Saxon and Medieval Pottery from Abbey Retail Park, Barking

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Introduction

One thousand and fifty-seven sherds of pottery were recovered from the 1997 excavations at Abbey Retail Park, Barking, a total weight of 24.3Kg. The pottery has been identified and all pre-modern wares have been quantified by weight and EVEs (Table 1). The *terminus post quem* of each deposit containing pottery has been determined and used in conjunction with the stratigraphy to produce a site phasing (see assessment report, Vince 1998). In this report the Saxon to Tudor pottery is described and discussed in chronological sequence, rather than stratigraphic group. The earlier and later pottery adds little to the general history of Barking and is adequately dealt with in the assessment reports (Vince 1998, Precious 1998).

Table 1

Period	Sherds	Weight	EVEs
Prehistoric	3	60	0
Roman	9	159	0
Early mid Saxon	10	370	0.06
Mid Saxon	107	3403	0.90
Late Saxon	78	1708	0.55
Early Medieval	106	2219	1.33
Medieval	429	10589	4.95
Late medieval	23	511	0
Post-medieval	196	4921	1.81
Early Modern	87	329	0
Modern	2	3	0
Not datable	1	2	0
Unknown	6	77	0

Phase 3a: Mid Saxon

The assemblage of mid Saxon pottery is quite sizeable for the lower Thames valley, coming third after the *Lundenwic* sites found along The Strand in the City of Westminster and the previous excavations at Barking itself (Redknap 1991). The majority of the pottery found is Ipswich ware, varying in texture and appearance but treated here as a single group (IPS). Small quantities of chaff-tempered wares (ECHAFG and ECHAFM) and shell-tempered wares (MSSHEL) were also found, together with sherds from a single imported vessel (GRBURN).

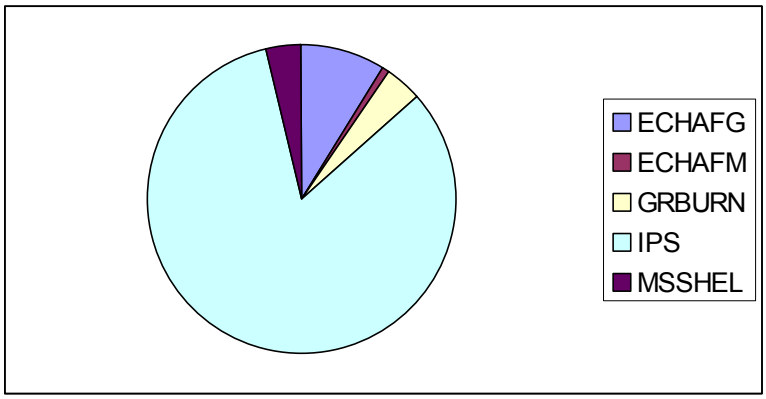

Fig 1. Relative frequency of mid Saxon pottery types by weight

Table 2

FABRIC	Sherds	Weight	EVEs
ECHAFG	6	340	0.02
ECHAFM	4	30	0.04
GRBURN	29	141	0
IPS	76	3122	0.80
MSSHEL	2	140	0.10

Ipswich ware (IPS)

The Ipswich ware is a silty fabric, sometimes with sparse to moderate rounded quartz sand inclusions. It is mainly reduced grey throughout. Under the binocular microscope the quartz is seen to be highly polished, typical of grains from Cretaceous deposits. Sparse flint is also present. The clay matrix includes both silt-sized quartz and muscovite. In comparison with Thames Valley brickearths, the texture is finer, with less evidence for iron-rich compounds or sandstone, and in comparison with southern Essex Tertiary clays the texture is coarser, with less muscovite. Nevertheless, whilst the majority of the sherds found are absolutely typical of Ipswich wares there are some lower-fired, coarser textured sherds where it is not certain that the sherds are in fact Ipswich-type ware rather than local wares made in a similar tradition.

All the vessels found seem to have been made in a similar manner: the vessels are relatively thick-walled in comparison with earlier and later wheelthrown products but are similar in thickness to early to mid Anglo-Saxon handmade wares (such as the Chaff-tempered wares from Barking). The vessels often have a distinctive ribbed exterior marked with a spiral thumb-wide groove running gently up the body. This is often taken as evidence for the use of a turntable, although it is not impossible for potters to have produced this effect entirely by hand. The interiors of the vessels are sometimes knife-trimmed. Rims were certainly trued-up in a circular movement, and this often leads to the development of a slight groove at the neck, cutting across the body spiral. The vessels are often irregularly burnished and in two cases were decorated around the shoulder with a row of individual stamps.

Only two or three vessel types were found in this collection: a small, plain jar; a larger spouted pitcher (five sherds) and possibly an even larger storage jar (known from a single body sherd). At least five of the jars were lightly coated with soot on the outside and were therefore used as cooking pots. In general, however, there is little sign of use on the Ipswich wares. One of the spouted pitcher sherds is pierced by a post-firing drilled hole, probably an attempt to repair the vessel after it had cracked.

Chaff-tempered wares (ECHAFG and ECHAFM)

Ten sherds of chaff-tempered ware were found, probably representing only three or four vessels. Two distinct sub-fabrics can be recognised:

- sherds with polished, rounded quartz sand (ECHAFG). A sherd of this fabric was thin-sectioned (AG348). The fabric was revealed to contain abundant fine sand, composed mainly of quartz with moderate rounded opaque grains, possibly altered glauconite. In contrast to later, locally produced wares the clay matrix contained neither quartz silt nor muscovite flecks. A few larger, rounded quartz grains were present, some of which were coated with an iron-rich cement. These characteristics are found widely in pottery manufactured in the south-east of England.
- sherds with a fine-textured, moderately to highly micaceous matrix (ECHAFM). A thin-section was produced of one of these sherds (AG349). It contained sparse subangular quartz up to 0.3mm across in a clay matrix containing abundant angular quartz silt, up to 0.2mm. Moderate inclusions of phosphate might either be post-depositional concretion in the pores of the pot or, more interestingly, might indicate the use of animal dung as the source of 'chaff' temper.

The petrological analysis confirms that these two fabrics were produced from different raw materials. The raw materials for both of these fabrics could be found locally and ECHAFM is the typical fabric found in the chaff-tempered wares used at *Lundenwic*. The vessels are poorly-made baggy cooking pots with gently rolled out everted rims. They are coated with soot and clearly used as cooking pots.

Shell-tempered ware (MSSHEL)

A single shell-tempered vessel is suggested here to be a local copy of Ipswich ware, since the vessel has the typical form (squat jar with rounded rim) and surface treatment (burnishing and ribbing) of the Ipswich ware jars but has a typical south Essex micaceous shell-tempered fabric. The sherds were found in a Period IIIb context, datable to the 10th to 12th centuries and if mid Saxon would be residual in this context. The fabric of this vessel is not identical to that of the mid Saxon shelly wares from *Lundenwic* and neither is the form and treatment (the London vessels are thin-walled baggy vessels with everted rims and thickened necks. They may be Frisian imports, although this suggestion has not been put to the test).

Grey Burnished ware (GRBURN)

A large number of sherds of a Grey Burnished ware were found. Grey and Black Burnished wares are the most common import found on 8th-century eastern English sites and this Barking vessel was comparable visually to the main group of Grey and Black Burnished wares from Fishergate, York (Mainman 1993, 569-76). The sherds come from a bottle with an inverted tear-shaped profile, a form not recorded at *Lundenwic* or York but well-known on the continent (see, for example, Evison's 1974 discussion of imported bottles and their local copies).

Discussion

The Mid Saxon ceramic sequence in the Thames valley seems to be divisible into three: an early period (7th-century?), in which chaff-tempered wares are most common; a middle period (early to mid 8th century?) characterised by Ipswich ware with little chaff-tempered ware and a late period characterised by Ipswich ware, no chaff-tempered ware and coarse gritty and shelly wares. Each phase has its characteristic import types: Walberberg ware in the early period; Grey Burnished wares in the middle period and Badorf and Tating wares in the late period. Superimposed on this chronological progression seems to be a second, geographical trend in which Ipswich wares get less and less common as one moves further and further away from the Thames and the east coast. Barking, however, seems to have had a very similar ceramic sequence to London and there is little doubt that the finds belong to the middle phase, early to mid 8th century. The shell-tempered vessel would also be dated to this phase rather than the latest, nor is there any reason, in the absence of stratigraphic evidence, to suggest that the chaff-tempered wares belong to the earlier phase. There is thus ceramic evidence for a hiatus between the mid Saxon activity and the later Saxon activity on the site.

Phase IIIb: 10th to 12th century

Twenty six contexts contained sherds of ?10th to 12th century date without any later material and 128 sherds of this date were recovered in total. None of the assemblages was large, the largest being 13 sherds from context [60] (Table 3). Clearly, given the amount of residuality on ARP97 not all of these deposits need date to the 10th to 12th centuries and the assemblages are far too small for refined dating within this period to be carried out on a deposit by

deposit basis. Much of this pottery comes from the various ditches found criss-crossing the excavation area. Some sherds are fresh-looking but much of this pottery is covered with cessy concretions.

Table 3

Group	Context	10th to 12th C Sherds	Tpq	Contemporary wares present
	34	8	Might be Mid Saxon with Roman shelly, or 10th century	SESHL (or Roman)
1003	60	13	Mixed, two sherds of ?late 12th century, otherwise the latest sherds are early 11th century or later	EMS, SEEMS, SESH (2 sherds), SESHL
1002	65	2	Early 11th century or later	EMCW, EMSH
	69	2	Early 11th century or later	EMSS, SESHL
1002	70	1	Early 11th century or later	SHELS
1003	77	2	?12th century	EMS, SESH, SESHL
1000	81	5	Early 11th century or later	EMSH, EMSS, SESHL, SHELS
1002	97	1		
1003	120	4	10th century	SESHL
	121	1	Early 11th century or later	SHELS
1003	160	3	Early 11th century or later	EMS, EMSH, EMSS, SESHL
1002	193	2	10th century	LSS, SESHL
1000	236	1	10th century	SESHL
	256	1	10th century	THET
1010	321	1	10th century	SESHL
1010	322	3	Early 11th century	EMSH, SESHL
	328	1	10th century	SESHL
	334	1	10th century	SESHL
	390	1	10th century	SESHL
	400	2	10th century	SESHL
	443	1	10th century	SESHL
1007	475	3	10th century	SESHL
1012	494	4	Early 11th century	EMSH, SESHL
1000	1001	2	Early 11th century	EMSH, SESHL
	1003	1	Early 11th century	EMS

Source: Of the ten 10th to 12th-century wares identified at ARP97 all but three have been found in the City of London (Vince & Jenner 1991). However, over half of the sherds have a fabric not noted in the City and here termed SESHL (South Essex Late Saxon Shelly ware). Superficially, the ware is very similar to that of London's LSS (of which only one sherd has been positively identified at ARP97) but closer examination reveals a medium textured quartz sand and micaceous silty matrix. Furthermore, the identity of the fossil shell is clearly different under the binocular microscope.

A thin-section of one sherd (AG350) revealed abundant bivalve shell fragments (ranging from c.0.1mm to 0.5mm in thickness), composed of non-ferroan calcite together with sparse fragments of fine-grained calcareous limestone, composed of ferroan calcite, angular quartz silt and variable quantities of clay/phosphatic material. This material is probably the remnants of the original matrix of the rock from which the shell was derived. The clay matrix contains sparse muscovite and quartz silt.

Two other possibly local wares were noted, a sandy ware (SEEMS) and a sandy variant of London's EMSH (here termed SHELS).

A sherd of SHELS was thin-sectioned (AG345). It contains abundant bivalve shell fragments, many of which are noticeably rounded. Dickson's staining method (potassium ferricyanide and Alizarin Red S) stained these shell fragments purple, perhaps indicating a slightly higher iron content than found in other sampled south-eastern shell-tempered wares. Moderate quantities of rounded quartz sand were present, including highly rounded grains (probably derived from Cretaceous greensand) and grains with iron-stained veins (noted often in sands from the Surrey/Hampshire border area, for example). The clay matrix is free from quartz or mica but contains abundant round opaque grains. The petrological analysis confirms that SHELS is a distinctly different fabric although its components are widespread in south-east England.

Whilst there are points of comparison between the Barking and London ceramics it is clear that the majority of the wares used at Barking come from a different source (Table 4). The absence of imported wares is striking in comparison with London.

Table 4

Cname	Sherds	Weight	EVEs	Comments
EMCW	1	18	0.05	Bayley et al 1991, 392-6
EMGR	1	7	0	Vince & Jenner 1991, 80-1
EMS	9	307	0.17	Vince & Jenner 1991, 56-9
EMSH	25	502	0.25	Vince & Jenner 1991, 63-8
EMSS	6	101	0.10	Vince & Jenner 1991, 59-63
LSS	1	27	0.04	Vince & Jenner 1991, 49-54
SEEMS	1	27	0	
SESHL	72	1566	0.46	
SHELS	8	247	0.18	
THET	4	115	0	Vince & Jenner 1991, 00

Dating

The SESHL sherds are mainly similar in manufacturing technique and typology to London's LSS and probably therefore have a similar date range. The remaining wares can be dated by comparison with the City of London to the later 10th to mid 12th centuries and it is likely that this assemblage includes material ranging in date throughout this period. Where features contain only LSS or SESHL they have therefore been dated to the 10th-century or later and all other wares have been given a *terminus post quem* of early 11th century (Table 3). Deposits containing sherds of SESH may be of later 12th century date but containing earlier material or may represent a transitional phase during which both "early medieval" and high medieval wares were current. In reality, the assemblages are so small and mixed that this can give only the vaguest of notions of the actual relative date of the deposits.

As noted above, it is possible that all of the mid Saxon pottery dates to the middle of the mid Saxon period but the possibility exists that there is actually an overlap between the use of Ipswich ware and the late Saxon LSS and SESHL wares. To test this, the quantity of pottery (by weight, on the assumption that contemporary sherds might be larger) of each ware in the three date groups (10th century + = 1, 11th century + = 2, 12th century? = 3) was examined (Table 5). There is indeed a much higher quantity of Ipswich ware in the first group of features.

Table 5

FABRIC	1	2	3
IPS	905	424	368
SESHL	605	215	211
LSS	27		
THET	11		
EMSH		249	
EMS		103	175
SHELS		73	
RTIL		34	
EMSS		29	
EMCW		18	
PREH1		12	
R		0	
SESH			88
SEEMS			27
MSSHEL			140
GRBURN			12

Function

Almost all of the sherds of 10th to 12th-century date were from cooking pots, jars, storage jars or dishes, all types used in food preparation (Table 6). The absence of spouted pitchers is noteworthy and shows a complete reverse of the pattern found in the mid Saxon period. This may be due to a change in function of the area from which rubbish was derived between the two periods or to a change in status of the settlement itself. Both glazed and unglazed pitchers were being made during this period and there is therefore no cultural reason why they should not have been found at Barking.

Table 6. Forms of vessels (by weight) found in 10th to 12th-century deposits at Barking (excluding residual mid Saxon pottery).

FORM	1	2	3
CP	389	669	559
CRUC		18	
DISH	33		
JAR	840	427	349
NA		13	
SJ	206		47

SPP	80	9	66

Discussion

The 10th to 12th-century deposits are clearly not very productive and contain definite and probable residual material. It is therefore difficult to establish the exact sequence of ware types in use in Barking during this period. Nevertheless, it is clear that Barking relied mainly on local sources, supplemented with wares from neighbouring area. Unfortunately, the source of most of these regional imports is not known for certain. In London, however, it was suggested that LSS was made well up-river from London, in Oxfordshire. This conclusion was greeted with some caution by other workers (eg Mellor 1994, 58-9), partly on the grounds that LSS had been reported from earlier excavations in Barking, and elsewhere in south Essex, implying a huge market for this ware. However, from this current work, it is now clear that there is a likelihood that material previously identified from Essex (including material identified by the current author) as LSS is in fact locally produced pottery made in the same tradition, although the one LSS dish sherd found does confirm that the ware is present this far east.

The later wares found in London were all thought to have been made in the lower Thames basin: EMS and EMSS were made close to London, but on the south side of the Thames whereas EMSH was made further away, and again on the south side of the river. Wares thought to have been made to the north (EMFL, EMCH) and southwest (ESUR) of London are not present on this site. The data from this Barking site therefore adds more weight to the suggested provenances of these wares. Furthermore, the relative abundance of EMSH versus EMS/EMSS is also consistent with its source being closer to Barking. The evidence therefore favours these regional imports being mainly the result of trade across the Thames rather than down it.

Phase IIIc: Late 12th to 13th century

In the late 12th or very early 13th century a large quantity of material was deposited on the site, including large fragments of pottery vessels (358 sherds, representing no more than 116 vessels, and quite probably considerably fewer). The majority of these vessels were of locally manufactured shelly ware (SESH and SESHS) with a small quantity of London area vessels (LCOAR, LOND and SSW, Pearce *et al* 1985), which provide the dating (Table 7). Sherds of possible Hedingham ware were identified (HEDI) but were found in later deposits.

South Essex Shell-tempered ware (SESH)

SESH is the most common ware found at Barking in the later 12th to 13th centuries. Sparse to moderate shell fragments are present and quartz and muscovite silt is visible usually by eye and, certainly, under the binocular microscope. A thin-section of one sherd (AG346) revealed sparse bivalve shell fragments, c.0.3mm thick and sparse rounded quartz up to 0.5mm across in an anisotropic matrix containing moderate quartz and muscovite silt.

South Essex Shell and Sand Tempered ware (SESHS)

Although at first glance this ware appears very similar to SESH and was originally thought by the author to be a sand-tempered variant of the latter fabric, more close study of the rim typology and fabric suggests in fact that the ware is indeed the product of a separate, though closely related, industry. All the vessels found at ARP97 were jars, probably used as cooking pots. These vessels have a squared rim, similar to those found on SESH and London's SSW vessels and, indeed on much of the sand-tempered reduced ware of the south-east of England.

A thin-section of one sherd (AG347) revealed that the vessels were produced from a silty clay containing abundant muscovite flecks to which had been added a sand composed of angular flint and subangular quartz grains (the latter finer than the former). Weathering of the flint fragments demonstrated that they were obtained from a detrital source rather than being crushed for use as temper.

Table 7. Quantity of pottery found in late 12th/early 13th-century deposits and its probable taphonomic status.

Fabric	Status	Sherds	Weight	EVEs
IPS	Residual	13	660	0.24
EMSH	Residual	7	157	0.18

SESHL	Residual	7	108	0.05
THET	Residual	2	63	0
PREH1	Residual	1	44	0
EMS	Residual	1	24	0
ECHAFM	Residual	1	13	0
EMGR	Residual	1	7	0
EMSS	Residual	1	7	0
TUDFR	Intrusive	2	116	0
SESH	Contemporary	198	5006	1.88
SESHS	Contemporary	79	2179	1.32
LOND	Contemporary	48	779	0
SSW	Contemporary	2	19	0
LCOAR	Contemporary	1	5	0

Table 8

CONTEXT	Contemporary sherds	Comments
40	2	
48	1	
94	1	
114	13	
126	1	(SSW)
186	36	(LOND)
212	185	(LOND)
226	4	
251	9	
313	1	
338	5	(SSW)
372	3	
451	1	
530	1	
573	4	
591	9	

Source

The similarity in appearance of the two local fabrics suggests initially that they may be variant fabrics produced by a single manufacturing centre, which accounts for about 90% of the pottery used. However, there is in fact a

difference in rim form between the two and it is probably more likely that they represent the products of distinct but neighbouring industries situated somewhere in southern Essex. In addition to the sherds of London-type ware, a few sherds of London Shelly-Sandy ware (SSW) and Hedingham ware (HEDI) were found. There were no sherds of imported wares.

Dating

If the dumps are part of a single event then its date comes from the latest sherds present, which are North French style London-type wares of the early 13th century. Since both SSW and early Standard London-type ware jugs are also present, and these types ceased to be used in London before the early 13th century, it is possible that the entire dumping episode dates to the very end of the 12th or very beginning of the 13th century.

Function

Cooking pots predominate in these dumps with a small number of jugs, one pipkin and one bowl. Many of the cooking pots were coated externally in soot, confirming their use. In comparison with contemporary assemblages from the City of London glazed wares are very scarce (Table 9).

Table 9

FORM	Sherds	Weight	EVEs
CP	277	7055	0
CP/SPP	2	54	0.1
JUG	48	839	3.1
PIP	1	40	0

Phase IV: Later 13th to early 15th century.

Ten sherds of Mill Green ware (MG) and 19 of Mill Green Coarseware (MGCOAR) were found, mostly demonstrably in later deposits. Similarly, 26 sherds of Coarse Border Ware were found (CBW). These, by contrast, include substantial fragments of vessels, as well as abraded body sherds, a total of no more than 11 vessels. It is likely, therefore, that some of the CBW vessels were contemporary with the deposits in which they were found, which can be dated by associated pottery to the later 15th or early 16th century. No other later 13th, 14th or early 15th-century wares were present (apart from a single sherd of Kingston-type ware - KING) and the implication is that very little deposition took place on the site after c.1200. The only deposit which contains solely material of later 13th to 15th century date is spread (243), which would be dated to the later 13th or early 14th century if found in London. There is, however, some indication that Mill Green wares continued to be produced and used in Essex after they ceased to be traded to London.

Source

Mill Green ware was produced at Ingatestone, in central Essex (Pearce *et al* 1982). CBW was produced in the Surrey/Hampshire border but was the main ware used in the City of London, from where, no doubt, the Barking vessels were obtained. There are no sherds of imported vessels from this period.

Phase V: Late 15th to early 16th century

157 sherds (no more than 91 vessels) of late 15th or early 16th-century date were recovered. Most came from a series of intercutting pits (Group 1008) and to judge by the presence of parts of the same vessel in several pits it is likely that the pottery can be treated as part of a single deposit (Table 4). The largest group, and the one with most imports, was 252. Two final contexts may or may not be of this date: [338] contained a single Tudor redware sherd in an otherwise earlier assemblage and [596] is also dated by a single sherd. 53 sherds of Tudor date were found in later or unstratified deposits.

Table 10

CONTEXT	Sherds	Comments
49	5	gp 1008
57	20	gp 1008
74	25	gp 1008
187	17	gp 1008
189	10	(RAER; DUTR)
252	65	(RAER; DUTR;SAIU;SNTG;SIEG)
338	1	single intrusive sherd
596	1	single sherd

Sources

Most of the red earthenware is of Tudor redware types, some of which are probably London products (TUDB) but the majority of which are Essex wares. A distinction was drawn during recording between silty micaceous fabrics (TUDFR), sand-tempered, silty micaceous fabrics (TUDES) and calcareous silty micaceous fabrics (TUDC). Several production sites are known in Essex at this time and the source of these three groups might be determined by comparison with kiln waste and the Chelmsford type series. Surrey whitewares, from Cheam (CHEA) and the Surrey/Hampshire border (CBW) form a minor element in the assemblages, alongside Tudor Green ware vessels (mainly lobed cups) from the same area (TUDG). Imports include Low Countries red earthenware (DUTR), Siegberg stoneware (SIEG), a South Netherlands Maiolica (SNTG), a sherd from an unglazed Saintonge ware vessel (SAIU) and Raeren stoneware (RAER). The latter includes a very unusual costrel spout. In comparison with the medieval pottery from the site, this phase is marked by a significant increase in the quantity of imports. Nevertheless, in comparison with material previously recovered from the abbey's main drain the assemblage appears less exceptional. However, no quantified comparison of the two assemblages has been made (Table 11).

Table 11. Pottery from Phase V deposits

Status	FABRIC	Sherds	Weight	EVEs
RESIDUAL	SESH	7	86	0
RESIDUAL	MGCOAR	7	66	0.14
RESIDUAL	IPS	5	384	0
RESIDUAL	SESHL	3	64	0
RESIDUAL	SESHS	3	63	0
RESIDUAL	MG	3	14	0
RESIDUAL	EMSS	2	20	0.03
RESIDUAL	KING	1	59	0
RESIDUAL	SHELS	1	52	0
RESIDUAL	ECHAFM	1	13	0
RESIDUAL	HEDI	1	12	0
RESIDUAL	SSW	1	9	0
INTRUSIVE	MOD	1	3	0
CONTEMPORARY	TUDFR	43	1287	0.10
CONTEMPORARY	TUDES	36	1429	0.23

CONTEMPORARY	CBW	20	455	0
CONTEMPORARY	DUTR	15	749	0.60
CONTEMPORARY	TUDG	12	59	0.12
CONTEMPORARY	TUDC	6	81	0
CONTEMPORARY	RAER	4	156	1.06
CONTEMPORARY	TUDB	3	161	0
CONTEMPORARY	CHEA	3	115	0
CONTEMPORARY	SAIU	1	9	0
CONTEMPORARY	SIEG	1	5	0.10
CONTEMPORARY	SNTG	1	3	0

Function

Very little of the pottery found was used in cooking or food preparation. Instead serving and drinking vessels were very common, including types probably used in formal, social display (lobed cups, costrels, drinking jugs). The South Netherlands sherd is from a vase, probably also used as an ornament, for display. A single fragment from a candlemaker's trough (if this is indeed the function of this vessel) is an unusual type, not in place with the rest of the assemblage (Table 12).

Table 12. Contemporary pottery forms from Phase V deposits

FORM	Functional class	Sherds	Weight	EVEs
CAND	Industrial?	1	93	0
VASE	Display	1	3	0
JUG	Drinking	103	3340	0.23
COST	Drinking	1	95	1.00
DJ	Drinking	3	61	0.06
LCUP	Drinking	6	44	0.10
CUP	Drinking	5	14	0.02
BEAK	Drinking	1	5	0.10
CAUL	Food preparation	9	412	0.43
BOWL	Food preparation	5	307	0.17
PIP	Food preparation	3	123	0
CP	Food preparation	7	103	0
JAR	Food preparation	1	16	0.10

Later pottery

The later post-medieval pottery from this site is extremely scrappy and there is little to be added to the comments given in the assessment report (Vince 1998).

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Vince, Alan 1998 *Assessment of Pottery from Abbey Retail Park, Barking (ARP97)* Unpublished report submitted to Thames Valley Archaeological Services

CAT	FABRIC	TSNO	DN	CONTEXT	FILL	GROUPNO	GRID	FORM	DESCRIPTION
1	ECHAFG	AG348	3	110	111	1007		JAR	Jar. Thick-walled handmade vessel. Sparse burnishing on exterior. Vertical rounded rim.
2	ECHAFM	AG349	4	481	480			CP	Cooking pot with short rolled-out rim
3	IPS		11	43	42	1001		JAR	Jar with vertical, rounded rim.
4	IPS		12	69	62			JAR	Globular jar with rounded rim.
5	IPS		13	390				JAR	Globular jar with cylindrical round-topped rim.
6	IPS		14	2				JAR	Globular jar. Spiral throwing/smoothing marks on outside and smoothing lines on the inside. Flat-topped rim finished off on wheel.
7	IPS		15	226	290			JAR	Globular jar. Spiral throwing/turning grooves on outside and smoothing marks on inside. Vertical rim with flat top. Trued-up on wheel leaving groove around neck.
8	IPS		16	226	290			JAR	Globular jar. Throwing/smoothing lines on inside and out. Cylindrical flat-topped rim trued-up on wheel leaving distinct groove around neck.
9	IPS		17	77	76	1003		SJ	Thick-walled vessel, either a large spouted pitcher or storage jar. The sherd may be from just below the neck of the vessel. Band of circular grid stamps just below the neck.
10	IPS		18	321	264	1010		SPP	Body sherd from ?spouted pitcher. Band of overlapping square stamps, the stamp consists of a grid of 3 by 3 squares. Post-firing hole drilled through the sherd from the outside, probably indicating a repair.
11	IPS		19	0			17.5/25	SPP	Body sherd from ?spouted pitcher. Two rows of circular grid stamps on the shoulder.
12	IPS		20	57	56	1008		SPP	Body sherd from globular jar, Carination may be basal angle or decorative feature on pot shoulder. Vertical burnishing on both sides of the carination/base angle.
13	IPS		68	60	59	1003		SPP	Spouted pitcher with flat-topped rim and tubular spout, luted to the rim with added clay.
14	MSSHEL		23	77	76	1003		JAR	Jar. Thick-walled handmade vessel with rounded rim and irregular burnishing on exterior.
15	LSS		21	193	192	1002		DISH	Dish with vertical wall and flat top. Sooted exterior.
16	SESHL	AG350	44	60	59	1003		CP	Globular cooking pot. Wheelthrown. Rolled-our rim. Sooted exterior.
17	SESHL		45	334	333			CP	Globular cooking pot. Possibly wheelthrown. Everted rim. Sooted exterior.
18	SESHL		46	120	1	1003		CP	Globular cooking pot, wheelthrown. Everted rim. Sooting on inside of rim.
19	SESHL		47	390				CP	Globular cooking pot. Probably wheelthrown. Everted rim. Sooted exterior.

20	SESHL		48	40	35	1000		DISH	Rim of dish, probably wheelthrown. Sooted exterior.
21	SESHL		49	321	267	1010		DISH	Dish with simple rounded rim. Manufacturing method uncertain. Thick sooting/burnt deposit on exterior.
22	EMCW		5	65	63	1002		CRUC	Spherical crucible with simple rounded rim.
23	EMS		6	1003				CP	Globular cooking pot with cylindrical round-topped rim.
24	EMSH		7	313	312			CP	Globular cooking pot with everted round-topped rim. Sooted exterior.
25	EMSH		8	0			20/24	CP	Globular cooking pot with everted round-topped rim.
26	EMSH		9	417	391	1000		CP	Globular cooking pot with cylindrical rim with rounded top. Sooted exterior.
27	EMSH		10	1001	25	1000		CP	Globular cooking pot with everted rim. Sooted exterior.
28	SHELS		61	0			25/37.5	CP	Cooking pot with rolled-out squared rim. Sooted exterior.
29	SHELS	AG345	62	0			17/24.8	CP	Globular cooking pot with everted rounded rim.
30	SHELS		63	121	99			CP	Cooking pot with everted rim.
31	SHELS		64	81	82	1000		CP	Cooking pot rim with rolled-out rim. Thumb impressions around top of rim.
32	DUTR		1	252				BOWL	Bowl with shallow vertical walls. White slipped interior and yellowish glaze.
33	DUTR		2	252				CAUL	Cauldron. Complete profile of shallow vessel with everted rim and three feet formed by pulled down clay. Slip coated interior to about neck level. Glaze over white slip and around inside of rim.
34	DUTR		70	189	188			BOWL	Bowl rim with wavy grooved line on inside of rim.
35	MISC SKW		22	21	38			JUG	Jug with sagging base. Closely-spaced thumbing (finger impressions on underside and body wall whilst body was supported inside with one finger). Fabric typical Thames valley brickearth as in LOND, but coarser than LOND, also muscovite flakes present.
36	SESH		25	43	42	1001		BOWL	Bowl with flat-topped flanged rim.
37	SESH		26	94	90	1008		CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim
38	SESH		27	212				CP	Globular cooking pot with thumbed impressions on shoulder, raised from body of pot rather than an applied strip.
39	SESH		28	0				CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim
40	SESH		29	0				CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out squared rim
41	SESH		30	186				CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim
42	SESH		31	212			9.7/	CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim. Applied thumbed strip on shoulder.

43	SESH		32	212			10.4/	CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim. Applied thumbed strip on shoulder.
44	SESH		33	186				CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim. Applied thumbed strip on shoulder.
45	SESH		34	574	300	1012		CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim
46	SESH		35	186				CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim
47	SESH		36	212			10.4/	CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out squared rim
48	SESH		37	186				CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim
49	SESH	AG346	38	186				CP	Globular cooking pot with squared rim
50	SESH		39	212			10.4/	CP/SP P	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out squared rim
51	SESH		40	212			10.4/	CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out squared rim
52	SESH		41	251				CP	Globular cooking pot with squared rim. Complete profile. Sooted.
53	SESH		42	372	371			CP	Globular cooking pot with squared rim
54	SESH		43	212			10.4/	CP	Globular cooking pot. Squared rim. Applied thumbed strip on shoulder. Same vessel as DN58. Sooted exterior.
55	SESH		69	251				CP	
56	SESHS		50	212			10.4/	CP	globular cooking pot with squared rim. Applied, thumbed strip around shoulder.
57	SESHS		51	0	0			CP	Globular cooking pot. Squared rim.
58	SESHS	AG347	52	212				CP	Globular cooking pot with squared rim. Applied thumbed strip around shoulder. Diagonal applied thumbed strips below.
59	SESHS		53	186				CP	Globular cooking pot. Squared rim. Thumbed applied strip around shoulder and diagonal thumbed applied strip below.
60	SESHS		54	186				CP	Globular cooking pot. Squared rim. Sooted exterior.
61	SESHS		55	186				CP	
62	SESHS		56	574	297	1012		CP	Globular cooking pot. Squared rim. Thumbed applied strip just below neck. Traces of a diagonal thumbed applied strip below this.
63	SESHS		57	212			10.4/	CP	Globular cooking pot with rolled-out rim
64	SESHS		58	186				CP	Globular cooking pot. Squared rim. Thumbed applied strip on shoulder. Traces of vertical/diagonal applied thumbed strip below. Same vessel as DN43.
65	SESHS		59	212			10.4/	CP	Cooking pot with rolled-out squared rim

66	SESHS	60	186			CP	Globular cooking pot with squared rim. Soot on outer edge of rim.
67	SSW	65	0			CP	Globular cooking pot with squared rim.
68	RAER	24	252			COST	Costrel with applied, wheel-thrown spout decorated with template-applied mouldings. Traces of brown slip under salt glaze. Fine sand temper visible under binocular microscope. Is this Langewehe?
69	WESE	66	259			BOWL	White-slipped Wheelthrown bowl. Trimmed base. Light brown slip bands on interior, applied whilst pot was on a turntable. Outer pair contain a band of paired E-shaped motifs, one light brown and the other green (the green colour appears to be copper).
70	WESE	67	43	42	1001	LID	Rim of lid with white slip inside and out. Light brown slip-trailed motif on exterior.