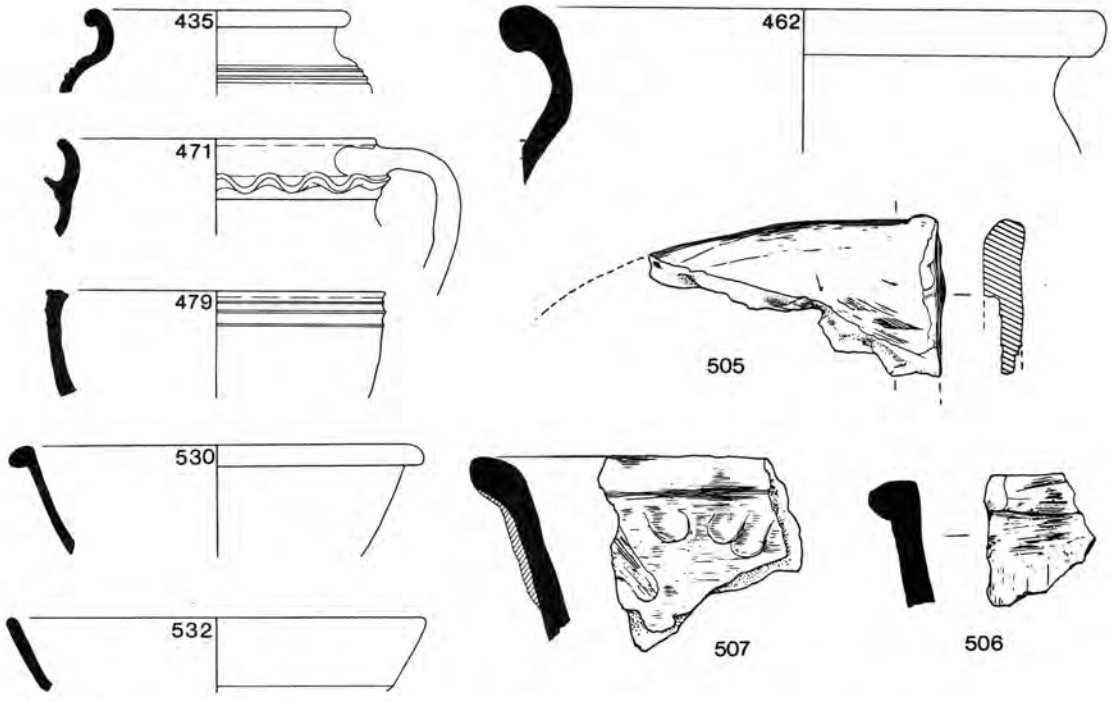


Figure 50. Pottery from the dated groups – Courtyard between Buildings 3 and 4, layers 8–17

CREAM	317,322–3,326,328,357,359,363
GREY	370,388,392–4,405,409,421
RSG	427,435,462,471,479,505–7
BB2	530,532
MORTARIUM	64 (Fig 79)

3. From the late 2nd/early 3rd to the late 3rd centuries

The cessation of regular imports of new samian ware and the end of the practice of stamping mortaria around the turn of the 2nd century means that the 3rd century does not have two of the previously available methods for dating layers independently and closely. There is strong evidence for the continued use of samian ware well into the 3rd century on at least one Lower Nene Valley site (Orton Hall Farm: Perrin 1996, 189) but, of course, such vessels were produced much earlier than the layers in which they occur. Mortaria are still useful, but standard types are now much more common, and the range and developments are now considerably less, with changes occurring far more infrequently. Some evidence is provided by coins, but the other types of pottery themselves have to be used much more. This is perfectly feasible, as Lower Nene Valley pottery now occurs in considerable numbers in well-dated contexts elsewhere in the province. The possibility of circular arguments is very apparent, however.

The main layers which are thought to relate to late 2nd/early 3rd to the late 4th century are the *Courtyard between Buildings 3 and 4, Layers 3 to 7* inclusive, *Building 3, Layers 3–5* and *Building 1, Pit F8.*

A coin of Caracella (*c* AD 218–222) was found between Courtyard layers 3 and 4, and though the degree of wear is unknown, it is generally considered that the type would not have been of value and in circulation long after the middle of the 3rd century. Three mortaria from Layers 5 and 7 (including M88), were of 3rd-century date.

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM C L3–7 (FIG 51)

LNVGW	33,35,53,95
LNVCC	135,149,155,161,164,192,195,218, 221
CREAM	324
RSG	437,486
RHENISH	545
MORTARIUM	88 (Fig 80)

Building 3, Layers 3 and 4 contained four mortaria, one dated *c* AD 100–145 (M59), one of 2nd-century date (M72), one dated *c* AD 170–230 (M57) and one of 3rd-century date. Apparently associated with Building 3 were twelve coins found stuck together in two groups of seven and five respectively. These were interpreted as a small hoard, but the term is misleading in that they may not have been deliberately buried, but may represent the casual loss of a purse. They were found 'on the south-west lip of Wall Trench B', at a depth below topsoil

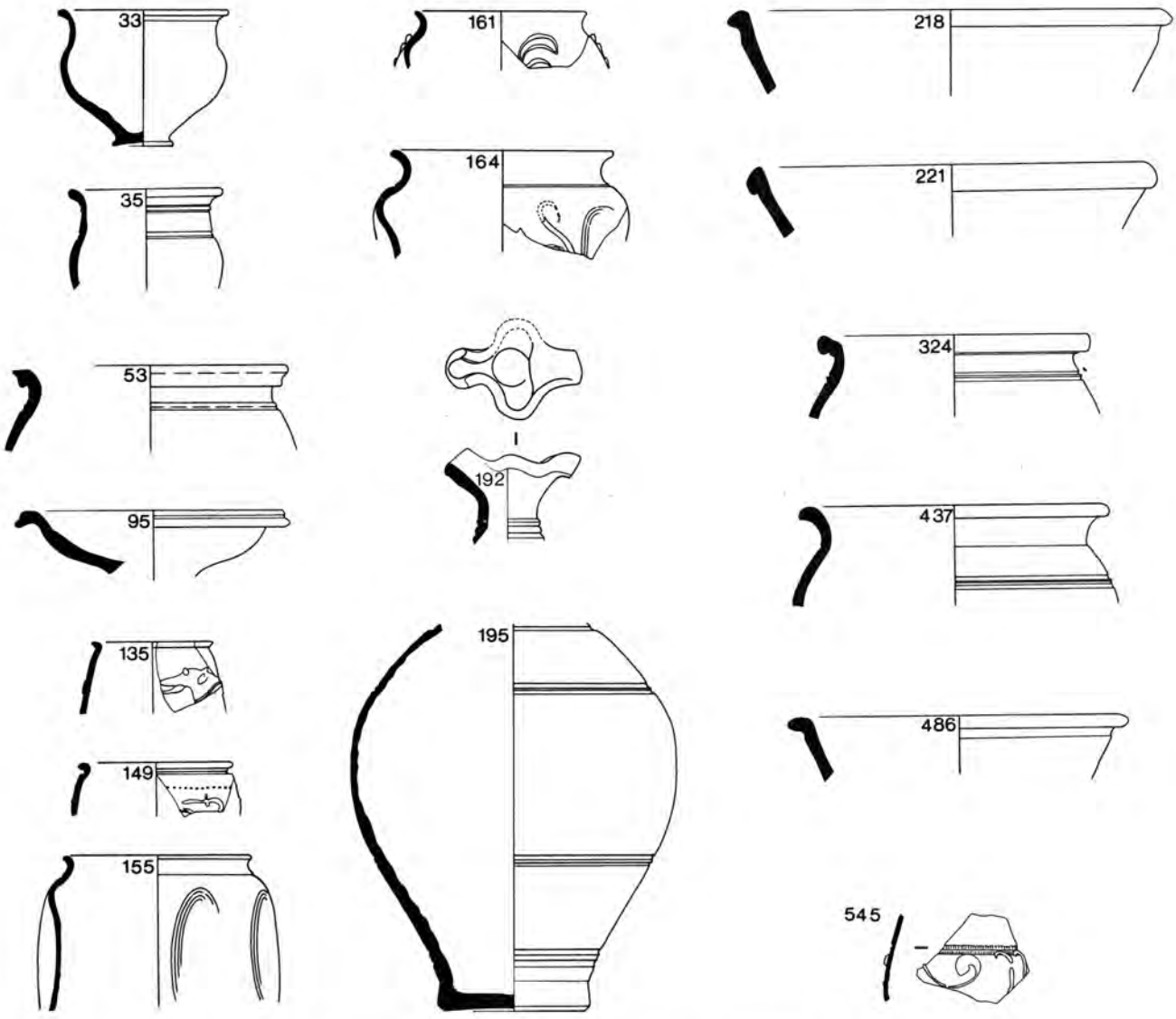


Figure 51. Pottery from the dated groups – Courtyard between Buildings 3 and 4, layers 3–7

which would place them on a level with Layer 3, which, together with Layers 4 and 5, were considered by the excavator to be 'pre-building levels'. In theory, the group could have been buried or lost before, at the same time as, or after the Wall Trench was inserted, and therefore could be contemporary with, immediately post-date, or post-date by some time the pre-building levels. The coins spanned the period *c* AD 211–238. Four were dated *c* AD 222–235, five *c* AD 235–238, with the others dating to *c* AD 211–17, 216–222, and 226–235 respectively. All, as with the coin in courtyard Layers 3/4, were of types which would not have been of value, and therefore were not in circulation, much after the middle of the 3rd century, though, as before, the degree of wear is unknown. It is not misleading, therefore, to consider Building 3, Layers 3–5 as being of first half of 3rd-century date.

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM B3 L3–5 (FIG 52)

LNVGW	31,34,70,74,77
LNVCC	132,147,209,222–4,270,307
LONDON	360
GREY	410
RSG	439,510,512
BB2	531
MORTARIA	57,59,72 (Fig 79)

Building 1, Pit F8, has no independent dating evidence except for mortaria dated to *c* AD 160–210 (M84), 3rd (M13) and 3rd/4th-centuries. The pottery contains vessels of a distinctly later character to those in previous groups and, as a whole, the deposit probably relates to around the middle, possibly up to the late 3rd century.

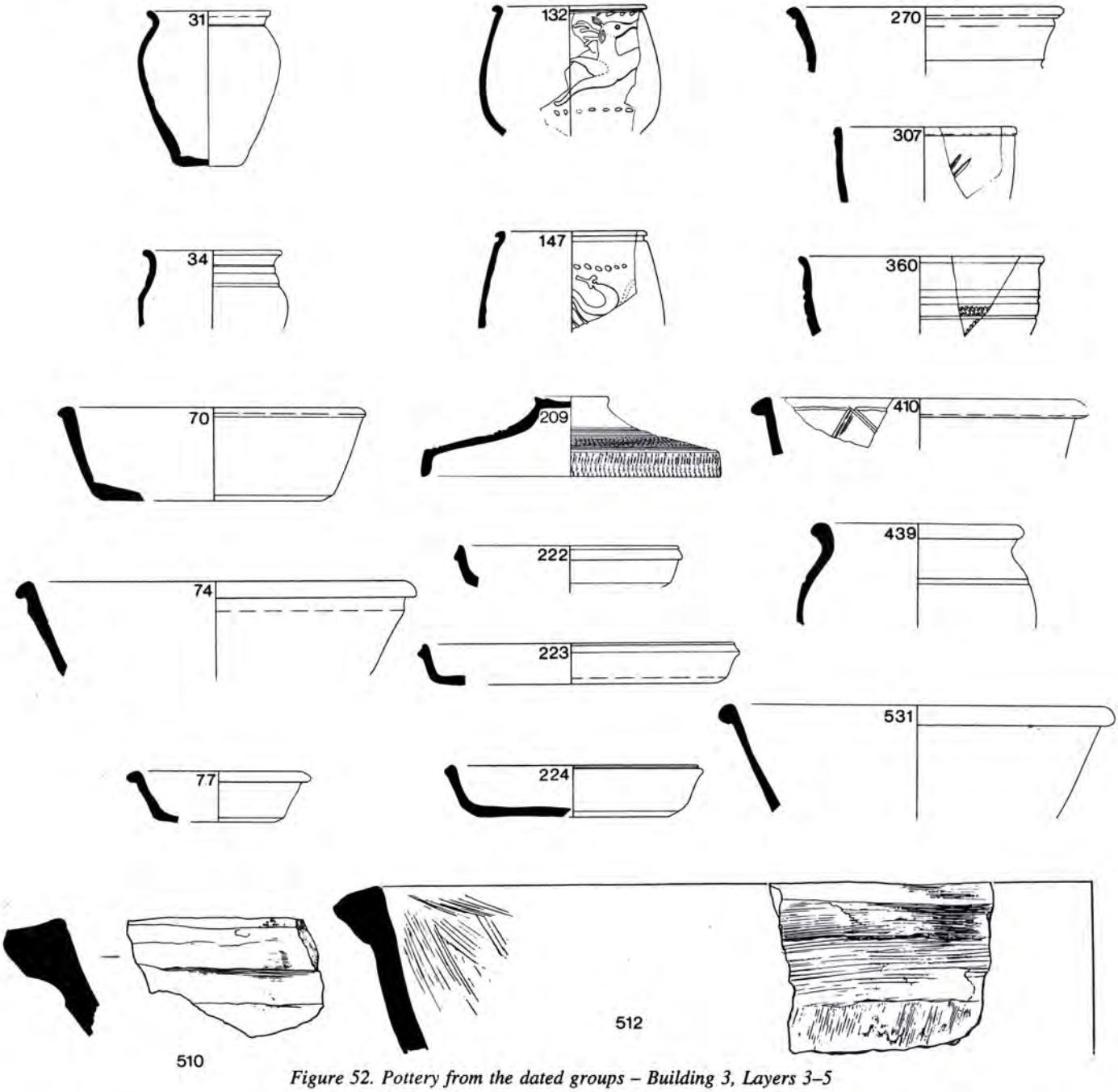


Figure 52. Pottery from the dated groups – Building 3, Layers 3–5

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM B1 F8 (FIG 53)

LNVGW	36,38,54,92,108
LNVCC	136,151,165–6,169,188,208,219,253
CREAM	315–16,329,333
RSG	438,440–2,485,499
MORTARIA	13,84 (Figs 77 and 80)

4. The late 3rd and 4th centuries

In most cases, the layers representing this period are the latest on the site, and are directly under the topsoil. Most have been considerably disturbed by ploughing, and contain coins and pottery dating up to the late 4th century. The earlier elements can only be suggested by comparing the material with that from securely dated later 4th-century layers noted below.

The best groups of layers containing pottery dating from the later 3rd century are *Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90* and *Building 9, the 'Bases' Room*

The emphasis of F90 is obviously on the second half of the 4th century, but much of its contents do relate to the first half of the 4th century. F90 also contained mortaria dated *c* AD 230–350 (M30), late 3rd-4th century (M44) and 4th century (M52), possibly *c* AD 350–400.

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM B6/7 F90 (FIG 54)

LNVGW	81

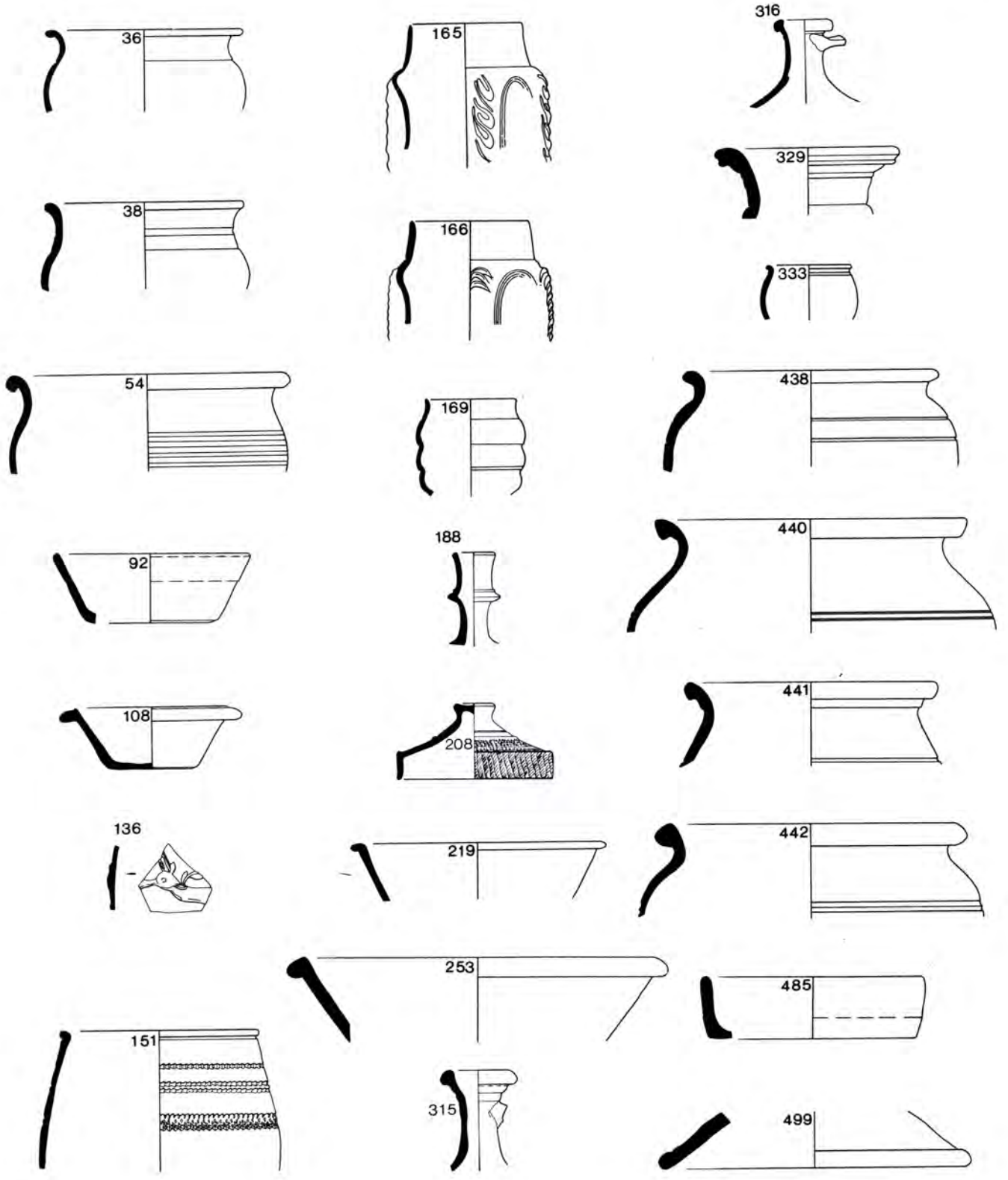


Figure 53. Pottery from the dated groups – Building 1, Pit F8

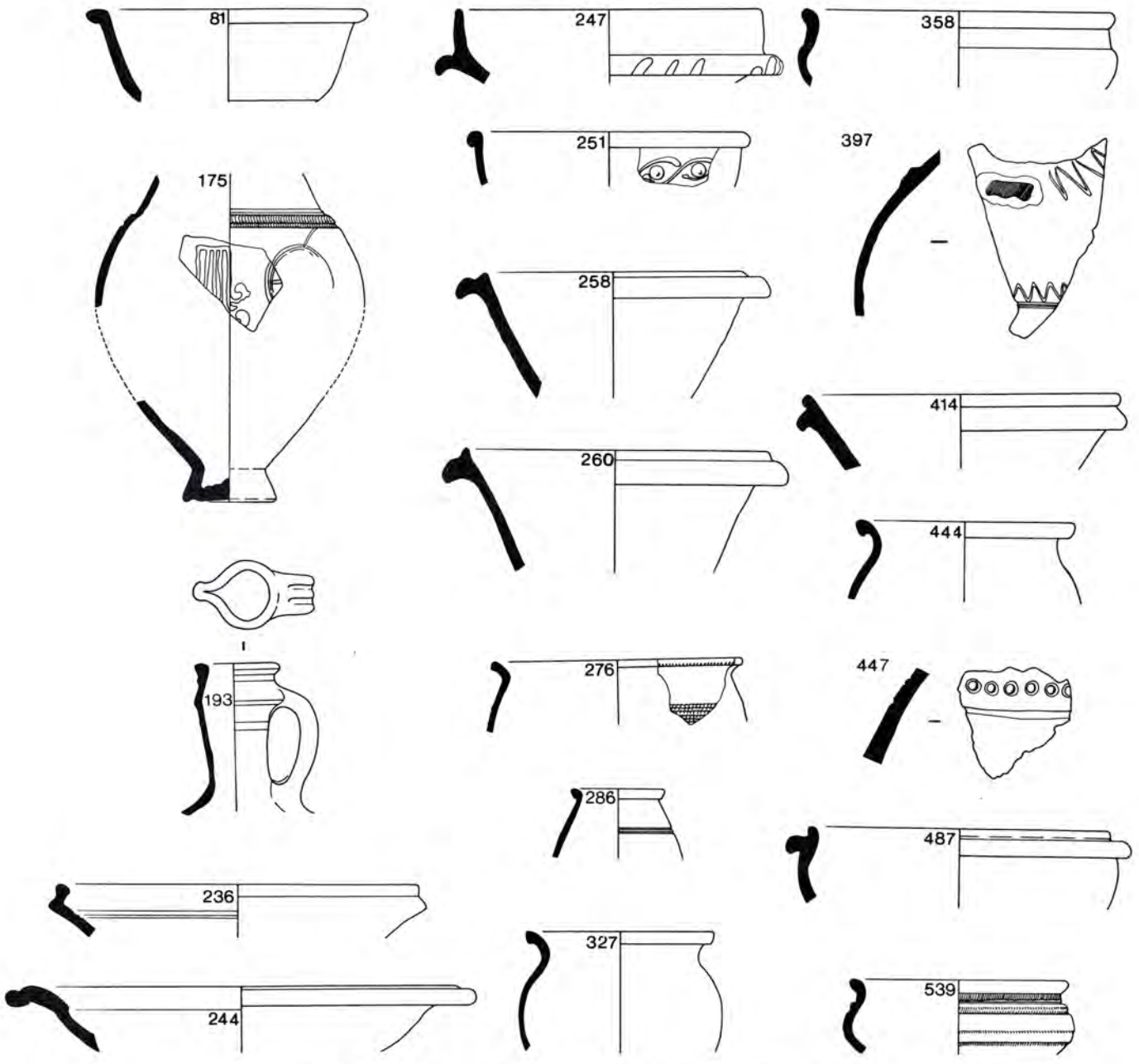


Figure 54. Pottery from the dated groups – Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90

LNVCC	175,193,236,244,247,251,258,260, 276, 286
CREAM	327,358
GREY	397,414
RSG	444,447,487
OXCC	539
MORTARIA	30,44,52 (Fig 78)

The occupation layers of Building 9, specifically the 'Bases' Room, contained well over 100 coins which fell broadly into three periods, with 18 dated to *c* AD 260–280+, 43 *c* AD 310–350, and 58 to *c* AD 350–380+. 14 of the late 3rd-century coins represented the period within a few years either side of *c* AD 270. They occurred in the occupation layers, the latest floors and the destruction layers, but were also the only coins in Pits F300, 306, and 326. Pit F294 contained five coins, four of the period and one of *c* AD 241–48. The other pits and features, F296, F299, F300, F312, F316, and F326 lie on or cut through the later floor level of the Bases Room, and contained coins dated between *c* AD 305–350, except for Pit F297, cutting Hearth F316, which had seven coins of *c* AD 353+, one of *c* AD 351+, one of *c* AD 348–50, and 1 of *c* AD 335+. The later period was represented by six coins dated post *c* AD 379 from the latest floor and the destruction layers

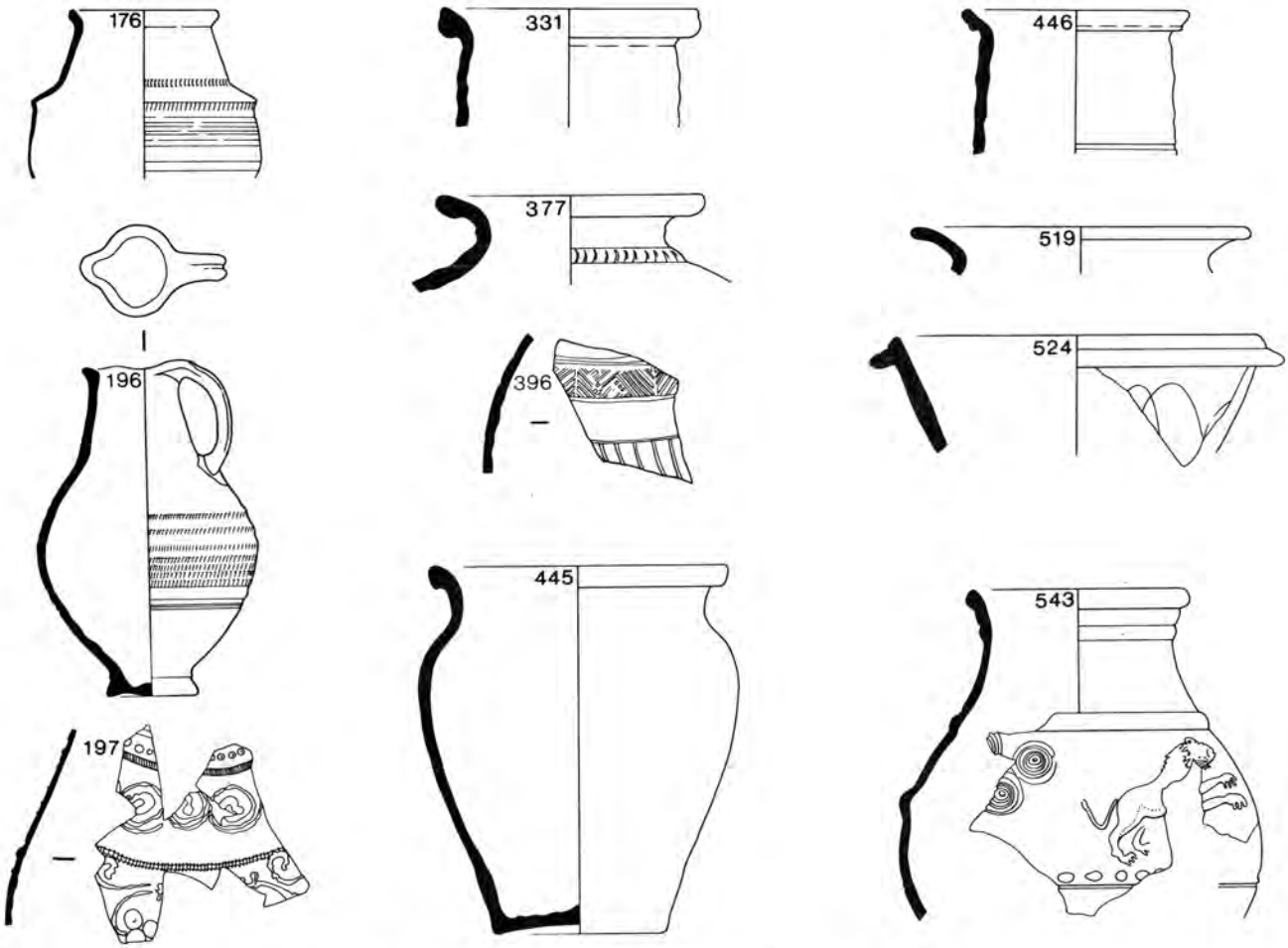


Figure 55. Pottery from the dated groups – Building 9, Bases Room

above it, which also contained 24 coins dated *c* AD 353+, 15 of *c* AD 364–75, three of *c* AD 351+ and two dated post *c* AD 360.

It is worth noting that the apparent gap in the coin record for the period *c* AD 280–310. This probably reflects the higher value of the coins minted following re-organisations of Diocletian, which also drastically reduced the value of earlier coins, rather than a gap in occupation during that time. The lack of Carausian coins is interesting, however.

ILLUSTRATED POTTERY FROM THE B9 'BASES' ROOM (FIG 55)

LNVCC	176,196–7
CREAM	331
GREY	377,396
RSG	445–6
BB1	519,524
HADHAM	543

The Wares

Lower Nene Valley Grey Ware (LNVGW)(Figs 56–9)

The occurrence of LNVGW in Pit F265 and the Normangate Field Pit Groups is proof that this branch of the industry started in, or had become established by, the second quarter of the 2nd century, probably in direct response to the growth of *Durobrivae*, and the post-drainage development of its agricultural hinterland, the Fens, in the Hadrianic period.

Some of the vessels forms from Pit F265, and similar groups, are rather unusual (eg Jar 1), and perhaps more akin to vessels produced at other kiln sites, like Ecton and Mears Ashby, further up the Nene (Johnston 1969, fig 7; fig 6, 41a and 42, respectively). The fabric is not dissimilar to that of definite products of the Lower Nene Valley industry, however, so the vessel(s) are likely to be of Lower Nene Valley origin, though possibly made by potters who migrated from the Upper Nene area. It should be noted at this point, however, that the actual location of these first Lower Nene Valley kilns, and the range of their products is as yet unknown, and that therefore these vessels may have been made at a place removed from what became the later centre around Water Newton, Sibson, Stibbington and Chesterton. The kiln discovered at Sulehay, near Yarwell (Hadman and Upex, 1975, 16f) which included LNVGW amongst its products, may have been part of, and suggests the presence of, a production centre some miles to the west of *Durobrivae*.

The range of vessel forms in Pit F265 is much less than that represented in the pit groups at Normangate Field, where there were many other varieties of dishes, bowls and jars. Some of these types in fact appear in later contexts at Chesterton (Fig 57, 5–6 and 21–28; Fig 59, 62–65,67), showing that they survived in use or production for a number of years, having first made their appearance some years before.

It is not easy to find and quote direct parallels or antecedents for most of these and the other suspected early types from other Chesterton contexts. An obvious area for influence already referred to would have been the Middle and Upper Nene Valley kiln sites which were many and widespread, but little of the products of these has been published in full (Johnston *op cit*). There are certain general similarities between dish 61 and vessels at Brixworth (Woods 1970, fig 8,1 and 6), but none is really a proper antecedent. It is probably correct to think of these types as with others produced elsewhere at the same period, as having derived from 'belgic' and 'gallo-belgic' types of dish, beakers and jars, though it is not as yet possible to trace the actual course taken and stages of development.

Not all of the vessel types in Pit F265 and at Normangate Field continued beyond the middle of the 2nd century. The second half, and, more specifically, the third quarter of this century was probably characterised by much innovation and change. The trend, with all classes, was towards a standard easily-produced range, away from moulded and angular profiles and decorated types to simpler undecorated forms.

By the early 3rd century the range of Lower Nene Valley grey wares had become standardised, with little variation in the basic form of dish, bowl, jar, wide-mouthed jar, flagon and so on. Kilns producing them have been excavated at Sibson and Stibbington, and many more obviously await discovery and excavation.

At the end of the 3rd, or early in the 4th, century the production of LNVGW apparently ceases and subsequently all the types previously made in grey ware occur in LNVCC. The types of vessels produced in the last kilns firing LNVGW are known to some extent, for example Stibbington Kiln G (forthcoming) and from the succeeding colour-coated wares, but more kilns and deposits of the change-over period need to be examined before the exact range can be identified.

LNVGW in its proper form has a white or light grey fabric with dark grey surfaces, probably created by fuming (or smoking) the outer surface towards the end of the firing process. There can, however, not surprisingly, be considerable variation in colour, and many vessels are in fact the same shade of grey all the way through. In most cases the form of these identifies them as differently-fired LNVGW, but it is often difficult to decide if a vessel is LNVGW or not, if the form is slightly unusual. Some of the vessels included in the grey ware section, therefore, may in fact be LNVGW (Fig 70, 387–89, 391, 402). Future research will hopefully reduce the number of uncertainties. Some of the LNVGW appears to have been slipped and such vessels can be difficult to distinguish from grey-coloured LNVCC (see Perrin 1996, 118–19).

The pottery from the Chesterton excavations did not contain a complete cross-section of all known LNVGW types, and some classes, such as flagons, strainers, and narrow-mouthed jars cannot therefore be discussed at all, or in any great depth, here.

Jars

The changes from diversity to standardisation which was a feature of the early development of the Lower Nene Valley industry is clearly seen in relation to the manufacture of jars. Pit F265, and other layers, provide some idea of the earliest jars produced in LNVGW, and the range is augmented by other vessels from early groups in Normangate Field, and pottery from elsewhere (Howe *et al*, 1980, fig 1.1). Most of these early vessels have moulded or carinated profiles with cordons, grooves and decorated zones. As noted above, the antecedents of these are a little difficult to recognise, but the Lower Nene Valley industry was soon making its own exclusive types,

the most recognisable of which is the jar with 'slashed' cordon. It is thought that this and the other early types (1–8,16–17,26–28) probably declined in production after the middle of the 2nd century, and were gradually replaced by vessels with smoother profiles, and almost no decoration, except for shoulder or neck grooves or burnishing (9–10,18–20). These would have been the main types in the last quarter of the 2nd century, and further standardisation resulted in the main 3rd-century range of jars (40–46) in which wide-mouthed varieties provided an increasing percentage of the total produced. Future research will, hopefully, add to the range of early types, and refine the dating of the stages towards standardisation.

JARS WITH BARBOTINE DECORATION

Barbotine decoration is common on jars and beakers from the middle of the 1st century, occurring on a whole range of different vessel types and continuing into the later 2nd century (eg Frere 1972, figs 101,64; 103,130–7; 112,424–8; 116,598–604; 123,837–9; 131,1047–1049; Tyres 1978; Green 1978). The particular form of each type is crucial when considering date, origin and development. The rim form of Jar 1 and its close parallel at Normangate Field (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 4,17) cannot be easily linked with any of those on the other vessel types, and, as noted, above, is probably best seen as a derivative of 'belgic' and 'gallo-belgic' forms (cf Hawkes and Hull 1947, pl LV, types 82–4,112). At Brixworth (Woods 1970, 24) it was suggested that the shape of the barbotine-dot panels might be chronologically significant, with the lozenge shape not appearing until well into the Hadrianic period, and the rectangular shape being current by the end of the Trajanic period. Mr P. Tyres has also noted this possibility (*op cit*, 62), suggesting that on 'poppy-head' beakers, lozenge patterns were more common during the mid and late 2nd century. The mixture of patterns on vessel 1 would perhaps suggest that the type was current during a possible 'overlap' period between the two styles. The date assigned to Pit F265 would certainly be in keeping with this idea. Vessel 2 with only lozenge-shaped decoration may therefore be of later date, possibly in the second half of the 2nd century.

1. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. Alternate rectangular and lozenge barbotine-dot decoration. CH 8925. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century. A near-identical vessel occurred in one of the Normangate Field Pit Groups (*op cit* fig 4,17).
2. CR20//19/18/19//20. Burnished surfaces. Lozenge barbotine-dot decoration. CH 8598. Grid R. F273. A similar vessel occurred in one of the Normangate Field pit groups (*op cit* fig 4,18).

JARS WITH BURNISHED DECORATION

Examples of these jars occurred in the Normangate Field pit groups showing that, as with the 'slashed' cordon jars, they were in production before the middle of the 2nd century. It is thought, however, that they are unlikely to have remained in production and use for very long beyond the middle of the 2nd century. The other two, with simpler rims and profiles, were not represented in the pit groups. There may be a typological link between these vessels and Black-burnished ware types, the influence of which is perhaps more noticeable with dishes and bowls (p 84). These jars (9–10) are likely to be examples of the types of vessels which succeeded the 'slashed' cordon and vertically burnished jars in the mid to late Antonine period.

3. CR15+20/18/15+20. Lightly burnished surfaces. CH 8928. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
4. CR19/15+18/19. Smoothed surfaces. CH 8902. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
5. CR 19. Burnished rim, neck, and decoration. CH 6390. Building 4, Layer 5. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
6. CR20/19/20. Burnished rim and decoration. CH 6265. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
7. CR21/18/21. Burnished. Lattice decoration. CH 9004. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
8. CR19/18/19. Burnished rim, neck, shoulder and decoration. CH 6263. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
9. CR19/18/19. Burnished rim, neck, shoulder and decoration. CH 7513. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
10. CR19+20/18/19+20. Burnished rim, shoulder and decoration. CH 7982. Building 8, Layer 2.

SMALL JARS WITH BURNISHED DECORATION

Small jars like 11–15 are difficult to date, because they are less liable to typological change than their larger counterparts. The decoration of most of these vessels, however, is close to jars 9–10 and it is likely that they were mainly made and used in the second and third quarters of the 2nd century. Small undecorated jars with different rims, 29–32 are probably their successors later in the 2nd century.

11. CR15+19/18/15+19. Lightly burnished. CH 6256. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
12. CR15+20/18/15+20. Lightly burnished. CH 5239. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
13. CR19+21/18+26/19+21. Decoration almost incised. CH 7059. Testhole 32, F181.
14. CR20/18/20. Lightly burnished surfaces and decoration. CH 4905. Building 4, Layer 2.
15. CR20/18/20. Burnished externally and decoration. CH 6255. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.

JARS WITH BURNISHED DECORATION ON THE SHOULDER

Jars of this type are uncommon. None occurred in either of the Normangate Field pit groups, or F265, though the moulded profile suggested by 17 appears to have more in common with vessels of the first half of the 2nd century rather than later. The rim form in fact is close to 'native bowls' noted at Colchester (Hawkes and Hull 1947, form 250; 266, fig 55,2–7). Lid-seating is not a regular feature of the Lower Nene Valley's potters' repertoire (but see Sulehay, Hadman and Upex 1975, fig 7,3) and 318–21

below (Fig 66), and is accordingly difficult to date. Lid-seated jars in other fabrics are the commonest type from the 1st to 2nd centuries on Upper Nene sites, for example Brixworth (Woods 1970, 26–9, figs 25–30). These vessels from Chesterton may be one of the earlier LNVGW types, though similar vessels were not present in the Normangate Field and F265 pit groups.

16. CR19. Burnished surfaces. CH 6244. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
17. CR20/21/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 344, 355, 1852. Building 2, Testhole 6, and F41.
18. CR18+19/26/18+19. Burnished surfaces. CH 3218. Building 3, Coal Level, Layer 3. This vessel, though not lid-seated, appears to be related to 16 and 17 above, and may be a later development, perhaps dating to the second half of the 2nd century. The context is of late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century date.

Jars with burnished decoration on the neck

These two vessels are the LNVGW equivalent of 373–6 (Fig 67), which, as noted above, are well-attested further up the Nene at sites such as Brixworth (Woods *op cit*, 21, fig 21,133–5) dating into the 2nd century. A possible LNVGW example occurred in one of the Normangate Field pit groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 4,36). They were probably first made in LNVGW around the early Antonine period and appear to last throughout the rest of the 2nd century and possibly into the 3rd, gradually developing a smoother profile. A group of pottery from a ditch at Fengate (Hayes 1978) dated in the article to around AD 150 but now considered to be twenty years later (Hayes 1984) shows later 2nd-century examples of the type (*op cit*, fig 126,3,5–6) and by the 3rd century the more common form is as 41 below. Most 3rd-century examples are undecorated (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 1,10).

19. CR18. Burnished rim, externally (in 'bands') and decoration. CH 6597. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
20. CR20/18/20. Lightly burnished rim, externally (in 'bands') and decoration. CH 6198. Building 6/7, Burial 10.

Jars with 'slashed' cordons

These jars with 'slashed' cordon decoration appear to be a distinct Lower Nene Valley type. It is difficult to find direct antecedents for them, and they are perhaps best seen as a fusing of the two separate 'gallo-belgic' or 'belgic' ceramic traditions of vessels with moulded profiles including cordons (cf Hawkes and Hull 1947, pl LV types 82–85) and incised, stabbed, or combed decoration. A number of grey jars of generally similar type occurred at Verulamium (Frere 1972, figs 104,149–156 and 112,431–442) in contexts of the Flavian period and of the first quarter of the 2nd century.

Vessels can have one or more decorated cordons, but it is not possible at the moment to say if this is of chronological significance. Vessels with two cordons were apparently made in large numbers in the Sulehay kiln (Hadman and Upex 1975, fig 7,9) which might be in part of a complex of early Lower Nene Valley kilns, and, examples occurred in one of the Normangate Field pit groups (*op cit*, fig 6,86), most with two cordons.

It is obvious that jars with 'slashed' cordons were first produced in the second quarter of the 2nd century; the fact that at Chesterton the first dated groups in which they appear are of the second half of the 2nd century is merely chance. The type seems to have continued in use well into the second half of the 2nd century, perhaps undergoing slight typological changes.

21. CR20/18/20. Burnished externally. CH 5238. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
22. CR19/18/19. CH 1698–9, 1858. Building 2, Layer 4.
23. CR21/18/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 336. Testhole 6, Layer 2.
24. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 8678. Building 9, Layer 3. The context is of late 3rd to 4th century date.
25. CR19+20/18/19+20. Burnished externally. CH 5287. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.

Undecorated cordoned jars

These vessels probably had a similar production life to 'slashed' cordon jars.

26. CR15+19/20/15+19. Burnished surfaces. CH 6249. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
27. CR20+21/18/20+21. Burnished surfaces. CH 1359. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
28. CR20/18/20. Burnished in places externally. CH 1586. Building 2, Layer 3.

Small, undecorated jars

Small undecorated jars are often more difficult to date than their decorated counterparts (11–15) because they undergo little typological development and do not even have a particular style of decoration to suggest possible periods. There was probably always a need for small jars and their function might perhaps have caused them to have a longer life than usual. At the moment, only the particular context can date the vessel, and not *vice- versa*.

29. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 7679. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
30. CR20+21/5/20+21. Burnished surfaces. CH 7680. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
31. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 6242. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
32. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 6828, 6831. Building 3. Layers 4–5. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

Jars with tall, often grooved, necks

These jars are similar in form to types made in the Upper and Middle Nene Valley from the 1st to the 3rd centuries (cf Woods 1970, fig 18,91–117) but did not occur in either of the Normangate Field pit groups or F265, and therefore were probably first made in the Lower Nene Valley around the middle of the 2nd century, replacing earlier jar types, and becoming with 50–54 and 56, the main later 2nd-century types. Examples occurred in the

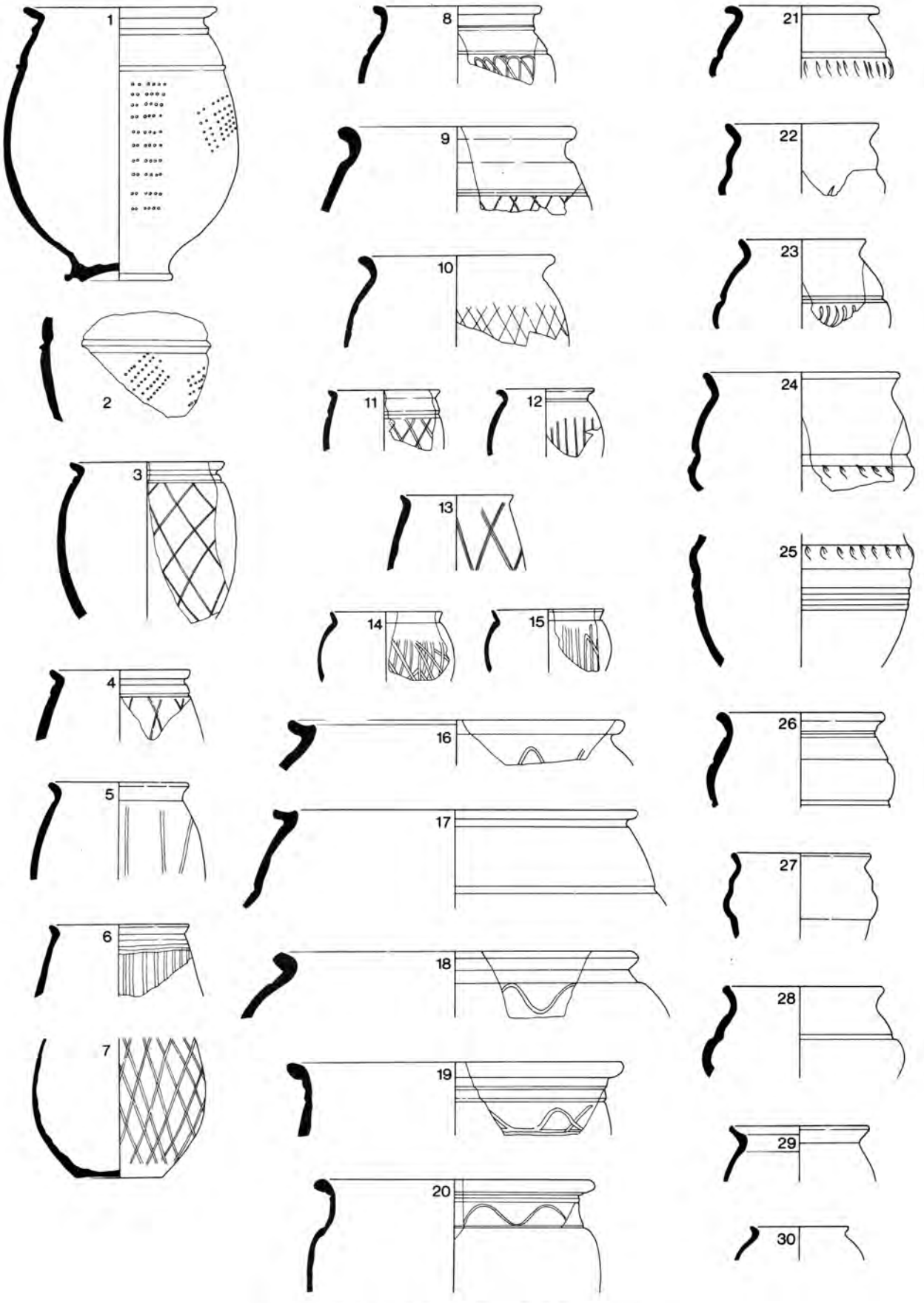


Figure 56. Pottery - Lower Nene Valley grey ware

Fengate group (Hayes 1978, fig 6,2). They continued as the most common small- to medium-sized jar form throughout the 3rd century, being made in considerable numbers at kiln sites like Waternewton (below), Sibson and Stibbington (Hartley 1960b, fig 3,4; Howe *et al*, 1980, fig 1,3–4).

33. CR18+19/19/18+19. Burnished externally. CH 7609, 7629. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
34. CR21/18/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 2629. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
35. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 6557. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
36. CR21/17/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 949. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
37. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 8501. Grid R.
38. CR20/8/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 935. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
39. CR10/18/10. Burnished surfaces. CH 3676. Building 1, Layer 3.
40. CR19. Burnished surfaces. CH 6251. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.

LARGE, WIDE-MOUTHED JARS

Vessels 41–46 provide a good idea of the range of larger jars or bowls made in LNVGW. Most are probably of 3rd-century date, but the group from Fengate (Hayes 1978, fig 126,3,5–6) shows that large jars or bowls, similar to 41 but decorated, were made in the later 2nd century. The essentially neckless types, 43 and 45, are probably all 3rd century in date. These wide-mouthed jars were copied in LNVCC, when the production of LNVGW ceased (Fig 65, 281–2 below).

41. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 1848. Building 2, F41.
42. CR19+20/26/19+20. Burnished surfaces. CH 3223. Building 3, Coal Level, Layer 3. Probably late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
43. CR18+20/18+19/18+20. Burnished externally. CH 8260. Grid Q.
44. CR18+19/18/18+19. Lightly burnished surfaces. Poorly impressed rouletting on shoulder. CH 1985. Building 4,Layer 2.
45. CR19/18/19. Burnished surfaces. CH 216. Grid K.
46. CR20/10/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 7195. Testhole 43.

OTHER JARS

Vessels 47–56 illustrate adequately the range of taller, narrower-necked jars which were made in LNVGW, in many cases alongside the smaller jars, and wider-mouthed varieties. Types 50–54 and 56 were probably first made in the later 2nd century, superseding some of the earlier more elaborate types of jars, and continued in production throughout the 3rd century. They were probably never as common as the wider-mouthed varieties but were still being made when the grey ware industry ended, as LNVCC examples are known.

47. CR20. Burnished surfaces. CH 5645. Buildings 6/7, F90. Late 3rd and 4th centuries.
48. CR20/15+26/20. CH 1855. Building 2, F41. Small jars of this type are uncommon.
49. CR18+19/21/18+19. Burnished externally. CH 6425. Building 4, Layer 4. The shoulder grooves on this vessel perhaps relate it more to earlier types of jar. The context suggests a mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century date.
50. CR17+21/26/17+21. CH 8258. Grid Q.
51. CR19+20/18+20/19+20. Burnished surfaces. CH 4376. Courtyard, Layer 2.
52. CR20/18/20. CH 8497, 8569. Grid R.
53. CR19. Lightly burnished surfaces. CH 6526. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
54. CR20/15+19/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 933. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
55. CR15+19/26/15+19. Lightly burnished surfaces. CH 5010. Building 4, Layer 3.
56. CR20/18/20. CH 8191. Grid Q.

NARROW-MOUTHED JARS

The Chesterton contexts did not contain many narrow-mouthed jars, and discussion is therefore difficult. Most seem to be of 3rd-century date, and were replaced by LNVCC varieties when the LNVGW production ceased. Lids to fit these jars are very rare.

57. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces and wavy line decoration on neck. CH 3747. Building 1, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
58. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 7352. Grid R, Testhole 75, Pit F162.

JAR WITH FRILLED NECK

An uncommon, but easily recognisable type. No real evidence as to date and development is available at the moment.

59. CR18+19/26/18+19. Smoothed surfaces. CH 8137. Grid P.

JAR WITH IMPRESSED/STAMPED DECORATION

60. CR20/26/20. Lightly burnished externally. Linear, roller-stamped decoration, and incised circles. CH 1886–1888. Testhole 20, Layer 2. The decoration on this vessel is closest to that found on 'London-type' wares and can, in fact, be paralleled on vessels of 'London-ware' type from Colchester, Scole, West Stow (Rodwell 1978, figs 7:10,72–4; 7:12,83–4; 7:13,101; 7:14,117 and 7:18, 133. It is interesting to find this on a LNVGW jar suggesting links between 'London-type' ware and LNVGW also noted in connection with other vessels (Fig 59,93,94,99). The context of the vessel provides no clue as to date.

Dishes and Bowls

The development of dishes and bowls also illustrates clearly the way in which the first few decades of LNVGW production was characterised by innovation and change, with a gradual, overall trend towards a standard range of vessels, finally reached by the early 3rd century. Thereafter the basic types remained unaltered until LNVGW was no longer produced. The Chesterton pottery provides a good cross-section of the variety of vessels, though it is likely that there are many others which are not represented. Future excavation and research will hopefully fill any lacunae.

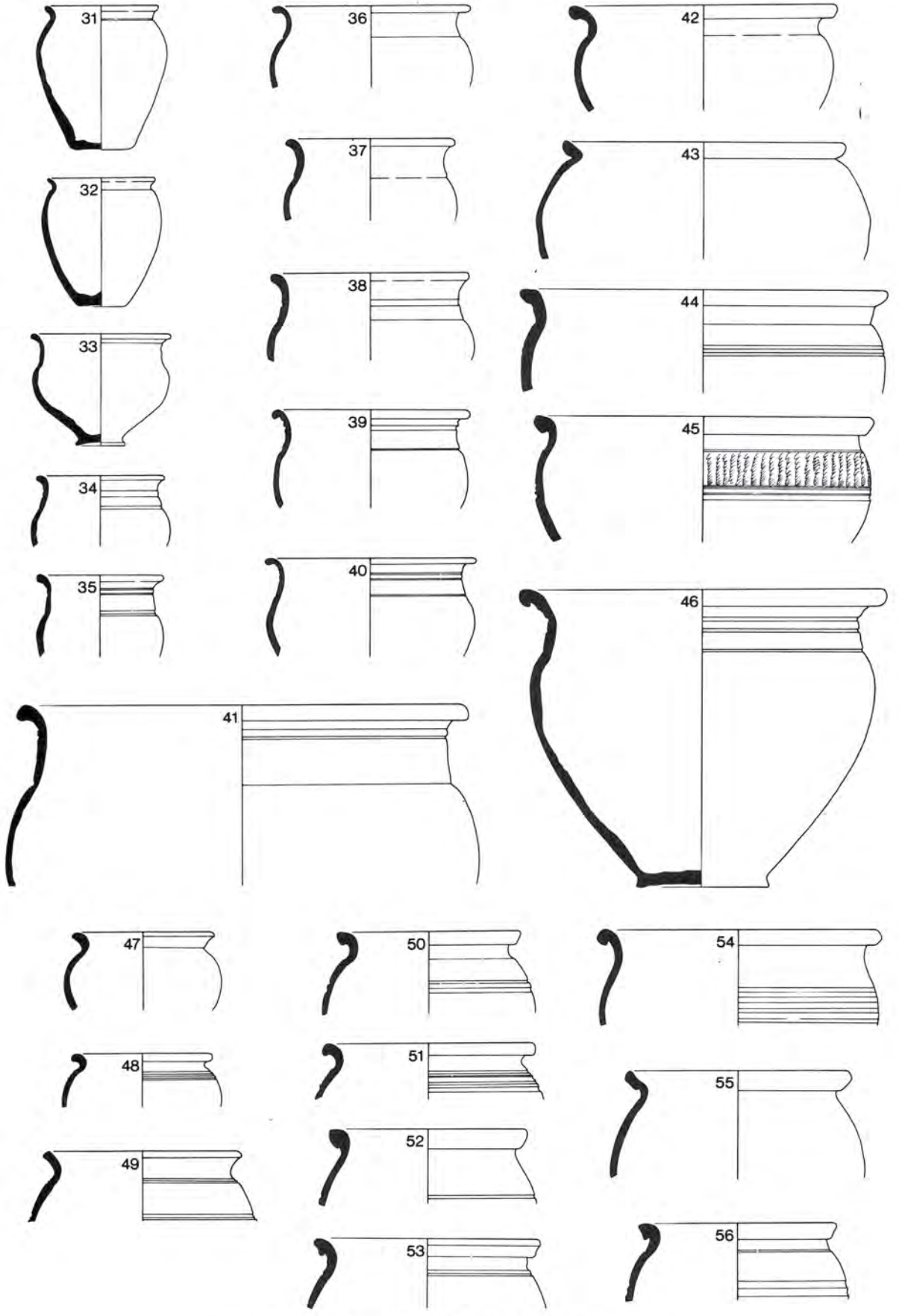


Figure 57. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley grey ware

DISH WITH INTERNAL BURNISHED DECORATION

61. CR18/26//20//26/18. Burnished surfaces. Decorated on the inside of the base with burnished lines radiating from the centre. CH 8933. Pit F265. Second quarter of the 2nd century.

This vessel is probably derived from essentially Gallo-Belgic vessels. Similar vessels have been noted at Normangate Field (*op cit*, fig 5,37; fig 16,283) and Orton Hall Farm (Perrin 1996, fig 86, 147).

Vessels 62–82 provide a comprehensive view of the range of decorated and undecorated dishes from the Chesterton excavations. All of the types occurred in large numbers, with a certain amount of chronological and typological development being apparent.

The earliest are the decorated dishes with triangular or flat rims, examples of which occurred in both of the Normangate Field Pit Groups, (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 5,39 and fig 7,89) and were therefore in production before the middle of the 2nd century. Most complete examples appear to have flat bases, with no chamfer.

The most common rim form on the decorated vessels is basically triangular. It is not certain for how long the production of decorated vessels continued, but it is thought that they were eventually replaced by undecorated vessels with the same rim forms. Most of the complete undecorated vessels also have a chamfer. A further typological development which also occurred later than the decorated vessels, involved the manufacture of undecorated vessels with rounded rims and chamfers. These may have been first produced later than the other undecorated vessels. Undecorated dishes with any of the three rim forms noted were made throughout the 3rd century, though other types were also produced. The latest LNVGW dishes did not have a chamfer (cf Stibbington Kiln G, forthcoming).

Some of the types may have been influenced by Black-burnished ware, especially BB2, which, in its period of maximum use in the province as a whole, was first triangular-rimmed and decorated, and then round-rimmed and plain. Amounts of BB1 reaching the Lower Nene Valley were very small (p 124) and it is doubtful if they would have had much influence on local pottery styles. Only one example of triangular-rimmed, decorated dish in a ware similar to BB2 occurred amongst the Chesterton pottery (Fig 75,527) but more may occur elsewhere. There were, however a number of rounded-rim, undecorated BB2 dishes and bowls, but it is again difficult to say whether they may have influenced local potters. Most Antonine potteries producing grey wares manufactured vessels similar in general form and decoration to black-burnished wares, however, and it is likely that, even if direct influence cannot be cited, the LNVGW vessels were made in accordance with a fashion set by black-burnished wares, or with a more general fashion of which black-burnished wares were part.

It is possible, therefore, that the developments noted above in connection with the LNVGW vessels, may have occurred at roughly the same time as the similar changes apparent in black-burnished ware, especially BB2, vessels. Certainly a change-over from triangular-rimmed decorated, to rounded-rimmed undecorated in the middle of the second half of the 2nd century, and even the first appearance of a chamfer around the middle of the 2nd century would not contradict any of the Chesterton site evidence.

DECORATED DISHES WITH TRIANGULAR, ROUNDED, OR FLAT RIMS

62. CR18+19/26/18+19. Burnished surfaces. CH 1374. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
63. CR19+20/18/19+20. Burnished surfaces. CH 6461. Building 4, Layer 5. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
64. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 5180, 5185. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
65. CR19+20/19/19+20. Burnished surfaces. CH 5183, 5188. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
66. CR20/18//20//18/20. Burnished internally and on rim. CH 7389. Grid V, Testhole 79.
67. CR20/14+26/20. Burnished surfaces, CH 5187. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.

UNDECORATED DISHES WITH 'TRIANGULAR' ROUNDED, OR FLATTENED RIMS

68. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 6672. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
69. CR20. Burnished surfaces. CH 3147. Building 3, F40.
70. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 2776, 4136–7, 4143. Building 3, Layers 3 and 4. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
71. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 1358. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
72. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 4372. Courtyard, Layer 2.
73. CR19/18/19. Burnished surfaces. CH 5178, 5190, 5193. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
74. CR17+21/18/17+21. CH 2609, 2637. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
75. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 2455. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
76. CR21/18/21. CH 7279. Grid U, Testhole 69.
77. CR15+20/26/15+20. Burnished surfaces. CH 2777. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
78. CR18+20/18/18+20. Burnished surfaces. CH 215. Grid K.
79. CR19+20/18/19+20. Burnished surfaces. Uneven surfaces giving 'banded' appearance to burnishing. CH 4752. Building 4, Layer 2.
80. CR19+20/18/19+20. Burnished externally and on rim. CH 4901. Building 4, Layer 2.
81. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 5748. Buildings 6/7, F90. Late 3rd and 4th centuries.
82. CR16+20/26/16+20. Burnished surfaces. CH 6262. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.

DISHES WITH BEAD OR GROOVED RIMS

These dishes are apparently a later 2nd-century development, first being made at the time when plain forms are replacing decorated. They continue in production into the 3rd century, but are probably gradually replaced by plain-rimmed varieties.

83. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 6671. Courtyard,

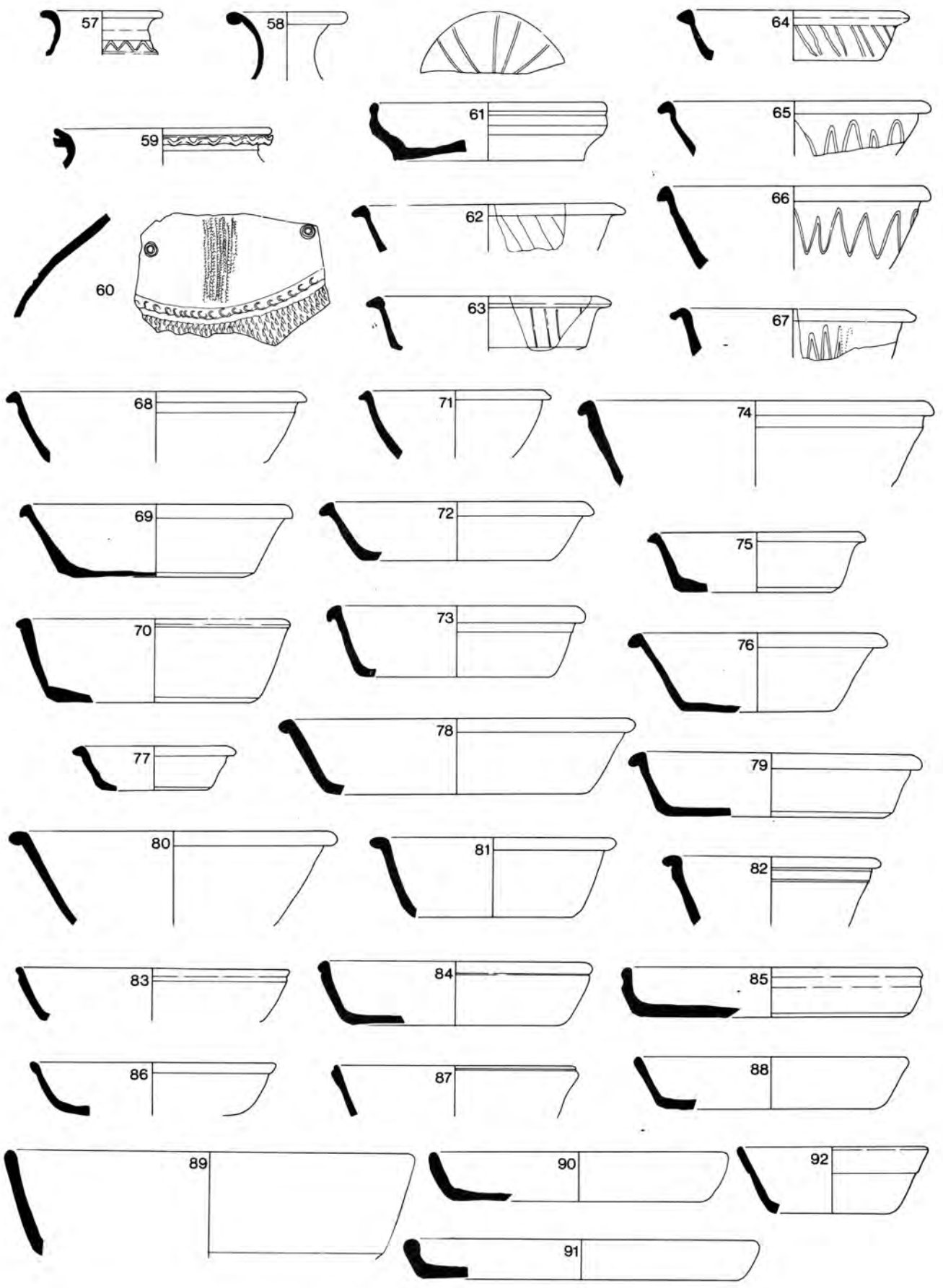


Figure 58. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley grey ware

Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.

84. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 7108. Building 8, Testhole 35.
85. CR20/18//19//18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 262. Building 8, Layer 1.
86. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 6243. Building 4, Layer 3.
87. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 7109. Building 8, Testhole 35. This is a very uncommon variety.

DISHES WITH PLAIN RIMS

These dishes, and bowls, mostly with a chamfer, become the commonest dish form in the 3rd century, when they are made at most Lower Nene Valley kiln sites, including Sibson and Stibbington (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 2,19). They were probably first made in the later 2nd century, replacing, the triangular-rimmed decorated dishes, and also the head or grooved-rimmed dishes in time. Vessels are never decorated. There may once again be some link with the fashion set or followed in the later 2nd century by black-burnished ware for plain-rimmed dishes. They were probably the commonest dish form at the time when the LNVGW industry ceased, for their LNVCC equivalents (231–5) became the main dish type of the 4th century. None of the LNVCC dishes have a chamfer, and it is probable that the latest grey ware dishes were also without a chamfer.

88. CR22/15/22. Burnished surfaces. Slight chamfer. CH 1342. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
89. CR19/18/19. Burnished surfaces. Chamfer. Possibly a bowl. CH 1341. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
90. CR21/26//21//26/21. Burnished surfaces. Slight chamfer. CH 1138. Building 1, Layer 2.
91. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces. No chamfer. CH 1140. Building 1, Layer 2.
92. CR20+21/26/20+21. Burnished surfaces. Chamfer. CH 1047. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

IMITATION SAMIAN DISHES AND BOWLS

Various LNVGW imitations of samian ware forms were produced. The Chesterton pottery included imitations of forms 30, 36 and 37, but none of form 31 (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 2,16). It is not certain if other samian forms were imitated in LNVGW, and the evidence for all aspects of those which are known is limited at the moment.

Form 30

93. CR18/19/18. Burnished surfaces. External bands of rouletted decoration around the body and base. CH 9007, 9013. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
94. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. Five rows of stabbed decoration of 4, 3, 2, 1 and 1 indentations respectively, in shape of inverted triangle. Internal surface dimpled by indentations. CH 6289, 7723. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.

Form 36

Most vessels imitating samian form 36 seem to have been produced in the 3rd century, though future research may prove otherwise; and the Chesterton site evidence indicates that some may be of later 2nd-century date. 96 is close in appearance to vessels produced at Stanground and linked to a potter who has been named *Indixivixus* (Dannell 1973, 140), and illustrates clearly the occasional difficulty in distinguishing between grey coloured LNVCC and some LNVGW vessels referred to above (p 78).

95. CR20. Burnished surfaces. CH 7620, 7683–84. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
96. CR19/26/19. Burnished surfaces. CH 8101, 8109. Grid O.
97. CR19/26/19. Burnished surfaces. CH 5938. Grid J.
98. CR21/26/21. Burnished surfaces. Underslip barbotine leaf decoration. CH 1879. Testhole 20, Layer 2.

Form 37

Imitations of form 37 are, surprisingly, not common. The context of vessel 101 suggests that some were made in the second half of the 2nd century, and is similar to LNVCC vessels 240–1 (Fig 63) which have been related to East Gaulish types of samian form 37 (Dannell 1973, 140); its context suggests a later 2nd- to early 3rd-century date. It is not certain if production continued throughout the 3rd century; the later LNVCC vessels need not have been copies of LNVGW predecessors, but could have developed from the earlier LNVCC imitations of form 37, or as part of the new demand for a range of imitation samian vessels evidenced by their production at the Oxfordshire and New Forest kilns in the same period.

99. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. Narrow strips of stamped decoration. CH 8924, 8748, 9001, 9008. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century. This vessel also has more in common with the styles of 'London-type' ware, and its context again suggests a pre-mid 2nd-century date.
100. CR19+20/26/19+20. Lightly burnished surfaces. CH 6266. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
101. CR20/18/20. Lightly burnished rim. Rouletted decoration. CH 7713–4. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.

LARGE DISHES OR BOWLS WITH FLAT OR ROUNDED RIM

These larger dishes or bowls are common in the 3rd century, but were probably first made in the later 2nd-century.

102. CR15+19/26/15+19. Burnished surfaces. Complete. CH 3170–1. Courtyard, F31.
103. CR20/26/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 5189. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century.
104. CR20/19/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 8507. Grid R.
105. CR19+20/26//18//26/19+20. Smoothed surfaces. More heavily burnished horizontal lines on external and internal walls. CH 8871. Grid Q, F266.
106. CR19/26/19. Burnished surfaces. CH 8193. Grid P.

STRAIGHT-SIDED FLANGED BOWLS

Straight-sided flanged bowls in any fabric, were first made in the late 2nd or early 3rd century (Gillam 1973, 59–60), but it is not certain if the Lower Nene Valley started producing them at this time. LNVGW examples

are not common, but probably formed the prototype for the ubiquitous LNVCC flanged bowl, made from the late 3rd century to the end of the Lower Nene Valley industry (Fig 64, 255–62). The context of 108 suggests that they may have been in production before the middle of the 3rd century, but most of the few that are known are probably of the second half of the 3rd century. Most of the LNVGW straight-sided flanged bowls are fairly shallow, and do not have a pronounced rim above the flange.

107. CR20/19+26/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 186. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2.
108. CR21/18/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 1042. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd to late 3rd century.
109. CR20/26/20. Bands of burnishing. CH 7329. Testhole 74, Pit F161.

OTHER DISHES AND BOWLS

110. CR20/18/20. Burnished surfaces. CH 5202. Building 4, Layer 4. The highly carinated form of this vessel suggests links closer to 'belgic' and 'gallo-belgic' forms of the 1st century than anything else (cf Hawkes and Hull 1947, pl LXXX, form 242; pl LXXVI, form 225). The most likely date for the manufacture and use of the type is probably the pre-mid 2nd-century period. The context is of mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century date.
111. CR20. Burnished surfaces. CH 2390, 5195. Building 4, Layers 3 and 4. The profile, and internal decoration of this vessel also suggest that it may be more properly considered a pre-mid 2nd-century type. The context is again of mid–late 2nd century/early 3rd century date.
112. CR19+20/26/19+20. Lightly burnished surfaces. CH 4074, 4089. Building 4, Layer 4. It is not certain if this vessel is an imitation of a samian form 35, or 23, or whether it has other non-samian antecedents. The context suggests a mid–late 2nd-century/early 3rd century date.
113. CR19+20/18/19+20. Burnished and decorated on unburnished zone. CH 1992. Building 4, Layer 2.
114. CR20/26//18//26/20. Burnished and decoration on unburnished zone. CH 4377. Courtyard, Layer 2.
Internal decoration on this or any Lower Nene Valley product type is rare, but burnished lattice decoration is common on 4th-century flanged bowls elsewhere, especially to the south (eg Verulamium, Frere 1972, fig 135,1174, fig 137,1256–57). Other 4th century centres, such as Crambeck in East Yorkshire also made grey flanged bowls with internal decoration, usually in the form of wavy lines (Corder and Birley, 1937, Type 1b). The flanged rim of 114 suggests that these vessels are probably of mid or late 3rd-early 4th-century date, but more evidence is needed before the development of this particular type can be fully understood.

Lower Nene Valley Colour-coated Ware (LNVCC)(Figs 60–5)

The second main branch of the Lower Nene Valley pottery industry involved the production of colour-coated wares (LNVCC). The answer to the question as to when LNVCC was first produced will only be found when some of the earliest kilns are excavated, and well-dated groups containing definite LNVCC are examined, as it has not yet been proved that vessels attributed to the Lower Nene Valley from certain Antonine deposits (for example the Verulamium fire and the Antonine Wall itself) were in fact made there.

Scholars of Romano-British pottery are collectively of the opinion that the production of LNVCC beakers (including roughcast), flagons, boxes and similar 'fine' wares was started by potters migrating from British centres such as Colchester and the Continent, notably the Rhineland or Gaul, or both. The similar production of colour-coated ware at South Carlton (Webster 1944, 140, types 12–13) and Great Casterton (Corder 1961, 51–52, 1, 4–9) may have been part of the same migration. This 'fine' element may have been added to an existing production of colour-coated dishes, bowls and jars. It is not certain when this migration occurred and there is no reason to suppose that it lasted for just a short period; indeed it is more likely that potters from other areas often arrived in the Lower Nene Valley. More independently-dated and stratified early to mid 2nd-century groups are needed before some of these points can be answered. The possible relevance of troop movements to this country from the Continent around *c* AD 155 (Howe *et al* 1980, 7) can also only be proved or disproved by future research.

By the end of the 2nd century LNVCC production seems to have concentrated on beakers, flagons and boxes, especially for markets further afield. Here these types complemented those produced in samian ware, and were the Romano-British equivalent to the similar production of beakers and flagons in most of the continental samian ware factories. Other LNVCC vessel types do occur on more local sites but a relatively few when compared with the large amounts of similar forms made in LNVGW. For this reason the development of the more utilitarian LNVCC vessels from the mid 2nd to 4th centuries is not clear.

Apparently from the end of the 3rd century or early in the 4th all the types previously produced mainly in LNVGW were made exclusively in LNVCC. To these was added a full range of imitation samian ware forms, parallelling developments in the Oxfordshire and New Forest industries. There was also, seemingly, a decline from this period in what had previously been the main LNVCC, beakers, boxes and flagons, so by the middle of the 4th century at the latest bowls, dishes and jars have become pre-eminent.

The actual reason for these changes is uncertain, but must be linked to markets factors. There may have been a general change in the types of vessel used and demanded, perhaps influenced by the desire for fine ware replacements for, and equivalent of, samian ware. Other industries, notably Oxfordshire, may have captured new markets causing a retraction in the Lower Nene Valley industry, coupled with a desire to imitate the types now being successfully traded by other industries in what had

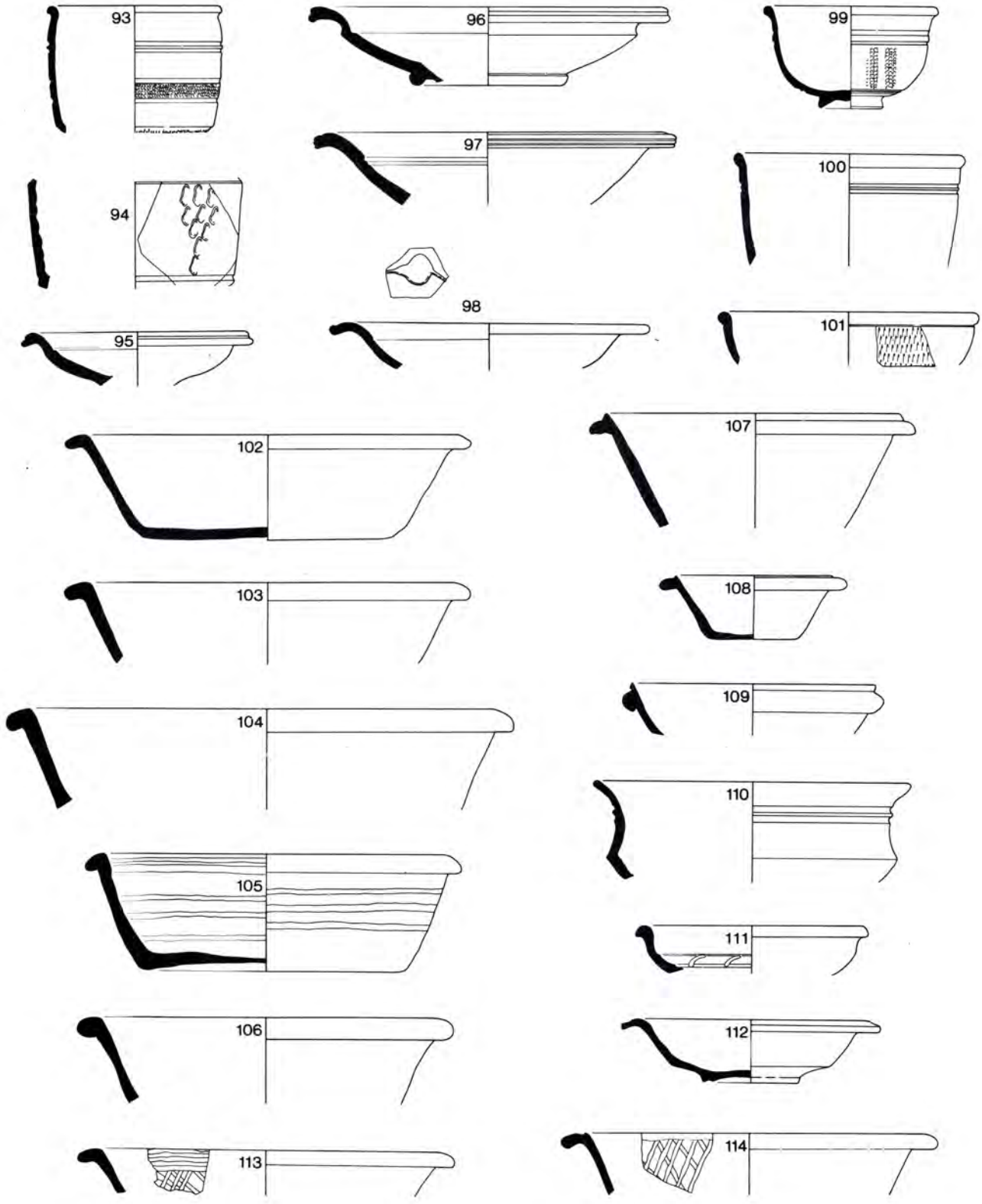


Figure 59. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley grey ware

been Lower Nene Valley markets. It is thought that there may have been significant change in the second half of the 3rd century itself (Young 1977, 123, 134).

The administrative and economic reorganisations, and the military disasters at home and abroad in the second half of the 3rd century may be the key to the whole problem, but it is impossible to be certain. Future excavation and research will hopefully help to pinpoint the actual period in which the various changes occurred, in turn also helping to suggest the causes.

The LNVCC falls into a number of groups. First, there are the beakers, covering a period of 150 to 200 years. The Chesterton layers contained examples of most main types, but not all could be drawn, so reference is made where appropriate to types other than those represented. Second, there are the flagons and jugs. Third, there are Castor boxes and their and other lids. The examples from Chesterton allow the basis for a chronology and typology to be established which will hopefully be tested and refined in the future. Fourth and last, there are the jars, bowls and dishes including those possibly made in and after the 2nd century, those previously made in LNVGW and the later imitations of samian ware. One or two oddities complete the Chesterton picture.

The LNVCC vessel range represented in the Chesterton pottery is therefore, by and large, a fairly basic one, including most of the main classes and types produced, but having very few examples of the less common varieties, such as bottles, flasks, cups and so on (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 5,57–62,69,74,84,86).

As this section is likely to be the most used part of the present report, pottery researchers are therefore reminded of the potential limitations of the Chesterton layers and evidence noted in the introduction.

Beakers (Figs 60–1)

It is probable that the continental and other potters who migrated to the Lower Nene Valley did so with the prime intention of producing drinking-related vessels for sale throughout the Province. The spur to migration may have been the attainment of a certain level of demand, or particular changes in demand patterns and market areas or other factors. Certainly it is beakers for which the Lower Nene Valley pottery industry is most famous, with products being traded all over Roman Britain.

The beakers from the Chesterton layers, fall into several main groups, which reflect the overall LNVCC beaker range produced, though by no means its entirety. The groups are plain rimmed, cornice rimmed (including 'late' and simple curved cornice rim), curved (cavetto) rimmed, funnel-necked and beaded, 'waisted', and 'pentice-moulded' beakers.

One of the over-riding problems concerning the production of LNVCC beakers, other than the date of the commencement of production, is the initial range of vessels produced. The answer, as for the date, lies in the excavation of the earliest kilns. It is reasonable to suppose that the earliest vessels would be directly comparable to the vessels made by the potters immediately before they migrated, and vessels 118,130,134, 138,144 and 147 may in fact be some of them. Other LNVCC imitations of continental types occur later (Howe *et al* 1981, fig 5,27,49–53, and p.8). Another indication of some of the products can be provided by vessels from well-dated contexts elsewhere, notably the Antonine Wall, and Verulamium (Frere 1972, fig 122,791–2,795) but it has become increasingly obvious that many of the vessels ascribed to Lower Nene Valley kilns in past reports may well in fact have been the products of continental factories.

The problem of mis-identification hinges on the white or pale brown fabric of the LNVCC beakers, as the Rhineland, Central Gaul, the New Forest and Colchester produced wares superficially similar in appearance. The presence and absence of certain inclusions can provide some guide. The Lower Nene Valley fabric usually contains a sparse sprinkling of inclusions, and appears much less fine and pure white than that of Lower Rhineland vessels. Variations caused by firings create problems when trying to distinguish between LNVCC and Lower Rhineland vessels on the basis of slip colour and texture. The slip on Lower Rhineland vessels however, especially late ones, is often quite thick and can be dark grey or even bluish or greenish grey in colour and rather matt. Such distinctions are not wholly reliable, however, and a programme of analysis of the fabrics of these crucial vessels is required. This will, however, not help identification in the field.

Work on form and decoration has begun to provide some useful indicators as to the possible origins of beakers found in middle 2nd-century contexts. Hunt Cups have perhaps caused the most confusion, but it is now realised that there are a number of differences between LNVCC, Rhineland and Gaulish products, which can help to identify the area of origin.

The main vessel forms and barbotine figure types of Lower Rhineland beakers have been noted (Anderson 1980, 14–21; 1981, 327–8). Of the two types of cornice rim, her Type 1 rarely occurs on LNVCC vessels, with most having the later Type 2. This accords well with the *c* AD 150/160–180/190 date given to this type (*op cit* 1981, 328). The change from rounded to angular profiles on Lower Rhineland vessels, however, is not apparently matched in the LNVCC.

A comparison of the animals on the beakers from the two centres shows that the later examples modelled by the Lower Nene Valley potters are generally much leaner and longer. The dogs usually have much longer necks, snouts, bodies, ears, tails, and legs, with the thick-set, stocky mastiff-type of dog common on Lower Rhineland vessels (*op cit* 1981, fig 19,7) occurring very rarely. The stags also have much longer, flowing antlers and the hares longer ears but smaller eyes. Dogs on both

Lower Rhineland and LNVCC beakers usually have collars, however, but those of the Lower Nene Valley rarely show their teeth. Both centres formed their designs into panels with the use of diagonal or vertical rows of dots. Similar schemes of space-fillers were also used, but the two main types of leaf found on Lower Rhineland vessels (*op cit* 1981, 325) are rare on Lower Valley beakers, which have, instead, leaves more similar to those on Central Gaulish beakers (see below). The rouletted zone below the hunt scene common on later Lower Rhineland beakers does not seem to have been copied on LNVCC vessels.

Less work has been done on later 2nd-century Gaulish barbotine wares, but there is less chance of confusing products of the two centres, for though the animals and so on are more similar in appearance, fabric and form differ significantly. Though sometimes buff or white, the usual Gaulish fabric is orange or red and contains appreciable amounts of mica (Greene, 1978, 18) not usually apparent in Lower Nene Valley clays. The colour coat is much darker often black, and generally glossy, often with a 'metallic' lustre and is of a more even density and thickness. The ware is fired to a much higher temperature. The main beaker form found with animal decoration is a samian ware form (Dechelette 52), fairly tall and slender, with a smoothly curved profile and most vessels have a bead-type rim. The base is also distinctive (*Gillam* 48; Green *op cit*, fig 2.3,9). Decorative space-fillers are again used, especially certain types of leaves and tendrils (Green *op cit*, fig 2.3,8–9; Woods 1972, fig 42,313, p 45, pl II), some of which are similar to those found on LNVCC vessels.

The barbotine wares made at Colchester (eg Hull 1963, 91–99, figs 51–54) have also not been assessed recently, so it is difficult to be certain of possible differences. The normal Colchester fabric is orange or buff in colour and is generally easily distinguishable from Lower Nene Valley wares. The range of animals and so on (*op cit*, figs 51–4) also apparently shows that the potters drew mostly on Rhineland motifs.

The differences noted above obviously help to distinguish the products of the different centres, especially if a large fragment survives. Smaller pieces can still cause great difficulty however and hopefully future research, especially into the differing motifs used in the various centres, will provide further indicators which will enable all but the smallest, undecorated sherd to be correctly located as to source.

In the first 50 years or so of production the LNVCC beaker range underwent a gradual evolution and development, and by the second quarter of the 3rd century a fairly standard suite of vessels was produced. These appear to have manufactured up to the end of the 3rd century. During the 3rd century a different range was introduced, comprising vessels of essentially 'rhenish' form, and later in the 3rd century or early in the 4th pentice-moulded beakers appear (eg 175–6,179). These later beakers also show signs of changes in production techniques with fabrics being less refined and often firing to a different colour. The colour-coat, and general hardness of the vessels suggest that the kilns were now fired to a higher temperature. It not clear if these developments represent a decline in standards, or are related to the desired end-product. It is also by no means certain when these 'rhenish'-inspired varieties were first produced though there is some evidence, not yet conclusive, for their introduction around the middle of the 3rd century.

Plain rimmed Beakers

The plain-rimmed beakers are the most simple type, and can be the most difficult to date as a result, for the basic form remained unchanged throughout the life of the type. Evidence suggests plain-rimmed beakers were produced into the second half of the 3rd century. Closer dating can be suggested by decoration where it occurs, but unfortunately, undecorated examples are most common. As with most beaker types, however, there is a tendency for earlier vessels to be shorter and squatter than later ones. There is not enough evidence to say whether size is a chronological indicator, though many of the earlier vessels are rather small. It is possible to confuse a rim sherd from a plain-rimmed beaker with one from a later 'funnel-necked' beaker, leading to problems with dating.

115. CR4/26/4. CH 1704, 1731–2, 1791, 1796. Building 2, Layer 4. Probably mid to late 2nd century. A close parallel to this vessel is *Gillam* 78, dated *c* AD 170–210.
116. CR11/18/11. CH 781, 1568. Building 3, Wall Trench 4. This vessel is close to *Gillam* 79, dated *c* AD 200–240.
117. CR12/4/12. CH 8523. Grid R. This vessel is probably the same date as 116.
118. CR4/26/4. CH 8236. Grid Q. The decoration on this vessel is similar to that known on beakers with cornice rims from Water Newton (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 3,30–31) and Jewry Wall, Leicester (Kenyon 1948, 122, fig 32,20). The vessel is probably of later 2nd to early 3rd century date.
119. CR17/4/13+22. CH 3817. Building 1, Layer 3a. The scroll decoration on this vessel is also common on beakers with other rim types. Probably early to mid 3rd century.
120. CR1/26/22. CH 8103. Grid O.
121. CR22/26/22;4dec. CH 4930. Building 4, Layer 2. The decoration on this vessel is of a type common in the 3rd century, especially around the middle of the century. It is not certain if this effect was a deliberate intention but it also occurs on rouletted beakers of the same period. Vessels with bands of rouletted decoration also occurred (cf Howe *et al* 1980, fig 3,34).
122. CR4/14/22. CH 1737, 1746–8. Building 2, Layer 4. This decoration occurs more usually on beakers with cornice rims (143–4). Probably mid to late 2nd century.

Cornice rimmed beakers

This category includes the well-moulded varieties of cornice rim and the later developments which saw the loss of a distinct lower edge to the moulding ('late' cornice) and the appearance of a simple curved rim

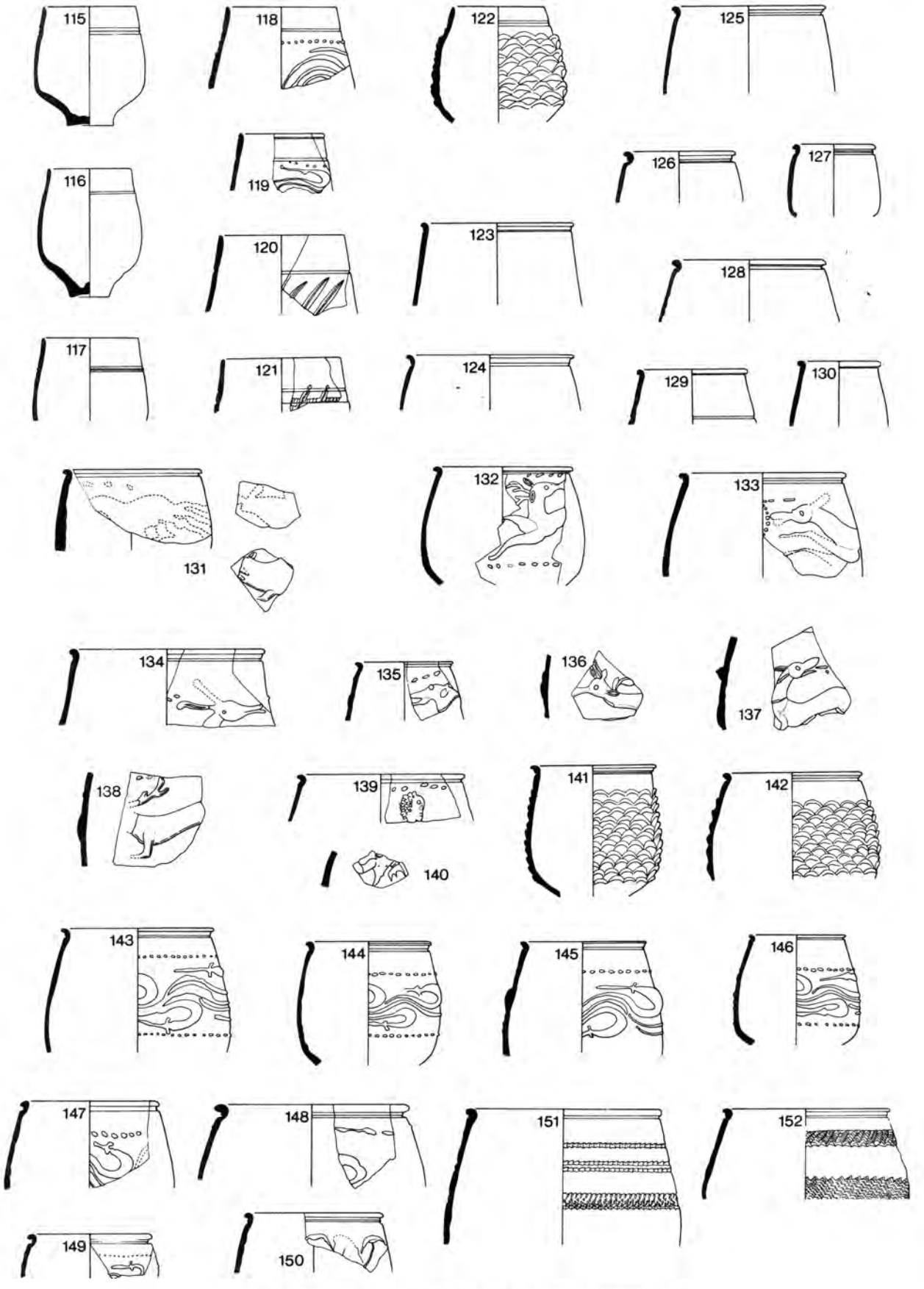


Figure 60. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware

which was not a cornice in the true sense at all, yet was not the same as curved (cavetto) rims.

The Chesterton cornice-rimmed beakers usually have one of two types of cornice rim similar to those on imported beakers (Anderson 1980, 9, types 1–2). They are often much less well formed. Neither the other type of cornice rim, or the grooved cornice rim occur (*op cit*, type 1, types 1–2) at Chesterton, but the vessels noted here show a wide range of decorated as well as undecorated types. The variety of decoration is likely to have been greatest in the second half of the 2nd century than later. It is worth noting that the three varieties of rim noted here never occur on indented beakers, and that the styles of decoration, especially tight scroll work, also always appear on beakers with one of the same three rim forms. It is obvious that once the initial developments had taken place, the type became standardised, and continued largely unaltered for the rest of its production life. It is not possible to say if the indented beakers eventually eclipsed this type of beaker, but as most of the decoration is of the underslip variety, beakers of this general type may not have been produced in any significant quantities after the middle of the 3rd century. LNVCC Hunt Cups are not thought to have lasted in production much beyond the end of the first quarter of the 3rd century, and it is possible that the vessels of the same basic form with different decoration also had a similarly short life. Many would have survived in use, however, and the problem will only be solved by the examination of sealed groups with a starting date of around the middle 3rd century, and containing no residual material.

Although differences in rim form are noticeable, the three types may have co-existed to some degree and as yet there is insufficient evidence to assign really firm dates to any possible chronological development.

Undecorated

123. CR22/14+26/10+12. CH 5350, Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
124. CR1/26/4. CH 6383. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
125. CR8/14/8. CH 1723. Building 2, Layer 4. Probably mid to late 2nd century.
126. CR22/26/4. CH 7449. Courtyard, Layer 15. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
127. CR22/26/23. CH 4920. Building 4, Layer 2. Probably later 2nd century.
128. CR17/26/28. CH6873. Grid Q, Pit F266. Probably late 2nd to early 3rd century.
129. CR12/26/22. CH 6756. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
130. CR4/10//19//10/4. CH 1724. Building 2, Layer 4. Probably late 2nd to early 3rd century.

Hunt Cups

The Chesterton layers contained a number of Hunt Cups, but, with the possible exception of 131 and 135, most appear to be from vessels with more elongated designs, and therefore belong to a later stage in the development. All have the later type of cornice rim, rather than the true, finely-moulded variety. Most of the vessels are fragmentary and therefore the range of scenes and animal types is limited, and cannot be used as the basis for a full consideration of Hunt Cups, which must therefore await future research.

Of the nine near complete animals six are looking to the left and three to the right. Two of the latter are in fact looking over their shoulders at their pursuers. There is considerable variation in the form of the animals, and, apparently, in the overall layout of the design. Many of these features could prove to be of chronological and typological significance: again it is hoped that future research may provide some indication of this.

131. CR17/14/17. CH 7559, 7575–7578. Courtyard, Layer 15. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. Part of the barbotine decoration of this vessel has sheared away from the surface leaving the unslipped outline of various animals. The vessel is poorly made, and almost 1 cm thick in places with occasional large inclusions left in the fabric. Courtyard Layer 15 was the first layer apparently sealing an earlier pit F184, and this vessel may be an example of one of the early range of LNVCC Hunt Cups. The form, of the vessel and of the animals, as far as can be judged, is similar to Lower Rhineland beakers (Anderson 1980, fig 8,1).
132. CR4/14/22. CH 2000, 2806,2811. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
133. CR8/26/21. CH 8518. Grid R. Probably late 2nd to early 3rd century.
134. CR22+28/14/22+28. Affected by fire when broken. CH8517. Grid S. Probably late 2nd to early 3rd century.
135. CR17+22/14/17+22. CH 7623. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century. A badly executed and unusual animal. It is possible that this form is more closely related to essentially thick-set Lower Rhineland types of dog, rather than the more slender, pointed animals commonly associated with Romano-British Hunt Cups. If so, it could be one of the earliest Hunt Cups, made at a time when continental influence was still strong, or even by a continental potter.
136. CR17+22/5//18//5/17+22. CH 658. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century. The form of the animal on this vessel is similar to that on 132.
137. CR22/26/21. CH 3564. Building 3, Wall Trench C. Probably late 2nd to early 3rd century.
138. CR22/26/22. CH 2684. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

BEAKERS WITH FIGURED UNDERSLIP-BARBOTINE DECORATION

Such vessels have been the subject of two studies by Dr G. Webster (1989 and 1991). It is thought that the production date-range of these vessels would have been the same as the other barbotine decorated beakers. These figured varieties were obviously special items, however, probably made to order for a particular purpose and could, therefore, have remained in use for a considerable period. Similarly decorated vessels were also made in LNVCW (Fig 66, 334–40 below).

139. CR4/14/17. CH 438. Building 2, North corner, unstratified. Probably late 2nd to early 3rd. Not enough survives to be certain who the figure was intended to represent but the

head is superficially similar to that on a vessel from Bedford Purlieus (Webster 1991, fig 14,1).

140. CR4/14/17. Same vessel as 139? CH 6770. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. The identification of this figure is similarly difficult to ascertain but is possibly Hercules. The missing right hand might have held a club and the detail on the left may have been a lion skin and these attributes could be linked to either his first labour (the slaying of the Nemean lion) or his rescue of Hesione (cf Webster 1989, fig 4,35).

BEAKERS WITH ALL-OVER, UNDERSLIP BARBOTINE SCALE DECORATION

These are an infrequent but easily recognisable type. The type was produced in the Lower Rhineland in the second quarter of the 2nd century (Anderson 1980, 43–4, fig 7,5) and at Colchester from the Hadrianic period onwards (*op cit*, 52–3, fig 13,5). It is possible that the type was one of the original range of beaker types produced in the Lower Nene Valley by immigrant potters. It is not certain how long they continued in production.

Most have the true cornice rim, and are fairly squat. The style of decoration continues well into the 3rd century on other beaker types, and all-over scale decoration occasionally reoccurs at a later date (187), but it is thought that the type was unlikely to have lasted beyond the end of the 2nd century.

141. CR4/26/13+21. CH 9201. Cutting X. Probably mid- to-late 2nd century.

142. CR1/26/4. CH 1387. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

BEAKERS WITH UNDERSLIP BARBOTINE SCROLL DECORATION

These are one of the most common, and well-known, types of LNVCC beaker. The terminals of the scrolls almost invariably point from right to left, and the band of decoration is normally delimited by a line of barbotine dots above and below. Occasionally, the scrollwork is vertically orientated, and can be delimited by rouletted bands (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 3,30). The scrollwork is usually very compact and tightly executed, unlike that on later scroll beakers influenced by 'rhenish' styles (*op cit*, fig 5,47–49). There is apparently little variation in the design. Most of the beakers of this type are relatively small and 'bag-shaped'.

The basic scrollwork design is unlike that found on Rhineland, Gaulish or Colchester beakers of the same general type, and may therefore to a truly Lower Nene Valley development, possibly first occurring later into the second half of the 2nd century.

The popularity and number of these beakers may obscure details of their production and development, which, as suggested above (p 92), may in fact have been less prolongued than has been previously thought. Examples with overslip barbotine decoration are rare (185), and vessels always have cornice, 'late cornice' or simple curved rims. The type probably declined in the first half of the 3rd century, with few being made after the middle of that century, if not some years before.

143. CR13/14/13. CH 1447–1458, 1464, 1384, Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

144. CR4+9/26/4+9. CH 477. Building 1, Layers 1/7.

145. CR8/14/4. CH 8154. Grid O. Oven F251, probably mid to late 2nd century.

146. CR2/26/2. CH 8872. Grid Q. Pit F266. Probably later 2nd to early 3rd century.

147. CR4/14/4. CH 2654–5. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

148. CR12/26/8. CH 7688. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

149. CR4/14/4. CH 6563. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

BEAKER WITH OTHER UNDERSLIP BARBOTINE DECORATION

150. CR4+22/26/4+22. CH 8681. Building 9, Layer 3. Probably later 2nd to 3rd century. This vessel has an unusual design, appearing to combine both scale, and linear barbotine decoration. The range of motifs of the Lower Nene Valley was evidently considerable; the various body sherds (177–84 below) illustrate some of the possible variations, but a catalogue of the full repertoire must await further excavation and research.

BEAKERS WITH ROULETTED DECORATION

Vessels with horizontal bands of rouletted decoration are quite a common and easily recognisable type. Although vessels can have cornice rims, there is a suggestion that, on the whole, they may have been a later development, first being produced well into the second half of the 2nd century. The type was made at Stanground from the late 2nd/early 3rd century (Dannell 1973, 140–2, fig 1,10; Dannell *et al* 1993, fig 16,48–51; fig 20,130–30) and rouletting also occurs on vessels with plain rims (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 3,34). Evidence suggests production of these types may have declined in the second quarter of the 3rd century, with very few occurring after the middle of that century.

151. CR21+22/14//18//14/21+22. CH 972. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

152. CR12/26/12. CH 1389. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

INDENTED BEAKERS

Lower Nene Valley indented beakers never have any of the types of cornice, or late cornice or grooved cornice rims, but invariably occur with curved or funnel-necked rims.

Indented beakers, both plain and decorated, with curved rims probably formed part of the earliest range of colour-coated vessels produced in the Lower Nene Valley kilns. By the middle of the 3rd century, if not from some years before, by which time all had funnel necks, they were the main beaker type produced and exported. They seem to have declined in the later 3rd century and early 4th century, eventually being replaced by other types (eg 173,176). Indented beakers illustrate very clearly the gradual narrowing and elongation of forms that was a

characteristic of beaker development. In common with most types of beaker, the earliest vessels made were fairly small, squat and globular (153). Midway through their production life, most were medium sized with even, medium proportions (Howe *et al* 1981, fig 4,41–2). At the end of their production very tall, elongated vessels predominated (*op cit*, fig 4,43). The reasons for this development are uncertain and may be linked with changes in drinking habits and fashions, or even the type of drink being imbibed.

Curved rimmed

There is some variation in the curved rims. Some, mainly on earlier vessels, are small with the suggestion of a bead and form almost a half circle (153), and others curve at a much greater angle, and form only part of a much larger circle (155). Some of these might even be termed 'cavetto' (158). Later, probably near the time of the change to straight 'funnel neck' rims, vessels can often have a straight neck with a curved-over rim (157, and Howe *et al* 1980, fig 4,41).

Undecorated

153. CR11/26/12. CH 6694. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
154. CR4/26/4. CH 4924. Building 4, Layer 2. Probably mid to late 2nd century.
155. CR1+7/14+26/17+21. CH 7622, 7637. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
156. CR4+11/18/16+28. CH 2464, 2466–7. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
157. CR1+21/18/1+21. CH 5245. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

Barbotine scale decoration

158. CR21+24/26/21+24. CH 1388. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. The colour coat of this vessel is similar to that occurring on vessels often attributed to the products of Stanground (Dannell 1973). A dark bluish-grey colour coat is certainly common on a range of vessels, seemingly of early 3rd century date.
159. CR21/26/21. CH 7520. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
160. CR3/26/3. CH 1385–6. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
161. CR21/26/21. CH 7010. Courtyard, Layer 7. Later 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
162. CR22/14/22. CH 7029. Grid K, Layer 5. Probably mid to late 2nd century.

Barbotine interlocking 's-shapes' or 'butcher's hooks'

Neither of these designs was as common as the scale pattern, and they are mainly found on vessels dating from the later 2nd up to the middle of the 3rd century.

163. CR21/18/21. CH 3034. Courtyard, Pit F44. Probably late 2nd to early 3rd century.
164. CR20/26/20. CH 4550,4555,4589. Courtyard, Layer 4. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century. The design is similar to that on vessels from Water Newton Kiln A (Fig 11, 11–2 above) and Stanground (Dannell *et al* 1993, fig 15,35; fig 16,55–6; fig 19,119–22), both dated to the early 3rd century. It also occurs on waisted beakers of the same period and later (below, 168,170) and *Gillam* 51). The colour-coat of 164 is again similar to vessels often attributed to Stanground.

FUNNEL NECK INDENTED BEAKERS

It has been thought for some time that beakers with this type of rim were first made in the second quarter of the 3rd century, and the evidence from Chesterton and other more recent excavations does not contradict such a view. It is difficult, however, to suggest a more exact date, and future research may in fact show that the change from curved to funnel-necked beakers occurred either nearer the beginning, or the middle of the century.

Vessels can be either plain or decorated, and the type was the most common beaker form of most of the 3rd century. The Chesterton pottery included examples of plain funnel-neck beakers, but, unfortunately, none was good enough to be illustrated. There were, however, very few plain or decorated funnel-necked beakers.

Barbotine 's-shapes' or 'butcher's hooks'

165. CR8/4+20/4. CH 974. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century. The design of this vessel is the same as that on curved rimmed beakers (163–4). As noted above, it is not as common as the scale pattern, and may not in fact have lasted much beyond the middle of the 3rd century. It would appear that the apparent general change from underslip to overslip barbotine, then painted decoration, from around the middle of the 3rd century did not affect this type of beaker, which was still made with underslip barbotine.

Barbotine scale decoration

166. CR22/14/22. Affected by fire, and encrusted in mortar. CH 1054. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century. Rouletted decoration.
167. CR21+24/14/21+24. CH 4922. Building 4, Layer 2. Probably 3rd century. Rouletted decoration is not very common. Beakers with grooves rather than rouletted bands are also known, but are similarly not very common. One or two examples occurred in the Chesterton pottery.

'WAISTED' BEAKERS

These vessels are unusual, and formed an uncommon, but easily recognisable part of the Lower Nene Valley potters' colour-coated ware repertoire.

The form is probably derived from continental prototypes, but it is not certain when they were first produced. Vessels either have a curved or funnel-neck rim, and it is probable that the change-over was contemporary with that occurring on indented beakers. Vessels can also be either plain, or decorated along each of the corrugations, of which there are normally three. Overslip decoration does not occur, and the type may therefore have declined in the second half of the 3rd century, or, as with indented scale beakers, have preserved the underslip technique.

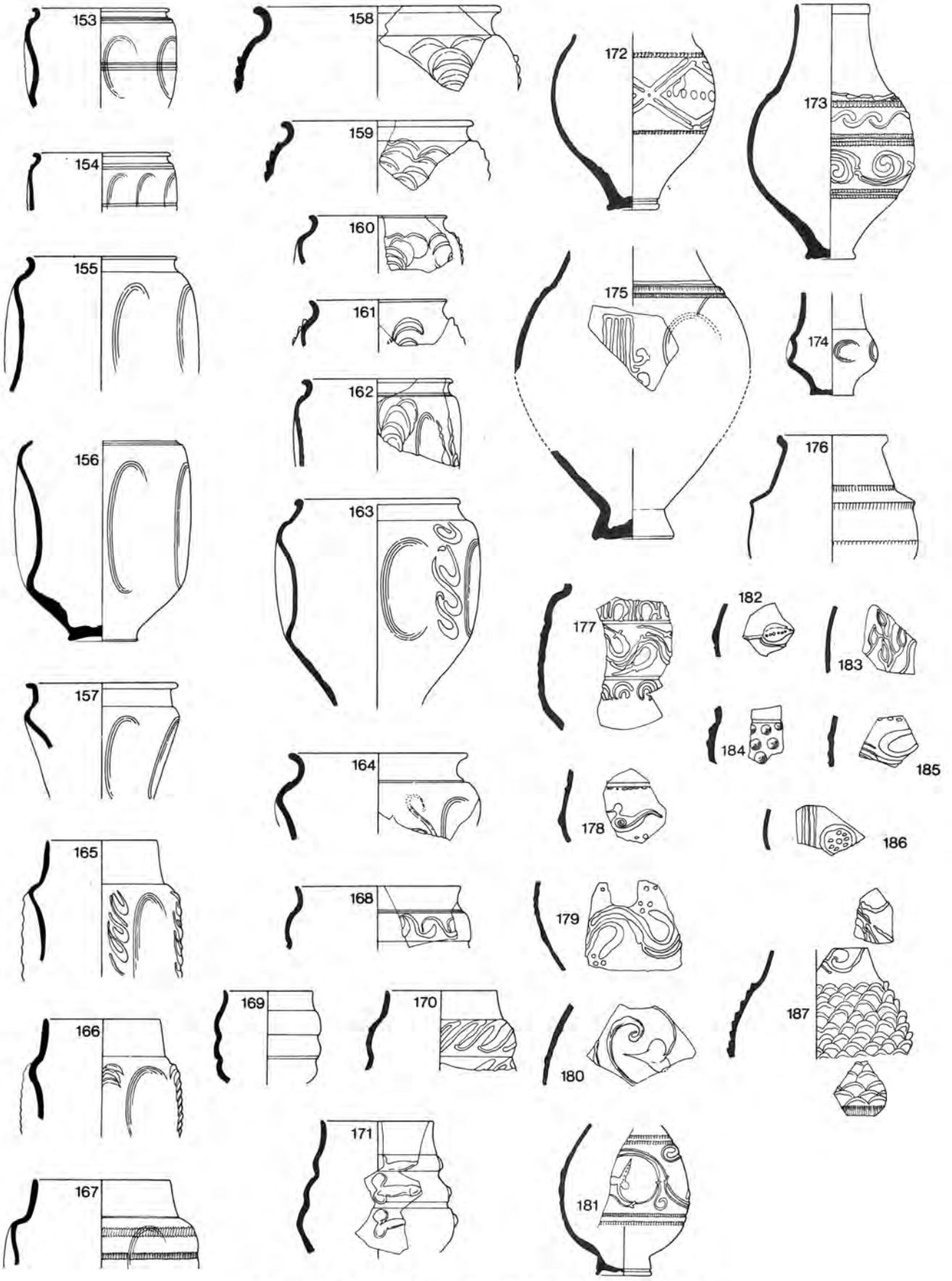


Figure 61. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware

Curved Rims

Undecorated

There were few examples of the undecorated curved rim variety among the Chesterton pottery; none could be illustrated.

Decorated

168. CR8/14/8. CH 7127. Building 8, General. Probably later 2nd to early 3rd century. The design is similar to that on some curved and funnel-necked indented beakers (above 163–5), and also occurs on 'waisted' beakers with funnel necks (*Gillam* 51). Similarly, it may be essentially a first half of 3rd century motif, and may have been preceded by the scale pattern (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 4,35) of which no examples occurred in the Chesterton pottery. None of the 3rd-century examples so far seen have the scale pattern.

Funnel necked

The form is that of *Gillam* 51.

Undecorated

169. CR10+12/20/10+12. CH 1053. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

Decorated

170. CR24/18/22. CH 521. Building 1, F3.

171. CR20+25/26/17+22. CH 1394,1442–3,1445,6581. Building 1, Layers 15/7 (Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century) and Courtyard, Layer 7 (Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century).

FUNNEL-NECKED BEAKERS WITH BEAD RIMS

This type occurs in a number of forms – plain, or indented, decorated or undecorated. It seems at first reasonable to suppose that the rim form was in the main a typological development of the ordinary funnel-neck, first occurring late in their production life that is towards the end of the 3rd, or early in the 4th centuries. As it is also probable, however, that the rim form was influenced by and derived from Gaulish or especially 'rhenish' beakers which had been imported mainly from the late 2nd to mid 3rd century, an earlier date for the introduction of the type cannot be discounted (see above). The styles of decoration on funnel-necked beaded vessels also clearly suggests such an influence or derivation.

An earlier introduction would remove the discrepancy that could otherwise exist between the date when these beakers are first seem to have been made in the Lower Nene Valley and when the types on which they were essentially modelled were imported and used. A certain degree of 'slippage' might be explained if 'rhenish' wares were not common in the Lower Nene Valley until well into the 3rd century. Some of the Stanground kiln products, however, provide evidence for direct links with the continent in the early 3rd century Dannell 1973, 40). The most plausible explanation for any possible discrepancy is that the beaker types already being produced had reached an optimum economic balance of demand, supply, and popularity, and there was therefore no real need for new types.

It has been noted that the main beaker types probably declined in production in the latter part of the 3rd, or early in the 4th century. This was, of course, precisely the time that the whole of the Lower Nene Valley industry was apparently undergoing major change, and it is not, therefore, unreasonable to link the possible appearance of funnel-necked beaded beakers of 'rhenish' and Gaulish types at this time to the same development, whatever the causes may have been. The idea, often suggested in the past, that there may have been an influx of continental potters following the disasters of the mid 3rd century, has recently gone out of favour. The situation in the Lower Nene Valley at the end of the 3rd century may, with regard to beakers, once again bring it to the fore, but the lack of direct parallels of types, techniques and kilns, also noted in the Oxfordshire industry (Bird and Young 1981, 297), still makes indirect links, nurtured by uncertain forces, the more probable answer. It is not certain how long these 'new' beaker types continued to be produced, but they may well have been in decline before the middle of the 4th century, and do not seem to have lasted into the fourth quarter of that century.

Plain walled

Undecorated

The pottery from Chesterton contained very few examples of this form, and few late undecorated beakers as a whole. The reasons for this are uncertain.

Decorated

The most popular decorative styles on these beakers (and flagons, see below) was scrollwork, with fairly large open scrolls or roundels with or without clusters of 'berries' or grapes. The 'rhenish' influence is very noticeable and the decoration contrasts strongly with the designs of earlier Lower Nene Valley scroll beakers (146–152). The geometric patterns are exclusively derived from 'rhenish' styles. It is not possible at the moment to say whether either of the styles underwent typological and chronological development.

172. CR2+8/4/2+8;26 dec. CH 2870. Courtyard, F42. Probably late 3rd to around the mid 4th century. Although this vessel is rimless, nearly all those that have occurred with geometrical designs have had a beaded funnel neck rim.

173. CR13/4/13;26dec. CH 1201,3630–1,3643,3651,3657. Building 1, Layer 2. Probably late 3rd to around the mid 4th century. The decoration on this vessel is similar in some ways to the decoration of earlier LNVCC beakers, but the scrollwork, in particular, is easiest to parallel on 'rhenish' beakers.

Indented

Unlike the earlier beakers which had standard indentations, the later types can have a variety of different indentations. Most common are fairly large circular, squarish and narrow slit-like indentations, but quite a few have small circular indentations, and many have

mixtures of circles and slits (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 5,51–3). It is again uncertain, at the moment, if these varieties are typologically and chronologically significant. The Chesterton pottery contained very few examples of this type of beaker.

Undecorated

Most of the indented funnel-necked beakers with bead rims were undecorated.

174. CR4/4/4. CH 5831. Buildings 6/7, Layer 1. Probably early to middle 4th century.

Decorated

175. CR1/14/11+16+18. CH 5768,5773,5775. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th century. Decorated examples are uncommon, and the pattern on this particular vessel is also unusual.

PENTICE-MOULDED BEAKERS

This term is used for those vessels which have a carinated profile with a noticeable edge and change of direction at the junction of shoulder and wall. Most of the examples known have a simple everted rim, distinct from the bead type of rim (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 5,54–57). The type is quite common, and only occurs in contexts of the later 3rd century and after. It may in fact be a purely 4th-century form, but irrefutable evidence is lacking at the moment. The type is certainly an innovation which developed following the changes that occurred in the Lower Nene Valley industry probably in the later 3rd to early 4th century and was well represented among the products of the Chesterton kilns (Figs 5–10, above). Examples of the type occur frequently in the first half of the 4th century, but are less common after that, though pentice-moulded beakers, not necessarily of Lower Nene Valley origin, are known from later 4th-century contexts, as at The Park, Lincoln (Darling 1977, p 8, 278, and pp 24–5), and with 176 here, from the 'Bases' Room in Building 9.

The problem of residuality is critical, and if the production of beakers had indeed declined significantly after the mid 4th century, many might be expected to have survived in use: more in fact, and perhaps for longer, than was usual for fine wares, which were probably always treated with a little more care.

Pentice-moulded beakers can be undecorated, or decorated with paint or rouletting. The Chesterton pottery included examples of both undecorated and painted vessels, but none were good enough for illustration.

176. CR21+24/4/21+24. Possibly overfired. CH 9131. Building 9, 'Bases' Room, F274. Late 3rd and 4th centuries. Rouletting was the most common decoration on pentice-moulded beakers, and, as on this vessel, it was almost always very poorly impressed, a feature noticeable on other 4th-century rouletted forms.

VARIOUS BEAKER BODY SHERDS

Underslip barbotine decoration

177. CR2/6//4//6/1+8. CH 9038,9104,9143. Building 9, Layers 2/3. Late 3rd and 4th centuries. This vessel may be part of a waisted beaker, or even an imitation samian Dr 30. The design is unparalleled so far, and is highly unusual in having scrollwork combined with rows of what are apparently *ovolo*. The scrollwork is of the same general type as that on the main Lower Nene Valley scroll beakers (143–9). The only other instance of *ovolo* decoration on Lower Nene Valley products was on a number of unusual moulded imitation samian wares of the later 2nd to early 3rd century found at Water Newton in 1958 (p 35 and Fig 20, above). The Chesterton vessel may well be of the same date, but could be earlier.

178. CR22+24/26/22+24. CH 660. Building 4, Layer 4a. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. The bird on this vessel is probably a duck, but has been poorly rendered. It could, however, be a species of wader. The appearance of the colour-coat is similar to vessels made at Stanground (Dannell 1973). If this vessel was part of the same production it could be of early 3rd-century date.

179. CR22/26/22. CH 7056. Testhole 31. Mid to late 2nd century?

180. CR8/14/4. CH 257. Grid M, Layer 2. Mid to late 2nd century? The leaf on this vessel has certain similarities with those on some Central Gaulish colour-coated beakers and samian ware.

181. CR17/26/16+22. CH 7522, 7530. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

182. CR12/14/12. CH 2909. Courtyard, F43. Mid to late 2nd century? The form and decoration of this vessel is very close to those of Gaulish beakers (*Gillam* 48; Greene 1978, 25, fig 2.3,9). The underside of the base even has the central small incised circle so common on Gaulish products. This sherd was included in a programme of fabric analysis (Anderson *et al* 1982) which showed that the beaker was not of Gaulish origin, and was, in fact, most probably made in a Lower Nene Valley kiln. This vessel therefore provides further evidence for direct links with, or influence from, Gaulish potters and products in the Lower Nene Valley.

183. CR3/26/3. CH 7323. Grid Q. Probably mid to late 2nd century.

184. CR22/14+26/21. CH 6288. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

Overslip barbotine decoration

185. CR12/26/11;14+26dec. CH 4406. Courtyard, Layer 2. Overslip barbotine scroll decoration is rare. This, and similar vessels, most probably dates to the period when overslip decoration was becoming more common, and when scroll beakers had almost ceased to be produced, that is around the middle of the 3rd century.

Overslip white-painted decoration

There were numerous sherds with fragments of white-painted decoration mostly similar to designs common on imported 'rhenish' beakers (eg Frere 1972, figs 133,1115 and 134,1135–36).

186. CR17/14/17. CH 3301,3051. Building 3, Coal Level, Layer 3, and Building 4, F44. 4th century.

Underslip and overslip barbotine decoration

187. CR25/4//20//4/25;26dec. CH 8441. Grid T, Layer 2. These

sherds may in fact be part of a flagon. The combination of decorative techniques is so far without parallel, and it is explained most easily by considering the vessel to have been made when both were current. Underslip barbotine scale beakers are thought to have been made up to the end of the 3rd century, while the process of putting first white barbotine and then painted designs over the colour coat became gradually more common, especially after the middle of the 3rd century, and was the norm in the 4th. A second half of 3rd-century date would therefore seem to be most likely for this vessel.

Flagons and Jugs (Fig 62)

Although it might be supposed that the production of flagons would go hand-in-hand with that of beakers, there is little evidence for the large-scale production of LNVCC flagons before the late 2nd-early 3rd century, though a colour-coated flagon occurred with other vessels in a possible mid 2nd-century context at Sulehay (Hadman and Upex 1975, 18); the group had, however, been disturbed and the vessel may be a later intrusion. None of the Chesterton types need be any earlier than the late 2nd-early 3rd century. There are too few flagons from Chesterton to suggest anything more than a general chronological and typological range. Developments did occur, but it is, as yet, impossible to say when each may have occurred, or for how long each lasted. It is also difficult to be certain of changes in the later 3rd or early 4th century, so noticeable in other classes.

The form of flagons and jugs was probably closely related to function, and therefore apparent differences may not be typological or chronological, but merely reflect different uses. Most of the flagons and jugs were undecorated, though many had rouletted bands or grooves. Decoration seems to have been more common on 4th-century vessels when a number of thin barbotine or painted designs occur (eg Howe *et al* 1980, 23, fig 6,68; 197 below). The neat, small, moulded grooved and angular necks common on 3rd-century and earlier 4th-century vessels (189–91 below; Hartley 1960b, 24 and 26, fig 4,8–9,12–13) seem to have been replaced later in the 4th century by vessels with wider diameter necks. The vessels with a distinctive upturned spout, as with 192 and 194, are most common in the early to mid 3rd century and were probably made at Water Newton (Fig 14, 55, Fig 16, 76 and Fig 18, 111–2, above) and Stanground (Dannell *et al* 1993, fig 14,1–2; fig 15,38; fig 16,42–5 and fig 20,135). The one type which appears to be a definite late development is the jug of 'beaker' form, of which 196 is an example; evidence suggests this probably first appeared around the middle of the 4th century.

188. CR4/26/4. CH 951. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
189. CR28/26/28. CH 9195. Grid Z. Probably second and third quarters of the 3rd century.

These two vessels are of the same type as vessels made at Sibson (Hartley 1960b, fig 4,13).

190. CR2/5/2. CH 552. Building 1, between F9 and F10. 3rd century.
191. CR22/26/22. CH 8740. Grid T, Layer 2. An unusual vessel, similar to vessels made at Stibbington, probably in the later 3rd or early 4th century (Hartley 1960b, fig 4,9).
192. CR22/26/22. CH 7628. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
193. CR1/4/1. CH 5607. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd and 4th centuries. Flagons or jugs of this type occur consistently in deposits of the second half of the 4th century, and were obviously a late form, though they may have been in production before the middle of the century. They can have either pinched or round necks (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 6,66), and continued in use probably into the 5th century, occurring in a late well at Stibbington and in the Great Casterton villa destruction deposits (Gillam 1951, fig 8,2; Perrin 1981, 451).
194. CR2/26/2. CH 9258. Between Testholes 19 and 39. 3rd century.
195. CR26/26/28. CH 4039. Courtyard, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century. This large fragment is most probably from a flagon or jug similar in form to 193.
196. CR18+22/14/18+22. A complete vessel. Surface colour affected by fire. CH 9948. Building 9, 'Bases' Room, destruction level. Mid to late 4th century. This vessel was one of three lying on the floor of the 'Bases' Room and in use at the time of its destruction (the other two are Fig 70, 444 and Fig 76, 543), which is dated by coin evidence to post *c* AD 379. Other examples have occurred in the Great Casterton villa destruction deposits (*op cit*, fig 8,12) and at Stibbington (forthcoming), and Water Newton (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 6,63). The type was obviously made well into the second half of the 4th century, but its initial date of production is uncertain. It is tempting to view it as a late development of a beaker, first appearing when the latter had all but ceased to have been made. It is certainly very close in form to some of what are considered to be among the latest beaker types (cf Howe *et al* 1980, fig 6,57).
197. CR4/4/28;26dec. CH 9184. Building 9, 'Bases' Room, F274. Late 3rd to 4th centuries. As noted above, decorated flagons are uncommon, but more frequent in the 4th century. The lower zone of scrollwork on this vessel is similar to that on 'rhenish' types of beaker of the same period and the upper zone of scrollwork is similar to that on vessel 173.

Castor Boxes and their Lids (Fig 62)

The Castor box is one of the most well-known LNVCC types. It probably had a function similar to that of a modern tureen. Other centres, notably Colchester (Hull 1958, fig 121,308) produced them, but apparently for a shorter period and mainly for local markets. It is not certain whence this unusual form evolved, but it is thought to have been one of the range of vessels produced in the earliest kilns. It has been recognised for some time that the castor box underwent considerable typological development during its production life, and the examples from Chesterton provide a basis for the understanding of this.

The earliest vessels are thought to have been mainly small, and well-made (cf Corder 1961, fig 18,6). None of the Chesterton vessels are of this category, and most are in fact likely to have been later products, the earliest of them probably being of late 2nd-century date. Small

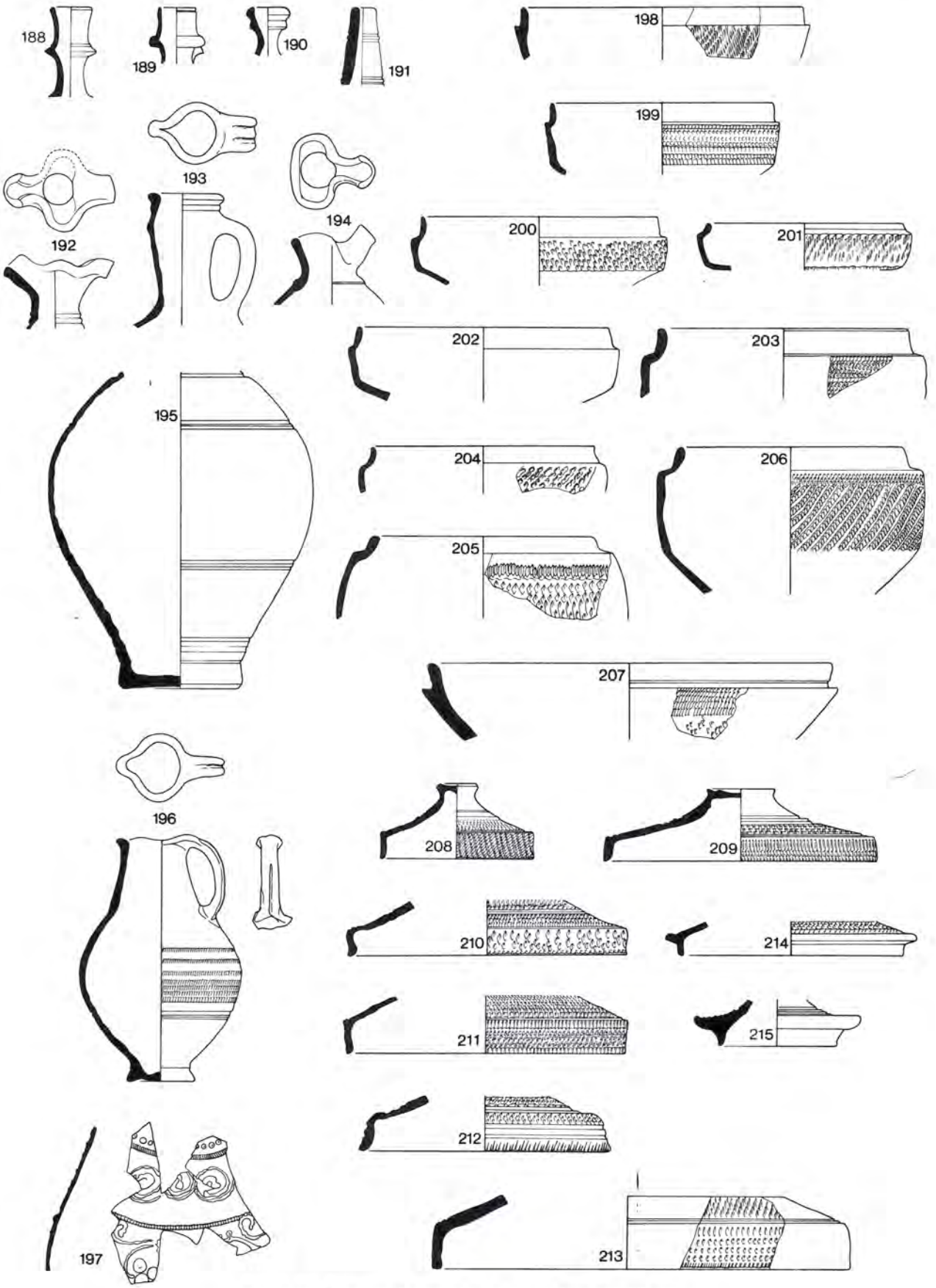


Figure 62. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware

castor boxes are known from other local sites (eg Hadman and Upex 1975, fig 7,14) and the presence of lid 208 may hint at the existence of earlier vessels on the site. It should be remembered, however, that the size of vessels is related to the desired capacity and function, and there can therefore be considerable variation in size among contemporary vessels (occurring as 'sets'). There is a noticeable general overall increase in the size of the boxes with time, however, and from the mid 3rd century most are fairly large.

At the moment, it is not certain whether the type evolved in a number of separate, distinct stages, but it is certain that within the production life of the type noticeable changes did occur. The problem is that standards of workmanship, and other factors such as firing, meant that contemporary vessels could differ markedly. Future research will undoubtedly allow considerable refinement. The typological development is related to both shape and decoration.

Most of the early Castor boxes have what are best described as 'angular' profiles. The wall of the main vessel is fairly straight and there are definite carinations at the junctions with both rim and the slope of the base. The upper carination is emphasised by a distinct ridge caused by the edge of the vessel turning in and down before it again rises to the rim. There is a long slope down to the base, which is usually of fairly small diameter, and similar to that found on beakers. The outer wall of the lid is straight, and there is also a marked carination between its top edge and the slope up, similarly emphasised by the edge first turning downwards slightly. The early lids also have a number of double and single grooves which increase the angularity (208–9). The rouletted decoration which occurs on most, but not all, of these castor boxes is very well impressed with clear, sharp indentations (199,208–9).

The trend in the 3rd century is away from angularity towards a much smoother profile (202,210–11). The top ridge on the main vessel disappears, and the carinations on these and the lids become gradually less distinct. The base becomes wider and flatter. The grooves in the lid remain, however, and help to preserve a degree of angularity which is still evident when it has all but disappeared on contemporary box lower halves. The rouletting is still fairly clear, but is less well or deeply impressed, and can vary considerably in quality (210–11).

By the end of the 3rd century and in the early 4th century the carinations have all but disappeared, and the profiles are now smoothly curved (205,213). Grooves are not now as common on the lids and the rouletting is now poorly impressed. The latest vessels tend to be fairly large, with wide, flat bases, smooth profiles, no lid grooves, and very poorly impressed bands of rouletting consisting merely of small individual vertical lines (Perrin 1981, fig 27.1,14–15). A good example of a late type of lid is that found with the Water Newton gold coin hoard (Johns and Carson 1975, fig 3) dated to *c* AD 350. It is not certain how much longer the castor box remained in production after this; but it is thought that they are unlikely to have been produced in significant numbers beyond the third quarter of the 4th century.

198. CR4/26/4. CH 1400. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
199. CR8/26//4//26/22. CH 488. Building 1, Layer 4. Early to mid 3rd century.
200. CR4+8/26/4+8. CH 7287. Test Hole 69, F160. Probably mid to late 3rd century.
201. CR4+8/26/4+8. CH 8149. Grid O. Probably mid to late 3rd century.
202. CR12/26/12. CH 175. Building 6/7, Layer 1. Probably mid to late 3rd century.
203. CR12/26/17. CH 4913. Building 4, Layer 2. Later 3rd to early 4th century.
204. CR3+13/26/3+13. CH 6702. Courtyard, Layer 9. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
205. CR12/26/22. CH 6904. Buildings 6/7, F115. 4th century.
206. CR2/4/2. CH 2874. Courtyard, F42. Later 3rd to 4th century.
207. CR8/7/8. CH 2520. Building 3, Layer 2. An odd vessel. The distinct top edge would suggest a date in the later 2nd to early 3rd century, but the size, appearance and rouletting would be more consistent with a 4th-century date.
208. CR4+12/14/4+12. CH 956, 980. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
209. CR17/26/4. CH 2815. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
210. CR12+22/14/12+22. Burnt. CH 9200. Grid X. Probably mid 3rd century.
211. CR2/4/11. CH 9335. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
212. CR4/14//20//14/11+21. CH 1194. Building 1, Layer 2. Probably mid to late 3rd century.
213. CR8/4+14/12. CH 3075. Building 4. F63. 4th century.

Other Lids (Fig 62)

A number of other lid types were produced in the Lower Nene Valley, probably mainly to fit LNVCC narrow-mouthed jars 273–5 (Fig 65 below; Howe *et al* 1980, fig 6,70–72). They are often decorated with rouletting, and can also have a hole through the top. The purpose of the hole is uncertain; it would presumably have been to allow steam to escape, to provide ventilation or to pour liquid into or from the jar without removing the lid. It might even have been used for libations, should the jar have held cremated bones. These lids, and also castor box lids, could obviously be used with vessels other than those for which they were intended (for example, the castor box lid with a Hadham ware grey bowl containing the Water Newton gold coin hoard (Johns and Carson, 1975, fig 3).

They appear to be mainly of 4th-century date; and occur in many of the latest deposits (Gillam 1951, fig 10,49–50). No typological or chronological traits can be suggested at the moment.

214. CR8/26//4//26/2. CH 190. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2.
215. CR8/4/8. CH 5738. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2.

Dishes (Fig 63)

DISHES WITH TRIANGULAR-TYPE RIMS

Vessels 216–18 are the LNVCC equivalents of 62–82 (Fig 58). None are decorated, but the potters would not have been able to copy burnished decoration on colour-coated vessels and these dishes could therefore be contemporary with either decorated or undecorated varieties of LNVGW dishes. Both 216 and 217 have chamfers and are therefore related to LNVGW vessels 63,69–70 which are considered as being later types. Most, in fact, do seem to have chamfers, and it is therefore possible that the type as a whole started at a date some way into the LNVGW sequence, perhaps around the middle of the 2nd century.

216. CR12/26/12. CH 6689. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
217. CR12+17/26/12+17. CH 1533. Building 1, Layer 5. Probably second half of 2nd century.
218. CR12/18/12. CH 6551. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
219. CR8/4/8. CH 960–1. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
220. CR4/4/4. CH 1186. Building 1, Layer 2.

DISH WITH ROUNDED-TYPE RIM

221. CR12+17/26//20//26/12+17. CH 6559. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century. This vessel is one of these which could be easily confused with late 3rd and 4th century types. Smaller vessels with a more rounded rim, and a chamfer are known, however.

DISHES WITH SMALL, FLANGED RIMS

This form also had no equivalent in the Chesterton LNVGW. It only occurred in one layer on the site, and appears, at the moment, to have only been produced in small numbers, probably at the end of the 2nd, or early in the 3rd century.

222. CR22/26/22. CH 2643,2779–80,4881. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
223. CR11+23/26/11+23. CH 2639–40. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
224. CR4+17/26/4+17. CH 2778. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

DISHES WITH SLIGHTLY GROOVED RIMS

This form is the equivalent of LNVGW vessel 87 (Fig 59), and is similarly uncommon, probably also dating to the second half of the 2nd century.

225. CR17/14/17. CH 7687. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
226. CR4/19/4. CH 6688. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

DISHES WITH GROOVED OR BEADED RIMS

227. CR11/26/12. CH 7769. Building 1, Layer 17. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
228. CR13/5/13. CH 6687. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
229. CR4+12/26//18//26/4+12. CH 7447. Courtyard, Layer 15. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

Vessels 227–9 are the LNVCC equivalent of 83–4 (Fig 58).

PLAIN-RIMMED DISHES

230. CR4/26/4. CH 6075. Grid P. This is an unusual vessel, and is the only one of its type from Chesterton, with no LNVGW equivalent. It is separate from the following more usual form, and is probably of mid to late 2nd-century date.

The type represented by 231–5 was apparently made from the later 2nd century onwards, though most are of 4th century date. There is little to distinguish between the earlier and later vessels except that most of the earlier period would have had a chamfer, which is of no help when dealing with a rim sherd. The clear line between wall and base gradually disappears in the 4th century, making it easier to identify the later products. It is possible that some of the later vessels could have a more outsplayed rim; a development similar to that noted for BB1 dishes (Gillam 1976, 77). The plain rimmed dish was produced up to the end of the Lower Nene Valley industry.

231. CR22/18/22. Slight chamfer. CH 1137. Building 1, Layer 2. Late 2nd to early 3rd century?
232. CR8/5/8. CH 4220. Courtyard, Well (CHW). Probably mid to late 4th century.
233. CR22/26/2. CH 9045. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
234. CR1/14/1. CH 9331. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
235. CR1+8/4/1+8. CH 9743. Building 9, Stairs Period I. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

WIDE, OFTEN SHALLOW, DISHES OR BOWLS WITH FLANGED OR REEDED RIMS

These distinctive types do not seem to have been produced in very large numbers but occur on most sites with 4th-century occupation. Vessels can be decorated or plain, and as most of the later examples are decorated, it may be that plain vessels were superseded by decorated ones during the 4th century. The number of known complete designs, however, is few and many more examples are needed before a range of designs can be given. It is not certain if the various rim forms have any chronological significance, and at the moment it appears that both types were produced from the late 3rd/early 4th century right up to the end of the industry.

Similar vessels were made at the Swanpool, Lincolnshire, kilns (Webster and Booth 1947, fig 4,D28–32) and these have often been cited as possible evidence for the migration of Nene Valley potters (Darling 1977, 36). Conclusive proof must await future research.

Flanged rim

Undecorated

236. CR22/26/22. CH 5589. Building 6/7, F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

Decorated

Most decorated vessels have white painted or thin white

barbotined designs on the inside, but all of the Chesterton examples were too fragmentary to be illustrated.

237. CR8/26/8;26dec. CH 156. Buildings 6/7, Layer 1. Probably 4th century.

Reeded rim

Undecorated

238. CR4/18/4. CH 7426. Grid R. Probably 4th century.

Decorated

None of the Chesterton examples was good enough to be illustrated. The designs are generally similar to those on the flanged vessels.

Imitation Samian Vessels (Figs 63–4)

There is little evidence, as yet, for the large-scale production of LNVCC samian imitations in the second half of the 2nd century, though a number of vessels of samian form, including Dr 37 imitations made in a mould, were found in the Water Newton Kiln A (p 35 and Fig 20 above) and another occurred in the Great Casterton kiln (Corder 1961, fig 18,9). It is thought that these formed only a very small percentage of the total production and were not part of the main range. In the first half of the 3rd century, imitations of some samian forms, notably Dr 35 and 36 were made at Stanground, possibly by the potter *Indixivixus*; many of these have a dark grey colour coat (Dannell 1973). There is evidence for imitation of some samian forms continuing throughout the 3rd century.

The main period for the imitation of samian, however, was from the (mid?) later 3rd to early 4th century, and those vessels are the Lower Nene Valley equivalents of types produced at the same time in both the Oxfordshire (Young 1977, types 44–53) and New Forest (Fulford 1975, types 59,61–3) industries.

It is not certain why there should have been a sudden increase in the demand for such vessels, but it is likely to have been the result of a whole sequence of events and inter-relating market factors, most of which will never be recognised or understood.

The main range of vessels were imitations of samian forms 31, 36, 37 and 38; imitations of form 45 are known but were not common (Wild 1974, 163, fig 8,f,h,i; Howe *et al* 1980, fig 7,80–84). Most are common in the first half of the 4th century, but, apparently, only those imitating forms 36 and 38 appear to last well into the later 4th century (Perrin 1981, 453). This situation is not paralleled in the Oxfordshire industry, however, where imitation forms 31, possibly 37, and 45 were made up to the end of the industry, and future research may show that the types lasted longer in production in the Lower Nene Valley than is thought at present, or may provide further evidence of, and reasons for, the apparent decline of all forms except those imitation forms 36 and 38. It is possible that the straight-sided flanged bowl and the plain dish soon become the main dish and bowl types, and it is worth noting that these were not part of the main range of the Oxfordshire kilns (Young 1977, 126–7). It is not thought at present that there were noticeable typological and chronological developments within each vessel type.

FORM 31

It is interesting that few of these have the high internal base characteristic of the later true samian ware vessels.

239. CR2+4/26/2+4. CH 8200. Grid Q. Probably first half of the 4th century.

FORM 37

It is not certain if the two following vessels are correctly termed imitations of form 37, but the rouletting on 240 is paralleled on late vessels in Argonne ware, and in the Oxfordshire kilns (Young 1977, fig 60,C55.6–7), though exact copies of form 37 were not readily identifiable in the Oxfordshire products (*op cit*, p 126). It is possible that these were LNVCC equivalents of LNVGW vessels (Fig 60, 101) produced in the later 2nd or early 3rd century. A better idea of what may have been the main imitation form 37 type in the 4th century is given by a vessel from Orton Hall Farm (Howe *et al* 1981, fig 7,82; Perrin 1996, fig 96,400).

240. CR2/14+26/2. CH 7319. Grid Q. Later 3rd to early 4th? century.

241. CR21/26/21. CH 4916. Building 4, Layer 2. Later 3rd (to early 4th?) century?

FORM 36

This type appears to have been made throughout the 3rd and well into the later 4th century. Most of the products of the later 3rd to 4th-century period do not have barbotine decoration (cf Young 1977, 126, figs 58–9,C48–50).

242. CR12/5+18/12;26 dec. CH 3678. Building 1, Layer 3. Overslip barbotine decoration is not common on any class of Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware, but on beakers (above, p 97, No 185) is thought to be of mid to late 3rd-century date.

243. CR21/26/21. CH 5394. Building 4, F46. Probably early to mid 3rd century. This vessel is extremely similar to vessels made at Stanground (Dannell 1973, 140, fig 1,1; Dannell *et al* 1993, eg fig 20,137)).

244. CR8/4/8;26dec. CH 5759. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries. This vessel represents the main 4th-century type of imitation form 36. Most are undecorated (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 7,81). They are similar to Oxfordshire products (Young 1977, figs 58–9,C48–50).

FORM 38

245. CR2/4+26/2. CH 7437. Grid Q. 4th century?

246. CR8/26/8;26dec. CH 5533. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2. 4th century?

247. CR2/5//26//5/2;26dec. CH 5757. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

Bowls (Fig 64)

BOWLS WITH BEADED RIMS AND PAINTED DECORATION

These relatively small bead rim, decorated bowls are

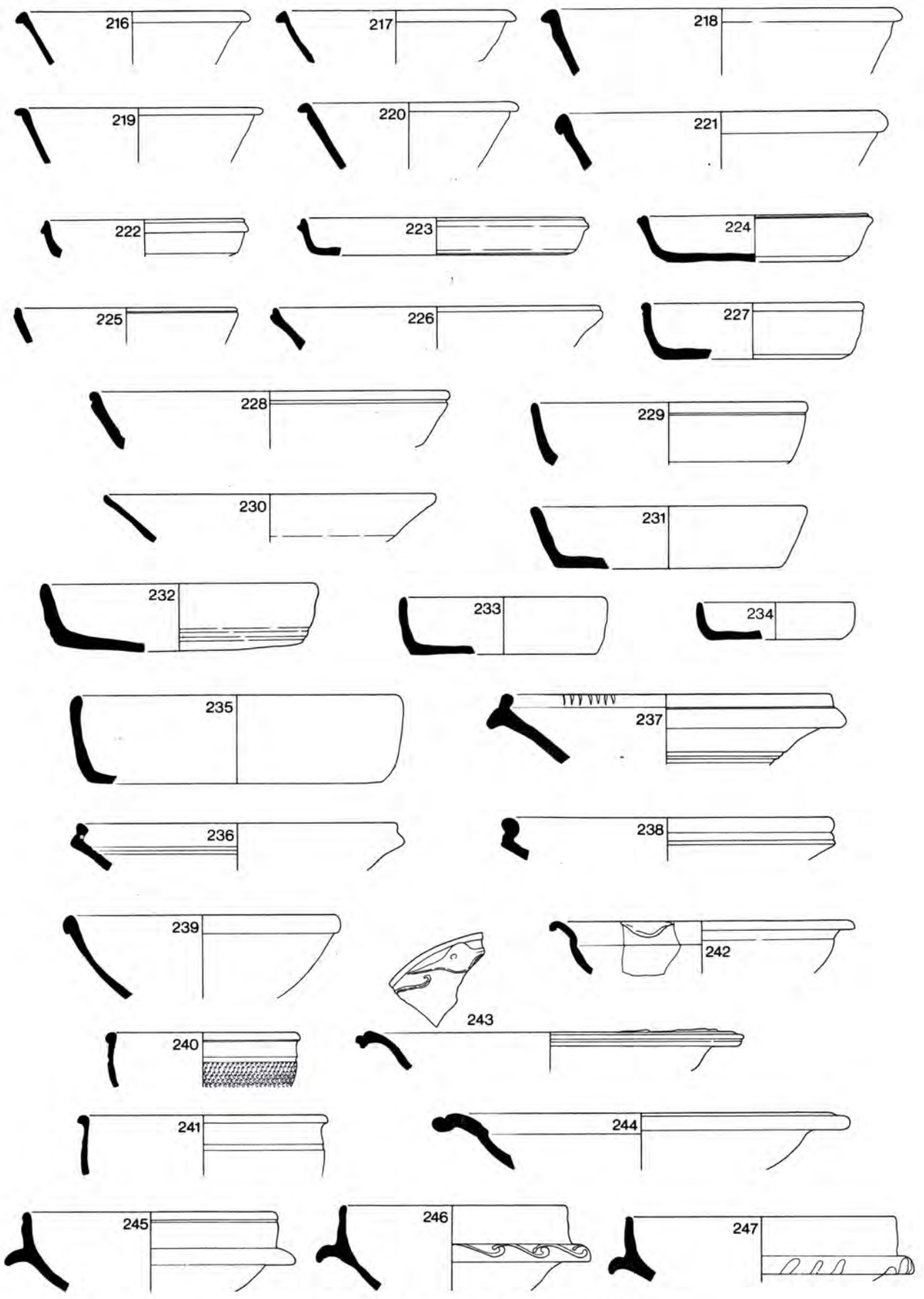


Figure 63. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware

common Lower Nene Valley type, and can be related to the similar range of vessels, reminiscent of samian form 37, produced in the Oxfordshire kilns (Young 1977, fig 60,55–61). The most common decoration is white overslip painted, sometimes intersecting, arcs (248–9). Others with rouletted decoration, horizontal grooves or both also occur (Stibbington, forthcoming). Present evidence suggests that the type declined after the middle 4th century.

248. CR8/26/8;26dec. CH 2862. Courtyard, F42. Probably first half of 4th century.
249. CR1+8/26/1+8; 26dec. CH 738. Courtyard, Layer 2. Probably first half 4th century.
250. CR22/4+5/22;26dec. CH 7904. Building 8, Wall Trench, Layer 4. This decoration is unusual but occurs occasionally on other LNVCC bowls.
251. CR2/4/2;26dec. CH 5653. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Later 3rd to 4th centuries. The decoration is unusual for Lower Nene Valley products, and is closer to that found on Oxfordshire vessels (cf Young 1977, fig 62,C77–2; fig 59,C50.3–4).

BOWLS WITH FLAT- OR ROUNDED-RIM.

This type is not very common in LNVCC, but was produced in much greater numbers in LNVGW. LNVCC examples probably date from the later 3rd to early 4th century, and were quickly replaced by the flanged bowl. Some may, however, have been made earlier at the end of the 2nd or early in the 3rd century; future research will hopefully provide more evidence.

252. CR21/18/21. CH 8508. Grid R.
253. CR21/26/21. CH 1049,514. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
254. CR3+4/14/3+4. CH 1591. Building 2, Layer 3. Later 2nd to early 3rd century?

STRAIGHT-SIDED FLANGED BOWLS

This type is by far the most common LNVCC bowl form of the 4th century, and was made up to the end of the industry. It was produced in huge numbers, and was exported widely. Together with the plain dish it may have served as a casserole or tureen. The form of the flanged rim can vary widely, and as yet there seems to be no chronological significance in the variations (Stibbington, forthcoming). The only possible indicators as to date are that as all of their LNVGW predecessors were fairly shallow and had high flanged rims (Fig 59, 107–108) the LNVCC versions that immediately superseded them might have had a similar form (Hartley 1960b, 26, fig 4,16) and that the really deep vessels appear to belong to the second half of the 4th century or later. It is very doubtful that the flange 'moved' gradually down the wall during the production life of the vessel, as it appears to have done with BB1 (Gillam 1976, 70), or that the change from shallow to deep bowls was also gradual. All that can be said is that a shallow bowl is likely to be early in the sequence, and a deep bowl late in the sequence. No criteria exist at the moment for the close dating of rim, body, or base sherds that do not form a complete profile. Moreover, as the most popular type of bowl, its size and capacity varied considerably, and therefore at any point small, medium, large, shallow and deep vessels may have been made at the same time (Stibbington, forthcoming).

255. CR2/26/2. CH 3238. Building 3, Coal Level, Layer 3. Probably later 3rd to early 4th century.
256. CR12/14/4+8. CH 1912. Courtyard, Layer 2. Probably later 3rd to early 4th century.
257. CR8/14/8. CH 1911. Courtyard, Layer 2. Probably early to mid 4th century.
258. CR8/4+5/8. CH 5587. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
259. CR10+12/26/10+12. CH 9058. Building 9. Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
260. CR12/14/12. CH 5754. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
261. CR22/26/22. CH 1982. Building 4, Layer 2.
262. CR8/26/8. CH 5732. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2.

Vessels 261 and 262 are both slightly unusual types.

DECORATED BOWLS WITH CARINATED PROFILES AND HANDLES

Vessels 263–5 appear to be of an unusual type which has, so far, only occurred in very late 4th- or early 5th-century contexts (Perrin 1981, 453); but not enough of each survives to be absolutely certain. None occurred in any securely stratified late deposits at Chesterton, except that all were from the building with the latest attested occupation, Building 9.

263. CR4+8/14/4+8;26dec. CH 9057. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
264. CR2+13//26/2+13;26dec. CH 9305. Building 9, Layers 1/2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
265. CR22/26/22;26dec. CH 9112. Building 9, Layer 3. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

OTHER BOWLS

266. CR17+21/26/17+21. CH 6434–5. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. An unusual vessel, with no known parallels so far, and perhaps reminiscent of samian form 29, or even Terra Nigra or Rubra cups (Rigby 1973, fig 4,37–8). It would appear to be one of the early range of LNVCC types.
267. CR12/26/12. CH 2495,6693. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
268. CR17/26/17. CH 8002. Building 8, Layer 2.

Vessels 267–8 are probably from carinated forms, and are uncommon and unusual. They are also likely to be part of the early LNVCC bowl and dish range, belonging to the second half of the 2nd century.

269. CR13/26/13;26dec. CH 5734. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2. 4th century? This is not a common LNVCC bowl form, but other examples are known. As with 251 it is similar to Oxfordshire products (Young 1977, fig 62,C77.2), and may indicate influence from that area.
270. CR3/26/3. CH 2660. Building 3, Layer 3. Another unusual vessel, with no parallels. Its context suggests it belongs to the late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
271. CR3+12/26/3+12. CH 4914,4990,4954. Building 4, Layer 2. An unusual vessel which appears most likely to be of

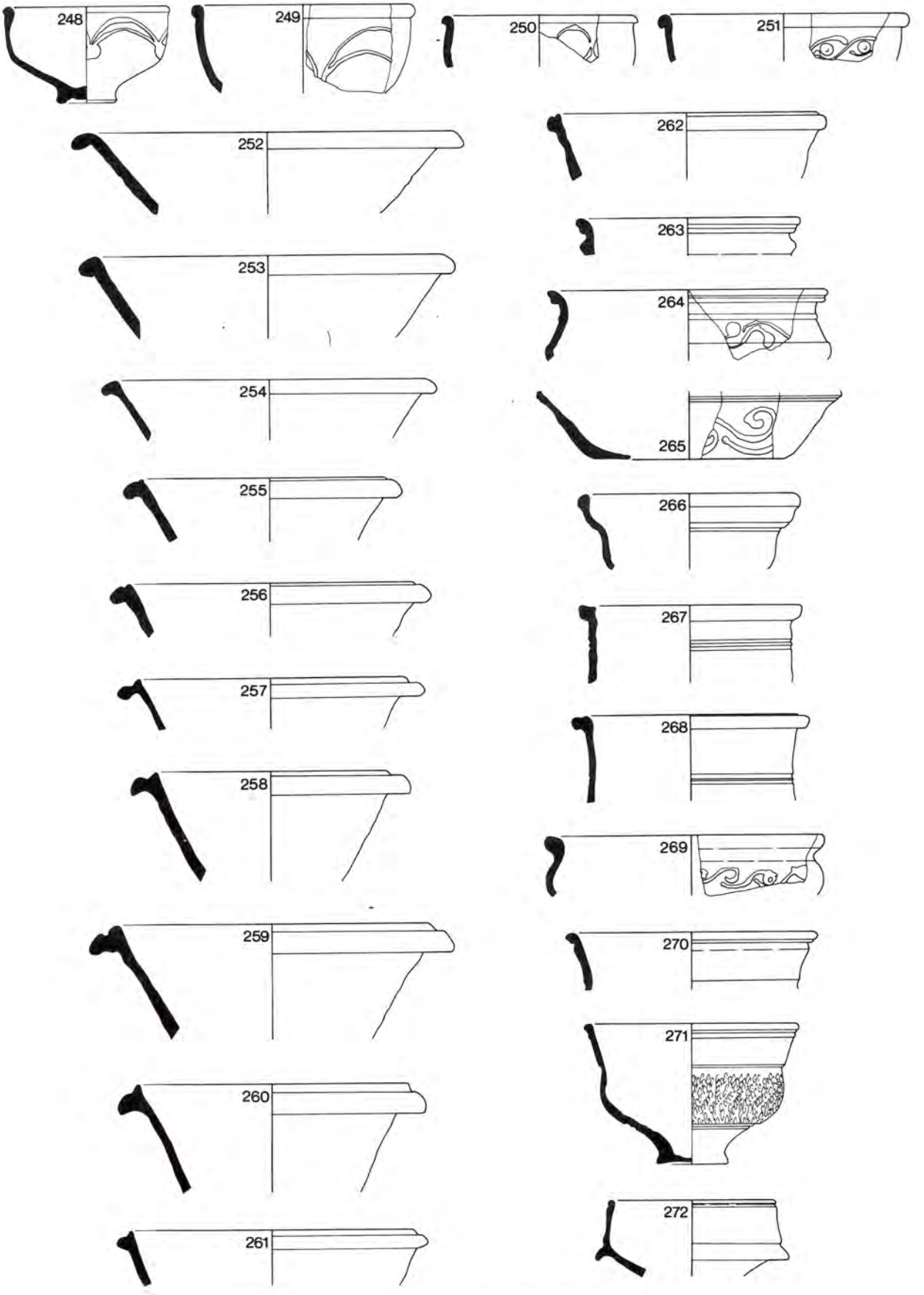


Figure 64. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware

second half of 2nd-century date, perhaps an imitation of a samian form. Its context is essentially unstratified, but Building 4, as a whole, contained mainly Antonine pottery.

272. CR4+8/26/4+8. CH 8000. Building 8, Layer 2. This vessel may be a variant of an imitation samian form 38 or 44. It is most probably second half of 2nd century in date.

Jars (Fig 65)

At least one Lower Nene Valley kiln site (Water Newton) has produced evidence for the production of a type of LNVCC jar probably in the later 2nd century (Fig 57, 14–22 above). The type concerned is in fact a colour-coated version of the main small LNVGW jar of the period (Fig 57, 33–40). As with some of the other LNVCC vessel types it seems that LNVCC jars were manufactured throughout the 3rd century but the volume of production is not clear. The main period LNVCC jar production was, however, from the late 3rd to early 4th century.

The two main types produced in this period were narrow-mouthed (with lids, see 215), and wide-mouthed of varying heights and sizes. Sites other than Chesterton have a other varieties including handled, often decorated types (Perrin 1981, 453, fig 27.2.22 or Howe *et al* 1980, fig 7,74; Stibbington, forthcoming). Both the narrow- and wide-mouthed jars were made throughout the 4th century, and probably up to the end of the industry. There is, as yet, little evidence for chronological and typological changes.

Narrow-mouthed jars

Undecorated vessels are common, but many others have either rouletting or grooving, or combinations of both.

273. CR22/4/22. CH 7258. Testhole 60, Layer 2. 4th century?
274. CR1/4/1. CH 9304. Grid W, Layers 1/2. 4th century?
275. CR8/14/8. CH 2902. Courtyard, F43. 4th century?

Medium Jars

Most of these have rouletting on the rim, neck or both.

276. CR25/26/25. CH 5761. Building 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
277. CR4+22/5//18//5/4+22. CH 4460. Building 3, Wall Trench B. 4th century?

Wide-mouthed Jars or Bowls

These were the most common type of jar in the 4th century, and were probably made up to the end of the industry. There is considerable variation in form – vessels having short, medium or tall necks, and curved, rounded or squared rims – and size, from small to large and short to tall (cf Howe *et al* 1980, fig 7,75–77). There may be some chronological significance in these variations, but as most of the types had LNVGW equivalents, it is obvious that they could all have been produced at the same time. Future research may, however, provide some indications of chronological development.

278. CR4/14/4. CH 7390. TH 79. Layers 1–3. This vessel is probably one of the later 2nd-to early 3rd century LNVCC equivalents of LNVGW jars (Fig 57, 33–40).
279. CR1/26/1. CH 5881,5901. Buildings 6/7, Layer 1. 4th century?
280. CR22/26/22. CH 5636. Buildings 6/7, Layer 1. 4th century?
281. CR1/5/1. CH 726. Courtyard, Layer 2. 4th century?
282. CR28/20/28. CH 9053. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

Miscellaneous Vessels (Fig 65)

283. CR10/18/10. CH 6725,6727. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. Most probably an imitation samian form 30.
284. CR20+23/4/20+23. CH 8812. Grid V. Layer 2. 4th century?
285. CR2/4/22. CH 8436. Grid T, Layer 2. 4th century?
286. CR1/5+6/1. CH 5763. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
287. CR21/26/21. CH 1200. Building 1, Layer 2. Probably mid to late 2nd century. Possibly an imitation samian form 64. A link with either 'London-ware' types or the Stanground imitation samian vessels (Dannell 1973) is possible.
288. CR12/4/12. CH 3582. Building 1, Layer 1. 4th century?
289. CR4/26/4. CH 1703. Building 2, Layer 4. 4th century?

Vessels 288–9 are probably the bases from either wide shallow dishes, similar to 236–8, or from imitation samian form 31 vessels like 244.

London Type Ware (Fig 65)

The vessels of London-type ware from Chesterton are of considerable interest. It has long been appreciated that the term 'London ware' for this class of pottery was misleading, in that more than one manufacturing centre produced similar vessels. The range of fabrics, especially those apparently in LNVGW (Fig 58, 60,93–4, Fig 59, 99 above) and motifs represented at Chesterton, Normangate Field and other Lower Nene Valley sites such as Ashton, Orton Hall Farm, Monument 97, Castor, Werrington, Water Newton, Billing Brook (and Grandford) provides strong evidence for local production (Perrin 1980). Many of the motifs are also found on similar vessels from Middle and Upper Nene Valley sites such as Brixworth, and together with the range at Ashton, which is greater than any other site so far examined, may suggest that the centre is located to the west of the more well-known Lower Nene Valley complex (*op cit*). Few of the motifs can be paralleled outside the valley at any of the other regional centres (Rodwell 1978). Some also occur on LNVCW ware (Fig 66, 344 below). The more common motif range and vessel types have been noted elsewhere (Perrin 1980, 8–10).

The pits at Chesterton and Normangate Field suggest that the Lower Nene Valley 'production' of London-type ware occurred mainly during the second quarter of the 2nd century. Further west up the Nene Valley at Ashton there appears to have been a sequence related to fabrics with the vessels in LNVGW being the latest in a development which began in the later 1st century (P. Aird *pers comm*).

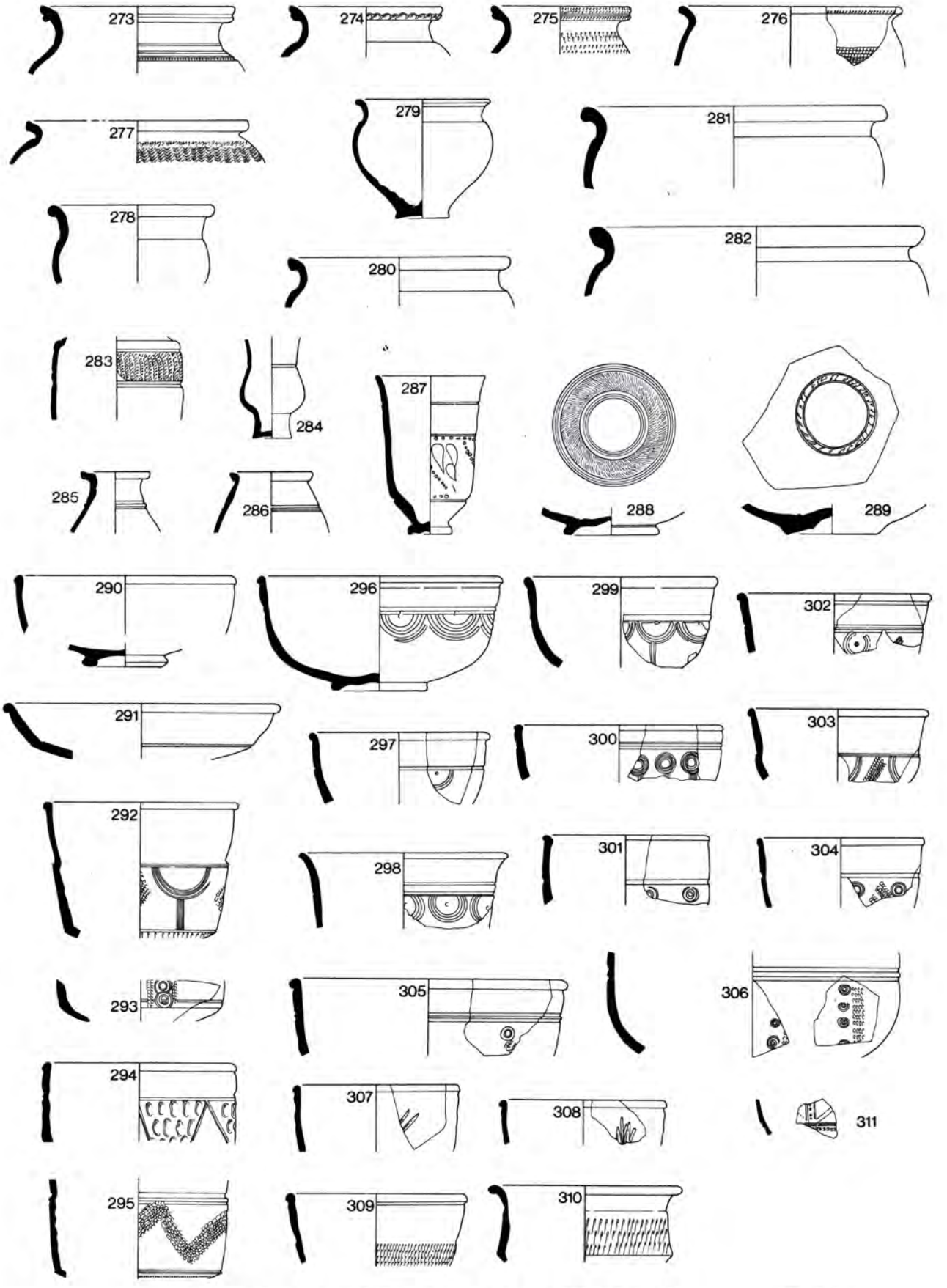


Figure 65. Pottery – Lower Nene Valley colour-coated ware, 273–289; London-type ware, 290–311

A group of vessels with stamps very similar to those found on some of the London-type ware vessels from Chesterton and the other Nene Valley sites was found near kilns at Stanground in 1966–7 (Dannell 1973, fig 1,1a,2a,2b,3,4a,4b) These were mainly on imitations of East Gaulish samian ware types, considered to be of later 2nd- to 3rd-century date (*op cit*, 141), and other pottery from the same site (*op cit*, 6–10) suggested a date in the first half of the 3rd century for the use of the kilns (*op cit*, 141, Dannell *et al* 1993, 89–91). The stamped pottery was not actually from the kilns, however, but from an adjacent gully or drainage ditch (Dannell 1973, 139; Dannell *et al* 1993, 78) and may have not all been contemporary. It is, therefore, at the moment uncertain if the Stanground vessels represent a continuation of the technique after the suggested main period for the stamping of vessels in this fashion, or a later re-emergence of it. The place of the Stanground kilns in the production and development of stamped wares in the Lower Nene Valley is similarly uncertain, and only future excavation and research will provide answers to the many problems.

Imitation samian form 18/31

290. CR15+20/21/15+20. Burnished, slightly mottled surfaces. CH 8904, 8908. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
291. CR21/26//21//26/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 5176. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

Imitation samian form 30

292. CR16+20/21/16+20. Smoothed surfaces. CH 6267–8, 6293,2439. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
293. CR22/11//21//11/22. Burnished surfaces. CH 8281a. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
294. CR20+21/15//21//15/20+21. Burnished surfaces. CH 8930. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century. A smaller but very similar vessel was found in one of the Normangate Field pit groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 8,126). It has only four rows of indentations within each triangle instead of the five here, and additional stamped lozenge motifs between some of the triangles (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 2,25).
295. CR20/21/20. Burnished externally and part internally. CH 8915,8965. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.

Imitation samian form 37

296. CR21. Burnished surfaces. Complete CH 8280. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
297. CR20+21/11/20+21. Burnished externally. CH 4889. Building 4, Layer 2.
298. CR15/20/15. Surfaces now eroded. CH 7300. Grid K, testhole 71.
299. CR28/16//21//16/28. Burnished surfaces. CH 783, 784. Grid D. Topsoil.
300. CR28/4//20//4/28. CH 4806. Grid I.
301. CR21/18//21//18/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 4888. Building 4, Layer 2.
302. CR22/4/22. Burnished surfaces. CH 4334. Building 4, Layer 5. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
303. CR21/26//21//26/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 5261. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
304. CR18/21/18. Burnished surfaces. CH 3670. Building 1, Layer 3.
305. CR21. Burnished surfaces. CH 7993. Grid O, Layer 2.
306. CR20+21/15//21//15/20+21. Burnished surfaces. CH 8927. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
307. CR17+21/8//20//8/17+21. Burnished surfaces. CH 2655. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
308. CR16+21/8//18//8/16+21. Burnished externally. CH 2000. Building 4, Layer 2.

The decoration on 307–8 is reminiscent of the 'cutglass' motifs on some samian ware vessels.

309. CR18/21/18. Burnished surfaces. CH 7181. Grid O, Testhole 39. Similar vessels occurred in one of the Normangate Field Pit Groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 8,129)
310. CR14/18//21//18/12+21. Smoothed surfaces. CH 1177. Building 1, Layer 2. A vessel of similar form, but with stamped and compass-incised decoration, occurred in one of the Normangate Field Pit Groups (*op cit*, fig 8,124).

?Imitation samian jar.

311. CR17+21. CH 1417. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

Cream Wares (Figs 66–7)

Numerous white, cream or buff-coloured vessels in fabrics identical to those used for LNVGW and LNVCC occur on Lower Nene Valley sites, thereby proving the manufacture of self-coloured wares (LNVCW) was part of the Lower Nene Valley industry. The range of products, and their chronologies and typologies are little understood, however, as no kilns earlier than the 4th century which fired the wares have been excavated, and site information is often limited.

The main LNVCW products were mortaria, and these are considered separately. Other vessels included various types of flagons, jars, bowls and dishes, as well as more unusual forms such as tazza and candlesticks. It seems that LNVCW wares formed a small but consistent proportion of the total wares produced and were made throughout the lifetime of the industry. Most would have been made to supply the local area, but some, especially those with more specialised functions or more 'exotic', may have found markets farther afield.

Some of the pottery in this section is not of Lower Nene Valley origin; others here assigned to local kilns may in future prove to have been also made elsewhere.

Flagons (Fig 66)

The production of flagons is likely, as elsewhere, to have gone hand-in-hand with that of mortaria. Most of the LNVCW flagons from Chesterton appear to be of 2nd- to early 3rd-century date, and it is possible that by the end of the 2nd or early in the 3rd century they had been replaced by LNVCC vessels. Site evidence from Chesterton, Normangate Field and Orton Hall Farm suggests

the first LNVCW flagons were made in the Hadrianic period. No discussion of typology is possible at the moment.

312. CR14+26. CH 6857. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F91. Context suggests a pre-mid 2nd-century date.
313. CR26. Smoothed surfaces. Two-ribbed handle. CH 8935. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
314. CR6. Smoothed surfaces. Two-ribbed handle. CH 6275–76. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
315. CR26. Smoothed surfaces. CH 4802. Building 1, F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
316. CR26. Smoothed surfaces. CH 952. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

Jars (Fig 66)

The Chesterton pottery contained a variety of jar types but none of their chronologies and typologies can be discussed at the moment. Most were probably not made for long, being replaced by LNVGW vessels by the early 3rd century.

JARS WITH GROOVED RIMS AND NECKS

This type occurred in the Sulehay kiln (Hadman and Upex 1975, fig 7,2) and was also apparently still being made in the first quarter of the 3rd century at a kiln site near Godmanchester (H.M. Green, *pers comm*). The main period for the production and use of the type in the Lower Nene Valley is probably the second half of the 2nd century.

317. CR11/5//6//5/4. CH 7685. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

LID-SEATED JARS

Jars of this type were also represented at Sulehay (*op cit*, fig 7,3) but there are few other local parallels. A second half of 2nd-century date for the main period of manufacture and use seems likely.

318. CR14. CH 5255. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
319. CR14+26. CH 6469. Building 4, Layer 5. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
320. CR6. Lightly burnished. CH 6256. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
321. CR4+5. CH 1401. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

MEDIUM-MOUTHED JARS

Little can be said about the chronology and typology of the following types.

322. CR14. Rough surface. CH 6604. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
323. CR?/4/4. CH 7521. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
324. CR14+26. Burnished surfaces. CH 7627. Courtyard, Layer 7. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
325. CR4+5. External surface burnt to CR19. CH 8198. Grid Q. Probably second half of 2nd to early 3rd century.
326. CR26. CH 7674. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
327. CR4. CH 5750. Buildings 6/7. Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries. Residual?

NARROW-MOUTHED JARS

328. CR26;4dec. Light burnishing. CH 7673–75. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. A similar vessel occurred in one of the Normangate Field pit groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 7, 95) and the type was therefore probably in production before the middle of the 2nd century. Decoration can vary, with simple narrow horizontal bands also being common (Howe *et al* 1980, fig 8.95) though these motif appears to be a later development. The type appears to have been made later in LNVCC (Higgins 1972, 284–5, fig 4,32).
329. CR14/26/14. CH 954. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

HANDLED JAR

330. CR14/4/14. Barbotine decoration with details picked out in CR2. CH 8266. Grid Q. Probably second half of 2nd century.

TALL, CYLINDRICAL JAR

331. CR14/5/14. CH 9527. Building 9, 'Bases' Room, F294. Late 3rd to 4th centuries. This is a very unusual vessel, the only parallel from the Chesterton pottery being shell-gritted ware jar 449 (Fig 71 below). It is possible that this is the rim type that goes with certain tall cylindrical vessels which have occurred in late deposits at Stibbington (forthcoming) and Great Casterton (Corder 1961, 69, fig 24,15).

SMALL JARS

332. CR26. CH 4772. Building 4, Layer 2. 2nd to 3rd century?
333. CR6+26. CH 1057. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

JARS WITH INCISED,BARBOTINE AND PAINTED DECORATION

The following sherds, from several vessels, are among the most interesting of all the Chesterton pottery. They probably come from vessels depicting deities, notably Mercury, as on 340. Some of the better sherds have been discussed ((Webster 1959 and 1987). There appears to have been a continuing demand for such vessels, as similar scenes are known on 4th-century LNVCC (Webster 1966, 338–39; Challands 1979, 21, fig 13) and earlier LNVCC wares (*Durobrivae* 1975, 29). Vessels 139–40 may be part of the same tradition. Most of the Chesterton vessels are likely to have been made in the second half of the 2nd century, though the chances for survival in use would be high. The occurrence of 334, 337–8, and 340 in Building 1, was seen to enhance the interpretation that it might have been a temple in at least one of its three phases.

334. CR14;12paint. CH 527,667,659,661,663. Building 1, Layer 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
335. CR14+27;17+22paint. CH 4803. Grid J.
336. CR26;4+12paint. CH 487. Building 3, Wall trench B.
337. CR14;12paint. CH 665. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
338. CR14;12paint. CH 664. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
339. CR14. CH 490. Building 1, Layer 4.

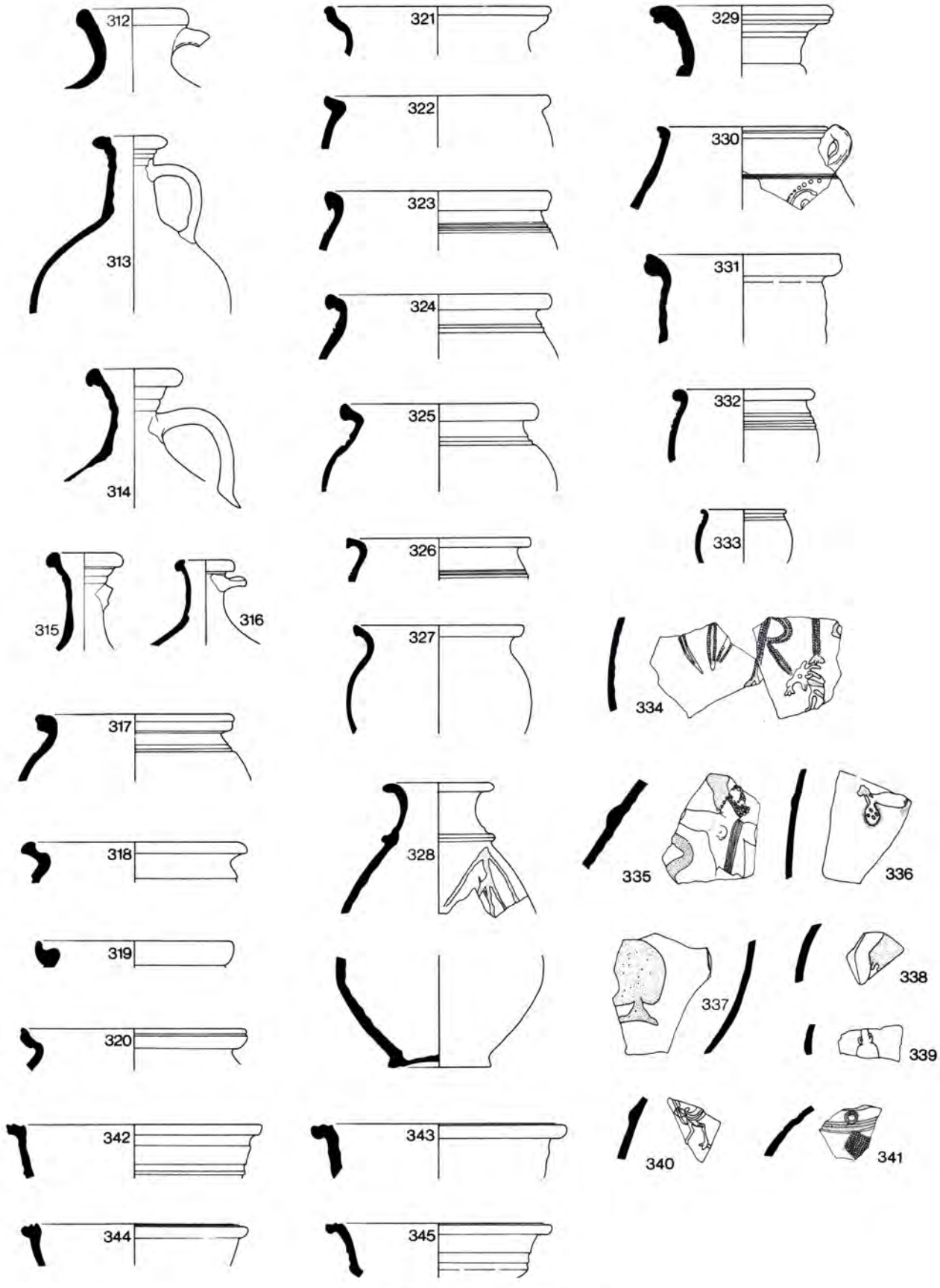


Figure 66. Pottery – Cream ware

340. CR14;12paint. CH 669. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

The sherds from Building 1, Layers 15/7, are probably all from the same vessel. The fragments of letter surviving, together with the goat and cock all suggest the god Mercury, and the fragment with a purse is probably also from a vessel depicting the god Mercury. The figured fragment may be the god Vulcan, or some other, more local native 'smith god'; the cap, and 'sash' across his chest perhaps representing armour, could suggest the god Jupiter Dolichenus (Webster 1959, pl XXIV A, p 94).

JAR FRAGMENT WITH STAMPED AND PAINTED DECORATION

341. CR26;12paint. CH 8115. Grid O. This sherd is of great interest because the stamped decoration is identical to that normally associated with 'London-type' ware vessels (Fig 65, 292–3,303–6 above). Though this sherd is not from a dated layer a pre mid-2nd century date seems most likely. The sherds provide indirect evidence for the production of stamped 'London-type' wares in the Lower Nene Valley.

Bowls (Figs 66–7)

The Chesterton pottery also included a wide range of LNVCW ware bowls, but again little can be said of the chronology and typology of most at the moment.

CARINATED BOWLS WITH GROOVED RIMS

These vessels are common on most Lower Nene Valley sites, and in the Fenland area generally. The evidence from Chesterton suggests that they were used in the second half of the 2nd century, but they may have first been made earlier. None occurred in the earliest levels at Chesterton or Normangate Field, however, and evidence from other sites, such as Godmanchester (Frend 1968, 33, fig 10,1–8) also places them into the second half of the 2nd century. These bowls seem unlikely to have been produced locally, and it is at the moment uncertain if they are from another not quite so local source, perhaps further up the Nene to the west or to the south, which could also serve sites like Godmanchester, or even from a centre further afield, such as Verulamium (Frere 1972, fig 109,333–38; fig 114,507; fig 118,669–74; fig 127, 929–37).

342. CR6+14. CH 5252. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
343. CR5+14/18/5+14. CH 5011. Building 4, Layer 3.
344. CR4/5/4. CH 8242. Grid R.
345. CR18. Lightly burnished externally. Burnt inside. CH 5236. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

HEMISPHERICAL, FLANGED BOWLS

This type of bowl is common in the early to mid 2nd century, being made at a number of sites, including Little Chester (Brassington 1968, fig 7,37–112 and 1980, fig 10,326–32; fig 15,400–44) where production included both decorated and undecorated examples. It does not seem to have been made in the Lower Nene Valley, however, until much later, probably in the later 2nd to mid 3rd centuries, at which time similar vessels were also being made at Godmanchester (H.M. Green, *pers comm*). Most of the Lower Nene Valley products are decorated, and have painted 'blobs' or circles rather than lines. The type has often, in the past, been considered to have been produced in the 4th century (Frend 1968, 41 and 43, fig 13,19; Dakin 1961, 65, fig 8,79) but its absence from uncontaminated early to mid 4th-century groups suggests that this was not the case. It is thought that the type probably declined or ceased to be produced after the middle of the 3rd century.

346. CR5/15//20/15/5. Lightly burnished. Burnt? CH 5241. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
347. CR?+?/20/?+?. Burnt? CH 7388. Grid V.

The fabric of these two vessels is very gritty and unlike that of 348–52. Neither of these two bowls is of Lower Nene Valley origin and they are probably related to the earlier 2nd-century production noted above at sites like Little Chester. Both vessels have been burnt, and it is difficult to be certain if they are in light self-coloured or in fact grey ware. The fabric colour of the Little Chester vessels varied from buff through orange to grey, and these two vessels may be Little Chester products. The rim form of these bowls is distinctive, and it appears in the main to be characteristic of the earlier type, again as with those made at Little Chester.

348. CR4;4dec. CH 2497. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
349. CR14/18/14;4dec. CH 3712. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
350. CR6;13dec. CH 1382. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
351. CR26;17dec. CH 2291. Building 4, Layer 2.
352. CR14+26;2+8dec. CH 4727. Building 6/7. Layer 1.

These five vessels provide a comprehensive view of the range of this type of bowl made in the Lower Nene Valley kilns. They were very common on the Chesterton site, and though some are from second half of 2nd-century contexts, most occurred in the 3rd century, and it is likely that production of them did not begin until late into the 2nd century. Future research may show that they were first made earlier, however.

OTHER PAINTED BOWLS

353. Imitation samian form 36? CR6+26;12dec. CH 4429. Courtyard, well pit depression. The context suggests that this vessel may be of 4th-century date, and simialr vessels were made at Stibbington (forthcoming).
354. CR14;3dec. CH 6018. Cutting L. The context does not provide any clue as to the date of this vessel. It is similar to Oxfordshire parchment wares (Young 1977, 25), and may be a Lower Nene Valley equivalent of 4th-century date or a 2nd-century vessel similar to forms found in 'London-type' ware.
355. CR18/12/18;8dec. Probably burnt. CH 5018. Building 4, Layer 3. Probably 2nd century.
356. CR26;8dec. CH 2331. Building 4, Layers 2/3. This sherd is most probably from a 4th-century imitation samian form 36, or another type of wide shallow dish or bowl (cf Howe

et al 1980, fig 8,98). Parchment ware vessels are not common on Lower Nene Valley sites, and were probably not produced in large numbers. Some were made at Stibbington (forthcoming).

OTHER BOWLS

357. CR12/4/4. Burnt? CH 7711. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. (Hull 1963, fig 73, 18). A similar vessel was found at Stilton in association with possible kiln debris.
358. CR14. CH 5765. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries. This is the only example of the type from the Chesterton excavations, and is not easily paralleled elsewhere in the Lower Nene Valley. It is similar to some types of colour-coated bowl made in the Lower Nene Valley and Oxfordshire (Young 1977, types C75,77–78).
359. CR4+10/3//21//3/4+10. CH 7712. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. This vessel is similar in form to some from one of the Normangate Field pit groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 9,134–5).
360. CR4+14/21/4+14. Burnished externally. Possibly burnt 'London-type' ware. CH 2634. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

Miscellaneous Vessels (Fig 67)

361. CR4/21/4. Burnished externally. CH 364, 837. Grid C, Layer 3. Building 1, Testhole 22. This vessel, like 360 , has a fabric similar to that of some of the 'London type' ware vessels, and they may be part of a related production. A similar vessel occurred at Normangate Field (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 10,162), and elsewhere (Potter 1975–6, fig 9,25). A 2nd-century date seems most likely.
362. CR27/26/27. CH 8534. Grid R. Possibly part of a triple vase? Similar to a vessel from Scole (Rogerson 1977, fig 00,174).
363. CR14+27. CH 7705. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
364. CR14/26/14. CH 5077. Grid J. Unstratified.
365. CR26. CH 8792. Grid V, Layer 3.
366. CR14+27/26/14+27. CH 4321. Building 4, Layers 4/5. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
367. CR14+26. CH 8317. Grid R.

Grey Wares (Figs 67–70)

Vessels in grey ware of non-local manufacture usually occur in contexts of either the 2nd century (more specifically the second and third quarter), and the 4th century. This is not surprising, as in the intervening period the needs of the local markets were met by the Lower Nene Valley's own grey ware industry. The 2nd-century imported grey wares were from the same centres as had supplied the Lower Nene Valley before its own industry had developed, and these continued to find a market until this had become fully established. The 4th-century grey wares found markets in the Lower Nene Valley in the wake of the cessation of the local grey ware industry and as a result of changed market factors. The areas of origin for these imported grey wares of each period were different. In the 2nd century vessels probably came from sources further up the Nene (Johnston 1969) and, perhaps, as yet unidentified more local kiln sites (such as Normangate Field?). In the 4th century the sources lay mainly to the north-west, including the Trent Valley. The fabrics vary considerably as well, with nearly all the 2nd-century vessels having very sandy and gritty fabrics, often grey-brown in colour, whereas the 4th-century wares tend to be hard fired, fairly smooth, and dense grey or bluey-grey in colour, often with highly burnished surfaces or zones.

The Lower Nene Valley kilns did not supply all of the local markets in the intervening years, however, and vessels from centres outside the area can occur. These tend to be of a specialised nature, such as the huge Horningsea jars, examples of which occur on most local sites.

Jars (Figs 67–8)

UNDECORATED JARS WITH CORDONS AND GROOVES

These vessels are essentially undecorated examples of the same basic jar type as 378–80. Similarly, there are many parallels on Upper and Middle Nene sites (eg Brixworth – Woods 1970, fig 21,132) and elsewhere (eg Verulamium, Frere 1972, fig 104,150,153,155; fig 107,267–9,272; fig 113,431–441; fig 117,605–612), with a date range also from the 1st to the middle 2nd centuries. As with 373–6 these jars will belong mainly to the first half of the 2nd century.

368. CR17/20/17. Gritty fabric. CH 6852. Buildings 6/7, F91.
369. CR21/19/21. Gritty fabric. CH 7806,7771. Building 1, Layer 6 (17). Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
370. CR20. Gritty fabric. CH 7677,7708. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
371. CR19. Gritty fabric. Lightly burnished externally, especially on neck. CH 5205. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

SMALL JAR

372. CR16+20. Gritty fabric. CH 7751. Building 4, Layer 5. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

JARS WITH BURNISHED DECORATION ON THE NECK

Similar jars are common on many Upper and Middle Nene Valley sites (eg Brixworth – Woods 1970, fig 21,133–135) and elsewhere, having antecedents going back well into the 1st century. The zig-zag pattern on these vessels is more common than wavy-lines which occur mainly in the second half of the 2nd century, and last into the early 3rd on LNVGW types (Fig 56, 19–20 above). An example in similar ware occurred in one of the Normangate Field pit groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 6,68), and it is obvious that the type continued in use well into the 2nd century, as it was copied by potters producing LNVGW. These grey examples most probably belong to the first half of the 2nd century, lasting into the third quarter.

373. CR11+20/20//21//20/11+20. Burnished externally, and internally for 3cms below the rim. CH 6373. Building 4, Layer 5. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

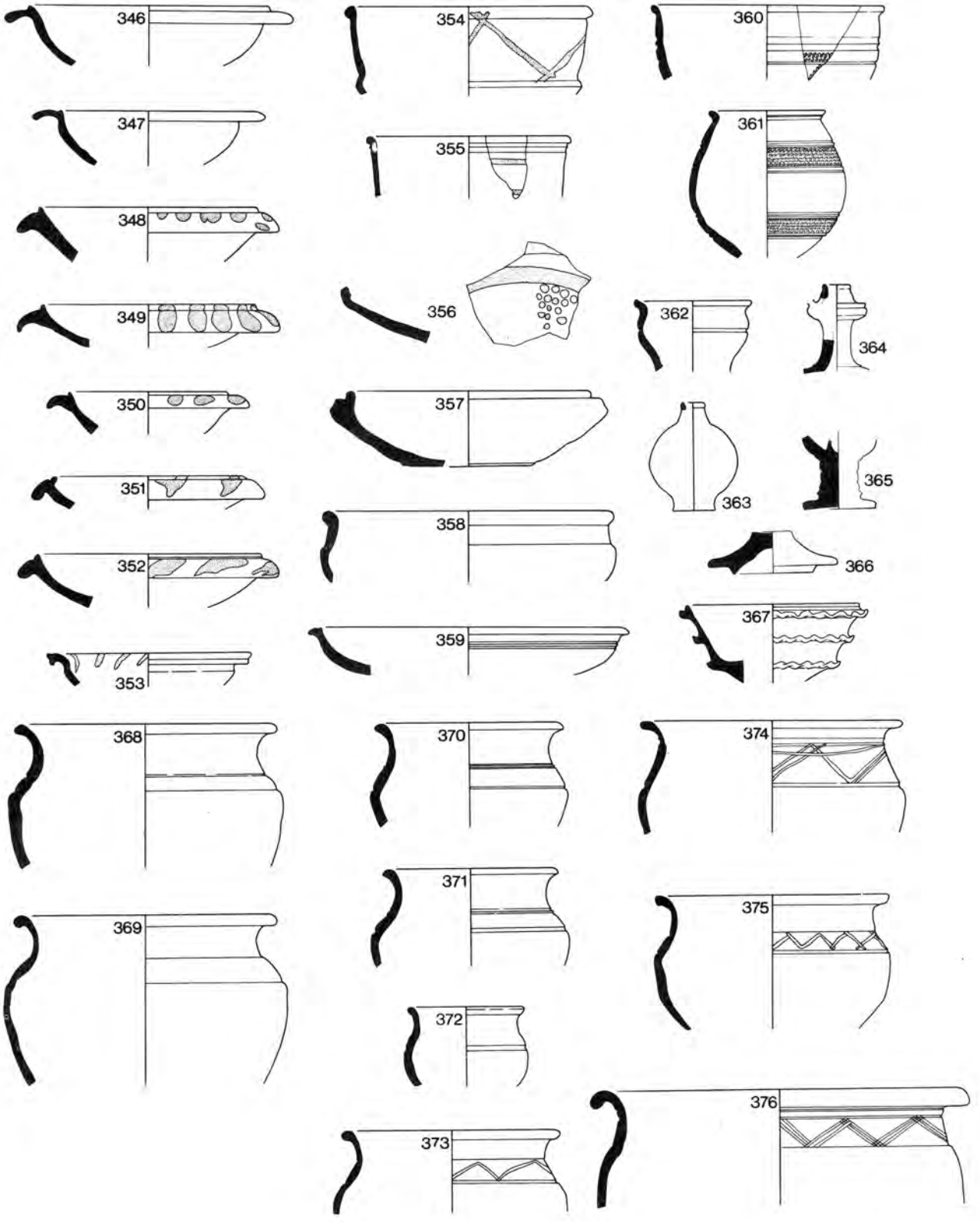


Figure 67. Pottery – Cream ware, 346–67; Grey ware,368–76

374. CR21. Burnished surfaces. CH 8717–8. Building 9, north-west extension, Layer 5.
375. CR21. Lightly burnished in places externally. CH 9194. Grid O. Under F257 on natural subsoil.
376. CR21/20//21//20/21. Burnished externally. CH 8133. Grid P.

NARROW-MOUTHED JARS

These two narrow-mouthed jars are examples of 4th-century types, probably imported into the Lower Nene Valley from manufacturing centres to the north and west.

377. CR21/20/21. Lightly burnished externally and decoration. CH 9123. Building 9, 'Bases' Room, F244. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
378. CR20/19/20. Burnished externally. CH 5814. Buildings 6/7. F117. Probably 4th century.

LARGE NARROW-MOUTHED JARS WITH ROUNDED RIMS

These are 4th-century imports into the Lower Nene Valley. Similar vessels occur in East Midland Burnished Ware (Todd 1968, 195, fig 2,6).

379. CR28/1//22+28//1/28. Burnished externally. CH 722. Courtyard, Layer 2.
380. CR20/19+20/20. Burnished on rim, and externally. CH 9083. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

JARS WITH FRILLED, CORDONED RIM

Jars of this type were made at many East Midland and Lincolnshire kiln sites (Todd 1968, 195, fig 2,4–5; Webster and Booth 1947, fig 3,C40–8), and occur on most other Nene Valley area sites with 4th-century occupation (eg Gillam 1951, fig 8,8–9).

381. CR21/19/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 170. Buildings 6/7, Layer 1.
382. CR3/7/3. Burnished surfaces. Burnt. CH 1584. Building 2, Layer 3.

HORNINGSEA JARS

Huge jars manufactured at Horningsea (Walker 1912, 59–63; Hartley 1960a, 27–8; Evans 1991, 35, figs 2–3 and 6), are found on most Lower Nene Valley area sites in contexts of the later 2nd and more especially the 3rd century (eg Orton Hall Farm – Perrin 1996,154). The difficulty in transporting such vessels can only be surmised; whether it was their contents or usefulness which caused people to go to such lengths is uncertain (Perrin 1996, 180).

383. CR21/19/21. Burnished rim. Traces of whitish slip on rim. CH 1984. Building 4, Layer 2.
384. CR15+20/20/15+20. Lightly burnished. CH 4910. Building 4, Layer 2.
385. CR20+21/21//20//21/20+21. Burnished surfaces. CH 124. Building 1, Layer 2.

OTHER JARS

Some of these may in fact be Lower Nene Valley products.

386. CR15/19/15. Rim, part of shoulder, and internal groove coated in a CR18 slip, which has run down the inside of the vessel. CH 2090. Courtyard, Well. Probably 4th century. Large jars with slipped rims were made in the Alice Holt potteries (Lyne and Jeffries 1979) but this vessel was not made there (Lyne, *pers comm*). Its actual source is uncertain at present.
387. CR19+20/8//19+20//8/19+20. Burnished surfaces. CH 3367. Building 3, Coal Level, Layer 4. This vessel has certain similarities with early types of LNVGW (Fig 57, 3–6 above), and is probably of 2nd-century date.
388. CR20/21/20. Burnished externally. CH 7678. Courtyard, Layer 8. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
389. CR18/20/18. Lightly-burnished surfaces. CH 6246. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
390. CR20. CH 6245. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

The contexts of vessels 388–90 suggest a second half of 2nd-century date for the types.

391. CR18+20/7/18+20. CH 1920. Courtyard, Layer 2. This vessel probably also dated to the second half of the 2nd century.
392. CR20+21. Burnished decoration. Gritty fabric. CH 7694. Courtyard, Layer 8. The context suggests a mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century date for this vessel, which is probably to be related to jars 370–2 above.

FRAGMENTS OF VARIOUS JARS

393. CR20/26/20. Burnished externally. Micaceous external surface. CH 6716, 6717, Courtyard, Layer 9. The context suggests a mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century date for this vessel.
394. CR21/12//20//12/21. CH 7500. Courtyard, Layer 16. This vessel would, in the past, have been classified in the 'mixed nodular/linear' decoration category of Rustic ware (Thompson 1958, 25–6, fig 4,3–14). There are many sites with similar pottery (*op cit*, 37–39) with, locally, Godmanchester providing some of the closest parallels (*op cit*, fig 4,10–11,13). Most of these vessels are considered to be pre-Flavian in date, but the type could well have lasted throughout the 1st century, and even into the 2nd. Layer 16 of the Courtyard is from within a pit which was sealed by the main Courtyard layers. This sherd is most probably, therefore, from a vessel in use on the site at the very beginnings or before the main occupation. In any event, the sherd is from an early vessel, and in its fragmented state is residual, and not from a survival in use It represents, in fact, one of the earliest vessels on the site.
395. CR21/19//20/19//21. Burnished externally. CH 8704. Grid S. East End occupation level. Similar decoration occurs mainly on 1st century vessels (eg Rogerson 1977, fig 73,6–7).
396. CR21+22/11+16/21+22. Roller-stamped and burnished decoration. CH 9134. Building 9, 'Bases' Room, under destruction level. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
397. CR21/20/21. Burnished externally. Incised decoration. Handle. CH 5776, 6777. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

396–7 were probably made at centres to the north of the Nene Valley, in the East Midlands or Lincolnshire.

Dishes and Bowls (Figs 68–69)

398. CR20/19/20. Gritty fabric. CH 8934. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
399. CR21/17/21. Very lightly smoothed surfaces. Gritty fabric CH 200. Buildings 6/7, Pit F91. Second quarter of 2nd century?

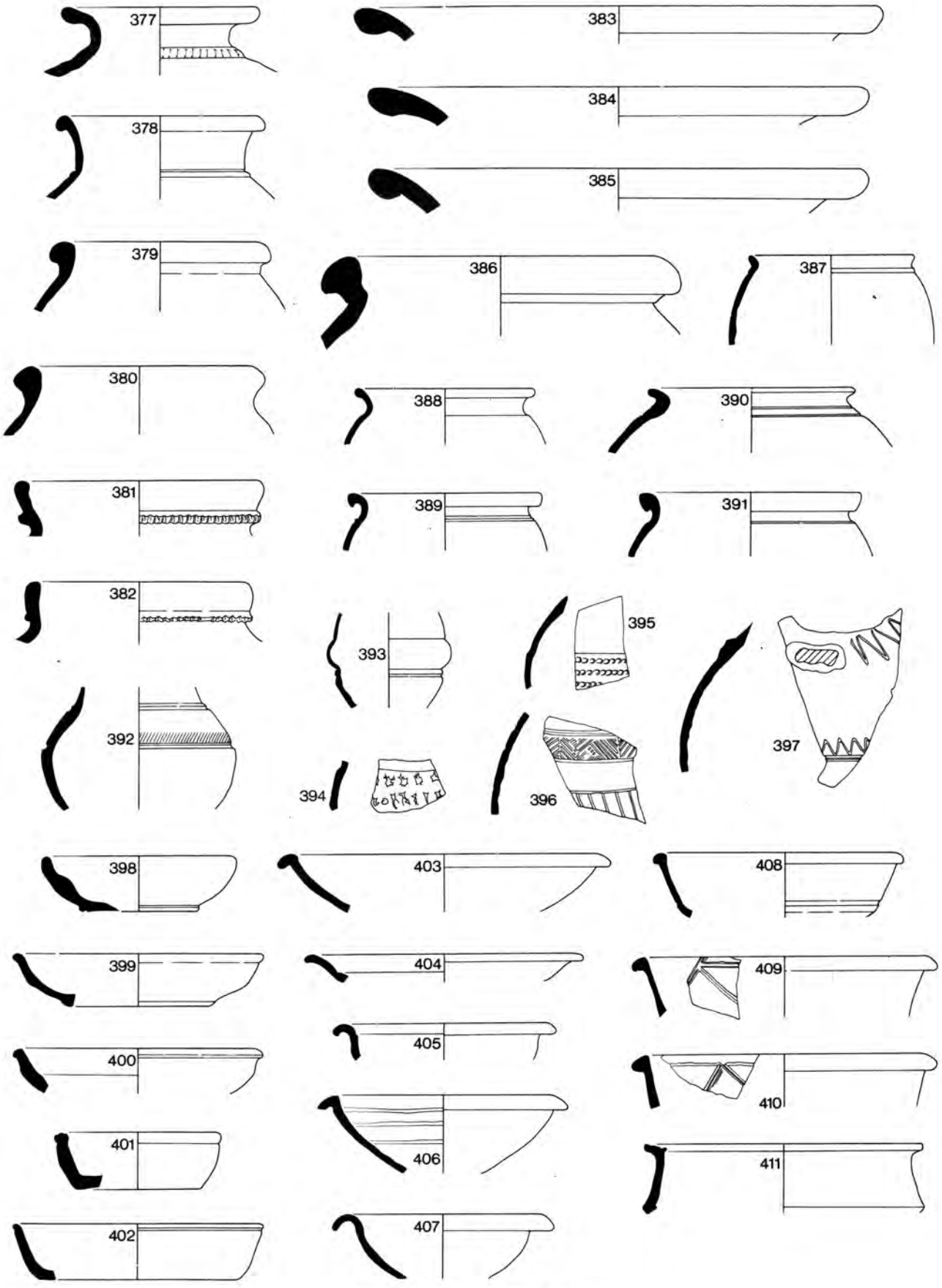


Figure 68. Pottery – Grey ware

This type is well known on 1st and early 2nd-century sites including those in the Upper and Middle Nene Valley area, where it was made at many kiln sites (Woods 1970, fig 8,1–6; Johnston 1969, 81, fig 7,2–5). Dating tends to suggest a 1st-century *floruit* for the type, but it is evident that the tradition took a considerable time to die out. It is possible that these and 402–3 below came from the Upper or Middle Nene Valley area.

400. CR16+20. Gritty fabric. CH 5240. Building 4, Layer 4. The context is mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century in date but the general similarity to dishes 398–9 suggests that this vessel was probably made before the middle of the century.
401. CR21/20/21. Gritty fabric. CH 1857. Building 2, F41.
402. CR21/12/21. Poorly burnished surfaces. Burnishing in horizontal lines externally. Slight chamfer. CH 5179. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. A vessel from Brixworth (*op cit*, 10, fig 8,12) dated Trajanic-Hadrianic may provide a general parallel. 402 is similar to LNVGW grooved dishes.
403. CR28/16+20/28. Highly-burnished micaceous surfaces. CH 5194, 7992. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century. Vessels in a similar fabric occur on many Northamptonshire sites (P. Aird, *pers comm*).
404. CR22+28/21//9//21/22+28. Burnished surfaces. CH 4316. Building 4, Layers 4/5. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
405. CR21/20/21. CH 7485. Courtyard, Layer 16. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
406. CR22. Highly burnished surfaces, with darker, thin parallel horizontal lines internally. CH 8877. Grid Q, F266.
407. CR21/26//20//26/21. CH 8831. Grid T, Layer 3.

404–7 are reminiscent in fabric and finish to the imitation samian 'London-type' wares. One of the Normangate Field pit groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 6,72–3) contained parallels to these dishes and bowls showing that they were made and in use around the second quarter of the 2nd century. As with many of the earliest wares from the site, a certain Gallo-Belgic or 'belgic' influence is still noticeable.

408. CR21/20/21. Burnished externally below groove. CH 1687. Building 2, Layer 4.
409. CR20/21/20. Burnished externally. Incised decoration. CH 6682. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
410. CR19+20/21/19+20. Burnished externally. Incised decoration. Same vessel as 409? CH 2610. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

409–10 appear to be more closely related in fabric to some London-type wares than anything else. The contexts suggest a second half of 2nd-century date, but future research may show that the type was mainly made and used earlier. The purpose of the incised internal lines is unknown. A similar vessel occurred at Orton Hall Farm (Perrin 1996, fig 95,376).

411. CR21/19/21. CH 8555. Grid R.
412. CR19/20/19. Fairly gritty fabric. CH 8073. Grid O, Layer 3.
413. CR21/20/21. Burnished externally. CH 1849. Building 2, F41.
414. CR21/20+21/21. Burnished surfaces. CH 5646. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
415. CR21. CH 6252. Building 4, Layer 4. The context suggests a mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century date, but it may have been residual.
416. CR16+20/19/16+20. Gritty fabric. CH 166. Buildings 6/7. Layer 1. Vessels of similar form can occur in both 2nd- and 4th century contexts.
417. CR21/19/21. Burnished surfaces, with a 'mottled' appearance. CH 9052. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
418. CR20/21/20. Burnished on rim and externally. CH 5635. Buildings 6/7, Layer 1.
419. CR21+22/19+20/21+22. Burnished rim, and externally. CH 5821. Buildings 6/7, Victorian ditch.

418–9 are very similar to common types in the East Midlands (Todd 1968, 193, fig 1,1–2) and elsewhere. They occur regularly on Lower Nene Valley sites in the 4th century.

Lids (Fig 70)

420. CR10/21/10. Probably burnt. Gritty fabric. CH 5168. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
421. 20/26/20. Poorly made. Gritty fabric. Burnt? CH 7450. Courtyard, Layer 15. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
422. CR17+21/13//21//13/17+21. Gritty fabric. CH 6856. Buildings 6/7, F91.

Lids similar to these occurred in both of the Normangate Field pit groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 5,62 and fig 7,101–2) and in Pit F265 (not illustrated). Their gritty fabric links them with the early to mid 2nd-century grey wares of probable non-Lower Nene Valley origin. The Chesterton contexts show that such vessels could be expected to survive in use, but, as with the other imported grey wares, it is unlikely that new vessels were supplied after the middle of the 2nd century. There are no obvious successors to these lids in LNVGW , but lids in general, seem to be only a 1st or 2nd-century pottery type, especially in rural areas. Dishes, bowls, broken pot bases, pottery discs, pieces of stone and other materials, particularly cloth or skin, could have served as lids, and there were probably wooden lids in use as well.

Strainer (Fig 70)

423. CR16+20. Soft, sandy fabric. CH 9931. Building 8, Testhole 35. Probably 2nd century.

Roman Shell Gritted Wares (RSG)(Figs 69–6)

The Chesterton layers contained large amounts of RSG jars, bowls and dishes, and shell-gritted fabrics were also used for various other objects such as tiles, coeuvre-feu, and griddles. Pottery made in shell-gritted fabrics is common on most Nene Valley sites from the Iron Age onwards and with time, and the development of other types of pottery, came to be used mainly for a range of essentially utilitarian vessels, especially storage jars for use in industrial workshops and domestic kitchens. Many sites, for example, reveal numbers of large shell-gritted storage jars sunk into occupation levels (Hadman and

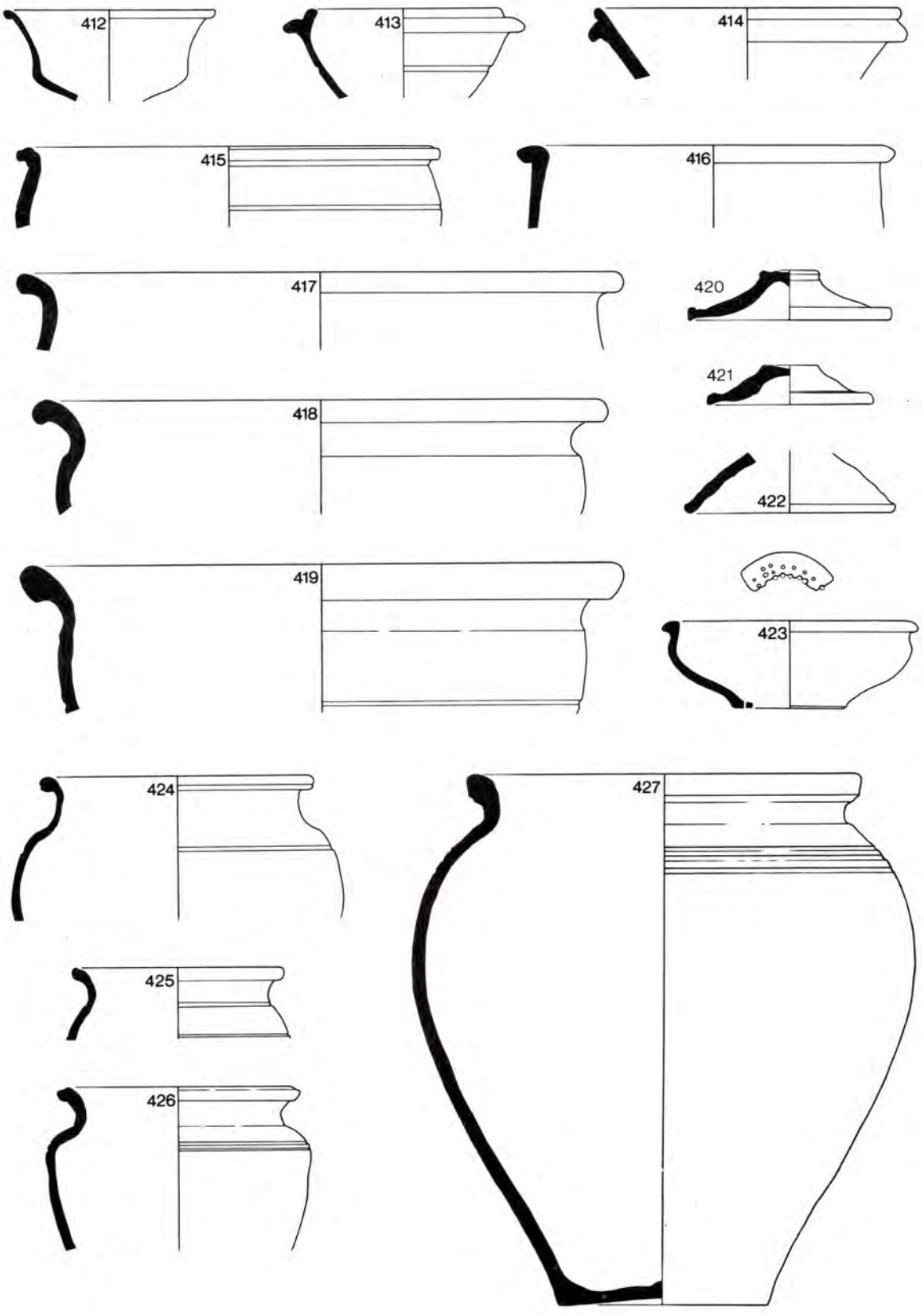


Figure 69. Pottery – Grey ware, 412–23; Roman shell-gritted ware, 424–7

Upex 1979, 30, fig 18). Most of these types of vessel had a specific function, and often continued in use for a long time. They were also, to all intents and purposes, by virtue of their function, isolated from the typological changes which affected other types of pottery, especially those handled daily and used on the domestic tables which were perhaps likely to be broken more regularly. The result is that shell-gritted wares, especially the larger vessels, tend to be standardised and vary little with time, and are therefore notoriously difficult to date in layers with no supplementary evidence. At a site like Chesterton, with so many unsealed or unstratified levels, much of the RSG cannot be dated with certainty. Moreover the large range of rim forms and profiles which can occur even in contemporary groups makes dating by analogy similarly difficult.

The Chesterton layers contained pottery dating from the early 2nd to the late 4th centuries, and it is therefore likely that there was also RSG of all periods. Each class of RSG pottery described below begins with the vessels from dated layers, but many of the rest are undated and the dating for others is left fairly open-ended in the hopes that future research will allow refinement and recognition of the actual date range for each type. There is quite a wide variation in the type and amount of shell and temper or natural inclusions in the clay, in the temperature at which the vessels were fired, and in their colour and surface treatment. Some of these characteristics may eventually prove diagnostic and chronologically or typologically significant, but this report does not attempt to cover any of these aspects, which should be the subjects of future research.

Jars (Figs 69–72)

Most of the Chesterton RSG comprised jars of varying sizes and forms. It is difficult to identify possible chronological changes, even though many were from dated layers, but it appears that some of the earliest vessels are globular or have high shoulders and extensive grooved decoration, and that by the 4th century profiles are much slacker, and vessels have curved necks with straight-ended and undercut rims. Features of the intervening period may be small cavetto or curved necks with beaded ends, and one or two grooves on the shoulder, which tend to be less wide than previously. Many of these characteristics were never apparent on the larger vessels, however. The question of residuality and survival in use always pose many problems.

From dated layers

Early to mid 2nd century

A jar similar to 424–5 occurred in one of the Normangate Field pit groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 5,61). Some local RSG production sites are known (Water Newton in the later 1st century -Hartley 1960b, 6; pp 44–5 above and Orton – I. Meadows and L. Rollo *pers comm*). The fabric colours in this period are reddish-brown, dark brown or dark grey though many vessels have reddish-yellow surfaces.

424. CR8+17. CH 8901. Pit F265.
425. CR21. CH 8942. Pit F265.

Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century

Many of the jars found in layers of this period are likely to be residual or survivals in use, having characteristics similar to vessels 424–5 above. Jars 426 and 429 are probably examples of these. The other jars appear to become generally less globular and longer in relation to their width. One or two girth grooves are increasingly the standard decoration. Another change is in the colour of the vessels, with many by the end of the 2nd century being red, reddish-yellow or yellowish-brown. This change might reflect improved potting and firing techniques, and perhaps higher firing temperatures. It should be remembered, however, that the functions and use of the vessels can have a marked effect on their colour.

426. CR2/13/22. CH 5282. Building 4, Layer 4.
427. CR7. CH 7704. Courtyard Layer 8. Complete, but broken.
428. CR17/9. CH 7817,7820,7822,7824. Building 1, F186 (Layer 13).
429. CR8/2+3/21. Burnt. Poorly made. Possibly hand-made? CH 1347. Building 1, Layers 15/7.
430. CR21/16. CH 6239. Building 4, Layer 4.
431. CR2 with darker patches externally. CH 2490. Building 4, Layer 4.
432. CR13/8. CH 5158. Building 4, Layer 4.
433. CR13/8. CH 6240. Building 4, Layer 4.
434. CR21 with CR10 'patches'. CH 4335. Building 4, Layer 5.
435. CR8/17/22. CH 6670. Courtyard. Layer 9.
436. CR4/21/4. CH 5157. Building 4, Layer 4.

Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century

Many of the jars from these layers are again likely to be residual or survivals in use. Those from Building 1, Pit F8 are more probably 3rd-century vessels, but it is difficult to suggest what may be purely 3rd-century characteristics. The rim form of jars 437–8 is likely to be mainly of this period; that of jar 440 is similar to that found on many 4th-century vessels.

437. CR12/8/12. CH 7606. Courtyard, Layer 7.
438. CR3+4/24/3+4. CH 8870. Grid Q, F266.
439. CR22 with lighter patches. CH 929–30. Building 1, Pit F8.
440. CR2. CH 1038. Building 1, Pit F8.
441. CR17/21/17. CH 928. Building 1, Pit F8.
442. CR11/17/22. CH 2781. Building 3, Layer 3.
443. CR22/9. CH 1039. Building 1, Pit F8.

Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

Very few RSG jars occurred in definite 4th-century layers. Jar 445 from the 'Bases' Room destruction is the latest securely dated vessel, and has a characteristic tall neck, slightly undercut rim, and a slack shoulder profile. Jar 444 also has the undercut rim, similar to late jars from Great Casterton (Gillam 1951, fig 8,19–20). This form

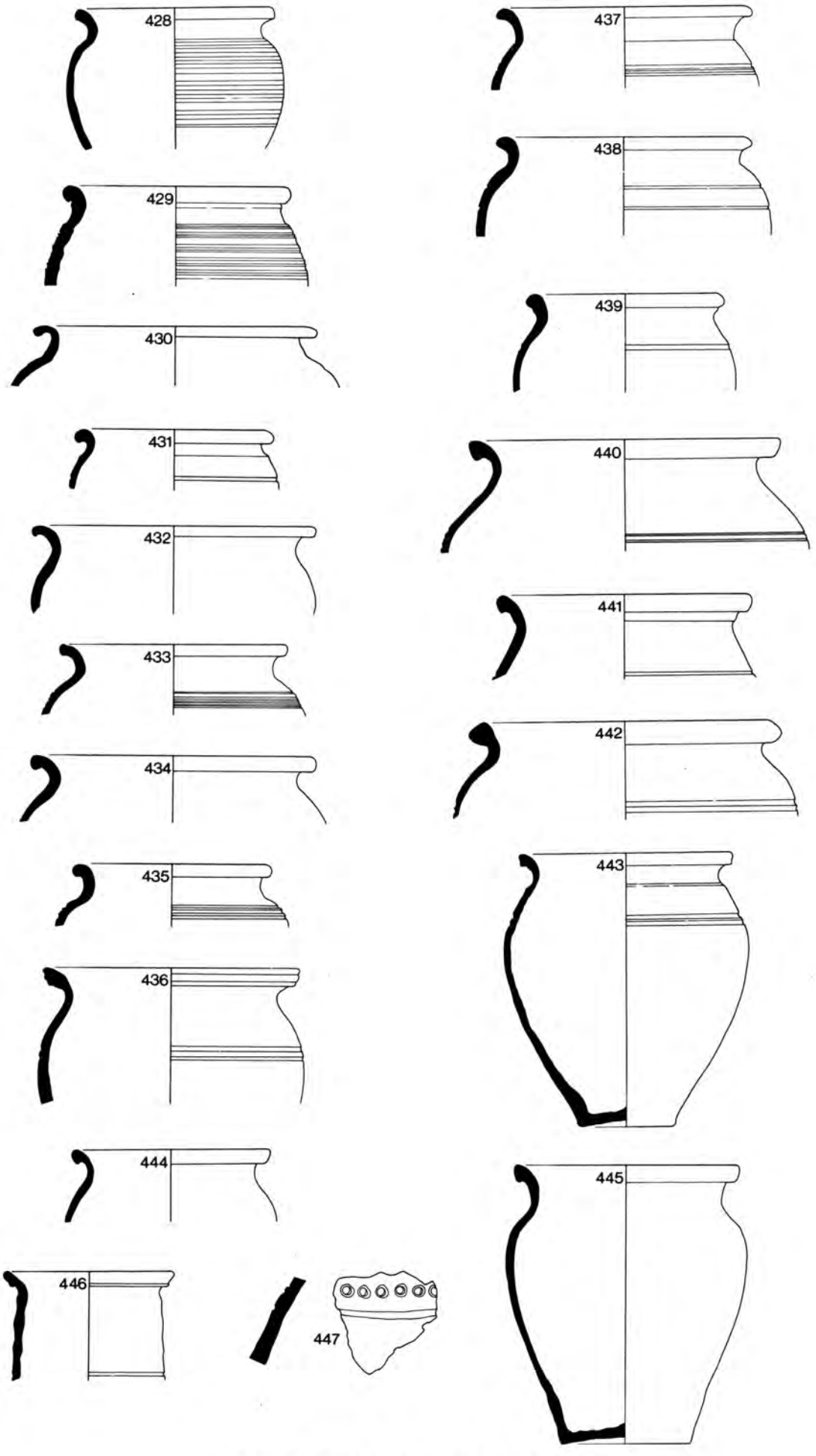


Figure 70. Pottery – Roman shell-gritted ware

of jar 446 is unusual, but is similar to another vessel from the 'Bases' Room in self-coloured ware (Fig 66, 331). The function of these is uncertain. Decoration, in the form of incised wavy lines, stamps or notching, is a common 4th-century characteristic, noticeable also on the large wide bowls (cf 475,477). Some RSG jars of this period can be pale brown, sometimes close to buff or yellow in colour, and many have a definite grey core.

444. CR9/21/17+22. CH 5753. Buildings 6/7. Ditch F90.
445. CR4+12/15+20/4+12. Burnt. Complete. CH 9962. Building 9, 'Bases' Room. F305.
446. CR9. CH 9705. Building 9, 'Bases' Room, F310.
447. CR10+11/15/10+11. CH 5769. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90.

FROM UNDATED LAYERS

448. CR3. CH 1560. Building 3, Wall Trench A. The rim form, and context, suggest a later 3rd- or 4th-century date.
449. CR2+10 with darker patches. CH 8493. Grid R. Possibly 4th century.
450. CR4/21/4. CH 1155. Building 1, Layer 2. Possibly 3rd century.
451. CR10+11. CH 8676. Building 9, Layer 3. Uncertain date.
452. CR8+11/16/8+11. CH 1909. Courtyard, Layer 2. 3rd century?
453. CR17/4. CH 1156. Building 1, Layer 2. Possibly 3rd century.
454. CR4. CH 4732. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2. Uncertain date.
455. CR3/21/3. CH 3562. Building 3, Wall Trench C. Probably 3rd century.
456. CR8/21/11+16. CH 5984. Grid I, Layer 2. Possibly 4th century.
457. CR8/20/8. CH 7348. Grid R, Testhole 75, Pit F162. Uncertain date.
458. CR2 with blackened surfaces. CH 6137. Trench R. Possibly 4th century.

VERY LARGE (STORAGE) JARS

From dated layers

459. CR11/20/11. CH 6234. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
460. CR2. CH 710. Courtyard, Layer 2. 2nd century?
461. CR8. CH 6236. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
462. CR8. CH 6668. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

From layers of uncertain date

463. CR10. CH 1667. Building 2, Layer 4.
464. CR4/20/2. CH 8491. Grid R.

WIDE-MOUTHED JARS OR BOWLS

465. CR21. CH 1348. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
466. CR2/21/2. CH 1345. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
467. CR10/20/10. CH 8464. Grid R. Uncertain date.
468. CR22. CH 3815. Building 1, Layers 3a. Uncertain date.
469. CR22. CH 8757. Grid T, Layers 2/3. Uncertain date.
470. CR3/20/3. CH 6097. Grid Q. Possibly 4th century.

JARS WITH SPECIALISED FUNCTIONS

471. CR4+10/2/4+10. CH 6667. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
472. CR10/21/10. CH 9016. Building 9, Layers 2/3. Late 3rd to 4th centuries. The upturned lugs on this vessel raise the possibility that it can be classified as a brazier. As a type this is not part of the usual Romano-British potters' repertoire and, elsewhere, its occurrence has been linked to the presence of potters from North Africa or demand for cuisine common in that area which involves braziers for its preparation (Swan 1992,2–3).
473. CR4+14/16/4+14. CH 9047. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.

Very Large, Wide-mouthed Bowls (Fig 72)

These vessels occur on a number of Lower Nene Valley sites and represent an easily recognisable bowl form. They only appear in 4th or late 4th-century contexts. It is not certain if they were made locally, or at a centre some way from the area, such as that at Harrold, Bedfordshire (Brown 1994, 19–107). They may well represent the Lower Nene Valley equivalent of, or different but related, late RSG wide bowls found on most southern sites (eg Cambridge – Hartley 1955, fig 7,93 and Verulamium – Kenyon 1934, fig 11,26–7 and Frere 1972, fig 138,1258–9).

474. CR3/20/11. CH 9050. Building 9, Layer 2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
475. CR10/16/10. CH 9301. Building 9, Layers 1/2. Late 3rd to 4th centuries.
476. CR3+4/21/3+4. CH 5726. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2.
477. CR10/21/10. CH 3569. Building 1, Layer 1.

Other Dishes And Bowls (Fig 73)

Many of the Chesterton RSG dishes and bowls can be dated by their layers, or by analogy to types occurring in dated groups elsewhere. There are still a large number which did not occur in dated layers, however, and these are either given no date at all, or an open-ended date.

478. CR4/20/4. CH 7402. Testhole 85. The form of this dish is close to that of grey ware vessels 398–9 (Fig 68), and is likely to be of early to mid 2nd-century date.
479. CR10. CH 7465. Courtyard, Layer 17. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
480. CR2+8/21/2+8. CH 2389. Building 4, Layer 3.
481. CR8/2. CH 5166. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
482. CR8+16+22. CH 6423. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

Vessels similar to 479–82 occurred in the Normangate Field Pit Groups (Perrin and Webster 1990, fig 8,120–1), suggesting that the types were in use before the mid 2nd century. The Chesterton layers are mainly of the second half of the 2nd century, and the types could therefore have remained in production or use for some time, or be residual.

483. CR4. CH 1349. Building 1, Layers 15/7. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
484. CR17. CH 5134. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
485. CR17/3. CH 923. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.

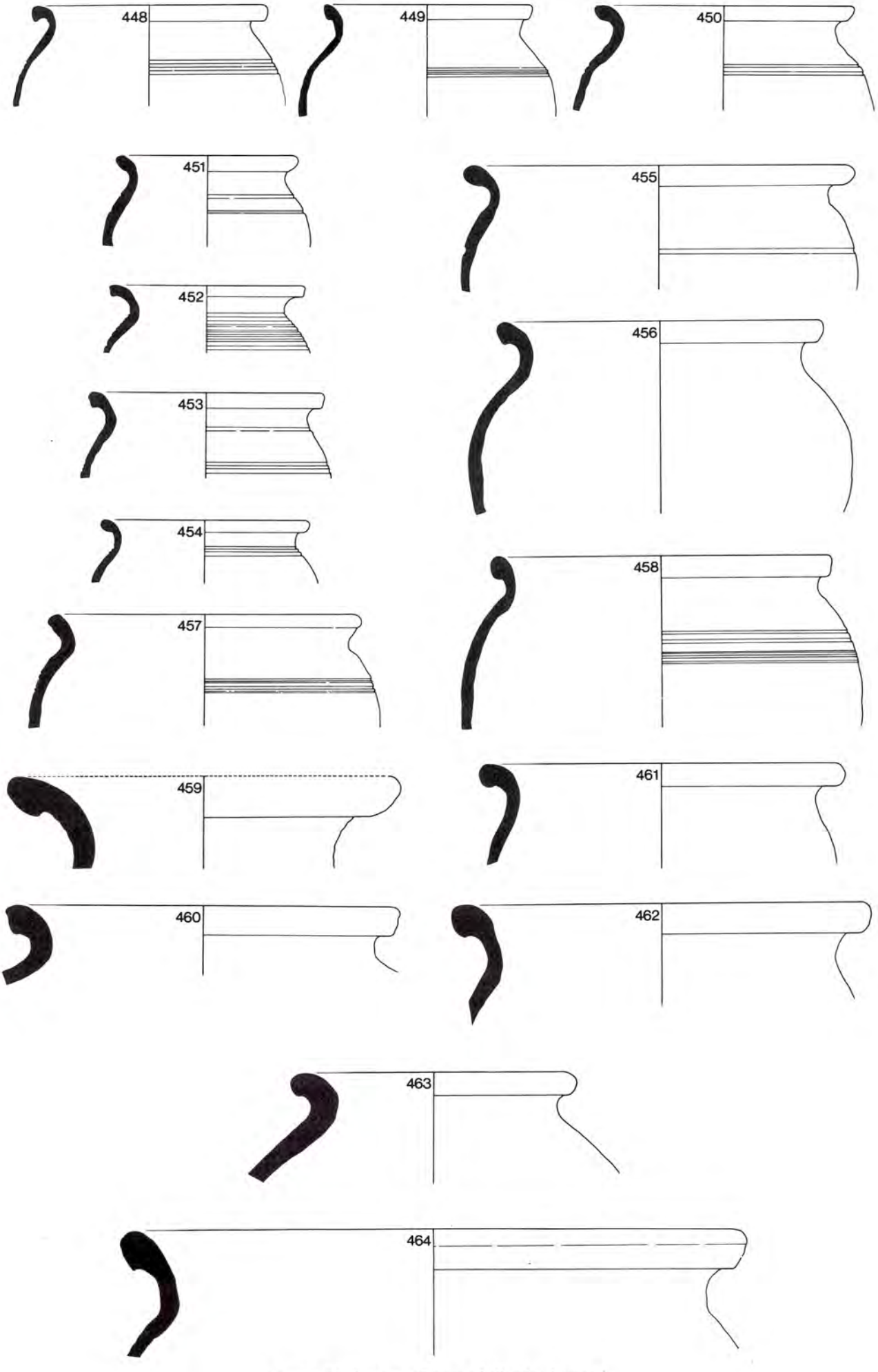


Figure 71. Pottery – Roman shell-gritted ware

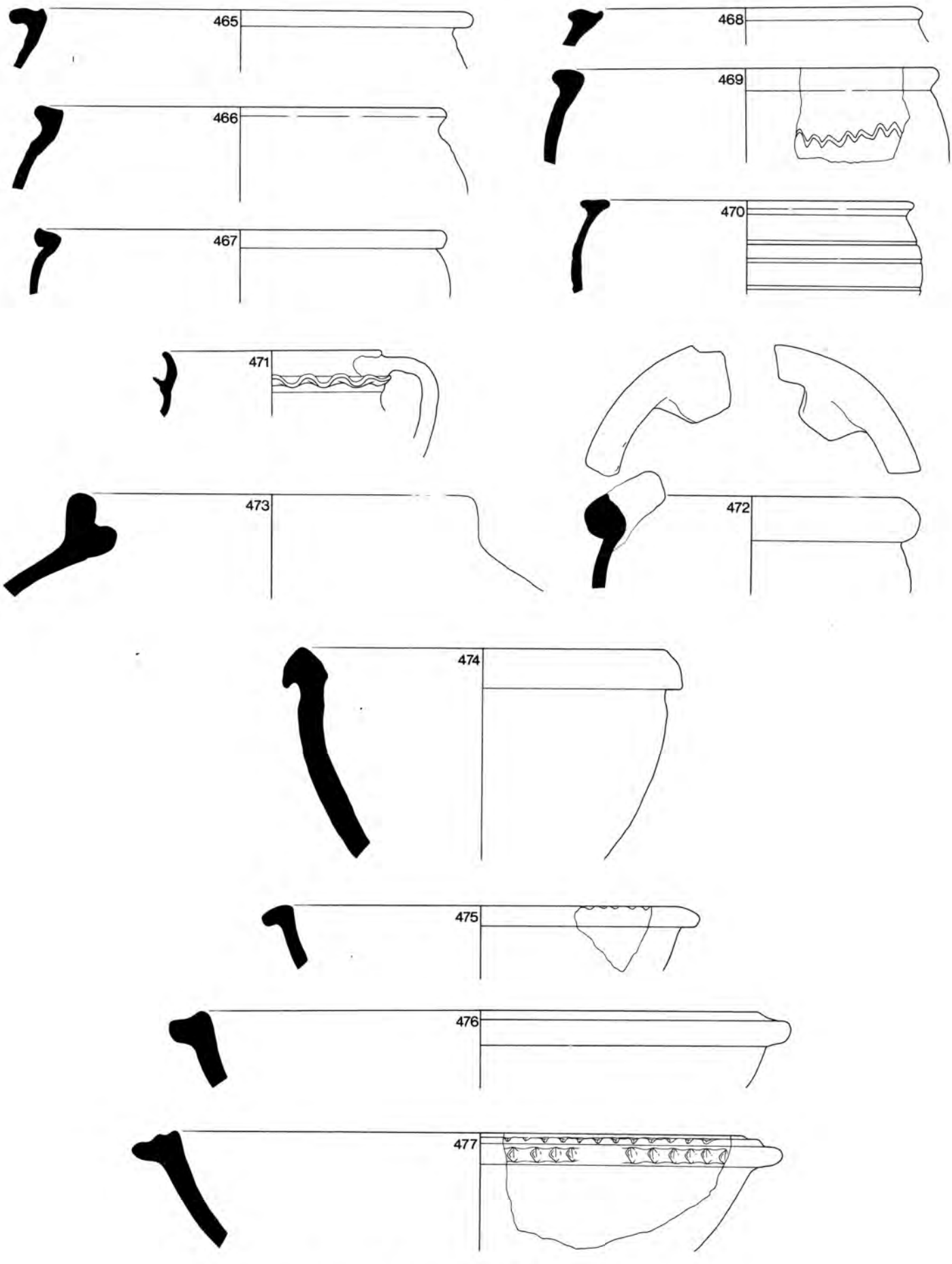


Figure 72. Pottery – Roman shell-gritted ware

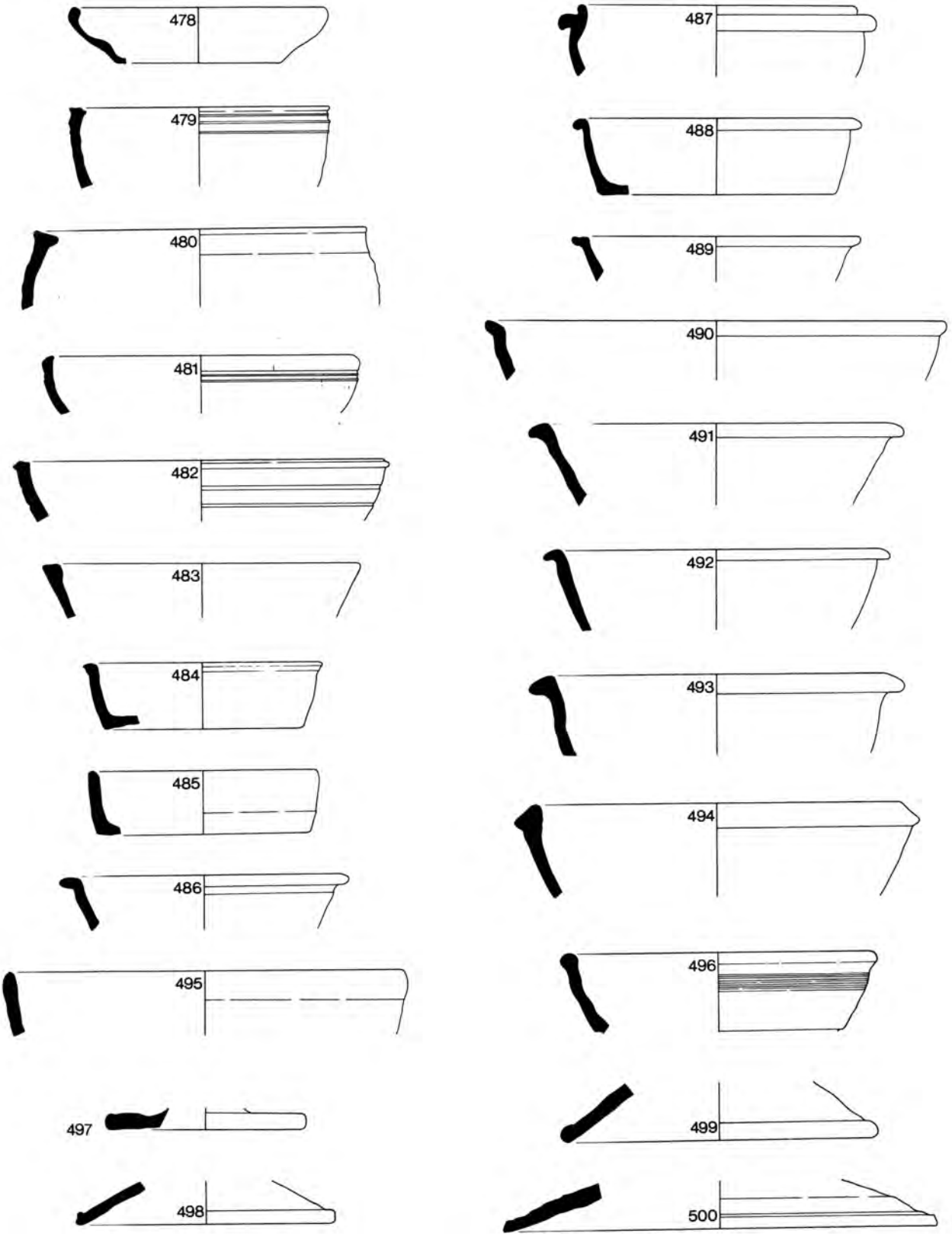


Figure 73. Pottery – Roman shell-gritted ware

486. CR2+8. CH 4547. Courtyard, Layer 4. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
487. CR22. CH 6009. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd and 4th centuries.
488. CR22. CH 4891. Building 4, Layer 2. Probably 2nd century.
489. CR22. CH 4761. Building 4, Layer 2. Probably 2nd century?
490. CR3/20/3. CH 5701. Buildings 6/7, Layer 1. 4th century?
491. CR8/22/8. CH 7958. Grid O, Layer 1. 3rd century?
492. CR3/19/10. CH 5425. Building 4, Wall Trench F. 3rd century?
493. CR8/12/22. CH 716. Courtyard, Layer 2. 3rd or 4th century?
494. CR10/21/10. CH 5924. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2. 4th century?
495. CR16+21. CH 3572. Building 1, Layer 1. 4th century.
496. CR10/21/8. CH 398. Building 2, Layer 4. Probably 2nd century.

Lids (Fig 73)

497. CR3/21/3. CH 5994. Buildings 6/7, Layer 2. 4th century?
498. CR11. CH 5171. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
499. CR?. CH 1041. Building 1, Pit F8. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
500. CR21+22. CH 8950. Grid Q, Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.

Miscellaneous Shell-Gritted Ware Objects (Figs 74–5)

501. Griddle? CR10+16. CH 6372. Building 4, Layer 5. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
502. CH 7088. TH 35. Contents of F182, Layers 5–6.
503. CH Unstratified.
504. CH Unstratified.
505. CH 7509. Courtyard Layer 8; mixed area however.
506. Uncertain but very large diameter. CH 7547. Courtyard Layer 15, over F184. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
507. Diameter as 506. CH 7548. Courtyard, Layer 15. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
508. Diameter as 506. CH 6811. Grid J, Layer 2.
509. Diameter as 506. CH 1869. Building 2, Layer 4.
510. Diameter as 506. CH 2599. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
511. Diameter as 506. CH 5191. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.
512. Diameter as 506. CH 2598. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century.
513. Diameter as 506. CH 7829. Building 4, Courtyard?
514. Uncertain diameter. Deep bowl? CR4/3/4. CH 4073. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid–late 2nd/early 3rd century.

It is likely that 501–14 are parts of industrial or, more probably, domestic ovens and hearths. The griddle is self-explanatory and the objects with the very large radii could well be oven-covers or hoods. The flat, apparently semi-circular, plates 504–5, were probably pierced like 503 and could have been part of oven-floors or associated warming stands, or other oven furniture. A firebar was also found. Such 'furniture' has been noted at many rural sites (eg Grandford – Potter and Potter 1982, fig 33,220).

Other Wares (Figs 75–6)

Grogged ware

515. CR5/20/5. CH 7421. Grid R.

This is the only example known so far from Lower Nene Valley sites of a ware, termed 'soft pink grogged' which occurs regularly on sites further up the Nene and beyond. This rim is from a well attested 4th century storage jar form. (Booth and Greene 1989).

516. CR5/18/5. CH 1847. Building 2, F41; CH 2892. Courtyard, Drain F43.

Vessels of this form and with the same coarse, granular open-textured grogged fabric occur in large numbers on sites further up the Nene Valley, especially in Northamptonshire. Published examples include bowls from Thorplands (Hunter and Maynard 1977, fig 12, 129–30), Hardwick Park (Foster *et al* 1977, fig 11,12 and Ringstead (Turland 1980, fig 8,36). Most are of 2nd century date.

Dales Ware

517. CH 3207, 3206, 320. Building 3, Coal Level, Layer 3. Probably late 3rd or 4th century.

This was the only example of this ware from the Chesterton layers, and, at the time of writing, from the Lower Nene Valley as a whole. The normal direction for trade of this North Lincolnshire ware was to the north (Loughlin 1977, figs 4–7) and its occurrence at Chesterton is unusual. It is extremely doubtful if the ware was traded into the Nene Valley, and it most probably represents personal ownership, or some other individual, singular occurrence. In this respect it should be related to finds of Dales ware at Caistor-by-Norwich and Richborough (*ibid*, 108, 124).

Black-burnished ware – Categories One (BB1) and Two (BB2)

The Chesterton pottery included many sherds of both BB1 and BB2. The occurrence of these in the Lower Nene Valley is interesting, as it has often been thought that the locally-produced pottery would have saturated the market to the exclusion of any made further afield. It is probable that examples of BB1 and BB2 (and other such wares) from Lower Nene Valley sites came there as personal 'baggage, or with some other commodity. The evidence from Chesterton and elsewhere has now shown that BB1 found its way onto Lower Nene Valley sites at two separate periods.

The first was in the Hadrianic period or second quarter of the 2nd-century. This was the time at which the Durotrigan industry first exported on a large-scale to distant markets, and there were, therefore, large quantities of BB1 'on the move' around the province. The amounts of BB1 are small but consistent at this time. For the rest of the 2nd century, and most of the 3rd, locally-produced LNVGW swamped the markets, and no BB1 was used, though there may have been chance occurrences.

Towards the end of the 3rd century, however, BB1 again makes an appearance, this time in much greater numbers than in the Hadrianic period. It is not certain

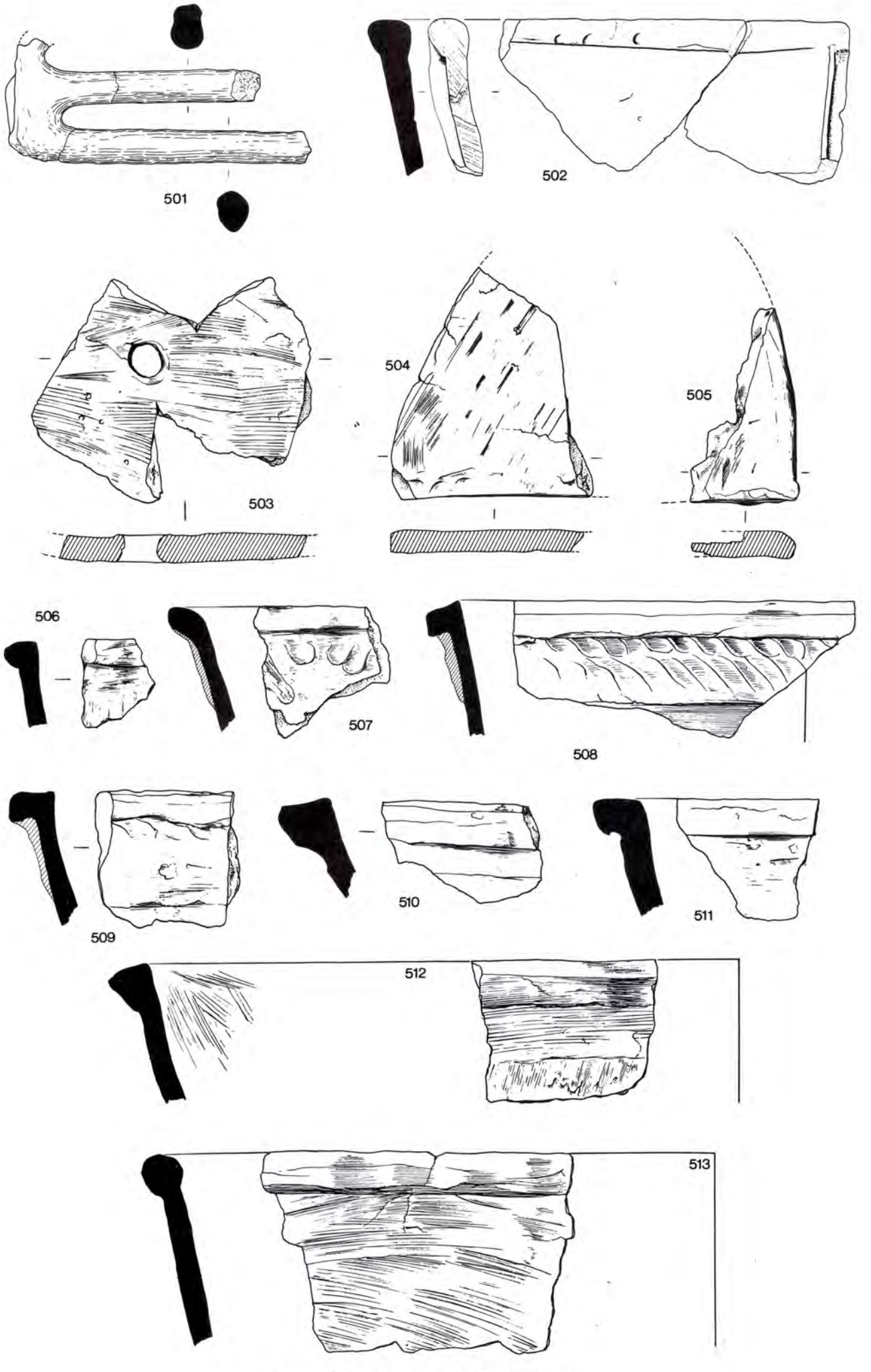


Figure 74. Pottery – Roman shell-gritted ware

exactly when this renewed use occurred; many of the layers containing BB1 appear to be of the last quarter of the 3rd century, but the ware may have been obtained from nearer the middle of the century onwards. At the moment, the evidence suggests that BB1 was used into the 4th century, though perhaps only for the first quarter. The date when it again ceased to be supplied is of considerable interest, and it is hoped that future research will provide more evidence. This second period of use again coincides with expansion in the trade of the industry (Gillam 1976, 59) but the resurgence of this ware on civilian sites elsewhere at this time has been linked to military involvment in major construction projects such as town walls (Lyne, *pers comm*). Most of the vessels of this period are bowls, with a few cooking-pots and dishes. This may be of significance, but more assemblages need to be examined before conclusions can be drawn.

The amounts of BB2 from the Chesterton layers are small, and they may not accurately reflect the true situation. The precise source for vessel 527 from Pit F265 is not certain, and its occurrence in this early context sets it aside from the main group of actual BB2 wares. An analysis of the fabric will hopefully suggest a likely area of origin. The other BB2 vessels are from one of the main factories, probably the North Kent/Thames estuary group (Williams 1977, 195–199). Most are undecorated rounded-rim or plain rimmed types. Only one vessel from Chesterton was of the decorated, down-turned rim type. The lack of Colchester roughcast, colour-coated ware and mortaria however, suggests that the Lower Nene Valley was not part of the 'local' market for the Colchester/Thames Estuary industries. It is therefore most likely that the BB2 vessels in question found their way into the Lower Nene Valley at the time the BB2 industries expanded to meet new markets in the north, in the Antonine period, or expanded into new areas with the decrease in the northern market following the withdrawal from Scotland in *c* AD 163. Another possibility is that their occurrence is related to the revival in long-distance trade during the Severan campaigns and re-occupation of Scotland. The Chesterton dated examples would suggest either the period following the withdrawal from Scotland, or that of Severus, but more evidence is obviously needed before the actual date can be determined.

BB1

COOKING POTS

518. CH 8364. Building 9, Layer 2.
519. CH 9706. Building 9, 'Bases' Room. Stairs, Period 1.

These vessels are both close to others of late 3rd to mid 4th-century date (Gillam 1976, fig 2.10–14, p 64).

BOWLS

520. CH 8932, 8959. Grid Q. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
521. CH 6838. Buildings 6/7, Layer 4.
522. CH 7939. Building 8, Layer 1
523. CH 5423. Building 4, Wall Trench F.
524. CH 9744 Building 9, 'Bases Room'. Stairs, Period 1.
525. CH 7938. Building 8, Layer 1.

The variation in the rim form of the flanged bowls 521–25 would on morphological grounds suggest a date range of late 2nd/early 3rd to mid 4th (*ibid*, fig 3–4.42,45–6,49; pp 70–2). But, as Gillam notes (*ibid*, p 70), the change in the rim form of BB1 flanged bowls was gradual, and may only be an approximate indicator of date. The date range could therefore be much less than would seem at first.

DISH

526. CH 511. Building 1, F3. The decoration on the base could mean this is from an oval vessel, but it is not exclusive to that variety (*ibid*, fig 5,74 and 78).

BB2?

527. CR21/10//20//10/21. Smoothed surfaces. CH 9012. Grid Q. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.

BB2

528. CH 7118. TH 35. Contents of F182, Layers 5–6.
529. CH 2315. Building 4, Layer 2/3.
530. CH 6685. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century.
531. CH 562,2612. Building 3, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd to late 3rd century.
532. CH 6686. Courtyard, Layer 9. Mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century.
533. CH 2487. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century.

Oxfordshire Ware

Most of the Oxfordshire pottery from Chesterton was red colour-coated ware and has been identified by Dr C.J. Young. A number of mortaria occurred, and these are considered separately. No certain Oxford parchment ware, other white wares, white colour-coated ware, oxidised wares or reduced wares were represented. The colour-coated vessels, not all of which are illustrated, were from forms C44,46,51–2,58,70,75,77–8 and 100 (Young 1977), all common products of the Oxfordshire kilns. The occurrence of Oxfordshire products is interesting, and it is tempting to link it with the re-organisation and changes of the later 3rd century, already mentioned. More evidence and research is needed however before conclusions can be drawn. Most of the Chesterton Oxfordshire ware is of 4th-century date.

534. C51. *c* AD 240+ CH 8302. Building 9, Layers 1/2.
535. C52. *c* AD 350+ CH 9336. Building 9, Layer 2.
536. C100. *c* AD 300+ CH 9061. Building 9, Layer 2.
537. C58. *c* AD 240–300 CH 6163. Cutting I, Ditch F123. The ovolo motif is rare, and this is the only example of this particular stamp.
538. C70. *c* AD 325+ CH 9912. Unstratified on surface.
539. C75. *c* AD 325+ CH 6010. Buildings 6/7, Ditch F90. Late 3rd and 4th centuries

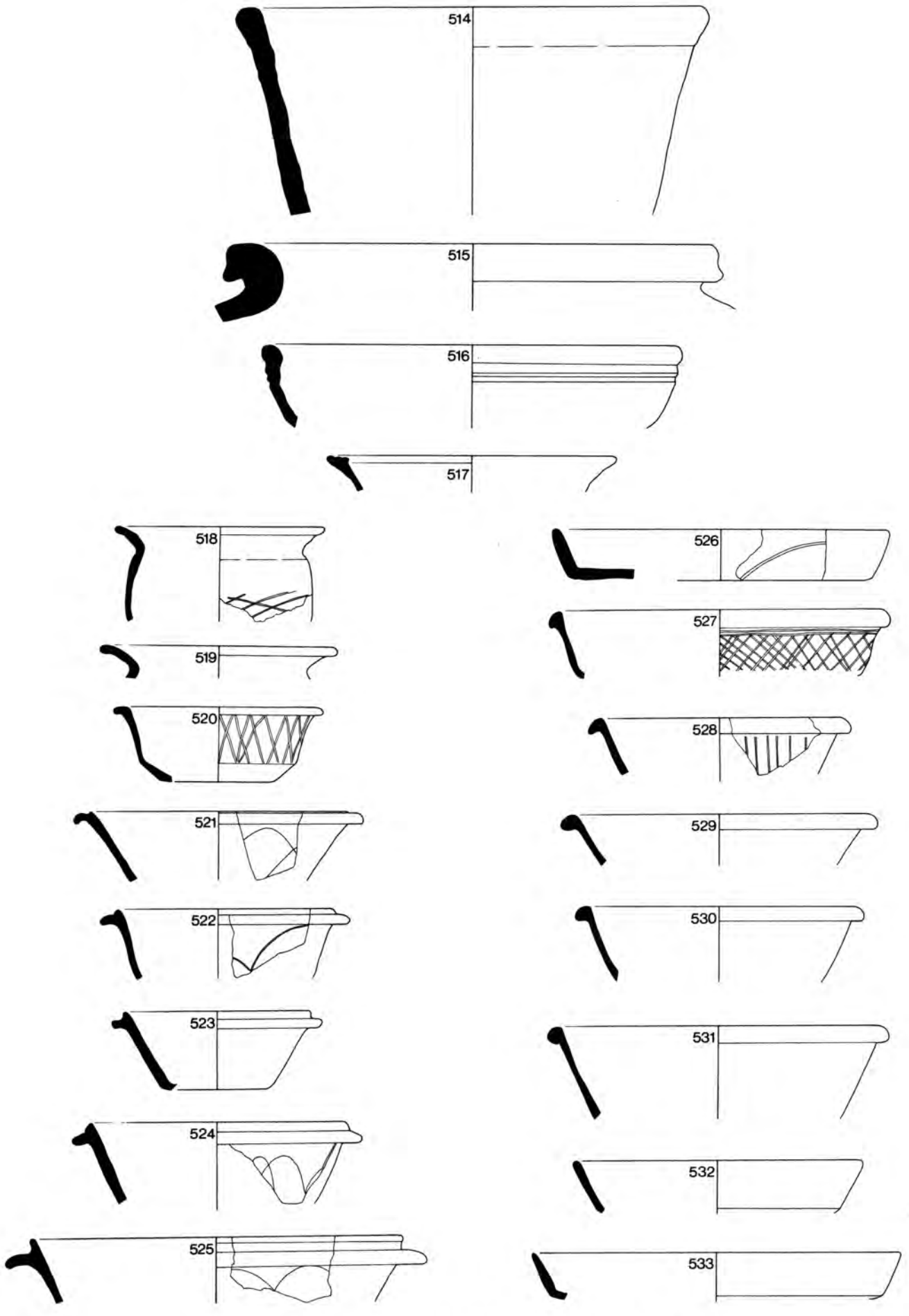


Figure 75. Pottery – Roman shell-gritted ware, 514; Other wares 515–33

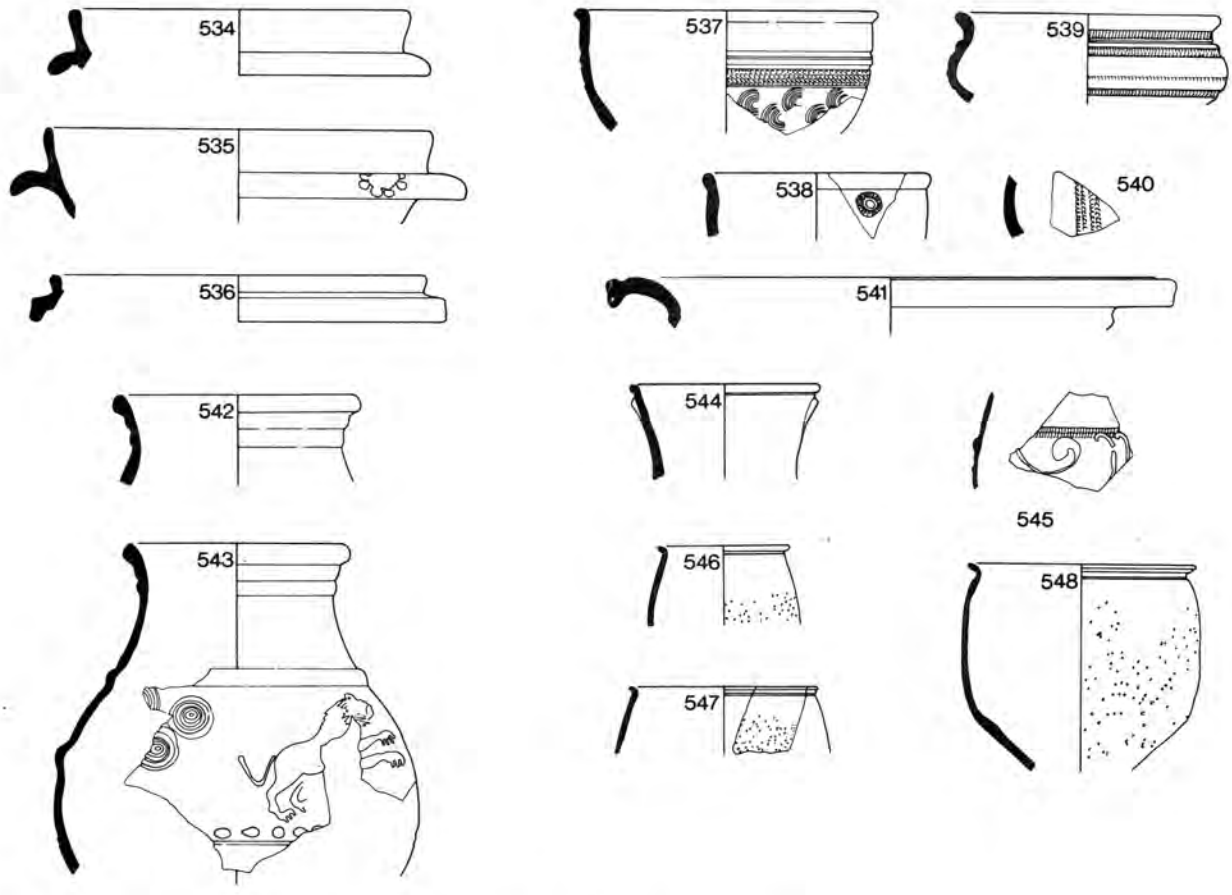


Figure 76. Pottery – Other wares

540. C78. *c* AD 340+ CH 9063. Building 9, Layer 2.
541. C49. CR4/21/4. Burnished surface, slightly micaceous. CH 1980. Building 4, Layer 2. Oxfordshire?

Hadham Ware

Most 4th-century levels, including those at Chesterton contain vessels in red oxidised wares. The kilns at Much Hadham were the main source but there may have been others.

542. CR3/21/3. Burnished externally. CH 9093. Building 9, Layer 2.
543. CR3+11/3/3+11. Burnished externally. This vessel has been badly burnt. CH 9949. Building 9, 'Bases' Room. Pre-destruction occupation level. Late 4th century. Similarly decorated vessels are known from sites in Essex (eg Chelmsford – Drury 1972, 3–29, p 19, fig 5; Great Dunmow and Sandon – Rodwell 1976, 234–48, fig 2.21–2, pl 1 A, B; 253–8, fig 5.62; p 274, fig 12).
544. CR2/4/2. Slip or colour coat. CH 8265. Grid Q. Hadham?

'Rhenish' ware

545. CR25/2/25. 5/6) CH 1247. Courtyard, Layer 3. Late 2nd/early 3rd to late 3rd century.

'rhenish' ware of Rhineland/Moselle and Central Gaulish origin was very poorly represented in the Chesterton layers, which cannot, therefore, be used to suggest the pattern for the use of these imported wares in the area.

Lower Rhineland roughcast ware

546. CR11+12/14/11+12. Clay particles. CH 9000. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
Mrs A C Anderson contributes the following note: "The sherds are Lower Rhineland Fabric 1 (Anderson 1980). They are from a typical example of the early bag-shaped beaker form dated *c* AD 80–160 (*ibid*, fig 7.1 and 22)."
547. CR8+12/26/8+12. Clay particles. CH 6437, 3488, 5245, 5250. Building 4, Layer 4. Mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century.
Mrs A.C. Anderson contributes the following note: "Lower Rhineland Fabric 1. Late type (cf Anderson 1980, fig 7.3). Mid 2nd century."

Other roughcast ware

548. CR10/4//21//4/10. No obvious colour-coat. Applied clay particles. CH 8905. Pit F265. Second quarter of 2nd century.
Mrs A C Anderson contributes the following note: "There are similar sherds of coarsely-made bag shaped cornice-rimmed beakers at a number of sites in Northamptonshire, particularly at Brixworth, Rushden, Towcester and other sites in the Upper Nene Valley. So far, the sherds examined have all been of a similar character, with a fairly coarse, sandy orange fabric. More often than not the vessels were

not colour-coated, and, with those vessels that were, it was more of a self- coloured slip. The sparse clay particle rough-casting was probably sprinkled on with the hand, and sometimes the area above the roughcast zone and below the rim was burnished. Horizontal rouletted bands were another common means of decoration. It has so far proved impossible to locate their source, and therefore they could perhaps be termed Upper Nene Valley ware, though they may have originated further down the valley. In general these vessels appear to be Antonine in date."

Mortaria from Excavations by E. Greenfield at Water Newton, Billing Brook and Chesterton 1956–58.

K.F. Hartley and J.R. Perrin,
with additional information on the stamps provided by L. Rollo

Introduction

The mortaria are grouped in approximate chronological order by area of origin. The typological date is that given by K.F. Hartley for the type overall. The (M) numbers are those given by E. Greenfield in his site finds lists. Where the letters [OHF] followed by a number appear at the end of a catalogue entry, this refers to the type-series published in the Orton Hall Farm report (Hartley 1996, 199–203).

SITE CODES

BB Billing Brook
CH Chesterton
WN Water Newton

Catalogue (Figs 77–82)

Lower Nene Valley

M1. Stamped VIATOR (Fig 81). WN 1181, (WNM1). Trench A, F13. Uncertain date. [OHF3].

M2. Part of flange only; stamped VIATOR (Fig 81). CH 9168, (M163). Building 8. Uncertain date.

Stamps from the same die are now also known from Bourne, Lincolnshire, Castleford, Castor (2) and Ashton, Northamptonshire (2). The fabric and the distribution associated with this die point to manufacture in the Castor region of the Lower Nene Valley. There were at least nine and probably 10 other dies giving the name Viator in some form which were used on mortaria and they occur on vessels in, apparently, up to seven different fabrics. The word FECIT appearing in full and forked serifs are both rare characteristics, however, and suggest that the dies could all be the work of one man. If this is true he clearly moved around, at some time working in the north of England. Such dating evidence as exists for all the dies is consistent with most, if not all, being used within the period *c* AD 100–40. This is true for the three other dies which give FECIT in full. Stamps from these dies have been noted at Hambledon Villa, Buckinghamshire, Lancaster, Ribchester, Bainbridge and Ilkley and samian evidence indicates that the forts at Ilkley and Bainbridge were unoccupied in the period *c* AD 120–60. The Castor Viator's work is certainly not likely to be later than AD 160 and could fit well with a date of *c* AD 110–45.

M3. Two retrograde stamps, impressed close together, both read VARINN and other examples allow the name to be expanded to VARINNA (Fig 81). CH 7406, (M120). Test Hole 80, F164 dated 2nd – 3rd century. Typological date: AD 130–180. [OHF7].

Varinna used at least 3 dies and his mortaria are now also known from Ashton, Northamptonshire, Godmanchester, Stonea, Cambridgeshire (2), Sibson-cum-Stibbington, West Deeping and in Northampton Museum (provenance unknown). This limited distribution indicates production in the Nene Valley. His work is undoubtedly Antonine in date.

M4. Unusual form. CH 1977, (M35). Building 4, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typological date: AD 150–200. [OHF11].

M5. CH 2966, (M48) and 2968, (M50). Building 4, Pit F44, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically AD 150–220. This form is never stamped. [OHF16].

M6. CH 1809, (M32). Building 2, F19, dated 2nd-4th century. The bead is cut away on the inside of the spout as in 2nd-century examples, and almost certainly indicates a date before AD 250. The same basic form, with a lower bead, was made in the Antonine period. Typologically AD 170–240/250. [OHF17].

M7. CH 2965, (M47). Building 4, Pit F44, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically after *c* AD 180. [OHF20].

M8. CH 2358, (M38), Building 4, Layer 2 dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically AD 180–250. [OHF23[6]].

M9. CH 3664, (M8). Building 1, Layer 3, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically AD 180–250+. [OHF18].

M10. CH 6115, (M100). Grid R, 'top 12 inches'. Uncertain date. Typologically early 3rd century.

M11. CH 3822, (M12). Building 1, Layer 3A, dated later 2nd-3rd century. Typologically probably 3rd century.

M12. CH 6114, (M99). Grid R, 'top 12 inches'. Uncertain date. Typologically probably 3rd century.

M13. Unusual beadless form. CH 919, (M18). Building 1, Pit F8, dated late 2nd/early 3rd to late 3rd century. Also CH 1142, (M21). Building 1, South-west extension, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically 2nd century. [OHF13].

M14. WN 2081–2, 2084–5, 2117, (WNM2). Trench A, Layer 27, dated 2nd-3rd? century. Typologically 3rd century. [OHF73].

M15. WN 2013, 2079, 2080, 2107, 2109, (WNM3). Trench A, Layer 27, dated 2nd-3rd? century. Typologically *c* AD 200–280. [OHF72].

14 and 15 are possibly Stilton products.

M16. CH 8362, (M145). Building 9, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically 3rd century.

M17. CH7385, (M119). Grid V, Test Hole 79, Layer 1–3, dated 2nd-4th century. Typlogically 3rd century.

M18. WN 2139, (WNM8). Trench A, Layer 26, dated probably 3rd century. Typologically 3rd century. [OHF29].

M19. CH 7297, (M115). Grid R, Test Hole 71, F183, dated 3rd century. Typologically 3rd century.

M20. CH 7163, (M109). Grid O, Test Hole 39, dated 2nd-3rd century. Typologically 3rd century.

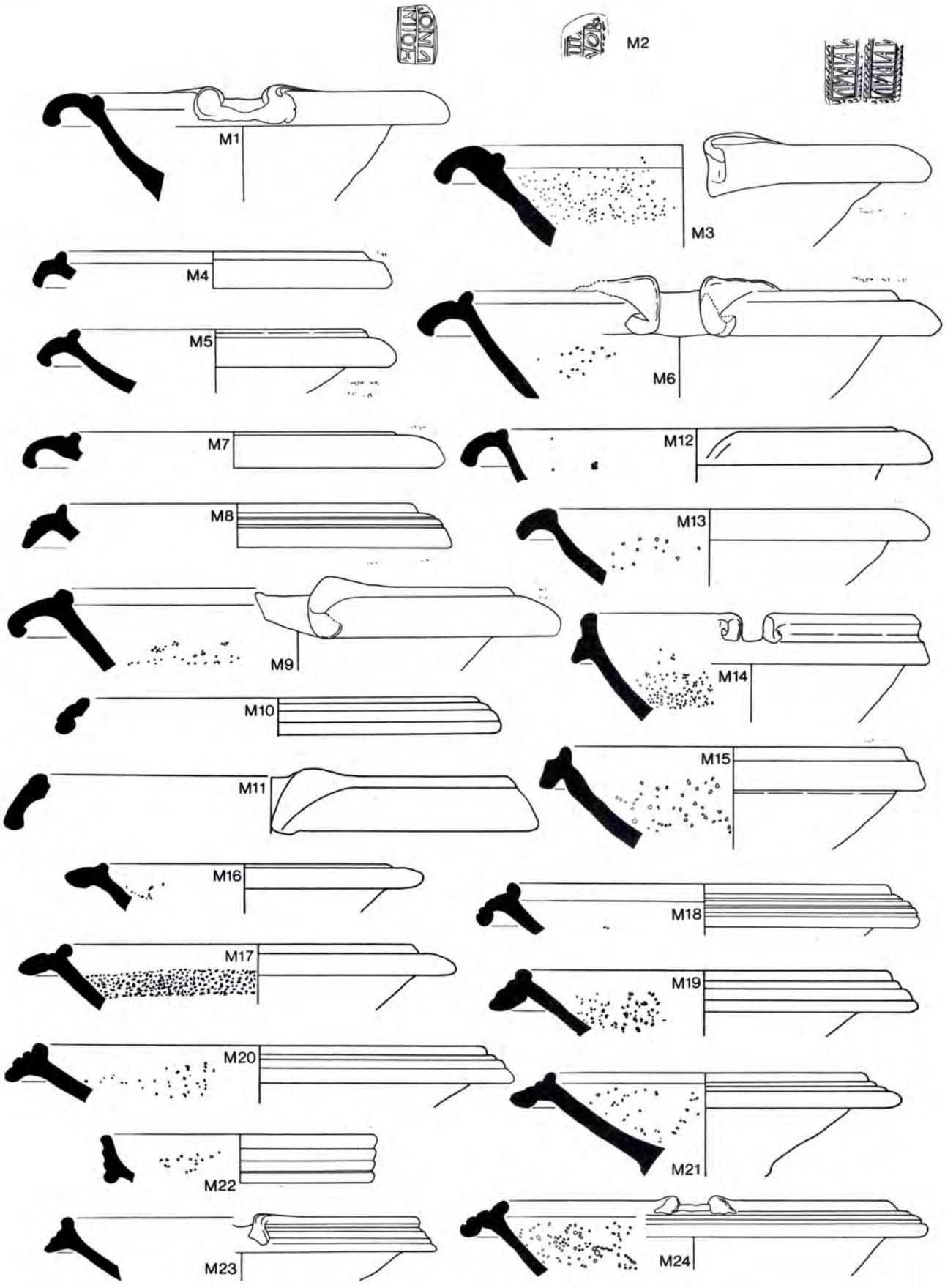


Figure 77. Pottery – Mortaria

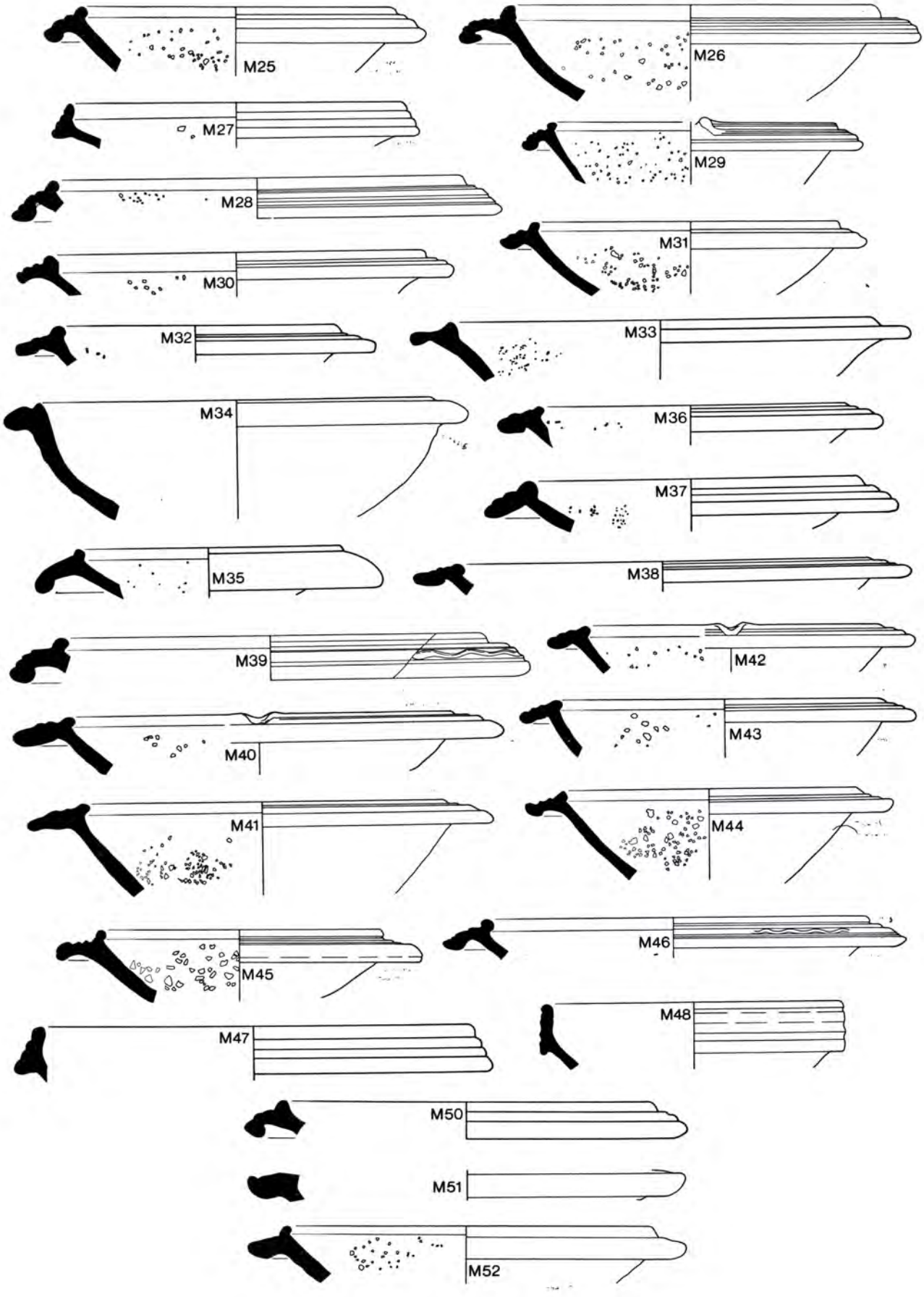


Figure 78. Pottery – Mortaria

M21. CH 5874, (M86). Building 6/7, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically 3rd century.

M22. CH 5545, (M76). Building 6, Layer 4. Typologically probably 3rd century. Type also made in the Mancetter-Hartshill potteries. [OHF52].

M23. CH 4371 (M62). Building 4, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically probably 3rd century. [OHF61].

M24. CH 6056 (M97). Cutting O. Uncertain date. Typologically probably 3rd century. [OHF30].

M25. BB 44 (BBM2). Area 1, Test Hole 9, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically probably 3rd century. [OHF30].

M26. BB 143 (BBM7). Area 2, Test Hole 30, Layer 2, dated 3rd-4th century. Typologically 3rd century, AD 200 -260? [OHF27].

M27. CH 3118, (M51). Building 4, F53, dated 2nd-3rd century. Typologically probably 3rd century. [OHF62].

M28. WN 33, (WNM7). Trench A, Layer 1. Ploughsoil. Typologically AD 230–350. [OHF31].

M29. CH 3745 (M10). Building 1, Layer 7, dated mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century. Typologically AD 230–350. [OHF31].

M30. CH 5745 (M81). Building 6, F90, Layer 2, dated late 3rd and 4th centuries. Typologically AD 230–350. [OHF44].

M31. CH 154, (M3). Building 1, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically AD 230–350+. [OHF36].

M32. CH 8452, (M149). Building 10, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically post AD 250.

M33. CH 8801, (M156). Building 11, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically post AD 250.

M34. CH 4883, (M66). Building 4, Layer 2, dated: 2nd-4th century. Typologically 3rd century? [OHF68]

M35. CH 7896, (M125). Building 8, Layer 4, dated 2nd-3rd century. Typologically later 3rd-4th century.

M36. CH 8451, (M148). Building 10, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically later 3rd-4th century.

M37. CH 9256, (M170). Building 8, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically later 3rd-4th century.

M38. CH 8286, (M138). Grid R, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically later 3rd-4th century.

M39. BB 144 (BBM8), Area 2, Test Hole 30, Layer 2, dated 3rd-4th century. Typologically AD 250–350. [OHF28].

M40. CH 8450, (M147). Grid T, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically late 3rd or 4th century. [OHF40].

M41. BB 61, (BBM3). Area 1, Test Hole 10, Layer 3, dated 3rd-4th century. Typologically late 3rd or 4th century. [OHF40].

M42. CH 152, (M1). Building 1, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically late 3rd or 4th century. [OHF37].

M43. WN 3, (WNM9). Trench A, Layer 1, Ploughsoil. Typologically late 3rd or 4th century. [OHF37].

M44. CH 6006, (M95). Building 6, F90, dated late 3rd and 4th centuries. Typologically late 3rd and 4th century, probably later than AD 250. [OHF47].

M45. CH 155 (M4). Building 1, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically probably 4th century. [OHF49].

M46. CH 8820, (M158). Grid U, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically after AD 275 and likely to be 4th century. [OHF32].

M47. CH 5544, (M75). Building 6/7 Layer 4, dated 3rd-4th century. Typologically later 3rd, probably 4th century.

M48. CH 5875, (M87). Building 3, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically after AD 250 and probably late 3rd to 4th century. [OHF54].

M49. (not illustrated) Lion's head spout from a colour-coated imitation Dragendorff 45. CH 5978, (M93). Building 6/7, F115, dated later 3rd-4th century. Typologically probably 4th century.

M50. CH 9255, (M169). Building 8 Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically 4th century.

M51. CH 4452, (M64). Building 3, Wall Trench B, dated: 3rd-4th century. Typologically 4th century, perhaps AD 350–400+. Other site dating: late 4th century (Corder 1951, fig 9,29; Frere 1972, fig 109,2631). [OHF69].

M52. CH 6005, (M94). Building 6, F90, dated late 3rd and 4th centuries. Typologically 4th century, perhaps AD 350–400+. Other site dating: late 4th century (as for M51). [OHF69].

Lower Nene Valley or East Anglia

M53. CH 542, (M14). Building 1, under F10. Uncertain date. Typologically AD 160–200+. Form derived from Colchester products (Hull 1963, fig 87,1). Style of VIRAPIUS (White 1960–1, fig 7,20). The fabric is similar to one used by Virapius and it could be one of his products. He had a workshop at Snettisham in Norfolk, but his use of at least two different fabrics and a wide variety of rims suggests that he was active in more than one area. This vessel is unlikely to have been made at Snettisham. [OHF78].

Lower Nene Valley or Midlands

M54. CH 7977, (M131). Grid O, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typological date *c* AD 110–140/150. Form derived from Verulamium region (Frere 1972, fig 115,551–52). The incomplete stamp (Fig 81) is impressed over an earlier effort. It is primarily a leaf-stamp with the name SABINVS in small letters in association, traces of the last two letters appearing under IN. There is no reason to link this man with any of the continental potters of this name. [OHF2].

M55. CH 1662, (M27). Building 2, Layer 4, dated 2nd-3rd century. Typologically AD 160–230. [OHF70].

M56. CH 6422, (M104). Building 4, Layer 4, dated mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century. Typologically AD 170–200. [OHF76].

M57. CH 2775, (M45). Building 3, Layer 3, dated late 2nd/early 3rd to late 3rd century. Typologically AD 170–230. [OHF71].

M58. CH 1352, (M25). Building 1, Layer 4. Dated 2–4th centuries. Typologically late 2nd-3rd century. Trituration grit includes iron slag and quartz. Clearly an Oxfordshire Type M10–12 (Young 1977), dated there *c* AD 180–240. This vessel and CH 3176, (M54) from Building 3, Layer 2 which is similar (not illustrated) are more likely to be the work of potters moving from the Oxfordshire area rather than imitation by some of those working in the Lower Nene Valley. [OHF75].

Lower Nene Valley or Mancetter-Hartshill

The following vessels are types which all occur at Mancetter-Hartshill suggesting that some potters from there may have opened second workshops in the Lower Nene Valley.

M59. CH 2774, (M44). Building 3, Layer 3, dated mid/late 2nd into 3rd century. Typological and other site (Mancetter) dating AD 100–145. [OHF6].

M60. CH 7239, (M113). Test Hole 50, F155 dated 2nd-3rd century. Typological date AD 140–180. Other site dating AD 130–180. Similar vessel in Oakham Museum from Water Newton has a stamp of SIMILIS. [OHF8].

M61. CH 7315, (M117). Grid Q, Test Hole 74, Layer 1/2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typological date AD 140–180. Only the edge of the stamp (Fig 81) survives but it can be attributed to a die of SIMILIS.

This potter may have worked at three centres including

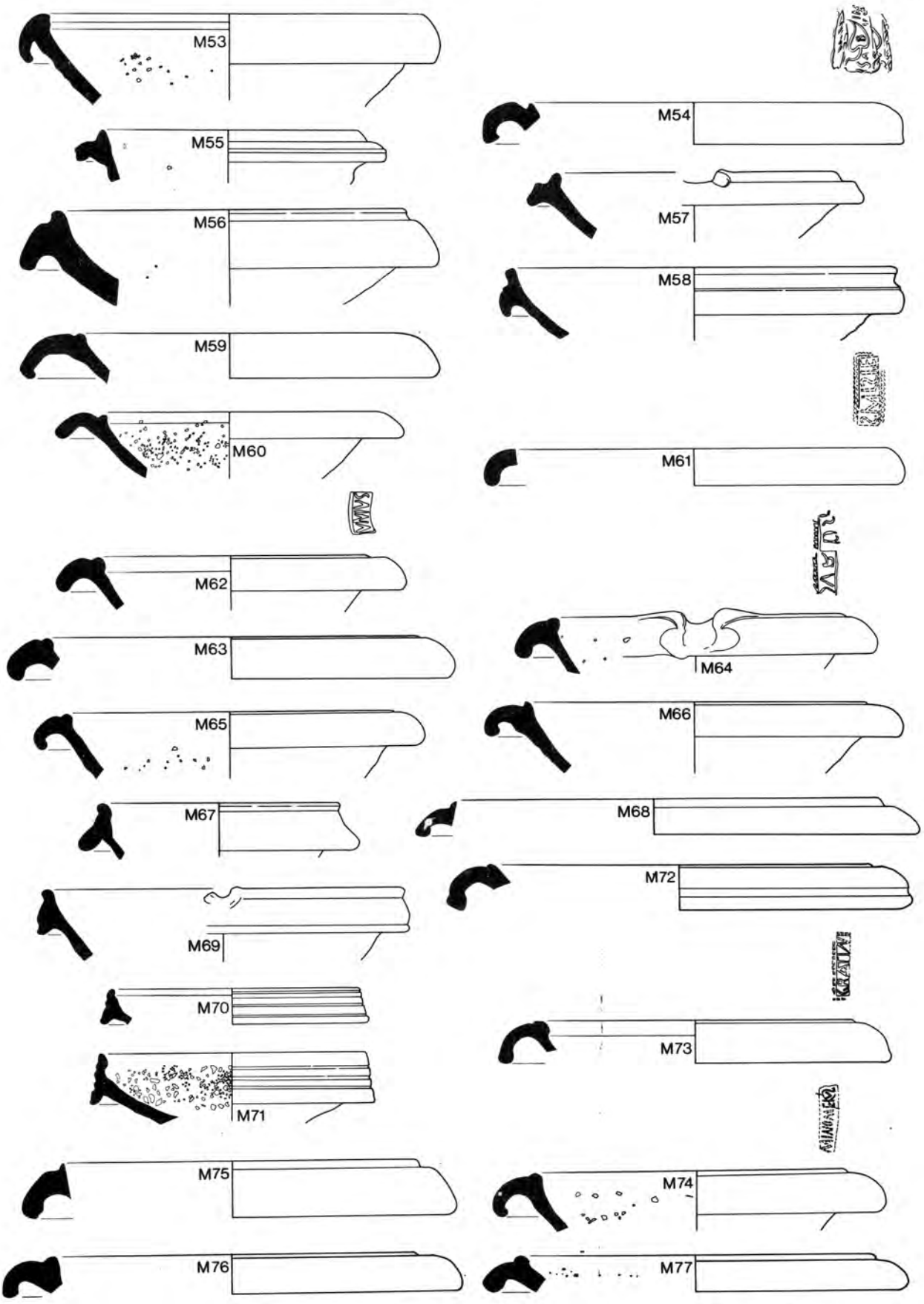


Figure 79. Pottery – Mortaria

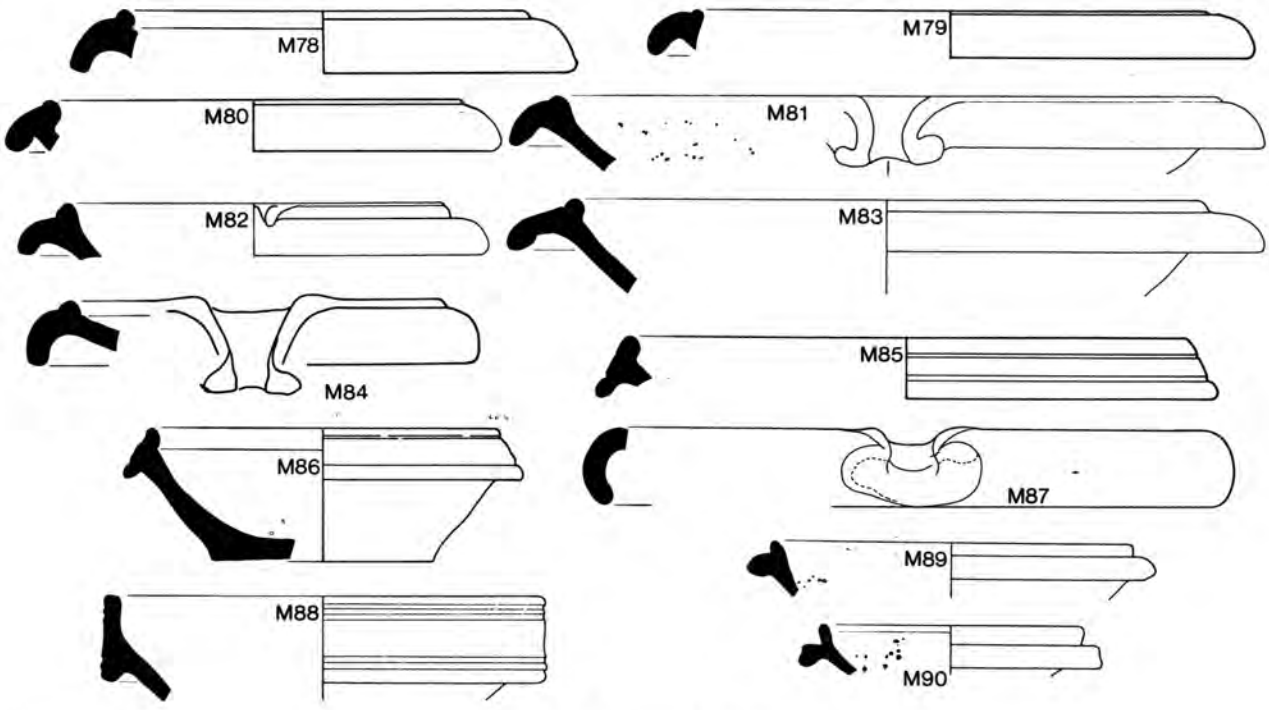


Figure 80. Pottery – Mortaria

the Lower Nene Valley where he appears to have been active in the period *c* AD 150–70. (Hartley 1990, p 262, fig 195,16).

M62. CH 1350, (M23). Building 1, Layer 4, dated 2nd-3rd century. Stamp (Fig 82) from Die A of IVNIVS who had at least 18 dies in all. Typological and other site dating: AD 140–180. [OHF9].

Iunius definitely worked at Mancetter-Hartshill, sometime sharing kilns with Bruscius and Sarrius. His products are widespread throughout England and occur on the Pennine forts thought to have been unoccupied during the period *c* AD 120–60. Only one of his stamps has been found on the Antonine Wall and he was one of a small group of potters stamping mortaria who introduced early hammer-head rim types. the evidence supports a date of *c* AD 150/5–190.

M63. CH 4189, (M59). Building 3, F20 dated 2nd-4th century. Typological and other site dating: AD 140–180. [OHF9].

M64. CH 7463, (M123). Building 4, F184, Layer 17, dated mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century. Stamp of a semi-literate potter (Fig 82). Typological and other site dating: AD 140–180. [OHF9].

M65. WN 1187, (WNM6). Trench A, Layer 18, dated 2nd century. Typologically AD 140–200. [OHF15].

M66. CH 8899, (M160). Grid Q, Pit F265, dated: Second quarter of 2nd century. Typologically AD 150–200. [OHF14].

M67. CH 543, (M15) Building 1, under F10. Uncertain date. Typologically AD 170–250. [OHF77].

M68. CH 3136, (M52). Building 4, F36, dated: 2nd-3rd century. Typologically AD 120–170. [OHF16].

M69. CH 7144, (M108). Test Hole 35, F182, dated 2nd-3rd century. Typologically *c* AD 180–250. Based on a form produced in the Mancetter-Hartshill potteries by such potters as IVNIVS, BRVSCIVS and so on. First made *c* AD 150, but uncommon before *c* AD 180 at the earliest. [OHF57].

M70. CH 7194, (M111). Test Hole 43, F129, dated 3rd century? Typologically probably 3rd century. [OHF52].

M71. CH 5634, (M77). Building 3, Layer 1, dated: 2nd-4th century. Typologically AD 250–350. [OHF51].

Mancetter-Hartshill

M72. CH 2605, (M43). Building 3, Layer 3, dated late 2nd/early 3rd to late 3rd century. Typologically 2nd century.

M73. CH 5175, (M70). Building 4, Layer 4, dated mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century. The first half of the stamp is damaged but the reading GRATI (Gratinus) is certain (Fig 82).

One kiln used by Gratinus has been excavated at Hartshill and another (dated *c* AD 135–45) has produced his stamps in association with Minomelus, Bonoxus and Vitalis IV. In Scotland his stamps have been recorded at Balmuildy, Cappuck and Newstead. 35 stamps have been noted from the Midlands and the north of England, including Ilkley, where vessels are not likely to have reached the site before *c* AD 160. As a whole the evidence points to a date of *c* AD 135–65.

M74. CH 5174, (M69). Building 4, Layer 4, dated mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century. The broken stamp provides the last four letters of the name MINOMELUS (Fig 82).

Minomelus worked in the Mancetter-Hartshill potteries where a kiln at Hartshill shows he was working with Gratinus and Vitalis IV. He used at least 5 dies and his products have a wide distribution in England and Scotland. Evidence from the kiln, the presence of his products on

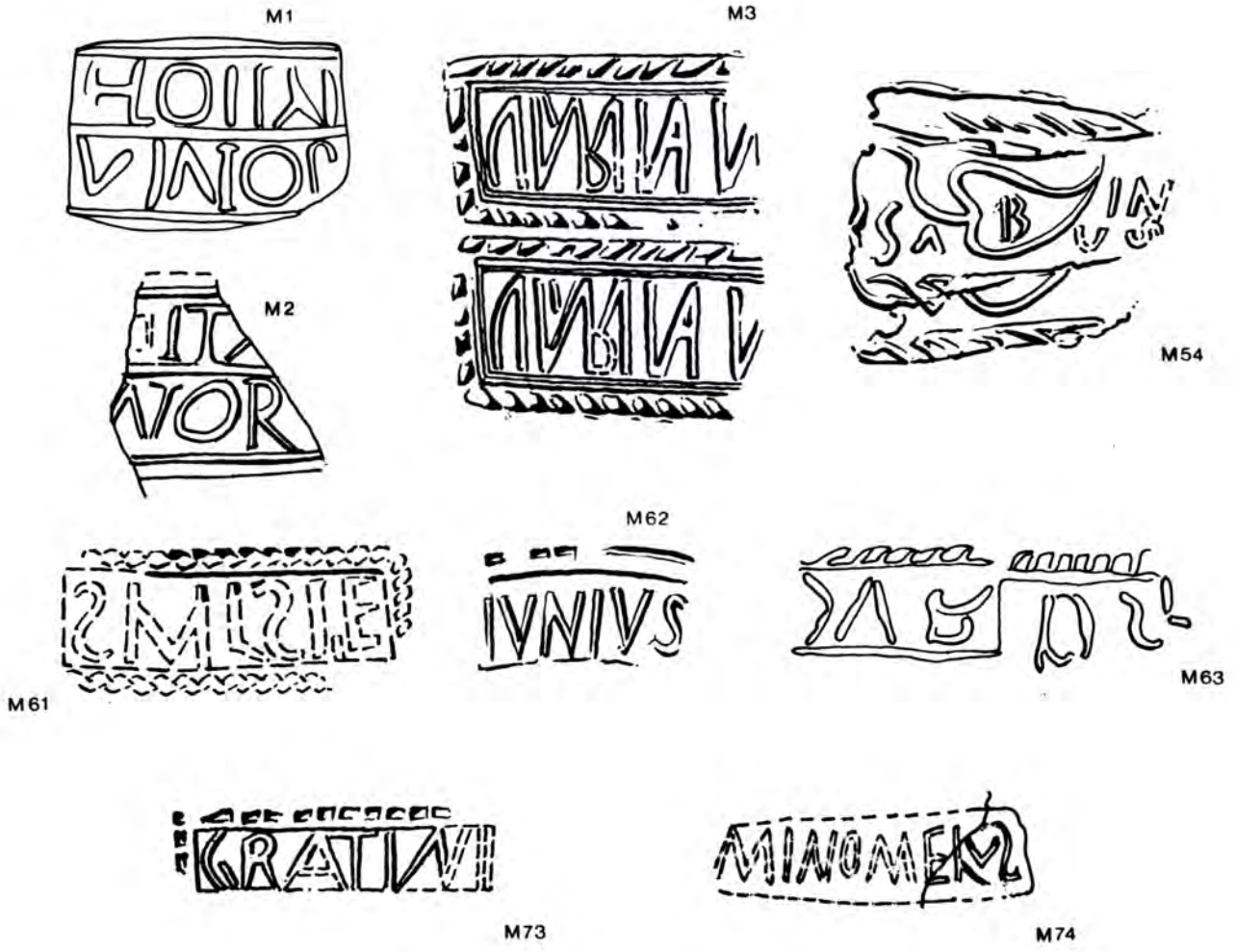


Figure 81. Pottery – Mortaria, stamps (1:1)

the Antonine Wall and his rim profiles indicate a mainly Antonine date for his work, probably *c* AD 135–65.

M75. WN 1713, (WNM5). Trench A, Layer 8, Pit F5, dated 2nd-3rd century. Typologically AD 140–180.

M76. CH 7176, (M110). Test Hole 39, dated 2nd-?3rd century. Typologically AD 140–180.

M77. CH 8097, (M135). Test Hole 19, dated 2nd-3rd century. Typologically AD 150–210.

M78. CH 5967, (M90). Building 6/7, F115, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically AD 150–210.

M79. CH 8360, (M143). Building 9, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically AD 160–210.

M80. CH 8285, (M137). Grid R, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically AD 160–210.

M81. CH 7922, (M127). Building 8, Wall Trench? Uncertain date. Typologically AD 160–210.

M82. CH 2395, (M39). Building 4, Layer 4, dated mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century. Typologically AD 160–210.

M83. CH 7871, (M124). Building 8, Layer 1 (topsoil). Typologically AD 160–210.

M84. CH 1037, (M20). Building 1, F8, dated late 2nd/early 3rd to late 3rd century. Typologically AD 160–210.

M85. CH 3811, (M11). Building 1, Layer 3A, dated later 2nd-3rd century. Typologically probably 3rd century.

M86. CH 8886, (M159). Grid Q, F266, dated 2nd-3rd century. Typologically probably 3rd century.

Verulamium region

M87. CH 7975–6, (M129–30). Grid O, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typological and other site dating: AD 80–130. The surviving border of a stamp is almost certainly from a die of MELUS I (Frere 1972, 376, fig 145,28). [OHF1].

Colchester or East Anglia

M88. CH 2397, (M40). Building 4, Layer 4, dated mid 2nd to late 2nd/early 3rd century; CH 2510 (M42). Building 3, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century; CH 2967, (M49). Building 4, F44, dated 2nd-3rd century; CH 3846, (M13). Building 1, F23, dated 2nd-3rd century; CH 7005, (M107). Building 3/4 Courtyard, Layer 7, dated late 2nd/early 3rd century to late 3rd century. Typologically probably 3rd century.

Oxfordshire

M89. CH 7363, (M118). Building 9, Test Hole 76, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically probably 4th century.

M90. CH 9044, (M161). Building 9, Layer 2, dated 2nd-4th century. Typologically 4th century (colour-coated).

SITE 5: COFFINS FOUND ON SOUTH-NORTH ROAD, WEST OF SITE 4

E. Greenfield notes:

'On February 14th-17th 1958 an emergency visit was made to Water Newton on behalf of the Inspectorate to examine stone coffins found two days before by a ditch-digging machine. The field in which these lay had long been known as "the coffin field" as several coffins had been discovered by agricultural work.

Six stone coffins and several ordinary burials were examined during the visit ans a complet recod was made of all details. They all contained adult skeletons and were unaccom-panied by grave goods. Three of the coffins had been disturbed by the workmen and one coffin had been broken-up by the machine. Four of the coffins were considered worthy of preservation; two were taken to the Museum in St. Ives and two to the Museum at Peterborough. The bone remains have been handed to Dr C. Hart of Peterborough who is examining all of the burials from these excavations.'

SITE 6: ON NORTH-EAST SIDE OF THE GREAT NORTH ROAD, EAST OF SITE 3

First indications that Roman buildings and occupation levels extended to this side of the Great North Road were first seen in July 1957, when a water main trench was cut from Chesterton to Water Newton on the grass verge of the road. Subsequent work of road-side ditch cutting exposed a section over 500ft long north-west – south-east. This section cut through three separate buildings linked by continuous occupation levels over the entire length of the cutting. The section was drawn and planned.

SITE 7. ON SOUTH-WEST SIDE OF THE GREAT NORTH ROAD, OPPOSITE SITE 6, EAST OF SITE 3

Road-side ditch cutting showed continuous occupation levels over a length of 450ft, north-west – south-east. One building was indicated by wall trenches and burnt red levels indicated ovens. Coins of the 3rd and 4th century AD were found *in situ* in the section. The section was drawn and planned. The occupation levels and buildings from this and Site 6 were typical of those found on Site 3 in 1957 and are further evidence of the ribbon development alongside the Ermine Street approaching the south-west gateway of the walled town of *Durobrivae*'.

Footnotes

1. It is not suprising that a large number of those involved in the excavations and the preparation of reports have since died. It has not been possible to check, so no mention is made in the text.
2. At this time this was a suggestion advanced by Graham Webster but unsupported by field trials. Thus, this was the first occasion on which the magnetometer was used as an archaeological, geophysical prospecting tool - see Dr M. Aitken's report, lodged with the archive.
3. Various pots contained the remains of coloured pigments, probably used in decorating. They have been listed (Biek 1981, tab 1, 1-10).
4. This thoroughly confirms the Artis drawing (1828, pl XI) which had hitherto been considered as fanciful.
5. The experimental work of Mr Geoffrey Bryant (1973, 149-60) has demonstrated that kilns were normally cylindrical to the top and dome-shaped, as had been the idea at the time of the excavation.
6. The context number for this vessel is not CH 2658 as given in the Orton Hall Farm report and it therefore did not come from Building 3 Layer 3. The correct context is CH 2358, Building 4 Layer 2 as here.

Bibliography

Anderson, A.C. 1980: *A Guide to Roman Fine Wares*, Vorda Research Series 1.

Anderson, A.C. 1981: 'Some Continental Beakers of the first and second centuries A.D.', in Anderson and Anderson 1981, 321–47.

Anderson, A.C. and Anderson, A.S. (eds) 1981: *Roman Pottery Research in Britain and North-West Europe*, Brit Archaeol Rep Int Ser 123.

Anderson, A.C., Fulford, M.G., Hatcher, H. and Pollard, A.M. 1982: 'Chemical Analysis of Hunt Cups and Allied Wares from Britain', *Britannia* 13, 229–38.

Arthur, Paul 1978: 'The lead glazed wares of Roman Britain' in Arthur and Marsh 1978, 293–356.

Arthur, Paul and Marsh, Geoff. (eds) 1978: *Early Fine Wares in Roman Britain*, Brit Archaeol Rep 57.

Artis, E.T. 1828: *The Durobrivae of Antoninus Identified and Illustrated in a series of Plates Exhibiting the Excavated Remains of that Roman Station in the Vicinity of Castor, Northants.*

Biek, Leo 1981: 'Pigments' in Davey and Ling 1981, Appendix II, 270–2.

Bird, Joanna 1977: 'African Red Slip Ware in Roman Britain', in Dore and Greene 1977, 269–87.

Bird, Joanna (ed) 1998: Form and Fabric: Studies in Rome's Material Past. In honour of B. R. Hartley. Oxbow Mon 80.

Bird, Joanna and Young, Christopher 1981: 'Migrant potters – the Oxford connection' in Anderson and Anderson 1981, 295–312.

Bolton, E.G. 1968: 'Romano-British kiln at Greetham, Rutland, *Trans Leicestershire Archaeol Hist Soc* 43, 1–3.

Booth, P. 1991: 'Inter-site comparisons between pottery assemblages in Roman Warwickshire: ceramic indicators of site status', *J Roman Pottery Stud* 4, 1–10.

Booth, P.M. and Green, Sarah 1989: 'The nature and distribution of certain pink, grog tempered vessels', *J Roman Pottery Stud* 2, 77–84.

Braithwaite, Gillian 1984: 'Romano-British Face Pots and Head Pots', *Britannia* 15, 99–131.

Brassington, M. 1968: 'A Romano-British Pottery Near Little Chester, Derby. Trial Excavations in 1966–7', *Derbyshire Archaeol J*, 88, 60–7.

Brassington, M. 1971: 'A Trajanic Kiln complex near Little Chester, Derby', *Antiq J*, 51, 36–69.

Brown, Anthony 1994: 'A Romano-British Shell-Gritted Pottery and Tile Manufacturing Site at Harrold, Bedfordshire', *Bedfordshire Archaeol* 21, 19–107.

Brown, A.E. (ed) 1995: *Roman Small Towns in Eastern England and Beyond*, Oxbow Mon 52.

Brown, A.E. and Alexander, J.A. 1982: 'Excavations at Towcester 1954: the Grammar School Site', *Northamptonshire Archaeol* 17, 24–59.

Brown, A.E. and Woodfield, Charmian 1983: 'Excavations at Towcester, Northamptonshire, The Alcester Road Suburb', *Northamptonshire Archaeol* 18, 43–110.

Bryant, Geoffrey F. 1973: 'Experimental Romano-British Kiln Firings' in Detsicas 1973, 149–160.

Carson, R.A.G. and Kent, J.P.C. 1960: 'Bronze Roman Imperial Coinage of the later empire AD 346–498', *Late Roman Bronze Coinage AD 324–498.*

Challands, Adrian 1979: 'Roman Ironworking and an Anvil from Nassington', *Durobrivae: rev Nene Valley Archaeol* 7, 21–2.

Cooper, N. 1989: 'A Study of Roman Pottery from the Lower Nene Valley Kiln Site at Park Farm, Stanground, Peterborough', *J Roman Pottery Stud* 2, 59–65.

Corder, P. (ed) 1951: *The Roman Town and Villa at Great Casterton, Rutland.*

Corder P. (ed) 1961: *The Town and Villa at Great Casterton, Rutland*, Third Report for the years 1954–8.

Corder, P. and Birley, M. 1937: 'A Pair of fourth-century Romano-British pottery kilns near Crambeck', *Antiq J* 17, 392–413.

Curle, J. 1911: *A Roman Frontier Post and its People. The Fort of Newstead in the parish of Melrose.*

Dakin, G.F. 1961: 'A Romano-British site at Orton Longueville, Huntingdonshire', *Proc Cambridge Antiq Soc* 54, 50–67.

Dannell, G.B. 1973: 'The Potter Indixivixus', in Detsicas 1973, 139–41.

Dannell, G.B., Hartley, B.R., Wild, J.P. and Perrin, J.R. 1993: 'Excavations on a Romano-British pottery production site at Park Farm, Stanground, Peterborough, 1967–7, *J Roman Pottery Stud* 6, 51–93.

Darling, M. 1977: *A group of late Roman pottery from Lincoln*, Archaeol Lincoln XVI, Fasc 1.

Davey, Norman and Ling, Roger 1981: *Wall Painting in Roman Britain*. Britannia Mon Ser 3.

D; Dech: Déchelette, J. 1904: *Les Vases Céramiques Ornés de la Gaule Romaine.*

Detsicas, A.P. (ed) 1973: *Current Research in Romano-British Coarse Pottery*, Counc Brit Archaeol Res Rep 10.

Dore, John and Greene, Kevin (eds) 1977: *Roman Pottery Studies in Britain and Beyond*, Brit Archaeol Rep Suppl Ser 30.

Drury, P.J. 1972: 'The Romano-British Settlement at Chelmsford, Essex: *Caesaromagus*'. Preliminary Report, *Essex Archaeol Hist* 4, 3–29.

Drury, P.J. 1976: 'Rettendon Ware Kiln Debris and other Material from Sandon', *Essex Archaeol Hist* 8, 253–8.

Evans, Jeremy 1991: 'Some notes on the Horningsea roman pottery', *J Roman Pottery Stud* 4, 33–43.

Foster, P.J., Harper, R. and Wakins, S. 1977: 'An Iron-Age and

Romano-British settlement at Hardwick Park, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire', *Northamptonshire Archaeol* 12, 55–96.

Frend, W.H.C. 1955: 'A Romano-British Settlement at Arbury Road, Cambridge', *Proc Cambridge Antiq Soc* 48, 10–43.

Frend, W.H.C. 1968: 'A Roman farm settlement at Godmanchester'. *Proc Cambridge Antiq Soc* 61, 19–44.

Frere, Sheppard 1972: *Verulamium Excavations Volume 1*, Rep Res Comm Soc Antiq London 28.

Fulford, M.G. 1975: *New Forest Roman Pottery*, Brit Archaeol Rep 17.

Gillam: Types in Gillam 1970.

Gillam, J.P. 1951: 'Notes on Pottery from the Destruction Layer', in Corder 1951, 24–40.

Gillam, J.P. 1970: *Types of Roman coarse pottery vessels in Northern Britain* (Third edition).

Gillam, J.P. 1973: 'Sources of Pottery found on Northern Military Sites', in Detsicas 1973, 53–62.

Gillam, J.P. 1976: 'Coarse fumed ware in North Britain and Beyond', *Glasgow Archaeol J* 4, 57–80.

Green, H.M.J. 1960: 'Roman Godmanchester: Part II. The Town Defences', *Proc Cambridge Antiq Soc* 54, 68–82.

Green, Charles, Green, Ida, Dallas, Carolyn and Wild, J.P. 1988: 'Excavations at Castor, Cambridgeshire in 1957–8 and 1973', *Northamptonshire Archaeol* 21, 109–48.

Greene, K.T. 1972: *Guide to Pre-Flavian Fine Wares, c. A.D. 40–70.*

Greene, K.T. 1973: 'The Pottery from Usk', in Detsicas 1973, 25–37.

Greene, K.T. 1977: 'Legionary pottery and the significance of Holt.', in Dore and Greene 1977, 113–32.

Greene, K.T. 1978: 'Imported fine wares in Britain to A.D.250: a guide to identification.' in Arthur and Marsh 1978, 15–30.

Greene, K.T. 1979: *Report on the Excavations at Usk, 1965–1976: The Pre-Flavian Fine Wares.*

Griffiths, K. 1989: 'The marketing of Roman pottery in second century Northamptonshire and the Milton Keynes area', *J Roman Pottery Stud*, 2, 66–76.

Hadman, John and Upex, Stephen 1975: 'A Roman Pottery Kiln at Sulehay near Yarwell', *Durobrivae: rev Nene Valley Archaeol* 3, 16–18.

Hadman, John and Upex, Stephen 1979: 'Ashton 1977–8', *Durobrivae: rev Nene Valley Archaeol* 1979, 28–30.

Hartley, B.R. 1955: 'Appendix III. The Pottery' in Frend 1955, 26–39.

Hartley, B.R. 1960a: 'Notes On Pottery From Some Romano-British Kilns In The Cambridge Area', *Proc Cambridge Antiq Soc* 53, 23–8.

Hartley, Brian R. 1960b: *Notes on the Roman Pottery Industry of the Nene Valley.* Peterborough Mus Soc Occ Pap 2.

Hartley, B.R. and Standen, E. 1959: 'A Group of Romano-British pottery With An Owner's Mark', *Proc Cambridge Antiq Soc* 52, 21–2.

Hartley, K.F. 1990: 'The Mortaria', in McCarthy 1990, Chapter 21, pp 237–63.

Hartley, K.F. 1996: 'A type series for mortaria found in the Lower Nene Valley', in Mackreth 1996, 199–203).

Hawkes, C.F.C. and Hull, M.R. 1947: *Camulodunum*, Rep Res Comm Soc Antiq London 14.

Hayes, John 1978: 'A Group of Roman Pottery from Fengate', *Durobrivae: rev Nene Valley Archaeol* 6, 12–13.

Hayes, J.W. 1984: 'The Roman Pottery from the Cat's Water Subsite, Fengate', in Pryor 1984, 179–93.

Henig, Martin 1974: *A Corpus of Roman Engraved Gemstones from British Sites*, Brit Archaeol Rep 8.

Higgins, D.C. 1972: 'Three groups of Romano-British coarse pottery from Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk', *Norfolk Archaeol* 35, 279–301.

Howe, M.D, Mackreth, D.F. and Perrin, J.R. 1980: *Roman Pottery from the Nene Valley: A Guide.* Peterborough City Mus Occ Pap 2. (undated but published in 1980)

Hull, M.R. 1958: *Roman Colchester*, Res Rep Comm Soc Antiq London 20.

Hull, M.R. 1963: *The Roman Potter's Kilns of Colchester*, rep Res Comm Soc Antiq London 21.

Hunter, A.G. and Mynard, D. 1977: 'Excavations at Thorplands near Northampton 1970 and 1974', *Northamptonshire Archaeol* 12, 97–154.

Johns, Catherine and Carson, Robert 1975: 'The Waternewton Hoard', *Durobrivae: rev Nene Valley Archaeol* 3, 10–12.

Johnston, D.E. 1969: 'Romano-British pottery kilns near Northampton', *Antiq J* 49, 75–97.

Kenyon, K.M. 1934: 'The Roman Theatre at Verulamium, St Albans', *Archaeologia* 84, 213–261.

Kenyon, K.M. 1948: *Excavations at the Jewry Wall Site, Leicester*, Rep Res Comm Soc Antiq London 15.

Kent, J.P.C. and Painter, K.S. 1977: *Wealth of the Roman World*, Brit Mus Exhib Guide.

Loughlin, N. 1977: 'Dales Ware: A Contribution to the Study of Roman Coarse Pottery', in Peacock 1977, 85–146.

Lyne, M.A.B. and Jeffries, R.S. 1979: *The Alice Holt/Farnham Roman Pottery Industry*, Counc Brit Archaeol Res Rep 30.

McCarthy, M.R. 1990: *A Roman, Anglian and Medieval Site at Blackfriars Street, Carlisle: Excavations 1977–9*, Cumberland Westmoreland Antiq Archaeol Soc Res Ser 4.

Mackreth, D.F. 1988: 'An Excavation of an Iron Age and Roman Enclosure at Werrington, Cambridgeshire', *Britannia* 19, 59–151.

Mackreth, D.F. 1995: 'Durobrivae, Chesterton, Cambridgeshire', in Brown 1995, 147–55.

Mackreth, D.F. 1996: *Orton Hall Farm: A Roman and Early Anglo-Saxon Farmstead*, E Anglian Archaeol 76.

Manning, W.H. 1998: 'A hoard of late Roman Iron Work from Sibson, Huntingdonshire', in Bird 1998, 281–95.

Marsh, Geoff 1978: 'Early second century fine wares in the London area', in Arthur and Marsh 1978, 119–224.

Munsell: Munsell Soil Color Charts

Painter, Kenneth Scott 1977: *Gold and Silver in the Late Roman World*, Brit Mus Exhib Guide.

Peacock, D.P.S. (ed) 1977: *Pottery and Early Commerce: Characterisation and Trade in Roman and Later Ceramics.*

Perrin, Robert 1980: 'Pottery of London-Ware type from the Nene Valley' in *Durobrivae: rev Nene Valley Archaeol*, 8, 8–10.

Perrin, J.R. 1981: 'The Late Roman Pottery of Great Casterton - Thirty Years On', in Anderson and Anderson 1981, 447–63.

Perrin, J.R. 1987: 'An Introduction to the Roman Pottery Industry of the Lower Nene Valley' in *SFECAG: Actes du Congres de Caen*, 1987, 81–7.

Perrin, J.R. 1988: 'The Roman Pottery' in Mackreth 1988.

Perrin, J.R. 1993: 'The Roman Pottery' in Dannell *et al* 1993, 67–93.

Perrin, J.R. 1996: 'The Roman Pottery' in Mackreth 1996, 114–204.

Perrin, J.R. and Webster, G. 1990: 'Roman Pottery from excavations in Normangate Field, Castor, Peterborough 1962–3', *J Roman Pottery Stud*, 3, 35–62.

Potter, T.W.J. 1975–6: 'Excavations at Stonea, Cambs: Sites of the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Roman Periods', *Proc Cambridge Antiq Soc*, 66, 23–54.

Potter, T.W. 1981: 'The Roman Occupation of the Central Fenland', *Britannia* 12, 79–133.

Potter, T.W and Potter, C.F. 1982: *A Romano-British Village at Grandford, March, Cambridgeshire*, Brit Mus Occ Pap 35.

Pryor, Francis 1984: *Excavation at Fengate, Peterborough, England: The Fourth Report.* Northamptonshire Archaeol Soc Mon 1; Royal Ontario Mus Archaeol Mon 6.

Rigby, Valery 1973: 'Potter's Stamps on Terra Nigra and Terra Rubra found in Britain', in Detsicas 1973, 7–24.

Rigby, V. 1980: 'The coarse pottery', in Stead 1980, 45–94.

Rodwell, Warwick 1976: 'Archaeological Notes. Some Unrecorded Archaeological Discoveries in Essex 1946–75. Other Material collected by J.G.S. Brinson', *Essex Archaeol Hist* 8, 234–63.

Rodwell, W. 1978: 'Stamp-decorated pottery of the early Roman period in eastern England' in Arthur and Marsh 1978, 225–92.

Rogerson, A. 1977: 'Excavations at Scole, 1973', *E Anglian Archaeol* 5, 97–122.

Stibbington, forthcoming: Excavations of kilns and workshop in 1969 by J.P. Wild and G.B. Dannell. Pottery report by J.R. Perrin. Forthcoming.

Storey, J.M.V. 1988: 'A Chemical Study of Clays and Roman Pottery from the Lower Nene Valley, Eastern England', *J Arch Sci.* 15:1, 35–50.

Swan, Vivien G. 1984: *The Pottery Kilns of Roman Britain*, Royal Comm Hist Mon Supp Ser 5.

Swan, Vivien G. 1992: Legio VI and its men: African Legionaries in Britatin, J. Roman Pottery Stud 5, 1–33.

Thompson, F.H. 1958: 'A Romano-British pottery kiln at North Hykeham, Lincolnshire with an appendix on the typology, dating and distribution of 'rustic' ware in Great Britain', *Antiq J* 38, 15–51.

Todd, M. 1968: 'The Commoner Late Roman Coarse wares of the east Midlands', *Antiq J* 48, 192–209.

Tyers, P.A. 1978: 'The poppy-head beakers of Britain and their relationship to the barbotine decorated vessels of the rhineland and Switzerland' in Arthur and Marsh 1978, 61–107.

Walker, F.G 1912: 'Roman pottery kilns at Horningsea, Cambridgeshire', *Proc Cambridge Antiq Soc* 17, 14–69.

Walters, H.B. 1908: *Catalogue of the Roman Pottery in the Department of Antiquities, British Museum.*

Webster, G. 1944: 'The Roman pottery at South Carlton, Lincolnshire', *Antiq J.* 24, 129–43.

Webster, G. 1959: 'A Note on Romano-British Pottery with painted figures', *Antiq J* 39, 91–5.

Webster, G. 1966: 'A painted sherd of Romano-British pottery from Sawtry, Huntingdonshire', *Antiq J* 46, 338–9.

Webster, G. (ed) 1976: *Romano-British Coarse pottery; A Student's guide*, Counc Brit Archaeol Res Rep 6, (3rd edition) London.

Webster, Graham 1989: 'Deities and Religious Scenes on Romano-British Pottery', *J Roman Pottery Stud* 2, 1–28.

Webster, Graham 1991: 'Romano-British scenes and figures on pottery', *Archaeologist at Large*, 129–198.

Webster, G. and Booth, N. 1947: 'The excavation of a Romano-British pottery kiln at Swanpool, Lincolnshire', *Antiq J* 27, 61–79.

Wild, J.P. 1974: 'Roman Settlement in the Lower Nene Valley', *Archaeol J* 131, 140–70.

Wild, J.P. 1988: 'The Roman Pottery' in Green *et al* 1988, 121–4 and *microfiche* M52–4.

Williams, D.F. 1977: 'The Romano-British Black-burnished Industry: An Essay on Characterization by Heavy Mineral Analysis', in Peacock 1977, 163–220.

Woods, P.J. 1972: 'Excavations at Brixworth, Northants, 1965–1970. The Romano-British Villa. Part 1 – The Roman Coarse Pottery and Decorated Samian Ware', *Northamptonshire Archaeol* 8, 1–102.

Young, C.J. 1977: *Oxfordshire Roman Pottery. The Roman Pottery Industry of the Oxford Region*, Brit Archaeol Rep 43.