

X.—FOURTH REPORT ON EXCAVATIONS AT CHESTERHOLM-VINDOLANDA.

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[Read on 23rd February 1938.]

The following abbreviations are employed :

AA^{3, 4} = *Archæologia Aeliana*, 3rd-4th series.

AC = *Archæologia Cambrensis*.

CW² = *Cumberland and Westmorland Transactions*, new series.

For references in the section on figured samian ware, see the list of abbreviations in AA⁴ XIII 242-3. Well-known excavation-reports are cited by the name of the place in *italics*; it will be convenient to note here that *High House* and *Appletree* turrets and *Throp* fort are published in CW² XIII; the pottery from *Hardknot* in CW² XXI; that from *Birdoswald* in CW² XXX; *Haltwhistle Burn* fort in AA³ v; and the *Corbridge 1911* pottery in AA³ VIII.

The third report on excavations at Chesterholm grew to such a size that it was necessary to hold over the section dealing with the interesting series of coarse pottery that came from the early ditches on site B, to the west of the existing fort,¹ and from the deposit below the north rampart.² We now present an account of that series, together with some of the samian ware found in 1931 but not published hitherto. Such an account must necessarily be a technical one, of interest mainly to specialists; but the group is the first clearly defined one, of the period before the building of Hadrian's Wall, found in this district and published since the appearance of Mr. Bushe-Fox's report

¹ AA⁴ VIII 202-4, IX 217-19.

² AA⁴ XIII 241-2.

on some early deposits examined at Corbridge in 1911, and as such its value to specialists is considerable. Taken in conjunction with the fresh material from Corbridge, published later in this volume, it provides a far wider basis for distinguishing pre-Hadrianic pottery than has hitherto been available in the north of Britain; a brief glance at any of the reports on sites on the Antonine Wall shows that the attribution of unstratified pieces to the Agricolan period can be extended considerably in the light of this new criterion: for example, no trace of an Agricolan fort was found at *Balmuildy*, and it has been supposed that the site of that fort was not occupied by the Romans until the time of Antoninus Pius; but the number of Balmuildy types represented in this deposit, or that at Corbridge, but not on Hadrian's Wall, is sufficient to demonstrate early occupation there. This, however, is not the place to enlarge on such a point, which demands detailed attention later, and in another place; here we content ourselves with presenting a description of the series from Chesterholm, adding such references as will suffice to illustrate the commonness, rarity, or dating of individual types.

A. *Figured samian* (fig. 1).

1. (FS 80³: north-west angle of stone fort.) Fragment showing only the closing straight *wreath*, with wavy line above. The wreath is composed of four grouped and ribbed leaves in series; it was first used by **PASSENVS** (cf. AA⁴ VIII, fig. 7, 8 and p. 206, also from Chesterholm, and references) and later by **L.COSIVS** (Knorr 1919, 25, 32 and *Brecon*, S 55) and **MOMMO** (JRS IV, pl. II 2); this piece, like *Newstead*, pl. XLIII 1, should probably be attributed to the latter, Vespasianic, potter.

2. (FS 57: site B, E-W ditch.) Three pieces from a bowl by a Flavian potter whom it does not yet seem possible to identify. The *ovolo* with tongue bent to left occurs on a piece from *Brecon*, S 64, with the same ribbed *festoon*, *deer* running to left, and *dog* to left (D. 928, here lacking its head and forefeet); the *festoon* and *pendant*, with the enclosed pair of *dart ornaments*, recur on a piece from *Rottweil* (1912, pl. XVIII 7, 8) which, however, has a

³ Cf. AA⁴ VIII, p. 204, footnote 31.

different *ovolo*, while another piece from the same site (1912, pl. XVIII 2) has the same *ovolo*, *festoon*, and part of the same *stag* to right with head turned backward (D. 859). The latter type was used by at least eight different potters (Knorr 1919, p. 27, fig. 13), but none of them can be equated with the maker of this piece and the parallels from Brecon and Rottweil.

3. (FS 56: site B, from a sleeper-trench within the angle of the ditch.) A large piece from a bowl in the style of **MERCATO**; the following of its types are given under **MERCATO** by Knorr (1919, pl. 57): *bestiarius* (D. 595), *goose* (D. 1009), *straight wreath*, "*grass*," *clumps of leaves*, *curl centring in rosette*, and *pendant*. Many of these types were also used by **BIRAGILLVS**, whose work cannot always be distinguished from that of **MERCATO**. It is not clear whether the *ovolo* is missing owing to too drastic attachment of the rim, or whether, as occasionally happened in the Flavian period, it was dispensed with intentionally.

4. (FS 66: site B, unstratified.) Small fragment, showing the *bestiarius*, D. 634, and corner sprigs of the type often used on late Flavian bowls (cf. AA⁴ XIII, p. 246).

5. (FS 59: site B, E-W ditch.) Coarse, late Flavian example of a winding scroll, with lower straight *wreath* as in no. 3.

6. (FS 55: site B, from the N-S ditch.) Two pieces from a bowl in a style similar to that of **CORNVTVS**, according to Jacobs ("*Sigillatafunde aus einem römischen Keller zu Bregenz*" in *Jahrbuch für Altertumskunde* VI, p. 178); the *ovolo* with pendant bent to right, *Jupiter* (D. 6), *man with scroll* (D. 510, and cf. AA⁴ XIII, p. 245), corner *sprigs* as in no. 4, small *Silenus* (D. 323) and small *charioteers* to left and right described in AA⁴ XIII 245, all recur on the bowl figured by Jacobs, pl. II 13, and assigned to the school of that potter. Cf. also Walters, *British Museum Catalogue*, M 523 (a piece very close in lay-out to the present example); *Caerhun* (AC 1931) S 38 (with a lower wreath as in no. 3 and the stag looking backward as in no. 2 above). We are not aware of any Scottish example of this late South Gaulish school.

7. (FS 60: site B, from E-W ditch.) The forelegs appearing over conventional *grass-tufts* are probably those of a small *bull* to right, such as occurs on a late Flavian piece at *Caerhun* (AC 1931, S 49); the *festoon* and the *dart ornament* which it encloses are considerably coarser than those in no. 2 above. This piece belongs to the late and degraded period of South Gaulish production represented by such vessels as Knorr has figured from Cannstatt and Köngen (Knorr, *Cannstatt* 1905, pl. x), or Roger from Augsburg (*Zeitschr. des hist. Vereins f. Schwaben u. Neuburg* 1913, pl. II f.).

B. *Plain samian* (fig. 2, 1-9).—The following selection indicates

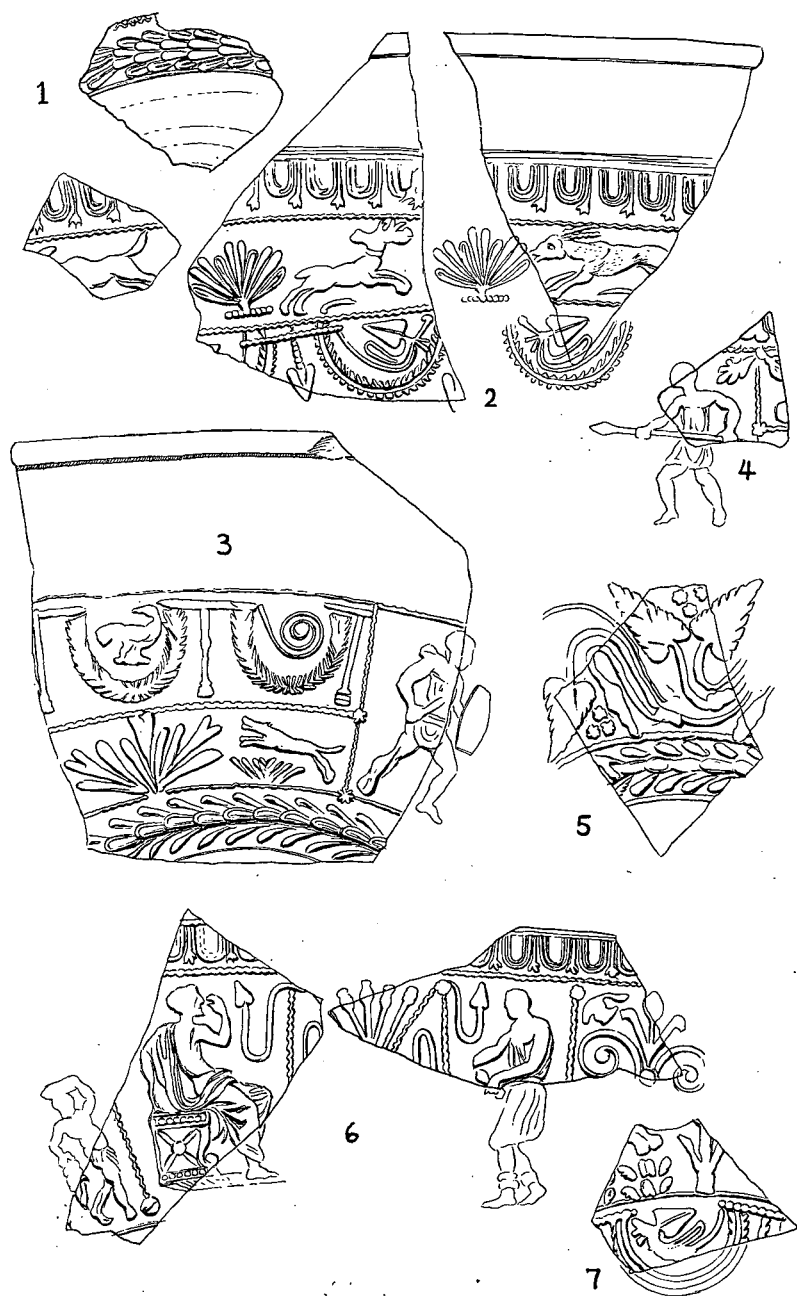


FIG. I. FIGURED SAMIAN WARE. ($\frac{1}{2}$.)

the range of South Gaulish plain types met with in the two deposits; it has not seemed necessary to illustrate the bulk of the material.

1 N. A small, well-modelled example of form 18, with slight central kick; good bright glaze; the potter's stamp is missing.

2 B. Rim fragment, with a typical Flavian section, from a platter of the same form; rich red glaze.

3 N. Base of a large platter, form 18, with slight central kick; stamped **OF MV[RRANI]**. Murranus's decorated ware is mainly attributable to the period A.D. 45-65, but his stamps sometimes occur on sites which they are not likely to have reached before the time of Vespasian; thus, they have been recorded at Rottweil⁴ and at Corbridge.⁵ This piece certainly suggests an occupation beginning at least as early as the time of Agricola, when it would already, on our present evidence, have been a survival.

4 B. About half of a cup, form 27, with the stamp **OF SILVINI** already published (AA⁴ ix, p. 220); stamps of this potter have been recorded at Carlisle and Corbridge in the north of Britain.⁶ The cup is of a coarseness often attained after the time of Vespasian, but the footstand shows the external groove that is usually taken to indicate a comparatively early date.

5 B. Wall fragment from a small cup, form 27, with fine neat rim; rich red glaze. The shallow, well-formed upper curve, like the glaze, suggest a date not later than the time of Vespasian.

6 N. Wall fragment of the same form, with good, bright glaze.

7 N. A small fragment from the wall of a platter, form 15/17; this form barely outlasts the first century, and it has not yet been found even as a survival of Hadrian's Wall. The later platter with quarter-round moulding, 15/31, seems to represent a new tradition with which this form has no direct connection.

8 B. Rim fragment, form 35/36; cherry glaze. For a Hadrianic example of this form, cf. *Birdoswald*, fig. 11, 7.

9 B. Rim fragment of Curle's type 11 (*Newstead*, pl. xxxix, examples from the early ditch-system).

C. *Bowls, platters, etc.* (fig. 2, 10-21).—The series of carinated bowls is particularly interesting; it ranges from examples like

⁴ Oswald, *Index of Potters' Stamps*, p. 213. Oswald also attributes a stamp of Murranus to the Saalburg, but it does not appear in the complete list of South Gaulish stamps from that site recently published (ORL A II i, 174-181); perhaps a stamp of the Flavian potter Mascuus may really be intended (*ibid.*, pl. 17, 77).

⁵ AA³ xii, p. 283, on form 18.

⁶ Oswald, *Index*, p. 302. The Saalburg example there quoted does not appear in the new list; that from the Bregenz cellar-find, which seems to be the latest in date, must be treated with reserve, since Jacobs could not find it (*Bregenz*, p. 183).

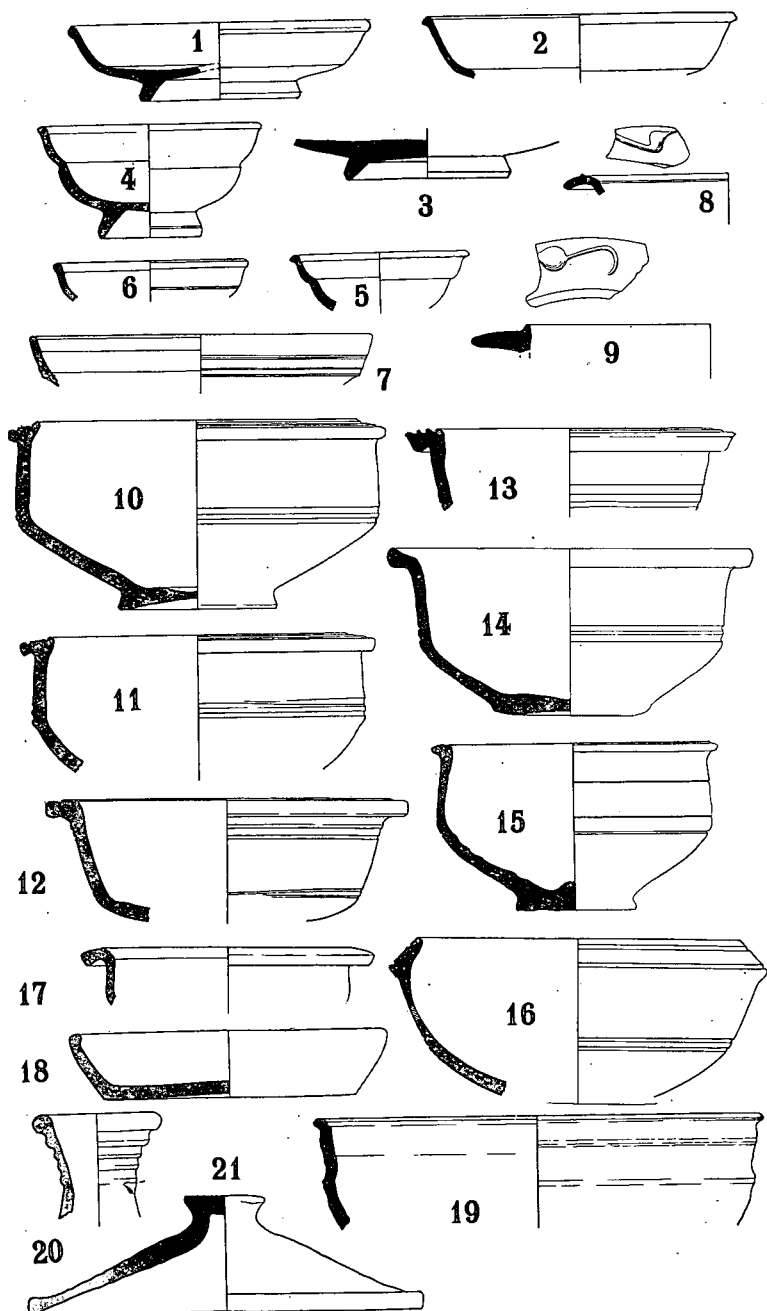


FIG. 2. PLAIN SAMIAN; BOWLS, PLATTERS, ETC. ($\frac{1}{2}$.)

nos. 10, 11 and 13, for which direct parallels may be found at Newstead, to vessels such as no. 12 or no. 15 which might well have turned up in a turret or milecastle on the Wall.

10 N. Dark grey bowl, with downward sloping and deeply reeded rim, horizontal grooves immediately above the carination, and a well-modelled footstand; cf. *Corbridge 1911*, nos. 4-9 and *Newstead*, fig. 26.

11 N. Similar bowl, in hard orange ware.

12 N. Similar bowl, in somewhat coarse, orange-drab ware; the reeding has become rather feeble. The grooves above the carination merge into one; another pair of grooves appears below the rim. Cf. *Birdoswald*, no. 64; *Malton*, fig. 7, 7 (area A north, layer 6—a mixed lot).

13 B. Rim fragment from a similar bowl, in hard grey ware, a darker grey in fracture; very deep reeding, reminiscent of *Newstead*, fig. 26, 12; cf. also *Corbridge 1911*, no. 38.

14 B. Hard, dark grey ware; the degenerate footstand suggests a comparatively late date for this vessel. We have not found a close parallel for the upturned and rather formless rim.

15 B. The greater part of a small carinated bowl, in a rather soft light buff ware, with faint reeding on the rim and horizontal grooves on the side; the footstand is crude in the extreme.

16 B. Rim fragments and part of the lower wall of an aberrant carinated bowl; the rim might be taken as an antecedent (since the type seems to be an early one) of the form represented in no. 10 above. A close parallel, but in a different fabric, has been noted in a deposit assigned to the period before A.D. 110 at Brough on Humber (*Brough 1936*, no. 61, from pit 11). Curle's description (*Newstead*, p. 245) of a fragment with a similar rim, that seems to belong to an altogether different type of vessel, fits the Chesterholm example perfectly: "somewhat coarse hard material of a pinkish-red colour"; both vessels must be the products of the same pottery, and a parallel from Trier cited by Dr. Curle suggests that the pottery concerned was not in Britain but in the Rhineland.

17 N. Most of the rim of a small carinated bowl, in a hard light grey ware; the rim, which hangs over somewhat, is unreeded.

18 N. Small platter in hard, pinkish yellow ware; cf. *Newstead*, type 32 (pl. XLVI, from the early pit XI); *Corbridge 1911*, no. 19; *Holt*, no. 130; perhaps the product of a legionary kiln.

19 B. Wall fragment from a wide-mouthed bowl, in hard dark grey ware, of a shape for which we have found no parallels; its position, in the early ditch, assures its dating.

20 N. The neck of a jug, the greater part of which was

recovered from this deposit, though it has not yet been restored. Hard, reddish-brown ware; its bold rings are typical of the Flavian period; cf. *Corbridge 1911*, nos. 1 and 2; *Newstead*, fig. 33, nos. 1-4.

21 B. The greater part of a lid, in ware similar to no. 18; part of another lid, N, in coarse grey ware, has an original hole from top to bottom of its handle. The dating of lids is never easy; except in cases like these, that come from clearly defined deposits.

D. *Cooking-pots, jars, etc.* (figs. 3 and 4).—A fairly large series of jars is illustrated, to show what wide variations in rim-profile may be expected in this period. The footstand is a more reliable guide, being habitually of the well-moulded type shown in no. 22 or no. 38 (contrast Hadrianic examples, such as *Birdoswald*, no. 22, etc.); even more important is the fabric. The normal black fumed cooking-pot, which was reaching Welsh sites before the close of the first century, only occurs sporadically before the time of Hadrian in the north of Britain; it was not represented in the early deposits found at Corbridge in 1911 or in those at Newstead; at *Haltwhistle Burn* and *Throp* there were a few examples, and there is a single piece, no. 37, in the present series. Two fabrics predominate in the cooking-pots of this period: (i) a hard grey ware, with a slightly darker fumed surface (rustic-ware vessels, especially those with rustication in high and irregular relief, are normally in this ware); and (ii) a hard ware, whitish grey in fracture, fumed or coated inside and out with a dark bluish grey; the latter ware is rather rough to the touch; some rustic-ware vessels, and most of the plain cooking-pots, are in this ware, which seems to disappear almost completely at the beginning of Hadrian's reign, leaving the market open for the black fumed ware to which reference has already been made. It may be assumed that the change reflects a by-product of the disturbance in the north of Britain at Hadrian's accession, and that the pottery that had been supplying fabric (ii) to sites in that area abruptly ceased work, once and for all.

22 B. The greater part of a wheel-made jar, once used as a cooking-pot; well modelled footstand; the necked rim might suggest a later date, but there are parallels at *Haltwhistle Burn* (no. 17 is very close, nos. 14 and 20 less close), and the fabric is a characteristic early one, very dark grey, lightly fumed, light grey in fracture (rather smoother ware than fabric (ii) above).

23 B. Fabric (ii); the two horizontal grooves on the shoulder are a feature frequently met with in this period, and seldom later, though a close parallel to the present piece (only its rim is more outbent) occurred in a 1 B deposit at *Appletree turret* (pl. xvii, no. 78).

24 N. Fabric (ii); something of a neck is developing, but the horizontal grooves remain. Cf. *Hardknott*, no. 67.

25 B. Fabric (i). The plain rim, prominent shoulder and a deep horizontal groove immediately below the shoulder, are well marked features; below the groove there has probably been rustication; a close parallel comes from Brough on Humber (*Brough 1936*, no. 21, from pits 1/III, which represent the earliest occupation of the site).

26 N. Dark grey fuming over pale grey, rather friable ware; similar in profile to no. 24, but for the disappearance of the horizontal grooves and the greater definition of the shoulder. Cf. *Malton*, fig. 16, 4 (annex, early pit 3).

27 B. Fabric (ii). The fabric, horizontal grooves and find-spot securely date this piece; its rim-section rather suggests an affinity with late fourth-century cooking-pots.

28 B. Hard, light grey ware, fumed dark grey on the outside only.

29 N. Grey-buff ware cooking-pot, fumed dark grey outside and inside as far down as the bottom of the neck only; cf. *Corbridge 1911*, no. 3.

30 N. Fabric (ii); another piece whose rim-section, taken by itself, might suggest a far later date than its fabric and find-spot indicate.

31 N. An unusual piece, in a rather coarse, hard buff ware; the vessel has been used as a cooking-pot, and its rim is grooved internally to take a lid.

32 N. Grey, rather soft ware, with traces of a thin fuming on the outside; there is a slight groove for a lid, but otherwise the rim-type approximates to that of no. 22.

33 B. Grey jar, with fumed outer surface, fabric (i), and unusual rim-section; the closest parallel which we have been able to find is on a bowl from the villa at Newport, Isle of Wight (*Antiquaries Journal*, ix, p. 358 and fig. 1, no. 24).

34 B. Fabric (i); rim-fragment from a very large and somewhat crude cooking-pot.

35 B. Fabric (ii); the shape is an unusual one, for which we have found no close parallels.

36 N. Buff rim-fragment, grey in the centre of the core, from a jar of unusual shape; the fabric seems to have affinities with "legionary ware."

37 N. Small rim-fragment, the only one from either deposit, of a black fumed cooking-pot, with a wavy line scored on the outer side of the neck; cf. *Haltwhistle Burn*, nos. 5 and 6; *Throp*, nos. 15 and 16.

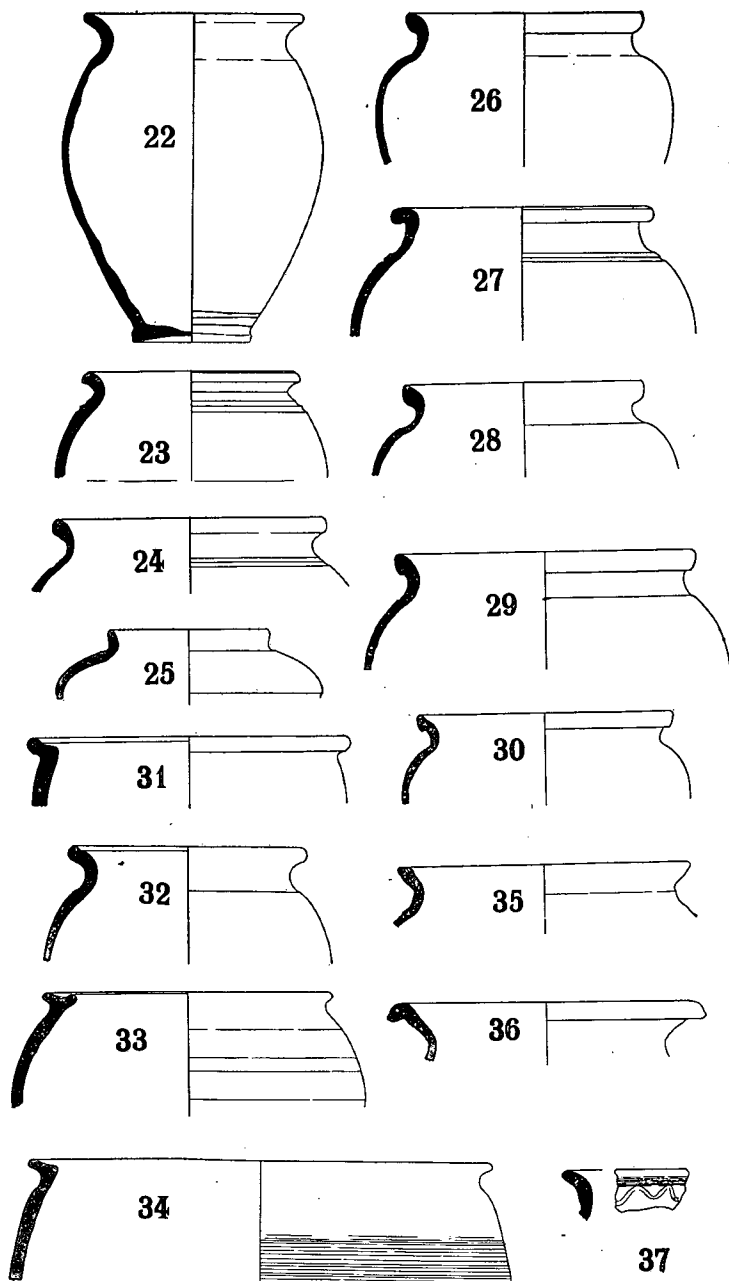


FIG. 3. COOKING-POTS, JARS, ETC. ($\frac{1}{4}$.)

38 B. The greater part of a rustic ware jar; note the horizontal groove on the shoulder, the squat rim, the well-moulded base, and the irregular but shallow rustication. The vessel has closer affinities with the examples of this type which appear in the early deposits on Hadrian's Wall than with the pieces from Newstead. Fabric (ii); cf. *Throp*, no. 8.

39 B. Fabric (i); an unusually small example of a rustic ware jar, with simple rim and two horizontal grooves scored immediately above the rustication.

40 N. Fabric (i); wall fragment from a rustic ware jar, whose decoration shows the regularity of the continental prototype; cf. *Birdoswald*, no. 23.

41 N. Fabric (i); an example of the irregular high relief typical of the early period at *Newstead* (type 29, pl. XLVI). This type lasts sporadically well into the time of Hadrian (cf. examples from turret 7b, AA⁴ VII, pl. XLIX, fig. 2, no. 1; milecastle 10, *ibid.*, p. 163, no. 42; turret 12a, AA⁴ VIII, p. 326; turret 13a, *ibid.*, p. 327, etc.), though it is in the milecastles and turrets rather than the forts that it is to be sought for.

42 B. Fabric (ii); cf. *Corbridge 1911*, no. 29; *Brough 1936*, no. 11, from pits I/III. This and the following two examples probably also belong to rustic cooking-pots.

43 B. Fabric (ii); cf. *Corbridge 1911*, no. 26; *Brough 1936*, no. 20a, from pits I/III.

44 N. Grey ware, whitish in fracture, rather soft. Like nos. 42 and 43, this has a single groove below the shoulder.

45 B. Fabric (ii); necked cooking-pot, similar to nos. 28 and 30 above.

46 N. Rather soft light grey ware, with traces of darker grey fuming; cf. *Haltwhistle Burn*, no. 12; *Malton*, fig. 15, 19 (area A, earliest occupation).

47 N. Fairly hard, coarse red-brown ware, cooking-pot; cf. *Corbridge 1911*, no. 31; *Limestone Bank turret*, no. 6.

48 N. Light grey ware, fumed dark blue-grey on the outside only. Cf. *Hardknot*, no. 56; *Appletree turret*, no. 79.

49 N. Buff, very hard ware; cf. *Hardknot*, no. 55.

50 B. Fabric (i); cf. *Corbridge 1911*, no. 26.

51 B. Hard, smooth ware, light grey, fumed dark grey on the outside only; cf. *Corbridge 1911*, no. 23; *Throp*, no. 11. This type of rim, with a slight moulding at the neck, occurs in later deposits, but no longer in this kind of fabric.

52 B. Black fumed ware, grey in fracture with blue-grey core; this is the only example of a true bead-rim from either deposit. Further south, this type occurs frequently in pre-Hadrianic deposits;

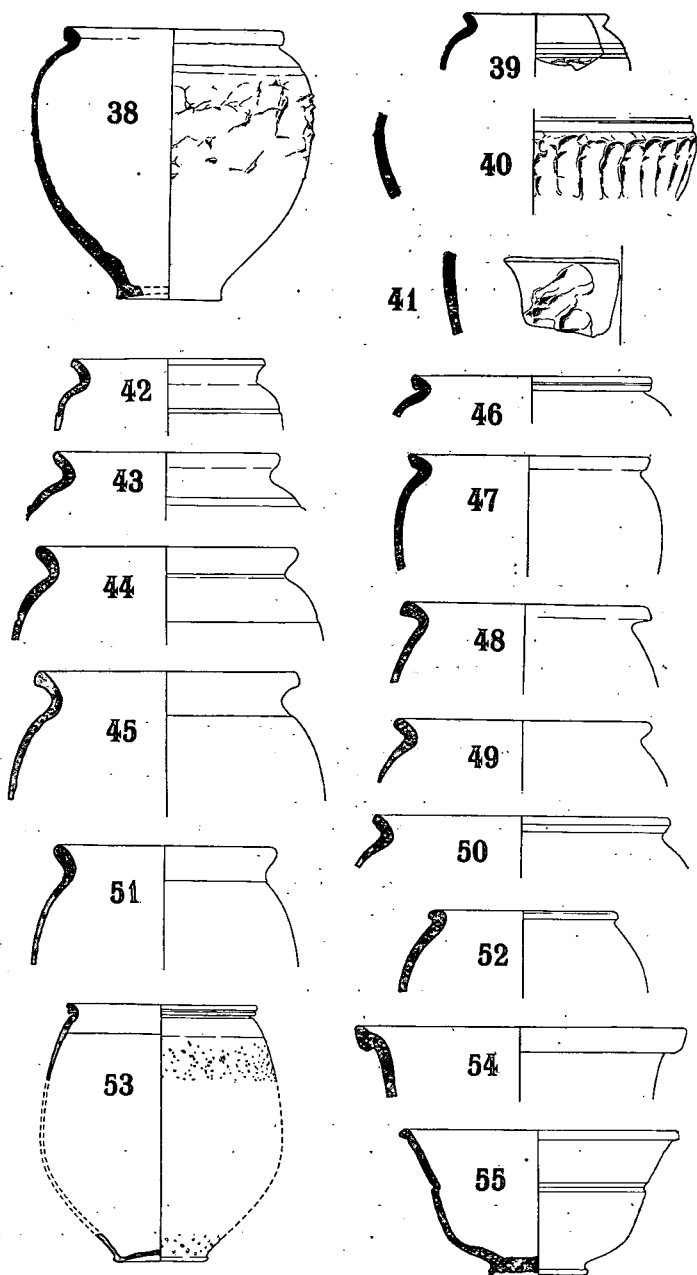


FIG. 4. COOKING-POTS, JARS, ETC. ($\frac{1}{2}$.)

on the Wall it occurs occasionally in forts as well as milecastles and turrets, so that it cannot be used as evidence for dating in this district (unless it is in black fumed cooking-pot fabric, when it is not likely to be earlier than the time of Hadrian—cf. no. 37 above). Cf. *turret 7b*, no. 6 (AA⁴ VII, p. 151 and pl. 11, where it is not appreciated that the type is scarce in the north of Britain even before the time of Hadrian).

53 N. Rim and base fragments from a rough-cast jar of the type imported to Britain from the Rhineland in the Flavian period and subsequent years; pinkish buff ware, with a thin purple-brown glaze. A few references will show how widely the type is distributed in Britain: *Richborough* (III, type 298, dated "Claudius-Nero"); *Verulamium* (fig. 27 and p. 184, no. 9, assigned to as late a date as c. A.D. 160-190); *Caerleon* (AC 1929, fig. 36 and p. 290, no. 121, from the mainly pre-Hadrianic deposit in room 38); *Caerhun* (AC 1934, fig. 34 and p. 74, nos. 426-31, two of them antedating the conversion of the fort from timber to stone); *Malton* (fig. 1, 13 and p. 15, from the sandy clay rampart); *Mumrills* (fig. 105, 3 and p. 542: the piece must belong to the early occupation of the site). In the north of England it has been noted in pre-Hadrianic deposits at *Corbridge* (cf. article XII below), on the Stanegate sites at *Haltwhistle Burn* (no. 7) and *Throp* (no. 7), and in a Hadrianic deposit at *Birdoswald*. At *Corbridge* and elsewhere its place is taken, by the second half of the second century, by a British-made imitation (*Corbridge 1911*, no. 73; cf. also *Birdoswald*, p. 192 and no. 27a; *Balmuildy*, pl. XLIX, 1-5).

54 B. Rim-fragment from a bowl reminiscent of no. 14 above; it has, no doubt, been carinated; fabric (ii).

55 B. A well-made cup, imitating samian form 27; hard black ware, with a glossy metallic surface. This is an example of what might be described either as "Belgic" or as "Upchurch" ware, such as was certainly made, for example, in London in the second half of the first century; we have met few examples of the first-century type so far north, but compare, for example, *Cadder*, p. 76, fig. 16, 1, part of a hemispherical bowl of an entirely different form, but in the same ware, a piece which must be assigned to the ephemeral Agricolaan occupation of that site; *Corbridge* (below, fig. 9, no. 13 and p. 277).

E. *Mortaria* (fig. 5).—The mortaria from the two deposits do not include any of the examples with wide, flat rims such as have been noted in the early deposits at *Corbridge* or *Newstead*, but nos. 58 and 59 approximate to that type, at least in the flatness of the rim. It should be noted that shape alone is not necessarily an adequate indication of date; in the present series, the bead is

ADVI

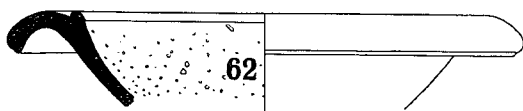
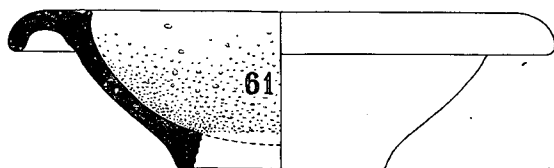
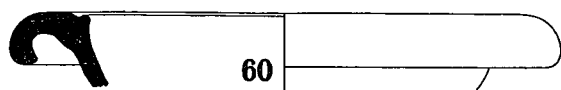
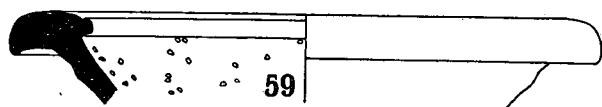
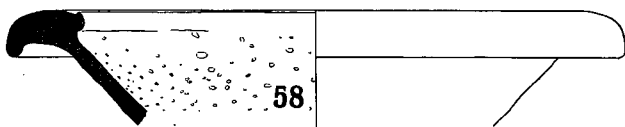
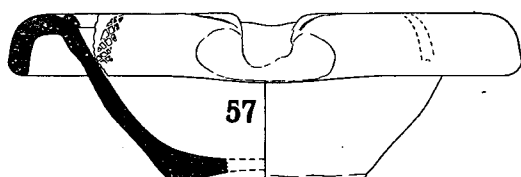
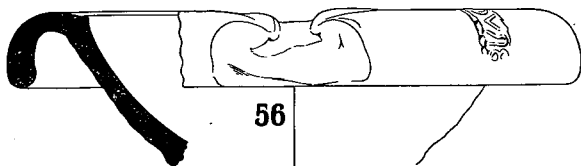


FIG. 5. MORTARIA. (4.)

of the same height as the rim in three cases, and slightly below it in the rest, but on other sites occupied in the same period there have been noted instances of the bead rising well above the rim (e.g. at *Brough* 1936, nos. 53 and 56, from the early pit 11; *Corbridge*, below, p. 281); parallels to the rims of nos. 60-62 might be found in considerably later deposits; but the fabrics are distinctive, and a good guide to the dating of mortaria. It is one of the outstanding needs of the study of Roman pottery in the north of Britain, to have a careful examination made of these fabrics; now that the rich and instructive series of material at Corbridge is available for study, we hope that such an examination will soon be made. In the meantime, we can only emphasize the greater importance of fabric, and the relative unimportance of rim-section, in dealing with this category of vessel.

56 N. Whitish buff, hard ware; the grit is all worn away; on the rim is the stamp (reproduced half-size) **BRVCIF** retrograde. There are two similar stamps in the Corbridge collection (S 111 and 114), both on mortaria of the same rim-section, Wroxeter type 38; at Wroxeter itself the retrograde stamp **BRVCI** occurred on the same type in pit x, assigned to the period A.D. 80-110 (*Wroxeter* 1912, p. 66, no. 2), and a similar stamp has been recorded at Wilderspool (T. May, *Warrington's Roman Remains*, p. 64) and *Templebrough* (pl. xxxviii 2, incomplete, upside down and misread). May suggested that the potter Brucus worked at Wilderspool itself, but the type and fabric are also associated with a group of potters who can be shown to have worked at Lugudunum in Gaul—**ALBINVS**, **MARINVS**, **MATVGENVS** and others (cf. *Wroxeter* 1912, p. 66, 1913, p. 46, etc.), and it is best to regard this as an imported specimen. In the north of Britain it is seldom before the time of Hadrian that we can tell that mortaria were made locally; until that date, therefore, they are particularly useful, in view of their wide distribution from a small number of producing centres, as evidence for dating.

57 B. Dirty buff ware, fairly hard; no grit survives; on the rim is a geometric stamp; the same Wroxeter type.

58 B. Rather coarsely levigated, dirty buff ware; the grit is brown and white, some of the pieces being fairly large. Cf. *Malton*, fig. 7, 2 (layer 7, with other early material, area A north).

59 B. Similar type and fabric; sparser grit, of a larger average size.

60 N. Buff ware, with a slight orange slip; no grit shows. This represents a compromise between the forms 56-7 and 58-9: the rim is still hooked over, but not so deeply as in the former type, and its upper portion is slightly thickened.

61 N. Grey ware, with orange slip; white grit, mainly rather fine. This type approximates closely to some met with in the early deposits on the Wall, but it will be seen that the rim is still comparatively flat. The fabric is a distinctive one, that we have not met in later deposits. Cf. *Malton*, fig. 17, 3 (early pit 4).

62 B. Dirty buff ware, rather soft (for a similar fabric, cf. *Birdoswald*, no. 4, from the second-century barrack); fairly sparse grit. The slight groove in the edge of the rim is an uncommon feature, except in the products of the potter who stamps **ANANVSF** (his work is in any case later than the time of Trajan, and his distinctive fabric is entirely unlike that of the present piece); the rim is still fairly flat, though less so than in no. 61.

F. The most interesting single piece came from the N-S ditch on site B, and is illustrated as fig. 6; it is part of a drinking-cup, in a moderately hard buff ware, with an *appliqué* decoration—a

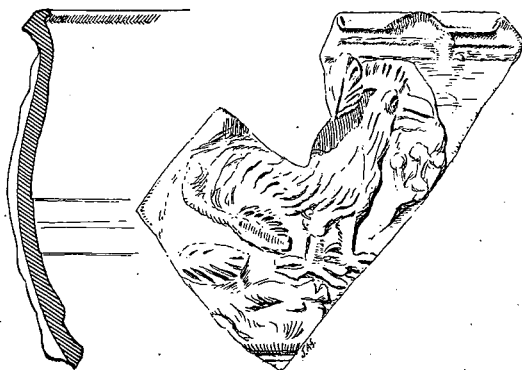


FIG. 6. POTSHERD WITH APPLIQUÉ DECORATION. ($\frac{1}{2}$.)

somewhat bleary-eyed *cock* to right, with leaves and other objects in the field. We have not come across parallels to the type of cup or to the style of decoration; its occurrence in a well-marked early deposit is noteworthy.⁷

⁷ This piece, together with nos. 1, 4, 10, 18, 21, 22 and 57, is now on view in the Housesteads museum; the other pieces from the two deposits are now in the archaeological seminar collection in Durham, where they may be inspected during term time.