CHAPTER 8

THE VESSELS

THE POTTERY VESSELS

By Jeremy Evans with contributions by B. Dickinson, B.R. Hartley and H.W. Pengelly

INTRODUCTION

The Brougham pottery assemblage is of considerable importance. It contains a large corpus of samian vessels which must have been deposited in the third century, and a large collection of complete profiles of coarseware vessels, particularly BB1 jars.

Some 17,842 sherds (204.489kg) of Roman pottery were recovered from stratified features and 1904 sherds (17.388kg) were unstratified from over the site. All of the pottery which is present in the collection has been examined and recorded, the stratified material being recorded as vessels, with a catalogue entry for each listed in Chapter 4, and the unstratified material all being coded and tabulated (see Appendix 3). As noted above (Chapter 2) the collection has been worked on by a number of individuals over a considerable number of years. A basic archive was created for the stratified material along with the drawing of most of the vessels when it was studied by Gill Andrews and Sarah Green and these grave lists were annotated by comments from a number of experts. Information from this is incorporated in the present study.

A number of vessels from the collection seem to have been mislaid over the years. The record cards list a number of coarseware vessels, all from the 1966 excavations, which seem to have been missing in the 1980s. These comprise a vessel from **195**, another from **211**, another from **255** and a 'dish and a cooking pot' from **254**.

Rather more samian sherds seem to be missing, in part, perhaps, because a fairly full catalogue was made shortly after excavation, whereas only the fairly complete coarseware vessels from graves were recorded previously. Stratified missing samian vessels consist of a small fragment of Central Gaulish Déchelette 72 from **209**, along with a fragment of a Central Gaulish Dr. 31 from **213**; a complete Central Gaulish Dr. 31 of Sacerus ii from **224**; two fragments of a Central Gaulish Dr. 37 of Paternus v from **36**; six fragments from an East Gaulish Dr. 31 from **107**; four fragments of Central Gaulish Dr. 37 of Cinnamus from **244** (although these may be present in one of the graves they cross-joined); a Central Gaulish Dr. 31 footring fragment from **203**; six sherds from a Central Gaulish Dr. 36 (or maybe Dr. 79) from **58**; and an East Gaulish Dr. 30/37 base fragment and a flake from **94**. Dummy entries for these vessels had been made in the database prior to analysis.

THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE REPORT

All the pottery from the stratified funerary related deposits is catalogued with the other finds in the inventory (Chapter 4). The unstratified pottery is tabulated in this report. The pottery is discussed below in terms of the evidence it provides for supply to the site, the functional composition of the pottery assemblage, the level of finewares, and evidence of ritual treatment of the ceramics. Wider aspects of the ceramic assemblage are then treated in the overall discussion (Chapter 11).

THE PHASING

The phasing has been derived chiefly from the ceramic evidence. Most of this comes from the BB1 jars (see FIG. 2.3). The scheme used here is based on two basic criteria; the emergence of the groove above the obtuse lattice zone *c*. A.D. 240 (Bidwell 1985) and the emergence of vessels of greater rim diameter than the maximum girth *c*. A.D. 270 (Holbrook and Bidwell 1991). Bidwell (1985) has demonstrated that obtuse lattice decorated vessels emerged before *c*. A.D. 225 and a date *c*. A.D. 200/20 is favoured here – in the absence of conclusive negative evidence from Severan sites a date early in the range is preferred. A further peg in the dating structure is the emergence of Crambeck greywares *c*. A.D. 280/85.

The dating evidence from the graves is of variable quality and by default graves have been attributed to the earliest phase in which they might fit. This may result in some weakly dated groups having been assigned an earlier phase than the one they actually belonged to. However, it certainly has not placed a massively disproportionate number of features in the earliest phase (Phase 1), there being some 25.8% (although some graves in this group are certainly weakly dated). As discussed below the phasing seems to produce a reasonable sequence in terms of the frequencies of occurrences of fabrics, which fits within the general northern background pattern.

The date distribution of the phases (TABLE 8.1) would suggest that the majority of the phased features belong to the second half of the third century.

TABLE 8.1: PROPORTIONS OF STRATIFIED FEATURES ASSIGNED TO A PHASE

	No. of features	**% of features**
Phase 1 *c*. A.D. 200/220–240	59	25.8%
Phase 2 *c*. A.D. 240–270	86	37.6%
Phase 3 *c*. A.D. 270–300/310	64	27.9%
Phase 3b *c*. A.D. 280–300/310	20	8.7%

DATING EVIDENCE

The date of the cemetery can be examined in two ways, by the dating evidence from each individual grave, and by the date of the overall assemblage. To start with the overall assemblage there are a number of features which help determine the likely start and end dates. The strongest evidence comes from the BB1 assemblage (which amounts to nearly half the total), particularly for the start, and consists of a nearly complete absence of Hadrianic to Antonine jar types. Only a single BB1 vessel (**21.2**) bears acute lattice decoration, and this was clearly deposited in the third century as an accompanying vessel with obtuse lattice demonstrates (**21.1**). There are, besides, a scattering of greyware BB-copy jars with acute lattice decoration, although these are viewed here as demonstrating a point made earlier (Evans 1985) that the greyware copies tend to be slower to follow the BB1 typology and probably continue to use acute lattice into the third century. It is also of note that virtually all the 'Rhenish ware' is of Trier origin, and thus likely to be third century, with just three graves containing Central Gaulish pieces, two fairly complete vessels (**12.3** and **47.1**) and a fragment (**96.6**). Individually there is nothing in the contents of **12** and **47** (both of Phase 1) which prevents them from being late-Antonine, but the overall evidence suggests it is more likely these pieces are just heirlooms from the early third century. It could be argued that BB1 was not in use on the site in the later second century, but the regional background (Evans 1985) would suggest otherwise, although undoubtedly the fabric was much commoner in the third century than the second. Thus there is no good evidence for any of the features being second century, and indeed all could be as late as post *c*. A.D. 220.

This undoubtedly poses some interesting questions about the samian assemblage, which comprised some 35.4% by rim equivalent (RE) of the earliest Phase 1 assemblage, a slight majority of which was Central Gaulish samian in this phase (but not in subsequent ones).

FIG. 8.1 Nene Valley colour-coated pentice-moulded beaker (**201.2**). (Crown copyright).

The BB1 evidence is vaguer about the end of the cemetery although in a collection of this size some negative evidence can be usefully employed. By *c.* A.D. 310 S-bend East Yorkshire calcite-gritted ware jars had penetrated as far as Bewcastle (Austen 1991; Evans 1985). Third-century calcite-gritted ware vessels are occasionally present in the cemetery, but none of the regionally much commoner fourth-century types. Thus it seems unlikely that the cemetery was functioning, at least on any scale, by the end of the first decade of the fourth century. Crambeck greywares are found in small numbers, as might be expected, but the collection is notably diverse, which might also suggest they belonged to an early period of experimentation, before the notoriously stereotyped range of products was fully developed. Fourth-century Nene Valley colour-coated ware types are absent apart from two pentice-moulded beakers (**201.2** (FIG. 8.1) and **258.6**)

FIGURE 8.2 plots the date distribution of all pottery rimsherds from the site per decade, using all stratified vessels with a date range of no more than 100 years. There is a good seriation to the phases with the exception of Phase 3b, with Phase 1 clearly coming to an end *c.* A.D. 240/50, Phase 2 in *c.* A.D. 260/70 and Phase 3, *c.* A.D. 300. There is a pleasing rise in the quantity of material in Phase 1 falling around the turn of the third century, which perhaps reflects the beginning of the cemetery. All the phases show a tail of material stretching back into the second century, much of this coming from the samian ware.

FABRIC SUPPLY: CLASSES A TO R

The pottery is discussed here in terms of the evidence it provides for supply to the site. It is recognised that the pottery from the cemetery will not be fully representative of the assemblage in use on the wider site, as it comprises material selected for use in burial rituals. However, the pottery from the cemetery is a selection from the assemblage available at the site, and vessels included in the cemetery assemblage must have been available on the site.

Fabric descriptions will be found in Appendix 2.

Class A, Amphorae

Amphora sherds were very scarce on the site, only 16 sherds *in toto*, the only fabric represented being Dressel 20 oil amphorae. The latter is a usual feature on Hadrian's Wall sites where virtually only oil amphorae are represented (Bidwell and Speak 1994, 214) presumably owing to the supply of wine in barrels. Dressel 20 sherds come from five stratified features (**26**, **145**, **277**, **307** and **F28**) of which only three might possibly be burials. Ten sherds come from unstratified deposits, 5.1% by weight, compared with none in Phase 1, 0.3% in Phase 2, 0.1% in Phase 3 and 0.1% in Phase 3b. As with the coarseware mortaria (see below p. 341) there seems to be a tendency not to deposit amphorae in the graves, but for them to be used rather more in the cemetery area.

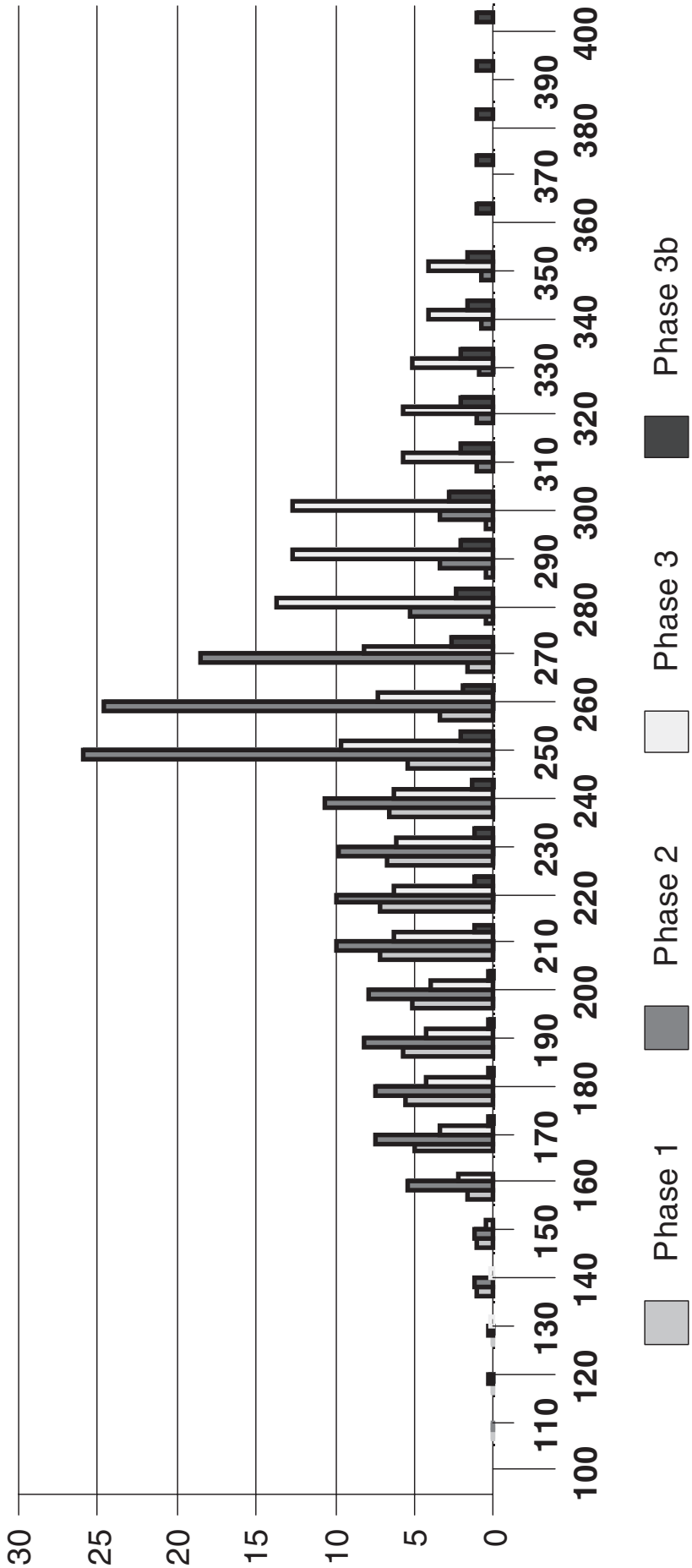

FIG. 8.2 The date distribution by phase of Brougham pottery by decade.

It is clear that amphorae were not used at Brougham as burial containers or grave goods. This certainly forms a contrast with the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000, 121, table 52) where 15 amphorae were used as cremation burial containers (although none as grave goods) and these amounted to a massive 29% of the ceramic cremation containers. It may also be of note that only a single amphora, perhaps a Gallic vessel not associated with a burial, is mentioned at all in the Trentholme Drive, York, report (Gillam 1968, fig. 33, no. 3) and amphorae would appear to be entirely absent from the small collections from the cemeteries at Petty Knowes in Northumberland (Gillam *et al.* 1984) and Lanchester, Co. Durham (Turner 1990). Similarly very few amphora sherds (0.2%) come from the cremation cemetery at Low Borrowbridge (Hird 1996), and it is not clear that any came from grave fills.

Class B, BB1 and BB2 (FIG. 8.3)

BB1 is very common on the site, amounting to 27% by weight in Phase 1, 55% in Phase 2, 61% in Phase 3 and 32% in Phase 3b and comprises 53% of the unstratified material. These figures follow the usual northern pattern with BB1 being a constant but fairly minor fabric in the second century and rising throughout the third century to a peak in the later third century (Evans 1985).

Comparative north-western second-century data are 17.3% in the early Antonine *vallum* fill at Birdoswald (Willmott *et al.* forthcoming) with similar levels at Walton-le-Dale (Evans and Rátkai forthcoming a); 10% at Hardknott (Bidwell *et al.* 1999); 14% at Blackfriars Street, Carlisle, building 2, period 8b–j; and 12%, 22% and 17% (by RE) from periods 8a, 8b and 9 at Castle Street, Carlisle (Taylor 1991). BB1 is rather more common at the nearby fort at Ambleside, forming 27% by count (though 14% by weight) of the second-century group there (Leech 1993). The rise in BB1 levels throughout the third century can be closely parallelled at Vindolanda (Bidwell 1985; Evans 1985) from 4% to 36% by weight from the early to later third centuries. (The decline in Phase 3b at Brougham is probably a result of the way the phase is defined, mainly by the presence of Crambeck greyware, which is consequently very strongly represented in the group.) The levels of BB1 in the cemetery assemblage could be over-represented owing to the deliberate selection of BB1 vessels, mainly jars, as cremation containers, but given that in the early fourth century a group at Old Penrith contained 61% by weight (Evans 1985), the Brougham cemetery figures may well reflect wider supply to the site. Even higher BB1 levels come from the cemetery at Low Borrowbridge (Hird 1996), 58%

FIG. 8.3 Group of BB1 vessels from **285**. (Crown copyright).

by weight and 70% by count. These levels pretty certainly reflect the site's nature as a cemetery with BB1 jars providing the majority of the cremation containers, and tend to suggest that the Brougham BB1 levels are similarly influenced.

TABLE 8.2 shows the functional analysis of all BB1 vessels from the site. The assemblage is massively dominated by jars with very few tablewares. This is undoubtedly a product of selection for use in the cemetery, with jar levels usually rarely exceeding 60%.

TABLE 8.2: FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF BB1 VESSELS FROM THE TOTAL COLLECTION (MINIMUM NOS OF RIMS)

Jars	**Beakers**	**Bowls**	**Dishes**	**n**
80.8%	0.3%	6.2%	12.7%	369

The jar assemblage is dominated by vessels dating to after *c*. A.D. 240, with 13 earlier jars without a groove above the lattice to 130 with a groove above the lattice (Bidwell 1985; Holbrook and Bidwell 1991). Most vessels seem to fall in the date range *c*. A.D. 240–70, with 60 vessels probably dating to the last quarter of the century.

Amongst the bowls six were of incipient beaded-and-flanged type dating to the early to mid third century and seven were of the fully developed beaded-and-flanged form. Although this suggests a slightly stronger late emphasis, it merely reflects the usually much greater frequency of the latter late type. It is of note that none of the flange-rimmed type dishes and bowls are present in the assemblage, suggesting they had gone out of use by the start of the cemetery (and, therefore, that if they continued in use into the third century at all it can only have been in the first two decades, *contra* Evans 1996b). All the dishes are simple-rimmed, with none of the second-century grooved-rimmed types, and all have intersecting-arc decoration when decorated. One vessel (**258.5**) unusually has an internal Redcliff motif, as an example illustrated by Gillam (1976, no. 78) from Snodland in Kent. There is a single example of the handled beaker (**158.7**) though a burnt handle fragment from another vessel of this form was also found in this burial (**158.3**).

BB2 is virtually absent appearing only at 0.04% in Phase 3 amongst the stratified material and at 0.17% in the unstratified collection. This is to be expected on a north-western site.

Class F, colour-coated wares

TABLE 8.3 summarises the frequency of the major colour-coated wares in the cemetery by phase. Two principal sources are represented, Trier 'Rhenish ware' (F01) and Nene Valley colour-coated wares (F02 and F03). Unusually Trier 'Rhenish ware' is commoner than the Nene Valley wares in the early to mid third-century Phases 1 and particularly 2. Generally even in this period, when these wares were both in production, Nene Valley products outnumber 'Rhenish wares', as can be seen at Birdoswald (Wilmott *et al.* forthcoming) or at Trentholme Drive, York (Gillam 1968) where there are 26 beakers illustrated as Nene Valley to only three of 'Rhenish' wares.

This phenomenon may well be a result of the selection of vessels for inclusion in the graves at Brougham rather than reflecting supply to the wider site. Indeed the overall quantities of

TABLE 8.3: OCCURRENCE OF FINEWARES BY RIM EQUIVALENT WITH COUNT FIGURES IN PARENTHESES; * PRESENT BUT NO RIMSHERD

	Phase 1	**Phase 2**	**Phase 3**	**Phase 3b**	**Unphased**
F01 Trier Rhenish	6.1 (7.6)	10.7 (5.5)	3.5 (0.8)	3.8 (2.6)	3.2 (1.1)
F02 NVCC oxidised	* (0.1)	4.3 (4.2)	2.5 (3.7)	5.0 (3.4)	1.1 (2.1)
F03 NVCC parchment	11.8 (4.6)	0.4 (0.7)	3.2 (1.5)	2.0 (2.0)	1.8 (3.1)
F04 CG Rhenish	2.6 (2.2)	* (0.01)	–	–	* (0.1)
F07 Hadham	–	1.1 (0.7)	–	–	–

these fabrics from the complete assemblage, both stratified and unstratified, indicates 24 rimsherds in Trier 'Rhenish ware' and 42 Nene Valley colour-coated ware rims, suggesting a preponderance of Nene Valley fabrics overall. However, using the complete assemblage on the RE measure, some 6.7% of it was Trier and 6.3% Nene Valley wares. These data clearly reflect the greater completeness of the Trier 'Rhenish ware' vessels, which seem to have been disproportionately used as grave goods amongst the overall assemblage of colour-coated wares used on the cemetery site (FIGS 8.4–8.7).

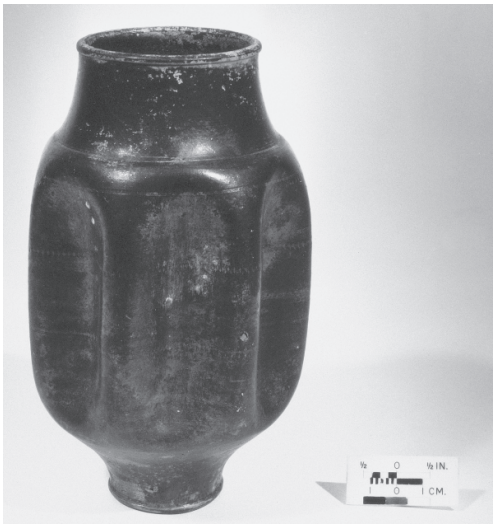

FIG. 8.4 Tall indented Trier Rhenish colour-coated ware beaker (**P4**). (Crown copyright)

FIG. 8.5 Globular-necked Trier Rhenish colour-coated ware beaker (**90.11**). (Crown copyright).

FIG. 8.6 Globular-necked indented Trier Rhenish colour-coated ware beaker (**102.14**). (Crown copyright).

FIG. 8.7 Globular-necked indented Trier Rhenish colour-coated ware beaker (**148.3**). (Crown copyright)

Nene Valley wares were in use throughout the life of the site but the Trier products would have ceased to be available in the later third century, a feature which is reasonably reflected in FIG. 8.8. It is interesting to note that Nene Valley colour-coated wares, although including the same forms as the Trier 'Rhenish ware' do not seem to have been regarded as an effective substitute for them in the burials. This is suggested both by the preponderance of Trier 'Rhenish ware' beakers in the burials (24 reasonably complete vessels to 21 in Nene Valley colour-coated wares) and by the decline in the use of beakers in the later third century (TABLE 8.19). It suggests the interesting possibility that 'Rhenish wares' may have been perceived as samian wares, especially given the large quantities of other samian wares in the graves.

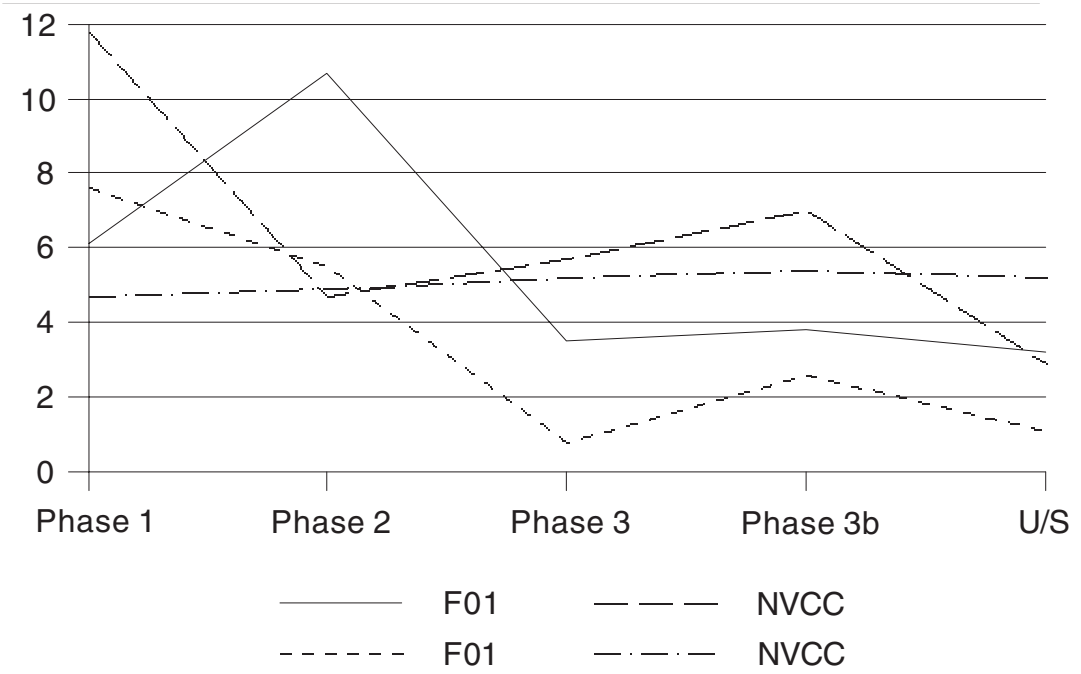

FIG. 8.8 Proportions of Nene Valley colour-coated and Trier Rhenish wares (by Nosh and RE).

A single 'Rhenish ware' (F01) motto beaker *c.* A.D. 200–260 (**194.5**) bearing 'TVDA', presumably translating as 'you give' comes from an urned cremation burial of Phase 1.

Other finewares include three Central Gaulish 'Rhenish ware' beakers used as grave goods, from **12**, **47** and **96** (the first two from Phase 1, the third from Phase 2), these probably being heirlooms by the time they were deposited, and a Hadham oxidised ware flagon from Phase 2.

TABLE 8.4 shows the functional composition of the major colour-coated ware groups. As is usual for groups of this date the vast majority of the vessels are beakers, with occasional flagons, small jars and Castor boxes amongst the Nene Valley colour-coats.

TABLE 8.4: FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF FINEWARES (MINIMUM NOS OF RIMS)

Fabric	Flagons	Jars	Constricted-necked jars	Beakers	Bowls	n
F01	–	9%	–	96%	–	24
F02	6%	–	6%	89%	–	18
F03	4%	4%	–	83%	8%	24

Class G, gritted wares

Gritted wares comprise a very minor element in fabric supply to the Brougham cemetery (TABLE 8.5), and this is a feature which might be expected in an assemblage of this date in the North-West. The most interesting is the presence of East Yorkshire calcite-gritted ware which was clearly reaching the cemetery in the form of Knapton-type jars as the example from **192** demonstrates. This is a little unusual, the only other example in the groups examined by this author (Evans 1985) being from the *vicus* at Greta Bridge, and there are few published pieces which may be Knapton types outside East Yorkshire (Evans 1988). As noted above the absence of S-bend (or even proto-Huntcliff) type jars in this fabric, and the rarity of the fabric, both strongly suggest cessation of activity here by the end of the first decade of the fourth century.

Dales-type ware fabrics (G01, G05 and perhaps G08) are present mainly in the later third century in small quantities, with three Dales ware type jars appearing in G05. These are very

TABLE 8.5: OCCURRENCE OF GRITTED WARE FABRICS (WEIGHT)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased
G01 Dales-type	0.03%	0.02%	0.2%	0.02%	0.8%
G02 Calcite-gritted	0.5%	–	0.2%	–	0.03%
G03 Dales ware	–	–	0.01%	–	–
G04 Derbyshire ware	–	0.01%	–	0.1%	–
G05 Dales-type	–	–	2.9%	3.0%	–
G08 ?Dales-type	–	–	–	–	0.1%

probably north-eastern products and might well originate at Catterick where such forms were certainly made in similar wares. Two Derbyshire ware sherds occur in Phases 2 and 3b, and true Dales ware appears as single bodysherds in **129** and **271** in Phase 3. It is rare and is probably commoner in the north in the early fourth century rather than the later third (Evans 1985).

Class M, mortaria

TABLE 8.6 shows the incidence of coarseware mortaria from the site. Very small quantities of mortaria came from any of the stratified features, and it is of note that most of those producing mortaria were not graves. The unstratified assemblage demonstrates that coarseware mortaria were used in the cemetery at a level reasonably comparable with other sites. There was, however, a clear avoidance of depositing coarseware mortaria in the graves. This clearly suggests a strong differentiation in the minds of those depositing grave goods between coarseware and samian mortaria, the latter being fairly common grave goods.

Only five mortaria fabrics are represented, the most frequent being Mancetter-Hartshill, as might be expected as it was the regionally dominant centre in the third century. There are also single examples of a later second to mid third-century imported Rhenish vessel, a possible Crambeck sherd and a second-century vessel, probably of north-eastern origin. The Mancetter vessels comprise eight class E, reeded hammerheads of third-century date, and a single class M, straight-flanged vessel of late-Antonine date.

TABLE 8.6: OCCURRENCE OF MORTARIA FABRICS (WEIGHT)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased
M01 Mancetter	–	–	0.6%	–	5.5%
M02 Rhenish	–	–	–	0.1%	–
M03 ?Crambeck	–	–	–	0.2%	0.2%
M11 North-eastern, 2nd-century	–	–	–	–	0.04%
Totals	–	–	0.6%	0.3%	5.7%

Class O, oxidised wares

Oxidised wares are, perhaps, rather commoner than might be first expected, most being in fabric O01, which might be described as a Severn Valley ware (except that such fabrics were clearly made at both Walton-le-Dale (Evans and Rátkai forthcoming a) and Wilderspool (Hartley and Webster 1973)). As is clear from TABLE 8.7 this material seems to have reached the site in the first half of the third century, amounting to 12.2% of Phase 1 and 7.8% of Phase 2, after which the material was probably residual or used as heirlooms. There appears to be a peak again in the small Phase 3b assemblage, but this phase is generally less reliable, with both residual material and a complete vessel from **302**, which contains Crambeck greyware, which is, perhaps, intrusive.

The forms present in O01 are almost all constricted-necked jars (17), with one possible dish/bowl rim, three jar rims and one wide-mouthed jar rim. Six of the constricted-necked jars are of the bifid-rimmed type made at Walton-le-dale and Wilderspool, but only one has

TABLE 8.7: OCCURRENCE OF OXIDISED WARES (WEIGHT)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased
O01	9.7%	4.7%	1.6%	9.4%	5.8%
O02	0.02%	2.3%	0.1%	0.2%	–
O03	2.1%	0.4%	0.03%	–	–
O04	0.4%	–	–	–	0.2%
O05	0.02%	0.4%	–	–	2.2%
Total	12.2%	7.8%	1.7%	9.6%	8.2%

the slashed lower cordon, which is very common at both those sites. The remainder are simple-rimmed constricted-necked jars found throughout the range of Severn Valley wares. On the principle of seeking the nearest source, a north-western origin for this group may be the most appropriate. Fabric O02 is similar to O01 but sandier and appears in three constricted-necked jars and a jar, one of the former a bifid-rimmed form with a notched cordon of the type commonly produced in the North-West.

Fabrics O03 and O04 are both sandy fabrics, and certainly not in the range of Severn Valley wares. However, forms occurring in them are also predominantly constricted-necked jars (three in O03 and one in O04) and both fabrics produce examples of the bifid-rimmed form with notched cordon. Both of these are almost certainly north-western fabrics, which strengthens the suggestion that so are O01 and O02.

Fabric O05 is a different sandy fabric which also appears to be earlier third century, and occurs in the form of a flagon and a jar.

Class Q, white-slipped flagon fabrics

Very small quantities of white-slipped oxidised fabrics come from the cemetery (TABLE 8.8), unsurprisingly since these fabrics are predominantly second century and many fewer flagons appear in any fabric in the third century. There was one substantially complete vessel (**95.2**) in Q02.

TABLE 8.8: OCCURRENCE OF WHITE-SLIPPED FLAGON FABRICS (WEIGHT)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased
Q01	–	0.03%	–	0.01%	–
Q02	–	0.9%	–	–	0.5%

Class R, reduced wares

TABLE 8.9 shows the incidence of greyware fabrics by phase. These are of importance in the assemblage in the earlier third-century Phase 1 but decline in Phase 2. Overall they then rise again in Phase 3 and Phase 3b. However, most of the greyware in Phase 3b is of Crambeck origin, and other greywares only amount to 2.7%. The Crambeck peak in the small Phase 3b group is apparently very high, but this reflects less on supply to the site than on the limited nature of the dating evidence used to define Phase 3b, which for the large part, is the presence of Crambeck greyware. Nonetheless the Brougham evidence demonstrates, like the Bewcastle *sacellum* (Richmond *et al.* 1938), the presence of a supply of Crambeck greyware to the North-West in the last decades of the third century. The Phase 3 figures, as well as perhaps including some residual material, demonstrate the arrival of fresh greywares here in the later third century, as the developed beaded-and-flanged bowl in R03, possibly a Catterick product (Busby *et al.* 1996) illustrates.

Few of the greywares can be sourced, but a few interesting groups do emerge. Most notable are the presence of North Gaulish greyware pentice-moulded beakers (R02) (FIG. 8.9). These are in a different fabric from that in the National Fabric Reference Collection and also a quite different one from the Trajanic imports from this source at Binchester. It seems clear that

TABLE 8.9: OCCURRENCE OF REDUCED WARES (WEIGHT)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased
R01	1.3%	1.1%	1.1%	0.2%	0.7%
R02 North Gaulish	0.3%	–	0.3%	–	–
R03	2.9%	2.1%	4.0%	0.6%	4.5%
R04 Crambeck	–	–	–	35.3%	0.7%
R05 Catterick?	–	–	–	1.5%	–
R06	3.2%	–	0.02%	0.1%	1.6%
R07	2.7%	1.0%	0.03%	0.3%	2.2%
R08	2.0%	0.2%	0.9%	0.01%	0.4%
R09	–	–	0.7%	–	–
R10	2.8%	–	0.01%	0.01%	0.6%
R11 Holme upon Spalding Moor	–	–	–	–	0.4%
R12	0.03%	–	0.7%	–	0.5%
R13	–	–	2.1%	–	2.7%
R14	1.1%	0.1%	–	–	–
R15	5.2%	–	–	–	0.1%
R16	–	0.2%	–	–	–
R17	–	0.02%	–	–	0.03%
R18 South Yorks grey	–	0.2%	–	–	–
R19	–	–	–	–	0.02%
R21	–	–	–	–	0.1%
R22	–	–	2.9%	–	0.1%
Total	21.5%	5.0%	12.7%	38.0%	14.6%

most of these imports were also Trajanic at York (Monaghan 1997) and at least some of the material from Catterick (Evans 2002) seems to be of Trajanic date. The Brougham vessels clearly represent another phase of North Gaulish imports, probably of earlier third-century date given two vessels from Phase 1, one from Phase 2 and one from Phase 3. This would match the occurrence of these vessels in the early third century at St Magnus House (Richardson 1986) and the third-century example from the Trentholme Drive, York, cemetery (Gillam 1968, fig. 21, no. 9).

There is also a loop-handled jar, in R11, from **196** (unphased) which would appear to be a later third-century Holme upon Spalding Moor product. The presence of one of these west of

FIG. 8.9 North Gaulish pentice-moulded beaker (**273.11**). (Crown copyright).

the Pennines is unusual, especially in the third century (Evans 1988). There is also another unusual vessel fragment from a similar region, a wide-mouthed jar, probably in South Yorkshire greyware (R18) from Phase 2 (**98.3**).

To return to the unsourced greywares (R01, R03, R06, R07, R08, R09, R10, R13, R14, R15, R16, R17, R19, R21 and R22), most, excepting R03, R13 and R22, would seem to be of early third-century date. The forms represented in these fabrics (TABLE 8.10) are principally BB-copy jars, sometimes with acute lattice but generally with third-century rim forms, and constricted-necked jars, some with everted rims and others with bifid rims, sometimes slashed on the lower cordon, e.g. **20.6**. The functional analysis of these fabrics combined (TABLE 8.10) shows that other jars form the largest groups at around 48%, but that a massive 28% is made up of constricted-necked jars, with only 15% of tablewares (dishes and bowls). The proportion of constricted-necked jars is striking, and argues strongly both for a north-western origin for most of these fabrics (constricted-necked jars not being a common part of the repertoire of north-eastern centres producing greyware BB-copy jars, whereas they were in the North-West), and for the deliberate selection of constricted-necked jars for the cemetery. TABLE 8.11 shows the functional analysis of greywares from Walton-le-Dale, most of which were probably made at that site, and suggests that around 15% of constricted-necked jars is a more usual level for them in these fabrics.

TABLE 8.10: FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF UNSOURCED REDUCED WARES BY VESSEL NUMBERS (MINIMUM NOS OF RIMS)

Fabric	Flagons	Other jars	Constricted necked jars	Wide-mouthed jars	Beakers	Bowls	Dishes
R01	–	2	3	–	–	–	1
R03	–	9	5	–	–	3	1
R06	–	–	2	–	1	–	–
R07	1	2	3	–	1	–	–
R08	–	2	1	–	–	–	–
R09	–	–	–	–	1	–	–
R10	–	2	–	–	–	–	1
R12	–	2	1	–	–	–	–
R13	–	6	1	1	–	–	–
R14	–	–	–	–	2	–	–
R15	–	2	–	–	–	–	–
R16	–	–	–	1	–	–	–
R17	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
R21	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
R22	–	–	1	–	–	–	1
Totals	1 (2%)	29 48%)	17 (28%)	1 (2%)	4 (7%)	5 (8%)	4 (7%)

TABLE 8.11: FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF REDUCED WARES FROM WALTON-LE-DALE (MINIMUM NOS OF RIMS)

Flagon	Constricted-necked jar	Jar	Wide-mouthed jar	Beaker	Bowl	Dish/ bowl	Dish	Lid	Other	n
1.9%	15.8%	40.7%	4.2%	11.6%	13.9%	0.3%	6.5%	3.1%	0.5%	310

Fabric groups R03, R13 and R22 appear to have a different date range, and R03 would seem to extend throughout the century. The group included a developed beaded-and-flanged bowl of later third-century date (**114.11**), possibly a Catterick BB copy (Busby *et al.* 1996). The only identifiable form in fabric R13 is a later third-century BB-copy jar (**135.5**). Fabric R22 is

represented by a single identifiable form, a bifid-rimmed constricted-necked jar with slashed rim (**257.6**), which is either an heirloom or a late example of the type, perhaps the latter given that the archaeomagnetic date for the last firing of the excavated Walton-le-Dale kiln (which was producing similar forms in oxidised ware) was *c*. A.D. 260–300 (Evans and Rátkai forthcoming a).

As noted above the proportion of Crambeck greywares in Phase 3b reflects the phasing mechanism rather than supply levels, although the site does seem to have had a relatively good supply of the fabric in the later third century. As also noted above the collection is notably diverse suggesting they belonged to an early period of experimentation before the notoriously stereotyped range of products was fully developed. TABLE 8:12 shows the functional composition of the Crambeck greywares (although the group size is very small). The data show a marked deviation from the usual pattern, with only 38% tablewares (dishes and bowls) and a massive 39% of constricted-necked jars.

TABLE 8.13 shows a comparative analysis from Binchester (Evans and Rátkai forthcoming b) and similar data come from Beadlam and Catterick (Evans 1989, 77, table 12). These assemblages have *c*. 60% tablewares and are without constricted-necked jars, Although the Brougham group is earlier, it seems clear that the Crambeck vessels selected for burial were disproportionately constricted-necked jars, as was also seen to be the case for the other greywares (above). The reason for this would seem to lie in the lack of flagons in production in the later third century. The constricted-necked jars would seem to have been used as a substitute for these as potential liquid containers.

TABLE 8.12: FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF CRAMBECK GREYWARES (MINIMUM NOS OF RIMS)

Flagons	**Jars**	**Constricted-necked jars**	**Wide-mouthed jars**	**Beakers**	**Bowls**	**Dishes**	**n**
–	15%	39%	–	8%	23%	15%	13

TABLE 8.13: FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF CRAMBECK GREYWARES FROM BINCHESTER (MINIMUM NOS OF RIMS)

Phase	**Flagons**	**Jars**	**Beakers**	**Bowls**	**Dishes**	**Lids**	**n**
8b	–	27.0%	5.4%	43.2%	24.3%	–	37
9	2.8%	30.9%	2.8%	34.1%	27.7%	1.6%	249

FABRIC SUPPLY: CLASS S, SAMIAN WARES

By B. Dickinson, B.R. Hartley and H.W. Pengelly

(Editorial note: the detailed discussion of individual vessels will be found in Chapter 4)

Introduction

The Brougham cemetery gives the largest assemblage of samian ware from a fort's burial ground in the hinterland of Hadrian's Wall. Unfortunately, as far as samian studies are concerned, it is very restricted in chronological range and has no large groups of associated, whole, samian pots. Another snag is that the condition of many of the pots is poor. Acid soil has taken its toll, affecting the Central Gaulish ware less than the East Gaulish, and the Trier ware more than Rheinzabern pots. Several of the potters' stamps are totally eroded, and it is not always easy to be sure whether dishes have bands of rouletting on their bases or not. Furthermore, the erosion makes it difficult to estimate states of wear on footrings. In general it is clear that most of the samian had been used, some indeed broken and riveted. The mortaria all show signs of having been used for grinding. Presumably, then, we are dealing with samian

FIG. 8.10 Samian mortarium and dish which apparently contained the cremated bones in **290**. The base ring of the dish has been deliberately trimmed away. (Crown copyright).

ware which was in everyday use and probably possessions of the people buried with it. In one or two instances, the burial pots seem to have been seconds, with distorted rims (**273.13**) or slight waster cracking (**69.4**), but in both instances the pot seems to have been used before burial.

Despite some of the problems noted above, some interesting points emerge at Brougham, particularly for the East Gaulish[1] ware and not least for the incidence of Trier ware in Britain. The survival in use of some Central Gaulish ware well into the third century has always been expected theoretically, but it is satisfactory to be able to demonstrate it with virtual certainty in practice.[2] Finally, the presence and absence, or rarity, of certain common samian forms is also notable, as it undoubtedly shows selection of the vessels chosen to accompany the dead.

First, it should be said that the samian ware attests occupation in the vicinity of the fort from the late first century onwards.[3] For what it is worth, there is a noticeable absence of Hadrianic decorated ware and potters' stamps, but there is positive evidence for activity by A.D. 150 or soon after, attested, for the most part, by fragments of the work of such Central Gaulish potters as Albucius, Cinnamus ii and Doccius ii, and a few East Gaulish pieces, namely a dish of Reginus vi and four possible examples of La Madeleine ware.

Finally, it should be noted here that there is virtually no evidence for the presence of samian in pyre deposits, and indeed the quantity of burnt samian from the cemetery is curiously low. Nor is there any substantial evidence for 'killing' of samian pots, though two dishes had had their footrings trimmed off, in one case (**290.6**) to turn it into a lid (FIG. 8.10), and one beaker (**5.6**) had a hole punched through its base, but that could have been to convert it into a funnel. The loop handles of a cup of form 34 (**115.3**) which was otherwise complete were missing, but it is not clear whether that was due to deliberate removal.

Quantities and forms

So far as we know, no specific study has been made of the samian ware from cemeteries in Britain. At Brougham it is noticeable that graves usually only had one samian pot. However, there were eight burials with two pots and one with three. This is not totally unlike Ospringe where only four burials had two samian vessels and none had more (Whiting *et al.* 1931). By contrast Baldock had three graves with four pots, one with three and sixteen with two (Westell 1931). The higher figures for Baldock may be in part a matter of chronology, as the richer graves tended to be relatively early in the series, and it is certainly true that many first-century burials elsewhere, mainly associated with towns, such as Winchester, had much larger quantities of samian ware (15 vessels at Milland, Collis 1978).

The choice or rejection of particular classes and forms of samian for use in burials is obviously a matter of general interest, and one which needs a much wider survey than is possible here.

Nevertheless, it may be worth comparing two other British sites, Baldock and Ospringe, which overlap chronologically with Brougham. Although the Brougham sample is relatively small, some obvious trends appear (TABLE 8.14). Most obvious is the high proportion of dishes in relation to cups when compared to finds from occupation sites. Form 33 in particular was almost shunned at Brougham, less so at Baldock and Ospringe, though even there the level of occurrence is much below that for ordinary sites (TABLE 8.15). This needs to be considered in relation to other potential drink and/or condiment holders in fineware or glass. One form of cup which was sometimes favoured, alongside form 36 (and, we may add, forms 42 and 46 with barbotine decoration on the rim) was form 35. This does not apply at Brougham and form 35 was almost obsolete at the time of the burials there, but it and other forms from the same service were undoubtedly very strongly represented in some first-century burials at a much higher level than on normal sites. At Brougham there is evidence that the presence of form 33 may be related to the age of the deceased (see p. 362).

TABLE 8:14: FORMS OF COMPLETE OR ALMOST COMPLETE SAMIAN POTS FROM BURIALS

Form	CG	EG	EG RH	EG TR	Total
30	1	–	–	–	1
31 (Sa)	3	–	5	6	14
31R (Sb)	3	–	1	–	4
31R (Sb/Sh)	–	–	8	9	17
32	–	–	1	–	1
33	4	–	–	–	4
34	1	–	–	–	1
35/36	1	–	–	–	1
36	1	–	–	–	1
37	4	–	1	1	6
38	1*	1**	–	–	2
45	–	1	–	5	6
Tg	1	–	–	–	1
Curle 23	1	–	–	–	1
VSb	–	–	1	–	1
Totals	21	2	17	21	61

Key: CG Central Gaulish; EG East Gaulish; EG RH East Gaulish (Rheinzabern); EG TR East Gaulish (Trier); * possibly from Vichy; ** possibly from La Madeleine

TABLE 8:15: OCCURRENCE OF SAMIAN VESSELS IN THE CEMETERIES AT BROUGHAM, BALDOCK AND OSPRINGE

Classes	Brougham	Baldock	Ospringe
Dishes	40 (65.6%)	91 (78.4%)	43 (60.6%)
Cups	5 (8.2%)	24 (20.7%)	26 (36.6%)
Decorated bowls	7 (11.5%)	1 (0.9%)	–
Bowls	2 (3.3%)	–	2 (2.8%)
Mortaria	6 (9.8%)	–	–
Jars	1 (1.6%)	–	–
Totals	61	116	71

Cemeteries in Britain are not noted for their abundance of moulded decorated bowls. At Baldock, by no means a poverty-stricken cemetery, only one grave had a decorated bowl, by coincidence from a mould of Do(v)eccus of Lezoux, who provided three complete or largely complete bowls at Brougham. Ospringe had none, so the total of six at Brougham is striking, as it has roughly half the total quantity of vessels as Baldock and slightly fewer than Ospringe. Does their presence reflect the relatively high pay of soldiers?

One very unusual feature of the Brougham cemetery is the quantity of mortaria in the graves (TABLE 8:15). There was no lack of mortarium fragments either. All the complete ones, and probably all the fragments, were of form 45, whose distinguishing feature is a spout in the form of a lion's head or an approximation to one.[4] That may perhaps have been regarded as symbolic of aspects of death and the afterlife. This class was entirely lacking at Baldock and Ospringe.

Virtually all the samian belongs to a restricted range of standard forms. There is, however, one type of dish[5] which calls for special comment. It is a variant of form 31R, perhaps best described as Sb/Sh (FIG. 8.11). The general profile is the same for all, that is to say the interior curves continuously from rim to base without any carination (as in Ludowici Sh) and there is only a very slight kick or umbo. The wall and base are in effect separated by a single groove which replaces the step of 31R (Sb). The exterior wall has a slighter carination than is usual for Ludowici Sb. Treatment thereafter varies. Rheinzabern examples tend to have a normal band of rouletting around the stamp, sometimes over, sometimes within the position of the footring. Their proportions are sometimes more dish-like than the Trier ones at Brougham. Occasionally a single groove surrounds the stamp close to it. The Trier products sometimes have a double groove of the kind normally bordering the rouletting but without any rouletting. Sometimes there is rouletting but no defining groove. Quite often at Brougham, however, there is no trace of rouletting or grooves because of the extreme erosion of the base. As TABLE 8:14 shows, this form is particularly common at Brougham, where it outnumbers form 31 (Sa) and also the normal type of form 31R (Sb). Its introduction cannot have been much earlier than the end of the second century (possibly *c.* A.D. 190), but in general it is probably to be regarded as typical of the third century. It was used both at Trier and Rheinzabern, probably slightly earlier at the latter, in view of the proportions noted above.

FIG. 8.11 Samian bowl of form 31R Sb/Sh (**310.7**). (Crown copyright).

Potters' stamps and decorated ware

The potters' stamps are listed on p. 349. One might wonder what significance attaches to the duplication of potters' names (happening for Lezoux, Rheinzabern and, particularly, with Ursulus and Parentinus, at Trier). If most of the vessels were originally, as the evidence suggests, in ordinary domestic use, then there is no question of special 'cheap lines' being available for burials. The pots will simply reflect what the merchants supplying Brougham had available for the local retailers at the time. That Trier wares were on sale in such quantity is particularly interesting, but it repeats a pattern already noted for Carlisle and Birrens (the latter presumably showing that the pattern had already been established before the end of the second century).

There is little duplication in the decorated ware either from the site as a whole or from the burials, apart from the work of Do(v)eccus of Lezoux. This is discussed further below.

Dating evidence

The nature of the complete samian pots from the cemetery makes it clear that it was in use in the third century. The problem is to decide whether it was also in use in the later second

century. At first sight the Central Gaulish ware and a little of the East Gaulish samian, such as the probable La Madeleine pieces (including a complete form 38, **211.2**) and the stamp of Reginus on form 31 (Sa) suggest that it could well have been.

The potters' stamps from Central Gaul unfortunately do not help greatly. Apart from Doccius ii, early on any grounds, and with a stamp at Poetovio (Mikl-Curk 1969, 40), Mascellio i's work is at Tác (Gabler 1967, 40 and ?41) and Carnuntum (*CIL*), and Sacerus ii's is in the Wroxeter Gutter (Atkinson 1942, 144: possibly *c*. A.D. 165–175). These should all have been in use well before the end of the second century. Primanus iii 6d (probably with worn footring) is the only stamp to have a parallel at Pudding Pan Rock. There are no stamped plain vessels with unworn footrings.

The decorated ware from Lezoux is more helpful. It consists of bowls by Do(v)eccus (three), Banuus (one) and Servus iv (one), all potters who worked in the later second century, whose work might be expected to be still in use in the earlier third century. Two of these bowls, namely the form 30 by Do(v)eccus (**273.14**) and the Banuus bowl (**102.16**) have unworn footrings and so should have been deposited soon after manufacture, unless they had not been in normal use for some (undefined) time. Both Do(v)eccus and Servus have bowls in the Danube provinces, Do(v)eccus at Brigetio (Juhász 1935, Táb. iii, 14), Nova (Dimitrova-Milceva 1987, Taf. xi, 104, 107–8) and Viminacium (Bjelajac 1990, T.9, 87), and Servus iv once at Nova (Dimitrova-Milceva 1987, Taf. xiii, 117) and twice at Viminacium (Bjelajac 1990, T.9, 74–5). Because of the Marcomannic Wars, which disrupted trade from Central Gaul, they will have arrived there by A.D. 170 or so at the latest, and it would be difficult to extend the potters' working lives beyond A.D. 200. Banuus does not seem to have such evidence. But in any event, the end of Central Gaulish export to Britain as a result of the Clodius Albinus episode remains by far the most likely explanation. How long supplies reaching Britain by A.D. 197 might have remained in merchants' stores is another matter, though with normal demand they would surely be exhausted within five years or so. In other words the Central Gaulish decorated ware suggests that the Brougham cemetery was in use by A.D. 200, if not slightly earlier. There may, however, have been special reasons for the deposit of old decorated vessels in the cemetery (see p. 451).

Potters' stamps

The potter's stamps are listed below together with the relevant catalogue entries (in Chapter 4), given in bold, and the place where the potter was working.

Ad(natius?) Adgenius, L. 1a	(**291.8**)	Lezoux
Banuus 1a	(**102.16**)	Lezoux
Catullus vi 2a	(**61.3**)	Trier
Catullus vi 2a	(**27.2**)	Trier
Comitialis 5c	(**38.3**)	Rheinzabern
Doccius ii 3b	(**138.3**)	Lezoux
Do(v)eccus 5a	(**107.7**)	Lezoux
Do(v)eccus 5a	(**273.13**)	Lezoux
Do(v)eccus 13a	(**43.1**)	Lezoux
Euritus 1a	(**319.5**)	Rheinzabern
Euritus 1a	(**162.3**)	Rheinzabern
Ianuarius vi 3d	(**69.4**)	Rheinzabern
Iulius Numidus 2a	(**253.13**)	Lezoux
Iulius viii 3h	(**209.3**)	Rheinzabern
Lupercus iv MS	(**290.6**)	Rheinzabern
Martius iv 1b	(**259.4**)	Lezoux
Mascellio i 4a	(**5.5**)	Lezoux
Parentinus 1a	(**273.13**)	Rheinzabern
Parentinus 1a	(**264.6**)	Trier

Parentinus 2b	(**20.8**)	Trier
Pastor iii 1a	(**22.9**)	Trier
Pastor iii 1a	(**160.4**)	Trier
Primanus iii 6d	(**203.8**)	Lezoux
Provincialis i 2a	(**227.16**)	Rheinzabern
Quadratus iii 1a	(**102.15**)	Lezoux
Reginus vi 5a	(**273.12**)	Rheinzabern
Rottalus 1a	(**21.3**)	Lezoux
Sacerus ii Uncertain 1	(**90.12**)	Lezoux
Servus iv 1b	(**191.6**)	Lezoux
Unicus 1a	(**73.6**)	Lezoux
Unicus 1a	(**S31**)	Lezoux
Ursulus 1a	(**9.6**)	Trier
Ursulus 1a	(**255.3**)	Trier
Ursulus 1a	(**75.15**)	Trier
Ursulus 1a	(**S29–30**)	Trier
Varedo Uncertain 1	(**300.7**)	Trier
Victorinus ii 3a	(**70.7**)	Rheinzabern
Victorinus ii 7j′	(**137.1**)	Rheinzabern
Virius ii 1a	(**298.9**)	Trier
Incised label	(**149.10**)	Rheinzabern
Rosette	(**90.13**)	Lezoux or Vichy
Illiterate	(**213.7**)	Central Gaulish
Eroded	(**171.4**)	Central Gaulish
Eroded	(**314.2**)	East Gaulish
Illegible	(**268.8**)	East Gaulish
Illegible	(**262.4**)	Rheinzabern
Unidentified	(**291.9**)	Rheinzabern

Unstamped decorated ware attributable to specific potters

Central Gaulish:

Advocisus or an associate	(**S16**)
Banuus	(**82.8**)
Cinnamus ii	(**82.8**, **S10–11**)
Doveccus	(**97.6**, **S1–S7**)
Paternus v Group	(**S13–14**)
Secundus v	(**S12**)
Servus iv	(**95.9**)

East Gaulish:

Belsus ii or Attonus, B.F. or Ware mit E25–6	(**S22**)
Dexter/Dubitus/Dubitatus	(**264.7**)
Helenius ii	(**S21**)
Iulius/Iulianus	(**S23**)
Iulius/Lupus	(**S20**)
Verecundus vi	(**S24**)

Other aspects of the samian ware

By Jeremy Evans

TABLE 8.16 and FIG. 8.12 show the proportion of samian ware in the assemblage. The pattern is quite interesting, and remarkable. The levels of samian ware in Phases 1, 2 and 3 are very high, even were the site of second-century date, and even Phase 3b deposits have a level of samian unlikely to be seen outside an urban or military site in the second century. In contrast the samian levels from the unstratified deposits are much lower, although much of the material in these deposits is contemporary with Phases 1 and 2, and a much more realistic level in comparison with other sites of this date. It might further be noted that the RE data in TABLE 8.16 as usual give even higher values than the weight data. The exceptional proportions of samian in this cemetery can be assessed by noting that weight values for Phases 1 and 2 are higher than for any site in the 39 military and urban sites of first to second-century date tabulated by Willis (1998, table 1), whilst the Phase 3 group would still fit as third highest in the table and the Phase 3b would group seventh. It is quite clear from this, as with the contrast with material from the unstratified deposits, that samian ware was disproportionately selected for inclusion with the burials, but the unstratified material suggests it was not used in such a way in the rituals performed prior to interment.

TABLE 8.16: OCCURRENCE OF SAMIAN WARE (WEIGHT WITH RE IN PARENTHESES)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased
SG	0.01% (0)	–	–	–	0.04% (0)
CG	14.3% (18.9%)	7.9% (14.0%)	2.8% (4.3%)	0.8% (1.4%)	3.0% (2.4%)
EG	14.9% (16.5%)	17.3% (19.6%)	13.3% (17.6%)	11.2% (19.7%)	2.4% (1.8%)
Total	29.2% (35.4%)	25.2% (33.6%)	16.1% (21.9%)	12.0% (21.1%)	5.4% (4.2%)

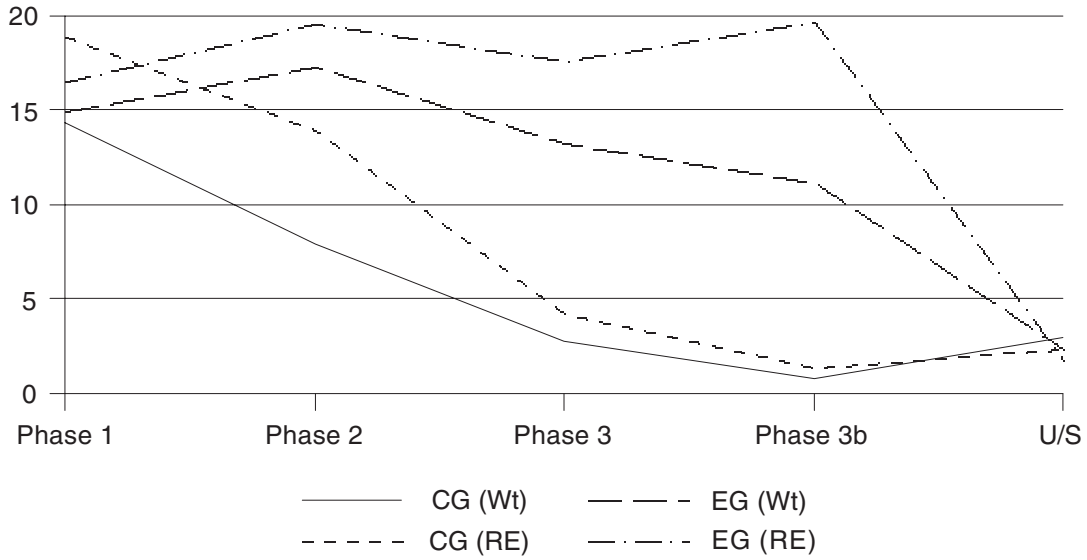

FIG. 8.12 Proportions of Central and East Gaulish samian by phase.

Further, whilst the overall levels of samian ware declines with time, the patterns vary considerably between the Central Gaulish and East Gaulish wares. FIGURE 8.12 shows the samian levels plotted graphically. There is a clear decline in Central Gaulish samian levels from Phase 1 onwards, as might be expected given a cessation of production in *c.* A.D. 200 (or any time before *c.* A.D. 240). In contrast East Gaulish samian levels rise from Phase 1 to Phase 2, and a decline in Phases 3 and 3b is far from certain. Given a cessation of production of East Gaulish samian *c.* A.D. 260, declining East Gaulish levels in Phases 3 and 3b might be expected.

TABLE 8.14 shows the form occurrence of the near complete and complete samian vessels from the cemetery. It is of note that 24% of the Central Gaulish forms are in decorated ware, but that only 5% of East Gaulish vessels are. Whilst East Gaulish ware is generally not as frequently decorated as Central Gaulish the difference is nowhere near so marked, and it would appear that the use of decorated ware declined markedly after Central Gaulish samian ceased to be used in the cemetery.

TABLE 8.17 shows the levels of decorated samian ware by phase. This is calculated by minimum numbers of vessels from all sherds. The data contrast with TABLE 8.14 above which indicates the overall proportion of decorated ware amongst the complete samian vessels at 11.5%. Although, as Dickinson *et al*. point out, the levels of decorated ware vessels deliberately deposited in the Brougham graves are relatively high, they are still much lower than might be found on a 'normal' fort or *vicus* assemblage (*cf*. Willis 1998, table 3). The figures from TABLE 8.17 indicate that higher levels of decorated ware were present amongst the small sherds and the non-burial features, but overall decorated ware levels were still fairly low from the cemetery phases. The most interesting feature is the apparently very high levels of decorated ware from the unstratified material. There may be some recording and curation reasons contributing to this but it seems to be a real effect, seen in other indicators. It would seem to suggest that whilst there was a reluctance to use decorated wares in graves (one found even more strongly elsewhere) they were extensively used in the cemetery area, presumably in rituals relating to cremation or offerings to the dead.

TABLE 8.17: OCCURRENCE OF DECORATED SAMIAN WARE (MINIMUM NOS OF VESSELS)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Unphased
CG	25%	17%	46%	48%
EG	16%	17%	15%	30%
Total	21%	17%	27%	42%

The Brougham cemetery is clearly unusual in the high quantity of samian and finewares deliberately deposited in graves, and, as shown above, differs from Baldock and Ospringe in its relatively high quantity of decorated wares. Samian ware seems to have been almost absent from the Trentholme Drive burials (Wenham 1968), with a single complete vessel coming from the site. A similar phenomenon was observed at the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000, 123–4) where it was unconvincingly argued that the chronology of the burials might explain its absence. The Brougham evidence of a third-century cemetery with large quantities of samian clearly suggests this explanation was inadequate. There would seem to have been a taboo on burying samian in the East London burial rite, and much the same at York. The closely comparable cremation cemetery at Low Borrowbridge (Hird 1996), also mainly of third-century date, also shares this taboo, and would not appear to have been used *in* the cemetery either, as not a single sherd of samian is reported from the site.

TABLE 8.18 shows the occurrence of sherds of burnt samian from the site. As Dickinson *et al*. note above there is little from the burials and all the complete vessels are unburnt (in strong contrast to the BB1 from the graves – see below). The apparent peak of burnt Central Gaulish material in Phase 3b comes from an unreliably low group size.

However, there is a rather higher level of burnt material from the unstratified deposits, and this includes pieces which are so heavily burnt that they would appear to have been on the pyre. Wenham (1968, 52–4) claimed samian had been burnt on the pyre at Trentholme Drive, York, although there seems to be less evidence for this from the East London cemetery.

TABLE 8.18: OCCURRENCE OF BURNT SAMIAN (BY COUNT)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased
CG	6.9%	–	–	17%	12.8%
EG	4.4%	5.2%	0.5%	2%	12.2%
All	5.7%	3.9%	0.4%	6.8%	12.9%

FABRIC SUPPLY: CLASS W, WHITEWARES

Whitewares comprise a very small proportion of the overall assemblage, 1.5% in Phase 1, 0.1% in Phase 2, 2.1% in Phase 3, 1.1% in Phase 3b and 1.6% in the unstratified material. The vast majority of this material is in fabric W02, Nene Valley parchment ware. Five flasks with horizontal red painted bands are represented and a face-necked flagon (FIG. 8.13). These vessels are unusual in the North and again it would seem they must have been deliberately selected from the assemblage available for deposition in the graves. Again they would seem to have been chosen as potential liquid containers. Their deposition appears to spread over the whole of the third century. One further vessel of intrinsic interest in this class are the fragments from a bossed head pot in fabric W01 from an unstratified context.

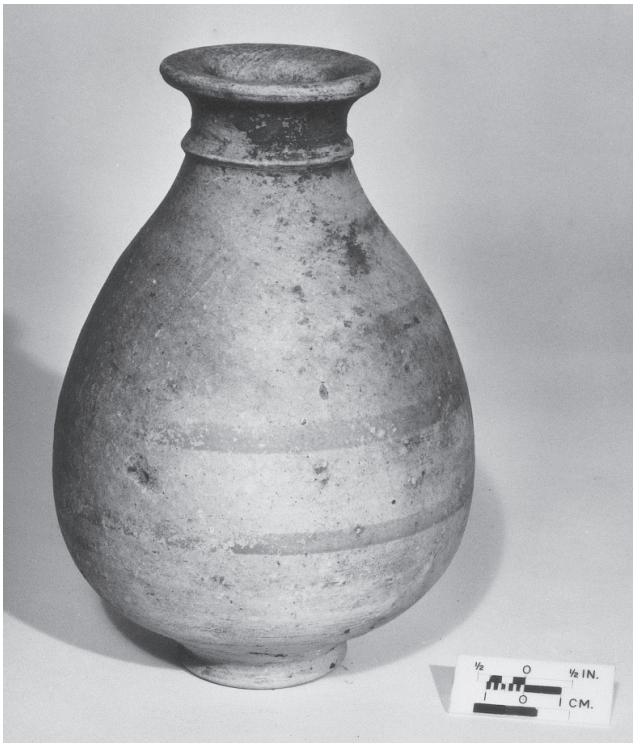

FIG. 8.13 Flask with horizontal red painted lines in Nene Valley parchment ware (**36.8**). (Crown copyright).

FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS

TABLE 8.19 and FIG. 8.14 show a functional analysis of the cemetery assemblage by phase (by minimum numbers of rims and RE). There are very clear trends in the functional composition of the assemblage. Jar levels start off fairly low in the early third century, and at a level which would be low for a contemporary urban or military group. They then rise in Phases 2 and 3, reaching a peak in Phase 3 which, from a normal site assemblage, would indicate a basic-level rural site, before falling again in Phase 3b. The high jar level in Phase 3 is very similar to that from the Trentholme Drive, York, cemetery (Evans 1993) and that from the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000, table 52), reflecting the predominant use of jars as cremation containers.

Flagon levels tend to be quite low throughout the cemetery, but this reflects the few flagons available in the third century in the North. Constricted-necked jars (FIG. 8.15), in contrast, which also appear to act as liquid containers, are comparatively common, with a peak in Phase 1, perhaps some decline in Phases 2 and 3, and a major peak in Phase 3b.

Cup and beaker levels are also quite high, peaking in Phase 1, declining a little in Phase 2 and sharply in Phase 3, but rising again in Phase 3b. Most of the drinking vessels are Trier 'Rhenish ware' or Nene Valley. As Dickinson *et al*. note above (TABLE 8.15) there is a significant shortage of samian drinking vessels here, at 8.2% well short of the 24.9% Willis (1998, table 4) indicated as a national average for later second-century groups. Again this might suggest that Trier 'Rhenish ware' beakers are being viewed as the equivalent of samian here.

TABLE 8.19: FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF THE CEMETERY ASSEMBLAGE BY PHASE (MINIMUM NOS OF RIMS AND RE) WITH COMPARABLE ASSEMBLAGES (VARIABLE QUANTIFICATION). NB LOW BORROWBRIDGE AND NEATHAM FIGURES EXCLUDE UNIDENTIFIED FORMS FROM BODY OF TABLE, EAST LONDON CEMETERY CREMATIONS ONLY

Phase	**Flagons**	**Constricted-necked jars**	**Jars**	**Wide-mouthed jars**	**Beakers**	**Bowls**	**Dishes**	**Bowl/ dish**	**Mortaria**	**Amphorae**	**n**
Brougham											
Phase 1	1.0 (2.7)	10.8 (10.3)	32.3 (20.0)	–	18.6 (27.8)	26.5 (33.1)	10.8 (6.1)	–	–	–	102 rims (37.44RE)
Phase 2	1.4 (3.3)	5.3 (6.8)	49.5 (33.8)	–	14.4 (20.0)	19.7 (25.8)	6.3 (7.7)	1.0 (0.1)	2.4 (2.5)	–	208 rims (90.79RE)
Phase 3	1.8 (2.1)	6.0 (10.0)	59.2 (49.5)	–	7.2 (9.0)	17.4 (19.8)	4.8 (5.3)	–	3.6 (4.3)	–	167 rims (65.52RE)
Phase 3b	–	16.1 (20.1)	39.3 (33.3)	–	16.1 (13.1)	19.6 (26.3)	7.1 (7.1)	–	1.8 (0.1)	–	56 rims (16.73RE)
u/s	1.2 (0.5)	5.5 (11.3)	50.1 (52.4)	1.8 (1.2)	6.1 (11.7)	13.4 (7.9)	15.2 (10.5)	0.6 (0.2)	6.1 (4.3)	–	164 rims (20.42RE)
Trentholme Drive	16	–	58	–	18	2	1	–	–	0.5	225 rims
E London cemetery	13	–	57	–	3	2	2	–	–	24	63 rims
Low Borrowbridge	0.1	8.0	68.4	–	5.8	2.1	3.3	–	0.4	0.2	2195 sherds
Hassocks, Sussex	5.2	–	26.1	–	25.5	23.5	16.3	–	2.0	–	153 rims
Neatham, Hants	6.0	–	7.1	–	0.5	25.0	50.0	–	–	–	184 rims

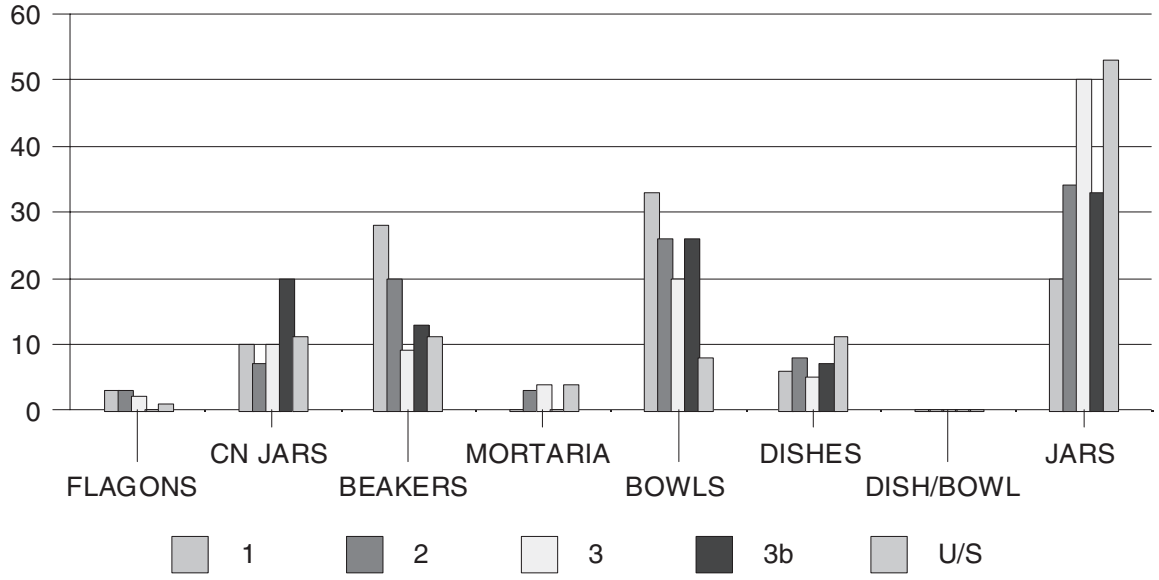

FIG. 8.14 Functional analysis (by RE).

Bowls are quite well represented, very many of them being samian Dr. 31 and variants (it should be noted that they are classed here as bowls, but regarded as dishes in the samian report). They peak in Phase 1, and decline slightly in Phases 2 and 3, rising slightly in Phase 3b. Dishes are very poorly represented throughout, with the exception of the unstratified material where quantities rise, if still to a low peak, below the average for contemporary military and urban sites (Evans 1993).

Mortaria are notably absent from Phase 1, but present in reasonable levels in Phases 2 and 3. Amongst the unstratified material, however, as noted above there is a major difference between mortaria from graves and those from unstratified deposits, with all but one fragment from the graves being samian vessels, whilst the unstratified material consists of a fairly normal assemblage for the region.

The unstratified function figures represent a jar-dominated group, with an emphasis, therefore, on food preparation or containers (the former being particularly probable as over half the assemblage consists of BB1 – the cooking pot fabric *par excellence*). The low levels of beakers might suggest little emphasis on drink, although there is quite a high level of liquid containers (mainly in the form of constricted-necked jars) and a reasonable level of tablewares (dishes and bowls). Coarseware mortaria might also suggest food preparation.

FIG. 8.15 Oxidised constricted-neck jar (**213.5**). (Crown copyright).

Returning to the grave assemblages, the first point to note, as stated above and previously (Evans 1993), is that the selection of vessels for the burials is just that, a deliberate selection, and not one fully representative of the assemblage in use in the Brougham fort and *vicus*. Secondly there seems to be a change of rite in functional terms between Phases 1 and 2, and Phase 3, and perhaps, a further change in Phase 3b (although here the means of definition of the phase and low group size may also be factors), with declining and then rising levels of beakers, rising and then falling jar levels and particularly high levels of liquid containers in Phase 3b. Phases 2 and 3 see the use of samian mortaria, absent from Phase 1 and, perhaps, residual in Phase 3b.

TABLE 8.19 also shows the functional analysis of the Trentholme Drive, York, pottery, that of cremations from the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000, table 52), and that of the Hassocks cemetery in Sussex (Lyne 1994). These are all heavily jar-dominated with high proportions of liquid containers and very low levels of tablewares, but vary in that Trentholme Drive has quite a high proportion of beakers, whereas the East London cemetery has very considerable numbers of amphorae, used as burial containers.

The Hassocks cemetery is very different indeed, with high levels of beakers and tablewares and low jar levels, a tableware-based assemblage which probably has more in common with the well-furnished graves of the Hampshire tradition (Millett 1987), and the table also shows the functional analysis of the Neatham burials (Millett and Graham 1986, table 18) from this tradition to illustrate the point, these being massively dominated by tablewares with only a few jars.

NUMBERS OF VESSELS IN THE CEMETERY

TABLES 8.20 and 8.21 show the frequencies of vessel occurrence in burials for those with ceramic vessels, and TABLE 8.20 also gives comparative data from the cremation burials (only) from the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000). The Brougham figures are derived from those urned cremation burials where only a single individual appears to have been buried and thus ignores the urned cremation burials of two individuals and the special deposits of pots or memorials where insufficient cremated bone was recovered for it to be interpreted as an urned burial. It is of note that the Brougham cemetery generally has more pots per grave than the London one, particularly in the number of graves with three or more vessels. The overall vessel frequency at Brougham and the phase figures show an interesting bi-modal distribution, with fewer graves overall having two vessels than those having three. TABLE 8.21 suggests that this is not the case in Phase 1, but operates very strongly in Phase 2 and to a lesser extent in Phase 3.

TABLE 8.20: NUMBERS OF CERAMIC VESSELS IN URNED CREMATION BURIALS AT BROUGHAM AND EAST LONDON CEMETERY (CREMATIONS ONLY)

No. of vessels	**Brougham (no.)**	**Brougham (%)**	**East London (%)**
1	48	41%	56%
2	24	21%	28%
3	30	26%	10%
4	10	9%	5%
5	2	2%	1%
6	1	1%	–
7	1	1%	–
n	116		81 vessels

FINEWARES

TABLE 8.22 shows the proportions of finewares from the cemetery (by weight and RE). As finewares are normally more delicate than coarsewares weight data on this are generally depressed.

At Brougham, however, fineware levels are extraordinarily high, even by this means, comprising around a third of the Phase 1 and 2 assemblages**.** Levels fall in Phases 3 and 3b, but still remain at very high levels, particularly for this date (Evans 1993). The fall in fineware levels from Phase 1 to Phase 3b is not uniform, and strongly suggests two groupings, of

TABLE 8.21: NUMBER OF CERAMIC VESSELS BY PHASE IN URNED CREMATION BURIALS AT BROUGHAM (SINGLE OCCUPANT ONLY)

No. of vessels	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased	Total
1	9	20	12	2	5	48
2	6	9	6	2	1	24
3	4	14	8	4	–	30
4	1	5	3	1	–	10
5	2	1	–	–	–	2
6	–	1	–	–	–	1
7	–	1	–	–	–	1
Total	22	51	29	9	6	116

TABLE 8.22: OCCURRENCE OF FINEWARES (BY WEIGHT WITH RE IN PARENTHESIS)

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Unphased
36.8% (55.9%)	31.3% (50.1%)	19.0% (31.1%)	15.4% (31.9%)	8.6% (10.3%)

Phases 1–2 and Phases 3–3b on this measure. However, in both these groups finewares have been disproportionately selected for burial. The only 'normal' group is the unstratified material, where once more this is differentiated from the burial assemblages. This must again suggest that the unstratified material chiefly comprises material used and discarded in the cemetery, rather than deriving from the fill of disturbed burials.

The emphasis on finewares in the Brougham cemetery assemblage would seem to be unusual for most Romano-British cemeteries of this date, although there is not a lot of comparative data. As discussed above (p. 352) samian is absent from burials in the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000, 123) and only four of the 94 vessels from cremations are finewares (4.3% – *ibid*, table 51). No samian is recorded from the cemetery at Petty Knowes, and four of the 24 vessels described (17%) might be described as finewares. At Trentholme Drive, York (Gillam 1968) only one samian vessel was complete, presumably from a burial, whilst amongst the 237 other vessels described some 31 were finewares, giving an approximate fineware level of 13.1%. At Low Borrowbridge (Hird 1996) samian is completely absent and finewares scarce at 7.2% by count and 3.8% by weight.

RITUAL ASPECTS OF DEPOSITION

Twelve instances of vessels which had been deliberately holed before burial were recorded (and more may have occurred but this is difficult to detect in unreconstructed vessels). There were none from Phase 1, six from Phase 2, four from Phase 3 and two from Phase 3b. Eight of these were BB1 jars, two Trier ware beakers (F01), one a Nene Valley beaker (F02) and one from a jar in R04. Thus this aspect of the rite would only seem to have been introduced in Phase 2. Where it is possible to establish the role the pots played in the burial, deliberate holing seems to have been a feature of the urn. Five of the BB1 jars were definitely being used as urns (**81.4**, **102.11**, **160.2**, **168.4** and **219.4**) and another (**255.1**) may have been. One of the Trier beakers (**70.6**) contained some human bone though in this burial the remains were split between two vessels. In only two cases were the deliberately damaged vessels either definitely or probably the accessory vessel in the grave (the Trier beaker **192.3** and BB1 jar **209.2**, FIG. 8.16). In the cases of the other vessels it is not known how they were used in the grave as the records are insufficient.

Two facepots and a head pot come from the cemetery, one from a burial (**7.6**) and two unstratified (**P6** and **P8**). Braithwaite (1984) suggests that few facepots in Britain come from ritual contexts, although the fact that so many of the vessels she illustrates are largely complete suggests many more originally did, as complete vessels are very rarely recovered except from burials, ritual deposits and wells. She points out, however, that in the Rhineland most appear to come from cemeteries or ritual contexts.

FIG. 8.16 BB1 jar **209.2** showing deliberate hole. (Crown copyright).

As noted above none of the complete samian vessels and little of the samian from graves is burnt. However, burning and sooting is found on many of the coarseware vessels. TABLE 8.23 shows the occurrence of burning and sooting on vessels (by minimum number of rims) by phase on each major fabric class. As is clear over half of the BB1 vessels from all phases of the cemetery are burnt and/or sooted, although notably fewer vessels are sooted amongst the unstratified material. Further, as noted in the catalogue (Chapter 4), many of the complete BB1 jars show evidence of very heavy burning and sooting on one side, generally with evidence of other vessels having been stacked adjacent to them. This appears to result from the vessels being stacked adjacent to the pyre. Most of the vessels so treated would appear to have served as cremation containers.

TABLE 8.23: PROPORTIONS OF MAJOR FABRIC CLASSES WITH BURNING AND SOOTING (MINIMUM NOS OF VESSELS)

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	U/S
B01	50%	58.3%	66.7%	75%	40.6%
F00	–	3.9%	–	–	9%
O00	–	–	–	–	–
R00	15%	20.7	15%	8%	8%

Levels of sooting on greyware vessels are notably lower than on BB1 ones, most of these are accessory or other vessels, whereas many of the BB1 jars are urns. Given the burning of so much of the BB1 assemblage it is difficult to judge if the coarse pottery from the cemetery was new or used when it was buried. The evidence from the samian suggests that it was often far from new. Only one coarseware vessel was repaired with rivets, but this is part of the usual pattern (see p. 360) where repairs are almost exclusively on samian ware in nearly all 'lowland zone' assemblages. However, the presence of some vessels with graffiti indicating marks of ownership (see p. 359) would tend to suggest that at least some of the vessels were used.

Overwhelmingly jars were selected as the urns as may be seen in TABLE 8.24. This tabulates the principal bone-containing vessels in each grave. In some cases very small quantities of bone were found in accessory vessels but these have been disregarded here as it is possible

TABLE 8.24: FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF VESSELS CONTAINING CREMATED BONES

Type	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phases 3–3b	Total
BB1 jar	14	45	34	93
Other jars	4	2	3	9
Constricted-neck jar	2	–	3	5
Dish	1	1	–	2
Beaker	2	4	–	6

that this represents an unintentional inclusion of redeposited pyre debris rather than a formal deposit. The only examples of samian vessels being used as an urn may be the mortaria **290.5** (FIG. 8.10) and dish **227.16**. Interpreting the role of the latter vessel, though, is difficult. Two individuals are represented in this complex deposit and some of the cremated bone from one of them was placed in the dish together with a 'meat bone'. The relatively strong use of beakers in Phase 2 is a function of the selection of these vessels as suitable for infants and this is further considered below.

GRAFFITI

Only six vessels bearing graffiti have been recorded from the site (TABLE 8.25), four from graves, two of Phase 1 and two from Phase 3 during this analysis. An additional one was initially noted though the vessel is now missing (no. 7). Three of the vessels were BB1, one BB2, one R16 and only one was on oxidised ware. It is of note that all the graffiti were on coarsewares. This is very unusual, normally around 60% of vessels with graffiti are samian ware, and it is clearly significant, implying that the samian was selected to avoid vessels with graffiti. It also suggests that those graffiti with marks of ownership (nos 1, 2, 4 and 5) were probably on 'old' vessels, reused in the cemetery, rather than being new.

TABLE 8.25: OCCURRENCE OF GRAFFITI

No	Chapter 4 reference	Phase	Fabric	Graffito
1	FIG. 4.259	U/S	B01	]NOM[on a BB1 jar shoulder. *RIB* II, 7, no. 2503.560
2	FIG. 4.259	U/S	O01	]HILA on an oxidised shoulder(?) sherd. *RIB* II, 7, no. 2503.146 reads as 'probably Hilarus or a cognate name, otherwise a name of Greek etymology in [p]hila'
3	**82.6**	3	B10	'+' on a ?BB2 jar shoulder, perhaps an illiterate mark of ownership
4	**152.3**	3	B01	'BATA' on a BB1 jar dated *c.* A.D. 270–350. *RIB* II, 7, no. 2503.203 reads as Bata, 'perhaps a veninine variant of Bato, well attested in Pannonia and notably among the Breuci'
5	**186.6**	1	B01	'N' retrograde in the centre of the upper side of the base of a simple-rimmed BB1 dish *c.* A.D. 200–350
6	**203.5**	1	R16	'CX'? Under the base of a pear-shaped beaker, perhaps an apotrophaic mark rather than an indication of ownership. Probably second to earlier third-century
7	**36.7**	1	?	Coarse greyware dish with graffito of 'V.' now missing

The rate of graffiti (1:3333 sherds) is also very low, presumably reflecting the lack of samian vessels with graffiti, but perhaps suggesting all vessels with graffiti were generally avoided. More normal rates of graffiti for military associated sites might be indicated by the 1:800 sherds at Walton-le-Dale, 1:231 sherds from the Catterick, Thornborough, Antonine fort, 1:630 from the Binchester fort, and 1:781 from the Birdoswald fort (CAS site 585). The Brougham rate of 1:3333 is lower than that found on urban sites and is most comparable with incidences from rural sites.

Given other evidence from the cemetery, the Pannonian connections of Graffito no. 4 may be of note.

RIVETS

Some 25 rivets appear in the assemblage, 23 of the cleat type, and two of rounded drilled holes. Two cleat type rivets occurred on fabric O01 on a constricted-necked jar rim (**281.10**) in a Phase 3b deposit of pyre debris. This vessel was probably residual by Phase 3b, which may suggest that one coarseware vessel at least was old when deposited. The others are recorded on samian vessels (92%). This is part of the usual pattern, with samian being almost the only fabric usually rivetted on 'lowland zone' sites. In contrast to Walton-le-Dale all the rivetted samian pieces were plainware forms, six vessels being East Gaulish (four Dr. 31s and two Dr. 31Rs, four from Phase 2 and one each from Phases 1 and 3b) and one Central Gaulish (a Dr. 33 from Phase 3).

The rivetting rate from the site is 0.13% by count, a fairly low level, comparable with 0.087% from the Flavian to Hadrianic deposits at the Binchester fort or 0.083% from Antonine to fourth-century deposits there. Similar levels to those at Binchester are the 0.08% from the rural site at Chepstow (Evans 1996a), 0.12% from the rural site at Shiptonthorpe (Evans forthcoming), 0.16% at the urban site of Bainesse Farm, Catterick, and 0.1% at the rural site of Worberry Gate, Somerset. It is much lower than the level found on some 'highland zone' sites and at Walton-le-Dale (Evans and Rátkai forthcoming a).

THE USE OF CERAMIC VESSELS AS GRAVE GOODS

By H.E.M. Cool and J. Evans

When the ceramic vessels that were placed in the graves as grave goods are inspected from the point of view of who they were accompanying, interesting and unexpected patterns emerge that strongly suggest special selection was being practised according to age and sex criteria. This section explores this using the simplified age/sex breakdown discussed on p. 309. Some of the patterns found in the data have been explored using formal probability testing, technical details will be found in Appendix 1.

The overall breakdown of age and sex for the urned cremation burials is shown in TABLE 8.26. As can be seen infants cease to be buried in the cemetery after Phase 2, therefore any associations of particular items with infants might be expected to decline in Phases 3 and 3b.

TABLE 8.26: AGE AND SEX BREAKDOWN OF THE URNED CREMATION BURIALS (UNCERTAIN INCLUDES THOSE WHERE NO BONE REMAINS IN ARCHIVE)

	Phase 1	**Phase 2**	**Phases 3-3b**	**Unphased**	**Total**
Adult	7	16	9	–	32
Female	3	7	7	–	17
Male	1	4	8	1	14
Double	3	2	3	–	8
Infant	3	10	–	–	13
Immature	3	7	9	1	20
Uncertain	4	6	5	4	19
All	24	52	41	6	123

The urns

In TABLE 8.24 the vessels used as urns were summarised and it is apparent that coarseware jars were overwhelmingly chosen. The breakdown of the distribution of the BB1 jars according to age and sex is shown in TABLE 8.27. As can be seen they were used for all types of individuals. By contrast where the age of the individuals placed in the beakers can be ascertained, they were all infants. In three cases (**47.1**, **189.1** and **250.3**) these infants were buried on their own. In one case (**90.10**) the cremated bones of an infant in a double burial were divided between a beaker and a BB1 jar, whilst in another (**36.3**) an infant was placed in a beaker whilst the adult in the grave was placed in a dish. One interpretation might be that a beaker was felt

TABLE 8.27: OCCURRENCE OF BB1 JARS USED AS URNS ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phases 3–3b	Total
Adult	5	14	7	26
Female	2	7	6	15
Male	1	5	7	13
Double	1	2	3	6
Infant	2	6	–	8
Immature	2	7	9	18
Uncertain	1	4	2	7
All	14	45	34	93

appropriate because the cremated remains of an infant are small. Given that many adults are represented by relatively small amounts of cremated bone, and that many of the beakers are quite large, this does not seem a very satisfactory explanation, and it could well be that deliberate selection of beakers for infants was sometimes practised for other than pragmatic reasons. The accessory vessel **36.2** (FIG. 8.17), for example, is a hunt cup with a scene of dogs chasing a hare. It may be that this scene had some symbolic meaning, or, of course, it could have been chosen as a pretty thing for a much-loved child whose remains were placed in another colour-coated beaker in the same burial.

FIG. 8.17 Nene Valley hunt cup **36.2**, the accessory vessel for an infant of three to four years.

The accessory vessels

The exploration of the accessory vessels can usefully start with the samian ones as the general discussion of the samian has already drawn attention to various curious features of the assemblage including the very low levels of drinking cups and the large quantities of mortaria. For the purposes of this analysis it is useful to divide the samian into three basic categories – the shallow dish/bowl range of forms Dr. 31, 31R, 32, 36, Ludowici Tg. and Curle 23; the deeper forms, including the decorated ones, of forms Dr. 30, 37, 38 and 45; and the small cups of form Dr. 33.

The shallow dish/bowls are summarised in TABLE 8.28. They do not appear to have been at all popular in Phase 1 but thereafter were a regular feature in the burials of all ages and sexes. This picture contrasts with that presented by the deep bowls (TABLE 8.29) where none are found within the graves of infants or immature individuals. TABLE 8.29 can also be expressed as TABLE 8.30 which shows the numbers of adult graves with and without the bowls compared with the numbers of young people's graves (excluding the vessel in the double burial and

TABLE 8:28: OCCURRENCE OF SHALLOW SAMIAN BOWLS (DR. 31, 31R, 32, 36; LUDOWICI TG, CURLE 23) USED AS ACCESSORY VESSELS

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phases 3–3b	Total
Adult	2	8	2	12
Female	–	3	1	4
Male	1	3	3	7
Double	–	2	1	3
Infant	–	3	–	3
Immature	–	1	2	3
Uncertain	–	1	1	2
All	3	21	10	34

TABLE 8:29: OCCURRENCE OF DEEP SAMIAN BOWLS (DR. 30, 37, 38 AND 45) USED AS ACCESSORY VESSELS

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phases 3–3b	Total
Adult	–	3	3	6
Female	–	–	1	1
Male	1	1	–	2
Double	–	1	–	1
Infant	–	–	–	–
Immature	–	–	–	–
Uncertain	1	–	–	–
All	2	5	4	11

TABLE 8.30: PRESENCE AND ABSENCE OF DEEP SAMIAN BOWLS IN THE GRAVES OF ADULTS AND CHILDREN

	Present	Absent
Adult	9	44
Infant/Immature	–	33

from the burial of the individual of uncertain age). The hypothesis that at Brougham this sort of vessel was specifically chosen to accompany adults can be formally tested statistically and is found to be significant at the 1% level. A different pattern can be seen for the cup form 33 (TABLE 8.31). The form is rare at Brougham and it is striking that all are found in burials which contain young children. A more detailed inspection of the ages of the children in these graves reveals that all are infants or juveniles of less than 8 years of age. Again the table can be re-expressed to allow a formal test of significance to be carried out (TABLE 8.32) and this clearly shows that at Brougham the form Dr. 33 was thought uniquely appropriate for infants and very young children.

A similar type of selection may be at work in the choice of who the colour-coated beakers were deposited with. TABLE 8.33 shows the distribution of those used as accessory vessels. As can be seen there is a striking absence of any accompanying adults buried on their own in

TABLE 8.31: OCCURRENCE OF SAMIAN CUPS (DR. 33)

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Total
Double	–	1	1	2
Infant	1	–	–	1
Immature	–	1	–	1
Total	1	2	1	4

TABLE 8.32: PRESENCE AND ABSENCE OF SAMIAN CUPS (DR. 33) IN THE GRAVES OF YOUNG CHILDREN AND OLDER OR NOT CLOSELY AGED INDIVIDUALS

Age	Present	Absent	Total
Eight or younger	4	26	30
Older than eight	–	93	93
Total	4	119	123

TABLE 8.33: OCCURRENCE OF COLOUR-COATED BEAKERS DEPOSITED AS ACCESSORY VESSELS (EXCLUDING THOSE IN **36**, **71**, **90**, **102** AND **250** USED AS URNS)

Age band	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phases 3–3b	Total
Adult	–	3	–	3
Female	–	1	1	2
Male	–	4	2	6
Double	2	2	1	5
Infant	2	2	–	4
Immature	2	2	1	5
Uncertain	1	1	1	3
All	7	15	6	28

Phase 1. This looks very much as though colour-coated beakers were thought of as especially appropriate for children in Phase 1, and it was not until Phase 2 that they were felt to be appropriate for adults as well. As has already been noted, they were used disproportionately as urns for infants so the association between colour-coated beakers and children seems to cross the urn/accessory vessel divide.

As has already been discussed, the ceramic vessels in use in the cemetery clearly represent special choices being made because of the funerary activities being carried out. The associations of particular forms with particular segments of the population as suggested here could further influence the overall pottery assemblage. Attention has already been drawn to the unusual composition of the samian and fineware assemblages compared to such cemeteries as those at East London and Low Borrowbridge. Given the proximity of the latter site in both time and place, this was especially surprising. At that cemetery, however, there was a noticeable paucity of juveniles and subadults (McKinley 1996, 120, table 5:4) which might go some way to explain the differences observed.

DISCUSSION

Apart from providing most of the chronological evidence, the pottery also highlights some evidence about burial ritual and practice at Brougham. Little pottery seems to have gone on to the pyre at Brougham, but there seems to be good evidence that many of the urns, particularly the BB1 jars, were ?'cleansed' by stacking close to the pyre, resulting in their being heavily burnt on one side, prior to their burial.

The selection of pottery for inclusion in the grave is relatively unusual. Samian was clearly regarded as important, in contrast with many Romano-British cemeteries, e.g. the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000), where the burial of samian seems to have been taboo. Similarly, as Dickinson *et al*. demonstrate above (p. 347), levels of decorated samian ware are high for a cemetery, although still low by the standards of a typical military samian assemblage. Other finewares are also strongly represented, particularly Trier 'Rhenish ware', of which there are more complete vessels than Nene Valley colour-coated ones, although there are more vessels in the latter fabric represented in the assemblage. This is clearly a result of the deliberate selection of Trier 'Rhenish' vessels, and it appears to be a phenomenon specific to the Brougham cemetery, with Nene Valley vessels being dominant, as usual, in the Trentholme

Drive, York, cemetery. The very high level of all finewares at the Brougham cemetery is well illustrated by comparison with the broadly contemporary cemetery at Low Borrowbridge (Hird 1996) where samian was completely absent and finewares scarce.

Amphora was notably avoided for burials at Brougham, in contrast to the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000), but this seems to be part of a more general pattern in northern cemeteries. Coarseware mortaria are generally absent from burials, and this is true at Brougham, but here, most unusually, there are a number of samian mortaria from the graves.

There are a number of indications from the ceramic evidence of changes in the burial ritual with time. Fineware levels fall in Phase 3 and continue at the lower level in Phase 3b. This could be chronological, but samian and 'Rhenish' wares are not really replaced by easily available Nene Valley products. The functional compositon of the assemblage also changes with jar levels rising in Phases 2 and 3, and cup and beaker levels falling in Phase 3, whilst mortaria only appear in Phase 2, and the practice of deliberately holing vessels appears in Phase 2, along with the use of colour-coated beakers for adults.

The unstratified pottery is of interest. Its composition is quite different to that from the burials, and thus it quite clearly represents material deposited in the cemetery, rather than deriving from disturbed burials. Its functional composition is of a jar-dominated group, with an emphasis, therefore, on food preparation or containers (the former being particularly probable). The low levels of beakers might suggest little emphasis on drink, although there is quite a high level of liquid containers and a reasonable level of tablewares. Coarseware mortaria might also suggest food preparation. This material would seem likely to represent the preparation and consumption of memorial meals in the cemetery.

THE GLASS VESSELS

By H.E.M. Cool

INTRODUCTION

Glass vessels were used in the cemetery at Brougham both as pyre goods and grave goods. Sixteen vessels appear to have been deposited originally in an unbroken state and melted or heat-affected vessels could be recognised in 21 deposits. In addition there was some vessel glass in the deposits which was of uncertain status, and unstratified glass fragments contemporary with the use of the cemetery had also been collected. At the time of its excavation, this was the largest assemblage from any later second or third-century cemetery in Britain and it has remained so in the intervening years. It is a group of great importance for understanding the nature of glass drinking vessel assemblages in Britain during the third century, and consequently a paper has already appeared on that aspect of the assemblage (Cool 1990). Via that article several of the cups and beakers have also been published as type specimens in the standard reference handbook on vessel glass in Roman Britain (Price and Cottam 1998, 108, fig. 42, 112–15, figs 45–6). The dating now available for the graves allows the conclusions reached in the paper to be expanded and also provides valuable new information for the other forms present.

The glass vessels have suffered some vicissitudes since they were excavated. Though Miss Charlesworth was one of the leading international glass specialists of her day, she never seems to have drafted a report on the material or, if she did, it has not survived in the archive. The first detailed study was undertaken by the present author and Professor Jennifer Price in the 1980s as part of the earlier campaign of post-excavation work. When we received the material it was apparent that in the intervening years several of the vessels had become disassociated from their original burial reference numbers, and only retained a Tullie House Museum accession number. This had happened disproportionately to the complete or near complete pieces. In the 1980s it was not possible to progress with the production of a report much beyond the catalogue stage because of this.

During the 2000–2002 campaign of work it was possible to re-unite these unprovenanced vessels with their original contexts which, it was discovered, were mainly from the 1966 excavations. In most cases it could be done because photographs showing them *in situ* existed. It was also possible to assign other pieces from the 1967 excavations to the correct context via the four-letter codes they retained. In cross-checking the original records with the extant glass it became apparent that some vessels had become associated with burials that they had not been originally found with. In particular **186** had become the provenance of **268.2** and **298.10**. At the end of the process all the extant vessels had been re-assigned but it was clear that **255** and **273** had originally had glass vessels but these were not now extant. That from **273** was described as a 'green beaker' and so may be treated as a drinking vessel. No description survives of that from **255**.

In what follows the types of vessels found will first be discussed according to context and state (pyre good, grave good, etc), and then how the vessels were being used in the different ceremonies will be considered.

VESSELS USED AS PYRE GOODS

Amongst the glass from the cemetery there is a substantial amount which shows clear evidence of having been heat affected. Twenty-two deposits (TABLE 8.34) had this material, ranging from lumps of only 1g or so in weight to 300g in **198**. The condition ranges from fragments that retain their form but show the typical 'jigsaw-like' breaks along the edges that result from shattering through the effect of heat, to lumps that are entirely melted. It is reasonable to assume that this material derives from vessels that were placed either on or very near the pyre. This seems to be confirmed by the fact that in four cases cremated bone was incorporated into the melted lumps (**5.3**, **39.2**, **198.28** and **250.1**), and that when initially studied the deposits that had dried onto several pieces were rich in charcoal dust.

TABLE 8:34: OCCURRENCE OF GLASS VESSELS USED AS PYRE GOODS[6]

	Phase 1	**Phase 2**	**Phase 3**	**Phase 3b**	**Unphased**	**Total**
Adult	–	–	–	2	3	5
Female	–	2	–	1	1	4
Male	–	1	–	1	1	3
Double	–	1	–	–	–	1
Infant	–	3	–	–	–	3
Immature	–	1	–	–	–	1
Uncertain age	2	–	–	1	–	3
No human bone	–	1	1	–	–	2
Total	2	9	1	5	5	22

In all cases the glass was blue/green. During the later second and third century blue/green glass was used primarily for utilitarian containers such as bottles though it was sometimes used for tablewares. The predominance of blue/green amongst the melted glass would therefore suggest that it was containers that were being placed on the pyre, and this seems confirmed by the few cases where it is possible to identify the form. Fragments from a prismatic bottle (**281.4**), a bath-flask (**227.8**) and a bottle or flask (**239.7)** were recovered from the burial-related deposits and there was a fragment consisting of a collapsed unguent bottle which was found unstratified (**G5**). Fragments **75.12** and **164.2** were melted necks that had come from bottles or flasks. In only one case (**198.28**) were there any indications that a vessel that may have been something other than a plain container was present. The fragments in this deposit of pyre debris included convex-curved body fragments with a zone of abraded bands and possibly the edge of a concave base. These features are consistent with it having been a globular flask with cylindrical neck (Isings 1957, form 103; Price and Cottam 1998, 181–2), a vessel type

that is not infrequently found in Britain and which was in use from the mid third century and into the fourth century (Cool and Price 1995, 154). It has to be stressed though that this has to be a tentative identification based on the fact that abraded bands are rare on other forms made of blue/green glass at that time.

Of the other two vessels that can be identified, the presence of the bottle **281.4** in a Phase 3b deposit of pyre debris is of considerable interest. It belongs to the family of prismatic bottles, fragments of which dominate many later first and second-century assemblages (Isings 1957, form 50; Price and Cottam 1998, 194–202). Most were square but hexagonal ones were not uncommon. It has been clear for some time that the use of these continued to the end of the second century and probably into the early third century (Cool and Price 1995, 184–5). Deposit **281.4** would suggest that some may still have been in use in the mid to late third century.

Bath-flasks such as **227.8** were in use from the mid to later first century to the mid third century (Isings 1957, form 61; Price and Cottam 1998, 188–90), and the occurrence of this one in an urned cremation burial of Phase 2 (*c.* A.D. 240–270) provides a useful confirmation of the continuing use of the type in northern Britain into the mid third century. The vessel is relatively lightly heat affected and it is tempting to suggest that it had been placed close to the pyre in the manner of some of the pottery vessels (see p. 358), rather than on it. Though it is represented by several fragments and an almost complete profile can be reconstructed, much of the vessel is missing. As it came from a relatively undisturbed area within **227**, the fragmentary state is presumably due to only a few fragments being placed in the grave rather than having been placed in it as a complete vessel. The fact that the broken edges are heat distorted implies that the contents of the flask had already been disposed of by the time the pyre was lit. Bath-flasks are one of the very few vessel types where it is possible to be confident about the contents. Fragments from them are regularly found in large numbers in contexts associated with bath-houses and some examples still retain the carrying chains through the handles which united them to strigils (see for example Allen 1986, 104–5). Clearly they carried the oil which was an essential part of the Roman personal hygiene regime. It is possible that the presence of the bath-flask here indicates that oil had been used in the preparation of the body prior to cremation. Bath-flasks have been recovered in cremation burials elsewhere, for example at Ospringe (Whiting 1926, 123, no. 141, 126, no 146; Whiting *et al.* 1931, pl. xvi) and at Shoebury (*VCH Essex*, 179) but these show no evidence of having been on the pyre. Their contents could have been used after burning, perhaps to anoint the cremated bone. In the case of **227.8** the contents must have been used prior to burning, perhaps in cleaning the body.

Although it is only in the case of **227.8** that the contents can be suggested with any certainty, the other glass vessels that can be recognised amongst the pyre goods also clearly contained liquids, given their narrow necks, which must have been used to prepare either the pyre or the body prior to burning.

The melted vessel glass includes material that has become completely molten (see for example **198.28**). The working temperature of a standard Roman glass is 1000–1100^{0}C with the melting range being higher (Henderson 2000, 39, fig. 3.24). To achieve the effect seen in some of the molten glass, it is clear that some of the pyres at least must have achieved temperatures well in excess of 1100^{0}C.

VESSELS USED AS GRAVE GOODS

Of the vessels placed entire in the grave, the majority consist of drinking vessels but there are also a small number of closed containers (see TABLE 8.35). They range in condition from complete to entirely shattered. Cup **264.8**, for example, is as perfect today as the day it was made as may be seen from FIG. 8.18 whereas others such as **107.9** and **330.2** are shattered into hundreds of fragments and splinters. Though it would be impossible to be absolutely sure when the damage took place, it seems most likely to have occurred post deposition. Some of the vessels such as **102.17** have a wall thickness much less than would normally be expected and give every appearance of having been 'corroded'. Others which are now shattered into many fragments often include pieces that have disintegrated into a myriad of tiny chips

TABLE 8:35: OCCURRENCE OF GLASS VESSELS USED AS GRAVE GOODS

Vessel type	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 3b	Total
Cylindrical cup (Isings 85)	1	2	–	–	3
Hemispherical cup	–	2	–	1	3
Cylindrical cup (cracked off rim)	–	–	–	1	1
Footed cup	–	1	–	–	1
Indented beaker	–	–	–	1	1
Beaker/flask	–	–	–	1	1
Handled jar	–	1	–	–	1
Flask	–	1	1	–	2
Indented unguent flask	–	–	?1	–	1
Missing	1	–	1	–	2
Total	2	7	3	4	16

resembling granulated sugar. Such phenomena strongly suggest that the glass has devitrified due to adverse soil conditions. This is very unusual as normally Roman glass is chemically stable in British soil conditions. Given the erosion seen on the samian vessels (see p. 345) and the virtual non-survival of unburnt bone at Brougham, it does seem probable here. When combined with the damage caused to various deposits by ploughing and the engineering works, it would seem sufficient to explain the damaged state of some vessels.

As it is of some interest to know whether any special selection of vessel forms is evident, an attempt will be made to assess whether or not these are common types within the repertoire of glass vessels in use in third-century Roman Britain. There are problems in doing this as the assemblage includes forms which are difficult to identify from fragments of the type to be expected in the normal domestic assemblage. The same rim and base types can be used on a range of vessels and it is only when both are present together with some of the body that identifications can be made with certainty.

The majority of the vessels used as grave goods were drinking vessels made of colourless glass. There were three examples (**102.17**, **107.9** and **186.8**) of the cylindrical cup with double base ring (Isings 1957, form 85b; Price and Cottam 1998, 99–101). These are the commonest glass drinking vessels of the later second to early to mid third century, often occurring in large numbers on sites occupied at that time. As can be seen from TABLE 8.35 they were found in the earlier phases and do not occur in contexts of Phases 3 and 3b. This helps to confirm the view that they were going out of use in the middle of the third century. Indeed they may already have disappeared from common use by the end of Phase 2 as one of the examples from a grave of that date (**186.8**) shows heavy wear and had clearly been in use for a considerable time before it was deposited.

FIG. 8.18 Hemispherical glass drinking cup (**264.8**). (Crown copyright).

The commonest drinking vessel in the cemetery is the hemispherical cup with fire-rounded rims (Price and Cottam 1998, 112–13). One plain example (**307.19**), one with pulled-up blobs (**268.9**) and a third with abraded bands and pulled-up blobs and ribs (**264.8**) were found deposited as grave goods with urned cremation burials. It will also be appropriate to discuss two further examples here. Cup **330.2** with abraded bands and pulled-up blobs was found in a deposit about which we have no contextual information, so whether this was an urned cremation burial or a special vessel deposit or 'memorial' is unclear. It is likely to have been deposited as a complete vessel, however, unlike **274.12,** decorated by pulled-up ribs, which was clearly deposited in a fragmentary but unburnt state with redeposited pyre debris in a deposit of uncertain status.

This vessel form is clearly the dominant glass drinking vessel of the mid to late third centuries in Britain, though the difficulty of identifying it from small fragments probably leads to its presence being underestimated in site assemblages. It has been discussed at length in previous publications (Cool 1990; Cool and Price 1995, 86–7) where details of dated *comparanda* are given. Here it is merely appropriate to note the chronological information the Brougham cups provide, as it has been suggested that though it is primarily a third-century form, it might have been in use at the end of the second century (Price and Cottam 1998, 112). As can be seen from TABLE 8.35 where they have been deposited as grave goods, they are found in Phase 2 and Phase 3b contexts. The same is also true of the two of uncertain status. No example has come from a Phase 1 deposit. These cups and the cylindrical ones of Isings (1957) form 85b, have an overlapping and complementary chronological distribution in the Brougham material, that strongly suggests the hemispherical form did indeed replace the cylindrical form in the mid third century and was probably not in use during the early third century.

Both of the forms discussed so far are common ones, but the rest of the drinking vessels found at Brougham appear not to be. A few similar cups to **310.8** have been suggested (Price and Cottam 1998, 114–15) but mainly on the grounds of rim fragments where the attribution is sometimes questionable. The best parallel for this vessel comes from the General Accident site, Tanner Row (YORYM 1983-4.32; unpublished) where the complete profile of a similar vessel came from an early to mid third-century context. Cup **310.8** came from a Phase 3b grave suggesting a late third-century date of deposition. The base is much worn suggesting again that the vessel was old when deposited. Tentatively an early to mid third-century date can currently be suggested for the type.

The only blue/green drinking vessel (**186.9**) is an example of another type which it is very difficult to identify from small fragments, and no precise parallels can be advanced for it from Britain. It is a cup with a high foot and an out-turned fire-rounded rim and came from a mid third-century burial. It probably belongs broadly to the same family as vessels with lower base rings and wider rims found in a late second to third-century cemetery at Hauxton (Harden 1958, 12, nos 3–4, fig. 7) and from an inhumation burial at Butt Road, Colchester (Cool and Price 1995, 99, no. 693, fig. 6.4) belonging to the part of the cemetery for which a date in the first two decades or so of the fourth century has been suggested (Crummy *et al.* 1993, 54). It should be noted, however, that much of the pottery predates that period, sometimes by a considerable amount (Going 1993), and so the glass vessel might also be of third-century date. High footrings of a size suitable for a cup like this are rare amongst Romano-British site assemblages, but two similar vessels may be noted from the cremation cemetery at Neuville-le-Pollet, Seine Maritime, in Normandy (Sennequier 1985, 39, nos 5–6).

Tall glass drinking vessels which may be termed beakers are rare from the later second century to the end of the third century when low cups were obviously preferred. In this assemblage there is one beaker decorated with pulled-up horns and indentations (**307.20**) from a late third-century Phase 3b context. This appears to be a very rare form, not just in Britain but also in the rest of the north-western provinces. A very similar vessel, though with a cracked-off rather than fire-rounded rim as here, was found in a cremation burial at Neuville-

le-Pollet (Sennequier 1985, 55, no. 29) dated to the late third or early fourth century. Another is known from Aachener Strasse, Köln (Doppelfeld 1966, Taf. 95) also apparently with a cracked-off rim, though of a proportion that more resembles a tall cup. It is possible that some of the body fragments with pinched-up lugs (Cool and Price 1995, 86, fig. 5.14, no. 550) in site assemblages might have come from such beakers but generally they retain a curve to the body suggesting they came from the variant of the hemispherical cup discussed above with this decoration. The beaker form does appear to be truly rare rather than just apparently so because of the difficulty of recognising them from fragments.

In the same grave as this beaker there was another vessel that could be reconstructed as a beaker (**307.21**) as has been done in FIG. 4.243. The multiplicity of fragments and their small size above the lower body meant that physical reconstruction was not a possibility and so there is no certainty that the image presented is what the vessel actually looked like, though it is consistent with the evidence. If it was a beaker like this, then the vessel is unusual and unparalleled. It is also very large. An alternative might be that it was a flask like one found in an inhumation burial at Butt Road, Colchester (Cool and Price 1995, 155, no. 1188) which also contained a hemispherical cup similar to **307.19** and which should thus date to the mid to late third century. Against this identification, however, is the fact that no fragments from the shoulder or shoulder/neck junction fragment could be recognised. Whatever the vessel was one thing is certain, it was unusual.

Equally unusual is the small handled jar from a Phase 2 grave (**298.10**). Originally the vessel had a handle which had either broken off or been removed. The stump of the lower handle attachment had been carefully reworked to remove irregularities, and the vessel showed signs of heavy wear and thus long use on various part of the body. Originally it might have been similar to a blue/green vessel from Neusser Strasse, Köln (Fremersdorf 1958, 35, Taf. 60). Handled wide-mouthed vessels are rare in glass. Isings (1957, 76) designates them as her form 58 attributable to the first to second centuries on the basis of examples being known from Pompeii and from a cremation burial at Vaison that was clearly of Antonine or later date (Morin-Jean 1913, 256, figs 334–5). Morin-Jean (1913, 100) in designating them his form 44 suggested they might possibly continue into the third century on the grounds of a carinated colourless wheel-cut example of unknown provenance in the Cabinet des Médailles, Paris, presumably drawing unstated comparisons with the colourless cylindrical bottles that the lower half of that one resembles. At 97mm high **298.10** is smaller than the form normally is. The three examples from the cremation cemetery of mid first to mid second-century date at Lattes, Languedoc (Pistolet 1981, 43, nos 170–2), for example, range from 111–55mm in height. The shoulder is also more sharply stepped than normal. Given that the rim and shoulder are quite distinctive, it can be said with some confidence that similar vessels do not appear to have been recovered from Romano-British site assemblages. The vessel is thus an unusual example of a form that was never particularly common, and which appears distinctly rare in the north-western provinces.

Two large flasks and one smaller unguent bottle were also found. One of the flasks (**189.2**) has lost its upper parts through the truncation of the Phase 2 grave which also affected the pottery beaker which appears to have acted as an urn. Despite this, the spherical body and constriction of the neck at the junction of body and neck make it clear that originally this was a flask of Isings (1957) form 103 (Price and Cottam 1998, 181–2). The form is certainly in use during the second half of the third century and into the first half of the fourth century (Cool and Price 1995, 154). The form never occurs in large numbers on Romano-British sites but is not rare. At Brougham it is possibly the only type that occurs both as a grave good and as a pyre good, as **198.28** *may* have come from such a vessel.

The other large flask (**157.4**), from an unurned cremation burial of Phase 3, is a typical example of a form that can only be recognised if a substantial part of the vessel is found. The base is a type used on many vessels and the funnel mouth with rolled-in rim edge can be seen on a variety of flask and jug forms. It would also be almost impossible to recognise the flattening of the body to produce an oval outline from a small fragment. Occasionally substantial parts

of the rim and neck of what may have been similar flasks are found, such as a colourless one found with much Antonine pottery in a context at Springhead which postdated A.D. 175 (Penn 1961, 139, no. 5, fig. 6.10). This suggests that such vessels were present in the domestic assemblages, but how common they were is impossible to say.

Indented unguent bottles such as **350.3** (Isings 1957, form 83; Price and Cottam 1998, 177–9) are not uncommon in domestic assemblages. They were primarily in use during the third century. Where they have been found in burials, these tend not to be closely dated within the late Roman period (see for example Cool and Price 1995, 162, no. 1252; Harden 1962, 140, fig. 88.H.324.5), but a handful do have narrower dates. The example from an inhumation burial at Ospringe may be dated to within the first half of the century (Whiting *et al.* 1931, 31, no. 321, pl. 31), whilst that from Mansel Street, London (*RCHM London*, 157, fig. 64.22), accompanied a cremation burial in a BB jar with obtuse lattice with a groove above. As discussed elsewhere this would imply a date after *c.* A.D. 270, suggesting this is of late third-century date. The date of the probable urned cremation burial that **350.3** was found in is problematic as the only information that survives in the archive is the unguent bottle itself and a photograph of the deposit. The pottery does not survive but from the photograph it may be suggested that the group was later rather than earlier in the Brougham sequence (J. Evans pers. comm.).

VESSEL GLASS OF UNCERTAIN STATUS IN THE DEPOSITS

Vessel glass also survives in the archive marked as coming from eleven other deposits.[7] This material shows no evidence of melting and thus does not appear to be derived from the pyre. The fragmentary nature suggests that this material did not derive from a deliberately deposited grave good and seems, where evidence is sufficient, to have derived from the fill. In all but one case (**278.13**) the fragments are colourless and thus likely to come from tablewares though only in the case of the cup **274.12** (see p. 368) is it possible to identify the form. The blue/green fragment **278.13** comes from a prismatic bottle. This category of material would thus appear to share more in common with the material placed in the grave, than with that placed on the pyre.

UNSTRATIFIED VESSEL GLASS

The small group of unstratified material contains one piece of exceptional interest. **G1** is a small colourless fragment with traces of gold leaf applied to the outer surface. As it is so small and lacks a context, it is difficult to assert with certainty that it is of Roman date, but given the lack of post-Roman material within the archive, it does seem very likely that it was. Decorating glass vessels with gold had a history within the Roman world going back to the Hellenistic period but such vessels were always rare. It is possible that interest in the technique revived during the later third to fourth century (see Harden *et al.* 1987, 262–8 for general discussion). **G1** would belong to the tradition that is thought to have been centred in the Rhineland where the decoration was applied to the outer surface and not protected by an outer layer of glass as in the glass-houses in Rome.

Gold glass such as **G1** was thus in use during the time people were being buried in the cemetery, but the discovery of a fragment of such a vessel is remarkable. Gold glass vessels such as this are at the extreme luxury end of glassware as may be seen from such vessels as the Disch cantharus (Harden *et al.* 1987, 253; Whitehouse 2001, 275) and the blue bowl decorated with images of the young princes of the Constantinian house and scenes from the life of Jonah and the whale from the cemetery at Köln-Braunsfeld (Doppelfeld 1960/1, 14, Abb 4.1, Taf. 10; Harden *et al.* 1987, 25–7, no. 5). The only other fragment of gold glass known to me from Roman Britain is a small fragment from a rural, possibly villa, site at Ashley Northants (D. Charlesworth, unpublished papers) where occupation appears to have ceased in the late third century. This small fragment takes its place alongside other items found at Brougham such as the ivory and gold objects as an indication that this was a wealthy community able to access rare, luxurious objects.

The other polychrome fragment (**G2)** indicates snake-thread glass vessels were being used in the vicinity. The style was used to decorate tablewares in the later second to mid third centuries. Vessels such as this do not tend to be found in large quantities in site assemblages, but are not uncommon (Cool and Price 1995, 61).

Of the other unstratified glass, blue/green vessels (**G5–12**) are more common than colourless tablewares (**G3–4**). The only fragment of any of the unstratified material to show evidence of having been on the pyre is the unguent bottle neck fragment **G5**, which perhaps suggests that the rest of the material derived from activities that took place at the pyre or grave side. The commonest vessel form represented amongst the blue/green glass is the square or prismatic bottle (**G8–12**), suggesting that these had a role within the cemetery as well as being put on the pyre.

GLASS VESSEL USE IN THE CEMETERY

As will have become apparent in the foregoing discussion there is a distinct difference between the vessels thought appropriate to put on the pyre and those placed formally as grave goods in the grave. For the pyre, the evidence points to the use of liquid containers, presumably the interest lying in the contents rather than the vessel itself. In the grave, drinking vessels were preferred, though a few liquid containers were also present. When the vessels are summarised according to the likely age and sex of the people they accompanied (TABLE 8.36) other differences appear.

TABLE 8:36: OCCURRENCE OF GLASS VESSELS USED AS GRAVE AND PYRE GOODS ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX

	Cup/ beaker	**Flask**	**Indented unguent**	**Handled jar**	**Unknown**	**Pyre**
Adult	4	1	–	–	1	5
Female	–	–	–	1	–	3
Male	6	–	–	–	1	3
Double	–	–	–	–	–	1
Infant	–	1	–	–	–	3
Immature	–	–	–	–	–	1
Uncertain age	–	–	–	–	–	3
Unknown	–	–	1	–	–	–

As can be seen, glass vessels and their contents were used on the pyres of the full range of the population whereas glass vessels were placed overwhelmingly in the graves of adults. Of particular interest is the distribution of the drinking vessels (TABLE 8.37). A formal significance test supports the conclusion that glass drinking vessels are disproportionately associated with adult males at Brougham as it is significant at less than the 1% level. When the pyre goods of the unsexed adult graves are inspected, they contain no items such as glass beads that seem to be the preserve of females (see p. 389). This all strongly suggests that glass drinking vessels were an artefact type that was seen in some way as being particularly associated with adult males, and possibly those of more mature years. Of those where the age can be suggested in other than general terms, the individual in **107** was 24 to 45, in **107** was 35 to 45, in **273** was over 40, and in **102** was over 45.

TABLE 8.37: PRESENCE AND ABSENCE OF GLASS DRINKING VESSELS IN ADULT GRAVES

	Present	**Absent**	**Total**
Male	6	8	14
Female	0	17	17
Adult	4	28	32
Total	10	53	63

In the current state of knowledge the way in which glass vessels were being used at Brougham appears unusual. In TABLE 8.38 the vessels used as pyre and grave goods at a variety of second to third-century cemeteries in Britain have been summarised. Few cemeteries have a narrow date range as at Brougham, and in most cases the cemeteries were in use for a much longer period. In the table an attempt has been made to exclude burials in them which were clearly of first or early second-century date. The cemeteries considered are those of Trentholme Drive, York (Wenham 1968), Infirmary Field, Chester (Newstead 1914; 1921), Ospringe (Whiting 1925; 1926; Whiting *et al.* 1931), Baldock (Westell 1931), Skeleton Green, Braughing (Partridge 1981) and the East London cemetery (Barber and Bowsher 2000). In all cases other than the Infirmary Field cemetery, inhumation burials have been excluded. The Chester cemetery is an inhumation cemetery but of particular relevance to Brougham not only because geographically it is the closest, but also because of the vessel types deposited there. It should be noted that at Baldock there is no evidence that pyre goods of any sort were reported on. The figures for Skeleton Green are slightly problematic as they are derived from only five graves, one of which possibly contained eleven glass vessels (Charlesworth 1981, 268, B.xxxviii). Six of these are known only from base fragments, though there is no indication from the pottery in the cemetery that it suffered from excessive truncation. These vessels, most of which cannot be identified as to form, have not been included here.

TABLE 8.38: COMPARISON OF THE GLASS VESSELS USED IN SECOND TO THIRD-CENTURY CEMETERIES

Site	Bottle	Flask	Cup/ beaker	Jug	Bowl	Other	Pyre – container	Pyre – drinking
Brougham	–	3	10	–	–	1	21	–
Trentholme	(?)	–	–	–	–	–	(+)	(+)
Chester	–	3	4	–	–	–	N/A	N/A
Ospringe	–	3	–	–	1	1	2	–
Baldock	7	1	1	–	–	1	–	–
Skeleton Green	1	1	3	2	2	–	–	–
East London	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–

As can be seen from TABLE 8.38, the habit of placing liquid containers on the pyre is widespread. Only at Trentholme Drive is there evidence of drinking vessels being burnt. These were cylindrical cups of Isings (1957) form 85b of the sort discussed above in connection with **102.17** etc (Harden 1968, 93, no. 14). When it comes to the placing of glass vessels in the graves, Brougham stands apart from all the other cremation cemeteries. With the exception of London where no unburnt vessels are present, the other cemeteries favour liquid containers in the form of bottles and flasks. Drinking vessels are absent from most of the cemeteries. Only at Infirmary Field do they form a slight majority, again being cylindrical cups (Newstead 1914, 144, no. 23.5, 151, no. 26.15, 154, no. 27.4; 1921, 51, no. 30.5).[8] At Skeleton Green a much more varied suite of vessels was deposited, more reminiscent of a normal domestic assemblage.

Other than at York and Chester, the deposition of glass vessels in late second and third-century graves seems rare in the north of England. Low Borrowbridge (Lambert 1996) and Petty Knowes, Rochester (Charlton and Mitcheson 1984) appear to have produced no vessel glass at all. One of the tombs excavated in 1850 at High Rochester, however, is recorded as having some fragments of glass, though there is no mention as to whether they were melted or not (Bosanquet 1935, 249). A single glass fragment was noted with a 'cremation circular patch' at Lanchester (Turner 1990, table 1, no. 33). There is no detailed description of the fragment but the brief description of the context might hint that it was redeposited pyre debris, perhaps suggesting this was a pyre good. The cremation area uncovered during the excavations on the Corbridge bypass produced evidence of vessels being used as pyre goods, again these seemed to be liquid containers including an unguent bottle and a jug (Price and Cottam 1995, 26, nos 3 and 5). Far to the north beyond the province, a cylindrical cup was

deposited unburnt in a cist at Airlie (Curle 1932, 292, fig. 3, 386, no. 65), but that seems the only example of a cup as a grave good other than those at Brougham and Chester.

The way in which glass was being used as a grave good is unusual for Britain at this time and especially for the North. It certainly stands out as unusual within the context of a cemetery attached to an auxiliary fort and *vicus*, having more in common with the cemetery associated with the legionary fortress at Chester. The discovery of the apparent association between adult males and glass drinking vessels is completely unexpected. Whether this was widespread or merely yet another quirk of the Brougham record must remain at present unknown as there are no other contemporary cemeteries with drinking vessels where the human bone has been subject to rigorous analysis.

Another feature of the glass deposited as grave goods is that a noticeable proportion are forms that seem rare and are uncommon in contemporary domestic assemblages. Vessels **298.10** and **307.20–1** are certainly rare, whilst **186.9** and **310.8** may be. This was a phenomenon observed in late second to third-century inhumation burials with glass vessels in the East London cemetery (Shepherd 2000, 129). The late second-century burial at Skeleton Green with many vessels noted above, also contains some forms that appear most uncommon. There are hints here that glass vessels may be playing some special role in the burial ritual, that they are not alternatives for pottery. Shepherd (*ibid*, 128), has suggested that at times glass may have been specially selected because it is transparent and thus the contents could be seen. This may be one facet of the explanation, but there must have been other influences at work also to account for the selection of rare and unusual forms.

THE METAL VESSELS

By Quita Mould

INTRODUCTION

The cemetery has produced a remarkably wide range of metal vessels though most are represented by rather unprepossessing fragments. Only one was placed entire in the grave as a grave good. This was the enamelled patera (**107.10**, FIG. 8.19) which has already been discussed fully in Chapter 4. Metal vessels appear to have been placed most frequently on the pyre and these are discussed here.

FIG. 8.19 Enamelled copper alloy *patera* (**107.10**). (Crown copyright).

Small fragments of rim or base from copper-alloy vessels, and copper-alloy fragments with decorative features also indicative of vessels, were found in the fill of a minimum of 29 deposits. In addition, fragments of copper-alloy sheet that may come from the walls of sheet-metal vessels were found in 38 deposits, however it is also possible that these sheet fragments derive from other items such as box fittings (as discussed on p. 395). There are also small quantities of formless fragments of pewter, likely to be the deteriorated remains of pewter vessels, from four deposits (**41.2, 270.6, 284.3** and **320.2**).

The individual vessel fragments recovered were small and none of the burials was found to contain sufficient rim or body fragments to represent a complete vessel. Presumably the vessels had been burnt on the pyre with the body and a small proportion of the broken fragments had been collected amongst the general cremation debris for burial. Many of the fragments were too small and distorted to allow their original vessel type to be recognised or the rim diameter to be estimated, however a tentative identification has been possible in some cases including fragments from relatively rare and expensive foreign imports. The vessels in the Museum Kam at Nijmegen catalogued by Den Boersterd (1956) and Koster (1997) provide some measure of the variety of copper-alloy vessels that might be encountered and it is to these that the very small fragments surviving in the Brougham cremations have been compared. The types of vessel apparently represented are illustrated in FIGS 8.20 and 8.21. It is notable that the majority of the forms are those of large, open vessels. Vessels traditionally associated with the serving of wine, such as strainers and dippers, are also represented though by the third century they are more likely to be more general household items. Patera such as **107.10** were not found as pyre goods, though the base of one was found unstratified.

While diameters are shown on the accompanying illustrations of some of the larger fragments, their small size and distortion by heat render them estimates only.

THE VESSEL TYPES PRESENT

Hemmoor buckets (FIG. 8.20, no.1)

Four small fragments of flat-topped rim, thickened into a triangular section on the interior, were found. Although small, the fragments appear to come from straight-sided, round-based buckets on a low footring of a type known as Hemmoor buckets (named after a cemetery in Lower Saxony, see Bland 1979, 106, n. 4). Hemmoor buckets are rarely found in Britain though more commonly found on the continent. Deposit **237.1** consists of a number of small fragments that may come from a large copper-alloy bucket. The pieces comprised a fragment of rim decorated with a beaded border and a series of oblique grooves with lines of impressed dots between (FIG. 4.195, no. 1a), a fragment with cast relief decoration and a beaded border (FIG. 4.195, no. 1c), and a fragment of handle of octagonal section with decorative mouldings (FIG. 4.195, no. 1b). The cast relief fragment is likely to come from a decorative frieze from the bucket. A similarly small fragment of decorated bronze, also thought to come from the frieze of a Hemmoor bucket, was found close to the Romano-Celtic temple at Harlow, Essex (Painter 1972, 354–7). More complete examples of Hemmoor buckets with a decorative frieze depicting hunting scenes between transverse borders just below the rim are known, as a bucket in the Rijksmuseum G. M. Kam at Nijmegen dated before A.D. 270 (Den Boesterd 1956, 44, no. 146, pl. xiv, 46 a–d). Fragments **237.1** came from an unurned cremation burial which was possibly placed in a wooden box and accompanied the cremated remains of an adult ?female of between 30–40 years of age.

Fragments of three other rims have similar profiles (**235.1, 141.1** and **M4**) and come from other buckets of the type. Fragment **141.1** was found in a Phase 1 deposit of pyre debris which contained the cremated remains of an adult ?female. This rim fragment has horizontal grooved decoration comparable with a bucket from Beachy Head that contained a hoard of third-century *antoniniani* coins found in 1973 (Bland 1979, 106, fig. 1) and another example from Nijmegen (Den Boesterd 1956, 45, no. 147, pl. vi). Fragment **235.1** came from an unphased spread of pyre debris and is similarly grooved but slightly less thick in section. The unstratified rim fragment (**M4**) also has a beaded border.

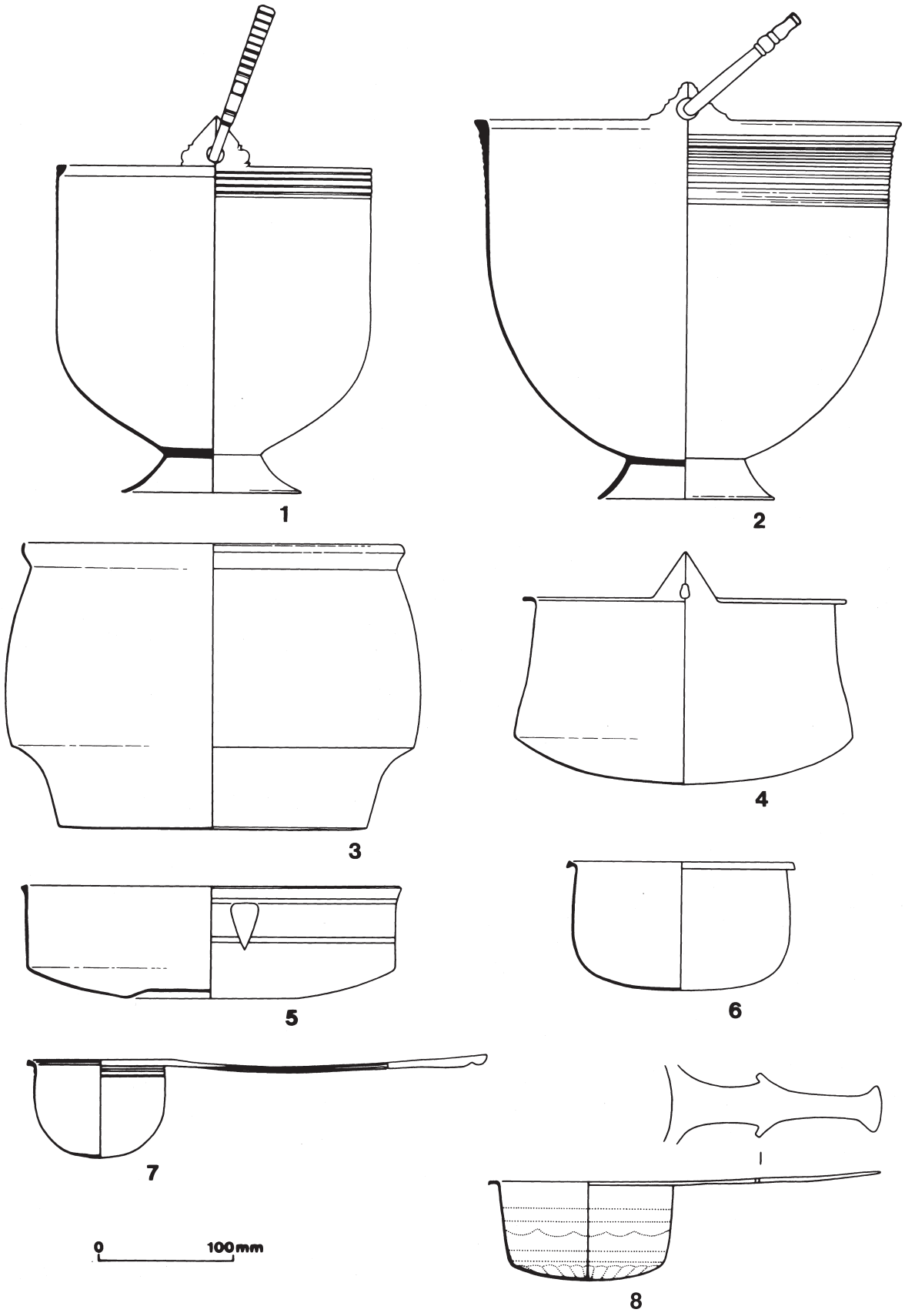

FIG. 8.20 Examples of the metal vessel types represented among the Brougham pyre goods (nos 1, 3–8 after Den Boesterd 1956, no. 2 after Painter 1972).

In addition, other fragments possibly from the body of large buckets have also been recognised. Fragments of copper-alloy sheet decorated with grooves still containing traces of inlaid silver, were found in two contexts. These fragments may also derive from Hemmoor buckets as slight traces of silver inlay work were noted on a Hemmoor bucket from Nijmegen (Den Boesterd 1956, no. 146). Fragment **106.1**, which retains the silver inlay, was found in a Phase 3b deposit of pyre debris with a wide range of other pyre goods including glass beads. The other (FIG. 4.194, no. 1c) came from the same spread of pyre debris that produced the rim fragment **235.1**.

These large buckets appear to have been in use over a long period of time and have a wide distribution (Den Boesterd 1956, 44–5 for references as to find spots and dating). They have been found in a number of third-century contexts including graves in cemeteries located throughout continental Europe including the Roman Danube provinces, Scandinavia and Russia.

Fragments from other bucket types

Other flat-topped rim fragments were found (**326.1** and **114.1**) from deposits of pyre debris dated to Phases 2 and 3 respectively (FIG. 8.20, no. 2). They differed from those of Hemmoor type described above, however, by expanding on the exterior rather than the interior face and being less thick. A Hemmoor bucket found at Ramsgate (Painter 1972, 355, fig. 1) has a similar profile and these fragments may come from comparable buckets.

A rim fragment (**289.1**) with an everted rim upturned at the edge was found in an unphased funerary deposit of uncertain status. This rim form occurs on a range of bucket types (Eggers 1951, 38, Westerwanna/Tingvoll type; Eggers 1951, 41, Sau type; Koster 1997, 62), examples of which are present in the collections of the Museum Kam at Nijmegen (for complete vessels see Den Boesterd 1956, 43, no. 143–4, pl. v; Koster 1997, 62–3, nos 77, 80). Buckets with this rim form (FIG. 8.20, no. 3) have been found in second and third-century contexts, the Sau type is thought to have been made in the Rhine provinces (Den Boesterd 1956, 43).

Cauldron

A fragment of thick rim projecting at a right-angle from the remaining vessel body (**198.2**) from an unphased deposit of pyre debris, may come from a cauldron (FIG. 8.20, no. 4). Two cauldrons with triangular lugs for handles from Nijmegen have similar rims (Den Boesterd 1956, 50, nos 164–5, pl. vii).

Basins, dippers and strainers

Two fragments with vertical body walls and rims with slightly projecting, triangular, thickened rims were found (**127.1** and **245.1**). These may come from deep-walled basins (FIG 8.20, no. 5, see for example Den Boesterd 1956, 56, no. 192, pl. viii). Den Boesterd has suggested that such deep-walled basins were made in the Lower Rhine area in the second and third centuries (1956, 56–7 for distribution and dating). Items **239.1** and **270.2** are fragments of narrow, projecting rim that are slightly undercut. Rims of this form are found on small deep basins (FIG. 8.20, no. 6, see for example Den Boesterd 1956, 61, no. 210, pl. ix), dippers and strainers (FIG. 8.20, nos 7–8; Eggers 1951, type 160–1 dating to the mid second to third century; Koster 1997, 48). One fragment (**239.1**) has distinct turning marks present, a feature commonly seen on both dippers and strainers dating to the third century (see for example Koster 1997, 47–8, dipper no. 42, strainers nos 43–4). Fragment **133.1** from a redeposited pyre debris deposit of Phase 1, is a simple, unthickened rim horizontally projecting at a right-angle to the body. A rim of similar type can be seen on two strainers from Nijmegen (FIG. 8.20, no. 8; Koster 1997, 22–3, nos 59–60, pl. iii), these examples both have cylindrical bowls characteristic of vessels dating to the late second and throughout the third centuries. Small fragments of distorted copper alloy with series of small perforations probably originally deriving from the bowls of strainers were found in three deposits. Fragment **81.1** came from an urned adult cremation burial of Phase 2, the other two were unphased.

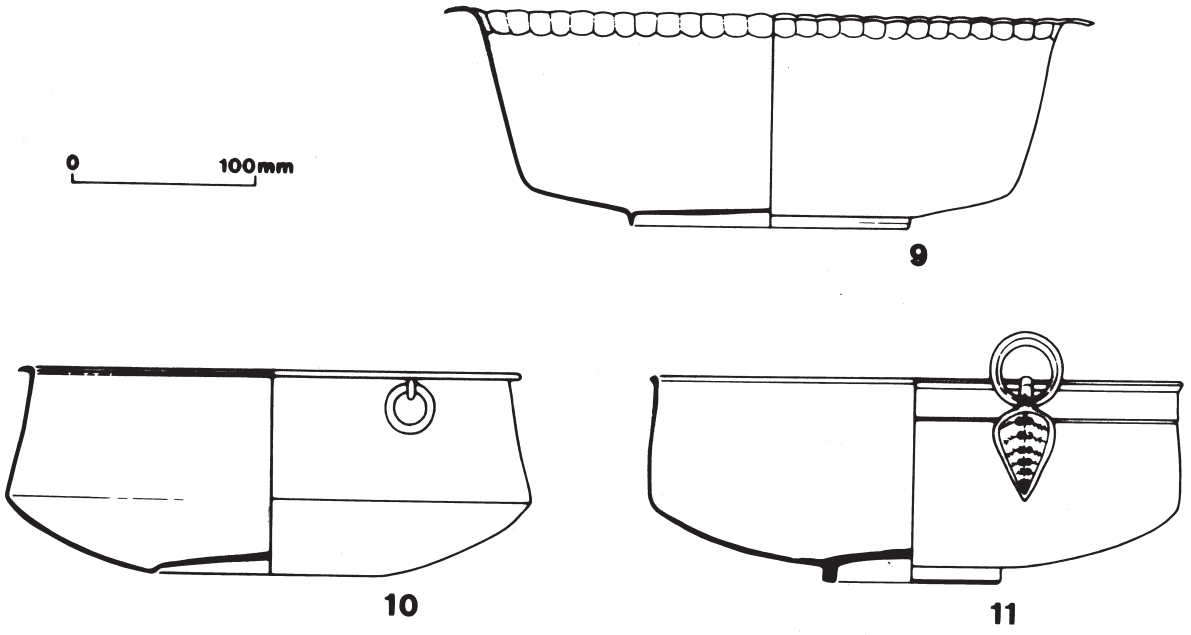

FIG. 8.21 Further examples of the metal vessel types represented among the Brougham pyre goods (after Den Boesterd 1956).

Fragment **217.2** came from a pyre debris deposit with a very small amount of adult ?male cremated bone and **221.2** from a possible pyre site.

Dippers, strainers and jugs used in the serving of wine were commonly placed in earlier Roman graves. Koster has noted, however, that by the third century dippers and strainers are found in 'bronze hoards' composed principally of kitchen utensils and appear to have become more general household vessels rather than solely part of the drinking service as they had been previously (Koster 1997, 46).

Narrow-necked vessels

A fragment from a narrow-necked vessel with a simple, flat-topped rim, the result of a gently expanded vessel wall (**77.1**), was found in a Phase 2 urned cremation in a cist. The triangular, thickened, slightly inward-sloping top edge from another narrow-necked vessel (**221.1**), possibly a flask or jug, was recovered from a possible pyre site that also contained a fragment that may come from a strainer (**221.2**).

Other possible vessels

A fragment of sheet silver with fluted decoration (**303.1**) was found in the Phase 3 urned cremation burial of an adult ?female 21–45 years. It was notable in also containing a scabbard slide and horse bones. The fluted fragment may come from a bowl with a fluted rim (FIG. 8.21, no. 9) like an example from Nijmegen (Den Boesterd 1956, 58, no. 198, pl. ix). Bowls with repoussé decorated rims are uncommon but examples from a cemetery at Oldendorf dated to the late third century are cited (*ibid*, 59). The original documentation accompanying the silver fragment mentions the presence of a rivet, however, so that the fragment may be broken from a riveted sheet fitting.

Possible vessel handles

In addition to a fragment of faceted handle (**237.1**) from a large bucket described above, small metal rings and certain fragments of copper alloy appear to be vessel handles.

The remains of eight rings of copper alloy were found in seven burials (**195.1**, **215.1**, **270.4**, **326.3**, **246.1** and **175.1**). Five of these seven burials also contained fragments of vessel rims. In addition, a single ring of iron articulating with a second smaller ring was found in redeposited

pyre debris (**295.2**) while a curved strip of silver, likely to come from another example, was found during surface cleaning. These small rings are likely to be vessel handles (see for example FIG. 8.21, no. 10). Complete or near complete examples varied in diameter from 20–33mm. One example (**246.1**), differing from the rest by having a plano-convex section rather than round, was larger with a diameter of 50mm. Three rings were recovered from one burial (**215.1**) along with a fragment of everted rim from a thin-walled vessel (**215.6**). Two of the rings were 20mm in diameter, the other measured 33mm in diameter. Rings of differing size occur on a basin from Nijmegen (Den Boesterd 1956, 57, no. 193, pl. viii).

A duck-shaped handle escutcheon (**217.1**) occurred in an unphased deposit of pyre debris. The escutcheon for a ring handle is comparable with more elaborate examples on a steep-walled basin from Nijmegen (Den Boesterd 1956, 55–6, no. 189, pl. viii; see FIG. 8.21, no. 11) and an example from Birrens (Robertson 1975, fig. 38, no. 1). Another possible handle escutcheon distorted by heat (**102.1**) was found with fragments of sheet in the Phase 2 urned cremation burial of a male aged 45 years or more.

A fragment of sinuous stem with a spherical terminal (**235.2**) likely to be a small 'swing-handle' was recovered, along with two small fragments of vessel from an unphased deposit of pyre debris. Handles of this style are found on small, globular flasks sometimes called *balsamaria* which held unguents used during bathing. A flask of this type, containing a residue of a soap solution, was found associated with two copper-alloy strigils in a stone burial cist in Stein, Limberg, in the Netherlands (Koster 1997, 82).

A round-sectioned stem of copper alloy (**223.1**) likely to be broken from a handle was found in redeposited pyre debris attributed to Phase 1, and another was found unstratified in cleaning. Small fragments with a plano-convex or triangular section possibly deriving from handles were also found unstratified.

METAL VESSEL USE IN THE CEMETERY

By H.E.M. Cool

In total 34 deposits with metal vessels which were used on the pyre can be identified and these are summarised in TABLE 8.39. As may be seen all the associations are with adults. The data can also be presented showing the presence of metal vessels as a proportion of all deposits with human bone that can be aged as either adult or immature (TABLE 8.40). A formal probability test shows that the association of adults is statistically significant at less than the 0.1% level. It may also be noted that the human bone in all the deposits with probable pewter vessels is also adult. The placing of metal vessels on the pyre, therefore, definitely seems to be age related. There may even be hints that some selection was being practised on gender-related grounds. It is noticeable that in three of the deposits where the presence of buckets has been suggested (**114**, **141** and **237**) there are the remains of females. The human occupant in the other three (**235**, **289** and **326**) cannot be sexed but one (**326**) has a gold earring which would normally be thought to be a female attribute (see p. 382).

The number and range of metal vessels represented as pyre goods is currently unparalleled within a Romano-British context, but that may be the result of the lack of attention given to pyre goods until recently. Other cemeteries with cremation burials where the cremated remains have been subject to detailed study do not appear to have produced anything that suggests

TABLE 8.39: OCCURRENCE OF METAL VESSELS USED AS PYRE GOODS BY AGE AND SEX

	Phase 1	**Phase 2**	**Phase 3**	**Phase 3b**	**Unphased**	**Total**
Adult	–	3	2	2	3	10
Female	1	2	2	–	3	8
Male	–	1	1	–	3	5
Uncertain	4	2	–	1	4	11
Total	5	8	5	3	13	34

TABLE 8.40: PRESENCE AND ABSENCE OF METAL VESSELS USED AS PYRE GOODS IN DEPOSITS WITH AGED HUMAN BONE

	Vessel present	**Vessel absent**
Adult	23	40
Infant/Immature	0	33

the burning of metal vessels. The cremation burials in the East London cemetery produced only one metal vessel, of pewter, and that was thought to have been a grave rather than a pyre good (Barber and Bowsher 2000, 121). The Abbeyfield cemetery at Caerleon (Evans and Maynard 1997) and the Low Borrowbridge cemetery (Lambert 1996) are other cemeteries where the pyre goods have been studied but they, too, do not appear to have produced metal vessels.

As already noted, these vessels are now represented by rather unprepossessing fragments that require a leap of imagination to envision them as the splendid items they once were. However this was the case and they would also have been expensive. Putting a price on large silver inlaid copper-alloy buckets such as that in **235** is difficult but something of the scale can be estimated from sources such as the Vindolanda writing tablets where the unit price of basic skillets ranges from 2 to 5 *denarii* (Bowman and Thomas 1996, 307) at a time when the annual pay of a legionary was 300 *denarii* (Webster 1979, 257).

There is an interesting difference in the way the metal vessels are used as grave and pyre goods. Deposit **107.10,** the only example used as a grave good, was an antique when placed in the grave. As far as can be established, those used as pyre goods were contemporary with the use of the site and may thus have been new items.

ENDNOTES

[1] As attribution of East Gaulish ware to potteries is not always easy, we have adopted the device of describing them in the form East Gaulish (Rheinzabern) etc to indicate that the named source is highly likely, but may not be absolutely certain. The visual ranges for fabrics and glazes from Rheinzabern and Trier, for instance, overlap.

[2] There may be some slight doubt, as there is a theoretical possibility that pots might sometimes have been dug up from earlier burials, possibly in another (and ?earlier) part of the cemetery, and then reused to accompany later burials, but on the whole the Central Gaulish ware is of the kind which would be expected to occur in the last decade or two of the second century when vast quantities of it were still being imported. The normal exponential wastage would leave much still in use in the early third century, with gradual decline thereafter. Some, however, would still be in use in the middle of the century.

[3] In attempting to date the samian, we sometimes use a general term, such as 'late second or early third century' to give an impression of the likely date of manufacture. Sometimes, with better evidence, it is possible to think of a range of years. It should be emphasised, however, that such formats as '*c.* A.D. 170–200' indicate the range of years within which the pot in question was almost certainly manufactured on the evidence available. There is no implication that it must have been made by A.D. 170 or that the potter was definitely still working in A.D. 200.

[4] Normally the lion masks are moulded and applied. At Brougham one was modelled by pushing up clay on the flange (**290.5**). All the Trier examples where the spout is preserved use a head with bat-like appearance.

[5] We should point out here that we use the term 'dish' for all members of the 18–18/31–31 series. The first two members of the series undoubtedly qualify as dishes on any system of classification. Forms 31

(Sa) and 31R (Sb and Sb/Sh) are, strictly speaking, often bowls, but as members of the series merge in form and proportions at the boundaries, we feel justified in using the same label for all.

[6] Deposits with heat-affected vessel glass: **5, 6, 39, 52, 75, 77, 90, 133, 164, 198, 199, 213, 227, 250, 253, 261, 281, 282, 307**.

[7] Deposits with vessel glass fragments that are not heat affected: **61, 106, 151, 157, 165, 227, 253, 274, 278, 298, 320**.

[8] Confirmed by personal inspection.