

**MONUMENT 97,
Orton Longueville, Cambridgeshire:
A late Pre-Roman Iron Age and
Early Roman Farmstead**

East Anglian Archaeology

Nene Valley Archaeological Trust 2001

EAST ANGLIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

Monument 97, Orton Longueville, Cambridgeshire: a Late Pre-Roman Iron Age and Early Roman Farmstead

by D.F. Mackreth

with contributions from
Dr Helen Bamford, Dr A.S. Esmonde Cleary,
Simon Davis, Dr Glynis Jones, Joan King,
Ian Meadows, Lindsay Rollo,
Dr Calvin Wells and Felicity Wild

principal illustrations by
Patrick Foster, D. F. Mackreth
and Linda Meadows

photographs by
Hallam Ashley, Carolyn Dallas, and
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EAA Managing Editor: Jenny Glazebrook

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Cover Illustration

Aerial view of the site revealing the three enclosures along with other markings, mainly geological.
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Contributors

Dr Helen Bamford

34 Christopher Close, Norwich NR1 2PQ

Dr A.S. Esmonde Cleary

Department of Ancient History and Archaeology,
University of Birmingham, Birmingham B15 2TT

Simon Davis

formerly Ancient Monuments Laboratory, English
Heritage, London

Ian Meadows

4 Heritage Close, Peasedown St John, Bath

Dr Glynis Jones

Department of Archaeology and Prehistory, University
of Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2TN

Joan King

68 Barnfield Crescent, Wellington, Telford TF1 2EX

Lindsay Rollo

formerly Freelance Pottery Specialist

The late Dr Calvin Wells

Consultant Anthropologist

Felicity Wild

30 Prince's Road, Heaton Moor, Stockport SK4 3NQ

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Summary

Excavated in 1974, the site consisted of three enclosures belonging to a small farmstead lasting from at least the later 1st century BC to the middle of the 2nd century AD. The evidence of the houses is that the site had been inhabited by a single family group at all times and had developed in tandem with the growing complexity of

landscape division, and almost certainly was closed down in favour of another site nearby. After its abandonment, its earthworks were incorporated into the Roman field system and, eventually, the corner of an enclosure was used for a small cemetery of nine burials.

Résumé

Identifié à l'aide des traces laissées par les cultures et fouillé en 1974, le site se compose de trois enclosures appartenant à une petite ferme qui a existé au moins depuis la fin du premier siècle av. J.-C. jusqu'au milieu du deuxième siècle ap. J.-C. Les traces des habitations montrent que le site a été occupé sans interruption par un seul groupe familial et que son développement est allé de pair avec une

division du paysage toujours plus complexe, avant d'être délaissé au profit d'un autre site aux alentours. Les terrassements d'Orton Longueville, une fois le site abandonné, furent incorporés dans le système de champ romain, et par la suite, un petit cimetière contenant neuf sépultures fut placé dans un des coins d'une enclosure. (Traduction: Didier Don)

Zusammenfassung

Die durch Bewuchsmerkmale identifizierte und 1974 ausgegrabene Stätte zeigt drei Einfriedungen, die zu einem kleinen Gehöft gehörten, das mindestens vom späten 1. Jahrhundert v. Chr. bis zur Mitte des 2. Jahrhunderts n. Chr. bestand. Die Häuser boten Belege dafür, dass die Stätte zu allen Zeiten von einer einzigen Familiengruppe bewohnt war und sich parallel zur zunehmend komplexer

werdenden Landschaftsaufteilung entwickelte. Der Ort wurde mit ziemlicher Sicherheit zugunsten einer nahe gelegenen Stätte verlassen. Nach seiner Aufgabe wurden die Erdwerke in das römische Feldersystem integriert. Eine Ecke in einer der Einfriedungen wurde schließlich als kleiner Friedhof für neun Gräber genutzt. (Übersetzung: Gerlinde Krug)

Chapter 1. Introduction

D. F. Mackreth

I. Introduction

The site lay at TL 16659525 and was found from the air, the Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography taking the primary records (cover photo and Pl. I). The results were analysed by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments (England) and published as part of their survey of monuments prepared in advance of the New Town developments (RCHM 1969, 29 (5), Fig.13). Because of the high incidence of geological markings, all that could really be said about the site was that it was made up of three conjoined enclosures. There seem to be no records of finds from its area and the site was classified as belonging to the Prehistoric and Roman periods. This turned out to be the case on excavation, the site, as a centre of occupation, running from the Iron Age into the 2nd century AD.

The site was scheduled and first listed as Huntingdonshire Monument 97. Normally, the formal name of a site derives from either local tradition or from some aspect of the landscape or ownership. Thus Orton Hall Farm derived its name from the farming unit on whose land the Roman farmstead lay when first found. However, Monument 97 appears not to have been associated markedly with anything and it therefore seems best to keep the scheduled designation as the name since it is the only specific mark which the site has received. It has now disappeared under roadworks distinguished only as an interchange on a dual carriageway (Fig.2). By the time this report is published, the site will not only have been destroyed, but also descheduled.

The air photographs reveal three enclosures along with other markings: many are clearly of geological origin. These were so evenly distributed that it is far from certain which marks, other than those established by excavation, should be counted as archaeological. Because the photographs were oblique and only had the immediately adjacent field boundaries on them to locate the site, the first work was to determine where it lay. Thereafter, limitations of time, finance and personnel dictated just how much could be uncovered.

II. Geology and Topography

At the surface of the stripped site the soils were essentially third terrace gravel deposits severely affected by periglacial action which also affected the underlying Oxford Clays. The site lay at about 20.5m above sea level on the approximate brow of a long east-west ridge with sides gently sloping down to the River Nene to the north, and into an area of more broken ground to the south. Much of the latter has entirely disappeared in clay pits. Although no spring was visible on the ground at the time of the excavation, the Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map series (TL19) points to there having been a water source close to the north-east corner of the site with a possible alternative about 150m west of the excavation. The widespread views

of modern times make it easy to see that, without any cover, the site would have been exposed to the weather from all quarters.

III. The Excavation Background

The excavation lasted for six months beginning in February 1974 and was directed by Carolyn Dallas. The team employed numbered from three to six at various times, the small number being mainly the result of the limited accommodation available. The site was explored and part stripped initially by a JCB and my thanks go to Mr Chris Clapham for his skill in disentangling the site from the superimposed ridge and furrow, the existence of which can be detected as faint bands on the air photographs (Fig.3).

Exploratory trenches were laid out to locate the north-east enclosure. Thereafter, other exploratory trenches in the southern enclosure identified areas of activity in the western part which was part stripped to uncover the principal features. The eastern part of the same enclosure as well as the north-western one were only partly exposed. In the latter case, hindsight suggests that more effort should have been spent here as it seems to have been the earliest on the site, but this only became apparent during the excavation and there was no opportunity to extend the area of investigation. The site covered a minimum of 7500m² and, in broad terms, only about 2500m² was stripped: all of the north-east enclosure and only the north-western part of the south enclosure. Within the main areas, excavation consisted of sampling the main ditches and other features, extensive work only really being possible on the sites of the three houses and in the cemetery. As the hand-digging of ditch sections was too time consuming, machine-cuts were frequently used in an attempt to correlate one hand-dug section with another. The basically undated and more random activities of Period 2c unfortunately prevented the establishing of a really clear sequence for earlier periods. The picture presented here is as intelligible as possible, but there are inevitably areas of doubt and these are referred to in the report.

The site proved to have had a long history of activity, but only a limited period of occupation in the Roman period. The re-digging of the ditches after this made it hard to reconcile all the sections and the lack of dating evidence after the end of the third quarter of the 2nd century prevented an immediate appreciation that the site had become subsumed into a field system which continued for a hundred years or more after domestic use of the site had come to an end.

Some of the ambivalence in the site dating shows in the features given to Period 2. As the shading in the features represents the date of the material found in them, it inevitably means that those containing solely residual material appear to be earlier than the initial date given to a phase or period. In such cases, the fact that the features involved are either irrelevant to, a marked modification of,

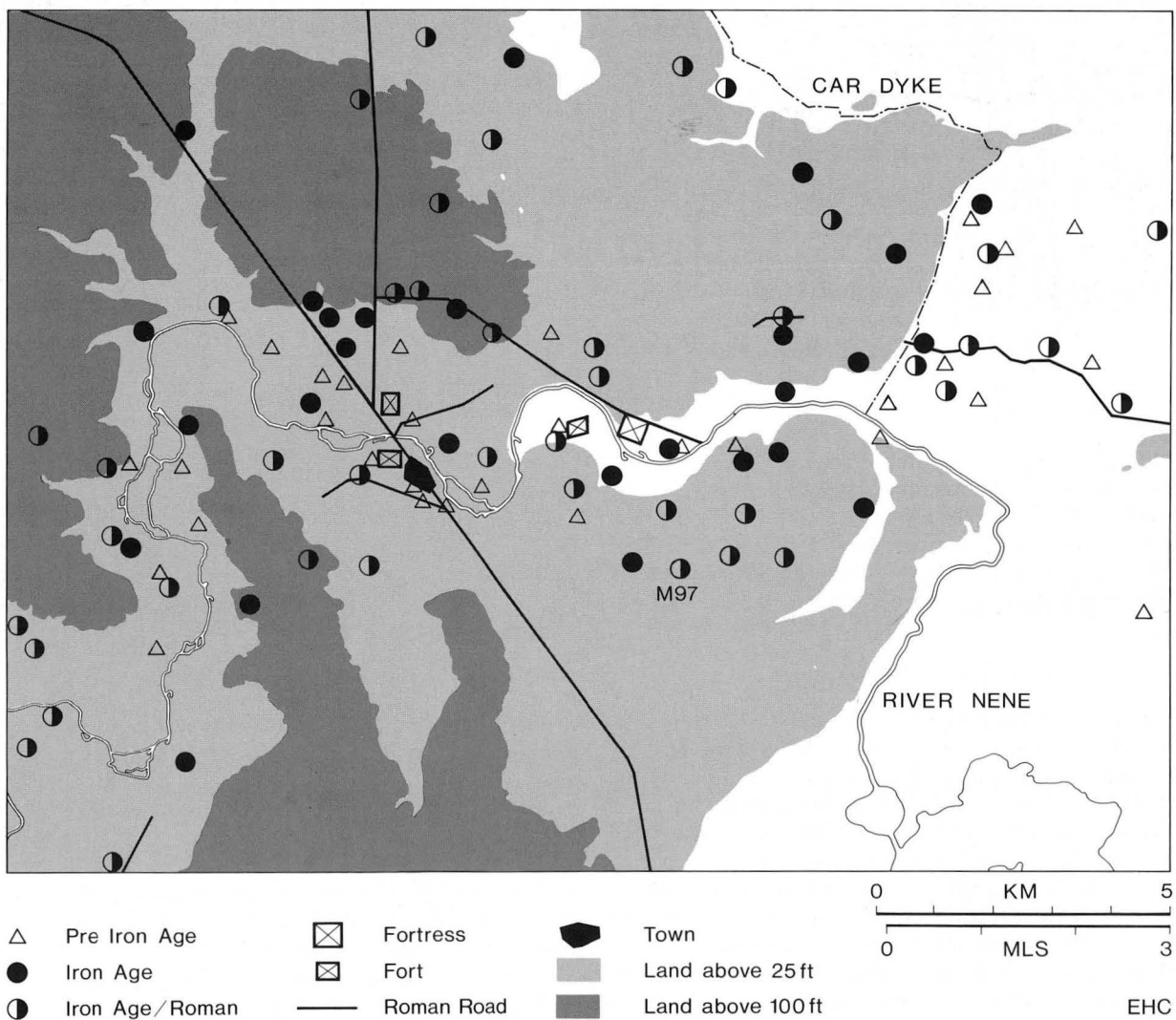
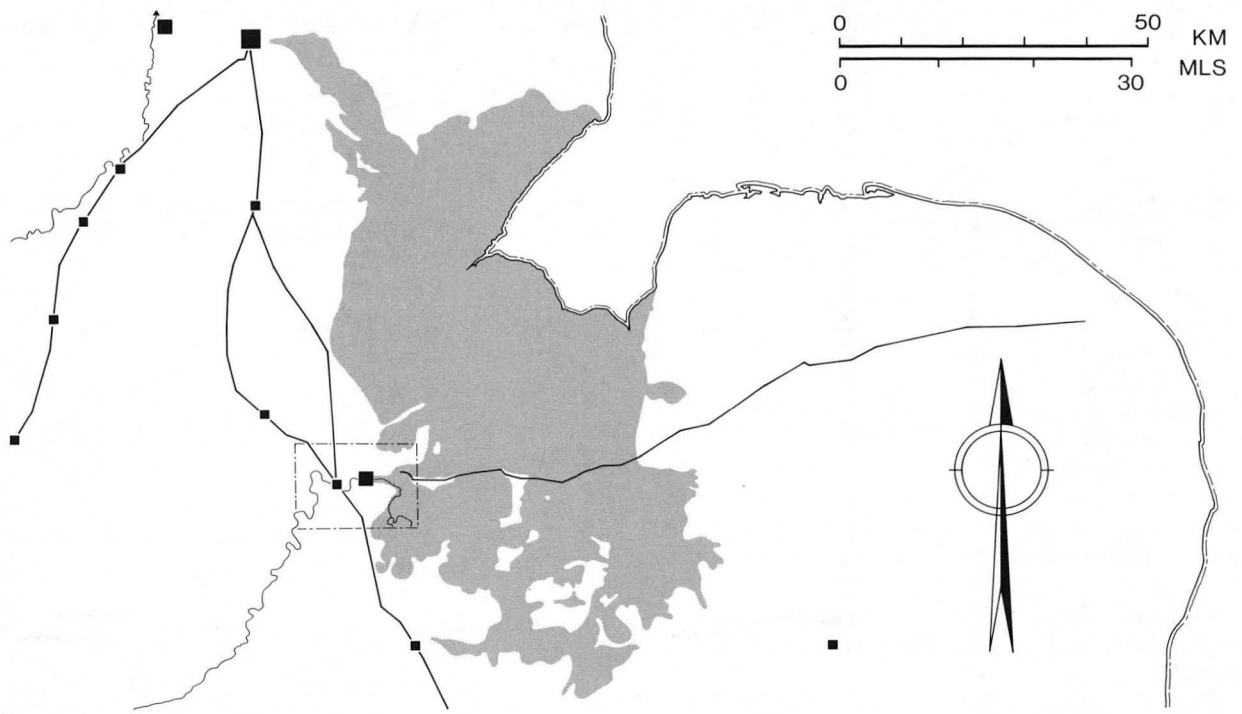


Figure 1 The local region

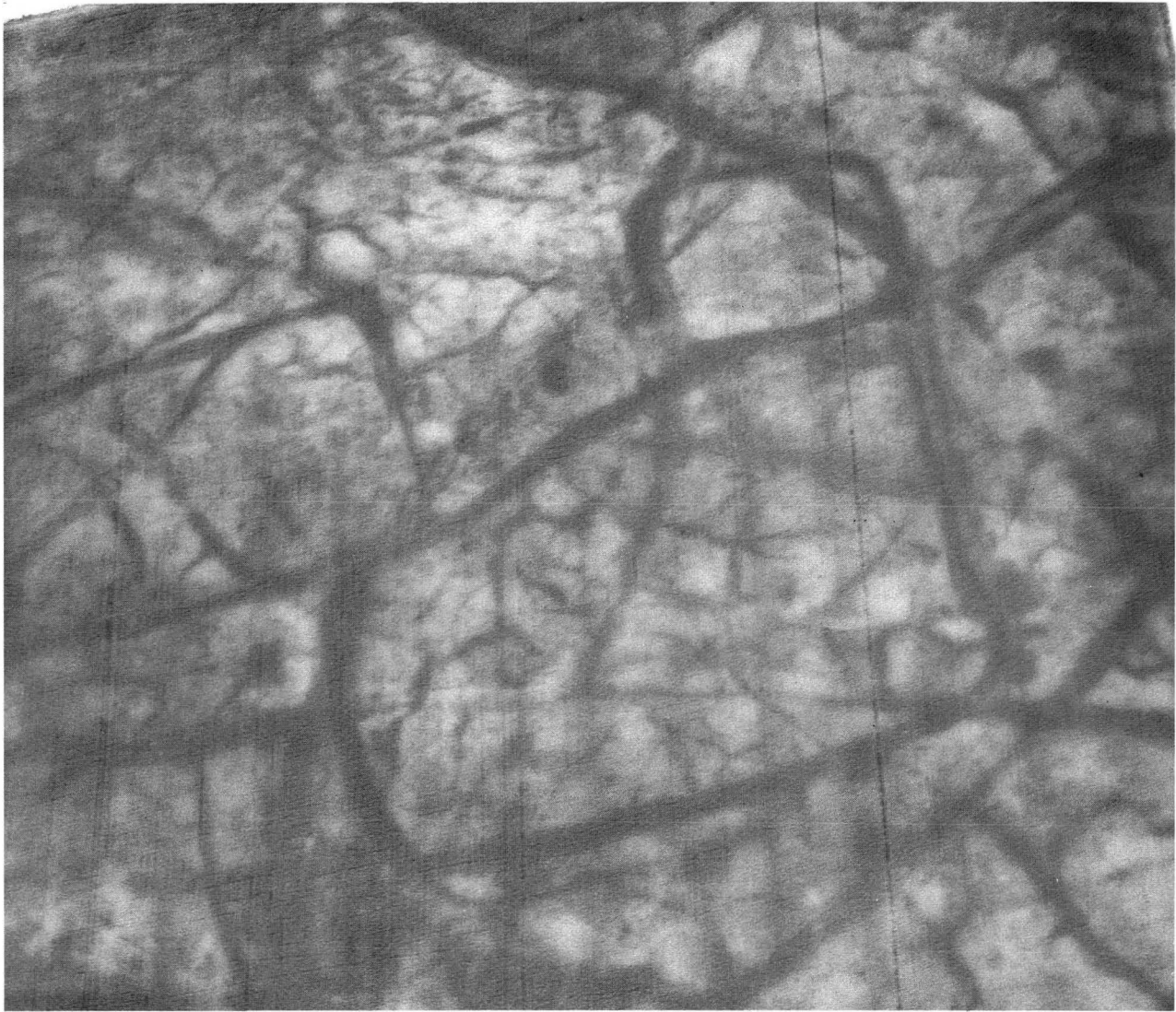


Plate I Aerial photograph of the site before development. *Copyright, Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography (ref. ZC 21)*

the earlier state of affairs shows which information has priority, but cannot alter the dating of the pottery.

IV. The Site Recording System and the Microfiche

The site was covered by a co-ordinate grid arranged so that a simple inversion of a set of co-ordinates did not displace the feature or find. The recording of the site was in two serial lists, one for layers and the other for features. It is the presentation of these which raises difficulties as too much detail makes the reading of a report cumbersome, yet there is a need to present the archaeological evidence in some form. The microfiche has been devised to help the reader by giving the layers along with feature numbers, period and phase as well as pottery comments. It also gives the catalogue numbers of the pottery described and, more

importantly, the context 'group' to which the layer has been assigned. The second listing consists of the context groups themselves which provide the dating evidence for a given statement in the report. Throughout the report the group number is given in the form (39) *etc.*

The abbreviations used are:

F for Feature

L for Layer

V. Summary of Phasing

Period **1a** 2nd century BC–AD c.50

1b AD c.50–70/80

Period **2a** c.70/80–c.125

2b c.125–150/175

2c c.150/75–4th century

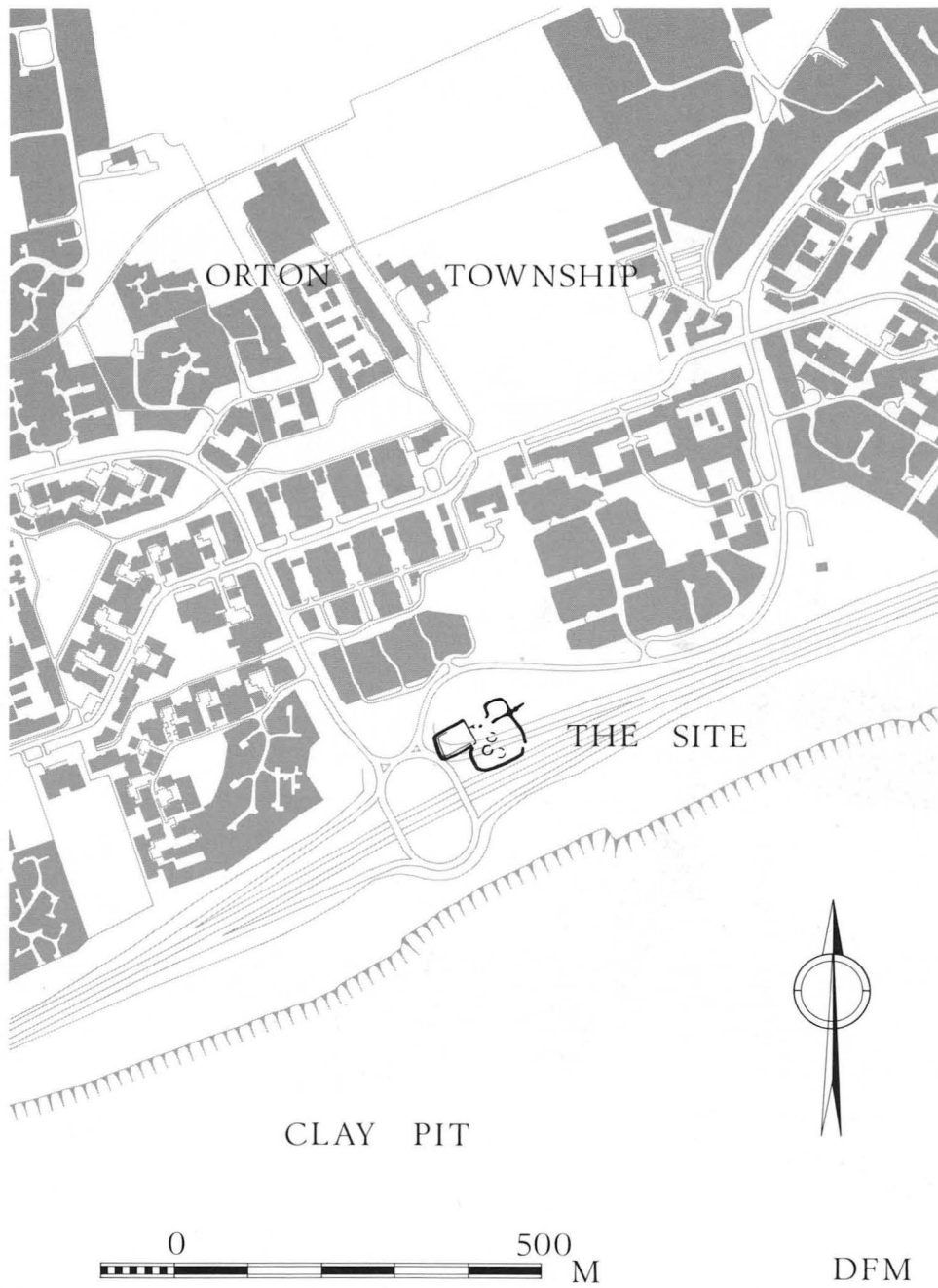


Figure 2 The location of the site. Scale 1:10,000

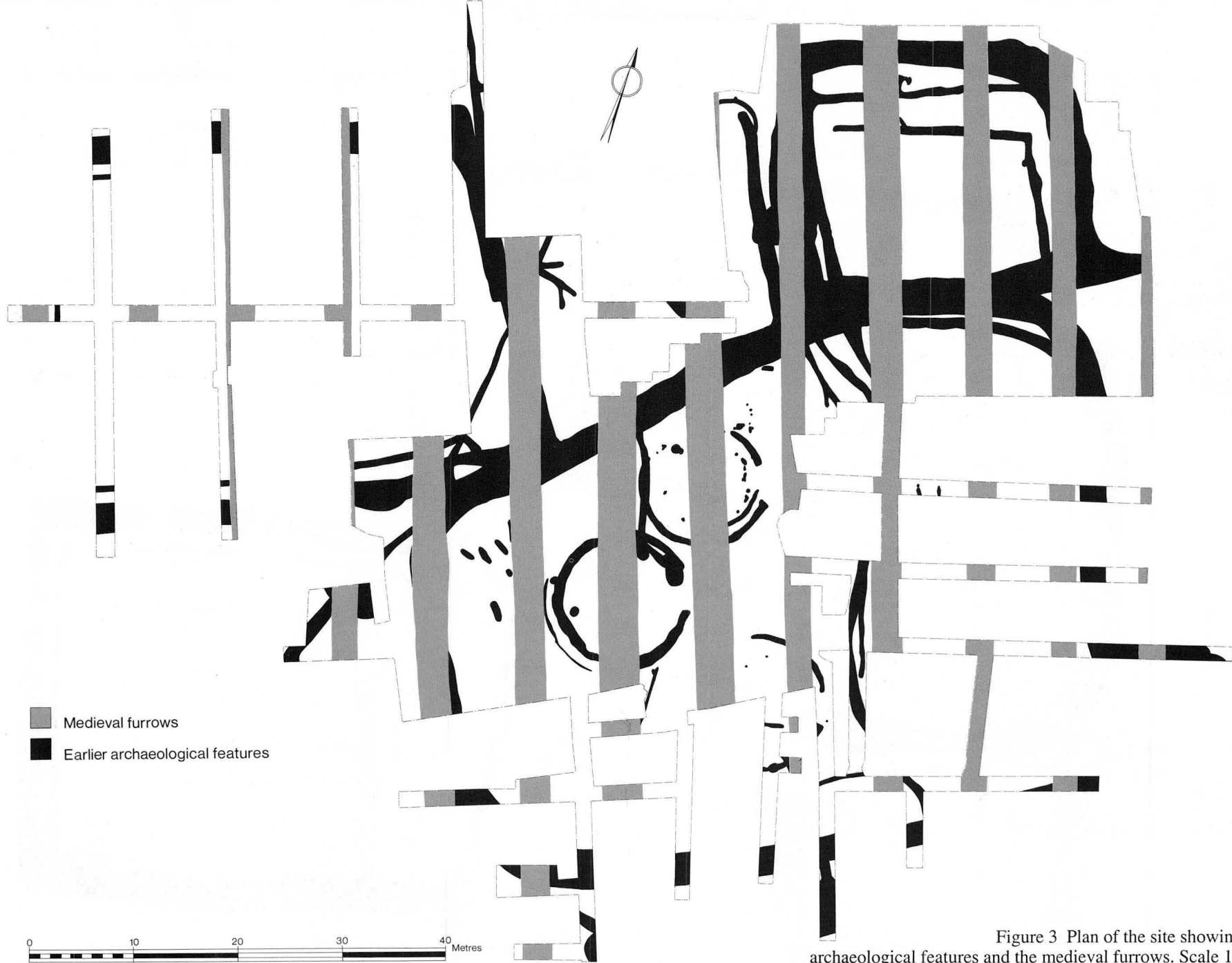


Figure 3 Plan of the site showing all archaeological features and the medieval furrows. Scale 1:500

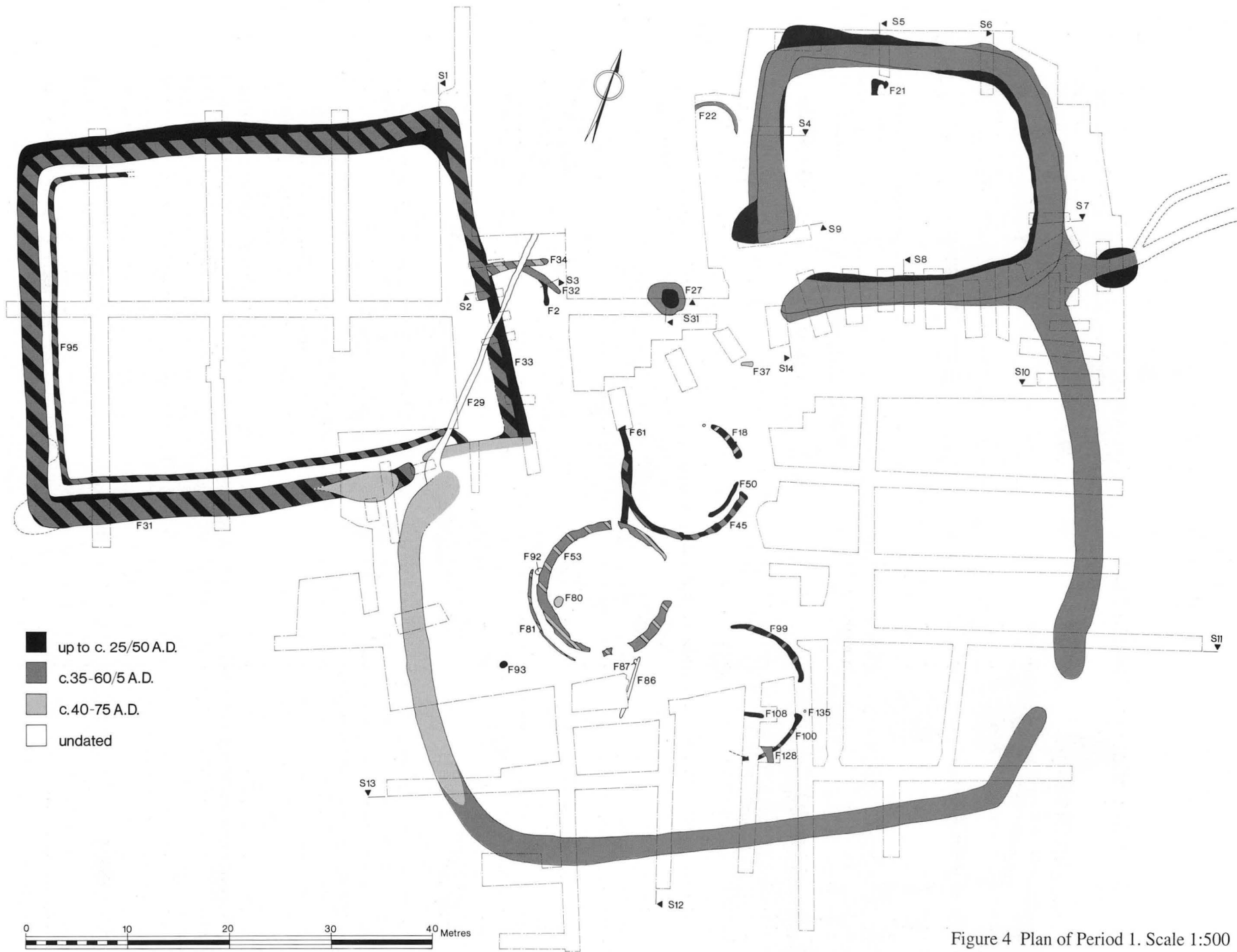


Figure 4 Plan of Period I. Scale 1:500

Chapter 2. Description of the Site

by D.F. Mackreth

I. Period 1, 2nd century BC—AD c.70/80

(Fig. 4)

Introduction and Summary

Before describing the site in detail, some discussion of the definitions used for the pottery, and the way in which Period 1 has been presented, is needed.

The pottery may be divided into four broad classes, finer distinctions being covered by Lindsay Rollo (see Chapter 5):

- 1) Local Late pre-Roman Iron Age. Shell-tempered wares whose characteristic features are discussed on p. 55.
- 2) Wheel-thrown non-Roman wares. These are distinctly similar to fine wheel-thrown types found in the south-east whose fabric lacks the grit content in recognisable early Roman fabrics and is not deliberately reduced in firing (see p. 55, Late Iron Age fine wares).
- 3) 'Roman' shell-tempered pottery characterised by being wheel-thrown with a developed rim and, on the shoulder, decoration consisting of grooving or relatively fine horizontal scoring (see p. 55, Transitional/Early Roman wares).
- 4) Roman Wares. These are self-evident and are fully discussed and described in the pottery report.

The second and third categories call for specific comment as there is little doubt that 1) is always pre-Conquest and 4) is always post-Conquest. Although the non-Roman fine wares both here and at Werrington (Rollo in Mackreth 1988) had arrived before any definite Roman wares, these may possibly always be post-Conquest, showing the first effects of the development of a market economy under the Romans before any technological changes in the basic pottery-making 'industry' produced recognisably romanised wares. However, the pottery sequence on this site is taken to show that this cannot have been the case: to make a chronological division at c. 43/5 and place all such pottery afterwards conflicts both with the brooches found and the site's development. Non-Roman fine wares must have been present before then. More at issue is the terminal date of deposits containing categories 1) and 2) pottery. The evidence which exists on this site is reasonably clear: category 2) must have continued in use until at least 50.

There are different problems with the third category: where it is found with definite Romanised wares, there is little difficulty in accepting that it will also be Roman in date. But where it occurs only in association with 1) and 2), to argue that it also must be Roman is less easy to sustain: it is possible, and may be proved in time, that the development of the forms and decoration which make up the group actually derive from an amalgamation of the Late pre-Roman Iron Age tradition with elements deriving from the finer wheel-thrown wares of south-east England. In order that the 'purity' of Period 1a, as Iron Age only in date, could be preserved, this category has generally been assumed to have arrived after AD43. However, the

discussion of the numbers of bones per period (p. 35, Table 2) points to the high probability that this was not the case.

Period 1 has been divided into two basic phases defined by changes in the major framework of the site into which minor, or relatively so, incidents have to be fitted, usually without complete certainty. Phase 1a represents the basic pre-Conquest site, even if its terminal date may be later, and was marked by two small enclosures whose entrances appear to have faced each other. Neither contained any feature pointing to a function. The earliest domestic structures may have been sited between and to the south of the enclosures. Phase 1b was marked by the recutting of the enclosure ditches and the formation of a new one to the south of the others and apparently open to the space between them. In the new enclosure was a sequence of houses.

Of the two small enclosures, the one in the north-east part of the excavation was completely stripped while the other was only trenched over most of its area. The dating evidence for their beginning is poor, consisting largely of undifferentiated Late pre-Roman Iron Age hand-made pottery. The apparent earlier date given by this to the north-western enclosure is almost certainly because the other was recut more often so leaving little of the original deposits in place. Phase 1b, because of its pottery content, is taken to be after the Conquest.

The problem of division is shown by the difficulty in fitting the three houses in the south enclosure cleanly into a phase 1a/phase 1b scheme: there was obviously an evolution from one phase to the other. Because the nature of the excavation and the remains themselves prevent a clear-cut division, the discussion of the site proceeds by area and allocation of features to phase 1a or 1b is made on pottery content, association or stratigraphic relationship. Where there has been choice, the course adopted was to assign deposits to the later phase to reduce distortion caused by transferring later material backwards in time.

The dating of the phases is discussed at the end of the description of the site in Period 1.

The North-West Enclosure

Only the eastern edge was fully exposed, the other three sides being located in machine-cut trenches. The picture revealed by these was reasonably consistent, although the recuttings prevented the original dimensions from being established, and confirmed what the air photographs show (cover and Pl. I). The ditch seems to have been about 2.5m wide and 1m deep all round except on the eastern side (Fig. 5, S1). Inside on the south and west a gully, F95, ran parallel with the ditch leaving a narrow strip, c. 1.25–1.75m wide, between the two. The gully, averaging 0.7m in width, can be seen from the air photographs to have returned east on the north side, but disappears, possibly due to a recut of the main ditch as the pottery from it (1) suggests that this line may not have belonged to the first layout and was one of the recuts showing on the only drawn section (Fig. 5, S1).

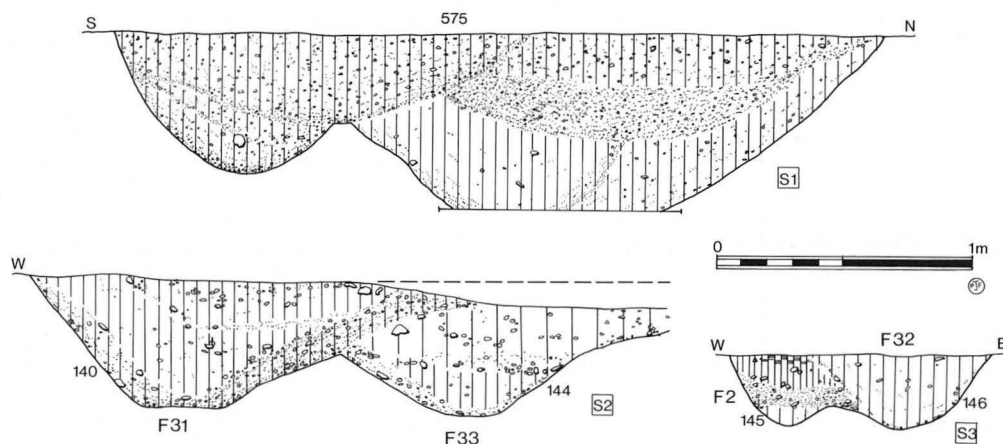


Figure 5 Sections S1–S3

The enclosure itself covered *c.* 1400m², but its effective area may have been defined by *F95* which would reduce it to about 1230m². The absence of an identifiable version of *F95* on the east may show that the original enclosure had only three sides. There was no sign of a bank next to the main ditch and its fill provided no evidence, yet the defining agent of the usable area may not have been the ditch itself but a structure standing in *F95*. No evidence for this was noted during excavation, but all trace could have been dug out when the area was remodelled. The absence of an internal bank may account for a shift of the whole enclosure to the south when the ditch was recut. Neither the air photographs nor the trenching revealed any feature in the enclosure.

The only direct evidence for an entrance lay on the south side where the ditch stopped *c.* 10–12m short of the east side. However, the latter was slighter than the other three sides and could have been introduced later. It was laid out anew at least twice. The first version, *F33* (Fig. 5, S2), ran the whole length and was cut away at its south end by Period 2 works. The gully was shallow with a widely-splayed profile *c.* 1.2m wide and 0.55m deep. The fill gave no sign of there having been either a bank next to it or anything sited in it. There seems to have been an initial silting sealed under fill deriving from the next version. Pottery was sparse, consisting of hand-made scored wares with an admixture of more developed wares which belong to the wheel-made pre-Roman traditions of south-east England with no sign of romanisation (2). *F33* was straight throughout most of its course, but at the north end appears to have swung into the line of the main ditch. The oblique section cut here shows a complicated history, four or five versions being detected (Fig. 5, S1). The records reveal at least one ‘late’ recut and traces of another. Both contained wheel-thrown pottery matching that in *F33* (3) and this may be a good sign that the north ditch originally stopped at this point.

The second stage of the east side was probably *F31* which cut *F33* (Fig. 5, S2). The dating of *F31* showed a shift forward in date but still with no recognisable Roman wares (4). At 1.7m, it was wider, but no deeper. The fills suggest that, if there had been a bank, it had been on the east side, and the mixed nature of the final fill was probably deliberate backfilling at the beginning of Period 2. *F31* was only just over half the length of *F33* and its south end may

have marked one side of an entrance here. *F31* stopped *c.* 11.5m from the inner edge of the enclosure on the south side. What kind of entrance there may have been is far from clear. *F95*, the enclosure’s inner gully, was not necessarily strictly coeval with only one of the enclosure’s phases. *F95* itself ran beyond the east end of the main ditch to return south where it was cut away by later developments. If read against *F33*, the entrance was *c.* 5m wide, lay in the corner and faced south, but there may have been a different system. The plan (Fig. 4) shows the termination of *F31* on the east side, a matching feature along the edge of *F33* down to the corner of the enclosure and probably turning west. Its depth was hardly more than 0.1–2m and it did not resemble the section of *F31* further north (Fig. 5, S2). However, assuming that it was a trace of a similar feature, there would have been an entrance *c.* 4m wide in the east side just south of its mid-point.

An entrance here would provide a context for the short lengths of gully, *F2–F32–F34*. *F2*, a quarter circle in plan, was replaced firstly by the straighter course of *F32* and secondly by *F34* which was straight. *F2* looked at first like part of a house gully, but the absence of any continuation and the nature of its replacements suggests that it had not served such a purpose. The association of the two later features with *F33* was destroyed by a Period 2 ditch.

The fills of these three short features showed that they had never contained any structure, but their size also showed that they could hardly have furnished much soil for banks (Fig. 5, S3). Only *F2* revealed any kind of domestic activity nearby and only when it was nearly full: in the top of what was left of it was a hearth of clay burnt through on the outer edge (Fig. 5, S3). The dating of all three presents a problem. They contained significant amounts of romanised shell-tempered pottery which would place them in phase 1b (5), yet there was none of this in the latest Period 1 version, *F31* (4), of the east ditch of the enclosure. Therefore the gullies either had nothing to do with an entrance here, or were later attempts to control traffic through it.

These gullies, married to some sign that the south ditch of the enclosure at its east end was redug more than once (6), suggests that these changes should be assigned to phase 1b. The remodelled and relocated entrance should belong partly to phase 1a to match that in the north-east enclosure which itself may not have been as early in date as the other.

The later stages of the small gullies should be phase **1b** when the focus of the site had shifted to the south.

The dating evidence from the main ditches of the north-west enclosure was sparse and, as most of the sections were cut by machine, of dubious value. The bulk of the sections yielded only Late pre-Roman Iron Age pottery or wheel-thrown non-romanised wares. However, tile and wheel-thrown shell-tempered ware from one section (7) shows that the value of evidence recovered in this way must be in doubt. The layer with the tile may have come from a Period 2 recut (see p. 21). Only at the west end of both the north and south ditches was there detailed excavation and only the bottom of the north ditch was reached. The pottery there is again of the suite which marks the phase **1a** layout, but on the south side there was a move forward in date with middling 1st-century AD material lying at the bottom of one part of the excavated sequence (8). This might have been residual material deposited when the earthworks were finally eliminated after the site had been abandoned. It may be significant that, although it occurred only two to three metres away in Period 2 ditches, there was no Period 2 pottery, hence the layers could represent the final disuse of the north-west enclosure at the end of Period 1.

However, *F29* probably points to its demise at an earlier date. This was a shallow and narrow gully, not more than 0.6m wide, which cut its way across all the east side features, save *F31*, went on to cut *F95* and finally ran into the north-west corner of the phase **1b** southern enclosure, cutting the final fills of the north-west enclosure ditch here. The pottery was uniformly non-Roman and lacked the wheel-thrown content of other phase **1a** deposits (9). The absence points to a relatively early date for the abandonment of the north-west enclosure, possibly by the middle of the 1st century AD. The later pottery found in its ditches could then have been in the soil used to level the hollows of the old earthwork.

The North-East Enclosure

This was incorporated into the Period 2 layout with the consequent major recutting of its ditches obscuring the earliest form of the plan. The line of the north, east and west sides is not in doubt and the south side, which suffered most from later works, can be detected. However, the siting and character of the entrance is not easily arrived at.

The sections (Figs 6–7, S4–S9) are presented in clockwise order from the mid-point of the west side. It can be seen that the renovations of Period 2 prejudice the assessment of the size of the Period 1 ditches; even the phase **1b** work was on a large scale. In nearly every case the phase **1b** plan tended to mask one edge of the earlier arrangement and only Section S8 is useful, although no phase **1a** ditch survived: the phase **1b** cut here should have been no more than a widening and deepening. If so, the original ditch would have been no more than 2.75m wide by 1.15m deep. Sections S6 and S8 suggest that the phase **1b** ditch was about the same size and, in the main, allowed to silt up for most of its course through a good deal of Period 2 (Figs 6–7, S6–S8). On the west side both plan (Fig. 4) and section (Fig. 7, S9) show what is, in terms of a regular layout, an anomalous feature, interpreted as having been the out-turn in the ditch to form the northern side of an entrance. The south side is less well defined, but the plan shows that the inner edge of the south side ditch does not conform with the Period 2 system to the west, suggesting

that the northern edge bore away to the south to form a short funnel entrance c.4.5m wide. This plan is more or less confirmed by the dark cropmarks in this area on the air photographs (cover and Pl. I).

The enclosure was small, some 500m² in area, with tight rounded corners. The outward shift in the bottom of the ditch between phases **1a** and **1b** suggests that there had been an internal bank, but no section provided good evidence of this. The re-defined ditch tended to cut across the north-west corner, possibly to regularise the enclosure which was wider at the west end than at the east. The sections show that the fill of the phase **1a** ditch was largely a redeposited gravel, possibly the spoil from the redigging of the ditch, but it could have come from a bank: unlike the Werrington Enclosure (Mackreth 1988), there was no distinctive internal plan which could be interpreted as having respected the toe of an internal bank. The dating of the phase **1a** ditch was limited by the meagre collection of finds. None of the primary contexts had any pottery (10) and the dating is based on hand-made Late pre-Roman Iron Age wares with non-romanised wheel-thrown wares, the bias being towards the latter.

One layer, *L36* (Fig. 7, S7), had an infant burial in it (see p. 81, Inhumation A). The child was either new-born or no more than a month old.

Nothing is known of the interior apart from the irregular feature *F21* placed here because of the few sherds of probable Late pre-Roman Iron Age pottery in it (11). This could be residual, but later deposition is unlikely to have been so selective that non-Roman wheel-thrown pottery, despite its frequency, would be absent. The description of the feature suggests no function and it lay in the line of any bank thrown up from the phase **1a** enclosure. On balance, the chances are that the feature would have pre-dated a bank, had there been one, and hence the enclosure itself.

Phase **1b** of the enclosure is easy to see, but less easy to explain. The renewal of the ditch may have run across the first entrance and this would imply a change to suit the phase **1b** arrangements centring on the new south enclosure with a new entrance, constructed on the backfill of the phase **1a** south ditch. Where this could have been is impossible to tell as the ditch was only hand-dug in two places and Period 2 activity was so intense that any phase **1b** causeway would almost certainly not have survived in a good enough state to have been identifiable. The old entrance probably continued in use: the pottery of the phase **1b** ditch is similar to that of phase **1a** but possibly shows a higher proportion of wheel-made non-Roman wares (12).

Two other elements are hard to assess because of the limited extent of excavation. Both relate to the south-east corner of the enclosure and concerned ditch junctions. The first was where the phase **1b** south enclosure joined the primary north-east enclosure. It was not appreciated at the time how large all the early elements of the site could be, with the result that there is some difficulty in allocating layers immediately pre-dating Period 2 correctly. The pottery suggests that the recovered sequence of layers belonged, most probably, to phase **1b** (13). The other area lay further east and seems to have involved a deepened ditch running away east and a large and deep hollow, possibly dug to provide water. The single trial trench was not taken down far enough to clarify all the points and the dating evidence was, as might be expected away from a focus of activity, sparse and suggested that the cuts were allowed to become filled during Period 1. It was from here

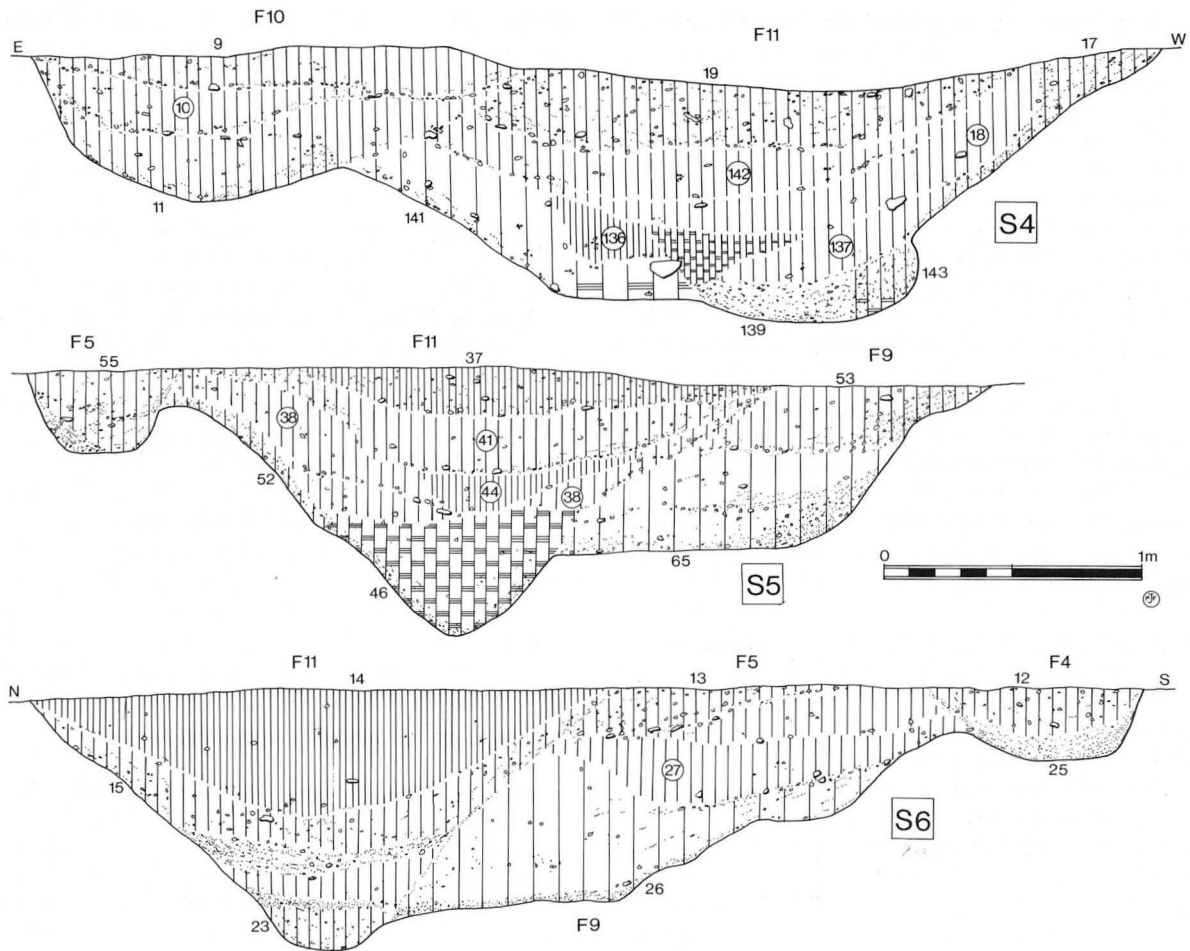


Figure 6 Sections S4–S6

that the only fragment of what was almost certainly, on this site, a pre-Conquest pedestal-based pot was recovered (14) (Fig. 34, 27).

The South Enclosure

The two northern enclosures were linked by a ditch sweeping round the south side of the site and defining a roughly rectangular area *c.*64m by 48m wide at the east end and *c.*34m at the west. The corners were essentially rounded and the area within seems to have been given over to domestic use: the only definite house structures were found here. The ditch itself was heavily recut in Period 2 and its edges blurred by later ditches which incorporated what remained of the original site into a larger scheme (Period 2c). The sections (Figs 8–9, S10–S14) show how little survived, that the best traces were on the eastern side and these point to a ditch *c.*3m wide in its weathered state by 1–1.25m deep (Fig. 8, S10).

There are two points of interest: the probable entrance and the north side. The air photographs and the details of the excavation in the south-east corner provide the best evidence for the entrance arrangements. The former show that the dominant line of the crop-mark of the east ditch is nearly straight down to a thickening before swinging out east and then round to the west. Excavation in the southernmost east-west trench showed that the ditch had two separate lines: one conforming with the major

crop-mark, the other running more or less south-west and north-east and cut by the other. The layout of these ditches strongly suggests that the corner had originally been canted with a causeway entrance, possibly 3.5–4m wide. The curved ditch to the east belongs, as the pottery shows, to Period 2.

As for the north side of the new enclosure, not only was there no trace of an early ditch, but also a marked lack of any deposits which could be dated to Period 1. Section S14 (Fig. 9) at the south-west corner of the north-east enclosure shows several recuts of which the earliest is only assignable generally to the second half of the 1st century. Although given to Period 2, it may have been the phase 1b version part of the end of the south ditch of the north-east enclosure.

The date of the south enclosure ditch rests, again, on a relatively small amount of pottery with a low ratio of Late pre-Roman Iron Age hand-made material to the wheel-made non-Roman wares. Only one section had any purely Roman material: eight sherds of early Roman gritty-grey ware sherds which can be accommodated in phase 1b without any difficulty but might run beyond AD *c.*75. It is not certain that the two relevant layers should be given to this period (15). If the enclosure was made on fresh ground, there would presumably be no pottery to be displaced as the ditches weathered and any in the lowest deposits should therefore represent the first use of the area. This cannot be guaranteed and so the earliest pottery recovered may be

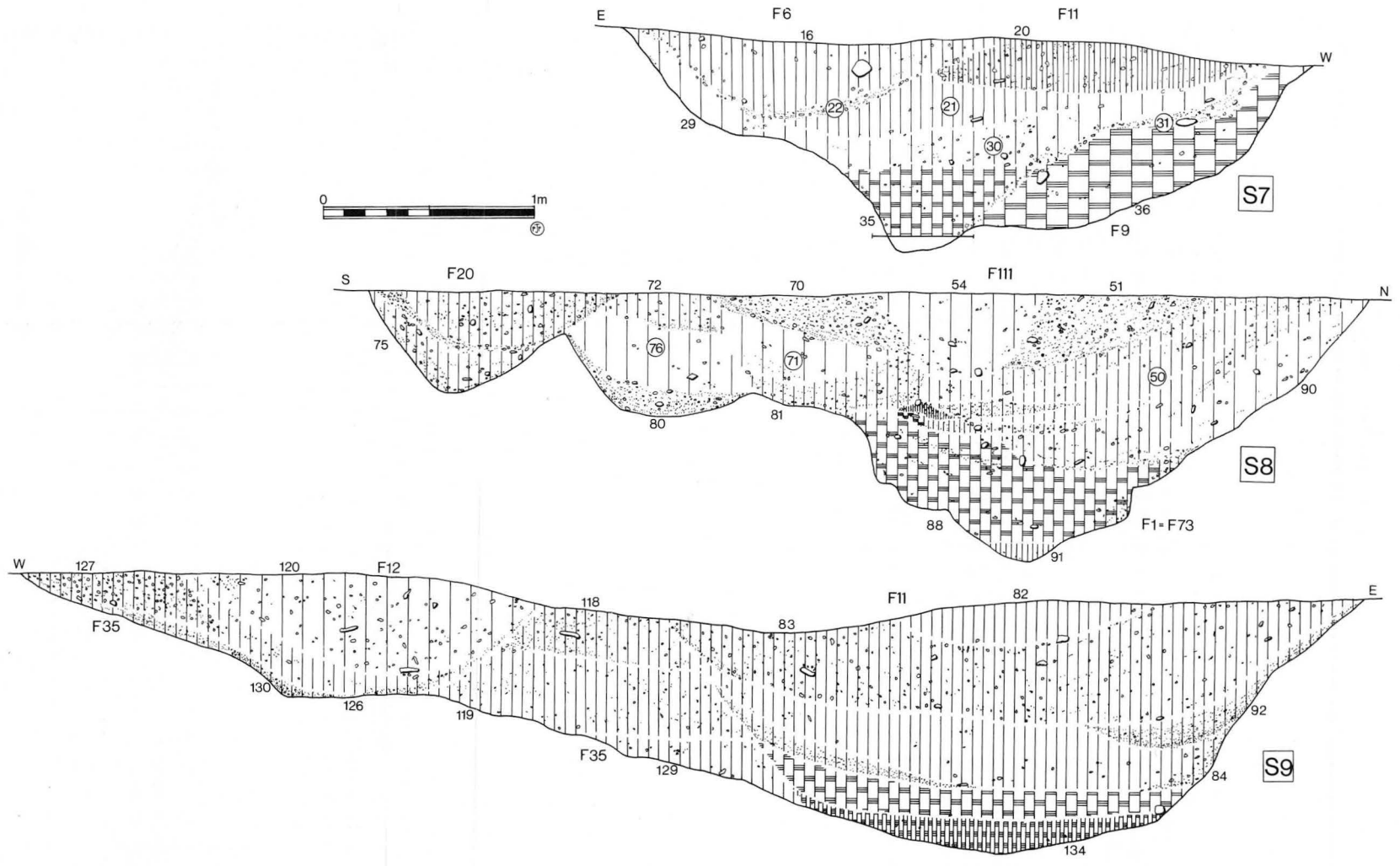


Figure 7 Sections S7-S9

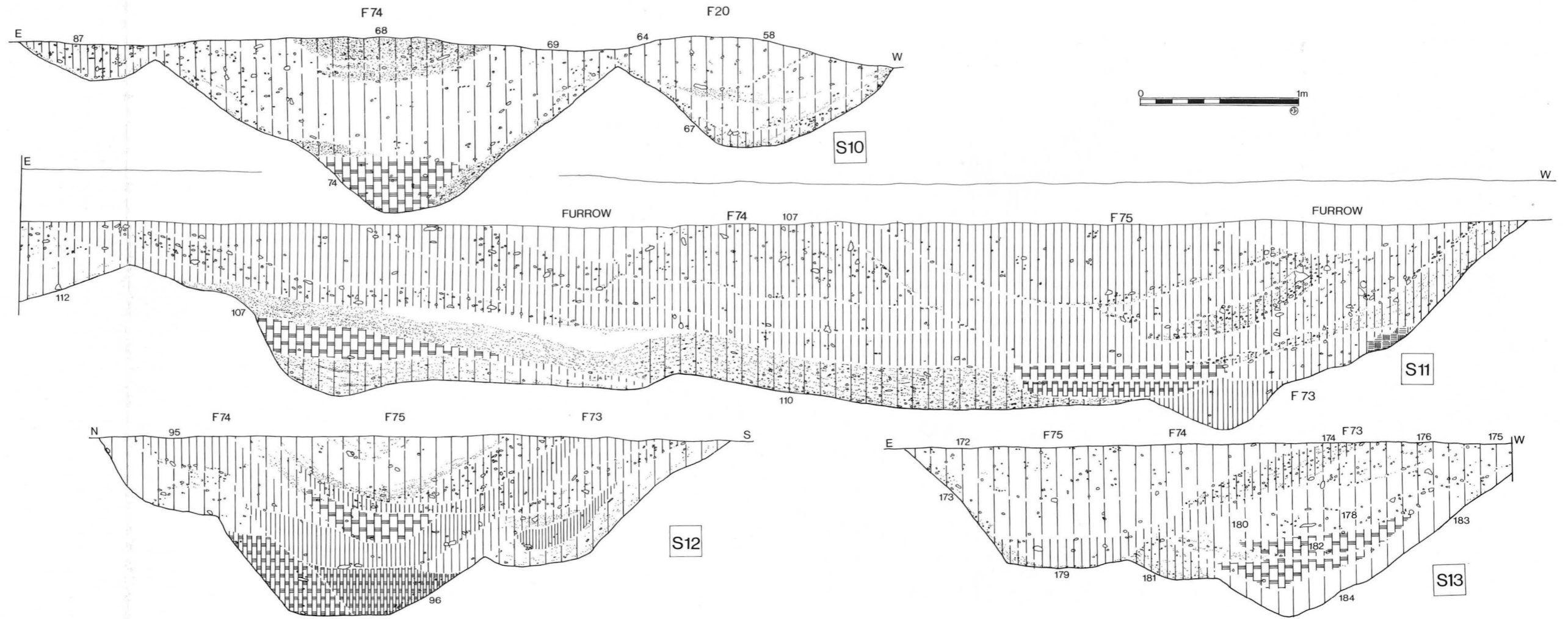


Figure 8 Sections S10-S13

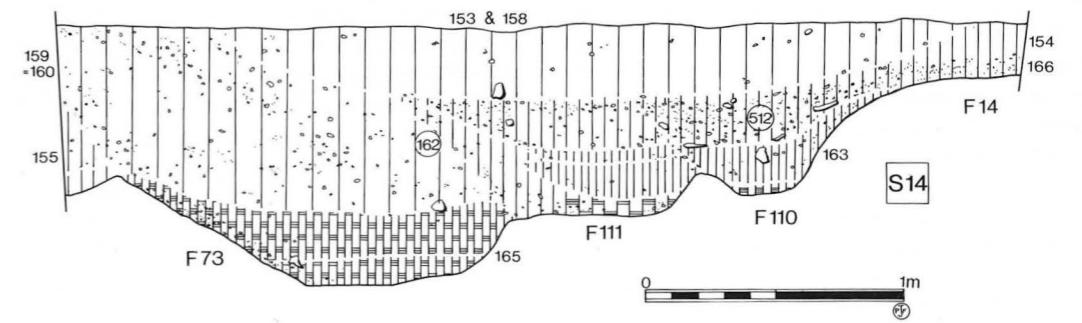


Figure 9 Section S14

misleading. However, the general absence of Romanised wares, apart from the eight sherds mentioned, should mean that none had been discarded by the time the first stage of the new ditch needed cleaning out. As it should have taken at least one or two decades for this to happen, the case for the ditch having been dug before the middle of the 1st century AD is probably a strong one.

So little survived of the Period 1 ditch fill that it is impossible to tell from it whether there had been a bank. There was no set of features to provide sufficient pointers like those in the Iron Age Enclosure at Werrington (Mackreth 1988). The space between the South House and the ditch, at c.6m, would have been its maximum spread. As a bank and ditch weather together, the apparent bottom of the ditch should move away from the crest of the bank because of the greater amount of soil coming in from that side. However, in Period 2b when the ditch was renewed, it was along the inner edge that the recutting took place, although there was some ambivalence along the south side.

Apart from F27, there was nothing on the site which could be called a well. The summer water-table lay, on average, 0.8m below the surface of the stripped site and most of the major ditches penetrated it: the inhabitants could have supplied themselves from the ditches without digging a special hole and steyning it. A problem which would have afflicted the site was the lack of good drainage, and a ditch with an external bank to take the surface water in the enclosure may have been preferred. It may be worth noting the course of F29 across the corner of the abandoned north-west enclosure and down the slope: although not as deep as the enclosure ditch, it could have acted as an over-spill if that had been inconveniently full. In recent times, the great clay pits south of the site have undoubtedly altered the water-table, but the ditches were drainable to the extent that no organic material survived save for the Period 2 posts near the south-east corner of the south enclosure (see p. 24).

The layout of the site in phase 1b was made up essentially of two enclosures: a large one open along the central part of its north side and probably with an entrance in the south-east corner; and a smaller one retained from phase 1a now joined at the east end of the north side of the larger enclosure. How the one was entered from the other is not known, unless the original entrance of the smaller enclosure survived.

It seems odd that so much effort would be expended in making a new enclosure when such a large gap was left in part of its circuit. However, it was at this stage in the site's development that it was integrated into a new system of land management. The excavation was too limited to explore fully the connections of the recovered ditches with elements lying outside them. A ditch runs away to the west from the junction on the east side of the two enclosures of phase 1b. Its dating points to an early appearance in the overall site history (14). The air photographs show ditches running across the unstripped field. They show two phases of this particular line and this was confirmed in the excavation. It could be that the recutting of the south side of the old north-west enclosure was part of another long ditch detectable on the air photograph striking south-west from the other end of the enclosure, but the air photographs also demonstrate that the subsoil produced many non-archaeological marks. However, phase 1b may mark the time when the local countryside was being extensively subdivided and the behaviour of the south enclosure's

ditches may not be irrational: the south-east entrance facing into one major division, the gap on the north opening into another.

The Houses and Other Features

The pottery dating suggests a sequence for the three rings in the south enclosure, but the evidence points to a constructional difference between both the North and South Houses and the western one and this may not allow such a simple progression. The dating of the South House is almost uniformly derived from the local hand-made Late pre-Roman Iron Age pottery, there being only a very small quantity of finer wheel-thrown non-Roman wares present, and these do not necessarily reflect the date of construction (16). But this house appears to have been the earliest of the three.

Next comes the North House, but there are problems: the three separate lengths of ring may represent three distinct structures and form two in any case. The sherds are a mixture of the two main non-Roman traditions and would allow F45 and F18 to be coeval and later than the South House. There is, however, a small but relatively persistent content of small sherds of Roman grey-gritty fabrics which makes a simple periodisation inadvisable. A total of twelve sherds from F45 weighing 75g, may represent the date of demolition and so might show that there was very little purely Roman pottery around at that time. In F18 were three sherds weighing 15g and the same argument may apply there and, as will be seen, there had possibly been contamination from Period 2 activities. But the suite from F50 is such that the feature could be of the same date, or earlier, than the South House. The size of the collection, however, may be too small to argue from and F50 might have been intermediate between the South and main North Houses (17).

The pottery from the West House shows a distinct move forward in date, but with a low, 172g, content of Roman grey-gritty wares (18). The figure, however, is deceptive as one sherd weighed 155g. In this case, the feature defining the house site was a gully. With no signs of a recut, the feature may have silted up completely before the house went out of use, and thus the relatively small amount of this type of pottery may not be a true reflection of the length of life of the structure itself.

The South House (Figs 10, 11, S15, S16)

Two lengths of a curved feature were recorded of which the whole of one, F99, lay in the excavation; the other, F100, was largely obscured by unstripped topsoil. Both lay conformably on the periphery of a circle with an internal diameter of 12.4m and enclosing an area of c.120m². There was no sign inside for a building matching the ring which, itself, provided some evidence for a structure. The sections of F99 (Fig. 11, S15, S16) show that it was generally a 'U'. Two layers were detected, the upper being darker than the other, which was a barely altered natural, and lying in a 'V' in the top surface of the bottom deposit. The upper layer became darker as it approached what should have been a door facing slightly north of east.

Three signs of posts were noted in F99: one in plan at the extreme west end and the prints of two more, one at c.1.5m further east and the other at the door. F100 was basically the same but less was seen of it. A cluster of stones was found at the inner edge of the door, but, like F99, no

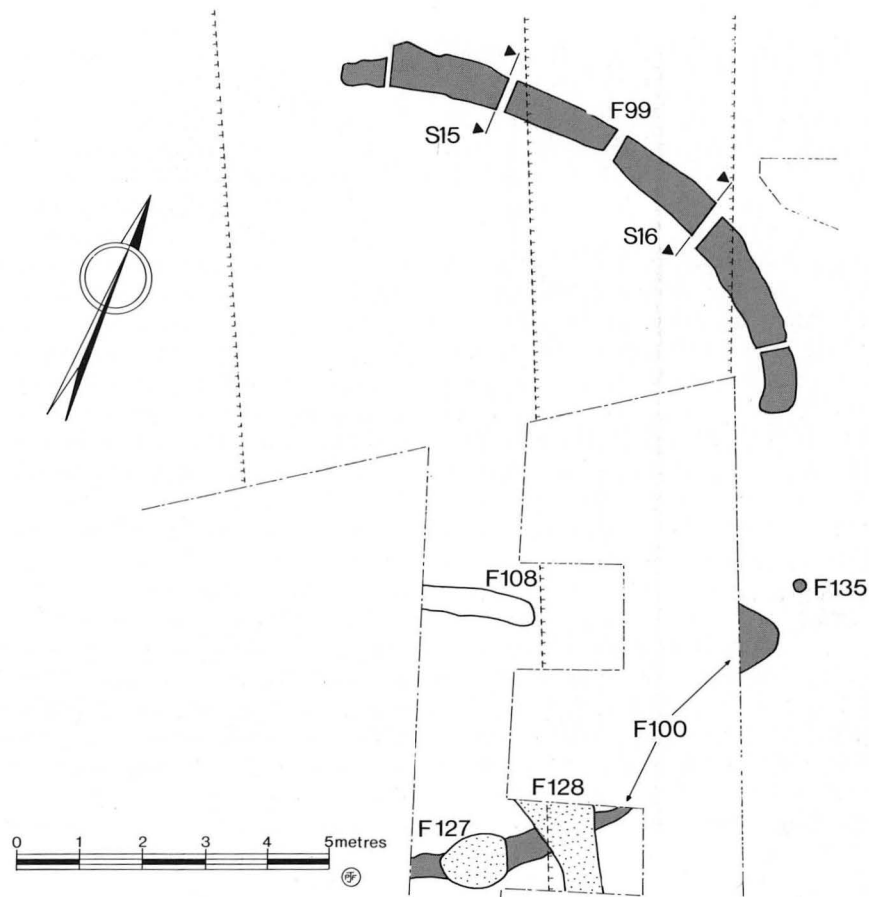


Figure 10 Plan of the South House. Scale 1:125

sign of a pipe was seen rising through the surviving fill. The door was c.3m wide. The northern slot was 0.4m deep and steep-sided. There was no sign of weathering. The southern slot was slighter being, in general, only 0.3m wide and progressively narrower and shallower as it ran west. It was only 0.1m deep next to *F128*. There would have been, had they been equally spaced, seven uprights in the northern slot, and about twenty around the complete periphery. The structure for the house most probably stood in the slot, the upper fill and disturbed stones being the result of deliberate demolition. The building would then conform to the smaller of the two found at Werrington (Mackreth 1988).

The pottery from the lower deposits in the north slot is uniformly of the local Late pre-Roman Iron Age. The later element in the upper part could have derived from the use of the building, having been displaced during demolition. No floor level survived and there were a few features which could be associated with the building. *F135* was a post-hole with two stones used as packing round a post of 0.14m diameter. The post leant towards the house at about 30° from the vertical. Inside was a slot, *F108*, c.0.38m wide and 0.14m deep, whose west end ran out of the excavation. Neither post nor slot can be attributed with certainty to the house; the first contained no pottery and the second only Late pre-Roman Iron Age sherds (19). The only relative dating for the house came from a gully, located in a machine trench, cutting the southern part of the ring: *F128*, its pottery belonging to the wheel-thrown non-Roman tradition (20).

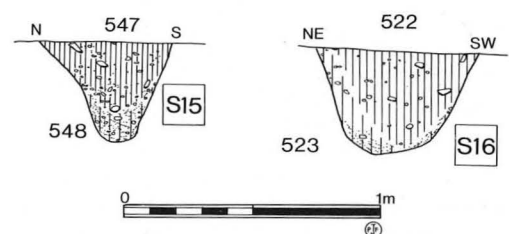


Figure 11 Sections belonging to the South House: S15, S16

The North House (Figs 12, 13, S17–S25)

Three separate elements survived of which *F45* was the most substantial with, apparently, its line continued north by *F18*. Inside *F45* was a short length of curved gully or slot, *F50*. There had almost certainly been two buildings, one 9.4m in diameter using only *F18* and *F50*, the other being 11.5m in diameter and using *F18* and *F45*. The character of these two features revealed that there had not been a simple development: each had remains of two concentric grooves contrasting with the plain form of *F50* which should, therefore, represent a single phase. The dating of the separate elements (17) raises some problems: *F50* had sherds uniformly of Late pre-Roman Iron Age date; *F45* additional material but very little which has to be later than AD50. *F18*, however, had, considering its size, a more mixed assemblage with a tendency to bridge the



Plate II *F18*, The North House

middle of the 1st century. This could have resulted from interference, not detected during excavation, from Period 2 (see pp 23–4), or represents the destruction of the North House and could be a clue to the date of the start of Period 2. The fill of both the inner and outer parts of *F18* were excavated together and the mixture possibly only belongs to the later, outer, part (Pl. II). The sequence of these features is taken to be that implied by the ceramic content of each: *F50*, *F45* and then *F18*.

F50 had definite ends and was, on average, 0.4m wide; its depth was not recorded. Although not completely emptied, no fewer than four possible or definite post-holes were found running from one possibly 0.3m in diameter at the north end along the inner edge of the feature, the others apparently ranging from 0.13m to 0.18m in diameter. The fill was basically a dark loam suggesting backfill with a certain amount of top-soil to hold the posts, hence the pottery should provide a date for construction. The diameter indicated by the feature of 9.15m yields an area of 65.76m², the circle running through two unexcavated marks on the site plans (see Fig. 4). The circuit would have used the earlier inner element of *F18* (Pl. II). The lengths of *F50* and *F18* were virtually the same, and both together would define a doorway, c.2.2m wide, facing east.

F45 also had traces of structure. The only post-holes noted lay at the north-eastern end where there was probably an east-facing door, but the post-holes may have belonged to more than one phase. The character of the rest of the feature varied within narrow limits with evidence for two gullies round a good part of the circuit. The inner one was the later and was filled with a dark earth. Where properly detectable (Fig. 13, S18, S19), it was generally 0.3m wide and 0.2–0.25m deep, cutting into an outer slot containing

a lighter fill over a dark one. The full width of the earlier line is not known as the inner one had consistently destroyed one edge. Both together were 0.65m wide at most, narrowing to 0.45m except where further reduced by a furrow. Where the feature was narrowest, there was less sign of the two phases: neither building had been perfectly circular.

An interpretation of the deposits noted (see Fig. 13, S18, S19) is that the first structure was deliberately removed, leaving some dark earth in the bottom of its slot. A new one was cut and the displaced natural filled what survived of the first, the earth in the inner slot arriving there as a result of the destruction of the second building. The undifferentiated fill (Fig. 13, S20), as well as the widening and deepening in the southernmost part, might have been the result of final demolition. Only two post-holes are described in any detail, *F54* and *F55*, and a third lay approximately 1m south of the others. All three had probably been dug out as their traces were only detectable as impressions in the bottom of the feature and, in the case of the two at the end, also as distortions in the plan of the slot. Assuming that there had been a regular layout, *F54* and the unnumbered one should have replaced *F55* as both lay in the line of the inner slot.

The dating of these phases is not easy. Not enough layers were specifically allocated to the earlier one for a distinction to be properly seen. There is a hint that, when the structure was replaced, only Late pre-Roman Iron Age pottery was nearby. The later phase had pottery running up to AD c.50, not necessarily beyond, and there should have been a fair amount of material deriving from the earlier slot possibly masking a demolition later than the Roman Conquest.

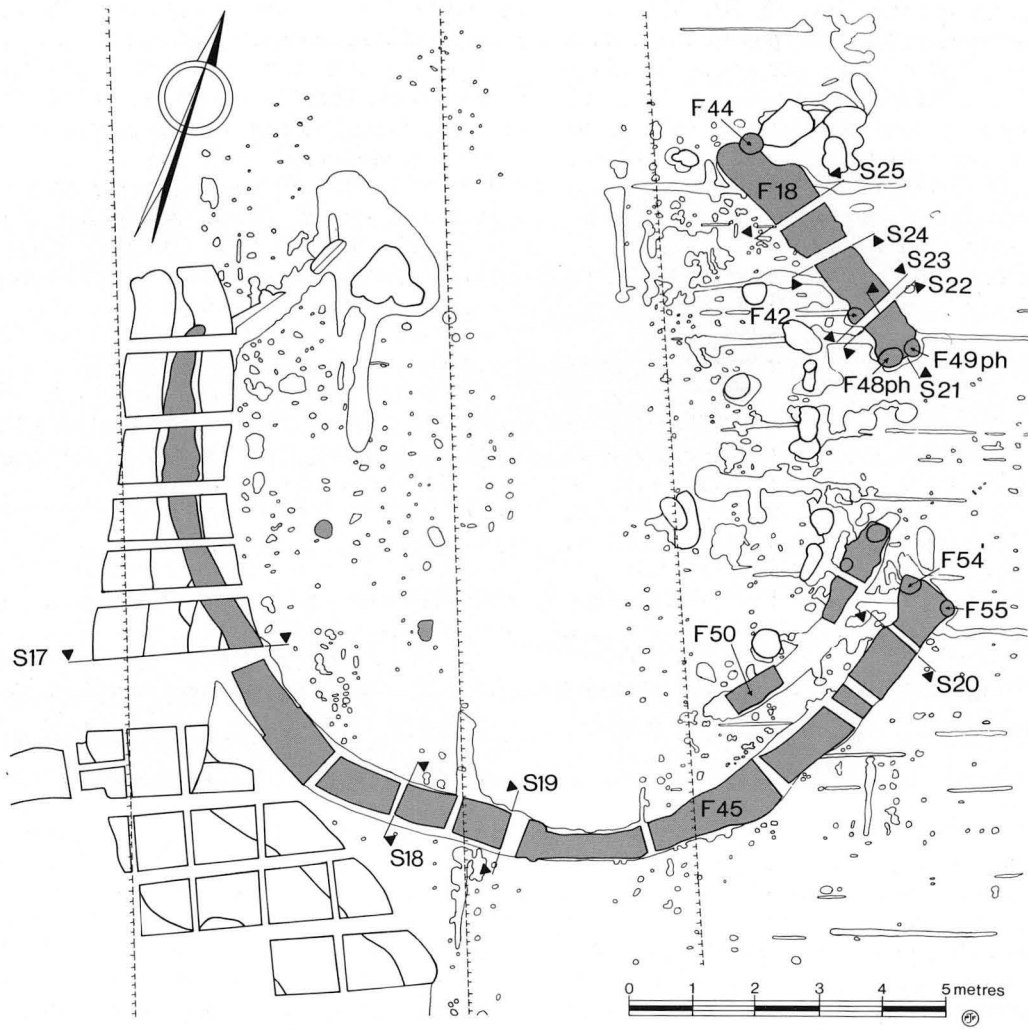


Figure 12 Plan of the North House. Scale 1:125

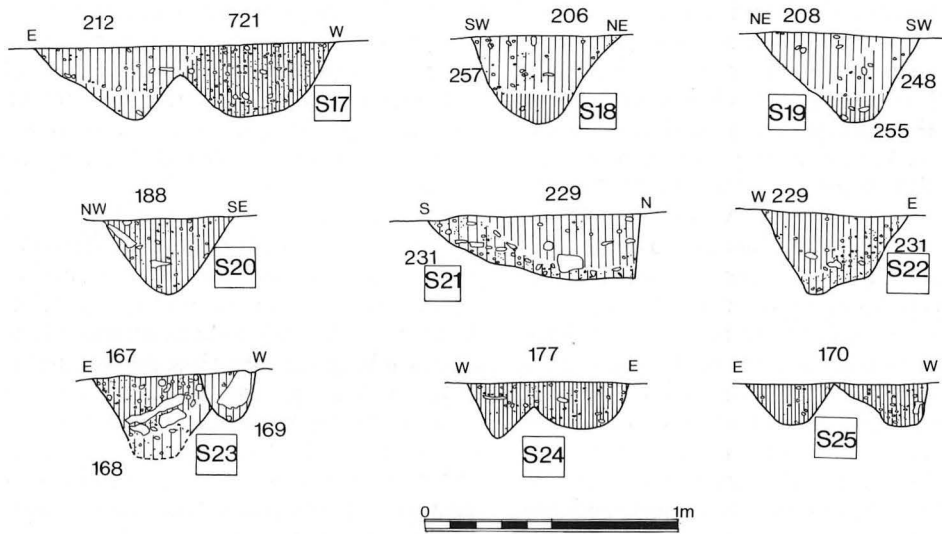


Figure 13 Sections belonging to the North House: S17–S25

As for *F18*, the sections (Fig. 13, S21–S25) show clearly that there were at least two phases, if not three (Section S25), but there is no specific description of the feature. The north end seems to have been well defined, becoming shallower towards the south. The dating of the feature is problematical. However, in this part of the site the stripping was exactly at the interface between the top and the subsoil and the site plans show rows of small holes. Had these occurred singly, they would have been interpreted as stake-holes, but they are almost certainly holes resulting from a root crop in the field. The holes were substantial and, coupled with post-holes assigned to Period 2, lay thickly in a band running north from *F45* and across *F18*. The increased incidence of mid, and possibly later, 1st-century pottery may have derived from both sorts of disturbance. If *F18* does belong with *F45*, its inner elements should be later than the outer and this seems to show on one section (S22); otherwise the evidence is ambivalent (S24, S25) or not in favour (S23). The better solution is that *F50* is the inner part of *F18*; *F45* is the outer part and Pl. II supports this. Thus there would be two houses, one of which went through a major reconstruction which would account for Section S25 which has, under the two darker elements, a paler fill lying in a squarer sectioned feature: this might have been a remnant of the part which went with *F50*.

The West House

(Figs 14, 15, S26–S30)

Unlike the previous two houses, *F53* had obviously been an open gully running round a building of which no trace of a structural element survived. The internal diameter of the ring was about 11m, enclosing an area of *c.*95m², with a faint suggestion that it had been dug in basically straight sections. The width of the gully averaged *c.*0.9m and was generally 0.4m deep, becoming narrower and shallower on the south side towards the entrance (Fig. 15, S26). The circuit was cut by a furrow and two Period 2 pit clusters. The fill seems to have been relatively uniform, being a discoloured clayey loam at the top, shading away into greyish silts in places. Two sections (Fig. 15, S27, S28) indicate that there had been sufficient disturbance along the outer edge to bring in some of the gravelly natural. This suggests that there had been a barrier around the inner edge.

The only hint of a standing structure was given by a layer of green clay along the inner edge near the entrance on the south side (see Fig. 14). The clay could have derived from the cladding of the wall. If so, it is unlikely to have been the product of weathering as it was barely altered. Such a wall would have been close enough to the edge of the gully for clay cladding to have been applied not only to that, but inadvertently to the edge of the gully. The siting of *F80*, thought to have been inside the house, supports this view.

As for the date of the building, the presence in small quantities of Roman grey-gritty wares is important. In comparison with *F18* and more especially parts of *F45* of the North House, there was a small amount and it has been suggested that *F53* was a drainage gully allowed to fill up. This would account for the layer of green clay having been preserved in a near pure state and argues for a short period of silting.

F80, a pit-like feature, was unusual in that all the finds it contained came from the bottom. It had a regular shape and profile (Fig. 15, S29, S30): an oval 0.97m by 0.84m

and *c.*0.2m deep. The bottom was flat and the sides fairly steep. The fill was not of straightforward tipped-in material but layered in such a way that it looks as if the feature had been left open. At the bottom was a silty loam containing the finds, suggesting that the pottery should have been derived directly from use in the area. This was sealed by a bed of sandy gravel and the top was probably a backfill as it was a mixed silty loam and gravel, the former predominating. It is hard to see the feature as a plain pit. It was not a hearth as there were no burnt products in it. The feature should have been inside the house and this in turn suggests that the wall of the house had been immediately inside the drainage gully.

The dating evidence would then be closely allied to the abandonment of the building. There were only eleven sherds, weighing 78g in all. They were shell-tempered and were either of the wheel-thrown earliest Roman kind or transitional Iron Age-Roman (21). The date-range they represent is not only within phase 1b, but also distinctly towards the end. This would make the West House the last of the series, the pottery from the surrounding gully not being quite so indicative.

The only entrance faced, again, slightly north of east and was not less than 2.75m wide: one of the Period 2 pit clusters destroyed the northern side. Concentric with *F53*, and surviving only around part of the south-west quadrant, was a narrow and shallow hollow, *F81* (18), 0.4m wide at most, but generally less than 0.2m. It seems to have died out at each end. Its fill was described as black loam which, on this site, was a basic silty, slightly clayey, soil with little in the way of admixture. There was no sign of any structure in it and its course points to its having been an eavesdrip channel, possibly created fortuitously. If so, the eaves would have had a minimum throw of 2m.

Archaeologically, the features which usually make up the structure of an Iron Age house in this region are slight and it is a matter of chance whether or not sufficient, or any, survive to allow their physical form to be discussed. Why the circuits of both the South and North Houses should have been incomplete is unknown, but it is a phenomenon met with elsewhere. Similarly, it is not certain whether the change from a slot containing a structure but with no drainage gully, to a type of building with one but no other sign of structure, has any chronological significance. It could be argued that, here, the gully came last, but at Werrington, where there were two possible houses, the position is reversed (Mackreth 1988).

Discussion

The large sample of houses found at Fengate would seem at first sight to provide a guide, but there seems to be no chronological correlation between size or style of building. Hardly more than nine structures there could be described as similar to the South or North Houses at Monument 97 (Pryor 1984, Structures 4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 21, 54, 3?, 6?) and there are examples of slots inside gullies (Pryor 1984, Structures 7 and 14). Otherwise the tendency was for structural traces to be confined to a few post-holes. None at Fengate had a combination of a drainage gully with a possible eavesdrip like the West House here. Where there was evidence for the minimum eaves throw, it seems to have varied between *c.*0.75m minimum (Pryor 1984, Structure 54) through to a range of *c.*1m to 1.4m (Pryor 1984, Structures 7, 13, 14, 17) with a possible maximum of 1.6m (Pryor 1984, Structure 54 again). If the drainage

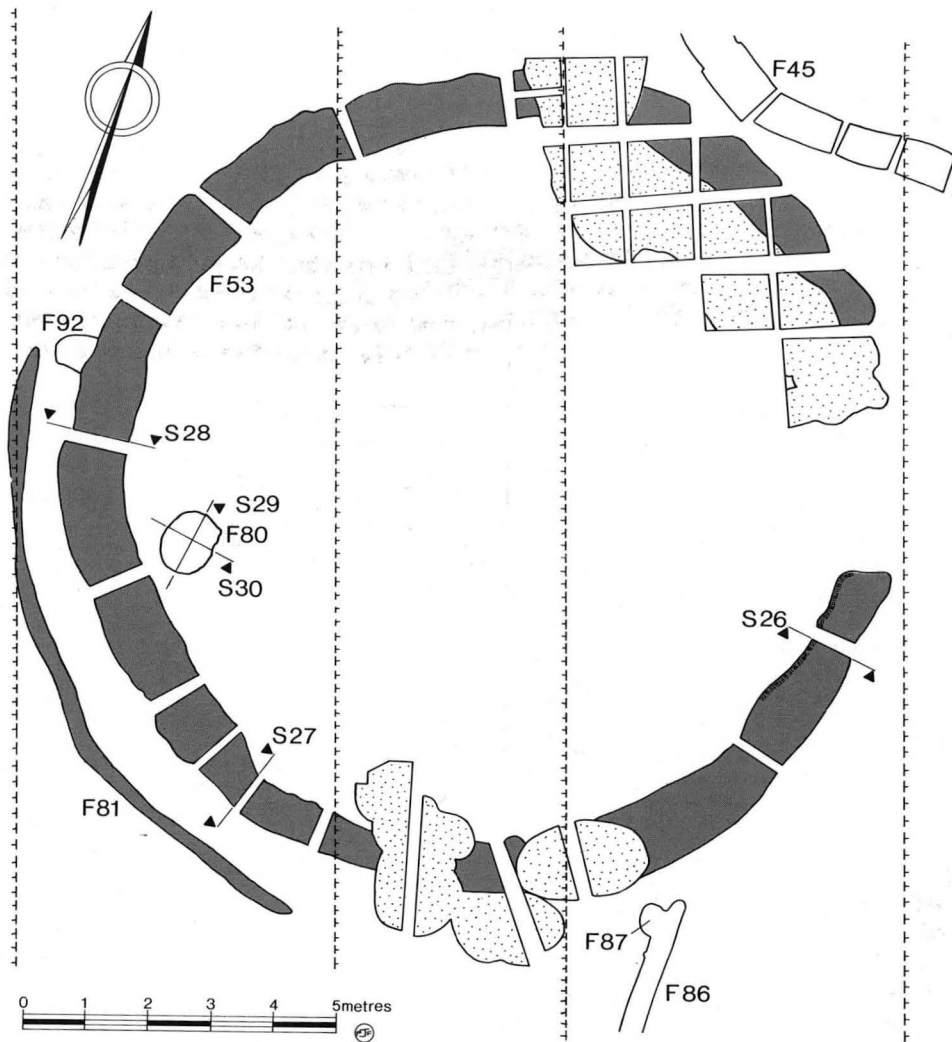


Figure 14 Plan of the West House. Scale 1:125

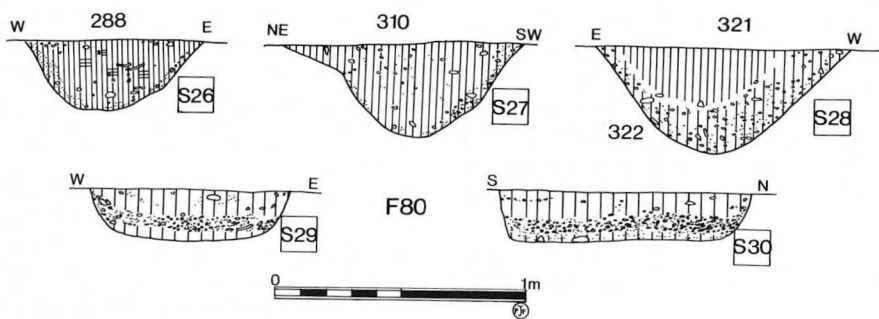


Figure 15 Sections belonging to the West House: S26-30.

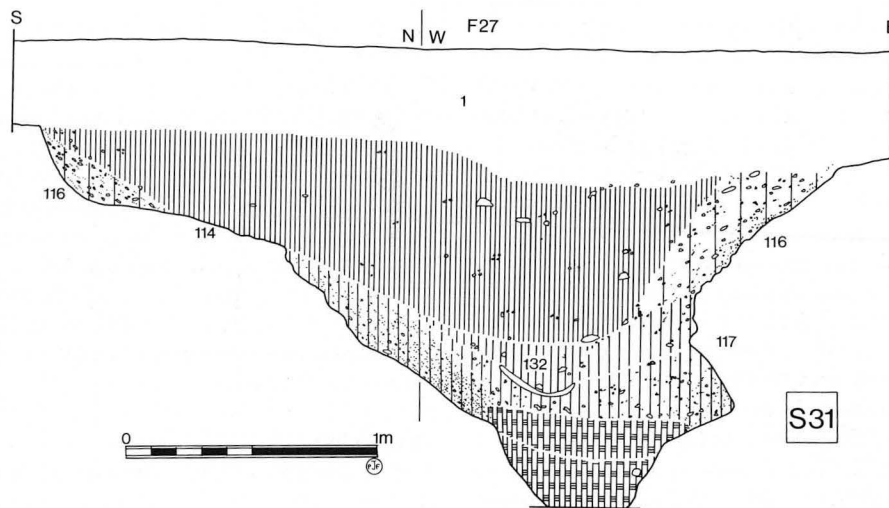


Figure 16 Section S31

gullies themselves are taken into account, the general figure is closer to the suggested throw of the West House here.

The size of the South House at 12.4m diameter is larger than any at Fengate, if the structural evidence is looked at. And, in general, the houses here and at Werrington are larger than the average size at Fengate. The only other local site which has produced a reasonable sample of round houses was Wakerley. There were nine; the smallest was 7m in diameter, three more ranged between 8.3m and 8.8m and the largest two were 13.6m and 14m in diameter (Jackson and Ambrose 1978, 131, fig. 12). The houses at Monument 97 and Werrington better suit the range of sizes at Wakerley than Fengate. The Wakerley houses were all represented by narrow slots in which the actual structure stood and, again, this fits slightly better with the other two sites. Much may depend on the character of the subsoil. The Wakerley site lay high and was based on rock, but Monument 97 and Werrington were on contorted glacial drifts which are not renowned for their drainage qualities. By contrast, Fengate was low lying and obviously had drainage problems (Pryor 1984, 124) and this may have been the principal reason why it had a higher proportion of drainage gullies than the other three sites. The lack of structural definition within many of these could have been the result of the ground having been built up using the spoil from the peripheral ditch (Mackreth 1988, 68).

The tendency for doors to face generally east is confirmed by all four sites and only the larger buildings show marked variations and were very much in the minority (Jackson and Ambrose 1978, Hut 7; Pryor 1984, Structures 48, 3?, 7?).

Other Features (Fig. 4)

These are taken roughly in order from the south edge of the site to the north.

F128 was a short length of gully, located in a machine trench, cutting the southern part of the *F100* slot of the South House. Its width was not easy to establish and it was c.0.3m deep. It was too slight to be positively identified on the air photographs and is given to Period 1, the pottery

including nothing later than wheel-thrown non-Roman wares (20). *F93* lay just south-west of the West House and had only Late pre-Roman Iron Age sherds (22). The feature measured 0.56m east-west by 0.53m north-south and was 0.24m deep. The sides were steep and the bottom basically flat, characteristics which do not suit an ordinary rubbish pit. Its fill was not altered natural such as might be expected in an ordinary pit, but a grey silt with very little fine gravel in it.

F92, almost certainly a pit, was partly cut away by the drainage gully of the West House. There was no pottery (23), but its stratigraphic position places it well within Period 1.

F86, just south of the West House and running slightly west of south, was a slot 6.1m long and 0.3–0.35m wide. It had a rounded north end and the feature shallowed out from 0.09m deep to nothing at the south end. The full course was not uncovered. Next to the north end and on the west side was an oval post-hole, *F87*, 0.36m by 0.33m and 0.3m deep. Its relationship with the slot could not be established because of the lack of depth in both features. As there was no pottery (24), the two features could belong to any period, but they were related to the West House and so the earliest phase would have been 1b.

F61, a gully, was cut by the west part of the North House. About 9.5m of its length survived, a Period 2 ditch cutting away its north end, the southern one being lost under *F53* and a Period 2 cluster of pits. The gully was generally 0.55–0.7m wide and 0.2–0.3m deep (Fig. 13, S17). No continuation north of the Period 2 ditch was found. The fill was very gravelly, possibly derived from the earlier phase of the North House which curved across its line. The pottery was a mixture of Late pre-Roman Iron Age and wheel-thrown non-Roman wares (25), suiting that from the South House. The two may have been contemporary.

Lastly, *F37* lay in the southern enclosure, about half-way between the North House and the north-east enclosure. This was a pit aligned east-west with vertical sides up to 0.6m deep. A layer of black loam, 0.03m thick, was found down the north side by the excavator who thought that the feature had been lined, but it was also noted that no trace of this was present anywhere else. The straight

edges and vertical sides could support the suggestion that the feature had been lined and it remains to account for the three post-holes found in the fill. Two lay at the west end, one roughly in each corner. The south-west post may have been secondary as fragments of triangular loom-weights had been used as packing on the north-west and south-east, and other pieces had been used to fill it. The post-hole was 0.24m in diameter and 0.28m deep and so did not reach the base of the feature like the other two. The north-west post-hole was 0.34m in diameter and 0.57m deep. There was no sign that this had been cut through the fill of *F37* or had any packing and the same conditions applied to the third post-hole which was on the centre-line and 0.55m from the west end. The hole itself was 0.37m in diameter and narrowed to 0.25m; it was 0.43m deep. A possible interpretation is that the feature, having served its purpose as an open lined pit, was re-used to place at least two posts held in position by the backfilling of the pit. The purpose of the posts is unknown and it may be that the pottery, which ran up to AD *c.*75, came entirely from their filling. Certainly the sherds dated *c.*50–75 came from the north-west post and the other mid-1st-century element could have come from the central post for which a separate layer was not given. The pit may have belonged to Period **1**, but its infilling and the posts could have been part of the Period **2** domestic arrangements.

We move now to the area between the two northern enclosures where there was a possible well, and a length of curved gully conceivably belonging to a structure.

Only part of *F27*, the possible well, was exposed but its pit-like plan shows well on the air photographs. These suggest that what lay in the excavation was less than half. The section (Fig. 16, S31) reveals a pit-like hole 1.45m deep below the stripped surface, with irregular upper sides running down to a bottom part *c.*0.7m wide narrowing to 0.38m at the point when further excavation proved to be impractical. The sides were cut through the natural glacial drift with beds of iron-panning in it which accounts for the profile of the eastern side. The bottom was filled with a highly organic sludge and was clay-lined. The feature had been deliberately backfilled and the topmost fill was probably further infilling of a developing sag as the lower deposits consolidated. The bottom of the backfilling produced a complete Late pre-Roman Iron Age pot with only a little damage, possibly ancient, on the rim (Fig. 32, 5). The collection of sherds recovered points to the feature having been dug and backfilled in pre-Conquest times (27). The apparently narrow bottom section may have widened out to the north and possibly only a third of the feature was available for examination.

The pit seems to have been ill-adapted to have been either a well or to have been dug purely for rubbish disposal: the lack of general rubbish pits, unless all lay in unstripped areas, and the presence of what had been quantities of Period **1** pottery in the ditches before they were recut, points to these having been used instead. The clay lining below the present water-table should mean that, even if the hole had not been properly steyned to form a conventional well, it formed a water point of some kind. Its siting close to the natural focus of the site in the period means that it could have been easily reached from any part of the site.

Further north and next to the north-east enclosure was a short length of curving gully *c.*4.9m in internal diameter: *F22*. Not all the feature lay within the area of excavation

and its southern part was damaged and confused by a Period **2** ditch. The width varied between 0.33m and 0.4m, its depth from 0.05m to *c.*0.15m. The section was rounded and the only hint that this may have belonged to a building was the presence of a post-hole near the west baulk: 0.3m in diameter tapering to 0.06m at the bottom. The dating evidence was limited, but suggests that the feature was backfilled at a time when wheel-thrown non-Roman wares were present on the site (28). The size of any building here was small even on the scale of the smallest at Fengate (Pryor 1984, Structures 1 and 8) and some there should not be counted as having been houses as such (Pryor 1984, Structures 22, 24–5).

Discussion

The description will have shown that there had been many discrete acts only occasionally impinging one upon another: all the structural elements are separate and the only link between the two northern enclosures is the ditch of the southern one. There was only one significant direct relationship between internal features: the subsequent layout of *F45* and *F53* across the line of *F61*. The only other aids in the discussion of the site are the finds, of which the pottery is the more important element. The dating of internal developments in the typical hand-made Late pre-Roman Iron Age wares is basically not known. The assumption that the site appears to have only had a short life, hardly more than 125 years before the Conquest, is based on Brooch 1. The brief discussion of the pottery in the introduction to this Period has drawn attention to the lack of precision in its dating when it comes to deciding which parts of the site are definitely pre-Roman and which are not. It is the non-Roman fine wares especially which make it hard to arrive at firm conclusions about the phasing of parts of Period **1**. However, the collection of brooches recovered offers good evidence that there was sufficient contact with the south-east in the last fifty or so years before the Conquest for it to be probable that pottery had been imported in quantity.

It is assumed that these wares, even if introduced before the Conquest, run on for a few years afterwards until replaced by the developing shell-tempered and grey-gritty wares. How long a time should be allowed is hard to say, but it is assumed that they held sway for at least five to ten years after the arrival of the Romans: the only comparable site is the Longthorpe fortress (Frere and St Joseph 1974) where the ordinary coarse ware was mainly made in the kilns there. The result is that the proper introduction date for the grey-gritty wares may be masked by the peculiar conditions which apply to the Longthorpe site and it is noticeable that products from there seem hardly to have found their way on to ordinary rural sites. Therefore, the wheel-thrown non-Roman wares may have carried on in quantity until *c.* 50/55. However, wheel-thrown shell-tempered wares were found at Longthorpe and there is no reason to suppose that they must have arrived late in the life of that site. As phase **1a** at Monument 97 is characterised by a lack of such wares, it may be that all secure deposits should be regarded as having been closed before *c.*45/50 and *c.*50 may be a safe date for the start of phase **1b**.

The end of the period is also hard to assess. All deposits given to Period **1** containing definite Roman material only have small quantities of sherds in the grey-gritty tradition, and none which can be allocated to the late 1st century. For this reason, Period **1** is closed at AD *c.* 70/80.

The two northern enclosures were the earliest and they may be taken as roughly contemporary because of the way in which they relate to each other: the behaviour of the east side of the western one implies, to some extent, a bounding feature to the east and it looks as though that could only have been the other enclosure. However, the location of a domestic focus to go with these, assuming that there had to be one from the beginning, is in doubt. The excavation hardly extended beyond the area of the three enclosures and the air photographs fail to reveal any sign of a ring as good as those just discernible in the south enclosure (cover; Pl. I). While it is hard to be sure whether more than one was standing at a time, it is equally hard to see more than one being built at a time. It is not certain that there was even an enclosure for the first one when that was put up. On the evidence to hand, it is perhaps best to assume that the South House at least belongs to phase **1a**, but it need not have been put up at the start. However, there is the possible structure, *F22*, next to the north-east enclosure and it may point to a dispersed pattern of occupation. The ambiguity in dating the beginning of phase **1b** is shown by the detail that the south enclosure could, in fact, be earlier than the pottery indicates: the features marking the South House can be taken to have been closed when the building was put up, apart from any intrusions caused by deliberate demolition, but the ditch was open and its major dating evidence may also represent the time after it was dug. This would mean that the act taken to define phase **1b** may be pre-Conquest.

F27, the probable well, should also have been dug at an early date and could have lasted for all of phase **1a** and into phase **1b**, perhaps lasting until the first stages of the North House.

Of the three enclosures, the two northern ones were maintained and modified to some degree or other. The western one had a complicated history down its east side making a strict division between **1a** and **1b** impossible. The south enclosure is confidently given to the later phase: at no point in its circuit was there a hint that there had been a stage contemporary with the other two. These were intimately related to the new plan as the absence of a full closing boundary of the south enclosure shows. The completion of that side is taken to mark the beginning of Period **2** and to have taken place after the round houses had gone. The North and West Houses must wholly or largely belong to phase **1b**, the actual construction of the North House possibly falling in phase **1a**. The possibility that both *F86* and *F87* belong to Period **1** could indicate some refinement in the internal division of the south enclosure. These may have marked either part of a building or a fence. The latter may be preferred as no traces were found to the east or west which could have formed part of a building. *F86* was undated but cannot have been later than Period **2b** and, in fact, there was nothing in Period **2** to which it could be related, only the West House of Period **1**.

That the creation of the south enclosure was not just a tidying up of the domestic arrangements on the site is suggested by the new south-east entrance and the possibility that the site was now integrated into some larger scheme of land management. The distribution of pottery in phase **1b** features shows that the West House was the last focus of activity, rubbish from it finding its way into the nearest main ditches.

II. Period 2 AD c.75/80–4th century

(Fig. 17)

The period is divided into three phases. **2a** is marked by the end of the use of round houses and the closure of the north side of the south enclosure. In **2b** sub-divisions were introduced into the south enclosure and the north-east enclosure was abandoned. **2c** followed the end of the site as a centre of domestic occupation. The ditches were, however, maintained with modifications until an unknown time. At some point a small cemetery was created in the north-west corner of the south enclosure. Only one sherd of pottery can be dated later than AD c.175 and the sherds in the late recuts of the ditches were obviously residual deriving only from the disused site, apart from that one piece.

Phase 2a, AD c.75/80–c.125

The north part of the site

All semblance of keeping the north-west enclosure in use disappeared when a new ditch, with a branch running west and a possible one running east, was laid out along the last traces of the eastern boundary (Fig. 5, S2). The dating of this new system is consistent with the other major changes which can be placed at the beginning of Period **2**. The latest dating, second half of the 1st century, comes from the south end. Otherwise, the only sherds present had been displaced from Period **1** deposits (29). If *F136* was a ditch rather than a pit, it would be another sign that the area round the site was being divided afresh into either paddocks or fields, but the air photographs, the principal source of additional information, do not add further details.

The old north-east enclosure had its ditches completely recut and appears to have been used, but it seems to have been abandoned by the end of phase **2a**. Its earthworks were used only to define activities not involving it directly, the gullies defining it becoming progressively shallower and wandering from the original lines. The north and east sides suffered most from subsequent alterations, leaving the west one only to show the date when the renewal took place. The pottery recovered points to the second half of the 1st century, possibly running into the beginning of the 2nd. As the early line disappeared in the next phase, this date range marks the start of phase **2b**. The same dating for phase **2a** appears in a set of deposits at the bottom of the Period **2** layers on the other sides (30).

Section S4 (Fig. 6) is the most informative about the scale of the recut: a minimum width of 2.5m and depth of 0.75m. It also shows that the initial silting was coming in from the west. However, the bulk of the fill was redeposited scarcely-altered natural which might have come from an internal bank, but as one could not be detected for the Period **1** ditch system, it probably came from digging new ditches and deliberately filling unwanted ones.

In the enclosure were elements of a gully system. The plan (Fig. 17) shows an L-shaped arrangement and the pottery and site records make it certain that there was a major recut which may have been more of a drastic alteration than a renewal. The dating of the earlier part, *F26*, rests on a handful of sherds assignable only generally to the 1st century (31). It is the absence of identifiable later material, or any belonging specifically to the latter part of the 1st century, which suggests that *F26* was either very

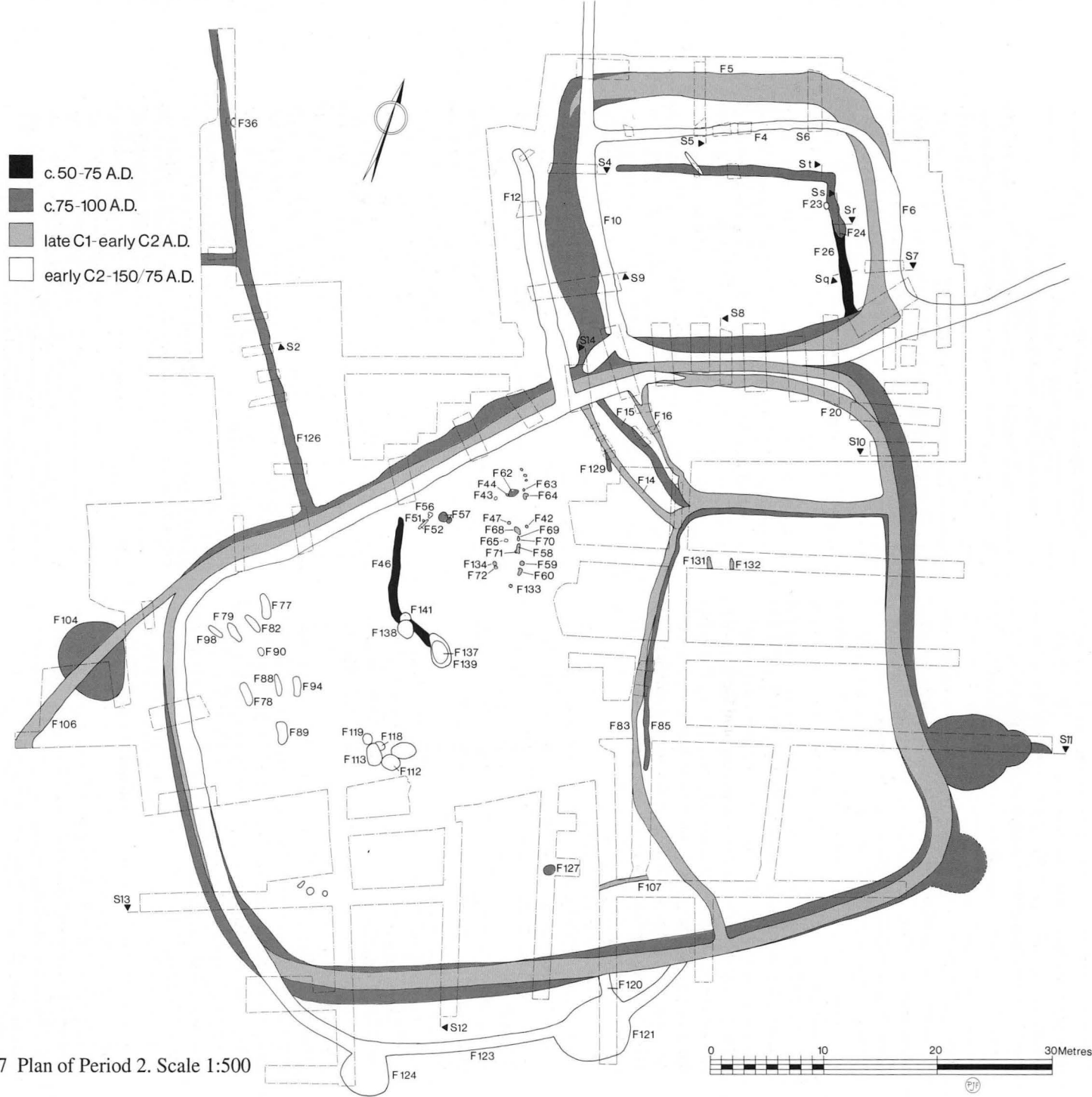


Figure 17 Plan of Period 2. Scale 1:500

early in phase 2a or, possibly, belongs to Period 1. It has been placed here because the later continuation was part of the Period 2 arrangements. The early part (Fig. 18, S32) was shallow for its width, 0.37m against 0.92m, and seems to have silted up naturally.

The second stage, F13, ran east-west with a short return south along F26 to end in a deep and wide hollow. The original configuration of this was obscured by a recut, F24, forming a pit (Fig. 18, S33–S35) filled with a dark loamy soil with an abundant admixture of carbonised grain (see pp 82–3). The new version of the gully was similar to the old one, being c.0.8m wide and 0.34m deep. The section (Fig. 18, S36) shows silting and sandy deposits apparently deriving from the north side. The dating evidence would allow the new gully to be put into Period 1 except for the pottery in the pit-like recut which points to phase a of Period 2 (32). It may be that F26 was dug in Period 1b and F13 was cut at the very beginning of Period 2a.

Looking at the enclosure as a whole, the south-western part of the area could have been made into a yard with a reserved strip along the north side, c.5.75m wide, and a narrower one, c.2m wide, along the eastern side. The early version of the gully ran into the south ditch of the enclosure, but this was changed to leave a gap of c.7m, here. There was another gap at the west end, this time only 3m wide. Without any clue for the form of the physical barriers accompanying these gullies, no interpretation is possible.

The absence of pottery belonging specifically to the later 1st and early 2nd century is a guarantee that it had been abandoned in phase 2b as there is sufficient in later stages of the enclosure's own ditches. Two undated features were stratigraphically later than the internal gully: a possible post-hole, F23, and a slot lying diagonally across the northern stretch of F13. The former was 0.45m in diameter and only 0.05m deep (33). The slot was 2.5m long, 0.4m wide at most and 0.26m deep. It contained only Late pre-Roman Iron Age pottery which must be residual (34). These features are the only signs that there may have been a structure in the enclosure and the very shallow depth of F23 could show that most of the evidence for a building has been ploughed away.

The South Enclosure

The chief changes here were that the circular houses disappeared and that the northern circuit was closed by a ditch running across the space between the two earlier northern enclosures. The dating of these changes is shown, firstly, by the earliest main element in the pottery in the new ditch as well as that in the recut part of the rest of the circuit. Secondly, the earliest feature in the interior cut across the site of the West House.

Around the whole of the circuit of the enclosure the pottery belongs to the second half of the 1st century with an occasional tendency to be late first just running into the 2nd. The east ditch had noticeably fewer sherds in it than elsewhere and also had a high residual content of Period 1 material. The west ditch, round the north-west corner, was consistent in its dating and contained more pottery (35). This discrimination in the ceramic distribution may have important consequences for the layout of the interior of the enclosure. The plan, Fig. 17, shows that only the north-western part was completely stripped, the rest being trenched. Hence the intensity of occupation in the eastern part cannot be judged by the density of features. The fall-off in pottery disposal here may mean that the activity was focused at the western end. But it can also be argued that buildings in the eastern area may have forced outdoor activities to the other end with the consequent disposal there of rubbish from the eastern part.

The sections (Figs 8, 9, S10–S14) show that the initial Period 2 ditch was formidable in part, ranging in size, where this can be estimated, from 4.5m wide by 1.5m deep (S11) to 2.1m by 0.76 (S10). The apparent shallowing-out to the north along the east side is matched by what happened later in Period 2 where there was a series of shallow cuts in the filling of the Period 1 ditch along the near side of the north-east enclosure (Fig. 7, S8). None had the width and depth to match the other parts of the circuit. The only one to have the requisite pottery lay at the bottom of the sequence (36) and would have been 1.4m wide at most and only 0.57m deep. Later recuts had removed a lot of the evidence and the phase 2a ditch of the south enclosure could only have run up to the north-east enclosure, the small ditch noted possibly being phase 2b or later, but filled with residual pottery. This is a problem which becomes acute and is discussed below. The closing of the north side and the redefinition of the ditch elsewhere raises the question of what happened to the Period 1b south-east entrance. The pottery from the new course of the ditch found in the southernmost machine trench belongs to phase 2b suggesting that the first entrance was kept in phase 2a.

Little was found in the enclosure to produce a coherent plan. Only one feature belonged unequivocally to phase 2a: F46, a gully running parallel with, and just to the west of, the defunct Period 1 gully, F61. It was 0.7m wide and no more than 0.3m deep. F46 cut the West House, F53, turning slightly east to run along the inside of the ring. The south end of the gully was lost under a pit-cluster and the north end lay 1.25m from the edge of the latest version of the north boundary ditch; the original gap may have been as much as 2m and the gully may have ended against the toe of an internal bank. Most of the sherds in the feature were residual as it was demonstrably later than F53. However, one layer contained sherds dating to the later part of the 1st century and possibly later (37). The only other feature which could be contemporary was a short length of

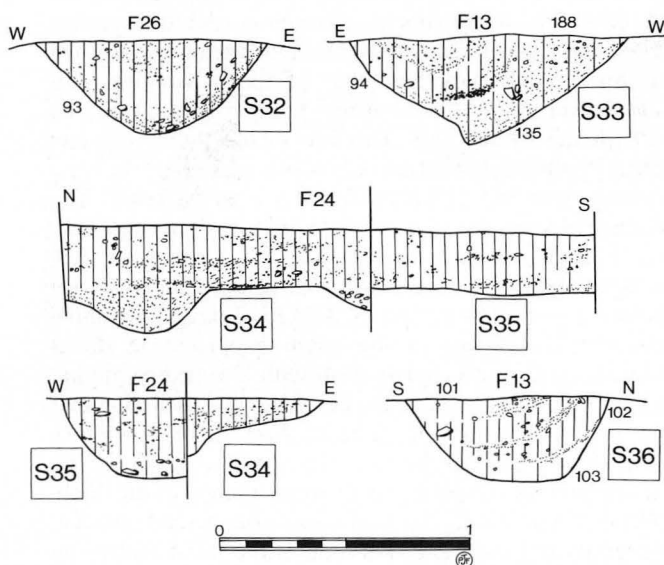


Figure 18 Sections S32–36

gully of even slighter section, *F129*, 0.48m wide and 0.28m deep. Very little survived the destruction caused by a later gully. If it had joined the north ditch of the enclosure, it would have been no more than 7.25m long. However, at the bottom of the later gully was a slight deepening stopping short of the main ditch by about 1m, thought to be a trace of *F129*, and, like *F46*, may have left a gap of c.2m between it and the phase **2a** ditch. The dating is limited to one sherd probably of the second half of the 1st century (38).

The absence of any obvious house belonging to Period **2** may be more apparent than real, for between the two gullies was a collection of post-holes, not all excavated. Those which produced dating evidence were very few and the sherds may date demolition rather than construction. Only four had any pottery. The earliest was late 1st century, possibly running into the 2nd; one had early 2nd-century material and pottery from the fourth ran on towards the middle of the 2nd century (39). Assuming that a house stood between the two gullies, the lack of a comprehensible plan may be due to two, possibly three, factors: two furrows ran through the area which was further confused by the marks of a modern root-crop. Also, ploughing could have removed all but the deepest post-hole: three of the holes were less than 0.1m deep and those whose dimensions were not recorded may have been similar scoops. If the apparent lines on the east side of the old North House have any significance, there may have been more than one period or phase. The rubbish thrown away in phase **2b**, if pottery is an indicator, could favour a house lying next to the north ditch as the Closure Deposit (see p. 57) came from that.

F51 contained an infant burial (Inhumation **B** p. 81) which may have been placed there when a post was removed, but the hole may have been especially dug for it. Only scraps of the skeleton were recovered and the burial could have been displaced when a post was removed.

Little other incident datable to phase **2a** was found and it consisted of pits: the north and south clusters of pits cutting through the gully of the West House; one, *F127*, cut through the ring of the South House and contained pottery of the second half of the 1st century (40).

The two groups of pits cutting *F53* are introduced now because of their dating evidence, although there may be another explanation both for their appearance and for their true date. Neither group provided convincing evidence for having been used for rubbish disposal: all were shallow with low quantities of pottery and bone, the pottery being almost all small sherds. It will be seen (41) that the dating is fairly uniformly that of phase **2a**, being confined mainly to the second half of the 1st century with a few pieces possibly carrying over into the 2nd. The high residual content from Period **1** is perhaps not surprising as both groups cut through *F53*. There are three layers which, however, give pause: the top ones of *F113* and *F139* which date to the earlier 2nd century and late 1st-mid 2nd century respectively. These could be argued away as infilling of developing hollows. But there is a group of pottery in *F112* specifically late 1st/early 2nd-century and *F112* was not the latest pit in its group. The very low count of such pottery in both groups of pits should point to an equally low incidence in the area where they were dug. If the latest pottery dates all the pits, they should be phase **2b**, but there was an absence of pit clusters in all other phases of the site. One sherd of late medieval, or slightly later date, was found

in the topmost layer of *F137* and it is hard to accept that this must date the pit, let alone the whole collection: there is no guarantee that all the topsoil had been removed before excavation began. There is also the matter of the two infants buried low down in the fill of *F139* (see p. 81).

A small patch of early topsoil survived near the centre of the West House in what might have been a wear hollow in the building. Its pottery belongs to phase **a** of Period **2** (42).

Phase **2b**, AD c.125–c.175 at the latest

That there was such a phase can be seen from the pottery which, from its quantity, must have been used on the site, but it is not easy to define the plan. The main ditch of the south enclosure was recut and partly remodelled and the original south-east entrance probably done away with, although there is no sign of where its successor lay. The first and second set of minor ditches in the enclosure belong to this phase and the old north-east enclosure was abandoned. As for the house which may have stood next to the north ditch, the limited pottery recovered from its post-holes (39) would suit its demolition at the end of this phase.

The south enclosure had its east side redefined by a new ditch along the inner edge of the old one (Fig. 8, S10), c.1.9m wide by 0.7m deep near the north end. Like the phase **2a** ditch, this seems to have been shallow at its north end, deepening to the south where, at the north side of the first entrance (Fig. 8, S11), it was c.2.7m wide and 0.8m deep. However, in general, the refurbishment was not as strongly marked as earlier ones. An aberration in the circuit occurred at the east end of the south side. Here, a set of stakes or piles was found driven along the north side of the new ditch and preserved because of the high water-table. Time and the size of the trench limited detailed excavation and it is not certain if both sides were revetted. It should be significant, however, that the line of stakes was where the new ditch cut across the back-fill of the abandoned south side of the old south-east entrance. The stakes were surely an attempt to hold back the unconsolidated fill rather than to support unstable natural: no other ditch produced evidence for stake supports for its sides.

The north ditch produced the bulk of the evidence for the date of the abandonment of the site as a domestic centre. The ditch was afflicted by the problem common to the rest of the Period **2** ditches: that of the separation of a succession of late cuts from those belonging to the occupation of the site. The late ditches, save for one deposit, obviously contain only residual material deriving mainly from the previous ditch-lines encountered. The dating evidence for all post-phase **2a** layers falls unevenly into a range of deposits covering the late 1st and early 2nd century, others which are early 2nd-century and very few pointing to a date as late as AD175. Taking only ditch elements belonging to the south enclosure in direct succession to those already dealt with (35) and beginning again at the north end of the east side, and assuming that the next ditch was the same as *F20*, there is a fairly consistent dating to the late 1st/early 2nd century. The distribution of the pottery is of some interest as the ditch, where it ran round the north-east corner, had residual material only and there was little of the latest pottery on the west or south sides (43).

It is in this phase that the first stage in the development of other enclosures both inside and out can be seen. *F126*, along the west side of the long-disused north-west

enclosure, was assigned to phase **2a**, but it may be that the pottery dating is misleading as there was a hint that it cut an early version of the new north ditch of the south enclosure.

The anomalies on the south side of the site need to be discussed; for, despite hints of an earlier date, they make best sense in phase **2b**. The first feature, clearly seen on the air photographs (cover; Pl. I), lay east of the north side of the probable original south-east entrance. It shows as a large circular hollow, 6 to 7m in diameter, which was examined in a machine cut. The section (Fig. 8, S11) shows a flat bottomed hollow, going down to the underlying Oxford Clays, whose filling was cut by what is taken to be the phase **2b** ditch. The pottery dating is not secure, the layers being recorded as the machine made the section. The final fills in the hollow belong to the late 1st and early 2nd centuries (44) and provide one of the few pieces of evidence for the beginning of phase **2b**. The relationship of the hollow with two features lying further east and described as pits is not certain as the hollow could have eroded into the fill of the nearest one: the evidence will allow the hollow to have been open. The pottery from the pits is earlier, not later than the late 1st century, than that of the hollow — the sparse number of sherds not allowing a closer determination (45).

The hollow may have been dug for the kind of earth it could provide, but may also have been created to provide a water supply. Since the filling in of *F27* in Period **1** there are no apparent water-points on the site. Few of the ditches seem to have effectively penetrated the water-table, and, although parts of the main south ditch certainly did, there is no such obvious source of water for phase **2a**. The hollow, placed as it was immediately to the north of the entrance, may have served. The date of the backfill suggests that the hollow had gone out of use before or at the beginning of phase **2b** and may have been filled with the spoil from the ditch dug then across the south-east entrance.

This hollow was not alone: three more were located in the excavation and their character is confirmed by the air photographs. They were on the line of gullies running round the outside of the south enclosure. Their pottery was sparse and suggests that they probably post-dated the one just discussed. Their siting is a problem, the excavation not being extensive enough to locate any centres of activity outside the main enclosure. One, *F104*, immediately to north-west of the enclosure, was itself cut through by a gully *F106*, its pottery fitting phase **2b**. But, as in other instances, it may not actually be dated by that (46). The relationship of the gully with the main ditch is not certain beyond the detail that it does not seem to suit Period **2a** or earlier and not certainly phase **2c**. The difficulty in periodising peripheral features is demonstrated by these two: the ditch cutting through the top of the hollow had earlier pottery than that from the bottom of the hollow itself. As all the disturbances to the major lines of the ditches along the south side can be seen to suit phases **2a** and **2b**, *F106* is given to phase **2c**.

The air photographs show that *F106*, having changed course at the limit of the excavation, ran southwards to curve east about 15m south of the enclosure and then to run back in a long arc towards the north-east. None of this part of its course was examined and it cannot be proved that it was linked by two branch gullies running to two more hollows just to the south of the main enclosure. The western hollow, *F124*, may have been cut by a phase **2c** ditch. The

dating is unhelpful and should point to only residual pottery being present (47). However, if the air photographs are to be believed, the possible phase **2c** ditch, *F123*, continued on its course almost parallel with the enclosure to meet another hollow, *F121*, which had a short branch, *F120*, running into the main ditch. *F120* is said to have been definitely cut by the latest version of the main ditch, even if its relationship with the hollow and the other gully was not explored. *F123* seems to have run out of the east side of the hollow to return to the main enclosure. The dating from this hollow and the ditch running north was to the second half of the 1st century (48) which seems to have little relevance to phase **2a**. The ambivalence in direct relationships coupled with ambiguous dating makes these features hard to relate to a systematic development; they better suit the less definite phase **2c** plan. The purpose of these hollows must have been either as borrow pits or as holes for water as they were too large to be ordinary rubbish pits.

In the south enclosure was a set of gullies which, in their earliest form, defined two separate areas at the east end, the southern one being the larger. While it might be thought that this arrangement belongs to phase **2c**, defining the end of a paddock, field or enclosure lying over the now defunct north-east enclosure, there were no ditches running east to match. The latest stage of the minor east-west ditch, which joined the main east ditch, ran along *F16* into the phase **2b** main north ditch. The multiple forms of the northern part and the dual southern stretch of the west boundary shows a recurring need to redefine the eastern part of the main enclosure.

The southern part is the easiest to deal with: first comes *F85* and then its replacement, *F83*. *F85* stopped c.14m short of the southern ditch and all that survived has a basically slight section, 0.38m wide by 0.13m deep. The pottery from it may run into the 2nd century. The lack of a positive 2nd-century content is of little moment as only the bottom of the feature survived (49). The feature can, perhaps, be read against *F15* in the northern part of the enclosure, the earliest of the three gullies there, its dating being consistent in the three samples, hardly running into the 2nd century (50). The line could have been first laid out in phase **2a**, but the main emphasis of the arrangement is definitely on phase **2b**.

What succeeded this plan allows more than one interpretation and the scheme presented is based on the pottery. The next stage was the replacement of *F15* by *F14*, c.0.35/40m wide by 0.05m deep, and of *F85* by *F83*, right through to the main south ditch. The pottery dating moves on, not only into the first half of the 2nd century but also, based on three pots, to the middle of the 2nd century at the earliest (51). Two were scraps of Nene Valley colour-coat not normally dated before c.150 and the third was represented by several sherds from a pie dish (185, Fig.42) which appears not to have become common until the third quarter of the 2nd century. These pieces are discussed in relation to the terminal date of occupation on the site. The incomplete stripping of the site at the south end of these ditches hid the relationship of a nearly east-west length of gully, *F107*, 0.4m wide by 0.25m deep, on a course which might have joined *F85*. Its dating would suit that (52).

The south-east internal enclosure may have contained a building of which only two small slots, *F131* and *F132* were found. Both lay north-south and the first was c.0.37m wide and 0.18m deep. In it were two post-holes, one at its

end and the other partly hidden under the baulk. The northern one was oval, 0.36m by 0.3m and 0.14m deep. The partly visible one seems to have been about 0.25m in diameter and was 0.17m deep. Immediately to the north of the end of the gully was another post-hole 0.3m by 0.23m in plan and 0.16m deep. No post-pipes were recorded. *F131* produced the dating evidence for the pair. It was meagre, but pointed to the late 1st/early 2nd century and may have been residual (53). The second feature, *F132*, was 0.46m wide and 0.14m deep. There were no signs of any post-holes. If these elements marked the presence of a major building, its external focus would have been in the centre and west part of the enclosure and could account for the distribution of the pottery belonging to the period. It may be significant that, outside the major deposits in the north ditch, the only other latest sherds (51) should have come from the minor ditches separating the eastern part of the main enclosure from the western one.

The final stage was the redefinition of the north-east sub-enclosure, *F16*. This seems to have been done without reference to the southern one, probably showing that the latter had gone out of use. The north end of the gully ran into the phase **2b** version of the main north ditch. There was a suggestion of some kind of gate facing south-west, the traces consisting of two shallow post-holes recorded in plan only. These lay at each end of a narrowing in the gully, possibly due to a furrow here (see Figs 3, 17), but could equally be a reflection of something aberrant in the ditch-line at this point. The pottery places the gully in phase **2b**: there was a heavy emphasis on the late 1st and early 2nd century (54), a condition which should not suit phase **2c**, but the high residual factor probably means that the feature should be given to that.

The phase **2b** activities in the south enclosure may have been accompanied by others in the area of the north-east enclosure, but, as that was divided physically from the centre of the site, the dating evidence is not good. The relationships rely entirely on what may have been direct associations with the shifts of the west boundary of the sub-enclosures further south. The earliest of these, *F15*, is approximately in line with the original west side of the smaller enclosure which had by now become a wide and shallow hollow (Fig. 7, S9), probably finally deliberately backfilled as part of the next change. The pottery from this was not as late as that of the Closure Deposit which would suit its disappearance before the end of the phase. *F12* (Fig. 7, S9) was in line with *F14* but was more substantial at 2m wide and 0.68m deep, suggesting that it had been dug to provide an effective barrier between two fields or paddocks attached to the main site. The pottery is earlier than that in the last fills of the original ditch (56). *F12* itself had an ambiguous junction with the main ditch, the south end having probably been partly cleaned out at least once afterwards. The next version was a new ditch, *F10*, along the east side of the original ditch here and on the same relative scale as *F12* being c.2m wide and c.0.6m deep. Its relationship with the main ditch was obscured by phase **2c**. The pottery contains much residual material (57) and, like *F16* to the south of the main ditch, the feature is assigned to phase **2c**.

The last act seems to have been deliberate abandonment accompanied by the removal of all structures and the dumping of the bulk of the pottery still in use on the site (see p. 57). The collection recovered was large enough for a reasonably close assessment of its date to be

made: between c.125 and 150, which is consistent with the samian from the site (see p. 78). However, the few sherds of pottery which are best dated after 150 ((49), (55) and (58)) provide pause for thought. While the colour-coat would suit the second half of the 2nd century, as would the pie dish, there are not enough pieces to allow a date after 175, even if as late as that. The relatively small amount of Nene Valley Grey Ware (p. 70) points in the same direction and the end of occupation should lie at the earlier end of the date range of these aberrant pieces. An end date of 175 would easily accommodate all items. The stark change on the site is emphasised by the one sherd of Late Roman Nene Valley colour-coat (67).

Phase 2c, after AD c.175

This is the hardest part of the history of the site both to discuss and understand. Much hinges on the correct assessment of the dating of the small cemetery in the north-west corner of the old south enclosure.

The extraneous ditch *F123* was noted at its west end as being later than the main ditch. The limited evidence suggests that it was either coeval with *F121* or earlier: no ditch was noted as having run across the top of *F121*. The branch ditch, *F120*, running north from the pit-like *F121* could have been contemporary with that, but was found to have been cut by the latest version of the main ditch. *F120* was discussed in phase **2b** but it was pointed out that there is no guarantee that it could not properly belong to phase **2c**. Unfortunately, some associations may have been missed during the site recording. There is, however, direct evidence at the west end that the main gully at least can be put into phase **2c**. The dating evidence, starting at the latest version of the west side ditch (Fig. 8, S13), moves backwards the further along the course it occurs (59). This is possibly a false image and has been referred to above ((47) and (48)), but despite the definite shift forward in the dating from the section in the west side (Fig. 8, S13), the phasing of the site relies entirely on the intellectual exercise of equating successive stages of ditch seen in disparate sections. Greater faith can be placed upon the initial equations as there is less chance of error and the better quality of the dating leads to confidence. But once new pottery ceased to arrive and the site continued to receive attention, there is a danger of incorrectly assigning phases to partly observed acts in a succession of unconnected sections.

The pits themselves did not yield any evidence to show why they had been dug. *F124* is more properly described as being a hollow as it was only 0.4m deep and filled with gravelly soil becoming darker towards the bottom, but it may be that this was the final fill of a consolidation hollow of an undetected feature. The crop-mark was dominant enough for this to have been the case: *F121*, making a stronger crop-mark, proved to be over a metre in depth. Its sides were nearly vertical with no sign of any steyning.

The section at the north side of the original entrance into the south enclosure (Fig. 8, S11) shows two late ditches. These date to the same period as the backfill of the delve (compare (60) with (44)), thus showing that all the sherds must be residual. The same conditions should apply to the final fills of the phase **2b** ditch crossing the Period **I** ditch where that turned north to form part of the south-east entrance (61). The single late ditch on the south side of the main enclosure (Fig. 8, S12) may have been deliberately filled and it is tempting to equate this with the earlier of the

two ditches noted in the east side (Fig. 8, S11), there being the same number of cuts here as in the southern ditch *F123*. The final cut in the northernmost section of the west ditch produced only residual sherds, of the second half of the 1st century; the earlier ditch contained material belonging quite specifically to the first third of the 2nd century (62).

The main section through the joint ditch between the south and the north-east enclosure best illustrates the presence of phase 2c (Fig. 7, S8). All the early cuts have been assigned on purely rational grounds, yet there remain three unallocated at the top of the sequence. The latest pottery from the whole of this section belonged to the late 1st century and occurred in the bottom of one of these (63). The pottery from the final versions in the two sections to the west ran into the middle of the 2nd century (64) thus displaying the unevenness of the distribution of the sherds.

Two late ditches can be seen in the north and east side of the old north-east enclosure. While these are separate on the north side, *F5* lying along the south edge of the old ditch, and *F4* further south (Fig. 6, S5), they run into approximately the same line on the east and it is not certain which is which (Fig. 7, S7). The matter is complicated as *F5* itself seems to follow an earlier 'late' ditch with late 1st-century pottery in it and so might be equated with the lowest ditch element belonging to this phase of the site's history in the east side (Fig. 7, S7). That the latest pottery was in the lowest of the elements shows how little reliance can be placed on pure allocation according to dating evidence (65). The latest version in the east side (Fig. 7, S7), called *F6*, may have run on to become an unnumbered ditch in the next main section (Fig. 8, S10) in the same relative position.

Consequently, despite the question of which equations may or may not be correct, essentially the same kind of residual dating is present in phase 2c features (66).

The only pottery post-dating the middle of the 2nd century came from the latest layer at the junction of *F126* with the north ditch of the south enclosure. There was one sherd of Late Nene Valley colour-coat (67) (198, Fig. 43). It is difficult to justify a long continuation of a field system on the basis of one sherd, but its value is perhaps best related to the only other major event occurring on the site after it had ceased to be a centre of domestic life. Field walking round the site failed to produce any sign that there had merely been a shift in the occupational focus.

The Cemetery

Nine discrete graves were found lying in the north-west corner of the south enclosure. All were inhumations and none had grave-goods. Their orientation, essentially north-south, was based on the line of the north ditch of the enclosure. There were four graves in a row at the north end, then a row of three with an infant burial between the two rows. There was a single burial at the south end. They all lay in part of the site which was completely stripped for excavation and, unless any had been wholly ploughed away, all the cemetery was excavated. The grave-fills produced scraps of pottery, none later than the early 2nd century (68). The skeletal remains were reported on by the late Calvin Wells (see p. 80). One of the implications of the siting of the cemetery is that the area should have been under grass and the mounds at least of previous graves would have been obvious to the diggers of the next, there being no suggestion of crowding. The description of the graves is from the north and working from west to east in the two rows found.



Plate III Burial 1

Grave 1, *F98*

(Fig. 19, B1, Pl. III)

Female, aged 30 to 40 years.

The grave cut was aligned north-west to south-east with the head at the north-west end. Her body had been placed on her back with her arms down the sides, but the lower arms and hands crossing over her stomach. The grave was very shallow, the burial being disturbed during the machine-stripping of the site. For this reason the full dimensions of the cut could not be established: the legs below the knees had been destroyed.

Grave 2, *F79*

(Fig. 19, B2, Pl. IV)

Female, aged 23 to 30 years.

Her body was laid, fully extended, on her back, the head tilted up and slightly to the right. Her right arm lay down the side with her hand turned to lie on the pelvis. The left arm was flexed so that the lower arm lay across the stomach. The left foot was turned inwards. The grave cut measured 1.9m by 0.6m and was only 0.15m deep at the head end rising to 0.12m at the feet, there being a step about half-way along. The sides were vertical.

Grave 3, *F82*

(Fig. 19, B3, Pl. V)

Male aged 14 to 15 years.

This grave was parallel to the last. His body was laid on his back, fully extended. The head was turned to the right and the position of the arms showed that the shoulders were hunched so that the arms lay over the sides of the chest and thorax. Although the hands had not survived, the arms also showed a shift suggesting that they had been crossed over the pelvis.

Six nails were found in the grave. One had fallen into the skull cavity, another lay in the left eye-socket and a third was next to the skull. Two were near the feet, one on either side, while the remaining one was next to the right upper arm. The excavator noted that none came from the grave-fill itself. One piece of burnt stone was set upright immediately behind the head. The remains suggest some form of protection for the corpse. The layout of the nails does not suit a formal coffin and some form of wooden cover over the body made of two planks with battens nailed on at each end would fit the evidence. The stone may have been introduced

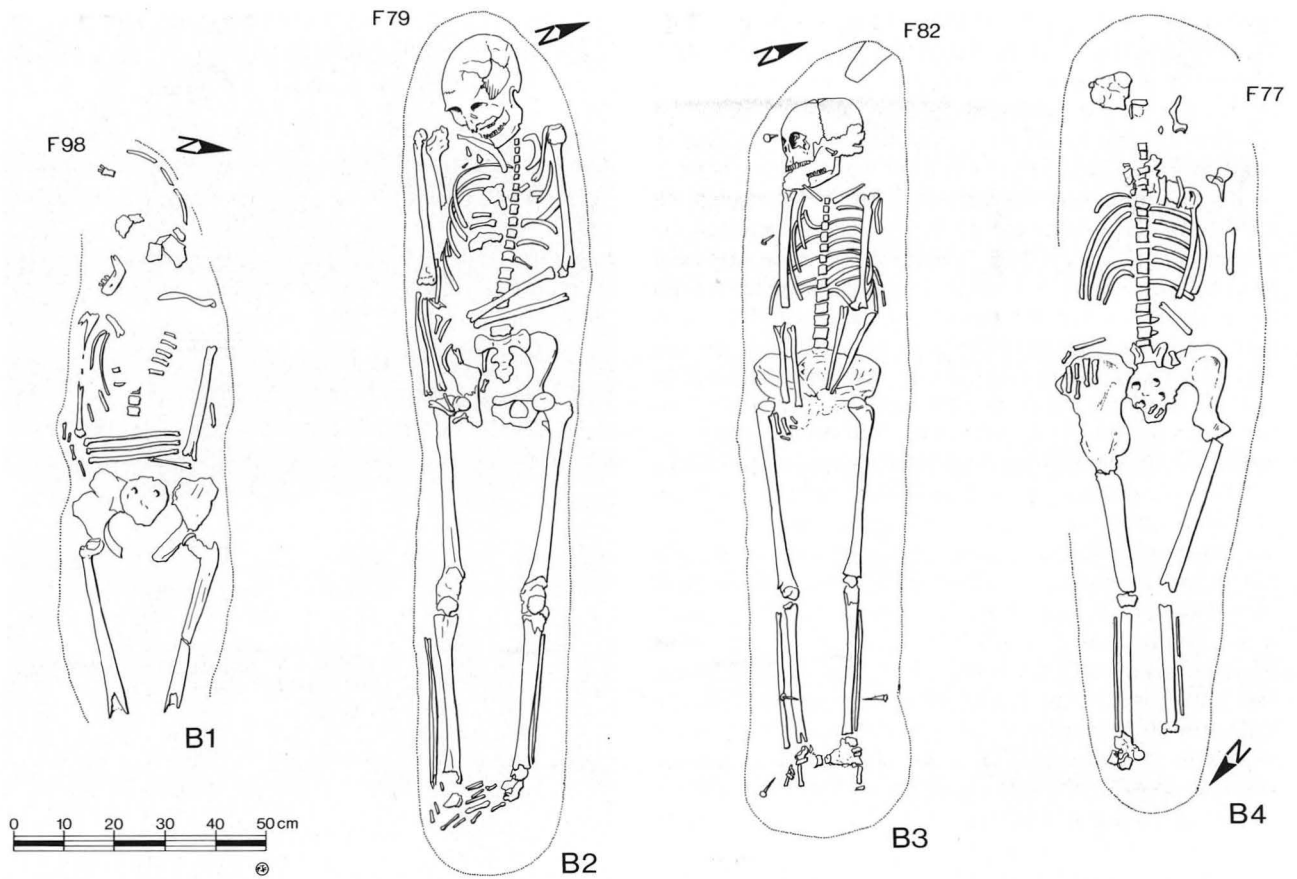


Figure 19 Plan of burials 1-4. Scale 1:15



Plate IV Burial 2



Plate V Burial 3

as a prop so that a cover would not lie directly on the face of the deceased and this would have allowed the head to fall when disintegration had proceeded far enough. The grave cut was 1.96m long, 0.52m wide in the centre and 0.19m deep with nearly vertical sides.

Grave 4, F77

(Fig. 19, B4, Pl. VI)

Female aged 40 to 50 years.

The body was laid out on her back in an extended position, with the head in the opposite direction from the rest. The skull was badly damaged and much was missing. Similarly, little remained of the arms and there is only a hint that the left one may have run down the side of the corpse. In the ribs was found a hydatid cyst (see p. 80). The grave was too shallow for the size of the original cut to be determined.



Plate VI Burial 4



Plate VII Burial 5



Plate VIII Burial 6, detail of the foot end showing position of the nails

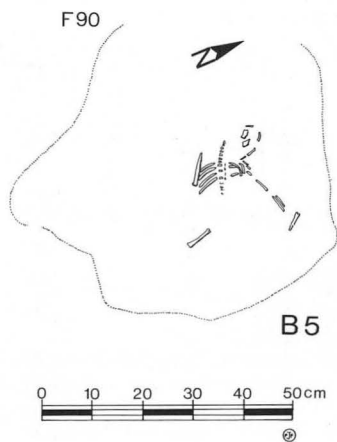


Figure 20 Plan of burial 5. Scale 1:15

Grave 5, F90

(Fig. 20, B5, Pl. VII)

Infant, sex not determinable.

Lying between the two rows of the cemetery, a shallow hollow c. 1m by 0.64m was aligned, as far as can be told, with the central graves to the north. However, the depth was such that no good edges could be established and the excavator noted that there was a separate part at the north end c. 0.69m by 0.63m which may have been the grave proper, the rest being a pocket of natural grey silts. The body had been laid on its back, but the remains were so badly preserved that little else can be said about it.

Grave 6, F78

(Fig. 21, B6, Pls VIII, IX)

Male aged 27 to 33 years.

He was placed on his back in an extended position with his head facing left at the north end. The feet were splayed so that they lay at the edges of the grave. The arms were flexed across the stomach. The grave cut itself was c. 1.95m long and was c. 0.43m wide. There were two features to suggest that the body had been placed in a coffin. Each end of the grave widened so that the end faces were nearly straight and then curved round in a bulge on each side to meet the main edges of the grave. The north end was 0.7m wide at most and there was a space of 0.25m between the end and the top of the skull. The width across the foot end was 0.53m and the feet almost touched the end of the cut. At each end were found nails arranged in pairs such that, on each side, one had its point facing upwards and the other was more or less horizontal and faced inwards, except for the horizontal one at the west side of the feet, and this had its point facing outwards.

The four at each end fall into such a definite arrangement that it is almost certain that they had been used in making a wooden container. The description of the grave-fill mentions two more nails at the foot end and at a higher level with the heads uppermost and with the points almost exactly over the junction position of the two lower nails. How much higher these extra nails may have been is not clear, but, if they had been part of the upper wooden structure, it must have been shallow and no more than c. 0.15m in original depth as the grave was only 0.2m deep. Another nail with its head uppermost was found north of the skull and in the centre of the end of the grave. All three could have fallen during the decay of the wood, but the precise record of how those at the foot end lay suggests that they had not been displaced significantly from their original position. The grave fill could have consolidated, allowing the upper nails to drop a little but hardly, one would have thought, more than about 0.05m.

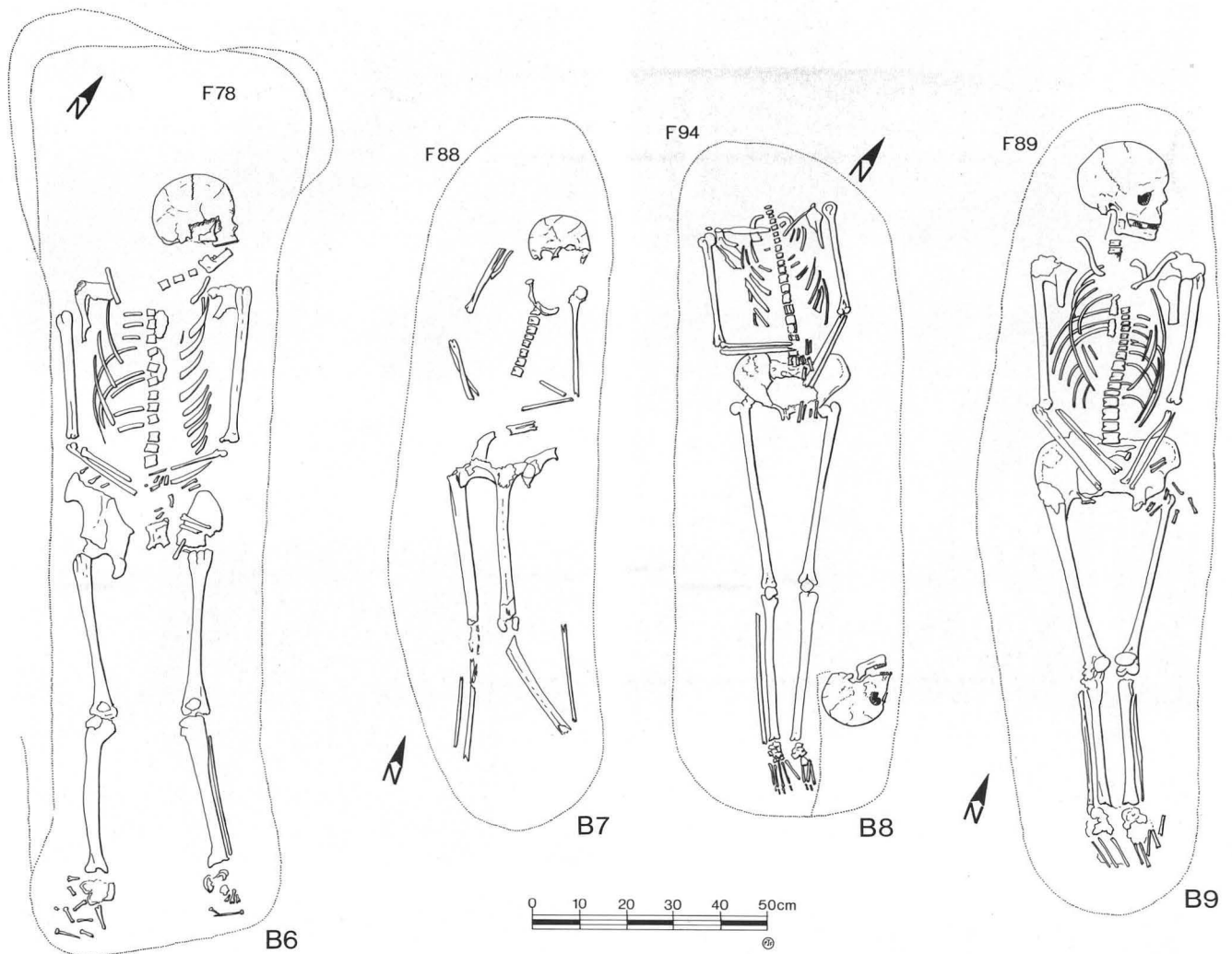


Figure 21 Plan of burials 6–9. Scale 1:15

The whole can be reconstructed to form a very shallow coffin and this may account for the head of the body being laid so very definitely on its side. The form of the coffin can be partly reconstructed: the nails pointing upwards may have passed through a batten lying under two planks, the other nails in the pairs would probably have served to fix the sides to the base. The upper nails probably fastened planks to the sides to seal the corpse. The whole of the box so formed would have been about 1.7m by c.0.43m inside in plan. The widening at each end of the grave may have been cut to allow the box to have been lowered with more dignity by using ropes. This is a common modern practice but, with a grave of such a shallow depth as this, such a refinement seems a little unnecessary.

Grave 7, F88
(Fig. 21, B7, Pl. X)
Female aged 35 to 55 years.

The grave lay at the bottom of a medieval furrow and the position of one of the leg bones showed that there had been some disturbance. She lay on her back with her head tilted forward and partly left. The arms were flexed and set slightly akimbo, the hands possibly meeting over the stomach. The legs were presumably once parallel. The grave cut, as it survived, was 1.99m long by 0.57m wide and was 0.32m deep at the head end. The bottom sloped up so that the grave was only 0.21m deep at the feet. Unlike the other graves, which had trampled spillage at the bottom, this grave seems to have been dug out carefully to expose the natural gravel on which the corpse was laid.

Grave 8, F94
(Fig. 21, B8, Pl. XI)
Female aged 45 to 55 years.

She was laid on her back with arms flexed, the right crossing over the stomach and the left running across the pelvis. The head had been severed and placed to the left of the feet with the cranium facing the bottom end of the grave. The cut for this was 1.88m long and 0.35m deep. The width at the shoulders was 0.69m, and 0.41m at the feet.

Grave 9, F89
(Fig. 21, B9, Pl. XII)
Male aged about 35 years.

He was laid on his back and in an extended position. The head tilted slightly to the left and the arms were slightly flexed so that the hands crossed over the pelvis. The grave cut was 2m long, c.0.89m wide and 0.32m deep. The edges were nearly vertical as was the case with all those graves whose sides survived in a sufficient state of preservation for this to be noted.

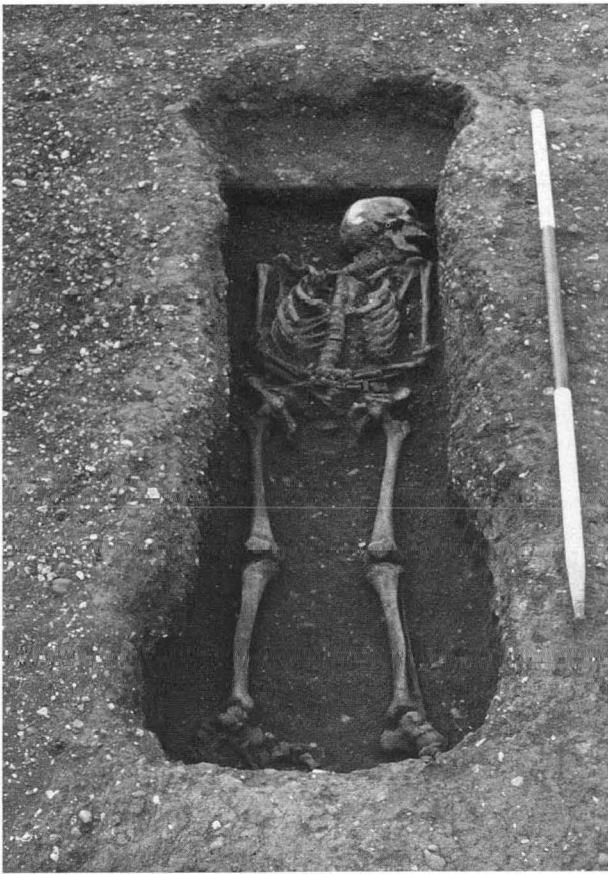


Plate IX Burial 6



Plate X Burial 7



Plate XI Burial 8



Plate XII Burial 9

Discussion

There was nothing in the graves themselves to allow them to be dated later than the early 2nd century. However, the uniform inhumation practice is unusual for such a date and the occurrence of a decapitation so early may be doubted. In short, the only dating evidence is residual pottery deriving from a long-abandoned site. The chief factor in the dating of the cemetery must be the rite used and this would normally point to the later Roman period. The western cemetery at Cirencester had six decapitations in it (McWhirr *et al.* 1982, 103–5, 108–9) and the date of the whole graveyard fits in well with the general 4th-century date which Clarke's analysis of cemeteries indicates (Clarke 1979, table 40). Lankhills itself produced seven such graves and six of them were later than 350 (Clarke 1979, 372). A recent discussion on decapitated and prone burials has tended to confirm the late date (Harman *et al.* 1981, 159–68), but a blanket assumption that all must be so late is to be avoided (Harman *et al.* 1981, 166). Thus the nature of the burial rites coupled with the limited ceramic evidence (67) hang together and the graveyard provides the context for the pottery which would otherwise be hard to explain.

The physical expression of the rite practised here is obvious, but there is one feature of the site which is less easy to deal with. Attention has been drawn to the north and south pit clusters in Period 2 (p. 24). Comment was made to the effect that these were unusual as there were so few pits anywhere else on the site. The pottery in the pits was as residual as that found in the graves. There were nine graves and there were nine pits. The graves divide into two groups: the north row and the baby; the south row and the single burial. The north group of pits is made up of four, which matches the north group of graves and the south group of pits contains five, the same as the number of graves at the south end of the cemetery.

The contents of the pits produced nothing significant in the way of food bones. But it is a possibility that the equation of pits with graves is correct and that they are a physical expression of part of the grave-side ceremonies, perhaps involving a ritual meal requiring a pit for the disposal of food remains which could be regarded as partially dedicated. Food such as bread and beer would

hardly be expected to leave much trace. The siting of the pits is no handicap to the suggestion. The graves are in the corner of the enclosure, and may have been more apparently so if there had been an internal bank, any group of mourners would have had to stand basically south or east of a grave. Any meal partaken would presumably have been next to the growing number of graves and, therefore, any groups of disposal pits are likely to have developed on the outer edge of that area. In that sense, these pits can be regarded as being intimately related to the graves, providing the suggestion that there may have been such a relationship is allowed to stand.

However, a simple explanation of this sort may be out of place: *F139*, one of the pits in the north group, contained the skeletons of two infants (see p. 81, Inhumations C). The site records do not allow any assessment of whether or not they were intrusive although this seems likely. The demonstrable size of the pit at the south end seems excessive for such small bodies, especially as the records speak of the bones having been piled up. We are faced with either the possibility that there had been a separate cut for the burials later confused by the digging of *F137* through the basic fill of *F139*, or that the bones were gathered from elsewhere and placed in a heap in *F139* when that was open.

Appendix: Other rural cemeteries in the area covered by Figure 1

by Ian Meadows

Whilst many individual late Roman rural cemeteries have been explored, the records for most are unfortunately poor. Often the number of burials is recorded with scant information about the nature of the interment practice. In this area, apart from some recently excavated examples, of which those from Monument 97 are amongst the very few, all that is known about many burials is their location and general information about grave-goods. Where burials occurred in groups, details of the inter-relationships of the graves is seldom given and it is not possible, therefore, to make inferences about cemetery structure. Similarly the uneven and variable nature of the records prevents direct comparison of aspects of burial practice and therefore the information is only presented in tabular form (Table 1).

<i>Place</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>NVRC SMR No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Source</i>
Alwalton *	TL130957	1023	Cemetery with 10–11 burials, 1 in stone coffin	RCHM 1969, 21 (12)
Alwalton *	TL13289613	1042	2 burials, 1 male, 1 female, Grave-goods: include a samian vessel and 2 CA bangles	OS cards
Bainton	TF111043	2186	A burial with a 1st-century pot in a pit	Haverfield 1902, 214–5
Chesterton	TL12429544	0892	A stone coffin lid	RCHM 1926, 54.
Eye	TF 237021	2782	4 burials, 1 in a stone coffin	Phillips 1970, Gazetteer 273
Eye	TF21420195	3281	2 burials, 1 SE/NW, 1 NW/SE, both male. Some Roman pottery nearby	NVRC 1986
Farcet	TL 219944	1682	Skeleton under a slab, pot at head and 3 coins. Others found c.1945 during ploughing	Phillips 1970, Gazetteer 186
Fengate	TL 208988	1625	'...burials...'	Phillips 1970, Gazetteer 187
Fletton	TL 197962	1517	15 burials, no details	RCHM 1926, 95
Fotheringhay	TL08009476	0557	20 contracted burials with Iron Age and Roman pottery	RCHM 1975, 40 (15)
Orton Waterville	TL 145976	1164	51 burials, inc. 1 cremation, 14 female, 21 male, 16 uncertain. 12 in nailed coffins, the main group were E–W, but 11 were N–S. 2 graves had grave goods	Jones 1975
Peterborough Alexandra Road	TF 19220042	2686	Roman burials and pottery found in 1911	Phillips 1970, Gazetteer 251
Southorpe	TF 09450248	3277	2 damaged stone coffins in area of 2nd/3rd-century pottery	
Stanground	TL 214965	1685	Male skeleton with 3rd-century pottery	RCHM 1969, 33 (2).
Stanground	TL 22439573	1735	'burial site'	RCHM 1926, 219.
Thornhaugh	TL 05219976	0334	Burials found in 1953. No details	Rivet A.L.F. note on OS cards 16.6.54
Upton	TF 10910107	3283	Lead coffin in a stone one containing remains of a 9-year old	NVRC 1985
Westwood	TL 185988	1470	Skeletons, Roman?, found c.1920. A circle of bodies, heads inwards. 1953, 2 skeletons lying face to face	RCHM 1969, 4 (4)
Westwood	TL 18209967	1480	40 burials in a cemetery. 1 accompanied by a CA horse and rider statuette at head. Other 1st/4th-century material from area found between 1879 and 1885	RCHM 1969, 3 (4)
Whittlesey	TL 233955	1753	Inhumations and pottery	Phillips 1970, Gazetteer 188
Whittlesey	TL 239975	1757	7 male inhumations, 6 c. N–S, 1 c. S–N, 1 certain decapitation	Phillips 1970, Gazetteer 188 Challands 1977, 27–30
Whittlesey	TL 244979	1767	Roman? cremation found in 1958	Phillips 1970, Gazetteer 188
Whittlesey	TL 249975	1770	Roman remains including burials	Phillips 1970, Gazetteer 188
Woodston	TL 1895	1440	Human bones in ditch	RCHM 1926, 297
Woodston	TL 18109740	1450	3 extended inhumations	OS cards
Woodston	TL 181973	3286	Extended male skeleton severely damaged, E–W. 4th-century pot was possible grave-good	inf. M. Howe
Yarwell	TL 056976	0328	A cremation in a rough stone cist, with 1 bracelet and glass beads also fragments of flagon	Bull. Northants. Fed. Archaeol. Socs. 1972, 38
Yarwell	TL 07419755	0331	Roman pottery in association with 7 burials	RCHM 1975, 114 (6)

Note: The cemeteries directly associated with Durobrivae have been excluded.
Those marked * may have formed part of that site and its associated suburbs.

Table 1 Other rural cemeteries in the vicinity

Chapter 3. The Economy and the Site in its Setting

by D.F. Mackreth

This chapter is based on Mrs King's animal bone report, completed in the 1970s and recently revised by Simon Davis. Mrs King's original report is available in archive, and her charts (Figs 45–6) and Tables (13–15) can be found on microfiche.

There was no evidence for any pre-Iron Age occupation other than a scatter of flints (see pp 44–5) which, running from Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age times, is hardly evidence even for seasonal use. The impression given both by the layout of the site and its pottery is that, fundamentally, there had only ever been one house at a time and, in this respect, the site seems to resemble the probable make-up of the Werrington enclosure (Mackreth 1988) in suggesting a single family unit. However, the essential character of the two sites appears to have been different. Monument 97 seems to have been an open site in the sense that the Period 1 houses were never fully enclosed. This could be a reflection of a fair amount of arable attached to the site, there being less need to contain, or exclude, flocks or herds. The Werrington enclosure in both Periods 1 and 2, however, was completely enclosed, with reasonable evidence that its basic economy had been pastoral (Mackreth 1988). At Monument 97, it was only in Period 2 that the site became fully enclosed and this more confined image broadly matches the contemporary changes nearby at Orton Hall Farm where more and more enclosures developed quite clearly in connection with the management of animals (Mackreth 1996) and it is this aspect that the finds from Monument 97 best illumine.

The balance of the meat animals (Fig. 45, Chart 1, microfiche) shows a slight change from Period 1a to Period 1b. In the earlier of the two, there were approximately equal numbers of sheep and cattle, but a preponderance of cattle for the rest of the life of the site. However, sheep remained at about a third of the total population as against the 50% of cattle which, because of their greater bulk, were the chief meat providers by far. The figures for Period 2c, which should consist of residual material only, show a slight increase in sheep bones; this may have been the result of the mixing in of Period 1a bones during the frequent ditch-cutting which marked that phase. The bald figures for the remaining animals are a little misleading as they could suggest that pig was a reasonable constant at 10% to 6%, only horse showing an increase reaching a peak in Period 2b. On the face of things, it could be argued that there was a decline in pig and that this represents a diminution of woodland and that the increase in horse might indicate more ranching. But a detailed look at the individual figures for these animals shows that such a sweeping conclusion is out of place and, for horse, there are really not enough bones for argument.

Cattle would have yielded 75% of the meat produced from the site, but were probably run mainly for hides and possibly for traction and milk as most beasts were kept until maturity. However, a sizeable proportion of the overall cattle population was of immature beasts, ranging from c.27%, Period 1a, to c.60%, in Period 1b, and this indicates

over-wintering for at least one year (Fig. 45, Chart 3, microfiche) and could point to a specific market of meat and hides in this category. The high figures for Period 1b might only be a reflection of the export of mature animals; the period is apparently restricted to the first two or three decades of the Roman occupation, when, until c. 65, there was a major military presence in the near neighbourhood, but this may be a false equation. The over-wintering of animals must have been a constant in the farming year, yet the means of doing this are imperfectly understood. An analysis of the barns at Orton Hall Farm, in conjunction with a likely size of herd, pointed to the animals not having been housed, especially as they were not polled. The Werrington enclosure produced some evidence that there may have been a crew yard there (Mackreth 1988, 77–80), but at Monument 97 there was no evidence at all. As was almost certainly the case at Orton Hall Farm, any crew yard was probably peripheral to the excavated site, unless the north-west enclosure had been used: the extent and character of the excavation was not such that evidence like the shallow deposit recovered at Werrington would have been obvious.

In contrast with the cattle, the sheep figures show that the slaughter rate of immature animals is nearly in balance with the mature (Fig. 46, Chart 4, microfiche). The only major trend which can be seen is in the figures for lambs which fall progressively from 14% in Period 1a, purely Iron Age, to just under 5% in Period 2b. While the higher figures for 1a might reflect an indigenous attitude to culling for meat, the figures for 1b are artificially low in general for sheep and, as might have been the case with cattle, lambs were exported. If any kind of adjustment is made to allow for this, the real change in managing sheep would fall at the beginning of Period 2. The impression given by the sheep figures is that lamb and mutton were preferred meats, otherwise the kill-off rates would be expected to reflect more closely the maintenance of a flock primarily for wool, yet mature animals out-number the rest in Period 2b only.

The detailed slaughter figures for pig (Fig. 46, Chart 6, microfiche) reveal a possibly false picture given by the overall figures (Fig. 45, Chart 1, microfiche). While an absolute percentage fall is discoverable in the latter, the former reveals details which are of interest. The figures for Periods 1a and 2b show a balance between mature animals and the rest. In the intervening periods there was a much higher kill-off of immature animals, with Period 2a standing out as having a proportion of two to one with piglets very well represented; which might suggest that there was, at the turn of the 1st into the 2nd century, a marked liking for young pig. How much the recovered bone from a site actually represents the bias of a management policy must always be in doubt as the actual exported element of the beasts is beyond computation, but there is a possibility that what actually remained on the site represents in none too broad terms the balance of the practices in use. If this cannot be accepted in general, then

the figures for animals on rural sites derived from the bones found there are useless.

There is little to be said about the rest of the animals. Mrs King has detected evidence that horses had had weights imposed on them, but whether by pack-loading rather than riders cannot be known.

As for wild animals, hare and rodents are perhaps neither here nor there, but the quantity of deer bone should reflect something of the amount of waste land, managed or not, there was locally. As with Werrington and again Orton Hall Farm, there was very little evidence that there was any major deer population in the area. Monument 97 is slightly better off than the other two as there was a suggestion that in either Period 1a or 1b some deer had been eaten. Otherwise, one is forced to the conclusion that they were either not exploited, or they were not common, or they were reserved for an element of society not represented on these sites. The only odd feature of the bone collection is the presence of beaver. Bearing in mind the lack of streams or open water implied by the kind of topography in which the site lay, it is more than likely that the animal had been brought to the site for its fur.

One feature which emerged from looking at the figures for bones from Orton Hall Farm was that, expressing the numbers per quarter century in each period, there had been a threefold increase in the stock on the farm from the end of Period 2. The same exercise applied to Monument 97 shows no such dramatic change and only one quirk. Table 2 shows the numbers of bones both as totals for the whole of a phase and then as a figure for each decade. The length of Period 1a is obviously hardest to assess, and is taken to have been 150 years. Even if this is reduced to 100, there would be no significant alteration in what is revealed. Period 1b is taken to have been about 25 years, Period 2a, 50, and 2b, another 50. The archaeological evidence for the dating of Period 1b will not allow it to be later and, as has been discussed already, there are constraints in moving it back any further because of the difficulty in dating the pottery thought to belong to it.

The Period 1b figures are obviously anomalous. Perhaps this is because the excavated area of the site-in-use in that phase was not representative. However, as it is also argued that there was only really one family on the site, it would seem to follow that there would be a limit as to how much livestock could be handled. If the figures for Period 1 and Period 2 are totalled separately and then divided by the number of decades, 17.5 for Period 1 and 10 for Period 2, the resultant figures are remarkably similar and could argue that the single family group indeed operated at its optimum level. Such a computation would iron out the abnormal figures in 1b. The division of Period 1b from

	<i>Period 1a</i>	<i>Period 1b</i>	<i>Period 2a</i>	<i>Period 2b</i>	
Total for each phase except 2c					
Cattle	334	721	281	246	(1898)
Sheep	324	519	183	286	(946)
Total for each decade in each phase except 2c					
Cattle	22.8	288.4	56.2	49.2	(189.8)
Sheep	21.6	207.6	36.6	47.2	(94.6)

The figures in brackets are the combined cattle and sheep

Table 2 Bones in each Period

Period 1a was very largely on ceramic grounds, care being taken not to take more than could be avoided of the 'belgic' styles back into pre-Conquest times. If, in fact, many of the bones in 1b should really be given back to Period 1a so that a more average figure can be achieved, then much of the Period 1b pottery must go back as well and this applies especially to fabric groups 2 and 9. Brooches 2-5 (Fig. 22) found on the site would suit the introduction of fine wheel-thrown non-Roman wares as far back as 20/30 AD and there is nothing against this in the evidence discussed by Mrs Rollo in the pottery report. However, there is a consequence which is unlooked for: the Period 1b export of the best beef and lamb ceases to be confined to the short period when there were large numbers of the Roman army nearby. The export would presumably be matched by the bias of the rest of the evidence, which suggests that the local area was falling increasingly under the influence, culturally, of the tribes to the south-east. The export of selected meat might just represent a political element as well or, at the very least, a change in the local social structure which had a particular influence on what happened at Monument 97. It is as well to bear in mind the enigmatic site at Westwood, Peterborough, which was almost entirely destroyed last century: it produced enough Iron Age coins to suggest that it had been a major centre before the Conquest and one which developed afterwards (RCHM 1969, 3-4 (4)).

As for the possible arable content on the farm, there is very little evidence for it. No specialised structures were found for storing grain and its consumption was only indicated by the presence of querns (see p. 43). There was, however, also a major deposit of burnt seed in pit F24 which has been assigned to Period 2a. Dr Glynis Jones' report (p. 82) tells us that most of the grain was spelt wheat, that it may have been winnowed or sieved before being charred, and that there was little else that could be added on the basis of one sample; moreover, that the cereal is commonly found on sites covering the same period as Monument 97. The fragment of hazel nut shell found with the charred remains adds little. The relationship of the site with its immediate environs can only be guessed at.

In Period 1a there seem only to have been two enclosures with a domestic centre developing outside them. There was no evidence that the enclosures were locked into any form of major land division and it may be that the area examined was not large enough to detect any part of a larger scheme. In default of any sign, there is no way of telling how a division between people and stock was arranged. It can be suggested that the enclosures were designed for seasonal use, possibly for over-wintering cattle and possibly for calving and lambing, and that, otherwise, the animals were pastured at a distance. If they were, the controls needed to limit their activities could have been too far away to be detected and it can be argued that any arable element on the farm would have been next to the centre. The image which emerges from this site and the Werrington enclosure (Mackreth 1988) is that the development of settlement centres in relation to landscape division was initially a simple arrangement which became more elaborate in time. A two-part functional division of the kind proposed would allow the great effort needed in the initial creation of physical barriers to be much reduced, animals being allowed into the core of the farm after harvest. Much would probably depend on how common winter cereal crops were.

The making of the south enclosure in Period **1b** appears to coincide with major ditches running away from the junction of the two enclosures on that side. The introduction of these ditches may have been coeval with the setting out of the main east-west ditches in Period 1 at Orton Hall Farm, the sites possibly being linked to others very much like many in the Welland Valley which certainly seem to have been strung out along some kind of linear division of the landscape. What this implies about the management of the land is open to conjecture, but it would be possible at Monument 97 for arable and pasture to have alternated on either side of such a division with the focus of occupation lying at the boundary between. Such may also have happened at Orton Hall Farm, except the Period 2 layout there should show that the bulk of the pasture had always lain north and downhill from the farmstead. There, it was the presence of a main droveway coming in from the north and the one-time presence of a spring flowing away north which are taken to have determined the basic division of the land-holding.

If the lines of the watercourses suggested by the Ordnance Survey 1:25000 map (TL19) are a good guide, the position at Monument 97 was more ambiguous. There appear to have been two streams, with the site lying between them. Any land division respecting watered areas would automatically be distorted west and south of the site and this may be why there is so little sign of a continuation of the major ditch line to the west. The air photographs (cover; Pl. I) offer little help: the markings to be seen generally south-west of the enclosures cannot be divided conveniently into geological or archaeological categories.

Period 2 was marked by an increasing division of the land around the site with the enclosures disappearing completely into a field system, the pottery alone pointing to a cessation of domestic activities at the end of Period **2b**. The date of this coincides roughly with the beginning of Period 2 at Orton Hall Farm where a major new enclosure was laid out specifically for the management of animals on a scale far beyond that indicated at Monument 97. To some extent the greater emphasis on animals at Orton Hall Farm can be seen to have developed progressively through Period 1 there, which dates essentially from Period **1a** to the end of Period **2b** at Monument 97. It is attractive to see the development of one site at the expense of the other; indeed, the complete abandonment of Monument 97 precisely, in archaeological terms, when the other begins a major development is hard to ignore as only 0.9km separated the two, and no other site is known between them (Fig. 1). In fact, at that sort of spacing, it may be doubted if one should be expected. The chronological conjunction of the end of Period **2b** at Monument 97 with the beginning of Period 2 at Orton Hall Farm is a little false. The actual dating available at the former shows a marked change at c. 140–150 AD with only a very little pottery belonging to the next quarter century. However, in the same quarter century at Orton Hall Farm there was a substantial change in the domestic arrangements. The evidence for a major building is limited, but the increase in samian and its distribution leaves little doubt that there had been some form of upgrading within the excavated area (Mackreth 1996). It is, therefore, possible that the real chronological changes at Monument 97 at c. 140–50 and at or before c. 175 match very closely what was happening on the other site.

The nearest known site contemporary in any way with Monument 97 was Orton Hall Farm and there must have been a boundary between the two. A mean position would place it less than 500m away from either. Assuming that this represents an average distance from the centre of the farm to any of its boundaries, a crude assessment of how much land could have been attached to it can be made. Taking a roughly rectangular block, the area would have been c. 80 hectares, or about 200 acres. This is not improbable and could well be close to the mark, especially if the unit was managed essentially by one family group. Such an assessment makes the calculation of the area managed from Orton Hall Farm just within the limits of legitimate guessing: at the least when both sites were fully operational it had been as large as Monument 97 and if the two had been added together, its land would have been about 160 hectares. However, the land attached to Monument 97 may have been partitioned, in which case half added to the longer-lived site would make that c. 120 hectares, or about 300 acres.

There is one possible sign that Monument 97 did not pass completely into oblivion: the cemetery in the north-west corner of the old south enclosure. Its status is doubtful, but Dr Wells' report concludes that the population there had been essentially of the labouring class, some individuals betraying signs of having had specialised tasks. The low status implied would certainly account for the absence of grave-goods, but that may also have been the product of particular beliefs and practices. The people buried were most probably lithe and sinewy rather than robustly muscular and, despite their heavy work loads, had not been over-worked. The condition of the remains was such that there was no direct evidence that all the individuals had come from a single family. In any case, it might be supposed that each pair would include a partner from at least slightly different stock. However, Dr Wells comments that the mixture of sexes and ages is not out of the ordinary, that the physical type is reasonably constant and that, judging from their teeth, all had a diet with little abrasive material in it. These slight hints could point to a close connection between the people buried.

There can be little doubt that we have here a complete cemetery and this raises the question of why the number of interments was so small. It may be that we have a single uninterrupted sequence even if the order and direction is not known. However, the chances are that the burials closest to the north ditch were the first and that the cemetery developed away from that. Allowing that the men indicate how many generations were present, there were two adults and one adolescent. Of the women, two are noted as having borne children and, even though damage to bones may have removed some of the evidence from other women, it is possible that there were either two cohabiting couples at the same time, or a succession. In this case, the cemetery would have had a minimum of two generations. The two infants buried in *F139* do not materially affect the argument, but do provide a comment on how infants were treated. These two seem to have received a cursory burial of the type which can be paralleled on a great number of Roman sites. But burial 5 had been devoted to a newborn babe and this might represent the true difference between genuine grief and the disposal of unwanted children.

The dating for the cemetery is, to put it mildly, exiguous. The rite suits the later Roman period. The single

sherd also points that way. It would be tempting to argue that the population here were descendants of the original inhabitants of Monument 97, but the evidence will not really allow the cemetery to follow on directly from *c.* 175.

The use of the old site cannot have been a purely adventitious choice, but the romantic view that there was a strong personal connection between people and place cannot be pressed, even if it happens to be close to the truth.

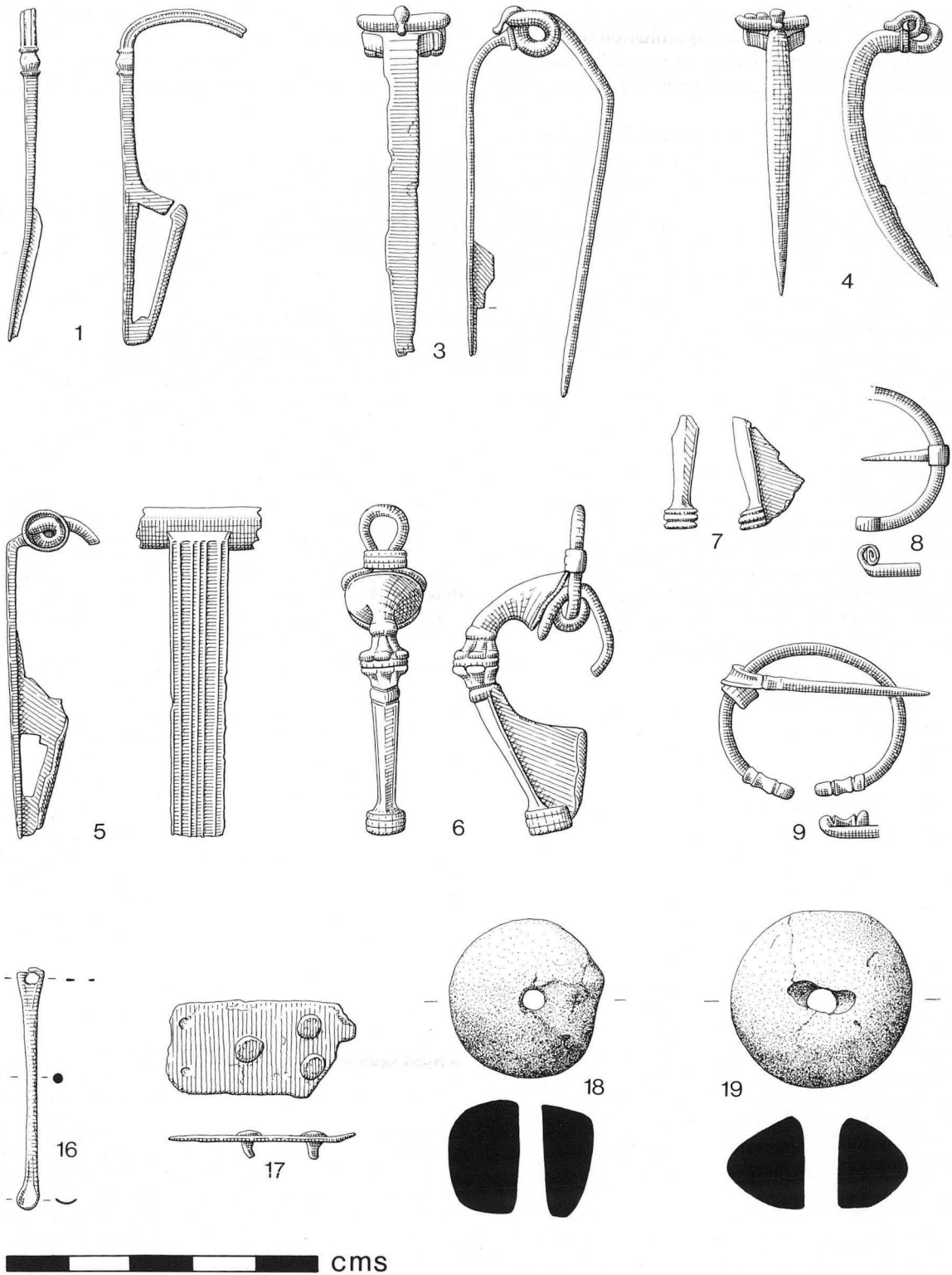


Figure 22 Small finds 1-19, scale 1:1

Chapter 4. The Finds

I. Introduction

The collection of finds from the site was not impressive and, once the flint is removed, and with the single exception of the brooches, the generally low quality of the rest is clear. That there are so many brooches in proportion to the rest is unusual, but could be taken to indicate that there was an early presence on the site. The terminal date proposed for the actual occupation of the site, *c.* 150/75, or earlier, if the samian is the best guide, provides in itself a useful date for the Trumpet brooches 5 and 6. The small finds are divided broadly into categories of use. This allows some associations to be made which, otherwise, might not be immediately obvious had the basis of division been that of material. As the dating of the phases of the site is reasonably secure, both from the pottery and the brooches, there is little need for extensive quotation of parallels to provide confirmatory evidence. Attention is drawn to the form samian 30 reported on by Felicity Wild which might, conceivably, have been used as a hanging bowl.

II. The Small Finds

by D.F. Mackreth

Coin

identified by Dr A.S. Esmonde-Cleary

Dupondius Antonia 41–54 AD RIC (Claudius) 82, *sf.41, layer 418, Period 2c*

Brooches

(Fig. 22)

La Tène III

1. The spring is lost. The bow is thin and is divided into two by an ornament consisting of two cross-mouldings with a swell between. The decoration is on the front and sides of the bow. The upper bow is short with a sharp bend and has a square section with two grooves down the front and a flute on each side. The lower bow is plain, tapers to a pointed foot, and has a squared-off front face. The catch-plate is open and the bottom edge of the piercing rises in a slight peak. The side of the bow next to the piercing has two grooves which seem to belong more to the actual manufacture of the brooch than to have been ornamental.

sf.78, L572, Period 2c

The mouldings on the bow betray some affinity with the La Tène II, but the open-framed catch-plate and the presumably four-coiled spring, whether the chord was internal or not, show a closer relationship with the developments which were to lead to the Nauheim. The lack of the spring with its chord prevents any close discussion of its kinship with the three main groups of such brooches identified Stead (1976, 409–10). However, the signs which are present suggest that this piece should belong to his first. An assessment of the dating and typology of the general type in connection with a specimen from Hengistbury Head (Cunliffe 1987, 142–7, ill. 108) argues that the first group should, in general, be given an earlier date than the limit of 50 BC allowed by Stead. The probable date range, taking into account the fact that the Monument 97 brooch is incomplete, is the middle two quarters of the 1st century BC.

Drahtfibel-type

2. Not illustrated. Now in many pieces and incomplete, the formal designation is not certain. What can be seen is that the bow was plain and had a simple rod-like appearance. The spring is represented by fragments of coils only and it is not possible to tell if the chord had

been external or not. No trace survives of the catch-plate.

sf.23, L168, (17), F18, Period 1b

There is insufficient remaining for any close date to be given. But what can be seen accords with a date before the end of Period 1b.

Colchesters

3. Corroded, the foot is missing. The spring has six coils and the hook is carefully shaped at the end with a waist and a small knob. The wings are short and the right hand one has a vertical groove at its end, the other wing being damaged. The catch-plate has almost entirely disappeared but was clearly pierced by a large hole. There is no evidence for fretting.

sf.34, L288, Period 1b

4. Again corroded, all trace of the catch-plate has gone. The wings are very short and seem to have been plain. The bow is also plain and has a roughly rounded section.

sf.75, L534, Period 2c

The differences between these two brooches are considerable. 3 has, apart from its bow section and form of hook, a straight profile with a well-turned curve at its head. The form of the catch-plate would have been more of a trapezium than the triangle to be expected on 4 which has a curved profile and the kind of section which marks it out as having been of British manufacture. Brooch 3 is continental in form and was certainly imported. Specimens displaying the same basic characteristics occur sporadically in Britain and few are dated. One from Braughing came from a context of *c.* 25 BC–AD 20 (Partridge 1979, 102, fig.30, 1); another came from the primary silts of a Late pre-Roman Iron Age enclosure at Bierton, Bucks (Mr D. Allen, *in litt.*). Otherwise, in Britain, its associations are with one from Swarling (Stead 1976, 410, fig. 4.4) and another from Deal (Bushe-Fox 1925, 43, pl. XIII,7) and both of these have ridges down the side of the straight-sided bow as well as a median aris. The tendency is for these parallels to have elaborately fretted catch-plates, a feature very seldom found on British brooches. Essentially, brooch 3 belongs to Ettliger's type 9 and is dated by her to 20 BC to AD 15, with some running on (Ettliger 1973, 28, *Taf.* 4, 9–14). These tend to have tapering sides and the same characteristic is to be seen in the large collection from Augst where the high residual factor amongst dated brooches generally makes it difficult to identify the correct *floruit*. Nearly all of these have the broad, sheet-like hook which is a common feature of continental brooches (Riha 1979, 65–7, *Taf.* 4–6, 138–192). A recent summary of the dating of the general class (Feugère 1985, 265–6, Type 14a) of what may be termed 'continental Colchesters' points out that it is hard to arrive at a date earlier than the 1st century BC and that arguments based on earliest occurrences of some types will lead to a potentially false start for others. In this instance, Rieckhoff (1975, 39–41) may be joined to Guillaumet (1984, 57, Type 5, *Tab.* 4). In short, the British evidence supports both Ettliger and Feugère to the extent that the example from Braughing would be in its correct horizon.

As for brooch 4, this is the standard British version of the continental brooch and, because of the numbers found there, is correctly a Colchester. There is no evidence as yet that it begins as early as the type to which brooch 3 belongs and the best estimate is that it was commonest in the first four decades of the 1st century AD and, by 35/40, was beginning to show traits found on its derivative forms. The brooch shows no trace of any late feature and should, perhaps, have been made somewhere between 10–30 AD, but could have lasted another two decades in use after that, few being worn after 50/55.

Langton Down

5. The spring-case is plain and is of the usual form: two flanges of metal closed round the separately made pin and spring. The bow has a slight curve in profile and is joined to the spring-case by a right-angled step. There is no cross-moulding on the step. The front is reeded with two closely set ridges on each side separated by flutes from three more down the centre. The catch-plate is pierced by a roughly triangular opening and the upper surface runs up in a curve into the bow.

sf.33, L281, Period 1b

There is a wide range of decorative sub-types amongst brooches gathered under the collective title of Langton Down, and it is not certain which came first. A specimen from Skeleton Green similar to the present

example has bead-rows down each side and was dated there to c.10 BC–AD 20 (Partridge 1981, 133–4, fig. 71, 43). Two more from the same site, one without its head, also recall the present piece and both were dated AD 15–25 (Partridge 1981, 139, fig. 71, 44, 46). The Monument 97 brooch design belongs to Riha's *Typ* 4.4.4 which has a remarkably restricted date range for a site with a high proportion of residual items: five of the eight were deposited before AD 50 and this suggests that its *floruit* had ended by then or earlier and that it had ceased to be made at least ten years earlier. The balance of probabilities is, on this evidence, that it does not last as long as the standard reeded Langton Down.

Trumpets

6. A standard brooch with the spring held to the body by a central loop. The axis wire is continued over the head of the brooch to form a loop whose waist is caught in a triple moulded collar. The axis wire is probably fitted into the ends of a sheet metal tube seated in the coils of the spring thus preventing the whole arrangement from coming loose. The plain trumpet head is outlined round the top by a groove. The central ornament is made up of four lobes on each side of a disc, the whole separated from a pair of cross-mouldings above and below by a waist. The lower bow has a central aris with a groove down each side and tapers down to a foot-knob with three cross-mouldings.
sf.77, L543, Period 2b
7. Only the foot survives and its similarity to the foot of brooch 6, save for the groove on each side of the bow, suggests that this fragment belongs to the same type.
sf.59, L456, Period 2c

The Trumpet type had come into being before the end of the 1st century and was in common use in the first half of the 2nd. Brooch 6 comes from its own horizon on this site.

Penannulars

8. Only part of the ring and one terminal are well preserved. The ring is circular in section and the terminal is formed by coiling the ring in a spiral at right angles to the plane of the ring.
sf.19, L97, unstratified
9. The ring has a circular section and the terminals are bent back along the ring. Each terminal has a central waist separated from bulbous ends by grooves. The pin wrap-round has a longitudinal flute stopped at the top of the shank by a section with repeats of the central element of the terminals: a waist with a groove at each end. The rest of the pin has a circular section.
sf.22, L224, unstratified

Brooch 8 is a common form and the date range of the bulk of the dated examples is from before the Conquest into the 2nd century, perhaps as far as AD 200. Those from later contexts present a less consistent pattern and, hence, are probably residual in their contexts. The precise character of the terminals of brooch 9 has few parallels. One comes from Hod Hill (Brailsford 1962, 13, fig. 11, E17) and, therefore, dates to before AD 50 (Richmond 1968, 117–9). They also occur at Longthorpe (Frere and St Joseph 1974, fig. 24, 13) and Waddon Hill (Webster 1981, 62, fig. 25, 11) which allows them to run up to c.60/65. Otherwise, dating is limited, but the kind of site from which they have been recorded by the writer points towards a 1st-century date and it is possible that the one from Hod Hill derived from the preceding Iron Age occupation of the site.

Fragments

(not illustrated)

10. A piece of thin wire with a sharp coil at one end. The coil is in line with the shank and so is not part of a bilateral spring. The item could have been part of a pin from a penannular brooch.
sf.38, L660 (1), F95, Period 1a
11. Three fragments consisting of parts of a pin and part of a coil from a spring. The brooch type is indeterminate.
sf.39, L598, (62), F75, Period 2c
12. Iron. A piece of wire 2–3mm in diameter which might be part of a brooch pin.
sf.32, L266, (30), F1, Period 2a
13. Iron. Two fragments, one with an oval section, the other part of a tight coil. Both could have come from a brooch.
sf.89, L362, (13), Period 1b

Personalia

(Fig. 22)

14. Not illustrated. **Finger ring.** Fragment of a plain band with a flattened oval section, 3.5mm wide by 2.5mm deep. Only 13.5mm

of the periphery remains.

sf.86, L654, (54), F16, Period 2c

15. Not illustrated. **Earring.** Fragment of a plain wire with a circular section c. 1mm in diameter and with a tapered end. The diameter of the hoop was 20mm at most. Belonging to Allason-Jones' Type 1, it is as yet undatable (Allason-Jones 1984, 341 and fig).
sf.71, L519, (41), F112, Period 2c
16. **Ligula** from an etui set. Complete, with a small bowl/scoop 2.5mm in diameter at one end and a loop c. 1.5mm internal diameter at the other, the whole was crudely made from a piece of wire c. 38mm long and 1mm in diameter.
sf.80, L581, (35), Period 2a
17. **Buckle plate.** The surviving length is 30mm, the plain plate tapering from 14mm at the open end to c. 16mm at the other. At the wide end, a slight trace survives of the curve running round to the plate forming the other side. Five rivets arranged as a quincunx once joined the two plates together. Three of the domed heads survive. The plate itself is c. 1mm thick and has a slight curve to it suggesting that its edges once crimped the sides of the belt leather. The object is plain which may mean that this is the back-plate or that ornament was confined to the pattern of the domed heads.
sf.18, L176, (43), F23, Period 2b

Weaving

(Figs 22 and 23)

18. **Spindle whorl.** Baked clay, weight c. 10.65g. The fabric contains very little sand, if any, and looks as though it had been formed from the kind of clay occurring in the subsoil of the site. The overall diameter is about 26mm and its depth 19mm. The piece could be described as bun-shaped and had been formed by rolling a sausage of clay round a tapering stick so producing a hole 2.5mm at the top of the 'bun' and 5.75mm at the other.
sf.156, L208, (17), F45, Period 1b
19. **Spindle whorl.** Baked clay, weight c. 12.25g. The clay is definitely sand-tempered and would seem to have been specially prepared. The shape is biconical with the carination being biased towards what appears to be an intentionally flat surface. The hole was formed round a stick and the clay rocked to remove it thus producing a slot at the 'head' of the object. The hole in the other end is 5mm in diameter. As the clay appears to have been properly fired, it may have been made by a potter.
sf.148, L526, (16), F99, Period 1a
20. **Needle?** Incomplete and 72mm long, one end is pointed, the other having an oval section 5 by 4mm, 15mm from the break. Corrosion prevents the maximum section from being known. The oval section points to the object having been a coarse needle whose upper end was flattened to take the eye. The form was commonly made in bone; a copper alloy example from Verulamium is similarly robust, has an oval section, and is dated between c. 130–145 (Frere 1984, 43, fig. 16, 124).
sf.88, L331, (18), F53, Period 1b
21. **Loom-weights.** Baked clay. No complete loom-weight was found and all for which the shape could be established were triangular. None was well enough preserved for its weight to be established without cavil and the best preserved, illustrated here, weighs about 0.95kg. It has a feature which is of interest: the only completely preserved corner shows that, when the clay was green, the weight had been suspended on a thick twine or rope no more than 7mm in diameter.
sf.94, L324, (18), F53, Period 1b

This raises the question of why loom-weights would have had three holes in them in the first place. Presumably, if they had been plain loom-weights, one hole only would have been necessary. If they had been so suspended that three groups of warp were tied to each, the wear pattern displayed here could not have occurred as the marks would have run to one or other of the sides.

Most loom-weight fragments, and this includes all pieces of baked clay here without any direct evidence for their having been applied to wattling, were fragmentary and widely scattered across the site. Their total weight, including the largest piece, came to 11.6kg. They were, because of the extended activity on the site, found in contexts dating to all periods and phases. Their distribution in time, however, expressed as numbers only of fragments, shows two peaks. Most came from Period 1a and the next highest came from Period 2a and then there was a tail-off until the end of Period 2c. The secondary peak is taken not to represent the second major period of their use, but the effect of the creation of the initial Period 2 arrangements which caused the displacement of Period 1 material.

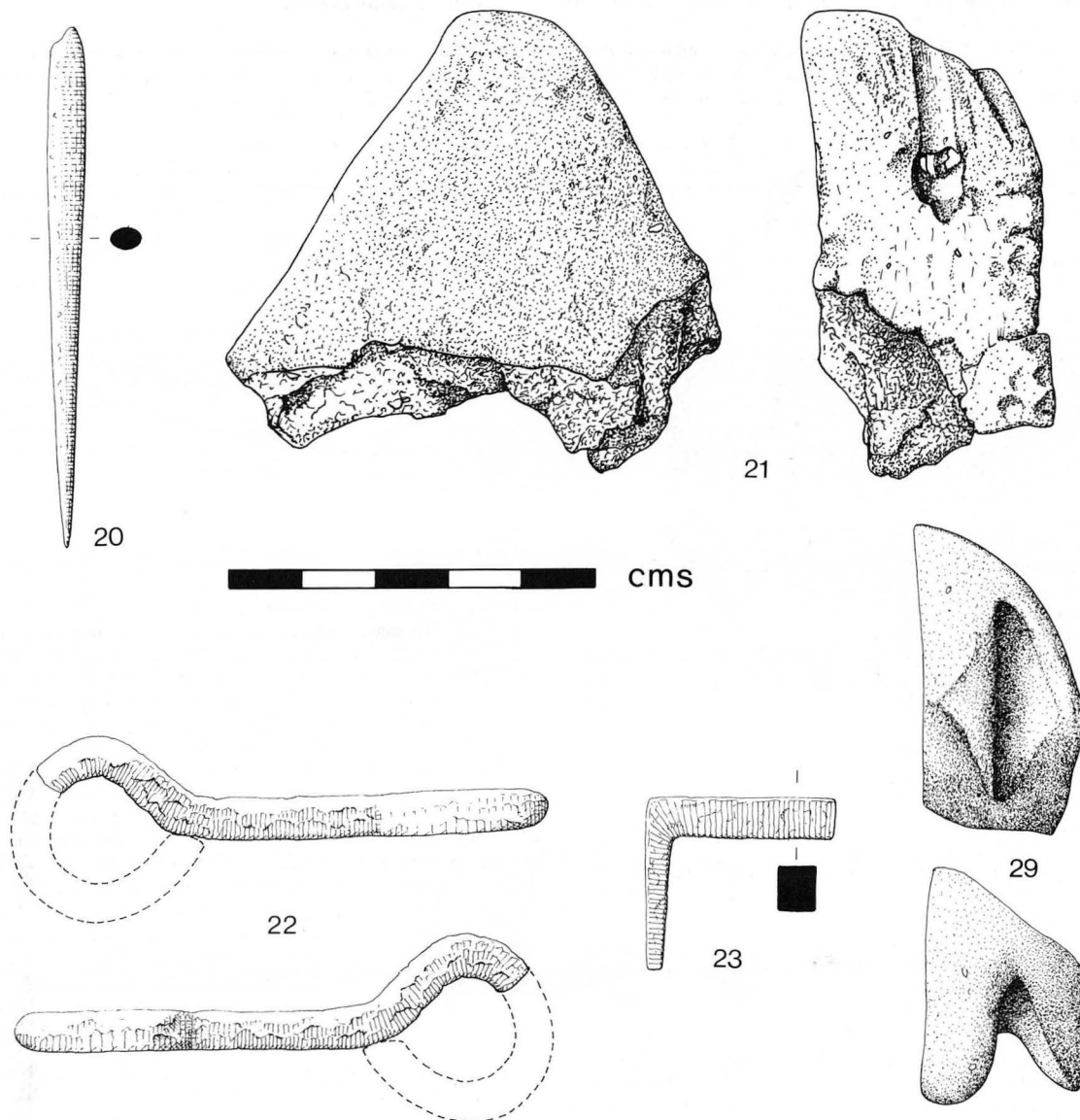


Figure 23 Small finds 20–29, scale 1:1

Fittings and tools

(Fig. 23)

22. **Chain link?** Iron. Now poorly preserved, what survives appears to have been a loop of iron hammered to produce a pinched centre with a loop at each end, one at right angles to the other. The whole would have been c. 70mm long and each loop c. 15mm in internal diameter. The rod was c. 5mm square. Although links with loops of opposed direction are known from bridle bits, hardly any seem to have been as elongated and as slight in section as this (but see Palk 1984, fig. C55) and the possibility that this item came from a bit should be discounted.
sf.24, L234, (58), Period 2b
23. **Joiner's dog.** Iron. Only part is present. The cross-bar is c. 7mm square and the surviving spike has the same width, but is only 2.5mm thick and 17mm long with a blunted end.
sf.31, L188, (17), F45/88, Period 1b
24. Not illustrated. **Implement?** Iron. The fragmentary remains of a socket c. 21mm in external diameter at its broken end, tapering to a bar of rectangular section, 10mm by 8mm, and 117mm long before being flattened out to form some element which is now lost. The socket and the behaviour of the rest suits an implement rather than a fitting.
sf.112, L678, (58), Period 2b

25. Not illustrated. **Bone point.** A fragment of a long bone broken at one end and carefully trimmed at the other so that the point is in line with one edge of the bone and the other side is at 45°. This part of the bone is 10mm wide and 28mm long after which there is another angle and, at the break, the piece is 15mm wide. The pointed end is worn smooth and there is a glossy finish at the point running back a little way down the straight side.
sf.163, L258, (17), F45, Period 1b
26. Not illustrated. **Bone point.** The bone has been split and trimmed to a point which is highly glossed.
sf.160, L479, (16), F99, Period 1a
27. Not illustrated. **Bone implement.** One end is broken and the other is part split to form a point. There is considerable wear at this end dying out to end before the split in the bone begins.
sf.162, L509, (16), F99, Period 1a
28. Not illustrated. **Bone implement.** Only the blade end of a scapula, whose curved end appears to have been trimmed to form a sharp edge, survives. This is now worn down and its sides are highly polished. The point of the blade is also worn enough on its surfaces to have removed the surface features of the natural bone and the recurved edge also displays wear.
sf.161, L657, (51), F14, Period 2b

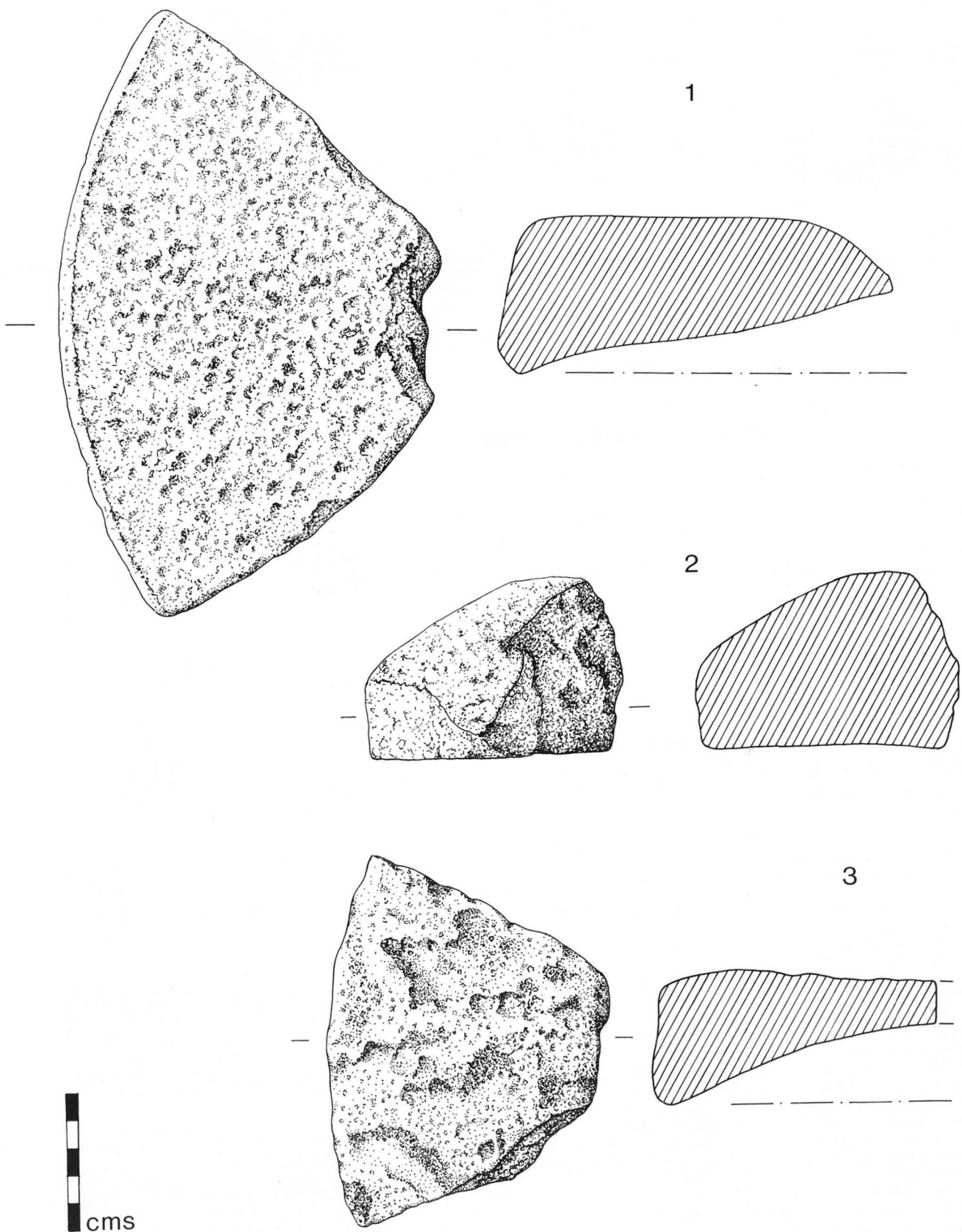


Figure 24 Querns 1-3, scale 1:2

29. **'Rubber' or sharpener.** Amphora sherd. No original surface is left. The fabric is pink with small and large soft white inclusions as well as a little sand and well-pounded grog. All the edges are rubbed smooth to one degree or another. The most marked wear, however, is across one corner of the sherd where there is a groove *c.* 13mm deep. The bottom of the groove is rounded and the whole could have accommodated something up to *c.* 5mm in diameter or in width.
sf.157, L605, (15), F73, Period 1b
30. Not illustrated. **Baked clay.** A sherd of a shell-tempered pot (Fabric 23) with one edge worn smooth and flat.
sf.159, L187, (17), F45, Period 1ab

Repair

31. Not illustrated. **Lead.** A plug cast into a hole in, presumably, a vessel. The edges defined by both faces of the object do not help to determine whether the vessel was of metal or pottery.
sf.110, L677, (58), Period 2b

Unclassified

32. Not illustrated. **Copper alloy.** Two small fragments of very thin sheet whose curves suggest either an edge binding or the rim from a vessel.
sf.62, L474, (26), F37, Period 1b

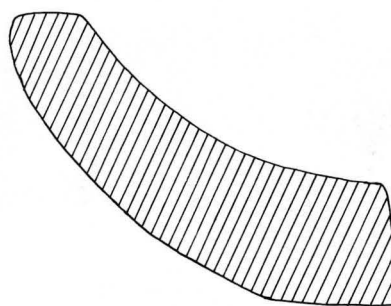
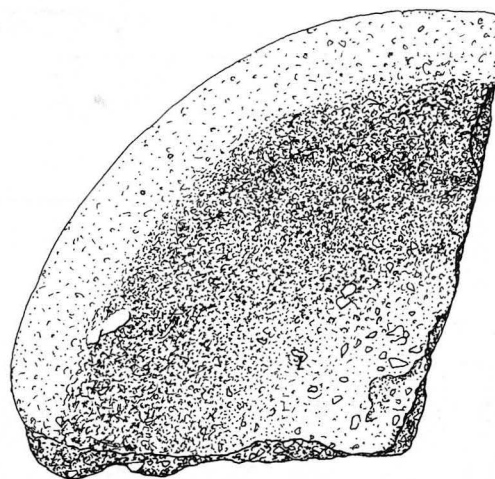
III. Querns and stone vessel

(Figs 24, 25)

Dr Peter Crowther very kindly undertook to have the stone thin-sectioned at Leicester. Unfortunately, his move to Bristol prevented the programme from being fulfilled. The geological determinations given are crude and all that can be reliably said is that none is of Hertfordshire Puddingstone and none is of any of the limestones immediately available in the neighbourhood, except 9, the stone bowl.

None of these stones comes from a context assigned to Period 1, but the beehive quern fragments 2 and 4 are likely to be purely Iron Age. The pottery found with other stones suggests that some ought to be assigned to the 1st century. Only four items were drawn, the others being too damaged for their profiles in relation to a horizon to be established.

1. A fragment of the upper stone of a quern. Its outer diameter was 380mm and just under a quarter of its periphery survives. There is no sign of a central hole and the broken edge shows that this could not have been more than 100mm. The maximum thickness at the outer edge is 55mm narrowing to *c.* 22.5mm at the broken inner edge. The top surface is finely pecked and the outer edge shows little sign of dressing, although it is not actually smooth. The underside is unevenly worn and has a very flattened ogee profile with a tendency towards having a lip around the outside. This suggests that the upper stone did not fit neatly over the lower, unless that had had a slight circumferential groove around its rim. The lipping made the upper stone vulnerable and this accounts for the damage here, except for 30mm next to one of the broken edges. The wear pattern underneath fails to show any sign of concentric grooving and the greatest intensity of wear is along the outer 40mm of the radius; there is another band, less marked, 25mm wide at the inner edge. The space between is rougher, suggesting poor contact with the lower stone. Millstone Grit? Found with 1st-century pottery.
sf.118, L93, F26, (31), Period 2a
2. A fragment of the lower stone of a beehive quern. The undersurface is smooth and flat, the upper well domed and abraded rather than smooth. There is no sign either of an outer edge or of a central feature. The surviving outer edge gives an approximate outer diameter of 220mm and is 22.5mm thick, although there is a faint suggestion that the upper curve becomes much tighter and *may* actually be the edge of the stone itself. The inner thickness is 65mm and there is part of a flat surface on top which, if the stone has been correctly orientated, was *c.* 100mm in diameter. Millstone Grit?
sf.11, L4, cleaning layer
3. Fragment of the upper stone of a quern having an outer diameter of *c.* 460mm, there is no sign of a central hole. The upper surface is very roughly dressed with evidence for crude radial grooving at



9

cms

Figure 25 The stone bowl, scale 1:2

*c.*40mm spacing at the outer edge. The edge, itself, is more carefully finished and has faint traces of vertical grooving. The thickness at the outer edge is 40mm and, at the central break, only *c.* 10mm. The undersurface is domed, with distinct polishing along the outer margin. Towards the inner edge the surface is uneven showing a very poor contact with the lower stone. Some kind of Gritstone. With pottery running up to *c.* 125/50.

sf.113, L694, F75, (58), Period 2b

4. Not illustrated. Part of a beehive quern of approximately 230mm outer diameter, only 50mm of the radius is preserved. The stone is steeply domed with a rounded bottom edge and is 70mm deep at the fracture from the top to the underside which is worn and rises 10mm from the outer edge. No dressing marks are preserved. Unidentified stone. Pottery lost.
sf.98, L279, (30), Period 2a
5. Not illustrated. The section suggests that this had been part of the upper stone of a quern and of not less than 220mm in diameter. The undersurface is taken to be the concave one, but it shows no sign of wear and has pecked dressing marks. The assumed upper surface is abraded with no suggestion that this had been caused by rotary motion. Probably of the same kind of stone as the last. With pottery of the late 1st and early 2nd century.
sf.37, L158, (43), Period 2b
6. Not illustrated. A fragment of upper stone with a rim, the outer edge may be present, but not enough to establish the proper outer diameter though this may have been of the order of 450mm on the basis of the inner edge of the rim underneath. The rim, if so, would have been *c.* 55mm wide. The full thickness is lost and had been greater than 70mm. The top appears to have been flat. The underside, showing wear by rotary motion, is dished with a tighter curve at its edge. No more than 100mm of the outer radius survives. A gritstone. With pottery of the late 1st century, (41).
sf.115, L546, F112, Period 2c
7. Not illustrated. A fragment of lower stone of not less than 400mm diameter and with what appears to be a curved edge such as would suit stone 6. The full thickness is not known and had not been less than 30mm. Unidentified stone. With pottery of the late 1st century, possibly running a little later, (41).
sf.100, L433, Period 2c

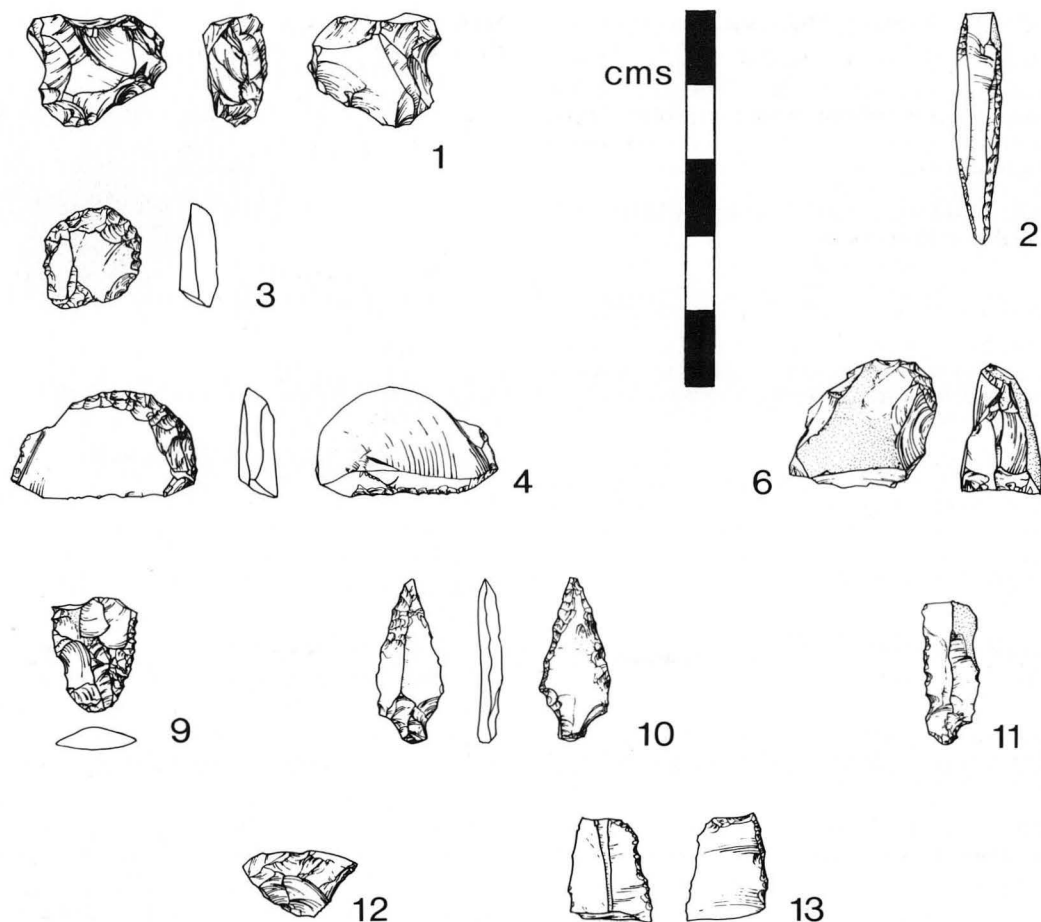


Figure 26 The flints, scale 1:1

8. Not illustrated. A fragment, probably of an upper stone of a quern. A gritstone. Pottery of the late 1st and early 2nd century, (54).
sf.114, L503, Period 2c
9. A large piece of a bowl; outer diameter 230mm, height 75mm with a base 30mm thick, the wall thinning to 15–20mm at the rim. The complete radius is present. The base is flat and the rim is levelled in a parallel plane: this had never been a quern. Both inside and outside are smooth, the inside being the more worn. The function is unknown, but the bowl could have been used as a mortar. Local shelly limestone, akin to Barnack. Pottery of the second half of the 1st century, possibly running a little later (35).
sf.119, L729, Period 2a

IV. The Worked Flints

by Dr Helen Bamford
(Fig. 26)

Twenty-two worked flints were recorded from the site, all of them residual in their contexts. They may be classified as follows:

Retouched implements	12
Cores and core fragments	3
Intact flakes and blades	5
Broken flakes and blades	2
Total	22

The Raw Material

The flint is of fairly good quality, generally a mid to dark grey-brown or brown in colour and translucent. One implement, a microlith, is of a bright orange translucent flint very different in appearance from the rest. None of the pieces shows any traces of cortication (patination) on the flaked surfaces, but one has been subjected to heat. The original cortex, where present, is generally abraded, sometimes to a smooth surface, and stained yellowish brown or brown. Some of the pieces show old, worn fracture surfaces with a thick white or creamy cortication. The source appears to be gravel flint and is presumably local.

Cores

None of the cores is easy to classify. One, (21) Fig. 26.1, is keeled; the other two are broken, although one was clearly multi-platform and the other has at least two platforms.

Flakes

The five intact flakes are all between 19mm and 36mm in length measured along the bulbar axis, and between 14mm–27mm in breadth measured at right angles to the bulbar axis. One is a parallel-sided blade with a breadth:length ratio less than 1:2 and two are greater in breadth than in length and may thus be classed as 'broad flakes'. All retain some cortex on the dorsal face, but none

is wholly cortical ('primary'). Use-wear is visible to the naked eye on the edges of at least three pieces: there is heavy and regular microflaking along both lateral edges of the blade and on one edge of one of the two broken flakes, and there is polish in the form of a diffuse lustre on the right side edge of a third flake.

The Retouched Implements

Microlith

2. Edge-blunted **point** (right-side edge) with ancillary retouch on the left-side edge of the point at the bulbar end. *sf.53*

Scrapers

3. Extended-end ('horseshoe') **scraper**; partially invasive retouch on short flake. *sf.13*
4. Side/end **scraper** on broad flake. *sf.14*
5. Not illustrated. Flake **scraper**, damaged by heat-shattering of the ventral face and thus unclassifiable. *sf.10*
6. Heavy **scraper** on nondescript fragment. *sf.63*
7. Not illustrated. Crude **scraper** on chunky thermal flake. *L153*

Serrated flake

8. Not illustrated. **Flake** with finely serrated right-side edge; traces of intense, bright polish (gloss) along the extreme right-side edge, on the ventral face only. *sf.83*

Knife

9. Flake **knife**, broken at the distal end but probably of plano-convex type with bilateral invasive scale retouch on the dorsal face. *sf.64*

Arrowhead

10. Tanged **arrowhead** (Sutton 'a' type — Green 1980, 51; 122, fig.45) fashioned with bifacial, partially invasive scale retouch. *sf.79*

Notched/shouldered blade

11. **Blade** with a small, crescent-shaped notch worked on the right-side edge at the bulbar end. *sf.82*

Piercer (?)

12. Small **flake** with minimal retouch on the right-side edge of the distal point. *sf.150*

Miscellaneous

13. Trimmed **flake** with small, semi-abrupt retouch on the right-side edge and inverse retouch on the left-side edge and (?) distal end. Broken at bulbar end. *sf.81*

Conclusion

This group of artefacts is too small in itself to constitute evidence of prehistoric occupation of the site on any significant scale; nor does it include working-waste in a quantity sufficient to indicate flint-knapping in the vicinity. At least two thirds of the pieces are either implements fashioned by secondary working or flakes utilised as tools without prior modification.

As a group it is not entirely homogeneous, since it includes items datable to widely different periods. The microlithic point is a Mesolithic type, although none of the other items is necessarily of similar date. The fragmentary scale-flaked knife and the tanged arrowhead are, on the other hand, forms which occur specifically in later Neolithic and Early Bronze Age contexts. The other implements are not particularly diagnostic of period, but extended-end and side/end scrapers, which are the only classifiable forms of scraper represented here, do seem to occur more frequently in later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age industries associated with Beaker pottery than in other dated contexts (Cleal 1984, 151ff).

Chapter 5. The Iron Age and Roman Pottery

by Lindsay Rollo with Felicity Wild

I. Introduction

(This report was written in 1985.)

Fabrics

The pottery from Monument 97 has been catalogued by fabric according to the conventions used in the Nene Valley Research Committee Field Centre's Fabric Series, a list of which is given in Table 3. However, two groups of material, the non-romanised ('grog'-tempered) wheel-thrown and early Roman quartz-tempered wares were given designations outside the Series. This special treatment evolved as an attempt to devise a system to deal with fabrics which have not as yet been satisfactorily assigned a source and which were present on the site in substantial quantities. After a random sample had been examined under a $\times 30$ binocular microscope, the pottery was divided into fabric *groups*, based on broad criteria such as presence/absence of inclusions visible to the naked eye; or estimates of fabric coarseness/fineness where the suites of inclusions were similar; or a particular firing property of the clay. It is recognised that the resulting categories probably each contain products from more than one source, but, without a formal programme of fabric analysis, any allocations based on visual inspections alone could not hope to be definitive. Since limited time and resources did not allow for an appropriate programme of scientific analysis, it was considered wisest not to over-refine the subjective groupings and risk getting entangled in an unwieldy and time-consuming cataloguing system.

Fabric Series

Group 1 (W1)

Coarse textured; hackly fracture; abundant, ill-sorted sub-angular quartz; harsh feel; very hard fired; reduced.

Group 2 (W2)

Fine textured; smooth/laminated fracture; moderate crushed grog or sometimes black magnetic particles, very sparse ill-sorted sub-angular quartz; soapy feel; soft fired; both oxidised and reduced finishes.

Group 3 (W3)

Coarse open-textured; hackly fracture; common to moderate ill-sorted sub-angular quartz, sparse ironstone and calcite particles; rough feel; hard fired; mostly reduced.

Group 4 (W4)

Coarse texture; laminated/hackly fracture; common to moderate ill-sorted sub-angular quartz; sparse calcite and ironstone; rough feel; hard fired; white firing.

Group 5 (W5)

Coarse texture; hackly fracture; moderate sub-angular calcite and ill-sorted sub-angular quartz, sparse ironstone; rough feel; hard fired; reduced.

Group 6 (W6)

Coarse texture; dense laminated fracture; common spherical calcite and moderate sub-angular ill-sorted quartz, sparse ironstone; harsh feel; hard fired; reduced or oxidised finish.

Group 7 (W7)

Fine texture; laminated fracture; sparse ill-sorted sub-angular quartz, very sparse calcite and ironstone; slightly harsh feel; hard fired; reduced.

Group 7a (W7a)

Dense, fine texture; smooth fracture; very sparse ill-sorted sub-angular quartz, ironstone and calcite; smooth feel, fairly hard fired; reduced.

Group 8 (W8)

Dense, fine texture; smooth fracture; moderate orange (unidentified) particles, sparse ill-sorted sub-angular quartz and calcite; powdery feel; soft fired; oxidised.

Group 9 (W9)

Coarse lumpy texture; hackly fracture; common grog or sometimes magnetic black particles, sparse ill-sorted sub-angular quartz, calcite and ironstone; soapy feel; soft fired; oxidised or reduced finish.

Quantification

Tables 4 to 8 and Bar Charts 1 to 7 (Figs 27, 29) give a breakdown of the proportions of pottery fabrics present by individual phase. Three matters need to be clarified concerning the methods selected before going on to consider any conclusions which might reasonably be drawn.

Firstly, it was decided to express the pottery quantification only in terms of weight and numbers (even though Estimated Vessel Equivalents [EVEs] were taken for the initial card-index record (Orton 1975, 31). It seemed that the former were the more appropriate methods to use when dealing with a mixed assemblage of wheel-thrown and hand-made pots since it is difficult to measure accurately rim diameters on hand-made vessels for the purpose of calculating EVEs. These have been used for one context, however, in recognition of its special status (Tables 9 and 10, Bar Charts 8 and 9, Figs 30, 31): the so-called 'Pot Mine' Closure Deposit is the one feature of the site assemblage which is most likely to interest other pottery specialists and be used for comparative purposes (see p. 57). Fortunately, being relatively free of hand-made pottery the problems of the inappropriate use of EVEs does not arise.

Secondly, in connection, once more, with the Closure Deposit, whilst this has been assigned to Period **2b**, it has not been included in the quantification calculations for that phase. For reasons rehearsed below in the discussion on the nature of that deposit (see p. 57), it is considered that the group represents a different rubbish-producing activity from the rest of the contexts. Therefore, on the principle of only comparing like with like, it has been excluded from the rest of the Period **2b** material and is considered separately.

Thirdly, instead of presenting totals for individual features in Tables 4 to 8, these have been calculated by fiche context groups, shown thus (___) in MF 2, instead. Restrictions on the time available to investigate the site with the consequent large-scale use of machines to dig sections, together with the complex nature of, particularly, the ditch systems, have meant that it is not always possible to assign a layer to its correct feature. In the report on the structural evidence, therefore, it proved more logical to describe changes in the site's morphology in terms of layer groupings. Although it would have been possible to convert these groups back into features, it was felt that this would

divorce the pottery report unacceptably from the site report — besides consigning a healthy proportion of the layers to the limbo of an ‘unassigned’ category. The open, long-lived nature of most of the deposits makes the choice between consideration by feature or fiche-group largely academic anyway, especially since the integrity of the small number of fairly good deposits has, in fact, been maintained in the fiche-group system used.

Having justified in some detail the reasons for the choice of quantification methods used, it has to be admitted that few valid conclusions about pottery-use on the site can be drawn from the available evidence. This is due to the prevalence of open, long-lived features whose contents were extensively mixed by recutting. Consequently, the problems of residual material are a very potent factor which is more apparent the later the context. Not surprisingly, therefore, the few good groups which can be isolated are early, belonging to Periods **1a** and **1b**. These come from features which were cut into virgin ground and were not left open for any length of time after the activity which they serviced had ceased. It was decided to quantify them separately, as an exercise in gauging just how distorting the element of residuality is in long-lived groups. For Period **1a**, the groups used came from the South House (16), *F27* well (27) and *F61* gully (25), see Table 4, Bar Charts 6a and 6b (Fig. 29). For Period **1b**, it was decided that only the West House (18) and pit *F80* (21) could be used (see Table 5, Bar Charts 7a and 7b, Fig. 29) because there were too many problems of interpretation and possible contamination of the North House (see p. 14).

The fabric type selected for this purpose was the Late Iron Age coarse shell-gritted wares — mainly because it is assumed that the date of their manufacture and use can be confidently assigned to the period before the mid-1st century AD. In terms of the site’s history, therefore, their principal use should be confined to Period **1a**. In fact, they total 85% by number (81% by weight) of the total pottery from that period (Table 4 and Bar Charts 1a and 1b, Fig. 27). However, from Table 5 and Bar Charts 2a and 2b (Fig. 27), it can be seen that a large concentration of the wares appears in Period **1b** as well, where they account for 52% by number (70% by weight) of the total pottery. The logical explanation is that a large proportion of the material is residual in **1b** contexts, which are mostly open ditch and gully sections, known to be recut versions of **1a** features (see the discussion of the site, p. 35 on the implications of dividing the total bone per period by the number of decades assigned).

This explanation is borne out by the figures for the less contaminated **1b** groups (Table 5, Bar Charts 7a and 7b, Fig. 29). The proportion of Late Iron Age shell-grits in those deposits has fallen to 39% by number (70% by weight) of the total. This might still be considered to be a significant amount, were it not for the fact that most of it comes from one very large storage jar (15) and can be regarded as a special case of continuity in use. Bearing in mind the apparent result of this exercise, it was decided to use only good, relatively closed groups in any further calculations on pottery-use in 1st-century contexts and to disregard all Period **2** deposits except for the Closure Deposit when discussing the same subject for later material.

<i>Code</i>	<i>Description</i>
NV1	Lower Nene Valley colour coat, white fabric
NV3	LNV colour coat, grey fabric
NV4	LNV white fabric, ‘fumed’
NV6	LNV grey fabric
NV9	LNV white/pink fabric
W1–W9	see fabric descriptions in text
14, 15, 16	Late Iron-Age shell-gritted, fine
18/22	Transitional/Roman shell-gritted
20	Late Iron-Age/Transitional shell-gritted
21	Late Iron-Age shell-gritted, coarse (sc = scored, cmb = combed surface)
22	Roman shell-gritted
23	Unattributable shell-gritted
50	Southern Gaulish samian
51	Central Gaulish samian
52	East Gaulish samian
67	Verulamium Region oxidised wares
92	Amphora
97	Medieval
98	Post-medieval
99	Unknown/exotic

Table 3 NVRC pottery fabric codes and descriptions

In the general assessment which follows, the pottery is considered under the broad heading of periods and, within each period, by the fabric groups which are thought to date mainly to that period. This method has been selected in preference to one which takes account of the sub-phases of the site’s history because the latter are defined according to major alterations in the site’s layout and do not coincide precisely with changes in the ceramic sequence on site. In Period **2**, the bulk of the discussion of fabrics is included in the consideration of the Closure Deposit since this contained examples of all the major wares concerned.

The Catalogue has been ordered by period. Within each period any material from good groups has been illustrated together, the remaining pottery being grouped according to its fabric. At the end of the Period **1** catalogue there is a section dealing with good examples of Period **1** pottery from later contexts. Descriptions used for sherd colour are based on the Munsell Soil Chart colour ranges. Fabrics are referred to by their Nene Valley Research Committee Fabric Series code number, a list of which (with descriptions) is given in Table 3.

The pottery, together with the Archive, is stored serially by layer number at Peterborough Museum. All the drawn sherds have been re-introduced into their respective layers. The only exception to this practice is in the case of the material from the Closure Deposit which has been stored together, but with the drawn sherds kept separate from the rest of the pottery.

A representative selection of the Site Specific Fabric Groups has been selected and is stored separately for easy reference purposes.

Fabric		Fiche Group														Total
		1	2	3	4	7	10	11	14	16	19	22	25	27	28	
W2	wgt	-	5	-	-	40	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	11	-	57
	no	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	5
W3	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	12
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
W9	wgt	-	105	82	-	-	-	-	265	-	-	-	6	12	4	474
	no	-	12	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	1	19
16	wgt	11	-	40	15	-	-	-	-	57	-	-	-	-	-	123
	no	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	5
21	wgt	25	339	629	7	386	23	8	125	1017	5	2	146	1091	-	3803
	no	1	24	15	3	6	2	1	4	79	1	1	7	36	-	180
21sc	wgt	-	22	144	-	-	-	-	-	288	-	-	43	160	-	657
	no	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	2	1	-	18
21cmb	wgt	-	801	-	71	-	-	-	-	558	-	-	-	-	-	1430
	no	-	7	-	4	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	18
18/22	wgt	-	-	-	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	-	-	65
	no	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
20	wgt	-	-	590	-	-	-	2	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	602
	no	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
99	wgt	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
	no	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	wgt	36	1272	1513	93	460	23	10	391	1942	5	2	226	1274	4	7251
	no	2	45	22	8	10	2	2	6	101	1	1	12	41	1	254

Table 4 Period 1a groups, pottery content by weight (gms) and number — fabrics

Fabric		Fiche Group											Total	
		5	6	8	9	12	13	15	17	18	20	21		26
W2	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	564	116	2	-	-	-	682
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	11	2	-	-	-	19
W3	wgt	-	-	-	-	1	-	66	85	169	-	-	25	346
	no	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	14	4	-	-	1	25
W6	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	32	-	-	-	-	-	32
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
W7	wgt	-	-	-	-	1	-	140	5	-	-	-	-	146
	no	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	5
W9	wgt	34	11	-	-	448	49	-	156	235	-	-	-	933
	no	6	1	-	-	31	3	-	9	24	-	-	-	74
15	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	-	-	-	-	60
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
16	wgt	55	-	-	-	-	-	-	60	416	-	-	-	531
	no	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	27	-	-	-	37
21	wgt	3236	-	60	102	439	328	160	5000	1458	-	-	93	10876
	no	36	-	1	6	23	14	4	176	70	-	-	7	337
21sc	wgt	45	-	185	14	173	66	113	1042	3662	-	-	57	5357
	no	2	-	1	1	4	2	3	21	16	-	-	2	52
21cmb	wgt	-	89	-	-	-	-	-	291	122	-	-	-	502
	no	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	9	-	-	-	15
18/22	wgt	8	-	-	-	-	-	52	-	499	5	38	-	602
	no	3	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	22	1	3	-	31
22	wgt	305	-	-	-	456	136	977	105	14	-	229	-	2222
	no	15	-	-	-	12	6	21	4	2	-	8	-	68
23	wgt	231	29	40	3	-	10	265	453	649	-	-	-	1680
	no	21	2	1	3	-	7	1	9	55	-	-	-	99
67	wgt	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
	no	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
92	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	25
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	wgt	3914	129	285	119	1523	589	2454	7313	7226	5	267	175	23999
	no	87	4	3	10	73	32	48	256	231	1	11	10	766

Table 5 Period 1b groups, pottery content by weight (gm) number — fabrics

<i>Fabric</i>		<i>Fiche Group</i>													<i>Total</i>
		29	30	31	32	34	35	36	37	38	40	42	44	45	
NV9	wgt	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
	no	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
W2	wgt	-	22	-	1	-	755	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	778
	no	-	1	-	1	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	52
W3	wgt	5	234	-	-	-	893	76	-	-	5	80	10	6	1309
	no	1	24	-	-	-	77	4	-	-	1	5	1	3	116
W4/NV9	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	83	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83
	no	-	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
W5	wgt	96	33	-	-	-	28	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	175
	no	5	4	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
W6	wgt	-	92	-	-	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	117
	no	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
W7	wgt	-	27	-	-	-	41	57	-	-	-	-	-	-	125
	no	-	2	-	-	-	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
W7a	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
	no	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
W9	wgt	-	93	-	10	-	527	4	15	-	-	-	-	-	649
	no	-	2	-	1	-	25	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	32
14	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	99
	no	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
15	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	82	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	82
	no	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
16	wgt	32	6	-	-	-	94	-	4	-	-	-	30	-	166
	no	1	2	-	-	-	7	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	13
21	wgt	9	781	28	-	-	364	81	205	-	72	-	-	28	1568
	no	1	40	2	-	-	8	2	17	-	2	-	-	3	75
21sc	wgt	69	553	-	32	-	308	-	107	-	9	-	-	-	1078
	no	1	4	-	3	-	15	-	8	-	2	-	-	-	33
21cmb	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	8
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
18/22	wgt	-	32	-	-	-	87	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	119
	no	-	2	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
22	wgt	-	1735	185	77	-	3752	122	-	-	-	-	-	-	5871
	no	-	34	1	1	-	134	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	175
23	wgt	73	43	-	2	16	693	4	-	9	40	-	-	-	880
	no	2	7	-	3	5	46	5	-	1	12	-	-	-	81
99	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	158	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	158
	no	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
50/51	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
	no	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Total	wgt	284	3661	213	122	16	8004	362	339	9	126	80	40	34	13290
	no	11	125	3	9	5	400	25	30	1	17	5	2	6	639

Table 6 Period 2a groups, pottery content by weight (gm) and number — fabrics

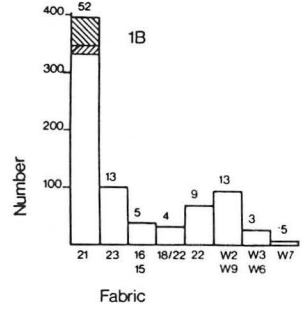
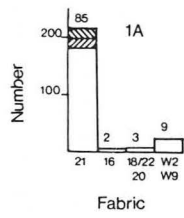
<i>Fabric</i>		<i>Fiche Group</i>										<i>Total</i>
		39	43	49	50	51	52	53	55	56	58*	
NV1	wgt	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
	no	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2
NV3	wgt	-	-	-	-	108	-	-	-	-	-	108
	no	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	3
NV4	wgt	6	236	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	23	267
	no	2	17	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	22
NV9	wgt	-	462	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	179	641
	no	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	18
W2	wgt	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	7
	no	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
W3	wgt	18	3194	42	72	217	10	89	48	66	980	4736
	no	4	197	4	14	31	3	3	4	6	58	324
W4/NV9	wgt	3	24	-	-	-	12	-	-	13	-	52
	no	1	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	7
W5	wgt	-	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	688	736
	no	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	10
W6	wgt	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	30	-	60
	no	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	2	-	10
W7	wgt	-	6	1	-	47	-	-	-	-	112	166
	no	-	4	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	10
W9	wgt	10	283	9	-	26	1	-	55	14	-	398
	no	1	2	1	-	3	1	-	1	1	-	10
14	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	18
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
16	wgt	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3	42
	no	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	7
18/22	wgt	-	81	14	1	3	5	-	-	11	37	152
	no	-	11	4	1	2	1	-	-	1	2	22
20	wgt	-	41	-	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	64
	no	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
21	wgt	42	863	25	1	8	2	-	51	-	-	992
	no	2	16	2	1	1	1	-	5	-	-	28
21sc	wgt	5	68	-	11	-	-	-	-	112	-	196
	no	1	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	3	-	9
21cmb	wgt	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	-	-	82
	no	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3
22	wgt	-	4423	33	30	592	55	-	306	26	1490	6955
	no	-	174	3	3	13	1	-	20	1	41	256
23	wgt	15	90	39	12	452	110	12	-	44	-	774
	no	1	5	2	4	46	9	4	-	5	-	76
67	wgt	-	115	-	-	51	-	-	-	-	-	166
	no	-	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	7
92	wgt	841	-	-	-	72	-	-	-	-	-	913
	no	21	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	22
99	wgt	-	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39
	no	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
50/51/52	wgt	-	57	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	66	129
	no	-	5	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	8	16
Total	wgt	960	10066	163	127	1644	195	101	545	316	3578	17695
	no	34	465	17	26	119	17	7	35	20	128	868

* excluding Closure Deposit, see Table 9

Table 7 Period **2b** groups, pottery content by weight (gm) and number — fabric

Fabric	Fiche Group																	Total
	41	46	47	48	54	57	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68		
NV1	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	33	-	44
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	3
NV4	wgt	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	1047	-	36	49	-	-	-	1 88
	no	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	63	-	8	3	-	-	-	77
NV9	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	-	42
	no	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
W2	wgt	12	-	-	-	-	-	5	8	41	-	63	90	162	-	-	-	381
	no	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	3	4	13	-	-	-	25
W3	wgt	1683	69	22	1	486	125	816	481	125	1185	54	335	467	45	107	44	6045
	no	129	4	1	1	37	12	47	34	8	38	6	28	33	2	8	9	397
W4/NV9	wgt	38	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	42
	no	6	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
W5	wgt	57	511	-	-	56	-	10	-	-	-	-	25	108	-	21	-	788
	no	7	2	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	9	-	2	-	26
W6	wgt	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
	no	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
W7	wgt	136	-	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	90	-	-	63	-	2	1	312
	no	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	3	-	1	1	41
W8	wgt	40	-	-	-	-	-	30	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	75
	no	14	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	20
W9	wgt	401	-	-	-	12	-	69	-	-	-	15	-	91	148	-	1	737
	no	23	-	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	9	2	-	1	44
14	wgt	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
	no	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
16	wgt	227	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21	52	20	20	-	5	345
	no	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	4	-	1	9
18/22	wgt	385	-	-	-	-	-	60	-	100	1112	-	-	5	37	-	7	1706
	no	25	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	6	3	-	-	1	2	-	1	43
20	wgt	95	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	88	-	-	-	91	-	-	12	286
	no	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	2	5
21	wgt	768	-	-	-	42	144	-	-	-	-	124	52	-	1	15	22	1168
	no	42	-	-	-	5	8	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	1	1	2	64
21sc	wgt	599	-	-	-	-	10	8	-	-	-	-	-	300	30	60	47	1034
	no	11	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	13	2	1	3	33
21cmb	wgt	269	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55	-	-	-	324
	no	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	12
22	wgt	2799	305	-	-	176	201	1431	480	345	468	61	763	713	169	195	35	8141
	no	79	8	-	-	9	8	38	3	2	42	4	29	28	1	18	1	270
23	wgt	728	55	-	-	134	40	3	108	-	-	-	-	32	21	-	68	1189
	no	58	8	-	-	29	7	2	2	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	9	121
67	wgt	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-	11
	no	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	3
97	wgt	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
	no	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
99	wgt	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	112	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	194
	no	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
50/51	wgt	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	110	-	6	4	-	1	-	125
	no	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	2	2	-	1	-	12
Total	wgt	8375	940	22	1	911	521	2432	1283	699	4012	338	1411	2165	471	434	242	24257
	no	464	22	1	1	87	37	103	46	19	152	23	83	126	18	33	30	1245

Table 8 Period 2c Groups, pottery content by weight (gms) and number — fabric



1A Period 1a Main Fabrics - number, %
 1B Period 1a Main Fabrics - weight, %
 2A Period 1b Main Fabrics - number, %
 2B Period 1b Main Fabrics - weight, %

Scored Surface
 Combed Surface

See Table 3 For Fabric Code

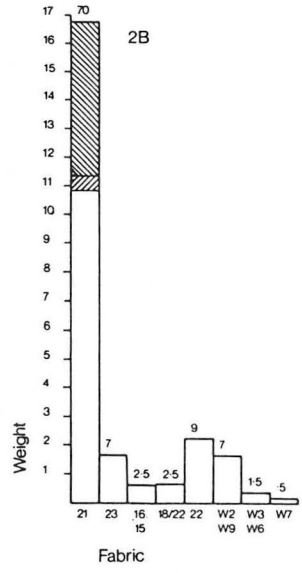
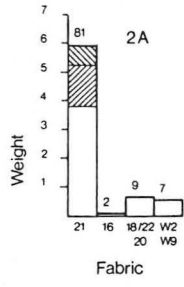
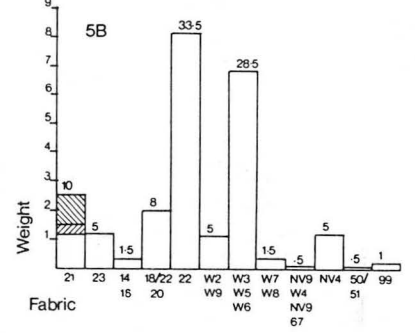
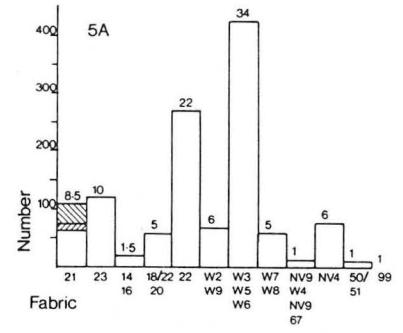
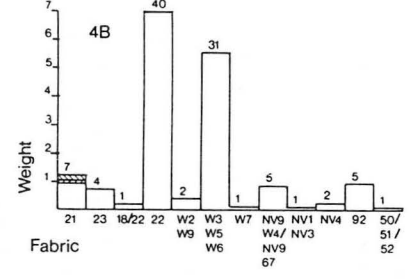
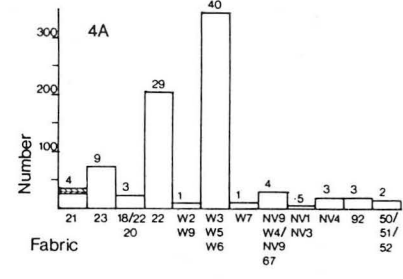
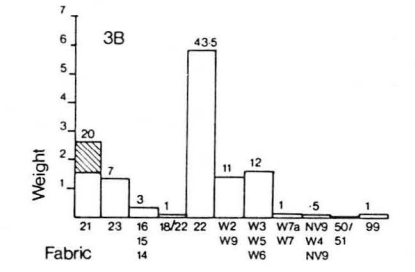
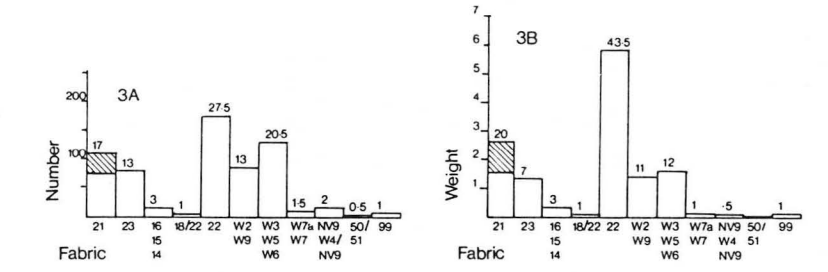


Figure 27 Bar chart 1, Period 1a pottery content —fabrics A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg). Bar chart 2, Period 1b pottery content —fabrics A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg)

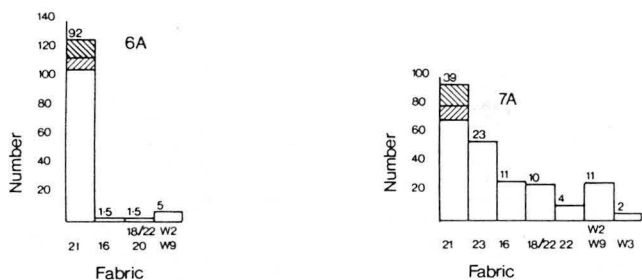


3A Period 2a Main Fabrics (number) %
 3B Period 2a Main Fabrics (weight) %
 4A Period 2b Main Fabrics (number) %
 4B Period 2b Main Fabrics (weight) %
 5A Period 2c Main Fabrics (number) %
 5B Period 2c Main Fabrics (weight) %

Scored Surface
 Combed Surface

See Table 3 For Fabric Code

Figure 28 Bar chart 3, Period 2a pottery content —fabrics A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg). Bar chart 4, Period 2b pottery content (excluding closure deposit) —fabrics A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg). Bar chart 5, Period 2c pottery content (excluding closure deposit) —fabrics A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg).



6A Period 1a Good Groups^x Fabric (Number) %
 6B Period 1a Good Groups^{xx} Fabric (Weight) %
 7A Period 1b Good Groups^x Fabric (Number) %
 7B Period 1b Good Groups^{xx} Fabric (Weight) %

▨ Scored
 ▨ Combed

^x Fiche groups 16, 25, 37
^{xx} Fiche groups 18, 21
 See Table 3 For Fabric Code

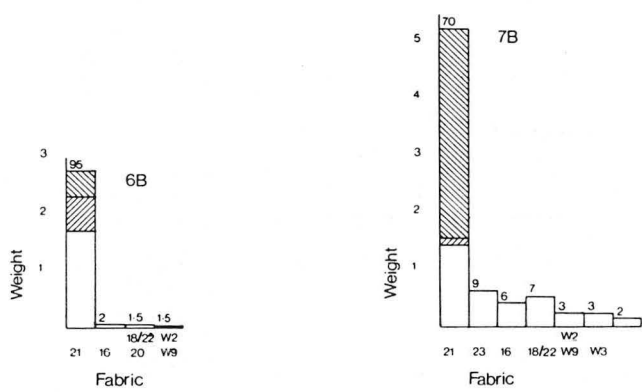


Figure 29 Bar chart 6, Period 1a good groups pottery —fabrics A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg). Bar chart 7, Period 1b good groups pottery —fabrics A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg)

Fabric	Wgt	No	EVE
NV4	9084	266	11.69
NV6	250	1	0.29
W1	331	18	0.49
W2	28	2	-
W3	18180	1063	19.215
W4/NV9	2753	156	3.30
W5	779	38	1.185
W6	613	11	0.29
W7	916	54	1.81
W7a	1406	53	2.61
W9	385	6	1.11
16	227	16	0.59
20	40	2	-
21	552	5	-
22	20854	819	5.88
67	109	2	0.22
99	205	19	0.47
50/51	530	29	1.80
Total	57242	2560	50.95

Table 9 Closure Deposit (58) pottery content by weight (gm), number and estimated vessel equivalents — fabrics

Form	Wgt	No	EVE
Unassigned	566	65	0.29
Jars (inc. storage)	51600	2310	39.35
Bowls/Dishes	2776	103	6.44
Cups	154	8	1.00
Platters/Lids	298	2	0.45
Flagons	1447	64	2.22
'Beakers'	8	4	0.14
Misc. (inc. strainers)	393	4	1.06
Total	57242	2560	50.95

Table 10 Closure Deposit (58) pottery content by weight (gm), number and estimated vessel equivalents — forms

Fabric	Handstripping	Unallocated
W2	wgt 20	-
	no 3	-
W3	wgt 1446	6
	no 136	2
W4/NV9	wgt 17	-
	no 4	-
W5	wgt 32	9
	no 4	1
W7	wgt 3	-
	no 2	-
W9	wgt 72	5
	no 13	1
16	wgt 34	-
	no 11	-
18/22	wgt 47	12
	no 4	2
20	wgt 157	-
	no 8	-
21	wgt 479	665
	no 45	10
21sc	wgt 103	18
	no 6	1
22	wgt 572	-
	no 18	-
23	wgt 870	57
	no 65	8
67	wgt 98	-
	no 3	-
97	wgt 286	-
	no 11	-
98	wgt 160	-
	no 3	-
99	wgt 5	10
	no 1	1
50/51	wgt 76	-
	no 12	-
Total	wgt 4527	782
	no 349	26

Table 11 Pottery from handstripping and unallocated layers by weight (gms) and number

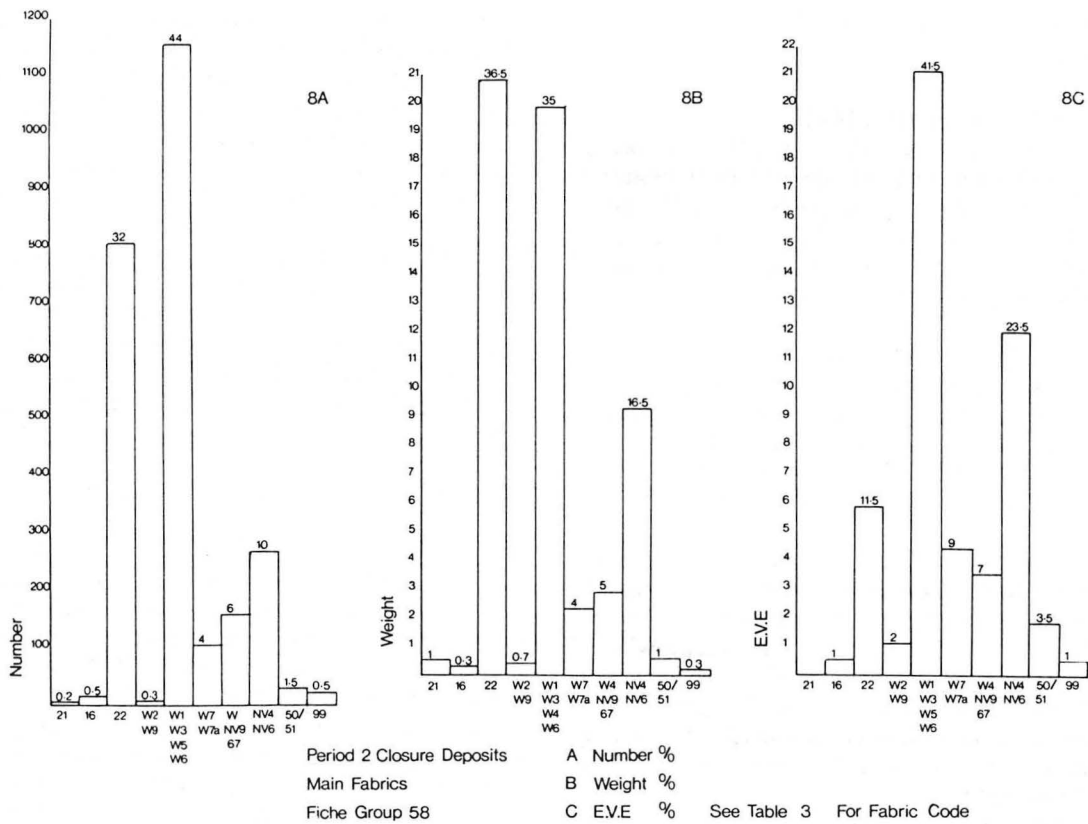


Figure 30 Bar chart 8, Period 2b closure deposit (58) pottery content — fabrics A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg) C: (by estimated vessel equivalent)

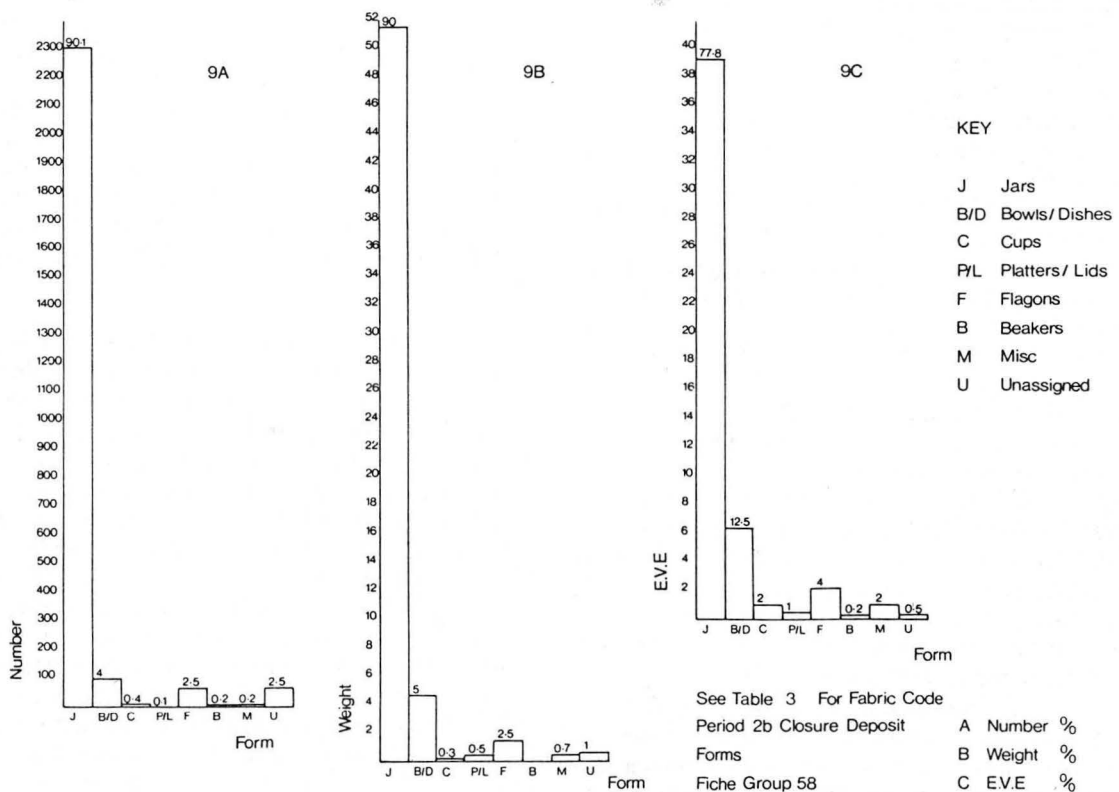


Figure 31 Bar chart 9, Period 2b closure deposit (58) pottery content — forms A: (by number of sherds) B: (by sherd weight, kg) C: (by estimated vessel equivalent)

II. The Pottery from Period 1

(Figs 32–34)

Shell-Gritted Wares, Fabrics 14–23

The shell-gritted pottery from Period 1 is divided, for ease of discussion into three broad categories. These should not be assumed to represent separate potting styles but rather to be facets of one continuous locally-based tradition which evolved throughout the period as a result of cross-fertilisation from external influences.

Late Iron Age Coarse Wares, Fabric 21

There is no evidence to suggest that these are not of local manufacture and the probability is that they were part of a domestic industry specific to the site (Peacock 1982, 13–7). The fabric is usually coarse and open-textured, with large and abundant shelly inclusions. Jar forms constitute the bulk of the material and are generally either barrel-shaped with plain rims, 34–35 (Fig. 34), or they have a slack, S-shaped profile and weakly everted or upright rims, 1, 5 (Fig. 32). There are also a number of tub-shaped vessels where the rim is defined by a slight narrowing of the vessel wall externally, 19 (Fig. 33). In these cases, the rim is sometimes flattened, 6, or expanded, 20, 33 (Figs 32–4). Bases are usually plain. The size range varies widely from medium-sized jars, e.g. 1 (Fig. 32), 34 (Fig. 34), up to very large storage vessels, 2 (Fig. 32), 15 (Fig. 33). Few bowl forms as such were noted, possibly 156 (Fig. 41), taking the height as being more than a third of the diameter, but no greater than that, but this scarcity may be more apparent than real, given the difficulty in determining the angle of inclination of many sherds and the lack of complete profiles available. A significant percentage of the pottery, up to 17% by number (28% by weight), bore signs of having had their surfaces scored with regular or random patterns of lines (3, 6, 10, 11, Fig. 32) and a further 6% by number (8% by weight) were covered to some degree by a shallow combed pattern (31, Fig. 34).

In form and surface treatment, these coarse wares conform closely with contemporary assemblages from other local sites: Category 1 pottery at Longthorpe (Dannell and Wild 1987) dated to the Late Iron Age; Group 2 vessels from Fengate (Pryor 1984, M128–M164, fig. M94–M120) dated from the Middle Iron Age through to mid-1st century AD; and Period 1 material from the Werrington Enclosure (Mackreth 1988) also dated to the Late Iron Age. This collection of sites is distributed along the easternmost edge of a style-zone which stretches across the East Midlands whose commonest characteristic is the use of a scored surface treatment on vessels dating from Middle Iron Age times onwards.

On sites in Northamptonshire (where the suite of forms most closely reflects the Lower Nene Valley repertoire) there is little evidence that these coarse wares continued in use beyond the early 1st century AD. At Moulton Park, typical globular jars bearing 'scratched decoration' appear in Group I contexts dated AD 10±20, but not in Group 2 material dated to the second quarter of the 1st century AD (Williams 1974, 20 and 25). At Wakerley, Jackson states that the use of scored pottery, 'does not continue in Northamptonshire after the introduction of Belgic ceramic types' (Jackson and Ambrose 1978, 174). In the Lower Nene Valley, on the other hand, the available evidence points to the continuing use, if not manufacture, of this type

of pottery alongside wheel-thrown non-romanised (*i.e.* 'belgic') wares. Admittedly, at Werrington, where Period 1 occupation was believed to have ceased sometime around the mid-1st century (Mackreth 1988), only a small amount of 'belgic' wares was recovered. However, at Fengate, where final abandonment of the site is dated to sometime after the Conquest (Pryor 1984, 157), there is good evidence for contemporary use of both hand-made coarse and wheel-thrown 'belgic'-influenced vessels (F1058, the Late Iron Age well, contained 30% wheel-thrown and 70% hand-made vessels). At Monument 97 also there is evidence from Period 1a closed groups (Table 3, Bar Charts 6a and 6b, Fig. 29) for the co-existence in use of both pottery types and for continuity in use of Late Iron Age hand-made pottery until at least the Conquest period.

Late Iron Age 'Fine' Wares, Fabrics 14–16

These fabrics are distinguished from coarse wares by their much more finely crushed shell content, thinner walls, generally harder firing and smoother surface finishing. Under a ×30 binocular microscope they contain no specific mineral inclusion which is not also present in the coarse wares and therefore they are assumed to be locally made, unless some characteristic suggests otherwise.

Although the forms more commonly associated with coarser fabrics sometimes appear in the finer wares, 16, 39 (Figs 33, 34), the latter are commonly reserved for wheel-thrown vessels where the form is influenced by 'belgic' styles, 17, 38, 39 (Figs 33, 34). If they were produced locally they must, therefore, post-date the introduction of both 'belgic' fashions and the use of the potter's wheel into the area. On present evidence, these innovations are thought to date to the second quarter of the 1st century AD (see p. 56). One piece whose decoration indicates a source of manufacture further afield is 24 (Fig. 33). The regular lines of punctate impressions are quite alien to any locally based tradition of decoration but reminiscent of fashions prevalent further north in Lincolnshire (the Ancaster Gap material, May 1976, 174, fig. 87, 1–5) and this vessel may be a stray import from that area. Such casual trade/cultural association obviously existed, since small amounts of similar pottery have turned up on other local sites: Werrington (Mackreth 1988, fig. 26, 40); Fengate (Pryor 1984, 159, M151 and M159, fig. M110).

'Transitional'/Early Roman Wares, Fabrics 18/22 and 20

This category is not easy to interpret as a distinct fabric type: in terms of inclusions alone there is nothing to distinguish it from the Iron Age coarse wares. The main characteristics which define it are a trend towards thinner-walled, harder fired vessels, usually dark red/black in colour, which in form and decoration hearken more towards a romanised than a native potting tradition. Most of them appear to be wheel-thrown or at least finished on the wheel but, unlike the previous category, they do not imitate finer, 'tableware' forms. Instead, they appear to stand at the beginning of the long-lived Roman tradition of shell-grit kitchen and storage wares. The commonest form is an ovoid jar with a short neck and everted rim, often decorated with bands of grooves at various points down the profile. Unfortunately, Monument 97 did not produce many typical examples large enough to be worth illustration but see 25, 44, 45 (Figs 33 and 35) for slight variants. The type is, however, well represented on other

mid to late 1st-century sites in the area (Longthorpe: Frere and St Joseph 1974, 104, fig. 53, 93 and 95; 105 and 106, fig. 54, *passim*; Werrington Enclosure: Mackreth 1988, fig. 27, 70 and fig. 29, 103 and 105; Fengate Catswater sub-site: Pryor 1984, M180, fig. M133, 5; Orton Hall Farm: Perrin, in Mackreth 1996, 119, fig. 80, 6–9). Its presence on the fortress site but not amongst the kiln products of the military industry servicing the fortress (Dannell and Wild 1987) argues that this vessel type, like all the shell-grit pottery on the site, was made locally by native potters who supplied it not only to the army but to civilian outlets. Whether the military quartermasters actually commissioned the material or merely took advantage of what was locally available is part of the long-standing problem surrounding the supply of pottery to the army.

The vessel *form*, once established, continued in production and use throughout the 1st and 2nd centuries with only minor stylistic variations which, however, cannot be pinned down to a chronological development (see p. 72).

The Wheel-thrown Non-romanised ('Grog'-tempered) Wares, Fabric Groups W2 and W9

This class of vessels appears in a variety of fabrics, classified in the site-specific fabric series as Groups 2 and 9. Group 2 pottery is basically a finer, denser version of 9 and both are chiefly distinguished by their lack of quartz tempering. Instead, the main inclusion type seems to be 'grog'-like (*i.e.* baked clay) although other tempering materials were used, see 27 (Fig. 34). Often, the finer wares do not seem to contain any obvious tempering inclusions. The fabrics are generally not hard-fired and feel soapy to the touch.

The unremarkable nature of the major inclusions makes it difficult to say whether the pottery is the product of local industries or imported. No kilns of this period have been found locally so far, but, given the insubstantial material remains left behind by contemporary kiln technology (Woods 1974; Swan 1984, 55) the fact that none has been identified does not necessarily mean they did not exist.

Visually, many of the fabrics resemble material found on sites in the Upper Nene Valley where it is known to have been produced locally from the mid-1st century onwards (*e.g.* Camp Hill, Northampton: Shaw 1979, 26) and whence it could easily have been transported in bulk using the Nene river system. The great similarity between forms found in the Peterborough area and on Northamptonshire sites would support a theory that that region is the most likely source of any large-scale trade. But, whether or not trade was actually involved, it is certainly evident that the ceramic cultures of both regions were closely linked, continuing the pattern observed in the Late Iron Age (see above, p. 55).

In terms of Isobel Thompson's study of 'belgic' pottery (1982), the Lower Nene Valley falls into her Style Zone 8 and many of the illustrated vessels from the site appear in her list of most characteristic forms, *e.g.*:

Thompson B3–6: jar (or bowl) with shoulder cordon defined by deep grooves — 13 (Fig. 32).

Thompson E3–7: bowl with tall, elaborately cordoned neck — 50 (Fig. 35).

Thompson E1–1: carinated bowl with single cordon constricting the waist — 55, 54 (Fig. 35) = slight variant.

Thompson E2–1: similar to E1–1 but with rounder profile (typologically late) — 49 (Fig. 35).

Other vessel types identified by her as typical, such as girth and butt beakers, are also present on site but in fragments too small to be drawn.

One particular jar form, the wide-mouthed, cordoned vessel, see 26 (Fig. 34), is worth particular mention. Thompson defines it as a very long-lived type (her group D1) which eventually appears in romanised gritty fabrics in the later 1st century AD. This seems to be so in the Lower Nene Valley where, as a romanised form, it has an equally long life (see Closure Deposit, 69, 76, Fig. 36). The same is true also of Thompson's category D2–1, (see 46 Fig. 35 and 28 Fig. 34), which is identified by her as a specifically late 'grog'-tempered form subsequently adopted into the repertoire of Roman wares. In the Lower Nene Valley these must be the precursors of the gritty ware jar forms which predominate at Monument 97 in late 1st-century contexts onwards (see below, p. 58).

It is hard to define the length of time during which 'belgic' pottery was widely available in the area because, as in common with many sites of this period away from the heartland of native 'belgic' and early romanising activity, there are few independent dating aids available. At the Fengate Catswater sub-site, it was estimated that wheel-thrown pottery was introduced into the area in the second half of the 1st century BC (Pryor 1984, 157), but no site evidence was offered to support this statement. At the Werrington Enclosure site (Mackreth 1988) scarcely any 'grog'-tempered pottery was found in Period 1 features, dated by brooch evidence to the first half of the 1st century AD, whilst at Monument 97 it constituted only 5% by number (1.5% by weight) of the pottery from closed Period 1a groups. Although there is no good, independent, dating evidence for the end of this phase (placed somewhere around *c.* 50 AD) the statistics from the site, together with the figures for Period 1 at Werrington, combine to throw a reasonable degree of doubt on Pryor's statement: one would assume that wheel-thrown pottery would predominate much more in early groups from both sites, had they been commonly available for as long as he suggests. A date for their introduction sometime in the second quarter of the 1st century AD seems much more probable and in keeping with current dating of their use on sites further west (Williams 1974, 25; Thompson 1982, 16; Jackson and Ambrose 1978, 175; Jackson 1977, 33).

Similarly, calculating the date by which 'grog'-tempered pottery can be said to have disappeared from general use can only be based on logical inference rather than hard fact. Since the problem is linked to the introduction of romanised quartz-tempered fabrics, the two matters are probably best considered together.

At the Fengate Catswater sub-site, where occupation is thought to have continued until sometime after the Conquest (based on coin and brooch evidence; Pryor 1984, 157), the two fabric types were almost certainly in use contemporaneously. Of the pottery from one of the latest features on site, F1053, 16% by number (5% by weight) was quartz-tempered, whilst 10% by number (6% by weight) was 'grog'-tempered. At Werrington, the F11 house structure from Period 1, which appears to have ended at about the same time that occupation ceased at Fengate, contained no 'grog'-tempered material, but 12% by number (14% by weight) quartz-tempered wares. The latest house from Period 1b at Monument 97 contained 11% by number (3% by weight) 'grog'-tempered pottery and 2% by number and weight of quartz-tempered vessels.

At Orton Hall Farm, the earliest features on site containing quartz-tempered wares are dated by samian to the Flavian period. Very little 'grog'-tempered material was recovered from the site at all (Perrin, in Mackreth 1996, 121–3). In all this, a slight chronological progression can be detected whereby the incidence of quartz-tempered pottery gradually increases in the archaeological record at the expense of 'grog'-tempered wares. However, it would appear that for sometime at least, the two fabrics co-existed in use and, bearing in mind the circular nature of the dating evidence used in at least two cases (the pottery dates the period, the period dates the pottery), it would be rash to refine such conclusions too much. A general date for the replacement of non-romanised by romanised fabrics over a period of time in the third quarter of the 1st century AD is as much as the available evidence suggests.

For a brief discussion of the development of quartz-tempered wares in the later 1st and 2nd centuries, see the appropriate section in the Period 2 wares (p. 58).

III. The Pottery from Period 2

(Figs 40–41)

The 'Pot Mine' Closure Deposit

The four layers which make up the so-called 'Pot Mine' (part of (58)) came from a machine-cut section across the north ditch of the South Enclosure which located a huge dump of pottery. Since this was only discovered at the very end of the excavation there was no time to empty the deposit completely and the material recovered, therefore, represents an unquantifiable (but random, and therefore statistically valid) sample of what was present. Nevertheless, over 57kg of pottery was collected, much of it consisting of large sherds with fresh breaks joining to form a substantial number of complete or near-complete vessels. As many of the pots have joining pieces from two or more of the four layers, which were assigned as the machine cut the section and were, therefore, not true layers in the correct archaeological sense, it is considered that the whole deposit accumulated as the result of one specific activity.

Schiffer (1976) defines three distinct types of rubbish deposit: *primary* refuse, discarded at the location of the activity (e.g. secondary flakes from flint knapping); *secondary* refuse where rubbish is deposited either deliberately or accidentally away from the activity area; and *de facto* refuse, consisting of materials, still useful, discarded when a particular phase of an activity or occupation is completed/abandoned. In character, the material from the Closure Deposit most closely resembles the last, whereas the rest of the contexts on site were receiving secondary rubbish. A large number of the vessels look to have been thrown away when still unbroken, suggesting that the criterion for their disposal was not their usefulness but whether they were deemed worthy of the effort needed to remove them from site. The overwhelming proportion of coarse wares present in the group would support this theory, since they were presumably more easily replaceable and so of less value to the owners than the possibly scarcer fine wares (which are hardly, in fact, represented in the group). Also in an ordinary rubbish dump one might expect to find a wider variety of material present, including a substantial amount of organic refuse. The most durable and commonly recovered organic

material is bone, and it is interesting to note that relatively little was found in the Closure Deposit. Since the pottery involved dates to one of the latest recognisable phases of occupation activity on site, it would appear to represent deliberate clearance of household goods prior to abandonment of the site.

The relative frequencies of the different fabric types are illustrated in Table 9 and Bar Charts 8a–c (Fig. 30), and the different forms are similarly quantified in Table 10, Bar Charts 9a–c (Fig. 31). What is immediately most apparent from the first set of figures is the predominance of coarse kitchen and storage wares over finer 'table wares', and with grey wares, both local and non-local, outnumbering shell-gritted fabrics. This ratio is greater than is obvious at first sight, because the marked inequality between the proportion of shell-grits present calculated by the different methods is probably a reflection of the presence of a number of large storage jars, which would be over-represented in the calculations by weight alone. Within the quartz-tempered category, non-local wares are more numerous than local products, which might suggest a date for the deposit after pottery production began in the Lower Nene Valley (sometime in the second quarter of the 2nd century), but before output was large enough to capture local markets entirely. The fabric of Nene Valley Grey Ware vessels varies a good deal and is much grittier than the classic fabrics used in the heyday of the industry, suggesting that potters may have been exploiting a different clay source from that used later on. In connection with this, it is interesting to note that one of the few early kilns sites known is at Old Sulehay, lying well to the west of the main spread of later kilns (Hadman and Upex 1975, 16–8 fig. 7).

'London' Wares form the major part of the finer, 'table ware' element of the deposit, 134–144 (Fig. 40), and, of the imported fine wares, samian is the most common — although one or two of the vessels concerned had been in use for some considerable time before they were discarded and others were clearly residual in the context. This also applies to most of the other exotic fine wares present: 157–159 (Fig. 41). Only small quantities of each of these vessels were found, as abraded sherds, and they occurred in a variety of other Period 2b contexts as well.

It is useful to compare the ratio of different fabrics in the Closure Deposit with other well-dated contemporary groups from local sites. Several such exist, spanning the whole range of site type and status: Pit F265 at Chesterton and Pits [11] 2 and 3, and [14] 7 and 9 in Normangate Field belong to a sequence of industrial and residential settlements along Ermine Street close to the walled area of Durobrivae (Perrin and Webster 1990); Pit 1 at Castor (Green *et al.* 1987) is part of the earliest activity on a site which later housed the prestigious palace/villa on Castor Hill (Mackreth 1984); a series of features from the Catswater sub-site at Fengate produced material spanning the middle 2nd century from what was obviously a rural farming settlement like Monument 97 (Pryor 1984, 179). When examined, it becomes obvious that, although it is easy to find parallels for individual vessels, none of these other local groups matches the Closure Deposit in overall composition. Some of the variations might be due to the disparity between site status or to the slightly different date ranges involved, but others are not so easily understood. In particular, the absence of roughcast fine wares from the Closure Deposit is difficult to explain, since they appear in

all the other groups. Anderson (1980, 38–9) is confident that the ware was produced in the Nene Valley and there is evidence for its production further north at Great Casterton (Corder 1961, 52, fig. 18). Similarly, the lack of mortaria from the Pot Mine is worth noting. At Fengate, Hayes identified several pieces from his mid-2nd-century deposits as being of local manufacture (Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 127, 15) and at Castor, Hartley identified a particular potter, VIATOR, as working in the Lower Nene Valley c. AD 110–145 (Green *et al.* 1987), so the product should have been available.

In general, all the other groups, including those from the site which is closest in character to Monument 97, Fengate, contain a much wider repertoire of forms and fabrics. Perhaps the best explanation for the variations observed between Monument 97 and the rest lies in the fundamental difference in the nature of the deposits. All the other assemblages were considered by their excavators to be composed of ordinary secondary rubbish, so one might expect to see the full spectrum of vessels in use more nearly reflected in the deposit. On the other hand, the Closure Deposit, as *de facto* rubbish, may only partially represent the pattern of vessel-use on the site, precisely because an unknown quantity may have been deliberately selected for retention and transport elsewhere. This might account for the absence of mortaria and the scarcity of fine wares present: they could have formed part of that category of objects of value or extra usefulness deemed worthy of preservation. Alternatively, the narrow range of forms and fabrics present might suggest that the deposit came from the clearance of an area with a specific function such as a store-room or larder.

Table 10 and Bar Charts 9a–c (Fig. 31) illustrate the analysis of the deposit by vessel form. When compared with Table 9 and Bar Charts 8a–c, it is immediately obvious that fabrics were closely linked to particular forms, *i.e.* coarse wares for jars (storage) and finer wares for bowls and flagons (food presentation). The overwhelming proportion of jars present could support the theory, proposed above, that the chuck-out came from a storage area.

It is quite difficult to estimate when the Closure Deposit was formed except in the broadest terms. Unfortunately, there are no useful small finds from the section to provide independent dating evidence. Most of the coarse ware forms involved were long-lived and, whilst ‘London’ Ware is thought to have first appeared in the Lower Nene Valley in the second quarter of the 2nd century (Perrin 1980, 10), it was still obviously in use into the second half of the century (Fengate Catswater sub-site F412: Pryor 1984, 192–3, table 5; Chesterton Building 4 Layers 4 and 5: Perrin, in preparation). The latest dated samian from the deposit is Hadrianic/Antonine but for reasons rehearsed above, one has to bear in mind that the lack of a particular material from the group does not mean that it was not potentially in use on the site. Similarly, the deposit cannot be dated with certainty to the period before standard colour-coat production started in the area merely because examples of that fabric are absent. In fact, a very small amount of early Nene Valley colour-coat was recovered from the sequence of gullies dug in Period 2b to define the eastern sub-enclosure in the South Enclosure, see 197 bowl (Fig. 43) and two sherds from a beaker with barbotine decoration (not illustrated). Together with a bowl (185, Fig. 42), dated typologically to post 150 AD, which came from a layer in the same section as the Closure Deposit itself, the

presence of these sherds on site suggests that Period 2b ended sometime shortly after colour-coat production began in the Nene Valley. The problem then arises as to when this is thought to have happened: none of the few early kiln sites known has independent dating evidence. Of the well-dated settlement site groups mentioned above, the Normangate Field pit groups, dated by samian to 130–150 AD, and Castor Pit 1, dated by samian to 125–145 AD and by mortaria to 110–140 AD, contain no local colour-coats. However, Chesterton Building 4, Layers 4 and 5, and Fengate, Catswater sub-site F412, dated by samian to the third quarter of the 2nd century (Pryor 1984, 192–3, table 5) have some. A date shortly after the middle of the 2nd century, therefore, seems most appropriate for the formation of the deposit.

Non-Local Quartz-tempered Wares

This is an umbrella term covering a wide variety of different fabrics (Fabric Groups W1, W3, W5–8). Over the last 30 years several kilns situated on the Jurassic clays of Northamptonshire have been identified which were in production at different times from the mid-1st century through to the later 2nd century, and these are usually taken to be the source for early non-local coarse wares (Howe *et al.* n.d., 6–7. Known 1st-century production sites include Rushden: Woods and Hastings 1984; Camp Hill: Shaw 1979, 17–30 — Kiln 22; Blackmore Thick Farm: Smith and Todd 1974, 6–12; and Weston Favell: Bunch and Corder 1954, 218–24. 2nd-century kilns are known at Ecton, Mears Ashby and Irchester amongst others (Johnston 1969, 93–5)).

In the Lower Nene Valley, quartz-tempered fabrics are first found in mid-1st century deposits (p. 56) where they appear in a variety of forms heavily influenced by ‘belgic’ styles, *e.g.* 62 (Fig. 36), and 164, 166, 177 (Figs 41, 42) from other Period 2 deposits; Fengate, Catswater sub-site Group 3, Fabric 2 (Pryor 1984, M165–M183, figs M121–M135, *passim*). These early quartz-tempered wares are usually partially or completely oxidised, either in an attempt to copy the appearance of ‘belgic’ wares or because kiln technology was not sufficiently sophisticated to guarantee fully reducing firing conditions (Swan 1984, 55). Unfortunately, we have no good local groups dating to the later 1st century to show the evolution of forms and fabrics, but the evidence from open contexts at the Werrington Enclosure, Monument 97 and Orton Hall Farm (Perrin, in Mackreth 1996) suggests that during that period existing jar forms became more romanised with grooves replacing cordons on the profile, 69, 76, 77 (Fig. 36); bowl and beaker forms were gradually replaced by new types, 91, 101–103 (Figs 37, 38); and reduced fabrics became common, (*e.g.* Werrington, Mackreth 1988, fig. 29.101; 63 (Fig. 36), 165 (Fig. 41). By the time the large local 2nd-century groups were being deposited these processes were more or less complete.

Most of the non-local quartz-tempered wares are characteristically harsh and gritty to the touch but this may well be because the original surface has been lost due to hostile post-depositional conditions. Occasionally, sherds have been found, unfortunately not at Monument 97, which have a smooth, almost burnished finish. Field-walking at Tansor, near Oundle, Northamptonshire produced an example where the burnishing on half the sherd had flaked off, leaving the familiar harsh ‘surface’ appearance so common on these wares.

Local Grey Wares (LNVGW), Fabric NV4

Although there is some evidence to suggest that civilian production of coarse wares was taking place from the later 1st century onwards in the area around Durobrivae (Hartley 1960, 6), the best-attested early kiln, at Old Suléhay west of Wansford, dates to the years around the middle of the 2nd century (Hadman and Upex 1975, 18). Here, the first recognisable Lower Nene Valley Grey Ware forms were produced. Most of them were heavily influenced by current fashions prevailing in the East Midlands but one, the slashed-cordon jar, seems to be a distinctive local invention, 114–116 (Fig. 39). By the later 2nd century, the industry was large enough to be capturing the expanding local market at the expense of imported kitchen wares: Fengate F412, where LNVGW was the most common grey ware (Pryor 1984, 192–3, table 5). By the early 3rd century at Chesterton (J.R. Perrin, to be published), non-local quartz-tempered grey wares had virtually disappeared from the archaeological record.

The fabric of the early LNVGW vessels often seems to be sandier than later, standard, products which might reflect the exploitation of different clay sources or use of different tempering proportions by early potters. On the other hand, it is possible that some of the pots listed below are not LNVGW. Most of them have the distinctive white body with grey surfaces which is a feature of standard Nene Valley Grey Wares, but there is one other possible contender as a source for this particular material: the kilns at Ecton, Northamptonshire which were in production during the 2nd and 3rd centuries (Johnston 1969, 81). However, although the fabric is superficially similar, the published range of 2nd-century products from Ecton does not really match the known Lower Nene Valley repertoire of the same date (*cf.* Johnston 1969, fig. 7 with Hadman and Upex 1975, fig. 7). In particular, there is no good parallel to the standard Lower Nene Valley wide-mouthed grooved jar, such as 109–111 (Fig. 38).

Cream/White Firing Wares, Fabric Groups W4 and NV9

It is not possible to state with certainty whether vessels 125–132 (Fig. 39) were made in the Lower Nene Valley or not. No early kiln is known to have made self-coloured wares but later, 3rd-century production is attested at Sibson (Hartley 1960, 14). Also, the grey-white-grey fabric of LNVGW shows that the potters were using clay which could be fired white, and visual inspection of the fabrics concerned reveals that the two types of material contained very similar mineral inclusions. Evidence from early settlement sites in the area shows that a small but consistent amount of white wares, not recognisably non-local, was in circulation in the 2nd century and it is likely that a certain proportion was produced right through the life of the industry. In particular, flagons and mortaria, which are usually associated together in production (Howe *et al.* n.d., 10), were probably made by the early local potters. We have evidence from Castor Pit 1 and Normangate Field Pit [11] 2 and 3 for a potter who stamped his mortaria VIATOR who seems to have been working in the Nene Valley in the second quarter of the 2nd century. Some of the material, however, was recognisable as imported, mainly from the Verulamium region, *e.g.* 133 (Fig. 39), but also from other production centres such as further up the Nene Valley: good parallels exist for both the fabric and form of 126 (Fig. 39) in early 2nd-century contexts at Ashton, near Oundle, where it is known as hard, cream grogged ware.

'London' Wares

Pottery of the type commonly known as 'London' Ware is known to have been made at several centres in East and South East England from the later 1st century onwards (Rodwell 1978, 225–92). Diagnostic characteristics are forms copying samian prototypes, particularly Dragendorff 18/31, 30 and 37, and a variety of decorative techniques including incising, rouletting and stamping. The amount of material of this sort which has turned up on early sites in the Lower Nene Valley has led Perrin (1980, 10) to suggest that a centre for its production existed close at hand. This theory is supported by the fact that on material recovered locally, the same narrow range of decorative motifs appears again and again with hardly any examples of roller-stamping which is so common elsewhere. The Closure Deposit has good examples of several of the most common local patterns, such as the use of compass-drawn half-circles and rouletted lozenges, *e.g.* 144 (Fig. 40); vertical comb-impressed/rouletted bands, either alternating with impressed circles, *e.g.* 138, or alone, *e.g.* 143; and bands of incised lines, *e.g.* 137 (Fig. 40). All of these decorations can be paralleled on pottery from a number of local sites (Perrin 1980, fig. 5 for a representative selection). Also, not all the present examples are in the fine dense fabric commonly associated with the type, some are much grittier and akin to local grey wares, *e.g.* 141, 143 (Fig. 40). It should be borne in mind, at this point, that these coarser-fabric vessels probably had a fine smooth, even burnished, surface finish which has since been lost due to burial conditions.

Shell-gritted Ware, Fabric 22

Shell-gritted pottery was well represented in the Closure Deposit although the disparity obvious between the proportions calculated by weight and by number or EVEs suggests that the number of individual vessels concerned is smaller than might be apparent at first sight. At least two very large storage jars are present in the deposit, 153, 154 (Figs 40, 41), and these alone could account for a significant proportion of the weight.

This type of pottery is thought to have been made in the Lower Nene Valley throughout the Roman period, carrying on a tradition which dates back into the Iron Age (above, pp 55–6), although very little actual evidence for its manufacture is known beyond two early kiln sites found in the environs of Durobrivae (Hartley 1960, 6; Wild, excavations in Normangate Field). However, the lack of any specific kiln evidence may only be a reflection of the fact that these coarse wares were being produced in bonfire/clamp kilns which would leave little trace in the archaeological record, and there is much circumstantial evidence which points to local large-scale manufacture:

- a) substantial, easily accessible deposits of shell-bearing clays exist in the area around Peterborough. These clays were laid down in seams containing differing quantities of shell, which might account for the variations apparent in the vessel fabric;
- b) large amounts of shell-gritted pottery appear on local sites right through the Roman period and it seems unlikely that they could have competed successfully against the indigenous coarse ware industry if they had been imported: transport costs alone would have raised their price unacceptably, unless, of course, they were imported for their contents and not as a commodity in their own right.

At Monument 97 the class of vessels overwhelmingly represented in the fabric is jars, *e.g.* 147, 148–9, 152–3 (Fig. 40), and these seem to have been the main product of the industry, although the existence of other forms in other early local groups suggests some experimentation in the production of different forms before the repertoire became standardised.

Exotics/Miscellanea

The presence of some obviously exotic imports at Monument 97 is somewhat surprising, given the apparent status of the site. They may, however, represent nothing more than one-off acquisitions by an inhabitant and it would be unwise to speculate too wildly about their history.

Pottery from Other Period 2 Contexts

Nene Valley Colour-coated Wares (NVCC)

Only a very few sherds in this fabric were recovered from the site and most of them are from recognisably early vessels, *e.g.* 197 (Fig. 43) which copies a sub-‘belgic’ form (see above p. 58). However, one vessel was found in a ditch recut assigned to Period 2c (67) which is much later in date. 198 (Fig. 43) is the rim from a wide-mouthed jar or bowl which was one of the standard products of the later colour-coat industry. It occurs amongst the material from Stibbington Kiln W (Wild 1974, 163, fig. 8.k) and in large numbers on local settlement sites (Ashton: Howe *et al.* n.d., 24, fig. 7, 75, 77; Chesterton: Perrin, to be published; Orton Hall Farm: Perrin, in Mackreth 1996) in contexts dating to the 4th century.

IV. Catalogue of Illustrated Sherds

Period 1 Good Groups

(Figs 32 and 33)

1. *L724, F100*, South House (16), Period 1a. Fabric 21; Int.: 7.5YR pink; Ext.: 7.5YR pink/brown with blackening; Core: 7.5YR very dark grey. Similar to Mackreth 1988, fig. 27, 75 from Period 1, up to 60 AD.
2. *L541, F99*, South House (16), Period 1a. Storage jar, diameter uncertain. Fabric 21; Int.: 7.5YR light brown with black patches; Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-brown; Core: 7.5YR dark grey.
3. *L240, F61* gully (25), Period 1a. Fabric 21; Int.: 2.5YR black/reddish-brown; Ext.: 10YR light yellowish-brown with blackened rim; Core: black. Cf. Pryor 1984, 135, fig. 100, 15, from a Middle/Late Iron Age post-hole; and Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 89, a later feature but sherd assigned to Period 1, up to 60 AD.
4. *L228, F61* gully (25), Period 1a. Fabric 21; Int.: 10R light red; Ext.: 7.5YR light brown with blackened rim; Core: 10YR grey-brown. Similar to Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 94, a later feature but sherd assigned to Period 1, up to 60 AD; and Pryor 1984, M137, fig. M100, 47 from a Late Iron Age main drain.
5. *L115, F27* well (27), Period 1a. Fabric 21; Int.: 2.5YR light reddish-brown (blotched); Ext.: 2.5YR light reddish-brown, rim blackened; Core: 2.5YR grey; vertical finishing/tool marks. Similar to Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 89, a later feature but sherd assigned to Period 1, up to 60 AD; and Pryor 1984, 135, fig. 100, 15, from a Middle/Late Iron Age post-hole.
6. *L255, F45* North House (17), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 5YR very dark grey; Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow with blackening below shoulder; Core: 5YR dark reddish-grey. See Pryor 1984, 135, fig. 99, 8, and M137, fig. M100, 47, both from a Late Iron Age main drain.
7. *L188, F45/88*, North House (17), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 5YR reddish-yellow with blackening; Ext.: 5YR yellowish-red with blackened rim; Core: 5YR black. See Pryor 1984, M145, fig. M106, 3, with flattened rim, a Middle/Late Iron Age form.
8. *L189, F45*, North House (17), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 7.5YR strong brown; Ext.: 7.5YR brown/dark brown; Core: 10YR very dark greyish-brown. Cf. Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 89, a later feature

but sherd assigned to Period 1, up to 60 AD; and Pryor 1984, 135, fig. 100, 15, from a Middle/Late Iron Age post-hole.

9. *L202, F45*, North House (17), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: absent; Ext.: 7.5YR brown/dark brown; Core: 7.5YR very dark grey. See Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 91, from a later feature but sherd assigned to Period 1, up to 60 AD.
10. *L272, F50*, North House (17), Period 1b. Storage jar, diameter 44cm. Fabric 21; Int.: 10YR dark greyish-brown; Ext.: 10YR pale brown/7.5YR strong brown; Core: 10YR brownish-grey. See Pryor 1984, M137, fig. M99, 40, from Middle Iron Age main drain.
11. *L267, F45*, North House (17), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow to very dark grey; Ext.: 7.5YR pink/black; Core: 7.5YR dark grey/black. Unusual mixture of random widely-spaced curvilinear and straight-line scoring.
12. *L255, F45*, North House (17), Period 1b. Fabric 16/21; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR very dark brown; Core: 7.5YR black. Light scoring and impressed/rouletted decoration. Cf. Pryor 1984, M155, fig. M112, 24, from Late Iron Age structure 41 for same combination of decoration and surface treatment.
13. *L189, F45*, North House (17), Period 1b. Fabric W2; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR light reddish-brown. Jar form: Thompson B3–6 (1982, 159). Cf. Williams 1974, 26, fig. 15, 62, in a quartz-tempered fabric dating to first half of 1st century AD; and Pryor 1984, M178, fig. M131, 16, in a ‘grog’-tempered fabric from Late Iron Age main drain.
14. *L292, F53*, West House (18), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 5YR dark reddish-brown; Ext.: black; Core: 2.5YR very dark grey. Cf. Simpson 1981, 54, fig. 11, 11, from enclosure ditch fill; sherd dated to Late Pre-Roman Iron Age.
15. *L290, F53*, West House (18), Period 1b. Storage jar, diameter 52cm. Fabric 21; Int.: 2.5YR red; Ext.: 10R red/10YR pale brown; Core: 5YR reddish-brown.
16. *L324, F53*, West House (18), Period 1b. Fabric 16; Int.: 10R red with black rim; Ext.: 10R dusky red to black; Core: black. Wheel-thrown or wheel-finished version of Late Iron Age coarse ware form. For hand-made version see Pryor 1984, 135, fig. 100, 14, from a Late Iron Age main drain.
17. *L391, F53*, West House (18), Period 1b. Fabric 16; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-brown; Core: black with 2.5YR red core edges. Either a variant of Thompson’s necked bowl B3–2 (1982, 145), see Williams 1974, 26, fig. 19, 145, 148, dating to first half of 1st century AD; or of girth beaker, see Foster *et al.* 1977, 82, fig. 14, 15, dating to mid-1st century AD.

Pottery from Period 1 Features

(Figs 33 and 34)

18. *L573*, ditch, no feature no. (7), Period 1a. Fabric 21; Int.: 10YR greyish-brown; Ext.: 10YR very pale brown with blackening; Core: 10YR yellow. Cf. Mackreth 1988, fig. 27, 68, from Period 1, up to 60 AD; and Pryor 1984, M137, fig. M100, 48, from Late Iron Age main drain.
19. *L145, F2* gully (5), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 7.5YR light brown; Ext.: 2.5YR light red; Core: 2.5YR very dark grey. For a version with a plain rim see Pryor 1984, 135, fig. 99, 4, from a Middle/Late Iron Age post-hole.
20. *L564, F73* ditch (15), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 5YR dark grey to reddish-yellow; Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR light reddish-brown. Cf. Simpson 1981, 54, fig. 11, 5, dating to the mid-1st century AD; and Pryor 1984, M149, fig. M109, 2, from a Middle Iron Age quarry pit.
21. *L35, F3* ditch (12), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 5YR very dark grey/black; Ext.: 10YR black/grey; Core: 10YR dark grey/black. Similar to Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 95, from a later feature but sherd assigned to Period 1, up to 60 AD; and Pryor 1984, M137, fig. M100, 48, from a Late Iron Age main drain; also Simpson 1981, 54, fig. 11, 24 dating to first half of 1st century AD.
22. *L139, F11* ditch (12), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int.: 5YR dark reddish-grey; Ext. and Core: 5YR dark reddish-grey/black. See Pryor 1984, M128, fig. M94, 2, from a Middle Iron Age quarry pit.
23. *L145, F2* gully (5), Period 1b. Fabric 21; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR light brown with blackening; Core: 7.5YR black. Base pierced by one hole after firing. Similar vessel form, see Pryor 1984, 135, fig. 100, 13, from a Late Iron Age shallow pit.
24. *L472, F95* gully (1), Period 1a. Fabric 16; Int.: 2.5YR weak red; Ext. and Core: 2.5YR red/black. Similar decoration on Pryor 1984, M151, fig. M110, 12, from a Middle Iron Age structure; and Mackreth 1988, fig. 26, 40, from a Period 1 feature, up to 60 AD.

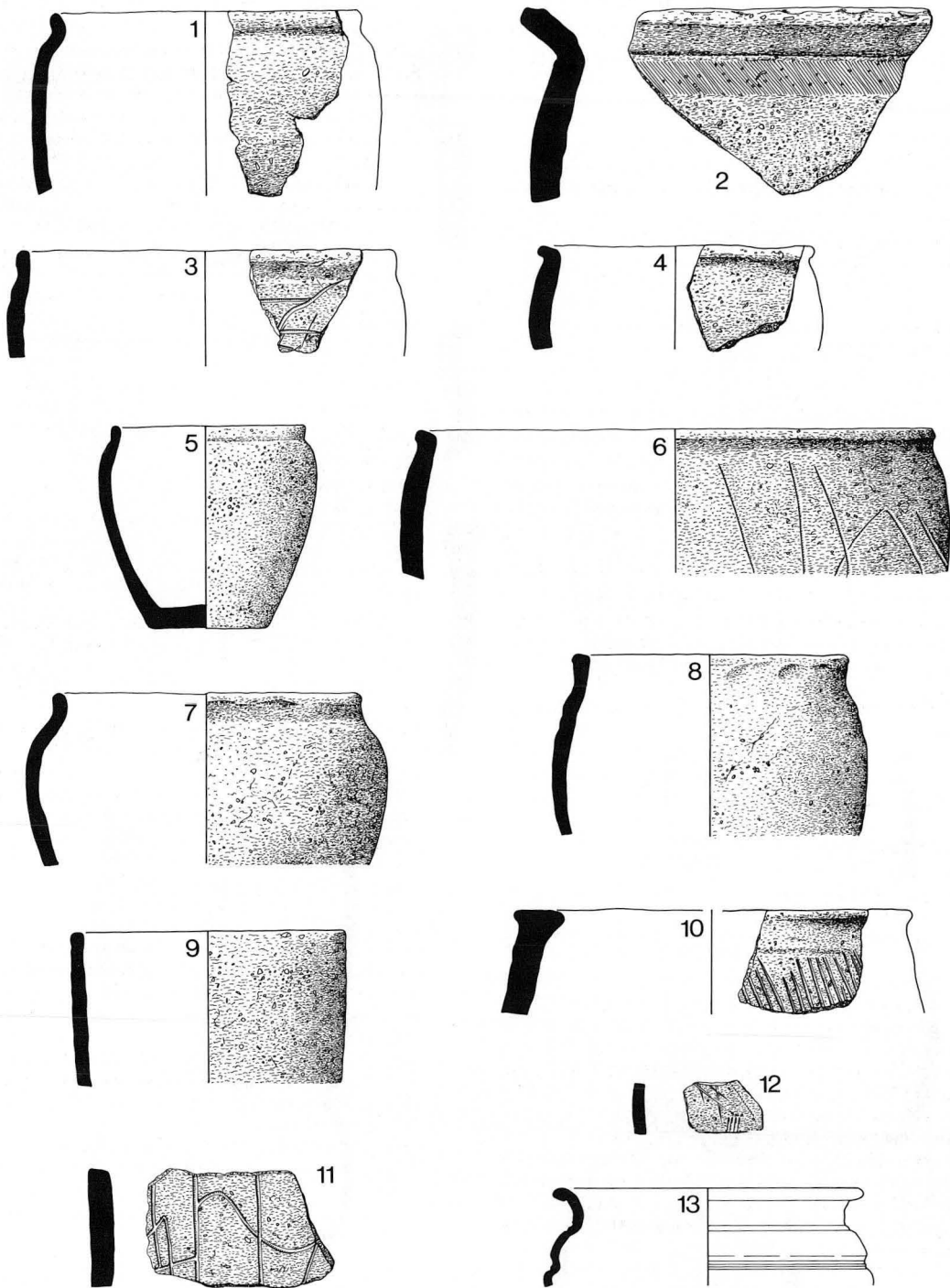


Figure 32 Pottery Nos 1-13, Period 1 groups, scale 1:4

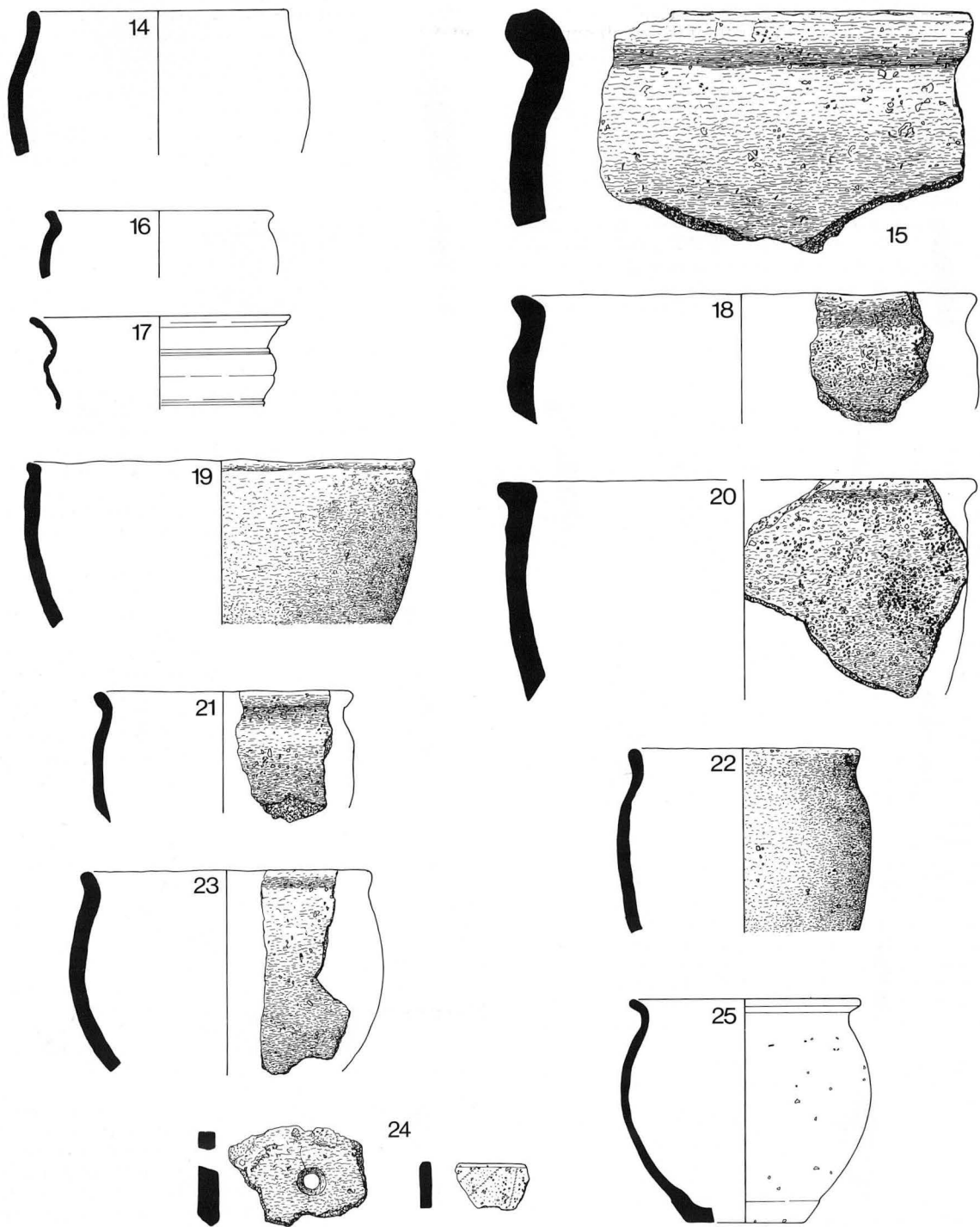


Figure 33 Pottery 14–17, Period 1 groups; 18–25, Period 1 features, scale 1:4

25. *L560*, ditch, no feature no. (3), Period 1a. Fabric 20; Int.: 5YR reddish-yellow with black rim; Ext. 5YR yellowish-red, blackened upper body; Core: 5YR dark reddish-yellow. See Mackreth 1988, fig. 29, 105 (but with shoulder grooves), from a Period 2 feature, up to 100 AD.
26. *L634, F73* ditch (12), Period 1b. Fabric W2; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR dark grey. Thompson's long-lived form D1-1 (1982, 299) or B1-1 (1982, 87) depending on whether vessel is considered to be a bowl or jar. See Williams 1974, 32, fig. 19, 141, 142 in a quartz-tempered fabric dating to first half of 1st century AD.
27. *L671*, gully, no feature no. (14), Period 1a. Fabric W9 with soft black magnetic inclusions; Int., Ext. and Core: Black.
- The pedestal urn is a rare vessel form in Thompson's Zone 8 (1982, 17) and, indeed, only one other local example has been published (Pryor 1984, M181, fig. M134, 9). The Monument 97 base appears to belong to a Thompson Type A1, plain pedestal urn with ordinary foot (Thompson 1982, 45 no. 61 from Newton Blossomville, Bucks). This form was long-lived, being produced throughout the pre- and post-Conquest period over the whole of the 'belgic' pottery-using region. It is common (as base fragments) in early post-Conquest site clearance deposits.
28. *L603, F75* ditch (15), Period 1b. Fabric W2; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow/pink; Core: N4 grey. An example of Thompson's type B3-1/D2-1 depending upon whether the vessel is classified as a jar or a bowl (Thompson 1982, 139 or 319). See Woods 1969, 17, fig. 12, 74, from pre AD 60 deposits; and Shaw 1979, 26, fig. 7, 9 with zigzag decoration on neck dating to the mid-1st century AD.
29. *L605, F73* ditch (15), Period 1b. Fabric W2; Int.: 5YR reddish-brown; Ext.: 5YR yellowish-red with blackening; Core: 5YR very dark grey. Cf. Jackson 1977, 39, fig. 14, 79, from first half of 1st century AD.
30. *L475, F37* post-hole (26), Period 1b. Fabric W3; Int., Ext. and Core: 10YR very dark grey. Possibly intrusive, otherwise the only piece of quartz-tempered pottery from a definite Period 1 context. Too little remains of sherd to be diagnostic.

Additional Period 1 Material from Later Features

(Figs 34 and 35)

31. *L232, F48*, North House (39), Period 2b. Fabric 21; Int.: absent; Ext. and Core: 10YR yellow. Combed surface treatment is generally thought to be characteristic of the latest Iron Age coarse wares. Pryor (1984, 156) believes that its introduction is contemporary with the introduction of wheel-thrown vessels. It certainly appears on many of Thompson's coarse 'grog'-tempered ware forms (1982, Category C, 211ff.). For continuity of use of the technique into the Roman period see Frere and St Joseph (1974 106, fig. 55, 115, 117).
32. *L565, F126* gully (29), Period 2a. Fabric 21; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR light brown with blackening; Core: 7.5YR pinkish-grey.
33. *L180, F73* ditch (35), Period 2a. Fabric 21; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR reddish-brown. Same rim form, see Pryor 1984, M134, fig. M98, 30, 32, from a Late Iron Age main drain.
34. *L402*, ditch, no feature no. (35), Period 2a. Fabric 21; Int. and Ext.: 10YR light yellowish-brown; Core: 10YR dark greyish-brown. See Mackreth 1988, fig. 26, 60, from Period 1, up to 60 AD; also Pryor 1984, M137, fig. M100, 38, from a Middle Iron Age gully.
35. *L19, F11* ditch (30), Period 2a. Fabric 21; Int.: 10YR dark brown; Ext.: 10YR very dark greyish-brown with blackening; Core: 10YR yellowish-brown. See comments after 34.
36. *L18, F11* ditch (30), Period 2a. Fabric 21; Int. and Ext.: 2.5YR reddish-brown with blackened rim; Core: 2.5YR dusky red.
37. *L631, F73-75* ditch (30), Period 2a. Fabric 21; Int.: 10YR greyish-brown; Ext.: 7.5YR light brown to brown; Core: 7.5YR dark grey. Cf. Pryor 1984, M137, fig. M100, 47, from a Late Iron Age main drain; also Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 82, 94, from Period 1, up to 60 AD.
38. *L606, F75* ditch (35), Period 2a. Fabric 14; Int.: 2.5YR light red; Ext.: 2.5YR weak/light red; Core: 2.5YR grey. Thompson's D2-4 bowl with rippled shoulder (1982, 329); also see Pryor 1984, M179, fig. M132, 19, from a Late Iron Age main drain; Williams 1974, 39, fig. 24, 211, dating to first half of 1st century AD.
39. *L635, F126* gully (29), Period 2a. Fabric 16; Int. and Core: 5YR reddish-yellow; Ext.: 7.5YR pink. Copying a coarse ware form, see 16 above; also Mackreth 1988, fig. 27, 68, from Period 1, up to 60 AD.
40. *L21, F3* ditch (65), Period 2c. Fabric 20; Int., Ext. and Core: 7.5YR very dark grey/black. Cf. Pryor 1984, M168, fig. M124, 23 from a Late Iron Age hollow.
41. *L433, F137* pit (41), Period 2c. Fabric 20; Int.: 2.5YR light red; Ext.: 10YR light yellowish-brown with blackening at rim; Core: 10YR light yellowish-brown. Similar to 25 above.
42. *L11, F10* ditch (57), Period 2c. Fabric 20; Int.: 7.5YR pink; Ext.: 7.5YR black; Core: 7.5YR grey. Similar to Frere and St Joseph 1974, 104, fig. 53, 87; Mackreth 1988, fig. 29, 100, from Period 2, up to 100 AD; and Pryor 1984, M165, fig. M121, 3, from Late Iron Age structure 20. Unlike the previous examples, the Monument 97 sherd has only a hint of a regularly incised line at the shoulder.
43. *L21, F3* ditch (65), Period 2c. Fabric 20; Int. and Core: 2.5YR very dark grey; Ext.: 2.5YR very dark grey with 7.5YR light brown patches. Cf. Frere and St Joseph 1974, 104, fig. 53, 91, up to AD 65; and Pryor 1984, M171, fig. M128, 34, from a Late Iron Age main drain.
44. *L581*, ditch, no feature no., (35), Period 2a. Fabric 18/22; Int.: 2.5YR red with blackened rim; Ext.: 2.5YR very dark grey; Core: 2.5YR black. Warped form, possibly inexpertly thrown on the wheel. Decoration comprises a very crudely scribed line and burnished vertical lines. Note undeveloped rim. A 'transitional' form similar to the shell-gritted jars from the fortress at Longthorpe (Frere and St Joseph 1984, 104-5, figs 53-4, *passim*).
45. *L606, F75* ditch (35), Period 2a. Fabric 20; Int. and Ext.: 2.5YR red; Core: 2.5YR very dark grey. Cf. Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 84, from Period 1, up to 60 AD.
46. *L162, F75?* ditch (35), Period 2a. Fabric W2; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR pink; Core: 7.5YR grey. Thompson's category D2-1 (1982, 319), a 1st-century AD form which continues in production increasingly in a romanised fabric. The precursor of the grooved biconical wide-mouthed jar so common in quartz-tempered fabrics in the Closure Deposit. Cf. Shaw 1979, 26, fig. 7, 8, dating to mid-1st century AD; also Pryor 1984, 139, fig. 101, 6, shell-gritted variant from a Late Iron Age main drain.
47. *L581*, ditch, no feature no. (35), Period 2a. Fabric W2; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR dark grey. No parallel for this vessel has been found.
48. *L19, F11* ditch (30), Period 2a. Fabric W9; Int. and Ext.: 2.5Y light grey, with darker patches; Core: 2.5Y light brownish-grey. Most like Thompson's Category E3-4 (1982, 399) but no known local parallels.
49. *L581*, ditch, no feature no. (35), Period 2a. Fabric W2; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR dark grey. Thompson's Category E2-1 (1982, 375), a rounder version of E1-1 and typologically late. Occurs in 'grog'-tempered fabrics at Camp Hill (Shaw 1979, 26, fig. 7, 5) in the mid-1st century AD and in quartz-tempered fabrics at Moulton Park (Williams 1974, 32, fig. 19, 142) dating to first half of 1st century AD and at Hardingstone (Woods 1969, 18, fig. 12, 77) dating to the mid-1st century AD. See also below, 62 from Closure Deposit.
50. *L597, F73* ditch (61), Period 2c. Fabric W2; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR grey/light grey. Thompson's Category E3-7 (1982, 409) a cup (or bowl) with an elaborately cordoned neck dated by her to the immediately pre-Conquest period. For a similar vessel with a more rounded profile see Pryor 1984, 139, fig. 101, 7, from a Late Iron Age main drain.
51. *L14, F11* ditch (65), Period 2c. Fabric W2; Int.: 10YR very pale brown; Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 7.5YR pinkish-grey. Too little remains of profile to be certain of vessel form.
52. *L83, F11* ditch (55), Period 2b. Fabric W9; Int.: 5YR weak red; Ext.: 5YR brown; Core: 5YR grey/brown. An example of a fine well-made foot-ring base. Cf. Pryor 1984, M181, fig. M134, 8, from a Late Iron Age main drain.
53. *L14, F11* ditch (65) Period 2c. Fabric W2; Int.: 10YR light brownish-grey; Ext.: 10YR light grey to dark grey; Core: 10YR very dark grey. The extra step in the lower external wall makes this dish hard to assign to any of Thompson's platter categories. Possibly closest to her G1-1/Cam 1 copies (Thompson 1982, 441-2) which she states is a fair indication of a pre-Conquest date. But see Corder 1961, 44, fig. 15, 39 for an early Flavian, probably 'grog'-tempered example.
54. *L460, F139* pit (41), Period 2c. Fabric W9; Int., Ext. and Core: 10YR very pale brown/5YR reddish-yellow. Variant on Thompson's E1-1 category with undeveloped cordon below rim (1982, 351-2).
55. *L460, F139* pit (41), Period 2c. Fabric W9/W2; Int.: 10YR dark grey; Ext.: 10YR dark greyish-brown/black; Core: 10YR black. Thompson's Category E1-1 (1982, 351-2) production of which in her Zone 8 dates to the mid-1st century AD in red-surfaced 'grog'-tempered and local non-'grog'-tempered wares. Cf. Mackreth 1988, fig. 28, 85, from Period 1, up to 60 AD; Pryor 1984, 135, fig. 101, 1-2, from Late Iron Age structures; Williams 1974, 26, fig. 15, 53, dating to first half of 1st century AD; and Hall and Nickerson 1967, 82, fig. 10, 33, dating early 1st century AD.

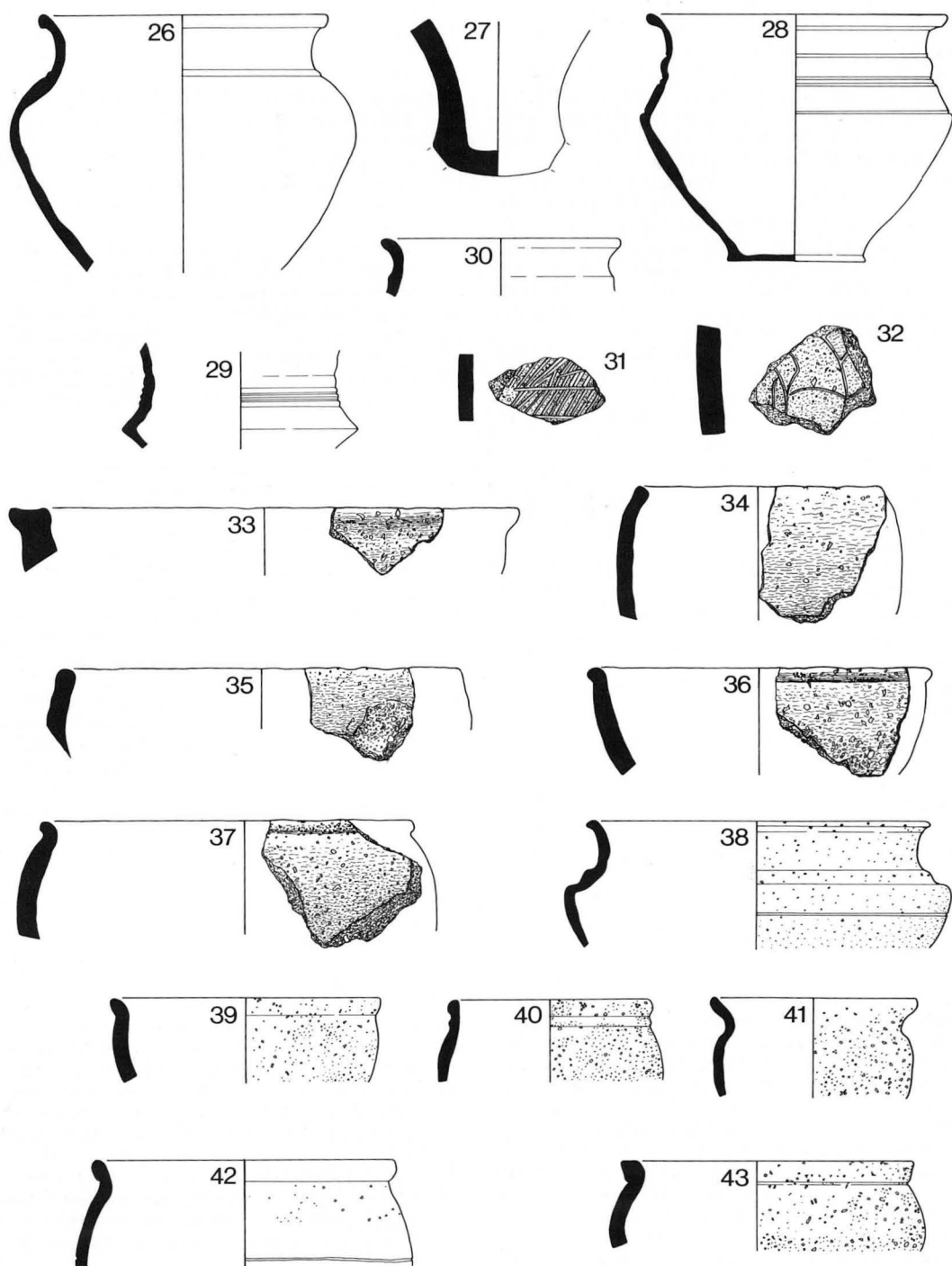


Figure 34 Pottery 26–30, Period 1 features; 31–43, additional Period 1 material, scale 1:4

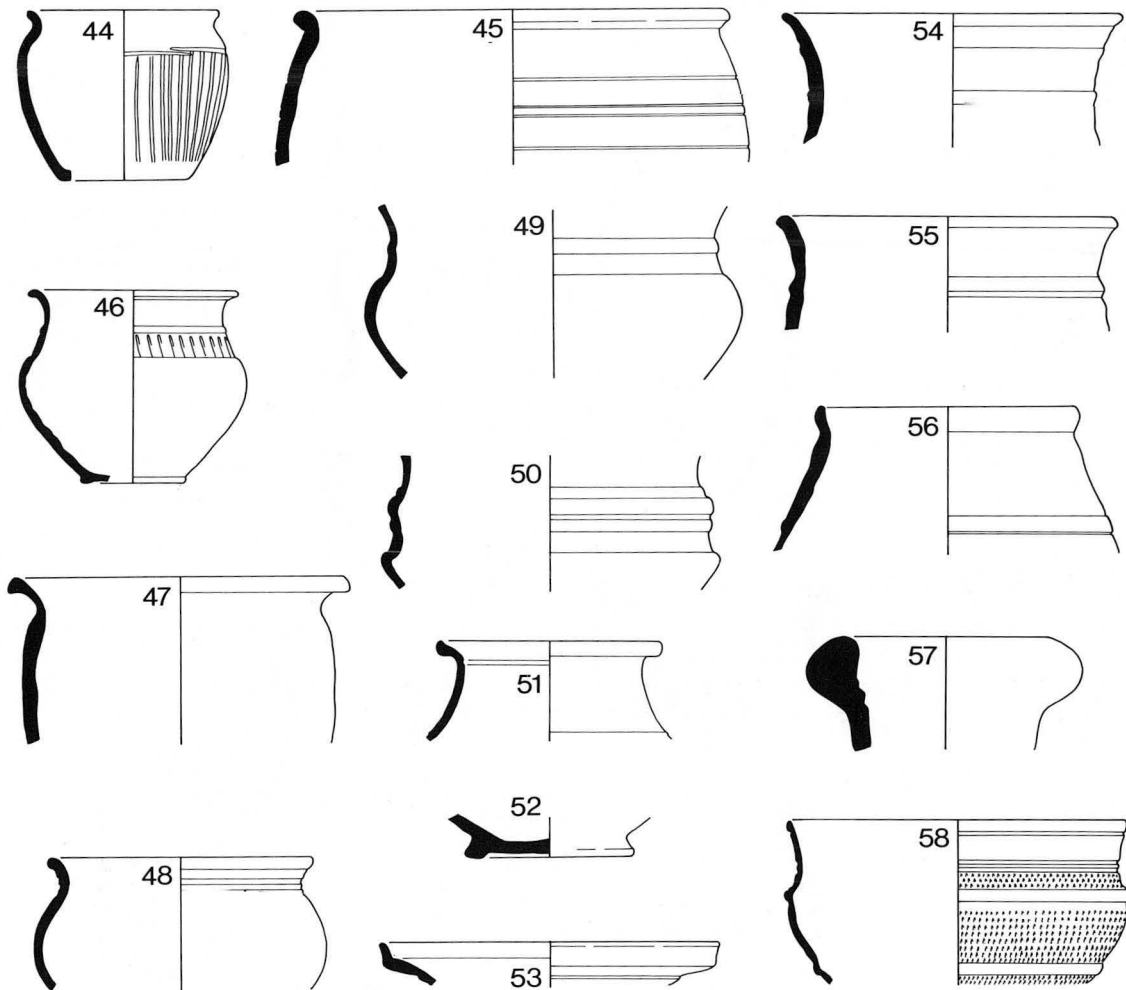


Figure 35 Pottery 44–58, additional Period 1 material, scale 1:4

56. *L95*, ditch, no feature no. (35), Period 2a. Fabric W2; Int.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 7.5YR grey. A butt-beaker derivation? Possibly like Williams 1974, 30, fig. 17, 100, in a quartz-tempered fabric dating to first half of 1st century AD.

57. *L490*, *F83* gully (51), Period 2b. Fabric 92; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 2.5YR pale yellow. Rim from a Dressel 20 amphora.

Dr Paul Sealey comments: 'Dressel 20 is the Baetican olive-oil amphora. Typologically this rim is Claudio-Neronian to early Flavian [in date]'. One other Dressel 20 body sherd from Layer 351, *F64* post-hole (39), Period 2b, not illustrated.

58. *L106*, *F75* ditch (35), Period 2a. Fabric 99: dense hard fabric with sparse quartz and elongate black particles; Int. and Ext.: 10YR white/very pale brown; Core: N5 grey. Traces of pale brownish-orange slip. Possibly an import? Probably a pedestalled form. Miss V. Rigby, when shown the pottery, could think of no precise continental parallel except for a form illustrated in Chenet (1941, 102, fig. 44) showing a 1st-century vessel thought to be copying a Claudian Dragendorff 29.

Period 2: The Closure Deposit

Non-Local Quartz-Tempered Wares (Fig 36–38)

Wide-mouthed, biconical jars decorated with cordons or grooves

As noted in the discussion of Period 1 'grog'-tempered wares, this form evolves directly from mid-1st-century 'belgic' prototypes. Versions in various stages of the development occur on sites throughout the East

Midlands (Verulamium: Frere 1984, 215, fig. 86, 2083–2106; Brixworth: Woods 1970, 18–20, figs 17–19; Quinton: Friendship-Taylor 1979, 77–80, fig. 38) and more locally in later 1st-century contexts at Werrington Enclosure (Mackreth 1988, fig. 29, 101), Orton Hall Farm (inf. J. R. Perrin), and in deposits spanning the 2nd century at Castor (Green *et al.* 1987), Chesterton (J.R. Perrin, to be published) and Fengate, Catswater sub-site (Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 126, 2–6). Few of the Monument 97 examples listed below in this category carry the wavy-line or zigzag burnished decoration on the neck or shoulder which is commonly found on pottery from other local sites. It is, however, not possible to say whether this absence is significant chronologically.

59. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int., Ext., Core: N4 grey. See comment after 62 below.

60. *L677* and *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: N7 grey; Core: N6 grey. See comment after 62 below.

61. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Ext. and Core: 5YR dark grey to reddish-brown. See comment after 62 below.

62. *L678*. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR light grey; Ext.: 10YR light grey to 5Y grey; Core: N4 grey.

This sherd, and the preceding three, are very close in form to the pre-Roman style of cordoned, necked bowl (Thompson 1982, Category E2–1, 375–6), see also 49 from Period 1. Stylistically they must be early in the sequence of romanised wares.

63. *L726* and *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 10YR light grey with darker mottling; Core: N6 grey.

The generous, curving profile of this vessel is reminiscent of the style of the previous four examples but the cordons are becoming more vestigial. Cf. Pryor 1984, 185, fig. 131, 73, dating to first half of 2nd century; and

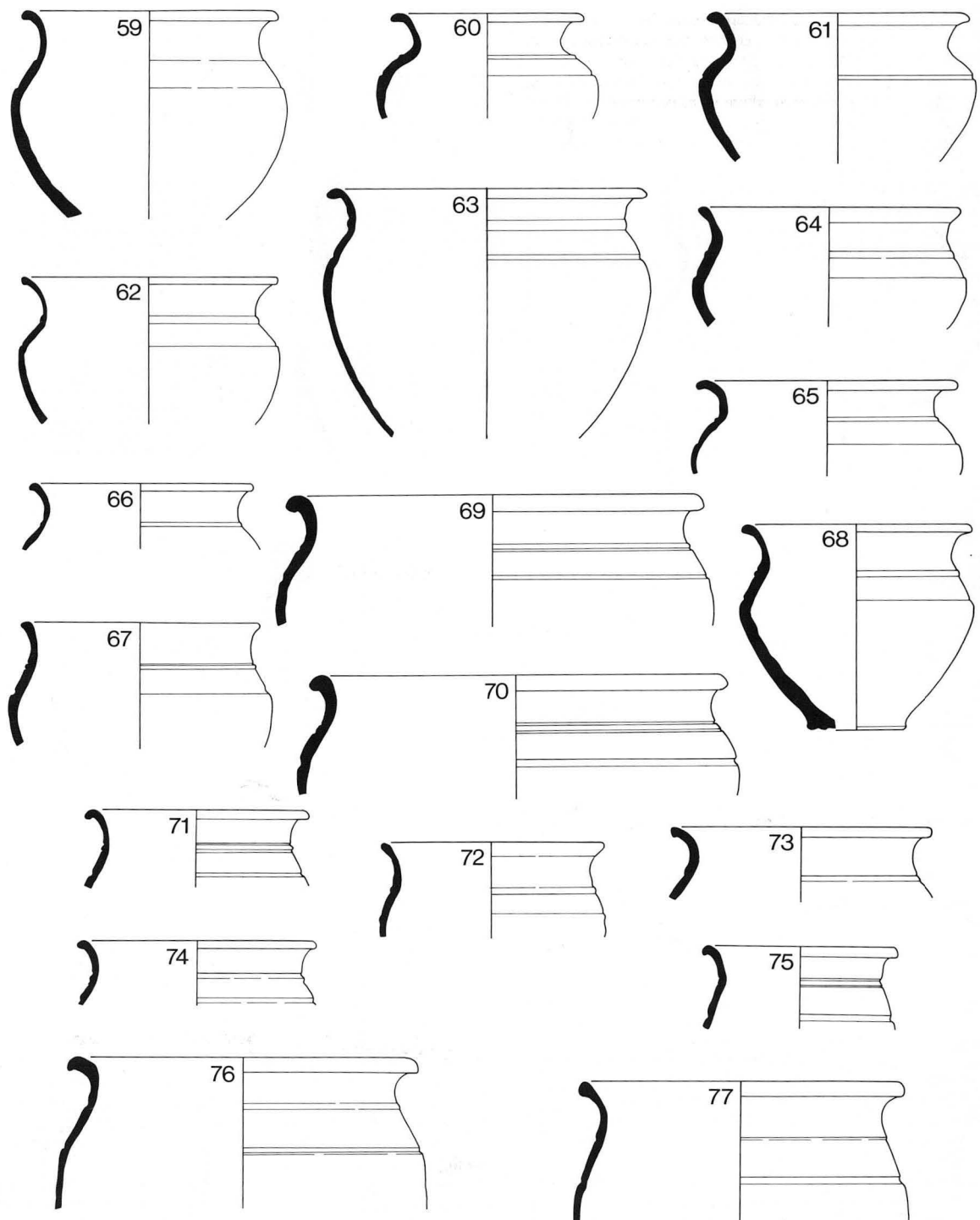


Figure 36 Pottery 59-77, the Closure Deposit, scale 1:4

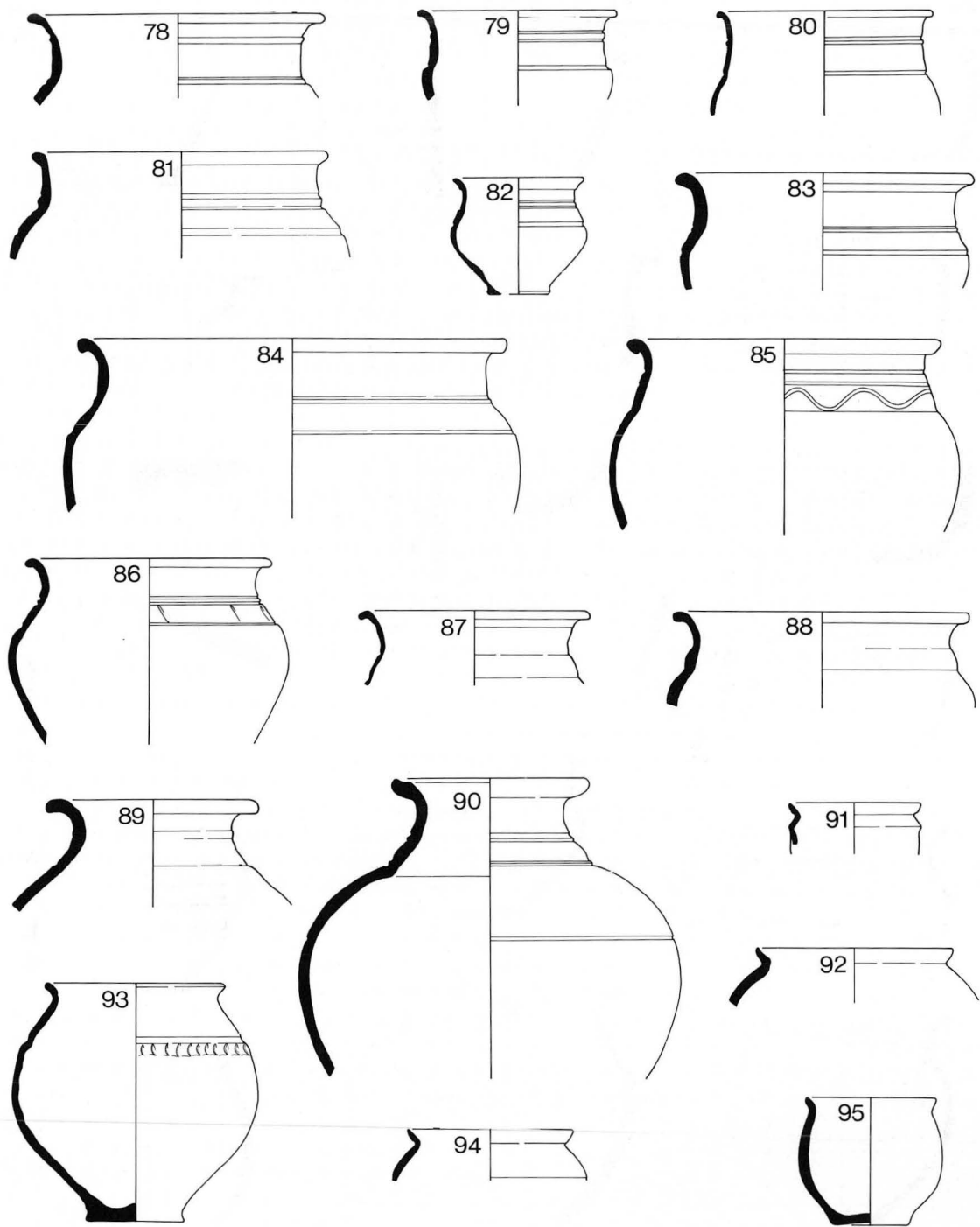


Figure 37 Pottery 78–95, the Closure Deposit, scale 1:4

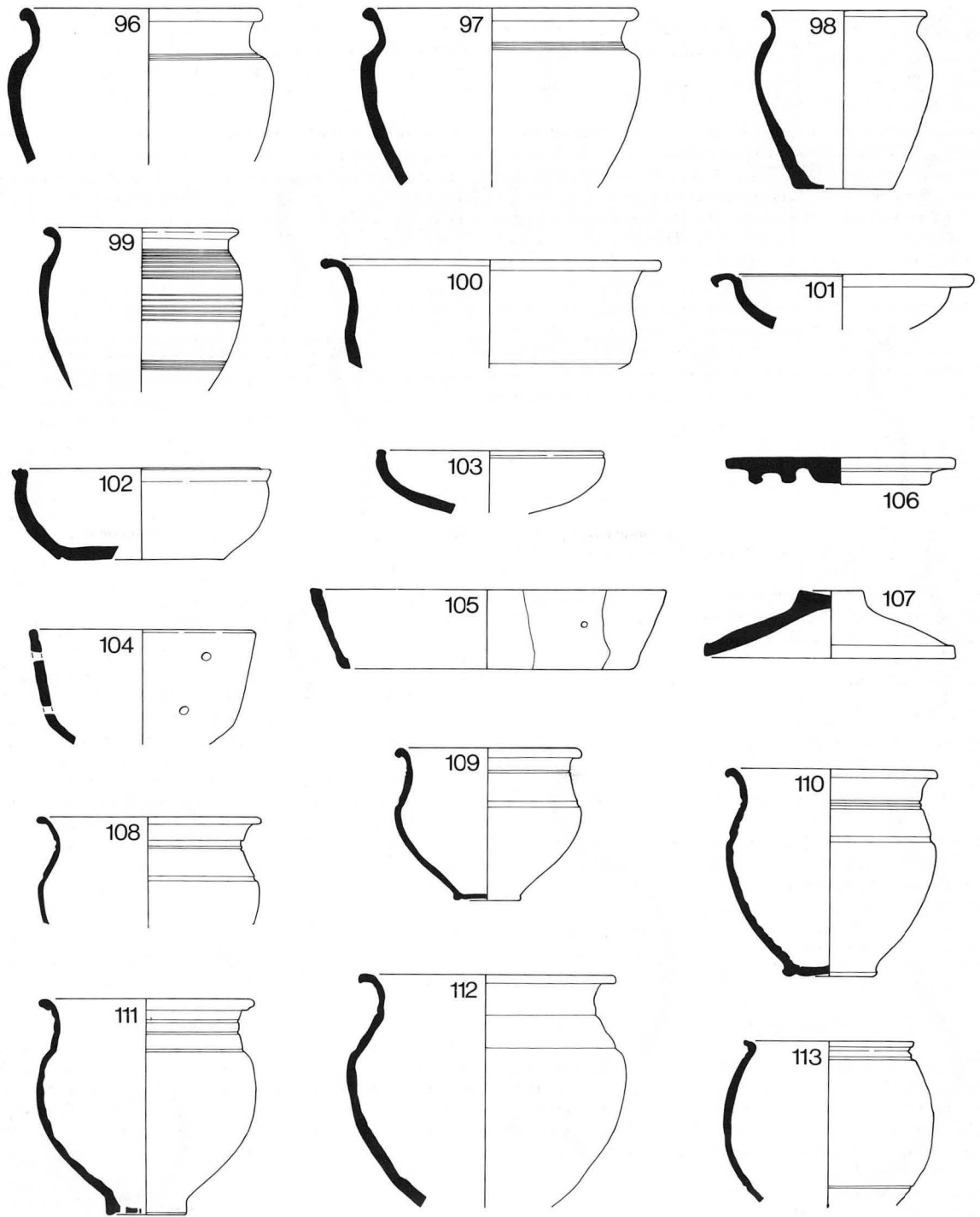


Figure 38 Pottery 96–113, the Closure Deposit, scale 1:4

Green *et al.* 1987 (from Castor, Pit 1) fig. 18, 28, dating to second quarter of 2nd century

64. *L726* and *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 10YR mottled very pale brown and dark grey; Core: N5 grey with buff core edges. See general comment after 63 above.
65. *L678*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 2.5Y greyish-brown; Core: 2.5Y very dark grey. See general comment after 63.
66. *L726* and *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: N4 grey; Core: N5 grey. See general comment after 63 above.
67. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int.: 5Y grey; Ext.: 7.5YR pinkish-grey to brown; Core: 5Y grey. See general comment after 63 above.
68. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR very pale brown; Ext.: 10YR very pale brown to greyish-brown; Core: 10YR dark grey. See general comment after 63 above. Potter and Potter 1982, 55, fig. 24, 106, dating to pre-150 AD is a more angular version of this profile.

Vessels 69–77 below give a good idea of the range of variation in profile of the standard, grooved jars so common on local sites in the 2nd century.

69. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light grey; Core: N5 grey.
70. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 2.5Y light brownish-grey with dark mottling; Core: N4 grey.
71. *L726*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 10YR greyish-brown/yellowish-brown mottled; Core: 10YR yellowish-brown.
72. *L726*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 2.5Y light grey/light brownish-grey mottled; Core: N5 grey with N7 light grey core edges.
73. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int.: 2.5Y light grey; Ext.: 5Y grey/dark grey mottled; Core: N4 grey.
74. *L727*. Fabric W3/W7; Int. and Ext.: 2.5Y light grey; Core: N4 grey.
75. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y grey with darker patches; Core: N4 grey.
76. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR yellowish-brown; Ext.: 10YR yellowish-brown with grey mottling; Core: N7 grey.
77. *L726*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y grey; Core: N7 grey.
78. *L727*, *L677*, *L678*; and *L665* ditch, no feature no. (43), Period 2b. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: N6 grey; Core: N5 grey.

Examples of this type with an upright neck defined by grooves are dated by Perrin in his discussion of the pottery from Chesterton (to be published) as dating to second half of 2nd century, based on the fact that they are absent from the Normangate Field pit groups dated by samian to AD 130–150.

79. *L727*. Fabric W3/NV4; Int.: N6 grey; Ext.: N6/N5 grey mottled; Core: N5 grey. See general comment after 78. It is possible that this may be an early product of the local Nene Valley Grey Ware industry.
80. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR very pale brown; Ext.: 10YR pale brown/dark grey mottled; Core: 7.5YR red. See general comment after 78 above.
81. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light olive grey; Core: N6 grey. See general comment after 84 below.
82. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int.: 7.5YR dark grey; Ext.: 7.5YR brown with blacker patches; Core: 2.5YR red. See general comment after 84 below.
83. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light grey; Core: N6 grey. See general comment after 84 below.
84. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light grey; Core: N6 grey. Characterised by a vertical neck above the grooves. Cf. Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 128, 27 in LNVGW dated to second half of 2nd century; and Castor Pit 1 (Green *et al.* 1987) fig. 18, 25, with burnished decoration on the neck, dated to second quarter of 2nd century.
85. *L677*. Fabric W6; Int., Ext., Core: N7 grey. J.R. Perrin argues in his discussion on Ernest Greenfield's excavation at Chesterton (to be published) that wavy-line decoration on wide-mouthed grooved jars may be more common in the second half of the 2nd century. Cf. Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 126, 4, in LNVGW, dating to third quarter of 2nd century.
86. *L726* and *L727*. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR light yellowish-brown; Ext.: 10YR brownish-grey; Core: N6 grey with 10YR dark yellowish-brown core edges. Vestigial traces of ?zigzag decoration, see 46 for a 'grog'-tempered version. Typologically, in profile and decoration, earlier than 85.
87. *L677* and *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 10YR light grey; Core: N5 grey with 5YR reddish-yellow core edges. Cf. Pryor 1984, 184, fig. 129, 44, dating to third quarter of 2nd century; but there are examples from Chesterton (J.R. Perrin, to be published) from earlier 2nd-century contexts.
88. *L727*. Fabric W6; Int. and Ext.: 10YR light yellowish-brown; Core: N6 grey with 7.5YR strong brown core edges.

Tall, narrow-mouthed, cordoned jars

89. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 10YR very pale brown with grey mottling; Core: N6 grey. See general comment after 90 below.

90. *L677* and *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: N5 grey; Core: N6 grey. It is harder to find parallels for this form amongst the early Upper Nene valley kiln products than for the previous one. It occurs in later 1st-century contexts at Brixworth (Woods 1970, 21–2, fig. 22, 146), where the high shouldered and heavily cordoned profiles proclaim its 'belgic' ancestry, but is rare in deposits before the mid-2nd century at Verulamium (Frere 1984, 208, fig. 83, 1994–7). Few of the published local 2nd-century groups contain examples of tall, narrow-necked jars — in particular, they are absent from the earlier 2nd-century deposits at Chesterton, Castor and Normangate Field. However their absence from the archaeological record does not necessarily signify their absence from the suite of vessels in use at that time. Cf. Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 127, 11; 184, fig. 130, 57, dating to third quarter of 2nd century.

Miscellaneous Jars

91. *L726*. Fabric W3; Int., Ext., Core: 2.5YR light red. Folded beakers were produced at continental kiln sites from the Flavian period onwards (Anderson 1981, *passim*). In Britain, they are first produced in the early 2nd century (Anderson 1980, 35; Marsh 1978, 152) in a variety of fine fabrics. The present example is closest in form, with its short everted simple rim, to early 2nd-century mica-dusted types from London (Marsh 1978, 152–3, fig. 6.9, 21.1–21.11). The fabric, however, is much coarser and it is not easy to suggest a provenance.

A very small number of non-local grey ware jars in the Closure Deposit belong to the class of globular beaker/jar, which may derive ultimately from the high-shouldered form common on the continent in the later 1st century. Examples of this type are common from late 1st-century contexts onwards on sites in the East Midlands and, in the Lower Nene Valley, from early 2nd-century deposits, e.g. Normangate Field and Chesterton. They are absent, however, from the later 2nd-century groups at Fengate, which might indicate that the type was passing out of use by then. None of the Monument 97 jars is decorated with any of the techniques of burnishing or stabbing common on other local examples.

92. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y grey; Core: N7 grey with 7.5YR light brown core edges. Cf. Rogerson 1977, 175, fig. 74, 23, from a Flavian-Trajanic context; Woods 1970, 23, fig. 23, 152, from a Hadrianic-Antonine deposit. See general comment above, and also 173.
 93. *L678* and *L727*. Fabric W3/NV4; Int. and Ext.: N4 mottled grey; Core: 10YR white. The fabric of this vessel is sandier than one would normally expect for a local product, but it is nonetheless possible that it was made locally. In form, it is possibly a prototype slashed-cordon jar. See also general comment above 92.
 94. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR pale brown; Ext.: 10YR brown with darker patches; Core: 10YR dark greyish-brown. See general comment above 92.
 95. *L677*, *L678*, *L727*; and *L665* ditch, no feature no. (43), Period 2b. Fabric W1; Int., Ext., Core: N5 grey. A devolved example of the form illustrated by the three previous vessels.
 96. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Core: 2.5Y light yellowish-brown; Ext.: 5Y grey.
- A high, sharp-shouldered profile with rolled rim paralleled by examples in shell-gritted fabrics from Normangate Field; Chesterton; Fengate; Catswater sub-site (Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 127, 35); and Grandford (Potter and Potter 1982, 68, fig. 31, 205). At Normangate Field and Grandford the general date for the form is early 2nd-century, but at Chesterton and Fengate the examples come from later 2nd-century groups. No quartz-tempered parallels known.
97. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y grey to light grey mottled; Core: N7 grey. See general comment after 96 above.
 98. *L727*. Fabric W7; Int. and Ext.: N6 grey; Core: N4 grey.
 99. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y grey; Core: N6 grey.

Dishes and Bowls

There are few vessels in this category, reflecting their absence from the deposit as a whole. Those vessels with deliberate holes in the sides/bottoms were obviously strainers, but whether they were used for food preparation or in some distilling process is open to discussion.

100. *L677*. Fabric W7; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light grey; Core: N5 grey. This is probably a devolved carinated bowl. A good parallel exists amongst the material from the Normangate Field pit groups [11] 2 and 3 dating to the second quarter of the 2nd century.
101. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Core: 5YR reddish-yellow; Ext.: 5YR very dark grey. This vessel form bears a strong resemblance to a Dragendorff 36 from which it may have derived. Cf. Mackreth 1988, fig. 30, 134) dated to the Trajanic/Hadrianic period; Rogerson 1977, 183, fig. 77, 97; Potter and Potter 1982, 41, fig. 17, 12 both from later 1st-century contexts.

102. L726. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR light brownish-grey; Ext.: 10YR dark greyish-brown to black; Core: N4 grey with 10YR light brownish-grey core edges.

The closest parallels to this vessel appear in shell-gritted fabrics both from other local sites (Normangate Field and Fengate, Catswater sub-site: Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 127, 20) and from Monument 97 itself (see below 187 and 188) with a date range around the middle of the 2nd century.

103. L677. Fabric W6/W2; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow; Core: N4 grey.

104. L727. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 2.5Y greyish-brown; Core: N4 grey with 2.5Y white core edges. Examples of similar deep bowl strainers can be found in mid-1st-century contexts at Longthorpe (Dannell and Wild 1987) where they were thought to be used in cheese-making.

105. L727. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 2.5Y light brownish-grey; Core: N6 grey with 7.5YR strong brown core edges.

Shallow straight-sided dishes with an internal offset were produced at the Ecton kilns in the 2nd century (Johnston 1969, 81, fig. 7, 43). They first appeared at Brixworth in mid-2nd century contexts (Woods 1970, 11), and at Chesterton both local and non-local examples came from later 2nd-century deposits.

Miscellaneous

106. L677. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 2.5YR light red with blackening; Core: 2.5YR dark grey.

Cheese-presses occur on local sites from the mid-1st century onwards and were part of the repertoire of the military kilns at Longthorpe (Dannell and Wild 1987). In the 2nd century they were produced at the Ecton kilns (Johnston 1969, 89, fig. 7, 82). Examples, in a variety of fabrics, occur on local sites in contexts spanning the later 1st and 2nd centuries. Cf. Pryor 1984, 186, fig. 131, 82, dating to the middle 2nd century.

107. L677. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 10YR light grey; Core: 10YR very dark greyish-brown. A common 2nd-century lid form on local sites. Cf. Castor (Green *et al.* 1987) fig. 18, 39 dating to second quarter of 2nd century; Jackson and Ambrose 1978, 187, fig. 42, 39 from Flavian/Trajanic contexts at Wakerley; also appears in later 2nd-century deposits at Chesterton.

Nene Valley Grey Wares

(Figs 38 and 39)

Wide-mouthed, biconical, grooved jars

Vessels 108 to 111 are all examples of the Lower Nene Valley version of 69 to 77 above. The form is first known to have been produced locally at Old Sulehay (Hadman and Upex 1975, 18, fig. 7, 8) in the middle of the 2nd century. It appears in later 2nd-century contexts at Chesterton and Fengate, Catswater sub-site (Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 126, 2, 10, 27) where local versions of the form predominated in the deposit, and a modified version of this went on to become the standard grey-ware jar of the 3rd century, produced in quantity at sites like Stibbington and Stanground (Guide n.d., 12, fig. 1, 4).

108. L726. Fabric NV4; Int.: N7 grey; Ext.: N7 grey with N4 grey mottling; Core: 10YR white. See general comment above.

109. L677 and L726. Fabric NV4; Int. and Ext.: N5 grey; Core: 10YR white. See general comment before 108.

110. L678 and L727. Fabric NV4; Int.: 10YR dark greyish-brown; Ext.: 10YR grey with mottling; Core: 10YR white. See general comment before 108.

111. L726. Fabric NV4; Int.: 5Y light grey with N5 grey mottling; Ext.: N6 grey with N5 grey mottling; Core: 10YR white. See general comment before 108.

112. L727 and L677. Fabric W3/NV4; Int. and Ext.: N4 grey with 5Y grey mottling; Core: 10YR white. Probably a local product. In form, it is reminiscent of the typologically early 59 above.

113. L678 and L727. Fabric W3/NV4; Int. and Ext.: N5 grey, mottled; Core: 10YR white. This is a LNV example of a beaker/jar with almost a cornice rim. A good parallel exists in one of the second quarter of 2nd-century Normangate Field pit groups [11] 2 and 3, decorated with burnished lines.

Slashed-cordon jars

114. L726. Fabric W3/NV4; Int.: 10YR white; Ext. 10YR grey; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours. See general comment after 116.

115. L726 and L727. Fabric NV4; Int.: N6 mottled grey on 5Y white; Ext.: N4 grey; Core: 5Y white. See general comment after 116.

116. L677 and L726. Fabric W3/NV4; Int.: 10YR light grey; Ext.: N4 grey; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours.

Examples of this characteristic LNV form exist in many mid- to late 2nd-century dated local groups, including the Normangate Field* pit groups, with two cordons; and Chesterton; and Fengate, Catswater sub-site (Pryor 1984, 185, fig. 130, 66, 67 with one cordon. The two-cordon variety is also present in early 2nd-century contexts at Grandford (Potter and Potter 1982, 48, fig. 20, 61; 56, fig. 25, 124) and Wakerley (Jackson and Ambrose 1978, 185, fig. 42, 28). Thus it may be possible to discern a chronological development in that jars with two cordons are replaced by jars with one. The only example illustrated as a product of the mid-2nd-century kiln at Old Sulehay (Hadman and Upex 1975, fig. 7, 9) has two cordons. However, a full examination of the material from this kiln may well show that the two types were in production simultaneously.

Miscellaneous jars

117. L726 and L727. Fabric NV4; Int. and Ext.: 5Y white with N4 grey mottling; Core: 5Y white.

A non-local grey ware parallel exists for this form from later 2nd-century levels at Chesterton, although it is thought to be residual in its context.

118. L727. Fabric W3/NV4; Int. and Ext.: N6 grey with N5 grey mottling; Core: 5Y white. This may not be a LNV product.

An angular variant figures amongst the vessels illustrated from Old Sulehay (Hadman and Upex 1975, fig. 7, 11) but the scarcity of LNVGW examples recovered from settlement sites in the area suggests that the form may not have been very popular with local potters. See Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 128, 38 from a later 2nd-century context.

119. L726. Fabric NV4; Int.: N6 mottled; Ext.: N5 mottled; Core: 10YR white. See general comment after 122 below.

120. L727. Fabric W3/NV4; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light grey; Core: 5Y white. See general comment after 122 below.

121. L677, L678 and L726. Fabric NV4; Int.: N5 grey; Ext.: N5/N7 grey mottled; Core: 10YR white. See general comment after 122 below.

122. L677, L726 and L727. Fabric W3/NV4; Int.: N4 grey; Ext.: 5Y white with N4 grey speckled surface; Core: N4 grey with 5Y white core edges.

Vessels 119 to 122 illustrate the sort of experimentation with, and variation in, forms common amongst the potters working at the beginning of the Lower Nene Valley industry before the repertoire became standardised.

Bowls and Dishes

123. L677 and L727. Fabric W3/NV4; Int.: N4 grey mottled; Ext.: 10YR white with N4 grey mottling; Core: 10YR white. Possibly not a local product.

124. L727. Fabric W3/NV4; Int.: N6 grey; Ext.: N4/N5 grey; Core: 5Y white. This may be an example of an early flat-rimmed LNVGW dish although too little of the vessel remains for the identification to be certain.

Cream/White Firing Wares

(Fig. 39)

Jars

125. L727. Fabric W4/NV9; Int., Ext., Core: 10YR very pale brown. A self-coloured version of 92-95 above.

126. L677, L678 and L727. Fabric W9/99; Int. and Ext.: 5YR pink/reddish-yellow with blackening on exterior; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours.

Lid-seated jars were common in later 1st-century contexts onwards on sites in Northamptonshire (see Woods 1970, 26-29, figs 25-30; Friendship-Taylor 1979, 63) but only sporadically occurred on Lower Nene Valley sites. Good parallels in both form and fabric exist for this vessel in 2nd-century contexts at Ashton, near Oundle, Northamptonshire.

127. L677, L726 and L727. Fabric W4/NV9; Int.: 5Y white; Ext. and Core: 5Y white with discoloured grey patches on exterior. On reconstruction for drawing, this pot proved to be very warped which, together with its uneven, discoloured surface, suggests that it may have been a second. Lid-seated jars were produced at Old Sulehay (Hadman and Upex 1975, 16, fig. 7, 3) although the form is never common on LNV settlement sites, either in local or non-local fabrics.

128. L727. Fabric W4/NV9; Int. and Ext.: 10YR white; Core: 5YR pinkish-white. A similar form, but with a heavier rim, comes from a second quarter 2nd-century pit group in Normangate Field ([11] 2 and 3).

Miscellaneous

129. L677. Fabric W4/NV9; Int., Ext., Core: 10YR white. Similar vessels have been published elsewhere as either self-coloured imitations of

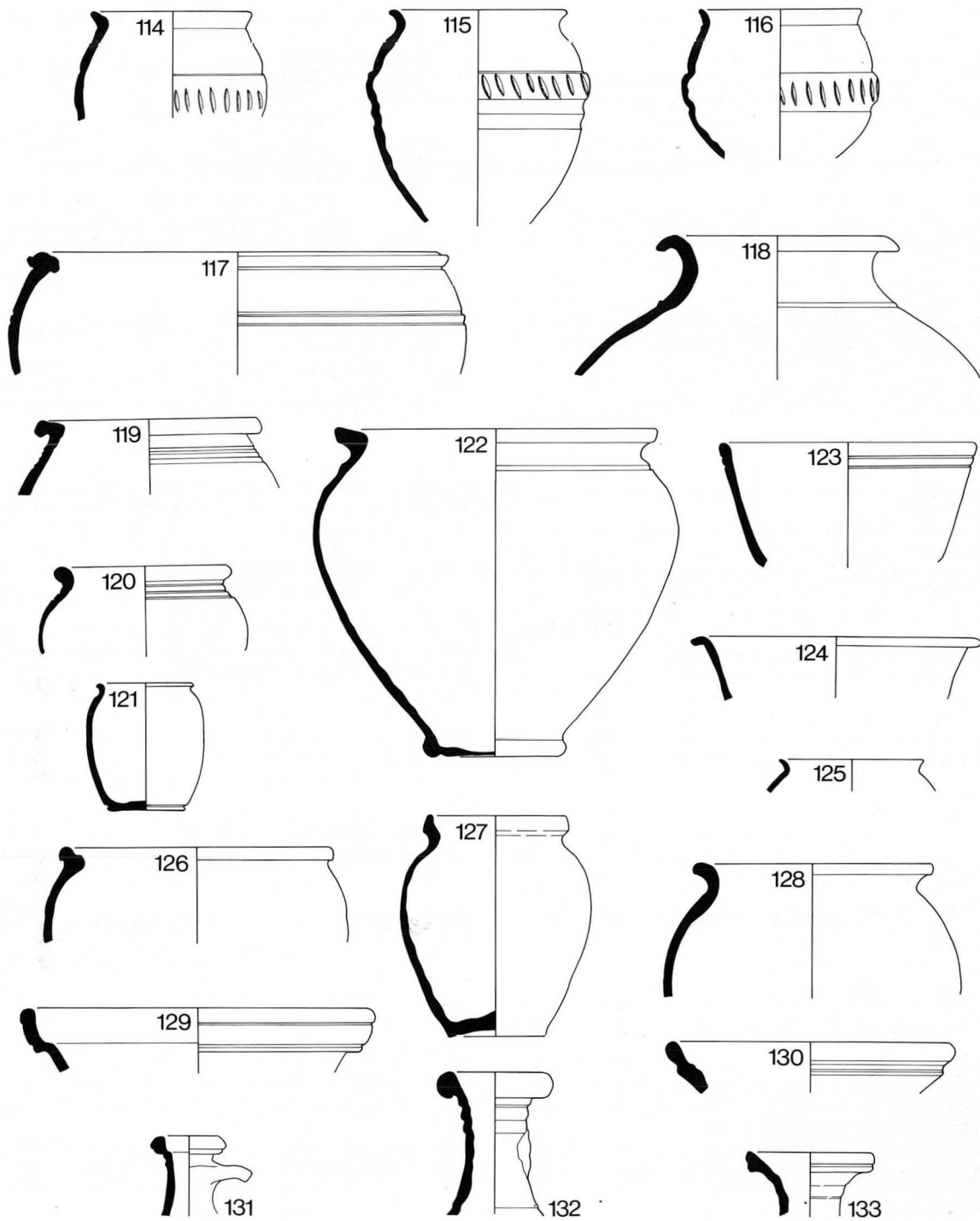


Figure 39 Pottery 114–133, the Closure Deposit, scale 1:4

Dr. 29 (Darling 1977, fig. 6, 7, 22) or as a wide-mouthed flagon (Rogerson 1977, 177, fig. 74, 38) both dating to the later 1st century. A parallel exists for the vessel as an imitation Dr. 29 at Orton Hall Farm (Perrin, in Mackreth 1996) from a deposit dating 100–125 AD.

130. *L727*. Fabric W4/NV9; Int., Ext., Core: 5Y white. It is not possible to be certain whether this sherd comes from a dish/bowl or lid.

Flagons

131. *L726*. Fabric W4/NV9; Int. and Core: 7.5YR pink; Ext.: 10YR white. See comment after 132.
132. *L727*. Fabric W4/NV9; Int., Ext., Core: 10YR white. A 2nd-century version of the ring-necked flagon where the upper ring predominates. Gillam (1970) Type 5 dating to the Hadrianic-Antonine period on Hadrian's Wall. Good local parallels exist from groups spanning the first 50 years of the 2nd century (e.g. at Normangate Field, Chesterton and Castor) and also from second and third quarter 2nd-century levels at Fengate, Catswater sub-site (Pryor 1984, 188, fig. 132, 95).
133. *L727*. Fabric 67; Int., Ext., Core: 5Y white. A similar flagon is illustrated in Frere 1972, 284, fig. 107, 236, dating AD 75–105.

'London' Wares

(Fig. 40)

Imitation Dr. 18/31

134. *L727*. Fabric W7a; Int. and Ext.: N5/N4 grey; Core: black. See general comment after 136 below.
135. *L677*, *L678* and *L727*. Fabric W7a; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light olive grey; Core: 5Y dark grey. See general comment after 136 below.
136. *L677* and *L727*. Fabric W7a; Int. and Ext.: 5GY greenish-grey; Core: N4 grey. Other local examples of this form occur at Normangate Field in the pit groups dating to second quarter of 2nd century and at Chesterton in later 2nd-century contexts.

Carinated Bowl

137. *L677* and *L727*. Fabric W3/W7a; Int.: 5Y grey; Ext.: N4 grey; Core: N6 grey with 5Y light grey core edges. It is hard to identify the ancestry of this vessel form. Possibly a Dr. 29 derivative?

Imitation Dr. 30

138. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR light brownish-grey; Ext.: 5Y grey; Core: N4 grey. Local parallels from Normangate Field and Chesterton exist for the form in contexts dating to second quarter of 2nd century.
139. *L727*. Fabric W7a; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light grey; Core: black. See general comment after 138 above.

Imitation Dr. 37

140. *L677*. Fabric NV4; Int. and Ext.: N4 grey; Core: N6 grey. See Pryor 1984, 185, fig. 131, 70 for a similar vessel from levels dating to mid-2nd century.
141. *L727*. Fabric W3; Int.: 10YR very pale brown; Ext.: 10YR light brownish-grey; Core: N4 grey. See comment after 140 above.
142. *L727* and *L677*. Fabric W7a; Int. and Ext.: 10YR light grey; Core: N4 grey. See comment after 140 above.
143. *L677*. Fabric W3/W7a; Int., Ext., Core: N4 grey. See comment after 140 above.
144. *L677*. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: N4 grey; Core: black. See comment after 140 above.

Shell-Gritted Wares

(Figs 40 and 41)

Jars

The main jar form present in the Closure Deposit is an ovoid, necked vessel with shoulder grooves, see below 145–152. This form was current from the middle 1st century onwards (see discussion of Transitional/Early Roman material from Period 1 above, pp 55–6) into the middle 2nd century (Pit 1 at Castor: Green *et al.* 1987, fig. 17, 15; the Normangate Field pit groups and Chesterton Pit F265 all contain good examples of the form). By the later 2nd century the vessel profile seems to have been flattening out with the decoration confined to one to two girth grooves. It is not easy to trace any typological development in the earlier material, because of the inherent conservative nature of the shell-gritted potting tradition and problems of survival of vessels in use.

145. *L727*. Fabric 22; Int.: 2.5YR red to reddish-brown with blackened rim; Ext.: black; Core: shading through from the interior to the exterior colours. See general comment above.

146. *L677* and *L727*. Fabric 22; Int. and Ext.: 2.5YR light red; Core: 5Y grey. See general comment before 145 above.

147. *L726*. Fabric 22; Int.: 7.5YR light brown to dark grey with blackened rim; Ext. and Core: 7.5YR very dark grey. See general comment before 145 above, and 190–192 below.

148. *L727*. Fabric 22; Int.: 2.5YR red with blackened rim; Ext.: 5YR light reddish-brown with darker patches; Core: 5Y grey. See general comment before 145 above.

149. *L727*. Fabric 22; Int.: 2.5YR weak red; Ext.: black; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours. A pot with a similar rim form comes from one of the Normangate Field pit groups [14] 7 and 9, dated by samian to AD 130–150. See also general comment before 145 above.

150. *L727*. Fabric 22; Int. and Ext.: 2.5YR light red; Core: 5Y dark grey. See general comment before 145 above.

151. *L677*. Fabric 22; Int.: 5YR very dark grey; Ext.: 5YR light reddish-brown with a very dark grey rim; Core: 5YR black. See general comment before 145 above.

152. *L726*. Fabric 22; Int.: 10YR light yellowish-brown with dark grey rim; Ext.: 10YR dark grey; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours. See general comment before 145 above.

Storage Jars

153. *L727*. Diameter 40cm. Fabric 22; Int.: 2.5YR light red with 5YR pinkish-grey surface; Ext.: 10YR very pale brown; Core: N4 grey.

By the very nature of their size and probable function, it is likely that, more than any other class of vessel, these very large jars could remain in use for very long periods. This fact, coupled with the point that no apparent chronological evolution of the form has been traced so far, makes such jars very difficult to date. They were certainly made at Water Newton and Normangate Field in the early Roman period and probably continued as a part of the local repertoire since they appear in contexts spanning the entire period of Roman occupation in the area.

154. *L727*. Diameter 42cm. Fabric 22; Int., Ext., Core: 2.5YR light red to red. See comment after 153 above.

155. *L727*. Fabric 22; Int., Ext., Core: 2.5YR light red with darker patches. See comment after 153 above.

Lid

156. *L677*. Fabric 21/20; Int.: 5YR dark grey; Ext.: absent; Core: 5YR reddish-yellow. This could possibly be a lid or a shallow curved bowl, although the flattening apparent at the rim argues for the first interpretation. It is residual in this context.

Miscellanea/Exotica

(Fig. 41)

157. *L677*, *L727* and *L158*, *F12?* ditch (43), Period 2b. Fabric 99; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: N4 grey.

As it is reconstructed from several small sherds, it has proved difficult to parallel or trace the ancestry of this piece. At first sight, it seems to owe something to the girth/pedestalled gallo-belgic beaker tradition (Thompson 1982, Category G4, 501–5). However, the punctate 'comb-impressed' technique of decoration is not familiar, and Miss V. Rigby, who very kindly examined the sherds for me, could cite no parallels in this country. A campanulate bowl with a similar scheme of decoration comes from Castor Pit 1 (Green *et al.* 1987, fig. 17, 13) in deposits dating to the early 2nd century, but the fragmentary and abraded nature of the present sherds suggests that the Monument 97 vessel is residual in its context and dates to an earlier period.

158. *L677*. Fabric 99; Int., Ext., Core: 10YR very pale brown. Something similar to 157 in decorative treatment.

159. *L678* and *L513*, gully, no feature no. (49), Period 2b. Fabric ?67; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 2.5Y white.

The sandy fabric of this flagon suggests an origin in the Verulamium region, but no convincing parallel can be found for the form there. At Longthorpe, however, parallels do exist from mid-1st-century fortress levels (Frere and St Joseph 1974, 98, fig. 51, 24; 100, fig. 51, 35) for the form but not the fabric. A 1st-century date for the vessel might also be suggested by the fact that the sherds are worn and the handle came from a different context, 15m from the Closure Deposit, which implies that it is residual in its contexts.

160. *L727*. Fabric 99; Int.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow; Ext.: 7.5YR light brown; Core: 5Y light olive grey. This piece was probably not made locally. The form is found on the continent in the Rhineland in later 1st-century contexts (see Gose 1950, Form 241) and more rarely in early 2nd-century urban contexts in Britain (Marsh 1978, 170–2, fig. 6, 17, 1–21; Hull 1958, 288, fig. 121, 312).

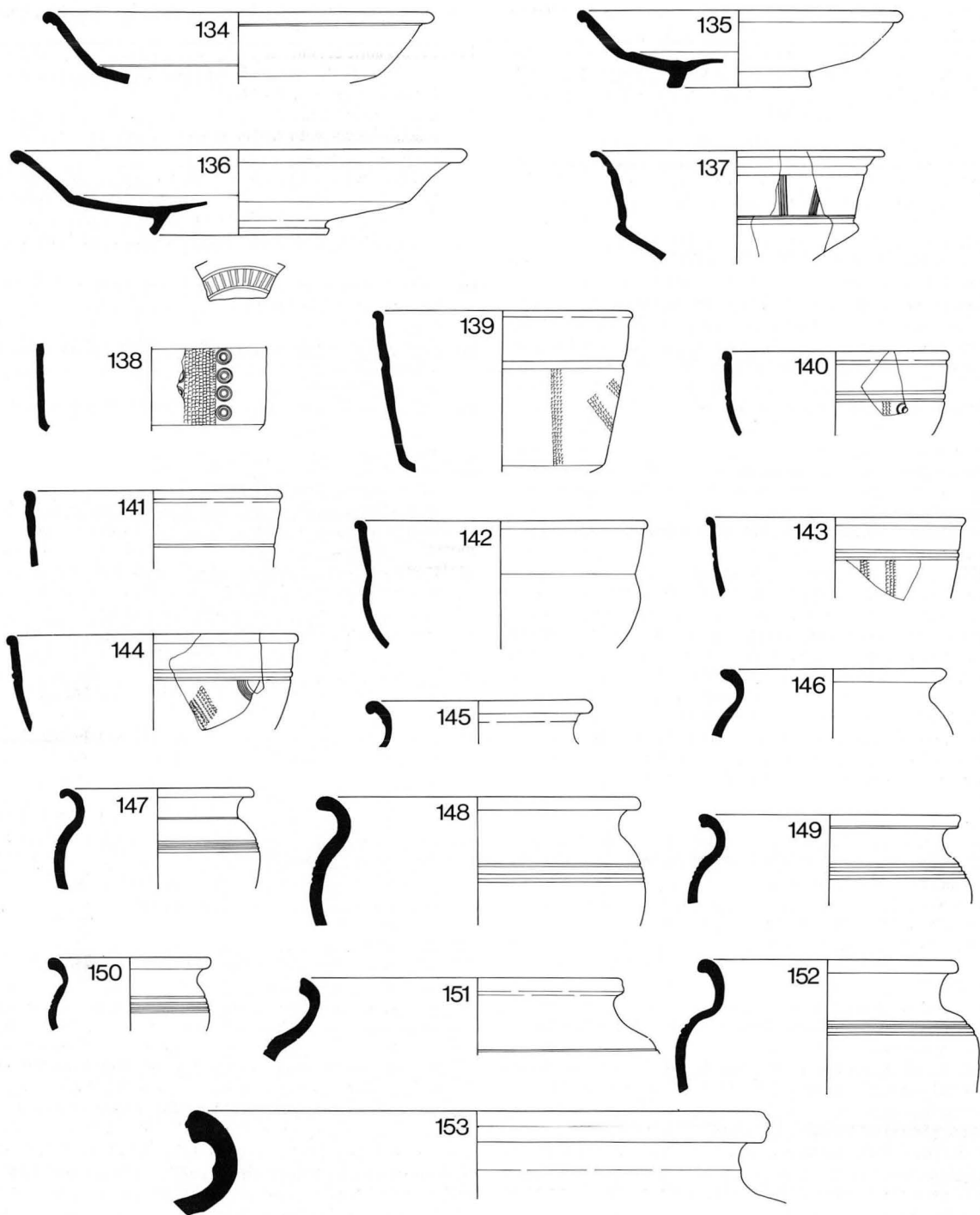


Figure 40 Pottery 134–153, the Closure Deposit, scale 1:4

'Grog'-Tempered Wares
(Fig. 41)

These vessels are probably residual in their contexts.

161. *L726*. Fabric W9; Int.: 10YR very pale brown with blackened rim; Ext.: 10YR very dark grey; Core: shading from interior to exterior colours.
162. *L727*. Fabric W9; Int.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow with blackening; Ext.: black; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours.
163. *L677*. Fabric W9; Int.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow; Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow with 5Y grey rim and shoulder; Core: N4 grey.

Period 2 Material from Other Contexts

(Figs 41–43)

164. *L685* (43) and *L731* (58), *F73–5* ditch, Period 2b. Fabric W3; Int.: 5YR reddish-yellow with blackened rim; Ext.: 10YR very pale brown with darker patches; Core: 5YR dark grey. Undecorated girth beaker. Cf. Hall and Nickerson 1967, 88, fig. 15, 102 from Post-Conquest levels and Todd 1968, 49, fig. 17, 34 dated to pre-/early Flavian period.
165. *L453*, pit, no feature no. (41), Period 2c. Fabric W3/W5; Int.: 2.5Y light greyish-brown; Ext.: 2.5Y dark/very dark greyish-brown; Core: N4 grey. See 26 for similar profile in 'grog'-tempered fabric. Similar to Huggins 1978, 86, fig. 14, 80 in quartz-tempered fabric dating to the pre-Flavian period.
166. *L552*, ditch, no feature no. (66), Period 2c. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light grey/grey; Core: 5Y grey. Similar to Todd 1968, 50, fig. 19, 51 dating to the pre-/early Flavian period.
167. *L599*, *F73–5* ditch (62), Period 2c. Fabric W3; Int.: 5Y grey; Ext.: 5Y light olive-grey with darker mottling; Core: N7 grey. A similar jar form exists in one of the Normangate Field pit groups, [11] 2 and 3, dated by samian to AD 130–150.
168. *L583*, *F73–5* ditch (59), Period 2c. Fabric W3; Int. and Ext.: 5YR dark grey; Core: 5YR grey. Jar with vertical neck above shoulder. See 83 from Closure Deposit for version with grooved decoration.
169. *L693* and *L695* (43) and *L731* (58), *F73* ditch, Period 2b. Fabric W5; Int.: 5Y light grey; Ext.: 5Y dark grey; Core: N5 grey. Two similar vessels exist amongst material from Chesterton dated to first half of 2nd century.
170. *L567*, *F104* pit (46), Period 2c. Fabric W5; Int. and Ext.: 7.5YR pinkish-grey; Core: 7.5YR light grey. Similar to vessel from infill of Kiln 22 at Camp Hill, Northampton (Shaw 1979, 28, fig. 9, 35) dating to late 1st/early 2nd century.
171. *L563*, *F75* ditch (43), Period 2b. Fabric W3; Int., Ext., Core: 5Y grey. See comment after 172 below.
172. *L599*, *F73–5* ditch (62), Period 2c. Fabric W3; Int.: 2.5Y light brownish-grey; Ext.: 5Y grey; Core: N4 grey. See Pryor 1984, 185, fig. 131, 71, from a deposit dating to first half of 2nd century, and 181, fig. 127, 11 dating to third quarter of 2nd century.
173. *L544*, *F112* pit (41), Period 2c. Fabric W3; Int., Ext., Core: 5YR dark grey. See Rogerson 1977, 175, fig. 74, 23 from Flavian-Trajanic deposits; Potter and Potter 1982, 48, fig. 20, 60, for a decorated version from levels dated AD 90–150; and also 92 and 94 from Closure Deposit.
174. *L598*, *F75* ditch (62), Period 2c. Fabric W7; Int. and Ext.: 10YR pale brown; Core: 10YR dark grey. Similar to Foster *et al.* 1977, 86, fig. 17, 50, from material in a kiln dated to third quarter of 1st century.
175. *L503*, gully, no feature no. (54), Period 2c. Fabric W5; Int.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Ext.: 7.5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR grey. A straight-sided bowl similar to Potter and Potter 1982, 64, fig. 30, 195, from levels dated AD 90–150.
176. *L542*, gully, no feature No. (54), Period 2c. Fabric W3; Int.: 2.5Y pale yellow with darker patches; Ext.: 2.5Y greyish-brown; Core: N5 grey.
- A carinated bowl. The closest parallel found comes from an undated context at Chesterton. Otherwise, see Potter and Potter 1982, 47, fig. 19, 42, from levels dated AD 90–150.
177. *L592*, *F75* ditch (35), Period 2a. Fabric W3; Int.: 5YR reddish-yellow to dark grey; Ext.: 5YR pink to dark grey; Core: 5YR grey/black. A sub-'belgic' dish form in a romanised fabric, very common in the lower Nene Valley. See Mackreth 1988, fig. 29, 106, from Period 2 material dating to second half of 1st century; Frere and St Joseph 1974, 108, fig. 56, 141 from mid-1st-century levels at Longthorpe Fortress; and Corder 1961, 40, fig. 14, 2, from early Flavian levels at Great Casterton.
178. *L421*, *F137* pit (41), Period 2c. Fabric W4/99; Int. and Ext.: 10YR very pale brown; Core: 5YR pink. Handle, either from a honey-pot or a face-jar. The former vessel type appears mainly in deposits dating up to the mid-2nd century on both military and civilian sites,

e.g. Period 1b (post AD 50) at the fortress at Gloucester (Darling 1977, 93, fig. 6, 11); Holt (Grimes 1930, 152, fig. 64, 69–70) in contexts dating from AD 50 to AD 150; Park Street Villa (O'Neil 1947, 84, fig. 17, 15) in a pit group dating pre-middle 2nd century. The latter form can be found in contexts dating throughout the Roman period (see Braithwaite 1984, 99–132 for the most recent discussion of this type).

179. *L104*, *F75* ditch (60), Period 2c. Fabric W4/99; Int. and Ext.: 5YR pink to reddish-yellow; Core: 7.5YR pinkish-white. The nearest parallel for the form comes from Verulamium (Frere 1972, 288, fig. 108, 323) dating to AD 85–105, but no examples of the relevant form in a fabric similar to the present self-coloured ware have been located.
180. *L733*, *F10* ditch (57), Period 2c. Fabric NV4/W3; Int. and Ext.: N7–N4 grey; Core: 10YR white. See comment below 108 in Closure Deposit.
181. *L105*, *F73* ditch (60), Period 2c. Fabric NV4/W3; Int. and Ext.: 5YR reddish-yellow; Core: 5YR pink. Slashed cordon jar, see comments after 114–116 in Closure Deposit.
182. *L581*, ditch, no feature no. (35), Period 2a. Fabric NV4/W7; Int. and Ext.: 5Y light grey; Core: N4 grey. Slashed cordon jar, see comments after 114–116 in Closure Deposit.
183. *L691*, *F73–5* ditch (58) and *L153*, ditch, no feature no. (43), Period 2b. Fabric NV4; Int. and Ext.: N4 light grey; Core: 5Y light grey. Undecorated bead-rim dish with chamfer. Similar form came from the kiln at Old Sulehay (Hadman and Upex 1975, 18, fig. 7, 12) dated to mid-2nd century.
184. *L599*, *F73–5* ditch (62), Period 2c. Fabric NV4; Int.: N4–N5 grey; Ext.: N4 grey; Core: N7 grey with 5Y white core edges. Undecorated dish with triangular rim and chamfer. In his discussion on the development of dish and bowl forms in the Chesterton report (to be published), J. R. Perrin suggests that undecorated forms with a chamfer replaced earlier decorated forms without a chamfer somewhere about the middle 2nd century. A date of AD 150–175 for this vessel seems appropriate.
185. *L125*, *L436* and *L497*, *F83* gully (51), Period 2b. Fabric NV4; Int.: N7 grey; Ext.: 10YR light grey; Core: N7 grey. Bead-rimmed dish with chamfer and burnished hair-pin decoration. The type of decorative motif used on this dish suggests that the pot dates AD 150–175 (inf. J. R. Perrin).
186. *L162*, *F75?* ditch (35), Period 2a. Fabric 22; Int.: 2.5YR reddish-brown to dark grey with blackened rim; Ext.: 7.5YR pinkish-grey to dark brown; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours. A simple dish form which is difficult to parallel or date.
187. *L612*, *F75* ditch (61), Period 2c. Fabric 22; Int.: 5YR reddish-brown; Ext.: 5YR very dark grey; Core: 5YR black. Similar dish forms occur in the Normangate Field pit groups, dated by samian to AD 130–150. See also Pryor 1984, 181, fig. 127, 20, from deposits dating to the third quarter of 2nd century.
188. From *L563*, *F75* ditch (43), Period 2b. Fabric 22; Int.: 7.5YR light brown; Ext.: 7.5YR dark brown; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours. See comment under 187 above.
189. *L451*, *F139* pit (41), Period 2c. Fabric 22; Int.: 2.5YR red with blackened rim; Ext.: 10YR very dark grey; Core: shading through from interior to exterior colours. A similar bowl form exists amongst material from Chesterton dated early to mid-2nd century.
190. *L731*, ditch, no feature no. (58), Period 2b. Fabric 22; Int.: 2.5YR light red; Ext.: 10YR pale brown with blackening; Core: 2.5YR light red. See comment following 191 on longevity of form.
191. *L302*, *F119* pit (41), Period 2c. Fabric 22; Int. and Ext.: 10R red with blackened rim and shoulder; Core: 10R red.
- It is very difficult to date this long-lived jar form which first appears in the archaeological record in the mid-1st century. Examples with the same high shoulder appear at Longthorpe Fortress (Frere and St Joseph 1974, 104, fig. 53, 95) and in later 1st-century contexts at Werrington Enclosure (Mackreth 1988, fig. 29, 105). The same type occurs at Chesterton (Perrin, to be published) in mid to late 2nd-century levels. One indicator of a 2nd-century date for this particular example may be the double rim, which does not appear on any published 1st-century examples.
192. *L599*, *F73–5* ditch (62), Period 2c. Fabric 22; Int. and Core: 10YR very dark grey; Ext.: 10YR greyish-brown to very dark grey. See comments following 191 above on longevity of form. The developed, slightly hooked rim suggests a date sometime in the 2nd century for this vessel.
193. *L153*, ditch, no feature no. (43) and *L166*, *F14* gully (51), Period 2b. Fabric 22; Surfaces: 7.5YR light brown, darker patches on curved surface; Core: 7.5YR pinkish-grey to brown. Some form of handle? Possibly part of a griddle? No known parallel.

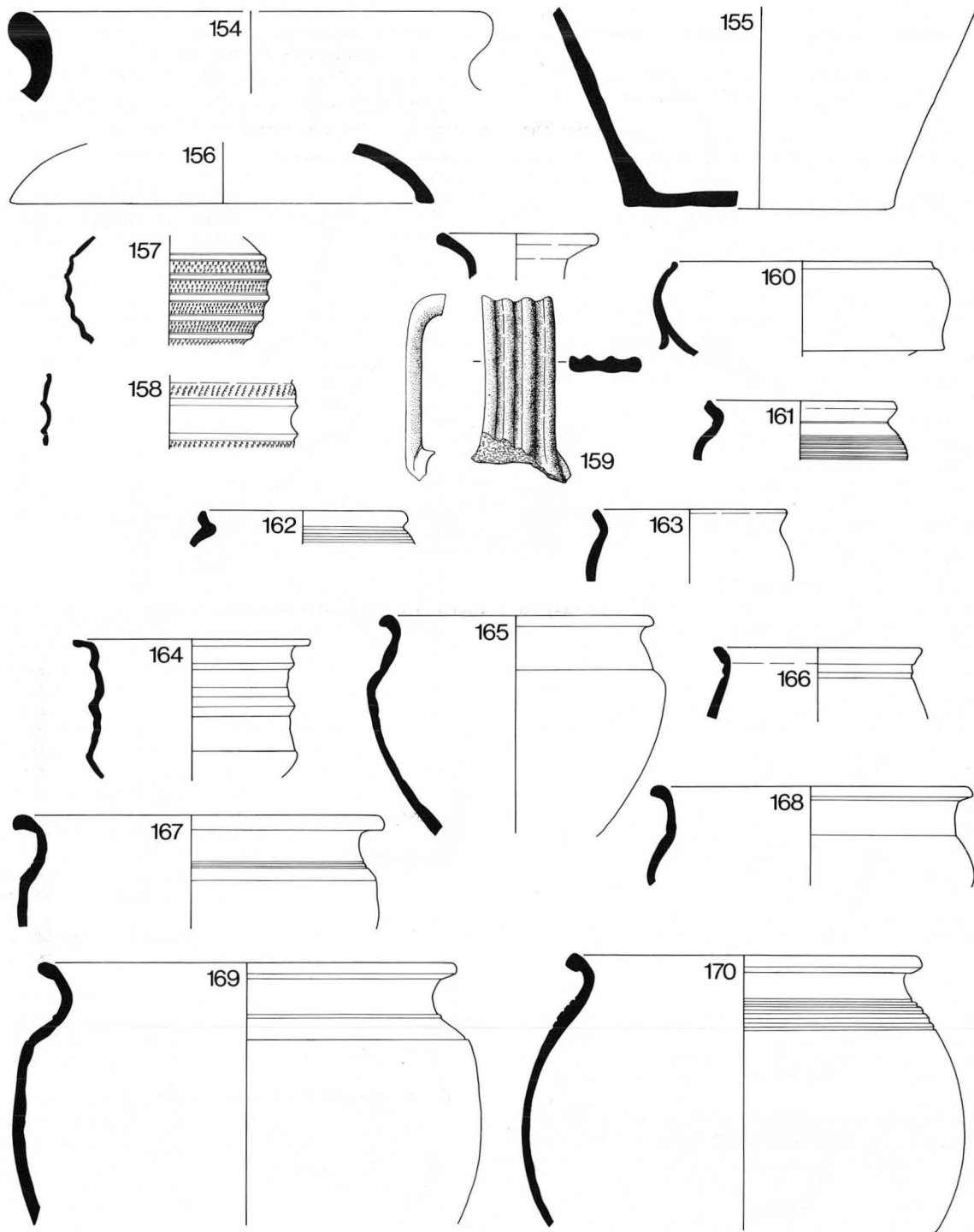


Figure 41 Pottery 154–163, the Closure Deposit; 164–170, pottery from other Period 2 contexts, scale 1:4

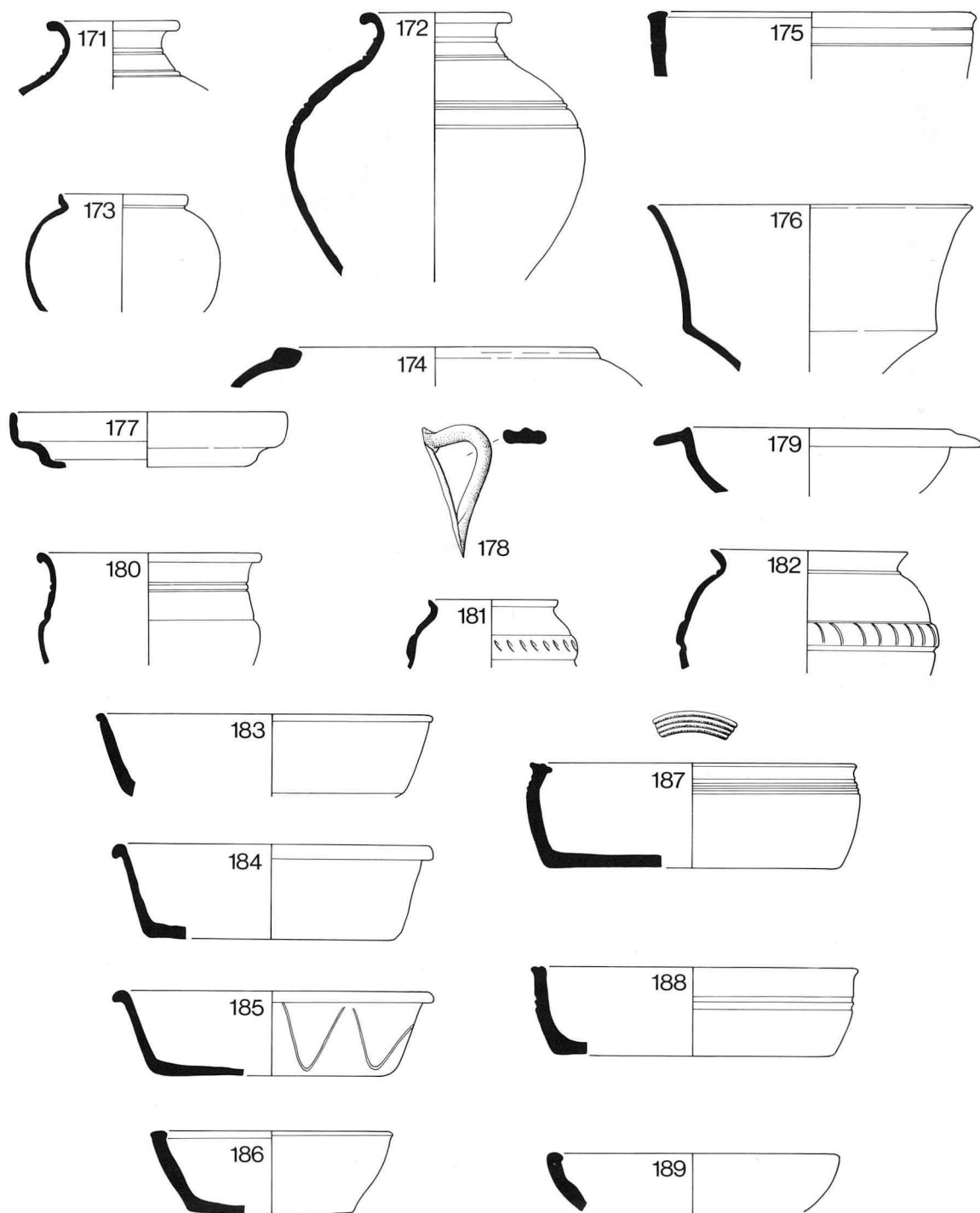


Figure 42 Pottery 171–189, from other Period 2 contexts, scale 1:4

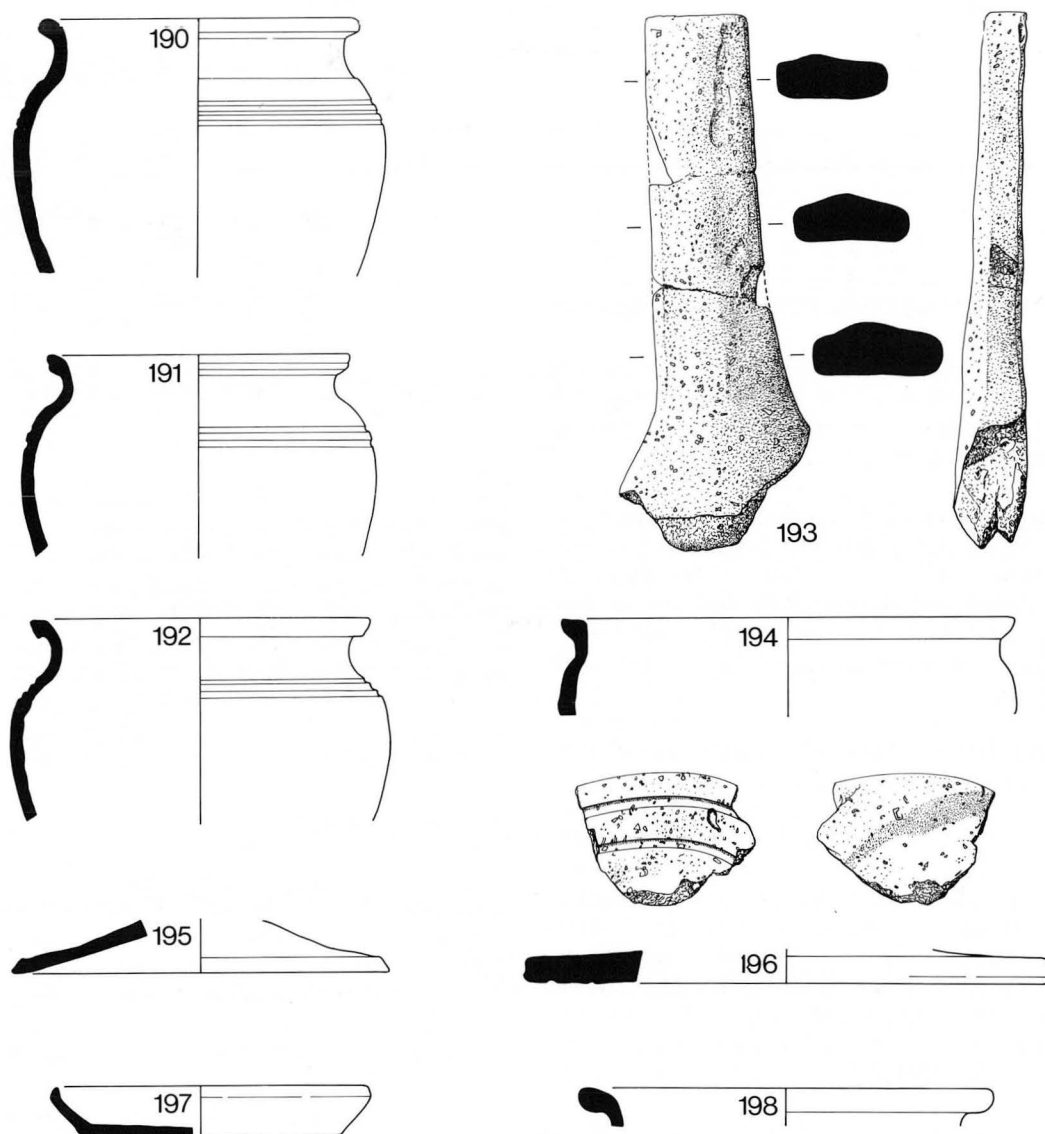


Figure 43 Pottery 190–198, from other Period 2 contexts, scale 1:4

- 194.** *L685, F73–5 ditch (43)*, Period 2b. Fabric 22; Int. and Ext.: 10YR very pale brown; Core: 10YR light brownish-grey.
- 195.** *L590, F107 gully (52)*, Period 2b. Fabric 22; Int.: 5YR reddish-brown with blackening; Ext.: 5YR dark reddish-brown to reddish-brown; Core: 5YR reddish-brown. See Huggins 1978, 94, fig. 19, 241 and 242, dating to mid 2nd century; Potter and Potter 1982, 44, fig. 18, 31, dating to later 1st century; Rogerson 1977, 184, fig. 77, 104, dating to later 1st century.
- 196.** *L691, F73–5 ditch (58)*, Period 2b. Fabric 22; Int., Ext., Core: 5YR pink to reddish-yellow with sooted zone on upper surface. A flat lid? Or possibly a mat/stand?
- 197.** *L731, ditch, no feature no. (58)* and *L693, F73 ditch (43)*, Period 2b. Fabric NV1; Int., Ext., Core: 10YR white with traces of 2.5YR light red colour-coat on interior surface.

A dish form ultimately derived from 'belgic' prototypes. Very long-lived and still produced in the later 2nd century. See Frere 1972, 316, fig. 120, 740 for a mica-dusted version dating AD 140–180. The present example is probably a product of the early colour-coat industry in the lower Nene Valley and, as such, dates to after the mid-2nd century.

- 198.** *L572, ditch, no feature No. (67)*, Period 2c. Fabric NV1; Int. and Ext.: 10YR greyish brown colour-coat; Core: 2.5YR white. A wide-mouthed jar or bowl dating to the 4th century. See Stibington Kiln W products illustrated in Wild 1974 (163, fig. 8, k); Corder 1961, 69, fig. 24, 14 for an example from late 4th-century contexts at Great Casterton.

V. The Samian Ware

by Felicity Wild
(Fig. 44)

The quantity of samian ware recovered from the site was small, amounting to sherds from some thirty-two vessels, of which seventeen were South Gaulish. The forms were as follows:

South Gaulish: 29-2, 30-1, 27-1, 18-8, 18 or 18R-1, 18 or 18/31-1, 35-1, 36-1, 35 or 36?-1.
Central Gaulish: 27?-1, 33-4, 18/31-7, 35?-1, Ritt.8-1, uncertain-1.

One example of form 18/31, included above, may be from East Gaul, and three vessels, form 18/31, 27? and 35?, were in the fabric of Les Martres-de-Veyre. The presence of Ritt.8 here may seem unusual. There are three small fragments of a cup, including the rim, which was clearly of this form, in an orange, highly micaceous fabric with a dull, orange glaze (of which little remained) associated with 1st-century manufacture at Lezoux. The date of the piece is uncertain, but in view of the fact that the form scarcely survived into the Flavian period in South Gaul, it is unlikely to have been made much later than the early Flavian period.

The group as a whole is far too small for any statistical conclusions to be valid. However, a notable feature is the scarcity of decorated ware, which is, perhaps, only to be expected on a rural site. Apart from two small fragments of form 29, one of rim only, there was only one decorated bowl, described below, which was clearly a treasured possession. In this respect, the group shows striking similarities to that from the native farmstead at Maxey (Pryor *et al.* 1985, 123-4), where the point is made that the samian ware provides evidence not for the date at which occupation started so much as the date at which this ware first came into the possession of the local farmers. There, as here, the evidence pointed to the fact that this was unlikely to have taken place much before the Flavian period. The two fragments of form 29 and the Ritt.8 discussed above are likely to be Neronian-early Flavian in date, and the form 30 below is not likely to have been earlier than this. Other pre-Flavian plain forms are lacking. By the 2nd century, samian ware seems to have become easier to obtain, and decorated ware became more common. At Maxey, seven of the ten decorated bowls published are of 2nd-century date; at Werrington (Mackreth 1988, 105-6), two out of four, and at Orton Hall Farm (Mackreth 1996, 190-1), seven out of eight. That this is not the case here is due, presumably, to the fact that occupation ended before the period, in the mid-2nd century, when these bowls were reaching the other sites.

None of the mid to late Antonine plain forms was present here, nor were there any examples of form 31 as opposed to the earlier form 18/31. This does not, however, fully explain the total absence of Central Gaulish decorated ware: either the inhabitants were unable or unwilling to obtain it (a possible reflection on their economic standing) or it simply has not been found. In its absence, and the absence of potters' stamps from the group as a whole, it is difficult to put a precise date upon the end of occupation, but this cannot have been later than *c.* AD 140-150 and could well have been slightly earlier.

There was no samian ware from the Period 1 levels, although some of that recovered from Period 2, including

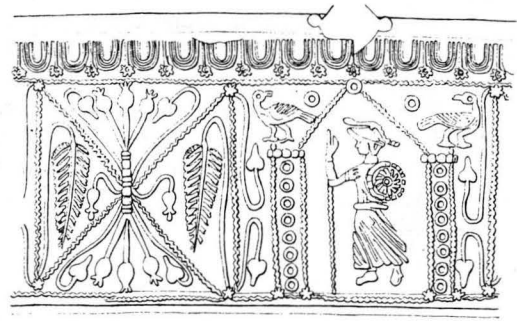


Figure 44 The samian bowl, form 30, scale 1:2

the form 30 described below, must have been in use at that time. From Period 2a came two sherds of the Central Gaulish Ritt.8 and one of South Gaulish form 27, probably of Flavian date (L162). Most of the samian came from levels associated with Period 2b, and there appeared to be no significant difference as regards date between the material from Period 2b and that from Period 2c. Both groups contained a range of material dating from the early Flavian period to the Hadrianic-early Antonine period, and both contained sherds from the form 30 below.

The Decorated Bowl

(Figure types (O) are quoted from Oswald 1936-7).
Form 30, South Gaulish. Period 2b: L512, L677, L678, L726, L727 Period 2c: L159. About twenty-seven fragments from six different contexts, which made up slightly more than half of the complete bowl. The decoration shows panels containing a saltire, alternating with an arcade containing the Minerva (probably O.134), with the birds (O.2290, 2247) to each side. The detail of the Minerva is considerably clearer than that on Oswald's drawings of O.133, O.133A and O.134. It appears closest to O.134 (Hermet 1934, pl. 18, 13), though the spear is clearly made here with a wavy line. The ovolo, similar in size to Frontinus' large-rosette ovolo, but with the rosette placed centrally on the end of the tongue rather than slightly to one side, appears on a form 37 with handles and spout at La Graufesenque with the cursive signature CALVO inscribed in the mould before firing. The potter, presumably a Calvus, may well be the same man who elsewhere stamps CALVSF (Knorr 1919, *Taf.* 17), as the ovolo and many of the details are the same. Two bowls of form 30 from Rottweil show the ovolo, bottle-shaped bud and poppy heads (Knorr 1942, *Abb.* 2A,B): another (Knorr 1942, *Abb.* 4A) shows these features with a Minerva (O.133), though this is probably not the one used here. The poppy heads and inturning tendrils occur with this ovolo on bowls from a deposit of Calvus' work at La Graufesenque. The small circles occur with another of Calvus' ovolos on a bowl from Vichy (Morlet 1957, 118), the birds and lanceolate leaf on a bowl from Colchester (Hull 1958, fig. 48, 1). The ovolo, poppyheads, tendrils with lanceolate leaf and small circles occur together on a form 37 in his style from London (London Museum, 5858G). Calvus' dates are likely to be *c.* AD 65-90, this probably being one of his earlier pieces.

A number of circular holes have been neatly drilled through the concave moulding above the ovolo. On the

surviving portion of the bowl there are two single holes, about 210mm part, measuring round the circumference, and two pairs of holes, about 180mm apart. They are arranged as follows: single hole—60mm—pair of holes measuring 23mm across—130mm—single hole—25mm—pair of holes measuring 15mm across. The single holes and the pairs of holes are both approximately one third of the circumference of the bowl apart. Part of another hole is visible on another sherd, which may be part of a third hole or pair of holes. The bowl has been badly broken and none of the holes survives intact. In addition to the holes round the rim, there are the remains of two holes at or near the bottom of the bowl, one through the angle below the base of the decoration, the other about 10mm above the edge of the decoration.

The purpose of these holes poses a problem. No trace of lead rivets survives, and there appear to have been more holes around the rim than would have been strictly

necessary to mend a simple — or even a complex — break, and too few lower down the pot. The bowl is currently in so many small pieces that any original breaks are by no means obvious. The regular spacing of the holes above the decoration suggests an attempt, or possibly two, when one failed, to hang the bowl up. However, this does not account for the holes nearer to the bottom. If these were to allow the contents to drain, a more regular arrangement of holes would be expected at the bottom. The answer could lie in a combination of these suggestions: more than one attempt could have been made to mend the bowl, or it could have been used as a practice pot after the first attempts had shattered it beyond reasonable repair. Whatever the history of the bowl, one can reasonably conclude from the time and expertise lavished upon it that it was a prized possession, which no doubt remained in use until beyond repair.

Chapter 6. Zoological and Botanical Evidence

I. The Human Osteology

by Dr Calvin Wells

Method

The measurements, method of measurement, and coding of skulls (including mandibles) follows those of Morant (1922), except for the omission of his categories of doubt '?' and presumed inaccuracy '[]'. Long bones are measured according to the technique of Trevor (1950). Dental coding is expressed in diagrams such as:

R. $\frac{7654300}{/8/P}$ / $\frac{02345}{C}$ L.
 $\frac{7654321}{/8/P}$ / $\frac{.23.56??}{C}$

in which the upper line represents the maxilla; the lower line, the mandible.

- 1, 2, 3 etc. = tooth present in jaw
- .
- 0 = tooth lost ante-mortem
- /8/ = tooth not fully erupted
- = tooth not erupted
- ? = unknown (jaw damage)
- C = carious
- P = periodontal abscess

Note that the Left and Right sides of the jaws are reversed in the diagrams which record them. Dental attrition is graded on a simple five point scale:

0 = absent; 1 = slight; 2 = moderate; 3 = heavy; 4 = gross.

Stature is estimated according to the formulae of Trotter and Gleser (1958 for men; 1952 for women).

The Cemetery

Burial 1, F98, Figure 19, Female, Age: 30-40

This is an extremely defective and eroded skeleton. Enough remains to show that this was a small, gracile woman.

Teeth The maxilla is absent but the mandible shows:

$\frac{87654320}{/}$ / $\frac{02045678}{/}$

Attrition: 2-3. No caries. A loose 6 is also present. Stature has been estimated as 1553.7mm.

Pathology

There is a trace of osteophytosis on the inferior border of a cervical vertebra (C5?). Very early osteoarthritis is present on the glenoid surface of the left scapula. Fragments of pubic bone show that this woman had borne children: probably one to three.

Burial 2, F79, Figure 19, Female, Age: 27-33

A much damaged skull. Fragments of vertebrae, pelvis and ribs; pieces of scapulae and clavicles; parts of all long bones; small bones of hands and feet. These remains are in poor condition.

Teeth $\frac{87654320}{/}$ / $\frac{02345678}{/}$ C C
 $\frac{87654321}{/}$ / $\frac{12345678}{/}$

Attrition: 1. Caries interstitial distally.

This woman was small and lightly built but of moderate muscularity. The arms seem to have been disproportionately strong compared with the legs, with the attachments for the muscles of pronation especially well marked.

A large squatting facet is present on the distal end of the right tibia (the left is damaged).

Stature is estimated as 1552.4mm.

Anomalies

Small mandibular tori are present bilaterally.

Burial 3, F82, Figure 19, Male, Age: 14-15

A badly damaged skull. Fragments from most parts of the post-cranial skeleton but in poor condition.

Teeth $\frac{7654321}{/8/}$ / $\frac{1234567}{/8/}$
 $\frac{7654321}{/8/}$ / $\frac{1234567}{/8/}$

Attrition: 1/2-1. No caries.

For the age of this person the muscular markings are mostly well developed. Neither tibia has a squatting facet.

Anomalies and Pathology

The skull is metopic. One vertebra has a shallow Schmorl's node. A small osteochondritic pit is present on the anterior part of the lateral condyle of the right femur. It is about 6 x 7mm and 5mm deep. Another such pit, about 5 x 3mm, is present on the distal articular surface of the left tibia.

Burial 4, F77, Figure 19, Female, Age: 40-50

This is an exceedingly defective skeleton with severe erosion of the surviving fragments. The condition of these remains makes the estimation of age uncertain and that of stature too unreliable to justify its assessment. This person was, however, a small, lightly built woman, though her muscle markings are moderately strong.

Teeth $\frac{1}{/}$ / $\frac{????????}{/}$

A loose incisor and canine survive showing heavy attrition but no caries.

Pathology

A trace of osteophytosis is present on the damaged bodies of two thoracic vertebrae. Also some early osteoarthritis on the lateral articular facets of at least three ribs. The left Condyle of the mandible survives and show extensive flattening and lipping from osteoarthritis. This reinforces the evidence of the two teeth that this woman made vigorous use of her jaws.

This burial is of outstanding interest because a hydatid cyst was present on the left thoracic cavity. It is approximately ellipsoid in shape (Pl. XIII) and measures 47 x 35mm, with a 'shell' less than 1mm thick. Cysts of this kind are due to infection by *Echinococcus granulosus*, a tapeworm which is primarily a parasite of the Canidae. The hydatid phase, which occurs in the intermediate host (sheep, pig, cattle, deer and man), may invade the liver, spleen, brain or elsewhere. The present specimen was undoubtedly in this woman's left lung. It is a disease with a high mortality and may have caused her death. Although *Echinococcus* eggs have been found in coprolites and on archaic living sites, this is the first record of a hydatid cyst in the annals of British palaeopathology. It has been fully published (Wells and Dallas 1976).

Burial 5, F90, Figure 20, Unsexable, Infant

There is little to say about this infant. It was undoubtedly new-born and was, perhaps, somewhat less than average size. It may have been two or three weeks premature.

Burial 6, F78, Figure 21, Male, Age: 27-33

This consists of a much damaged skull. Vertebrae, pelvis, rib fragments, all long bones, and many small bones of hands and feet survive. The post-cranial skeleton is in moderately good condition.

Teeth $\frac{87654321}{/}$ / $\frac{1234.???}{/}$
 $\frac{876.4321}{/}$ / $\frac{12345678}{/}$

Attrition: 2. Some overcrowding of the anterior teeth. Patchy enamel hypoplasia.



Plate XIII The hydatid cyst. Photograph: Hallam Ashley, FRPS

Stature: estimated as 1574.5mm. Medium size squatting facets at distal end of both tibiae. The right patella has a large vastus notch with the infero-lateral aspect of the bone turning out rather sharply below it so as to resemble an exostosis.

Pathology

There is a trace of osteoarthritic lipping around both acetabula and both femoral heads. It is very slight and the disease can best be described as incipient rather than established. The left fibula has a well healed Pott's fracture about 100mm proximal to the malleolus. Presumably it had negligible displacement originally and it is now firmly repaired with minimal production of callus and trivial deformity.

Burial 7, F88, Figure 21, Female, Age: 35-55

This consists of a badly damaged skull; a few fragments of vertebrae, pelvis and ribs; scraps of clavicles and scapulae; parts of the shafts of all long bones, and a few small bones of the hands. All these remains are in extremely bad condition but it is clear that this was a moderately gracile woman of short stature. However, the muscle markings are fairly well developed and suggest that she led a strenuous working life. The long bones are too fragmentary to justify reconstruction of stature.

Pathology

The C3 vertebrae has a well marked osteophytosis of its inferior border. There is also a trace of it on a lower cervical vertebra. A detached inferior articular process of a lumbar vertebra has early osteoarthritic changes and there is also mild arthritis on a distal phalange of a thumb.

Burial 8, F94, Figure 21, Female, Age: 45-55

This consists of a damaged skull; vertebral, pelvic and rib fragments; all long bones; and a few other post-cranial elements. This was a small, lightly built person with weak muscle markings.

Teeth 8 7 . 5 4 3 2 ? / ? 2 3 4 5
8 7 . ? ? ? ? ? / ? 0 3 4 5 . . 8

Attrition: 4. No caries. Slight enamel hyplasia. There is a 'notch' shaped erosion which involves the 5/4 teeth.

Stature was about 1576.5mm. Large squatting facets are present distally on both tibiae.

Pathology

Mild osteophytosis is present on at least three vertebral bodies. There is a small osteochondritic pit on the base of the right first metatarsal. Both fifth metatarsals are somewhat more bowed than usual: this may be due to habitually wearing a tight sandal thong. Fragments of the pubic bones survive, and show that this woman had borne children, probably two to four.

Burial 9, F89, Figure 21, Male, Age: c. 35

This consists of a damaged skull and fragments from most parts of the post-cranial skeleton. The general condition of these remains is not good but a few elements are well preserved.

Teeth 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 / 1 2 3 4 5 . 7 8
8 7 . 5 4 3 2 1 / 0 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
C

Attrition: 3 (heavy) on anterior teeth; light to moderate (1-2) on the molars.

Stature is estimated as 1639.3mm. This was a shortish man but his bones were fairly robust and he seems to have had rather strong forearm and hand muscles. Small squatting facets are present distally on both tibiae.

Pathology

At least six small, shallow Schmorl's nodes are present on lower thoracic and upper lumbar vertebrae. There is a thin lip of early osteophytosis on the T11 and T12 vertebrae.

Other Human Remains

A. Inhumation, Layer 36, Period 1a (10)
Unsexable Infant

This was either a fairly large new-born baby or perhaps an infant up to three or four weeks old.

B. Inhumation, Layer 243, Period 2b (39)
Unsexable Infant

This consists of a few scraps of a new-born infant of approximately average size.

C. Inhumations, Layer 455, Period 2c (41)
(a) Unsexable Infant
(b) Unsexable Infant

These are the remains of two new-born babies. One skeleton is very slightly larger than the other but both could have died at birth or within a few days of it. There are slight differences in shape between some of the bones e.g. (a) the tibial heads are more retroverted than those of (b). This may suggest that (a) was more tightly flexed *in utero*, perhaps because its mother was pregnant for the first time, whereas (b) may have been the child of a woman who had already borne several infants and had a womb and abdomen with less muscular tone than the mother of (a). The difference in structure between the two skeletons is, in any case, sufficient to suggest that they were probably not twins.

Summary¹

The two infants **A** and **B** are doubtfully associated with the rest of the skeletons and will be disregarded here. Inhumations **C** appear to be associated with the main group which consists, therefore, of seven adults, one adolescent, and three new-born infants — two of whom occur in **C**. Of the adults, two are males and five females; the adolescent is almost certainly male. Considering that only eleven persons are represented here, there is nothing demographically improbable about the sex ratio or age-range of this community.

The fragmented and defective state of all the skulls, together with the very poor condition of most of the post-cranial skeletons, makes it impossible to assess their physical type with any confidence. They were certainly a small, lightly built people and it is possible that they suffered from under-nourishment, at least seasonally. The tallest man was only 1639mm; the tallest woman 1576mm; but most of them had moderately prominent muscle markings and they were probably lithe and sinewy rather than heavily robust. The woman, Burial 8, seems to have been frail, with definitely weak muscles. Burial 2, also female, had disproportionately strong arms and muscles of pronation, which suggests some occupation in which she repeatedly turned her hands around in the action of a washerwoman wringing out clothes: perhaps that was her rôle in the community. The man, Burial 9, had strong forearms and hands which might suggest that he was a smith or stone mason.

The age at death of the adults seems to have ranged from about 25 to 45, with an average around 37 years. In no case is the cause of death detectable.

All the adult tibiae which can be examined for the feature have squatting facets. Two men have two small and two medium facets between them; two women have three large ones between them. They were absent bilaterally on the tibiae of the adolescent. This indicates that squatting was a normally preferred position of rest, especially for the women, in this community or else that it was a common position for some such occupation such as pot-making, dressing hides or even wood-working.

Little can be said about the dental condition of these persons owing to the small number of jaws available.

Only 168 identifiable dental 'places' can be recognised. From these, 14 (8.5%) teeth had been shed during life, 7 lost post-mortem, whilst the 4 third molars of the adolescent are not yet erupted. This leaves 143 teeth present in the jaws, of which 3 (2.1%) are carious. This is a low rate, but not exceptionally so, for an early population.

The attrition of the molar teeth averages just under three (*i.e.*, moderate) and this is quite a low value for a population of this date. It must suggest that their diet was less abrasive and tough than that of many such people. It is interesting, however, that in several of them, *e.g.*, Burials 4, 8 and 9, especially heavy erosion is present on the incisors and the canines or premolars, to an extent which suggests that these teeth were used as tools as well as for mastication. Whether this was in the preparation of leather thongs, in stripping bark from osiers, or in holding objects of wood and metal *etc.* can only be conjectured.

Anomalies

The condition and sparseness of these remains gives no opportunity to estimate the frequency of anatomical variants among them. The few anomalies which were found are of no great interest or significance. One skull is metopic; one patella has a large vastus notch; small mandibular tori occur in Burial 2.

Pathology

Osteophytosis of the vertebral bodies is present in five of the adults and is the commonest lesion detectable in these persons. Together with at least Schmorl's nodes in two subjects, which are due to partial rupture of intervertebral discs, usually in adolescence, this indicates that these people were exposed to heavy stress and strain on their

spinal columns from an early age. Presumably this reflects the vigorous life of a farming community in which such additional tasks as tree-felling, house-building and other work were often undertaken. The presence of osteochondritic lesions in Burials 3 and 8 is further evidence of chronic strain or injury. The only fracture found was the well-healed fibula of Burial 6. This is an injury typically caused by twisting an ankle in a sudden fall, when tripping in a frozen plough furrow or when jumping from too great a height when house-building *etc.*

The osteoarthritic mandible of Burial 4 reinforces the likelihood that this woman used her jaws as tools, perhaps in the preparation of leather thongs in the manner of Eskimo.

The slight arthritis in the shoulder of Burial 1 would point to vigorous use of the arm, with movements of torsion and similar strains, rather than to the simple carrying of even heavy objects, since the shoulder is a dependent joint.

However, the outstanding feature of all the arthritic lesions is their mildness. Apart from the mandible of Burial 4, none of the other joints can be said to be much more than incipiently affected. So the general conclusions from these lesions must be that, although these persons led active and vigorous lives, the stresses they endured were rarely excessive, even for individuals as small and gracile as they seem to have been.

II. The Animal Bones

by Simon Davis
(Table 12)

A report on the animal bones from Monument 97, Orton Longueville, was compiled by Mrs Joan King in the late 1970s. Her report is available in archive.

Just over 4,000 fragments of animal bones were identified. Most belonged to domestic animals with only a few from wild animals. In common with most English archaeological sites, the four most common species present were cattle (49%), sheep (38%), pig (8%) and horse (5%). Many of their bones bore evidence of butchery, and some had been gnawed, presumably by dogs. A few bones of dog, red deer, hare, bird (*Gallus*), a rodent and one of beaver were also identified.

Their numbers in each period are shown in Table 12.

III. The Charred Plant Remains

by Glynis Jones

This report was written in 1988 and there has been no opportunity to update the text since.

Of *c.* 17 soil samples taken from the site, three were submitted for examination for botanical remains. All three samples came from the same pit, sunk into a ditch and dating to between AD 75 and 125. Half of the soil from each sample was processed by mixing with water and pouring the resulting flots into a pair of sieves of mesh sizes 1mm and 300 μ . The heavy residue was also sieved through a 1mm mesh sieve. Charred plant remains from the coarse flots were identified microscopically and the results are presented in Table 16. Sub-samples of the fine flots and heavy residues were scanned for identifiable remains but none was found.

Spelt wheat (*Triticum spelta*) heavily predominated in all three samples and the other wheat fragments which

Period	1a	meat %	1b	meat %	2a	meat %	2b	meat %	2c	meat %	Site total
Species											
Cattle	348	43.9	703	51.7	285	49.3	266	49.7	510	49.4	2112
Sheep	338	42.6	496	36.5	220	38.0	185	34.6	409	39.6	1648
Pig	82	10.4	124	19.2	44	7.5	28	5.2	62	6.1	337
Horse	25	3.1	35	2.6	30	5.2	56	10.5	55	4.9	197
Dog	2	-	6	-	4	-	11	-	41	-	64
Deer	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
Hare	2	-	4	-	1	-	2	-	1	-	10
Bird	3	-	2	-	1	-	1	-	4	-	11
Rodent	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Beaver	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

Table 12 Number of bones in each Period, in species and % of meat animals

could not be correctly identified quite probably derive from spelt also. A few spelt chaff fragments (glume bases and spikelet forks) were found in each sample, but these were heavily outnumbered by grains. Chaff is rather more likely to be destroyed by fire than grain (Boardman and Jones 1990), but it is also possible that the predominance of grain indicates that the crop had been fairly thoroughly cleaned (by winnowing and sieving) before it was charred. Some support for this comes from the fact that the weed seeds contaminating the spelt are all of *Bromus secalinus/mollis*, a rather large-seeded grass. It is likely that smaller weed seeds (and much of the *Bromus*) had already been cleaned out of the crop by sieving. It is not possible to distinguish wild and cultivated oats on the basis of grains alone, but it is quite possible that the small number of oat grains in these samples were also present as weeds.

Clearly, little can be said about the economy of the site on the basis of plant remains from a single pit, other than to say that spelt was used by the site's inhabitants. A large number of samples of similar date, from Maxey in the Lower Welland Valley, were analysed for plant remains, and Green (1985) found that grain predominated in all of them. He concludes that primary processing of cereals probably took place away from the main settlement area. The samples from Monument 97, however, were apparently chosen because charred grain had been observed in the soil from the pit. Naturally, this has resulted in a bias towards grain-rich samples, as samples rich in chaff, but with very little grain, would not be detectable prior to processing.

The presence of spelt at this date occasions no surprise as it is commonly found on other Iron Age and Romano-British sites in Britain (Green 1981; Jones 1981). A single fragment of hazel nut shell (*Corylus avellana*) was also found.

		(94) (596*)	(138) (598)	(135) (617)
<i>Triticum spelta</i> (spelt)	grains	499	226	135
	glume bases	19	4	2
<i>T. spelta/dicoccum</i> (spelt/emmer)	grains	5	6	1
	glume bases	21	0	0
<i>T. spelta/aestivum</i> (spelt/bread wheat)	grains	0	1	0
<i>Triticum</i> indeterminate (wheat)	grains	11	10	1
<i>Avena</i> sp. (oat)	grains	3	2	0
<i>Bromus secalinus/mollis</i>	seeds	3	2	0
<i>Corylus avellana</i> (hazel)	shell fragment	0	0	1

* 1/4 sample

Table 16 Seed samples from F24, Pit, Period 2a

Endnote

1. Dr Wells prepared his report when it was thought that the cemetery was 2nd-century in date (Dallas 1975, 26). The revised periodisation of the site suggests that it should be regarded as being Late Roman. The evidence is circumstantial, but the balance of probabilities is in favour of a late date. Dr Wells remarks concerning the period should be considered to apply to a cemetery of 2nd-century date. His death unfortunately prevented him from revising his report to take a possible later date into account.

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