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**The late Iron Age and Roman Pottery from  
Snarkhurst Wood, Hollingbourne, Kent (ARC  
SNK99)**

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

The main site excavation (ARCSNK99) produced 1426 sherds (14095 g) of late Iron Age and Roman pottery from 72 contexts: a further 175 sherds (1653 g) of late Iron Age pottery were retrieved from 10 contexts during evaluation trenching (SNK95) and 430 more (3868 g) from nine contexts during the watching brief (ARC420 99 66+700). Sieving of environmental samples from 14 watching brief, assessment and main excavation contexts yielded 426 more sherds (2241 g).

All the assemblages were quantified by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric. The fabrics were classified using a x8 magnification lens with built-in metric graticule in order to determine the natures, forms, sizes and frequencies of added inclusions. Finer fabrics were further examined using a x30 magnification pocket-microscope with artificial illumination source. Fabrics were coded using the systems created by the Canterbury Archaeological Trust for late Iron Age, early Roman and late Roman wares from East Kent (Macpherson-Grant *et al.* 1995).

## 2 FABRICS

Quantification of all of the pottery from the main site excavation (Table 1) shows that the most significant fabrics are the local glauconitic ones B9.1, B9.2 and B9.3, which together make up nearly half of the pottery from the site by sherd count and over half by weight. The next most significant group of fabrics are the calcined-flint and sand tempered fabrics MLIA2.1 and MLIA2.2 from production sites around the estuary of the River Medway: these make-up nearly a third of all of the pottery.

This overall fabric breakdown conceals radical shifts in pottery supply during the late Iron Age and pre-Flavian occupation: Tables 3-6 show that glauconitic wares accounted for nearly all of the pottery in use on the site before *c* AD 30 but were supplanted in part by sand and calcined-flint tempered wares after that date. The years immediately after the Roman Conquest saw little change in this pattern of pottery supply other than the appearance of a few Gallo-Belgic imports.

The numerous minority fabrics are topped by 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares of uncertain origin (15%), with stray sherds from rarer ones, including a variety of calcined-flint tempered wares of earlier ceramic tradition (LIAB.1, LIAB4 and LIAB5), shell-tempered wares of North Kent origin (fabric B6) and quartz-sanded wares from the Folkestone area (B8 and B9): the fragments in the latter fabrics probably came in with salt carried in the briquetage containers represented by the two fragments in chaff-tempered fabric BER15.

Later Roman fabrics of 2nd-century date are represented by Canterbury fabric R6.1, fabrics R14, R16, R17.1, R18.1, R73.2, R73.4 and LR2.2 from North Kent, Patch Grove

fabrics R68 and R68.1 from West Kent and Central Gaulish samian. Together, however, these only amount to 6% of the entire assemblage and reflect the peripheral nature of the occupation of this period.

Table 1: Fabric quantification

Fabric	Description	No. sherds	% sherds	Weight (g)	% weight
MLIA2.1	Very-fine sand and calcined-flint	116	8.1	921	6.5
MLIA2.2	As MLIA2.1 with ferrous inclusions, high fired	299	21.0	1881	13.2
LIAB1	Profuse silt-sized quartz, sparse ferrous inclusions and occasional flint	1	0.1	34	0.2
LIAB4	Coarse calcined flint tempered	38	2.7	301	2.1
LIAB5	Fine calcined flint-tempered	9	0.6	129	0.9
B1	'Belgic' fine grog-tempered	56	3.9	440	3.1
B2	'Belgic' coarse grog-tempered	102	7.2	1254	8.9
B2.1	'Belgic' coarse grog-tempered (pale grog)	47	3.3	780	5.5
B3	'Belgic' grog-tempered with sparse flint	3	0.2	36	0.3
B5	'Belgic' grog-tempered with sand	1	0.1	10	0.1
B6	'Belgic' shell-tempered (?N Kent)	3	0.2	32	0.2
B8	'Belgic' fine sandy	1	0.1	6	0.1
B9	'Belgic' coarse sandy	1	0.1	29	0.2
B9.1	'Belgic' coarse sandy (glaucinite)	625	43.8	7424	52.7
B9.2	'Belgic' coarse sandy (glaucinite & flint)	7	0.5	34	0.2
B9.3	'Belgic' sandy (glaucinite and 'white' grog)	1	0.1	11	0.1
B21	Other coarse ware (unassigned)	9	0.6	60	0.4
BER11	Flagon white ware: Rigby (1995, 651) WW1	19	1.3	36	0.3
BER15	Chaff-tempered ware (Macpherson-Grant 1980b)	2	0.1	2	0.1
R6.1	?Canterbury coarse orange sandy (Flavian/Antonine)	3	0.2	24	0.2
R14	Black burnished 2	26	1.8	176	1.2
R16	Fine grey 'Upchurch' fabrics I and II	19	1.3	63	0.4
R17.1	Fine orange 'Upchurch'-type (some CC)	1	0.1	1	0.1
R18.1	Fine purple/grey 'Upchurch'-type CC flagon (slipped)	1	0.1	8	0.1
R43	Central Gaulish samian	9	0.6	154	1.1
R64	?Rhenish fabric 6/7 mortaria	7	0.5	90	0.6
R68	Patch Grove ware	2	0.1	18	0.1
R68.1	Patch Grove grog-tempered ware variant	8	0.5	66	0.5
R73.2	Early Thameside fine sandy grey ware	2	0.1	6	0.1
R73.4	Early Thameside fine very sandy black to grey ware	1	0.1	1	0.1
R83	White ware: Rigby (1995, 648) fabric IIC	1	0.1	8	0.1
R99	Unidentified mortaria	1	0.1	28	0.2
R109	Other coarse ware	2	0.1	14	0.1
LR2.2	?Local fine grey sandy overfired	3	0.2	18	0.1
TOTAL		1426		14095	

Table 2: Vessel types by fabric (quantification by EVEs)

Fabric	II Jars	III Beakers	IV Bowls	IV Dishes	VII Mortaria	IX Misc (strainer)	Total EVEs	%
MLIA2.1	0.45						0.45	4.7
MLIA2.2	2.15		0.10				2.25	23.6
LIAB.4	0.13						0.13	1.4
LIAB.5	0.05						0.05	0.5
B1	0.10						0.10	1.0
B2	0.54						0.54	5.7
B2.1	0.48						0.48	5.0
B5	0.10						0.10	1.0
B6	0.08						0.08	0.8

Fabric	II Jars	III Beakers	IV Bowls	IV Dishes	VII Mortaria	IX Misc (strainer)	Total EVEs	%
B9			0.15				0.15	1.6
B9.1	3.98	0.05	0.25			0.63	4.91	51.5
R14	0.06						0.06	0.6
R16	0.09						0.09	0.9
R43				0.05			0.05	0.5
R64					0.09		0.09	0.9
TOTAL	8.21	0.05	0.50	0.05	0.09	0.63	9.53	
%	85.0	0.5	5.2	0.5	0.9	6.6		

### 3 FORMS/TYPES

All the rim sherds from the site were quantified by Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs) and tabulated by form per fabric (Table 2). The mainly late Iron Age to pre-Flavian material is totally dominated by cooking-pots and other jar types, with just a few bowls, storage-jars and a strainer. Early Continental imports, being represented by body sherds only, do not feature in this table but comprise fragments from a Rhenish white ware lagena and a Gallo-Belgic butt-beaker. The small size of all of the pottery assemblages makes it impossible to detect specialised activities through the relative numbers of different vessel types in use on the site: the absence of Continental imports from the late Iron Age pottery assemblages suggests a fairly low social status for the inhabitants of the site at this time.

### 4 CHRONOLOGY AND PHASING

Table 3: Pottery from selected Phase 1-3 contexts

Fabric	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3	
	% sherds	% weight	% sherds	% weight	% sherds	% weight
MLIA2.1	0.4	0.2	23.3	22.7	5.3	14.1
MLIA2.2			45.6	30.8	26.3	29.7
LIAB.1	0.4	3.6				
LIAB.4	0.4	0.4			1.3	1.4
LIAB.5			1.5	3.2		
B1			1.3	0.6	9.2	6.8
B2	0.4	0.1	7.1	19.0		
B2.1	0.7	0.5	1.5	1.9		
B3	0.7	0.8				
B5						
B6						
B8						
B9			0.2	0.8		
B9.1	94.8	93.7	17.6	19.3	25.0	35.9
B9.2	1.4	0.3			5.3	2.4
B9.3	0.4	0.3				
B21	0.4	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.3	1.1
BER11					25.0	4.9
BER15			0.4	0.1		
R6.1						
R14						
R16						
R17.1						
R18.1						

	Phase 1		Phase 2		Phase 3	
Fabric	% sherds	% weight	% sherds	% weight	% sherds	% weight
R43						
R64						
R68						
R68.1			1.3	1.6		
R73.2						
R73.4						
R83						
R99					1.3	3.8
Quantity	278 sh	4104 g	476 sh	3573 g	76 sh	740 g

#### 4.1 Phase 1. 'Belgic' Late Iron Age. c AD 1-30

*Assemblage 1. From the fills of ditches 242 (1264/14), 244 (1265/7) and 358 (contexts 117, 118, 126, 129, 131, 132, 174, 181, 186, 228, 230, 270 and 1264/3-13).*

The 278 sherds (4104 g) of pottery from the various cuts across these ditches were quantified by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric (Table 4). This quantification reveals an assemblage totally dominated by glauconitic-sand-tempered wares to the extent of suggesting production in the immediate vicinity.

*Table 4: Quantification of Phase 1 pottery from the fills of ditches 242 (1264/14), 244 (1265/7) and 358 (contexts 117, 118, 126, 129, 131, 132, 174, 181, 186, 228, 229, 230, 270, and 1264/3-13)*

Fabric	No. sherds	% sherds	Weight (g)	% weight
LIAB.1	1	0.4	149	3.6
LIAB.4	1	0.4	17	0.4
MLIA2.1	2	0.4	8	0.2
B2	2	0.4	6	0.1
B2.1	264	0.7	21	0.5
B3	1	0.7	32	0.8
B9.1	1	94.8	3844	93.7
B9.2		1.4	14	0.3
B9.3		0.4	11	0.3
B21		0.4	2	0.1
Total	278		4104	

The vessels in this fabric are predominantly bead-rimmed barrel-shaped jars of Thompson (1982) types B2.2 and C5.2 with corrugated shoulders (Fig. 1, Nos 2-5). Such vessels are usually polished externally but one example (Fig. 1, No. 3) has square-tooth comb-stabbed decoration applied in a random manner all over its body below the shoulder corrugation. Other forms in fabric B9.1 include a butt-beaker of Thompson type G5.2 (Fig. 1, No. 6, c AD 1-50), a jar of type B1.7 (Fig. 1, No. 7, c AD 30-50), a combed bead-rim storage-vessel (Fig. 1, No. 8) and another, necked, example with polished exterior (Fig. 1, No. 9). Other, more fragmentary, glauconitic wares include sherds from an everted-rim jar of type B5.2 (25 BC-AD 50), a neck-cordoned jar in a lid-seated variant of type B1.3 (c 25 BC-AD 50) and a butt-beaker of type G5.4 (c AD 1-50). A sherd from a quoit-shaped pedestal urn

base (c 25 BC-AD 50) in this fabric was recovered from a sieved environmental sample taken from context 126.

Of the 264 sherds in fabric B9.1, 118 are combed, three are furrowed, 47 are polished and 96 are rough. This is, however, rather misleading as 116 of the combed sherds come from a single storage-jar, whereas the polished sherds come from at least ten different vessels. It would seem, therefore, that the most common form of decoration on the products of this industry was simple polishing of the exterior surface.

Other wares are represented by a crude bead-rim jar of Thompson's type C3 in patchily-fired calcined-flint tempered fabric LIAB.1 with body combing (No. 1) and a few jar body-sherds in calcined-flint tempered fabrics LIAB.4 and MLIA2.1 and 'Belgic' grog-tempered fabrics B2, B2.1 and B3.

A date range of c AD 1-30+ is indicated for this assemblage.

#### **4.2 Phase 2. Late Iron Age. c AD 30-50**

*Assemblage 2. From the fills of ditch 243 (contexts 133, 135, 178, 1265/3 and 1265/5).*

The 93 sherds (1001 g.) of pottery from this ditch have a similar predominance of glauconitic fragments (97%): the remaining three fragments are in calcined flint-tempered fabrics LIAB4 and MLIA2.1. Vessels in fabric B9.1 include jars of uncertain types with burnished chevrons and latticing on their bodies, a bead-rim jar of Thompson type B2.2 without shoulder corrugation (Fig. 1, No. 10) and the greater part of a strainer (Fig. 1, No. 11).

*Assemblage 3. From constructional and first-firing contexts associated with kiln 319 (contexts 291 and 325).*

The 88 sherds (1092 g.) of pottery from these contexts are unsuitable for any kind of quantification because of the presence of 74 fresh fragments from two part complete vessels in fabrics B9.1 and B2.1. The remaining sherds do, however, give the impression of a continuing predominance of glauconitic wares. The two partially-complete vessels are a jar of Thompson type B1.3 in grog-tempered fabric B2.1 (Fig. 1, No. 12) and one of type B2.1 in fabric B9.1 (Fig. 1, No. 14). Body sherds from a butt-beaker of type G5.1 in fabric B9.1 (c AD 1-50, Fig. 1, No. 13) are also present.

*Assemblage 4. From the fills of kiln 319 (contexts 237, 238, 239, 240, 247, 252, 280, 281 and 282).*

The 476 sherds (3573 g) of pottery from these contexts were quantified by numbers of sherds and their weights per fabric (Table 5). The form and fabric breakdown of this quantification reveals marked changes in pottery supply to the site during Phase 2. The largest components of the assemblage are now calcined-flint and sand tempered wares in fabrics MLIA2.1 and

MLIA2.2: these together now make up nearly three-quarters of the pottery by sherd count and consist, almost entirely, of fragments from bead-rim jars of Monaghan (1987) class 3G1 and similar, ranging in size from small vessels (Fig. 1, Nos 18-19, *c* AD 30-70) to a large storage-jar (Fig. 1, No. 17, *c* 50 BC-AD 70).

Glauconitic wares are much less significant than in Phase 1 (18%): there are fragments from two neck-cordoned jars (Fig. 1, Nos 15-16) and at least one butt-beaker of uncertain type. A conspicuous absence of bead-rim jars of Thompson type B2.2 with corrugated shoulders suggests that the supplanting of vessels of this type by calcined flint-tempered examples in fabrics MLIA2.1 and MLIA2.2 may have brought about the decline and eventual collapse of the local glauconitic ware industry.

Other wares include a small carinated and cordoned cup of Type E1.3 in terminally-oxidised fabric B9 (Fig. 1, No. 21, *c* AD 1-50). This may have been brought in as an exotic import from the Folkestone area along with the salt indicated by two chaff-tempered container fragments in fabric BER15. 'Belgic' grog-tempered fragments in fabrics B1, B2 and B2.1 make up only a tenth of this assemblage but are more significant than they were during Phase 1. A lack of diagnostic sherds makes the identification of source of these wares very difficult, but the six jar fragments in oxidised grog-tempered Patch Grove ware variant R68.1 most certainly indicate trading links with West Kent. A cup made from the trimmed-down base of a jar in the unusual fabric LIAB5 (Fig. 1, No. 20) may have come from elsewhere and been old at the time of its deposition.

The presence of the bead-rim jars in fabric MLIA2.2 dates the oven to after *c* AD 30 and an absence of sherds in Romanised fabrics suggests that it is likely to have gone out of use before AD 50.

*Table 5: Quantification of pottery from kiln fill contexts 237, 238, 239, 240, 247, 252, 280, 281 and 282*

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>No. sherds</b>	<b>% sherds</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>% weight</b>
LIAB.5	7	1.5	116	3.2
MLIA2.1	111	23.3	809	22.7
MLIA2.2	217	45.6	1100	30.8
B1	6	1.3	20	0.6
B2	34	7.1	679	19.0
B2.1	7	1.5	69	1.9
B9	1	0.2	29	0.8
B9.1	84	17.6	691	19.3
B21	1	0.2	2	0.1
BER15	2	0.4	2	0.1
R68.1	6	1.3	56	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>476</b>		<b>3573</b>	



*Assemblage 5. From the fills of ditch 356 (contexts 316 and 318).*

This feature yielded just eleven sherds (196 g) of pottery, most of which comes from a single bowl of Thompson type G2.3 in black glauconitic fabric B9.1 (Fig. 1, No. 22).

*Assemblage 6. From the fill of Watching Brief pit 21 (context 20)*

The 214 sherds (1962 g) of pottery from this feature are all in glauconitic fabric B9.1 and come from a single largely-complete pedestal urn of Thompson type A3 (No. 23, c 50 BC-AD 50). This vessel could date to either Phase 1 or Phase 2.

### 4.3 Phase 3. c AD 50-70

*Assemblage 7. From the fills of ditches 241, 359 and 360 (contexts 109, 110, 120, 121 and 227)*

The 76 sherds (740 g) of pottery from these ditches were quantified in the same manner as Assemblages 1 and 4 (Table 6). The assemblage is, unfortunately rather small for meaningful quantification and has calcined-flint and glauconitic wares each accounting for nearly a third of the material by sherd count. Glauconitic wares include fragments from a neck-cordoned jar of Thompson type B1.3 (Fig. 1, No. 24, 50 BC-AD 50) and a small bead-rim beaker of type B5.1 (Fig. 1, No. 25). Calcined-flint and sand tempered wares come from bead-rim jars of types C1.2 (Fig. 1, No. 26, c 25 BC-AD 70) and C1.4 (Fig. 1, No. 27, c 50 BC-AD 70).

Other wares include 19 lagena sherds in Rhenish white ware fabric BER11 (Fig. 1, No. 28, c AD 30-70) and a butt-beaker sherd in pinkish fabric R83 (Fig. 2, No. 29, c AD 60-70). The presence of the latter sherd in the primary silting of Ditch 360 dates the deposition of this assemblage to after c AD 60.

*Table 6: Quantification of pottery from the fills of ditches 241, 359 and 360 (contexts 109, 110, 120, 121 and 227)*

<b>Fabric</b>	<b>No. sherds</b>	<b>% sherds</b>	<b>Weight (g)</b>	<b>% weight</b>
LIAB.4	1	1.3	10	1.4
MLIA2.1	4	5.3	104	14.1
MLIA2.2	20	26.3	220	29.7
B1	7	9.2	50	6.8
B9.1	19	25.0	266	35.9
B9.2	4	5.3	18	2.4
B12	1	1.3	8	1.1
BER11	19	25.0	36	4.9
R99	1	1.3	28	3.8
Total	76		740	

*Assemblage 8. From the fill of pit 172 (context 173)*

The 162 sherds (1816 g) of pottery from this feature are unsuitable for detailed quantification in that they include 74 sherds from just three vessels: the other sherds are from a maximum of ten further pots. Vessels include large parts of a narrow-mouthed jar of Thompson type B3.8

in fabric B9.1 (Fig. 2, No. 30, AD 30-60) and two of type B3.9 in fabric B1 (Fig. 2, No. 33, AD 1-70). Other sherds include fragments from two bead-rim jars in fabric MLIA2.2 (*c* AD 30-70), a type E3.5 bowl in polished fabric LIAB.1 (Fig. 2, No. 31, *c* 25 BC-AD 50), a butt-beaker of type G5.4 in fabric B2 (Fig. 2, No. 32, *c* AD.5-70) and two type C3 bead-rim jars in a fabric B2.1 variant (Fig. 2, No. 34, *c* 50 BC-AD 50). An absence of Romanised wares suggests a date no later than *c* AD 50/60 for the pit; at the beginning of Phase 3.

#### **4.4 Phase 4. *c* AD 70-250**

Amounts of pottery from features of this phase are very small but include assemblages from pits 102 and 137, the post-packing (158) for post 159, postholes 216, 217 and ditch 315. The site seems to have been peripheral to activity nearby during this period, with nearly all of the pottery of late 2nd to early 3rd century date.

##### *Assemblage 9. From the fill of pit 137 (context 138)*

The 37 sherd (362 g) pottery assemblage from this feature includes eight abraded sherds from a Central Gaulish samian Drag 31 platter (*c* AD 150-200), seven even more abraded sherds from a mortarium in cream fabric R63 (Fig 2, No. 35, *c* AD 150-250), eight fragments from closed forms of uncertain type in grey Upchurch fine ware (R16) and four abraded cooking-pot sherds in sandy grey Thameside fabric LR2.2 with superficial terminal oxidation (*c* AD 180-300). A date in the last years of the 2nd century or first half of the 3rd century is indicated for the digging of this pit.

##### *Assemblage 10. From the fill of Ditch 355 (Context 314).*

This feature yielded 19 fresh joining sherds from the lower half of a BB2 cooking-pot with acute-lattice decoration (Fig. 2, No. 36, *c* AD 110-200). No other sherds were present in what is probably a late 2nd-century feature.

## **5 GENERAL DISCUSSION**

### **5.1 Phase 1. *c* AD 1-30**

The total predominance of glauconitic wares in Assemblage 1 (more than 90%) is indicative of the close proximity of at least one production site: the glauconitic sand filler further suggests that this putative production site was situated on or very near the Upper Greensand outcrop. There has, until now, been very little research into the glauconitic fabrics of the Medway valley, other than by Pollard (1988, 31-2) and Thompson (1982, 11-2), and no Late Iron Age sites with good stratified sequences of such wares have been excavated. The pottery

from this site and from Thurnham and Hockers Lane (Lyne 2006a; b) will go a long way towards rectifying this deficiency in our knowledge.

The bulk of the sherds in glauconitic fabric B9.1 come from bead-rim jars with corrugated shoulders, but other closed forms, such as butt-beakers, neck-cordoned jars, and storage vessels were also in use on the site at this time. Wares from further afield are represented by a few jar body sherds in calcined-flint tempered fabrics LIAB4 and MLIA2.1 and 'Belgic' grog-tempered fabrics B2, B2.1 and B3. A large sherd from a crude bead-rim jar in calcined-flint tempered fabric LIAB1 may be from one of the last products of an earlier ceramic tradition. The vessel represented by the sherds in fabric MLIA2.1 may come from the lower Medway valley, while those sherds in 'Belgic' grog-tempered fabrics lack diagnostic pieces but probably indicate tenuous trading links with the Canterbury area.

## **5.2 Phase 2. c AD 30-50**

The assemblages from the various ditches (Assemblages 2 and 5) suggest that there was little change in the pattern of pottery supply to the site during most of this period. The sherds from Kiln 319 do, however, suggest radical changes towards the end of the period, possibly as a result of the Roman invasion. Quantification of the pottery from kiln 319 (Table 5) implies that the glauconitic ware producers lost their market in bead-rimmed jars to the makers of similar vessel types in sand and calcined-flint tempered fabrics working in coastal potteries situated in the marshes of the estuary of the River Medway. This event did not bring about the immediate collapse of the local industry, however, since other vessel types in glauconitic fabrics continued to be supplied to the Snarkhurst Wood settlement, but on a much more limited scale.

It may be that the higher temperature firing of the otherwise crude, handmade jars in fabric MLIA2.2 made them superior in use to the local glauconitic versions, but it is equally likely that they owed their capture of the local market in bead-rim jars to being traded alongside some more valuable commodity such as salt. Some, at least, of the latter commodity was obtained from the Folkestone/Romney Marsh area at this time, however. The evidence for this takes the form of two fragments from briquetage containers in chaff-tempered fabric BER15 and a cup in the quartz-sand tempered Folkestone fabric B9. The Dollands Moor and Peene sites outside Folkestone produced evidence for the local manufacture of vessels in fabric B9 as well as the largest quantities by far of chaff-tempered briquetage from any late Iron Age or early Roman site in East Kent (Lyne forthcoming).

The suppliers of 'Belgic' grog-tempered wares appear to have slightly increased their share of the pottery market at the Snarkhurst Wood settlement but, once again, a lack of diagnostic sherds makes it difficult to assign these vessels to a source. An exception to this rule lies in the presence of a few sherds from a jar in the Patch Grove ware variant R68.1;

indicative of trading or other connections with West Kent on the far side of the River Medway.

### 5.3 Phase 3. *c* AD 50-70

The pattern of pottery supply to the site seems not to have changed very much. Continental imports in the form of a Rhenish white ware lagena and a Gallo-Belgic white ware butt-beaker made their appearance. The presence of the latter in a fabric variant which should not be earlier than *c* AD 60 points to the continuation of activity in this phase until at least AD 70.

There are two unusual aspects to the pre-Flavian pottery assemblages in that there are no sherds in Romanised wheel-turned fabrics such as Upchurch ware or South Gaulish samian ware, and glauconitic wares appear to have continued to be supplied to the site. Upchurch wares appear on sites all over Kent within ten or so years of the Roman Conquest, so their absence, and that of South Gaulish samian ware, from Snarkhurst Wood may be indicative of a low status site in terminal decline. It is also possible that the vessels in glauconitic ware were already old at the time of their deposition and supplied to the site during the previous phase.

### 5.4 Phase 4. *c* AD 70-250

Very little can be deduced from the small amounts of pottery dated to this period. Nearly all of the pottery in the few small assemblages is of late 2nd to early 3rd-century date and comes from limited activity peripheral to occupation nearby. Vessels in both fine and coarse grey ware fabrics R14, R16 and LR2.2 were supplied from coastal kilns around the estuary of the Medway. A mortarium in cream ware (Fig. 1, No. 35) may come either from Colchester or the Rochester area and limited amounts of plain Central Gaulish samian were acquired. There is no ceramic evidence for any sort of human activity on the site after the middle of the 3rd century.

## 6 CATALOGUE

### *Assemblage 1 (Fig. 1)*

2. Hole-mouthed jar of Thompson type B2.2 in black glauconitic fabric B9.1. Rim diameter 70 mm. *c* 50 BC-AD 50. Context 129 top fill of ditch 242.
3. Bead-rim jar of similar type and in similar fabric with corrugated shoulder above all-over square-toothed comb stabbed rustication. Rim diameter 140 mm. The decoration is paralleled on a sherd from Quarry Wood Camp, Loose (Kelly 1971, fig. 11 no. 25). *c* 50-1 BC. Context 131 in ditch 242.
4. Upper part of a similar jar in the same fabric but with polished, plain exterior below the corrugated shoulder. Rim diameter 140 mm. Also paralleled at Loose (ibid. fig. 10 no. 7). *c* 50-1 BC. Context 229 upper fill of ditch 242.
5. Lid seated bead-rim jar with corrugated shoulder; similar in some respects to Thompson type C5.3 in similar fabric fired brown-black. Rim diameter 200 mm. *c* AD 1-50. Context 131 in ditch 242.

6. Sherd from barrel-shaped butt-beaker of type G5.2 in similar fabric with horizontal cordons separated by bands of burnished latticing. *c* AD 1-50. Context 132 upper fill of ditch 242.
7. Jar of type B1.7 in similar fabric with weakly-everted rim and external polish. Rim diameter 160 mm. Paralleled at Quarry Wood Camp, Loose (Kelly 1972, fig. 11 no. 18). *c* AD 30-50. Context 270 in ditch 242.

*Assemblage 2 (Fig. 1)*

10. Bead-rim jar of Thompson type B2.2 with polished exterior. Rim diameter 160 mm. Context 178.
11. Greater part of strainer in polished black fabric B9.1. Rim diameter 120 mm. Context 135.

*Assemblage 3 (Fig. 1)*

12. Greater part of large everted rim neck-cordoned jar of Thompson type B1.3 in buff-brown grog-tempered fabric B2.1. Rim diameter 300 mm. *c* 50 BC-AD 50. Context 291.
13. Body sherd from butt-beaker of type G5.1 in rough black fabric B9.1 with body cordons. *c* AD 1-50. Context 291.
14. Greater part of neck cordoned jar of type B2.1 in similar fabric with black paint on the shoulder and rim edge, and burnished chevron decoration on the body. Rim diameter 200 mm. *c* 50 BC-AD 50. Context 325.

*Assemblage 4 (Fig. 1)*

15. Neck cordoned jar with lid-seated rim in black-brown Fabric B9.1. Rim diameter 240 mm. Paralleled at Quarry Wood Camp, Loose (Kelly 1972, fig. 11 no. 20). 50 BC-AD 50. Context 282.
16. Necked-jar without lid-seating in similar fabric. Rim diameter 220 mm. Context 282.
17. Greater part of bead-rim jar in oxidised pale-orange/buff fabric MLIA2.1. Rim diameter 240 mm. *c* 50 BC-AD 50. Context 237.
- 18-19. Two bead-rim jars of Monaghan (1987) class 3G1 in handmade, fabric MLIA2.2 fired hard patchy grey/buff. Other rim sherds in this context and from 238 may be from the same or very similar vessels. *c* AD 30-70. Context 282.
20. Lower part of vessel of ?Thompson type B3.7 in sparse flint tempered fabric LIAB.5 fired black with polished surfaces. This vessel appears to have been trimmed down to form a cup and was probably old at the time of its deposition. *c* 25 BC-AD 50. Context 240.
21. Large fresh sherd from cup of type E1.3 in sandy grey fabric B9 fired rough orange-brown. Rim diameter 140 mm. *c* AD 1-50. Context 280.

*Assemblage 5 (Fig. 1)*

22. Bowl of Thompson type G2.3 in black glauconitic fabric B9.1 with polished exterior. Rim diameter 220 mm. *c* AD 30-50. Context 316.

*Assemblage 6 (Fig. 1)*

23. Pedestal urn of Thompson type A3 with body cordons in polished black fabric B9.1. Rim diameter 220 mm. *c* 50 BC-AD 50 but most likely to date to the first half of that period (Thompson 1982, 53-4). A similar urn was present in the 'tankard' grave at Aylesford (*ibid.*, 55 no. 1358). Context 20.

*Assemblage 7 (Figs 1 and 2)*

Figure 1

24. Neck-cordoned jar of Thompson type B1.3 in polished black fabric B9.1 with lid-seated rim. Rim diameter 220 mm. *c* 50 BC-AD 50. Context 120 in ditch 360.

25. Small bead-rim beaker of Thompson type B5.1 in similar fabric. *c* 50 BC-AD 50. Context 120 in ditch 360.
26. Bead-rim jar of Thompson type C1.2 in calcined-flint and sand tempered fabric MLIA2.1. *c* 25 BC-AD 70. Rim diameter 220 mm. Context 120 in ditch 360.
27. Bead-rim jar of Thompson type C1.4 in similar fabric. Rim diameter 160 mm. *c* 50 BC-AD 70. Context 120 in ditch 360.
28. Handle and basal fragments from lagena similar to Verulamium, King Harry Lane form GL6 (Stead and Rigby 1989, fig. 57) in hard, white Rigby fabric WW1 (Fabric BER11). An import from the Rhineland dated *c* AD 30-70. Context 120 in Ditch 360.

Figure 2

29. Sherd from butt-beaker in fabric R83 (Rigby 1995, fabric IIC, 648) fired pinkish-white with pale pinkish-orange slip. An import from Gallia Belgica. *c* AD 60-70+ (ibid., 650). Context 121 primary silting of Ditch 360.

*Assemblage 8 (Fig. 2)*

30. Tall, necked and narrow-mouthed jar of Thompson type B3.8 in polished black fabric B9.1. Rim diameter 120 mm. *c* AD 30-50. Context 173.
31. Bowl of Thompson type E3.5 in polished black fabric LIAB.1. Rim diameter 140 mm. *c* 25 BC-AD 50. Context 173.
32. Butt-beaker of Thompson type G5.4 in wheel-turned fabric B2. Rim diameter 80 mm. *c* AD 1-70. Context 173.
33. Tall narrow-necked jar of Type B3.9 in pale grey fabric B1 fired polished black externally. Rim diameter 120 mm. *c* AD 1-70+. One of two examples. Context 173.
34. Bead-rim jar of Thompson type C3 in fabric B2.1 variant with additional orange grog and with polished exterior. Rim diameter 100 mm. *c* 50 BC-AD 50. One of two. Context 173.

*Assemblage 9 (Fig. 2)*

35. Mortarium with hooked-flange in cream-buff ?Colchester/Kent fabric R63 with white quartz trituration grits. Rim diameter 220 mm. *c* AD 150-250. Context 138.

*Assemblage 10 (Fig. 2)*

36. Lower part of a BB2 cooking-pot in fabric R14 with acute lattice decoration. *c* AD 110-200. Context 314.

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