

DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL
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THE DATE OF MELANDRA CASTLE:
EVIDENCE OF THE POTTERY.

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*Non ergo sequor priores ? facio, sed permitto mihi et
inuenire aliquid et mutare et relinquere.*

(SENECA, *Epist.* lxxx)

THE report on excavations at Melandra Castle, near Glossop, in the years immediately preceding the late war¹ reserved for a later occasion details of the pottery then found. Subsequently the writer learnt from Dr. J. Wilfrid Jackson that, as well as the finds from the site on public exhibition, the whole of the "Melandra Collection" is in Buxton Museum on loan from Glossop Corporation. Mr. J. A. Robinson, the Curator, generously provided every facility for the study of the Collection and it is therefore now possible to offer an account of all the pottery from Melandra at present accessible² and to attempt an assessment of the evidence it affords as to the history of the fort.

¹ *Recent Work on Melandra Castle*, vol. 64 (1943) of this *Journal*, pp. 49-63.

² There are two or three fragments in Manchester Museum.

The bulk of the Melandra Collection is considerable; it was transferred to Buxton in four tea-chests and some smaller wooden boxes. One tea-chest contained only fragments of tile and brick, another was almost full of fragments of *amphorae*. All this material was indubitably Roman but, thus torn from its archæological horizon, of little significance. Of the pottery in the Collection no single sherd bore any indication of the circumstances in which it had been found; the few labels which survived were illegible or meaningless. Even of the date of the excavations represented by the sherds there is no certain indication. There is reason to think that pottery found in the first excavations of 1899 may be included; nearly all the sherds mentioned in *Melandra Castle*³ have been identified; probably the pottery found during the digging which went on almost up to the outbreak of the war of 1914-1918 is also present since Mr. Robert Hamnet continued to be interested in the work and it is mainly to him that we owe the survival of the Collection. There is no reason to think that any of the fragments were not found at Melandra; nevertheless in the lists which are given below the documented sherds from the recent excavations are always distinguished from the contents of the Collection.

The lack of accurate records will appear reprehensible to those trained in modern archæological practice. Much criticism has been levelled at the early workers at Melandra for their methods and for their failure to give proper accounts of their work. The date of *Melandra Castle* is not a complete justification of its style or of its contents, and as excuse for creating a redoubt during the war of 1939-1945 in what remains of the Roman rampart and for hacking out a wide trench across the area of the fort the local garrison might plead

³ *Melandra Castle, being the report of the Manchester and District Branch of the Classical Association for 1905, Manchester (1906).*

the precedent of the numerous foragers who have dug holes and pits up and down the area of the fort and left them open. The size and nature of the Melandra Collection does however suggest some mitigation of this criticism. Very little, if indeed any, of the pottery found over a period of many years can have been discarded; the fragments which are now significant can be packed in one wooden box. Though the Collection has unfortunately lost much of its archaeological value because there is no accurate record of its contents and of its formation, taken in bulk it has considerable value since it permits what must be a reasonably comprehensive survey of the Roman pottery from the site. Perhaps however its greatest value lies in the close general similarity of its contents to the comparatively scanty pottery finds from the more recent excavations. Conclusions from the documented sherds and from whatever remains to be found in the future can be pressed with greater confidence because of the mere survival of this great mass of pottery from Melandra.

To illustrate the whole Collection would need considerable space and in all the circumstances the results would hardly be commensurate with the labour involved. The material illustrated in the accompanying figures has therefore been selected as follows. In general pottery illustrated in *Melandra Castle* has not again been drawn. With this exception all decorated Samian from the site is described and figured in so far as is permitted by the very poor state of preservation of many of the fragments. All *mortaria* of which there are significant remains are also dealt with below. The sections of coarse wares in Figs. VI, VII and VIII are all of sherds found during the excavations of 1935-1938, the provenance of each being on record. Fig. IX illustrates three interesting pieces from the Collection.

Whether any of the pottery in the Collection came from stratified deposits cannot now be known but

to judge from the stratigraphy of the site it is perhaps doubtful whether this lack of record has resulted in any really serious loss of knowledge. The site is shallow: to generalize, under a few inches, rarely as much as a foot, of humus there is a confused layer of cobbles, clay and so forth resting upon a layer of sandy material an inch or so thick with the "original clay" below. As described in the previous report⁴ the post trenches for the wooden buildings of the first fort were cut into the clay and contained but little pottery in so far as they were examined.⁵ Sherds described in the following lists as having come from off the original clay lay in this sandy material but it would be an unjustifiable straining of the facts to suggest that there was an impermeable division between the sand and what lay above it. Clay floors found in tracing the wooden buildings were as far as possible left for later examination, which so far it has not been found possible to carry out, but in one instance clay-packing under a layer of roofing tiles, probably part of the second rather than of the first occupation level, had to be cut through in tracing Blocks III and IV.⁶ Much of the pottery illustrated came from "top soil" but the material found among tumbled masonry in the eavesdrip between Blocks I and II is specially noted.⁷

Since Melandra cannot at present be dated from literary or epigraphical sources, the site does not date the pottery and the pottery can only date the site by analogy with finds elsewhere. What evidence can be adduced from the pottery as to (a) the date of the foundation of the fort, (b) the date when the earth-wood fort was remodelled in stone so far as this may have been carried out, (c) the length of the occupation of the site?

⁴ Vol. 64, p. 56.

⁵ See p. 18 *infra*, no. 1 etc.

⁶ See p. 27, no. 2 etc.

⁷ See p. 27, no. 6 etc.

(a) Date of the foundation.

A foundation date earlier than Agricolan is not very likely on grounds other than ceramic. Of the pottery excavated during 1935-1938 two tiny groups are to be connected with the first foundation, (i) the pottery from the section across the rampart (p. 27, no. 3 etc.) (ii) the pottery from a post trench (p. 18, no. 1 etc.). The first group could favour either an Agricolan or a Trajanic foundation date, the second would be eloquent in support of a Flavian date if it were certain that it was the potter PATRICIUS (i) and not PATRICIUS (ii) who made the Samian dish associated with the original taking-out of the trench.

In support of an Agricolan date can be quoted the decorated Samian bowl by FRONTINUS⁸ and the restored Drag. 30 which shows early traits.⁹ Of the fragments illustrated below in Fig. I, nos. 1, 2, 5, 7, 8 and 9 and 10 are Flavian. The plain Samian also includes early pieces. The interpretation of the evidence of Samian ware will be affected by presuppositions as regards the amount of such pottery likely to have been made appreciably earlier than the foundation date and brought in the baggage of the first garrison.¹⁰

Of the sixty or so *mortaria* from Melandra half have close parallels with types included by Bushe-Fox in his classic typological series¹¹ and half of these again can be ascribed to the first century A.D. or thereabouts, including examples of the earliest types in the Bushe-Fox series. Of the vessels of coarse ware illustrated in Figs.

⁸ *Melandra Castle*, plate II, 3; cf. p. 12 *infra*. (Henceforward references to the plates in *Melandra Castle* are given as I, II, etc.)

⁹ *Op. cit.*, II, 2; cf. p. 10 *infra*.

¹⁰ Since this was written Mr. Birley has published his analysis of the decorated Samian from Benwell (*Condercum*) (*Arch. Ael.* (4) XXV (1947), pp. 52-67).

¹¹ *Excavations on the Site of the Roman Town at Wroxeter Shropshire in 1912*, J. P. Bushe-Fox, Oxford (1913), pp. 76-80. References to Bushe-Fox's two subsequent reports on Wroxeter and to Professor D. Atkinson's report are distinguished by the respective dates.

VI, VII and VIII many have analogies with vessels found at Slack and in the early levels at Corbridge and Wroxeter. If indeed the foundation of Slack is to be attributed to Agricola because of the early pottery found there—and there appears to be no dissent from this view—Melandra must be regarded as a sister foundation and likewise Agricolan in origin. Though he had only coin evidence to support him Haverfield reached the same conclusion.¹² The tentative conclusion indicated in the previous report¹³ must be modified in the light of the additional information now available.

(b) *Remodelling of the earth-wood fort.*

The problem as to the date when wooden buildings, or some of them, and earth rampart were replaced at Melandra by stone buildings and earth rampart faced with masonry is not yet solved. The one group of pottery recovered from clay packing between the first and second levels¹⁴ presents no particular characteristics to mark it off from the rest of the pottery found during the excavations and even if it did the group is too small to afford a safe basis for argument. That a fragment of a Flavian Drag. 37¹⁵ came from a low level at the end of Ditch 3 might seem inconsistent with the suggestion that this ditch is related to the second rather than to the first fort.¹⁶ A ditch is however in all ages a likely dumping ground for pottery, recent and not so recent; it is better not to press this very slight piece of evidence and to be content for the present with an answer to this particular problem based upon what appears to have happened elsewhere.

(c) *Length of the occupation.*

On one point the pottery evidence is clear—there was

¹² *Melandra Castle*, p. 14.

¹³ Vol. 64, pp. 62-63.

¹⁴ See p. 27 *infra*, no. 2 etc.

¹⁵ Fig. I, 1; cf. p. 28, 23-27.

¹⁶ Vol. 64, p. 53.

no military occupation of Melandra in strength after the middle of the second century. Though neighbouring forts—Brough (*Anavio*) and perhaps Templeborough—were occupied or re-occupied in the third century the pottery is emphatic that this did not happen at Melandra. The desertion is not so complete as holds good of Hardknott where “not even a way-side meal has left its mark in the shape of a later potsherd or coin dropped under the shelter of the walls”¹⁷ but one or two sherds, for instance Fig. IV, 55, and one or two coins do not make a military occupation in face of the mass of the Melandra Collection.¹⁸

As to the date of the abandonment of the fort the evidence is more open and here especially it is to be regretted that at Melandra as at Slack soil conditions have been unkind to the pottery and especially to the decorated Samian. When Slack was excavated it was a moot point whether the fort was abandoned when Hadrian’s Wall was built or when the Antonine *limes* was occupied;¹⁹ Haverfield favoured the earlier date and Dr. I. A. Richmond who last surveyed the pottery followed Haverfield.²⁰ Comparison of the *mortaria* and coarse ware from Melandra with similar material from Balmuilty²¹ and Mumrills²² suggests a fair degree of overlap in typological development. Leaving aside the

¹⁷ *Cumb. and West. Trans. (New) XXI* (1921), p. 33; hereafter referred to as *Hardknott*.

¹⁸ This differs from the conclusion reached more than twenty years ago by Dr. I. A. Richmond in “A Fourth-century Disturbance in the Pennines” (*Yorks. Arch. J.* XXVII (1923-1924), p. 215) but in the Melandra Collection as it exists today there are not “comparatively few” hammer-head *mortaria*; there is only one.

¹⁹ *Yorks. Arch. J.* XXVI (1922), p. 85. Henceforward the report is referred to as *Slack*.

²⁰ *Huddersfield in Roman Times*, Huddersfield (1925), p. 57.

²¹ *The Roman Fort at Balmuilty*, S. N. Miller, Glasgow (1922), referred to as *Balmuilty*.

²² *The Roman Fort at Mumrills near Falkirk*, Sir George Macdonald and A. O. Curle, *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot.* LXIII (Vol. III, Sixth series, 1928-1929), pp. 396-575; referred to as *Mumrills*.

obvious intruder (Fig. IV, 55) a score of the Melandra *mortaria* would not be out of place in early deposits on the line of Hadrian's Wall and almost a dozen would occasion no great surprise on Antonine Wall sites. Again about one half of the "grey-to-black fumed ware" jars from Balmuildy have no shoulder angle, a quarter have a distinct angle, the remaining quarter have a neck and shoulder ledge;²³ at Melandra shoulder-ledges are virtually absent but some of the black-ware cooking-pots belong to the second group. Some of the fragments from decorated Samian bowls from Melandra which are so perished that no decoration is decipherable have the deep plain rims more characteristic of the second than of the first century, and of the fragments illustrated in Fig. III nos. 20, 23 and perhaps 31 seem more Antonine than Hadrianic.

It seems likely therefore that there was no appreciable gap between the abandonment of Melandra and the building of the Antonine Wall.²⁴ Though Melandra and Slack were probably founded simultaneously this does not of necessity entail a belief in their simultaneous abandonment. Brough (*Anavio*) belongs apparently to the same group of foundations but it had a different later history; Templeborough has produced more late *mortaria* than the single "hammerhead" from Melandra; Collingwood argued that Hardknott was an Agricolan foundation abandoned *ca.* 127 A.D.²⁵ Both *ca.* 127 and again *ca.* 140 A.D. there must have been considerable shuffling of sites and garrisons. Drafts from forts on Hadrian's Wall may have contributed towards the manning of the Antonine Wall—the evidence is far from clear—but it would hardly have been strategically sound to denude very severely the more southerly line. To

²³ Balmuildy, p. 86; cf. Plate XLV, 1-3, 7-9 and 13-16 respectively.

²⁴ There is a hint of a similar conclusion in the paper by Dr. Richmond already quoted (*Yorks. Arch. J.* XXVII, n. 3).

²⁵ *Hardknott*, pp. 41-42.

enter upon arguments such as this is however to leave the debatable ground of the pottery evidence for those miasmatic waste-lands over which the student from a "walky-talky" and atomic age attempts the *Kriegspiel* in terms of *pilum* and signal-beacon.

The conclusions suggested are that the pottery from the site justifies the belief that Melandra is an Agricolan fort which was held continuously until about the time when the Antonine Wall was built, that it was then abandoned as a military site and not again occupied in strength, that at some date in between, by analogy from other sites possibly under Trajan, the original earth-wood fort had at least in part been remodelled in stone. That it has now been found possible to enlighten to this extent the obscurity which has hitherto shrouded the history of Melandra²⁶ is due to those excavators who in the opening decade of this century were assiduous to see that the pottery evidence which they themselves could not interpret should not be completely destroyed.

DECORATED SAMIAN WARE.

During the 1935-1938 excavations fifteen fragments of decorated Samian were found. Most of them were badly worn with the glaze completely or almost completely perished. One may be a fragment of a Drag. 30 and there were also parts of the base and side of two or three bowls of the same shape but showing no ornament; the others are all from bowls Drag. 37, the majority South Gaulish so far as can be determined in their bad state of preservation. Fig. I, 1-4 illustrates four of these fragments, as described below.

1. Found in the last spit taken from Ditch 3 (1936); see no. 2 and also p. 28, nos. 23-27). The glaze is for Melandra in an uncommonly good state. Drag. 37, South Gaulish. The ornament is of panels bounded by lines of beads; l., cruciform ornament; r., corner tendrils above and below a triple-ringed medallion containing Cupid. *Knorr 1919*, 80, E (VADERIO) has several points of resemblance.

²⁶ *Cumb. and West. Trans. (New) XXVIII (1928)*, p. 322.

2. Worn fragment of a South Gaulish Drag. 37 from Ditch 3 (1936); *cf.* I *supra*. Two zones of ornament: above, dog leaping r. between two demi-medallions, ? containing tendril with rosette; below; l., panel of arrowheads and inclined dotted lines, r., lion running r. and ? formalized tree. *Knorr 1919*, 68 illustrates a bowl (OF PUDENT) which has a similar dog, panel of arrowheads and lion.

3. From the filling of Ditch 2 (1936) with two fragments of an indented beaker of a pale brown fabric. Drag. 37, South Gaulish. Long ovolos, blurred and in places super-imposed, and tongues above a wavy line. L., ? lion running l., r., small demi-medallion with bird (? *Knorr 1912*, XVIII, 1).

4. From the eavesdrip between Blocks I and II (1938; see p. 27, no. 6). Worn fragment of Drag. 37 apparently with circles instead of ovolos and with ? tongues between the circles and a line of dots below. On the whole this seems to be a row of circles rather than a running scroll and the circles may enclose rosettes. *Knorr 1910*, p. 33, 15e has a row of circles containing dots instead of ovolos but there are no tongues, while the labels on *O. and P.* XXVI, 14 (*cf.* XXX, 81) have not the tongue-endings (? rosettes) of the Melandra fragment. The circles do not seem to be beaded as *e.g.* *Knorr 1905*, VIII, 13 and are larger than those on a bowl from Corbridge of the "early second century" (*JRS.* XXV (1935), p. 62); they resemble those which form a row at the bottom of the decoration on a fragment illustrated in *Knorr 1905*, VIII, 1; *cf.* *O. and P.* XIII, 1.

Three bowls of which considerable portions were found during the early excavations are now in the Collection and are illustrated in *Melandra Castle*, II; nos. 2 and 3 are among the earliest pottery from the site and it is a matter for regret that nothing is now known of where they were found. The drawings of all three bowls are open to criticism even although the moderate state of preservation as found and heavy restoration, which has included a coat of varnish, make some details obscure.

Plate II, 2 is a small South Gaulish Drag. 30 (diameter $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches) of which there are two small fragments not included in the restored portion. The ovolos and tongues, which end in rosettes and not in prongs, are as on a bowl from Mainz stamped CALVSF (*Knorr 1919*, 17). The cruciform ornament on the left of the drawing has rosettes, ? of six, at the corners and in the centre. The drawing of the lower quarter is partly conjectural but the whole ornament resembles the cruciform motif on the bowl from Mainz already quoted except that the

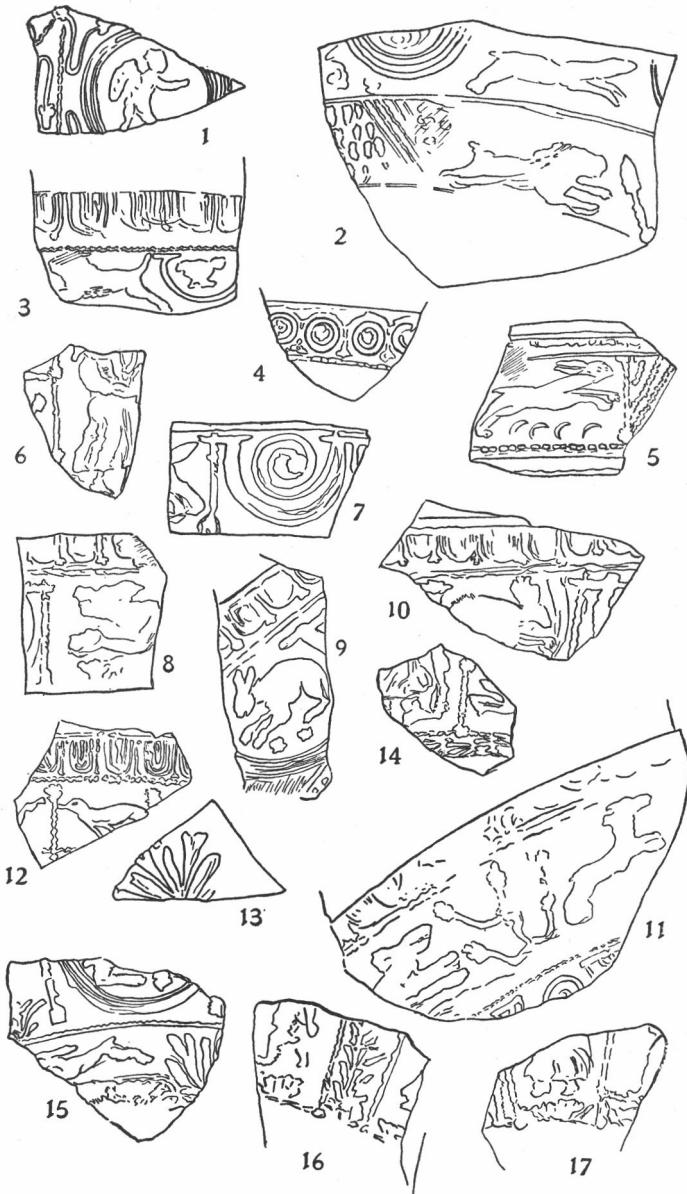


FIG. I. Decorated Samian Ware (4).

leaf used in the l. and r. quarters (= *op. cit.*, 16, 11) is also used in the upper quarter, and probably in the lower quarter too, instead of the acorn used in the corresponding positions on the Mainz bowl. The motif in the medallion consists of the triple leaf used on the Mainz bowl (*op. cit.*, 16, 10) repeated four times and alternating with four tassels (*e.g. op. cit.*, 14, 17, *et al.*) round a rosette of six as centre. Finally the foot-stand is not quite so simple as in the drawing; there are two slight mouldings—one very slight indeed—on the foot-rim. The bowl might well be the work of CALUS whom Knorr places in the period 60-80 A.D. Apart from any ascription to a particular potter the absence of a line between the ovolos with tongues and the main ornament points to a Flavian date for the bowl at the latest (*O. and P.*, p. 89) and other early features are the triple grooving inside the bowl about one inch from the lip, the light moulding of the lip itself, the mouldings above the ovolos and the flutings below the decoration (*op. cit.*, p. 88).

The bowl illustrated in *Melandra Castle*, II, 3 is a South Gaulish Drag. 37 (diameter $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches). The wreath of v-shaped leaves below the rinceau is reproduced in Fig. II which also includes the leaf-motif used in the upper zone. The three plain horizontal lines shewn in the *Melandra Castle* drawing are actually lines of beads—above, between and below the two zones.

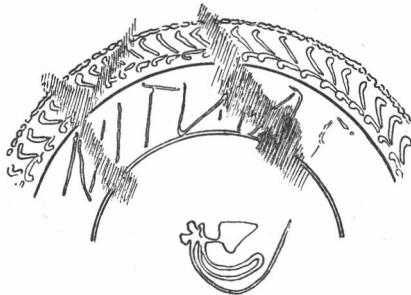


FIG. II. Details of Bowl Drag. 37
by Frontinus ($\frac{1}{2}$).

It appears to have been overlooked hitherto that this bowl is from a mould signed in cursive below the decoration by FRONTINUS (Fig. II; *cf.* p. 18, 2). The scroll ending in a rosette with side tendril used in the lower zone on the Melandra bowl is also used by this potter on a stamped fragment from London (Walters, *B.M. Catal.*, M. 289 = *Knorr 1919*, 33, 6). It is not possible to be sure of the details of the scroll-binding

used on the Melandra bowl. The signature of FRONTINUS appears together with his stamp on a bowl illustrated in *Wroxeter 1923-27*, Plate 68, 36 A and he is assigned to the period 75-90 A.D. (*op. cit.*, p. 250).

The drawing of the third restored Samian bowl (*Melandra Castle*, II, 1) also calls for comment and the description in the text needs expansion. The diameter of the bowl is $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The ovolos and three-pronged tongues are as those used by e.g. GERMANUS (*Knorr 1919*, 36 C etc.). Commencing with the left side of the portion shown in the drawing the decoration is as follows: (1) oak tree with five leaves and with two small birds at the foot, one to l. (? *Oswald 2232 a*), the other to r. (? *Oswald 2272 a*); (2) stag standing r. (? *Oswald 1716*); (3) oak tree as (1) but without birds; (4) animal leaping l., shown in the drawing as a lion (? *Oswald 1479* with the tail broken off short) but perhaps a dog as *Knorr 1919*, 67, 6; three lines of beads forming a ∇ spring from the head to the beaded line above; (5) oak tree with four leaves; (6) hind moving l. with head turned backward (*Oswald 1755*); (7) oak tree with six leaves and one bird to r. of foot; (8) stag couchant r. (*Oswald 1699*); (9) oak tree with seven leaves; (10) deer leaping r. (? *Oswald 1741*); (11) oak tree with five leaves, a fragment with a portion of the foot missing; (12) lion leaping r. (*Oswald 1410*) with three beaded lines as in (4) but here springing from the middle of the back; (13) oak tree with five leaves, the base again missing; (14) lion couchant l. (*Oswald 1419*). Beneath each of the animals broken country is suggested as in e.g. *Knorr 1907*, VIII, 1, from a bowl by GERMANUS, who also uses the hind (6), the stag (8) and the lion (14). *Slack*, Plate XXI, B illustrates a fragment with a beaded Λ above a lion leaping l. and *ib.* C a fragment with the oak tree. Though some of the types quoted above were still in use in late Antonine times according to Dr. Felix Oswald's *Index of Figure Types*, the bowl itself is "in the style of GERMANUS".

Of the six fragments illustrated in *Melandra Castle*, I nos. 1, 2 and 4 have not been identified. No. 3 is from a South Gaulish Drag. 37 and there is another fragment of the same bowl with the tendril springing from the right. No. 5 is from a Hadrianic Drag. 37, the description in the text (p. 84, 10) needing correction in that the head of Vulcan has not been "obliterated"—the die has given a faulty impress on the mould—and the "uncertain objects in the field" are rouleaux. No. 6 appears to be from an East Gaulish Drag. 37, orange in colour, blurred and chipped, and apparently burnt on the outside.

Most of the other fragments in the Collection are very worn. Of those illustrated in Figs. I and III all except nos. 5 and 6 are from bowls Drag. 37; nos. 5 to 17 are South Gaulish.

5. From the upper part of a Drag. 29. L., hare running r. with four crescentic objects representing grass below (*cf. Knorr 1913*, VIII, 5, *Colchester Mus. Catal.*, XIII, 55, *et al.*); r., panel of sloping lines of beads bounded by lines of beads ending at top and bottom in rosettes (all blurred). The upper zone has a line of largish dots (blurred) above and below the ornament.

6. Small fragment of a Drag. 30, thin-walled and ? small. Metopes and demi-metopes formed by ? corded lines joining in rosettes. R., Diana and the stag (*Oswald 104 B*).

7. Upper zone: l., animal moving l. (? dog, *Knorr 1919*, 67, 6); r., demi-medallion with tendril ending in rosette. The line above the ornament may be plain.

8. Similar ornament to no. 7, perhaps from the same bowl but showing ovolos and tongues. L., demi-medallion; r., fore-quarters of dog moving l. (? as on no. 7) with grass tuft below.

9 and 10. Two fragments, perhaps touching, certainly from the same bowl (probably *Melandra Castle*, p. 84, no. 13). Ovolos with three-pronged tongues above a straight line. Upper zone: wreath of demi-medallions containing rabbit couchant alternatively r. and l. (as *e.g. Knorr 1919*, 16, 7 and 8). On no. 9 beneath the rabbit there are two rosettes of six (*cf. Knorr 1905*, X, 1 and 2, *et al.*).

11. Very worn. Ovolos and tongues. Upper zone in free style: r., dog running r. (*Knorr 1919*, 35, 29 = *Oswald 1914 B*); centre, tree (*cf. Knorr 1919*, 36, C); r., ? stag running r. with head turned backward as *Knorr 1919*, p. 27, *Textbild 13*). Lower zone: wreath of demi-medallions each containing a tendril ending in a rosette.

12. Fragment from a thin-walled, ? small, bowl. Ovolos and tongues ending in prongs above a wavy line. Panels formed by wavy lines ending in rosettes. Bird facing l. (? *Oswald 2267*).

13. Small fragment showing conventional bush, not made up out of two (or three) impressions of one die as in *Knorr 1919*, 57, H *et al.* but from a single die as for instance in *Knorr 1905*, XI, 5 centre.

14. Metopes and demi-metopes formed by lines of beads joining in rosettes. L., metope with Diana (booted) and stag (*Knorr 1919*, 29, 1 *bis*); r., demi-metope with small animal, ?

dog, running l. Below, wreath of small wedge-shaped, ? triple, leaves (? *Knorr 1912*, V, 4 blurred).

15. Two zones separated by a ? plain line. Upper zone: ? panels bounded by corded band with square terminal (*cf. Knorr 1919*, 84, G); l., grass tuft (*op. cit.*, 83, 11 with shorter stems); r., ? demi-medallion with rabbit couchant r. Lower zone: small animal (? deer, *ib.*, 6) with two grass tufts below (*ib.*, 11a) and bush to r. Possibly from a bowl by VITALIS, a prolific Vespasianic potter at La Graufesenque.

16. Very worn. Panels formed by ? wavy lines joining in small rosettes. L., Cupid above a grass tuft; centre, vertical wreath of triple leaves; r., ? Victory (*Knorr 1919*, 67, 2 bis) above a grass tuft. *Knorr 1905*, XIV, 4 has the Cupid, grass tuft and vertical wreath.

17. Probably from the same bowl as 16; l., Victory as on 16 above a grass tuft.

18. Good glaze for Melandra and well preserved. Panels formed by lines of dots. Centre, semi-nude figure moving r., perhaps Silenus; in the field on each side of the figure a ring and below the ring on the r. a blurred object; across the right line of dots a rouleau. Hadrianic.

19. Good glaze but much chipped, thick. Panels formed by straight lines joining in blurred rosettes. L., above, medallion with ? small rouleau in corner of panel; below, panther (*Oswald 1521*). R., narrow panel with scroll ornament (*cf. Knorr 1905*, VII, 1).

20. From a very thick-walled bowl, glaze well preserved, yellowish. Free style. Above, l., lion (? *Oswald*, Plate LXVI, 1497G broken); top r., ? stag (*Oswald 1771*). Below, Cupid riding a dolphin (*cf. Oswald 44A*).

21. Small panels formed by blurred wavy lines joining in large dots. L., above, wreath (*cf. Knorr 1910*, II, 7); below, roebuck (*Oswald 1738*). R., below, lion with a distinctive tail (*cf. Knorr 1919*, 81, 3 s. VALERI).

22. Glaze completely perished from exterior. Panels formed by wavy lines. L., ? seated Venus (*Oswald 335*).

23. Fragment of a bowl, of a rather orange colour, probably decorated "in the style of CINNAMUS" with a rinceau and large leaves. There is a ring below at each side of the leaf on the fragment (*Knorr 1912*, XXX, 8).

24. Glaze perished. Medallion with ? Cupid. Below, wreath ? as on an "early second century" fragment from Wroxeter (*Wroxeter 1914*, XXIV, 7); *cf. Slack*, XXI, D.

25. Coarsely moulded rather thick bowl, decoration blurred.

Beneath what may be the feet of a partly draped figure (*e.g.* a Satyr, *Oswald* 673) a row of S-spirals or rings.

26. Glaze perished. L., Cupid; r., winged horse (*Knorr* 1919, 70, 9).

27. Decoration similar to that of no. 1 *supra* but from a different and later bowl.

28. Pan (*Oswald* 718A) with a row of labels and a wavy line below.

29. L., cruciform ornament; r., ? winged figure (? *Oswald* 826 broken) with corner tendril in bottom l. corner.

30. Very worn. Ovolos and tongues. L., helmetted figure (? *Minerva*, *Oswald* 132); r., demi-medallion.

31. Small fragment with part of vine leaf.

32. Not illustrated. A very worn fragment from which the glaze has perished may be from a bowl by the "potter of the small medallions"; it shows as the lower part of the decoration a row of medallions each containing ? a vine-leaf.

PLAIN SAMIAN WARE.

About one hundred fragments of "plates" were found during the 1935-1938 excavations; there was one complete Drag. 18/31 with potter's stamp (p. 18, no. 1), two fragments were from bases of similar type and the remainder, mostly fragments of sides, are from bowls Drag. 18/31 and 31. There were fifteen fragments of Drag. 27 but only one certain and possibly three other fragments of the later cup Drag. 33. Curle 11 was represented by two, possibly by four, fragments and there were two other fragments from flanged vessels of doubtful shape; there were three fragments, including one base, of globular jars, one fragment of Drag. 35/36 and one piece from a large thick flat plate.

The Melandra Collection includes many more bases of "plates" than were found in the excavations; twenty-nine bases have no, or no appreciable, central "kick," eight show a decided kick but not one has an exaggerated kick; of five bases with roulette ring two have a decided kick. Only one fragment, and that not of a base, is orange in colour. Several fragments show rivet holes. There are thirty undoubted fragments of Drag. 27, including about ten bases, while there are fragments of perhaps seven different bases of Drag. 33. One of these bases had attached sufficient of the side to give the whole profile but with this exception the Collection appears to contain no pieces from the sides of cups Drag. 33. Curle 11 is represented by three fragments of three different vessels, one of markedly

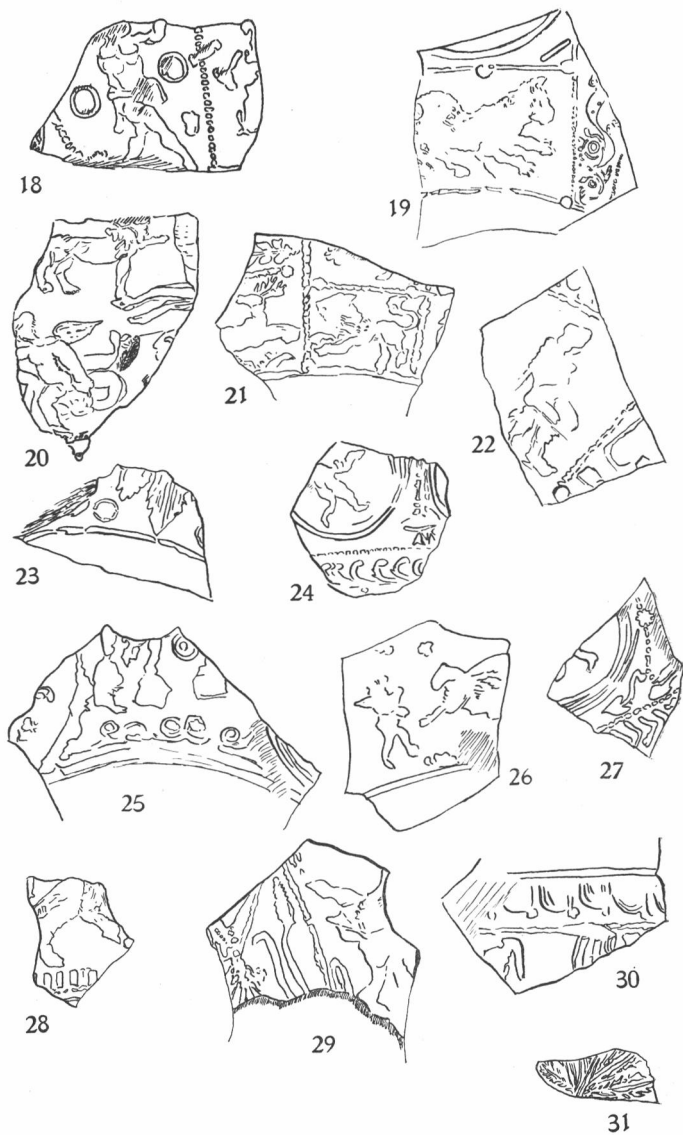


FIG. III. Decorated Samian Ware ($\frac{1}{2}$).

yellow clay, Drag. 35/6 by one complete vessel with barbotine and three fragments, including two with barbotine. Three fragments are from two vessels Curle 15 and two fragments of a handle from a Drag. 42. Drag. 15/17 is represented by one fragment of side one inch deep from rim to the narrow groove immediately above the exterior angle moulding; there is no exact parallel in *O. and P. XLIII*.

POTTERS' MARKS ON SAMIAN WARE.

Three stamps were found during the excavations. One, on a Drag. 31, was illegible except for one letter, . . . V . . . ; a second on a sliver was also illegible; the third is listed below under 1.

1. **OF///TRG** Drag. 18/31. As already reported (Vol. 64, p. 62) one half of the vessel lay on the undisturbed clay between Blocks III and IV, the other half, together with nos. 52 and 53, p. 34 *infra*, in the clay filling of the post trench for the back wall of Block III; possibly the plate was broken on the day the post trenches of the first fort were taken out. *O. and P.*, p. 56 *et al.* distinguishes between a Nero-Flavian PATRICIUS and a later potter of the same name of the Trajan-Hadrian period; the Melandra vessel is more probably by the earlier.

The Melandra Collection is not rich in potters' marks as the following list shows:

2. See Fig. II and p. 12. **FRONTIN[1]** (retro.). Drag. 37.
3. **IN//C//** Drag. 18/31 with rouletted ring. ? *Melandra Castle*, p. 85, 17 (a).
4. **SΛX VVV** Drag. 31. Read as . . . ATVLXVS in *Melandra Castle* p. 85, no. 15. The stamp of SAXAMUS occurs on Drag. 31 at Carlisle, Chesters and Corbridge and on Drag. 33 at Silchester. It does not appear on the German *Limes*.
5. **B//** Drag. 31. Perhaps BONOXUS as at Silchester (Drag. 18/31) and Wroxeter (Drag. 27).
6. **βNI** Drag. 31 with rouletted ring.
7. **/N·M** Drag. 27.
8. **ITNIV** Drag. 33. This may be *Melandra Castle*, p. 84, no. 6 (read as ITNO). The stamp of QUINTUS ("Q" has not registered) is common in Britain on both Drag. 27 and Drag. 33, though not in retrograde as here. There was more than one potter of the name; this may be the South Gaulish potter active *ca.* 100 A.D.

MORTARIA.

Fragments of rims and sides of several *mortaria* were found during the 1935-1938 excavations but only five gave the profile of the vessel. Three are included in the following list (nos. 5, 22 and 34) and the other two are referred to under nos. 10 and 36. The other vessels described are from the Collection. The numbering of the list corresponds to that of Fig. IV.

1. Soft white clay with little grit though there is some in the top of the rim. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 10.

2. Red-brown, coarse; small and sparse grits up to bead. Similar to 1 but the rim slopes and there are two grooves on the outside of the body.

3. Soft white clay, very worn; three fragments of the same vessel, one with a large piece of ? quartz in the edge of the rim. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 14.

4. Brick red, worn and incomplete; large pebble in top of rim. ? *cf.* Slack 44a, 1.

5. Found in 1937. Grey section, pinkish brown surface, grit in the rim. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 18.

6. Pinkish brown with small pieces of red grit up to rim. The bead is more pronounced than in Bushe-Fox 18 and rather lower than in *Corbridge 1911, 12.*

7. Hard reddish brown with dark red wash. *Cf. Balmildy XLI, 1* which "must be regarded as a survival" (p. 80 *ibid.*).

8. Red, coarse with lumpy surface. An exceptional profile to which no close parallel has been found; *Hardknott 16* is bigger and heavier while *Slack 44a, 8* is not so dumpy. *Hardknott 8, 10, 17* etc. have a similar step instead of the more usual bead.

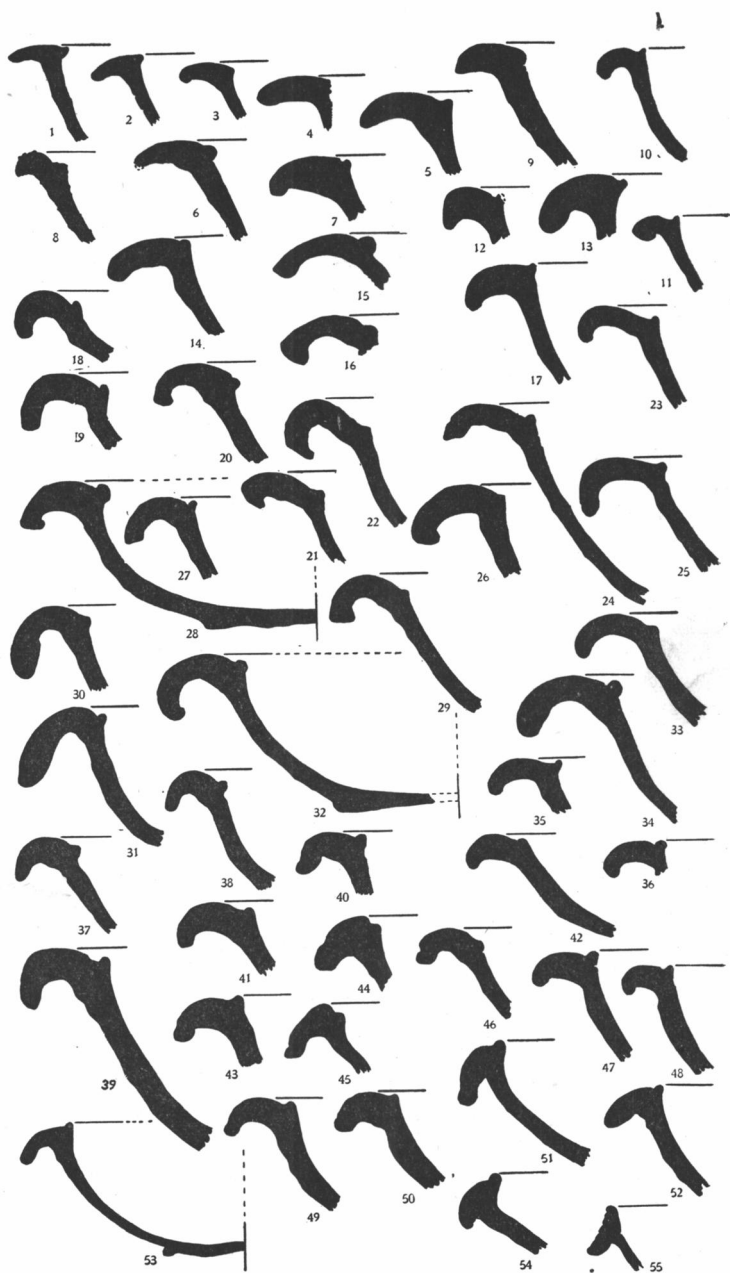
9. Brick red with large red grits in the outer surface and finer white inside. A close parallel was found in the Deanery Field, Chester in 1935 in an "early stratified" deposit (*Annals of Arch. and Anthrop. XXIII, Plate XV, 29*); *cf. Holt 6-7.*

10. Grey section, yellowish brown surface, cream wash; no grit within one inch of the bead, below which there is sparse white grit. The fragment carries part of a stamp (Fig. V, 56). The high bead and short curved rim recall Bushe-Fox 22-26. A somewhat similar but worn fragment in brown clay was found in 1937.

11. White clay, worn and soft. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 26-30.

12. Small fragment of grey clay, ? overbaked or burnt. Nearer than 8 to *Hardknott 16.*

13. Grey section, brick red surface with cream wash. Incomplete stamp as Fig. V, 57. The rim sweeps over as in Bushe-Fox 22 but the bead is comparatively insignificant.

FIG. IV. *MORTARIA* (‡).

14. Grey gritty section, brick red surface, grit up to bead. Cf. Bushe-Fox 18 and *Templeborough* 197a.

15. Light grey. Cf. *Corbridge* 1911, 12 and, though with a smaller bead, *Slack* 44a, 2.

16. Grey section, dark surface, ? burnt; cf. 15.

17. Red with cream coating. A *mortarium* with similar profile but in grey clay in Tullie House, Carlisle (*Catal.* 138) is compared with examples from Silchester and Hofheim; though it is also compared with Bushe-Fox 14-18, the bead just rises above the rim as in the vessel from Melandra; cf. *Balmuildy* XLI, 10 and *Mumrills* 91, 6.

18-24 have the "upward-sloping rim, curved near the end . . . seldom so late as Hadrian" (Collingwood, *Arch. of R. Brit.* p. 218).

18. Hard grey, dirty stone surface. Has the pronounced angularity of *Slack* 44a, 11 and *Arch. of R. Brit.* 52, 4.

19. Hard buff, grit almost to top of bead. Cf. 18.

20. Soft white, pitted surface inside and outside; red grit in the outside, black and red in the inside. The position of the bead and the curve of the rim are much as in Bushe-Fox 46 and *Slack* 44a, 7 but the rim widens at the end.

21. Soft buff. Carries the incomplete stamp Fig. V, 58. Cf. *Hardknott* 9 but the tip of the rim turns inward as in *Slack* 44a, 12.

22. Found in 1937. White, ? with brown paint. One large piece of grit remains but there are holes, some in the rim, from which other pieces have fallen out. Cf. *Slack* 44a, 12, also white and carrying the same stamp as 29 *infra*.

23. Pinkish buff, sandy and gritty clay, worn and pitted surface. Cf. 21 and *Templeborough* 197b.

24. Hard, grey-blue section, buff surface, rough with large grits. Incomplete stamp as Fig. V, 59 on rim. Cf. *Hardknott* 20.

25. Brown, soft, ? white coating. Cf. Collingwood's "flat horizontal rim bent down at the end . . . especially common in the early part of the second" century (*Arch. of R. Brit.* p. 220, 6).

26. Soft sandy clay, dark grey in section; inside and half of rim white to yellow in colour. Cf. Bushe-Fox 34 but the rim is undercut and the general profile is close to that of *Balmuildy* XLI, 13. A fragment from near the spout of a vessel with a similar profile was found in 1935.

27. Hard gritty clay dirty white in colour, ? light brown

coating. The drawing is from three fragments, one from near the spout. Two of the fragments each have the stamp Fig. V, 60. Cf. Bushe-Fox 39-42.

28. Smooth buff with black and some red grit. The restored vessel is illustrated in *Melandra Castle* VI, 2. It carries the two stamps Fig. V, 61, A and B. Cf. Bushe-Fox 46-54 and *Slack* 44a, 10 but the rim is undercut. A similar *mortarium* from Benwell (*Condercum*) carries the same stamp (*Arch. Ael.* (4) IV (1927), p. 176, Fig. 9, 1).

29. Cream clay, light brown coating, grit in bead. This fragment and the stamp it bears (Fig. V, 62) are illustrated in *Melandra Castle* V, 1 and 1a. Cf. Bushe-Fox 42 but the rim widens out at the end.

30. Coarse pinkish clay, ? buff surface but very cracked and worn. Worn and illegible stamp on rim. Cf. Bushe-Fox 38 and *JRS*, XXVII (1937), p. 234.

31. Hard brown clay; no grit within threequarters of an inch of the bead. Cf. 30. Another very worn fragment is from the same or from a similar vessel.

32. Red-brown and grey section, buff to red surface, pale brown inside, perhaps overbaked. The profile resembles Bushe-Fox 42 except that the rim is undercut. The vessel carries the stamp Fig. V, 63.

33. Soft cream clay, finely pitted inside and outside; little trace of grit but a fragment of ? haematite in the section of the rim. Cf. Bushe-Fox 66, *Hardknott* 21 and more remotely *Balmuildy* XLI, 6.

34. Found in 1938. Buff; groove above and below the bead. Cf. *Hardknott* 22.

35. Red clay, cream surface. Cf. Bushe-Fox 58 and *Balmuildy* XLI, 17.

36. Reddish brown surface, grey section. Cf. 35 and *Hardknott* 24. Part of a similar vessel but with a less prominent bead was found in 1937.

37. Pink section, cream surface, very worn with rivet-hole; large grits up to bead. Both 37 and 38 have a short curved rim somewhat as *Slack* 44a, 9 and 10.

38. Soft pinkish clay, cream surface, large grits up to bead with a large red particle in the outer surface low down the side. The vessel has been rivetted. Cf. 37.

39. Pinkish brown, very worn. Little grit and that low down. Worn and illegible stamp on rim. Cf. *Slack* 44a, 11 but the *Melandra* vessel has a pronounced square groove between bead and rim.

40. Brown. The rim is grooved on the outside but not turned down quite so much as in Bushe-Fox 70; *cf. Arch. of R. Brit.* 52, 6.

41. Brick red, sandy, ? cream coating, square groove much as in 39. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 46.

42. Red section, brown gritty surface, traces of dark red wash; grit in groove between bead and rim. *Cf. Cumb. and West. Trans.* (New) XXVI (1926), p. 502, 11, 17 (Willowford).

43. Red, dark red wash. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 70.

44. Sandy reddish brown. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 78.

45. Reddish brown. *Cf.* 44.

46. Sandy red, dark red coating. Perhaps somewhat earlier than 43-45; *cf. Hardknott* 20.

47. Reddish brown section, cream coating. The bead, defined by a groove above and below, rises slightly above the rim, which does not turn down so much as in *Hardknott* 23 and 24.

48. Red brown section with embedded grit, light brown surface. The groove below the bead is wider but not so deep as in 47.

49. Pinkish brown section, brown surface. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 82 = *Corbridge* 1911, 104.

50. As 49 but with traces of dark red wash; coarse grit almost to top of bead.

51. Sandy reddish brown, coarse grit. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 106 and *Balmuirdy* XLII, 37.

52. Blue-grey section, hard dark grey surface, large coarse grit to within half-an-inch from top of bead, which is not so prominent as in Bushe-Fox 102; *cf. Corbridge* 1911, 103 ("towards the end of the second century").

53. Pipe clay with rivet hole in rim. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 122.

54. Pink section, cream surface. This profile verges on the "hammer-head"; there are somewhat similar vessels from the Antonine ditch at Mumrills (p. 526, 32) and from Balmuirdy (XLII, 43 and 46). The Melandra example is nearer to Bushe-Fox 94, common at Benwell (*Condercum*), and 114 than to the fully developed hammer-heads 194-202 etc.; *cf. Templeborough* 198j. It is not necessarily third century though it would be surprising if it were earlier than about the middle of the second.

55. Pipe clay with reeded rim, ? traces of brown paint. *Cf.* Bushe-Fox 186, dated at Wroxeter "to almost the end of the third or to the fourth century." Obviously a "stray" in the Melandra series; there is nothing of similar date in any other kind of pottery. It must be taken together with the late coins

recorded in *Melandra Castle*, p. 96 as indicating casual visitation of the site or a tenuous civilian occupation (p. 7 *supra*). Curiously enough there is in the Ravensknowle Museum, Huddersfield a fragment from a similar *mortarium* which may have come from Slack.

POTTERS' MARKS ON MORTARIA.

All the stamps in the following list, illustrated in Fig. V, 56-65, are on rims of vessels in the Melandra Collection.

56. On Fig. IV, 10.

57. On Fig. IV, 13. The stamp may read VITALIS whose stamps on *mortaria* resembling Fig. IV, 30 and 31 have been found at Little London, Torksey, Lincs. (*JRS. XXVII* (1937), p. 234).

58. On Fig. IV, 21. ? SOLLUS as e.g. *Wroxeter 1913*, p. 45, 37 and *B.M. Catal.*, M.2800.

59. On Fig. IV, 24.

60. On Fig. IV, 27; cf. *Melandra Castle V*, 2.

61. On Fig. IV, 28. The reading IIV given in *Melandra Castle*, p. 90, 1, is unsatisfactory; the stamp may begin OF ATT . . . or C FALI . . . (?), the second line, if it is a second line, is illegible. The stamp occurs at Benwell (*Condercum*) (*Arch. Ael.* (4) IV (1927), p. 167, Fig. 6B, 3).

62. On Fig. IV, 29; cf. *Melandra Castle V*, 1 and 1a. The stamp is read C. ATTIUS MARINUS (retro.) under *Slack 44b*, 9 (footnote).

63. On Fig. IV, 32; cf. *Melandra Castle*, p. 90, 2. The stamp does not anticipate the signature of the notorious Victorian painter Pinxit; the potter MATUGENUS frequently used such a die in combination with a separate die carrying his name, e.g. *Wroxeter 1913*, p. 47, *B.M. Catal.*, M.2789, *Holt 17* etc.

64. On a rim fragment of white clay containing grit and with a brown wash; black grits up to bead. The rim is not complete and is not illustrated in Fig. IV.

65. On an incomplete rim fragment not illustrated in Fig. IV; dirty white section, pale pinkish brown rim buff underneath. Cf. *Melandra Castle V*, 2.

65A. The stamp given in *Melandra Castle V*, 3 has not been identified.

POTTERS' MARKS ON AMPHORAE.


Fig. V, 66 gives the stamp on the handle of an *amphora* referred to in *Melandra Castle*, p. 90. A similar stamp occurred

at Richborough (*Second Report*, p. 94, 163); cf. *Arch. Ael.* (4) XXVII (1949), p. 108, no. 53. Another handle carries an incomplete stamp ending . . . O while yet another is marked IIII.

GRAFFITI.

This opportunity may be taken to record scratchings which have been noticed on sherds. A marking on the side of an *amphora* is shown in Fig. V, 67 and Fig. V, 68 illustrates scratchings on the side of a large white jug. The following scratchings occur on *mortaria*:

(a) On no. 34, p. 22, in figures 0.6 inches high: XX.

(b) On no. 54, p. 23, in figures 0.15 inches high. 

The *graffito* recorded in *Melandra Castle*, p. 85, no. 16 has not been recognized.

GREY WARE.

Grey ware found during the excavations of 1935-1938 is illustrated in Fig. VI and Fig. VII, 40. Of the seventy-four vessels in grey, brown and black ware represented by Figs. VI, VII and VIII more than half are of grey ware; this does not exaggerate the preponderance of grey ware among the pottery found during the excavations. In addition to the vessels illustrated fragments of the following occurred:

Bowls: hemispherical, flat rim, three; carinated, flat reeded rim, two (one of very light coloured, almost white, clay), carinated, flat rim, one.

Dishes: plain rim, one; flat rim, two.

Beakers and small vases: fragments suggesting the profiles of *Corbridge 1911*, 22, 24 and 27, *Holt 35* and 50, *Slack 32*; half-a-dozen other small fragments of varying types.

Decorated grey fabrics: a dozen fragments of rustic ware; two fragments with indented ornamentation; one with horizontal rows of small curved cuts; large fragment of base and side of an urn showing twelve lines of notches; small fragment with lines of raised dots and a groove; several fragments with grooves such as appear with rustic ornamentation (*e.g.* Fig. VI, 19).

Cooking pots: *Slack 8-10*; ? *Benwell (Condercum) 1926*, 10, 19.

Store jar, wide-mouthed with flat rim.

The numbering of the following list corresponds to the numbering of Figs. VI and VII. Where possible the approximate maximum internal diameter of the vessel is given.

1. Bowl (6 inches), light grey, flange rim, worn. The profile resembles that of *mortaria* of the type Bushe-Fox 10 but there is no sign of grit. *Balmuidy XLVIII*, 27 illustrates a similar "mortaria-like" bowl of the second century.

2. Bowl ($5\frac{3}{4}$ inches), ? carinated, light grey with faintly reeded rim and shallow grooves in the side. Cf. *Slack* 79 and *Corbridge 1911*, 6. Found in clay packing beneath a layer of roof tiles (see p. 4) together with 28, 31 and Fig. VII, 47 and 54.

3. Bowl ($6\frac{1}{4}$ inches), ? carinated, light sandy grey, reeded rim. Cf. *Slack* 76-77 and *Corbridge 1911*, 7. Worn fragment from the section across the rampart (Vol. 64, pp. 51-52) together with 29, 39 and large fragments of brown ware, apparently of a pitcher or large jar.

4. Bowl (? 6 inches) of hard grey fabric with dark surface; reeded rim with cordons and groove below. Cf. 2. From the sand above the original clay (p. 4) together with 13, 35 and Fig. VII, 51.

5. Shallow dish in light grey ($7\frac{1}{4}$ inches); groove inside just below the rim. Cf. *Slack* 99 (grey) and 101 (red).

6. Hemispherical bowl ($4\frac{3}{4}$ inches) with rudimentary flange; good sandy clay with embedded grit and dark surface. From the eavesdrip between Blocks I and II with 7, 14, 37 and Fig. VIII, 68-72. Another similar bowl of grey clay with a dark surface is in the Melandra Collection. The profile resembles that of a black bowl from *Balmuidy* (L, 21); the shape may appear also in the third century, e.g. *Ambleside 1914*, 12.

7-21 are from small beakers and jars.

7. Dark surface, worn ($2\frac{1}{4}$ inches). Thinner-walled than similarly shaped vessels from *Corbridge* and *Slack*. Somewhat similar jars from *Wroxeter* are decorated with "rustic" ornament (e.g. *Wroxeter 1914*, 76). With 6.

8. Light grey, sharply everted rim (? $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches). Cf. *Slack* 58.

9. Light grey ($3\frac{3}{4}$ inches); everted hollow rim, worn. Cf. *Corbridge 1911*, 33 and 35. On original clay with 12, 16, 17, 22 and Fig. VII, 43.

10. Dark grey outside, light inside (4 inches); everted hollow rim. Cf. 9. On the original clay.

11. Light grey, dark outer surface ($3\frac{3}{4}$ inches). Cf. *Slack* 31. On original clay under disturbed masonry with Fig. VII, 55.

12. Worn fragment of light grey with small stones embedded ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches). Cf. *Corbridge* 1911, 30. With 9.

13. Sandy with embedded grit ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches). Cf. *Corbridge* 1911, 31 and *Slack* 62. With 4.

14. Good light grey with dark outer surface ($5\frac{1}{4}$ inches); groove probably with rustic decoration below. Cf. *Newstead*, Fig. 25, 1. With 6.

15. Light grey, darker outside than inside ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches); slightly hollowed rim. Larger than 9. On original clay.

16. Coarse, sandy ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches). Cf. *Corbridge* 1911, 27. With 9.

17. Good dark grey, burnished ($3\frac{3}{4}$ inches); groove with rouletting below as on *Wroxeter* 1912, 26 and 27. With 9.

18. Light grey, sandy (4 inches). Cf. *Slack* 53 and *Wroxeter* 1912, 27.

19. Good light grey, blue-grey outer surface ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches); groove with rustic ornament below. Cf. *Slack* 17-18.

20. Good hard blue-grey ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches); short neck. No trace of rustic ornament below the groove. Cf. *Wroxeter* 1912, 31 (ca. 100 A.D.).

21. Light grey ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches); two girth grooves. Cf. 20.

22. Sandy, dark exterior, small fragment. Cf. *Slack* 31. With 9.

23-27 all came from the end of Ditch 3 together with Fig. VI, 49 (see Vol. 64, p. 52). There were also eight fragments of Drag. 37 (including Fig. I, 1), three fragments of Drag. 27 and four of Drag. 31, and fragments of two white jugs with brown paint (one with screw-neck), of the neck-rim and side of a glass bottle, of a dark grey jar with roulette (as 17), and rim fragments of two early second-century cooking-pots and a dish with flat rim in black cooking-pot ware and of two *mortaria*.

23. Good light grey ($5\frac{1}{4}$ inches). Cf. *Slack* 45.

24. Light grey ($5\frac{1}{4}$ inches) with embedded grit, including one large particle.

25. Light grey ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches); groove below shoulder. Cf. *Slack* 19.

26. Hard blue-grey ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches). Cf. *Wroxeter* 1913, 52.

27. Good hard blue-grey ($5\frac{3}{4}$ inches); faint ridgings on neck and shallow shoulder groove. Cf. *Slack* 34.

28. Light grey ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches). Cf. *Slack* 39 (red). With 2.

29. Light grey, small fragment from a vessel similar to 28. With 3.

30. Light grey ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches); soft and worn. Cf. *Slack* 9, an early "cooking-pot".

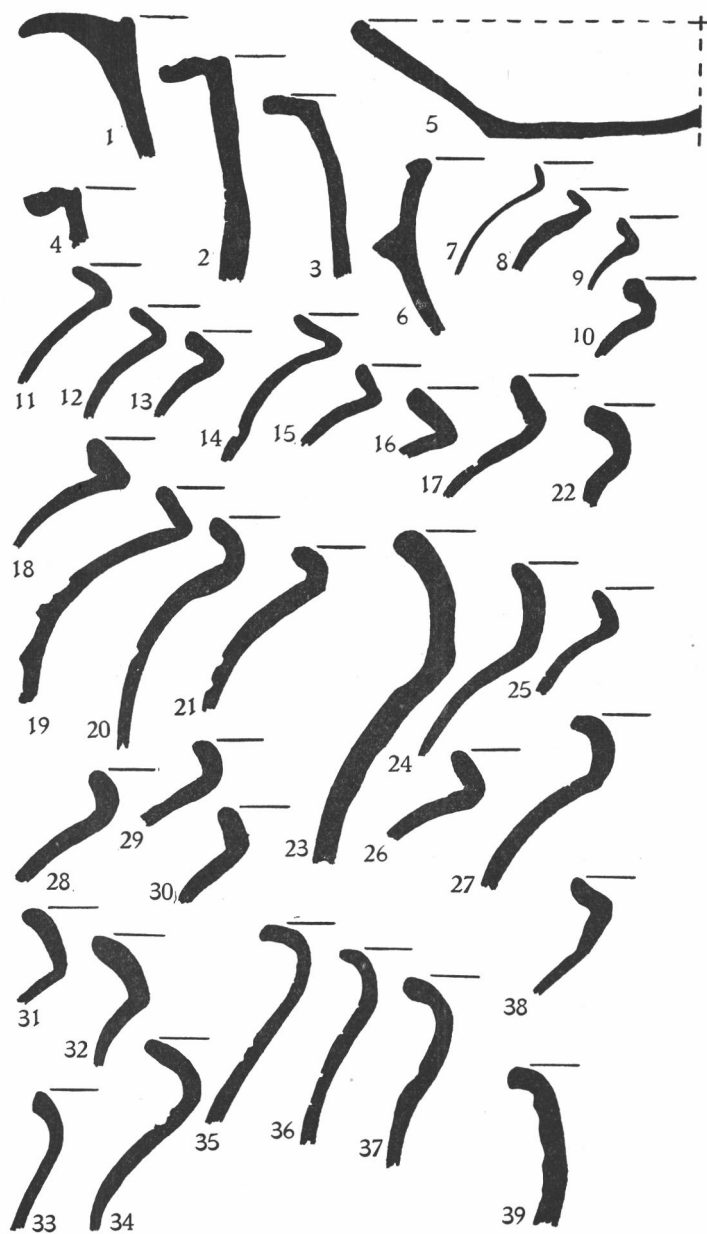


FIG. VI. Grey Ware ($\frac{1}{2}$).

31. Light grey, sandy ($4\frac{3}{4}$ inches). Cf. *Slack* 25. With 2.
 32. Light grey, sandy, very worn (? ca. 7 inches). On original clay. Larger than *Slack* 34-35.

33-37 may be from one-handed pitchers; no remains of handles were found associated.

33. Light grey, coarse and sandy, dark exterior ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches). Possibly from a vessel such as was found in the Deanery Field, Chester in 1928 (*Annals of Arch. and Anthropol.* XVIII, Plate XLV, 41b); the Chester example was red.

34. Light grey ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches); cordon at junction of neck and side. Cf. *Tullie House Catal.* 178 (red).

35. Light grey (5 inches); two shoulder grooves. Cf. 34. With 4.

36. Light grey, sandy ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches); shallow groove on neck, one on shoulder and two below. Cf. 34.

37. Dark grey, sandy with grit embedded ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches); shoulder groove. Cf. 34. With 6.

38. Light grey (? $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches). An unusual profile showing hollowed rim and sloping neck.

39. Fragment of grooved neck of a flagon in good hard light grey ($5\frac{3}{4}$ inches). Perhaps two-handed as *Wroxeter* 1913, 45; *Slack* 109 is in red ware. With 3.

40. (Fig. VII). Cover in light grey, sandy (6 inches). The type is widespread, e.g. Gellygaer (black), Birdoswald "alley" (dark blue-grey), etc.

Two-thirds of the coarse ware in the Melandra Collection is grey, ranging from good hard light grey to fabric hardly distinguishable from black "cooking-pot" ware.

Of two dishes of sandy clay (*Slack* 100-101) one is light, the other dark. A light grey dish with flat rim is thicker than *Slack* 98. *Slack* 65-68 are paralleled by several dishes with flat rims or bead rims merging into flat. There is a shallow dish in light grey as Fig. VI, 5, three or four as *Slack* 102, and a "saucer" in light grey, $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches across and a little over 1 inch high, with the rim curling over inwards.

Bowls with rims turned out as *Hardknott* 36, *Slack* 72 and *Balmuildy* XLVII, 4 are represented by various fragments of sandy fabric; there are also fragments of three or four carinated bowls with rims of rounded section (*Hardknott* 39) and of one with squared sloping rim (*Hardknott* 35). A bowl with curved rather than carinated side has a flattened rim as *Slack* 90 and there are numerous fragments from reeded rims like *Slack* 76-79, the reedings ranging from shallow and few (generally light grey)

to several and deep (generally dark). The curious group *Slack* 85-89 is not represented but there is a fragment with square reeded rim grooved on the outer face as *Corbridge 1911*, 40 from a bowl with two girth grooves, and there is also a fragment with the undercut reeded rim of *Corbridge 1911*, 9 which shows above the carination a carefully executed burnished wavy line between grooves and a cordon. Three bowls in light grey coarse sandy fabric have thick flat rims (*Hardknott* 33 etc.) and there are ten rim fragments of bowls with flat rims in various shades of grey. A bowl of light grey clay with dark surface has a bead rim formed by an external groove; lower down the side there is another girth groove above vertical grooves which give an effect as of "pillar moulding". Three or four other hemi-spherical bowls in dark grey have a bead rim similarly formed by a groove on the outside while three others in dark grey show the groove beginning to make the flange rim.

The flanged bowl illustrated in *Melandra Castle IV*, 10 (*cf. ibid.* p. 89) is now incomplete; it is in fine light grey with blue grey section, 6 inches in diameter, and closely resembles *Holt 158* in shape; this latter is in light buff with white slip.

The commonest beaker—about fifteen examples—has a short everted rim without neck and with grooves or cordons below. The colour varies from almost white to very dark grey, the fabrics from good to coarse. The general type is not unlike *Balmuildy XLVI*, 1 and 2. Another half-dozen have a very short, hardly appreciable neck and there are five taller examples with short sloping grooved shoulders and everted rim. Other parallels are *Wroxeter 1912*, 26 (light grey, sandy) and 28 (two or three in good hard dark grey, one in a light gritty fabric) and *Slack 58* (two or three with two grooves).

There is a profusion of jars in many shapes, sizes and varieties of fabric. About forty fragments come from smallish globular pots with short everted rims of the kind that have been found elsewhere decorated with raised dots, "rustic," etc. Variations of *Wroxeter 1912*, 26 and *Slack 15-17*, 19 and 20 are present. Another dozen fragments have slightly hollowed everted rims (*cf. Fig. VI*, 9) and about a score of fragments with short rims have grooved sides. One jar in light grey fabric combines the sloping outline of *Slack 44* with the rim of *Slack 30* and there is a groove below.

Of larger jars with rounded sides and short rims with no neck there are about fifty fragments from many different jars. The general type is *Slack 28-32* with some as *Slack 36-37*. *Slack 23* is represented in various sizes and fabrics and there

are parallels to *Slack* 24 and 25. Three or four jars in light sandy grey are not unlike *Balmuildy* XLV, 6.

Two jars (*cf.* *Hardknott* 69 and 80) are overbaked to buff and there are other "seconds" in the Collection; a wide-mouthed jar of thin light grey sandy fabric with rolled-over rim is noticeably warped as is a tall wide-mouthed jar with straight everted rim. Another jar with short neck and short everted rim has been overbaked to brown and two fragments of grey cooking-pots (*Slack* 1-3) are over-baked and warped.

There are the following jars of cooking-pot type in grey: dark, sandy (*Slack* 1-2), light sandy (*Slack* 2), light section, dark surface, gritty (*Slack* 2), coarse dark sandy with zig-zag on neck (*Slack* 3), light section, dark surface, gritty (*Slack* 3), light sandy (*Slack* 4), very coarse and sandy (*Slack* 8), two of coarse fabric with dark surface (*Slack* 10). One jar in a good hard light grey suggests that typologically it might be earlier than *Slack* 1 or *Hardknott* 74. *Hardknott* 77 is suggested by one fragment in a thin gritty fabric.

There are fragments of three or four large urns as *Balmuildy* XLIV, 2 and another urn is smaller and thinner but has the same undercut rim. *Balmuildy* XLIV, 1 is represented by a gritty fabric with shoulder cordon and there is a second of the same general type in thinner and better fabric with a markedly squared rim section. Several fragments recall *Balmuildy* XLIV, 3; one small fragment of the square rim of an urn or store-jar is of this general type but thick and heavy and has a dark "pitted" surface.

Among many various vessels may be mentioned specifically a small fragment of a frilled neck (? *Balmuildy* L, 24) and part of a large urn (diameter 7 inches) in hard gritty clay almost half-an-inch thick with a pinched-in spout leading to a perforation in the shoulder as in *Holt* 217 (red ware with frilled rim).

BROWN WARE.

Among the smaller fragments of brown ware found during the excavations of 1935-1938 bowls were common; of a dozen with flat rims at least three were carinated and three had flat reeded rims (*cf.* *Corbridge* 1911, 5). Of four beakers one was globular, another rough-cast. Fragments of five jars included a small fragment suggesting *Holt* 45 and there was a jug handle. Of two pitchers one resembled *Corbridge* 1911, 91 and there was a fragment of a cover. The vessels in the following list are illustrated in Fig. VII, 41-56.

41. Bowl, flat rim (8½ inches); brown; very worn. *Cf.* *Slack* 104, *Corbridge* 1911, 7 and *Wroxeter* 1912, 10.

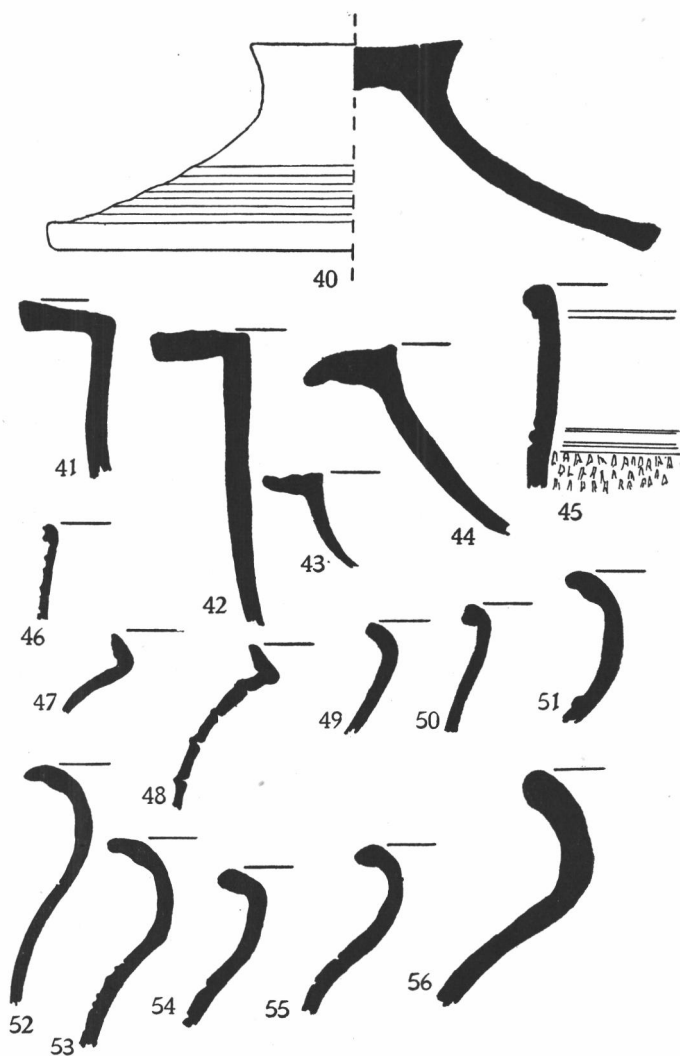


FIG. VII. Grey Ware (40) and Brown Ware (½).

42. Bowl, reeded rim ($9\frac{1}{2}$ inches); brown; worn. On original clay. Cf. 41.

43. Hemispherical bowl, reeded rim (5 inches); light brown. With Fig. VI, 9.

44. Hemispherical bowl, flanged rim ($5\frac{3}{4}$ inches); grey section, light brown surface, ? colour-coated. Cf. *Wroxeter 1912*, 16.

45. Straight-sided bowl, moulded rim ($7\frac{1}{2}$ inches); reddish-brown, interior rough, exterior red colour-coated; below cordon and grooves a band of roulette. The shape suggests Drag. 30; for a somewhat similar imitation of Drag. 29 see *Wroxeter 1912*, 7.

46-50 are beakers or small jars.

46. Rough-cast (4 inches); girth grooves. In section the fabric is grey; the very perished powdery surface is brown. Cf. *Corbridge 1911*, 73. Though the rough-cast technique is comparatively rare after ca. 150 A.D. (see *Holt 200*) there are three examples from Balmuildy (XLIV).

47. Pale brown, sandy (4 inches). A fragment of the base showed that the vessel had no foot-rim. With Fig. VI, 2.

48. Small globular jar, square rim (4 inches); decorated with rows of small protuberances made by pressing a point into the inside while the clay was wet. The fabric is grey in section with a soft light brown surface. A jar of similar shape and fabric in the Melandra Collection is decorated with a row of bosses just below the rim. The bosses have been produced by finger-pressure from the inside. As each boss is sharply defined by a regular narrow groove, a hollow die with a sharp raised edge may have been held in position against the outside while the pressure was applied.

49. Brown ($3\frac{1}{2}$ inches); worn. Fragments of two similar jars. Cf. *Slack 62* (grey). With Fig. VI, 23-27.

50. Light brown ($4\frac{1}{4}$ inches); worn.

51. Brown, sandy ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches). Cf. *Wroxeter 1923-27* p. 285, A1 (ca. 60-90 A.D.) and *Corbridge 1911*, 68. With Fig. VI, 4.

52. Brown, sandy with large pieces of grit, very worn; shoulder groove. A fragment of a handle may belong to this vessel or to 53 with which it was found; cf. *Tullie House Catal.* 178. These two vessels together with the Samian dish by PATRICIUS (p. 18, no. 1) belong to the time of the erection of the original fort (p. 5).

53. Brown, sandy ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches); narrow shoulder groove beneath which the surface appears to have a "rough-cast" finish. With 52.

54. Brown, gritty ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches); two grooves. With Fig. VI, 2.

55. Six fragments similar to 54 but apparently from a different jar, smaller than 51 and with grooves instead of cordon (cf. *Wroxeter* 1923-27 p. 285, A3). Similar profiles lasted for a long time; e.g. *op. cit.* p. 295, C3 & C4 ("second period of the Forum"). Brown with particles of grit ($4\frac{3}{4}$ inches); two slight ridges on neck, two shallow grooves above the shoulder; ? white wash inside and outside. With Fig. VI, 11.

56. Urn ($5\frac{3}{4}$ inches); brown, coarse with much embedded grit, grey section. Two similar fragments were found in different parts of the fort in different years.

The Melandra Collection also has much less brown ware than grey. There are half-a-dozen small jars of the beaker type including parallels to *Slack* 65 and to *Balmuildy* XLVI, 1 and 2. A small globular jar has two grooves on the shoulder and traces of white paint.

Jars of various types include *Slack* 38 with shoulder ridge, *Slack* 19, *Balmuildy* XLV, 13, 14 and 21. A small fragment shows the overhanging rim of the urn *Balmuildy* XLIV, 2 while a somewhat smaller jar has a light yellow section, a "pitted" surface and short hollow slightly everted rim. There are a dozen fragments of wide-mouthed jars, one with shoulder cordon and others with two shoulder grooves.

The Collection contains a wide variety of bowls and dishes; flanged (half-a-dozen, including *Balmuildy* XLVIII, 29 and 30), sandy with reeded rim (*Slack* 81; this may be an over-baked grey bowl), flat rimmed as e.g. *Balmuildy* XLVII, 5 and 7 (of six one is overbaked), flat reeded rim (two), overhanging reeded rim, bead rim (one or two). One bowl with flat rim above two grooves is mica-dusted. There is a shallow dish or platter with plain rim and a coarse sandy dish with straight side and flat rim with a large pebble embedded in the fabric (*Slack* 69). A brown bowl 1.3 inches deep has a curved side and flat base with an interior moulding at the junction; a reeded rim slopes upwards and outwards as in the group *Slack* 85-89 without the excrescences. Another deeper bowl with curving side has a similar sloping rim but not reeded.

There are also fragments of two jugs, a mug and a dozen covers. A "cheese-press" $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches high (*Melandra Castle* p. 91) is identical with one from Mumrills (p. 540, 14) as regards shape of central boss, number of circular ridges on the base and number and disposition of the perforations in the base. Similar vessels have been found elsewhere (*Wroxeter*, *Balmuildy*, *Flint*, etc.) but the *Melandra* and the *Mumrills* specimens follow exactly the same design and must have had the same place of manufacture.

"COOKING-POT WARE."

The amount of this ware found during the excavations was about as much as that of the brown ware. Vessels not dealt with below include about ten dishes with flat rim, one of which apparently had a handle and two of which were overbaked, two dishes with a plain rim as for instance in *Slack* 100 and one in which a groove marks off a bead rim (this latter overbaked). Of rim fragments from more than half-a-dozen cooking-pots two were overbaked, one of them to red. The number of overbaked vessels is noticeable, as it is also in the Melandra Collection. It appears to be rather overbaking during manufacture then excessive heating in subsequent use.

The following vessels in "cooking-pot ware" are illustrated in Fig. VIII; except for 58, 66, 68 and 74 they are of black polished fabric.

57. Dish, flat rim ($7\frac{3}{4}$ inches); lattice on side. A second vessel of similar type was somewhat smaller. Cf. *Slack* 66, which is not so deep, and *Balmuilty* XLVII, 3 ("not very common"; *ib.* p. 90).

58. Dish ($6\frac{1}{2}$ inches) in good hard very dark grey fabric with short thick flat rim; burnished. Cf. *Balmuilty* XLVII, 7.

59. Dish, roll rim rather wider than usual in similar second century dishes, e.g. *Wroxeter* 1923-27 p. 259, C9.

60. Small cooking-pot or beaker ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches); lattice on side. Cf. *Slack* 1-2.

61. Small cooking-pot ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches). The shoulder angle is more acute than in *Slack* 3; cf. *Balmuilty* LXV, 12.

62. Cooking-pot (5 inches); zig-zag on neck. Cf. *Slack* 4.

63. Cooking-pot ($5\frac{1}{4}$ inches); zig-zag on neck. Cf. *Slack* 1.

64. Two chipped fragments with zig-zag. Cf. *Slack* 2.

65. Cooking-pot ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches); zig-zag on neck. Cf. *Slack* 5.

66. Gritty dark grey (5 inches); zig-zag. Cf. 65.

67. Coarse, sandy (6 inches); zig-zag. Cf. *Slack* 5-6.

68-72 were all found together in the eavesdrip between Blocks I and II; see also 6, p. 27.

68. "Beaker" or small cooking-pot ($3\frac{3}{4}$ inches); hard fabric, grey section, dark exterior, burnished. There is a suggestion of a shoulder-angle, more than in *Slack* 12; cf. *Corbridge* 1911, 57-58 and *Balmuilty* XLVI, 2.

69. Good black fabric, burnished, zig-zag on neck, lattice on side. About a third of this vessel was found in fragments allowing the restoration of the complete profile; the portion which would show whether there were two handles is missing.

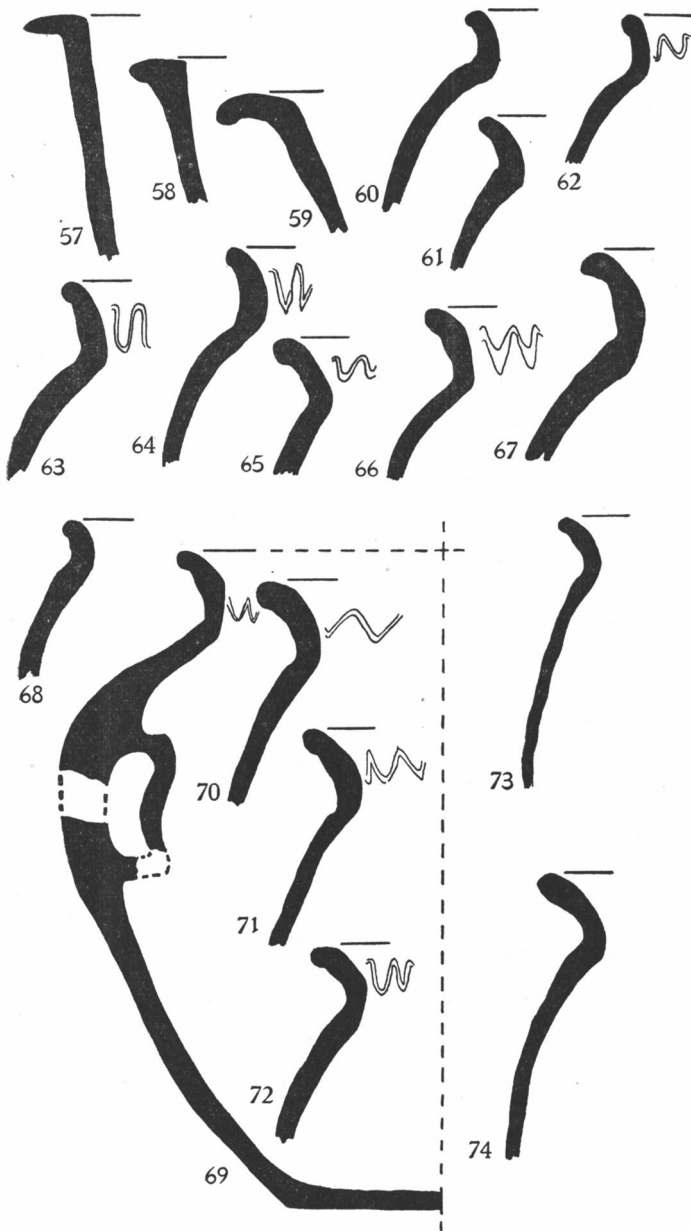


FIG. VIII. Cooking-pot Ware ($\frac{1}{2}$).

This is a "cooking-pot" (diameter $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches) rather than a one-handled "beaker" such as is common in this ware (e.g. *Holt* 75, *Tullie House Catal.* 164 and 165, *Poltross Burn* IV, 60, *Newstead* p. 260, etc.). An exact parallel has not been found though the rim profile is not at all unusual, e.g. *Slack* 5.

70. Good fabric ($5\frac{1}{4}$ inches); burnished exterior, zig-zag and lattice. Cf. 65.

71. Fabric as 70 ($5\frac{3}{4}$ inches). Cf. 65 and 66.

72. Good fabric slightly overbaked ($5\frac{1}{2}$ inches); burnished exterior with zig-zag on neck. See 74.

73. Hard with irregular lumpy surface inside and out ($4\frac{1}{2}$ inches); lattice on side which is thinner than usual.

74. Found in top soil. Good dark grey fabric, burnished. To judge from the flair of the rims 72 and 74 are perhaps the latest vessels of this type found during the excavations of 1935-1938. The necks however are not clearly defined and 74 only shows the merest suspicion of a shoulder-ledge.

The quantity of cooking-pot ware in the Melandra Collection is small as compared with that of the grey ware. As already remarked many vessels show over-baking.

Beakers are not numerous. There are parallels to *Balmuildy* XLVI, 1, 2, 3 and 4 but nothing quite so angular as *ib.* 5 and 6. Dishes with flat rims are numerous — perhaps three to four dozen vessels are represented, most of them having a sharp angle at the inner edge of the rim; the general type is *Slack* 65-66 and 69; cf. *Balmuildy* XLVII, 3 and 9. Comparatively few dishes, perhaps a dozen, show any hooking-over of the rim as e.g. *Slack* 70 and then the hooking-over is slight, rather as in *Balmuildy* XLVII, 4. Flanged rims are rare—fragments of two dishes have the pronounced groove on the upper side of a flat rim which suggests transition to the flanged rim. Two dishes or bowls have bead rims (*Slack* 73-4, cf. *Balmuildy* XLVII, 16). *Melandra Castle* IV, 11 illustrates a shallow dish 12 inches in diameter and there is another similar but smaller vessel; the larger has apparently been given a coat of varnish and the evidence for the handle is obscure.

Of about forty cooking-pots more than a third are of the general type *Slack* 1-2, including some with zig-zag on the neck and also some which though not so thick are of this general profile (cf. *supra*, 73). There are five examples of *Slack* 4, four of *Slack* 3, two or three of each of the following: *Slack* 5, 10, 11 (cf. *Hardknott* 74), *Hardknott* 76-77. Flairing rims are absent; three pots are approaching to *Balmuildy* XLV, 14, 15 and 17 but the shoulder ledges are not so pronounced.

JUGS.

Fragments of the following were found: six white (including three with brown paint, one of them with a screw-neck), two brown (one large), three red (one handle had three ribs and two grooves), one grey. The Melandra Collection includes about thirty handles and many fragments of necks in a wide variety of brown and white fabrics. There are three figure-of-8 necks, two of which are illustrated in *Melandra Castle V*, 4 and 5. The handles include plain and ribbed specimens; there is no certain example of a two-handled jug.

MISCELLANEOUS WARES.

In addition to the two small jars described under 48, p. 34, fragments of only two "miscellaneous" fabrics were found during the recent excavations—the base of a rough-cast beaker of reddish brown clay, colour-coated, and from Ditch 2 fragments of a pale brown indented beaker (see p. 10, no. 3).

In the Collection there is a ribbed fragment of Rhenish ware and half-a-dozen fragments of Castor ware, none of them showing any decoration.

The portion of a small vase illustrated in *Melandra Castle III*, 2 is 3 inches tall (incomplete), the side being 0.15 inches thick. It is hardly Castor ware as there stated; it is brown in section with dark brown coating and the pattern of "scrolls and berries" (*cf. Silchester Catal. XLII*) is in raised white paint. A flanged bowl (*op. cit.* III, 5) is of reddish brown clay with red slip; the pattern is in white paint, the spaces between the arcs and the edge of the flange being dark brown.

Fig. IX, 1 illustrates the stamped decoration on two fragments of a bowl of grey clay with dark grey to black polished exterior. The bowl was carinated. Above the keel there are two rows of decoration, the upper being a line of rosettes of eight, the lower a line of similar rosettes alternating with squares of small stamped square dots. Above the stamped ornamentation are two mouldings and between the two rows and above the keel there are respectively two and three shallow grooves. A small fragment of similar fabric from an indented beaker decorated with a rinceau in notches and dots is illustrated in *Melandra Castle IV*, 8 and redrawn in Fig. IX, 2, while the fragment illustrated (? upside down) in *Melandra Castle IV*, 9 is of a similar fabric with raised wavy lines beneath a wide groove. The fragments illustrated in *Melandra Castle IV*, 2 and 6 are presumably of "cooking-pot ware".

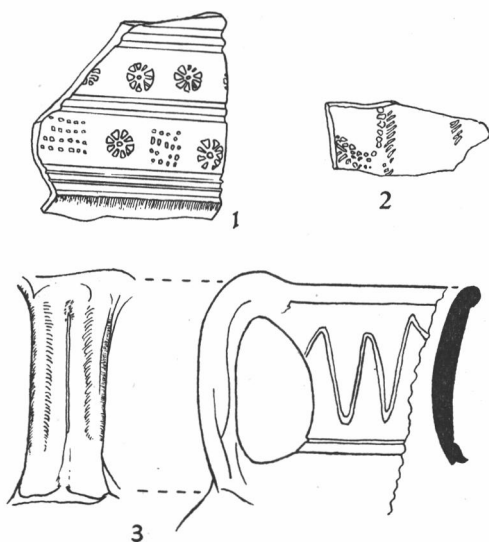
FIG. IX. ($\frac{1}{2}$).

Fig. IX, 3 illustrates the neck of a one-handed flagon in very dark grey clay, burnished, with a wavy line on the neck (cf. *Silchester Catal.* LXIX, A). *Melandra Castle* p. 89 mentions the bottle neck of similar fabric.

The very dark grey, very solid fabric of a fragment half-an-inch thick from the neck of a large urn (diameter $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches) with a small pinched frill three-quarters of an inch below the rim has an un-Roman appearance; there is a suggestion of a metallic glaze.

GLASS.

The excavations produced nine fragments of window glass, five from the eavesdrip between Blocks I and II with two fragments of a thick glass bowl and one of a square bottle. There were also found two handles of green glass, one being ribbed. The Collection contains a good assortment of glass, including window glass, a rim fragment of a bowl of greenish glass, the rim formed apparently by doubling a sheet over, several fragments of the flat collar-rims of bottles, fragments of sides of bottles and so forth. *Melandra Castle* p. 93 refers to one fragment of "pillar-moulded" glass; there are three in the Collection and other fragments, apparently of a handle, show ribbing.