

MANCE TTER AREA 19 1970

Magnetometer information - Q96(i) 100gamma Iron? & Q96(ii) (small pit)

Layers or contexts.

N.B. No section was drawn for Kiln 19B because of its fragmentary nature. See comments under layer 20.

1. Clearing area after machine.
2. Cleaning the top of Kiln 19A.
3. Cleaning the stone sealing of the large pit in northern part of area, east of Kiln 19B. Equals 45.  
Samian - Antonine.
4. Cleaning around Kiln 19B.
5. Top 4 inches of stokehole filling of Kiln 19A. Much brown soot with a little brown soil - genuine stokehole.  
Samian - Flavian or Flavian-Trajanic.
6. Top filling of kiln 19A. Sandy brown earth with some pebbles and lumps of fired clay. Definite filling.
7. Lower filling of Kiln 19A - as above.
8. Lower filling of stokehole - fine, ashy black. Kiln 19A.
9. Flue filling. Black filling. Kiln 19A.
10. (marked on plan) Brown earth with a lot of pebbles, tile fragments and scraps of pottery (no mortaria). This was just a scrappy area of pebbles etc. surviving above the posthole. See 30.
11. In cleaning over Kiln 19B when defining kiln. Might be worth considering with the filling? Need to check the two fragments.
12. Cleaning the north end of the area, where the stone-sealed pit and Kiln 19B are. At the level at which features show but still contains some topsoil. One piece of china thrown away.  
Samian - Antonine.
13. Immediately above Kiln 19B, beneath layer 11. Probably filling.
14. Extension to west of Kiln 19B. Topsoil.
15. Cleaning the irregular patch of fired or semi-fired red clay, white raw clay, stones, including some heat shattered stones etc., immediately east of Kiln 19A. See kiln drawing and photograph. No apparent significance. 5.5 inches thick. See 16.
16. Found in taking away the above (15). One piece of tile 1.5 inches thick. No mortaria. Debris from kiln 19A or from its refurbishing?
17. Filling of Kiln 19B. Fine, brown earth, lumps of red, fired clay, pebbles, pottery, 2 bone fragments. Roller-stamped fragment. Only 3 inches deep. Year may be wrong on some sherds - i.e. 71 instead of W70.  
Samian: pre-Flavian.
18. Pottery USED in making the flue of Kiln 19A - fixed in the clay. The walls do not survive above the place where pot and flue clay begins. This flue belongs to the last phase of the kiln.
19. Equals 17. Filling of Kiln 19B  
Samian - Antonine.
20. Intended to be top of surviving part of stokehole of Kiln 19B; presumably its the bottom! It was not possible to define anything which could be called a stokehole but this was the area where it had to have been; there was an elongated stain on the clay of the furnace floor which definitely indicated the position of the pedestal, though no part of the pedestal survived. Also the only part where there was no kiln-wall surviving; the latter was only 3 inches deep at the maximum but it was definitely there. The filling, in fact, post-dates the stokehole.  
Samian - Flavian.
21. Filling where flue would have been - brown earth. Kiln 19B.

22. Immediately below 21 and level where floor of kiln would have been; above raw undisturbed clay. Brown earth and fragments of red clay, perhaps from flue. The mortaria clearly filling here post-date kiln 19B. Above 44 which also post-dates kiln 19B.
23. Flue filling of Kiln 19A - earth and fired clay fragments mixed.
24. Found in taking away the first lining of Kiln 19A. There was a little earth between the two linings and the second lining was patched.)
25. In extension, below layer 14; trowelling over black area marked X on plan.
26. Brown earth above area marked Y on plan; initially there had been some suspicion of there being another kiln here but in fact it was a small pit, 1' 3" deep.
27. Trowelling the area between the stone-sealed pit and Kiln 19B.
28. Trowelling over the area immediately west of Kiln 19B. Samian - Flavian-Trajanic.
29. Two inches removed to define feature marked W on plan. Samian - Hadrianic-Antonine.
30. Half section through the small area of packed, broken tile fragments, pebbles, red shale, which is in area marked W being immediately above a post-hole. About 2 inches thick. Equals layer 10. (The post-hole 1' 4" by 1' 6" and 8" deep.)
31. About 1" removed between Kiln 19B and area (shallow scuffle, 6" deep), marked X. Below layer 28.
32. Below topsoil and above the stone sealing of the pit. Equals 3. Samian - 145-175.
33. Clay underneath layer 30.
34. On top of clay in area Y; not sealed by it.
35. Next to 34, at same depth in area marked T.
36. Trowelling over area marked X.
37. Taking away filling of Y: raw clay; items sealed in the clay. Y was 6" deep, purpose unknown.
38. Fired bits of clay next to 37, over little pit marked T.
39. Below topsoil and above pebbles of ?road in narrow extension to east where it was hoped to locate the edge of the road. It does seem likely that these pebbles and those to the east of the stone-sealed pit were in fact the edge of the road.
40. Filling of post-hole marked Z; included raw clay, brown earth, flecks of charcoal, kiln debris. Posthole, splayed at top. Total depth 1' 8", depth of centre part 1' 1".
41. Black filling of little pit marked T; included fragments of kiln debris. Depth 1' 3"
42. Filling of presumed ditch, ?pit, near road in narrow extension. Dark brown earth; pottery, tile, charcoal, nail and fragment of squared stone. Depth probably not recorded.
43. Above 42; brown earth with many pebbles. Samian - Antonine.
44. Just underneath it 22. Mostly raw clay with some fragments of fired clay. Post-dates Kiln 19B.
45. Cleaning the stone sealing of the big pit next to Kiln 19B: Brown earth. Equals 3. Samian - Antonine.
46. Amongst the stray pebbles east of the ?ditch at the west side of the ?road.
47. Filling of small ?post-pit intersected by pit T. The clay of layer 38 had extended over this feature. 12" deep.
48. Filling of ?postpit below 47. Brown with some black; pottery. Samian - Hadrianic-Antonine.

49. The two whole jars standing upright in Kiln 19A, one of these standing in the indentation made in the soft clay when it was placed there. Used as pedestals.
50. Filling of 6" deep area marked Y: flecked with black.
51. Equals 48: flecks with black and clay on south-east side.
52. Cleaning pebble area east of stone-sealed pit. ?road surface or working area. These pebbles were cut by the stone-sealed pit. If it were road it would probably have to post-date the stone sealing so it probably is not road. Pottery needs checking.
- Samian - Pre-Flavian.
53. The filling of a small portion of what appeared to be a small narrow channel discovered by accident when projecting a section through and beyond where any stokehole of Kiln 19B would have been (see photograph for section line.) It was showing only an inch or two below the level we had cleared to and could have been indistinct at a higher level. It was too late to do anything about it and we did not succeed in finding Area 19 again in 1977. It is not an early feature as it has a late second or early third-century mortarium in it: it might be part of a channel linked with the pit sealed with stone. Unfortunately we only half-sectioned this pit; this pit looks quite like that in Area 7a, which had a little channel linked to it.
- Samian - Pre-Flavian. The pottery in the pit-filling and in Context 53 is homogeneous and would fit this explanation.
54. Equals 52.
55. Post-hole Z - upper wider part.
56. Post-hole Z - post-hole itself.
57. Trowelling area south of stone sealing and west of pebbles -marked S. brown sterile soil.
58. Jammed in with the stones in the sealing of the large pit.
- Samian -140-170.
59. In black, sagging filling immediately beneath the stone sealing and sealed by them. Pit filling. Layers 59-61, and 66 could be secondary silting, rather than original filling, with the stones, layer 58, placed in the top to fill the depression.
- Samian -140-170 same pot as 58.
60. Brown silt round edges of pit and diving below 59 and the light brown layer 61. 60 is at the top of the pit round the edge. PIT filling.
- Samian - 140-170 part of same pot as in layers 58 and 59.
61. Light brown, sandy silty layer below 59 in the filling of the pit. layer 60 dives below layer 61. Pit filling.
62. Lump of clay near top of pit at edge instead of 60 in north west. Pit filling. Layers 62, 64, 65 and 68 are certainly original filling.
- Samian -probably pre-Flavian.
63. Above pebble layer to east of stone-sealed pit in brown soil.
64. 1-2 feet depth in pit -dark brown filling with clayey texture.
65. Below 2 feet much more thick and clayey.
66. Fine light brown silt at outer edge of pit.SEE section of pit - you have it already.
67. Trowelling area marked S. Beneath 47. Brown earth with few pebbles lying on top of sandy natural with pebbles.
68. In clay at bottom of big pit: all clay, very stiff; contains flecks of charcoal. Pit Filling.
69. Cleaning the excavated half-section of pit. Pit filling.
- Samian - Nero-Flavian.
70. Equals layer 53.

1971.

Section next to 19.

71. Edge of road where dipping.

72. SW/NE channel filled with greyish-brown silt with flecks of charcoal.

73. From stones - ? part of the road and next to road ditch at north end.

74. Road ditch following. greyish-brown silt.

75. From pit beneath road; grey silt.

There is a mortarium of Septimianus and a handful of spout fragments and rims which would fit a date of c.A.D.100-130 but there are no features to go with this period.

Kiln B is the earlier kiln and possibly the earliest feature in Area 19. Very little of Kiln B survives but there are stamps of Iunius, Maurius and Potter no. 8(illiterate). Some of these are so identical in form that it is reasonable to suppose that they were using the same workshop at the time when this kiln was in use. There are also two mortaria of Minomelus and though they are not identical, he could well have been involved with the others. This particular mix of potters would mean that it was early in Iunius's and Maurius's careers because Minomelus is early to mid-Antonine. No. 8 probably no later than mid-Antonine- check.

The pit was probably for holding or treating clay; it probably had a small channel opening from it like the pit in Area 7A was filled after the practice of stamping had ceased and presumably post-dates Kiln 19B as it would be ridiculous to have a pit