

Report of Roman pottery from the excavations at Bainesse Field 163C

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Method statement

Pottery Catalogue

Cremations

Cremation 257

Other pottery sherds.

12400 cremation pit fill 5 burnt and partially oxidised sherds (17g) from an indented beaker came from fill 12400 with a further 4 sherds from the sample from this context. Jars and beakers of this form were made at Malton in the third century (Corder 1950 type 9a; Croom and Bidwell 12012 type 9 dated early third century). Pyre goods

Three BB1 sherds burnt and mostly oxidised came from fill 12400 and came from a small BB1 jar/beaker. The lattice decoration was too eroded to identify. Second to third century. Pyre goods.

Cremation 258

12414 dark material above grave 12407, possible cremation: 2 OAC2 sherds from the sample. These could be burnt GRC12 sherds and be redeposited sherds from a cremation urn.

Cremation 260

~~12347~~ 12349 cremation urn 36 sherds (637g, RE 26%) from a handmade GRC12 jar with blunt-ended, tall, everted rim similar to Knaption jars. This is a carefully made jar with vertical finger grooves inside the lower body as is common on Huntcliff type jars. The fabric is a gritty grey ware. Scorched on one side. Bell and Evans 2002 type 11.2 dated third century. See also Evans 2006 G27.2B and 27.4 both dated second to mid-third century but occurring earlier in late Iron Age to early Roman period (Evans 2006 G251.1 in flint tempered ware. These jars are difficult to date but the fabric and form in a Roman context point to a date in the second to mid-third century. At York Monaghan (1987, 907) dates the appearance of Knaption type jars (this form in calcite-gritted ware) to the end of the second and says it continued through the mid-third century levels. As this cremation cut grave 202, it must date to the third century at the earliest.

12348 sample from fill of cremation cut: 3 GRC12 sherds from the cremation urn

12350 fill of cremation pot: 4 sherds (165g, RE 9%) from cremation urn

Cremation 261

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Urn ~~12356~~ 12355 42 OAB1 sherds from the base and lower body of a jar (299g) with a further 6 scraps from the sample 12361 AA. No diagnostic sherd was recovered from this vessel which can only be broadly dated from the second century or later.

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12356 Eight sherds from a second vessel (21g.RE 14%), a BB1 jar, came from this context. These came from a jar with an everted rim and internal rilling/wipe marks typical of the late BB1 jars of the late second or third and fourth century. The rim form is late second century at the earliest. Redeposited pottery.

Cremation 262

12322 one GRB2 bead rim sherd from the sample and one FLB1 flagon neck (5g) from the pit fill.
Neither sherd is burnt and both could be residual.

Cremation 263 cut into ring ditch 12500

12343 fill of cut 12344 33 unburnt BB1 sherds from jar with splayed rim (99g, RE 6%). Gillam 1970 no. 10 mid- to late third century. The small sherds from this vessel suggest it is re-deposited.

2 small GRA5 scraps (3g.) and one GRA6 carinated sherd(5g) also came from this fill.

6 burnt BB1 sherds came from the sample and perhaps came from the vessel in 12357.

12358 stony fill of cremation cut 12344 one small GRB11 sherd (2.7g), and a further 5 scraps of BB1 burnt, perhaps from vessel in 12357, 6 of GRB and one from an OBB everted rim jar came from the sample. The last sherd is burnt and may be pyre goods.

12357 concentration of dark material and bone in cremation cut 12344: 75 BB1 sherds (370g. RE 21%) from a cavetto rim jar with shoulder groove and obtuse lattice burnish of Gillam 1976 type 8, dating to cAD240-270. This vessel is burnt both inside and outside the body and may be a disturbed urn or pyre goods.

Cremation 265

12318 one very small NV1 scrap from the sample. Third century or later

Cremation 267

12311 fill of cremation cut 12301 24 sherds from an indented scale NV1 beaker with curving everted rim, Howe et al 1980 no. 40 (111g, RE 35%) with a further 20 small sherds from the sample. Early third century with few if any after the mid-third century. Pyre good

30 GRA6 sherds from an everted-rim jar (361g RE30%) with acute lattice burnish copying BB2 jar forms dated cADAD180-280. Pyre good?

Both vessels were burnt although the jar is not severely burnt. Pyre goods

Cremation 269

Urn 12295 22 GRB2W sherds (661g) from the cremation urn. This was an everted-rim jar /beaker with rouletted decoration outside the body. Part of the rim was not present and all breaks are recent. This vessel has a dent in the lower body which was made before firing. The profile with its' low girth is most unusual. These types of beakers/jars are usually somewhat globular and one wonders if this vessel sagged before or during firing. A late first to early second century date is likely.

Cremation 271

RF 11377 13071 charcoal and bone fill of cremation cut 13072 11 GRA6 (353g) sherds from the base and lower body of a jar.Urn

13071 8 GRA13 sherds (49g.) from the base and lower body of a second, smaller jar found with urn.Second or third century.Pyre good?

Cremation 273

Urn? =12351, 12352 fill of pot in cremation cut ~~12352~~ 12309 18 BB1 sherds (112g) from base and body of jar with one scorched bodysherd. The vessel has the wiping and rilling inside typical of third century BB1 jars. Urn.

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Commented [R21]: This is very incomplete. Did it actually contain a cremation?

Commented [JAT2]: Yes - the urn had been very truncated by ploughing but there were remains of the cremation in the base

Ring ditch 12353/12332

Ring ditch with cremation 273 in centre

Fill 12362 of south terminal: seven NV1 sherds (42g. RE 20%) from a plain-rimmed bag beaker decorated with scrolls en barbotine, with profile of Gillam 1970 no. 77 dated cAD190-230, third century in North. A further two sherds from this beaker was found in the sample.

Fill 12363 of gully Eight GRA6 scraps (36g.) and another scrap from the sample

Fill 12364 of gully one GRC scrap from the sample and eight very abraded GRB1 partially oxidised sherds from the fill with vertical burnished lines. This could be from a lugged type jar or a BB2 type jar but in either case will belong in the third century or later.

12365 stony fill in north part of gully 5 partially oxidised GRB1 sherds from base and body of jar (39g.) and a further 6 sherds from the sample

12375 fill of gully two small NV1 sherds and one GRB1 sherd (3g and 2g respectively)

13126 upper fill of gully: one GRA6 bodysherd (2g) and one BB1 scrap from the sample.

12342 1 primary fill of gully terminal 12332 33 sherds from a NV1 plain-rim scroll beaker (46g.RE29%).Same as 12363 but not adjoining.

12339 secondary fill of gully terminal 12332 four NV1 scraps from sample

Gully 12500

A sherd from a SAMMV form 18/31 came from the tertiary fill 12338 and two BB1 sherds from grooved-rim dish with intersecting arcading burnish of early third century type (Gillam 1976 no.73) came from fill 12345 with a further BB1 scrap and a scrap of NV1 beaker and 15 BB1 scraps from a sample from fill 12346. ? The lower fill 12425 contained an OBA1 rouletted beaker bodysherd and two rim and bodysherds from a BB1 everted-rim jar with obtuse lattice of mid-third century date (Gillam 1976 no.8). This vessel was sooted inside the rim and scorched outside the lower body and slightly on the base. This vessel is the same as that found in inhumation 201.

Commented [JAT3]: this the cut no. so no sample - the fill 12345 was not sampled

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Commented [JAT4]: [gully 12500 cut this grave so it is probable that the excavator of the gully was starting to excavate the grave fill and retrieving finds before realising it was a separate feature].

Inhumations

Burial 8

13282 one OAB1 scrap (0.4g.)

Burial 10

13264 one very abraded OAB1 scrap (0.3g.)

Burial 15

13156 AB two GRB scraps

Burial 36

12534 RF 705 seven sherds (97g., RE100%) from SAMCG samian cup Dr46 120-200. ? From surface of grave

Burial 37

12757 one oxidised sherd of mortarium (3g.)

Burial 44

RF10544 complete GBB1 beaker (186g, RE 95%), Gillam 1976 no.27, cAD120-80. Part of rim missing and scorched on handle with surface cracking on body. There are two areas of iron staining on girth and near the rim. Grave good placed in coffin

Burial 55

12726 two BB1 jar sherds with obtuse lattice, third to mid-fourth century.

Burial ~~59-58~~

12589 one OAB1 sherd (9g.) and six GRB8 jars sherds (64g.) with obtuse lattice and shoulder groove mid-third to mid-fourth century.

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Burial 64

RF11165 31 GRB2 sherds from a small jar/beaker with everted rim (165g, RE 100%), mid-second to mid-third century. Incomplete, missing part of base. RF11165 77 BB1 sherds (946g. RE 75%) from a late BB1 jar with everted rim, shoulder groove and obtuse lattice and the girth is less than the rim diameter. Gillam 1976 nos 8-9, cAD240-270. Burnt on one side and sooted outside the shoulder and inside the rim. Not complete- broken in antiquity. A further two BB1 sherds came from the 12805 sample.

12805 nine base and body sherds of BB1 jar (60g.). This is likely to belong to the RF11165 BB1 jar

12805 AA fill one GRB2 sherd

Burial 67

12660 one GRB30 sherd (54g) plain jar base.

Burial 68

12540 AC one OAA scrap

Burial 69

12510 one GRB30 bodysherd (1g) and one GRA5 everted rim (2g, RE 5%) from a small jar. mid-second to mid-third century

Burial 70

12569 AA two GRA6 sherds, two GRB30 sherds and one GRA5 sherd

Burial 73

12623 1 GRA5 scrap (1g.)

Burial 81

RF 726 9 GRB11 sherds from incomplete everted-rim jar (78g, RE 16%) with obtuse lattice burnish, c AD200-280. No base and much of body and rim missing. The breaks are old. This grave dates to the mid-third century at the earliest because it cuts a grave with sherds from a BB1 jar with shoulder groove and obtuse lattice burnish of cAD240 or later. \later]

Commented [JAT5]: I think this is referring to BN58 which was wrongly numbered as 59 above so this doesn't apply

Burial 85

12818 one GRB8 bodysherd (1g)

Burial 96

12473 one Dr20 sherd (5g)

Burial 97

12451 one BB1 rim of everted-rim jar (4g. RE 5%), similar to Gillam 1976 nos 8-9, early to mid-third century.

Burial 113

12422 fill one NV1 scrap

Burial 119

12666 two oxidised scraps

Burial 125

12529 one everted-rim sherd (5g. RE 2%) from a GRB30 wide-mouthed jar, probably third century

Burial 135

12642 one GRA5 rim sherd (5g. RE 10%) from an everted-rim jar copying BB2 type jars of the mid-second to mid-third century,

Burial 141

12843 GRB5 everted rim jar rim sherd (11g. RE 7%), perhaps late first to second century.

Burial 149

12530 large NV1 bodysherd from an indented scale beaker with a second everted rim sherd probably from the same beaker (37g, RE 10%), early third century. Another NV1 scrap came from the sample. Perhaps a re-deposited grave good or post burial offering.

12513 one indented beaker sherd (5g.) and two GRB6 sherds (14g.)

Burial 151

12406 five OBC4 bodysherds (53g.) from a jar and one everted rim OBB sherd from the sample.

Burial 156

12607 AA one scrap of samian

Burial 161

RF11217 one sherd (145g, RE 100%) SAMCG samian cup Dr33, AD120-200 Grave good placed in grave

Burial 163

12683 16 sherds of a Trier black-slip beaker (67g. RE 100), Symonds type 1 group 33, necked, globular beaker with beaded rim and slit indentations and spaced lines of rouletting, cAD200-275. The base and rim sherds are all present although the sherds do not make up a complete vessel. Disturbed grave pot.

12683 one GRA6 sherd (4g)

Burial 165

12711 NV1 scrap from the sample

Burial 166

12702 one FLB1 bodysherd (2g.)

Burial 172

12704 GRA6 ten sherds (35g, RE??) everted-rim beaker, late first to second century. Possibly re-deposited grave good.

Burial 177

RF11292 complete GRA6 small jar/beaker with short everted rim (120g. RE 100%). Rim has a wobble and the base is uneven. Cf Monaghan 1987 3J3, AD150-240/80. Grave good placed in coffin

RF11293 near complete GRA6 small jar/beaker with short everted rim (124g. RE 40%). Slightly distorted with two small spalled areas on the girth. Cf Monaghan 1987 3J3, AD 150-240/80. The rim is incomplete. Grave good placed in coffin

Burial 181

RF11218 one complete GRA6 small jar/beaker with short everted rim (127g, RE 100%), cf Monaghan 1987 3J3 150-240/80 Grave good placed in coffin

Commented [JAT6]: This grave had been truncated by a post-med field boundary so finds could have been disturbed/lost

RF 11219 near complete GRA6 unguent pot (193g. RE 100 but battered). Second century? Grave good placed in coffin

Burial 183

12717 one BB1 jar sherd with obtuse lattice, third century at the earliest.

Burial 184

12492 one oxidised scrap and one samian scrap.

Burial 186

12653 three GRA6 base and lower bodysherds (39g), burnished outside with groove outside lower body, perhaps late first to second century beaker.

Burial 187

12587 four GRC12 rim and body sherds from handmade "Knapton"-type jar (43g RE 13%), three undiagnostic GRB1 sherds (9g.) and two OAB scraps. The GRC12 vessel is similar to that from cremation 260 and may be of similar date range in the late second to mid-third century.

Burial 191

RF755 11 NV1 sherds from an indented beaker with curved rim (93g. RE 33%) with further 11 sherds from the sample (RE 41%). The form compares with Gillam 1970 92 and dates to the first half of the third century. The vessel is not complete but the breaks are quite fresh. This appears to have been placed in the coffin.

Burial 194

12428 one scrap of samian, one plain GRB1 jar base (75g.), one GRB11 bodysherd from an everted – rim jar, mid-second to mid-third century and one NV1 scrap.

~~14249~~ 12429 one GRA3 sherd (3g.) and one GRB1 jar base (75g).

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Burial 198

13151 one BB1 scrap.

Burial 199

RF11834 19 sherds from near complete GRB11 everted-rim jar (259g, 82% copying BB2 jars of mid-second to mid-third century (Gillam 1970 no. 144). The plain burnish is visible with a narrow reserved zone where the lattice would be but this is not visible. The narrow zone suggests it was occupied by obtuse lattice as with pot RF11188 in burial 205. A small amount of the rim is missing. The pot appears to have broken in the grave, perhaps crushed by the coffin's collapse. It was found on its side in pieces. ?Placed grave good.

Burial 201

RF666 OAA3 near complete OAA3 waisted beaker with near funnel neck rim (147g. RE 84%). Part of the rim has been detached. Similar in form to Nene Valley waisted beakers dated to cAD200-250 (Perrin 1999, 169). Placed grave good

RF679 12 NV1 sherds from a plain-rim bag beaker with groove below rim (82g. RE 70). Howe et al 1980 no. 44. cAD200-250. This vessel is incomplete and is not shown as placed on plan or photo

Commented [JAT7]: The east side of the grave had been truncated by ring gully 12500 and thus some of this vessel had been lost. The location of the remaining fragments indicated that it had been placed on the east side of the head in the equivalent position to RF666 on the west side.

12468 AB 2 NV1 scraps from an indented beaker.

12462 63 sherds from BB1 everted-rim jar (941g, RE 80%) with obtuse lattice burnish, Gillam 1976 no. 8, cAD230-260. Vessel fragmented and incomplete, further sherds from this vessel were found in ditch fill 12425 and these make the rim up to 100%. The full base is present. 12467 AA two BB1 sherds. ?Disturbed grave good.

12467 1 GRC or CBM fragment (5g.), one GRB1 bodysherd (9g.) and 4 BB1 sherds (11gg.) from another everted rim jar (RE 5%), cAD230-60, and a further two 1 sherds from a jar base from the sample

Burial 202

12681 one NV1 sherd from an indented beaker (2g) third century

12712 two further NV1 sherds

Burial 204

12776 one Trier black-slip sherd (6g) from a Symonds type 1 indented beaker. AD200-275.

Burial 205

RF11188 GRB11 23 sherds (248g, RE 100) giving complete profile of everted-rim jar with obtuse lattice burnish, Gillam 1970 no. 144 AD200-280. Some of the sherds from this vessel may be in grave 206 RF11216. This pot appears to have been placed in the coffin. The sherds in grave 206 have presumably been incorrectly assigned or all of this pot came from grave 206 and was redeposited in grave 205 or in fact was underneath the coffin and belongs with Grave 206

12816 one OBB1 basal sherd from jar (17g.)

Burial 206

RF 11216 12855 three GRB11 sherds (19g.) from jar with obtuse lattice as in burial 205, AD200-350. Perhaps same vessel as RF11188 in grave 205. See under 205.

Burial 208

13098 1 BB1 sherd from a bowl or dish (3g.), AD120+ and one GRC11 sherd from a jar with obtuse lattice burnish, third to mid-fourth century. Burnt

13112 five sherds from a GRB8 everted rim jar (11G, RE 3%), early to mid-third century.

Burial 209

13036 two BB1 jar sherds with obtuse lattice burnish (6g.) third to mid-fourth century and one GRA6 sherd (5g)

Burial 215

RF11896 21 sherds from NV2 plain-rim bag beaker (114g. RE 21%) with lattice in paler clay applied en barbotine and fired to a pale orange colour. Profile as Gillam 1970 no. 45 dated cAD220-60. This vessel is incomplete with ancient breaks. The position in the grave is not recorded on the plan or photograph. Its status is not clear.

13179 AA two further sherds from beaker RF11896

Commented [JAT8]: Yes I think so. As with RF679, this vessel had suffered disturbance from gully 12500 but it seems likely that it had been deposited in the east side of the grave - see section on gully 12500 above

Commented [JAT9]: In light of this I think the matrix has to change to have 206 cutting 205 - the stratigraphy was an estimation by the excavator, but it makes more sense to have the pot originally placed next to the head in 205, with some sherds then redeposited in 206

Commented [JAT10]: In the first instance the excavator did not treat this as an RF as the fragments were not lying together as if broken in situ, so it was not planned or photographed. It was retrospectively given an RF no. as there was enough of what appeared to be the same vessel to be of interest.

Burial 219

RF 11781 Trier black-slip beaker, complete (60g. RE 100%). Globular necked beaker with lines of rouletting, Symonds group 32 no. 474 squat. Placed grave good.

RF11782 Trier black-slip beaker, complete (80g. RE 85%), except a small part detached from rim, ancient break. Indented beaker with oval indentations, rows of rouletted decoration and medium neck, Symonds group 35 nos 522 and 528. Placed grave good.

Commented [JAT11]: What date for these?

Burial 221

13113 AA one oxidised scrap

Burial 227

~~12488~~ 12448 AA scrap of modern glazed ware white and blue glaze

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Burial 229

RF 11396 OBA3CC 18 sherds from near complete plain-rim bag beaker (100g. RE 100%). Distorted rim and base not flat. Similar profile to Gillam 1970 no. 83 and Howe et al 1980 no. 44. cAD260-320

RF11625 NV1 49 sherds from near complete plain-rim rouletted bag beaker (164g. RE 80%). Similar profile to Gillam 1970 no. 83 and Howe et al. 1980 no. 45, Gillam 2005 no. 8, AD260-300

RF11626 NV2 36 sherds from incomplete plain bag beaker with late everted rim (98g, RE 85%). Similar profile to Gillam 2005 no. 14 dated AD200-250

These three vessels come from the level of the skeleton within the coffin and seem to have been deposited in fragments (smashed) into the grave but incompletely deposited, perhaps disturbed by later features.

Commented [JAT12]: This was a very deep grave with no sign of later disturbance at the level where the pottery lay.

13059 one OAA4 bodysherd (5g.) and one NV1 scrap from the sample

13078 AA one OBA3CC scrap from beaker RF 11396 and one NV1 rim sherd (RE 10%) from RF11625

Burial 234

13164 one GRA6 sherd (5g.) and four burnt BB1 bodysherds (22g) with obtuse lattice of the third to mid- fourth century.

Burial 235

13273 one FLA20 bodysherd (10g) and four BB1 incomplete rim and bodysherds from a developed flanged bowl with intersecting burnished arcades, cAD270-350.

Burial 239

RF11684 NV2 9 sherds from a near complete teardrop shaped beaker with white painted scrolls, long neck and bung foot (169g, RE 85%). This is an unusual body form but the body form and the painted decoration suggests a date early in the painted scroll beaker series perhaps mid-third century. Placed in grave, on side. Some of this vessel is missing.

RF11720 NV2 29 sherds from a grooved plain rim beaker decorated with three rows of rouletting (192g, RE 100%). The profile compares with Howe et al 1980 no. 45, cAD220-260. Placed in grave, found on its side and crushed.

13136 one GRB8 jar sherd with internal wipe marks typical of that on third century jars or later from the sample and two GRB2 bodysherds (9g.)

Burial 240

RF11785 one complete NV1 beaker plain-rim grooved beaker (105g, RE 100%). Profile as Gillam 1970 no. 81, cAD220-260. There is a spalled area just below the groove, c20 x 20mm and the girth is abraded over an area of c50 x 15mm. ?Placed vessel but not on photo

RF11786 one complete GRA6 small jar/beaker with vertical burnished lines (212g, RE 100%). There is a small chip on one side of the rim. Monaghan 1987 313, dated 150-240/80. ?Placed vessel but not on photo

13182 1 FLB1 bodysherd (5g.).

Burial 244

12314 one OAB scrap from the sample

Burial 254

12814 one Mediaeval glazed sherd.

Placed pot? 256

Base frags in pit fill 13056 22 GRA6 sherds from the base and body of a jar (215g), perhaps a placed jar or cremation urn. One BB1 jar bodysherd (11g) with traces of burnished lattice, probably obtuse, third to mid-fourth century.

The pottery

There are 1095 sherds (9782g, EVES 24.39) from the cemetery features and 43 vessels associated with the inhumations and cremations. These 43 vessels all come from graves or grave like features but include partial vessels which are interpreted here as pyre goods. Further vessels which may be disturbed grave or pyre goods are described separately and are not included in tables **. The pottery from the linear features and pits and post-holes on the site are not discussed in detail in this report but are included in table **.

Grave goods

In the graves and possible memorial pit 29 vessels were identified as potential grave goods. Sixteen of these were thought to be deliberately deposited in the grave in which they were found. A further three vessels appear to have been smashed into or on top of the coffin and these are not completely present. In the other cases, the pots were fragmented and incomplete and it was not certain whether they were redeposited grave goods or had been originally deposited in a fragmentary condition.

Commented [JAT13]: These vessels were photographed -Film 171/226-231

Vessel types

Twenty beakers or small jars of beaker size were identified, with two samian cups, six jars and an unguent pot. Unusually there were no other vessel types used as grave goods. Fifteen beakers and cups are in fine wares. There is one grey BB1 handled beaker, five GRA6 beaker/small jars and one GRB2 small jar. The six jars comprise two in BB1, one in GRA6 and three in GRB11.

All of the measureable beakers and small jars were rather small compared to Cool's plot of the late second to third century beakers (2005 fig. 15.5), the majority being less than 100mm high and having a rim diameter of 70mm or less. Some of these complete and near complete beakers and small jars were noticeably smaller than others. In order to quantify this they were filled with water to a point where they could be carried without spilling and the volume measured. It appeared that in graves where two vessels of the beaker/small jar type were present in a grave, one held c150ml and the other c200ml. These perhaps represent different functional groups. The smaller beakers also were finer in fabric- being colour coated wares while the taller small jars with wider rims were in grey ware. In some cases, particularly the Trier black-slip beakers, the rims are barely wide enough to drink out of suggesting these may be from graves belonging to children. It is noteworthy that a similar situation was observed at the roughly contemporary cremation cemetery at Brougham where both samian cups and colour-coated beakers were particularly associated with children (Cool 2004, 362-3). There were only two samian cups, forms 33 and 46. [Add info on associated burial](#)

The jars are all in a broken and incomplete condition. In two cases parts of the vessel were found in other features. The pot in grave 205 was also present in 206 and that in 201 had been disturbed by the ring ditch in which fills sherds were also identified. The vessel found in 199 was nearly all present and appears to have been broken in the grave, perhaps crushed by the decaying coffin. The jar on 256 had been placed but the upper part had gone. The jars in 64 and 81 were fragmented with sherds missing. Both vessels in burial 64 appeared outside the coffin and both were fragmentary. These may derive from a different part of the burial and memorial ritual or be redeposited.

The associated grave pots are all broadly contemporary dating to the early to mid-third century apart from the two samian cups of second century date, grave 44 with its second century GBB1 handled beaker a small jar from grave 172 and the jar and unguent pot from grave 181. In the case of the small jars from graves 172 and 181, both are simple everted-rim jars and are difficult to date without some sort of diagnostic decoration. The vertical burnish decoration on the jar from grave 181 compares with BB2 vessels of the mid-second to mid-third century so the range of the ceramic grave goods should be given a range of cAD150-250 with most graves datable to the early-mid-third century either by additional associated pottery or stratigraphically earlier pottery.

The location of the grave pots were examined and the majority had been placed in the grave. In one grave, 229, three beakers seem to have been broken into the grave, perhaps onto the top of the coffin. In grave 64 the vessels were broken and incomplete and apparently lay outside the coffin. The same is true of the jar in grave 81. The relationship between the burial and the samian cup in grave 161 nor is the relationship clear between the burial and the incomplete beaker sherds in graves 163, 172 and 215. In grave 201 the broken and incomplete beaker was recorded as within the grave.

In terms of the position of the grave pots in relation to the body, the most common location was at the head end whatever the vessel types with the majority of the vessels being recorded as inside the coffin. Only four vessels, two beakers, a small jar and the unguent pot, were placed near the middle, in the pelvis area.

Two of the beakers had part of the rim missing and one had a small abraded area missing on the outside of the rim apparently through usage. The rim of the unguent pot is also rather bashed and abraded. The areas of detached rims in the beaker in grave 201 and the Trier beaker in grave 219 are both V shaped and very clean but with some dirt adhering. The dirt suggests these are ancient not modern breaks and the V shape might indicate deliberate cuts in the manner described by Biddulph at Pepper Hill cemetery, Kent (2006, 31-3 and 73). Such "mutilation" is interpreted as some sort of ritual killing of the vessels before burial, perhaps to facilitate their journey to the after life. One GRA6 beaker had two spalled areas on the girth and a Nene Valley beaker also had a spalled area. It is not possible to be sure when such spalling occurred and these could also be some sort of ritual treatment. Scorching was identified on the handled GBB1 beaker and on one side of a BB1 jar. The jar was also sooted. GBB1 and BB1 vessels are by far and away the most commonly sorted and burnt vessels in domestic settlements and there is no compelling to assume these conditions are due to anything more than domestic usage. The wear identified inside the samian cup form 46 is of a similar character. The selection of two small grey ware jar/beakers which were distorted in some way perhaps shows the use of seconds as grave goods. One of the vessels had a very uneven base which would make it very unstable indeed.

Cremation urns and pyre goods

The pottery from the cremations can be divided into three groups, residual pottery sherds, cremation urns and pyre goods. The first are useful only in terms of providing a terminus post quem for the backfilling of the grave. The urns are strictly defined as pots which contained the burnt bones of the dead. The last category includes burnt fragments, usually of small jars or beakers, which are often incomplete. It is suggested that these represent vessels thrown on to the pyre as part of the funerary rites and gathered up with the bones for burial. Clearly they could theoretically include pyre goods from earlier cremations which have been incorporated with a later burial or accidentally burnt residual pottery from the earlier phase of occupation in the area. In two cases the sherds categorised as the cremation urn included sherds from two different jars (cremations 263 and 271). Whether it represents two disturbed cremations or single cremations incorporating sherds from previous cremations may be clearer when the cremations and other finds have been analysed.

All the cremation urns are jars. The urns were all in BB1 or grey ware apart from one rather coarse oxidised jar base in cremation 261. The pyre goods, by contrast, are made up of beakers and jars. There were eight cremation urns. Of these three were BB1 jars (two vessels in 263 and one in 273), one survived as a jar base in fine grey wares GRA6 (271), one was a handmade grey gritty GRC12 Knapton type jar (260), one was a sandy OAB1 oxidised jar base (261) and one was a near complete GRB2 rouletted jar (269). This last vessel is likely to be the earliest of the urns. It belongs with the neckless everted-rim jars of the late first to early or mid-second century and was rouletted all over its body. The profile is most unusual with its widest part being just above the base. Normally such

vessels are quite globular or ovoid in shape. This vessel has the narrow mouth of the globular type rouletted jars/beakers but appears to have sagged, perhaps during the drying process or firing. Certainly the pronounced dent outside its lower body confirms its character as a second if not unusable waster.

The putative pyre goods, by contrast, are small jars or beakers in BB1, GRA13, GRB27, NV1 and OBB and a jar in GRA6. This latter vessel is included as a pyre good due to its partially oxidised condition but it may have functioned as an urn in the cremation pit. The vessel forms comprised a small BB1 beaker, a GRB27 indented beaker/jar, a Nene Valley folded beaker with everted rim, the base of a small GRA13 jar and a small sherd from a neckless everted-rim jar or beaker. All were in a burnt and fragmented condition except the GRA13 base.

It is admittedly difficult to be certain that the putative pyre goods are related to the burial in which they are found. These could have been inadvertently scooped up with ashes from a well-used pyre site and belong with earlier cremations or be redeposited in the backfilling of the grave. Twenty vessel groups from F163C were scorched or burnt to some extent. Of these 12 came from the cremations six came from the inhumation graves, one came from ring ditch 12500 and a further two came from settlement ditches. The two from the settlement ditches were bowls, a vessel type not otherwise found in cemetery features. These can safely be dismissed as domestic vessels. The four of the scorched vessels from the inhumation graves are BB1 jars with one BB1 handled beaker. The remaining two vessels were jar bases in fabrics OBC4 and OAB1 but both may be burnt and oxidised examples of grey ware equivalent fabrics. BB1 vessels are by far the most commonly found vessel in a burnt and scorched condition so their incidence in the inhumation graves is not remarkable. The scorched beakers and small jars in the cremations, by contrast, appear to be deliberately selected forms, presumably functioning as libation vessels. Thus the concentration of scorched sherds within the cremations and their particular vessel type, beakers, strongly suggests there are the remains of vessels used during the funerary rites which were thrown or placed on the pyre and later gathered up with the burnt human remains.

Whether some of these sherds are from burials other than the ones in whose cremation pit they have ended up in is a question that cannot be answered. Only three cremations have pyre goods, 257, 263 and 267, and of these only one, 263, also had a cremation urn. The second small jar base from 271 may also be a pyre good but as it is not burnt this is not certain. In cremation 257 sherds from two vessels were identified, a GRB27 folded beaker and a BB1 beaker, both burnt and partially oxidised. These were recovered from the sample. In 263 one burnt sherd from a small everted rim jar or beaker may be from the pyre and two BB1 jars came from this cremation. In cremation 267 44 sherds of a NV1 folded beaker were found, many burnt, as well as partially oxidised GRA6 everted-rim jar. The jar may be pyre goods or an urn but was recorded as from the fill so is interpreted here as a second pyre good.

Ring ditch groups

Two ring ditches belonged to the cemetery phase, group 12500 and 12353/12332. In the fill of 12500 two sherds from a scorched BB1 everted rim jar of mid-third century date may derive from cemetery activity and is certainly contemporary with some of the cremations. In ring ditch

12353/12332 some 49 sherds from a NV1 plain-rim scroll beaker dating to the first half of the third century and eleven sherds from the base and lower body of a burnt third century GRB1 jar with vertical burnish lines are likely to relate to cemetery activity, perhaps belonging with the central urned cremation 273 or the later unurned cremation 274 which has no associated ceramics.

Other features and cemetery vessels in other features

The pottery from the settlement ditches in F163C date the use of these and the occupation of the building to early second century apart from the rim of a third century BB1 jar in 12519 from the terminal fill of 12520, a tiny NV1 scrap from the lower fill 12371 of ditch 12368 and the rim of a wide-mouthed GRB30 jar from the upper fill 12372 of this ditch. These can all be explained as late fill finds apart from the NV1 scrap which is tiny (0.2g).

Structure 12920 contained nothing which has to be later than the early second century. A single BB1 sherd came from the secondary fill of posthole 13230 but rusticated ware came from fill 12920 of posthole 13348 while samian sherds dated cAD70-110 came from 13313 of 13245 and 13230 of posthole 13228. In primary fill 13259 of posthole 13258 a rim sherd from GRA6 bead-rim hemispherical bowl copying samian form 37 has a broad upper zone similar to types dating from the Hadrianic or early Antonine period. Since these sherds may all have entered the postholes after the disuse and collapse of the building, a date in the late first to early second century is possible. However the coarsewares from the settlement overall suggest an early second century start since the earliest pottery types, particularly the oxidised wares found at F176 and 179 and the reeded rim bowls and early flagons are not present. The earliest cremation, 269, could be contemporary with this phase of settlement.

When the pottery from the non-cemetery features in field 163C are compared with those from the cremations and inhumations, it is very clear that the assemblages are wholly different. The range of fabrics and vessel types from the settlement is far wider with jars, small jars and beaker dominating in both the grave and pyre goods while the non-cemetery features have a more normal profile of bowls, dishes, flagons with small amount of mortaria and amphorae

Chronology

The cremations which have associated ceramic vessels are predominantly of early to mid-third century date apart from cremation 269 which is much earlier. This vessel is in a fabric and form dating to the late first to second century and, on the basis of preliminary phasing at F176, the late first to early second century. As such it contrasts with all the other cremations dated by their ceramics. The grave goods within the inhumations were in fact of similar date range in the early to mid-third century with a small number possibly of mid- to late second century date. Thus it would appear that, at least as far as the dead with ceramic grave/pyre goods are concerned, the two rites were contemporary at Bainesse.