

The new plant pots will be published together as an appendix to the forthcoming report on the 1964 excavations at Cowick. I am grateful to Dr Ailsa Mainman for showing me the Coppergate vessel; to Dr C. Hayfield for showing me a draft copy of the Cowick kiln report and for loaning me a copy of his doctoral thesis on N. Lincolnshire medieval pottery, where the Cowick Moat and Thornholme Priory vessels are illustrated; and finally to Mr T. G. Manby for providing facilities to examine the large quantity of material from the Cowick kilns in Doncaster Museum.

THE WEST MIDLANDS POTTERY RESEARCH GROUP

A group has been formed to study the medieval and post-medieval pottery of the West Midlands. Meetings will be held three times p.a. and it is hoped to publish a Newsletter and a bibliography, and to establish a library and a fabric series. Further information can be obtained from M. Rylatt and M. Stokes, c/o Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Jordan Well, Coventry, cv1 3sw.

THE WORKSHOP FOR ARCHAEOSTRATIGRAPHIC CLASSIFICATION

The first volume of an occasional review, Stratigraphia Archaeologica has been issued and can be obtained without charge from H. Gasche and O. Tunca, Editors-in-Charge, A.C.T. Workshop, Sint-Pietersplein 8, B-9000, Ghent, Belgium.

THE LANCASTER CONFERENCE 1984

The 27th Annual Conference of the Society was held in Lancaster from 13 to 16 April 1984 on the theme of ‘Early Medieval Cumbria’. The opening lecture on Friday, 13 April was given by Rosemary Cramp under the title ‘An introduction to early Cumbria’ and the following lectures were held on Saturday: ‘The end of Roman occupation in North-West England’ (David Breeze), ‘Some recently discovered early medieval sites’ (Tom Clare), ‘Early Christianity and fieldwork’ (Deirdre O’Sullivan), ‘Excavations at Dacre’ (Roger Leech), ‘Anglian and Viking sculpture in Cumbria’ (Richard Bailey), ‘The growth of Cumbrian towns’ (Angus Winchester), ‘Excavations in Carlisle’ (Mike McCarthy), and ‘The development of early medieval Carlisle’ (Henry Summerson). The conference dinner was held in the evening.

The Sunday excursion visited Muncaster, Irton, Gosforth, St Bees and Dacre churches, the excavations at Dacre, and Dacre Castle (by kind permission of Mr and Mrs E. H. A. Stretton) under the guidance of Richard Bailey, Roger Leech, and Deirdre O’Sullivan. On Monday the members visited Penrith, Brougham castle, Carlisle and Bewcastle, the guides being Richard Bailey, Rosemary Cramp, Mike McCarthy and Rachel Newman.

The Society would like to express its thanks to the Department of Archaeology, University of Lancaster for kindly providing a reception for delegates on Friday evening and to the City of Carlisle for welcoming members to the city with a lunch-time sherry reception on Monday, 16 April. Mike McCarthy and Ross Trench-Jellicoe both helped with the organization of the conference and many thanks are due to them for its success.

HELEN CLARKE