

The Coarse Pottery by S J Greep

Introduction

Although a well established ceramic sequence exists for Caerleon, there are a few groups which are independently well dated. The dating of the coarse wares from Caerleon, and throughout Wales, continues to rely heavily upon the introduction and development of black-burnished wares (see below). At the time this report was originally composed (1982) the excavations at the Fortress Baths provided the best ceramic sequence from Caerleon (Greep 1986a). Subsequent publications, in particular of material from the site of the Legionary Museum (Zienkiewicz 1992a), have added new comparative data. The discussion of local pottery production and supply (Webster, P.V. 1992), the publication of the large ceramic sequence from Usk (Manning 1993) and other 'local' sites such as Cowbridge (Parkhouse and Evans 1996), Loughor (Marvell and Owen-John 1997), and Pennydarren (Heywood 1991) have all increased knowledge of local ceramics in the first and second centuries AD – the period in which the bulk of the present assemblage lies. A considerable amount of new evidence has been published since 1982 and the opportunity was taken in 1996 to revise this report.

With the exception of a mortarium from factories in Lower Germany (see fig. 45.196), there is little in the assemblage which is 'new' to Caerleon. The ceramics are, however, important in the dating of the site and therefore material from important, well sealed contexts has been illustrated fully. A noticeable feature of the pottery from the excavations is the rarity of late third-fourth century wares, even in unstratified contexts, though pottery of similar date is recorded elsewhere at Caerleon (e.g. Greep 1986a, figs. 29-35).

The fabrics

Where possible, fabric descriptions have been kept to a minimum. Although there remain

few kiln groups known from south-east Wales (and at the time this report was revised none from Caerleon¹) the basic sequence is now well established and the source of non-local products relatively well known. Since the value of the assemblage lies principally in its chronology, discussion of the fabrics has relied heavily on previously published works. The best discussion of local production and fabrics, albeit from Usk, is the recent work of Webster (1993). It is now well established that the pottery supply to the fortress during the Flavian-Trajanic period relied principally upon a small number of local producers (e.g. Greep 1986a, 51-53; Webster, P.V. 1992, 113; Webster 1993, 227-318) the location of whose kilns remains unknown. Imported products during this period, such as the 'pre-Flavian' fine wares and the development of local fine wares are well documented.

The early second century, particularly from the Hadrianic period, saw a radical change with the introduction of Black-burnished wares and the development of local fine wares such as Caerleon ware. The term Black-burnished ware (BB1) is used in this report following Farrah (1973, 75) and only variations are noted in the catalogue. The introduction of BB1 into south-east Wales, and Caerleon in particular, has been extensively discussed (e.g. Greep 1986a, 55-6; Webster, P.V. 1992, 115), leading to a south-east Wales 'local' typology and chronology (Webster 1993, 264-85). Like BB1, Caerleon wares have also been the subject of extensive discussion (e.g. Greep 1986a, 56-7; Webster, P.V. 1992, 114-5; Webster 1993, 255-64; Parkhouse and Evans 1996, 129). Here they are defined in a wider sense than that used by Wheeler and Wheeler (1928, 178) to include red-slipped vessels falling outside their narrow definition but within the 'Caerleon tradition' (Boon 1966a).

¹ See now a kiln producing second century Caerleon ware found at Abernant Farm Bulmore in 1996 (Webster *et al* 2004), and a second kiln producing finewares found 800m away in 2006 (Burnham 2007, 250).

Discussion and catalogue

Phase I

Phase I contexts produced only a few body sherds from jars of indeterminate origin, but likely to fall within the broad date range of Flavian-Trajanic.

Phase II (fig. 34; nos. 1-13)

Typologically, the small quantity of material from Phase II deposits is Flavian-Trajanic. In such a small group the absence of both 'early second century fine wares' (introduced c. AD 90/100) or early BB1 products (which occur sporadically from the Flavian period) is not necessarily significant. A Flavian date (c. AD 74/5-100) is likely for this material, however, in view of its associations¹. Comparison with the coarse wares from early, Flavian groups at the Fortress Baths (Greep 1986a, figs. 19-20, groups 1-4) and Museum site (Zienkiewicz 1992a, figs. 5-7) which produced similar material confirms this view.

Jars

- 1 Grey fabric, some quartz inclusions and burnt patches on the exterior (D7).
- 2 Smooth, mid-grey fabric, darker exterior (D7).
- 3 Hard, fine grey fabric with a smooth burnished surface (D10 but fragments of the same vessel from D17). Vessels similar to nos. 1-3 and 5 are common in Flavian deposits at Caerleon and appear in a wide range of fabrics, both oxidised and reduced (e.g. Greep 1986a, figs. 19.1.2, 20.4.2-3; Zienkiewicz 1992a, fig. 5.17-9).
- 4 Pinkish fabric with buff exterior surfaces (D19).
- 5 Grey fabric with lighter buff interior and darker grey exterior. Some quartz and other, possibly grog, inclusions (D18).
- 6 Grey core, purple-brown outer, grey exterior surface and brownish interior (D7).

¹ see p. 47, 49.

- 7 Soft, orange-brown fabric (D7). Everted rimmed necked jars are common Flavian Caerleon products and are well represented in similar Caerleon deposits (e.g. Greep 1986a, figs. 19.1.1-5, 20.4.1.4; Zienkiewicz 1992a, fig. 5.16, 26-7).

Bowls

- 8 Hard, fine orange fabric with some mica inclusions (D7). For slightly larger examples from Caerleon cf. Greep 1986a, fig. 20.2.1, Zienkiewicz 1992a, fig 6.32.
- 9 Sandy, gritty buff fabric with a burnished, possibly burnt, exterior (D19). Bowls with a small internal seat such as this example have not been recorded previously at Caerleon.
- 10 Sandy, purple-brown fabric with a dark grey outer and orange-brown surfaces. Black patches on surface (D7). Flat rimmed, round-bodied carinated bowls are common pre-Flavian and Flavian products in south-east Wales. They were amongst the forms produced at Usk (Greene 1993, fig. 4.19) and are well recorded at Caerleon (e.g. Wheeler and Wheeler 1928, fig. 19.1; Nash-Williams 1929b, fig.32.82-3).

Beakers

- 11 Soft, orange fabric (D7).
- 12 Grey core, hard, purple-brown exterior surfaces some quartz inclusions (D19). Small beakers in non-imported fabrics such as 11 and 12 are well recorded at Caerleon in Flavian contexts (e.g. Greep 1986a, fig. 20.4.17).

Material from the west foundation trench of the angle turret (Site A)

- 13 Sandy, light orange fabric with some exterior burning (A17). This is probably the rim of a tazza of a form unrecorded at Caerleon. Though tazza have been found in large numbers here (e.g. Wheeler and Wheeler 1928, fig. 20.42; Nash-Williams 1929b, fig. 36.119; Nash-Williams 1932b, figs. 61.408-23, 62.424-7) they are of a type with a wide, projecting lid-seated rim, not the triangular one of this example. Tazza are amongst the vessels produced at Usk in the pre-Flavian period (e.g. Manning 1981a, fig. 95.26) but again with a different profiled rim. An alternative interpretation is that this is the rim of a face urn, which although unknown

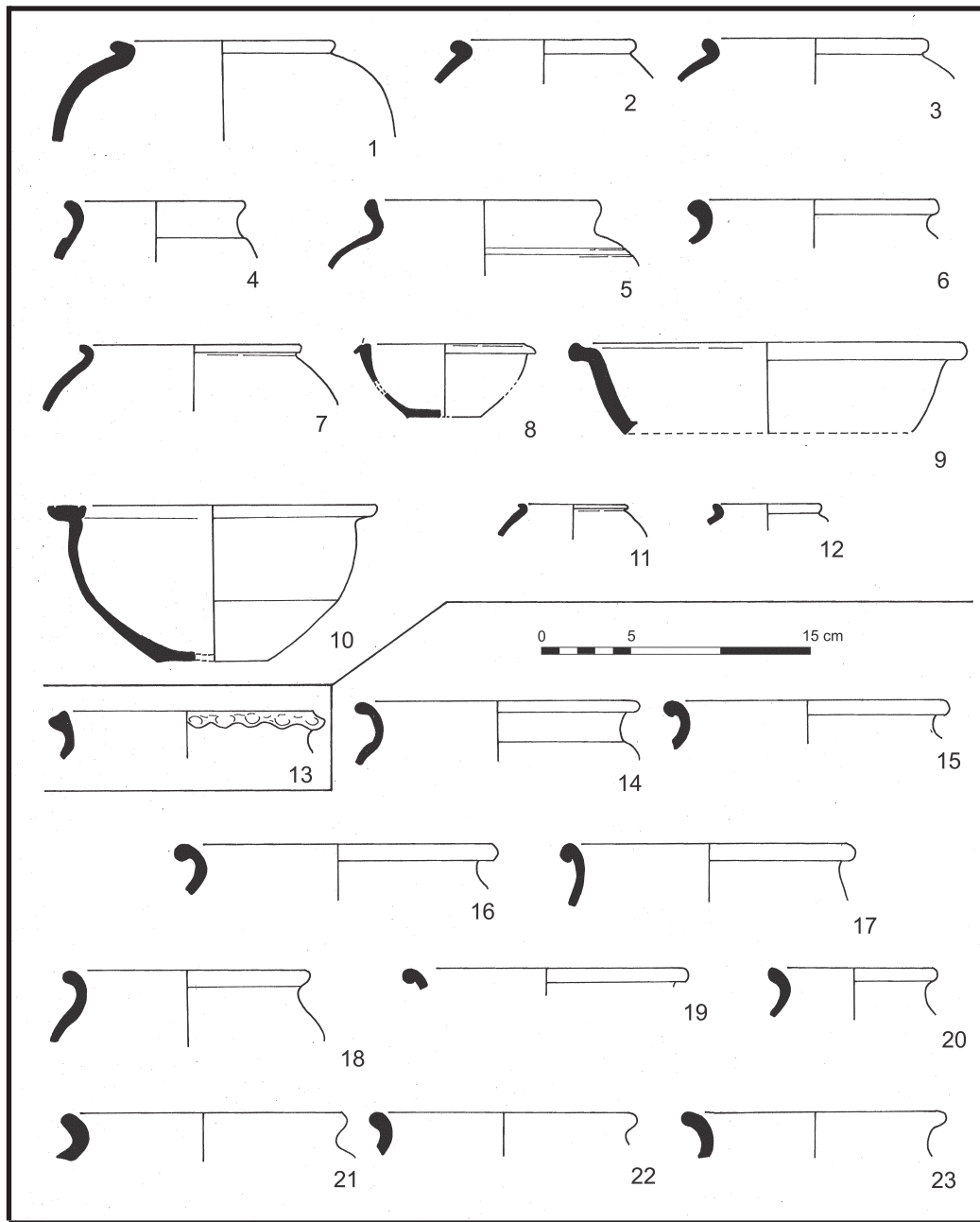


Fig. 34: Coarse pottery vessels from Phase II (nos. 1-13) and Phase III (nos. 14-23) contexts

at Caerleon were produced in Usk (Manning 1981a, fig. 94.18) with a very similar rim form to the present example. Context A17 is partly contaminated by material derived from the rebuilding of the perimeter wall (Phase IV) and consequently this vessel may be of a later date than Phase II.

Phase III (figs. 34-41; nos. 14-118)

The material from the infill of the interval turret (Site D) forms the most interesting ceramic

collection from the site. The division into three units during excavation (layers D4, D5 and D6) provides a significant chronological separation throughout the deposit.

A key indicator of chronology, BB1, first makes its appearance in these deposits. Although it is no longer possible to maintain that BB1 first makes its appearance in Hadrianic contexts in south Wales (e.g. Greene 1973, 33; Greep 1986a, 56-7; Webster, P.V. 1992, 115-7)

the period after c. A.D. 120 did see a dramatic rise in the quantities of BB1 present on sites in the area. The process is demonstrated best by an examination of the deposits at the Fortress Baths (fig. 36a). Though we are dealing with quite small groups, and the absolute portions should not be taken too literally (but rather the relative ones), a comparison of the Phase III deposits from the interval turret provides a similar sequence of rising quantities of BB1 (fig. 36b; assessment by minimum vessel number). Whether the material from the interval turret is assessed by weight or minimum vessel number the pattern reflected is identical, though rather a smaller proportion of BB1 is shown for D5 by weight (fig. 36c) which may be a result of the relatively small size of the sample (4.7 kilograms see fig. 35).

The arrival, by whatever means, of larger quantities of BB1, a coarse cooking ware, has interesting results when compared with the other fabrics. Apart from small quantities of BB1, Caerleon's coarse wares in the Flavian-Trajanic period relied heavily on a large number of small scale producers manufacturing a fairly restricted range, principally in sandy, grey fabrics (e.g. Greep 1986a, 51-4). Though these industries continue into the Hadrianic-Antonine period comparison of the quantities of BB1 and 'sandy grey wares' present at Site D demonstrates, not surprisingly, that the rise of BB1 is reflected by a decline in the proportion of the market for the grey ware industries.

Material from the lower fills of the turret (D6)

This is the earliest group in the turret ceramic sequence. Included are at least two Lyon ware vessels (e.g. fig. 38.61) and a sherd of a Pompeian Red platter (not illustrated), early, essentially pre-Flavian fabrics but well recorded in Flavian deposits at Caerleon (on the survival of pre-Flavian fine wares at Caerleon cf. Greep 1986a, 90-3; Zienkiewicz

1992a, 83-4). As a group the coarse wares are well paralleled in Flavian-Trajanic groups elsewhere at Caerleon (e.g. Greep 1986a, figs. 19-21, groups 1-7) and though the assemblage contains a small amount of BB1 (e.g. fig. 38.60) this is not necessarily out of place in a Flavian-Trajanic group. Though the majority of the grey sandy wares are undecorated, unillustrated sherds include those decorated with wavy lines and rustication. Though both these decorative forms appear in Flavian-Trajanic contexts in south Wales (e.g. Wheeler and Wheeler 1928, figs. 19.2, 21.63) their exact date of introduction is uncertain. Their absence in fortress deposits at Usk would, however, suggest a date no earlier than the early Flavian period. Both last well into the Antonine period.

Of the 'early second century fine wares' there is at least one 'mica dusted' vessel (fig. 37.30), several in Caerleon ware (fig. 37.43 and fig. 38.47, 63) and a small sherd (not illustrated) of Marble ware. Mica dusted wares appear from Phase I/II deposits at the Fortress Baths (c. A.D. 75-85) but Caerleon and Marble wares probably belong to the period after c. A.D. 90/100 (Greep 1986a, 54). The Caerleon ware mortarium (fig. 38.63) is probably one of the latest pieces in this deposit since the earliest Caerleon mortaria would seem to belong to the Trajanic period (Boon 1966a, 51; Zienkiewicz 1992a, 94), the main sequence being of Hadrianic-Antonine date.

The associated material included south Gaulish samian¹. A broad Flavian-Trajanic date is suggested for the coarse wares; if the *terminus post quem* for the group was much past c. A.D. 120 a greater proportion of BB1 might be expected.

Jars

A large number of jars are represented in the bottom levels (D6) of the turret. These are all typical Flavian-Trajanic forms which are all well represented in similarly dated groups, not only at Caerleon (e.g. Greep

1 See p. 49 nos. 2-6

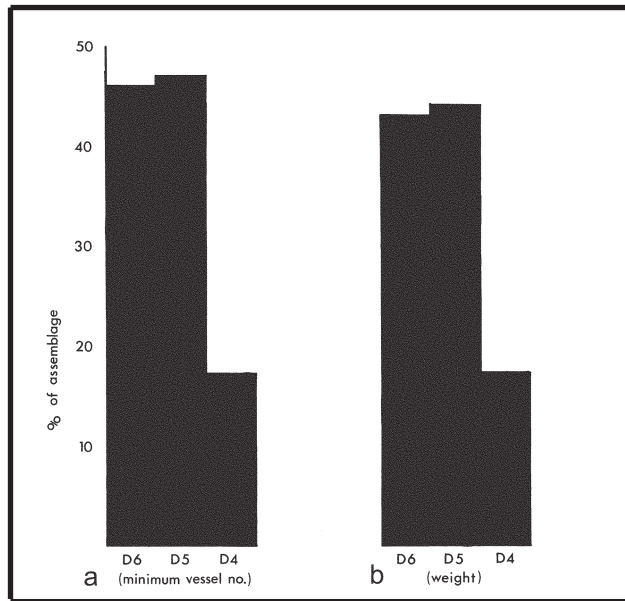


Fig. 35: Coarse pottery vessels from Phase III contexts by minimum numbers and weight

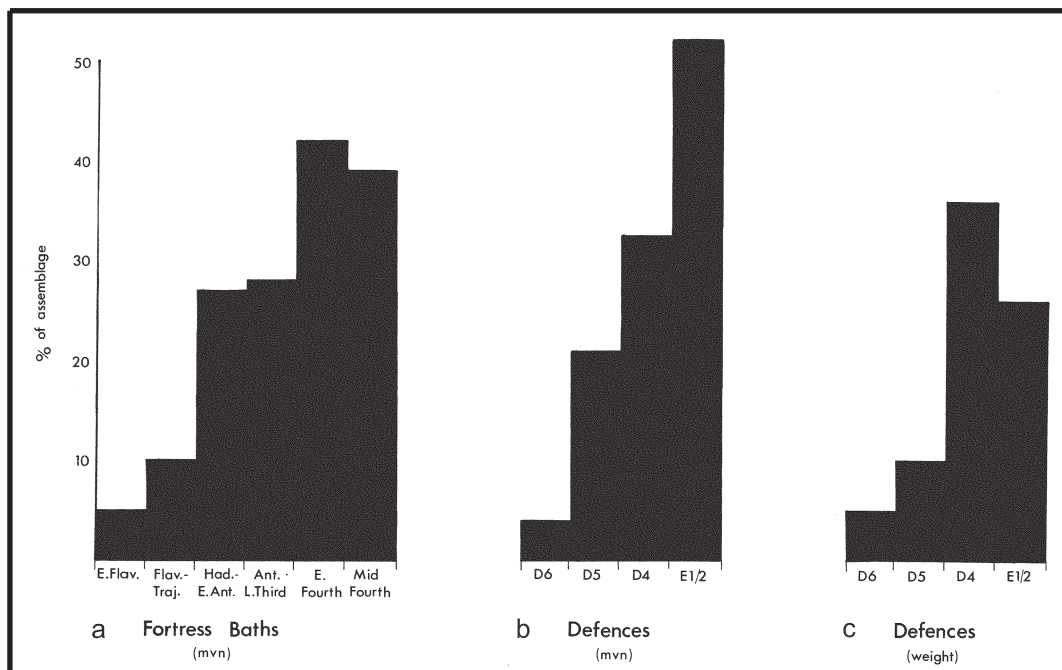


Fig. 36: BB1 assemblages from the Fortress Baths and the Defences 1982

- 1986a, figs. 19-21, Zienkiewicz 1992a, fig. 5) but at other sites throughout south-east Wales (e.g. Parkhouse and Evans 1996, fig. 46-7, 569-583).
- 14 Dark grey fabric with black, burnished horizontal stripes on the exterior.
- 15 Hard, sandy, dark grey fabric with darker surfaces. Some burnishing on the upper rim.
- 16 Hard, purple-brown fabric, darker grey interior and dark grey exterior. Quartz inclusions.
- 17 Hard, sandy grey fabric with some exterior burning.
- 18 Hard, grey fabric with darker possibly burnished exterior. Quartz inclusions.
- 19 Hard, light grey fabric with some quartz inclusions.
- 20 Hard, grey fabric.
- 21 Hard, orange fabric with some grey external burnishing.
- 22 Hard, grey fabric, some black patches. Sparse quartz inclusions.
- 23 Hard, mid grey fabric.
- 24 Hard, grey fabric with darker exterior. Sparse quartz inclusions.
- 25 Hard, grey fabric with a darker burnished exterior.
- 26 Sandy, purple-brown fabric with darker, grey surfaces.
- 27 Sandy, purple-brown fabric with darker, grey surfaces and a burnished exterior.
- 28 Hard, dark grey fabric with a purplish tinge, grey surfaces, darker outer and lighter interior. Burnished exterior surface.
- 29 Hard, grey fabric.
- 30 Hard, pinky-orange fabric with a mica-dusted exterior.
- 31 Hard, grey fabric with darker surfaces and burnished exterior.
- 32 Grey fabric with darker, black exterior.
- 33 Grey fabric with grey, burnished exterior.
- 34 Dark grey fabric, lighter surfaces. Burnished lines inside and out.
- 35 Purple-brown fabric, darker grey exterior, lighter grey interior surface. Abundant quartz inclusions.
- 36 Hard, sandy grey fabric.
- 37 Hard, grey fabric.
- 38 Sandy, purple-brown fabric with darker, grey surfaces.
- Bowls*
- 39 Hard, mid grey fabric with darker patches on the surface. Quartz, mica and possibly small grog inclusions.
- 40 Hard, grey fabric purple/pink outer and orange-brown surfaces. Possibly originally mica-dusted.
- 41 Hard, fairly fine, blue grey fabric, grey outer and darker grey surfaces.
- 42 Orange fabric, some possible small quartz inclusions.
- 43 Orange fabric with darker surfaces. Some mica inclusions. Caerleon ware.
- 44 Buff core, orange-brown outer with darker surfaces. Abundant small quartz inclusions.
- 45 Pinkish fabric with orange exterior surfaces. 'Stab' decoration on the exterior wall. Similarly decorated vessels commonly occur in Flavian-Trajanic contexts at Caerleon. The principle forms are carinated (e.g. Greep 1984, 36 from Caerwent; Webster 1993, fig. 149.8 from Usk), hemispherical (e.g. Nash-Williams 1929b, fig. 31.61; Fox 1940, fig. 10.9), and straight sided (e.g. Nash-Williams 1929b, fig. 31.62) bowls, vessels occurring in generally hard, fine fabrics being both reduced and oxidised wares. Similar undecorated vessels occur in comparable fabrics (e.g. Nash-Williams 1929b, fig. 36.120) and are presumably the product of the same industry. Similar, 'stab' decoration is also found on the local lead glazed vessels (e.g. Arthur 1978, 324-34; Greep 1986a, fig. 38.1.6).
- 46 Grey core, pinkish outer with darker surfaces. Grey patches on the interior. 'Stab' decoration cf. no. 45 above.
- 47 Orange-brown fabric, orange slip inside and out. Caerleon ware. (e.g. Boon 1966a, fig. 3.1; Webster 1993, fig. 118.5.1). Probably imitating samian form 18/31.
- 48 Hard, mid grey fabric, smooth darker

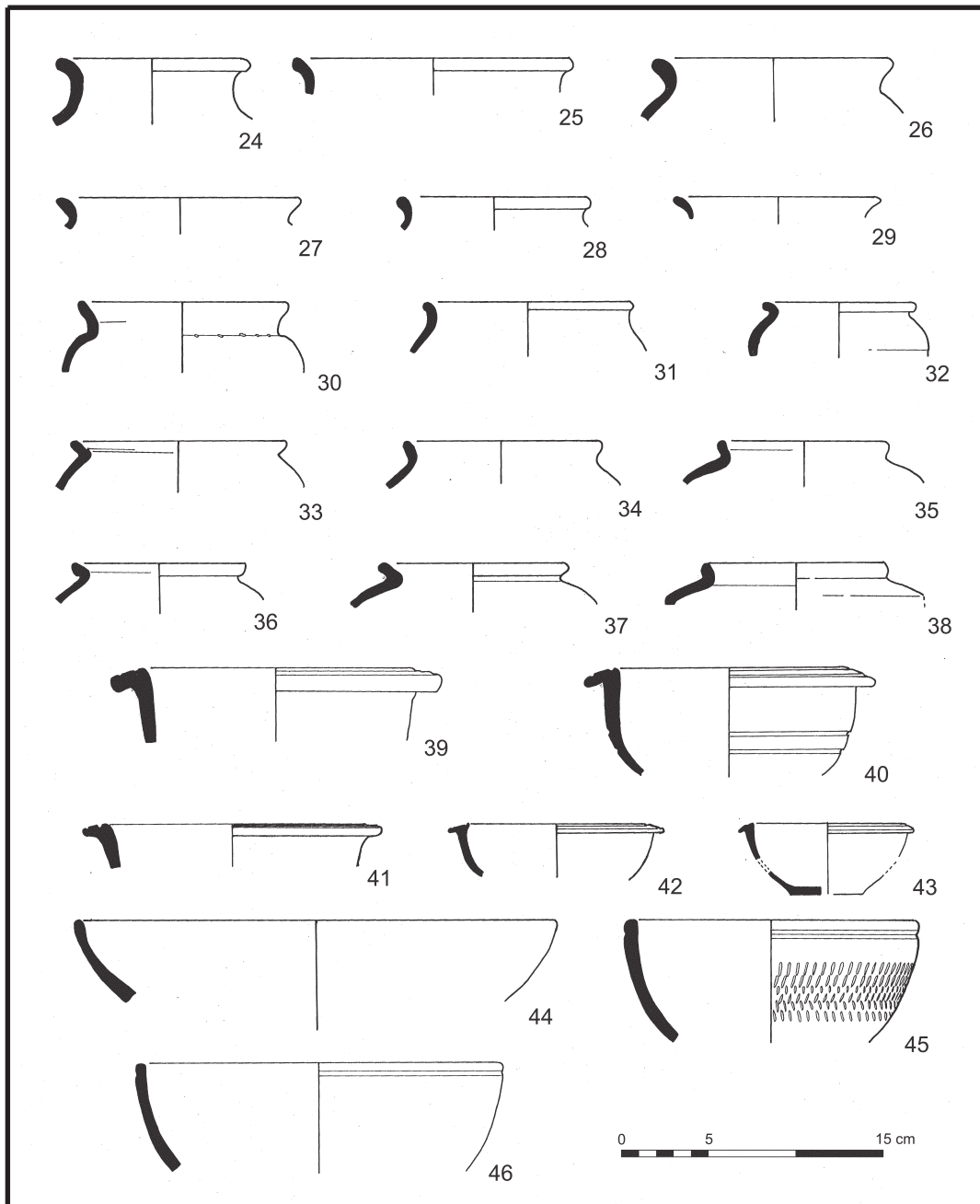


Fig. 37: Coarse pottery from Phase III contexts

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| | burnished interior. Burnished exterior. | | surfaces. |
| 49 | Grey core, pinkish outer, burnished darker surfaces. Grey in places on the interior. | 52 | Hard, fine, mid grey fabric, darker, possibly burnished exterior and lighter interior. |
| 50 | Hard, pinky-orange fabric with orange surfaces. | | Hemispherical bowls such as nos. 47-52 are common at Caerleon in the Flavian-Trajanic period. While many are related to bowls with the 'Stab' decoration (e.g. nos. 45-6 above) they occur in a wide range of reduced and |
| 51 | Orange fabric with traces of a darker orange slip inside and out, but grey patches on both | | |

oxidised fabrics.

- 53 Hard, light buff fabric, reddish and grey surface patches inside and out. Well sorted, medium quartz inclusions.
- 54 Hard, fairly fine grey fabric with horizontal, burnished lines on the exterior.
- 55 Grey core, orange-brown exterior. Finger impressions on the top of the rim.
- 56 Buff core, orange-brown outer, traces of a red-brown slip inside and out. Slightly burnt exterior. Mica inclusions.
- 57 Hard, orange-brown fabric. Irregularly sorted white, black and brown inclusions, some on vessel surface.
- 58 Grey fabric. This is possibly a lid and similar in form to no. 65 below.
- 59 Sandy, grey fabric with burnished surfaces, burnt orange/grey. Possibly BB1.
- 60 BB1. Burnt orange-brown interior. Cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 3.34-6 early-mid second century; Webster 1993, fig. 127.23.2-3.

Beakers

- 61 Hard white fabric, with a greenish tinge to fabric and surface. Lyon ware and therefore pre-early Flavian cf. Greene 1979, fig. 8.20.1 from Usk; Greep 1986a, fig. 37.12; Zienkiewicz 1992a, fig. 1.6 from Caerleon.
- 62 Grey with brownish burnished surfaces. Quartz inclusions.

Mortaria

- 63 Purple-brown fabric, orange surfaces with traces of an exterior red slip. Burnished on top of the rim. White trituration grits. Caerleon ware. Caerleon mortaria first appear in Trajanic contexts. The form is classified at Usk as 'Caer 6' (Hartley 1993, 414) and dated to c. A.D. 110-150.
- 64 Very hard purple-brown fabric with darker surfaces, grey on rim. Grey interior surface. Irregular white and grey grits.

Lid

- 65 Hard grey fabric, darker exterior. Some quartz inclusions. This is the typical first and second century lid form at Caerleon and elsewhere in south-east Wales (e.g. Greep 1986a, figs. 19.1.21, 20.4.14, 21.7.31;

Zienkiewicz 1992a, fig. 6.29-31).

Other Vessels

- 66-7 Buff fabric, pinky-buff outer and orange surfaces. Some quartz inclusions. This is probably the base and body from a very large tazza (e.g. Nash-Williams 1932b, fig. 62.426-7).

Context D6 also produced a small fragment of a Pompeian Red platter of Peacock's Group 3 (Peacock 1977, 154), the only one of his fabrics so far recorded at Caerleon (e.g. Boon 1967a, fig. 3.13; Boon 1978b, 18) and a small rim sherd from Flavian-Trajanic contexts at the Fortress Baths (Greep 1986a, fig. 22.8.7); three sherds of Lyon ware (not as no. 61 above); and a small sherd from an early BB1 cavetto rimmed jar.

Material from the middle fills of the turret (D5)

Though this group lacks the small quantities of early Flavian material (such as the Lyon ware and Pompeian Red) found in D6 there is clearly some overlap between the two. D5 contains small quantities of Caerleon (including a probable Caerleon mortarium; fig. 27.91), lead glazed (not illustrated) and marbled (not illustrated) wares of c. A.D. 90/100-130. A single sherd of Severn Valley ware (not illustrated) is a rare Caerleon example (Greep 1986a, 52. fn. 3) of a fabric more common elsewhere in south-east Wales (Greene 1993, 62-4; Webster 1993, 285-94).

Associated material included south Gaulish samian¹ and a single coin of Domitian c. A.D. 92-4². The greater proportion of BB1 (fig. 36b-c) which includes one vessel of early or possibly mid-second century date (fig. 39.86) would suggest a slightly later date for D5 than for D6. A Trajanic-early Hadrianic date is proposed.

Jars

- 68-71 BB1. Rim sherds only, but all of early BB1 types. It is difficult to be precise about the
- 1 see p. 49 nos. 7-8.
- 2 see p. 47 no. 3.

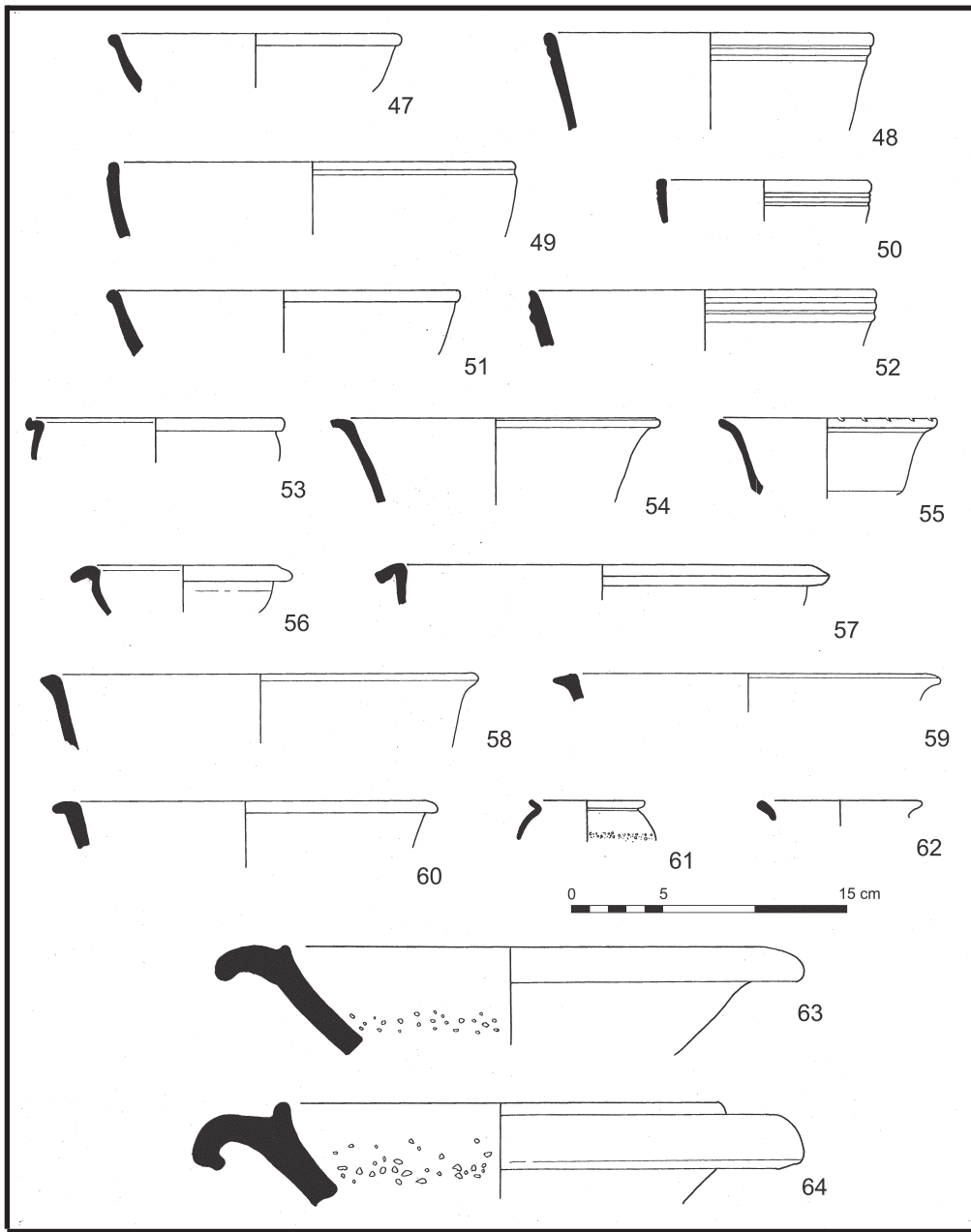


Fig. 38: Coarse pottery from Phase III contexts

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| | form of these jars, but all would appear to fall within the earlier sequence of BB1 jars (e.g. Webster 1993, fig. 123-4). | 76 | Grey core with a pinky-brown exterior and darker grey surfaces. |
| 72 | Grey fabric with a lighter outer, burnished surfaces and a light grey interior. | 77 | Grey-brown fabric. |
| 73 | Hard, grey fabric. | 78 | Hard, grey fabric with a darker exterior. Nos. 72-8 all fall within well known Caerleon forms of the Flavian-Hadrianic periods. Most are paralleled in earlier groups at the Caerleon defences. |
| 74 | Hard, grey fabric. | | |
| 75 | Hard, grey fabric with a lighter, grey core. | | |

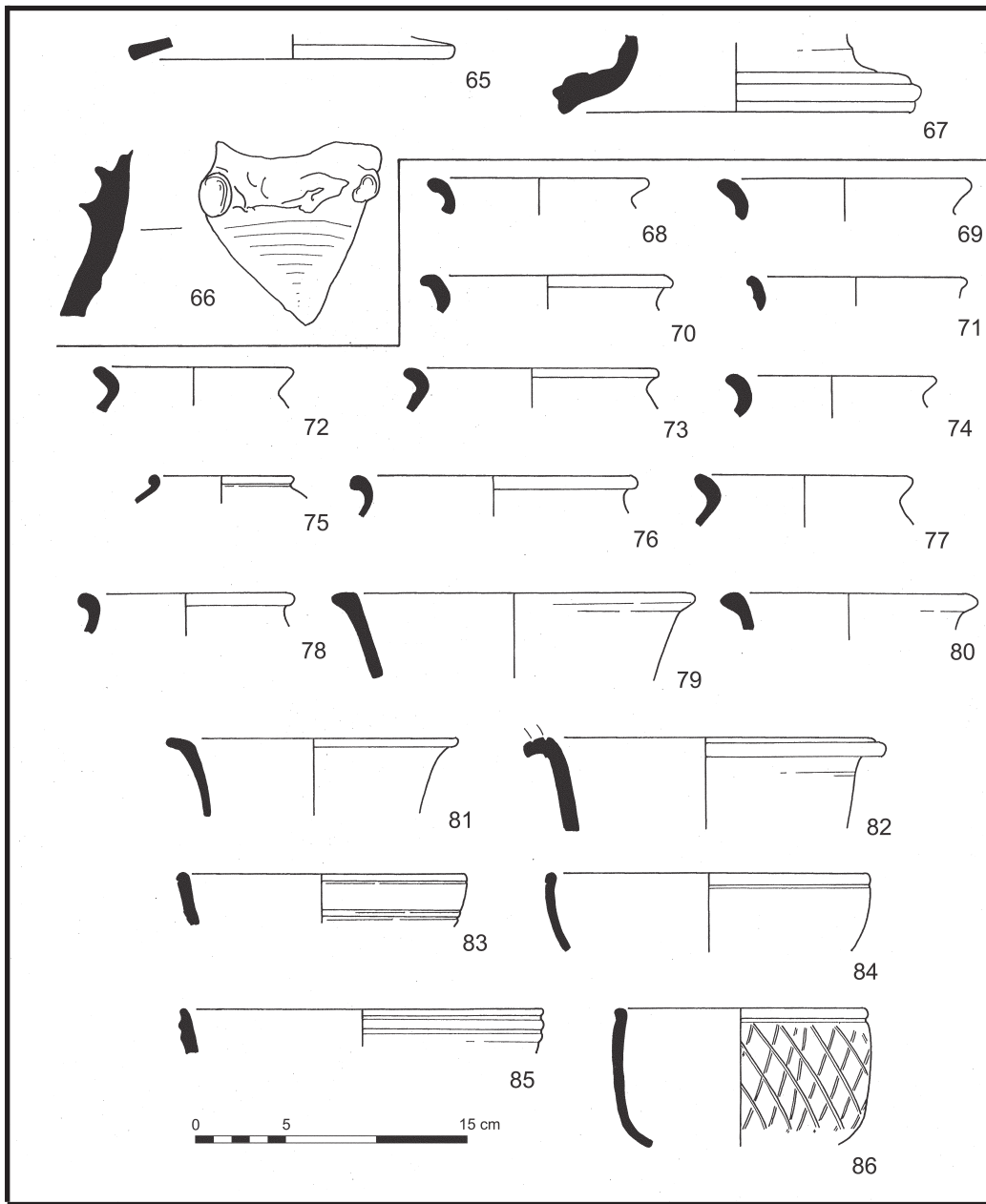


Fig. 39: Coarse pottery from Phase III contexts

Bowls

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|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 79 | Hard, grey fabric with darker patches on the exterior. | 83 | Greyish core, buff surfaces with traces of a red-brown slip and burning on the exterior. Possibly Caerleon ware. |
| 80 | Possible jar in a hard grey fabric with darker burnished lines on the exterior. Some mica inclusions. | 84 | Light grey core, pinky-orange outer, orange-buff surfaces. |
| 81 | Hard, grey fabric with darker grey outer surfaces, | 85 | Hard mid-grey fabric with darker exterior. Hemispherical bowls such as nos. 83-5 are common in Flavian-Trajanic (Greep 1946a, fig. 19.1.15-16) and later contexts (e.g. Zienkiewicz 1992a, fig. 8.112 in Caerleon |
| 82 | Smooth, hard grey fairly fine textured fabric. | | |

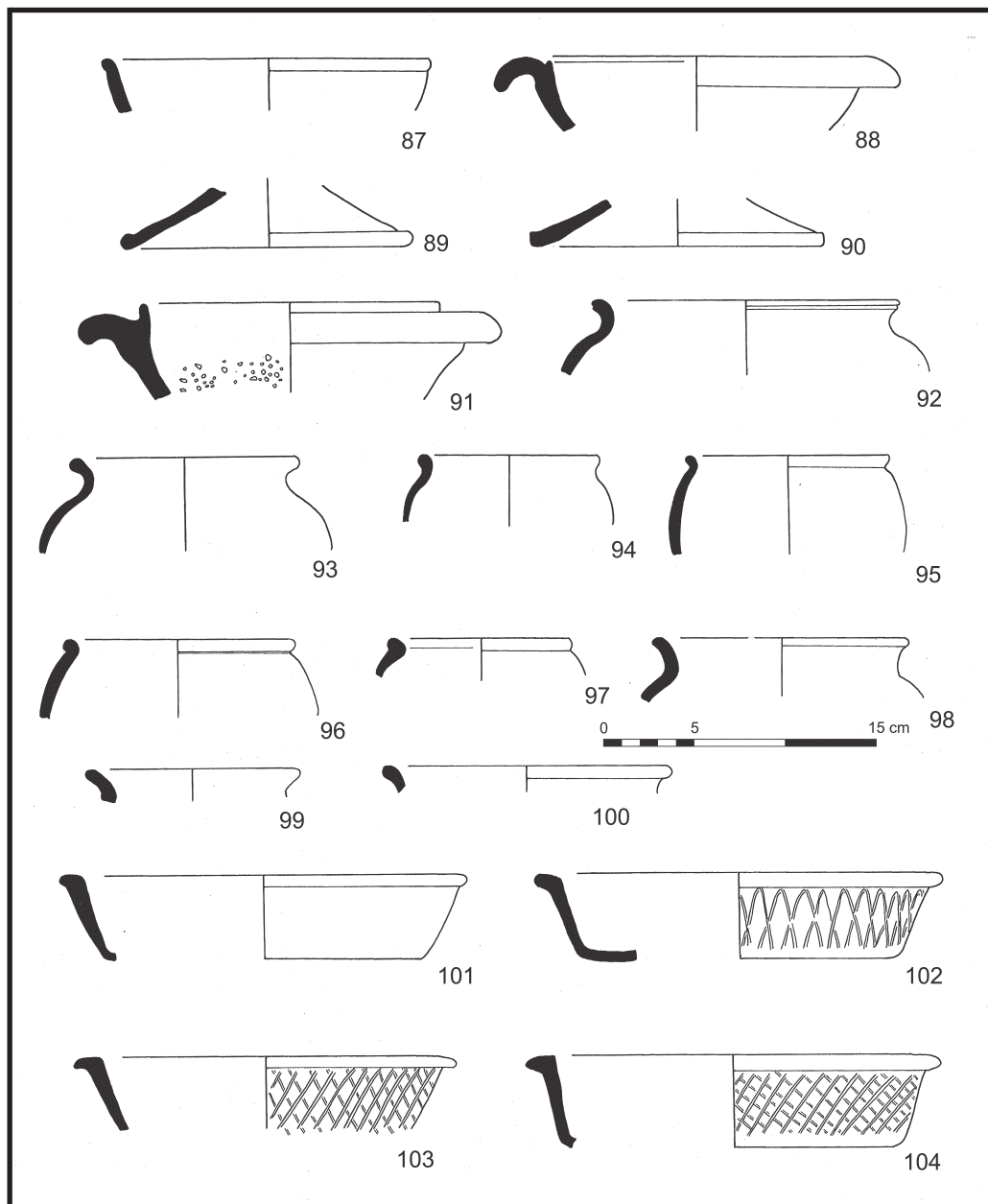


Fig. 40: Coarse pottery from Phase III contexts

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| 86 | ware).
BB1. Burnt brown in patches on the interior. Cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 4.51-2 mid-late second century; and in Flavian-Trajanic and Hadrianic-early Antonine contexts at Caerleon (Zienkiewicz 1992a, figs. 8.91, 9.120). | 88 | Grey core, pinky-orange outer, orange-buff surfaces. |
| 87 | Hard orange fabric with faint traces of a slip on the interior. Mica inclusions. Caerleon ware (e.g. Boon 1966a, fig. 3.1.). See no. 47 above. | <i>Lids</i> | |
| | | 89 | Hard, grey fabric, darker patches on the interior of the rim. |
| | | 90 | Pinky core, grey outer, orange-buff surfaces with black burnt patches. For comments on this common lid form see no. 65 above. |

Mortarium

- 91 Orange fabric with some quartz and soft red-black, possibly grog, inclusions. Possibly Caerleon ware. (Closest parallel Hartley 1993, fig. 194.8 from Usk dated c. A.D. 120-160).

Material from the upper fills of the turret (D4)

This is the latest of the turret infill groups, containing material which compares well with Hadrianic-Antonine group elsewhere in Caerleon (e.g. Greep 1986a, figs. 23-4, groups 13-14). The absence of wavy-line decorated vessels, found commonly in similarly dated groups at Caerleon and elsewhere (e.g. Wheeler and Wheeler 1928, fig. 20.41) is perhaps surprising. The later date of the material is confirmed by the quantities of BB1 (fig. 36b-c). There are no Caerleon ware late samian copies (e.g. Nash-Williams 1932b, figs. 57.147-72, 58.173-83) which might suggest a *terminus post quem* of c. A.D. 150/160, a date confirmed by the association of Hadrianic-Antonine samian¹.

Jars

- 92 Hard, mid-grey fabric with a slightly darker exterior.
- 93 Hard, grey fabric, darker exterior, some quartz inclusions.
- 94 Light orange fabric.
- 95-6 BB1. Cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 3.30 early-mid second century; Webster 1993, fig. 123, types 5 and 6.
- 97 Grey fabric, some quartz inclusions.
- 98-9 BB1. Cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 1.3-4 mid-late second century; Webster 1993, fig. 123-4, type 10.
- 100 Grey fabric.

Bowls

- 101-5 BB1. Cf. Gillam 1976, figs. 3.34-6, 4.53-4 early-mid second century. For Caerleon examples from Hadrianic-Antonine contexts see (Greep 1986a, fig. 23.13.16-21).

- 106 Light orange fabric, very weathered. Mica inclusions.
- 107 Hard, mid grey fabric, quartz inclusions.
- 108 Reddish-brown fabric, some mica inclusions.
- 109 Soft, pinky-orange fabric, mica dusted.
- 110 Orange fabric with an orange-brown slip. Caerleon ware. This is not a form included in previous discussions of Caerleon ware (e.g. Boon 1966a; Webster, P.V. 1992, fig. 4). See also no. 137 below.

Beakers

- 111 Orange fabric with burnt grey patches. Fir a similar vessel in Caerleon ware cf. Greep 1986a, fig. 28.17.91 in contexts of Antonine-mid third century.
- 112 Soft, light orange fabric.

Triple Vase ?

- 113 Hard, light orange-buff fabric with a mid-grey core. Possibly from a triple vase (e.g. Webster 1993, fig. 173.660).

Lids

- 114 Hard, orange fabric with some exterior burnishing.
- 115 Hard, grey fabric with an orange slip.
- 116 Hard, orange-brown fabric with a fawn interior. Some quartz inclusions.

Mortaria

- 117 Hard orange fabric (e.g. Nash-Williams 1932b, fig. 59.258).
- 118 Grey core, buff and orange outer, dark red-brown exterior slip. Some mica inclusions. Caerleon ware. (Hartley 1993, fig. 194.7 c. A.D. 110-160).

Phase IV (fig. 42; nos. 119-26)

Phase IV contexts produce little pottery; most was probably residual.

Top of backfill between fortress wall rebuild I (layer A3)*Jar*

- 119 Sandy, grey fabric with darker surfaces.

¹ see p. 49 nos. 8-13

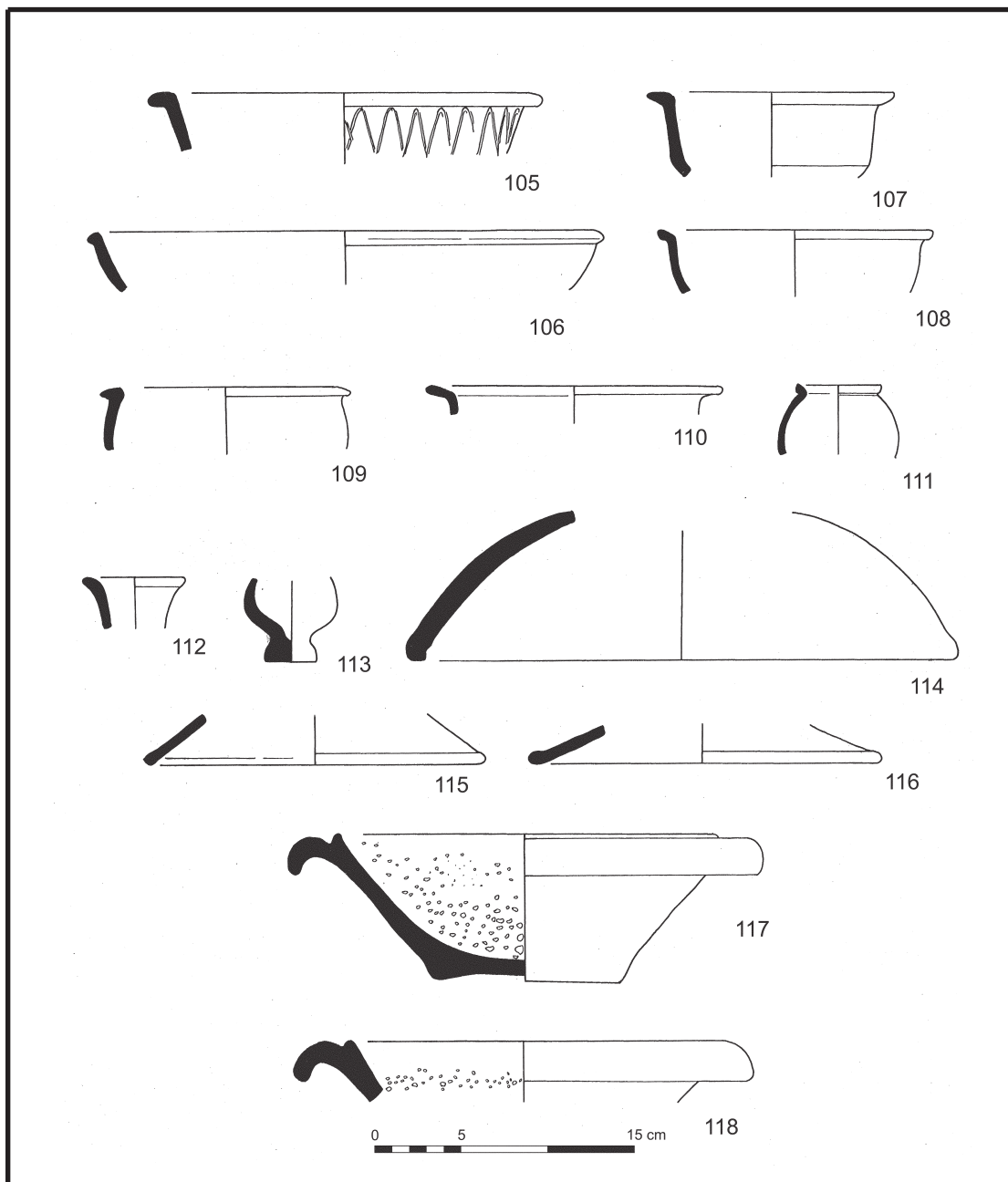


Fig. 41: Coarse pottery from Phase III contexts

Upper (C1), middle (C2) and bottom (C3) infill between recut bank and rebuild II

contexts.

Jars

120-2 Grey fabrics. 120 (C1); 121 (C3); 122 (C2).

Jar

124 Buff fabric (C2).

Flagon

123 Hard, orange fabric, some mica inclusions (C1). Probably residual from Flavian

Burnt area, top of refill of recut bank (layer E27)

125 Hard, grey fabric, lighter outer, grey surfaces.

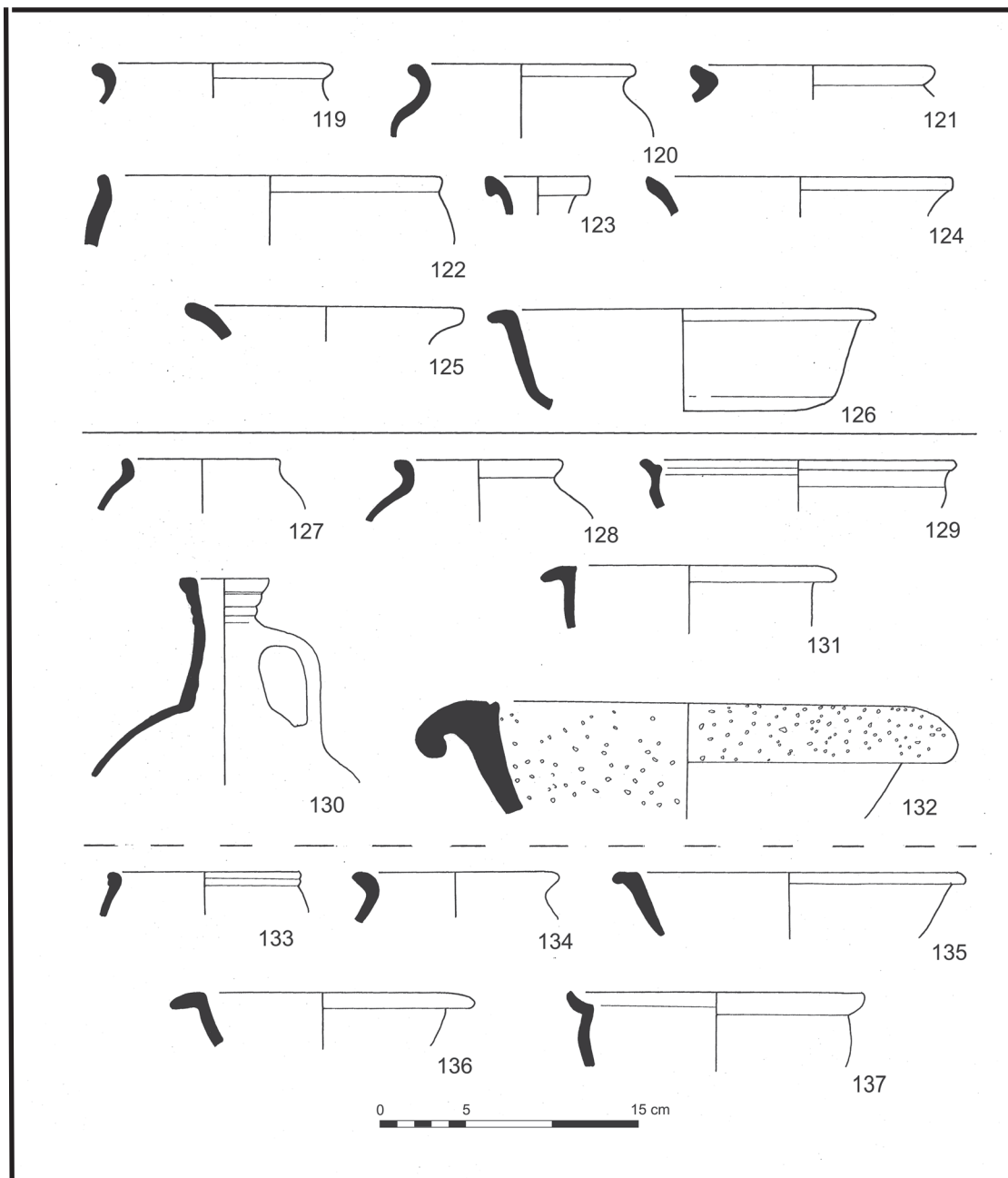


Fig. 42: Coarse pottery from Phase IV (nos. 119-126) and Phase V (nos. 127-137) contexts

Bowl

126 BB1. Cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 3.34-6 early-mid second century.

Phase V (figs. 42-43; nos. 127-152)

Phase V consists of four unrelated and chronologically disparate sets of deposits:

a latrine (Site E); a building of unknown function (Site A); two possible cooking ovens (Site B); and a cookhouse (Site D). The pottery from the possible cooking ovens (fig. 42.127-132) is Flavian and includes a late first century mortarium (fig. 42.132). Comparable features excavated elsewhere at Caerleon (Evans and Metcalf 1992, 9-13) have been dated to the

Flavian period. The material from the building of unknown function and the cookhouse is of the later Antonine period, such as the late samian copy (fig. 43.138), and possibly later (e.g. the two BB1 jars; fig. 430.144, 146). A *terminus post quem* in the late second-early third century is a possibility for this material. Unfortunately, there is little comparative groups from Caerleon to confirm this date. No pottery was recovered from the latrine.

Possible cooking oven cut into the back of the bank (B2)

Jars

127 Light, grey fabric.

128 Light grey, fairly fine fabric.

Bowls

129 Sandy, grey fabric with a darker, black, burnished exterior.

Flagon

130 Soft orange fabric, mica inclusions. Possibly residual.

Bowl

131 Soft orange fabric with some darker, burnt patches.

Mortarium

132 Hard, cream fabric with black, white and grey trituration grits on the outer rim as well as on the interior. Probably Flavian.

Infills from ovens B (D13) and C (D15 and D16) to the rear of the interval turret and material from the east cookhouse wall (D14)

Beaker

133 Orange fabric with traces of an orange-brown slip on the interior. Mica inclusions (D14). These forms of beaker are common at Caerleon (e.g. Greep 1986a, fig. 28 of Antonine-mid third century date).

Jar

134 Sandy, grey fabric (D16).

Bowls

135 BB1. (D16). Cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 3.36 mid-second century.

136 Orange-brown fabric with a darker red-brown slip burnt to grey in patches. Possibly Caerleon ware (D16).

137 Fairly fine, orange-brown fabric with a darker red-brown slip inside and out. Some mica inclusions. Caerleon ware (D16). Neither 136 or 137 appear in the recently published sequence of Caerleon ware from Usk (Webster 1993, figs. 118-121) or in Boons' earlier paper (1966a, fig. 3). A similar red slipped (but not Caerleon ware) vessel to no. 137 is recorded from late second-early third century contexts at the Fortress baths (Greep 1986a, fig. 24.15.3).

138 Orange-brown fabric with a patchy, darker red-brown exterior slip. Some mica inclusions. Possibly Caerleon ware (D15). This is possibly a later Roman colour-coated vessel and therefore intrusive in this deposit, though dark red-brown coated vessels were recorded from the Fortress Baths in similar contexts (Greep 1986a, fig. 24.15.3).

Beakers

139 Orange-brown fabric with a darker slip inside and out. Mica inclusions. Caerleon ware (D13). (Webster 1993, fig. 121.17).

140 Hard, orange-brown fabric with an orange slip. Mica inclusions (D16).

141 Soft, orange fabric.

Lamp

142 Orange-brown fabric with traces of a darker orange-brown slip on the underside. Burnt grey around the lip (D16). Open lamps such as this are rare, although they were amongst the products of the pre-Flavian kilns at Usk (Greene 1993, 40-1, type 27, fig. 6.27). Later finds include an example from Usk (Webster 1993, fig. 167.432)¹.

¹ For open lamps from Caerleon - see now Eckardt 2001, 138, 5-8, 318.

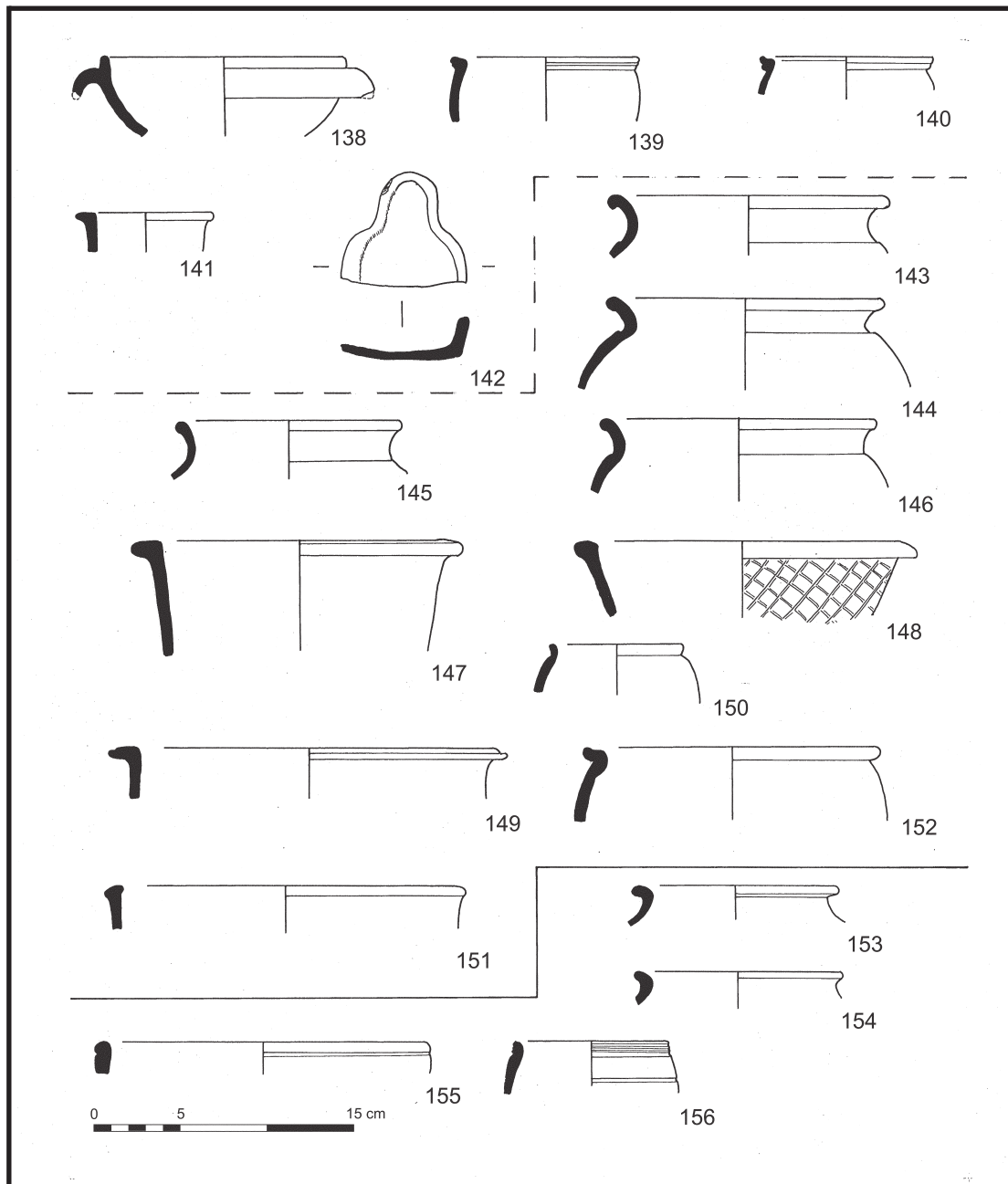


Fig. 43: Coarse pottery from Phase V (nos. 138-152) and Phase VI (nos. 153-156) contexts

Material over the ovens to the rear of the turret (D11) and the fill of the cookhouse (A2 and A12).

Jars

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 143 | Hard, grey fabric, darker exterior surface with burnished lines. Some quartz inclusions (A12). | 145 | late second-mid third century. |
| 144 | BB1 (D11) cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 1.7 early-mid third century; Webster 1993, fig. 125.17, | 146 | Hard grey fabric with darker, smooth surfaces (A2). |
| | | 147 | BB1 (D11) cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 1.6 early third century. Closer parallel to nos. 144, 146 cf. Webster 1993, fig. 125.17.2-3 of early to mid-third century date. |
| | | 148 | |
| | | 149 | |
| | | 150 | |
| | | 151 | |
| | | 152 | |
| | | 153 | |
| | | 154 | |
| | | 155 | |
| | | 156 | |

Bowls

- 147 Hard, sandy grey fabric with a darker exterior. Burnt patches on the exterior (A2).
- 148 Hard, grey fabric with darker grey surfaces. Quartz inclusions. Not BB1 (D11).
- 149 Light orange-buff fabric with slightly darker surfaces. Some mica inclusions (A2).
- 150 BB1 jar (D11) cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 2.20-1 mid-late second century.
- 151 Grey fabric (A2).
- 152 Jar in very hard, sandy grey fabric, orange-brown interior dark grey exterior surface (D11).

Phase VI (figs. 430-45; nos. 153-197)

The material from the fill over the back of the bank (E1 and E2) provides the latest well stratified group on the site. As a group the pottery ranges from the late Antonine period (e.g. the Caerleon wares) through to the BB1 of the mid-late third century (e.g. fig. 43-4.147-69). The proportion of the BB1 (fig. 36b-c) is abnormally high if measured by the minimum vessel number but surprisingly small by weight. Without supporting coin evidence dating is difficult, though the lack of flanged bowls or Oxfordshire wares which had both made their appearance at Caerleon by the late third century (e.g. Boon 1978b, figs. 13-14), would suggest that the group is no later than the mid-third century.

Fill of cuts, back of bank under later E2 (E16)*Jars*

- 153 Grey fabric.
- 154 Mid grey fabric, lighter outer and grey surface.

Bowl

- 155 Soft, orange fabric with traces of a darker slip inside and out. Caerleon ware.

Beaker

- 156 Hard orange fabric with an orange exterior slip. Caerleon ware.

This context also produced two fragments of Caerleon ware flagon and some BB1 sherds including the base of a dish with a 'Redcliff' motif.

Levelling deposit over back of bank (E1 and E2)*Jars*

- 157-69 BB1. 158 & 160 (E2) the rest (E1). Cf. Gillam 1976, figs. 1.7-9, 2.10 mid-late third century.
- 170 Very sandy, grey fabric, burnt to brown (E1).
- 171-2 Sandy, grey fabrics (E1).
- 173 Pinky-brown fabric with dark grey burnished surface. Quartz inclusions (E1).

Bowls

- 174 Grey core, pinky-brown outer and grey surfaces. Quartz and mica inclusions (E1).
- 175-6 BB1 (E1) cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 3.34-8 early-late second century.
- 177-80 BB1 (E2) cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 3.39-42 mid second-early third century.
- 181 BB1 (E2) cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 3.43 early-mid third century; Webster 1993, fig. 128.27.3, early-mid third century.

Dishes

- 182-5 BB1 (E1) cf. Gillam 1976, fig. 5.79 early third century.

Bowls

- 186 Soft, orange fabric, fairly fine. Some mica inclusions (E1).
- 187 Sandy, orange fabric (E2).
- 188 Sandy, buff fabric (E1).

Beakers

- 189 Very sandy, grey fabric with a thin buff core (E1).
- 190 Hard, orange-brown fabric with a darker red-brown slip. Traces of roughcast decoration (E1). For a series of similar beakers cf. also nos. 191-2 below, from a similarly dated deposit, cf. Fortress Baths (Greep 1986a, fig. 28, group 17).
- 191 Orange fabric with a dark orange-brown slip (E1).
- 192 Soft, orange fabric with traces of a darker

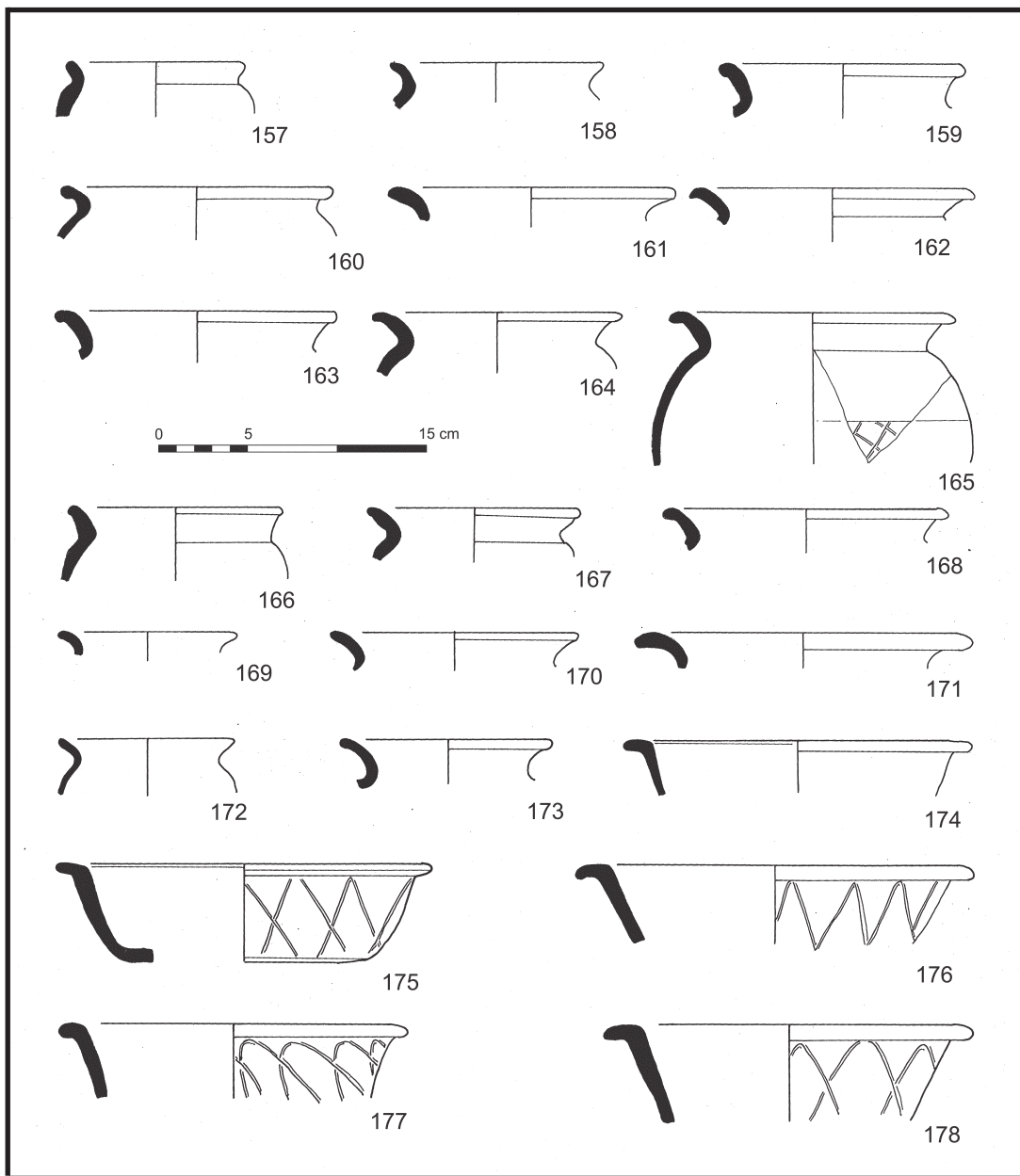


Fig. 44: Coarse pottery from Phase VI contexts

slip. Some mica inclusions (E1).

Flagons

- 193 Sandy, orange fabric with traces of a white slip (E1).
- 194 Soft, orange fabric. Some mica inclusions inclusions (E1).

Mortaria

- 195 Very sandy, orange fabric (E1).
- 196 Buff/brown core, pinky-buff outer with cream surfaces. Very 'sandy' with fabric inclusions appearing on the surface. This is a product of factories in Lower Germany of later second century date (e.g. Hartley 1982, 156) (E1).

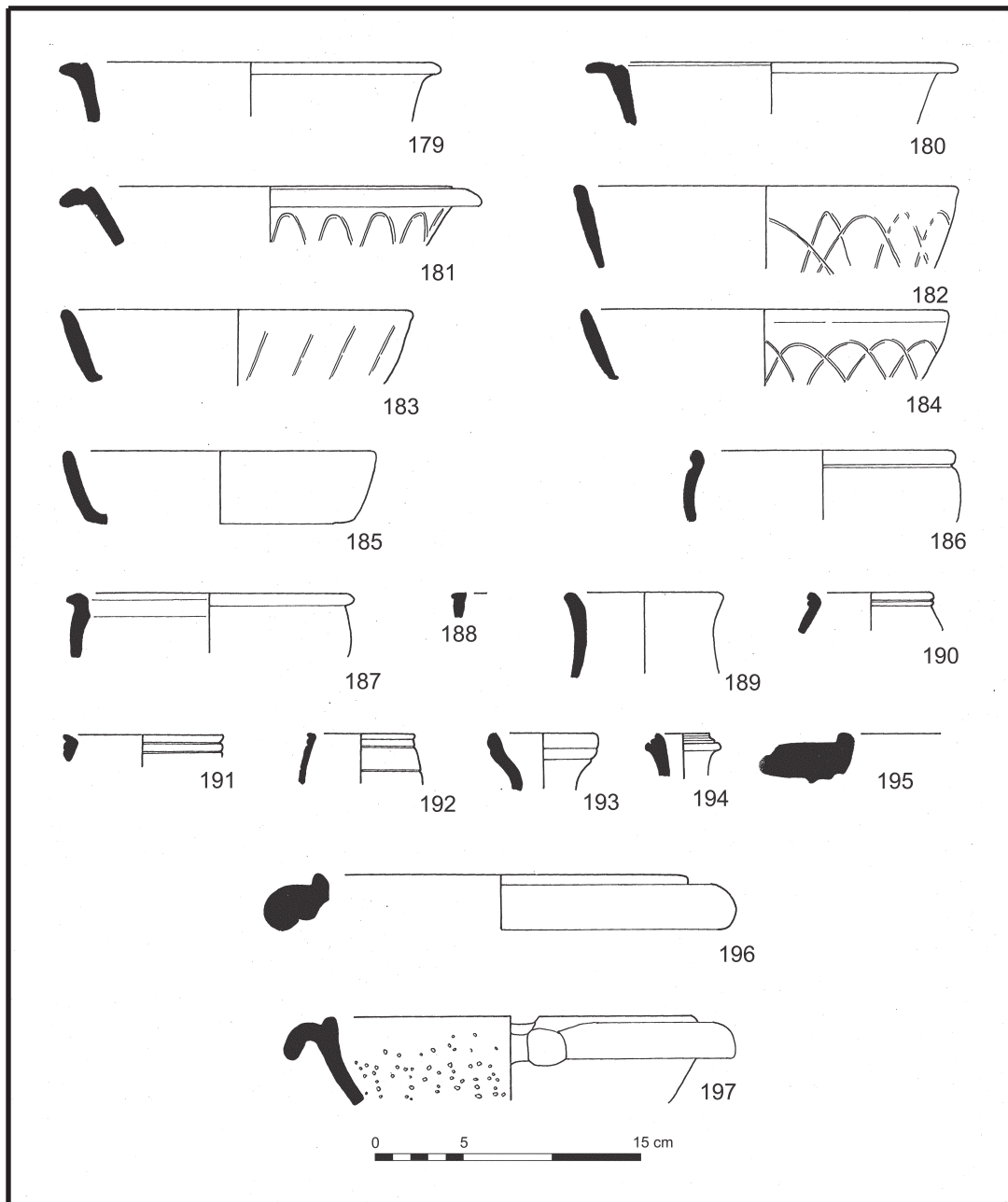


Fig. 45: Coarse pottery from Phase VI contexts

197 Dark grey core, orange-brown outer and a red-brown slip inside and out. White and grey trituration grits (E1). Caerleon ware (e.g. Hartley 1993, fig. 194.13 c. A.D. 120-60).