EXCAVATIONS AT LODGE HOUSE, SMALLEY, DERBYSHIRE

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INTRODUCTION

Wessex Archaeology undertook a programme of strip, map and record in advance of the extension of a surface mine at Lodge House, situated to the east of Smalley, Derbyshire at 441873 345226 (Fig. 1). Earlier phases of geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica 2011) and archaeological evaluation (Wessex Archaeology 2012) had revealed the presence of a subcircular or D-shaped enclosure and associated features of probable Romano-British date. There was little evidence for structural remains but a reasonably large assemblage of Roman pottery was recovered from the fills of the enclosure ditches. The site therefore provides useful information about early Roman activity in this part of Derbyshire.

Geology, topography and land-use

The area of excavation lay on the Pennine middle Coal Measures formation, a complex of alternating mudstone, siltstone and sandstone (British Geological Survey www.bgs.ac.uk/ GeoIndex.htm). On site, bands of coal, clay and sandstone outcropped. The site occupied an area of arable land c. 2.5ha in area at c. 132m OD, to the north-west of previously extracted land. Although the area was generally flat, the D-shaped enclosure occupied the southern end of a slight spur in the local topography, the land falling away to the east, south and west.

EXCAVATION

Methodology

Eight evaluation trenches were excavated during a previous phase of work (Fig. 1, trenches ET1-ET8), three over the line of the enclosures and five over other geophysical anomalies. Each was 25m long, except for trench 2 which was twice that length. Subsequently an area of c. 10,000m² was stripped over the northern half of the D-shaped and rectilinear enclosures. Features exposed within the stripped area were mapped and recorded in plan. The enclosure



Fig.1: Site location plan showing evaluation trenches (ET), excavation trenches (T) and area of strip, map and record.

ditches were examined in eleven excavated sections (T1-11 on Fig. 2); discrete features were half-sectioned.

The stripping confirmed the accuracy of the geophysical survey in identifying the few features present in the generally empty interior; accordingly it was agreed that the enclosure ditch should be the object of investigation in the southern half of the enclosure, in order to examine chronology and variability around the entire circuit. Three trenches 25m long and 4m wide were excavated over the southern half of the D-shaped enclosure ditch (T12–14).

The methodology and strategy was in accord with the written scheme of investigation agreed with Derbyshire County Council.

Results

Archaeological features revealed during the evaluation and excavation comprised two enclosure ditches and fourteen pits (Fig. 2).

D-shaped enclosure

The main D-shaped enclosure was revealed by geophysical survey to measure approximately 90m east–west by 100m north–south. The survey indicated that the ditch was not continuous, with a gap on the west side; this was confirmed by excavation.

The northern half of the D-shaped enclosure (1016) was revealed in the strip, map and record exercise and was sampled in six sections. A further four trenches were located over the southern half, which was not stripped. In total, the ditches enclosed an area of approximately 0.65 hectares.

An entrance was visible on the west side of the ditch. The form and dimensions of this feature are not known, since only the northern ditch terminal survived (the southern terminal is presumed to lie beneath the track which obscures the south-western section of the enclosure), but the gap must have been of at least 20m.

The northern terminal was 2.95m wide at the surface, surviving to a depth of 1m. The base was narrow, and the ditch had a broad V-shaped profile (Fig. 3.1). This same profile was maintained along the length of the north-western sector (section T1 and T2) before becoming more markedly V-shaped in sections T3 and T4 on the northern side, with a maximum excavated width of 3.65m and depth of 1.5m in section T4 (Fig. 3.2). The profile changed again in evaluation trench 2, on the north-eastern side of the enclosure, to a broader 4.5m wide U-shaped profile, which was maintained throughout the eastern portion (evaluation trench 2, section T5 and trench 12: Fig. 3.4). In the southern half, the steep V-shape re-appeared (trench 13, evaluation trench 3, trench 14: Fig. 3.5). The ditch's shape appears to have been dictated by the underlying geology, with the broad V-shaped sections cut through clay, the steep V-shaped sections through sandstone and the U-shaped sections cut into coal.

Regardless of the ditch's shape, the sequence of fills (the character of which reflects the changing geology) was relatively simple and repeated throughout, with only minor variations (differences in the number of episodes of slumping, for instance). The base of the ditch was filled by redeposited natural; in most instances composed of eroded material deposited in waterlogged conditions. Above this was an episode or episodes of rapid deposition of poorly sorted material. Both groups of material may have originated from an adjacent bank, but there is no evidence (other than the fills themselves) that a bank existed, and consistent silting patterns to indicate if any bank was located within or beyond the ditch (or both) were not identified.



Fig.2: Plan of excavated areas and features.



Fig. 3: South-facing section of D-shaped enclosure ditch in Trench 1 (1009), west-facing section of D-shaped enclosure ditch in Trench 4 (1035), north-west-facing section of rectilinear enclosure in Trench 9 (1043), north-facing section of D-shaped enclosure in Trench 5 (1056), east-facing section of D-shaped enclosure in Trench 14 (1090).

Above these layers were a series of deliberate backfills, which contained Romano-British pottery in most instances (over 100 sherds in trenches 2 and 4; less than 35 in the others). In sections T1, T2, T4 and evaluation trench 2 these fills had a distinctive concave profile, indicating that they had been made once the existing fills of the enclosure ditch had stabilised.

Internal features

Within the stripped northern half of the enclosure were five pits (1068, 1071, 1079, 1084 and 1114 - see Fig. 2), all of which had been heavily truncated.

Pit 1068 was sub-circular (1.34m by 1.40m) and shallow (0.12m). The pit's base had been reddened by heat, but there were no signs of *in situ* burning, suggesting that hot material had been dumped into the feature. Above the heat affected natural was a dark layer containing charcoal and three sherds of Romano-British pottery.

Pit 1071 (Fig. 4) was a similar sub-circular feature (1.88m by 1.80m), surviving to a slightly greater depth (0.25m). Clear tool marks were visible on the pit's base suggesting the use of a broad bladed pick or similar tool. As in 1068, the pit's base had been affected by heat, presumably from the layer of hot material represented by the overlying charcoal rich layer, which also contained three sherds of Romano-British pottery. This charcoal was sealed by a layer of soil.



Fig. 4: Plan and section of pit 1071.

Pit 1079 was circular, 0.58m in diameter, and survived to a depth of 0.12m. Its single fill contained some reddened sandstone and ash. Pit 1114 was similar, 0.43m in diameter and 0.21m deep with a single fill without evidence of any burning.

Pit 1084 was situated in the centre of the enclosure. Sub-oval in plan, it measured 1.00m by 0.72m and survived to a depth of 0.44m. On the base was a layer of redeposited natural derived from weathering and stabilisation, although a thin layer of charcoal on the base indicates some use of the feature. Above this, two layers of gradually accumulating infill contained lenses of charcoal and burnt sandstone. No other material was present.

Rectilinear enclosure

North of the D-shaped enclosure, a rectilinear arrangement of ditches formed a second enclosure of approximately 1700m² (1019; Fig. 2). 34m wide, the north side of this enclosure ran parallel to the D-shaped enclosure for approximately 50m. The northern boundary was punctuated by a single 6m wide entrance, and at the southern end of the western side the ditch terminated 6m short of the D-shaped enclosure, which formed the southern side. The ditch at the eastern end grew progressively shallower until it petered out. It is unclear whether this is due to erosion and ploughing or whether this represents its original true extent.

The ditches forming the rectilinear enclosure were slight, surviving to no more than 0.50m deep and between 0.60 and 1.10m wide. Apart from the terminals (where they were U-shaped), the ditches had a shallow V-shaped profile (Fig. 3.3). No evidence survives to suggest a bank.

The fill sequence was straightforward, and repeated throughout. A layer of redeposited natural representing weathering and stabilisation of the sides lay beneath a backfill containing considerable quantities of Romano-British pottery.

Internal features

Six pits were located within the rectilinear enclosure (1029, 1030, 1032, 1080, 1095 and 1105).

Pit 1029 was sub-circular (1.54m by 1.68m) and survived to only 0.05m deep. Hot charcoal rich material had been placed onto the base, causing the natural to redden.

Pit 1030 was oval, 1.64m by 1.14m and 0.24m deep. Its single fill contained no material, and there was no evidence of any burning.

Pit 1032 was sub-circular, 1.44m by 1.46m and 0.27m deep. A layer of charcoal rich material lay directly on the heat affected base, which had presumably been deposited while still hot. Above this was a layer of soil, with no sign of any heat alteration.

Pit 1080 probably represents the vestigial traces of two intercutting pits, very heavily truncated and surviving to a depth of as little as 0.02m in places (0.15m maximum). No material was recovered from the fill.

Pit 1095 was sub-circular, 1.45m by 1.00m and 0.25m deep. Its two fills contained fifteen sherds of Romano-British pottery. There was no evidence of burning.

Pit 1105 was sub-oval, 1.13m by 0.63m and 0.25m deep. Its lowest fill consisted of naturally accumulated material from weathering and stabilisation. Above this, a layer of coal was sealed by a further layer of redeposited natural, likely to be a deliberate backfill since it contained Romano-British pottery.

Features outside the enclosures

Three pits lay to the north of the enclosures, two (1017 and 1018) north-west of the D-shaped enclosure, the third (1082) north of the rectilinear enclosure outside the entrance (Fig. 2). Pit 1017 contained modern glass and ceramics, but 1018 and 1082 were very similar to the pits within the enclosures. Both were subcircular (1018 1.10m by 1.30m; 1082 1.10m by 0.92m) and shallow (1018: 0.16m; 1082: 0.12m) with single charcoal rich fills above heat affected bases.

ROMANO-BRITISH POTTERY By R. S. Leary

The pottery was examined in context groups and catalogued according to the Guidelines of the Study Group for Romano-British Pottery for basic archiving (Darling 2004). Reference was made to the National Fabric Collection where appropriate (Tomber and Dore 1998). Details of fabric variations were recorded where appropriate. Forms, decoration and conditions were described. For illustrated sherds see Figs 5 and 6 in Appendix 1; and for fabrics represented see Appendix 2.

1865 sherds of Romano-British pottery were identified (22.3kg and 19 Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVES)) with one handmade sherd of pre Roman Iron Age type and 11 sherds of samian (127g and 0.355 EVES, see Montiel, below) (Table 1). Although the Romano-British pottery ranged in date from the late first to early second century to the late third to mid fourth century, most types belonged to a narrower period from the late first or early second century to the late second or early third century. Distorted and waster sherds from Derbyshire ware jars and underfired grey wares in types made at the Derbyshire ware kilns suggest potting activity may have taken place near the site. The vessels fell into the category of serviceable 'seconds' and may have been obtained from the kilns dotted around the Belper area at Hazelwood, Holbrook, Lumb Brook, Milford, Shottlegate, Farnah Green and Shottle (Brassington 1980, 43–4)

Chronology

Two vessels may be of pre Roman date but are in contexts with later Roman pottery (1041 secondary fill of ditch; 1016 and unstratified). These comprised an unstratified handmade bodysherd with fine quartz and argillaceous inclusions, probably from a jar, and eight sherds from a very fragmentary shell-tempered CTB1 jar with triangular rim which is of late Iron Age or Conquest type.

The pottery from the primary and later fills of the smaller enclosure 1019, and the secondary fills of the D-shaped enclosure 1016 and pits 1017, 1067, 1077, 1080 and 1095 indicated that they were infilled in the mid or late second century. No pottery was present in the primary fill of ditch 1016. In particular nearly all the contexts included Derbyshire wares dating after c. AD 140, except for 1022 and 1081 which included sherds likely to be of Hadrianic (AD 117–138) or early Antonine (AD 138–192) date at the earliest.

Pottery from ditches 1016 and 1019, and pits 1067 and 1095 did, however, include earlier material of late first to early second century type. This earlier pottery most likely belongs to the first use of the settlement. The relatively small quantity (*c*. 17% of the whole assemblage by estimated vessel equivalents) together with the absence of reeded-rim bowls and the small number of rusticated jars (4 sherds from at least two vessels), suggest the occupation began in the Trajanic (AD 98–117) rather than the Flavian (AD 69–96) period. The earliest types comprised the shell-tempered ware jar mentioned above and a grog-tempered ware jar, both of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire type (Guilbert, Fearn and Woodhouse 1994, fig. 3 and Todd 1968), and products of the Derby Racecourse kilns (described below).

The latest vessels in the rest of the context groups do not have to be later than the early or mid Antonine date except for the mortaria group of third century type from subsoil 1001 and the grooved flat rim grey ware bowl (no. 2) from context 1005, which is of late second to early or mid third century date. A developed flanged bowl in the evaluation assemblage, 205, dates to the late third or fourth century.

EXCAVATIONS AT LODGE HOUSE, SMALLEY, DERBYSHIRE

Ware group	Fabric	Count	Weight	EVES*
Handmade	HM	1	21.5	
Black burnished ware 1	BB1	57	313	0.53
Black burnished ware 2 type	BBT2	1	16.8	
Colour-coated ware	CC2	6	7.8	
Shell-tempered ware	CTB	8	38.6	
Derbyshire ware	DBY	499	6999.7	7.16
	DBY CREAM	6	88.4	0.48
	DBY WHITE	7	101	0.39
	DBY/OBC	44	212.8	0.15
Derbyshire ware total		556	7401.9	8.18
Derbyshire coarse wares	DER OX	10	154.9	0.25
	DER OX3	4	79.3	0.22
	DER RE	323	4198.7	1.31
	DER RE?	23	61.3	
Derbyshire coarse wares total		360	4494.2	1.78
Mortarium	MH2	21	759.8	0.44
Native (clay pellets/grog)	GTA	8	65.6	0.08
Oxidised (coarse)	OAC	77	859.2	0.54
	OBC	16	136.7	0.36
Oxidised (coarse) total		93	995.9	0.90
Oxidised (fine)	OAA	6	19.7	
	OAA1	41	223.7	0.30
	OBA1	3	16.5	
Oxidised (fine) total		47	243.4	0.30
Oxidised (med/coarse)	OA/BC	67	612	0.47
	OBB/BC	59	808.1	
Oxidised (med/coarse) total		126	1420.1	0.47
Oxidised (medium)	OAB	2	13.7	
	OAB1	17	168.2	0.52
Ovidiand (madium) total	OBBI	42	4/3.6	0.36
Oxidised (medium) total	CDA	61	655.5	0.88
Reduced wares (line)	GRA 1	3	93.3	0.18
Peduced wares (fine) Total	UKAI	70	555.9	0.04
Reduced wares (medium)	CPR	70	52	0.82
Reduced wares (medium)	GRB1	225	2070.2	0.13
	GPB2	10	226.0	2.40
	GRB3	00	230.9	0.58
	GRB32	1	25	0.58
Reduced wares (medium) Total	GIODS.	348	4293.9	3 11
Samian	SAMCG	4	37	0.12
	SAMEG	1	33	0.08
	SAMLG	4	43	0.15
	SAMMV	2	14	
	SAMSG	3	9.7	
Samian Total		14	136.7	0.35
White-slipped	FLB	1	16.8	
	FLB1	6	127.7	1
White-slipped ware total		7	144.5	1
White ware	FLA	65	481.6	
	FLA1	8	60.8	0.10
	FLA2	5	125	
White ware total		78	667.4	0.10
Grand Total		1865	22320.3	18.94

* Estimated Vessel Equivalents

Table 1: Relative quantification of wares and fabrics.

Wares and vessel types, trade and exchange

The Derbyshire ware types comprised predominantly cupped-rim and rebated-rim mediummouthed jars with fewer hooked-rim jars, an everted-rim narrow-necked jar and one flat-rim dish with sagging base (nos 1, 4, 6, 8, 15, 17, 21 and 25, Kay 1962 figs 5–11 and Jones and Webster 1969, fig. 2 nos 8–9). These were made in kilns around Belper (Kay 1962; Leary 2003; Jones and Webster 1969) from the Antonine period until the mid fourth century. The less common forms such as the rebated-rim jars (nos 8 and 15), the narrow-mouthed jars (no. 21) and the bowls and dishes (no. 25) are thought to belong to the beginning of the industry in the mid to late second century (Jones and Webster 1969, fig. 2). It was notable that several cream/white DBY rebated-rim jars (no. 8) were present and this white or cream Derbyshire ware also seems to be an earlier fabric.

The softer fabrics OAC and OBC are known from both Derby Racecourse and the Derbyshire kilns around Belper. It was used at Derby to make rebated-rim jars (as no. 8), which generally lacked the deep cupping of Derbyshire ware cupped-rim jars and compared closely with the rebated-rim jars made in the fine reduced and oxidised wares at the Racecourse kilns. The ware was probably being made in kilns 1, 2 and 5 at the Racecourse, where production seems to date from the Trajanic period to as late as the mid second century. OAC and OBC have been identified at Brough-on-Noe in the rebated-rim jar form and in classic Derbyshire ware forms suggesting their use overlapped with the production of true Derbyshire ware. Softer, buff fabrics were recorded at Holbrook and Hazelwood kilns by Kay (1962, 31) but were interpreted by him as underfired wasters. Given the evidence at Brough-on-Noe, where OAC and OBC were associated with late second to early third century pottery (Leary 1993, 120), now repeated at sites such as Staden, Derbyshire, where a softer "Derbyshire ware" was found in association with second century material (Makepeace, Beswick and Bishop 1989, 25–9), it is more likely that these softer fabric continued to be produced from the second century to as late as the early third century.

The grey and oxidised wares included forms found at the Derby Racecourse kilns in the late first to mid second century. The jars included neckless everted-rim or bead-rim jars (nos 9 and 18), some of which were rusticated, dating to the late first to early second century (Brassington 1971, fig. 10). The bowls comprised late first to early second century carinated bowls with grooves (no. 24) and cordons, fine oxidised flanged segmental bowls, and simple everted-rim wide-mouthed jars with shoulder grooves and cordons (nos 13 and 19, Brassington 1971, fig. 5 nos 1, 4 and 10, fig. 6 nos 28–36 and fig. 7 respectively). Fragments from oxidised bowls with a stubby flange around the lower body can also be matched at Derby Racecourse (no. 14, Brassington 1980, fig. 14 nos 383-5), and a grey ware bowl or wide-mouthed jar decorated with burnished lattice is very like one from phase 4 at Derby Little Chester (no. 16, late second to early third century, Birss 1986 fig. 43 no. 111; also Brassington 1980 fig. 10 no 318 from kiln 4a dated to the early second century said to have lattice decoration, although not drawn as such). The bowls with stubby flanges are related to samian forms 44 and 81 dating to the second half of the second century. A white-slipped ring-necked flagon is of late first or early second century type (no. 20), the white ware flagon sherds could also be from the Racecourse kilns and a roughcast ware beaker in a buff ware is perhaps from the Derby Racecourse kilns (Birss 1985, fig. 39 no. 17).

Some coarser grey and oxidised ware wide-mouthed jars with everted, bifid everted and heavy beaded rims (fabrics DER OX and RE, nos 5, 7 and 11) compared with fabrics and types made at the Derbyshire ware kilns, and the thicker walled everted-rim, narrow-necked and

perhaps one of the wide-mouthed jars in ware GRB are also more likely to come from there than the Derby Racecourse kilns (nos. 3, 12 and 23, Leary 2003, fig. 11 nos 14–18; Kay 1962, fig. 12 nos 4 and 6). These date to the mid/late second to third century. One hemispherical flanged bowl (no. 22) was in a rather coarse oxidised ware and compared well with a small number of this type made at the Derbyshire ware kilns in the late second or third century (Leary 2003, fig. 11 no. 21 and Kay 1962, fig. 13). One unstratified grey ware rim sherd was from a flanged bowl with leaves en barbotine, like samian dishes (no. 26). This is not a type previously noted at Derby but has been found at Caerleon dated AD 110–160/70 (Webster and Webster 1998, fig. 3 nos 38–41).

Around half of the assemblage came from the Derbyshire ware kiln industry based around Belper with at least 26% from the Derby Racecourse kilns. A further 11% (the pre-Derbyshire wares) may come from the Racecourse or the Derbyshire ware kilns. Thus around 90% of the assemblage was made either at Derby itself or at the Derbyshire wares industry based around Belper. In chronological terms it is quite likely that most of the OAC/OBC rebated-rim jars date to the early to mid second century and are contemporary with the late first to early second century reduced and oxidised wares of Derby Racecourse type. If so this would mean that around 90% of the pottery of this date came from the Derby Racecourse kilns with small quantities from other sources. Non-local wares may include nearby military kilns at Templeborough or Nostell Priory where a similar white-cored grey ware to GRB2 has been identified (in prep. assemblages excavated by ARCUS and On-Site Archaeology respectively), although the Racecourse kilns also produced white cored wares. In the Hadrianic-Antonine period Derby Racecourse types continued to make up much of the ceramic assemblage together with wares from the Belper kilns, both Derbyshire ware itself and the finer Derbyshire reduced and oxidised wares made in these kilns.

A small amount of black burnished ware 1 from Dorset reached the site, 3% of the total assemblage, predominantly from jars dating to the mid or mid to late second century (Gillam 1976 nos 2 and 3), with bodysherds from two bowls or dishes. One BB2 type sherd may be from one of the many second century kilns in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire making BB1 and BB2 copies (Buckland *et al.* 1980, 157 and Thompson 1958). A roughcast ware colour-coated beaker is from the Argonne. The shell-tempered ware sherds include an incomplete rim, which appears to be a cordoned neck type with triangular rim, a form found in late pre Roman Iron Age and conquest periods contexts in the east Midlands. Sherds from a grog-tempered jar with corrugated walls compares to Todd's Trent Valley group dating from the late first to the mid second century (Todd 1968). This ware is found sparsely on military sites of this date in Derbyshire, such as Chesterfield (Ellis 1989, 106 fabric 47), and is probably acquired for its contents or brought by an individual to the site as part of their possessions. Sherds from a roughcast beaker in a pale orange fabric with brown colour-coat are of imported type, probably from the Argonne region. These are of late first to second century date.

The mortaria, all unstratified, were all in Mancetter-Hartshill white ware and date to the late second to early third century, and the mid to late third century, as is normal in the Midlands at this period. Their presence only in this late level is peculiar, particularly since no other coarse wares were found in this level. No amphora sherds were present.

Status and function

Although not of very high status, the site clearly was articulated with the trading network centred on the military at Derby, and was sufficiently prosperous to acquire tablewares made

in the region and small amounts of fine wares imported from the Continent. This assemblage included several bowls and dishes in both coarse and fine wares as well as flagons, at least two beakers and one samian cup suggesting a level of sophistication (Table 2). No graffiti were found which is in keeping with this.

Vessel type	Count	Weight	EVES
Unknown	15.77%	13.43%	
Bowl	8.91%	5.60%	12.57
Bowl/dish	0.16%	0.15%	
Bowl?	0.43%	0.17%	
Beaker	0.38%	0.10%	
Dish	0.32%	0.70%	0.84
Flagon	3.33%	2.55%	5.28
Flagon?	0.11%	0.10%	
Medium-necked jar	44.47%	49.48%	55.97
Jar or flagon	0.05%	0.08%	
Mortarium	1.13%	3.41%	2.32
Narrow-necked jar	3.00%	2.57%	9.61
Wide-mouthed jar	21.89%	21.65%	13.15
Cup	0.05%	0.03%	0.26
Absolute Total	1865	22320.3	19

Table 2: Relative quantities of vessel types.

In terms of overall trade and sophistication the settlement compares poorly with the assemblages from Derby in the second century. At Derby samian and amphora were relatively common and tableware comprised some 60-70% of the coarse ware assemblages (Birss 1985, tables 4–10; Martin 2000, tables 5–8). The quantities of samian is lower than at the rural settlements at Ockbrook (2–3%, Leary 2001, table 5), Barton under Needwood (Leary unpublished table) and Bolsover, (Leary 1995, table 7) but comparable to the small amount from Blackbrook, Derbyshire (Leary 2011, table 6) and at Bolsover (Leary unpublished data). The presence of tableware might indicate domestic activity and a Romanised lifestyle. However compared with other rural sites in the region, the proportion of table ware at Lodge House, c. 13%, was low. At Ockbrook the percentage of tableware averaged around 30% in nearly all the phases, at Barton under Needwood 33% of the group was made up of jars and at Bolsover c. 22%, whereas at Blackbrook as at Lodge House the amount of tableware was low. The absence of amphorae is not unusual since these are rare or absent on rural sites in the region.

At both Blackbrook and Lodge House distorted vessels of the type made at the Derbyshire kilns were found. At Lodge House this comprised Derbyshire ware rebated-rim and cupped-rim jars while at Blackbrook a distorted grey ware narrow-necked jar was identified. In addition to the distorted vessels, grey sherds from a wide-mouthed jar (from 1047 and 1048)

of a type made at Lumb Brook kiln and some of the soft "pre-Derbyshire" type ware sherds (in 1006, Brassington 1971, 59) were rather soft and flaky and may be underfired Derbyshire ware, a feature often found amongst waster groups. These characteristics suggest manufacture of pottery nearby and go some way to explain the low level of tableware at the sites. It may be that both the settlement at Lodge House and also at Blackbrook (Leary 2011, 168) were industrial sites on the periphery of a domestic settlement related to the Derbyshire ware industry.

SAMIAN POTTERY

By G. Monteil

Introduction

A total of 11 sherds of samian ware were recovered from the excavation and examined using standard methodology. The assemblage is very small with 11 sherds representing seven vessels for a total weight of 127g, and a total rim EVES figure of 0.355 (Table 3; Fig. 7). Most of the fragments are in poor condition with much of the original surfaces and slip poorly preserved. Despite the abrasion, the average weight is c.18g a relatively high figure for a rural site. No evidence of repair, graffiti or wear was noticed during recording. A single dish rim, recovered from pit 1071, shows slight evidence of burning.



Fig. 7: Decorated samian ware.

Decorated vessels are relatively well-represented within this small group with six out of 11 sherds being decorated. Out of the six sherds catalogued only three fragments belonging to the same bowl (from ditch 1019) actually show some remaining decoration.

Chronology

Despite its small size, the samian group contains a range of fabrics and forms dating from the late 1st to the 2nd century AD (Table 3). The earliest diagnostic vessels, though difficult to date precisely, are South Gaulish decorated bowls from ditches 1016 and 1019. Second century material is relatively well represented with Central Gaulish samian (Les Martres-de-Veyre and Lezoux) adding up to six sherds (Table 3). There is little later 2nd century and 3rd century material, two Dr.31R were recovered from ditch 1019, including one of East Gaulish origin, but there are no gritted mortaria, normally dated to post AD 170 and no Walters 79 or 80. Though caution must be applied because of the size of the group, there is nothing that is necessarily later than AD 170.

	La	Graufe	senque	1	Banass	sac?	Les M	artres
	sh	wt	EVE	sh	wt	EVE	sh	wt
DR31R								
DR33								
DR37	1	6	0.03	3	37	0.125	2	14
unid								6
Total	1	6	0.03	3	37	0.125	2	14

		Lezou	IX	E	ast Ga	ulish		Total	l .
	sh	wt	EVE	sh	wt	EVE	sh	wt	EVE
DR31R	2	28	0.07	1	33	0.08	3	61	0.15
DR33	1	7	0.05				1	7	0.05
DR37							6	57	0.155
unid	1	2					1	2	
Total	4	37	0.12	1	33	0.08	11	127	0.355

Table 3: Samian fabrics and forms present.

Types

South Gaulish

Four fragments of South Gaulish origin were identified, three belonging to the same decorated bowl from ditch 1019 and a single rim sherd from another decorated bowl Dr.37 in ditch 1016. The surface of the decorated bowl from ditch 1019 is much abraded, which means details of the decoration remain unidentifiable in places, particularly the ovolo. The slip is dark and brown, the fabric very pale with abundant white inclusions, characteristics that would fit with a Banassac origin (Delage 2010, 89) as opposed to La Graufesenque.

The ovolo is near indistinguishable but it might possibly have a trident ending tongue. There is no line under the ovolo and the decoration consists of three horizontal bands. The first band contains a short wreath of trifid motif next to a dog running right with a short upturned tail, close to Os.1921 separated by a wavy line with round, large rosettes (?) terminals. The second wreath is made up of small chevrons with curved ends. This type of chevron is found on bowls from Banassac but they are larger (Mees 1995, Taf 241, no.9, Inv. Nos 0006057, 0006108, 0006093) and the only good parallel that can be found is on bowls from La Graufesenque stamped by *Frontinus* i-(Inv. No. 0003091, Mees 1995, Taf 64, no. 4; Taf 65, no.1). The last wreath visible towards the bottom of the bowl is made up of inversed S gadroons. Reversed S gadroons are used at Banassac (Mees 1995, Taf 229, no. 3 and Taf 232, no. 2 both with *Germanus* stamps), but also at La Graufesenque (Mees 1995, Taf 147, no. 3 with a signature by *Mommo*). Date: AD 70–110? (The Inventory Number (INV. No) quoted for the decorated South Gaulish vessel are taken from European intake of Roman Samian ceramics: http:// www2.rgzm.de/samian/home/frames.htm.)

Central Gaulish

With six sherds, the Central Gaulish group makes up a little more than half of the small assemblage. With the exception of a rim sherd from a Dr.37 from Les Martres-de-Veyre (group 1016) probably Trajanic in date, the rest of the group originates from Lezoux and is Antonine in date. The range of identified forms is very limited but typical with dish form Dr.31R (group 1071) and cup form Dr.33 (group 1105).

East Gaulish

A single East Gaulish samian vessels was identified, the rim of a dish Dr.31 in group 1071.

Concluding remarks

Because of its small size, it remains difficult to draw definite conclusions on this small samian assemblage and how it compares with the wider national trend and regional groups. The range of forms is limited but does include decorated bowls, dishes and a cup with an emphasis on the 2nd century AD. The general profile of the group is broadly typical of rural sites (Willis 2005).

CHARRED PLANT REMAINS

By Sarah F. Wyles

Thirteen samples were processed for the recovery of charred plant remains and wood charcoal from a range of features.

The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10-x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the preservation and nature of the charred plant and wood charcoal remains recorded in Table 4. Identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

The flots were generally large with low numbers of roots and modern seeds that are indicative of stratigraphic movement and the possibility of contamination by later intrusive elements.

Very few charred plant remains were recorded within the samples, both in those from pits and those from ditches. The low number of cereal grain fragments observed included a grain of barley (*Hordeum vulgare*) and a grain of hulled wheat, emmer or spelt (*Triticum dicoccum/ spelta*) within a sample from ditch 1043. No chaff elements were recovered.

The small quantity of other charred plant remains within these samples comprised hazelnut (*Corylus avellana*) shell fragments, seeds of oats/brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.) and a tuber possibly of the sedge family (Cyperaceae).

This small plant assemblage does not appear to be indicative of any specific activity taking place on the site. It may be charred waste material, relating to domestic activities, on the edge of the settlement. It is notable that the charred remains recovered are generally the more robust elements rather than more delicate remains such as some chaff fragments.

xt Samp	le voi (L)	Flot size	Roots %	Grain	Chaff	Cereal Notes	Charred Other	Notes for Table	Charcoal > 4/2mm
				Romano	-British				
1003	28	700	5	C		1 x indet grain frag	C	1 x Avena/Bromus, 3 x Corylus avellana shell frags	60/100ml
1004	30	2250	1	·			C	3 x Corylus avellana shell frags	400/525ml
1007	29	350	5	ī	,	т	В	5 x Corylus avellana shell frags	20/50ml
1010	6	450	2	ı	1	ï	C	1 x ?Cyperaceae tuber	8/5ml
1006	28	150	2						3/3ml
1013	30	450	2		ļ				10/12ml
1014	28	600	2		ı I	1	r		5/5ml
1008	27	35	2			ı	Ţ	1	0/2ml
1009	28	60	5	С	'	1 x indet. grain	С	2 x <i>Corylus</i> <i>avellana</i> shell frags	4/7ml
1011	28	700	7	C		1 x barley, 1 x hulled wheat grain	ı	I	10/15ml
1012	28	225	7	'n	·	ı	C	1 x Avena/Bromus	8/15ml
1005	30	60	2		•	-			3/7ml
					141				
1001	2.5	175	2	•	1	т	1	•	20/20ml

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Table 4: Summary of charred plant remains and charcoal.

WOOD CHARCOAL

By Catherine Barnett

Introduction

Two charcoal-rich samples from Romano-British pits were selected from thirteen samples available at assessment. As charred plant remains were generally limited, it was hoped that the charcoal could elucidate aspects of activity and economy as well examine the nature of the surrounding landscape, its exploitation and management.

Methods

All wood charcoal >2mm was separated from the processed flots and the residue scanned or extracted as appropriate. The samples proved moderately or very rich and therefore a proportion of each was identified, to a number felt to be representative of the sample as a whole. This was 100 fragments. The fragments were prepared for identification according to the standard methodology of Leney and Casteel (1975; see also Gale and Cutler 2000). Each was fractured with a razor blade so that three planes could be seen: transverse section (TS), radial longitudinal section (RL) and tangential longitudinal section (TL). The pieces were mounted on a glass microscope slide using modelling clay, blown to remove charcoal dust and examined under bi-focal epi-illuminated microscopy at magnifications of x50, x100 and x400 using a Kyowa ME-LUX2 microscope. Identification was undertaken according to the anatomical characteristics described by Schweingruber (1990) and Butterfield and Meylan (1980) to the highest taxonomic level possible, usually that of genus, with nomenclature according to Stace (1997). Individual taxa were quantified (mature and twig separated), and the results tabulated (Table 6).

Results

As shown in Tables 5–6, despite a clear dominance of oak, a minimum of nine woody species were represented overall for the two Romano-British features, a good range given the number of features analysed.

Both pit assemblages were heavily dominated by mature or large roundwood oak (*Quercus* sp.) fragments at 85% and 97% respectively. However, pit 1071 contained a minimum of six other taxa in small numbers and pit 1068 contained two lesser types. The latter contained charcoal of Old Man's Beard (*Clematis vitalba*), which was most likely introduced to the fuel mix accidentally, adhering to the oak wood as a climber. The lesser types represented in pit 1071 are a slightly unusual mix and may well represent at least three different habitat types: the presence of heather (*Calluna vulgaris*) indicates growth of open scrubland, while the ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), Pomoideae, hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) indicate more mature open woodland or hedgerows were exploited for wood. The willow/ poplar (*Salix/ Populus* sp) also indicates growth and exploitation of damper woodland, likely along a riverine margin.

Comparative material is relatively scant for the region, charcoal analyses tend to be for military forts only (Huntley 2010). Whilst at some remove from this site, analyses at Dragonby, North Lincolnshire (Hayes and May 1996), and from roundhouses at Birch Heath, Tarporley (Gale 2004), indicates, as here, a concentration on oak for fuel, although there were

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Species	Common Name	
Calluna vulgaris	Heather	
Clematis vitalba	Old man's beard	
Corylus avellana	Hazel	
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	
Ilex aquifoilum	Holly	
Quercus sp.	Oak	
Ostrya carpinifolia	Hop hornbeam	
Pomoideae	Pomaceous fruits eg apple, whitebeam, hawthorn	
Salix/ Populus sp.	Willow/ aspen (the 2 are anatomically indistinguishable)	andra g

Table 5: Species list.

few lesser taxa represented at those two sites. These did, however include, at the latter site, Ericaceae, again indicating some growth of open scrub/ heathland, also birch, ash, hazel, and Pomoideae.

Discussion

Overall, this small-scale analysis has demonstrated a concentration on oak for fuel during the Romano-British period at Lodge House. However, a range of lesser taxa were also exploited and notably ones from different habitats. No evidence has been found for deliberate woodland management, although this may be in part a facet of the size and fragmentary nature, of the assemblage. Evidence for high temperatures such as the high degree of vitrification of assemblages of fuel waste from metal working or firing of pottery was not found and overall, small-scale domestic activity is indicated.

DISCUSSION

Ceramic evidence indicates that both enclosures, and the pits with them, were being infilled in the mid or late second century with material that included late first to early second century sherds (Leary, above). Pottery was only recovered in any quantity from the later fills of the D-shaped enclosure on its northern side, adjacent to the rectilinear enclosure where it was present throughout the fills. These two facts suggest that the two enclosures were not strictly contemporary, with the D-shaped enclosure earlier, and its ditches partially silted before the construction of the rectilinear enclosure and the activity within it.

The date of the construction of the D-shaped enclosure is more equivocal. In one chronology the rectilinear enclosure would date to the mid to late second century, with the late first to early second century ceramics present among the later material relating to the initial phase of settlement within the D-shaped enclosure. There are problems with this view, the foremost being that the largest concentrations of pottery of all dates cluster together around the rectilinear enclosure (rather than the earlier pottery being more evenly distributed around the D-shaped enclosure, as might be expected in this scenario).

Other remains	4 coal	3 coal	
Total no frags used	100	100	
binU	7	-	
boowgiwt llame binU	ŝ		
.qs suluqo ^q /xilp2			
.ds snovənQ	80, 5s	97	
Pomoideae	lt	-	
οstrya carpinifolia	1		
unilofinpp xəll	3		
roizləzxə zunixprA	5		
corylus avellana	1, 1t		
Clematis vitalba	i.	-	
singgluv anullað	1 t		
etnemmoD	Mature and twig wood present. Good condition	Dominantly mature or large round wood. Good condition	
mm2/4 < lso218d)	60/100 ml	400/525 ml	
Size size	700	2250	
Vol (L)	28	30	
Sample	1003	1004	
txətnoD	1073	1070	
Feature	171	068	

Table 6: Wood charcoal identifications (t-twigwood, s-sapwood).

An alternative chronology would see the entirety of the Roman assemblage relating to the rectilinear enclosure. There are a very small number of sherds of possible pre Roman date, which suggest some activity on the site in the Late Iron Age. The D-shaped enclosure's morphology would not preclude it from having been constructed at that time. Indications of an Iron Age date for the D-shaped enclosure are very slight, and really amount to no more than comparability of shape with other settlements in the east Midlands (with, for instance, Colsterworth, Lincolnshire, Grimes 1961), and these few sherds. These are no more securely stratified than the later pottery, and nine sherds is far too few on which to base a secure argument, but at the very least some activity seems to have been taking place on the site prior to the Roman conquest.

In reality, the D-shaped enclosure is undated, and all that can be stated with certainty is that the pottery in the later fills of the northern ditch sections provides a *terminus ante quem* for its construction.

Wasters were encountered among the ceramics in the ditches of the rectilinear enclosure. These suggest pottery manufacture nearby, but as the wasters were serviceable 'seconds' (Leary, above), rather than rejected pieces it seems that they were in use at the site along with the rest of the ceramic assemblage. Thus there is no evidence of the manufacture of pottery on the site, and the temptation to interpret the pit features within both enclosures as evidence of such industrial activity must be rejected. As Barnett notes (above), evidence for high temperatures was not identified among the charcoal (which was more indicative of small-scale domestic activity such as the provision of warmth or for food preparation), indicating that industrial activities such as pottery manufacture were not being undertaken in the pits on site. No evidence for kilns or other similar highly magnetised features were identified on the geophysical survey.

The distorted and waster sherds are then more likely to be a reflection of the site's "not very high" status (Leary, above) than of any activities occurring within it. The ceramic assemblage is typical of rural settlement in Derbyshire with c. 90% being obtained locally and dominated by utilitarian jars.

Although not of very high status, in its later stages at least the settlement was able to access the trading network centred on the military at Derby and was sufficiently prosperous to acquire tablewares made in the region along with small amounts of fine wares imported from continental Europe.

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APPENDIX 1; ILLUSTRATED SHERDS

D-shaped Enclosure (Group 1016) (Fig. 5)

- 1 DBY cupped-rim jar with beaded rim tip. Very distorted rim. 1005 secondary fill.
- 2 GRB1 bowl with grooved rim and flange. 1005 secondary fill.
- 3 GRB1 narrow-necked jar with everted rim. 1005 secondary fill.
- 4 DBY cupped-rim jar. Rim has collapsed a little into jar during firing. 1006 secondary fill.
- 5 DER OX narrow-necked jar with everted rim triangular at rim tip.1007 secondary fill.
- 6 DBY narrow-necked jar with bead rim. 1013 secondary fill.
- 7 DER RE rather soft, perhaps under-fired bifid rim of wide-mouthed vessel, probably a jar. 1041 secondary fill.
- 8 DBY cream with greyish surfaces rebated-rim jar. 1042 secondary fill.
- 9 GRB1 everted-rim neckless jar. 1042 secondary fill.
- 10 GTA bead-rim jar. 1042 secondary fill.

Rectilinear Enclosure (Group 1019) (Fig. 6)

- 11 DER RE wide-necked jar with blunt ended everted rim, faint grooves on outer rim surface. 1045 secondary fill.
- 12 GRB1 narrow-necked jar with slightly bifid rim. 1045 secondary fill.
- 13 OAA1 flanged, segmental bowl.1045 secondary fill.
- 14 OAA1 everted-rim bowl with stubby flange outside lower body. 1045 secondary fill.
- 15 DBY rebated-rim jar, distorted rim.1047 secondary fill.
- 16 GRB3 necked jar with zone of acute lattice burnishing on shoulder. 1047 secondary fill.
- 17 DBY cupped-rim jar, very distorted rim. 1048 primary fill.
- 18 GRB1 neckless jar with short everted rim. 1048 primary fill.
- 19 OAA1 flanged segmental bowl. 1048 primary fill.
- 20 FLB1 ring-necked flagon with upright rim. 1048 primary fill.
- 21 DBY narrow-necked jar with everted rim, grooved at junction of neck and body. 1064 fire debris.
- 22 DER OX3 flanged segmental bowl. 1064 fire debris.
- 23 GRB3 wide-necked jar with everted, squared rim tip. 1064 fire debris.

Pit 1095

- 24 FLA1 sherds from small carinated bowl with everted rim 1097 primary fill pit 1095.
- 25 DBY dish with flat rim. 1097 primary fill pit 1095.

Miscellaneous

26 GRB3 flat flange with en barbotine leaf decoration. Unstratified.



Fig. 5: Selected pottery from the D-shaped Enclosure (Group 1016) (details in the catalogue).

APPENDIX 2: FABRICS

Classification is hierarchical and instances where the number is absent denotes less certain identifications.

Black burnished wares

BB1 Tomber and Dore 1998 DOR BB1. Dorset.

BBT2 black, smooth and hard. Abundant fine quartz and sparse medium subangular quartz. Micaceous. Possibly a BB2 copy.

Colour-coated ware

CC2 orange with dark brown colour coat. Moderate fine angular quartz and rounded red/ brown inclusions

Shell-tempered ware

CTB dark brown, hard and rough with laminar fracture. Moderate, ill-sorted coarse to medium, platey vesicles, shell.

Derbyshire wares

DBY as Tomber and Dore 1998 DER CO. DBY cream and white were DBY fabrics in cream and white which were thought by Scott Martin (pers com) to be earlier fabrics. DER RE/OX as Leary 2003



Fig. 6: Selected pottery from the Rectilinear Enclosure (Group 1019) (details in the catalogue).

DER OX Hard greyish orange surface with orange core and margins. Very hard, moderate fine and sparse medium angular quartz and rare medium rounded orange/brown inclusions DER OX3 Hard, sandy orange fabric. Moderate, subangular and angular quartz and rounded red/brown inclusions. Similar to Lumbbrook DER OX3 DER RE AS DER OX but grey with black rounded inclusions

Mortarium

MH2 Mancetter-Hartshill mortarium white ware Tomber and Dore 1998 MAH WH

Grog-tempered ware

GTA Hard grey pimply fabric with moderate fairly angular, medium quartz and sparse coarse argillaceous inclusions,?grog

Oxidised wares

Codes beginning OA signifies oxidised wares in orange/pink while OB sherds were buffyellow.

OAA1 as GRA1 but oxidised.

OAB1/OBB1 as GRB1 but oxidised.

OAB/C " pre-Derbyshire fabric". Soft DBY type ware. Soft, rough with hackly fracture. Moderate ill-sorted medium to coarse angular quartz and medium rounded red/brown inclusions. OBB/BC comprised fabrics on the border between OAB and OAC fabrics.

GR reduced wares

GRA reduced (fine)

GRA1 Grey, quite soft and powdery, often with darker grey core. Moderate, medium-fine, subangular quartz, rare, coarse subangular quartz

GRB reduced (medium)

GRB1 grey. Moderate medium/fine quartz and sparse medium rounded black inclusions. Probably the coarser fabric at Derby Racecourse.

GRB2 similar to GRB3 but pale grey core rather than white. Possibly from kilns using white firing clays from around the Coal Measures such as Nostell Priory and Templeborough.

GRB3 grey with white or very pale core. Hard when in good condition. Sparse medium-fine quartz and moderate coarse to medium, black/brown inclusions.

White slipped wares

White slipped wares are known from the Derby Racecourse kilns (Brassington 1971 no. 256).

FLB1 sandy orange ware with traces of white slip. Sparse medium subangular quartz and fine red/brown and white inclusions.

White wares

Both these fabrics may have been made at Derby Racecourse where white-firing clays were certainly used for carinated bowls (as no. 32) and flagons (Brassington 1971 no. 259, 375)

FLA1 creamy white. Hard, smooth with smooth fracture. Sparse fine to medium quartz and brown inclusions.

FLA2 white, hard smooth Coarse to moderate, medium/fine subangular quartz and rounded red/brown inclusions

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