Excavations on a Medieval Site at Derngate, Northampton

by MICHAEL SHAW

with contributions by Marion Archibald, Helen Bamford, Varian Denham, Alison R Goodall, Ian H Goodall, Mary Harman, R T Jones, Alison Locker, D T Moore, W R G Moore, Gwynne Oakley, Hugh Richmond, Diana S Sutherland, John H Williams

INTRODUCTION

Excavations on the site of the old bus station, Derngate, were undertaken in 1980 by Northampton Development Corporation's Archaeological Unit in advance of its development as a leisure centre. The purpose of the investigations was to establish the date and nature of post Roman occupation in the Derngate area which lies within the Medieval town defences but outside and to the east of the Late Saxon town (FIG 1). Work was limited to two long, narrow, trenches excavated, with a work force of seven, over a period of six weeks in September-October and to subsequent regular · observation and recording of features revealed during building operations.

We are grateful to Northampton Borough Council, the owners, and Taylor Woodrow, the developers, for access to the site. Financial support was provided by the Department of the Environment. The author wishes to thank John Williams for his advice during both the excavation and the preparation of the report, Christine Farwell for supervising trench B, Tony Woods, the Clerk of Works for the site, for his help during the watching brief, Ken Connor for preparing the publication drawings and Heather Lovett for preparing the reconstruction drawing of the pottery assemblages.

THE MAIN REPORT AND THE MICROFICHE

The information in this report is divided between printed text and microfiche with the main discussion appearing in hard copy and the back-up information on microfiche. For detailed analysis of the site both reports should be used. They are totally integrated and extensive cross-referencing of all aspects of the site should allow easy re-examination of the stratigraphy and reconstruction of the finds groups.

The contents of the two sections of the report are as follows:

STRUCTURAL

  MAIN TEXT
   i) Introduction
   ii) The Archaeological and Historical Background
   iii) The Documentary Evidence *by* John H Williams
   iv) The Excavations
   v) Plans and Sections
   vi) Discussion

  MICROFICHE
   1) Layer list: Description of individual layers, their phasing, and finds within the layers (Frames 1-11)
   ii) Sequence diagrams (Frames 12-15: FIGS M1-3)
   iii) Report on the geology *by* Diana S Sutherland (Frame 16)

POTTERY *by* MICHAEL SHAW AND VARIAN DENHAM

  MAIN TEXT
   i) Key to fabrics
   ii) Fabric quantities by phase
   iii) Phase summaries
   iv) Illustrated pottery

  MICROFICHE
   i) Table of stratified pottery (Frames 17-27)
   ii) Detailed analysis of Prehistoric sherds *by* Helen M Bamford (Frames 28-31)
   iii) Notes on specific fabrics (Frames 32-36)
   iv) Catalogue of illustrated pottery (Frames 37-41)

63

Site Location

KEY

╱╱╱╱╱ Medieval defences

▬▬▬▬ Late Saxon defences

- - - - - Possible 11th-century defensive line

Scale 1:10 000

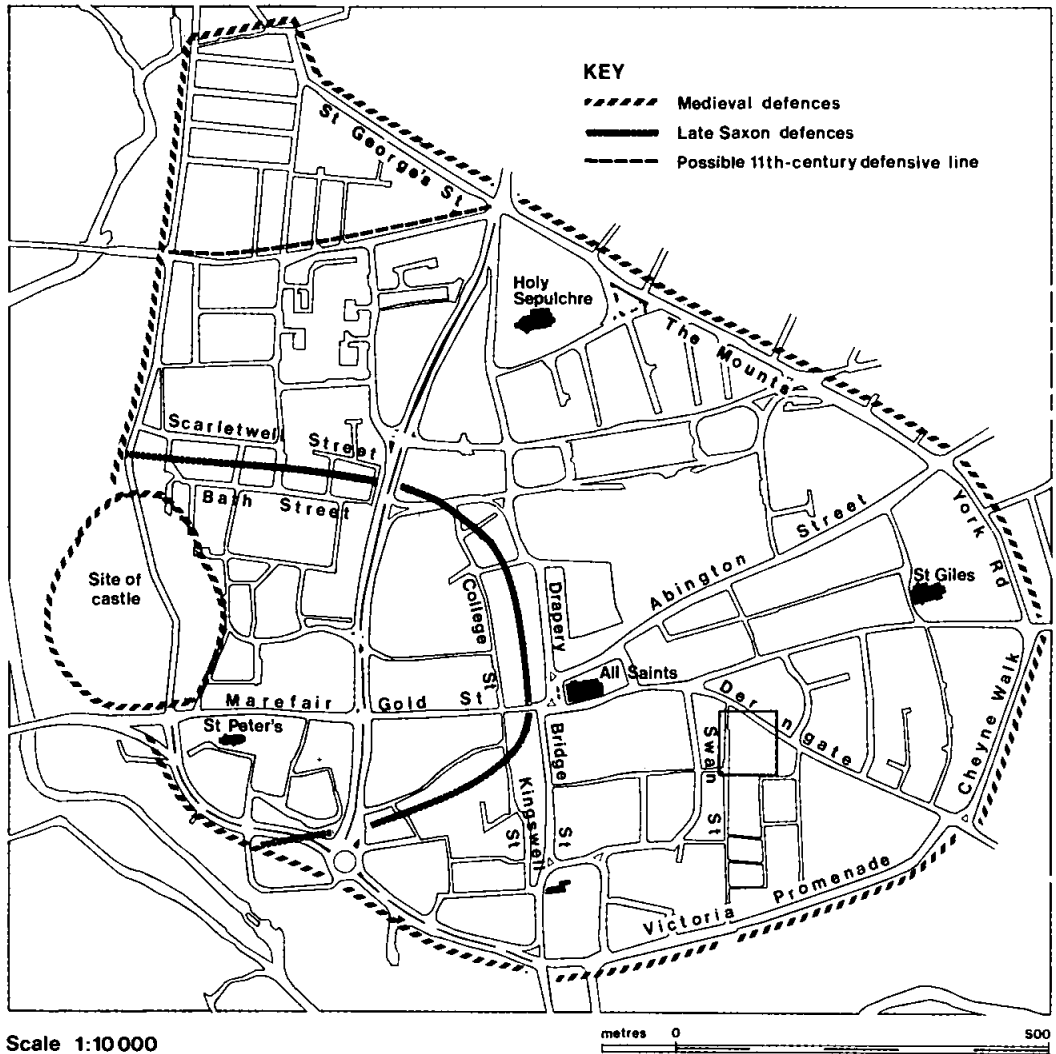metres   0   500

Fig 1 Derngate, Northampton: site location

OTHER FINDS

MAIN TEXT

The coins *by* Marion Archibald: Summary

The iron objects *by* Ian H Goodall: Summary, illustrations

The copper alloy objects *by* Alison R Goodall: Summary, illustrations

The worked flints *by* Helen M Bamford: Summary

The other stone objects *by* Hugh Richmond and Diana S Sutherland: Summary, illustrations

The glass *by* Gwynne Oakley: Summary

The tiles and bricks *by* Varian Denham: Summary, illustrations

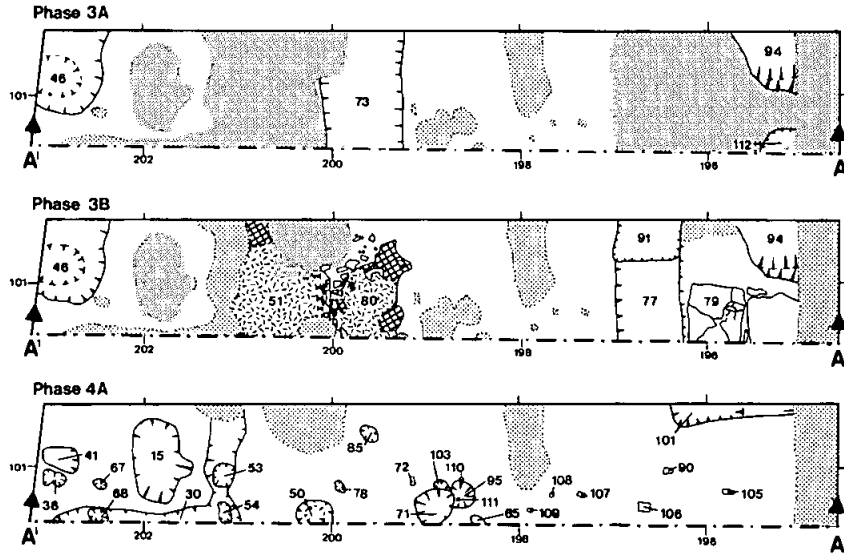The worked bone *by* Michael Shaw and Mary Harman: Summary, illustration

64
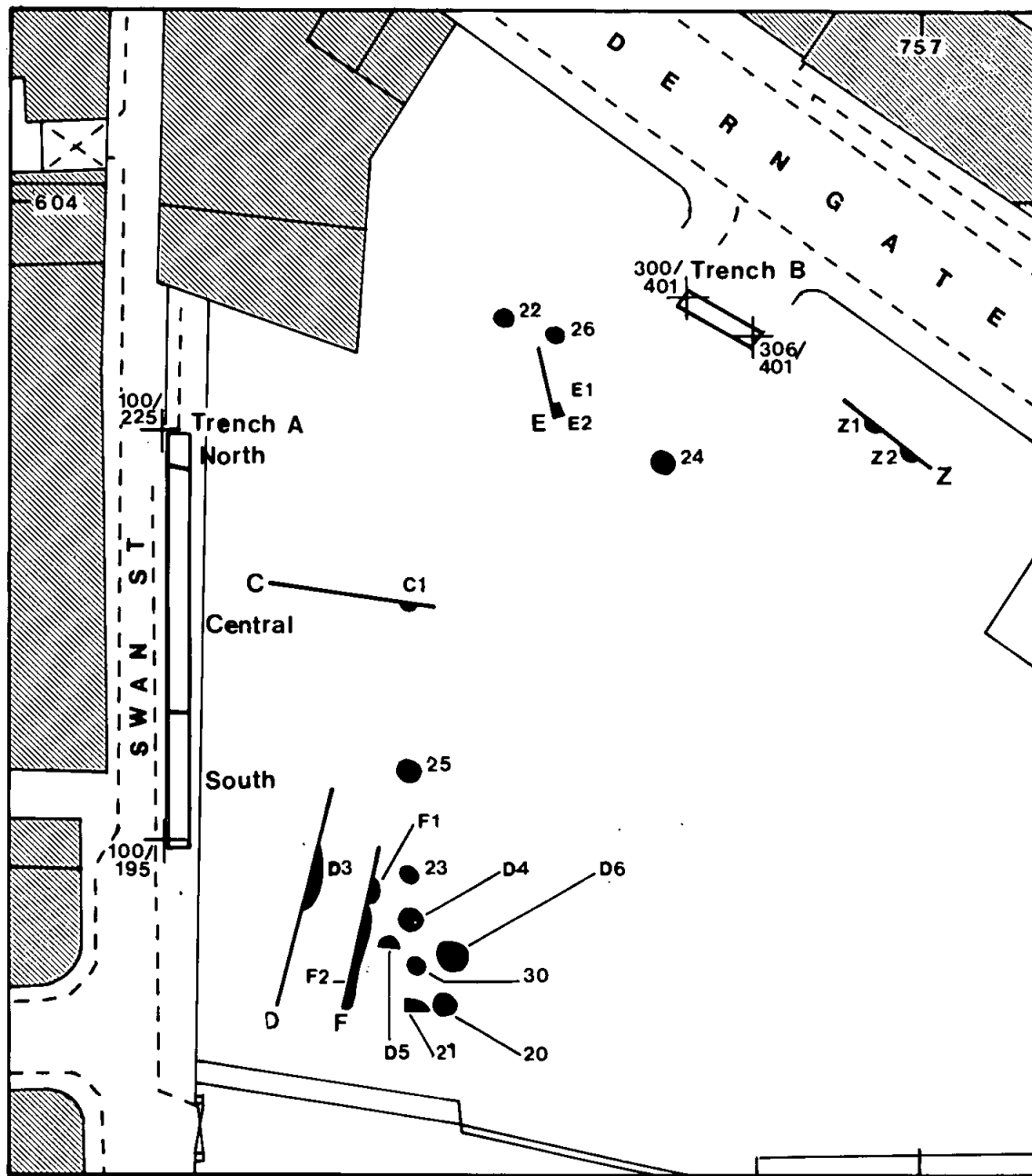
Fig 2 Derngate, Northampton: location of trenches and contexts of watching brief

Derngate: Plans
TRENCH A: South

Phase 3A

Phase 3B

Phase 4A

TRENCH B

Phase 2

Phase 3A

Phase 3C
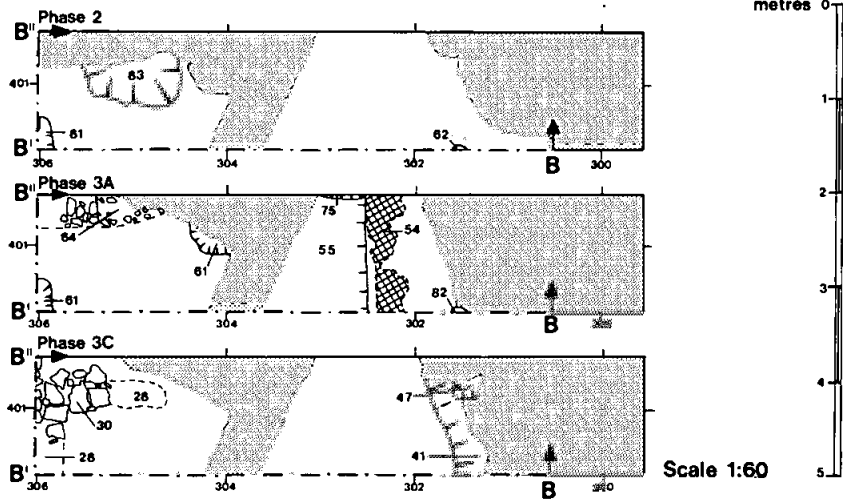

metres

Scale 1:60

Fig 3 Derngate, Northampton: plans

66

MICROFICHE

The coins *by* Marion Archibald: Full report (Frame 42)

The iron objects *by* Ian H Goodall: Full report (Frame 43)

The copper alloy objects *by* Alison R Goodall: Full report (Frames 43-44)

The lead alloy objects *by* Alison R Goodall: Full report (Frame 44)

The metallurgical evidence, identification *by* H Cleere: Full report (Frame 44)

The hone *by* Michael Shaw and D T Moore: Full report (Frame 44)

The worked flints *by* Helen M Bamford: Full report (Frame 45)

The stone objects *by* Hugh Richmond and Diana S Sutherland: Full report (Frame 45)

The glass *by* Gwynne Oakley: Full report (Frames 45-47)

The tiles and bricks *by* Varian Denham: Full report (Frames 48-53)

The clay pipes *by* W R G Moore: Full report (Frame 54)

The worked bone *by* Michael Shaw and Mary Harman: Full report (Frame 55)

The mammalian bone *by* Mary Harman: Full report (Frame 55)

The bird bone *by* R T Jones: Full report (Frames 55-56)

The fish bone *by* Alison Locker: Full report (Frame 56)

The shellfish *by* Gwynne Oakley: Full report (Frame 57)

THE PHASES

The deposits encountered during the excavation and watching brief are divided into four broad phases:

Phase 1 Prehistoric and Roman
Phase 2 Saxon
Phase 3 Medieval
Phase 4 Post Medieval

These phases are consistent between the trenches and watching brief. The Phase 3 and 4 features are further sub-divided into narrower periods in Trenches A and B. The Phase 3 sub-divisions relate only to the individual trench, ie Phase 3A in Trench A is not necessarily the same period as Phase 3A in Trench B although both fall within the broad Medieval category. The Phase 4

subdivisions are the same for both trenches.

THE PLANS

The published plans (FIG 3) show the major phases of activity on the site — Phase 3A, 3B and 4A in Trench A and Phases 2, 3A and 3C in Trench B. All features which could belong to a phase are shown on the relevant phase plan, eg Pit A46 which is dated to Phase 3A/B is shown on the plans of both Phase 3A and 3B. Layers are generally not shown on the plans unless they are of particular importance.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies at *c*72m above OD on a gentle south facing slope down to the River Nene. The subsoil was of Northampton Sands; a geological investigation during the construction of the Derngate Centre revealed various layers within the deposit including sandstone, orange sand and oolitic ironstone (for detailed report see microfiche).

The history of early settlement in the Derngate area is little known. Chance finds of Prehistoric and Roman material are not uncommon in the centre of Northampton (RCHM forthcoming) and given the ubiquity of sites elsewhere along the Nene valley it would not be surprising to find indications of activity at these periods. Likewise traces of Early-Middle Saxon settlement are plentiful along the Nene valley. At the moment the only settlement of this date discovered in Northampton itself lies in the west of the town (Williams 1982a, 7-20) though an Early Saxon burial was found in 1844 in Cow Meadow *c*300m to the south of Derngate (Meaney 1964, 193).

Evidence as to when urban settlement spread into the area is also sparse but Northampton's burgeoning prosperity in the late 11th-12th centuries (Williams 1982a, 29-30) provides a convincing context for such an expansion.

THE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

by John H Williams

While today Derngate includes the whole of the street from All Saints to Victoria Promenade, in Medieval times the name referred only to the gate

itself and the street was called Swynewellestrete. Swinewelle Strete is first recorded in 1185 (*De dominabus*, 22) and there are subsequent references between *c*1215 and 1225 (*Luffield Charters* II, nos 326, 327; NRO Tresham cartulary, fol 152). Derngate and Swynewellestrete are mentioned in 1275 at which time Cougate, presumably at the end of Cow Lane, is also mentioned (*Rot Hund* II, 3).

In the rental of Northampton from the time of Edward I (PRO SC 12/13/28) 21 properties are given as lying in Swynewellestrete. In the 1504 rental of Northampton (NRO) 22 properties are listed, excluding Gobion Manor which was also placed here but is known to have been located between Abington Street and St Giles Street (Williams and Farwell 1984). The two rentals can be shown to have followed, with minor alterations, the same order for the Swynewellestrete properties. Both started at Derngate and ended in George Row to the south of All Saints and both appear to be in sequence. Thus in the earlier rental properties 7-10 are recorded as a sequence (see opposite). Similarly, three properties including the Tabard Inn, which are recorded on the south side of All Saints can be shown, by comparison between the 1504 rental and early 15th century deeds (NRO, Tresham cartulary, fols 2-4, 11-13) to be in sequence.

The two portions of the two rentals for the section of Swynewellestrete from Derngate to just west of Cow Lane are translated opposite. While many of the properties lie to the south of the street some may lie to the north. The rentals do not record the total number of properties in this area for rents from tenements or other properties appear to have been collected against the chief or capital messuage of the urban estate. Additionally, other properties may have been exempt from rent if they were held by religious houses. In 1545 St Andrew's priory is recorded as having held a single tenement in Cowland and St James' abbey held four tenements in Derne Lane (PRO E318 20/1098).

It is very noticeable in the 1504 rental how virtually all the properties to the east of Cow Lane have been incorporated into the Grange by that time. On Speed's map of Northampton of 1610 the 'Towre' dominates the area and John Chauncey's will of 1498 would suggest that this was the grange (NRO, Northamptonshire early wills, fol 90, no

334). The grange was certainly one of the major properties of Medieval Northampton. John Chauncey, the current owner in the 1504 rental, was an extremely wealthy man and held property in Leicestershire and Lincolnshire as well as in Northamptonshire *(ibid)* and Thomas Tresham, the former owner, also held substantial estates and had been Speaker for the Commons during the reign of Henry VI and sheriff of Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire (Roskell 1959).

Speed shows a number of houses in Swynewellestrete to the east of Cow Lane and also on the east side of Cow Lane. Cow Lane, however, appears to have been a far less important street than Swynewellestrete containing in 1414 four cottages with a garden (NRO, Tresham cartulary, fols 81-3) in 1491, 1586 and 1621 stables (NRO, Northamptonshire early wills no 341 (William Rutter), fol 94 R: Cox 1898, 157; NRO, Northampton Borough Records, deed 94 and in 1621 orchards (NRO, Northampton Borough Records, deed 91).

See table opposite.

THE EXCAVATIONS
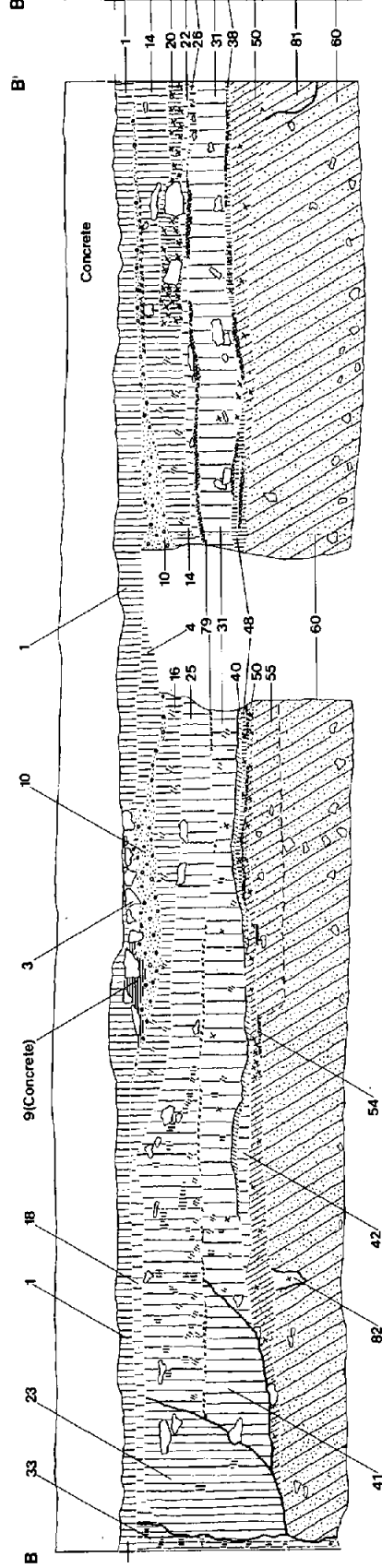(FIGS 2-4; Microfiche FIGS M1-3)

TRENCH A

A trench, 30m long north-south and 1.5m wide, was excavated immediately east of and parallel to Swan Street (formerly Cow Lane). In the central area the cellars of a row of five cottages dated to the late 18th-early 19th centuries, were revealed. The outer walls of the cellars were of stone with brick partitions dividing them up into individual units. The brick rubble fill of the northernmost cellar was taken out and its concrete and brick floor removed. The ironstone subsoil lay immediately below the floor at a level of 71.00m above OD. There were no features cut into the subsoil at this depth. Work on the central area was, therefore, abandoned and concentrated on a small area, 2m x 1.5m, to the north and a larger area to the south. That to the north was taken down to a depth of 71.60m above OD — 1.8m below the ground surface. Various loamy layers of Post-Medieval date overlay sandy and clayey layers of Medieval date. It became obvious that these deposits lay within a large feature cut well down
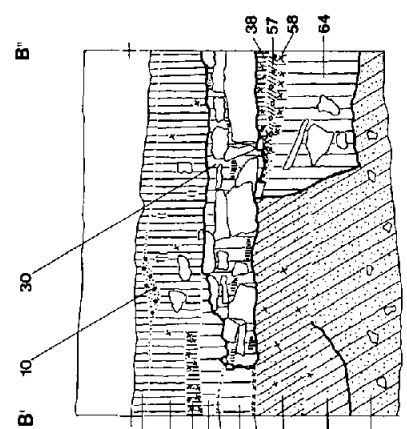
TRENCH A South: West Section
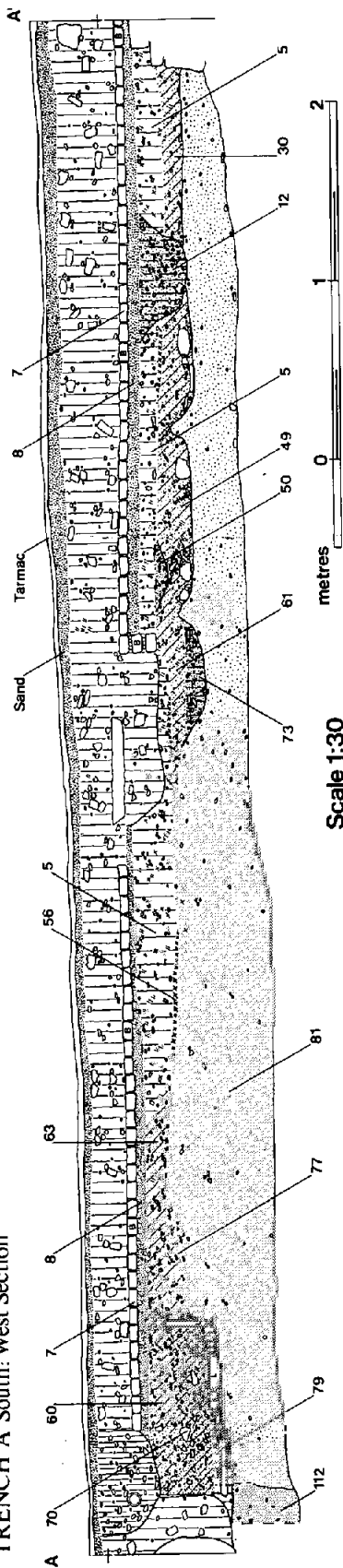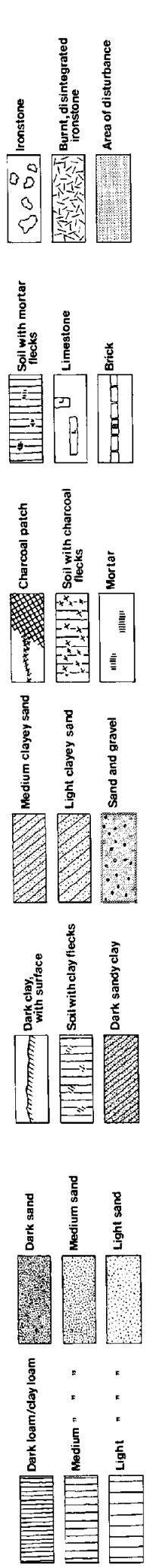
East Section

TRENCH B North Section

Scale 1:30

Scale 1:20

KEY

Fig 4   Derngate. Northampton: sections

Northamptonshire Archaeology 1984, 19

Rental tempore Edward I		*1504 rental*	
1.	of Hugh de Cancell for his grange which he holds in Swynewellestrete	16d	of the grange once of Thomas Latimer, lately of Thomas Tressham and now of John Chauncey, by the year	16d
2.	of one tenement which John Eustach holds next the postern gate of Northampton	3s	of the tenement next to Dernegate, once of Thomas Latimer, and is now enclosed in the aforesaid grange, lately in the tenure of Thomas Tressham and now of John Chauncy, by the year	3s
3.	of Geoffrey de Oveston for one curtilage opposite the aforesaid postern gate	16d	of one curtilage opposite the aforesaid postern gate, once of Geoffrey Oleston and now of the chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary in All Saints' church and lately in the tenure of Alice Saunders and now (left blank), by the year	16d
4.	(not present)		of the tenement once of Robert le Despencer, and is now enclosed in the grange of Thomas Latimer, which was lately of Thomas Tressham, and now in the tenure of Joanna Brafeld, widow, now of John Chauncey, by the year	16d
5.	of Juliana a la Fontaygne for the tenement once of Martin le Waterleder	16d	of the tenement once of Martin Watirseller and is enclosed in the grange, once of Thomas Latymer, lately of Thomas Tressham, now in the tenure of Joanna Brafeld, widow, now of John Chauncey, by the year	16d
6.	of Alexander le Clerk for one oven at the corner of the Lane of Cows once was of Robert le Blund	18d	of one oven at the corner of the Lane of Cows which once was of John Froste, lately of Thomas Tressham and now in the tenure of John Adams, draper, by the year	18d
7.	of the waste tenement of Walter de Pydington in the aforesaid street	16d	of the waste tenement once of Walter de Pedyngton, lately of Henry Garlikmonger, after of Thomas Tressham and is divided into five gardens and now in the hands of the King, and one garden in the tenure of (left blank), the second garden in the tenure of (left blank), the third in the tenure of (left blank), the fourth in the tenure of (left blank), the fifth in the tenure of (left blank), by the year	16d
8.	of the tenement once of William de Hetheryngton between the tenement of the aforesaid Walter and the capital house of the same William — it is not clear because waste	16d	of the tenement once of William Hethryngton, after Thomas Gladman, after the cottage of Thomas Tressham, now in the hands of the King and in the tenure of John Harrold, gentleman, now of Sir Richard Emson, knight, by the year	16d
9.	of the capital tenement once of William de Hetheryngton with oven and other tenements pertaining	5s 4d	of the capital tenement with oven and the Blakhall once of Noel Mercer, after of Thomas Gladman, now of Richard Emson, by the year	5s 4d
10.	of the tenement once of Ralph son of Ralph next the furnace of the aforesaid William de Hetheryngton	16d	of the tenement once of Hugh de Thorpe, now of the prioress of Catesby and is a garden, and now in the tenure of John Warwicke, by the year	16d

into the subsoil, probably a quarry pit. Work on the northern area was discontinued at this point since it was not considered safe to excavate such a small area to a greater depth.

The southern strip, 10m long, proved to be relatively undisturbed by late features, the Medieval and earlier levels surviving largely intact. The whole of this area was, therefore, excavated down to the ironstone subsoil, sufficient remaining for a detailed phasing of the features encountered to be undertaken.

Phases 1-2 (Prehistoric-Saxon)

The earliest layer encountered, A81 — a brown sand 0.2 to 0.6m thick, resembled the layer which is normally found immediately above the ironstone subsoil in excavations at the west end of Northampton. This deposit, apparently derived from the subsoil, generally contains Prehistoric and Early-Middle Saxon material (Williams and Shaw 1981, 90, 95). Nine Prehistoric sherds and sixteen worked flints were recovered from A81. The lack of any Saxon material and the rather less loamy characteristics of A81 as compared to similar deposits elsewhere suggest that in this case the layer was formed during the Prehistoric period. The only feature which might belong to this phase was a possible posthole, A112, which was cut through A81 but had a light, sandy fill often associated with Prehistoric or Early-Middle Saxon features elsewhere in Northampton.

Phase 3A (within period c1100-c1200/1300)

Trench A73, which may have been a foundation trench for a timber building, constitutes the earliest evidence for a possible structure.

Phase 3B (within period c1200-c1400)

At the north end of the trench, two circular ovens, A51 and A80, were later replaced by several clay floor levels, while at the south end a possible foundation trench, A77, was superseded by a stone trough, A79.

Phase 4A (c1500-c1700)

A beam slot, A30, and associated postholes suggest the construction of a timber building at the north end of the trench while further postholes and stakeholes which continue the line of the slot to the south may represent an outshut, or extension to the building or a fence line.

Phase 4B (1650-present)

These deposits were not excavated in detail. No traces of any buildings survived.

TRENCH B

Phase 1 (Prehistoric-Roman)

As in Trench A the earliest layer encountered, B60 — a brown clayey sand — was apparently derived from the subsoil. The only finds from it were a single Roman potsherd and two worked flints.

Phase 2 (Saxon-Saxo-Norman)

There were no traces of Early-Middle Saxon occupation and only sparse evidence for Late Saxon-Saxo-Norman activity in the form of a shallow pit, B63. The pottery from this feature, discussed in detail in the pottery report, suggests an 11th century date for the filling of the pit, though whether it is pre or post-Conquest is impossible to say.

Phase 3A (within period c1200-c1300/1400)

The foundation trench B64 constitutes the earliest evidence for a building. No associated floor levels survived.

Phase 3B (within period c1250-c1450/1500)

A number of layers of clay, crushed ironstone, charcoal and loam can be identified as floor, occupation or make-up levels. They attest the existence of a building, although all its walls were outside the trench.

Phase 3C (within period c1300/1400-c1500)

A length of wall, B30, set in a shallow foundation trench indicates a new building or some re-distribution of rooms in an existing building. B41 is perhaps the robber trench of a wall of the same building though its line is admittedly rather irregular.

Phase 3D (within period c1300-c1500)

Further layers of floor, occupation and make-up material again suggest the existence of a building. They are overlaid by a thick deposit of clay loam, B25, which may represent either a levelling deposit or a phase of dereliction.

69
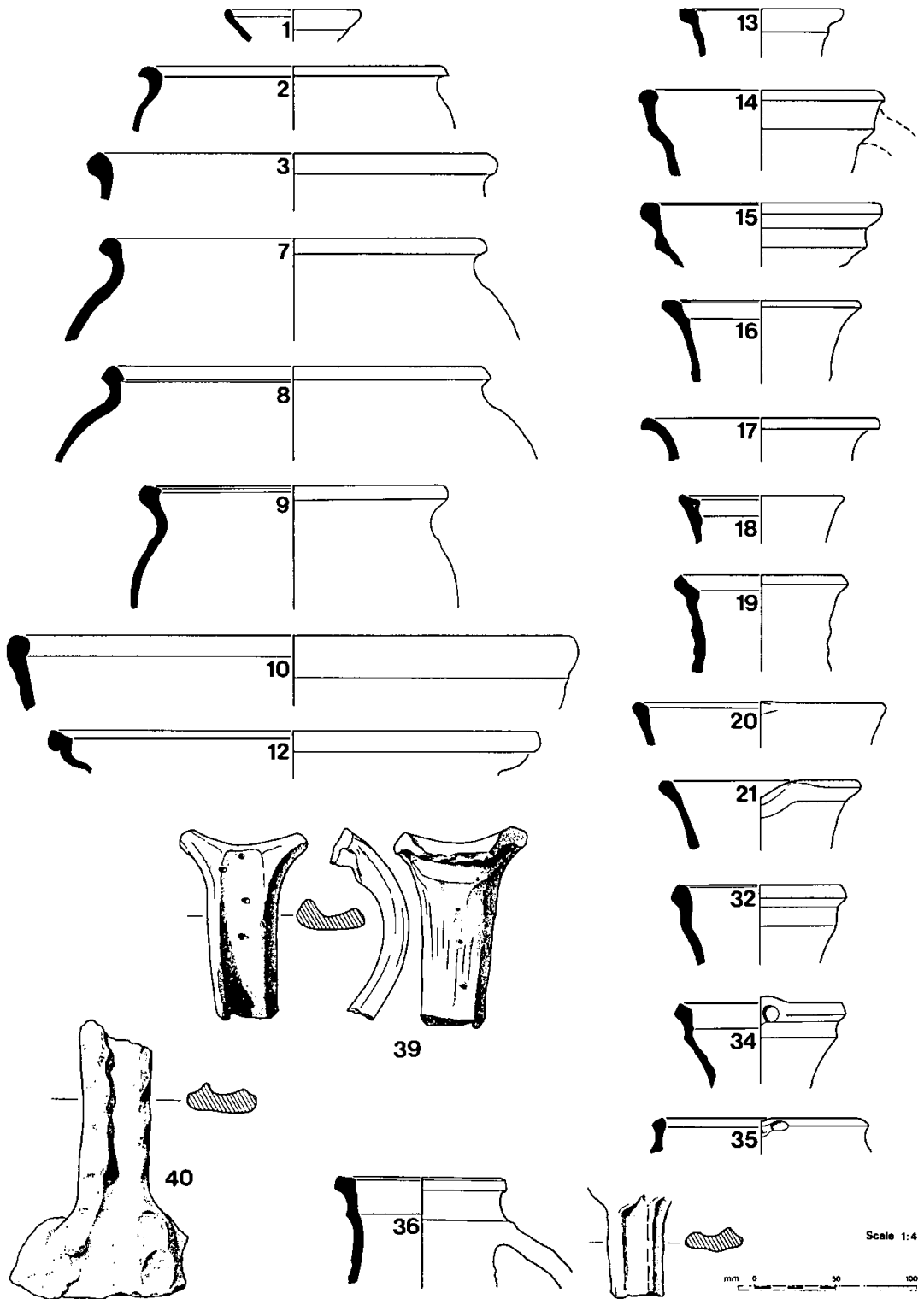
Fig 5 Derngate, Northampton: pottery. Fabric T1: 1; Fabric T1/2: 2; Fabric T2: 3-31, 36-42, 45; Fabric T2₂: 32-35, 43-44. Unillustrated vessels: references to previously published, closely comparable, drawings are cited in the illustrated pottery catalogue ((M)37-41)
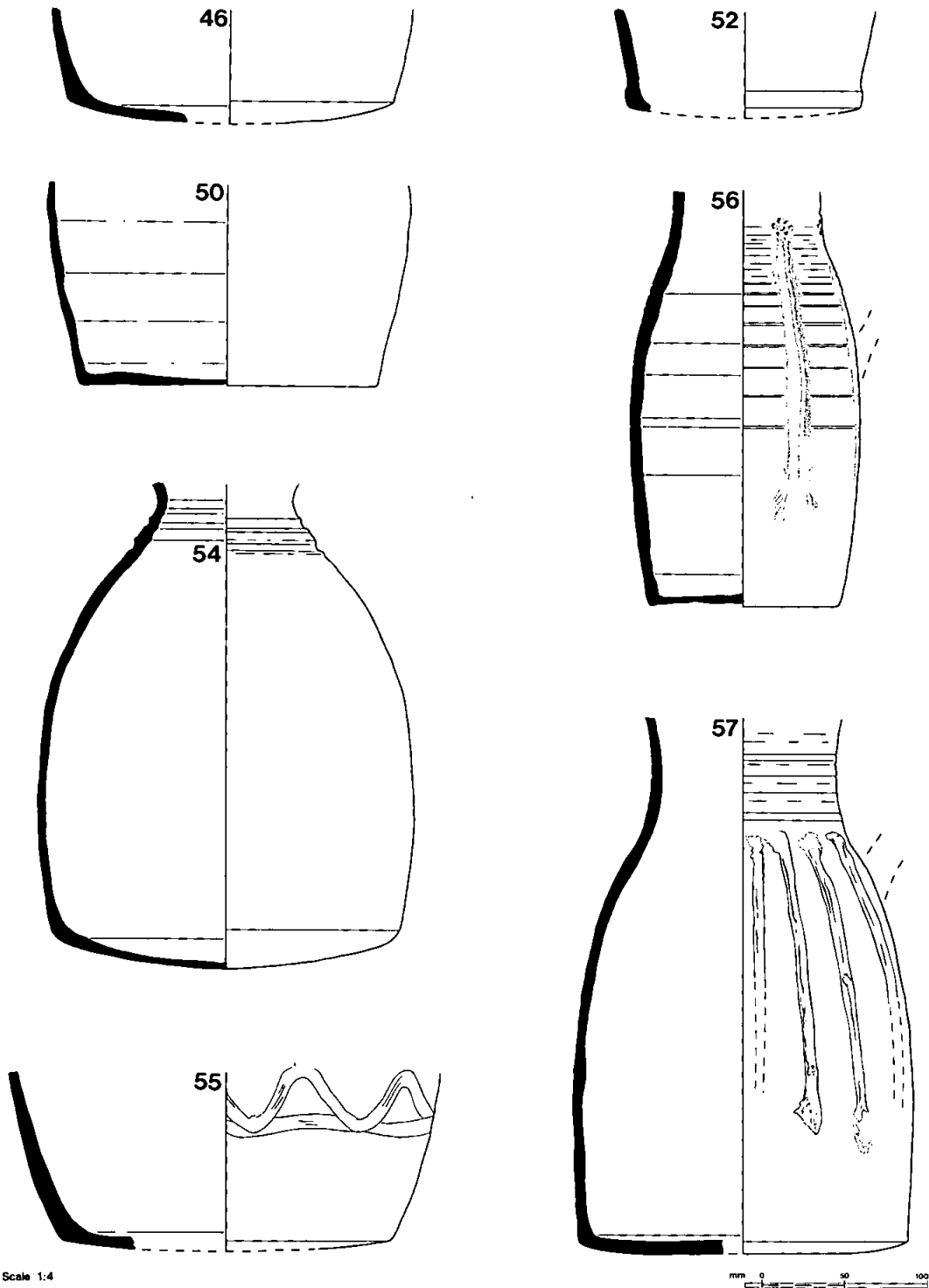
Fig 6 Derngate, Northampton: pottery. Fabric T2: 46-52, 54; Fabric T2₂: 53, 55-59.
Unillustrated vessels: references to previously published, closely comparable, drawings are cited in the illustrated pottery
catalogue ((M)37-41).

71

Phase 4A (c1500-1700)

A partially stone-lined pit, B23, and some thick layers of loam were discovered. There was no evidence to suggest that there was a building in the area of the trench at this phase.

Phase 4B (c1650-Present)

The deposits were not excavated in detail. No traces of any buildings survived.

THE WATCHING BRIEF

The watching brief contexts can be divided into two groups; a western one and a northern one connected with buildings fronting on to Derngate. The western group was composed chiefly of 13th and 14th century rubbish pits although also common across the whole area were extensive deposits formed of bands of loam, small ironstone fragments and sand — unmistakeably quarry backfill. Where a relationship existed the quarry pits were always cut by the rubbish pits, the only quarry pit to have been substantially investigated producing pottery suggesting a 12th century date. The northern group included a wider variety of contexts. Evidence of a large Medieval-Early Post-Medieval building, of at least two phases, with ironstone walls, a tile floor (E1) and a garderobe (E2) at the back, was discovered in area E, c20m from the Derngate frontage. A further building was revealed in area Z; its precise date could not be established but it post-dated 1350. The remaining features were principally rubbish pits and again there was evidence of extensive quarrying.

DISCUSSION

The limited nature of the excavations does, of course, present difficulties in the interpretation and dating of the features encountered; nevertheless it is possible to give a broad picture of the history of settlement in the area.

PHASE 1 (PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN)

As with many of the Northampton sites there was some evidence of Prehistoric activity (for a recent summary see Williams and Shaw 1981, 94), on this occasion in the form of 15 sherds of Prehistoric pottery and 25 worked flints. This collection, though small, gains significance when the limited area of the excavations is taken into account, especially as the majority of the material comes from Trench A: South (an area of 15 square metres). The date, or dates, of this occupation is more difficult to establish. Some of the flints suggest a Mesolithic presence. The pottery, however, contains few diagnostic sherds and most could be either Neolithic or Iron Age in date though two sherds are identified as possibly Later Neolithic. A number of chance finds of Prehistoric date have been made nearby, the closest being a bronze axe discovered near St Giles Street (cSP758605; RCHM forthcoming) and a stone axe found in All Saints Churchyard (SP75496046; RCHM forthcoming). A single sherd of Roman pottery was discovered.

PHASE 2 (SAXON-SAXO-NORMAN)

The chief objective of the excavation was to attempt to establish the date and nature of the post Roman occupation of the Derngate area. Northampton's growth into a town in the Late Saxon period from its beginnings as a royal and ecclesiastical centre in the Middle Saxon period is now well established (Williams 1982a, and forthcoming; Williams and Shaw 1982). This model does not, however, preclude the existence of further Saxon sites in the immediate area; cases where a number of settlements have coalesced to form a town, or one settlement has expanded to take over others, have been documented, most notably, for the Saxon period, at Norwich (Carter 1978).

The total lack of any Early-Middle Saxon pottery from the excavations appears to rule out the possibility of settlement of that date in the area, especially when the relative frequency with which it is found, both in excavations within the Late Saxon town and fieldwalking along the Nene Valley (Foard 1978), is taken into account.

The only feature of this phase contained pottery probably dating to the 11th century and only five sherds of similar date were discovered during the rest of the excavation. Settlement would thus appear to have moved into the Derngate area at some time during the 11th century but it may have been limited in nature; only further work can enable more to be said about its character and extent.
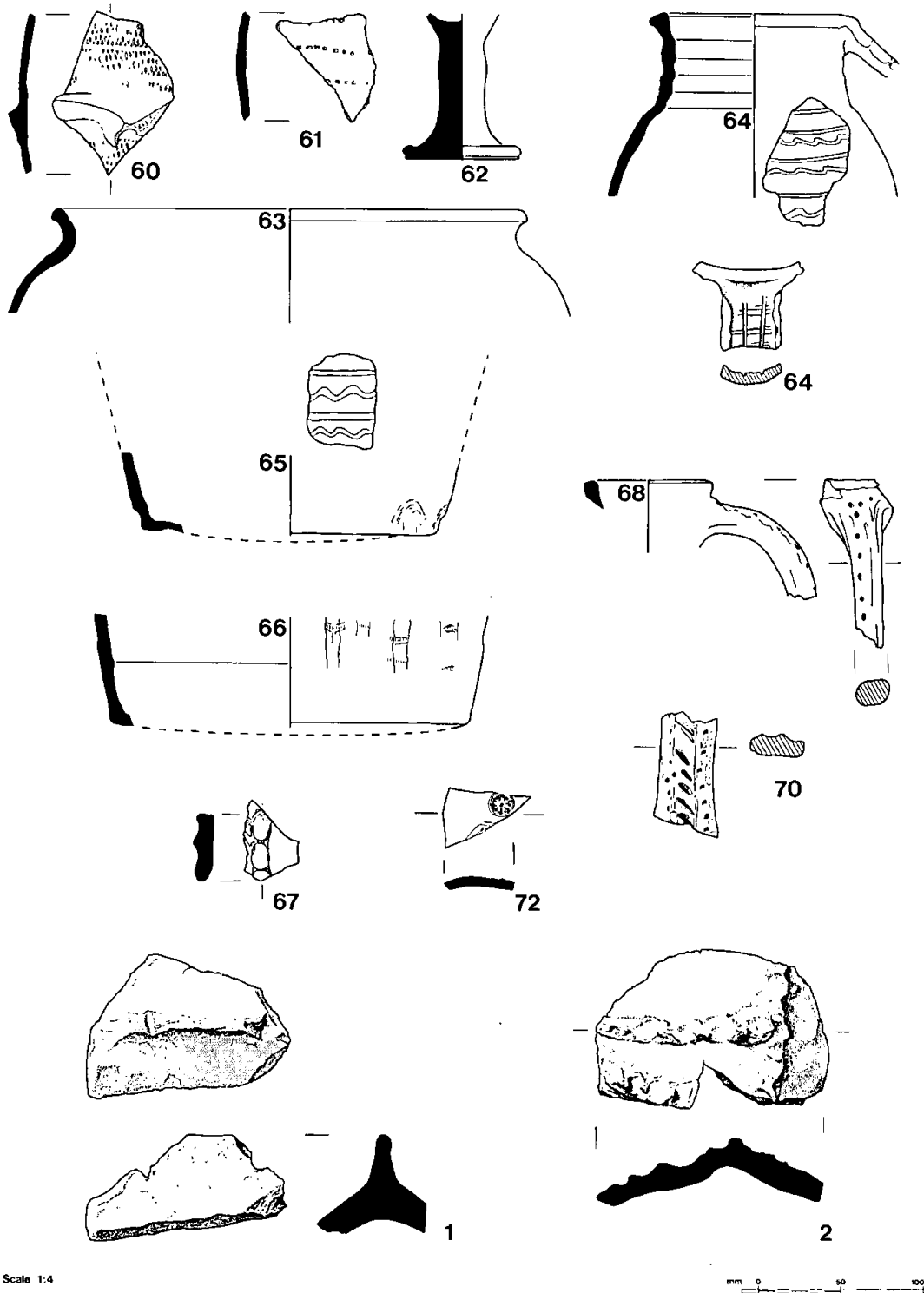
72

Fig 7 Derngate, Northampton: pottery and tile. Fabric T2: 60-62; Fabric T6: 63; Fabric W7: 64-66; Fabric W11: 67; Fabric W14: 68; Fabric W15: 69; Fabric W18: 70; Fabric W29: 71; Fabric YS: 72; Tile Fabric M2: 1-2. Unillustrated vessels: references to previously published, closely comparable, drawings are cited in the illustrated pottery catalogue ((M)37-41).

73

PHASE 3 (MEDIEVAL)

Northampton underwent a remarkable expansion in the late 11th and 12th centuries. In Domesday Book it was ranked around twentieth in the amount of tax each town paid to the king, rendering an annual farm of £30.10s.; by 1130 the town farm had more than trebled to £100 and it was further increased to £120 by 1184 when Northampton's farm was the fifth highest in the country (Williams 1982a, 29). This period of economic expansion appears to have coincided with a time of great growth in the town's physical extent possibly as early as the late 11th century (Williams 1982b, 60; RCHM, forthcoming). The defended area was dramatically increased from the 60 acres of the Late Saxon town to 245 acres, the third largest Medieval walled area in the country. The original Medieval defences presumably comprised an earth bank and ditch but stone walls seem to have been under construction at least as early as c1150.

It is against this background of the town's massive growth both in prosperity and in size that the evidence for Medieval activity in Derngate should be examined.

The Quarry. The area south of the Derngate frontage had been extensively quarried for ironstone. The pottery from the quarry backfill suggests a chiefly 12th century date for the quarrying: certainly this activity seems to have ceased by the 13th century.

There is evidence of several quarries elsewhere within the town walls. One was discovered to the east of Marehold in 1972 during a watching brief (SP75226078; RCHM forthcoming) while a small excavation in 1979 revealed a further one to the north of St Giles Churchyard (SP75936063; Williams 1982b) and another was revealed during building development on St Giles Terrace in 1984 (SP75876062; NDC SMR No M449); all were Medieval in date. Thompson has suggested that large quarries in the area of Hazelwood Road (cSP758604) and to the south of Campbell Square (cSP755609), and other smaller quarries within the town also belong to the Medieval period (Thompson 1915). Amongst the small quarries he cited are two areas of disturbed ground along Angel Lane (now Angel Street) which runs west from Swan Street.

The most likely use for the stone from the Derngate quarry would appear to be either for stone buildings within the town or for the town wall. A date in the 12th century would seem to be a little early for the building of large numbers of stone houses in Northampton. On St. Peter's Street (admittedly not a main street), in the south-west quarter of the town, stone buildings did not appear until the late 13th century (Williams J H 1979, 143). This accords well with evidence for an increase in the use of stone for building elsewhere in the country from the early 13th century (Platt 1976, 59-60). The evidence for a late 11th-12th century date for the building of the town walls is, however, fairly strong and this would appear to be the most likely use for the stone from Derngate and many of the other quarries within the town.

Settlement evidence. The earliest evidence for a building on the site is the ?foundation trench A73, dated to the 12th-13th centuries, on the Swan Street frontage. A phase of timber buildings at this date would accord well with the evidence from St Peter's Street (Williams J H 1979, 141-3) where timber buildings were in use from the Late Saxon period until at least the 13th century. It is perhaps surprising that the evidence for 12th century occupation on the site is so limited as this was the period of Northampton's greatest expansion; the small area investigated, however, prevents us from concluding that the Derngate area was not densely settled at this period. There is, nevertheless, evidence that other areas within the Medieval town were open spaces until the 13th century; the site of the present market square was described as waste land in 1235 while the Franciscan and Carmelite friars did not acquire their sites in the north of the town until the mid 13th century (Williams J H 1979, 6).

More definite evidence for occupation comes in the 13th-14th centuries. The digging of the various rubbish pits, discovered at the south-west end of the site during the watching brief, certainly implies domestic occupation nearby. The narrow date range of the pits — no pits later than the 14th century were discovered — may be significant; possibly there was a change in the method of rubbish disposal. This phenomenon was noticed also in recent excavations in the south-west of the town (Williams and Shaw, forthcoming; Shaw, forthcoming) and in other towns (*cf* eg for Southampton, Platt and Coleman-Smith 1975, Vol 1, 34-5). In the 16th century the town

74

assembly enacted that domestic rubbish from the town should be taken to one of five dunghills outside the town gates (Cox 1898, 264).

In Trench A two circular ovens and a stone trough dated to the 13th-15th centuries were overlaid by a series of clay floor and occupation levels, from one of which was recovered a fragment of a small cusped window head (St2). It is interesting to note that the property on the corner of Derngate and Swan Street is called an oven in the town rentals (the Documentary Evidence, *supra*).

On the Derngate frontage there is evidence for buildings with stone foundations and clay floor levels probably beginning in the 13th century and lasting until the 15th century. During the watching brief the remains of two stone buildings were discovered, in Areas E and Z. The Area E building was of at least two phases with deep stone foundations, floors, generally of clay, but at one time of tile, and a garderobe at the back. It is unfortunately undated apart from a single sherd of pottery from the garderobe but it does at least suggest a rather better class of building in the area than the evidence from elsewhere on the site. The Area Z building again had stone foundations and must date from after the mid 14th century as it seals a rubbish pit with a *terminus post quem* of that date.

The nature of the superstructure of these buildings is uncertain; on the St Peter's Street excavations the depth of the foundations enabled it to be suggested that the buildings possessed at least a stone ground floor, with an upper storey possibly of timber (Williams J H 1979, 145). In the case of Derngate the width of the wall of the Area E building and its good construction would again argue for at least a stone ground floor, with an upper storey possibly of timber (Williams J H 1979, 145). The foundations of the buildings in Trench B and Area Z were much less substantial, however, and were not taken down to the subsoil. The Area Z building was probably half-timbered above a dwarf stone wall. The nature of the Trench B buildings could not be established since insufficient of the frontage was excavated to ensure that the walls were outer ones rather than inner partitions.

Floors were generally of clay though small areas of mortar and crushed ironstone in Trench B may have been laid as patches to the floor levels. A single instance of a tiled floor was discovered in the Area E building and a few floor tile fragments were recovered from Trench B.

The only evidence for roof structure comes from clay roof tiles. 141 tile fragments were discovered in Medieval contexts in either Trench B or the watching brief but there were no tiles from Medieval deposits in Trench A; the eight fragments from the trench all came from Post-Medieval contexts. It is likely, therefore, that there was a difference in roof covering between the structures fronting on to Swan Street, and some at least of those fronting on to Derngate. It may be that there was a difference in status between the buildings on the main street with their clay tiled roofs and those on the back street with roofs constructed of some less durable material. Neither of the two rentals mentions property in Cow Lane (Swan Street) although this does not necessarily imply that tenements did not exist on the street. Such records as do exist of property in the lane in the Medieval period, however, record only cottages and stables (The Documentary Evidence, *supra*).

PHASE 4A (1500-1700)

The major interest in this phase is the post-in-trench building, of 16th century date, in Trench A. The date would seem an exceptionally late one for this form of building construction; this may again be a reflection of the poorer class of building on the Swan Street frontage. The structure need not have been a domestic dwelling; it could have been some sort of workshop or shed. Elsewhere on the site there is little evidence for this phase though the buildings in Areas E and Z discussed above could be of this date.

PHASE 4B (1700-RECENT)

These levels were not examined in detail. The row of 19th century cellars in Trench A were the only structural evidence to survive from this phase.

75

TABLE 1

Code	Familiar Name	Publication	Source	Kilns	Date
P	Prehistoric				
R	Roman				AD43-400
T1	St Neot's type ware	M115:156	Local		850-1100
		M139(M)59			
		M139:115			
		M178:(M)86			
W1	Northampton ware	M115:158	Local	Northampton	850-1100
		M139:(M)61			
		M178:(M)86			
		M407(M)11			
T1/2		M178:(M)86	Local		850-1400
W3	Thetford type ware	M115:158	E Anglia	?Thetford	850-1200
		M178:(M)89			
W47		M115:164	?Leics		900-1300
XI$_1$	Stamford ware	M115:64	Lincs	Stamford	850-1100
		M139:(M)65-66			
		M407:(M)10			
T2		M115:156-157	Local		1100-1400
T2$_2$*	Lyveden/Stanion type ware	M115:156-157	NE Northants	Lyveden/Stanion	1200-1400
T6		M115:157	?Local		1100-1400
V1$_1$		M115:157	?Local		
		M178:(M)87			
V3		M115 157	?Beds		1200-1500
V4	Olney Hyde type ware	M178:(M)87	Bucks	Olney Hyde (fabric B)	1200-1500
V6*			S Northants/Oxon		1100-1400
V7$_1$ V7$_2$		M115:158	?Local		1100-1500
W7$_1$		M115:159	?Oxon		1100-1400
W7$_2$	Splashed ware	M115:159	?Midlands		1100-1400
W11		M115:160	?N Midlands		1200-1500
W13		M115:161	?N Midlands		1200-1500
W14	Brill type ware	M115:161	Bucks	Brill	1200-1500
W15	East Anglian Red ware	M115:161	Cambs/Essex		1200-1500
W18	Potterspury ware	M115:162	Local	Potterspury/ Yardley Gobion	1250-1600
W22		M285:68-70	E Midlands		1100-1400
W49		M100:135	E Midlands		1100-1400
		M178:(M)88			
W56*			Bucks/Oxon		1200-1600
XI$_2$	Developed Stamford ware	M115:64	Lincs	Stamford	1150-1250
		M139:(M)65-66			
W16	Midland Purple wares	M115:161-162	N Midlands		1350-1600
W20$_1$	Late Medieval Reduced wares	M115:162-163	E Midlands		1350-1600
W29	East Midlands Late Medieval Oxidised ware	M115:163	E Midlands	?Lyveden	1350-1600
W50*			?Local		1250-1600
X2a	Cistercian ware	M115:164	N Midlands		1470-1550
W17	Midland Yellow wares	M115:162	Coventry area		1550-1700
X2b	Midland Black wares	M115:164	Local or E Midlands		1550-1700
YR	German stoneware	M115:165	Germany	?Raeren	Late 15th-Early 17th C
YF	German stoneware	M115:165	Germany	?Frechen	Late 15th-Early 17th C
		M403:(M)35			
Z1	Staffordshire slip wares	M403:(M)41	Staffs		1680-1750
Z3	Local slipped and marbled coarsewares	M403:(M)42	Local	?Potterspury	17th-early 18th C
Z5	Iron glazed coarsewares	M403:(M)43	Local	?Potterspury	17th-18th C
Z7	Local coarsewares (miscellaneous)	M403:(M)43	Local	?Potterspury	17th & 18th C
Z9	English tin-glazed wares	M178(M)90	?London		17th & 18th C
		M403:(M)44			
Z11	Iron glazed local finewares	M403:(M)44	Local		17th & 18th C
Z13	Salt glazed stoneware	M403:(M)45	Staffs		18th C
Z15	'Nottingham' stoneware	M403:(M)45	Nottingham		18th-19th C
Z17	Creamware	M403:(M)46	Staffs		18th C
Z25	Mocha ware	M403:(M)47	Staffs		17th C
Z15$_3$	Bottle stoneware	M403:(M)45			18th-20th C
Z23	Transfer printed pearlware	M403:(M)47	Staffs		Late 18th-19th C
Z50	Miscellaneous modern wares	M403:(M)48			mid 19th-20th C
ZU	Unidentified Post-Medieval wares				
Q	Unidentified Medieval wares				

TABLE 2
(ii) Fabric Quantity by Phase

Fabrics	Fabric	TRENCH A 1	1-3A	3	3A	3A-B	3B	4A	4B	Total	TRENCH B 1	2	3A	3B	3C	3D	4A	4B	Total	Watching Brief Quarry pits	Rubbish pits	Others	Total	Site Total
Prehistoric	P	9	1		5					15														15
Roman	R										1								1					1
Late Saxon	TI								5	5		6	1	1					8					13
	W1								1	1														1
	X1$_1$								2	2		1	1	3	1		1		7					9
Late Saxon-	T1-2			1					8	9		10	1		1				12	2	2		4	25
Early Medieval	V3/W3												6						6					6
	W47																			1	2		3	3
Medieval	T2			13	9	1	7	11	3	44			73	47	11	2	8	9	150	53	462	5	520	714
	T2$_2$			1					3	4			1					1	2		80	1	81	87
	T6			1					1	2			2				1		3		2		2	7
	V1$_1$								1	1				2			1	1	4			1	1	6
	V3			1					3	4			2						2					6
	V4																				1		1	1
	V6												1				1		2					2
	V7$_1$								1	1														1
	V7$_2$						1		1	2														2
	W7$_1$							1	2	3											66		66	69
	W7$_2$						1			1														1
	W11						1		4	5				3				1	4					9
	W13								1	1														1
	W14			1			1		6	8		1	1	3	3	4	2	4	18		3		3	29
	W15								1	1											15		15	16
	W18						2	3	14	19			2	15	13	3	23	3	59		2	4	6	84
	W22						1			1			2						2					3
	W49													1					1					1
	W56								1	1														1
	X1$_2$													2			1		3					3
Late Medieval	W16								3	3														3
	W20$_1$							1	1	2				1			1		2					4
	W29						2	2		4							3	1	4					8
	W50								2	2							3		3					5
	X2a							2	2	4							1	2	3					7
Post Medieval	W17								1	1														1
	X2b							2	5	7							1	1	2					9
	YR								1	1								1	1					2
	YF							1	2	3							1		1					4
	Z1								10	10								5	5					15
	Z3								1	1														1
	Z5								8	8								1	1					9
	Z7								4	4								2	2					6
	Z9								17	17														17
	Z11								1	1														1
Late Post-	Z13								6	6								2	2					8
Medieval	Z15																	2	2					2
	Z17								1	1														1
	Z25								2	2														2
	Z15$_3$								11	11														11
	Z23								21	21								1	1					22
	Z50								28	28														28
	Zu								1	1								1	1					2
Unknown	Q							1	2	3														3
Total		9	1	18	14	1	16	26	186	271	1	18	93	76	31	9	48	38	314	56	635	11	702	1287

THE POTTERY

by Michael Shaw and Varian Denham, with a contribution by Helen Bamford

INTRODUCTION

The Derngate pottery is composed of two groups, one (585 sherds) from the excavation itself and the other (702 sherds) from the subsequent watching brief. The pottery from the excavation provides a record of occupation in the Derngate area from the 11th century down to the present day while that from the watching brief is chiefly restricted to the 12th-14th centuries.

Michael Shaw was responsible for the major part of the report; Varian Denham prepared the pottery illustrations, wrote the notes on specific fabrics and gave general advice; Helen Bamford reported on the Prehistoric pottery.

CONTENTS OF REPORT

Main Report
i) Key to fabrics (Table 1)
  The fabric code, probable source, kilns (where applicable), appropiate date range and references to previously published discussion are provided. Notes on specific fabrics (marked*) will be found in the microfiche section of this report.
ii) Fabric quantities by phase (Table 2)
iii) Phase summaries
iv) Illustrated pottery
  The pottery has been ordered according to fabric (indicated by caption). A full catalogue is contained in microfiche (see below, microfiche frames 37-41). A reconstruction drawing of the types of pot recovered from three of the pits, representative of the changes in pottery form and fabric in Northampton through the 12th and 13th centuries, is also included.
v) Synthesis

Microfiche
i) A codified, layer by layer account is given following the format used in the St Peter's Street report (McCarthy 1979)
ii) Detailed analysis of the Prehistoric sherds by Helen Bamford
iii) Notes on specific fabrics by Varian Denham
iv) Catalogue of illustrated pottery
  A record of each vessel includes fabric, form diameter, Munsell colour, small find number, layer, phase and relevant comments. In addition, column two contains a reference number for unillustrated vessels which duplicate previously published examples.

(i) *Key to fabrics*
Main fabric groups (McCarthy 1979, 153)
T Late Saxon/Medieval: calcareous
V Late Saxon/Medieval: calcareous-sandy
W Late Saxon/Medieval: sandy
X Late Saxon/Medieval: very fine sandy
Y Imported wares

Z Post-medieval wares
References to previously published fabric definitions and discussion are cited in the third column.
Report Code M100 Greyfriars report (Gryspeerdt 1978)
        M115 St Peter's Street report (McCarthy 1979)
        M139 Chalk Lane report (Gryspeerdt 1981)
        M178 Marefair report (Gryspeerdt 1979)
        M282 Gregory Street report (Denham forthcoming)
        M285 College Street report (Gryspeerdt 1982)
        M403 The Ridings report (Denham 1984)
        M407 St James' Square report (Denham 1983)

(iii) *Phase Summaries*

Trench A
Phase 1 — Prehistoric (9 sherds) by Helen Bamford
Two sherds are possibly Later Neolithic while the rest could be either Neolithic or Iron Age.
Phase 3 — Medieval (17 sherds)
Possible quarry pit fills — see discussion under watching brief contexts.
Phase 3A — c1100-c1200/1300 (14 sherds)
A pre-1300 date is suggested both for stratigraphic reasons and due to the lack of any fabrics, most especially W18, which might be expected to occur at a later date.
Phase 3B — c1200-c1400 (14 sherds)
The presence of W14 and W18 indicates a date no earlier than the 13th century.
Phase 4A — c1500-c1600/1700 (26 sherds)
Late Medieval-Early Post-Medieval fabrics (W16, W20₁, W29, X2a, YR, YF) suggest a 16th century date while fabrics W17 and X2b indicate that the phase may continue into the 17th century. The absence of any of the later Post-Medieval fabrics such as slipwares and iron-glazed wares does, however, imply a terminal date prior to the end of the 17th century.
Phase 4B — c1650-present (221 sherds)
The presence of numerous Late Post-Medieval (Z) fabrics clearly indicates a late 17th century start for this phase. The excavation was not intended to examine these levels in detail and it would, therefore, be misleading to make any detailed inference from the pottery.

Trench B
Phase 1 — Roman (1 sherd)
Single sherd of Roman grey ware.
Phase 2 — Saxo-Norman 11th century (18 sherds)
The pottery comes from one feature, Pit B63. A single sherd of W14 stands out as later than the rest and should be regarded as intrusive. The remainder form a coherent group of 11th century date.
Phase 3A — c1200-c1300/1400 (93 sherds)
T2 predominates (78%) with only minute quantities of W18 (2%) and W14 (1%) indicating a 13th-14th century date.
Phase 3B — c1250-c1450/1500 (76 sherds)
The presence of a larger proportion of W18 (20%) and W14 (4%) indicates a date after the mid 13th century though T2 still predominates (64%).
Phase 3C — c1300/1400-c1500 (31 sherds)
W18 now predominates (43%) which should indicate a

77

Pit 21   12th century

Pit F1   Early 13th century

Pit 20   Mid 13th century

Scale approx. 1:8

Fig 8   Derngate, Northampton: conjectural reconstruction of the pottery assemblages in three pits from the watching brief contexts. Pit 21: reconstructed from illustrations 7-9, 50-51, 61. Pit F1: reconstructed from illustrations 2, 10, 41, 44-5, 52, 58. Pit 20: reconstructed from illustrations 3-6, 11, 13-35, 37-40, 46-48, 53-57, 60, 63-6, 69.

78

14th. or more likely a 15th century date for this phase (McCarthy 1979, 189).

Phase 3D — $c1300/1400-c1500$ (9 sherds)

The small amount of pottery from this phase precludes further analysis.

Phase 4A — $c1500-c1600/1700$ (48 sherds)

W18 remains the dominant fabric (49%) reflecting its continuity into the 16th century.

Phase 4B — $c1650$-present (38 sherds)

This phase was not examined in detail during the excavation and the assemblage is not sufficiently large for detailed analysis.

Watching Brief Contexts

The features discovered during the watching brief can be divided into three groups — quarry pits, rubbish pits and the remainder — but only the first two groups provided sufficient material for valid analysis.

Quarry Pits 1100-1200/1300 (77 sherds including 21 from Trench A quarry fills).

The overwhelming preponderance of T2, the lack of any T2$_2$ (Lyveden-Stanion wares), common in the other watching brief contexts, and W18 would suggest a 12th-13th century date. Indeed the discovery of a number of T1-2 sherds in the quarry fills and of both T1 and T1-2 sherds in the Post-Medieval levels overlying the Trench A quarry fills together with the fact that the pottery is only from the upper fills would perhaps suggest that the quarrying operation itself occurred during the late 11th-12th centuries. The material from one quarry pit, 21, is discussed separately below.

Rubbish Pits — 1200-1400 (635 sherds)

The majority of the pottery recovered comes from Pits 20 and F1 which are discussed in more detail below. The preponderance of T2, the presence of T2$_2$ and the paucity of W18 suggest a 13th-14th century date.

Discussion of Pits 21, F1 and 20

The pottery from these three discrete assemblages demonstrates the changes in pottery forms and fabrics in 12th-13th century Northampton and this is shown most clearly in the groups of reconstructed pots in FIG 8. Pit 21 was the earliest in date and contained a uniform assemblage (48 sherds of T2). The only identifiable forms were of cooking pots built with finely made coils and wheel-finished. The wheel-formed rims are plain and everted, the bodies are either cylindrical (most common) or rounded while both flat and sagging bases are present. Sooting is evident externally on the base and lower parts of many vessels. The lack of any transitional T1-2 forms suggests a post-1100 date for the assemblage though the cylindrical bodies and everted rims indicate an early date (McCarthy 1979, 156-7). Hence a 12th century date is postulated.

Pit F1 contained a wider range of forms — cooking pots, bowls and jugs all being present — despite its smaller assemblage size (2 sherds of T1-2; 13 sherds of T2; 8 sherds of T2$_2$). Cooking pots were represented by a slightly sagging base with external bevel and the curved rim of a small vessel while two further bases, one flat and one sagging could be from either cooking pots or jugs. Parts of a wide-mouthed bowl with a simple, upright rim were recovered as was a fragment of a large undecorated jug with a plain strap handle. A Lyveden/Stanion (T2$_2$) type jug with stamped and rouletted decoration

and external green glaze was also present. This decorated jug and the form of the cooking pot suggest an early 13th century date.

An exceptionally large number of sherds was recovered from Pit 20 (424 sherds of T2, 70 sherds of T2$_2$, 2 sherds of T6, 66 sherds of W7$_1$, 15 sherds of W15 and 2 sherds of W47). Cooking pots, bowls and jugs were all present but it is the jugs which predominate. A wider range of fabrics is represented with jugs of the more unusual W7$_1$ and W15 fabrics joining those of T2 and T2$_2$. The jugs are generally fine-walled and coil-built with both sagging and flat bases present. Rims are usually curved, though more everted in some of the Lyveden/Stanion type jugs and strap handles, some stabbed, are common. The jugs are generally glazed and even an unglazed example in the local T2 fabric has rouletted decoration. The cooking pots differ from those of Pit 21 in that no sooting is present on the bases. A mid 13th century date is suggested for this assemblage.

This material illustrates graphically the changes in pottery use in Northampton in the 12th and 13th centuries. The wider range of fabrics present at the later period is evident though whether this should be interpreted as showing increased trading contacts is doubtful given Northampton's elevated status in the 12th century. The increasing use of jugs in the 13th century and their development into finer, more highly decorated and widely traded wares is also well illustrated. The later manifestation of this tendency is amply illustrated by the pottery assemblage discovered in a pit of late 13th-early 14th century date at College Street in 1979 (Gryspeerdt 1982) where an even higher proportion of fine wares and jugs, including many highly decorated Brill type ware jugs, is present. The absence of sooting on the later cooking pots is also interesting, presumably a difference in cooking techniques between the 12th and 13th centuries being indicated.

(v) Synthesis

The pottery from the excavations and watching brief at Derngate, a total of 1319 stratified sherds, includes small amounts of Prehistoric (15 sherds), Roman (1 sherd) and Late Saxon (14 sherds) pottery but by far the greatest number of sherds belong to the T2 (Medieval shelly type) wares (749 sherds; 57%), with a greater than usual percentage also of T2$_2$ (Lyveden-Stanion type) wares (87 sherds; 6.6%), reflecting the predominantly Medieval date of the features excavated. The pottery from Pits 20, F1 and 21 affords an opportunity to examine and compare relatively large assemblages of pottery from individual contexts of 12th and 13th century date. Particularly noticeable in the later assemblage, Pit 21, is the high proportion of jugs, the absence of sooting on the cooking pots and the wider range of fabrics.

Later Medieval wares are poorly represented with W18 (Potterspury ware) forming a far smaller proportion of the total number of sherds (6.5%; 84 sherds) than elsewhere (*cf* eg Marefair where Potterspury ware forms c 19% of the assemblage (Gryspeerdt 1979, Table 2); it is uncertain whether this is due to a decrease in the intensity of occupation in the area, a change in the method of rubbish disposal leading to less sherds being buried in pits on the site, a phenomenon noted elsewhere (*cf* eg for Southampton, Platt and Coleman-Smith 1975, Vol 1, 34-5), or to some other factor. A wide range of Post-Medieval wares was recovered but no fabric is represented in great numbers.

THE COINS

by Marion Archibald

A total of twelve coins and jettons was discovered, six of which were recent. The remainder are listed below.

Nu1 English sterling jetton, c1300. B. Phase 3D.

Nu2 Penny of Elizabeth I, 1st issue, 1558-61. A. Phase 4A.

Nu3 Penny of Elizabeth I, as Nu2 above. A. Phase 4A.

Nu4 Nuremberg jetton by Hans Krauwinkel, late 16th century. A. Phase 4A.

Nu5 Nuremberg jetton by Hans Krauwinkel, late 16th century. A. Phase 4B.

Nu6 17th century token farthing of Northampton. A. Phase 4B.

THE IRON OBJECTS

by Ian H Goodall

FIG 9, 1-2

The iron objects are a Medieval knife, (Fe1; FIG 9, 1), a

triangular sectioned rod, (Fe2), an 18th century key, (Fe3; FIG 9, 2), and a series of timber nails of Medieval and later date, twelve with flat square heads and two with flat circular heads.

THE COPPER ALLOY OBJECTS

by Alison R Goodall

FIG 9, 3-8

Twenty-two of the 35 copper alloy objects are pins: all the heads, where present, are of coiled wire and only two pins retain white metal plating. An undecorated strap-end, (Cu2; FIG 9, 4), contains fragments of the ?leather strap. There are two lace-ends, one of which, (Cu3; FIG 9, 6), is decorated with transverse ribs. Cu1 (FIG 9, 3) is an incomplete double looped buckle. Cu6 (FIG 9, 5) is a plain button cap. Cu10 (FIG 9, 8) is an oval plaque or pendant which appears to have traces of paint on it. Cu9 (FIG 9, 7) is a damaged bell.
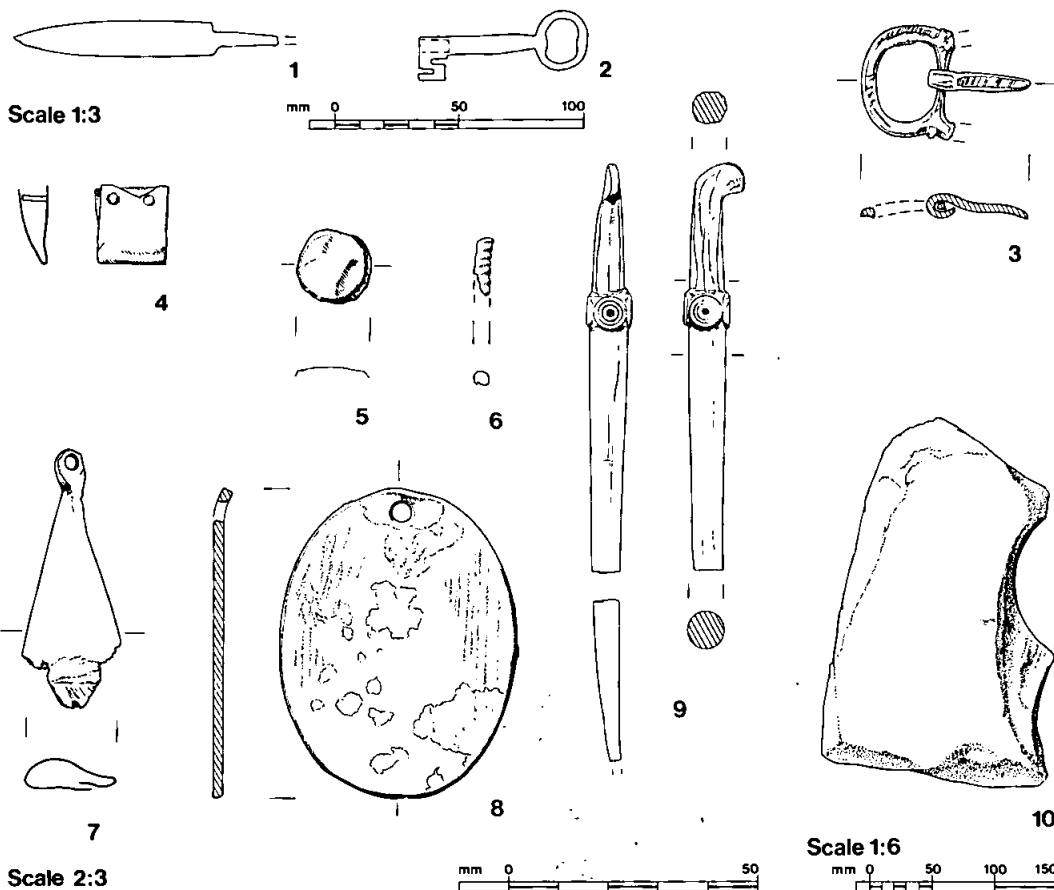

Fig 9 Derngate, Northampton: finds drawings; 1-2 iron objects (scale 1:3), 1 knife (Fe1), 2 key (Fe3); 3-8 copper alloy objects (scale 2:3), 3 buckle (Cu1), 4 strap end (Cu2), 5 button cap (Cu6), 6 lace end (Cu3), 7 bell (Cu9), 8 plaque or pendant (Cu10); 9 worked bone (scale 2:3), stylus (WB1); 10 worked stone (scale 1:6), window head fragment (St2)

THE WORKED FLINTS

by Helen M Bamford

Twenty-five worked flints were found; of these, 21 are flakes without secondary retouch, five of which can be classified as small blades. The remaining flint assemblage comprises a core fragment, two flakes with miscellaneous edge retouch and a small blade with microlithic edge retouch.

The small blades, including the one with microlithic retouch suggest a possible Mesolithic presence of the kind more strongly represented at Chalk Lane, Northampton (Bamford 1981), but there are no other diagnostic features and the group may not be homogeneous. Mixed assemblages have been found on other sites in the vicinity, including St. Peter's Street (Williams 1979a) and Marefair (Bamford 1979b).

THE STONE OBJECTS

by Hugh Richmond (architectural description) and Diana S Sutherland (geological identifications)

FIG 9, 10

The stone objects comprise a fragment of a stone mortar (St1), and a fragment of a small cusped window head (St2; FIG 9, 10).

THE GLASS

by Gwynne Oakley

Thirty-four sherds representing 18 vessels and 11 window fragments were found. The most interesting finds are the base of a urinal from a Medieval context (GL1; cf Oakley 1979, 300) and some rather dark blue-green glass from ?16th-17th century windows (GL20, 21).

THE TILES AND BRICKS

by Varian Denham

The report is divided into the following sections:

Main report
  i) Synopsis
  ii) Illustrations

Microfiche
  i) Introduction
  ii) Key to fabrics (Table M1)
     The fabric code, type of material, probable source, approximate date range and references to previously published discussion are provided.
  iii) Occurrence of different forms by fabric (Table M2)
  iv) Occurrence of different fabrics by phase (Table M3)
  v) Occurrence of different forms by phase (Table M4)
  vi) On site distribution of material (Table M5)
  vii) Synthesis

i) Synopsis
  A total of 283 tile and brick fragments was recovered and these were sorted into twelve fabric groups (for detailed fabric description see Gazetteer of Tile and Brick Fabrics: Denham 1984, (M) 71-5).

Roof tile: 244 pieces
More than 85% of the roof tile was of indeterminate size and form although examples of nib tiles (in fabric $M4_1$ only) and peg tiles (usually fabric $M2_1$, infrequently $M4_2$, $M1_1$, $M1_2$) were identified. Seven ridge tiles and three crested ridge tiles (FIG 7, nos 1, 2) all bore olive glaze although only 18% of the roof tiles as a whole were glazed.

Floor tile: 37 pieces
Floor tile occurred in three different fabrics and 23 fragments were glazed. No decorated tiles were recovered.

Only two fragments of brick were found and neither was large enough to indicate size or form.

The number of stratified identifiable fragments was small and it is doubtful that any firm conclusions can be based upon such a sample. It can, however, be noted that peg tiles predominate in the Medieval phases, the few nib tiles not occurring before the post-1700 layers. The majority of the floor tiles probably date to the 15th and 16th centuries. Particularly noticeable is the small amount of tile — only eight roof tile fragments, all in Post-Medieval contexts, recovered from Trench A, when compared with Trench B in which 196 roof tile and ten floor tile fragments were found (Table M4, (M)51.) This disparity may reflect a difference in status between the houses fronting on to Derngate and those fronting on to Swan Street (see Discussion).

ii) Illustrations (FIG 7)
  No 1
  Crested ridge tile in fabric M2 with olive green glaze, and vertical crenellations. Unstratified.
  No 2
  Crested ridge tile in fabric M2 with olive glaze, and thumb impressed cordons. Phase 3.

THE WORKED BONE

by Michael Shaw (description) and Mary Harman (bone identification)

FIG 9, 9
The worked bone consists of an almost complete bone stylus (WB1).

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