PACHENESHAM, LEATHERHEAD

The excavation of the medieval moated site known as 'The Mounts'

by the late ANTHONY LOWTHER
with a contribution by the late A T RUBY
(edited by DEREK RENN)

THE FINDS

POTTERY

The excavations produced a good collection of complete or largely complete profiles. All vessels are cooking-pots unless otherwise described. For findspots of pottery, see Table 1. In some instances Lowther's markings indicating provenance cannot readily be reconciled with known trenches; where this occurs, the markings are given, without comment.

ROMAN

Samian scraps from E 1; Q. Fine grey wares from E 1; J 1; N 1; N 2; P 2; P 4 (the last matched at Ashtead, according to Lowther). Heavy coarse rim from R 2.1.

MEDIEVAL

I SHELL TEMPERED WARES (figs 11, 13, 14, 16)

Such wares range from c 1050-1250 at Brooklands (Hanworth & Tomalin 1977, 60) but stopped abruptly around 1200 at Northolt Manor and 1300 at Eynsford Castle (Rigold 1971, 149). They seem to have been rare at Reigate by 1200 and ceased perhaps by 1250 at Merton Priory (Turner 1967, 54; 1977, 83).

a Hand-smoothed, black surface with large shell inclusions

101 : Small squat cooking-pot

b Hand-smoothed, leathery brown surface

102 - 104

c Hand-smoothed corky surface, grey inside, brown outside

105 - 112 : (except 106 brown, 112 red) cf Dunning 1952, fig 11: 1,2.

d Fine leathery dark buff surface, grey core

113 - 116

e Spalled red surface, grey core

117 - 124 : Rough surface; 118 - 119 have thumbed applied strips round neck.

125 : Finer surface, thumbed applied strips round neck, down side and under base.

126 - 131 : For 130, cf Dunning 1952, fig 11:4.

132 : Finger-tipped rim, from clay of hearth M 2; another from M 2 has orange inner surface.

133 - 136

137 : Large vertical-sided bowl.

138 : Dish?

139 : Storage jar? overlapping scales at base angle, from D - see discussion.

140 - 144 : Firecover (curfew) fragments. 140, perforated handle with radiating ribs, marked 49 Ph 4, so presumably from one of the postholes inside the main building. 141, pricked top with thumbed strip. 142 - 144 lower rimsherds with thumbed band.

For a general survey of curfews, see Hurst (1963; 1964). Kennett (1969) dated a fire-cover from Brafield, Northants, in shell-filled ware with similar decoration to the Pachenesham examples, to the 10th or 11th century, but similar material from Lyveden nearby has now been dated to the late 12th or early 13th century (Webster 1975, 66-7, 90-1). See also Hanworth & Tomalin 1977, fig 41:87, and, for a better-quality product no 328 below.

f Leathery orange surface with buff core

145 - 146 :

II FLINT-GRITTED WARES WITH REDUCED GREY SURFACE (fig 18)

201 : Bowl, spalled and burnt black inside like those from the Ashtead kiln (Frere 1941, fig 5:20).

202 : Jug with low-set handle. Green-glazed (dark mottle outside, olive within) with stripe across otherwise unglazed flat base.

A number of cooking-pot sherds in this ware, with sharp base angles and applied strips, from D 1; E 1; F 1; N 3.

III SANDY WARES (figs 11, 15 - 18)

a White (oxidised) core

301 - 303 : Grey surface (for 301 cf Frere 1941, fig 4:1).

304 - 305 : Orange surface.

306 : Jug in greyish ware.

307 - 309 : Jugs. 308 has diaper decoration of sharp but clear scoring under yellow glaze. 309 has patchy mottled green glaze externally over applied strips indented using a comb.

b Grey, reduced core, orange surfaces

311 - 320 : For 313, 317 cf Frere 1941, fig 4:8, 10; for 318 cf Dunning 1952, fig 12:3).

321 - 325 : Spouted rouletted jugs. Rouletting occurs on Normandy jugs of the 12th/13th century (Dunning 1958, 209) and also on local vessels of the 12th century (Rigold 1971, fig 17:X9) or 13th century (eg early 13th century pit group from Reigate - information D Williams and see 16 Bell Street report, fig 5:1).

c Buff ware

326 - 327 : Micaceous, striated and burnt outer surface.

328 : Perforated handle end of curfew (see 140 above) with thumbed edges and stabbing, like products of kilns at Ashtead (Frere 1941, fig 6:32, 33; Renn 1968) and Bentley (Booth 1970; Barton & Brears 1976, fig 1:8).

331 - 334 : Jug fragments. 331 has thin honey glaze on back of handle, others have dark green glaze.

335 : Yellow glaze underneath, running into and between thumbings on sides.

337 : Lower part of jug neck, decorated by a girth rib at the base of the neck and by stamps on the body. One of the two stamps represented on the sherd is too fragmentary for interpretation but the other is of a shield with (probably) three chevrons. Jugs bearing decoration of this type, possibly representing the arms of the Clare family, have been discussed by Thorn (1972; 1978). It may be recalled that Brayley states that Pachenesham was held by Gilbert de Clare in 1306/7 (see the section on the history of the site in the printed text).

d Cream Slipped Wares

338 - 340 : 338, pink sandy ware with cream slip externally beneath band of pink slip or paint (cf Hurst 1962, fig 72:1; Turner 1967, fig 8:96). 339, similar but thick mottled green glaze and deeply scored brown sgraffito through the slip; closely paralleled at the Bushfield Shaw kiln (Turner 1974, fig 5) as is 340

which is in grey sandy ware with smooth dark brown surfaces and thick mottled green glaze over cream slip, with a decoration of scored wave and running loops.

IV BRICK-RED EVENLY FIRED SANDY WARE, GREY REDUCED CORE (fig 18)

401 : Pan with white slip, spiral wash of green glaze.

402 - 406 : Jug fragments, external traces of glaze. 402, midbrown crackled glaze below rim. 403, with splash of mid-green glaze, see Dunning 1952, fig 12:7. 404, mottled light green over white slip. 405, yellow-glazed 'crushed-plait' handle, a type derived from the Oxford region (Jope 1958, fig 19). A copy with spiral wash of white slip under the green glaze came from the same layer. A rod handle with a black and white spiral under green glaze came from K 2, cf Hanworth & Tomalin 1977, 65 no 125. 406, spots of green glaze.

V OTHER WHITE-SLIPPED MATERIAL

a Red-brown, sandy

Jug rim like 331, from P 1 joining with sherds from K 1 and N 1. Strap handle, from P 1, joining with sherd from P 2. Others glazed brown or green.

b Brown glaze over coarser ware

From TK; LP; K 1; M 1, some with white-painted stripes of various widths (cf Rigold 1971, 168).

VI POLYCHROME (SAINTONGE) WARE (notes on 501 & 502 by the late G C Dunning)

501 : Although very small (it is only ¾ inch by ½ inch), the sherd retains sufficient of the painted decoration for the pattern to be identified with confidence.

It is crossed vertically by a dark brown line, with a green-painted band on the left side, and to the right an orange-yellow band crossed by two sloping brown lines. A lustrous colourless glaze, thick and crackled, covers the painting. The ware is fine and grey or buff on the broken edge. It appears to be discoloured by heat.

The sherd is from the body of a pear-shaped or cylindrical jug decorated on each side with a large rectangular panel bordered in green and outlined in brown, with the corners painted yellow and crossed diagonally by brown lines. The middle of the panel would be filled by a large ribbed leaf striped in brown.

A complete jug with this decoration, found in Bishopsgate Street, London is in the Guildhall Museum (now the Museum of London) (Dunning 1933, fig 13b). Fragments of another were found at Stonar, Kent, together with many other sherds of polychrome ware (Dunning 1941, pl 2: 7) and a sherd from a third example is from Criccieth Castle, Caernarvonshire (Dunning 1944, fig 7). The painting on the Pachenesham sherd agrees very closely with these three examples and the sherd appear to come from near the lower left side of the panel. The thick crackled glaze is unusual on polychrome jugs but it is exactly matched by the glaze on the sherd from Criccieth Castle.

502 : Sherd 1½ inches long of pinkish yellow ware with thin colourless glaze.

It is part of the rim with the place of attachment of a large bridge-spout rising above rim level, such as are characteristic and normal on polychrome jugs (Dunning 1933, pl 25: 1 and 26). The rim is thickened and flattened on top, and at the broken lower edge of the sherd the surface is curving outwards to form the angular moulding that is unusual on the necks of this class of jug. There is no painting on the sherd, but this is usually present as a green band round the neck below the level of the moulding.

503 : Another rim sherd like those just described but rather heavier in section.

The polychrome and monochrome pottery, painted with birds, leaves or shields in the Saintonge of western France (Barton 1963) and found on the sites of many Edwardian castles has been associated with the reign of Edward I, but Butler (1973, 83) points out that imports could well have a longer life. A floruit around 1295 is indicated by discoveries at Beaumaris Castle (begun in that year) and Castell-y-Bere (destroyed in that year), although it might have been the debris from previous occupation of both sites. The most recent distribution-maps are in Dunning 1968 (figs 21, 24) supplemented by Butler (1974, fig 17). The jugs could have been brought back by de Hacche from his visits to Gascony in 1294, or purchased from the royal suppliers, or alternatively have been the property of Robert D'Arcy some twenty years later,

acquired by similar means (see the history of the site, described in the printed text).

VII COPIES OF FRENCH WARES (fig 17)

601 : Jug in buff ware with narrow vertical ribs of brown clay alternating with diaper rouletting under a patchy mottled green glaze. Similar sherds but with brown glaze came from P 1, and both are derived from the jugs with bichrome applied strips common in the Seine valley (Barton 1965; 1966).

602 - 615 : Jugs in pinkish-brown or grey ware with applied scalloping or pellets in panels demarcated by ridges covered in cream slip, copied from Rouen jugs of the 13th/14th century (Rigold 1971, 168). See Rackham (1948, pls 11, 90), Rigold (1971, fig 23: B 35-7; fig 24: D 65) and Barton (1977, fig 16:21).

Note: A complete catalogue of pottery, including unillustrated sherds, is retained in the archive. It notes many instances where sherds from two or more trenches can be reunited by a common fracture line.

CLAY PIPES

Clay pipe stems occurred in surface layers near the track T 1, T 3, R 1, and the bowls found in T 1, R 1, were simply moulded and probably of 19th century date.

GLASS

Roman (unstratified) (note by Dr D B Harden)

i Flame-rounded rim of a small cup or bowl, thin walls with prominent streaks; 3rd or 4th century

ii Window glass (glossy/matt surfaces) probably from a sheet cast in an open-tray mould. Common in the 1st or 2nd centuries, but continuing later.

Post-medieval (note by S R C Poulter)

Two flask-shaped wine bottles of olive-green metal, from A 1. Bottle 1 is represented by pieces making up about $^{2}/_{3}$ of the base and most of the upper part; all the main features except the overall height and shape of the wall below the shoulder can be identified (maximum diameter 140mm, height of basal kick 40mm, height to maximum diameter 15mm, height above string rim 6mm). Comparison with four series of illustrations (Hume 1961; Leeds 1941; Warner Allen 1961; Wills undated) yields dates all within the range 1705-35. Bottle 2 consists of smaller pieces, most of the mouth and neck in two parts; its few features suggest a possible date in the range 1725-45.

Thus the two bottles could have been abandoned on the same occasion, as Lowther suggested (Lowther 1947), but not before the second quarter of the 18th century rather than c 1650.

METAL

IRON (Pls 6, 8, 9)

1 (Not illustrated) Three-pronged fork, of rectangular section throughout with tapering prongs and perforated tapering tang. Robbing levels

2, 3 Rectangular section bars with flattened ends, 3 (pl 8) bent into a semi-circle

4 (pl 6) Flat plate with raised scales, possibly ringmail. (This object is to be further examined by x-ray)

5 Bar terminating in flat ring

6 (pl 9) Prick spur with diamond-pointed terminal, square section (Z 2, by west hearth). Another found on road surface (Lowther 1951, 102) but now lost. London Museum type 7 (LMMC, 97) but strong curve suggests later than c 1200.

7, 8 (pl 8) L-shaped flat and triangular section bars, perhaps door-hangers

9 Flat bar with one end pointed, bent into a U-shaped hook

10 (pl 9) Horseshoe; fragment of flat bar, the tapering end doubled back to form a calkin (cf Goodall 1977, fig 45)

11, 12 (pls 8, 9) Buckles, circular section rings with linked bar

13, 14, 15 (pl 9) Nails with 'fiddle key' heads

16, 17, 18, 19 (pl 9) Nails of square section, 17 being of the 'headless' type (Goodall 1977, 75 E)

20 (pl 8) Pointed flat triangular arrowhead (cf Pitt-Rivers 1883, pl 18, 1; Jope & Threlfall 1959, fig 20, 3; Goodall 1977, fig 45, 5)

COPPER ALLOY

Nevill (1889, 20) mentions Roman brass coins from the area.

31 (pl 10) Heavy foot at the end of a thick section with raised rib. Similar finds from Lee Wood, Effingham (Lowther & Ruby 1955, 13) and elsewhere (Rahtz 1969, fig 50, 112; Beresford 1975, fig 45, 39; Biddle et al 1961, fig 19, 19; Steane & Bryant 1975, fig 43, 72)

32 (pl 10) Thin-out-turned rim (? drinking vessel)

33 (pl 10) Small key with rounded bow and simple wards

34 (pl 10) Domed stud

35 Short bar with perforated expanded ends, side-perforated lug bent back to hold bar (? purse-mount)

36 (pl 10) Perforated plate with traces of gilding and patterning, like one from Brandon castle, destroyed 1266 (Chatwin 1955, pl 8 a)

37 (pl 10) Foliate strip half-round section with rounded perforated terminals, probably from a decorative mount (see Jope & Threlfall 1959, 267)

38 Thin strip with square perforation.

LEAD

41 (pl 10) Key-shaped, with square shank and perforated lobes

42,43 Strips (see Rahtz 1969, fig 46, 42)

44 (pl 10) Perforated frustrum of a cone probably a spindle-whorl or weight (Oakley & Hall 1979, 286). See below for chalk specimens

STONE

51, 52 (pl 10) Chalk spindle whorls

53 - 59 Honestones. (pl 10) 53 to 58 are made from mica-quartz-schist mullions, Ellis (1969) type 1 A (i). A radiometric date for a hone of this psammatic material indicates a Scandinavian source, perhaps the Eidsborg district of Telemark in Norway, rather than Britain.

59 Hone of Lower Greensand (Hythe beds). Sandy ostracod limestone and chert with nodular phosphatic growths (unstratified). Level P 1 produced a broken cylindrical stone of similar origin, about $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches in diameter.

I am indebted to Dr S E Ellis for his comments on the above and on 61 and 62 below.

60 Mortar (fig 10) (note by the late G C Dunning)

Nearly one half of the base and lower part of the side of a mortar in grey Purbeck marble, identified by Mr F G Dimes of the Institute of Geological Sciences. Diameter of base 5½ in. The outer surface is pecked, above a zone of oblique tooling at the base. The pecking would form a deep zone on most of the bowl, and be limited above by tooling like that at the base. The inside surface is smooth and polished, and shows no appreciable signs of wear by grinding or pounding.

The lower end of one of the side handles remains one inch above the base. It slopes markedly outwards from the bowl, and so was not a flat rib or fillet but a prominent rib, curved in profile, which extended up to rim level. Several mortars in Purbeck marble with side handles of this form are known (Dunning 1977; Hanworth & Tomalin 1977) and the drawing has been restored accordingly, and the front lug with runnel added. A smaller piece of a mortar is identical as regards stone, colour and pecking with the above, but it is slightly thinner at the side. Probably it belongs to the same mortar, since this irregularity occurs on other examples.

(Other stone fragments polished by wear include Wealden sandstone (from D 1) and an unstratified fragment of Burr stone).

61, 62 (Fig 11) Quern fragments in Niedermendig basalt lava, the lower stone being hatch-tooled underneath. Plagioclase laths and oxide grains with phenocrysts of clinopyroxene, some betile. Similar to tephrite (Mayen in Eifel).

BUILDING MATERIALS

BRICK, TILE AND POTTERY ROOF FINIAL

Roman brick and tile occurred in P 1 and elsewhere, and had been found on the site in 1859 (Nevill 1889, 20). Combing was in a variety of ways; 10 teeth wavy, 8 teeth, 7 teeth, 6 teeth curving and 4 teeth diagonal hatching.

Medieval

71 Buff clay slabs tapering in two planes with knife-trimmed edges (from all levels in P); large pebble content, perhaps from an arch or dome of 30 inch diameter, somewhat similar to pottery kiln firebars (Corder 1957) but these taper in one plane only; cf finds at Lyveden (Steane 1967, fig 9g) and Saxo-Norman brick (Jope 1952; 1953; Rahtz 1960).

72 Antefix (?) in buff clay, red core. Planar underside, curved edge. Knife-cut lower edge and thumbed moulding.

73 Rectangular tiles 7 inches wide and up to 9 inches long; medial raised line on smoothed face, two wide-spaced nailholes tapering down from one inch diameter, with traces of torching mortar on faces. Pink ware treacly-brown glaze on top edge, but much variation; ungiazed in A 4, in well filling and W, overfired in N O 1, hard buff in R 1 and in shell filled and coarse grey wares in P 1B (not illustrated).

74 Rounded ridge tile in hard buff ware; a small fragment of a hip tile curved in two planes (cf Rahtz 1969, fig 60) was also found (not illustrated).

75 Crest affixed to cut ridge tile. Sandy whitish ware light green glaze outside. The upper part is curved (about 6in radius) with stab holes (not illustrated).

76 (fig 12) Ridge finial in whitish ware, green glazed. Ear, eye and nose on separate sherds, also the right arm grasping the smaller end of a horn.

The thumb is an applied strip and the fingers are incised. An unglazed scar further along the opposite side of the horn shows the position of the left hand. The end of the horn is closed and two transverse incised lines between deep stab marks decorate the outer curve of the horn. Another sherd was the right foot with pointed toe, with a flat applied strip for the stirrup, projecting beyond a scar marking its attachment to a curved surface. The last sherd illustrated is the end of a ridge tile with an unglazed area surrounding a splayed oval hole into which a foot may have been dowelled. Undrawn sherds with stab marks through to the inside may have come from the upper part of the body of the figure, about 4in in diameter. Rilling marks inside show that the figure was wheel-turned.

There seems to be some evidence that the figure was mounted on horseback (Dunning 1974), and crests in the form of mounted knights were bought for Banstead manorhouse from John Pottere of Cheam in 1373 (Colvin et al 1963, 897 n 10). For downward pointing hornblowers, see the Warwick gittern of c 1290-1330 in the British Museum (BMQ 1965, 35).

77 (fig 12) Chimney pot in fine sandy evenly-fired red ware with a nearly vertical applied strip found close to east hearth and stratified with building of hall. See Dunning 1961, fig 5.5.1 and 1970.

BUILDING STONE (none illustrated)

81, 82 Upper Greensand (fine-grained calcareous sandstone some mica and glauconite) waste chips throughout P levels, some with ½in wide gouged grooves, others with fine parallel tooling on flat face; the other (82) with chevron carving in two planes was unstratified.

83 Quarter-round moulding of polished Wealden (paludina) marble, (Shelly limestone with vivaparous shell, quarried at Bethersden, Charlwood, Laughton and Petworth).

Also:

(i) Septaria nodules (calcareous mud cracks filled with calcite). Occur in London Clay, used for moat revetment?

(ii) Upper Chalk. Smooth faces meeting at 90°, parallel tooling (one face vertical, other diagonal).

(iii) Horsham slabs (Calcareous sandstone in Wealden clays) about one inch thick. One face planar, the other roughly smoothed, probably for roof covering.

BUILDING MORTAR (note by N Davey)

The sample of rendering consisted of lime, now of course carbonated, with a small addition of about 20% by weight of siliceous river sand. The other samples of lime mortar from the walls contained more of the same type of sand, the proportions of mix being approximately equivalent to 1 volume of lime (assumed to be run to putty) to 1½ volumes of sand; or 1 volume of dry hydrated lime to about 3 volumes of sand. In what state the lime was in fact used cannot be determined, whether in the form of lime putty or dry hydrate.

ANIMAL REMAINS

Bones of the common domestic animals (cattle, horse, pig and sheep) occurred all over the central area in the upper levels, but the surviving bones are insufficient for useful information to be drawn from their measurement and further examination. Lowther identified a number of tusks as being from wild boar, but Dr Juliet Jewell of the Department of Zoology at the British Museum (Natural History) has stated that they are not large enough for boar, and their size is typical of medieval domestic pig; two were sows.

Mr G S Cowles of the Subdepartment of Ornithology at the same museum kindly identified the less usual bones:

P 1	Hawfinch (not hawk, pace Lowther) and snail
P 2, 3	Rabbit and pheasant
P 3c, 4	Cockle, mussel, oyster, whelk, winkle (woodcock in P 3c)

TABLE 1

INDEX OF TRENCHES AND LEVELS OF THE FINDS ILLUSTRATED

A 3	4, 302
A 4	73
D 1	54, 83, 116, 139, 307, 310, 339
E 1	1, 33, 503
E 2	622
J 1	141
K 1	8, 12, 36, 42, 57, 142, 321, 331, 334, 340, 601, 614, 615
K 2	16, 20, 129, 131, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 143, 316, 327, 331, 401
L 2	130
M 1	134, 332
M 2	3, 31, 44, 128, 132
N 1	7, 11, 41, 61, 62, 321, 324, 325, 401, 402
NO 1	403
N 2	9, 13, 14, 18, 115, 119, 121, 122, 123, 138, 140, 141, 301, 319, 320, 328, 336
OP 1	38, 56, 58, 313, 315, 334, 401, 404, 405, 406, 407, 613
P 1	10, 43, 51, 53, 75, 76, 201, 202, 302, 304, 305, 306, 326, 329, 332, 337, 401, 501, 502, 611
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P 1b	17, 51, 53, 73
P 1c	60
P 2	37, 52, 81, 111, 112, 117, 118, 120, 144, 146, 309, 314, 317, 318, 323
P 3	72, 114, 126
P 3a	2, 5, 102, 107, 124, 125, 127
P 4	101, 103, 105, 106, 108, 109, 110, 145, 306
R 1	73
R 4	35
R 6	19
V 1	32, 34
V 2	308
Z 2	6
Unstratified	104, 311, 312, 330, 335, 338, 612 & Roman glass i & ii