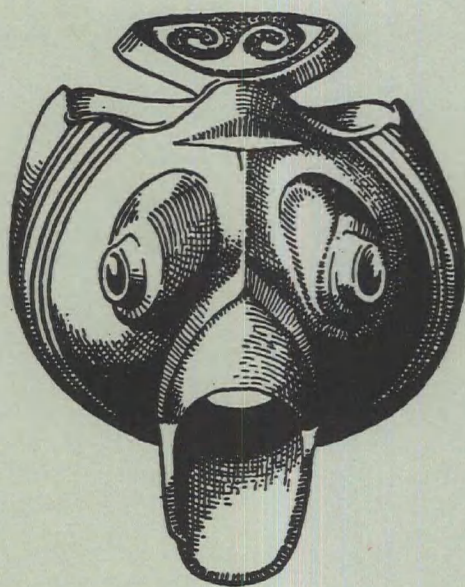


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Three Bronze Age Spearheads in Luton Museum

RICHARD HAGEN

SUMMARY

Three chance finds of bronze spearheads of Bronze Age date are published for the first time together with a list of known examples from the county.

The collection of Bronze Age metalwork in Luton Museum includes three spearheads. They were all found in Bedfordshire, but only one, that from Sundon² appears in Nicholas Thomas' paper, *A Gazetteer of Neolithic and Bronze Age Sites and volume two of the Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal* in 1964.

All three spearheads were chance finds, and as far as is known, none was found in certain association with other artifacts.

1. Middle Bronze Age spearhead, Sundon Accession number, 79/28

A side-looped spearhead (of Greenwell and Brewis Class IV) was found with a human skeleton during chalk-quarrying operations at Sundon Quarry in 1927, (about TL 040275). It was presented to the Museum by the Associated Portland Cement Company Limited, together with eight small fragments of human bone, all that survives of the skeleton, which was found with the spearhead, at a depth of about six feet from the surface.¹

The spearhead is 11.8 cm long and has two small loops on the socket, set to one side of the central axis where there are traces of a filed-off casting flash. The blade is leaf-shaped and the socket circular in section. This continues as a tapering circular section for the full length of the blade, unlike the specimen in Bedford Museum which has the more usual angled ridge along the blade.²

At the time of its discovery, the spearhead was dated by R.A. Smith, then Keeper of the Department of British and Medieval Antiquities, British Museum, to about 1500 B.C.³

The spearhead in Bedford Museum, found between Kempston and Elstow, has already been

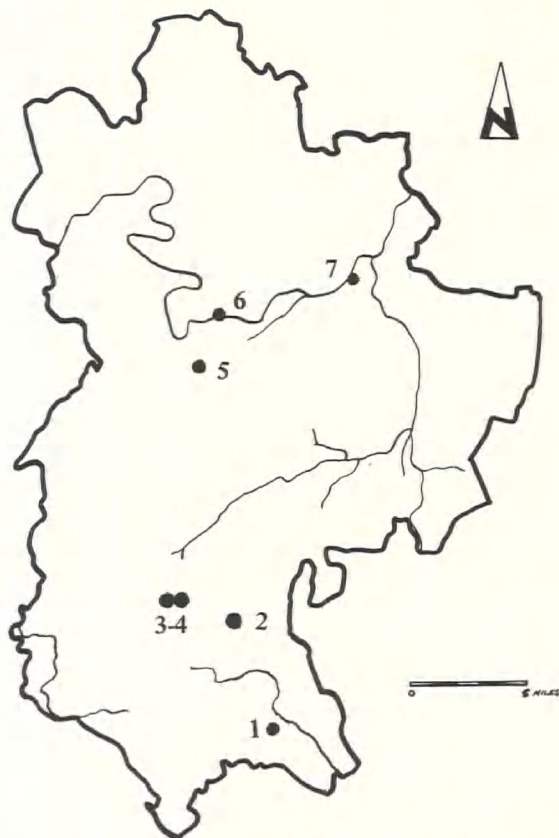


Fig 1 The distribution of Bronze Age spearheads in Bedfordshire. For a gazetteer of finds see Appendix, page 3.

mentioned.² It is 11.5 cm in length, and one 12.8cm long from Runnymede, Surrey is now in Norwich Castle Museum.⁴ Other examples include a spearhead in Northampton Museum found in Northampton itself,⁵ and eight in Salisbury Museum.⁶ Of the latter, the complete specimens range in length from 9.0 cm to 15.3 cm.

2. Late Bronze Age spearhead, Farley Hill, Luton Accession number 33/64

The precise circumstances of this find are

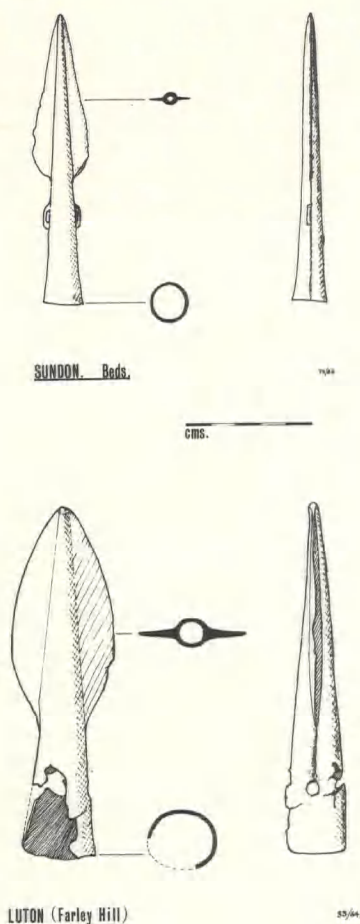


Fig. 2 Spearheads from Sundon and Farley Hill, Luton. (Scale $\frac{1}{3}$)

not known, but the spearhead is reported to have been found by a schoolboy, David Warner, in 1963, and to have been used by him as a plaything before it came to the museum.

The spearhead was apparently found on the surface in Little Wood, Farley Hill (about TL 07-1 209). The bronze has been stripped of all corrosion and patination to the bare metal. The socket has suffered considerable damage, probably in antiquity, but one of the peg holes is present. The spearhead is 14.3 cm long.

A similar, but slightly larger specimen from Norgate Road, Norwich Hoard, was found in association with socketted axes and a fragmentary leaf-shaped sword blade.⁷ There are examples of this type in the British Museum from Kilnhurst, Yorks., possibly associated with a looped palstave⁸

and from Newark-on-Trent associated with socketted axes,⁹ and Salisbury Museum have one from Hampshire.¹⁰

3. Late Bronze Age spearhead, Great Barford Accession number A33 (1972)

The precise circumstances of the discovery of this spearhead are not certain, but the finder reported that he found the spearhead by the River Ouse at Great Barford, and that a number of 'polished celts' were seen by him to be thrown into the river by children. He was unable to secure any of these, but the discovery of a medieval bronze belt-chape at the same time would appear to rule out a direct archaeological association between the possible stone axes and this spearhead.

The finder has subsequently informed the writer that the spearhead was found on the south bank of the Ouse at about TL 140520.

The belt-chape and spearhead were deposited on loan to the Museum in 1960 and reclaimed by the lender in 1972. This spearhead has since been purchased by Luton Museum.

The spearhead is 19.3cm long in its present form. The blade has been bent, probably in antiquity, as the patination is continuous over the damaged area. The blade is leaf-shaped and the socket has two peg holes. Fragments of wood were found in the socket-preserved by impregnation with copper salts. These have not been examined by a palaeobotanist, but are probably of yew.

Parallels may include the two spearheads from Toddington and one from Bedford, all now lost.¹¹ Similar spearheads, up to 20 cm in length, were found at Newark-on-Trent in association with socketted axes.¹² Others are known from Burton-upon-Stather, Lincolnshire, also about 20cm long.¹³ From Marston St Lawrence, Northants, comes another spearhead, not dissimilar in type, which has exactly the same type of damage, except that the spearhead has cracked through into two pieces. Other examples showing similar damage occur in the Stoke Ferry, Norfolk, hoard.¹⁵ Similar examples also have been found in Irish contexts, notably in the Dowris hoard, now in the British Museum, which has been ascribed to a date in the mid-seventh century B.C.¹⁶ This could be the result of the technique with which this kind of spear was used when fighting, but could equally be a purposeful effort at destruction at the end of the implement's useful life.

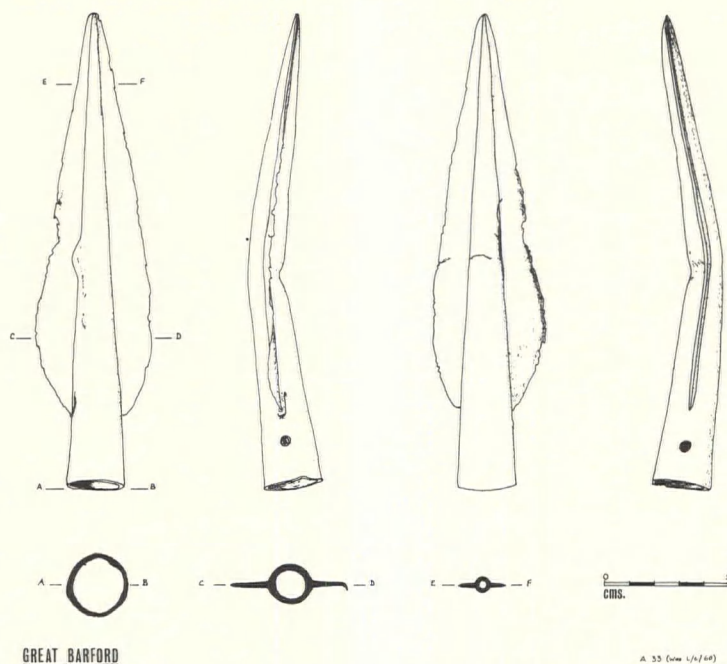


Fig. 3 Spearhead from Great Barford (Scale $\frac{1}{3}$).

APPENDIX

Bronze Age Spearheads from Bedfordshire

Seven Bronze Age spearheads have been recorded from Bedfordshire. Their findspots, as far as can be accurately located are shown on the map (fig 1) and the numbers of this catalogue refer to the numbers of the map.

Farley Hill, Luton (1)

A chance find of a Late Bronze Age example, discovered in 1963.

Museum Luton Museum, accession number 33/64.
Literature this paper, fig 2.

Sundon (2)

A Middle Bronze Age spearhead said to have been found with a skeleton in 1927.

Museum Luton Museum, accession number 79/28.
Literature this paper, fig 2.

Toddington (3)

One of two spearheads, length 19.5 cm ($7\frac{3}{4}$ in), 0 now lost?

Literature J. Evans *Ancient Bronze Implements* ..., 1872, 321; *Archaeologia* 27, 1838, 105.

Toddington (4)

Spearhead, length 15.2 cm (6 in), now lost?
Literature as 3.

Kempston-Elstow (5)

Spearhead with string loops found between Kempston and Elstow.

Museum Bedford Museum, accession number 3441.
Literature *Beds Arch J* 4, 1969, 79 with fig 1.2.

Bedford (6)

Spearhead of Brewis class V, now lost.

Literature *PPSEA* 7 1933, 161, pl 7, 8b.

Great Barford (7)

Late Bronze Age spearhead found before 1960.
Museum Luton Museum, accession number A33. (1972).

Literature this paper, fig 3.

APPENDIX 2

The Toddington Spearheads

The spearheads from Toddington listed in Appendix 1 have been noted by Sir John Evans and subsequent writers as being probably of leaf shaped form, similar to that from Great Barford reported above.

Illustrations and an account of the finding of these were first published in part V (1822) of *Dunno's Originals* — a miscellaneous collection of

notes, poems and anecdotes by W. Nichols, of Dunstable. The description is reproduced below, with re-drawings of the figures.

Nichols wrote:

I was shown two other spear-heads, that were dug out lately, from the eastern part of this parish; they appear to be composed of copper or brass, they were found in or near the brook or mill-stream, which runs by Cow Bridge and Wadelows; these spearheads were not both found at the same time, though near the same place; they are very perfect, and appear of similar workmanship, but no alike in size or shape; one is 7¼ inches in length, the other not quite 6 inches; and the socket of one is twice the length of the other, the breadth of them is nearly the same, viz: 1½in. the shortest is in the shield form, with a larger socket than the other; they have a semi-round projection, which extends from the socket to the point, down the flat part of the spear, and were fastened to their handles, by a single rivet through each socket; the longest appears rough on the edge, like a fine saw; the shortest is a little bent, and has two hacks in it, probably from the stroke of a sword, or some other sharp instrument.

The following sketches were taken from the several pieces of antiquity, that have come under my observation, they were found in the parish of Toddington, in Bedfordshire, in or near the year 1819.

Fig. 7 and 8 represent those spear-heads of metal, found near Cow Bridge in the Parish of Toddington. History informs us, the Britons used brass spears, in their wars: I have reasons to think these were brass, though they now have the appearance of copper, as they may have impregnated a vitriolic quality, from the nature of the earth or water, in which they have lain for many centuries.

The larger spearhead is a typical leaf-shaped form, although the serrated edge referred to by Nicholls would seem, in the absence of parallels, likely to have been the result of corrosion.

The second illustration shows what is probably an example of the uncommon barbed group which is noted by Evans and others and may have been used for hunting large game. Surviving examples from Plaistow¹⁷, from Ferriby, Yorks¹⁸, and from Speen, Berks.¹⁹ are straight sided, without the ogival curve shown on the outline here.²⁰

NOTES

1. W. Austin, *History of Luton* 1928 21 with drawing.
2. D.H. Kennett, 'Bronzes in Bedford Museum' *Beds Arch J* 4 (1969), 79 and fig. 1.2.
3. Luton Museum Accessions Register.
4. City of Norwich Museums, *Bronze-Age Metalwork in Norwich Castle Museum* (1966), 22 and fig. 33,

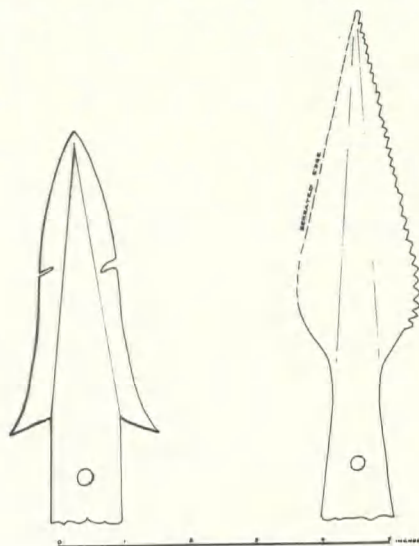


Fig. 4 Outlines of the Bronze Age spearheads from Toddington, after Nichols. (The scale is approximate and based on the dimensions given by Nichols).

5. Northampton Museum D68/1938-39.
6. C. Moore and M. Rowlands, *Bronze Age Metalwork in Salisbury Museum* (1972), 58 and figs. 55-62.
7. *Bronze Age Metalwork in Norwich Castle Museum*, 1966, 79 and fig. 36.
8. International Congress of Prehistoric and Proto-historic Sciences, *Inventaria Archaeologica*, Card GB41. Figs. 1 and 2.
9. *Inv. Arch Card GB 36*, Fig 3-5 and 11.
10. Moore and Rowlands, 1972, 59 and fig. 64.
11. N. Thomas, 'A Gazetteer of Neolithic and Bronze Age Sites & Antiquities in Bedfordshire', *Beds Arch J* 2 (1964), 33, nos 7 and 8.
12. *Inv Arch Card GB 36*, Fig 9 and 10.
13. *Inv Arch Card GB 23* (2) fig 2 and 3.
14. *Inv Arch Card GB 12* (2) fig 3 and 4.
15. *Inv Arch Card GB 8* (2) fig 5.
16. G. Eogan, 'The Late Bronze Age in Ireland in the light of recent research', *P P S* 30 (1964), 268-351).
17. British Museum, *Guide to Bronze Age Antiquities* 39 and fig 26.
18. British Museum, *Later Prehistoric Antiquities of the British Isles*, 1953, 30 and fig 10.7.
19. Evans, *Bronze*, fig 422.
20. Since this appendix was submitted a further example of this type of Bronze Age spearhead has been observed in the collections of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge (ed).

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council is indebted to Luton Museum for a grant towards the cost of this paper.

The Iron Age in the Bedford Region

ANGELA SIMCO

SUMMARY

The Great Ouse Valley in north Bedfordshire, though not nationally renowned as an area rich in Iron Age occupation, has produced a not inconsiderable quantity of pre-Belgic and Belgic material from sites and chance finds. This evidence is reviewed, and pottery in the collections of Bedford Museum is published for the first time. Local trends of the Early Iron Age are examined and placed in a wider regional context. Burial evidence of the Belgic period is discussed briefly, and the ceramic evidence analysed. An appendix gives a catalogue of Iron Age sites and finds from the Bedford region.

INTRODUCTION

This paper seeks to present a survey of the Early and Belgic Iron Ages of the Bedford region, synthesising the present evidence, both published and unpublished (where available). Particular attention has been paid to previously unstudied material in Bedford Museum.

The Bedford region is situated in an area of lowland which lies between the Jurassic ridge to the north-west and the Chiltern Hills to the south and south-east. The Great Ouse drains through it from the north-west and into the Fens, and eventually reaches the Wash. Twenty-five miles to the south-west a low watershed separates the Great Ouse basin from the Upper Thames basin.

The area under consideration embraces as much of the Great Ouse valley as falls within the boundaries of the county of Bedfordshire, and the lower valley of the River Ivel, which joins the Great Ouse in the east of the region. The material to be treated comes either from the river gravels or from the higher ground immediately overlooking the valleys. The region includes the lower slopes of the boulder clay which forms the uplands of the Ouse-Nene watershed to the north, and through which the upper Ouse valley is cut. The southern limit is defined by the Lower Greensand ridge, running from south-west to north-east, which is broached

by the River Ivel. Though these limits do have some topographical basis, they are on the whole arbitrary and do not necessarily define an archaeological unit.

The evidence under examination has quite considerable limitations, mainly due to a great lack of scientific excavation, and the consequent paucity of stratified sites. A major part of the evidence consists of unstratified, largely ungrouped, pottery, with very little associated, datable material, especially for the Early Iron Age. Settlement and structural evidence is also very limited, and economic material consists of little more than a selection of animal bones.

THE EARLY IRON AGE

The largest body of evidence from the pre-Belgic Iron Age of the Bedford region has come from the settlement on the river gravel at Harrold from which a partial settlement plan and a considerable volume of material were recovered. Only two hillforts have been positively identified, Mowbury Camp, Ravensden and Sandy Lodge. Pottery groups are known from Sandy, Foulke's Pit and Foster's Pit, Kempston, and Oakley almshouses. Isolated vessels have also been found at Kempston and Oakley. Other Early Iron Age finds have been reported from Milton Ernest, Bedford and Clapham Park, but the last was not available for study.

In order to place the present work and any interpretations which rise from it in context, it will be helpful to summarise recent developments in thought concerning the early Iron Age period, with special reference to the east of England.

In an extensive study of the origins and developments of regional pottery styles the entire Great Ouse valley was included in the regional group 'East Anglia and the basin and tributaries of the Wash' (Kenyon, 1952-43), characterised by situlate forms with high, wide shoulders and splayed or upright rims, and much finger-tip decoration, then by so-called 'Marnian' types, which were supposed

to have arrived in the east of England from Wessex, via the Icknield Way. The longstanding ABC classification of the British Iron Age, on which this survey was based, was re-stated with considerable elaboration by Hawkes in 1958, in an attempt to embrace the complexity which was becoming more and more apparent with the increase of material. Provincial divisions and chronological developments in southern Britain were also redefined, again on the basis of pottery.

The inadequacy of such a use of pottery styles as a means of determining origins of, and developments within, the British Iron Age has been more recently pointed out (Hodson, 1962), and the same author has suggested a different grouping, in which a recognisable insular 'Woodbury' culture has been defined (Hodson, 1964, 102). Though this interpretation has more methodological validity, being based on recurrent assemblages of material rather than pottery types alone, it has not yet been developed into a scheme as all-embracing as that which it is aimed to replace.

In the light of these developments, it is not intended to attempt to fit the ceramic material from the Bedford region into any rigid national scheme. Not only is there lacking the spectrum of other cultural evidence required before a name such as 'Woodbury', with all its cultural implications, can be applied, but the pottery itself is too roughly manufactured to have anything more than local significance. Even where the ABC classification has been applied, it has been admitted that the material is not unambiguous (Hall and Nickerson, 1969, 12). It is not therefore proposed to concentrate on detailed pottery parallels, but rather to examine general local trends, with a view to placing them in a slightly wider regional context.

The main aspect to emerge from the north Bedfordshire material is chiefly represented at Harrold. The forms which make up this pottery

assemblage are jars of rounded or globular shape, or with very high, rounded shoulders; large handled jars; and small, simple pots and bowls. The large handled jar and simple pots and bowls are represented in the Oakley group (fig 4.10, 12, 13); of the vessels from Foster's Pit, Kempston, one is of globular shape with a bead-rim (fig 4.15), the other a high shouldered form (fig 4.16). An unassociated rim sherd from Kempston (fig 4.18) is of a globular shape with rounded rim. The group from Sandy has produced a number of rounded bowls.

Material which is broadly comparable, though with some variations, occurs to the west and south. At Hunsbury, though the assemblage as a whole is far richer, globular forms are typical (Fell, 1936, fig 7. CP2) and handled jars (ibid, fig 7.L7) and simple pots (ibid, fig 7.D13) are present. The globular tradition is also evidenced at the nearby sites of Upton (Jackson, Harding and Myres, 1969, fig 8) and Hardingstone (Woods, 1969, figs 22 and 23); at Bozeat and Strixton (Hall and Nickerson, 1969, figs 4 and 5), and Irchester (Hall and Nickerson, 1967, fig 9), also in south Northamptonshire, where jars are also present: and at Ravenstone, Buckinghamshire, in the upper Ouse valley (Mynard, 1970, fig 5). On the Chiltern Hills to the south, relevant material occurs at Egginton (Gurney and Hawkes, 1940, fig 3) and Puddlehill (Saunders, 1971, fig 6). In the forthcoming publication of the Puddlehill site, handled jars are also included in this group; but rim forms similar to that from Oakley (fig 4.9) are more characteristic of the earlier group containing carinated bowls. Pitstone Hill, near, Ivinghoe Beacon, has produced globular forms and large handled jars (Waugh, 1968, eg fig 24.81, 85), but also many examples of tall, upright or flaring rims.

All these sites have examples of the finger-tip or scored decoration which occurs occasionally on the Harrold material.

It remains uncertain whether this ceramic tradit-

Fig 1. (upper opposite) The Distribution of Iron Age material in the Bedford region. Modern place-names, except for that of Bedford, show the approximate position of marginal finds.

Key to sites:

1. Harrold settlement
2. Harrold, Belgic features
3. Felmersham Bridge
4. Milton Ernest, pottery
5. Milton Ernest, slag and pottery
6. Oakley almshouses
7. Bromham, settlement site
8. Clapham, Green Lane

9. Clapham Park
10. Ravensden, Mowsbury Camp
11. Bedford Hut site
12. Kempston, Hill Grounds
13. Kempston, Foulke's Pit
14. Kempston, Foster's Pit
15. Bedford, London Road
16. Elstow
17. Eastcotts

18. Wyboston
19. Sandy pottery group
20. Sandy Station
21. Sandy, Caesar's Camp
22. Sandy, Galley Hill
23. Sandy Lodge
24. Old Warden mirror
25. Old Warden cemetery

Fig 2. (lower opposite) The Regional Setting of the Iron Age in the Bedford region.

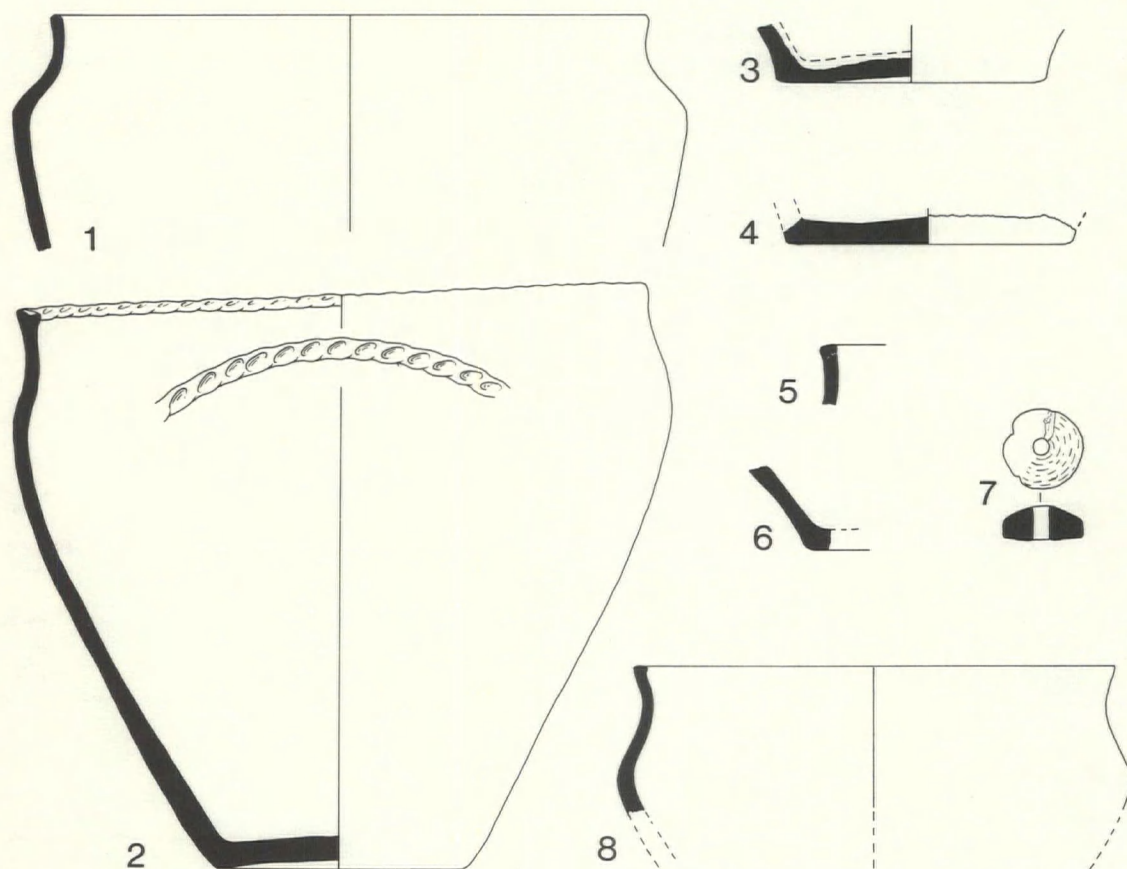


Fig. 3 Finds from Foulke's Pit, Kempston. (Scale 1:4)

ion can be assigned to any precise chronological horizon. There is no conclusive dating evidence for the material from the Bedford region; a bronze triskele mount from Harrold was placed no earlier than the first century A.D. by Sir Cyril Fox (Eagles, 1970, 38) but it was unfortunately unassociated and may have been a late stray. Metalwork from Hunsbury has been dated from the fourth century B.C. to the first century A.D. (Fell, 1936, 92-4): one group from Hardingstone containing rough examples of Hunsbury-type curvilinear decoration was dated to the first half of the first century A.D. because of the association with vessels of Romanising fabric (Woods, 1969, 24) but earlier groups of similar material could not be dated (*ibid.*, 22-3). At Puddlehill, the material is placed later than the fine carinated bowls with incised linear decoration, which are characteristic of sites on the Chilterns (Saunders, 1971, fig 3; Applebaum, 1924, fig 3), and are found as far east as West Harling (Clark and Fell, 1953, fig 2.B1). It survives into and beyond

the beginning of Belgic influence, at least in the Puddlehill area.

A summary of this dating evidence can make no more precise claim than that the ceramic tradition of globular forms, large handled jars and small, simple pots belongs to the later centuries of the first millennium B.C., and lasts until it is replaced by the Belgic or Roman Iron Age. It may be said that the Harrold, Oakley, Foster's Pit and Sandy pottery accords well with this tradition.

There remains to be considered the group from Foulke's Pit, Kempston, containing large, wide-shouldered jars (fig 3), one with finger-tip decoration on the rim (fig 3.2). These are more reminiscent of pottery to the east of Bedfordshire, and of the earlier Chilterns. Similar situlate forms are known in Saunders' Phase One of the Iron Age in the Chilterns (Saunders, 1971, fig 2), and as coarse pottery is his Phase Two (*ibid.*, fig 4) and are thus earlier than the globular tradition of Phase Three, which is comparable to that of north Bedfordshire.

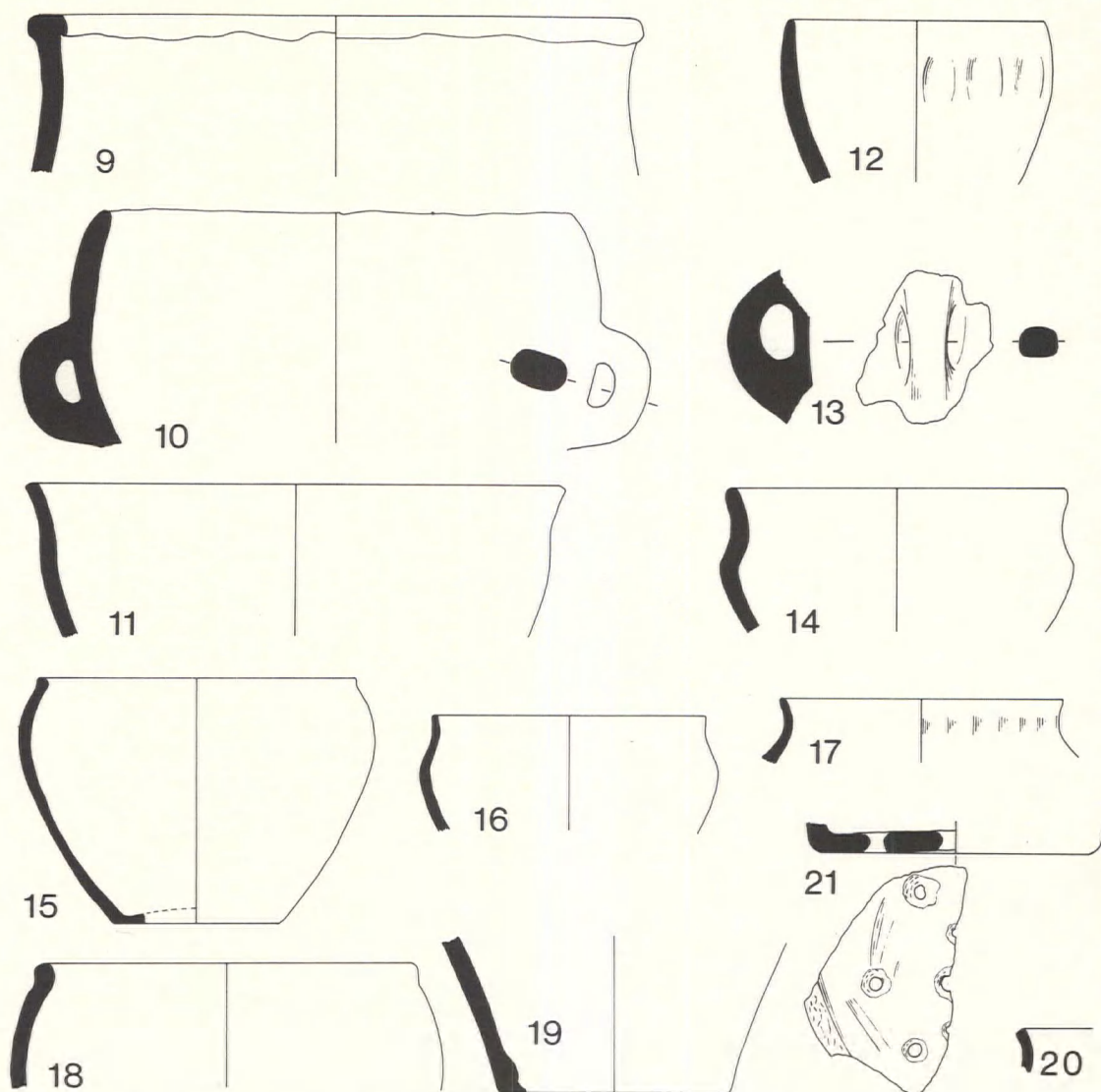


Fig. 4 Pottery groups from Oakley almshouses (9-13) and Foster's Pit, Kempston (15-16); ungrouped pottery from Oakley (14) and Kempston (17-21). (Scale 1:4).

However, the presence of large situlate forms in the Oakley (fig 4.9) and Sandy groups (Cunliffe, 1966, fig 26, 6-8) suggests overlap and at least partial contemporaneity of both traditions in the Bedford region.

Other parallels for the situlate forms can be seen at Abington Piggotts (Fox, 1924, fig 2.A) and at West Harling, Norfolk, where much-decorated examples (Clark and Fell, 1953, eg fig 3.C3) are considered broadly contemporary with the fine carinated bowls (ibid, 14). The early sites of Ivinghoe (Cotton and Frere, 1968) and Totternhoe

(Hawkes, 1940) do not so readily provide parallels, which may be due to their early date and close typological links with the Late Bronze Age (Cotton and Frere, 1968, 233).

These comparisons are interesting to note, but it is not proposed to base much upon them because of the poverty of the north Bedfordshire evidence, except perhaps to leave open the possibility of the Foulke's Pit material being part of a phase earlier than that represented by Harrold. If this is so, it is likely to be later than the earliest Iron Age at Ivinghoe, and probably broadly contemporary

with, if not also earlier than, the period of fine carinated bowls on the Chilterns.

Settlement evidence of the Early Iron Age from north Bedfordshire is too scarce to allow any firm conclusions to be reached concerning the population and its social organisation, or even the traditions of house-plans and settlement lay-out.

Of the two known hillforts of Mowsbury Camp, Ravensden (Dring, 1971a) and Sandy Lodge (Dyer, 1971), no evidence of internal structures has yet been published. It would therefore be premature to suggest for what precise purpose, and for how many inhabitants, they were constructed. Neither fort has been conclusively dated: the few sherds from Sandy Lodge are unhelpful, and the small amount of pottery published from Mowsbury Camp does not lend itself to analysis. Until there is a more complete pottery series published from the latter site, it will not be possible to confirm the early date which has been claimed by the excavator.

Evidence from the lowland settlement at Harrold has been limited by the poverty of the contemporary record. Remains of huts consisted only of patches of cobbling, usually with signs of burning or traces of a hearth (Eagles, 1970, 33). The Oakley almshouses finds include fragments of burnt daub, some with traces of fine plaster, but no hut plan was recovered. No storage pits have yet been published from the Bedford region. In this context one should note that the pits recorded at Harrold would not have been suitable for grain storage because of the situation of the site on the riverine gravel.

The occurrence of slag with Iron Age pottery has been reported from Milton Ernest and Clapham Park and this may be evidence of industrial activity. However, no further details are known.

The distribution of Early Iron Age finds in the Bedford region, as shown in fig 1, is of limited significance, as it has largely been determined by the progress of gravel extraction and building construction. However, it is possible to note the full utilisation of the different topography and geology. It is evident from the Harrold settlement that the agricultural possibilities of the lowland gravels were known and exploited, while the advantages for defence of spurs of high ground overlooking the valleys were obviously realized. The boulder clay upland presumably attracted industrial activities, particularly those concerned with iron-working, because of the rich timber supply for fuel.

THE BELGIC IRON AGE

As for the earlier Iron Age, the Belgic material in the Bedford region consists of much that is unassociated. Settlements have been excavated under rescue conditions at Wyboston and Bromham and a Belgic and Romano-British kiln site is known at Elstow. Of other finds, pottery groups have been isolated at Harrold, Felmersham and the Hill Grounds cemetery, Kempston, but these account for only a small percentage of the total ceramic material available for study. Dating will here depend on the evidence from metalwork and the presence of distinctive pottery types.

Four burial sites of the Belgic period have been discovered in north Bedfordshire, the most noted of which are Old Warden and Stanfordsbury. The bronzes and pottery from Felmersham Bridge are now thought to represent a burial, contrary to the conclusion of the original publication (Watson, 1949, 38) in view of the nature of the finds, and the depth of the deposit within the gravel. The cemetery from Hill Grounds, Kempston will be considered later because of the purely ceramic nature of the evidence.

Of the two rich vaults at Stanfordsbury, the first has been dated by associated Samian pottery to about the time of the Roman Conquest, and falls within Phase Two of Stead's 'Welwyn-type burials'. (Stead, 1967, 47). This dating is supported by the one surviving amphora of the six reported Peacock, 1971, 165). The pottery from the second vault has unfortunately become muddled and is of no value for dating purposes, but the burial may be later than 50 A.D. (Stead, 1967, 47).

No definite associations can be established from the extant material from Old Warden, comprising two shale vases of cordoned pedestal urn type, iron bands and handles from a bucket, and a decorated bronze mirror. This last certainly came from a separate burial as it was found, reportedly with amphorae, coins and 'a large bronze pan' (Spratling, 1970, 9) in another part of the parish. It has been attributed to a period after the Caesarian campaigns, and before the conquest, probably later rather than earlier on the basis of comparisons with mirrors in datable contexts (ibid, 15). A second mirror handle is thought to be a late pre-Conquest example (Dyer, 1966, 55).

The group from Felmersham Bridge is most noted for the contribution it makes to our understanding of the Celtic artistic temperament, and

A date of the early first century A.D. has been suggested on stylistic grounds, because, although the influence of classical art is clear (Fox, 1958, 73), there is no sign of surrender to commercialised Roman art (Watson, 1949, 48). The fish-head spout and animal heads are thought to 'share a power of witty and concentrated statement quite foreign to Roman work' (ibid 47). It has been suggested that the spout, one of the two bronze bowls, and the flat segmental plate can be reconstructed as a wine-strainer (Kennett, 1970). The handle and cow-head terminals obviously represent a bucket of some form, probably similar to that published from Baldock (Stead, 1971). It may be that some of the sections of U-shaped bronze rim-mounting, three pieces of bronze ribbon and fragments of bronze plate are from the same vessel. Alternatively, the pieces of bronze ribbon and plate may be a plain version of the box-mountings found at Stanfordsbury A. The broken state of the rim-mountings does not require the explanation that the group is a smith's hoard, as even the fine Aylesford bucket indicates that objects damaged beyond use to the living were considered suitable for the dead (Stead, 1971, 274).

These burials are of value in providing a chronological framework for other Belgic material in the region, in that none point to a date earlier than the first century A.D. and much of the evidence is late pre-Conquest. They also serve to demonstrate the local level of wealth and commerce. It is in the area of most southerly aspect that the richest remains, from Old Warden and Stanfordsbury, have been recovered. The imported pottery, glass and bronze-work of these two localities make them comparable in terms of wealth to other sites of 'Welwyn-type burials'. The Felmersham material, though lacking such luxury, nevertheless reflects the same tradition, especially in the wine-drinking equipment. The use of bovine rather than human terminals on the bucket handles may be due to the rusticity of a valley some distance from the centre of Belgic civilisation, and not necessarily to a preference for milk as opposed to wine.

The Kempston group from Hill Grounds (fig 5.22-31) was 'found in a circle' in 1913. Two other vessels (fig 5.32, 33) bear the same date of discovery and three others (fig 5.34-6) had been previously discovered in 1863. The location of other Belgic pottery from Kempston (fig 5.37, 38; fig 6.39-50) was not recorded, but it may come from the same site. No other details of the cemetery are known, except for the occurrence of very fragmentary burnt bone in a number of the pots.

The Hill Grounds group contains a varied selection of small S-sided pots (fig 5.22, 28-31), both rounded and carinated, richly decorated with cordons and grooves. They are local versions of a common Belgic type which has no chronological significance (Birchall, 1965, 257). They represent variations of both of Birchall's S-sided types, IVa and IVb (ibid, 246, fig 3.23 and fig 8.61) and fig 5.31 appears to be a hybrid between the two. There are no direct parallels for the Kempston material from Prae Wood, where the closest type is distinguished by a low, very angular carination (Wheeler, 1936, fig 15.35) or at Camulodunum, though here form 215 (Hawkes and Hull, 1947, pl LXXV) is reasonably close, especially to number 22. These comparisons only serve to emphasise that we are dealing with a local version of a widespread and traditional Belgic type.

The two butt-beakers in the group (fig 5.27, 28) give a date within the first century A.D. (Wheeler, 1936, 159); this is reinforced by number 26, in hard orange ware, an imitation of an Arretine type, which occurs at Haltern (Loeschke type 77) and at Prae Wood, in Group B (5/10-30/35 A.D.) (Wheeler, 1936, 158) and in Group D, at the eve of the Conquest (ibid, fig 23.6). The small, globular pot, number 23, in a hard, buff, sandy fabric, is very similar to Camulodunum form 93 (Hawkes and Hull, 1947, pl LV). The only reference quoted there was to a late Tiberian/Claudian example from Andernach. This may serve to push the date for the group later into the first century. The platter form number 25, occurred at Prae Wood in Group B (type 21) and also at Camulodunum, where it was found in a pre-Conquest, but more commonly post-Conquest, context (Hawkes and Hull, 1947, 277). These parallels imply a late date for the group.

Also from Hill Grounds, but not definitely part of the same group, another butt-beaker (fig 5.32) shows a type of decoration, fine incised zigzags, which has a distribution from Cambridgeshire to Ircchester, Northamptonshire (Hall and Nickerson, 1967, fig 11.47; fig 12.59, 67). Pottery from Abington Piggotts in the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge includes many Gallo-Belgic sherds with very fine zigzags which may be considered the source of this fashion of decoration. Of considerable interest is number 36, the upper part of a pedestal urn; its rim and shoulder are almost identical with fig 6.42 and with Felmersham 5 (Watson, 1949, fig 11) which was described, with a number of similar rims, as a deep bowl (ibid, 57). In fact, the urn maybe a more ornate type of Birchall's Ib.

The necked bowl, number 35, has parallels more in the upper Thames basin than in the central Belgic area (Harding, 1972, eg Pl 70. G).

Much of the remaining north Bedfordshire material can be related to that from Hill Grounds. Of other pottery from Kempston, fig 6.44 and 45 are more globular, narrow-necked variations of number 30, and 40 an irregular version of 24. Other S-sided bowls occur from London Road, Bedford (fig 7.58-60) where number 60 has the angular carination of Prae Wood Group B, form 35, and is closely paralleled at Wickham Bishops (Birchall, 1965, fig 20.165). Both rounded and angular forms were found at Harrold (Hall and Nickerson, 1969, fig 6. 101-2). There is also an isolated example from Felmersham (fig 6.35). Butt-beakers include two from Sandy (fig 7.62-3) and one from Kempston Hardwick (fig 6.56) with the same finely-incised zigzag decoration which occurred at Kempston, and a squat form from London Road (fig 7.61). All the examples of butt-beakers, except fig 5.34, are made in a very fine, light-coloured sandy ware.

A platter with a slight overhang in profile occurs at Kempston (fig 6.49, 50) and Green Lane, Clapham (fig 8.69), and is similar to forms 24A and B from Camulodunum, which, however, were only known post-Conquest (Hawkes and Hull, 1947, 222). Fig 6.48, with a carination over a concave lower profile, is related to this form. Fig. 5.37 from Kempston has the restricted rim of Camulodunum form 26B, which is also commonly post-Conquest. Fig 6.52 from Biddenham may be a very weak version of this form.

A pedestal urn from Newnham (Hawkes and Dunning, 1930, fig 21.3; Fox, 1958, fig 41.3). is of globular form and splayed foot, originally explained as a northern devolution from the high-pedestalled, cordoned type (Hawkes and Dunning, 1930, 247), but several similar forms are in fact known from Kent (Birchall, 1965, eg fig 11.88). The closest parallels are from Welwyn (ibid, fig 12.104; fig 13.106), Grove Mill, Hitchin (ibid fig 14.118) and Welwyn Garden City (Stead, 1967, fig 7.3). Of a very different type is the splendid example from Biddenham, with fine combed zigzags and rough burnished lines (fig 6.53). Vessels of this shape, though much simpler, are known from Essex (Birchall, 1965, fig 15.125-6; fig 21.180-2; Hawkes and Hull, 1947, pl LXXIV. 204), but they lack decoration. Similar combed zigzags were reported on an earlier find from Kempston (Elger, 1891, 241) but the form of the pot was not described.

The sharply-carinated form, fig 5.38 from Kempston and fig 6.51 from Biddenham, was found only in Roman contexts at Camulodunum (Hawkes and Hull, 1947, 241, pl LVIII. 120), and is quoted as appearing on the continent under Tiberius, but at Irchester an example occurred in an exclusively pre-Roman context (Hall and Nickerson, 1967, fig 12.51). It must, however, be dated after c 15 A.D.

The cooking-pots from Felmersham, numbers 8-11 (Watson, 1949, fig 11), are now thought to have been made at a recently-discovered Belgic and Romano-British settlement and kiln site on the River Ouse near Bromham, in a red or brown shell-tempered fabric, which has been named 'Clapham shelly ware' (Tilson, 1973, 00). This form, with high shoulder and grooved rim, is very common in the pre-Conquest levels at Clapham, and also occurred just north of the river in Green Lane, Clapham, but in an orange sandy ware (fig 8.67). It was the most frequent form found at Wyboston in the north-east of the region (Tebbutt, 1957, 80, fig 4.5) where it was again in brown shelly ware, and was associated with imported Gallo-Belgic pottery (ibid, 81). An example in pink shelly ware with a slashed rim has also been illustrated from Harrold (Hall and Nickerson, 1969 fig 7.107). It is a type frequently found in first century contexts (Watson 1949, 59). It is known in a pre-Roman context at Prae Wood (Wheeler, 1936, fig 21); from Irchester, pre-Conquest and post-Conquest examples are illustrated (Hall and Nickerson, 1967, fig 12.60-2, 64, fig 14.80-5) and are mostly shell-tempered. At Hardingstone, the form does not date before the mid-first century A.D. (Woods, 1969, 7-8, fig 10).

Other forms do occur in the Bedford region, but are only known from isolated examples and are therefore of limited local significance. Fig 6.41 is a large form of the carinated S-sided bowl. Of the two very different biconical jars from Kempston, fig 6.39 may be a more rounded version of an angular type from Colchester (Birchall, 1965, fig 24.206), and fig 6.47 is a typical, though small, example of the jar with ridged neck (Birchall's type V) which had a long survival in Essex (Hawkes and Hull, 1947, 263). Fig 4.46 is difficult to parallel, but may be an extreme development of the S-sided bowl, on which the memory of cordoned decoration is retained in the slight ridge on the neck. The absence of rim on fig 7.57 prevents comparisons, and the irregular globular vessel (fig 6.54), also without a rim, has not been paralleled. The rest of the pottery from Green Lane, Clapham, consists of two well-made bases (fig 8.70-1), one of which has

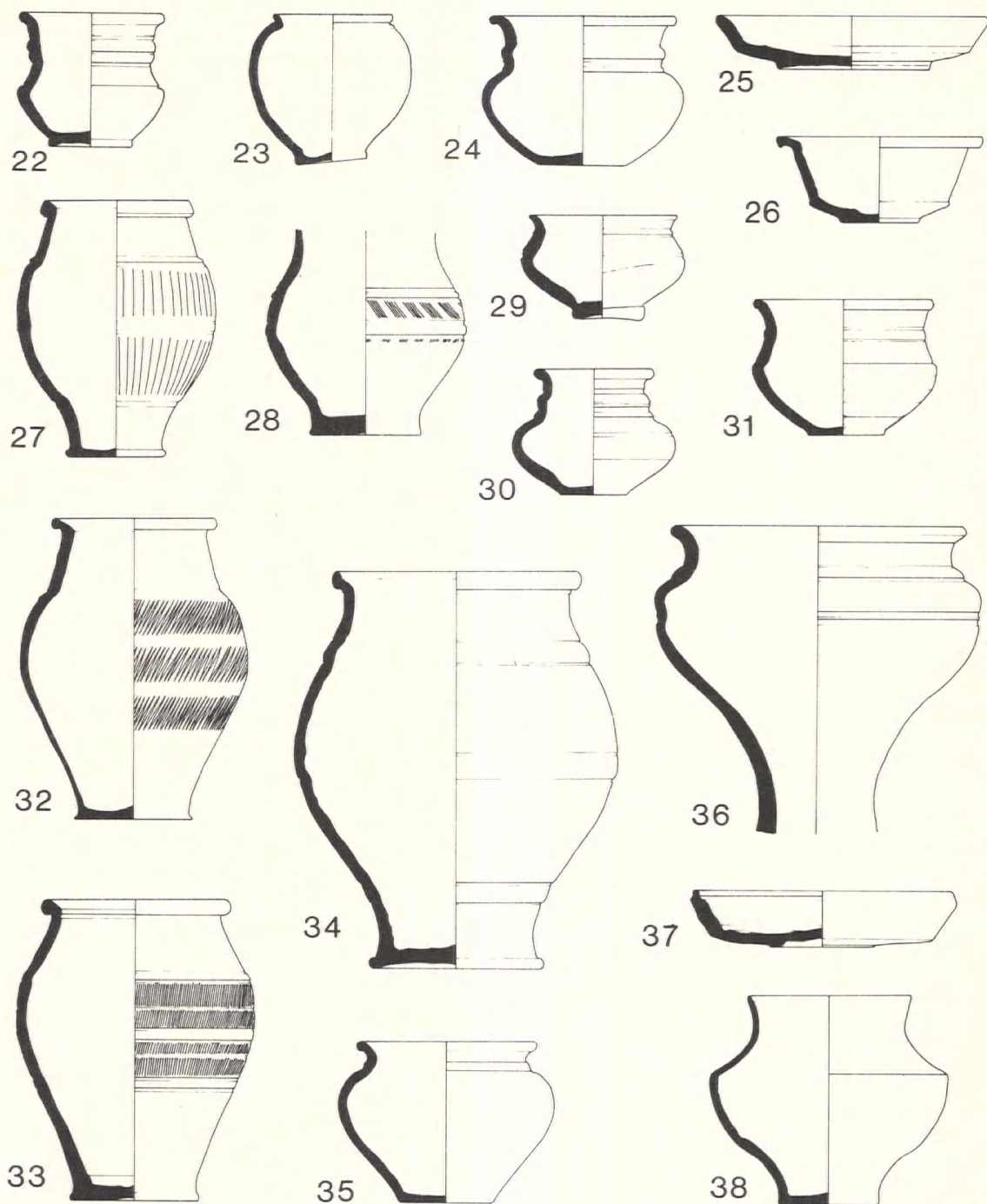


Fig. 5 Pottery from Kempston. 22-31 – Hill Grounds group; 32-38 – Hill Grounds unassociated.
(Scale 1:4).

a foot-ring and is in the same fabric as number 66, a large storage jar; the bowl, number 68, of the same fabric as the cooking-pot number 67, has a similar grooved rim, and is known from the Bromham settlement and kiln site (Tilson, 1973, fig 21.174).

Recurring Belgic forms found in north Bedfordshire are butt-beakers, often with fine zigzag incisions; small rounded or carinated S-sided bowls; platters with an overhang or carination in the external profile; pedestal urns of a wide variety; sharply-carinated jars; and shelly cooking-pots. Precise chronological significance cannot yet be applied to these types. Other forms are present, but only as isolated examples. Direct dating of the pottery is limited to those types which are derived from continental forms (eg butt-beakers, platters, sharply-carinated jars). Associations with metalwork, as at Felmersham and Bromham, all suggest a date of the first century A.D., but no initial date for the Belgic period in the Bedford region has yet been established. It is to be hoped that publication of the key kiln site at Elstow will provide more evidence.

Evidence of Belgic ditch systems have been recovered in detail from Wyboston and Bromham, both sites being excavated in advance of gravel extraction. The former was an agricultural settlement of simple rectangular plan, with two small circular ditches which contained fragments of daub and crude square floor-tiles, the only evidence of huts remaining (Tebbutt, 1947, 77). At Bromham there was emphasis on pottery manufacture, a number of the ditches being associated with kilns and containing kiln debris. (Tilson, 1973, 00). Again, no house-plans were preserved. Apart from these two settlements, only isolated ditches and pits have been reported. No general conclusions can of course be drawn from such limited evidence.

Evidence of defended sites in the region is ambiguous, as of the two possible forts at Sandy, Caesar's Camp and Galley Hill, neither has been dated. 'Iron Age A' pottery has been reported from Caesar's Camp (Dyer, 1971, 10), but it also has been attributed to the Belgae (Hawkes and Dunning, 1930, 258; Hawkes, 1931, 90). The regular shape of Galley Hill is an accident of topography, as the single rampart and ditch follow the contour closely, and is therefore not necessarily due to Roman influence, though Roman copper coins have been found inside the camp.

As for the Early Iron Age, in analysing the distribution of Belgic material, it must be borne in mind that it has mostly been recovered in the

course of gravel extraction and building construction. The absence of finds from the higher boulder clay in the north of the region is noteworthy, and intensive field-work on the south Northamptonshire and north Bedfordshire border (Hall and Nickerson 1966 and 1972) tends to support the conclusion that Belgic settlement was concentrated in the valley on the river gravels.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

The opening of the Iron Age in the Bedford region is a very obscure period. There may be material of an early date, such as appeared on the Chilterns to the south, but the evidence for it is very poor.

On the present evidence it seems that north Bedfordshire remained unaffected by the appearance of fine carinated bowls which mark Saunders' Phase Two of the Chiltern Iron Age. It was not until these were replaced by pottery of globular tradition, with associated handled jars and simple pots, which also found rich expression at the Hunsbury hillfort and surrounding areas, that the evidence in the Bedford region acquires some volume. Though obviously poorer than the settlement to the north-west in Northamptonshire, it does reflect the same tradition at this stage.

There is no evidence of further major developments until the arrival of a Belgic-type culture in the region. This found its expression most obviously in new pottery types, but also in metalwork and funerary practices. The actual political processes involved in the spread of the Belgae are uncertain, as is its precise dating. There is no evidence that Cassivellaunus' stronghold at Wheathampstead, twenty-five miles away across two ranges of hills, exerted any cultural influence in the Ouse valley. The cultural change may have come during the reign of Tasciovanus, and the crystallising of Catuvellaunian strength, which manifested itself in the capture of Camulodunum, the Trinovantian capital, by Cunobelinus in c 10 A.D. From then on, the Bedford region was open to the same influences as affected the whole of the Belgic area, with the importation of Gallo-Belgic, then Roman, pottery leading to local imitations, and classical art styles, which were given native expression.

No Conquest horizon is apparent, and Belgic traditions continued into the early years of the Roman occupation, as is evidenced by the Stanfordsbury vaults, and the continuity of pottery styles produced by the Bromham kilns.

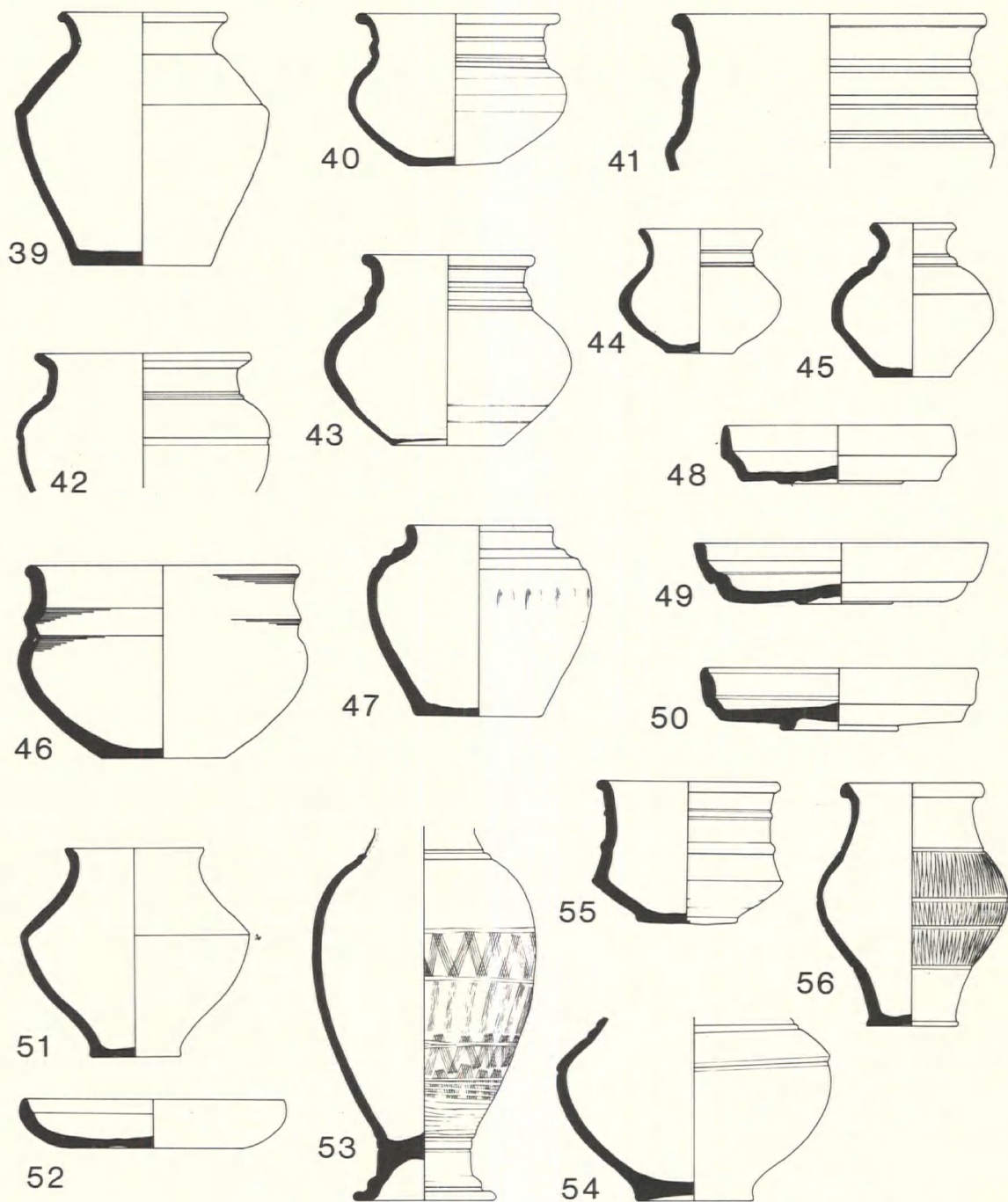


Fig 6. Pottery from Kempston (39-50), Biddenham (51-54), Felpersham (55) and Kempston Hardwick (56). (Scale 1:4).

APPENDIX 1
IRON AGE SITES AND FINDS
IN THE BEDFORD REGION

EARLY IRON AGE

BEDFORD TL 03435088

A hut site discovered in 1947 on allotments to the east of Bedford. The hut has since been destroyed and the pottery, reported to be of Early Iron Age date, could not be traced.

Literature Unpublished. Kuhlicke, 1949.

CLAPHAM PARK TL 04845291

'Smelting and Iron Age B pottery' were reported from this position near the top of a spur overlooking the Ouse Valley. The material has not been traced.

Literature Unpublished. OS Records

HARROLD SP 954573

A settlement site investigated in 1951 and 1952 by the late J.H. Edwards in advance of gravel extraction. Hut remains, pits and ring-ditches were identified. Fragments of ovens, Hunsbury-type querns and bones of cattle, sheep, pig and horse give a rough impression of the economy. Although intersecting ditches suggest a long occupation, the lack of fine stratigraphy has prevented a chronological subdivision of the material. Of the largely ungrouped pottery the most common shape represented is a globular jar, either with a short, upright neck (Eagles, 1970, fig 8.38), or with no neck but a plain or beaded rim (fig 5.17; fig 8.51). Situlate forms tend to have very high, rounded shoulders with narrow, short, upright necks, and there is no clearcut division between these and the globular jars. Other forms present are large handled jars (fig 5.11), small simple pots (fig 7.1), plain bowls (fig 6.B11), and two examples of a sharply-carinated bowl with a concave neck (fig 5.B1; fig 6.B4). Decoration is infrequent and consists mainly of finger-tip impressions on rims, though there are occasional examples of rough vertical incisions.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature Eagles, 1970.

KEMPSTON, Foulke's Pit TL 02904791

A pottery group found 'in the surface soil deposit' in July 1928 during gravel extraction, together with a spindle whorl, a portion of a triangular loomweight, and fragments of a hearth which do not allow reconstruction.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature This paper fig 3.

KEMPSTON, Foster's Pit TL 030479

A possible group of two vessels.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature This paper fig 4.15-16

KEMPSTON

Five vessels of inexact provenance.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature This paper fig 4.17-21

MILTON ERNEST TL 034556

A patch of slag with 'Iron Age A or B' pottery.

Literature *Beds Arch J* 4. 1969, 75.

MILTON ERNEST TL 031569

'Iron Age A or B pottery'.

Literature *Beds Arch J* 4. 1969, 75.

OAKLEY, Almshouses TL 015530

A pottery group associated with burnt daub. Many fragments of the daub have a well-smoothed surface with traces of fine buff plaster, 1mm thick.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature This paper fig 4.9-13

OAKLEY

A vessel of inexact provenance

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature This paper fig 4.14.

RAVENSDEN, Mowsbury Camp TL 066532

A small hillfort situated on a spur overlooking the Ouse valley. It is constructed of a single ditch and timbered rampart, which was destroyed by fire. Published pottery consists of a small globular jar with an upright neck and finger-tip decoration on the rounded rim; a rim sherd showing concave neck and upright rim; and a body sherd with finger-tip decoration and a small knob.

Literature Dring, 1971a, with fig 3.

SANDY, Sandy Lodge TL 187478

A hillfort of single rampart and ditch construction, enclosing three acres. The few sherds of pottery published are undiagnostic.

Literature Dyer, 1971.

SANDY TL 178493

A closed group of pottery found by C.F. Tebbutt. It contains three bowls with high shoulders and short, upright rims; a bowl with rounded shoulder and flaring rim; a simple globular bowl with plain rim; a small situlate pot with finger-impressions on rim and shoulder; a large situlate jar with concave neck; two rim fragments of large situlate jars, one with finger-tip impressions round the shoulder.

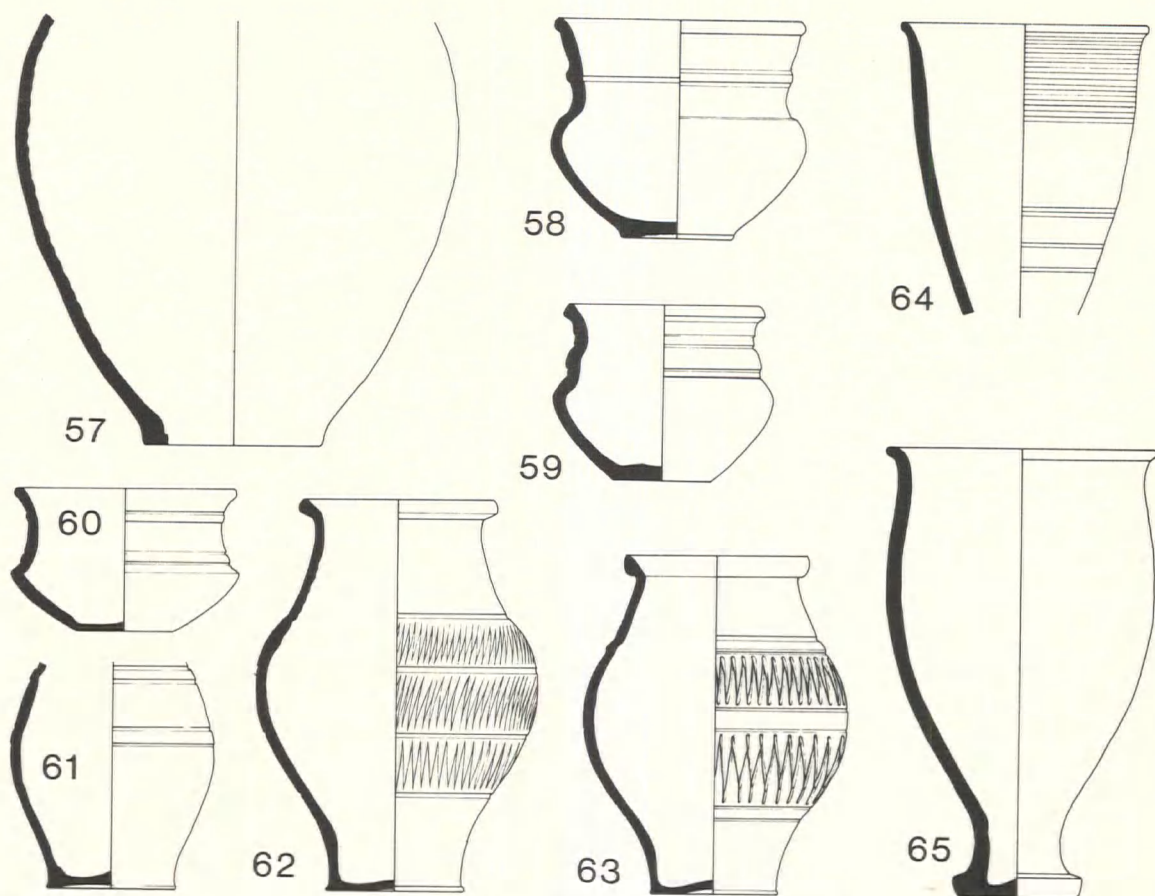


Fig. 7 Pottery from London Road, Bedford (57-61) and Sandy (62-65). (Scale 1:4).

All are of a smooth fine buff fabric, though the larger vessels are also flint-gritted.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

Literature Cunliffe, 1966, 94 and fig 26.1-8, 11.

BELGIC IRON AGE

BEDFORD, London Road TL 05804826

Pottery found in 1926-7. No groups were recorded.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature This paper fig 7.57-61.

BEDFORD, Newnham

A pedestal urn with a very globular body, short neck, beaded rim, and heavily-splayed base.

Museum British Museum

Literature Hawkes and Dunning, 1930, 247 and fig 21.3; Fox, 1958, fig 41.3.

BIDDENHAM

Four vessels of inexact provenance.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature This paper fig 6.51-54.

BROMHAM TL 027523

A settlement site. Excavations in advance of gravel extraction have revealed ditches of Belgic and Roman date, and much evidence of pottery manufacture.

Literature Tilson, 1973.

CLAPHAM, Green Lane TL 03525261

A possible pottery group found in 1926.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature This paper fig 8.66-71.

EASTCOTTS TL 073457.

A surface scatter of 'Late Iron Age' pottery.

Literature *Beds Arch J* 6, 1971, 85.

EASTCOTTS TL 066476

'Belgic pottery'

Literature *Beds Arch J* 6, 1971, 85.

ELSTOW TL 058477

A kiln site producing Belgic and Roman pottery. A date of the first half of the first century A.D. has been suggested for the initial phase of kiln activity.

Literature Dring, 1971b.

FELMERSHAM

A vessel of inexact provenance.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature This paper fig 6.55

HARROLD SP 956566

Pits and ditches, producing some stratified and much unstratified pottery.

Literature Hall and Nickerson, 1966, 1 and 5; 1969, 8-10 and figs 6 and 7.

KEMPSTON, Hill Grounds TL 027483

A cemetery from which unassociated vessels were recovered in 1863 and 1913 (fig 5.32-36). A group (22-31) was 'found in a circle' in 1913.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature This paper fig 5.22-36; Birchall, 1965. 255.

In 1889, gravel digging in this same area produced twenty-three vessels from a saucer-shaped depression. The decoration of three vessels described consisted of zigzag combing, rows of square depressions and horizontal bands of parallel lines.

Literature Elger, 1890.

KEMPSTON

Fourteen vessels found between 1910 and 1937.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature This paper fig 5.37-38 and fig 6.39-50.

KEMPSTON HARDWICK

A vessel found in 1906.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature This paper fig 6.56.

OLD WARDEN TL 13594461

A cremation cemetery which has produced two cordoned pedestal urns of Kimmeridge shale, the iron hoops of a bucket, and two amphorae, now lost.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge; British Museum.

Literature Fox, 1923, 96-7, pl 15; Stead, 1971, 281 with n. 40.

A pedestal urn in the collection at Ickwell Bury, Northill, now destroyed, may have been from this cemetery. It was pear-shaped with a flat, spreading base and short concave neck, and was decorated

with three pairs of horizontal grooves.

Literature Tebbutt, 1954, with pl 26a.

OLD WARDEN, Warden Tunnell TL 1144

During excavations for the Warden railway tunnel in the mid-1850's the noted bronze mirror was discovered, together with coins and amphorae fragments, which were dispersed among workmen.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature Smith, 1909, 333-4 and fig 3; Fox, 1958 94-5, 99, 101, fig 66.2 and pl 60; Spratling 1970

OLD WARDEN

A second mirror-handle, illustrated in an interleaved copy of Lyson's *Magna Britannia* (1813 edition), but now lost.

Literature Dyer, 1966.

SANDY, Station TL 178489

One vessel.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature This paper fig 7.64.

SANDY

Two vessels found in 1905.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature This paper fig 7.62-3.

One vessel of inexact provenance.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature This paper fig 7.65.

SHARNBROOK, Felmersham Bridge SP 99135809.

Bronzes and pottery, now thought to comprise a burial deposit, found during gravel digging in 1942.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature Watson, 1949, Kuhlicke, 1969; Kennett, 1970; Fox, 1958, 73, 80, fig 46, fig 49, pl 46.

SOUTHILL, Stanfordsbury TL 148412

Two burial vaults, discovered in 1832 and 1834 respectively, of rectangular construction with tiled floors. Grave goods include amphorae, samian ware, bronze and glass vessels, two fire-dogs, an iron tripod, and personal ornaments.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

Literature Fox, 1923, 99-100 with pl. 17, 18.4, and 26.1; Smith, 1912, 9-12, fig 5 and 6; Stead, 1967, 55-6; Peacock 1971, 165, 182.

WOOTTON

A round-shouldered pot with short neck and everted rim.

Museum Bedford Museum.

Literature *Beds Arch J* 5 1970, 126 and fig 5.

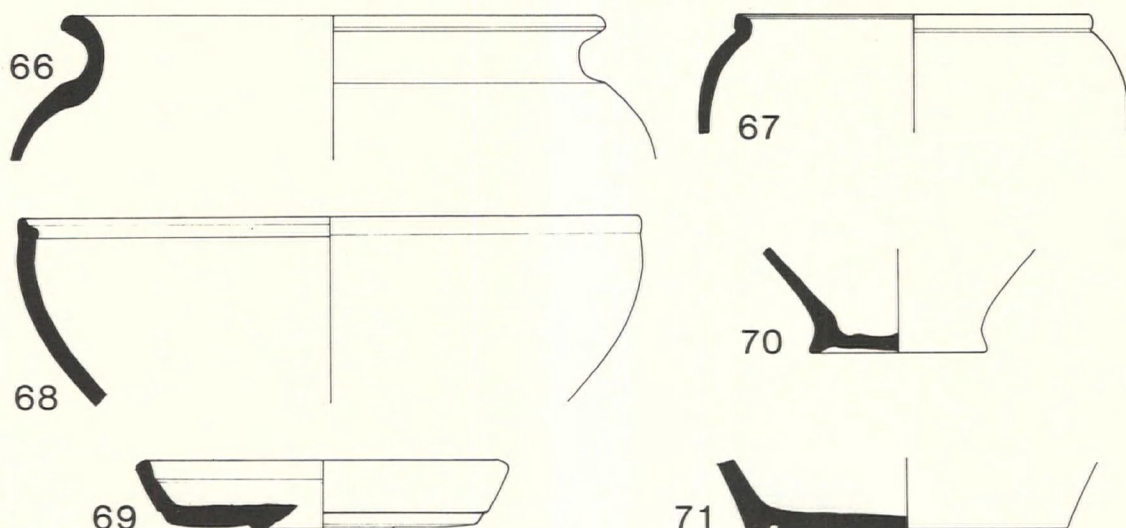


Fig. 8 Pottery from Green Lane, Clapham. (Scale 1:4).

WYBOSTON TL 175571

Excavations prior to gravel extraction revealed a rectangular enclosure containing two ring-ditches, but no trace of huts except fragments of daub and floor tiles. Bones of horse, ox, sheep and pig provide some evidence of economy. The pottery was noted as being comparable with Group B, that is, the first half of the first century A.D. The most common form was the grooved-rim cooking-pot. Imported wares included Terra Nigra and Arretine. *Literature* Tebbutt, 1957.

OF INDEFINITE DATE

SANDY, Caesar's Camp TL 180490

A hillfort of seven acres enclosed by single rampart and ditch defences. It has been attributed to the Belgae (Hawkes and Dunning, 1930, 258; Hawkes, 1931, 90) but there is no conclusive dating evidence.

Literature Fox, 1923, 109, 134, 140; Dyer, 1971,

SANDY, Galley Hill TL 18504783

A hillfort enclosed by single rampart and ditch defence of rectangular plan. Its regularity is probably due to the influence of the contours, rather than any Romanising effect. There is no dating evidence.

Literature Dyer, 1971, 9;

APPENDIX 2

DESCRIPTION OF POTTERY FIGURED

All the pottery illustrated is from the collection in the Bedford Museum.

The following list describes the colour and fabric, and any noteworthy features of each vessel, in the order of illustration. The colour is given first, according to the following system: external surface; core; internal surface. Where the pot is of the same colour throughout, only that one colour will be noted. An oblique line between two colours indicates a variegated surface (eg buff/black).

The number in brackets is the Bedford Museum accession number.

Kempston, Foulke's Pit (fig 3)

1. Black/buff. No temper apparent, but large pores suggest vegetable or shell temper which has been burnt out. (3697).
2. Buff/black; black; buff/black. Many large pores (3708).
3. Buff; black; black (very burnt). Shelly, but the shell is only left in a layer beneath the external surface. (3697).
4. Red; black; black. Large grits. Much rough grit below base, possibly quartzite. (3697).
5. Buff. Irregular grit; slightly micaceous. (3697).
6. Buff. dark grey; dark grey. Shelly. Very roughly made. (3697).
7. Spindlewhorl: black upper surface; dark grey core; grey lower surface. Shelly. Regular cylindrical perforation. (3706).
8. Dark grey to black. Very rough shell temper. Very porous internal surface (3697).

Oakley almshouses (fig 4)

9. Pink-buff; black; pink-buff. Shelly, with

some very coarse grits. Surface smoothed. (3658/ii).
10. Red-buff/black. Fossil shell grit, with occasional large pebble. (3658/i).

11. Pink-orange; grey; pink-orange. Rough fossil shell grits, with occasional large flint grits. Shape irregular (3658/i).

12. Buff; black; pink-buff. Fine fossil shell.

13. Burnt black. Sandy; slightly micaceous. (3658/V).

Oakley (fig 4)

14. Light orange-buff; black; orange-buff. Shelly. (no accession number).

Kempston, Foster's Pit (fig 4)

15. Orange/buff/black; black; buff/black. Large pores. External surface completely covered with zigzag burnishing strokes. (No accession number).

16. Black; dark grey; black. Rough grit. Well-polished, with faint horizontal toolmarks on upper neck. (No accession number).

Kempston (fig 4)

17. Black; dark grey; black. Occasional small white grits; very micaceous. Burnished. (7712).

18. Black/buff; dark grey; dark grey-brown. Shelly. (7712).

19. Black (possibly burnt); dark grey; black. Scattered fine shell. (7712).

20. Black; dark grey; black. Sandy; very micaceous. (7712).

21. Buff/dark brown; dark grey; buff/dark brown. Much irregular shell (fragments up to 10mm). (7713).

Kempston, Hill Grounds, 1913 group (fig 5)

22. Red-brown to dark brown; dark grey; red-brown to dark brown. Sandy; slightly micaceous. (3687).

23. Buff. Fine sand; slightly micaceous. Irregular. (3688).

24. Brown; dark grey; brown. Fine sand; slightly micaceous. (3693).

25. Buff/black. Fine to medium sand. Shallow clockwise spiral groove underneath base. (3696).

26. Red; (no core visible); red-buff. Medium sand (3695).

27. Buff to brick-red; dark grey; buff. Fine sand; slightly micaceous. The decoration consists of vertical burnished grooves. The surface is well-burnished below the lowest horizontal groove. Rough clockwise spiral groove underneath base. (3692).

28. Burnished black surface over buff-pink; black; buff. Sandy; some small flint grits; slightly micaceous. (3694).

29. Dark grey to black; dark grey; dark grey. Fine sand; slightly micaceous. Irregular, especially towards base. (3689).

30. Dark grey-buff. Fine sand. Irregular. (3690).

31. Black, with some reddish patches. Medium sand. Four horizontal burnished bands round lower body, and completely burnished below lowest band. Rough circular groove, 2.1 cm in diameter, underneath base. (3691).

Kempston, Hill Grounds, unassociated (fig 5)

32. Buff-red. Fine sand; micaceous. Burnished below lower zone of decoration. (3703).

33. Pink/buff/black; (core not visible); black. Fine sand; slightly micaceous. (3704).

34. Brick-red; grey; brick-red. Sandy surface. Internal wheel-rilling. Rough clockwise spiral groove underneath base. (3680).

35. Black/dark grey/dark buff; buff; dark brown. Sandy; slightly micaceous. Shoulder burnished. (3679).

36. Dark grey/brown. Fairly soft and no temper apparent. Lightly burnished. (3681).

Kempston (fig 6)

37. Brown-buff; grey; brown buff. Medium sand; occasional grits. Traces of dark grey burnished surface. (3641).

38. Dark grey, with black and buff patches. Fine sand; some grits. Cheese-wire marks underneath base. (3643).

39. Reddish-brown; brown; brown-buff. Sandy. (3648).

40. Dark grey, with thin black external surface, smoothed, but sandy to the touch. Medium sand; some grits; slightly micaceous. (3649).

41. Red; dark grey; red. Some fine sand, but fabric rather soft; occasional grits. (7724).

42. Light grey, with traces of black-burnished finish. No temper apparent, except for being slightly micaceous. (3675).

43. Dark brown surface on red-buff; grey; red-buff. Fine to medium sand. Burnished. (3686).

44. Black/buff; grey; buff with brown surface. Medium to coarse sand; some buff grits; slightly micaceous. (3674).

45. Dark grey; light grey; dark grey. Fine sand; micaceous. Vegetable impressions. (3673).

46. Dark grey. Fine sand; small grits. Vegetable impressions. (3672).

47. Dark grey to black. Very fine sand, some grits; micaceous. (3647).
 48. Dark grey; grey; grey. Very sandy internal surface. Concentric scorings underneath base. (3642)
 49. Red; dark grey; red. Fine sand; micaceous. Medium to coarse sand and some small grits on internal surface. (3684).
 50. Dark brown-buff. Traces of black-burnished internal and external surfaces. Fine sand. Traces of concentric burnished grooves on internal base. (3671).

Biddenham (fig 6)

51. Light grey. Traces of external burnished surface. Fine sand. (3682).
 52. Dark grey, with black external surface. Medium sand. Rough internal surface. (3683).
 53. Dark grey, with black external surface. Fine sand; micaceous. (BM 4).
 54. Dark grey. Fine sand; micaceous. (BM 84).

Felmersham (fig 6)

55. Orange. Smoothed brown external surface. Fine to medium sand. (BM 1).

Kempston Hardwick (fig 6)

56. Buff-pink; dark grey; dark grey. Very fine to fine sand; occasional small grits. Surfaces smoothed. (3644).

Bedford, London Road (fig 7)

57. Light buff; light grey; pink-buff. Medium to coarse sand; micaceous. Marked internal rilling. (3701).
 58. Red-brown; black; red-brown. Medium sand. (3698).
 59. Buff; black; buff. Medium to coarse sand. (3702).
 60. Brown to dark brown; light grey; light grey-brown. Fine sand; occasional grits; slightly micaceous. External surface smoothed. Sandy internal surface. (3699).
 61. Red-buff; dark grey; red to dark red-brown. Fine sand; occasional grits, slightly micaceous. External surface smoothed. (3705).

Sandy (fig 7)

62. Buff. Extremely fine sand; occasional small grits; well-smoothed external surface. (3645).
 63. Buff. Very fine sand; slightly micaceous. (3646).
 64. Black, with occasional buff patch; dark grey;

dark grey. Fine sand; micaceous. Vegetable impressions. (SA/A2).

65. Dark grey. Fine sand; micaceous. Surface burnished, but with vegetable impressions and striations. (BM 3).

Clapham, Green Lane (fig 8)

66. Burnished brown slip over grey; black; grey, with brown surface. Sandy; slightly micaceous. (3666).
 67. Orange/buff/black; dark grey-black; orange. Rough sand. Many pores. (3665).
 68. Orange-pink; dark grey-black; orange. Scattered fine to medium sand; occasional large grits. Many pores. (3664).
 69. Dark grey. Medium sand. Sandy buff internal surface. (3668).
 70. As 68. (3666).
 71. Buff; dark grey-black; brown-buff. Sandy. (3667).

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A Belgic and Romano-British Site at Bromham

PETER TILSON

SUMMARY

The emergency excavations at Bromham have shown that the site was first occupied about 50 B.C., probably by a small farming community. Traces of hut circles and pits containing hand-made pottery have been found to the south. These finds have been recorded separately and will appear in a later report. Domestic finds such as loom weights suggest a more permanent settlement.

The early ditches contain pottery of a distinctly Belgic character and mainly of a ware defined herein as the Clapham shelly ware type. The existing pottery industry was expanded about the time of the conquest, no doubt to serve the needs of the advancing Roman army. The later ditches contain Clapham shelly ware pottery, and imported wares including samian and grey ware.

By the end of the second century a large settlement had been established around what could be a small enclosed area (fig. 1), though unfortunately almost totally destroyed prior to excavation. The 'V' shaped ditch surrounding this area is of a typical military type. The latest feature on the site is a late third century pit containing coarse pottery. Occupation then ceased and the area was flooded.

INTRODUCTION

The river gravels of the Ouse valley have produced many archaeological sites, dating to all periods. They include sites of Palaeolithic date at one end of the time scale as well as those of the most recent periods at the other. The area is particularly rich in settlement sites of the late first millennium B.C. and the earlier centuries of the first millennium A.D. Frequently these sites have been found in the course of commercial development such as gravel extraction.

Mixconcrete Aggregates Limited were granted a licence to begin gravel extraction at Bromham in 1968 and archaeological investigation was concurrent with their commercial development. The

site (at TL 017523) was not visible on an aerial photograph. This was due to deposit of silt 12 in (0.30m) to 18 in (0.45m) thick covering the entire area. This thick deposit of silt suggests that the site lay under water for a considerable length of time. Excavations begun during the latter part of 1968 have been continuous except for short breaks due to flooding in the winter months.

The site is a large and complex arrangement of ditches and gullies. Over 1000ft (305m) were excavated between 1968 and 1972 producing large quantities of pottery and bone refuse. Several traces of kilns have been found and a possible granary floor. The 1971 excavation produced a corn drying oven and in future work in this area it is hoped to be able to trace further buildings associated with it, including storage, working and living accommodation.

There is some evidence to suggest that the pottery industry during the Belgic occupation was seasonal: the kiln stokeholes found showed a distinct build-up of alternate layers of charcoal and wind blown fine earth. The same evidence applies to the Belgic ditches and gullies; no evidence could be found to suggest that the site was abandoned before the Roman occupation. The flow of pottery continued but became a more Romanised style although the range of 'Clapham shelly ware' cooking pots are found right up to the mid-third century.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FEATURES.

THE DITCH COMPLEX (Fig 1)

The ditches and gullies are possibly part of a large drainage complex but do not appear to form any kind of pattern. They may also have been utilised as boundary barriers for the herding of domestic animals and in the pottery manufacturing industry. Traces of kilns have been found over partly filled ditches and may have been thus situated for good drainage purposes.

Excavation of some of the ditches to their

BELGIC AND ROMANO – BRITISH SITE AT BROMHAM EXCAVATIONS 1968-1971

Site Plan

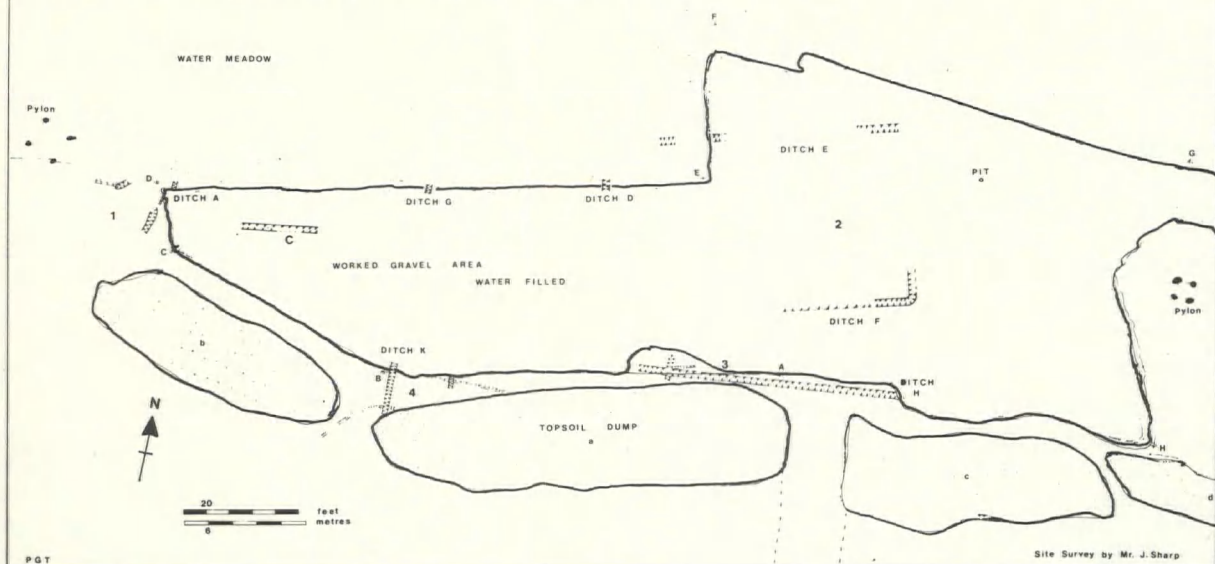


Fig. 1 Site plan.

fullest extent is at present impossible due to the presence of a large topsoil dump created by the gravel extractors. In places where the gravel was laid bare awaiting extraction all features cutting it, such as ditches, could be located but it is thought that much of the later evidence had been destroyed.

With the expansion of the pottery industry some of the earlier Belgic ditches were re-cut and extended during the mid second century. The shallow gullies appear to have been used for the washing of freshly dug clay as much fine clay silting was found. On excavating the main Belgic ditch (Fig 4) large quantities of pottery waste were found, they appear to form irregularly spaced tips, as if that particular section passed close to a kiln and so when the kiln was broken and pottery removed the waste was thrown in the nearest part of the ditch. Also found were quite a number of odd balls of unfired clay, possibly waste from throwing.

DITCH D (Fig 4, fig 6, pl 1a)

Ditch D is a large 'V' shaped defensive ditch 10ft 6in: wide by 4ft 6in: deep (3.05 by 1.37m), cut into natural gravel and traced for 15ft (4.58m). The infilling was comprised of dark brown soil

mixed with gravel. A small quantity of charcoal with animal bone was found in the primary silting. This ditch may have formed part of the large rectangular system found to the east of the site (fig 1.) Unfortunately most of this was destroyed by gravel extraction in the early days of excavation. The pottery evidence consists mainly of cooking pots (Fig 8). A piece of samian ware found in the primary silting suggests a Flavian date for the construction whereas two pieces from the upper layer, consisting of an occupation scatter over the half filled ditch, give an Antonine date for the ditch being out of use. It was then levelled off by flooding. *Pottery group 1* (fig 8).

DITCH E (Fig 1, fig 7)

Ditch E was probably part of the same system as ditch D. It was 'V' shaped in section – 9ft 6in by 3ft (2.9 by 0.91m) cut into natural gravel and traced for 220ft (67.1m). The infilling comprised brown soil mixed with gravel, patches of sticky clay and a fairly large number of stones. In the primary silting a samian sherd of Flavian date (samian report 4) was found and part of a large hand-made storage jar. (fig 9.18). A tiny fragment of Trajanic or Hadrianic samian ware (samian report 5) was found just under the silting. A small

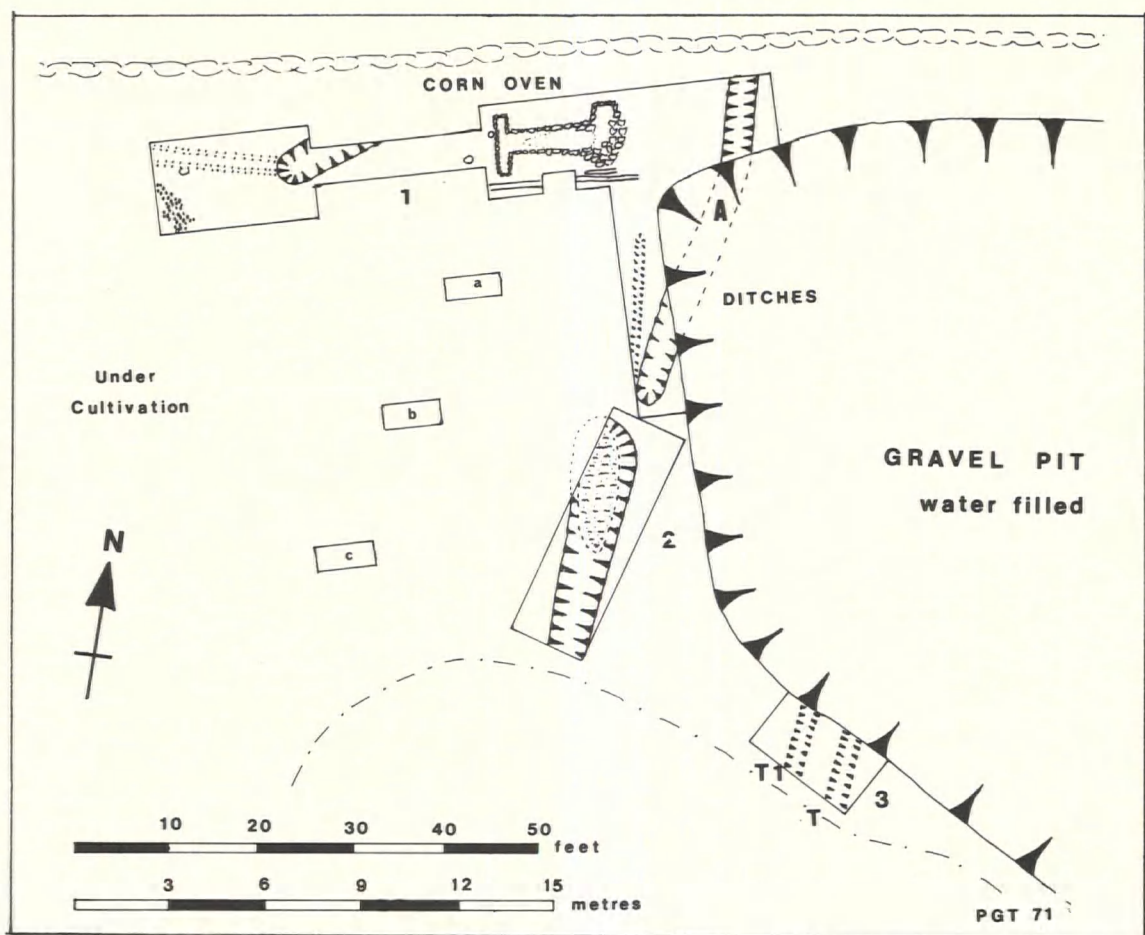


Fig. 2 Plan of north end showing corn drying oven and relating ditches.

amount of animal bone refuse was also present. *Pottery group 2* (fig 9 and 10).

DITCH F (Fig 1 and 5)

Ditch F was traced for a distance of 100ft (30.5m) and was 10ft by 4ft 6in (3.05 by 1.37m) in size. It was of the same infill as ditch E but with a much larger proportion of animal bone, very little pottery and no samian ware. It probably formed part of the same ditch system as D and E.

Pottery group 3 (fig 11).

DITCH C (Fig. 1)

Now completely destroyed, ditch C ran east/west of the site for 65ft (22.88m). It was 'V' shaped in section, 8ft by 3ft 6ins (2.44 by 1.07m) and of unknown purpose. The infill was comprised of sticky brown earth mixed with gravel, some patches of unfired clay, a large amount of kiln debris includ-

ing wasters and half baked clay. Much of the pottery is typically Belgic in character.

Pottery group 5 (fig 13 and 14).

T.1 (Fig. 4 areas 2,3,4)

An occupation layer (T1) lay over an early first century floor of yellow/grey clay 4in–6in (102 – 152mm) thick, worn through to natural gravel in places. One piece of samian ware of pre-Flavian date was found in it, also a bone pin (Fig 30) of the pineapple-head type and a bow brooch dated to A.D.50–75. This was sealed by a layer of mixed clay and gravel containing a small piece of samian ware dated to the Hadrianic or Antonine period.

Owing to the lack of coins found on the whole of the site, much of the dating has come from the samian ware and the bronze brooches.

Pottery group 6 (fig 15).

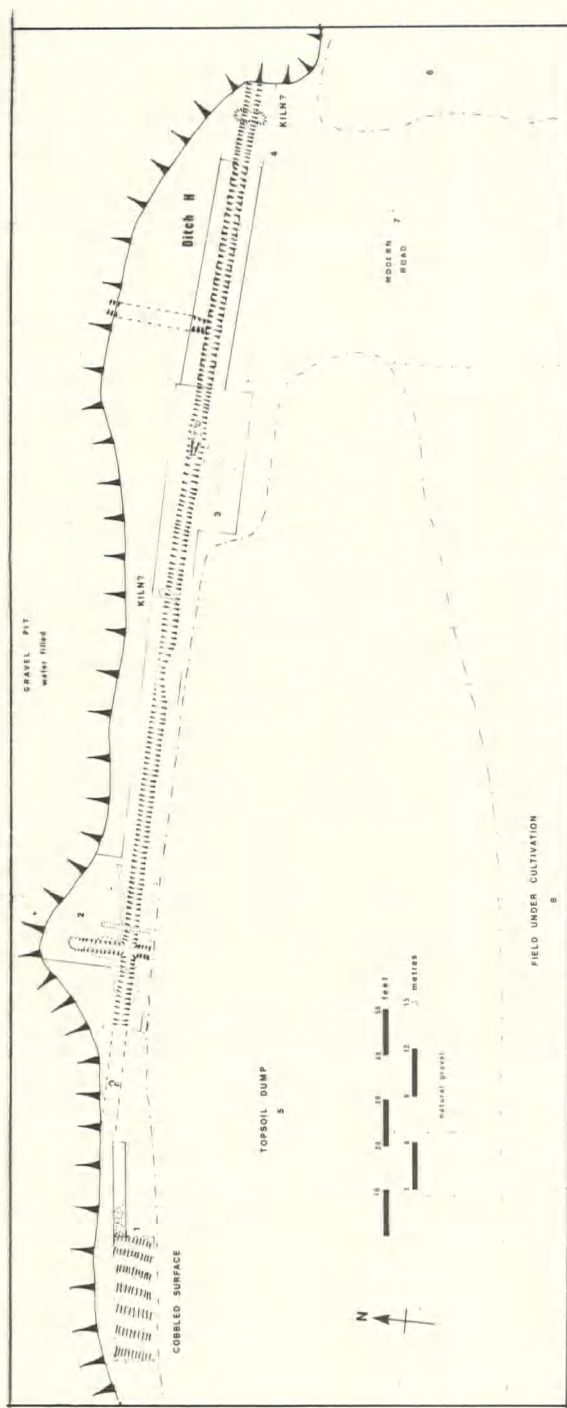


Fig 3 Ditch and Gully complex at east end.

T. 4 (Fig. 2)

A thick deposit of sticky brown earth mixed with gravel and containing bone, pottery and charcoal formed a distinct stratum (T4). Some pieces of kiln bars and wasters were also present. This indicated that the "Rakings-out" of a nearby kiln had been scattered in the slight hollows of the two partly-filled ditches. The ditches, both 'U' shaped, had been cut into natural gravel and it would appear that the construction of both took place at the same time. They were only traced for a short distance. The infill of both consisted of sticky brown earth with some yellow patches of unfired clay. Very little pottery was found but traces of kiln debris and animal bone were in abundance.

Pottery group 8 (fig 17).

TRENCHES 6, 7 and 16. DITCH H. (Fig. 4, areas 2-4).

The ditch, 'U' shaped in section and cut into natural gravel, 6ft 6in by 3ft 6in (1.98 by 1.07m) is the earliest feature on the site. It was traced for 225ft (71.67m) being excavated in three sections – Trenches 6, 7 and 16. The removal of soil prior to gravel extraction has destroyed the top area of T.6 and therefore the pottery (fig 18. 138-143) must be classed as "dump finds".

The infill of ditch H. consists of sticky brown earth and burning mixed with gravel. It contains pottery of Belgic character, a large amount of wasters, kiln bars, bricks, bone and pieces of rotary quern scattered at intervals. This suggests that kilns were constructed at fairly even distances and all ensuing debris tipped into the nearest part of the ditch with the resulting six distinct groups of refuse.

In trench 16 traces of a kiln were found overlying ditch H. Only the stokehole remained however. It occupied an area 3ft (0.914m) square and 9in (230mm) deep and was filled with sticky earth and clay mixed with charcoal. A burial (Fig. 4) was found in the base of the ditch in T.7. The upper levels of the ditch contained a bronze brooch, dated to the late first century and a twist ring (fig 28). There was an occupation spread, made up of grey clay mixed with gravel, which sealed ditch H and contained a large amount of pottery, several large stones, cobbles and pieces of samian ware of Flavian and Antonine date.

Pottery group 9 (fig 18 and 19) and group 10 (fig 20-24).

THE INHUMATION BURIAL (Pl. 1c)

An inhumation burial was found in the

bottom of the ditch H. A shallow depression 8in (203mm) deep had been scooped out of the natural gravel, the body placed in and the grave levelled over with gravel thereby forming a false bottom in the ditch. The skeleton lay on its back with the head facing east; both arms lay by the side of the body. A large part of the skull was missing and many of the bones were fractured owing to soil disturbance. The skeleton is that of a male, probably in his mid 30s, 5ft 6in to 5ft 9in (1.68 – 1.75 m) tall and evidence suggests that interment took place no later than the first part of the first century A.D., as a pottery group (fig 22 and 23) lay in the primary silting of the ditch and completely sealed the burial.

T.8 (Fig. 3) Ditch K.

'V' shaped in section 8ft by 3ft 6in (2.44 by 1.07m) in size and out into natural gravel, this was traced for 66ft (23.18m) and was found to contain two large postholes in the base, constructed to contain the uprights to a bridge. The postholes were 18in (475mm) deep and about 12in (305mm) square and 5ft 6in (1.68m) apart, tightly packed with stone to a depth of 15in (381mm). No traces of timbers were located thereby suggesting that the construction was dismantled. The upper layers of this area had been destroyed by the removal of the topsoil prior to gravel extraction and therefore the outer supports to the bridge could not be traced. The ditch infill consisted of hard packed brown earth with some patches of sticky clay, a number of large stones but very little pottery.

A mortarium rim (fig 32.320) with the potter's stamp was found lying on the stone packing in the base of Ditch K. Mrs K.M. Hartley has kindly provided the following note:

The stamp reads 'BRVCCI' and is from one of the seven dies of Bruscius, on all but one of which the name was abbreviated to BRVSC or BRVSCI. A kiln where he worked with another mortarium maker, Junius, was excavated recently at Harthill, Warwickshire and it is likely that he also had kilns at Mancetter, two miles away. Seventeen of his mortaria are known from other sites in England and there are seven from Antonine deposits in Scotland. The stamp from Scotland and the association with Junius points to a date of A.D. 140–170 for his work.

To the south, ditch K cuts an earlier gully (fig 4), the infill of which consists entirely of burning, wasters, lumps of half baked clay and a bronze brooch of the La Tene III type. A small pit had been dug in the bottom of the gully and filled

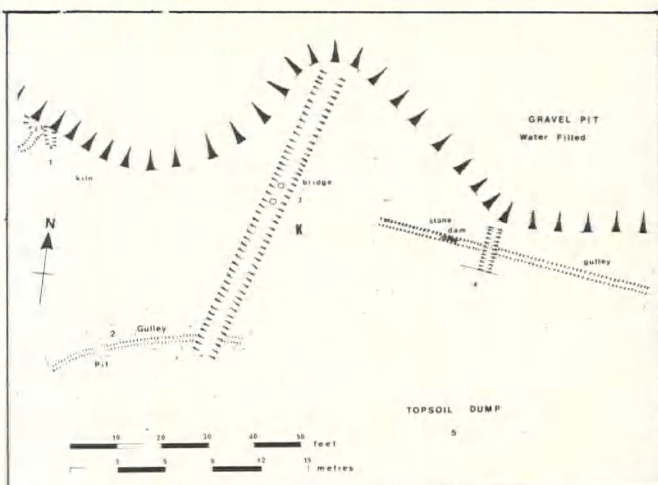


Fig 4 Ditch Complex at west end of site.

with large stones and pottery, mainly storage jars (Figs. 18 and 19). The gully, about 15in (381mm) wide and 9in to 18in (229mm to 457mm) deep, was traced for 50ft (15.2m), but is not yet excavated to its fullest extent.

T.18 (Fig. 3) Area 4

This long gully ran east/west of the site, 18in (457mm) deep and 20in to 30in (508mm to 762 mm) wide, and was cut into natural gravel. Patches of clay silting were found along its base with burning, a large amount of irregular shaped lumps of baked clay and kiln bar fragments.

A dam had been constructed at one point with stones, cobbles etc. and the bottom half of a rotary quern. It was probably used to control the flow of water to an area where the clay was washed and purified, thereby causing the patches of clay silting in its base. The gully also contained pieces of broken querns, a small amount of pottery including the base of a samian ware cup stamped OFFPATRICI, dated A.D. 70–100 and a number of worked flints.

Pottery group 12 (fig. 26)

T.19, T.20 and T.26 (fig 2, 5 and 6; pl. 2b)

THE CORN DRYING OVEN

A corn drying oven built of Northamptonshire shelly limestone was found to the west of the site. The 'V' shaped ditch, (ditch A) partly surrounding it, was possibly constructed for land drainage purposes. Another to the south contained a large amount of burnt grain and pieces of clay with corn impressions, analysed to be a primitive form of

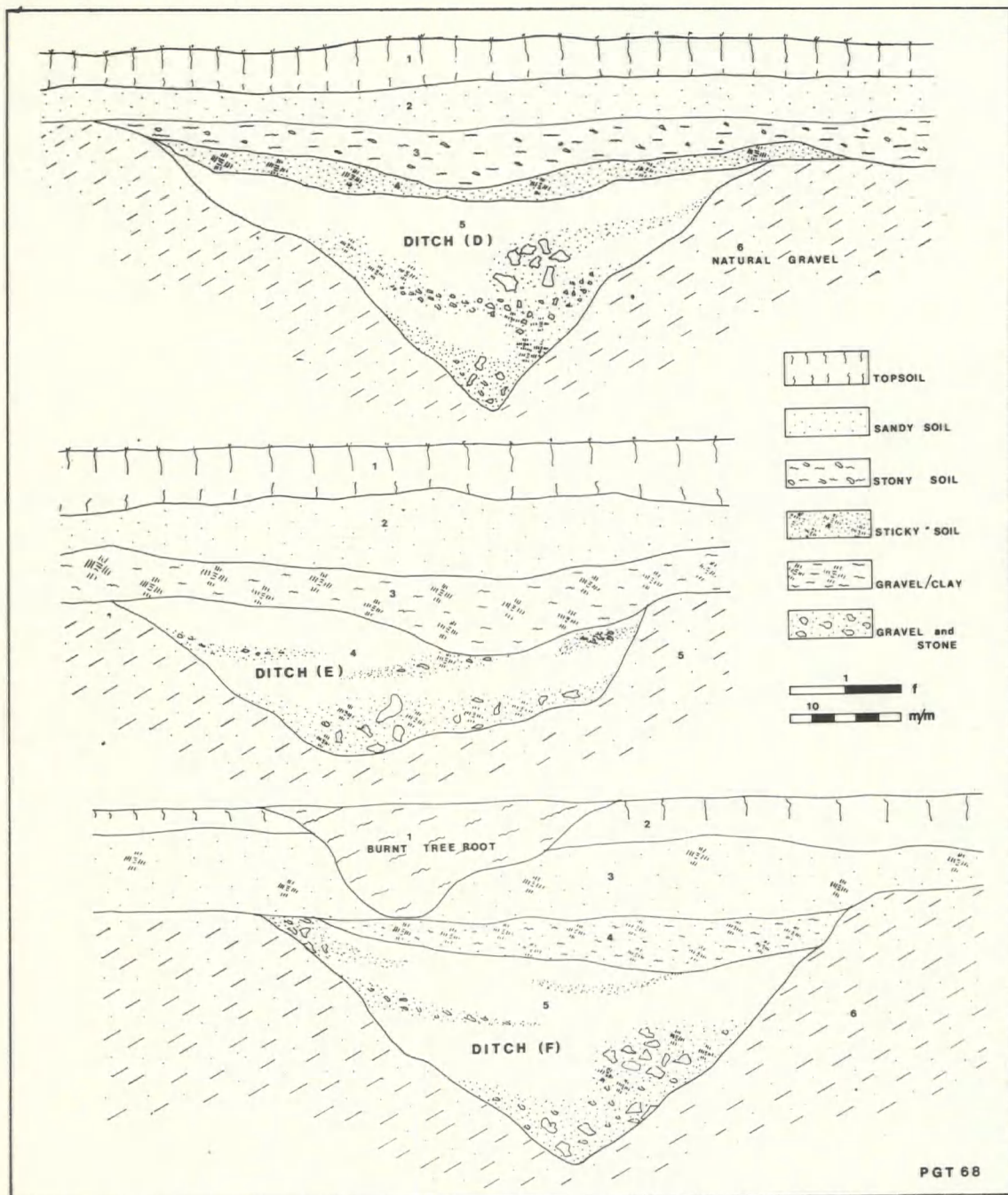


Fig. 5 Ditch Sections from ditches destroyed by gravel workings.

barley.

The oven was cut into natural gravel to a depth of 9in (229mm) at the 'T' end and 3ft (0.91 m) for the stokehole. Many parallels to this type of oven exist. Geographically the nearest are the un-

published examples excavated at Bletchley in 1970 by H.W. Pengelly. Nearly all are of fourth century date. The Clapham example, however, can be closely dated A.D. 150–170 for the construction. The infill of the stokehole contained a samian base

stamped CETI and dated to A.D. 135–160, a small amount of coarse ware pottery and parts of three large corn grinding wheels, two of millstone grit and one of sandstone. Post holes 10in (254mm) wide found around the oven may have contained beams for a roof support of some kind. It is hoped that the future excavations in this area will reveal other buildings connected with the oven. The oven and all the ditches had been sealed by a destruction level in which much pottery and a coin of Gallienus has been found, dated to A.D. 259–268. It is not clear yet whether this destruction layer is that of the corn oven or another building nearby, but the oven was certainly out of use by this date. At least one stage of rebuilding took place – a new ‘T’ end was built, perhaps to enlarge the oven or merely to replace a part that had deteriorated. The construction of the stonework for this is of a much better standard of workmanship than the rest of the oven.

The plan of the oven (Fig. 5) shows three small gullies (1, 2 and 3) to the south, probably constructed for drainage purposes. The two post holes (4) were no doubt constructed for roof supports. One is partly sealed by the T end of the oven, which suggests this was extended at some date, thereby entailing a corresponding extension of the roof support system.

The flue (5) is of solid construction in comparison with the rest of the oven. The fill was very sandy soil with little charcoal, whereas the stoke-hole (6) contained a large amount of burning, with pottery sherds and partly-fired clay with corn impressions (Pl.2a). On each side of the stokehole entrance the gravel was fused by heat. Iron-stained niches in this entrance suggest the positioning of a furnace door.

No explanation can be found for (7) other than it is a chimney, provided as an outlet for fumes and smoke, surrounding and inside which a large number of nails were found. It certainly was not constructed as a wood or corn store as the total space provided would not have been sufficient for either.

Firing of the oven was quite simple. The T end, with a clay floor supported, probably on an iron framework, was loaded with grain. This was covered with a lid of clay punctured at intervals. A fire was then lit in the stokehole, covered with stone slabs, some of which were found still in situation. Draughts of hot air consequently passed into the actual oven, where the grain was dried so as to prevent the barley germ from sprouting during winter storage. It has also been suggested that

the same operation would suffice to remove the husks from the grain and evidence found suggests that this was probably undertaken as well in this corn drier.

THE PIT (Fig. 27)

A late third century pit, 3ft (0.92m) wide, was found near the ditch complex D, E and F and contained large stones, cobbles, bone, pottery and much charcoal. Its position – directly under the flood silting and cut 3ft (0.92m) into natural gravel – indicates that it must have been dug not long before the actual flooding took place.

This is the only feature on the site of this date. It is thought that others may have existed but have been destroyed by the topsoil extraction. Pottery group 13 (Fig. 27)

THE FINDS

The majority of the finds came from the large ditch complex as very few working areas were found. A large proportion of the site had already been destroyed before excavations could take place and it is thought much building evidence has been lost. Only one coin has been found on the site which suggests that the occupants had little need for currency and that the majority of trade was carried on through bartering. They were certainly not poor people as shown by their pottery and brooches. From the bone waste found it would seem that large numbers of domestic animals were kept for a continuous food supply. Corn was most certainly grown and kept in the large storage urns which were made on the site; many of these have a grain impression pattern around the outside, (Fig. 19, 234) possibly to portray their use. Quite a large number of honey strainers were found; the holes punched in the bottom vary from two to five millimetres in diameter.

All the platters found had been imported to the site, it would appear that no attempt was made to make them on the site. Several worked flints were found in the Belgic ditches possibly used in connection with the pottery industry, either for scribing or decorating.

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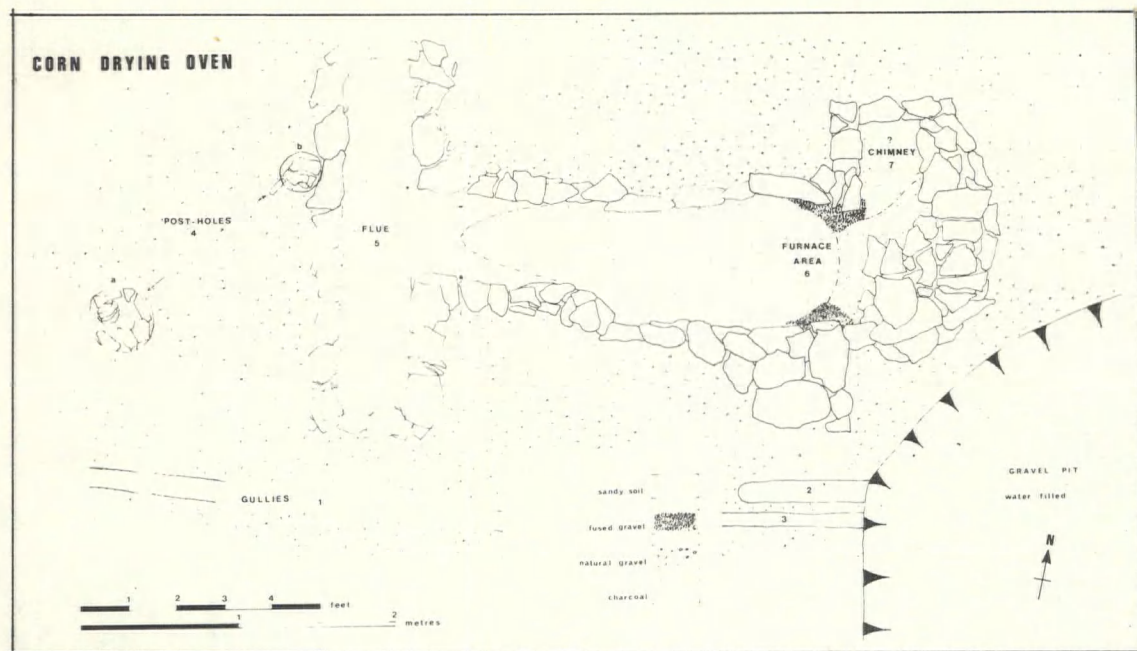


Fig. 6 Plan of Corn Drying Oven.

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Wheathampstead: see Verulamium.

THE COARSE POTTERY

Between 1968 and 1972 several thousand pottery sherds were found, coming mainly from the infill of the ditches and gullies. Very little evidence of the construction of pottery kilns has been found probably due to extensive gravel extraction, but plenty of kiln wasters, kiln bars and bricks were discovered and in future excavations it is hoped better preserved kilns will be located. Some 600 types of pottery have been recognised and drawn to date, of which approximately half are shown in this report. They fall into three categories:-

Iron Age C:- Belgic, c 50 B.C. to mid first century A.D.

Romanised native:- Mid first century A.D. to mid second century A.D.

Roman:- Early second century A.D. to late third century A.D.

The majority of the Iron Age C group were made on the site and have a distinctive character of their own which we now call the 'Clapham shelly ware'. The clay used in the making of the pottery

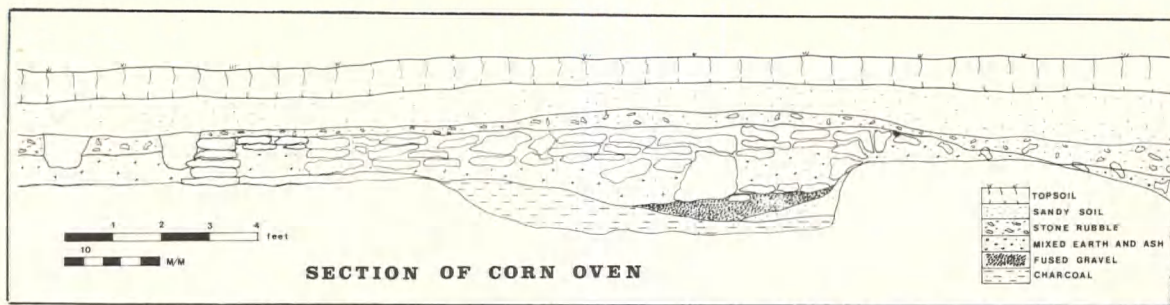


Fig. 7 Longitudinal Section of Corn Drying Oven.

was dug on the site, from the nearby river banks. It contained natural 'grog' i.e. ground shells and grits, giving body to the clay. In some of the larger storage jars found, extra shell and large flints had been added. The number of rejects from firing must have been considerably high, due, no doubt, to the impurities in the clay and the manner of firing.

Several small gullies were found to contain clay sludge in the bottom, showing attempts to wash the freshly dug clay. It was found, in our experiments (appendix 1), that the clay was very fibrous and would most certainly have needed to have been washed.

The main product of the site cooking pots, all of which were recessed on the rim to *make* a lid. They seemed to fall into four sizes. The diameters are 6½in, 8in, 9in, and the largest being 10½in. Very few lids were found, these being much harder to make; it is generally thought that one lid served many pots. A small proportion of these cooking pots had a hole punched in the side below the rim so they could be hung by a leather thong or carrying strap.

Also made at the site were large storage jars. These were usually decorated below the rim with wavy lines and grain impressions. The majority of them were coiled and finished on a slow wheel. One or two were found to be recessed for a rim but no lids were found.

The imports of this period consisted of platters and small bowls, some of the bowls had later been made into strainers; quite a large proportion of strainers were found on the site. None of the platters carried a potter's stamp but one had an unusual cross moulded on the bottom. The majority were 5 to 7 inches across. They contained little or no grog and were usually reddish brown in colour.

The Romanised native pottery still used the clays characteristics of Clapham shelly ware, but in a

style completely changed. The artistic touch was lost and mass production had set in. All the pottery found in this period consisted of cooking bowls, with a large percentage of imported wares including samian.

The majority of the pottery of the Roman period was imported to the site. Finds show that very little local pottery was produced. It would appear that the kilns were out of use by the end of the third century.

Group 1 (Fig. 8)

From the primary fill of ditch D (Fig. 1)

1. Cooking pot, recessed rim for lid, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: light to dark brown, burnt black. Interior: light to medium brown, slight discolouration. Break: light to medium grey. External decoration: horizontal combing.
2. Cooking pot, wheel thrown, orange-brown, medium-large shell, burning on exterior, slightly vesicular. Break: grey.
3. Cooking pot, wheel thrown, recessed rim hand finished? Exterior: medium orange discoloured black. Interior: medium orange. Break: medium grey.
4. Bowl with recessing for lid, small to large shell, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark brown heavily burnt black. Interior: medium orange pitted. Break: medium grey heavy in shell.
5. Bowl, recessing for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium grits. Exterior: medium brown, burnt black. Interior: medium orange. Break: medium grey.
6. Ringed base, wheel thrown, small-medium grits, sandy finish. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: blue grey.
7. Base flat-bottomed, wheel thrown, small grit, sandy finish. Exterior: medium to dark brown, slight discolouration. Interior: as

- exterior. Break: light grey.
8. Flat-bottomed base, some small grits. Exterior: red brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey, wheel thrown.
 9. Cooking pot, wheel thrown, many fine grits, some medium shell. Exterior: orange-medium grey. Break: dark grey. Interior: buff/orange.
 10. Everted rimmed greyware bowl, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior.
 11. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, some small grit. Exterior: dark orange brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
 12. Storage jar, everted rim, flat top, small to medium shell. Exterior: light to medium orange, wheel thrown. Interior: light buff. Break: medium grey.
 13. Everted rimmed bowl, small to medium grits. Exterior: medium to dark brown. Interior: medium brown. Break: light grey. Verulamium, 151, fig 9.
 14. Everted bead rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, some grits. Exterior: buff-orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey-orange. External decoration: horizontal grooving.
 15. Everted rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, many tiny grits. Exterior: dark grey, traces of burning, uneven rim. Interior: light grey to dark grey. Break: dark grey.
 16. Shallow dish, wheel thrown, heavily ridged sides. Exterior: medium brown grey with burnt patches. Interior: as exterior. Break: black, very smoothly burnished. Verulamium, 157, fig 12.
 17. Small everted rimmed bowl, slashed rim, wheel thrown, uneven, small to medium shell. Exterior: medium grey, traces of orange slip, heavily pitted. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.

Group 2 (Fig. 9 and 10)

From the primary fill of ditch E (Fig. 6)

18. Large storage jar, probably hand made. Exterior: orange, heavily discoloured black coarse finish. Interior: orange to grey, extremely coarse finish. Many small to large grits including flints and limestone. Break: dark grey. External decoration: two parallel horizontal grooves below one row of diagonal combing. Similar types found at Wheathampstead, 149, pl. 51, no. 19.
19. Large storage jar, wheel thrown? Exterior: orange-brown to dark grey. Interior: as exterior but with uneven surface, small to large shell.
20. Girth beaker, orange-brown exterior slightly discoloured black. Interior: as exterior, slightly burnished, some small grits. Break: black. Wheathampstead, 149, pl. 49 no. 7.
21. Grey ware bowl, wheel thrown. Exterior: light grey to orange. Interior: light grey, sandy finish, some shell in fabric, fine stoneware. Break: medium grey. External decoration: two parallel horizontal grooves.
22. Everted rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, blue-grey mottled stoneware. Exterior and interior: as above. Break: medium buff.
23. Rounded rimmed bowl, cooking pot?, small grits, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark grey, slightly discoloured. Interior: as exterior. Break: chocolate brown.
24. Small everted rimmed pot, colour coated ware, wheel thrown. Exterior: light buff coated dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: light buff.
25. Small bead rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, very sandy with some shell. Exterior: medium orange. Interior: as above but rougher. Break: light grey orange.
26. Small coarse ware bowl, wheel thrown. Exterior: orange/brown. Interior: as exterior except coarser, small to medium shell, some grit. Break: light buff/orange. External decoration: one line running horizontally.
27. Carinated beaker, wheel thrown. Exterior: orange-brown discoloured black, small to medium shell and some grit. External decoration: two parallel horizontal grooves. Wheathampstead, 153, Plate 54.
28. Base, deeply hollowed ringed bottom, probably of a cup, wheel thrown and turned, small shell and grits. Exterior: dark grey to black. Interior and break: as exterior. Wheathampstead, 149, Plate 49.
29. Ringed grey ware base (imitation), thrown on a slow wheel and turned. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: light buff, light red.
30. 'T' shaped rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, some small grit. Exterior: buff, slight burnishing. Interior: as exterior, though slightly darker. Break: blue/grey.
31. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: dark grey to black. Interior

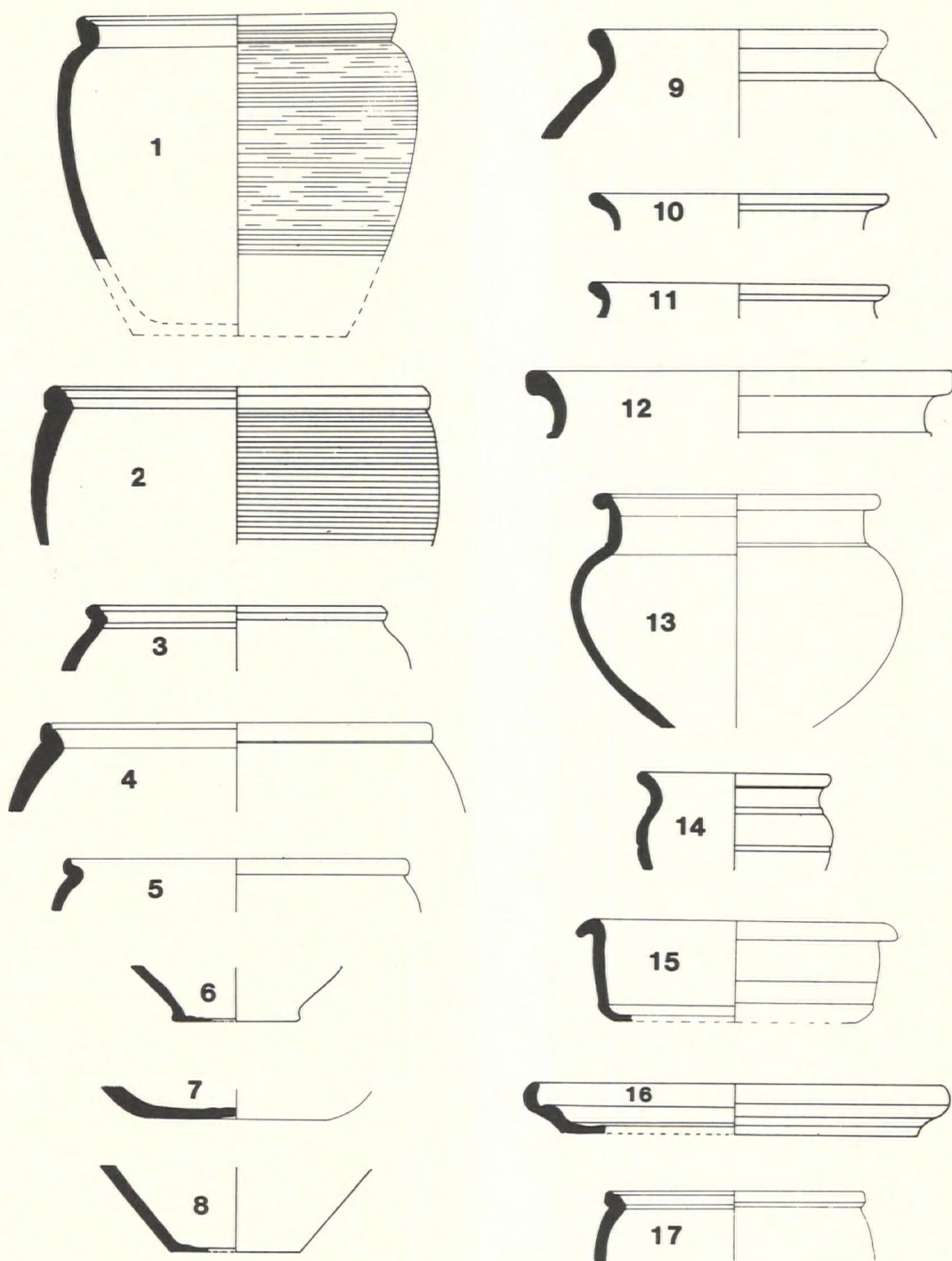


Fig. 8 Pottery from Ditch D (1 to 17) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

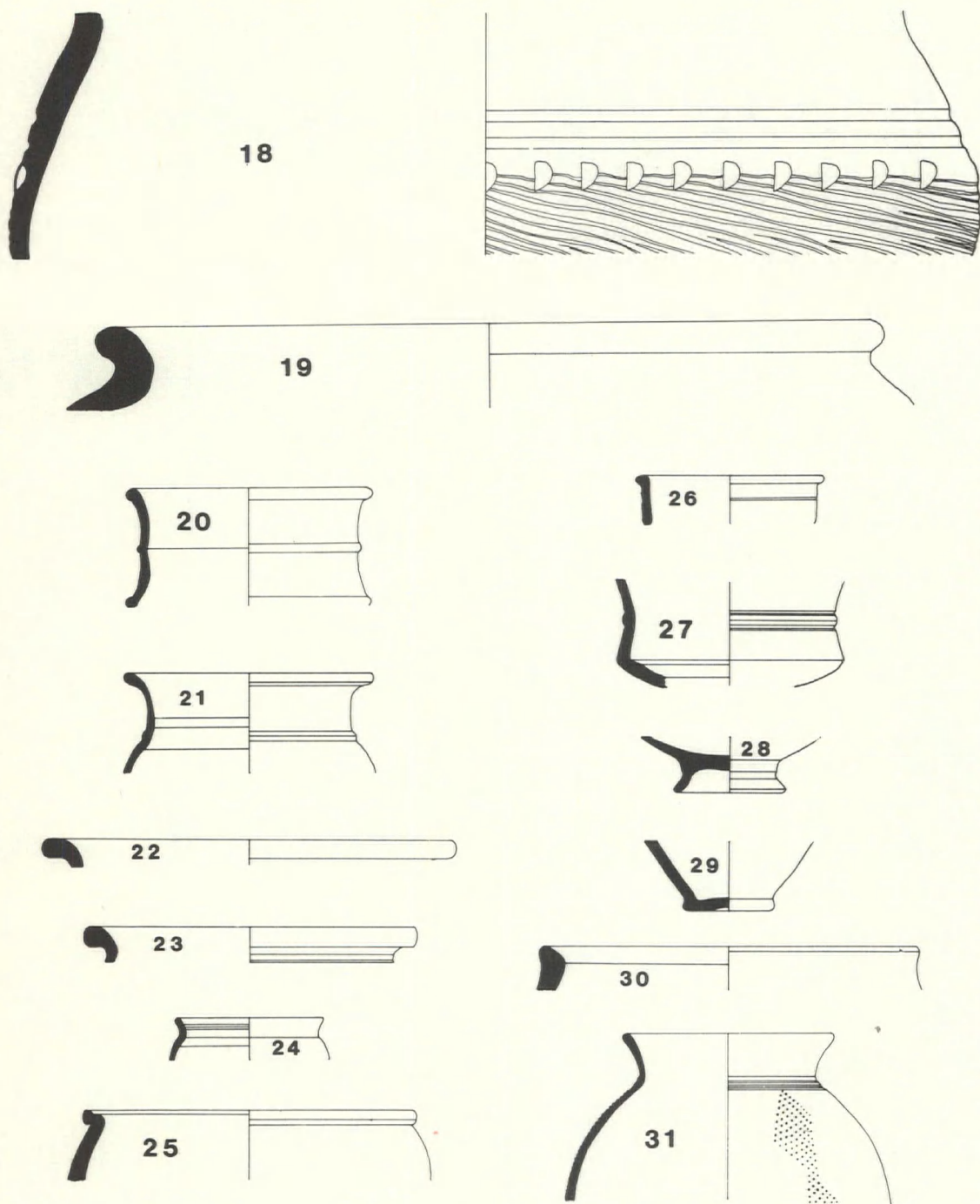


Fig. 9 Pottery from Ditch E (18 to 31) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

- as exterior. Break: dark grey. Exterior decoration: horizontal grooves and raised dot pattern. (poppy head beaker). Verulamium, I fig 101. 64. Brixworth, 71, fig 23, 162.
32. Cooking pot with ledge on rim for lid, wheel thrown, small and large shell. Exterior: dark orange, traces of burning. Interior: as exterior except no burning, badly worn. Break: brown/orange.
 33. Cooking pot, recessed rim for lid, well fired, small to large shell. Exterior: discoloured black. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior. Probably a waster.
 34. Bead rim with recess for lid, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark brown discoloured black. Interior: light to medium orange/grey, small to large shell. External decoration: horizontal combing.
 35. Everted rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: medium to dark grey, slight traces of burnishing under rim. Interior: as exterior without burnish. Break: light grey.
 36. Oval rimmed pot, wheel thrown, large pieces of chalk. Exterior: light buff, medium grey recess under rim, pitted (probably caused by chalk dissolving). Interior: as above. Break: medium grey.
 37. Everted rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, some grit. Exterior: brown/orange, very rough. Interior: as exterior. Break: buff, light grey.
 38. Everted rimmed bowl, small to medium grits wheel thrown. Exterior: fine light to dark brown mottling. Interior: as exterior. Break: buff.
 39. Half bead rimmed bowl, wheel thrown (possible waster), slight sandy finish, traces of burnishing on rim. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: as above. Break: buff light grey.
 40. Everted rimmed bowl (small), wheel thrown. Exterior: dark grey, decoration horizontal beading. Interior: medium buff, traces of burning. Break: dark grey.
 41. Uneven base, small to large shell, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: discoloured black. Break: dark grey.
 42. Lid, wheel thrown, fine to small shell. Exterior: dark orange, slight discolouration. Interior: medium grey/orange. Break: medium grey.
 43. Half rounded rim, cooking pot. Exterior: slip coated light orange. Break: blue/grey. Wheel thrown.
 44. Raised base slightly flared out, wheel thrown and turned. Exterior: light to dark buff, discoloured black, burnished. Interior: medium orange. Break: dark grey.
 45. Ring, base grey ware, wheel thrown, finely sanded body. Exterior: light to medium grey.
 46. Body sherd. Exterior: discoloured black. Interior: dark grey, waster. External decoration: horizontal grooving. Wheel thrown.
 47. Bead rimmed bowl with recess for lid, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: black, heavily burnt, slight horizontal groove. Interior: light orange/buff. Break: blue/grey, buff.
- Group 3 (Fig. 11)*
- From the primary fill of ditch F (fig 6)
48. Bowl, flat topped, wheel thrown. Exterior: buff/orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: light buff.
 49. Large storage jar, everted rim, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: medium orange. Interior: as exterior, discoloured.
 50. Round rimmed bowl, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark brown with discolouration. Interior: medium orange. Break: medium grey, some fine shell and flints.
 51. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown. Exterior, interior: medium orange. Break: medium grey.
 52. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, small grit. Exterior: medium orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: light buff.
 53. Base (ringed), wheel thrown and turned, small to medium grit. Exterior: medium orange. Interior: brown/orange. Break: light grey.
 54. Flat bottomed base, storage jar, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: light brown. Interior: medium orange. Break: light brown.
 55. Base flat bottomed, wheel thrown. Exterior: heavily discoloured black. Interior: medium orange, medium to large shell. Break: medium grey.
- Group 4 (Fig. 12)*
- From the primary fill of ditch A (fig 2)
56. Straight rimmed storage jar, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: buff brown, horizontal combing. Interior: buff/brown, coarse finish. Break: medium grey.

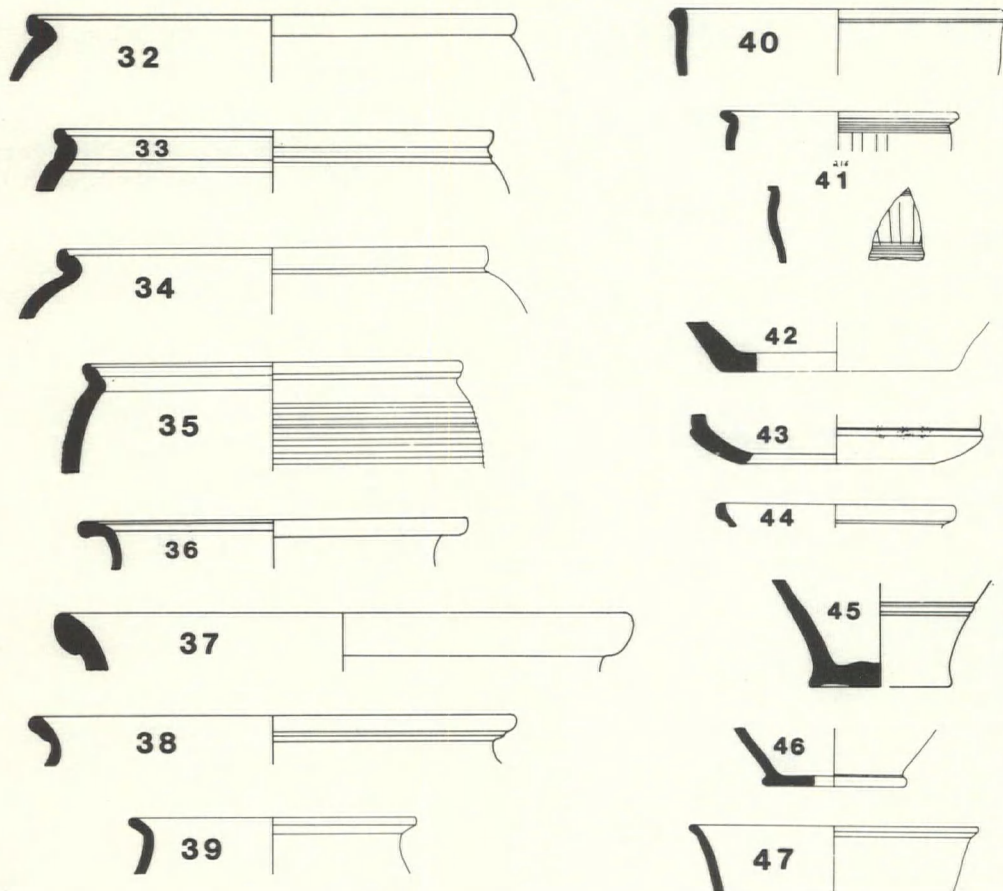


Fig.10 Pottery from Ditch E (32 to 47) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

57. Storage jar with everted rim, wheel thrown. Exterior: red/brown, much small to medium shell. Interior: as exterior except coarser. Soapy finish on exterior. Break: dark grey.
58. Coarse cooking pot, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: brown, heavily discoloured black. Interior: brown, slightly discoloured black. Break: dark grey.
59. Cooking pot with developed bead rim and slight recessing for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: dark buff heavily discoloured. Interior: light to medium buff discoloured. Break: medium grey.
60. Small bowl with slightly everted rim, some small shell, sandy finish on interior, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark grey to black. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior. External decoration: horizontal grooving and fingernail impressions with half circle and dot motif. Verulamium Museum, St. Albans have parallels, not yet published.
61. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown. Exterior: blue/grey mottled. Stoneware. Interior as exterior. Break: light grey.
62. Greyware, ringed base, wheel thrown, fine sandy fabric, traces of shell. Exterior: medium blue/grey. Interior: buff/grey. Break: light grey.
63. Shallow dish, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: buff heavily discoloured black. Interior: light grey. Break: light grey.
64. Cooking pot with recess for lid, wheel thrown small to large shell. Exterior: black. Interior: brown to dark grey. Break: as interior.
65. Flat rimmed bowl, uneven, possibly hand made, some small grit and chalk. Exterior: medium orange discoloured. Interior: as exterior.

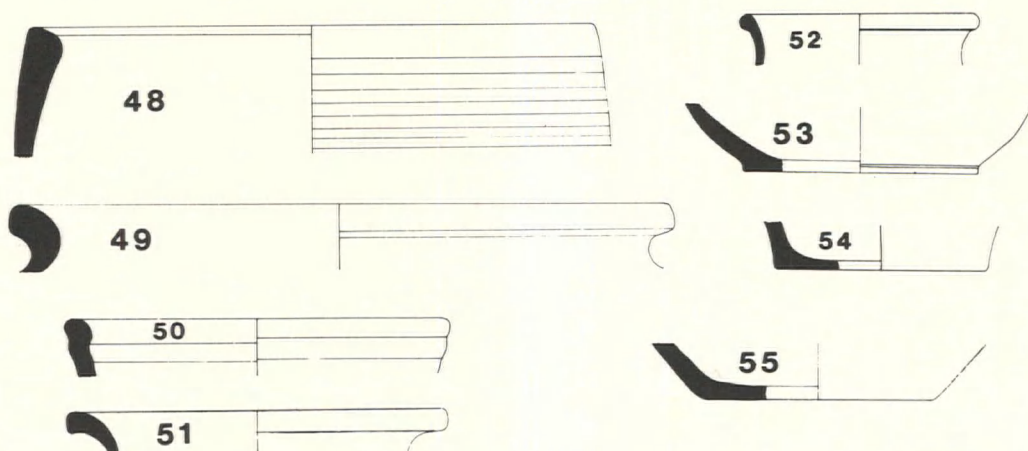


Fig. 11 Pottery from Ditch F (48 to 55) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

Group 5 (Fig 13 and 14)

From the primary fill of ditch C (fig 1)

66. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark orange to brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey. External decoration: horizontal grooving.
67. Small pot with flanged rim, wheel thrown, internal grooving for lid, small to large shell some small grits. Exterior: medium orange very worn. Interior: as exterior except outer rim, orange to brown. Break: medium grey.
68. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, small grits. Exterior: light grey with light orange slip coating. Interior: medium orange, slip. Break: medium grey.
69. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, some small shell. Exterior: black, slip coated light buff to grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: black. External decoration: horizontal ridge and vertical combing. Soapy finish.
70. Girth beaker, wheel thrown. Exterior: orange to brown slightly discoloured black. Interior: orange to brown. Break: dark grey. Similar types found at Verulamium, 163, fig 15, and Hardingstone, 70, fig 12.
71. Slight, everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, hole punched below rim, some small shell. Exterior: medium brown. Interior: medium orange. Break: dark grey.
72. Bowl with everted rim, wheel thrown, small to medium shell, some small flints. Exterior: orange to light brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey. External decoration: horizontal grooving on rim.
73. Storage jar, wheel thrown, small to large shell and grits. Exterior: light brown. Interior: medium to dark brown, traces of burning. Break: grey.
74. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, some shell and grits. Exterior: dark buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: light orange. External decoration: raised horizontal band. Wheathampstead.
75. Storage jar, wheel thrown, everted rim, many small to large grits, slight burnishing on rim. Exterior: buff to orange, rough finish. Interior: as exterior but well worn. Break: dark grey.
76. Everted rimmed cooking pot, wheel thrown, small grits. Exterior: dark buff heavily pitted. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey to black. Pot shows signs of weathering by water.
77. Small bowl with everted rim, wheel thrown. Exterior: light grey, sandy finish. Interior: light grey, traces of slip. Uneven finish to the rim. Break: medium grey.
78. Base of a storage jar, wheel thrown, small to medium shell some grits. Exterior: orange to brown uneven surface. Interior: medium orange, badly worn. Break: orange to grey.
79. Base of bowl, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: medium to dark brown, traces of burning. Interior: medium to dark orange, rough finish. Break: medium to dark orange.
80. Base (bowl), wheel thrown. Exterior: burn-

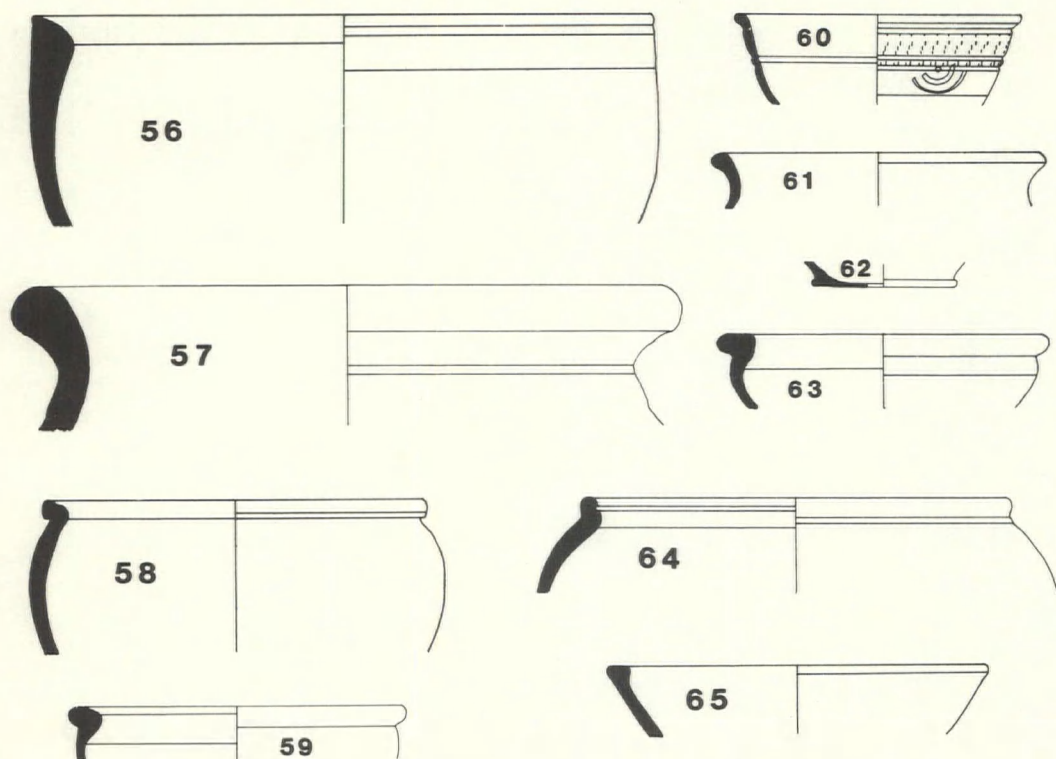


Fig. 12 Pottery from Ditch A (56 to 65) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

ished buff brown, some medium shell. Interior: as exterior, not burnished. Break: mid grey.

81. Slightly rounded rim with double grooving on top side, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: medium orange heavily discoloured. Interior: medium orange. Break: as interior. External decoration: horizontal combing. Brixworth, 76-77.
82. Everted rimmed bowl, slip coated. Exterior: light to buff, brown slip, medium shell. Interior: as exterior but worn. Break: dark grey, possible weathering by running water.
83. Wheel thrown small bowl, recess rim for lid, small to medium shell. Exterior: heavily burnt black; decoration: horizontal faint line running around pot. Interior: medium orange, heavy burning; decoration: fingertip impression running horizontally around. Break: mid to dark grey.
84. Cooking pot, rounded rim with double grooving on top side, small to medium shell, wheel thrown. Exterior: light orange discoloured black. Interior: medium orange.

Break: as interior. External decoration: horizontal combing. Brixworth, 76-77.

85. Large cooking bowl, internal ledge for lid, wheel thrown, much small and large shell. Exterior: orange-buff, traces of burning, uneven rim. Interior: as exterior but well chipped and worn. Break: light mid grey.
86. Small cooking bowl, internal ledge for lid, wheel thrown, small and large shell. Exterior: dark grey, traces of burning. Interior: light brown, rough finish. Break: light grey.
87. Straight sided, flat topped dish, slight indentation at top of rim, small to medium shell, some small grit. Exterior: medium brown, heavily burnt. Interior: orange to medium brown. Break: dark grey, wheel thrown.
88. Small bowl, internal ledge for lid, wheel thrown, small and large grit, some shell, uneven rim. Exterior: light-dark grey, one horizontal groove. Interior: covered with buff slip. Break: dark grey.
89. Small bowl, slightly flared rim with recessing for lid, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: mid orange, decoration; faint line

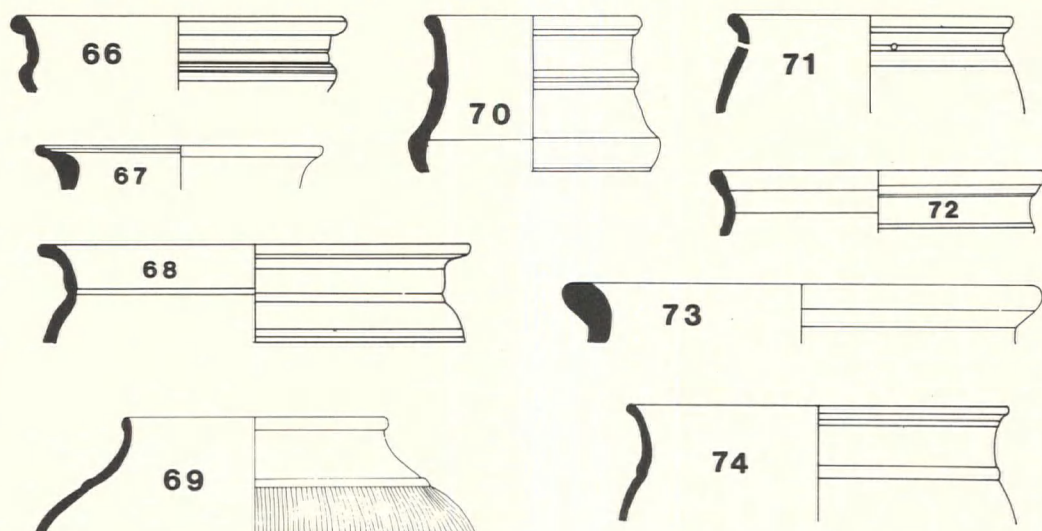


Fig. 13 Pottery from Ditch C (66 to 74) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

running horizontally. Interior: mid orange. Break: mid grey.

90. Small bowl, wheel thrown, internal groove on rim, small to medium shell. Exterior: dark to medium shell, traces of burning. Interior: medium orange. Break: dark grey, uneven rim.
91. Small bowl with recess rim for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: heavily burnt dark grey to black. Interior: slip coated light orange to buff. Break: medium grey.

Group 6 (Fig. 15)

Trench I Occupation layer over clay floor

92. Rounded bowl, 'T' shaped rim, wheel thrown, small shell, small to medium grits. Exterior: dark grey discoloured. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
93. Rim wine or oil flagon, stoneware, fine coarse sand, wheel thrown. Exterior: light buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior.
94. Flat topped pinched out rim, wheel thrown, some small shell. Exterior: heavily discoloured black. Interior: medium buff. Break: light medium brown.
95. Dish slightly rounded rim, straight sided, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey.
96. Flat rimmed cooking pot, wheel thrown, small to medium shell, some medium chalk. Exterior: discoloured black. Interior: dark buff, discoloured black. Break: dark buff, grey. External decoration: horizontal combing.
97. Bowl, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: buff orange. Interior: heavily discoloured black. Break: dark grey. Brixworth. Exterior: buff orange. Interior: heavily discoloured black. Break: dark grey. Brixworth 68, no. 129.
98. Straight sided, flat topped, rimmed bowl, hand-made, small shell. Exterior: dark orange discolouration. Interior: medium orange. Break: dark grey. External decoration: vertical combing.
99. Rounded rimmed platter, greyware, small grits, fine sand, wheel thrown. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior.
100. Pedestal base, base of pedestal burial urn, pre-conquest, small grits, wheel thrown and turned. Exterior: mid-dark brown under side, mid dark brown discoloured black. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey-black.
101. Everted rimmed bowl, horizontal groove on outer edge of rim, wheel thrown. Exterior: mid brown discoloured black. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium brown.
102. Bowl with wide horizontal kneaded rim, similar to mortarium, stoneware high fired, many fine grits, wheel thrown. Interior: as exterior, light buff. Break: medium buff.
103. Base of large storage jar, small to large shell,

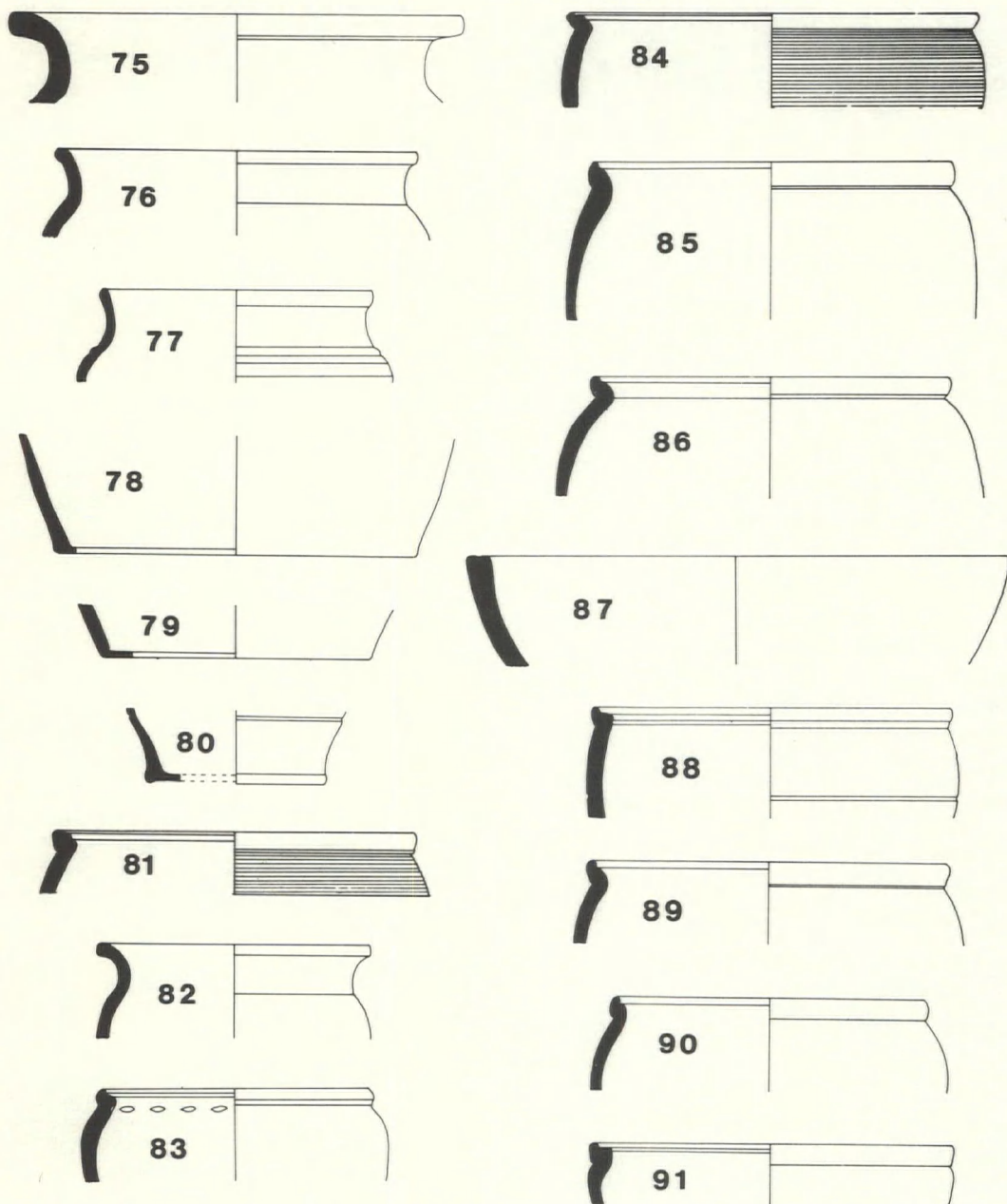


Fig.14 Pottery from Ditch C (75 to 91) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

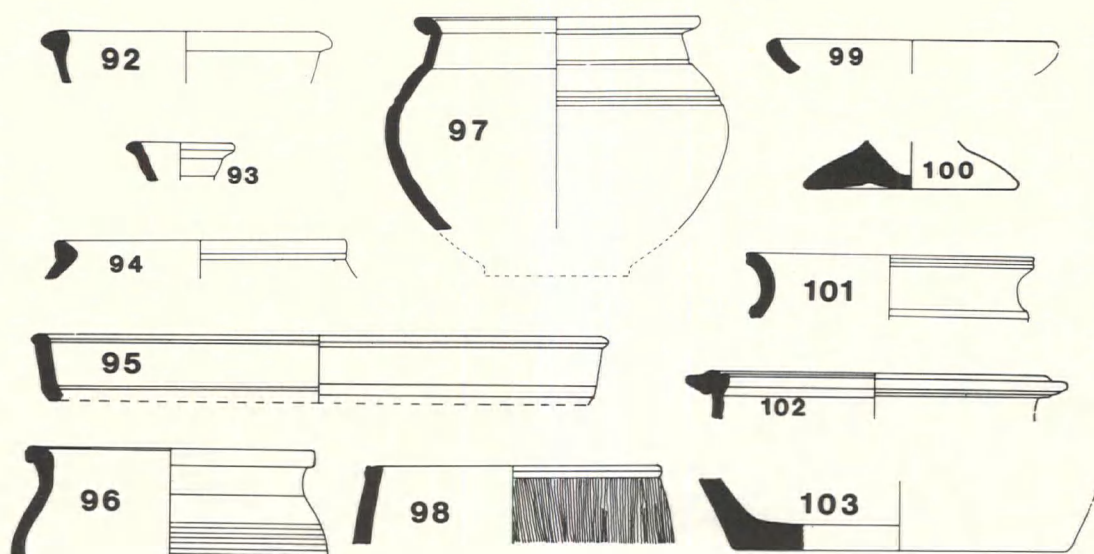


Fig.15 Pottery from Trench 1. Occupation layers over clay (92 to 103) (Scale ¼)

some large flints, wheel thrown. Exterior: medium brown heavily discoloured black. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.

Group 7 (Fig 16)

Trench 3 Occupation layer over cobbled floor

104. Base with footring, greyware, wheel thrown and turned, sandy finish. Exterior: light grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior.
105. Small bowl with recess for lid, wheel thrown, small shell. Exterior: dark brown, Interior: medium orange. Break: medium grey.
106. Rounded rimmed jar, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: medium buff. Interior: light buff. Break: medium grey.
107. Bowl with half 'T' rim, greyware, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey.
108. Body sherd, wheel thrown, blue mottled ware. Exterior: blue grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey.
109. Small bowl, half bead rim, wheel thrown, some small grits. Exterior: medium buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior.
110. Rounded half 'T' rim bowl, sandy finish, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: medium grey. Break: mid brown.
111. Body sherd, wheel thrown, small shell. Exterior: medium buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
112. Footringed base, wheel thrown and turned, small to medium shell. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: medium buff. Break: medium grey.
113. Cooking pot with recess for lid, wheel thrown, medium shell. Exterior: medium buff. Interior: light buff/orange. Break: grey/orange.
114. Large storage jar with everted rim, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: buff/brown. Interior: medium brown. Break: medium grey.
115. Rim to flagon?, stoneware, sandy finish, some small grit. wheel thrown. Exterior: off white. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior.
116. Small bowl with half 'T' rounded rim greyware, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior.
117. Bead rimmed pot, wheel thrown, sandy finish some small shell. Exterior: medium brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: grey.
118. Flared rimmed pot, wheel thrown, small shell. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: medium buff/orange. Break: medium grey.
119. Small half rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, some small grit. Exterior: medium orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey.
120. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: medium buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.

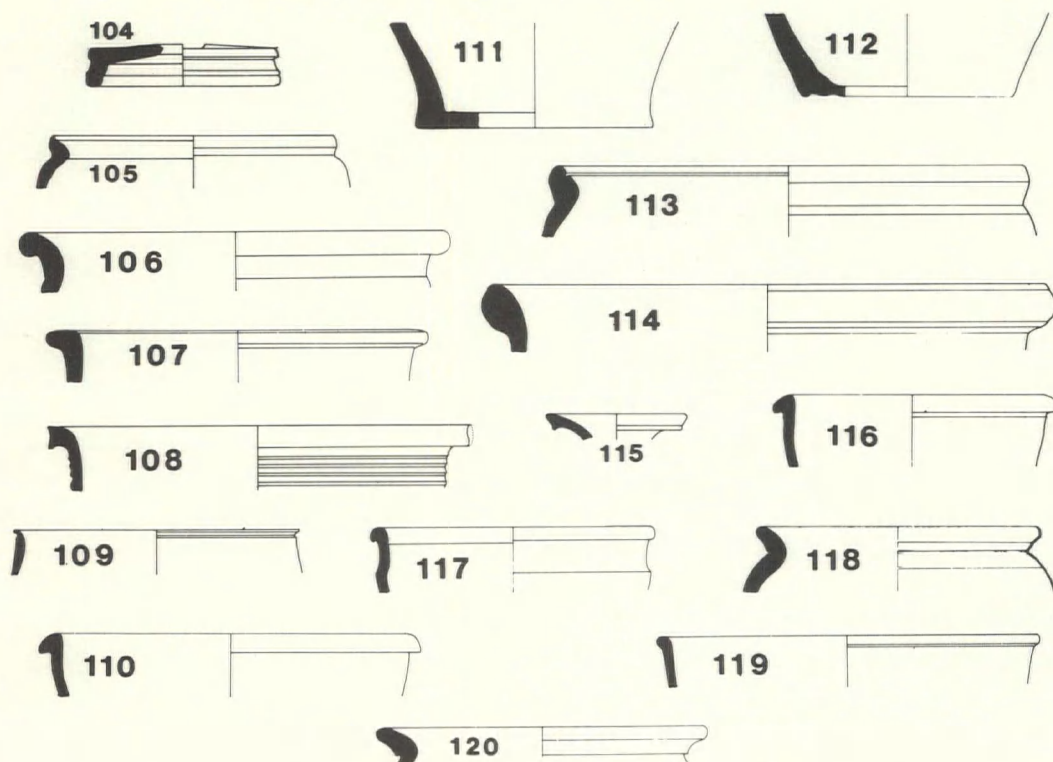


Fig.16 Pottery from Trench 3. Occupation layers over cobbles floor (104 to 120) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

Group 8 (Fig 17)

Trench 4; 121-127 from the ditches, 128-137 from occupation layer over ditch T1 and T2

121. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, some small shell. Exterior: dark orange. Interior: as exterior but pitted. Break: grey.
122. Everted rimmed pot, greyware, wheel thrown. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: as exterior.
123. Pot with recess for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: dark orange. Break: medium brown/orange.
124. Everted rimmed pot with recess for lid, wheel thrown. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: dark brown. Break: brown/grey, small to medium shell.
125. Bead rimmed cooking pot, wheel-thrown some shell, sandy finish. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: medium grey. Break: light grey. External decoration: horizontal grooving.
126. Rimmed base, wheel thrown, greyware with orange slip. Exterior: medium orange.

Interior: light grey. Break: light grey.

127. Shallow bowl or dish, flat rim, ringed bottom, wheel thrown and turned, sandy finish. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: medium grey. Break: light grey.
128. Large storage jar, wheel thrown, large grits. Exterior: dark grey, burnt black, heavily pitted. Interior: burnt black. Break: mid grey.
129. Bead rim with recess for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: dark brown discoloured. Interior: dark buff. Break: dark brown.
130. Small pot, wheel thrown, small shell with some grit, everted rim with slight recess for lid. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: buff/brown. Break: mid buff.
131. Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown small shell. Exterior: buff to grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
132. Small platter or dish, wheel thrown, hand finished, small to medium flint and grit, sandy finish. Exterior: medium to dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: mid grey.
133. Cooking pot with lid recess, wheel thrown,

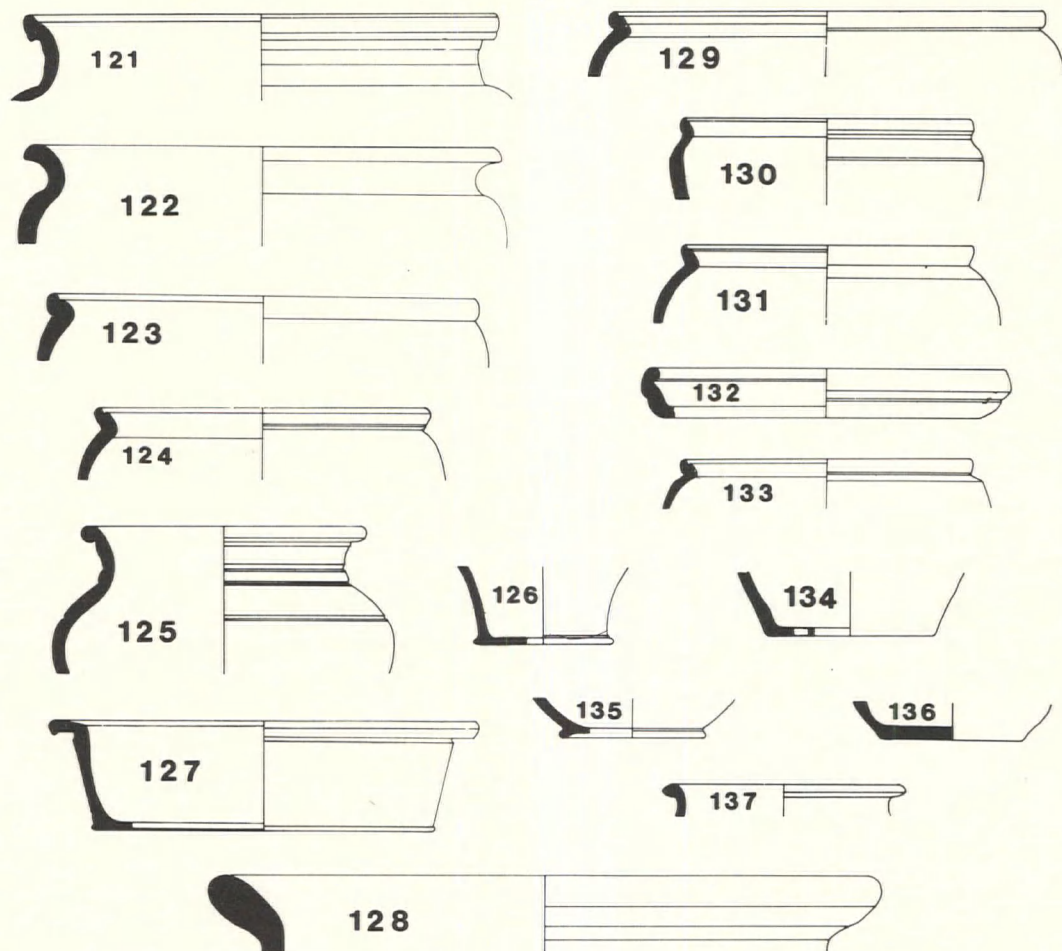


Fig 17 Pottery from Trench 4. (121 to 137) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

small shell. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: dark orange. Break: mid grey.

134. Flat pot base, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: light to mid buff. Break: light buff.
135. Ringed base, wheel thrown and turned, small shell and grit, sandy finish. Exterior: dark brown discoloured black. Interior: dark buff to brown. Break: dark grey/black.
136. Slightly ridged base, wheel thrown, small shell sandy finish. Exterior: dark buff. Interior: dark orange. Break: black.
137. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, small grits, sandy finish. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: mid grey.

Group 9 (Fig 18 and 19)

From trenches 6 and 16. 138-143 from disturbance, 144-155 from occupation over ditch cut, 156-166 from ditch H associated with burning.

138. Flanged bowl with recessing in rim for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: heavily discoloured black. Interior: orange to dark brown, traces of burning. Break: dark brown. Heavy shell content decoration.
139. Everted rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, burnishing on exterior, small to medium shell. Exterior: mid brown. Interior: as exterior but traces of burning. Break: mid brown.

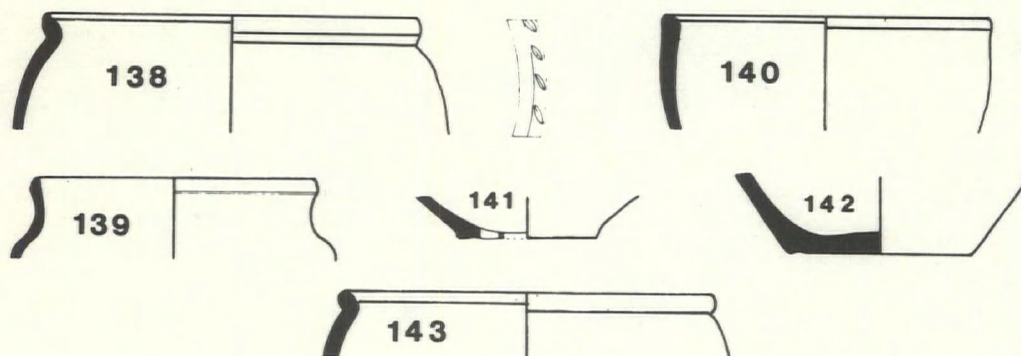


Fig 18 Pottery from Trench 6 and 16. (138 to 143) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

140. Straight sided bowl, slightly rounded rim, wheel thrown. Exterior: heavily burnt dark brown to black. Interior: deep orange to brown. Break: mid grey. Some large shell and grit.
141. Base bowl or strainer, wheel thrown, some small grit. Exterior: dark grey to black. Interior: mid orange to brown. Break: light grey.
142. Everted rimmed cooking pot, slow wheel, possibly hand-made. Small to large grit, some shell. Exterior: medium to dark brown, traces of burning. Interior: medium orange. Break: mid grey.
143. Bead rimmed bowl, slight recessing on rim, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey.
144. Large storage jar, wheel thrown, medium to large shell, small grit. Exterior: mid orange. Interior: as exterior but pitted. Break: light grey.
145. Small everted bowl recess for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: heavily burnt black. Interior: mid brown. Break: mid brown.
146. Straight-sided, flat topped, large jar, small to large shell, wheel thrown. Exterior: light orange, medium brown. Interior: medium orange. Break: mid brown.
147. Small everted rimmed bowl, wheel thrown. Exterior: mid brown, heavily burnt black. Interior: mid orange-brown. Break: dark grey. External decoration: horizontal ridging and grooves.
148. Straight sided, flat rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: dark brown, heavily discoloured. Interior: light to dark brown. Break: as interior. Heavy shell content. External decoration: slashing on rim, slight indentation on rim, deep horizontal groove under rim. Verulamium 166. fig 21.
149. Base, large storage jar, small to large shell and some small grits, wheel thrown. Exterior: mid orange. Interior: slip coated mid buff. Break: dark grey.
150. Straight sided, flat topped narrow bowl, wheel thrown, small to large shell, some large flints. Exterior: heavily discoloured brown to black. Interior: mid brown. Break: dark brown. External decoration: horizontal and vertical combing, slashing on rim.
151. Small everted rimmed bowl, small to medium shell, wheel thrown. Exterior: mid brown. Interior: mid brown-black. Break: light grey.
152. Platter, shallow, inverted rim, small shell, sandy finish. Exterior: buff-orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey. Internal decoration: vertical grooving.
153. Small bowl, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: mid orange. Interior: as exterior except heavily pitted. Break: light to medium grey. External decoration: horizontal ridging and grooving. Wheathampstead. 159. fig 14.
154. Ridged base, inside of base raised at centre, wheel thrown and turned to finish, sandy finish. Exterior: red-orange, discoloured grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey.
155. Straight sided bowl, slight recess on rim, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: heavily burnt black. Interior: dark brown. Break: dark brown. Heavy shell content.
156. Large everted rimmed storage jar, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior:

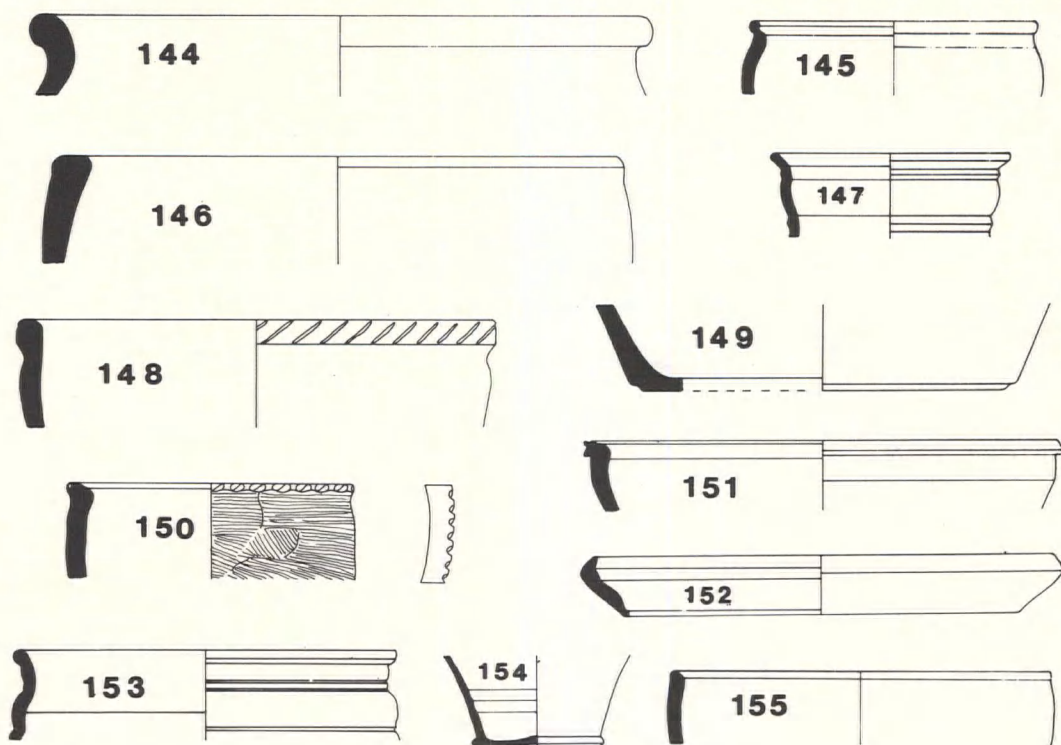


Fig.19 Pottery from occupation layer over Ditch H (144 to 155) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

- dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
157. Body sherd, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: light to dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey. Wheathampstead, 161, fig 15; Hardingstone, 70, fig 12.
158. Bead rim, wheel thrown and turned, small to large shell. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey. Wheathampstead, 161, fig 15.
159. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
160. Bowl with rounded rim, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: black. Interior: dark brown. Break: dark grey.
161. Flat rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: brown/grey heavy in shell.
162. Flat rimmed cooking pot, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: buff/brown. Break: buff/grey.
163. Small pot with recessed rim for lid, wheel thrown, small shell. Exterior: medium brown. Interior: dark brown. Break: mid grey.
164. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, slightly rounded rim. Exterior: dark buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
165. In-turned rim, flat topped, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: medium orange. Break: as interior.
166. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, small grit, sandy finish. Exterior: dark buff. Interior: medium buff. Break: light grey.
- Group 10 (Fig. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25)**
- From trench 7, 167-173 from occupation over ditch. 174-228 from ditch H.
167. Storage jar, rounded rim, hand made, small to large shell, some grit. Exterior: medium-dark orange. Interior: dark orange discoloured. Break: dark grey.
168. Shallow platter, wheel thrown, small-medium shell, slightly burnished. Exterior: dark brown, patches of burning. Interior: as exterior but heavy burning. Break: dark grey. Wheathampstead, 155, Fig. 12.
169. Slightly everted rim, wheel thrown, small to

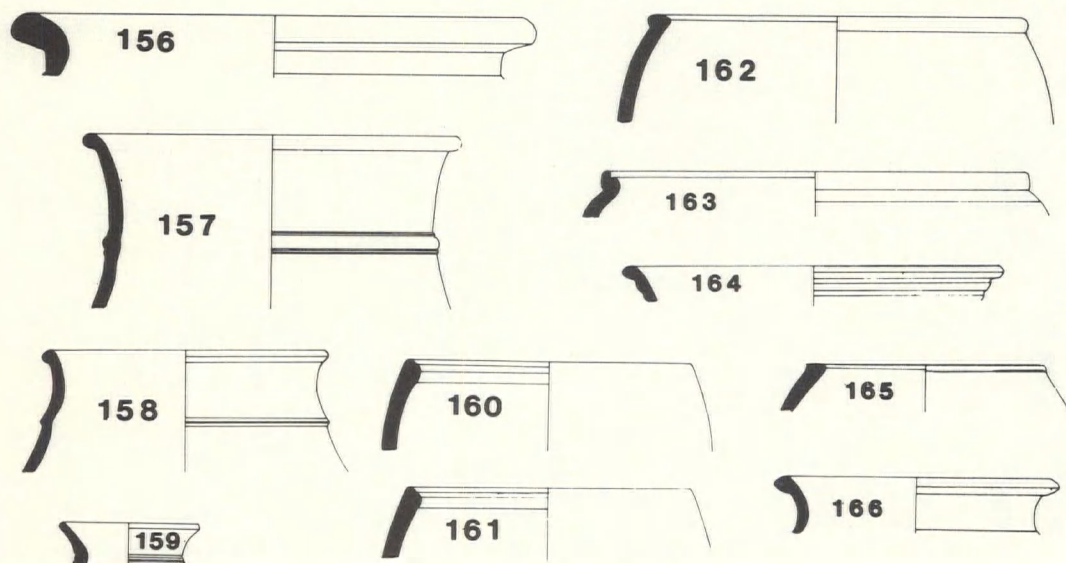


Fig 20 Pottery from ditch H (156 to 166), associated with burning and sealing burial (Pl. 1c)
(Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

- medium shell, some grits. Exterior: buff/brown, traces of burning. Interior: buff orange, very rough. Break: buff-medium grey.
170. Small pot slightly everted rim, wheel thrown, fine to small grit. Exterior: orange-buff discoloured. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium orange to grey.
171. Recessed and bead rimmed pot, small shell. Exterior: dark grey, black burnished. Interior: dark grey-black. Break: dark grey.
172. Cooking pot with recessed lid, wheel thrown, possible waster. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: dark orange discoloured. Break: dark grey burnt.
173. Large bowl, small grit, some large flint, wheel thrown, rounded rim with recess for lid. Exterior: light medium buff with patches of discolouration. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
174. Large shallow bowl, wheel thrown, medium-large flints. Exterior: buff orange to light grey. Interior: buff/orange. Break: buff/orange to dark grey.
176. Bowl, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: heavily discoloured buff/black. Interior: as exterior. Break: light to dark grey, possible waster.
177. Shallow bowl, hand-made, some small/medium shell. Exterior: buff/orange, some discolouration. Interior: as exterior. Break: buff/orange-medium grey.
178. Large bowl with slight recessing for lid, wheel thrown. Exterior: orange brown discoloured black. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey, small to medium shell.
179. Shallow platter, wheel thrown and turned, burnished interior and exterior. Exterior: medium brown discoloured dark brown-black. Interior: as exterior. Break: light-medium grey.
180. Girth beaker (orange brown ware), wheel thrown, hand finished, buff with traces of orange paint. Exterior: buff/orange, fine vertical zig-zag pattern running round pot between raised bands. Interior: buff/orange. Break: light medium grey. Wheathampstead, 159, Fig 14.
181. Everted rimmed cooking pot, wheel thrown, small medium shell, some flint. Exterior: medium brown discoloured black. Interior: heavily discoloured burnt black pitted. Break: medium grey.
182. Cooking pot with recessed rim for lid, wheel thrown, some small shell, possible waster. Exterior: dark orange, slight traces of decoration. Interior: medium orange-light brown, heavily pitted. Break: orange-medium grey.
183. Beaker, bead rimmed with slight recessing inside, wheel thrown, small to medium shell, some small grits. Exterior: dark brown with traces of burning. Interior: as exterior. Break: orange-medium grey.

184. Pedestal urn, wheel thrown, sandy finish no base. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: as exterior but pitted, some small grit. Wheathampstead, 163, Fig 16; Northampton Museum have examples from Hunsbury.
185. Small girth beaker (cup), wheel thrown, some very fine shell. Exterior: medium buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
186. Slightly everted rimmed pot, small shell, wheel thrown, small butt beaker. Exterior: buff/orange, rough finish. Interior: light buff/brown. Break: dark grey.
187. Small pot (cup), wheel thrown. Exterior: medium brown, burnt. Interior: as exterior. Break: grey. Small to medium shell.
188. Small bowl, rounded lip, medium brown, wheel thrown. Break: medium grey.
189. Small pot recessed rim, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: medium brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: buff/grey.
190. Cooking pot waster, wheel thrown, slashed rim recessed for lid. Exterior: brown black. Interior: as exterior. Break: burnt brown.
191. Cooking pot with recessed rim, wheel thrown small to medium shell. Exterior: buff orange, burnt. Interior: buff orange. Break: medium grey.
192. Small recessed pot, wheel thrown, very rough, small to medium shell. Burnt to light brown.
193. Cooking pot with recessed rim, slashing on rim, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: brown/burnt black. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
194. Base?, wheel thrown, very fine, some shell. Exterior: dark red orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey. Grooved rim.
195. Small recessed pot, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Dark buff/orange.
196. Small beaker rounded rim, wheel thrown, small to medium grit and shell. Exterior: medium brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: grey.
197. Small everted rim bowl, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: medium brown. Break: brown. External decoration: horizontal lines.
198. Recessed pot, wheel thrown, large to medium shell. Exterior: burnt brown. Interior: mid orange. Break: medium grey.
199. Recessed pot, combing on side, medium shell. Exterior: burnt brown. Interior: burnt orange. Break: same as exterior. Verulamium 1, fig 100. 44.
200. Recessed pot, wheel thrown, hand finished, small to medium shell. Exterior: burnt light orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: light to medium grey.
201. Small recessed pot, with slashed rim, wheel thrown, medium to large shell. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: mid orange. Break: dark grey.
202. Recessed rimmed cooking pot, wheel thrown, small to large shell. Exterior: burnt to medium brown/orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
203. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, sandy finish, small to medium grit. Exterior: buff/orange. Interior: light grey, very rough. Break: medium grey.
204. Storage jar, wheel thrown, hand finished, medium to large shell. Exterior: orange. Interior: as exterior but pitted. Break: medium orange. Verulamium, 150, plate 51.
205. Base, wheel thrown, medium shell, some grit. Exterior: burnt brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey/black.
206. Base, wheel thrown, some small shell, badly pitted. Exterior: medium grey to buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
207. Base, wheel thrown and turned, small shell. Exterior: buff to orange. Break: light grey.
208. Small bead rimmed pot, wheel thrown, small to medium shell, some flints, sandy finish. Exterior: burnt buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
209. Small dish, very small shell, slip coated, wheel thrown, finished by hand, clipped rim all round. Exterior: buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
210. Everted rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, fine grits. Exterior: dark orange. Interior: as exterior, some burning. Break: dark grey.
211. Recessed pot, possible waster, wheel thrown, hand finished, horizontal lines on exterior. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: light orange. Break: medium grey.
212. Small girth beaker (cup), wheel thrown. Exterior: buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey, some small shell.
213. Large dish, wheel thrown, some shell. Exterior: burnt orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
214. Straight rimmed pot, wheel thrown, heavy in large shell. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: dark orange. Break: dark grey to orange.
215. Small everted rimmed pot, some small shell, wheel thrown. Exterior: medium brown.

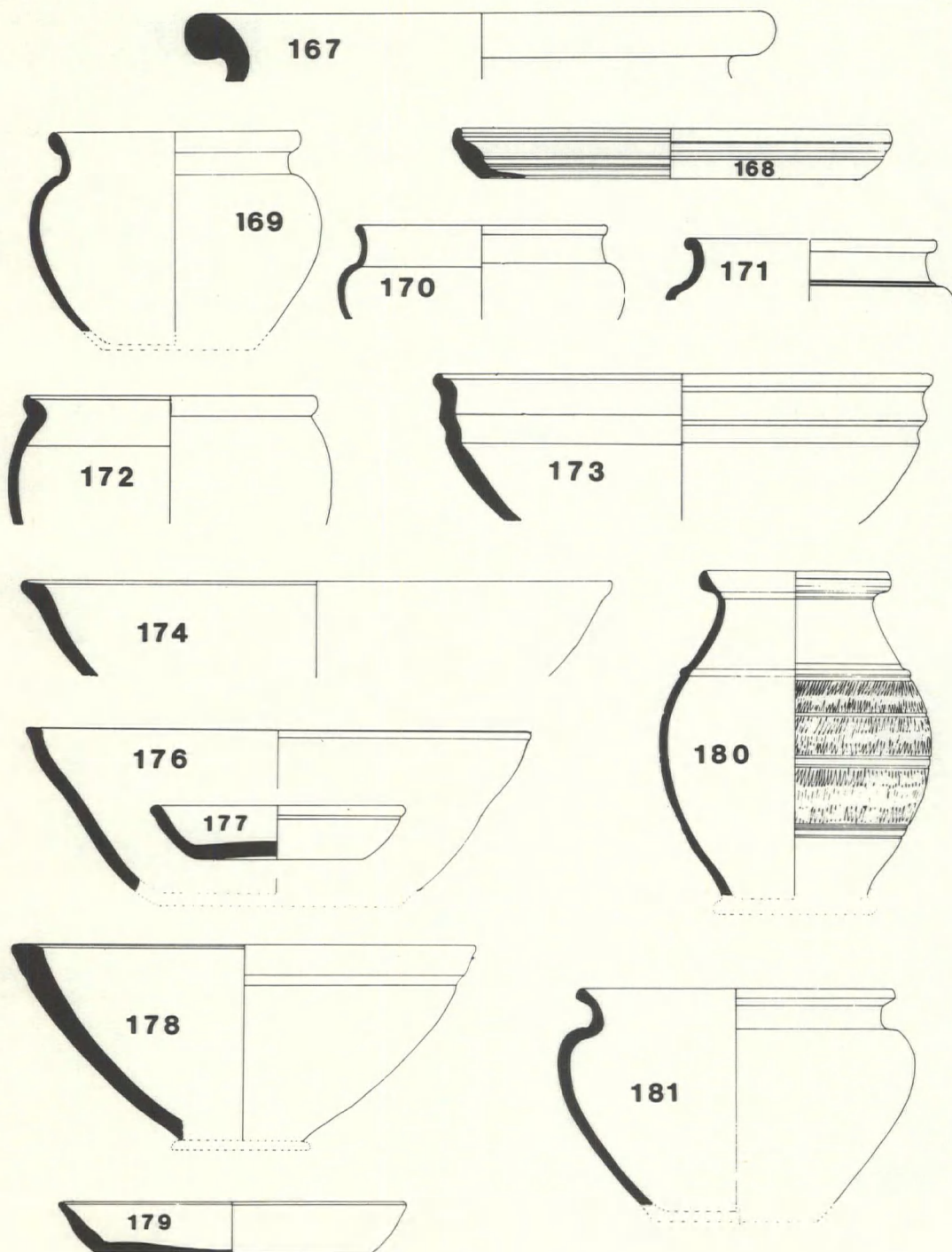


Fig 21 Pottery from Trench 7, (167 to 173) from occupation over ditch H. Pottery from ditch H associated with burial (174 to 181) (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

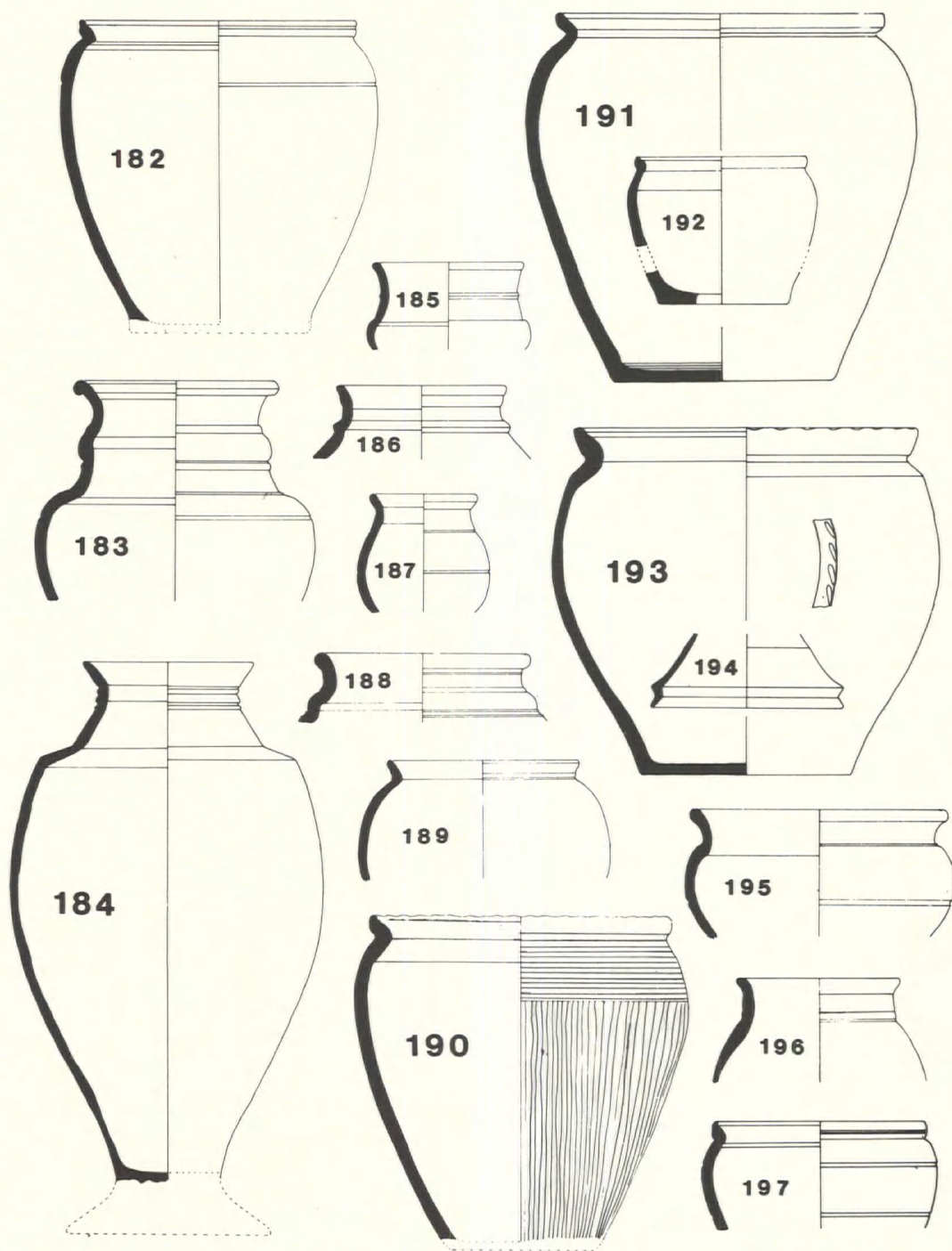


Fig 22 Pottery from ditch H (182 to 197). (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

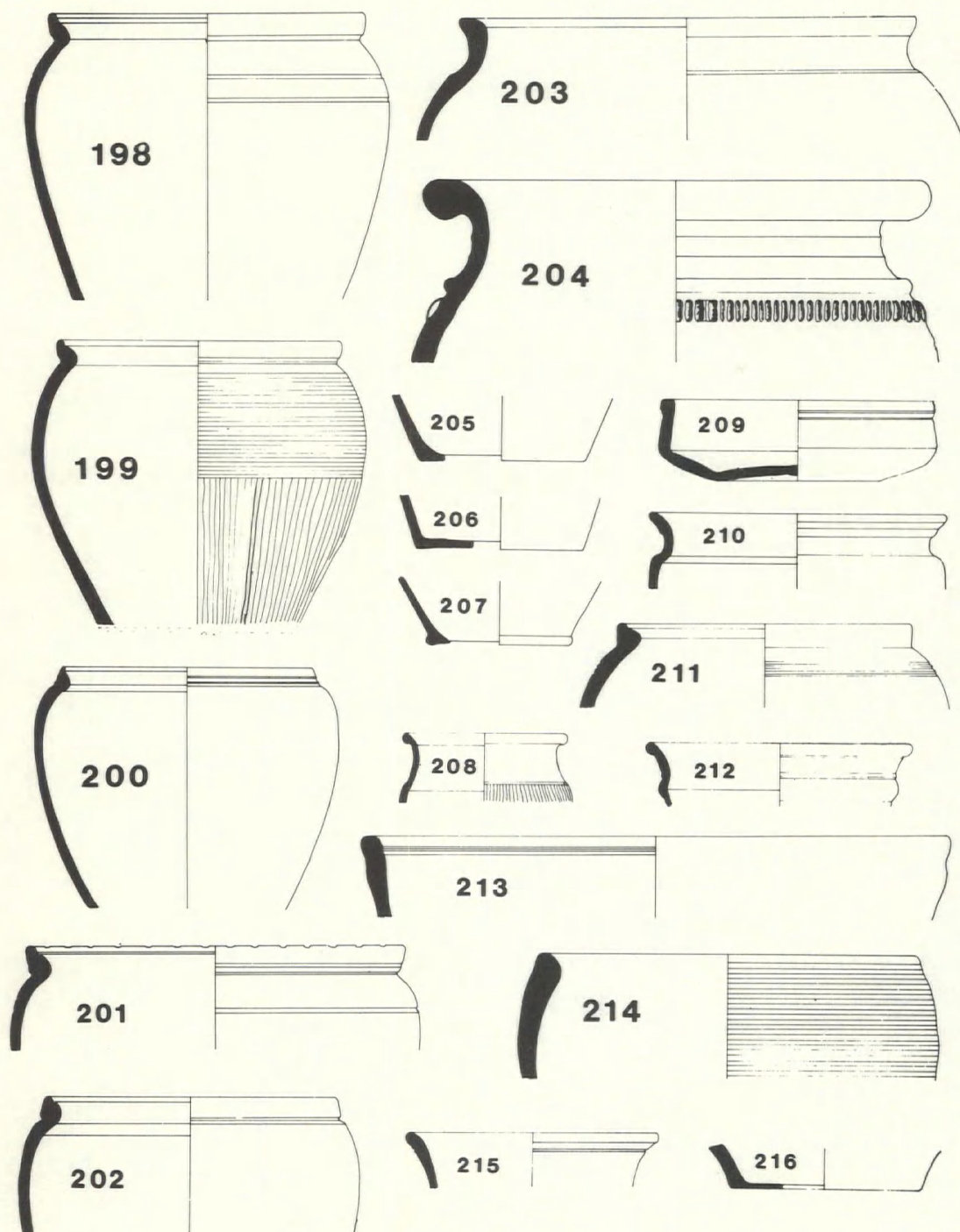


Fig 23 Pottery from ditch H (198 to 216). (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

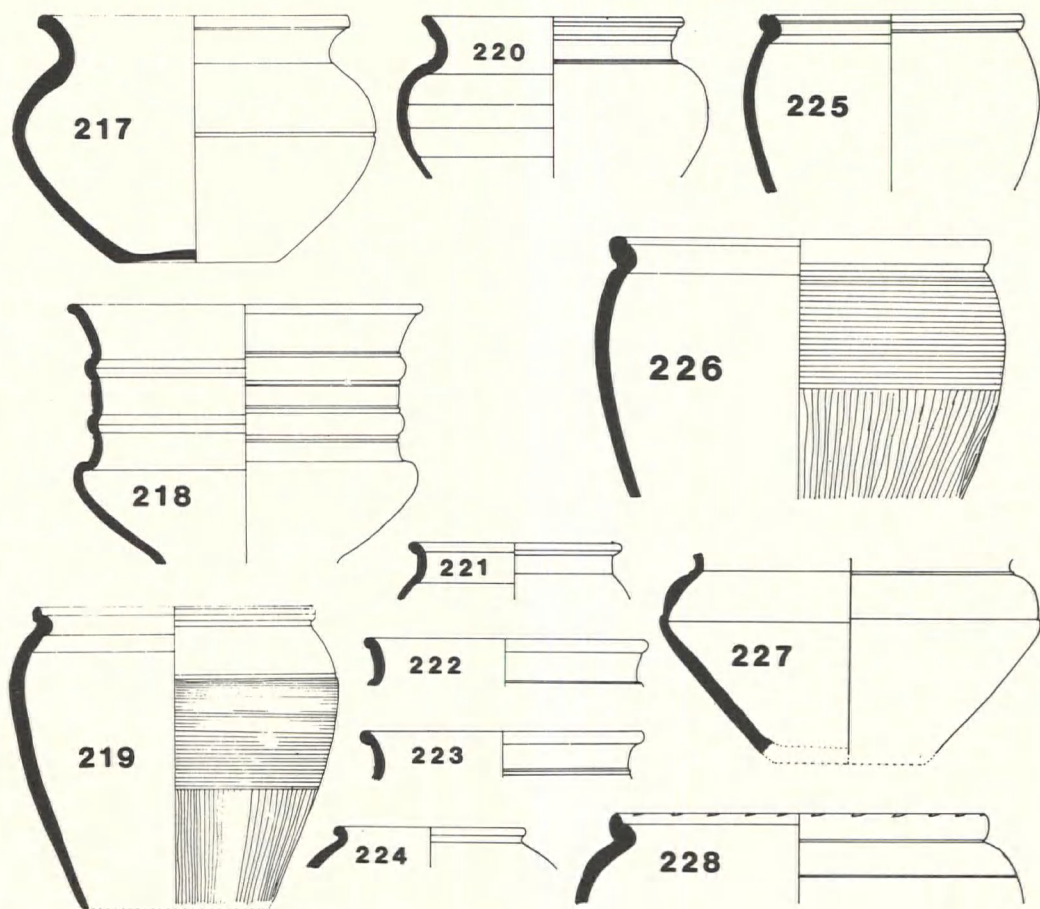


Fig 24 Pottery from ditch H (217 to 228). (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

- Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
216. Base, wheel thrown, some medium shell. Burnt black to medium red.
217. Everted rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, some shell. Exterior: medium grey, slip coated. Interior: pitted, light grey. Break: dark grey.
218. Girth beaker, wheel thrown, small shell. Exterior: medium orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey. Very finely finished pot, showing high standard of workmanship. Wheathampstead, 163, fig 15.
219. Cooking pot, recessed for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: dark brown with vertical combing. Interior: buff orange. Break: medium grey.
220. Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, small shell. Burnished on exterior. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: orange to brown. Break: light grey.
221. Half bead everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown. Exterior: medium buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey.
222. Everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, some small grits. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey, burnished on interior and exterior.
223. Half bead rimmed pot, wheel thrown, some small grits. Exterior: light buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
224. Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, grey-ware, sandy finish. Break: light grey.
225. Small recessed pot, wheel thrown, some shell. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: buff to brown. Break: medium grey.
226. Recessed cooking pot, slashed rim, medium to large shell. Exterior: brown to black. Interior: burnt orange. Break: medium grey,

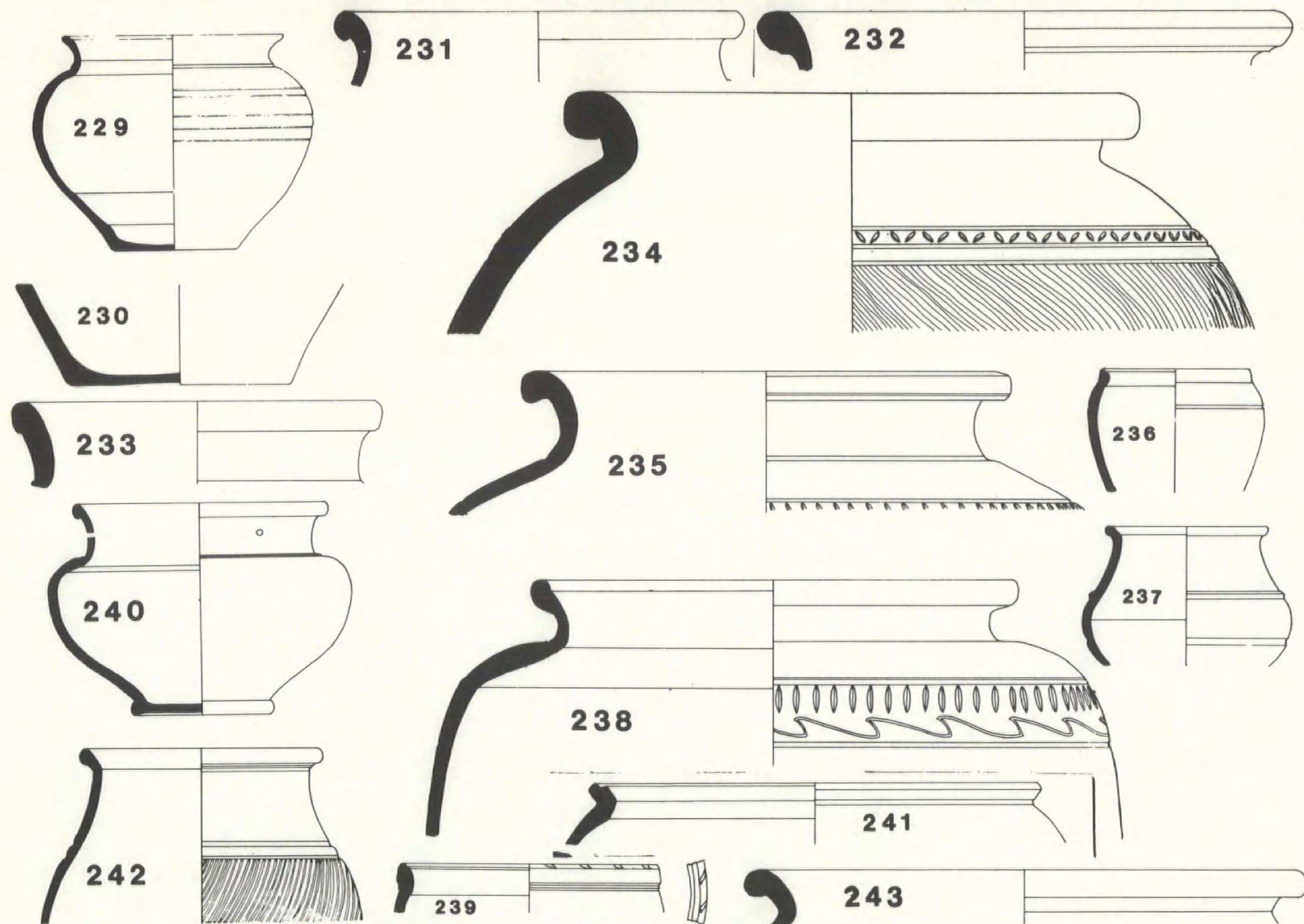


Fig 25 Pottery from Trench 15. Pit cut in bottom of gully (229 to 243). (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

- very heavy in shell.
227. Small bowl no rim, wheel thrown, small grits. Exterior: buff-red. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
228. Recessed rimmed cooking pot, slashing on rim, wheel thrown, medium to large shell. Exterior: burnt to medium orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.

Group 11 (Fig 25)

From Trench 15. Pit cut into bottom of gully.

- 229 Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, buff/grey ware, small to medium shell.
- 230 Base, wheel thrown, small to medium shell, some grits, sandy finish on exterior. Exterior: burnt buff/grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
- 231 Small storage jar, wheel thrown, very poor finish, medium to large shell. Exterior: buff to orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
- 232 Large storage jar, slow wheel thrown, small to large shell, some grits. Exterior: medium red to buff. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
- 233 Large storage pot, wheel thrown, heavy in medium shell and flints. Exterior: buff/grey very rough finish. Interior: as exterior. Break: dark grey.
- 234 Large storage urn, hand made. Exterior: medium orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey. External decoration: 'V' pattern horizontal lines. Wheathampstead, 150, plate 51.
- 235 Large storage jar, wheel thrown and turned, some large and small shell. Exterior: buff/brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey. External decoration: pattern grooved with cuts. Wheathampstead, 151, fig 9.
- 236 Small pot recessed for lid, wheel thrown and turned, heavy in shell. Exterior: buff to orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
- 237 Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown. Exterior: dark brown. Interior: as exterior. Some small grits. Break: medium grey.
- 238 Large storage, wheel thrown and turned, small to large shell and stone. Exterior: buff to light brown. Interior: as exterior. External pattern: groove with wavy lines. Wheathampstead, 150, plate 51. Verulamium 1, fig 105:200.

- 239 Recessed pot, wheel thrown, some small shell and grits. Exterior: dark grey to brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
- 240 Small cup, wheel thrown, some small shell, everted rim. Exterior: brown/grey slip coated. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
- 241 Large flared cooking pot with recess for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell, some medium grit. Exterior: buff/orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium to dark grey.
- 242 Butt beaker, wheel thrown, some small shell and grits. Exterior: buff/orange. Interior: as exterior. External decoration: line impression below horizontal bands.
- 243 Storage pot, wheel thrown?, medium to large shell and grits, some large flints. Exterior: medium brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.

Group 12 (Fig 26)

From T19, T20, T26 and 244 to 248 from ditch A.

- 244 Storage pot, wheel thrown, heavy in medium shell and grits, some large flints. Exterior: blue/grey. Interior: black. Break: Black
- 245 Mortarium rim, no stamp, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: buff/white. Interior: as exterior but burnt. Break: buff/white.
- 246 Butt beaker, developed type, wheel thrown and turned, heavy in black grits. Exterior: dark brown, slip coated. Interior: medium brown. Break: grey/black.
- 247 Everted rimmed pot punched below rim, wheel thrown, some small shell. Exterior: medium brown. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium orange.
- 248 Small recessed pot, wheel thrown and hand finished, rim slashed, heavy in shell. Exterior: burnt black. Interior: as exterior. Break: burnt black.
- 249 Mortarium rim, wheel thrown, white stone ware, set with black grits, sandy finish. Break: buff/white.
- 250 Mortarium rim, wheel thrown and turned, sandy finish, no stamp. Exterior: buff/white. Interior: as exterior.
- 251 Mortarium rim, wheel thrown and turned, set with black grits, some large; no stamp. Buff/white burnt in patches. Made at the Mancetter potteries.
- 252 Large cooking pot, wheel thrown, heavy in shell and small grits, well fired to a brick texture. Exterior: medium orange with thro-

wing marks. Interior: as exterior but badly pitted.

- 253 Cooking pot?, wheel thrown, sandy finish, some small grits and medium flints, slightly hollowed top to rim. Blue/grey stone ware. Break: medium grey.
- 254 Small bowl or dish, wheel thrown, flanged rim, sandy finish, some small black stones. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: as exterior.
- 255 Small bowl, wheel thrown and turned, sandy finish, some small shell. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: medium grey. Break: medium grey. External decoration: burnished lines. Brixworth, 59, Fig 11.
- 256 Small bowl, wheel thrown and turned. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: medium grey, some small shell. Break: medium grey. External decoration: burnished lines with half circles. Under-side of rim scored. Several types like this have been found on the site. Possible identification marks. Brixworth, 59, fig 11.
- 257 Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, sandy finish, slight burnishing under rim. Exterior: silver grey finish. Interior: medium grey. Break: light grey.
- 258 Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, sandy finish, burnishing on exterior. Silver grey finish. Break: medium grey.
- 259 Small collared rim pot, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior but with very smooth burnished finish. Break: medium grey.
- 260 Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown. Exterior: red/brown. Interior: medium brown. Break: medium grey.
- 261 Pie dish?, flared rim, wheel thrown and turned, sandy finish, some small grits. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: light grey. Break: medium grey. Brixworth, 58, fig 10.
- 262 Bowl or dish, wheel thrown, sandy finish, cut marks on rim similar to no. 256. Exterior: dark grey. Interior: medium grey. Break: medium grey. Brixworth, 58, fig 10.
- 263 Indented beaker, late first century type, wheel thrown and turned. Exterior: brown lusted. Interior: as exterior, brown slip coated. Break: buff/white. External decoration: scribbled pattern with impression of five pointed star. Caster type. Nene valley fabric.
- 264 Grey ware base, wheel thrown and turned. Exterior: medium grey burnt in patches. Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey. External decoration: burnished criss-cross lines.

Group 13 (Fig 27)

- 265 Water jug, wheel thrown on a slow wheel, hand finished. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior, sandy finish. A form of grey ware. External decoration: horizontal lines and grooves. Brixworth, 79, fig 31.
- 266 Water jug, wheel thrown and turned on a slow wheel, hand finished grey ware, sandy finish. Similar type to no. 265. Brixworth, 79, fig 31.
- 267 Storage jar recessed for lid, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: medium orange. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey/orange.
- 268 Small bowl, wheel thrown, some small to medium shell. Exterior: buff red. Interior: buff slip coated. Break: dark grey.
- 269 Small everted rimmed pot, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: as exterior. Break: medium grey.
- 270 Large storage jar, wheel thrown, small to large shell and grits. Exterior: medium grey, Interior: as exterior. Break: light grey.
- 271 Cooking pot with recessed rim, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: medium to dark buff burnt in patches. Interior: medium buff/grey. Break: medium grey. Brixworth, 75, fig 27.
- 272 Body sherd of a small cup, wheel thrown, sandy finish. Exterior: red with buff slip on bands. Interior: red buff slip. Break: medium red.
- 273 Small flat rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, small to medium shell. Exterior: medium grey. Interior: light grey. Break: medium grey, sandy finish.
- 274 Flat rimmed bowl, wheel thrown, small to medium shell, some grits. Exterior: medium brown. Interior: medium buff. Break: medium buff.
- 275 Shallow bowl, wheel thrown, hand finished. Exterior: medium red coated with dark red slip, line decoration in buff slip. Interior: medium red, buff slip. Break: medium red, very badly fired. Brixworth, 85, fig 37.

THE SMALL FINDS (Fig 28, 29, 30)

- 276 Bronze brooch made out of a single strip, rounded bow with a solid catch plate. Similar to the La Tene III type. Pre-conquest. Found in the base of a shallow gully in Trench 15. Richborough 4, 19, plate 25.
- 277 Trench 3 Part of a bronze brooch. Similar

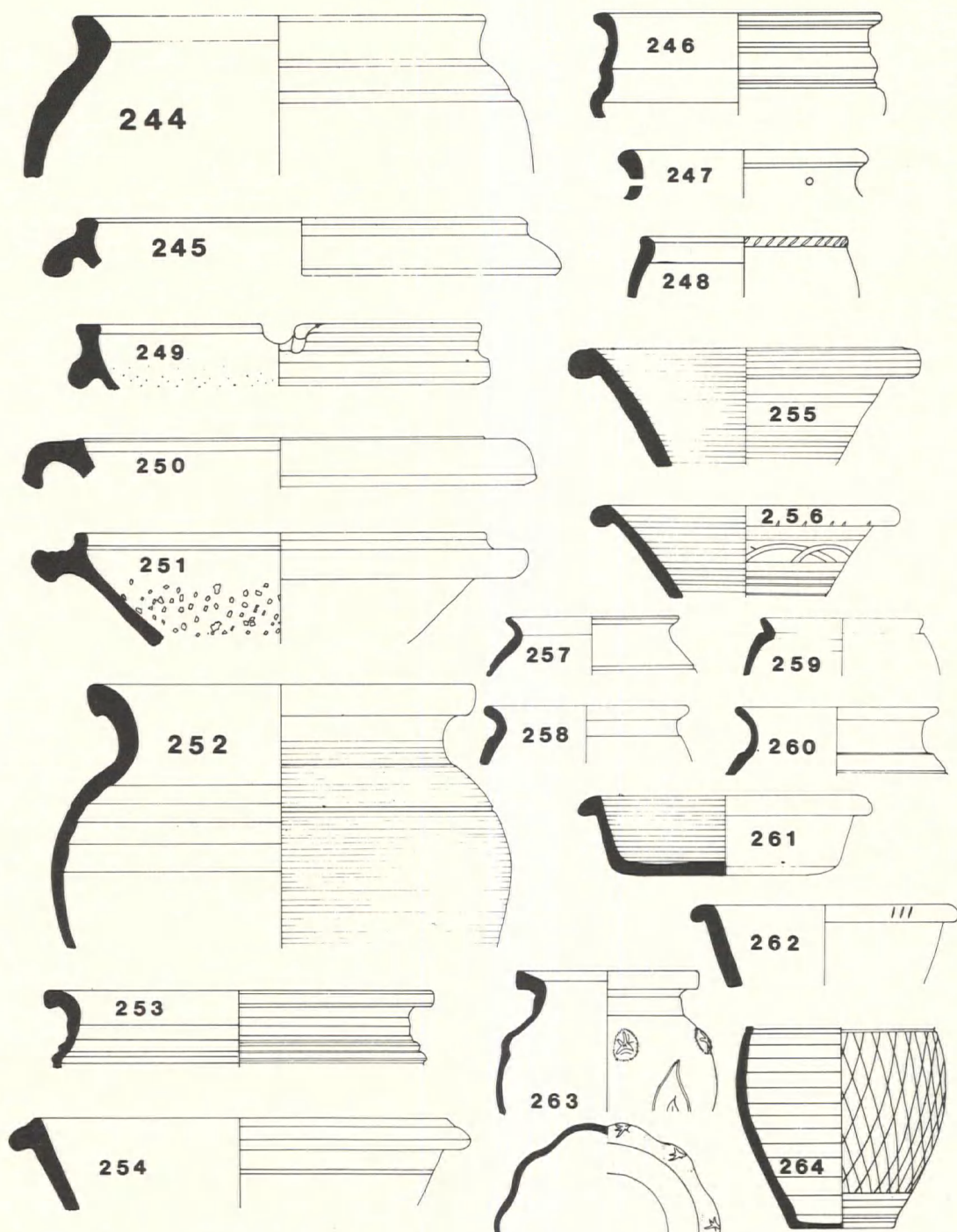


Fig 26 Pottery from ditch A, (244 to 248). Pottery from Trench 19, 20, 26. (249 to 264). (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

- type to 288.
- 278 Trench 3. Bronze brooch with pierced catch plate. Decoration of wavy line down the back of the bow. The spring and catch pin are made out of one piece. Early first century 5-35 A.D. Verulamium, fig 44, 22.
- 279 Trench 9. Part of the spring assembly to a brooch, type unknown.
- 280 Trench 16. Bronze brooch with reeded bow, coiled spring and pierced catch plate. Related to the Langton Down type. First century. Northampton Museum, unpublished. Richborough 4, plate 27, 21. Camulodunum, plate 94, 89.
- 281 Trench 29. Bronze half bow brooch. The bow being split and set each side of an inscribed disc. The disc having a small raised area in the middle to support the top of the bow and spring assembly. Decoration of incised line and circle pattern. Spring, pin and catch assembly missing. Probably a locally made brooch. Pre-conquest date.
- 282 Trench 28. Bronze catch pin from a large brooch. Type unknown.
- 283 Catch pin from a small bronze brooch. Type unknown.
- 284 Trench 29. Bronze bow brooch with pierced catch plate found in charcoal deposit. Spring and pin made from one piece. Jewry Wall fig. 80, 4. Lydney Park fig 12, 13.
- 285 Bronze brooch, bow inscribed with lines and wavy pattern. Pin fixed by means of a swivel, no spring. Found in gravel packing around a kiln stoke hole. Conquest date. Richborough 4, plate 24. Verulamium, fig 43, 14.
- 286 Small bronze brooch found with charcoal in the base of a ditch. Badly burnt condition. Similar to number 285.
- 287 Bronze bow brooch found in mint condition, probably never used. Spring and pin made from one piece. Decorations of wavy lines on catch plate. Brooches of this type usually have punched catch plates.
- 288 Badly burnt bronze brooch, spring and pin missing, associated with a late first century pottery group. Richborough 5, plate 27.
- 289 Trench 7. Bronze finger ring of two turns. Dated to Iron Age C. Northampton Museum, unpublished.
- 290 Bronze finger ring of one turn, similar to number 289.
- 291 Iron handle? Curved top, the small end possibly fitted onto a wooden shaft.
292. Bronze ligula, Richborough 4, plate 39. Verulamium Museum, not in published examples.
- 293 Bronze pin, head missing. Common to most Roman sites.
- 294 Top of an iron knife hilt, traces of rivets. Found in stoke hole of corn oven.
- 295 Lower part of the hilt and blade of an iron knife. Found in the stoke hole of the corn oven.
- 296 Bronze knife ferrule, found with pottery group and dated to first/early second century.
- 297 A bronze nail cleaner, slight line-decoration on surface. Verulamium Museum, unpublished.
- 298 Iron shaft with fixing holes at the top. Probably part of a raking tool fitted to a wooden shaft. Found in charcoal from the stoke hole to the corn oven.
- 299 Similar iron handle and knife blade to number 295.
- 300 Carved bone handle inscribed with small circles, showing signs of Celtic workmanship.
- 300a Bone pin, "pineapple head" type. Verulamium Museum, unpublished.
- 300b Bone pine, grooved decoration on head. From granary floor. Jewry Wall, fig 89.
- 301 Bone head with barbed edge, probably used for fishing.
- 302a Scored bone, probably butchering marks.
- 302b Scored bone as in (a). Half size.
- 303 Piece of notched bone, probably used for counting. Northampton Museum, unpublished.
- 304 Half size. Antler point, probably from red deer. Use unknown.
- 305 Head of a femur with hole drilled through it. Similar types found at Hunsbury, in Northampton Museum and were probably used as spindle whorls. Early first century.
- 306 to 311 see samian report (below).
- 312 Pottery spindle whorl made from a perforated base of a discarded pot, probably a honey strainer. Several of this type of base have been found.
- 313 Stone spindle whorl from the early Belgic ditch and Trench 29. Hunsbury, Northampton Museum have examples.

THE ROTARY QUERNS (Fig. 31)

The rotary quern was not found in this country

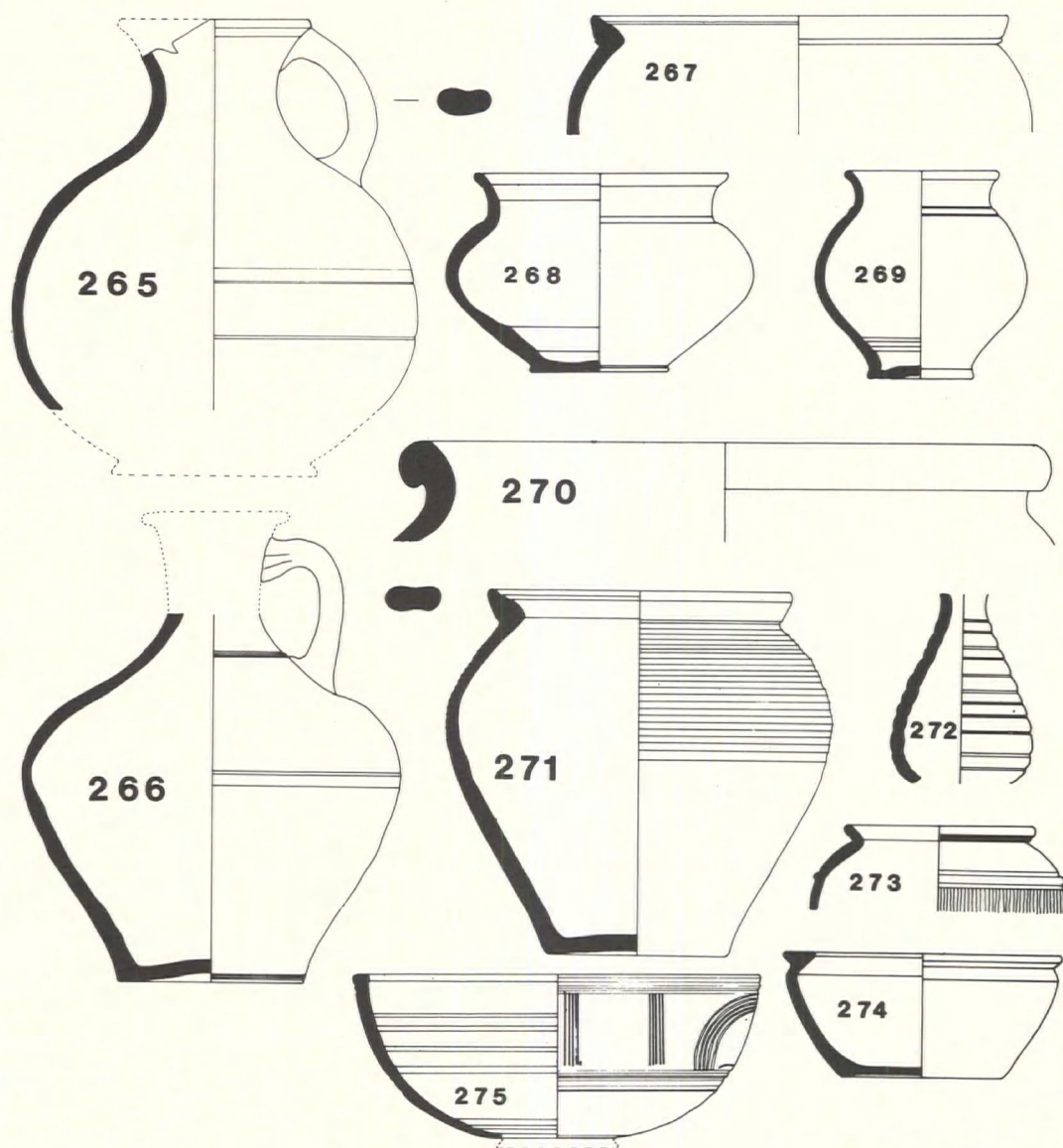


Fig 27 Pottery from late third century pit. (265 to 275). (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

before first century B.C., when they were introduced by the Belgae. The earliest form, the "beehive" type, represented by a lower stone (314), was operated by hand, having a central wooden spindle to support the upper stones. Some of the upper stones were hollow to serve as a hopper for the grain and a handle set in the side of the top stone. The majority of the querns found are later and come from the stoke hole of the corn

oven, dating from the mid-second century. Number 319 is very large and was probably worked by some mechanical means. The top shows signs of having an iron frame fixed to it by means of lead plugs, one of which was found *in situ*. Number 316, a top stone, was found when a large section of the top-soil dump was removed and so must be regarded as a field find. It is the only quern found to be made of green sandstone.

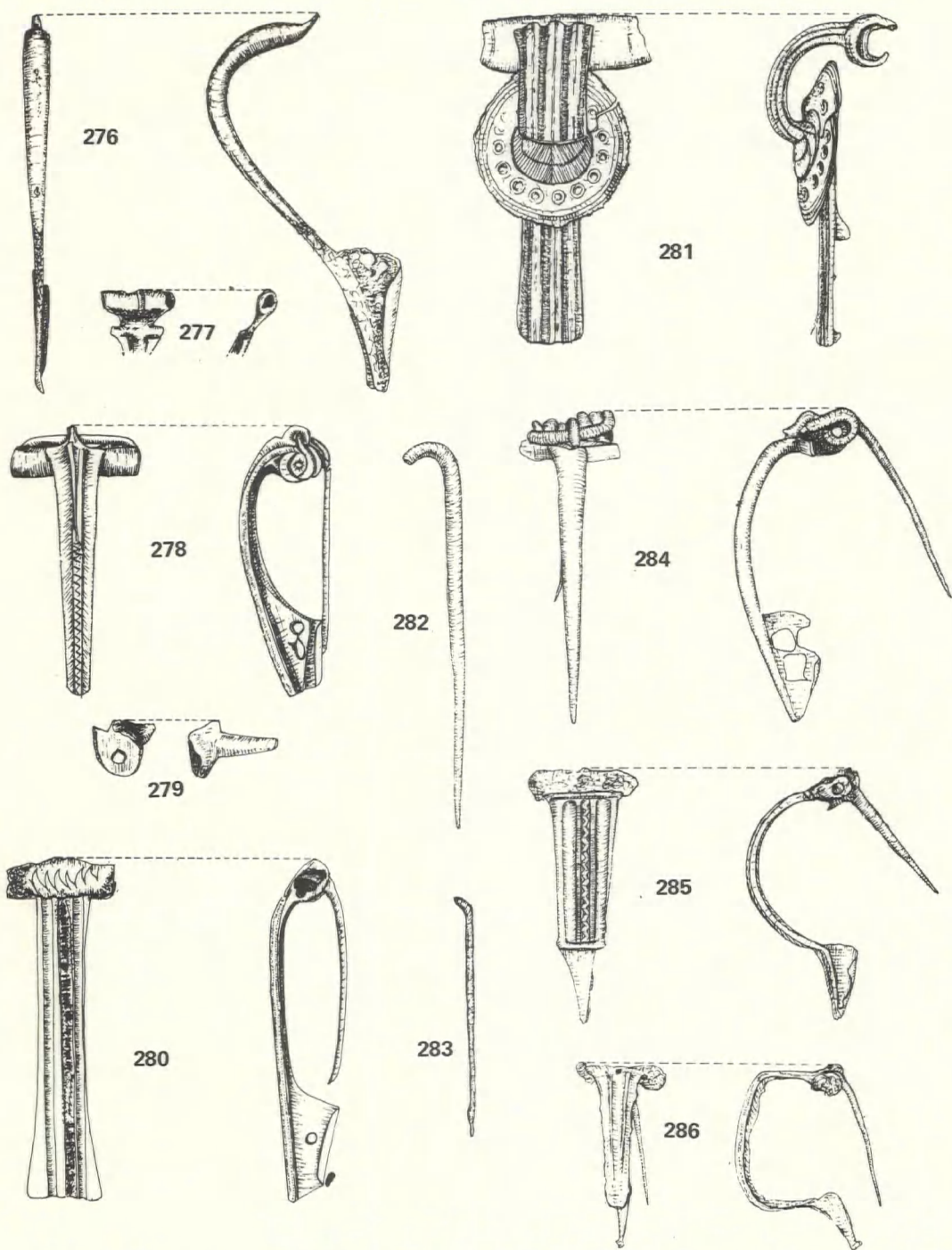


Fig. 28 Brooches. (276 to 286). (Full size)

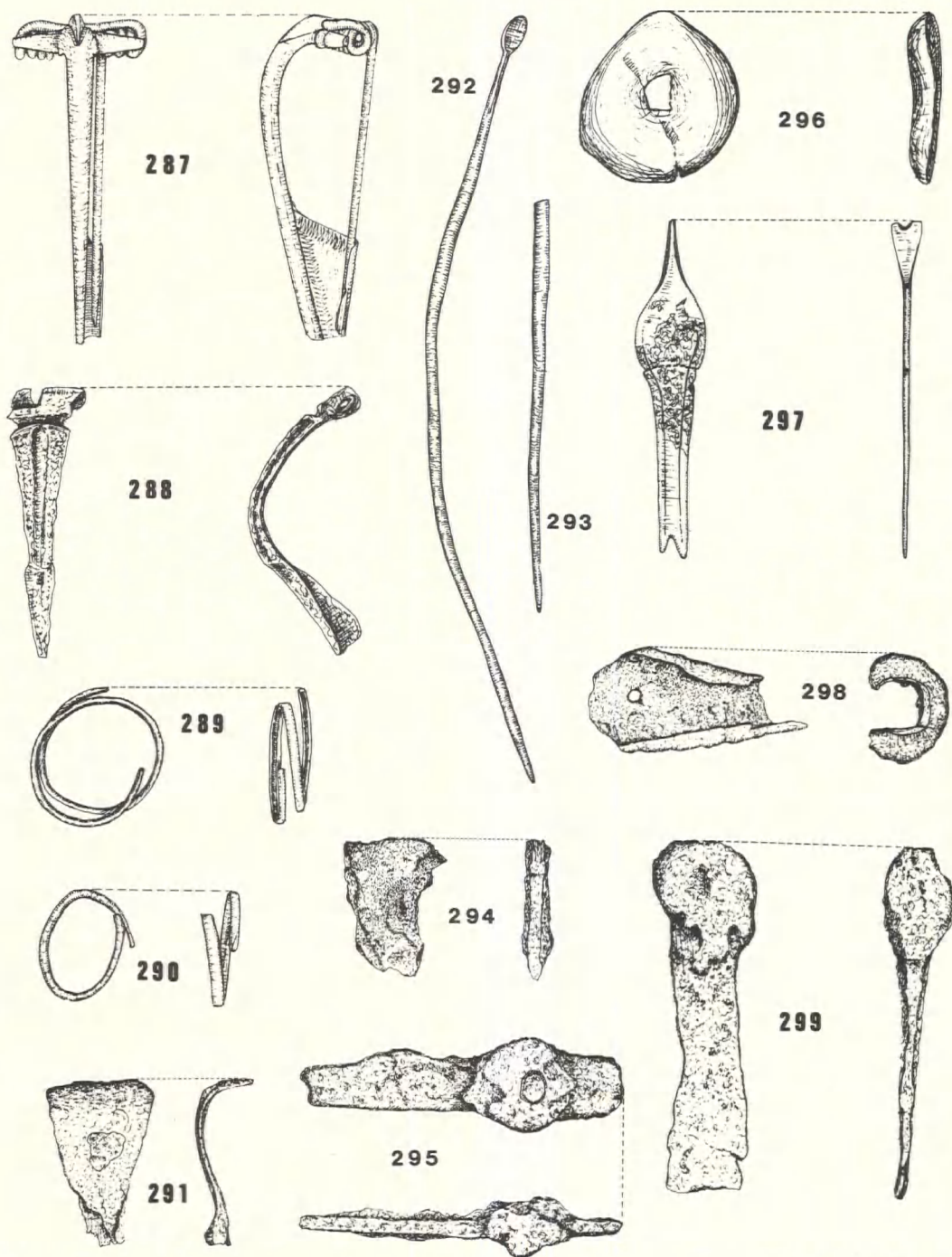


Fig 29 Brooches, bone and iron small finds. (287 to 299). (Full size)

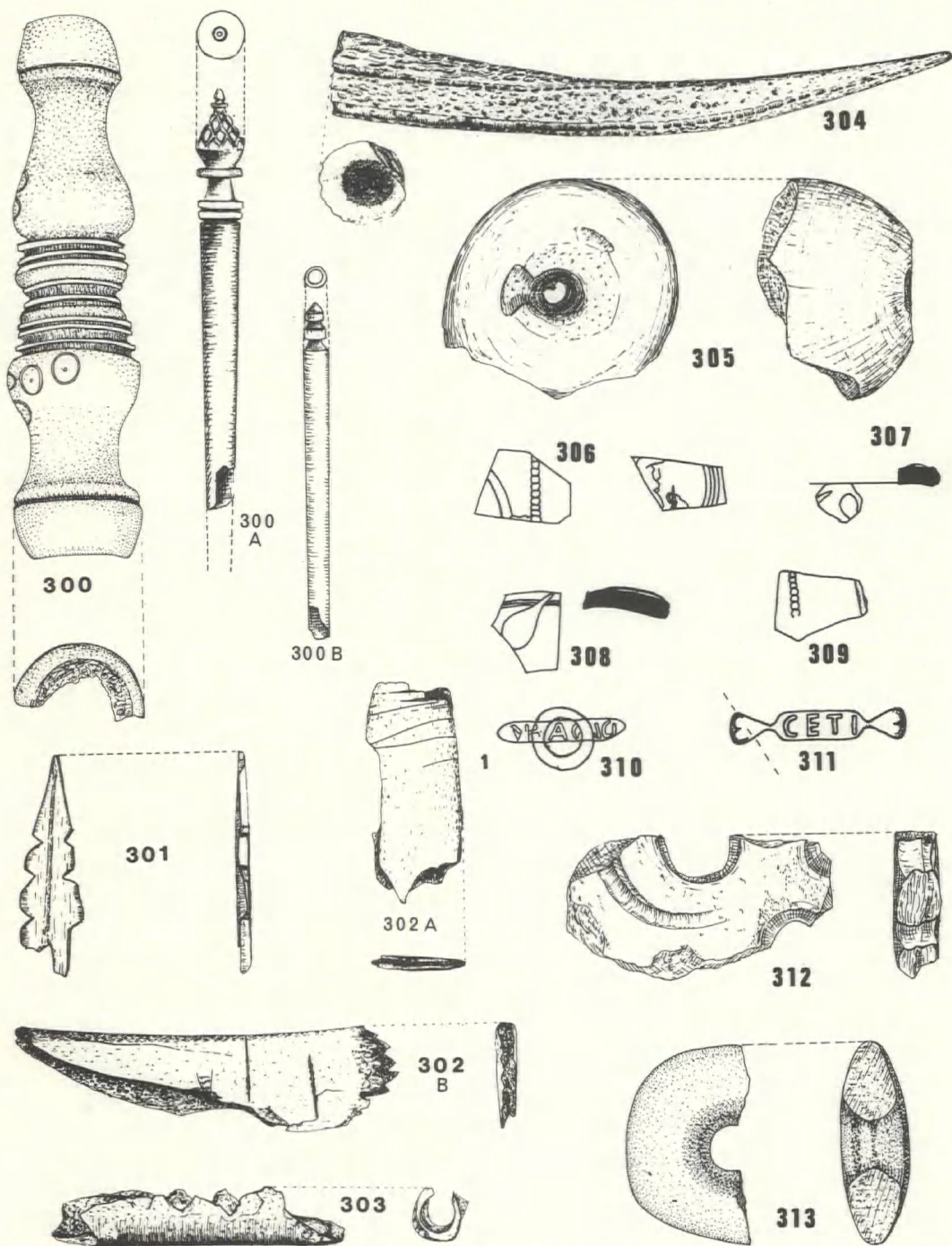


Fig 30 Bone finds (300 to 305), samian ware (306 to 311), spindle whorls (312 and 313) (Full size)

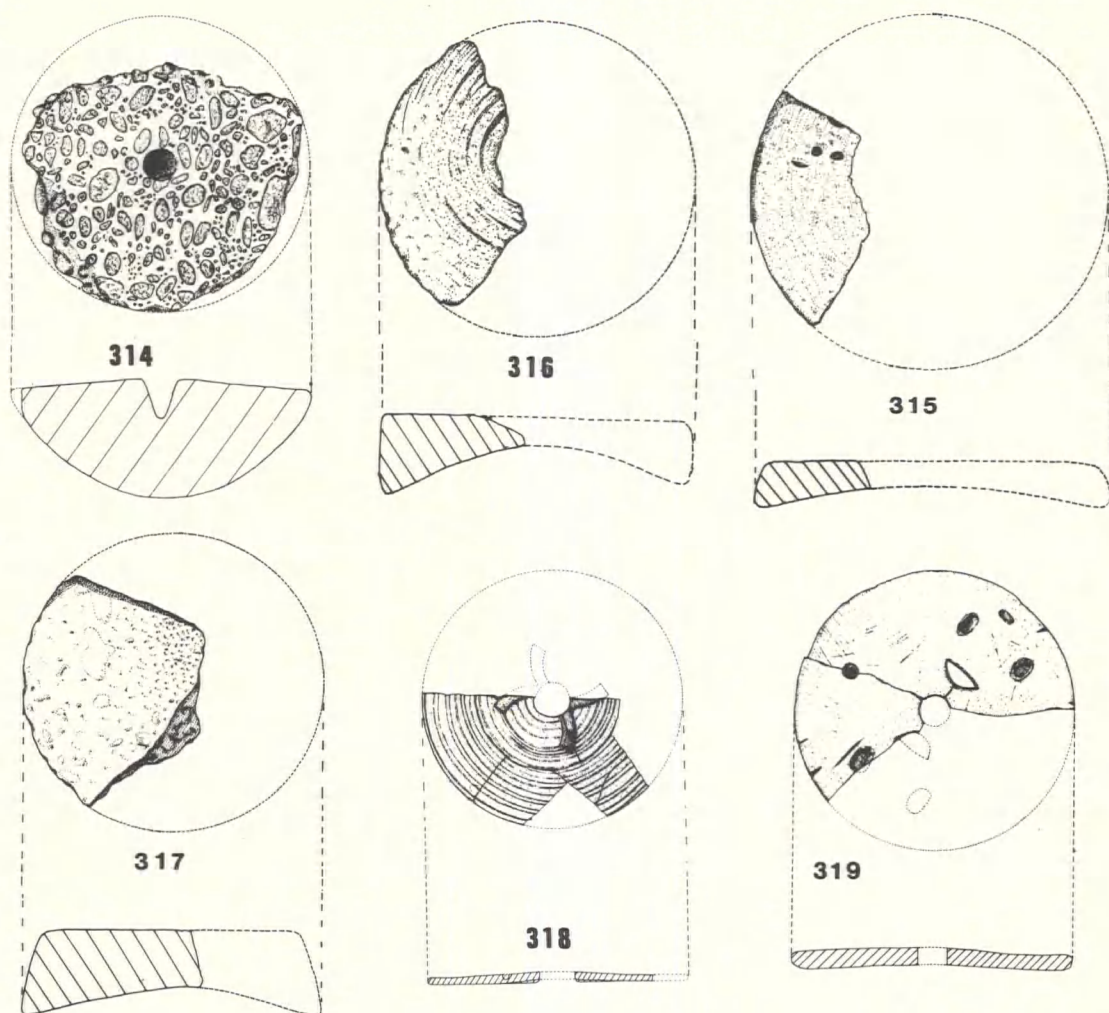


Fig.31 Quern Stones (314 to 319) (Scales, 314-317 at $\frac{1}{8}$; 318-319 at $\frac{1}{16}$)

THE QUERN STONES

- 314 Rotary quern. Lower stone of the "bee-hive" made of Hertfordshire pudding stone. A round base and central socket for the spindle to support the upper stone. The grinding surface sloping at 4 degrees. Dated to early first century. Similar types found at Richborough. Bushe-Fox, 141.
- 315 Part of the upper stone of a rotary quern, made from millstone grit with large pieces of quartz in it. Pre-conquest date. Grinding surface at 13 degrees.
- 316 Upper stone of a rotary quern of green sandstone. Pre-conquest date. Surface sloping 28 degrees.
- 317 A small but thick rotary quern top stone made from millstone grit with large pieces of quartz in it. Pre-conquest date. Grinding surface sloping at 23 degrees.
- 318 Upper stone of a large rotary quern found in the fill of the stoke hole to the corn oven. This type being unusual, having very elaborate corn runs on the grinding surface. Made of millstone grit and dated to A.D. 150-170 by pottery and samian found with it (see samian report). Thundersbarrow Hill, village site, M. Hove where this type has been found, without the corn runs and dated to 4th century A.D.
- 319 A very heavy and large top stone of a rotary

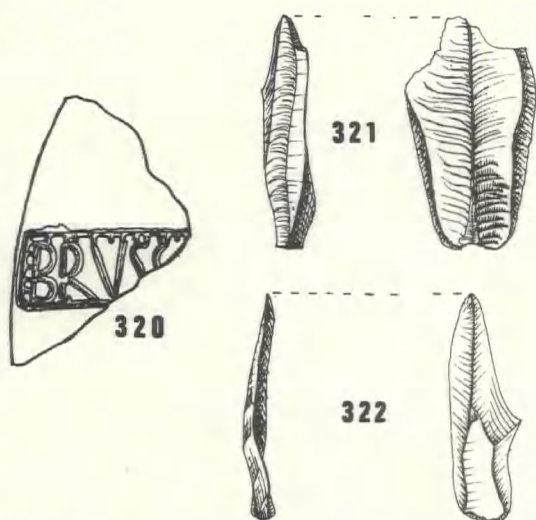


Fig 32 Mortarium stamp (320); flints (321 to 322). (Full size)

quern found in the fill of the stoke hole of the corn oven. Made from red/brown sandstone. Dated to A.D. 150-170. Elaborately made with two semi-circular holes set each side of the central socket used for corn runs. The smaller holes in the top would have held an iron frame, fixed to the stone by lead. The holes have been stained by iron and in one, the bottom of a lead plug was found. The iron frame would have formed the means by which to turn the stone either by hand or mechanically. The top also shows signs of use as a knife sharpener.

Note 320 is Mortarium stamp (see p.27 above)

THE FLINTS (Fig 32 and 33)

Drawings and descriptions by Barbara Tilson.

- 321 Bladelet irregularly retouched into a burin cum broad point of light grey fabric. Found in a clay floor of early first century date (Trench 1).
- 322 Bladelet fashioned into a pointed boring tool, slightly blunted and of light grey fabric. Found in a clay floor of early first century date (Trench 1).
- 323 Finely worked end scraper on naturally formed flake of mid grey fabric with white patination. Found in the ditch associated with the corn drying oven (Trench 30).
- 324 Scraper extensively worked around edges and trimmed into a point at one end,

possibly for boring. Dark grey fabric. A surface find.

- 325 Knife cum scraper with considerable working along one edge. Black fabric with part of original cortex remaining. Found in the fill of Belgic ditch H.
- 326 Thick flake worked at one end to form a boring or chiselling tool, also trimmed finely on edge A probably for use as a scraper. Dark grey fabric with part of original cortex remaining. Found on the gravel extractors topsoil dump.
- 327 Flake provided with a transversally flaked gripping edge and worked on main flake surface along edge A. Dark grey fabric. Found in ditch H associated with Belgic kiln debris.
- 328 Discoidal scraper of dark grey fabric. Found in ditch H associated with Belgic kiln debris.
- 329 Heavy scraper of dark grey fabric. Found in the fill of Ditch K, of second century Roman date.
- 330 Scraper of dark grey fabric with part of original cortex remaining on one face and fashioned into two small points at one end. Found in the fill of ditch K, of second century Roman date.
- 331 Scraper with light blue-grey patination. Found in ditch H associated with Belgic kiln debris.

THE KILN FURNITURE

In all instances the kilns had been partly destroyed by gravel extraction machinery so that only the stoke holes remained. Most of the stoke holes contained kiln bar fragments usually in a good state of preservation whereas those found in the ditch and gully bottoms had almost decomposed. All were made from puddled clay, the grog being large stones and flints. The clay was very fibrous and would appear to be unwashed, probably secondary clay from the top of a new area being excavated for potters' clay.

All fragments were those of 3½ in (89mm) thick bars, the only complete one recovered being an upright type 9½ by 3½ by 3½ in (241mm by 89mm by 89mm). It showed signs of having been slightly compressed under a heavy load during kiln firing.

Other furniture consisted of bricks, usually about 6 by 2½ by 4 in (153mm by 64mm by 102mm) and parts of pedestals (central supports for pottery in kilns). A few large fragments of flat, semi-circular clay slabs were found, remains of

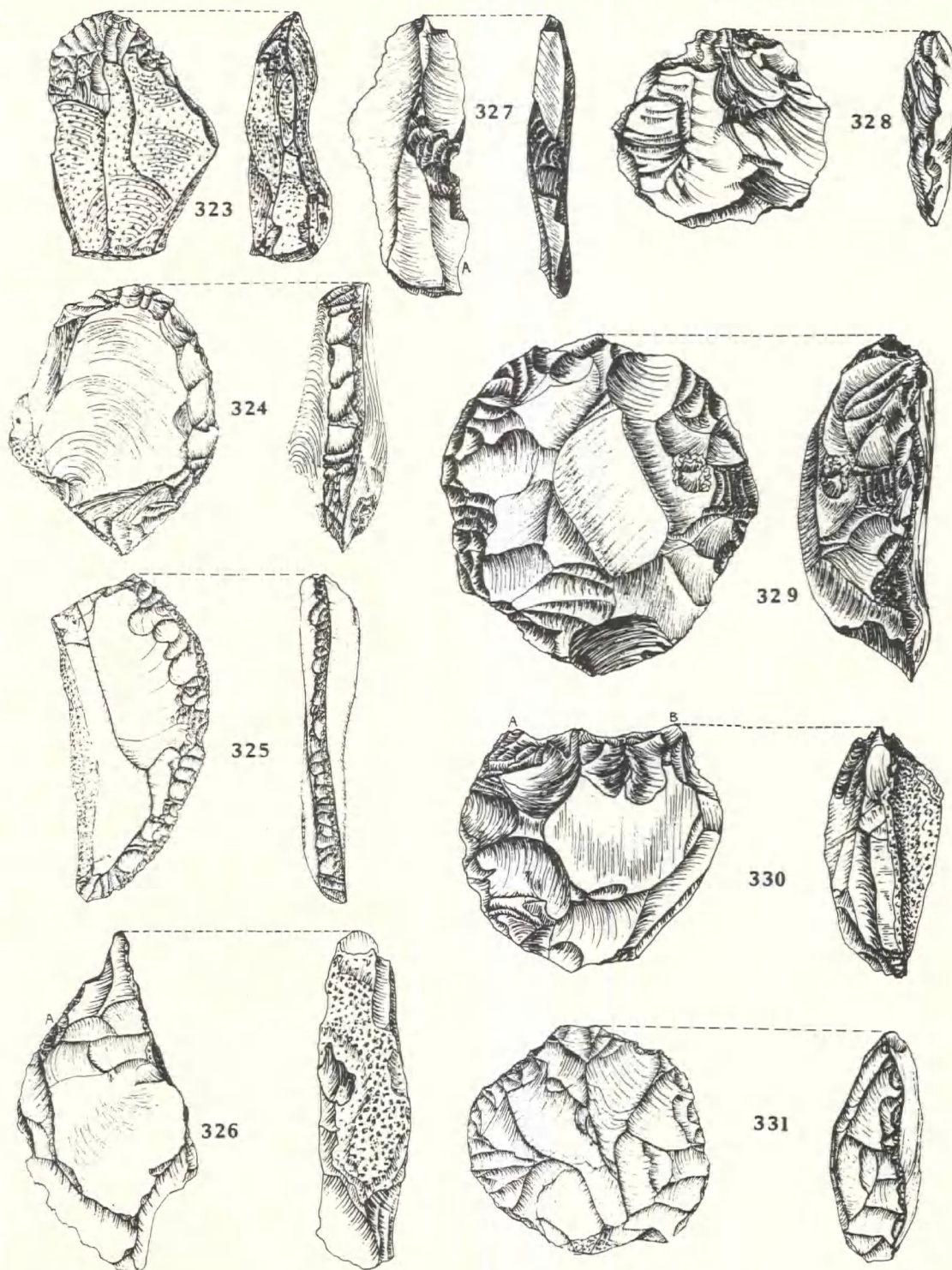


Fig. 33 Flints (323 to 331) (Full size).

kiln bases and a large amount of irregular lumps of clay from the broken kiln linings.

CONCLUSION

The importance of the settlement at Bromham, one of the largest of this period so far discovered in Bedfordshire, is reflected in the large pottery group manufactured on the site in 'Clapham-shelly ware'. Imported and other native wares are also present though in a very small proportion. This industrial site is comparable to those found at Wheathampstead and around Verulamium, where iron smelting and pottery manufacturing industries had built up around the existing areas of settlement.

A number of worked flints have been found on the site, mainly in association with the small early gullies. It is probable that a small flint knapping industry existed on the site alongside the pottery manufacturing industry, apart from normal usage such as the skinning of animals, it is possible that the knapping industry existed primarily to supply the potters with specialised tools to order.

APPENDICES

1. EXPERIMENTS WITH CLAPHAM CLAY

Barbara Tilson

The earthenware clay from the river bank at Clapham varies in its natural state from yellow through green to blue/grey and contains visible impurities of carbonaceous matter eg. weed. When fired in oxidation to 1000 degrees centigrade in an electric kiln, the clay is a medium red/brown in colour with white speckles (fragments of Pelecypods of the Phylum Mollusca) like the Clapham shelly ware pottery. It is porous. When fired to 1300 degrees centigrade the clay melts to a brown glassy puddle. These properties — ie. porosity and low melting point — are peculiar to earthenware clays.

It is probable that the kilns at Clapham would have fired up to 950 — 1000 degrees centigrade (the normal bisque temperature for this type of ware). A much lower firing temperature produces exceptionally fragile ware and a higher temperature causes the pottery to warp, prior to melting. A temperature of 1000 degrees could easily have been reached. The site is windy and a good draught through a stokehole positioned correctly would have created a good heat within.

Much of the Clapham shelly ware shows signs of reduction — blackening on the outer surface and a grey core. This is not unusual with wood fired kilns. The oxygen is consumed by the flames

thereby causing a reduced atmosphere which causes the changing of the chemical composition of the iron impurities in the clay from red iron oxide to black iron oxide (hence the colour of the clay).

Experiments were also made in the throwing of untreated Clapham clay. This proved difficult — it was not easily workable because of an alarming tendency to crack horizontally at the weakest points eg. at the base of the curve. It made no difference throwing wet or dry (ie. with a lot or little water respectively). For this reason it was impossible to achieve the full shapes associated with Belgic and Romano-British wares.

The tendency to cracking was probably due to the high content of carbonaceous matter in the clay, which the Clapham potters could have remedied by "washing" the clay before use. This process consists of mixing the clay with a large amount of water with the resulting thin slip, which is allowed to settle then is strained off thereby separating the clay from the impurities. It is then dried out and wedged up for use when needed. It is quite probable that some of the ditches and gullies at Clapham were utilised for this purpose and may even have been specially constructed for the purifying of clay and for providing water for throwing the wares on the wheel.

2. REPORT ON GEOLOGICAL SAMPLES

J.E. Tilson

A. A sample taken from the bottom of a pit cut into natural gravel in trench 26. Basically a light sandy soil rich in flint fragments plus small pieces of animal bones (type unknown) plus shell fragments. The soil is typical of chalk regions. Use of pit unknown.

B. A pottery sample taken to find out make-up of clay and grog. Clay containing sea shells, no bone fragments present. Sea shells are Pelecypods of the Phylum Mollusca. Their age, therefore the age of the clay is Jurassic (180 million years). This clay is locally found and very common, particularly in Bedfordshire. Kimmeridge clay is very similar to it. Make-up of the clay — i.e. composition of clay. Chemically the clay contains: Aluminium, Sodium, Potassium and Trivalent Iron (Fe^{+++}).

Clay materials: Illite and Montmorillonite.

(Note: The Fe^{+++} — trivalent iron is an impurity giving the red colour. Also means oxidation — i.e. the action of oxygen in the atmosphere affecting the original iron Fe^{++} and changing it to be Fe^{+++} .)

The lamination or 'cracks' seen in the pottery are only due to the baking effect. The original clay was homogenous except for shell content.)

D. Sample from corn oven. Taken from the stokehole. Soil does contain stem fragments – very carbonised, stems belong to corn. Also this ash has a high phosphate and potassium content. This explains its very powdered form, its extreme light weight and also its colour. This potassium and phosphate content can only have originated from vegetation matter and certainly not from animal bones. The soil is over 50% ash, the rest is clay minerals mixed in. Also present is a small amount of humus i.e. decayed plant remains.

F. Burnt cobbles found in the ditch fill. This is a volcanic rock, a granitic lava. It could be called a Rhyolitic lava because of Vesicles (worm shaped holes) in it. It contains a considerable amount of magnetite, the magnetic iron ore; plus glass (very small crystals), plus quartz. The melting point would be about 950°C emplaced before the Ice Age.

G. Sample of clay with corn impressions. Impressions are of barley of a fairly primitive form told by the shape of the grain. The kiln clay is as in sample 'B' except that the larger shells have been removed by hand. Also present are a large number of stems and barley whiskers.

H. A sample of the Clapham shelly ware pottery. Same clay as in 'B' except this time the clay has been mixed with something – unable to say what but it is very fine grained, i.e. black powder. It could be ash from the ditch containing the rakings from the corn oven. All fragments in this clay are shells – Pelecypods.

I. A sample of wood taken from the flood layer. This sample has not decayed naturally but was burnt, i.e. it is charcoal. The type of wood – coniferous tree, a pine or fir – a soft wood.

J. A sample taken from the flood i.e. the silt. This is flood material caused by period flooding of the river Ouse. Dated to about 1,700 years ago. Make-up material of the flood consists of:—chips of quartz and small flints. As the only chalk in the region lies to the south of Bedfordshire, the material must have been brought from there by the river flooding south to north. A high percentage of clay (about 25%), quartz (33½%) and organic material (vegetation) is present.

3. THE BONES

Large quantities of animal bones were found during the course of excavation, coming mainly from the infill of ditches. The bones were submitted to Prof C. Moss who has identified the following pieces:— horse, ox, red deer, roe deer, sheep or goat, pig, bird and dog or fox.

4. SAMIAN WARE

H.W. Pengeley

Twenty-nine pieces of samian ware were submitted. Each piece has been numbered separately to the main body of the pottery finds, with the seven which are figured (fig 24, 306–311) appropriately cross-referenced. The die numbers are the provisional ones in the new catalogue of potters' stamps, now being compiled in the Department of Latin, University of Leeds. I am grateful to Miss B.M. Dickinson and B.R. Hartley for the information on which the notes on the potters' stamps are based. The following abbreviations are used:

- D. Figure-type in J. Dechelette, *Les Vases ceramiques ornes de la Gaule romaine*, tome ii (1904).
Hermet 1934 F. Hermet, *La Graufesenque*, tome ii.
- O. Figure-type in F. Oswald, *Index of Figure-Types on Terra Sigillata* (1936-7).
- S & S J.A. Stanfield and Grace Simpson, *Central Gaulish Potters* (1958).
- 1 Form 18, two fragments, South Gaulish, Flavian. Ditch D.
- 2 (fig 24,306) A small fragment of form 37 with a coarse bead-row and plain festoon in the manner of Casurius of Central Gaul (cf. S. & S., pl 133-7). Probably Casurius and c. A.D. 160-95. Ditch D.
- 3 Slightly burnt. Form 37 rim. Central Gaulish, Antonine. Ditch D.
- 4 Form 15/17 or 18 partly unglazed inside the footring. South Gaulish, Flavian. Ditch E.
- 5 (fig 24, 307) A tiny rim fragment of form 35 or 36 in the hard, overfired fabric of Les Martres-de-Veyre. Central Gaulish, Trajanic or Hadrianic. Ditch E.
- 6 Form Ritterling 9 in a fabric like that of Montans. South Gaulish, pre-Flavian; perhaps Claudian. T.1.
- 7 (fig 24, 306A) A fragment of form 30 with part of a medallion or festoon having a plain double border. The small incomplete nude figure is almost certainly (D.240, O. 394). Not assignable to a specific potter, though the piece is Central Gaulish and Hadrianic-Antonine or Antonine. T.1.
- 8 Form 18/31 or 31, Central Gaulish, Hadrianic or Antonine. T.3.
- 9 Form 36, Central Gaulish, Hadrianic or Antonine. T.3.
- 10 Form 33. Two joining fragments and one piece from a different cup. Central Gaulish, Antonine. T.3.

- 11 (fig 24,308) Form 27, South Gaulish, Flavian. T.5. Kiln stokehole.
- 12 Form 15/17 in one of the smooth fabrics of Les Martres-de-Veyre. Central Gaulish, Trajanic or early Hadrianic. T.5. Kiln stokehole
- 13 Two footring fragments from a dish or bowl in one of the earlier East Gaulish fabrics, such as La Madeleine or Blickweiler. Late Hadrianic or Antonine. T.5. Kiln stokehole.
- 14 A small fragment from Central Gaul; the fabric suggests an Antonine date. T.5.
- 15 (fig 24,309) A weathered scrap of form 37, probably from the same bowl as 2; if not, same origin and date. T.10.
- 16 Form 15/17 or 18, South Gaulish, Flavian. T.11.
- 17 Form 18/31, Central Gaulish, Hadrianic or early Antonine. T.16.
- 18 A Central Gaulish scrap of Antonine date. T.16.
- 19 Form 15/17 or 18, South Gaulish, probably Vespasianic. Same as 20 and 21. T.16.
- 22 (fig 24, 310) Form 27, base stamped OF-PATRICI. Die Ie of Patricius of La Graufesenque (Hermet 1934, pl. 112, 119). Well-known from Flavian sites including Chester, Ribchester and Nijmegen (fortress and Ulpia Noviomagus). South Gaulish, c. A.D. 70-100. T.18 Gully.
- 23 A small scrap in a slightly unusual fabric, possibly South Gaulish and first-century. T.20.
- 24 Form 18/31 in one of the fabrics of Les Martres-de-Veyre. Trajanic or Hadrianic. T.26.
- 25 Form Curle 11, two fragments, probably Hadrianic. T.26.
- 26 (fig 24, 311) Form 18/31, a small fragment

of base stamped CETI in an ansate panel. Die Xa of Cetus of Lezoux. This stamp was also used on form 27 and appears at such dated sites as Corbridge and Mumrills (Britannia 3 (1972), 17). c.A.D.135-60. T.26.

- 27 Form 27, a fragment from a large cup. Antonine but not later than A.D.160. T.26.
 - 28 Form 31, two joining fragments, Antonine.
 - 29 Form 33, large, Antonine. T.26.
- Nos. 24, 27-9 are slightly burnt.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council is indebted to Mixconcrete Aggregates Limited, the Bedfordshire County Council and the Bedford Archaeological Society for grants towards the costs of this paper.



a



b



c

Plate 1a Section of Ditch D.

Plate 1b Granary floor showing indentations left by sleeper beams set on packed gravel.

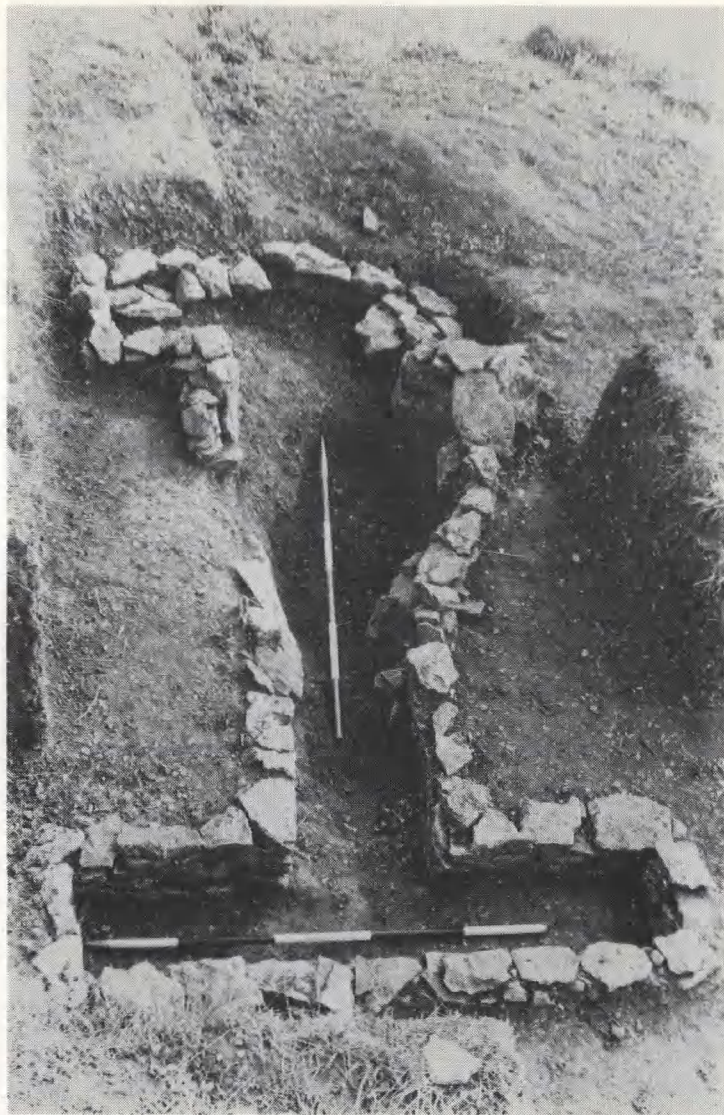
Plate 1c Inhumation burial found in the base of ditch H sealed by a layer of Belgic pottery Fig. 20, 22-24.

a



Plate 2a Piece of half baked clay with corn impressions of a primitive type of long eared barley.

Plate 2b T shaped corn drying oven of mid second century date.



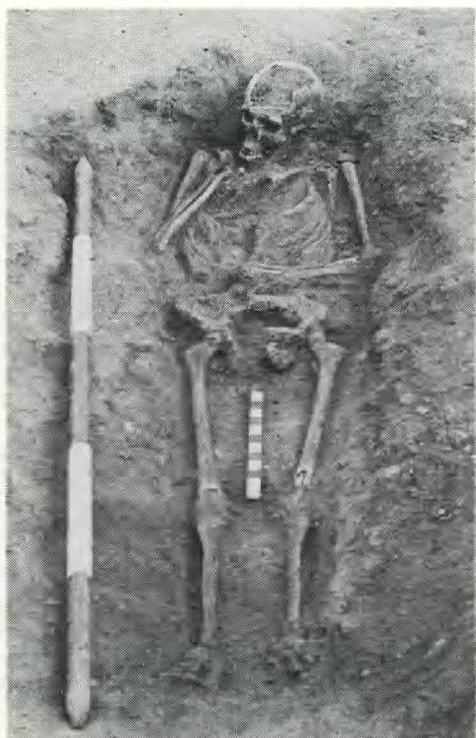
b



Plate 3 Aerial view of site before destruction

(Photo by J.K. St. Joseph, Cambridge University Collection, Copyright Reserved).

RADWELL GRAVEL PITS



a



b



c

Plate 4a Belgic skeleton S1.

4b Skeleton S2.

4c Belgic skeleton S4, badly corroded by the acid sandy soil.



a



b



c

Plate 5 Strixton Windmill

- a Early post hole; grid IV, looking S.W.
- b Cobbled yard and un-excavated post hole; grid II looking S.W.
- c Cobbled yard and excavated post hole; grid IV looking S.E.

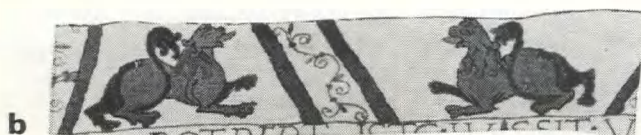


Plate 6a The Tympanum at Covington, Huntingdonshire.

Plate 6b Detail of the border of the Bayeux Tapestry.

Plate 6c The Tympanum at Thurleigh.

Plate 6d Detail of British Museum, MS Cotton, Tiberius C. vi, f.8.

(photos: pl 6a, 6c, by courtesy of the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London; pl 6b, reproduced from F. Stenton (ed.) *The Bayeux Tapestry* (2nd ed., 1965), by permission of Phaidon Press Ltd., pl 6d, by courtesy of the British Museum and the Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London.)

NOTES (TYMPANA)



a



b



c

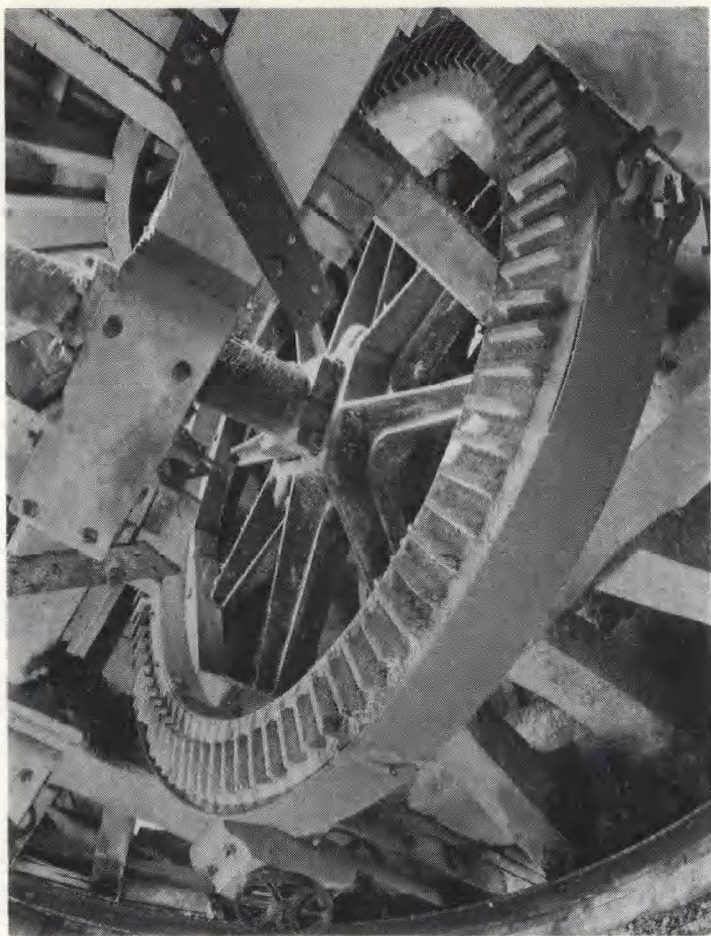
Plate 7a Gold Stater of the Coritani from Dunton: obverse and reverse views.

Plate 7b General view of Biggleswade Windmill with sails.

Plate 7c General view of Biggleswade Windmill after removal of sails, showing gallery and cap.

(Photographs : Bedford Museum)

NOTES (GOLD STATER; BIGGLESWADE WINDMILL)



a



b

Plate 8a Biggleswade Windmill : brake wheel with brake; a portion of the curb is also visible.
Plate 8b Biggleswade Windmill : view into top of cap.

(Photographs : Bedford Museum)

Rescue Excavations at Radwell Gravel Pits, 1972

D.N. HALL

with a report on the Roman pottery by P.J. Woods

SUMMARY

Topsoil stripping prior to gravel extraction at Radwell revealed a multi-period site. The oldest feature was a ring-ditch datable to the Late Bronze Age. There were a few features of Early and Late Iron Age date, including 4 Late Belgic burials. The principal remains were networks of late Romano-British farmstead ditches, associated with a probable villa just off the area investigated. There were two cremations of this period, and large groups of pottery were recovered.

INTRODUCTION

The gravel consent area licensed to Radwell Gravels Ltd lies between the hamlet of Radwell and the River Ouse in Felmersham parish. Work began there in September 1972 with the stripping of the eastern end by mechanical graders. In the course of a general watching brief being undertaken by the Higham Ferrers Hundred Archaeological Society on the riverine gravel areas of north Bedfordshire currently under extraction, it was arranged with the company to examine the areas for archaeological features as they were being worked in advance of the total extraction of the gravel deposits.

Previous archaeological information about the site (at TL 010574) was limited to an aerial photograph (plate 1). This showed two enclosures and three ring ditches visible as cropmarks. The site had been examined in the course of a survey of north-west Bedfordshire for ancient sites. However, no pottery was found on the surface when the site was walked.¹

It was not possible to investigate in anything which approached ideal conditions any of the features subsequently discovered during the gravel extraction. All that it was possible to do was to plan and record the features as they were exposed. The present report covers those features discovered between September and December 1972.

It is envisaged that gravel extraction will continue for many years. Archaeological investigation

has been arranged to record further features as they are found. Subsequent reports on the rescue excavations at Radwell gravel pits will be published in future issues of the *Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal*.

EXCAVATION METHOD

The glacial river gravels and claybeds at Radwell are here buried beneath an overburden of 3 – 5 feet (0.6m – 1.5m) of alluvium, which is removed by mechanical graders in strips approximately 15 yards (13m) wide. This exposed ancient features which were then plotted and sampled for finds.

Only a very limited part of the site was excavated in an archaeological sense, but nevertheless little information is likely to have been lost, because nearly all occupation layers had been destroyed by ploughing. Rich areas of surviving ditch fillings were excavated *in toto*. Important areas were excavated to a depth of 9 inches, the spoil was then graded off and the process repeated until the feature was removed. This hasty technique was the only one practicable with the very limited supply of labour, and the very fast rate of gravel extraction – about one acre per week was exposed.

THE FEATURES

The archaeological features exposed at Radwell gravel pits have been of all periods from the Late Bronze Age to late Roman. The major occupation feature was a late Roman farmstead. The complete features are shown on figures 1b, 1c, and 2. In the descriptions which follow each period is discussed in full before the next is considered. The present report omits a few bones and antlers dating to the Ice Ages. These have been recovered from the gravel beds but will be discussed in a later paper together with other osseous material subsequently collected.

Bronze Age

The oldest feature of the site was a ring ditch

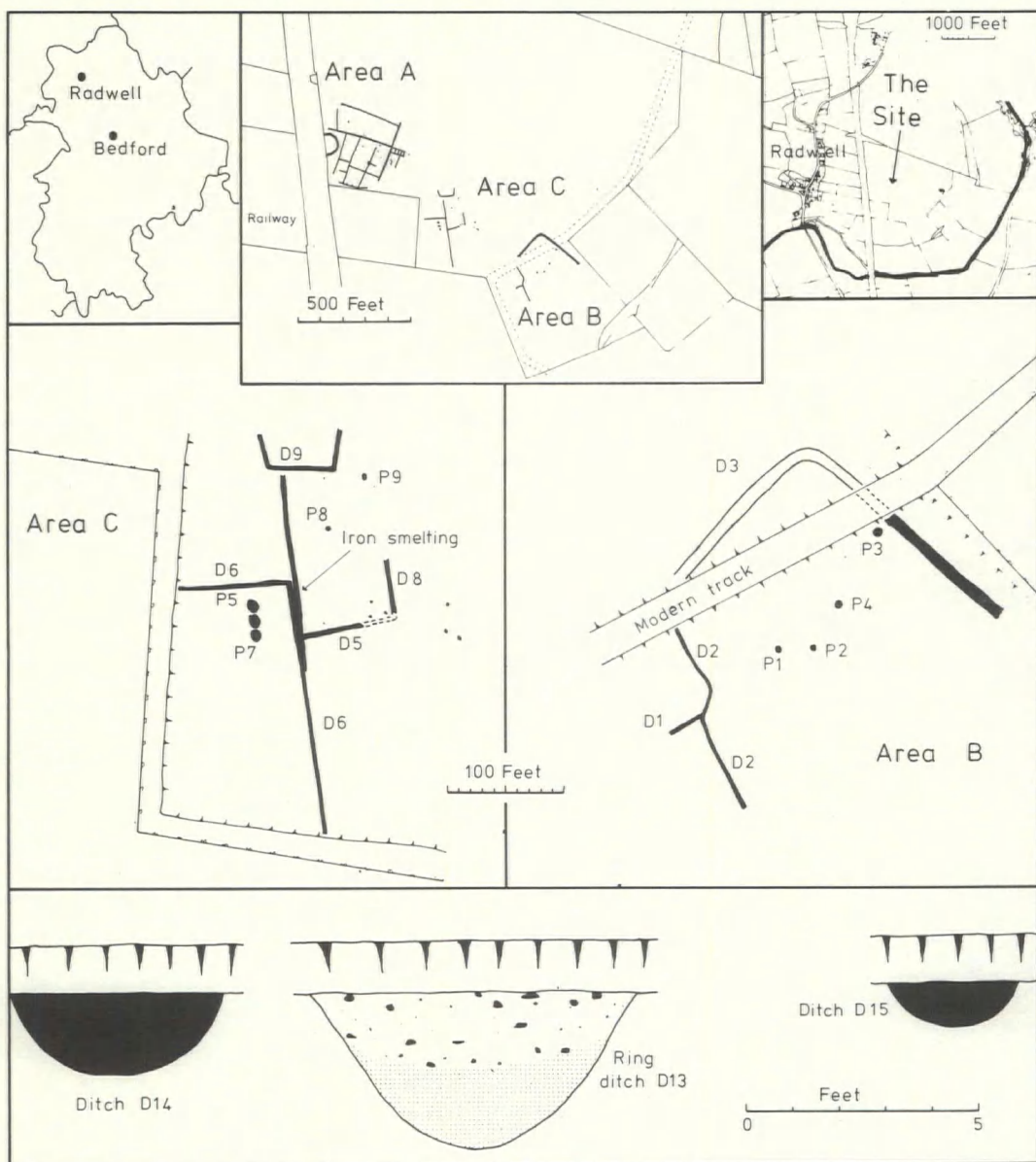


Fig. 1 Radwell Gravel Pits: location plan.

D. 13, partly buried by the railway embankment (fig 2). The oval area enclosed had axes 81 feet and 70 feet, the ditch was U-shaped, 3 feet 9 inches deep and 7 feet wide (fig 1). No trace of any central raised mound or other kind of structure survived. The primary silts were quite sterile except for a few animal bones, the main fills were stoney. At the west side there was a small area of occupational debris with charcoal,

bone, antlers, pottery and flints deposited when the ditch was half filled. No occupation or funerary remains survived in the centre, except for traces of charcoal staining in the western segment.

The site is unlikely to have been domestic because the ditch contained insufficient occupation debris. It is therefore likely to have been funerary. It may have been a barrow with a burial

placed on the old ground surface, and all evidence subsequently ploughed away. On the other hand, there may never have been any central earthwork, cremated ashes being spread in a sacred area defined by the ring ditch. It is obviously difficult in many cases to distinguish between ploughed-over ditches and ploughed-out barrows. The ring ditch recently excavated at Roxton proved to be a damaged saucer-barrow, although no relevant burial survived². At Radwell no barrow-type earthworks survived.

None of the fragmentary pottery was decorated (fig 4, 1). It is similar to Late Bronze Age material in Northants³, and typologically similar to material dated 1000 to 800 B.C. Since the sherds were not in the primary context, the ring ditch itself could be appreciably earlier; there are many cases of barrow ditches remaining unfilled for several centuries. A local example is the site at Roxton, already mentioned. The Radwell ditch must have been quite filled by the Roman period because not a single sherd from the richly filled ditch D14, adjacent, had strayed into the ring ditch.

Early Iron Age

There was a single cremation datable to this period. It could not be related to any feature or phase of occupation surviving in the area studied. The urn fig 4, 3 was buried in the centre of a very small ring ditch which was 1 foot wide, 1 foot deep and was 12 feet in diameter. The vessel was a Fengate type dating from the early Iron Age, probably fifth or sixth century B.C. It is the first found in this district. The well-crushed bones contained only part of a skeleton; there was a random selection from all types of bone. The few informative fragments suggest that they belong to a fully grown individual (see Appendix 2).

This interesting burial would seem to represent a continuity of the Bronze Age barrow tradition, albeit on a much diminished scale.

An Iron Age pit was discovered north of the inhumation area (fig 2 P 13). A rim-sherd of hand-made calcite-gritted ware suggests a date later than the cremation urn but still early in the period, perhaps 4th century B.C.

No Iron Age structural remains have yet been uncovered.

Belgic

The main Belgic feature was an enclosure ditch (fig 1 BD 3) at the east of the site (visible in the

photograph, plate 3). A few fine sherds were recovered from the lower fills (fig 4,4) but no features of Belgic date were identified inside the enclosure. The small shallow ditches D1 and D2 contained no finds and could have been Belgic or Roman. Difficulties were encountered because this was the area where the gravel extractions started before we were able to keep a regular check on the site.

The pottery appears to be of the mid-Belgic phase, dated to the mid-first century A.D.

A small group of four late Belgic burials was found 300 yards from the enclosure. They were buried four feet deep and with no regular system of orientation, three of the burials (S2, S3, S4) had been interred in coffins of which the iron nails survived. The bones were badly eroded by the acid sandy soil, making it impossible to clean them satisfactorily, and one (S3) was not located until almost scraped away by the grader. The three substantially complete skeletons all had the left arm folded back over the rib cage and the left either above or below the pelvis (pl. 2). They all appear to be full-grown individuals about the age of 40. (see Appendix 2 for osteometric details). The dating is given by the single funerary urn, (fig 4, 5) placed at the right side of the head of skeleton 2, characteristic of the late Belgic period, just post-conquest, the second quarter of the first century A.D.

Romano-British

The principal occupation phase of the site was a late Roman farmstead.

There was a network of small ditches making a series of small enclosures, some with entrances (e.g. D11, D14 etc. fig 2). The dimensions of the ditches as found were about 3 feet wide and 2 feet deep but would have been about 4 feet wide and 3 feet deep originally (fig 2). The areas enclosed ranged from 200 square yards to 0.6 acres. All the closes seemed to be based on the main drainage ditches D10 and D10N, which were 11 feet wide and 4 feet deep. The enclosures were possibly hedged, much the same as modern field ditches. The ditch fillings were, for the most part fairly sterile except for ubiquitous deposits of ox bones, nails, and roofing tile. Occupational deposits of charcoal, pottery, oyster shells and meat bones were found in the upper levels near buildings 1 and 2, on the east and south-east of the site.

Building 1, represented by sleeper-beam trenches in the subsoil, appears to have been part of a

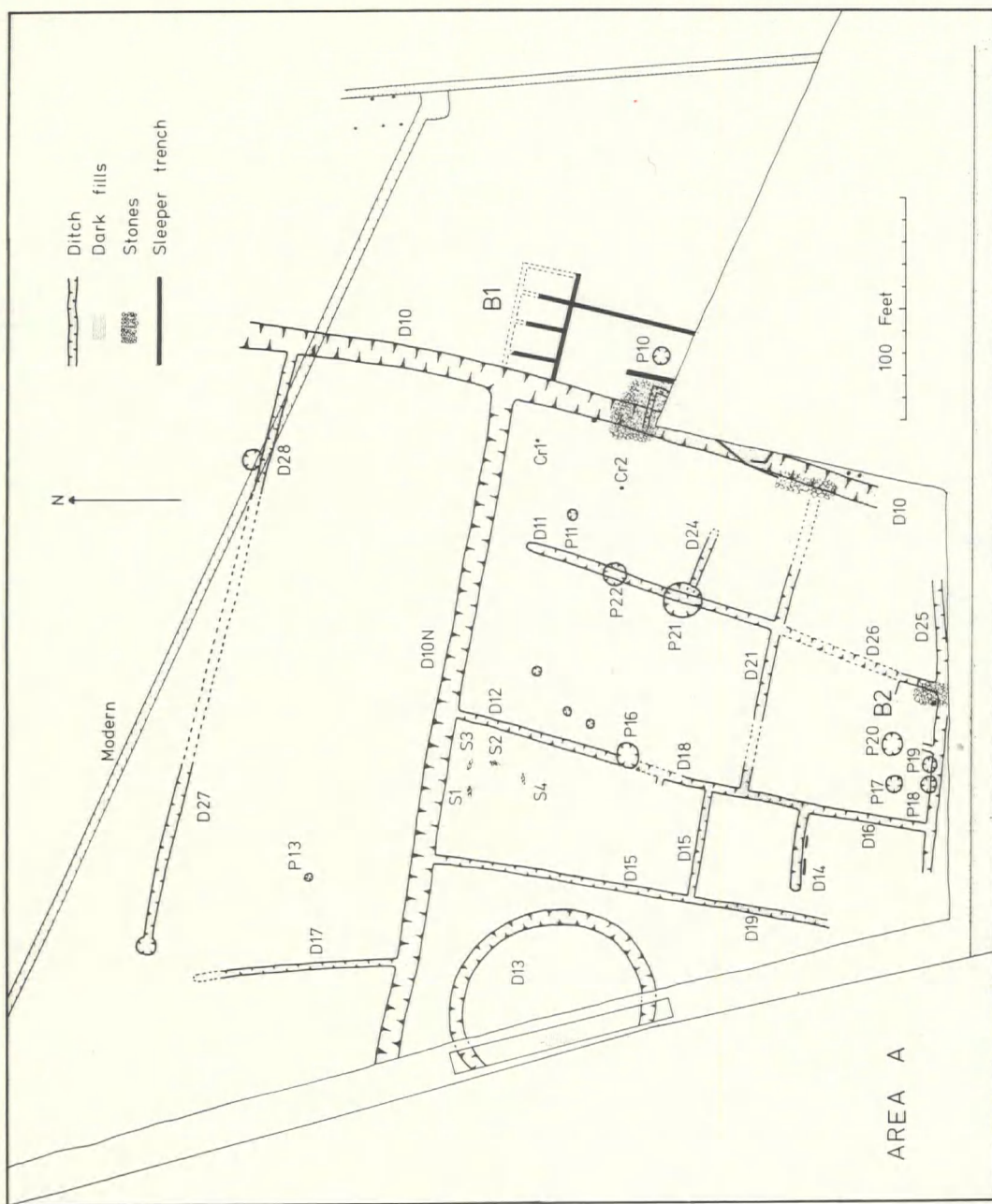


Fig. 2 Radwell Gravel Pits: plan of area A.

large farm complex. There were at least two wings, 25 feet by 45 feet and 25 feet by 50 feet respectively. It is unfortunate that no occupation layers survived, with hearths etc., because it is not possible to establish whether this building was partly domestic or merely a group of farm sheds. However, the two cremations close to the west side of the building complex suggest that at least part

of it was domestic, it being unlikely that burials would be sited near purely farm buildings.

At the south-east were some large post holes and a considerable quantity of stone and occupation debris in the ditches. It seems that another building stood here, but that the main part is to the south outside the quarry area. The general density of occupation increases as the south is

approached and the few pieces of decorated roofing and hypocaust tile came from this part of the site. These items, along with the several fragments of plain window glass and stone debris in ditch D10, suggest that there is a fairly substantial villa-farm south of the site.

There was a third building in the area of ditches D7 and D8 (fig 1C). No plan was recovered, but there was a thick layer of roofing tile and some burnt stone.

The cremations (fig 9), mentioned above, were buried about 3 feet deep. The first discovered (fig 2 W1), consisted of a single urn containing crushed burnt bone. There were no grave goods.

The second cremation ((fig 2 CrZ)) consisted of three vessels. One, a coarse-ware jar, was covered with the base of another pot. Inside, about half way down, was a silver scroll 1.5 inches wide, which once must have been supported by something organic. Next to the large pot was the cremation urn full of crushed burnt bone. By the side of the urn was a small, elongated, colour-coated beaker, imported from the Rhineland. This type of vessel, almost entirely restricted to cremation groups, is dateable to the late third century (fig 9). Within the Rhenish beaker were crizzled fragments of white glass, probably once part of a very small bottle or possibly a mirror.

Cremation 1 is a Chichester type 1 burial, and cremation 2 a type 2, probably 2a, where food vessels are buried with the cremation urn and the whole group covered with a box ⁴.

Cremation gives way to inhumation during the third century, although there is a period of overlap ⁵, when both types of burial custom were in use. The Rhenish beaker dates the Radwell group to the mid third century. Details of the bone fragments are given in appendix 2.

In ditch D7 (fig 1C) there was a small iron smelting area. The furnace itself did not survive, but there was a flue or stokehole, cut out along the ditch, 6 feet long by 1 foot 2 inches wide and 1 foot deep. It was full of dense black slag and some porous clinker. The size is similar to examples from the iron smelting complex at Wakerley, Northants ⁶, here the clay furnaces were no more than 9 inches in diameter.

The field system ditches, although mostly barren of domestic refuse, contained large quantities of ox bone. Generally there were only large bones, from the limbs, vertebrae and skulls with only a few rib-bones. This evidence is similar to that of the villa-farm at Shakenoak, Oxfordshire, where it

was interpreted that all the better cuts of meat were not eaten on the farm but sold, thus demonstrating a beef-producing farm economy ⁷. The presence of quern stones suggests that there was also some cereal production.

The dating of the Romano-British phase is given by the pottery found in the ditches. The two main groups consist of similar pottery types, and, along with the coins, suggest a late third to early fourth century date.

There was no further activity on the site except medieval ridge and furrow, and post-enclosure ploughing.

DISCUSSION

The Radwell gravel pits have revealed a multi-period site with occupation remains dating from the Late Bronze Age to the late Roman period.

Comparison of the site plan (fig 1A, 2) with the aerial photograph (plate 1) shows remains much more complex than suggested by the photograph. Only features dug sufficiently deep to penetrate the gravel are revealed, and the whole network of shallow field ditches remains hidden. These findings stress the need to keep a close check on gravel sites, even if no crop marks are known. On heavier soils, which rarely yield crop mark evidence, any soil-moving operation should be watched vigilantly.

The first ring ditch is likely to be that of a barrow, although the evidence was not conclusive. The remaining two, revealed as crop marks, may be more instructive; it is hoped to at least partially excavate one of them in the traditional manner.

Seven burials were found in random sitings; one was of the early Iron Age, four were Belgic in date and two Roman.

One of the problems of Iron Age archaeology is the lack of graves within a settlement area. At Radwell there was no settlement associated with the five Iron Age burials. This implies that during this period the open fields were used as burial places.

The farming activity in the late Roman times is consistent with evidence from other sites of this date. With the increasing number of disturbances on the continent from Germanic tribes agriculture became more and more difficult, and still relatively peaceful *Britannia* was called upon to supply a substantial amount of food for the Empire.

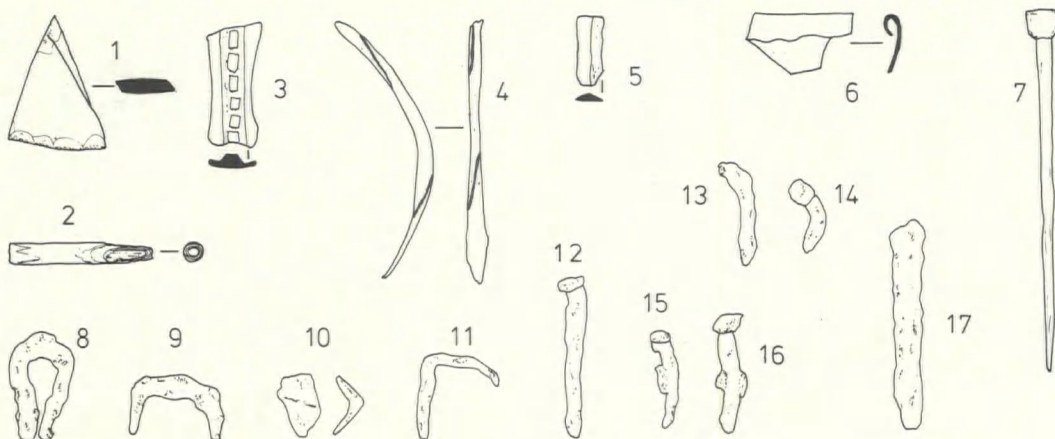


Fig. 3 Radwell Gravel Pits: small finds; 1-7 ($\frac{1}{2}$), 8-17 ($\frac{1}{4}$)

THE SMALL FINDS (fig 3)

Flint

1. A worked flint flake, from the ring ditch D13, mid-late Bronze Age.

Silver

2. Silver scroll from cremation 2, brittle and fragile. Late third century A.D. The remaining objects all came from the Roman occupation, dating from the late third to early fourth century A.D.

Bronze

3. Damaged fragment of a heavy brooch, from the cobbled yard over ditch D10.
4. Twisted bronze fragment, from upper levels of D10.
5. Piece of ornamental bronze. From the upper levels of D21.

Lead

6. Part of a pewter vessel, from ditch D16.

Bone

7. A pin from pit P9.

Iron

8. A chain link.
9. A staple.
10. Small piece of angle iron — structural?
11. Hook or bent nail.
- 12-17. Various types of nails, typical of the large quantity found in all the agricultural ditches.

Glass

Fragments of window glass were found in ditches D. The metal was a light blue tint with very few bubbles; on one side it was slightly uneven, showing that it had been made by the

technique of cutting open and flattening a cylinder of glass.

Quern Stones

A complete lower stone, made of Hertfordshire puddingstone, diameter 14in., with a central hole diameter 2.5 in., was found in the gully just south of ditch D14 (fig 2).

Fragments of a stone made out of millstone grit were recovered from ditch D10.

Coins

- C1 Tetricus I (270-273 AD).
Rev. (SPES PVBL)IC(A) figure of hope.
From ditch D10.
- C2 Constantinus Chlorus as Caesar (393-305 AD) Rev. follis GENIOPOPVLI ROMANI, no mark. From D10.

THE POTTERY

Bronze Age

The ditch D13 yielded a small quantity of sherds about 2ft from the bottom, on the east side. All the material was made of a poorly-fired porous brown or buff fabric, with fresh breaks showing a characteristic coarse flaky grain. Only one rim was recovered.

1. A flat-topped rim in buff-brown porous fabric; part of a boss on the side. The sherd is of a late Bronze Age date, later than material from Earls Barton, Northants., dated to the fourteenth century BC.,⁸ but in a fabric much more primitive than Early Iron Age material from Mowsbury⁹ and elsewhere. Bosses are known in late Bronze Age pottery groups, e.g. from Goring, Sussex¹⁰ dated 1000 to 800 B.C. The sherd is similar to material currently being excavated at Roxton².

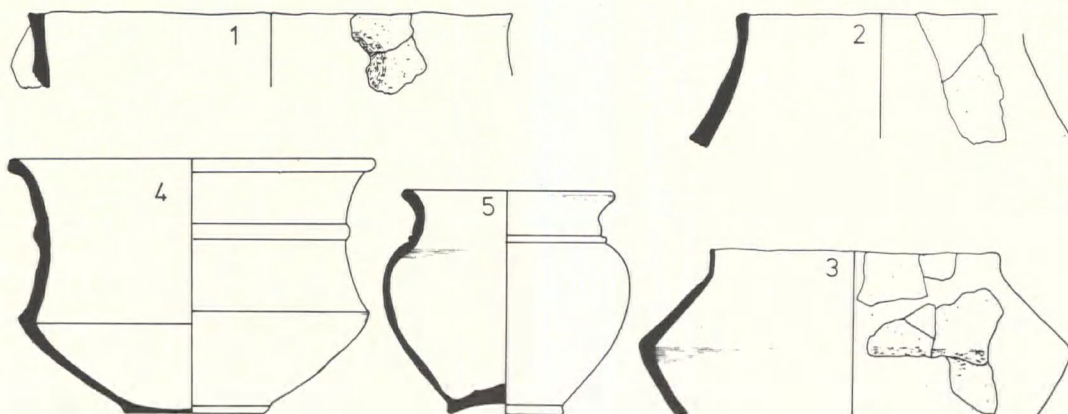


Fig. 4 Radwell Gravel Pits: Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery (¼)

Iron Age

The Iron Age features at Radwell produced vessels, each with extensive local parallels.

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Harrold: see Bozeat.

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Rainsborough: M. Avery, J.E.G. Sutton, and J.W. Banks, 'Rainsborough, Northants., England: Excavations, 1961-5.', *P.P.S.* 33 (1967), 207-306.

Strixton: see Bozeat.

2. A dark well-made rim with a few brown patches on the outside, a slightly porous fabric caused by leaching of fine shell grits, smoothed on the outside. There are no parallels in the late material from Strixton and Bozeat, Northants but similar sherds occur at Rainsborough, Northants, e.g. fig 24, nos 70, 76 which are dated fourth century B.C. From pit P13.

A few other sherds from this pit were fired so that the colour of the outside meets that of the inside without a central core making a sandwich. This is characteristic of poorly-fired early Iron Age pottery.

3. A carinated vessel made in a dark brown-black fabric containing a very small quantity of fine sand. Smoothed on both sides, flattened rim. No shell tempering. Similar to the early material (fifth and sixth century B.C.) from Fengate, Peterborough,

(e.g. 206-7, M1, LI, OI), but with the rim less everted. Rather more carinated than Rainsborough, fig 20, 16, dated to the sixth or fifth centuries B.C. This sherd fits well typologically between the Rainsborough and Fengate sherds in accord with the Radwell site being midway between them. Contained cremation 3.

4. Belgic carinated vessel made in the typical orange ware with a dark grey core, smoothed excellent finish. Exactly similar to material from Harrold (fig 6, 10) and Irchester, Northants (fig 10, 33; fig 11, 45). The date is probably early to mid first century A.D. This fabric and form has a limited local distribution. It has recently been studied by Williams in the course of his work on the archaeological sites of the Northampton Development Corporation.

5. Late Belgic pot made of buff ware with orange and blackened patches on the outside; rather leached with some shell in the fresh breaks. Poorly fired with pieces flaking off. Similar to Irchester examples (fig 12, 54) and a development of the Harrold mid-Belgic forms (fig 6, 102). Buried with skeleton 2.

The grave fill contained a fragment of sandy grey ware (not illustrated).

THE ROMAN POTTERY

by P.J. Woods¹¹

INTRODUCTION

The Roman pottery from the 1972 excavations at Radwell comprises sherds from a minimum of 125 vessels. There are two main groups, which together account for more than three-quarters of the material submitted for examination, and a

smaller assemblage from a number of other features including a cremation. The preliminary comments will centre on the first two groups which, allowing for the occasional rubbish survival, can be taken to be representative of the period at which they were deposited.

Pottery of Groups I and II

Group I (H1-58) derives from the filling of ditch D14 (continuing as D16). Group II (T59-93) was confined to the upper filling of ditch D10 and was associated with coins of Tetricus I (A.D. 270-273) and Constantius I as Caesar (A.D. 293-305).

Very little is known about the sources of the pottery supplied to Romano-British settlements in North Bedfordshire. Few Kiln-sites have been identified and even less have been scientifically examined. Four seasons' work at Harrold, between 1968 and 1971, have confirmed the production there of coarse shelly wares throughout the Roman period. Further south, excavation near Elstow by G.J. Dring has uncovered kilns of first and second century date, but until such sites are adequately published and further work undertaken it will be necessary to turn to the neighbouring counties for general parallels.

The material of Groups I and II most nearly resembles that from the later filling of outbuilding 1 at Brixworth Northants., (late third or first half fourth century), levels IX-X at Jewry Wall, Leicester (first half fourth century), the collapsed debris in room 8 at Lockleys, Herts., (A.D. 300-40), the staircase well at Park Street, Herts., (first half fourth century) and the main filling of cellar (B I 9) at Verulamium (A.D. 310-15). Thus a date somewhere in the closing years of the third century or in the first half of the fourth would seem to be appropriate for these two largest groups.

Certainly, in respect of the pottery classified as Group II, this agrees with the internal evidence of the coins. The Constantius coin shows very little wear and could have been lost fairly soon after A.D. 300. On the other hand, the coarseness of the Nene Valley colour-coated ware – the thickness of the walls and the inferior finish – argues for a slightly later dating. Thus a date of A.D. 300-40 is suggested for Group II.

Group I includes fragments from hammerhead mortaria of Gillam Type 280 (H47-50) which he now dates A.D. 210-320. The Radwell examples are more likely to date from the later third century rather than the fourth, but in view of their

association with the colour-coated mortarium from the Oxford region (H52), a type which does not appear at Verulamium much before the beginning of the fourth century, it seems likely that this group spans the third and fourth centuries. The slightly earlier date of A.D. 270-325 is suggested for this group.

The flanged bowls from Group I (H9-12) are smaller and their flanges more horizontal than those from Group II (T65-67). This is consistent with the evidence from Brixworth where larger bowls with their flanges inclined downwards were found to be of slightly later date than those of the type which occur in Group I. This accords with the relative dating of Groups I and II.

However, there is a general uniformity about the two groups, which is borne out by the analyses of the fabrics and forms (see Tables I and II below), and it is possible that not more than two or three decades separate them.

The straight-sided dishes and flanged bowls have more in common with the third and early fourth century examples from Brixworth which tend, as here, to be undecorated. Later examples from the Constantinian levels at Brixworth were in a much darker fabric, often with burnished surfaces and decorated with close lattice-work or arcading.

There is a complete absence of the deeper straight-sided dish (*Brixworth* Types 23-25) which was very common in the Antonine period and the greater part of the third century.

The occurrence of small pie-dishes (e.g. T62 and possibly T63) in such a relatively late deposit is unusual. At Brixworth such vessels, especially with triangular-shaped rims, do not appear to have survived the Antonine period. During the third century they were almost invariably superseded by the deeper version with grooved, flanged or sharply down-pressed rim.

As might be expected, there is a greater range of vessels in calcite-gritted ware than was encountered at Brixworth. The two flanged bowls, H27-28, are particularly noteworthy. Straight-sided dishes and flanged bowls in this ware occur only rarely in Northamptonshire. The smaller jars, too, exhibit a much greater variety, both in size and in profile.

The flanged bowls and the calcite-gritted jars almost invariably show signs of external sooting. This class of vessel was clearly used for cooking purposes. It was noticeable, however, that the grey ware jars were rarely discoloured in this way and it would seem that they were preferred for storage or table use.

TABLE I *Analysis of fabrics* (*Groups I and II*)

Type fabric	Group I		Group II	
	No. of examples	% of 58 vessels	No. of examples	% of 34 vessels
A1	5	9%	6	17%
A2	2	3%	4	12%
A3	5	9%	1	3%
B1	2	3%		
B2	1	2%	1	3%
C1	11	19%	9	26%
D1	20	34%	5	15%
<i>Mortaria</i>				
(i) Oxford region	4	7%		
(ii) lower Nene valley	1	2%		
<i>Colour-coated ware</i>				
(i) Oxford region	2	3%	3	9%
(ii) Lower Nene Valley:	5	9%	5	15%

It is interesting to note that Radwell was drawing upon the Nene Valley, Oxfordshire and Warwickshire potteries for its mortaria. This is in marked contrast to Brixworth where not a single mortarium from the Nene Valley has been found.

THE TYPE FABRICS

A close examination of the coarse pottery from Radwell (excluding the imported wares) has shown that seven distinct fabrics are represented.

- A1 Medium hard grey ware with fine white and black grit (rarely red-brown), sandy to the touch and fairly easily abraded (leaves a powdery mark when rubbed with the hand). The grits are mostly less than 1mm.
- A2 As A1, but much harder fired. Has a 'metallic' ring when struck.
- A3 As A1, but coarser and much harder fired. Large grits (up to 5mm). Very sandy finish.
- B1 Hard bluish-grey ware often with a mottled finish. Fairly well levigated paste with no distinctive grits. Moderately sandy to the touch.
- B2 As B1, but much more sandy.
- C1 Micaceous dark grey ware with similar gritting to A1-2 above. Better fired than the A1 ware.
- C2 As C1, but coarser and much more sandy. Equivalent in texture to the A3 ware.
- D1 Buff-brown to red-brown ware liberally charged with powdered shell and a few red-brown grits (up to 5mm). The surfaces have a soapy feel and the uneven finish is often little better than that of a hand-made pot.

Unfortunately, none of these fabrics can be related, with any certainty, to a particular kiln-site. However, it is hoped that in the not too distant future this may become possible and this is one of the reasons for the detailed descriptions given above. The only observations which can be made at the moment are that some of the calcite-gritted ware (D1) may originate from the Harrold kilns and that a very small number of the straight-sided dishes and jars exhibit techniques which have come to be associated with the Ecton potters.

Cremation Pottery

Rhenish ware beakers, (S126), of the type associated with the cremation urn, are not closely datable within the third century. An almost identical example from Shakenoak (*Shakenoak II* 266) was found in a level dated c. A.D. 160-250 and another very similar example was found at Verulamium in a deposit dated A.D. 270-300+. There is nothing very distinctive about the cinerary urn (S127) except that the fabric occurs nowhere else on the site. For this rather tenuous reason it is suggested that the cremation may pre-date the Group I-II deposits.

Other Pottery

Most of the other pottery submitted for examination falls within a later third – fourth century dating-bracket. Coarse, heavy bowls like R121 are mostly found in late fourth century contexts. The only obvious exceptions are the heavily abraded fragment from a samian form 81 (K109) and the two beaker rim-sherds (J108 and P116) which are almost certainly rubbish survivals from an earlier occupation.

TABLE II *Analysis of forms*

(Groups I and II)

Class of vessel	Group I		Group II	
	No. of examples	% of 58 vessels	No. of examples	% of 34 vessels
Straight-sided dishes	5	9%	4	12%
Pie-dishes	4	7%	3	9%
Flanged bowls	7	12%	3	9%
Other bowls	8	14%	7	20%
Medium and wide-mouthed jars (used for storage)	14	24%	11	32%
Medium and wide-mouthed jars (used for cooking)	12	20%	4	12%
Beakers	1	2%	2	6%
Flagons (or handled beakers)	1	2%		
Mortaria	6	10%		

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DESCRIPTION OF POTTERY

GROUP 1 (A.D. 260-320).

Filling of ditch D14/16.

- H1 Fragment from a straight-sided dish in sandy black ware (C1). Smoothed inner surface. Fairly oblique wall. Cf. *Brixworth* 16 (later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century).

- H2 Fragment from a straight-sided dish in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Pinched upper wall.
- H3 Fragment from a straight-sided dish in bluish-grey ware with sandy finish (B1). Cf. *Brixworth* 21 (later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century) for profile and *Verulamium I* 1129 (A.D. 300-15).
- H4 An almost complete straight-sided dish, restored from several fragments, in black ware with smooth finish externally (C1). Inner surface heavily abraded to buffish-grey and bluish-grey. Cf. *Verulamium I* 1181 (main filling of cellar (B I 9): A.D. 310-15).
- H5 Complete section of a pie-dish in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Simple, everted rim. Scored decoration on inside of base. For this kind of embellishment see *Brixworth* fig. 2(a), no. 1 (from Duston). Cf. *Shakenoak I* 44 (period 3 c. A.D. 250-430).
- H6 Four large fragments, comprising about half of the circumference of the vessel, from a pie-dish in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Triangular-shaped rim rounded on the top. For pointed rims of this sort see *Brixworth* 26 (filling of pit A: Antonine) and 27 (hearth to south-east of outbuilding 1: late Antonine or Severan) and *Johnston* fig. 5 nos. 10-10a (from Mears Ashby) and fig. 7, no. 45 (from Ecton).
- H7 Three fragments, all joining, from a pie-dish in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Triangular-shaped rim rounded on the top (see note to H6). Cf. *Lockleys* fig. 9, no. 13, (collapsed debris in room 8: A.D. 300-40) and *Park Street* fig. 18, no. 9 (staircase well: first half fourth century).
- H8 Four conjoined fragments from a pie-dish in smooth black ware (C1). Thickened, everted rim, markedly undercut. The outer surface shows evidence of knife-trimming. Cf. *Park Street* fig. 18, no. 6 (staircase well: first half fourth century) for rim profile.
- H9 Fragment from a small flanged bowl in dark grey ware with areas of buff-brown to red-brown probably due to misfiring (C1). Smoothed surfaces with traces of burnishing on the rim. Fairly heavy, horizontal flange. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Brixworth* 45 (later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century); *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 54, no. 8 (room VI, level X: mid fourth century); *Park Street* fig. 18, nos. 12-13 (staircase well: first half fourth century) and *Verulamium I* 1101 (A.D. 270-90).
- H10 Section of a small flanged bowl in dark grey ware with smooth finish (C1). The triangular-shaped, horizontal flange has lines of burnishing on its upper surface. Below the flange there are traces of a burnished decoration (? of intersecting arcs). External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 54, no. 7 (room VI, level X: mid fourth century); *Park Street* fig. 18, no. 12 (staircase well: first half fourth century) and *Verulamium I* 1169 (main filling of cellar (B I 9): A.D. 310-15).
- H11 Three large fragments, comprising more than half of the vessel, from a small flanged bowl in black ware (C1). Smooth finish abraded internally. The fairly heavy flange inclines downwards. A graffito, perhaps as owner's mark, is repeated on the outer wall and on the upper and under surfaces of the base. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Verulamium I* 1102 (A.D. 270-90).
- H12 Fragment from a flanged bowl in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Flange heavy and well-rounded. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. the coarse, heavy rims of the later fourth and early fifth centuries (e.g. *Verulamium I* 1193 (A.D. 275-360), 1249 (A.D. 350-410+) and 1292 (A.D. 370-410+)).
- H13 Part of a miniature wide-mouthed bowl in coarse, sandy bluish-grey ware (B2). Tall, upright neck. The 'double' rim is commonly found in third and fourth century contexts (e.g. *Brixworth* 127 (later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century); *Lockleys* fig. 10, no. 22 (collapsed debris in room 8: A.D. 300-40) and fig. 12, no. 7, burnt material in rooms 4 and 5: earlier than c. A.D. 340) and *Verulamium I* 1109 (A.D. 270-300+) and 1153 (main filling of cellar (B I 9): A.D. 310-15)). At *Brixworth* it first appears in Trajanic-Hadrianic levels on small bowls with rounded or carinated profiles (*Brixworth* 61-64). Its first appearance on a jar is the Antonine example from pit A (*Brixworth* 225). This rim form was much favoured by the Ecton potters (cf. *Johnston* fig. 7, nos. 67-72).
- H14 Fragment from a very small, wide-mouthed

- bowl in sandy grey ware (A1). Simple, everted rim. Junction of neck and shoulder fairly well accentuated (cf. the miniature cup-like bowls and jars from Brixworth (*Brixworth* 51, 53 and 91).
- H15 Several fragments, comprising about two-thirds of the vessel, from a wide-mouthed jar in sandy bluish-grey ware (B1). Triangular-shaped rim rounded on the top (cf. H6-7). Pronounced shoulder and double girth groove. Cf. *Hartley* fig. 3, no. 4 (from Stibington).
- H16 Rim fragment from a wide-mouthed jar in coarse, sandy grey ware (A3). Angular neck and small, well-rounded rim. Cf. *Brixworth* 128 (later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century); rim profiles of *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 54, nos. 11-12 (room VI, level X: mid fourth century) and *Park Street* fig. 21, no. 3, (furnace in room XI: late fourth century).
- H17 Large fragment from a wide-mouthed jar or bowl in sandy grey ware (A2). Large, rounded rim, flattened on the upper edge and undercut. A small groove at the base of the neck accentuates its junction with the shoulder. Cf. *Johnston* fig. 7, no. 52 (from Ecton).
- H18 Fragment from a wide-mouthed jar or bowl in coarse, sandy grey ware (A3). Sharply everted rim, slightly rounded underneath and undercut. A broad, shallow groove at the base of the neck again tends to accentuate the shoulder profile. A later and less-decorative version of *Brixworth* 121 and 123 (filling of ditch F6 (recut) and lower levels south of bath suite (sealed by gravel spread) respectively: Antonine or earlier). Cf. *Brixworth* 126 (lower filling of outbuilding 1: third century) and *Lockleys* fig. 9, no. 1 (collapsed debris in room 8: A.D. 300-40).
- H19 Large fragment from a wide-mouthed jar or bowl in coarse, sandy grey ware (A3). Sharply everted rim, similar to H18. Pronounced shoulder. For references see H18.
- H20 Fragment from a wide-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Simple, everted rim.
- H21 Fragment from a jar of angular profile in coarse, sandy grey ware with buff-brown surfaces (A3). The triangular-shaped rim is reminiscent of those more commonly found in late fourth century contexts, mostly on calcite-gritted jars (e.g. *Park Street* fig. 20, nos. 8-10 (burnt layer on cellar floor: late fourth century) and *Shakenoak* 1 106 and 108 (period 3b: c. A.D. 350-430), but it does occur earlier (cf. the series from Ecton (*Johnston* fig. 6, nos. 63-75) and Little Houghton (*Johnston* fig. 6, nos. 28-33) and *Lockleys* fig. 10, no. 26 (collapsed debris in room 8: A.D. 300-40) and fig. 12, nos. 1-2 (burnt debris in rooms 4 and 5: earlier than c. A.D. 340)).
- H22 Two joining fragments from the rim of a wide-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Thickened, everted rim. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 52, no. 17 (level IX: first quarter fourth century) and *Lockleys* fig. 10, no. 24 (collapsed debris in room 8: A.D. 300-340).
- H23 Part of a wide-mouthed jar in coarse, sandy grey ware (A3). Thickened, everted rim squared externally. Cf. *Park Street* fig. 19, no. 34 (staircase well: first half fourth century).
- H24 Rim fragment from a medium-mouthed jar in patchy buff to buff-orange and orange-brown ware with hard, sandy finish. Probably intended for a reduced A2 ware, but misfired. Well-rounded, undercut rim with slight lid-seating.
- H25 Three joining fragments from the neck and rim of a large medium-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). There appears to have been a row of stab-marks at the junction of the neck and shoulder with perhaps others below. Cf. *Park Street* fig. 19, no. 38, (staircase well: first half fourth century).
- H26 Handle sherd from a globular vessel, probably a flagon or a handled beaker as *Gillam* 64-66, in sandy grey ware (A1).
- H27 Two large joining sherds, giving an almost complete profile, of a flanged bowl in orange-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Fairly heavy triangular flange. The depressed area immediately below the rim probably results from the potter's finger (or a tool) being drawn around the side while the flange was being formed. Heavy sooting externally. For the rim profile in grey or black ware see references for H10.
- H28 Large section of a flanged bowl in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Similar profile to H27, but deeper. Outer surface much blackened through use in cooking. See note to H27.

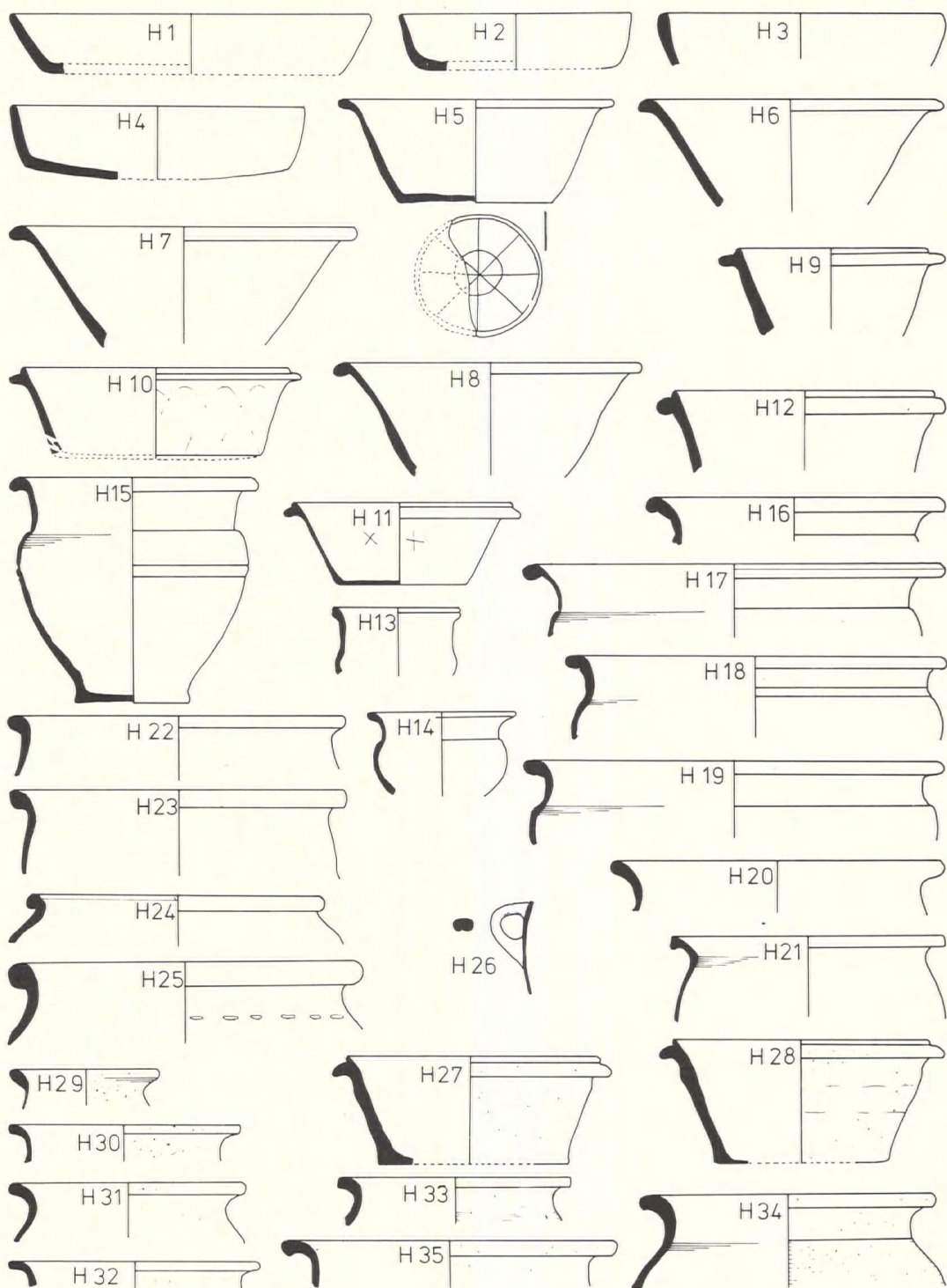


Fig. 5 Late Roman pottery. (¼)

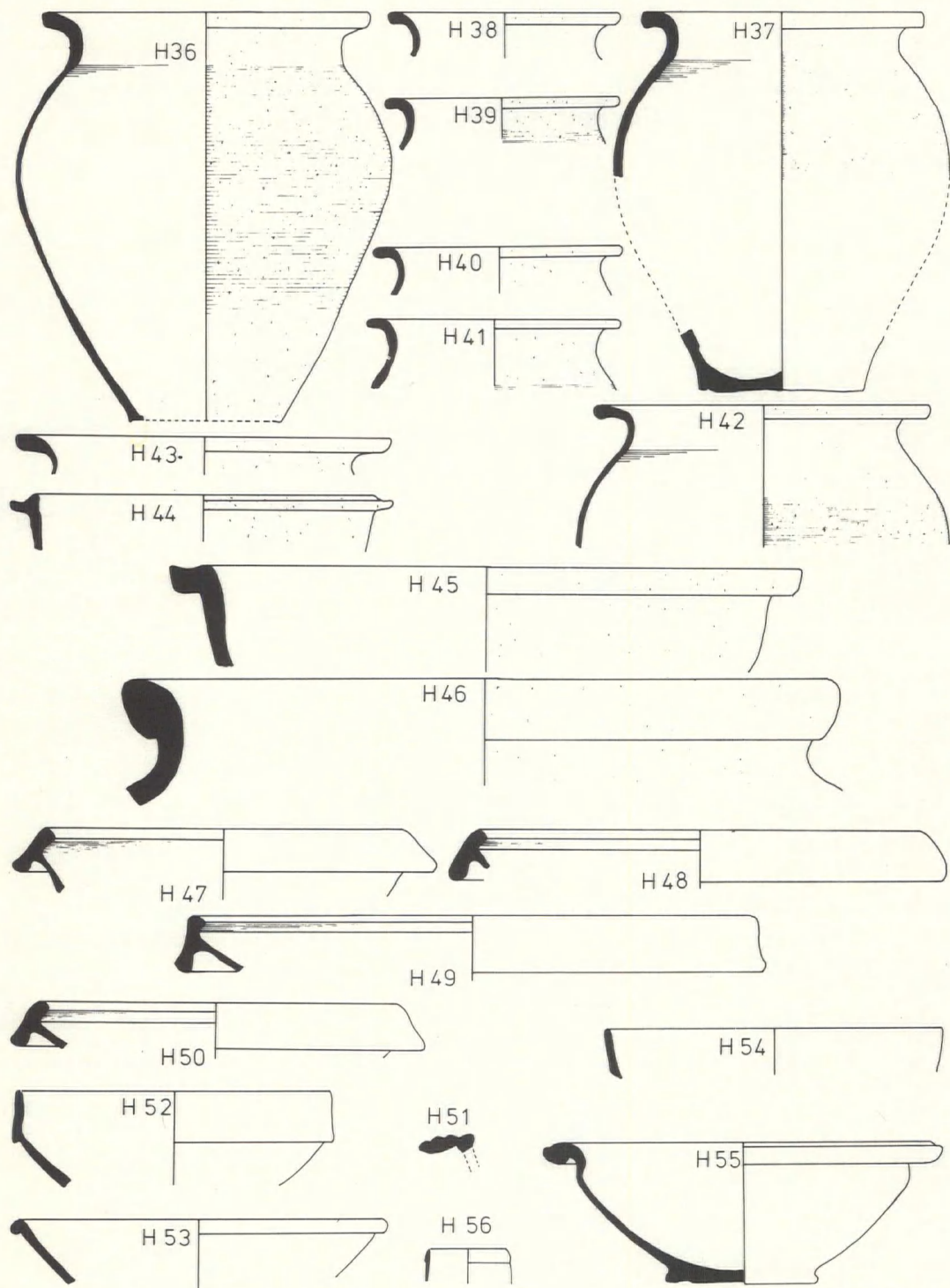


Fig. 6 Late Roman pottery (1/4)

- H29 Large rim fragment from a small jar in coarse buff-brown calcite-gritted ware (D1). The roughened surfaces probably due to abrasion (not the original finish). Thickened, everted rim becoming quite thin at the neck. No trace of sooting.
- H30 Rim fragment from a jar with slightly thickened, everted rim. Calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Heavy sooting obscures the original surface colour. Smaller version of *Shakenoak II* 307 (black levels to south of building B: second half third century).
- H31 Five joining fragments from the rim and neck of a jar in orange-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Simple everted rim. Heavily sooted through use in cooking. Smaller version of *Park Street* fig. 19, no. 33 (staircase well: first half fourth century) and *Shakenoak II* 305 (black levels to south of building B: second half third century).
- H32 Rim fragment from a jar with simple, everted rim. Calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Heavy sooting obscures the original surface colour. A more angular version of *Shakenoak II* 307 (black levels to south of building B: second half third century).
- H33 Rim fragment from a jar in orange-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Thickened, everted rim tending towards a hooked profile. Slight traces of rilling. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes.
- H34 Large rim and shoulder fragment from a jar in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Everted rim of hooked profile. Outer surface rilled and slightly blackened through use in cooking.
- H35 Rim fragment from a jar in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Everted rim of hooked profile. No sooting.
- H36 Several fragments, giving an almost complete profile, from a jar in orange-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1) and combed outer surface. Rather square, everted rim. Heavily sooted through use in cooking. Cf. *Park Street* fig. 19, no 31 (staircase well: first half fourth century).
- H37 Part of a jar in orange-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Faint rilling on outer surface. Thickened, everted rim tending to become hooked. The base may come from the same vessel. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Park Street* fig. 20, No. 8 (burnt layer on cellar floor: late fourth century).
- H38 Rim fragment from a jar in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (d1). Thickened, everted rim. Heavily blackened through use in cooking.
- H39 Rim fragment from a jar in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Sharply everted rim. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Brixworth* 250 (later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century).
- H40 Rim fragment from a jar in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Sharply everted rim, slightly thickened. Traces of sooting on outer and inner surfaces.
- H41 Rim fragment from a jar in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Sharply everted rim. Very faint traces of rilling on neck. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes.
- H42 Three conjoined fragments from a jar in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth soapy finish (D1). Faint rilling on exterior. Thickened everted rim. No evidence to show that this vessel had been used in cooking.
- H43 Two conjoined rim fragments from a jar in coarse buff-brown calcite-gritted ware (D1). Somewhat harsher surfaces than usual, perhaps due to abrasion. Squarish, everted rim. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Brixworth* 253 (later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century).
- H44 Rim fragment from a large flanged bowl in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Horizontal flange with a very slight upward curve. No trace of sooting. Cf. the late examples from Lockleys (*Lockleys* fig. 13, no. 8: mid fourth century pit) and Verulamium (*Verulamium I* 1258: A.D. 350-410+). The three bowls from the burnt layer on the cellar floor at Park Street (*Park Street* fig. 20, nos. 5-7: late fourth century) are in the same tradition.
- H45 Fragment from a large flanged bowl in buff-brown to buff-orange calcite-gritted ware, with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Heavy, squarish flange hollowed on the top and

rounded underneath. This bowl could well have been made in the Harrold area, but there is also a very close parallel from Ecton (*Johnston* fig. 7, no. 58). Cf. *Brixworth* 261 (disturbed levels above bath suite: fourth century); *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 23, no. 9 (disturbed levels: later fourth century) *Park Street* fig. 18, no. 27 (staircase well: first half fourth century) for rim profile and fig. 20, nos. 5-7 (burnt layer on cellar floor: late fourth century) and *Verulamium I* 1212 (A.D. 360-70).

- H46 Part of the neck and rim of a large storage jar in buff-brown to orange-brown calcite-gritted ware with fairly smooth, soapy finish (D1). Undercut, rounded rim, rather square externally. Cf. *Brixworth* 259 (later filling of outbuilding I: late third or first half fourth century) for rim profile.

Mortaria from the Hartshill – Mancetter potteries, Warwickshire. Gillam 280 (A.D. 210-320).

- H47 Two conjoined fragments from a hammerhead mortarium in hard, slightly sandy pipe-clay fabric with thick pinkish-buff core. A few red-brown, dark brown and black grits survive.
- H48 Large fragment from a hammerhead mortarium in hard, slightly sandy pipe-clay fabric. No grits survive. There are two very slight thumb-depressions for a spout.
- H49 Fragment from a hammerhead mortarium in hard, slightly sandy pipe-clay fabric. Angular red-brown, dark brown and black grits.
- H50 Part of a hammerhead mortarium in hard, slightly sandy pipe-clay fabric with thick pinkish-buff core. Prolific red brown, dark brown and black grit on the fragment.

Mortaria from kilns in the lower Nene Valley (such as those at Stibbington).

Hartley fig 3, no. 10. Third or fourth century.

- H51 Fragment from a mortarium with reeded flange. Hard white fabric with buff-orange coating.

Fine ware. Colour-coated ware from kilns in the Oxford region and the lower Nene Valley.

(a) Products of the Oxford Region.

- H52 Fragment from a mortarium, imitating samian form 45, in sandy, micaceous orange ware

with traces of a red slip and translucent white, grey, orange and red-brown grits. Cf. *Dorchester* 213 and 216 (fourth century or later accumulation at the back of the defences): *Shakenoak I* 69 (period 3: c. A.D. 250-430); *Verulamium I* 1192 (A.D. 275-360) and 1222 (A.D. 360-70) and *Young (1973)* fig. 2, no. 19. Late third or fourth century.

- H53 Fragment from a bowl in sandy, micaceous orange ware with lighter core and glossy red coating. A copy of samian form 31. Cf. the series from a late third-century deposit at Shakenoak (*Shakenoak II* 318-328) and *Park Street* fig. 21, no. 10 (furnace in room XI: late fourth century).

(b) Products of the lower Nene Valley.

- H54 Fragment from a straight-sided dish in hard white ware with dark bluish-grey coating.
- H55 Several fragments from a bowl, derived ultimately from samian form 36, in hard white ware with patchy orange to dark brown and dark bluish-grey coating. Similar vessels were made at Stibbington in the late third or early fourth century. *Brixworth* 309 (upper levels west of living-quarters range: late third or first half fourth century) and *Hartley* fig. 3 no. 7 (late third or early fourth century).
- H56 Rim fragment from a small beaker in light bluish-grey ware with much darker coating.
- H57 Several fragments from a wide-mouthed jar in pinkish-buff ware with dark bluish-grey coating. Single groove on neck. The colour-coated version of a grey ware form commonly found on sites in the Nene Valley in the third and fourth centuries (cf. *Brixworth* 125-126 and *Park Street* fig 21, no. 2).
- H58 Several fragments from a wide-mouthed jar in coarser, sandy white ware with inferior reddish-brown coating. Shoulder and girth grooves. See note to H57.

The ditch D14 group contained, in addition to the forms illustrated, small sherds from pots similar to numbers H6, H8, H10, H15, H20 (2), H22, H32, H35, H38, H41, H43, and H46, making 71 vessels in all. These last are not included in the statistical analysis above. There was one stray small piece of very abraded late second century samian.

The complete analysis of all the sherds is: sandy wares 184 (38%), calcite gritted 211 (44%), colour coated 66 (14%), Oxford ware 14 (3%), and mortaria 4 (1%).

GROUP II (A.D. 300-40).

Upper filling of ditch D10.

- T59 A nearly complete section of a straight-sided dish in hard, sandy bluish ware (B2). The pointed rim, internal groove at junction of wall and base and external chamfer are all characteristics of the Ecton potters (see *Brixworth* 15 (filling of room III: Antonine) and *Johnston* fig. 7, no. 43 (from Ecton) and p. 81). The ware, too, is very similar to that found at Ecton. If this vessel has been correctly attributed then this is the most southerly site from which a product of the Ecton kilns has been identified.
- T60 Part of a straight-sided dish in sandy grey ware (A2). Cf. *Verulamium I* 1179 (main filling of cellar (B I 9): A.D. 310-15).
- T61 Fragment from a straight-sided dish in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Smooth darker surface externally. Cf. *Verulamium I* 1128 (A.D. 300-15) for profile.
- T62 Fragment from a small pie-dish in sandy grey ware (A1). Triangular-shaped rim (see note to H6).
- T63 Rim fragment from a small pie-dish or bowl in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Similar rim to T62 (see note to H6). An unusually upright wall for a pie-dish.
- T64 Two large joining fragments from a pie-dish in dark grey ware with sandy finish. (C1). Fairly heavy roll rim (a common third-century profile).
- T65 Fragment from a flanged bowl in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). The fairly heavy flange inclines downwards. There appears to be two grooves on the outer surface, but the curvature of the latter suggests that it may be part of a scored decoration. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Verulamium I* 1168 (main filling of cellar (B I 9): A.D. 310-15).
- T66 Four conjoined fragments from a flanged bowl in dark grey ware with smoothed surfaces (C1). The pronounced flange, which appears to have been burnished, inclines downwards. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Brixworth* 43 (above gravel spread to south of bath suite and later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century) and *Verulamium I* 1165 (main filling of cellar (B I 9): A.D. 310-15).
- T67 Fragment from a flanged bowl in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Heavy, squarish rim inclined downwards. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. the coarse, heavy rims of the later fourth and early fifth centuries e.g. *Shakenoak I* 52 (period 3b: c. A.D. 350-430).
- T68 Fragment from a wide-mouthed bowl (or jar) in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Thickened, everted rim rounded externally. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 23, no. 3 (range third and fourth centuries), *Lockleys* fig. 9, no. 2 (collapsed debris in room 8: fig. 9, no. 2 (collapsed debris in room 8: A.D. 300-40) and *Shakenoak II* 297 (period B.3a (gully west of building B): c. A.D. 160-250).
- T69 Fragment from a jar in sandy grey ware with darker external surfaces (A2). Simple everted rim. There is a single burnished line at the base of the neck. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 54, nos. 11-12 (room VI, level X: mid fourth century).
- T70 Deleted.
- T71 Fragment from a wide-mouthed jar or bowl in light grey ware with sandy finish (A2). Simple, everted rim. Shallow grooves towards the top and at the base of the neck. The latter tends to accentuate the shoulder profile. Same general type as *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 54, nos. 11-12 (room VI, level X: mid fourth century); *Johnston* fig. 7, no. 52 (from Ecton) and H17 above.
- T72 Small fragment from the rim of a wide-mouthed jar or bowl in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Thickened, everted rim well rounded on the top. There is a series of small grooves immediately below the rim. A more decorative example closely resembling the Hadrianic-Antonine series from *Brixworth* (e.g. *Brixworth* 120). Perhaps a residual sherd.
- T73 Rim fragment from a wide-mouthed jar or bowl in grey ware with sandy finish (A2). Simple, everted rim. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 24, no. 12 (level X: mid to Wall) fig. 24, no. 12 (level X: mid to later fourth century).
- T74 Tiny fragment from a small jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Simple, everted rim.
- T75 Fragment from the rim of a jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Everted rim flattened internally and rounded externally.

- T76 Rim fragment from a wide-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Thickened, everted rim rounded externally.
- T77 Rim fragment from a medium-mouthed jar in coarse, sandy grey ware (A3). Simple, everted rim. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 52, no. 47 (level IX: first quarter fourth century).
- T78 Rim fragment from a medium-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Simple, everted rim.
- T79 Fragment from the neck and rim of a wide-mouthed jar in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Squarish rim slightly rounded. Heavily abraded around the top of the rim.
- T80 Rim and shoulder fragment from a large, medium-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Thickened, everted rim only slightly rounded externally. A small groove at the base of the neck accentuates the shoulder. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 52, no. 40 (level IX: first quarter fourth century).
- T81 Two joining fragments from the rim and neck of a jar in orange-brown vesicular ware with fairly smooth, soapy finish (D1). Simple, everted rim. Outer edge of rim sooted.
- T82 Fragment from the rim of a jar in orange-brown vesicular ware with fairly smooth, soapy finish (D1). Simple, everted rim. Very slight traces of a broad, flat cordon on the neck. Heavily blackened through use in cooking.
- T83 Two conjoined fragments from the rim of a jar in calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Heavy sooting obscures the original surface colour. Thickened, everted rim squared externally.
- T84 Fragment from the rim of a large jar in patchy buff-brown to orange-brown vesicular ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Thickened, everted rim very slightly rounded on the outside. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Larger version of *Park Street* fig. 19, no. 37 (staircase well: first half fourth century).
- T85 Rim fragment from a large bowl (diam. 17-18 in) in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware (D1). The sharply everted rim has been folded under and finished off with the fingernail (or a tool). This gives a hammer-head-type profile. The very slight depression running around the upper surface of the rim may have served as a lid-seating. Possibly made in the Harrold area.
- Fine ware. Colour-coated ware from kilns in the Oxford region and the lower Nene Valley*
- (a) Products of the Oxford region.
- T86 Four fragments from a deep bowl, derived ultimately from samian form 37, in sandy, micaceous orange ware with traces of a reddish-brown slip. These bowls were sometimes decorated with stamps or rouletting (cf. *Young (1973)* fig. 4, no. 31). In this case, however, two pairs of grooves, approximating to the top and bottom of the decorated panel of the original samian form, appear to be the only embellishment. This variant of the form is not particularly common.
- T87 Fragment from a bowl, imitating samian form 31R, in same ware as T86. See H53 for references.
- T88 Fragment from a bowl, derived ultimately from samian form 36, in sandy, micaceous orange ware with buff core. Traces of a red coating. Slight groove on top of rim. There may also have been a white painted decoration, but no evidence of this survives due to the heavily abraded condition of the sherd (cf. *Young (1973)* fig 4, no. 28, 29). The fabric is more granular than that of H52-3, T86-7 and Z126 and it may not be a product of the Oxford kilns.
- (b) Products of the lower Nene Valley
- T89 Fragment from a straight-sided dish in pinkish-buff to buff ware (the fabric exhibits a sandwich effect, buff being the colour of the core). Reddish-brown coating with darker, purplish-brown area externally. Cf. *Brixworth* 308 (disturbed levels above bath suite: later fourth century); *Shakenoak I* 22 (period 3b: c. A.D. 350-430) and *Shakenoak III* 386 (period F. 2: early fifth century).
- T90 Fragment from the rim of a beaker in buff ware with dark brown coating.
- T91 Three conjoined rim fragments from a beaker in yellowish-buff ware with dark bluish-grey coating. A fourth fragment, with decoration *en barbotine*, may well come from the body of the same vessel. For the vessel type see *Park Street* fig. 19, no. 52.
- T92 Large fragment from the neck and shoulder of a small beaker or bowl in hard white ware with patchy orange-brown to dark bluish-grey coating. The form of the vessel, with tall, slightly outcurving neck and globular body, is unusual. For the more usual beaker shape see *Roman Colchester* and

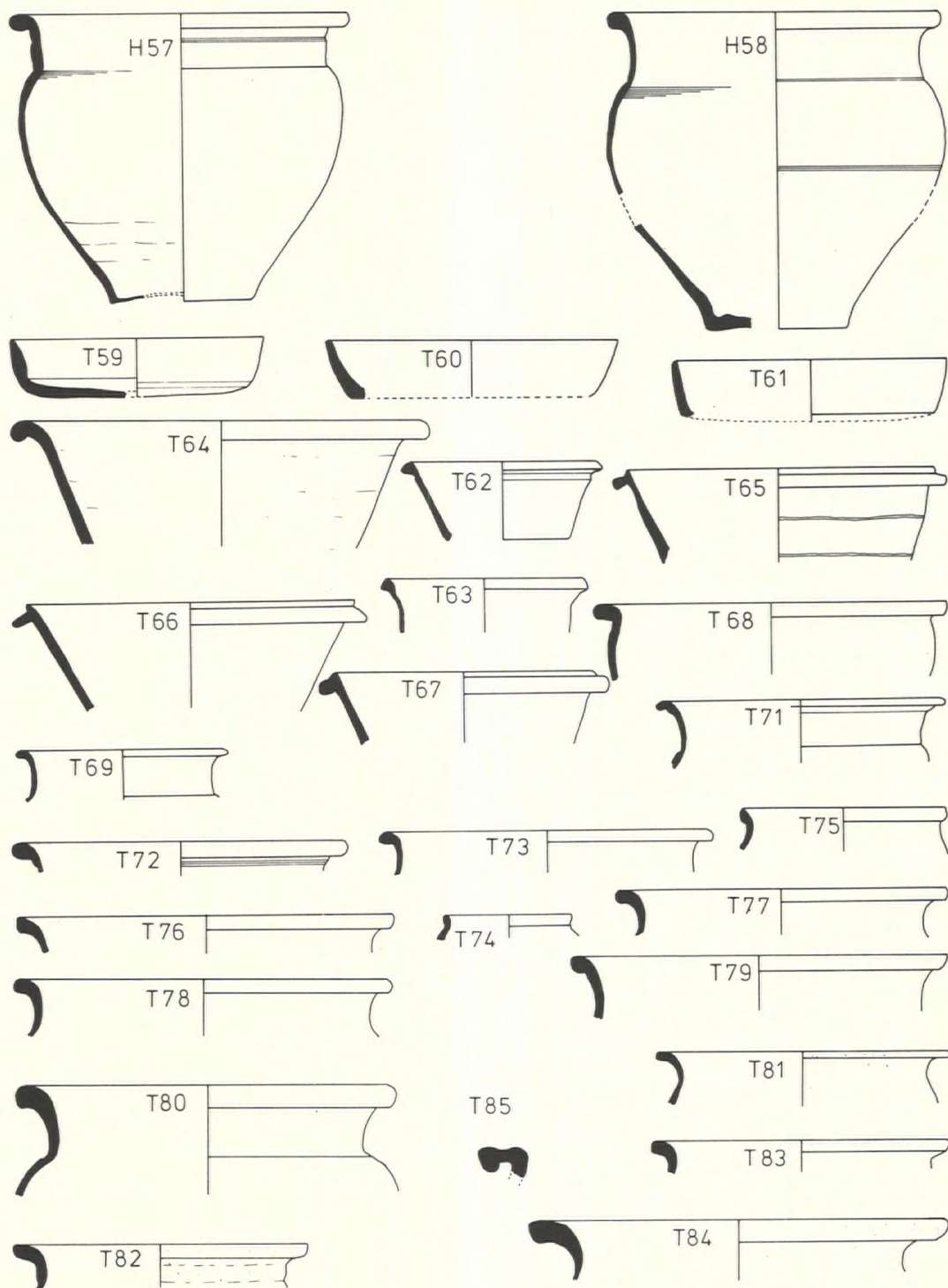


Fig. 7 Late Roman pottery (¼)

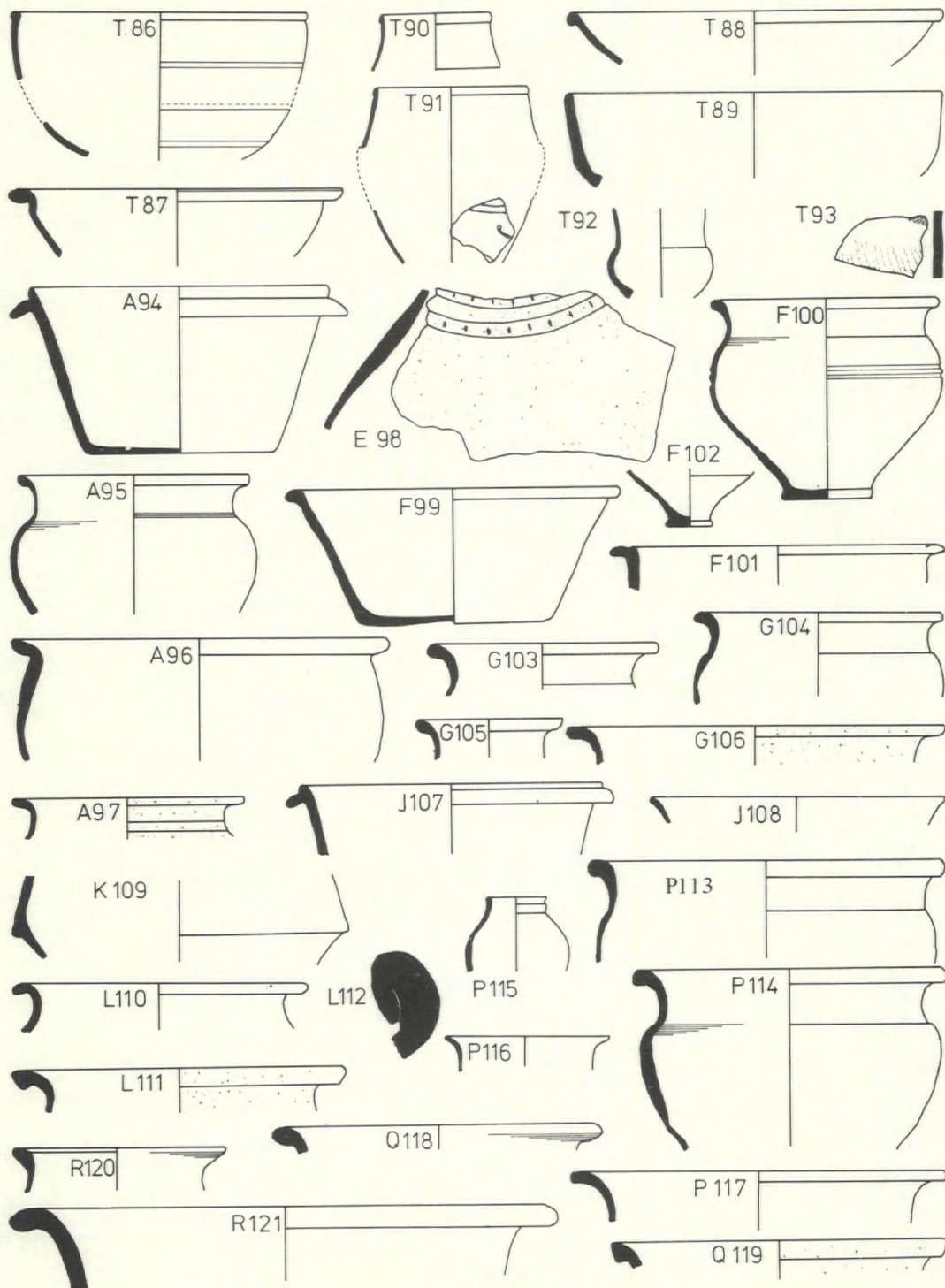


Fig. 8 Late Roman pottery (¼)

Colchester Kilns forms 408 and 409, there dated to the third and fourth centuries. The thickness of the fabric suggests a fairly late date, probably mid to late fourth century.

- T93 Fragment from the body of a large jar in similar ware to H58 with traces of a dark reddish-brown slip and part of a wide band of rouletting.

Ditch D10 group contained, in addition to the pots illustrated, small sherds from vessels similar to H4, H6, H31, H32, H33, H43, H46, T61, T62, T64, T67(2), T68 and T72, i.e. 51 pots in all. These last are not included in the statistical analysis given above. There was also a fragment of indented colour coated ware, and 3 stray sherds of very abraded samian, including a late second century form of Remondorff 30.

The complete analysis of all the sherds is: sandy wares 327 (69%), calcite gritted 91 (19%), colour coated 16 (3%), Oxford ware 36 (8%), and mortarium 1 (0.2%).

Miscellaneous sherds from various parts of the site

(i) From the filling of ditch D5

- A94 Part of a flanged bowl in coarse grey ware with very hard, sandy finish (A3). The pronounced flange inclines downwards. No external sooting. Cf. *Brixworth* 43 (above gravel spread south of bath suite and later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century) and *Verulamium I* 1165 (main filling of cellar (B I 9): A.D.310-15).
- A95 Several fragments, giving about two-thirds of the profile, from a medium-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware with areas of greyish-brown (the thick orange-brown core showing through in places). Slightly thickened, everted rim. Double groove at base of neck. cf. *Hartley* fig 3, no. 4 (from Stibbington).
- A96 Two large joining fragments from a wide-mouthed jar or bowl with patchy buff-brown to dark grey surfaces and sandy finish (c1). The fabric exhibits a sandwich effect of orange-brown and dark grey, the latter being the colour of the core. The surfaces are pitted where calcitic particles have been leached out. Everted rim flattened on the top and rounded underneath. Cf. *Lockleys* fig. 9, nos. 2 and (for rim profile) 7 (collapsed debris in room 8 (A.D. 300-40).
- A97 Rim fragment from a jar in vesicular ware with fairly smooth, soapy finish (D1). Heavy sooting obscures the original surface colour. Simple, everted rim.

- (ii) From the filling of ditch D9

E98 Three joining fragments from the shoulder of a large storage-jar in buff-orange to orange-brown (buff-brown internally) calcite-gritted ware (D1). Decorated with two rows of stab-marks on the highest part of the shoulder. There are also traces of a fine rilling.

- (iii) From the upper filling of ditch D10 (N).

F99 Several fragments, comprising more than half of the vessel, from a pie-dish in dark grey ware with generally sandy finish (C1). The underside of the base and the lower part of the wall (outer surface) have a smoother finish. Triangular-shaped rim rounded on the top (see note to H6).

F100 Several fragments, comprising more than half of the vessel, from a medium-mouthed jar in bluish-grey ware with sandy finish (B1). Thickened, everted rim. Double girth groove. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 54, no. 12 (room VI, level X: mid fourth century).

F101 Small fragment from a flanged bowl in dark grey ware with orange surface. Probably intended for a C1 ware. Horizontal flange. The wall of this vessel is too upright for it to be the normal pie-dish from (i.e. *Gillam* 226-7).

Fine ware. Colour-coated ware from kilns in the lower Nene Valley

F102 Base from a small beaker in light bluish-grey ware with much darker coating. Possibly from the same vessel as H56.

- (iv) From the filling of ditch D15

G103 Rim fragment from a medium-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Simple, everted rim.

G104 Fragment from a medium-mouthed jar in coarse, sandy dark grey ware (C2). Simple, everted rim. Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 24, nos. 9-10 (range second – fourth centuries).

G105 Rim fragment from a narrow-necked jar or flask in buff-grey ware with sandy finish (A2). Cf. *Leicester (Jewry Wall)* fig. 25, nos. 17-18 (range second – fourth centuries) and fig. 52, no. 19 (level IX: first quarter fourth century).

G106 Fragment from the rim of a jar in patchy buff-brown to orange-brown vesicular ware with fairly smooth, soapy finish (D1). Simple everted rim. No trace of sooting.

(v) From the filling of ditch D25

J107 Fragment from a flanged bowl in sandy black ware (C1). Upper surface of rim burnished. The pronounced flange inclines downwards. External sooting indicates use for cooking purposes. Cf. *Shakenoak I* 47 (period 3: c. A.D. 250-430) and *Verulamium I* 1127 (A.D. 300-15) and 1168 (main filling of cellar (B I 9): A.D. 310-15).

J108 Fragment from a large beaker in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Simple, everted rim. This appears to be a survival from a much earlier period.

(vi) From the filling of pit P17.

Fine ware. Central Gaulish samian ware.

K109 Heavily abraded fragment from the body of a samian form 81. Probably a rubbish survival.

(vii) From filling of ditch D19.

L110 Rim fragment from a medium-mouthed jar in coarse, sandy grey ware (A3).

L111 Fragment from the rim of a jar in reddish-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Thickened, everted rim of hooked profile. Cf. *Verulamium I* 1208 (A.D. 360-70) for rim profile.

L112 Part of the rim of a very large storage-jar in buff-orange calcite-gritted ware (D1). Rim folded over and pressed against the side of the vessel. Slightly rounded externally. The potter's finger-nail (or a tool) appears to have been run along the underside of the rim to give it a better finish. Cf. the technique of the Little Houghton (Pylon Field) potter(s) (*Johnston* fig. 6, nos. 28-33, especially no. 32).

(viii) From filling of ditch D21.

N113 Four conjoined fragments from the upper part of a wide-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Thickened, everted rim flattened on the top and rounded externally. Cf. *Lockleys* fig. 9, no. 3 (collapsed debris in room 8: A.D. 300-40).

(ix) From filling of ditch D29.

P114 Part of a wide-mouthed jar in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Similar rim to N113. A small groove at the base of the neck accentuates the shoulder. There is also a broad girth groove and a rather irregular, narrow

groove on the neck.

P115 Fragment from a small beaker of unusual form in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Plain rim and short, upright neck. The two small grooves just below the lip give a cordoned effect. A similar form, in colour-coated ware, occurs rarely at Colchester (*Roman Colchester and Colchester Kilns* form 404, there dated late second century).

P116 Small fragment from a beaker in dark grey ware with sandy finish (C1). Rim more sharply everted than J108. This also appears to be a survival from a much earlier period.

P117 Three conjoined fragments from a large jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Simple everted rim.

(x) From filling of pit P18.

Q118 Rim fragment from a jar in coarse, sandy dark grey ware (C2). Thickened, everted rim rounded on the top and flattened underneath.

Q119 Rim fragment from a jar in buff-brown vesicular ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). Thickened, everted rim squared externally. Blackened surfaces due to use in cooking. Cf. *Brixworth* 260 (later filling of outbuilding 1: late third or first half fourth century).

(xi) From filling of pit P2.

R120 Fragment from a small, medium-mouthed jar in sandy grey ware (A1). Triangular-shaped rim pointed externally.

R121 Several fragments from the upper part of a large bowl in coarse, sandy grey ware (A3). Simple, everted rim. These large, heavy bowls, often in a coarse, gritty fabric, are almost invariably late. They mostly date from the second half of the fourth century. They are the latest of the pie-dish type at Leicester (Jewry Wall) (fig. 19, nos. 24-26 (Type F): second half fourth century). Cf. also *Lockleys* fig. 13, no. 1 (mid fourth century pit) and *Verulamium I* 1216-7 (A.D. 360-70) and 1261 (A.D. 350-410+).

Mortaria from kilns in the lower Nene Valley (such as those at Stibbington.)

Third or fourth century

R122 Three joining fragments from a mortarium with well-rounded, horizontal flange. Hard, buff-orange fabric with patchy buff-orange and light bluish-grey surfaces. Prolific black grit (ironstone). A single thumb-depression

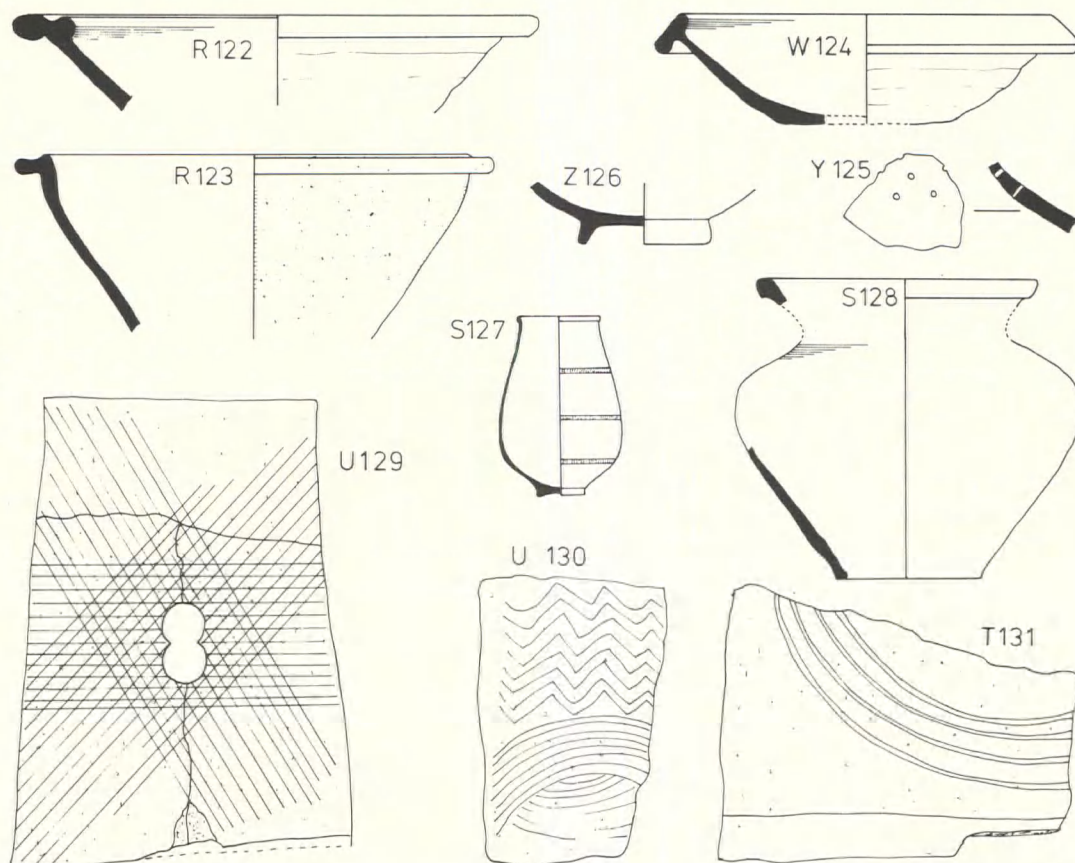


Fig. 9 Late Roman pottery and tile (1/4).

serves as a spout.

R123 Part of a flanged bowl in buff-brown calcite-gritted ware with smooth, soapy finish (D1). External surface combed. This vessel was also used for cooking purposes. Cf. the calcite-gritted flanged bowls from the burnt layer on the cellar floor at *Park Street* (fig. 20, nos. 5-7: second half fourth century) and the later examples from *Verulamium* (e.g. *Verulamium I* 1258 (A.D. 350-410+).

(xii) From filling of pit P23.

Mortaria from the Hartshill – Mancetter potteries, Warwickshire.

Gillam 280 (A.D. 210-320).

W124 Three conjoined fragments from a hammer-head mortar in hard, slightly sandy pipe-clay fabric. Prolific red-brown, dark brown and black grits.

(xiii) Probably from filling of ditch D 10.

Y125 Three joining fragments from the lower part

of a collander in coarse, sandy grey ware (A3). An unusually thick and heavy example of this type of vessel. For the probable form see *Verulamium* (1936) fig. 28, no. 22 (well in building IV: A.D. 160-90). The coarseness of the sherds, however, suggests a fairly late date.

(xiv) From the filling of pit Z

Fine ware. Colour-coated ware from kilns in the Oxford region.

Z126 Base of a mortarium in sandy, micaceous orange ware with translucent white, grey, orange and red-brown grits. No trace of the slip survives.

(xv) Cremation 2.

S127 An almost complete Rhenish ware beaker, restored from several fragments, in rather chalky buff-orange paste and glossy, 'metallic' black coating. Decorated with three lines of rouletting. The direction of the

uppermost line is opposed to that of the lower two. Cf. *Shakenoak II* 266 (lowest floor of room B.XII: late second or first half third century). This vessel was found beside the cinerary urn (S128).

S128 The cinerary urn. Part of a medium-mouthed jar in rather coarse orange-brown ware with sandy finish. Squarish rim of slightly hooked profile. The reconstruction drawing is based on the several fragments recovered and the impression left on the compacted clayey soil from the inside of the vessel. There appears to have been a pronounced shoulder and a marked constriction at the neck. A squatter version of *Verulamium* (1936) fig. 28, no. 19 (well in building IV: A.D. 160-90).

(xvi) Cremation Pottery

Cremation 1 was buried in an urn made of coarse, poorly-fired sandy ware. The fabric varied from black to buff and reddish. The base was 6in. radius; none of the vessel upper parts were recovered. (not illustrated).

Cremation 2 was associated with 3 pots.

The lower portion of a large coarse-ware vessel in sandy red-orange fabric, contained the silver scroll (fig. 3, 2). It was covered by a flat base of another jar made of a black sandy fabric, radius 7in (neither illustrated).

Tile

U129 Shelly fabric with pink exterior. A decorated voussoir tile with air hole. The breaks are top and bottom on the underside. From pit P18. Many other pieces found.

U130 Pink shelly ware, probably voussoir, a curvilinear decoration. From pit P18.

T131 Part of a shelly tegula with curved decoration. From Ditch D10.

APPENDIX 1 *Dating evidence for features.*

Features not referred to below yielded no finds.

D3	Mid-Belgic;	fig 4, no. 4
D5	Roman;	fig 8, no. A94-A97.
D9	Roman;	fig 8, no. E98.
D10	Roman;	fig 7 seq., no. T59-93.
DION	Roman;	fig 8, no. F99-F102.
D11	Roman;	few fragments of grey and shelly wares and tegulae.
D12	Roman;	a piece of tegula.
D13	Bronze Age;	fig 4, no. 1.
D14	Roman;	fig 5 seq., no. H1-H58.

D15	Roman;	fig 8, no. G103-G108.
D16	Roman;	as for D14.
D19	Roman;	fig 8, no. L110-L112.
D20	Roman;	few pieces of grey and shelly wares and tegulae and imbrices
D21	Roman;	fig 8, no. N113.
D24	Roman;	a piece of grey ware and some tegulae.
D25	Roman;	fig 8, no. J102-J108.
D27	Roman;	4 pieces of grey ware.
D29	Roman;	fig 8 no. P114-P117.
P2	Roman;	fig 8 & 9, no. R120-R123.
P17	Roman;	fig 8, no. K109.
P18	Roman	fig 8, no. Q118-Q119, fig 9, U129-U130.
P23	Roman;	fig 9, no. W124.

APPENDIX II *Osteological Evidence* *Belgic Skeletons*

All the skeletons were badly eroded by the acid sandy soil, making it impossible to get satisfactory photographs or to make many measurements. They are dated by the beaker with S2 (fig 4, no. 5).

S1

Top of the skull removed by the graders. From the slightness of the bones and the absence of pronounced tuberosities and trochanters the skeleton would appear to be female. (The pelvis was not reconstructable). The lambdoid and coronal sutures were fused suggesting an age of about 50 years. The teeth were fairly complete and free from any disease, although rather worn. The lower jaw was short of 2 left molars and 1 right molar; the upper jaw was less 1 left and 1 right molar; the upper molars except one on the left.

Only the left ulna remained intact, it was 10.79in. The length of the skeleton *in situ* was 5ft 4in.

S2

Again the bones were in very poor condition, and the top of the skull was missing.

The very small slight bones and thin skull suggest a female.

The fused lambdoid suture indicates an age not less than 50. The remarkable set of teeth was complete and free from disease; there was a considerable amount of wear.

The right ulna was 9.15in, all the other bones being too eroded to measure.

The *in situ* skeleton was 5ft long.

S3

Only the lower part of the skull, vertebrae, and long bones survived. A fragment of femur had a well-developed trochanter suggesting a male.

No estimate of age can be given except post-adolescence.

An *in situ* measurement of the left femur and tibia of 32 in suggests a height of 5ft 6ins.

S4

Very poorly preserved, hardly any ribs left. Found in a well-defined grave 6ft 7in long by 2ft 6in wide.

A thick skull and fairly well-developed trochanter, therefore probably a male.

Again the lambdoid suture was fused indicating an age of over 50.

The teeth were well-worn and undiseased; in the upper jaw only the incisors and one canine survived, and in the lower only the incisors.

An *in situ* left femur measurement of Emax was 18.5 in, giving a height of 5ft 9in.

Cremations

Cremation 1 Roman

A small part of a cremation, with the bones roughly broken up. A piece of femur had a large trochanter, and all the skull fragments were very thick. A piece of suture, coronal or sagittal, was well fused. Probably a male over 40.

Dated by approximate association with cremation 2.

Cremation 2 Roman

Selected well-calcined and crushed bones half filled the urn (fig. 9, S128). None of the surviving skull fragments with suture was fused, suggesting the person was under 30: all the pieces were very thin indicating possibly a female or young person about 10-20.

Dated by the Rhenish beaker (fig. 9, S127).

Cremation 3 Early Iron Age

A good selection of well-calcined bones, crushed

to medium sized fragments. Some pieces of femur had well-developed trochanters. Skull fragments were thick and none of the sutures was fused. The skeleton, therefore, was probably male, aged about 30 years.

Dated by the urn, (fig. 4, no. 3).

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NOTES

- 1 D.N. Hall and J.B. Hutchings, 'The distribution of archaeological sites between the Ouse and Nene valleys', *Beds Arch J* 7 (1972), 9 site F3.
- 2 Private communication from Alison Taylor, excavating for Bedfordshire County Council.
- 3 Private communication from D. Jackson.
- 4 A.D. and M Rule, *Chichester Excavations I* (1970) 53-126.
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- 7 A.R. Hands, report to CBA Group 9 Conference, Oxford, 1973.
- 8 D. Jackson, *Bull. Northants. Fed. Arch Soc.* 4 (1970) 47.
- 9 G.J. Dring *Beds. Arch J.*, 6 (1971) 68-69.
- 10 A.E. Wilson, *A Guide to the Bronze Age Collection Worthing Museum Publications* 2.
- 11 P.J. Woods wishes to thank Mrs. K.F. Hartley for examining and reporting on the mortaria from Radwell and C.J. Young for his comments on the Oxford wares from Radwell.

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Some Anglo-Saxon Pottery from Luton

DAVID H. KENNETT

SUMMARY

The acquisition of a pot from Luton by the British Museum, has given rise to an examination of the body of pottery from the Argyle Avenue, Luton cemetery. These vessels are illustrated for the first time and it is suggested that while two Buckelurnen and a carinated bowl are fifth century, a vessel with triangular panel style decoration is indicative of a late sixth century date.

In December 1963 the British Museum purchased an Anglo-Saxon pot claimed by its donor to have been found in Biscot Road, not far from the site of the Argyle Avenue, Luton, cemetery,¹ during development of the area in the late 1920s.² As the donor was a workman on the housing estate at the time, there seems little reason to doubt the attribution of the vessel to this provenance. It is certainly probable that other material from the cemetery may not have been collected by W. Austin and T.W. Bagshawe³ during their watching of the foundation and service trenches of the new houses.

In considering this additional vessel from the Argyle Avenue cemetery, it was decided to examine again all the pottery recovered. This, as far as it is extant in Luton Museum, has been drawn and catalogued. In view of the limited knowledge of this small group of pottery a discussion is therefore appended which considers afresh the pottery from Luton. One only (5), the footed Buckelurne of Myres group 1, is well-known. The other seven are figured for the first time, though photographs of two have previously been published.

Myres group 1 Buckelurnen, those with feet and decorated with linear or line-and-dot groove designs, with or without finger tipping, and/or dots, but *without* stamps,⁴ are fairly common in Bedfordshire. There are three from Sandy⁵ and one, known only from a Bradford Rudge water-colour, from Kempston,⁶ as well as this one from Luton (5). Their dating, most recently reviewed in the light of those from Sandy,⁵ can fairly safely be ascribed to the fifth century. Continental assoc-

iations, in particular two from Westerwanna, numbers 586⁷ with a late fourth century brooch and 1236⁸ with a late Roman zoomorphic buckle of Hawkes type IIIA, would suggest an early beginning, especially as the buckle can be paralleled so easily at the Dorchester-on-Thames, Oxon.⁹ grave. However, the only relevant English association is that from Lackford, Suffolk, with a cruciform brooch of Aberg's group I.¹⁰

Again probably to be placed fairly early in the corpus of Anglo-Saxon pottery from Bedfordshire¹¹ is the other Buckelurne from Luton (6). This very fragmentary vessel may on account of its stamps be from any of Myres groups with stamps, namely III, IV or V.¹² On the whole, the available evidence does not suggest a profusion of stamps and perhaps it would be safer to suggest either group III or group IV. Group III are those with stamps and with feet. Group IV are those with restrained use of stamps and without feet. It can be suggested that the curvature of the vessel makes a large pot likely and one is struck by the parallel with group I Buckelurne from Somersham, Hunts.,¹³ for the probable size. The cartwheel stamp is found again on a Buckelurne from Bedfordshire, an example from Kempston, of which only a sherd remains. It cannot, I think, be claimed that this is the same stamp on both pots, but it may be that the decorative schemes were similar. The Kempston vessel has vertical bosses, slashed with diagonal grooves, the cartwheel stamp and split horizontal bosses.¹⁴ The bosses at Luton are different, being plain horizontal and split vertical, but the arrangement seems to bear a slight resemblance to that from Kempston.

The new vessel (1) can best be discussed at this point for it can be seen as midway between a late example of a group III Buckelurne,¹² with feet and restrained use of stamps, and an urn with a pedestal or footring base.¹⁵ The latter come from a wide scatter of sites, and none of those published by Myres¹⁵ is exactly a parallel to this

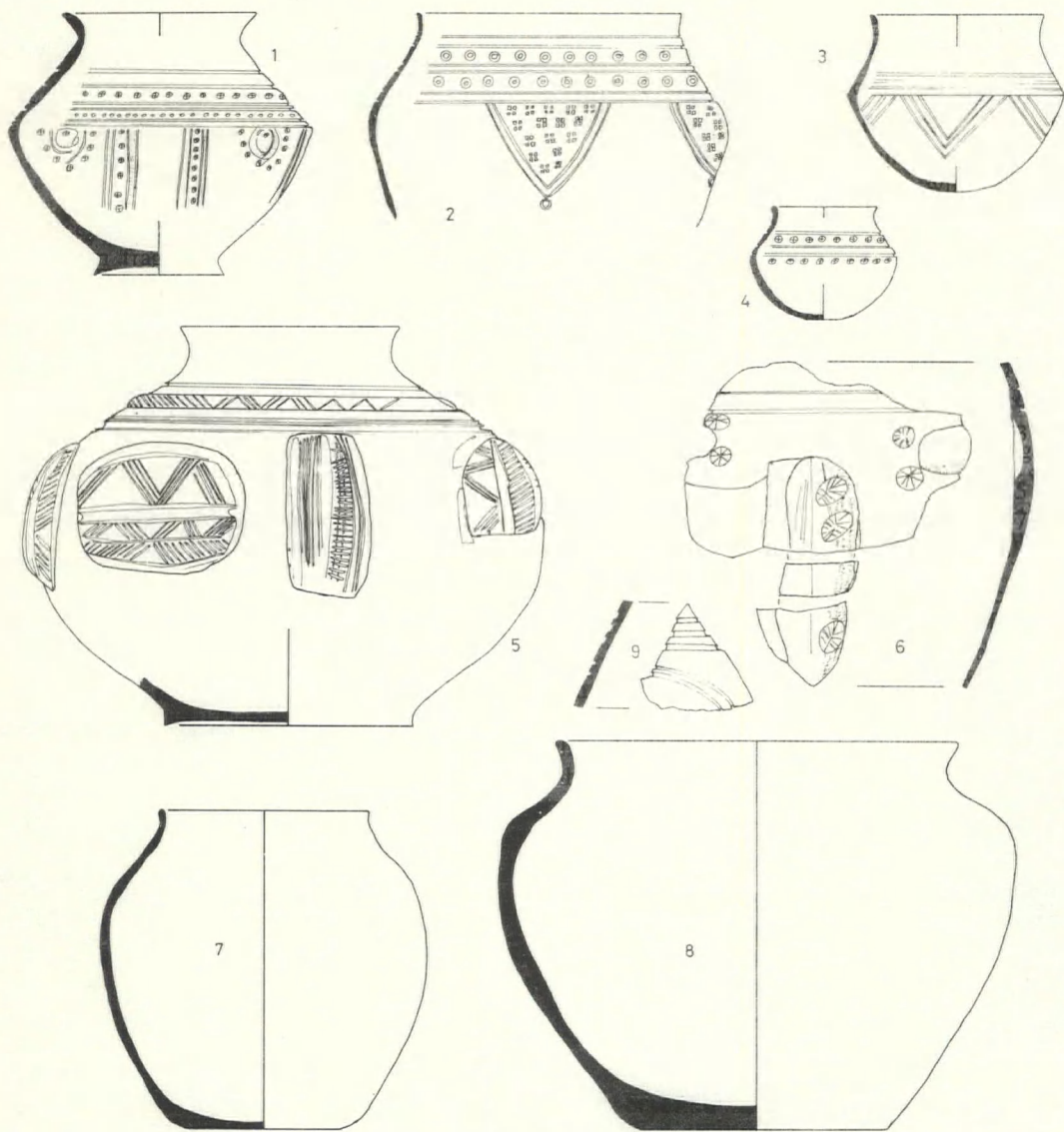


Fig. 1 Anglo-Saxon pottery from Luton (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$).

vessel. On the other hand the lack of a collar and the fairly light vertical bosses and hollow oval bosses do not make comparison with urns like that from Newton-in-the-Willows, Northants.,¹⁶ likely.

The general feel of the pot may suggest that an attribution to the late fifth century may not be incorrect. Dr. Myres, however, is of the opinion that the vessel probably dates to after 500 and compares with a late group V Buckelurne from Girton.¹⁷ It has also been suggested to me by R.K. Hagen that the vessel may be much later than this

and might in fact be a seventh century piece. Clearly no agreement seems possible on the date and affinities of the piece.

It is though clear that even if the new vessel (1) is not to be dated to the late fifth century, there are other vessels at Luton which are to be dated to fifth century. The sherd of a large cremation urn with stehende Bogen designs (9) is one such. Myres¹⁸ illustrates a selection and one can point to the use of arched bosses on the group V Buckelurne from Sandy¹⁹ as the only other use

of stehende Bogen in Bedfordshire known to me.

One, at least of the recorded accessory vessels (3) is likely to be similar in date. The shape of this carinated open bowl²⁰ is very like those from Milton, Northants.,²¹ and Lackford, Suffolk.²² That from Milton was associated with a fine group I Buckelurne.²³ The use of chevron ornament can be seen in Lincolnshire both at Lovedon Hill²⁴ and at South Elkington.²⁵ At the latter, six pots - numbers 87, 117, 161, 188, 201 and 204 - can be instanced. In this (fairly pure) form of chevron ornament an early date may be suspected.²⁶

If the recorded observation of the close proximity of (3) and (8) is indeed evidence of a valid association,²⁷ and there is some doubt that the record of two pots, one (8) with a cremation, and a spearhead does represent one rather than two internments, for the two pots were found on different dates - then it would reinforce the date range which can be offered for the plain shouldered urn (8). These are thought to date somewhere about A.D. 500,²⁸ on the basis of the association of an urn from Lackford with a cruciform brooch of Aberg's group II.²⁹

The other plain pot from Luton (7) is a sub-biconical urn, of which other examples in Bedfordshire include at least three from Kempston³⁰ and one from Sandy.³¹ The type is difficult to date beyond a general observation that they have a long life within the Anglo-Saxon period.

The small accessory vessel from grave 22 (4) has a most interesting association, a small-long brooch with horned headplate and lozenge foot³². This rare type³³ includes unassociated examples from Barrington A (a pair),³⁴ High Down, Sussex,³⁵ and East Shefford, Berks.,³⁶ and one other associated pair. These come from grave 30 at Linton Heath, Cambs., and were found with a string of beads, a pair of wrist clasps and a strap end.³⁷ The small pot itself (4) is clearly a small bowl with a restrained use of stamps³⁸ and is one suspects best placed in the sixth century, though it is difficult to quote any precise parallels. This would not be inconsistent with the probable date of the brooch, which on evidence of being a form derived (albeit tenuously) from more simple types is not likely to be early.

The final vessel to be discussed (2) is clearly an example of the triangular panel style of decoration³⁹ and belongs equally clearly to the small group distinguished by a stamp at the foot of the

triangle.⁴⁰ Other vessels with this trick are those figures in the last volume of this *Journal*. From Kingsey, Oxon., Brixworth, Northants, and Dunstable.⁴⁰ The bowed sides of the triangles and the plain intervals between them are found both on this Luton pot (2) and the Kingsey vessel.⁴¹ The style is also known at Kempston,⁴² where four such vessels were found, and elsewhere in the middle Ouse valley at Moggerhanger.⁴³

It could be noted that this last is something of a surprise, not it should be pointed out from a geographical standpoint, but rather from a chronological position. It has been suggested that cremation at Kempston is confined to the fifth and early sixth centuries.⁴⁴ It can now be seen that this is not so, for these vessels clearly date to the middle years of the sixth century if not to its second half.³⁹ A similar conclusion must also be made about the Luton cemetery, for this vessel (2) is obviously one of the two ornamented cinerary urns reported as being found in fragments.⁴⁵ The other is equally clearly the fragmentary Buckelurne (6). However, only fragments representing one plain cinerary urn (7) were discovered by the author in Luton Museum, and not the three recorded by Austin.

The pottery from Luton, Argyle Avenue, as has been individually noted, spans the whole of the cemetery, with the majority of dateable vessels belonging to the fifth century. One vessel (2) of itself must, though, be late sixth century, and another (4) because of its associations is also. Both the brooch associated with (4) and the pot (2) point to contacts between the Oxford region and the district near Cambridge.⁴⁶ At Luton, these contacts are wide. Both the great square-headed brooch⁴⁷ from grave 41⁴⁸ and its associated saucer brooches⁴⁹ have south-western links. It is seen also in the pair of short-long brooches with square headplates and a lozenge foot from grave 28.⁵⁰ One could continue by citing the links of the 'Kentish type' brooch⁵¹ with brooches from Brighthampton⁵² and Abingdon⁵³ on the one hand and Linton Heath⁵⁴ on the other.

Beyond these late sixth century links, the pottery from Luton reveals another important aspect of the cemetery found at Argyle Avenue, namely the fifth century finds. Five vessels (1, 3, 5, 6 and 9) probably date to this century and form part of the corpus of fifth century finds from Luton. The remaining pieces are two brooches and a fragment from a buckle plate. The

buckle plate of Hawkes' type IIA⁵⁵ was old when buried in grave 8 with a pair of disc brooches,⁵⁶ but the two brooches are among the earliest Anglo-Saxon finds in England. The saucer brooch with four rebated coils⁵⁷ finds its only parallel at Alten Buls, Kr Zeven, Hanover⁵⁸ and the other is one of three from England. This is the brooch⁵⁹ of what has been termed 'series 2 group B of the equal-armed brooch',⁶⁰ or can more succinctly be called the 'Stutzarmfibel'. Other examples in England are, like the Luton one, unassociated. One from Kempston⁶¹ may date to c 425 and that from Pakenham, Norfolk,⁶² may not be very different in date to this or Roeder's proposed date of A.D.400 for the Luton brooch.

The German parallels to this brooch point to the close contact of the Luton cemetery with the Germanic homeland in Lower Saxony and at the mouth of the Weser. This is the same area in which the continental examples of Buckelurnen have been found. Both have been among the accoutrements of these.⁶³ Such is the importance of the Luton cemetery that is complete elucidation, which is beyond the scope of this short paper, deserves the fullest publication. To this end, the pottery has been here noted.⁶⁴

CATALOGUE

1 Small urn in dark grey ware fired to light brown and red brown surfaces with black patches. Four grooves at base of neck with a row of quadripartite circle stamps between the second and third rows and dimples below, with two grooves above the shoulder. On the body of the pot are vertical bosses in pairs ornamented with quadripartite stamps and between each of the four pairs of vertical bosses is a plain area with a small hollow oval boss surrounded by quadripartite stamps and with a central stamp. There is a foot ring to the base. Rim diameter 10.2cm, height 14.2cm.
Museum British Museum, register number 1963, 12-3, 1.
Literature unpublished; Myres, *Corpus*, 4125

2 Fragments of a biconical urn in grey burnished ware with shell grits included in the ware. Sufficient fragments are extant to give the shape of the upper part of the pot and the scheme of the decoration. Biconical vessel with a slightly everted rim with an

arrangement of three pairs of grooves separated by a row of concentric circle stamps. Below the lowest groove are pendant triangles filled with quadripartite stamps and terminating in a circle stamp.

Museum Luton Museum, accession number L/136/33.

Literature previously unpublished.

3 Grave 20

Small bowl, in a red brown ware, carinated with an everted rim. Three grooves above the shoulder and three line chevrons on the body. Rim diameter 9.2cm, height 9.5cm.
Museum Luton Museum, accession number L/57/33.

Literature Austin, 1928, pl 37.2,1 Myres, *Corpus*, 2945.

4 Grave 22

Small pot in black ware, with neck grooves and two rows of cross-in-circle stamps. Rim diameter 5.6cm, height 6.1cm.

Museum Luton Museum, accession number L/66/33.

Literature Austin, 1928, pl 37.2.2; Myres, *Corpus*, 2941.

5 Buckelurne in light brown ware, blackened in places, wide shoulders with everted rim above, divided by raised collar slashed with diagonal and chevron grooving, from the main pot. On the body of the pot are four horizontal bosses alternately set with four vertical bosses, each decorated with a different arrangement of chevron and diagonal lines. The lower part is plain except for a well moulded foot ring. Rim diameter 11.6 cm, height 21.7cm.

Museum Luton Museum, accession number, 45/41/27.

Literature Austin, 1928, pl 37.1; Myres, 1969, 190, fig 22, 2944; Myres, *Corpus*, 2944.

6 Grave 16

Fragments from a Buckelurne in a red ware, fired black. No base fragments extant, and only sufficient fragments to suggest part of the ornamental design. Grooves, probably on the shoulder, above cartwheel stamps at ends of horizontal bosses, and with a vertical boss divided by a median groove and set with

cartwheel stamps.

Museum Luton Museum, accession number, L/55/33.

Literature previously unpublished.

- 7 Plain urn in black gritty ware, reconstructed from fragments, and lacking most of the rim. Height 16.6cm, base diameter 8.6cm. Museum Luton Museum, accession number, L/34/33.
Literature previously unpublished; Myres, *Corpus*, 2942.
- 8 Grave 20
Large plain shouldered urn, retaining cremation, in black ware. Rim diameter 21.0cm, height 21.0cm, base diameter 13.8cm. Museum Luton Museum, accession number, L/56/33.
Literature noted Austin, 1928, 185 and 188, not illustrated; Myres, *Corpus*, 2943.
- 9 Sherd from large urn; black, heavily burnished ware. Three neck grooves and two arched grooves of a stehende Bogen type. Museum Luton Museum, accession number, BL/137/33.
Literature previously unpublished; Myres, *Corpus*, 2946.

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NOTES

- 1 The contemporary account is Austin, 1928, with a preliminary note by W. Austin, *History of Luton* 1, (1928), 32-34; For location, see map, *Beds Arch J* 6, 1971, 24.
- 2 A brief comment on housing developments in Luton appears J. Dyer, F. Stygall and J. Dony, *The Story of Luton* (1964) 194. The author has in preparation a more complete analysis of housing developments in Luton in the early twentieth century.
- 3 Austin, 1928, 179. The lack of associations for many objects confirms the incompleteness of the record of the cemetery.
- 4 Myres, 1969, 45-46; see also Myres, 1954.
- 5 Kennett, 1970, 18-21 and 30 with fig 6. 2-3 and Braybrooke; also Myres, 1954, 208 and pl 21.b-c, with provenance corrected to Sandy by Myres, *Ant J* 37, 1957, 224.
- 6 Fitch, 1868, pl 41 top; Kennett, *Kempston*, object 471.
- 7 Zimmer-Linnfeld, 1960, fig 78.586.
- 8 Zimmer-Linnfeld, 1960, fig 157.1236.
- 9 Hawkes, 1961, 10-21, 59-60, fig 20.
- 10 Lethbridge, 1951, fig 2.48.2491.
- 11 The publication of the Kempston pottery in detail will complete the corpus of Anglo-Saxon pottery from the county.
- 12 Myres, 1969, 45-47.
- 13 Myres, 1954, 208, pl 21a.
- 14 Bedford Museum, unnumbered, but clearly part of the vessel illustrated Fitch, 1868, pl 42 third row right. The sherd is Kennett, *Kempston*, object 389; the vessel, *ibid* object 474.
- 15 Myres, 1969, 49 and 196 with fig 25.

- 16 Myres, 1969, 194, fig 24.744.
- 17 D. Myres *in litore* to the author December 1972.
- 18 Myres, 1969, 188 and fig. 21.
- 19 Kennett, 1970, 30 and fig 6.1.
- 20 Myres, 1969, 26 and 56 with fig 5.
- 21 Myres, 1969, 156, fig 5.807; Kennett, 1969, 47 and fig. 1.3.
- 22 Myres, 1969, 156, fig 5.900
- 23 Myres, 1969, 190, fig 22.808; Kennett, 1969, 47, fig 1.2; Myres is the more accurate representation.
- 24 Myres, 1969, 178, fig 16.1322 and 1356.
- 25 G. Webster, 'An Anglo-Saxon urnfield at South Elkington, Louth, Lincolnshire', *Arch J* 108, (1951), 25-64, especially figs 4 and 5.
- 26 Myres, 1969, 39-40.
- 27 Austin, 1928, 185.
- 28 Myres, 1969, 26.
- 29 Myres, 1969, 154 and fig 4.914.
- 30 Bedford Museum, 3763, 3776, and B.M. 114, respectively Kennett, *Kempston* objects 363, 376, and 408; Bedford Museum, B.M. 13 and an unnumbered vessel marked 'B.T.C.1865', respectively Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 380 and 381, are probably also sub-biconical urns, but lack the shoulder neck and rim to make identification certain.
- 31 Kennett, 1970, 25 and 31 with fig 7.8.
- 32 Austin, 1928, pl.30.3.
- 33 Leeds, 1945, 38 and 101.
- 34 Leeds, 1945, fig 23.h.
- 35 Leeds, 1945, fig 23.g.
- 36 British Museum, register number, 1893, 7-16, 37, unpublished.
- 37 Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, accession numbers 1948.1549-1551; *Arch J* 9 (1851).
- 38 Myres, 1969, 228 and fig 41.
- 39 Myres, 1969, 115-119 with map 9; and 204 with fig 29 and pl 6 for a full survey; supplemented locally by Kennett, 1971.
- 40 Kennett, 1971, 40, and fig 3.
- 41 Kennett, 1971, 42-43 and fig 3.394. This vessel is in Aylesbury Museum.
- 42 Kennett, 1971, 41-42 and fig 2.
- 43 Kennett, 1971, 41 and fig 1.
- 44 Kennett, 1970, 26, drawing on Kennett, *Kempston*, whose pottery discussion is in the course of considerable revision.
- 45 Austin, 1928, 185.
- 46 These contacts are documented Kennett, 1971, 40-41.
- 47 Austin, 1928, pl 29.
- 48 Not included in the grave list in Austin, 1928, but given in summary fashion, *ibid* 182.
- 49 Austin, 1928, pl 27.1.3. and 4.
- 50 Austin, 1928, 191 and pl 30.1 and 2.
- 51 Austin 1928, pl 30.4.
- 52 E.T. Leeds, *Early Anglo-Saxon Art and Archaeology* (1936), pl 15, top row 4.
- 53 E. T. Leeds and D. B. Harden, *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Abingdon, Berkshire* (1936), 54 and pl 16.117.
- 54 Leeds, 1945, fig 34.a.
- 55 Austin, 1928, pl 87 and pl 32.8; Hawkes, 1961, 68 and fig 19 bis. a.
- 56 Austin, 1928, pl 27.2.
- 57 Austin, 1928, pl 28.1.2.
- 58 *Archaeologia* 63 (1912), 195 and fig 22.
- 59 Austin, 1928, pl 32.1-3 (for front, side and pin views).
- 60 A. Plettke, *Ursprung und Ausbreitung der Angelen in Saschen* (1921), 21-25; as revised J. Werner, 'Kriegergraber aus der ersten Halfte des 5 Jahrhunderts . . .', *Bonn J* 158 (1958), especially, 376-379, with abb 4-7, and fundliste 407-408 with karte 1 (= abb 7); for illustrations of continental examples parallel to those from Luton and Kempston see F. Roeder, 'Typologisch-Chronologische studien zu Mittelsach der Volkerwanderungszeit', *Jahrbuch des Provinzial Museums , Hannover* 5 (1930); and E. Grohne, *Mahndorf* (1953).
- 61 British Museum, register number, 1891, 6-24, 212; Kennett, *Kempston* object 212; illustrated accessibly *V C H Beds* 1 (1904) 179 and *British Museum Guide to Anglo-Saxon and Foreign Teutonic Antiquities* (1923).
- 62 Ashmolean Museum, accession number 1927.139.
- 63 e.g. Westerwanna and Mahndorf.
- 64 Paper completed November 1972.

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Seventh Century Cemeteries in the Ouse Valley

DAVID H. KENNETT

SUMMARY

Intensive museum research has revealed a wide range of cemeteries and individual burials of seventh century date from the Ouse valley. Sites in Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire are catalogued in detail. Where the material is not well known, as with the Kempston cemetery, it is catalogued fully; where recently published only a more summary note has been made.

INTRODUCTION

It has become increasingly recognised in the last forty years that the accoutrements of the last phase of Anglo-Saxon cemeteries differ not merely in detail but also radically in form from those of the cemeteries of the fifth and sixth century. Since the seminal work of Leeds¹ and that of Lethbridge on Cambridgeshire,² it has become obvious that the phase has specific grave goods, and it has become apparent that these can be recognised in many areas of England from as widespread localities as Yorkshire,³ the Peak District,⁴ the Northamptonshire Uplands,⁵ the upper Thames Valley,⁶ and Wiltshire.⁷ The present gazetteer seeks merely to catalogue the material from the Ouse river valley and beyond in the Chiltern Hills of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

The gazetteer has been built up from a search of the relevant periodical and other literature and more particularly from an intensive examination of the museum collections of the area. In this paper no material of this phase has been illustrated. It is a well-known enough assemblage and it would not have been part of the concept of a gazetteer to have provided illustrations of the whole of the seventh century material from a site such as Kempston. The gazetteer has been designed to supplement the discussion of the seventh century material of the Northamptonshire Uplands which will be appearing elsewhere.

GAZETTEER

BEDFORDSHIRE

ASTWICK TL 216385

A small cemetery of weapon-producing graves, including a sugar-loaf shield boss, a sword and spearheads.

Museum British Museum, register numbers, 1915, 12-8, 353/365.

Literature D.H. Kennett, 'Seventh Century Finds from Astwick; *Beds Arch J* 7, 1972, 45-51.

CHAMBERLAIN'S BARN, LEIGHTON BUZZARD SP 928262

Two cemeteries, with 19 and 68 identifiable graves found 1931-36.

Museum Luton Museum, accession number 14/57.

Literature M. Hyslop, 'Two Anglo-Saxon cemeteries at Chamberlain's Barn, Leighton Buzzard', *Arch J* 120, 1963, 161-200.

CLIFTON TL 169388

Small plain pot, probably an accessory vessel to a burial.

Museum British Museum, register number, 1915, 12-8, 207.

Literature *Beds Arch J* 7, 1972, 42 and fig 4.

HARROLD SP 953573

Cemetery of 14 graves and some unassociated finds, found 1951-53, in a complex of sites including a large pre-Roman settlement and a probable Viking grave.

Museum Bedford Museum

Literature V.I. Evison, in *Beds Arch J* 5, 1970, 38-46 with figs 12-14.

KEMPSTON TL 031474⁸

An extensive cemetery beginning early in the fifth century with about 300 burials, of which over 156 have been recorded in detail. Nine definite Christian Saxon graves can be identified as well as a number of unassociated objects.

Graves:

Grave 3, found 1845, has a silver pendant with gold foil facings, originally four of which three are extant, two with garnet settings, diameter 47mm.

Museum Bedford Museum, B M 160.

Literature *Bedford Times* 28 February, 1846;

Beds Arch J 6, 1971, 2.

Grave 32b, found 1863, recorded as one of many graves on 20 October 1863.

Objects include a pear-shaped garnet set in a gold casing, a pendant of the Roundway-Desborough type, length 22mm. This complex group is also recorded with the Kempston cone beaker, beads including seven of crystal, a bronze ear and tooth-pick set on a bronze ring, and a ring and handle of bronze from a wooden object, which probably represents two graves super-imposed on one another.

Museum British Museum, reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 4. (garnet pendant).

Literature Minute Book 343; Fitch, 1864, 286-7; Fitch, 1868, 203-4; Wyatt, 1868, 171; Kennett, *Kempston*, object 4.

Grave 34, recorded 31 October 1863, a single grave. Objects in this female grave are reported as two small circular brooches near the wrists, a string of 37 beads, two silver rings on the fingers, fragments of silver wire rings, a single bead on a ring (possibly found near the ear), a small gold ornament less than 8mm long, with filigree ornament and a small square setting of red glass or garnet.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 6.

Literature Minute Book 344; Fitch, 1864, 287 and pl.2 nos 1 and 5; Fitch, 1868, 204-5 and pl. 40 nos 1 and 5; Wyatt, 1868, 170; Kennett, *Kempston*, object 6.

Grave 42, found 16 November 1863, recorded as a single grave. Objects recorded in this grave 2ft 3in deep at right angles to others near with only part of the skeletal remains are a workbox and associated bronze chain with thread in the bronze box, and possibly also a necklace of amber, glass and crystal beads, a pair of brooches and a toilet set.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 140, possibly also British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 168 and 169 are from this grave, though they could be from grave 71.

Literature Minute Book, 344 and 346; Fitch, 1864, 289; Fitch, 1868, 206; Wyatt, 1868, 168; Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 140, 168, 169.

Grave 71, found 18 January 1864, a single female grave. Objects include a bronze workbox with attendant fittings, with linen and worsted thread, a string of 9 glass beads and one pottery bead, fragments of silver rings, two fragments of a bronze pin, silver cap-shaped articles, (possibly silver bulla beads).

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 141 (workbox), 1891, 6-24, 168/169 (fittings), 1891, 6-24, 339/340 (fragments of linen and worsted thread).

Literature Minute Book 346; Fitch, 1864, 291 and pl.5 no 3; Fitch, 1868, 209 and pl.43 no 3; Wyatt, 1868, 168; *V C H Beds* 1, 1904, 181 with fig; Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 141, 168, 169, 339 and 340.

Grave 73, found 25 January 1864, a single grave. Objects are two silver rings, weights 33 and 20 grains, two fragments of a silver bead, weight 7.5 and 7 grains, five amethyst beads of multiple construction with shell infilling to a bronze framework.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 9 (bead of multiple construction), 1891, 6-24, 42 (four amethyst beads).

Literature Minute Book, 347; Fitch, 1864, 292 and pl. 2 nos 2 and 3; Fitch, 1868, 210 and pl. 40 nos 2 and 3. Kennett *Kempston* objects 9 and 42.

Grave 79, found 18 February 1864, a complex that probably includes more than one individual burial whose relationships to each other cannot be determined. Objects include a bracelet of twisted bronze, a silver bead, two silver rings and groups of silver 'cones' in the first recorded part of the complex which has also two broken urns and a third more complete and ornamented. In the second recorded group are a complete bronze pin and fragments of others, a silver ring and iron fragments.

None of these objects can be identified with any certainty.

Literature Minute Book, 348; Fitch, 1864, 293-4 and pl. no 2; Fitch, 1868, 211-2 and pl.42 no 2; Kennett, *Kempston*.

Grave 136, found 18 May 1864, a single grave, containing two clay spindle whorls, a silver dress fastening, a fragment of a blue glass base from a ribbed and toed palm cup, fragments of a bone comb, fragment of a bronze gilt shield rim, length 3¼in.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 3 (glass base), 1891, 6-24, 36 and 38 (spindle

whorls), 1891, 6-24, 181 (bronze shield rim fragment), 1891, 6-24, 305 (silver dress fastening).

Literature Fitch, 1864, 298; Fitch 1868, 217; Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 3, 36, 38, 181, and 305.

Grave 151, recorded 20 December 1864, a single grave found after the main excavations with a spearhead, a large knife (? a scramasax), a low conical shield boss with silver rivet heads on the rim and an openwork disc, probably a pouch mount.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 65 (shield boss), 1891, 6-24, 191 (openwork disc).

Literature Minute Book 366, Kennett *Kempston* objects 65 and 191.

Individual Objects

Apart from these identifiable grave groups there is a body of objects in the Christian Saxon finds from Kempston which have no identifiable associations.

Three biconical paste beads in one necklace string and two in another.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 53 (with two), 1891, 6-24, 54 (with three).

Literature Unpublished, Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 53 and 54.

Three bronze bulla beads.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1876, 2-12, 20 (one), Bedford Museum accession no. 3854, vii-viii (two).

Literature Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 350 and 419.

Three silver pendants.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1876, 2-12, 21 and 22, Bedford Museum accession no. 3848.

Literature Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 351, 352, 368.

Two small bronze buckles.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 203 and 204.

Literature Unpublished, Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 203 and 204.

Bronze pouch mount.

Museum Bedford Museum accession number B M 143.

Literature Unpublished, Kennett, *Kempston*, object 431.

At least three small pots.

Museum Bedford Museum accession numbers 3775, 3779, B M 96.

Literature Unpublished, Kennett, *Kempston*,

objects 375, 379, 453.

Sugar-loaf shield boss.

Museum British Museum, reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 59.

Literature Evison, 1963, 46 and fig. 26a; Kennett, *Kempston*, object 59.

Silver wire rings, finger rings and fragments.

Museum British Museum reg. no. 1891, 6-24, 7 and 8, and 300 to 325.

Literature Unpublished. Kennett, *Kempston*, objects 7, 8, 300-325.

LUTON, BISCOT MILL area TL 079231.

Eleven burials found near Biscot Mill between 1923 and 1970 may represent a small cemetery. Finds were few and consisted of weapons and a pot of seventh century type.

Museum Luton Museum

Literature R.K. Hagen, 'Anglo-Saxon burials from the vicinity of Biscot Mill, Luton', *Beds Arch J* 6, 1971, 23-27.

LUTON, DALLOW ROAD TL 028215

A female burial with a pair of iron shears and a cowrie shell.

Museum Luton Museum, accession number 91/30.

Literature *Ant J* 11, 1931, 282-284.

TOTTERNHOE, MARINA DRIVE TL 008214

Cemetery with at least 49 burials excavated in 1957.

Museum Luton Museum

Literature C.L. Matthews, 'The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Marina Drive, Dunstable', *Beds Arch J* 1, 1962, 25-47.

WHIPSNADDE about TL 0018

A possible rich grave was found in the reign of Edward I.

Literature *Beds Arch J* 1, 1962, 76.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

BARRINGTON B (HOOPER'S FIELD) TL 387497

An extensive cemetery beginning in the fifth century which is usually thought of as purely of the pagan phase has a few objects of the Christian Saxon phase of the seventh century; but no grave groups.

Workbox fragment.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, accession number Conybere 611.

Literature Unpublished.

Pendant of the Acklam type with a central white paste setting for a lost stone on a gold background with gold filigree interlacing.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, accession number 34,838.
Literature Unpublished.

Silver ring brooch with four garnets.

Museum Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, accession number 1909-278.

Literature N. Aberg, *The Anglo-Saxons in England*, 1926, 138.

BURWELL TL 590665

A cemetery, purely of the Christian Saxon phase of the seventh century with 123 graves excavated by Lethbridge, 1925-29.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

Literature T.C. Lethbridge, *Anglo-Saxon cemeteries in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk*, 1931, 47-70.

CHERRY HINTON TL 484555

A cemetery of eight secondary burials found during excavation of a Bronze Age barrow. Apart from an earlier find of a crystal ball, the grave groups are:

Grave 1: Spearhead

Grave 2: Two bronze belt fittings, iron knife.

Grave 3: Small pot, silver wire ring with four beads.

Grave 4: Iron bed mountings.

Grave 8: Iron knife.

Grave 9: Blue glass bead, bronze buckle with decoration a jour.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

Literature Unpublished, but the present author hopes to publish the finds from this site in a future issue of *Proc Camb Antiq Soc*.

HASLINGFIELD TL 413520

A large cemetery usually considered to be purely fifth to sixth century in date. The following items of the Christian Saxon phase of the seventh century have been identified:

Cowrie Shell

Three draughtsmen made from teeth

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, exhibited.

Literature Unpublished.

Workbox fragment.

Museum Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, not registered but labelled.

Literature Unpublished.

MELBOURN TL 382438

A cemetery of 28 graves excavated in 1952 with purely seventh century material.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, accession numbers 53-183 to 53-201.
Literature D.M. Wilson, in *Proc Camb Ant Soc* 49, 1956, 29-41.

QUY TL 525510

Group of finds consisting of silver box with domed top and ribbed design to the sides; two silver rings; and a blue bead on a silver ring. Probably a single grave.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, accession numbers 42-125 to 42-127.
Literature Unpublished. It is hoped to publish these items in a future issue of *Proc Camb Ant Soc*.

SHUDY CAMPS TL 604444

A cemetery of 148 graves excavated by Lethbridge of which the 77 graves with grave goods are published.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

Literature T.C. Lethbridge, *Shudy Camps, Cambridgeshire 1936*.

STRETHAM, near Ely TL 520750

Single Pendant, crystal in a gold case with a central amethyst setting, with a gold ridged bead at the top.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, accession number 51-565.

Literature Unpublished. It is hoped to publish this item in a future *Proc Camb Ant Soc*.

LITTLE WILBRAHAM TL 560577

A large mainly early cemetery but with a contingent of important late sixth and early seventh century finds has produced at least one grave group of this phase.

Grave 59: Five amethyst beads and an iron knife.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, accession number 48.1397.

Literature R.C. Neville, *Saxon Obsequies Illustrated*, 1852, 17 and pl. 22.59.

HERTFORDSHIRE

IPPOLLITTS, POUND FARM TL 192274

A single burial discovered 1952 with a scramasax, buckle and knife.

Museum Hitchin Museum.

Literature Unpublished.

LETCHWORTH, BLACKHORSE ROAD
TL 233336

A cemetery of 10 burials discovered in the course of excavation of a large complex prehistoric site, 1958-66. The only grave goods were a spearhead lodged in the chest of grave 6 and scramasaxes with graves 2 and 4.

Museum Letchworth Museum.

Literature J. Moss-Eccardt 'A Saxon Cemetery at Letchworth, Hertfordshire' *Beds Arch J* 6, 1971.

VERULAMIUM TL 131067

A cemetery of 32 graves excavated 1966-68 outside the south-west gate of Verulamium. Objects include a silver disc pendant, and two workboxes. *Museum* Currently with Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, Department of the Environment. *Literature* *Med Arch* 12, 1968, 158; *Antiquity* 43, 1969, 46-47.

WHEATHAMPSTEAD TL 1714

A poorly documented burial with a Coptic ewer and a glass palm cup.

Museum British Museum, reg. no.

Literature *Proc Soc Ant* 18, 1900, 110-114; *VCH Herts* 1, 1902, 253-254.

HUNTINGDON AND PETERBOROUGH

PETERBOROUGH TL 195986

A palm cup found with a skeleton before 1956. *Museum* Peterborough Cathedral.

Literature D.B. Harden, in D.B. Harden (ed), *Dark Age Britain*, 1956, 142 and pl. 18p.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

BRIXWORTH CHURCHYARD area SP 747702

A burial found in 1894 in Brixworth Churchyard contained a bronze pin with style II ornament on its head and a coin of Cuthred of Kent (794-802). *Museum* Northampton Museum.

Literature D.H. Kennett, 'Uplanders'.

CLIPSTON SP 714815

A group consisting of a scramasax, a spearhead and a knife found in 1867, once confused as coming from Great Oxendon (the next parish).

Museum Northampton Museum, accession numbers D215-217/1955-56.

Literature D.H. Kennett, 'Uplanders'.

CRANSLEY SP 838778

A group of finds made in 1879, apparently representing a small cemetery. Eleven objects are

recorded but only one pot is extant. It is not clear how far objects recorded as found near each other represent grave groups. A damaged skilket and a workbox with an attached tag were reputed to have been found with a sword. Beads, two brooches, five wire rings, a spearhead and two potts are also recorded.

Museum British Museum, accession number 1882, 6-22, 1 (a pot).

Literature R.S. Baker in *P S A*, 9, 1881, 93-95; D.H. Kennett, 'Uplanders'.

DESBOROUGH SP 805830

A large cemetery of at least sixty graves was discovered during ironstone quarrying in 1876. Partly recorded by R.S. Baker, who succeeded in obtaining from the workmen some of the most spectacular finds from the cemetery. Two graves were recorded in detail. Grave A contained the well-known Desborough necklace. Grave B contained a bronze skilket, a silvered bronze spoon, silver fragments, fragments of bronze scale pans, two glass palm cups, a silver hinge or clasp and two iron objects (not now extant). Grave C was unfurnished.

Museum British Museum, register numbers 1876, 5-4, 1-11.

Literature R.S. Baker, 'On the discovery of Anglo-Saxon remains at Desborough, Northants', *Archaeologia* 45, 1880, 466-471; D.H. Kennett, 'Uplanders', has a full description of each piece and illustrations.

HARDINGSTONE SP 737583

A burial found in 1855 contained a human skeleton accompanied by a spearhead and a horse with a bridle bit and a horse phalera.

Museum The bit may be that in Northampton Museum labelled 'Hunsbury' which is in Hardingstone parish; the phalera is reported as being in the Pitt-Rivers Museum, Farnham, Dorset.

Literature *VCH Northants* 1, 1902, 253-254 with coloured plate; Aberg, *The Anglo-Saxons in England* 1926, 148 with fig 287.

LODDINGTON SP 814783

A group of objects found about 1903 and taken by later commentators to represent a grave group, consisting of an iron shield boss and its grip, an iron bar, two spearheads.

Museum Northampton Museum accession numbers, D290-295/1955-56.

Literature Ant J 43, 1963, 46 and fig 25 a-e; D.H. Kennett, 'Uplanders'.

SUFFOLK

HOLYWELL ROW TL 714765

A large cemetery, excavated by Lethbridge 1931, with at least 100 graves. Several of these are seventh century.

Grave 4: Holdborough type shield boss, iron bound bucket, small buckle.

Grave 11: a well-known assemblage dated to this phase by its three pendants but including a great deal of earlier material.

Grave 12: silver pendant, silver finger ring and beads.

Grave 29: iron bound bucket, sword, spearhead, shield boss of conical form.

Grave 30: small bronze buckle.

Grave 31: bronze buckle with silver inlay, beads, bronze clips.

Grave 56: conical shield boss, small bronze buckle, spearhead.

Grave 91: conical shield boss, small bronze buckle, spearhead.

Museum Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

Literature T.C. Lethbridge, *Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk*, 1931, 1-46.

DISCUSSION

This small gazetteer has brought to notice a striking fact about the material of the final phase of the grave goods of Anglo-Saxon England. Material usually ascribed to the influence of the Christian conversion does not all come from sites purely of this phase. These are in the area large and medium size cemeteries of the phase.⁹ In Cambridgeshire the larger sites like Burwell and Shudy Camps are good examples, while the cemeteries of twenty to seventy graves such as Chamberlain's Barn, Marina Drive, Desborough, and Verulamium point to the medium size ones. It is possible also to note sites with fewer than twenty graves such as Astwick in Bedfordshire, Cherry Hinton in Cambridgeshire, Cransley in Northamptonshire and Blackhorse Road, Letchworth, in Hertfordshire. Other sites of a similar size in Bedfordshire are the Biscot Mill burials and Harrold. Individual burials, both richly accompanied such as Wheathampstead and, just outside the area, Broomfield and Taplow, and of warriors with their arms, like Loddington, can be evidenced.

The overall impression given by the material assembled in the gazetteer is not merely of the richness of these sites but also of the large number of earlier sites with material of this phase. One is struck by the occurrence of graves and objects of this period in cemeteries which begin among the earliest in Britain. This is not merely at a site like Kempston, which has long been recognised as a problem. The compilation of the gazetteer has revealed a much more extensive group of finds from sites beginning in the fifth and early sixth century. The large Cambridgeshire cemeteries of Barrington B, Haslingfield and Little Wilbraham are a case in point here. At none of these is it a large quantity of this material: five amethyst beads at Little Wilbraham, three unassociated objects at Barrington B, five at Haslingfield. The phenomenon is found also in the Avon valley. Bidford-on-Avon has two graves of this phase.¹⁰ Grave 22 contained an ornamented plate with concentric repouse dots, perhaps a workbox top, a hairpin, a necklace of glass and amber beads and an iron buckle in a woman's grave.¹¹ Grave 100, a child of eight, was accompanied by a workbox, a silver pin with a sapphire setting, beads, a knife and an iron implement.¹² At Baginton, now only useable as a collection of objects, the material in Coventry Museum includes a sugar-loaf shield boss¹³ and two small bird's heads,¹⁴ probably shield fittings, all unassociated but representing clearly late burials on the site. At Holywell Row, there are eight graves of this phase.

However, these examples should not blind the scholar into believing that all the major sixth century cemeteries have a small amount of the accoutrements of the final phase. It is not difficult to cite cemeteries which have none of these objects. Argyle Avenue, Luton,¹⁵ is a good example from Bedfordshire. Though they have never been collated in detail, the finds from Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire,¹⁶ represent another cemetery of the late sixth century which does not continue into the final phase. These examples can be repeated from Northamptonshire: Northampton St. Andrews,¹⁷ Kettering Stamford Road,¹⁸ Burton Latimer,¹⁹ Newnham-Badby,²⁰ the two cemeteries at Brixworth,²¹ the second cemetery at Desborough,²² and Nassington,²³ merely to cite those cemeteries thought to have contained at least twenty burials when first discovered.

However, the cemeteries which have a few burials of this phase do overlap with the purely late cemeteries of Burwell and Shudy Camps,

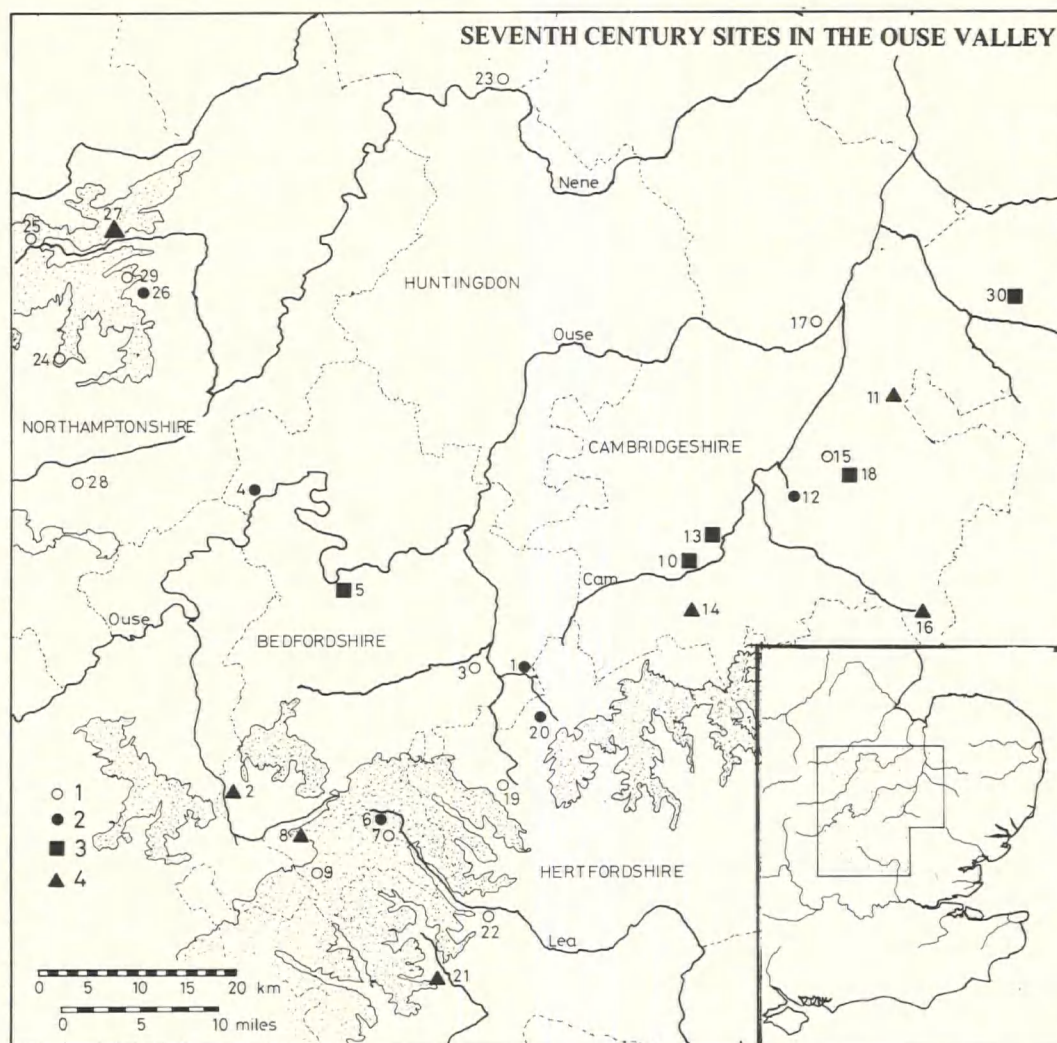


Fig. 1 The Cemeteries of the Ouse Valley, with material of the Seventh Century.

Key: 1 Individual Burial
 2 Small Cemetery
 3 Large Cemetery, beginning in the fifth century
 4 Large Cemetery, new site
 Contour at 400 ft (122m).

Key to sites:

Bedfordshire

- 1 Astwick
- 2 Chamberlain's Barn
- 3 Clifton
- 4 Harrold
- 5 Kempston
- 6 Luton, Biscot Mill
- 7 Luton, Dallow Road
- 8 Totternhoe, Marina Drive
- 9 Whipsnade

Cambridgeshire

- 10 Barrington B
- 11 Burwell

- 12 Cherry Hinton
- 13 Haslingfield
- 14 Melbourn
- 15 Quy
- 16 Shudy Camps
- 17 Stretham
- 18 Little Wilbraham

Hertfordshire

- 19 Ippolitts
- 20 Letchworth
- 21 Verulamium
- 22 Wheathampstead

Huntingdon

- 23 Peterborough

Northamptonshire

- 24 Brixworth
- 25 Clipston
- 26 Cransley
- 27 Desborough
- 28 Hardingstone
- 29 Loddington

Suffolk

- 30 Holywell Row

Desborough and Chamberlain's Barn. Clearly some like Holywell Row have more than one or two burials. And there is one site at least which has the remains, albeit very difficult to reconstruct of a substantial number of graves of this phase. This is the large cemetery found in the nineteenth century at Kempston.²⁴

The gazetteer has assembled for the first time an accurate record of the material of the final phase, known from the Kempston cemetery. It shows nine graves definitely to be reconstructed from the very careful notes of the Rev. S.E. Fitch,²⁵ and a considerable number of unassociated objects. That more material cannot be confidently ascribed a definite grave is due to an accident of history, which masks a minor late Victorian scandal. The material now in the British Museum was purchased in 1891 from Miss Anne Scott, companion to Miss Thornton, of 79, Chester Square, London, and Kempston Grange. The three hundred and forty objects were received without identification as to which graves, they came from or on which day they were found. They had presumably been reboxed, without the original date labels, at some point between 1865 and 1891, probably when they were transferred to London, which is not a known date. Many of the problems of the grave groups of the Kempston cemetery would be non-existent if this had not been done.

It is therefore only possible to note the material extant, which is known to be incomplete from that found. The known material is of such a quantity as to suggest that the final phase of the Kempston cemetery may be in the order of 68 graves as was found at Chamberlain's Barn. It is of course speculative that the complete total of graves found at Kempston is in the order of three hundred, but as a working hypothesis, which can on many points be checked, it has much to commend it. It is known from the very early finds and from the material of the late phase that the cemetery must have had a life of some three hundred years. One has not included in the gazetteer the ubiquitous iron knife of which seventeen are extant from Kempston. These are probably much reduced from the original number, but as at Shudy Camps where twenty one graves had only a knife, the knife is often the only accoutrement of a seventh century grave, and frequently of an earlier one.

The gazetteer has brought out in detail the richness of the final phase at Kempston, yet to

view these findings in historical perspective is difficult. Mid-Anglia lacks a chronicler. The events of importance are recorded much more haphazardly than is the case with Wessex or Northumbria. One can accept that the material chronicled here represents new fashions introduced at the same time as the Christian faith. The timing of this introduction is difficult to determine. It can hardly have preceded the preaching of the faith by Bishop Felix to the East Anglian kingdom in 636. The events of the 650s are doubtless of more salient interest. In 653 the Middle Angles under Peada received the faith and in 654 the abbey at Medeshamstede was founded at Peterborough. Ely followed in 673. If these dates are to have any archaeological significance, it follows that one cannot expect to find the material of the final phase in the area much before the mid-seventh century.

The site with two or three burials may seem to suggest that the period of overlap was extremely brief. Even in the case of Holywell Row, the time involved may not have more than a decade, for here only eight graves of the phase can be identified with certainty. Mildenhall is an extremely out of the way place and it may well have taken longer for the concept of burial without grave goods, always a large proportion of all Anglo-Saxon sites, to become general for all classes of society. The idea of a new burial place using the new fashions may have been even more difficult to instill or have taken much longer to penetrate the fen. Indeed the recognition of survival of old sites into the period of new grave goods accords with modern missionary experience. However deep the conversion to the new faith of Christianity may be, there remains in the minds of many of the people a lingering hankering for the old ways. The use of grave goods in new forms is one aspect of this in the seventh century conversion of England. The reluctance to abandon old burial grounds may well be another.

In the cases where the survival was limited to a few burials, it is clear that the new faith and the new fashions determined the use of a new burial ground. Kempston, however, presents a totally different problem. Here the evidence suggests that the burial ground remained in use for some decades after the new fashions became prevalent. It is difficult to see how the evidence can be read other than to suggest that the use was for at least half a century.

The recognition of Anglo-Saxon work in Kempston parish church ²⁶ suggests another line of reasoning may not be without some support. The church is well removed from the cemetery site and could well represent the ecclesiastical answer to the long survival of the local burial ground. The strong survival of burial tradition on the Kempston cemetery site is remarkable. The site long quarried away in gravel extraction and housing development in the nineteenth century has a history of burial grounds going back to the Bronze Age. It does not take much imagination to view the Anglo-Saxon cemetery as being centred round a Bronze Age barrow. Indeed the known distribution of collared urns ²⁷ from Kempston argues strongly for this and it would be in keeping with other sites, such as Marina Drive, Bedfordshire, ²⁸ or the large cemetery at Linton Heath, Cambridgeshire. ²⁹ Folk tradition may well have played a considerable part in keeping the Kempston cemetery going well into the late seventh century. Alternatively the topography argues that no other site could be found for the cemetery in a low-lying area. The site not only has the Anglo-Saxon cemetery and the presumed Bronze Age barrows, indicated by the collared urns, ²⁷ but also an important group of Belgic pots found in 1913 representing a burial group ³⁰ and is possibly the site of a Roman cremation cemetery of the first and second centuries. ³¹

The topography and folk tradition of the Kempston area may play their respective parts in the reasons for the survival of the Kempston site. There may be other reasons connected with the transmission of the new faith to the people at Kempston. Their conversion may have been second-hand. They may not have felt that the change of burial site to have been an important public demonstration of their new faith.

Whatever the precise reasons, the long survival at Kempston of seventh century burials in a site going back to be one of the earliest in England is strongly in contrast with the position elsewhere. That, to recapitulate, is the new cemetery or the use for only a few identifiable burials of an old cemetery. It is not the long survival found in the cemetery at Kempston. ³²

NOTES

- 1 E.T. Leeds, *Early Anglo-Saxon Art and Archaeology*, 1936, *passim*, but especially 96-114, drawing on the material assembled B. Faussett, *Inventorium Sepulchrale*, 1856, and the publication of

the material of the larger Anglo-Saxon cemeteries of Kent in the early volumes of *Archaeologia Cantiana*.

- 2 T.C. Lethbridge, *Anglo-Saxon Cemeteries in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk*, 1931, especially 146 for Holywell Row and 47-70 for Burwell; and T.C. Lethbridge, *Shudy Camps, Cambridgeshire*, 1936.
- 3 Leeds, 1936, 98-103, drawing on J.R. Mortimer, *Forty Years Researches in British and Saxon Burial Mounds in East Yorkshire*, 1905.
- 4 A. Ozanne, 'The Peak Dwellers', *Med Arch* 6-7, 1962-63, 15-52.
- 5 The present author is in the course of completing a study of the sites of this phase in Northamptonshire; the material in the gazetteer concerning Northamptonshire is described and illustrated in detail in his forthcoming study, 'The Uplanders: a study of Anglo-Saxon burial sites of the Christian Saxon phase in Northamptonshire and Warwickshire'. For a summary see R.A. Smith, 'Anglo-Saxon Remains', *VCH Northants* 1, 1902, 223-256.
- 6 Mrs. T.M. Dickinson informs me that her work on sites in the area has revealed a considerable number of these sites in the area.
- 7 Material in Devizes Museum; for a summary see L.V. Grinsell in *VCH Wilts*, 1957.
- 8 The literature on the Kempston cemetery is complex. In the gazetteer the following abbreviations are used: S.E. Fitch, 'Discovery of Saxon remains at Kempston', *AASR* 7, 1863-64, 269-299. S.E. Fitch, 'Anglo-Saxon remains discovered in Bedfordshire', in C. Roach Smith (ed), *Collectanea Antiqua* 6, 1868, 201-221. Minute Book, 'Minute Book of the Bedfordshire Archaeological and Architectural Society, 1847-1873', in Bedfordshire County Record Office, document X 69/16. D.H. Kennett, *Kempston: 'The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Kempston, Bedfordshire: a reconsideration'*, 1968, unpublished; copies available Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities, British Museum and County Record Office, County Hall, Bedford. J. Wyatt 'Anglo-Saxon remains recently discovered in Bedfordshire', in *Collectanea Antiqua* 6, 1868, 166-172.
- 9 For the detailed literature of sites in the area covered by this survey see the entries in the gazetteer.
- 10 J. Humphreys *et al.*, 'Excavation of an Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Bidford-on-Avon, Warwickshire', *Archaeologia* 73, 1923, 89-116 and *Archaeologia* 74, 1925, 277-288.
- 11 Humphreys, 1923.
- 12 Humphreys, 1923, 101 with fig.
- 13 *Ant J* 43, 1963, 44 and fig 24a.
- 14 Coventry Museum, accession number A/1013/82.
- 15 W. Austin and T.W. Bagshaw, 'A Saxon cemetery at Luton, Beds', *Ant J* 8, 1928, 177-192.
- 16 Most of the material from this site, or more probably sites, is in Aylesbury Museum, who have two belt mounts, a bronze disc, a glass claw beaker, beads, a pair of applied brooches, two spearheads, two swords without any ornamentation, a shield boss with a silver top and silver rivet heads, and a bucket. There is a sword in Wisbech Museum and two small pots in the British Museum.

- 17 D.H. Kennett, 'Anglo-Saxon finds from St. Andrews Hospital, Northampton', *J. Northampton Mus* forthcoming.
- 18 Material in Northampton Museum and Kettering Museum, not well published with the exception of the pieces figures by J.N.L. Myres in *Anglo-Saxon Pottery and the Settlement of England*, 1969.
- 19 D.H. Kennett, 'Barton Seagrave: Anglo-Saxon finds made in the late nineteenth century', *J. Northampton Mus* forthcoming.
- 20 Material in Northampton Museum, not well-known except for brooches illustrated by E.T. Leeds in *A Corpus of Early Anglo-Saxon Great Square-Headed Brooches*, 1949.
- 21 Northampton Museum have a large collection of objects from Brixworth found about 1900, but never properly recorded. Two sites in the parish have been confused and the objects mixed. The brooches were listed by N. Aberg, *The Anglo-Saxons in England*, 1926. These are mostly cruciform brooches and will be figured and discussed by the present author in a forthcoming paper in *J Northampton Mus*.
- 22 Little is known of these discoveries. The notes of the late E.T. Leeds in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, have a photograph of two group IV cruciform brooches in private possession in 1949. It is hoped to include these in the forthcoming discussion of cruciform brooches from Northamptonshire.
- 23 E.T. Leeds and R.J.C. Atkinson, 'An Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Nassington, Northants.', *Ant J* 24, 1944, 100-128.
- 24 For a complete discussion of the complexities of the Kempston cemetery *vide* D.H. Kennett, 'The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Kempston, Bedfordshire: a reconsideration', 1968, unpublished, and the earlier accounts cited in 8 above. The comments of the following paragraph are summarised from a complete account of the complex written and museum history of the material, discussed in detail in Kennett, *Kempston*.
- 25 Comparison with the published accounts of Little Wilbraham and Linton Heath by R.C. Neville is not unfavourable.
- 26 M.J. Hare in *Beds Arch J* 6, 1971, 35-37.
- 27 D.H. Kennett, 'A lost collared urn from Kempston', *Beds Arch J* 5, 1970, 5-8.
- 28 *Beds Arch J* 1, 1962, 28; C.L. Matthews, *Ancient Dunstable*, n.d but c 1963, 16 and fig 6.
- 29 R.C. Neville, 'Anglo-Saxon cemetery excavated January 1853 at Linton Heath, Cambridgeshire', *Arch J* 9, 1854, 95-115.
- 30 See A. Simco, 'The Iron Age in the Bedford Region', this journal, 00-00, especially 00 and fig 0.
- 31 Bedford Museum have a large collection of Roman material from Kempston, none of it published in detail. Most is complete pots, with cremations retained in some cases. The find spots of several are unknown, but those which are known suggest a nucleus about TL 030475, near the site of the Anglo-Saxon and Iron Age finds.
- 32 Paper completed 25 April 1973.

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council is indebted to the South Bedfordshire Archaeological Society for a grant towards the cost of this paper.

A Thirteenth Century Windmill site at Strixton, Northamptonshire

D.N. HALL

SUMMARY

Excavation of a low mound at Strixton, Northants., revealed two phases of windmill construction and abundant evidence of use in the thirteenth century. The small bronzes and ironwork give a useful group of metalwork.

INTRODUCTION

Strixton windmill site (at SP905613), visible as a low rubble-covered mound, raised some 2ft. (0.6m) above the surrounding ground level lies in a field called *Bozeat Road*, isolated from the village. The local inhabitants always refer to it as a windmill, although there is no published record of it being such.

The earliest identifiable record of the mill is the 1583 map^{1 2}, where it is marked as a tree-covered mound in the SE corner of an enclosure called *Mill Close*. The medieval furlong on the side of the Bozeat - Wollaston road opposite to the windmill was called *Mill Hedge Furlong*. About one mile to the west (at SP894613) the then operating windmill is also clearly marked.

In the 18th century the hedge of the old *Mill Close* was replanted north of the mound, so that the mound became part of the field called *The Forthams*. Ploughing damage, since at least 1843, revealed limestone rubble containing medieval pottery and a dagger, probably of 17th century date³. In 1965 the site was threatened with mole draining and sub-soiling, which would have seriously disturbed any surviving occupation; it was therefore decided to open cutting I (fig.1). In view of the well-preserved levels, cuttings II - IV were made, to completely expose the central area.

The finds and excavation notes are to be deposited in Northampton Museum.

EXCAVATION METHOD

Grid I was opened in 1965 and the other three in 1966. Time did not allow for the re-opening of I to obtain a photograph of all the post

holes at once. Each grid was carefully excavated in artificial strata about 3 inches thick and the finds bagged separately. Details of each cut and its finds are not given separately in the report because they grouped together unambiguously to give the six strata described below. All the detailed information will be deposited with the finds and original notes.

THE EXCAVATION

The earliest feature was a pre-medieval ditch running approximately north-south (fig 1). The fillings of sterile clays and silts contained a single piece of pottery which could be late Belgic or early Romano-British, i.e. early 1st century AD. The ditch was buried by an accumulation of compressed plough soils which contained a few 12th century pottery sherds.

The next phase was the construction of the first windmill. The principal remains are the four post holes D E F G (fig 1, 2a, plate 5a) which are irregularly spaced around a circle of radius 9ft. The holes are approximately 5-6ft diameter and set 2½-3ft below the contemporary ground level. Holes D and G each had a very large flat limestone slab in the bottom. It is likely that they contained lean-to support timbers for a central post. In cutting I there was a shallow gully 4in deep, and some small post holes 9in. deep and stake holes 3-5in. deep, lying on concentric arcs of radii 14ft and 15ft respectively (marked black on fig 2B). These could have been for constructional scaffolding or part of a permanent staircase entrance.

Some of the cobble and limestone yard (Plates 5b, 5c) must be associated with this early stage, because in cutting I the filled holes E and F were visible in the first yard. The upright stones (fig. 2A), forming an arc 18ft radius, also belonged to the first windmill phase because they penetrate the yard.

The pottery and abundant nails found in the post hole fillings are not distinguishable from the large quantity of pottery of the next phase; indeed

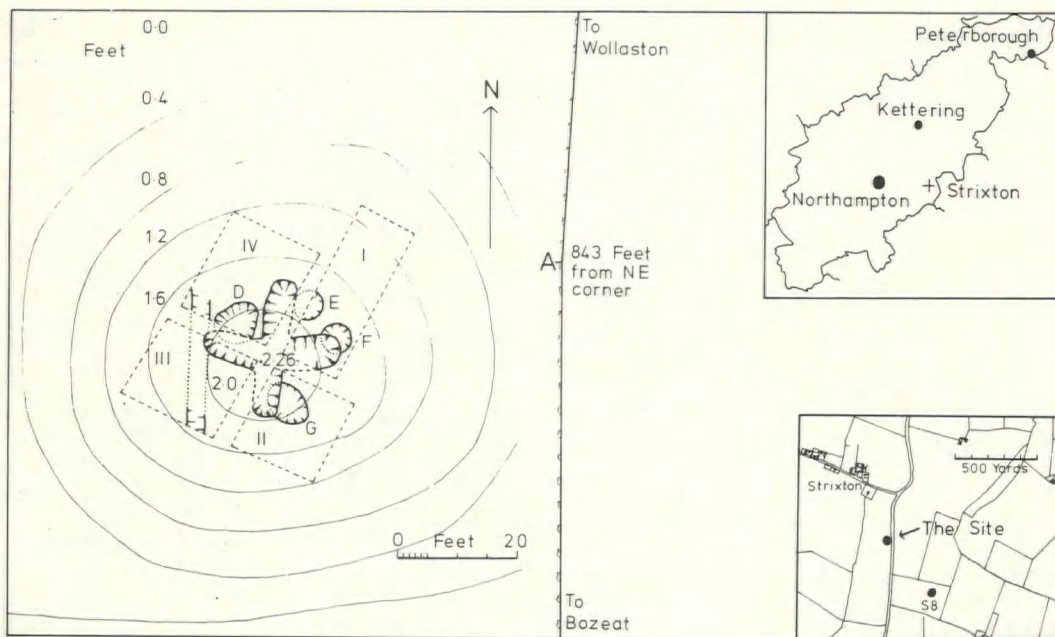


Fig. 1 Location and plan of windmill site at Strixton, Northants.

a base sherd from hole E fitted a sherd lying some 15ft distant, further indicating that the yard is early. After filling post hole G some cobbles were laid over it to extend the yard. Since in the next phase the yard became rapidly silted over, it is clear that the first windmill had a very short life of probably only a few years, otherwise the cobbles would not have still been visible. The dating must therefore be at the beginning of the floruit argued below, i.e. about the middle of the 13th century.

The second windmill was constructed much more substantially than the first. The post holes D E F G were carefully filled with concentric rings of limestone, and then a large cross-shaped post hole network dug out to a depth of 3ft below the yard (4ft 9in below the present mound top). The full length of the holes for the cross arms was 23ft and the width 5ft, tapering slightly at the extremities. The new structure was buried securely in this hole and the yard consolidated; i.e. in cutting I another layer of stone and cobble was laid down, and in cutting II cobbles were laid over part of old post hole G, as mentioned above. The yard became littered with pot sherds, (fig 5, 6), nails and other ironwork, and bronze objects (fig 4), mostly of a decorative nature. In several areas there were grains of carbonized corn.

Silts rapidly accumulated over the central area of the yard to a depth of 7–12in, sloping off

rapidly at about 16ft from the centre (fig 2B, fig 3a-b). The silts were shallower in cutting I at 3–6 in. The finds of pottery iron and bronze were more abundant in this brown silt than on the yard itself (8.31 sherds per cu. ft. compared with 5.57).

The dating of this main phase is given by coin C1, a slightly worn farthing of Edward I/II, 1302–1310, which was found in the upper levels of the silt on the yard. The main group of pottery with its Lyveden wares, and particularly the Oxford jugs, suggests a late 13th century date. Windmills were not introduced until the very late 12th century, and Strixton would probably not have been among the first to acquire the new invention. Therefore the floruit would appear to be the second half of the 13th century going into the early 14th.

Afterwards the mill was dismantled and the posthole filled with blue clay (fig 2B, centre dotted line) which was intermixed with windmill occupation debris and waste from a bronze smithy – pieces of bronze slag, wire, and lumps of metallic tin. The fills contained a few pieces of grinding stone made from millstone grit. The whole site was then covered with a layer of building rubble (some of which penetrated the cross – post holes, fig 2B) containing 13th and 14th century sherds.

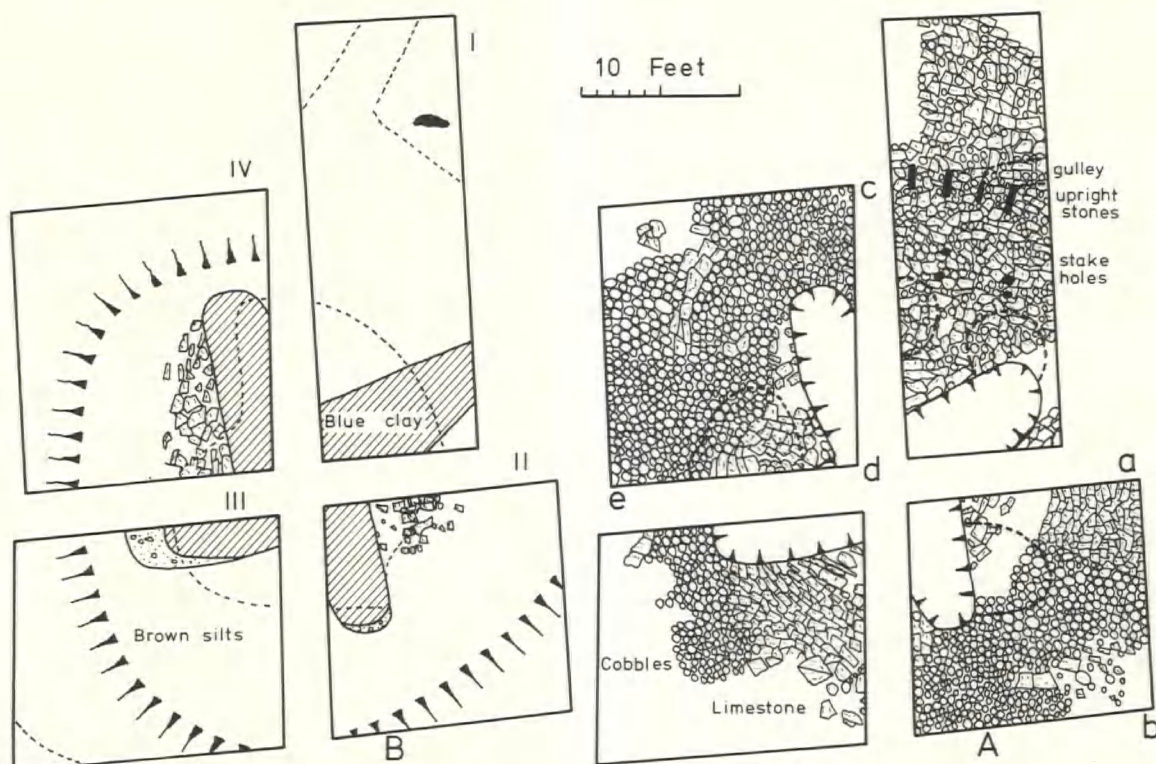


Fig. 2 Excavation plans of windmill at Strixton Northants.

DISCUSSION

The first century ditch underlying the mill is likely to belong to a network of 'Celtic fields' associated with the nearby Belgic and Romano-British site ⁴ (marked S8 on fig 1 inset). Most such settlements have field ditches around them, but they can rarely be detected by aerial photography on clay soil. ⁵

The site then became covered with medieval strips during the 12th century, immediately after Strixton was settled. ² This is not evident from the 1583 map because the area was already inclosed, but it is quite obvious from field work. ² The old *Mill Close* (now called *Well Field*) had undisturbed strips in it until about 1949; the *Bozeat Road* field still displays soil marks of strip ploughing.

The mills were sited on the head of a headland ⁶ which itself lies on a windswept spur. There was no artificial casting up of a mound from a surrounding ditch. Even after ploughing since 1843 the headland can still be detected by careful levelling, and part of it running to the west is shown by the outer contour of the plan in fig 1.

Not many Northamptonshire windmills have been excavated. The one at Dogsthorpe near Peterborough yielded very few remains, although the mound 80ft across corresponds to that of Strixton at about 70ft. ⁷ At Lamport the cross-trees were built up on stone walls ⁸. A fairly close parallel is at Sandon Mount, Hertfordshire, where the cross-beams were buried in the mound on the old ground surface ⁹. Another close parallel is a mill recently excavated at Bridgewater Without in Somerset ¹⁰.

The first mill is interpreted as a structure standing on a central post which had four lean-to supports placed in the holes D-G. The structure was inadequately supported and collapsed soon after being built. The second mill was much more substantial with the central post standing on a cross of horizontal beams. There were probably four lean-to posts from the extremities of the cross lintels. The whole structure was buried 3ft below the contemporary ground level.

The large quantity of iron work consisted mostly of nails and staples derived from the sails. The bronze objects were randomly scattered over the yard and seem to derive principally from

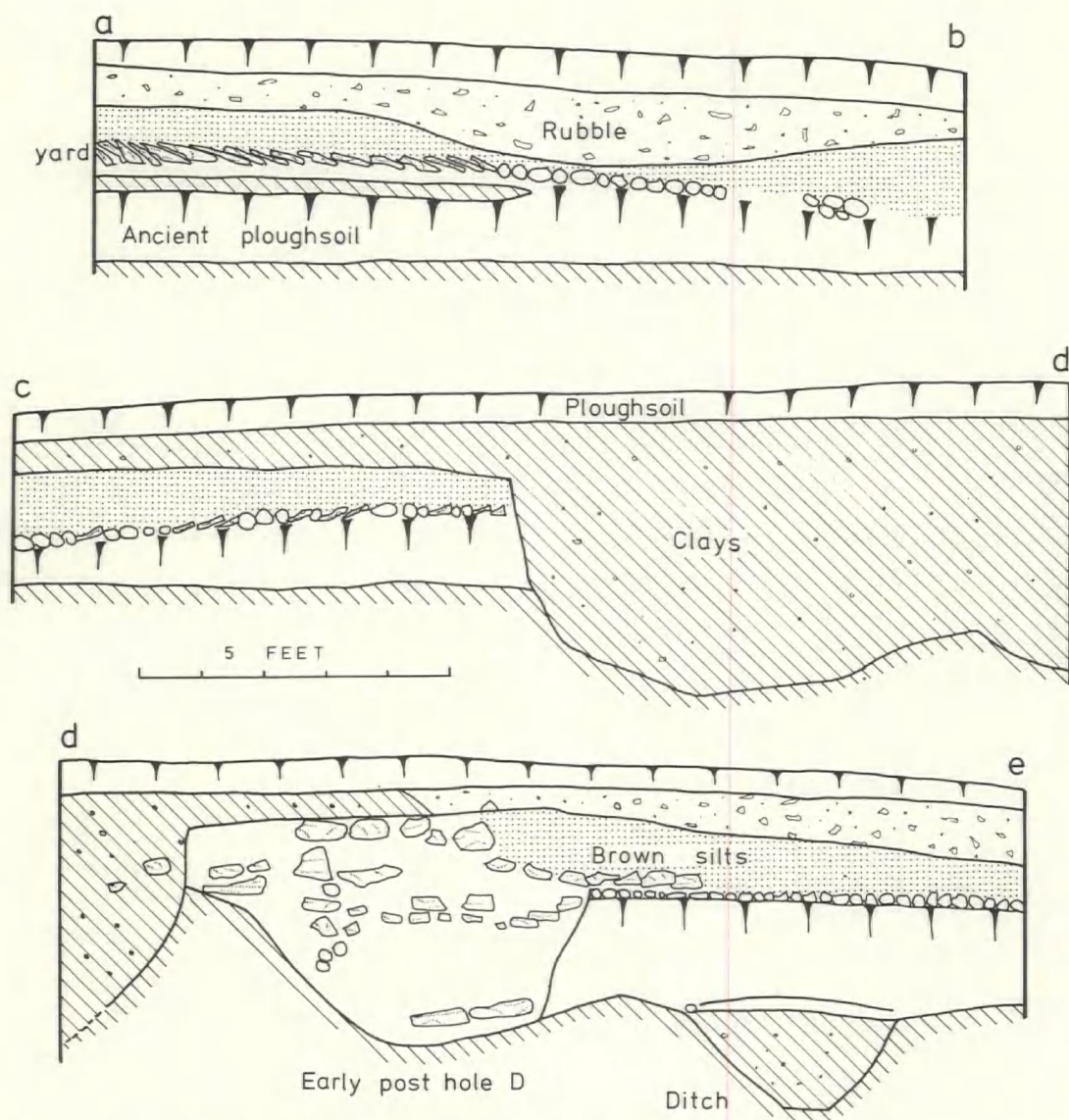


Fig. 3 Sections of windmill site at Strixton, Northants.

harness, strap ends, clothes, and possibly caskets. There was no significant distribution of any of the finds to suggest a fixed entrance; however the four upright stones to the north east may have something to do with this (fig 2A). There may have been more upright stones originally, because there are many large pieces of limestone in the other cuttings at a similar distance out from the centre (ca 16ft).

The circular bank of brown silt which covered the cobbled yard was very likely accumulated dust which fell from the grain through the mill

floorboards. The yard in the central area is not so well made, especially in cutting II, presumably because it lay under the mill. This would make the mill body about 16ft across.

The bronze smithy debris did not come from this site since there was no trace of smithy activity on the yard. Indeed it would be surprising to find a forge close to a wooden mill. Presumably the debris came from a smithy at Strixton, or much less likely from Wollaston or Bozeat, although it is equally surprising that earth should be carried such a distance. The late limestone rubble spread

over the filled post holes contained no smithy debris, which would be expected if the site subsequently had a changed use. On the other hand the occupation levels yielded many bronze objects. The solution to this problem is not clear.

THE SMALL FINDS (fig 4)

Most of the copper alloy finds seem to be fittings from straps, clothes, or harness etc. All came from the yard or overlying brown silts unless stated otherwise; these date from the late 13th century. Nos. 14, 17, and 24 from the later cross post holes may be mid 14th century, but more likely they originate from the main group.

- 1 A slightly damaged buckle.
- 2 A large thong end.
- 3 A strap end plate.
- 4 A badly corroded plate with rectangular central holes. The pattern is punched on; two rivetts for attachment to leather or wood.
- 5 A large piece of metal with a hole at one end of uncertain use. From the top of the old plough soil.
- 6 Ornamental strip.
- 7 Engraved pattern.
- 8 Ornamental sheet with incised pattern; from the fillings of post hole D.
- 9 Hook made from a wire of square section.
- 10 Penannular loop of round wire from the top of the old plough soil.
- 11 A rivet; compare example from Lyveden ¹¹.
- 12 Hemispherical cover for toggle; with rivet.
- 13 Similar to 12, with rivet (damaged).
- 14 Ornament with a centre hole, rounded one side, flat on the other. From the south wing of the second stage post hole.
- 15 Strap end plate; compare example from Lyveden ¹².
- 16 Strap end plate. From the top of the old plough soil.
- 17 Hollow toggle cover with 6 flutes. From the S wing of the second stage post hole.
- 18 Punched ornament, with rivet.
- 19 Very finely engraved cruciform ornament, flat on reverse; two rivets.
- 20 Thin plate stamped and hollowed into shape.
- 21 Solid ornament, flat on reverse, two bevelled faces on front.
- 22 Finely engraved ornament with central hole, flat on reverse. There were 3 of no.21 and 4 of no.22 found in the same spot; they probably belonged to a decorated piece of leath-

er or a casket.

- 23 Thin plate stamped and hollowed into shape.
- 24 Small rivet, from the E arm of the 2nd stage post hole.
- 25 Coil of wire.

Iron

Large quantities of iron, mostly nails were found in the main occupation. The total weight was 14lbs, representing about 1050 nails.

- 26 Structural piece of iron, from the late rubble (mid 14th century).
- 27 Knife tang.
- 28 Simple key.
- 29 A chain link.
- 30, 31 Large nails.
- 32 A staple.
- 33, 34 Strip with holes.
- 35, 36, 37 Various forms of nails.

Coins

- C1 A farthing of Edward I/II, type 10, dated 1302-1310. Slightly worn. From the NW corner of cutting II in the brown silts.
- C2 A worn Romano-British coin, probably of 3rd century date, with a hole for wearing on a chain.

THE POTTERY (fig 5 and 6)

The distribution of pot sherds in the 6 archaeological strata is given in the table below.

Stratum	No of sherds	No per cubic ft
Topsoil	149	0.29
Rubble	233	0.66
Late post holes	311	0.89
Brown silts	2463	8.31
Early post holes	177	2.46
Cobble yard	1248	5.57
Old plough soil	321	1.00
Total	4902	

The sherds in the old plough soil all came from immediately below the yard levels and really belong to this stratum, since deeper down the soil was quite barren of finds. A sherd in ancient post hole D fitted one from the yard, so these groups are roughly contemporary. Likewise the late post hole fillings and over lying limestone rubble were deposited at one time. Thus the pottery falls into two groups, one representing the floruit of the windmill and the other its destruction.

The dating of the earlier group (fig 5, 6, nos 1 – 38) is given by the coin C1, the farthing of Edward I/II dated 1302-1310, which was found in the upper levels of the brown silt, i.e. at the end of the main phase. The coin shows little wear, and so suggests a date in the first quarter of the 14th century for the terminal date of the pottery groups. Allowing for a reasonable working life of the mill the date range 1250 – 1325 seems appropriate. Confirmatory evidence is given by sherd 37 which is exactly similar to a pot sherd dated c 1275²².

In all this group contains 4386 sherds of which 1% were glazed, 1% sandy Potterspury types, 6% blue or blue-pink Harrold/Santon types, and 91% buff red and pink. A total of 255 vessels was represented; 76 cooking pots, 124 jugs, 25 bowls and 2 lids.

The commonest fabric is the typical Northamptonshire pink shelly ware, descendants of the St. Neots tradition. There are, however, a few dark purple black bowls with a fabric similar to St. Neots ware, but with a coarse, easily-distinguished, fabric. There are a few 'imported' vessels of the Oxford and Potterspury types, and a few glazed sherds, as yet unidentified, but probably from the East Midlands.

In the descriptions below all sherds are pink shelly wares with a grey or blue core unless stated differently.

Cooking pots

(i) Simple everted rims.

1. Rather a leached fabric, the form occurs at Santon kilns in Bedfordshire¹³ and at Irchester Manor¹⁴. At Northolt the form occurs in a different fabric dated to 1225-1325¹⁵
2. Small vessel with hollowed rim.
3. A leached fabric.
4. Partly leached, three more similar vessels.

(ii) Rims of square section.

5. Well fired, 4½in radius. One other similar pot.
6. Radius 3½in. Another similar sherd.
7. White/pink surface over a blue core, sandy radius ca 3in. A typical Potterspury rim, late 13th century¹⁶ One other similar pot also found.
8. White sandy fabric, blackened on outside and pinkish inside. Radius 3in. Potterspury type. Two other similar sherds recovered.

(iii) Rims with a triangular section.

9. Light blue with a buff patch, rather coarse,

shelly. Typical of wares from Harrold and Santon. The commonest type of cooking pot, 16 others found with pink shelly fabrics. Similar to 9 with light finger decoration on the rim edge, radius 4in. A Harrold type¹³, four similar sherds.

10. A Harrold type, radius 4in.
11. Radius 5in.
12. Radius 3½in; another similar vessel.
13. Hard fabric, radius 3½in. One more similar sherd.

Bowls

15. Black St. Neots fabric, but coarse with large shells. Two others.
16. Dark St. Neots fabric; another similar.
17. Black St. Neots fabric, the commonest bowl form, there being 8 others, all radius c 10in.
18. Pink inside, dark St. Neots on the outside; 7½in. radius. Three more of this type.
19. Radius c 7in.
20. Rather leached, 7in radius; one other.
21. Radius c 8in.
22. Thumb print pattern, radius c 8in. One similar form without the pattern.
23. Hammerhead rim. An archaic form radius 5in.
24. Buff-white sandy hard fabric. A Potterspury form¹⁷

Plain Jugs

- 23-32 Shelly wares, types 29 and 31 have been found at Santon, and 27 and 29 at the Harrold kiln¹³.
 33. Rouletted decoration.
 34. Body sherd of a jug, rounded for some secondary use.
- A total of 22 strap handles were found; 15 plain, 1 stabbed, 5 thumb, and one thumb and stabbed.

Glazed Jugs

35. Lyveden ware. A reddish shelly grey-cored fabric with the shells fired out on the inside; a slip of strips and grill-stamped blobs, all glazed green with the slip becoming yellow. There are sherds from 4 other jugs. Compare material from Lyveden¹⁸.
36. Oxford type jug. Buff sandy fabric with applied strips, and emerald green glaze. Each alternate strip is brown. Stabbed handle.
37. Oxford type jug, similar to 36, but the alternate strips are red-brown and all are rouletted; patchy glaze.
38. Oxford ware with stabbed handle.

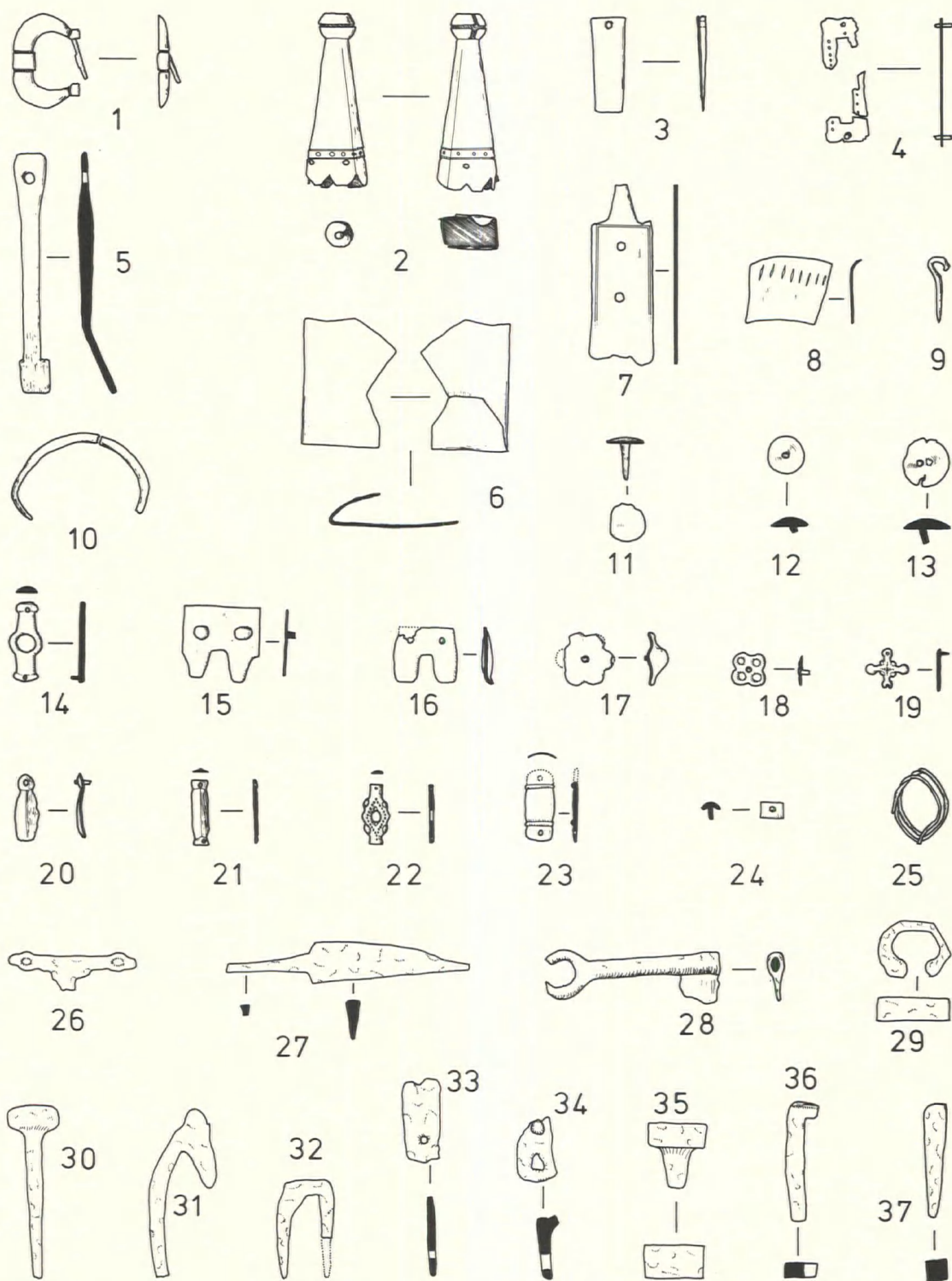


Fig. 4 Small finds from Strixton windmill. (Scale $\frac{1}{3}$).

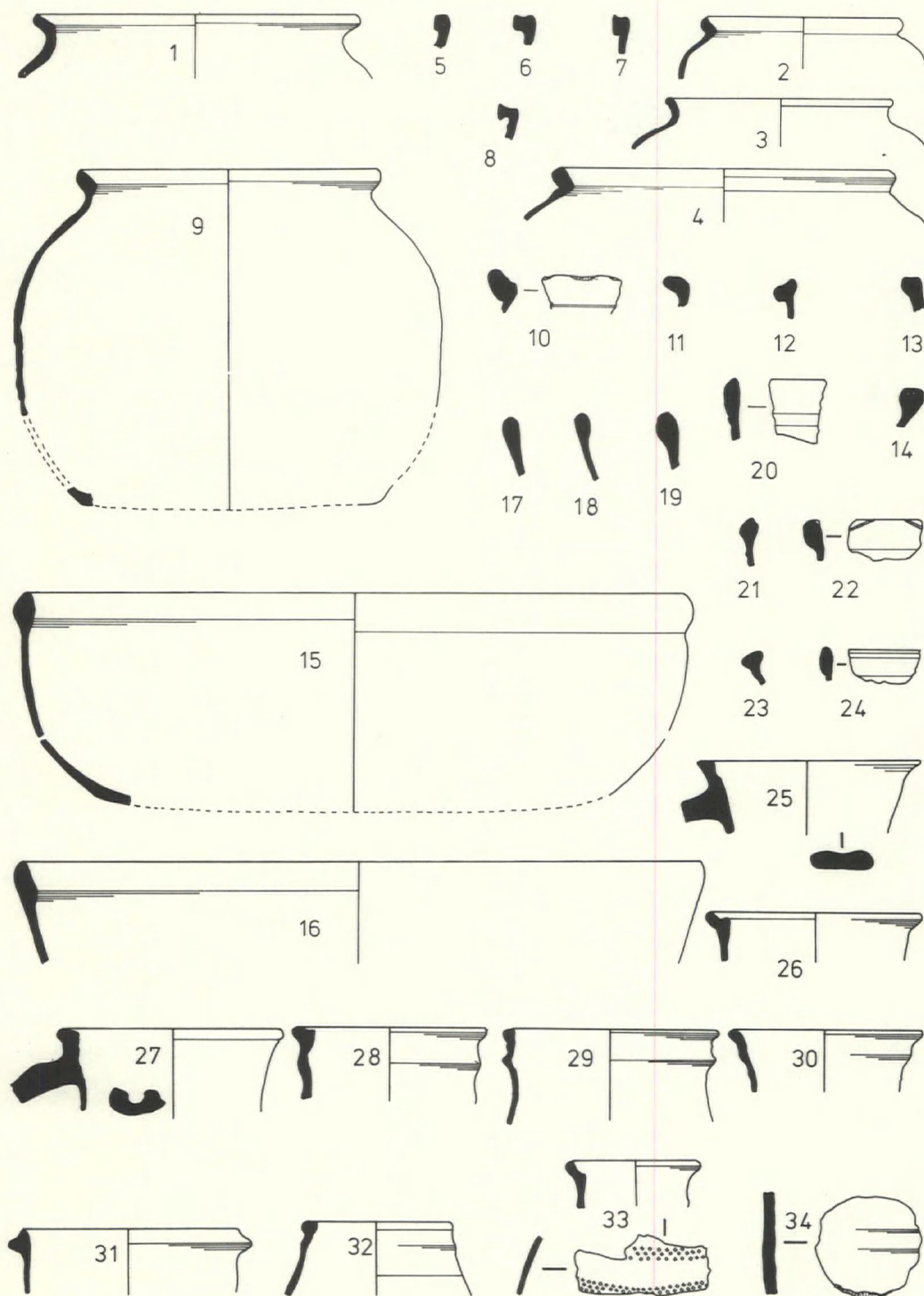


Fig. 5 Strixton windmill pottery (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

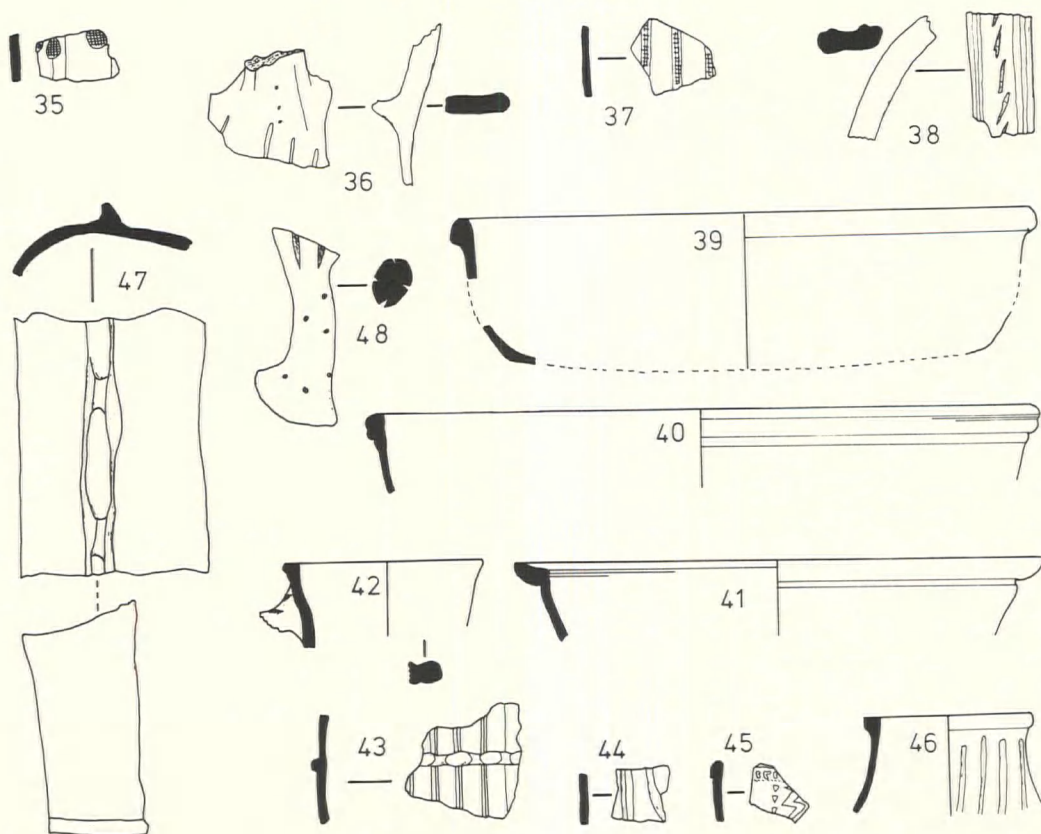


Fig. 6 Strixton windmill pottery (Scale $\frac{1}{4}$)

The smaller later group of sherds, a total of 544, also includes some material derived from the above group. The dating is only by typology; there are several hard 14th century Potterspury fabrics and some densely glazed sherds. A date around the middle of the 14th century seems appropriate.

Bowls

39. Hard blue shelly ware; examples known from the Santon kilns.
40. Hard sandy buff ware, Potterspury type. Compare Wythemail example, dated 1st half of 14th century.¹⁹
41. Bright red sandy fabric, very hard. Potterspury type²⁰.

Jugs

42. Brown-grey and orange. The only Potterspury jug found on the site²¹.
43. Red and sandy, applied strip over lightly incised lines.
44. Buff sandy ware, raised strips covered with

dense dark green glaze.

45. Red and sandy, dull green glaze; incised pattern picked out with brown glaze.
46. Oxford type, buff sandy ware; applied brown strips on a light green and brown background.

Tile

47. A coarse reddish shelly fabric with light green glaze; thumb ridge tile.
48. Stabbed glazed handle in the same fabric as 47; unknown function.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to thank Mr A Cooper, Duchy of Lancaster Land Agent, and Mr G. Austin, farmer, for permission to excavate. I am grateful to E. Corby, G. Corby, J.B. Hutchings, N. Nickerson, R. Palmer, R. Selby, and R.W. Thomas, for being my co-excavators and to Mr W.N. Terry, Northampton Museum, for identifying the coins.

NOTES

1. D.N. Hall, 'Modern Surveys of Medieval Field Systems', *Beds Arch J* 7, 1972, 53-66, especially fig 4.
2. D.N. Hall and N. Nickerson, 'The Earthworks of Strixton', *J. Northampton Mus* 6, 1969, 22-34.
3. In the possession of Mr W. Barber, Strixton.
4. D.N. Hall and N. Nickerson, 'Sites on the north Bedfordshire and south Northamptonshire border', *Beds Arch J* 3, 1966, 1-6.
5. For an example of 'Celtic fields' see this journal, pp. , above.
6. The open field terminology is explained *loc.cit.* n.1.
7. S.V. Pearce, 'A Medieval Windmill, Honey Hill, Dogsthorpe', *Proc.Camb. Ant Soc* 59, 1966, 95-103.
8. M. Posnansky in *Northants Nat. Hist. Soc. and Field Club* 33, 1956, 66-79.
9. W.P. Westell, *T St. Albans A S S* 1934, 173-183.
10. T.J. Miles, A Medieval Post-mill, Bridgewater Without, Somerset, (M5 Research Committee, 1971).
11. G.F. Bryant and J.M. Steane, 'Excavations at . . . Lyveden', *J Northampton Mus* 9, 1971, fig 12.i.
12. *Ibid* fig 11.a.2.
13. D.N. Hall, *Milton Keynes J* 1, 1972, 23-32.
14. D.N. Hall, in *J Northampton Mus* 10, forthcoming.
15. *Med Arch* 5, 1961, 267 and fig 70.1.
16. D.C. Mynard, 'Medieval Pottery of Potterspury type' *Bull Northants F A S* 4, 1970, 49-55.
17. *Ibid* fig 2.36.
18. G.F. Bryant and J.M. Steane, 'Excavations at . . . Lyveden' *J. Northampton Mus* 5, 1969, fig 9.
19. Mynard, 1970, fig 2.38.
20. *Ibid* fig 2.32.
21. *Ibid* fig 1.1.
22. D.N. Hall and J.B. Hutchings, 'Excavations inside Thurleigh Church', forthcoming.

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council is indebted to the Council for British Archaeology for a grant towards the costs of this paper.

Two Late Medieval Bronze Belt Chapes

RICHARD HAGEN

At various times in the later medieval period it was fashionable for men and women to wear belts, sometimes highly decorated, which were fastened with a buckle and had a long pendant end. This frequently terminated in a decorative chape, usually, it would seem, made of metal.

Two of these decorative terminals were in the collection of Luton Museum until recently, when the finder of one of the chapes, which had been deposited on loan in 1960, reclaimed it. There is little chance that this particular example will return to a public collection, so it was considered desirable to publish a drawing of it as a permanent record.

This strap-end¹ was found by the River Ouse at Great Barford. It was, as far as is known, a surface find and had no archaeological associations (but see the note on 'Three Bronze Age Spearheads in Luton Museum', this journal p1-4).

The chape is roughly rectangular, 2.7 by 3.2cm made from a single bronze plate folded to form the front and back of the object. It would originally have been folded over the end of a leather strap and secured by three rivets, one of which remains in place. The front of the object is decorated with a crude trefoil design cut into one edge and there are two incised lines running parallel to the axis of the strap.

The other item of this kind which is still in the possession of Luton Museum is a 'forked' strap-end. (accession number 100/58) which was donated by Mr P. Rutland of Campton. It is recorded as being found on the site of the Gas Works at Bedford. It is 5.1cm in length and consists of a bronze fork-shaped portion with a terminal in the form of a stylised animal head. Two bronze plates fit either side of the fork. These were originally fixed in place by two rivets passing through the strap. The animal head terminal has a hole pierced through the side of the 'face'. This may have held a silk tassel or similar embellishment.

Whilst I have not been able to find precise parallels for these two items, strap-ends are known

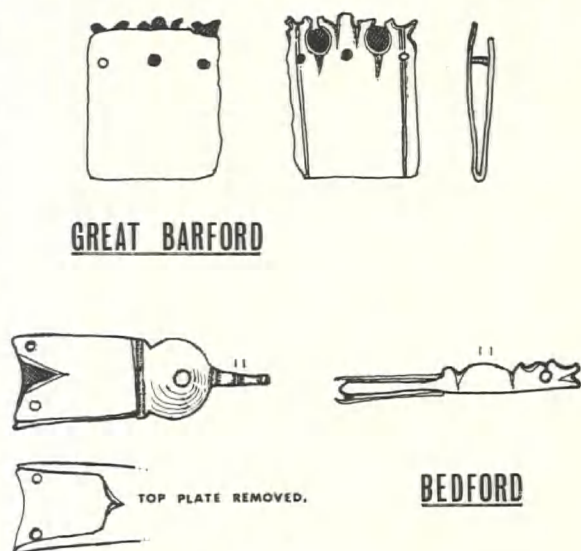


Fig. 1 Belt chapes from Great Barford and Bedford (Scale $\frac{2}{3}$).

from a number of sites.²

In the 1930's there was apparently some controversy over these objects – their precise use and age being questioned by some authorities. It does not seem, however, that their true purpose was ever seriously in doubt.³

The best published series known to me are those illustrated by J.B. Ward-Perkins, in the *London Museum Medieval Catalogue*.⁴ Elements of several in the series there published, bear comparison with the two items at present being discussed. The date range given in the London Museum Catalogue is generally fourteenth century, with one or two examples dated by the decoration to the late fifteenth century/early sixteenth century.⁵

Ward-Perkins was apparently the first person to compare the function and date of belt-chapes with representations on contemporary effigies⁶ with a date range from 1227 – 1502. Most of

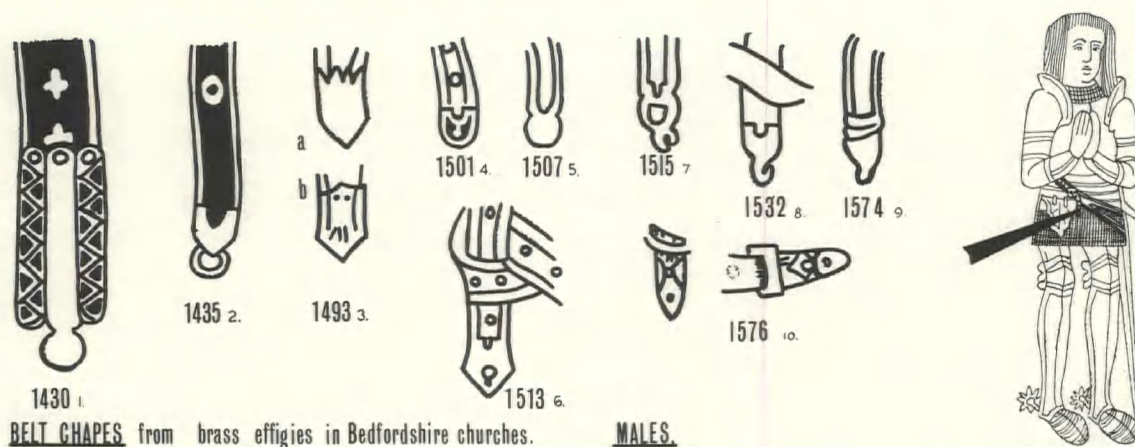


Fig. 2 Belt chapes on male brasses in Bedfordshire. The inset shows the location of the chape on the brass of Edmund Cockayne in Cockayne Hatley Church, (no. 7).

these were from military figures and brasses and were apparently selected to show a sequence of development roughly comparable with the collection at London Museum.

Although numerous examples of belt chapes are known, few have apparently been published from specific archaeological contexts — a forked example was found at Northolt Manor⁷ dated on archaeological grounds to the period 1300 – 1350. This is the most definitely dated post Conquest example I have been able to find. Another example was found on the site of the Dominican Friary in Dunstable, in 1965.⁸

It is interesting to note, however, that there are many local examples shown on contemporary brasses and memorials. The series shown on figure 2 is from male brasses in Bedfordshire churches, and these are listed in the first part of the appendix of this paper. They are all from the sword-belt of military figures. I have not found any examples on local civilian brasses, nor on any part of the equipment except the sword-belts. (an exception is number 10 which has small chapes on the straps which attach the tassets).

Decorative strap-ends are more frequently found on female effigies. The second part of the appendix lists those on female brasses from Bedfordshire. It is not possible to say at this distance and in the absence of extant examples precisely of what material these are made. However, it seems apparent from the representations shown that the belts were of fabric and a braided or plaited material, perhaps fine leather, and that part at least of the decorative terminal chape is

probably of metal. Most of them appear to have an edging and decorated 'collar' around the belt which is most likely to have been the metal part.

From the evidence forthcoming, it would seem that both of the Luton Museum chapes are from the type of belt worn by males, probably the sword-belt, and that a likely date for them would lie within the fourteenth or fifteenth centuries. Comparison with published examples would suggest that it is not, at present, easy to date these objects other than by their archaeological associations, unless the type obviously corresponds with a contemporary representation. As there are so many of these, it would seem possible to compile a comprehensive type series incorporating both archaeological finds and contemporary representations so that these objects could be used as an aid to the dating of a deposit when found in an archaeological context.

The author is in the process of preparing a list of this type for Bedfordshire and the surrounding counties. The preliminary results, using only monumental brasses, and not stone and alabaster effigies, appear in the appendix to this paper. He would be grateful for information about strap-ends found during field-walking and excavation in the area.

APPENDIX

Belt chapes on Monumental Brasses in Bedfordshire.

Figures 2 and 3 show the belt chapes known to me on monumental brasses in Bedfordshire.

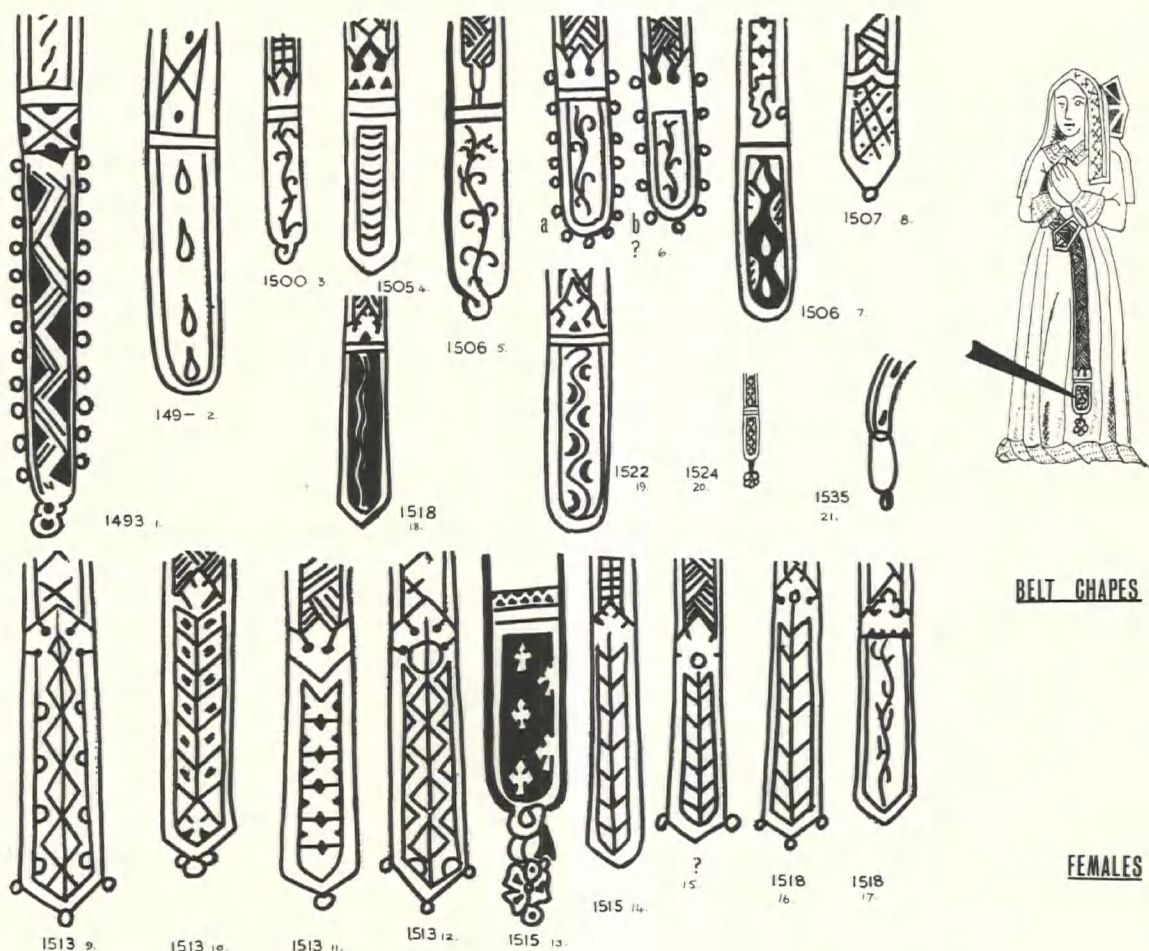


Fig. 3 Belt chapes on female brasses in Bedfordshire. The inset shows the location of the chape on the brass of the wife of Edmund Cockayne in Cockayne Hatley church (no. 13).

It has not yet been possible to check the complete series of stone, alabaster and marble effigies from the county. This could provide a more detailed series than is currently available.

Males (fig 2)

Belt chapes appear on local brasses in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and only on military persons. There are many more armoured figures than appear in the list, but in other examples the sword-belt appears to be fixed by a clasp which does not allow the end of the belt to hang down. The brass of Lord John Harsick, died 1384, now in Southacre Church, Norfolk, is such an example.

The type of belt which has a chape at the end is usually a loose fitting belt which hangs on the hips rather than fitting close to the waist as do many of the clasped examples. Swordbelts with chapes are often tied in a knot after being buckled.

Nationally, belt chapes appear in brasses dating from the early fourteenth century, exclusively on swordbelts, whether worn by military or civilian figures.

1. Sir Thomas Brownflet. Wymington Church 1430.
2. Thomas Wylde, 1435, in Bromham Church. Brass re-used by Dyve, 1535.
3. a) Richard Conquest and b) John Conquest, Houghton Conquest Church 1493. (a chape

of this type from Riseholme, Lincs dated? 13th cent—*Med Arch* 4 (1960), 106.fig. 34-3).

4. John Guise. Apsley Guise Church. 1501
5. Richard Fyssher. Goldington Church 1507. (a chape very similar to this is illustrated in *Ant J* 14 (1934) 183, from Lacock, Wilts).
6. John Ackworth. Luton, Church. 1573.
7. Edmund Cockayne. Cockayne Hatley Church 1575.
8. Nicholas Harve. Ampthill Church. 1532. (This brass has now been moved to Northill Church).
9. William Harpur. St. Paul's Church, Bedford, 1574.
10. Richard Faldo, Maulden Church 1576. (The latest brass to show a chape on the belt. The straps which hold the tassets also have small chapes. This feature does not appear on any of the earlier brasses).

Females (fig. 3)

The date range of the incidence of decorative terminals on women's belts is very much shorter than that for men. The fashion for long decorated belts would seem to be centred on the first quarter of the sixteenth century. Brasses of other dates show a knotted girdle or cord (before the chaped belt) or a knotted sash (later sixteenth century).

From the representations of belts it is not possible to say for certain of what material the component parts were made, but the most likely part to have been made of metal and therefore most likely to survive in an archaeological deposit are the edging and beading shown on many of the belts.

1. Isabella Conquest. Houghton Conquest Church, 1493.
2. Margaret Goldington. Lidlington Church 149? (inscription broken through the date).
3. Wife of Richard Cockayne. 1500. Houghton Conquest Church.

4. Wife of John Hawtt. Caddington Church 1505.
5. Wife of John Barnard. Ampthill Church 1506.
6. Wives of Robert St (inscr. broken) Luton Church. The date of these brasses is unknown they have been ascribed to the period c.1520 but the place of their belt chapes in the series appears to be c.1506).
7. Wife of Richard Maulage. Blunham Church 1506.
8. Wife of Thomas Grey. Cople Church 1507.
- 9 and 12. Wives of John Sylam. Luton Church 1513.
- 10 and 11, Wives of John Ackworth, Luton Church 1513.
13. Wife of Edmund Cockayne, Cockayne Hatley Church 1515.
14. Wife of Barber. Luton Church 1515.
15. Brass of unidentified female in Great Barford Church (date unknown, but chape apparently c.1515).
- 16 and 17, Wives of Edward Dormer, Caddington Church 1518.
18. Wife of Edmund Wayte. Renhold Church 1518.
19. Wife of Wm. Cobbe. Sharnbrook Church 1522.
20. Ann Waren, Luton Church. 1524.
21. Wife of Thomas Perys. Little Barford Church 1534.

NOTES

1. Luton Museum Accession Register, L/8/60.
2. *Ant J* 13 (1933) 469; *Ant J* (1935), 204. (an example described as a two-pronged fork in a case!).
3. *ibid.*
4. *London Museum Medieval Catalogue* (1940), 264-271.
5. *ibid* 270, fig 85 nos. 3 and 7.
6. *ibid* 266 fig. 84.
7. J.G. Hurst. The Kitchen Area of Northolt Manor. *Med Arch* 5 (1961), 291 and fig. 76, no.25.
8. *Manshead Magazine* No.16 (Spring 1966), 19.

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council is indebted to Luton Museum for a grant towards the cost of this paper.

The Chantry House, Tempsford

TERENCE PAUL SMITH

SUMMARY

A discussion based on a photograph of the building known as 'The Chantry House' at Tempsford. The building is suggested as probably dating to soon after the foundation of Tempsford Chantry in the fifteenth century. Later it became two cottages.

Tempsford, a village on the River Great Ouse some 6 miles (10 kilometres) east of Bedford, contains a number of vernacular buildings worthy of study. In Mill Lane, about 100 yards (94 metres) from the church, there stood until 1939 a timber-framed building known as 'The Chantry House' and formerly belonging to the Tempsford Chantry; a photograph of 1937 shows the building unoccupied and in a state of disrepair; but it is a good quality photograph and shows much detail.¹

The Tempsford Chantry was probably founded sometime between 1449 and 1482 by Thomas Bulle, late rector of Tempsford, and Sir John Mytton.² A dispute between a later rector, Thomas Philipe, and certain yeomen of Tempsford concerning the Chantry was settled in 1517, with Walter Luke and St Thomas More as arbiters. The 1517 document states that 'The Incumbent [is] to have the mansion house [sic.] called the Chantry-house . . .'.³

The building was thus a dwelling, although it was also used for the Grammar School which the incumbent was bound to keep.⁴

In plan the building is a rectangle clearly of two equal-sized bays with an extension at one end.⁵ The near wall of the extension is built flush with the ground-floor wall of the older building, and since this face of the older building has a jettied upper floor that floor stands forward of the wall-face of the extension. It is clear from the roof of the extension that this characteristic is not repeated at the rear face, and thus it is practically certain that the rear face of the older building is *not* jettied. The extension is of bricks, apparently standard-sized, laid in Flemish bond at the bottom and stretcher bond at the top. There is a window

with a very flat-segmental head in the one face visible in the photograph, and the pentice-roof, which reaches to the level of the tie-beam of the older building, is covered with pantiles.

Above the roof of the extension one end-gable of the older building is visible, though unfortunately much of it is obscured by a large patch of clapboarding. Some features, however, are visible. The tie-beam is a regular cambered timber with its ends placed over the wall-plate of the front face in 'normal assembly';⁶ the other end appears to be similar, as indeed one would expect. About two-thirds the way up the gable is a collar, of which only the topmost portion is visible, the rest being obscured by the clapboarding. The collar is distinctly cambered and at each of its ends has a slight notch in which is housed a clasped, in-pitch through-purlin. The gable is close-studded both above and below the collar: above there are five regularly spaced studs; below, most of the wall is covered by the clapboarding but one stud is visible at the near side and two at the far side; if the spacing is regular here there must be a total of about eleven studs. The verges are without bargeboards, so that the principal rafters of this end of the building are visible.

The face of the building shown in the photograph is the front face, as is clear not only from the fact that it is set along the road and that it is the only face to be jettied but also from the fact that it is given a measure of decorative treatment in the form of a carved bressummer. The ground-floor wall, beneath the jetty, has its near corner-post visible, though the far corner-post and part of the wall at that end are obscured by more clapboarding. There are two main doorways, one just on the near side of the central post which marks the bay division and the other on the near side of the far bay. The former doorway has a segmental-pointed head and possibly an applied strip of moulding to the outside of each jamb, and is probably an original feature. The other doorway is square-headed and is manifestly a later (?eighteenth century) insertion or alteration — probably the

former. There is a third much narrower doorway in the clapboarded portion at the far end; the far jamb of this appears to represent the original extent of the ground-floor wall, and the clapboarding thus seems to cover a very short extension as well as part of the original building. Two windows are visible, but both are boarded up. One is on the near side of the later main doorway and is square and fairly small; possibly it is original. The other is near the middle of the near bay and is perhaps slightly larger; this too may be original. The studs of the far bay are regularly spaced and close-set; between two of them, and crossing a third between, is a horizontal timber about 1½ft (46cm) below the jetty, possibly representing a former small window immediately beneath the jetty. The studs of the near bay are much further apart; presumably the wall here has been renewed at some time. It looks as though when new nogging was added alternate studs were removed. The visible corner-post and some of the studs have at their heads small brackets to the soffits of the projecting joists which form the jetty.

The jetty has a fully-framed bressummer.⁷ The lower half of the bressummer's face is moulded along its full length with a small roll at the top separated by a casement from two contiguous rolls at the bottom; the casement bears a repeated motif which is not absolutely clear in its detail.

The first-floor wall, above the bressummer, has both corner-posts visible as well as the central principal-post, with regularly spaced studs between. The studs are close-set, the panels being about twice the width of the studs. There appears to have been some alteration to the studs at the very far end. There is one near-square window to each bay, set immediately beneath the wall-plate. Both are boarded up, but some of the boarding has slipped from the near window to reveal part of a central mullion and diamond-leaded lights. At the near end of the building the wall-plate projects a few inches. The panels appear to have brick nogging, like those of the wall below, except at the far end where the infill appears to be of wattle-and-daub; portions of rendering over the infill, but not over the studs, remain at that end. A notable feature of the front face is the absence of any bracing system: no braces are present and none of the studs is notched for a brace to be halved into it. It is difficult to believe that the building was built entirely without braces, and presumably there were tension-braces on the interior face of the wall, so as to make the most

of the effect of the close-studding to the outside. The steeply pitched roof of the building has a covering of hand-made plain tiles.

At the far end of the building a square chimney-stack rises above the apex of the roof. This is of later (?eighteenth century) design, but may well mark the position of an earlier stack. A portion of a further stack is glimpsed at the rear of the building, close to the near end; this is a later stack presumably added against the rear face when the building was divided into cottages.

The dimensions of the building have to be estimated from the brick sizes and courses. The ground-plan measured about 20ft (6m) long by about 15ft (4.5m) wide, and the jetty projected about 18in (46cm). The height of the two storeys, to the tie-beam, was about 14ft (4.5m).

The 1517 document (*supra*) makes it clear that there was a Chantry House standing by that time, and this would presumably have been built soon after the foundation of the Chantry in the second half of the fifteenth century. This building may safely be identified with the timber-framed building described in this note. The moulding of the bressummer suggests a fifteenth or sixteenth century date, and this is supported by the mature studding of the building.⁸ In an Essex context C.A. Hewitt has dated the use of the fully-framed bressummer slightly later,⁹ but there is no reason why it should not appear in Bedfordshire rather earlier. The in-pitch through-purlin clasped between collar and principal rafter was in general use in Bedfordshire during post-medieval times¹⁰ and occurs about 1500 in the Moot Hall at Elstow, according to S.E. Rigold's dating of that building.¹¹ The use of *internal* tension-bracing to give a 'Perpendicular' feeling to a timber-framed building, which appears to have been a feature of the Tempsford building, was common in parts, if not all, of south-east England during the later Middle Ages and in Tudor times; Adrian Gibson has recorded examples from east and central Hertfordshire,¹² and the timber-framed south porch to Flitwick Church in Bedfordshire provides another instance.¹³ The building no doubt, had wattle-and-daub panels throughout originally, the brick nogging being later.

The plan of the building was simple. Assuming that the near doorway is original and the far doorway an insertion, as seems likely, we have a two-bay plan with an entry close to the centre (Fig. 1). Possibly this led into a cross-passage or cross-entry,¹⁴ with the usual service-rooms — buttery

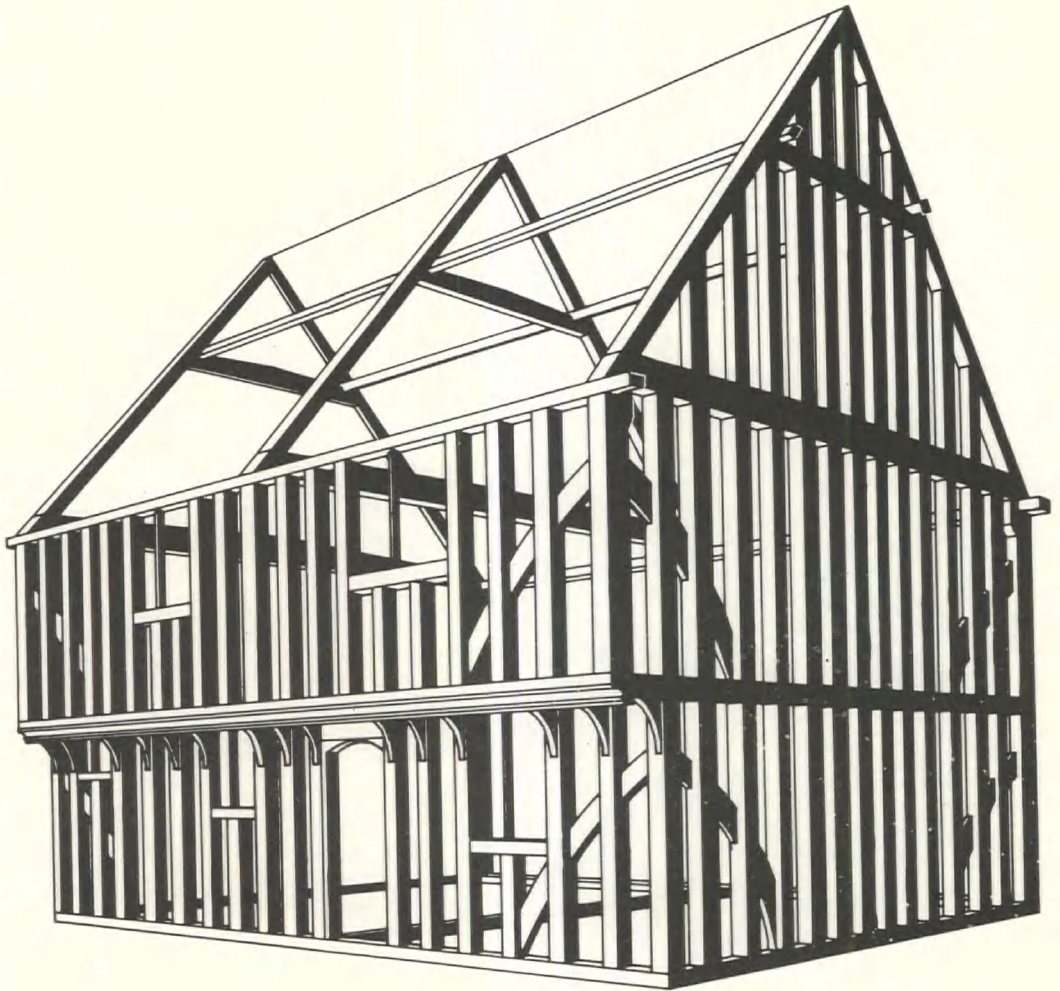


Fig 1 Perspective of the Framing of the Tempsford Chantry House.

and pantry — occupying the rest of the near bay and a parlour occupying the far bay. The upper floor presumably contained two bedrooms, or one bedroom and a further chamber. The later stack at the far end may have replaced an original, its position being consistent with the interpretation of this chamber as a parlour.

At some time, perhaps in the eighteenth century, the building was divided into two cottages, a doorway being inserted in the parlour bay for this purpose. No doubt the stack glimpsed at the rear of the original service bay dates from this conversion. The pentice-roofed extension may be later still, say early nineteenth century.

NOTES

1. The photograph is reproduced in H.E. Chapman, 'Tempsford Chantry', *Beds. Mag.* 61, 1962, 192-6; photograph p. 195. The demolition date is given in E. Rayner, 'Tempsford: Ford on the Ouse', *Beds Mag.* 55, 1961, 267.
2. Chapman 1962, 192
3. Quoted in *ibid.*, 194. The Chantry was dissolved in 1548, *ibid.*, 196.
4. *Ibid.*, 194.
5. The terms 'near' and 'far' in this note refer, of course, to the positions of parts of the building relative to the camera used for taking the photograph.
6. For this term vide C.A. Hewitt, *The Development of Carpentry 1200-1700: an Essex Study*, 1969, 46 and 70-5.

7. That is, with the joists' ends framed into the rear face of the bressummer rather than supporting its soffit from beneath.
8. Cf. the discussion of timber-framing methods in S.E. Rigold, 'The Timber-framed Buildings of Stevenston (Berks) and their Regional Significance', *Trans. Newbury and District Field Club*, 10, 4, 1958, 4-13.
9. Hewitt, 1969, chap. 7 and especially p.52.
10. Cf. N. W. Alcock, 'Timber-framed Buildings in North Bedfordshire', *Beds. Arch. J.*, 4, 1969, 43-78, especially 46-7 with Fig. 3. There are examples elsewhere in Bedfordshire.
11. S.E. Rigold, 'Elstow Moot Hall', in *The Moot Hall, Elstow* (Beds C.C., 1969 edition), 5-8.
12. A. Gibson, 'Some Timber Framed Buildings in East Herts and their Dating', *Herts. Past and Present*, 11, 1971, 5.
13. Personal observation; to be published by the writer.
14. For the useful term 'cross-entry' vide N.W. Alcock, 'Two Problems of Definition', *Vernacular Architecture*, 3, 1972, 21-2.

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A Timber-Framed Building in Cumberland Street, Luton

TERENCE PAUL SMITH

SUMMARY

Part of a post-medieval timber-framed building in Cumberland Street, Luton was revealed when later buildings were demolished. It provides evidence of constructional methods in timber-framing in seventeenth century Luton.

DESCRIPTION

Recent demolition work on the corner of Park Street and Cumberland Street, Luton (TL 095209) revealed a fragment of a post-medieval timber-framed building, some – but not necessarily all – of the rest of the building having been itself destroyed in the recent demolition. The remaining fragment was examined by the writer in November 1972; this examination included the finding of two main timbers of the original structure on a heap of recent building debris behind the extant fragment. Luton has very few pre-nineteenth century buildings. The timber-framed house formerly standing in Upper George Street and known from a photograph gives a good indication of the general *form* of timber-framed buildings in and around Luton.¹ The fragment here reported is of equal if not greater importance in that it reveals some of the constructional details of a post-medieval timber building of the Luton district. It is the only evidence of its sort that we possess so far.

The site is behind Mr. Inglis' barber's shop, set back from the Cumberland Street pavement by about 20 ft. The lower halves of one end-wall and of portions of the adjacent side-walls remained *in situ* at the time of the survey. The south (end) wall is 17ft (5.2m) long with a corner-post at each end and a centrally placed storey-post,² all three of these main posts having been (recently) sawn-off immediately above the end-rail; they are about 6-7in (15-18cm) square. On the pile of debris behind the building, however, the upper portion of a corner-post was found, complete with its head-joints; the sawing-off had left a distinctive 'ridge' which matched exactly that on the top of

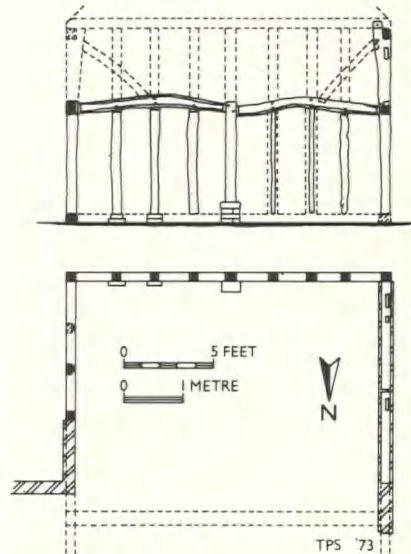


Fig. 1 Plan and elevation of building fragment in Cumberland Street, Luton

the stump of the south-west corner-post, and in Fig. 1 the upper portion is shown in its original position atop the present stump.

The end-rail is made up of two sections, each joined into one or other of the corner-posts and into either side of the central storey-post; Both sections are markedly cambered and have their lower arrises crudely plain-chamfered. The eastern section has its upper arris similarly chamfered, but the western section has only its western extremity chamfered in this way. The studs beneath this rail existed at the time of the survey, three between each corner-post and the storey-post. They are tenoned into the rail, as the rail itself is into the posts. The studs average 5in (13cm) across. The ground-sill on which they would have stood has been replaced, partly by projecting brick footings and partly by under-built brick walling, but the feet of all the studs correspond to the level of the ground-sill in the east wall. Clearly, the ground-sill of the south wall had become rotten and the whole wall had been

'footed',³ perhaps during the nineteenth century - the bricks are certainly standard size. All the panels have brick nogging, mostly of small, narrow bricks. There are patchings of standard size bricks. The nogging obscures any traces, in the form of mortises, of a bracing system at this level.

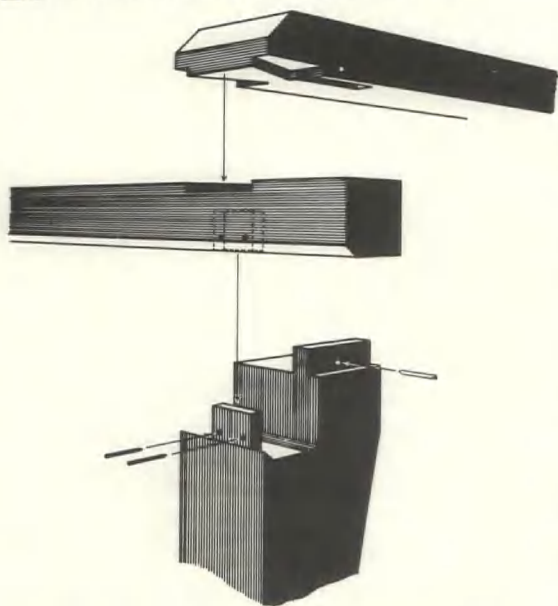


Fig. 2 Method of joining corner-post, wall-plate, and tie-beam in the Cumberland Street building.

The studs above the end-rail have gone, but their mortises (with peg-holes) are present in the upper surface of the two rail sections and correspond in position to the studs beneath the rail. The upper portion of the south-west corner-post is jowled towards its head in the end-wall plane, and at its head the back (west) face has been notched in the normal manner for the emplacement of the wall-plate's end. The joint system is shown in figure 2. The foot of the notch has to the outside a small raised portion designed to form a seating for the wall-plate. On the base of the notch is a tenon with part of one of its peg-holes visible; that there were originally two such holes is clear from the wall-plate itself which was found on the heap of debris. On the head of the jowl of the corner-post is a further tenon, set to one side and with a single peg-hole passing through it.

The wall-plate found on the debris had its joints sufficiently well preserved to make it clear that it fitted onto the south-west corner-post. The wall-plate's lower arris is chamfered to fit the seat-

ing of the notched part of the corner-post head, and its underside has in it a mortise to fit over the tenon; in the face of the wall-plate are two peg-holes, for pegs to pass into the tenon. The upper surface of the wall-plate has cut into it a lap-dovetail-mortise set to one side (when the beam was in position) of the upper tenon of the jowl-head. From these indications it is possible to reconstruct the underside of the original tie-beam running across the top of the south wall (fig. 2, top). This would have had at its end a lap-dovetail to fit the dovetail-mortise of the wall-plate and a mortise to fit over the tenon on the corner-post jowl-head. In its face would have been a peg-hole matching that in the tenon itself. The construction of this tying angle-joint resembles exactly that in use at the Granary, Cressing Temple, Essex.⁴

In order to eliminate a weakness at the point where the joints meet on the wall-plate this latter was extended beyond the end-wall-face for about 8 or 9 inches (20-23cm).

The end-wall had tension-braces⁵ above the rail, as is clear from the mortise for such a brace in the jowled edge of the corner-post and from the two mortises for the feet of such braces in the upper surface of the rail, each of which contains the bottommost portion of its brace. Each brace rose from the rail to its nearest corner-post, passing one stud, into which, presumably, it was halved. The central storey-post was not braced in this way at this level.

The total height of the corner-post - that is, of the building to wall-plate level - was about 11ft (3.4m) from the ground-sill.

The surviving lower half of the west wall is entirely of brickwork except for the side-rail, which runs along the top of the wall as it is at present, and which is tenoned into the south-west corner-post. The wall was presumably originally of timber-framing. Although much patched with later bricks the basic wall-fabric is of small red bricks 8-8½ by 4 by 2 in (20.3-21.6 by 10.2 by 5.1 cm), laid in Flemish bond. Many of these bricks, both headers and stretchers, have a deep green glaze. The brick wall is thicker both externally and internally than the rail, and it is possible that the studs exist beneath the brickwork. The rail is 7in (18cm) square and exists for a length of 11½ft (3.5m), at which point it has been sawn-off. The brick wall continues at the bottom for a further 2½ft (0.8m), at which point it has been hacked away. There is a straight joint, partly masked with

recent cement, some 6ft (1.8m) from the corner-post; possibly this represents a straight-butted scarf with secret bridle.⁶ The upper face of the rail contains four mortises, the second from the south being much smaller than the others; the larger ones were probably for the tenons of the upper studs of the wall, whilst the smaller one housed the footing of a tension-brace to the corner-post, passing the first stud. The mortise for the upper end of such a brace exists in the appropriate face of the corner-post, and has one peg-hole provided to fasten the brace. The wall-plate formerly running along the top of this wall has already been described in part, in connection with the joint system at the south-west corner. On its underside the wall-plate has a series of regularly spaced mortises for the tenons of the upper studs. Beginning at a point 13ft (4m) from the (original) south end of the beam is one half of a face-halved and bladed scarf with four edge pegs.⁷ (Fig. 3). The total length of the scarf is 2½ft (0.8m). The continuing member of the wall-plate has been lost. On the upper surface of the wall-plate, and actually on the scarf blade, is one side of a dovetail mortise (see Fig. 3), the other side of which would have been on the continuing member of the wall-plate. This is clearly the seating for the lap-dovetail tying joint of a tie-beam which, as well as 'tying' the two side walls, would have served to strengthen the scarf itself.

When the wall-plate was in position the dovetail would have been some 13ft (4m) from the corner-post, which gives the size of a single bay of this building.

Only the southern end of the east wall of the building remains. The ground-sill is a 6in-squared timber (15.2cm) and is preserved for a length of 12ft (3.7m) from the corner-post. Above this the wall is original for a length of 8ft (2.4m) from the corner-post, and thereafter has been replaced by a recent brick wall (Fig. 1). The wall has three vertical members, the two nearest the corner-post being lower studs, for they stop at the side-rail. Both these are in fact later timbers, but the original stud exists behind the more northerly of the two and is visible due to some fallen bricks; probably the original survives behind the other recent stud too. The third vertical member rose to the full height of the wall, though it is now sawn-off just above the rail; yet it is not a principal-post, for there is no indication of a tie-beam-seating on the wall-plate from the opposite (west) wall. It is therefore best termed a *storey-post*. The

one remaining section of side-rail is tenoned into this post and into the corner-post. The northern edge of the storey-post contains the mortise for the next section of rail, though the rail itself has gone. Over each of the lower studs, in the upper surface of the remaining section of rail, is a mortise for the foot of an upper stud; between these is a mortise for the foot of a tension-brace to the corner-post; the brace would have passed the first stud.

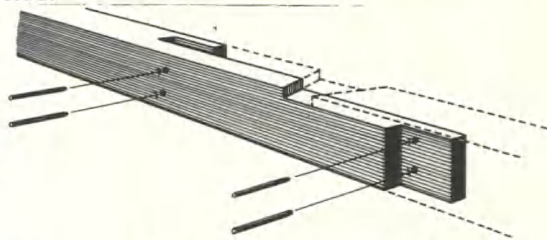


Fig. 3 Scarf in the wall-plate of the Cumberland Street building.

The storey-post is slightly thickened towards its (present) top, in the wall-plane, and, towards the foot, has a horizontal groove about 1in (2.5cm) wide and 1in deep. Its purpose is not known, and it may well be a relatively recent feature. The northernmost panel of the extant wall has a horizontal timber about halfway up, possibly the sill of a window, though the timber itself is recent. All panels have brick nogging, the upper portion of the panel being in rat-trap bond.

DISCUSSION

The method of jointing at the south-west angle of the building leaves it in no doubt that the present south wall was the original end-wall. We are thus dealing with a building of 17ft (5.2m) internal width. The length is not known, but it must have been a fair bit longer than 13ft (4m) - the length of one bay. Even if there were originally only a further half-bay, the total length would have been almost 20ft (6.1m) internally; whilst a further full bay gives a length of 26ft (7.9m) internally. As has been mentioned, the height from sill to wall-plate was about 11ft (3.4m). There are no signs of joist-joints in any of the rails, so the building must always have been 'open'. Of the original roof structure nothing at all is known; the covering may have been of tiles, for amongst the quantities of (undoubtedly later) Welsh slate a piece of tile was found in the debris. This measures 6in (15.2cm) wide by not less than 7in (17.8cm) long, and is cambered in both directions, as normal

in hand-made tiles. There are no nibs, but there is one peg-hole towards the upper left (when viewed from above).

The main timbers of the building are of reasonable scantling, and the whole is sturdily built. The end-rail, however, is of very irregular timbers, suggesting a late date. The close-set studs and the tension-braces place the building within the eastern school of timber-frame construction.⁸

The late dating suggested by the irregular end-rail sections is confirmed by the constructional details. The parallel tying-joint at Cressing Temple Farm (*supra* 128) is a building dated 1623;⁹ it is an effective joint, the setting to one side of the upper tenon preventing a weakness which might otherwise occur in the dovetail's central fibres. The face-halved and bladed scarf is assigned by C.A. Hewett (working in an Essex context) to the seventeenth century, and support for this dating comes from Cambridgeshire, where the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments report that the type was in use from the seventeenth to the nineteenth century.¹⁰ A seventeenth century date would therefore seem to be indicated.

The small bricks occurring in the fabric might also belong to this date or to any time prior to the 1784 brick tax, when increasing taxation rates (payable *per* brick) caused an increase in size.¹¹ It seems likely that the lower half of the end-wall would have included braces originally, in which case the brick nogging must be at least slightly later than the timber-framing itself; and certainly the brickwork of the west wall (although of the small bricks) must be later than the framing.

The purpose of the building is a matter of uncertainty. An open-hall house of seventeenth century date would be unusual, though not impossible, since this form of house - though it began to go out of favour in the sixteenth century - did continue in use until the nineteenth century, at lower and lower social levels.¹² Another possibility to be considered is that the building was some sort of barn. Whether house or barn, the building is likely to have been erected by one of the many yeomen or maltsters who put up homes in Luton during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.¹³

NOTES

1 T.P. Smith, 'A Demolished Timber-Framed Building at Luton', *Beds. Arch. J.*, 7 (1972), 73-7

- 2 Sc. a post reaching the full height from ground-sill to wall-plate (top-plate), but not directly supporting the roof structure (sc., at this point, a tie-beam) and therefore not a principal-post. The distinction is not always made, but it is useful.
- 3 For this term *vide* M.W. Barley, *The English Farmhouse and Cottage* (1961), 256.
- 4 C.A. Hewett, *The Development of Carpentry 1200-1700; an Essex Study* (1969), 157-9, 191.
- 5 Sc. braces rising from a horizontal member (in this case a rail) to a vertical member (in this case a corner-post) at a point fairly high up on the latter. The term is Stuart Rigold's: *vide* S.E. Rigold, 'The Timber-framed Buildings of Stevenston (Berks) and their Regional Significance', *T. Newbury D.F.C.*, 10, 4(1958), 4-13 (this ref. p.5); *cf.* M.E. Wood, *The English Medieval House* (1965), 222, 224. The term 'down-brace' is an acceptable alternative.
- 6 For this term *vide* Hewett (1969), 185, where a squint-butted version is illustrated.
- 7 For these *vide* Hewett (1969), 184.
- 8 Defined by J.T. Smith, 'Timber-building in England', *Arch. J.*, 122 (1965), 133-58. Also R.W. Brunskill, *Illustrated Handbook of Vernacular Architecture* (1971), 54-5, 178 for a simplified version of Smith's distribution map. One half of the Upper George Street house also displayed framing of eastern type: *vide* T.P. Smith (1972), 75-6. Hewett (1969), 157-9, 191.
- 9 A related, but not exactly similar, example again occurs at the Cressing Temple Granary: Hewett (1969), 184. For north-east Cambs. *vide* Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, *An Inventory of ... North-East Cambridgeshire* (1972), xlvii. The sequence of scarfs: *splayed/edge-halved/face-halved* seems to be general for south-east England; it may therefore be used as a basis for a relative chronology, and probably, so far at least as the face-halved sort is concerned, for an absolute chronology too, scarfs of this type being indicative of a post-medieval (seventeenth century onwards) date. For such scarfs in such a context in Kentish barns *vide* S.E. Rigold, 'Some Major Kentish Timber Barns', *Arch. Cant.* 81 (1966), 1-30 (this ref. p.5). For Hewett's original proposal of a sequence for scarf-joints *vide* his 'Structural Carpentry in Medieval Essex', *Med. Arch.* 6-7 (1962-3), 240-71.
- 11 For a discussion of brick sizes and for the Brick Tax *vide* A. Clifton-Taylor, *The Pattern of English Building* (revised ed., 1972), 248-9.
- 12 *Cf.* P. Eden, *Small Houses in England 1520-1820* (Historical Assoc. Pamphlet H.75, 1969), 9; and Brunskill (1971), 106-7.
- 13 W. Austin, *History of Luton and its Hamlets*, vol. 1 (1928), 220. *Cf.* Smith (1972), 77. The pre-circa-1850 development of Luton and its numerous hamlets, with a special stress on vernacular and other buildings, is the topic of an ongoing study by D.H. Kennett and the writer. I am grateful to Mr. Kennett for drawing my attention to the building fragment discussed in the present paper.

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council is indebted to the South Bedfordshire Archaeological Society for a grant towards the cost of this paper.

NOTES

Mesolithic Flints from Beadlow Manor Farm, Clophill

KEVAN FADDEN

In the course of road widening operations at Beadlow Manor Farm, Clophill (TL 111383) a number of worked flints were discovered by the Ampthill and District Archaeological and Local History Society. The site was first walked in July 1972 when a fence was erected by the contractors: three flints (1, 2, 8) were discovered in spoil from the fence postholes. A second visit when the area had been scraped to a depth of 0.6m revealed natural sand had been reached and further flints and some working debris (not illustrated) were found. In the section formed where the mechanical excavator stopped, about 3m from the fence line, neither a concentration of flints nor irregularity in soil levels was apparent.

- 1 Mesolithic core, black translucent, no patina, unworn.
- 2 Corinated scraper, retouched at end, grey translucent, no patina, unworn.
- 3 End scraper, retouched at end, buff translucent, no patina, unworn.
- 4 Unfinished microlith, black translucent, no patina, unworn.
- 5 Microburin, retouched, grey translucent, no patina, unworn.
- 6 Rejuvenating flake, black translucent, no patina, unworn.
- 7 Point, no retouching, no patina, unworn.
- 8 Microlith, black translucent, no patina, unworn.

The flints are all unpatinated and in a sharp unworn condition, belonging to the Mesolithic tradition. They are similar to those from Ruxox Farm,

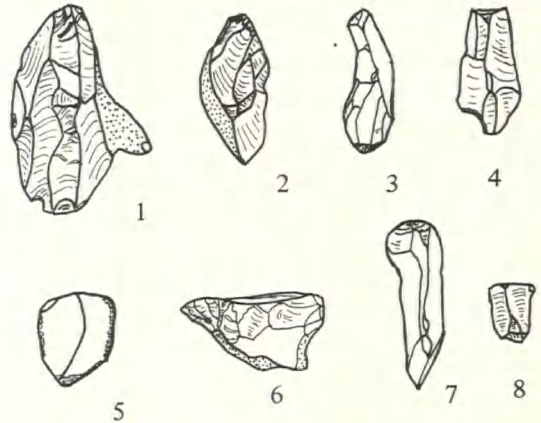


Fig. 1 Mesolithic Flints from Beadlow Manor, Clophill (scale ½)

Maulden, some 6 km (3.75 miles) west. Indeed, the Beadlow Manor site on the Lower Greensand ridge bordering the River Flit is very similar in its location to the position of the Ruxox site. It seems probable that, as at Ruxox, the discovery of a number of flints within a small area indicates wider settlement. In such circumstances, it is probable that the site of a Mesolithic working floor has been partially disturbed and it is unlikely that the paucity of flint finds brought to light by the road widening operations is the main concentration. It will therefore be necessary to conduct further work on the site to verify the existence of this Mesolithic site.

A Middle Bronze Age Palstave from Dunton

JANE HASSALL

A bronze palstave, discovered during ploughing at Church Farm, Dunton, (TL 239442) has recently been acquired by Bedford Museum (accession no. 1973/4/1). It is in particularly fine condition with cutting edge (7.5 cm in length) and flange edges only slightly worn. It is 16.7 cm long

with a flanged haft end, and partly developed stop-ridge. ¹ The blade is elaborately curved or splayed, which is one of the features indicating a Middle Bronze Age date for this example, (1400-1000 B.C.) ² Early Bronze Age axes or palstaves generally have a 'crinoline' shaped blade which be-

comes much narrower and slimmer in the later period. Late Bronze Age examples tend to develop loops to assist in stronger hafting, but this Dunton palstave is without a loop.³ On both sides of the blade is a finely chiselled 'V' shape, curving to run parallel with the edges, and this runs from just below the stop-ridge almost to the cutting edge of the blade. The blunt end of the haft is 2 cm wide with a slightly rounded edge. The flanges run from here to the stop ridge and are low, protruding only 0.85 cm above the trough of the haft. This is another indication of an early Middle Bronze Age date, as later examples tend to develop wing-flanges as well as loops for better hafting. The flanges on the Dunton example are detectable as two shallow ridges for a distance of 2.4 cm below the stop-ridge.

Palstaves have been found in some quantity, usually in hoards, in the Cambridgeshire⁴ and East Anglian region⁵ but relatively few examples are as yet known from Bedfordshire⁶. Northamptonshire has quite a range of axes in the Northampton Museum collection, and examples from Everdon (D77) and Aynho (D88/54.55) are of a similar type to the Dunton palstave.⁷ There is another example from Dunton⁸ of a 'bronze flanged palstave without a loop' which is probably related to the one under discussion. Its findspot is unclear, recorded only as coming from the parish of Dunton but the two may well be part of a larger group or hoard.

Two hoards of bronze objects have been found in Bedfordshire, both nineteenth century discoveries, one from Wymington⁹ containing approximately '60 socketed celts', and one from Maiden Bower¹⁰ which produced 'a quantity of bronze weapons'. The museums at Bedford and Luton house about half of the Wymington hoard, but the location of the rest of this and of the Maiden Bower group is at present unknown.

Palstaves were probably the most common

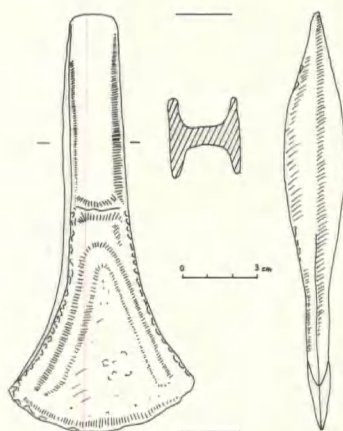


Fig. 2 Middle Bronze Age palstave from Dunton (Scale $\frac{1}{3}$).

type of axe used in Southern Britain in the Middle Bronze Age. They were used most for land clearance purposes in this region, at a time when farming groups were becoming less nomadic and were making more permanent settlements, requiring larger areas for settled farming.

NOTES

- 1 *British Museum Guide to Bronze Age Antiquities*, 1920, 26.
- 2 C. Fox, *Archaeology of the Cambridge Region*, 1923, 55-56, and plate VII.
- 3 M.A. Smith, 'Some Somerset hoards and their place in the Bronze Age of Southern Britain', *PPS*, 25, 1959, 144-187 esp. fig. 6.
- 4 C. Fox, 1923.
- 5 *Bronze Age Metalwork in Norwich Castle Museum*, 1966.
- 6 D.H. Kennett, *Bronzes in Bedford Museum, Beds. Arch. J.* 4, 1969, 79-80 contains summary of known examples in the country.
- 7 Publication forthcoming in *J. Northampton Mus.*
- 8 'Bedfordshire Archaeology, 1969-70', *Beds. Arch. J.* 5, 1970, 122 Dunton.
- 9 J. Evans, *Ancient Bronze Implements of Great Britain*, 1881, 113.
- 10 *V.C.H. Beds. I*, 1904, 169-170.

A Stater of the Coritani

F.W. KUHLCHE

Bedford Museum has recently acquired an uninscribed gold stater (pl. 6a) which was found at Dunton (TL 239442) some few years ago. It is in excellent condition and of a yellower gold than staters of Tasciovanus and Cunobelinus in the Mus-

cum collection. It weighs 91.6 grains and belongs to the prototype Group I in which the horse faces to the right and Type A of that group in which there is a plain pellet below the belly of the horse as opposed to Type B in which the pellet is encir-

pled by a number of very small pellets. D. Allen records a stater of this type, found at Shefford in the British Museum, Evans Collection and another from the same site in the Ransom collection.

Allen has come to the conclusion that these coins, once ascribed to the Brigantes, were actually their precursors and belong to about 100 B.C. He

places the Coritanian territory as comprising Leicestershire, Rutland, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and possibly Derbyshire with an oppidum at Ratae (Leicester) and probably another at Lindum. Bedfordshire, it would seem, was on the fringe with the chief find at Shefford.

An Anglo-Saxon Grave from Biscot

DAVID H. KENNETT

In Bedford Museum are a group of objects said to have been found in an Anglo-Saxon grave at Biscot Mill, Luton, in the 1880s. The exact site is unknown. They were first noted in the *Bedford Modern School Museum Guide* of 1926¹, but it is not known to which of the two cemeteries of the area they relate². There are two spearheads, a knife and a shieldboss.

- 1 (fig 3a) Spearhead, iron, length 202mm (7.7in) with a leaf-shaped blade, and a split socket, which retains some wood. (3787)
- 2 (fig 3b) Spearhead, iron, lost most of socket length extant 118mm (4.6in), possibly a ridged blade, but this is not certain. (3788)
- 3 (fig 3c) Knife, Iron, end of blade broken off length extant 128mm (4.9in). (3789)
- 4 (fig 3d) Shieldboss, iron, originally five rivets to the wooden shield disc, but one now missing, distinct platform disc, diameter of boss 150mm (5.9in). (3790).

The grave group is not easily dated; insufficient research has so far been done to establish an exact chronology for all shield bosses which would possibly give some clue to the date of the grave group. The group is one of a number of grave groups with two spearheads, which are infrequent in cemeteries but are found in isolated burials³. Burials of the seventh century at Loddington, Northants⁴, and at Rodmead Down⁵ and Salisbury Racecourse⁶, Wilts., are examples of the latter but in contrast only grave 11 of the graves with weapons at Argyll Avenue, Luton⁷, had two spearheads and of the twenty-two graves with weapons at Kempston only two had two spears⁸.

NOTES

- 1 P.G. Langdon *Bedford Modern School Museum, Guide* (1926), pl.
- 2 W. Austin *et al*, 'A Saxon Cemetery at Luton, Beds.' *Ant J* 8 (1928), 177-192; R.K. Hagen,

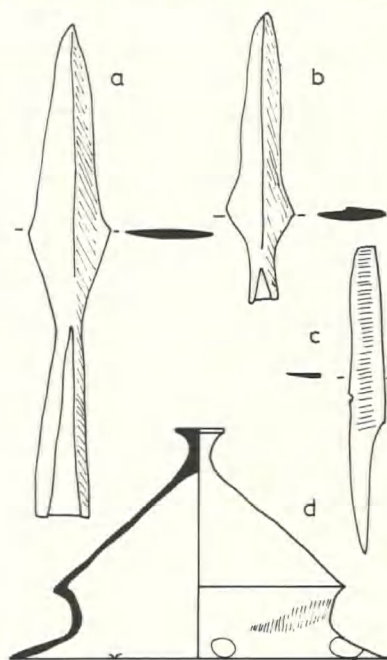


Fig. 3 Anglo-Saxon finds from Biscot (Scale $\frac{1}{3}$).

'Anglo Saxon Burials from the vicinity of Biscot Mill, Luton', *Beds Arch J* 6, 1971, 23-26.

- 3 For a discussion of these see D.H. Kennett 'The Anglo-Saxon grave from Battle Edge, near Burford Oxfordshire' *Oxoniensia* 34, (1969), 111-115.
- 4 Accessibly V.I. Evison, 'Sugar-loaf Shieldbosses', *Ant J* 43 (1963) 48 and fig 25. a-e.
- 5 Evison, 1963, 42 and fig 15-16.
- 6 Evison, 1963, 47 and fig. 29.
- 7 W. Austin *et al* 'A Saxon Cemetery at Luton, Beds.' *Ant J* 8 (1928), 177-192.
- 8 Graves 38 (11 Nov. 1863) and 75 (2 Feb. 1864) have two spearheads, the others have one; see D.H. Kennett *The Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Kempston, Bedfordshire: a reconsideration* (1968 unpublished).

The Tympana of Covington and Thurleigh

RICHARD MARKS

Since the last war it has been established that the Norman Conquest did not cause a complete stylistic change in English manuscript illumination.¹ Moreover, the long-held view that the Normans despised the work of the Anglo-Saxon monumental carvers has also been shown to have been some way from the truth.² The tympana of Covington, Hunts., and Thurleigh, Beds., provide further evidence of the survival of Anglo-Saxon sculptural traditions after 1066.

The Covington tympanum (Plate 6a) is set over the door in the north wall of the nave. The dimensions are 0.76m. x 1.57m. It is embellished with two confronted quadrupeds with tails curling under their hind legs and over their backs. The beast on the left is a wingless griffin, that on the right a lion. The precise significance of these and similar creatures can now only be conjectured. Probably the Covington lion and griffin represent the eternal conflict between good and evil. Alternatively they may have been intended to be seen as the guardians of the church and its contents.³

At Thurleigh, only a few miles away from Covington, the tympanum (Plate 6c) forms part of the south entrance to the tower. Its measurements are 0.61m. x 0.79m. The condition is poor, but it is possible to discern that the Fall is represented. The naked full-length figures of Eve (left) and Adam (right) flank the tree around which the Serpent is coiled. Conforming to the common medieval practice of telescoping narrative, Eve appears to receive the apple from the Serpent while Adam is shown in the act of eating it. This subject would seem to be a particularly appropriate theme for a church entrance. As the worshipper approached he was reminded of mankind's Original Sin, for which absolution could be obtained through the sacraments. It is somewhat surprising, therefore, to find that the Fall is apparently depicted on only one other tympanum in England, at Caton, Lancs.⁴

In common with Covington the relief is quite deep, but whereas that tympanum is composed of a single block of stone, Thurleigh consists of two, one superimposed on the other.

The significant feature of the two carvings is

that the style of the motifs is Anglo-Saxon, although the use of the tympanum form, the depth of relief, and at Thurleigh the application of incised chevron patterning and billet-moulding to the imposts and hood-moulding are clear evidence of post-Conquest date.⁵

The confronted beasts of Covington find their best pre-Conquest sculptural parallel in the rather crude lions flanking the tower arch of Cambridge, St. Benet's church, but closer comparisons can be made with other media. The lion, in particular, is similar to those which occur frequently in Anglo-Saxon illuminated manuscripts, e.g. Oxford, Bodleian Library Ms. Douce 296 f.40 (c. 1025-50) and Monte Cassino Abbey Library Ms. BB 437, f.126 (c.1050-60).⁶ Closest of all is the affinity of the Covington beasts to some of the border motifs in the Bayeux Tapestry, which appears to have been made by Anglo-Saxons.⁷ Here not only are there almost identical lions to that at Covington, but also present are griffins, albeit with wings, similar to the Covington one. Moreover, the confronted arrangement of the beasts on the tympanum occurs frequently in the Tapestry border (Plate 6b).

The figures of Adam and Eve on the Thurleigh tympanum are too decayed to make any convincing comparisons, but the form of the tree provides clear evidence of Anglo-Saxon influence. The thick branches on each side terminate in trefoil leaves which are a stone version of the fleshy acanthus foliage so characteristic of Anglo-Saxon illumination in the tenth and eleventh centuries.⁸ This form continued to be used in manuscripts executed after the Norman Conquest, but the carving at the top of the tree suggests that the sculptor had an Anglo-Saxon, rather than Anglo-Norman, prototype. Here the branches end in a group of small circular leaves which are exactly paralleled on f.8 of London, British Museum Cotton Ms. Tiberius C.vi, executed c.1050 (Plate 6d). As far as I am aware this particular type of foliage does not occur in post-Conquest manuscripts. Moreover, on iconographical grounds it is highly probable that the carver was using an Anglo-

Saxon source, for the Fall does not appear to be represented in any surviving manuscripts executed in England between 1066 and c.1120. It is, however, found in two pre-Conquest manuscripts: a copy of Caedmon's poems (Oxford, Bodleian Library Ms. Junius 11), probably of early eleventh century date, and one of Aelfric's Metrical Paraphrase of the Pentateuch and Joshua (London, British Museum Cotton Ms. Claudius B.iv), made c.1025-50. The Thurleigh Fall is not identical to either of the manuscripts, so there is no question of direct influence.⁹ Nevertheless, taking into account the absence of Biblical pictorial narrative from manuscripts of the first fifty years after the Conquest, it seems that the carvers must have had recourse to a pre-Conquest prototype.

These two tympana are by no means the only examples of the survival of Anglo-Saxon influence in sculpture after 1066. In fact, as Professor Zarnecki has pointed out,¹⁰ monumental carving in England in the late eleventh and much of the twelfth centuries was deeply affected by pre-Conquest traditions. Even at Ely Cathedral, a major Anglo-Norman building, Anglo-Saxon carvers were employed to decorate the south transept capitals; and there are numerous other post-Conquest churches, e.g. Milborne Port, Somerset, which have thoroughly Anglo-Saxon sculpture in the choice and execution of motifs.

The Ely capitals and the tympanum at Milborne Port provide useful evidence for dating Covington and Thurleigh. Ely and Milborne Port, which have been dated c.1090,¹¹ have confronted lions similar to the one at Covington. However, their carvings are flat and essentially two-dimensional whereas at Covington and Thurleigh the motifs are in quite deep relief and are well-modelled. This shows a greater mastery of the medium and suggests a later date, probably c.1100-20.

The tympana of Covington and Thurleigh cannot be related to any other surviving early twelfth century sculpture in Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire. Neither are they directly comparable with each other, as their designs and structural compositions are so different. Nevertheless, the common derivation of their motifs from Anglo-Saxon models suggests that the carvers, if not from the same workshop, had access to

the same source. The location and precise nature of this source are lost, but it is worth remembering that the great Fenland monasteries of Crowland, Peterborough and Ramsey, none very far away from Covington and Thurleigh, are known to have possessed Anglo-Saxon illuminated manuscripts. The sculptors are unlikely to have been permitted to examine such highly-prized objects, but presumably made pattern-books from the preparatory drawings of the manuscript artists. It is probably from one of these model-books, still in use after the Conquest, that the motifs at Covington and Thurleigh were obtained.

NOTES

- 1 See two articles by the late Francis Wormald, 'Decorated Initials in English Manuscripts from 900 to 1100', *Archaeologia* XCI (1945), 107-35 and 'The Survival of Anglo-Saxon Illumination after the Norman Conquest', *Proceedings of the British Academy* XXX (1944), 127-45. Anglo-Saxon influence in Normandy before 1066 is examined in C.R. Dodwell, *The Canterbury School of Illumination* (1954) and J.J.G. Alexander, *Norman Illumination at Mont St. Michel* (1970).
- 2 G.Zarnecki, '1066 and Architectural Sculpture', *Proceedings of the British Academy* LII (1966), 87-104.
- 3 The lion was an appropriate guardian for a church as in Bestiaries it is said to sleep with its eyes open. Griffins were described by early Greek and Latin writers as guarding treasure in foreign lands. See F. Lugt, 'Man and Angel', *Gazette des Beaux-Arts* 6e Periode 25 (1944), 268 n.3.
- 4 C.E. Keyser, *Norman Tympana and Lintels* (1904), xlvii. The subject does occur on several fonts. (*ibid.* xlvii).
- 5 There are no sculptured tympana of certain pre-Conquest date; the earliest securely dated examples are of the last third of the eleventh century.
- 6 D. Talbot Rice, *English Art 871-1100* (1952) pl. 75a, and 75b.
- 7 *The Bayeux Tapestry*, (ed. F. Stenton) (2nd edition 1965), 25-36.
- 8 The 'classic' example is the initial B on f.4 of London, British Museum Harley Ms. 2904 (Talbot Rice, *op. cit.* pl. 73a).
- 9 The Thurleigh Fall is more closely related to the Aelfric one than the Caedmon example. The same action is taking place, but in the manuscript both Adam and Eve are placed to the right of the tree.
- 10 Zarnecki, *op. cit.*
- 11 *Ibid.*, 97-8.

Biggleswade Windmill

TERENCE PAUL SMITH

Bedfordshire's fourteen tower mills have received only limited publication, so the present note seeks to record the structure and some of the machinery of the Biggleswade tower mill, which was demolished in 1966. The note is based mainly on photographs in the archives of Bedford Museum.

This mill, built in 1860 by Ezra Garner and still 'working frequently as trade demands' in 1931,¹ stood close to the River Ivel half a mile south of Biggleswade church, at grid reference TL 187441. The largest windmill in the county, it was 70ft (21m) tall to the finial and 23ft 6in (7.2m) in diameter at the base, where the brickwork was 21in (53.3cm) thick. Both tower and walling tapered to the top, where the wall-thickness was 18in (45.7cm). The tower was laid in something approaching English bond and was tarred as a weather protection. There were seven floors, of which the third was the stone-floor. On one side of the mill was a ground-floor doorway (pl. 7c) with a very shallow segmental head. Elsewhere, probably opposite that just mentioned, was a further ground-floor doorway,² whose brick opening was continued upwards to surround a first-floor doorway with a raisable platform at its foot. This second opening also had a brick segmental arch-head, as did the (at least) two large windows on the third floor; the size of these is due to their lighting the main working-floor (the stone-floor). All other floors were lighted by much smaller windows with semi-circular arch-heads. The large third-floor windows were of fairly heavy timber with a central mullion and transoms; apparently one panel of each window was a side-hung casement. The other windows had iron glazing-bars. Perhaps it is not without significance that it was the main working-floor windows which followed a distinctly sub-medieval tradition, whilst the others had been made a little more 'pretty' and a little less utilitarian. Jambs and heads to all openings were of specially moulded bricks with one arris quarter-rounded. To prevent lines of weakness developing (and causing the curb to become distorted) the smaller windows were arranged in a spiral.³

The cap was of ogee form constructed on a framework of shaped cap-ribs, alternate members reaching to the top of a central king-post; the intermediate ribs rose only to short horizontal members which were tenoned into the edges of the principal ribs near their tops and for which the term 'stub purlins' is here suggested. There was a further, continuous and circular, purlin about half-way up the cap. The king-post was a heavy octagonal timber resting centrally on a tie-beam which crossed the mill probably at about the level of the lower purlin. The top of the king-post was supported by the principal ribs but was otherwise unbraced.

The rib-structure was covered with short horizontal boards. The spike of the cap was topped by an acorn-shaped finial, and around the cap's base, masking the curb from rain, was a fairly deep skirt or petticoat of vertical boards and with a serrated bottom.

One of the photographs (pl. 8a) shows part of the internal arrangement here. The curb was of iron and the cap moved on small iron trolley-wheels. Apparently wheel and axle were of one casting and the bearings slotted over the axles without completely encircling them; these bearings were bolted to the soffits of the cap-frame timbers. To keep the cap centred the cap-frame was provided with truck-wheels which ran against an iron curb with a keep-flange, to prevent the cap lifting off the curb in the event of the mill's being tail-winded. The truck wheels were fixed to stout wooden blocks on the cap-frame.

Externally, at the level of the cap skirt, was a timber gallery for the maintenance of the sails and fan. The gallery was constructed on short straight horizontal members radiating from the cap-frame, and the inner ends of three of these supports are visible in the bottom right of pl. 8a. On top of these was a plank floor. The top rail of the gallery was supported by slightly raked uprights which were cross-strutted.

The fan-tail structure was already in a bad state by the time of the earlier of the two photographs (pl. 7b), but it is known that the fan itself

was 12ft in diameter.⁴ A fan-stage projected on fairly massive timbers from the gallery and was approached through a 'storm door' in the cap, which had a small porch at this point. The fan-tail itself was well braced for strength. Details of the transmission of drive from the fan to the curb are not discernible but it seems that the track was on the top, not the sides, of the curb.

The sails seen in pl. 7b were replacements of 1922, and had a span of about 70ft (21m) and a width of 9ft (2.7m) each; they were of Cubbitt's patent type, invented in 1807.⁵ The shutters of each sail were controlled by a sail-rod connected to a fork-iron which in turn was coupled to a triangle at the hub of each sail. Each triangle was connected by a bridle-iron to the central spider (visible in pl. 7b) which itself was controlled by the striking rod which passed centrally down the windshaft. The Biggleswade sails had a total of 216 double-shutters of 4ft 6in (1.4m) or 2ft 6in (0.8m) length by 1ft (30.5cm) width. The sails moved in an anti-clockwise direction. Movement was conveyed inside the mill by the windshaft, which passed through an opening in the cap and to which was fixed the brake-wheel. The windshaft had an estimated diameter of about 10in (25cm), and seems to have been of iron. At the point where the brake-wheel was attached to the windshaft a squared timber was provided to give a suitable fitting - with the aid of wedges - for the central box of the wheel. The box and the eight spokes were of iron in one piece, but the rim was of timber, as were the cogs, which were mortised into the rim of the wheel. The diameter of the brake wheel was 9ft (2.7m). The brake itself consisted of a curved iron band embracing the outer rim of the wheel and anchored at one end to one of the sheer-trees of the cap-frame. When

the iron brake-band was pulled against the wheel-rim - by a series of cords (or chains) and levers of which no details are visible - the wheel would have been stopped by friction. Brakes of this iron-band form are less common than those made up of stout curved pieces of wood, as at the Stevington post mill.⁶

When the photograph (pl. 8a) was taken the wallower had already been removed. The pintle of the main-shaft, on which the wallower would have been fixed, seems to have been housed in a metal casing just to one side of the sprattle-beam, rather than in the soffit of the sprattle-beam itself. It is known that the main-shaft was a 14in (35.6cm) chamfered timber and that the stone floor of the mill had three sets of stones. There was a grist-dresser in the mill, inscribed 'G. Wilson came here September 2nd 1867'.⁷

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to Bedford Museum for the loan of photographs, and to D.H. Kennett for help given.

NOTES

- 1 J. Steel Elliott, 'The Windmills of Bedfordshire: Past and Present', *Beds. Hist. Rec. Soc. Publications* 14 (1931), 9; nearly all dimensions in my text are taken from this publication.
- 2 Seen in a photograph in *Beds. Hist. Rec. Soc., Survey of Ancient Buildings* 1 (1931), fig. 2.
- 3 Though desirable, this practice was not always followed; v S. Freese, *Windmills and Millwrighting* (1957, reissued 1971), 28; cf. R. Wailes, *The English Windmill* (1954), 68.
- 4 Elliott (1931), 9.
- 5 Wailes (1954), 95 (specification number given therein: 3041); also Freese (1971), 8-9.
- 6 Excellent photograph in A.F. Cirket, *Stevington Mill* (1966), plate not numbered, but bears title: 'Top Floor'.
- 7 Elliott (1931), 9.

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council is indebted to Bedford Museum for a grant towards the costs of the notes on items in their collections.

Bedfordshire Archaeology, 1972-1973

compiled by DAVID H. KENNETT

The summaries below are designed to serve as a guide to current fieldwork, excavations and museum research into the archaeology of Bedfordshire. Important isolated finds and museum acquisitions are also included. The compiler wishes to thank all those who have contributed notes to this section and hopes that future work and finds will be brought to his notice of subsequent issues of the *Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal*.

AMPTHILL

The Department of the Environment have issued a third list of *Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest* for the Urban District of Ampthill. This is correct to 16 March 1972 and has 132 entries.

AMPTHILL Houghton House TL 039395

Martin Randall has made a preliminary survey of the known historical evidence for Houghton House. He has discussed the problem of its architect and completely discounts the attribution to Thorpe. Inigo Jones is regarded as still possible for part of the work but much of the building exhibits features not found in his mature works. It is concluded that an unknown architect who had visited Italy may be more probable. A series of photographs of the house and a group of prints before its partial demolition have been collected with notes on its history and design. A copy has been placed in the Bedfordshire County Record Office. Research continues.

ARLESEY Etonbury TL 184384

Part of this complex earthwork site was destroyed during the winter of 1972-73 by pipe-line works. The western part of the site had already suffered damage from railway works, and the pipe-line was dug parallel to the railway line thus removing still more of the western part of the earthworks. A watching brief was carried out by D. C. King who rescued and brought to Bedford Museum a large number of sherds, the majority of which were of Medieval cooking pot type. Some of

them have parallels with 12th and 13th century material from Brill and Harrold. Mr. King was able to record with sketches, the sections which were cut through the two main arms of the earthwork. This showed it to be constructed, apparently, from several bands of gravel, with a thick clay core in which timber lacing was to be found. There was also much timber in the upper gravel layer, suggesting perhaps the former presence of palisading.

A few worked flints and many animal bones were also noted during the earth shifting, but full-scale excavation of the site is necessary to establish the occupational phases here.

GREAT BARFORD The Bridge TL 136517

A few medieval sherds, including some St. Neots and some Lyveden ware were recovered from the Ouse during dredging along the SE bank at Barford bridge. The sherds are now in Bedford Museum.

GREAT BARFORD

A plethora of documentary sources survives for Great Barford in the eighteenth century, particularly in the transcripts made by Luke Francklin (Beds CRO documents FN 1253-1255). These have been examined from a number of angles: demographic, economic and social. In the course of work on these, it was felt that an extensive survey of the buildings of the parish was desirable. This has been commenced by D.H. Kennett as part of this larger research. One structure, 102-112 High Street, has been examined in greater detail. This is a late seventeenth century, timber-framed house with a further brick house, probably built c 1800 added to the south end. The earlier structure was brick-fronted later in the nineteenth century when the whole was divided into five cottages, each of three rooms, and a further three-roomed cottage built over a brick-vaulted cellar to the west. The last is timber-framed and weather-boarded. The whole structure is an example of the nineteenth century re-use of earlier buildings to provide rural housing for the growing population. Research on this latter topic is also in progress.

BEDFORD Medieval Town and Castle TL053497 (Centre)

Rescue excavations continued on several sites under the overall direction of David Baker for Bedfordshire County Council, Bedford Borough Council, the Department of the Environment and Bedford Archaeological Society.

The major discoveries relate to Bedford Castle. Its main *motte*, known as Castle Hill, probably had a ditch all around it, and this was sectioned on the west side, showing stone lining on the inner bank. In use it had been water-filled, and in the bottom were several mangonel shots which must have been used in the final attack. The stages by which the mound was subsequently reduced in height could be detected. The inner Bailey ditch, sectioned in 1971, was traced further east towards the *motte* but its exact relationship was obscured by disturbances. On the old County Library site, part of a gate or wall tower was found, inserted into an earlier wall which was probably the fragment of south curtain wall represented on Speed's map in 1610. Further indications were found of several massive buildings against the north curtain wall site, north of the Golden Eagle Public House, near Rose Yard.

South of the river, two major sites were explored. Excavation of the highly complicated medieval occupation sequence next to the Anglers Inn, commenced in 1971, was completed. There were few spectacular individual finds, but the general impression was confirmed that St Mary's Street on its west side had a significant settlement and light industrial activity in the 12th to 15th centuries. The site of 17-19 St. Mary's Street was excavated, following the demolition earlier of 16th or 17th century timber framed buildings. Underneath their associated occupation layers was a long sequence of medieval evidence, the earliest of which included some large pits and some evidence for timber building, represented by post holes cut into natural clay. On neither site on St Mary's Street was there any significant evidence of Saxon occupation.

BEDFORD The Bridge TL 051496

The Bedfordshire branch of the Sub-Aqua Club reported the location of several uprights of timber on the Ouse bed at Bedford Bridge. These timbers are close to the North bank and just to the West of the existing bridge. This alignment is possibly that of the early medieval timber bridge, which preceded the first stone built one, recorded as extant in

1185. Further work during the summer 1973 is due to take place.

BEDFORD Golden Eagle TL 052497

Excavations were undertaken by Jane Hassall, Bedford Museum, for Bedford Corporation, Bedfordshire County Council, and the Department of the Environment, on the site of the former Golden Eagle Public House. A small trench dug during the 1972 excavation season immediately to the north of this site revealed part of a stone-built lime-kiln. The rest of this feature lay beneath the Golden Eagle and proved to be of exceptional size, some 5m in diameter, built of solid limestone blocks and well-mortared. It was excavated to a depth of 3m at Easter and was left to be completed later in 1973. A series of related medieval features and layers were located to the south of the lime-kiln, and a great deal of St. Neots ware was recovered.

BEDFORD The Lion Inn TL 052498

Redevelopment at the back of the Lion Inn involved pile-driving and deep-trenching during which a stone-built well was discovered. A tombstone was found placed face-down on top of it, and was probably used as a covering. Part of the wording had been carefully chiselled out from the stone, which also had the following inscription:

Leith hujus Ecliae
quam naturae difiplinae Religionis gratiis
D.O.M. benigne decoravit.
-ae perennis primitias di--n futurorum
-fide coluit. Ca-lacae--riculum
mors EHEU ----puer-perio-abfo-
vit die Martii xv A.D. MDCXCVII
AET X X X

BEDFORD Newnham Marina TL 074494

Aerial photography by Dr J.K. St. Joseph since the 1950's had showed complicated crop marks in an area south east of Bedford, threatened by gravel extractions. Trial excavations by Angela Simco for Bedford Borough Council and the Department of the Environment revealed a complex series of closely spaced enclosure ditches and drainage gulleys, adjacent to a yard area with rough limestone surfacing and containing a stone lined well. This evidence suggests an agricultural settlement of the early Roman period. Nearby the lowest courses of several *pilae* set on a mortar surface, were sealed by tile and mortar rubble containing pottery and a fourth century coin.

BOLNHURST Mavourn Manor TL 072576

D.H. Kennett and T.P. Smith have examined the structure of Mavourn Manor, a late seventeenth century farmhouse of 'T'-shaped plan. This timber-framed building, of two storeys and an attic, has a centrally-placed brick stack in its long south wing. The short rear wing retains a massive joist, chamfered with elaborate stops, and evidence of the seating of the original common rafters. The present roof-timbers of the whole building date from c 1800 but the roof has been more recently retiled. It would appear that the present building is the successor to that described in the inventory of Edmund Francklin, made in 1633 (Beds CRO documents FN 1067 and FN 1254, pp. 191-214). As part of a general survey of the timber-framed buildings of the parish, the neighbouring Crowhill Farm (at TL 076582) has also been examined. (*Beds Arch J* forthcoming).

CLAPHAM

A. East reports the discovery of two post-medieval finds by residents of Clapham village. One is a small bronze seal, probably mid-sixteenth century in date; the other is a long, pointed object of iron, most probably a pike, but not of any regulation type. (*Beds Arch J* forthcoming)

CLAPHAM Manor House TL 035525

P.G. Tilson began excavations at Easter 1973 on the site of Clapham Manor House adjacent to the Saxon tower of the church. The topsoil was removed and a large stone building complex was found. The building on this site was finally pulled down during 1871. One wing has been excavated which includes four rooms and two cellars and it would appear from the finds that this particular area had been demolished prior to the rest of the house around about 1750-1780. Finds to date include pottery, coins, stained window glass and a large quantity of iron objects.

CLOPHILL Cainhoe Castle TL 098374

Trial excavations were carried out by Alison Taylor and Peter Woodward for Bedfordshire County Council and the Department of the Environment on the strip of land south of the Motte-and-Bailey Castle, threatened by a road straightening scheme. A cobbled roadway with drainage ditches leading to a gap in the outer earthworks was seen in the middle of the strip. Two possible house platforms on the east end of the site produced no con-

clusive occupation evidence. In between, a marshy area contained part of a possible collapsed fence and a number of stakes. In general the work confirmed that the main deserted medieval village site lay west of the castle and was unaffected by the road scheme.

DUNSTABLE TL 019216

The Department of the Environment was invited by Manshead Archaeological Society to undertake excavations in Friary Field in advance of road construction. These excavations were directed by Dr I.M. Stead for the Department of the Environment.

The western end of the field consisted of a number of cruciform pits arranged in six lines with twelve pits in each line, the whole surrounded by a trench to form a rectangle about 60m by 30m. Adjoining was a second rectangle, apparently similar in size and presumably enclosing another 72 cruciform pits. The overall plan was clear before these excavation, but there was controversy about the date and purpose of the pits. Four pits were investigated: they measured between 3.55m and 3.7m long, with arms 1.65m and 9m wide, and they were cut between 70 and 85cm into chalk. Two of the pits were completely excavated, and they produced 25 and 23 glazed Medieval sherds respectively; two pits were half-excavated and 17 and 21 glazed Medieval sherds were found. Nearly all these sherds belong to the fourteenth century. The pits had been cut with considerable care, and had been filled with uniform dark earth indistinguishable from the top-soil which covered the site. It seems that their purpose was horticultural, but whatever was planted there remains obscure.

At the eastern end of the field was the site of a Dominican Friary. Previous excavations had uncovered the walls of various medieval buildings, and the present excavation located the north-west corner of the church. The church is covered by a number of existing buildings which will be demolished to make way for the new road.

ELSTOW Elstow Abbey TL 049474

A final season of excavation on the Benedictine Abbey Site was directed by David Baker for Bedfordshire County Council and Bedford Archaeological Society. Further details of outbuildings were recovered and the Infirmary was located, south-east of the main claustral buildings.

FLITWICK Church TL 029342

T.P. Smith has examined the timber-framed

south porch of this church. It is of the close-studded type found also at Impington and Grantchester (Cambs.) rather than the more normal 'open' type. The county's other timber-framed porches are at Ravensden and Salford.

FLITWICK, Priestley Farm TL 020331

A horse-engine house at this farm has been examined by T.P. Smith for the Ampthill and District Archaeological Society. It is probably of nineteenth century date and had evidently had its roof raised at some time subsequent to the original building. It is built of the local ironstone and roofed in slate. The king-post type roof probably dates from the reroofing, perhaps in the early years of this century. No machinery remains, but the evidence is that it was of the normal type with a central vertical shaft driven from an overhead boom carrying the horse-harness; a toothed wheel at the foot of the shaft would have engaged a smaller vertical toothed wheel fixed to a horizontal shaft running into the adjoining bar, where machinery—perhaps for threshing — would have been located. The building, which is apsidal in plan, has recently been damaged by fire and may be demolished. Although buildings of this type are very common in Yorkshire and elsewhere in the north they are not at all common in this part of the country (ex inf. Kenneth Hutton).

HARLINGTON TL 038303

T.P. Smith and D.H. Kennett have made an external survey of 61-65 Sundon Road, Harlington. This is a probably seventeenth century timber-framed farmhouse with later additions and subsequent conversion to a row of cottages.

HOCKLIFFE TL 098262

A field adjacent to the A5 road south of Hockliffe was ploughed deeply during the winter of 1972-73 for the first time and it was noted that large patches of shelly limestone building material had been brought to the surface. On inspection, it appeared that a large building had stood there with, a cobbled area on three sides. Pottery, bottle glass and a considerable number of iron objects suggested a date of early eighteenth century. Several out-buildings were also noted, and a large quantity of horseshoes were found nearby. Further work will be done in the winter of 1973-74.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD Grove Priory SP 923227

Rescue excavations in advance of sand quarry-

ing were commenced by David and Evelyn Baker for Bedfordshire County Council and the Department of the Environment. This is the site of an alien cell of the order of Fontevrault. It existed from the middle twelfth to early fifteenth centuries. A full survey of extensive earthworks was carried out by Peter Woodward. Excavations located two complexes of buildings. One consisted of insubstantial lines of dry stone footings and post holes; these may have been barns. The other consisted of several periods of stone footings; while these were not identifiable from their plan form, they may represent the main monastic buildings. Work continues.

LUTON Upper George Street TL 090214

By courtesy of Mr P. Smith and Mr R.K. Hagen, T.P. Smith has examined a further photograph, kept at Luton Museum of the demolished timber-framed building in Upper George Street, Luton, (see *Beds Arch J* 7, 1972, 73-7). It is clear from this photograph that the bressummer of the north face was not fully-framed, as suggested in the previous paper, but was carried on the tops of the projecting joists. The dating of the building suggested in the paper is not affected.

LUTON Park Square TL 093212

D.H. Kennett and T.P. Smith have examined 16 Park Square, Luton. This building has a typically mid-to late-eighteenth century brick front with an early twentieth century shop front inserted in the ground floor. Some other walls in the structure are timber-framed and eighteenth century in date.

For a timber-framed fragment on Cumberland Street see *supra* (p127-130).

MAULDEN Ruxox Farm TL 052364

The Ampthill Archaeological and Local History Society under K.J. Fadden have completed their investigations of the Roman rubbish pits at Ruxox Farm, Maulden, upon which excavation had been carried out in previous years. (*Beds Arch J* forthcoming).

OAKLEY Bridge TL 006532

P.G. Tilson reports that further work on the field survey of the area adjacent to Oakley Bridge has been carried out. A small quantity of medieval pottery and two worked flints, both scrapers, were found.

RIDGMONT Flying Horse Farm TL 099385

Field walking in the area by P.G. Tilson and

others in 1972 revealed pottery of the late twelfth and early thirteenth centuries, in a coarse, grey sandy ware, similar to that from kilns excavated in Bow Brickhill Woods by D.C. Mynard in 1969.

ROXTON TL 156534

Rescue excavations have been carried out by Alison Taylor, Peter Woodward and G.T. Rudd for Bedfordshire County Council, the Department of the Environment, and Longsands School Museum. Five ring ditches and other features have been located as crop marks on aerial photographs by Dr J.K. St Joseph. The first two named excavated two quadrants of the northern ring ditch. It probably represented a saucer barrow of the early Bronze Age. There was some evidence of features both earlier and later than it, including Iron Age field boundaries and some Romano-British and medieval pottery.

SANDY Chesterfield TL 179486

A large amount of Roman pottery, chiefly coarse wares, but with a few pieces of samian and one graffiti marked base were found during field walking by D.B. and E.M. Baker.

An unguentarium with rim missing (fig 2) was found on the same site and brought to the museum for identification. It was of soft buff cream ware with a ridge and groove spiral decoration round it; height 8.2cm max. width 7cm. It is probably of late third-early fourth century date.

STOTFOLD TL 223363

A large amount of Roman pottery has been brought to Bedford Museum by D.C. King. The site is just to the south of Stotfold and lies close to the river Ivel, and west of the Roman road that runs between Baldock and Sandy. Amongst the pottery finds are a great many samian sherds, plain and decorated, cooking pots of hard grey sandy ware, and a few finer table wares. Two flanged bowls of hard buff sandy fabric are also represented. It is hoped to carry out further field work at the site.

SUNDON Lime Quarry Area TL 040275

D.H. Kennett has observed a possible Iron Age defensive structure in the quarry face of the Sundon Lime Quarry of the Associated Portland Cement Co. Ltd. In the face in June 1972 a V-shaped ditch, about 5m wide and 3m deep, was seen. To the north of this is a wide berm, of about 4m, before a bank about 7m wide and 4m high. The

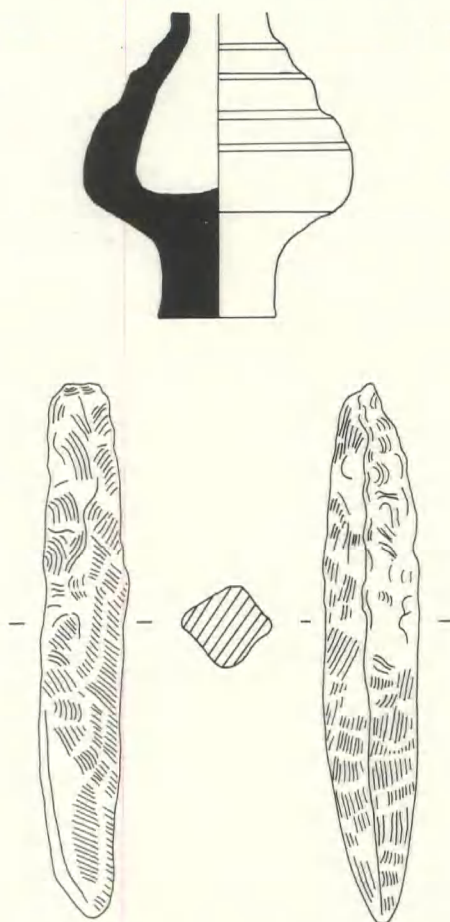


fig. 1 Unguentarium from Sandy (above).
Polished flint from Havana Farm,
Wrestlingworth. (below). (Scale $\frac{1}{2}$).

surface above the chalk is made up to the top of this bank and a pylon if placed almost on top of it. The bank is apparently constructed of chalk blocks on the dump principle. In June-July 1973 this had become grassed over by natural seeding but was still distinctly visible. The ditch in 1973 remained clear. The area enclosed by this bank is unknown, but in September 1973 the ditch was further observed in another quarry face to the east.

WOBURN Woburn Abbey SP 965326

Recent renovation and building work have disclosed traces of the Cistercian Abbey. The lower courses of a medieval wall were found under the north west corner of the present House, and may relate to the west end of the Church. Skeletons are

reported to have been located north of the present house during drainage operations. Trial mechanical excavations on the site of a new garage, itself on the site of the demolished east end of the north wing by Flitcroft, failed to show any evidence for a north transept or other part of the Church; deep post-medieval cellars had obliterated any earlier evidence. The illustration of the pre Flitcroft house's west front in *VCH Beds III* presumably shows the western claustral range altered for the early Mansion. (Beds. C.C.SMR/40.)

WRESTLINGWORTH Havanna Farm TL 237467

A group of finds discovered during ploughing at this site was brought to Bedford Museum for identification. They consisted of two Roman coins, one a dupondius of Antoninus Pius (138-161 A.D.) and the other obscure, and several rim sherds. The pottery was of 2nd and 3rd century date and included two mortaria rims. The rest were coarse ware sherds in cooking pot and storage vessel forms. They were discovered with some Roman roof-tile and a small piece of plaster set with red, white, and pink mosaic squares.

A polished celt from the same site (fig 3) was brought in, and was of yellow-grey flint. It was 14.1cm long and 2.7cm at maximum width. One half was smoothed as if intended to be held in the hand, and the other was faceted with two main cutting edges. It was probably used as a small hand chisel.

Bedford Museum is hoping to carry out further investigations at the findspot.

Conference Reports

Three conferences were held in 1973. The first was a joint conference sponsored by the Bedfordshire Archaeological Council and 'Rescue', held in Dunstable College on Saturday 17th March 1973. The problems of rescue archaeology were reviewed

by contributions from J. Alexander, D.B. Baker, Kate Pretty and J.K. St Joseph. There was a large exhibition of material from Bedfordshire, much of it from rescue excavations. The thanks of the Bedfordshire Archaeological Council are due to the Manshead Archaeological Society of Dunstable who made the local arrangements.

Bedfordshire was host to the British Brick Society on Saturday 24th November 1973, when a one day conference with exhibition was held in Bedford Borough Library. Four papers were delivered, including, 'Rye House, Hertfordshire, and its Brickwork' by T.P. Smith and 'Houghton House, Bedfordshire: some problems reviewed by M. Randall. The afternoon session was devoted to continental material. D.H. Kennett spoke on 'Lubeck: city of brick' and Helen Clarke on 'Brick Buildings in Holland'. The conference was accompanied by an exhibition of drawings and photographs relating to brick buildings in this area.

The fifth Bedfordshire Archaeological Conference was held in Dunstable College on Saturday 1 December 1973. The programme consisted of ten short talks on investigations in 1973. Alison Taylor spoke on 'Bronze Age discoveries at Roxton' and Angela Simco on 'Crop mark sites at Newnham Marina, Bedford'. She was followed by Jane Hassall on 'Rescue Excavations at Willington and Bedford' and D.B. Baker on Grove Priory, near Leighton Buzzard. Richard Hagen reviewed the archaeological work of Luton Museum and James Dyer spoke on his excavations at Ravensburgh Castle, Hexton. D.N. Hall's subject was the Bronze Age ring ditches at Radwell and conference continued with talks from J.M. Bailey on decorated tiles from Bedfordshire, and K.J. Fadden on investigations in the Ampthill area. The afternoon closed with a C.L. Matthews reviewing work in Dunstable. The thanks of the Bedfordshire Archaeological Council are again due to the Manshead Archaeological Society of Dunstable for the arrangements.

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council is indebted to Bedford Museum for a grant towards the cost of these notes.

Reviews

Southern England: An Archaeological Guide by James Dyer. (Faber and Faber, 1973) 380pp., 10 maps, 28 figs., 76 plates. £1.95 paper, £5.50 cloth.

James Dyer has done it again! He has written a good book of the type he set out to provide but been badly served by his publishers. It seems best to dispose first of the poor quality of the printing for some pages are distinctly grey and not black in the reviewer's copy. One can look too at the poor treatment of the plates. Few have come out well. Some escape. The reviewer particularly liked plate 6 of Lambourn Seven Barrows, Berkshire, and plate 39 of Arbury Banks plateau fort, Hertfordshire.

The grouse is not with the author but with his printers for these. In the text one can find little to fault. The law of trespass is distinctly stated and it is good to have such an unequivocal definition at the beginning. James Dyer has set out to provide a personal selection of the prehistoric and Romano-British sites most worthy of a visit by the casually interested. We are told the national grid reference, the means of access and the opening hours where appropriate to administered sites. Each is given a brief description and with barrow cemeteries a plan. These, hand drawn in the author's style, do though look hurried, in contrast to the more careful drawings of sites such as Lydney temple and Brading villa. Plans are given of the Colchester and St. Albans regions. A major lacuna here would seem to be a plan of London which is given generous textual space, though one is told where to purchase a map.

Maps are given at the front of the book and show the density of sites covered by the text. Personally, the reviewer feels the method chosen is unhelpful. There are five overlapping double spreads covering England south of Birmingham and the Wash: the area within the text. One would perhaps have sufficed and the remaining space better used to provide some really detailed maps of the concentrated areas such as Wiltshire.

Bedfordshire, a much less concentrated area, rates five entries all in the south of the county: Five Knolls barrow cemetery at Dunstable, Galley Hill barrows at Streatley with a mention of Dray's Ditches, Maiden Bower, Sharpenhoe Clapper hillfort and Waulud's Bank Luton. Maiden Bower gets a magnificent air photograph - one of the best

in the book this! Five Knolls is rather less photogenic. From Bedford Museum's collection we have beakers from Kempston and Clifton and a collared urn from Kempston is shown with a pot from Heath and an incense cup from Leighton Buzzard. There are also some neolithic axes from Bedfordshire. Strangely there is no Iron Age pottery nor any metalwork of any date: the Old Warden mirror, for example, would have made a useful addition. One says this because the form of book this is can frequently give the impression that all an archaeologist finds is pottery.

One's final comment is implicit in the subtitle of James Dyer's book: the prehistoric and Roman remains. The land of England is as covered with the earthworks of post-Roman date. These, do not rate more than the mention of the linear dykes of Cambridgeshire. Medieval moated sites - the reviewer can think of at least four in Boln-hurst, alone - and motte-and-bailey castles dot a map of England as thickly as the barrows cluster on Salisbury Plain. The field archaeologist is on Salisbury Plain. The field archaeologist is increasingly in need of the complement to James Dyer's book: a field guide to the medieval archaeology of southern England. Let us hope that when it comes, it will be as good in its text and as succinct in its information as *Southern England: An Archaeological Guide*.

D.H.K.

Archaeology and the Landscape ed. P.J. Fowler. Pp 263. Pls.25. Figs. 35. Adam and Charles Black London 1972. (a John Baker book) Price: £3.50.

This book of essays designed to show the value of fieldwork without excavation in British archaeology today is offered as a festschrift to Leslie V. Grinsell in recognition of the tremendous amount of work he has achieved by field survey.

The first part of the volume provides a summary of the development of field archaeology. Nicholas Thomas outlines LVG's contribution, his life and work, the latter reflected in his ample bibliography. Paul Ashbee's paper considers the Antiquarian approach to fieldwork. Thomas' work is concerned specifically with Cornwall and the making of a parochial check-list survey designed to form an accurate record, by fieldwalking of all antiquities in each parish. The material thus

obtained is then available for all forms of analytical study. The establishment of parish correspondents has obviously made this survey viable, and is a method which could well be adopted by other counties.

'Field Archaeology in Future' is a paper by P.J. Fowler which hammers home points made in the preceding essays, particularly those concerning the importance of local societies and individuals in carrying out fieldwork in advance of destruction threats, and links all the articles in this volume together. He states that an enormous and varied number of sites are known, accepts that not all can be preserved, thinks that the best examples of each type should be maintained for posterity, and that field survey for the record of sites is the most useful way forward.

The second part of the book is devoted to individual examples of fieldwork in practice. Drinkwater's article shows the importance of re-surveying sites, in this case long and round barrows in Gloucestershire, in order to indicate their rate of destruction in recent years. He has made an up to date parish survey of barrows, published here with maps, and explains future excavation and conservation policy based on this survey.

Isobel Smith's work on ring-ditches in Gloucestershire is a compilation based on the combined use of air-photos and field survey. Her purpose was to record these earthworks (the first time this had been done) and to show, albeit tentatively, how the presence of a ring-ditch may indicate the former site of a round-barrow.

In his paper on early boundaries in Wessex, Bonney stresses the need to consider all possible forms of evidence relating to the question of continuity of settlement in Roman into later times. His paper deals with land units and boundary ditches, some of which are documented, and suggests that they may have played a considerable part in stabilising peoples in Wessex at that time. He uses clearly drawn maps to illustrate this thesis.

Rahtz and Fowler have compiled a comprehensive survey of all evidence relating to settlement in Somerset during the fifth to seventh centuries. This material is presented, very properly, as distinct from the interpretations to be drawn from it. The discussion of the evidence strives to give as positive an account as possible of the period, and this is partly achieved by abandoning the usual and obscuring nomenclature of the period (e.g. Dark Ages) for a more rational

division of each century, thus 'Early V, Va and Vb' (early fifth century, early to mid fifth, mid to late fifth). The authors conclude by emphasizing that their account is very much open to change, and hope that their work will stimulate future research.

Dyer attempts to define as Danish certain earthworks along the Danelaw frontier, particularly in Bedfordshire. He describes some 15 sites, most of which are complex and in need of detailed investigation. His article provokes much thought as to the origin and purpose of the sites, but the necessarily hypothetical nature of his work leads the reader to question the validity of the article's inclusion here, amongst a series of papers devoted to fieldwork surveys in the Grinsell tradition. The article is illustrated with neat though simplified plans, and some airphotos are included.

Taylor's article on moated sites in Cambridgeshire is a succinct and reasoned account of their purpose and distribution. His large scale field survey, coupled with documentary and place-name evidence, demonstrates that moats were built for a variety of reasons (e.g. for fish-ponds, drainage, defence etc.) and were complex, if sometimes short-lived, constructions. Three excellent air-photos are included.

Altogether the papers form a useful and interesting group of fieldwork surveys, with the methods clearly if somewhat repetitiously defined.

JANE HASSALL

The Iron Age in the Upper Thames Basin by D.W. Harding (Oxford University Press, 1972, £10.00)

At last Dennis Harding's long awaited doctoral thesis has seen the light of day, although its gestation has been so lengthy that many of Dr Harding's findings have already become known. Briefly, the Upper Thames is well placed to have been influenced both from Wessex and south-eastern England and the Wash, although only on occasions during the Iron Age can it be claimed to have been a complete cultural unit. Harding sees the earliest Iron Age, now extending into the seventh century B.C., characterised in the Upper Thames by cauldron-like pots with heavily-expanded outward-turning rims. There is little Wessex influence discernible, save possibly in wares decorated with punched dots and geometrically incised ornament. His main thesis suggests that the appearance about 400 B.C. of tripartite angular bowls, together with La Tene I

daggers, safety-pin brooches, rectangular houses and timber-laced hillforts of Blewburton type, represents a strong and probably intrusive continental influence, heralding the start of the middle Iron Age. The later La Tene pottery (Harding retains the Iron B nomenclature) varies throughout the region in its decorative styles and shapes. Coarse wares include barrel and globular types; and 'smooth dark ware' emerges during the second half of the third century B.C. as the dominant fabric, often with simple curvilinear ornament. Occupation sites are almost invariably ditched enclosures around small round huts. There is no evidence for Belgic penetration into the Upper Thames before the first century B.C. When it does arrive, its pottery is characterised by necked bowls with high, rounded shoulders. It is suggested that the North Oxfordshire Grim's Ditch and the fort at Cassington Mill were erected in an effort to resist further Catuvellaunian expansion.

Bedfordshire is well outside the scope of this book, although as one reads it, local parallels frequently spring to mind and it is clear that much of the Iron Age material of the Chilterns is strongly related to the Upper Thames. At present the question of which was the primary area to influence the other must remain open. Part of the answer lies with the mass of unpublished material from Puddle Hill (Dunstable) and the current excavations at Ravensburgh Castle (Hexton, Herts). At the latter site the cauldron-like pots of the earliest Iron Age and the decorated bowls of Harding's angular horizon are well represented. In 1964 the reviewer postulated an hiatus in the Chiltern hillforts (particularly between Dunstable and Cambridge) around 350 B.C. marked by refortification and frequent massacre. It is clear from the work at Ravensburgh that this date was too late, and that it must surely correspond with the introduction of the angular bowls.

At £10.00 *The Iron Age in the Upper Thames Basin* is an extremely expensive book, containing only 178 pages of text. There are 81 pages of plates all on glossy art paper, and of these 53 are line illustrations which could easily have been reproduced on ordinary paper, and might have reduced the cost to one within the range of the many people who could profit by studying this work.

JAMES DYER

Harry Forrester, *Medieval Gothic Mouldings*, (Phillimore 1972), 75p.

When, as often, documentary evidence is lack-

ing, mouldings still seem to offer the best criteria for dating buildings, and in this small book Mr Forrester has assembled over four hundred examples from the eleventh to the sixteenth centuries. The pages of line drawings of mouldings of various categories are supported by a text describing the general developments in moulding forms. The book will be of especial interest, and relevance to Bedfordshire researchers since many of the examples are taken from neighbouring Hertfordshire. But it will need to be used with some caution. Sources for the given dates are not mentioned and in many cases, it seems, are derived from the typology of the mouldings themselves, so that those who scan the book for parallels will have to take care to avoid circular argument. Moreover, examples are illustrated from buildings of very different social status, ranging from the cathedrals to very humble parish churches, and the user of the book will need to bear in mind the time-lapse involved in the process of a moulding-types's 'filtering-down' from higher to lower social levels; this will apply particularly when the buildings being studied are of a vernacular type.

These observations are not intended to be merely carping, but to point to the care with which dating by reference to the illustrated examples should be done. This does not detract from the value of Mr. Forrester's work considered as a catalogue of examples.

What is needed now is a series of similar catalogues of those mouldings which *are* (more or less) precisely dated from documentary sources. Such work could be done on a county or part-county basis, and might well form the supervised work of students. It would be good to see the Bedfordshire material covered in this way in the not too distant future.

T.P.S.

Jane A. Wight, *Brick Building in England from the Middle Ages to 1550* (John Baker 1972, £7.50)

In this survey-based mainly, it would seem, on secondary sources though with insufficient perusal of the journal literature — Miss Wight discusses several aspects of early English brickwork and various types of early brick buildings. Although the plates are excellent the maps are incomplete and the line drawings grossly executed; Fig. 3 is also seriously inaccurate. The work will form a useful first-source book and, one may hope, a spur to the work which needs to be done in this field.

T.P.S.

The Bedfordshire Archaeological Council have copies of the following of their publications:

Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal 5 1970

- K Fadden: Ruxox Farm, Maulden: the prehistoric finds.
D H Kennett: A lost collared urn from Kempston.
M G Spratling: The Late Pre-Roman Iron Age Mirror from Old Warden.
B N Eagles & V I Evison: Excavations at Harrold, 1951-53.
D N Hall & N Nickerson: Circular Roman building at Bozeat.
D B Baker: Excavations in Bedford, 1967.
J Dyer: The burial ground at Chicksands Priory.
with shorter notes; price £2.10.

Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal 6 1971

- G Fisher: Archaeology in the *Bedford Times*, 1845 - 1850.
J Dyer: Excavations at Sandy Lodge.
D N Hall: Pre-Roman Iron Age sites at Bozeat and Strixton.
R Hagen: Anglo-Saxon burials from Biscot Mill, Luton.
J Moss-Eccardt: An Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Blackhorse Road, Letchworth.
M Hare: Anglo-Saxon work at Carlton and other Bedfordshire Churches.
D N Hall, J B Hutchings, G J Dring: Excavations inside Ravensden Church.
D Baker: Excavations at Elstow Abbey, 1968 - 1970.
with shorter notes; price £2.10.

Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal 7 1972

- D N Hall and J B Hutchings: The distribution of archaeological sites between the Nene and Ouse valleys.
D N Hall: An Early Iron Age site at Irthlingborough.
C L Matthews and J B Hutchings: A Roman Well at Dunstable.
R K Hagen: A Roman Ditch in Dunstable Priory Meadow.
D H Kennett: An Urn from Moggerhanger and Panel Style at Kempston.
D H Kennett: Seventh Century Finds from Astwick.
D N Hall: Modern Surveys of Medieval Field Systems.
S Linger and D H Kennett: Medieval Jugs from Bedford.
T P Smith: A Demolished Timber-Framed Building at Luton.
with shorter notes; price £2.10.

Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal 2 1964 and 4 1969 are also available; price £2.10 each.

Bedfordshire Archaeological Journal 1 1962 and 3 1966.

are currently out of print but when sufficient orders have been received arrangements will be made to reprint them. Further details from the Hon Treasurer, 63 Amptill Road, Maulden, Bedford, from whom back numbers may be purchased at the prices stated.

