

Mancetter-Hartshill: publication of mortarium type series.

Identify tasks to be completed:

1. Computerise archive data.
2. Formulate the numbering system for the type series.
3. Select and check the drawings.
4. Form descriptions.
5. Spout type series.
6. Fabric descriptions.
7. Decoration.
8. Mounting of drawings.
9. Format of Corpus. (i.e. Type Series Corpus, not STAMP CORPUS)
10. Editing/ proof checking.

1. Computerise archive data.

Time-scale for entering archive sheets on a data base? Need access to computer data for correlation between rim forms, spout types, potters and kiln groups to formulate the type series numbering system. Without access to computerised data any correlation will be time-consuming and inaccuracies will occur. Location of data base in Leeds, so that we can work with the data ourselves, or be in close contact with the person entering/manipulating data.

2. Formulate the numbering system for the type series.

Need to decide what the scope of the type series shall be, covering forms excavated at Mancetter-Hartshill site only, or to cover all Mancetter-Hartshill forms found at other excavations in Britain? The maximum number of drawings to be published? If in the long-term the publication of newly excavated mortaria will be reduced/ cease because of the publication of the corpus, then variation in the types must be adequately covered to allow forms to be closely matched.

Time-scale for formulating type series numbers? This work needs to be done in close consultation with Kay, as dating of the forms needs to be considered whilst formulating the sequence. Kay's other work load therefore needs to be reduced during this period so that we can work together.

3. Select and check the drawings.

Select drawings from those displayed on type series cards only or from the total drawn mortaria? Check drawings against actual pots. Problem of those not inked and different styles of drawings between Patricia and Malcolm. Time to consult with Malcolm regarding corrections to drawings. Separate drawings, label in blue pencil and place in folders ready for mounting. Who will clean the drawings prior to mounting, Malcolm?

Ideally need a photocopier accessible so that selected drawings can be directly copied/ reduced in their type groups, as a means of checking that the reduced drawings are alright and that we are satisfied with the proposed type series number formulation, also as a record of the final type series. This method is preferable to mounting photocopies of the selected drawings on card, which is far too time consuming.

4. Form descriptions.

Is a written description of the rim types going to be incorporated in the corpus? Brief phrases describing the salient features of the types with a glossary of terms/labelled drawing, will focus attention on those important features relevant to matching types. Produce typed text in line with publisher's guidelines.

5. Spout type series.

Numbering system for publication decided on. Drawings selected, numbered, photocopied, cleaned and mounted. Nomenclature for spout parts defined/ labelled drawing, descriptions written and text typed. Correlation and tabulation spout types and rim forms.

6. Fabric descriptions.

26 fabrics occurring at Mancetter-Hartshill excavations are not appropriate for the purposes of the corpus. Need to look at more examples of mortaria found at other excavations to write a general description which covers that range. Include some notes on chronological differences between earlier coarse fabrics changing to finer ones of later date. Occurrence of orange-brown fabrics outside Mancetter-Hartshill excavation? Macroscopic and petrographical thin-section description may need further liaison with David Williams.

7. Decoration.

Will decoration types be separately included in corpus or simply illustrated as part of the profile drawings? Could tabulate rim forms on which decoration occurs, and/ or mention in salient feature descriptions that decoration occurs, without involving any detailed analysis of decoration types.

8. Mounting drawings.

Problem of storage of the folders with selected drawings awaiting mounting by Malcolm and the final mounted drawings. Check type series numbering of drawings after mounting.

9. Format of Corpus.

Consider what other written notes and tabulation should be included in the corpus. Explanation of the formulation of the type series system and how to use it. Tabulation potters/ forms/ dating/ spout types/ decoration?

10. Editing/ proof checking.

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