

VI

Excavations at Church Bank, Jarrow, 1989–91

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with contributions from Susan Mills and Alexandra Croom

CONTENTS

I. Introduction	59
II. Results of excavations	61
1: Prehistoric	61
2: Roman	61
3: Possible pre-Conquest occupation	62
4: 11th–15th century occupation	62
A: Buildings and roads	62
B(i): Metalled surfaces and hollow way	68
B(ii): Other features	68
C: Boundary complex and associated structures	70
5: Post-Medieval period	73
6: Later developments	74
III. Discussion	75
Appendix I: The Pottery	79
Appendix II: The Small Finds	81
Appendix III: A Guide to the Pottery Series	83
Bibliography	84

a metalled track, at least three buildings and a short length of a hollow way. Pottery recovered from these deposits consistently belonged to the 11th–15th century. This medieval occupation was sealed by ridge and furrow overlain by a disturbed topsoil which contained pottery from the 15th century to modern times. Overlooking the slope leading northward towards the river Tyne lay a complex of ditches several metres wide whose fills contained 12th–15th century pottery. Although lying c. 325 m from the church, it is possible that it formed an enclosure utilizing the bend of the river Don which contained the monastery. Whilst this structure may not represent the actual vallum monasterium it may reflect the line of one associated with the Saxon monastery. The ditches were replaced by a series of stone-faced earth banks. The full site archive is held by Tyne and Wear Museums.

SUMMARY

Roman material recovered from excavations at Church Bank, Jarrow, consisted of several very abraded sherds of samian ware, a fragment of an amphora, roofing tiles, and squared blocks of buff sandstone. A series of ditches and gullies cut by post-Conquest features presumably belonged to the Saxon/Early Medieval Period; one body sherd from the late 7th–9th century was recovered from a residual context. The features which cut these levels consisted of a further series of ditches and gullies associated with

I INTRODUCTION

LOCATION (FIG. 1)

The west side of Jarrow Slake opening into the River Tyne is overlooked by an area of land rising to ca. 20 m above sea level, latterly the site of the Shell Oil Depot to the north of Church Bank, Jarrow (NZ 337654) and currently occupied by the Bede's World Museum. To the south the land falls gently to the river Don, on the north side of which lies the church and monastery of St. Paul. Further north towards the Tyne the build-up of ballast and modern make-up has considerably modified the original ground level between the excavation area and the south bank of the River Tyne adjacent to Curlew Road. The pre-industrial

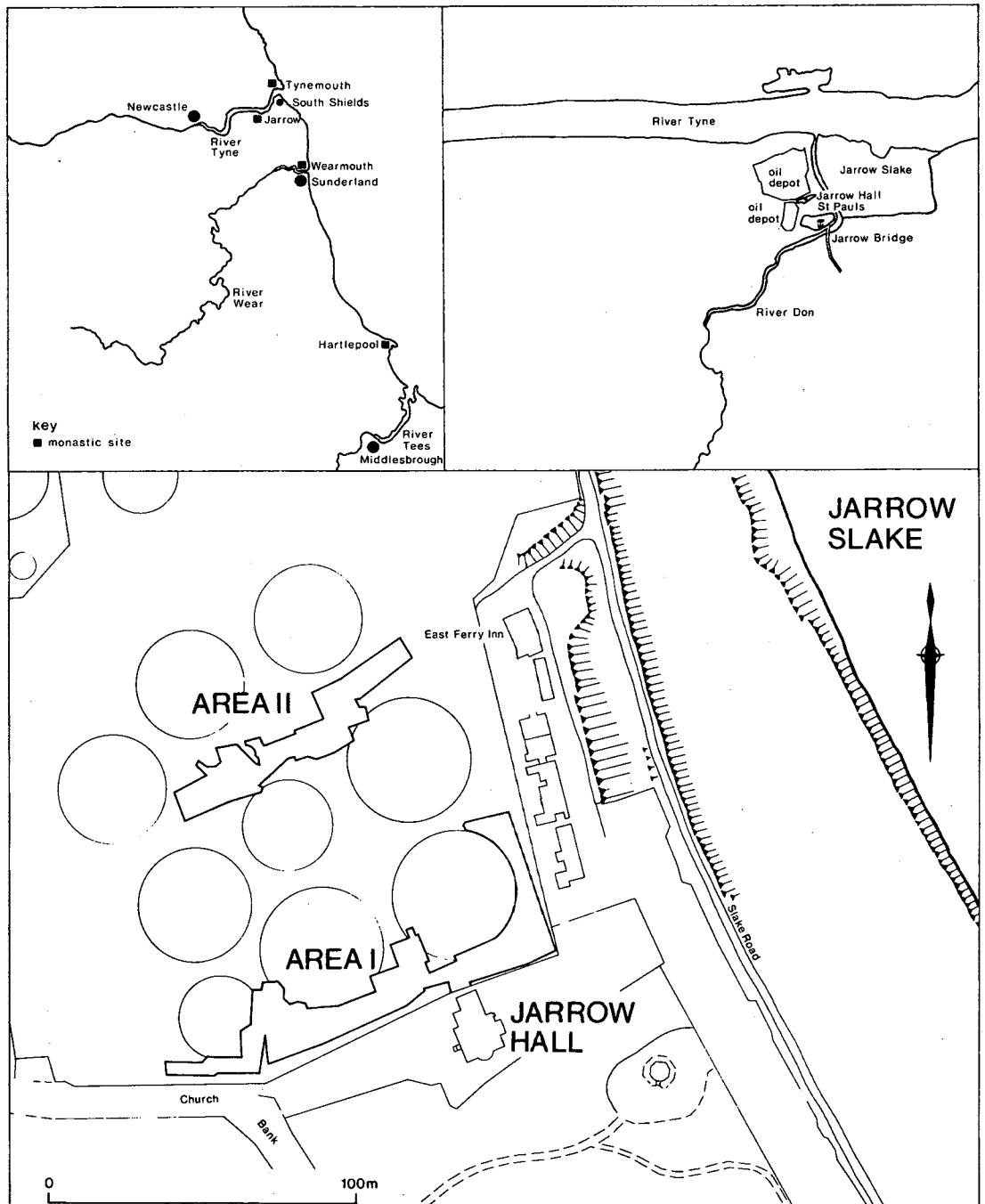


Fig. 1 Church Bank, Jarrow: location of St. Paul's Monastery, Jarrow Hall, and excavation trenches.

topography saw a more pronounced headland with the land sloping sharply northwards towards the river Tyne. The whole area is underlain by Pleistocene sands and gravels.

REASONS FOR EXCAVATION

Excavations at Church Bank, Jarrow, took place for a total period of 36 weeks during three seasons in 1989-1991 on the site of the Shell Oil UK Jarrow storage area, in advance of development. The excavation was undertaken by the Archaeology section of Tyne and Wear Museums and funded by Tyne and Wear Urban Development Corporation. Before excavation took place the only indication of archaeological remains on the site was provided by a reference in John Hodgson's *History of Northumberland* (Hodgson 1840, 230) to "Roman masonry" found during the construction of Jarrow Hall in 1785. Additional Roman material re-used in the monastic complex at Jarrow include two fragments from one or more monumental inscriptions (RIB 1051a and b) and a number of blocks of *opus quadratum*.

EXCAVATION AND METHODS OF CITATION

The excavation area was until recently occupied by nineteen oil tanks, the foundations of which removed all archaeological deposits, whilst ground preparation for the oil depot had truncated the land between individual oil tanks leaving only the bases of the deepest archaeological features. Episodes of ridge-and-furrow ploughing had also taken place, leaving preserved elements isolated upon ridges but removing them in furrows; the remains encountered were therefore very fragmentary.

Two trenches were opened covering an area of 3600 m², their location and shape determined by the need to avoid the foundations of oil tanks and concrete pipe supports. Area I, ca. 2400 m² in size, ran along the southern and eastern boundary of the oil depot partly adjacent to Church Bank and immediately north of Jarrow Hall. Area II was ca. 1200 m² in size and ran roughly east-west across the centre of the oil depot, ca. 90 m to the north of Area I.

The overburden of clay, coal, slag, builders' rubble and industrial waste within each trench ranged from 0.30 m to 1.20 m in depth and was machine-stripped revealing post-medieval ploughsoils. The subsoil consisted of a stiff orange/brown silty clay which also formed the fill of the majority of the features encountered in the excavation. This caused extreme difficulty in differentiating between natural and man-made features and accordingly some features were deliberately box-excavated to ensure correct profiles were ascertained. The circumstances of the development of the oil depot site required that Area I was excavated in stages during 1989 and 1990, each successive stage being backfilled before proceeding further, whilst Area II was excavated in one campaign during 1990-91.

Although separate site grids were used for planning purposes in Areas I and II, a system of continuous numbering was adopted for archaeological contexts throughout the excavations, and these numbers have been retained in this report; contexts cited in the text but not shown on plans or sections are marked with an asterisk. Where a context was allocated several numbers at the time of excavation, the first in numerical order stands for the others.

II RESULTS OF EXCAVATIONS

1: PREHISTORIC

Two unworked flints and one flake were recovered from post-medieval ploughsoils and represented the only evidence of prehistoric activity recovered on the headland.

2: ROMAN

The only evidence of Roman occupation was a sherd of black-sand amphora, a half-dozen very abraded sherds of samian ware and one tegula fragment. However, some of the building stones from buildings I-III were re-used facing blocks and may be from robbed Roman structures. Nothing was recovered of the same scale and nature as the well-known Jarrow

inscriptions (RIB 1051a and b) or the re-used Roman blocks with dowel holes, dovetail clamps and band anathyrosis to the south of the monastery (cf. Bidwell and Holbrook 1989, 118–19).

3: POSSIBLE PRE-CONQUEST OCCUPATION (FIG. 2)

Area I

Features containing no pottery but either sealed or truncated by those yielding 11th–15th century material consisted mainly of ditches, gullies and timber settings. The gullies did not form a regular pattern but were probably agricultural rather than eavesdrips around house plots. Sealed by the drains serving building III (134, 296) was a series of sub-rectangular post-holes (fig. 3; 276, 277, 278 and 285: maximum depth 0.35 m) and a post-pit (275) containing two further post-holes (273, 274). These formed no coherent pattern and may not be contemporary. Sealed by ploughsoils containing medieval pottery lay a timber setting consisting of one large post-hole (fig. 3; 339, depth 0.26 m) accompanied by a smaller one (338, depth 0.23 m), both contained within a post-trench (326, depth 0.26 m). This arrangement was replaced by a second to the southeast where a post-trench (333; depth 0.52 m) cut the earlier post-trench and contained two post-holes reflecting the earlier arrangement (336, depth 0.37 m; 335, depth 0.07 m). A gully (94) cut a pit (111*) containing an articulated foot from an immature pig while the rest of the skeleton and the pit fill (124*) had been plough-scattered. A number of other features sealed by post-medieval ploughsoils but with no other stratigraphic relationships and containing no finds may have belonged to this period. Two gullies (533, depth 0.10 m, and 537, 0.08 m deep) were cut by ridge-and-furrow. A further furrow cut a gully 0.11 m deep (487) which may have defined a sub-circular area ca. 4 m by 3 m. Sealed by gravel metalling (313) towards the western limit of Area I lay two substantial ditches 4 m apart. Only a small section of the westernmost ditch (347), 0.50 m deep, lay

within the excavated area. The easternmost ditch (331) was truncated to the north by ridge-and-furrow and to the south by a 19th century pit (310*). It had moderately steeply sloping sides and a concave base with a maximum depth of 0.90 m. The fill (330*) was homogeneous throughout and contained one worked green sandstone block. The ditch had been recut to produce a shallower profile (343*) 0.30 m deep.

Area II

Within the western area of Area II lay an arc of two concentric gullies which extended beyond the limits of excavation. If they formed a continuous circuit they would have defined an enclosure ca. 21 m in diameter: however no trace of the gullies survived to the east. The innermost gully (453) varied in width from 0.50 m to 0.70 m and was 0.22 m deep. The outermost gully (445) lay 1.40 m to the west, with an irregular width and a depth varying from 0.32 m to 0.58 m. At one point it had cut the inner gully but this may have been due to erosion. A large pit 0.45 m deep (426) filled with tip layers of charcoal-rich clay (425*, 428*, 429* and 430*) lay to the southeast.

4: 11TH–15TH CENTURY OCCUPATION (FIGS 3, 4)

Features sealing or cutting earlier levels consisted of ditches, gullies and trackways, and the poorly-preserved remains of three buildings. Where the stratigraphy was best preserved it was clear that the buildings contained an internal phasing although it was not possible to assign every feature to a particular phase. All of these features were contained within an extensive boundary complex which may have had an origin in an earlier period; it may reflect the line of a *vallum monasterium*.

A: BUILDINGS AND ROADS (FIG. 3)

Building I

Building I lay in the eastern extremity of Area I and was represented by a hearth associated with a floor of sandstone flags, accompanied by

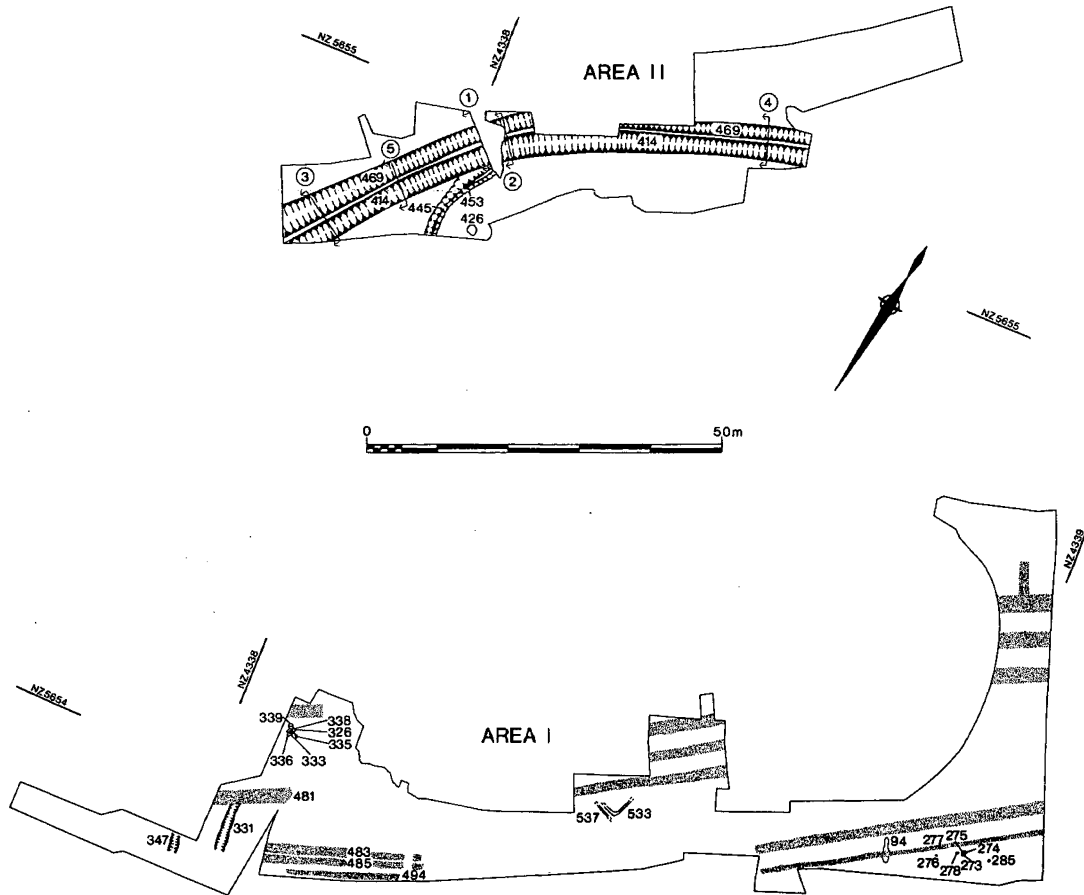


Fig. 2 Possible pre-Conquest occupation and boundary complex. Sections 1-5 shown on Fig. 5.

an extensive area of cobbling to the north. The hearth consisted of a rectangular steep-sided pit (156) 0.30 m deep with a flat base and two post-holes on its eastern edge. The northern post-hole (151) was 0.18 m deep and the southern (152) only 0.04 m deep. The fill of the pit (155*), consisting of sandstone rubble including two dressed blocks, fragments of coal and charcoal sealed the southern post-hole and perhaps represented the demolition of the

hearth. On the west side of the pit lay six green sandstone flags (153), some shattered by wear and two blackened by fire, whilst a smaller spread of sandstone flags (172) lay to the north. An irregular area of worn sandstone cobbles (174) further to the north had been divorced from the hearth-pit by a plough furrow. Lying on the southern limit of these cobbles lay a spread of charcoal and silt (173) presumably cleared from the hearth.

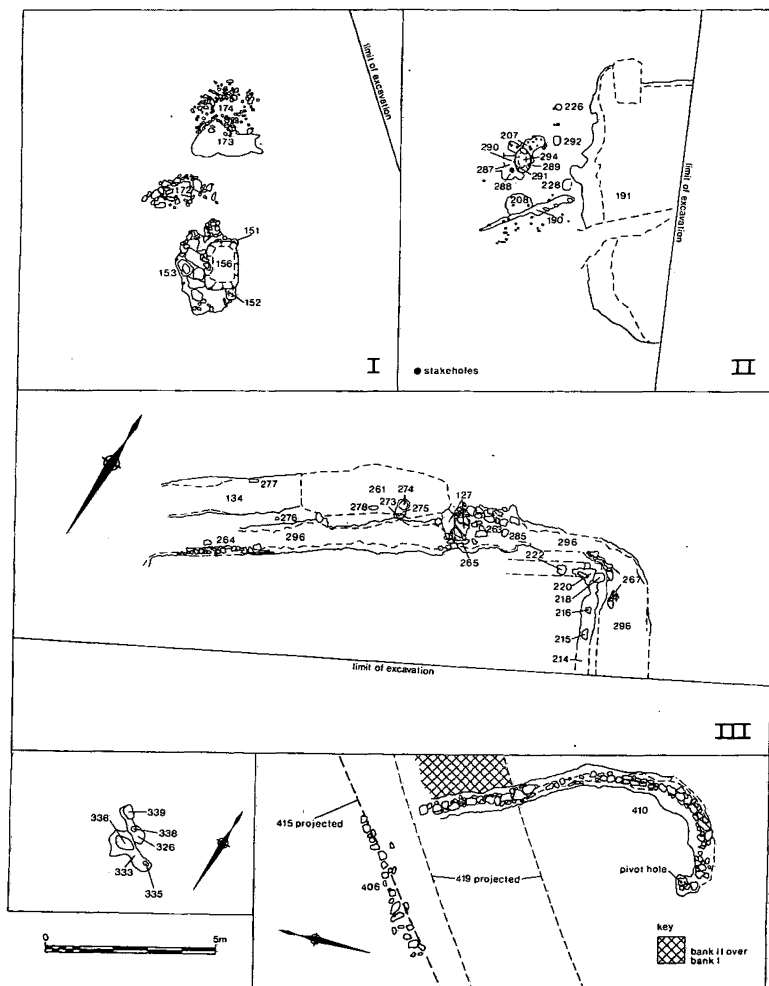


Fig. 3 Plans of Buildings I-III, timber setting (339) and possible stock enclosure 410.

Building II

This poorly-preserved structure lay ca. 10 m to the south of Building I and may indeed have been a separate element of it. The remains consisted of a shallow slot up to 0.08 m deep (190) associated with twenty-seven stake holes adjacent to a cobbled surface surrounding a hearth-pit. The average diameter of the stake-

holes was 0.05 m with an average depth of 0.07 m. Nineteen lay roughly parallel to and south of the slot (236-54), four lay to the north (233-5, 255) and four penetrated the base of the slot itself (229-32). An oval flat-bottomed pit with a maximum depth of 0.07 m (294) with a spread of loam and coal fragments lying to the east (227*) may have represented an oven. Four stake-holes (288, 289, 290 and 291) with a

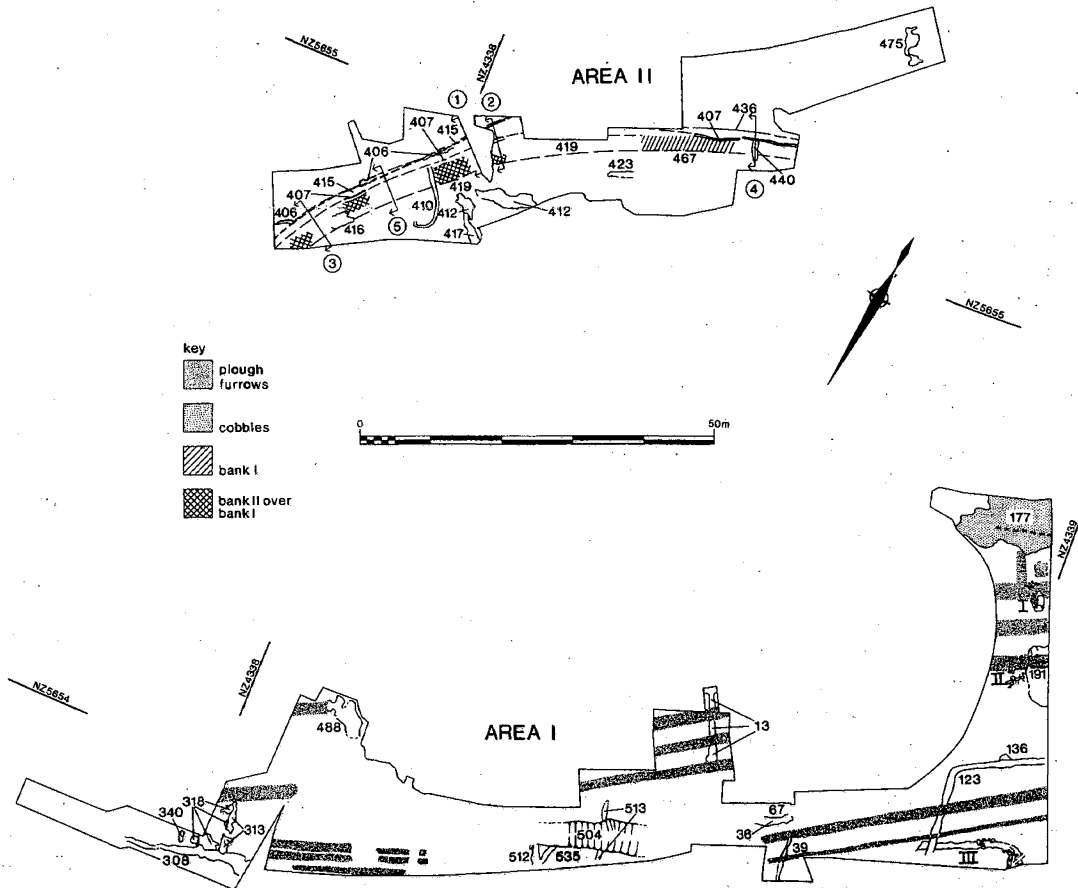


Fig. 4. 11th-15th century occupation and boundary complex. Sections 1-5 shown on Fig. 5.

maximum depth of 0.17 m lay around the southern side of the pit, and perhaps represented the framework for a clay dome whose mouth lay to the north. On this northern side of the oven lay a spread of metallurgy comprised of small sandstone pebbles (293*) overlain by a fire-stained sandstone slab and a deposit of ash, charcoal flecks and daub (207). Nine samples from this deposit were subjected to archaeomagnetic dating by M. Noel (report lodged in the excavation archive). Their mean direction corresponds to a date range of 1260-1440 A.D. A deposit of charcoal-stained

clay (206*) overlay this ash, and two deposits of scorched natural clay lay nearby, one (208) abutting the north side of slot (190) and another (287) covering an area of 0.30 m by 0.80 m to the west of the hearth. A line of three post-holes (228, 292 and 226) 1.5 m to the east of the hearth area may be associated with this complex of features although a precise relationship could not be ascertained. Further to the east and extending outside the excavation limits lay a rectangular intrusion (191) 0.08 m deep, which may have represented the robbing of a further structure.

Although poorly preserved, slot (190) and the three post-holes (228, 292 and 226) may represent the northeast and southeast sides of a timber building containing the hearth (294), the remainder of the structure having been removed by an intrusion (191).

Building III

Only the northeast corner of this structure lay within the limits of excavation, whilst to the west it had been removed by a modern intrusion. It was constructed of upright timbers set in post-holes contained within a post-trench and was accompanied by a stone-lined drain. The layout of this drain suggests that the building had a length or width of ca. 12-80 m. The drain complex was cut by a large drainage ditch (123) 0.40 m deep whose fill (122*) contained a roughly worked green sandstone block and two sandstone facing stones. The ditch cut a circular pit (136) 1.55 m in diameter and 0.40 m deep. The eastern side of the building was represented by a post-trench (214) which became increasingly less well preserved as it turned through a right-angle towards the northwest. It was steep-sided with a maximum depth of 0.13 m and contained four post-holes (215, 216, 218 and 220), one of which (218) contained charred timber. Two stood at the northeast corner of the building (218, depth 0.21 m; 220, 0.43 m) whilst a further post-hole (222) represented the northern wall. It was not possible to determine if the two corner post-holes were contemporary or represented a replacement. Each of the post-holes was rectangular or sub-rectangular and the deepest (215) was 0.45 m in depth. The building was serviced by a poorly preserved stone-lined drain (296) which ran along the northern side of the building and around the northeast and northwest corners. Where best preserved it was 0.22 m deep with a base lined with sandstone blocks up to 0.23 m² and side slabs of thin rectangular sandstone slabs up to 0.40 m by 0.12 m in size (263 and 264). Other side slabs consisted of flat laminated limestones 0.17 m by 0.18 m in size and may have been reused roofing slabs although no peg-holes were present (265, 267). The drain was capped in

part by large sandstone slabs up to 0.83 m by 0.40 m and 0.10 m thick (127) although elsewhere it was open and presumably received rainfall from a roof. The northwestern portion of this drain may have been replaced by another (134), although the area had been disturbed by ridge-and-furrow ploughing and by a later intrusion (261).

POTTERY FINDS ASSOCIATED WITH BUILDINGS I-III (CF. APPENDIX III)

Dating evidence

Whilst the majority of the ceramic material associated with buildings I-III lies within the thirteenth-fifteenth century the assemblage includes Sandy Greenware, which although beginning in the fourteenth century could extend into the sixteenth. The sherds from the flagged surface (153) associated with Building I were all unworn and belong to the thirteenth-fifteenth century.

Associated with Building I:

From hearth spread (173) upon cobbles (174)
Micaceous Splashed ware (D19) jar, 11th-12th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) jar, cooking pot, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b) jug, 13th-15th

From ?demolition fill (155) of hearth (156)
Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b,c) jugs, 13th-15th; Later Greenware (E12b) jug, strap handle, 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) lid-seated rim, jug, 14th-16th. All sherds slightly worn.

From flagged surface (153)
Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b,e) jar/jugs (fig. 6, no. 5), 13th-15th; Scarborough ware (F1) ribbed rod handle, 13th-14th. All sherds unworn.

From flagged surface (172)
Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) base, reused as counter, cooking pot, 13th-14th; Tyneside

Buff-White ware (E11b,e) jar (fig. 7, no. 3), jug, 13th-15th; Gritty Reduced Greenware (E16) jug, 13th-14th. All sherds slightly worn.

From flagged surface (174)

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b,c) rod handle, seated jar rim (fig. 7, no. 4), jugs, storage jar, 13th-15th; Sandy Greenware (E18) jar, 13th-14th.

Associated with Building II:

From the fill of slot (190)

Splash-glazed variant of Oxidised Gritty ware (E6) jar, 13th-14th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E9) base, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a,b) jugs, 13th-15th; Early Gritty Greenware (E12a) jug, 13th-14th; Later Greenware (E12b) cistern (same vessel in 489), grooved incised strap handle, bottle, bottle/jug, 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) jar, jug, 14th-16th; Sandy Greenware (E18) jug handle (same vessel in 488), 13th-14th.

From deposit (207) derived from oven (294)

Later Greenware (E12b) jug, 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware jug, 14th-16th.

From deposit (206) derived from oven (294)

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a,b,d,e) jugs, 13th-15th; Later Greenware (E12b) sherd, 14th-16th. All sherds quite unworn.

From deposit (227) derived from oven (294)

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b) jugs, 13th-15th.

From fill (132) of intrusion (191)

Finely Gritty Splashed ware (E5) sherd, 12th-13th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b) jugs, 13th-15th; Later Greenware (E12b/13) jugs, 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) strap handleless, jugs, 14th-16th; Gritty Reduced Greenware (E16) jugs, jug handles, 13th-14th, Sandy Greenware (E18) jug, 13th-14th, Hard Fine ware (E22) jar/jug, 14th; Low Countries redware (G12) bowl, 16th.

Associated with Building III:

From the fill (118) of drain (296)

Newcastle Dog Bank ware (C1) cooking pot (fig. 7, no. 8), jar, late 10th-early 12th; Durham type White ware (D4) jars, 11th-13th; Hard Sandy ware (D8) jar/cooking pot, 10th-12th; White Gritty Oxidised Ware (D11; fig. 7, no. 7) 10th-12th; Gritty ? Oxidised ware (D11b) sherd, 10th-12th; Very Hard Gritty ware (D14) cooking pot, jars, 9th-12th; Tweeddale type ware (D21) jars/cooking pots, 10th-12th; Hard Finely Gritty ware (E1) jug, 12th-13th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) jar/jug, 13th-14th; Oxidised Gritty ware variant (E6, E8, E9) jars, cooking pots, storage jar (fig. 7, no. 9), jug, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a,b,d) jars, jugs, storage jars (fig. 7, no. 10), cooking pots, ribbed rod handles, 13th-15th; Early Gritty Greenware (E12a) jugs, 13th-14th; Later Greenware (E12b) jugs, 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) jugs, ?money box, storage jar, 14th-16th; Gritty Reduced Greenware (E16) jug, 13th-14th; Sandy Greenware (E18) jug, 13th-14th; Hard Fine ware (E22) jugs, 14th; Scarborough ware (F1) jug, rod handle, 13th-14th; Scarborough type Yorkshire ware (F2) jug, 13th-14th.

From fill (133) of ?replacement drain (134)

Newcastle Dog Bank ware (C1) rim, late 10th-early 12th; Jarrow Tank variant (C5) rim, ?late 12th; Very Hard Slightly Gritty ware (D14) cooking pot, ?9th-12th; Hard Slightly Gritty ware (D15) jar, ?9th-10th; Hard Tweeddale type ware (D21) jar/cooking pot, 10th-12th; Hard Finely Gritted ware (E1) jar, 12th-13th; Oxidised Gritty wares (E7, E10/21) cooking pots, jugs, jars, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a,b) jugs, cooking pots, 13th-15th; Early Gritty greenware (E12a) jar, 13th-14th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) jar, 14th-16th; Gritty Reduced Greenware (E16) lid-seated rim cooking pot/jar, 13th-14th; Tweed Valley white ware (F11) cooking pot, 11th-13th.

Later than Building III:

From fill of drainage ditch (123)

Newcastle Dog Bank variant (C3/5) cooking pot (fig. 6, No. 2), 11th–12th; Durham type White ware (D4) storage jar (fig. 7, no. 1), cooking pot, 11th–13th; Hard Coarse Gritty ware (D16) jar, jar/cooking pot, ?10th–12th; variant of Oxidised Gritty ware (E21) jug, 13th–14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11), 13th–15th; Scarborough ware (F1) 13th–14th.

B(I): METALLED SURFACES AND HOLLOW-WAY (FIG. 4)

Roads and tracks were represented by isolated areas of poorly preserved metalling, cobbling and a hollow way; no pattern was discernible in their layout, no junctions survived and none of the surviving surfaces were associated with drainage ditches. An area of badly disturbed metalling was preserved where it had subsided into the fill of the earlier ditch (331) and consisted of worn or fractured sandstone and limestone flags (313) up to 0.43 m by 0.47 m in size and 0.10 m thick. The subsidence within the ditch was clearly a continuing problem and the metalling was completely resurfaced by gravels and pebbles (312*). Abutting these surfaces to the west lay a further area of cobbling (318) upon which lay two wheel ruts 1.40 m apart running northwest to southeast. These three surfaces (318, 312*, 313) were cut by a large ditch (308) 0.57 m deep whose fill included large angular sandstones and two dressed sandstone blocks up to 0.35 m by 0.32 m and 0.11 m thick. Further metalling (340) consisted of slightly larger cobbles leveling an area where subsidence into the ditch (347) had also taken place.

A foundation raft 22 m northeast of the surface (313) was all that survived of a further spread of metalling. The raft (488) extended beyond the limits of the excavation and consisted of a dump of sandstones used to level a ditch or large pit (492*). Included in the raft were sandstone chippings and roughly squared blocks up to 0.30 m in size, presumably from the demolition of a building.

In Area I and approximately 6 m to the north of Building I lay a substantial cobbled area

(177), which continued beyond the limits of the excavation. It consisted of well-worn sandstone cobbles and the occasional dressed sandstone block, presumably reused from an earlier building. A plough furrow had partially removed the surface and it could not be ascertained whether it represented a road or a courtyard. Fragments of tile and large sherds of pottery were used in repair patches to this surface. Running east-west across Area I lay a shallow hollow way (504) 4.5 m wide and up to 0.10 m deep, with an un-metalled base containing numerous wheel ruts, which truncated three gullies (513, 512 and 535) running approximately north-south across the centre of Area I. This hollow-way had been removed by a modern service trench to the east and by ridge-and-furrow to the west.

B(II): OTHER FEATURES (FIG. 4)

A series of trenches (13, 16*, 35*, 36, 67, and 39) having the same vertical-sided and flat-bottomed profiles and similar fills were cut into natural and most had been truncated by ridge-and-furrow. The longest surviving example was 12 m long (16*) and the deepest 0.50 m deep (39); one contained mason's chippings (67), and another contained daub (36). They formed no coherent pattern and their function is unknown. Cut into natural were a series of post-holes all with a similar fill of silty clay and adjacent to but forming no clear relationship with a hearth. The hearth (501*) was represented by a raised platform of burnt clay 0.08 m high with a central depression adjacent to a stake-hole; it extended beyond the limits of excavation. In approximate alignment with the hearth were two post-holes (503*, 496*) whilst post-hole (500*) lay at right angles to these two. A pit (516*) 0.22 m deep contained two fills, (527* and 515*); it contained a complete Oxidised Greenware jug (fig. 7, no. 14). A gully (540*) of unknown length, 0.38 m wide and 0.30 m deep, contained Durham White Ware of the 11th to 13th century (fig. 6, no. 16). A pit (140*) 2.58 m long, 0.78 m wide and 0.56 m deep contained 16 sherds of pottery of the 10th–12th century, all being quite sharply broken and unworn (fig. 7, nos 13, 15, 17 and 18).

POTTERY FINDS ASSOCIATED WITH METALLED
SURFACES, HOLLOW-WAY AND OTHER FEATURES
(CF. APPENDIX III)

Dating evidence:

Sherds of Later Greenware from slot (190) of Building II and from the foundation raft (488) were derived from the same vessel, as were sherds from a thin-walled jug in Sandy Greenware. Both fabrics occur in the fourteenth century although the latter can extend into the sixteenth. A single sherd of Whitby type ware from slot (36) belonging to the 7th-9th century represented the earliest material recovered from the site, although from a residual context.

From cobbled surface (177)

Micaceous Splashed ware (D19) sherds, 11th-12th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) sherd, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b-d) storage jars, jug handles, jugs, strap handle, 13th-15th; Early Gritty Greenware (E12a) sherds, 13th-14th; Later Greenware (E12b) spouts, storage jars, jugs, handles, straps, 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) handles, straps, jugs, counter, 14th-16th; Late Reduced Greenware (E17) storage jar, ?16th-17th; Sandy Greenware (E18) strap handle, 13th-14th, Hard Fine ware (E22) sherd, 14th; Tees Valley ware (F10) sherd, 13th-15th; Low Countries Redware (G12) cooking pot, handle, 14th-16th; Siegburg Stoneware (G15) jug handle, 14th-15th; Langerwehe Stoneware (G16) jugs, 15th-16th.

From foundation raft (488)

Micaceous Splashed ware (D19) jar, 11th-12th; Oxidised Gritty ware variant (E6) jug/jar, 13th-14th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E9, E10) jug, jars, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a-e) storage jar, bowl, jar/jugs, lid-seated rim, 13th-15th; Early Gritty Greenware (E12a) sherd, 13th-14th; Later Greenware (E12b) jugs, strap handle, 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) bottle/jug (fig. 6, no. 11), 14th-16th; Sandy Greenware (E18) jar/jug 13th-14th; Scarborough type Yorkshire ware (F2) jug, 13th-14th.

From resurfacing (312) of flags (313)

Very Hard Coarse Gritty ware (D16) jar, ?10th-12th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) storage jar (fig. 7, no. 12), 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b/d) jug, handle, 13th-15th.

Lying on base of Hollow-way (504)

Newcastle Dog Bank ware (C1) cooking pot, late 10th-early 12th; Durham type White ware (D4) jar/jug, 11th-13th; Hard Sandy ware (D8) rims, 10th-12th; Hard Finely Gritty Splashed ware (?E5) jar, 12th-13th; Coarsely Gritty splash-glazed Oxidised ware (E6) jar, jar/cooking pot, 13th-14th; Oxidised Gritty wares (E8, E9) sherd, 13th-14th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) jar/cooking pot, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a-e) storage jar, jars/jugs, cooking pot, 13th-15th; Early Gritty ware (E12a) basal angle, 13th-14th; 14th Later Greenware (E12b) base, strap 14th-16th; Oxidised greenware (E13) 14th-16th; Sandy Greenware (E18) handles, 13th-14th; ?Hard Fine ware (E22) base, 14th; Scarborough ware (F1) jugs, handles, 13th-14th; Scarborough Type Yorkshire ware (F2) jug, 13th-14th; Martincamp Stoneware (G19) costrel, 15th-16th.

From fill of ditch (308)

Oxidised Gritty ware (E8) jug, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a-e) jar, jugs, storage jars, cooking pots, 13th-15th; Later Greenware (E12b) jug, 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) money box, jug, 14th-16th; Sandy Greenware (E18) jug, 13th-14th; Scarborough ware (F1) jug, 13th-14th; Tudor Green ware (F4) jar, 16th.

From fill of trench (13)

Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11) 13th-15th; Low Countries redware (G12) 14th-16th.

From fill of trench (35)

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11) 13th-15th.

From fill of trench (36)

Whitby type ware (D6/D17) 7th-9th; Newcastle Dog Bank ware (C1) late 10th-early 12th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11) 13th-15th.

From fill of post-hole (500)

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11) 13th-15th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) 13th-14th

From fill of post-hole (496)

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11) 13th-15th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E10) 13th-14th.

From fill of post-hole (503)

Newcastle Dog Bank ware (C1) late 10th-early 12th.

From fill of gully (514)

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11) 13th-15th; Oxidised gritty ware (E10) 13th-14th; Gritty Reduced Greenware (E16) 13th-14th.

From fill of pit (515)

Oxidised Greenware small jug (E14; fig. 7, no. 14) 14th-16th

From the fill of gully (540)

Durham type White Ware cooking pot (D4; fig. 7, no. 16) 11th-13th; variant of Oxidised Gritty Ware (E7) 13th-14th.

From the fill of pit (140)

Newcastle Dog Bank Kiln Ware jar/cooking pot (C1; fig. 7, no. 15), distilling apparatus (fig. 6, no. 18) late 10th-early 12th; Tweeddale Redware cooking pot (D21/F15; fig. 7, no. 13) 10th-12th; New Type jar/cooking pot (fig. 7, no. 17).

C: BOUNDARY COMPLEX AND ASSOCIATED
STRUCTURES (FIGS 2, 4: SECTIONS, FIG. 5)

Running approximately northeast-southwest through the centre of Area II lay an extensive complex of boundary ditches and banks, traced in plan over a length of 74 m and

extending beyond the limits of excavation to the northeast and southwest. With the resources available it was not possible to fully excavate a feature of this size and it was examined in a series of machine-cut trenches. Each of the excavated sections differed in detail and it was clear that throughout its length local circumstances such as slumping of the ditch sides or differential erosion had resulted in slightly modified profiles. The ditches, perhaps accompanied by an inner earth bank, were subsequently replaced by a series of stone-faced banks. The earliest phase consisted of a pair of ditches separated by a berm up to 0.60 m wide. The outer or northern ditch (469) was rather shallow, up to 3.00 m wide and with a maximum depth of 0.70 m. The more substantial inner or southern ditch (414) had a maximum width of 3.30 m and was 1.20 m deep. At the base of this ditch lay a primary fill of silt and clay lenses (465) which may have been derived from an earth bank on its inner or southern side. Overlying this primary fill in the inner ditch and filling the outer ditch throughout was a layer of clays, silts and sandstone and limestone rubble (403), some stones of which were roughly dressed; it contained pottery ranging from the 13th to the 15th century. A buried turf line (416) overlying this fill survived only where it had subsided into the inner ditch. It could not be ascertained whether these two ditches belonged to one period or whether one ditch was a later replacement of an earlier. The subsidence within these ditches, particularly the inner, was accelerated by the construction of two successive stone-faced clay banks, partially overlying the fill of the inner ditch and the berm between this and the outer ditch. The drystone kerb of Bank I (407) was 0.50 m high and constructed mainly of sandstone blocks, the rest being limestone, ca. 0.25 m by 0.20 m by 0.10 m in size, without a foundation trench and in places lying directly on the buried turf line. The stones were carefully selected to present a face on the northern side but very few were dressed and these were probably re-used. The kerb survived to a maximum of two courses high and revetted a bank 0.30 m thick consisting of bands of clay (467,

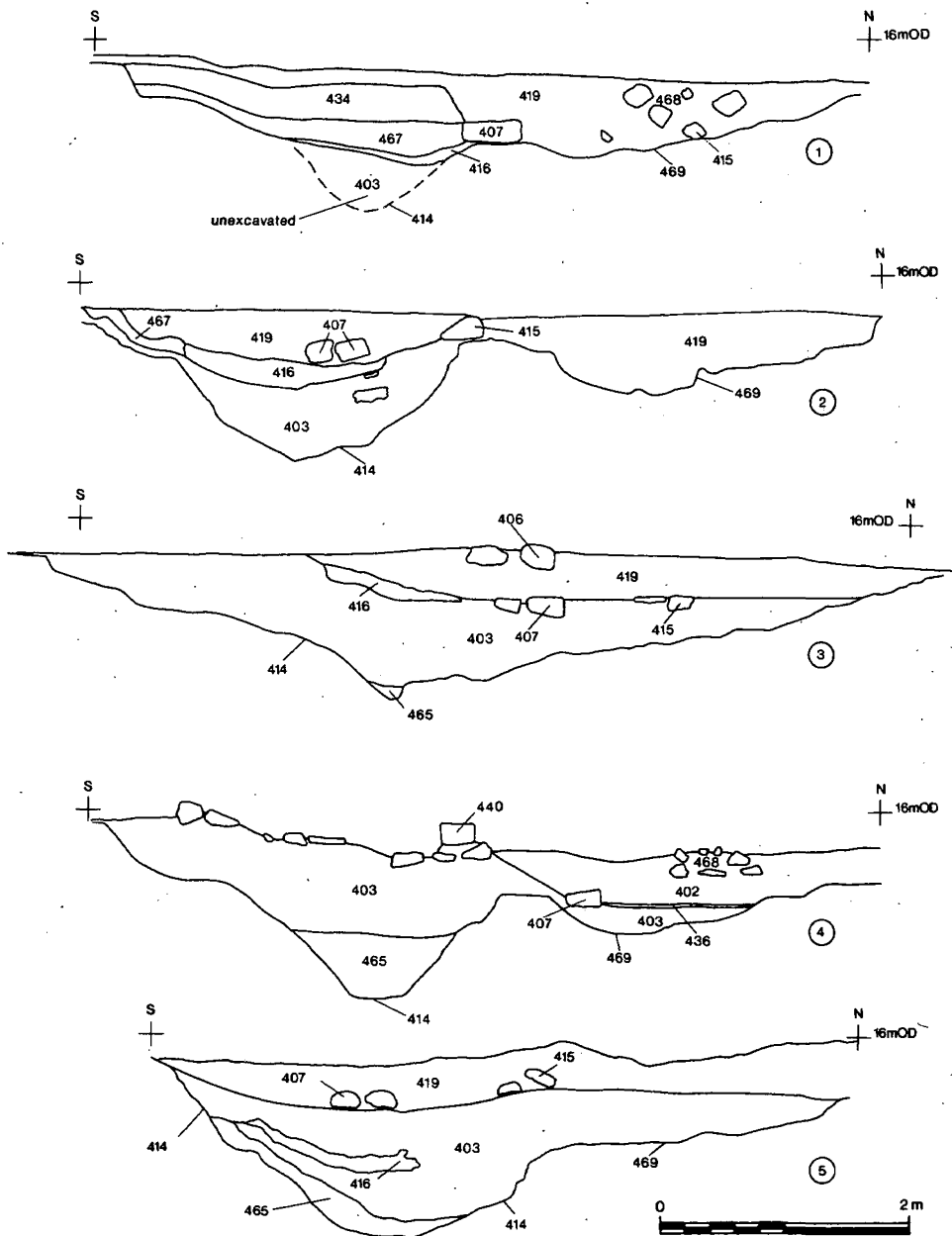


Fig. 5 Sections of boundary complex. Scale 1:60. Position of sections shown on Figs 2 and 4.

434) which included sandstone rubble packed directly against the rear of the kerb. No trace of this bank survived beyond the limits of ditch subsidence and its full width had presumably been truncated. The continuing subsidence within the inner ditch did not take place uniformly and in places necessitated the replacement or repair of the kerb (407) by another similarly constructed face on its northern side (415). Bank I continued to subside into the ditch system and was either heightened or replaced by a second, Bank II, represented by tips of clay 0.40 m thick (419, 432*) sealing the elements of Bank I except in the area of a lean-to structure (440) where the original bank was retained. A new wall (406) for Bank II was constructed, consisting of sandstone blocks up to 0.35 m by 0.25 m in size, faced on the northern side and with rubble packing behind.

A number of poorly-preserved structures adjacent to the southern side of Bank II presumably represented buildings. A faced wall (440) running southeast from the kerb (407) in the eastern end of Area II may have represented the remains of a building cut through the bank and utilising the rear of the kerb. It survived only in the ditch subsidence to a maximum of two courses high and consisted of sandstone and limestone blocks up to 0.38 m². The wall was of drystone construction and was not contained within a foundation trench. The clay bank had been removed to either side of the wall and there was no trace of either floor levels or of a return wall. Lying 3 m to the south of Bank II (419) lay one course only of another faced sandstone wall with a clay-bonded rubble core (427*) running parallel to the rear of the bank. It may have represented an inner revetment for one of the banks, which only survived where it had subsided into ditch fill: or it may have represented the northern wall of a building. The wall was not set in a foundation trench and no trace of return walls survived. None of the few surviving facing stones, up to 0.40 m by 0.30 m in size were dressed; the southern face was the better constructed. A robber trench of a portion of this wall, (423) was filled with wall core and rubble.

A larger structure was represented by a

single course of walling resting upon a pitched stone foundation, forming the south and east sides of an oval enclosure ca. 36 m² using the rear of the boundary bank as its northern perimeter (fig. 3). The foundation trench (411*), up to 0.20 m deep, cut through the bank (419) and into the fill of the earlier ditch (414). The foundation itself consisted of pitched angular sandstones bonded with a slurry of clay. The wall (410) consisted of a single row of clay-bonded sandstones, including occasional re-used facing stones. The wall terminated with a small pivot stone presumably indicating an entrance although there was no trace of a continuation of the enclosure wall beyond this point. The wall was very insubstantial and can have been of no great height: it could have supported hurdling and the whole structure may have been a stock enclosure.

To the south of the bank lay an extensive area of metalling, much disturbed by later ploughing. It consisted of a foundation of sandstone and whin cobbles up to 0.10 m in diameter (413*) which sealed gully (417). Overlying this lay a plough-disturbed metalling of pea-gravel (412), very reminiscent of the metalling (313 and 312*) in Area I. Two spreads of metalling lay on the north side of the boundary complex. One, (475), lay ca. 10.00 m to the north of the boundary bank in an area severely damaged by later disturbances and it was not possible to ascertain if it belonged to a road leading into the settlement. A second, (436), consisted of a discontinuous pea gravel surface 1.20 m wide and 0.08 m thick resting upon a crushed sandstone foundation (545*).

POTTERY FINDS ASSOCIATED WITH BOUNDARY COMPLEX (CF. APPENDIX III)

Dating evidence:

Much of the ceramic evidence from the boundary complex and associated features is likely to be re-deposited, the consequence of successive repairs and rebuildings. A *terminus post quem* for the silting of the ditches is provided by pottery from the uniform fill of the outer ditch

from the thirteenth century. Tip lines within Bank I contained pottery from the thirteenth to the fifteenth century whilst similar deposits from the stratigraphically later Bank II contained tenth to fifteenth century sherds. Pottery from the tenth and eleventh centuries up to the sixteenth century was recovered from walls (440) and (427), although the latter had been disturbed by a robber trench.

From the primary silt (465) of the inner boundary ditch

Dog Bank ware (C1) cooking pot, late 10th-early 12th; Sandy green ware (E18) jar/jug, 13th-14th; Tweed Valley white ware (F11) cooking pot, 11th-12th.

From the fill (403) of the inner and outer boundary ditches

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11), 13th-15th; Oxidised gritty ware (E10), 13th-14th; Gritty reduced greenware (E16), 13th-14th; Scarborough ware (F1), 13th-14th.

From the fill of the ditch (431) feeding into the inner boundary ditch

Unparalleled type (E4) cooking pot, Late 12th-early 13th.

From the clay (434) of Bank I

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11), 13th-15th; Scarborough type Yorkshire ware (F2), 13th-14th; Durham type White ware (D4), 11th-13th; Gritty reduced greenware (E16), 13th-14th; Scarborough ware (F1), 13th-14th.

From tip line (419) within Bank II

Dog Bank ware (C1) cooking pot, late 10th-early 12th; Durham type White ware (D4) cooking pot, 11th-13th; Coarse Gritty ware (D16) cooking pot, ?10th-12th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E7) jar, 13th-14th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b,d) jar/jug 13th-15th; Early Gritty Greenware (E12a) jar, 13th-14th; Hard Fine ware (E22) jug, joining sherd with (432), 14th; Scarborough ware (F1), 13th-14th.

From tip line (432) within Bank II

Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b,c) jar/jugs, 13th-15th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E21) cooking pot, 13th-14th; Hard Fine ware (E22) jug, 14th; Scarborough ware (F1a) sherd, 13th-14th.

From core of wall (427)

Hard Sandy ware (?D8) jar, 10th-12th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a,b,d) jar/jugs, 13th-15th; Early Gritty Greenware (E12a) jar/jugs, 13th-14th; Later Gritty Greenware (E12b) jug, 14th-16th; Hard Fine ware (E22) jar, 14th; Low Countries Redware (G12) cooking pot, 14th-16th.

From robber trench (423) of wall (427)

Hard slightly gritty ware (D14/15) jar/cooking pot, ? 9th-10th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11a,b,e) jugs, 13th-15th; Later Greenware (E12b) jugs, 14th-16th; Gritty Reduced Greenware (E16) jug, 13th-14th.

From core of wall (440)

Durham type White ware (D4), 11th-13th; Tweed Valley white and red wares (F11, 15); 11th-13th; Oxidised Gritty ware (E10), 13th-14th; Later green ware (E12), 14th-16th; Siegburg stone ware (G15), 14th-15th.

From metalling (412) south of Bank II

Finely Gritty Splashed ware (E5) rim, 12th-13th; Early Gritty Greenware (E12a), 13th-14th; ? Micaceous Splashed ware (D19) 11th-12th; Tyneside Buff-White ware (E11b) jug/jars, 13th-15th.

5: POST-MEDIEVAL PERIOD

At some point Buildings I-III were either dismantled or went out of use and the Church Bank headland was laid out with several systems of ridge-and-furrow, traces of which were recovered in both excavation areas, overlain by an accumulation of ploughsoils (490, Area I; 402, Area II).

Area I

A single furrow 2.40 m wide with no surviving ridges running roughly north-south for ca. 3 m in the extreme eastern limit of Area I was accompanied by a number of similarly orientated plough-marks penetrating the sub-soil. This single furrow had been removed to the southeast by a later system of ridge-and-furrow running east-west whose furrows were ca. 6 m apart and with a greatest surviving length of 40 m. Some furrows belonging to this system had penetrated into but not wholly removed features belonging to Buildings I and II. In the west of Area I lay four parallel furrows (481, 483, 485 and 494) each 1.20 m wide and 2.50 m apart mid-furrow to mid-furrow aligned east-west and with a maximum depth of 0.12 m. Ridge and furrow of similar dimensions was also recovered in Area II, 9 furrows in all being recorded, although the terracing of each Area prior to the construction of the Shell Oil Depot had truncated many of the ridges and in places partially penetrated as deep as the furrow bases, where occasional plough-marks were discernible.

Area II

Over the whole of the area lay an accumulation of ploughsoil (402), in places up to 0.40 m thick, including within it a charcoal spread containing scattered fragments of burnt daub (449*) and an extensive spread of rubble (468), together with facing stones up to 0.40 m by 0.35 m in size. This episode may have been associated with a programme of clearance of the headland to prepare the area for agricultural use. The system of east-west 6 m-wide ridge-and-furrow present in Area I was also encountered in Area II (476*), and plough-marks on the same orientation had disturbed the metalling (475) associated with the boundary complex.

POTTERY FINDS (CF. APPENDIX III)

From the ploughsoil (490) in Area I

Tyneside Buff-white ware (E11a-e) jars, jugs, cooking pots (fig. 7, no. 19), globular storage

jars 13th-15th (fig. 7, no. 20); Early Gritty Greenware (E12a) jug 13th-14th; Later Greenware (E12b) jugs/jars 14th-16th; Oxidised Greenware (E13) jug/jar 14th-16th; Gritty Reduced Greenware (E16) jug/jars 13th-14th.

The pottery within the deposit is likely to belong to the fourteenth century, and was probably derived from the disturbed upper levels of structures I-III and the associated metalled areas.

6: LATER DEVELOPMENTS

Areas I and II

Subsequent to the laying out of ridge-and-furrow the area of Church Bank seems to have remained in agricultural use. Jarrow Hall was built in ca. 1785 with offices added later to the north, whose brick-built foundations, drains and inspection chambers were encountered in Area 1. Jarrow Colliery was opened in 1803 northwest of Church Bank but discharged its coal directly to colliers via staithe on the south bank of the Tyne; no associated services were placed in the area of excavations. The streets of Church Bank, Jarrow Row and High Row were certainly in place by 1843 if not before (Bell 1843), with dwellings along the northern side of Jarrow Row; and by 1868 Cuthbert Terrace had been built to the west of Jarrow Hall, at the top of Church Bank and partially within the western area of Area I. A series of dog burials encountered during the excavations probably belong with these buildings.

The land to the north of the boundary complex had been made up and levelled with ballast by the time of the earliest Ordnance Survey map. Between 1843 and 1868 an industrial complex including the Jarrow Hill Chemical Works had developed on the south bank of the Tyne, and a ballast railway ran past Cuthbert Terrace immediately west of Area I to the Jarrow Ballast Hills on the river bank, adjacent to the Jarrow Hill Chemical Works. Between this industrial complex and Area II

lay the waste ground of Brick Field, containing two ponds in 1868. To the east of Area II and adjacent to Slake Road the East Ferry Inn was constructed by 1868 and by 1897 was approached from the junction of Cuthbert Terrace and Church Bank by an innominate road respecting the line of the boundary complex, which perhaps still survived as a vestigial rubble bank. A row of dwellings, Cliff Cottages, had been built next to the Inn by 1897 by which time the ballast railway had gone into disuse. At this time also the riverside area contained the Curlew Chemical Works and the Jarrow Cement Works, the latter supplanting the Jarrow Hill Chemical Works. From 1897 onwards the area of the excavations was gradually infilled with allotments and outbuildings until by 1921 the whole of the original Church Bank headland was thus infilled. These allotments remained until the 1960s when the Shell Oil Depot was constructed, with nine storage tanks from 25 m up to 37.5 m in diameter occupying the area of excavations and resting upon massive concrete bases. A further ten tanks were placed on the ballast hill north of the excavation area, and all were attended by ancillary tanks, buildings and pipework. The demolition of these structures left large intrusions into the subsoil or the remains of concrete supports; the configuration of the excavation trenches was necessarily adjusted to avoid these modern features and the considerable subsoil pollution by waste products.

III DISCUSSION

THE BOUNDARY COMPLEX: A *VALLUM MONASTERIUM*?

The surviving Jarrow boundary complex originated as two ditches with a collective width of ca. 6.50 m, although it is not clear whether they formed a pair or whether one was a replacement for the other. Pottery from the ditch fills provides a *terminus post quem* of the thirteenth century for their silting-up, after which they were replaced by a series of stone-faced clay and rubble banks preserving their original

lines. These banks survived only where they had subsided into the earlier ditch fills and it is not possible to estimate their height or width. That the inner ditch had silted up with turf growing on its surface indicates a considerable time lapse before the boundary was rebuilt. Subsequent additions and repairs to the banks offset the effects of continuing subsidence.

If the line of this boundary complex is projected it forms a roughly semi-circular enclosure (fig. 6). Its northern line would overlook the slope leading down to the Tyne and terminate at the river Tyne/Jarrow Slake riverbank, whilst its southern limit would meet the river Don, here meandering on relatively flat land. The monastic complex lies in the south-eastern corner of the resultant enclosure, adjacent to a navigable stretch of the Don and with easy access to the sea. There was no evidence of when the ditches were originally dug, and it is possible that they may have destroyed any earlier boundary features on the same line; they may thus reflect the line of the original enclosure of the Saxon monastery. Radford proposed a different *vallum monasterium* following his 3-day excavation on the site of the Verger's house in 1954, during which he uncovered a pitched stone foundation 4 m wide with one edge carefully finished with larger stones. The only dating evidence suggested that the foundation was earlier than the post-reformation period (Radford 1954, 208). The projection south of this feature would be close to the east end of the Saxon church, but no return has been recovered in excavations further south (Cramp 1976, 235). Immediately south of the monastery Morris discovered a clay bank faced with stones, more likely to have been post-Conquest rather than pre-Conquest, although it has never been determined whether this was a continuation of Radford's pitched stone foundation (Morris 1976, 150). Neither of these features, nor the *vallum monasterium* proposed in this paper, coincides with that suggested by dowsing (Bailey *et al.* 1988, 151).

The area enclosed by the projected Jarrow *vallum* contains approximately 25 acres. The enclosure at Old Melrose contains ca. 47 acres

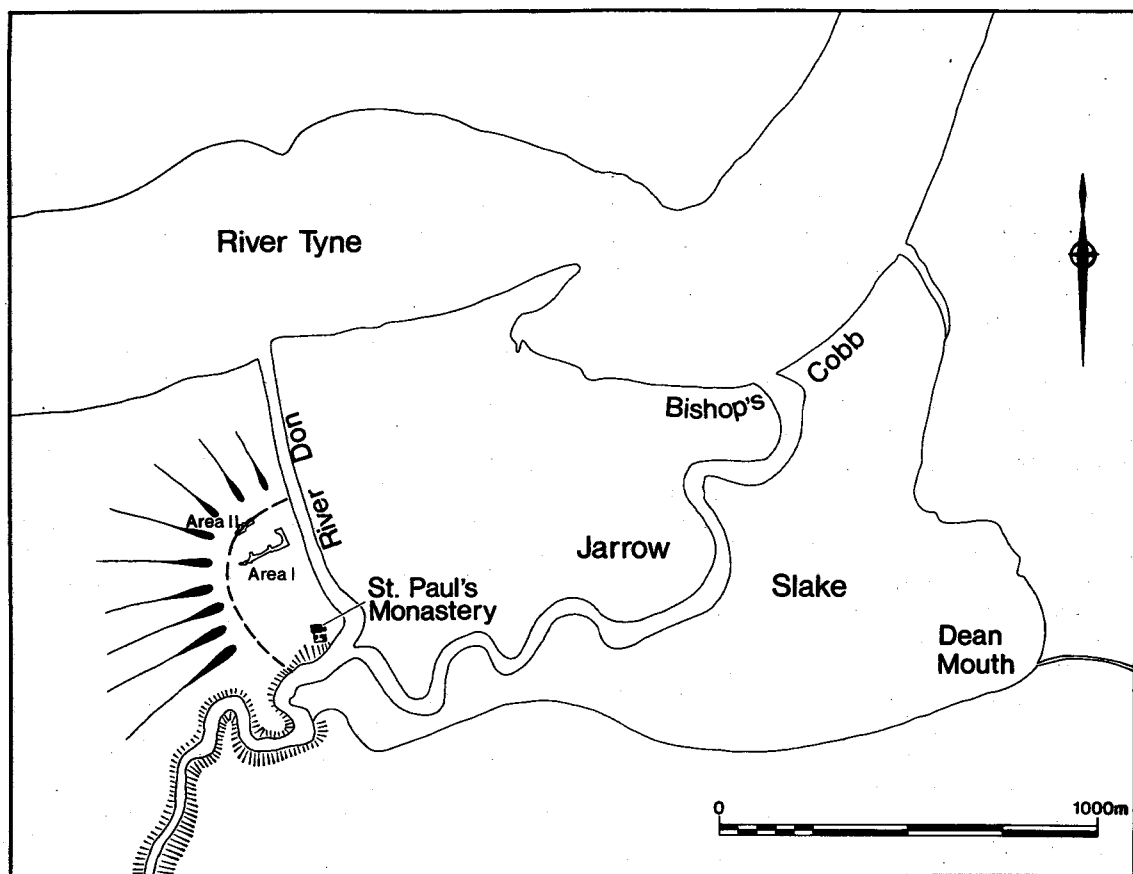


Fig. 6 Reconstruction of the landscape around St. Paul's Monastery with the boundary complex interpreted as a vallum monasterium. Scale 1:1250. Base map after Richardson, 1768, and Greenwood, 1820.

whilst those monasteries within Saxon Shore forts could contain up to 10 acres. In Ireland Clonmacnoise contained 10 acres or more (Thomas 1971, 30). The 6th century Columban monastery on Iona was contained within a *vallum* consisting of a complex system of boundaries, probably representing more than one period of construction and where excavated producing dissimilar profiles. This *vallum*, traced by field survey (Crawford 1933), excavation (Thomas 1971, 30–31, figs 8 & 9), aerial photography and geophysical survey

(RCAHMS 1982, 36), may have contained an area of more than 20 acres. At both Clonmacnoise and at Iona the areas contained within the monastic enclosures were certainly large enough for agricultural plots as well as monastic buildings (Thomas 1971, 27). Cramp, in a recent comparison of the monasteries at Jarrow and Monkwearmouth with continental foundations, notes that the Jarrow enclosure is unlikely to exceed 6 acres in size (Cramp 1994, 291).

A *vallum monasterium* was an essential

requirement of a monastery, marking the limits of the establishment in a religious rather than defensive manner (Thomas 1971, 27-9). Other essential elements of the early monasteries were their dominating positions and their proximity to navigable waterways, either rivers or the coast, and such topographical considerations as these presumably affected the precise layout of the enclosure. The *vallum* construction could take many forms and a variety of enclosure types have been re-used in early ecclesiastical sites; Iron Age hillfort ramparts at Breedon, Saxon Shore fort walls at Reculver, Bradwell and Burgh Castle as well as promontories or peninsulas (Cramp 1976, 204).

Excavations and field survey have taken place at a number of monastic sites in northern England. In terms of area Whitby remains the most extensively excavated site, although the original excavations themselves took place in uncontrolled conditions and were inadequately supervised (Peers and Radford 1943). The original, single site drawing, unphased, shows a curving feature recorded as a road, wall or bank which was interpreted as a *vallum* enclosure, or preserving its line; this did not confine the Saxon occupation which showed no difference to either side of the feature (Cramp 1974, 113). A still more recent examination of the site plan has not elucidated the feature further (Johnson 1993). The headland site at Hartlepool has seen small-scale excavations in recent years, and a persistent boundary complex has been interpreted by the latest excavator as a *vallum monasterium* (Daniels 1988, 161). In the initial phase it consisted of five post-pits, presumably associated with a fence, forming an arc 14.5 m in length within the excavation area. In a second phase the post-pits were replaced by a palisade trench which followed the same line and whose backfill yielded a C14 date of 690 ± 70 (HAR-8600). This palisade could be traced for 30 m. The headland at Tynemouth could have contained a mid-seventh foundation, although excavations on the site have been too small to reveal the plan of the monastery (Cramp 1976, 217; Jobey 1967 42-6; Fairclough 1983, 101-8). At

Old Melrose a monastery founded in the mid-seventh century lay on a low headland defined by a bend in the River Tweed and a ditched and banked earthwork surviving up to 1.20 m in height. If projected the earthwork would cut off the peninsula at its narrowest point and would be ca. 275 m long (RCAHMS Roxburgh 1956, 303, 323). A similar circumstance occurs at Sockburn where the parish boundary runs along the line of a substantial bank and ditch cutting off a loop of the river Tees (Brown 1994). Other Northumbrian *vallum* enclosures await confirmation by excavation; the layout of the foundation at Lindisfarne, for example, is unknown.

Elsewhere in Britain headland sites include Tintagel, where a rubble bank 2.40 m high and a broad ditch 7.60 m wide cuts off the peninsula: however the layout of the site is not paralleled elsewhere and the site may not even be a monastery (Cramp 1976, 209). The most convincing *vallum monasterium* is at Glastonbury, where a ditch and bank were excavated in 1957. The ditch was 8 m wide with a V-shaped cross section and 3.50 m deep and had almost silted up by the twelfth century. The contemporary bank was 9.50 m wide (Radford 1958, 189). Cramp quotes different figures, 4.50 m wide for the ditch which was cut 2.25 m into the old ground surface, with a bank 6 m wide at the base and with an estimated height of 2.70 m (Cramp 1976, 244).

THE SETTLEMENT: A LOST VILLAGE?

It is clear from the internal stratigraphy within Buildings I-III, the presence of a hollowed trackway, and the continuing refurbishment of the *vallum* bank that the settlement contained within the boundary feature was of considerable extent and complexity. Further, the abundance of pottery recovered from the excavations implies the existence of a more substantial settlement than that suggested by the surviving structural elements. It remains to examine the nature of the settlement and to establish any possible links with documentary sources.

THE NATURE OF THE SETTLEMENT

Pre-Conquest

The major pre-Conquest documentary source, Bede, casually notes domestic and farm buildings connected with Jarrow (*Historia Abbatum*, 8; Cramp, 1976, 229). The features interpreted as belonging to the pre-Conquest period recovered during the excavation were too few and isolated to produce a meaningful pattern, and no finds were recovered to aid in their interpretation. There was thus no evidence to connect the pre-Conquest remains with Bede's buildings. In his discussion of the land-holdings of the major monasteries Morris suggests that the 40 hides originally granted to Jarrow in 681 may have been readily assessable land, already occupied completely with stock and crops. However none of the documentary sources mention where the land was located and there is no reason to suppose that land so granted was immediately adjacent to the monastery itself (Morris 1977a, 90).

Post-Conquest

There are no records of Jarrow from the 9th century until the fourteenth, although services were held there from 1022–45 before restoration in 1072. A comprehensive series of livestock accounts exists for Jarrow beginning in the fourteenth century, providing sizes of sown acreages and the number of plough teams. During the fifteenth century the emphasis shifted away from arable farming to pastoral husbandry, concentrating upon sheep. Further evidence that the monastic lands were used for farming is suggested by entries referring to agricultural expenses or the hedging, walling and ditch-cutting of field-boundaries, including almost 1,100 yards when an unlocated field called the Oxenpasture was enclosed in 1359–60 (Piper 1986, 6–11).

It is thus likely, throughout both the pre- and post-Conquest periods, that the site was used for agricultural purposes with an extensive layout of fields and agricultural buildings. However, there are no means to identify the excavated remains with any structure noted in either the livestock accounts or inventories.

The identification of the settlement

There are two known medieval villages in the Jarrow area whose exact location is lost and of which no recognisable earthworks survive: Jarrow itself, and Preston/Simonside. Could the remains belong to either of these settlements?

Preston and Simonside

Documentary sources record the existence of a settlement called either Preston or Simonside in the Jarrow area. Confusion surrounds not only the location of the Preston/Simonside site but also the exact status of each settlement. Hodgson believed Simonside was the township and Preston the village within it:

"Preston ... was situated on the east side of the Don, as that stream passes by the grounds of Hedworth and Monkton ... there are grass-grown irregularities on the surface of the ground in the fields adjoining the right bank of the Don, nearly opposite to Jarrow, which seem plainly to point out the site of the tofts and crofts of this old and forgotten village."

(Hodgson 1832 vol. II, i 45). The site is now covered and its precise location cannot be confirmed.

Preston (or Preostun) is first mentioned in 1074–80 when it and the other vills dependent on Jarrow were granted by Bishop Walcher to Aldwin and his companions, before becoming the property of the prior and convent of Durham. It was also included in Henry II's confirmation charter of the mid-twelfth century which recorded all monastic lands liable for "gilly-corn" rent, a corn rent normally paid in wheat imposed upon every tenement or ploughland. Virtually all "gilly-corn" holdings were survivals from before 1200 (Campey 1987, 14; Greenwell 1872, *LXXXIII-VI*; Fraser 1955). The *Almoner's Large Cartulary* records for Preston suggest a settlement of ca. 380 acres in size. From at least as early as 1260 it was coupled with Simonside, (*Symondsett*) and it came to be described as a manor. By 1464 Simonside was on its own, Preston (whether site or merely name) having disappeared or been absorbed. In 1489 the priory's tenants divided the territory of Simonside between

them so it ceased to exist as a township. Two fields to the north of the Wrekendyke are called "Simonsides" on a field-name map of 1779 and a number of sites called Simonside existed into the middle of the 19th century and later. If this represents the remnant of early settlement, it lies 8 km. to the south-east of the Jarrow monastery. A letter of attorney dated 1485 records the vill and fields of Simonside on the Tyne as being formerly called "Preston next to Jarrow".

Identification with Jarrow

The whereabouts of the medieval village of Jarrow are similarly unknown. The agricultural settlement run by the cell at Jarrow was not included in the Durham monastic accounts and as a result no information is available on the acreages which may have been cultivated before 1200 by the monks of Jarrow (Campey 1987, 109). Jarrow ceases to be mentioned in the cell's accounts after 1424-25, and does not appear elsewhere. When tithes appear in the accounts they consist of hay, flax and hemp, and records of wool, tithe-lambs and cattle added directly to the stock of the Jarrow cell suggest a pastoral settlement (Piper 1986, 6-8). That the settlement had access to the sea is suggested by ecclesiastical revenues from coal shipped down the Tyne and brine from the sea for a salt industry, which in 1500-1 produced revenue from four to eight salt-workings. Three yares (a structure extending out into a river to support nets) are consistently mentioned in the Jarrow cell's sources of income until the 16th century, when they appear to have fallen out of use. One of these, the Pul-yare, half of which belonged to Simonside, was presumably in the vicinity of Jarrow (Pul = Pool, the tidal pool of Jarrow Slake). No further record of the medieval village at Jarrow is to be found following the granting of the Cell of Jarrow to a layman in 1544 (Campey 1987, 149).

The evidence as excavated cannot therefore be identified with any degree of certainty with either Simonside/Preston or Jarrow, although the former location appears a less likely candidate than the latter.

APPENDIX I: THE POTTERY (FIG. 7)

by Susan Mills

SEALED BY BUILDING III (11TH-15TH C.)

- 1 Storage Jar in Durham type White Ware. Everted flanged rim, white/pink and unsooted. (Context 123).
- 2 Convex base of cooking pot in a variant of Newcastle Dog Bank Kiln Ware, not as gritty. (123).

ASSOCIATED WITH BUILDING I

- 3 Jar/Cooking pot in Tyneside Buff-White Ware, copying Low Countries Redware. Upright rim with handle springing, thin-walled, finely gritty and with scratched incised lines. (172).
- 4 Jar in Tyneside Buff-White Ware. Upright lid-seated rim, quite thin-walled, creamish fabric, exterior surface dark reddish-yellow and splash glazed. (174).
- 5 Basal angle of a jar/jug in Tyneside Buff-White Ware. (153).

ASSOCIATED WITH BUILDING III

- 6 Large storage jar in Hard Fine Ware, everted flanged rim, very worn internally. (118).
- 7 Cooking pot/jar in Hard Sandy Ware. Everted lid-seated flanged rim in finely gritty fabric. (118).
- 8 Cooking pot in Newcastle Dog Bank Kiln Ware. Flanged rouletted rim. (118).
- 9 Storage jar in coarse variant of Oxidised Gritty Ware. Everted flanged rim with mottled surface and splashed glaze. (118).
- 10 Storage jar in Tyneside Buff-White Ware. Everted rim, quite pink and slightly sooted under rim. (118).

METALLED SURFACES

- 11 Small bottle/jug in Oxidised Greenware. Totally oxidised, fine reddish fabric with patches on surfaces and splashes of dark greenish amber glaze. (488).
- 12 Storage jar in Oxidised Gritty Ware.

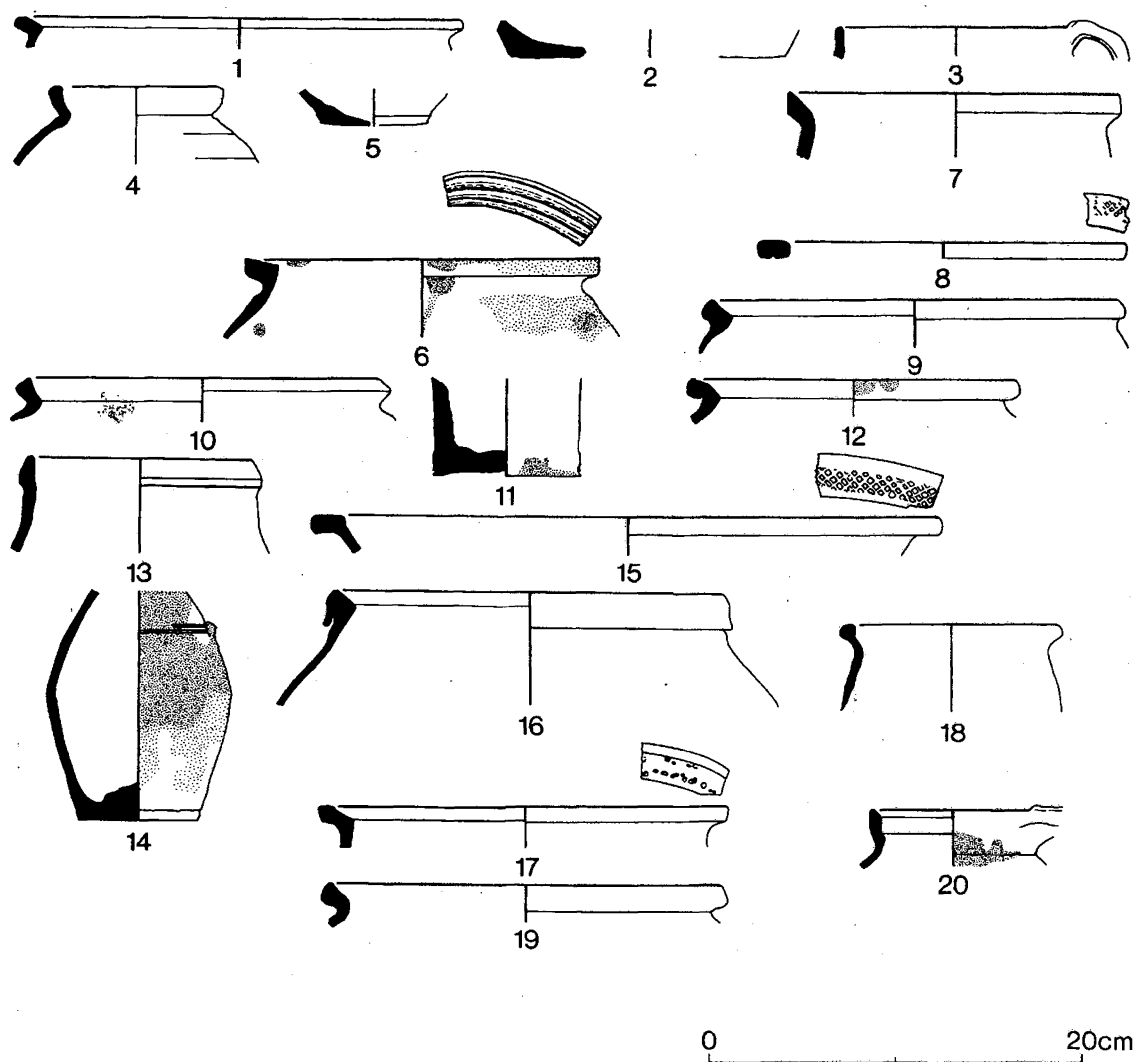


Fig. 7 Pottery from the excavations. Scale 1:4.

Everted rim with splashed glaze over rim. (312).

ISOLATED PITS AND GULLIES

- 13 Cooking pot in Tweeddale Redware. Upright, rolled-out rim, lid-seated, exterior sooted and encrusted inside rim; smoothish, but slightly lumpy surfaces. (140).
- 14 Small jug in Oxidised Greenware type. Interior and exterior surfaces oxidised; interior to dark orange, exterior to dark red where unglazed. Upper half of exterior surface covered with mid to dark olive glaze, slightly worn in places. The handle springing is just visible on upper wall. The area behind the handle is unglazed and dark red. There is one horizontal incised line behind the shoulder. The base is slightly concave and may have been luted on. The vessel was probably quite freshly broken when buried. (515).
- 15 Jar/cooking pot in Newcastle Dog Bank Kiln Ware with everted, flanged, rouletted rim. (140).
- 16 Cooking pot in Durham type White Ware. Everted, folded-over rim, white/cream internally, golden exterior. Quite fine for Durham ware, but could be related to Tweed Valley White Ware. (540).
- 17 Cooking pot/jar in new fabric type. Everted flanged rim with spaced rouletting, heavily sooted and encrusted exterior and partly over the rim. Unglazed, quite finely gritty with smooth surfaces. (140).
- 18 ?Distilling apparatus in Newcastle Dog Bank Kiln Ware (or Hard, Tweeddale Type Ware/Tweed Valley Red Ware. Hand-made, knife-trimmed, half pedestal, shaped flat on top edge, trimmed and smoothed down. (140).

FROM PLOUGHSOIL SEALING ALL FEATURES

- 19 Large storage jar in Tyneside Buff-White ware. Thin-walled, yellow fabric surfaces dark reddish-yellow or orange with slip trickles. (490).
- 20 Globular jar/cooking pot in Tyneside

Buff-White ware, imitating Low Countries Redware tripod cooking pot. Fabric quite hard, interior dark reddish orange to dark reddish brown, exterior dark reddish brown and quite sooted. Exterior dark brownish green glaze on shoulder. Handle has been luted over on rim. (490).

APPENDIX II: THE SMALL FINDS
(FIG. 8)

by Alexandra Croom

1. ?Buckle (L:32 mm W:23 mm B:3 mm). From general site clearance (2); SF20. Incomplete flat copper alloy fitting with cross bars and J-shaped projections. Post-medieval.
2. Buckle (Overall D:40 mm W:4 mm B:3 mm; Pin L:40 mm D:5 mm). From fill of intrusion (191): SF 4. Incomplete copper alloy single-loop buckle frame of oval cross-section, with a circular section copper alloy pin. ?Late medieval. Parallels: London, Egan and Pritchard 1991, fig. 36, nos. 31-2.
3. Glass rod (L:32 mm max. D:8 mm). From ploughsoil (402): SF 33. Incomplete glass rod constructed of two strands of transparent pale green glass twisted together, expanding out at one end.
4. Sexfoil mount (D:12 mm B:1 mm H:4 mm). From silting of inner boundary ditch (403): SF 14. Domed copper alloy sexfoil mount with central hole for separate rivet, with the lobes defined by radiating lines. This type of mount was used as decoration on leather or textile girdles and straps from the 13th-15th century. (Egan and Pritchard 1991, 62). Parallels: Egan and Pritchard 1991, fig. 119 no. 952; Colchester, Crummy 1988, fig. 20, no. 1786.
5. Whetstone (L:199 mm W:64 mm B:39 mm). From general site clearance (2); SF 6. Large incomplete whetstone of local whinstone with a semi-circular cross-section, tapering to the end.

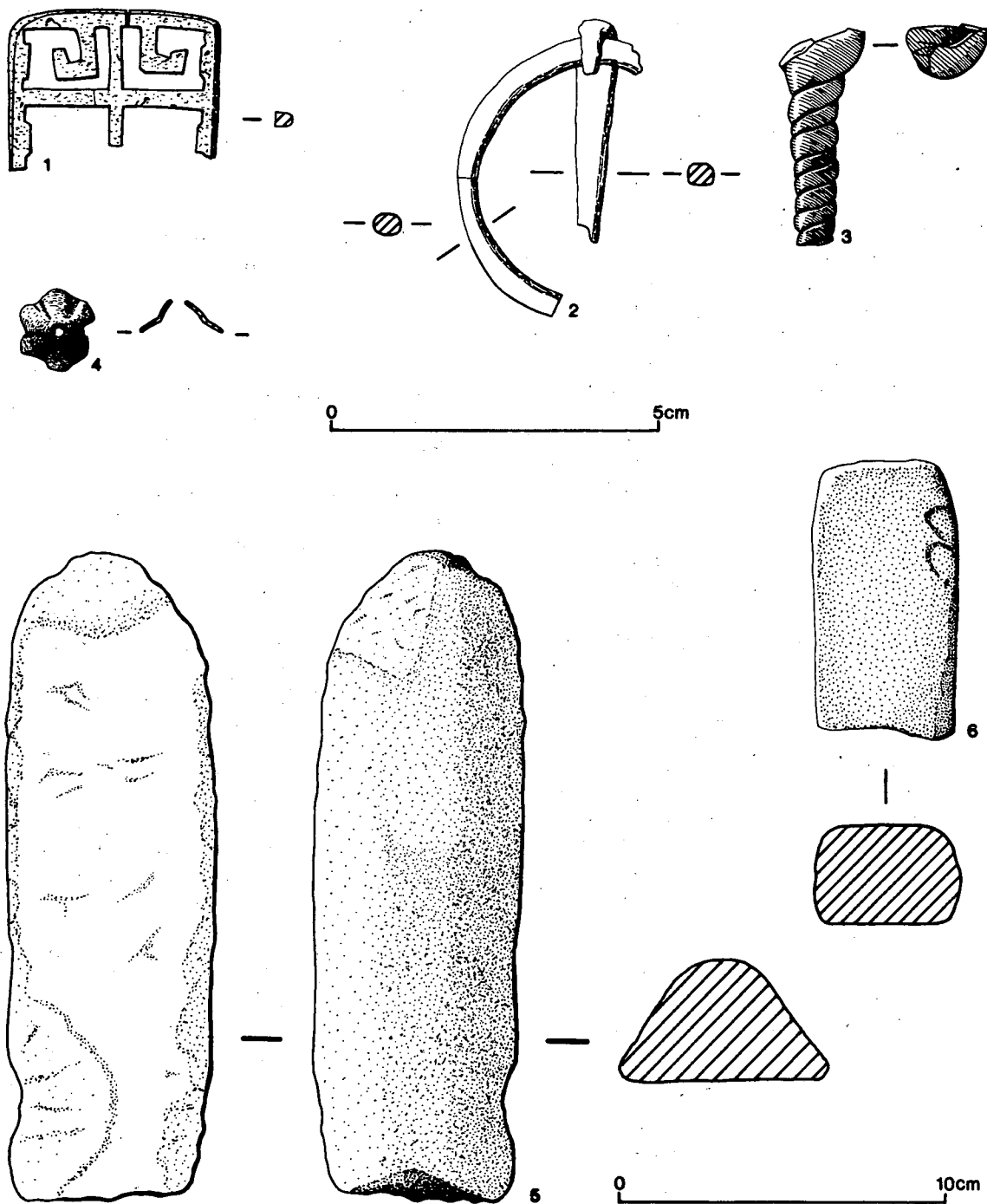


Fig. 8 The Small Finds from the excavations. Nos 1-4, scale 1:1. Nos 5-6, scale 1:2.

- 6 Whetstone (L:85 mm W:44 mm B:30 mm). From cobbled surface (177); SF18. Incomplete whetstone of local whinstone with a rectangular cross-section.

Coins

One coin of copper alloy, unfortunately illegible, was recovered from the surface of the hollow-way (506). Three coins were recovered from post-medieval deposits, all of which were illegible.

APPENDIX III: A GUIDE TO THE POTTERY SERIES

The fabric types and their respective codes used in this report are derived from the *Jarrow Series*, the reference collection held in the Department of Archaeology of Durham University.

C LOCAL WARES POST-ROMAN- c.12th CENTURY

- C1 Newcastle Dog Bank Kiln Ware late 10th-early 12th
C3 C1 variant-related but softer
C5 known only from this excavation

D REGIONAL WARES POST-ROMAN-c.12th CENTURY

- D4 Durham Type White Ware 11th-13th (Jrs, CPs)
D6 Whitby Type Ware c.700-860 (Small CPs)
D8 Hard, Sandy Ware 10th-12th (Lge St Jrs/Jgs/CPs)
D11b Finely Gritty, usually Oxidised Ware 10th-12th
D14 Very Hard, Slightly Gritty Ware ?9th-10th (Jrs, CPs)
D15 Hard, Slightly Gritty Ware ?9th-10th (CPs)
D16 Very Hard, Coarse Gritty Ware ?10th-12th (Jrs/CPs)
D17 Whitby Type Ware 2 7th-9th (Small CPs)

- D19 Micaceous Splashed ware 11th-12th (Jrs, CPs)
D21 Hard, Tweeddale type Ware 10th-12th (Jrs, CPs)

E LOCAL WARES c.12th-16th CENTURY

- E1 Hard, Finely Gritty Ware 12th-13th (Jrs, CPs)
E4 not assigned
E5 Hard, Finely Gritty Splashed ware 12th-13th (Jrs)
E6 Coarsely Gritty splash-glazed variant of E10 13th-14th (Jgs)
E7 Coarser variant of E10 13th-14th (Jgs)
E8 Coarser variant of E10 13th-14th (Jgs, Jrs, Urinals)
E9 Coarser variant of E10 13th-14th (Jgs, Jrs, Urinals)
E10 Oxidised Gritty Ware 13th-14th (Jgs, urinals, dishes)
E11a-e Tyneside Buff-White ware 13th-15th (Jgs, Bls, CPs)
E12a Early Gritty Greenware 13th-14th (Jgs, dishes)
E12b Later Gritty Greenware 14th-early 17th (Jgs, dishes, cisterns)
E13 Oxidised Greenware 14th-16th (Jgs, money boxes, cisterns)
E16 Gritty Reduced Greenware 13th-14th (Jgs)
E17 Late Reduced Greenware ?16th-17th (Bls, Jrs, cisterns)
E18 Sandy Greenware 13th-14th (Jgs, urinals, cisterns)
E21 Finer variant of E10? 13th-14th
E22 Hard Fine Ware 14th

F REGIONAL WARES c.12th-16th CENTURY

- F1 Scarborough Ware 13th-14th (Jgs)
F2 Scarborough Type Yorkshire Wares 13th-14th (Jgs)
F4 Tudor Green Ware 16th
F11 Tweed Valley White Ware 11th-13th (Jrs, CPs, Jgs)
F15 Tweed Valley Red Ware 11th-12th (CPs, Jrs)

G IMPORTED WARES POST- ROMAN-16th CENTURY

- G12 Low Countries Redwares 14th-16th
(Tripod CPs, Bls)
- G15 Siegburg Stoneware 14th-15th (Jgs,
Mugs)
- G16 Langerwehe Stoneware 15th-16th (Jgs,
Mugs)
- G19 Martincamp Stoneware 15th-16th
(Flasks)

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AA⁴ *Archaeologia Aeliana, 4th series.*

AA⁵ *Archaeologia Aeliana, 5th series.*

AJ *Archaeological Journal.*

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