



◆ New evidence for the origins, development and internal morphology of the Roman roadside settlement at Alfoldean

by Mike Luke &
Jackie Wells

with contributions by
Kay Hartley
Joanna Bird

PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL ACTIVITY

INTRODUCTION

The main article contains a summary of previous investigations undertaken at Alfoldean. A more detailed account is presented here.

DISCOVERY OF THE SITE

According to Martin (1859, 145) it was the restoration of Alfoldean Bridge in 1810 that led to the discovery of Roman remains. These included coins, mortared walls, coloured stucco and both roof and flue tiles.

SPORADIC INVESTIGATION

Winbolt (1923, 87) believed that the owner of the land, Mr Briggs, undertook investigations during the mid 19th century. It is possible the finds referred to by both Puttock (1841, 262) and Martin (1859, 145) derive from this work. The earthworks in the field to the east were marked on the OS map of 1870 and labelled 'Roman Station'. In 1912 an area of tessellated pavement was uncovered in the field to the south-east of Alfoldean Bridge (Belloc 1913, 250).

WINBOLT'S EXCAVATIONS

The only systematic excavations of the site were conducted in 1922 and 1923 by Samuel Winbolt. The published reports (1923 and 1924) provide extremely useful information concerning the nature and period of occupation. As with most excavations of that time there was only limited understanding of stratigraphy and a poor recognition of timber buildings. Black (1987, 120–23) has presented a summary of Winbolt's discoveries.

Winbolt's work concentrated within the visible

earthwork enclosure. In 1924 he measured the banks as 94 m north-south, and 106 m west-east. He claimed to have traced the bank of yellow clay 4.6 m wide around the full circuit of the enclosure by a mixture of trenches, holes and probing. He recorded the ditch as 1.8 m deep and 6.1 m wide (Winbolt 1923, pl. II) and identified the eastern edge of Stane Street, confirming it was located centrally within the enclosure (Winbolt 1924, 114).

There was a linear stone feature parallel with the earthworks on the east side of the enclosure. Its precise relationship with the bank is rather ambiguous. Black (1987, 122) believed it was an integral part of the bank. However, the excavation plans (Winbolt 1923, 86; 1924, 112) suggest it was parallel to, but inside of the bank. Winbolt believed this was either a wall foundation or a road. Confusingly, Winbolt (1923, 91) stated the feature 'sloped down through the *vallum* as if to cross the *fosse*'. It could not be traced to the south which may suggest it was actually truncated by one of the ditches.

Apparently on the line of the southern bank adjacent to Stane Street, Winbolt (1924, 120) located the remains of a building he named the 'guardhouse'. The stratigraphic relationship is uncertain, although its disturbed nature and depth below the topsoil may suggest that it predated the earthwork.

Within the north-east corner of the enclosure Winbolt (1923, 91) located a tessellated floor which may be the same as that located in 1912 (see above). This appeared to be associated with an east-west wall line to the south. To the north a feature identified by Winbolt as a 'path', may represent a mortar floor. This overlay a raft of stones similar to the one beneath the tessellated pavement. To the north and



possibly associated with this high-status building is a 'disturbed' area of thin mortar flooring. In one area Winbolt records the discovery of two large tiles resting on each other (Winbolt 1924, 119). Black (1987, 122) has suggested this may represent a hypocausted room, possibly part of a bath house. This whole area is described by Winbolt as the 'officer's quarters' and clearly represents the remains of a high-status building.

It is possible that Winbolt's 'long corridor' (which had stone walls) and the 'short corridor' may be part of the same building. The length of the 'long corridor' suggests it was part of a large building. Winbolt identified a clay floor between this and Stane Street.

Evidence for clay floors was discovered elsewhere within the enclosure, usually close to Stane Street. In one area a burnt clay floor was overlain by a cobbled surface/yard. Other features identified included pits of various sizes, a stone-lined (?) well, a drain-like feature and hearths. Excavation within the field to the west was apparently restricted to one trench which located a clay floor which Winbolt termed the 'canteen' (Winbolt 1923, 92).

Limited excavations were undertaken south of the enclosure. Approximately 225 m to the south he located *tegulae* with flanges turned down onto 'a

clay floor'. These probably represent the base of a hearth within a timber building (Winbolt 1924, 122).

Artefacts from the excavations comprised pottery, tile, *tesserae*, *opus signinum*, coins, iron objects, and glass. These indicated activity from the mid 1st century to the late 3rd century.

DISCOVERY OF STANE STREET AND THE 'ROMAN BRIDGE'

After the main excavations were complete Winbolt continued to work in the Alfoldean area. He claims to have located the course of Stane Street north of the Arun where the makeup for the road was iron slag (Winbolt 1929). In 1934 Winbolt believed he had identified the remains of the Roman bridge across the River Arun (Winbolt 1935). This comprised at least three rows of timbers in the river bed with a large quantity of building material.

THE 1970s

The only other known archaeological investigations appear to have been undertaken by the vicar of Slinfold who collected artefacts and dug 'probe holes around the site' (Marley 1975, 2). No records or finds appear to survive from this activity.

This summarizes the archaeological investigations on the site until 1980.

POTTERY TYPE SERIES

Fabric descriptions are recorded only for those types of unknown source. Forms occurring within each fabric group are noted.

Type 1: Reduced wares (64%)

Generic grouping incorporating grey ware vessels sub-divided on the basis of the size and frequency of quartz sand inclusions. Proportions are as follows: (i) coarse (*c.* 0.3–0.9 mm) - 832 vessels; (ii) fine (*c.* 0.1–0.3 mm) - 684 vessels; (iii) very fine, micaceous (*c.* <0.1–0.3 mm) - 94 vessels.

Sources and forms:

(1) **Hardham*** (Winbolt 1927): girth-carinated bowl, lid-seated jar, bead-rimmed jar, storage jar, everted-rimmed jar, plain rimmed beaker, flat-rimmed jar, bowls imitating Samian forms (Dr 37 and Ritterling 8), flanged bowls, convex-sided bowls, flat-rimmed bowls (Fig. 10: 23–30).

(2) **Alice Holt/Farnham** (Lyne & Jefferies 1979): Class 1 cordoned jars, Class 1A cordoned and necked jars, Class 2 jars with pedestals, Class 3A flat-rimmed jars, Class 3C triangular and hooked rimmed jars, Class 4 bead-rimmed jars, Class 5 Atrebatic bowls, Class 5A flat and triangular-rimmed bowls, Class 5B beaded and flanged bowls, Class 5C strainers, Class 6A straight and convex-sided dishes, Class 7 lids.

(3) **Rowlands Castle valley** (Cunliffe 1971): everted rim jar (Fig. 10:22).

(4) **Upchurch*** (Tomber & Dore 1998): everted rim jar.

(5) **Highgate Wood C** (Davies *et al.* 1994): poppy head beaker.

(6) **New Forest*** (Fulford 1975): large cable rim storage jar.

(7) **Unsourced, probably local** plain rim beaker, everted rim jar and possible kiln second (Fig. 8:1)

Type 2: North Kent black-burnished ware (BB2)

(Farrar 1973) (4%)

Forms: everted rim jars, flat-rim bowls, straight and convex-sided dishes with lattice decoration.

Type 3: Dorset black-burnished ware (BB1)* (Farrar 1973) (1.4%)

Forms: everted rim jars, straight and convex-sided dishes, flanged bowls, triangular rim and flat rim bowls with lattice decoration.

Type 4: Fine micaceous 'London Ware' (Marsh 1978) (1.2%)

Forms: rouletted and stamped beaker/jar.

Sources: various, London region.



Table 2. Phase 3 plots and details of boundary tracks from north to south.

Track No.	Distance between boundaries	Cut no.	Description	Dimensions (W × D)	Fill no.
RIVER					
T01	90 m	011	Cambered flint gravel, tile	2.1 × 0.11 m	543
T02	68 m	035	Cambered flint gravel	1.4 × 0.10 m	612
T03	131 m	059/164	Cambered with edge slots [058/060] flint gravel, tile, slag and vitrified clay	1.8 × 0.14 m	685/686
T04	90 m	159	Slight camber flint gravel	2.0 × 0.10 m	731
T05	110 m	099	Slight camber flint gravel	2.4 × 0.16 m	755
T06	108 m	206	No camber flint gravel and ironstone	1.3 × 0.11 m	796

Table 3. Phase 6 plot and details of boundary ditches from north to south.

No.	Distance between boundaries	Cut no.	Profile	Dimensions (W × D)	Fill no.
D01		026	Unknown	6 m × unknown	571, 572, 573
D02	1.6 m	027	Unknown	2.8 m × unknown	575, 576
D03	6 m	028	Asymmetrical 45 degree sides	2 m × >0.3 m	581
D05	10 m	145	Symmetrical 45 degree sides	1.3 m wide & >0.4 m	596
D08	22 m	170	Symmetrical steep sides	1.2 m × >0.4 m	616
D14	108 m	162	Asymmetrical steep-shallow sides	0.8 m × 0.3 m	678
D16	18 m	061	Asymmetrical steep-shallow sides	1 m × 0.35 m	691
D22	109 m	084	Symmetrical V-shaped	0.8 m × >0.4 m	736
D25	68 m	091	Asymmetrical steep sided	1.2 m × >0.4 m	746
D28	13 m	094	Asymmetrical steep sided	1.0 m × 0.4 m	750
D32	63 m	107	Asymmetrical steep-shallow sides	1.1 m × 0.35 m	779
D34	11 m	113	Symmetrical concave sides	1.1 m × >0.4 m	789, 790
D35	51 m	205	Vertical sides and flat base	>0.4 m × 0.42 m	801
D37	61 m	126	Symmetrical 45 degree sides	1.35 m × >0.4 m	810

Table 4. Phase 8 boundary ditches.

No.	Distance between boundaries	Cut no.	Profile	Dimensions (W × D)	Fill no.
D02			Outer Phase 4 enclosure ditch		
D04	16 m	144	Symmetrical concave sides	1 m × 0.4 m	594, 595
D07	15 m	034	Symmetrical steep sides	1 m × >0.4 m	611
D09	14 m	175/152	Asymmetrical steep sides	0.8 m × >0.4 m	624/627
D10	18 m	182	Asymmetrical steep sides	1 m × >0.4 m	636
D11	37 m	045	Symmetrical steep side and concave base	1.4 m × 0.45 m	649, 650
D13	36 m	055	Asymmetrical steep sides and concave base	0.8 m × 0.35 m	674
D15	15 m	056	Symmetrical near vertical sides	1 m × >0.5 m	679
D17	23 m	192	Symmetrical steep sides and rounded base	0.8 m × 0.45 m	696
D20	90 m	082	Symmetrical 45 degree sides	1.4 m × >0.4 m	733
D23	50 m	023	Asymmetrical steep sides with concave base	1 m × 0.33 m	739 (u), 740 (l)
D26	25 m	092	Asymmetrical steep sides	2.17 m × >0.4m	747
D29	14 m	096	Asymmetrical steep sides	1.5 m × > 0.43 m	752
D33	70 m	113	Symmetrical 45 degree sides	1.4 × >0.43 m	788

Type 5: Buff gritty ware* (Winbolt 1927) (<1%)*Forms:* storage jars.*Source:* Hardham kilns.*Source:* Wiggonholt kilns.**Type 6A: Fine white/buff wares** (Evans 1974) (8%)*Forms:* flagon, large bowl, tazza (Fig. 8:3–5) lid, platter.*Source:* Wiggonholt kilns.**Type 7: East Sussex grog tempered wares** (Green 1980) (3%)*Forms:* girth-cordoned jar, platter copying Gallo-Belgic form (Fig. 8:2), everted-rim jar, plain-rim bowl, lid, vessel with pedestal base.**Type 6B: Coarse white/buff wares** (Evans 1974) (1.4%)*Forms:* flagons, storage jars, hemispherical bowl.**Type 8: Oxidized gritty ware** (2%)*Fabric:* hard, coarse fabric with variable orange-brown surfaces



M14

Table 5. Summary of all buildings.

No.	W	Form	Composition	Phase	Fig.
1	>7 m	Floor (534)	Compact yellow clay with rare small stones	8	6f
2	5.2 m	Makeup (545)	Silty clay with frequent small flints, sandstone and occasional tile	6	6a
		Floor deposits (544) Wall trenches [014/133 & 012]	Compact yellow clay with rare small stones Vertical-sided trenches with fill including flint nodules, two similar but intercutting at south.		
3	7.6 m	Makeup ? (609) Floor ? (607 and 614) Wall trenches [168 & 169]	Limited area of fine gravel Limited areas of yellow white clay with rare small stones Steep sided trenches with medium-sized stones.	6	6b
4	5 m	Makeup ? (657 & 665) Floor ? (669) Wall trenches [154, 155 & 156]	Two areas of gravel. Small area of compact yellow clay with rare small stones. Possible robbing trenches/pits. Fills noticeable due to high stone content	8	-
5	8.8 m	Earliest floor (708, 712 & 719) Hearths ? (707 & 711) Layer (710) Second floor (709, 713, 717 & 725) Wall lines	Compact white/yellow clay with crushed tile. Two areas of scorched red clay (one overlying D18) Dark brown silty clay. Compact yellow/white clay with rare stones and crushed tile. Limited evidence, gulley [071] and posthole [193] had similar stony fills.	6	6c
6	7-8 m	Makeup (755) Floor (453, 456/458) Layer ? (751 and 754)	Limited extent of silty clay with frequent small stones Sandy yellow clay with rare medium stones. Dark brown sandy silt with charcoal flecks and occasional small stones. Unclear if related.	6	-
7	4.6 m	Floor (781 & 782) Hearth [108] Wall lines	Compact white clay with rare inclusions Steep-sided cut with flat base containing lowest fill of charcoal-rich deposit (785), sealed by crushed tile deposit (784) and finally grey blue clay (783) Limited evidence, possible gulley [111] or posthole [112] are associated.	6	6d

and dark grey core. Uneven fracture. Inclusions are abundant, ill-sorted, sub-angular to sub-rounded multi-coloured quartz c. 0.3–1.3 mm, and sparse sub-rounded black ?iron ore c. 0.2–0.4 mm.

Forms: storage jars, bead rim jars.
Source: unknown, probably local.

Type 9: Oxidized sandy ware (Evans 1974) (<1%)

Forms: amphora stopper (Fig. 8:6).
Source: Wiggonholt kilns.

Type 10: Verulamium region whiteware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 154–5) (<1%)

Forms: unguent jar, ring-necked flagon, reeded rim bowl.

Type 11: Grey-cored oxidized sandy ware (<1%)

Forms: folded beaker, flagons.
Source: ?Wiggonholt/Hardham variant.

Type 12: Oxford Oxidized ware (Young 1977) (<1%)

Forms: Type C100 mortarium.

Type 13: Hoo fabric/north Kent white-slipped ware

(Davies *et al.* 1994) (<1%)
Forms: white-slipped beaker (Fig. 8:7)

Type 14A: Samian ware - central Gaul* (Tomber & Dore 1998) (2%)

Forms: Curle 15, Dr 18/31, 18/31R, 31, 31/r, 37, 27, 33, Walters 79

Type 14B: Samian ware - south Gaul (Tomber & Dore 1998) (1.1%)

Forms: Dr 15/17, 18, 27, 29, 31, 37 (Fig. 8:10), platter.

Type 14C: Samian ware - east Gaul (Tomber & Dore 1998) (<1%)

Forms: Curle 15, Dr 32, 36, 38.

Type 14D: Samian ware - Aldgate/Pulborough

(Tomber & Dore 1998) (<1%)
Forms: Curle 11, Dr 36 (Fig. 8:8, 9, 11–13).

Type 15: Mortaria (<1%)

(1) Verulamium region (including workshops at Brockley



Table 6. Summary of all 'structures'.

No.	W	Form	Composition	Type	Phase	Fig.
1	1.2 m	Feature [131] with deposits (539, 540 & 541)	Shallow cut with charcoal-rich deposits	Hearth	3	4a
2	1 m	Feature [010] with deposit (542)	Shallow cut with charcoal-rich deposits.	Hearth	3	4b
3	4.5 m	Gravel surface (550, 558 & 561) Clay (552, 559 & 561)	Three areas of gravel were located to the south of B02. One deposit overlaid the earlier wall trench of this building. Three areas of compact yellow clay, one of which overlay the gravel deposit (558)	Building ?	8	6a
4	1 m	Feature [015] with deposit (555)	Shallow cut with charcoal-rich deposits	Hearth	3	-
5	2 m	Parallel gullies [140 & 141]	Similar gullies with similar stony fills.	?	6	-
6		Stoke-hole [029/030] Chambers [142] Fills (586, 587, 588, 589 & 590)	Deeper profile hollow Two shallower hollows [142] (less certain to the south). That to the north had evidence of a brick/stone lining (590). Stoke-hole and chambers appeared to be filled by the same type of dark charcoal rich deposit with vitrified clay and iron slag.	Furnace ?	6	6e
7		Stony deposit (617 & 621) Wall lines ? [172/173]	Moderate quantities of stone and tile Trench or postpits with asymmetrical profiles and stony fills similar to the layers described above.	Building ?	9	-
8		Stony deposit (635) Wall lines [178, 179 & 180]	Small area of stony material Possible trenches and postpits with stoney fills.	Building ?	9	-
9	>6 m	Gullies [153 & 183]	Both similar in profile 6m apart in east-facing section but only 5m apart in west.	Roundhouse ?	3	4c
10	13 m	Postholes	[038, 039 & 040] had similar profiles and 0.4 m apart. [041 & 185] were smaller	Post-built building or fenceline	3	-
11	4 m	Floor (648)	Distinct brown orange sandy clay	Building	3	-
12	>11 m	Postholes	[163, 188 & 189] similar profiles and 2.8 m apart	Building or fenceline	3	4d
13	0.6 m	Feature [103] with burnt fills (768 & 769)	Shallow cut with charcoal-rich deposits.	Hearth	3	-
14	1.3 m	Gully with stony fill	Wide gulley with stony fill.	?	6	-
15	4.5 m	Gullies [005 & 008]	Two gullies with similar profiles but otherwise unexceptional.	Building ?	8	-
16	10 m	Floor (601)	Compact yellow sandy clay with occasional charcoal flecks and rare stones	Building ?	3	4e
17	7 m	Floor (689, 693, 694 & 695)	Distinct yellow brown sandy clay and rare stones. Phase 5 deposits sealing this contained relatively large quantities of tile.	Building ?	3	4f
18	2 m	Gullies [117 & 118]	Gullies of similar profiles filled by deposits with a high stone content.	?	8	-



M 16

Hill, Radlett, Verulamium, Bricket Wood and probably elsewhere along Watling Street) (Tomber & Dore 1998, 154–5).

(2) **Oxford** (Cowley, Headington, Sandford etc; Young 1977;

Table 8. Brick and tile from the JCB trench.

Phase	Group	No. of frags.	Description
2	T09	1	tegula*
	unassigned	3	tegulae
3	T01	1	tegula
	T03	1	tegula
	S09	1	tegula
	unassigned	1	tegula
5	unassigned	41	tegulae
6	S05	1	tegula
	S06	3	tegulae and brick
	P05	2	tegulae
	D01	1	tegula
	D08	2	tegulae
	B02	7	tegulae
	B05	3	tegulae
	B07	3	tegulae
	unassigned	2	tegulae
7	unassigned	14	tegulae
8	T08	9	tegulae
	D04	3	tegulae and flue
	D07	1	tegula
	D09	1	tegula
	D12	1	tegula
	D13	1	tegula
	D15	4	tegulae and flue
	D17	2	tegulae
9	S07	20	tegulae
	S08	10	tegulae
10	D19	2	tegulae
11	D24	2	tegulae
	unassigned	67	tegulae
	Total	210	—

* no flanges present: identification based on thickness and general appearance.

Tomber & Dore 1998, 174–5) see also Type 12.

(3) **Rhineland** (Tomber & Dore 1998, 78–80).

(4–7) **Wiggonholt** (Fig. 9:14–21) *see mortaria*.

These show most of the variations in fabric probably produced at the Wiggonholt workshop. The variants in Fabrics 5–7 were presumably due to the variations in firing and they are distinctive and are especially characteristic of products attributable to this workshop.

Type 16: New Forest fine wares* - oxidized (Fulford 1975) (4%)

Forms: rouletted beakers, folded beaker.

Type 17: Nene Valley colour-coated ware (Tomber & Dore 1998) (<1%)

Forms: funnel-neck beaker, rouletted beaker.

Type 18: Colchester colour-coated ware (Tomber & Dore 1998) (1.1%)

Forms: folded beaker, plain rim beaker.

Type 19: Trier colour-coated ware (Tomber & Dore 1998) (<1%)

Forms: folded beaker.

Type 20: New Forest fine wares* - reduced (Fulford 1975) (1.1%)

Forms: folded beaker, beaker with white painted decoration

Type 21: Oxford Parchment ware (Young 1977) (<1%)

Forms: painted jar.

Type 22: Cologne colour-coated ware (Tomber & Dore 1998, 57) (<1%)

Forms: rouletted beaker.

Type 23: Reduced sandy with red margins (<1%)

Forms: bead-rim jar.

Source: ?late product from Hardham kilns.

Table 9. Industrial residues from the JCB trench.

Phase	Group	Context No.	No. of frags.	Description
3	T03	688	2	bloomery refuse (possibly from reheating hearth) and vitrified clay
5	unassigned	529	1	ferrous slag
	unassigned	667	1	bloomery slag
	unassigned	697	5	ferrous slag (possibly from reheating hearth) and vitrified clay (possibly furnace lining)
	unassigned	777	1	vitrified clay
6	S06	588	6	ferrous slag, bog iron and vitrified clay
	S06	591	3	ferrous slag
	S06	590	1	ferrous slag
7	unassigned	744	1	vitrified clay
	unassigned	521	2	vitrified clay
	unassigned	523	1	ferrous slag
	unassigned	526	1	ferrous slag
8	T08	600	1	ferrous slag
11	unassigned	527	2	ferrous slag and vitrified clay furnace lining
12	topsoil	503	10	ferrous slag and bloomery refuse (possibly from reheating hearth), also smelting hearth cinder and vitrified clay, bog iron

**Type 24: Gritty buff/grey ware** (Winbolt 1927) (<1%)

Forms: undiagnostic body sherds.

Source: variant from Hardham kilns (cf. Type 5).

Type 25: Hard orange (<1%)

Fabric: hard fired with orange-brown surfaces and core. Uneven fracture. Inclusions are frequent sub-rounded red and black iron ore c. 0.2–1.0 mm and rare angular clear/milky quartz c. 0.3–0.5 mm.

Forms: undiagnostic body sherds.

Source: unknown, probably local.

MORTARIA By Kay Hartley

Twenty-nine sherds were examined. Twenty of these were rim sherds of some kind, all represent different vessels and some of the remaining body sherds are from other vessels. They range in date from the Flavian period to c. AD 300, but two-thirds belong to the period AD 140–200+. The only 1st-century mortarium is, as might be expected, from the important potteries south of Verulamium. Thirteen, dated AD 140–200+ are from local sources, most, if not all, from the workshop at Wiggonholt. These illustrate the local fabric variations very well. Alfoldean would have been one of the major markets for this workshop, along with Binscombe, Chichester, the Chiddingfold and Rapsley villas, Fishbourne and other sites in the immediate area. It served primarily a local market, but a few of its mortaria did reach London, where two stamped ones have been recorded.

There were small workshops like that at Wiggonholt producing mortaria and other coarse ware, throughout Roman Britain in the 2nd century. Most had ceased to exist by the end of the 2nd century or the early 3rd century. In the south, their markets were very largely taken over by the Oxford potteries and it is no surprise that a quarter of this sample is from that source, all dating later than AD 240. Wiggonholt may have been only of local importance, but it was, nevertheless, exceptional, since mortarium production was very limited in southern England in the 1st and 2nd centuries. It was also involved in the production of 'mural crown pottery' in fabric identical to that used for mortaria (Hanworth 1968, 38).

One mortarium is an import from the Rhineland; these mortaria are widely represented on sites in southern and south-western England, but unfortunately cannot be dated more closely than AD 150–300.

This group of mortaria from Alfoldean has particular interest since the whereabouts of the mortaria (including two unidentified stamps), found in earlier excavations are uncertain (Winbolt 1923; 1924). Two of those published are likely to be from the Verulamium region (Winbolt 1924, pl. VIa, no. 26) and Oxford (Winbolt 1924, pl. VII, no. 30); the rest are more problematical.

Fabrics (examined with hand lens at $\times 20$ magnification)**Fabric 1**

Verulamium region (including workshops at Brockley Hill, Radlett, Verulamium, Bricket Wood and probably elsewhere along Watling Street) (Tomber & Dore 1998, 154–5).

Granular, greyish-white fabric with abundant quartz and rare orange-brown inclusions; buff-cream slip. Trituration grit normally consists mainly of flint with some quartz and rare red-brown material. None survives on the single example.

Fabric 2

Oxford (Cowley, Headington, Sandford etc: Young 1977; Tomber & Dore 1998, 174–5)

Self-coloured, fine-textured, friable cream fabric, sometimes pinkish; some quartz and rare orange-brown inclusions. The trituration grit consists of abundant, close-packed, transparent and translucent, pinkish and brownish quartz.

Fabric 3

Rhineland (Tomber & Dore 1998, 78–80)

Self-coloured, fine-textured, dense, cream fabric (the single example has an unusual thick black core, and random quartz and rare orange-brown inclusions. Two or three quartz trituration grits survive on the fragment.

Fabrics 4–7**Wiggonholt**

These show most of the variations in fabric probably produced at the Wiggonholt workshop. The variants in Fabrics 5–7 were presumably due to the variations in firing and they are distinctive and are especially characteristic of products attributable to this workshop.

Fabric 4

Wiggonholt (Evans 1974; Tomber & Dore 1998, 187)

Slightly granular, buff-cream fabric with thick, pale grey core; frequent, tiny, fairly well-sorted, quartz and very rare orange-brown inclusions. A few quartz trituration grits survive, but flint might have been the major constituent. One of the two fragments in this fabric (301 iii) is more granular than the other (301 ii); this is merely because the quartz inclusions are larger in the granular one. The texture of the more granular version can be confused with the finer end of the Verulamium range, but the Wiggonholt fabric has only a relatively local distribution and the pale grey core is a norm for this workshop.

Fabric 5

Wiggonholt (Evans 1974; Tomber & Dore 1998, 187)

Powdery very fine-textured, cream fabric, sometimes with some orange-brown in the core (where this core exists, its presence is noted in the text); few to moderate, quartz and very rare orange-brown inclusions, all barely visible at $\times 20$ magnification; with few tiny black inclusions and streaks in the fabric.

Fabric 6

Wiggonholt (Evans 1974; Tomber & Dore 1998, 187)

Hard, fine-textured cream fabric with thick, well-defined, pale orange-brown core starting just below the surface skin; fairly frequent inclusions, barely visible at $\times 10$ magnification, but consisting of quartz, some blackish and very rare orange-brown material. Slip possibly buff-brown, but the single example is affected by weathering.

Fabric 7

Wiggonholt (Evans 1974; Tomber & Dore 1998, 187)

Hard, fine-textured, cream to almost orange-brown fabric with very thick pale grey core, often clearly defined, starting just below surface skin; the core occasionally has bands of pale orange-brown sandwiched within it. Few barely visible inclusions.



All Wiggonholt mortaria have similar trituration grit, mostly flint with some quartz and red-brown material perhaps sandstone and haematite. The production of mortaria at Wiggonholt is likely to have been within the period AD 140–200+.

CATALOGUE

NB 'right-facing' and 'left-facing' when applied to stamps indicates the relation of the stamp to the spout, looking at the mortarium from the outside.

Roadside trench

Context number followed by original recording code

301 ALF 83 TQ 117330

40 g. Fabric 5 with orange-brown in the core (Wiggonholt). Incomplete rim-section from the right-facing side of the spout with two grooves about half way down the external wall. AD 140–180.

(Given, with permission to Dr Tomber for the National Fabric Collection.)

301 ALF 83 TQ 117330

40 g. Diam. 240 mm. 6% Fabric 4 (Wiggonholt). Wall-sided mortarium with collar divided into three zones; Cunliffe 1971, 294.2 and Cooper 1984 (Chiddingfold), fig. 4, no. 102 are virtually identical. Likely to be AD 160–200+ rather than earlier (Fig. 9:19).

301 ALF 83 TQ 117330

25 g. Fabric 4 (Wiggonholt). A mortarium with high bead and a flange in two planes similar in form to mortaria made in the Verulamium region AD 140–200 (Frere 1972, fig. 121, no. 778 & fig. 130, no. 1037, both found in mid-2nd century layers) and in the Oxford potteries where Young dated it perhaps too late as AD 180–240 (M10). At Wiggonholt its optimum date is perhaps AD 150–200 (Fig. 9:17).

301 ALF 83 TQ 117

25 g. Diam. 210 mm. 9% Fabric 5 (Wiggonholt). The form is as Young M12 in the Oxford potteries (Young 1977), but it is clearly a product of the local workshop at Wiggonholt. Optimum date AD 160–200+ (Fig. 9:20).

301 ALF 83 TQ117330

35 g. Fabric 6 (Wiggonholt). Incomplete rim-section of a flanged mortarium, generally similar in form to 302 ii. AD 140–180.

301 ALF 83 TQ117330

95 g. Diam. 290 mm. 10% Fabric 7 (probably Wiggonholt). Flanged mortarium with part of left-facing spout. The form is not one typical for the Wiggonholt workshop, but it is likely to be from a local source. Optimum date AD 140–170 (Fig. 9:14).

302 ALF 83 IIc

60 g. Diam. 260 mm. 11% Fabric 2 (Oxford). Form M18 (Young 1977). AD 240–300. Surface eroded.

302 ALF 83 TQ11603275

195 g. Diam. 280 mm. 20%. Fabric 5 with thin band of orange-brown (Wiggonholt). Flanged mortarium identical in form to Cooper 1984, (Chiddingfold), fig. 4, no. 95. Optimum date AD 140–170 (Fig. 9:18).

304 ALF 83 TQ115325

- i. 20 g. Diam. 270 mm. 6% Fabric 2 (Oxford) Flange fragment from a form M18 (Young 1977). AD 240–300.
- ii. 18 g. Fabric 2 (Oxford). Fragment from left-facing side of spout of an M18 (*ibid.*). AD 240–300.
- iii. 20 g. Fabric 7 (Wiggonholt). Body sherd with two grooves on outside. AD 140–200+.

308 ALF 83

- i. 65 g. Diam. 210 mm 26% Fabric 5 with trace of orange-brown in core (Wiggonholt). Wall-sided mortarium with very thin collar and surviving spout. This type of wall-sided mortarium was never stamped and the spout-type probably began to be used later than 742; it is unlikely to have been used at Colchester before c. AD 170. It is identical with Cooper 1984, fig. 4, no. 99. Optimum date AD 170–200+ (Fig. 9:21).
- ii 85 g. Fabric 5 with band of orange-brown. Three joining body sherds with slight burning.

506 ALF 85 IIIbE 38A

100 g. Diam. c. 320 mm 11% Fabric 1 (Verulamium region). Flange and left-facing part of spout, both typical for AD 60–90.

627 ALF 85 IIbw285

68 g. Diam. c. 390 mm. 2% Fabric 5. Flanged mortarium, thicker than the rest in this assemblage, and similar to Hanworth 1968, (Rapsley), fig. 20, no. 61. Mid 2nd-century (Fig. 9:15).

667

Three body sherds from different vessels:

- i. 35 g. Fabric 5.
- ii. 5 g. Fabric 6. Groove on outside.
- iii. 60 g. Fabric 7, with sandwich core.

742 ALF 83 III bE 24 1 742

95 g. Fabric 5. This large spout has flaked off from the mortarium, along the line at which extra clay was added to form the spout (this junction is always a weak point); the mortarium was probably wall-sided or nearly so. The spout is a type used at Colchester primarily within the period AD 160–190/200 (Hull 1963, fig. 63, no. 9).

747 ALF 83 III bE 27 1 747

10 g. Fabric 7. Flange fragment.

Field artefact collection

Original recording code, followed by year/field/collection unit.

RFA 151 1981, Field C/2

40 g. Diam. c. 280 mm. 8% Fabric 2 (Oxford). Perhaps form M18 (Young 1977). AD 240–300. Discoloured and battered.

RFA 221 1981, Field B/3

35 g. Fabric 7 (Wiggonholt). Body sherd.

RSA 132 1982, Field A/02G

68 g. Diam. 340 mm. 7%. Fabric 5 with some orange-brown in the core (Wiggonholt). Flanged mortarium typical of forms made at Wiggonholt and virtually identical to Hanworth 1968, (Rapsley), fig. 20, no. 62, with neat grooves in the side of the bead. AD 140–180 (Fig. 9:16).



RSA 317 1982, Field B/01L
125 g. Fabric 6 (Wiggonholt) Body and base sherd.

RSA 443 1982, Field C/01B
55 g. Diam. 340–360 mm. 3%. Fabric 3 with unusual thick, blackish core (Rhineland). Collared mortarium typical of sources in the Rhineland (Richardson 1986, 112). AD 150–300.

Stamped mortarium (missing)

A photograph shows a mortarium in cream fabric with neat herringbone stamp. Unfortunately it is not possible to identify the stamp, especially without knowing its size, but the make-up of this group from Alfoldean points strongly to its being a product of the kilns at Wiggonholt. AD 140–180.

SAMIAN WARE By Joanna Bird

A total of 102 sherds was recovered. The material is generally in a poor condition from the action of the soil and in several instances the slip has been completely removed. It ranges in date from the mid-1st century AD to the first half of the 3rd century AD. The assemblage includes three decorated sherds and between four and six plain vessels by the Aldgate-Pulborough potter. These pieces are all in a dull orange-red, sometimes almost maroon-coloured fabric, indicating they have been overfired. The slip is a drab orange-red colour, hard and rather matt, with a slightly pimply surface (cf. Webster 1975, 163–4). It now seems probable that at least two potters were active at this workshop (Dickinson 1994, 137–8), although the decorated pieces are all in the same rather clumsily modelled style. In addition to these local wares, there is an unusual imported decorated bowl by one of the later potters working at Montans in southern Gaul.

(1) Roadside JCB trench

(650) II bE 34.2	Dr 27 probably	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–early Antonine
(658) II bE38.1	Dr 37	Montans	Fig. 8 no. 10: the column, with horizontal instead of the usual diagonal segments, the broad zig-zag lines used in the saltire & as a vertical, & the fine, slightly diagonal beads are all on a bowl from London with an ovolo recorded for Felicio of Montans (Bird 1986, no. 2.60; a possible origin at Trier was previously suggested for this piece). The wreath, composed of rather blunt-ended bifid leaves, is on Martin 1979, fig. 5, nos 2–3; no. 2 also has a similar column. The roundel is on a stamped Felicio bowl from London (Stanfield 1936, fig. 3:7) and a similar roundel is on Martin 1979, fig. 5:1–3.
(672) II bW40.3	Dr 31	Central Gaul	The leaf at the top of the saltire may be the one on a signed bowl of Secundus from Montans (Martin 1986, fig. 9:3). The figure at the left is probably a smaller version of Hermet 1934, type 15, a Minerva; the unidentifiable figure at right has falling drapery or possibly a club. The rather clumsy layout and pale chalky fabric are characteristic of 2nd-century Montans ware. Hadrianic–early Antonine
II bW40.5	Foot sherd	East Gaul	Antonine
(306) IIbn	Dr 29	South Gaul	later 2nd–first half 3rd century
(307) IIbS	Dr 36	Central Gaul	Upper zone wreath festoons with spirals, separated by ivy-leaf pendants: similar festoons occur on stamped bowls of such potters as Vitalis (Knorr 1919, Taf. 83, D). c. AD 70–85.
(302) IIC	–	Central Gaul	Trajanic–Hadrianic
(302) IIC (1)	Walters 79	Central Gaul	sherd, Hadrianic–Antonine
(302) IIC (2)	–	South Gaul	burnt, mid-late Antonine
(302) IIC (3)	Dr 27	South Gaul	neck of a closed form or possibly a pedestal foot. mid to later 1st century
(304) IIIB	Dr 31	Central Gaul	mid to later 1st century
(304) IIIB	Dr 27	South Gaul	Antonine
(744) IIIBE25.8	Dr 36	East Gaul	Flavian
(301) IIB	Dr 37	South Gaul	early to mid 3rd century
(301) IIB	Dr 37	Central Gaul	small trident-tongued ovolo Flavian
(301) IIB	Dr 37	Central Gaul	probably by Paternus of Lezoux. The ovolo is Rogers 1974, B106, recorded for Paternus, and he regularly used fine beads. For the dolphin, cf. Stanfield & Simpson 1958, pl. 108, no. 39. c. AD 160–190
(301) IIB	Dr 37	Central Gaul	Panels, including a plain festoon or medallion with a small ring, above a running stag. Hadrianic–early Antonine
(301) IIB	Dr 37	Central Gaul	heavy scrollery at base, burnt. Antonine
(301) IIB	Dr 37	Central Gaul	trace of decoration at base. Antonine
(301) IIB	Dr 18/31R	Central Gaul	3 sherds, overfired Hadrianic–early Antonine
(301) IIB	Dr 31R	Central Gaul	mid-late Antonine
(301) IIB	Dr 31	Central Gaul	traces of illeg. stamp Antonine
(301) IIB	Dr 18	South Gaul	mid-later 1st century
(301) IIB	platter	South Gaul	3 platters mid to later 1st century
(301) IIB	platter	South Gaul	burnt mid to later 1st century
(301) IIB	Dr 18/31 or 31	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
(301) IIB	Dr 33	Central Gaul	burnt Hadrianic–Antonine
(301) IIB	Dish	South Gaul	Flavian–Trajanic
(308) JCB us	Dr 27	Central Gaul	part of stamp surviving Hadrianic–early Antonine
(308) JCB us	Dr 15/17 or 18	South Gaul	stamped PASSEN[: of the potter Pass(i)enus Neronian
(308) JCB us	Dr 32	East Gaul	first half 3rd century
(308) JCB us	Dr 37	Central Gaul	burnt Hadrianic–Antonine



(308) JCB us	Dr 33	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
(308) JCB us	Dr 27	South Gaul	foot mid to later 1st century
(308) JCB us	Curle 15	Central Gaul	Antonine
(308) JCB us	Dish	Central Gaul	roulettes base mid-late Antonine
(308) JCB us	Dr 18/31	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
(308) JCB us	Dr 18/31 or 31	Central Gaul	Antonine
(308) JCB us	Dr 18 or 15/17	South Gaul	mid to later 1st century
(308) JCB us	Dr 31	Central Gaul	3 vessels Antonine
(308) JCB us	Dr 38	East Gaul	late 2nd to mid 3rd century
(536) IIbW10.3	Dr 18	South Gaul	pre- or early Flavian
(634) IIbW35.1	Dr 27	South Gaul	Flavian
(795) IIbE57.1	Dr 37	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
(597) IIbW23.10	Dr 18/31 or 31	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
(599) IIbW23.14	Dr 37	South Gaul	panel design including a small animal ?hare Early-mid Flavian
(601) IIbW24.6	Dr 31	Central Gaul	abraded stamp, possibly chipped to form a lid Antonine
(721) IIbW35.12	Dr 18/31	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–early Antonine
(503) IIbW42.4	Curle 15	East Gaul	late 2nd to mid-3rd century
(652) IIbW42.6	Dr 37	Central Gaul	abraded, but uneven arrangement of beadrows recalls the work of Docilis, who also used a similar large rosette, though not apparently as a junction motif Stanfield & Simpson 1958, pl. 92, no. 14. Hadrianic–early Antonine
(667) IIbW46.8	Curle 11	Aldgate-Pulborough	Fig. 8:11: flange deliberately chipped almost entirely away cf. Webster 1975, fig. 5:P5–6 Trajanic–Hadrianic
(301) us	Dr 37	Aldgate-Pulborough	Fig. 8:8: small figure (Webster 1975, fig. 2:C) may be flanked by caryatids (fig. 2:B) as on Simpson 1952, fig. 5:3. The caryatids may be supporting an arch, which would be a new motif for this potter. Trajanic–Hadrianic.

(2) Field artefact collection

80/A/1	Dr 18/31	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
80/A/1	Dr 33	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
80/A/3	Dr 18/31 or 31	Central Gaul	Base, slightly burnt; traces of stamp are present but illegible. Antonine
80/A/4	Dr 36	Aldgate-Pulborough	Fig. 8:9: The barbotine has partially lifted on the rim. Webster illustrates this form (1975, fig. 3:P4), but not a complete profile. Trajanic–Hadrianic
80/A/4	Dr 31R probably	Central Gaul	mid-late Antonine
80/A/4	Dish	South Gaul	second half 1st century
80/A/4	Dr 33 probably	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
80/A/5	Dr 15/17R	South Gaul	probably pre-Flavian
80/A/5	Dr 31/Lud Sa	East Gaul	later 2nd to mid 3rd century
81/C/2	Dr 31 or 31R	Central Gaul	Antonine
81/C/2	Dr 18	South Gaul	pre-Flavian
81/C/2	Dish c.f. Curle 23	Central Gaul	Antonine
81/C/2	Dr 18	South Gaul	pre-Flavian
81/C/1	Dr 37 probably	Central Gaul	all decoration has been lost. Probably Antonine
81/C/1	Dr 33 probably	Central Gaul	Antonine
81/B/3	Dr 33	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
81/B/3	–	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
81/B/2	Dr 29	South Gaul	Panel design including arrowheads & a small toothed medallion or festoon. Flavian
81/B/2	?Ritt 9/Dr 27	South Gaul	cup foot. Pre-Flavian
82/A/1/A	Dr 18/31	Aldgate-Pulborough	Fig. 8:13: diam approx. 22 cm Cf. Webster 1975, fig. 3:P1–2. Trajanic–Hadrianic
82/A/1/D	Dr 33	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
82/A/1/D	–	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
82/A/1/G	Dr 18	South Gaul	second half 1st century
82/A/1/G	Dr 18 or 15/17	South Gaul	pre- or early Flavian
82/A/1/G	Dr 33	Central Gaul	Antonine
82/A/1/G	Dr 33 probably	Central Gaul	cup sherd with a series of horizontal grooves on the exterior. Probably Antonine
82/A/1/G	Dr 15/17	South Gaul	pre- or early Flavian
82/A/1/G	Dr 37	South Gaul	trace of decoration at base. Flavian–Trajanic
82/A/2/D	Dr 18/31 or 31	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
82/A/2/G	Dr 31 probably	East Gaul	later 2nd to early 3rd century
82/A/2/G	Dr 33	Central Gaul	slightly burnt. Hadrianic–Antonine
82/A/5	Cup	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
82/B/1/C	Dr 33	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine
82/B/1/G	Dr 31	Central Gaul	Antonine
82/B/1/J	Dr 31 probably	Central Gaul	Antonine
82/B/1/K	Dr 37	Aldgate-Pulborough	Fig. 8:12: the design is freestyle: the figures include a hare (cf. Oswald 2116–17), possibly the panther Oswald 1564 (= Webster 1975, fig. 2:A) & probably a small human figure (cf. Oswald 205, though not identical). There is a fine wavy-line border at the base (cf. Simpson 1952, fig. 5:4; Webster



82/B/2/F	Dr 15/17	South Gaul	1975, fig. 1:10), above a pair of grooves. The fabric & rather messy finishing are characteristic. Trajanic–Hadrianic.
82/B/2/H	Dish/bowl	South Gaul	pre-Flavian
82/B/2/P	Dr 37	Central Gaul	Flavian–Trajanic
82/C/1/C	Lud Tb	East Gaul	base. Trajanic–Hadrianic
			with a rather square lip and a groove on the inner edge: cf. Oswald & Pryce 1920, pl. 79:5 & 9. Later 2nd to first half 3rd century
82/C/1/C	Dr 37	Central Gaul	double medallion; the motifs within & beside it are too abraded to identify. Hadrianic–early Antonine
82/C/1/D	Dr 18/31 or 31	Central Gaul	burnt Hadrianic–Antonine
82/C/1/F	Dr 37	Aldgate–Pulborough	the figure (Webster 1975, fig. 2, C) occurs regularly on their bowls. Shallow blurred moulding. Trajanic–Hadrianic
82/C/1/G	Dr 18/31	Aldgate–Pulborough	Trajanic–Hadrianic
82/C/1/G	Dr 18/31 or 31	Central Gaul or Aldgate–Pulborough	very abraded. First half 2nd century
82/C/2/A	Bowl	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Trajanic
82/C/2/B	–	Central Gaul	foot fragment. Hadrianic–Antonine
82/C/2/F	Dish	Central Gaul	Hadrianic–Antonine

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