



Fig. 1: Montague Close kiln on display *in situ* at Southwark Cathedral (photo: David Gordon)

# Delftware pothouse sites in London

David Gordon

Tin-glazed pottery, or delftware, was manufactured in London from the late 16th century. Although much attention has been devoted to the pottery itself, the only complete overview of the manufacturing sites was published a quarter of a century ago<sup>1</sup> and much has been added to the archaeological record since then. This article attempts to summarise the information currently available for all the known sites in Greater London.

Of the 29 sites detailed below, some are well-researched and documented, while others are less well understood. All apparently distinct sites have been given an entry, and in a small number of cases where the evidence is uncertain this may have led to duplication (clarified in the text). At the end of each entry I have given a grid reference, site codes where available, and a list of major sources. Sites are listed by their

generally accepted names, in alphabetical order. A degree of caution is needed at sites where actual kiln remains have not been found, since pottery waste may have been dumped at some distance from the works, and in some cases was carted away for use as landfill. The term 'biscuit ware' refers to pottery which has received its initial firing but has not been glazed and refired. Readers unfamiliar with other terminology will find ample explanation in a recent MoLAS Monograph,<sup>2</sup> which has a comprehensive introduction to the manufacture of this type of ware, as well as a detailed analysis of five sites in Southwark and Lambeth.

## Aldgate

The first tin-glaze pottery in London, operated initially by J. Jansen. It operated from 1571 to 1615, and 13 potters of Flemish origin are recorded as

working here. Finds from a pit on Site F (site code HTP79) provided the first archaeological evidence of on-site manufacture in the form of biscuit ware and glazed sherds. Betts and Weinstein report that tiles used as kiln furniture were also found. Schofield and Lea suggest that finds to date are probably from the edge of the area, rather than a dedicated waste pit: tin-glazed sherds constituted 11% of pottery on Site F and 16% on site H (site code DUK77). *Site codes:* DUK77, GM55, HTP79. *NGR:* TQ 3352 8119 (DUK77). *Sources:* Britton 1987, 77–9; Schofield and Lea 2005; Betts and Weinstein 2010, 15.

## Bear Gardens

According to Britton, this pottery was in operation from before 1671 to 1705, but excavators have suggested 1630 as a starting date. A large amount of biscuit ware was found amongst the demolition debris from a glasshouse

furnace at Riverside House (BAK99). The kiln site appears to have been found at 20–22 New Globe Walk (NGW00), where a dump of biscuit wasters, trivets, saggars, and square shelf tiles was dated to 1630–1680. The forms identified are a standard range of tin-glazed ware products for this period. They include caudle cups, mug/cup bases, porringers, foot-ringed chargers, ointment pots, and medium to large dry drug jars or albarellos. Evidence for the kiln structure itself was found through fragments of wall clay which may show some sign of repair by the adding of additional layers of clay and organic temper onto the original surface. 58 Park Street (PRU05) provided further evidence of tin-glazed pottery manufacturing in the form of kiln furniture, including saggars and trivets. This assemblage is also dated 1630–1680 and may represent dumping of pottery waste prior to the construction of Davies' bear-garden. A foundation of solid lime mortar may represent the foundations of a later 17th-century pottery kiln, although too little was exposed to be certain. Evidence for stoneware production at BAK99 dates to the early 18th century, when Moses Johnson moved his pottery from Montague Close to set up a stoneware pottery here in 1695. Betts and Weinstein refer to "a large assemblage of kiln waste" at Benbow House (BAN95). For further details see Mackinder and Blatherwick. *Site codes:* BAK99, BAN95, NGW00, PRU05. *NGR:* TQ 3224 8042 (PRU05); TQ 32228048 (NGW00); TQ 3226 8048 (BAK99); TQ 3223 8051 (BAN95). *Sources:* Bowsher and Miller 2009; Britton 1987, 47; Betts and Weinstein 2010; Mackinder and Blatherwick 2000; Maloney and Holroyd 2002, 23.

#### Brook Drive, SE11

Tin-glazed wasters and kiln furniture were observed here by Robin Densem in 1977. There is no known pothouse here, and the deposit may therefore have been used as landfill, or have been redeposited from another site. The nearest known potential sources are Carlisle House and Norfolk House. *Site code:* LAM293/77. *NGR:* TQ 3145 7898. *Sources:* R. Densem, *pers. comm.*;

Greater London Historic Environment Record (Ref. MLO632); Hinton 1988, 481.

#### Carlisle House

The pottery operated from 1704–37 according to Britton. An advertisement dated 1720 mentions "two very good white kilns and two stone kilns". The site later became a tavern, which was demolished in 1827, and is now underneath the railway. During excavation in 1990 no actual structures of the pottery were located, but the recovery of quantities of kiln furniture and wasters attests to its proximity. Most of this material was found in the fills of several large pits. *Site code:* WSF90. *NGR:* TQ 3095 7937. *Sources:* Britton 1987, 50–51; LAARC online catalogue.

#### Clink

A pottery marked on Rocque's map of 1748 in part of the old Clink prison and operating from 1730 to 1762 according to Britton, who notes that it is "presumed that this was a delftware pottery". Bloice adds that wasters were found in the vicinity in 1947 but were not collected. *Site code:* NA. *NGR:* TQ 3252 8040. *Sources:* Bloice 1971; Britton 1987, 46.

#### Copt Hall

This may be the site of the Copt Hall pottery founded by J. Ariens van Hamme, which operated from 1676 to 1730 near the former Gun House Stairs. Bloice and Edwards speculate that this may be the same site as Glasshouse Street. One dump of tin-glazed earthenware at site AE72 (feature F2) may be associated with this site. Britton notes that the pottery is identified on a map of Copthall House dated 1724. *Site code:* AE72. *NGR:* TQ 3037 7807. *Sources:* Bloice 1972; Britton 1987, 59–60; Edwards 1981.

#### Cupers Bridge

Bloice gives a possible site of a pottery at Cupers Bridge, west of the present south end of Waterloo Bridge. Garner mentions a potter here whose name is in the 1745 poor rate book but by 1748 had moved to Glasgow. Wasters were discovered during excavations for the Royal Festival Hall in 1949.

*Site Code:* NA.

*NGR:* TQ 3084 8033.

*Source:* Bloice 1971, 152.

#### Fulham Pottery

John Dwight's pottery. Although it was primarily a stoneware pottery, much experimental work took place here. There is definite evidence for some tin-glaze production, in the form of biscuit ware and saggars, with dating evidence pointing to the mid-18th century. Tin-glaze production is unlikely to have been on a large scale. Experiments with tin-glaze/stoneware hybrids may have taken place.

*Site code:* NA.

*NGR:* TQ 24503 76060.

*Source:* Green 1999, 40.

#### Fulham: Sandford Manor (Ruel's Pottery)

Excavations by C.E. Oliver of Fulham Archaeological Rescue Group in 1978–81 revealed the fluebox of a kiln from Ruel's pottery (1790–98). No more of the kiln could be uncovered as it lay under Rewell Street. Adjoining was a pit crammed with misfired tin-glazed drug jars, some biscuit, some glazed, a few of which had a large blue anchor on the base. There were also stoneware wasters and kiln furniture and some unfired clay.

*Site code:* NA.

*NGR:* TQ 2603 7708.

*Source:* Richardson 1982, 163.

#### Glasshouse Street

The Glasshouse Street pottery was established by 1742 at the latest; ceramic production continued until 1846, making this the last surviving delftware producer in London apart from the Millwall pottery, which was in production only in the late 19th century and must be regarded as an anomaly. However, tin-glaze production was moved to Mortlake in 1784, only resuming in 1823 when the production of the former Vauxhall Pottery returned from Mortlake to "a site behind the King's Arms at the south end of Princes Street" – at or very near the Glasshouse Street site. A watching brief by Densem for SLAEC in 1978 (site code LAM76/78) recorded medieval pottery and a post-medieval kiln flue. Excavation by SLAEC in 1980 found tin-glazed pottery wasters, together with other finds

associated with the 18th-century pottery works in the area. Trial trenching by the DGLA in 1987 (site code LAM611/87) found large quantities of kiln furniture and wasters of delftware and later stoneware, also some fragments of early porcelain. There were also finds of biscuit and tin-glazed ware. Kiln furniture included pillows, lumps, sausages, pads and fragments of saggars. Excavations by Scott for the DGLA in 1989–90 (site code 38ALB89) found remains of at least four kilns, one of them evidently involved in porcelain firing. Features recorded during the excavations include the fire-boxes of a 4m diam. circular oven of early to mid-18th century date, the base of a muffle kiln of similar date, the base of a late 18th-century low-temperature kiln, part of a 'slip house' dated to c. 1800 and the remains of a possible terracotta kiln dating to c. 1860. A notable group of over 50 manganese-tin-glazed tiles, considered to be the most important recovered from a London site, dates to c. 1725. They are thought to be of Lambeth manufacture, although possessing a strong Dutch influence. Bloice's report on the Vauxhall Pottery excavations states that one dump of tin-glazed ware (designated F2) was found near the Copt Hall and Glasshouse Square [*sic*] factories, which were producing material in the late 17th century and which may have been the same factory. *Site codes:* 38ALB89, LAM54/80, LAM611/87, LAM76/78, AE72. *NGR:* TQ 3050 7835.

*Sources:* Bloice and Thorn 1969; Bloice 1972; Britton 1987, 61–63; Edwards 1981; Tyler *et al* 2008, 105–110.

### Gravel Lane

This pottery was active from 1684 to 1748–9. An excavation carried out in 2006 by MoLAS, following an evaluation in March 2006 (site code GLS06), recorded substantial brick-built kiln structures. This excavation exposed a single open area around the notable features and located an early set of kilns, associated floors, working surface and a brick well, in which was found a well-preserved wicker basket. Large dumps of kiln waste covered much of the excavation. Later substantial brick buildings, thought to be working areas, were also uncovered with a series of kiln flues, brick floors and barrel-lined

pits containing clay. The latest phase comprised a large surviving pottery kiln with associated flues, drains, and cobbled and tiled yard surfaces. The demise of the kiln in 1748–9 and an earthquake in March 1750 destroyed some of the extant structures.

A further archaeological excavation was carried out by MoLAS in 2008, revealing the remains of undefined buildings, as well as more process-specific features. These survived with varying degrees of preservation depending on the amount of later alteration, modifications and constructions carried out. It is likely that the first constructed features were built on specially made ground containing pottery wasters and kiln furniture from adjacent industrial sites. The remains of early buildings were identified, as was a kiln whose base was retained and used as a foundation for a later structure. The earliest structures were of red brickwork laid in English bond style with pinkish yellow sandy mortar, with charcoal and lime, with hard standing of a cobbled yard surface. A previously noted pottery kiln was recorded and fully excavated in this stage of work, proving to be a rectangular double chambered pottery kiln with side vents with rebuilding and alterations.

The partial demolition of the pottery kilns was later carried out for workshops and a larger kiln/chimney structure. The chimney/kiln structure was also brick-built, in places using the footings of the earlier remains. This also used red brick, though with a variable consistency and coloured mortar largely of sand. This feature had an extensive series of internal flues with curved roofs, but the size of the feature suggests that it may have been more than just a kiln, with the thickness of the walls suggesting a load bearing function. Brick and floor tiles were used in the construction.

The grid reference agrees with that for a pottery dump found in 1964 in Lavington Street. Bloice and Thorn also state that a pothouse in Hopton Street was producing tin-glazed ware in the mid-18th century. Although this is adjacent to the site of the Gravel Lane pottery, it does not seem to be on the same site.

*Site codes:* LAV91, GLS06. *NGR:* TQ 31894 80131.

*Sources:* Anthony 2008; Bloice and Thorn 1969; Britton 1987, 48–9.

### Hermitage

The site of the pothouse is at the head of Hermitage Dock (constructed between 1590 and 1658), at the junction of Dockhead and College Court. It is believed to have been started by John Campion, and known to have been in use by 1665. Tin-glazed ware was made at the pothouse and manufacture seems to have ceased by c. 1773. Tyler carried out an evaluation and excavation for MoLAS in March–May 1996 (HIT96). Natural clay was cut by a waste disposal pit and sealed by a consolidation layer for the construction of a first brick built kiln. The waste pit was the earliest surviving feature of the pothouse. Seven phases were recorded, including three kilns, potting clay, unfired glaze, kiln furniture, wasters, biscuit and tin-glazed ware. The earliest phase consisted of a circular brick kiln with the remains of a firebox to the south, the linking fire-mouth having been truncated. A pit cutting through the kiln marked its disuse but a second kiln was constructed above: a similar circular brick structure. This kiln was demolished and above it lay the remnants of a brick surface, succeeded by ground consolidation and a waste pit. A further foundation, surfaces and waste pits of the pothouse were recorded, followed by a third (possibly rectangular) kiln and contemporary surfaces. Although circular kilns are normally associated with the manufacture of stoneware/earthenware, no evidence for the manufacture of anything other than tin-glazed ware was recovered at this site. The third (possibly rectangular) kiln was in use after 1720. The range of kiln furniture recovered included forms distinctive to this site. In 1690 Campion's partner, potter William Knight purchased a colour grinding mill at Merton Abbey "of late used for a Colour Mill for Grinding Colours for the Glazeing of White Ware".

*Site code:* HIT96.

*NGR:* TQ 3423 8033.

*Sources:* Britton 1987, 31–3; MOLA web page – excavation summary 1996; Tyler 1996; Tyler *et al* 1999; Surrey CC web page "A Merton Abbey Marvel".



**Hopton Street**

Bloice and Thorn state that a pot house in Hopton Street was producing tin-glazed ware in the mid-18th century. Although this is adjacent to the site of the Gravel Lane pottery, it does not seem to be on the same site.

*Site code:* NA.

*NGR:* TQ 317 803

*Source:* Bloice and Thorn 1969.

**Horsely Down Lane**

The pottery was located to the east of Pickleherring and Still Stairs. The Pickleherring pothouse moved to this site from either 1708 or 1714, the move being completed by 1723. Production continued (as the White Pot House) until about 1772.

*Site code:* NA.

*Location:* Britton gives the location as 350m SE of Pickleherring.

*Sources:* Bloice 1971; Britton 1987, 37–8; Tyler *et al* 2008, 30; Potters Fields website.

**Isleworth (Railshead Road)**

The pottery was described in the 1768 rate books as 2 pot houses, 2 other houses and 9 tenements adjoining. Established by Joseph Shore in 1757, the chief product is said to have been tin-glazed ware. Although Shore himself is thought to have been trained in porcelain production at Worcester, his daughters both married delftware potters from Bristol, who subsequently moved to Isleworth. Sherds of welshware, queensware and tin-glazed ware were found in 1921, but Howard states that no evidence has been found for delftware production, and that tin-glazed ware found in 1921 may not have been manufactured on site. On the other hand Tyler *et al* state that Isleworth manufactured tin-glazed ware until 1830, being the penultimate pothouse to close. The business was forced to move to Hanworth Road, Hounslow, in 1830 owing to the rerouting of the River Crane and the road to the ferry. Tin-glazed ware is unlikely to have been manufactured after this date.

*Site code:* NA.

*NGR:* TQ 167 753.

*Sources:* Britton 1987, 77–9; Howard 1998; Tyler *et al* 2008.

**Isleworth (Hanworth Road)**

The pottery moved to the Hanworth Road, Hounslow, site in 1830, so

production of tin-glazed ware at this location is unlikely. Reports of excavations 2002–3 do not mention tin-glazed ware.

*Site codes:* QAH03, HWH02.

*NGR:* TQ 1358 7518

*Sources:* Howard 1998; MoLAS Annual Review 2003; LAARC online catalogue.

**Lambeth High Street**

An excavation by SLAEC in 1988 found a 19th-century kiln as well as quantities of dumped wasters and kiln furniture from the nearby delftware kilns and later stoneware factory. The 1988 excavation demonstrated that the site had been extensively land-filled with waste dumps of material derived from a tin-glaze pot house. The finds were mainly 18th-century forms, the most likely source of which was thought to be the Lambeth High Street pot house, the successor to the Norfolk House pothouse, functioning between 1732/4 and 1786 and 1789 and *c.* 1793: only about 50m to the north of the site.

Bloice and Thorn, and later Tyler, report that Professor Garner had already excavated finds on five local sites in the 1930s, including on the site of the pothouse itself. A MoLAS excavation by Tyler in July to August 2000 (site code ABK00) established that the 1988 excavation had not removed all the archaeological deposits. Unexcavated areas survived on the east, west, south and north of the site. Natural gravel was overlain by a clean external soil. This was sealed in turn, only at the west of the site, by the substantial dumps of pot house material. These were spectacular and contained kiln furniture, biscuit ware and glazed wasters. The kiln furniture included the first complete saggars found from the London tin-glaze industry, of two different types. Forms of pot were mainly saucers, plates, cups and bowls: the expected 18th-century types. These dumps appear to have been laid in advance of the construction of the first buildings on the site, represented by brick-built foundations, the earliest of which were at the west side, closest to the Thames frontage. Also found in the dumps were kiln furniture from stoneware manufacture. Tyler (2004) is however of the opinion that the dumps found in 2000 are from either the Norfolk House or the Vauxhall pot houses. Bloice and Thorn add that Abigail Griffiths was producing

delftware at a pottery in Fore Street in the mid-18th century; Britton reports that by 1755 the Lambeth High Street pottery was known as “Griffiths”. Bloice adds that wasters were found in 1966 and that the site is sometimes known as Hereford House (the site was previously the residence of the Bishops of Hereford).

*Site codes:* ALA88, ABK00.

*NGR:* TQ 3054 7862.

*Sources:* Bloice 1971; Bloice and Thorn 1969; Britton 1987, 54–7; Tyler 2004; Tyler *et al* 2008.

**Millwall (West Ferry Road)**

Frederick Garrard operated a delftware pottery in the West Ferry Road in the 1870s and 1880s, making copies of early blue and white tin-glaze designs, also of early 16th-century Spanish tiles. These were in demand by the Arts and Crafts movement, and also used alongside the originals in restoration work, for example at Church Wilne in Derbyshire. A dump of delftware wasters, biscuit ware and kiln furniture at nearby Winkley's Wharf (WRY99) is earlier in date and unlikely to be connected to this site.

*Site code:* NA.

*NGR:* TQ 380 785

*Sources:* Hobhouse 1994, 480–489; Lynn Pearson web page.

**Mitcham Grove (LB Merton)**

Delftware and stoneware wasters and “a large amount” of kiln furniture were found during excavation by Bird (Surrey Archaeol Soc) and Canvin (Merton Hist Soc). There is no record of kilns in this area, however, and the finds probably represent use as landfill.

*Site code:* NA.

*NGR:* TQ 2705 6785.

*Source:* Bloice 1975; 1976.

**Montague Close**

The Montague Close pothouse was active from *c.* 1613 to *c.* 1755, manufacturing only tin-glazed ware. In 1969 a brick structure was revealed in a trench along the south side of Montague Close adjacent to the north wall of Southwark Cathedral. During 1970 this was identified as a rectangular pottery kiln. Three construction phases were seen, each obliterating the previous. Evidence for phase 1 was confined to the remnants of a straight-sided firebox dated to



**Fig. 2: a variety of vessels from Norfolk House, including jars, ointment pots, a chamber pot and bowls painted with mottos and patterns including fish, William and Mary, a lion and a Chinese landscape. (Photo: MOLA)**

c. 1640. The phase 2 kiln was less fragmentary and consisted of a rectangular firebox supported on arches with the north and east walls and one flue surviving. The phase 3 kiln was dated to before the end of the 17th century and included its two end walls, a firebox and a flue. Finds included tin-glazed ware, biscuit ware and kiln furniture. Dawson and Edwards report that previous finds from 1837, 1911 and 1947 have been identified as kiln furniture and pottery manufactured on site. More tin-glazed material was found in 1974 in a pit at the east end of the north side of Montague Close (the Bonded Warehouse site BWMC74 – see Graham and Orton). The excavations in 1979 (HIB79) revealed no structures relating to pottery manufacture, but primary pothouse waste was recovered. The LAARC record for LB69 seems to be an earlier report of the initial excavation, whereas MC69 gives Dawson's interpretation after further investigation: the two site codes cover the same feature. The kiln remains have been preserved and can be seen inside the modern Cathedral buildings, near the restaurant. For a full description of the site see Tyler *et al* 20–25.

*Site codes:* HIB79, LB69, MC69, BWMC74.

*NGR:* TQ 3270 8032.

*Sources:* Britton 1987, 42–5; Dawson 1971a, 1971b; Dawson and Edwards 1974; Graham and Orton 1978; Tyler *et al* 2008, 20–25.

### **Mortlake (Sanders' Pottery)**

An evaluation and excavation were

undertaken in 1997 by Stewart Hoad of MoLAS at 61–69 Mortlake High Street (MOT97). The site was in use in the 18th century, and is probably the pottery begun by John Sanders and his son William between 1742 and 1752, and which took over the production of the Vauxhall works in 1804. The pottery had two kilns and closed in 1823 when the business moved to the Glasshouse Street site in Vauxhall, at a location behind the King's Arms at the south end of Princes Street.

Numerous pot fragments, both tin-glazed and salt-glazed were recovered, as were items of kiln furniture (saggars and spacers) and a large quantity of vitrified bricks, the latter probably associated with the production of salt-glazed ware. The remains of a brick lined flue were also recorded. The pothouse was demolished in the 19th century, the debris being apparent in dumped levelling layers, from which the majority of ceramic wasters have been recovered. A further waste dump was located nearby at nos 71–75 (HSL96) and wasters and kiln furniture were found in the base of a tank-like structure at nos 77–91 (MKH00); a kiln base at no. 107 (MTK96) is probably related. *Site codes:* MOT97, HSL96, MKH00, MTK96.

*NGR:* TQ 207 760

*Sources:* Britton 1987, 75–6; LAARC online catalogue.

### **Norfolk House**

According to Britton, this pottery operated from 1680–1779, but Bloice suggests the business moved to

Lambeth High Street in 1737 and was “certainly” finished by 1763.

Excavation by SLAEC in 1968 (LNH68) revealed two rectangular, brick-built kilns. Biscuit ware, tin-glazed ware and kiln furniture were recovered from four dump layers and one backfilled pit, as well as from the kilns themselves. The first kiln was represented by a brick-built, heavily burnt, square or rectangular feature, interpreted as the remains of the firebox. There were two phases of construction. The second kiln was similar. Kiln furniture included flat discs, triangular pegs, rings, saggars, setters, tiles and trivets. Biscuit ware included albarelli, bowls, chamber-pots, cups, dishes, globular storage jars, lobed porringer handles, mugs, plates and salts. The smaller quantity of glazed wares included cauldron-type containers, cups, dishes, plates and wet drug jars. Finds were dated no earlier than 1680, with a suggested cut-off date of c. 1740. Further excavation in 1988 and 1990 (NOR88, NOR90) on a site to the west recovered tin-glazed waste products but no further structures. A Tudor brick cellar contained large quantities of potters' clay. Tyler is of the opinion that the dumps found in 2000 at ABK00 are from either the Norfolk House or the Vauxhall pot houses.

*Site codes:* LNH68, NOR88, NOR90. (ABK00 relates).

*NGR:* TQ 3077 7894.

*Sources:* Britton 1987; Bloice 1971; Tyler 2004; Tyler *et al* 2008, 93ff.

### **Pickleherring**

The Pickleherring pottery operated from 1618 to c. 1723. The records cover a complex of excavations under ten site codes. Tin-glazed material and kiln furniture relating to the pothouse were found at various locations near Vine Lane between 1954 and 1961, and very large amounts were identified in further archaeological investigations in 1965 and 1970. More kiln waste and kiln furniture, dated 1660–1680 according to Britton was found in 1973 (MBW73). Excavations between 1987 and 1992 (BFN88, BFS88, BRA88, BTH88, MOR87, UPP88 and VIN88) produced waste material from the pottery process redeposited in a variety of contexts. Two kilns were recorded in an excavation by the DGLA (VIN88). Kiln 2 was constructed on the plot of the

earlier Kiln 1. A settling tank and possible pier structure were also located. A possibly earlier very truncated kiln, Kiln 3, was recorded at ABO92, on a similar alignment to Kiln 1 to the east. For detailed descriptions see Tyler *et al*, 33–4. Although further kiln waste was found in 2004 in nearby Magdalen Street (MGN04), it is suggested by Chew and Pierce that considering the proximity of the site to several tin-glazed ware factories, the overall quantity of biscuit and tin-glazed wasters is unremarkable and does not suggest large-scale dumping of ceramic waste in the immediate vicinity. Bloice suggests that another pottery probably existed nearby from 1670 to 1680, probably at the junction of Potters Fields and Tooley Street.

From either 1708 or 1714 the pothouse moved to a new location (the Horsely Down Pothouse) approximately 350m to the SE. Records show that the move was complete by 1723 (Britton). *Site codes*: BFN88, BFS88, BRA88, BTH88, MBW73, MOR87, MOR88, UPP88, VIN88, ABO92. *NGR*: TQ 333 800 – see Tyler *et al* 2008 for detail. *Sources*: Bloice 1971; Britton 1987, 34–6; Chew and Pearce 1999; Tyler *et al* 2008, 26–59.

#### Princes Street (part of Vauxhall Pottery) (Glasshouse Street final phase)

Tin-glazed ware production returned to Vauxhall from the Mortlake Pottery, but on a site behind the King's Arms at the south end of Princes Street, from 1823 until 1846, when the site was sold. The south end of Princes Street was very close to Glasshouse Street – now under the Albert Embankment. For further details see entries for Glasshouse Street and Vauxhall.

#### Putney

The Putney pottery was active from c. 1668 to 1739 on a site between Lower Richmond Road and the Thames which later became part of the adjacent brewery and is now occupied by Glendarvon Street. Britton and Gerhold state that this was a delftware pothouse on the evidence of a petition by John Barlow in 1697. Additionally, Mary Chilwell, who was in possession of the pothouse in 1736, was the wife of

Jonathan Chilwell III, who came originally from Vauxhall *via* Norfolk House, implying a delftware connection. However there seems to be no further evidence for the production of tin-glazed ware, and according to an inventory of 1728 the main products were sugar ware (used in the sugar-refining process) and garden pots.

*Site code*: NA.

*NGR*: TQ 238 759.

*Sources*: Britton 1987, 72–4; Dawson 2010; Gerhold 1991.

#### Rotherhithe

Documentary sources indicate that the Rotherhithe pothouse functioned during the middle years of the 17th century. It is believed to have moved to Still Stairs in 1663, but according to Betts and Weinstein production may have continued on the Rotherhithe site until 1684. The pottery was situated on the site of the medieval manor house of Edward III, which is a Scheduled Monument. Biscuit ware found along the foreshore downstream of the site in 1969 and 1983 initially hinted at the nature of the production, but archaeological work between 1986 and 1991 failed to uncover any structures related to the pottery. Waste material from the backfilled moat and two possible clay pits at the south of the site contained biscuit and glazed ware, as well as kiln furniture and building materials, which were presumed to come from the pothouse itself. Two structures at the south of the site initially interpreted as kilns were found to be of later date. The kilns may have been in the Inner Court area, inside the Scheduled Ancient Monument. At 165 Rotherhithe Street (site code ROZ00), one kilometre distant, dumps of imported soil used to raise the ground level contained large quantities of wasters and kiln furniture and debris, some at least of which was derived from the Rotherhithe Pottery site. More evidence for the pothouse has recently come to light during works for Thames Water (site code TZX10). Large amounts of kiln waste as well as sagger fragments and trivets were found, mainly in the trenches in Paradise Street and Dixon's Alley. A thin compact black layer containing much 17th-century pottery, observed in the northern trenches along Paradise Street, c. 1 m



**Fig. 3 : fused wasters and kiln furniture from Rotherhithe** (Photo: MOLA)

beneath the present ground surface, represents an earlier land surface, possibly associated with the pothouse. Brick walling found in Paradise Street may be part of the pothouse itself.

*Site codes*: LO164, PW86, 89, 90, 91, TZX10. (ROZ00 relates).

*NGR*: TQ 348 797

*Sources*: Betts and Weinstein 2010; Blatherwick and Bluer 2009; Britton 1987, 39–40; Dawson 2010; Maloney 2001; Greenwood and Thompson 1992; Jeffery 2011; Tyler *et al* 2008, 60–92; Wylie 2011, 31.

#### Still Stairs

The pottery moved here from the Rotherhithe site in 1663, operating under William Fry and Edward Osbaldston until 1674, with further production continuing until 1685. Dumps at MBW73 are believed to come from this pottery. Britton notes that Rhoda Edwards has found evidence for yet another pottery in this vicinity in about 1680, associated with potters R. Newnham, J. Barston and N. Rapley.

*Site code*: MBW73

*NGR*: TQ 335 802

*Sources*: Britton 1987, 41; Chew and Pearce 1999; Potters Fields web page.

#### Vauxhall

Excavations in 1972 and 1977–81 on the line of a new slip road from Vauxhall Bridge Approach to the Albert Embankment led to the discovery of five rectangular kilns. They were probably used for tin-glazed ware and then later for stoneware, before being replaced by bottle kilns for stoneware production, with a total of 17 kilns excavated. One of the rectangular kilns however continued in use into the 19th century. The pottery was founded in 1683 by John de Wilde of Rotterdam, and tin-



glazed ware was certainly in production by 1712. Production moved to the Mortlake Pottery in 1804, then returned to Vauxhall, but on the Princes Street site (Glasshouse Street Pottery), from 1823 until 1846, when the site was sold. Stoneware production at the main Vauxhall site continued until 1865, when all production moved to Fulham. A further site to the east of Vauxhall Street was acquired in the late 18th century, possibly to enable the separation of the tin-glaze and stoneware clay preparation. Over 20 tonnes of pottery were recovered in the excavations. Of the two dumps of tin-glazed waste material found in 1972, one (F1) was on the main Vauxhall site. The other (F2) was near the Copt Hall and Glasshouse Street factories (they may have been the same factory) further north. John de Wilde probably owned a

colour mill at Battersea. Tyler is of the opinion that the dumps found in 2000 at Lambeth High Street site (ABK00) are from either the Norfolk House or the Vauxhall pot houses.

*Site codes:* L40/77, AE72. (ABK00 relates).

*NGR:* TQ 3035 7821

*Sources:* Bloice 1972; Britton 1987, 65–7; Edwards 1981 and 1982; Tyler 2004; Tyler *et al* 2008.

## Winkley's Wharf

Delftware wasters, biscuit ware and kiln furniture dated from 1680 to the beginning of the 18th century were excavated here. They were used as land-fill and are unlikely to be local, since the nearby Millwall pottery was manufacturing tin-glazed ware only during the late 19th century.

*Site code:* WRY99.

*NGR:* TQ 373 788.

*Source:* Maloney 2001, 91.

## Acknowledgements

Special thanks are due to Stuart Cakebread of the Greater London Heritage Environment Record, and to Clive Orton, for their help and encouragement; also to Emma Jeffery of Compass Archaeology for details of the recent excavations at Rotherhithe.

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