

# DEATH, BURIAL AND IDENTITY

## APPENDIX F: CERAMIC VESSEL FABRIC DESCRIPTIONS

### EARLIER PREHISTORIC FABRICS

*Alex Gibson*

Fabric V: Corky fabric with voids left by leached-out opening materials such as calcite or burnt-out organics. Well fired but fairly soft.

### LATER PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN PERIOD HAND-BUILT POTTERY FABRICS

*Chris Cumberpatch*

Fabric group	Description
H1	Fabrics containing calcareous temper, including calcite, shell and chalk
H1 Calcite	Fabrics containing angular calcite grains, varying in size and angularity as defined in the 'Notes' column
H1 Shell	Fabrics containing shell inclusions; details summarised in the 'Notes' column
H1 Chalk	Fabrics containing chalk or chalk-like inclusions
H2	The general category for fabrics which contain non-soluble stone temper, notably quartz and igneous rock fragments. Highly variable and sub-divided as follows:
H2 Fine Quartz	A distinctive fine sandy textured fabric normally containing abundant fine quartz grit (<0.2mm) and only occasionally a small proportion of larger quartz grit and generally no rock fragments
H2 Fine quartz & Mica	As H2 Fine quartz with fine mica (biotite or muscovite) grains
H2 Fine quartz & rock	As H2 Fine quartz but with fine rock fragments of a similar size to the quartz grains
H2 Quartz	A medium textured H2 fabric with quartz between 0.2mm and 0.5mm; background may be fine quartz sand with sparse to common larger inclusions.
H2 Coarse Quartz	Sherds containing particularly prominent quartz grit between 2mm and 10mm
H2 Coarse Quartz & Rock	Sherds containing quartz and rock fragments between 2mm and 10mm
H2 Rock	Sherds containing common to abundant rock fragments between 0.2mm and 0.5mm usually in a fine matrix containing moderate to abundant quartz sand
H2 Coarse Rock	Sherds containing particularly prominent angular rock fragments between 2mm and 10mm
H2 Hyper-coarse	Very distinctive but rare fabrics containing large angular rock fragments of 10mm and larger in size; quartz is normally also present as finer sand-grade inclusions
H2 Flint	As H2 but with small quantities of flint, usually angular, sometimes slightly abraded; to be distinguished from early prehistoric quartz-tempered ware
H2 Red	An H2 fabric distinguished by the presence of soft, rounded red iron-rich inclusions, often with fine quartz and rock fragments
H2 Slag	H2 sherds which include black, glassy, vesicular grains believed to be iron slag
H2 Grog	H2 sherds with grog inclusions in addition to quartz sand
H2 Mica	Prominent biotite or muscovite inclusions (specified in the data tables), generally in a medium textured H2 Quartz or H2 Rock fabric
H3	Sherds containing both calcareous and non-calcareous inclusions, with variants as specified for H1 and H2, above
H4	Vesicular wares of type H1 which have been particularly badly affected by the action of acidic ground water resulting in the removal in solution of the calcareous inclusions.
H type	Unidentifiable fragments of hand-made pottery, normally of H2 type
Fired clay	Small fragments of fired clay
Crucible	Crucible fragments distinguished by their distinctive form and heavily over-fired fabric

## ROMAN CERAMIC FABRICS

*Ruth Leary*

The fabric of the pottery was first examined by eye and sorted into fabric groups on the basis of colour, hardness, feel, fracture, inclusions and manufacturing technique. A sample of the sherds was further examined under an x30 binocular microscope to verify these divisions. The size of the sample was as large as was felt necessary for each fabric group.

Colour: narrative description only

Hardness (after Peacock 1977):

- soft - can be scratched by finger nail
- hard - can be scratched with penknife blade
- very hard - cannot be scratched

Feel (tactile qualities):

- smooth - no irregularities
- rough - irregularities can be felt
- sandy - grains can be felt across the surface
- leathery - smoothed surface like polished leather
- soapy - smooth feel like soap

Fracture (visual texture of fresh break; after Orton 1980):

- smooth - flat or slightly curved with no visible irregularities
- irregular - medium, fairly widely spaced irregularities
- finely irregular - small, fairly closely spaced irregularities
- laminar - stepped effect
- hackly - large and generally angular irregularities

Inclusions

Type:

after Peacock 1977

Frequency:

indicated on a 4-point scale - abundant, moderate, sparse and rare where abundant is a break packed with an inclusion and rare is a break with only one or two of an inclusion.

Sorting:

after Orton 1980

Shape:

- angular - convex shape, sharp corners
- subangular - convex shape, rounded corners
- rounded - convex shape no corners
- platey - flat

Size:

- subvisible - only just visible at x30 and too small to measure
- fine - 0.1-0.25mm
- medium - 0.25-0.5
- coarse - 0.5-1mm
- very coarse - over 1mm

### A: AMPHORA

A UI Unidentified amphorae

BAT AM Baetican amphorae (Tomber and Dore 1998, 84–5).

GAL AM 2 Gaulish amphorae 2 (*ibid.*, 95).

### B: BLACK-BURNISHED WARE

BB1 Black-burnished ware category 1 (DOR BB1; Tomber and Dore 1998).

BB2	Black burnished ware category 2 (BB2; <i>ibid.</i> ).
GBB1	Handmade BB1 type ware which is consistently grey. Considered to be BB1.

### **C: CALCAREOUS FABRICS**

EYCT	Calcite-gritted ware. As HUN CG (Tomber and Dore 1998).
CTA2	Dales ware. Brown with brown/red margins and moderate shell inclusions (DAL SH; <i>ibid.</i> ).
LOOL2	Dark grey ware with buff core. Hard and slightly sandy. Visible rounded vesicles outside and protruding quartz inclusions inside. Sparse-moderate, medium, subangular quartz, rounded vesicles and coarse crystalline quartz, and some grey rock. Micaceous surfaces.

### **BS: BROWN SANDY WARES**

BSA	Brownish grey with buff margins and grey core. Hard, fine and smooth. Sparse, medium to fine quartz and rare, rounded coarse dark inclusions. Moderate, subvisible quartz and mica.
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### **F: FINE WARES**

NV1	Nene Valley colour-coated ware (LNV CC; Tomber and Dore 1998). NV1- white core, NV2 oxidised core, NV3, NVG- colour-coated ware with grey core.
KOL	White ware with brown/black colour coat (KOL CC; <i>ibid.</i> ).
Trier	Black-slip ware from Trier kilns (MOS BS; <i>ibid.</i> ).

### **M: MORTARIA**

MCUI2	Unidentified Cream ware 1.
MCOL WH	Colchester White ware (COL WH; Tomber and Dore 1998, 133).
MCRA WH	Crambeck White ware.
MCRA M1	Crambeck copy (Hartley 2017, 114). Pale brownish pink fabric with paler core. Fairly hard, finely irregular fracture, and powdery feel. Very few quartz visible, sparse medium, rounded red/brown inclusions, rare, coarse, subrounded cream cognates and sparse medium subrounded quartz. Slightly micaceous. Trituration grits: abundant, black slag, very angular, 4-5mm. One vessel has abundant tiny grits (2mm).

### **CTR WS: CATTERICK VICINITY WHITE-SLIPPED WARES (TOMBER AND DORE 1998, 195 CTR WS)**

MCTR WS1	Catterick White-slipped ware 1 (Hartley 2017, 116).
MCTR WS2	Catterick White-slipped ware 2 ( <i>ibid.</i> , 116).
MCTR WS3	Catterick White-slipped ware 3 ( <i>ibid.</i> , 116).
MH1	Mancetter-Hartshill White ware 1 (MAH WH; Tomber and Dore 1998, 189).
MH2	Mancetter-Hartshill White ware 2 (MAH WH; <i>ibid.</i> , 189).
MVER WH	Verulamium Region White ware (VER WH; <i>ibid.</i> , 154).

### **O: OXIDISED WARES**

OA	Wares are orange OB wares are buff or yellow.
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OAA/OBA	Fine oxidised ware.
OAA3	Orange, hard, smooth and fairly smooth fracture. Moderate fine quartz. Sparse medium quartz and red/brown inclusions.
OAA4	Orange with buff core. Hard, smooth with finely irregular fracture. Moderate, fine quartz (c0.2–0.3mm) and mica. Rare, coarse, rounded red/brown and grey inclusions and sparse-rare, medium, rounded white inclusions.
OBA1	Buff/cream with orange/brown exterior surface and grey core. Smooth, hard but brittle. Moderate, subvisible quartz and mica, Rare, medium quartz and medium, white inclusions.
OBA3	Fine fabric with yellowish buff surface or self slip, cream outer margin and light grey inside. Soft and smooth. Subvisible, very fine quartz and sparse ill-sorted medium to coarse, rounded brown inclusions. Soft, powdery, argillaceous inclusions.
OBA5	Yellow with darker slip. Fine and smooth. Hard. Subvisible quartz and sparse, medium rounded red/brown inclusions.
OAB/OBB	Medium oxidised wares
OAB1	Orange, sometimes with grey core. Moderate, medium, subangular quartz and sparse subrounded and rounded, soft, orange/brown inclusions, clay pellets, and white inclusions.
OBB1	Light orange/buff with grey core. Hard, quite smooth and finely irregular fracture. Moderate, fine/medium, quartz and sparse, medium quartz. Sparse red/brown and white inclusions and voids and silver mica.
E6	The red painted Ebor fabric (E6; Monaghan 1997).
OAC/OBC	Gritty oxidised wares
OAC2	Oxidised, hard gritty ware. Hackly fracture and rough feel. Moderate, ill-sorted coarse–medium, subangular quartz and rounded, coarse, iron rich inclusions. Sparse, rounded, coarse, white inclusions.
OBC4	Buff very coarse gritty ware. Moderate, ill-sorted, coarse to very coarse, rounded quartz and red/brown inclusions.
<b>RSA: RED SLIPPED</b>	
RSA1	As OAA3 with red slip.
<b>FLA: WHITE WARES</b>	
FLA2	White smooth, hard with finely irregular fracture. Moderate, well-sorted, fine quartz and sparse, fine, red/brown inclusions.
FLA5	White, sometimes with pink core. Hard, smooth with finely irregular fracture. Moderate, medium, subangular and angular, translucent and milky quartz and sparse, medium, rounded, red/brown and rounded, white inclusions.
FLA7	White with darker slip. Smooth and hard or powdery. Finely irregular. Fine textured with sparse, medium quartz and rounded, red/brown inclusions.
FLA8	Verulamium white ware (VER WH; Tomber and Dore 1998).
FLA20	Dull dirty cream. Otherwise as GRA13.
FLA27	Pinkish buff, powdery with darker slip. Abundant, fine quartz.

#### **R: REDUCED COARSE WARES**

GRA3 Grey, hard, smooth with finely irregular fracture. Abundant, very fine quartz.

GRA5	Medium grey with brown core. Hard, smooth feel and fracture. Abundant, fine quartz and sparse, coarse, rounded, ferrous inclusions. Slightly micaceous surface.
GRA6	Grey to pale grey core. Often with dark grey-black surfaces. Probably a slip. Hard, smooth feel and fracture. Moderate, fine quartz and sparse, fine, rounded, grey/brown inclusions and can have sparse, medium quartz and sparse, calcareous inclusions. Micaceous surface.
GRA13	Grey with buff core Smooth, fine and hard. Moderate, fine quartz with sparse, medium, rounded, brown argillaceous inclusions. Micaceous.
GRA15	Grey, fairly hard with quite smooth feel. Very micaceous- silver mica flakes on surface and in break. Sparse medium subangular quartz and abundant subvisible quartz.
GRA18	Very hard fired grey ware, medium to light grey. Smooth fracture. Rare, medium quartz.
GRB1	Medium-light grey, usually with buff or brown margins, irregular fracture and slightly sandy feel. Sparse to moderate, medium, subangular quartz with fine, subvisible quartz.
GRB2	Light brownish grey. This can have darker grey surfaces and grey core with brown margins Hard, slightly sandy feel, irregular fracture. Moderate, medium, subangular quartz. Mica and sparse, coarse, rounded, red/brown inclusions.
GRB2W	Grey ware with white paste. Inclusions and texture as GRB2.
GRB5	Grey with buff margins and grey core. Hard, sandy with irregular fracture. Moderate-abundant, medium, subangular quartz and sparse, coarse sandstone?
GRB6	Medium grey, sometimes buff/grey ware, sandy with moderate medium subrounded and subangular quartz. Sparse white and grey/black inclusions. Hard. Occasionally has a brown core.
GRB8	Dark grey/black with brown core. Hackly, harsh feel with abundant medium-coarse, subangular quartz and sparse medium/coarse brown inclusions.
GRB11	Dark grey-brown/black with grey or light grey/buff core. Smooth and hard with finely irregular fracture. Moderate, fine to medium, subangular quartz.
GRB13	Grey or brownish grey. Hard with smooth feel and finely hackly fracture. Abundant, fine well sorted quartz.
GRB14	Dark grey with brown margin and dark grey core. Hard, brittle and smooth. Sparse, medium, subangular quartz.
GRB16	Grey, hard with sandy or rough feel and hackly fracture. Abundant, medium to coarse, subrounded and rounded quartz and sparse, rounded, coarse black/brown inclusions.
GRB22	Black, hard, slightly gritty. Hackly fracture. Moderate, ill-sorted, medium, subangular quartz and sparse, white inclusions- plate and irregular.
GRB27	Grey, light, very hard and fine. Clean break with sparse to moderate, fine quartz and rare, white, calcareous inclusions.
GRB28	Dark grey with orange/brown core. Hard, smooth with irregular fracture. Moderate to abundant, fine to medium, sub-rounded quartz and sparse, coarse, rounded, brown inclusions.
GRB30	Medium grey with slightly paler grey core. Hard and finely irregular. Moderate, fine quartz and sparse, medium-coarse, subangular quartz, rounded, brown iron oxides and grey, argillaceous inclusions.
GRB42	Light grey with brown tones. Smooth with moderate, fine quartz ~1–2mm. Very rare white inclusions. Micaceous.
GRB50	Medium grey ware, often with buff margins. Hard with rather gritty feel and irregular fracture. Moderate, rather ill-sorted, subangular quartz with sparse, coarse inclusions- quartz, iron oxides, grey inclusions and sandstone. GRB50B had calcareous inclusions.
CRA RE	Crambeck grey ware (CRA RE; Tomber and Dore 1998).
GRC1	Grey with greyish white core. Harsh feel, hard with irregular fracture. Moderate, ill-sorted, medium-coarse, subangular quartz.
GRC4	Brown with thin grey surfaces. Hard and gritty with moderate, ill-sorted. Coarse, subangular, quartz and grey, laminated inclusions.

- GRC6 Grey with darker grey core Handmade. Gritty ware. Sparse, coarse, ill-sorted, rounded and subrounded quartz, and grey inclusions, and sparse, medium, rounded, white, calcareous inclusions.
- GRC11 Brownish grey with buff margins and grey core. Smooth and hard with moderate, coarse, subrounded quartz and moderate, coarse, subrounded/rounded, red brown inclusions.
- GRC12 Gritty partially oxidised ware. Hard gritty with abundant, coarse, subangular quartz and rounded, grey inclusions. Rare cylindrical stone and calcareous inclusions.

### **FLB: WHITE SLIPPED WARE**

- FLB1 As OAA1 with white slip. Most of the white-slipped group were relatively fine.
- FLB2 As OAB1 with white slip.

### **SAMIAN**

*Gwladys Monteil*

The fabric of each sherd was examined, after taking a small fresh break, under a x20 binocular microscope and assigned the relevant fabric codes.

- SAMLG: South Gaulish samian from La Graufesenque (LGF SA; Tomber and Dore 1998)
- SAMCG: Central Gaulish samian from Lezoux (LE SA 2; *ibid.*).
- SAMMV: Central Gaulish samian from Les Martres-de-Veyre (LMV SA; *ibid.*).
- SAMBL: East Gaulish samian from Blickweiler (BLW SA; *ibid.*).
- SAMRZ: East Gaulish samian from Rheinzabern (RHZ SA; *ibid.*).

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