HARLOW TEMPLE

THE SAMIAN POTTERY - Warwick Rodwell

The samian pottery from the temple site comprises some two hundred sherds, the majority of which are "rather small in size. The material covers the full range of sigillata normally found on British sites, from early South Gaulish to Argonne ware; and it is of some interest as a collection from a long-lived religious site. To date, very few early Roman temple sites have yielded collections of samian pottery, and in this instance there is the added interest from the fact that the material can fairly certainly be seen to belong to the temple per se, rather than to be derivative from some nearby settlement.

A full inventory of the sigillata has been made, and is preserved with the material, but since there are no major discrete groups, and very few sherds capable of being usefully illustrated, a general summary and discussion of the pottery is offered here.

First, it is at once noticeable that although the site was being visited and venerated well before the conquest — as the coin evidence amply demonstrates — there is no pre—Claudian sigillata. This is surprising, in view of the assemblages of Arretine and proto—South Gaulish wares recovered in recent years from other sites rich in Celtic coins, such as Braughing and Verulamium, neither of which is geographically far distant from Harlow. The earliest sherd from the temple site is a rouletted rim of Ritterling form 9, in early South Gaulish ware, and probably of early Claudian date. It, along with sherds of forms 15/17, 18, 27, 29 and Ritt. 12, all of pre—Flavian date, are derived from the old ground surface and features below the Flavian temple. This material is essentially Claudio—Neronian, and there is a further scatter of similar pottery from layers around the temple. There is only one potter's stamp and two or three decorated sherds (forms 29 and 30) assignable to this period.

The sigillata associated with the Flavian temple belongs to a restricted range of common South Gaulish forms, and includes no more than four decorated vessels (one of which is the relatively rare form 78). There is then a

wider range of Antonine wares, both of Central and East Gaulish origin.

About twenty per cent of the Antonine samian from Harlow is East Gaulish, a fairly high figure which reflects the proportion found on many other sites in the South East. The latest Antonine forms are present, such as forms 79, 80 and Lud. Tg; and there is also an unusual variant of form 44 (EG), with a pronounced carination and two broad grooves above. This is probably third century. Finally, a sherd of Argonne ware makes another useful addition to the slowing growing corpus of this fabric from rural sites in the South East.

In passing, it is worth mentioning that the samian assemblage from the temple agrees well in its composition with that from the main Roman settlement (and subsidiary religious?) area, centred on the Holbrooks site. It was likewise there noted (report forthcoming) that, although pre-Flavian wares were well represented, there was little of interest assignable to the Flavian era, and no potters' stamps. Harlow has now yielded a total of forty-two potters' stamps, which are mostly assignable to the pre-Flavian and Antonine periods, with few in between. The Holbrooks site also contained very little decorated samian of any period.

The potters' stamps and principal decorated sherds from the temple are listed below. Mr B.R. Hartley has kindly provided details of the dies.

Potters' Stamps

Divicatus of Lezoux. Form 33 base, stamped DIVICATVS. Die 3a; c. A.D. 140-155.

Osbimanus of Lezoux. Form 33, half base stamped OSB'I MAI. Die 7b; c. A.D. 155-185.

Priscus iii of Lezoux. Form 38, several sherds, stamped PRISC[I·M].
Die 4d; c. A.D. 165-200.

Secundus ii of La Graufesenque. Form 27g, basal fragment (burnt), stamped [S]ECVNDI[MA]. Die 27b; c. A.D. 55-75.

Decorated Ware (Fig.

- 1. Form 30, South Gaulish. Double-bordered ovolo having a plain tongue with swollen tip. Winding scroll design, commonly used by potters of La Graufesenque. c. A.D. 60-70. (H.11, 7)
- 2. Form 78, South Gaulish. rim and fragment of very poorly moulded decoration apparently showing a small nude male figure similar to, but smaller then, Oswald 645. c. A.D. 70-95. (E2, 2)
- 3. Form 37, heavily abraded sherd in pale buff fabric with dark reddish-brown slip, probably East Gaulish. Poorly preserved scroll pattern.

 Early second century. (F.15, 2)
- 4. Form 37, Central Gaulish. Several sherds comprising the rim and upper part of decoration of a panelled bowl which appears to have been mended twice over (separately, with rivets and dovetail wedges), and finally heavily burnt. The double-bordered ovolo with corded tongue, bent to the left, and rosette tip is the diagnostic ovolo no. 2 of the X⁶ Potter. His repertoire also included wavy line borders with human heads and other motifs used at the junctions. The feature in the roundel is probably another head, although now indistinct. c. A.D. 130-160. (K.6, 2).
- 5. Form 30, Central Gaulish. Several sherds of a panelled bowl, badly abraded in part. The style is reminiscent of that of Doeccus of Lezoux. He used the vine leaf in a festoon (Stanfield & Simpson 1958, pl. 151.61), and also the figures of Pan (Oswald 717A) and a small lion (Oswald 1512). The ovolo, although generally similar to Doeccus' no. 2, does not match. c. A.D. 160-190. (H.13, 2)
- 6. Form 37, East Gaulish. Many sherds of a large panelled bowl, characteristically decorated in the style of Comitialis of Rheinzabern. His ovolo (Ricken 1948, Taf. 262.25); his dolphin (Oswald 2386) in a festoon (cf Ricken, Taf. 104.15F); and his arrangement of medallions flanked by upright vine leaves with wavy stems (for these and the general scheme of decoration see Ricken Taf. 100.4, 103.24 and 104.7). c. AD. 160-200. (H.27. 2)

Argonne Ware

7. 5. Form 37. Small sherd in pink-orange fabric with orange-brown slip, from the lower part of the decoration. Parts of four rows of roller-stamping remain, all poorly impressed; the pattern on the roller simply comprises alternating blocks of oblique haching. This is almost certainly the same roller as was used to decorate the fragment found at Ivy Chimneys, Witham, Essex (also a poor impression). Late third or fourth century. (G.1, 1)

References:

- F. Oswald, 1937, Index of Figure Types on Terra Sigillata.
- H. Ricken, 1948, <u>Die Bilderschüsseln der Römischen Töpfer von</u>
 Rheinzabern.
- J.A. Stanfield & G. Simpson, 1958, Central Gaulish Potters.

LEEDS, 2.

HARLOW SALIAN

(Loose in brown bas)

- LL/E3 13 Form 30, Control Taulish. This is mil-way in form between the standard form 30 of the late Anto ine period and its protetype, known from Fadrianic-Antonine contexts at Lesour. It probably belongs to the period A.D. 150-170.
- D3 (3) Two joining "ragments of form 31, Central Caulish and Antonina.
- G4 (2) Ludowjei form Tg, Central Caulish. Autonino.

(Plastic bag)

- Form 15/17. Four txamples, from B2 (5), B1/2 (5) and B3 (5). All are Bouth Caulish and Meronian or early Flavian.
- Ritterling 12 or Curle 11, South Caulish. Meronian or early Flavian (E3/F4 (6))
- Form 18, three join no fragments (Al (3)) South Caulish. Probably Vospasianic.
- Form 18, (64(6)), South Gaulish. Flavian.
 - " (£3/ \pm 4(6)), South Gaulish. C. A.D. 60 75.
- " (B3 (2), D1/2 (5), D5(2)). Three South Gaulish dishes of the period A.D. 45 65.
 - Form 18, (E1/2 (6) or (8)?), South Gaulish. Deronian or early Flavian.
 - Two scraps, probably form 18 from E2 (6) and D (or B?) 1 (5). Probably pro-Flavian.
 - Form 27 (D5(2)), South Gaulish. Claudian or Jeronian.
- Seraps of uncertain form from D3/4 (5), G1 (6), B1 (5) and B1/D1 (5) are all South Gaulish and pre-Flavian.
 - 27 Form Ritterling 3, South Gaulish. Claudian or early eronian.
 - Form 29 (B3(5)), South Gaulish. A typical pre-Flavian pige: assignable to c. A.D. 45-65, but without enough decoration to determine the potter.
 - Two fragments in Arretine tradition, but in Gaulish, probably South Grulish, fabric:

Ritterling 5 with rouletted lip (D 1/2 (5)). The form is mainly late Augustan and Tiberian, though it survived into the early Claudian period. This piece is probably late Tiberian or early Claudian.

A thick example of Loescheke form 2 with flaking glaze $(\Lambda.1(4))$. Tiberian or early Claudian.

The samian gives abundant evidence for occupation from at least the Claudian, and possibly the Tiberian, period down to the early Flavian period. Definitely late Flavian samian is absent, and there seems to be a gap in the series between about A.D. 80 and 150. However, the total number of fragments is not large, and the absence of samian of the early second century could easily be a coincidence.

Samian

27.6.66

Loan Layer outside Portico.

- a. bottom of platter probably form 18 probably pre-Flavian.
- b. ditto 1st Century.
- c. decorated sherd probably form 37. first quarter second Century.

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SIGILLATA FROM HARLOW TEMPLE, ESSEX (1)
     120 yrds E of temple (2) 25 June 66
     18 SG Flavian
     37 SG Flav. (rim)
37 SG Flav/Traj. (dec. frag.)) Bog 54
     33 CG C2
    F1/2 (2)
    18 SG Late Flav. /Tras. - 18/31 Day 11
     35/36 SG Flav.
    In (0)
    78 SG Late Flav. Dec sheri
                                              Draw
    E^{2}/3 (3)
    27 SG Late Cl
    F3 (2)
     - chin SG Cl
    F3 (3)
- chin 233 CG C2
    F6A (2)
    18/31R r 31E CG 15d C2
    F7 (2)
   - two unident sherds. CG C2
    F8 (3)
    18/31 CG First 1 C2 Bag 12
    EJC (2)
    33 CG Ant.
    33 Half base stammed [OSB: 1-MAI The work of (SRRVANUS of Leg ux. Die 7b
                                                         c. A.D. 155-185
    F10/11 (2)
   Int. type Tg. Pr b. EG. Inte Ant.
    F11 (2)
    77 CG First half C?
19 38/31 CG First half C2 (2 exy.)
    31 CG Ant.
    37 CG Dec. frag. Art.
    F15 (2)
22 - 2 frags. SG Cl
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Cy

2 31R CG Ant. (2 epr.)

≤ 79 CG Ant. 37 EG First half C2 Bay 48 - CG frag. C2

Draw

FJ6 (2)

22

10

37 EG Part [vessel in F15 (2)

F17 (2)

18 SG Flav.

37 six dec. sherds in the style of Cinnamus of Lezuw. c. A.D. 150-180 buy 46 not worth drawing

37 CG small dec. sherds. Ant. County !

F17/18 (2)

27 SG Neronian/Flavian

18 SG Prob. Flav.

31 CG Ant.

F18 (2)

27 SG Flav.

36 37 SG Flav./Traj. GGG 49 29 SG Nerchian/early Flav. Dec. sherd ?Draw Dec.

18/31 CG First half C2

F18 (5)

20 Frag., rrob. Ritt. 9 SG Ner mian/early Flav.

F19 (2)

40 - SG 03

rrob. 18 SG Late C)

18/31R r 31H CG Ant. 18/31 CG Mid. C2 - 12-5 4 43

33 CG Ant.

33 CG Ant.

27 CG Fr b. early Ant. 46

FO (6)

47 36 SG Flav.

78 SG Flav. Frag. of base, unw rn.

F2] (2)

49 80 or Lud. Tr CG Inte Ant.

F2] (5)

18/31 CG First half C2 79 CG Inte Ant.

F22 (2)

51

33 CG Ant.

18/31P CG Mid C2

F24 (4)

% - frag. prob. SG Cl

H J (3)

27 SG Flav 33 CG or EG Ant.

HJ (3)

- frag. CG C2

H1 (4)

- frag. SG Fr b. rre-Flav.

H2 (0)

- chin SG CI

H2 (2) Dist.

60 - ress. 27. SG C1 - freg. EG C2

H2 \mathbb{E}_{X} . (2)

18/31R CG Mid C2 62

H2 (7)

36 SG Flav.

H4 (7)

27 CG First half C2

H4 (9)

18R SG Flav (x6 sherds)

H5 (2)

18/31 CG Freb. Traj. • 18/31R or 31R CG Mid C2 37 CG Mid or later C2 33 CG do

H5 (4a)

33 CG First half C2

H5 (5)

33 SG Flav.

H5 (7)

33 chin CG C2

H8 (2)

36 SG Flav.

Curle 15 SG Flav. (with rivet remain hole)

- frag SG Flav or Traj.

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HARLOW TEMPLE 4
      76
      18R SG Late Flav./Traj.
      33 CG Mid r late C2
      18/31 CG prob. mid C2
      H8 ex. (2)
      18/31 CG First half Co
      H9(2)
      31 CG Ant.
      H10 (5)
      31 CG Ant.
      IDC (13)
      18 SG Ner mian/early Flav
      HDJ (9)
      37 SG Flav
                                                  Draw
       - SG CI
      HJ2 (4)
      18 SG Pre-Flav or early Flave
      18 SG Flav./Traj.
      田2 (8)
57
      - frag. EG C2
      H12/13 (2)
      18 SG Pre-Flav
58
      HD3 (2)
      18 SG Flav
      37 SG Flav./Traj. Bag 52
3C CG Five dec. shedds, mostly abraded. Ant.
      - several small frags., rrob. SG CI
      HD3 (3)
      33 prob. EG First half C2
94
       - frag. CG C2
      田5 (2)
96
      31R CG Ant.
      円7 塚 (2)
97
      33 CG Ant
      II18 (2) disturbed samian
      18 SG Late Cl
      18/31 CG First half C2
      18/31R CG prob. Ant.
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33 CG Had. or Ant.

38 several sherds giving complete profile. Stamped PRISC[:M]
The work of PRISCUS iii of Legux. Die 4d. c. A.D. 165-200.

H2C (4)

37 CG Hadrianic. Bag 52.

H50 (3)

18 SG Poss. Fre-Flav., rather than later

H21 (3)

105 33 CG First half C2 - two frags. CG C2

H23 (2)

107 fo tring, ross. Curle 15. CG Ant.

H26 (2)

108 J8 SG Late Flav./Traj.

H27 (2)

109 27 SG Flav 31 CG Ant (x2 ex.) 31R CG Ant 18/31 CG Had.

79 CG Ant

37 EG Sixteen sherds of one large, thin-walled bowl. One sherd is burnt. Braw.

H27 (4)

MS 38 SG Flav-Traj.

H27 (8)

27 SG Burnt. Stammed [S] ECVNINA The wrk of SECUNDUS ii of La Graufesen-ue. Die 27b. c. A.D. 55-75.

- SG chin Cl

H27 (17) ?? (number rubbed)

37 CG Pr b. Had.

H28 (2)

Curle 15 CG Ant

H28 (3)

30 or 37 SG Flav.

H28 (6)

12/2 18/31 CG First half C2 33 prob. CG First half C2 H29 (6)

33 CG Ant. (nr b. late)

33 base with excrinted stamp reading DIVICATUS The work of DIVICATUS f Lez w! Die 3a. c. A.D. 140-155

H30 (2)

- frag. CG. Frob. Ant.

H31 (2)

12 7 31 EG Ant.

H36 (3)

128 small abraded chir. SG Cl (c uld be Fre-Flav.)

J2 (2)

129 27 SG Flav

38 CG Mid r late C2

- three basal sherds. SG Cl

K5 (2)

32 27 SG Flav.

K5 (6)

133 18 SG Fre-Flav. r early Flav.

K6 (2)

18R SG Flay./Traj. 37 SG Flay.

37(?) rim. Burnt black. Amt.

37 Four dec rated sherds. Ant. The vessel arrears to have been mended twice: once first with rivets and straps and noe with devetail wedges. Well abraded, then martly burnt br wm and black. Also a burnt basal sherd, probably from the same vessel.

Draw

138 38 three sherds. Heavily burnt. Ant.

42 CG First half C2

f ur chirs SG Cl 140

> 363 K6 (3)

/4 | 30R CG Frob. Traj.

Manish Rodwell