

MANCETTER 1969

KILNS (10) & (10A)

October, 1991

P94 (i)/D94(i) 200g/400g Both 5' diameter. Suggested to be either 2 kilns or a kiln and stokehole. In 1964 two relevant grid points were measured to the trees for future excavation: P94(i) to Tree 2 138' 1"; to Tree 1 131' 9". D 94(i) to Tree 2 127' 3"; to Tree 1 133' 11".

(From 1981 kiln 10A remains as before but kiln 10 may be referred to as Kiln 10B; in this list it is referred to as Kiln 10 because I have not got a copy of the final drawing which has individual kiln numbers on it; if such numbers have not been added, the original 10 and 10A will be retained.)

The level of the field is lower now than it must have been when kilns 10 and 10A were in use.

Preliminary Notes

Check the respective numbers of 4 reed and multiple reed mortaria in the two kilns. This may be easiest way of deciding which is likely to be earlier. There are some Type 6 (a-d) spouts in stokehole of Kiln 10 and in contexts 7, 8 and 9. Otherwise all spouts with A forms are type 7. Only Type 7 spouts occur in levels associated with Kiln 10A. Most likely explanation for the type 6 spouts is that they were churned up from layers pre-dating Kiln 10 during the construction of Kiln 10 -i.e. from an earlier kiln.

Yvonne found no joins between layers attributed to Kiln 10 and those attributed to Kiln 10A.

NB. Check joins across layers to obtain exact nos. and items in construction.

There is a possibility of four periods in Area 10, six if one distinguishes kiln construction periods:

i. The very top of the filled-in military ditch, trampled when Kilns 10 & 10A were being fired, and also c.A.D.150-180, when there was earlier activity on the site; CONTEXTS 7; 8; 10; 15; 24 but the pottery actually corresponds to the two later periods.

ii. Black fillings under the flue and stokehole of Kiln 10, probably projecting beyond the stokehole. The pottery, including stamps of Sennius and Maurius suggest that there was a kiln of their period c.A.D. 150-180 on this site. The drawing suggests the possibility of an earlier kiln beyond or partly beyond the stokehole of Kiln 10 with its stokehole partly sealed underneath the flue of Kiln 10. The fillings of this period were only clearly distinguished underneath the flue. CONTEXT 13 is only certain one;

iii. Kiln 10

CONTEXTS for construction of Kiln 10: 23; 25; there are also fragments with debris adhering, in kiln and stokehole fillings, which clearly indicate that they were used in the construction. CONTEXTS for firing of Kiln 10: 3; 4; 5; 6; 9; 11 (this could equally be connected with period ii); 14.

iv. Kiln 10A

CONTEXTS for construction of Kiln 10A: 26.

CONTEXTS: 12; 16; 17; 18; 19; 20; 21 (kiln actually destroyed in this area);

We do not know whether Kilns 10 & 10A are contemporary or not but the mortaria from Kiln 10 were thought to be slightly earlier than those

from 10A? (During typing of pottery 1989/90?) Comparison of the mortaria used in the construction of the kilns and still in situ, might help to establish relative date of kilns: In fact, mortaria in construction of Kiln 10A are of same types as in the kiln with the exception of A89.52; mortaria in construction of Kiln 10 are of same types as in the kiln with the exception of A24.16

v. Indeterminate

CONTEXTS 1; 2; 22;

The ? top of the military ditch is placed next to the indeterminate because a. the feature was not ascertained with certainty and b. because even if the conjecture is correct, the upper filling was disturbed in the period of pottery production.

No joins were found between contexts attributed to kiln 10 and those attributed to kiln 10A.

CONTEXT	Chron. order
NOS. DESCRIPTION OF CONTEXT	of contexts
1 Ploughsoil. Tegula fragment & many mortarium fragments thrown.	26
2 Dark brown soil immediately below obvious ploughsoil, some probably still ploughsoil but mostly well-compacted and sterile. Immediately above level of kiln 10, which was very near to the surface. 1 fragment modern glass noted.	25
3 Dark well-compacted soil outside the rim of Kiln 10. In theory this should be the groundsoil into which the kiln was inserted, i.e. should pre-date kiln 10 but it is at the level at which the vestiges of the kiln survive and may include some material from the period when the kiln was in use.	10

Includes a kiln fragment with stick or flange moulding.

Mortaria mostly flanged (17 A-types, but two 4-reed D types and 2 F-types).

- 4 KILN-FILLING. KILN 10. Sooty filling on north side of kiln 5
i.e. front half of kiln where kiln survives. Slightly overlies
context 5.

All A-types except 2 B-type, 8 C-types, 2 D-types (1 4-reed;
1 rounded, convex.)

Serial nos.34, 72-80/85/36/no.6 in con.25, have lumps of kiln
fabric adhering and must originally have been used in the
construction of the kiln (see con. 25, which is construction
of surviving pedestal).

Two spout type 8, rest type 7.

- 5 Old baked CLAY FILLING INSIDE KILN 10 south-east of 4
layer 4 and wedging slightly underneath layer 4, i.e. in
position before layer 4 was deposited. Contains at least one
mortarium with debris attached, from construction of kiln.
Fewer mortaria, all A-type except for two B-type; two C-type,
both joining sherds in con. 4. 2 spout-type 8, rest type 7.

- 6 Probably undisturbed filling of stokehole of Kiln 10 but at 9
the very top. Found in defining the stokehole of Kiln 10. All
pottery covered with black soot. At least 2 mortaria were
probably from the construction.

All A-type except for 1 K-type, 1 B-type, 1 C-type.

- 7 In blackish filling outside the stokeholes of both kilns, in 19
the north-east. (not well-defined)

- 8 In the north-east corner of sooty filling lying south-west 20
of Kiln 10A, at the surface of a vague, undetermined feature,
? a shallow ditch, earlier than the kilns; it contains
undoubtedly residual material, including stamps of Maurius

and Sennius, presumably from period ii.

- 9 STROKEHOLE FILLING KILN 10. Black, sooty. Nail thrown away. 6
Nos.221-232 likely to have been used in construction of
kiln. All A-types except for 5 F-types, 8 B-types,
19 C-types, and 5 D-types (3x4-reeds, 1 convex, 1?).
- 10 On the DGS between the strokehole of kiln 10 and kiln 10A. 21
Mottled black and brown with pockets of pottery. seems
undisturbed by plough. Could equal contexts 7 and 8, (i.e.
shallow ditch but at surface. Equally it could be a trample
layer.

Other Finds.

Samian - Flavian.

- 11 From the very end of the strokehole of kiln 10. 7
Either = 14 or 9.
- 12 Northern extension to get end of strokehole of kiln 10A. 18
Contains some topsoil material but probably mostly strokehole
of kiln 10A.
- 13 PRE-DATING Kiln 10. Black, very sooty filling in front of 1
the flue and extending back under the flue. Filling beyond
the end of the flue is not distinguishable from the filling
of the strokehole of Kiln 10.
- 14 Circular area at the end of the strokehole of kiln 10. Black 8
filling. (Check types against layer 13 to check if this
layer pre-dates kiln 10.)
- 15 Believed to be a wide channel pre-dating kiln 10 and 22
probably linked with the ephemeral traces noted in
contexts 7, 8 and 10. Some black but in general, much
brownier than the strokehole filling.
- 1969 had an exceptionally dry autumn and under such
conditions primary deposits are not visible at Mancetter.

The possibility is that this wide, shallow channel could be the military ditch, made visible at this point because of the kiln waste material trodden into the top of it where the softer filling would have caused some churning up of the filling.

Other finds

Samian-Hadrianic.

- W69 (10A) 16 15
Stokehole of kiln 10A. Top 2 inches. Black.
- W69 (10A) 17 14
Stokehole of Kiln 10A. Below Con.16. Very compacted and black.
(Same general proportion of basic A,B,C,D types etc in
Cons.16-17 as kiln 10 contexts.)
- W69 (10A) 18 17
Initial cleaning over kiln 10A.
- W69 (10A) 19 12
Filling inside Kiln 10A. Red clay, probably old, fired and crumbling; also some brown earth. Includes kiln debris, fired dark blue like the kiln, and including a big, wide-mouthed, grey ware jar embedded and preserved in debris.
- W69 (10A) 20 13
Flue-filling of kiln 10A.
- W69 (10A) 21 16
Earth and pottery where the back of kiln 10A was destroyed either in antiquity or by the plough.
- W69 (10A) 22 24
Filling of a hole in the clay of the flue-cheek of kiln 10A, just outside at the top - probably filled with topsoil.
No mortaria.

W69 (10) 23

2

Sealed by clay of furnace floor, which included 3" of raw clay beneath the fired lining. Pre-dates kiln 10, being in the construction.

W69 (10) 24

23

Exploration between Kilns 10 and 10A. Probably = Context 10.

W69 (10) 25

3

Used in the construction of Kiln 10 and still in situ in the pedestal. Pedestal probably built up of clay and mortaria.

W69 (10) 26

11

In the construction of the flue of Kiln 10A.