

FWP40c

**Excavation of the medieval settlement of 'Raddun', Wroughton Mead, Fyfield
Down, Wiltshire**

The Finds

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Copper Alloy Objects

by R. Montague

A total of 21 copper alloy objects was present in the analysed assemblage. Detailed descriptions of all these objects are presented in the archive catalogue. None of the copper alloy objects had been conserved since their excavation. Accordingly, all the objects were X-Radiographed and a selection of the objects was also conserved. This work was carried out by Margaret Brooks of Salisbury Conservation Laboratory.

Dress accessories

Two copper alloy brooches are present in the collection (Fig. FWP65.30, 1, 2). Both are plain annular brooches, a type which occurs from the 12th to the 14th centuries (Margeson 1993, 15). A single finger ring is also present (Fig. FWP65.30, 3). Its stone (probably originally glass or, less likely, a semi-precious stone) is missing and it has decorated shoulders. The ring can be compared with a 13th-century example from Salisbury (Cherry 1991, 41, fig. 10, 7).

Two buckles are present—one (Fig. FWP65.30, 4) is a large annular buckle with an iron pin, which may be paralleled by a similarly-sized copper alloy buckle, also with an iron pin, from London from a context dating from *c.* 1350–*c.* 1400 (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 57, fig. 36.38). The second buckle (GF545) is a double-loop buckle with a broken central copper alloy pin axle bar and its curving profile might suggest that this is a shoe buckle—the profile and central pin bar attachment can be compared with an 18th century example from Battle Abbey (Geddes 1985, 156, fig 49.22). It is likely to be of post-medieval date.

One small copper alloy object (GF507) is likely to be small broken buckle plate with a single rivet hole and can be compared with a slightly larger (*c.* 14mm length as opposed to *c.* 12mm for this example) buckle plate from contexts dating from *c.* 1400–1450 at Sandal Castle (Goodall 1983, 231).

The decorated sheet fitting, with a perforation at one end, is likely to be part of a dress fitting such as a strap-end, buckle plate or most likely a belt mount (Fig. FWP65.30, 5). The zig-zag decoration is a type used on belt fittings from at least the early 13th to the early 15th centuries (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 31) and can be compared to decoration on belt mounts from Norwich (Margeson 1993, 38, fig 22.264, from contexts dating from 1400–1600) and from London (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 195 and fig. 123.1050, from contexts dating from *c.* 1350–*c.* 1400). However, a slight *caveat* is that this form of decoration is also known from later periods.

Three buttons and a button cover were found. Buttons were introduced to Britain in the early 13th century (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 272) and the medieval cast and composite buttons are often hemispherical. One button from Wroughton Copse (GF128) may be compared with an example from Faccombe Netherton in Hampshire (Goodall A.R., 1990, 429, fig. 9.14/126) which is from a context dated from *c.* 1418 to *c.* 1434. The second button (GF284A) is likely to be post-medieval in date. A small button with an integral loop (GF273) and the button cover (GF298) may belong to the same object. Neither can be closely dated.

Domestic objects

The tweezers (Fig. FWP65.30, 6) are likely to be of Egan and Pritchard's Type II (1991, 380–1), made of a strip of copper alloy folded over and twisted, with the folded end forming an earscoop and with the strips widening out into the tweezer arms at the other end. The folded end is broken in this example. An example was recovered from an early-13th century context in London (*ibid.*, 381, cat. no. 1774).

Medieval thimbles were handmade, usually with a conical profile and unevenly hand-punched spirals of dots on the body (Margeson 1993, 187). The thimble from Wroughton Copse (Fig. FWP65.30, 7) has straight sides, a rounded top and bands rather than spirals of fine and evenly spaced dots. It is machine made and is post-medieval in date.

The small key (Fig. FWP65.30, 8) is likely to be a casket key and was probably constructed by rolling the stem and bit from a single sheet of copper alloy. It may be compared with examples dated to the 12th and 13th centuries (Ward Perkins 1940, fig. 43.3 and 43.4).

One broken object (Fig. FWP65.30, 9) may be a decorative fitting, such as a pendant or horse harness ornament, with a possible broken loop at one end—although the loop for medieval harness

pendants is usually in a 90° plane to the pendant itself as opposed to in the same plane as on this object.

The function of the rectangular collar (Fig. FWP65.30, 10) is uncertain. Similar objects were recovered from contexts dating from between 1100 and 1400 at Norwich (Margeson 1993, 139, fig. 104.939A and B, 942), although this type of collar is also known in the post-medieval period.

Three fragments of copper alloy rod were recovered (GFs 356A, 542 and 853), with two of similar diameters, although one (GF853) shows a distinct curve. A thin featureless strip of copper alloy is also present in the collection (GF22).

List of illustrated objects (FWP65.30)

1. Annular brooch, of roughly faceted wire, with recesses for the attachment of the (missing) pin. Diam 21mm. GF275 (A), Cutting 5, topsoil/humus.
2. Annular brooch, complete but now in two fragments—a wire ring with recesses for the pin and the circular-sectioned pin, broken at the tip end with the other end expanded and looped over with a small collar. Diam 19mm. GF514, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation or post-occ.
3. Finger ring, distorted. Slender rectangular-sectioned hoop rising to an empty setting in a circular bezel. Incised grooves run across both shoulders, with other incised nicks further down the loop. Shoulders are asymmetrical. Max diam (distorted) 21mm. GF232, Cutting 5, flints.
4. Annular buckle with sub-circular section, 5mm diameter, with broken iron rectangular-sectioned pin. Dia. of frame 46mm. GF221, Cutting 4, Building 2, topsoil.
5. Strip decorative fitting with expanded and perforated terminal. Main area broken, with zig-zag (rocker-arm) decoration around the edges with a plain interior. L30mm. GF570, Cutting 4, Building 2, post-occupation.
6. Tweezers, formed from two tapering strips of copper alloy twisted together. Both ends are broken and it is probable that this was originally a single strip, looped over at the top of the handle. L 78mm. GF804, Cutting 1B, topsoil.
7. Thimble. Straight sided with a domed top, with bands of tiny regularly punched dots round the side and in a grid pattern on the top, with an incised border just above the base of the thimble. L 19mm. GF606, Cutting 4, Building 2, top of Pit 7.
8. Small key, with a circular bow and hollow stem. L 35mm. GF852, Cutting 4P(iii), south of Building 2, flinty soil.
9. Object, broken at both ends. One end forking (?perforated), below a short semicircular-sectioned shank, which leads into an expanded and flattened area with scalloped edges. There appears to be the edge of a perforation right on the break. L 25mm. GF482, Cutting 4, Building 3, clay-with-flints/?occupation.
10. Rectangular collar, formed from a strip of sheet copper alloy 7.5mm wide, tapering to both arms, which are bent round to enclose an internal trapezoidal area of c.36mm x 26mm x 9mm. Upper surface 27mm long. GF347 (A), Cutting 4, Building 3, topsoil.

Iron Objects

by R. Montague

Introduction

A total of 493 pieces of iron work is dealt with in this report, of which 490 are present in the assemblage and working drawings from c.1961 exist of another three objects which have since been mislaid. Of these 493 iron objects, 312 are nails (both structural and horseshoe) and are dealt with in Table Finds/1 and in more detail in the archive. The other 181 objects, four nails of possible decorative as well as structural use and the horseshoe nails, are dealt with more thoroughly in the section below.

The condition of the ironwork on examination varied tremendously. A selection of the ironwork had already been fully conserved, presumably not long after excavation and was stored in waxed paper bags and was not actively corroding. A few more pieces had been laquered and some of these objects were showing signs of active corrosion. Other objects and all the nails had received no treatment at all and were mostly mixed together in cardboard boxes, albeit the majority with their individual labels still attached. These were in very poor condition and large amounts of detached corroded iron flakes and fragments which could not be assigned to their original object had to be discarded. All the ironwork was X-radiographed and a further selection of ironwork was subsequently conserved by Margaret Brooks of the Salisbury Conservation Laboratory.

The metalwork was not consistently numbered. Most objects had a unique designation, the General Finds number (GF) suffixed with A, B and so on. Nails generally received only a General Finds number, though some had been treated as small finds and received a suffix. However, some small finds lacked a suffix and to differentiate between those numbers issued by the excavators and those issued during the metalwork analysis, a bracketed suffix was assigned.

Tools

Woodworking tools

A single axe was recovered from the Phase 1 occupation of Building 1 (Fig. FWP65.31, 1). This is of unusual type, with projections both on the socket and on the lower part of the blade itself. It is closest in appearance to, though much smaller than those axes described in the London Museum Medieval Catalogue (henceforward LMMC) as 'Battle-axes' (Ward Perkins 1940, 63-5, Fig 15). However, the small size of this axe together with its domestic context, suggests that this is more likely to be a wood-working axe. Ward Perkins suggests that such axes may not have been exclusively for warfare and cites an illuminated manuscript example showing such an battle-axe being used for carpentry (*ibid.*, 65) and Goodall, in his survey of the range of iron objects produced in the medieval period, suggests that the Wroughton Copse axe may have been used for dressing timber (Goodall 1981, 53, fig. 51.5). A second axe (GF571), now missing, referred to in the Finds Book as 'a small bearded axe', was recovered from the black soil in the Building 4 area, East of the oven.

Textile manufacturing tools

Six heckle teeth are present in the collection (e.g. Fig. FWP65.31, 2, 3); three complete and the other three nearly complete. The complete examples vary in length from 105 to 118mm. These teeth would have been set in rows in a wooden block and used to comb the fibres of flax and wool prior to spinning. All have a square section, often tapering to a circular section near the tip.

Leather-working tools

A total of ten awls is present in the collection. All but one have square or diamond cross-sections. The exception is a large awl (Fig. FWP65.31, 8) with sub-square sections at either end and a circular section in the central area. It is not certain that this tool was necessarily used for leather-working. The other nine have a variety of forms. Two (Fig. FWP65.31, 5, 6) bear traces of mineral-preserved wood, showing that they were originally set in a wooden handle. In addition one bears traces of twine below the handle (Fig. FWP65.31, 6). One awl has a very distinct central swelling (Fig. FWP65.31, 7) and four have a flattened diamond cross section (e.g. Fig. FWP65.31, 4, 5).

Agricultural tools

An unstratified broken spade-iron was identified (Fig. FWP65.32, 9). Spade-irons were used to sheath and protect the blade of a wooden spade and are a common tool type in use throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods.

Knives and shears

A total of thirteen knives, seven with their tangs and six represented by blade fragments are present. In addition, two possible broken knife tangs were identified. Another knife with a tang, now lost, is represented by an archive drawing done in c.1961.

All seven of the extant knives with tangs bear whittle tangs, four set centrally on the blade (Fig. FWP65.32, 11-14), one set just below the back (Fig. FWP65.32, 10), one with the tang in line with the back of the blade (Fig. FWP65.32, 15) and one with a bolster between the blade and the tang (Fig. FWP65.32, 16).

One knife (Fig. FWP65.32, 12) has a pattern welded blade, although the surface of the blade is so badly corroded that the pattern welding is only visible on the X-Radiograph (Plate 00-*need a photograph of the X-Ray to illustrate this. X-Rays 7005 and 7009*). This technique has a relatively short period of use on knives, from the 10th to 12th centuries (Cowgill *et al.* 1987, 15). Another knife (Fig. FWP65.32, 16) is made in one piece with an oval-sectioned bolster between the blade and the tang. This new form of hafting represents a mid 16th-century introduction (Moorhouse and Goodall 1971, 38). The example from Wroughton Copse is similar to one from Clarendon Palace and is of a type occurring from the end of the 17th century (Goodall 1988, 211, fig. 74.23).

The five other knives with tangs are not diagnostic enough to be closely datable, though none would be out of place in an assemblage dating from the 12th to mid 13th centuries. The small knife (Fig. FWP65.32, 13) has a separate iron shoulder plate between the short tang and the blade. The missing knife is depicted on a rough working drawing, which comprises a profile drawing without shading, sections or continuation lines. From this it is only possible to tell that the knife had a whittle tang set central to the blade. It is similar in proportions to the other knife from this context (Fig. FWP65.32, 10).

The six blade fragments are similarly not closely datable. There are also two possible broken tangs from whittle tang knives, but this identification is somewhat tenuous given the corroded state of the objects.

A single, complete pair of shears was recovered (Fig. FWP65.32, 17). These are of Ward Perkins' Type II, with a marked semicircular recess at the point of the junction between the blade and the handle and can be dated in this country from the 13th century to the late 14th century (Ward Perkins 1940, 155; Cowgill *et al.* 1987, 106-112). In addition, a blade fragment, which may be a possible shear blade is present in the collection (GF297). This has a straight back and blade edge parallel to the back and a very small part of the shear arm surviving. However, given its dissimilarity to

medieval shears (*i.e.* the form of the curve from the arm down to the blade and the lack of a recess between the blade and the arm and its general slender dimensions), if this is part of a pair of shears it is unlikely to be medieval in date. Alternatively, this may represent a knife fragment with a small part of the tang present. Whatever its identification, this seems likely to be post-medieval.

Structural ironwork

A total of six rectangular staples (e.g. Fig. FWP65.33, 18-21) and three 'U'-shaped staples (e.g. Fig. FWP65.33, 22) were identified. In addition, a strip object may represent an 'unravelling' rectangular staple. These fittings were used for attaching other fittings to masonry and timber and for binding pieces of wood together. They are a common class of find. The large rectangular staple (Fig. FWP65.33, 18) could have been used as a bolt keeper, whereas another rectangular staple (Fig. FWP65.33, 21) with its expanded head is reminiscent of roves from doors and latches (Goodall, I.H., 1990, 409, fig.9.4/188,190). Another rectangular staple (Fig. FWP65.33, 19) was bound right round an object which has not survived, enclosing an interior area of *c.* 70mm by 18mm.

A total of 105 nails are present, plus a further 107 nail shanks, some of which may well come from horseshoe rather than structural nails. Full details of all nails can be found in the archive. Many of the nails are now listed as unstratified, as the original numbering was no longer legible. Of note are the large nails with large heads (*Figs. Finds/4, 23, 24*). Two of these have flat, sub-rectangular shaped heads, whilst the other two have pyramidal heads. These may be compared with an example from a context dating from *c.* 1180-1280 at Faccombe Netherton (Goodall, I.H., 1990, 411, fig. 9.5/273), which is described as having a raised or pyramidal rectangular head and has a similar shaped shank, rectangular in section and quite wide just below the head, tapering to a point. It is likely that these large nails were used both to strengthen and to decorate doors.

The spike with a perforated head (Fig. FWP65.33, 25) would have been driven into woodwork or joints in masonry and may have served a variety of purposes. A single hinge pivot (Fig. FWP65.33, 26) would have been used for supporting doors or shutters, with a tapering shank allowing it to be driven into wood or masonry. A single latch rest was also retrieved (Fig. FWP65.34, 31).

One object (Fig. FWP65.33, 27) is part of a strap hinge, with a perforated, decorative terminal. Given the curvature of the piece, this is probably from the nailed 'U'-shaped part of the strap hinge which would rotate about a pivot such as the one described above (Fig. FWP65.33, 26) and can be compared with similarly shaped examples from Faccombe Netherton (Goodall 1990, 413, fig. 9.6/300-1). GF492 (Fig. FWP65.33, 28) is possibly part of a smaller strap hinge. A small iron strip object, with its rolled over and perforated terminal, may have been part of a small pinned hinge (GF76A).

A large number of broken, perforated iron straps was recovered. It is likely that the larger of these were part of strap hinges, whereas the smaller pieces of straps and binding were probably from small, portable pieces of furniture such as chests and caskets.

A small length of binding (Fig. FWP65.33, 29) with an expanded and perforated terminal may have come from furniture such as coffers and caskets. One nearly complete object (Fig. FWP65.34, 30) may also represent a small piece of binding, with its two expanded terminals, one with a nail or rivet fragment still *in situ*. Similar pieces were retrieved from Faccombe Netherton, from contexts dating from *c.* 1280-1434 (Goodall, I.H., 1990, 413, fig 9.6/331, 333 and 335). Another small perforated fragment of binding is revealed on the X-Radiograph to bear traces of white metal plating and grooved decoration. A fragmentary rivet remains *in situ* in the perforation (GF284D).

A total of 19 other uncatalogued examples of perforated strap fragments were recovered, two of which have a nail head still *in situ*. There are in addition nine uncatalogued examples of unperforated strap and strip fragments. Of these, two bear traces of copper alloy (GF432) and white

metal plating (GF609B) respectively. The copper alloy on one strip occurs between the iron strip and another very thin layer of iron, indicating that this was once part of a larger, multi-component object. One piece is a small strip fragment with one end broken and the other rolled round to form a curled terminal (450B). Some of these may well be fragments of the same objects as some of the perforated strap fragments, with the same range of possible functions.

Lock furniture

A fragment of barrel padlock case with applied strap decoration and copper alloy plating was recovered (Fig. FWP65.34, 32). This type of padlock is medieval in date. The padlock bolt (Fig. FWP65.34, 33) can be compared with similar examples which come from barrel padlocks with a shackle, from Faccombe Netherton, from contexts dating from *c.* 1180-*c.* 1280 (Goodall, I.H., 1990, 415, fig. 9.7/357) and from Goltho (Goodall 1975, 84, fig. 39.60-64; Goodall, 1987, 183, fig. 158.109).

In addition, an incomplete curved object with a rectangular section (GF208) may possibly represent part of a lock mechanism-it bears a resemblance to parts of U-shaped barrel padlock bolts (Goodall, I.H., 1990, 415, fig. 9.7/354; Goodall 1993, 155, fig. 115.1237-8) and perhaps a closer resemblance to part of a pivoting stapled hasp, also from a padlock (Goodall 1990, I.H., 415, fig. 9.7/362).

Three padlock keys are present in the collection and they appear to be of three different types (Fig. FWP65.34, 34-6). The longest example (Fig. FWP65.34, 34) can be compared with similarly-sized keys excavated at Clarendon Palace, Wiltshire (Goodall 1988, 218, fig 78.67) and Thetford (Goodall 1984, 95, fig. 132.180). The corroded key (Fig. FWP65.34, 36) also has the bit set laterally to the shank and can be compared with an example from Goltho, albeit with a different suspension terminal (Goodall 1975, 83, fig. 39.50). The third example (Fig. FWP65.34, 35) has the bit set in the same plane as the shank and appears to be complete, albeit distorted.

Two sliding lock bolts are present in the collection (Fig. FWP65.34, 37, 38). These both have a single projection and were operated by hand. Similar examples come from 10th-12th century contexts at Faccombe Netherton (Goodall, I.H., 1990, 376, fig. 9.7/365,376) and from 11th century contexts at Goltho (Goodall 1987, 183, fig. 158.117-8).

The figure-of-eight hasp (Fig. FWP65.34, 39) could have been used in conjunction with a padlock to secure a chest. Similar examples come from contexts dated from the 10th to 15th centuries at Faccombe Netherton (Goodall, I.H., 1990, 415, fig 9.7/366).

Household ironwork

Fragments of sheet iron with a rim may represent fragments of a sheet vessel, although not enough survives to suggest its original form.

Chain fittings include the long hook with an 'S'-shaped hook or loop through its perforated head (Fig. FWP65.34, 40) and a broken chain link. One small oval ring (GF835 B) may also be a chain link. It is made from a rectangular-sectioned strip of iron, the ends of which butt together. Another object (GF206) may also form part of a chain link.

Several curved, hook-like objects are present in the collection (e.g. Fig. FWP65.34, 41). None of these, however, is complete and their identification is somewhat tentative.

Two further objects in this category comprise a flat, washer-like ring (GF903) which is heavily corroded, so this may not have been its original shape; and a circular collar (GF709) made of a strip of iron with expanded terminals which are rivetted together, which was probably used to bind wood.

Buckles

Three iron buckles were identified. One (Fig. FWP65.34, 43) is a small oval buckle with a narrowed, offset bar, with traces of white metal plating and is of a long-lived medieval type which appears to have fallen from use at the end of the 15th century (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 70). The smaller of the two rectangular buckles also has a narrowed bar, with the pin corroded to it, although the loop of the pin is broken (Fig. FWP65.34, 42). The other rectangular buckle frame (Fig. FWP65.34, 44) is large and may have been used with harness straps rather than as dress accessories. None are closely datable within the medieval period.

Horse furniture

A total of two complete horseshoes and 23 horseshoe fragments are present in the collection, with a further fragment illustrated in the working drawings prepared in 1961 but now missing (e.g. Fig. FWP65.35, 45-50). These are summarised in Table Finds/13; full details are contained in the archive. The horseshoes have been dated according to criteria set out by Clark (1986).

As no complete horseshoes earlier than post-medieval in date were recovered, the characteristics used in studying the horseshoes in this case are the shape of the nail hole (including countersinking where present) and of the nails where present; and the shape of the shoe, especially the outer edge and other factors such as increases in web and general width and in weight. The presence and shape of the calkins was noted. It can be seen from Table Finds/15 that the collection comprises seven 'Norman' (i.e. dating from the mid to late 11th century to the mid 13th century, 26.9% of the collection), four 'Transitional' (i.e. dating from the second half of the 13th century to the early 14th century, 15.4%), five 'Later Medieval' (i.e. dating from the mid 14th century to the 16th century, 19.2%) and eight chronologically undiagnostic horseshoe fragments (30.8%). The two complete horseshoes (7.7%) both bear toe clips, a post-medieval innovation (Clark 1986, 1).

A selection of six fragments has been illustrated, to show the differences discussed above—two (Fig. FWP65.35, 45, 46) are 'Norman', with a 'wavy' outer edge and countersunk nail holes; two (Fig. FWP65.35, 47, 48) are 'Transitional', with countersunk holes but a smooth outer edge, and two (Fig. FWP65.35, 49, 50) are 'Later Medieval' types, having nail holes with a tapering profile and again a smooth outer edge.

Clark notes that the webs of the Norman horseshoes are generally narrow, with the Transitional forms becoming wider and the Later Medieval types wider still (*ibid*, 2-3, figs. 4, 6 and 8). A comparison of the average web widths of the three groups of horseshoes from Wroughton Copse fits this general pattern—the Norman webs average 18.6mm, the Transitional 27mm and the Later Medieval 32.2mm.

Five of the seven horseshoe fragments identified as being of the 'Norman' type were recovered from construction and occupation layers within Buildings 1, 2 and 4 (GF187: Building 1, Pit 1/2; GFs191 and 548(A): Building 2: timber phase occupation; Building 4: GF547(C), black midden soil over Pit 6). Another horseshoe of this type (GF299B) was retrieved from the fill of the ditch around Enclosure C in Cutting 10 and the seventh example came from the topsoil in Cutting 3 (GF13: entrance to Enclosure A).

A total of 100 horseshoe nails were identified. These have been assigned to the three main types identified by Clark (1986), which are also identified by Goodall in his study of the ironwork from Faccombe Netherton in Hampshire (Goodall, I H, 1990, 421, fig. 9.10). An additional two types are unassignable to any particular type, one of which consists of nails with distorted, elongated and pointed heads which may represent pulled nails. The distribution of nails by type and possible dates are shown in Table Finds/14. As can be seen for the horseshoes, a fairly high proportion (27% of the horseshoes and 25% of the horseshoe nails) date from the mid 14th century onwards (Table

Finds/15), with most coming from Cutting 10 or post-occupation contexts.

The small looped and rivetted fitting (Fig. FWP65.35, 51) may be a strap loop or fastener from a harness. It compares well with an example from Castle Acre Castle from contexts dating from a few years after 1085 (Goodall 1982, 230, fig. 41.122). However, the possibility exists that this may be a household binding of some sort rather than associated with horse equipment.

Ox-shoes

A single example of a possible ox-shoe is present in the collection, comprising the right heel part of the shoe (Fig. FWP65.35, 52). The web is very wide and slightly dished in section, with a broken nail hole near the edge of the shoe. There is no evidence for a fastening clip at the heel. It compares well both in size and in general form with ox-shoes recovered from Faccombe Netherton (Goodall, I.H., 1990, 421 and fig 9.10/545-8, especially 546).

Spurs

Five spurs or parts of spurs were recovered (Fig. FWP65.35, 53-57). In addition a small fitting (Fig. FWP65.35, 58) may have come from a spur. The spurs comprise three prick spurs, one rowel spur and one spur arm fragment, probably from a prick spur. One is now missing (Fig. FWP65.35, 53). It is assumed that this was an iron spur and is described from the working drawing which exists. The three prick spurs all have bi-pyramidal goads. The earliest spur is possibly the missing object (Fig. FWP65.35, 53), with its short neck, a type common in the late 12th and 13th centuries. Curved arms first appeared in the 12th century and became common in the 13th. One spur has a bi-pyramidal goad with concave upper surfaces, curving arms and simple terminals pierced by two rivets (Fig. FWP65.35, 54) and can be compared to examples from London dating to the late 13th century (Ward Perkins, fig 31.3) and from Portchester Castle dating to the 13th to 14th centuries (Hinton 1977, 196, fig. 104.14), although similar examples from Goltho with curving sides come from contexts dated to c.1080-1150 (Ellis 1987, 186, fig. 160.167, 169). Only the goad, neck and upper part of the arms survive on another prick spur (Fig. FWP65.35, 55). This example has a long tubular neck and a plain bi-pyramidal goad and can be compared with two spurs from Portchester Castle (Hinton 1977, 196, fig. 104.13, 15) dated to the 13th to 14th centuries. The spur arm (Fig. FWP65.35, 56) has a LMMC Type Bii terminal, a type which probably did not survive the 14th century. This type of terminal is almost certainly from a prick spur (Ward Perkins 1940, 96). There is a trace of white metal plating on this piece.

Rowel spurs first appeared in England in the first half of the 13th century (Ellis 1990, 423) and a single example was found at Wroughton Copse (Fig. FWP65.35, 57). This has a 'figure of eight' terminal and the form of the body is LMMC Type A2, with shoulders on the body, a type "not uncommon in conjunction with the exaggerated shanks [necks] of the late 15th century" (Ward Perkins 1940, 107). However, the neck of the Wroughton Copse example is fairly short. The straight tubular neck is bent sharply downwards at the rowel box. This spur is likely to be post-medieval.

The small fitting (Fig. FWP65.35, 58) has a broken loop and a bevelled plate with a decorative terminal and was white metal-plated. The plate bears two rivets, only one of which goes all the way through the plate. In general form, size and material it compares well with spur buckles with integral bevelled plates from London from contexts dating from c.1270-1380 (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 106-8, figs. 68.483-486, 69.487), although as it does not have a hole for the pin it is unlikely to have been used as a buckle.

Arrowheads

A total of seven arrowheads was recovered. Due to problems encountered in trying to apply the LMMC arrowhead typology to arrowheads in this collection, the typologies of both the LMMC and an alternative typology set out by Jessop (1993) have been used. Problems with the LMMC typology include the rather imprecise definitions and illustrations and the lack of examples from securely dated contexts. Jessop applied his alternative typology to arrowheads from Dryslwyn Castle in South Wales, which was founded c.1220-1230 A.D. and had fallen into disuse by c.1500 (Jessop 1993, 37-40).

The large socketed arrowhead (Fig. FWP65.36, 63) is of a type used for hunting (Jessop type H3, LMMC type 15), although somewhat larger than the maximum size for this type stated by Jessop. It is very similar in form, though a little larger than an arrowhead from the Thames in London (Ward Perkins 1940, pl. XV, no 31), and Jessop places the date range for this type of arrowhead in the mid 13th century (Jessop 1993, 36).

One arrowhead is of Jessop's 'multipurpose' type MP3 (Fig. FWP65.36, 64), whilst another is either MP5 or MP3 depending on its original section (Fig. FWP65.36, 59). Both MP3 and MP5 correspond to LMMC Type 1 and may have been used either for hunting or in warfare. Such arrowheads had a long period of currency and date from the 10th to the 16th century and later (Jessop 1993, 31). Three others are military arrowheads, designed to pierce armour (*Figs. Finds/7*, 60-62). These are of Jessop's Type M7 (LMMC Type 7), with short conical sockets and longer, very narrow blades with a diamond-shaped section and date from the 11th to the 14th centuries (Jessop 1993, 34). Two of these have a slight constriction between the socket and the blade. The seventh arrowhead cannot be assigned to a category with any confidence as its original profile is uncertain (Fig. FWP65.36, 65).

Miscellaneous

A fitting (Fig. FWP65.36, 66) has terminal lobes and is pierced by a nail and by a rivet. It is not clear whether the small fragment of iron at the end of the rivet represents the remains of a rove or of another strip. The area enclosed is 9mm thick. The fitting is reminiscent of bar mounts for belts (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 213, fig. 134) although the thickness of the enclosed material, the form of fastenings and the presence of a rove or another strip all might argue against this function.

A broken fitting (Fig. FWP65.36, 67) is of uncertain function. The object has a flat back and slightly curved upper face, with one end bent upwards into a curved terminal with a small perforation. The central area is broken but was originally perforated. The other end of the object is also broken. The X-Radiograph indicates that the object was white metal plated.

Two other fittings (Fig. FWP65.36, 68, 69) are also of uncertain function, though they bear some resemblance to articles of horse furniture. Alternatively, they may be structural fittings of uncertain function.

A complete spike (Fig. FWP65.36, 70) and another broken example of similar proportions (GF299(A)) are present in the collection. The complete example appears not to have been used as a punch as the head has not become burred over. The function of these two objects remains uncertain, although a structural use need not be ruled out. A small tapering wedge (GF160(B)) may have been used for a variety of purposes.

A small, corroded object (GF285(A)) exhibits a short rectangular tang above a flattened and expanded area in the opposite plane, although the object is too fragmentary to ascertain its original form or function.

A total of 13 featureless sheet fragments are present, as well as eight bar fragments. One bar

fragment (GF228) has one end pointed and the other has a deep longitudinal split, which may suggest that the object is incomplete and was in the process of being manufactured.

A single rod or tube (GF837(B)) is in very poor condition, but appears to be hollow, with a small projection. Its original form and function are unclear.

Discussion of the metalwork

The distribution of the metalwork by Cutting is shown in *Tables Finds/2-12*.

The assemblage is domestic, with indications that woodworking, leatherworking and textile preparation, as well as agricultural activities were taking place, all activities that would be expected on a small rural settlement. The collection is unremarkable in the variety of types of metal object it contains—mainly structural, with some personal and some functional pieces, although the quantities recovered from such a small, relatively short-lived settlement are possibly worthy of comment. One object, the machine-made thimble (GF606; *Copper Alloy*: Fig. FWP65.30, 7) with bands of small and evenly-spaced dots (a post-medieval development) from the top of Pit 7 in the centre of Building 2, is diagnostically too late for the layer in which it occurred and it is suggested that it may be intrusive or that its context is not stratigraphically secure.

It is noticeable that a large proportion of the metalwork from Cutting 10 is diagnostically post-medieval and modern, including a knife with a bolster (Fig. FWP65.32, 16) and another knife or shear blade fragment (GF297), a rowel spur (Fig. FWP65.35, 57), three of the five Later Medieval horseshoes and seven of the 25 Later Medieval horseshoe nails.

List of illustrated objects

(Fig. FWP65.31)

1. Axe, with tubular socket on the axis of the blade, with slight projections above and pronounced ones below; upper edge of blade inclined sharply upwards, lower edge concave and curves sharply downwards with a pronounced bevel into a projection, with another small concave area between this and the bottom edge of the blade. L of blade 93mm, w of blade 95mm. GF210 (A), Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2/Phase 1 occupation.
2. Heckle tooth, square section. L 107mm. GF199 (C), Cutting 2, Building 1, tumble outside B1, ?Phase 2.
3. Heckle tooth, square section. L 111mm. GF220 (A), Cutting 10, on clay-with-flints.
4. Awl, flattened diamond section, broken at one end but nearly complete. L 93mm. GF147, Cutting 2, Building 1, tumble/occupation of B1 South.
5. Awl, flattened diamond section, traces of mineral-preserved wooden tang. L 66mm. GF175, Cutting 2, Building 1, Phase 1 occupation.
6. Awl, sub-square section, with mineral-preserved wood and twine traces. The twine was wound round the awl between the handle and the working end of the tool and may have been used to help secure the handle. L 83mm. GF526 (A), Cutting 5, black layer.
7. Awl, sub-square section with a distinct central swelling. L 66mm. GF707 (A), Cutting 6Y, Enclosure B.
8. Large awl with a circular section. L 111mm. GF824 (A), Cutting 4P, south of Building 2, flinty soil.

(Fig. FWP65.32)

9. Side arm of a spade iron, with grooved profile to accommodate the wooden blade, below a rectangular-sectioned arm which expands into a lug pierced by a single flat round-headed nail for attachment. L 237mm. GF909, Unstratified.
10. Knife with whittle tang set just below back. Blade edge and tip missing, tang broken. L 107mm. GF160 (A), Cutting 2, Building 1, Phase 1 occupation.
11. Knife with whittle tang set central to the blade. Blade edge missing, but blade tip and tang probably complete. L 155mm. GF271, Cutting 6, Building 4, topsoil/collapse.
12. Knife with pattern welded blade and whittle tang set central to the blade with a pronounced shoulder. Blade edge and tip missing, tang broken. L 155mm. GF591 (A), Cutting 6, topsoil over Pit 6.
13. Knife with very short whittle tang set central on the blade with a separate iron shoulder plate between the tang and the blade. Knife complete, though tip slightly bent. L 66mm. GF656, Cutting 6, clay and chalk in Pit 6.
14. Knife with whittle tang set central to the blade. Tip of blade broken. L 95mm. GF712, Cutting 8, chalky soil.
15. Knife with whittle tang in line with back of blade. Blade edge broken. L 171mm. GF824 B, Cutting 4P(i), south of Building 2, flinty soil.
16. Knife with oval bolster between blade and tang. Tip of blade broken. Post-medieval. L 178mm. GF490 (A), Cutting 10, topsoil/on flints.
17. Complete pair of shears. Blade length 93mm, width 23mm, single recess, tapering tips. Arm with square to rectangular section, bow with rectangular section. L 202mm. GF89, Cutting 2, Building 1, humus over Phases 1 and 2.

(Fig. FWP65.33)

18. Large rectangular staple. L 143mm. GF226, Cutting 10, on and over clay-with-flints.
19. Rectangular staple, bound right round and enclosing an internal area of c. 70mm by 18mm. GF427, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus outside building/possible occupation.
20. Rectangular staple, with one arm split longitudinally to form two spikes. L of head 35mm. GF450 (A), Cutting 6, Building 4, humus/occupation material.
21. Rectangular staple with an expanded head, one broken arm present. L of broken head c. 40mm. GF908, Unstratified.
22. 'U'-shaped staple, tip of one arm broken. L 70mm. GF193, Cutting 2, Building 1, tumble/exterior of B1.
23. Large nail, with pyramidal head and tapering rectangular sectioned shank. L 134mm. GF217. Cutting 10, G2.
24. Large nail, with slightly domed rectangular head and tapering rectangular sectioned shank. L 110mm. GF218. Cutting 10, G2.
25. Spike with a circular hole in the head and tapering rectangular-sectioned shank. L 114mm. GF638 (A), Cutting 6, Pit 6.
26. Hinge pivot. L 93mm. GF506 (B), Cutting 4, Building 3, clay-with-flints.
27. Strap hinge fragment with a decorative, perforated terminal-part of the nailed 'U'-shaped area

of the hinge which would have rotated around a hinge pivot. L 85mm. GF230 (A), Cutting 10, on or over clay-with-flints.

28. Strap hinge fragment, with sub-circular sectioned bar expanded into broken flat perforated straps at both ends and bent into a 'U' shape. L 37mm. GF492, Cutting 4, Building 3, topsoil.
29. Binding with broken expanded perforated terminal, broken at other end. Curved. L 126mm. GF823, Cutting 2Y, Building 1, stony soil, pre-B1 South construction.

(Fig. FWP65.34)

30. Binding with two expanded perforated terminals, broken at one end. Fragment of a nail or rivet *in situ* in one of the perforations. L 67mm. GF199 (B), Cutting 2, Building 1, under tumble/outside building.
31. Latch rest. L 104mm. GF544 (A), Cutting 4, Building 3, topsoil/humus.
32. Barrel padlock case fragment, decorated with applied longitudinally-running straight and wavy iron straps. Copper alloy plated. Part of keyhole survives. L 82mm. GF616, Cutting 6, top of Pit 6/Midden.
33. 'T'-shaped padlock bolt. L 61mm. GF710 (A), Cutting 6, Building 4, occupation.
34. Padlock key, looped and scrolled terminal at the back of the shank, bit broken, set at 90° to shank. L 193mm. GF595, Cutting 6, topsoil over Pit 6, late C13/early C14 activity.
35. Padlock key, looped terminal at the front of the shank, bit set in same plane as shank. L 101mm. GF284 (B), Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation/post-occ.
36. Padlock key, broken perforated terminal, bit broken, set at 90° to shank and possibly set centrally on the shank. Shank is very corroded but appears to be flaring in thickness as well as width below the head. L 119mm. GF644 (A), Cutting 6, Building 4, burnt soil East of B4.
37. Sliding bolt with a single projection. L 103mm. GF199 (A), Cutting 2, Building 1, under tumble/outside building.
38. Sliding bolt, bent at one end, with single projection. L 58mm. GF411 (A), Cutting 5, flinty layer over chalk mound.
39. Figure-of-eight hasp of twisted rectangular-sectioned bar. Convex profile. L 127mm. GF210 (B), Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2.
40. Chain fitting comprising a hook with a perforated head (L 68mm), through which is mounted an 'S'-loop. L 82mm. GF144, Cutting 2, baulk K/L, humus over Building 1 interior.
41. Hook-like object, point complete, tapering shank broken. L 57mm. GF556, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation.
42. Rectangular buckle with a narrowed bar, with the pin with a broken loop corroded to the bar. L 39mm. GF283, Cutting 5, burnt soil with flints.
43. Small oval buckle frame with narrowed offset bar and 'pinching' of the frame near both ends of the bar. GF363 (A), Cutting 4, Building 3, occupation/post-occ.
44. Large rectangular buckle frame. L 66mm. GF710 (B), Cutting 6, Building 4, probable occupation.

(Fig. FWP65.35)

N.B. all horseshoe and ox-shoe fragments are described in the catalogue as worn (i.e. with the calkins (if present) and nail-heads on the underside of the shoe), but are illustrated the other way up in order to show details of calkins etc. This means that a right horseshoe arm will have the aspect of a left horseshoe arm in the drawings and *vice versa*. The sections through the horseshoes to show the counter-sinking of the nailholes are schematic.

45. Right horseshoe arm with three countersunk nail holes, wavy outer edge and calkin formed by turning down the heel. Clark's 'Norman' type. L 101mm. GF187, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 6/Phase 1 occupation.
46. Right horseshoe arm with three countersunk nail holes (one broken), wavy outer edge and calkin formed by thickening the heel. Clark's 'Norman' type. L108mm. GF356(B), Cutting 4, Building 2, timber phase/stone construction.
47. Left horseshoe arm with three countersunk nail holes (one broken), plain outer edge and calkin formed by thickening the heel. Clark's 'Transitional' type. L 96mm. GF276, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus over building.
48. Right horseshoe arm with two countersunk nail holes (one broken), plain outer edge and calkin formed by folding over the heel. Clark's 'Transitional' type. L 79mm. GF510(A), Cutting 4, Building 3, construction/occupation.
49. Left horseshoe arm with three tapering nail holes (one broken) and one with a rectangular-headed nail *in situ*, plain outer edge and calkin formed by folding over the heel. Clark's 'Later medieval' type. L 95mm. GF122, Cutting 2, Building 1, humus over Phases 1 and 2.
50. Right horseshoe arm with three tapering nail holes, plain outer edge and a calkin formed by turning down the heel. Clark's 'Later medieval' type. L 94mm. GF216, Cutting 10, on flinty terrace.
51. Strip, looped over with expanded terminals originally rivetted together. L 42mm. GF317, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation.
52. Right ox-shoe arm with one broken nail hole and a slightly dished profile. L 66mm. GF234, Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation.
53. Prick spur, now missing so described from drawing prepared in 1961. Plain bi-pyramidal goad on a short neck, LMMC Type 7. L 63mm. GF44, Cutting 3, humus over bank of Enc. A.
54. Prick spur, incomplete terminal on one arm. Bi-pyramidal goad with concave upper facets, goad set on a straight tubular neck. Complete terminal is pierced by two rivets set side by side. LMMC Type BB(ii)8. L 130mm. GF422, Cutting 4, Building 2, pre-stone phase.
55. Prick spur. both arms broken. Plain bi-pyramidal goad on a straight tubular neck, LMMC Type 7. L 61mm. GF559, Cutting 4, Building 3, Pit 8/garde-robe.
56. Spur arm and terminal fragment. Terminal pierced by two rivets, set side by side. Trace of white metal plating. LMMC Type Bii. L 66mm. GF345, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus over building.
57. Rowel spur with one complete arm, other with terminal missing. Terminal is LMMC Type F; spur body is LMMC Type A2. Rowel missing. L 120mm. GF229, Cutting 10, on flinty terrace.
58. Small fitting, comprising a broken oval loop with an integral plate with a decorative terminal. The plate has bevelled edges and bears two rivets, one of which pierces the plate and the other only visible on the underside. Traces of white metal plating on the object. L

24mm. GF835 (A), Cutting 1B, topsoil to flints.

(Fig. FWP65.36)

59. Arrowhead with broken conical socket and a triangular-shaped blade with the corners cut off at an obtuse angle. Section uncertain due to corrosion of arrowhead. Jessop's Type MP5 or MP3 depending on section, LMMC Type 1. L 97mm. GF818 (A), Cutting 4P(i), under sarsen chips.
60. Arrowhead with a narrow conical socket (broken, with possible traces of mineral-preserved wood inside) and a long, narrow point with a diamond-section. There is a slight constriction at the top of the socket, with the blade swelling slightly before narrowing again. Jessop's Type M7, LMMC Type 7. L 92mm. GF199 (D), Cutting 2, Building 1, wall tumble outside building.
61. Short arrowhead with a narrow broken conical socket and a narrow diamond-sectioned point. There is a slight constriction between the socket and the blade and the blade is no wider than the socket. Jessop's Type M7, LMMC Type 7. L 49mm. GF506 (A), Cutting 4, Building 3, clay-with-flints.
62. Arrowhead with a short socket extending into a diamond-sectioned narrow blade. Jessop's Type M7, LMMC Type 7. L 62mm. GF599, Cutting 6, Building 4/Pit 6, topsoil. ?Oven construction.
63. Large socketed hunting arrowhead, both barbs broken. Circular socket extending up the body of the arrowhead as a raised central rib. Jessop's Type H3, LMMC Type 15, Length 121mm. GF688, Cutting 8, clay over deposited chalk.
64. Small arrowhead with a triangular-shaped blade with rounded shoulders and a lenticular cross-section. The conical socket is broken, but it can be seen that the method of construction involved folding over the sheet iron to form the socket. Jessop's Type MP3, LMMC Type 1. L 52mm. GF2 (A), Cutting 2F/E, trench under Building 1 South, clay-with-flints.
65. Arrowhead with tapering conical socket and lenticular section. The arrowhead is complete in its length, although the profile of the blade is uncertain as the arrowhead is quite heavily corroded. L 72mm. GF837 (A), Cutting 4P(i), flinty soil.
66. Fitting, comprising a bar with terminal lobes, pierced by a nail and a rivet, with the possible remains of a rove or another strip at the end of the rivet. L 46mm. GF284 (C), Cutting 4, Building 2, occupation.
67. Fitting, originally white metal plated. Flat back, slightly curved upper area, with one terminal bent upwards with a small perforation, with the central area also originally perforated. the other terminal/projection is also broken. Function uncertain. L 51mm. GF411 (B), Cutting 5, flinty soil.
68. Strip fitting, with one terminal bent over to form a loop, with the strip bent into a convex curve and expanding in width towards the other, broken end. Function uncertain. L 66m. GF638 (B), Cutting 6, black soil in Pit 6.
69. Fitting, comprising a circular sectioned rod with one (broken) end bent to c.100° to the axis of the rod and split longitudinally and the other terminal bent over to form a loop, which bears an iron ring (diam 34mm) of circular-sectioned bar/wire. Function uncertain. L 98mm. GF660 (A), Cutting 8, flinty layer below topsoil.

70. Spike, complete, rectangular section. L 123mm. GF61, Cutting 3A, entrance to Enc. A, humus with small flints over bank.

Worked Stone

by Nicholas A. Wells, with geological identifications by Adrian Murray

The worked stone found at Wroughton Copse comprises six whetstones. All are either square or rectangular in section and have two, three or four smooth sides/faces. None show any further working or wear marks, although one (GF189) has a deep (5mm) groove worn into one face. No concentration of finds was noticed.

The stone types represented are varied and include sandstone (two examples), micaceous quartzite, basalt and altered basalt and rhyolite. These types indicate a wide area of source location, unlike the worked and utilised stone from the Early Iron Age and Romano-British settlements (FWP 63 and FWP 64).

Medieval Pottery

by R.G.Thomson and D.H. Brown

The assemblage comprises 7,441 sherds, weighing 88,782g. Each sherd has been classified by fabric and form. The ceramic character of each stratigraphic unit has been determined by quantifying the presence of each type of fabric and form by rim per cent, weight in grammes and number of sherds. All these aspects are discussed below under the headings *Fabrics and Forms*, *Quantification*, *Distribution*, before conclusions are presented.

Fabrics and Forms

Fabrics have been classified using a hierarchical system which identifies *fabric* as a specific fabric type and *ware* as a generic term. Each fabric is given a unique number in a series beginning at one. Fabrics were identified by macroscopic analysis through the use of a binocular microscope, following guidelines laid down by Peacock (1977). Type sherds were retained to create a fabric type series. Wares are given names which reflect their origins, such as Martincamp ware, or their defining characteristics, such as Chalk- and Flint-tempered Coarseware. Also recorded as part of the process of characterising a ware, are area and period of origin. Fabrics may be grouped together as variants of the same ware; for example, fabrics 9, 30, 35, 42, 47, 48, 55 and 59 have all been identified as local post-medieval earthenwares. The Wroughton Copse fabric type series was compared with those compiled by Wessex Archaeology for other sites in Wiltshire and west Berkshire, which has established the origins of many of the medieval wares identified, allowing the grouping together of fabrics into known ware traditions. It should be noted, however, that the fabric numbers used here are unique to Wroughton Copse and do not correspond to any other published type series such as that for Newbury (Vince *et al.* forthcoming)

Forms were classified by vessel type and by the shapes of the component parts. The latter system identified a range of rim, handle, spout and base forms within each ware. Each form type was given a numeric code preceded by a letter denoting the relevant component; for example R1 is a specific rim form. Also recorded as part of the form corpus were decorative technique and motif, and the extent and location of any slip or glaze.

The assemblage can be divided into five chronologically distinct groups of wares; Prehistoric;

Romano-British; Medieval; Late Medieval; Post-Medieval. Prehistoric and Romano-British wares are considered to be residual here and, although they have been quantified, they have not been fully characterised and are not described in detail.

Medieval wares

The medieval pottery was initially divided into two groups: coarsewares and sandy wares. Medieval coarsewares are the most common type in the entire assemblage and consist principally of chalk- and flint-tempered cooking pots and bowls in the Newbury Group A/B tradition (Vince *et al.* forthcoming). The sandy wares comprise a much smaller proportion of the medieval assemblage.

All the medieval wares are considered to be 13th century in date.

Chalk- and Flint-Tempered Coarsewares (Newbury Group B)

Fabrics 1, 2, 11, 14, 22, 28, 37, 38

Fifteen different fabrics were originally identified within this group. Several of these have now been grouped together, leaving seven different types. As recording progressed it soon became clear that all these are related so they were all brought together and recorded under a single fabric number (38). This grouping took place after approximately one quarter of the assemblage had been recorded. The type series demonstrates the range of fabric types present within this group, but it should be emphasised that most of the sherds in this group have been recorded under the general fabric number 38. These chalk- and flint-tempered coarsewares belong within the ceramic traditions of Newbury Groups A and B (Vince *et al.* forthcoming). The material from Wroughton Copse corresponds most closely with Newbury Group B in terms of form and technique and is hereafter referred to by its ware name.

This ware is characterised by abundant inclusions of chalk and flint, with quartz and iron also present. Organics also frequently occur. The chalk has often leached out of sherd surfaces, leaving vesiculations. All inclusions are ill-sorted, ranging in size from fine-medium to coarse. Some examples, such as Fabric 28, contain very large flint fragments. The colour range varies from dark grey or black to brown or dark red. Newbury Group A and B wares are described as being similarly diverse in terms of the size and quantities of inclusions, but these variations do not appear to be related to chronology or distribution. In Berkshire this ware appears to occur mainly in the west and a source in the Kennet Valley has been suggested, with the Forest of Savernake specifically identified (Vince *et al.* forthcoming). This is acceptably close to Wroughton Copse and such a production area seems likely.

In common with the Newbury Group B products, it is not always clear whether vessels were handbuilt or wheelthrown, although the complexity of the rim forms certainly suggests the turning of vessels during manufacture.

The most common form in this ware is the cooking pot, which takes the form of a round-shouldered jar with an everted rim. A typical example is illustrated here as No. 1 (Fig. FWP65.37). A wide range of rim types has been identified. Initially some 60 rim forms were characterised, most of which were found to be single vessels. The individual rim forms have been grouped together into the series illustrated here as Nos. 2-15 (Fig. FWP65.37), with further examples shown in Nos. 16-18 (Fig. FWP65.37). They range from simple types (Fig. FWP65.37, 2), through thickened forms (e.g. Fig. FWP65.37, 3-7). More complex rims include Nos. 8-11 (Fig. FWP65.37). Several rims have a slightly hollowed internal profile, as shown in Nos. 7 and 11 (Fig. FWP65.37). This may be evidence for the use of a wheel or turntable during manufacture. Wipe-marks around the rim/neck join may also result from the same method. The range of decorative techniques on cooking pots is

limited and is shown in Nos. 12-18 (Fig. FWP65.37). Thumbing occurs on the rim of No. 12 and on the shoulder and girth in Nos. 1, 13 and 14. Combed decoration is shown as No. 15, while Nos. 16-18 are stabbed in a variety of motifs. Combed and stabbed decoration is very rare on cooking pots, while the use of thumbing is much more common. Out of 933 cooking pot fragments, a total of 216 were decorated. There are 64 thumbed rims, 122 thumbed body sherds, 21 stabbed and 9 combed sherds.

Parallels for the range of rim forms and the thumbed decoration may be found at Newbury and at Faccombe Netherton in Hampshire. Both sites have produced rims with a concave profile (Fairbrother 1990, e.g. Fig. 8.49, no. 381; Vince *et al.* 1994, fig. 44). Fairbrother has identified his coarsewares as Newbury types and there are certainly similarities between the Faccombe Netherton pottery and the Wroughton Copse assemblage. This may confirm the identification of the Wroughton Copse coarsewares as Newbury Group B wares. However, certain differences may be observed. Neither combed nor stab-decorated cooking pots have been published for Newbury or Faccombe Netherton. Newbury Group B-type cooking pot sherds with combed decoration have been identified among unpublished finds from the 1939 excavations at Avebury (e.g. SE sector, cutting 12, layer 1; Avebury Archive, Alexander Keiller Museum, Avebury).

The vessels illustrated as Nos. 19-22 (Fig. FWP65.38), together with the curfew, No. 40 (Fig. FWP65.39), were recovered from the pre-oven pit associated with Building 4 (Cutting 6, Pit 6). Two of these (19 and 20) conform with the typical cooking pot types described above. However, Nos. 21 and 22 are quite different. They are likely to be handbuilt and have the appearance of being earlier. Moreover, they do occur with typical examples Nos. 19 and 20 and the curfew (40), for which there is no suggestion of an early date. The fabric is identical to the other Newbury Group B types and it seems unlikely that these two vessels are residual. They may therefore represent the products of a different kiln site to those which usually supplied the settlement at Wroughton Copse.

Bowls occur mainly as shallow dishes. These have simple or in-turned rims and are commonly over 400mm in diameter. Simple rims are illustrated as Nos. 23 and 24. Inturned rims occur more frequently and in a variety of forms, as shown in Nos. 25-27. A similar range of shallow dishes is paralleled at Newbury (Vince *et al.* 1994, fig. 29) and Faccombe Netherton (Fairbrother 1990, fig. 8.47). Other rim forms, represented within the assemblage by single sherds, are illustrated here as Nos. 28 and 29 (Fig. FWP65.38). The latter type is the only thumbed rim among the shallow dishes. There is only one deep bowl (Fig. FWP65.38, 30) in the whole assemblage. This is decorated with combed and stabbed lines and has a thumbed rim. This vessel also has a pouring lip and may be a small pipkin, although not enough of the vessel has survived to confirm the presence of a handle. There is a single sherd from a pan (Fig. FWP65.38, 31). The hammer-head rim profile and the sharp angle at the neck is paralleled at Newbury (Vince *et al.* 1994, fig. 37) and at Faccombe Netherton (Fairbrother 1990, no. 368). In a total of 182 bowl sherds, 13 are decorated, 7 are combed, 5 thumbed and one stabbed. Decoration is almost always confined to the rim or just below. Comb-decorated bowls occur at Newbury (Vince *et al.* 1994, fig. 57) and are also paralleled at Avebury (e.g. SW sector, cutting 6, layer 1).

Jugs are comparatively rare. They are not glazed but are decorated. The range of rim forms and decorative styles is shown in Nos. 32-39 (Fig. FWP65.38). Decorative techniques, in common with the cooking pots, include thumbing, stabbing and combing. Out of a total of 45 jug sherds, 31 are decorated, 21 are incised, 4 stabbed, 4 thumbed and 2 (handles) slashed. Incised decoration is mainly around the rim and neck. The style of the incised lines shown on Nos. 32, 36 and 38 is not paralleled at Newbury or Faccombe Netherton and appears to be a local technique. A type of triangular stabbing similar to that shown as No. 33 has been observed at Avebury (SE sector, cutting 42, layer 1). Two examples, Nos. 32 and 33, have pulled lips. The remaining vessels do not survive in sufficient amounts to determine whether they also had pouring lips. In all cases handles were joined at the rim by riveting. Two rims (Fig. FWP65.38, 37, 38) are more sophisticated types and

may be wheelthrown.

Two curfew rims are illustrated here (Fig. FWP65.39, 40, 41). Fourteen other curfew sherds were identified. Many had combed or thumbled applied strip decoration and one has part of the ventilation hole. Both the notched decoration at the rim, shown on No. 40 and the combed decoration shown on No. 41 are paralleled among the Newbury Group B wares at Faccombe Netherton (Fairbrother 1990, nos. 11 and 407) and at Avebury (*e.g.* SE sector, cutting 54, layer 1).

The Wroughton Copse chalk- and flint-tempered coarseware sits happily within the Newbury Group B tradition. Similarities with material from Newbury and Faccombe Netherton confirm this. However, there are also significant differences of form and decoration that suggest an alternative kiln source. Comparison with the pottery at Avebury, much closer to Wroughton Copse, suggests that a very local production site may have been supplying both these settlements.

West Wiltshire Sandy Coarseware

Fabrics 25, 41, 71

The second largest group of coarsewares were originally identified as Fabrics 25 and 71. During processing these were grouped together under the general fabric code 41. This ware is finer than the Newbury-type wares, containing sparse inclusions of chalk, flint and quartz in a fine sandy matrix. The surfaces appear smooth in comparison with the Newbury types and are usually free of vesiculations. Colours range from dark grey to buff. Everted-rim cooking pots appear to be the principal vessel type and two examples are shown here (Fig. FWP65.39, 42, 43).

Comparison with other fabric type series from Wiltshire has identified this as a type which is widespread in West Wiltshire, occurring, for example, at Knook (Mephram 1993a, fabric Q400) and Trowbridge (Mephram 1993, 84). One possible source for this ware is the putative kiln-site at Crockerton near Warminster, identified from documentary evidence (Le Patourel 1968). However, no production centre has been identified with any certainty and the term West Wiltshire is used here in recognition of its distribution and likely source area.

Micaceous Coarseware

Fabric 65

There are three base sherds of this fabric. The sandy matrix contains abundant quartz inclusions with red and black iron and moderate/sparse medium white mica. The presence of mica suggests a non-local source, probably to the west.

Newbury Group C sandy ware

Fabrics 4, 7, 10, 12, 17, 19, 23, 52, 68, 70, 73

Newbury Group C includes a wide range of fabrics all characterised as having medium or fine-grained sandy clay (Vince *et al.* 1994, 55). The sources for Newbury Group C wares are unclear, but the variety of fabrics suggests that a number of different production sites are represented. Enough perhaps to suggest that the classification of these products as a single group is misleading. They are distributed over a similar area to the Newbury Group B wares, around the Kennet valley and comfortably encompassing Fyfield Down and Wroughton Copse. One source possibly represented among these fabrics is the kiln site at Ashampstead. The breadth of this group is reflected in the Wroughton Copse assemblage by the number of sandy fabrics that have been identified here. The range of vessel types represented here includes bowls, cooking pots, jugs and tripod pitchers. Jugs are the most common form, some of which are highly decorated. The degree of fragmentation is

high and no vessel profiles can be reconstructed. Only one example is illustrated here, a bowl in fabric 7 (Fig. FWP65.39, 44), which is paralleled at Newbury (Vince *et al.* 1994, fig. 73).

The Newbury fabric types series has not been examined for parallels and the Fabric numbers given here are specific to the Wroughton Copse assemblage so they do not correspond to those published for Newbury (*ibid.*)

Fabric 4 is the most common type and has abundant medium-sized quartz in a red-firing clay matrix. It occurs mainly as unglazed cooking pots and glazed jugs. Fabrics 23 and 52 are coarse, unglazed variants of Fabric 4.

Fabrics 7 and 70 have coarse-medium quartz with occasional fragments of flint and chalk. Fabric 70 also contains organic inclusions. These fabrics occur as bowls and cooking pots.

Fabrics 10, 17, 19 and 68 are fine sandy with quartz inclusions. Diagnostic sherds are rare but the common vessel type appears to be glazed jugs.

Fabric 12 contains fine quartz and has an overall white slip and green lead glaze. There are no diagnostic sherds. It is possible that all the body sherds recovered represent a single vessel, probably a jug.

Fabric 73 is a sandy ware with occasional chalk fragments.

Laverstock-type Sandy wares

Fabrics 20, 27, 34

Three fabrics have been identified as belonging within the Laverstock tradition.

Fabric 34 is a Laverstock-type coarseware. This has a red-firing, smooth clay matrix containing abundant coarse-medium subangular quartz. There are two everted cooking pot rims in a group that consists mainly of plain body sherds.

Fabric 20 has abundant well-sorted medium-fine quartz in a similar matrix. This fabric occurs in the form of tripod pitchers. One applied tubular spout (Fig. FWP65.39, 45) is present and has combed decoration. There is also a single foot from a tripod pitcher.

Fabric 27 is the typical glazed Laverstock-type sandy ware. It is a white ware, occasionally off-white in reduced examples. The smooth matrix contains abundant fine quartz. Diagnostic sherds are rare, but there are a number of jug rims. Several sherds came from a single jug decorated with applied triangular-shaped pellets. The example shown here (Fig. FWP65.39, 46) has a collared spout and an applied stamped roundel. A similar technique may be seen among the Laverstock kiln material (Musty *et al.* 1969, no. 68).

Minety-type glazed ware

Fabric 53

There are twelve sherds of a fabric that has abundant chalk inclusions. The chalk has leached out leaving vesiculations. This is a common occurrence in the pottery recovered from Minety, north Wiltshire (Musty 1973, 82). Illustrated here is a jug handle with slashed decoration (Fig. FWP65.39, 47).

Other Medieval Sandy wares

Fabrics 21, 24, 26, 66

A number of fabrics have not been related to any known production centres or ceramic traditions.

Fabric 21 is a hard, fine, white ware that contains sparse inclusions of clear quartz. Sherds have a pale green lead glaze.

Fabric 24 is buff-coloured with a fine sandy matrix with no larger inclusions. All the sherds represent a single vessel, a jug decorated with horizontal incised lines and with a bright copper-green lead glaze (Fig. FWP65.39, 48; Cross-fit 5). The square impressions at the base, probably made with a stick rather than by thumbing, are very distinctive.

Fabric 26 fires pink or grey. It has a moderate/fine quartz sandy matrix with sparse coarse inclusions of red iron. The lead glaze is thin and usually pale green over grey surfaces. The sherds present here probably came from tripod pitchers and this may represent an early glazed product.

Fabric 66 is a glazed pink ware with abundant well-sorted, white and clear quartz and red iron in a fine clay matrix.

Late Medieval Wares

Late medieval here signifies the 15th and 16th centuries, some way later than the high medieval types described above. Five fabrics have been identified as late medieval, three of which are Continental imports.

Fabric 64 is a sandy ware, hard-fired, grey and with splashes of a dark green glaze. The sandy matrix has sparse/moderate inclusions of ill-sorted quartz. A local source is suggested.

Tudor Green ware Fabric 58 (Pearce 1992) is represented by a single sherd (GF285).

Martincamp-type stoneware, in the common form of a bottle or flask, is present as several sherds. These comprise the typical form of a bottle or flask, identified as Hurst's Type 2 (Hurst 1986, 102). This is a surprising find in a rural location.

Fabric 54 has also been identified as a late medieval North French ware (GF239) and is more unusual still. It is a sandy ware, brown in colour, represented by a single base sherd. The fabric is common on the Channel Island of Guernsey and is considered to be an earthenware relative of Normandy stoneware (R. Burns *pers comm*; Barton 1984, 514). The same fabric has also been observed at Poole (Barton *et al* 1992, nos. 882 and 883) from which this vessel and the Martincamp flask came to Wroughton Copse.

Raeren-type stoneware (Fabric 57; GF309) from the Rhineland is represented by a few sherds in the typical beer mug form, including a frilled base (Hurst 1986, 194). Raeren stoneware is a common find in the south of England and its presence at Wroughton Copse is not unexpected.

Post-Medieval Wares

Pottery of the 17th to 20th centuries has been classified as one group that is represented by 106 sherds. This is evidence that debris continued to accumulate in the area of Wroughton Copse accidentally rather than as the result of intensive adjacent occupation. The post-medieval fabrics are therefore not considered to be of great significance by the author of this report and none of the fabrics that comprise this group is described in detail.

Fabrics 9, 30, 35, 42, 46, 47, 48, 55, 59 are all red-firing earthenwares in the typical southern English post-medieval tradition that extends from the 17th to the early 20th centuries. Vessel forms include jugs, bowls and platters. Fabric 46 is probably a fragment of a terracotta flower pot. Fabric 42 has an overall white slip and is probably 18th-century in date.

There are two vessels of Frechen stoneware (Fabric 61). These are the typical *Bartmann*-style bottles of the 17th century. One example bears a heraldic medallion. Frechen stoneware is widely distributed at this period and is often found in rural locations.

Fabrics 44, 45, 56 and 60 are mass-produced wares. Fabric 44 is Staffordshire refined earthenware; Fabric 45 is Bristol stoneware; Fabric 56 is English white salt-glazed stoneware; Fabric 60 is English brown salt-glazed stoneware.

Quantification

The quantities of pottery for each period are shown in Table Finds/16. Medieval wares account for over 90% of the total assemblage by weight and sherd count. Late and post-medieval pottery is, comparatively, a negligible presence. The assemblage must therefore be regarded as essentially representative of a single period of activity, associated with the medieval wares. These are all

considered to be 13th century in date and subsequent discussion centres on this material.

The quantities of the medieval wares is shown in Table Finds/17. Newbury Group B wares dominate the assemblage. West Wiltshire type coarsewares are the second most common type. Sandy wares are a far less significant presence and, of these, Newbury Group C wares occur most frequently. These figures demonstrate the homogeneous nature of the pottery. The overwhelming quantities of Newbury group B wares make it difficult to establish any pattern of ceramic consumption or chronology. There is an obvious dependence on coarsewares which is not surprising in the context of a rural medieval farmstead.

The range of vessel types is shown in Table Finds/18. Cooking pots are the most common vessel, followed by bowls, jugs, tripod pitchers and curfews. It was not possible to classify plain body sherds and undiagnostic rims and bases. This accounts for the high number of unidentified sherds.

Table Finds/19 quantifies the vessel types identified within each ware. This clearly demonstrates that coarsewares principally took the form of cooking pots and bowls, while the sandy wares are represented mainly by jugs.

Site Distribution

The pottery was received and recorded by GF (bag) number so in some instances several bags, each with a different number, came from a single deposit. Further work on the stratigraphic identity of the pottery assemblage is required. Given the homogeneous nature of the assemblage, attempts at building a sequence for the consumption and deposition of pottery over the site as a whole, or within particular cuttings, have proved to be inconclusive. The character of this assemblage is essentially single-period and relates to a single site.

Table Finds/20 gives the overall quantities of pottery for each cutting, while Table Finds/21 shows how pottery of each period is distributed among them. Several cuttings (1, 3, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12) produced very small amounts of pottery and therefore have little significance here. The remaining, more productive cuttings (2, 4, 6 and 10), are the most interesting. Cuttings 2, 4 and 6 are the most significant in terms of quantity, probably because they covered much larger areas than the other cuttings. Cutting 10 produced just 100 sherds, but 65 of these are post-medieval, a higher proportion than is observed for any other cutting.

These figures do little to aid the interpretation of any individual cutting, nor the site as a whole. However, the identification of a set of vessels which cross-fit within and between cuttings does help to elucidate the process of deposition. Table Finds/22 lists these vessels and shows how they are distributed within and between cuttings. A number of other cross-fitting vessels were identified on the basis of occurring in different bags, but these bags were related to the same stratigraphic unit. These vessels are not listed in Table Finds/22. Eight vessels (cross-fit nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 16, 28 and 31) all occur in more than one cutting. They are also all medieval wares, probably deposited at the same period as the main component of the assemblage. There are links between the three major cuttings 2, 4 and 6, but sherds of three vessels link these with cutting 10. The other cross-fit vessels are confined to the same individual cutting and link different stratigraphic units. It is likely that deposits both within and outside the structures revealed by these cross-fits are linked. However, if this assemblage represents refuse created during the occupancy of these buildings, one would expect to find most of it accumulated outside them rather than inside. All this information leads to the conclusion that much of this material may have been deposited after the buildings went out of use. It is therefore possible that each building succeeded the other. Table Finds/22 shows that there are cross-fits between cuttings 2 and 4, and 4 and 6, but none between 2 and 6. On this very tenuous evidence it may be postulated that the buildings in cuttings 2 and 6 were not contemporary. A suggested sequence might be the building in cutting 2, followed by the building in cutting 4,

followed by the building in cutting 6. Alternatively, the reverse might be true. The relationship of these structures with the deposits in cutting 10, as expressed by cross-fitting sherds, remains unexplained. The homogeneity of this assemblage suggests that this sequence of events must have taken place within a short period.

Discussion

Chronology

The frequent absence of clear stratigraphy on this site has made it difficult to establish much ceramic chronology. It has already been stated that this assemblage is largely contemporaneous and must represent a single, possibly short, period of activity. The earliest vessel types represented here are the tripod pitchers. These are conventionally dated between the late 12th and mid-13th centuries (Brown 1992, 102-106). Newbury group B wares also appear to have originated in the late 12th or early 13th centuries (Vince *et al* 1994, 55). Newbury group C is a wide-ranging class of pottery and has been given a date range of the 12th to 14th centuries (*ibid.*, 59-60). The wheelthrown glazed sandy wares of Newbury type that occur at Wroughton Copse must be 13th century, as are the later Laverstock products, Fabrics 27 and 34. The combination of these known products suggests a 13th century date for the medieval assemblage and it is probably later than the first quarter of the century. This is not contradicted by any of the minor fabrics that are present.

Sources

The bulk of this assemblage is drawn from a very local source. Some of the Newbury Group B types are different from other published examples (see above). This may indicate that they were produced at centres operating within the area of the Newbury tradition, but sited further from Newbury and closer to Fyfield Down. This is a large assemblage and the fact that such a large proportion of it is represented by Newbury B coarsewares also suggests a nearby source.

A variety of fabrics have been classified as Newbury group C. It is likely that these were produced at some distance from Wroughton Copse and this is emphasised by the low quantities present. Laverstock and Minety are both located further from Wroughton Copse than the likely source of the Newbury Group B type coarsewares. All the glazed finer wares may therefore be considered non-local. However, they are all drawn from within a relatively small area, demonstrating the limited economic significance of the settlement at Wroughton Copse.

Among the late medieval wares are three types of Continental imports. Two are from northern France and it is most unexpected to find these so far inland as they are considered usually to be related to maritime trade and have coastal distribution. Martincamp flasks are relatively common in England, albeit not on rural sites. However, late medieval Normandy sandy wares are exceedingly rare throughout the country. Unfortunately, the absence of any meaningful quantity of late medieval pottery means that the significance of these finds cannot be fully assessed. Raeren stoneware is less unexpected find as beermugs of this type were widely distributed inland. The means of their arrival at this site is unknown. Indeed, they may not even be associated with any settlement activity.

Ceramic Use

It is the 13th century pottery only that can be associated with settlement activity and discussion of ceramic use therefore applies solely to that material. The relative proportions of vessels shown in Table Finds/18 indicates that cooking pots were the most commonly used type. These are essentially high-shouldered jars and may have been used for a variety of purposes other than heating food, for example storage or mixing. Vessels range considerably in size, which may also suggest that they

were used in a variety of ways. It has not been possible adequately to assess actual vessel numbers. The rim percentage figure gives an estimated vessel equivalent of 38, but this is unrealistic given that many sherds represent a single vessel. The total number of cooking pots must be in the hundreds. It has been stated that its assemblage may result from a fairly short period of activity. The quantity of material therefore suggests a high degree of pottery consumption. This is more in keeping with the use of pottery for cooking rather than storage. However, few cooking pot sherds exhibit evidence of sooting, although this may result from the conditions of deposition or even archaeological processing.

Bowls were used in food preparation. The wide, shallow types are often associated with the making of dairy products (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 109). The type with incurved profile is often referred to as a 'West Country' dish and these often had a hole at the base to drain liquid (*ibid.*, 110). No sherds from Wroughton Copse have this feature. Some of the dishes are sooted on the inside and these may have been used as lanterns or in cooking.

Jugs, including tripod pitchers, were also used for a variety of purposes, including the storage and carrying of liquids. However, these vessels are not well represented and they were clearly not widely used. The few highly decorated examples at Wroughton Copse may have been regarded as fine table ware.

It is unusual to find curfews in a rural context. The custom of covering the embers at night to contain them and prevent sparks from causing a conflagration was adopted mainly in medieval towns. The parallels from Faccombe Netherton (see above) are associated with a manorial site of somewhat different status. There is no sooting inside the Wroughton Copse examples, but it is difficult to see these vessels being used in any other way.

The narrow range of vessel types is perhaps typical of a rural assemblage and it is likely that the variety of functions was similarly limited. The consumption of pottery must be considered in relation to vessels of other materials, such as basketry, wood and perhaps metal, that have not survived. Pottery would have played a fairly well-defined role within the household. It was cheap, however, and would not have been regarded as anything other than utilitarian.

Conclusion

The medieval assemblage is surprisingly large and probably has a narrow date-range. Unfortunately the stratigraphical information has not allowed a more detailed examination of the sequence of consumption or disposal. This remains an important site, however, in providing a significant quantity of material from a location rarely studied heretofore. The establishment of a type series, albeit in rudimentary form, should benefit future students of the ceramics of north Wiltshire. The recorded data remains as a useful comparative resource.

List of illustrated vessels

(Fig. FWP65.37)

1. Cooking pot, fabric 38 (Chalk- and Flint-Tempered Coarseware: CFTC); thumbing on shoulder. GF 350, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus over B4.
2. Cooking pot, simple rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF202, Cutting 2, Building 1 South, Pit 2, fill under East wall (?phase 1 occ.).
3. Cooking pot, thickened and everted rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF88, Cutting 2, Building 1 South, construction phase/ walls.

4. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF543/547, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.
5. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF100, Cutting 2, Building 1 North and South, humus over stones.
6. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); thumbing on shoulder. GF278, Cutting 6, Building 4, topsoil.
7. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF524, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.
8. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF669/664, Cutting 6, oven construction.
9. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF168, Cutting 2, Building 1 North, outside wall.
10. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); GF213, Building 1 North, under tumble outside wall face.
11. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, convex neck profile, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF8, Cutting 2, Building 1, phase 2 occupation.
12. Cooking pot, clubbed rim, thumbed, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF208, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2, fill under East wall.
13. Cooking pot, triangular rim, grooved on top, fabric 38 (CFTC); thumbing on shoulder and on girth. GF573, Cutting 6, oven construction/ midden over Pit 6.
14. Cooking pot, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); thumbing on shoulder. GF543, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.
15. Cooking pot, hooked rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); combing on shoulder. GF305/348/845/459, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus over B4/Cutting 4P (iii), flinty soil/Cutting 4, Building 3, topsoil.
16. Cooking pot, simple rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); stabbed decoration on rim and shoulder. GF 196, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2, fill under East wall.
17. Cooking pot, thickened rim, fabric 38 (CFTC); stabbed decoration on neck. GF524, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.
18. Cooking pot, thickened rim, convex neck profile, fabric 38 (CFTC); stabbed decoration on rim, neck and shoulder. GF702/707, ?Cutting 4, Building 2, under wall (pre-stone phase)/Cutting 6Y, Enclosure B, brown soil and flints.
19. Cooking pot, internally thickened rim, thumbed, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF616, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6/ midden.

(Fig. FWP65.38)

20. Cooking pot, internally and externally thickened, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF657, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6.
21. Cooking pot, everted rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF657, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6.
22. Cooking pot, thickened, everted rim and sharply defined shoulder, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF616, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6/ midden.
23. Shallow dish, externally thickened rim, slightly sagging base, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF293/318/376/512, Cutting 4, Building 2, humus in B2/humus outside wall/B2 phase 1

trench fill/ Cutting 10, O5, top of ditch.

24. Shallow dish, externally thickened rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF639, Cutting 6L, across Pit 6.
25. Shallow dish, thickened and inturned rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF167/200/156/193, Cutting 2, topsoil/?occ. layer (phase 1).
26. Shallow dish, slightly convex profile and inturned rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF841, Cutting 2, Building 1, phase 2 occupation.
27. Shallow dish, simple inturned rim, slightly sagging base, fabric 38 (CFTC); rim diameter 290mm. GF317, Cutting 4, Building 2, humus outside B2.
28. Shallow dish, hammer-headed rim, slightly sagging base, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF856, Cutting 4P(iii), flinty soil.
29. Dish, carinated profile, externally thickened, slightly inturned rim, thumbled; fabric 39 (CFTC). GF614, Cutting 6, Building 4, black soil on oven foundation stones.
30. Deep bowl, possibly a pipkin; rounded profile, simple everted rim, stabbed and combed decoration on body and on top of rim, lightly pulled lip; fabric 38 (CFTC). GF341/504, Cutting 6, humus outside Building 4/Cutting 4, Building 3, clay/flints.
31. Deep bowl or pan, hammer-headed rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF543, Cutting 6, midden over Pit 6.
32. Jug, externally thickened rim, impressed decoration on rim, vertical combing on neck; simple pulled lip, stump of strap handle; fabric 38 (CFTC). GF 324/322/346/353/726, Cutting 6, Building 4, humus in B4/humus over B4/?occupation layer.
33. Jug, thickened rim, simple pinched lip, stabbed decoration on neck, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF100, Cutting 2, Building 1 North and South, humus over stones.
34. Jug, externally thickened rim, impressed ring motifs under rim, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF158, Cutting 2, Building 1, between stones in Recess 1.
35. Jug, externally thickened and flattened rim, applied strap handle, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF548, Cutting 4, Building 2, trench of timber phase.
36. Neck of jug, combed decoration, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF696/276/386, Cutting 6, Building 4, enclosure bank B/humus over B4/under B4 walls.
37. Jug, externally thickened and collared rim, combed decoration, fabric 38 (CFTC); ?wheelthrown. GF546/544/459, Cutting 4, Building 2, humus/topsoil.
38. Jug, thickened and flattened rim, collared below, fabric 38 (CFTC); ?wheelthrown. GF 109/184, Cutting 2, Building 1, ?occupation layer (phase 2)/?occupation layer (phase 1).
39. Strap handle, slashed decoration, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF837, Cutting 4P(i), flinty soil.

(Fig. FWP65.38)

40. Curfew, hammer-headed rim, notched decoration at rim; fabric 38 (CFTC). GF616, Cutting 6, fill of Pit 6.
41. Curfew, externally thickened and flattened rim, combed decoration, fabric 38 (CFTC). GF606, Cutting 4, Building 2, Pit 7.
42. Cooking pot, thickened rim, fabric 41 (West Wiltshire Sandy Coarseware: WWSC). GF204, Cutting 2, Building 1, Pit 2, fill under East wall.
43. Cooking pot, internally thickened rim, convex neck profile, fabric 41 (WWSC).

GF551/629/560/641, Cutting 4, Building 2, Pit 7/ clay over chalk (pre-stone phase).

44. Shallow bowl, hammer-headed rim, fabric 7 (Newbury C sandy ware). GF 154, Cutting 2, Building 1, topsoil to flint/chalk layer.
45. Spouted pitcher, applied tubular spout, combed decoration, fabric 20 (Laverstock-type coarseware). GF736, Cutting 4SE, Building 2, under wall.
46. Jug, collared rim, applied stamped roundel on rim, glazed; fabric 27 (Laverstock-type fine sandy ware). GF713, Cutting 4, Building 2, humus outside B2, occ/post-occupation.
47. Strap handle from jug, slashed decoration, glazed, fabric 53 (Minety-type ware). GF285, Cutting 10 M/N3, topsoil/flint terrace.
48. Lower part of jug, horizontal incised decoration, squared impressions at base, glazed; fabric 24 (Medieval Sandy Ware). GF314, Cutting 10, wall foundation of M/N3.

Animal Bones

by Barbara Noddle

Introductory note

by Michael J. Allen

The following report is extracted from an archive report prepared by Barbara Noddle in the early 1970s. This was only a summary of the faunal remains from the Overton Down sites and Wroughton Copse. The information for Wroughton Copse has been extracted largely from this report which unfortunately does not record the fragment numbers of all species. Some further bone that may not have been reported upon was found and assessed (see archive) but does not significantly add to the overall interpretation provided by Noddle except for three fish bones which are included here. The aim of her reports was to assess agricultural practices and dietary habits over time, rather than provide detailed information about the disposal patterns and spatial variation on each site. The detailed information of material by context does not survive in the current archive.

Introduction

A total of 2536 animal bones were identified from the various periods (mainly medieval) represented at Wroughton Copse of which the main domestic animals comprise 2,297 (Table Finds/23).

After the initial identification analysis included the calculation of the proportion of fragments per species, the minimum number of individuals and percentage of species and the age of those individuals in which it could be determined. The bones were also measured where appropriate, to determine both the size and weight of the animals and to compare populations at different periods. Because of the multiplicity of different layers and periods represented at Wroughton Copse, some of the material was analysed in different ways. To enable comparison between phases, the discussion below relies upon the proportions as assessed by numbers of individuals rather than bone fragments.

Results

Proportions of species (common domestic animals) (Tables Finds/23, 25)

The details of the proportions of species are provided in tables B7 and are separated into broad phases from prehistoric to 17th century. This report will however, concentrate upon the medieval (12th-13th century) material and only comment on the prehistoric and later material.

The sheep is the most frequently occurring animal at all periods, whether it is assessed from fragment numbers or as individuals. However, in the 12th-13th century over 65% were sheep when assessed as minimum number of individuals and goat also seems common even though it is probably underestimated (Table Finds/23). A skull from the prehistoric layers is typical of the scurred type of Soay ewe. Cattle were only 15% in the 12th-13th century and both pig and horse seem to be unimportant. Three types of deer (red, roe and fallow) are present but in very low numbers. The sheep seem slightly larger than those in the Iron Age (ODXI) and Romano-British (ODXII) contexts on Overton Down and there is a suggestion of change of type of sheep in the medieval period.

At Wroughton Copse pig is constantly between 8 and 10% throughout the medieval and post medieval period. In the prehistoric contexts it is considerably higher (19%), but there are few bones from this phase so this cannot be treated with any great significance.

Horse is present in most periods and represents 6% of the animals in the 12th-13th century.

Dog is more frequent in the medieval period; it seems likely that these animals were sheep dogs.

Deer are present in very low numbers but fallow, red and roe deer were identified. Red and roe deer also occur in post 13th century contexts.

Only 21 individuals are represented from the prehistoric contexts and the proportions of the species recovered are similar to that from the Iron Age (ODXI) context at Overton Down.

Birds-there were very few bird bones and these were identified by Mr D Bramwell: The domestic and game birds included domestic fowl including a very small cock, duck, a young goose and a partridge. The other birds included crow or rook, starling and skylark. It appears from the above that either few birds were kept and eaten, or that the majority of these small bones did not survive to be identified.

Fish-three fish vertebrae were found all from 17th century contexts, which have been identified by A Wheeler as probably gadoid (Gadidae)

Age of animals at death

Ageing of animals by dental and epiphyseal closure followed the methods given by Silver (1953) and the summary information is presented in Table Finds/24.

Mature cattle remain at about 25% throughout medieval period and thus herds were predominantly kept for meat rather than kept for traction or dairy products. For sheep the percentage of mature animals fluctuates being c 30-55% in the 12th-13th century but drops to 44% and then 33% in the post 13th and 17th centuries respectively. Because of the fluctuation in age groups during the medieval period, no clear impression can be gained, but it would seem that wool production is important in the 13th century and meat production is perhaps rising in importance later, but the numbers in the medieval period are not very large and the date thus might not be very reliable. There is little change in the age range of the pigs, which do not, as before stated, have much economic versatility. Horse is also fairly constant, except for the 12th century where there were more young animals which may indicate horse breeding as opposed to horse keeping, but the area remains very suitable for the rearing of horses to this day and it might be expected that horses were

bred throughout.

Anatomical distribution

There were very few large groups of bone at Wroughton, unlike the Overton Down sites (ODXI and ODXII) where large groups of bones were recovered from pits. Instead the remains were widely distributed throughout the site. The material was separated into '1st class bones' or trunk and upper limb, '2nd class bones' of head and feet and loose teeth (Table Finds/26). Loose teeth make up only about 20% of the material in the 13th-century deposits.

In the medieval period it is noticeable that nearly 70% of the cattle and 60% of the sheep bones can be classified as 1st class joints, whereas the pig is represented by almost equal proportions of both. This supports the idea that cattle were kept for meat and indicates that although the sheep may have been primarily for wool, some may have been consumed locally.

Conclusions

Sheep farming predominates in the medieval period and are largely kept for their wool. A hint of the change in sheep type might be related to this (*cf.* Ryder 1964). Cattle were kept for beef and a wider range of animals are represented including chickens and duck which were presumably consumed or kept for eggs.

Charcoal

By Rowena Gale

The identification of charcoal fragments was undertaken on 17 samples from Wroughton Copse, all deriving from feature fills. The charcoal was prepared and identified using standard techniques. Where possible the presence of stem, sapwood or heartwood was noted. Results are summarised in Table Finds/27. Sample 1045 included insufficient material to identify. Sample 1032 included a quantity of sooty-looking aggregate mixed with soil, in addition to charcoal.

The following taxa were identified:

Corylus sp., hazel

Fraxinus sp., ash

Pomoideae, subfamily of the Rosaceae which includes *Crataegus* sp., hawthorn, *Malus* sp., apples, *Pyrus* sp., pear and *Sorbus* sp., rowan, whitebeam and wild service. These genera are anatomically similar.

Prunus sp., which includes *P. avium*, wild cherry, *P. padus*, bird cherry, *P. spinosa*, blackthorn. It is not usually possible to separate the members of this genus using anatomical methods.

Quercus sp., oak

Rosaceae, which includes the Pomoideae and *Prunus* (see above). Samples in poor condition (as in this instance) may not be identifiable beyond family level.

Sambucus sp., elder

Ulmus sp., elm

Charred Hazelnuts

by Michael J. Allen

During the excavation a number of hand picked charcoal fragments were retrieved (some of these from suitable and datable contexts are reported upon by Rowena Gale). Among the hand picked material were a number of charred hazel nut (*Corylus avellana*) fragments. The charred remains included one whole hazel nut and a number of fragments. The fragments were not quantified as in no context were the remains enough to consider the presence of more than one nut. These all came from medieval contexts, with the exception of one nut fragment from a pre-medieval and possibly prehistoric context (Table Finds/28).

Hazel is likely to have been a local shrub growing on the open downland and the presence of hazelnuts either for human or animal consumption is not surprising. Although there is no reason for the single nut fragment from GF299 to indicate the use of this in prehistory, it is more likely here that it is either a contaminant, or that this layer too, belongs to the medieval occupation.