

**Excavations at 43 High Street, Reigate 1981**

by DAVID W WILLIAMS

## 43 HIGH STREET, REIGATE

### THE POTTERY AND TILE

by D W Williams

### MEDIEVAL POTTERY AND TILE

#### Layers 66 & 43 (fig 10: 1-14)

1. Cooking pot. Coarse shell temper, grey core, grey inner surface, grey shading to red/brown outer surface.
2. Cooking pot. Hard, ?overfired grey ware. Fine sand temper.
3. Cooking pot. Grey core, orange/brown inner surface, buff outer surface shading into blackened body. Medium sand temper.
4. Cooking pot. 'Black-surfaced grey' ware (Turner 1974b).  
Dark grey surfaces. Lighter core.
5. Cooking pot. Grey core, light buff surfaces, medium sand temper.  
One shell fragment.
6. Jug. Combed wavy line below rim. Orange/buff surfaces, grey core. Medium sand temper.
7. Jug. 'Black-surfaced grey' ware. Dark grey, variable surface colour. Orange/brown core. Many fragments from area surrounding southern terminus of pipeline in Area 3.
8. Jug. Sherd from upper body. Cream slip under dark green glaze, sgraffito combed lines. Earlswood type (see Williams 1983).
9. Jug. Sherd from upper body. Slipped lines and applied blobs, clear yellow glaze. Imitation Rouen type jug. Vince (1982) suggests that these jugs were in use in the London area by c1210 and may have been introduced as early as c1180. They no longer appear after the middle of the 13th century, the date previously ascribed to their introduction.

10. Cooking pot. Off-white fabric, medium sand temper, patches of green glaze on exterior (Layer 43).
11. Jug handle. Coarse sandy off-white fabric, abraded green glaze.
12. Coarse orange/buff sandy fabric. These objects are normally interpreted as the bases of cresset lamps.
13. Cooking pot. Everted rim, fine buff-surfaced fabric, grey core (Layer 43).
14. Roof tile. Buff. Single peg hole (from Area 3). Also from Area 3 were pieces of roof tiles containing fragments of cylindrical, white fossils. Similar fossils were found at 16 Bell Street (Williams 1983, figs 7: 46 & 9: 104), embedded within sherds of red/brown surfaced, grey, sandy ware cooking pots. These were identified as Belemmites Neohibolites and a source in the Gault clay is also suggested for these tiles.

Layer 32 (fig 10: 15)

15. Jug. Earlswood type. Green glaze over cream slip. Decoration appears to consist of a series of combed sgraffito lines forming an all-over diaper pattern with horizontal bands around the body and vertical lines on the neck. Junctions stamped with rosette motif (see eg Turner 1974a, fig 5: 11). Intervening spaces have pushed-out scallop shells in relief. This form of decoration is unknown from the Bushfield Shaw kiln (information from D J Turner) but is present on an unslipped jug sherd from the National Westminster Bank site, Reigate (Trier 1974). There are also similarities in treatment with a jug from 16 Bell Street (Williams 1983, fig 11: 167).

Layer 97 (fig 10: 16)

16. Bowl. Fine buff-surfaced white fabric with lighter core. Light green glaze on rim and inner surface. Greatly warped with blackening extending over broken ends. Probable kiln waster.

## POST MEDIEVAL POTTERY AND TILE

Layer 96 (fig 11: 17, 18)

17. Brown stoneware mug. Grey inner surface. Early 16th century.
18. Stoneware mug. Mottled brown outer and brown inner surface. Prominent rilling. c1500.

Layers 46/7, Well Filling (fig 11: 19-34)

19. Red ware. ?Green glaze on exterior.
20. Red ware. Clear glaze on interior.
21. Red ware. Orange/green glaze on rim and interior.
22. As 21.
23. Red ware. Dark green glaze on lower interior.
24. Double-~~handled~~ bowl. Red ware. Dark green glaze on interior. Trace of lip.
25. Bowl. Red ware. Wide flanged rim, orange glaze on rim and interior.
26. Red ware. Patchy clear glaze on exterior.
27. Jug. Red ware. Clear glaze on exterior and patchy on interior.
28. Red ware. Purple surfaces, dark green glaze on interior.
29. Red ware. Patchy green glaze on both surfaces.
30. Bung-hole from cistern. Red ware. Grey outer surface, unglazed, thumbbed base.
31. Red ware. Clear glaze on interior.
32. Handle from tripod pipkin. Fine buff ware, yellow/green glaze on interior.
33. Fine buff fabric, apple green glaze on interior.
34. Brick cresset lamp. Simply made with six hollows crudely scooped

out with a knife. (See separate note by Stephen Nelson)

Layer 43 (fig 11: 35)

35. Red ware. Dark green glaze on interior, grey core.

Layers 56-9, Kiln Demolition (fig 12: 36-7)

36. Sherd from upper body of mug or jug. Thin, fine red ware, thick dark red glaze on exterior, applied circle and dots motif.

37. Basal sherd of mug. Westerwald stoneware, blue and purple (hatched) glazes.

Layer 25 (fig 12: 38)

38. Basal sherd of mug. Westerwald stoneware, blue glaze. Thinner than 37. Late 18th century.

Layer 15 (fig 12: 39)

39. Delftware wall tile, 2 fragments. Blue decoration showing a man in front of a balustrade, house behind, pouring coffee into a cup. 10mm thick. 18th century.

Layer 27 (fig 12: 40)

40. Delftware wall tile. Purple, manganese decoration, central scene missing. Corner 'ox head' decoration. 7mm thick. 18th century.

THE CLAY TOBACCO PIPES

by D A Higgins

The details of the clay pipes from the various deposits are as follows:

1. KILN

<u>Layer; interpretation</u>	<u>Bowl</u>	<u>Stem</u>	<u>Date-range</u>
51 Top of kiln rubble	1	1	c1690-1700
55 Robber trench, west wall	4	17	c1670-19c
56-59 Rubble fill of kiln	3	10	c1670-1700
60 Top ash floor	6	14	c1680-1700
68 Rubble between floors	1	1	c1680-1700
69 Lower ash floor	2	3	c1680-1700

## 2. OTHER LEVELS

	<u>Layer</u>	<u>Bowl</u>	<u>Stem</u>	<u>M'piece</u>	<u>Date-range</u>	
Area	2		3		17c-19c	
Area	3U	13	2		1670-1910	Majority are c1850-80
Area	4U	6	2		1700-1870	Mainly late 18- early 19c
	15	42	244	6	1650-1900	Well mixed, but c $\frac{3}{4}$ are 19c
	17		2		18c-19c	
	18		6		17c-?19c	
	25		2		17c-19c	
	27		6		17c-19c	
	30		2		17c-18c	
	31	1	4		?Late 17c	
	43		2		17c-18c	

MARKS

	<u>Layer</u>	<u>Mark</u>	<u>Pos</u>	<u>I/R</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Illustration no</u> (fig 20)
Area	3U	))) ←←←	Sp	R	c1800-50	9
	3U	RC	Sp	R	1800-30	7
	3U	ICH DIEN	B	R	1870-1910	13
	3U	* *	Sp	R	1840-70	12
Area	4U	W?R	Sp	R	1700-20	3
	4U	♡♡ (2 examples)	Sp	R	c1770-90	
	4U	?LIT	Sp	R	1810-40	5
	15	L(G)	Sp	R	1700-30	
	15	GT (4 examples)	Sp	R	1790-1823	

15	SV	Sp	R	Post 1823	6
15	JD	Sp	R	1700-30	4
15	RC (2 examples)	Sp	R	1810-40	8
15	RC (2 examples)	Sp	R	1830-80	
15	CORNEY / CROYDON	St	I	1850-80	
15	SH	Sp	R	Mid 19c	
15	* *	Sp	R	Mid 19c	
15	Harrington/(&) Sons	St	I	Late 19c	14
15	/NDON	St	I	Late 19c	

Pos = position Sp = spur B = bowl St = stem I = incuse R = relief

#### THE PROVENANCE OF COALS FROM THE MALTING KIIN

by A H V Smith, National Coal Board, Yorkshire Regional Laboratory

Three bags of fragments including pieces of coal and coke were submitted for microscopical examination in order to determine the possible source(s) of the coal. The layers from which the samples were obtained date to the late 17th century.

#### Methods of Investigation

A petrographic and palynological examination of the pieces of coal provide information on the rank and geological age of the samples.

Rank is the degree of maturity which a coal has reached in the progression from peat through bituminous coal to anthracite. It is determined using a microscope by measuring the percentage of incident light, reflected from a selected component (vitrinite) exposed in a polished surface of the coal. The measurements are usually made under oil.

The geological age is determined by identifying the type of plant spores occurring in the coal. It is not possible to assign a small piece of coal to a particular seam but it is often possible to indicate the horizon above or below which the coal must have originated from a knowledge of the geological ranges of the spores occurring in the coal.

Samples

The designation and nature of the samples is as follows:-

Layers 51	1 piece of coal, 3 pieces of coke and some burnt shale
56-59	Several pieces of coal, coke and slag
69	Small fragments of coal, and coke mixed with larger amounts of slag and burnt shale

Preparation of Samples

Composite samples were prepared by crushing the pieces of coal in each of samples 56-59 and 69. Part of each crushed composite sample was used to prepare a briquette of coal and resin for microscopical analysis after polishing. The remainder of the sample was macerated to isolate the spores. The single piece of coal in sample 51 was divided perpendicular to the bedding and each portion was crushed and prepared for spore and petrographic analysis. Several pieces of coke were polished separately for microscopical examination.

Results of AnalysesReflectance

The reflectance analyses show that all the coals are of medium volatile bituminous type. The main maximum reflectance in oil of the samples and the spread of values is shown in the Table.

Sample	Ro max%	Spread of values (95%) & estimated number of coals in sample	Geological Age
51	1.15	1.10-1.22 Single Seam	Lower or Middle Coal Measures
56-9	1.02	0.90-1.10 At least 2 Seams	Some coal from Middle Coal Measures
69	0.98	0.75-1.12 At least 3 Seams	Lower or Middle Coal Measures

Only the mean maximum reflectance of sample 51, comprising a single piece of coal, indicates the true rank of the coal. The other two samples are mixtures of coals of differing rank so that the mean maximum reflectance

does not indicate the rank of the individual component coals. The spread of values from sample 56-59 shows that it contains at least 2 coals and sample 69 contains at least 3 coals covering a relatively wide range of rank.

The polished surfaces of several pieces of coke were examined under incident polarised light in order to view the texture of the anisotropic pattern in the cell walls which is a function of the rank of the coal which produced the coke. The cell walls of the cokes examined were characterised by a medium to coarse grained optical mosaic texture. Such optical characteristics are typical of cokes produced from coals having the rank indicated by the reflectance measurements.

#### Spore Analysis

All the samples yielded assemblages of spores but they were not well preserved and the number of species was small. However it is possible to state that at least some of the coal in sample 56-59 came from a seam in the Middle Coal Measures, that is from seams above the Clay Cross or Harvey Marine band of the Pennine Coalfields. There was no evidence of species confined to the Lower Coal Measures. The remaining samples could have come from seams in either the Lower or Middle Coal Measures. There were no species in the assemblages from these samples confined to either of these stratigraphic subdivisions.

#### Origin of Coals

Coals having a reflectance  $> 1.0\%$ , which occur in all three samples and which would have been available for working in the 17th century, occur in the Durham Coalfield and restricted portions of the Lancashire (Lower Coal Measures only in Burnley Area) and South Wales Coalfields. No coals of this rank and particularly of Middle Coal Measures Age occur in the Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Coalfields or from the coalfields of Warwickshire and South Derbyshire. Some of the lower rank coals in samples 56-59 and 69 could have originated from the Yorkshire Coalfield but it seems unnecessary to suggest such a source in view of the widespread occurrence of coals from archaeological sites in East and South East England which, because of their rank, probably originated from the Durham Coalfield. There is no reason therefore to suppose that the lower rank coals, which also occur in Durham, were not from the same coalfield as the higher rank coals. This would be in accord with the documented evidence of the export of coal from the Tyne area at the appropriate period.

It is concluded that some and possibly all of the coal from the malting kiln originated from the Durham Coalfield.

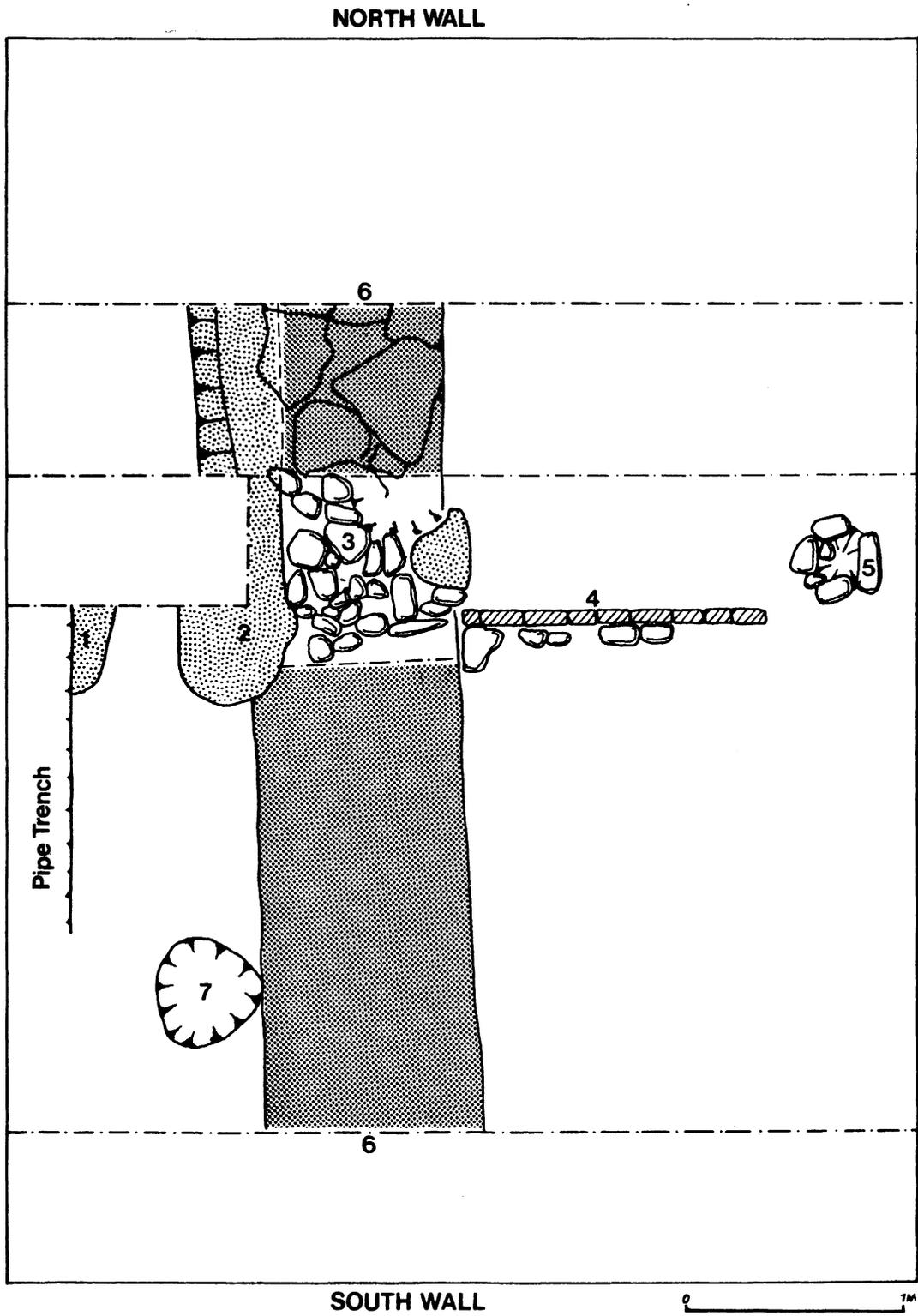


Fig 19. 43 High Street. Plan of features excavated in Area 2, beneath no 43A.