Burton Dassett Southend

Part 2 Section 8.1

The Medieval Pottery

by
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The results of the excavations conducted at Burton Dassett Southend 1986-88, together with subsequent fieldwork (fieldwalking, and recording of the Chapel and Priest's House) are disseminated in two parts.

Part 1 is the printed volume *Burton Dassett Southend, Warwickshire: A Medieval Market Village* by Nicholas Palmer and Jonathan Parkhouse, Society-for Medieval Archaeology Monograph 44 (2022). The printed volume contains the following sections:

1. Introduction and background (aims and origin of the project, key issues, archaeological and historical contexts, fieldwork scope and methodology, summaries of earthwork survey and fieldwalking)
2. The archaeological sequence (summary of the structural evidence, ordered by phase)
3 Spatial organisation and the buildings at Southend
4 Daily life and economy at Southend
5 Conclusion
Bibliography

Part 2 consists of a series of digital files in .pdf and .xlsx format, available via the Archaeological Data Service at https://doi.org/10.5284/1083492. Whilst Part 1 is a free-standing narrative, Part 2 includes the detailed descriptions and specialist analyses underpinning the printed volume. It consists of the following sections:

6.1 Geology by John Crossling
6.2 Soils by Magdalen Snape
6.3 Earthwork survey by Nicholas Palmer
6.4 Excavation methods by Nicholas Palmer
6.5 Dovehouse Close fieldwalking 1987 & Chapel Ground fieldwalking 1991 by Nicholas Palmer
7. Fieldwork (detailed description of the structural evidence at individual context level, ordered by area/tenement and phase) by Nicholas Palmer
8.1 Medieval pottery by Stephanie Rátkai
8.2 Coins and jettons by Wilfred Seaby
8.3 Copper alloy objects by Alison R Goodall with contribution by Dr John Blair
8.4 Analyses of copper alloy objects by Dr Roger Brownsword and E E H Pitt
8.5 Pewter objects by Brian Spencer and Nicholas Palmer, with analyses of pewter spoons by Dr Roger Brownsword and E E H Pitt
8.6 Lead objects by Nicholas Palmer
8.7 Ironwork by Dr Ian H Goodall, with spurs by Blanche Ellis
8.8 Bone, jet, glass and miscellaneous by Iain Soden and Nicholas Palmer
8.9 Domestic stonework by Iain Soden, John Crossling and Nicholas Palmer
8.10 Architectural stonework by Iain Soden
8.11 Stone roofing material by Nicholas Palmer
8.12 Roof tiles and ceramic artefacts by Susan Lisk
8.13 Archaeometallurgical investigation of the smithy and other evidence by Dr J G McDonnell and Alison Mills
8.14 Coal by Dr A H V Smith
8.15 Human remains by Ann Stirland
8.16 Clay tobacco pipe by Nicholas Palmer
8.17 Flint by Dr L H Barfield
8.18 Late Bronze Age pottery by Alistair Barclay
8.19 Roman and Saxon pottery by Paul Booth
8.20 Faunal remains by Julie Hamilton
8.21 Plant economy by Lisa Moffett
8.22 Radiocarbon dating of spelt wheat by Rupert Housley
8.23 Archaeomagnetic dating of hearths by Paul Linford
9. Miscellaneous data tables

The bibliography, incorporating all the works cited in Part 1 and Part 2, is also available digitally.

(Excel spreadsheets for all tables in this section are in BD_Medieval_pottery_tables)

(Cover illustration by Gavin Lines)

Foreword (2018)

This report was originally written in the late 1980s with some emendation in 1990-1. It represents one of the first pottery reports by the author and was something of a baptism by fire given the sheer quantity of excavated pottery. The report was hand written and the data recorded on pro formas, the data being subsequently entered onto Warwickshire County Council's mainframe computer. The Burton Dassett report is an object lesson in how the availability of personal computers and their associated software has revolutionised the way specialists can now access, approach and manipulate their data.

The assemblage is an important one. It is from the only large-scale excavation in this area of the county and from a rural site. The report was written at a time when there was no pottery fabric type series for the county as a whole and this was only rectified in 1998 (Soden and Rátkai 1998), when the range of fabrics from Burton Dassett was integrated into the new county type series and was amalgamated with fabric type series for Warwick, Alcester and Stratford-upon-Avon. Since the Warwickshire County Type Series (WCTS) was set up, it has become apparent that there are a number of errors and/or reduplication of some fabrics. Some of these are transcription errors; others are errors relating to fabric sources and dating. In addition some new fabrics have been added to the type series but the original text accompanying the Type Series has not been updated. This final edit of the Burton Dassett pottery report, therefore, is an attempt to rectify some of these errors and misapprehensions contained in the first drafts of the pottery report and in the Warwickshire County Type Series.

The Warwickshire County Type Series consists of an alpha-numeric coding system which is completely different from the numeric codes in this report. Pottery reports written before the county type series was formed often refer to the pottery fabrics from Burton Dassett and for this reason the old fabric numbers have been kept in this report but their county type-series equivalents are given in the Fabric descriptions (below and in Figure 8.1.1).

The report was written before the Medieval Pottery Research Group's guide to the classification of vessel forms was published (MPRG 1998). Some of the terms used in this report are not those in the Guide;, for example, the term 'cistern' is used rather than 'bung-hole jar'.

The opportunity to publish Burton Dassett is to be welcomed. However, there are certain caveats. Nearly 30 years have passed since the pottery report was written and methodologies and research priorities have changed, added to which there is now far more information for the county as a whole. From the perspective of 2018, a different methodology would probably have been chosen and the pottery report have had a different appearance. Inevitably with the passage of time, the author's views have changed and this is to be expected. As a complete rewrite of the report was not possible nor probably even desirable, the basic structure of the report is presented here largely unchanged. Details about the pottery fabrics and their sources have, however, been updated in line with the accumulated knowledge to date and this, in turn has led to some (sometimes extensive) revision of the interpretation and conclusions drawn in the original report.

It should be stressed that there is an over-division of the fabrics and in order to minimise the effect of this, the fabrics have been arranged in broad groups in this emended version of the report, and tabulated in Figure 8.1.46 making it easier to see chronological and other differences between the areas to the north of the planned development along 'Newland' and those areas to the south. Figures 8.1.39 and 8.1.40 showing all the individual fabrics have been left in their original state, apart from some slight re-ordering.

The report initially describes the fabrics and their associated forms (**Section 3**). **Section 4** discusses the sources of the pottery, its dating and its distribution across the site and taphonomy.

Next, **Section 5** addresses form/function and includes reports on sooting, internal deposits, drilled holes etc. **Section 6** is concerned with cross-joins. This section is followed by reports on pottery which was recovered from fieldwalking and from Area B (**Section 7**). Finally **Section 8** briefly summarises the main conclusions.

1. Introduction

It was hoped that the large assemblage of pottery from Burton Dassett (over 37,750 sherds from the excavated tenements) would not merely be used for dating purposes but would be examined in such a way as to show how pottery was actually used during the medieval period. For example might it be possible to link a certain form with the function of that vessel or with a particular area in the tenement or house. Secondly an extensive study of cross-joining sherds was carried out to investigate how rubbish was dispersed on the site, whether particular areas of dumping could be linked with a certain phase within a house's history and perhaps help to show up problems of residuality.

The more basic information on dating, relative popularity of pottery types, and sources of pottery supply was also recorded. It was hoped that some of this information might be used to show whether Burton Dassett by comparison with assemblages from other sites should be classed as a small town or large village or whether pottery assemblages add little to this line of enquiry.

2. Methodology

The pottery was examined under x20 magnification and sorted by fabric. As work progressed it was possible to divide most of the pottery macroscopically, although checks were made from time to time against the type series. Seventy two fabrics were identified, although some of these may represent variations within a single type. Some fabrics were only represented by one or two vessels. A summary description of each fabric with its associated features is given here with a full description held in archive.

Once sorted the pottery was recorded using Warwickshire Museum's medieval pottery recording system. The pottery was recorded by sherd number, weight, minimum vessel and estimated vessel equivalent, vessel form, rim, base, handle and lip/spout. Forms were recorded together with information on decoration, sooting, glaze and wear. Vessel form categories are fairly general, eg cooking pot/jar, jug, bowl etc, although it is possible within the system to differentiate between straight sided and rounded cooking pot/jars.

The pottery from the north side of the road was examined extensively for cross-joining sherds and a record kept of vessels containing sherds from more than one context. Each one was given a unique code number. Any joining sherds were counted as one sherd. Where these joining sherds came from more than one context, the composite sherds were recorded as coming from the earliest context. Joining rim sherds were also recorded in this manner. Likewise rim sherds from the same vessel which did not join and were from the same context were recorded as two sherds but one rim. Sherds from the same vessel but from different contexts which did not join were recorded as coming from the context in which they were found, but these same sherds were weighed with the vessel from which they originally came. In effect sherd weight indicates the earliest phase from which a vessel comes, (if from more than one context) whereas sherd number only does this for cross-joining sherds. It was hoped that by using this method a truer seriation would be achieved.

The pottery from the north side of the road and that from the south side of the road were treated slightly differently. This was due in part to the exigencies of time and in part to the differing amount of excavation to this south and north of the road.

Not all the pottery from topsoil contexts from the north of the road was sorted into fabric type because of lack of time. This pottery was given the fabric code XXX, fabric description 'unclassified' and counted and weighed.

The pottery from the south side of the road could not be recorded in exactly the same way as that from the north side. This was because work on cross-joining sherds from the north side of the road had consumed a great deal of project time and because the excavation here, unlike the north side of the road, had been only excavated down to the latest period of occupation and then trenched and many areas had not been excavated down to natural. The pottery was recorded in the same detail as previously but there was no attempt to find cross-joins since the incomplete nature of the evidence made the task somewhat arbitrary. The comparative lack of stratified material compared to the unstratified meant that in order to obtain a better appreciation of the differences in assemblages from the north and south sides of the road, the unstratified pottery from the south side of the road was typed by fabric and recorded in detail. As the nature of the excavation and hence the nature of the evidence varied on either side of the road it was felt acceptable to tailor the recording of the pottery to suit these differences.

BD Fabric	Description	WCTS
60	St. Neots-type *10th-12th c*	CS01
16	Shelly/limestone w are *12th-13th c*	CL01
17	Shelly/limestone w are *12th-13th c*	CL01
18	Shelly/limestone w are *12th-13th c*	CS03
19	Shelly/limestone w are *12th-13th c*	CS02
43	Oolitic w are *11th-13th c*	CO01
55	Oolitic w are *11th-13th c*	CO01
44	Calcareous sandy w are *12th-13th c*	SC01
45	Calcareous sandy w are *12th-13th c*	SC02
66	Calcareous sandy w are *12th-13th c*	SC01?
71	Calcareous sandy w are *12th-13th c*	SC01?
14/14A	Reduced Deritend w are *?late 12th-e 14th c*	RS01
58	Reduced Deritend w are *13th-14th c*	RS02.1
3&15	Deritend sandy brow n cooking pot *late 12th-e 14th c*	Sq05.1
59	Deritend w are oxidised jugs *13th-14th c*	Sg12
5	?Coventry sandy A w are *12th-13th c*	Sq20.2
64	?Coventry sandy A w are *12th-13th c*	Sq20.2
42	Cannon Park w are *mid 13th-mid 14th c*	Sq23
8/8A	Chilvers Coton A *mid 13th-e 14th c*	WW01
38	Chilvers Coton A *mid 13th-e 14th c*	WW01
21	Chilvers Coton B *13th c*	StR20
7/9/9A	Chilvers Coton A/C *late 13th-15th c*	Sq30
11	Chilvers Coton C *late 13th-15th c*	Sq30
31	Chilvers Coton C (late) *15th c*	SLM10
4C	Chilvers Coton D (proto-)Midlands Purple *15th-16th c*	Sq30/MP
22	Oxford Early Medieval w are *late 11th-mid 13th c*	Sg03
68	Oxford Early Medieval-type w are *late 11th-mid 13th c*	Sq06
6	Brill-Boarstall w are *13th-15th c*	Sg20/Sq40
6C	Brill (late) *15th c*	SLM40
23	Banbury-type w are *mid/late 11th-mid 13th c*	SV01
62	Banbury-type w are *mid/late 11th-mid 13th c*	SV01
67	Banbury-type w are *mid/late 11th-mid 13th c*	SV01
12	Brackley w hitew are *12th-e 13th c*	WW10
2	Potterspury w are *late 13th-15th c*	Sq50

BD Fabric	Description	WCTS
23A	E/SE Midlands w are *12th-e/m 13th c*	SV02
56	E/SE Midlands w are *12th-e/m 13th c*	Sq41
40	Developed Stamford w are *late 11th-e 13th c*	WW20.1
54	North Warks granitic w are *13th c*	StR11
63B-D	Malvernian w ares *12th-16th c*	StR10/SLM01
63Z	Wiltshire f lint tempered w are *12th-13th c*	StR01
70	Worcester-type w ares *12th-13th c*	Sg02/Sq08
13A	Sandy cooking pot *13th c?*	Sq11/Sq12
22A	Mixed inclusions *12th-13th c*	Sq24/SV01
52	?Alcester-type w are *mid 12th-mid 13th c*	Sg11
20	Unglazed sandy w are *date?*	*none*
27	Unglazed sandy w are *date?*	*none*
62A	Unglazed sandy w are *date?*	*none*
41/65	Unglazed reduced w are 12th-14th c	RS21
69	Glazed w are *date?*	Sg10
25	Glazed reduced w are *date?*	Sg31
36	Glazed reduced w are *13th-14th c?*	Sg30
2A	Late medieval oxidised w are *15th c*	SLM30
10A	Late medieval Wednesbury w are *15th-16th c*	SLM11
30/31A	Late medieval Wednesbury w are *15th-16th c*	SLM13
33	Late medieval Wednesbury w are *15th-16th c*	SLM20
35	Late Medieval Red w are *15th-16th c*	SLM14
35A	Late Medieval Red w are *15th-16th c*	SLM12
4A-B, D	Midlands Purple *15th-16th c*	MP
49	Surrey w hite w are/Tudor Green-type *15th c*	WW02
72	Nettlebed w are *15th c?*	Sg22
50	Cistercian w are *late 15th-mid 16th c*	CIST
53	Martincamp w are *16th c*	IMP10.2
T10	German stonew are *16th-17th c*	STG
P10	Blackw are *later 16th-17th c*	MB
R00	Coarsew are *17th-19th c*	CW
T20	English stonew are *18th-19th c*	STE
V01	Glazed earthenw are *18th-19th c*	MGW
W50	Tin-glazed earthenw are *17th-18th c*	TGE

Figure 8.1.1: Common name/description, suggested date and concordance of fabrics

3. Fabric descriptions

(Sherd numbers and percentages given are of total recorded pottery from the excavated tenements, Figure 8.1.39, and do not include fieldwalking material)

Calcareous wares - shell/limestone

Fabric 60: St Neots-type **WCTS CS01** 16 sh, <0.1%

Source: E Midlands.
Inclusions: Dense medium shell and limestone.
Colour: Black.

Form: Cooking pot with curving out-turned rim. Not illustrated. The remaining sherds were undiagnostic.

Fabric 16: Fine shelly limestone temper **WCTS CL01** 479 sh, 1.4%

Source: ?SE Warwickshire/Northamptonshire
Inclusions: Sparse-moderate, very fine shell and limestone, very sparse iron ore, very sparse quartz. A hard fabric with a powdery feel.
Colour: Yellowish surfaces with a grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots, bowls and jugs. There is also one example of a counter (1947, W4). The cooking pots usually have rounded bodies with simple curved or angled everted rims. Also common are beaded or squared rims which sometimes have an internal undercut bead. Jugs are straight necked or have a slight carination. Rims are generally simple and often have an external bead or horizontal ledge. Bowls, which are found in equal quantities to the cooking pots, are wide-mouthed with slightly out-sloping walls and simple slightly thickened rims.

Illustration nos H 19, H 31, H 40-1, I 18, I 23, W 11, K 3, K 15, K 57-8.

Fabric 17: Fine shelly limestone temper **WCTS CL01** 1498 sh, 4.4%

Source: ?SE Warwickshire/Northamptonshire
Inclusions: Moderate-abundant fine-medium shell, limestone and ooliths, sparse iron ore. A medium-hard fabric with a soapy feel.
Colour: Weak red surfaces, grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots, bowls, jugs, dripping dishes. Cooking pots have rounded or slightly rounded bodies with simple often beaded rims. There are no squared rims as in F16 but there is a wider variety of rim forms in general. The small diameter of cooking pot H14 suggests an early date, probably in the 12th century. Jugs have large globular bodies with slightly flaring necks which are sometimes ridged. Handles are of strap form decorated with diagonal slashing or are deep straps, either plain or decorated with ?random small circular stab marks. These latter handles are rather poorly finished. There is no obvious sign of how the handles have been attached to the jug body and neck. The neck internally is smooth and it is probable that the handles were simply luted onto the body rather than fixed by a clay dowel or by pushing the neck through into the handle. One sherd possibly from a jug is decorated with a horizontal band of triangular roller-stamping. The other main form in F17 is the wide-mouthed bowl with outsloping sides and simple rim, often slightly thickened. The final form represented is the dripping dish with simple rim.

Illustration nos E 4, H 14, H 20, H 30, H 36, H 48, I 28, W 18, K 2, K 4, K 34, K 37, K71.

Fabric 18: Shelly ware with clay pellets **WCTS CS03** 3 sh, <0.1%

Source: South-east/east Midlands.
Inclusions: Moderate-abundant medium shell and limestone, sparse clay pellets.
Colour: Brown.
Forms: Undiagnostic, unglazed body sherds only.

Fabric 19: Shelly ware **WCTS CS02** 1093 sh, 3.2%.

Source: South-east/east Midlands.
Inclusions: This is a general shelly category with varying quantities and size of shell inclusions. Occasionally ferrous or quartz inclusions are present but these are always sparse. In general this type is handmade but there are a handful of wheelthrown sherds, which were unfortunately otherwise undiagnostic.
Colour: Browns, greys and black.
Forms: Cooking pots, jugs and bowls. The cooking pots have rounded bodies with simple slightly everted rims or beaded rims. There is one possible example of a straight sided form with a simple out-turned rim. Some of the head rims spring from the shoulder and form a type of collar rim. There were no fairly complete jug profiles or handles. Rims tended to be of the ledge type or ended in a simple out-turn. There were examples of thumb impressed bases. Bowls were in the same forms as those in F16 and F17.

Illustration nos H 8, H 21-2, W 19, K 1, K 5-6, K 12, K 17, K 33, K 45, K 47-8, K 61.

Calcareous wares - Oolitic limestone

Fabric 43: Oolitic **WCTS CO01** 150 sh, 0.4%

Source: Cotswolds.
Inclusions: Moderate rounded limestone and ooliths, sparse red iron ore, sparse ?clay pellets, very sparse flint.
Colour: Light brown to light orange often with a grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots with rounded bodies and either simple everted rims or with bead or squared rims.

Illustration nos D2 23, W 20.

Fabric 55: Oolitic ware **WCTS CO03** 69 sh, 0.2%

Source: Cotswolds.
Inclusions: Moderate ooliths and rounded limestone, sparse rounded iron ore.
Colour: Brown with dark grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots with rounded bodies and simple rounded or angular everted rims.

Illustration nos W 7, W 13.

Calcareous sandy wares (Northamptonshire)

Fabric 44: Calcareous sandy ware **WCTS SC01** 64 sh, 0.2%

Inclusions: Sparse, fine-medium, subangular quartz; sparse, elongated and occasionally irregular voids; very sparse rounded ferrous inclusions.
Colour: Brown with grey core.

Forms: Cooking pot with a rounded body and almost vertical, thickened and externally bevelled rim. This is an unusual form, as yet unparalleled.

Illustration no E 21.

Fabric 45: Calcareous sandy ware **WCTS SC02** 36 sh, 0.1%

Inclusions: Fine dense sandy matrix; sparse, rounded, calcareous inclusions; sparse, rounded, ferrous inclusions; sparse rounded black inclusions. The calcareous content has often leached out.
Colour: Pale brown or orange surfaces, grey core.
Forms: Jug with ledge rim. There is also one sherd with a handle scar.

Fabric 66: Calcareous sandy ware **WCTS SC01?**10 sh, <0.1%

Inclusions: Sparse, rounded, calcareous inclusions; sparse, rounded, fine quartz, surfaces have fine flecks of mica.
Colour: Orange with mid-grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots with simple everted rim.

Fabric 71: Calcareous sandy ware **WCTS SC01?**7 sh, <0.1%

Inclusions: Very sparse, fine, rounded quartz; sparse-medium, rounded and elongated, calcareous inclusions; sparse, rounded, black inclusions, surfaces have fine flecks of mica.
Colour: Brown with mid-grey core.
Forms: No diagnostic sherds.

Deritend wares (Warwickshire)

Reduced Deritend ware (F14, F14A and F58, total 2662 sh, 7.8%) was not recognised as such by the author until major excavations took place in central Birmingham in the late 1990s and early 2000s (Patrick and Rátkai 2009). Hitherto Reduced Deritend ware had been referred to as Warwickshire Grey/Black Ware (and appears as such in the Warwickshire Type Series, Soden and Rátkai 1998, RS01 and RS021). The variations in the fabric described above can all be matched in the Birmingham assemblages. Two other types of pottery (below) were made in Birmingham at the same time as the reduced ware; these were red-bodied Deritend ware jugs (F59) and brown sandy cooking pots (F3 and F15) (Rátkai 2009a).

Fabric 14: Reduced Deritend ware **WCTS RS01** 876 sh, 2.6%

Inclusions: Fine sandy matrix, sparse-moderate rounded quartz, sparse-moderate iron ore, sparse organic inclusions, very sparse coarse sandstone, some mica visible on surface.
Colour: Surfaces usually dark grey or black with greyish brown or brown core.
Forms: Cooking pots, jugs, bowl. The cooking pots have rounded profiles and angular rims with concave upper surface which have a squarish ‘chiselled’ look. They are well made and sharply modelled. Exceptions to this rim form are rare. The cooking pots are occasionally decorated with an incised wavy line at shoulder height. The bowl is wide mouthed with an angular flange rim. The

presence of jugs in this fabric is attested by the presence of strap handles with horizontal, rectangular stabbing or oblique stabbing.

Illustration nos A 47, H 12, H 26, I 30, W 8, W 12, W 14, J 19, K 30, K 72.

Fabric 14A: Reduced Deritend ware **WCTS RS01** 676 sh, 2.0%

Inclusions: Fine sandy matrix. Moderate-abundant medium-large rounded or subangular quartz, moderate fine-medium iron ore, sparse voids possibly caused by organic material.
Colour: Dark grey/black surfaces brown core.
Forms: Cooking pots, skillet/pipkins and jug. The cooking pots have a rounded body and angled concave rims as found in F14 (above). The cooking pots are sometimes decorated with wavy lines on the shoulder and there is an example of incised wavy lines on interior face of the rim and internal just below junction of rim and neck. One cooking pot has bands of horizontal combing in addition to an incised wavy line. The evidence for skillets or pipkins comes from the presence of tapering handles. They are decorated on the upper face with ovoid stabbing along a central groove.

Illustration nos H 6, H 45, I 12, J 5, K 11, K 63, K 70.

Fabric 58: Reduced Deritend ware **WCTS RS02.1** 1110 sh, 3.2%

Fine sandy matrix, sparse-moderate fine quartz with occasional larger grains. Sparse rounded medium voids, sparse rounded iron ore.
Colour: Generally light grey throughout but is found with a darker grey or brown core.
Form: Cooking pots with rounded profiles and sagging bases. The rims are everted and angular with a concave upper face. Sometimes the neck zone is clearly marked and at other times there is a continuous curve from shoulder to rim. Occasionally the vessels are decorated with an incised wavy line or sometimes two overlapping at shoulder level.

Illustration nos H 2, H 5, H 42, I 20, I 22, K 68-9.

Excavations in Birmingham city centre in 1997-2001 (Patrick and Rátkai 2009) revealed that the Deritend pottery industry not only produced distinctive reduced cooking pots (BD F14, F14A and F58) and red-bodied jugs (BD F59, below) and but also a different range of oxidised brown cooking pots (F3 and F15, total 1617 sh, 4.8%). F3 and F15 have a restricted range of forms but one of the characteristics of the cooking pots is a 'double-dished' rim (Rátkai 2009a), examples of which were found at Burton Dassett (figures 8.1.25, no H 23; 8.1.28, no I 24; 8.1.32, no K 13) in F3 and F15. Fabrics F3 and F15 were merged into one group (WTS Sq05.1) when the Warwickshire Pottery Type Series was set up (Soden and Rátkai 1998). The type sherd for merged fabrics BD F3/15 could be matched exactly to sherds from Birmingham. There is therefore a very strong case to be made for the source of F3/F15 being Birmingham.

Fabric 3: Deritend brown sandy cooking pot **WCTS Sq05.1** 1117 sh, 3.3%

Inclusions: Moderate medium rounded and subangular quartz, sparse rounded ferrous inclusions, sparse elongated voids, rare subangular sandstone. Mica visible on surface.
Colour: Orange or brown surfaces, grey core.
Forms: cooking pots, jug and bowl. The cooking pots are generally wide-mouthed (at least 280mm diameter), with rounded bodies and three main rim types. These are simple angular thickened

everted rims, lid seating rims (including a complex lid seating rim with an internal double head at the end of the rim) and an almost vertical thickened rim. The other forms are represented by only two vessels, a jug with splayed neck and bevelled rim and a bowl with a slightly thickened rim.

Illustration nos A 22, D2 13, D2 16-7, D2 32, D2 60, D2 109, F 6, H 4, H 16, H 23, J 1, J 13, K 13, K 49, K 67.

Fabric 15: Deritend brown sandy cooking pot **WCTS Sq05.1** 499 sh, 1.5%

Inclusions: Moderate-abundant medium-large subangular quartz, sparse organic, sparse-moderate clay pellets, sparse sub-angular sandstone, sparse-moderate mica, sparse irregular voids. The clay pellets, organic material and mica are visible on the surfaces.
Colour: Greys and browns.
Forms: Cooking pots and bowls. The cooking pots have rounded bodies and usually have lid seating rims, some with a double bead like those found in F3 (see above). Bowls are not very common and have small bead rims.

Illustration nos D1 53, D2 79, H 7, H 34, I 19, I 24, K 16.

Fabric 59: Deritend ware oxidised jugs **WCTS Sg12** 18 sh, 0.1%

Inclusions: Fine sandy matrix with occasional larger quartz grains, sparse rounded ferrous inclusions, sparse-moderate mica (visible mainly on the surface).
Colour: Orange.
Form: Jug. There is no evidence for any form other than jugs with white slip decoration either in the form of lattice patterns or vertical bands, although other forms such as pipkins are known in Birmingham. The glaze is a thin yellowish-green. The only diagnostic sherd from Burton Dassett is a splayed base from a baluster jug. This form seems to be associated with elaborate decoration often in the North French style, dated typologically to *c*1275-1325 (see Rátkai 2011 for examples from Weoley Castle).

Illustration no I 6.

Coventry/Coventry-type wares (Warwickshire)

Fabric 5: ?Coventry sandy A ware **WCTS Sq20.2** 1078 sh, 3.1%

Source: Coventry area
Inclusions: Moderate-abundant fine round quartz with occasional larger grains, sparse-moderate red iron oxide of varying size, sparse irregular voids. Mica is visible on the surface.
Colours: Orange or brown often with a dark grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots, jugs, bowls, bottle. Cooking pots have a slightly rounded profile most usually with simple everted rims either angular or curved. The most common rim type is simple everted with a narrowed tip. There are one or two lid seating rims. The jugs are hand made and have an ovoid body. Rims are of three types slightly thickened and out-turned, ledge rims or thickened with a flat top sometimes with an interior or exterior bevel. The jugs have quite broad shallow strap handles decorated with sparse stabbing. There are sometimes traces of decayed opaque yellowish green glaze on the jugs. Bowls have slightly rounded profiles but are quite shallow and should

perhaps more properly be called dishes. they have either a simple flange or are quite simply thickened. There is evidence of knife trimming especially on or around the base. Some of these vessels may well have been dripping dishes. If this is so then one of the dripping dishes has traces of a vertical handle. There is a flat base with a narrow diameter which is probably the bottom of a bottle. One sherd with spots of glaze had been chipped into a counter.

The most unusual form was a so-called West Country base from K4 rubble surface 2305 (No. K20). This form is unparalleled in Coventry-type ware and suggests that this particular vessel has been wrongly fabric-typed. The exact function of West Country bases is unknown but one suggestion is that they may have been used as the base of bee skips.

Illustration nos A 11, A 43, D1 8, D1 19, D2 27, D2 50, E 10, E 20, E 54-6, F 3, F 5, F 16, F 20-1, H 18, I 4, I 9-10, I 13, W 3-4, J 3, K 20, K 35, K 46, K 50-1, K 65, K 74.

Fabric 64: ?Coventry sandy A ware **WCTS Sq20.2** 25 sh, 0.1%

Source: ?Coventry area.
Inclusions: Moderate rounded fine quartz, moderate large lumps red iron oxide, sparse clay pellets, sparse small irregular voids. Sparse mica is visible on the surface.
Colour: orange or brown with dark grey core, occasionally the surfaces are dark grey.
There are no diagnostic sherds.

Fabric 42: Cannon Park ware **WCTS Sq23** 180 sh, 0.5%

Source: Cannon Park/Kirby Corner, Coventry
Inclusions: Moderate fine rounded quartz with occasional larger grains, very sparse irregular voids, sparse rounded iron oxide, sparse mica mainly visible on surface.
Colour: Orange usually with mid-grey core. The external surfaces often have a reddish bloom perhaps the result of the surfaces being wiped or burning off of the glaze medium.
Forms: Cooking pots, bowl, condiment, jug. Cooking pots have rounded or slightly rounded profiles with simple everted rims either angled or curved. There is an unusual rim form (no D2 70) which is stubby and triangular in section. The remainder of the vessel has a slightly rounded profile and a flat base. There is an example of a bowl with a flange rim and part of a condiment with an internal green glaze. The presence of jugs in this fabric is attested by two strap handle fragments with diagonal slashing.

F42 seems to be a thicker bodied, harder fired, developed version of F5.

Illustration nos D2 70, I 26.

Chilvers Coton (Nuneaton) wares (Warwickshire)

The pottery industry based in the Nuneaton area was extensive and long-lived. Six fabric groups A-F were identified by Mayes and Scott (1984). These groups, especially the A, B and C fabrics were broad and their descriptions in Mayes and Scott, to a certain extent, misleading, since there is considerable variation in fabric colour, inclusion size and density, although the vessel forms are generally consistent. The sub-division of the basic A, B and C categories set out below was followed in the hope that there might be some chronological distinction in the fabric variants.

Fabric 8/8A: Chilvers Coton 'A' ware **WCTS WW01** F8, 614 sh, 1.8%; F8A, 367 sh, 1.1%

This fabric was divided into two, F8 and F8A. The difference between them is the degree of fineness, the inclusions within the clay body are the same. The more common fabric is F8. This contains abundant fine-medium rounded quartz. F8A has much larger rounded quartz grains. Such a difference has been observed elsewhere (Rátkai 1990). There seems to be no chronological difference. It is possible that the coarser fabric is made from the same coal measure clays as the Chilvers Coton products but was not made by that industry. Similar fabrics to F8A have been found at Dudley Castle (pers inspection by author), and Sandwell Priory (pers inspection by author) and may belong to a North Warwickshire/South Staffordshire white ware tradition. At present there is not enough evidence to resolve this problem and for purposes of this report both are considered as part of the Chilvers Coton industry. Other inclusions common to both fabrics are sparse red ferrous inclusions, and sparse black inclusions.
Colour: F8: white, cream, pale grey. F8A: white/cream sometimes with a pale grey core.
Forms: Jugs, cooking pot, bowl, pipkin, counter (counter and pipkin are in F8A only). The cooking pots have a rounded profile and a variety of rim form most of which tend towards the angular, although there is one example of a rounded thickened fairly upright rim. Jugs were more numerous than cooking pots. The jugs are typified by a well-rounded body, cylindrical neck with a simple rounded rim with a slight in-turn. They have shallow strap handles with a slight central groove decorated with diagonal slashing and very rarely vertical slashing. There is vertical slashing at the junction of handle and neck. The other two rim types are either thickened and out-turned or a development of this where the rim is thickened externally about 5mm below the tip of the rim. It may be that this rim has been made by using a form or template on a thickened out-turned rim. The jugs have an external light olive rather thin glaze or occasionally a thick lustrous copper green glaze. There is one jug (no D1 36 (F8)) which is very different from the above. It is roughly cylindrical with pronounced horizontal ribs. This form is not paralleled in the Chilvers Coton report (Mayes and Scott 1984) but a parallel, the same but for a plain base rather than a thumbed base, has been found in the Hay Lane excavations in Coventry (I Soden, *pers comm*; pers inspection by author). This jug has a thick glossy olive glaze over the entire body. In a narrow vertical band the glaze has been thinly applied and is patchy. This might suggest that the jug was dipped in a glaze bearing slip or other liquid medium, and part of the vessel was missed. Evidence of dipping of Chilvers Coton jugs was also seen at St John's Street, Coventry (Rátkai 2013).

There were two examples of bowls with flanged rims, one of which had an external olive glaze. There were also two pipkins, one glazed internally (no D2 46 (F8A)) and the other externally (no W 2 (F8A) with an olive glaze. Surprisingly neither was sooted. The one example of a 'counter' was made from a reused sherd. One side was glazed.

Illustration nos (F8) A 32, A 34, D1 36, E 18; (F8A) D2 46, H 9, H 11, H 27, W 2, K 24, K 43.

Fabric 38: Chilvers Coton A ware **WCTS WW01.1** 202 sh, 0.6%

Inclusions: Abundant fine rounded quartz, sparse fine ferrous inclusions, sparse fine medium voids. The fabric is a finer version of the white Chilvers Coton fabric (F8).
Colour: Cream or very pale buff.
Forms: Cooking pot, jug, bowl, dripping dish. Cooking pots have a rounded profile with two main types of rim, either a squarish undercut rim or simple everted rim. Bowls also have squared undercut rims and are wide mouthed. Jugs have short cylindrical necks with a slightly inturning bevelled rim, and pulled lip. There are no complete profiles, but there are two types of jug base. One is a simple flaring base, the other is a flat base with small neat finger/thumb impressions. There is a rim (no K 21) which is probably from a dripping dish.

Illustration nos D1 40, E 30, I 11, K 21, K 40.

Fabric 21: Chilvers Coton B ware **WCTS StR20** 191 sh, 0.6%

Inclusions: Moderate fine-medium rounded quartz, sparse-moderate, fine-coarse ferrous inclusions sparse-moderate ?shale (clearly visible on surfaces)
Colour: surfaces pale orange-orange/grey core. Sometimes grey throughout apart from oxidised external surface.
Forms: Jug, cooking pot, dish bowl. There is only one example of a jug in this coarse fabric. The jug had, like other Chilvers Coton jugs, a slightly in-turning rim, from a curving neck. Cooking pots had rounded bodies with a simple rim, or angular rim springing from the neck, like those typically found in F14A. There was one example of a lid seating rim. There was one example of a dripping dish with simple slightly thickened rounded rim. The main form in this fabric is the wide mouthed bowl. The bowls had either a simple slightly thickened rim (no K 59) or more commonly the wall of the bowl thickens and ends in roughly triangular rim. One bowl had an externally squared rim.

Illustration nos H 44, J 2, K 7, K 59.

Fabric 7/9/9A: Chilvers Coton A/C ware **WCTS Sq30** F7, 820 sh, 2.4% , F9A, 409 sh, 1.2%; F9, 446 sh, 1.3%

This fabric group is a general category for those Chilvers Coton fabrics which seem to fall between the `A' fabrics and `C' fabrics. This group is composed of two strands, Fabric 7 and Fabric 9. During the final (2014) edit Fabric 9A was merged with Fabric 7.

Inclusions: F7: sparse-moderate medium sub-angular quartz, moderate-abundant fine-coarse ferrous inclusions (?shale). F9: Abundant fine-medium rounded quartz, sparse moderate-fine ferrous inclusions (occasionally coarse), very sparse, black inclusions.
Colour: F7: mixtures of pale grey, pink, cream and white. The surfaces are mostly pinkish. F9: Yellowish cream, with surfaces that are quite yellow or orange looks as if a wash or thin slip has been applied to them. It is the strong surface colours which differentiate F9 from F8 and make it more like F11.
Forms: Jug, cooking pot, bowl, ?cup (F9 only). The jugs had rounded profiles with rims similar to those in F8. In addition some jugs had ledge rims or simple angular out-turned rims sometimes above a slight carination. The jugs had strap handles with a central groove and diagonal slashing. The cooking pots had rounded profiles with everted curving rims or slightly curved and everted with a vertical interior neck. Both these rim types are typical of those found in F11. There were odd examples of angular rims, and five examples of horizontal rims, and one lid seating (no D2 69, (F9)). Some of the cooking pots had spots or dribbles of glaze on their exterior surfaces, presumably from being fired with other glazed vessels.

Bowls were wide mouthed and had simple out-sloping walls. They tended to have flange rims or triangular rims (in reality a thickening of the walls). Some rims had a slight squared external thickening. One rim, more elaborate than the rest was a simple out-turned rim with two internal depressions. Some bowls had a partial or patchy internal green glaze. The only other form present was a cup. The evidence for this is based on roughly ovoid sectioned handle with a slight concavity in its upper surface and bevelled edges. This is very similar in form to the handles found on some cistercian ware cups. However, the evidence for the vessel form is equivocal.

Illustration nos (F7) A 6, A 39-41, A 51, A 67, D1 4, D1 9, D1 20, D2 2, D2 34, D2 47-8, D2 73, D2 101, E 11, H 35, J 21, J 23, K 23; (F9A) D1 11, D1 17, D1 35, E 39, W 1, J 24, K 19, K 64; (F9) A 15, A 29-30, A 44, A 56, A 68, D1 1, D1 7, D1 28, D1 43, D1 45, D2 69, E 3, E 15, E 60, J 16.

Fabric 11: Chilvers Coton `C' ware **WCTS Sq30** 11702 sh, 34.1%

Inclusions: Sparse fine-medium rounded quartz, sparse-moderate fine-coarse ferrous inclusions, (sometimes large lumps clearly visible to the naked eye), sparse sub-angular black inclusions (?shale), v. sparse clay pellets.
Colour: very variable, from cream, buff and pink to orange and red. Sometimes there is a grey core or grey internal surfaces, and it is not uncommon to see streaks of different colours running through the section. There are also broader red and white streaks. This streaking presumably reflects insufficient mixing of different clay types. The surfaces are usually an oxidised orange. The variability in both colour and inclusion density and size may also reflect inconsistent mixing and processing of clays from different sources.
Forms: Jug, cooking pot, cistern, pipkin, dish, dripping dish, bowl, counter. The cooking pot's most typical form has a well-rounded profile and a simple curving everted rim. The amount of curvature varies and sometimes the upper surface of the rim has been flattened but they are all basically variants of the same type. The curvature of the rim forms a continuous sinuous profile to the shoulder with no very clearly differentiated neck zone. A slightly curved almost vertical rim with a vertical internal neck is also commonly found. Other rim forms are simply angled from the shoulder or thickened and everted from the shoulder. There are occasionally more angular rim forms springing from the neck, horizontal rims and lid seating rims. There is an example of a thick squarish rim springing from the shoulder (no E 27). This vessel is very narrow necked and looks to have been designed as a storage jar or possibly cistern rather than a cooking pot. There is one example of a bifid rim (no I 7). It must be stressed that the curving, simple everted rim is by far the most dominant and the variants mentioned form only a small proportion of this fabric group.

Jugs have rounded profiles. Rims are like those described under F7 and F8. The most common rim form is the thickened everted rim (eg no A 16), which may have been achieved by the use of a form or template. Jug handles have three main forms, a shallow concave strap, strap with shallow central groove and a thicker strap with two parallel shallow grooves producing a slightly raised central rib. Handles typically have a deep thumb impression on either side of the handle where it is attached to the neck. The base of the handle often has two or three deep thumb/finger impressions where it is attached to the body. These are often decorated with slashing. Some handles are undecorated but the majority have diagonal slashing at the handle's neck junction. Sometimes these handles have a series of vertical cuts or a continuous vertical groove on their outer edges. The jugs usually have an olive glaze over the upper half of the body.

In addition to the common jug type described above there are some baluster jugs. The evidence for these is generally scanty and comes mainly from the presence of splayed bases.

Cisterns are not well represented. There is a rim from Area I, but body sherds from cisterns may have gone unrecognised. It is also possible that the harder fired, red wares and Midlands Purple wares were preferred for this form. Pipkins occur more frequently. They have simple everted rims or angular everted rims springing from the shoulder. About one third of the pipkins are glazed internally. One is glazed externally and another internally and externally. The pipkins have a simple pulled lip although on most examples this section has not survived.

Dripping dishes have either simple thickened rims (no E 7), a simple thickened rim with a small internal bead (no I 15) or an out-sloping tapering rim (no D1 42). There was an example of a shallow circular dish with an angled everted rim and a fragment possibly from a similar form.

Bowls formed an important part of the Chilvers Coton output. They are well represented on site. The bowls can be divided into seven main groups. Group 1 has a plain or slightly thickened rim (nos D1 31, I 21). Group 2 has a double concave inner face to the rim (no D2 3). Group 3, with only

two examples, has a shaped external surface (no D2 49). Group 4 has a squarish external rim sometimes with an internal bead (no K 44). Group 5, which is well represented, has an out-sloping wall which ends in a roughly triangular rim. Group 6, which is not well represented here has an external 'drooping' bead. The above groups are all found on vessels with pronounced sloping walls. The final group of rims, Group 7, is found on vessels with much more vertical walls than the preceding. Group 7 forms the largest proportion of the bowls and has angled everted or flanged rims. These rims often have a thin ridge at the tip of the upper face of the rim.

Illustration nos A 3-4, A 8, A 12-14, A 16-9, A 21, A 25-7, A 36, A 38, A 46, A 48-50, A 53-4, A 59-60, A 64-6, A 69, D1 2-3, D1 5-6, D1 10, D1 12-16, D1 21-4, D1 27, D1 29, D1 31, D1 38-9, D1 41-2, D1 44, D1 46, D1 48-52, D1 58-60, D2 3-4, D2 14-5, D2 18-9, D2 26, D2 29-30, D2 37, D2 40-5, D2 49, D2 51, D2 54-5, D2 65, D2 71, D2 77, D2 80, D2 87, D2 91, D2 96, D2 100, D2 108, E 1-2, E 5, E 7, E 9, E 12-4, E 17, E 27, E 33-36, E 41, E 43-5, E 47-8, F 1-2, F 4, F 7-15, F 18, I 7, I 15, I 21, W 6, W 21, W 23, J 7-9, J 12, J 18, J 22, K 31-2, K 38-9, K 44, K 54, K 56, K60.

Fabric 31: Late Chilvers Coton ware **WCTS SLM10** 533 sh, 1.6%

Inclusions: Very sparse rounded quartz, sparse rounded ferrous inclusions.
Colour: Orange-red. External surfaces are usually slightly darker than the rest of the sherd and appear to have had a wash or thin slip applied to them. This fabric is macroscopically very similar to F35. This fabric is a later, 15th-century variant of F11 (K Scott, pers comm).
Forms: Jug, cooking pot, bowl, cistern. Cooking pots have the same forms as those in F11. Jugs have ledge rims, in-sloping rims or simple thickened out-turned rims. There is one cistern with the usual collar rim. There were three bowls, one with a flange rim, one with a simple tapering rim, a continuation of the wall of the vessel and the third with a thickened triangular shaped rim.

Illustration nos D1 61, D2 63, D2 89.

Fabric 4C: Chilvers Coton D (proto-)Midlands Purple **WCTS MP** 920 sh, 2.7%

A sandier version of F11, with sparse fine-medium sub-angular yellowish inclusions. F4C is harder fired than F11, sometimes to the point of fusion.
Colour: grey, brown and purplish surfaces. Internal surfaces are often orange. The core is often grey and some sherds are brown throughout.
Forms: Jug, cooking pot, cistern, pipkin, bowl. Cooking pots have the same forms as those in F11. There is a much higher proportion of pipkins and cisterns in this fabric than in F11. The cisterns have collar rims or simple angled everted rims. There is one lid seating rim. Pipkins have similar rims to the cooking pots, generally springing from the shoulder. However, there is one everted angled rim springing from the neck and one horizontal rim. There is evidence from two of the pipkins of a patchy internal glaze. The pipkins have smaller rim diameters than cooking pots. The rim diameter of cooking pots is usually 190-210mm, of pipkins 140-160mm. There was one bowl with a flange rim and internal patchy brown glaze.

Two cisterns (or possibly jugs) were decorated with stamped Lombardic lettering (nos A42 and A58). This type of decoration is known from Chilvers Coton but it has been rarely found on excavated material. Another example was recovered during fieldwalking (Figure 8.1.37).

Illustration nos A 5, A 9-10, A 20, A 23, A 33, A 35, A 42, A 58, A 63, D1 18, D1 25, D1 30, D1 32, D1 34, D1 54, D1 56, D2 8, D2 52-3, D2 90, E 24, E 26, E 40, E 49, J 17, K 55.

Eastern/South-eastern Midlands source

Fabric 22: Oxford Early Medieval ware **WCTS Sg03** 127 sh, 0.4%

Source: Oxfordshire
Inclusions: Abundant, medium, sub-angular quartz, sparse elongated and irregular voids, sparse iron oxide, sparse clay pellets.
Colour: Surfaces cream, core pale orange.
Forms: Cooking pot, jug. The most common form is the cooking pot. There are only two examples of jugs, both with ledge rims. Cooking pots generally have rounded profiles and squarish rims, one of which is approaching the undercut rim form found on Brill and Potterspury products. At least two vessels appear to have had rather straighter profiles, one of which had a simple, curved, everted rim but with a squarish interior profile and the other had a simple out-turned thickened rim which was thumb impressed along the outer face. This is one of the few thumb/finger impressed rims from the entire excavation. The rim forms from both the jugs and the cooking pots can be paralleled by material from Oxford and these together with the fabric appear to be Oxford Early Medieval Ware (Mellor 1994).

Illustration nos H 24-5, I 2, K 9, K 18.

Fabric 68: Oxford Early Medieval ware type **WCTS Sq06** 16 sh, <0.1%

Source: ?North Oxfordshire
Inclusions: Abundant fine-medium sub angular quartz, very sparse iron oxide and very sparse irregular voids.
Colour: Pale orange.
Forms: There are no diagnostic body sherds.

Fabric 6: Brill/Boarstall ware **WCTS Sg20 and Sq40** 2574 sh, 7.5%

Source: Brill/Boarstall
Inclusions: Sparse-moderate fine (sometimes medium) sub-angular red-stained or grey quartz, sparse iron oxide, sparse irregular voids.
Colour: Pale orange.
Forms: Jug, cooking pot, pipkin, cistern, bottle, bowl, cup. The most frequently found form is the jug. No very complete profiles have survived but splayed bases suggest that at least some of the jugs were balusters. There are also thumbed bases and plain flat bases. Handles are of two types; rod handles with a row of stabbing and strap handles with diagonal slashing. The rims are usually of the ledge type and alternatives are infrequent. There are some thickened rims with a flat or bevelled top similar to rims found on Potterspury jugs and there is one example of a simple rolled rim. Decoration and glaze on the jugs is typical of Brill-Boarstall wares: vertical roller stamping, lines of red slip sometimes covered in roller-stamping, raised scroll patterns and grid pattern stamps on applied pellets. The cooking pots have rounded profiles but a variety of rim forms. They are generally fairly simple everted rims but there are also examples of 'typical' undercut rims, lid seating rims and an upright rim with a flattened top with an internal projection. This latter form is also found on vessels in Fabrics F23 and F23A. There was only one certain example of a pipkin which had a near vertical handle and a thickened bevelled rim. There was evidence of external knife trimming and traces of an interior yellow glaze. The only sherd which could be assigned to a cistern was a thumbed bunghole. The few bottles were from very late or topsoil contexts on the

south side of the road, and were represented by small-diameter, flat bases. The walls of the bottles tend to be heavily ridged on the inside. There were not many examples of bowls and those that there were had a variety of rim forms, from stubby horizontal, to triangular out-sloping or simple thickened, angled, everted rims.

Illustration nos A 45, A 55, A 61, D1 57, D2 24, D2 59, D2 74-5, D2 78, D2 81-2, D2 94, E 6, E 8, E 31, E 42, E 50, H 13, H 33, I 3, I 16, W 5, W 17, J 6, J 10, J 20, J 26, K 8, K 25.

Fabric 6C: Late Brill ware **WCTS SLM40** 67 sh, 0.2%

Source: Brill.
Inclusions: Sparse very fine quartz, sparse medium iron ore, very sparse very fine voids.
Colour: Pale orange with deeper orange external surface.
Form: Jug. There was only one rim sherd which was a ledge rim, typical of the earlier Brill Products. Six other sherds come from two jugs but the remaining sherds were undiagnostic.

Fabric 23: Banbury-type ware **WCTS SV01** 147 sh, 0.4%

Source: North-east Oxfordshire/South Northamptonshire
Inclusions: Moderate, medium, rounded and sub-angular quartz, sparse-moderate calcareous matter, sparse ferrous and very sparse flint inclusions.
Colour: Brown, sometimes dark grey, surfaces usually with a dark grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots, bowls. The bowls are wide mouthed and have either undercut bead rims or undercut squarish rims. Cooking pots have rounded profiles. The rims fall into two broad categories, either simple everted, usually curved but sometimes angular, or squarish and flat topped.

Illustration nos H 17, I 29, K 14.

Fabric 62: Banbury-type ware **WCTS SV01** 49 sh, 0.1%

Source: North-east Oxfordshire/South Northamptonshire
Inclusions: Sparse moderate rounded quartz generally medium but some larger grains, moderate iron oxide, very sparse elongated and rounded voids (occasionally some calcareous material still present). Sparse mica and ferrous inclusions visible on the surface.
Colour: orange, brown, dark grey usually with dark grey core.
Form: Cooking pots with simple curved or angled rims.

Illustration nos H 47, I 5.

Fabric 67: Banbury-type ware **WCTS SV01** 33 sh, 0.1%

Source: North-east Oxfordshire/South Northamptonshire
Inclusions: Abundant, medium, sub-rounded quartz; sparse, irregular, calcareous inclusions
Colour: Black
Forms: Cooking pots. There are three rim types, a simple curving everted rim, a simple angled, thickened rim and a flat topped horizontal rim, roughly triangular in section.

This fabric may be the equivalent of Banbury Fabric SANDC (Rátkai forthcoming a), Mellor's (1994) reduced Banbury ware.

Fabric 12: Brackley Whiteware **WCTS WW10** 2047 sh, 6.0%

Source: North-east Oxfordshire/South Northamptonshire
Inclusions: Sparse fine-medium sub-angular quartz, sparse irregular (calcareous) voids, sparse medium iron ore, sparse organic material, sparse fine angular black inclusions.
Colour: Surface colour varies from white through to pink. The external surfaces are often smoke blackened. The cores are usually dark grey but sometimes complete oxidisation has taken place.
Forms: Cooking pot, bowl, jug. The cooking pots are characterised by rounded profile with horizontal undercut rims. The body often shows signs of horizontal grooving. Some cooking pots are decorated with applied thumbed vertical strips, which continue up to the underside of the rim. There are two types of wide mouthed bowls. One type has out-sloping walls with a simple rolled rim; the other has less sloping sides with a horizontal undercut rim like the ones found on cooking pots. No jug profiles survive below neck level. The rim form is of the simple angled everted type. Other evidence for jugs comes from strap handles. One has elaborate stabbing at the base (no K 36) and the other rows of diagonal slashing (no H 37).

The cooking pot and bowl forms can be paralleled at the Brill kilns (Ivens 1982) and also at Potterspury (information from P Miles). The fabric is Northamptonshire fabric F373 and was found at Brackley, although the source of production is unknown. The fabric is termed '?Early Potterspury ware' and erroneously equated to Northamptonshire Fabric 329 in Soden and Rátkai (1998). Warwickshire Fabric WW10 is known from sites in the east and south-east of Warwickshire, eg Bascote (Rátkai 2009a), Ratley Castle (Steane1991) Fenny Compton and Compton Verney (pers inspection by author) all of which lie on or close to the A423 linking Banbury to Coventry. However, it has also been found to the west at Boteler's Castle, Alcester (Rátkai 1997). The fabric seems to have a very distinct distribution pattern, which would repay further study. To date no F12 sherds have been identified in Coventry.

Illustration nos A 2, H 1, H 3, H 10, H 15, H 29, H 32, H 37, H 46, I 14, I 17, I 27, W 16, J 4, J 11, J 14-5, J 25, K 26, K 36, K 41-2, K 52-3, K 62, K 66.

Fabric 2: Potterspury ware **WCTS Sq50** 1073 sh, 3.1%

Source: Potterspury
Inclusions: Abundant fine rounded quartz, sparse rounded limestone inclusions, sparse ferrous inclusions.
Colour: mainly buff, some light orange, very often with a dark grey core.
Forms: Cooking pot, jug, bowl, cup. Cooking pots have very rounded profiles often with a horizontal ridged exterior surface. The rims can be grouped with three main categories. The first is a simple slightly everted thickened type, the second a collar type with a short rounded rim springing from the shoulder and the third resembles a collar rim but has a deeply concave upper surface. Some of the collared vessels are glazed around the neck and shoulder and some are decorated with incised wavy lines at shoulder level. There are no complete jug profiles. The most common rim form occurs on a straight neck which thickens to form the rim which is then bevelled either internally or externally or is flattened horizontally. Rare exceptions to this type are in-turned rims or thickened rounded rims. The jugs have strap handles decorated with diagonal or horizontal slashing or longitudinal slashing along the edges of the handle. Handles are slashed at their junction with the neck. Bowls are wide-mouthed with knife trimmed bases. They have either a short

flange rim, a plain simple rim or thickened rim with an internal bead. There are only two cup rims. The cups appear to be imitation 'Tudor Green' with internal and external copper green glaze.

Illustration nos A 1, D2 5-6, D2 11, D2 25, D2 95, E 37, E 53, E 61, F 17, F 19, H 28, H 43, I 8, I 25, W 15.

Fabric 23A: East/south-east Midlands ware **WCTS SV02** 115 sh, 0.3%

Source: North-eastern Oxfordshire/South Northamptonshire
Inclusions: Sparse rounded and sub-angular fine-medium quartz, sparse angular ironstone, very sparse flint, sparse mainly fine irregular voids, sparse iron oxide mainly flecks but some larger pieces, some organic material, very sparse shell.
Colour: Surfaces pinky-orange, core pinkish buff or pale grey.
Forms: Cooking pots, jugs, bowls. There were no complete or even near complete profiles of cooking pots or jugs. The cooking pots had angled everted rims with some internal bevelling and the jugs had ledge rims. Bowls had either a simple out -sloping thickened rim or an undercut squarish rim. In addition there was also a possible lid made from a discarded base sherd.

Illustration nos A 37, H 38-9.

Fabric 56: East/south-east Midlands ware **WCTS Sq41** 16 sh, <0.1%

Source: East/south-east Midlands
Inclusions: Sparse, medium sub-angular quartz, sparse medium iron ore, sparse elongated and irregular voids.
Colour: Pinkish brown with smoke blackened surfaces, sometimes with a faint grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots, bowls. The bowls are usually wide mouthed with undercut bead rims (nos K27-28) or undercut square rims. There is also an example of a bowl with a rather narrower diameter and a bead rim (no K 22)

Illustration nos K 22, K 27-8.

Minor wares (sourced)

Fabric 40: Developed Stamford ware **WCTS WW20.1** 11 sh, <0.1%

Source: Stamford, Lincolnshire.
Fabric: Very fine fabric with barely visible fine quartz grains; very sparse, very fine iron ore; very sparse, very fine voids.
Colour: Cream.
Forms: There are only glazed body sherds, probably from jugs or pitchers.

Fabric 54: North Warwickshire Granitic-tempered ware **WCTS StR11** 6 sh, <0.1%

Source: North Warwickshire
Inclusions: Very sparse quartz, sparse-moderate granitic rock fragments (grano-diorite), sparse irregular and elongated voids, sparse ferrous inclusions.

Colour: yellowy orange surface, mid-grey core.
Forms: There were very few sherds in this fabric. The largest belonged to a thick, flat bottomed vessel, probably a jug. There were also two very small sherds with evidence of stabbing which may have come from a strap handle.

Fabric 63: Malvernian wares ***WCTS StR10 (63D) & SLM01 (63B&C)*** *54 sh, 0.2%*

Source: Malvern Hills/Malvern Chase.
Inclusions: This fabric was divided into three sub-groups F63B, F63C, F63D. All three variants contain fragments of igneous rock and varying amounts of sand. The finest fabric, F63B contains abundant fine quartz. F63C contains moderate fine quartz whilst F63D is coarse with lumps of igneous rock apparent on the surfaces. The coarsest fabric is of 13th-century date and is the equivalent of Hereford fabric B1 (Vince 1985). F63B is of 14th/15th-century date and F63C is of 13th- to 15th-century date (A Vince, pers comm).
Colour: Generally oxidised oranges and browns.
Forms: F63B: jug with ridged neck, pulled lip and simple rim with groove along the upper surface. The neck and shoulder have a dark green glaze. F63C: cooking pot with either a simple angled everted rim or an everted 'in-folded' rim.

Illustration nos (F63B) D2 99, W 10; (F63D) I 1.

Fabric 63Z: ?Wiltshire flint tempered ware **WCTS StR01** 5 sh, <0.1%

Source: ?Wiltshire.
Inclusions: Dense subangular fine quartz, sparse fine calcareous inclusions, sparse flint, sparse ferrous inclusions, very sparse angular greyish? rock. All the inclusions are generally quite fine.
Colour: mid-grey or brown.
Forms: There are no diagnostic sherds.

Fabric 70: Worcester-type ware **WCTS Sg02/Sq08** 7 sh, <0.1%

Source: Worcestershire
Inclusions: Sparse fine-moderate rounded quartz, sparse ferrous inclusions, sparse elongated, irregular voids, very sparse organic, very sparse rounded black inclusions.
Colour: Grey with oxidised surfaces.
Forms: Cooking pot with simple angled everted rim. The surface of the sherds has a very coarse sandy feel. Glazed body sherds indicate that jugs were made in this fabric.

Minor wares (uncertain source)

Fabric 13A: Sandy cooking pot fabric **WCTS Sq12** 171 sh, 0.5%

Source: ?Warwickshire
Inclusions: Moderate large rounded quartz grains, sparse irregular voids, sparse large clay pellets.
Colour: Orange or brown surfaces, grey core.
Forms: Cooking pots. The rim forms fall into two main categories, simple curving everted rims, thickened at the tip, and angled from the shoulder, sometimes thickened at the end. There was one

other represented by a single sherd; this was a lid seating, with a concave inner face and a flattened, thickened tip, similar to the rim forms found in F3 and F15 (see above). There was insufficient evidence to gauge the shape of the bodies of the cooking pots. A similar fabric was found at Warwick (Rátkai 1990, Fabric 113, WTS Sq11) where it was dated to the 12th-13th century. The rims forms (Rátkai 1990, fig 15, 62-64) are also similar to to those found in F3/15 and F13A.

Fabric 22A: Mixed inclusions **WCTS Sq24/Sv01** 40 sh, 0.1%

Source: ?Warwickshire
Inclusions: Abundant, medium, sub-angular quartz, sparse limestone/voids, sparse clay pellets, sparse ferrous inclusions.
Colour: Brown or pale brown
Forms: Cooking pots with rounded bodies and angular or squared rims.

Illustration nos K 10, K 73.

Fabric 52: ?Alcester-type ware **WCTS Sg11** 13 sh, <0.1%

Source: ?Alcester, Warwickshire
Inclusions: Abundant fine rounded quartz, sparse-moderate clay pellets, sparse medium ferrous inclusions, sparse-moderate fine irregular and elongated voids, sparse mica (visible mainly on the surface). The clay pellets, usually white or pink are visible to the naked eye on the surfaces of the sherds.
Colour: Grey-pinkish brown.
Form: There is one vessel only, a globular jug with patchy green glaze, with traces of strap handle and a sagging thumbed base.

Illustration no D2 64.

Fabric 20: Unglazed ware 18 sh, 0.1%

Source: ?
Inclusions: Sparse-moderate, medium, rounded quartz; sparse, ferrous inclusions; sparse-moderate, elongated and irregular voids; sparse clay pellets. This fabric is not in the Warwickshire Type Series.
Colour: Surfaces buff, core orange.
Forms: Cooking pot. There is only one form sherd, a lid-seating rim.

Illustration no K 29.

Fabric 27: Unglazed ware 10 sh, <0.1%

Source: ?
Inclusions: Sparse, medium-coarse, rounded quartz; sparse, sub-angular, dark brown ?sandstone; sparse, organics; sparse, fine, irregular voids This fabric is not in the Warwickshire County Type Series.
Colour: light brown surfaces, dark brown core and margins.

Forms: There were no diagnostic sherds.

Fabric 62A: Unglazed ware 2 sh, <0.1%

Source: ?Northamptonshire.
Inclusions: Sparse fine sub-angular quartz, sparse iron ore, sparse rounded limestone.
Colour: Surfaces pale brown or brown with dark grey or black core. This fabric is not in the Warwickshire County Type Series.
Form: Flat base of narrow diameter presumably from a bottle.

Illustration no W 9

Fabric 41: Unglazed reduced ware **WCTS RS21** sh, 0.1%

Source: ?non-local
Inclusions: Fine sandy matrix, moderate rounded quartz, some medium sized grains, sparse rounded ferrous inclusions, some mica visible on surface.
Colour: Black.
Forms: There are no diagnostic sherds.

Fabric 65: Unglazed reduced ware **WCTS RS21** 48 sh, 0.1%

Source: ?Bedford area.
Inclusions: Sparse-moderate subangular quartz, moderate elongated voids giving a hackly laminated appearance to breaks, sparse angular dark inclusions, micaceous surface.
Colour: Black.
Forms: Cooking pot with lid seating rim.
This fabric may be from the Bedford area (A. Slowikowski, pers. comm.)
Illustration no W 22.

Fabric 69: Glazed ware **WCTS Sg10** 2 sh, <0.1%

Source: ?
Inclusions: Sparse-moderate rounded quartz, sparse fine-medium ferrous inclusions, sparse fine elongated and irregular voids.
Colour: Pale pink surfaces, grey core.
Forms: There were no diagnostic sherds. The two sherds that were found had a good quality apple green external glaze.

Fabric 25: Glazed reduced ware **WCTS Sg31** 49 sh, 0.1%

Source: ?
Inclusions: Very sparse medium-large sub-angular quartz, sparse-medium irregular calcareous inclusions and voids, sparse fine rounded ferrous inclusions, very sparse hard sub-angular black inclusions.
Colour: Pale pinkish grey or dark grey surfaces, dark grey core.

Forms: Cooking pot, ?bowl. The sherds were generally small and undiagnostic. The cooking pots had either simple curved everted rims or sharp angled everted rim with an internal bead at the tip. The evidence for open vessels comes from base sherds with an internal green glaze. It is not possible to say if these sherds are from bowls or pipkins.

Illustration no D2 57.

Fabric 36: Glazed reduced ware **WCTS Sg30** 57 sh, 0.2%

Source: ?
Inclusions: Fine sandy matrix with occasional larger quartz grains, sparse voids, sparse golden mica visible in the fracture and on the surface.
Colour: Black or brown.
Forms: There were only body and base sherds. Glazing suggests that jugs and bowls or pipkins were present but the greater number of sherds were unglazed.

LATER MEDIEVAL WARES (OXIDISED ORANGE/RED)

Fabric 2A: Late oxidised ware **WCTS SLM30** 24 sh, 0.1%

Source: ?
Inclusions: Very sparse very fine quartz, very sparse very fine ferrous inclusions, sparse rounded yellowish inclusions, sparse fine elongated and irregular voids. Red and yellow streaks are visible in the clay matrix.
Colour: Pale orange with darker orange internal and external slip.
Forms: Jug. There is one complete jug profile (no D2 9). The jug has a very slightly curving profile. There are horizontal incised bands in the upper half of the jug. The jug has a flat base, simple everted rim and pulled lip. Other vessels suggest that jugs in this fabric have either a short stubby neck, as here, or else a larger cylindrical neck. No D2 9 has a thick glossy tan glaze over the upper two-thirds of the body. However, the glaze is more commonly a thick glossy olive. Unfortunately there were no handles present. The scar from no D2 9 suggests that the handle was of circular or oval section.

Illustration nos D1 26, D2 9, D2 98.

Fabric 10A: Wednesbury ware **WCTS SLM11** 185 sh, 0.5%

Source: Wednesbury, Staffordshire
Inclusions: Sparse fine (some medium) rounded quartz, sparse medium ferrous inclusions, sparse irregular voids.
Colour: Pale orange surfaces, orange core and margins.
Form: Cooking pot, jug, bowl. There were few diagnostic sherds and no complete or fairly complete profiles. Cooking pot rims seem to have been simple, angled or curved and everted. No E 59 has what is basically a thickened angled everted rim which has been shaped to produce an external bevel and small internal bead. Jugs generally have long cylindrical necks with either ledge rims (no E 46) or rims formed by the thickening of the neck which have a flattened top or internal bevel. There is also an example of an in-turned rim. The slight evidence for the form of the jug

suggests a fairly rounded body.Bowls have slightly out sloping walls with either a thickened flat-topped rim (no E 38) or an angled everted rim (no E 58).

Illustration nos D2 62, E 16, E 38, E 46, E 58-9.

Fabric 30: Wednesbury ware **WCTS SLM 13** 460 sh, 1.3%

Source: Wednesbury, Staffordshire
Inclusions: Sparse medium rounded quartz, sparse fine irregular voids, sparse ferrous inclusions (mainly ?haematite)
Colour: Light brown surfaces, core and margins; orange, sometimes a grey core.
Forms: Cooking pot, jug, bowl, cistern, bottle. Cooking pots have either a simple everted thickened angled rim or lid seating. Jugs have surfaces which appear to be wiped and the flat bases have been knife trimmed. Handles are plain straps with a shallow central depression. The most usual form is a rounded body with a bib of olive glaze, with a cylindrical neck with a plain or slightly everted rim. Some jugs have flaring necks and there is a tapering neck from either a bottle or flask. The only other rim form on jugs is the ledge rim (not illustrated). Bowls with out-sloping walls have either an angled dropped flange rim or a straightforward flange.

Illustration nos A 24, A 28, D2 7, D2 21, D2 36, D2 72, D2 106-7, E 28-9.

Fabric 31A: Wednesbury ware **WCTS SLM13** 27 sh, 0.1%

Source: Wednesbury, Staffordshire
Inclusions: Sparse fine rounded quartz, sparse ferrous inclusions, sparse subangular and rounded ? clay pellets in various colours (pink, white, pale purple), sparse fine voids. This fabric is very similar to F30.
Colour: Surfaces and margins pale orange, orange core.
Forms: Cooking pot, cistern. Cooking pots have rounded profiles. The two surviving rim forms are a simple curved everted rim and a rim which is somewhere between a lid seating and bifid rim. The remaining vessel in this fabric has a stubby rim with a concave upper surface a rim form which is usually found on cisterns.

Illustration nos D2 35, D2 38, D2 92.

Fabric 33: Wednesbury ware **WCTS SLM 20** 181 sh, 0.5%

Source: Wednesbury, Staffordshire
Inclusions: Moderate medium rounded quartz, sparse fine rounded black shiny inclusions, sparse medium rounded ferrous inclusions, sparse-moderate medium elongated and irregular voids, sparse medium angular black inclusions.
Colour: Surfaces pale orange, margins orange, grey core.
Forms: Cooking pot, bowl, cup. The main form recovered from Burton Dassett is a bowl with a rim which is a cross between a lid seating and an upward angled flange with an elongated S-shape. The bowls are wide-mouthed, usually with some internal green glaze, most heavily concentrated in the base, occasionally with a white internal deposit. Runs from the glaze suggest that these vessels were fired upside down. This bowl form was found at Much Park Street, Coventry where the bowls have been recorded as lids (Wright 1987). Cooking pots have three types of rim: an elongated almost upright elongated S-shaped rim, a simple rather stubby everted rim, and an everted rim with a slight internal bevel below the tip of the rim. The shallow but wide-mouthed bowl

form may have had a dairying use but this is by no means certain. It would certainly be a useful form for skimming cream or separating separating curds from whey. There is one example of a cup. It is a cistercian ware type with internal and external olive glaze and applied decorated clay pads.

Illustration nos A 57, D1 37, D1 55, D2 20, D2 56, E 57, E 62.

Fabric 35: Late Medieval Red Ware **WCTS SLM14** 186 sh, 0.5%

Source: ?Warwickshire
Inclusions: Moderate fine rounded quartz, sparse-moderate, medium elongated and irregular voids, sparse medium ferrous inclusions. This fabric is macroscopically very similar to F31.
Colour: Orange with a darker slipped or washed surface.
Forms: Cooking pot, jug, bowl, cistern, costrel. Cooking pots have rounded bodies with simple angled everted rims. One rim springs from the neck, whilst the remainder spring from the shoulder. There is only one certain jug which has a slightly rounded body, plain strap handle, pulled rim and squat stubby neck (similar in form to the jug in F2A, no D2 9). There is a slightly metallic brown glaze on the upper part of the jug. Bowls are wide mouthed with near vertical sides and a thickened, internal, bevelled rim or some have a flange rim. Cisterns have slightly rounded bodies with sharply angled stubby rims springing from the shoulder. These rims often contain semi-circular cut outs. Such cut outs are commonly found on cistern rims and may be associated with their use as saggars (Woodland 1981). There are usually four of these cut outs at 90 degree intervals. Not all cistern rims contain these cut outs but their occurrence is determined by form rather than by fabric, that is, they occur in the same form but in different fabrics. The most striking vessel in this fabric was a flat-backed, domed or mammiform costrel with a mid-brown, speckled glaze (D1 33).

Illustration nos D1 33, D2 1, D2 12, D2 58, D2 61, D2 66, D2 76, E 32.

Fabric 35A: Late Medieval Red Ware **WCTS SLM12** 72 sh, 0.2%

Source: ?Warwickshire
Inclusions: Sparse-moderate fine rounded quartz, sparse fine irregular voids, sparse fine ferrous inclusions.
Colour: Orange, surfaces slightly darker perhaps the result of being wiped or having a wash applied.
Forms: Cooking pot, bowl, cup. There was only one example of a cooking pot which had a bifid rim and a patchy internal olive glaze. The bowls are either deep with a slightly everted rim or a thickened rim with an internal bevel or the bowls are wide-mouthed with an everted rim with an internal bevel. The cup was rounded and had an internal and external olive glaze. The glaze on the external surface had turned into runs over the lower half of the vessel. There was one handle scar. As the opposite portion of the cup was missing it is not possible to say whether it was single or double handled.

Illustration nos D2 22, D2 31, D2 67, D2 88, D2 93.

The fabric and forms in both F35 and F35A are similar and it may be that F35 and F35A are variants of the same fabric.

Midlands Purple

Fabric 4A: Midlands Purple **WCTS MP** 12 sh, <0.1%

Source: ?Chilvers Coton
Inclusions: Very sparse fine rounded quartz, very sparse ferrous inclusions.
Colour: Grey with light streaks through matrix.
Forms: There were no diagnostic sherds. The streaks in the matrix are reminiscent of some F11 sherds, although F4A is much finer. It is possible that this fabric is an overfired version of F11.

Fabric 4B: Midlands Purple **WCTS MP** 225 sh, 0.7%

Source: ?Wednesbury
Inclusions: Sparse fine-coarse rounded quartz, sparse medium ferrous inclusions, sparse medium rounded white inclusions.
Colour: Grey or red surfaces, red core.
Forms: Jug, cistern. There are no complete profiles of jugs. The jug rims are either of the ledge type or else a variation of this where the external 'ledge' is extended, producing a slightly upward angled everted rim with a concave upper surface. The jugs have plain undecorated strap handles with a slightly concave upper surface. Glaze is usually patchy, and dark green-purple and seems to be restricted to the neck and shoulder. The rims and handles are often warped by the high temperature at which they were fired.

Three cisterns were represented. They had short stubby rims springing from the shoulder, giving a collar effect (nos A 7, E 52). One of the rims has a raised lip at its outer edge (no E 52). One cistern had a pair of opposed plain undecorated strap handles (no A 7) and one rim had semi-circular cut outs in the rim. This may be to allow the cistern to be used as a saggar, ie to enable a certain amount of air to flow over the vessel within the up-turned cistern while still protecting it from direct heat within the kiln.

Illustration nos A 7, A 52, A 62, E 52.

Fabric 4D: Midlands Purple **WCTS MP** 227 sh, 0.7%

Source: ?
Inclusions: Abundant fine-medium rounded quartz, sparse fine ferrous inclusions.
Colour: Mixtures of purple, brown and grey. The clay has been fired to the point of fusion.
Forms: Jug, cooking pot, cistern. There was only one cooking pot which had a bifid rim (no E 22) and rounded body. Cisterns were better represented. They had the short 'collar-like' rim found on other cisterns. One cistern was about 85% complete (no D2 10). The base had been badly warped during firing. The cistern had two opposing handles, 'cut outs' in the rim (see above, F4B), a plain bunghole and a patchy purplish glaze in an area roughly corresponding to the handle zone.

Vessel No E 23 was an unusual form. It resembles the neck and rim of the F4B jugs (eg no A 52) but if it is a jug it is rather wide mouthed. Other jugs in F4D had rims similar to no E 23. The only surviving body profile was well rounded with a flat base and decorated with horizontal bands of combing. Handles were plain undecorated strap handles, usually with a central shallow depression.

Illustration nos A 31, D2 10, E 19, E 22-3, E 25.

Other late medieval wares

Fabric 49: Surrey White Ware/Tudor Green-type **WCTS WW02** 38 sh, 0.1%

Inclusions: Fine fabric with few visible inclusions.
Colour: White or cream.
Forms: Cup, lobed cup, dripping dish. This fabric is poorly represented. What rim sherds there are, are very fragmentary. However, two at least come from a lobed cup. All vessels were glazed internally and externally. The glaze was usually bright copper green but a few sherds were more olive toned.

In addition to this true Surrey white ware there were imitations in a Chilvers Coton fabric (F8), Potterspury ware (F2) and Brill-Boarstall (F6). These all produced copper glazed cups. There was also a fragment of an oval dish, probably a dripping dish with an internal copper green glaze.

Fabric 50: Cistercian Ware **WCTS CIST** 659 sh, 1.9%

Source: ?Midlands
Inclusions: Fine fabric with few visible inclusions.
Colour: Red or grey.
Forms: Cup, jug. The only evidence for a jug came from an oval-sectioned, brown glazed handle. Cups, with rounded profiles and two opposed handles, were the most common form. Unfortunately not many complete profiles were found. Rims were either flaring, usually with a slight in-turn at the tip, or the rims were more or less vertical. The cups were often decorated with applied white clay pellets which appear yellow under the colourless lead glaze. Some of these pellets were in turn stamped with various designs. The size of the pellets varied from 10-25mm. There is also one example of a much larger, foliate design (no D2 85). This vessel is reduced and so the applied motif appears olive green rather than yellow. Cups were both two- and three-handled. The handles were normally oval sectioned but some of them had bevelled edges. The forms of the cups are not very like those found at Chilvers Coton and the source of manufacture for most of them is probably from elsewhere in the Midlands. The large foliate motif (no D2 85) is paralleled both at Leicester (Woodland 1981) and in Yorkshire (Brears 1983)

Illustration nos D1 47, D2 28, D2 33, D2 39, D2 68, D2 83-6, D2 97, D2 102-5, E 51.

Fabric 72: Nettlebed ware **WCTS Sg22** 6 sh, <0.1%

Source: Nettlebed.
Inclusions: Very sparse fine-coarse subangular quartz, very sparse ferrous inclusions, sparse voids mainly irregular.
Colour: Buff.
Form: Cup. There is only one vessel in this fabric. There are no rim or base sherds. The cup had an external copper green glaze and internal yellow glaze.

CONTINENTAL IMPORTS

Fabric 53: Martincamp ware **WCTS IMP10.3** 2 sh, <0.1%

Source: Martincamp.
Inclusions: Fine sandy matrix, highly fired.

Colour: Grey core purplish surfaces.
There were only two small sherds in this fabric. They are presumably from Martincamp flasks of Type 2 (Hurst 1986).

POST MEDIEVAL WARES

A number of post-medieval fabrics were also found, mostly in the BD87 and BD91 fieldwalking but with a few sherds from the excavated tenements and mainly from topsoil. The latter are marked with an asterisk**.** Since these are well known types they are not described in detail:

Fabric P01: Blackware/Cistercian
Fabric P10: Blackware*
Fabric Q00/Q10: Yellow wares
Fabric R01/R10/R40: Coarsewares*
Fabric S00/S10: Mottled ware
Fabric T10: German stoneware*
Fabric T20: English stoneware*
Fabric U00/U40/U60: Slipwares
Fabric V01: Glazed earthenware*
Fabric V10: Cream ware
Fabric V20: Pearl ware
Fabric W20: Porcelain
Fabric W50: Tin glazed earthenware *
Fabric V99: 20th-century miscellaneous

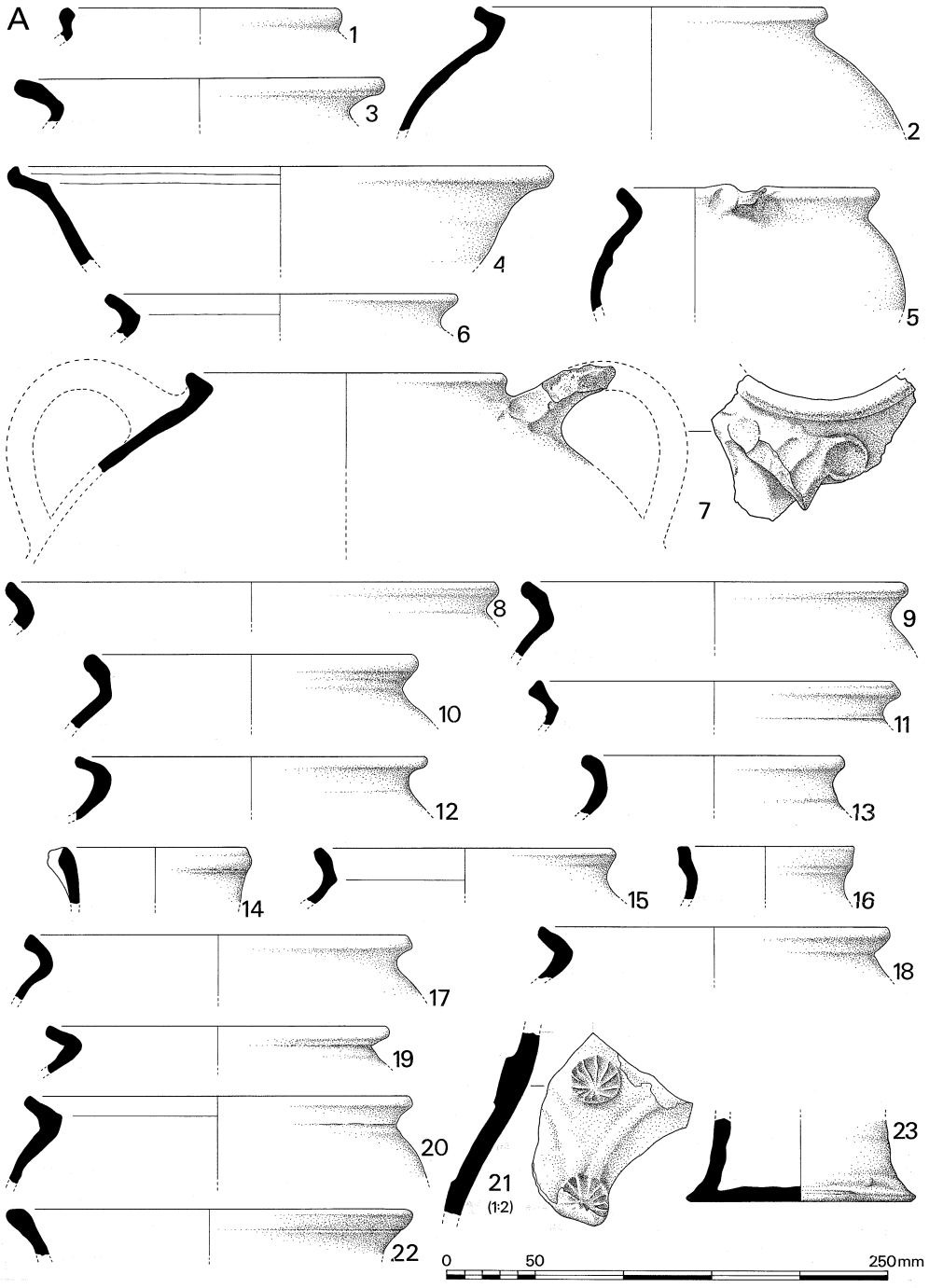

Figure 8.1.2 Medieval Pottery: Area A 1-23

Phase A2 (late 13th-century): 1. F2, 227/1. Phase A3 (14th-century): 2. F12, 62/1; 3-4. F11, 74/1; 5. F4C, 82/1. Phase A4 (early 15th-century): 6. F7, 140/1; 7. F4B, 281/1. Phase A5 (mid-late 15th-century): 8. F11, 23; 9. F4C, 36; 10. F4C, 36; 11. F5, 36; 12-14. F11, 36; 15. F9, 36; 16. F11, 36; 17. F11, 36; 18. F11, 36; 19. F11, 36; 20. F4C, 36; 21. F11, 36; 22. F3, 36; 23. F4C, 36.

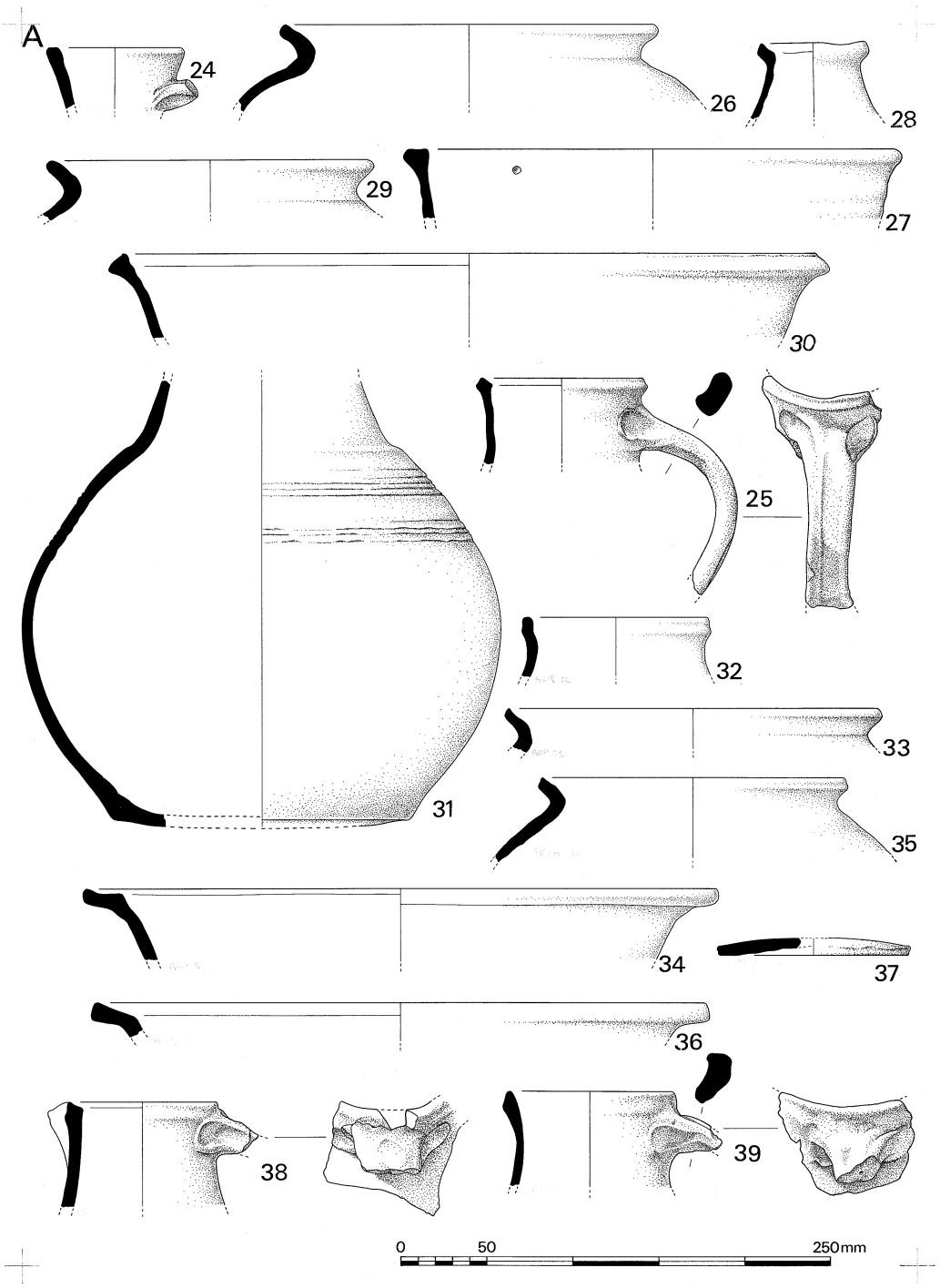

Figure 8.1.3 Medieval Pottery: Area A 24-39

Phase A5 (mid-late 15th-century): 24. F30, 42; 25-27. F11, 42; 28. F30, 42; 29. F9, 48; 30. F9, 48; 31. F4D, 110/1; 32. F8, 142/1; 33. F4C, 151; 34. F8, 151; 35. F4C, 152; 36. F11, 152; 37. F23A, 152; 38. F11, 152; 39. F7, 152.

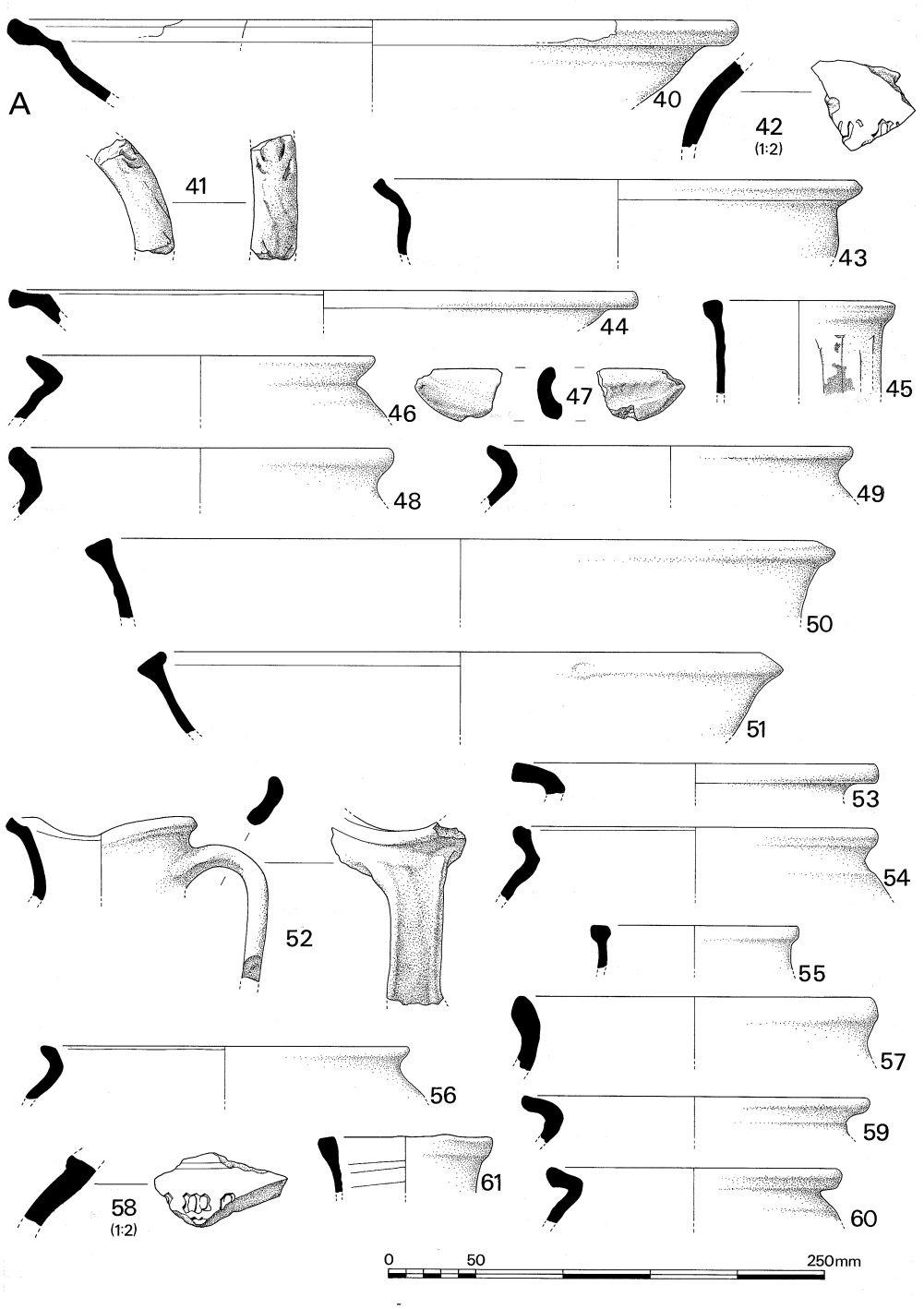

Figure 8.1.4 Medieval Pottery: Area A 40-61

Phase A5 (mid-late 15th-century): 40. F7, 152; 41. F7, 152; 42. F4C, 209; 43. F5, 209; 44. F9, 209; 45. F6, 215; 46. F11, 215; 47. F14, 215; 48-50. F11, 215; 51. F7, 215; 52. F4B, 36. Phase A6 (late 15th-century demolition): 53. F11, 7/1; 54. F11, 7/2; 55. F6, 26; 56. F9, 26; 57. F33, 27; 58. F4C, 31; 59. F11, 46; 60. F11, 46/1; 61. F6, 66.

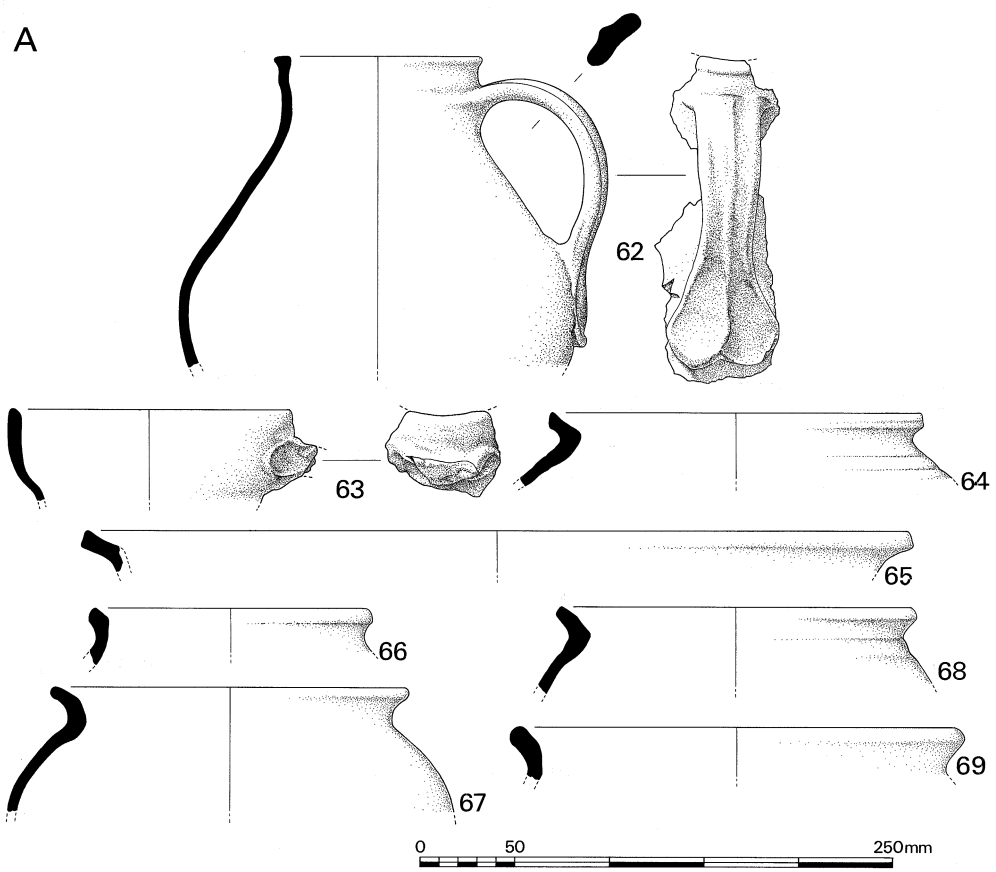

Figure 8.1.5 Medieval Pottery: Area A 62-69

Phase A6 (late 15th-century demolition): 62. F4B, 31. Phase A8 (topsoil): 63. F4C, 1; 64-66. F11, 1/1; 67. F7, 1/1; 68. F9, 4/1; 69. F11, 5/1.

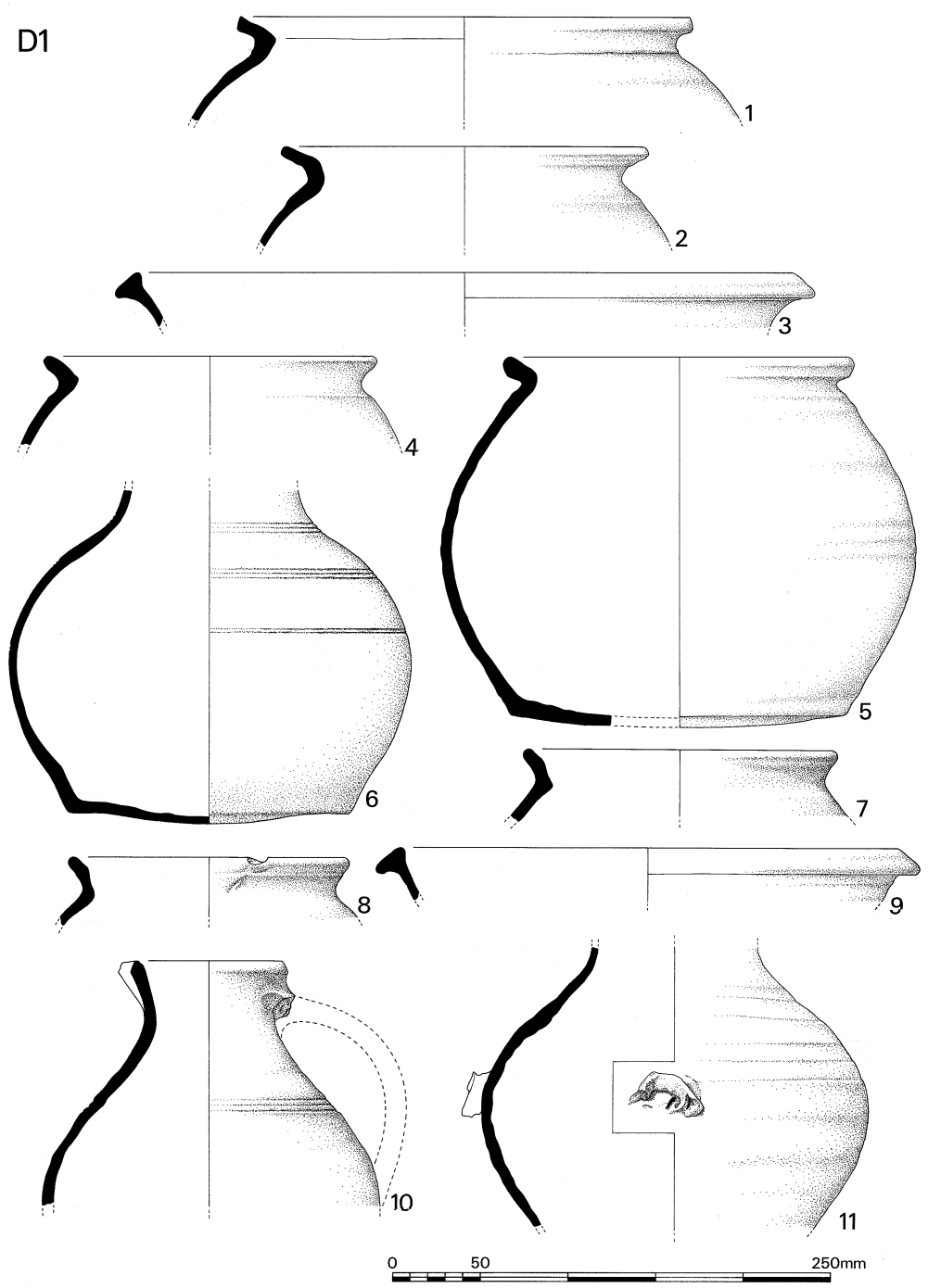

Figure 8.1.6 Medieval Pottery: Area D1 1-11

Phase D12 (late 13th-century): 1. F9, 464; 2-3. F11, 464. Phase D13 (early-mid 14th-century): 4. F7, 447/1; 5. F11, 507/1; 6. F11, 533/1; 7. F9, 533/1; 8. F5, 541/1; 9. F7, 542/1; 10. F11, 541/1, 546/1 etc. Phase D14 (early-mid 15th-century): 11. F9A, 472/2.

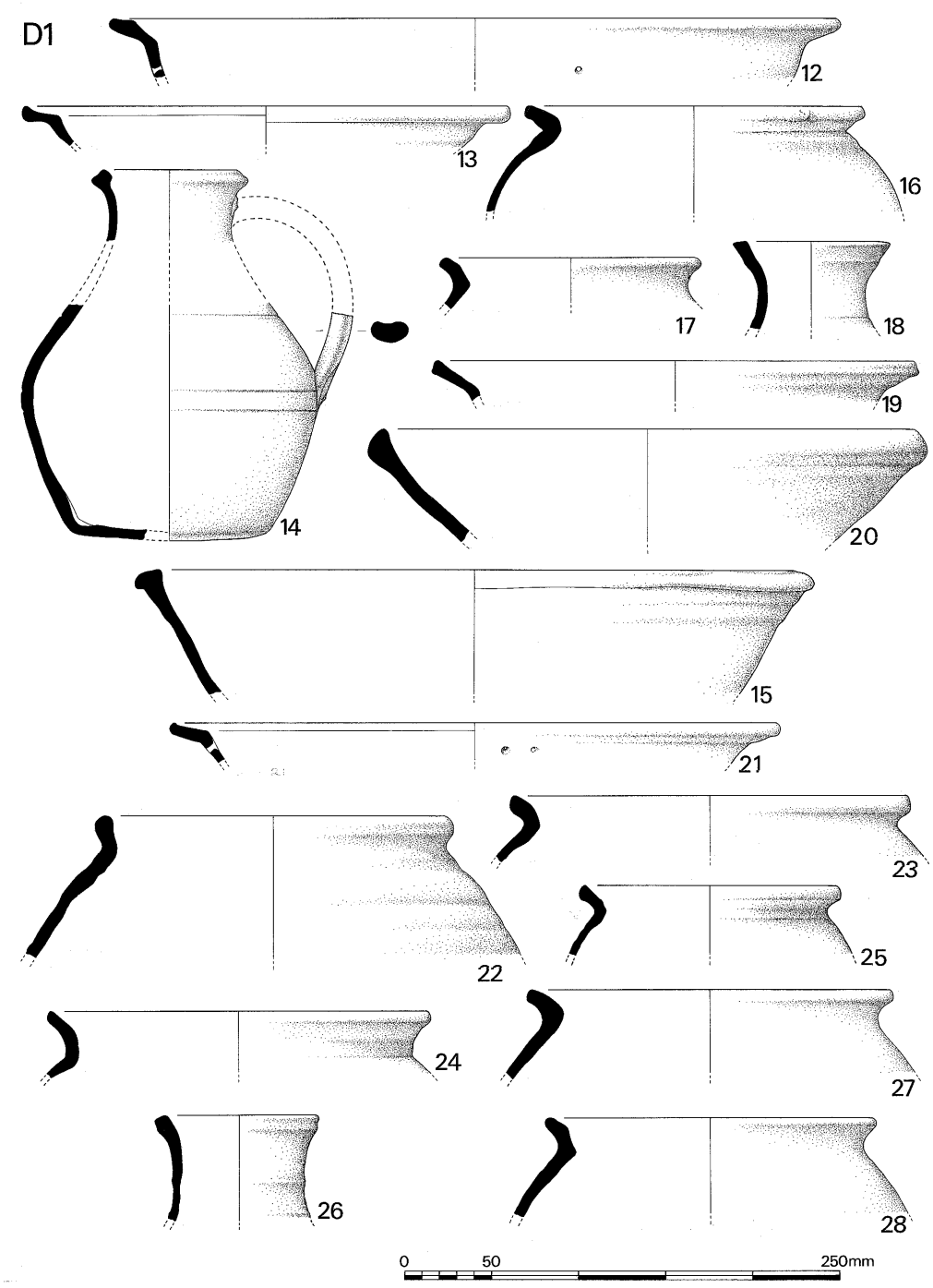

Figure 8.1.7 Medieval Pottery: Area D1 12-28

Phase D14 (early-mid 15th-century): 12. F11, 472/2; 13. F11, 483; 14. F11, 521/1; 15. F11, 524; 16. F11, 525; 17. F9A, 526; 18. F4C, 614/1; 19. F5, 616; 20. F7, 629; 21-24. F11, 1776/1; 25. F4C, 1776/1; 26. F2A, 1776/1; 27. F11, 1790; 28. F9, 1790.

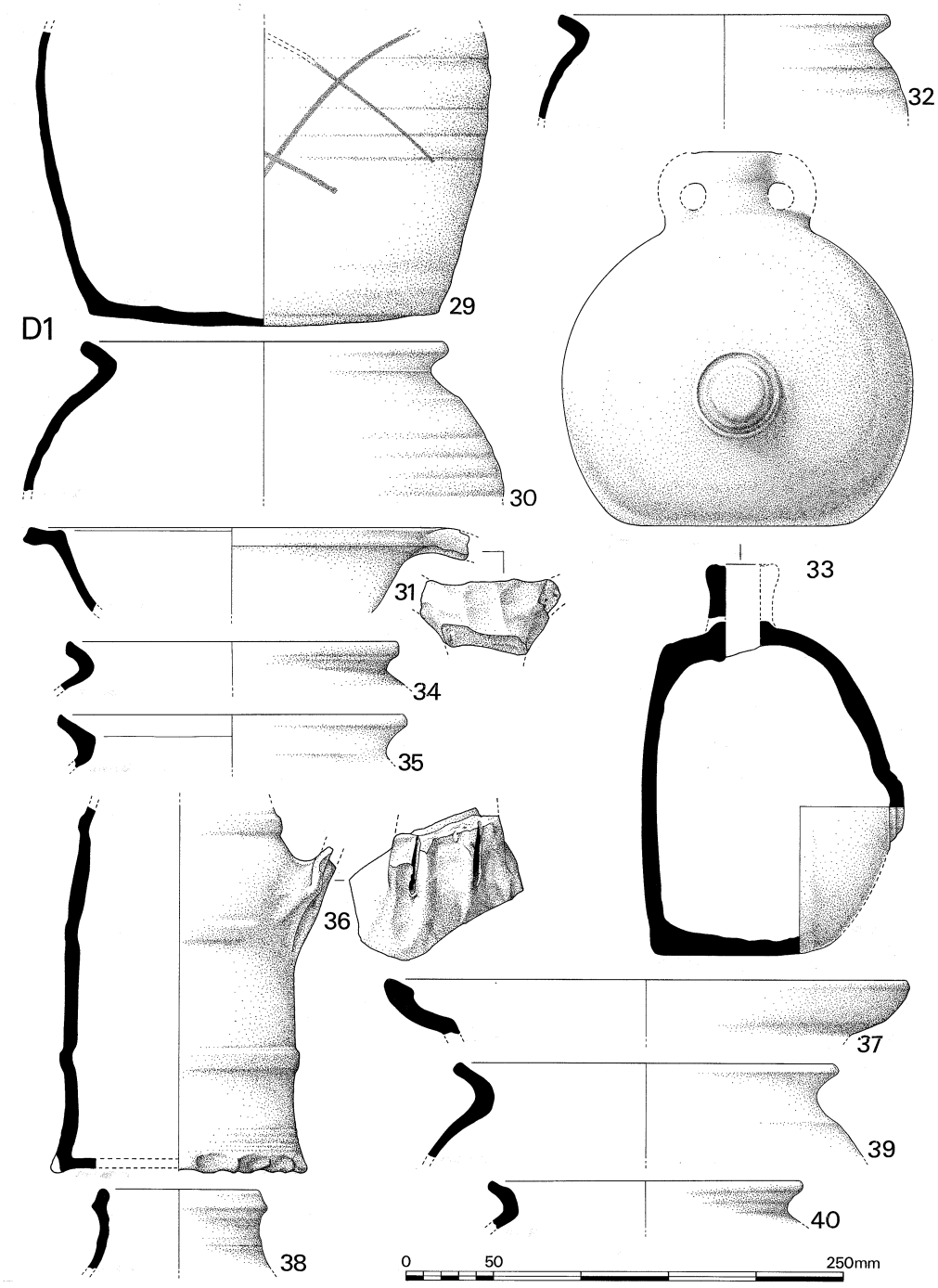

Figure 8.1.8 Medieval Pottery: Area D1 29-40

Phase D14 (early-mid 15th-century): 29. F11, 1775. Phase D15 (mid-late 15th-century): 30. F4C, 430; 31. F11, 430; 32. F4C, 431/1; 33. F35, 436/1; 34. F4C, 437; 35. F9A, 450; 36. F8, 450; 37. F33, 454/1; 38. F11, 461; 39. F11, 461/2; 40. F38, 513.

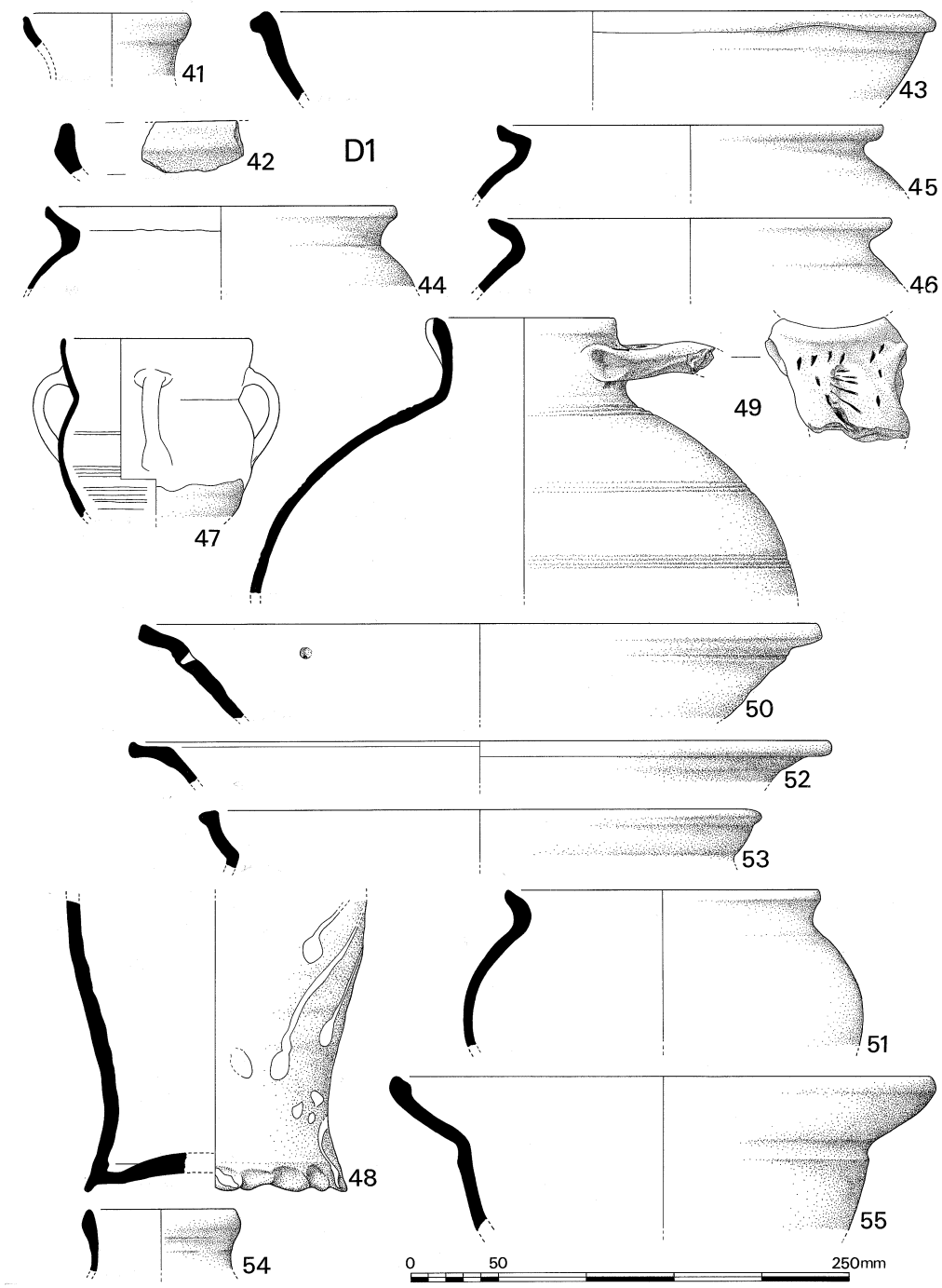

Figure 8.1.9 Medieval Pottery: Area D1 41-55

Phase D15 (mid-late 15th-century): 41. F11, 513; 42. F11, 530/5; 43. F9, 549/1; 44. F11, 549/1; 45. F9, 549/1; 46. F11, 549/2; 47. F50, 797/1; 48. F11, 430, 450; 49. F11, 431/1, 450; 50. F11, 431/1, 488/1; 51. F11, 430, 436/1, etc; 52. F11, 472/1, 450, etc; 53. F15, 459/1, 449/1; 54. F4C, 461/2; 55. F33, 888.

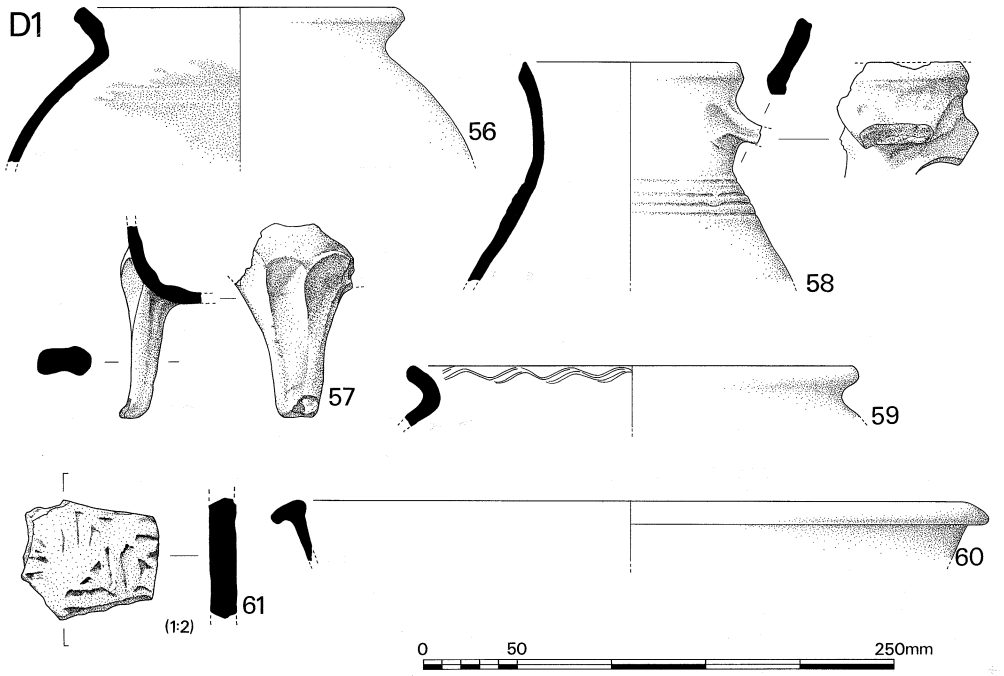

Figure 8.1.10 Medieval Pottery: Area D1 56-61

Phase D15 (mid-late 15th-century): 56. F4C, 219. Phase D16 (late 15th-century demolition): 57. F6, 575/1. Phase D17 (topsoil): 58. F11, 834/1; 59. F11, 310; 60. F11, 431/1, 310; 61. F31, 310/2.

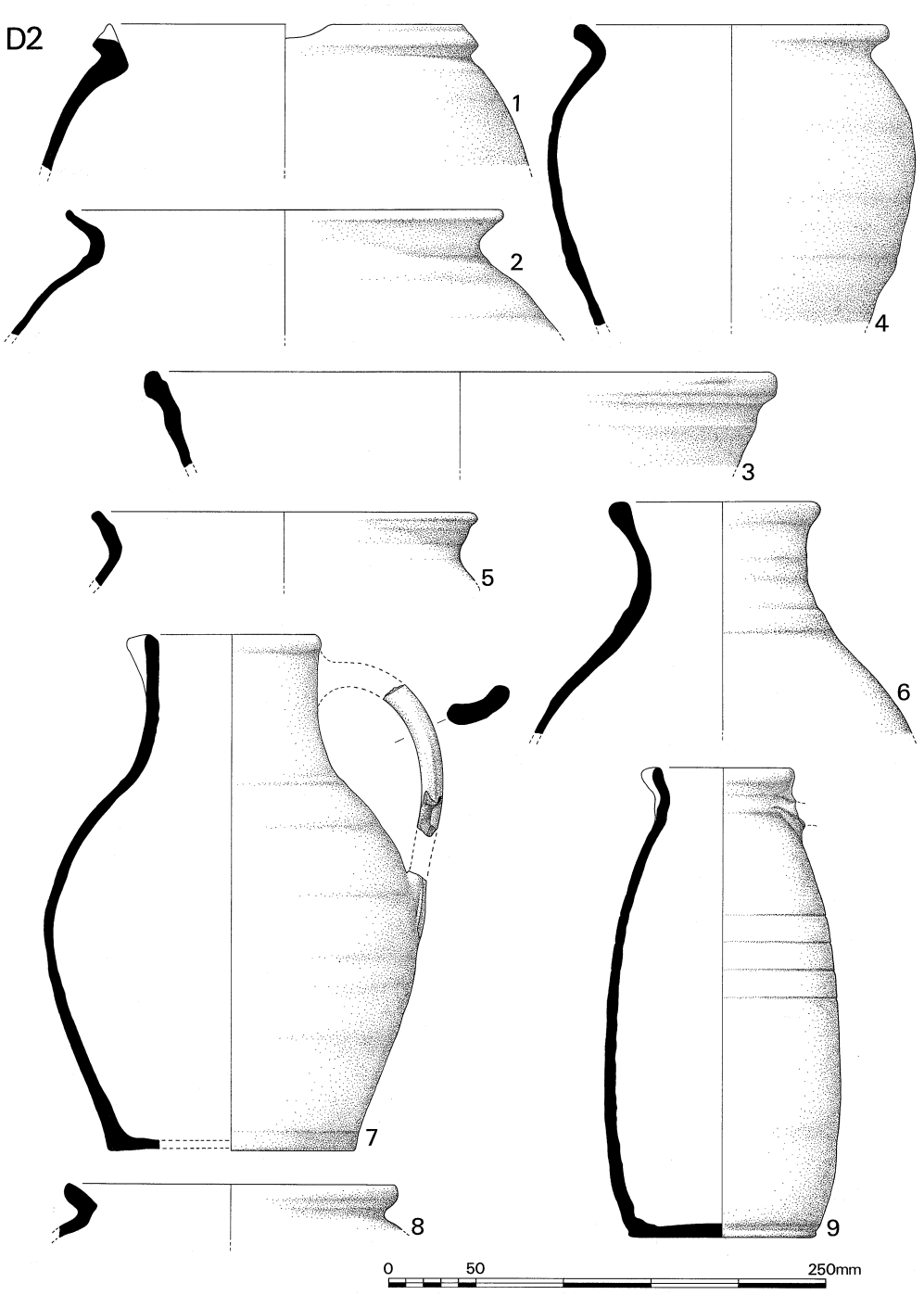

Figure 8.1.11 Medieval Pottery: Area D2 1-9
Phase D24 (early-mid 15th-century): 1. F35, 583; 2. F7, 673/1; 3. F11, 754/1; 4. F11, 993/2; 5. F2, 993/2; 6. F2, 993/2; 7. F30, 1200; 8. F4C, 1476/1; 9. F2A, 1506.

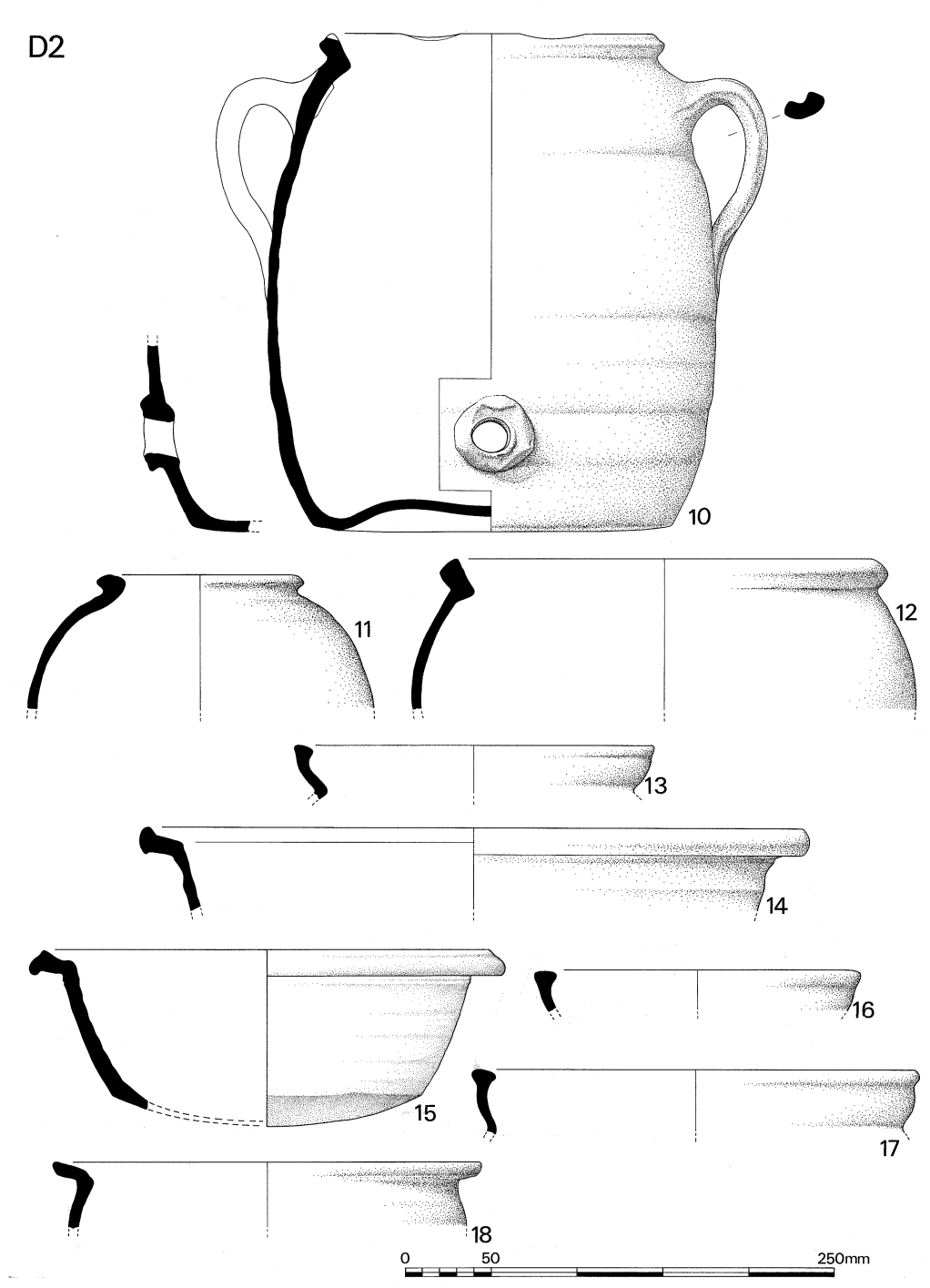

Figure 8.1.12 Medieval Pottery: Area D2 10-18
Phase D24 (early-mid 15th-century): 10. F4D, 1506; 11. F2, 1506; 12. F35, 1506; 13. F3, 1547; 14. F11, 1565/1; 15. F11, 1622/1; 16. F3, 1779/2; 17. F3, 1903; 18. F11, 1904.

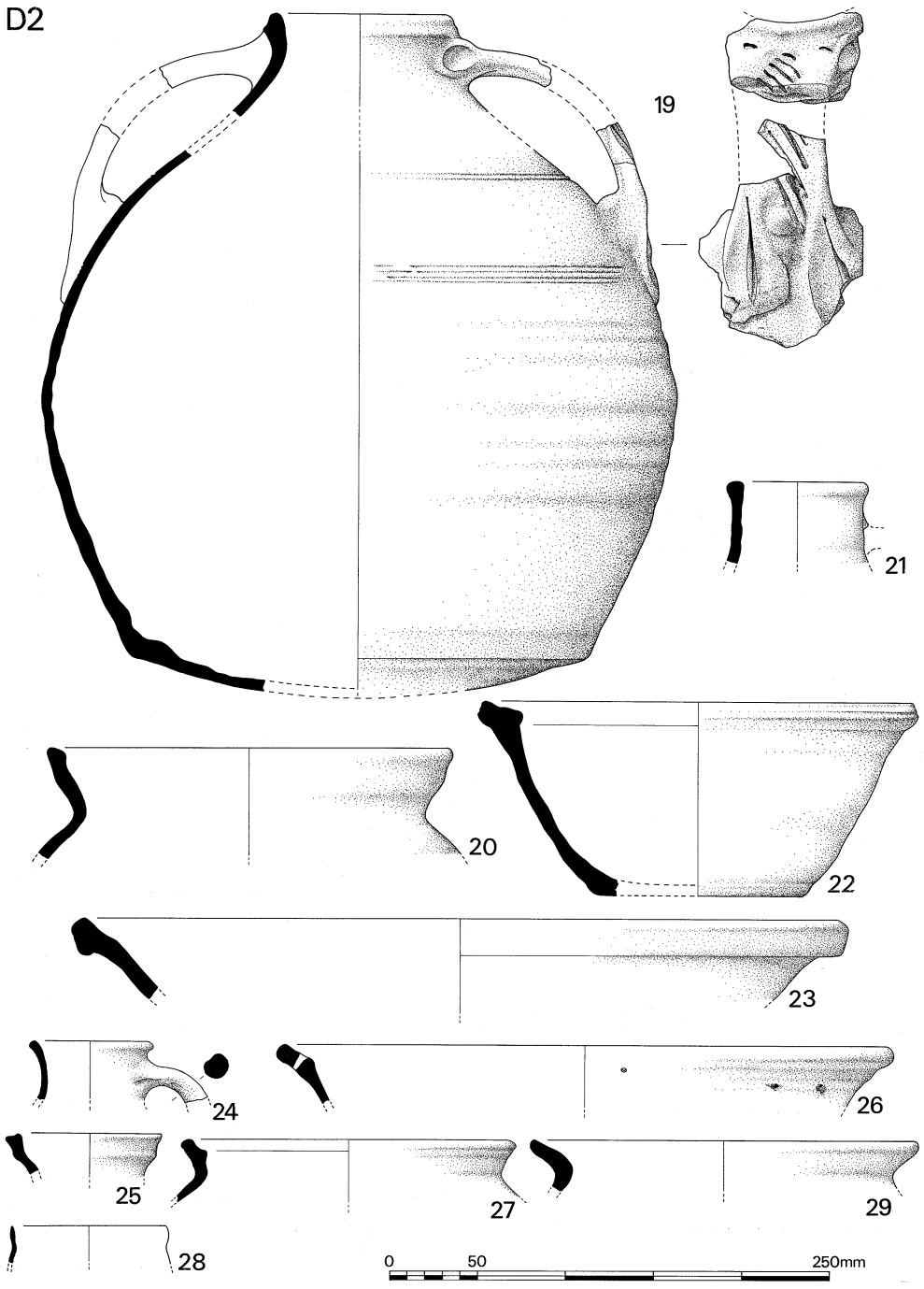

Figure 8.1.13 Medieval Pottery: Area D2 19-29

Phase D24 (early-mid 15th-century): 19. F11, 1904, etc; 20. F33, 1576/3, 666. Phase D25 (mid-late 15th-century): 21. F30, 569/1; 22. F35A, 577; 23. F43, 577; 24. F6, 666; 25. F2, 666; 26. F11, 699/1; 27. F5, 1134; 28. F50, 1194/1; 29. F11, 1202.

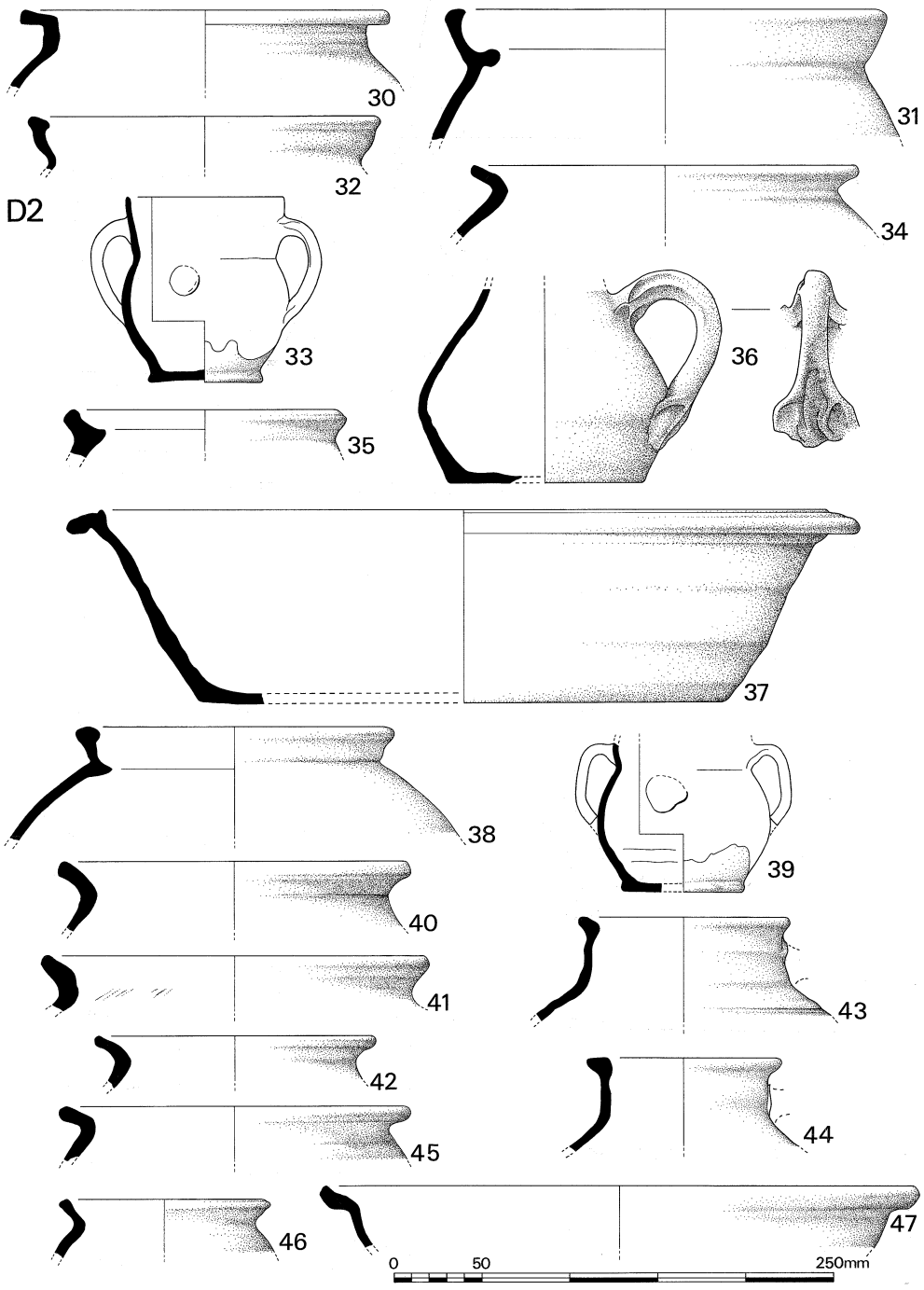

Figure 8.1.14 Medieval Pottery: Area D2 30-47

Phase D25 (mid-late 15th-century): 30. F11, 1222/2; 31. F35A, 1222/2; 32. F3, 1242/2; 33. F50, 1245/1; 34. F7, 1468/1; 35. F31A, 1514/1; 36. F30, 699/1, 1222/1, etc; 37. F11, 1223, 1242/1, etc. Phase D26 (late 15th-century): 38. F31A, 566/1; 39. F50, 695; 40-45. F11, 695; 46. F8A, 695; 47. F7, 695.

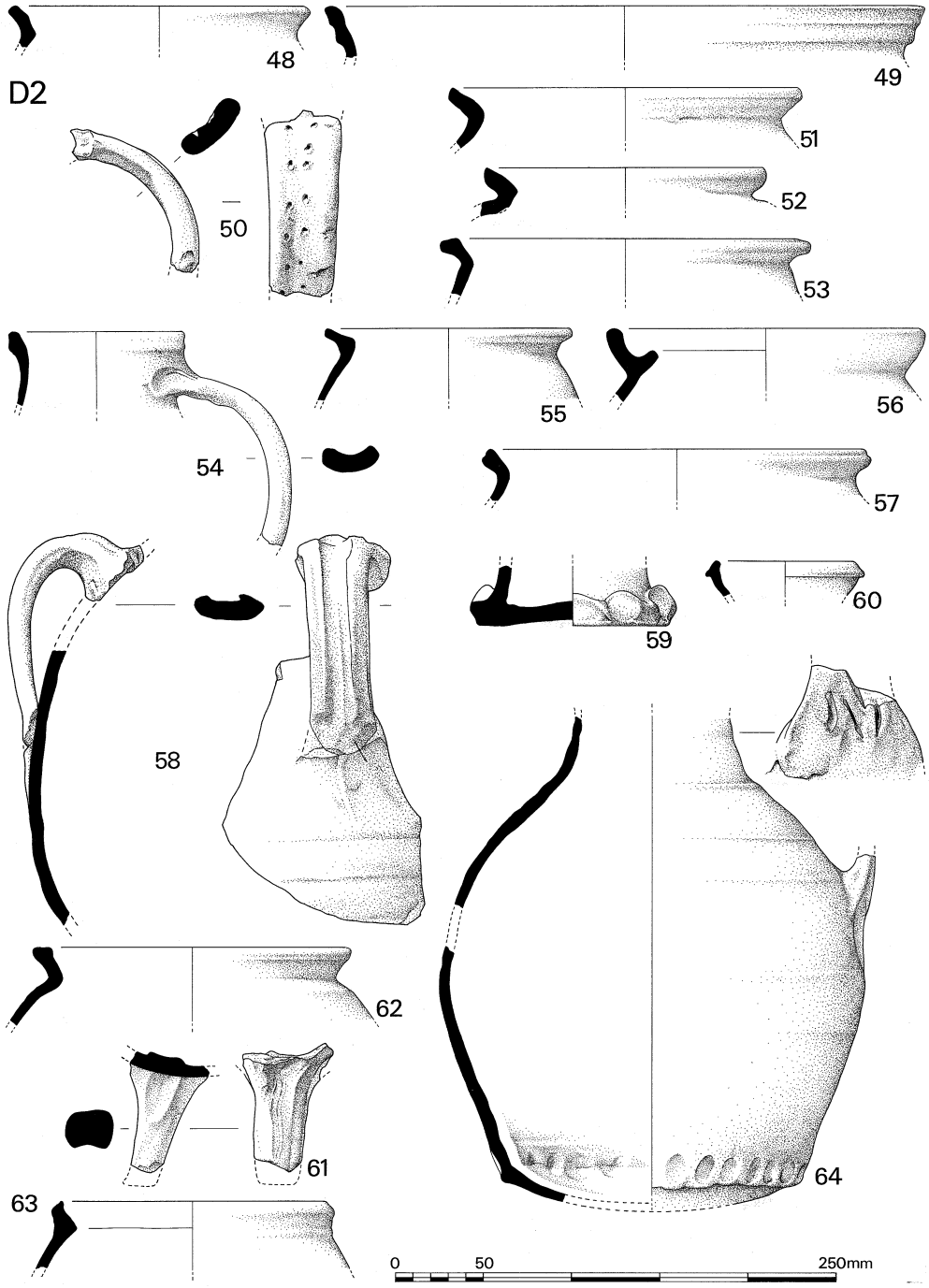

Figure 8.1.15 Medieval Pottery: Area D2 48-64

Phase D26 (late 15th-century): 48. F7, 695; 49. F11, 695; 50. F5, 695; 51. F11, 712; 52. F4C, 712, 53. F4C, 712; 54. F11, 712; 55. F11, 712; 56. F33, 712; 57. F25, 712; 58. F35, 712; 59. F6, 807; 60. F3, 807; 61. F35, 924; 62. F10A, 924; 63. F31, 946; 64. F52, 993/3.

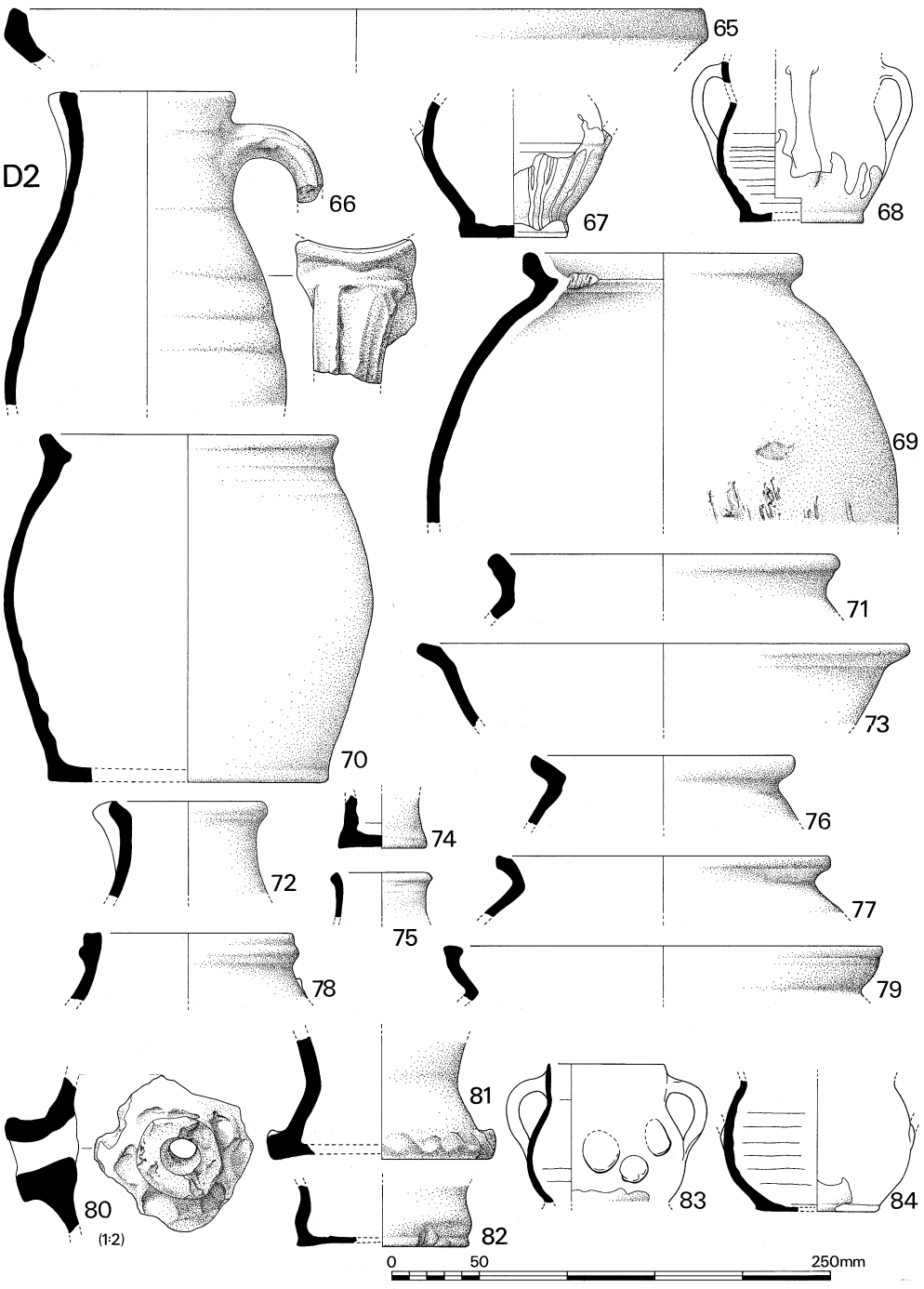

Figure 8.1.16 Medieval Pottery: Area D2 65-84

Phase D26 (late 15th-century): 65. F11, 1130/1; 66. F35, 1172/3; 67. F35A, 1174; 68. F50, 1174; 69. F9, 1174; 70. F42, 1174; 71. F11, 1174; 72. F30, 1174, 73. F7, 1174; 74. F6, 1181; 75. F6, 1197; 76. F35, 1260; 77. F11, 1260; 78. F6, 1262; 79. F15, 1262; 80. F11, 1881/1; 81. F6, 1174; 82. F6, 1246; 83. F50, 695; 84. F50, 1174.

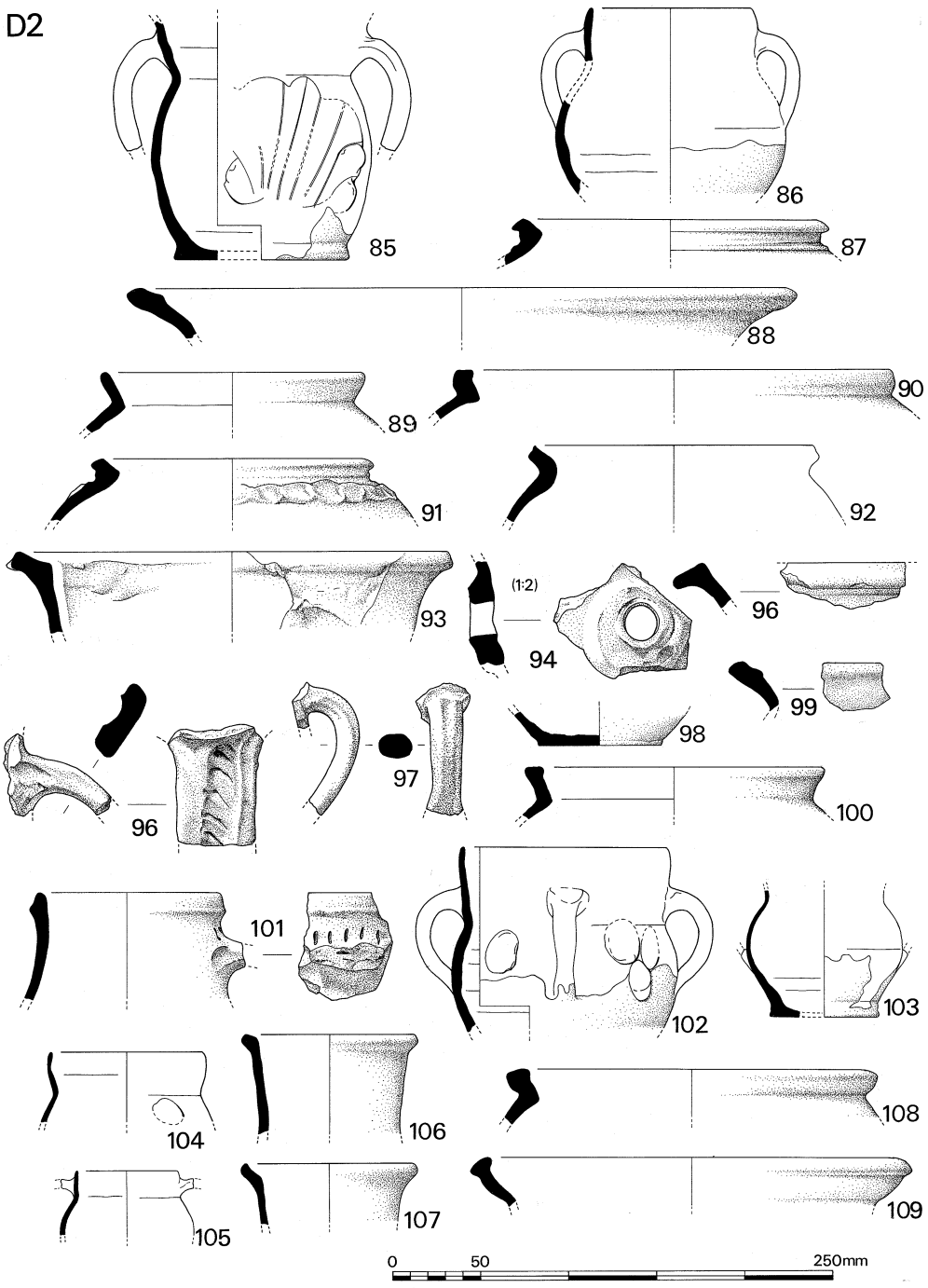

Figure 8.1.17 Medieval Pottery: Area D2 85-109

Phase D26 (late 15th-century): 85. F50, 1174; 86. F50, 1214, 797/1; 87. F11, 1174; 88. F35A, 1174; 89. F31, 1774; 90. F4C, 1774. Phase D27 (late 15th-century demolition): 91. F11, 685; 92. F31A, 709; 93. F35A, 709; 94. F6, 805; 95. F2, 876; 96. F11, 876. Phase D28 (topsoil): 97. F50, 585; 98. F2A, 932/1; 99. F63B, 971; 100. F11, 971; 101. F7, 1360/1; 102. F50, 368/5; 103. F50, 368/1; 104. F50, 368/1; 105. F50, 368/1; 106. F30, 368/1; 107. F30, 368/4; 108. F11, 954/1; 109. F3, 683/1.

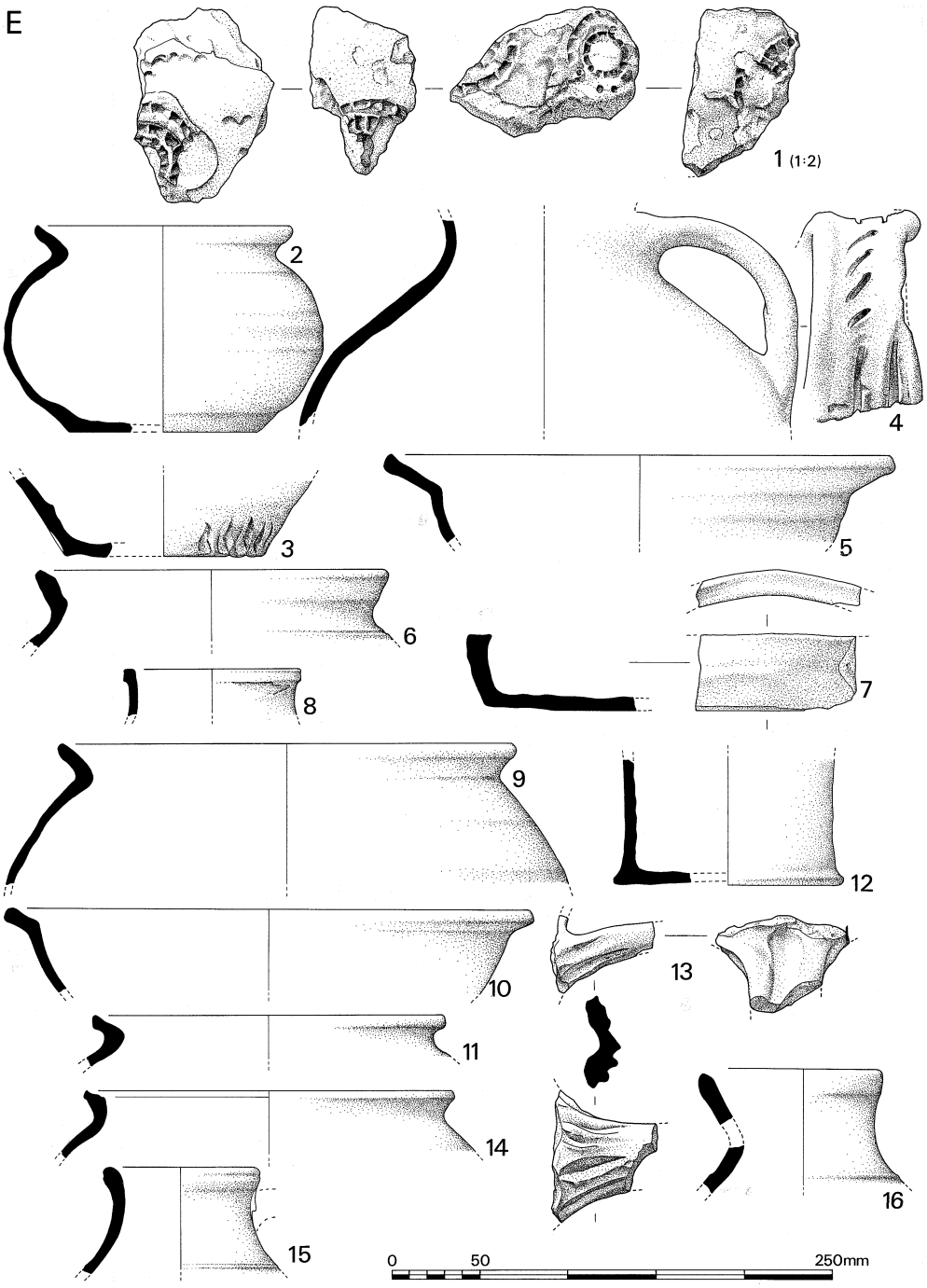

Figure 8.1.18 Medieval Pottery: Area E 1-16

Phase E3 (early 14th-century): 1. F11, 875/1; 2. F11, 1328/1; 3. F9, 1378; 4. F17, 1396/2; 5. F11, 1683/1. Phase E4 (mid 14th-century): 6. F6, 998/1. Phase E5 (early-mid/late 15th-century): 7. F11, 1125; 8. F6, 1161; 9. F11, 1162; 10. F5, 1162; 11. F7, 1162; 12. F11, 1162; 13. F11, 1178; 14. F11, 1179; 15. F9, 1223/1; 16. F10A, 1223/1.

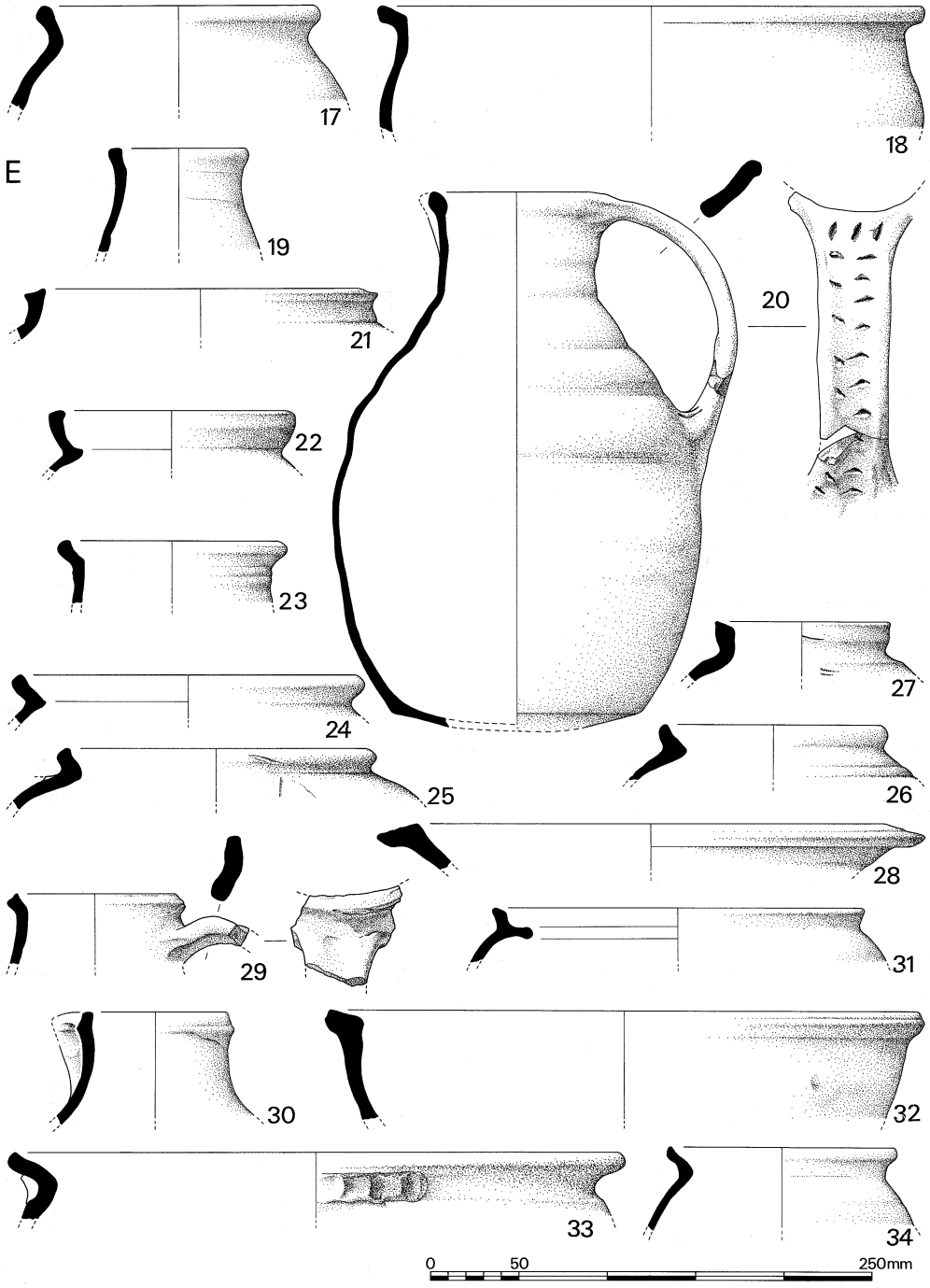

Figure 8.1.19 Medieval Pottery: Area E 17-34

Phase E5 (early-mid/late 15th-century): 17. F11, 1223/1; 18. F8, 1651; 19. F4D, 1653/1; 20. F5, 1662, 898, 1126. Phase E6 (late 15th-century): 21. F44, 867; 22-23. F4D, 867; 24. F4C, 867; 25. F4D, 867; 26. F4C, 867; 27. F11, 867; 28-29. F30, 867; 30. F38, 867; 31. F6, 867; 32. F35, 867; 33. F11, 867; 34. F11, 898.

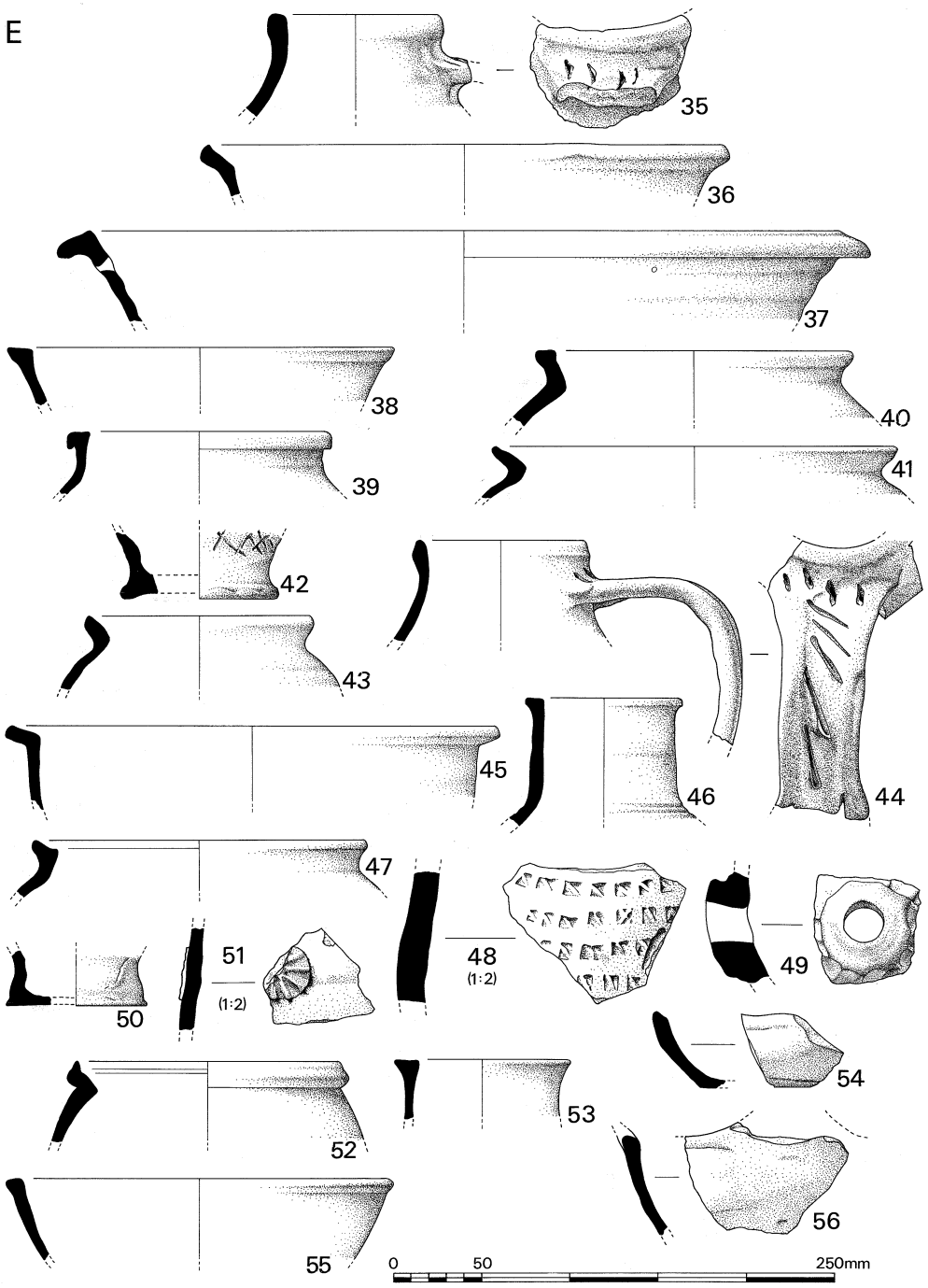

Figure 8.1.20 Medieval Pottery: Area E 35-56

Phase E6 (late 15th-century): 35-36. F11, 898; 37. F2, 898; 38. F10A, 898; 39. F9A, 898; 40. F4C, 898; 41. F11, 898; 42. F6, 898; 43. F11, 909; 44. F11, 909; 45. F11, 1176; 46. F10A, 1271. Phase E7 (late 15th-century demolition): 47. F11, 806/1; 48. F11, 828; 49. F4C, 851; 50. F6, 874; 51. F50, 874; 52. F4B, 874; 53. F2, 874; 54-56. F5, 874

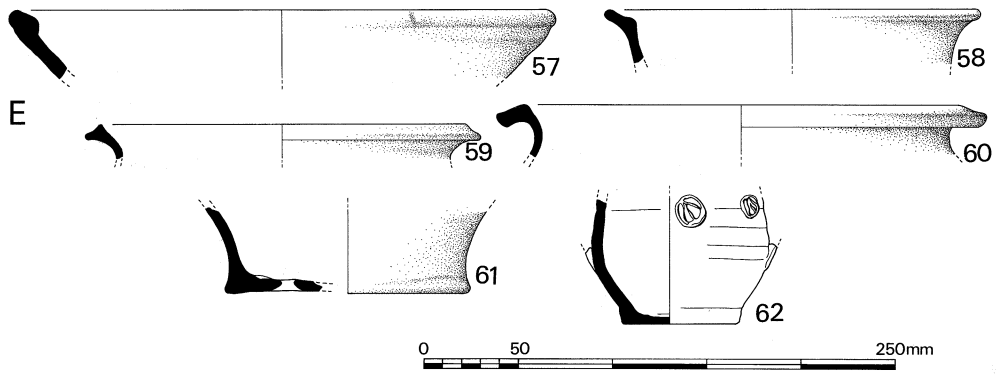

Figure 8.1.21 Medieval Pottery: Area E 57-62

Phase E7 (late 15th-century demolition): 57. F33, 874; 58-59. F10A, 874; 60. F9, 1325. Phase E8 (topsoil): 61. F2, 369/4; 62. F33, 369/1.

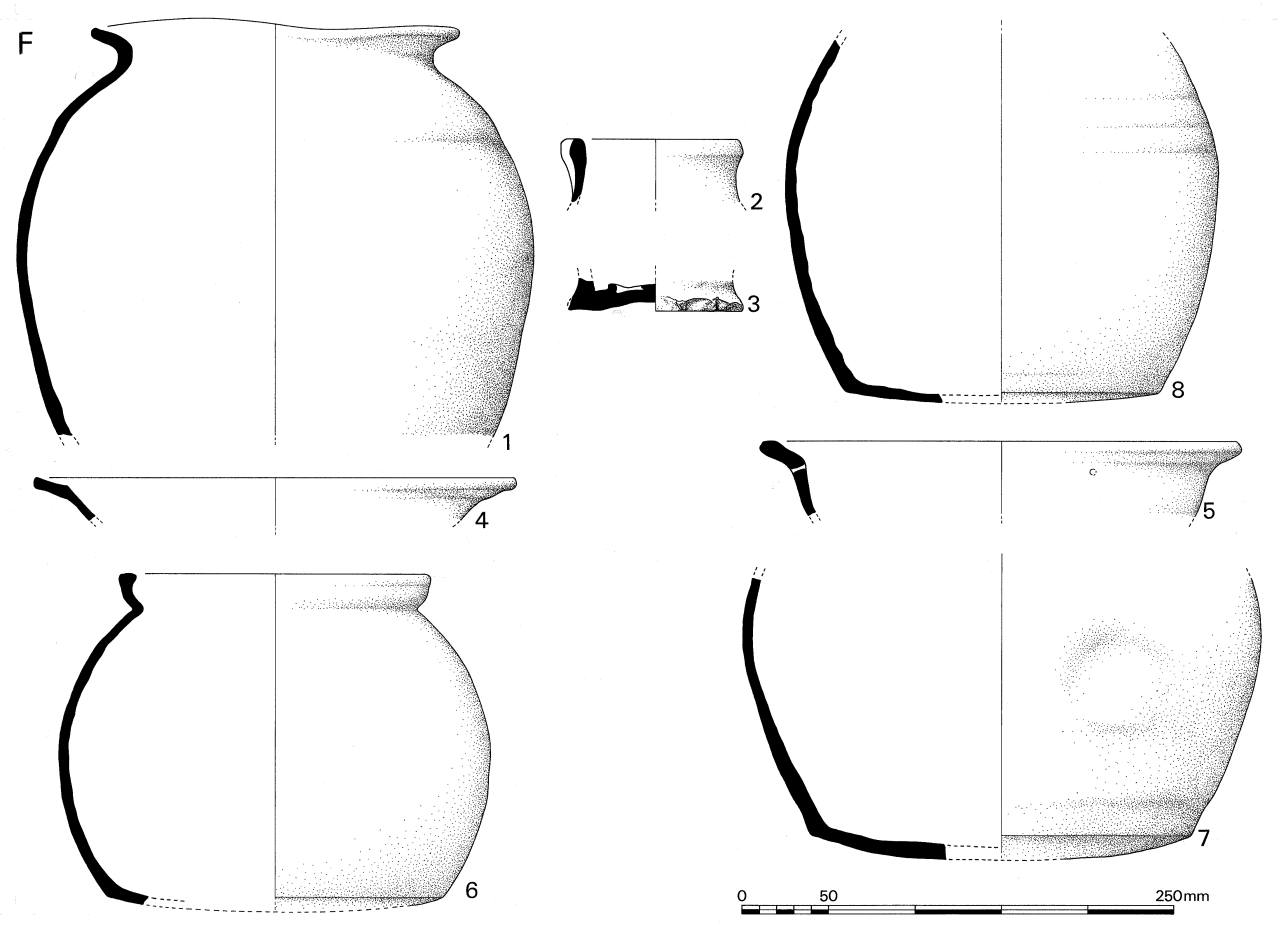

Figure 8.1.22 Medieval Pottery: Area F 1-8
Phase F3 (early 14th-century): 1. F11, 1295/2. Phase F4 (early-mid 15th-century): 2. F11, 1164; 3. F5, 1239; 4. F11, 1300; 5. F5, 1300; 6. F3, 1300; 7-8. F11, 1405/2.

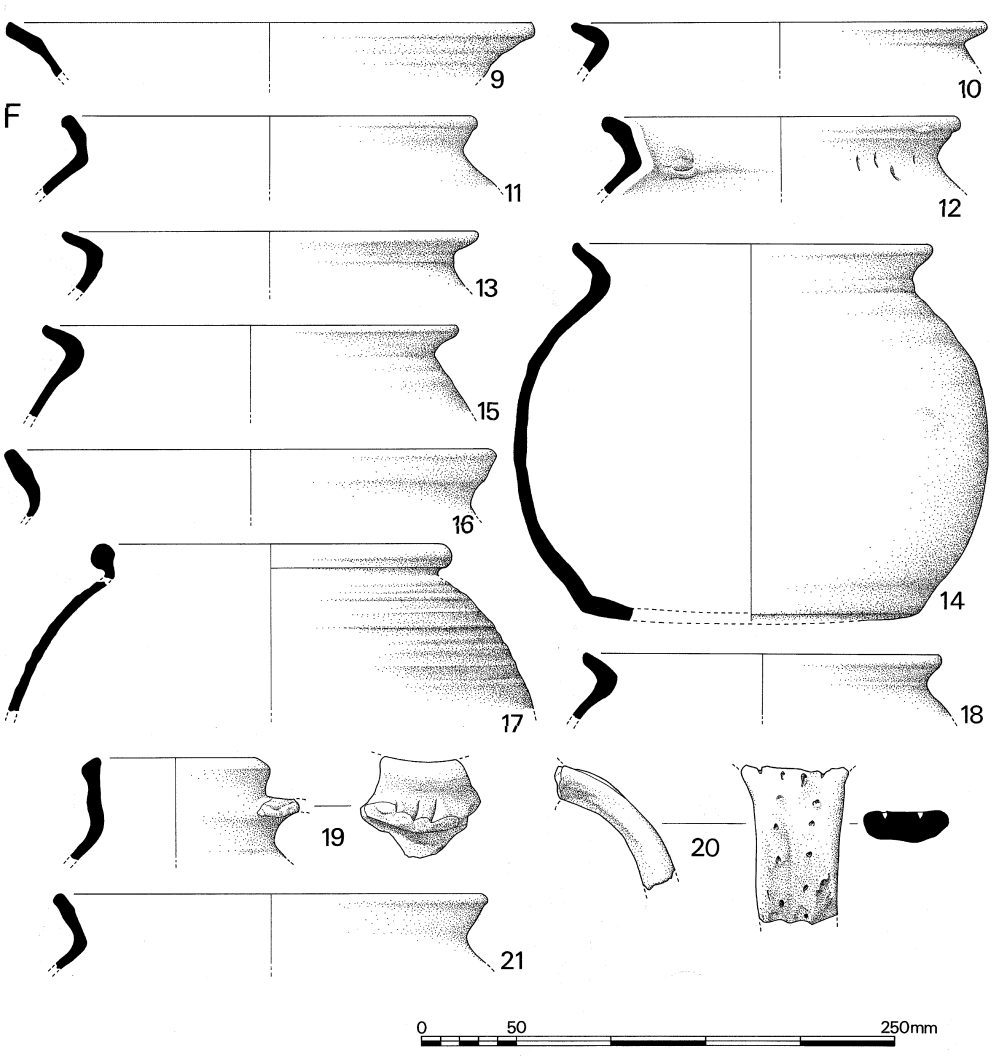

Figure 8.1.23 Medieval Pottery: Area F 9-21

Phase F5 (mid-late 15th-century): 9-13. F11, 912; 14-15. F11, 1187; 16. F5, 1187; 17. F2, 912. Phase F6 (late 15th-century): 18. F11, 866; 19. F2, 866; 20. F5, 866. Phase F7 (late 15th-century demolition): 21. F5, 856.

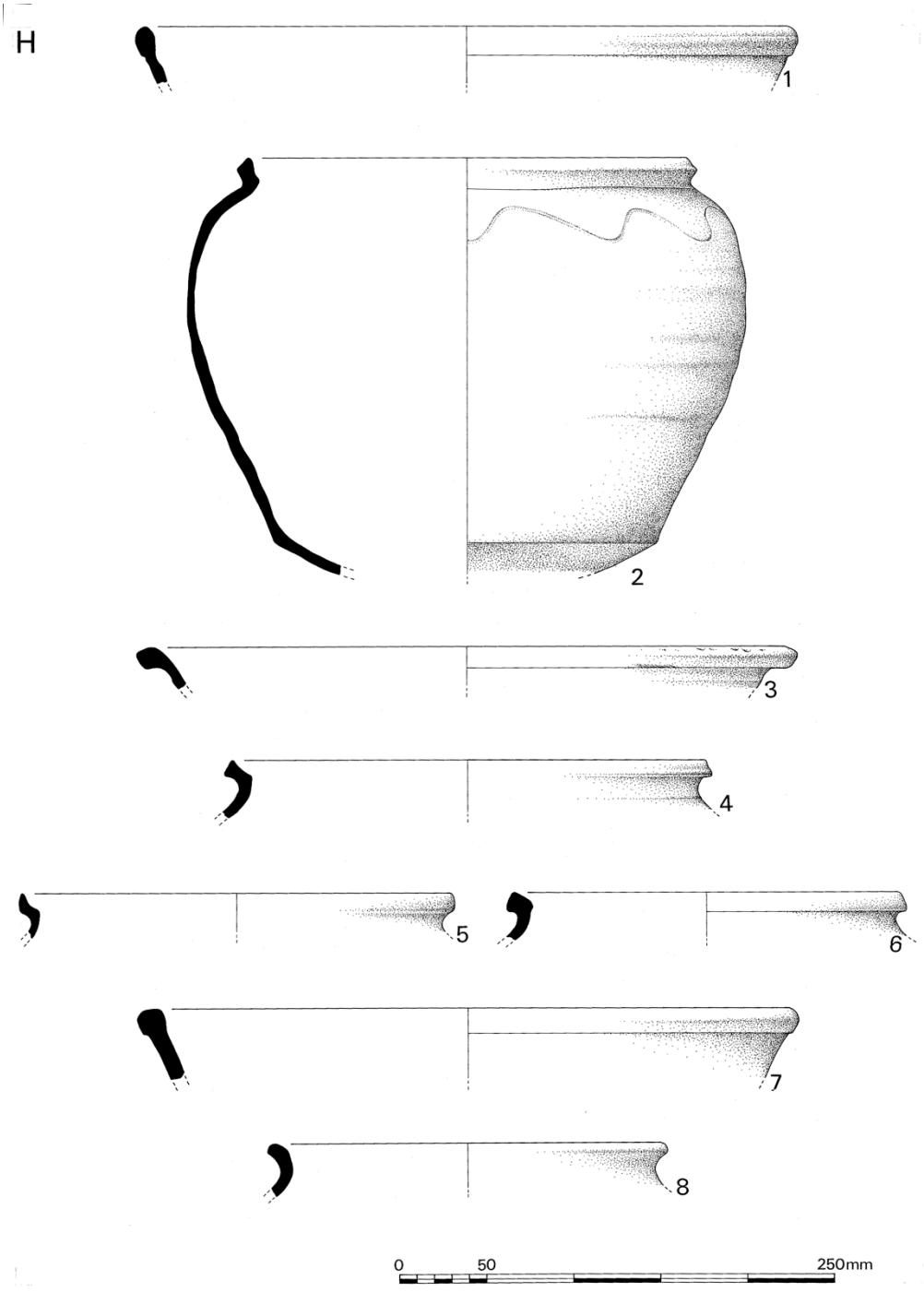

Figure 8.1.24 Medieval Pottery: Area H 1-8
Phase H2 (mid/late 13th-century): 1. F12, 2421/1. Phase H4 (mid/late 14th-century): 2. F58, 2073; 3. F12, 2073; 4. F3, 2073; 5. F58, 2073; 6. F14A, 2075/1; 7. F15, 2219; 8. F19, 2219.

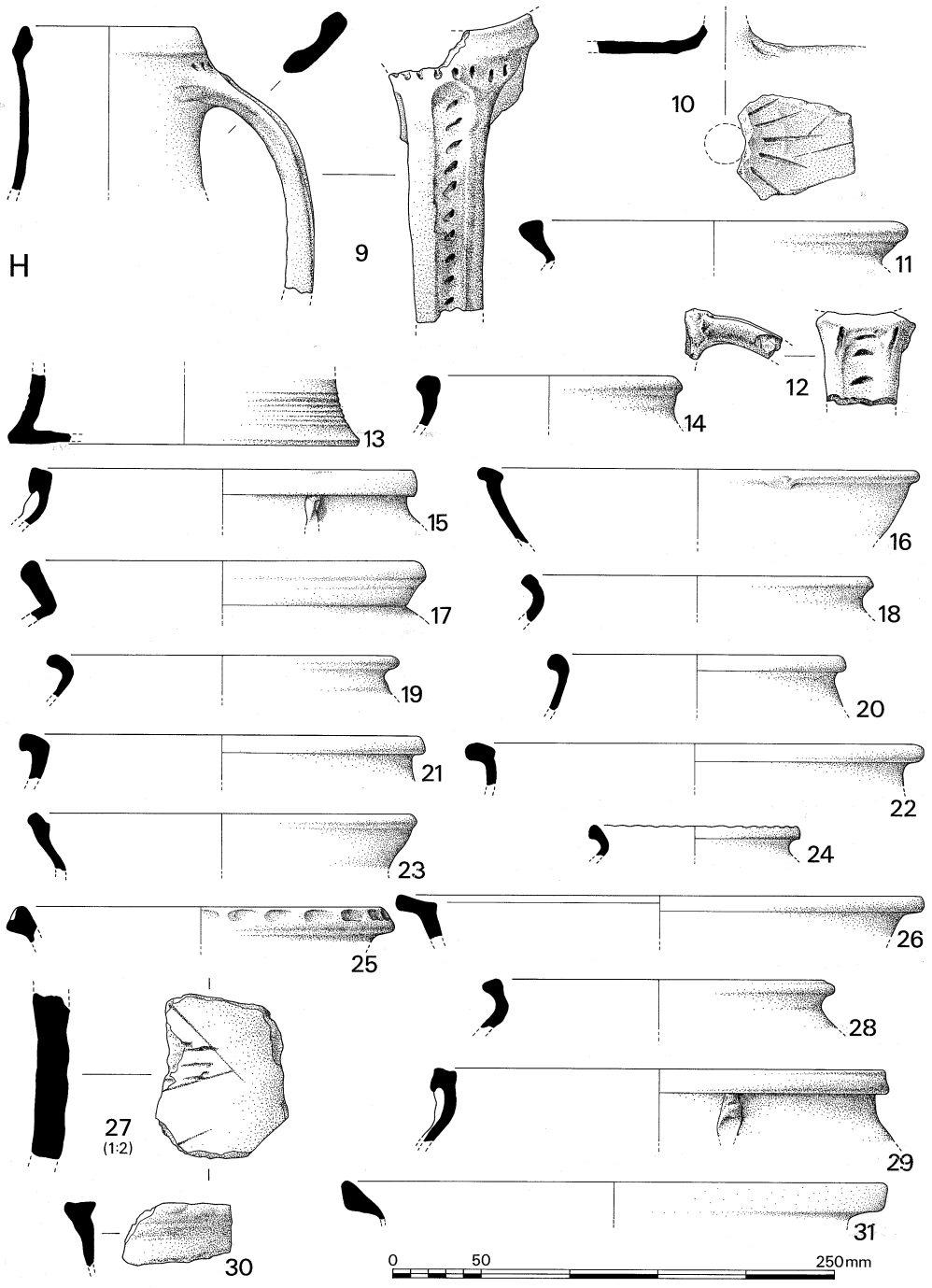

Figure 8.1.25 Medieval Pottery: Area H 9-31

Phase H4 (mid/late 14th-century): 9. F8A, 2219. Phase H5 (early 15th-century): 10. F12, 2131; 11. F8A, 2158; 12. F14, 2158. Phase H6 (early 15th-century): 13. F6, 2019; 14. F17, 2033; 15. F12, 2160/1; 16. F3, 2160/1. Phase H7 (?16th-century): 17. F23, 2103; 18. F5, 2103; 19. F16, 2103; 20. F17, 2103; 21-22. F19, 2103; 23. F3, 2159/3; 24-25. F22, 2161/1; 26. F14, 2161/1; 27. F8A, 2161/1; 28. F2, 2222; 29. F12, 2222. Phase H8 (topsoil): 30. F17, 1894; 31. F16, 1940.

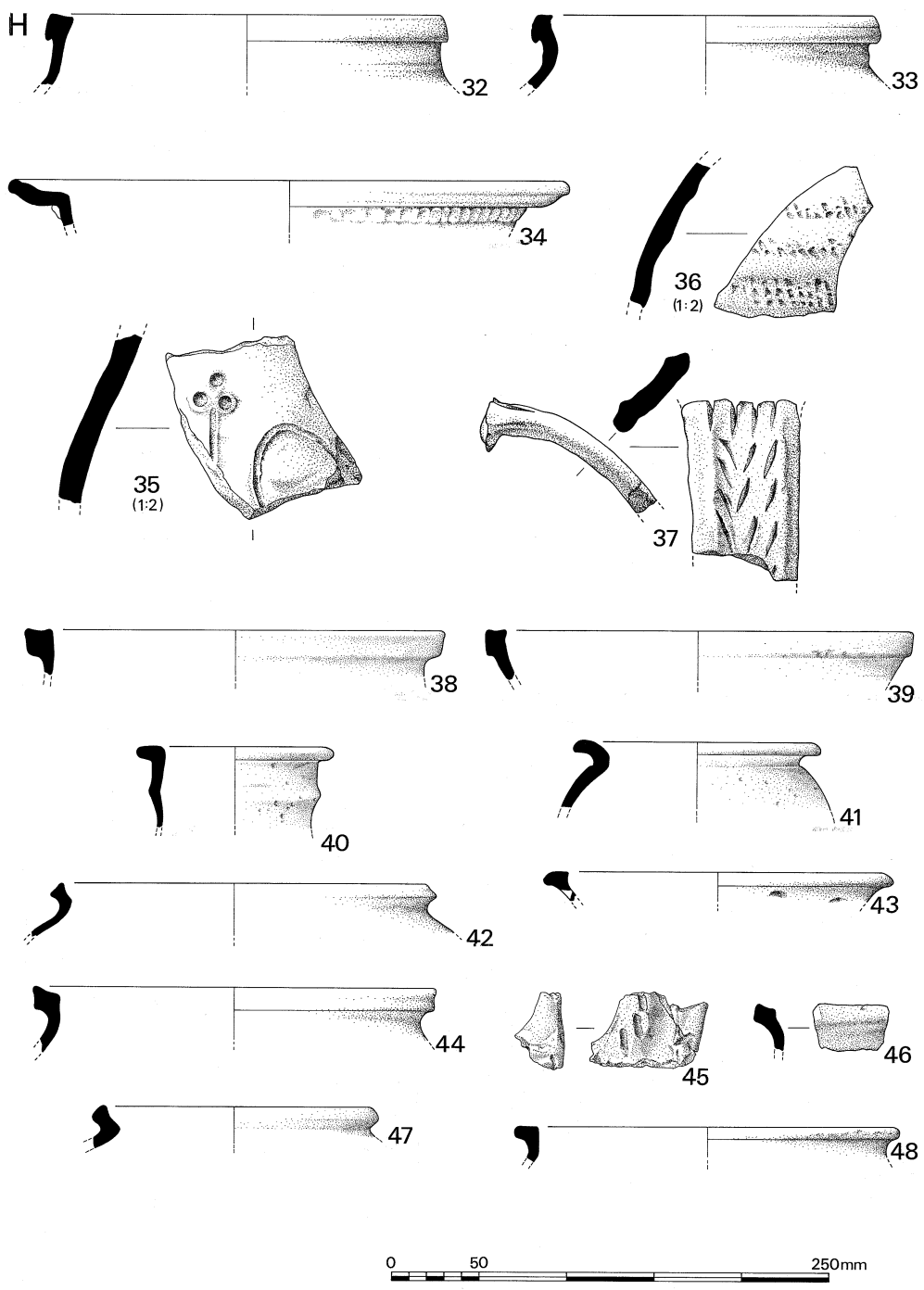

Figure 8.1.26 Medieval Pottery: Area H 32-48

Phase H8 (topsoil): 32. F12, 2013; 33. F6, 2013; 34. F15, 2013; 35. F7, 2013; 36. F17, 2013; 37. F12, 2013; 38-39. F23A, 2013; 40-41. F16, 2013; F58, 2116; 42. F58, 2116; 43. F2, 2116; 44. F21, 2116; 45. F14A, 2116; 46. F12, 2116; 47. F62, 2153; 48. F17, 2153.

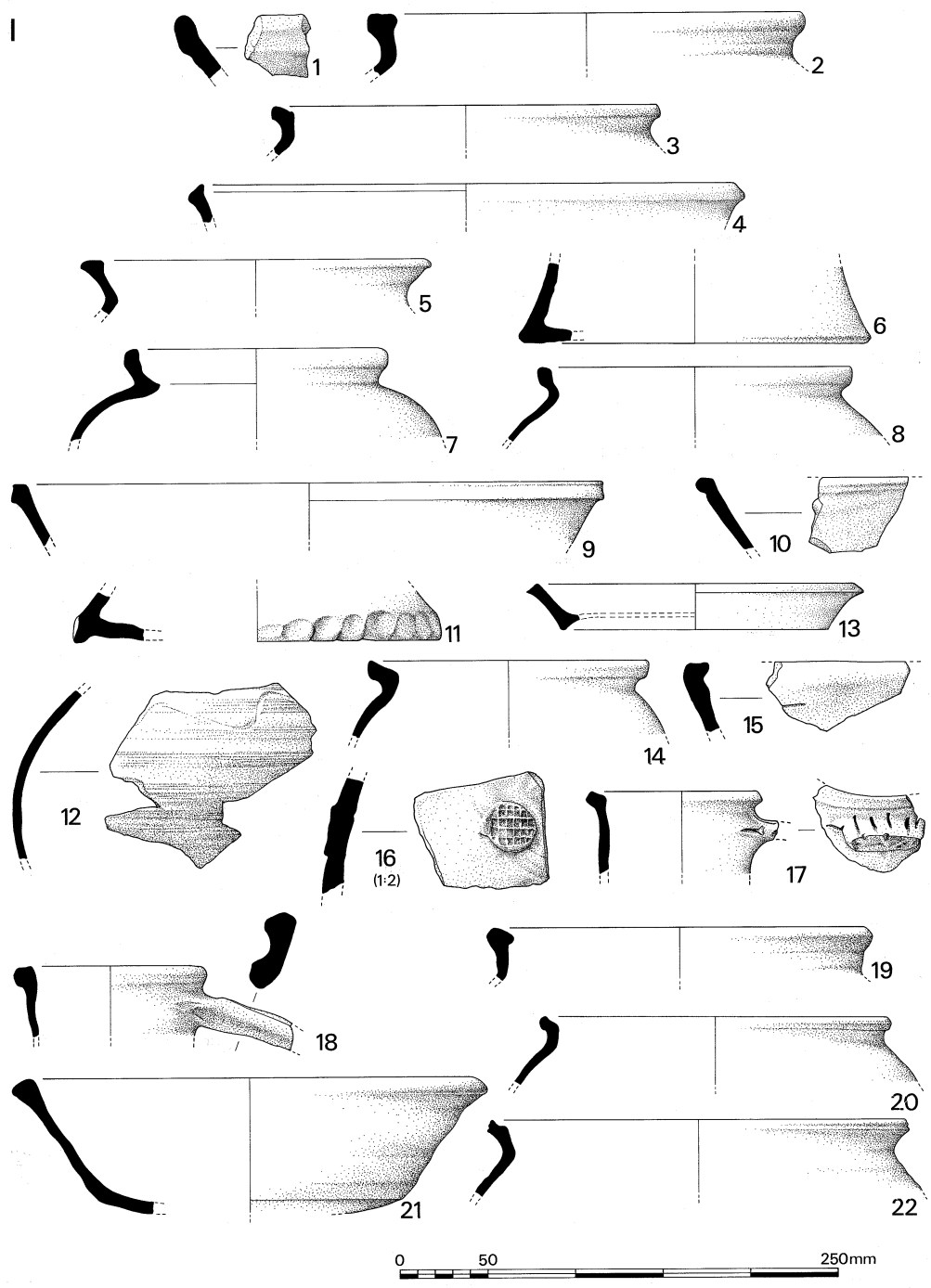

Figure 8.1.27 Medieval Pottery: Area I 1-22

Phase I2 (mid/late 13th-century): 1. F63D, 2376. Phase I4 (early-mid 15th-century): 2. F22, 2096; 3. F6, 2096; 4. F5, 2096; 5. F62, 2145; 6. F59, 2313; 7. F11, 2096, 2375/1. Phase I5 (mid 15th-century demolition): 8. F2, 2040; 9-10. F5, 2040; 11. F38, 2040; 12. F14A, 2040; 13. F5, 2043; 14. F12, 2052; 15. F11, 2052; 16. F6, 2052; 17. F12, 2055; 18. F16, 2055; 19. F15, 2084/1; 20. F58, 2084/1. Phase I6 (topsoil): 21. F11, 1892; 22. F58, 1944.

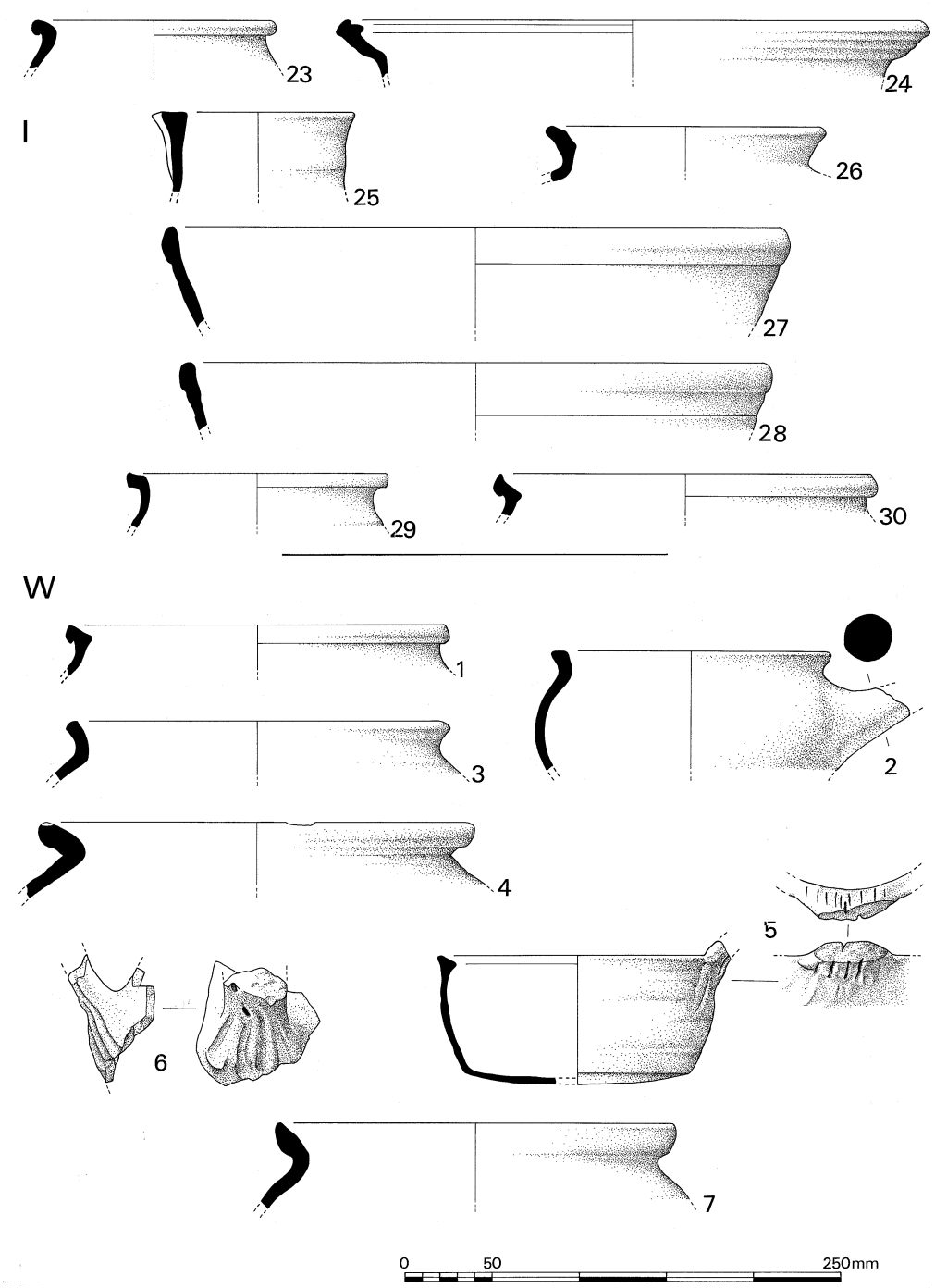

Figure 8.1.28 Medieval Pottery: Area I 23-30; Area W 1-7

Phase I6 (topsoil): 23. F16, 1946; 24. F15, 1948; 25. F2, 2011; 26. F42, 2011; 27. F12, 2011; 28. F17, 2011; 29. F23, 2011; 30. F14, 2057. Phase W1 (early 14th-century): 1. F9A, 2119/1. Phase W2: 2. F8A, 2047; 3. F5, 2047; 4. F5, 2059; 5. F6, 2061. Phase W3 (mid 15th-century demolition): 6. F11, 2016; 7. F55, 2016.

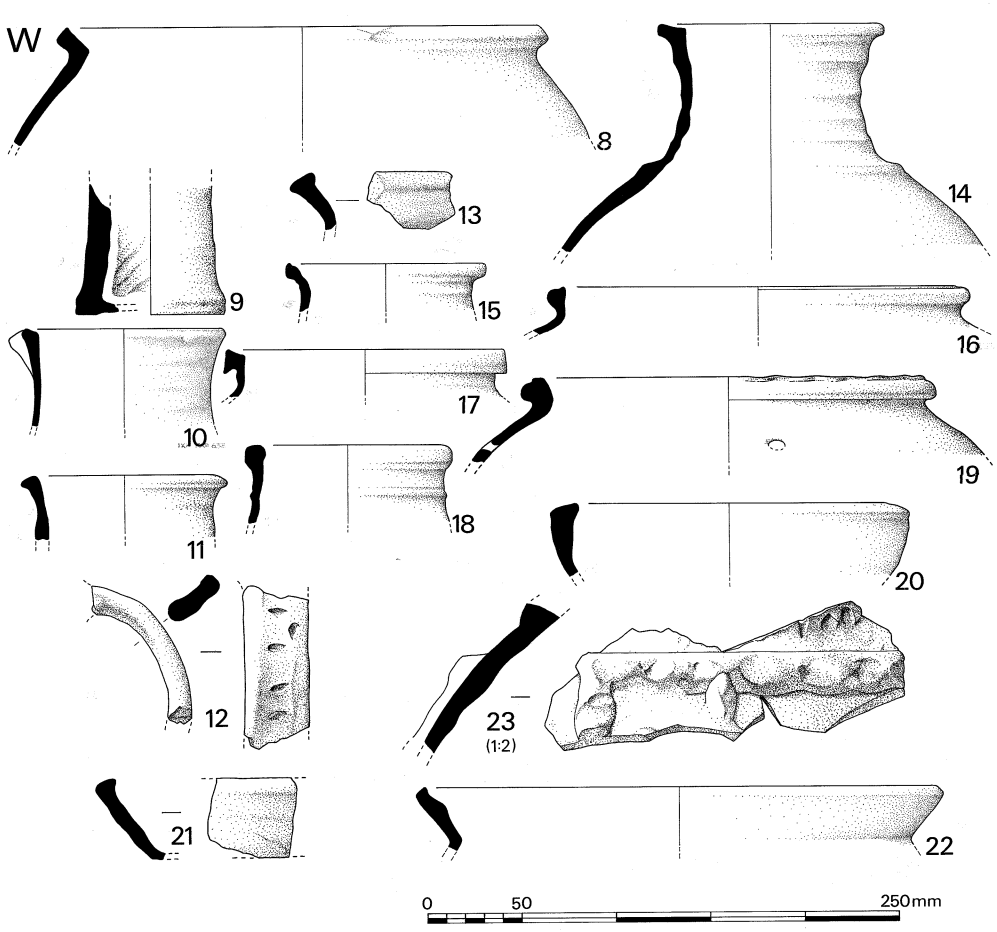

Figure 8.1.29 Medieval Pottery: Area W 8-23

Phase W3 (mid 15th-century demolition): 8. F14, 2016; 9. F62A, 2016; 10. F63B, 2016; 11. F16, 2045; 12. F14, 2062; 13. F55, 2062. Phase W4 (topsoil): 14. F14, 1947; 15. F2, 1947; 16. F12, 1947; 17. F6, 1947; 18. F17, 1947; 19. F19, 2010; 20. F43, 2010; 21. F11, 2010; 22. F65, 2010; 23. F11, 2010.

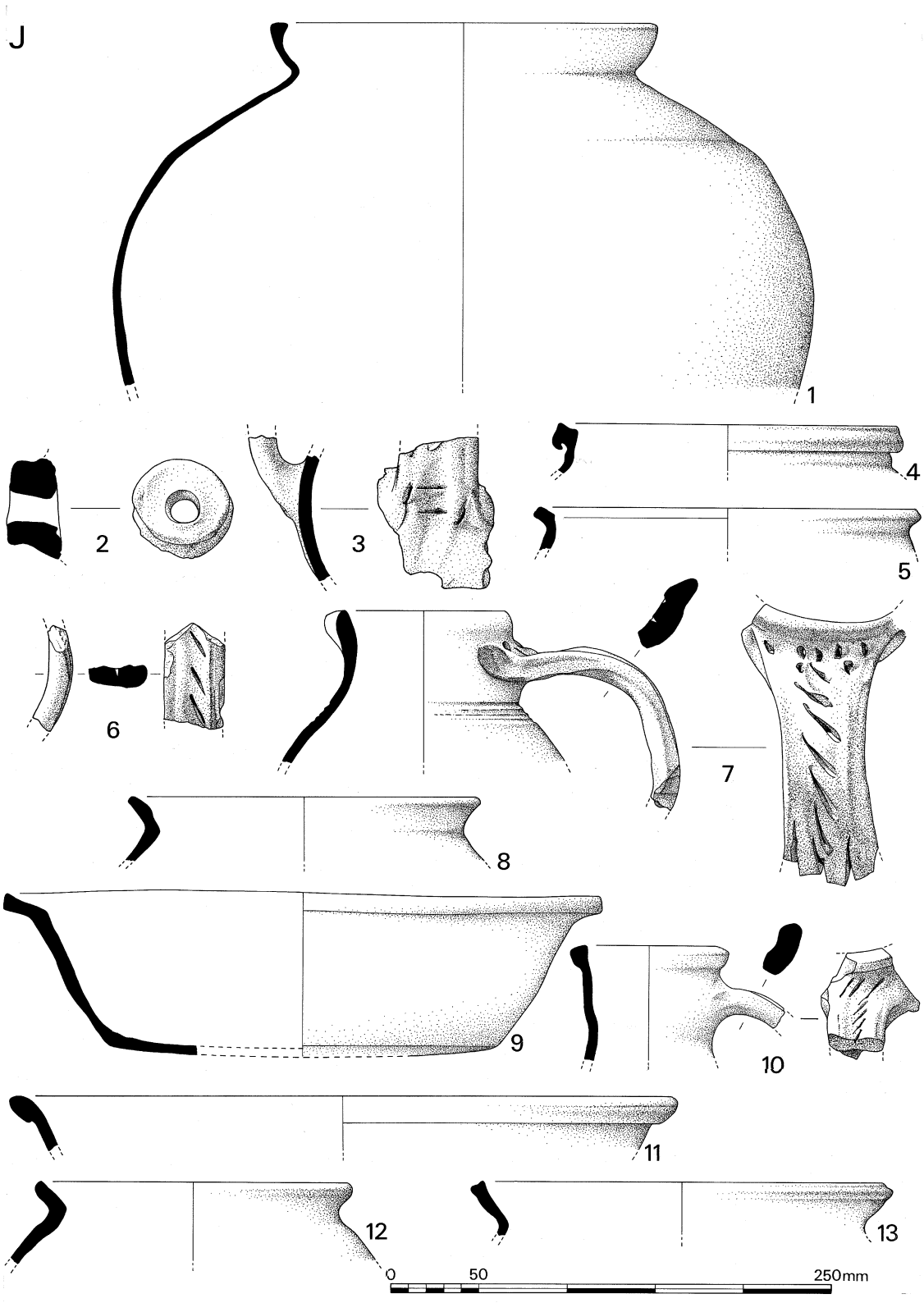

Figure 8.1.30 Medieval Pottery: Area J 1-13

Phase J2 (later 13th-century): 1. F3, 2154/1. Phase J3 (early-late 14th-century): 2. F21, 2051/1; 3. F5, 2051/3. Phase J4 (early 15th-century): 4. F12, 2085; 5. F14A, 2085; 6. F6, 2085/1; 7. F11, 2171; 8. F11, 2175; 9. F11, 2208. Phase J5 (early 13th-century demolition): 10. F6, 2050; 11. F12, 2050; 12. F11, 2063; 13. F3, 2063.

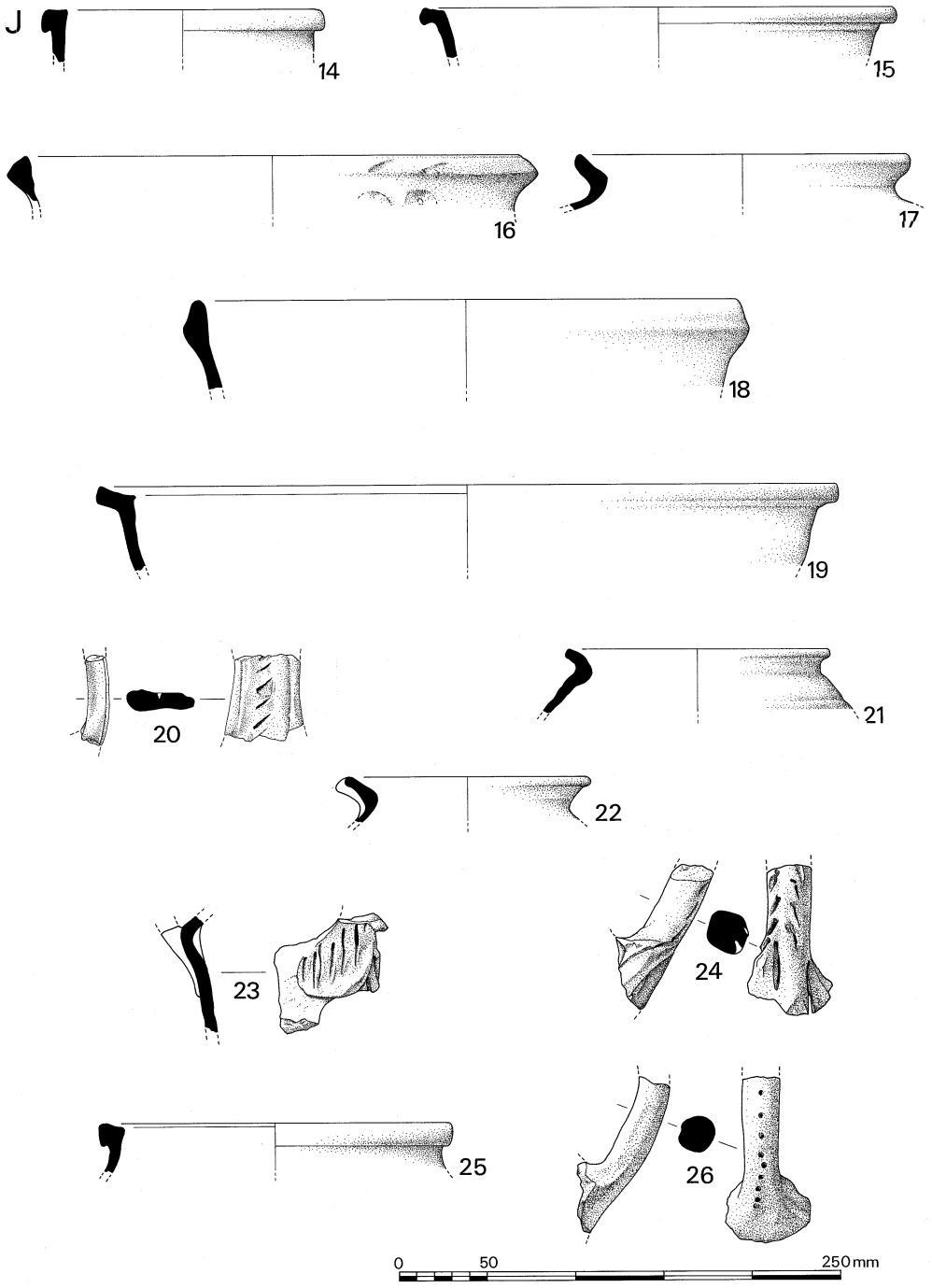

Figure 8.1.31 Medieval Pottery: Area J 14-26

Phase J5 (early 13th-century demolition): 14. F12, 2164/1; 15. F12, 2164/2; 16. F9, 2165/2; 17. F4C, 2165/5; 18. F11, 2165/5; 19. F14, 2168; 20. F6, 2170/2; 21. F7, 2193. Phase J7 (topsoil): 22. F11, 2058; 23. F7, 2058; 24. F9A, 2058; 25. F12, 2060; 26. F6, 2060.

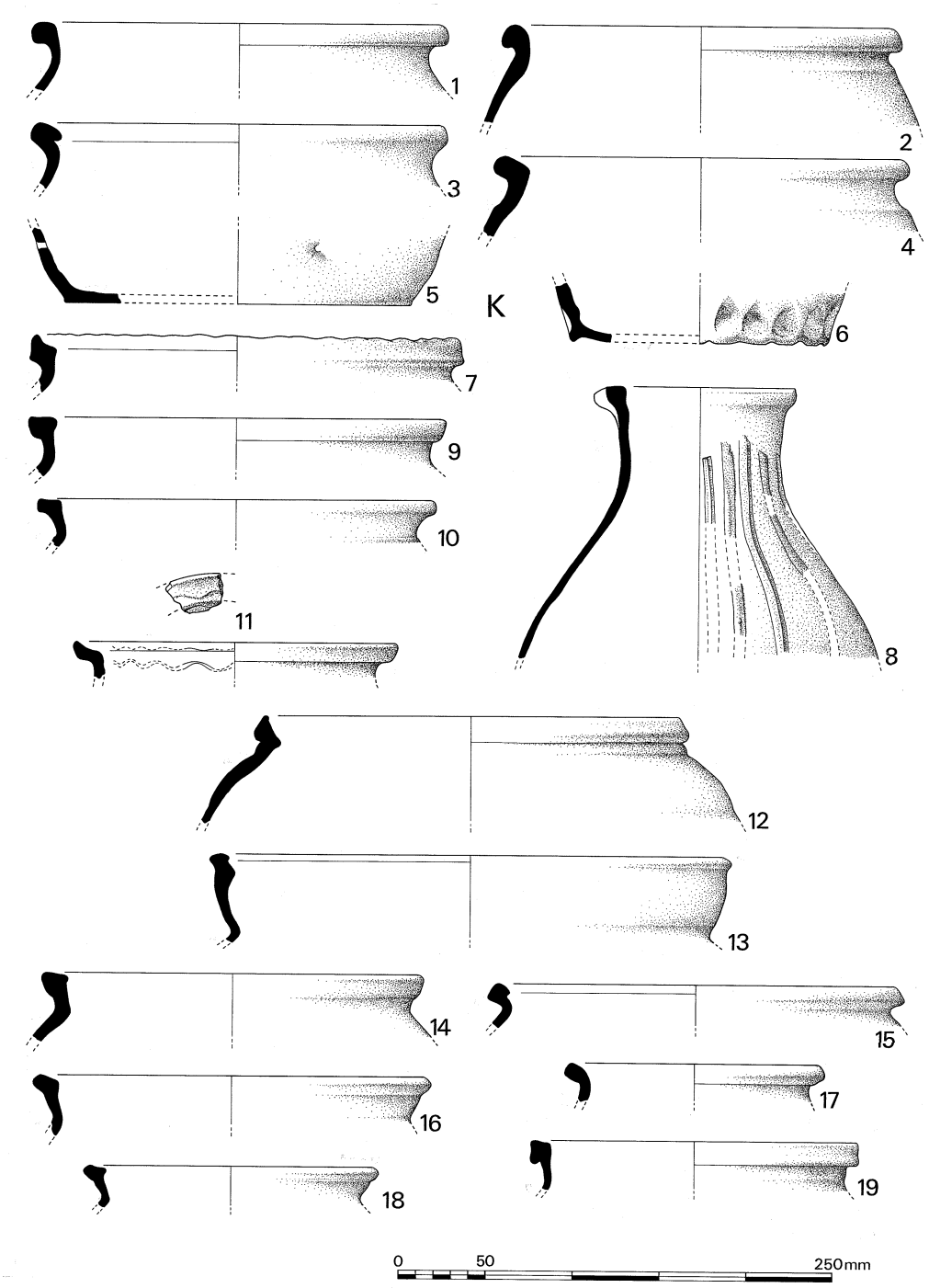

Figure 8.1.32 Medieval Pottery: Area K 1-19

Phase K1 (early-mid 13th-century): 1. F19, 2428; 2. F17, 2428; 3. F16, 2428; 4. F17, 2428; 5-6. F19, 2428; 7. F21, 2428; 8. F6, 2450; 9. F22, 2450; 10. F22A, 2450; 11. F14A, 2470/1; 12. F19, 2470/1. Phase K2 (mid-late 13th-century): 13. F3, 2295; 14. F23, 2417; 15. F16, 2427. Phase K3 (early 14th-century): 16. F15, 2296; 17. F19, 2296; 18. F22, 2379. Phase K4 (mid-late 14th-century (-early 15th-century)): 19. F9A, 2291.

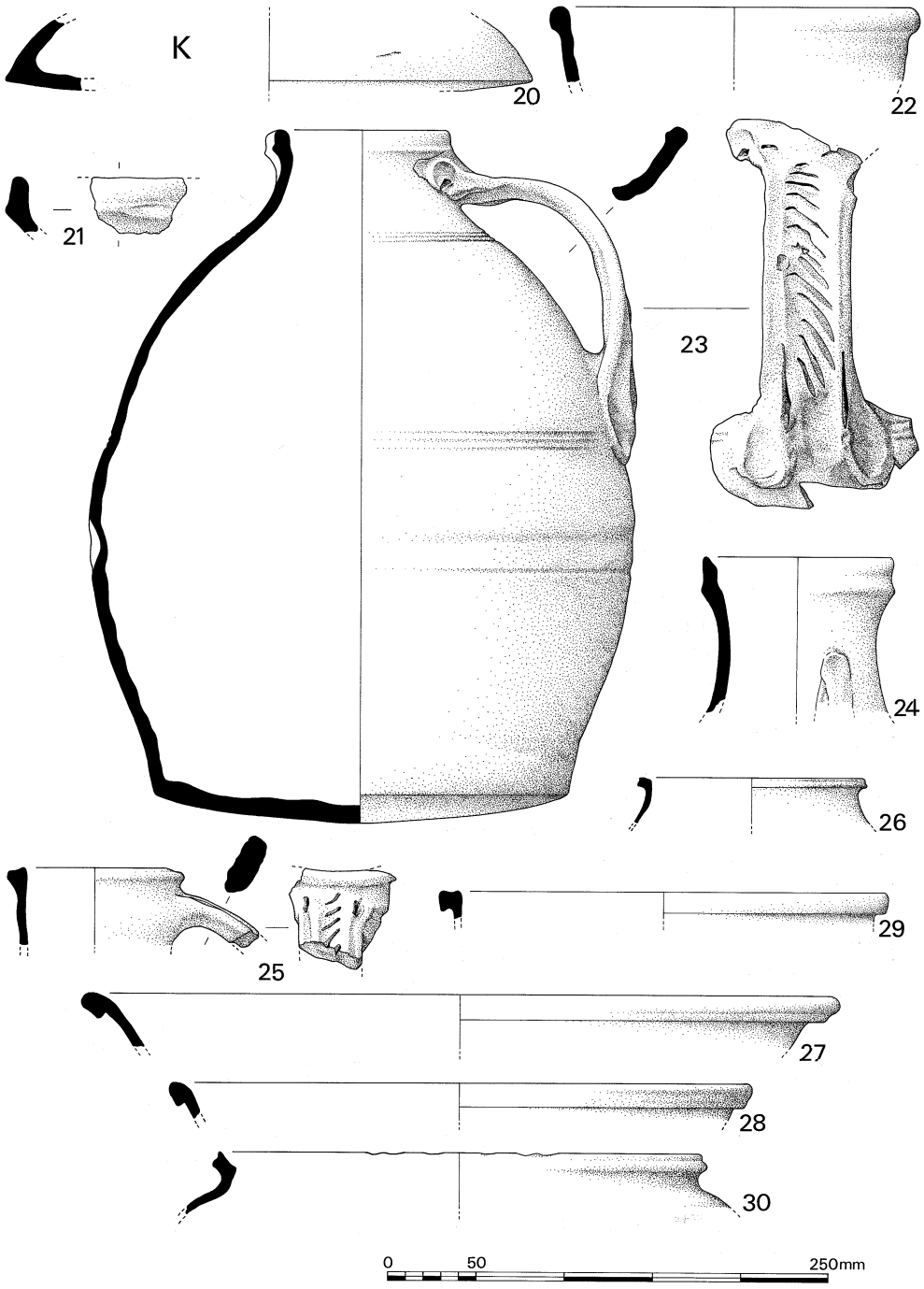

Figure 8.1.33 Medieval Pottery: Area K 20-30

Phase K4 (mid-late 14th-century (-early 15th-century)): 20. F5, 2305; 21. F38, 2305; 22. F56, 2305; 23. F7, 2306; 24. F8A, 2306; 25. F6, 2317; 26. F12, 2317; 27-28. F56, 2317; 29. F20, 2351; 30. F14, 2430

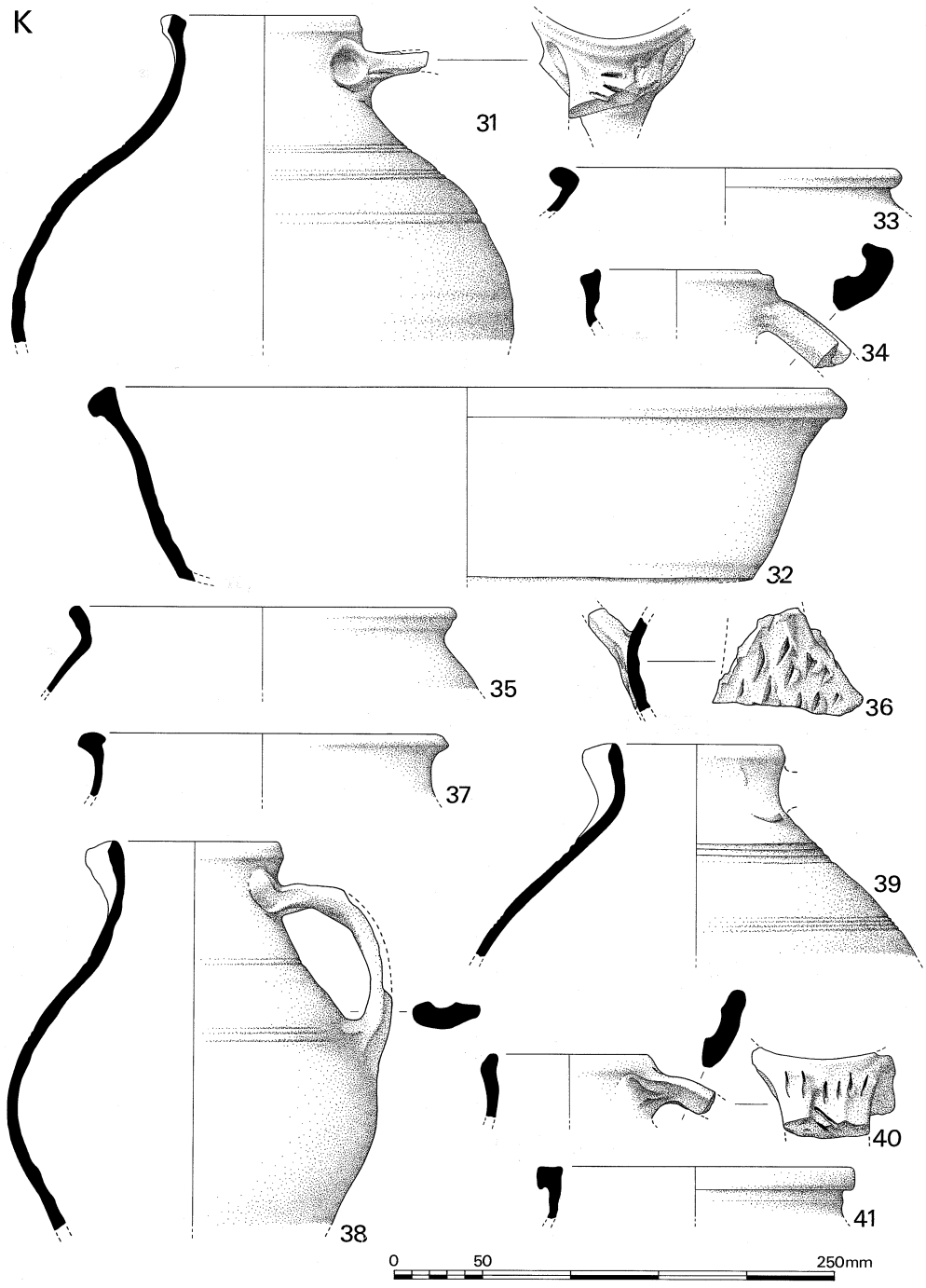

Figure 8.1.34 Medieval Pottery: Area K 31-41

Phase K4 (mid-late 14th-century (-early 15th-century)): 31. F11, 2445/1, 2261-3, 2182; 32. F11, 2413/1, 2238-9, 2260. Phase K5 (early 15th-century demolition): 33. F19, 2180; 34. F17, 2180; 35. F5, 2234; 36. F12, 2234; 37. F17, 2235; 38-39. F11, 2236; 40. F38, 2236; 41. F12, 2236.

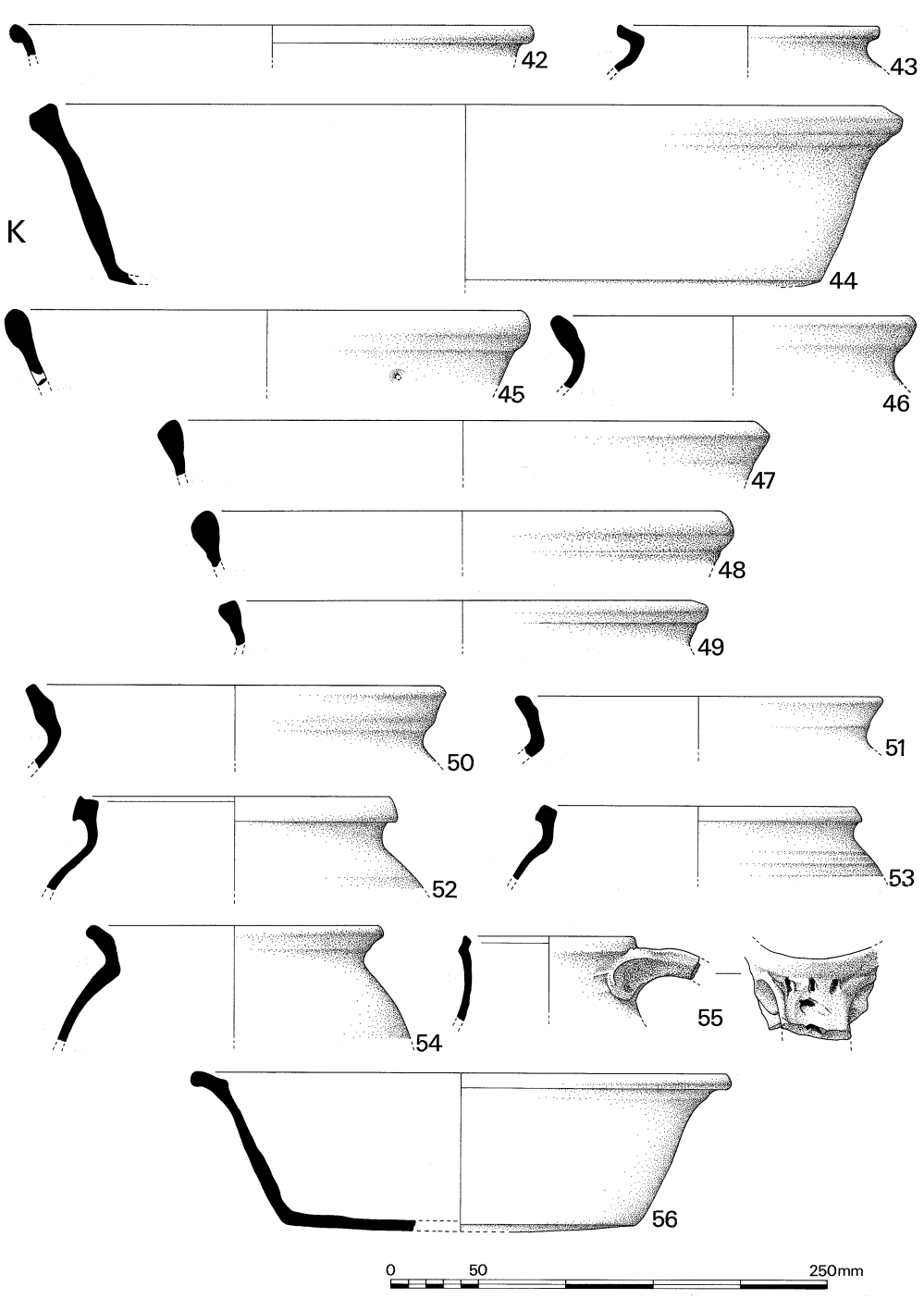

Figure 8.1.35 Medieval Pottery: Area K 42-56

Phase K5 (early 15th-century demolition): 42. F12, 2236; 43. F8A, 2236; 44. F11, 2236; 45. F19, 2236; 46. F5, 2237; 47-48. F19, 2237; 49. F3, 2237; 50-51. F5, 2238; 52-53. F12, 2238; 54. F11, 2238; 55. F4C, 2238; 56. F11, 2239.

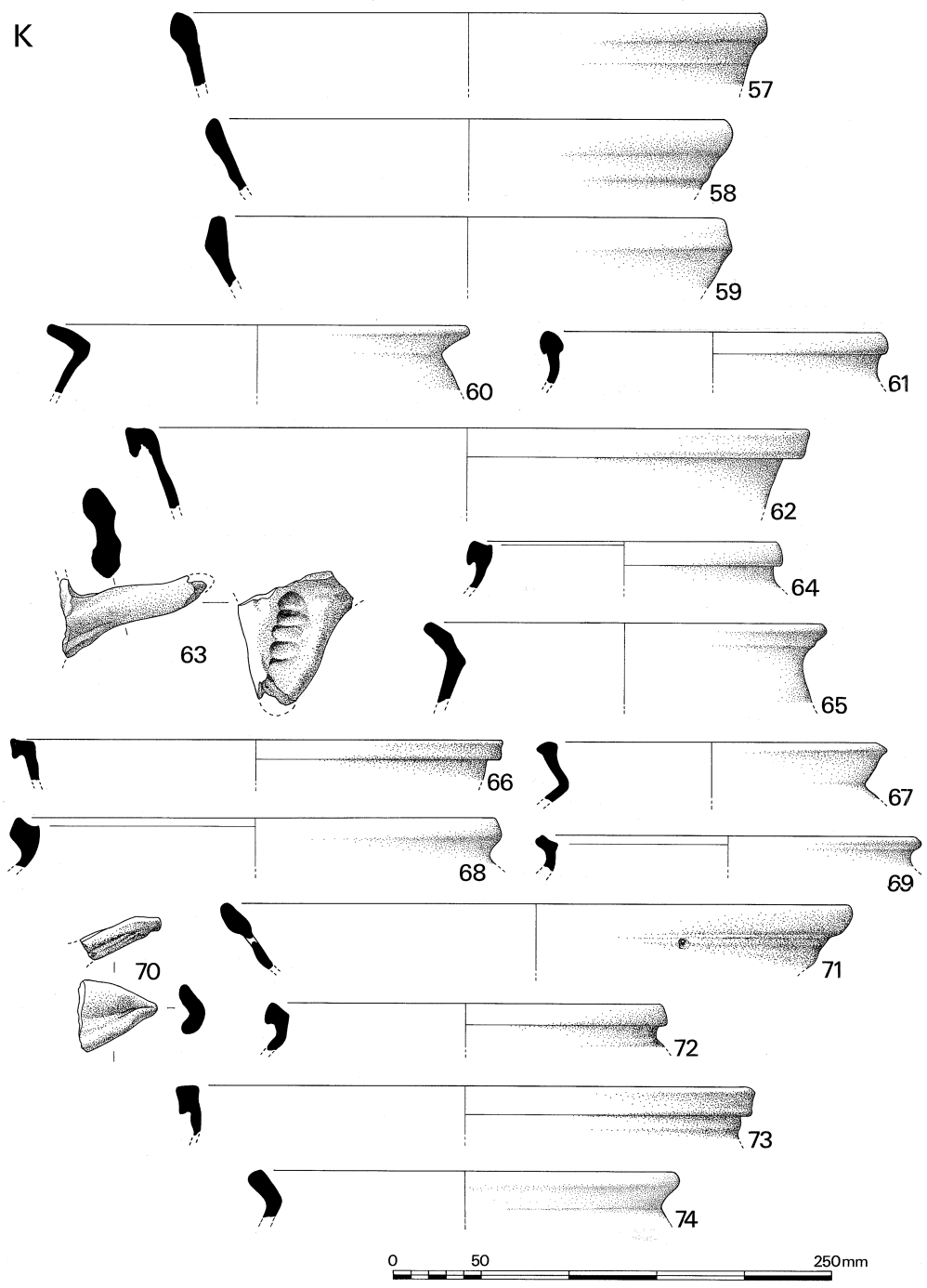

Figure 8.1.36 Medieval Pottery: Area K 57-74

Phase K5 (early 15th-century demolition): 57-58. F16, 2239; 59. F21, 2239; 60. F11, 2260; 61. F19, 2260; 62. F12, 2260; 63. F14A, 2265; 64. F9A, 2265; 65. F5, 2265; 66. F12, 2265; 67. F3, 2265; 68-69. F58, 2265. Phase K6 (topsoil): 70. F14A, 1907; 71. F17, 2109; 72. F14, 2183; 73. F22A, 2183; 74. F5, 2242.

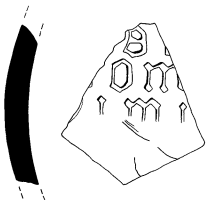

Figure 8.1.37
Midlands Purple sherd (F4C) with stamped lettering (1991 Fieldwalking, Y2, 2593)

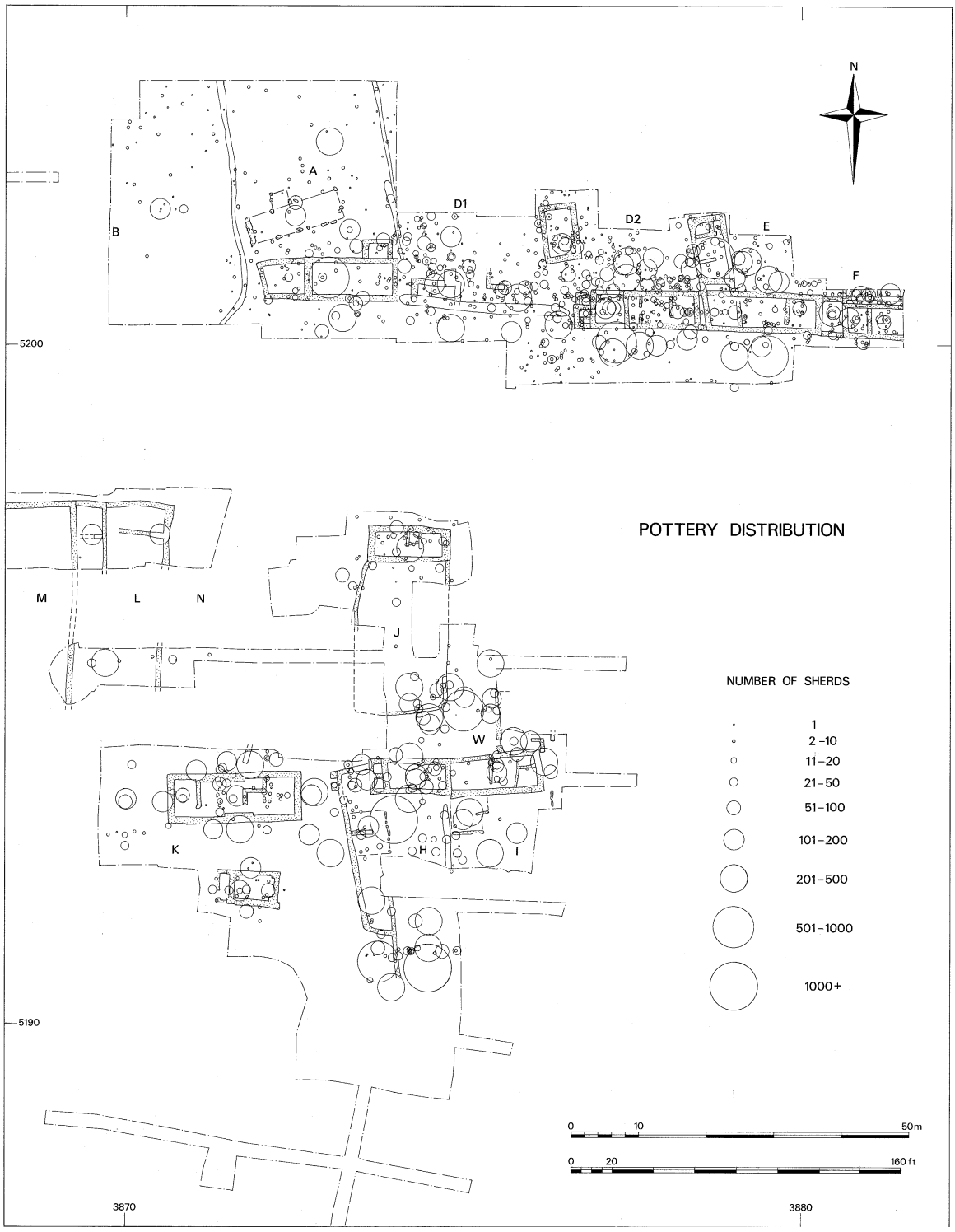

Figure 8.1.38
General pottery distribution

Fabric		Early 13c	Later 13c	Early 14c	14c	Later 14c	Early 15c	Later 15c	Med.	Total medieval	Post-Med/ Topsoil	Total	
No		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	No	%
60	St Neots-type ware	-	0.3	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	0	0	16	0
16	Fine shelly ware	5.1	3.6	0.4	2.9	1.7	1.1	0.3	-	0.9	2.3	479	1.4
17	Fine shelly ware	4.1	6.1	3.2	2.8	8.8	5	0.9	1.9	2.7	7.1	1498	4.4
18	Shelly ware	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	4	0
19	Shelly ware	31	9.9	4.2	1.9	4	3.2	0.3	1	2.1	5.1	1093	3.2
43	Oolitic ware	0.5	1.1	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.5	0.6	-	0.6	0.2	150	0.4
55	Oolitic ware	0.5	0.4	-	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	-	0.1	0.3	69	0.2
44	Calcareous sandy ware	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.5	-	0.3	0	64	0.2
45	Calcareous sandy ware	-	0.4	-	-	0.7	0.2	0	1	0.1	0.1	36	0.1
66	Calcareous sandy ware	-	-	-	-	0.1	0	-	1	0	0.1	10	0
71	Calcareous sandy ware	1	0.1	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	7	0
14	Reduced Deritend ware	1.5	4.3	3	2.5	8.8	1.9	1	-	1.8	3.9	876	2.6
14A	Reduced Deritend ware	7.6	4.5	4	2.3	3.9	2.1	1	11.7	1.8	2.3	676	2
58	Reduced Deritend ware	3	3.6	2.2	1.2	7.4	2.6	0.6	1	1.6	5.9	1110	3.2
3	Deritend sandy cooking pot	6.1	14.3	4.4	3.3	5.6	3.5	1.3	1.9	2.7	4.1	1117	3.3
15	Deritend sandy cooking pot	6.6	3.8	2.4	3	2.2	1.5	1.2	1	1.6	1.3	499	1.5
59	Deritend oxidised jugs	-	-	-	-	0.7	0	0	-	0	0.1	18	0.1
5	?Coventry sandy A ware	2.5	5.5	2.8	6.5	5	4.8	2.6	4.9	3.6	2.3	1078	3.1
64	?Coventry sandy A ware	0.5	-	-	-	-	0	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	25	0.1
42	Cannon Park ware	-	0.3	0.2	2.4	-	0.7	0.4	1	0.5	0.5	180	0.5
8	Chilvers Coton A	-	1	2.4	1.4	0.4	1.9	1.6	-	1.6	2.1	614	1.8
8A	Chilvers Coton A	1	1.3	1.4	1.1	4	1.5	1.1	-	1.3	0.7	367	1.1
38	Chilvers Coton A	-	0.1	0.2	0.7	1	0.7	0.4	-	0.5	0.8	202	0.6
21	Chilvers Coton B	1	2.5	0.2	1	0.5	0.6	0.1	1	0.4	0.8	191	0.6
7	Chilvers Coton A/C	-	2.7	6.4	1.4	1	4.3	3.1	-	3.3	0.8	820	2.4
9	Chilvers Coton A/C	-	1.1	5.8	1.4	0.1	1.3	1.8	-	1.6	0.8	446	1.3
9A	Chilvers Coton A/C	-	2.5	4	0.9	0.6	1.1	1.9	-	1.6	0.4	409	1.2
11	Chilvers Coton C	2.5	7	32.2	38.3	16.9	36.8	44.5	46.6	39	25.7	11702	34.1
31	Chilvers Coton C (late)	-	0.1	-	0.5	0.5	1.5	2.3	-	1.8	1.2	533	1.6
4C	Chilvers Coton D (Midlands Purple)	-	-	-	0.1	0.2	2.5	4.4	3.9	3.2	1.8	920	2.7
22	Oxford Early Medieval ware	2.5	0.7	1.4	0.2	0.7	0.5	0	-	0.3	0.5	127	0.4
68	Oxford Early Medieval-type ware	-	-	-	-	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.1	0	16	0
6	Brill/Boarstall ware	5.1	3.8	5.8	6.3	6.7	7	7	5.8	6.8	8.7	2574	7.5
6C	Brill (late) -	-	-	0.1	-	0.2	0.4	-	0.3	0	67	0.2	
23	Banbury-type ware	5.1	1.4	1	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.1	-	0.3	0.6	147	0.4
62	Banbury-type ware	0.5	1.1	-	0.3	0.4	0.1	-	-	0.1	0.2	49	0.1
67	Banbury-type ware	-	0.1	-	0.1	-	0.1	0	4.9	0.1	0.1	33	0.1
12	Brackley whiteware 1.5	7.8	3.2	5.1	8.8	5.4	1.4	-	3.3	10.5	2047	6	
2	Potterspury ware	-	3.8	4.8	9	2.2	3.3	3.5	1.9	3.6	2.3	1073	3.1
23A	E/SE Midlands ware	-	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.9	0.2	0.3	-	0.3	0.4	115	0.3
56	E/SE Midlands ware	-	-	-	-	1.1	0.1	0	-	0.1	0	16	0
40	Developed Stamford ware	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.1	-	0	0	11	0
54	N Warwickshire Granitic ware	0.5	0.1	-	-	-	-	0	1.9	0	0	6	0

Fabric		*Early 13c*	*Later 13c*	*Early 14c*	*14c*	*Later 14c*	*Early 15c*	*Later 15c*	*Med.*	*Total medieval*	*Post-Med/ Topsoil*	*Total*	
63A-B, D	Malvernian wares	-	0.3	0.6	-	-	0.1	0.1	1	0.1	0.2	54	0.2
63Z	Wiltshire flint-tempered ware	0.1	0.2	-	-	0	-	-	0	0	5	0	
70	Worcester-type wares	0.5	0.1	-	-	-	0	-	-	0	0	7	0
13A	Sandy cooking pot	8.1	1	1.4	1.1	2.8	0.5	0.2	-	0.6	0.4	171	0.5
22A	Mixed inclusions	0.5	1.1	-	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	-	0.1	0.1	40	0.1
52	Glazed oxidised ware	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	0.1	0	13	0
20	Unglazed sandy ware	-	0.7	0.2	0.1	0.1	0	0	-	0.1	0	18	0.1
27	Unglazed sandy ware	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.1	-	0	-	10	0
62A	Unglazed sandy ware	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	2	0
41	Unglazed reduced sandy ware	0.5	-	0.2	0.1	-	0	0.2	-	0.1	0	28	0.1
65	Unglazed reduced sandy ware	-	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	1.9	0.2	0.1	48	0.1
69	Glazed ware	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	2	0
25	Glazed reduced ware	-	-	-	0.2	-	0.2	0.1	-	0.1	0.2	49	0.1
36	Glazed reduced ware	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.3	0.2	-	0.2	0.1	57	0.2
2A	Late medieval oxidised ware	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.2	-	0.1	0	24	0.1
10A	Late medieval Wednesbury ware	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	1.4	1	0.8	0.1	185	0.5
30	Late medieval Wednesbury ware	-	-	-	0.2	-	0.5	3.2	1	1.9	0.4	460	1.3
31A	Late medieval Wednesbury ware	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	0.1	0	27	0.1
33	Late medieval Wednesbury ware	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	1.3	-	0.7	0.2	181	0.5
35	Late Medieval Red ware	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.9	-	0.5	0.5	186	0.5
35A	Late Medieval Red ware	-	-	-	-	-	0	0.6	-	0.3	0	72	0.2
4A	Midlands Purple	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0	0	12	0
4B	Midlands Purple	-	-	0.2	-	-	0.2	1.4	-	0.8	0.3	225	0.7
4D	Midlands Purple	-	0.1	-	0.2	0.1	0.2	1.3	1	0.8	0.4	227	0.7
49	Surrey white ware/Tudor Green-type	-	-	-	0.1	-	0	0.2	1	0.1	0.1	38	0.1
72	Nettlebed ware	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	0	-	6	0
50	Cistercian ware	-	-	-	-	-	0	3.2	1	1.8	2.2	659	1.9
53	Martincamp ware	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	-	2	0
T10	German stoneware	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	0	3	0
P10	Blackware	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2	0
R00	Coarsewares	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	7	0
T20	English stoneware	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	3	0
V01	Glazed earthenware	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	9	0
W50	Tin glazed earthenware	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	0	-	3	0
		197	714	500	887	821	6421	11973	103	21616	12709	34325	
Unrecorded		-	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	15	3447	3462	
		197	**714**	**500**	**887**	**821**	**6421**	**11988**	**103**	**21631**	**16156**	**37787**	

Figure 8.1.39: Excavated tenements, pottery fabrics by percentage sherd count by period

Fabric No		Area	A	D1	D2	E	F	BCG	H	I	W	J	K	LMN
			%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
60	St Neots-type ware		-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-
16	Fine shelly ware		0.2	0	0.1	0.1	-	-	2.7	2.6	1.5	1.1	3	0.2
17	Fine shelly ware		0.3	0	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	9.9	6.3	5.7	3.8	6.4	2.6
18	Shelly ware		-	0	0	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-
19	Shelly ware		-	0.1	0	-	-	0.5	7.9	4.2	2.5	0.9	5.8	1.1
43	Oolitic ware		0	0	1.5	0.2	0.5	-	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.5	0.5
55	Oolitic ware		0	-	-	-	-	1	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.5
44	Calcareous sandy ware		-	-	0	1.4	-	-	0	0	-	-	0.1	-
45	Calcareous sandy ware		-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.2
66	Calcareous sandy ware		-	-	-	-	-	0.5	0	-	-	-	0.1	-
71	Calcareous sandy ware		-	-	-	-	-	0.5	0	0	-	-	0.1	-
14	Reduced Deritend ware		2.4	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.2	-	7.3	1.9	2.7	0.6	1	0.6
14A	Reduced Deritend ware		-	-	0.2	1.2	0.5	-	3.1	4.2	1.8	1.2	4	3.2
58	Reduced Deritend ware		-	-	0.7	0	0.1	0.5	9.1	3.8	2.1	1.7	2.8	0.9
3	Deritend sandy cooking pot		1	1.5	1.4	0.5	0.8	0.5	5.6	4.6	2.1	7	4.3	1.2
15	Deritend sandy cooking pot		1.2	1.7	1.3	0.8	1.2	0.5	1.9	2	1.5	1.4	1	1.7
59	Deritend oxidiswed jugs		-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.2	-	-	0	-
5	?Coventry sandy A ware		1.7	2.8	3	2.3	3.9	0.5	2.4	2.2	2.8	6.5	5.9	7.2
64	?Coventry sandy A ware		-	0.5	0.1	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	0	-
42	Cannon Park ware		-	0.1	0.7	0.1	-	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.5	1.2	0.7	-
8	Chilvers Coton A		1.7	1.9	1.8	1	8	1	2.3	1.1	0.4	1.3	1.9	0.3
8A	Chilvers Coton A		0.8	0.9	0.6	1.3	4.1	-	0.9	0.8	0.5	2.3	1.7	0.3
38	Chilvers Coton A		-	0.6	0.1	0.7	-	-	1	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.3
21	Chilvers Coton B		0.2	0.3	0.2	-	-	0.5	1.3	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.7	-
7	Chilvers Coton A/C		5	4.8	2.2	7	3.7	-	0.1	0.4	1.2	2.1	2.4	0.5
9	Chilvers Coton A/C		5.9	5.4	1.4	1.3	2.5	-	-	0	-	2.6	0.1	-
9A	Chilvers Coton A/C		4.2	2.6	1.2	1.9	0.5	-	0.4	0.5	1	2.5	0.2	-
11	Chilvers Coton C		43.3	56.7	42.7	43.2	48.3	52.6	13.1	31.2	43.7	38.1	30.9	47.3
31	Chilvers Coton C (late)		5.9	2.1	1.3	2.5	1.6	-	0.2	0.4	1.1	2	2.1	-
4C	Chilvers Coton D (Midlands Purple)		5.5	3.6	5	3.4	4.4	6.2	0.5	1.7	3.1	1.9	0.7	7.1
22	Oxford Early Medieval ware		-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.9	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.7	-
68	Oxford Early Medieval-type ware		-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	0.1	-	-	-
6	Brill/Boarstall ware		2.8	1.2	6.3	10.3	7.4	5.7	8.5	13.1	8.3	6.6	5.8	7.7
6C	Brill (late)		-	0.1	0.9	0.2	0.2	-	0	-	-	-	0	0.2
23	Banbury-type ware		0.3	-	-	0	-	-	0.9	0.7	0.1	0.1	1	0.2
62	Banbury-type ware		0	-	0	-	-	-	0.4	0.1	-	0.4	0.1	-
67	Banbury-type ware		0.1	0.1	0	-	-	8.8	0.1	-	-	0.1	0	-
12	Brackley whiteware		3.7	1.6	0.3	0.6	0.3	1	13.9	6.4	6.2	5	7.5	2.7
2	Potterspury ware		2.9	3.1	2.8	4.6	5.3	1	1.6	5.1	3.5	4.2	3	3.2
23A	E/SE Midlands		0.1	-	0.5	0.1	-	-	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.1	0.2	-
56	E/SE Midlands		-	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	0.3	0.2

Fabric No		*Area*	*A*	*D1*	*D2*	*E*	*F*	*BCG*	*H*	*I*	*W*	*J*	*K*	*LMN*
			%	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*	*%*
40	Developed Stamford ware		0.1	0	0.1	0	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	-
54	E Midlands rock tempered ware		-	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	-	0	0.3
63 A-B, D	Malvernian wares		-	0	0.2	0.1	-	1.5	0.1	0.2	1	0.2	0	-
63Z	Wiltshire flint-tempered ware-		-	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	
70	Worcester-type wares		-	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	-	-	0.1	-
13A	Sandy cooking pot		-	0.1	0.3	0	0.5	-	0.3	0.8	1.4	0.9	1.6	-
22A	Mixed inclusions		0	0	-	0	-	-	0.2	0.2	0.1	-	0.2	-
52	?Alcester-type ware -		-	0.2	-	-	0.5	0	0	-	-	-	-	
20	Unglazed sandy ware		0.1	0	0	0	-	-	0.1	0	-	0.1	0.1	-
27	Unglazed sandy ware		0.1	-	0	-	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	0.1	-	-
62A	Unglazed sandy ware		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-
41	Unglazed reduced ware		-	-	0.4	0	-	-	0	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-
65	Unglazed reduced ware		0	0	0.2	0	-	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.3
69	Glazed ware		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-
25	Glazed reduced ware		-	-	0.2	0.2	-	-	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	-
36	Glazed reduced ware		0.4	-	0.1	0.1	0.5	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	-
2A	Late medieval oxidised ware		-	0.1	0.3	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10A	Late medieval Wednesbury ware		0.2	0.2	1	2.2	1.9	0.5	0	0.1	-	-	0.1	-
30	Late medieval Wednesbury ware		2.5	0.7	4.3	3.2	0.9	6.2	0	0	-	-	-	0.3
31A	Late medieval Wednesbury ware		-	0.1	0.1	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
33	Late medieval Wednesbury ware		0.2	0.5	1.4	2	0.7	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-
35	Late Medieval Red ware		0.2	0.2	1.7	0.7	0.2	-	-	0	-	-	-	8.4
35A	Late Medieval Red ware		0.2	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.1	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-
4A	Midlands Purple		0.3	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4B	Midlands Purple		1.9	1.4	1.2	1.8	0.1	4.6	-	-	-	-	-	0.5
4D	Midlands Purple		2	0.3	1.3	1.5	0.2	1	-	0.5	1	-	0	-
49	Surrey white ware/Tudor Green-type		0.7	0.1	0.1	0.3	-	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	-
72	Nettlebed ware		-	-	0.1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
50	Cistercian ware		1.3	2.6	9.5	1.2	0.8	2.1	-	0	-	-	0	0.2
53	Martincamp ware		-	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
T10	German stoneware		-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	-
P10	Blackware		0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
R00	Coarseware		0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.5
T20	English stoneware		0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	-	0.2
V01	Glazed earthenware		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-	0.3
W50	Tin glazed earthenware		-	-	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
			2402	**2070**	**5363**	**4089**	**887**	**194**	**8565**	**3026**	**1922**	**1371**	**3770**	**666**

Figure 8.1.40: Excavated tenements, pottery fabric by percentage sherd count by area

4. The medieval pottery: sources, chronology and distribution, and reliability of the evidence (Figures 8.1.38, 8.1.39 and 8.1.40)

Distribution: general comments

Tenements A and D1 to F, on the north side of the road, were excavated down to natural. This area is thought to have been laid out in the second half of the 13th century as a result of the granting of the market charter in 1267. Before this the land was apparently not under arable cultivation (Nicholas Palmer pers comm). However, to whatever use the land on the north side of the road had been put before the plots were laid out and the houses and barns were built, it seems most unlikely that absolutely no domestic rubbish made its way there. Consequently there must inevitably be pottery that pre-dates 1267 on the north side of the road.

In contrast, to the south of the road, the layout of the plots - particularly H, I and K - is less regular, although still thought to have been planned. This area was not excavated as fully as the northern tenements (see above). As a result, the assemblages from the south of the road contain a disproportionate amount of later material, ie the earlier layers were not fully excavated. It is not, therefore, a straight comparison between the northern and southern assemblages. In addition we should factor in the possibility that as the properties went out of use on the south of the road, the areas around the now abandoned houses were a convenient place to dump rubbish from neighbouring properties, as indeed we can see happened from the pottery cross-joins on the north side of the road (see below). The significance of all this will be explored below. The general distribution of pottery across the entire site is shown in Figure 8.1.38, although this is very schematic and obscures as much as it elucidates.

There is one further difference between the north and south sides of the road. All the pottery from the south side of the road was examined from the earliest levels through to and including the topsoil. On the north side of the road, due to time constraints not all the post-medieval/topsoil material was examined. This amounted to *c*10% of the northern assemblage overall by sherd count and *c*9% by weight.

Before any appraisal of the pottery can begin it will be helpful to present some basic facts about the pottery and its taphonomy. The relative proportion of fabrics by area is shown in Figure 8.1.40 but a more detailed picture in terms of the taphonomy is given in Figure 8.1.41. In Figure 8.1.42 the pottery is quantified by weight and % weight for various broad context or feature types.

Figure 8.1.41 indicates that Areas H, D2 and E contained the largest proportions of pottery, although the exact relationship of the three areas depends on the method of quantification used. Areas D2 and E also have the the second and third highest average sherd weight (ASW). It is noticeable that the highest ASWs are all found on the north side of the road and the ASW gradually becomes smaller the further south one goes, the exception being Area B. It is clear that the pottery from Area H consists of smaller sherds. In fact, the adjacent Areas I and W also have some of the lowest ASWs, suggesting that these three areas, and H and I particularly, have suffered a great deal of disturbance. The fact that the fieldwalking (Area Z) fits in with the pattern noted for the excavation north of the road suggests that the difference between north and south cannot simply be a function of differences in the quantity of topsoil material examined. Figure 8.1.43 again shows that when the pottery is examined by phase, the three largest groups also come from Areas D2, E and H. What is particularly striking is that c.72% of the pottery comes mainly from three types of phase, final occupation (c.29% weight, c.20% count), demolition (c.17% weight, c20% count) or topsoil (c.19% weight, c.26% count) and that all of the phases shown in Figure 8.1.43 date to the 15th century or later. Figure 8.1.42 takes this breakdown a stage further. It is very clear from this how few cut features were encountered and how little pottery associated with them. This is particularly unfortunate since feature fills stand a greater chance of containing a closed group of

	H	D2	E	K	D1	I	A	W	J	F	Z	L	B	G	N	C	M	D	?	Total
Count	8579	6634	5162	3803	3157	3029	2704	1922	1377	949	869	618	259	69	44	10	6	1	138	39330
Count%	**21.81%**	**16.87%**	**13.12%**	**9.67%**	**8.03%**	**7.70%**	**6.88%**	**4.89%**	**3.50%**	**2.41%**	**2.21%**	**1.57%**	**0.66%**	**0.18%**	**0.11%**	**0.03%**	**0.02%**	**0.00%**	**0.35%**	**100.00%**
Weight	51379	84133	60435	35800	34976	20438	27734	16715	12299	12140	9010	5414	1985	140	243	91	67	25	1095	374119
Weight%	13.73%	22.49%	16.15%	9.57%	9.35%	5.46%	7.41%	4.47%	3.29%	3.24%	2.41%	1.45%	0.53%	0.04%	0.06%	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.29%	100.00%
ASW	5.98	12.68	11.70	9.41	11.07	6.74	10.25	8.69	8.93	12.79	10.36	8.76	7.66	2.02	5.52	9.10	11.16	25.00	7.93	9.51

	D2	E	H	K	D1	A	I	W	J	F	Z	L	B	C	M	N	G	D	?	Total
Count	6634	5162	8579	3803	3157	2704	3029	1922	1377	949	869	618	259	10	6	44	69	1	138	39330
Count%	16.87%	13.12%	21.81%	9.67%	8.03%	6.88%	7.70%	4.89%	3.50%	2.41%	2.21%	1.57%	0.66%	0.03%	0.02%	0.11%	0.18%	0.00%	0.35%	100.00%
Weight	84133	60435	51379	35800	34976	27734	20438	16715	12299	12140	9010	5414	1985	91	67	243	140	25	1095	374119
Weight%	**22.49%**	**16.15%**	**13.73%**	**9.57%**	**9.35%**	**7.41%**	**5.46%**	**4.47%**	**3.29%**	**3.24%**	**2.41%**	**1.45%**	**0.53%**	**0.02%**	**0.02%**	**0.06%**	**0.04%**	**0.01%**	**0.29%**	**100.00%**
ASW	12.68	11.70	5.98	9.41	11.07	10.25	6.74	8.69	8.93	12.79	10.36	8.76	7.66	9.10	11.16	5.52	2.02	25.00	7.93	9.51

	F	D2	E	M	D1	Z	A	K	C	J	L	W	B	I	H	N	G	D	?	Total
Count	949	6634	5162	6	3157	869	2704	3803	10	1377	618	1922	259	3029	8579	44	69	1	138	39330
Count%	2.41%	16.87%	13.12%	0.02%	8.03%	2.21%	6.88%	9.67%	0.03%	3.50%	1.57%	4.89%	0.66%	7.70%	21.81%	0.11%	0.18%	0.00%	0.35%	100.00%
Weight	12140	84133	60435	67	34976	9010	27734	35800	91	12299	5414	16715	1985	20438	51379	243	140	25	1095	374119
Weight%	3.24%	22.49%	16.15%	0.02%	9.35%	2.41%	7.41%	9.57%	0.02%	3.29%	1.45%	4.47%	0.53%	5.46%	13.73%	0.06%	0.04%	0.01%	0.29%	100.00%
ASW	**12.79**	**12.68**	**11.70**	**11.16**	**11.07**	**10.36**	**10.25**	**9.41**	**9.10**	**8.93**	**8.76**	**8.69**	**7.66**	**6.74**	**5.98**	**5.52**	**2.02**	**25.00**	**7.93**	**9.51**

Figure 8.1.41 Pottery quantification by area

TYPE	Weight	%
STRUCTURAL		
Construction trenches	612	0.16%
Hearths/Oven	392	0.10%
Floor surfaces	12745	3.41%
Stone lined pits and other stone features	932	0.25%
Drain	6	0.00%
Associated with walls	4910	1.31%
Postholes, postpads and slot	800	0.21%
Rubble revetments/foundations	789	0.21%
STRUCTURAL: TOTAL	**21186**	**5.65%**
CUT FEATURES		
Pits/Postholes/Grave	7786	2.08%
Ditches	12231	3.27%
Gullies/Hollows	20585	5.50%
CUT FEATURES: TOTAL	**40602**	**10.85%**
LAYERS		
Rubble	41245	11.02%
Rubble forecourts	44498	11.02%
Demolition/Robbing	43205	11.55%
Slag layers	382	0.10%
Ashy or burnt layers	1654	0.44%
Road surface	414	0.11%
Layers	54403	14.45%
Middens	7008	1.87%
LAYERS: TOTAL	**192809**	**48.69%**
M ODERN LAYERS/ FEATURES		
Field drains	1285	0.34%
Plough Soil/ Plough Furrows	1479	0.40%
Tree boles/ Burrows	40	0.01%
Topsoil	105960	28.32%
Fieldwalking	9010	2.41%
Unknown/ Not recorded	1748	0.47%
MODERN LAYERS/ FEATURES: TOTAL	**119522**	**31.95%**
TOTAL ASSEMBLAGE	**374119**	**100.00%**

Figure 8.1.42: Pottery by weight/percentage weight by context or feature type

Area / Phase	Type	% weight	% count
D26	Final occupation	12.68%	7.37%
E6	Final occupation	10.02%	6.83%
H8	Topsoil	8.39%	13.82%
K5	Demolition	5.09%	4.80%
D15	Final occupation	3.69%	3.24%
D28	Topsoil	3.47%	4.25%
E7	Demolition	3.33%	3.69%
D24	Occupation	3.11%	1.96%
K6	Demolition	2.91%	3.01%
D17	Topsoil	2.91%	2.95%
A8	Topsoil	2.66%	2.83%
A5	Final occupation	2.65%	2.44%
I6	Demolition	2.47%	3.51%
D14	Occupation	2.09%	1.13%
W4	Topsoil	1.89%	2.20%
I5	Demolition	1.85%	2.50%
H6	Demolition	1.68%	2.53%
H7	Post-demolition	1.53%	2.88%
All	**All**	**72.43%**	**71.95%**

Figure 8.1.43: Largest Area/Phase groups by weight

pottery. A pathetically small amount of pottery was associated with construction deposits and a rather better showing for pottery from floor surfaces is little help since any floor make-up is likely to contain redeposited material. As the results shown in Figure 8.1.43 might have suggested, most of the pottery came from layers, in particular rubble layers and demolition deposits or from topsoil. The infrequent episodes of pit-cutting meant that domestic debris could not be disposed of by burial in a pre-existing pit or pits, and middens and dumps of material appear to have been the order of the day. Even so only a small amount of pottery came from contexts interpreted as middens and it is extremely hard to believe that finds associated with these retained any sort of integrity in terms of stratigraphy and chronology, indeed the pattern of cross joins noted during the course of pottery recording and partly illustrated below, confirm this.

There is another aspect to the pottery and that is the shallowness of the deposits overall. It is quite clear, and not at all surprising, that over the centuries there simply was not a significant vertical build-up of domestic or other deposits in the backplots. This means that, say, on the north side of the road, even in the final throes of the settlement there was always an admixture of residual material, sometimes often quite early. Some of this early material pre-dated the mid-13th century. In the absence of any evidence that the buildings on the north side of the road were constructed as early as this, it must be the case that either some rubbish was dumped here before the buildings were even conceived of, let alone constructed, or there has been some removal of material such

as rubble or clay from the south side of the road post-demolition that has accidentally incorporated early pottery within it.

For base data the average sherd weight for the assemblage as a whole was calculated (9.51g) and then the ASW was calculated for larger groups by context type (Figure 8.1.44). The results are a little unexpected, if not confusing. Firstly it is strange that pottery from within the ditches has a below average sherd weight, as does the pottery from pits, unless the fill materials derive mainly from refuse that was lying around on the ground or from demolition, rather than from a primary or near primary deposition. How strange that the pottery from the gullies is the exact opposite. It seems odd that the average sherd weight for the pottery from rubble deposits (which include the rubble forecourts) should be nearly double that from demolition rubble. How many of these perceived differences are a result of nomenclature? For example sherds said to come from walls cannot, by and large, have come from the wall matrices themselves, there are too many of them and they are too large. The outcome of these deliberations is that it is difficult to have absolute faith in the pottery data, which is a remarkable and unwelcome conclusion to reach about nearly 40,000 sherds. Any conclusions drawn must therefore be treated with a certain amount of circumspection.

Midden	6.64
Topsoil	7.47
Demolition rubble	8.3
Ditch	8.81
Pits	9.44
Layer	9.79
Wall	13.28
Rubble	14.01
Floor	14.74
Gully	17.99
Assemblage ASW	9.51

Figure 8.1.44: Average sherd weight for major groups

As textual emendations were undertaken, there were further discoveries that rendered certain sections on area function or pottery distribution largely meaningless. These have been removed. It seems appropriate therefore to set out some other taphonomic factors here, particularly the disposal of domestic waste, since they have had necessitated a reappraisal of the data. We have seen (above) that cut features, particularly pits, contained very little pottery and these cannot have been the primary place for refuse disposal. The suggestion in the stratigraphic narrative that middens or muck heaps were the norm seems, therefore, reasonable.

As part of the final reassessment of the pottery report, the finds from contexts described as muck heaps/middens were re-examined. There is one difficulty with the middens as defined, namely they are described as hollows or scrapes, resulting from the removal of the actual midden material. It would be foolish to believe that a midden could be removed in its entirety, so some of the original content must lie in the hollow but the hollow is necessarily filled by subsequent layers; thus the small amount of midden pottery is mingled with post-midden pottery. Suggested midden bases (some 27 contexts) to the north of the D1 and D2 (Phases 3 and 4), and E (Phases 4 and 6) houses were associated with very small amounts of pottery and bone, and virtually no portable finds save a strap end and a piece of structural ironwork. On the south side of the road, in Area H, one context 2222, identified as a midden base contained a sizeable group of pottery (447 sherds, 1877g), although the average sherd weight was well below average at a little over 4g, but only a small amount of animal bone. With minimum dimensions of 9m x 6m, 2222 seems a very large area for a midden but this pales in comparison with the putative midden in Area K, context 2317 which was at least 10m x 11m. Midden 2317 was only sampled so the relatively modest amounts of pottery, animal bone and portable finds may not be significant. Further possible middens on the

Fabric Name/Description	A5 36 wght	A5 36 count	D26 695 wght	D26 695 count	D26 1174 wght	D26 1174 count	D26 1214 wght	D26 1214 count	D27 687 wght	D27 687 count	E5 1162 wght	E5 1162 count	E6 898 wght	E6 898 count	E6 1176 wght	E6 1176 count
Roman	40	7	18	3	5	1	35	1	9	4	43	2	5	2	23	2
Oolitic ware	7	1			56	7			2	1						
Banbury-t ware					5	1										
Brackley WW	185	22	10	2	49	1										
Shelly ware	16	2	10	1					11	2						
Alcester-t ware			<1	1												
Coventry A ware	40	7	193	16	82	9			91	16	75	10	56	14	8	2
Developed Stamford?			26	2												
Brill-Boarstall ware	39	4	306	40	760	53			456	83	211	24	373	34	189	7
Deritend cooking pot	16	2	53	7	90	11			25	5	90	12				
Reduced Deritend ware	9	2			21	5			21	4	11	1			16	9
Reduced Deritend/Midlands Purple ware															14	1
E/SE Midlands types					725	1	1	1					6	1	39	1
Chilvers Coton A (Chilvers Coton B)	26 (2)	4 (1)	124	15	2	2			149	15	69	5	82	5	8	5
Chilvers Coton A/C	158	26	238	17	508	17	8	1	110	16	656	104	208	21	136	12
Chilvers Coton C	1186	82	2633	267	9452	150	600	12	7486	284	2262	215	9194	240	403	62
Cannon Park ware					451	15			7	1			4	1		
Brill-Boarstall late					1	3	1	2								
Chilvers Coton C late	174	12	110	1	30	8			186	24	5	1	72	19		
Glazed reduced ware	21	2							25	5	4	1	1	1		
Unglazed reduced			8	1	26	2										
Mixed inclusions															9	1
Sandy calcareous									104	10			1	1		
Sandy cpj	22	2			28	5			2	1					4	1
Malvernian ware													3	1		
Potterspury ware	33	4	91	18	30	7	4	2	110	18	32	6	475	21	39	7
Tudor Green/Tudor Green-type wares			5	1	4	2			1	2			4	3		
Midlands Purple ware	563	24	789	48	629	29	3200	1	733	59	312	14	242	22	50	5
Late medieval oxidised ware	33	2	608	17	1229	11			303	16	19	1			15	1
Wednesbury/Wednesbury-t ware	259	19	1047	51	187	24	21	3	1371	84	178	12	263	29	54	6
Cistercian ware	1	1	374	41	531	31	101	12	56	7			4	1		
Tin-glazed earthenware									9	1						
Total	**2830**	**226**	**6643**	**549**	**14901**	**395**	**3969**	**35**	**11267**	**658**	**3967**	**408**	**10993**	**416**	**1007**	**122**

Figure 8.1.45: Pottery from groups with a large pottery component or larger than average number of portable finds (north side of road)

south side of the road were found in H4, I3, J3. With the exception of 2136 and 2137 in H4 and 2317 in K4 the middens/midden bases were at some remove from the houses. One of the main problems associated with the middens on the south side of the road is that the contexts refer to often quite thick layers of clay-loam which invariably contain pottery from the early 13th century through to at least the 14th and possibly 15th century. Given that most of these were only sampled there really are no conclusions that can be drawn from the pottery within the midden deposits. It is quite possible that on the south side of the road, most of the normal domestic waste did not make it to the middens, the exception being 2222 which has a peculiar taphonomy of its own.

It is with the rubbish on the rubble yard surfaces that there is a marked contrast to the middens. Rubble surfaces were found to the north, ie the rear, of the houses in D26, E5 and E6. These surfaces are mirrored by the rubble forecourts to the south of the houses on A5, D26 and E6. A similar surface is found to the north, ie to the front, of the house in I3. It is immediately apparent that not only is much more pottery and animal bone found on these rubble surfaces but also a greater quantity of portable finds; those to the south of D2 and E6 contained 74 portable finds, those to the north, 48, and I3 contained four. Finds are recorded as part of the layers which suggests that pot, animal bone and other objects were co-mingled with the rubble rather than lying above it. Strictly speaking the rubble surfaces cannot therefore be middens as such. Pottery from those groups with a large pottery component or larger than average number of portable finds are shown in Figure 8.1.45.

The surfaces were constructed in the late 15th century and there is plenty of pottery that is consistent with this date. However there is an admixture of very much earlier pottery such as Brackley whiteware, shelly ware and oolitic ware (see Figure 8.1.45) which is difficult to explain. It is possible that rubble has been taken from the south side of the road after the demolition of the buildings there to make up the northern surfaces but although this is feasible, it is not entirely convincing as earlier pottery types, which are likely to pre-date the establishment of the buildings on the north side of the road are present both in earlier phases and in contexts other than rubble surfaces. One aspect of earlier material on the north side of the road concerns the Roman pottery. Nearly all of the Roman sherds occur here, as if there was a barrier or boundary at the point where the later, medieval road was established.

A second feature of the rubble surfaces is the large quantity of portable finds that are present, particularly on the southern forecourts 695 (D2) and 867 (E6). What is particularly striking about these two groups is the presence of several pieces of building or structural ironwork and lock furniture. A group such as this can be associated with demolition deposits, rather than just household waste disposal. More structural ironwork and lock furniture was found in 925 (D26) in an ashy deposit associated with rubble surface 924 to the north of the house. Ashy deposits can also be symptomatic of demolition deposits. Of course, there are other objects that could be random losses or have been broken and discarded, which is probably the case here, with the possible exception of a reamer (SF 15) from D25. The evidence is not watertight but there remains the possibility that some of the material on the rubble surfaces, and particularly those to the south of the houses is in reality associated with demolition. If this is the case, then that has an effect on how the pottery from the forecourts is interpreted.

Shelly wares (F16, F17, F18, F19, F60)

The earliest of the calcareous wares was F60 which is found in very small quantities on the south side of the road, only in Area H where it was residual. It was categorised as a 'developed' St Neots type but the fabric and form description would be more consistent with Late Saxon St Neots ware. Even if the former is correct, this type of pottery is unlikely to post-date *c*1150.

There is strong similarity in forms between F16 and F17 and it may be that they are variants of the same fabric. F16, F17 and F19, all share the same wide-mouthed bowl form that is common in the

E and SE Midlands and is also found elsewhere in Warwickshire (Rátkai 1990; 1992a) in similar calcareous fabrics. Subsequent excavations have revealed that shelly wares occur on many Warwickshire sites, although this is mainly a feature of sites in the Feldon. Small quantities of shelly ware have been found in Coventry (Redknap and Perry 1996 40-41) and seem to be associated primarily with the 12th century but in Warwick shelly wares are more common and are found from at least the Saxo-Norman period onward. At Bascote (Rátkai 2009b) to the east of the county, shelly wares are dominant in the earliest period dating to the 11th-12th century and this is true of Cawston, another eastern settlement, in Phase 2, also 11th - 12th century, (Rátkai 2007b). This distribution would suggest a source in Northamptonshire but although most of the rim forms in Fabrics F16, F17 and F19 could be paralleled in pottery from St Peter's Street, Northampton (McCarthy 1979), the jug forms are not paralleled. At the time of writing the original report in the later 1980s these fabrics were not identified as belonging to Northamptonshire or Oxfordshire. At Kineton (Rátkai 2012), *c*6km west of Burton Dassett, the main fabric type was an oxidised shelly ware which contained very rare bryozoa. A large strap handle with a deep U shaped section in this ware could be paralleled by a sherd from Burton Dassett in Fabric 17 (no K 34). This fabric could have been made locally, since the clays and thin limestones of the Lower Jurassic bedrock (Blue Lias and Charmouth Mudstone formations) around Kineton are all likely to be shelly, some horizons more than others. Bryozoans are not especially characteristic of the deposits around Kineton, although they are represented (Jon Radley, pers comm). The absence of Lyveden-Stanion B (a distinctive oolitic ware) from the Burton Dassett assemblage may suggest that the earlier shelly ware, Lyveden-Stanion A, is not represented either amongst the shelly wares, although it is possible that Fabric 18 could be Lyveden-Stanion A since it appears rarely and mainly on the north side of the road. It was also recorded in Area H in a late phase.

Shelly wares are a regular feature of medieval assemblages in Northamptonshire in the period 1100-1400. Blinkhorn (1996, 28-30) notes that there are two distinct traditions in Northamptonshire with shelly limestone-tempered wares a feature of the north of the county and sandy wares a feature of the south. Blinkhorn suggests several possible sources for the shelly wares in Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire, such as Harrold, Olney and Lavendon, and Yardley Hastings in Northamptonshire, and suggests the divide between the two traditions must lie somewhere between the Daventry-Northampton axis and Brackley to the south. This would put Burton Dassett in the 'shelly zone'. Richard Ivens (pers comm) recorded Northamptonshire shelly wares from Deddington Castle with a fairly clear dating horizon of c1200. At Banbury (Rátkai forthcoming a) shelly wares, possibly the same as Northamptonshire fabric F330, a minor ware in the south and west of the county, formed less than 1% of the castle and town assemblages and unfortunately their dating could not be established securely.

At Alcester fine shelly ware occurs but is a very minor component (Rátkai 2001) and at Stratford (Rátkai 1992b) calcareous wares form *c*8%; at both sites these wares are associated with the 12th-early 13th centuries. At Brook St, Warwick (Rátkai 1992a), up to 50% of the pottery from Post-Conquest contexts was calcareous, although the presence of Stamford ware in all the contexts where shelly ware occurs makes one suspect that much is residual. However, at Bridge End, Warwick (Rátkai 1990), calcareous wares form 4-10% of any phase. Calcareous vessels from Bridge End appear in general to be Post-Conquest forms, eg shallow wide mouthed bowls of a type also found in Northampton and Burton Dassett. The distribution of calcareous wares in Warwickshire appears to have been established in Late Saxon times, and some trade network seems to have remained until the 13th century at least. That this link is not purely geographic is shown by the fact that Burton Dassett has a much higher proportion of shelly wares than the neighbouring site of Ratley Castle (Steane 1991) where the Shelly A wares form 8% of phase 3b and 20% of the total assemblage. When all the evidence of the occurrence of shelly wares (excepting St Neot's ware) in Warwickshire is examined, it would appear that their *floruit* is mainly in the 12th and early-13th century and it is suggested that once pottery making was established in Birmingham, Coventry, Nuneaton and Alcester in Warwickshire and Brill-Boarstall (Buckinghamshire), this compromised the position of the shelly wares in the south-east of the county.

F16, F17 and F19 occur in large amounts on the south side of the road, forming over 30% of the earliest phase (Figure 8.1.39). Overall, we can see (Figure 8.1.40) that shelly wares were particularly well-represented in Area H, followed by Areas K and I, and that Areas J and LMN fronting onto the southern side of the road had much less shelly ware. To the north of the road (Area A-F) it was very rare indeed, generally forming less than 1% of the total assemblage. When the fact that on the south side of the road relatively few early layers were excavated (see above), then in terms of the overall percentage of each area assemblage, shelly wares must be seriously under-represented.

Oolitic wares (F43, F55)

Similar oolitic fabrics have been found on numerous sites in Warwickshire particularly, but not exclusively, in the southern and eastern parts of the county with outliers to the west in Alcester and Stratford-upon-Avon. Oolitic fabrics are often associated with late Saxon or early post-Conquest deposits. The most northerly distribution point seems to be Warwick itself, where there is unequivocal evidence for the occurrence of F43 in pre-Conquest deposits (Rátkai 1992a) along with St Neots ware and Stamford ware. This is the same pattern as that seen in the Late Saxon period in Northamptonshire (Blinkhorn 1996). The oolitic fabrics are often found in association with Late Saxon St Neots ware in-turned rim and hammerhead bowls and small diameter cooking pots and it seems likely that in the absence of local production, St Neots ware and the Cotswold oolitic wares filled the gap. However, sites further south in the county (eg Compton Scorpion and Weston-juxta-Cherington, pers inspection by author), which were much closer to the Jurassic limestone ridge of the Cotswolds continued to use the oolitic wares well into the Conquest period and beyond. At Banbury some 16km south-east of Burton Dassett oolitic wares of the sort found at Burton Dassett were in use from the Late Saxon period and were dominant in the later 11th century becoming less so in the 12th century and relatively uncommon by the early 13th century. As Fabrics 43 and 55 are found throughout every phase it is difficult to be certain when they were in use at Burton Dassett. A bowl with traces of a spout or pouring lip (W20), for example, should be an early (?12th-century) type. This was originally recorded as a variant of F43, and was subsequently identified as a Wychwood product (information from M Mellor) but it seems unlikely that Fabrics 43 and 55 flourished in the face of competition from other wares and they were probably no longer in use by *c.*1225/1250. If this is so, then the oolitic sherds found on the north side of the road must represent general background scatters of material rather than *in situ* occupation deposits.

The two oolitic wares, F43 and F55 are nothing like as well represented as the shelly wares. 'Cotswold-type Oolitic ware' is ubiquitous on sites of the later 10th and 11th centuries in Northamptonshire (Blinkhorn 1996). It is the equivalent of Northamptonshire fabric F207 and vessel forms such as barrel jars and triangular club rims cooking pots are found in the period 975-1150. Evidence from Brackley (Blinkhorn 1990) and Banbury (Rátkai forthcoming a) suggests that although the oolitic wares continued to be produced in their Cotswold heartland, in more peripheral areas their dominance had ceased by the mid 12th century - a fact that might suggest that Southend began to evolve after this date. Fabric F43, which contains flint, first appears at the same time as F55 but is found on the north side of the road, although it never forms more than 2% of any phase. Mellor (1994, 44) notes an early flinty oolitic fabric found at Cirencester and Swindon, and at Banbury Castle a very similar fabric (Fabric CG3, Rátkai forthcoming a) was found in 11th- to 12th-century contexts. It is therefore difficult to explain the presence of F43 on the north side of the road.

With the exception of two sherds in Phase B3, and a sherd from Area A, F55 does not occur on the north side of the road. On the south side of the road, it occurs in Phases K1, K2 and H2. This suggests that it is an early fabric. Sherds of F55 were tentatively identified as a Wychwood product (Oxford fabric OXCX) made from the 12th to 15th centuries but it is possible that this fabric is

closer to 'corky calcareous gravel tempered ware' (Fabric CG1) found at Banbury Castle and probably too early to be OXCX (Rátkai forthcoming a).

The oolitic wares never seem to have been a major component of the pottery used in Burton Dassett, certainly nothing like as important as the shelly wares, and there is a fairly consistent low level presence on the south of the road, although as with the shelly wares (above) the proportion of each area assemblage is likely to be an under-representation.

Calcareous/Sandy fabrics (F44, F45, F66, F71)

F66 and F71 are probably variants of the same fabric although with few diagnostic sherds it is impossible to be certain. Similar fabrics are known from Banbury (Rátkai forthcoming a, Fabrics SCALC1, SCALC3, SCALC5) and Northamptonshire (Blinkhorn 1996; Northamptonshire Fabrics 311, 302, 336, 339, 340) where they are found in Northampton, Brackley and Towcester. A source in the south of Northamptonshire seems likely. Banbury ware (F23, F62 and F67) itself contains calcareous material and is discussed below. Sandy fabrics with calcareous inclusions are known from elsewhere in Warwickshire, and perhaps unsurprisingly, their distribution is very similar to that seen for the shelly wares and probably indicates similar sources lying to the east or south-east of Warwickshire for both.

These wares are conventionally dated to the 12th-13th century, supported by evidence from elsewhere in Warwickshire, and they appear to be mainly associated with areas on the south side of the road, although there is a curious spike in Area E.

Deritend wares (F14, F14A, F58, F3, F15 and F59)

The reduced wares and the brown cooking pots were made from the late 12th or early 13th century to the early 14th century. The Deritend jugs are commonly decorated with white slip but the jug fabric is less commonly used for pipkins and very rarely cooking pots/jars. The jugs were made in the 13th and early 14th centuries.

The output from the Deritend kilns must have been considerable. Excavations in Digbeth and Deritend, Birmingham, have produced a wealth of evidence for pottery production extending from the Rea Valley up to Moor Street (Rátkai 2009a; Hewitson and Rátkai forthcoming). To date no kilns have been found and it is not known whether they were situated towards the back of the burgage plots running along the High Street in Digbeth and Deritend or whether they lay in parkland immediately outside the town/park boundary.

Like the calcareous fabrics, Deritend wares were mainly a feature of the south side of the road and form a significant part of the assemblages from Areas H and I and the waterhole, Area W. It was not until excavations in Birmingham that it was fully established that the three types of Deritend ware, brown sandy cooking pots, reduced cooking pots and the decorated oxidised jugs (and occasionally pipkins) were made in the city. Petrological work by Dr David Williams (2009) confirmed that a waster jug and the reduced cooking pots shared the same fabric; the town/park boundary ditch at Park Street contained waste from the production of the brown sandy wares including a fire bar (Rátkai 2009a). Reduced Deritend ware, which is extremely distinctive, has been found in just about every excavated site in Warwickshire. The ware is found in Coventry but has sometimes been described as a 'Coventry sandy ware'. In the 1980s personal inspection by the author of ‘Coventry sandy wares’ from the Bayley Lane and Orchard Street sites in Coventry, revealed that a small amount was made up of Reduced Deritend ware. More recent work on sites on Bayley Lane (Rátkai forthcoming b) has confirmed that this ware does indeed feature amongst the Coventry assemblages but is usually only a small component. In contrast, in Warwick, at both the Bridge End (Rátkai 1990) and Brook Street (Rátkai 1992a) sites, Reduced Deritend ware (Warwick fabrics 121 and 122) could form between 30%-40% of any given group or phase. It was

argued that the fabrics dated to the 14th century but evidence from Birmingham (Rátkai 2009a; Hewitson and Rátkai forthcoming) and Weoley Castle (Rátkai 2011) indicate an earlier date. The evidence from Burton Dassett also suggests that these fabrics were in use in the 13th century. The sporadic presence of Reduced Deritend ware on the north side of the road and its continued presence in the later phases of the south side of the road is probably indicative of use into the early 14th century. In Warwickshire, Reduced Deritend ware is also found in Alcester (Rátkai 1996, Fabric 26A) and Stratford (Rátkai 1992b, Fabric 19) to the west, at Bascote (Rátkai 2009b) and Cawston (Rátkai 2007b) to the north-east.

Reduced Deritend wares are not confined to Warwickshire and are found in Staffordshire at Stafford (Rátkai 2009d), probably the most northerly distribution point, Brewood (Rátkai 2004b), Lichfield (Rátkai 2004a) and Dudley (personal inspection by author), and as far to the west as Hereford (Vince 1985; 2002; Rátkai forthcoming d). The ubiquity of the reduced ware is a little hard to understand. This has led the author to question whether the reduced ware cooking pots, with their distinctive rim forms, may have been traded more for their contents, since the rims are ideally suited for securing a cloth covering (Rátkai 2009a).

The often highly decorated Deritend ware jugs are also widely found, with a distribution pattern that largely matches the reduced cooking pots. The popularity of the decorated jugs is not hard to explain, although it would seem that at Burton Dassett competition from other glazed wares limited their appeal. It is unusual to see how rare the occurrence of the Deritend jugs is at Burton Dassett and how circumscribed, the jugs only being found in Areas H, I and K. They are completely absent from the north side of the road. It is difficult to understand why this might be so, since the baluster base (Figure 8.1.27, no I 6) is likely to come from a highly decorated jug, aping the North French style, dated to *c*1275-1325 and therefore of exactly the right date for the development and occupation of the north side of the road.

The identification of the second type of cooking pot (brown, sandy fabric) found less commonly at Burton Dassett than Reduced Deritend Ware, is more surprising. The brown sandy Deritend ware cooking pots are also mainly a feature of the south side of the road, being found in reasonable quantities in Areas H, I and J. Like the reduced Deritend ware, the brown sandy ware continued in use on the north side of the road but in reduced quantities. At the original report writing stage it was thought that the brown sandy cooking pots could be of local manufacture as they were found at the nearby DMV of Radbourn and also at Napton. However, similar sandy wares with analogous concave rims or ‘double-dished’ rims are found throughout Warwickshire, for example at Warwick (Rátkai 1990), Weoley Castle (Rátkai 2011) but most importantly amongst production waste at Park Street, Birmingham (Rátkai 2009a). So, although it seems counter-intuitive for such rather basic cooking pots to have travelled so far afield, it looks as if it is indeed the case.
The wide distribution of Deritend pottery could be seen to reflect the importance of Birmingham as a market even in the face of the much more influential city of Coventry.

Coventry and Coventry-type wares (F5, F42, F64)

F64 can be paralleled by pottery from several sites in Coventry where it is recorded as Coventry A ware. F5 has not been directly paralleled by material from Coventry but its marked similarity to other fabrics in this group implies that it comes from the same general area. F5 is also similar to Warwick Fabric 119 (Rátkai 1990; Soden and Rátkai 1998 fabric Sq20). The two fabrics (F5 and F64) form *c*2-4% of each area group with the exception of Areas J, K and LMN where there is roughly double the amount and Areas B/C/G where there is a total of *c*1%. Coventry A-type ware is found in the early phases on the south side of the road. This concurs with Redknap's (1985) dating for the ware of mid 12th-century to mid 13th-century. Its presence on the north side of the road may indicate that the ware continued to be made beyond the mid 13th century. Despite its occurrence in 14th-century levels it seems likely that it is residual here.

No example of Coventry D ware (Redknap 1985), used primarily for tripod pitchers, was identified. This is strange, since some of the pottery found on the south side of the road could date to the same period as the tripod pitchers.

Fabric F42 is Cannon Park ware (Redknap 1985). This, too, is rather surprisingly under-represented and is, therefore, possibly quite informative about how pottery reached Burton Dassett (see Discussion below).

Chilvers Coton fabrics (A fabrics, F8, F8a, F38; A/C fabrics, F7,F9, F9A; B fabric, F21; C fabrics, F11, F31; D fabric, F4C)

When work on the pottery from Burton Dassett began it was hoped that the dating of Chilvers Coton wares could be tested against a good stratigraphic framework. It was also hoped that differences in the composition of the fabrics in the A and C wares could be tested chronologically. This is the main reason why there are sub-sets of these two fabrics recorded at Burton Dassett.

On the north side of the road, Chilvers Coton pottery forms over 50% of every phase from every area. There are only three exceptions to this: Phases A2 (44%), E3 (44%), and F2 (12%). The last figure is no doubt caused by the small sherd count from this phase (27 sherds only) and the restricted area of excavation.

The evidence from Burton Dassett does not show any noticeable chronological difference between the start of the A wares (F8, F8A and F38) and the C wares (F11) apart from Area E where the A fabric occurred in phase E2 and the C fabric first occurred in phase E3. The quantity of the A fabric at Burton Dassett was never very great. unlike the C fabric. The former makes up less than 5% of most area assemblages, the exception, once more, being Area E. It is also possible to see a slightly elevated assemblage percentage in Areas H, J and K. The occurrence of A ware sherds in the early 13th-century period (see Figure 8.1.39) is probably the result of intrusion. The B fabric (F21), which should be broadly coeval with the A fabric is better represented on the south of the road and is absent from Areas E and F. This suggests that it had gone out of use by the time of the main occupation on the north side of the road.

A late 13th- to 14th-century bias in the occurrence of the A/C ware can perhaps be detected, (Figure 8.1.39) although this must be set against the late, ie 15th-century, forms such as the cistern (or bung-hole jar) that are found in the A/C fabric. The A/C fabrics make up higher percentages of the area assemblage groups on the north side of the road but Areas D2 and F are more similar to Area J on the south side of the road. Areas H, I and K have rather low occurrences of the A/C fabrics.

The north side of the road is dominated by the C fabrics (F11 and F31) which form over 40% of the area assemblages. This is matched in the assemblage from Area J but Areas H, I and K contain a smaller percentage, Area H particularly so. However, the differences between the north side of the road and the south are not quite so marked if percentage weight is compared. From the early 14th century Chilvers Coton C (F11) forms about a third of the Phase group, rising to *c*45% by the end of the 15th century. There is an unexpected and anomalous occurrence of F11 in the early 13th-century period, which must be due to intrusion and marked percentage drop in the late 14th century (see Figure 8.1.39). This may be the result of disruption during and in the wake of the Black Death or may reflect a period of disturbance since the quantity of what must clearly be residual material is high.

A chronological development between the C wares (F11) and the D ware (F4C) Midlands Purple can be clearly seen at Burton Dassett. F31, a variant of the standard Chilvers Coton C fabric, thought to be a product of the Harefield Lane kilns (K Scott, pers comm), is also later in the sequence and seems to be roughly contemporaneous with F4C. Both these fabrics were thought

to date to the 15th century, which is largely the period in which they are found (Figure 8.1.39). A small number of sherds from late 14th-century contexts may indicate that both F31 and F4C have a slightly earlier start date than previously believed but, as noted above and below, there were enough taphonomic irregularities to make this uncertain.

In summary, the evidence from Burton Dassett suggests that the A wares and C wares were at least partly coeval, and that the C wares may well have been in use during the later part of the 13th century. Just how late in the 13th century is partly dependent on when we believe the north side of the road was developed and how long after the granting of the market charter in 1267. If the development was not an immediate response to the market charter then the contemporary use of Chilvers Coton A and C could be a feature of the last decade or last two decades of the 13th century. If so, this is in line with Mayes and Scott's (1984) dating of the C ware but the question must remain as to how long the A fabric continued in use (see below). Chilvers Coton B fabric seems to have had its *floruit* in the 13th century but have fallen out of use before the 14th century. F4C and F31, occur later in the sequence and are of 15th-century date.

The comparative chronology of the Chilvers Coton fabrics tallies with information from the Austin Friars, Leicester (Woodland 1981) and from other Warwickshire sites, but runs counter to some parts of the chronology proposed by the excavators at the Chilvers Coton kilns (Mayes and Scott 1984, 40-41), although they expressed the opinion that it might well be subject to revision in the light of further discoveries. They suggest a 13th-century date for the A and B wares, a late 13th /14th-century to *c*1500 date for the C ware, and a largely 15th-century date for the D ware. Some of the dating appears to be based on kiln type, with a chronological progression from two-flued kilns, *via* three-flued on to five-flued kilns. However, this scheme as shown in Mayes and Scott (1984, table 2, 42-43) has the unfortunate effect of making the earliest kiln produce Midland Purple wares and a late 14th-century kiln produce cistercian wares. It is also apparent from this table that A wares are not only frequently found in conjunction with C wares but also with Midlands Purple and cistercian wares. The B fabric is also found in conjunction with the C wares and with Midlands Purple on Site 18, Kiln 40. Any dating system based on kiln type would therefore seem to be flawed, not because the chronological development of kiln types is in dispute but because the proposed chronology assumes the debris in each kiln is contemporary and a product of that kiln.

There is now sufficient excavated material from Warwickshire to confirm that the A and B wares do pre-date the C ware but unfortunately this is not so apparent at Burton Dassett. There is the hint that the B ware was well on the wane in the later 13th century and we could perhaps suggest that its place was taken by the C ware in respect of utilitarian vessels like cooking pots and jars and by the A ware for table wares such as jugs. It is not certain, however, how much of the whiteware continued to be made in the 14th century. The difference in the relative amounts of the B ware between the north and the south of the road, is not so clear cut in the case of the A ware. This could be taken to indicate that the A ware continued to be made when production of the B ware had finished but the picture is confused.

The Chilvers Coton industry appears to have been conservative with little development in terms of vessel form throughout production, although the obvious exceptions to this are the highly decorated whiteware jugs, but these are more a reflection of changing fashion rather than evidence of innovation by the potters. Nevertheless, both the A and C wares are found throughout most of Warwickshire, with fall off patterns towards the south and west of the county. In Coventry, levels of Chilvers Coton pottery is generally below 50% (I Soden and M Rylatt, pers comm), although at St John's Street (Rátkai 2013) figures for combined Chilvers Coton wares suggest from 27-54% (by weight) is possible and there can be a higher percentage if the data is looked at by burgage plot assemblage. Clearly, the problems of residuality and disturbance in confined urban deposits have distorted the picture somewhat, since in closed groups Chilvers Coton C can make up nearly all the pottery. At Bridge End, Warwick (Rátkai 1990), Chilvers Coton C forms c13% of Phase V, which corresponds to the latest period of demolition at Burton Dassett. The other major market for the Chilvers Coton potters was Leicester, which was easily accessible via Watling Street and the

Fosse. At the Austin Friars (Woodland 1981) Chilvers Coton fabrics can form up to 60% of a phase. Burton Dassett, then, is anomalous in being at the extremity of the Warwickshire distribution but with disproportionately high levels of the Chilvers Coton C ware. At Banbury, just 10km south-east of Burton Dassett less than 1% of the town assemblage (Rátkai forthcoming a) consisted of Chilvers Coton A and no C wares were recorded. Blinkhorn (1996, 39-40) notes that small amounts of Chilvers Coton wares are often found on many sites in Northamptonshire, but in contrast highlights the presence of relatively large quantities of Chilvers Coton wares (no sub-groups quantified) at Castle Lane, Brackley, where they are classed as a 'major ware'.

In respect of the A ware, much more work needs to be undertaken tracking its distribution and examining the interface of the South Staffordshire whitewares (Ford 1995, Rátkai 2008, 493-5) and those of Chilvers Coton. A possible area of production for whitewares, within an area defined by Lichfield to the north and Walsall to the east and Minworth Greaves/Coleshill to the south-east was postulated by Rátkai (2008, 501).

The B ware was not found at the Austin Friars, Leicester nor at sites in Warwick, Alcester and Stratford. However, it has been found in Coventry (Wright 1987), Bascote (Rátkai 2009b), Stoke Golding, Leicestershire (Rátkai 2007a) and the distribution appears to be biased towards the east of Warwickshire. This could indicate that different factors affected the market penetration that this ware could achieve.

East/south-east Midlands fabrics (F22 , F68, F6, F6C, F23, F62, F67, F12, F2, F23A, F56)

F22 is the same as Oxford Early Medieval ware (Mellor1994, Fabric OXY) dated from the later 11th century to the mid 13th century. At Banbury (Rátkai forthcoming a) OXY and OXY-type (a locally produced version of OXY) formed a substantial component of 12th-century phase groups but had waned by the early 13th century. F22 is only found on the south side of the road in all areas apart from Area H. As would be expected it is found in the earliest phases, particularly in contexts dating to the early 13th century, although it never forms a large percentage of the assemblages. F68 is probably a transitional ware between F22 and F6 Brill-Boarstall ware and would date to the later 12th or early 13th century. F68 may be related to Northamptonshire fabric 337. F68 is only found on the south side of the road which would suggest an earlier rather than later date but it does not appear before the later 14th century there, throwing the identification into some doubt unless the sherds are residual.

Fabric F6 is the standard Brill-Boarstall type and includes such forms as slip-decorated and roller-stamped jugs. Brill-Boarstall products are found throughout the life of the settlement, from the earliest to the latest levels. This mirrors the known longevity of these industries. A possible late Brill-Boarstall variant is represented by F6C. This is found more commonly on the north side of the road and probably dates from the 15th century, although one sherd was recorded in a 14th-century context.

Fine Brill ware jugs are found throughout the southern half of Warwickshire. They form 2-3% of the assemblages from Alcester (Rátkai 1996; 2001), up to 4% at Warwick (Rátkai 1990, 1992a) and at Stratford, 6-7% (Rátkai 1992b; 1994). Brill-Boarstall is only found very rarely in Coventry (Rátkai 2013) and Birmingham (Rátkai 2009a). Occasional Brill-Boarstall sherds have been found at Sydenhams Moat , near Tanworth-in-Arden (personal inspection by the author), and in Worcester and Evesham, and the fabric travels further west as far as Hereford (Vince 1985). Brill pottery is the major pottery in Oxford from the late 13th century onwards (Mellor 1994). It is also found in Northampton (McCarthy 1979) normally forming less than 5% of the pottery, and in Bedford (Baker *et al* 1979) where it makes up 9-10% of the pottery in the 13th to 14th centuries. At Burton Dassett, Brill products form up to *c*8% of a total area assemblage and up to 16% of a given phase, and

seem to form a solid and rather consistent percentage of most phase groups (Figure 8.1.39) and presumably reflects a well-established and regular trade pattern.

Fabrics 23, 62 and 67 are Banbury or Banbury-type ware. Maureen Mellor (1994) sees Banbury ware as a distinct tradition, unconnected with early medieval Oxford ware, whose early influence lies beyond the north of the Oxfordshire region. This ware is common in Brackley, being dominant by the early 13th century. Small amounts of this ware are known from Milton Keynes. Banbury ware is also found in small quantities in Warwickshire at Ufton, Fenny Compton (personal inspection by author), Ratley (Steane, 1991**)**, and Bascote (Warwickshire fabrics Sv01 and Sv03, Rátkai 2009b). No kiln site has been found but the distribution pattern suggests a source in Northamptonshire. It is a minor ware at Burton Dassett, although representing over 5% of pottery from early 13th-century levels, and was found more commonly on the south side of the road. Banbury ware was made from *c*1050 through to the middle of the 13th century (Rátkai forthcoming a).

Fabric 12 is a very distinctive ware. It has been found in Northamptonshire (fabric F373) where it is termed 'Brackley whiteware', although the source of production is unknown. A few sherds of this ware were found at Banbury (Rátkai forthcoming a, Fabric WW1) at both the castle and town sites, where they probably date to the late 12th or early 13th century. Fabric 12 is the same as Warwickshire fabric WW10 (Rátkai and Soden 1998, where it is termed '?Early Potterspury ware' and erroneously equated to Northamptonshire Fabric 329). It is known from sites in the east and south-east of Warwickshire eg Bascote (Rátkai 2009b), Ratley Castle (Steane1991) Fenny Compton and Compton Verney (pers inspection by author) all of which lie on or close to the A423 linking Banbury to Coventry. However, it has also been found to the west at Boteler's Castle, Oversley, Alcester (Rátkai 1997). The fabric seems to have a very distinct distribution pattern, which would repay further study. To date (2014) no WW10 sherds have been identified in Coventry or Warwick.

The occurrence of F12 is greater on the south side of the road and this may well be an under-representation in view of the bias towards the full excavation of later levels (see above). It is found in all periods but it is likely to be residual after the 13th century and possibly after the mid 13th century.

F2 is the standard fine sandy later Potterspury ware common in Northampton (McCarthy 1979) in the 14th and 15th centuries and also found in Oxford in the same period (Mellor 1994). The picture is generally that of a small but consistent supply of later Potterspury wares to Burton Dassett which lies on the edge of the main Potterspury market area. Potterspury ware formed the major tradition in North Oxfordshire and southern Northamptonshire (M Mellor, pers comm) despite the lack of published evidence to this effect, but at Oxford and in South Oxfordshire competition from the Brill-Boarstall industry curtailed its market. F2 is found on both sides of the road in fairly consistent quantities. The evidence from Burton Dassett supports a 14th- and 15th-century *floruit* for this ware, although it should be noted that 27 sherds were found in levels ascribed to the late 13th century.

Fabric 23A is slightly more common on the south side of the road and was found in contexts dating from the later 13th century onwards. It has been suggested (V Denham, pers comm) that F23A is a forerunner to sandy Potterspury F2, in which case it would have been current in the 13th century. Fabric 23A was found at Ratley Castle (Steane 1991). The similarity of fabric and vessel form between F23A and F56 suggests they may be related. Fabric 56 was only found on the south side of the road, which argues for an early date, despite the fact that it is first recorded in later 14th-century contexts. Neither F23A nor F56 were found at Banbury.

Minor wares - sourced (F40, F54, F63, F63Z, F70)

Fabric 40 was originally identified as Developed Stamford Ware. However, as it occurs mainly on the north side of the road and is not found before the 15th century there is the possibility that some or all of these sherds have been wrongly identified and that they are in reality Tudor Green ware. Their distribution is certainly very similar to that for F49 (Surrey whiteware) and F72 (Nettlebed).

Fabric 54 is paralleled by pottery found at Wolvey, about 8km south-east of Nuneaton (Rátkai 1998). The granitic inclusions within the fabric are derived from the Caldecote Volcanic Series. F54 probably is made in the Nuneaton area but represents an outlier of the main industry. Granitic sherds have been found in Coventry (Wright 1987) where their source is attributed to the Charnwood Forest but a granitic sherd from Wolvey and a second from Stafford Castle were submitted to David Williams for petrological analysis (unfortunately all reference to the thin-sectioning for the Stafford Castle sherd and the thin section report in its entirety were edited out of the report). Both sherds were from the same source and Dr Williams suggested that this lay in North Warwickshire. The presence of the granitic ware at Stafford Castle (Rátkai 2007a, Stafford Castle Fabric J11) is accounted for by tenurial links of the Lords of Stafford to eastern Warwickshire, the granitic pottery representing part of the household baggage carried to the castle.

Fabric 54 has been found on other sites in Warwickshire such as Bascote and Cawston, suggesting that its distribution is primarily in the eastern parts of Warwickshire. The evidence from Burton Dassett suggests that F54 is early. Elsewhere in Warwickshire a 13th-century date has been given to this ware with the possibility that it represents a forerunner to the main Chilvers Coton industry.

Fabrics 63A, 63B and 63D span the range of Malvernian production from early coarser fabrics found on the south side of the road to the fine sandy fabrics of 14th- and 15th-century date found in the later levels of the south side of the road and on the north side of the road. Malvernian wares only form a very small component of the pottery assemblages but their presence follows a trend observable in the southern and south-western areas of Warwickshire, where they are rarely absent from assemblages. The further west the greater the amount present; a significant number of Malvernian sherds are present in Alcester (Rátkai 1996; 2001) with somewhat fewer in Stratford (Rátkai 1992b;1994). Fabric 70, Worcester-type wares, not surprisingly, have a similar distribution pattern to the early Malvernian cooking pots, although they are found as far north as Birmingham (Rátkai 2009a; 2011). It was found in Phase K1 in Area K. Fabric 63Z is East Wiltshire flint-tempered ware (dated to the 12th to 14th century, Mellor 1994), which has also been found in Warwick at Bridge End and Brook Street (Rátkai 1990; 1992a). The two latter fabrics were only found on the south side of the road.

Minor wares - uncertain sources (F13A, F22A, F52, F36, F20, F27, F41, F65, F69, F25, F62A)

Fabric 13A shares certain characteristics with the Deritend brown sandy ware but is much coarser. It is more common on the south side of the road, particularly in early 13th-century contexts after which it drops away, suggesting that this is a fabric that flourished in the first half of the century.

Fabrics 22A and 52 both contain clay pellets and appear to be related. Fabric 52 can be directly matched with Alcester fabric 2 (Cracknell and Jones 1989) which was used for jugs and tripod pitchers. Wares with clay pellets (or possibly rounded mudstone fragments) have been found on several sites in Warwickshire including Stratford-upon-Avon (Rátkai 1992b, fabric 30A), Wishaw and Coleshill (Fabric Sq25.1, Rátkai 2008, 492, 496-497) and Kenilworth, as well as Worcester (personal inspection by author). The use of an underglaze white slip seems to be a feature of these wares. The fabrics were not common but they were more so on the south side of the road. Fabric 22A occurs in the earliest levels, although Fabric 52 was not found before the later 14th century (in Area D2) but must be residual here. Evidence from Alcester itself (Cracknell and Jones 1989) and other find-spots in Warwickshire suggest that these fabrics date to *c*1150-1250.

Fabric 36 is more common on the south side of the road and is found in the earliest levels (Phases A2, H1 and K2) as single sherds. It may be a variant of F59, Deritend jug fabric, but it is odd that no rim or handle sherds were found. The jug fabric is sometimes used for pipkins and jars; the former are known from deposits pre-dating *c*1260 at Weoley Castle (Rátkai 2011).

Fabrics 20 and 27 were found on both sides of the road. They were not incorporated into the Warwickshire County Type Series. They may be local but there are so few sherds that it is impossible to say. Two other cooking pot fabric F41 and F65 were found. The distribution of these two fabrics across the site is similar to that of the calcareous/sandy wares (see above). There is not enough material to be certain about their dating other than that they are found in the earliest levels on the south side of the road. A broad date range of 12th to 13th century seems right for these.

Of the three remaining fabrics in this group Fabric 62A is not in the Warwickshire County Type Series but the description of the fabric sounds very similar to Potterspury ware of the 14th-15th centuries. Its occurrence in a later 15th-century context only, suggests that this attribution is probably correct. Fabric 69 also appears late in the sequence on the south side of the road. Fabric 25 may have been made in the East/South-east Midlands since it contains calcareous inclusions. It first appears in 14th-century contexts and is slightly better represented on the south side of the road.

Later Medieval Oxidised wares (F2A, F10A, F30, F31A, F33, F35, F35A)

Fabrics 10A, F30, F31A, F33, can be directly paralleled by pottery from Wednesbury, fabrics LOX04, LOX01, LOX02 respectively (Rátkai forthcoming c). These fabrics were the first to be made in Wednesbury in the 15th and 16th centuries (Hodder 1992; Hodder and Glazebrook 1987) along with cistercian ware from the later 15th century. This first stage of production was the precursor to the early post-medieval pottery industry that manufactured blackwares, yellow wares and coarsewares (Rátkai forthcoming c).

The core distribution of Wednesbury wares extended from Stafford and south Staffordshire in a south-easterly direction through Warwickshire to Burton Dassett. It appears that Wednesbury late medieval oxidised wares had a wide distribution in Warwickshire, despite competition from the Chilvers Coton industry (Mayes and Scott 1984). Wednesbury wares have been identified at Birmingham (Rátkai 2009a), Warwick (Rátkai 1990), Kenilworth (Soden and Rátkai 1998) and Coventry (Soden and Rátkai 1998, Rátkai 2005, Rátkai forthcoming b) at Stratford (Soden and Rátkai 1998), although somewhat rarely, and at Bascote (Rátkai 2009b) to the east of the county. Distribution into the west or south-west of the county seems to have been impeded by the Malvernian industry. Examples of Wednesbury ware have also been noted at Wishaw and Coleshill (Rátkai 2008, 492, table 160). The distribution indicates a primarily land-based system, where packhorses, cratemen and carters would have carried the pottery directly to market for sale, although there may have been some redistribution through markets at Birmingham and Coventry, for example. This could suggest that there were middlemen at the major market centres who would buy in bulk for resale but Weatherill (1971, 53–54) thinks this system is more likely to pertain to the later 17th century and beyond.

There are only isolated examples of the later fabrics on the south side of the road and it is not impossible that they are intrusive caused by post-demolition activity. It is also clear (Figure 8.1.40) that in terms of total area assemblage figures that the three plots that are thought to have continued in use the longest (D2, E and F) are those which have the greater proportion of Wednesbury wares, suggesting a change in pottery supply in favour of South Staffordshire over Chilvers Coton.

Fabrics 35 and 35A could not be identified to source. Chilvers Coton and Wednesbury are possibilities but the costrel in F35 (no D1 33) is not paralleled at either site. There is a further possible source which would be the Coventry area with fabrics 35 and 35A representing a later development of the Kirby Corner/Cannon Park industry (Redknap 1985) or actually within Coventry, as wasters of cistercian ware and Midlands Purple ware have been noted at St Johns Street/Much Park Street (Rátkai 2013). Fabric 2A is also unsourced. It is unlike wares typically found in Warwickshire and a source in the east or south-east Midlands seems likely. The fabric is only found in Areas D1, D2 and E in 15th-century contexts.

Midlands Purple fabrics (F4A, F4B, F4D)

Midlands Purple is essentially a higher- or over-fired version of the late medieval oxidised wares. Consequently they have the same date range of the 15th-16th centuries. However, it is not always clear when the over-firing has been deliberate and when accidental, especially when dealing with undiagnostic body sherds. So, for example, it is not always easy to distinguish between an overfired Chilvers Coton 'C' ware and the early Midlands Purple ware, F4C. In addition any accidentally over-fired body sherd could be misinterpreted as Midlands Purple. This perhaps explains the apparent occurrence of F4B and F4D in later 13th- and 14th-century contexts. However, the presence of F30 (see above) in the 14th century (Figure 8.1.39) might indicate that there is an element of intrusion in some of the phase groups.

As would be expected the Midlands Purple wares are a minor component of the area assemblages from the south side of the road. They are also a minor component of the 15th-century phase groups overall.

Other Late Medieval wares (F49, F72, F50)

These wares represent ceramic cups either iron poor and (copper) green-glazed (F49, Surrey whiteware or Tudor Green, and F72, Nettlebed ware) or brown glazed cistercian ware (F50). The former were found exclusively on the north side of the road. It is possible that sherds identified as Developed Stamford ware may be Surrey whiteware/Tudor Green (see Fabric 40 above), in which case this ware would be represented on the south side of the road in Areas J and K.

Cistercian ware occurs as a very minor component in Areas I, K, and L. Apart from one probably intrusive occurrence in an early 15th-century context, the remaining cistercian ware is found in contexts dating from the later 15th century, as would be expected. Cistercian ware was made at both Chilvers Coton and Wednesbury and cups from both sources are probably present in the Burton Dassett assemblage. Wastered cistercian cups have been found in Coventry on Much Park Street (Rátkai 2013) so it is possible that there was some small-scale production in the city or its immediate environs also.

Continental imports (F53, T10)

The two Martincamp flask sherds were found in Area D1 (Phase D15), one in a beam slot (756) fill. Details of the Rhenish stonewares were not recorded. They are likely to have been Frechen or Cologne products, although Raeren is a possibility for the sherd from Area F (below), if it is not intrusive. Sherds were mostly found during fieldwalking. Two were found in post-medieval/topsoil layers (Phase J7) but one was found in Area F in a demolition context (Phase F7). The demolition phase was dated to the late 15th century but the presence of Rhenish stoneware suggests that either the demolition was later, ie in the 16th century or the sherd is intrusive. Rhenish stoneware is uncommon on rural sites in the West Midlands but sherds dating to the 16th and 17th centuries have been recorded at Barston (Rátkai 2009c) and at Compton Scorpion and Weston-juxta-Cherington in Warwickshire (personal inspection by the author).

Comparison of north and south of road

It has been fortunate that many of the pottery types from Burton Dassett can be sourced if not to specific production sites, then at least to a fairly localised area. This has enabled a fairly comprehensive picture of trade in, and distribution of, pottery to be achieved. Figure 8.1.46 shows the pottery fabric groups by area assemblage. The data in this simplified form show more clearly which fabrics predominated in each area and it is easier to see chronological trends and changes in pottery supply. Areas W, LMN and BCG have been placed at the end because the data in these are likely to be less reliable either because of the small assemblage size (BCG), less extensive excavation (LMN) or nature of the area (the waterhole, W). As already stated above early fabrics on the south side of the road are likely to be under-represented because the early periods were only partially excavated.

		A	*D1*	*D2*	*E*	*F*	*H*	*I*	*J*	*K*	*W*	*LMN*	*BCG*
Fabric Groups	*Date Range*												
Calcareous	11th-13th c	<1%	<1%	1.8	<1%	<1%	21.1	13.9	6	16	10.9	4.9	2
Calcareous sandy	12th-13th c	-	-	<1%	1.4	-	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
E/SE Midlands	later 11th-15thc	9.2	6.1	10.8	15.8	13.2	26.2	26.5	16.6	18.1	19.3	14.9	16.6
Coventry, Warwickshire	12th-13th c	1.7	3.4	3.8	2.4	3.9	3.1	3	7.7	6.6	3.3	7.2	1
Deritend, Warwickshire	13th-early 14th c	4.6	3.8	3.7	2.8	2.8	27.1	16.7	11.9	13.1	10.2	7.6	1.5
Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire	Mid 13th-15th c	72.5	78.9	56.5	62.3	73.1	19.8	37.1	54.4	41.4	51.8	55.8	60.3
Minor wares (sourced)	13th-15th c	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1.2	<1%	1.5
Minor wares (uncertain source)	12th-14th c	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	1.6	1.6	2.3	2.5	<1%	1
Late medieval oxidised	15th-16th c	3.3	2.2	9.5	9.1	3.8	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	6.7	8.7	6.7
Midlands Purple	15th-16th c	4.2	1.7	2.5	3.3	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	5.6
Other Late Medieval	15th-16th c	2	2.7	9.7	1.5	<1%	-	<1%	-	<1%	<1%	<1%	2.6
Continental imports	15th-16th c	-	<1%	-	-	-	-	-	<1%	-	-	-	<1%
Total sherds recorded		**2402**	**2070**	**5363**	**4089**	**887**	**8564**	**3026**	**1371**	**3370**	**1922**	**666**	**194**

Figure 8.1.46: Pottery fabric group proportions by area

The south side of the road is differentiated from the north by the presence in quantity of calcareous wares (minimum 6% - maximum 21% by Area assemblage). The earliest medieval phase in Areas H, I and K is dominated by pottery manufactured in the East/south-east Midlands. Of these between 28-40% are shelly wares. Although Cotswold oolitic wares are also present they are never found in large quantities. From Phase 3 in Areas H, I and K, there is a steady decline in the amount of calcareous wares, but in general the amount of pottery from the E and SE Midlands falls within the 38-52% range, roughly 3-5% of the assemblages apart from Area H where it is lower. throughout the lifetime of these areas. With the exception of Brill-Boarstall pottery most of these wares are associated with the 12th-13th centuries. Area J is different in having much reduced levels of calcareous wares and fewer wares in general from the E or SE Midlands.

Another major component of the south side of the road are the Deritend wares, particularly Reduced Deritend ware. Coventry-type sandy ware seems to have been an important component of Areas J, K and LMN. What marks out Areas H, I and K is the relative infrequency of Chilvers Coton wares and this is particularly marked in Area H, where these wares do not achieve parity with the Deritend wares and represent less than half of the pottery from the E and SE Midlands. This contrasts with Area J 'the smithy' where over half the assemblage was made up of Chilvers Coton wares.

In Phase 2 Area J contained much less E or SE Midlands pottery but a much higher proportion of Warwickshire wares but by Phase 3 and all later phases Chilvers Coton ware dominated. Area J appears to be a development along the new street frontage; in effect the focus of this part of the settlement was moving northwards towards the road and the opportunities it presented, especially to a smith or farrier. As a smithy, Area J was more likely to be able to weather the storm in times of economic strain unlike purely agricultural households. Another possible reason for the dissimilarity between Area J and Areas H, I and K could be related to plot function, in the sense that a smithy would need to obtain wood/charcoal or coal for fuel. It is well documented that the Feldon, in which Burton Dassett was situated, lacked woodland and that it was common for wood and coal to be brought from the Forest of Arden to the Feldon. Such a trade would be given further impetus by segneurial links between Burton Dassett and Arbury and Griff, in the Nuneaton area (Dyer, Section 1 of published volume). If there was regular contact between Area J's smith and the Nuneaton area, this might explain the predominance of Chilvers Coton pottery in his household.

Area LMN, which fronted onto the road, and Area W also contained a higher proportion of Chilvers Coton wares, particularly the 'C' fabric, although the figures for Area LMN are not so reliable. It seems, therefore, that Areas J and LMN began slightly later than H, I and K and continued in use later. Area W, the waterhole that lay behind the smithy, may also have continued in use longer since it was a public amenity.

To the north side of the road, E or SE Midlands products form a much lower percentage of the phased pottery with the exception of phases A2 and D22. Only a small amount of the assemblage is calcareous and other probably early fabrics are missing completely or are poorly represented. The dominant pottery group by a very long way is made up of the Chilvers Coton wares which form just over 56% in Area D2 to a maximum of just under 80% in Area D1. Of these A/C wares and `C' wares dated *c*1300-1500 (Mayes and Scott 1984) dominate. Apart from Area F less than 5% are made up of the earlier A and B wares, whilst *c*6-11% is made up of the late red fabric, F31, and Proto-Midlands Purple or Midlands purple wares. Brill-Boarstall ware (F6 and F6C) is present in similar percentages to the south side of the road, apart from Areas A and D1 where they are a very minor component of the assemblages. A similar picture emerges with Potterspury ware (F2) which forms roughly 3-5% of the assemblages apart from Area H where it is lower.

It is also on the north side of the road that the late medieval oxidised wares (15th-16th century) are best represented, particularly in Areas D2 and E. The majority of this group were made in Wednesbury. Midlands Purple wares (15th-16th century) of uncertain source (Fabrics 4A, 4B and 4D) are also more common on the north side of the road and the same is true of cistercian ware.

Clearly, the interpretation of these data is affected by the different extent to which the areas to the north and south of the road were excavated. This has an impact on the full understanding of the ceramic development on the south side of the road. Nevertheless, it should be possible to compare the area assemblage totals overall to produce a workable chronology for each tenement and to assess the sources of pottery through time. Because all the assemblages are biased towards demolition deposits and topsoil, disturbance and residuality are likely to be a problem.

The first matter to consider is what were the available sources of pottery for the inhabitants of Burton Dassett. The Feldon itself was not a major producer of pottery, partly because it was prime agricultural land and partly because of the lack of fuel, particularly wood, with which to fire the kilns. The pottery was always, therefore, likely to travel some distance before it reached Burton Dassett, although it should be noted that there is a reference to Alice le Potter in the early 14th century at Knightcote (Gooder 1984, 5). If her wares reached Southend, it has not been possible to detect them.

Before the mid-13th century, producers of pottery could be found in Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire to the east and south-east and in Alcester to the west, Warwick to the north and Birmingham to the north-west. Pottery was also produced in the

vicinity of or possibly even in Coventry but to date no kilns have been located. It is only around the mid 13th century that pottery production began in Chilvers Coton in the Nuneaton area although it is possible that the B ware was made by the early 13th century. However, at this point pottery was still available from the other areas mentioned and in many cases eg Brill-Boarstall and Potterspury, pottery continued to be made for the lifetime of Burton Dassett and beyond. So the establishment of the Chilvers Coton industry, was not followed by a general decline in potential rivals for the Burton Dassett market and indeed the Chilvers Coton markets were challenged in the 15th century by the burgeoning pottery production at Wednesbury in South Staffordshire. It is against this backdrop that the relative proportions of pottery fabrics at Burton Dassett should be viewed.

Judging by the wares known to pre-date 1300, we can see that Areas H, I and K are the earliest plots. Few sherds were recovered from early 13th-century levels but the percentages of the earlier wares was such that a case could be made for occupation on the south side of the road in the 12th century, even if the excavated buildings associated with H, I and K cannot be proved to be of that date. Likewise the occurrence of 'early' wares on the north side of the road may indicate some low level occupation or land use before the late 13th-century plots were laid out, rather than indicate an unexpected longevity in some fabrics. Of Areas H, I and K, the earliest would seem to be H, followed a short time after by K and I. Their pottery came mainly from the E or SE Midlands and perhaps, rather surprisingly, from Birmingham, and to a lesser extent Coventry. Area J seems to be the latest plot but judging from the presence of early wares would still seem to pre-date the plots on the north side of the road.

The presence of Chilvers Coton C ware on the south side of the road indicates that the plots there were still actively used in the 14th century but the percentage of these wares is so low as to suggest that Area H barely limped on into the 15th century. If it did, then it would appear that the Area H dwellers were getting their pottery mainly from other sources. Areas I and K quickly followed suit. The presence of cistern (bung-hole jar) sherds in Area K is likely to indicate that Areas I and K were still functioning in the 15th century but the proportion of Chilvers Coton C ware, coupled with the insignificant amounts of 15th- to 16th-century wares suggests this cannot have been for long, despite the presence of a very small amount of cistercian ware dating to the end of the 15th century.

5. Form and function

This section discusses the range of vessel forms, their associated fabrics and their distribution across the plots (Area A, D1-F, H-K and W) and the significance of these. It must be remembered that pottery vessels may have had other uses than the nomenclature implies. The proportions of vessel forms by period can be seen in Figure 8.1.47 and by area in Figures 8.1.48 and 8.1.49. This section also includes studies of sooting patterns, drilled holes, internal deposits and the ratio of pottery to bone.

Forms, fabrics and chronology

The most commonly found forms at Burton Dassett were, unsurprisingly, cooking pot/jars, jugs and bowls, which occur from the earliest levels onwards. In general the trend is for the quantity of cooking pots to decrease with time. This vessel form, as the name implies, was used for cooking or for storage but it is quite possible that from time to time they had other uses. Jugs were the second most common form and slightly more common on the north side of the road.

Their primary function is for liquid storage or serving at table. However, jugs were found which had sooted bases indicating that they were used for heating liquids or another culinary purpose.

Bowls, the third most common vessel type, are a 'multi-functional' form and can be used for food preparation, cooking (heavily sooted examples are known from Warwickshire and South Staffordshire) and dairying.

Other forms which occur on the site are pipkins, cisterns, cups, bottles, dripping dishes or shallow dishes, condiment and one chafing dish. These latter forms do not form a significant part of the

	Early 13c	Later 13c	Early 14c	14c	Later 14c	Early 15c	Later 15c	Medieval	Post med/ Topsoil	Total	No
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Cooking pot/Jar	80.0	79.5	65.0	61.9	62.9	58.3	48.1	80.0	59.0	56.3	1107
Pipkin	-	-	5.0	-	-	1.6	1.7	-	0.9	1.3	25
Jug	5.0	4.5	20.0	21.4	16.1	19.0	24.8	20.0	20.2	20.9	411
Cistern	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	1.2	-	0.5	0.7	14
Flask	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	0.1	1
Bottle	-	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.2	-	-	0.1	2
Bowl	15.0	15.9	5.0	16.7	17.7	19.0	13.3	-	16.7	15.9	312
Dish	-	-	5.0	-	-	0.3	-	-	-	0.1	2
Dripping dish	-	-	-	-	1.6	0.5	0.9	-	0.3	0.6	11
Condiment	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	0.1	1
Cup	-	-	-	-	1.6	0.5	9.2	-	1.9	3.9	77
Chamber pots	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	1
Counter	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.3	-	0.3	0.2	4
No	**20**	**44**	**20**	**42**	**62**	**384**	**649**	**5**	**742**		**1968**

(* Candlestick, lid and chafing dish body/base sherds found in later 15th-century contexts)

Figure 8.1.47: Vessel type by period by percentage rim count

	A	*D1*	*D2*	*E*	*F*	*BCG*	*H*	*I*	*W*	*J*	*K*	*LMN*	*Total*	***No***
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Cooking pot/Jar	53.9	47.6	45.2	43.5	57.1	71.4	66.2	57.1	56.8	66.3	59.7	40.6	56.3	**1107**
Pipkin	3.9	2.4	0.9	3	2	-	0.2	-	2.3	2.5	0.8	-	1.3	**25**
Jug	25.3	23.8	23.4	32.1	26.5	7.1	15.1	21.2	22.7	15	17.8	28.1	20.9	**411**
Cistern	-	-	2.2	1.2	-	7.1	-	1.8	0.8	-	-	-	0.7	**14**
Flask	-	-	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	**1**
Bottle	-	-	0.3	-	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	**2**
Bowl	13	19	12	10.1	14.3	14.3	17.9	17.6	12.1	16.3	20.3	31.25	15.9	**312**
Dish	-	-	-	0.6	-	-	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	**2**
Dripping dish	0.6	1.2	-	1.8	-	-	0.2	1.2	0.8	-	0.8	-	0.6	**11**
Condiment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6	-	-	-	-	0.1	**1**
Cup	2.6	5.6	15.7	7.7	-	-	-	0.6	1.5	-	0.4	-	3.9	**77**
Chamber pot	0.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.1	**1**
Counter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	0.2	**4**
No	**154**	**84**	**325**	**168**	**49**	**14**	**524**	**170**	**132**	**80**	**236**	**32**		**1968**

(* Candlestick (E6) , lid (A5) and chafing dish (E6) body/base sherds also found)

Figure 8.1.48: Vessel type by area by percentage rim count

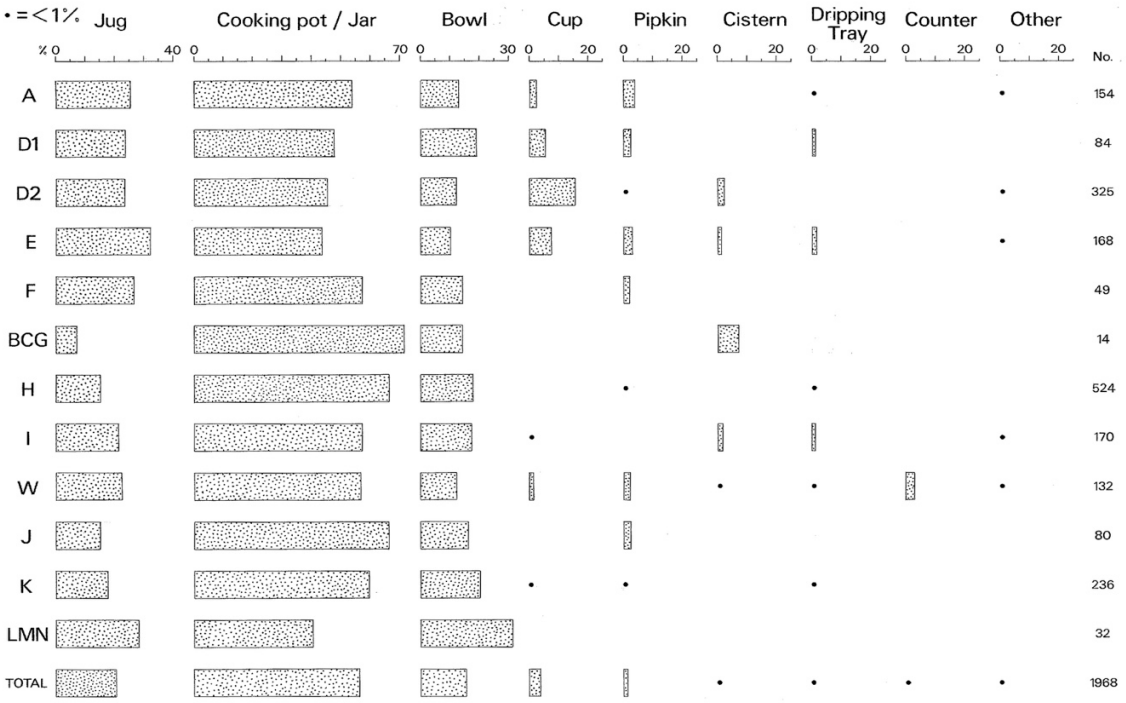

Figure 8.1.49: Vessel type proportions by area

assemblage, although there is a scattering of them in every area. Areas E and D2 stand out as having the greatest number of these less common forms.

Pipkins are the medieval equivalent of saucepans, usually of small capacity. The earliest occurrence of this form is in Phase E3 (early 14th-century) followed by Phase A3 (14th-century). The remaining examples come from 15th-century contexts. The form itself occurs in the 13th century in other areas of the country (Pearce *et all* 1985) and its apparently late occurrence at Burton Dassett may simply reflect the preponderance of late contexts or it is possible that the occupants of Burton Dassett were in general flourishing in the 15th century and hence were able to improve both their diet and cooking methods. It is not always possible to distinguish between pipkins and cooking pot/jars and on occasion bowls. This means that this form is possibly under-represented.

Shallow dishes and dripping dishes occurred from the early-14th century onwards but, like pipkins, were most commonly found in 15th-century contexts. Dripping dishes are indicators of prosperity since they show not only that meat was eaten but that it was prepared in a 'high-status' way, roast meats being considered better fare than boiled flesh. However, this does presuppose that vessels were used for the function for which they were made.

The form which was found at the very end of the history of the site was the bottle. Many examples occurred in topsoil and 15th-century demolition levels. They were not found in Areas A, D1, F and J and were most frequent in Areas E and D2. Ceramic bottles are shown in use in the 14th-century Luttrell Psalter ((BL *Add MS 42130 f207v*, reproduced in Black, 1993, 96). Here a cook's assistant is seen pouring liquid from a small bottle into saucers, suggesting that bottles had a culinary use and contained oil, vinegar or verjuice, a mixture thereof or another condiment to enhance the meal.

Cisterns (also known as bung-hole jars) do not seem to occur before the 15th century and are found in the later fabrics such as late Chilvers Coton, Wednesbury-type ware and Midlands Purple. There is an anomalous early occurrence of this form in Phase A3 (14th-century) but as this was in a ditch fill, contamination is the likely cause. Cisterns were more common on the north side of the road.

Cisterns were used for the storage of liquids, possibly ones that contained a certain amount of sediment or surface scum, hence the bung-hole. The cisterns are usually found with ceramic cups, as at Burton Dassett, and it is logical to conclude that they are connected with the consumption of ale and other drinks. It is possible that ale was drawn from the barrel into cisterns but there are aspects of their condition when found that do not sit entirely at ease with this interpretation. Cisterns are often sooted and they also often have an internal white deposit, possibly limescale, although it does not always react with hydrochloric acid. Both of these, suggest that the cistern was not *always* used for the storage of ale. Some possibilities present themselves. Were the cisterns used for preparing a stronger brew, preparing the ale-barm or making a decoction to flavour ale or mead? There are 17th-century recipes in 'The Closet of Sir Kenelm Digby' (1669; Macdonell 1910) that suggest this is plausible. The occurrence of cisterns in and around the brewhouse in Area E might also indicate something similar.

Cups were only found in 15th-century contexts. Green-glazed Brill and Tudor Green-type cups were found mainly to the south of the road in the later phases and topsoil. To the north side of the road, although 'Tudor Green' type cups were present, the majority of cups were in cistercian ware (see below).

Figure 8.1.50 Pottery vessel type proportions for major fabrics

Figure 8.1.50 shows the proportions of vessel type in the major fabrics. It can be seen that shelly Fabrics F19 and F17 were dominated by bowls and cooking pots, whereas the very fine calcareous fabric F16 was mainly made up of jugs and cooking pots. The majority of Chilvers Coton A wares were made up of jugs. This may be because a white firing clay produced better or more attractive glaze colours, particularly when copper was added to the lead glaze. As one would expect, the finer fabrics such as Potterspury (F2) and Brill-Boarstall (F6) contained a high proportion of jugs. Later fabrics such as Chilvers Coton D (F4C) and Wednesbury fabric F30 contained a larger than average quantity of jugs.

Spatial distribution of vessels

This section attempts to link occurrences of various vessel forms with the functional use of different areas of the plots. There are many reasons to believe that the pottery from the tenement plots was disturbed, often very disturbed. It is salutary to note that a Roman coin of Magnentius (Seaby,

below) was found in D25 (dating to the mid to late 15th century). It was therefore difficult to examine in detail the chronological trends in pottery use, even more so on the southern side of the road where so much pottery was residual. Evidence from the cross-joins (below) also indicated some disturbance of spatial patterning.

Cisterns, pipkins, dishes, dripping dishes and bottles

Given the general higher concentration of pottery in Area H than in other areas to the south of the road, the paucity of the more unusual forms may suggest a simpler, less sophisticated style of living especially in comparison to the north side of the road. However, as we have seen above, Area H is also the plot that from the pottery evidence appears to have an earlier history than the other properties or at the very least is anomalous, and went out of use the earliest. The area may have one of the largest groups of pottery but that group contains a disproportionately higher percentage of earlier wares. The *floruit* of Area H may, then, have simply taken place at a time when more specialised vessel forms were not used.

Area I and the 'waterhole' (Area W) had the greatest density of different forms on the south side of the road. Some at least of the vessels in the waterhole must have derived from the destruction of Area I. Area I/W was the only area to the south of the road which contained cisterns (three to the rear of the tenement and one in the waterhole).

To the north of the road the picture was more varied. Area D2 and Area E produced the greatest number of bottles, dripping dishes, pipkins and cisterns. In Area D2 cistern sherds were found in D26 floor 1203 and in a scatter to the south-west of the D2 house. There was also another cistern in the D26 floor 1130 at the opposite end of the house. The distribution is much the same as that for cistercian ware (see below).

Two bottles were found in D26 floor levels, (1197) and (1210) which were in the hall and entrance passage respectively, rather than in an area associated with cooking.

In Area E a dripping dish was found in a pit (1683) within the central area of the E3 house and presumably represents its use there. Layer 909 in the eastern extension to the house is of interest. The layer is described as a levelling layer, the upper section of which made up the floor to the extension. Four hundred and thirty sherds weighing 3741g came from this context. This seems too many to have just been accidentally incorporated into the material used for levelling and certainly too many for a floor that was in use. Allowing for the fact that some of the very small sherds were already in the clay before it was laid, it seems more than likely that the remaining pottery represents sherds from pots broken *in situ* and sherds from demolition. As such it is not unreasonable to assume that the late pottery found in 909 does actually represent what was used in the extension. Sherds from two cisterns, two pipkins and two bottles were found in 909 and two further cisterns occurred in the destruction rubble over the same area.

Area F produced three pipkins, from an F4 gully fill context (1405). This presumably reflects that a kitchen was nearby. Two jugs and two cooking pots were found with the pipkins. The group from gully 1405 was of interest in that it contained large sections of vessels, weighing 500g+ and may represent a primary deposition. If so then this fill was not subjected to the usual disturbance seen elsewhere on the site.

Bowls

On the south side of the road most of the bowls came from topsoil or demolition levels, so it was difficult to draw conclusions about the function of areas within each plot: the greatest concentration

was in Area H, in the area west of the house, on either side of wall 2032. There was a lean-to shed against the house in this area from H3 and it is possible the bowls were associated with dairying here but the evidence is very thin.

On the north side of the road there were more stratified examples of bowls but there was no very clear picture of distribution and usage.

Jugs

In general, on the south side of the road, the areas where pottery was most dense were also the areas where most jugs were found, a situation that made the interpretation of the bowl distribution difficult also (above).

The fewest number of jugs were found in Area D1; in fact jugs here formed a smaller percentage than on any other tenement. There were no jugs to the south of building D1 but this building is odd in many respects, the pottery merely confirms it. It is noticeable that the occurrence of jugs was more localised in Area E than in Area D2 and that they were found almost exclusively to the rear of the house.

Jug sherds were associated with stone lined pits in Area A5, (110), Area D24 (1288) and Area E5 (1653). The Area A pit contained a substantial section of a Midland Purple jug which may have been connected with the function of the pit or just have been discarded there when the pit was no longer used. A fairly large, 165g, Midlands Purple jug sherd was also found in the D2 pit, its size suggests that it is contemporary with the disuse of the feature. A Midlands Purple jug sherd was also the largest of three sherds found in the E5 pit. Other sherds in the pits were infrequent and small. Each pit contained a small sherd that was clearly residual and one or two further undiagnostic sherds that could have been contemporary with the Midlands Purple. The fact that the disuse of all three pits was associated with part of a Midlands Purple jug seems unlikely to be a coincidence but whether it indicates that such jugs were integral to the function of the tanks is moot..

Cistercian Ware Cups

Cistercian ware is generally thought to have been first manufactured in the second half of the 15th century. Woodland (1981) suggested a start date *c*1450 but evidence from Sandal Castle (Brears 1983) suggests that cistercian ware is likely to have been in circulation from the 1480s. In Warwickshire a similar date also seems likely at the Whitefriars, Coventry and in Warwickshire and Staffordshire there has been no compelling evidence to suggest that this needs to be revised. In this report, therefore cistercian ware is assumed to have started being made c. 1475/80 and to have been superseded in the mid- to late-16th century by blackware.

The earliest occurrence of cistercian ware was in D24, in an ashy layer associated with hearth 1275, originally thought to date to the early to mid-15th century. There is no reason to believe that this sherd belongs in a context of this date and subsequent archaeomagnetic work on the deposit has given a date in keeping with the usual cistercian ware dating. The evidence in Figure 8.1.52 shows that cistercian ware first appears on the north side of the road in Phase 5 in Areas A, D1, E and F, in the mid- to late-15th century, although it is still infrequent in areas A, E and F at that time. Phase 5 represents the final occupation of tenements A and D1, Phase 6 for D2, E and F. The dating is rather based on the assumption that all the properties were abandoned and demolished before the enclosures instigated by Edward Belknap at the end of the 15th century, although it is not necessarily the case that all the extant properties in Southend were dismantled or demolished at exactly the same time as the enclosures took place. Some may have survived for a number of years (C Dyer,pers comm). On the south side of the road cistercian ware

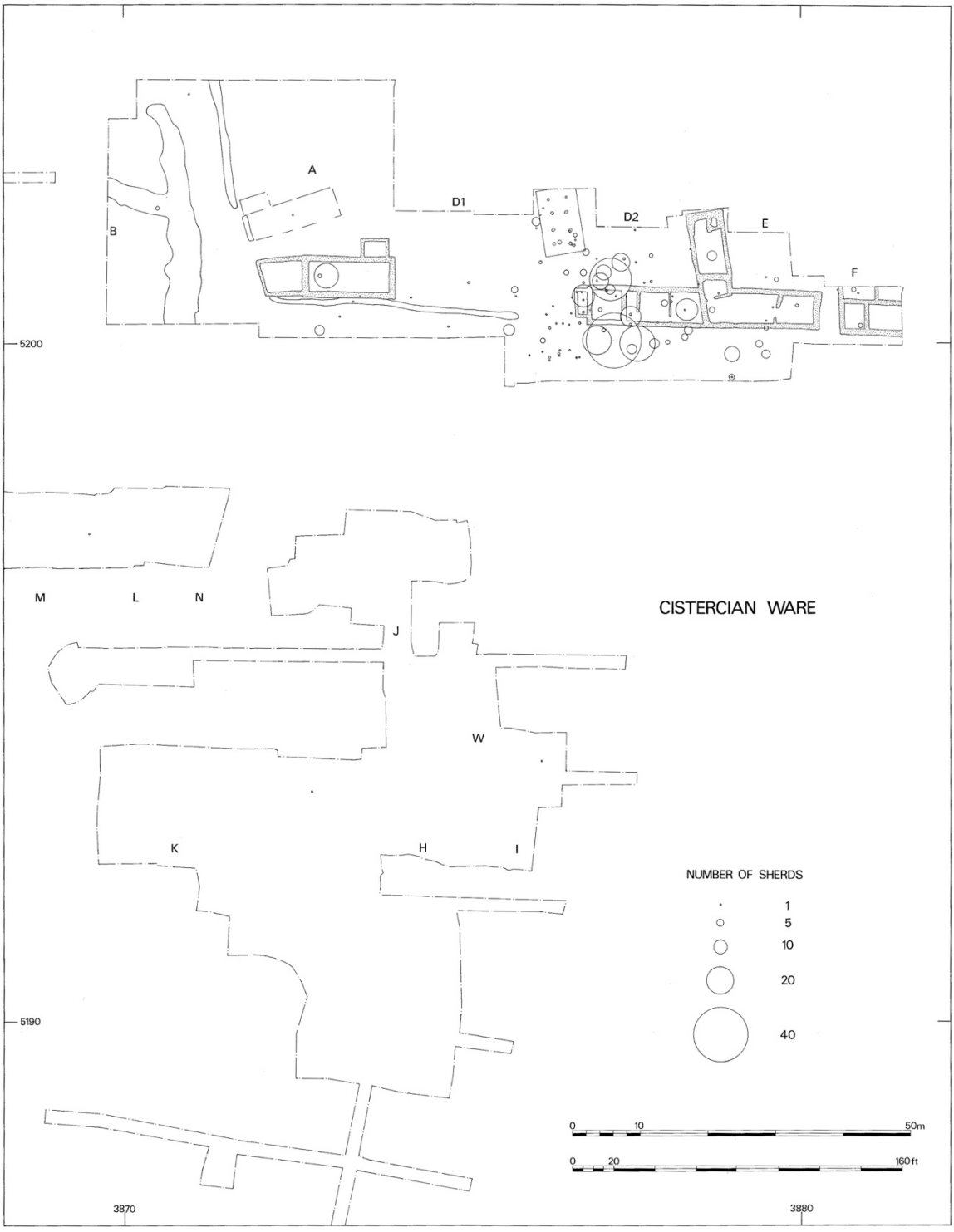

Figure 8.1.51: Cistercian ware distribution

is noticeable by its near absence. A single sherd was found in I5 in a demolition deposit and a second sherd in K6 topsoil. A third sherd was found in LMN topsoil. Cistercian ware was entirely absent from H, J and W. It could be argued that the south side of the road was abandoned before the use of cistercian ware and that the sherds there were stray finds, rather than deriving from their use in the areas in which they were found. It is highly unlikely that the houses on the south side of the road were occupied when cistercian ware was in use.

Area / Phase	count	weight	asw	mv	rim %
A5	3	3	1		
A6	4	24	6		
A8	25	52	2.08	3	21
B2	1	3	3		
B3	3	12	4		
D15	25	174	6.96	6	68
D16	1	6	6		
D17	27	102	3.77	3	
D24	1	2	2		
D25	28	206	7.35	7	72
D26	211	**1581**	7.49	33	246
D27	64	210	3.28	5	54
D28	208	**1231**	5.91	6	99
E5	1	2	2		
E6	9	62	6.88	1	
E7	26	60	2.3	3	50
E8	12	43	3.58	1	
F5	1	1	1		
F7	6	44	7		
I5	1	5	5		
K6	1	5	5		
L3	1	7	7		
Z1	2	12	6	1	10
Z2	17	199	11.7	1	
Z4	14	61	4.35	2	
Z5					
Total	**692**	**4107**	**5.93**	**72**	**620**

Figure 8.1.52: Cistercian ware by area and phase (asw = average sherd weight; mv – minimum number of vessels represented by rim count)

Cistercian ware was most common in Phase D26 and then in the topsoil Phase D28, where the sherds have clearly been subject to trample, plough damage and further breakage. Area D1 had the second largest quantity, although this is also likely to have derived from Area D2. Cistercian ware is generally found as thin walled vessels such as cups and is prone to breaking into small sherds. It is therefore noticeable that average sherd weights of around 7g seen in D15, D25, D26 and E6 are actually quite impressive; the average sherd weight of more than 11g seen in the field-walked pottery from Area Z2 is even more unusual.

The distribution of cistercian ware will in part reflect the dates at which the properties were abandoned; thus, the evidence seems to show that the south of the road was out of commission earlier than the north side, a picture reinforced by the relative quantities of some of the other ceramics. However, it is also necessary to consider the functional, social and economic aspects of cistercian ware and its use. This will be discussed more fully further on but, in essence, it would be unwise to assume that the much higher quantity of cistercian ware in D2 indicates that this property was necessarily the last one to go out of use or that this was at the very end of the 15th century.

Distribution (horizontal stratigraphy and context types)

By whatever method of quantification is used, more than three-quarters of the cistercian ware from the north side of the road came from Area D2 (figure 8.1.53). If the quantification for areas D1 and

D2 is combined then anything from 86% to 92% of the total amount of cistercian ware from the site is probably associated with the occupants of D2. That is an impressive figure, particularly if all the properties on the north side of the road were demolished in the late 15th century ie at a time when *all* of the occupants could have had access to cistercian ware.

	count	weight	mv	%
Area A	**5.00%**	**2.00%**	**4.00%**	**3.00%**
Area E	**7.00%**	**4.00%**	**7.00%**	**8.00%**
Area D2	**78.00%**	**85.00%**	**75.00%**	**77.00%**
Combined D1/D2	**86.00%**	**92.00%**	**88.00%**	**88.00%**

Figure 8.1.53: Relative proportion of cistercian ware by area

When the distribution of cistercian ware is examined by area and context type (figure 8.1.54), it can be seen that it was often the case that more than 50% of the sherds (by count) from an area came from topsoil; this was not, however, manifest if the sherds were quantified by sherd weight, especially in the case of those areas that had the highest weight/count, namely, in descending order, Areas D2, D1 and E.

	percentage sherd count			
Context Description	**A**	**D1**	**D2**	**E**
Feature fills	3.13%	39.62%	3.52%	
Layers/Floors	28.13%	5.66%	8.59%	20.83%
Hearths			0.79%	
Rubble	3.13%	1.89%	33.01%	18.75%
Walls			2.15%	
Demolition	9.38%		11.91%	35.42%
Ploughsoil/Land drain		1.89%	3.13%	2.08%
Topsoil	56.25%	50.94%	36.91%	22.92%
	percentage sherd weight			
Context Description	**A**	**D1**	**D2**	**E**
Feature fills	1.27%	59.57%	5.85%	
Layers/Floors	30.38%	1.42%	3.03%	10.71%
Hearths			0.15%	
Rubble	1.27%	2.13%	46.39%	36.90%
Walls			0.62%	
Demolition	21.52%		6.28%	26.79%
Ploughsoil/Land drain		0.71%	1.76%	3.57%
Topsoil	45.57%	36.17%	35.90%	22.02%

Figure 8.1.54: Occurrence of cistercian ware by area and context type

Overall only just over 8% by weight of the cistercian ware came from feature fills, not including just over 2% from robber trenches (classed here as demolition material). Demolition deposits accounted for just over 7% although the percentage by sherd count was over 12% indicating the greater amount of breakage associated with demolition. This difference between the two methods of quantification is also apparent in the percentages for pottery from layers or floor surfaces, and for the same reason. By far the greatest amount of cistercian ware came from rubble spreads and surfaces. This is not exactly what would be expected nor is the fact that the group percentage is higher by weight rather than count. This would tend to suggest that once the cistercian ware sherds were incorporated in or deposited on the rubble they were not subjected to foot traffic, trample or other disturbance that caused further breakage. This is an important observation if we are to make sense of the distribution patterns.

However, within these general trends there were marked differences between the areas but of course it must be borne in mind that the data is skewed by the fact that so much more cistercian

ware came from D2 compared to the other areas. In Area D1, cistercian ware sherds were more likely to come from feature fills or topsoil contexts. In Area A, an admittedly small number of sherds were found mainly in layers, topsoil or demolition. In Area E no cistercian sherds were found in feature fills; by weight most sherds were found on the rubble surfaces, particularly those to the south of the house, and in demolition deposits and topsoil. The picture is slightly different if the pottery is quantified by sherd count. In this case most of the cistercian ware comes from demolition deposits. In Area D2 the picture is different again and given the fact that most of the cistercian ware sherds come from this area the data may reflect most accurately what context type is most associated with this type of pottery. To this end the data from D25 and D26 were examined in more detail, representing as they do, the final occupation of the house and its tenement. Only 28 cistercian sherds came from D25 and these were mainly found to the north-west or west of the house. Three sherds were found within the easternmost part of the house; one from floor surface 1134 and two from a burnt area 1194. The sherds were mainly very small and it may be safe to assume that most of the sherds are intrusive since they were found immediately below D26 layers and rubble where cistercian ware was most frequently encountered. Cistercian ware from barn postholes 654 and 589 probably entered the fills when the barn was being dismantled before the building of a new (and final) barn. A substantial 142g cup sherd Fig. 8.1.14, 33 was found in a rubble fill of drip gully section 1245. The gully lay beneath the extensive rubble surface 1174 and the cup may have been one of the final vessels to have been discarded into the gully before alterations to the D2 house in D26.

By the period of D26 (figure 8.1.55) cistercian ware was found mainly to the south of the house particularly rubble layers 695, 712 and 882, i.e. predominantly towards the western part of the rubble surface. A second 'hot spot' was the rubble surface to the north of the house, especially 1174 and overlying layer 1214. In the house itself, 16 cistercian ware sherds were found in floor 1130, at the eastern end of the building. Their average sherd weight was c.2g and it is quite possible that these small sherds do actually represent breakages within the room. More sherds came from floors 1197 and 1210; a Tudor Green-type cup sherd was also found in the latter. Only two sherds were associated with the barn (563 and 566) and just one with gully 1172. It is noticeable that although cistercian ware sherds were concentrated in the eastern part of the house, outside the house sherds were most frequent to the south and west; those found to the north of the house were also more frequent away from the eastern section of the house. It is possible that the cistercian sherds from 695 were thrown from an upper storey at the western end of the house. Given the shallowness of the deposits to the front and rear of the houses it is always going to be difficult to differentiate between material associated with the final occupation and material occurring as part of the abandonment and demolition process. There was a distinct grouping of cisterns (bung-hole jars) and of jugs in this area. The group of jugs, cisterns and cups does have the look of a clearance, possibly from an upper storey room rather than a gradual accumulation. The impression of a clearance is re-inforced by the number of metal artefacts (see below) that were found in D26-D28. It is usually the case that metal objects were re-cycled (Quita Mould, *pers comm*) even in affluent households.

Distribution - average sherd weight

One other aspect of the cistercian ware sherds reflects the taphonomy of Area D26. The general trend is for cistercian sherds to be small; this is partly because a fine-bodied, hard-fired ware like cistercian ware is predisposed to shatter into small fragments and partly reflects the type of deposit in which the pottery was found eg within a floor surface, where small fragments from breakages are less likely to have been swept out of the room in which they occurred. So within the house the average sherd weight was fractionally over 2g. Likewise sherds from the vicinity of the barn were not only small but few in number because they represent redeposited material, well away from the area in which the cistercian ware was used. It is something of a surprise, therefore, to find substantial sherds (eg Fig. 8.1.16, 63-4, 68) on a rubble surface to the rear of the house where maximum disturbance and trample might have been expected, unless this surface was partly

ASSOCIATED WITH BARN		
563/02	1	1
566/02	1	1
Count/Weight	***2***	***2***
NORTH OF THE HOUSE		
924	13	27
925	3	3
935	1	13
1173	2	6
1174	31	531
1181	1	1
1211	2	12
1214	12	101
1246	1	2
Count/Weight	***50***	***666***
GULLY NORTH OF HOUSE		
1172/03	1	2
SOUTH OF THE HOUSE		
684/01	1	1
695	41	374
697	7	22
710/01	7	6
712	26	236
807	5	6
880	3	11
882	21	156
946	1	7
1209	2	6
Count/Weight	***114***	***825***
THE HOUSE		
993/03	2	12
1130	16	33
1197	5	7
1210	2	2
1212	2	2
Count/Weight	***27***	***56***

Figure 8.1.55: D26 - Distribution of cistercian ware

composed of demolition material. Even to the south of the house, rubble surface 695, for example, contained substantial sherds as well as the more expected smaller sherds; the latter were very much in the majority, however.

Interpretation

There is no foolproof way to test the hypothesis that the difference in the quantity of cistercian ware in each north side area is due to anything other than chronology but looking at the animal bone evidence, Hamilton (Part 2 Section 8.20) believes that the faunal remains indicate that D1/D2 and E were the most prosperous; given that in the final phases D1 was probably part of D2, this means, in effect, that D2 and E were the most prosperous. In many respects diet is a better indicator of prosperity or status than ceramics. However we can see that the relative proportion of cistercian ware within the pottery of each Phase Group (figure 8.1.56) indicates that those areas deemed

most prosperous are also those that have greater proportions of cistercian ware. There is not an exact match with the faunal remains because Hamilton suggests that Area E was the most prosperous of all and clearly Area D2 is exceptional in the proportion of cistercian ware. Does this mean that D2 was the last area to be occupied? It would not be unusual or unlikely that those plots and houses that survived longest would also become more prosperous as their rivals and neighbours failed and new opportunities to acquire more land or property opened up. If other categories of finds are examined, items such as metal cooking vessels, kitchen equipment, pewter spoons and rosary beads are very much associated with Areas D2 and E but not with Area A - only a small amount of Area F, insufficient for meaningful comparisons to be made, was excavated. It would appear that Area A was from at least the 15th century, rather less prosperous than Areas D2 and E, or rather had less disposable income with which to buy the variety of goods which were much more a feature of the 15th century; this influx of useful commodities and geegaws is particularly noticeable in towns (pers. comm. Quita Mould *pers comm*) but also, it seems, paralleled at Burton Dassett. By the later 15th century those living in Areas E and D2 probably enjoyed much the same material culture as those living in towns. Edward Belknap is said to have escaped being fined for his enclosures because the remaining settlement flourished as a result (VCH 1949, 69-77); Areas D2 and E may suggest that there may have been some truth in this.

Phase	Count	Weight
A5	0.31%	0.03%
A6	1.11%	0.60%
A8	2.24%	0.52%
D15	1.96%	1.26%
D16	1.92%	1.23%
D17	2.33%	0.94%
D24	0.13%	0.02%
D25	4.69%	3.08%
D26	7.28%	3.33%
D27	11.47%	5.15%
D28	12.44%	9.49%
E5	0.15%	0.03%
E6	0.34%	0.17%
E7	1.79%	0.48%
E8	17.39%	5.76%
F5	0.35%	0.04%
F7	4.72%	4.34%

Figure 8.1.56: Proportion of cistercian ware by Phase Group

One of the things commonly observed in urban assemblages in Warwickshire and South Staffordshire is cistercian ware. Clearly this is partly a fashion but also reflects a change in lifestyle, with a greater emphasis on drinking vessels - including Rhenish stonewares - and table wares as food and drink consumption became more formalised - hitherto the prerogative of the wealthy and aristocratic - amongst the lower orders. We have seen that in the second half of the 15th century there was little to choose in terms of material comforts and fashion between the people living in Areas D2 and E and the middling to prosperous urban types but could there be another reason for the abundance of cistercian ware in D2? The first thing to consider is that it is not certain whether

D2 outlived E. Is it possible that the two areas pooled their resources to some extent? There is definite archaeological evidence for brewing taking place in the ancillary building to House E, yet surprisingly there is nothing like the quantity of cistercian ware in Area E as seen in D2. Nevertheless there is the lingering possibility that brewing and the large quantity of cistercian cups in Area D are somehow linked. This could be the result of some purely domestic arrangement or could perhaps suggest some small enterprise selling ale to passing trade or travellers. It is unfortunate that although there is an ever increasing body of knowledge about assemblages from inns and taverns, especially from London, evidence for earlier centuries is difficult to come by.

Inns, taverns and ale-houses are usually associated with quite distinct assemblages, the most obvious aspect of which is the marked presence of vessels for the consumption and storage of drinks. In D2 and E this criterion is met because not only are there large quantities of pottery cups, but cisterns (bung-hole jars) were most commonly found in D2 and E (see Form and Function). However, depending on the type of establishment, other types of vessel might be expected such as those for serving food at table and for its consumption. There is certainly a greater variety of ceramic vessel forms commensurate with the provision of better quality food, a picture that is reinforced by cast metal cooking pots, a skimmer and pewter spoons. In the case of work done on later taverns and alehouses, the identification of the drinking established has been aided by cartographic and other documentary evidence. At Burton Dassett there is no such evidence to help decide whether the D2 house was the residence of a prosperous family or a tavern; indeed it is not inconceivable that a prosperous family might from time to time be also purveyors of ale.

In the West Midlands, the use of cistercian ware in quantity appears not to be a feature of the rural environment. Cisterican ware is routinely found in an urban setting such as at Coventry (Rátkai forthcoming b), Birmingham (Rátkai 2009a), Stafford (Ford 1995) and Lichfield (Rátkai 2004a), at castle sites, such as Stafford (Rátkai 2007a), Dudley (personal inspection by author), Weoley Castle (Rátkai 2011), to name but a few, and of course ecclesiastical sites from where the ware gets its name. It therefore appears as if the use of cistercian ware could be termed 'refined' in the most general sense and fashionable. Gaimster (1997, 126-9) suggests that the use of Rhenish stoneware became the *sine qua non* of bourgeois living in the 16th century and it is possible that the use of cistercian ware prefigured this. However, it would also be true to say that the greater part of archaeological excavation has taken place in towns, castles and monasteries and this may skew the picture in relation to the use of cistercian ware on rural sites. Nevertheless, it is hard not to see the use of ceramic cups as a major change in how people dined, especially as other cistercian ware products such as salts and chalices (or pedestal cups) suggest a market for those who were moving towards less communal and differently defined dining habits. Thus the average rural inhabitants remained more medieval in outlook, as it were, and one step behind their urban cousins. If so, the cistercian ware from Area D2 would be out of step with a rural settlement. From this it is possible to infer that Burton Dassett was, indeed, more than a very large village and that the cistercian ware from Area D2 rather than being the detritus from an alehouse is evidence of a certain quasi-urban component to Burton Dassett. It is certainly the case that were a pottery group similar to the one from D2 to be found in a town, then it would cause little undue comment and would not be automatically interpreted as indicating an alehouse. If we include the evidence from other artefact categories, it becomes plain that the last occupants of Area D2 were no ordinary people.

This brief study of the cistercian ware has demonstrated that the pattern of distribution reflects rather more than just the location of rubbish dumps and might in the case of the sherds from the D26 southern cobbled surface indicate a clearance deposit prior to demolition. Other evidence is indicative of cistercian ware being used within the eastern section of the D2 house. It was not, however, possible to establish whether the amount of cistercian ware from each property was chronologically sensitive or an indicator of differing social status. Finally the question of whether the large quantity of cistercian ware indicated a tavern is unresolved.

Drilled Holes, Sooting and Internal Deposits

Drilled holes

The term drilled holes, is used throughout this section to indicate a hole made in the body of the pot, after it has been fired.

There are 72 recorded examples of drilled holes and three instances of failed attempts at drilling. The majority of these occur in vessels found on the south side of the road and in particular in Area H. There are no examples from Area A. There are in total 42 stratified examples, the remainder were from the topsoil. There is no very obvious distribution pattern either chronologically or spatially. In general they do not occur stratigraphically much before the second half of the 14th century but 32 examples occur in fabrics which appear to be earlier than the 14th century. It is also noticeable that a high proportion, (relative to the total site assemblage), are found on fabrics from the south-east Midlands. Although the single greatest number of vessels with drilled holes occurs in Fabric 11, this is probably just a reflection of the greater overall quantity of this fabric.

The form most commonly containing drilled holes is the cooking pot/jar followed by bowls and then jugs. Some of the holes must be for repairs, although no iron or lead rivets been found *in situ* nor have there been any rivets recorded in the metal small finds. However, evidence from Wharram Percy (Le Patourel 1979, 106) shows without doubt that, quite ordinary vessels were repaired. Indeed, one can argue from the evidence from Burton Dassett that these repaired ceramics were of the work-a-day kind. Blackening of the breaks by the rivet holes may suggest the additional use of some sort of adhesive. About half of the holes look as if they had formed part of a repair or possible repair but this need not imply poverty or difficulty in obtaining ceramics. In the remaining cases it was not possible to establish the purpose of the holes.

It is also possible that some drilled holes served a functional purpose. For example a jug from Area K, context 2260, had a sizeable hole at shoulder level which was far too large to have formed a part of a repair. There are also two examples of notches cut into rims, on cooking pots (Area K 2109 and 2180, Area I 1946) and on a jug rim (Area I 1944). Suspension holes on wide mouthed bowls were noted.

Sooting

Sooting was recorded as accurately as possible. The main categories under discussion in this section are as follows (Figure 8.1.57):

Sooting types 3, 8 and 31 where the base is unsooted but sooting is visible from base angle upwards (type 3), from an inch or so above the base angle (type 8) or where sooting is visible in a distinct band a little above the base angle (type 31). These sooting patterns could be caused by a pot being set into charcoal or by one pot resting within another, rather like a modern double boiler or ‘bain marie’.

Sooting types 11 and 12 where a concentric area on the base (type 11) or on the base and above the base angle is left clean and unsooted on an otherwise blackened pot. This sooting type occurs on both flat and sagging bases. This pattern presumably indicates the use of a trivet and perhaps equally interestingly that in order that the sooting pattern should be preserved either the vessel was used only once and then discarded or else the same pots were habitually used on the trivet.

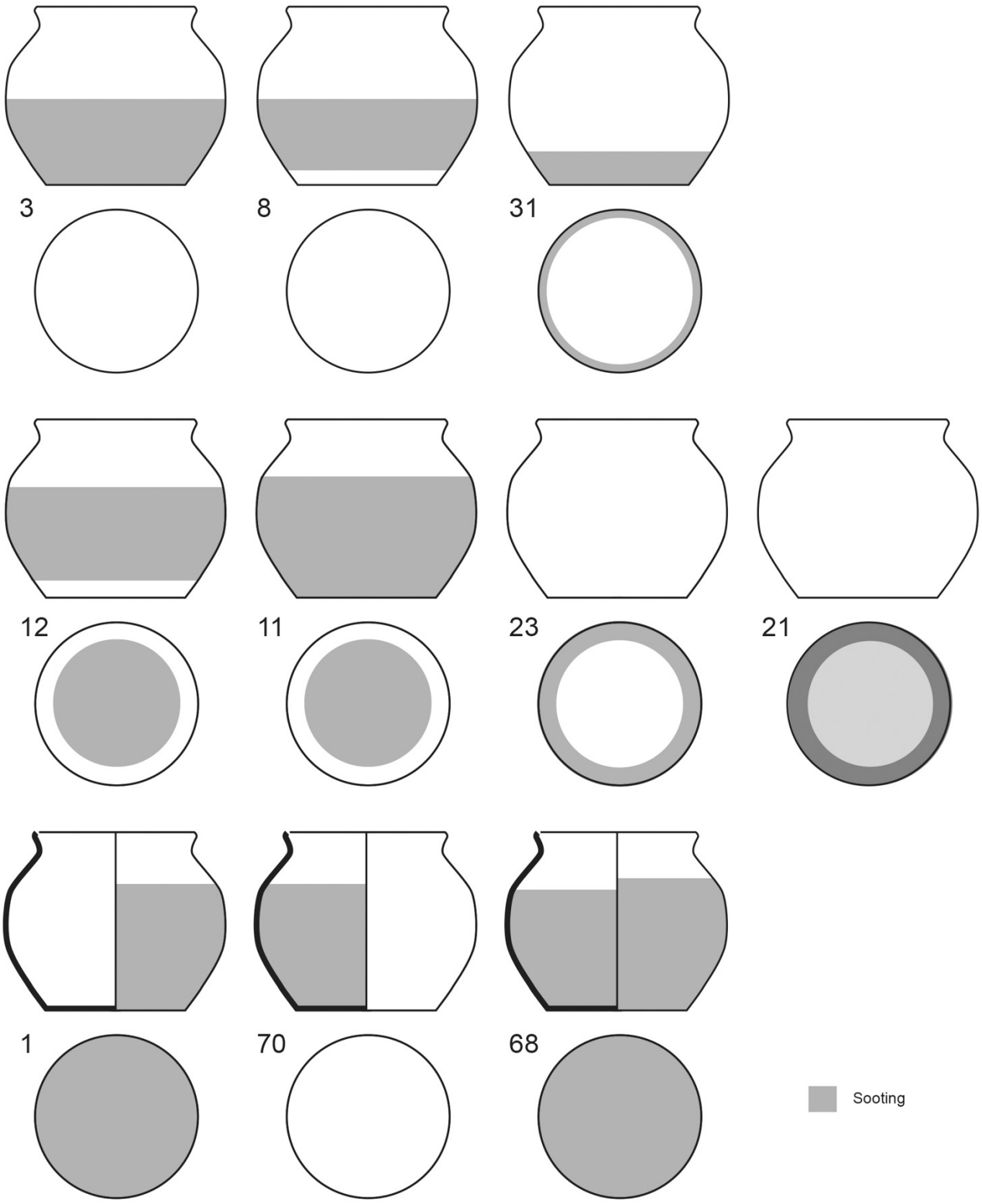

Figure 8.1.57 Sooting Patterns

Sooting types 21 and 23 occurs on the base of vessels only. The central area of the base is either unblackened (type 23) or slightly blackened (type 21) with an intensification of soot around the circumference of the base. The blackening or sooting is not present above the base angle.

In addition to these three groups there were three more general categories:

Sooting type 1, external sooting or blackening

Sooting type 70/71 internal blackening
Sooting type 68 internal and external blackening or (sooting) together

Obviously the greatest number of examples of sooting/blackening were classified as type 1. As would be expected the quantity of sooted vessels decreased with time, presumably as a result of a growing use of metal cookware and very few of the later, ie 15th-century fabrics showed signs of sooting. Examples of sooting types 68 and 70 were the next best represented, followed by type 21/23, then type 3/8/31 and the least represented was type 11/12.

Sooting types 3, 8 and 31

There are 24 examples in this category more or less equally spread between the north and south sides of the road. The base type for this type of sooting was usually slightly sagging although there were some flat bases also. There was one example of a jug and eight vessels had internal glaze; presumably they were bowls or pipkins. The earliest occurrence of this sooting type was the 13th century (Phase K1). However, most of the examples were found in 15th-century contexts although some of these were clearly residual. There was no particular concentration of these sooting types apart from in the area near the west extension in Area D2. If these sooting types represent a more specialised form of cooking then their occurrence here ties in with other evidence of prosperity already evidenced above.

Sooting type 11/12

There are only four examples of this type of sooting, two from Area H (Phases H2 and H7) and one each from Area A (from the topsoil) and Area I (Phase I3). Although this type of sooting is not common the evidence suggests it is early.

Sooting type 21/23

This type of sooting was found mainly on jugs, particularly balusters, although there were two pipkins showing the same sooting pattern. It is clear that these sooting patterns represent the heating of liquids over small hearths of the type found outside the main room/hall of the house. From the sooting it would appear that such a small hearth was heated usually by charcoal but sometimes by coal. The contents of a small tripod pipkin being heated in this way can be seen in a 14th-century manuscript of the Romance of Alexander (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, fig 48). One of the vessels has an internal white deposit, presumably limescale, whilst five others have a pale brownish internal deposit.

Most of the examples come from the north side of the road, in particular from Area D2 and E; there were no examples from Area A. On the south side of the road Area H had the greatest concentration (nine examples out of a total of eighteen). The earliest occurrence of this sooting type is in Phases F3 and E3, ie first half of the 14th century. Unfortunately there was no obvious type of context with which they were associated although there were two examples from floor levels in the D25 house (1202, D25 and 1203, D25-26) and four from layer/floor 909 in the eastern extension of House E6 (see above).

In general this sooting pattern appears to be a late phenomenon of the 14th and 15th centuries, and may in fact be mainly 15th-century.The spatial distribution on the south side formed no obvious pattern.

From the spatial distribution on the north side of the road, it is possible to suggest in which areas of Houses D2 and E liquids were heated up in jugs. It seems in general as though this type of sooting represents a small scale domestic practice, which generally occurred outside the main room/hall of the house. In Area E a group associated with the central area of the northern extension seems to have been associated with a function of the building. There was a malting kiln in the north-east corner of the building and it is possible given the other ceramic evidence from this area that brewing was carried on in this building and the sooted jugs may have been used for heating up water for the brewing process. If it seems unlikely that good quality jugs would have been used in this way, it is perhaps instructive to consider that one of the jugs so sooted (Figure 8.1.21, no E 61) also bore the traces of presumed rivet holes in the base, ie it had been repaired. Possible corroborating evidence for a more craft-based use can also be found in the occurrence of a similarly sooted vessel from Area K, associated with the granary. In short, although much of the evidence points to the rather refined culinary use of jugs to heat liquids on small hearths within smaller rooms in the house, nevertheless some of the evidence seems to point to a craft use eg brewing.

Sooting type 68

This is a more common sooting pattern. Where form could be definitely established, nine vessels with sooting type 68 were cooking pot/jars, five were wide-mouthed bowls and there was one bottle. However, as some examples are only represented by sherds it is not always possible to know whether the sooting occurred after breakage, ie has no significance as to the vessel's use. Likewise it can never be certain that sooting internally and externally occurred through a single use of a vessel, ie a vessel sooted by normal use on the outside may have been subsequently used for a different purpose and acquired its internal blackening or sooting. This sooting pattern was mainly found on the coarser or cooking pot fabrics. Other characteristics associated with sooting type 68 were as follows. Two vessels had drilled holes. Eighteen vessels were glazed internally and nineteen were glazed externally. Eight vessels had internal white deposits, two vessels a light brownish deposit and one vessel a black deposit. The combination of interior and exterior sooting/blackening and an internal deposit occurs most commonly on the south side of the road; the earliest occurrence is in H1.

Sooting type 70/71

There were 122 examples in this category (non-specific sooting on the interior) covering a wide range of fabrics although generally not the late medieval fabrics. It was mostly impossible to discern form from sherds sooted/blackened in this way but examples were found on cooking pot/jars, a jug, a dish and a bottle. Twenty four sherds were glazed externally and twelve were glazed internally. Three sherds had drilled holes. One vessel had internal soot and a shiny black deposit, this may be the result of keeping hot coals within a container. As with most of the sooting patterns discussed more examples came from the south of the road than the north, although the highest number came from Area E (21 examples) followed by Area D2 (20 examples).

The distribution pattern of this type of sooting revealed little on the south side of the road since examples were found mainly where the concentration of pottery was greatest overall. However, in Area I, the distribution of sooting type 70 (together with other sooted sherds or vessels from that area) suggest that the eastern half of the building was used for food preparation.

Internal deposits

Internal deposits were recorded according to colour eg white, light brownish, black. Some of these deposits reacted with dilute HCL but the majority did not. Most of the internal deposits were white or light coloured. There were 388 examples of internal deposits and these were more likely to be associated with later rather than earlier wares. Deposits were present on eight jugs, five bowls, two cooking pots/jars and one cup (quantification by rim count) other examples could not be assigned to a definite form. Thirty percent of the sherds with deposits were sooted.

Area E had the highest numbers of vessels with internal deposits of any area There were concentrations in the northern house extension (containing the brewhouse) and on the cobbled surfaces to the front and rear of the yard. It is possible that the examples from E were associated with brewing in some way.

Comparative distribution of pottery and bone

The south side of the road had relatively small amounts of bone. The waterhole area had a much higher proportion of bone to pot than average. The imbalance between the quantities of bone and pottery is most likely because comparatively little meat was consumed. There is also the possibility that animal bone and food waste was disposed of in a different fashion, e.g as scraps used for feeding pigs or the more substantial bones fashioned into pegs, toggles, handles and toys to name but a few.

In contrast to the above, both Area D2 and Area E had a ratio of more bone to pottery. In Area D2 bone and pottery were scattered thickly across most of the tenement, including the area of the barns. In Area E there was an equally large concentration of bone. As in Area D2, pottery and bone generally had the same foci. The areas in D2 and E with stone lined pits were relatively clear of bone and pottery, suggesting these were working areas and kept as clean as possible.

6. Cross-joining Sherds (Figures 8.1.58-59)

A great deal of time was spent on examining the material from the north side of the road for cross-joins. All cross-joins were recorded and each vessel or group of vessel parts was given a unique number. If the vessel was illustrated, the cross-joins were recorded under the original alphabetical drawing numbers (subsequently changed to a numeric system for the report). From the outset - with the benefit of hindsight - the fact that the *exact* location of the cross-joining sherds was not plotted, and indeed given the scale of the task and the level of technology available at the time, never could have been, there was a certain fuzziness in the proceedings, especially when sherds from extensive layers were involved.

The number of cross-joining sherds was quite substantial, some vessels being made up from sherds from a large number of contexts, often from different phases and sometimes from different areas. After excavation, a computerised system was available for plotting the cross-joins. Sherds which did not join but were definitely from the same vessel were also recorded and plotted. However, there was such a large number of cross-joins from Area D2 that it would not have been possible to plot them all together and see an understandable pattern. Consequently they were plotted according to various criteria eg by phase, cross-joins from within the house and areas outside the house, cross-joins between the rubble surfaces to the front of the house and elsewhere. The results can be seen in Figures 8.1.58, 4 and 8.1.59, 5-8. It was hoped that this would present a picture of rubbish disposal and dispersal in Area D2. However, it would be fair to say that even after plotting according to particular criteria there was such a welter of information that it was not easy to form a clear picture of what had happened on the site.

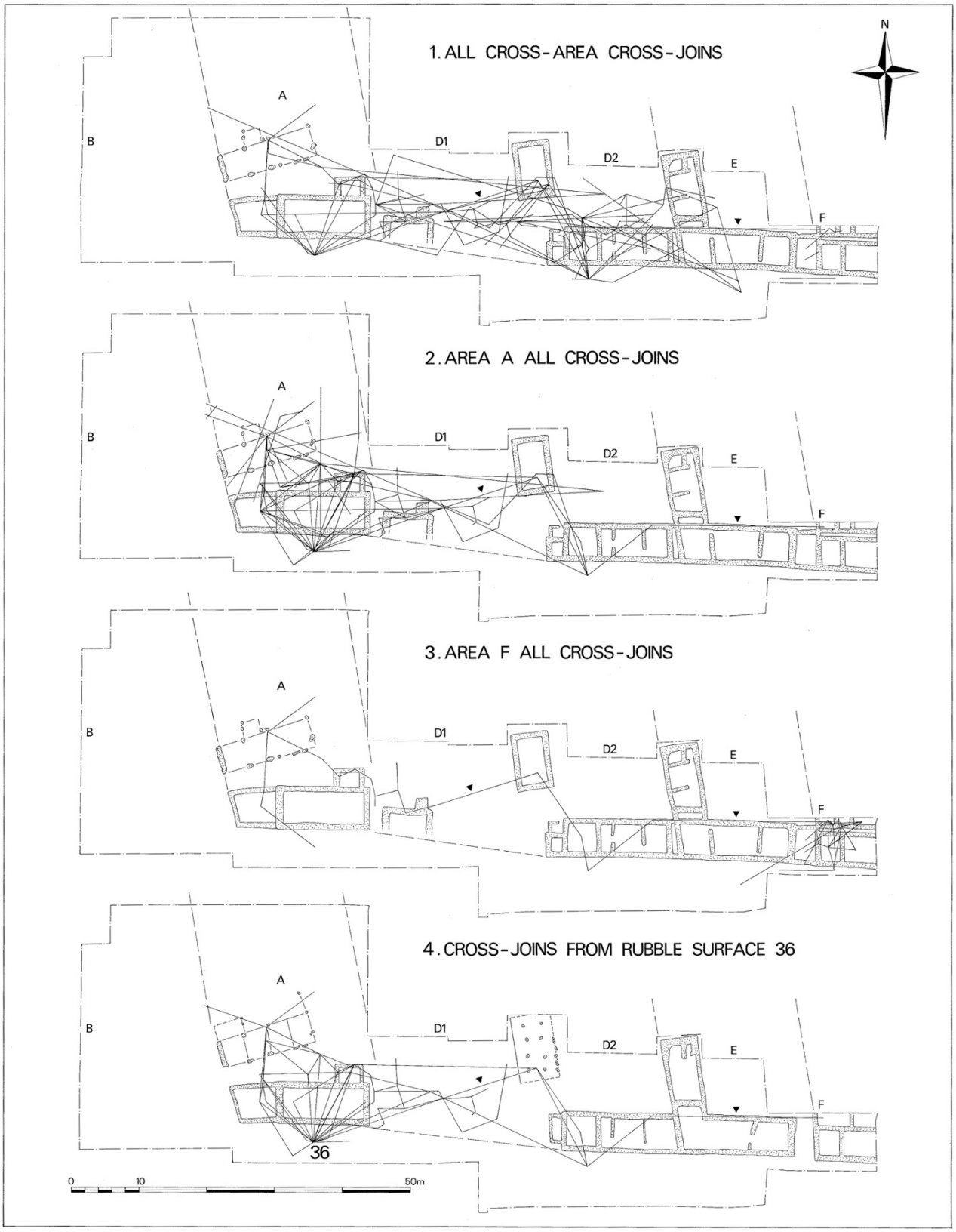

Figure 8.1.58
Cross-joining sherds 1-4

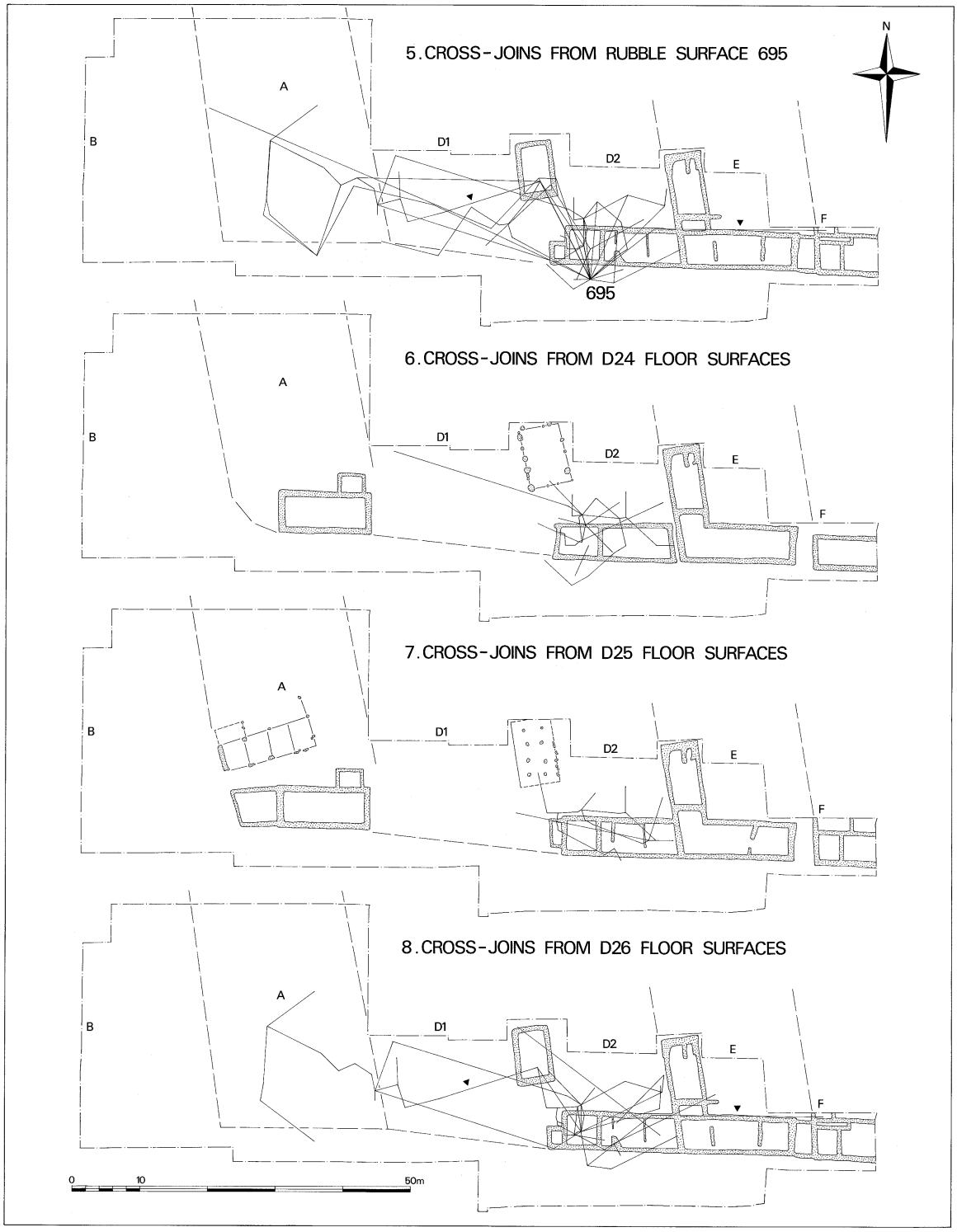

Figure 8.1.59
Cross-joining sherds 5-8

Cross-joins in Area A

In Area A there were 57 vessels formed from cross-joining sherds and 16 vessels made up of sherds which did not join. The main foci for cross-joining sherds were the rubble surface (A5 36) in front of the house and the yard immediately behind the house. There were a number of cross joins between these two areas and the floor surfaces of the western extension to the house contained pottery which joined with that from the front and rear of the house (the rest of the House A deposits produced very little pottery and none which joined with pottery outside the house). One vessel was spread as far as the barn and another ended its life in the northern section of north-south ditch 82 and in pit 86 between the kitchen annexe and the ditch.

The distribution of cross-joins in Area A is complicated by the fact that 14 vessels were made up of sherds from Area A and Area D1 and two vessels were made up of sherds from Area A, Area D1 and Area D2. The material from Area D1 which joins with or is part of vessels from Area A is concentrated to the north of the earlier D13 house, which was a midden/muck heap area - and continued as such in following phases - and the majority of these cross joins were from D15 i.e. post-dated the D1 house which was no longer in existence in D14. Area A sherds cross-joined with sherds (three in total) from Phases D11, D12 and D13; a join between 464 (D12) and 433/1 (D13) may indicate some contact between Area A and Area D before the demolition of House D1. The sherd from D11 is probably intrusive.

Despite the boundary between Area A and D1 being renewed in the 15th century, there were far more cross-joins between A and D1 than between D1 and D2, even though the latter boundary fell into abeyance. It is hardly likely, in the face of renewed ditch cutting between Area A and Area D1, that the owners of D2 would, if they owned and used all of D1, be happy with a neighbour's rubbish being dumped on their property, so it is difficult to understand what exactly the cross-joins mean here.

Cross-joins Area D1

There were 51 vessels made up from cross-joining sherds from this area. Just over half of these were made up of sherds from other areas, ie Area A and Area D2. The significance of these cross-joins is described either under Area A or Area D2 cross-joins. Many of the remaining cross-joins can be explained in terms of the disturbance of the vertical stratigraphy. However, a significant number of cross-joins were between sherds from different layers to the north, east and west of the small building in Area D1. The pattern of cross-joins suggested that there had been a great deal of disturbance all around the building and in the vicinity of the possible barn. This impression was confirmed by cross-joins between Area D1 and Areas A and D2.

Cross-joins Area D2

There were a great many cross-joins from this area, outnumbering by far those from any other area, although Area D2 also produced the largest number of sherds. It was decided to plot only some of the cross-joins in detail. Accordingly cross-joins linking to D24, D25 and D26 floor surfaces were plotted and also selected contexts such as the D26 rubble surfaces 924, 1174 and 695 all of which probably contained midden material as well as unrecognised demolition debris (Figure 8.1.59, 5-8).

Until D26, when the position changed entirely, the D24 and D25 cross-joins were confined to the area of D2 with only one exception (in D25), a join just within D1. Sherds from floor surfaces within House D2 and the associated barns joined mainly with sherds found in the back yard. There were two examples of cross-joining sherds from the house floor and the area to the south-west of the house.

Sherds from Phase D26 floor levels joined with others from Areas A, D1 and E. However, the bias seems to be towards the west of Area D2. Not only do joining sherds come from different areas but also, in contrast to the previous two phases the cross-joins appear to be evenly distributed between areas in front and behind the house, particularly between rubble surface 695 and yard surface (1174). Sherds from (1174) cross-joined with others from more or less the entire area of D2 including the barn area. There were also joins with sherds from Area E and the far west of Area D1. Sherds from (695) joined with those from areas to the north of the house also with sherds from Area A and Area D1. However, layer (924) which overlay (1174) presented a different picture, with all the cross-joins (save one in Area E) being contained in Area D2.

Cross-joins Area E and Area F

Cross-joining sherds from Area E were not very frequent, only four within the area and nine between Area E and Area D2. However, this may reflect the smaller proportion of the backyard of Area E that was excavated. Cross-joining sherds from within Area E were all directly related to disturbance of the vertical stratigraphy or demolition. Cross-joining sherds from Area E and Area D2 although infrequent, were more interesting. Some were explicable by demolition disturbance, but those that were not, gave a further insight into the movement and disposal of domestic rubbish on the site. For example sherds from the same vessel were found in floor (430) of the D13 building and on the E6 forecourt surface (867). This is presumably an indication that, as has been seen above, domestic rubbish became distributed to the front and rear of all the houses. Presumably part of the vessel found in (430) was also deposited on the street forecourt from where it made its way eastwards to the Area E frontage, taking roughly 100 years to do so. This is of interest since it illuminates just how far sherds can be moved by casual human and animal activities, as opposed to being moved by direct, purposeful intervention

Domestic rubbish appears to have accumulated to both the front and rear of the House E. There seems to be some evidence that sherds dumped to the south of House E found their way to the rear of House D2. Rather bizarre cross-joins were also noted but on reflection these are probably due to error.

There were 19 cross-joins from Area F (Figure 8.1.58, 3), two of which were between Area F and Area E. The latter two cross-joins were between the rear of House F and the rubble surface to the south of House E, a further indication of the movement of domestic refuse along the street frontage. The cross-joins suggest that the F4 layer (1300) and floor surface (1239) were contemporary, and that the F5 house floor (913), ?yard (912) and outbuilding floor (1187), were also contemporary.

Conclusion

As previous sections of this report have stressed, the tenement plots on both sides of the road have quite shallow stratigraphy and evidence of much disturbance. This is the background against which the cross-join data needs to be viewed and indeed the cross-joins confirm the extent of disturbance. Even so, many of the cross-joins are explicable in terms of normal stratigraphic processes and as such do little to enhance our understanding of the site.

The pattern of cross-joining sherds is most marked between Areas A, D1 and D2 . It is significant that this pattern is not repeated between Areas D2, E and F to any great extent and these cross-joins which do occur would seem in the main to be the result of demolition and destruction toward the end of the life of the site. The conclusion is therefore inescapable that the relationship between Areas A and D2, and D1, which appears to have had no standing buildings within it after Phase D13, is crucial in understanding some of the cross-joins. It is suggested that Area D1 went out of use as a separate tenement early in its history and was subsequently utilised by Areas A and D2.. All the cross-joins from A and D1 have sherds from A5 and D15. The evidence therefore suggests

that Area A made the most use of the empty plot in the first place, despite the fact that D2's barn had encroached on D1 in Phase D25. However, by early Phase D26 the spread of cross-joining sherds into D1 from D2 becomes marked.

The information from the cross-joining sherds shows that domestic rubbish was deposited to the front and rear of the houses, deposition to the front being more common in the late history of the site. In many respects it is difficult to grasp why having laid a cobbled surface to the front of the houses, middens were sited on them, or why there were middens, apparently contemporaneous, to both front and rear of the properties. In addition, cross-joins between front and rear were not uncommon. The evidence indicates quite large-scale upheaval and movement of deposits that has generated a complicated mosaic of cross-joins across Areas A, D1 and D2.; major upheaval is particularly apparent in D26. There is no simple model that can explain all this. It is absurd to suggest that sherds from a pot recently broken were partly thrown to the rear and partly to the front and it hard not to believe that somehow and for reasons unknown domestic refuse was moved from front to rear or vice versa. One possibility is that rather than being just remnants of middens, demolition material forms an element of these D26 deposits. This might help explain the rather random dispersal of the cross-join vessels but it is a far from unassailable argument.

Two things stand out from the cross-joins which would not otherwise have been obvious. Firstly, until the final phases of occupation pottery seems to have been disposed of to the rear of the houses. The second salient point is just how much disturbance was caused by bouts of demolition and possibly the construction of the rubble forecourts.

7. Pottery from the road and fieldwalking

Area B The road and associated features

One hundred and eighty-seven sherds came from Area B. There was very little of interest to be said about this area. Phase B1 was pre-medieval, B2 medieval and B3 cultivation soil and topsoil. No post-medieval sherds were found indicating that the road did not continue in use after the properties on the north side of the road had been abandoned. Pottery from the road surface dated from the 13th-15th centuries with a small residual Roman component. There was surprisingly little pottery on the the road, only 30 sherds. Various cut features on either side of the road contained the rest of the B2 pottery. There were more Roman sherds in this group, Chilvers Coton C ware, Wednesbury ware and cistercian ware (the latter two as single sherds) but also earlier medieval ware of the type mainly associated with the south side of the road.

BD87 Dovehouse Close fieldwalking (Area Z)

The pottery and other finds were plotted (Part 1; Figures 1.19 to 1.24). Most of the grid squares contained some pottery. The date range of the pottery ran from prehistoric through to the 17th-18th centuries (Figure 8.1.60). Roman and Saxon pottery was randomly distributed across the area. The Roman pottery presumably represents manuring scatters. The small quantity of Saxon pottery recovered from the site need not indicate an absence of early settlement. At Grange Park Northamptonshire (Rátkai 2006) only 372 sherds were recovered from the fieldwalking of an 193 hectare site although settlement was evidenced. Buteux (2006, 12-31) discusses the ephemeral evidence for Saxon occupation and the difficulty in locating associated features at this site. The Saxon pottery at Burton Dassett is, therefore, possibly ploughed-out settlement debris. There were three main foci of pottery density; one in the north-west corner of Area Z (Z4, Bullocks Close), a second (Z1, Dovehouse Close East)), at the easternmost end of the fieldwalked area, which lay in the later excavated area in the vicinity of Houses H and I, and the third (Z2, Dovehouse Close West) a little to the west of Z1.

	Medieval												
	BD87 Dovehouse Close								*BD91 Chapel Ground*				
Area	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	U/S	*Total*	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	*Total*
FABRIC GROUP													
F60 St Neots ware										1			*1*
F16-19 Other shelly wares	50	16	4	1	3	9	5	*88*	1	4		1	*6*
F55 Oolitic ware						2		*2*					
F14 Deritend reduced ware	4					2		*6*					
F3/15 Deritend sandy cooking pot	37	2	1			4		*44*		10	2		*12*
F5 ?Coventry A type ware	7	2	1			2	1	*13*	1	1		1	*2*
F8/8A Chilvers Coton A	13	3	1	1		2	2	*22*			10		*10*
F21 Chilvers Coton B	2							*2*			2		*2*
F7/9 Chilvers Coton A/C	14	16	2	1	3	4		*40*					
F11 Chilver Coton C	37	35	1			8	3	*85*	9	69	72	5	*155*
F6 Brill/Boarstall	16	10	3			2	1	*30*	4	8	9		*21*
F22 Early Oxford ware	1					1	2						
F12 Brackley whiteware	25	4				3	1	*33*					
F23 Banbury-type ware	4	1						*5*					
F2 Potterspury ware	8	2	1					*11*	2	2	2	1	*7*
F20/27 unglazed ware	4	1		22				*27*					
F25 Reduced glazed ware	2							*2*					
F2A Late Medieval oxidised ware									1				*1*
F30/31A/F33 Wednesbury ware	2			3				*5*	2	1	3	1	*7*
F35 Late Medieval Red ware	8	5		1			1	*15*	2	4	9	1	*16*
F4 Midlands Purple	15	26	1	3		3		*48*	4	9	10		*23*
F49 Surrey white ware				3				*3*					
F50 Cistercian ware	2	17		14				*33*	4	1	3		*8*
	Post-medieval and modern												
Area	Z1	Z2	Z3	Z4	Z5	Z6	U/S	*Total*	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	*Total*
P01 Blackware/Cistercian		1		6	15			*22*					
P10 Blackwares			1	3		1		*5*	17	1			*18*
Q00 Yellow wares	1	1		7				*9*	8				*8*
R00 Coarsewares	3	10	3	146	15	9		*186*	40	6	2	2	*50*
S00 Manganese glazed wares		1	1		2			*4*	4				*4*
T10 German stonewares		3		5				*8*	2				*2*
T20 English stonewares	3			2		2		*7*	5				*5*
U00 Slipwares		2		3				*5*	5				*5*
V00 Glazed earthenwares	5	14	22	9	13	4		*67*		21	5	10	*36*
V10 Creamware	1	5		2				*8*					
V20 Pearlware		1						*1*					
W20 Porcelain				2				*2*					
W50 Tin glazed earthenwares					1			*1*	4				*4*
V99 20th century misc.				3	1			*4*					
Other	2	2	1					*5*	2	3			*5*
TOTAL: ALL PERIODS	266	180	43	238	53	57	14	*851*	117	143	129	22	*411*

Figure 8.1.60: Sherd counts of pottery recovered from fieldwalking

The pottery from Area Z1, as would be expected, was largely the same as that found in excavated areas H and I. However, there was a larger component of pottery dating to the 15th century such as Midlands Purple ware, Wednesbury ware and cistercian ware. These wares were either absent or poorly represented in Areas H and I, particularly so in Area H. The pottery from the fieldwalking could suggest that Area I continued in use longer than Area H and that it was still functioning in some capacity at the end of the 15th century, but the evidence is not compelling.

Area Z2 had fewer of the earlier medieval fabrics, although sufficient to show that there was occupation here by at least the mid-13th century. The concentration of pottery in the centre of Z2 seems to date mainly from the 14th-15th centuries. A relatively high proportion of Midlands Purple ware and cistercian ware suggests a final demolition phase towards the end of the 15th century. Post-medieval pottery in the group suggests that activity re-started in the 17th century. There is nothing to indicate a period of unbroken occupation.

A collection of post-medieval pottery in the north western part of Area Z in Z4 seems to correspond with the area of a 16th-century shepherds house (see Alcock, this volume). There was also some indication of later settlement at Burton Dassett from Area A where a 17th century Blackware chamber pot was found within the fill of ditch (53). The evidence from Area Z confirms the idea of later occupation. This seems to have begun in the 16th century and then continued into the 18th century. Presumably after the enclosures were completed the shepherd's dwelling was erected. The post-medieval pottery appears to be too well scattered to represent later squatter occupation of an abandoned building.

BD91 Chapel Ground fieldwalking (Area Y)

Fieldwalking to the north and north-east of the excavated area to the north of the road produced 411 medieval and post medieval sherds (see Figure 8.1.60 and Part 1 Figure 1.22) and seven probable Roman sherds.

Area Y3 showed the same range of fabrics as those found in the excavated area. There was little 13th-century material and that occurred only in 2559 and 2542. Most of the sherds appeared to be of 14th- to 15th-century date. There was some cistercian ware which occurred mostly over the D2 tenement, again reflecting the situation in the excavated areas. There was only one occurrence of 17th/18th-century pottery in 2548 which probably represents random rubbish disposal. A similar situation was seen in the excavation of Area A where a Blackware chamber pot was recovered from Ditch 53. There was a little modern (19th/20th-century) material from over Areas D1, E and F which appears to be purely random.

To the north of Y3 was Area Y4. This contained sherds which dated from the 12th century (one sherd only) through to the 19th or 20th century. The quantity of pottery from this area was very sparse and domestic occupation here unlikely.

In Area Y1, to the east of Y3, 13th-century pottery was better represented and there was one possible 12th-century sherd from 2530. In general the 13th-century material was found with later 14th- to 15th-century material, a similar situation to the excavated tenements to the north of the road. However, there appeared to be a focus of 17th- to 18th-century material (2519, 2521-2526, 2528, 2529) fronting onto the hollow way (Figure 8.1.60). The vessel forms, mainly cups/mugs, dishes and pancheons, suggest typical household rubbish and a nearby dwelling. The latest type of pottery was white salt-glaze stoneware dating to *c*1720-40. The mix of blackware, yellow ware and tin-glazed earthenware is typical of the 17th century although all these types continue in use into the 18th century. It is also worth noting that among the pottery from 2522 was a tin-glazed earthenware ?finial which had probably come from a rather ornate and valuable piece, suggesting that the owners were reasonably well off rather than simple peasants. There was one random scatter of modern pottery in 2539.

Area Y2 has a rather mixed pattern of distribution which contained mainly 13th- to 15th-century pottery. There was one cistercian ware sherd from 2595 and one 12th-century sherd from 2591. There is another small focus of 17th- to 18th-century pottery to the north of the area (2601, 2612, 2613).

The 19th- to 20th-century pottery was most frequent in Area Y4 and in general appeared to be associated with modern material scatters.

Of particular interest from Area Y2 (2593) was a Midlands Purple sherd decorated with stamped lombardic lettering (Figure 8.1.37). Two similar sherds with lettering were found in Area A (Figure 8.1.4, nos A 42, A 58). Vessels decorated in this way are not common and to find three is most unusual. The vessels were almost certainly Chilvers Coton products; similar examples have been found there (information from K Scott).

The pottery from the Chapel Ground fieldwalking presents a similar but not identical picture to that from Area Z , since the latter contained some concentrations of sherds, possibly indicative of middens and there was also a greater proportion of 12th/13th-century pottery in Area Z.

8. Discussion

Development of the plots

The pottery assemblage makes it possible to track the development of Burton Dassett, Southend. The settlement on the south side of the road probably began in the 12th century (based on the abundance of pottery that should pre-date the mid 13th century), the earliest plot based on quantities of pottery pre-dating c. 1250 being H, which was followed in turn by plots K and I. Pottery from fieldwalking in Area Z confirmed that tenements to the west of the excavated areas were established at about the same time. Somewhat later, J and L were developed, probably taking advantage of the possibilities offered by a property fronting onto the road. These developments took place before the area to the north of the road was developed. The properties to the north of the road were probably laid out in the later 13th century, although the small building in Area D1 looks rather different from House A and the D2 to E Houses. This could be because D1 is an earlier building. If so it might account for the small amount of late 12th- or earlier 13th-century pottery found in the properties on the north side of the road; if not then there must have been some general dumping of waste on the north side of the road, (although there are problems with this theory), before the tenements were laid out, since there is no obvious trace of any other earlier buildings. It is noticeable that the assemblages from Area J and Area LMN are much more like those from Areas A-F on the north side of the road. In Area J apart from the earliest medieval occupation (Phase J2), the quantity of Chilvers Coton products is directly paralleled by the north side of the road. It is therefore tempting to see these roadside properties as functioning differently from those further south. Perhaps they had a more urban character, with a lesser reliance on agriculture and a greater interest in specialised manufacture of one sort or another. This, of course, would be certainly true of Area J, which was a smithy.

Decline and abandonment hit the south side of the road first, with the House H the first to go at some point in the early 15th century followed by I and K, and finally J, before the introduction of cistercian ware in the last quarter of the 15th century. Again, the field-walking pottery tends to corroborate this, although it should be noted that cistercian ware was found in Z1, to the south of Areas H and I, and in the adjacent area Z2, and it is not now possible to determine whether this represents evidence of late occupation, or contamination caused by demolition activities and/or ploughing or was in some way connected with the late activity in the north-west corner of Area Z (Z4).

On the north side of the road, Area D1 was probably abandoned as a single functioning plot quite early on, certainly well before the disuse of Area A. Area D1, although containing an assemblage not markedly different from the other areas, does contain a much higher proportion of Chilvers Coton wares. This suggests that some of the material recovered from Area D1 owes its origin to rubbish disposal from Area A and Area D2. This is confirmed in part by evidence from cross-joining sherds. The latest functioning plots/houses were in Areas D2 and E and possibly F, although

comparatively little of Area F was excavated. All of the plots on the north side of the road contained some cistercian ware which could suggest that all of them were actively managed until the time of Belknap's enclosures at the end of the 15th century. Set against this, however, is the evidence from the cross-joining sherds which indicates extensive disturbance and redistribution of deposits along the tenements. Area D2, though, clearly has undisturbed deposits around the house that contain large quantities of cistercian ware – in fact these deposits look as if they could be the results of a final clearance prior to demolition. It is suggested that House D2 continued in use well beyond the time of the 1497 enclosure but it is not certain how much, if any, of the cistercian ware in Area A, E and F originated in plot D2.

Figure 8.1.61
Sources of pottery and excavated groups mentioned in text

Trade and Contact

For the purposes of this section 'Warwickshire' refers to the historic county.

Pottery from the Chilvers Coton kilns forms the major part of the total Burton Dassett assemblage and the dominance of this pottery is particularly marked on the north side of the road in tenements A to F (see Figure 8.1.62). It is clear that from c. 1300 the greater part of the ceramic needs of Burton Dassett were met from this source. Chilvers Coton lies about 30km from Burton Dassett but so do the Brill-Boarstall and Potterspury industries. The continued presence of fine Brill and Potterspury wares even during the dominance of Chilvers Coton pottery demonstrates that there was always a ready market for good quality fine wares. These may have been taken up to Burton Dassett from the kiln sites or they may have changed hands at an intermediary centre such as Banbury. The relatively small scale of this trade favours the latter interpretation. However, what could be considered 'normal' fall-off marketing or distribution patterns do not seem to apply at Burton Dassett.

		A	D1	D2	E	F	H	I	J	K
Deritend, Warwickshire	late 12th - early 14th C	4.6	3.8	3.7	2.8	2.8	27	17	10	12
Chilvers Coton A	*c*. 1250 - 1300	2.5	3.4	2.5	3	12	4.2	2.5	4.5	4.3
Chilvers Coton B	13th C	0.2	0.3	0.2			1.3	0.4	0.7	0.7
Chilvers Coton C/D	c. 1300 - 1500	70	75	54	59	61	14	34	50	49
Brill/Boarstall ware	13th - 15th C	2.1	1.2	6.3	10	7.4	8.5	13	8.3	6.6
Potterspury ware	late 13th - 15th C	2.9	3.1	2.8	4.6	5.3	1.6	5.1	3.5	4.2

Figure 8.1.62: Principal pottery types and occurrence by area assemblage

The sheer quantity of pottery from Chilvers Coton from the north side of the road does, however, tend to divert the attention from what was happening before *c*1300. As we have seen, the earlier Chilvers Coton fabrics (Fabrics A and B) were not nearly so well represented as the later fabrics, so there certainly seems to be a shift in focus in pottery supply as time progressed. In addition, although it is rather more difficult to work out the ceramic history of the south side of the road, the later Chilvers Coton fabrics in general are not nearly so well represented there (see Figure 8.1.62); neither is Chilvers Coton A much better represented on the south side of the road, as it should be if the discrepancy is explicable purely in terms of chronological factors. So, in Areas H-K Chilvers Coton A constitutes between *c*2.5% and 4.5% of the area assemblages and in Areas A-E between *c*2.5% and 3.5% (Area F is anomalous in having *c*12%). There are other discrepancies. Deritend wares were well represented on the south side of the road but these wares continued in use into the early 14th century, so in chronological terms should have a better showing on the north side of the road. In contrast both Brill-Boarstall and Potterspury wares vary little between the north and south of the road.

Before the mid 13th century most of the pottery seems to have come from the East or South-east Midlands but it is clear that at some point in the second half of the 13th century this changed in favour of pottery from Chilvers Coton. This cannot be explained purely in terms of markets and access to pottery from the south-east because, for example, pottery from the extensive industries at Brill-Boarstall was still available and could have provided some competition. What we see after c 1275/1300 is a complete sea-change in how and where pottery was obtained.

At the end of the life of the settlement the supremacy of Chilvers Coton wares was challenged by pottery production in Wednesbury, in the Black Country. Wednesbury products were widely traded and by the early 16th century, Birmingham, a major recipient of Wednesbury pottery, was an increasingly important market for leather and leather-work and edged-tools. Perhaps this explains the presence of Wednesbury wares at Burton Dassett particularly in Area D2 and E. If not, it is possible that output was dropping at Chilvers Coton and a small opportunity, therefore, opened up for Wednesbury products; why a similar opportunity did not present itself to the makers of 'glazed

red earthenware' in the east and south-east Midlands is a mystery but of course would mirror what had happened in the later 13th and 14th centuries (see above). Equally it could be the result of some quite subtle change, that we cannot now know, in how Burton Dassett, or what remained of it, interacted with the rest of the world.

The main difficulty in putting the assemblage into some sort of context is partly that of scale. Individual rural datasets for this period tend to be small. Larger assemblages, where sherds are numbered in thousands, are mainly a feature of urban sites. Urban sites such as those in Coventry and Birmingham do generate larger assemblages but these are often bedevilled by later disturbance and truncation. In addition, and particularly in the case of Coventry, the practice of extensive building continuing along the backplot (Rátkai 2013) and the frequent cutting and re-cutting of pits means numerous occasions of disturbance and redeposition. Since the Coventry burgage plots were in use for hundreds of years, the possibility of finding 12th-century pottery with that of the 16th century in one feature is very real. All this means that it is not always clear how much residual material is present, so that the ceramic sequence can become muddled. In sum, there is not a single assemblage from Warwickshire that exactly parallels that from Burton Dassett in terms of assemblage size and its taphonomy.

The pottery evidence demonstrates quite clearly that at Burton Dassett there is a marked difference between the north and south sides of the road. The south side of the road, particularly areas H, I and K, is distinguished from the properties on the north side by a sizeable component of pottery that pre-dates *c.* 1250. These earlier wares are either absent or at most infrequent on the north side, so infrequent, in fact, as to make it unlikely that these sherds represent early occupation. Most of this earlier pottery derives from the East or South-East Midlands and can be paralleled at Banbury (Rátkai forthcoming) and Brackley (Blinkhorn 1990). The obvious conclusion is that Burton Dassett and its inhabitants fell within the sphere of influence of North-East Oxfordshire and South-West Northamptonshire and would have frequented markets in these areas for the most part, although the surprisingly large quantities of Deritend pottery indicate another market or markets outside the usual ones. It has been suggested (pers. comm. Chris Dyer) that Deritend wares were redistributed from markets in Stratford-upon-Avon. Although Stratford is within trading distance of Burton Dassett, Deritend wares were never so plentiful here as in Burton Dassett, perhaps suggesting another method of distribution for this pottery, possibly even direct contact between the inhabitants of Burton Dassett and the market at Birmingham. Given the wide distribution of Deritend wares, is it possible that this reflects something for which we have no surviving physical evidence, namely the manufacture of good quality edged agricultural tools in Birmingham and visits to the market there to purchase them, the pottery being a 'collateral purchase'?

One of the primary markets, for Burton Dassett in the 12th and first half of the 13th century may have been Banbury which was well within walking distance. Fenny Compton, a settlement very close to Burton Dassett, had a virtually identical range of fabrics which could be dated before c1250. It is unfortunate that there has been no other excavations on settlements in the immediate area of Burton Dassett which could confirm that its pottery usage and that of Fenny Compton were indeed representative of this part of Warwickshire.

The later pottery groups were dominated by products of the Chilvers Coton kilns. In the case of the north side of the road this amounted to a very substantial percentage and was less marked on the south side of the road but, of course, this is the area where pottery pre-dating c1250 was found and importantly, was found residually along with the later Chilvers Coton wares. In addition there was at least 50-100 years more of pottery usage, breakage and disposal on the north side of the road. It would therefore seem sensible to assume that Chilvers Coton products dominated the south side of the road from the 14th century onwards, even though it is difficult to demonstrate this.

It is possible to formulate some general trends governing pottery supply in Warwickshire in the later medieval period from the later 13th century to *c.*1500, the time during which Chilvers Coton is

known to have been manufacturing the A and C wares and by the 15th century the D ware along with cistercian ware (Fabric E) and Tudor-Green-type' ware (Fabric F). There is also the possibility that the C & D fabrics continued to be made in the 16th century, although this is not explicitly stated by Mayes and Scott (1985); here is not the place to examine the evidence for this. Before looking at these trends it is helpful to look at how many other pottery production sites were in existence in Warwickshire in this period. Starting from the north-west there was the Deritend industry in Birmingham. Pottery production here had probably ended by c1350, although occasional wasters of later pottery have been noted in the Digbeth backplots and provide a tantalising clue to possible later medieval and early post-medieval pottery production. Pottery production is also associated with Coventry in the 12th and 13th centuries, although no kiln sites have been found; these are thought to have been located on the outskirts of the city. Waster dumps of Cannon Park ware, dating from c1250-1350, were found at Canley, again on the outskirts of the medieval city and as with Birmingham, later medieval wasters have been recognised from within the city and may indicate some continuing low-scale pottery manufacture. Moving south, yet more urban pottery production is found in Warwick. The earliest pottery production may have begun in the later 11th century and was definitely in full flow in the 12th and 13th centuries. The location of the kilns is not known but recent excavation on West Street contained some possible pottery waste which would locate the earliest pottery making just outside the town. Kilns for a later phase of production, probably of the 14th and 15th centuries, were located on Market Street in the centre of Warwick. A vast amount of material was recovered from Market Street in the 1960s and 1970s but none of it has been systematically examined and published and it is possible that evidence for some earlier pottery production is lurking here as well. Once we reach the Feldon edge the evidence for pottery production ceases. To the west, waster dumps have been found in Alcester dating to the 12th-13th centuries. There has been no evidence, to date, to indicate that pottery was made in Stratford, although given that the main Warwickshire market towns did so, it would be surprising if Stratford alone did not. In general terms, then, there were several identified industries in Warwickshire that could have met Burton Dassett's pottery needs. In addition there is the possibility of some pottery manufacture on the Cotswold Edge, providing the shelly wares for sites such as Kineton (Rátkai 2012) and, by extension, Burton Dassett.

If we try to combine the data for the pottery usage on the north and south sides of the road at Burton Dassett and look at the possible sources of supply, then some interesting patterns emerge but before these can be fully understood it is necessary to look at other sites in Warwickshire and the pottery used there. Bearing in mind the caveat that the rural settlement information is often derived from small assemblages, it is still possible to see a general pattern. Fenny Compton, Bascote, Dunchurch, Bretford and Churchover contain somewhere between 25%-49% (of the phase group or assemblage, if unphased) Chilvers Coton products and in the case of Fenny Compton over 50%; Wolvey has between 10%-24%, as does Kenilworth and Stoke Golding (Leicestershire). Setting aside Kenilworth, the remaining sites in this group are located to the east or south-east of Coventry, apart from Wolvey which is to the north-east. Up to half of Coventry's pottery came from Chilvers Coton but only a few miles away in Warwick, this has dropped to 10%-24%; Chilvers Coton pottery is also well represented in Leicester. In Birmingham, Stratford and Banbury, Chilvers Coton pottery occurs but in insignificant amounts. The picture, then is that Chilvers Coton wares are more significant in sites in the eastern section of Warwickshire. However, the extremely high percentages seen at Burton Dassett are anomalous and only really find any sort of parallel in Fenny Compton.

Coventry wares are rarely found in any significant quantity outside the city. The exceptions are Dunchurch and Harbury (25%-49%) and Bascote (10%-24%). In contrast, Deritend wares are found on most sites, urban or rural, in Warwickshire (see above), generally forming between 2%-9% of a phase or assemblage, although Coventry seems not to have purchased very much pottery from its neighbour, but at Burton Dassett they are common in some phases on the south side of the road.

By the later medieval period there were a number of large production sites that were supplying Warwickshire with pottery but were located outside the county. To the west was the Malvern Chase industry, to the north-west was Wednesbury. Late medieval Brill pottery from Buckinghamshire has been recorded, as have later Potterspury (Northampton) types. A further type of pottery 'Glazed Red Earthenware (GRE)', was made in a number of sites in Northamptonshire and the south-east Midlands from the 15th to 18th centuries. These different wares also have distinct distribution patterns; all were produced whilst the properties on the north side of the road were occupied.

As might be expected, late medieval Malvernian pottery has been found mainly in the more western or south-western areas of Warwickshire in towns such as Alcester and Stratford, and on rural sites such as Newbold-on-Stour, Quinton, Weston-juxta-Cherrington, Kineton, Loxley and Brailes. At Weston-juxta-Cherington, Kineton and Burton Dassett less than 2% of the assemblage is made up of later Malvernian ware and these settlements seem to lie pretty much on the eastern extremity of the Malvernian distribution pattern. Wednesbury-type ware seems to be fairly ubiquitous. It is found in Birmingham, Coventry and Warwick but not in any quantity in Alcester or Stratford where Malvernian ware is the usual late medieval ware. Glazed red earthenware is not so common in Warwickshire but it has been noted in Coventry, Bascote, Weston-juxta-Cherrington and Newbold-on-Stour. Since GRE is associated with the East and South-East Midlands it is also very common in Banbury. Late Brill ware has been found in Banbury and Coventry, Weston-juxta-Cherington and Newbold-on-Stour, however, the figures are not very reliable because late Brill ware has not necessarily been distinguished from earlier Brill-Boarstall (13th and 14th centuries) in all the assemblages and the distribution may therefore be rather wider, although never a particularly significant component of the later pottery.

From the above, it is clear that throughout the entire history of Southend, there was an abundance of choice as to what pottery could be bought. It appears that before *c.* 1250 it was products from the east and south-east Midlands that found favour; even though Malvernian cooking pot, oolitic wares from the Cotswolds, Coventry ware and Early Warwick ware were all available, they have left barely a mark on the assemblages from Areas H, I, J and K. The only exception are the Deritend wares which buck the trend.

Mayes and Scott (1984) believed that the mid-13th century marked the beginning of the Chilvers Coton industry on any scale, with the manufacture of the A and B wares. It is possible, however, that the B ware may have begun earlier in the century. Since the evidence suggests that the burgage plots on the north side of the road at Southend were established in the second half of the 13th century, the range of pottery available to the inhabitants was amplified by the A and B wares and after c. 1300 by the C wares. Although the output from the Chilvers Coton kilns must have been impressive, nevertheless potters in Warwick, Malvern Chase, the Cotswolds, Brill, Potterspury and elsewhere in the East Midlands were still very much in business and it is hard to see the sudden deluge of North Warwickshire pottery into Burton Dassett as part of some 'normal' distribution network, particularly as there is nothing resembling the usual fall-off pattern in traded goods that might be expected. Chilvers Coton A and C fabrics are a feature of sites towards the east of Warwickshire eg Churchover, Bretford and Bascote where they can form up to 49% of the assemblage. The close neighbour of Burton Dassett, Fenny Compton, contained between 32%-42% by phase (dependent on method of quantification used) Chilvers Coton C ware, a lower percentage than that observed on the north side of the road at Southend, and only c 2% Chilvers Coton A. At Wolvey the A and C fabrics form up to 24%, the same as at Warwick and Kenilworth. In Coventry, the A wares form up to 24% but the C wares are up to 49%. At other rural and urban sites, in the central, western and southern areas of Warwickshire the A and C wares are present but not in significant quantities.

The first thing to note is that the Chilvers Coton wares' distribution pattern suggests that an important influence on method of moving the pottery must have been the Roman roads, eg Watling Street which runs very close to the kiln sites (c4km distant) and the Fosse Way (c10km distant)

which transects Warwickshire in its path from the South-West to Leicester. This not surprising as Chilvers Coton is in close proximity to the Roman production site of Mancetter-Hartshill. As Hodder (1974) has pointed out in relation to Roman pottery `it was only on the roads that quicker transport to and from the distribution centre allowed a reasonable purchase price to be maintained'. Thus a large production centre, as Chilvers Coton was, in addition to making relatively cheap pottery because of the scale of production, (Hodder's Model 2), would also be very well placed vis-à-vis road transport (Hodder's Model 1).

Although the Chilvers Coton industry was a major supplier of ceramics to Coventry, the only marketing of these wares cannot have been through this city because a more even pattern of distribution to the south and west of Coventry would be apparent. In effect the presence of Coventry wares in the economic hinterland of the city shows some level of active market visits from rural sites to the metropolis. Such an active marketing system should also be apparent in the quantity of Chilvers Coton wares at these same sites, since logically, these pottery types were the main replacement for the local Coventry wares from the mid-13th century. No such tie-up is obvious in the data, although good excavated sites lying in the area between Coventry and Birmingham are in short supply. Chilvers Coton C was well represented at Knowle Hall (pers inspection) and in a small collection of fieldwalked pottery from Barston (Rátkai 2009c) where it formed about a third of the phase group. Among sites lying closer to Birmingham such as Wishaw Hill Farm (Rátkai 2008) Coventry-type ware formed c4% by weight of the assemblage and Chilvers Coton C c20%. Chilvers Coton C ware was recorded at Sutton Coldfield and Coleshill but in assemblages too small to draw any conclusions. If rural sites closer to Coventry were not dominated by Chilvers Coton wares purchased from there, it is hard to believe that Burton Dassett would be. It is perfectly possible that people living in Burton Dassett were prepared to travel some 20km to market in Coventry *on occasion* for domestic goods but it is unconvincing to suggest that this would have been done regularly, particularly when there were a number of more local markets.

Some other observations support the use of Roman roads for transporting pottery. Chilvers Coton pottery is a marked feature of assemblages in Leicester (reached by the Fosse) and identical vessels to those illustrated by Mayes and Scott (1984 Fig 98, 776-77) have been found in Lichfield, a city easily accessible after a short journey (*c*4km) north from Watling Street and also at Stafford (see Ford 1995 Fig.15, 103-104), some 12-13km north of Watling Street; but the ability to utilise an ancient road system cannot be the sole reason for the slightly aberrant distribution pattern of Chilvers Coton wares.

Looking at the distribution data (Figure 8.1.63**),** sites with relatively high proportions of Chilvers Coton wares usually also have examples of North Warwickshire Granitic ware (StR11), early Potterspury ware, Brackley whiteware and Banbury-type ware. At Harbury and Kineton there is a relatively small amount of Chilvers Coton wares and the quantification for Loxley and Tysoe is not available; Loxley is the one outlier being located to the west of the Fosse. North Warwickshire Granitic ware may have been made in Nuneaton itself or on its northern outskirts where the granitic rocks of the Caldecote Volcanic Series outcrop. If this is correct then that would place the kilns even closer to Watling Street and might explain why there is so much granitic ware in Wolvey, itself close to the Roman road, but very little in Coventry. In an area to the east of the Fosse and west of Watling Street a triangular area is defined south of the point at which these roads intersect. This area, together with the remaining southern extent of the county to the east of the Fosse as far as Tysoe, seem to share the same characteristic of a mix of Chilvers Coton wares, North Warwickshire Granitic ware and pottery from the Banbury-Brackley-Potterspury area. Potterspury, coincidentally, is also on Watling Street. This area could be seen as a distinct economic zone. Ratkai (2008, 500-01) identified another possible zone in western Warwickshire using pottery data. Looking from a Northamptonshire perspective, Blinkhorn (1996) identified Coventry ware in southern Northamptonshire and noted the economic relationship between these places that was based on the wool trade.

Thus far it has been possible to identify a potential economic zone and examine the effect that this might have had on the pottery distribution, and to look at the role the Roman roads might also have played. However, neither of these singly or in combination, really answers the question as to why for the last 200 years or so of its existence Southend was inundated with pottery from Chilvers Coton to the virtual exclusion of more local pottery types. There must therefore be at least a third influencing factor.

The third factor lies within the documentary sources. The detail is set out by Dyer (Section 1 of published volume). In essence Great Dassett was linked from the time of the Conquest with the Arden and in particular with Chilvers Coton, Arbury and Griff, the very areas associated with pottery production (see Gooder, 1984). In addition, coal and roofing slate excavated at Burton Dassett had come from the Nuneaton area. Dyer suggests that an original exchange of goods, for example, timber from the Arden for grain from Great Dassett may have developed into a commercial undertaking with goods from Chilvers Coton, Arbury and Griff being sold at market there. Here is something that might well skew a 'normal' marketing pattern. A ready framework for additional trade in smaller items from the Arden existed and if bulky loads of coal and timber were being carted south or quantities of Feldon grain carted north what could be easier than in the case of the latter to fill up empty, returning carts with pots or in the former add pottery to the existing load. In either case the transport costs would be minimised as they would ride on the back of trade in another commodity. It is also possible, given the distribution of Malvernian and Brill-Boarstall wares in the southern part of Warwickshire, that the salt trade to and from Droitwich, also had an effect similar to that described above for the transport of timber, coal and grain. A very much later example of this practice can be seen in relation to the Verwood potters of Dorset in the 19th century (Young 1979). Here, a potter loaded his cart with pottery, travelled to Somerset to sell it and returned carrying cheeses. The Verwood information is of particular importance because there is so little documentary information about the mechanics of pottery distribution in the medieval period. In fact the distribution of medieval pottery in Oxfordshire shown by Mellor (1994) demonstrates that multiple factors must have been at work, even allowing for the fact that distribution maps are as much about where archaeological work has taken place as anything else.

There is one further factor related to the above. Several links between Burton Dassett and Arbury, Nuneaton, and Chilvers Coton are attested (see Dyer, this volume) including links to the Templars, who held Chilvers Coton and Arbury Priory. Gooder (1984) has shown that Arbury Priory, Nuneaton Priory and the Templars were actively engaged in pottery and tile production through the selling of potting clay or employment of potters and tilers. It is therefore the case that where tenurial links to North Warwickshire were strongest, it was here that potters, both male and female, were active. Is it possible that these religious establishments promoted the sale of pottery produced on their land? Although individual pots were cheap to buy, something approaching a monopoly might have presented a more attractive prospect of a worthwhile financial return.

In sum, the picture of pottery supply to Burton Dassett and its significance is infuriatingly opaque. There is no single explanation that can adequately account for perceived differences between the assemblages on the two sides of the road; nor is there a single method of distribution apparent. Indeed it is possible that the data are unreliable, or more strictly not statistically comparable due to enforced differences in excavation strategy, differing levels of residuality and the effects of abandonment and demolition on the stratigraphy both horizontal and vertical, factors which have been discussed above. Whatever the reasons for the patterns, it should at least prompt further questioning as to how marketing systems in medieval England really worked.

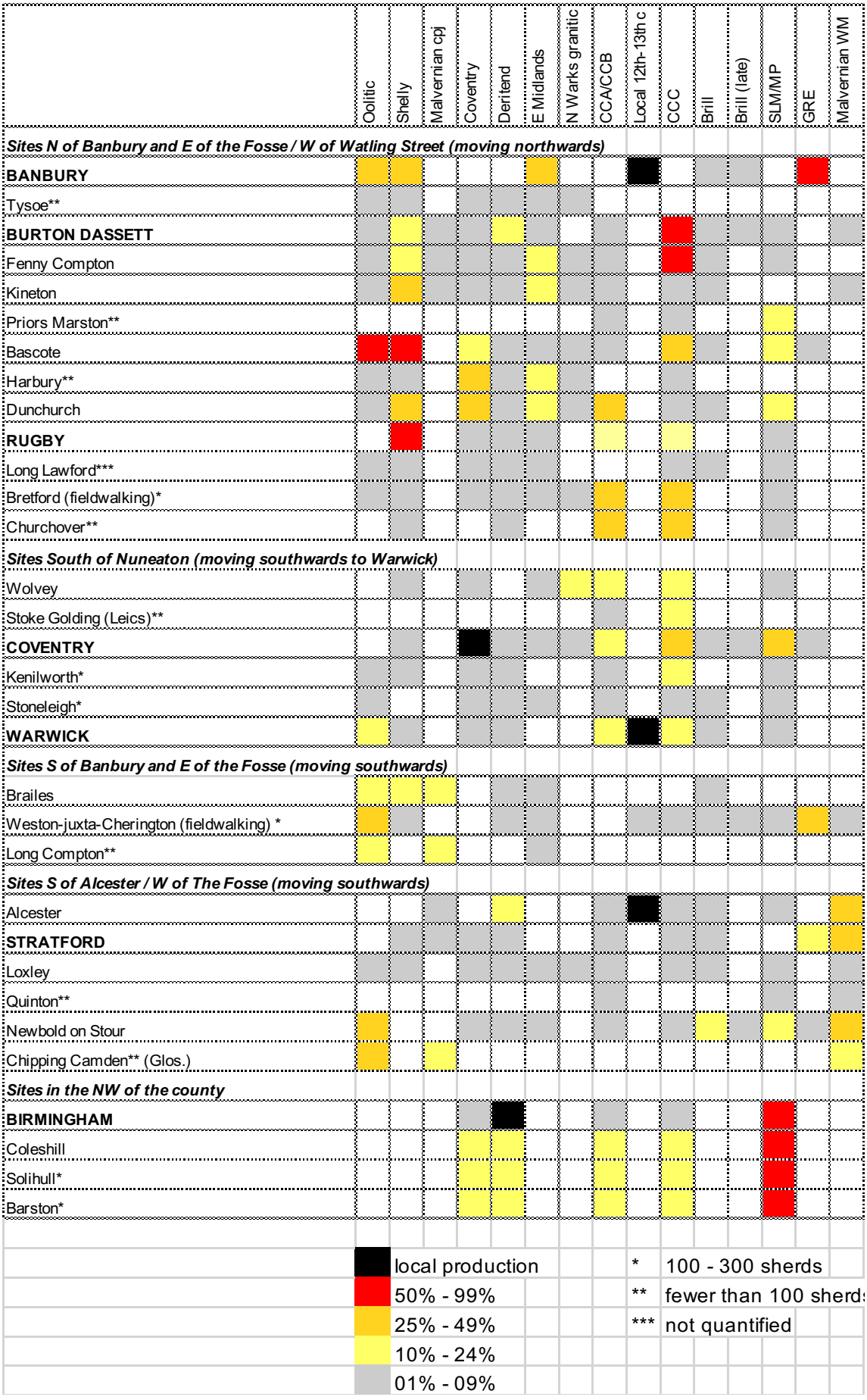

Figure 8.1.63: Sites with pottery possibly transported via Watling Street

Function/spatial analysis

As a general rule, the floor surfaces within buildings were kept free of rubbish, as would be expected. The find of the Midlands Purple jug in the stone-lined pit in House A must, therefore, be a remnant of the final occupation there and suggests that the jug was an integral part of whatever the pit was used for. Some of the other deposits around House D2 also seem to be associated with the final occupation of the building or the clearance of it before demolition. The evidence from other plots is not quite so substantial but nevertheless some indication of the uses to which some of the buildings or areas within in them were put, could be gleaned from the pottery.

The building to the south of House K has been identified as a possible granary (see Palmer, above), possibly later converted to another use after the addition of an upper storey. The interior of the building was relatively free of pottery and other domestic debris. Areas of burning were recorded and it is with some interest that the presence of what should be culinary items or evidence of culinary activity were noted in or in the vicinity of the building. Possible evidence of dairying in Area H was found, although the evidence was not conclusive. The Area J smithy assemblage, however, was not noticeably different from others on the north side of the road, although somewhat different from the properties further south, in terms of the fabrics present at least.

In Area D2, the storage and consumption of liquids (probably ale) was a feature of the west end of the house, although whether the drinking took place on the first floor could not be ascertained. It is possible that brewing was carried out in the same area of the house but this certainly could not be proved. More certain evidence of brewing comes from the northern extension to House E and it can be argued that the heat generated by the malting kiln was also used for gentle cooking, leavening or fermentation. The ceramic evidence points to this northern extension being more than just a stable or barn and confirms the interpretation that this was a brewhouse. In both House D2 and House E, the central rooms were kept clear of most debris. It is in the eastern and western rooms of these houses that evidence for storage, including the storage of liquids, and cooking is found. The western room of House D2 had two hearths (691) and (689) and the combined evidence suggests that this was not only a kitchen but probably the main kitchen of the house. House E contained evidence of a hearth or hearths in the eastern room, which was interpreted as a 'processing area' in Phase 5. Very little pottery came from this area and what sherds were present were small and could not be associated with any certainty to what was taking place in this area of House E.

Urban or rural, rich or poor?

It is generally rather difficult to ascertain prosperity or poverty from the ceramics alone. Pottery was relatively cheap and everyone used it during the post-Conquest medieval period. It is only when we look at the functional components of an assemblage that we can begin to get an insight into ceramic use and by extension the quality of the lives that people led. In particular, it is vessels for 'specialised' cooking, such as pipkins, dripping dishes, skillets and chafing dishes that hint at more sophisticated cooking, although it should always be remembered that by the 14th century at least, most ordinary households would have had at least one metal cooking pot and the richer ones a range of metal cookware and cooking utensils such as skimmers and flesh-hooks; usually, there is little trace of these metal items in the archaeological record, although one notable exception is Weoley Castle, Birmingham (Mould 2011). Other ceramic items such as bottles, cups and candlesticks are unlikely to be found in the poorest households either.

As a general rule, less common vessel forms are more likely to be found on urban sites, even allowing for the fact that the poor were part of the urban scene also. In essence, rural communities

are more likely to be conservative in their customs and usages either by choice or because there was less disposable income to fritter away on inessentials. At Bascote (Rátkai 2009b), for example, the range of vessels forms is severely limited, with cooking pots dominant and few jugs or bowls. There was a single possible pipkin sherd (Chilvers Coton C fabric) out of a medieval assemblage of 1,236 sherds. Bascote was not an impoverished settlement, even if a somewhat peripheral part of Long Itchington parish, and the Lay Subsidy (1327 and 1332) suggest that the village was thought of as '...significant, coherent and organised...' (Watt and Dyer 2009, 80). Amongst the later medieval material there was only one cistercian ware sherd. Other medieval artefacts were scarce.

At Burton Dassett, it is on the north side of the road, particularly in Areas D2, E and F that the less common vessel forms are mostly found. Areas D2 and F (along with D1) were the ones judged to be the most prosperous by Hamilton (this vol, 401) based on the animal bone assemblage. It has already been suggested, above, that the large collection of cistercian ware associated with House D2 is more urban in character; the presence of pipkins, dripping dishes and bottles confirms this. Finds from other artefact categories, for example, copper alloy skimmers and cooking vessels, pewter spoons, candlesticks and stone mortars also suggest above average prosperity.

The non-ceramic artefacts, however, tend to be found much more frequently on the north side of the road, so to some extent we are not necessarily comparing like with like when we contrast the finds assemblages from the northern and southern properties. Secondly, there is a chronological difference of 75, perhaps even 100 years between the earliest demolitions on the south side of the road and those on the north. In addition the manner of each property's abandonment and demolition could also affect the range of pottery and artefacts found there. An orderly departure would enable the house occupants to take valuable, uncommon or useful objects with them; a more unexpected and forced eviction might well lead to a more precipitate departure with little time to root out and package household items and valuables for removal. Even allowing for these factors, there is still the issue of the recycling of metal goods - all prudent households did this - which meant broken items would usually be gathered for repair or melting, not simply discarded. The paucity of knives - an indispensable item in the medieval period - on the south side of the road could indicate poverty but is more likely the result of a 'planned' abandonment of the tenements or recycling or a combination of the two.

The ability to interpret the finds is, in addition, jeopardised by the fact that so much of our knowledge of the material culture of the medieval world is predicated on urban excavation (or high status or religious sites). Substantial bodies of archaeological evidence about rural folk are hard to come by in the published record. What appears to be the case, in an urban setting at least, is that by the second half of the 14th century and continuing into the 15th century there is a greater availability of portable finds, which are non-essential and could be classed as fashion-led. Even so, the prevailing view is moving away from the idea of the third quarter of the 14th century being the beginning of a boom time for personal items in favour of a rather more gritty realisation that an upsurge in these goods in *urban* excavations may in reality be the result of post-plague house clearances (pers comm Quita Mould). Although the plague survivors were able to benefit in the long-term it may have been some time before improvement in their circumstances brought about the production of and market for items of personal adornment, trinkets and other metal goods, for example. There is no way of knowing for certain whether these developments were synchronous in town and country or whether the rural dweller lagged behind his urban counterpart. It would seem that Burton Dassett arrived quite late to the notion of spending disposable income on 'consumer goods' but this need not be the case on other rural settlement sites.

The pottery on the south side of the road does more closely resemble that from an average rural settlement although, some of the less common forms were found there but stone mortars, a requisite of bourgeois and aristocratic living, were also found in demolition levels in Areas K and I, which would suggest prosperity. On the south side of the road querns were almost as well represented as on the north side of the road. Hones, which should be an important item in the

medieval period are only slightly less common (just over 40% of the total of hones recovered) on the south side of the road. This could suggest that there was not preferential survival of non-ceramic artefacts on the north side of the road and that the infrequency of finds that could be associated with a more prosperous or semi-urban environment is an accurate reflection of differences between the tenements on either side of the road. It is not necessarily the case that those living in Areas H, I and K were poor - the finding of tuning pegs, for example, suggests this was not the case - but rather, perhaps, that they lived differently, and it is possible that the tenements on the north side of the road, from their inception, were always more urban in character. Whatever the truth, the north side of the road produced a greater abundance of items that typify the upsurge in availability of and desire for portable consumer goods in the 15th century; the evidence from Burton Dassett indicates that this was apparent particularly from c. 1450 onwards. If this does not qualify the inhabitants of the north side of the road as urban it does at least show that the prosperous rural dweller was able to enjoy the same level of material culture as his or her town-dwelling neighbours.