

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

(INCORPORATING THE CAMBS & HUNTS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY)



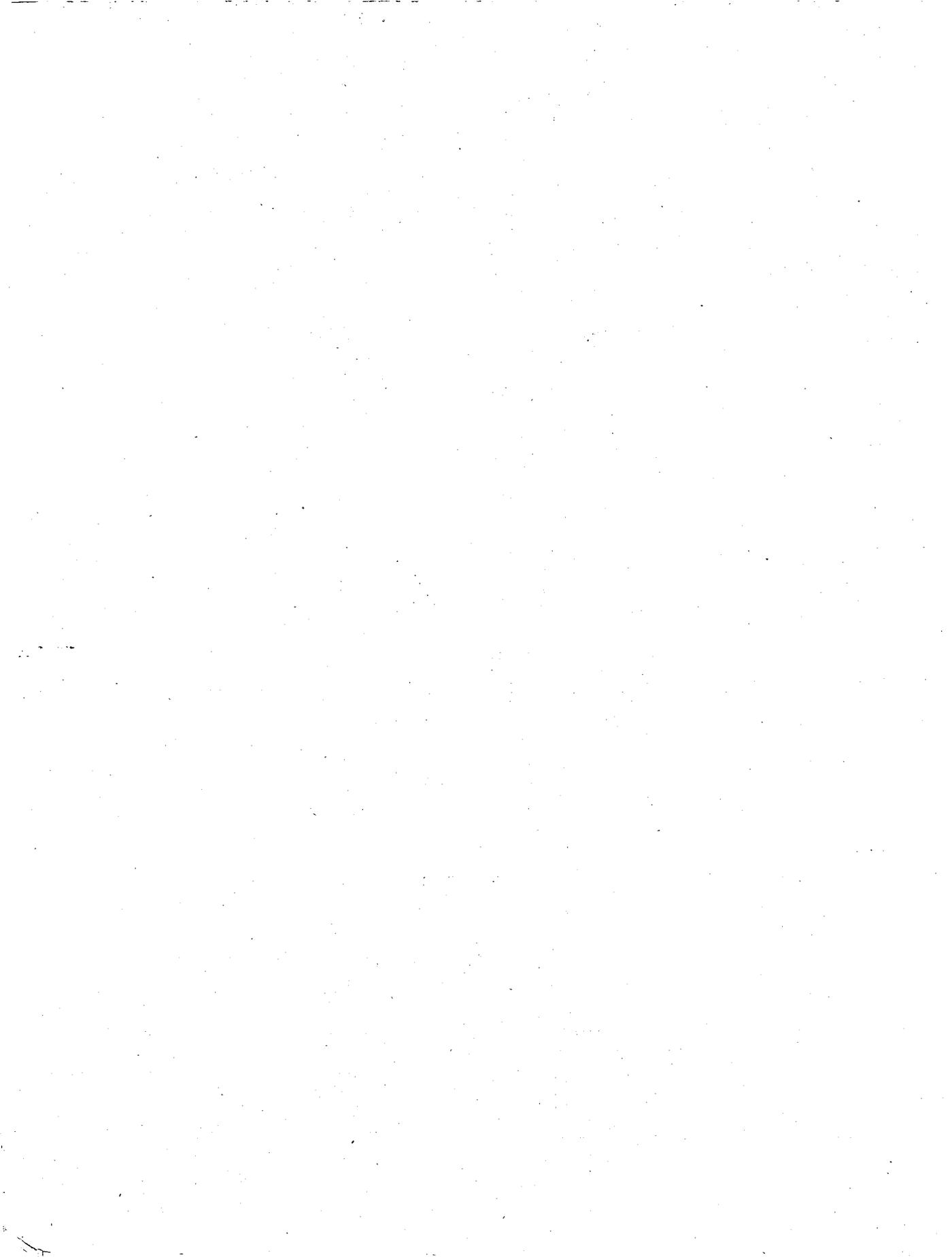
VOLUME L

JANUARY 1956 TO DECEMBER 1956

CAMBRIDGE  
DEIGHTON BELL

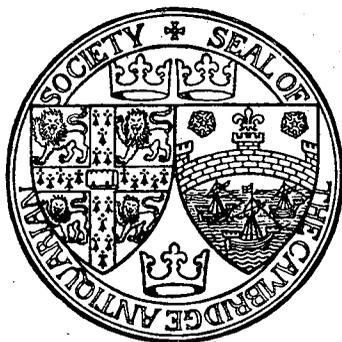
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## SAXO-NORMAN POTTERY IN EAST ANGLIA

PART II. THETFORD WARE by J. G. HURST, M.A.

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF MIDDLE SAXON IPSWICH  
WARE by J. G. HURST, M.A. and S. E. WEST

WHEN this paper was first planned, Saxo-Norman pottery was divided into three types, St Neots, Stamford and Thetford. In the areas of distribution of St Neots and Stamford ware it has not been possible to place Saxo-Norman wheel-thrown pottery any earlier than the end of the ninth century. Even this is based solely on evidence from Thetford, where both Stamford glazed pottery and St Neots shelly, soapy surfaced, pottery were found in the lowest levels, presumed to be ninth century. In the St Neots area itself only one site, St Neots, could be placed as early as the ninth century,<sup>1</sup> while in the Stamford area only the material from Oakham castle can be placed even as far back as the eleventh century. In the area of distribution of Thetford ware, however, there are sites where the story may be taken right back into the eighth and seventh centuries, that is into the Middle Saxon period. The main site for this early pottery is Ipswich where large numbers of complete vessels have been found. During the five centuries from the seventh to the twelfth century pottery was being made continuously in the *Carr Street* area of Ipswich. At least four different kiln sites have been found within a radius of fifty yards.

A study of this Ipswich material makes it clear that here the early (seventh to ninth century) material can be distinguished from the later (tenth to twelfth century) pottery. In view of this it is proposed that the term Thetford ware should be kept for the tenth to twelfth century pottery, which has the same date range as St Neots and Stamford wares. The term *Ipswich* ware should be used for the Middle Saxon pottery in East Anglia.

### IPSWICH WARE

Ipswich ware is hard, sandy and grey, very similar to Thetford ware. Sherds of these two wares may, however, be distinguished by the thickness of most Ipswich ware pots as opposed to Thetford ware and the rough and uneven girth grooves visible on the Ipswich sherds as a result of throwing on a slow wheel rather than a fast one. Only cooking pots and spouted pitchers have been found so far; no bowls have been recognized as yet. The cooking pots have simple everted rims and sagging bases, are roughly turned on a slow wheel and have extensive knife trimming at the

<sup>1</sup> See Part I of this paper 'General Discussion and St Neots Ware', *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. XLIX (1955), pp. 43-70.

base (Fig. 2). They are clearly derived from hand-made local Pagan Saxon baggy domestic pottery, but the sagging base, knife trimming and above all the use of a wheel, are traits which could only have come from the Rhineland. Besides the cooking pots, simple undecorated spouted pitchers are found which develop imperceptibly into the Thetford type of spouted pitcher. The cooking pots change considerably in shape with the change over to Thetford ware. Also in a different ware are a series of lugged pitchers which combine Pagan Saxon forms of decoration with continental forms (see p. 40).

As will be seen, by far the largest amount of material comes from Ipswich, especially the *Carr Street* kiln sites, which shows that Ipswich must have been an important trading centre as early as the late seventh or early eighth century. It does not seem to have been until well into the eighth or early in the ninth century that a settlement was established at Norwich (see p. 35). The inland trading centres, such as Thetford, were not established until much later. Ipswich ware was not confined to towns as can be seen from the cluster of sites near the Wash in north-west Norfolk. It is likely that now this ware is recognized it will be noted from many other sites in East Anglia. It is surprising that this, or a similar ware, has not been found in the St Neots area where there appears to be a gap between the Pagan Saxon period and the ninth century. It can only be concluded that Pagan Saxon pottery lingered on here until the ninth century; further, that trade routes from the Wash to the Oxford region which were in use in Pagan Saxon times, and which must have caused the spread of St Neots ware, were either not in use during the eighth century or pottery was not one of the objects traded.

It is suggested that Ipswich ware is the result of trade contacts with the Rhineland, which were established in the early seventh century and greatly expanded after the conversion of East Anglia to Christianity in the middle of the seventh century, through Frisian merchants who traded both with East Anglia and the Rhineland.<sup>1</sup> No pottery had been made on a wheel in Britain for two hundred years, so it appears unlikely that local potters could have developed Ipswich ware simply by hearing about the Rhenish forms and methods. It is suggested that actual potters came over to settle and brought with them the technique of pottery manufacture on the wheel and the baking of pottery in kilns. The traits typical of the Rhineland, the sagging base, knife trimming and the spouted pitcher, leave little doubt as to the source from which they came. From the first they made spouted pitchers in the forms to which they had been accustomed. The peasant cooking pots seem to have still been made in Pagan Saxon shapes, but with the new methods of manufacture added. It was not for another two hundred years that the more sophisticated continental forms of cooking pots were made at Thetford, St Neots and Stamford. The continuity of the kiln evidence at Ipswich shows, however, that this was one continuous stream of development. In the areas of distribution of St Neots and Stamford wares this Middle Saxon type of pottery does not occur as the Frisian trade contacts seem to have been

<sup>1</sup> The background of this Late Saxon trade has been discussed by Mr G. C. Dunning in *Dark Age Britain*, studies presented to E. T. Leeds, ed. D. B. Harden (1956), pp. 218-33.

only with the East Anglian coastal areas. It is assumed that in the former areas Pagan Saxon pottery forms continued in existence until the ninth century. The Thetford area, however, received these Frisian influences earlier and so there was a steady development there right through from the seventh to the twelfth century. This continuity is most clearly shown by the activities of the potters in the *Carr Street* area of Ipswich (see p. 32).

It is remarkable that this development took place only in East Anglia while south-east England continued to manufacture hand-made pots until the end of the eleventh century. There must have been contacts between Kent and the Continent as can be seen from the Middle Saxon lugged pitchers (see p. 40). There is documentary evidence of considerable Frisian contact with York, but we have little historical evidence for the extensive trade which was apparently centred on East Anglia not only at this time but throughout the whole Saxo-Norman period.

The finding of Ipswich ware at Heacham and Sedgeford, on the same sites as Pagan Saxon domestic pottery, suggests either that these sites date to the change-over from the use of one pottery type to the other or that for some time, especially in the country areas, the two survived side by side (see p. 37 for similar Suffolk evidence).

At Ipswich, the main site for Ipswich ware, there is unfortunately no absolute dating evidence. There is, however, both here and in the Cathedral Close, Norwich, stratigraphical evidence that Ipswich ware is earlier than Thetford ware. The earliest site is Bradwell-on-Sea where Ipswich ware was found in the upper filling of the Roman shore fort, possibly dating to the period of the chapel of St Cedd built in A.D. 654. At Framlingham, an Ipswich cooking pot was found in the same level as a Frankish disc of the seventh century. At Caister-on-Sea, Ipswich ware was found with a bronze stylus and coins dating to the seventh and eighth centuries. Also definitely associated with Ipswich ware was a coin of Egbert dated A.D. 825-35. This gives the closing date of Ipswich ware, from the evidence at present available, as the middle of the ninth century. This means that Ipswich ware had a life of about two hundred years. Whether Ipswich ware ended, and was replaced by Thetford ware, at the same time in different parts of East Anglia is a question that cannot be finally answered in the present state of our knowledge. It is possible that Ipswich ware lasted longer in Eastern Norfolk, and perhaps Ipswich as well, than it did in the immediate area of Thetford itself.

The distribution of Ipswich ware is mainly coastal, or along navigable rivers, northwards from Essex round to the eastern margins of the Fens at King's Lynn. No Ipswich ware has as yet been found at Thetford. But as the Ministry of Works excavations took place in what was very likely a later suburb of the town, this is no evidence for there not having been a village in Thetford in Middle Saxon times.

## IPSWICH- AND THETFORD-WARE KILN SITES IN IPSWICH

All the material from these sites is in the Ipswich Museum (I.M.)

Evidence for the manufacture of pottery at Ipswich during the Middle Saxon and Saxo-Norman periods comes from four sources. The first group of wasters have no locality but are possibly from the *Carr Street* area as building work was in progress there at the time they were discovered. The remaining evidence for kilns shows that the pottery manufacture was apparently concentrated in the *Carr Street* area, the Old Foundry Road site being only about 50 yards from the two known *Carr Street* sites.

*Ipswich Kiln Sites*

(1) Group of four crude vessels with sagging bases found in Ipswich and collected by N. F. Layard at some time previous to 1920 (I.M. 1920-53-12). Three are badly overfired and crushed, but the one illustrated gives the form of the vessel. They are recorded as having been found 'at a depth of 8 ft. 6 in. in a hole dug in yellow clay, measuring 7 ft. by 5 ft.'. The actual locality of the find, is however, not made clear; but it was possibly somewhere in the vicinity of the Co-operative site between Carr Street and Major's Corner.

Cooking pot in thick grey ware badly contorted and split in firing. It has a simple rounded everted rim, two girth grooves on the shoulder and internal finger marks on the sagging base, Fig. 1, 1, Ipswich ware.

(2) *Carr Street*—I.M. 1935-74. Found between Union Street and Carr Street during alterations to the Co-operative Society's buildings. Deep hollows were observed filled with 'medieval' potsherds and dark earth. The vessels were described as having been found with the remains of the kiln in which they were fired. This seems probable as they are all wasters, warped and split in firing. On another visit to the site, the observer was told by the foreman in charge of operations that another kiln had been destroyed. No details as to the construction of these kilns are available.

Group of four cooking pots all roughly turned on a slow wheel, warped and split in firing. Hard thick grey ware, simple rounded everted rims. No girth grooves, but two are crudely smoothed outside and two are fingered inside at the base. All have sagging bases, Fig. 1, 2 and 4-6, Ipswich ware. A fifth cooking pot, also a waster with its base split by firing, was found in the vicinity of the other wasters but was not necessarily from the same kiln. It is very much better made than the others, has thinner sides and well-defined regular girth grooves, Fig. 1, 7, Thetford ware.

Found with the four cooking pots, and presumably from the same kiln was a spouted pitcher with an O spout (see p. 51). Grey-brown ware, reddish in fracture, with some grit. Body scored with rough horizontal lines due to slow turning, Fig. 1, 3.

(3) *Carr Street*—I.M. 1928-33. A group of plain and girth grooved flat based pots discovered *in situ* in the kiln in which they were fired. This kiln was in the same vicinity as those found later in 1935, being situated at the rear of the Co-operative Society's Furnishing Department in Carr Street.

The base of the kiln appears to have been about 4 ft. 6 in. from the modern ground surface. From a first-hand description and the two photographs that were taken (Pl. IV), the construction appears to have been as follows: the kiln was made of puddled clay, about 3 ft. in diameter; the walls sloping outward and remaining about 18 in. high. No evidence was noted of any stoke hole, flues, or kiln furniture of any kind. There was no central pedestal. When cut through by the workmen the kiln contained a number of complete and broken pots. These were apparently the remains of the final firing of the kiln; the reason for their abandonment is not clear as a number are



The Carr Street kiln, discovered in 1928, showing Thetford-ware pots *in situ*, p. 32.

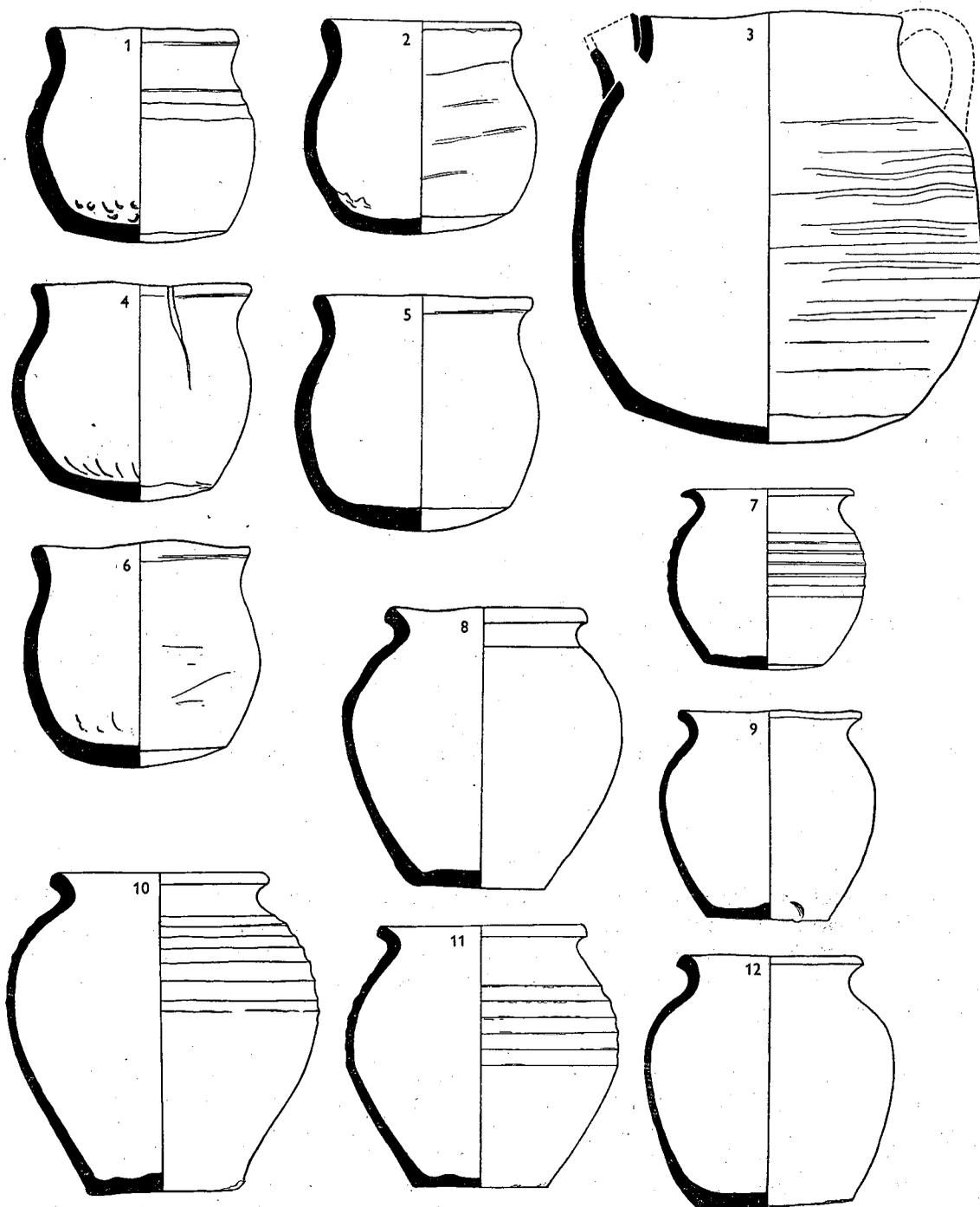


Fig. 1. Pottery from the Ipswich kilns in the Carr Street area: 1-6, seventh to ninth century Ipswich ware; 7-12, tenth to twelfth century Thetford ware. 1/4.

perfect. The vessels were packed in the kiln in at least two layers, the lower being inverted, the upper standing upright on the bases of those underneath.

Five cooking pots from the kiln have been drawn Fig. 1, 8-12. They are quite different in character from those found in the 1935 kiln. They are all well made on a fast wheel, have much thinner bodies and more developed everted rims squared on the outside. They have flat bases and well-defined girth grooves. The bases have string marks on the bottom caused by 'cheese wire' removal from the wheel. Thetford ware.

(4) *Old Foundry Road—I.M. 1934-121*. Group of overfired wasters recorded as having been found during the construction of the electrical sub-station, from a low level in the Town ditch. Ipswich ware.

This kiln material clearly falls into two groups, first the 1935 kiln, Fig. 1, 2 and 4-6 and the Layard group, Fig. 1, 1 and Old Foundry Road. This material with its thick sides, simple everted rims and slow turning on the wheel is true Ipswich ware comparable with material from other sites dated from the seventh and the ninth centuries. The O-spouted pitcher from Carr Street is obviously early and goes with the first group. It was turned on a slow wheel and the side of a pitcher from Sedgeford, Norfolk, is very similar.

The second group comprises the material from the 1928 kiln, Fig. 1, 8-12 and the odd cooking pot from the 1935 find, Fig. 1, 7. These vessels are very much better made on a fast wheel and are comparable with material from Thetford. There the flat base is more common late in the series. It appears that Thetford ware was first established round the Thetford area and Ipswich ware may have lasted longer in the south. In general terms, this material should be dated to the tenth or eleventh centuries but with our present knowledge more cannot be said. That pottery manufacture persisted for so long on the same site is a clear pointer to the fundamental continuity of Ipswich and Thetford wares, both products of the same trade pattern.

#### LIST OF IPSWICH-WARE SITES

##### *Essex*

BRADWELL-ON-SEA. Fragments of two cooking pots, one with girth grooves on the upper half of the vessel, were found in the upper filling of the ditch of the Roman shore fort, possibly dating to the period of the chapel of St Cedd built in A.D. 654. Colchester Castle Museum. The rim forms, sloping outside, compare more with the material from Sedgeford, Norfolk, than the material from further south.

##### *Norfolk*

CAISTER-ON-SEA (1954), C. Green. Fragments of more than 100 cooking pots and one lugged pitcher found in the huts, on hearths in the Roman town ditches and in the cemetery, all of Anglian squatters in the Roman town, associated with a bronze stylus, coins and other objects dating to seventh, eighth and ninth centuries. Excavations by the Ministry of Works to be published by H.M.S.O. In view of the great importance of the ninth-century dating at Caister, in the discussion, Mr Green has very kindly supplied the following details of the finding of the penny of Egbert minted between 825 and 835 A.D. 'This was found lying on the bottom of a grave, under the head, which makes the grave mid-ninth century at the earliest. The grave itself was one of the higher ones and clearly belongs to the latter part of the series. Sufficient of the

pottery fragments (of Ipswich ware) were scattered about in the topsoil of the cemetery area and a few sherds got into the grave fillings. We are, therefore, fairly safe in saying that Ipswich ware served the community throughout and that the interments certainly ran to the middle of the ninth century.<sup>1</sup>

HEACHAM, *Church Nurseries* (1956). Norwich Castle Museum (N.C.M.) 24. 956. Sherd with black core and brown surfaces, cf. Pentney. Found with Pagan Saxon material.

NORWICH, *Cathedral Close* (1956). N.C.M. 48. 956. At least twenty sherds of Ipswich ware were recovered by Mr D. R. Howlett and Mr R. R. Clarke from excavations for the new Science Block at the Grammar School. These sherds probably represent almost as many separate vessels, as they came from eleven different sites. The recovery of these finds was followed up by trial excavations in the adjacent Bishop's Palace Garden in April 1956 by Mr A. P. Baggs for the Norfolk Research Committee when another nine sherds of Ipswich ware were recovered from three trenches. On the grammar-school site three sherds of Ipswich ware, and nothing else, were sealed under a clay floor and one sherd of Thetford ware was found on the surface of this floor. This find places the founding of a settlement at Norwich at least in the beginning of the ninth century if not earlier. In view of the ninth-century coin at Caister, however, it is not wise to push back Norwich into the eighth century until further evidence has been obtained. The problem will be discussed further in the Barn Road report (1954/5) in a forthcoming volume of *Norfolk Archaeology*.

PENTNEY (1955). Near church on opposite side of road. N.C.M. 188. 955. Three sherds of typical type cooking pots, one a sagging base, rougher ware than usual, not so well fired with black core and brown surfaces.

SEDFORD (1952-3). A remarkable series of sites. N.C.M. 186. 952. 800 ft. south of Eaton Farm. One sherd with girth-grooves, usual grey ware. *Site 31*, in marsh quarter of a mile south-east of church. Hut 1 from floor level. N.C.M. 138. 953. Five sherds with girth-grooves. Associated with a pin with a faceted head and ring and dot decoration, cf. *Arch.* vol. LXXXIX (1943), p. 63, fig. 14, top row fifth from the left, but six instead of four facets and only one ring and dot on each. The Whitby examples are dated to the eighth century.<sup>1</sup> Also a possible sherd of Pagan Saxon pottery. *Site 32*, 250 ft. south of *Site 31*. N.C.M. 106. 953. Seven cooking pots, most with a simple everted rim sloping outside. Four of these are figured, Fig. 2, 1-4. Also a large body sherd from a large spouted pitcher, but it has no rim or base to be sure of the exact form. There is an unusual circular perforation near the neck. A similar pierced sherd was found in 1956 in the *Buttermarket*, Ipswich. *Site 33*, Hut 3. N.C.M. 138. 953. One sherd of a cooking pot. *Site 34*, east N.C.M. 138. 953, 750 ft. south of *Site 31*, one sherd of a cooking pot.

SNETTISHAM (1951). 145 yards south of Lime-kiln plantation. Sherd of a cooking pot. N.C.M.

### Suffolk

FRAMLINGHAM (1954), Group Captain G. M. Knocker. Cooking pot, exactly comparable with material from the Ipswich *Carr Street* kilns (1928), found in the outer bailey of the castle in the same level as forty skeletons and an openwork bronze disc of Frankish type dated to the seventh century. The cemetery was sealed beneath material dug from the castle ditch early in the twelfth century. Excavations by the Ministry of Works, to be published in a forthcoming volume of the *Proc. Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*.

IPSWICH. There is no dating evidence for any of this material, but excavations in the *Buttermarket* in 1956 have produced the first stratified sequence of pottery in Ipswich, with Ipswich ware at the base, associated with lugged pitchers, see p. 40.

<sup>1</sup> There are, however, two similar pins from Thetford which are presumably ninth century.

All the material from these sites is in the Ipswich Museum (I.M.).

*Buttermarket*, Cowells, I.M. 1920-53-71. Cooking pot with rough girth grooves and deep sagging base, base ridged internally. Fig. 2, 6.

*Carr Street*, I.M. 1920-53-74. Small spouted pitcher with applied D-spout fingered in vertical ridges all round, Fig. 3, 2. Found in 1899, 8 ft. down.

*Co-operative Society Building* between Cox Lane and Carr Street, I.M. 1920-53-58. Very small vessel with pedestal foot, internal cone on base and string marks underneath, Fig. 2, 7.

*Co-operative Society Building*, Carr Street, I.M. 1920-53-25. Small cooking pot with almost flat base and irregular girth grooves, sharply everted rim, Fig. 2, 9.

*East Anglian Offices*, Carr Street, I.M. 1934-48. Small cooking pot with flat base with string marks and an internal cone, horizontal girth grooves, Fig. 2, 8.

*Falcon Street*, Cowells (about 1947). Spouted pitcher with a narrow U-spout with thick sides and sagging base, Fig. 3, 3. From the form of the vessel this is probably early. Another U-spout pinched to facilitate pouring, Fig. 3, 11.

*Ipswich, Unprovenanced*, I.M. 1920-53-50. Very small cooking pot with everted rim sloping outside with a slight groove inside, traces of string marks in centre of base, the remainder has been pared away with a knife when the base was trimmed while 'leather hard', Fig. 2, 10.

Four cooking pots of more normal size. One (I.M. 1920-53-16) in brown-grey ware with faint girth grooves and fingering inside, Fig. 2, 13. I.M. 1920-53-18. Cooking pot in dark grey ware, possibly a waster with girth grooves and fingered internally on the base, Fig. 2, 14. I.M. 1920-53-79, cooking pot in brown-grey ware, thick with everted rim sloping outside and a slight internal beading. Faint combed lines on the shoulder, smaller sagging base than usual, Fig. 2, 15. I.M. 1920-53-10, small cooking pot with thin rim flattened on top, internal fingering on the base, knife trimming outside, Fig. 2, 16.

*County Council Buildings*, 1905, I.M. 1920-53-73 and 22. Two typical squat cooking pots with irregular girth grooves. One with the lower part knife trimmed, Fig. 2, 11, and the other with a thinner rim than usual, fingered internally at the base, Fig. 2, 12.

*Upper Prince Street*, I.M. 1920-53-23, cooking pot of normal type in hard brown-grey ware, slight offset at the shoulder, brush marks on side and base, Fig. 2, 17.

LITTLE BEALINGS. Ipswich ware spouted pitcher in the Southwold Museum.

#### MISCELLANEOUS IPSWICH-WARE VESSELS

IPSWICH, *location unknown*, sherd of a large vessel with a thick bifid rim and solid lug, ornamented with impressed stamps on the upper surface of the flange and rim, with traces on the body also. Hard grey ware apparently hand-made, Fig. 4, 9. This vessel must belong to the early period of the seventh or eighth century in view of the crudeness with which it was made. The lug is copied from the spouted lugged pitcher (Fig. 5, and p. 40), but it is not pierced. There is only one sherd, so it is not possible to tell if it had a spout or handles. Bifid rims are uncommon; there is another from Grimston, Norfolk (Fig. 6, 12 and p. 48), but this is wheel-made and is apparently associated with later Thetford ware.

IPSWICH, *location unknown*, neck and shoulder of a globular bottle in very thick grey ware, pattern of scored lines and chevrons. Neck inserted separately, the junction inside smoothed by a finger inserted and rotated round, Fig. 2, 18.

IPSWICH, *The Walk, Tavern Street*, I.M. 1938-159. Thick heavy grey-ware globular bottle, knife trimming round the base. Incised chevrons on the neck, Fig. 2, 19. This appears to be the bottom half of a bottle as above but there is no sign of a separate neck being broken off, so it may have been unfinished. On the other hand, it may never have been intended to have a neck though

the chevron pattern suggests close comparison with the bottle. No other examples of this type are known and it is likely to have been developed from the Jutish bottles of Kent. The lugged spouted pitchers in Ipswich show that there were contacts at this time. There was a small bottle, however, found in the Sutton Hoo ship burial,<sup>1</sup> which was thrown on a slow wheel.

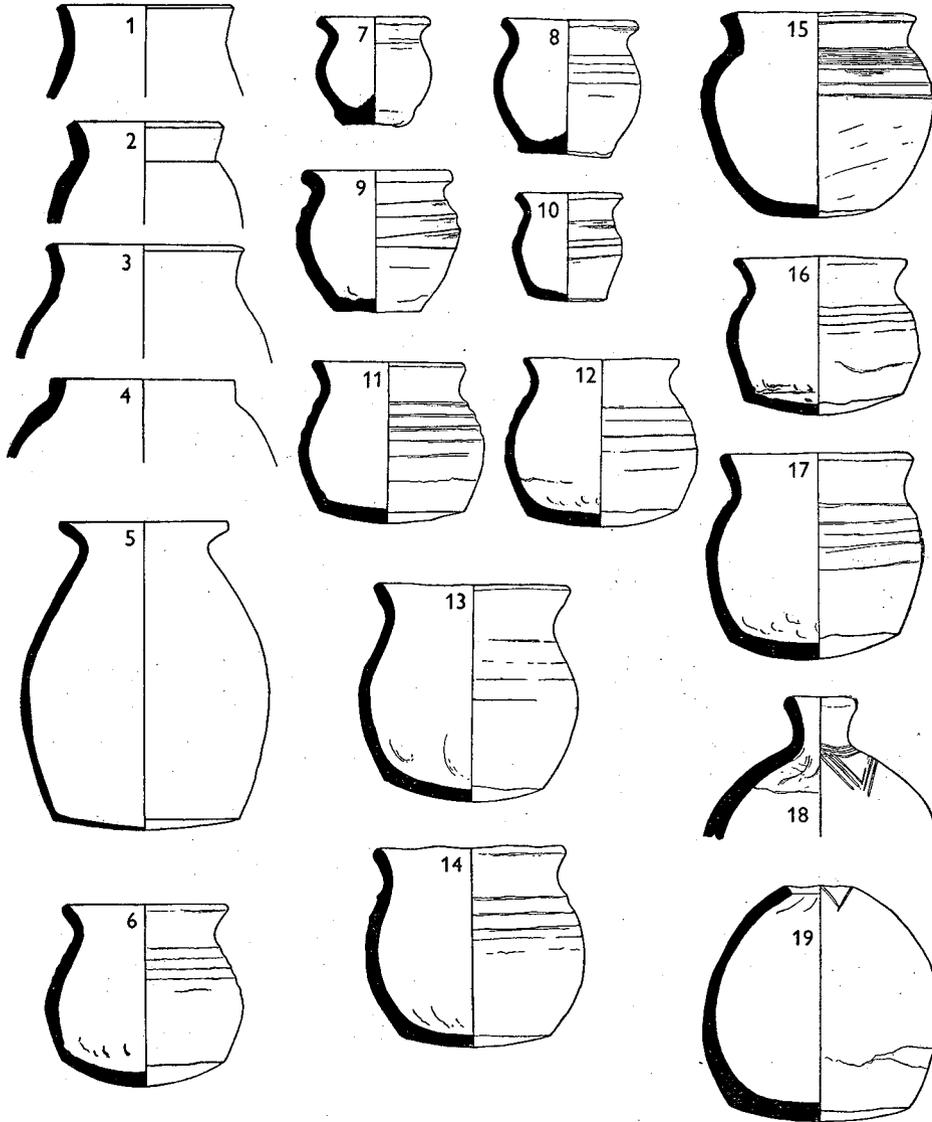


Fig. 2. 1-4, Ipswich ware from Sedgeford, Norfolk, p. 35; 5, Thetford-type pot from Beccles, Suffolk, p. 50; 6-17, Ipswich-ware cooking pots from Ipswich, pp. 35-36; 18, 19, two bottles from Ipswich, p. 36. 1/5.

In the Ipswich Museum there is also pottery from two sites which may be compared with Ipswich ware.

**BUTLEY.** The site lies to the north-east of the Church, on a spur at the head of the Butley River, protected on three sides by marsh and water. The site consists of some six black patches observed

<sup>1</sup> *Sutton Hoo Ship Burial*, Provisional Guide, British Museum (1947), p. 30 and pl. 13a.

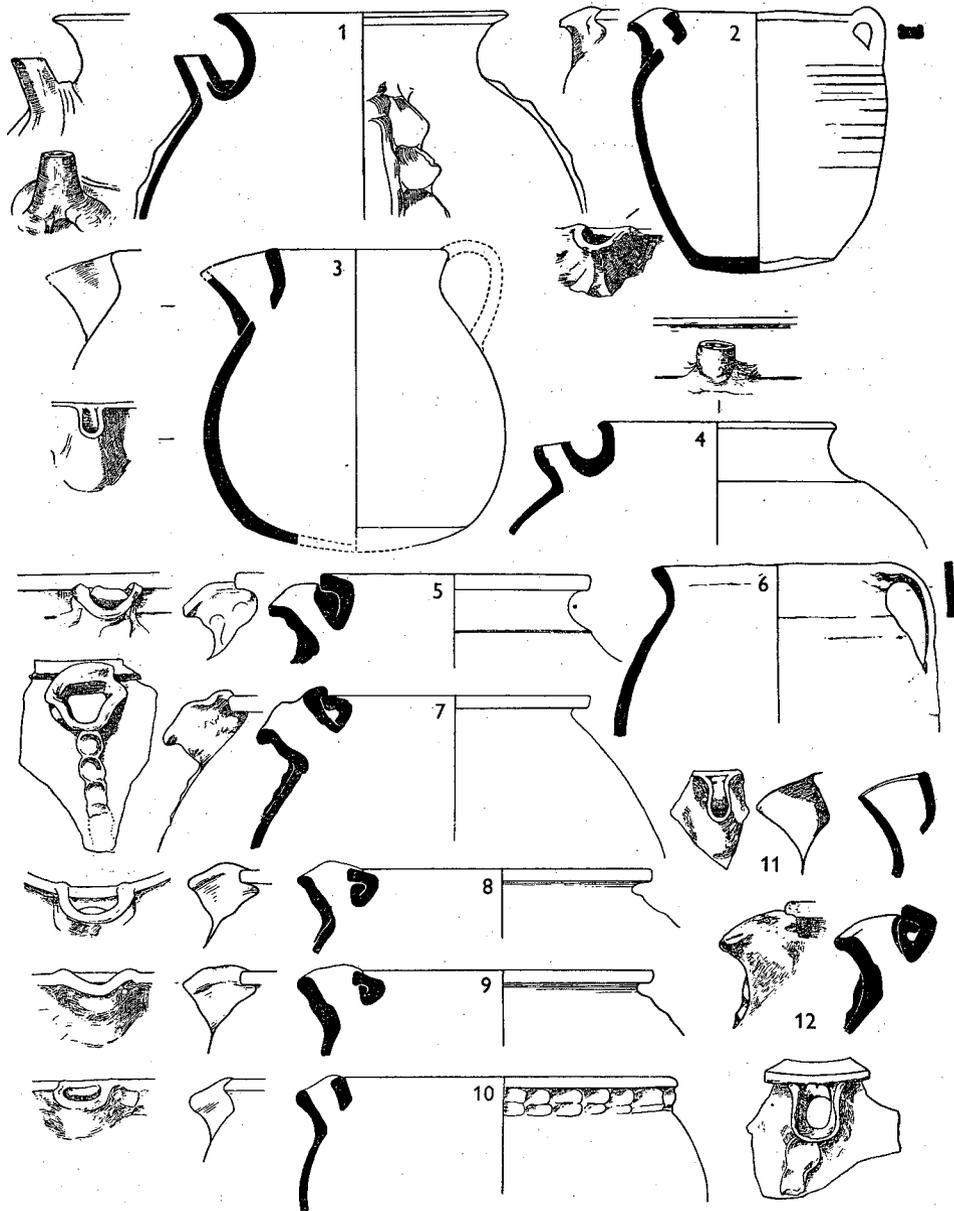


Fig. 3. 2, 3, and 11, Ipswich, and 1, 4-10 and 12, Thetford, ware spouted pitchers from Ipswich, pp. 36 and 50. 1/5.

when the field was deep ploughed for the first time. The pottery rescued is of a thick, clumsy, handmade ware, without ornament and with sagging bases. The ware is hard, heavy and of a light reddish brown colour. In potting technique it recalls strongly Ipswich ware, both in form and in the knife trimming of the bases to produce the sagging effect.

Restored cooking pot in thick reddish brown ware. Showing vertical knife trimming of sides, Fig. 5, 13. Sagging base of larger vessel, Fig. 5, 14. Rim sherds, Fig. 5, 15.

BROOMESWELL. I.M. 1947-65. Wasters and kiln debris rescued from a sandpit site in 1947. The site lies  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of Butley. The pottery is of a hard red-brown gritty ware with a grey core.

Rim sherds with pierced upright lug, Fig. 5, 10. Two rim sherds, Fig. 5, 11-12. The vessels represented are all small cooking pots, no other forms were found.

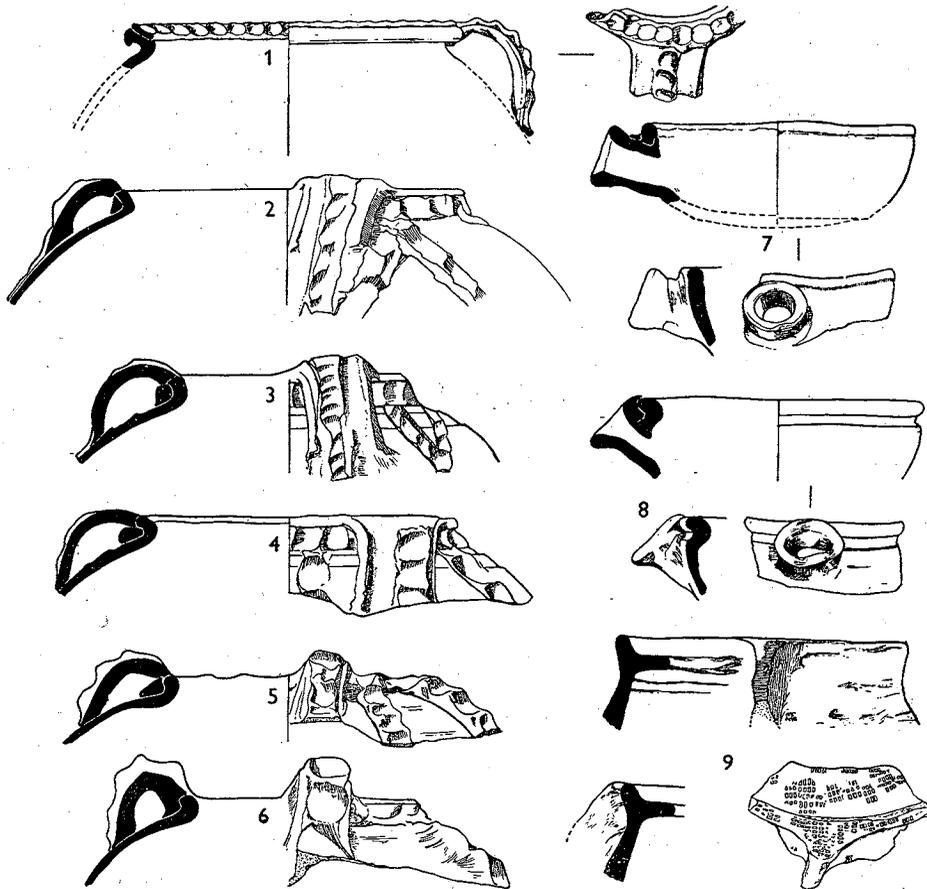


Fig. 4. 1-8, Thetford-ware storage vessels and spouted bowls from Ipswich, p. 50; 9, hand-made lugged vessel from Ipswich, p. 36. 1/5.

It is too early at the present state of our knowledge to explain fully this hand-made pottery in relation to Ipswich ware. It is obviously much cruder and is simply Pagan Saxon domestic pottery with the addition of the sagging base and knife trimming, but not even made on a slow wheel. It is suggested that this pottery is contemporary with Ipswich ware, but a 'provincial' version copying it without the ability to use a slow wheel. Presumably, while Ipswich ware was being made in the coastal districts Pagan Saxon pottery continued in the hinterland until quite late, but these sites can hardly be of such a character as Butley is on a perfectly navigable river.

## MIDDLE SAXON LUGGED PITCHERS FROM IPSWICH

Mr G. C. Dunning has kindly supplied the following background for these pitchers which are clearly contemporary with Ipswich-ware cooking pots.

'Globular pitchers with a D-spout or with an O-spout (see p. 51), and with strap handles opposite the spout or placed laterally, were widely distributed in north-west Europe in the Frankish period and both types of spout are represented at Ipswich. They are particularly characteristic of the Rhineland, and also occur in the Low Countries and northern France.

There are two main techniques used in decorating the pitchers abroad. The more frequent consists of roller-stamped patterns running continuously round the body of the vessel below the level of the spout and handles. The other method is by the use of individual stamps, which may be in one or more lines on the upper part of the body and interrupted by the spout and handles. The second motif has a long history in the Saxon lands of northern Europe. In the Rhineland it lasted until the ninth century at least, and occurs on several types of vessel, including pitchers and cooking pots. A parallel persistence of the use of individual stamps happened in southern England, where it survived until the eleventh or twelfth century at least on spouted pitchers, e.g. at Oxford.<sup>1</sup>

In the group under discussion, large stamps occur in a band between the spout and handles on pitchers from Ipswich (Fig. 5, 6), Stutton Shore (Fig. 5, 7) and Richborough.<sup>2</sup> Smaller stamps also occur, arranged in simple geometric patterns of triangles and lozenges bordered by grooves, as at Ipswich (Fig. 5, 1-2), Caister-on-Sea, St Osyth, Essex, and at Dover.<sup>3</sup>

Peaked lugs set laterally on the upper part of the pot are a very distinctive feature of some of the English pitchers, as at Ipswich (Fig. 5, 1-2), Richborough, and Teynham, Kent (Maison Dieu Museum, Ospringe). Peaked handles which may be considered as ancestral to the present series appear to be limited to one region abroad, in north Holland. There they are frequent on native cooking pots of the Roman period in Frisia.<sup>4</sup> In Frisia these pierced lugs or handles last into the third period of the *terps*, that is until the mid-eighth century, and a good example is a globular cooking pot with two such handles, between which is a single line of large stamps.<sup>5</sup>

In general, Ipswich ware and the corresponding pottery in Kent appear to represent the fusion of two traditions. Basically the Pagan Saxon tradition of hand-made domestic pottery is here seen persisting into the seventh and eighth centuries, combined with new and improved techniques and forms of continental origin. Broadly speaking, the latter originated in the Frankish cultures of the Rhineland, modified by styles at home in Frisia. This suggests that the new fashions and techniques were introduced to East Anglia by Frisian merchants, who had trading contacts both with the Rhineland and England.'

IPSWICH, *location unknown*. Spouted pitcher in thick hard grey ware. O-spout inserted and bent upwards to join the rim, triangular pierced lug. Design of chevrons on the shoulder filled in with punched ornament, possibly by a bird bone, Fig. 5, 1.

*Northgate Street Library*. Rim sherd of a lugged pitcher with the beginning of a stamped design at the break. The edge of the sherd is thickened, indicating the edge of an applied spout or lug. Fig. 5, 2.

*Buttermarket*, Martins Bank (1956). This site has produced the first stratified deposits in Ipswich. The material has not been worked out in full yet, but as the site produced no less than six fragments of lugged pitchers these are being published together. It is hoped to publish the

<sup>1</sup> *Oxoniensia*, vols. XVII/XVIII (1952-3), p. 89, fig. 34.

<sup>2</sup> *Third Report*, p. 186, pl. XLII, p. 362.

<sup>3</sup> *Arch. Cant.* vol. LXIV, p. 147, fig. 13.

<sup>4</sup> P. C. J. A. Boeles, *Friesland tot de elfde eeuw* (1951), p. 576, pl. xxv, 6, 7, II.

<sup>5</sup> Boeles, *op. cit.* pl. LIII, 2.

cooking pots and other material in a forthcoming volume of the *Proc. Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*.

*Pit II.* Spouted pitcher with a pierced lug buttressing the rim. This is unusual, as on all other examples the lug is on the shoulder. The decoration, restored from two fragments, consists of

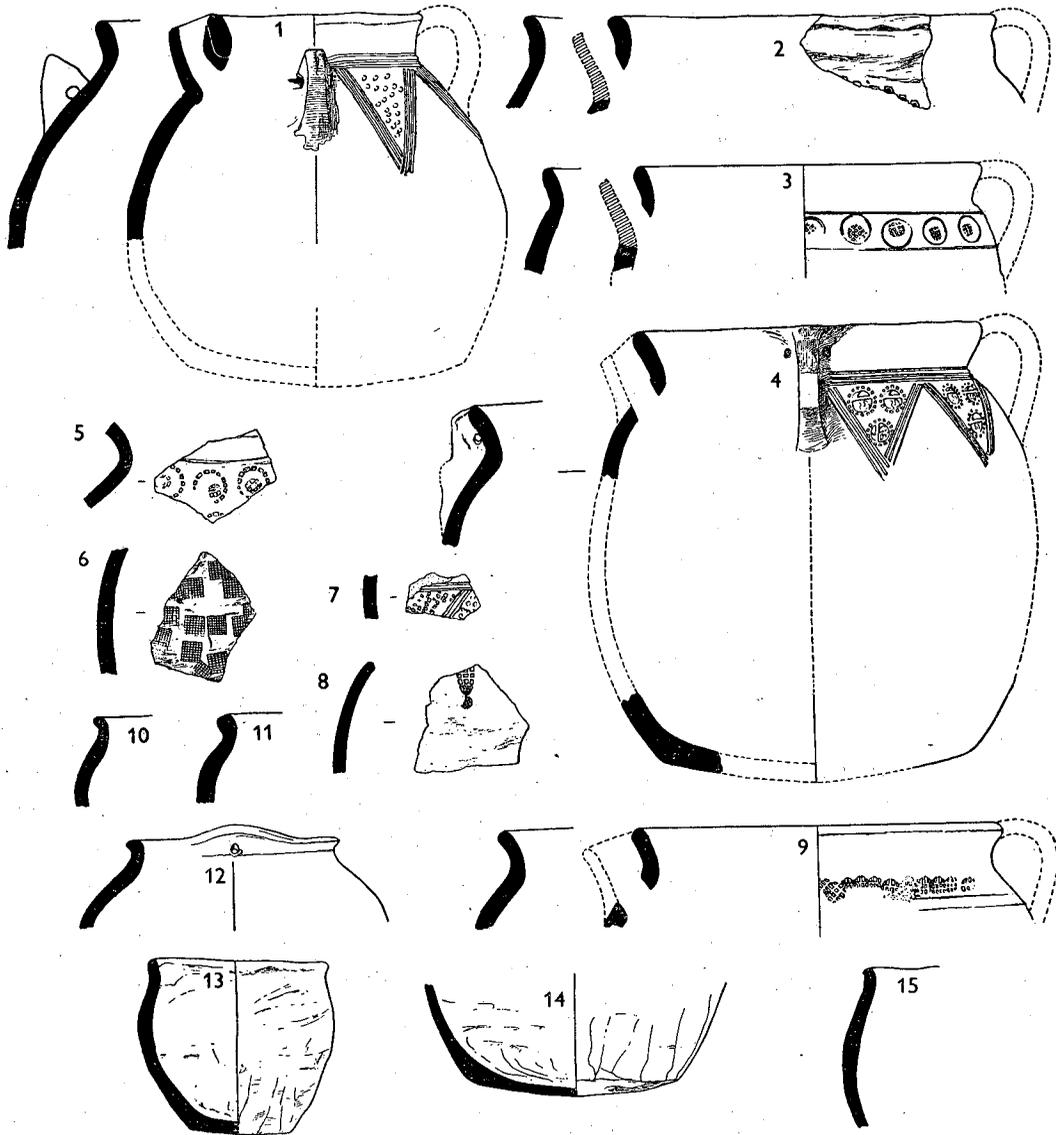


Fig. 5. 1-9, Middle Saxon lugged pitchers from Ipswich, pp. 40-42; 10-12, Broomeswell; 13-15, Butley; Ipswich-type ware, pp. 37-39. 1/5.

stamps contained in chevrons. The ware is hard reddish brown with a grey core. Another sherd, presumably from the same pitcher, shows the type of sagging base, Fig. 5, 4. From the same pit were found sherds from two other lugged pitchers. One, a sherd from the shoulder of a pitcher, has a series of stamps with possibly a second row underneath, similar to the pitchers from Stutton

Shore and Richborough. Hard, light-grey ware, outer surface black and roughly smoothed, Fig. 5, 5. Another sherd, presumably also from a lugged pitcher, decorated with rectangular grid stamps set haphazardly. Red ware with grey surface and grey core, well fired with some stone backing, Fig. 5, 6. These were found in a pit into which a tenth- or eleventh-century pit, producing Thetford ware, had been cut.

*Pit IV.* Sherd from rim and shoulder of a lugged spouted pitcher. Shoulder covered with overlapping stamped impressions. Roughly wheel made, Fig. 5, 9. Small sherd from another pitcher with a decoration of lines and erratic stamps, hard grey ware, Fig. 5, 7.

*Pit XVI.* Sherd from the shoulder of a lugged pitcher in hard light-grey ware with a fragment of stamped design consisting of a lobe terminating in a circular criss-cross stamp, Fig. 5, 8. Found stratified in a pit with an Ipswich-ware seventh- or eighth-century cooking pot and a loom weight with a small central hole.

STUTTON SHORE, 7 miles south of Ipswich. I.M. 1943. 140. Rim sherd of a lugged pitcher with a row of stamped circles with criss-cross decoration. Hard, light-grey ware, Fig. 5, 3. This pitcher is closely comparable with that from Richborough (*Third Report*, p. 186, pl. XLII, 362), except that the stamp is not so well made and the decoration is set between two scored lines.

CAISTER-ON-SEA, Norfolk. Sherd of a lugged pitcher found with Ipswich ware, see p. 34. Decoration of triangles and stamps between.

The associations of the Ipswich and Caister lugged pitchers suggest a date in the eighth century which confirms the date given to the Richborough pitcher which was found in the vicinity of coins of Offa.

#### IMPORTED POTTERY

In view of the extensive trading that must have taken place between East Anglia and the Continent, in Late Saxon times, there are very few imported pots in the East Anglian collections. No piece in Cambridge can be identified as an import until the late thirteenth century when there is a French jug of the type found at Chester.<sup>1</sup> No pottery at Thetford has yet been identified as an import either. In Norwich Pingsdorf sherds were found in the Barn Road excavations in 1954 and 1955. These will be published with the report in *Norfolk Archaeology*. In the 1951 excavations a piece of imported red painted pottery was found dating to the twelfth century.<sup>2</sup> Further imported sherds were found in the Cathedral Close, Norwich, in 1956. At Ipswich a twelfth-century red-painted vessel from Dutch Limburg was found in King Street in 1931.<sup>3</sup>

#### THETFORD WARE

A full discussion of Thetford ware must await Group Captain Knocker's publication of the important excavations by the Ministry of Works at the Saxon town of Thetford. This is the only site where large quantities of the material have been found in

<sup>1</sup> Cross Street excavations. *Chester Arch. Soc. J.* (1950), p. 32, fig. 13, 3.

<sup>2</sup> *Norf. Arch.* vol. xxxi (1955), p. 60.

<sup>3</sup> A general discussion on Late Saxon trade will be found in *Dark Age Britain*, studies presented to E. T. Leeds, ed. D. B. Harden (1956), pp. 218-33. There is a distribution map on p. 226, fig. 51, which shows how imported pottery is more common along the south coast and in Kent than in East Anglia.

stratified levels. I understand, however, from Group Captain Knocker that many of the forms show little development throughout the time during which the site was occupied. Most of the different types of cooking-pot rim seem to exist side by side at all levels. The main development appears to be in the spouted pitchers where D-spouts are followed by O-spouts (see p. 51). But at Ipswich both seem to have been in use already by the seventh century, so the O-spouts may have gone out of fashion in the early Thetford period. The Thetford material found elsewhere has, however, not been brought together before. I have compiled a distribution map (to be published in Part III) and with the help of Mr Rainbird Clarke have compiled a list of sites where Thetford ware has been found.

Thetford ware is hard and sandy and usually iron grey in colour, well fired to a high temperature in a kiln. It is thrown on a fast wheel (except for the large storage vessels) in marked contrast to Ipswich ware. Usually the cooking pots increase in size the later they are and have more sagging profiles, but the twelfth-century Thetford cooking pot is not so large and baggy as the St Neots pot which is really a medieval form by this date. In Thetford cooking pots there is a significant difference between those with the simple rolled everted rims and those with the everted hollowed rims. The former scarcely ever have a rouletted decoration, while this is quite common on the latter. In general, Thetford cooking pots have a much wider range of rim forms than St Neots ones.

Besides Thetford ware, which may have a considerable colour variation from brick red to black and buff, as well as grey, there are at Thetford itself groups of pots in different wares.<sup>1</sup> There are angle bowls in a distinctive black ware while the 'ginger jar' shaped vessels with inturned rims are in a gritty red paste quite alien to the usual Thetford ware. In Norwich, however, these ginger jars are in the normal Thetford ware. In the eleventh century the three kilns found by Knocker were not only producing iron-grey Thetford ware but also a distinctive smooth hard-buff pottery, which was possibly a local attempt to copy Stamford ware.

Until further information is available the term Thetford ware should be kept for the hard sandy ware which forms the majority of the pottery from Thetford itself and which is most commonly found on other sites. As far as is known at present the other wares are only found at Thetford itself, though, as they become familiar, it may be possible to recognize them elsewhere. Knocker proposes to call his buff pottery *smooth ware* and the others will be named as sub-divisions of *Thetford hard coarse wares*. At the present state of our knowledge no nomenclature will cover all cases, but as long as the term Thetford ware is kept for the distinctive hard, usually grey, ware no confusion should arise.

The dating of Thetford presents a serious problem. Some years ago this would have been quite simple, as Ipswich ware was then thought to be dated to the seventh and eighth centuries with Thetford ware following on either in the late eighth or

<sup>1</sup> See Interim Reports in *A.N.L.* vol. II (1950), pp. 117-22 and vol. III (1950), pp. 41-6. I must thank Group Captain Knocker for his kindness in showing me his Thetford material and for bringing to my notice the variations of wares at Thetford of which I was not aware before.

early ninth century. Mr C. Green's excavations at Caister have, however, shown that, at least in that part of East Anglia, Ipswich ware continued until the middle of the ninth century and Green in fact suggests that the Ipswich-ware settlement at Caister continued until the Danish settlement of 879 when the present village was formed some distance away, with Thetford ware apparently starting at that time. This is nearly a hundred years later than the starting date for Thetford ware previously supposed. When Knocker excavated at Thetford (St Mary's Housing Estate), there was no reason why the date of his site should not be put into the eighth century, but now, with our increasing knowledge of Ipswich ware, we must make the start of Thetford considerably later. The question is how much later? Having been carefully into the evidence, I do not feel that it is possible, in our present state of knowledge, to give a firm date for the start of Thetford.

First of all, St Mary's Housing Estate is some way from the ford where it is to be supposed that the original settlement was founded. It may therefore be that the Ministry of Works excavations were in a later extension of the town. No Ipswich ware has been found on this site and only Thetford ware has been picked up from odd finds near the supposed nucleus of the town. This, however, is not significant for the date of the original settlement. Thetford ware has been collected for many years in Norwich and it was only in 1956 that Ipswich ware was found. Chance finds cannot date a site, so until excavation is carried out near the ford it seems futile to argue a date for the original founding of the town nucleus.

It has previously been supposed that Thetford ware was established earlier than Stamford or St Neots wares as these are unlikely to have started before the end of the ninth century. The distribution maps (to be published and further discussed in Part III) show that it is much more likely that all three traditions started together at about the same time. The main sites in Ipswich-ware times were along the East Anglian coasts as far north as the eastern margin of the fens, but with the founding of the Stamford, St Neots and Thetford traditions trade seems to have been concentrated in the areas to the west (Stamford), south-west (St Neots) and east (Thetford) of the Wash. What was the reason for this change in interest, which presumably means an expansion of trade especially when the spreading of St Neots ware along the clay vale to Oxford was set in motion?

This increase in trade, which seems to have caused the expansion and great changes apparent in the pottery industry at this time, must have happened either in the first or the second half of the ninth century. It was proposed to suggest that this took place in the first half of the century as the result of the expansion of trade which has left no archaeological trace except for the pottery which must have been a very small part of the whole. Green, however, as the result of his finds at Caister, would like to put the start of Thetford ware in the second half of the century as a result of the Danish Invasions.<sup>1</sup> It is very tempting to equate this activity with the Danish settlement, especially as I shall hope to show in Part III that the Stamford ware

<sup>1</sup> I must thank Mr C. Green for permission to quote his work before publication and for his great help in arguing out with me a suitable starting date for Thetford.

distribution equates fairly well with that of the Five Boroughs. The Danes were not pot makers, so it is most unlikely that Saxo-Norman pottery was brought over by them, but it could well have come in as a result of the changes caused by the Danish settlement.

At Thetford St Mary's itself the first dating we have is a coin of St Edmund, dating to about A.D. 900, found in the first of the roads. Underneath this there are two hut systems and a ditch system. It is therefore possible that the ditches belong to the Danish occupations of 869 and 879, while the huts belong to the more settled period at the end of the ninth century, and that the road system was laid out at the end of the first quarter of the tenth century when East Anglia was freed from Danish rule. A very important point is the fact that Knocker found a small amount of St Neots and Stamford ware in the huts and ditch system under road 1; so, at the time when Thetford had expanded as far as the St Mary's Estate, St Neots ware and Stamford ware were firmly established and already being exported the considerable distance to Thetford. It depends how long this trade would take to develop, but a period of twenty years or so seems necessary for this. It therefore follows that, if the St Mary's Estate's earliest period is equated with the time of the Danish Invasion, Thetford ware must have been established before the Danes came, unless Stamford ware and St Neots ware were developed first. It cannot, however, have been much earlier, as glazed pottery does not appear in Holland until about the middle of the ninth century and there would presumably be some time lag before it came over here. A further point about Thetford is: would the town have been so large that it reached out to the St Mary's site before the Danes came, or could the St Mary's site be the original nucleus after all?

There seems to be no point in being too dogmatic at this stage, but it looks now as though Saxo-Norman pottery started about the middle of the ninth century, and that whether it started before the Danes came, or as a result of their arrival, it was under the Danelaw that the Stamford, St Neots and Thetford traditions became fully established, though it was not until the reconquest of the Danelaw, about 920, that trade in Saxo-Norman pottery outside the area began in earnest.<sup>1</sup> Inside the Danelaw there was increasing trade into the Thetford area of Stamford and St Neots wares, but not the reverse. It is hoped to return to this question in the final summing up in Part III.

#### LIST OF THETFORD-WARE SITES

The date in brackets after the name of the site is the date of the excavation or collection of the sherds described. The name following this is that of the excavator or collector. The museum where the pottery is deposited is then given with the museum number where appropriate.

<sup>1</sup> See *Dark Age Britain*, studies presented to E. T. Leeds, ed. D. B. Harden (1956), pp. 251-8, especially p. 256 for Mr E. M. Jope's discussion of the importance of the clay vale, from the Wash to Oxford, from Neolithic times until the fifteenth century when London merchants began to dominate the whole retail trade of southern England.

*Cambridgeshire*

BURWELL CASTLE (1935), T. C. Lethbridge, *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. xxxvi (1936), pp. 121-33. Rim of a single cooking pot associated with other material of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries but fairly obviously Thetford ware from its shape and size. Everted rim hollowed inside. (Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.)

CAMBRIDGE, *Market Hill* (1905). Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, A. 1905. 289. Small cooking pot in hard brown sandy ware with spots of thin yellow glaze. From the shape it goes with the Thetford series and is very similar to Ipswich ware with its everted rim sloping outside and a bevel at the shoulder. Fig. 6, 3. Spots of glaze are sometimes found on cooking pots at Thetford.

These two are the only examples of Thetford ware that are in the Cambridge collections, except for spouted pitchers and storage vessels which are dealt with separately. These two sites are therefore the farthest west that true Thetford ware is known. There is in the Cambridge collections an unprovenanced costrel neck, presumably from Cambridge. There are other examples at Thetford, Congham, Heacham and Snettisham in Norfolk.

*Essex*

COLCHESTER, 31-2 *High Street* (1935). Colchester Museum, 402. 35 and 403. 35. Found at a depth of 10 ft. on the site of a large medieval building, *Le Stonhouse*, traditionally the house of Eudo Dapifer, the first Constable of Colchester Castle, at the end of the eleventh century. Cooking pot with rounded everted rim flattened inside, slightly concave base. Unevenly made, Fig. 6, 2.

A two-handled spouted pitcher with a D-spout, very unevenly made, everted rim sloping inside and squared outside, Fig. 6, 1. Both these vessels may be dated to the tenth or eleventh century.

WITHAM (1933-4), F. Cottrill. Sherds found during the excavation of a hut site dated to the late ninth century by coins.

*Lincolnshire*

FLEET (1913), Smith and Maples, Lincoln Museum. Thetford rim found during excavations at *The Mount*, one of three manors in this village. This site also produced a Stamford-ware pitcher. This is the only site producing Saxo-Norman pottery in the Fens known at present, and was presumably an island in the marshes.

LINCOLN, *Flaxengate*. There are numerous Thetford-type cooking pots from this site, several with bands of rouletting round the shoulder. These are associated with other sherds of St Neots and Stamford wares, but need a separate study in view of the Torksey Kilns, dug by Mr Spencer Cook. These date from the twelfth century and produced a type of ware very similar to that made at Thetford. The bowls from Lincoln with everted flanged rims almost certainly come from this source and not from the Thetford area.

*Norfolk*

All the pottery from these sites is in the Norwich Castle Museum (N.C.M.) unless otherwise stated.

BABINGLEY (1956). Deserted medieval village site. Rim of a flanged bowl rouletted along the top. Compare with Barn Road, Norwich. Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.

CONGHAM (1866). Two fragments of storage vessels in the King's Lynn Museum. In the Norwich Castle Museum there is a water-colour drawing by R. Elwes showing that there were six pieces in the original find, four of which have now been lost. A large sherd of a storage vessel

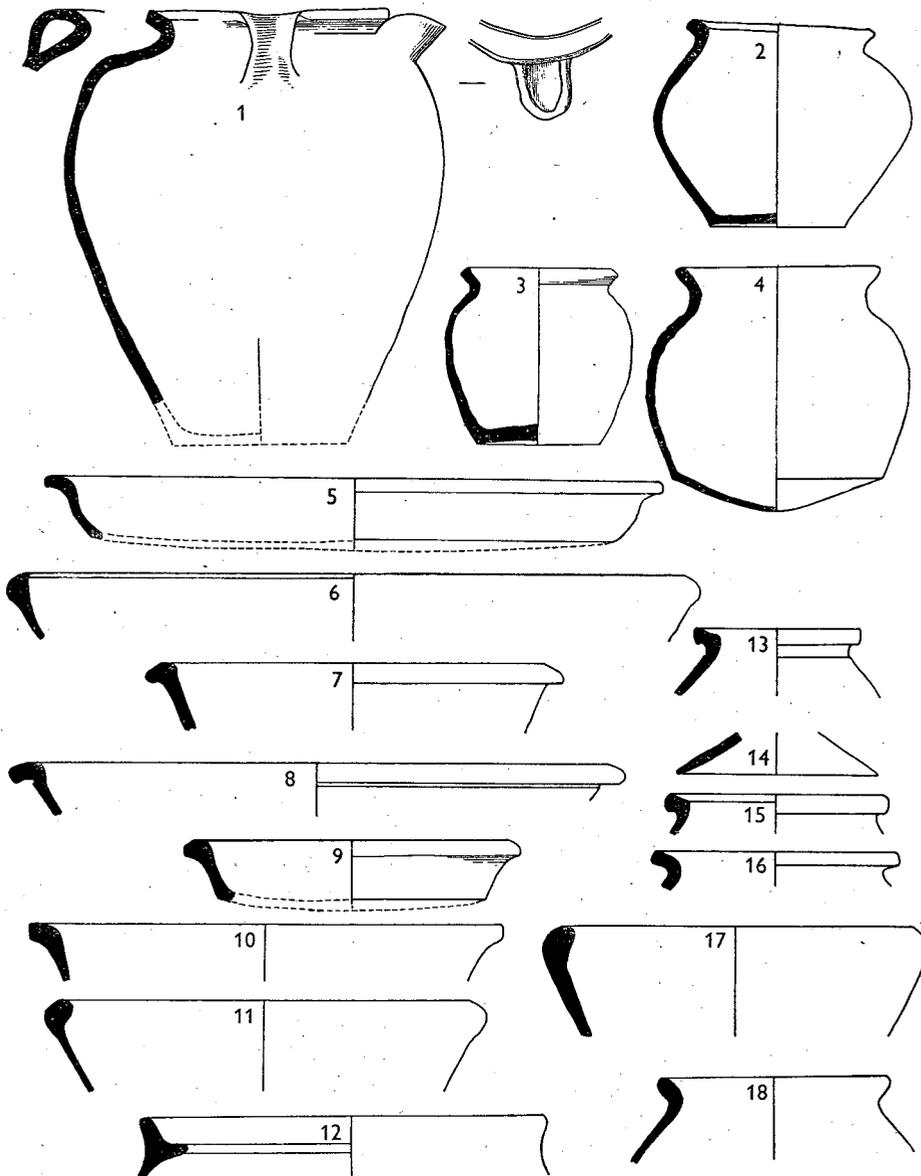


Fig. 6. Thetford ware from 1, 2, Colchester; 3, Cambridge; 4-18, Norfolk: 4, Horning; 5-7, Gayton; 8-16, Grimston; 17, Ringstead; 18, South Wootton. 1/5.

with widely spaced strap handles alternately long and short as Fig. 8, 52, with an applied thumbled band on top of the rim. In between the handles two vertical thumbled bands with a band forming a chevron pattern in between thumbled at each end and at the corners of the chevrons. Sherd of a storage vessel with brown surfaces. Decoration of applied thumbled band and herringbone

applied strips. Sherd with thick applied band heavily thumbled obliquely as at Snettisham. Sherd now lost. Fragments of what appear to be two costrels from the water-colour. There are examples from Cambridge, Snettisham and Heacham besides Thetford itself. The sixth sherd on the drawing, also unfortunately lost, appears to be a spouted bowl.

GAYTON (1951), A. Bowering. Between Winch Gorse and Old Pasture Plantation. Small sherd of very thick (six-tenths of an inch) storage vessel, grey with brownish surfaces, thick applied bands. Fragment of a thin strap handle of a spouted pitcher or early storage vessel. Hard grey ware with brownish surfaces. Large shallow bowl with everted rim, slightly beaded underneath outside, sagging base, Fig. 6, 5. Large bowl with simple thickened rim beaded inside, Fig. 6, 6. Small straight-sided bowl with flattened everted rim sloping outside, Fig. 6, 7. These three bowls are all in hard grey ware with brownish surfaces.

GRIMSTON (1946), Thatcher. N.C.M. 12. 164. 946. Eight sherds of at least three different storage vessels either thin (three-tenths of an inch) or thick (six-tenths of an inch) with applied thumbled strips of usual type. Rim fragment with applied thumbled band on top. Base of strap handle with a central ridge.

Four rims of typical small cooking pots, two of which are illustrated. One, Fig. 6, 13, is strongly everted, hollowed inside and sharply cut outside; the other, Fig. 6, 16, is a plain everted rim squared off outside. The cooking pots were made with hollowed rims to take lids. There are several examples at Thetford, but the only other example comes from this site. It is a simple affair, Fig. 6, 14. As it is not known whether it had a knob or not, a reconstruction has not been attempted. Three sagging bases of typical medium-sized cooking pots.

Large bowl with everted rim undercut and beaded outside, Fig. 6, 8. Small shallow bowl or dish with simple rounded rim slightly hollowed outside, Fig. 6, 9. Another bowl similar to Fig. 6, 6, but rim more horizontal. Small pedestal base of a cresset with marks of cheese wire removal from the wheel.

GRIMSTON (1948), E. W. Collison. N.C.M. 189. 948. North-east of the Methodist Chapel. Rims and sherd of two large storage vessels with applied thumbled bands on the rim, remains of strap handle on one and vertical applied thumbled strip on the other.

Rims of seven cooking pots of usual type. One with a hollowed rim squared outside is figured, Fig. 6, 15. Sagging base of a medium-sized cooking pot.

Two bowls with simple flattened everted rims, one sloping outside and the other inside, Fig. 6, 10. Fragments of two bowls with inturned flanged rims and thin straight sides, Fig. 6, 11. Small shallow bowl with thin everted rim decorated with long rectangular notch rouletting.

GRIMSTON (1951), C. H. Lewton-Brain. N.C.M. 117. 951. *Laver's Site*, field to east of Roman villa. Thick sherd of a storage vessel with applied thumbled bands. Bowl with inturned rim rouletted on top with large diamond notch rouletting as example from Barn Road, Norwich, *Norf. Arch.* vol. xxx (1952), p. 302, Fig. 7, 8. Vessel with unusual bifid rim which appears to be associated with this group, Fig. 6, 12. Compare example from Ipswich with rouletting and lug, Fig. 4, 9. There are also sherds from this site in the King's Lynn Museum.

HEACHAM (1952), C. H. Lewton-Brain. N.C.M. 86. 952. *Torry's Field*, 200 yards north of Caley Mill. Four rims of cooking pots of normal type, two with thick everted rims and one hollowed inside. Neck of a costrel as found at Congham and Snettisham. Inturned flanged rim of a bowl with rectangular notch rouletting as Grimston 1951. Rim of another bowl with rouletting on the rim and vertical applied bands as example from Fye Bridge, Norwich, *Norf. Arch.* vol. xxx (1952), p. 306, Fig. 10, 13, but with horizontal band as well under the shoulder.

HORNING (1936), P. E. Rumbelow. N.C.M. 13. 947. From the river bank near St Benet's Abbey. Medium-sized squat globular cooking pot with thin sides towards the sagging base.

Simple everted rim, slight girth grooves on the upper half of the body, Fig. 6, 4. It is difficult to place this pot in its correct context. It has all the appearance of being early in the Thetford series as it has characteristics in common with Ipswich ware, but on the other hand it is also similar to many twelfth-century cooking pots. It is therefore best to keep an open mind on the date at this stage of our knowledge.

HORSTEAD HEATH (1950), R. G. Neal. N.C.M. 96. 951. Two sherds from large storage vessels with applied thumbled bands, one in light grey ware with a very thick band.

NEATISHEAD (1956), H. Neave. N.C.M. 23. 956. Fragment of a large storage vessel with wide strap handle with two central ridges, double thumbled at the base.

NORTH ELMHAM, S. E. Rigold. Unstratified Thetford sherds were found in the Ministry of Works excavations on the Late Saxon Cathedral during 1954/5.

NORWICH. Mr E. M. Jope has described the Thetford finds from Norwich in his recent report on the city defences, *Norf. Arch.* vol. xxx (1952), pp. 301-19. In my report on the 1951-3 St Benedict's excavations I have described stratified material found in a Saxo-Norman occupation layer under the city bank which was made in 1253, *Norf. Arch.* vol. xxxi (1955), pp. 56-9. A further report on the 1954/5 Barn Road excavations will describe the Thetford ware found when an area 150 ft. by 20 ft. of undisturbed Saxo-Norman deposits was stripped. This will appear in a forthcoming volume of *Norfolk Archaeology*.

PENTNEY (1955). N.C.M. 188. 955. Near the church on the opposite site of the road. Rim of a very thick storage vessel (six-tenths of an inch) thumbled on top with the upper part of a strap handle.

RINGSTEAD PARVA (1953), C. H. Lewton-Brain. N.C.M. 54. 953. Chapel field deserted medieval village site. Three bowls with inturned rims. One is figured, Fig. 6, 17. Two bowls with everted flattened rims as Fig. 6, 5 and 10.

Rim of a storage vessel with applied thumbled band on the rim. Another rim with three low-thumbled bands radiating out from the neck.

RUSHFORD, *Snarehill*. Thetford Museum, A. 2217 and A. 2219-21. Four fragments.

SANTON, *Santon Warren*. Thetford Museum, A. 2250-2. Three rims of cooking pots.

SEDFORD (1953), N.C.M. 106. 953. *Site 32*, quarter of a mile south-east of church. Storage vessel with bifid rim and two applied bands round the neck, one with two rows of thumbing and the other with one. Thetford bowls with both in-turned and out-turned rims. *Site 33*, N.C.M. 138. 953. Sherd of a storage vessel with applied bands. Base sherd with thumbled band as Fig. 8, 1. Typical cooking pots and bowls with out-turned everted rims. *Site 34*, N.C.M. 138. 953. Thetford cooking pots and bowls. It is to be hoped that this important group of sites will be published in full in the near future.

SNETTISHAM (1950), Sir Stephen Green. N.C.M. 219. 950. *Ken Hill, Area 5, Site 62*. Plain strap handle of an early storage vessel or spouted pitcher. *Area 3*, bowl with small in-turned flange; two rims of cooking pots.

SNETTISHAM (1950), I. S. Thatcher. N.C.M. 34. 950. *Park Piece*, south-west of Round Wood. Neck of a costrel, as those from Heacham and Congham. Coarse storage vessel with very thick applied band (six-tenths of an inch) thumbled obliquely, making a series of deep hollows, cf. Congham. Three bowls with rounded everted rims and two with in-turned rims.

SYDERSTONE (1932), Mrs D. Watson. N.C.M. 36. 177. 953. Found on the Common. Coarse sherd of a large storage vessel with thick (five-tenths of an inch) applied band deeply thumbled.

THORPE-NEXT-NORWICH (1862-3). Fitch Collection, N.C.M. 606. 74. 94. *The Oaks, Harvey Lane*. Four rims of thin-ware early storage vessels or spouted pitchers with thumbled bands under the rim, rouletted on the top and shoulder. Spouted pitcher with D-spout. A tubular spout possibly from a spouted bowl.

Three rims of cooking pots with trellis rouletting on the rim as *Trans. Thoroton Soc.* vol. LVIII (1954), p. 29, Fig. 4, 10. Flat base of a cooking pot.

Decorated bowl with straight sides, rouletted on top, horizontal thumbed band and parallel vertical bands as Heacham and Fye Bridge, Norwich.

THREXTON area, exact site unknown. N.C.M. 64. 949. Bowl with everted rim and deeply impressed trellis pattern rouletting on the inside of the rim. There is also a bone skate from this area similar to those found at Thetford and from the Buttermarket, Ipswich.

WORMEGAY. King's Lynn Museum. Rim of storage vessel with strap handle and arcs of thumbed rows.

NORTH WOOTTON (1930), Dr Plowright. N.C.M. Rough rim of an early storage vessel or spouted pitcher with strap handle applied over the top of the rim, double thumbed at the bottom and singly at the top.

SOUTH WOOTTON (1955), C. H. Lewton-Brain. N.C.M. 142. 955. Cooking pot with simple everted rim, Fig. 6, 18.

### *Suffolk*

LITTLE BEALINGS. Spouted pitcher with O-spout in the Southwold Museum.

BECCLES (1935), J. Hobrough. N.C.M. 50. 935. From the river Waveney. Vessel in Thetford-type ware with simple everted rim and sagging profile. There is a small pinched lip, but no handle. Fig. 2, 5. This looks as if it goes with the Thetford series from its rim and ware, but the pinched-out lip and sagging profile is reminiscent of some types of late medieval vessel. An open mind should therefore be kept about the date of this pot until more comparative material is found in dated contexts.

The main impression given by these sites is of late material dating to the eleventh and twelfth centuries. At Thetford thick storage vessels with heavy applied decoration only occur in the higher levels.

IPSWICH, *Carr Street*. See also p. for the 1928 kiln containing Thetford cooking pots. There are many Thetford cooking pots from other Ipswich sites, but these have not been drawn as they are not complete. They may be closely compared with Fig. 1, 8-12.

*Co-operative Society Building, Carr Street*. Ipswich Museum (I.M.) 1932-102. Top part of a spouted pitcher with tubular spout, of unusual type, applied to the outside of the shoulder and a perforation made from the inside. Top of spout cut off cleanly, vertical applied strips heavily thumbed, Fig. 3, 1. Twelfth century.

*Old Cattle Market*, Public conveniences, 1937. A series of seven spouted pitchers with tubular, O- and D-spouts, Fig. 3, 4, 5, 7-10 and 12. The dating is probably ninth to eleventh century as they were associated with Thetford cooking pots. Fig. 3, 10, with the tubular spout, is very well made and is presumably late like that from Carr Street, Fig. 3, 1.

Two spouted bowls, one with a tubular spout attached by pushing through a prepared opening. A small strip has been applied between the spout and the simple rim to complete an effective seal, Fig. 4, 7. The other similar but with everted rounded rim with the O-spout attached to it. Fig. 4, 8. Bowls of this type are late in the series at Thetford.

A storage vessel or spouted pitcher with everted thickened rim with applied thumbed band on the inside, thin strap handle with central applied thumbed band, Fig. 4, 1.

A remarkable series of five storage vessels with thick and erratically applied thumbed bands and handles, Fig. 4, 2-6. These are after the style of the late Thetford type of multiple handled storage vessel with applied thumbed bands, but very much more roughly made and smaller, Fig. 8, and p. 53. The date at Ipswich cannot be surmised at the moment due to the lack of stratified material, but is probably eleventh or twelfth century.

*Bond Street* find spot known as the *Cold Dung Hills*, the only Ipswich find outside the medieval town. Rim and thin strap handle of a spouted pitcher with only slightly everted rim, Fig. 3, 6. A spout has not been added as it cannot be sure what type it was.

## SPOUTED PITCHERS IN THE ST NEOTS AREA

In the main St Neots area I have only been able to find two cooking pots and no plain bowls in Thetford ware. Although there are a fair number of St Neots cooking pots and bowls in the Thetford area the reverse does not seem to have been the case. Most Thetford sherds in the St Neots region belong either to storage vessels (to be discussed later) or to spouted pitchers and bowls. These appear to have been imported into the St Neots region, although it had its own form of jug, in St Neots ware.<sup>1</sup> There are four main types of spout. First an arc-shaped spout set against the neck of the vessel. A hole is then bored through the side of the pot and the rim is left forming a bridge. The result is a *D-shaped spout* when seen from above (Fig. 3, 8-10). The second is a variation of the first in which the spout is longer than it is wide and it is pinched to form a *U-shaped spout* when seen from above (Fig. 3, 3 and 11). The third type is a circular spout which is attached to the neck of the vessel and pressed against it making an *O-shaped spout* when seen from above (Fig. 4, 8). The fourth type consists of a free standing *tubular spout* as Fig. 3, 1 and 4. It is proposed that these spouts should be called D, U, O and *tubular spouts* respectively. At Thetford the D-shaped spouts are early and the O-spouts late. Of the twenty examples in the St Neots area eight are D-spouts and nine are O-spouts, so they seem fairly equally divided between early and late examples. On the Continent and at Ipswich both types are known from early times, but there does not seem to be any evidence that these Thetford spouted pitchers were used at an early date and that later they were replaced by the local tall jugs in St Neots ware.

## LIST OF SPOUTED PITCHERS

All are in the Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology unless otherwise stated.

ABINGTON FIGOTTS, Sir Cyril Fox. *P.P.S.E.A.* vol. IV (1924), p. 227. *SP. 1.* D-spout with bridge in hard grey ware. *SP. 2.* O-spout in hard grey ware (*ibid.* Fig. 3N).

BARNWELL ABBEY (1887), *SP. 3.* O-spout with a bridge, grey with light brown surfaces.

BARTON MOATS (1908), *SP. 4.* O-spout from the top foot of the black ash ditch, hard black ware.

CAMBRIDGE, *Unprovenanced*, *SP. 5.* From the Freeman collection a short O-spout with a bridge, well down the neck of the vessel and not under the rim as usual, hard grey ware. *SP. 6.* D-spout in black ware very roughly applied to the neck of the pitcher. Also from the Freeman collection. *SP. 7.* Rough D-spout from a large-handled pitcher. *SP. 8.* A roughly splayed D-spout, possibly from a spouted bowl.

*Arts School* (1884), *SP. 9.* Rim and strap handle of a spouted pitcher, the strap handle is small and has a single thumbing at the base.

<sup>1</sup> *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. XLIX (1955), pp. 54-6

*Bird Bolt* (1905), *SP. 10.* O-spout in rough grey-brown ware with bridge. Figured in *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. XI (1907), pl. 31.

*Museum of Geology* (1900), *SP. 11.* The top half and fragments of the base of a three-handled pitcher with O-spout in light grey friable ware, Fig. 8, 11.

*Hunnybun's Ditch* (1891), *SP. 12.* D-spout, Fig. 7, 12. Figured in *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. VIII (1895), pl. IV, 19.

*Magdalene Street* (1900), *SP. 13.* Rough D-spout in hard grey ware and the usual small strap handles, Fig. 7, 13.

*Trinity College* (1892), *SP. 14.* A long D-spout in hard grey ware (49. 158c).

*Trinity Hall* (1880), *SP. 15.* O-spout set against the rim in rough grey ware. *SP. 16.* Rim and handle of a well fired thin spouted pitcher with a small strap handle and diamond notch rouletting in a band under the rim, which is angular and everted, squared outside and hollowed inside. Fig. 7, 16.

COMBERTON REEDS PIT (1924), *SP. 17.* O-spout published by Mr T. C. Lethbridge in *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. XLIII (1950), Fig. 1, 5. Hard black ware as Thetford, but with unusual red surfaces. There is a similar red O-spout from Exchange Street, Norwich (128. 935). *Norf. Arch.* vol. xxx (1952), Fig. 9, 7.

ELY, *SP. 18.* The only complete example showing the type of pitcher was found by Major Gordon Fowler in an extinct river bed one and a half miles north-east of Ely. I should like to thank Mr Dunning for his kindness in letting me use his drawing of this pitcher (Fig. 7, 1). It is of the usual type with small strap handles and an O-spout, though this is set into the shoulder in a rougher fashion than is usual. Sagging base concave in the centre.

QUAVENEY, *SP. 19.* This pitcher was dug from the old course of the river Cam at *Rollers Lode*, near Ely. It was published in 1933 by Lethbridge and Fowler, *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. xxxiii (1933), p. 129, pl. 1, fig. 1. It was found near to a late thirteenth-century glazed jug, and also a scramasax, spear and axe of eleventh-century date, but, as they said, there was no need for the jugs to be contemporary. We now know that there must be at least 200 years between their dates.

The pitcher has slightly in-turned straight sides and a plain rim with a cordon. The ware is very sandy and grey. It has a small strap handle heavily thumbbed at the top and bottom. The pot is broken opposite to this, so it may have had a second handle or a tubular spout. If it did have a spout, this would bring it much more into keeping with the Thetford series of spouted pitchers. The sagging base was added by hand after the upper part of the jug had been turned on the wheel. The junction shows the typical Saxo-Norman knife trimming and the inside of the base is very bumpy and hand finished. There are four bands, round the upper half of the jug, with a complicated pattern of rouletting, Fig. 7, 2.

#### THETFORD BOWLS IN THE ST NEOTS AREA

*SB. 20.* There is only one definite spouted bowl in Thetford ware, a fine example from the Cambridge *Museum of Archaeology* (1910) with an O-spout and bands of rouletting on the body and on the rim. Grey ware with brown surfaces very heavily blackened by fire on the outside. Fig. 7, 20.

*Market Place* (1902), *SB. 21.* Rim and horizontal handle of a large black rough shelly-ware bowl, applied handle heavily thickened on its two outer ridges with applied vertical thumbing down the bowl outside, while inside the thumbing continues along the inside of the rim, Fig. 7, 21. There are similar bowls at Thetford.

## THETFORD STORAGE VESSELS

Large thick-sided storage vessels, often with a diameter of 2 ft. and standing 2 ft. 6 in. high, with large applied thumbed bands are a characteristic type in the later levels at Thetford. There are also great quantities at Cambridge where there are

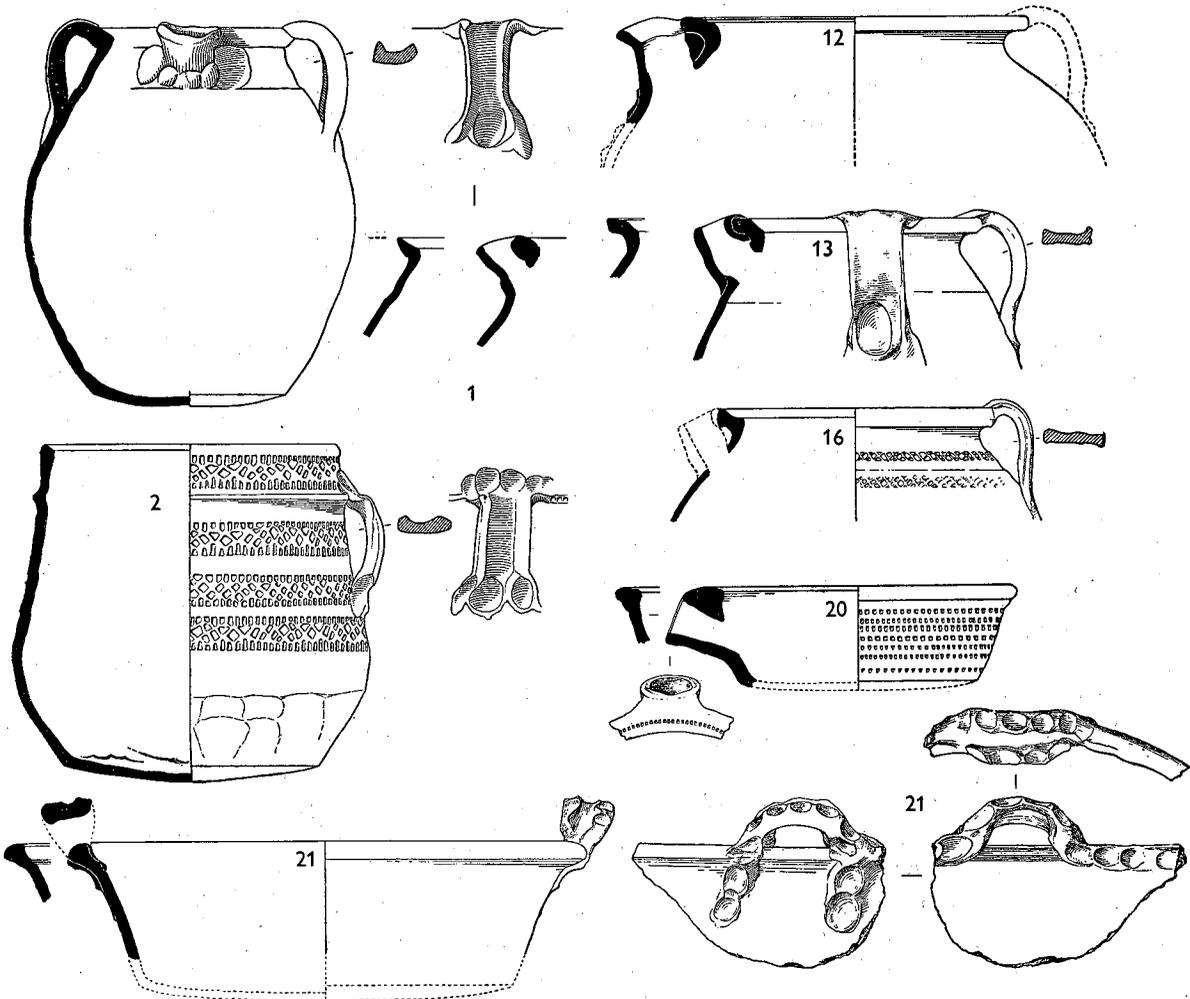


Fig. 7. Thetford-ware spouted pitchers and bowls from the St Neots area, pp. 51-52: 1, Ely; 2, Quaveney; 12-21, from Cambridge. 1/5.

about 100 sherds, many of large size, Fig. 8. They are not, however, in St Neots ware, but in rough Thetford ware as they are at Thetford. While, as has already been said, the cooking pots and flanged bowls have similar forms, the ware is quite different in the St Neots and the Thetford areas.

These storage vessels seem to have been traded from the Thetford area to the St Neots area and beyond. Storage vessels are found at most sites in the Thetford

region whether town or village, but elsewhere out of nine sites on which storage vessels have been found five are large towns (Cambridge, Huntingdon, Lincoln, Stamford and York). The proportions, however, bring out the point better. There are only stray examples at York, Stamford, Lincoln and Huntingdon as they are a long way from the source of supply, but in Cambridge there are as many storage vessels as there are cooking pots and bowls in St Neots ware put together (eighty-seven storage vessels, forty-nine St Neots cooking pots and forty-eight St Neots bowls). On the three small sites where storage vessels have been found the proportion is quite different. At the St Neots village site there are only fragments of three storage vessels to at least fifty cooking pots and bowls. At the Hemingford Grey Manor site and at Burwell Castle there is only one storage vessel. The fourth, Soham Fen, is a stray find.

This remarkable concentration in Cambridge requires an explanation, for in Norwich the proportion of storage vessels to cooking pots and bowls is very small while at Thetford itself hardly ten per cent of the pottery is from storage vessels. It may be a coincidence, but it is a remarkable fact that of the eighty-seven storage vessels found in Cambridge twelve come from the site of the Bird Bolt Hotel and twelve from King's Lane East, which was the site of the Boar's Head Hotel until King's College acquired the site in 1444.<sup>1</sup> No other site in Cambridge has more than six and most have only two or three. Storage vessels have been found on twenty-six sites in all in Cambridge. It is not possible to carry back these two inns by documents to the Saxo-Norman period, but the Bird Bolt was a noted medieval inn and both may well have had their beginnings very early. It is not known what these vessels were used for. The first possible use is flour. This would explain the concentrations in large towns. With the finds at the Bird Bolt and Boar's Head sites it is suggested that some were used to hold beer or some similar drink, though they may not have been used exclusively for this purpose. The storage of water is another likely use, especially in large towns.

The storage vessels at Thetford are fairly simple in the ninth- and tenth-century levels. They are more the size of the spouted pitchers and only have a simple decoration and usually not more than four handles. Examples from Cambridge such as *S. 50* from Hunnybun's Ditch and *S. 81* from Trinity may be spouted pitchers, but are more likely to be early examples of storage vessels. Most of the other examples are almost certainly eleventh- or twelfth-century. This tallies with the Cambridge-St Neots cooking pots and bowls which, from their size and rim forms, appear to be mainly eleventh-century or later.

Only a small percentage of the Cambridge sherds have been drawn, as those figured (Fig. 8) show the main types of vessel and the different types of decoration. Most of the sherds not drawn are of storage vessels with applied thumbled bands or ribs running either vertically or horizontally. Most of the applied ribs have tooled edges and usually form a wave pattern in between thumbled applied bands, Fig. 8,

<sup>1</sup> Willis and Clark, *The Architectural History of the University of Cambridge* (C.U.P. 1886), vol. iv, plan 13B and vol. i, p. 345.

1 and 2. The multiple handles are either close set and of the same size as Fig. 8, 80; four evenly spaced as Fig. 8, 67, or have eight handles alternately large and small as Fig. 8, 54. Some have an uneven number with only seven handles. Almost all the rims are thickened by the addition of a pad of clay round the rim which is then thumbled along the top, Fig. 8, 54 and 67. The way this is done is shown in Fig. 8, 47. The bases are sagging and have projecting thumbled bands round the bottom with a cross pattern of thumbled bands underneath, Fig. 8, 1 and 8. The thickness of the vessels varies from two-tenths of an inch to eight-tenths of an inch. The ware can be either smooth and well fired or very rough and friable. The heavy applied thumbled bands presumably served the purpose of strengthening the sides of the vessels as well as decoration. Most of these large vessels were not wheel-thrown but possibly built up by coiling.

## LIST OF STORAGE VESSELS

All are in the Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology unless otherwise stated.

*Cambridgeshire*

BURWELL CASTLE. A single sherd with thumbled band (C.M.A.E. 37, 36).

CAMBRIDGE, *Unprovenanced*. *S. 1.* Rim of a storage vessel with simple broadened rim hollowed on the top, a row of very large thumb marks spaced round the shoulder just under the rim. *S. 2.* Body sherd from a large storage vessel in rough black ware with a brown inner surface. Decoration of horizontal thumbled applied bands and applied ribs in an uneven wave pattern (Fig. 8, 2). Compare with the Soham Fen example, Fig. 8, 1. *S. 3.* Rim of a similar vessel with simple thick everted rim slightly squared on the outside. A row of large thumbings round the top of the rim widely spaced and making the rim very uneven. *S. 4.* The bottom part of a broad but thin strap handle in hard smooth grey ware with a double thumbing at the base. Strap handle with applied thumbing in the central groove. *S. 5.* Large storage vessel with seven large and seven small strap handles placed alternately. In between vertical thumbled bands erratically placed, Fig. 8, 5. *S. 6.* Large sherd of a very large storage vessel in rough shelly ware unlike the other examples, but undoubtedly from a similar vessel. Decoration of an applied thumbled band in a slight arc. This apparently was an attempt to make a storage vessel out of a harder version of St Neots ware. *S. 7.* A most remarkable storage vessel, the most complete in Cambridge, covered with a decoration of circle stamps and ribs. Twenty closely set strap handles, alternately large and small, set round the rim, Fig. 8, 7. This has more handles than any example from Thetford. *S. 8.* A large thick base (Fig. 8, 8). Typical form with thumbled bands down the body of the vessel and across the sagging base.

*Arts School* (1884 and 1908). *S. 9.* Body sherd of a large storage vessel with the break from which a strap handle has broken off. The base of the handle has three thumbings in an arc and small applied thumbled bands continue straight downwards and in an arc decoration on the right of the handle. *S. 10.* A small sherd with a rough ridge about three-quarters of an inch wide. *S. 11.* Four sherds with thumbled applied bands in arcs and lines.

*Bird Bolt* (1907). *S. 12.* Rounded everted rim of a storage vessel with narrow thumbled applied bands running down from the neck. *S. 13.* Thick everted rim partially squared off with a strap handle springing from the rim. A row of small thumbings along the top of the rim about half an

inch apart. *S. 14.* Rounded everted rim of a large vessel with the side leaving the rim almost horizontally. Rough thumbing down from the rim and a very rough top. *S. 15.* Thick sherd (six-tenths of an inch) of black ware with brown surfaces with a stamped decoration in the form of a spoked wheel with applied ribs leading from it, Fig. 8, 15. See also Mill Lane South, Fig. 8, 44. *S. 16.* Rounded rim with a thin strap handle springing from the rim. Small thumbings round the top of the rim irregularly spaced. *S. 17.* Rough but thin (two-tenths of an inch) body sherd with a large thumbing and a rough area going off from it in one direction. *S. 18.* Sherd with a narrow but high thumbed band in a straight line. *S. 19.* Black sherd with brown surfaces with an applied band pushed up into ridges and rough lines parallel to it above and below. *S. 20.* Thick (six-tenths of an inch) sherd with applied thumbed band in a slight curve with a small rib above and another in the centre (figured in *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. XI (1907), fig. 37). The inner surface is brushed. *S. 21.* Thin sherd with a vertical applied band thumbed at wide intervals. *S. 22.* A medium sherd (three-tenths of an inch) with applied band and a large thumbing spreading beyond the band on either side. *S. 23.* Grey sherd with brown surfaces and a series of applied ribs radiating from a small thumbing; compare with Market Hill, Fig. 8, 67.

*Bridge Street.* *S. 24.* Thick rounded rim squared on the top, hollowed inside with a strap handle springing from it. Close fingering round the top of the rim. *S. 25.* Thin sherd with applied band shallowly thumbed.

*Castle End* (1898). *S. 26.* Body sherd of rough black ware with the broken-off base of a large strap handle doubly thumbed at the bottom. An applied thumbed band going down vertically from the base of the handle, Fig. 8, 26.

*Castle Hill, Law Courts, 1956, J. Alexander.* A large sherd of a storage vessel with applied vertical and horizontal bands was found in a gulley during the Ministry of Works excavations at Easter, 1956, on the Law Courts site. Compare with the Trinity example, Fig. 8, 80.

*Christ's Library* (1895). *S. 27.* Body sherd with the broken-off base of a strap handle, a rough applied band continuing down from each side. *S. 28.* Two sherds with a rough thick applied band.

*Examination School* (1910). *S. 29.* Rounded rim of a large storage vessel with a series of large thumbings on the outside of the rim with applied ribs going vertically down from them. Thumbing round the top of the rim at 1 in. intervals. *S. 30.* Base of a large vessel with a steadying flange all the way round fingered along its crest. This is one of the few base sherds which survive in Cambridge, see also Mill Lane North. *S. 31.* Thin sherd with applied rib heavily thumbed at 1 in. intervals. Smooth brown ware with black outer surface. A similar sherd, the broken-off end of a strap handle with applied thumbed bands going vertically downwards from each side.

*Falcon Yard* (1906). *S. 32.* Rounded rim with a roughly applied thumbed pad pressed over it, and a strap handle springing from the rim. Body sherd with applied ribs. *S. 33.* Simple thick in-turned rim of a large storage vessel with a roughened top and a strap handle springing from just under the rim.

*Free School Lane* (1907). A. 1907. 38a. *S. 34.* Large body sherd with vertical rib unevenly thumbed at half an inch intervals.

*Free School Lane* (1912). (53. 207). *S. 35.* Large upright rim rounded outside with a strap handle springing from it, light fingering on the top of the rim. *S. 36.* Similar rim of a more straight-sided vessel with a vertical decoration of ribs and close fingering. Heavy thumbing on top of the rim at irregular intervals, making it uneven. *S. 37.* Everted squared small rim roughly thumbed along the top, strap handle springing from the rim. *S. 38-9.* Two sherds from similar vessels with applied bands, but with large thumbing along them, one thick the other thin.

*Hallack and Bond* (1908). *S. 40.* Base and lower half of a strap handle with two side ridges and a central rib ending in a single thumbing at the base.

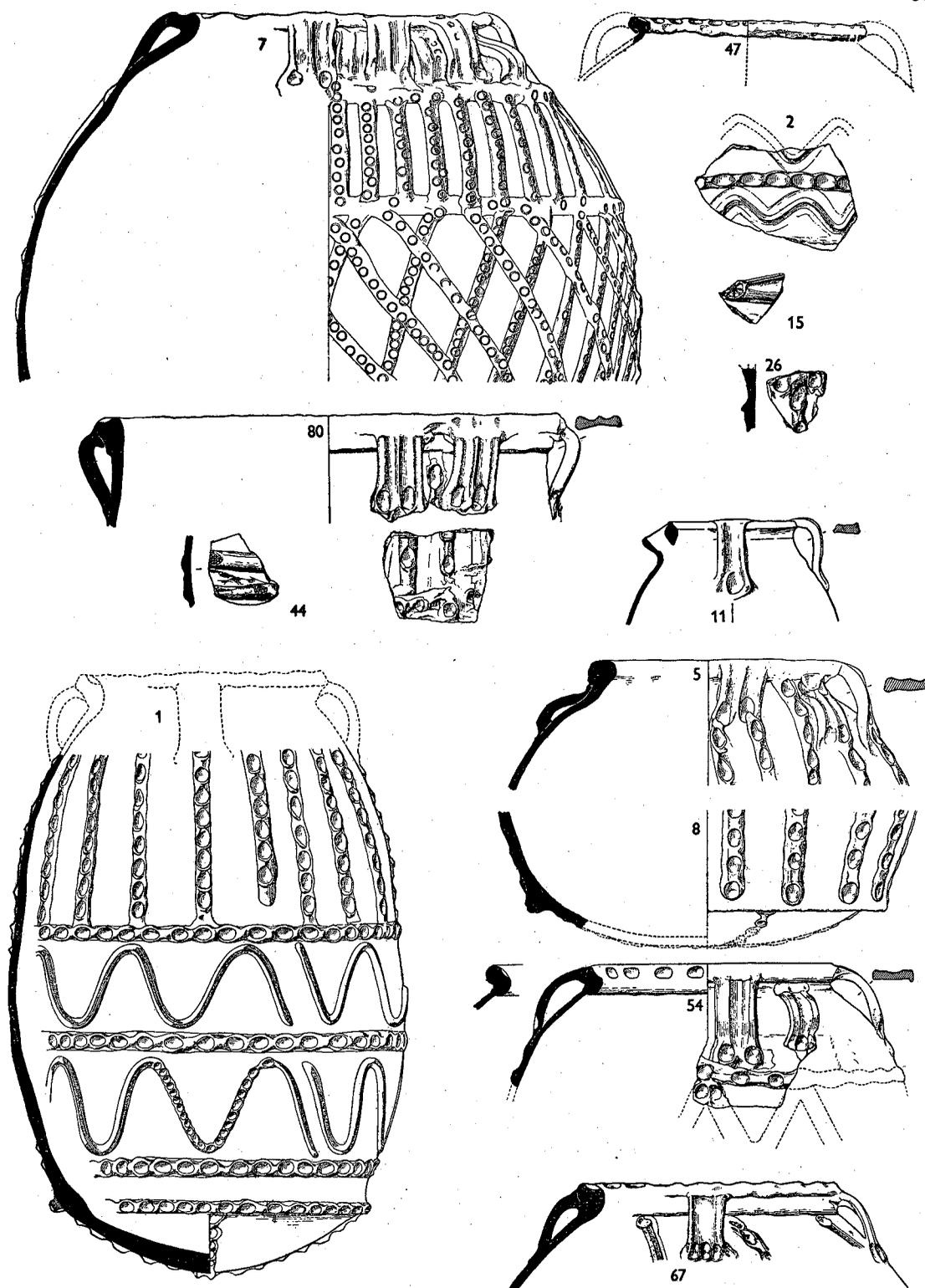


Fig. 8. Thetford-ware storage vessels from the St Neots area; 1, Soham Fen; 2-80 from Cambridge; 11, spouted pitcher from Cambridge. 1/8.

*King's Ditch.*

*Mill Lane North* (1893). *S. 41.* Body sherd with broken-off end of a strap handle with a single thumbing at the bottom. *S. 42.* A sherd with a broad applied band lightly fingered. *S. 43.* The sagging base of a large storage vessel with a flange all the way round continuously fingered. Also small applied ridges from the flange to the centre of the base. Figured in *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. VIII (1895), pl. XIII, 3. See also the Examination School.

*Mill Lane South.* *S. 44.* Two sherds with raised vertical ribs and a criss-cross stamp of Pagan Saxon type, one is figured, Fig. 8, 44. This stamp has a long life, being common on Pagan Saxon urns. It occurs again on the Middle Saxon lugged pitchers (p. and Fig. 5) and is fairly common at Thetford. It continues in use into the eleventh and twelfth centuries on spouted pitchers in the Oxford region (*Oxon.* vols. XVII/XVIII (1952-3), p. 89, fig. 34), and is still in use on a Midland type of medieval jug which was made in the Northampton area in the thirteenth century (Rackham, *Medieval English Pottery*, pl. 68, and G. C. Dunning, *Jewry Wall Report*, Soc. Ant. Res. Rep. No. 15 (1948), p. 244). The Mill Lane sherd is also figured in *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. VIII, pl. XIII, 5.

*Silver Street South* (1893). *S. 45.* Body sherd of a much more sandy texture from the others with an applied band sparsely fingered. *S. 46.* Body sherd with a small strap handle and vertical thumbing along each side of it. This handle is purely decorative as the space between it and the body has been roughly filled in.

*Fosters Bank* (1892). *S. 47.* A squared upright rim with a rough thumbled pad loosely applied over it. Fig. 8, 47, shows the technique of making these rough rims. *S. 48.* A rounded in-turned rim thumbled along the top and very roughly made.

*Hunnybun's Ditch* (1892). *S. 49.* Sherd with vertical ribs and heavy thumbing, smooth grey ware. *S. 50.* Rim and side of a straight-sided storage vessel with a rounded everted rim and a broad thin strap handle. The side of the vessel is quite thin and the ware is much better quality than usual. Figured in *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. VIII, pl. IV, 20. *S. 51.* Rim of a storage vessel with applied thumbled band on the rim, *Proc. C.A.S.* vol. VIII, pl. IV, 21. Sherd now lost.

*Hawkins* (1929). *S. 52.* Upright rim rounded on the outside and hollowed on top, horizontal band pushed into ridges and thumbled, smooth grey ware. *S. 53.* Sherd with broad applied heavily thumbled band.

*King's Lane* (1907). *S. 54.* Two fragments of a large storage vessel with widely spaced alternate large strap handles from rim to shoulder and small strap handles on the neck. Rounded rim with thumbled pad over it, giving a rough finish. The large strap handles are doubly thumbled at the bottom while the small ones are singly thumbled. Underneath, a horizontal applied band thumbled every half an inch, Fig. 8, 54. *S. 55.* Thick rounded everted rim, sloping on the outside and thumbled. A medium-sized strap handle from rim to shoulder. *S. 56.* Rough thick rounded rim with large strap handle springing from it and slight fingering on the rim, brown outer surface. *S. 57.* Thin plain slightly everted rim of a smaller storage vessel in brown ware with a small strap handle from rim to shoulder. *S. 58.* Very roughly made coarse rim of black ware with brown surfaces rounded on the outside and flattened on top. *S. 59.* Two upright rims slightly squared outside with irregular thumbing along the top and strap handles springing from the rim. *S. 60.* Two sagging bases similar to those from Examination School and Mill Lane North, but the flange is more frilled than thumbled. *S. 61.* Brown body sherd with black inner surface. Horizontal applied band with irregular thumbing. *S. 62.* Black sherd with brown surfaces and two parallel applied thumbled bands. *S. 63.* Brown sherd with a high applied thumbled band. *S. 64.* Five sherds with several variations of applied bands and ridges differently thumbled. *S. 65.* Thick

(six-tenths of an inch) sherd with applied bands radiating from a central thumbing. *S. 66.* A large very thick sherd (eight-tenths of an inch) with a very rough applied band irregularly thumbed and various thumbings elsewhere on the sherd.

*Market Hill (1902).* *S. 67.* Large rough storage vessel in grey ware with a brown outer surface. Rounded upright rim thumbed along the top. A series of small strap handles from the rim to the shoulder, and applied vertical ribs thumbed near the top, Fig. 8, 67. *S. 68.* Upright rounded rim of a large vessel. *S. 69.* Body sherd with a chevron pattern of applied ribs thumbed at their junction. *S. 70.* Upright expanded rim bevelled on the inside and thumbed.

*St Catharine's College (1906).* *S. 71.* Two body sherds with thumbed applied bands one small and lightly made, the other *S. 72* broad and heavily thumbed. *S. 73.* Upright rim of a coarse vessel with an oval handle springing from the neck.

*St John's College, New Court.* *S. 74.* Strongly everted rounded rim with a thick strap handle springing from it and fingering along the top of the rim, hard blue-grey ware. *S. 75.* Strongly everted thinner rim with a strap handle springing from it, smooth grey ware. *S. 76.* Side of a storage vessel with a medium-sized strap handle from the rim to the shoulder, double thumbed at the bottom with a single thumbing below. *S. 77.* Rounded upright rim thumbed round the top and with a strap handle springing from the rim. Rough grey ware with brown surfaces. *S. 78.* Body sherd with the broken end of a strap handle and no decoration. *S. 79.* Bottom and lower half of a strap handle with applied thumbed bands going down vertically from it.

*Trinity College (1892).* *S. 80.* Large storage vessel with upright sides and rounded rim thumbed along the top. Closely set strap handles with the usual outer ridges and a central rib down the middle double thumbed at the bottom. In between, a vertical thumbed ridge, Fig. 8, 80. Also a body sherd from the same vessel. *S. 81.* Rim with a small strap handle from rim to neck. A central rib down the centre double thumbed at the bottom, possibly a spouted pitcher. *S. 82.* Three large sherds with applied thumbed bands and an uneven wave pattern of applied ribs, as the example from Soham Fen, Fig. 8, 1.

*Trinity Hall (1880).* *S. 83.* Rounded rim, thumbed round the top. *S. 84.* Rounded rim of an upright storage vessel or deep bowl with uneven fingering round the top. *S. 85.* Rounded slightly in-turned rim fingered round the top. Black ware with brown surfaces. *S. 86.* Five sherds with applied thumbed bands both large and small.

*University Press (1928).* *S. 87.* Side of a large storage vessel with a large strap handle from the rim to the shoulder. The rim squared and a decoration of V-shaped ribs thumbed at the junction.

#### *Cambridgeshire*

SOHAM FEN, H. C. Andrews and G. C. Dunning, *Ant. J.* vol. XIX (1939), p. 311. This barrel-shaped storage vessel (Fig. 8, 1) belongs to this group as it has the typical features of multiple strap handles and thumbed applied strips. British Museum.

#### *Huntingdonshire*

HEMINGFORD GREY (1951). A single thick sherd, with thumbed band.

HUNTINGDON, *Castle Hill Walk.* Rim of a large storage vessel with rough clay pad folded over the rim (Huntingdon Museum, No. 707). *Huntingdon Cinema,* thick fragment from the side of a storage vessel, Huntingdon Museum.

ST NEOTS, four sherds, two are typical side sherds from large vessels with thumbed applied bands, another is a sherd with rough rouletting and the fourth a small strap handle from another storage vessel.

SOUTHOE, single sherd with applied band.

*Lincolnshire*

LINCOLN, *Technical School*. The neck of a very thin-wared storage vessel from Dr O'Neill's collection (Lincoln Museum, 9599. 06). Four strap handles and thumbled strips in the form of arcading.

STAMFORD, G. C. Dunning, *Ant. J.* vol. XVI (1936), p. 407, Fig. 5, 9. Typical multiple-handled storage vessel thumbled round the rim.

*Norfolk*

See pp. 46-50 in list of Thetford sites.

*Yorkshire*

YORK, *Parliament Street*. Fragment of a typical Thetford storage vessel, Yorkshire Museum. *Hungate*, sherd of a storage vessel. Miss K. Richardson, forthcoming H.M.S.O. report of the Ministry of Works excavations.

SPOFFORTH, Mr D. M. Waterman informs me that he found part of a Thetford storage vessel when he put a trench across the motte a mile north of Spofforth near Harrogate.

In Part III of this paper it is hoped to deal with *Stamford* ware. Mr A. P. Baggs will contribute a section on the finds from Stamford itself, including St Neots ware, which were not published by Mr G. C. Dunning in 1936, as they were not then accessible. A series of maps and national grid references of sites will show the distributions of the main groups and types of Middle Saxon and Saxo-Norman pottery and a final summing up of the general conclusions that can be drawn from these will be attempted.

I should like to thank Mr N. Smedley and the Ipswich Museum for permission to publish the important material from Ipswich, and Mr R. R. Clarke and the Norwich Castle Museum for permission to publish the Norfolk material, and for Mr Clarke's help with this. Only a selection of this latter material has been drawn, but it is hoped to publish more, including the interesting material from Thorpe-next-Norwich, in the report on the Barn Road Excavations, Norwich, 1954/5, which it is hoped to publish in *Norfolk Archaeology*. The pottery from Ipswich, Figs. 1-5, were drawn by S. E. West, Fig. 6 by J. G. Hurst and Figs. 7-8 by Miss E. Meikle. I have to thank Mr G. C. Dunning for the use of his drawings for Fig. 6, 3 and Fig. 7, 1 and 2.

# PROCEEDINGS OF THE CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

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