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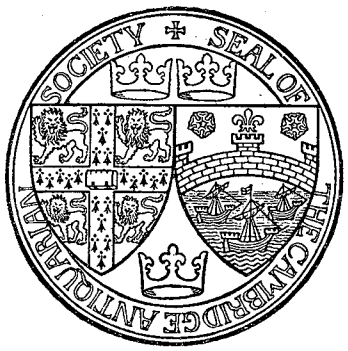

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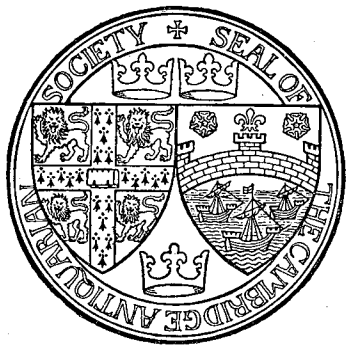

VOLUME LXIII

JANUARY 1971 TO DECEMBER 1971

IMRAY LAURIE NORIE AND WILSON

1971

Published for the Cambridge Antiquarian Society (incorporating the Cambs and Hunts Archaeological Society) by Imray Laurie Norie and Wilson Ltd, Wych House, Saint Ives, Huntingdon

Printed in Great Britain at the University Printing House, Cambridge

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THE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

The photographic record has an excellent series of prints of parish churches, and of villages. The Hon. Librarian would like to appeal to members to photograph changes which they may observe in villages in the area, and to be kind enough to give prints and negatives to the collection. Modest additions are made by the Hon. Librarian as the product of his own travels in the shire, but much wider coverage is desirable. Colour transparencies would also be welcome.

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Members might like to know that a considerable stock of back numbers of the *Proceedings* and other C.A.S. publications can be obtained from the publishers, Imray Laurie Norie and Wilson.

Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc. Vol. LXIII (1971), pp. 1–8.

ROMAN BURIALS FOUND AT DULOE ROAD, EATON FORD, NEAR ST NEOTS, HUNTINGDONSHIRE IN 1968

G. T. RUDD AND C. DAINES

THE site, National Grid Reference TL 171605, lies in arable land known as Windmill Field on Duloe Hill, Eaton Ford, Huntingdonshire, 125 yards west of the Great North Road. It was discovered on 10 September 1968 by Mr D. Lincoln, when the mole drainer he was using struck the lid of a stone coffin. The find was promptly reported to the owner of the land, Mr G. Brittain of Hail Weston, who informed the police and one of the writers. When a rescue excavation was begun the same evening, the lid of the coffin had been removed, and the contents were found to be disturbed, so that excavation of the burial *in situ* was not possible. As many of the bones as could be recovered were collected for expert examination and were sent to Mr C. B. Denston of the Duckworth Laboratory of Physical Anthropology at the University of Cambridge, who kindly supplied the note added as an appendix to this report. No grave goods, other than four tiny body sherds of undatable shell-gritted pottery, were discovered. A fragment of decorative ironwork found in the coffin (Fig. 2, no. 1) could be a recent intrusion.

A rectangular cutting, 9 ft by 6 ft, was dug around the coffin in the hope of discovering its date and the manner of burial. When the topsoil had been removed, the shape of the grave could be seen as a slightly darker area around the coffin, approximately 7 ft 6 in. long and 3 ft 6 in. wide (see Plan, Fig. 1, Burial I). The grave was then excavated, and was shown to be a little over 2 ft deep below the modern plough level (section, Fig. 2). In its fill were scraps of featureless black and shell-gritted pottery, a base sherd of brown gritty ware, and a sherd of black colour-coated pottery with rouletted decoration of the late third or fourth century A.D. Fragments of human bone in the grave fill suggest that earlier burials had been made in the area.

At the S.W. corner of the coffin was a large post hole, about 12 in. in diameter and at least 15 in. deep, and at the N.W. and N.E. corners were smaller post holes, each 3 in. in diameter. These could have been the remains of a wooden framework erected over the grave to support pulley blocks used to lower the coffin into position. At the east end of the grave a slight slope down to the level of the lid was noticed.

Near the N.E. corner of the coffin, barely 6 in. below the modern plough level, was a pile of human bones (Burial II), none articulated, but carefully laid with the long bones lying more or less parallel. The skeleton was incomplete, and among the bones were many iron nails, suggesting that the burial had originally been in a

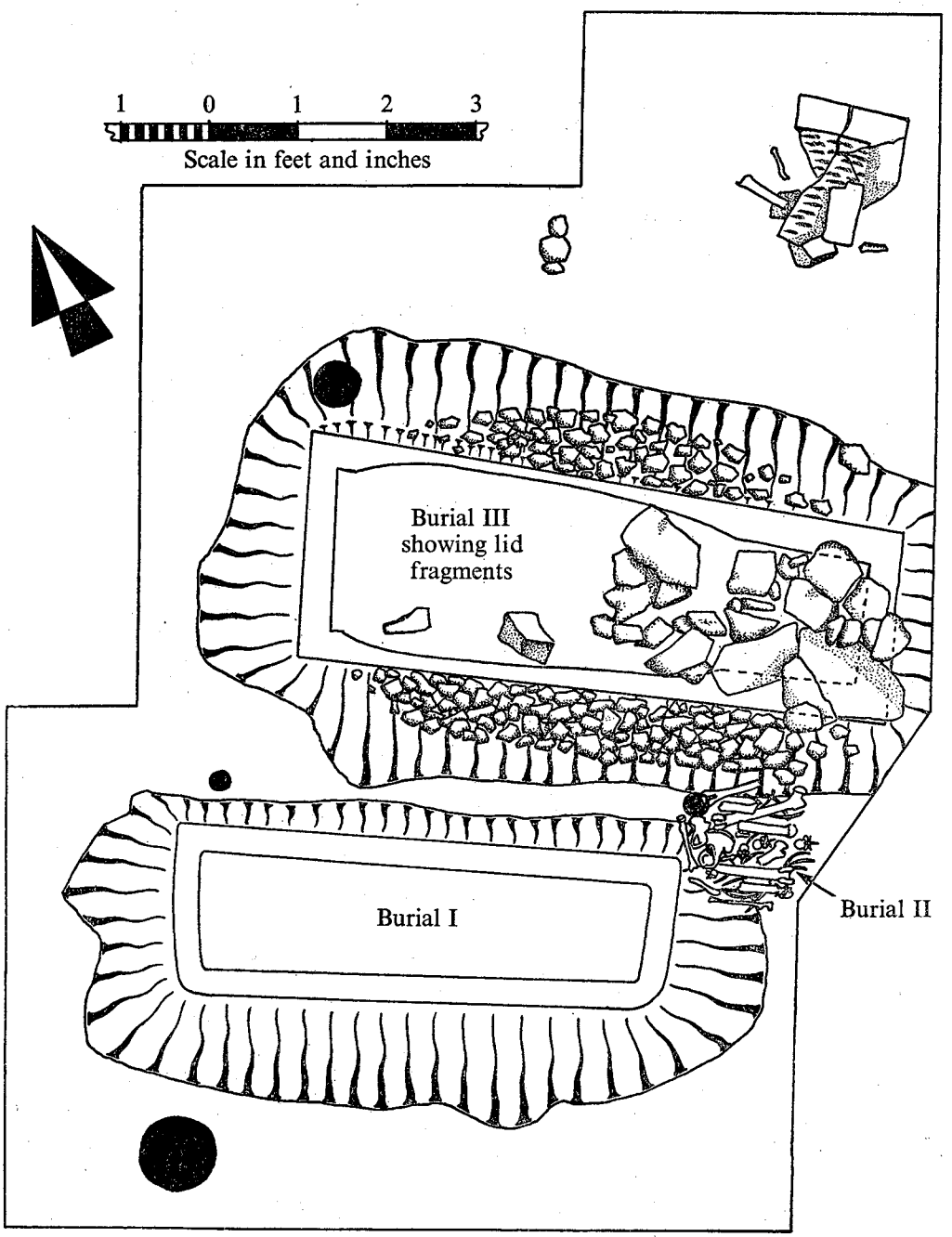

Fig. 1. Plan of Roman burial site at Eaton Ford.

wooden coffin elsewhere, and had been disturbed and reburied. A rim sherd of black colour-coated pottery among the bones suggests that this burial also was made in the third or fourth century, although it is clearly later than Burial I, since it overlay the fill of the latter's grave.

Along the north side of the cutting, an area of Barnack stone chips was found. These appeared to be the result of dressing a coffin or lid on the site. A slightly darker soil area was noted in the vicinity of the stone. At the junction of this dark soil with the bones of Burial II was found a small, twisted fragment of decorated bronze, probably part of a finger ring or bracelet (Fig. 3, no. 2). A small extension of the cutting northwards across the layer of stone chips, to ascertain its extent, struck the side of a second stone coffin almost at once. Thus the dark soil surrounding the stone coffin represented the fill of another grave, with the Barnack chips lying over it (see Plan, Fig. 1, Burial III).

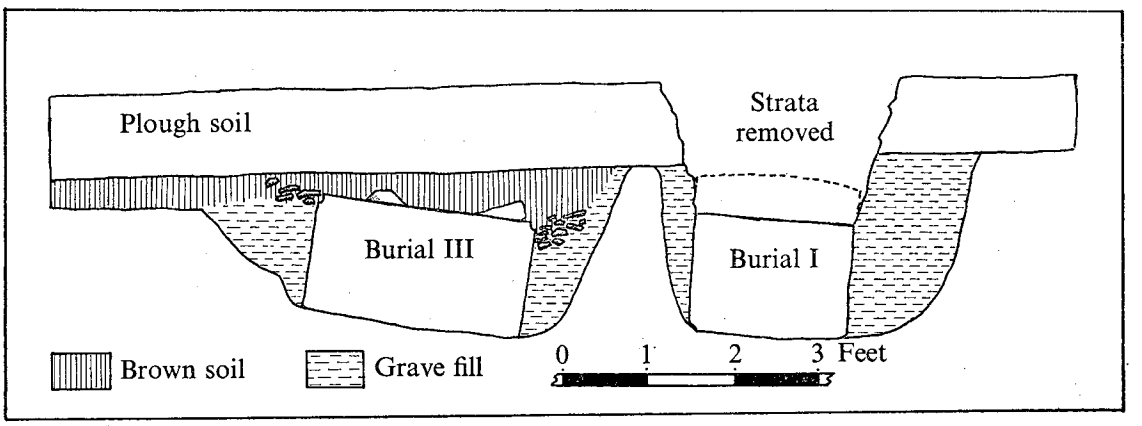

Fig. 2. Section across burials.

A second cutting, again 9 ft by 6 ft, was dug as an extension to the first on the latter's north side, in the hope of excavating a burial *in situ*. Immediately the plough soil was removed, an area of broken stone was visible over the grave, some of the lumps quite large and with flat, dressed faces. Further excavation revealed that these stones were the remains of the lid of the coffin, about 3 in. thick, which had been deliberately smashed in antiquity. Traces of charcoal and several iron nails were found in the upper level of fill in the coffin, suggesting that wooden boards had been placed over the coffin, and the remains of the lid piled on the top – perhaps to hide the results of grave robbing.

As the fill of the coffin was removed to the level of the bones, it became very apparent that the burial had been much disturbed, for with the exception of the feet and the left leg below the knee, the bones were scattered about the coffin in complete disorder. This disturbance must have taken place not long after the burial, certainly while traces of cartilage remained, for the skull and lower jaw remained articulated, as did several vertebrae. The right tibia and fibula were articulated at the ankle but

separated at the knee. No evidence of recent disturbance was found, in fact an unbroken Roman layer extended right over the burial (see brown soil layer in section, Fig. 2). Potsherds found in this layer were more plentiful, and consisted mostly of colour-coated wares, including the base and rim of a Castor Ware folded beaker. In this layer also were fragments of tegula and imbrex tiles, and part of a quern. Thus the lid had been smashed and the grave robbed during the Roman period, probably in the fourth century. Pottery from the fill of the coffin, thirteen sherds in all, ranged from Samian to Castor ware. A defaced coin, a typical small fourth-century type, was found in the coffin, and may have been Charon's fee or lost by the grave-robbers. A small fragment of iron wire twisted round a core may have come from the spring of an iron fibula brooch (Fig. 3, no. 3), and a short length of polished bone must be part of a bone pin.

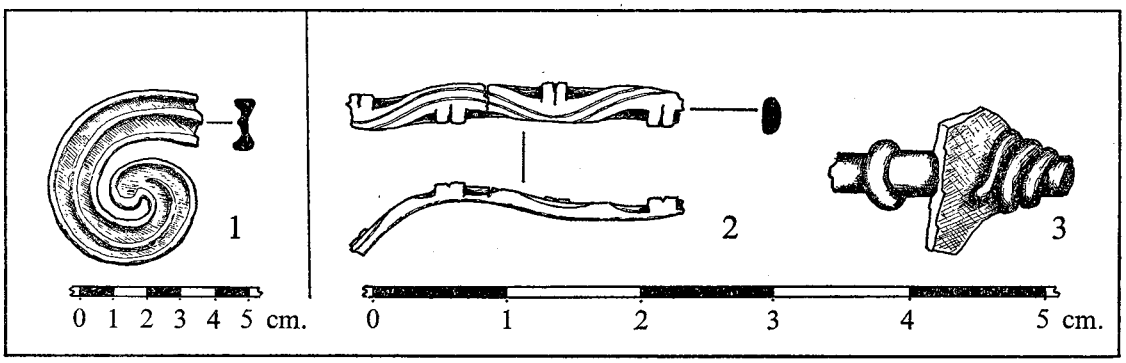

Fig. 3. Small metal objects from Roman burial site: 1. Iron mounting from coffin of Burial I. 2. Fragment of bronze finger ring or bracelet. 3. Spring of iron fibula brooch (?).

The fill of the grave was then excavated, and this, like that of Burial I, proved to be shallow and irregular, about 9 ft long and 5 ft wide. It contained a few sherds of coarse pottery, almost useless for dating purposes, but typical of late Roman wares.

A post hole, 6 in. in diameter and 12 in. deep, was found at the N.W. corner of the coffin.

Lumps of stone projecting from the section at the N.E. corner of the cutting were then explored by extending the cutting a further 2 ft to the north. They were found to be a broken fragment of the base of a third stone coffin, not buried, but lying immediately below the brown soil layer which covered, or perhaps represents, the efforts of the robbers. With the fragments were a tibia and clavicle of a fourth burial, clearly brought from elsewhere.

DISCUSSION

One wonders what can have occurred at our site. One would expect that a cemetery such as this must have been used by people living close by; people who could afford stone coffins in an area so far from the nearest supply of suitable stone must have been wealthy. A number of tesserae, of both the coarse and small decorative types,

building stone, tegula and imbrex and hypocaust-flue tile fragments, and potsherds have been found scattered over a large area on the surface of the surrounding land. Thus, we appear to have a prosperous community, living beside the Roman version of the Great North Road, and burying their dead on our site. Then, very soon after the burials excavated had been made, the situation seems suddenly to have become vastly changed. For the Romans to disturb a grave was a very serious offence, yet here we have disturbed burials, a freshly buried coffin robbed and its lid broken, and a third coffin smashed, dragged from its grave and left scattered about together with bones from it. Even if the brown layer which covers all this disturbance represents an attempt by the grave-robbers to level the site and hide their work, surely such widespread vandalism cannot have gone unnoticed, and an attempt made to tidy up, if people were still living as close as the surface indications suggest. Perhaps, at some future date, excavation of the settlement may provide evidence of its sudden end and devastation. It may not be reading too much into the evidence, however scanty it may be, to see here the results of the concerted raids of the Picts, Scots, Saxons and others that followed the Barbarian Agreement of A.D. 367, and during which much of England was laid waste as far south as London.

THE STONE COFFINS

The coffin containing Burial I was carved from a block of Barnack stone. Its sides are roughly dressed externally with an adze or broad chisel. The ends are slightly bowed. Internally the sides are finished very finely and are quite smooth, but the bottom is very roughly cut, as though it was meant to be covered by some sort of padding or lining. The lid is coarsely tooled externally with a smooth underside. The measurements are as follows:

Internal	External
Length: 5 ft 3½ in.	Length: 5 ft 10 in.
Width at head: 1 ft 5 in.	Width at head: 2 ft 0 in.
Width at foot: 1 ft 4 in.	Width at foot: 1 ft 11 in.
Depth at head: 11½ in.	Depth at head: 1 ft 4 in.
Depth at foot: 1 ft 0 in.	Depth at foot: 1 ft 5½ in.

The lid is 6 ft 1½ in. long, 2 ft 3 in. wide at the head, 2 ft 0 in. wide at the foot, and varying in thickness from 5 to 6 in. This coffin has been presented to Bedford Museum.

The stone from which the coffin containing Burial III was carved is described by Dr C. L. Forbes of the Sedgwick Museum of Geology, Cambridge as a 'perfect match with Ancaster limestone, but could easily be Barnack'. Externally its sides are roughly tooled into a diagonal raised pattern with the rim and edges dressed smooth. The angles are decidedly off-square. Internally the tooling is smooth, again with a very roughly cut bottom. The sides have been recut from shoulder to hip level by chipping out the walls to accommodate a broad body. The lid is fragmentary.

The measurements are as follows:

Internal	External
Length: 6 ft 0½ in.	Length: 6 ft 9½ in.
Width at head: 1 ft 7½ in.	Width at head: 2 ft 7 in.
Width at foot: 1 ft 2½ in.	Width at foot: 2 ft 1½ in.
(Recut width from shoulder to hip: 2 ft 1 in.)	
Depth at head: 1 ft 0 in.	Depth at head: 1 ft 5 in.
Depth at foot: 1 ft 0 in.	Depth at foot: 1 ft 3 in.
Lid thickness: 3–4 in.	

At the time of writing, this coffin has been retained by Mr Brittain at his farm at Hail Weston, Huntingdonshire.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The writers would like to thank everyone who helped in any way with the excavation or with the preparation of this report. In particular, thanks are due to Mr G. Brittain for allowing them to excavate on his land and for providing equipment and labour in lifting the coffins, to Mr C. B. Denston for examining the human remains, to Dr C. L. Forbes for identifying the stone of the coffins, to Miss M. D. Cra'ster for her help and advice given in the preparation of this report and for acting as a 'clearing house' between the people involved, and to Dr Bushnell, Miss Liversidge and members of the Museum staff for their interest and help.

APPENDIX

Human Remains From Duloe Hill, Eaton Ford, St Neots

C. B. Denston

Duckworth Laboratory of Physical Anthropology, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of Cambridge

BURIAL I

Sex

Features of the bones for ascertaining the sex overwhelmingly suggested the individual was a female.

Age at death

30–40 years. This is a tentative estimate of age at death, as conflicting ages were suggested from the two criteria available, namely degree of closure of the sutures of the cranium and state of eruption and degree of attrition of the teeth. It is possible that the upper end of the age range is the more correct, as evidence of osteo-arthritis was detected on some vertebrae preserved, and it is more likely a person of forty years would suffer from this than one of thirty years.

Stature

Approximately 5 ft 3 in. Five long bones from the upper extremity and two of the lower extremity were sufficiently intact to enable the maximum-length measurements to be taken, so the estimate of stature can be regarded as fairly accurate.

General Pathology

Of the vertebral column, the sacrum, the lumbar vertebrae, eight thoracic vertebrae, and four cervical vertebrae including the axis and atlas were sufficiently preserved to be examined for osteo-arthritis. Evidence of osteo-arthritis was detected in the form of 'lipping' at the border of the body of the sacrum, and in the form of osteophytic growth of bone on two of the thoracic vertebrae.

Dental pathology

In the maxilla possibly fourteen teeth were present at time of death, with the first and second right molars lost *ante mortem*. *Post-mortem* loss had accounted for three molars, four incisors, two premolars, and one canine. Of the mandible, both third molars had never formed during life (congenital absence), the complement of teeth being fourteen. Of these, both second premolars had been lost *ante mortem*, and one incisor, one canine, and one premolar lost *post mortem*. A chronic abscess cavity extended over the area of the tooth sockets for the 1st–2nd right maxillary molars, completely obliterating the sockets and extending also to the sockets of the 3rd molar. Combined with the large abscess, a medium degree of periodontal disease was prevalent, the tooth sockets having a honeycomb appearance of minute foraminae. Medium deposits of calculus adhered to some of the teeth, and when occluded the dentition had an over-bite.

Non-metrical features

A metopic suture was present on the frontal bone; a single parietal notch bone at the area of the left incisura parietalis; a possible slight degree of tori mandibulares, occurring bilaterally.

BURIAL II

Sex

The sex of this individual was male. The cranium was represented by only a few fragments, but one of the fragments was of a temporal bone displaying a large mastoid process, a male characteristic. The long bones were robust, and features of the innominate bones were typical of the male sex.

Age at death

Approximately 30–35 years. This estimate of age at death is a tentative one, involving two doubtful criteria: the degree of closure of partial sutures of the cranial fragments and the appearance of one pubic symphysis.

Stature

Approximately 5 ft 8½ in. One long bone of the lower extremity and four of the upper extremity were utilized to compute the stature.

General pathology

Most of the vertebrae were either broken or eroded, but one thoracic vertebra displayed a medium degree of osteo-arthritis. The axis was ankylosed to the third cervical vertebra at the body area and also at the articular facets – possible cause, osteo-arthritis. Two other cervical vertebrae displayed signs of oesteo-arthritis, one a slight degree, the other a medium degree. Evidence of osteo-arthritis was also present at the distal extremity of the 1st left metatarsal bone in the form

of 'eburnation' (the 'ivory' polish sometimes produced by bone moving on bone). One rib had been fractured during life.

Dental pathology

None.

BURIAL III

Sex

The sex of this individual was male. The skull was rather rugged, the long bones would have been large and robust though now mainly in fragments, and features of the pelvic bones confirmed the sex as male.

Age at death

Approximately 35–45 years. This estimate of developmental age was determined using three criteria: degree of closure of the sutures of the cranium; state of eruption and degree of attrition of the teeth; the appearance of the symphysial face of the pubis. No conflict at all occurred between any of the criteria, all suggesting an age between 35 and 45 years at death.

Stature

Approximately 5 ft 6¾ in. Only two long bones were sufficiently preserved to enable the stature to be calculated, so this cannot be regarded as other than a tentative estimate.

General pathology

All the vertebrae were broken or eroded, but slight degrees of osteo-arthritis were noted on one lumbar vertebrae and one thoracic vertebra. Long bones of the upper and lower extremities exhibited possible light degrees of osteo-arthritis. Other bones affected were the 1st metacarpal bones of the hands, and the 1st metatarsal bones and phalanges of the feet. The metatarsals displayed slight 'eburnation'.

The cortical bone of the shaft of the left tibia had been infected during life, the bone displaying localized areas of thickening.

Dental pathology

All the maxillary teeth were present at death, but three incisors and one molar had been lost *post mortem*. Of the mandible, fifteen teeth remained *in situ*, with the third right molar possibly lost *ante mortem*. Periodontal infection, as judged from the recession of the alveolar borders, seemed likely to have been of a medium degree. Slight deposits of calculus adhered to some of the teeth, and the dentition when occluded had an edge-to-edge bite.

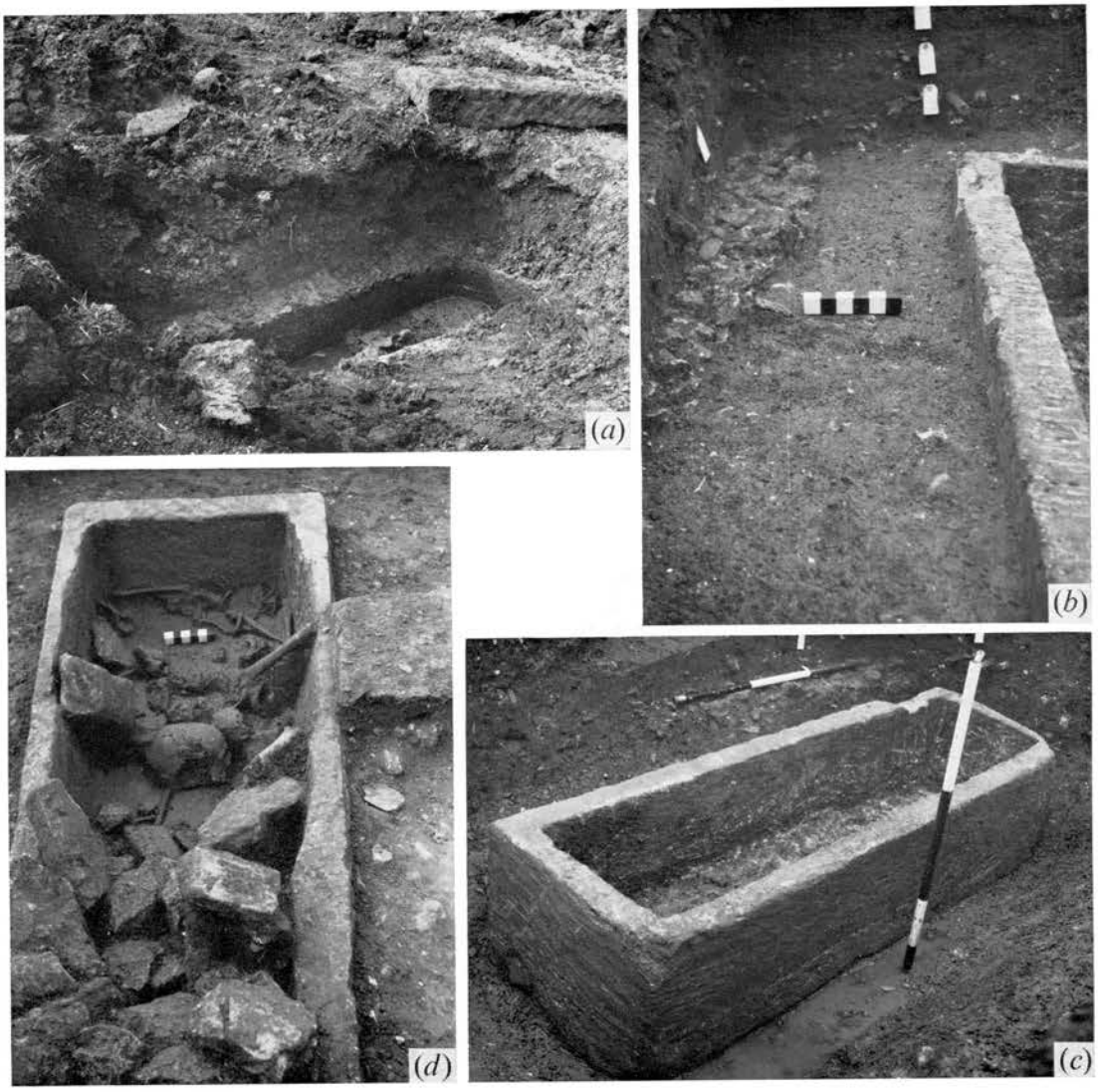

Plate I (*a*) Burial I as discovered, before systematic excavation began. (*b*) Burial I (right) showing bones of Burial II in section (at lowest label) and stone chips associated with Burial III. (*c*) The coffin of Burial I excavated within its grave. (*d*) Burial III, showing the smashed lid.

(*Plate I (a and c) photos by Alexandra Studios of St Neots, other photos by C. Daines.*)

Plate II (*a*) Burial III with the lid fragments removed. (*b* and *c*) The coffin of Burial III excavated within its grave, showing the internal re-cutting. (*d*) Fragments of a third coffin lying N.E. of Burial III.

Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc. Vol. LXIII (1971), pp. 9–26.

GRAVES WITH SWORDS AT LITTLE WILBRAHAM AND LINTON HEATH

DAVID H. KENNETT

SUMMARY

THE republication of graves with swords from Little Wilbraham and Linton Heath affords an opportunity to discuss scabbard fittings from Anglo-Saxon graves. A type with ridged design and raised dots as ornament, 'the Linton Heath type' is defined. Drinking horns from England are reviewed. The triangular-eared cauldron is late Roman in origin and it is suggested that local development in more than one centre is probable for Anglo-Saxon examples. A revised map of cauldrons from England, showing horns, is included.

INTRODUCTION[1]

Saxon Obsequies Illustrated, the report by Richard Cornwallis Neville, later the fourth Lord Braybrooke, on the excavations he conducted at the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Little Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire, in November 1851, is a volume well known to students of Anglo-Saxon archaeology. The republication of those excavations, in modern fashion, is a task to daunt even the bravest spirits, and one that would not be lightly undertaken. Perhaps, in view of the excellence of Neville's account and the still extant grave groups in the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, the task is not as urgent as the republication of cemeteries whose original treatment in the nineteenth century was less fortunate.

There is, however, I believe, some purpose to be served by the selective republication of a part of the Little Wilbraham cemetery. This paper seeks to republish one important group of graves from Little Wilbraham, namely those graves with swords, of which there are four.

Neville also excavated another cemetery, at Linton Heath, and this cemetery is much less well known. It is not as lavishly published as Little Wilbraham, for in his report on the Linton Heath cemetery Neville was content to cite illustrations of objects from Little Wilbraham comparable to those from Linton Heath. For illustrations of material from Linton Heath it is necessary to search the corpora of the late E. T. Leeds, and even so there are many objects, including some of the brooches, from Linton Heath which have never been illustrated. It is therefore

[1] For items cited by author and year of publication see bibliography, p. 26.

proper to include also in this study the two graves from Linton Heath which have swords, especially as one of these is directly comparable to the swords at Little Wilbraham.

For both cemeteries also an attempt has been made to identify the male graves. This has been done purely on the grave goods, and the results of this appear in Appendix 1.

DESCRIPTION OF MATERIAL

Little Wilbraham grave 42

Found 3 September 1851; Neville (1852), p. 16. Man with head to south. By the head, the upper part of a horn mount (48.1379; fig. 3*d*) of bronze with row of small rivets on lower edge; rim binding to secure top of horn is held by three clips; over join of metal a fixture, originally with a ring, to hold a strap. Second mount, now reconstructed on middle of horn. No finial. Diameter of mount, 7·4 cm, height of mount 6·0 cm. Horn reconstructed to length of 41·0 cm.

Also by head, a thin bronze cauldron (48.1380; fig. 3*b*) now disintegrated, and represented by upper part with fragment of ear, diameter 25·5 cm.

By right thigh, a sword (48.1381; fig. 1*a*), iron, pattern-welded, length 89·5 cm, with wood of scabbard on one side. The sword has a gilt bronze mount (fig. 2*a*), of angular ridged design, width 2·0 cm.

Also in the grave, a shield boss and spear not identified.

Little Wilbraham grave 44

Found 4 September 1851; Neville (1852), p. 16. Man with head to south, in grave 4½ ft deep; adhering to finger bones, the handle of a sword (48.1382; Fig. 1*b*) of which only the blade now remains, length extant 76·0 cm. The sword has a bronze guard and the remains of a bronze mount (Fig. 2*c*). A sword bead of translucent green glass with white zig-zag trails (48.1384). Also a shield boss and spear not identified.

With this burial was the complete skeleton of a horse, from which an iron bit (48.1383; fig. 3*c*) with silvered studs and fittings survives. The two-link bit has bar cheek-pieces.

Little Wilbraham, grave 96

Found 26 September 1851; Neville (1852), p. 19. Man with head to north-west, in grave 4½ ft deep. A sword (48.1420; Fig. 1*c*) length extant 82·5 cm., originally with a pommel and side-pieces, now lost, but extant of the fittings are a mount (Fig. 3*d*) of ridged design with slight traces of dots as part of the design, and a chape (Fig. 3*d*), short type, bronze gilt with lined decoration on upper part and worn off lower edge.

A sword bead (48.1421) of black opaque glass, with white design. Also three other beads, a shield boss, spear, and knife, not identified.

Little Wilbraham, grave 151

Found 14 October 1851; Neville (1852), p. 22. Man with head to south-west, in grave 2 ft deep. Sword (48.1445; Fig. 1*d*), pattern-welded, length 92·5 cm. A sword bead (48.1446), of black glass inlaid white and red. Also a shield boss, spear, and bronze buckle not identified.

Linton Heath, grave 14

Found 8 January 1853; Neville (1854), pp. 98–9. Man in grave 4 ft 10 in. deep. By the left thigh, a sword (48.1529; Fig. 1*e*), pattern-welded, length 84 cm., with fragments of wooden scabbard

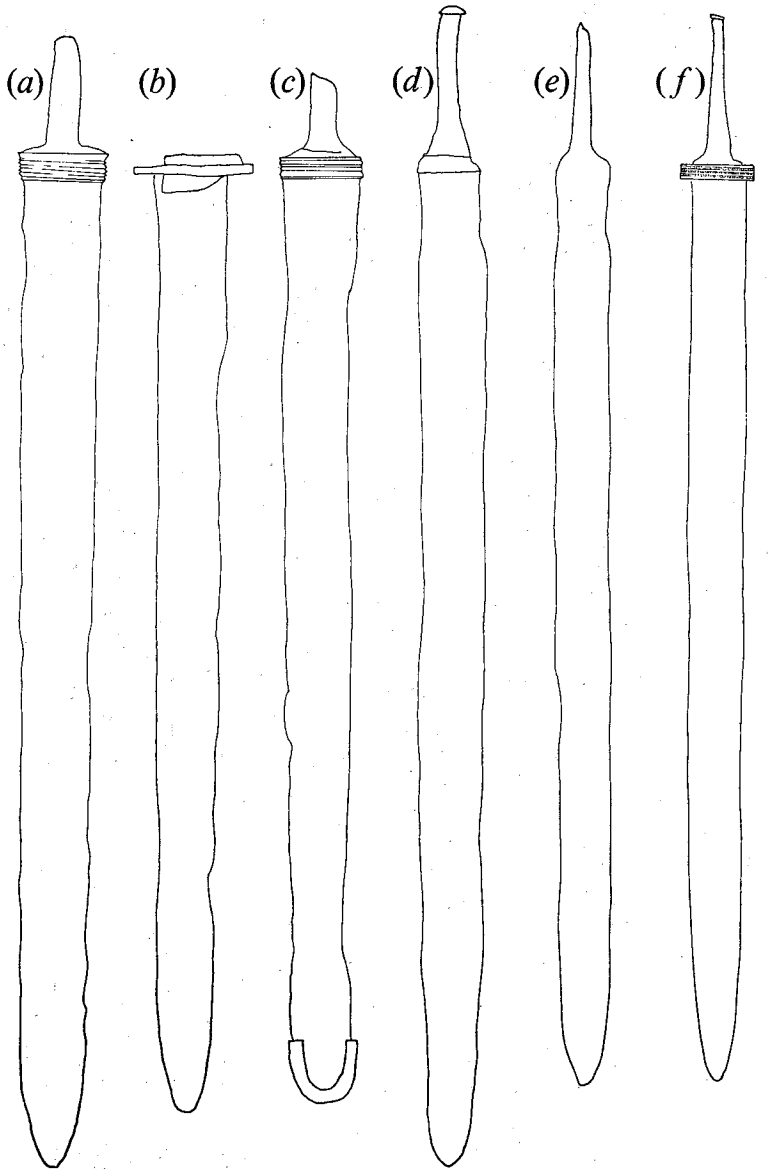

Fig. 1. Swords from Little Wilbraham and Linton Heath. Little Wilbraham: *a*, grave 42; *b*, grave 44; *c*, grave 96; *d*, grave 151. Linton Heath: *e*, grave 14; *f*, grave 64.

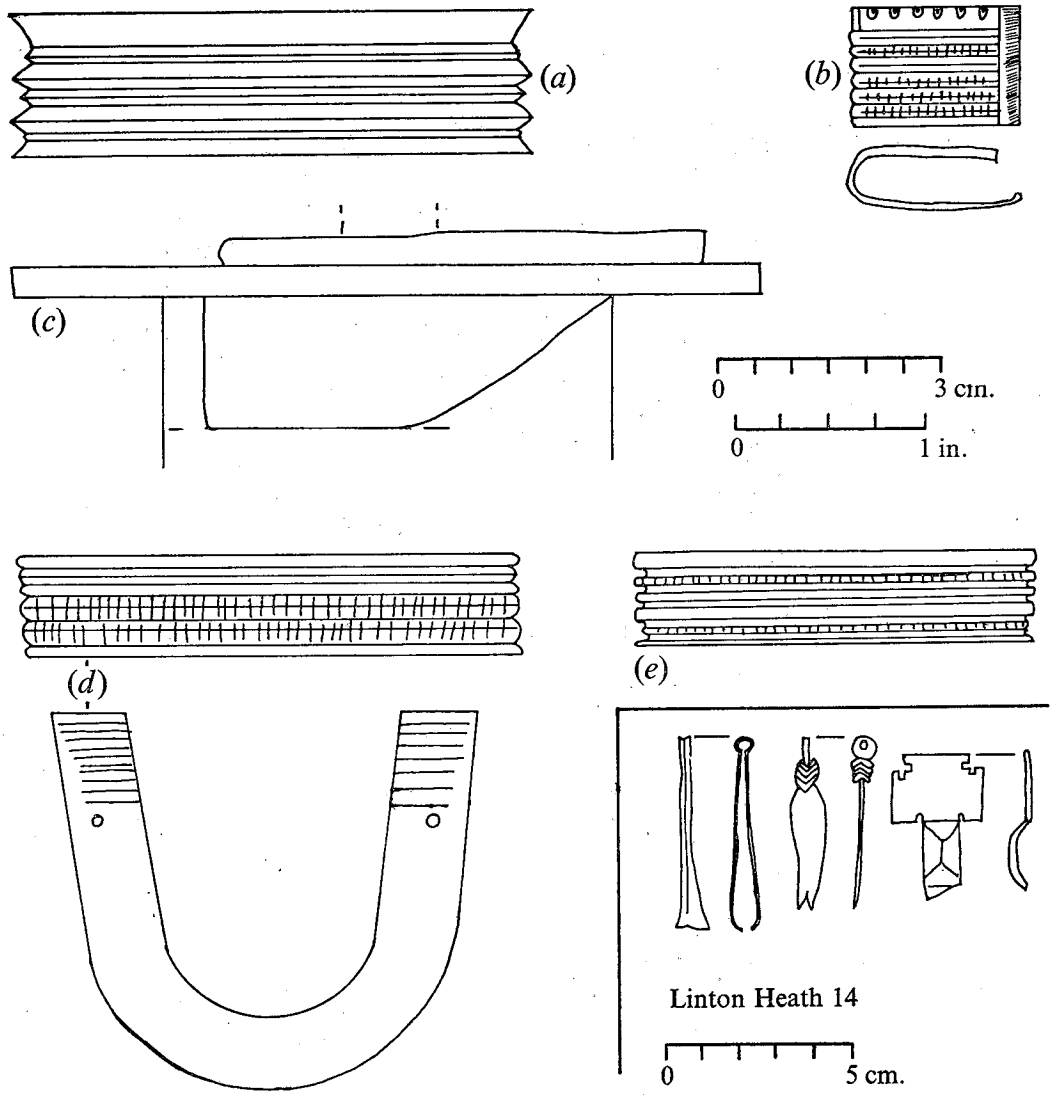

Fig. 2. Scabbard fittings. Little Wilbraham: *a*, grave 42; *b*, 1928 excavations; *c*, grave 44; *d*, grave 96. Linton Heath, *e*, grave 64; *inset*: miscellaneous items, Linton Heath, grave 14. Scale: *a–e* (1/1); *inset* (1/2).

on blade. Near the head, a small-long brooch of cross-potent type (48.1530; fig. 2; *inset*), tweezers and a nail picker (48.1531; Fig. 2, *inset*).

Also a spear by the head, and a shield boss on the left side.

Linton Heath, grave 64

Found 2 February 1853; Neville (1854), 107–8. Man with head to south-west, in grave 3 ft 6 in. deep. By left side, a sword (48.1587; Fig. 1*f*), pattern-welded, length 85·2 cm. On slight traces of scabbard a gilt bronze mount (Fig. 2*e*), ridged design with raised dots, width 1·25 cm. Also a shield boss, spear, ferrule and knife, not yet identified.[1]

[1] Neville recorded the lengths of spearheads from Linton Heath, thus making identifications possible.

DISCUSSION

This selective republication of the graves with swords at Little Wilbraham and Linton Heath has been deliberately planned to discuss certain features of these graves. These are scabbard fittings; drinking horns; and bronze cauldrons. Only brief discussion of other features is given.

Swords

The two swords from Linton Heath and two of the swords from Little Wilbraham, those from graves 42 and 151, show pattern welding.

Sword beads

Three of the Little Wilbraham swords, those from graves 44, 96, 151, have sword beads and were included by Miss Evison in her list of sword beads from England.[1] Apart from one from North Luffenham, Rutland, these are the only examples from north of the Thames valley. I have no addition to Miss Evison's list of English graves with sword beads.

Scabbard fittings

Of the six swords in this survey, three have a scabbard mouth extant, one of which also has a chape; and one other has traces of the scabbard mouth, on a sword which retains its guard. The series is extensive, which is rare in England, where scabbard fittings and chapes are rarely preserved.[2]

The earliest group of scabbard fittings found in Anglo-Saxon graves are those which are part of the late Roman/early Frankish continental series well-known from Samson and Epravé in Belgium and grave 43 at Krefeld-Gellep in the Rhineland.[3] In England the sword from Abingdon B42 has both a mount and a chape of this type; a similar mount adorns the ring sword in Petersfinger 21 and there is a chape or related form on the sword from grave B48 at Abingdon.

Another closely defined group of scabbard mouths are those which are a plain bronze band. These are known from Brighthampton 44, Fairford 30, Petersfinger 7 and on a knife from Kempston grave 27. The sword from Little Wilbraham 44 would seem to be of this type, for the extant fragment has no trace of gilding.

Another group are those with a perforated lug. These include three ring swords: Gilton, Petersfinger 21, and the elaborate mount from Chessel Down. Also with a lug are the swords of Dover 96*b* and Selmeston 51. Like another sword from Sussex, Alfriston 89, Selmeston 51 is decorated with garnets on the mount, a very rare feature in England.

There is a group of swords whose scabbard mounts are gilt, and which have a gently

[1] *Archaeologia* CI (1967), 83, nos. 12–14, pl. 8*b–d*.

[2] For a provisional list of scabbard mounts from England see appendix 2, p. 24.

[3] J. Warner. 'Zu frankischen Schwertern des 5. Jahrhunderts', *Germania* XXXI (1953), 38–44; *idem* in *Germania* XXXIV (1956), 156–8; A. Dasnoy, 'Les Épées du Vme siècle de la region Namuroise', *Ann. Soc. Arch. Namur* LIII (1967), 17–34.

ridged design. These include one of the swords from Faversham,[1] as well as those of Petersfinger 20, Mitcham 192 and Mitcham 211. These have no raised dots as ornamentation. A variant of this form would appear to be the sharply ridged mount of Little Wilbraham 42.

A variant of this has raised dots as ornament. The mouthpiece of Little Wilbraham 96 is a worn example of this form. Much less worn is the mount of Linton Heath 64, which can be used to give the group a name.[2] The Linton Heath type of scabbard mount has a gently ridged profile and is ornamented with raised dots, which are often worn. Several other examples of the form are known. There is one from Kempston grave 75 (2 February 1864). Apart from a fragmentary shield boss and two spearheads, not identified, this grave also contained a crushed bucket. This has circular plates as escutcheons and these are ornamented with very degenerate Style I ornament, for which a date in the late sixth century has been suggested. This does not, of course, mean that the sword necessarily dates to the same half century. The sword of Kempston 75 has a pommel, now detached, of a fairly simple cocked-hat shape. There would appear to have been a roughly similar pommel on the sword of Little Wilbraham 96, but this is not extant. Two other swords of the same type are known to me. The first of these is from Long Wittenham 67. The second is from a grave found at Battle Edge, near Burford, Oxfordshire, before 1848.

The Burford sword has a long U-shaped chape, plain, and apparently without ornamentation. There is a chape of similar length but with lines as ornament from Bredon's Norton, Worcestershire. These are slightly longer than the chape of Little Wilbraham 96, which has a short U-shaped chape, as does Fairford 30.

The Burford chape was once compared with the chape of the sword from Brighthampton 31, but though they are of similar length, the Brighthampton chape is ornamented with animals in a naturalistic style, which do not appear on the Burford chape. The mount of the Brighthampton sword is decorated in chip-carving with a coil-spiral design. One other group of chapes are those which are a broad socket. There is one in silver from Faversham,[3] and one of bronze has recently been published from Alton 42.

It is from Brighthampton that the most elaborate knife fitting known from an English grave has come. This is from grave 22 at Brighthampton, a silver knife case, ornamented with silver punch marks. The bronze mount from Kempston 27 has already been mentioned. One other is known to me. This is a find from between graves 6 and 7 of the 1928 excavations at Little Wilbraham, which has ornament like the swords of the Linton Heath type, as can be seen from Fig. 2*b*.

Dating evidence for the scabbard fittings of the Linton Heath type is poor. Kempston 75 from its bucket would seem to be a grave of the late sixth century, but the sword may be an heirloom. This sword and that of Little Wilbraham 96

[1] B.M. reg. 954, '70; *Archaeologia* CI (1967), 88, fig. 9*a–b*.

[2] In Kennett (1968) I described the group as 'Little Wilbraham type'; this is ambiguous and the terminology used here is to be preferred, and will be used when Kennett (1968) is published.

[3] B.M. reg. 951, '70; *Archaeologia* CI (1967), 85, fig. 3*j*.

have cocked-hat pommels, which might indicate an earlier dating. The wisest course would appear to be to regard scabbard mounts of the Linton Heath type as sixth century, but not to be too definite as to whether they are early or late in the century. Dating swords is a particularly difficult process, for the sword was frequently handed from father to son, and was often old and useless when buried.

Drinking horn

Grave 42 at Little Wilbraham contained two vessels. One of these is a drinking horn, now represented by its upper mount and a small centre band. The plain mount is unusual in English finds, but has a parallel in an ill-recorded and now lost example from Cransley, Northants,[1] from a small group of burials, whose main body of finds (the distinctive ones are a workbox and a skillet), seem to belong to the Christian Saxon phase of the seventh century. Rich graves of this late phase have produced the main body of ornamented horns from England. The Taplow barrow, in south Buckinghamshire, contained at least four,[2] the most elaborate of which has a rim mounting decorated with Style I ornament and embellished with vandykes. All of the Taplow horns have beaked-head finials, sometimes with additional ornament on the stem of the finial. The pair of great horns in the Sutton Hoo ship burial have the same form of embellished finials ending in a beaked head, and are decorated at the rim by a mounting and vandykes. The set of five smaller horns from Sutton Hoo have a decorated rim with a vandykes but lack the elaborate finial.[3] From the Broomfield, Essex, burial[4] there are two unornamented horn tips. These were found with a Coptic bronze bowl; a sword with a pyramidal jewel; two small blue glass bowls with lattice decoration; two lathe-turned wooden cups, bound with bronze rims; two wooden buckets with iron mounts; and a large iron cauldron. The finial of a drinking horn from a cist cremation at Loveden Hill, Lincolnshire was found with a scramasax, two bone combs and ironwork.[5] This finial is again a beaked head, and closely resembles those from the Taplow barrow, but in its present form the Loveden Hill finial lacks the additional embellishments of some of the Taplow examples and the great horns from Sutton Hoo.[6]

The main body of English finds of drinking horns belong clearly to the Christian Saxon phase of the seventh century, but another has been suggested as rather earlier. This is the mount from a grave at Strood, Kent,[7] which is ornamented with Christian scenes, and which has been suggested as dating to the fourth or fifth century. Also in this grave were a sword, a knife, a low conical shield boss, a buckle with shield on

[1] *P.S.A.* IX (1881), 93–5.

[2] For information on the Taplow horns I am indebted to Mrs L. E. Webster of the British Museum; for illustrations see N. Åberg. *The Anglo-Saxons in England* (1926), figs. 1, 4–9; E. T. Leeds. *Early Anglo-Saxons in England* (1926), figs. 1, 4–9; E. T. Leeds. *Early Anglo-Saxon Art and Archaeology* (1936), pl. 21.

[3] R. L. S. Bruce-Mitford. *The Sutton Hoo Ship Burial: a handbook* (1968), pp. 29–31, pl. 18, figs. 10–11.

[4] *P.S.A.* XV (1894), 250–5.

[5] Lincoln Museum; information from unpublished Ph.D. thesis of K. R. Fennell (Univ. Nottingham; Grantham Public Library).

[6] It is possible that other less completely excavated rich burials of the seventh century, e.g. Wheathampstead and Cuddesdon, contained horns.

[7] Evison (1965), p. 107 and fig. 14; the horn mount is in Liverpool Museum (M 56399).

tongue and a shoe-shaped rivet. The last three might perhaps indicate a later dating than that given for the horn mount as these objects find their closest parallels in graves of the sixth century,[1] though just a few are earlier.[2] It is possible, however, to view the Strood horn as a survival in an odd sixth-century grave, which happened to be on the same site as a Roman cemetery, but with which it has no connection. There is, after all, no connection, except of geographical propinquity, between the early Romano-British cemetery (or cemeteries), at Kempston and the well-known Anglo-Saxon cemetery, whose earliest graves are early fifth century.

It has been suggested to me[3] that the ring and handle of bronze belonging to 'some wooden instrument, a few fibres of which were seen in the cavity' from grave 32*a* at Kempston (one of the graves of 20 October 1863),[4] might have been a horn mount, but there is nothing in the Kempston finds which resembles a horn mount. It is possible that this is the record of either a needlecase, of which there are two from Kempston,[5] or the handle of a wooden weaving batten, similar in function to the iron ones of Luton and Holywell Row 11.[6] Such an object would not have been inappropriate for the owner of the Kempston cone beaker.[7]

Like the English finds, drinking horns on the continent are from very rich graves. Remarkably close to the Little Wilbraham one is a plain rim band from a horn found in grave 411 of the Hailfingen cemetery.[8] The grave is one of a number on the continent with a sword and bead, and also contained an axe, a purse mount, glass vessel, buckles and a shield boss. Two of the richest graves to be found in recent years are those from under the floor of Kölner Dom.[9] Both the grave of the Merovingian princess found in 1959[10] and the six-year-old prince's grave found in 1960 included a drinking horn in their very rich assemblages. Both of these are elaborate horns. The young prince's horn[11] had straps to hold it up when not in use which fasten with buckles under the device at the top. These straps are fastened to rings on the horn. The lower mount is elaborate but only slight traces of the upper remain. Another embellishment of this horn is the guard behind the place where the hand would be held when the horn was in use.

On the continent also glass horns are found in some quantity. Often these too are from very rich graves. Among those published since Miss Evison's 1955 survey are two from graves rich in glass and pot.[12] These are Krefeld-Gellep 1213[13] and Trier

[1] E.g. Finglesham D3, Stodmarsh.
[2] K. Böhner, *Die Fränkischen Altertümer des Trierer Landes* (1958), pp. 181–2.
[3] By Mr L. Alcock.
[4] *A.A.S.R.* VII (1864), 286–7; *Coll. Ant.* VI (1868), 203–4; also *Coll. Ant.* VI (1868), 171 for separate account.
[5] B.M. 1891, 6–24, 162, and Bedford Museum 3847; Kennett (1968).
[6] *Ant. J.* VIII (1928), 182; Lethbridge (1931), pp. 4–9, fig. 3.2.
[7] But not the gold and garnet pendant (B.M. 1891, 6–24, 4), which is interpreted as from grave 32*b* above grave 32*a*, and not from the same grave. Original record not contemporary.
[8] H. Stoll. *Die Alamannengraber von Hailfingen* (1939), p. 66, taf. 9.
[9] English summary Werner in *Antiquity* XXXVIII (1964), 202–8.
[10] *Germania* XXXVIII (1960), 105, no. 38*a–c*; *Kölner Domblatt* XVI–XVII (1959), 72.
[11] *Germania* XLII (1964), 178–80, no. 26, abb. 14.
[12] *Archaeologia* XCVI (1955), 171–91, pls. 63–9.
[13] *Germania* XXXVIII (1960), 83 no. 9, taf. 10.1.

Steinrausch 9 sarcophagus 4.[1] A new horn has also been published from Köln,[2] from where several were already known when Miss Evison compiled her survey in connection with the publication of the only glass horns from England, the fine pair from Rainham, Essex, which unfortunately have no associations. Additional to Miss Evison's examples is a further horn from Bonn.[3]

The two glass horns from Rainham are shown on the map, Fig. 4, which shows English drinking horns known to me. Most of these are from rich seventh-century graves such as the multiple groups of horns from Sutton Hoo and Taplow. Single horns like Cransley are also known from the same date, but some like Little Wilbraham 42 might be rather earlier.

Cauldrons

The triangular-eared cauldron from grave 42 at Little Wilbraham is one of three from the cemetery. Another fragmentary example was found in grave 5, associated with wrist clasps and beads, but apparently neither brooches nor weapons. This vessel also lacks its base which fell to pieces when found, but the ears are complete. The third cauldron was found on 28 October 1851 and contained a cremation. This complete vessel is figured here (Fig. 3*d*). Another bronze vessel also found on 28 October 1851 with a cremation is not now extant, except for its handle, which suggests to me that it was of a rather different shape to the cauldron, but in default of the actual vessel we cannot be certain.

These three cauldrons from Little Wilbraham were all placed by Thompson in his hybrid group.[4] This is because their walls are slightly concave, but in reality they are comparable to the globular type. The cauldrons from Holywell Row grave 11 and Asgarby, like those from Fairford, are similar. Since Thompson's survey was published a number of years ago, several more have come to light and in view of this a new map (Fig. 4), and a new list (Appendix 3) have been prepared.

Three types of triangular-eared bronze cauldron were distinguished by Thompson. Apart from the hybrid type, with which indeterminate fragments have also been classed, there is a carinated type with concave walls above, like one from the Sawston grave, and a globular type with convex walls such as the one from Barrington.

The earliest of these forms is the carinated type, which is found as early as third-century hoards like Filzen, on the Mösel,[5] and occurs in a fourth-century hoard buried for safe keeping on Halkyn Mountain, Flintshire,[6] associated with three 'Irchester' bowls,[7] a pan, and an imported bowl whose developed examples include one from Krefeld-Gellep 1782,[8] but the Halkyn Mountain bowl is carinated while its developed sister is rounded. Three triangular-eared cauldrons were found in the

[1] *Trierer Zeitschrift* XXIV–XXVI (1956–8), heft 1, 120–7, taf. 29–30.
[2] *Romer am Rhein* (1967), 270, D85, far taf. 10.
[3] *J. Glass Studies* IV (1962), 141, fig. 12.
[4] *Ant. J.* XXXVI (1956), 193–9.
[5] *Trierer Zeitschrift* II (1927), taf. 10.
[6] *Archaeologia* XIV (1803), 275, pl. 49.
[7] Defined by Kendrick, *Antiquity* VI (1932), 162, pl. 1.1.
[8] *Germania* XLII (1964), 205, no. 34, taf. 58.1.

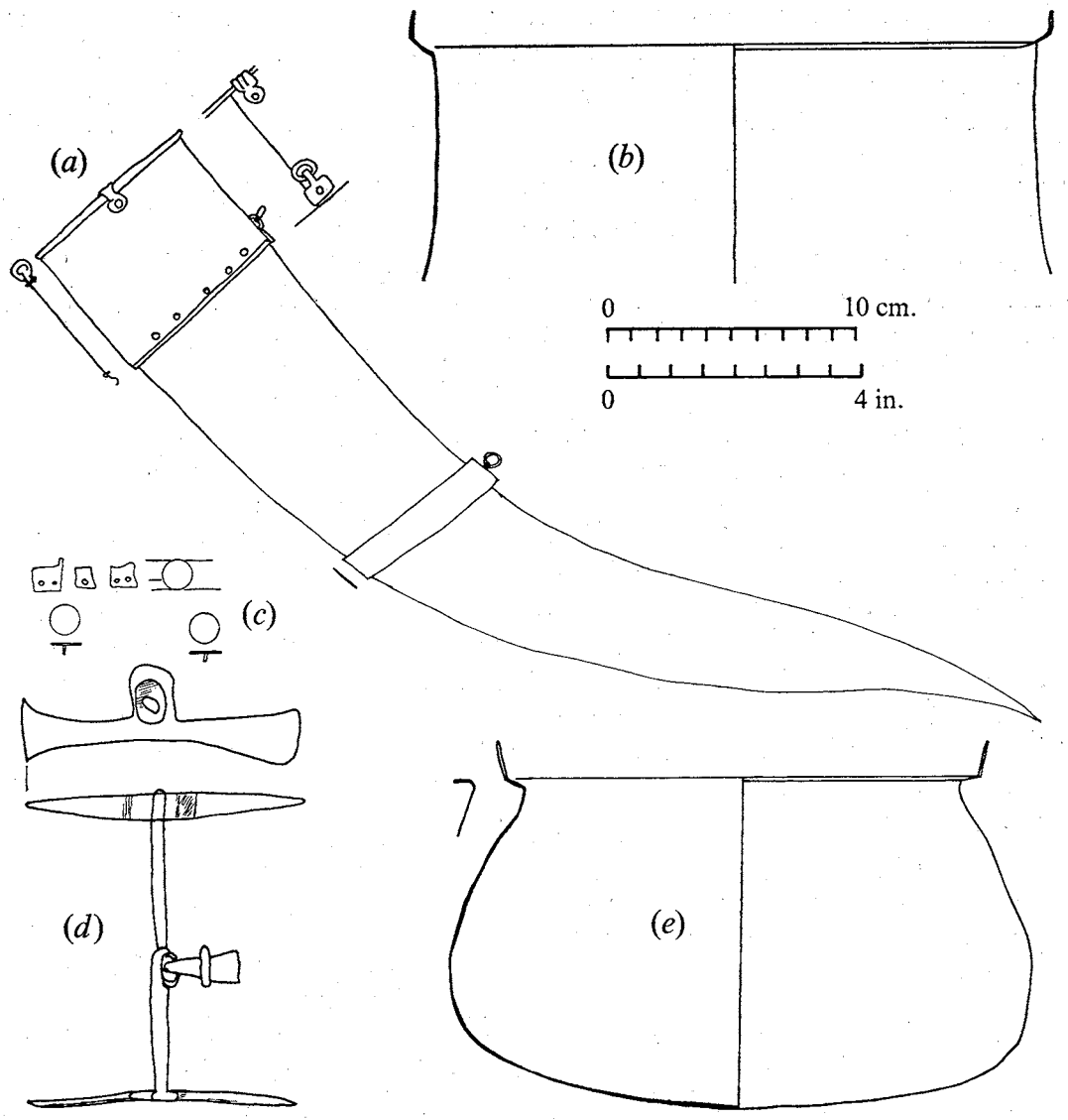

Fig. 3. Little Wilbraham: *a*, drinking horn, grave 42; *b*, cauldron, grave 42; *c*, *d*, horse bit, grave 44; *e*, cauldron, 28 October 1851; (all 1/3).

Halkyn Mountain hoard before 1760; and it is certainly suggestive when half the known examples of the type from Britain come from a late Roman context, that the others could have derived from a similar source in Britain. There was a late Roman bronze vessel industry in Britain.[1] Its products include the 'Irchester'-type bowls such as were found in the Halkyn Mountain and Sturmere, Essex,[2] hoards. The same

[1] This whole subject is reviewed by the author in *J. Northampton Mus.* IV (1968), 5–39, and *Jahrb. Rom.-germ. Zentralmuseums, Mainz* XVI (1969), 123–148, especially 145–6 for cauldrons.

[2] *V.C.H. Essex* III (1963), 185, pl. 27*a*.

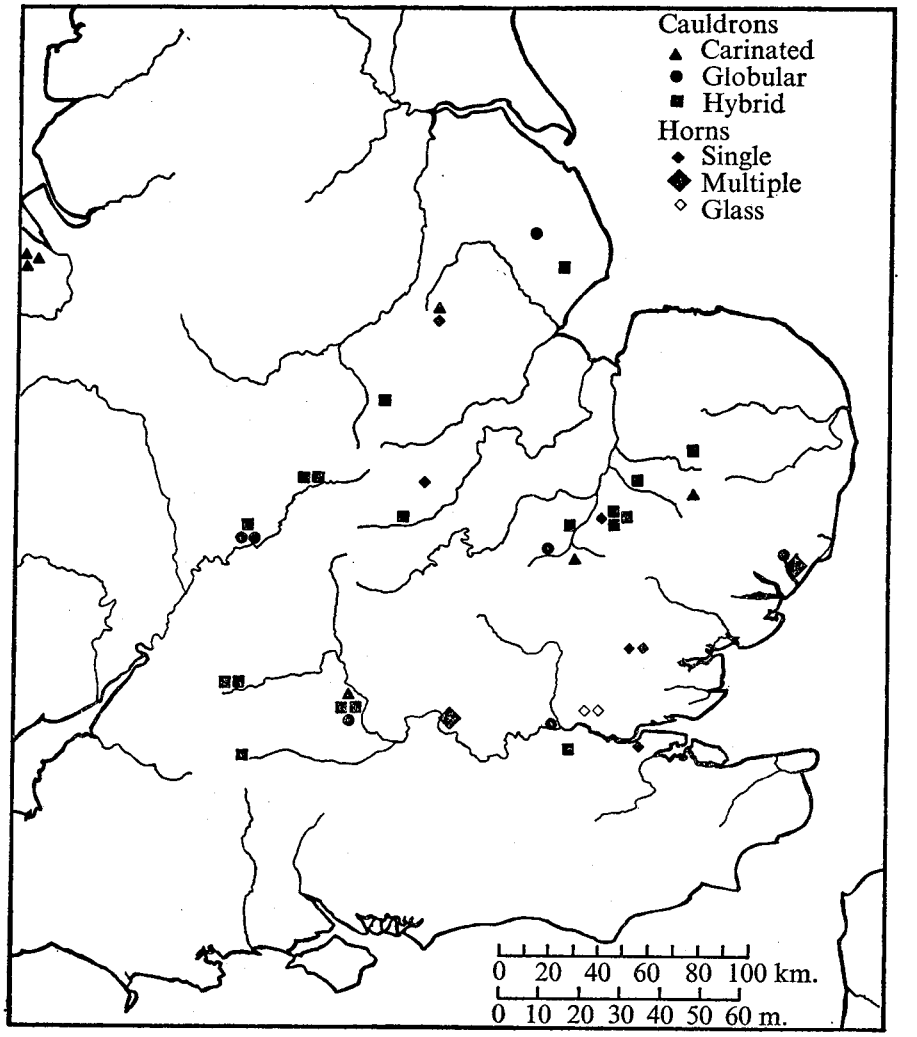

Fig. 4. Distribution of cauldrons and drinking horns in England.

type of ear is found on some of the earliest hanging bowls, and indeed the hanging bowl found in grave 103 from the Sleaford, Lincolnshire, cemetery[1] has the appearance of being a late Roman bowl, re-used with a new base and escutcheons later added. Other hanging bowls such as Chessel Down[2] and Baginton[3] have the same vessel form. Clearly the late Roman bronze-vessel industry in Britain exerted influence on its Anglo-Saxon successor. The triangular-eared cauldron could be another instance of the same influence. While I do not deny that there is evidence for the manufacture of these and other bronze vessels in the Namur region, I do not think that this is the only production centre for these objects. Certainly I doubt whether grave 93 at Long Wittenham represents 'a boy who must have come straight

[1] *Antiquity* VI (1932), pl. 1.5.
[2] *Ibid.* pl. 2.1.
[3] *Ant. J.* XV (1935), 109–12, pls. 11–12.

from the vicinity of Namur'.[1] We know all too little about the relations between the Anglo-Saxons and the sub-Roman Britons, and it could equally be suggested that the earliest triangular cauldrons, with a carinated body, are a late Romano-British product as one imported from a continental source. This is not to deny that there are late Roman bronze-vessel imports from Belgium into Britain,[2] but it could be questioned whether what have been distinguished as imports are not in fact local copies at least in some cases. Certainly the difference in base manufacture between the British and continental *bassins à bord godronné* may well indicate this.

Apart from the three in the Halkyn Mountain hoard, three other triangular-eared cauldrons with a carinated body are known. One is from grave 93 at Long Wittenham, associated with the stoop cup with Christian scenes, perhaps an import, but the other two are local finds. One is from the grave found at Sawston in 1816, associated with a sword, shield boss and pearl-edged bowl. This could equally be derived from a late Roman context, for the oft-quoted Furfooz bowl[3] is not the only one from a late fourth- or early fifth-century grave in northern Gaul. Others are known from Vermand; Abbeville grave 85, with a coin of Honorius (t.p.q. 395);[4] Spontin grave H;[5] Spontin grave C, with a purse of eighty-four coins ending with ones of Arcadius (t.p.q. 395);[6] and of a different sub-type from Grosskarben, near Mainz.[7] The other is from an isolated grave at Ixworth Thorpe, associated with a spearhead, shield boss and a sword. The fragmentary Croydon cauldron has been reconstructed as of this type,[8] but it seems best to leave it in the indeterminate group, as insufficient remains to predict the reconstruction accurately. This carinated type is known on the continent, and has been found in grave 6 at Helle,[9] near Oldenburg, and in a rich late-fifth-century grave from Mainz-Bretzenheim,[10] associated with a lance, arrows, spearhead, sword, axe, mail, helmet, bronze bowl and jug.

From the carinated type there develops both in England and on the continent, as for example in the rich Krefeld-Gellep grave 1782,[11] a type with a bulbous body and slightly concave sides, but no carination. This is the type represented by the three cauldrons from Little Wilbraham, and in England it is the largest group. I would suspect from their numbers and wide distribution that the type could equally well have been made in England as imported. These vessels are found over a wide area, and those from Bidford-on-Avon are made to seem less isolated by examples from Alveston, near Stratford, one fused; Baginton, Warwickshire, two; and Duston, Northants, one in fragments. At Long Wittenham, there are two and one of the later globular type as well as the more well-known one from grave 93. Farther south a

[1] Evison (1965), p. 32, fig. 13*b–c*.

[2] This whole subject is reviewed by the author in *J. Northampton Mus.* IV (1968), 5–39, and *Jahrb. Rom.-germ. Zentralmuseums, Mainz* XVI (1969), 123–148, especially 138–45 for Gallo-Roman vessels.

[3] J. Nenquin. *La Nécropile de Furfooz* (1953), p. 52, fig. 12. C. 4.

[4] *Diss. Arch. Gandenses* VII (1962), 19, pl. 8.4.

[5] *Ann. Soc. Arch. Namur* LIII (1966), 188, fig. 12.

[6] *Ibid.* p. 180, fig. 6.15.

[7] *Germania* XV (1931), 259, abb. 5.

[8] In *Surrey A.C.* LVI (1959), 106, fig. 16.

[9] *Bonn. J.* CLVIII (1958), 387, abb. 11.4.

[10] G. Behrens. *Frühchristliche und Merowingische Mainz* (1950), pp. 25–6, abb. 43.

[11] *Germania* XLII (1964), 206 no. 36, taf. 59.1.

fragment including a lug was found in a barrow at West Overton, Wiltshire, but even so there are still very few of these from south of the Thames. To the north it is possible to add an example from Asgarby, Lincolnshire, associated with a sword, a shield boss, a buckle, and a fragmentary claw beaker. This glass vessel is amber, the amber of the Newport Pagnell, Bucks, and Fairford, Glos, claw beakers, and, directly comparable to the claw beaker from Howletts grave 37 also in the British Museum, with which it may be readily compared.[1] The claws and nicked trails of the Asgarby fragments confirm this suggestion. These glasses have been suggested as sixth century on typological grounds.[2] Few of the other examples of the hybrid type of triangular-eared cauldron have associations. The one from Holywell Row grave 11 was found in a rich grave[3] whose pendants indicate a mid-seventh-century date, though it is certain that some items like the great-squareheaded brooch, the girdlehangers and the armlets are survival pieces in this grave. Both the bronze vessels, the cauldron and a pearl-edged bowl could also be survivals from the sixth century. The shears in the grave of the 1851 Fairford cauldron find might indicate a similar late date, though shears are known in sixth-century graves on the continent, such as at Schwarz-Rheindorf 10,[4] with Kempston-type cone beaker, a late-sixth-century type of pearl-edged bowl, and a coin of Justinian (t.p.q. 527). The Queniborough grave also included a pearl-edged bowl, but it is not possible to give any precise indication of the date of this grave. Similarly those used as cremation containers,[5] such as one from Little Wilbraham and those from Baginton, contained no objects which could be closely dated. A similar but carinated vessel, without ears, was used as a cremation container at Loveden Hill, Lincs. Both the Baginton examples and the cremation container from Little Wilbraham, like Holywell Row and Fairford, approach the globular profile, which is the final development of this type of bronze vessel.

It was a globular cauldron from Stenigot, Lincs, which prompted Thompson's survey. This vessel is unusual in that it is riveted, but its association with a scramasax is indicative of the late-seventeenth-century date of the grave. This dating is similar to that of the barrow on Brightwell Heath, Suffolk, where a globular cauldron used for a cremation was found with a bone comb, an ivory bracelet, and a bone draughtsman. The draughtsman marks the grave out as late for the closest parallels are found in the Castle Bytham, Lincs,[6] grave whose objects are in the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology. Two of the Bidford-on-Avon cauldrons are of the globular type, and one of these was associated with the elaborate shield boss of grave 182, for whose late Style I ornament a late-sixth-century or early-seventh-century date may be suggested.

[1] This is a different amber from that of the claws of the 'experimental group', e.g. Howletts graves 7 and 14.

[2] D. B. Harden in *Dark-Age Britain* (1956), pp. 139–40, fig. 25, 11*c* 1, pl. 17A*a*.; W. A. Thorpe, *English Glass* (1961), pl. 10*e*, for Newport Pagnell.

[3] Lethbridge (1931), pp. 4–9; cf. *Dark-Age Britain* (1956), p. 114.

[4] G. Behrens. *Merovingerzeit* (1947), pp. 4–5, abb. 10.

[5] For discussion of metal vessels as cremation containers see *Med. Arch.* XI (1967), 10–14.

[6] *Arch. J.* X (1853), 81–2.

The triangular-eared cauldrons from Little Wilbraham including that from grave 42 stand towards the end of the development of their form, and on typological grounds a sixth-century date might be preferred. Slight evidence of association for other examples tends to confirm this. General hypothesis of an insular development from the late Roman beginnings has also been advanced.

Horse bit

Grave 44 at Little Wilbraham had also the complete burial of a horse. From this the bit (Fig. 3*c*), survives, together with some of the fittings. The bit has two links and bar cheek-pieces. This form is one of the two principal types of horse bit found in Anglo-Saxon contexts. The other form has ring cheek-pieces, perhaps more properly called shackles. The bar type of bit is known from two Northamptonshire sites: Brixworth and Duston, neither associated.[1] The shackle type is found also in Northants, at Marston St Lawrence[2] and Hardinstone,[3] the latter associated with a circular phalera decorated with garnets and fishes.[4] A fragmentary example was found in grave 9 of the 1912 excavations at East Shefford, Berkshire.[5]

Toilet articles

Tweezers are often found in male graves as at Linton Heath grave 14 (Fig. 2, *inset*) and Little Wilbraham graves 35 and 169. Other examples include Petersfinger 21 and Abingdon 25.[6] The nail cleaner is paralleled in an unassociated find from Kempston,[7] but is probably a survival of a Roman form.

General discussion

The preceding discussion has served to highlight the importance of the graves with swords at Little Wilbraham and Linton Heath. One final point remains. There are two possible explanations of the graves with swords at Little Wilbraham. Either they represent successive burials of ruling leaders of the community – for who else could afford a sword? – or they are approximately contemporary burials at the end of the sixth century, for which the many great squareheaded brooches in the women's graves are good evidence of some prosperity. It is not, however, possible in the present state of our knowledge to decide between these two.

[1] Northampton Mus. D247/1955–6; D331*a*/1955–6; D172/1956–7.
[2] B.M. 1928.
[3] Northampton Mus.
[4] *V.C.H., Northants.* I (1902), coloured plate.
[5] *J.R. Anth I.* XLV (1915), 113.
[6] E. T. Leeds and H. Short. *An Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Petersfinger* (1953), p. 18, no. 68, pl. 8. 68; E. T. Leeds and D. B. Harden. *The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Abingdon, Berkshire* (1936), p. 35, pl. 18.25.
[7] Bedford Museum B.M. 49; Kennett (1968).

APPENDIX I

Male graves at Little Wilbraham and Linton Heath

In this appendix, only those graves with obviously male objects, mainly weapons, are listed. The page numbers refer to the page of the original reports by Neville; the direction to the position of the head.

Grave	Page	Direction	Objects: Weapons	Objects: Others
		Little Wilbraham (Neville, 1852)		
1	13	S	Shield, spear, knife	—
8	13	W	Shield, spear, second spear, knife	Annular brooch Belt plate
12	14	(Crouched)	2 spearheads, knife	—
18	14	W	Shield, spear, knife	—
24	15	(Multiple grave)	Spear	—
34	15	S.W.	Shield, spear, knife	Chisel, 9 beads
35	15	S	Shield, spear, knife	Equal-armed brooch, tweezers, 41 beads, ring, studs
36	16	S	Spear, knife	—
37	16	S.E.	Shield, spear	2 beads
39	16	W	Spear, knife	—
42	16	S	Sword, shield, spear	Drinking horn, cauldron
44	16	S	Sword and bead, shield, spear	Horse-bit
55	17	N.E.	Spear, knife	—
57	17	S	Shield, spear, knife	—
58	17	S.E.	Shield, spear, knife	—
66	18	W	Spear	—
71	18	W	Shield, knife	—
72	18	N	Shield, knife	—
74	18	S	Spear, knife	—
83	19	N.E.	—	Adze
84	19	S	Spear, knife	—
86	19	W	Spear	—
96	19	N.W.	Sword, and bead, shield, spear, knife	3 beads
98	20	S	Shield, spear	—
108	20	S.W.	Spear, knife	Bronze fragments
125	21	S	Spear, knife	—
126	21	S.W.	Spear	—
127	21	S	Spear, knife	—
139	22	S	Shield, spear	—
146	22	S	Spear	—
149	22	E	Spear	—
151	22	W	Sword and bead, shield, spear	Buckle
169	24	S	Shield, spear	Buckle, tweezers
181	24	S	Spear, knife	—
183	25	S	Spear, knife	—
184	25	S	Spear	—

Grave	Page	Direction	Objects: Weapons	Objects: Others
		Linton Heath (Neville, 1854)		
2	96	—	Spear	Roman brooch
7	96	—	Shield, spear, knife	—
8	96	—	Spear	—
13	98	—	Spear	—
14	98	—	Sword, shield, spear	Brooch, tweezers, nail cleaner
17	99	—	—	Bucket, coin
18	100	—	—	Spur, brooch
19	100	—	—	Disc brooches, 2 strap ends
23	101	—	Spear, knife	—
25	101	—	Shield, spear, knife	Pot, buckle
28	102	—	Spear	Brooch
34	103	—	Spear, with ferrule, knife	—
46	105	—	Shield, spear	—
48	105	—	Spear	—
53	106	—	Shield	—
64	107	—	Sword, shield, spear with ferrule, knife	Buckle
66	108	—	Spear	—
80	110	—	Spear	Pot
81	110	—	Shield, spear, knife	Buckle
89	111	—	Spear	—
94	112	—	Shield	—
95	112	—	Spear	Roman pot
102	113	—	Spear, knife	Iron buckle

APPENDIX 2

Provisional list of scabbard fittings from Anglo-Saxon graves

Kempston, 75, Beds.; B.M. 1891, 6–24, 75; Kennett (1968).
Abingdon, 42, Berks.: Leeds and Harden, *Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Abingdon, Berks* (1936), p. 38, pl. 19, and 9.
49, *ibid.* p. 20, pl. 19.
Long Wittenham, 67; B.M. 1875, 3–10, 40.
Linton Heath, 64, Cambs.: Fig. 2*e*.
Little Wilbraham, 42, Cambs.: Fig. 2*a*.
44, Fig. 2*c*.
96, Fig. 2*d*.
Fairford 30, Glos.: *Fairford Graves* (1852), pl. 3.3.
Alton, 42, Hants.: *Archaeologia* CI (1967), 83, fig. 1*b*.
Chessell Down, I.O.W.: *Ant. J.* (1967), 11–19, fig. 2, pl. 2*b*, 3*b*.
Dover, 96*b*, Kent: *Archaeologia* CI (1967), 84, fig. 2*h–i*.
Faversham, Kent: B.M. 951 '70; *Archaeologia* CI (1967), 85, fig. 3*j*.
B.M. 954 '70; *Ant. J.* XLVII (1967), 10, fig. 3.
Gilton, Kent: *Archaeologia* CI (1967), 87, fig. 9*d*.
Brighthampton, 30, Oxon: Evison (1965), p. 105, fig. 11.
44: *Archaeologia* XXXVIII (1860), 88, pl. 2.8.

Burford, Oxon: B.M. 1848, 7–27, 1. *Oxon* XXXIV (1969), 111–15.
Mitcham, 192, Surrey: *Surrey A.C.* LVI (1959), 119, pl. 21.192.
211 *ibid.* LVI (1959), 120, pl. 21.211.
Alfriston 89, Sussex: *Sussex A.C.* LVII (1915), pl. 27.1–1*a*.
Selmeston 51, Sussex: Lewes Museum.
Petersfinger, 7, Wilts.: Leeds and Short, *Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Petersfinger* (1953), p. 8.
20, *ibid.* p. 14, pl. 1.
21, *ibid.* pp. 16–17, pl. 1.
Bredon's Norton, Worcs.: *V.C.H. Worcs* I (1901), 230, coloured plate.

Knife fittings

Kempston, 27, Beds.: Bedford Mus. 3799; Kennett (1968).
Little Wilbraham, Cambs., 1928 find: fig. 2*b*; Lethbridge (1931), p. 71, fig. 38.1.
Brighthampton, 22, Oxon: *V.C.H. Oxon* I (1938), pl. 26, lower.

APPENDIX 3

Bronze cauldrons with triangular ears from England and Wales

A. Carinated with concave wall above

Long Wittenham, 93, Berks.: Evison (1965), p. 106, fig. 13*b*.
Sawston, Cambs.: *Archaeologia* XVIII (1818), 340–3, pl. 25.4.
Halkyn Mountain, Flints.: *Archaeologia* XIV (1803), 275, pl. 49 (three found in hoard).
Ixworth Thorpe, Suff.: *P. Suff. I. A.* XXV (1951), 213.

A1. Carinated, no ears

Lovenden Hill, Lincs.:* Lincoln Mus.

B. Globular with convex wall

Long Wittenham, Berks.: B.M. 1875, 3–10, 7.
Barrington, Cambs.: Mus. Arch. Eth. Cambridge.
Stenigot, Lincs.: *Ant. J.* XXXVI (1956), 193–7, pl. 13.
River Thames, London: *London and the Saxons* (1953), p. 147, fig. 25.
Brightwell Heath, Suff.:* *Ipswich F.C.J.* VI (1921), 11–13.
Bidford-on-Avon, Warw.: *Archaeologia* LXXIII (1923), 100, pl. 73.5.
182: *ibid.* LXXIV (1925), 276, pl. 57.3.

C1. Hybrid

Girton, 56, Cambs.: *Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Girton* (1926), p. 17.
Little Wilbraham, Cambs.:* (Fig. 3*d*) Neville (1852), p. 23, pl. 16.
Fairford, Glos. (1844): *Coll. Ant.* II (1852), 160.
(1851): *Fairford Graves* (1852), pp. 15, 19, pl. 8.
Queniborough, Leics.: Nichols, *History of Leics.* I, ii. 377, pl. 50.2.
Asgarby, Lincs.: B.M. 1915, 10–7, 4.
Holywell Row, 11, Suff.: Lethbridge (1931), p. 8, fig. 3.1.
Baginton, Warw.:* Coventry Mus. (two, both with cremations).

C2. Fragments

Long Wittenham, Berks.: B.M. 1875, 3–10, 8, 9 (two cauldrons).
Little Wilbraham, 5, Cambs.: Neville (1852), pl. 16, upper.
42, Cambs.: (Fig. 3*b*.)
Illington, Norf.:* Norwich Mus.
Duston, Northants.: Northampton Mus.
Croydon, Surrey: *Arts in Early England*, IV, (1915), pl. 117.3.
Bidford-on-Avon, Warw.: *Archaeologia* LXXIII (1923), 100.
West Overton. Wilts.: Evison (1965), p. 111, fig. 21.1.

QUOTE: The symbol* indicates vessel used to hold cremation.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, for permission to publish the material in their possession. For assistance at the museum I am indebted to Miss M. D. Cra'ster. I am grateful to Mrs L. E. Webster for reading this paper in draft form.

Plate I Grave group from St John's cricket field.

Plate II Applied brooches from Barrington.

Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc. Vol. LXIII (1971), pp. 27–29.

NOTES

DAVID H. KENNETT

I. APPLIED BROOCHES OF THE KEMPSTON TYPE AT ST JOHN'S, CAMBRIDGE

Plate I shows one of the known grave groups from the Anglo-Saxon cemetery found in 1888 at St John's Cricket field, and now in the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge. The principal brooch of this grave is a great-squareheaded of the Haslingfield type,[1] belonging to a late sub-group distinguished by Leeds in 1949,[2] which has other examples in the Cambridge region, such as Linton Heath 41, Tuddenham, and Barrington A grave 11.[3] The pair of wrist-clasps were distinguished in 1945 by Leeds[4] as simpler versions of his group with an epsilon-shaped band, comparable to ones from Barrington. Apart from a knife, an iron key, and a small iron ring, there is a string of 44 beads between a pair of applied saucer brooches.

The applied saucer brooches in this grave are very fragmentary, and only on one is any trace of the design extant.[5] On close examination this proves to be a disjointed leg set between parts of a face on either side. Comparison with other brooches in the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, convinces me that this is an example of the type Leeds called 'the Kempston type' after the four pairs at that site.[6] The comparison was made first with fragmentary examples from Linton Heath grave 9, and later with the complete examples such as those shown on Pl. II from Barrington.

The 'Kempston type' of applied saucer brooch is characterized by a design of four faces set within the arms of a cross, and with a leg design between the faces. In the centre there is either a glass stud or a dished space. The whole design usually is enclosed in a design of fairly simple animal ornament which repeats itself six times. There may be a plain border outside this.

The grave group from St John's is an important addition to the associated examples of the type, which is widely distributed in the cemeteries of the Cambridge region. The Cambridge Museum has four pairs and a single brooch from Barrington B, while there are a pair and two singles from the cemeteries at Barrington now in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. The Ashmolean also have a pair from Mitchell's Hill, Icklington; a pair from Haslingfield; and a pair from Frilford, Berks. There are two

[1] E. T. Leeds. *A Corpus of Early Anglo-Saxon Great Square-headed Brooches* (1949), pp. 16–29, nos. 11–31.

[2] Leeds, *op. cit.* (1949), pp. 23–8, nos. 19–29.

[3] Leeds, *op. cit.* (1949), nos. 23, 25 and 21 respectively; note that Leeds gives mistaken grave number for brooch 23 throughout his 1949 book.

[4] *Archaeologia* XCI (1945), 58–9; for Barrington wrist-clasps see *ibid.* fig. 33*e*.

[5] The other has been presumed to be a pair to it.

[6] *Archaeologia* LXIII (1912), 186.

pairs from Winterbourne Gunner, near Salisbury, as the only examples south of the Thames. Nearer to Cambridge there are a pair from Ashwell, in the Ransom Collection at the Cambridge Museum; an unprovenanced but local pair, also in that museum, as well as the pair from Linton Heath already mentioned. The British Museum has four pairs from Kempston.

Very little is known of the associations of the examples from Kempston, though one of these brooches is recorded in grave 70 (16 June 1864). It may be presumed that the record [isolated as group 77 (8 February 1864)][1] of two pairs of saucer brooches of identical design refers to two of the pairs of these brooches, but the exact brooches are not known. The true associations of these are also indistinct, as this record may well mask a number of burials including disturbed cremations.

Of the other finds only two pairs have associations. Linton Heath grave 9 is particularly rich, with a great-squareheaded brooch of Leeds' class A2, fairly simple wrist-clasps, an iron strap distributor, buckles and beads. The other associated group, first published by Fox, is a grave from Barrington B, where a pair were associated with wrist-clasps of an elaborate type with good Style I ornament. For these a date in the late sixth century is preferred, while it can be suggested that the Linton Heath grave probably dates to the middle to late sixth century. A similar date may be suggested also for the St John's grave group.

APPENDIX

Applied saucer brooches of the Kempston type

Provenance Museum publication

Kempston, Beds.

B.M. 1891, 6–24, 250/251 (pair).
B.M. 1891, 6–24, 252/253 (pair).
B.M. 1891, 6–24, 256/257 (pair).
B.M. 1891, 6–24, 259/260 (pair).

(Note: all these brooches are illustrated in D. H. Kennett, 'The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Kempston, Bedfordshire: a reconsideration; (1968), unpublished.)

Frilford, Berks.

A.M. 1909,491 (pair).

Barrington, Cambs.

A.M. 1909,275 (pair).
A.M. 1909,272 (one).
A.M. 1909,851 (one).
C.M. (pair), B.75. C. F. Fox, *The Archaeology of the Cambridge Region* (1923), pl. 30.4.
C.M. 34.848.
C.M. (two pairs; one single).

Haslingfield, Cambs.

A.M. 1909,852 (pair).

[1] *A.A.S.R.* VIII (1864), 293, pl. 2.2, also *Coll. Ant.* VI (1868), 211, pl. 40.2. Grave number derives from D. H. Kennett. 'The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Kempston, Bedfordshire: a reconsideration' (unpublished).

Linton Heath grave 9
C.M. 48, 1519 (pair), *Arch. J.* XI (1854), 97.
St John's, Cambs.
C.M.: this paper, pl. I.
Ashwell, Herts.
C.M.; Ransom Collection.
Icklingham, Suffolk
A.M. 1909, 483.
Winterbourne Gunner, Wilts.
Wilts. A.M. LIX (1964), 100–1, fig. 7*a* (pair), and fig. 8*a* (pair).

II. A FRANKISH BOWL FROM BOULOGNE

In the Braybrooke Collection of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge,[1] there is a small bronze bowl whose provenance is recorded as Boulogne (museum accession number, 48.1666), but for which details of finding and associations are not known. The bowl (Fig. 1) has an out-turned rim, above a straight neck, and a rounded bellied profile. In the centre of the base there is a circular scar, indicating a now lost foot-stand. The rim has a diameter of 18·0 cm. and is virtually complete. There is no trace of it ever having been other than everted round all of its circumference.

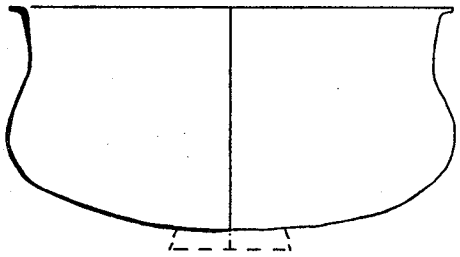


Fig. 1. Frankish bowl from Boulogne (⅓).

The bowl is a difficult piece to parallel. In many respects this bowl has a shape recalling some triangular-eared cauldrons, such as that from Krefeld-Gellep grave 1782,[2] but these vessels have ears or lugs on the rim to take a handle and no cauldron known to me bears a trace of a foot. It seems plain that by its shape the Boulogne bowl is related to the triangular-eared cauldrons of continental and British sites in the Migration Period,[3] but equally there are points of difference. The Frankish bronze bowl from Boulogne has been published in the hope that one day a closer parallel may be found.

[1] I am indebted to the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, for permission to publish the bowl.
[2] *Germania* XLII (1964), 206, no. 36, taf. 59.1.
[3] For British examples see *Ant. J.* XXXVI (1956), 192–9 and *P.C.A.S.*, p. 25 above.

Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc. Vol. LXIII (1971), pp. 31–73.

EXCAVATION OF A MOATED SITE AT ELLINGTON, HUNTINGDONSHIRE

C. F. TEBBUTT, F.S.A., GRANVILLE T. RUDD
AND STEPHEN MOORHOUSE

SUMMARY

Excavation of a moated site at Thorpe Lodge, Ellington, by C. F. Tebbutt and G. T. Rudd, for the Ministry of Public Building and Works in advance of destruction, recovered a complete plan of an aisled timber building of various constructional phases, built some time during the second and third quarter of the twelfth century and destroyed or demolished during the second half and possibly last quarter of the thirteenth century. This structure was then sealed by a moated platform erected almost immediately, occupation of this ending towards the middle of the fourteenth century. The first period produced not only a considerable quantity of associated finds, including pottery, iron, bronze, stone, bone and glass but also provided the complete plan of an aisled hall constructed around the middle of the twelfth century.

THE SITE AND EXCAVATION

C. F. TEBBUTT AND GRANVILLE T. RUDD

INTRODUCTION

Early in 1965 the Ministry of Public Building and Works were informed that Mr Pennick, owner and occupier of Thorpe Lodge Farm, Ellington, Huntingdonshire, wished to level and plough the western half of the unscheduled earthworks on his farm (TL 155704). On representations from the Ministry he willingly agreed to defer this for a few months to enable a rescue excavation to be undertaken. The authors were then asked by the Ministry to try to find and plan, in the short time available, a possible house site within the moat.

Every facility, including an extension of time, was given to us by Mr Pennick, and this was continued by Mr Palmer, to whom the farm was sold during the period of our work there. No satisfactory results however could possibly have been obtained without the great and willing help given by the staff and boys from the neighbouring Gaynes Hall Borstal Institution, by permission of the Governor. Also the regular help of Mr Colin Daines must be gratefully recorded.

In the preparation of this paper we have received much help and advice from Mr J. G. Hurst, and Mr S. Moorhouse has contributed a valuable appendix on the pottery and objects. We are also greatly indebted to Mr S. E. Rigold for his

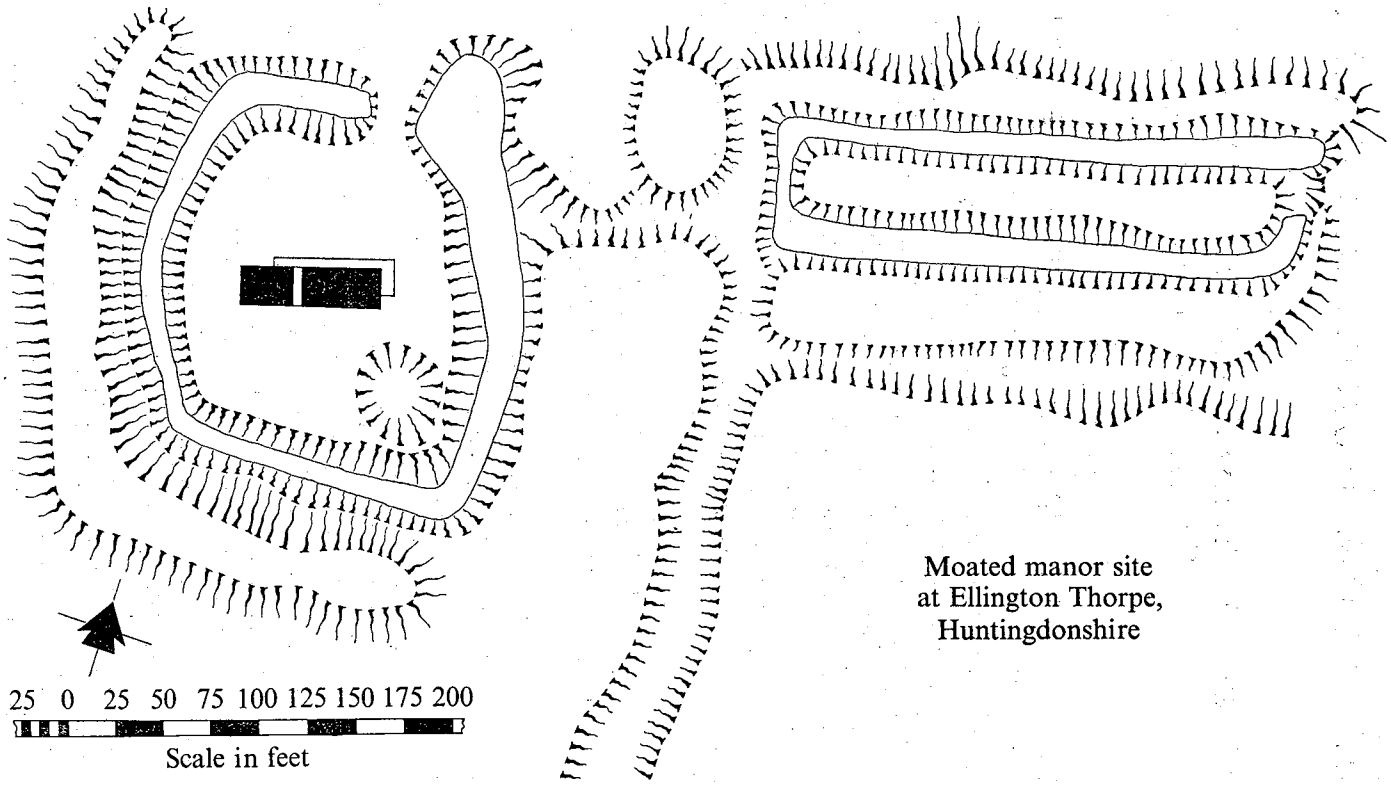


Fig. 1. The earthwork, showing position of the house.

account of the house, to Mr D. J. Allen and Mr E. S. Higgs for identifying and interpreting the animal bones, for notes from Dr D. B. Harden on the glass, from Mr S. E. Ellis on the hones, and from Dr M. J. Aitken on the archaeomagnetic dating.

The finds have been deposited in the University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

THE SITE

The earthworks at Thorpe Lodge Farm consist of a moat with rounded corners enclosing an area of about 180 ft by 130 ft (Fig. 1).[1] On the west and south sides there are significant outer banks, and an entrance on the north side. On the south side some large blocks of cut limestone, that must have come from a building, have been put down as stepping stones to cross the moat.

There are other connected earthworks (not threatened) in the next field to the east and separated from the moat site by a large hedge and ditch. In the hedge the rather rare plant Elecampane (*Inula helenium* L.) was found growing wild. This well-known medicinal herb is said to have been introduced into this country in medieval times and may well have survived from a contemporary herb garden. The eastern earthworks consist mainly of two wide parallel ditches, possibly used as fish stews.

MANORIAL HISTORY

We have not discovered much published about the Ellington manors, but it appears that there were two, both pre-Conquest possessions of the Abbey of Ramsey. It seems to be generally accepted, however, that the site we are dealing with is that of the manor house of Sibthorpe Manor, alternatively known as Grims. It was probably held by Eustace de Sibthorpe about 1200, but later the family changed their name to Grim. In 1279 the former James Sibthorpe, now James Grim, held a knight's fee of the Abbot of Ramsey jointly with Nicholas de Grafham. The Grim family seems to have died out about the middle of the fourteenth century.[2]

THE EXCAVATION[3]

The method of excavation followed was to peg out the interior of the moated area in squares of 25 ft and to dig a 5 ft by 5 ft test square down to undisturbed subsoil in each large square until signs of the house were found (Fig. 2).

The first test squares dug were on the north side where the surface was slightly higher than elsewhere. Here it was found that under about 7 in. of topsoil and turf there were 16 to 18 in. of yellow-green clay resting on an old land surface with scattered sherds of unglazed medieval pottery, and below that unmoved clay. It at

[1] These earthworks are described in *V.C.H. Hunts.* I (1926), 297.

[2] *V.C.H. Hunts.* III (1936), 44, 45, see also *Trans. Cambs. and Hunts. Arch. Soc.* VII (1952), 9–16 and pp. 21–36.

[3] A preliminary account of the excavations, together with a plan, was published in *Med. Arch.* X (1966), 202–3 and fig. 82.

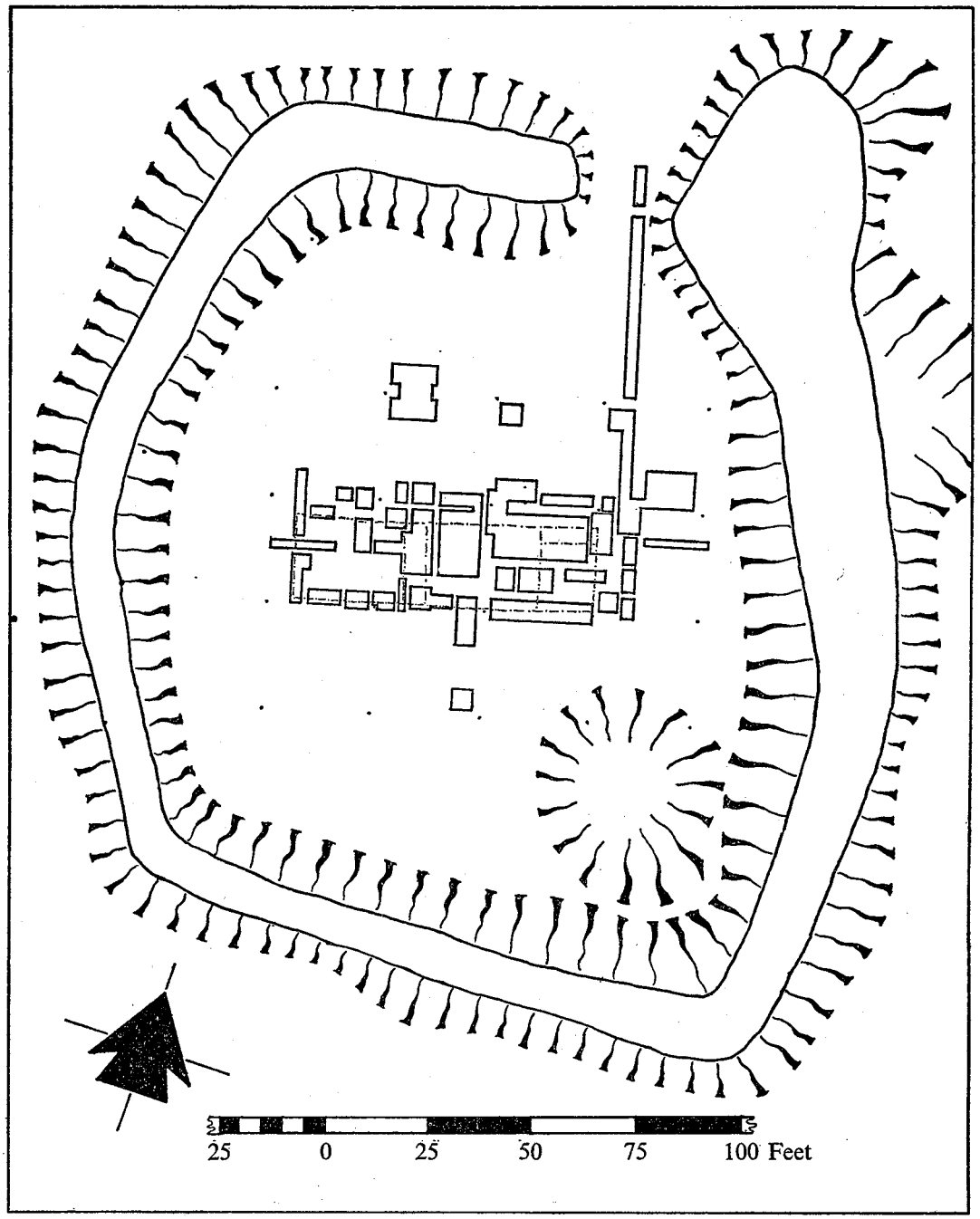


Fig. 2. Ellington. The main moat, showing excavation trenches.

once appeared highly probable that the yellow-green clay had been spread over the old land surface from the moat excavation but perhaps from an enlargement rather than the original cutting; its thickness varied, it being thicker on the north than on the south side, thus accounting for the existing higher ground surface there.

A study of the vertical sections of a number of test squares showed clearly the existence of two building periods, separated by the yellow-green clay layer, although in some cases this had been subsequently removed and replaced by gravel or cobbles (Fig. 3).

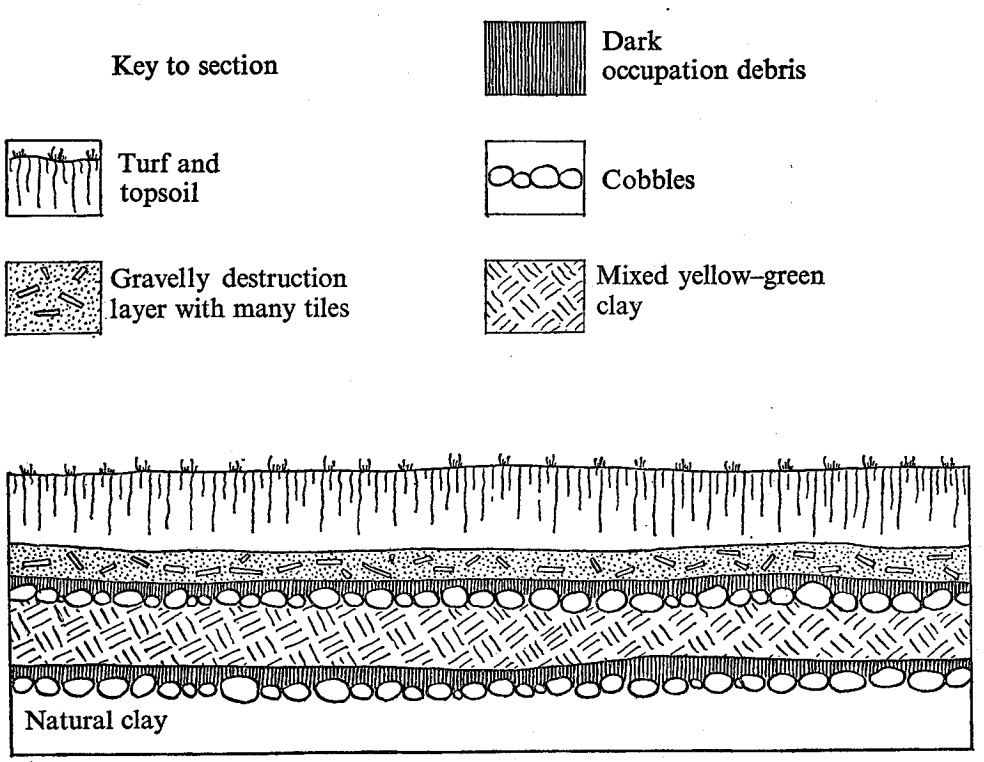


Fig. 3. Ellington. Ideal section of courtyard area, showing cobbling and occupation debris of two periods separated by clay from the digging of the moat.

The intelligible house plan (Fig. 4), and the drainage ditches associated with it, some containing pottery and other finds, were found to be effectively sealed by the yellow-green clay. Also associated with the old land surface, and under this clay, was some rather worn and scattered cobbling in the area north of the house.

It should also be recorded that in a few places, notably within the area of the house, there were signs of deeper pits or ditches filled with brown silt and covered by the earlier occupation surface. They were found to contain a few sherds of Roman pottery.

The later building period, above the yellow-green clay, produced signs of building, but neither the plan nor even the exact position of the house was ascertainable.

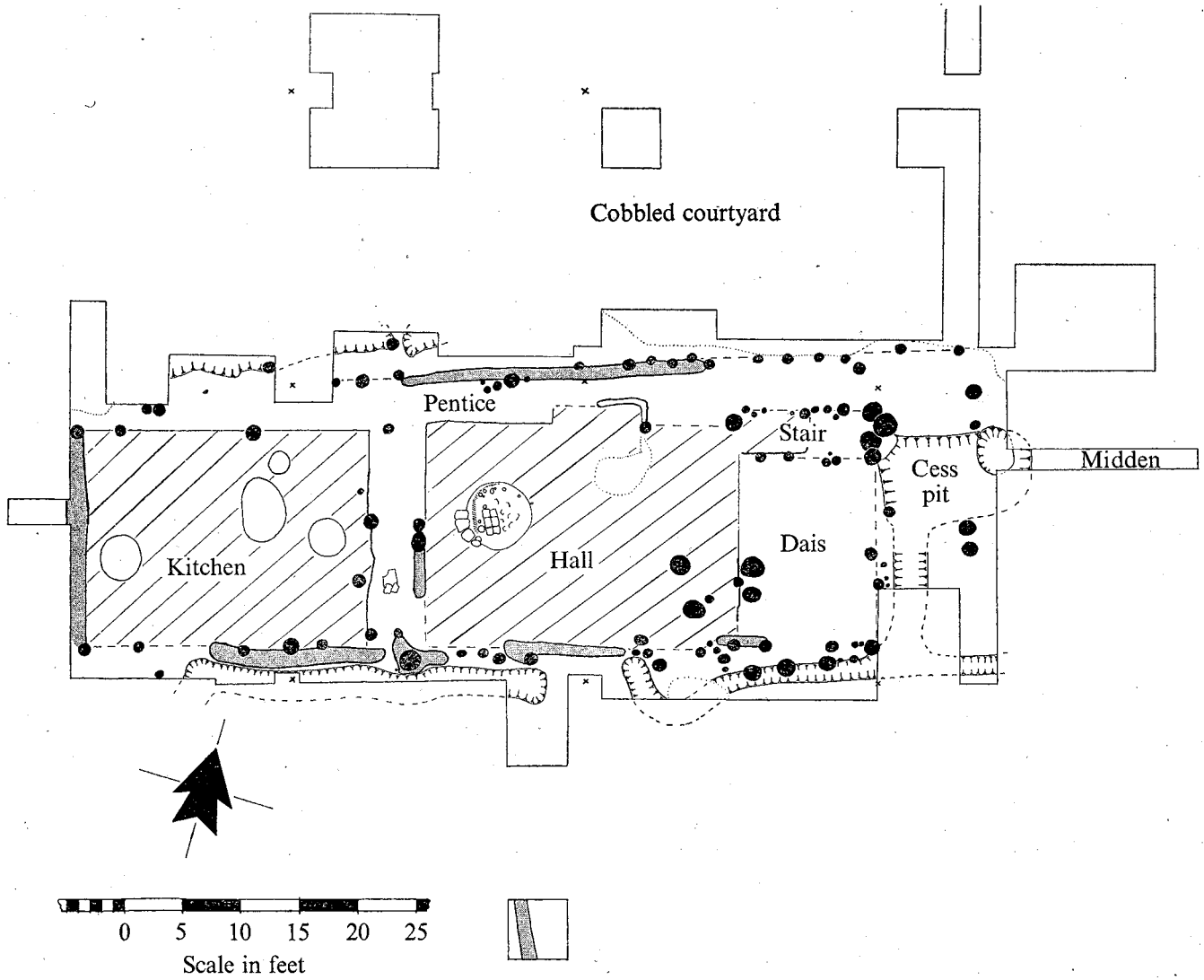


Fig. 4. Ellington. The excavated areas, showing details of the house.

A regular scatter of broken red plain tiles occurred at this level, consistently over the earlier house site but thinning to the north of it and increasing to the south. With these were found a few sherds of glazed medieval pottery. Also associated with this period was a regular cobble layer, in good condition, indicating a cobbled yard. This was traced from immediately east of the earlier house site to, and through, the present causeway entrance over the moat on the north side. Pottery sherds, similar to those found in the tile scatter, occurred on and among these cobbles.

As no trace of the foundations of this later house was found it is suggested that it was a tiled timber-framed building, whose ground-walls, in a district with no natural stone, had been quickly and totally robbed once the house was demolished. However it should be noted that an area left unexcavated south of the early house could have contained remains of this house.

THE EARLY HOUSE

It was unfortunate that the house site was not found until late in the year, for over 100 cubic yards of soil had to be removed to expose its plan fully. In the later stages the 2-ft deep excavation filled with water which remained, deepening with every rain. Fortunately all post holes and other features were recorded as found, but detailed examination of parts of the floor had to be abandoned and section drawings over the site could not be done. What remained of the house were the holes for posts supporting the roof, walls, and probable upper storey, some beam slots, clay floors, hearths, and rainwater trenches.

The overall length of the house was 66 ft (about 20 m.). The easternmost 12 ft was probably partitioned from the hall. It appears to have had a staircase or ladder to an upper room represented by a double line of posts at the north end. The floor level at this end of the hall was extremely clean and may well have had a wooden covering. It is difficult to account for the pattern of large post holes in this area, and they may belong to a period before the house was built.

The hall had a large hearth raised by layers of clay and contained by edging stones. It had been renewed a number of times and at the time of its last use had a surface of pre-fired square clay tiles. Round the hearth the clay floor of the hall was stained black and red from the scattering of the fire embers.

There appear to have been pentices or outshots about 4 ft wide, running along the north and west sides of the hall, but on part of the east end the larger posts suggest a more substantial building.

To the west of the hall was the attached kitchen, measuring 24 ft by 15 ft, with several hearths. The west wall appeared to have been of clay. Unfortunately the flooding of the site and the shortness of time did not permit us to explore fully the interior, to determine if it had been partitioned or not.

While the interior of all parts of the house was reasonably clear of domestic rubbish, on the outside the shallow rainwater gutters running parallel with the walls were full of broken pottery and animal bones. Among these were objects of carved

bone, bronze, and iron, and parts of lava querns and hones. This rubbish had indeed overflowed the gutters, spreading over the land surface outwards from the house. The accumulation of rubbish was most marked on the south side of the house.

There were latrine pits just outside the east end of the house, but as they had been dug through the rubbish layer they were either a late feature of the house or perhaps belonged to the second building period.

Except around the west wall of the kitchen only very small amounts of clay daub were found in the excavation. This fact, together with the absence of roof tiles, suggests that this earlier house was of wood with a roof of thatch. From Mr Moorhouse's study of the pottery it would appear to date from the third quarter of the twelfth to the last quarter of the thirteenth century.

SUMMARY

In 1965 the unscheduled eastern earthwork at Thorpe Lodge Farm, Ellington, Huntingdonshire (TL 155704) was about to be levelled, and a rescue excavation was undertaken by the authors at the request of the Ministry of Public Building and Works.

The site was moated and was almost certainly that of the manor house of the manor Sibthorpe or Grim.

The area within the moat was examined. The earliest occupation found was in the Roman period. Remains of a house, probably built in the late twelfth to the late thirteenth century, were found and planned, and are described below by Mr S. E. Rigold.

After the destruction of the house it is probable that a moat was dug round the site and some of the spoil used to raise the level of the land enclosed. A second house was then built, probably on or near the site of the first one. No sign of this was found except its cobbled courtyard and a scatter of plain tiles from its roof. Pottery from its level suggests this phase dates from the late thirteenth to the mid fourteenth century.

ARCHAEOMAGNETIC DATING

Dr M. J. Aitken, F.S.A., kindly took samples from the hearth and reported as follows:

Orientated samples from the hearth were taken for archaeomagnetic measurements (M. J. Aitken and H. N. Hawley, *Archaeometry* IX (1966), 187–97). The samples containing tile were unsatisfactory; this is likely to be due either to the fact that the tiles were cracked (indicating movement since firing) or to the fact that the temperature reached while in the hearth had not been high enough (600–700 °C) to erase the magnetization acquired when the tiles were originally baked on fabrication. Four samples of the reddened clay underneath the tiles gave an average value for the ancient direction of angle of dip (I) equal to $50{\cdot}3 \pm 3{\cdot}9$ and declination (D) equal to $10{\cdot}9$ E $\pm$ $1{\cdot}4$. The wide limits of error quoted reflect the scatter of the remanent directions found in the individual samples and the result is of doubtful reliability. Because of this high degree of unreliability, one cannot do more than say that the result is not inconsistent with a date somewhere in the medieval period.

DISCUSSION AND THE FINDS

STEPHEN MOORHOUSE

WITH CONTRIBUTIONS BY

S. E. RIGOLD, IAN H. GOODALL, S. E. ELLIS,
D. B. HARDEN, D. J. ALLEN AND E. S. HIGGS

DATING

As the documentary evidence relating to the site is far from conclusive in determining the terminal dates of occupation for both the timber hall and moated platform phases, the evidence rests solely on that of the finds recovered, in particular the pottery.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE TIMBER HALL

The main ceramic types represented in this phase emphasizes the lengthy occupation of the timber hall, and its various constructional phases, spanning more than a century. It is unfortunate that the site yielded little stratigraphy other than the two distinct pre- and post-moated platform phases, for it is evident from the ceramic types that the occupation of the underlying hall bridges the vital transition period between late Saxon and the emergence of truly medieval pottery types.

The earliest ceramic groups are the later St Neots, Stamford and Early Medieval sandy wares and it is on these that the period of construction for the timber hall rests. A date in the twelfth century is indicated by the negative occurrence of any true St Neots[1] wares characterized by the small everted rim cooking pots and inturned bowl forms, which were replaced during the twelfth century by the forms represented at Ellington; developed jugs (Fig. 6, nos. 19 to 22, 24 and 25), vertical rim bowls[2] (no. 29) and cooking pots with thumb-impressed rims[3] (nos. 16 and 17). These wares continue throughout the thirteenth century as seen at St Neots Priory.[4] The evidence for later St Neots wares and Early Medieval sandy wares is discussed on pp. 49–52 below. The Stamford ware is of little value in assessing a close date for construction of the hall, for Saxo-Norman Stamford ware body sherds are virtually incapable of being given a close date at present, other than saying that the group as a whole fall within the later Saxo-Norman Stamford ware range; the Developed Stamford ware could have reached the site any time after the middle of the twelfth century when it is thought to have been introduced. It may be significant that Saxo-

[1] J. G. Hurst, 'Saxo-Norman Pottery in East Anglia: Part 1', *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* XLIX (1956), 43–70.

[2] From the mid-twelfth-century castle site at Eaton Socon, *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LVIII (1965), 71, fig. 14 no. 8 and p. 72, and from an early twelfth-century building at Eynesbury, *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LIV (1961), 87, fig. 3, nos. 1–3.

[3] *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LVIII (1965), 72.

[4] *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LIV (1966), 56 and references.

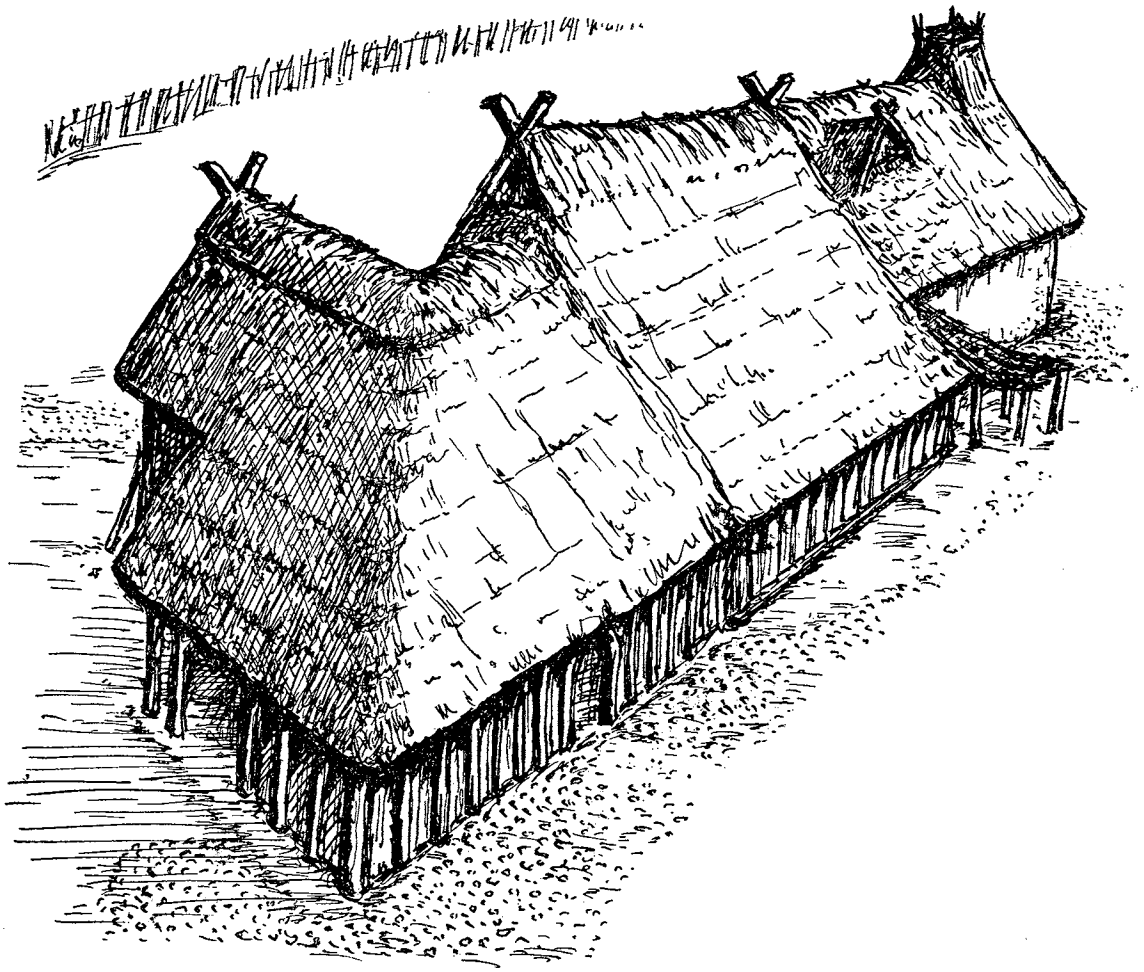


Fig. 5. Ellington. Reconstruction of the aisled timber hall in its final phase, from the north-east.

Norman Stamford ware, i.e. non-Developed, is at present not thought to run contemporary with the Developed ware.[1]

A date therefore in the second half of the twelfth century could be suggested for the initial construction of the timber hall, the evidence of the Stamford ware suggesting a date during the changeover period from Saxo-Norman to Developed Stamford ware. This at present is thought to occur around the middle of the twelfth century. Allowing for a reasonable period of tolerance, a date generally in the second and third quarter of the twelfth century could be suggested, with an emphasis on the third quarter, allowing a survival margin for the Saxo-Norman Stamford ware. Without the help of further groups of this general period to define more closely later

[1] I am grateful to Miss Christine Mahany for suggesting the term 'Saxo-Norman Stamford ware' for plain and lead glazed wares, differentiating them from 'Developed Stamford ware' with the characteristic copper-green glaze. This terminology will be adopted in the forthcoming Stamford monograph.

St Neots ware types and its derivatives together with Early Medieval sandy wares, it is at the moment impossible to give a more positive date.

The construction of the moated platform and its occupation

The timber hall destruction, and construction of the overlying moated platform can be regarded as the same in relative date terms. The dating of this is closely related to the occupation of the platform, and the two must be considered together. The occurrence of large quantities of Lyveden-type wares,[1] particularly cooking vessels, suggests its ever-increasing predominance from the second quarter of the thirteenth century and a date well into the thirteenth century for the hall destruction. Lyveden-type cooking pots clearly dominate domestic cooking vessels associated with the moated platform. Brill-type vessels were found in both phases,[2] of types which can generally be dated to the second half of the thirteenth and early fourteenth century; one body sherd (not illustrated) was found in the timber hall occupation while two others (Fig. 11, nos. 102 and 103), from a different vessel came from the moated platform occupation. The non-local jugs (nos. 96 to 101) sealed below the platform span a general date throughout the second half of the thirteenth century. A date in the second half of the thirteenth century could therefore be suggested for the construction of the moat, possibly with an emphasis on the last quarter to give time for the quantity of non-local jugs to accumulate on the site. The manor changed hands at least twice during the second half of the thirteenth century, at an unspecified date and in 1298.[3] The new owner could have brought about a fundamental change in the site by the construction of the moated platform at either of these dates.

The period of occupation associated with the moated platform can be stated with more precision, for it has been demonstrated above that the platform was constructed during the second half, and possibly in the last quarter or late thirteenth century. The ceramic finds are scarce from this phase but illustrate a limited period of use by their conformity, only Lyveden-type cooking pots, of which there were a quantity, Lyveden jugs and the various non-local vessels, being found. The consensus of dating for these jugs would indicate a date not too far into the fourteenth century, somewhere during the first half or middle of the century. The male line of the Grims died out for a period towards the middle of the fourteenth century and it is to this date that the final abandoning of the site as a manor house can most likely be referred, the complementary meagre archaeological evidence not being in conflict with this date.

[1] Discussed by J. G. Hurst, *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LIX (1966), 93. For interim reports on the Lyveden excavations and pottery types, see *Northampton Museum and Art Gallery Journal*, II (Dec. 1967), 2–37 and *ibid.* V (June 1969), 3–50. The final excavation reports with a full discussion of the dating, types and distribution of Lyveden ware will be published in the same *Journal* (1971) *forthcoming* and (1972). This site is possibly the one referred to between 1140 and 1153 when Earl Simon of Northampton granted to Odo de Dammartin 'as much (land) as the site of the castle comprises' at Boughton in Southoe; quoted in Sir Frank Stenton *The First Century of English Feudalism: 1066–1166* (O.U.P. 2nd ed. 1963), 197 from British Museum, Add. Chart. 11233. See also Derek Renn *Norman Castles in Britain* (John Baker 1968), 314–5.

[2] *Oxoniensia*, IV (1939), 89–146, especially pp. 123–4 for the dating of the present type.

[3] *V.C.H. Hunts.* III (1936), 45–6.

In conclusion it can be said that medieval occupation of the site commenced some time during the middle quarters of the twelfth century, an emphasis on the third quarter, with the erection of the aisled timber hall, which, after undergoing a lengthy occupation of a century or more and various constructional alterations and additions, was either demolished or destroyed during the second half and possibly fourth quarter of the thirteenth century. A large moated enclosure was then almost immediately constructed over the site of the hall, covering it to a depth of 18 in. Documentary, combined with the archaeological evidence, suggests that the site was finally abandoned towards the middle of the fourteenth century. No subsequent occupation has taken place on the site, save for the occasional picnic gathering, as evidenced by the iron knife (Fig. 12, no. 23).

THE EARLY MEDIEVAL TIMBER HALL

By S. E. Rigold

Even if the moat is secondary its position and alignment seem to be determined by the early house at its centre, rather than by the subsequent one. Though not large, the early building is certainly the capital messuage of a moat-worthy tenement. The plan (Fig. 4) is preserved by deliberate 'blanketing-over' with the substratum of the later house, and since much of the early cobbled paving remained, it may be presumed that the total absence of stone ground-walls means that these never existed. There were remains of a west wall, of clay, without stone footings; otherwise the plan was indicated by eaves-drip gullies, the edges of the surrounding cobbled paving, slots for sole plates, again without any stone foundation, and, above all, by post holes. The building was thus of timber, or of clay reinforced with timber, but made use of posts set in the ground both for main, weight-bearing members and for those parts of the side walls that were not on ground-level plates, at a time that is little if any earlier than the first attested instances of proper timber-framing, with padstones, ground-walls and raised plates, distributed from Kent to South Lincolnshire.[1] Likewise, since all the roofing tile from the site appears to come from the later building and no roofing flags were found, it appears to have had its roof thatched, or possibly shingled or boarded, at a time little if any before the widespread attestation of tiles, slates or other hard coverings in superior buildings throughout the 'Lowland Zone'[2]. The building was backward, 'vernacular' and relatively small for its social position. At Brome, Suffolk,[3] however, in a comparable context, there was a heavy, three-bay post-hole structure of two phases, the second, at least, of which should be even later than the primary build at Ellington.

[1] Among such buildings assigned to the twelfth century, and not in every case the very late twelfth, are the halls, or their internal post-structure, at Hereford, Leicester, Farnham and South Witham (excavated), the earliest timber belfries, such as Brookland, Kent, and perhaps the earlier barn at Cressing Temple, Essex.

[2] For tiled roofs, cf. for instance the Warram Percy Hall; for slates, the earliest hard roofs at Carisbrooke Castle. But such instances appear to be *late* twelfth century.

[3] *J. Brit. Arch. Ass.* 3rd. ser. XXXIII (1970), 89–121.

Structurally, apart from the post holes (which did not appear to give any indication as to whether the posts were inserted from the bole up, or reversed according to the unvarying practice in all but the earliest framed buildings) two types of timber walling are represented: (*A*) a form of screen-walling, based on ground-level plates close to, but just clear of, the structural posts, possibly with a filled frame, possibly made of close-set or interlocked stave-work (e.g. riven boards, tongued and grooved), and (*B*) a form of walling represented by close-set post holes, with regular intervals, varying from part to part of the building, but all narrow enough to be filled by riven fillets or planks (i.e. the form of stave-work from which 'stud and panel' evolved). Both types of walling have a long history, and at North Elmham, Norfolk, before the Conquest, the close-set post type supersedes the low-set plate type.[1] No such sequence may be assumed at Ellington, and the choice may be dictated by the type of structure (e.g. one- or two-storeyed), but the variations in both types suggest that more than one phase is in fact represented in the house, and it is quite probable that both basic types had a generally similar, vertical, stave-like appearance. Where no trace of either type of timber walling appears, e.g. throughout most of the 'kitchen', clay-lump walls may have sufficed, giving the combination of solid (cob or rubble) and vertical timber (now usually stud-and-panel) walling that is still to be found in the 'Highland Zone'.

The plan gives the immediate impression of a single range of surprising regularity – two parallel rows of roof-supporting posts, separated by the suitable tie-beam length of 18 ft (5·4 m.), with an outshot or aisle along the greater part, of the north side, but on no part of the south, and a terminal outshot at the east. This is not, in principle, unexpected; aisled halls are closely related to aisled barns; leases in Essex from the Chapter of St Paul's testify to the existence of barns with one or two aisles and terminal outshots by the mid twelfth century,[2] and single-aisled halls are known from later centuries.[3] If this interpretation were correct it would imply a unitary, probably hipped, roof, such as remained typical, until the late Middle Ages, of Kent, Sussex, adjacent parts of Essex and Hampshire, and a considerable area around West Suffolk, and may well have been once more widely distributed. In most of Essex and East and Middle Anglia, however, the alternative method, of roofing each cell separately, prevailed, and it will be seen that this is a more probable interpretation in the case of Ellington.

The division of the apparently single range into distinct compartments is clear: at the west a kitchen, with three or more hearths, not necessarily in use at the same time, and distinguished by a concentration of pot-waste at this end; then a hall, with a central hearth and a short screen or reredos against an apparent cross-passage between it and the kitchen;[4] then a second and wider cross-passage and a much more heavily timbered compartment that almost certainly carried a loft or staged floor; finally, the apparent terminal outshot. The penultimate compartment has been called

[1] Recent excavations by P. Wade-Martins.

[2] *The Domesday of St Paul's*, ed. W. H. Hale (Camden Soc. 69, 1858).

[3] Cf. E. T. Mason, *Framed Buildings of the Weald* (2nd ed. 1969), p. 22.

[4] This is shorter than, but reminiscent of, the screen-wall, interrupted at the ends and without doors, at the high end of some of the simpler Kentish halls, e.g. at North Cray, described by P. J. Tester.

a 'dais': this is almost certainly wrong – it is much too far from the hearth, and its lower floor would be either a screened-off inner room, or embryonic parlour, or more probably for 'service' or storage. In any case, this sequence is not to be read as a forerunner of the 'service-hall/parlour' arrangement, reading from the west; a kitchen, which would normally be separately roofed even if on a common axis with hall, is not a 'service' room in the same sense as the later 'buttery'; the cross-passage between it and the hall is not an entrance-passage, as it is blocked at both ends, and the entrance-passage would have been either that adjoining the heavily timbered penultimate compartment (which may have contained the 'service') and is approached by a tongue of cobbled path, or even further west, where the eaves-drip ditches are interrupted, or possibly both at different periods.

The structure must be examined in the light of the supposition, not so much that the east end is the 'low' end, in the later sense, but that the kitchen is at a different end from the chamber over the storage or 'service' (the *domus*, as distinct from the *aula* of the St Paul's leases).[1] The possibility must also be considered that the apparent outshot and terminal outshot, which are not on absolutely the same strict alignment as the western parts of the building, may represent parts of an earlier building incorporated in the later range. This, however, is not a necessary hypothesis: the strict layout in fact stops short with the hall, and does not even include the apparent cross-passage at its eastern end. It is preferable to treat the whole eastern part of the range as a separate structure, from the point where the ground-level plates give way to walling with close-set posts, and to envisage the possibility that the eastern section may have been roofed north to south.

The western part has a series of posts at regular intervals on the northern alignment, matched by a series nearly as regular on the south. One post hole on the northern line is missing, but its place is taken by an interruption in the floor surface. It will be seen that a post is not strictly required here, though a bay-division is necessary. Reading from the west, the bays indicated by the post holes are: a short bay of 4 ft (1·2 m.), perhaps a terminal outshot but more probably a smoke-bay, then two of 11 ft (3·3 m.), comprising the kitchen; two more bays of 11 ft, comprising the hall, without the eastern cross-passage of 7 ft (2·1 m.) width. There is no doubt that the two rooms were laid out as one, but it seems that the arcade formed by the northern range of posts comprised the clay-filled outer wall of an aisleless kitchen and the internal arcade, or quasi-arcade of an aisled hall, with a timber outer wall to the aisle, and perhaps, though all known analogies are later, a base-cruck rising from the aisle wall to support the upper plate of the arcade, clear of the hearth, at the bay-division. In view of the wide distribution of this feature in the late thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, such a thing would be by no means out of place in Huntingdonshire.[2] If the absence of the post hole can be taken as decisive, this would be the

[1] See p. 43, n. 2 above.

[2] No complete distribution published, but M. W. Alcock is compiling one. Suffice it to say that the feature has been observed from Kent to Hampshire, and as far north as Leicestershire and South Lincolnshire, without taking into cognizance more westerly examples.

earliest known case of this method of eliminating a post in the medial truss of a hall. There may have been a short pentice leading to the aisle from the rear of the kitchen, but only a very awkward access to the western part of the northern outshot, provisionally designated 'Pentice'. The resultant one-aisled hall, excluding the eastern cross-passage, would have been approximately square.

The heavily timbered eastern section begins with the eastern cross-passage, which is well delimited by the substantial posts on the line of the aisle-wall, by a short screen attached to the north-east post of the hall, as though a sort of recurved lateral sphere, by a patch of cobble on the same transverse line, and by obvious entrance-features at the south. It is possible that the passage, as well as the northern and eastern outshots, were all floored over, but in view of the insufficient transverse support it is much more probable that only the part contained by the passage-areas was floored – an area 12 ft (3·6 m.) by a little over the width of the hall. Ignoring the four extremely massive post holes, which are considered by the excavators to belong properly to a tall structure of some other period, this central part shows several signs of reconstruction, particularly in the south wall and in a partitioned-off compartment at the north. That in the south wall suggests some shoring-up, or perhaps under-building of a not yet very competent jetty by posts set in an eaves-drip channel which is significantly further from the line of the ground-floor wall than elsewhere. The northern compartment almost certainly contained a stair to the upper floor. The provision of an internal stair seems advanced at this date, but if in fact there was a similarly inexperienced junction between the heavy roof-bearing posts at the northern angles of the compartment, and floor-bearing posts to which the stair was notionally external, this could account for the obvious failure and replacement near the angle. The eastern chamber-block may well have had a lighted gable at the south and outshots on the two exposed sides. Indeed, given the outshots, the upper chamber can only have been lighted this way. The eastern outshot seems to have stopped short and been partly open. This interpretation implies an elementary cross-wing. It would be dangerous to speculate about the always uneasy junction with the hall, but the height and pitch of roofs which the most likely heights of the various posts and storeys would entail would allow for a rather lower apex to the wing, and consequently for a gablet on the leeward end of the hall, which would have rendered a lower less likely.

In the earliest phase of the house the two-storeyed eastern section may not have existed. This phase may be represented by the parallel rows of posts, excluding the eastern cross-passage, and the eaves-drip gullies, but not the corresponding beam-slots, thus permitting entrance to the hall where the gullies are interrupted. It is suggested that, in this phase, the kitchen as well as the hall may have had a rear outshot, of which suggestions were found, and that the four heavy post holes in trapezoidal arrangement, which lie athwart the later eastern passage and two-storeyed section, may have carried some sort of watchtower, perhaps to be compared with that at Lismahon, Ireland.[1]

[1] *Med. Arch.* III (1959), fig. 57 opp. p. 154 and for a reconstruction, p. 151, fig. 56. I owe this suggestion to Mr S. Moorhouse, who also provided the parallel.

The very tentative reconstruction (Fig. 5), envisaged from the north-east, under evening light, incorporates all suggestions above that concern the final phase. A hood or chimney is given over the suggested smoke-bay and, more speculatively, a lateral gablet over the other main hearth in the kitchen. The tripartite nature of the plan is emphasized.

BROADER ASPECTS OF THE SITE[1]

The Thorpe Lodge moat forms one of a group of such earthworks in the immediate area, situated mainly on the boulder and blue clays with a few on the gravels lining either side of the Ouse, which in turn form part of a lesser concentration more regionally.[2] Attention has recently been drawn to an increasing number of moat excavations, covering a wide area of southern England, that have produced earlier buildings sealed below the moat upcast.[3]

This among other features is seen more locally in the Ouse Valley and its hinterland, where since the turn of the century a number of moated sites have been excavated, producing a variety of results. Excavations at Barton Moats[4] in 1907–8 located a ditch dug into natural, containing a quantity of finds including a complete cooking pot of later twelfth-century date lying on a hearth of set stones in the bottom of the ditch.[5] This ditch was sealed by the upcast from the moat to a depth of 3 ft, with a prick spur of later thirteenth–fourteenth-century date lying on a cobbled area above this. Combined work by C. F. Tebbutt and T. C. Lethbridge from the 1940s onwards not only laid the foundations for the study of late Saxon pottery in the area but also provided significant information relating to the construction and occupation of moated sites, although the relevance of their discoveries was not recognized at the time as forming part of a much wider pattern. Excavations at Flambards Manor, Meldreth[6] in 1933 produced evidence of Saxo-Norman occupation beneath the moat with later settlement during the thirteenth century; a period to which the erection of the moat can be attributed, for material from this phase contained predominantly harsh sandy wares with relatively few St Neots wares. Rescue work on a circular moated enclosure at Town Orchards, Southoe[7], one of two circular moats excavated

[1] I am grateful to J. G. Hurst for initiating this study and for suggesting possible lines of research.

[2] *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LII (1969), 60, fig. 1, originally published in *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LVIII (1965), 39, fig. 1. The present site is just off the map in the top right-hand corner. For the regional setting of the Ouse valley group of moats see B. K. Roberts, 'Moats and Mottes', *Med. Arch.* VIII (1964), 220, fig. 75. For initial modern studies on the subject see B. K. Roberts, 'Moated Sites', *Amateur Historian* (Winter 1962), pp. 34–8 and F. V. Emery, 'Moated Settlements in England' *Geography*, XLVII (1962), 378–88.

[3] J. G. Hurst in D. Gillian Hurst and John G. Hurst, 'Excavation of Two Moated Sites: Milton, Hampshire, and Ashwell, Hertfordshire', *J. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* XXX (1967), 83–6. This does not appear to be the case in northern England on the evidence of sites excavated to date cf. Mrs H. E. Jean Le Patourel, *Some Medieval Moated Sites in Yorkshire* (Soc. Med. Arch. Monograph), *forthcoming*.

[4] Rev. F. C. Walker, 'Report on the Excavations at Barton'', *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* XII, no. 51 (1908), 296–312, see also *V.C.H. Cambs.* II (1948), 14–15. Grid ref. centred at TL 408557.

[5] *Ibid.*, plan opp. p. 300 and pl. XXVIII opp. p. 309.

[6] Referred to in *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* XXXV (1933–4), xxviii and pp. 101–3.

[7] G. L. Clayton, 'Southoe Manor. Finds on "Town Orchard" Site', *Trans. Cambs. Hunts. Arch. Soc.* VII (1952), 1–6 and pls. I to III.

in the parish, produced a quantity of pottery ranging from St Neots wares through to Brill-type products of the early fourteenth century. Sherds of thirteenth-century date came from 1·09 m. (3 ft 6 in.) below the surface of the moat and presumably on the old ground surface (Pl. II, nos. 8 and 9), and together with the St Neots wares indicate earlier occupation on the site. The bulk of the later jug sherds were found in the ditch with earlier sherds in the primary silt; the finds indicate a terminal date for the site around the middle of the fourteenth century. This evidence is somewhat confusing, for the other circular moat at Manor Farm, Southoe,[1] excavated by Tebbutt and Lethbridge in 1937, produced archaeological evidence that was not contradictory with that of the historical events of the early thirteenth century, in that the pottery was mainly of St Neots wares and the manor was divided into three in 1219, the consensus of evidence suggesting a decline in the site's occupation after that date; a date for the moat construction therefore lying in the twelfth century. Investigation of 'The Temple', Isleham[2] suggested that the moat was constructed during the fourteenth century. Peter Addyman partially excavated the square moat at Shooters Hollow Farm, Buckden,[3] where thirteenth-century occupation was located beneath the platform. An isolated moated complex at Archers Wood to the south of Sawtry was tested by E. W. Joyce in 1967,[4] a small area of the main moated platform being examined. Occupation of the excavated area was limited to the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries, but this cannot be regarded as evidence of occupation for the platform as whole nor for its construction, as the area uncovered was extremely limited. The site has been tentatively identified as a monastic home-grange belonging to Sawtry Abbey, which owned the manor of Sawtry throughout the Middle Ages.

The suggestion that the timber hall at Ellington lay within an enclosure roughly defined by the course of the later moat (p. 42), and therefore suggesting the existence of a sub-circular enclosure of some kind in the twelfth century, reflects the evidence of other moated sites in the neighbourhood. Archaeological investigation has shown the circular moat at Manor Farm, Southoe, to belong to the twelfth century, while the near-by moat of similar form at Town Orchards, Southoe, was certainly occupied during the first half of the fourteenth century, but the evidence for its construction is not sufficiently conclusive to date it. It is possible that it does belong to the twelfth century on comparative moat forms, but this assumption must be voiced with some caution at this early stage of moat studies, purely on the superficial physical form alone, especially with the lack of well-attested twelfth-century moats of domestic nature. Credence may however be lent to this suggestion by excavations recently carried out on one of two adjacent moats at Brome,[5] Suffolk, where the construction of the circular moat was related to the erection of one of two aisled timber halls of

[1] T. C. Lethbridge and C. F. Tebbutt, 'Southoe Manor', *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* XXXVIII (1939), 158–63.
[2] *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* XXXVIII (1935–6), xiii and *V.C.H. Cambs.* II (1948), 33.
[3] Information from P. V. Addyman and C. F. Tebbutt.
[4] See pp. 75–86 of these *Proceedings*.
[5] Stanley E. West, 'Brome, Suffolk. The Excavation of a Moated Site, 1967', *J. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* 3rd ser. XXXIII (1970), 89–121.

twelfth-century date. These widely dispersed sites would suggest that simple moats of circular form are likely to be of twelfth-century date or at least earlier than the more angular moats of the later thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, but only excavation of such sites could affirm this.

A number of Hertfordshire moats have provided evidence for both their date of construction and underlying buildings sealed by the moat upcast. Trial trenching at Coldharbour Moat, Essendon,[1] showed that stone sleeper walls lay on natural sealed by 1 ft of clay deposited over them when the moat was excavated some time during the fourteenth century. At near-by Pancake Hall, Welham Green,[2] a rubbish deposit of *c.* 1300 was found on natural while a later group was found to overlap on to the moat lip, the occupation of the moated area terminating towards or around the middle of the fourteenth century; it was thought that the occupation of the site as a whole was confined to a limited period ranging from the later thirteenth to the middle of the fourteenth century. Four hearths and domestic rubbish sealed below the unfinished moated site at Scales Park, Nuthampstead,[3] were interpreted as evidence left by the moat construction workers, but in the light of recent evidence it is now more likely that they represent earlier occupation on the site of the moat, the evidence of more personal domestic items found like the ivory pendant, strengthening this suggestion. The dangers of trial trenching are well illustrated here, in that timber buildings of post-hole and beam-slot construction, as many of these earlier buildings were, are easily missed. The advantage in terms of recognizing and gaining a complete timber plan is well illustrated by the Ellington excavations. The moat around the later manor house at Northolt was constructed *c.* 1300,[4] sealing part of the late Saxon and early medieval village beneath it. A similar feature was noted at Westbury Moat, Ashwell,[5] where the moat constructed during the fourteenth century was erected over timber buildings unconnected with an earlier phase of the manor house and probably belonging to the early village. The first phase of the later extensive Manor of the More at Rickmansworth[6] consisted of a rectangular moated area divided into two areas, the northern enclosure being interpreted as a cattle compound while the southern contained the dwelling house. Pottery dates the moat construction to the period 1250–1300, but earlier thirteenth-century pottery was present and documentary evidence implies occupation on the site during the late twelfth century.

This brief survey of excavated moated sites in the area generally to the north and north-west of London corroborates and extends available information relating to

[1] Lieut. K. Rutherford Davies, 'An Account of the Excavations at Coldharbour Moat, in Friday Field, Essendon, Herts.', *Trans. East Herts. Arch. Soc.* XI, pt. 1 (1941), 11–25.

[2] J. P. C. Kent, 'Pancake Hall, Welham Green: Excavation of Homestead Moat', *Trans. East Herts. Arch. Soc.* XIII, pt. 1 (1950), 33–43.

[3] Audrey Williams, 'A Homestead Moat at Nuthampstead, Hertfordshire', *Ant. J.* XXVI (1946), 138–44.

[4] J. G. Hurst, 'The kitchen area of Northolt manor, Middlesex', *Med. Arch.* V (1961), 211–99, especially p. 239.

[5] D. G. and J. G. Hurst, *J. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* 3rd ser. XXX (1967), 65–82.

[6] Martin Biddle, Lawrance Barfield and Alan Millard, 'The excavation of the Manor of the More, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire', *Arch. J.* CXVI (1959), 136–99 especially p. 143 fig. 2 and p. 144.

such sites on a more general basis; namely that where evidence is available the majority of moats excavated were constructed during the period 1250–1350, the bulk falling within the late thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries.[1] Although the mass of the evidence on a wider scale suggests a *floruit* for moat construction of domestic use during this period, further work is required to determine the form of earlier moats of the twelfth century and to resolve whether the circular form of those at Manor Farm, Southoe, or Brome are characteristic of the period. The present-day superficial plans of moated sites present a highly complexed problem. A wide range in function is to be expected, ranging from monastic to vernacular ownership, and whether domestically occupied in terms of dwelling houses or used for cattle enclosures. Extensive documentary research would indicate the nature of a specific site and be of invaluable assistance in assessing individual sites and the results likely to be forthcoming from their extensive excavation. It is only on this basis that a clearer picture of particular types of moats and their complexed moated systems, etc. will be forthcoming. An added feature of extensive moat excavations is that under large enclosures nearer to and on the outskirts of villages, uncontaminated evidence is likely to be gained for Late Saxon and Early Medieval village morphology, as seen by the excavations at Ashwell, Northolt and other more widespread sites.

It is only on a more detailed study of regionally grouped[2] sites that significant results are likely in terms of moat form and size,[3] their respective dates, etc. after a general trend has been established on a more widespread pattern. The wealth of available evidence from excavations in the region[4] has made it possible to outline briefly some conclusions in the above survey. It is hoped to extend these, combining both archaeological and documentary evidence, and to publish the results in a future volume of these *Proceedings*.

THE POTTERY

The Ellington material in its regional setting

The earliest groups from Ellington form one of the first local assemblages dating to the second half of the twelfth century and have provided additional evidence for the

[1] Examination of a number of *Inquisitions post-mortem* covering the later thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries show a marked increase in the numbers of moats referred to. For instance the simple moat and fishponds at Manor Farm, Abington Pigotts, Cambridgeshire (grid. ref. centred at TL 305448) were erected by 1293, for in that year John of Abingdon left a 'messuage containing six acres and a ditch', cit. in *V.C.H. Cambs.* II (1948), 14. The increase in specific references to moated enclosures as such during this period may merely reflect their growing numbers and be the result of novelty in terms of a new form of dwelling site.

[2] Other facets of regional cultures are discussed by E. M. Jope, 'The Regional Cultures of Medieval Britain' in *Culture and Environment*, ed. I. Ll. Foster and L. Alcock (London, 1964), pp. 327–50.

[3] A difference in basic moat forms has been noted in those looked at in Yorkshire by Mrs H. E. J. Le Patourel and those examined in Warwickshire by Brian Roberts 'Moated Sites in Midland England', *Trans. Birmingham Arch. Soc.* LXXX (1962), 26–37 and 'A study of medieval colonization in the Forest of Arden, Warwickshire', *Agric. Hist. Rev.* XVI (1968), 101–113. This view was expressed at a weekend conference on Moated Enclosures held at Middlesbrough in November 1970.

[4] For other excavated moated sites in the region, not referred to above, see *Geography* XLVII (1962), 388, notes 11, 12, 13 and 19.

development of early medieval wares in the Ouse Valley and its hinterland. The smoother pinky St Neots wares[1] of the area are reflected in the present later group; although forms remain virtually the same throughout the area served by the earlier St Neots wares, regional variations in fabric have been isolated from Oxford[2] and more locally in the area under discussion.[3] Detailed examination of associated groups on a more regional basis may define perimeters of these subtle fabric differences and hence define trading capabilities of individual kiln centres, to which the regional variation in fabric is most likely due. In northern Buckinghamshire,[4] Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire,[5] 'shelly' wares extend into the thirteenth and fourteenth century – evidence from northern Lincolnshire suggests even into the fifteenth century,[6] stressing the strict regionalization and continuance of types and traditions. Groups of twelfth- and thirteenth-century date within the present area under consideration demonstrate a slightly confused picture, for the mid-twelfth-century group from the Eaton Socon site[7] is equally composed of Early Medieval sandy and St Neots wares, in contrast to the solely St Neots wares sealed below the castle, while groups from St Neots Priory,[8] less than two miles to the north-east on the opposite bank of the River Ouse, show that St Neots ware and its immediate derivatives continue into the thirteenth and fourteenth century. The geographical location of the present site situated to the north of St Neots, together with the quantity of later smooth St Neots types (Fig. 6, nos. 8 to 29) in relation to the other fabric groups, suggest that they persist into the thirteenth century, for Ellington at least, but how far into the century it is at present difficult to determine.

The evidence of Early Medieval sandy wares is also confusing in the immediate area. The continuity of late St Neots fabrics in forms of Lyveden-type ware suggest the Early Medieval sandy wares from Ellington run concurrently with and do not fill the gap between the later St Neots types and their derivatives. The recent excavations at Bedford,[9] 17 miles to the south-west of Ellington, have shown that Early Medieval sandy wares outlive St Neots types and were still in predominance when Lyveden jugs were introduced. The eleventh-century levels at Therfield,[10] 17 miles

[1] J. G. Hurst, 'Saxo-Norman Pottery in East Anglia; pt. 1', *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* XLIX (1956), 43–70.

[2] *Oxoniensia* XXIII (1958), 44–5.

[3] *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LVIII (1965), 57 and p. 72.

[4] Evidence from the kiln site at Olney Hyde, excavated in 1967, *Med. Arch.* XII (1968), 206 and p. 207 fig. 57, and in 1969, *Bull. Northants. Fed. Arch. Soc.* no. 4 (April 1970), 19–21.

[5] *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LIX (1966), 56.

[6] From Somerby D. M. V. near Gainsborough, *Lincolnshire Archaeology*, I, no. 4. (1969), 71 and figs. 4 and 7, from gully 6. It was thought that the jugs were intrusive in their association with the 'shelly' cooking pots, but further evidence from Lincolnshire and Southern Yorkshire suggests a continuity of 'shelly' wares in the region and therefore the Somerby group can be regarded as homogeneous, probably dating to the first half of the fifteenth century.

[7] *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LVIII (1965), 70–2.

[8] *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LIX (1966), 56.

[9] An extensive series of related pits and groups spanning the twelfth and thirteenth centuries were excavated by David Baker during 1970, to whom I am grateful for showing me the material. It is hoped with more exhaustive sorting that it will establish a reliable sequence of the early medieval period for Bedford and its hinterland.

[10] *J. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* XXVII (1964), 68–78.

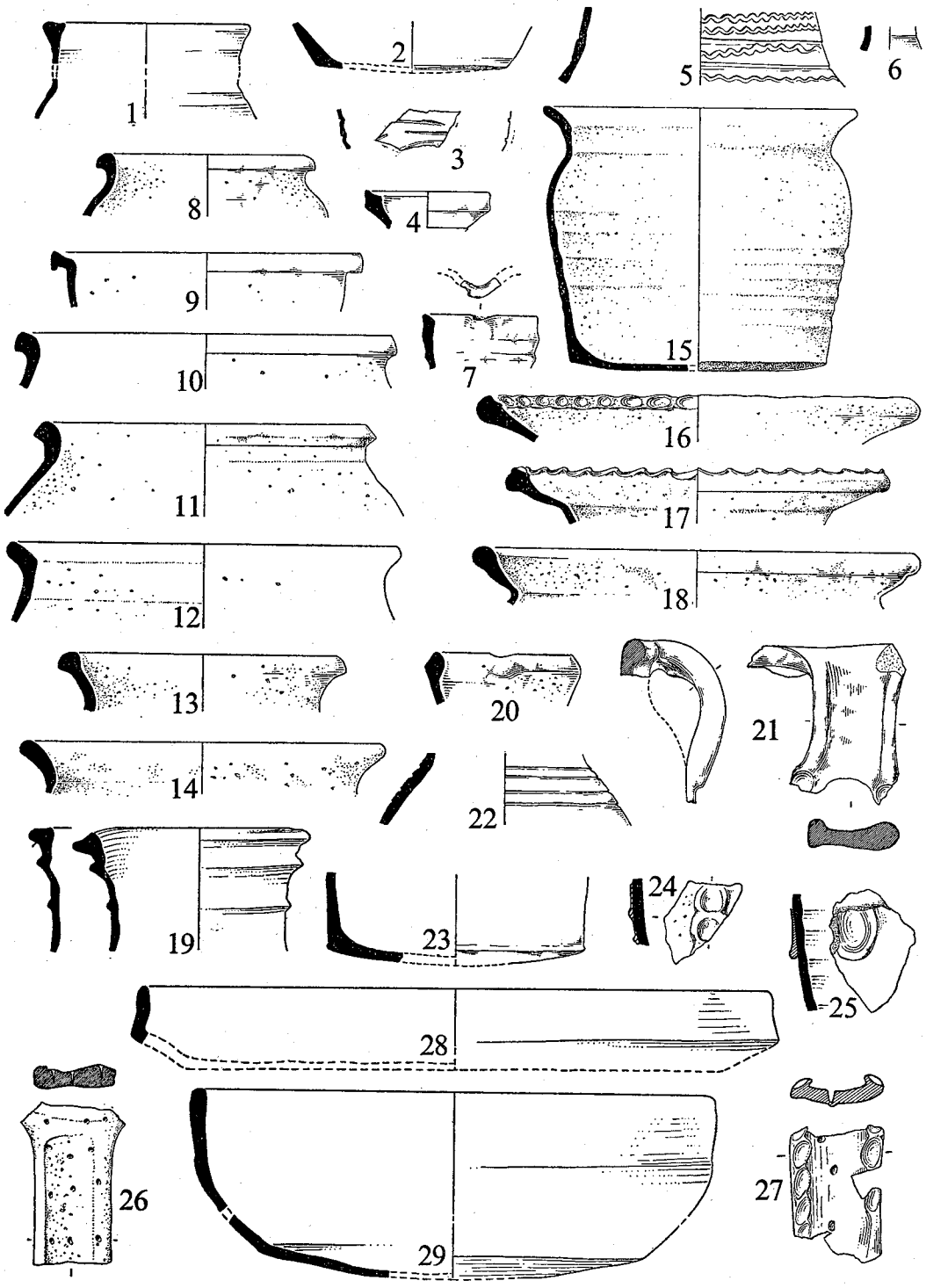


Fig. 6. Ellington. Pottery from the timber hall: Stamford ware (nos. 1 to 7), later St Neots wares (nos. 8 to 29): scale $\frac{1}{4}$.

to the south-east of Ellington, produced this type of ware associated with Saxo-Norman Stamford and St Neots wares, but by the mid-twelfth century all these wares were ousted by a predominant variant of the Early Medieval sandy wares. This shows the rapidly increasing regionalization of various ceramic groups during the twelfth century, even within the areas served by the earlier somewhat consistent St Neots wares.

This highly complexed situation, where ceramic types vary so greatly in date range within such a limited area, suggests that the Ouse Valley lay on the confluence of regional ceramic styles, the boundaries in part being governed by the Ouse itself, as evidenced by the groups from Eaton Socon and St Neots. Only further associated dated groups from the area will help clarify the situation.

Technical considerations

Certain pieces amongst the Ellington material are of interest as they give some indication as to how the vessels were either produced or finished.

Macroscopic examination of inclusions in the St Neots type and harsher sandy wares show them to be limestone particles of varying consistencies,[1] with only one illustrated sherd showing any signs of chalk (Fig. 6, no. 13). The variation in texture between the St Neots types and the harder wares is due to the addition of quartz or fine sand particles, whether added deliberately, or forming part of the natural clay, as seems the case in most instances. This is virtually lacking in the Lyveden-type wares, whereas the finely thrown Early Medieval sandy wares are completely sand-based, thrown on a fast wheel with a high degree of skill.

Surface treatment is mainly restricted to smoothing the external surfaces, but one of the Early Medieval sandy rims (Fig. 9, no. 61) displays a series of chevron incisions on the neck. This is seen on a number of vessels of similar fabric from recent excavations in Bedford. Bases, particularly in St Neots-type wares, often have an external thickening to the angle (Fig. 6, no. 23). This is seen on vessels from Oxford[2] and Bedford and is produced by hand finishing, and as it mainly occurs on sagging bases it is likely to be the result of smoothing the underside of the pot after hand forming the sagging base.

Coil construction

A number of vessels have a rather uneven and lumpy surface with a marked lack of any throwing grooves. Some of them have had their necks and rims added separately, presumably on to a thrown body (Fig. 9, no. 72 and Pl. I) while others have annular rings of clay added to the body to build up the neck and rim (no. 76 and Pl. II). This method can be seen more clearly in the Lyveden-type vessels, for evidence from the

[1] For a detailed examination and discussion on shell inclusions in Middle and Late Saxon shelly wares see *Med. Arch.* VIII (1964), 50–2. The distinction between shell and limestone inclusions in later 'shelly' wares has already been pointed out by Prof. Jope, *Ant. J.* XXXIX (1959), 245; this feature has also been noticed among Oxford St Neots wares of the eleventh and twelfth centuries, *Oxoniensia* XXIII (1958), 49.

[2] From late eleventh–early twelfth century contexts on the site of the Clarendon Hotel, *Oxoniensia* XXIII (1958), 43 fig. 15 nos. C 3.15 and p. 67.

kiln site has shown that the vessels produced there were consistently completely coil made, both the ordinary cooking pots and the highly distinctive decorated jugs. This method is not visually conclusive amongst the Ellington group (Fig. 7, nos. 30 to 38 and Fig. 10, nos. 83 to 95), but there is sufficient evidence to imply it. The procedure for making a vessel using this method, as shown by spalled wasters on the kiln site, was to use either a continuous clay 'sausage', adding to it and building the vessel up in a form of spiral, or to use annular rings of clay, one on top of the other. These were built up on a previously prepared piece of clay forming the base, to which the lowest ring was luted. Generally the outer surface was smoothed, merging the coils together, after the form had been completed by finishing on a slowly rotating wheel. The inner surface was also smoothed but generally not as intensely as the *outer, the* fingers usually being dragged continuously up the inner surfaces to bond the coils. It is here that the coil-constructed pot can best be detected, particularly on the inside of the neck or shoulder. Vessels produced by this method have a marked consistency to the wall section (no. 36) and a sharp internal angle to the base.[1]

Vessels other then Lyveden types among the Ellington pottery show signs of partial or complete coil construction. Some have already been mentioned (Fig. 9, nos. 72 and 76). Two large jugs (nos. 69 and 70) have lumpy and uneven surfaces, particularly internally, where finger moulding is indicated together with applied pieces of horizontal strips near the base (Pl. III); these are almost certainly the result of coil construction. The lumpy, finger-marked internal surface of no. 80 can also be attributed to the finishing effect of a coil-constructed pot.

This method has an earlier history in medieval ceramics, and recent finds suggest it was a more widely used technique than was previously thought, among wheel-thrown contemporaries of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Jope[2] has pointed out that the tripod pitchers of the Oxford region, and other areas producing these vessels throughout the twelfth century, had thrown bodies with separate rings of clay luted on to form the neck. This is now also noted on pitchers of the Coventry area.[3] Highly decorated jugs at Nuneaton,[4] Warwickshire, dating to the first half and middle of the thirteenth century, had thrown bodies with thick crudely executed annular rings forming the neck, smoothed externally to give the impression of a completely wheel-thrown pot. Nearer to the present geographical context, a rim sherd from Lyveden in similar fabric to Fig. 11, no. 96 has a coiled neck and rim on a thrown body. A jug rim from Berkhampsted Castle,[5] in the typical Hertfordshire reduced fabric, shows evidence of coil construction.

[1] For coil construction see Anna O. Shepard, *Ceramics for the Archaeologist* (Carnegie Institution of Washington, publication 609, 1965), pp. 57–8 and pp. 184–5.

[2] *Oxoniensia* XXIII (1958), 53, fig. 19 nos. BIB.49 and Z.18 and pp. 55–6 and pl. II, showing a typical coil-constructed neck from a pitcher; see also examples from Ascott Doilly, *Ant. J.* XXXIX (1959), 262, fig. 18 no. C5 and p. 258 where they are discussed and a distribution of the type given.

[3] Material collected from the city of Coventry during and after the last war; in the Shelton Collection, Herbert Museum and Art Gallery, Coventry.

[4] An extensive kiln site excavated substantially during 1967, see *Med. Arch.* XII (1968), 208–10 and fig. 58; excavations are still in progress, *Med. Arch.* XIII (1969), 287.

[5] *Hertfordshire Archaeology*, II (1970), *forthcoming*.

It is therefore evident that coil construction was a widespread though, on present evidence sporadic, technique and had a long history through the Middle Ages. It is difficult to see why potters preferred coil construction to wheel throwing, especially as there were contemporary wheel-throwing centres in all regions mentioned above. It is as difficult, if not more so, to produce a large pot with a consistently thin section like Fig. 9, nos. 69 and 70, as it is to wheel-throw one. It is also difficult to see why potters should throw a body and then coil the neck and rim, particularly on the most decorative of a kiln's products as at Nuneaton. Perhaps it was a hangover of the tripod pitcher era, for vessels of developed pitcher form from Oxford dating to the early thirteenth century[1] show separately applied necks; this tradition was strong in the Nuneaton–Coventry area. It has been pointed out by Jope[2] that separately coiled necks on tripod pitchers were introduced to relieve carrying too much clay while throwing the body. It would have been extremely difficult to produce a completely thrown vessel as thin as these pitchers, even for a competent potter. Closer examination of vessels showing no apparent signs of internal throwing marks – particularly on a more regional basis where both wheel and coil methods were practised concurrently – may reveal a more widespread pattern for this method of manufacture during the thirteenth century and later period, and give further insight into the at present all too sketchy glimpse of the medieval potter and the techniques he employed.

Ceramic types and catalogue

The pottery from the excavations can be divided into two distinct stratigraphical groups; that from the occupation of the timber hall and its various construction phases, and that associated with the occupation of the moated platform, sealing the underlying timber hall. By far the larger group comes from the earlier phase, with a relatively small quantity being associated with the platform and its occupation.

Pottery from the occupation of the timber hall

All the pottery from this phase comes from the eaves-drip gullies to the south of the hall, except where otherwise stated.

Stamford ware (Fig. 6, nos. 1 to 7)

The excavation produced seventeen sherds of Stamford ware, thirteen lead-glazed and four with developed copper glaze. All but one were associated with the timber hall and its occupation. No. 5 came from material associated with the occupation of the platform, but as it can be shown to come from a pitcher whose other three sherds were securely stratified under the platform, this sherd can be regarded as a residual piece. In effect therefore all sherds of Stamford ware were associated with the occupation of the timber hall.

1. Rim and shoulder from a pitcher in a fine smooth off-white fabric with a pink tinge to the surfaces, covered externally in a thin patchy lead sheen. From the western eaves-drip to the south of the timber hall.

[1] *Oxoniensia* XXIII (1958), 58 fig. 21, Z.22, Z.21 and Z.7.
[2] *Ibid.* p. 56 and *Ant. J.* XXXIX (1959), 258.

2. Base in a fine smooth light yellowy buff fabric with external shiny dull yellow glaze. From the beam-slot under the northern pentice posts.

3. Two joining sherds in a smooth fine light pink fabric with external linear incisions and knife trimming under a clear bright creamy yellow glaze. General occupation to the south of the hall.

4. Bottle rim in a smooth off-white fabric with external patchy watery mottled green glaze. Provenance as no. 3.

5. Four body sherds from a pitcher in a very smooth creamy off-white fabric with external patchy watery lime-green glaze. Two body sherds came from the western eaves-drip to the south of the hall, one from the destruction level of the timber hall and the illustrated sherd was found in a residual context, for it came from material associated with the occupation of the moated platform.

6. Small bottle neck in a fine smooth creamy pink fabric with all-over external deep leaf-green glaze, a dense green band where it fills a shallow incised groove partially mottled with yellow internally. From the floor of the hall.

7. Jug rim and spout in a similar fabric and glaze to no. 6, the glaze extending slightly over the rim. Provenance as no. 3.

Not illustrated: Among the sherds not illustrated there are two worthy of mention. One is a hard sandy buff fabric with smooth pinky surfaces covered partially on both sides in a watery pale lime-green glaze, the same provenance as no. 3; the other is the shoulder sherd from a developed Stamford ware jug with shallow incised annular grooves in a fine smooth off-white fabric covered externally in bright shiny mottled leaf-green glaze, the same provenance as no. 1.

Later St Neots types (Fig. 6, nos. 8 to 29)

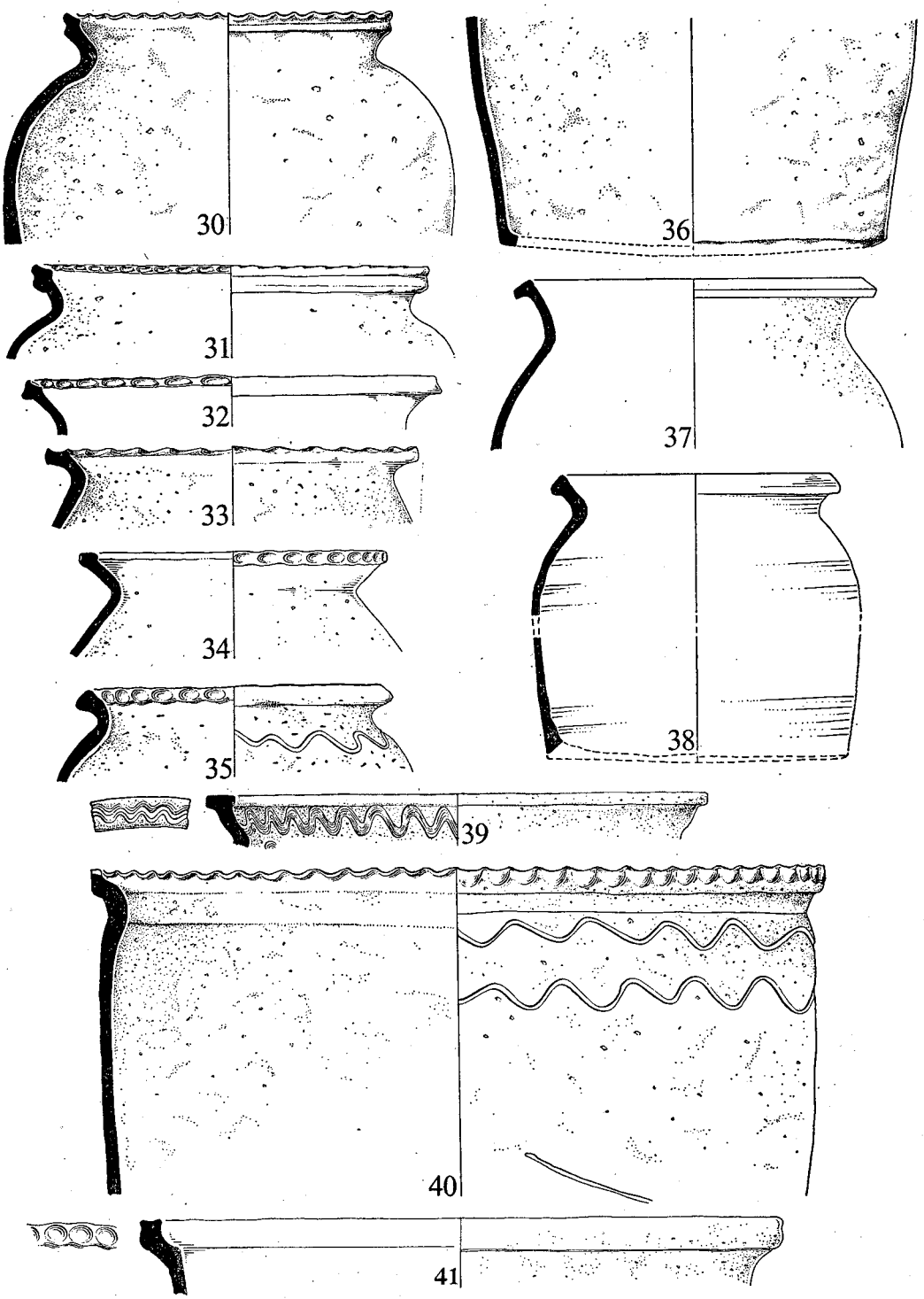
This collection of sherds forms an extremely close-knit and homogeneous fabric group, and has therefore not been described individually as the main variations occur in colour only. The fabric is extremely fine with very smooth waxy or soapy surfaces, devoid of any quartz inclusions, and a bluey-grey core of varying shades; the sherds have a high uniformity in many small soft limestone inclusions. The surface colours range from light fawn (nos. 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 27 and 29) through darker fawn (nos. 16, 25 and 26), reddish brown (no. 13) to dark browny purple of true St Neots type (nos. 8, 12 and 28). No. 22 does not readily conform to the above groups, for it is slightly harder with many small soft limestone or chalk inclusions leached out internally where the surface is reduced to grey, with a dull salmon-pink external surface. No. 13 has a slightly waxy surface, above the norm for the assemblage, and large chalk inclusions leached out in places. It stands out from the other sherds although of similar general type, and can most likely be placed among the earliest sherds from the site; its form alone would suggest placing it early among the present group.

Harsher limestone gritted wares (Figs. 7 and 8, nos. 30–55).

This group encompasses a range of fabrics basically of the same type. It is harder than true St Neots wares and generally more lumpy. Five variants can be defined by their various combinations of surface texture, inclusions and colour. The vessels within each group form homogeneous ceramic types and therefore have not been individually described.

(*a*) Rough fabric, light brown to red surfaces with a grey core and many large angular limestone inclusions protruding through the surfaces, invariably smooth externally but rough and uneven internally (nos. 30–2, 34–6, 39–41, 47, 51 and 52). This fabric and the forms of nos. 30–8, 42–4, 47 and 51 are characteristic of the kiln site at Lyveden.

(*b*) Fabric as (*a*) above but totally reduced to a dark brown with purple tinges (nos. 33, 37, 44, 53 and 55).



7. Ellington. Pottery from the timber hall: harsher limestone gritted wares (nos. 30 to 41): scale ¼.

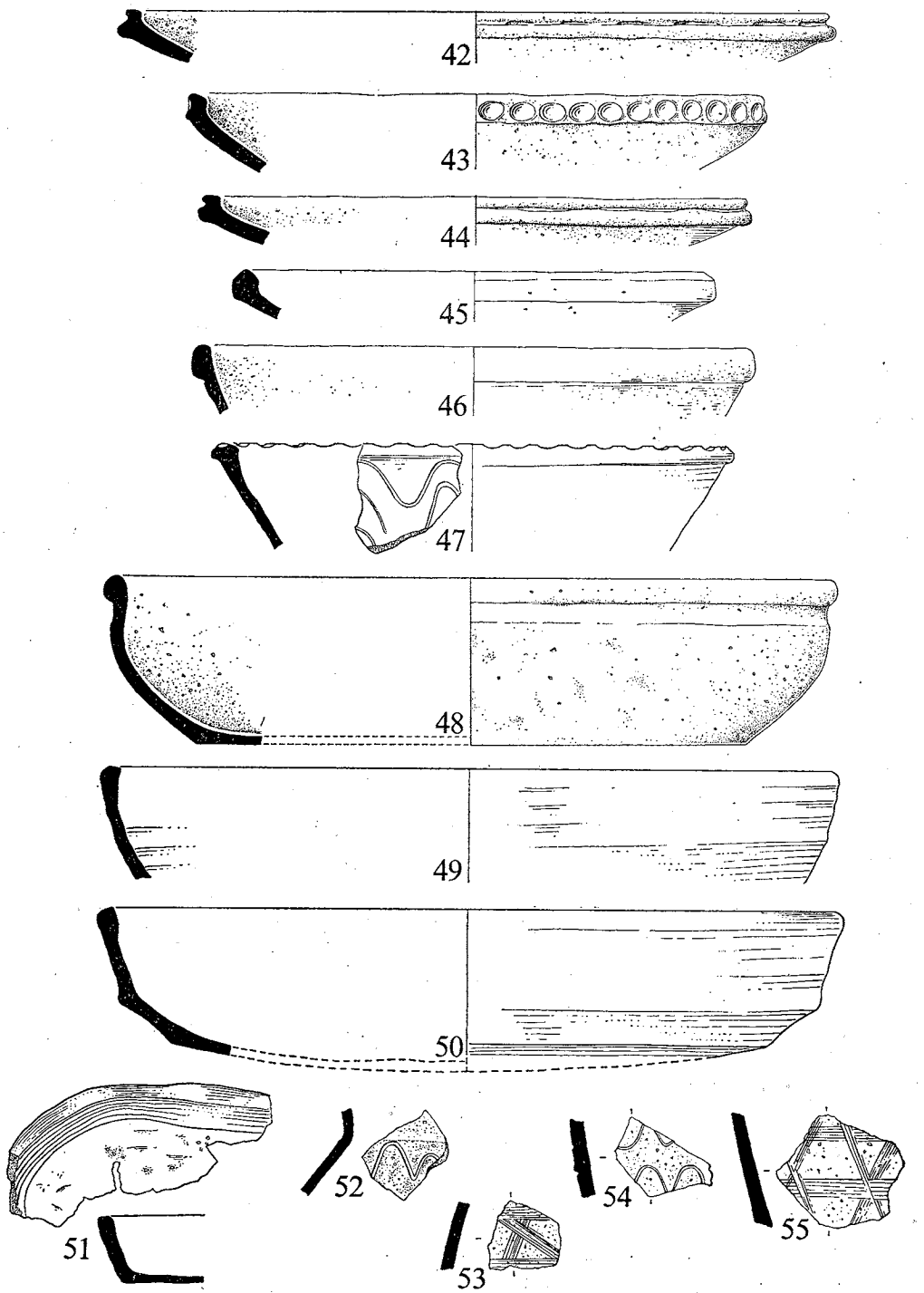


Fig. 8. Ellington. Pottery from the timber hall: harsher limestone gritted wares (nos. 42 to 55): scale ¼.

(*c*) Smooth fabric with lumpy surfaces, large limestone inclusions, and totally reduced to a dark purple-brown (nos. 42 and 43).

(*d*) Fabric as (*c*) above but with many small fine uniform limestone inclusions (nos. 45–6, 48–9 and 54).

(*e*) Very smooth powdery low fired dull orange-red fabric with leached out inclusions giving it a corky appearance (no. 38).

Possibly the earliest of this group are (*d*), nos. 42, 43, 45, 46, 48, 49 and 54, for the fabric closely resembles that represented by nos. 8 to 29 above but is harder, lumpier and totally reduced. The bowl forms are however related to the characteristic forms of the extensive kiln site at Lyveden, some fourteen miles to the north-west of Ellington, where fabrics (*a*), (*b*) and (*e*) were produced. The cooking-pot forms of nos. 30 to 38, 42 to 44, 47 and 51 are characteristic of Lyveden, but as the type has a wide distribution, not only for the distinct highly decorated jugs but also the more domestic vessels, caution must be exercised before firmly attributing any vessel to this centre, for the divergence of basic fabrics would suggest that it is one of a number of such centres producing similar forms and part of a much larger tradition, similar to the earlier St Neots wares. The most distinct feature of Lyveden products is that the vessels are coil constructed. This is not evident on any of the Ellington vessels but can be inferred by the slightly overlapping internal surfaces with easily defined vertical finger marks, particularly towards the bases. This is well demonstrated on the kiln site where wasters have spalled and split along coils. The uniform thickness of the walls, particularly towards the bases, and sharp internal angle (no. 36) are also characteristic of the kiln site. Other evidence of coil-constructed vessels amongst the Ellington assemblage is further discussed on pp. 52–3 above.

Other vessels amongst this group, although similar in fabric, are distinct from Lyveden-type products in their form. No. 39 is in contrast amongst the Ellington group in its form and method of internal combed decoration, and together with nos. 30 and 41 appears to be as yet unique in the middle Nene Valley and its hinterland. Large shallow bowls with a vertical shoulder and rim (nos. 49 and 50) are derived from twelfth-century late St Neots types.

The whole group can be assigned to a general thirteenth-century date with a possible overlap (nos. 42, 43, 49 and 50) with St Neots types. The evidence for dating Lyveden-type wares is discussed on p. 63 below.

Early Medieval sandy wares (Fig. 9, nos. 56 to 68)

Two distinct groups are present under this general heading. Both are similar in fabric texture and finish but differ in that nos. 56 to 64 are generally reduced to varying shades of grey, while nos. 64 to 68 have consistently bright red surfaces.

56. Four sherds in a thin, hard, fine sandy fabric with dark grey core and reddy-brown margin and surfaces, partially fire-blackened externally.

57. Fabric as no. 56 but totally reduced to a dull brown.

58. Cooking-pot rim in a very fine hard sandy fabric slightly powdery, grey inner surface and core, reddy-brown externally with domestic sooting on the rim.

59. Moulded rim from a jar or cooking pot, fabric as no. 56 but not fire-blackened.

60. Cooking-pot rim in a hard fine sandy fabric with a dark grey core and light brown slightly waxy surfaces.

61. Cooking-pot rim, fabric as no. 56 but with irregular incisions below the rim; two joining sherds.

62. Cooking-pot rim, fabric as no. 60 but with lighter surfaces.

63–4. Two separate cooking-pot rims clearly related by their distinct form but similar fabric to the rest of the group. Very hard-fired fine sandy fabric with dark grey core and light brown surfaces, both fire-blackened externally.

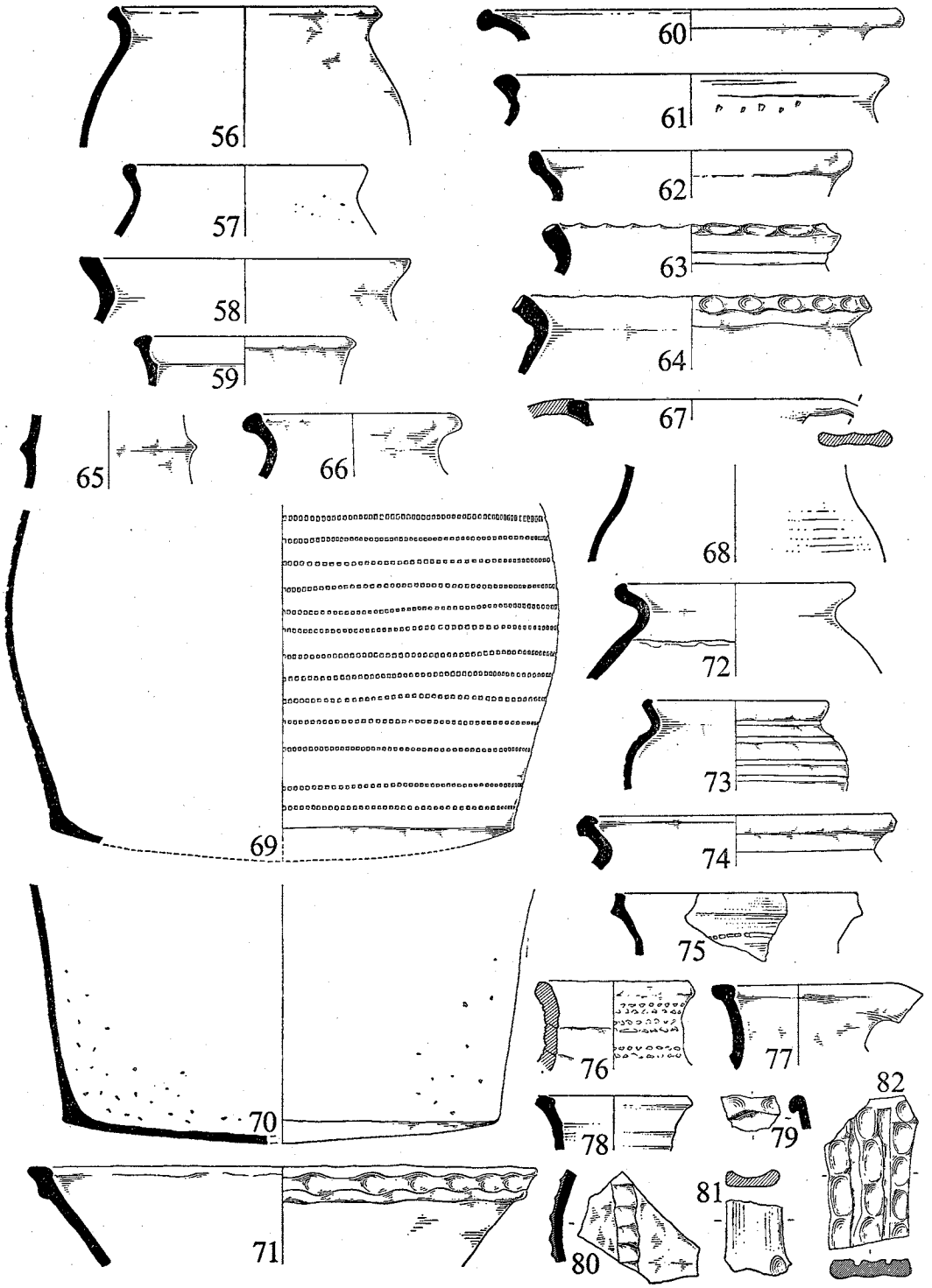


Fig. 9. Ellington. Pottery from the timber hall: early medieval sandy wares (nos. 56 to 68); harsh sandy wares (nos. 69 to 82): scale ¼.

65–8. These four vessels are so similar in every aspect of their fabric, and distinct from the above sherds of this general type, that the same centre of manufacture could be suggested. It is characterized by a very thin, hard, fine sandy fabric with a bluey-grey core sharply contrasting with uniform bright red surfaces. These sherds are the only ones of this type from the excavations.

Well over twenty vessels of this fabric are represented.[1] They demonstrate the continued use of the type, running concurrently with later St Neots types. This is significant, for although the Ellington material is not stratified, other than within the terminal dates for the occupation of the hall, the gradual effect of regionalization in ceramic types towards the second half of the twelfth century can be seen in relation to other groups from the general area (see pp. 49–52 above). The distinct fabric and forms of nos. 65 to 68 do not appear to have been recognized in the immediate area before; they appear to be copying Stamford ware.

Harsh sandy wares (Fig. 9, nos. 69 to 82)

A number of fabrics within the Ellington assemblage can be generally termed as 'harsh sandy' but it is extremely difficult to differentiate them adequately in terms of separate types and for this reason they have been grouped together under this general heading.

69–70. Two vessels of similar form and fabric, no. 69 having rows of small close-spaced notched rouletting, while no. 70 is plain, both probably coming from a tall ovoid jug. A very hard fine but harsh sandy fabric with sparse large irregular limestone inclusions with a grey core and light fawn surfaces, no. 69 having a bright pinky-red inner surface similar to nos. 65–8 above; coil constructed.

71. Bowl rim with external thumbing in a similar though harsher fabric to no. 56 above with many small limestone inclusions.

72. Cooking-pot rim in a hard-fired fine sandy fabric, sparse large and many small limestone inclusions, with dark grey core and dull red surfaces, fire-blackened internally. The upper half has been coil constructed and finished on a slow-turning wheel.

73. Eight sherds from the upper part of a small cooking pot in a hard-fired fine sandy fabric totally reduced to a dark grey-brown with many small limestone inclusions contrasting with the darker fabric; external annular grooves. This is the only vessel of this type from the site.

74. Moulded cooking-pot rim in a similar fabric to no. 56 but with harsher texture.

75. Jug rim with rouletting similar to nos. 69–70 in a harsh sandy fabric with a few small limestone inclusions, with a dark grey core and dark fawn surfaces.

76. Jug neck with faint rows of rouletting in a fine sandy light greyish-brown fabric with many small limestone inclusions; the surfaces although smooth are lumpy and uneven; coil constructed.

77. Jug neck with attached rod handle in a similar fabric to no. 75, but with slightly soapier surfaces.

78. Jug rim in a fine sandy fabric with light fawn surfaces, light bluey-grey core and fine limestone inclusions.

79. Rim with external thumb impressions in similar fabric to no 76 but smoother surfaces and domestic sooting nearly all over.

80. Jug body sherd with vertical thumbed applied strip in identical fabric to no. 75.

81. Strap handle in a hard fine sandy fabric with large rolled micaceous inclusions protruding through the surface giving an extremely harsh and rough texture, with a grey core and dull pinky-red surfaces.

82. Strap handle, with applied central strip thumbed down both sides, in identical fabric to nos. 76 and 80 with slightly lighter surfaces.

[1] Originally defined by G. C. Dunning in *Med. Arch.* III (1959), 44, p. 48 and p. 32 fig. 9 and extended by J. G. Hurst, *Med. Arch.* V (1961), 259–61 and *Norfolk Archaeology* XXXIII, pt. II (1963), 155–6.

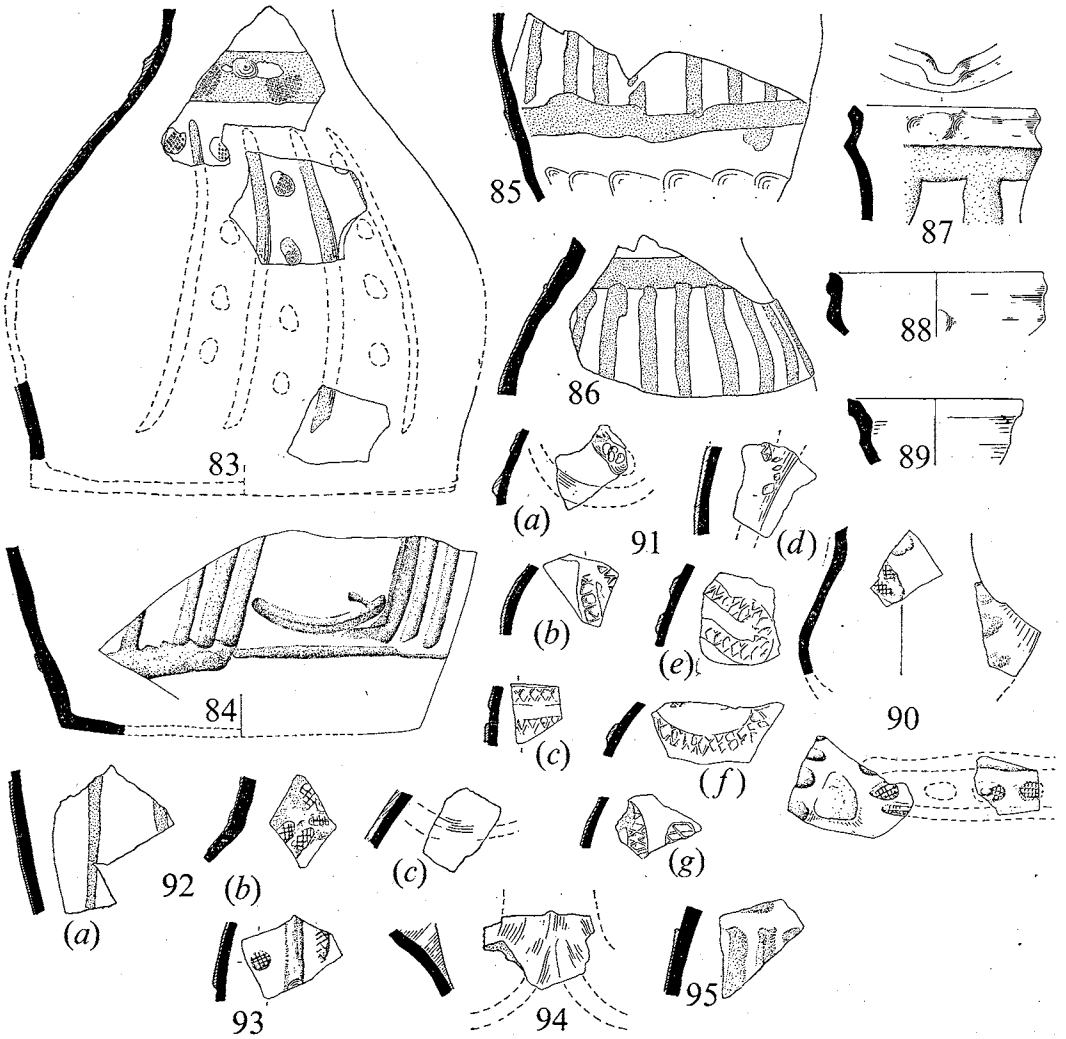


Fig. 10. Ellington. Pottery from the timber hall: Lyveden-type jugs (nos. 83 to 95): scale ¼.

A number of similar fabrics,[1] all sand-based, comprise this group, ranging from a very hard harsh fabric (nos. 69 and 70) to a relatively smooth though lumpy fabric (fig. no. 76), intermediate types having varying quantities of limestone inclusions in the clay. A wide range of forms reflect a number of kiln centres, in which both wheel and coil (nos. 69, 70, 78 and 80) construction was practised. Little dating evidence is at present available, but a range throughout the thirteenth century is likely.

[1] Some of these sherds could belong to later types of sandy wares, e.g. 'Rough Medieval' as defined at Northolt, *Med. Arch.* V (1961), 263–7, but regional types have yet to be defined for the middle Ouse Valley.

Lyveden-type jugs (Fig. 10, nos. 83 to 95)

Fifty sherds from jugs of this characteristic type were found representing at least twenty-one independent vessels. Although the fabric is basically homogeneous throughout, the jugs demonstrate certain peculiarities encountered during the firing process and for this reason, among others which will be discussed below, it was thought more desirable to describe them individually.

83. Four sherds, two joining, from a jug in a smooth fabric with dark grey core and dull purple-brown, very smooth inner surface; external decoration of white horizontal and vertical strips with grid-decorated pads, covered to the bottom of the vertical strips in a dull olive-green glaze. From the occupation of the kitchen.

84. Large sherd from the lower part of a jug in a smooth fabric with a light bluey-grey core and light salmon-red surfaces and very fine limestone inclusions leached out internally and large sporadic red-ochre inclusions; decorated externally with a very crudely applied white slip, and patchily covered in a deep olive-green glaze with partially reduced bluey-grey patches.

85. Six joining sherds in a very smooth fabric with a bluey-grey core, brown inner surface and a dull red outer margin only, and fine limestone inclusions leached out internally; decorated with thick white slip strips and covered above the lower horizontal band in a glossy deep olive green, with a large bright glossy dull orange patch below. Part of the outer surface shows a partial bluey-grey reduction; knife-trimmed near the base.

86. Nine sherds, seven joining, forming the shoulder of a small jug in identical fabric to no. 83 but without red margins.

87. Single rim sherd in a smooth fabric with bluey-grey core with a partially reduced inner surface, light salmon-red with light grey patches, otherwise completely reduced with thin neatly applied external white slip decoration showing a dull watery yellow-green below a reduced dull olive-green glaze.

88. Rim sherd with a bluey-grey core, salmon-red inner surface with sparse irregular limestone inclusions, reduced externally with a thick dark olive-green glaze; no slip decoration but part of a handle-side thumb impression remains.

89. Two non-joining rim sherds similar in fabric to no. 84 but with light fawn surfaces.

90. Five sherds from a small (?) jug in a light grey smooth fabric with many minute limestone inclusions; decoration of white slip with grid-stamp-decorated pads and linear strips covered in a reduced all-over dark olive green glaze with brown spots.

91. Fourteen non-joining sherds all from the same vessel in a fine smooth salmon-red fabric with a much-pitted inner surface where the inclusions have leached out; external decoration of white slip with broad diamond rouletting, covered in an oxidized bright dull orange glaze, giving the decoration a bright yellow-ochre colour. It is impossible to reconstruct the complexed design for the throwing or smoothing grooves on the inside give no indication as to the position in the vessel of each piece. Seven of the most significant sherds are illustrated, including two sherds with fragments of an applied scroll springing from either side of the lower handle junction.

92. Five sherds from the same vessel, four of which are illustrated, two joining, in a similar fabric and glaze to no. 84 but better executed and thinner white slip decoration. Sherds (*a*) and (*c*) suggest the jug was tall with straight, near-vertical sides with flowing scrolls springing from the handle base.

93. Small body sherd in a smooth fabric with a light bluey-grey core and salmon-pink inner surface; external white slip decoration with grid stamps on both a pad and vertical strip showing a dull yellow ochre below an all-over dull olive-green reduced glaze.

94. Handle base with springing for two applied flowing scrolls on a smooth though slightly sandy fabric with fine inclusions, light bluey-grey core, bright salmon-red internal surface

slightly darker externally where unglazed, and covered externally below the handle only in a dull olive-green glaze with brown tinges.

95. Body sherd in a very smooth almost soapy fabric with a light bluey-grey core and fawn interior; thick white slip decoration covered with a very watery and patchy lime-green glaze making the strips show varying shades of yellow.

This group of jugs is the most distinct product of the Lyveden kilns, characterized by their white applied strips and grid-stamped pads, covered invariably with a dull olive-green reduced lead glaze, although occasionally oxidized and then producing dull orange glaze, as seen in the present group, nos. 85 and 91. The jugs, as with other Lyveden products, were coil constructed and then finished off on a slow-rotating wheel. This constructional technique is discussed on p. 53 above. The form and decoration of the present group is fairly consistent with that known on the kiln site and from other sources; the form of no. 90 is known from a complete undecorated jug on the kiln site but the decoration of no. 91 appears to be unique on Lyveden jugs. None of the pieces from this vessel can be related to any logical pattern; it appears to be a scroll or possibly anthropomorphic design. The large diamond rouletting on strips is not a common feature; these are mainly restricted to small circular applied pads, as on nos. 83, 90 and 93. Applied scrolls springing from either side of the handle base are well represented (nos. 84, 91, 92 and 94) and can be seen on a complete jug from Northampton.[1]

Evidence from the kiln site suggests that the Lyveden kiln industry was well established by the second quarter of the thirteenth century, probably originating earlier in the century. Fieldwork in the Lyveden area has as yet failed to locate a single kiln specializing in the production of this highly decorated and distinctive form of jug, and it is conceivable, on the evidence of the many varying forms and sizes represented and the similarity in construction technique between these and the more domestic wares, that each individual potter made them as a small percentage of his total output. The evidence for dating, a discussion on the construction of the products and distribution will be fully dealt with in the final report on the Lyveden kiln site.

Miscellaneous types (Fig. 11, nos. 96–7)

96. Rod handle in a smooth, fine, sandy buff fabric, completely oxidized with a pink tinge and fine soft limestone inclusions, covered in a light green and dark olive-green glaze over the top and sides of the handle. A square-sectioned tool tapering to a point has been pushed into the junction with the body. The handle comes from a fabric type that is being increasingly recognized as a distinct ceramic group in northern Northamptonshire and adjoining areas. Its distribution can be seen from finds at Northampton, Brixworth, Badby,[2] Ellington and Lyveden; a more concentrated distribution is therefore expected within these limits in the areas around Northampton, Kettering and Thrapston. One of the sherds from Lyveden has the upper part of the neck coiled. Evidence from Ellington and Lyveden shows the type to be current throughout the thirteenth century and into the fourteenth century.

97. Small (?) foot in a fine sandy fabric with a dark grey core, dull pinky-brown surfaces and covered in a patchy bright lime-green glaze with brown tinges. The rounded terminal is hardly worn enough for it to be positively identified as a foot; its crudeness could suggest part of a crest from a ridge tile.

[1] Illustrated in Bernard Rackham *Medieval English Pottery* (revised edition, 1971 ed. by J. G. Hurst), pl. 36. In Northampton Museum, no acc. number, probably from Northampton; two other similar jugs are in the Museum from the castle excavations.

[2] Material from Northampton in Northampton Museum from recent excavations in the town by D. C. Mynard; the Brixworth material is from excavations by P. J. Woods, kindly seen through D. C. Mynard, and that from Badby from excavations by Mrs Margaret Grey.

Potterspury type (Fig. 11, nos. 98–9)

98. Fragment from a free-standing beard in a fine sandy buff fabric with smooth surfaces and a well-defined dark grey core, covered in a shiny olive-green glaze; three crescent-shaped incisions made with a gouge-like tool ornamented the front. Although this piece is characteristic of Potterspury-type fabrics, it appears to be so far unique in that no face jug in this ware has been identified either from the kiln sites or from other sources. An alternative suggestion would be a free-standing lateral handle to a jug, but equally, these are unknown from this centre.

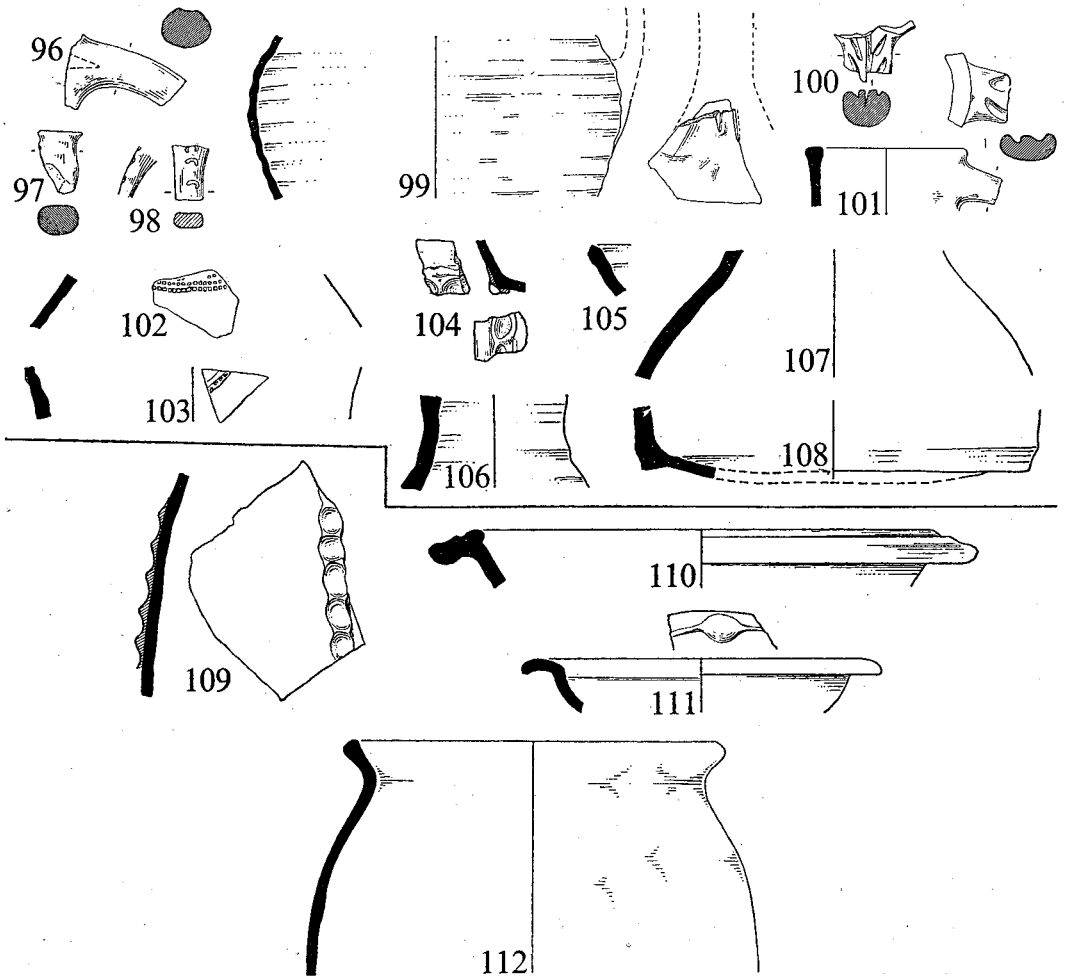


Fig. 11. Ellington. Pottery from the timber hall: sandy ware jugs (nos. 96 to 101). Pottery from the occupation of the moated platform (nos. 102 to 108). Unstratified Roman material (nos. 109 to 112): scale ¼.

99. Five sherds, two joining, from the centre of a jug in a smooth fine sandy fabric with a dark grey core and buff surfaces partially covered in a watery lime-green glaze. Corrugated sides are typical of jugs and larger vessels in this fabric, as are slashed handles on jugs.

Potterspury-type ware is characterized by no. 99,[1] the fabric and glaze appearing to alter little. It constituted one of the main sandy-based fabrics in northern Buckinghamshire and southern Northamptonshire but was also traded over much greater distances, not only jugs but more domestic vessels.[2] A large storage jar comes from Seacort,[3] Berkshire, deserted *c.* 1400, stratigraphically associated with the later stages of the village's history; sherds from both bowls and jugs come from Lyveden in levels dating throughout the second half of the thirteenth and into the fourteenth century. Together with the present site, a wide marketing area is to be suggested for these wares, possibly brought about by their distinct contrast in fabric and form to the more local products of these various regions, although not always aesthetically superior. Future work will establish whether these sites are on the fringe of the market potential for the wares, or whether they come within a much wider distribution.

100. Junction of a rod handle in a hard fine sandy fabric with a bluey-grey core contrasting sharply with bright pinky-red smooth surfaces; decorated down the back of the handle with a central incised groove with pairs of chevron incisions. Similar in general fabric to nos. 65–8 above.

101. Jug rim with attached rod handle in a fairly harsh, sandy dull red completely oxidized fabric, slightly powdery; chevron incisions down the back of the handle.

Pottery associated with the occupation of the moated platform

The pottery from this phase consisted of near-exclusively Lyveden-type cooking pots of the same general types as from the underlying hall (Fig. 7, nos. 30–8), together with the non-local jugs, of which every vessel is illustrated. These show, by the range of types represented and the distance travelled from their respective source of manufacture, the extensive and diverse trading connections in ceramics during the fourteenth century. The dating of this phase has been discussed on pp. 41–2 above.

Brill-type ware (Fig. 11, nos. 102–3)

102–3. Two sherds from the same jug in a hard buff fabric with close-spaced square-notched rouletting on the shoulder and a diagonal red-ochre applied strip with faint traces of similar rouletting near the base, under a glossy light orange glaze with bright green speckling.

104. (?) Base sherd in a very powdery, dull red, completely oxidized fabric, with a neatly thumbed applied strip on the base angle. This powdery fabric with thumbed applied strips on the base angle is characteristic of the Potters Marston kilns,[4] 12 miles to the south-west of Leicester, and of the coarse wares from the early Nuneaton kilns.

105. Rim in a fine sandy reduced light bluey-grey fabric with a slightly harsh texture, covered all over in a matt light leaf-green glaze with darker speckling.

Lyveden-type wares (Fig. 11, nos. 106–7)

106. Jug neck in a thick fine powdery fabric, very smooth, with a light bluey-grey core and dull fawn inner surface reduced externally with a shiny dull olive-green glaze; undecorated. Coil constructed but not evident in the section.

[1] See D. C. Mynard, 'Medieval Pottery of Potterspury Type', *Bull. Northants. Fed. Arch. Soc.* vol. 4 (April 1970), 49–55 where all previous references are brought together.

[2] *Med. Arch.* XIII (1969), 183.

[3] *Oxonensia* XXVI/XXVII (1961/2), 164, fig. 27 no. 1 and p. 163.

[4] J. Haynes, 'A Thirteenth-Century Kiln-Site at Potters Marston', *Trans. Leics. Arch. Soc.* XXVIII (1952), 55–62.

107. Jug shoulder in a very fine smooth fabric with light bluey-grey core and light salmon-red inner surface, covered all over externally in a watery glossy lime-green glaze with light orange speckling.

Seven Lyveden jug sherds were found in this phase: one base and six body sherds, including those illustrated. One of the body sherds with the end of a rouletted strip came from the lower part of a large jug; this was the only decorated sherd of this type.

Nottingham type (Fig. 11, no. 108)

108. Single base sherd in a smooth fine micaceous gritted fabric totally reduced to a light bluey-grey with a light fawn exterior surface; the surfaces are uneven and pimply though smooth externally. The vessel has been fired in an inverted position in the kiln, for the rim scar of another jug is adhering to the base, with dark glossy green glaze surrounding the scar and down the side of the jug. The glaze and fabric of this piece associate it with the products of the Nottingham kilns[1] and is in marked contrast to any types made in the immediate regions of Huntingdonshire. Positive Nottingham sherds, representing at least four vessels, have been identified on the kiln site at Lyveden some 14 miles to the north-west of Ellington, so it is not really surprising to find this single outlier at such a great distance from the centre of production.

Miscellaneous Roman material

The excavations produced over a dozen sherds mixed with material associated with the occupation of both the hall and later moated platform. These, together with undefined earlier features unassociated with the hall, are evidence for an underlying or nearby Roman site, as opposed to Saxon or early medieval plough scatter. The present sherds suggest a date for occupation through the third and fourth centuries.[2]

109. Large single fragment from a large storage vessel in a hard-fired sandy totally reduced grey fabric with a single vertical thumbed strip. Third to fourth century.

110. Mortarium rim in a fine smooth creamy-buff fabric with very smooth surfaces and worn internal grits. Third to fourth century.

111. Rim from a Samian bowl with moulded decoration on the rim; Form 36, Central Gaulish, Antonine.

112. Nine joining sherds forming a large part of a cooking pot in a fine sandy light grey fabric with smooth surfaces. Third to fourth century, possibly third century.

SMALL FINDS

All small finds from the excavation were found either associated with the timber hall or in the make-up of the platforms; in essence, therefore, they can all be attributed to the timber hall phase, and date within the period of some time during the second half and possibly third quarter of the twelfth to the second half and possibly last quarter of the thirteenth century. The iron knife (Fig. 12, no. 23) is a later piece and not related to the earlier occupation.

[1] A. Parker, 'Nottingham Pottery', *Trans. Thoroton Soc.* XXXVI (1932), 79–124 and an extensive range of material in the Castle Museum, Nottingham.

[2] I am grateful to E. Greenfield and H. Pengelly for commenting on these sherds.

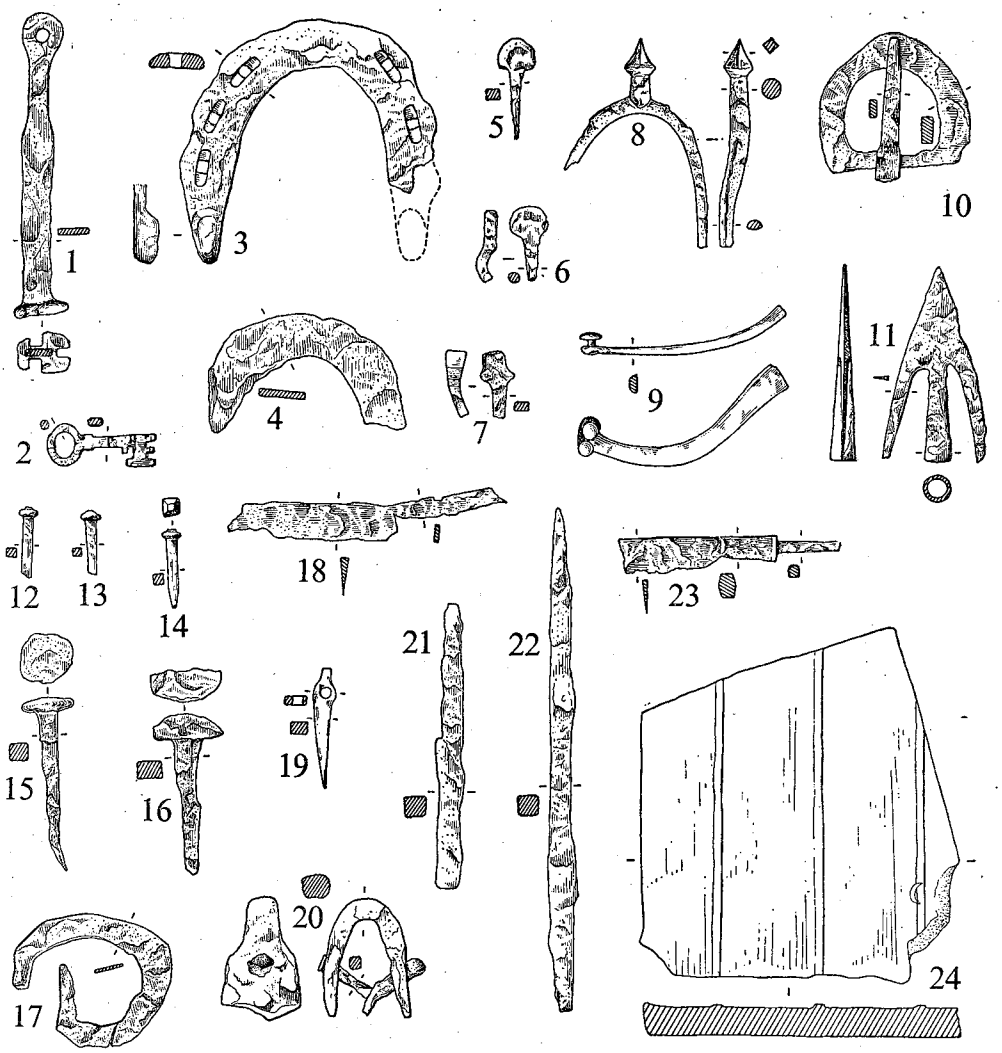


Fig. 12. Ellington. Metalwork (nos. 1 to 23), ceramic roof tile (no. 24): scale $\frac{1}{3}$.

Iron objects

By Ian H. Goodall

Fig. 12, nos. 1–23

1. Barrel-padlock key with loop-terminal and waisted shank set centrally to the wards. Similar examples of this basic Viking type are known from Rayleigh Castle, Essex, abandoned *c.* 1350, and Northolt Manor, Middlesex.[1] Several were found at the medieval castle of Naesholm, Denmark, occupied about 1240–1340, and were in use into the fourteenth century in Scandinavia.[2]

[1] E. B. Francis, 'Rayleigh Castle', *Trans. Essex Arch. Soc.* n.s. XII (1912), 162, pl. D2; J. G. Hurst, 'The Kitchen Area of Northolt Manor, Middlesex', *Med. Arch.* V (1961), 289, fig. 76, 4.

[2] V. La Cour, *Naesholm* (Copenhagen, 1961), 130–2, fig. 49, N. 800–3; S. Grieg, *Middelalderske Byfund fra Bergen og Oslo* (Oslo, 1933), p. 80.

2. Casket-key with solid stem, moulded below the oval bow, and decorated with a number of incised rings. Non-ferrous plating all over the key. Compare with similar keys from The Mount, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire, and Holworth, Dorset.[1]

3. Horseshoe, incomplete, with sinuous outline, countersunk nailholes and turned-back calkin.

4. Fragment of horseshoe with sinuous outline and countersunk nailholes.

5, 6. Fiddle-key horseshoe nails, the type used with such horseshoes as nos. 3, 4. This form of horseshoe and nail has been thought not to date after the thirteenth century, but a number of examples are now known from fourteenth-century contexts, including Bramber Castle, Sussex and Seacourt, Berkshire.[2]

7. Horseshoe nail with shouldered head, expanding in section to a flat top. Nails of this type are known from thirteenth- and fourteenth-century contexts, including Weoley Castle, Warwickshire and Seacourt, Berkshire.[3]

8. Prick spur. The sides are gently curved but incomplete; the point sits on a short neck.

9. Downcurved side of a spur with double-bolted terminal. Probably from a prick spur: the bolted terminal is rarely found on rowel spurs.

10. Slightly pointed, D-shaped buckle with pin swivelling on the straight bar. Similar buckles are known from Lydney Castle, Gloucestershire and 'Caesar's Camp', Folkestone.[4]

11. Socketed and barbed arrowhead.

12–14. Three nails with square shanks and flattened pyramidal heads. The form of the head suggests that it was considered a decorative feature.

15–16. Two nails representative of the types found on the site.

17. Distorted fragment of iron strip.

18. Damaged knife with tang.

19. Implement with tapering but incomplete arm to one side of the eye, and a butt to the other.

20. Iron loop of rectangular section with a flattened oval terminal to one side and the stump of a broader strap on the other. Each is perforated and the nails, which incline away from the loop, intersect. The loop is part of a strap hinge and clasped the pivot set in the door jamb, as on a hinge from Clough Castle, Co. Down.[5] The door, or shutter, would have had wooden boards $\frac{7}{8}$ in. thick.

21, 22. Two incomplete iron rods.

23. Knife: blade fragment, hexagonal-section bolster and the stump of a rectangular-section tang. The cutler's stamp on the blade (Pl. IV) is inlaid with non-ferrous metal. The bolster is cut from a single piece of iron, a technique of manufacture which was probably introduced in the middle of the sixteenth century.[6] This knife cannot be earlier than this date, and probably belongs to the late sixteenth or seventeenth centuries.

[1] F. H. Pavry and G. M. Knocker, 'The Mount, Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire', *Records of Bucks.* XVI (1953–60), 161, fig. 13.2, 3; P. A. Rahtz, 'Holworth, Medieval Village Excavation 1958', *Proc. Dorset N.H.A.S.* LXXXI (1959), 146, fig. 12.4.

[2] Bramber Castle quoted in E. W. Holden, 'The Excavation of a Motte at Lodsbridge Mill, Lodsworth', *Sussex Arch. Coll.* CV (1967), 124; M. Biddle, 'The D.M.V. of Seacourt, Berks.', *Oxoniensia* XXVI/XXVII (1961–2), 176.

[3] A. Oswald, 'Excavation of a Thirteenth Century Building at Weoley Castle, Birmingham, 1960–61', *Med. Arch.* VI/VII (1962/63), 132, fig. 51.30; M. Biddle, *op. cit.* note 2, 176.

[4] D. A. Casey, 'Lydney Castle', *Ant. J.* XI (1931), 252, pl. XXXV.4; A. H. L. F. Pitt-Rivers, 'Excavations at Caesar's Camp near Folkestone, 1878', *Archaeologia* XLVII (1883), 439, 463, pl. VIII. 9.

[5] D. M. Waterman, 'Excavations at Clough Castle, Co. Down', *Ulster J. Arch.* XVII (1954), 138, fig. 12.1, 2.

[6] I. F. Hayward, *English Cutlery* (1957), p. 4.

Ceramic tiles

Fig. 12, no. 24

24. A large quantity of roofing tiles were found associated with the moated platform. A single flat tile has been illustrated to show the marks incurred while on racks or laths during the drying process immediately after manufacture. It is in a harsh, sandy, dull browny-red fabric with fairly smooth surfaces, except underneath, with a grey core. The indented lath marks are clearly seen on the back.

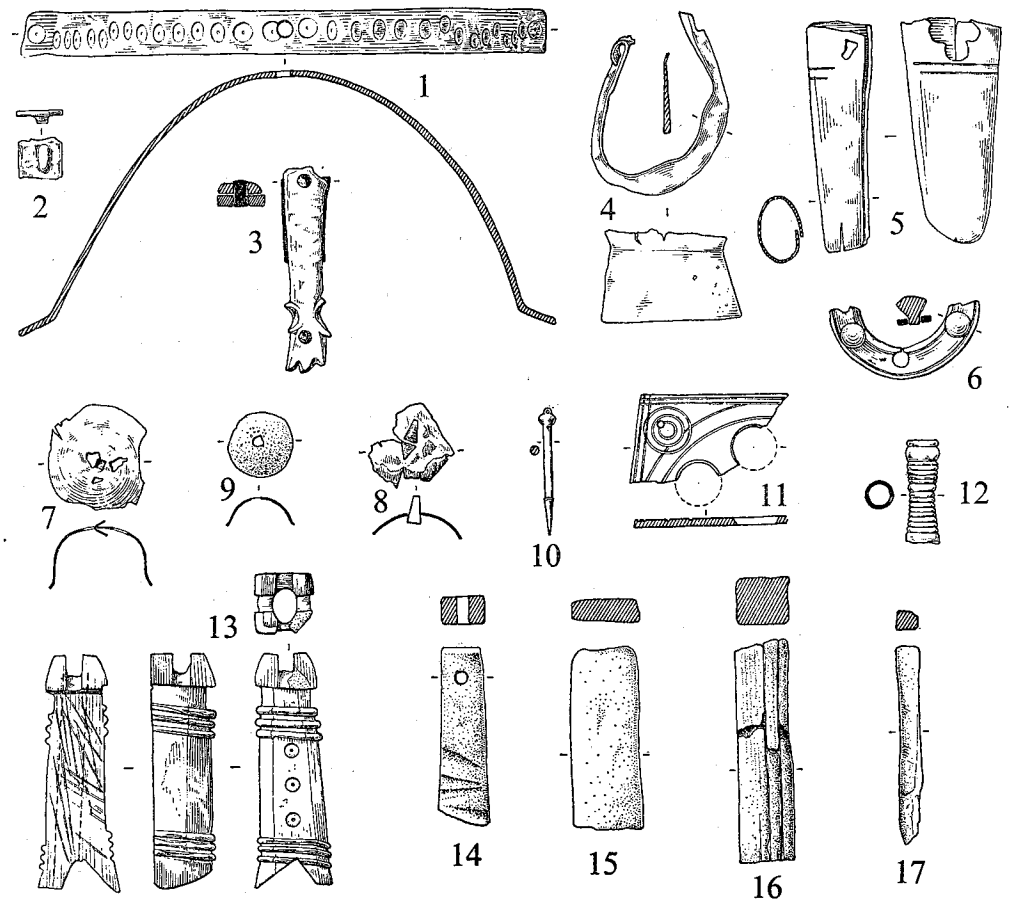


Fig. 13. Ellington. Bronze (nos. 1 to 10), bone (nos. 11 to 13), stone (nos. 14 to 17): scale $\frac{1}{3}$.

Bronze

Fig. 13, nos. 1–10

1. (?) Binding strip of near semi-circular profile with flat angled terminals; decorated on its upper surface with incised ring-and-dot-style ornamentation. A circular hole pierces the strip at its mid-point. Its function is obscure but possibly the hole was for securing the strip. Ring-and-dot motifs are common throughout the Middle Ages.

2. Complete thin square head from a stud or rivet with the junction of the brazed shank, shown to be of rectangular section.

3. Bronze tag, broken at the top with an ornate terminal, secured to a backing of leather, the width of which is shown in the section, by two rivets. Possibly a belt end or a book clasp.

4. Badly bent piece of bronze (?) binding of truncated tapering profile with sharply everted edge to the smaller diameter; there are no signs of any rivet holes.

5. Complete shape made from a sheet of thin bronze, folded round with the junction at the back, cut and rounded over at the bottom. Decorated on the front with a trefoil cut-out above two incised grooves. Probably late thirteenth century.[1]

6. Half an annular brooch with probably six original collets, two of which remain *in situ* with the rivet hole for a third. When new the brooch was covered with a gold plating but this is now badly decayed. Brooches of this general form usually have a recess in the frame for a swivel fastening-pin which spans the maximum diameter; the solid collets of the present brooch, tapering in section, are presumably imitating golden examples with inset jewels. The general form is current throughout the earlier Middle Ages but little work has been carried out on them; a similar brooch is in the British Museum.[2]

7, 8. The upper parts of two bronze bells, the lower part of which is missing in each case, both illustrating a different method of suspension; they still retain part of the suspension loop. Small bells of this type, beaten out of thin sheet bronze, are presumably for hawking due to their lightness, in contrast to the heavier cast bell of the later period. Similar bells can be seen from Seacourt,[3] deserted before *c.* 1400.

9. Complete hemispherical bronze cap with a central hole piercing the dome. Probably attached to leather as ornament on horse trappings.[4]

10. Small complete stylus-type object with a tri-lobed head pierced by a small hole and an expanded tapering point. It was apparently never used as a stylus as it is too small and its point is not worn.

Bone

Fig. 13, nos. 11–13

11. Piece of thin flat bone with two straight sides forming a slightly obtuse angle, with circular and linear incised decoration and the remains of two circular cut-outs; there is a small rivet hole near the corner. This probably belongs to the class of decorated bone casket lids described by Waterman[5] of Viking and Late Saxon type and similar to the twelfth-century example from Ludgershall Castle, Wiltshire,[6] although the latter was made up from strips of bone, whereas the present piece appears to be of much larger size.

12. Small complete hollow bone piece with waisted side formed by a series of incised grooves. This piece belongs to a class of cylindrical hollow bone objects that are invariably extremely well lathe-turned and finely polished, some having screw threads, current throughout the Middle Ages.

[1] Examples of this form are generally referred to the fourteenth century, *London Museum Medieval Catalogue* (H.M.S.O. reprinted 1967), p. 266 fig. 84 and pl. LXXV no. 9, but as the present example was found below the moat it can generally be referred to the later years of the hall's occupation.

[2] Reg. no. 1911, 5:8:2 from Dunwich, Suffolk, *c.* 1¼ in. dia. with 6 riveted bosses. For annular brooches in general see John Cherry, 'A Ring-Brooch from Waterlooville, Hants.', *Med. Arch.* XIII (1969), 224–6. I am grateful to Mr Cherry for commenting on this example and for locating the Dunwich parallel.

[3] *Oxoniensia* XXVI/XXVII (1961/2), 167, fig. 28 nos. 10 and 11 and examples from Somerby, Lincs. probably of the fifteenth–sixteenth centuries, *Lincolnshire Archaeology* fig. 14 nos. CU.3 and CU.4 and p. 85.

[4] There are similar examples from Chapel Haddlesay, Yorks., *Soc. Med. Arch. Monograph forthcoming.*

[5] *Archaeologia* XCVII (1959), 86–7 and pl. XVII.

[6] *Med. Arch.* X (1966), pl. XV.

More than likely they perform a variety of functions, one of which includes that of a bobbin for a shuttle.[1]

13. Complete bone object as drawn with square section tapering in profile, surmounted by a projecting crenellated cap; two groups of grooved raised cordons; the front, with chamfered angles, is decorated with three incised dot-and-circle ornaments, while the back is perfectly flat, with haphazard very shallow incised grooves, and a deeper incised groove carrying round the base of the projecting cap. The piece gives the appearance of either being unfinished or having been discarded, but has been subsequently worked, for the deep unsymmetrical V shape in the base is clearly secondary to the original working and was not meant to be part of the initial design. The hole completely piercing the length is also possibly secondary, for it is not concentric with the section; it has a broken bone rod still *in situ* in the body of the object. The original intention of this piece is puzzling, for the immediate shape suggests a castle or rook chessman, but its date in a general later twelfth–thirteenth century context would make this impossible for the castle with a crenellated turret does not appear until the middle of the sixteenth century.[2] Its proper identification must await the study of an increasing collection of miscellaneous bone objects from medieval excavations.

Hones

Fig. 13, nos. 14 to 17

Three hones (nos. 15 to 17) were sent to Mr S. E. Ellis of the Department of Mineralogy, British Museum (Natural History), who kindly reported as follows:

> They proved interesting as being typical members of the 'schist hone' family although clearly related to the other members of the group and probably from the same source area (in my opinion the Eastern Highlands of Scotland). No. 17, the 'slate', is a metasilstone, like type (3) of Morey and Dunham's Yorkshire hones.[3] Nos. 15 and 16 are related to, but differ in detail from, Morey and Dunham's type (I), the typical schist hones; similar stones occur among the hones from Thetford, Barton, Stonar and other places.[4]

Also found amongst occupation material relating to the timber hall were several large fragments of Niedermendig lava, all probably from the same quern. None of these was capable of being illustrated or even giving the approximate size of the quern, other than saying it was of the large flat type.

Slag

A quantity of iron slag in conglomerate nodule form was found in association with the occupation of the timber hall sealed below the moated platform, but no evidence was encountered for either smelting or working on the site.

[1] Examples from Lyveden, Northants., *Northampton Museum and Art Gallery Journal* v (June 1969), 37 fig. 15, and from Basing House, Hants., *Post-Med. Arch.* v (1971), *forthcoming*, dating to the period 1531–1645.

[2] J. J. R. Murray, *A History of Chess* (Oxford, 1913), p. 772.

[3] *Proc. Yorks Geol. Soc.* XXIX (1953), 141–8.

[4] Since writing the above Mr Ellis has published a more exhaustive study, 'The petrology and provenance of Anglo-Saxon and Medieval English honestones, with notes on some other hones', *Bull. Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.): Mineralogy*, II, no. 3 (1969), 133–87, in which the Ellington hones are mentioned.

Glass

Some small fragments of glass were submitted to Dr D. B. Harden, F.S.A., who kindly replied as follows:

These fragments are certainly glass. You will note a thin streak of red in the middle of the section surrounded by green and with a thinnish outer layer of blackish material. This indicates that the glass was originally sealing-wax red coloured by copper, and through age this copper has caused the glass to turn green through oxidation. The outer layer is a weathering which is very similar to the blackish weathering that you get on much medieval glass whatever its original colouring may have been, and this happens both on window glass and on vessel glass.

I rather think this piece is a fragment of window quarry. I know it is slightly curved but that does not prevent it being so, because many window quarries are wavy in section and, indeed, intentionally so, as it is thought by glaziers that this helps in the transmission of variant light effects through the window. There is another point worth making, and this is that this glass was originally wholly red, seeing that the red layer is now in its very middle. I think this indicates a comparatively early medieval date for it, because in the later Middle Ages they had decided that red window quarries were too dark to give good light transmission, and they therefore flashed thin layers of red on to colourless glass when making red quarries.

The only thing that slightly worries me about all these comments is that I should have thought that a medieval red quarry would have been more ruby in colour than this one which is, as we can both recognize, sealing-wax red; normally, sealing-wax red glass is opaque and one would be surprised if it were used as a window quarry. It might be, therefore, that I am wrong in thinking this fragment is part of a quarry and it may be part of a vessel after all, and vessels of sealing-wax red are known from the early medieval period both from this country and abroad. It is a great pity the fragments are not a bit larger.

Animal bones

The larger number of animal bones found were submitted to and reported on by Mr D. J. Allen with Mr E. S. Higgs as follows:

There are insufficient data to arrive at any general conclusion from the bone specimens themselves. Interpreted however from what is known of the site from other kinds of information, the faunal remains are of some interest.

They show a varied diet which included beef, pork, mutton, venison, birds and shellfish. The beef and mutton consumed was from animals killed at a prime age for eating; they are neither old nor very young. Certainly most beef cattle were kept until they were more than 18 months old and probably more than 2 years of age. None however was of any great age. The livestock appears to have matured slowly but there was, as far as the Manor was concerned, an ability to carry enough livestock over at least two winters and therefore there was no apparent shortage of winter fodder. Pigs appear to be killed for eating at all ages up to maturity, and may well have been killed throughout the year as required. The sheep/goat remains indicate that the prime reason for keeping them was meat. Of the old sheep or goats there is no trace and presumably their remains went elsewhere The same may be said of the cattle. Horsemeat does not appear to have entered the diet.

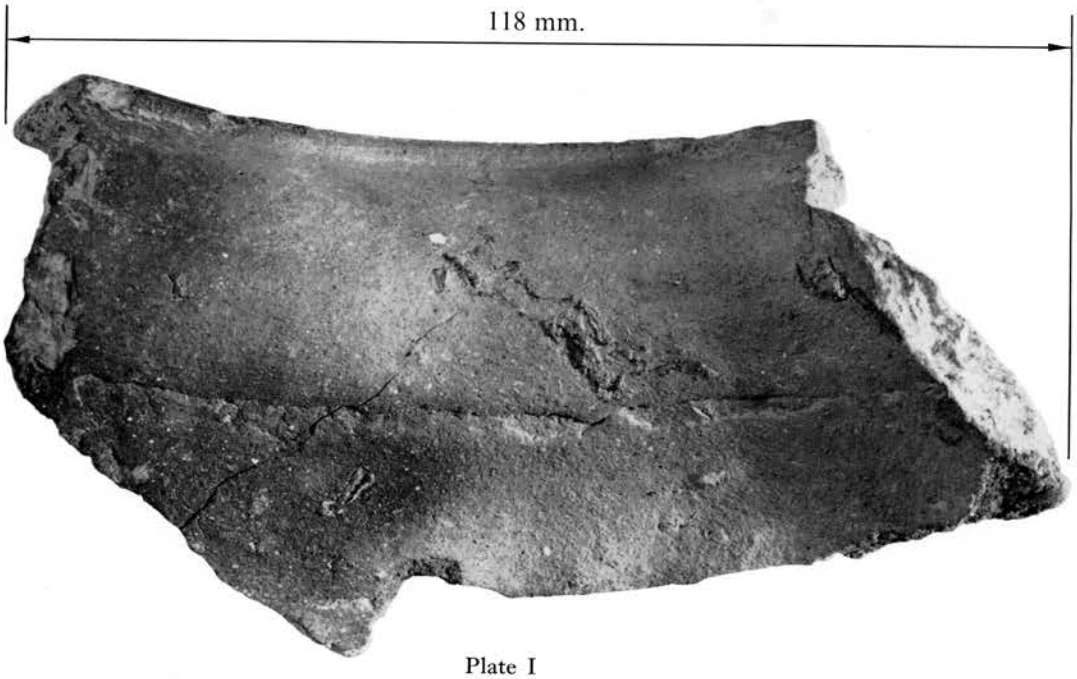


Plate I

The inside of Fig. 9, no. 72 (p. 59), showing the junction of the separately luted-on neck.

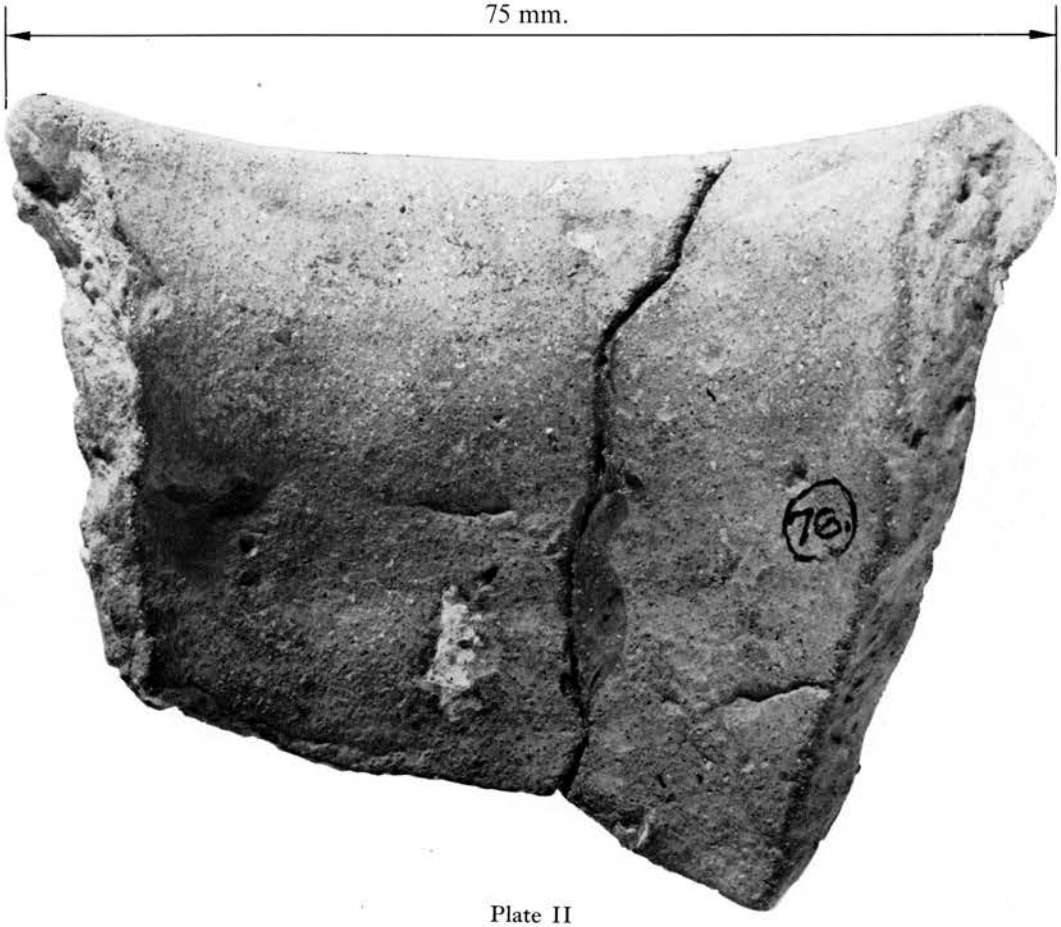


Plate II

The inside of Fig. 9, no. 76 (p. 59) showing at least three coils to the neck.

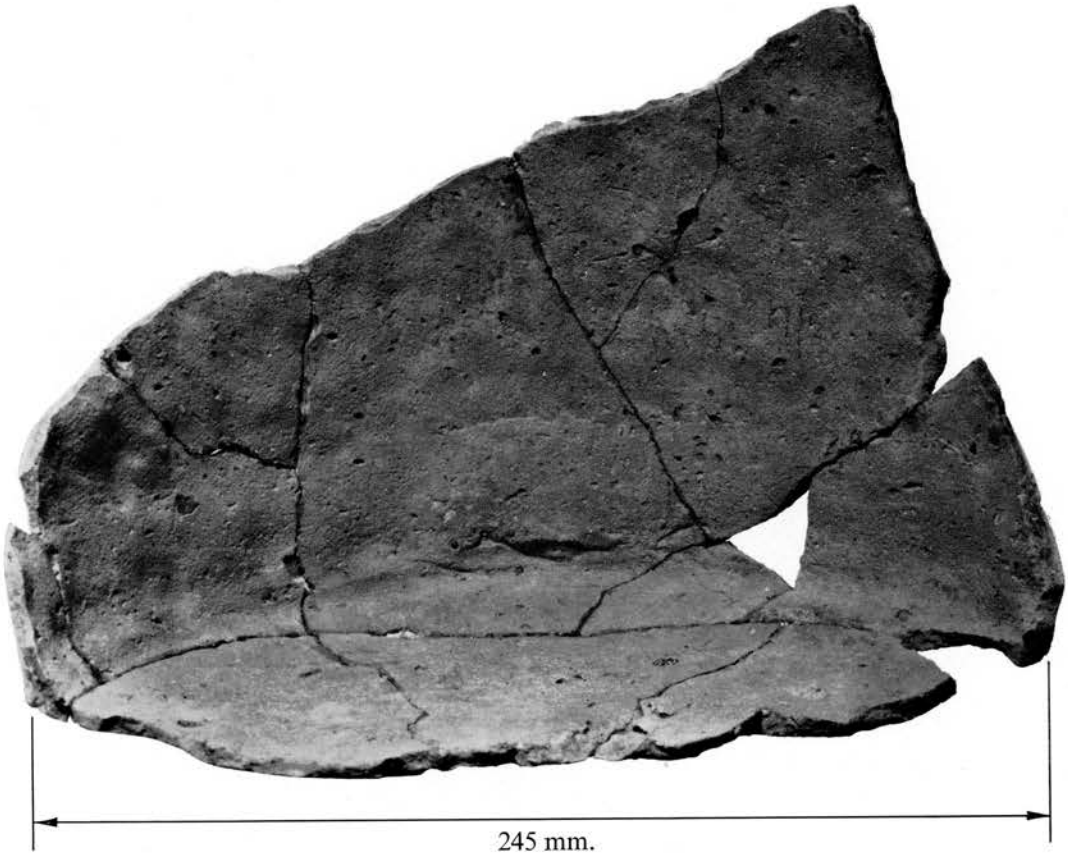


Plate III

The inside of Fig. 9, no. 70 (p. 59), showing the heavily pitted surface resulting from finger moulding after the initial pot has been coil-constructed, and the applied strip of clay near the base to strengthen the lower wall.

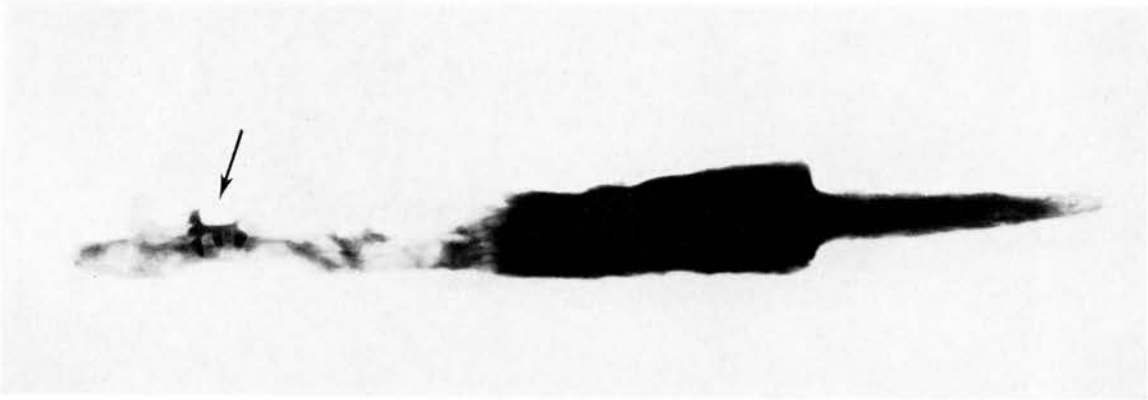


Plate IV

Radiograph of the iron knife, Fig. 12, no. 23 (p. 63), clearly showing the impression of a cutler's stamp marked by the arrow. This is not shewn on the drawing.

Horse
Upper molar permanent

Cow
Calcaneum
Metatarsal
2 × 1st phalanx
3rd phalanx
Vertebra fragment. Cow size
Skull fragment. Cow
Teeth M^3, 2 × P^3
Tooth M^3. 24+ months
2 teeth P^3. 18+ months
Incisor
Mandible fragment M_3. 24+ months
Two mandible fragments P_3 in each, 18–30+ months

Red deer
Metacarpal
Metatarsal
Cranium fragment with burr
Antler (worked)
Mandible M_2 M_3
Mandible P_3 P_4 M_1 M_2

Fallow deer
Antler

Sheep or goat
Metacarpal distal and unfused < 18 months
Tibia proximal and distal ends unfused < 36 months
Radius
2 rib fragments. Sheep/goat
Mandible fragment M_1 M_2 M_3. 18–24+ months
3 mandible fragments with P_3 P_4 M_1 M_2 M_3. 18–24+ months
Mandible fragment P_3 P_4 M_1. 9–12 months
2 × P_4

Pig
Humerus
Radius
Fibula
4 metapodials
1st phalanx proximal and fused. 24+ months
2nd phalanx proximal end fused. 24+ months
3rd phalanx
Vertebra fragment. Pig size
Upper jaw P^3 P^4 M^1 M^2 M^3. 18–20 months
2 × upper jaws P^3 P^4 M^1 in each. 18–20 months
M^2 M^3. 18–24+ months
Upper canine. 10 months
3 lower canines. 12 months
Mandible P_4 M_1 M_3. 19–20+ months
Mandible P_3 P_4 M_1 M_2. 18–20+ months
Mandible P_3 P_4 M_1 M_2 M_3. 18–24+ months
Mandible M_2. 8–12 months
Mandible with canine P_2. 12 months
Mandible with M_3 broken. 23+ months
Mandible with canine + I, I_2. 8–12 months

Fox
Radius
Tibia
2 metatarsals
Mandible M_1 M_2. 4–5 months
Two mandibles each with P_3 P_4 M_1. 6–7 months
Mandible with canine + P_3. 6–7 months

Bird
2 3rd metacarpals,
tibo tarsus,
radius,
coracoid. Pheasant size
Humerus, tibio tarsus. Chicken
Humerus fragment. Goose size

Shells
1 mussel shell
1 snail shell
1 oyster shell

+ = older than.
3 months has been added to a tooth if it shows signs of wear. Estimates of age of teeth in accordance with I. A. Silver in *Science in Archaeology*, by D. Brothwell and E. Higgs (Thames and Hudson). Estimates of age from the fusion of the epiphyses are in accordance with *The Anatomy of the Domestic Animals*, by S. Sisson and J. D. Grossman (Saunders, 1953).

Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc. Vol. LXIII (1971), pp. 75–86.

EXCAVATION OF A MOATED SITE NEAR SAWTRY, HUNTINGDONSHIRE

STEPHEN MOORHOUSE

A LIMITED reconnaissance excavation on the main platform within a large moated complex north of Archers Wood, Sawtry, revealed part of a small ancillary building with low sill walls, presumably timber superstructure and a roof covered in flat and crested ceramic tiles: the general occupation of this structure occurred during the fifteenth and early sixteenth century. No evidence was found for the construction of the moated platform. The site has been tentatively identified as a monastic grange attached to the nearby Abbey at Sawtry. An extensive range of finds, including pottery, iron, bronze and glass, forming a homogeneous group of general fifteenth- and early sixteenth-century date were found.[1]

INTRODUCTION

The site lies 2 miles SSE of Sawtry village, lying partly in and to the north of Archers Wood centred at G.R. TL 175813. The earthworks[2] (Fig. 1; Pl. I) comprise a large irregular outer moat, truncated at the north west by the Coppingfield–Sawtry road and divided into a large and small area by a moat towards, and following the line of, the south and south-east sides of the main enclosure. This divisionary moat forms one side of the main inner moated area situated in the northern larger enclosure. A small channel leads from the northern side of the moat surrounding this platform terminating to the east in a much smaller island raised 4 ft above the immediate ground and surrounded on only three sides by a moat, probably dug to provide the material to heighten the ground which it surrounds. Suggestions of foundations are visible outside the main enclosure in the meadow between the northern angle of Archers Wood and the southern boundary of the outer enclosure and in the southern part of the long field immediately to the north-east of the site, although these may be later disturbances, as the field shows signs of rig and furrow.

The earthworks were brought to the attention of Mr E. W. Joyce by Mr Michael Fitton of Whitehall Farm, Sawtry in 1967, when it was decided to excavate the site to determine its true nature. This was carried out during the summer of 1967 by Mr Joyce assisted by Mr J. Owen of Sawtry. Mr Joyce later informed the Ministry

[1] I am grateful to Mr E. W. Joyce, the site's excavator, for readily giving permission to examine the finds and allowing them to be published here, and for laying all his notes on the excavation at my disposal.

[2] Mentioned in *V.C.H. Hunts.* III (1936), 212 and *Huntingdonshire* (R.C.H.M., 1926), p. 231.

of Public Building and Works about the excavations, the site's extent and its preservation. This eventually led to the site and its immediate hinterland being scheduled as an ancient monument, the area of which is shown dotted in Fig. 1.

The Excavation

Excavation was restricted to the larger and main platform in the northern enclosure. Initial trial trenching started at a point 72 ft from the southern edge of the platform and 30 ft from the western edge, proceeding to the west with a trench 24 ft long and 4 ft wide. Extensions were made north and south to follow features encountered at the western end of the trial trench. The excavations revealed (Fig. 1) at a depth of 18 in. a layer of broken tiles, some 4–5 in. thick. Natural clay was reached at a depth of 36 in., on top of which all the structural features rested. Two separate walls were found; wall 1 terminated at the north in a right-angled corner but neither this nor the southern part was followed. It was built of rough stone walling and stood to a height of 16 in., with the suggestion of post holes along the top at intervals of 2 ft. The angle made by the wall more than likely represents the internal floor of a building, although this was not recorded as such by the excavator. Two features on the northern stretch of wall are worthy of note. Both were used worked pieces of stone lying on the top of this wall and used in its construction. Stone *a* (Fig. 1) was $23 \times 15' \times 5$ in. and was placed crossways on the wall, protruding at both sides, more so than that expected from rough walling; it appeared, to the excavator to be of some significance. Stone *b*, also in the same stretch of walling, was lying crossways, measuring $12 \times 9 \times 10$ in. Two parallel grooves had been cut on the upper surface of this stone along its length, each 3 in. from either side and $1\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 in. deep respectively, with a depression 4 in. diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep in the centre of the left-hand groove, 4 in. from the top of the stone. Wall 2 sprang from the western side of wall 1 about halfway down its excavated length; it was of similar construction to wall 1, 12 in. high and 12 in. wide, and abutting on to it. It formed a curve equivalent to a quarter of a circle; where it disappeared into the southern side of the trench it was not followed up.

Running alongside wall 1 to the east, a cobbled path was located extending beyond the northern angle of wall 1, resting on clay. The surface of the path contained a quantity of shells, while a large collection of pottery, various metal objects and iron nails were found in the mixed deposit between the path and overlying tile layer.

None of the structural remains was removed either during or after the excavation, the site being back-filled immediately after excavation had ceased, and the area reverting to pasture.

Interpretation and Discussion

The small area excavated in relation to the size of the platform necessarily limits the interpretation that can be placed upon the remains found. These appear to represent the northern angle of a building with internal floor to the left of wall 1, with an external cobbled path. The interpretation of wall 2 is not clear; one possible explanation is that of a drain, but this was not recorded as such by the excavator and its

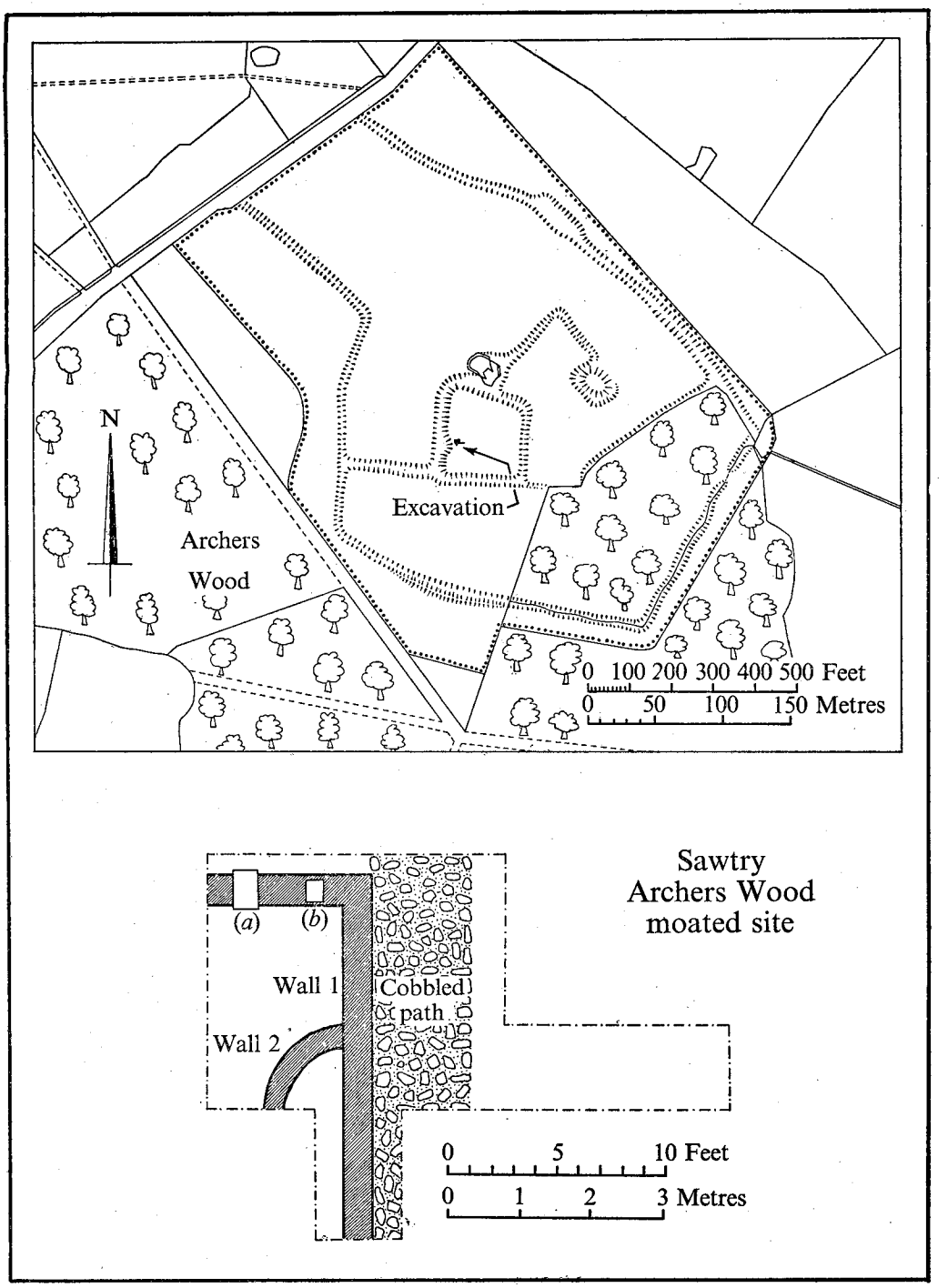


Fig. 1. Site location and details of the area examined. Area scheduled shown dotted.

purpose must remain open. Structurally the walls are of too flimsy a construction to have withstood any major superstructure and therefore appear not to have formed part of any major stone structure on the platform. Their position near the platform perimeter would suggest an ancillary building, either stable or barn. The regularity of the top of the wall and the indication of post holes along its top, together with the wall's general character, imply a timber superstructure. This method of building construction is perhaps reflected in the comparatively scarce occurrence of good building materials in the area, the majority of usable stone having to be imported into the region. The lack of any quantities of stone in the destruction level is also in agreement with this suggestion. Whatever form the superstructure took, it is evident from the destruction material that the roof was covered in flat ceramic tiles with ceramic crests on the ridge.

The finds from the site suggest a desertion for the area excavated towards the middle of the sixteenth century, but there is insufficient evidence to suggest when it was constructed. Material is accumulating to show that, in general, moated sites of this type were thrown up during the later thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries,[1] particularly in the south of England, but the evidence from the present site was far from conclusive in this respect. The finds suggest a construction date during the fifteenth century, but this may only mean that the area excavated was unoccupied up to that date, and the platform could be of a much earlier construction. The building was founded on clay, and as far as the excavator was aware was the only stone structure ever erected within the limit of the excavation, although this does not rule out the possibility of unobserved timber buildings.

The identification of the site has yet to be determined, and future documentary research could well define its true character.[2] It is unlikely to form part of the deserted medieval village of Sawtry St Judith, for the village church, St Mary's, stood very close to the Sawtry Abbey gates.[3] The aerial photograph (Pl. I) suggests a large ditched manorial-type complex with numerous internal sub-divisions. A most likely interpretation of the earthworks are those of a monastic home grange, especially as the manor of Sawtry St Judith was in the possession of Sawtry Abbey throughout the Middle Ages.[4] Comparative plans are however difficult to cite, for few sites of this type have either been excavated or surveyed.[5]

In conclusion it can be said that the remains found represent a building erected at an uncertain date, although possibly during the fifteenth century, and destroyed towards the middle of the sixteenth century, with a timber superstructure, tiled roof and probably forming one of the peripheral domestic buildings on the platform.

[1] The evidence for this is discussed by J. G. Hurst in D. Gillian Hurst and John G. Hurst 'Excavation of Two Moated Sites: Milton, Hampshire, and Ashwell, Herefordshire' *Journ. Brit. Arch. Journ.* xxx, (1967), 83–5. Sites in the St Neots area, producing evidence of earlier occupation beneath moated sites are discussed in the context of the Ellington hall (pp. 46–9 of this volume).

[2] This is currently being carried out by Mr P. G. M. Dickinson but was unfortunately not completed when the present paper went to press. [3] *V.C.H. Hunts.* III (1936), 212. [4] *Ibid.*, pp. 207–9.

[5] The most recent work carried out on granges combining documentary, archaeological, and field-work evidence, is Colin Platt, *The Monastic Grange in Medieval England* (Macmillan, 1969).

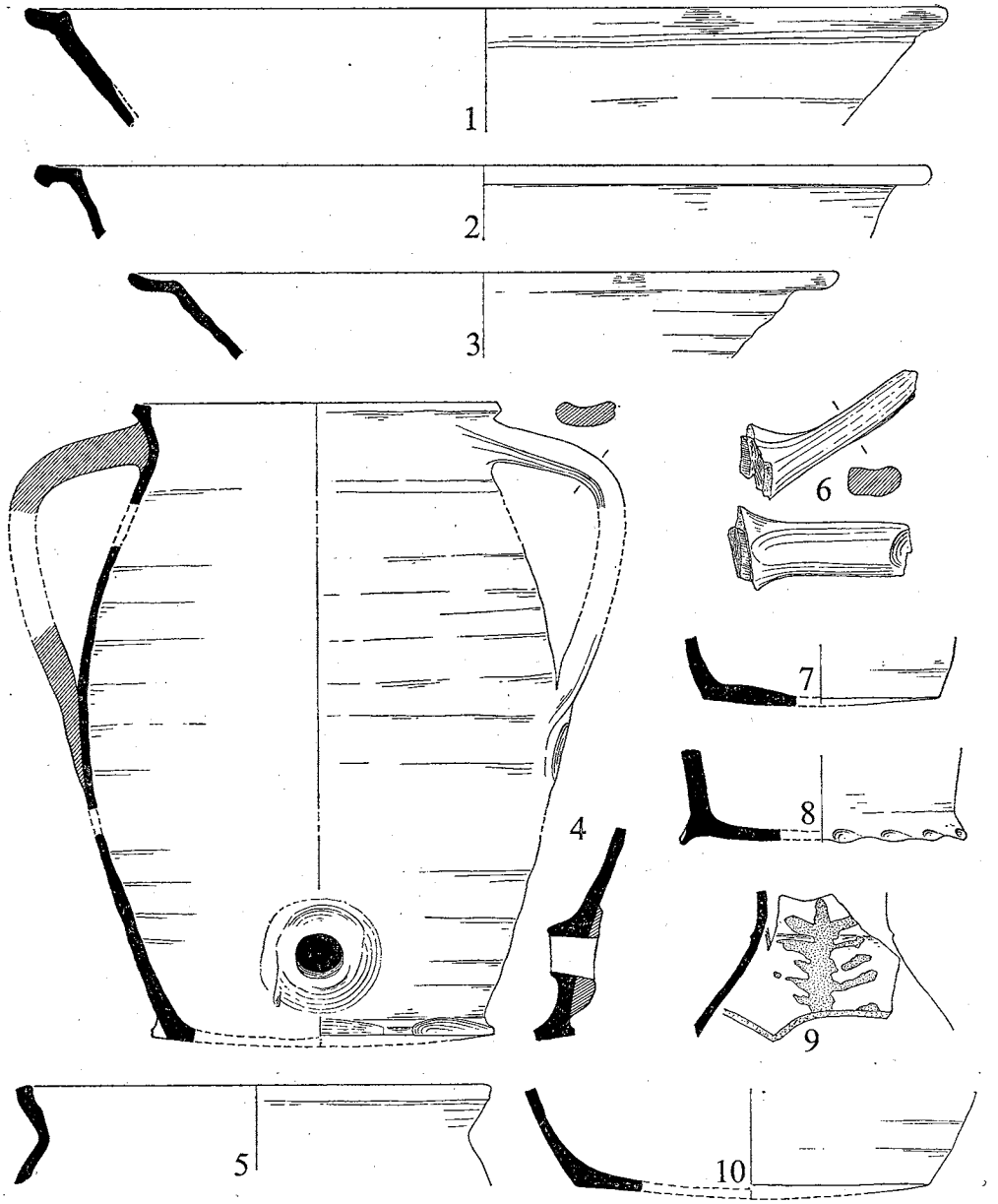


Fig. 2. Pottery: Oxidized wares, 1–10: scale $\frac{1}{4}$.

The site's possible identification as a grange and the termination of the finds during the first half of the sixteenth century make it possible to associate them with a pre-Dissolution date of 1536, but the small area excavated and the uncertainty of the site's true nature make this open to correction; the question will only be solved by more extensive investigation of the earthworks or the relating of irrefutable documentary evidence.

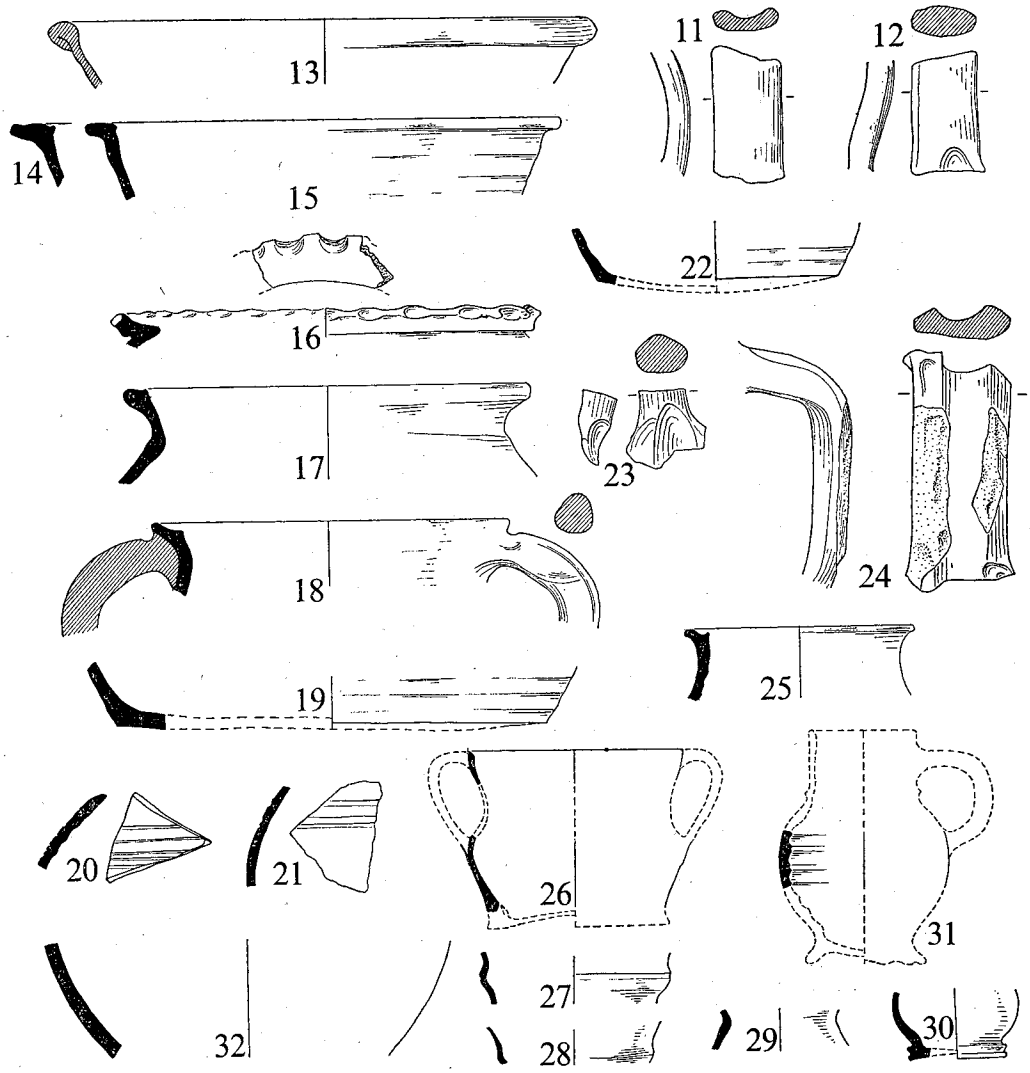


Fig. 3. Pottery: Oxidized wares, 11–12; reduced wares, 13–25; Cistercian type, 26–30; Raeren, 31, and Spanish olive jar, 32: scale ¼.

Pottery

The finds from Sawtry form a useful addition to other local ceramic groups in the area. The local pottery can be divided into three distinct fabric types, with the exception of one small sherd of St Neots ware type of twelfth–thirteenth-century date. The first group represented by Fig. 2, nos. 1 to 10 is characterized by an oxidized sandy fabric with pimply surfaces and occasionally with a grey core. Only one vessel, no. 9, stands out from this general fabric in that it is in a harsh-textured sandy fabric with a white slip. The second major fabric type is represented by Fig. 3, nos. 11 to 25, and is typified by a hard reduced dark-grey sandy ware; bowls, jars, cisterns and jugs occur in this type. Two sherds, in a very similar fabric but distinct from

either of the previous types, are illustrated by Fig. 3, nos. 24 and 25: a very hard smooth fabric with a characteristic washy white slip.

The forms and fabrics represented in the group as a whole suggest a general fifteenth-century–early sixteenth-century date, comparison with other local groups generally confirming this date range. In particular the extensive early-sixteenth-century deposit from the (?)fishpond at St Neots contained highly comparable material, particularly in the form and fabrics of nos. 1, 2, 3, and 8.[1] Angled handles, no. 4, are also represented in this deposit, although there was no evidence for them coming from cisterns, and the faceted foot was also not represented. The present storage vessel or cistern, no. 4, can however be related to the St Neots (?)fishpond group though the fabric of nos. 1, 2 and 3, and a similar kiln source is most likely for all these vessels. The St Neots group also demonstrates that totally reduced wares, Fig. 3, nos. 13 to 23, persisted until the early sixteenth century, and confirms the homogeneity of the present group. As the date range of these forms and fabrics has yet to be defined locally, a general date in the fifteenth, with an emphasis on the second half of the century, and extending into the sixteenth century, could be suggested for these local wares. The Cistercian types, Fig. 3, nos. 26 to 30 and the Raeren sherd, no. 31, confirm a terminal date during the first half and possibly early sixteenth century. Despite the fact that the site's function can only be suggested, the pottery forms a useful addition to existing late medieval types and in addition to extending the range of forms known in the area, its termination during the first half of the sixteenth century helps to support the idea that the site is of monastic character, not outliving the Dissolution of 1536.

Oxidized wares (Fig. 2, nos. 1 to 10 and Fig. 3, nos. 11 and 12)

1. Large sherd from the rim of a bowl in a very hard-fired fabric with blue-grey core and dull brick-red margins beneath dull reddish brown surfaces; fire-blackened exterior.

2. Two non-joining sherds from a bowl rim in a fine smooth slightly soapy fabric, completely oxidized a light creamy pink with pimply surfaces; unglazed.

3. Three non-joining sherds from a bowl rim in fine smooth hard fabric, completely oxidized and similar to no. 2 above; unglazed.

4. Twelve large sherds, some of which join, incorporating a major part of a large barrel-shaped vessel, completely oxidized in identical fabric to no. 2 with the exception of the handle which has a dark blue-grey core; the spread foot has been horizontally faceted as if copying a metal vessel and the inner face of the handle junction on the rim has had an additional piece of clay smoothed over as if covering a spigot on the handle or a thumb impression securing the junction, neither of which is now evident. The lower junction of the handle has two faint external thumb impressions while the bung has been neatly applied and smoothed on to the body of the pot.

5. Large sherd from the rim of a cooking pot or cistern in a smooth fabric with blue-grey core and light creamy pink surfaces similar to no. 2, and external dull watery olive-green glaze on the shoulder.

[1] *Post. Med. Arch.* V (1971), *forthcoming*. I am grateful to Mr Peter Addyman for showing me this important group in advance of his own publication. Identical types can be seen from St Neots Priory, *Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc.* LIX (1966), 58, fig. 8 nos. 35–6 of late-fifteenth–early sixteenth-century date, and p. 65, fig. 13, nos. 19, 20 and 22 of general late medieval date. This fabric appears to form one of the staple types during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries in and around St Neots.

6. Complete straight handle from a (?)pipkin in completely oxidized fabric similar to no. 2; unglazed.

7. Base in a hard sandy fabric with grey core and dull orange-pinky surfaces, very smooth externally and coarse-textured internally; the base angle has been externally knife-trimmed.

8. Jug base in hard slightly coarse-textured fabric with blue-grey core and dull creamy-buff surfaces; slight thumb impressions on the expanded foot.

9. Three non-joining sherds forming half the circumference of a jug neck in a hard-fired coarse-textured fabric with dark blue-grey core and dull pink surfaces, externally smoother with a painted design in dull creamy slip which has rubbed off in parts.

10. Base in smooth, completely oxidized dull pink fabric with very smooth external surface while the inner is slightly sandy.

11. Grooved strap handle in a hard fine sandy fabric with smooth dull pinky-brown surfaces and a blue-grey core; unglazed.

12. Strap handle in similar fabric to no. 11 above but slightly coarser; unglazed.

Reduced wares (Fig. 3, nos. 13 to 23)

13. Rim in totally reduced grey fabric with hard micaceous inclusions, giving the surface a harsh texture, with fire-blackening on the outside below the rim; unglazed.

14. Rim in similar fabric to no 11; unglazed.

15. Two non-joining rim sherds in similar fabric to no. 11, totally reduced to a dark grey; unglazed.

16. Rim in coarse-textured hard sandy dull creamy-pink fabric with deep vertical thumb impressions on the rim edge; unglazed.

17. Cooking pot rim in a hard sandy totally reduced dark-grey fabric with a patch of fire-blackening on the rim edge.

18. Rim with attached handle in dark-grey reduced fabric identical to no 13, the handle having a very smooth polished surface, possibly from use.

19. Base in totally reduced dark-grey fabric with smooth surfaces.

20. Body sherd in a fine sandy totally reduced dark-grey fabric with light blue-grey inner and a dark grey-brown outer surface with external decoration of incised horizontal lines; unglazed.

21. Body sherd from the shoulder of a vessel in a hard sandy dark-grey reduced fabric with dark buff margins and dark blue-grey smooth pimply surfaces; unglazed.

22. Base from a small vessel in a dark-grey fine sandy reduced fabric with smooth dull pinky-brown external surfaces.

23. Base from a rod handle in similar fabric to no. 15; unglazed.

White Slip-decorated Jugs (Fig. 3, nos. 24–5)

24. A large wide angular handle in a fine smooth powdery fabric with blue-grey core and light grey surfaces with white slip splashes under the handle.

25. Jug rim in a hard-fired dark red smooth fabric with dull creamy-pink surfaces covered externally in a deep glossy green glaze over a patchy off-white slip which has splashed internally.

Cistercian type Ware

The form and fabrics of Fig. 3, nos. 26 to 30 associate this small group with the Cisterian ware tradition, mainly of central and northern England,[1] with kilns to the

[1] Initially discussed in *Pub. Thoresby Soc.* XLIX, no. 110 (1962–4), 116–9 and fig. 38. An extended series with full bibliography is to appear in Peter Brears *English Country Potters* (David and Charles, 1971), *forthcoming*.

north of London and supplying its hinterland. At least two centres of production are indicated by the present sherds, on the evidence of firing temperature shown by the fabrics and the colour and density of the glazes. The absence of decorated sherds is perhaps noticeable, especially as no. 30 comes from a group of recently defined Cistercian Wares, whose main distribution lies to the north-west of London.[1] They are distinguished by the red sandy oxidized fabric, glazes ranging from bright brown to orange and complete lack of decoration on any of the vessels examined. The Sawtry association with a larger number of the more conventional harder-reduced wares could suggest a northern limit to the type's distribution, but as the excavation was of limited extent, the material derived from it can hardly be regarded as forming a complete cross section of types current in use during the later fifteenth and early sixteenth century; thus the relevance placed on the type ratios is questionable. Cups, nos. 26 to 29, are not likely to come from the Babylon kilns near Ely and another centre is to be expected.

26. Rim and body sherd with the attached base of a handle in a fine smooth purple-red fabric with a shiny dull olive-green glaze completely covering both surfaces.

27. Body sherd from the shoulder of a cup in identical fabric and glaze to no. 26; it is possible that they come from the same vessel.

28. Sherd from the lower part of the flared rim from a cup in a hard fine dark purple-brown fabric with a matt purple-brown glaze completely covering the surfaces giving the small rounded micaceous content of the body a creamy white speckled effect.

29. Sherd from the shoulder of a cup in a hard fine smooth purple fabric with glaze covering all the surfaces, internally a very dark brown and externally dark purple with lighter specks.

30. Sherd from the base and lower half of a small globular cup in a hard, totally oxidized, brick-red fabric with thick glossy deep-brown glaze, completely covering the interior, and the upper half only externally.

Imports

31. Body sherd from the central part of a Raeren mug in a hard fine-grained grey stoneware with light purple inner surface and covered externally in a light creamy-grey lustrous glaze with orange-brown mottling. Mugs of this type were imported from their source in the Raeren factories of the middle Rhine from the late 15th through to the early 17th century, but are far more common in contexts of the early 16th century and have become a type fossil of sites of that date.[2]

32. Large body sherd in an extremely fine smooth soapy fabric with light-pink core and dull creamy surfaces which have a pinkish tinge. Possibly from a Spanish olive jar but the majority of known examples have a sandy content to the body; however an olive jar with a similar smooth fabric has recently come from Porchester Castle, Hampshire, thus strengthening the suggested origin for the present piece. Spanish olive jars have a wide general date-range but are far more common on post-medieval sites in this country, where they were brought as containers for olives,

[1] *Hertfordshire Archaeology* III (1971), *forthcoming*.

[2] Originally discussed by J. G. Hurst 'Stoneware Jugs: Flemish Stoneware Jug' in Barry Cunliffe, *Winchester Excavations, 1949–1966* (1964), 142–3 and expanded in J. G. Hurst 'The Pottery' in L. Keen, 'Excavations at Old Wardour Castle, Wiltshire' *Wilts. Arch. Mag.* LXII (1967), 74. For a range of types see Stephen Moorhouse, 'Finds from Basing House Hampshire, (c. 1540 to 1645): Part One', *Post-Med. Arch.* IV (1970), 77, Fig. 21, nos. 252–5 p. 76.

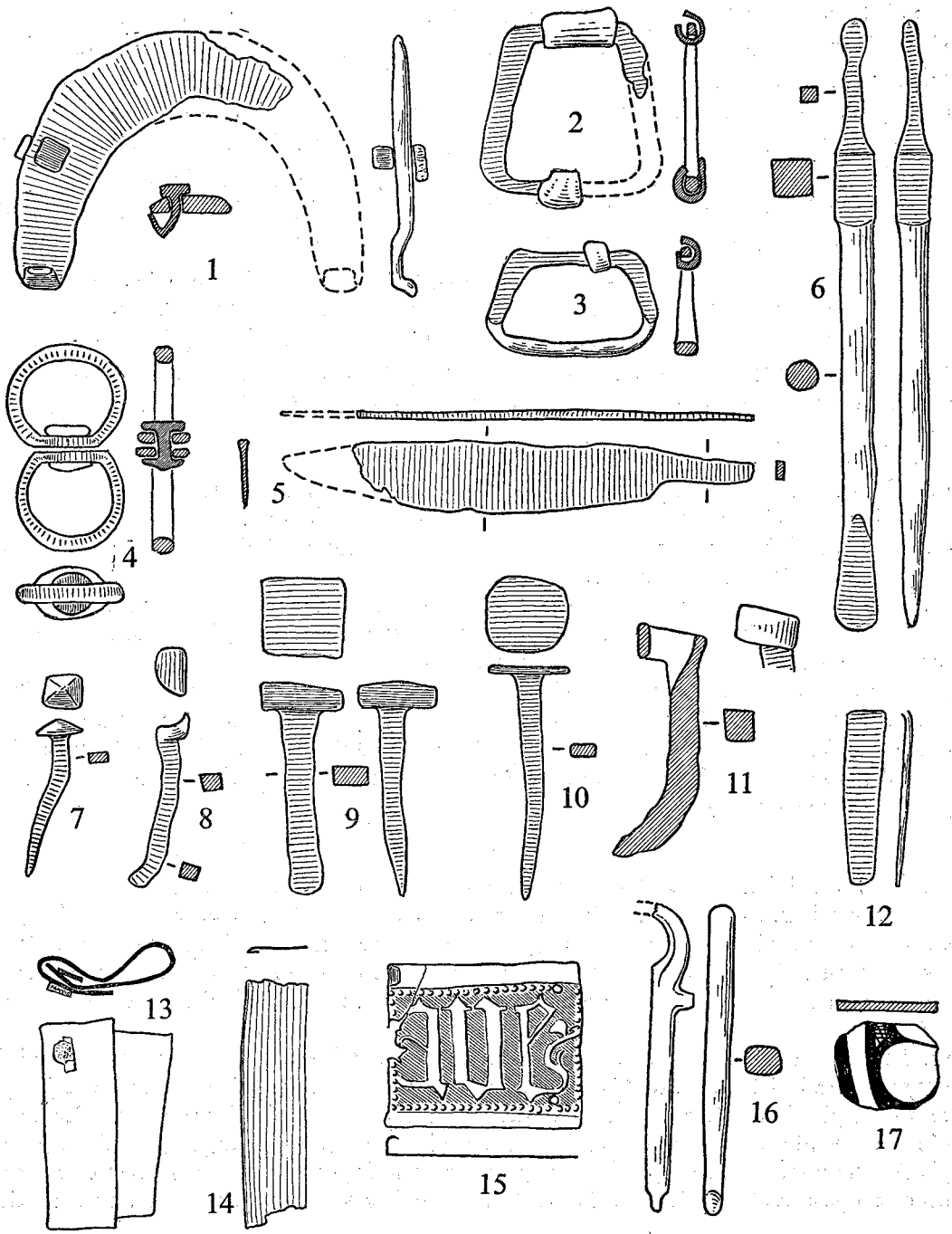


Fig. 4. Iron, 1–12, Bronze, 13–16 and Glass, 17; nos. 1 to 14 & no. 17: ½ size; nos. 15–16 full size.

hence their name. Although the basic forms have been established,[1] few have been found in dated contexts; but generally globular or spherical ones are early in the sequence, while the tall pointed variety are regarded as later types. The form of the present piece suggests a globular vessel and is therefore of use in being associated with a site which can be shown to have been abandoned towards the middle of the 16th century.

Metalwork

All the significant metalwork from the site is illustrated; under half a dozen pieces were incapable of identification. Where datable they appear to be wholly consistent with a late medieval type, confirming the evidence of the pottery that the structure was not erected until some time during the fifteenth century.

Iron (Fig. 4, nos. 1 to 12)

1. Half a badly corroded horseshoe with an angled end terminating in a bent up calkin; visual evidence of only one nail hole with clenched nail *in situ*. The straight edges would suggest it is not early medieval in date and therefore probably belongs to the fifteenth–sixteenth century.

2. Trapezoid shaped buckle with the base of the swivel pin and the rolled over catch-plate. A harness buckle of general medieval type.

3. Complete squat buckle of general trapezoidal shape with a rounded lower catch-plate bar and the remains of the swivel pin. Its finish would suggest a more personal use and it can be related to late medieval types.

4. Complete swivel hook with identical rounded loops flattened at the junction, with a rivet pin holding them together and allowing them to move; this is now solid with rust. This type of double looped link is common throughout the medieval period and had a variety of uses such as chain links, pot hangers over fires, and on horse furniture.

5. A near complete solid iron knife with broken tip. A common general type throughout the medieval period, but the recessed tang and continuous top to the blade and tang would suggest a late medieval date.

6. Complete chisel with hexagonal shaft, square sectioned shoulder and tapered tang; the blade has been beaten from the shaft. The possibility that this is a screwdriver is lessened by Salzman's[2] suggestion that the screw did not come into use until the mid-sixteenth century; the developed form of the piece would suggest a much later date if indeed it was a screwdriver. The solid shank and shoulder would be in agreement with it being interpreted as a chisel, although the working end has become blunted.

7. Well preserved nail with rectangular-sectioned shank tapering to a point and a square pyramid head symmetrically on the shank.

8. Nail-type object with a slightly tapering square-sectioned shank and an asymmetrical head beaten out of the end of the shank; the top of the head had broken off but possibly its original form was similar to no 11 below.

9. Complete nail with rectangular-sectioned shank tapering to a slightly expanded flat point; a solid thick square head.

10. The best preserved of three similar nails with thin rectangular-sectioned tapering shanks and a large thin rounded head set symmetrically on the shank.

[1] John M. Goggin 'The Spanish Olive Jar: An Introductory Study' *Yale University Publications in Anthropology* (1966), 3–40, especially p. 28.

[2] L. F. Salzman *Building in England Down to 1540* (Oxford, rev. ed. 1967), 309.

11. Iron object with a thick square-sectioned stem curving towards the pointed tip, and a broad circular rim possibly beaten and formed out of the end of the shank. The purpose of the piece is not clear but possibly it was a variation of an ox-goad although more typical ox-goads are not of this precise shape.

12. Piece of thin iron slightly tapering towards a rounded end while the broad broken end is beginning to curve.

Bronze (Fig. 4. nos. 13 to 16)

13. A broad piece of sheet-bronze folded round and secured at the top with a split bronze rivet, badly buckled and bent almost flat.

14. Strip of thin sheet bronze folded double along one of the longer sides.

15. Near complete thin rectangular sheet of bronze with a stamped and chased design on one side reading '*ave*', the stamped dot border illustrating that the piece is complete. The background has been chased diagonally, to reveal the lettering in relief. The plate formed part of a book-cover hinge, being secured by the two small rivet holes near the right hand border while the hinge of the book clasp was pivoted between the turned over projecting lugs on the left hand side of the plate, of which only one remains. This inscription is probably part of a two word monogram one inscribed on each hinge plate, the most commonly used being 'Ave Maria'. Book clasp plates of this type are not closely datable but are generally late medieval.[1]

16. A slender object of sub-rectangular section flattened at one end with a vertical projection below a broken curving terminal.

Glass (Fig. 4, no. 17)

17. Small piece of broken badly laminated dark green glass with painted design on one side in dull matt purple.

[1] A plate of similar design comes from Broken Wharf, Thames Street, London, amongst a deposit of general fifteenth and sixteenth century date, *London Museum Medieval Catalogue* (H.M.S.O., reprinted 1967), 270 fig. 85 no. 6 and p. 269.

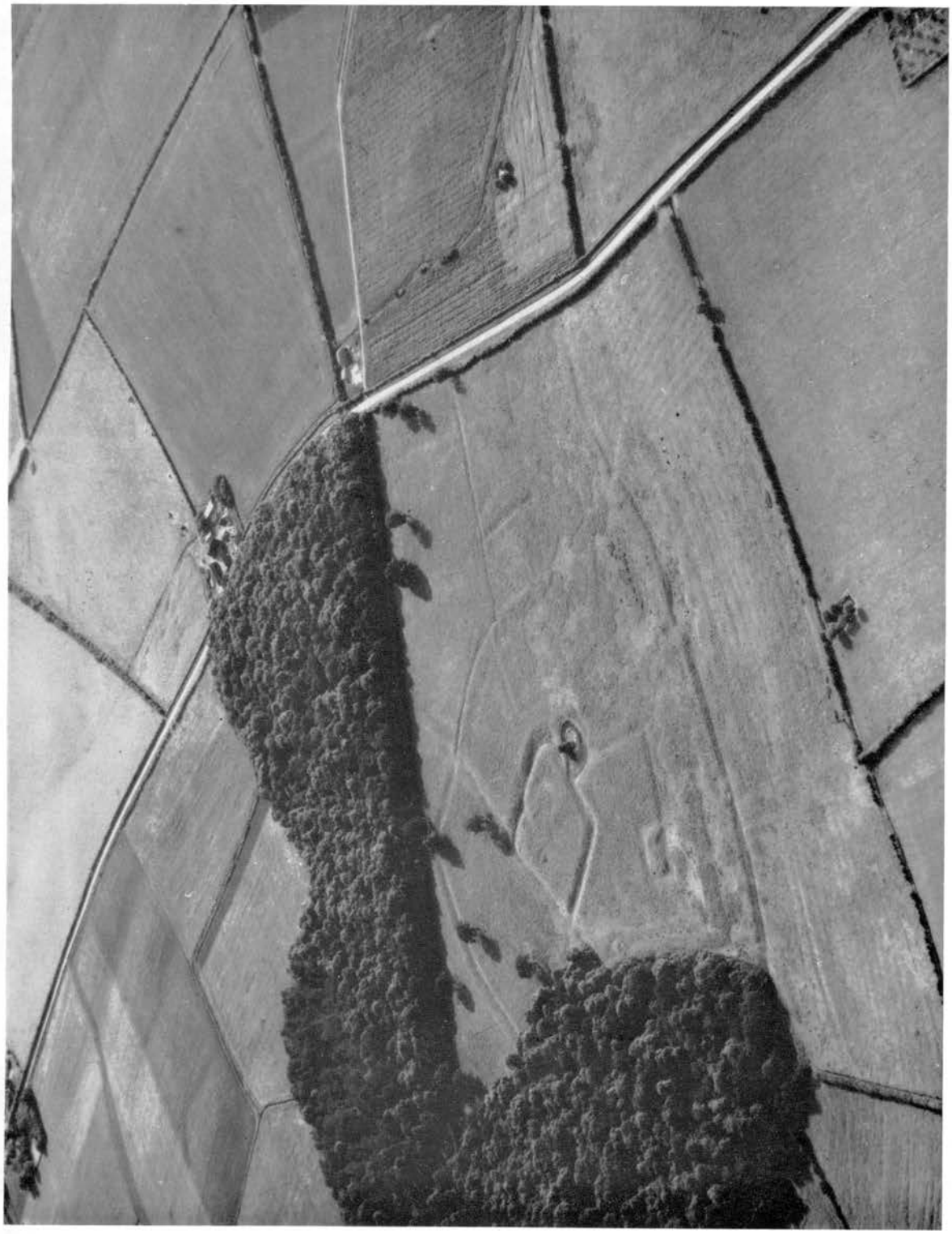


Plate I

The moated complex from the north-east, clearly showing the internal sub-divisions (only main outlines are shown in Fig. 1) and the rig and furrow to the north-east.

Proc. Camb. Ant. Soc. Vol. LXIII (1971), pp. 87–89.

SWAFFHAM FEN ENGINE

K. S. G. HINDE

IN 1821 the Commissioners of Swaffham and Bottisham drainage district erected a Boulton & Watt beam engine of 24 (nominal) horse power at Upware, driving a scoop wheel. This was only the third permanent steam engine to be installed in the Fens for drainage purposes.[1] The Boulton & Watt Collection in Birmingham Public Library has yielded plans of this engine which provide much detail of its construction.[2]

It has been inferred that this engine survived (if in altered form) until 1939. There are many photographs of Swaffham Fen Engine of relatively recent date, as well as some detail and personal memory; and it would obviously be misleading if such data were construed as relating to a very early engine, especially if used for comparative purposes.

The valve gear of the engine which existed until 1939 bore a plate inscribed 'Robert Daglish & Co., Engineers, St Helen's Foundry, Lancs. 1850'.[3] This could be taken to refer to alterations carried out at that date, but all the evidence suggests otherwise.

The published data as to the two engines suggest that they differed in size to an extent which would preclude mere alteration or continued use of the old buildings:

	1821 Engine[2]	1850 Engine[3]
Nominal horse power	24	80
Cylinder		
bore	26½ in.	42 in.
stroke	60 in.	84 in.
Balance wheel diameter	18 ft	25 ft
Scoop wheel diameter	26 ft	36 ft
No. of paddles	40	48

Scoop wheels were sometimes lowered, i.e. the paddles were lengthened; but it is difficult to believe that additional paddles were inserted, and it seems that a fresh wheel was provided. That the larger wheel would not have fitted in the scoop wheel-house as shown on the ground plan of the 1821 engine is not surprising, since neither would a 26-ft wheel. The ground plan must have been altered before that engine was constructed. The 1850 balance wheel would not have fitted in the 1821 engine house without extension to the front of the building.

[1] For an early temporary use of steam engines in the Fens see N. Multon: 'The Use of Steam Drainage in the making of the Eau Brink Cut', *J. Ind. Arch.* IV, 4 (Nov. 1967), 353.

[2] Reproduced in R. L. Hills, *Machines Mills and Uncountable Costly Necessities* (Goose & Son, Norwich, 1967).

[3] R. H. Clark, 'Early Engines of the Eastern Counties', *Eng. Mechs.* (1936).

The elevation suggests a somewhat similar architectural style, but the 1821 engine had a boiler house to the left of the engine house looking from the river with a chimney stack in the centre of the rear of the boiler house. The 1850 engine had the boiler house to the right of the engine house with a chimney stack at the front right-

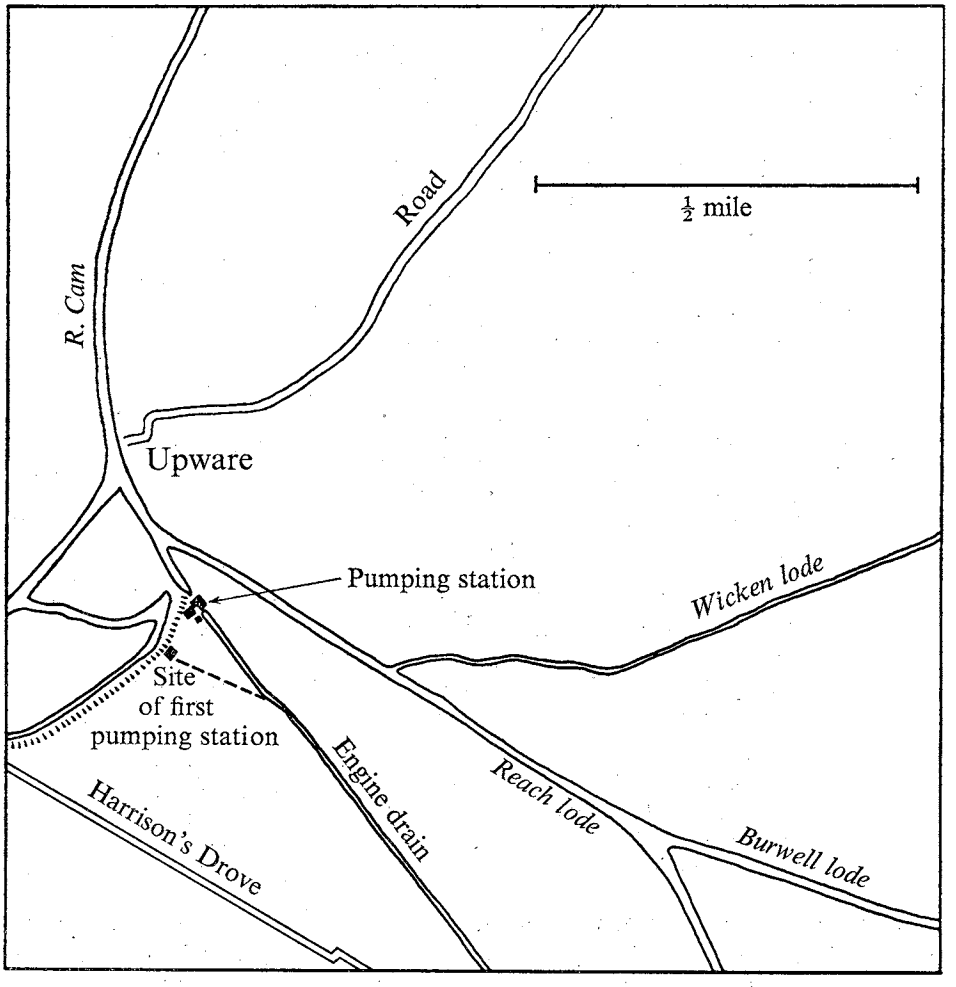


Fig. 1. Plan of Upware, showing relative positions of 1821 and 1850 pumping engines.

hand corner.[1] The arrangement of doors and windows differed considerably between the two buildings.

The boiler house of the 1850 engine survived destruction of the engine house in 1939. Its external measurements of 49×33 ft^2 are to be compared with the internal

[1] See photograph (wrongly called Upwell Engine) opposite p. 239 in H. C. Darby, *Draining of the Fens* Cambridge, (1940) and K. S. Hinde, 'The Beam Engine', *East Anglian Mag.* XIII (1954), 467.

[2] Approximate measurements taken by myself.

dimensions of the 1821 boiler house of 31 ft × 18 ft 4 in.[1] The latter housed one boiler with provision for a second. The former housed three boilers originally which were replaced by two large Galloway boilers in 1887.

Not only does it seem clear that the 1821 engine and its buildings were totally demolished in 1850, but it seems that the new engine was erected on a different site. The 1836 1-in. O.S. map[2] shows the old engine as lying well to the south of the site chosen for the later engine, near the position of the engineer's house known as Ivy Cottage which survived until about 1962. Thus in 1850 the course of the engine drain must also have been altered (Fig. 1). A slight bend in the drain shown on large-scale maps of this century indicates the point at which the direction was changed. A ditch still existing in the washland of the river could well be the remains of the old engine outfall cut. The reasons for the change of site can only be inferred. The new site probably offered a larger area of relatively hard standing and certainly provided a shorter and more direct outfall into the river. Convincing reasons must have existed for this: even a slight change of site on reconstruction of pumping stations was unusual because additional drainage works were then involved and the old buildings could not be used.[3]

[1] R. L. Hills, *op. cit.*

[2] See also Baker's map of the Fens (1821).

[3] An account of the engines in the wider context of the drainage of Swaffham and Bottisham district will appear in the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments' *Cambridgeshire*, vol. II, now in course of preparation.

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VOLUME LXIII

JANUARY 1971 TO DECEMBER 1971

Price £2 net for members, £3 for non-members

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