

# EXCAVATIONS AT ALDGATE AND BUSH LANE HOUSE IN THE CITY OF LONDON, 1972

BY HUGH CHAPMAN AND TONY JOHNSON

## SUMMARY.

This paper contains the reports of two excavations carried out in the City by the Guildhall Museum in 1972. The two sites have been published together as they both produced evidence of early military occupation. At Aldgate this earlier period was succeeded by a series of timber buildings during the second half of the first century and the earlier part of the second century A.D. One of these phases appears to have been burnt down in the Boudiccan disaster of A.D. 60. There were also possible indications that the Roman road to Colchester had originally left the City further to the south than its traditionally accepted course. At Bush Lane House the two earlier phases of timber buildings of probably military origin were succeeded by a period of domestic use which terminated in disaster, again probably at the hands of Boudicca. Finally, the site had a masonry phase relating to the Roman Palace complex.

The archaeological reports of the two sites are followed by a general discussion on the military origins and importance of London during the second half of the first century A.D. The opportunity has also been taken to publish a number of groups of Neronian and Flavian pottery in order to provide a comprehensive series for this period from the Roman city of London and help fill the gap caused by the shortage of published material.

## EXCAVATIONS AT ALDGATE, 1972

BY HUGH CHAPMAN

The opportunity arose in the summer of 1972 for the Guildhall Museum to excavate a site in an area bounded by Duke's Place, Mitre Street and 20-30 Aldgate (Grid Ref. TQ 3352 8116). Demolition of the existing buildings had taken place in 1966-67 prior to the widening of Aldgate, and a proposal to level the remaining area for a playground for the adjoining Sir John Cass Primary School threatened to disturb any surviving archaeological levels.

### THE POSITION OF THE SITE.

The site lies on the extreme eastern edge of the Roman city (Fig. 1) just inside the late second-early third century walled circuit. The Roman city wall runs under the pavement on the east side of Duke's Place and under the front of the buildings along the east side of Jewry Street.<sup>1</sup> The evidence for the position of the gate itself is not very strong but it appears to straddle the modern road, its northern edge lying under the pavement of 1-2 Aldgate High Street<sup>2</sup> and its south edge under the front of the buildings on the other side.<sup>3</sup> The gate had therefore a maximum measurement across of c. 12 m and this suggests that it probably had only a single carriageway.<sup>4</sup>

It must be remembered, however, that these stone-built circuit defences did not exist during the first two centuries A.D., and that there is at present no indication that London received any earlier circuit defences. During most of the history of the site, therefore, the limits of the city in this area were unlikely to have been marked by any substantial physical boundary.

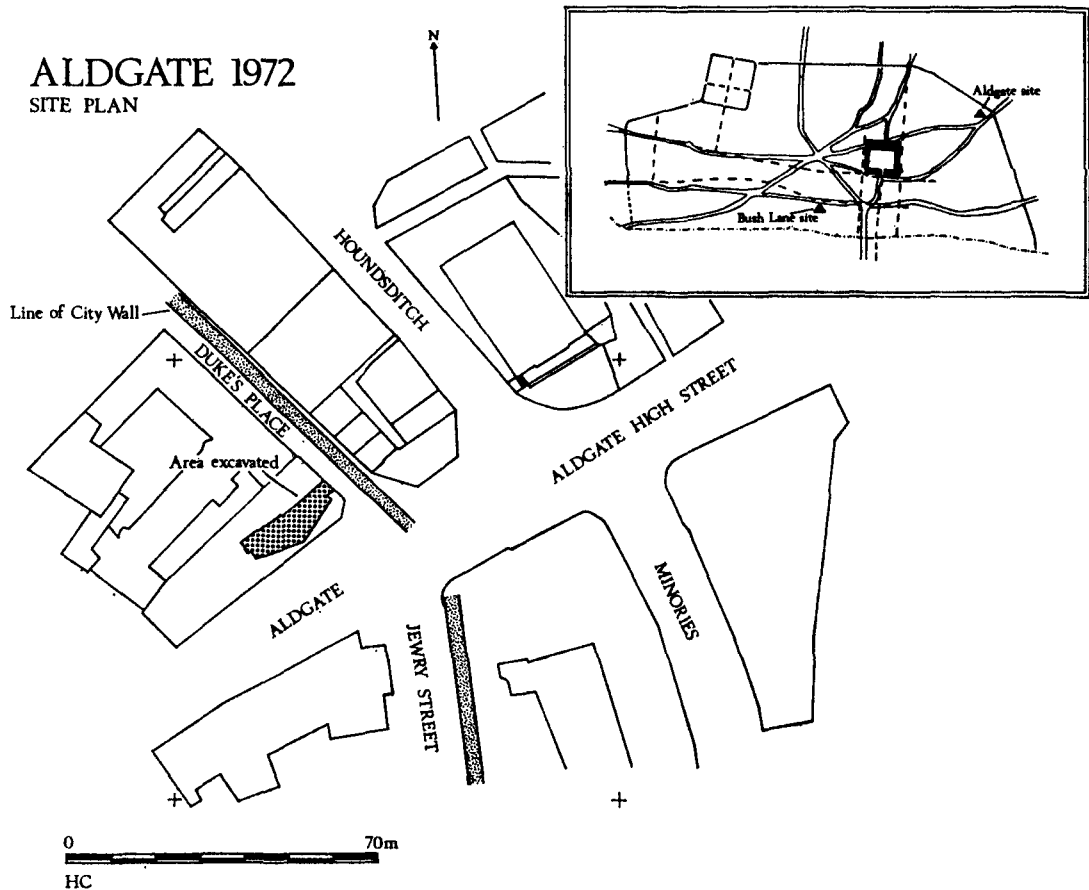


Fig. 1  
Aldgate Site Plan

The relationship, however, of the site to the Roman road that led north-east along Aldgate and ultimately to Colchester, is a more complex problem. The interpretation of the site itself throws light on the formation of the line of this road and this is discussed below (p. 13), but several points must be mentioned here. The observation in 1953 of Roman road metalling under Aldgate High Street some 173 m outside the city,<sup>5</sup> the obvious line of the modern road and the position of the gate indicate the accepted angle of approach of the road to Colchester and demonstrate, if nothing else, that this was its position by the beginning of the third century. For its course, however, on the inside of the city and its relation to the Roman street system we do not have any evidence, though it is likely that it continued on the same alignment for at least a short distance, probably as far as the present fork between the modern streets of Fenchurch Street and Leadenhall Street. The small size of the gate, when compared with that at Newgate for example,<sup>6</sup> suggests that by at least the third century the route to Colchester no longer held the prominence that it must have had earlier.

This site, therefore, lay on the edge of the Roman city, just inside the walls and on the north side of the main route to Colchester. The modern widening of Aldgate meant that there was no chance of finding the northern edge of the Roman road, as this probably lies well towards the centre of the modern road.

#### THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE SITE.

In June and July 1972 an area measuring 22.5 m in length and varying in width from 3.5 to 7 m was stripped and excavated. The area uncovered was somewhat less than half the available site.

It is clear from the general absence of late Roman levels and total lack of any medieval levels that the basements of the demolished late nineteenth century buildings had seriously reduced the surviving archaeological deposit over almost all the site. By good chance at the east end of the site against the retaining wall of Duke's Place, the deposit had survived as a sloping bank with a maximum depth of 1.92 m (Fig. 6), but elsewhere, apart from the fill of Roman features cut into the natural brickearth, the occupation deposits on top of this surface ranged from a depth of 300 mm to total removal. This lack of continuous stratigraphy and the difficulty of recording an unbroken section east-west through the site because of interruption by the surviving modern foundations (Figs. 5, 6), meant that most of the phases of Roman occupation and construction had to be dated, not by simple stratigraphical deposition, but by the pits and features which cut into them.

Though four post-medieval cess pits (P1, 2, 3, 5, Fig. 5) cut into the Roman levels, only one medieval pit (P4, Fig. 5) was found. This scarcity of medieval rubbish pitting, a feature normally very common on urban archaeological sites, is perhaps best explained by the fact that the site lay within the "Great Garden" of the Holy Trinity Priory whose building lay to the north and west, and that between the foundation of the Priory in 1108 and its dissolution in 1531, the area was under careful control and cultivation.<sup>7</sup>

#### THE DATING OF THE SITE AND ITS PHASES OF OCCUPATION.

The history of the occupation of the site falls into four main phases:

1. Pre-Flavian. The primary feature was a military V-shaped ditch cutting across the northern edge of the site. Two, possibly three, timber buildings were then built over the area. Occupation levels were also evident at the eastern end, and the area in between had been given over to rubbish pitting.
2. Flavian-early second century. The situation was now reversed, the eastern half of the site receiving a series of planned timber buildings, while elsewhere the buildings of the previous phase were cut through by pits.
3. Second-third centuries. No occupation levels survived except at the very eastern end of the site where a building had been demolished to make way for the city defences. Four rubbish pits also belong to this period.
4. Post-Roman occupation was represented by an early medieval pit, three brick-framed cess pits of the seventeenth century and a similar one of early Victorian date.

The most intensive period of occupation for which the evidence survives, lies therefore between the beginning of the Roman occupation in A.D. 43 and the early years of the second century. Because of the number of different phases of construction that took place within

# ALDGATE 1972

## PLAN PRE-FLAVIAN PHASE

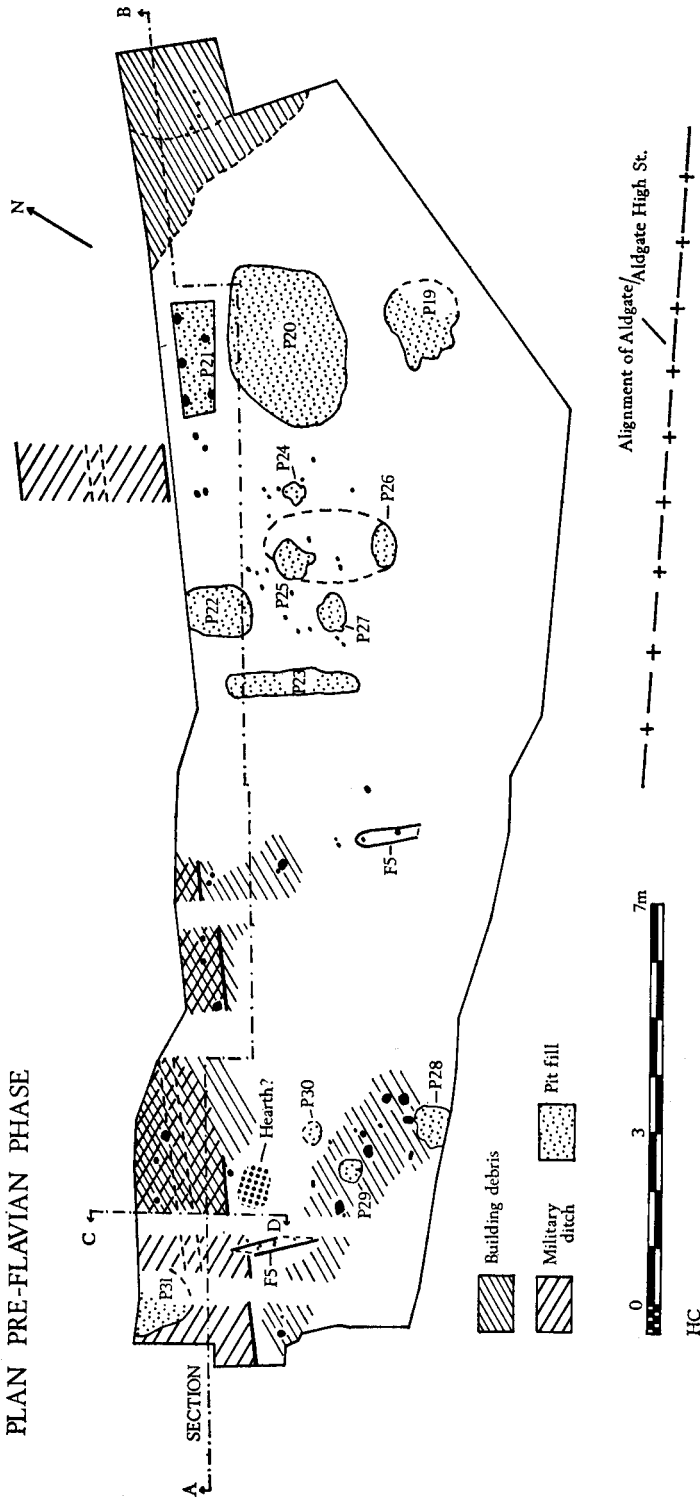
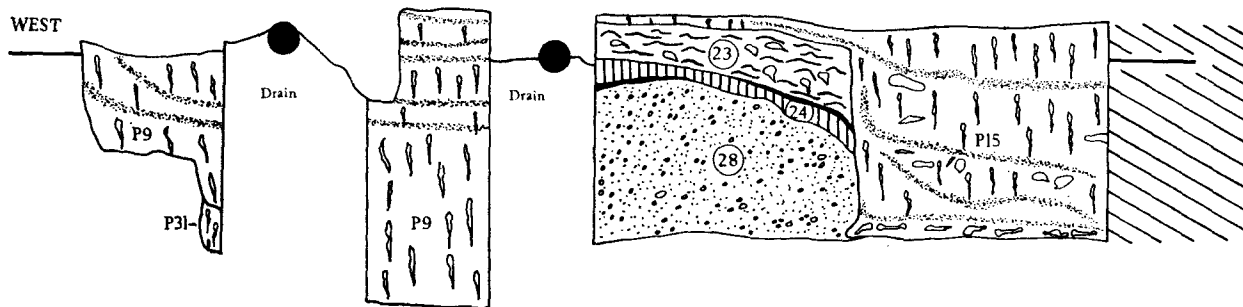
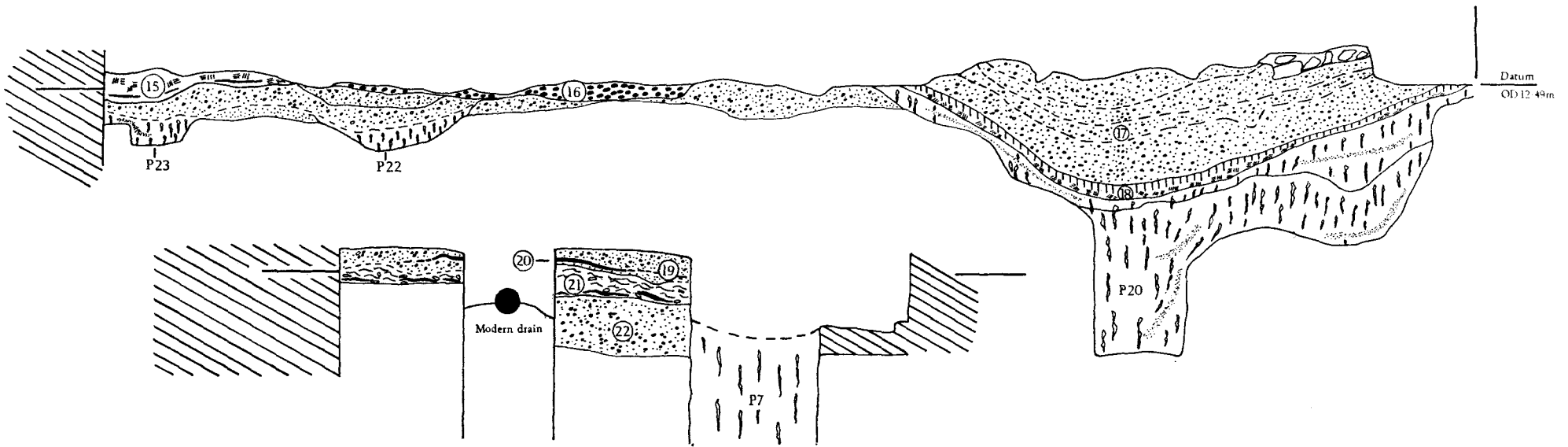
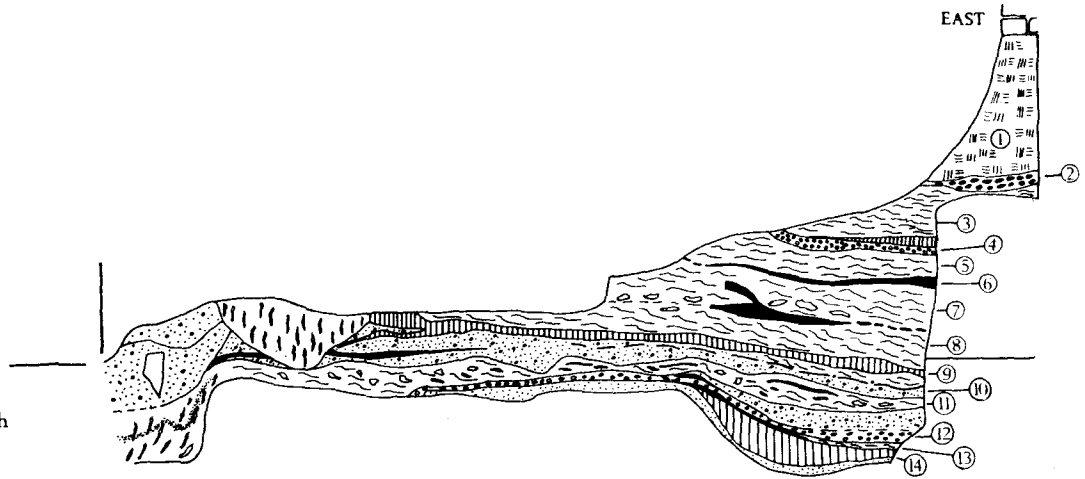
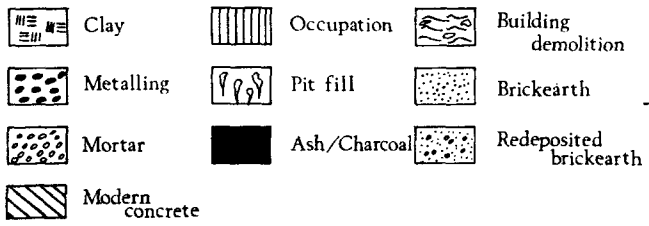


Fig. 2  
Aldgate Plan—Pre-Flavian phase

# ALDGATE 1972

SECTION A-B WEST-EAST



HC

Fig. 6 Aldgate, Section A-B

this space of about 50 years, it is not possible to be too precise about their dating, and the fragmentary nature of the surviving structures does nothing to help this problem. It is clear, however, that there is a distinction between the nature of the occupation in the pre-Flavian period and that of the Flavian period itself.

The numbers for the layers (L), the pits (P) and features (F) refer to the two sections, A-B, C-D (Figs. 3, 6) and the plans for the relevant phase (Figs. 2, 4, 5). In the pottery report (p. 18) the coarse pottery from the different layers is arranged in the order that the layers are mentioned in the text, whilst the pits are grouped in chronological order of the date of their contents. References to the relevant page of the pottery report have not generally been given in the text, as this would very soon have become repetitive.

#### THE PRE-FLAVIAN PHASE (FIG. 2).

The earliest feature was a V-shaped ditch (F6, Figs. 2, 3, Plate 1) cut into the natural brickearth surface along the north edge of the site. Its length was traced for 8.8 m before it left the excavation, but during backfilling the opportunity was taken to cut mechanically a second section across the ditch farther to the east establishing a total length of 16.2 m. At the first section the ditch had a depth of 1.32 m with a width across the top of 1.82 m. The sloping sides narrowed down to a box-shaped gutter running along the centre of the bottom, 370 mm wide and 200 mm deep. As far as it was possible to tell, though much

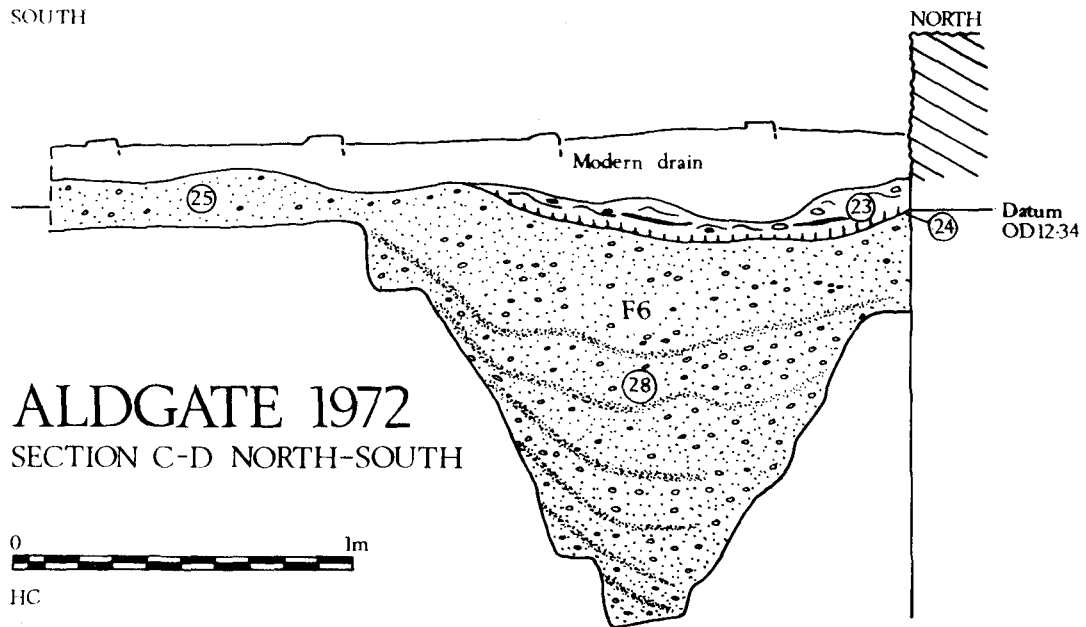


Fig. 3  
Aldgate, Section C-D

of the profile of the ditch elsewhere had been destroyed by later pits (e.g. P9, 15, Figs. 4, 5), the digging of the sloping sides of the ditch and gutter at the bottom had not been regular throughout. The second section across the ditch showed a slightly different profile, having a width of 2.4 m and a surviving depth of 1.3 m. The evidence suggests that the ditch was

not open for long. There was no sign of silting in the bottom of the gutter, though just above it on the sides there were traces of a hard crusty weathered surface. The fill of the ditch (L28, 22) was very clean, being similar to the natural brickearth, but there were sufficient tip lines to indicate that it had been backfilled from the south side, presumably from the material of an associated rampart or bank. Only five (undateable) sherds came from the original ditch fill. The ditch is almost certainly military, and this is perhaps confirmed by the discovery of a bone grip of a legionary *gladius* (No. 12, p. 48, Fig. 22, Plate 5) found in the fill of the second section when it was being cleaned for recording. Several pits cut into the fill of the ditch, or, more accurately, into the debris of the building built above it (see below), but the remains of one pit (P31), lying below a later pit (P9) of Antonine date, was cut into the fill proper. The five dateable sherds from this deposit are of Neronian or early Flavian date.

Despite the fact that the remainder of the site lay on the south side of the ditch and therefore probably inside any fortification that the ditch may represent, no other features were found which can be definitely associated with this military phase. The rampart (L25) as well as filling the ditch had also evidently been spread across the area behind and over the top of three shallow pits or scoops (P28, 29, 30) cut into the natural surface, but apart from indicating that there may have been a gap between the end of the occupation within the fortified area and the filling-in of the defences, they do not add significant information. Apart from one pot sherd probably of Neronian date from P30, the pits were sterile, being filled with re-deposited natural brickearth.

After the filling of the ditch and the levelling of the rampart, the area received two, possibly three, timber structures. Their remains were fragmentary and the absence of contemporary occupation and destruction levels, except in one place, made it impossible to decide in which order they had been built.

The post-holes can be divided into two groups. One series running diagonally east-west across the site consisted of a series of six substantial holes (700–380 mm deep, 200 mm diameter), of which four were in a line with the remaining two forming a group at one end. They were all filled with loose brown earth. This and the oval section at the top suggests that they had been deliberately withdrawn. With them was a series of smaller stake-holes (70 mm deep, 50 mm diameter), which must have been part of the same structure. A fragment of a dish of Neronian or earlier date came from the fill of the most easterly post-hole (No. 2, p. 18).

The second series of post-holes were placed for the most part on top of the fill of the ditch (L28) and though three larger holes (600–300 mm deep, 100–160 mm diameter) form a straight line, the remainder have no obvious pattern. Both an occupation level (L21, 24) and a destruction level (L23) of burnt daub and tile fragments of this building survived in the area where the fill of the ditch had sunk. A semicircular concentration of burnt earth heavily flecked with charcoal below the destruction level and in the area between the two major groups of post-holes suggested that this may have been the hearth area and that the two groups of post-holes represent a single building. A further building was indicated by the remains of two parallel slots (F5, 200–240 mm wide, 360 mm deep) cut for wattle-and-daub walls, running north-west south-east. They had been re-filled after the vertical stakes (diameter 40–70 mm) for the wattle “fence” had been driven in. No other features connected with this structure were found.

The evidence for the dating of the structures indicated by the post-holes comes from the material from the destruction level itself (L23) and the pits (P13, 14, 15, 16, 17, Fig. 4) which cut through the building debris. Both the material from L23 and the early pits suggest that the building had been burnt down by *c.* A.D. 60. The wattle-and-daub structure clearly pre-dates both the pit (P10) which truncates one of the two slots and the pits (P11, 12, Fig. 4) which were cut into the area between the two slots, and therefore it also belongs to this pre-Flavian phase, though it is not possible to say whether it came before or after the other building.

Occupation in the eastern half of the site during this period was characterised by the deposition of four layers (L11, 12, 13, 14) at the extreme end of the site and extensive pitting elsewhere. Two buildings were represented here. Layer 14 was an occupation deposit with a thin layer of destruction material above (L13), while L12 was a more substantial floor surface of pebbles mixed with what was probably mortar. Both the destruction level (L11) of this building, and the building below (L13), contained much burnt daub, charcoal and a few fragments of wall plaster. The small area that survived and was excavated within the boundaries of the site meant that apart from a series of five small stake-holes (40 mm diameter, 60–80 mm deep) in Layer 12, no structural evidence for these buildings was found. The nature of the destruction levels and the material from them show that these buildings had been destroyed by fire in the pre-Flavian period, and it must be suggested that one of these burnt levels owes its origin, like the burnt building at the west end of the site, to the Boudiccan destruction of the settlement in A.D. 60.

Pits of different kinds occupied the remainder of the area. Four shallow pits (P24, 25, 26, 27 and also see L27) with attendant stake-holes (average 55 mm diameter, 60 mm deep) had been cut and backfilled with very clean brickearth. One sherd came from P26, though slightly more came from L27, a further scoop of redeposited brickearth into which the pits had been cut. It is difficult to interpret their purpose or that of the stake-holes, as they contrast with the other pits where a succession of fills of different types indicated refuse disposal. The colourful and organic quality of the tip levels in the largest pit (P20) indicated that as well as a depository for a quantity of building material (buff-coloured *tegulae* and brick) the pit had also been used for the disposal of domestic rubbish. There was a fill of a similar nature in the pits P22 and P19 and in the long shallow pit or gully P23. The rectangular pit (P21) represented a rather different cutting having vertical sides and a flat, but sloping bottom (800–700 mm deep). The consistent vivid green fill that had formed a hard accretion on the sides, the regularity of the pit and the five substantial post-holes (200–300 mm deep, 100–120 mm diameter) in the bottom, suggest that it was probably a latrine pit and that the posts carried some form of superstructure.

#### FLAVIAN-EARLY SECOND CENTURY PHASE (FIG. 4).

During the succeeding phase the use of the site was reversed. The western half received a series of pits, while in the other, a series of buildings were erected aligned on each other and on the Roman road that led out of the city along Aldgate.

Some of the earlier pits of the previous phase (P19, 24, 25, 26, 27) had been sealed by a layer of cobbles (L16), perhaps in preparation for building, but no such precaution had been taken with the larger pits P20, 21. The result was that the part of the building that had been built over them, had subsided as the fill of the pits settled.



# ALDGATE 1972 PLAN FLAVIAN PHASE

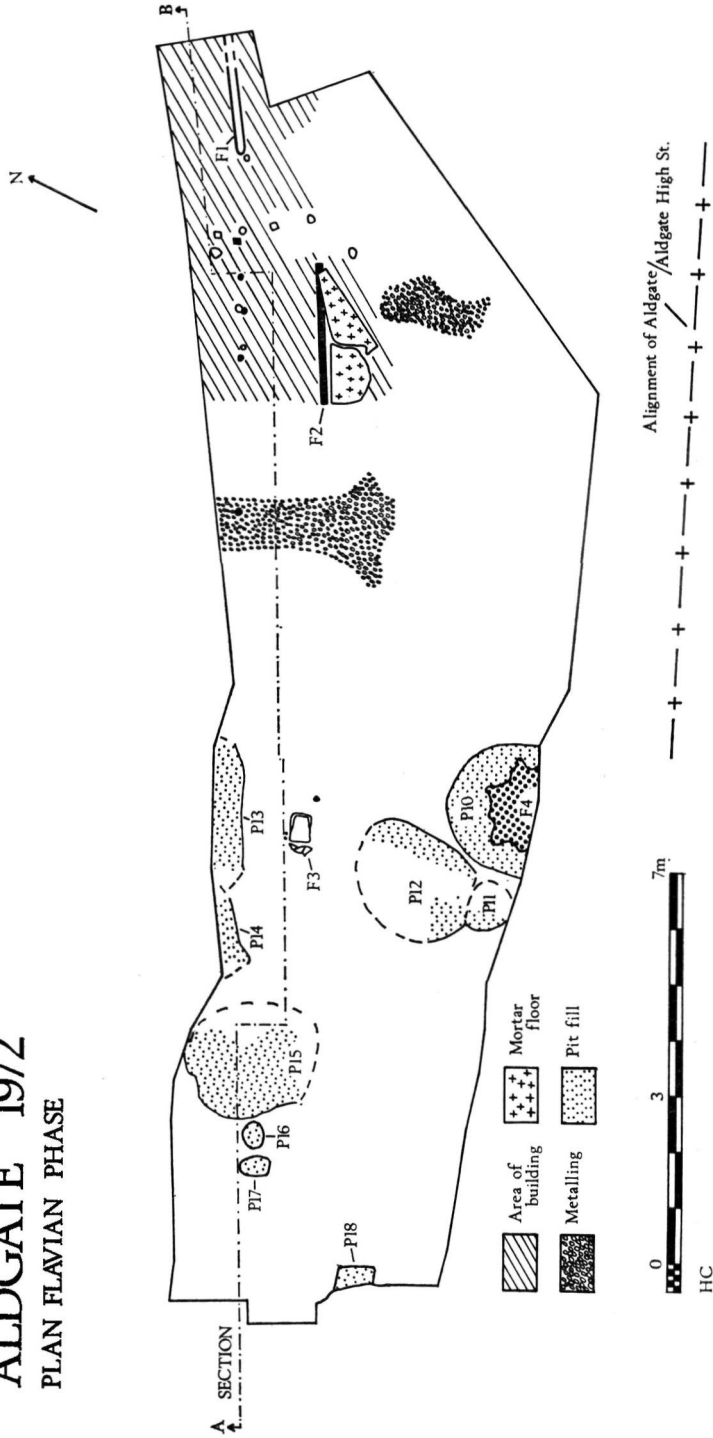


Fig. 4  
Aldgate Plan—Flavian phase

The traces of this building consisted of a timber sleeper-beam (F2, Plate 2) 100 mm wide, 110 mm deep and 2.56 m surviving length, that had remained as a dark brown stain. It had an *opus signinum* mortar floor on its south side and a clay floor and black occupation level (L18) on the other. The clay floor level lay directly on top of the final fill of the pits P20, 21, though the mortar floor had received a clay make-up level. It proved impossible to link this building with any of the other building phases that occurred to the east, as it had sunk below the general level of excavation, though a series of five post-holes (80–70 mm diameter, 200–400 mm depth) cutting through the clay floor level were part of its construction. The great degree of subsidence and a succession of massive dump levels (L17) of late Flavian–early Trajanic date that had been used to level off this part of the site, suggested that the building had not been in use for a very long time and that subsidence had occurred quite quickly.

Fragments of a second building of similar construction lay to the east, and on the same alignment. The pre-Flavian buildings had been levelled off with a make-up level (L10) and cut through by a slot for a timber sleeper-beam (F1) 120–140 mm wide, 190–220 mm deep, 1.53 m long. In this case, too, the beam had remained *in situ* surviving as a crumbly brown deposit. A series of post-holes, sub-rectangular in section (c. 120 x 100 mm and c. 250 mm deep) ran in a line at right-angles to the west of the timber slot. The occupation of the building was represented by a layer of dense black occupation material (L9), and its collapse and destruction by layer L8, which consisted mostly of fallen wall plaster, and layer L7 which was composed of burnt daub, charcoal, and ash. In the case of both this building and the one above, the insubstantial nature of the timbers suggested that they belonged to internal partition walls and not to the main walls of the buildings.

Further occupation during this period had taken place above the remains of the destruction of the second building described above. An occupation level (L6) and charcoal flecked clay level (L5) had been deposited. The small area available for excavation made it impossible to be precise about its nature, though it most probably represents a third phase of building.

One unexplained feature which appears to belong to this period was a small hearth (F3, Plate 3) that lay well to the west of the buildings described above, and in an area surrounded by pits. The hearth was carefully made, rectangular in shape, 600 x 530 mm, having as its fire-platform a re-used portion of *tegula* that had clear signs of burning in a circular area in the centre. A low daub wall still standing to its original height (90 mm) had been built around three sides, and two stake-holes (40 mm diameter, 40 mm deep, and 100 mm apart) had been driven close to its northern edge. A small area of black ash (L20) survived in the area immediately to the west.

The hearth lay above the occupation and debris (L21) of the pre-Flavian building that lay on top of the fill of the ditch (L22). It had been covered over by a layer of re-deposited brickearth (L19). It proved difficult to date the feature, though it clearly post-dated the pre-Flavian building phase. The smashed remains of half of the body of a flagon with buff fabric and white slip came from the fill in the hearth and though the ovoid shape of the body suggests a date in the second half of the first century A.D., not enough remained of the vessel to give a more precise date. The pit P7 (Fig. 5) which cut close to its eastern edge unfortunately proved to have had its top levels disturbed, but it is unlikely to have dated to before the middle of the third century. Nor, unfortunately, is it clear whether the pits

P13, 14 which were also cut close to the hearth, pre-date or post-date it. More decisive perhaps is the fact that no occupation levels of any period later than *c.* A.D. 100 survived in this area due to the destruction caused by the basements of the modern buildings.

The hearth, then, can be assigned at least to the Flavian phase, though it was completely isolated and not associated with any building. No industrial wastes of any kind were found and its true purpose, whether domestic or for some more specialised task, remains unknown.

The remainder of the site to the west had nine pits dug into it (P10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18). Apart from providing closely dateable groups of material, they deserve no special mention except for pits P15 and P10. In the case of the former the bottom fill of the pit was unusual in that it consisted entirely of fragments of animal bones<sup>8</sup> and must represent the refuse from some specialised butchery operation (p. 51). The second pit, P10, had a feature (F4) which was possibly associated with the hearth described above (F3), for after the final fill a rough hearth had been deliberately made by laying down a semi-circular patch of gravel. The red burnt colour of many of these stones and the thick layer of charcoal and ash on top indicated that the feature had been used as a hearth.

#### SECOND-THIRD CENTURIES (FIG. 5).

True occupation in this period is limited to traces of a substantial building near the top of the surviving bank at the east end of the site. Here the limited area excavated revealed an *opus signinum* floor (L4) with a thin black layer of occupation material, and on top of this a clay level containing much collapsed wall plaster (L3).

The mortar floor represented in fact two separate, though contemporary, floors divided by a rough trench, 500 mm wide, 90 mm deep. This was clearly a substantial building and the gap between the two floors is best interpreted as a robber trench for a stone wall. It is interesting to note that again this building appears to bear the same alignment as the timber structures of the Flavian period. Above the demolition of this building a layer of metalling (L2) had been laid and on top of this a deposit of solid earthy clay material (L1) survived as the final Roman deposit.

Though only a small area was excavated and therefore the evidence is not conclusive, this final deposit and its metalling base probably represents the tail of the bank that lay behind the Roman city wall. The wall runs close to the site under the pavement on the east side of Duke's Place (Fig. 1) and if the western edge of the pavement is taken as the inside face of the wall, the bank here would have had a width at the base of *c.* 7 m.<sup>9</sup> It is suggested then that the building described above had been deliberately levelled and its stone walls robbed in order to accommodate the building of the city defences at the end of the second century A.D.<sup>10</sup> Material (both samian and coarse pottery) from the building levels (L3, 4) suggests a date in the second half of the second century and fragments of a Nene valley beaker from L1 indicate a date in the late second-early third century for the bank.

A small surviving patch of metalling (L26) above L17, the dump levels on top of the Flavian building that subsided into P20, contained material of the Antonine period, and suggests that once again the area was being prepared for building.

Elsewhere occupation on the site consisted of four pits: P8 Hadrianic-early Antonine; P9 *c.* A.D. 200; P6 *c.* A.D. 250; and P7 which is probably the same date as the latter, though its top level had been disturbed and the bottom level contained no dateable material.

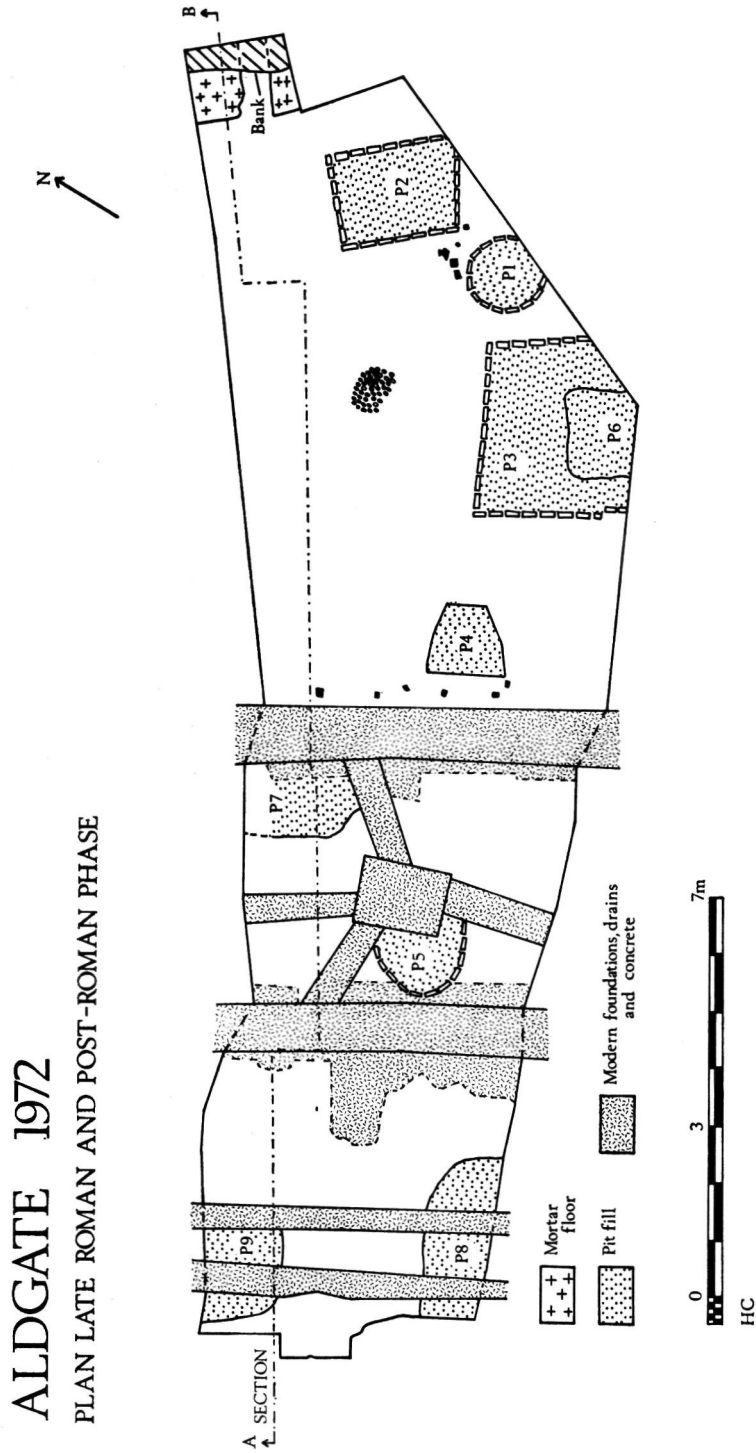


Fig. 5  
Aldgate Plan—late Roman and post-Roman phase

A row of six post-holes roughly in a straight line across the centre of the site and dug into Level L15, and a group of similar post-holes to the east, perhaps also belong to this period. They were all sub-rectangular (70 x 55 mm) with flat sides that narrowed to a sharp point at a depth of about 90 mm, thus indicating that only the bottom section of the post-hole was present. Neither group was sealed by a stratified deposit. This and the fact that they differed in character from all the other post-holes on the site suggest that they were intrusive and related to some later building phase, whose levels had been destroyed.

#### POST-ROMAN (FIG. 5).

No true post-Roman occupation was recorded. The five features listed below all represent intrusions into the Roman levels. Only a portion of the total depth of each of the features can have survived.

P4. A sub-rectangular pit (1.32 x 1.2 x 0.7 x 1.2 m) containing a lime green deposit and tip lines of a darker brown organic material. Although there was some residual Roman material, there were also medieval sherds which dated the pit to the late eleventh–early twelfth century (p. 40).

P2. Rectangular cess pit (1.71 x 2.10 m) with one course of the brick frame surviving. The few sherds of pottery were residual (medieval and Roman) but a guinea weight of William III indicated that it was still open towards the end of the seventeenth century.

P3. Rectangular cess pit (3.12 x 2.69 m). The brick frame survived to a height of 380 mm. Material from the fill, particularly the clay pipes, indicated that it was open c. 1620–1680.

P5. Circular (diameter 1.42 m) brick cess pit or well. This was not fully excavated, though the bricks of which it was built and the one or two sherds from the top of the fill again indicated a date in the seventeenth century. A construction trench was evident.

P1. Circular (diameter 1.27 m) brick cess pit, probably not later than c. 1840 (p. 41). The brick-work survived to a height of 1.54 m and the cess pit had been trench built.

#### INTERPRETATION.

The site has several significant contributions to make to the history of the Roman city of London. The most important perhaps is the evidence it provides for an early military occupation. It has long been thought (p. 71) that the origins of London were purely military, but until the present time no secure evidence has been found. It is not possible to say any more about the type or extent of the fort that the presence of a military ditch in the Aldgate area now indicates, except that it was clearly only of a temporary nature and perhaps should be thought to have had the character of a temporary camp or supply base rather than a fortified legionary enclosure. Its closest parallels are the Claudian ditches protecting the invasion base at Richborough.<sup>11</sup>

What is important, however, is its relationship to the London–Colchester Roman road. The angle, though *not* the position of the modern road is shown in Figs. 2, 4, and it is fair to assume that this represents also, within a few degrees, the line of the Roman road. The ditch clearly diverges from this line and bears no relation to it. All the archaeological evidence suggests that the ditch had been backfilled from the south side with rampart material, or at least the material that had originally been dug out of it. This, of course, would have lain behind the ditch inside the fortified area. The main area of the fort, therefore, lay to the south, across the road. It would be extremely unlikely, to say the least, for a ditched Roman fort to have a road traversing its area at such an angle, and therefore it is clear that

either the fort pre-dates the laying out of the road, or the road was elsewhere. The relevant positions of London and Colchester and the part they play in the story of the conquest, suggest that this road would have been one of the first, if not the first to have been established after the invasion in A.D. 43.<sup>12</sup>

Unfortunately, it is not possible to date the ditch precisely, though it clearly lies in the period before A.D. 60. By this time it had already been filled in, a small pit (P31) had been cut into the fill, and a building had been built and destroyed by fire on top of it. It cannot, therefore, belong to any temporary fortification that may have been started before Suetonius Paulinus arrived in London and took the decision to abandon the city to Boudicca in A.D. 60.<sup>13</sup> The other time that London played an important military role was during the invasion itself in A.D. 43 and in the period immediately afterwards (p. 71). It is to this period that the fort, on present evidence, must be assigned.

The two or three buildings that were built over the area south of the ditch were also not aligned on the road (Fig. 2), unlike the later ones in the Flavian period (Fig. 4). All the evidence suggests that the road did not in fact run along this line in the pre-Flavian period. A clue to an alternative point of departure from the city, is provided by a concentration of burials farther to the south in an area around Haydon Street, east of the Minorities.<sup>14</sup> Only one burial is recorded from the line of the road along Aldgate High Street. The custom of placing cemeteries along the roads leading out of the town is, of course, well known, and though not all the burials in the particular area are early, a cemetery once established would have continued in use through-out the Roman period.

It is suggested then that the London-Colchester road was first planned to leave the city farther to the south through the Haydon Street-Haydon Square area. The successive phases of Flavian, and later, buildings aligned on Aldgate suggest that it was at this time, c. A.D. 70, that the position of the road was changed, and that it now left the city on its traditional course along Aldgate and Aldgate High Street. It was, of course, in this position at the end of the second century, when the gate itself was built. The Flavian period was a time of extensive planning and public building in London, and it is tempting to think that this re-alignment of one of the four major roads that left the city was associated with a major replanning of the complete street grid. It seems fairly certain, for example, that during the same period the nucleus of such a pattern had been laid out round the new basilica in the centre of the city.<sup>15</sup>

As has been shown the civil occupation of the site is divided into two phases. During the first of these, shanty buildings of timber and daub construction at both ends of the site, suffered a disaster when they were destroyed by fire (L23, 13). This can be assigned to the destruction caused by Boudicca in A.D. 60, when the evacuated city was left to face the onslaught of her rebellious forces. A further site therefore is added to the picture of the extent of occupation known during this period, and records the most easterly point recorded of a Boudiccan fire level.<sup>16</sup>

A rapid and strong recovery in the period after this disaster is characterised by buildings of a more substantial nature, using timber beams for partition walls and mortar floors of *opus signinum*. A succession of at least three buildings were constructed on the same alignment. Clearly these constitute ribbon development along what was the newly laid-out course of the road to Colchester. The number of buildings that were built within a space of perhaps some 80 years reflects both a picture of constant activity along a major road and perhaps also the frailty of the buildings themselves, and their vulnerability to destruction by fire.

Finally, there was a hint, and with the limited excavation that was conducted, it can be no more, that the building of the city defences at the end of the second century involved the deliberate destruction of buildings at the extreme eastern edge of the city.

## THE FINDS

### THE SAMIAN WARE

BY GEOFF DANNELL

The following abbreviations are used in the text:

- Cunliffe 1968*: B. W. CUNLIFFE, Ed., *Fifth Report on the Excavations of the Roman Fort at Richborough, Kent*. London.
- Cunliffe 1971*: B. W. CUNLIFFE, *Excavations at Fishbourne*. London.
- Frere 1972*: S. S. FRERE, *Verulamium Excavations, Vol. 1*. London.
- Karnitsch 1955*: P. KARNITSCH, *Die verzierten Sigillata von Lauriacum*. Linz.
- Knorr 1905*: R. KNORR, *Die verzierten Terra sigillata-Gefäße von Camstatt und Köngen-Grinario*. Stuttgart.
- Knorr 1912*: R. KNORR, *Südgallische Terra-sigillata-Gefäße von Rottweil*. Stuttgart.
- Knorr 1919*: R. KNORR, *Töpfer und Fabriken verzierter Terra-sigillata des ersten Jahrhunderts*. Stuttgart.
- Knorr 1952*: R. KNORR, *Terra-sigillata-Gefäße des ersten Jahrhunderts mit Töpfernamen*. Stuttgart.
- Stanfield and Simpson 1958*: J. A. STANFIELD and G. SIMPSON, *Central Gaulish Pottery*. Durham.
- Wheeler 1926*: R. E. M. WHEELER, *The Roman Fort near Brecon*. London.

(FIG. 7).

I. (PIT II).

375. Red-brown slip, thick; paste, pink-red with calcareous inclusions. Neat double-bordered ovolo with straight tongue ending in trident tip. Below, a straight wreath of V-shaped leaves. The main decoration consists of panels. To the left, a large medallion containing a dog, O.1971. Small trifid leaves terminate the corner tendrils. Next, a narrow panel with the lioness O.1573A above two sets of circles, which are themselves above a dog, closest to O.1922. Then, another medallion, with the same lioness, followed to the right by a St. Andrew's Cross motif, with small palm leaves. Finally, below, a similar but finer straight wreath.

The ovolo is close to that of GERMANVS (Knorr, 1919, Taf. 35.80). Most of the detail can be found on form 29s bearing the PAVIEN stamp. The dog, O.1971 is at Kreuznach (Knorr, 1919, Taf. 48A) as is the palm leaf. The lioness is on a London vessel (Knorr, 1952, Taf. 48B). The wreaths are close to those given by Knorr (*ibid.* 48C and 1919, Taf. 63C). The circles are so common as not to signify, but PASSIENVVS used them (Knorr, 1952, Taf. 49E). However, there are close connections too with a pair of 37s ascribed by Knorr to MEDDILVS (Knorr, 1952, Taf. 39D and E). Knorr notes that PASSIENVVS and MEDDILVS shared a similar stipuled bud, but in addition, the winged figure O.274 on the Bregenz bowl D., is on a stamped 29 by PASSIENVVS from Moulins (*cf.* Cunliffe, 1971, Fig. 135.98). The only individual motif linking this bowl with MEDDILVS is the leaf-ornament (Knorr, 1919, Taf. 54.17). For the Emerkingen bowl E, similar links exist with stamped work of PASSIENVVS. The lanceolate leaves are on a 29 at Mainz (Knorr, 1919, Taf. 640), while there is an S motif at Brecon (Wheeler, 1926, Fig. 69, S31). An interesting thing about these parallels is that the straight wreaths clearly differ, one being fine, the other coarse, as on the present bowl. Close comparison of designs on vessels stamped by MEDDILVS and PASSIENVVS leave little doubt of a connection (*cf.* Knorr, 1952, Taf. 40D with 48C basal wreaths). The real question left unresolved is the significance. Hartley has recently suggested that the PASSIENVVS workshop may have started in the Claudian period, and ended its life around A.D. 75 (Cunliffe, Ed., 1968, 139, 100). For MEDDILVS, he suggests Neronian at the earliest (Frere, 1972, 218. S2). A 29 with the familiar MEDILLV stamp from Leicester (1958, B XIV (2)) however, can only just be Neronian, and on this evidence the potters probably started working within a few years of each other.

A mould-maker common to both, apparently made 37s for them, giving strength to Hartley's case for a terminal date in the early Flavian period. MEDILLVS is known to have signed moulds (Knorr, 1952, Taf. 40A) and a decision on whether it is a pre- or post-cocturam signature is vital.

Date: c. A.D. 75-90. South Gaulish.

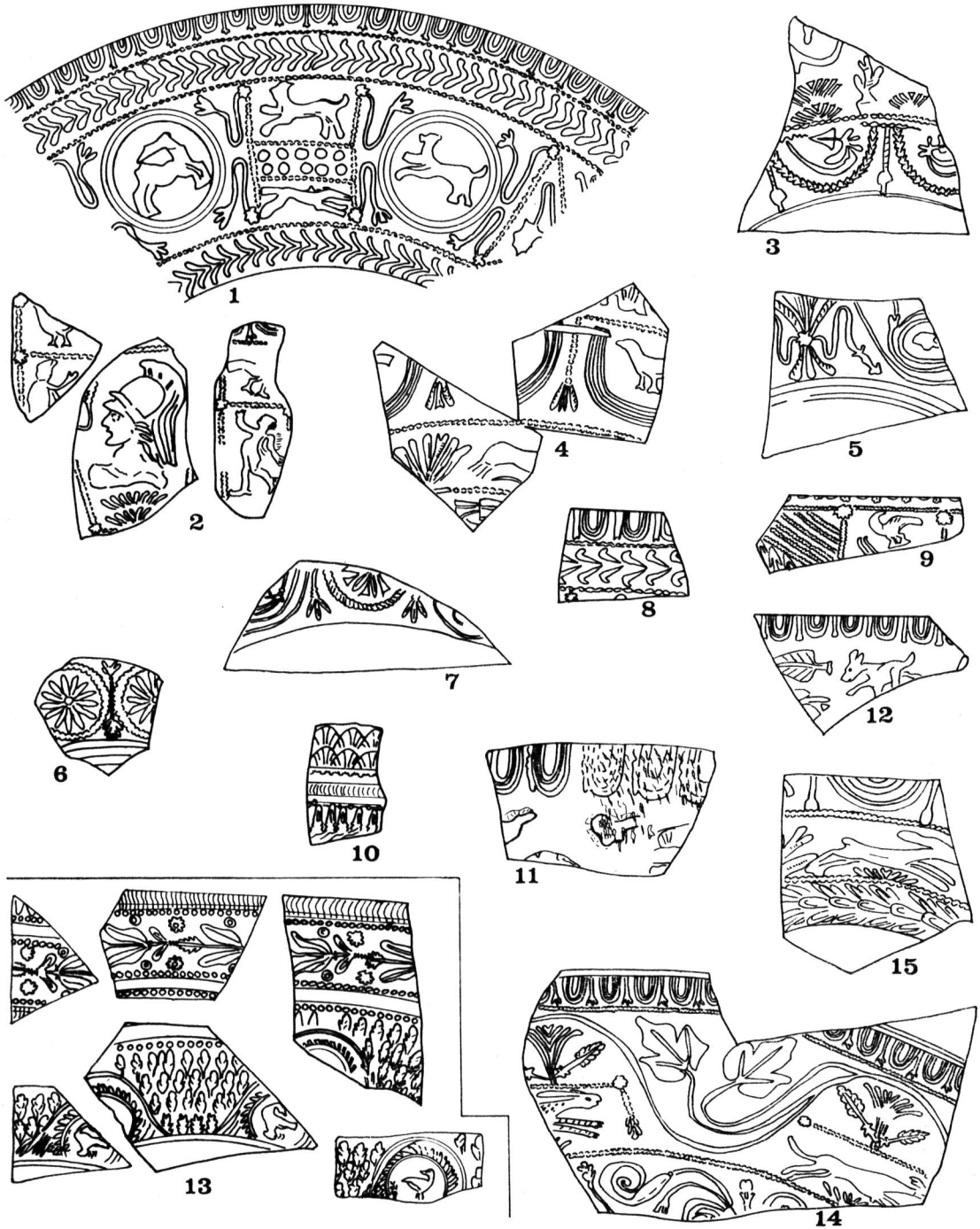


Fig. 7  
Aldgate. The Samian ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )



## 2. (LAYER 17).

37. Slip, red-brown, thick and hard-fired; paste, pink, coarse with fissures and yellowish calcareous inclusions. Double-bordered ovolo with tongue to the left ending in trident tip. Panel decoration; in the centre, a portrait bust O.1208 above grass tufts; on either side there are demi-panels, to the left, a bird O.2248, above a dancing man O.352. To the right, the bird is O.2293 above a satyr O.722. The ovolo and birds appear widely in the work of BIRAGILLVS, the bust is that used by MERCATOR, and the other figure types are used by the later workers in the GERMANVS shop.

Date: c. A.D. 85-110. South Gaulish.

## 3. (LAYER 17)

37. Slip, red-brown, slightly overfired, bright; paste, pink, with fine white inclusions. Free style animal scene above basal zone of wreathed festoons enclosing cordate stipuled buds, with large pomegranates or poppy-heads for swags. Perhaps the style of PASSIENVVS (cf. Cunliffe, 1971, Fig. 128.20), the whole of the basal wreath could be his. The upper scene is similar to the designs of GERMANVS, and perhaps there is an inter-relationship to be worked out here. Certainly there is a group of potters who made 29s (including PASSIENVVS and MEDDILVS who both have sharply differing early and late styles, see No. 1) who appear to have made mouldmakers producing 37s. VITALIS should perhaps be added to the immediate grouping as another associate.

Date: c. A.D. 75-90. South Gaulish.

## 4. (LAYER 17)

37. Slip, red-brown matt; paste pink, with coarse yellowish inclusions. The decoration is in four horizontal bands. The ovolo is double-bordered, narrow, and in high relief, with a straight tongue on the right. The tip is bent to the right. Below, a festoon design enclosing a bird O.2267. Next, an animal chase with stylised grass tufts, and finally a basal wreath of four leaves. Poorly moulded, and the ovolo might well be a single impression stamp. The bird is shared by both the penultimate (MASCVVVS, MERCATOR, L. COS VIRILIS) and the ultimate (NATALIS group) South Gaulish potters. The ovolo is close to that developed by the NATALIS group (cf. Knorr, 1912, Taf. XXIV. 4 and 6).

Date: c. A.D. 90-120. Banassac?

## 5. (LAYER 8)

29. Slip, red-brown, overfired; paste, red-pink, coarse. Lower zone: winding scroll with leaf-tree ornament and a small Nile goose O.2244 variant. MEDDILVS has all of the decorative details (Knorr, 1919, Taf. 54.14, 15, 16 and 42).

Date: c. A.D. 70-85. South Gaulish.

## 6. (PIT 20)

29. Slip, red-brown, shiny, overfired; paste, pink-red, fine with calcareous inclusions. Lower zone: part only, with a row of rosettes in the style of BASSVS and COELVS. Their details, as Knorr, 1952, Taf. 10F and 1919, 13C for the small leaf.

Date: c. A.D. 50-65. South Gaulish.

## 7. (PIT 15)

29. Slip, red-brown, crazed by overfiring; bright; paste, pink with both yellow and white inclusions. Lower zone: only the basal area remains, showing a winding scroll containing rosettes in wreathed medallions, with trifid-leaf terminals. The rosette appears on a 29 from Bregenz (Knorr, 1919, Taf. 85F), together with a leaf wreath and a four-pronged motif. The wreath is on a bowl stamped by AQTIVANVS at Vechten, while the pronged motif is common in his work (*ibid.* 9.48). The tendril ends from the present vessel are on the Knittelsheim 29 (Knorr, 1952, Taf. 3B). What is probably the rosette appears on a small fragment from Vechten (Knorr, 1952, Taf. 8E).

Date: c. A.D. 50-65. South Gaulish.

## 8. (PIT 15)

37. Slip, red-brown, overfired, bright; paste, red-pink, fine. Double-bordered ovolo with straight tongue to left ending in bifurcated tip. Below, a straight wreath of V-shaped leaves with turned-back tips. Both the ovolo and the wreath were eventually taken up by the NATALIS group, but this sherd is a bit earlier than their main production.

Date: c. A.D. 90-120. Not Montans ware. South Gaulish.

## 9. (PIT 9)

37. Slip, red-brown, very hard-fired and glossy; paste, red-pink and very hard. Panel decoration, with very fine oblique bead rows above barley-ears. To the left, a bird O.2298. There are close connections with a bowl from Brecon (Wheeler, 1926, Fig. 72.S77). The details can be seen on a bowl by IOENALIS (Stanfield and Simpson, 1958, Pl. 41.478). The ovolo has unfortunately been cut off, but it ended in a small rosette.

Date: c. A.D. 100-130. Les Martres-de-Veyre?

## 10. (LAYER 27)

29. Red-brown slip, rather matt; paste, pink, fine, with small white inclusions.

Upper zone: superimposed palmate leaves.

Lower zone: striated rods.

A bit difficult to place from small, damaged decoration, but NIGER used the rods on small bowls (Knorr, 1952, Taf. 62D).

## 11. (PIT 9)

37. Brown-red slip, overfired; paste, pink-red with white inclusions. Large double-bordered ovolo, with segmented or corded tongue to the left. The three ovolo impressions to the right have all the appearances of coarse wood-grain, but as this appears also on the unclear detail below, it looks as if the mould was damaged in some way, rather than the poinçons were made of wood. Probably the work of HELENIVS (*cf.* Karnitsch, 1955, Taf. 60-61).

Date: c. A.D. 190-220. Rheinabern.

## 12. (PIT 9)

37. Orange-brown slip, hard-fired; paste, orange-pink with fine white inclusions. Small double-bordered ovolo with tapered, plain tongue to the left. Free-style design with dog O.2029 and segmented leaf. COBNERTVS style.

Date: c. A.D. 160-190. Rheinabern.

## 13. (PIT 21)

29. Red-orange slip, bright; paste, pink and hard-fired. Smudged in removal from mould.

Upper zone: straight wreath, very close to the design by CELADVS and MVRANVS, except for the addition of small roulettes (*cf.* Knorr, 1952, Taf. 15C and D).

Lower zone: Wreathed medallion containing birds O.2249 and 2295, but smaller. Very similar to the Mainz bowl (Knorr, 1952, Taf. 45G).

The work of the CELADVS and MVRANVS shops.

Date: c. 50-65. South Gaulish.

## 14. (PIT 11)

37. Red-brown slip, bright; paste, pink, a little coarse with fairly large calcareous inclusions. Neat, double-bordered ovolo with straight tongue to right, ending in trident tip, bent to the right. Below, an extended scroll with large ivy leaves in the upper concavity. The lower spaces are filled with divided panels. To the left, a "tree-ornament" above a hare O.2074, to the right, a dog O.1925. A third, and presumably final, zone has a very tight scroll ending in small buds. The ovolo is similar to that of MEMOR (if Hartley is right about the Rottweil bowl, *Fundberichte aus Schwaben*, XVII, Taf. IV, 1). The leaf is on a late Flavian 37 at Cannstatt (Knorr, 1905, Taf. IX, 6), but there the ovolo is more like that of MERCATOR.

Date: c. A.D. 85-110. South Gaulish.

## 15. (UNSTRATIFIED)

37. Red-brown slip, matt; paste, pink-red. MERCATOR style. His basal wreath, grass tuft, column and hare (Knorr, 1919, Taf. 57.12, 13, 20 and 22). Note the difference in the treatment of the paws of the hare with the preceding sherd.

Date: c. A.D. 85-110. South Gaulish.

## THE OTHER ROMAN POTTERY

BY JOANNA BIRD

(FIG. 8, 1-24)

## LAYER 25 (NERO)

*Round-shouldered jar*

1. Coarse micaceous dark-grey fabric, grey grog temper; hand made.

## FROM POST-HOLE OF PRE-FLAVIAN BUILDING (NERO)

*Cup, form Camulodunum 53B:*

2. Fine micaceous brown fabric, dark-grey surfaces; lightly burnished.<sup>17</sup>

## LAYER 21 (NERO)

*Ring-neck Flagon*

3. Micaceous soft cream-buff fabric, chalk and brown grog inclusions.

*Bead-rim Jar*

4. Coarse micaceous dark-grey fabric, some shell and flint inclusions; black surfaces.

*Carinated Cup*

5. Fine sandy micaceous grey fabric.

## LAYER 23 (NERO-VESPASIAN)

See also Amphora Stamps, No. 2 (p. 000, Fig. 18).

*Necked Jar*

6. Fine sandy micaceous light-grey fabric.

*Bead-rim Jars*

7. Coarse sandy grey fabric, burnished vertical lines on exterior; burnt.

8. Coarse pale grey fabric, dark-grey grog temper; grey-white slip on exterior.

*Storage Jars*

9. Coarse sandy pale-grey fabric, dark burnished surfaces; hand made.

10. Sandy micaceous light-brown fabric, some chalk and red grog inclusions; burnt.

11. Fabric as No. 10, but unburnt.

*Cup imitating Samian form 27*

12. Sandy micaceous light-grey fabric, some chalk inclusions.

*Bowl imitating Samian form 29*

13. Fine sandy micaceous pale-grey fabric; decorated with incised lattice.

*Dish*

14. Coarse micaceous sandy brown fabric, burnished dark-grey surfaces.

## LAYER 12 (NERO)

*Cup-mouthed Flask*

15. Fine micaceous sandy grey fabric, burnished dark-grey surfaces. The handle has been inserted through the wall. A hole was bored in the neck after firing, perhaps to ease pouring. The form is unusual; an example in a Romano-British glazed fabric was found at Puckeridge, Herts.<sup>18</sup>

*Collared Flagon*

16. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric, yellow-cream surfaces; Verulamium region.

*Necked Jars*

17. Micaceous sandy grey fabric, grey surfaces.

18. Coarse sandy light-grey fabric, dark-grey surfaces.

*Bead-rim Jar*

19. Coarse micaceous pale-grey fabric, grey grog temper; drab-brown surfaces. Burnished wavy-line decoration.

*Ovoid Jar*

20. Fine micaceous sandy grey fabric.

## LAYER 13 (NERO)

*Necked Jars*

21. Coarse micaceous sandy light-grey fabric.

22. Coarse micaceous sandy grey-brown fabric; surfaces burnt.

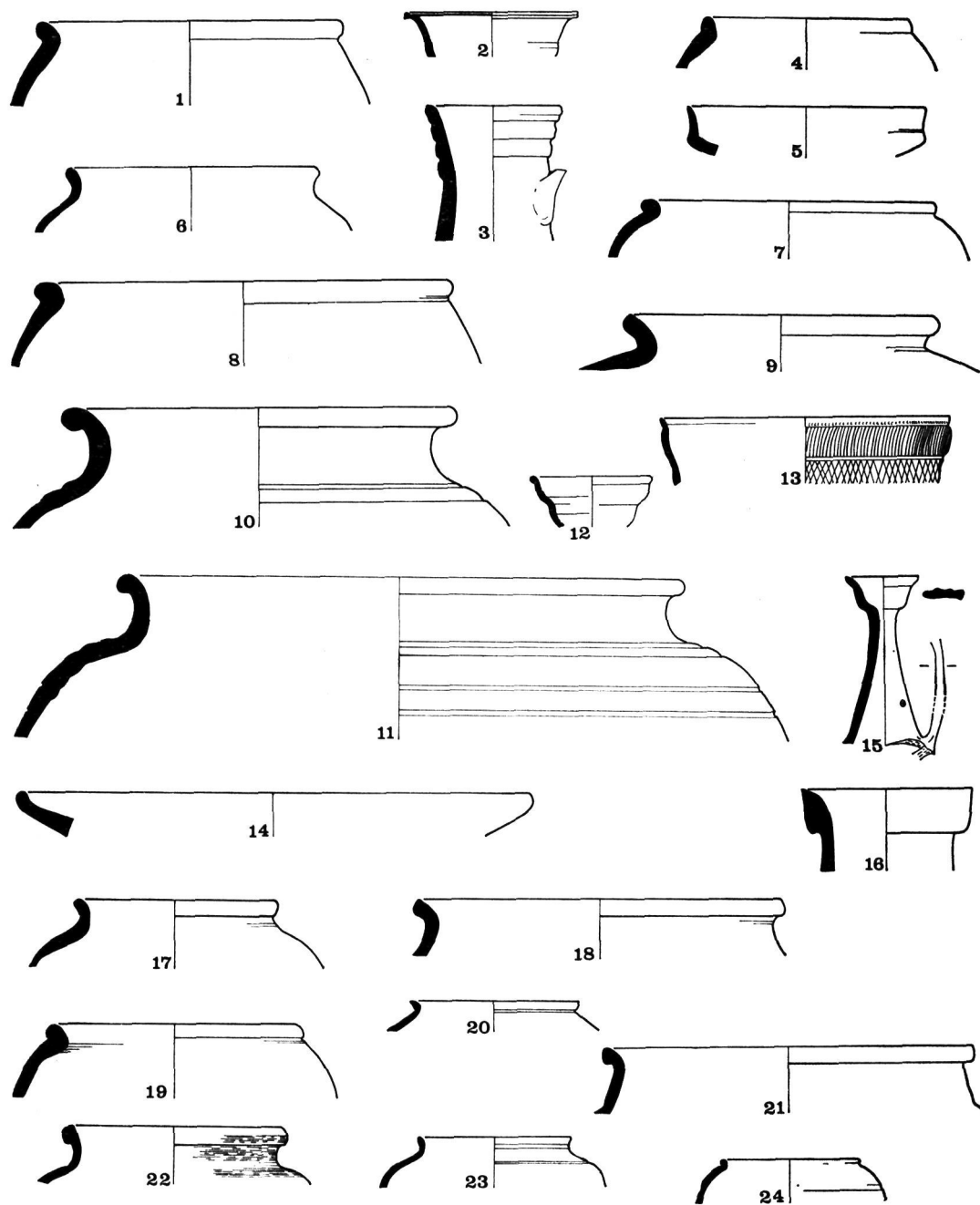


Fig. 8  
Aldgate. The Pottery 1-24 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

23. Fine micaceous light-brown fabric, dark-grey surfaces.  
*Ovoid Jar*
24. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, darker surfaces; burnished diagonal lines.

(FIG. 9, 25-55)

LAYER 14 (NERO)

*Collared Flagon*

25. Sandy drab-cream fabric, chalk and dark brown grit inclusions; cream slip.  
*Necked Jars*
26. Hard sandy micaceous grey fabric, darker surfaces.
27. Soft micaceous light-brown fabric, black surfaces.  
*Bead-rim Jars*
28. Sandy micaceous light-grey fabric, some grey grog; darker surfaces with burnished decoration.
29. Micaceous dark-grey fabric, flint and shell temper.  
*Beaker*
30. Fine micaceous sandy grey fabric.

LAYER 27 (NERO OR EARLY FLAVIAN)

*Bead-rim Jars*

31. Soft micaceous sandy dark-grey fabric, dense shell temper; black surfaces.
32. Soft sandy brown fabric, grey core; flint and brown grog temper. Patchy orange/grey surfaces.

LAYER 16 (NERO OR EARLY FLAVIAN)

*Necked Jar*

33. Micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, dark-grey surfaces.  
*Bead-rim Jar*
34. Micaceous sandy grey fabric, some flint inclusions.

LAYER 18 (NERO OR FLAVIAN)

*Lid-seated Storage Jar*

35. Coarse micaceous grey fabric, dense shell temper; burnt.

LAYER 17 (TRAJAN-EARLY HADRIAN)

*Ring-neck Flagon*

36. Coarse sandy dark buff fabric; Verulamium region.  
*Flagon*
37. Coarse micaceous sandy brown fabric, dark-grey slip.  
*Necked Jars*
38. Hard sandy micaceous pale-grey fabric.
39. Hard micaceous sandy pale-grey fabric, darker exterior surface.
40. Hard micaceous sandy pale-grey fabric; darker surfaces.  
*Everted-rim Jar*
41. Coarse brown-black fabric, white sand temper; hand made. Probably Dorset "black burnished", category 1.  
*Storage Jar*
42. Dark-grey fabric, light-brown surfaces; dense shell temper. Stab decoration.  
*Ovoid Jar*
43. Hard fine buff fabric, grey core; mica-dusted beige surfaces.  
*Mortarium*
44. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric, yellowish slip; Verulamium region.

LAYER 10 (NERO OR EARLY FLAVIAN)

*Ring-neck Flagon*

45. Sandy cream fabric, buff core; Verulamium region.  
*Flagon*
46. Fine micaceous buff fabric, grey core; thin buff slip.  
*Storage Jar*
47. Coarse micaceous brown fabric, grey core; black surfaces.  
*Glazed Beaker*
48. Micaceous grey-white fabric, pale green glaze; imported from Central Gaul.<sup>19</sup>

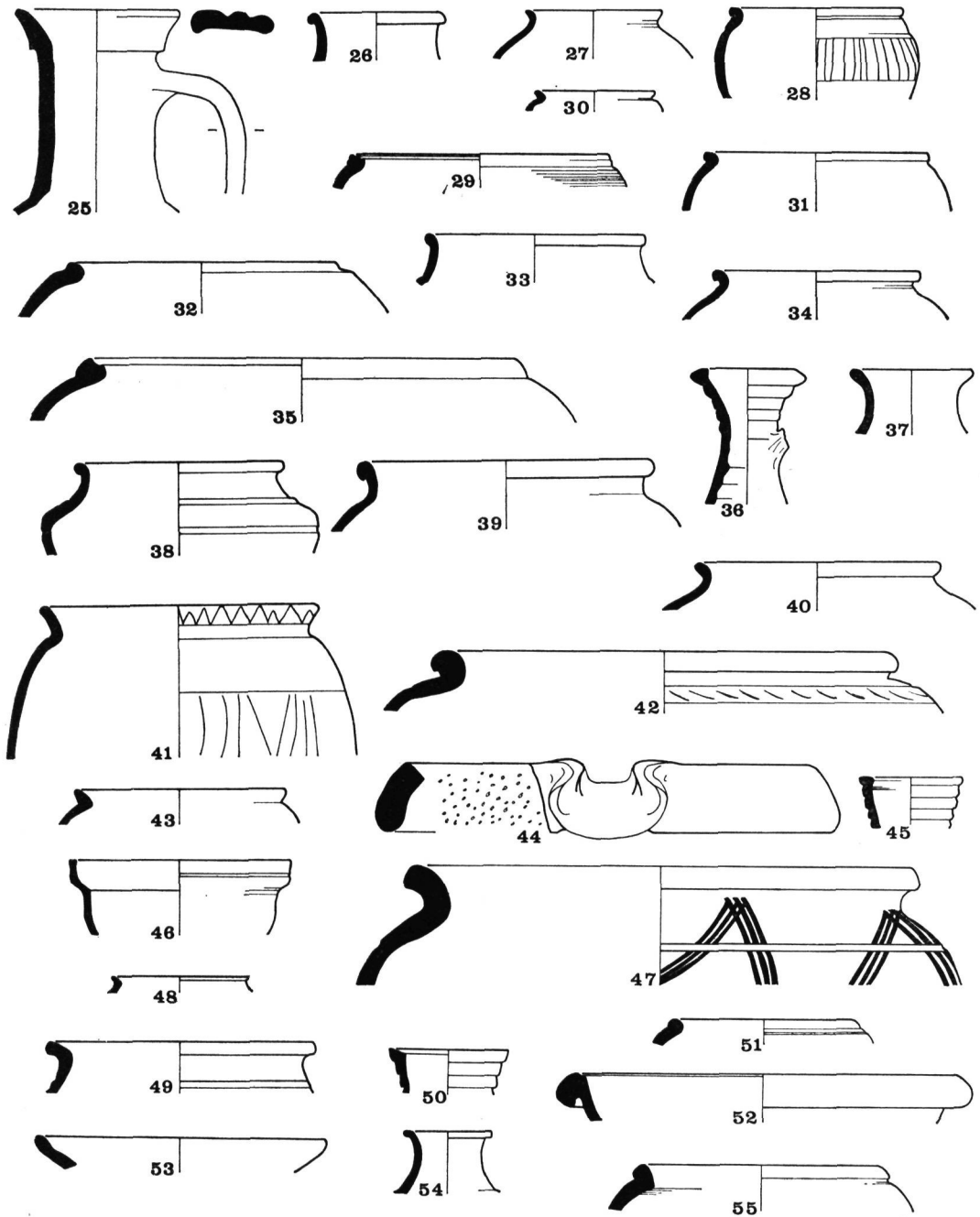


Fig. 9  
Aldgate. The Pottery 25-55 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

## LAYER 8 (NERO OR FLAVIAN)

*Necked Jar*

49. Hard micaceous sandy pale-grey fabric, grey surfaces.

## LAYER 7 (FLAVIAN)

*Ring-neck Flagon*

50. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric; Verulamium region.

*Bead-rim Jar*

51. Micaceous sandy grey fabric, darker surfaces.

*Hook-rim Bowl*

52. Hard sandy pale-grey fabric, grey surfaces; large flint inclusion.

*Dish*

53. Sandy buff fabric, grey core; densely mica-dusted.

## LAYER 19 (NERO-EARLY FLAVIAN)

*Flagon*

54. Hard micaceous sandy grey fabric, burnished.

*Bead-rim Jar*

55. Coarse micaceous pale-grey fabric, grey grog and flint temper; black surfaces. Hand made.

(FIG. 10, 56-81)

## FEATURE 4 (FLAVIAN-TRAJANIC)

*Everted-rim Jar*

56. Hard fine sandy light-grey fabric, burnished rim and decoration.

## LAYER 3 (ANTONINE PROBABLY)

*Lattice-decorated Bowl*

57. Coarse micaceous sandy dark-grey fabric, white sand temper; dark grey surfaces with burnished decoration.

## LAYER 26 (ANTONINE)

*Beaker*

58. Fine micaceous sandy-grey fabric; marked by holes in kiln floor.

*Colour-coat Beaker with Barbotine*

59. Sandy light-brown fabric, matt dark-brown vitrified slip. Colchester probably.

*Bowl with Triangular Rim*

60. Sandy light-grey fabric, patchy grey/fawn slip on surfaces.

*Lattice-decorated Dishes*

61. Soft coarse micaceous grey-brown fabric, patchy pink/grey burnished surfaces. Hand made.

62. Soft coarse micaceous brown fabric, patchy pink/brown/grey surfaces. Hand made.

## LAYER 15 (FLAVIAN, AND PROBABLY EARLY FLAVIAN)

*Necked Jars*

63. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, grey surfaces.

64. Micaceous sandy grey fabric, some chalk inclusions.

*Glazed Beaker*

65. Fine off-white fabric, yellow-green glaze. Imported from Central Gaul.<sup>19</sup>

*Bowl Imitating Samian form 29*

66. Fine micaceous brown-black fabric, dark-grey surfaces; compass-drawn decoration.

*Mortarium*

67. Coarse sandy cream fabric, yellowish surfaces; grey and white flint trituration grits. Verulamium region.

## PIT 31 (NERONIAN OR EARLY FLAVIAN)

*Amphora*

68. Rim, Dressel 20 oil amphora. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric, inclusions of lime and iron pyrites. Southern Spain.

*Necked Jars*

69. Hard micaceous sandy grey fabric, some chalk inclusions; darker surfaces.

*Excavations at Aldgate and Bush Lane House in the City of London, 1972*

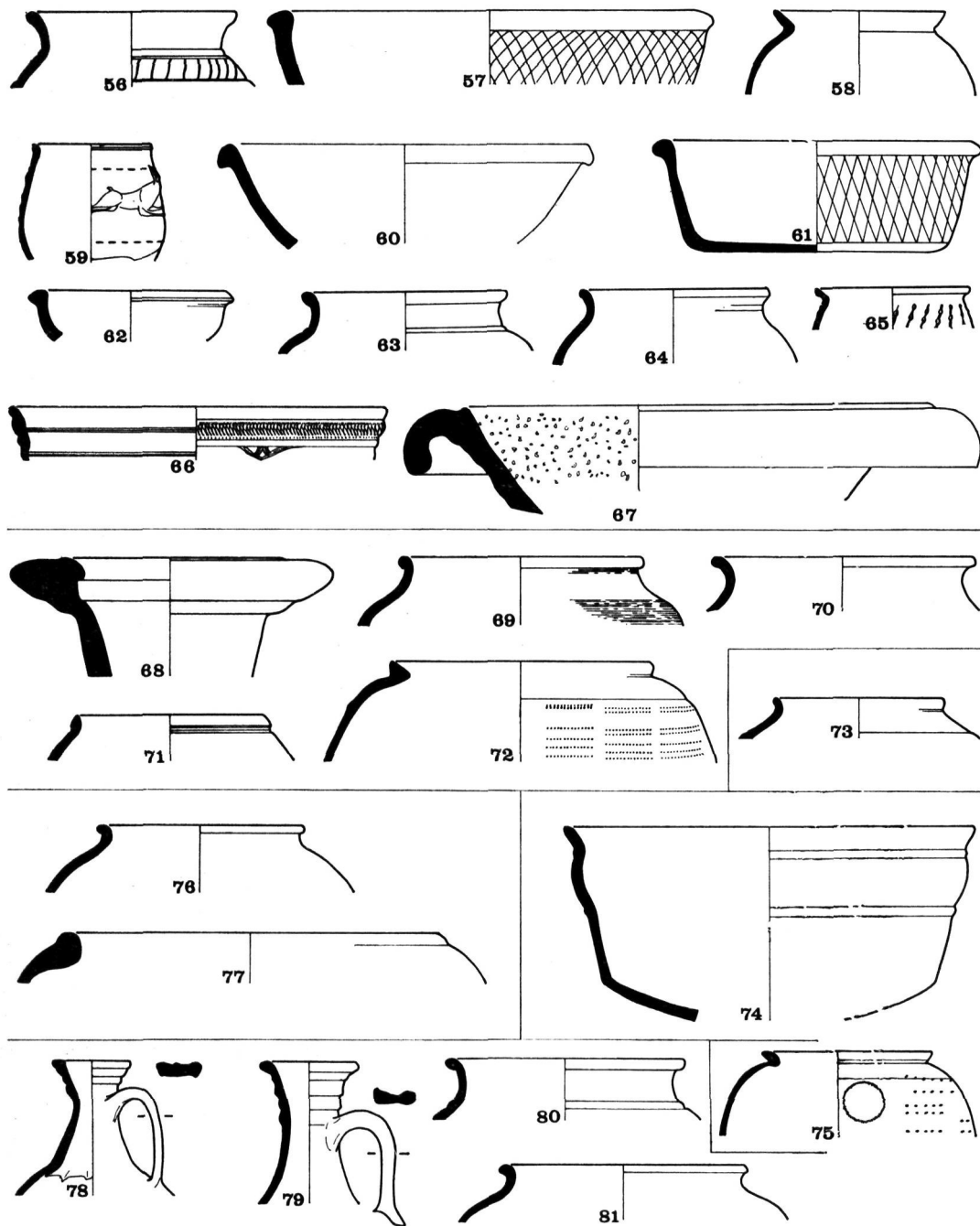


Fig. 10  
Aldgate. The Pottery 56-81 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )



70. Fine micaceous light-brown fabric, dark-grey core and surfaces.  
*Bead-rim Jar*
71. Fine micaceous grey fabric, black surfaces.  
*Ovoid Jar*
72. Coarse sandy light-grey fabric, grey-white slip; barbotine dots in panels.
- PIT 30 (NERONIAN OR FLAVIAN)  
*Ovoid Beaker*
73. Fine micaceous sandy beige-grey fabric, burnished surfaces.
- PIT 26 (NERONIAN OR FLAVIAN)  
*Bowl Imitating Samian form 29*
74. Soft coarse dark-grey fabric, white sand temper; beige exterior and traces of fawn slip. Burnt.
- PIT 23 (NERONIAN OR EARLY FLAVIAN)  
*Ovoid Beaker*
75. Fine micaceous sandy cream fabric, small dark grits; yellow slip.
- PIT 22 (NERONIAN OR FLAVIAN)  
*Necked Jar*
76. Coarse micaceous light-grey fabric, darker surfaces.  
*Bead-rim Jar*
77. Coarse micaceous light-grey fabric, patchy darker surfaces.
- PIT 21 (NERONIAN OR EARLY FLAVIAN)  
*Ring-Neck Flagons*
78. Fine yellow-orange fabric, grey core; yellow-orange slip. Lightly burnt.
79. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric; very abraded. Verulamium region.  
*Necked Jars*
80. Coarse micaceous sandy light-brown fabric, grey surfaces.
81. Micaceous brown fabric, light-grey core and surfaces; burnished decoration.
- (FIG. II, 82-103)  
*Storage Jars*
82. Coarse dark grey fabric, beige surfaces.
83. Coarse grey fabric, dense shell temper; brown-black surfaces.  
*Ovoid Beakers*
84. Fine micaceous sandy brown fabric, dark grey surfaces.
85. Fine micaceous buff fabric, dark grey core; mica-dusted.  
*Round-bodied Bowl*
86. Coarse micaceous grey-brown fabric, white sand temper; dark grey burnished surfaces.  
*Hook-rim Bowls*
87. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, darker surfaces.
88. Fabric as 87.  
*Reeded-rim Bowl*
89. Coarse micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, dark-grey surfaces.  
*Mortarium*
90. Sandy cream fabric, pink, white and grey trituration grits on flange and interior. Colchester/Kent region, or possibly Gaul.
- PIT 20 (NERO)  
*Collar-Rim Flagon*
91. Coarse sandy pale-grey fabric and slip; Verulamium region.  
*Belgic-type Jars*
92. Coarse sandy grey fabric, dark grey-brown slip on exterior.
93. Coarse sandy pale-grey fabric, some chalk inclusions.  
*Necked Jars*
94. Hard sandy light-grey fabric, darker surfaces.
95. Fabric as 94.

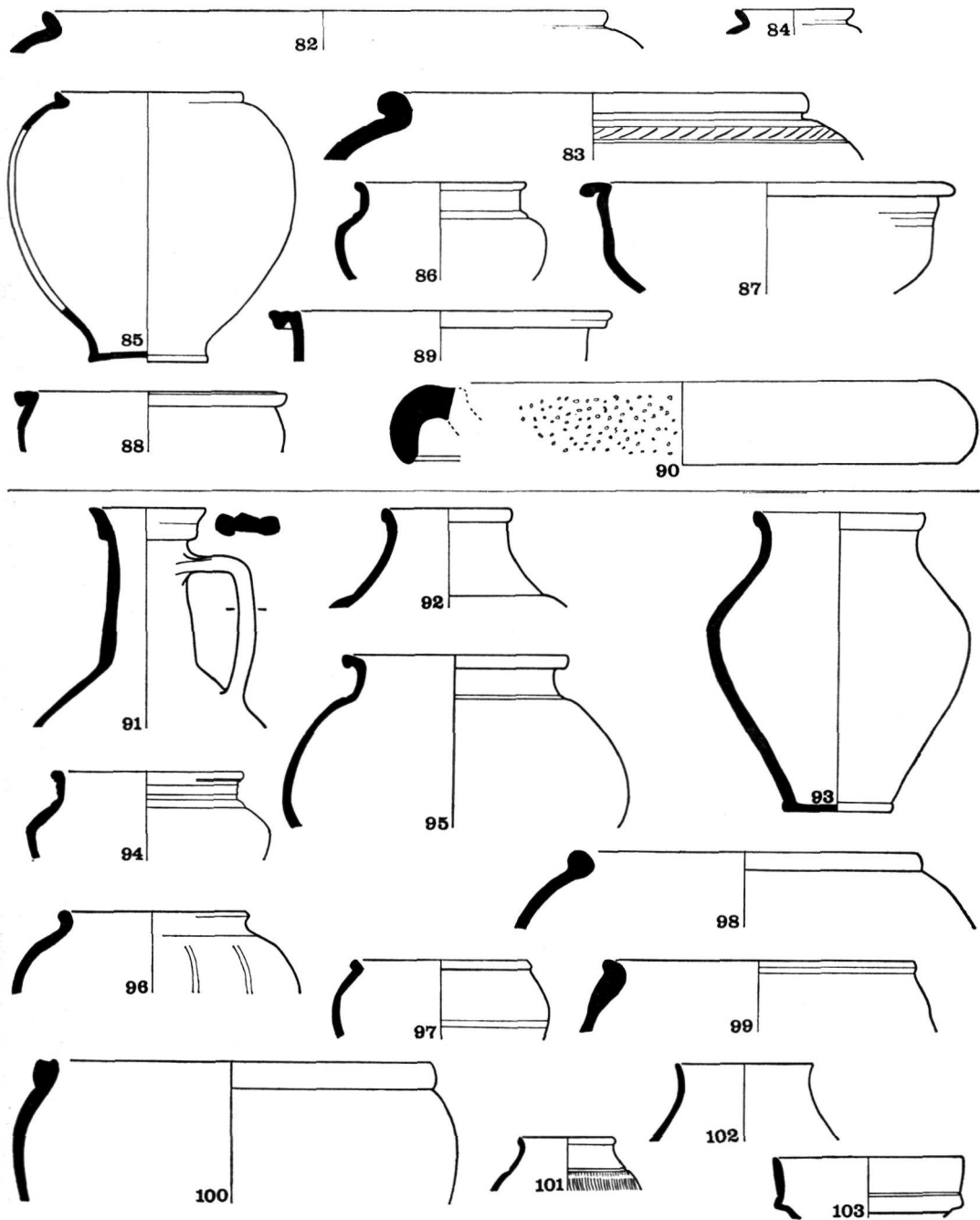


Fig. 11  
Aldgate. The Pottery 82-103 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

*Jar with Upright Rim*

96. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric; burnished loop decoration.

*Bead-rim Jars*

97. Hard micaceous light-grey fabric, pale-grey grog temper; dark surfaces.  
 98. Coarse micaceous sandy grey-brown fabric, dark grey surfaces.  
 99. Coarse micaceous pale-grey fabric, grey grog temper; dark surfaces.

*Lid-seated Storage Jar*

100. Coarse grey fabric, dense shell temper.  
*"Butt-beaker", Camulodunum form 112Cb*  
 101. Fine sandy cream fabric, pale-grey core; drab-cream surfaces.  
*Carinated Beaker, similar to Camulodunum form 120A*  
 102. Fine micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, dark grey surfaces.  
*Carinated Cup, Camulodunum form 56C*  
 103. Fine micaceous sandy beige fabric, dark-grey exterior below carination—probably differential firing due to stacking in the kiln.

## (FIG. 12, 104-123)

*Round-bodied Bowls*

104. Sandy micaceous dark-grey fabric, black surfaces.  
 105. Hard micaceous sandy grey fabric.  
*Mortarium*  
 106. Coarse sandy buff fabric, cream-yellow surfaces; some brown grog temper. Verulamium region.  
*Dishes in Gallo-Belgic forms*  
 107. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, darker surfaces; burnt.  
 108. Sandy micaceous beige fabric, grey core and thin slip.  
*Lid*  
 109. Sandy micaceous buff fabric, grey core.

## PIT 19 (NERONIAN)

*Collar-rim Flagon*

110. Coarse sandy cream fabric, some red-brown grog. Verulamium region.

*Jar with Lattice Decoration**Necked Jar*

111. Coarse micaceous sandy dark-grey fabric; incised decoration.  
 112. Sandy micaceous brown fabric, grey surfaces.  
*Jars with Offset Shoulders*  
 113. Coarse micaceous grey fabric, grey and black grog temper.  
 114. Sandy micaceous grey fabric. Burnished wavy line on neck.  
 115. Sandy grey fabric, buff surfaces; traces of cream slip.

*Bead-rim Jar*

116. Hard coarse light-grey fabric, brown surfaces, light-grey slip.  
 117. Hard coarse light-grey fabric, grey surfaces.

*Storage Jar*

118. Grey fabric, dark-grey grog temper; beige surfaces.

*Shallow Bowl*

119. Sandy light-grey fabric, grey surfaces.  
*Bowl, Camulodunum form 68*  
 120. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, fawn surfaces, grey slip.

*Lid*

121. Coarse grey fabric, dark grit temper; black surfaces.

## PIT 18 (FLAVIAN-TRAJANIC)

*Bowl*

122. Coarse micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, grey surfaces.

## PIT 17 (FLAVIAN PROBABLY)

*Bead-rim Jar*

123. Fine sandy grey-brown fabric, dark grey surfaces.

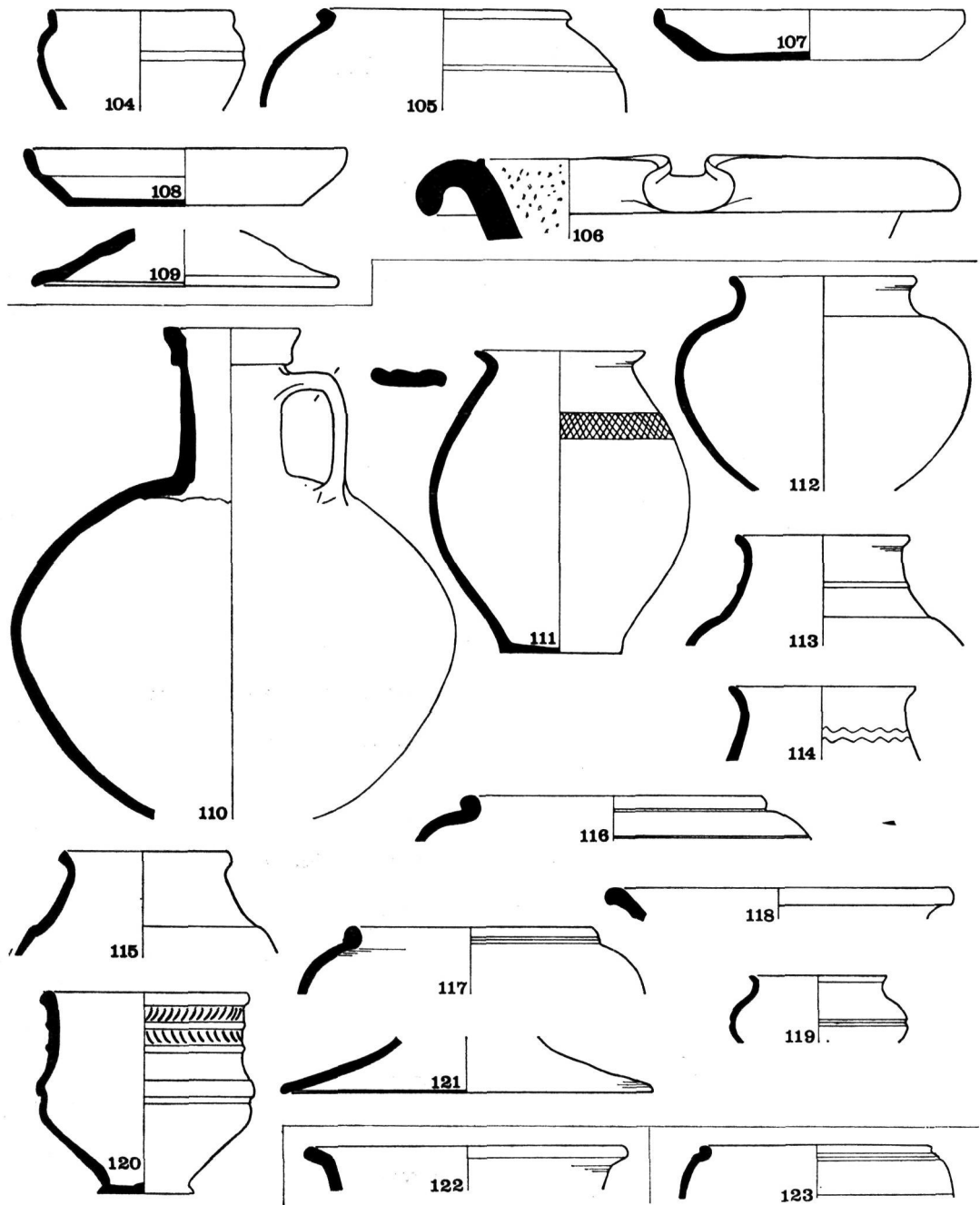


Fig. 12  
Aldgate. The Pottery 104-123 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

(FIG. 13, 124-156)

## PIT 16 (FLAVIAN)

*Bead-rim Jars*

- 124. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, some chalky inclusions.
- 125. Hard grey fabric, dense shell temper with some flint; pale brown surfaces.
- 126. Coarse black fabric, sparse shell and flint temper; hand made.

## PIT 15 (TRAJANIC-EARLY HADRIANIC)

*Ring-neck Flagons*

- 127. Coarse sandy pale-buff fabric, yellow-cream surfaces. Verulamium region.
- 128. Drab cream fabric; Verulamium region.
- 129. Coarse micaceous sandy cream fabric; probably Verulamium region.

*Jug Imitating Bronze type*

- 130. Micaceous light-brown fabric, some flint inclusions; facet-burnished grey-brown surfaces. Slightly burnt.

*Necked Jars*

- 131. Fine micaceous sandy brown fabric, black surfaces.
- 132. Fine micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, grey slip on exterior.
- 133. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, darker surfaces.
- 134. Sandy micaceous light-grey fabric, darker slip.
- 135. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, darker surfaces.
- 136. Sandy micaceous dark-grey fabric, lighter surfaces.
- 137. Coarse micaceous sandy grey fabric, lighter surfaces.

*Bead-rim Jars*

- 138. Hard coarse micaceous light-grey fabric, darker surfaces.
- 139. Hard coarse micaceous light-grey fabric, darker surfaces.
- 140. Ware as 139.

*Jar with Squared Rim*

- 141. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric, burnt; perhaps Verulamium region.

*Jars with Everted Rims*

- 142. Coarse dark-grey fabric, white sand temper, black surfaces; Dorset "black burnished" category 1. Hand made.
- 143. Coarse micaceous sandy brown fabric, dark grey-brown surfaces; hand made.
- 144. Sandy micaceous grey fabric; hand made.

*Storage Jar*

- 145. Micaceous dark-grey fabric, sparse temper of white flints; brown surfaces.

*Small Beaker*

- 146. Fine micaceous sandy light-grey fabric; dark grey slip on exterior. Barbotine decoration. "Poppy" beaker

- 147. Fine micaceous sandy light-grey fabric; panels of barbotine dots.

*Bowl Imitating Samian form 29/37*

- 148. Micaceous dark-brown fabric, black surfaces. Apparently repaired with an iron rivet or bent nail.

*Straight-sided Bowl*

- 149. Coarse sandy dark-grey fabric, burnt.

*Hook-rim Bowls*

- 150. Sandy grey fabric, darker surfaces.
- 151. Coarse pimply brown fabric, grey surfaces; some chalk inclusion.

*Reeded-rim Bowls*

- 152. Fine micaceous sandy grey fabric; burnt.
- 153. Coarse sandy cream fabric; Verulamium region.
- 154. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric; probably Verulamium region.
- 155. Micaceous sandy brown fabric, grey-brown surfaces.
- 156. Sandy micaceous dark-grey fabric, grey surfaces.

(FIG. 14, 157-184)

- 157. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, darker core and surfaces.
- 158. Coarse sandy pale-grey fabric, dark grey surfaces.

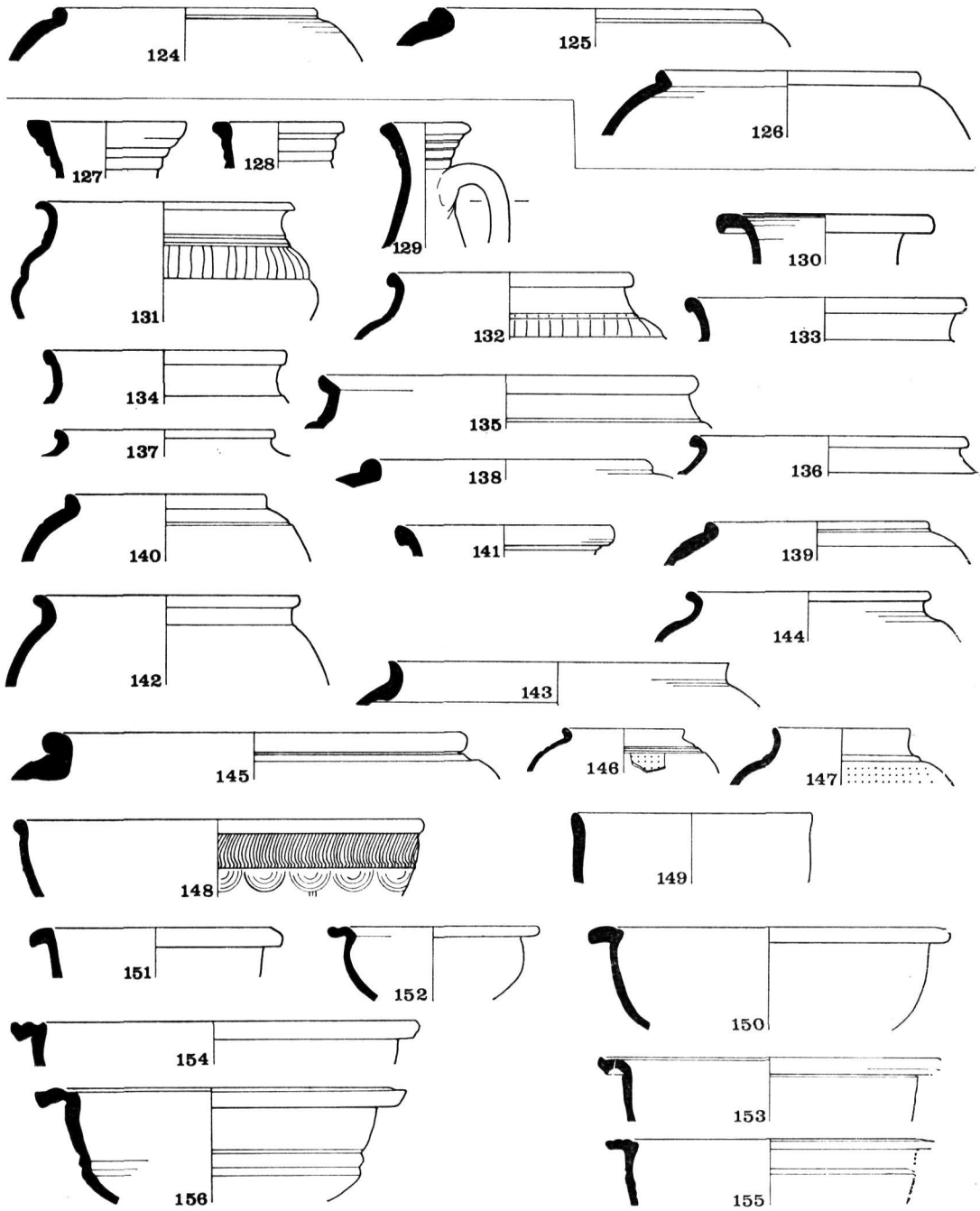


Fig. 13  
Aldgate. The Pottery 124-156 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

*Bowl Imitating Native form*

159. Sandy micaceous dark-grey fabric, darker surfaces.

*Mortaria*

See also mortarium stamps No. 1 (p. 39, Fig. 18).

160. Stamped by Matugenus of Brockley Hill. Coarse sandy cream fabric.

*Dishes*

161. Hard sandy buff fabric, grey core; coarse mica dusting.

162. Fine sandy dark-orange fabric; grey core; mica dusted.

*Lids*

163. Fine micaceous red fabric, grey core; grey/buff patchy surfaces.

164. Coarse micaceous sandy dark grey fabric, brown core; patchy light-brown/grey surfaces.

## PIT 14 (FLAVIAN-TRAJANIC)

*Bowl Imitating Samian form 30/37*

165. Soft fine micaceous sandy/brown fabric, grey-brown surfaces; lightly incised lattice decoration.

## PIT 13 (FLAVIAN)

*Amphora*

166. Hard micaceous sandy drab-cream fabric, buff core; Southern Spain probably.

*Ring-neck Flagon*

167. Fine hard cream fabric, grey-white surfaces.

*Necked Jars*

168. Fine micaceous sandy dark grey-brown fabric, black surfaces.

169. Fine micaceous sandy brown fabric, dark-grey surfaces.

170. Sandy micaceous brown-black fabric.

171. Fine micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, darker surfaces.

172. Fine micaceous sandy grey fabric, sparse temper of large shell fragments; dark grey-brown surfaces.

*Bead-rim Jars*

173. Hard micaceous sandy pale-grey fabric, darker surfaces.

174. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, darker surfaces.

*Storage Jar*

175. Fine micaceous black fabric, temper of large shell fragments; patchy grey/brown surfaces. Rough comb-stabbed decoration.

*Ovoid Jar*

176. Fine micaceous sandy drab-orange fabric.

*Bowl Imitating Samian form 12*

177. Fine micaceous sandy black fabric, grey-brown surfaces.

*Bowl, Camulodunum form 14*

178. Fine micaceous sandy dark-grey fabric, grey-brown surfaces.

*Bowl or Dish*

179. Possible stamp on the coarse sandy drab-cream fabric of the Verulamium region.

## PIT 12 (FLAVIAN)

*Ring-neck Flagon*

180. Fine micaceous soft cream fabric.

*Flagons*

181. Coarse sandy cream fabric; Verulamium region.

182. Hard light-grey fabric, buff surfaces with coarse mica-dusting.

*Jar Similar to Camulodunum form 249*

183. Coarse micaceous sandy brown fabric, grey core; grey-brown surfaces.

*Necked Jars*

184. Coarse micaceous sandy dark-grey fabric, brown core.

## (FIG. 15, 185-211)

185. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, grey surfaces.

186. Coarse micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, some chalk inclusions; darker surfaces.

187. Fine micaceous brown fabric, dark-grey core and surfaces.

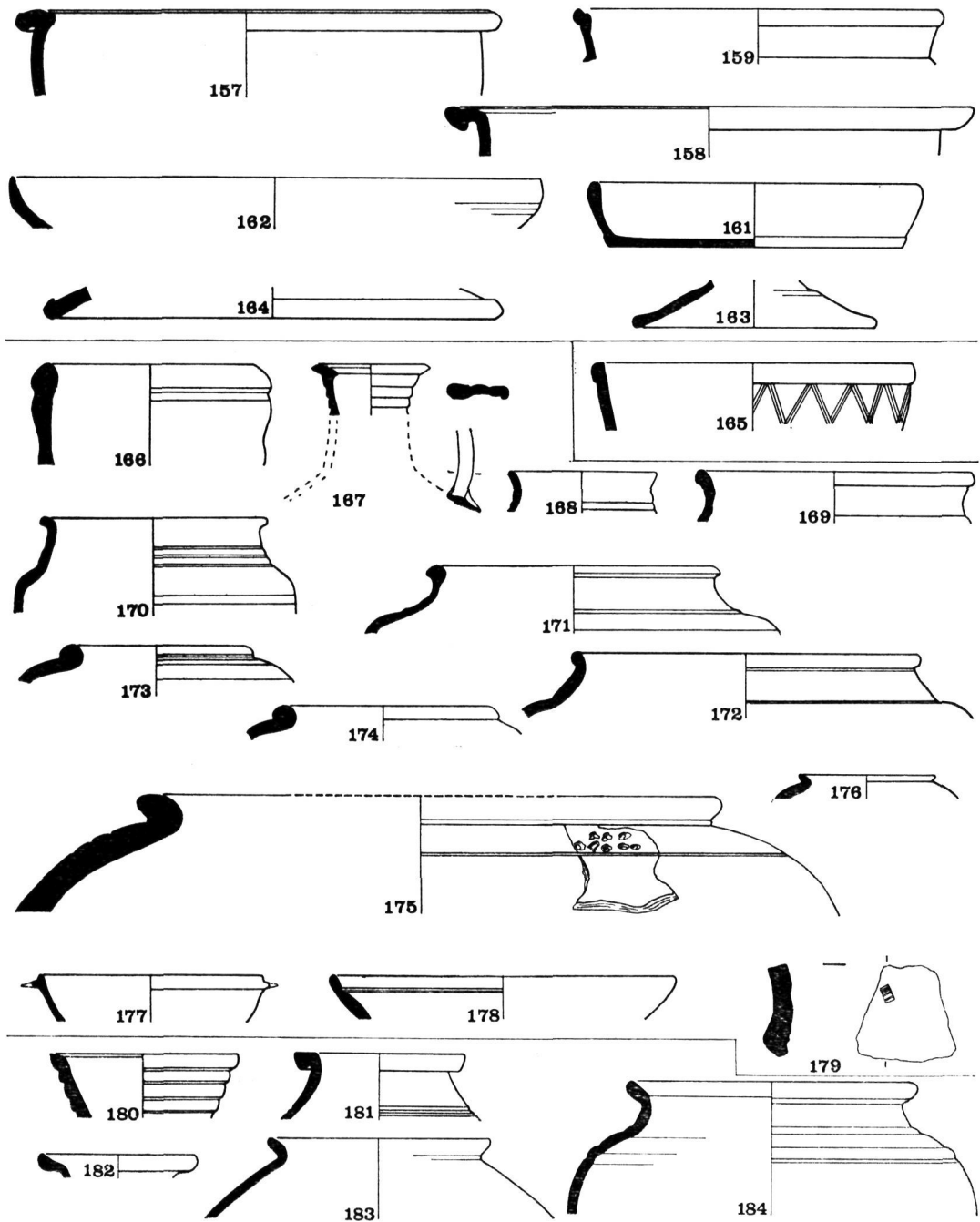


Fig. 14  
Aldgate. The Pottery 157-184 ( $\frac{1}{3}$ )



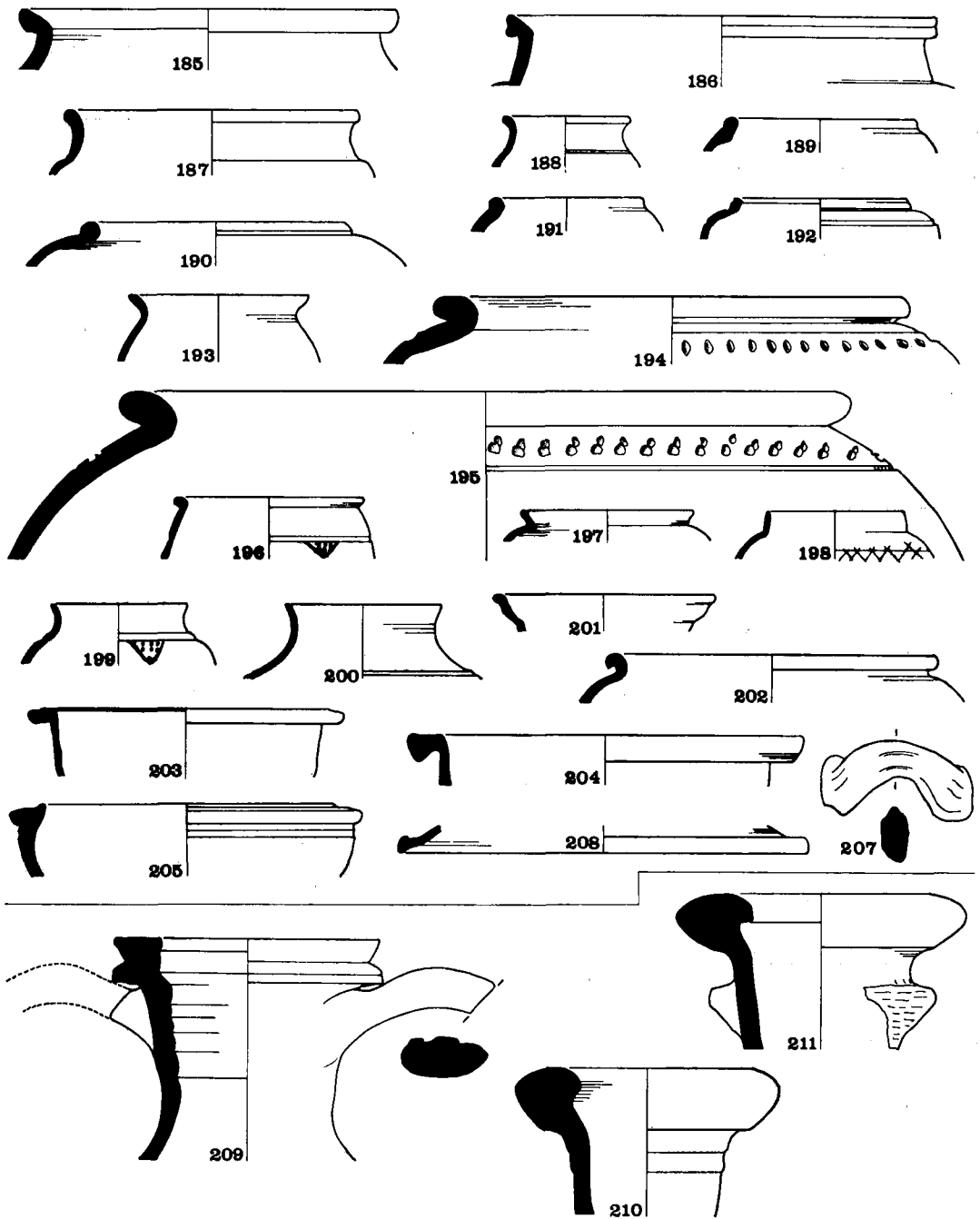


Fig. 15  
Aldgate. The Pottery 185-211 (1/4)

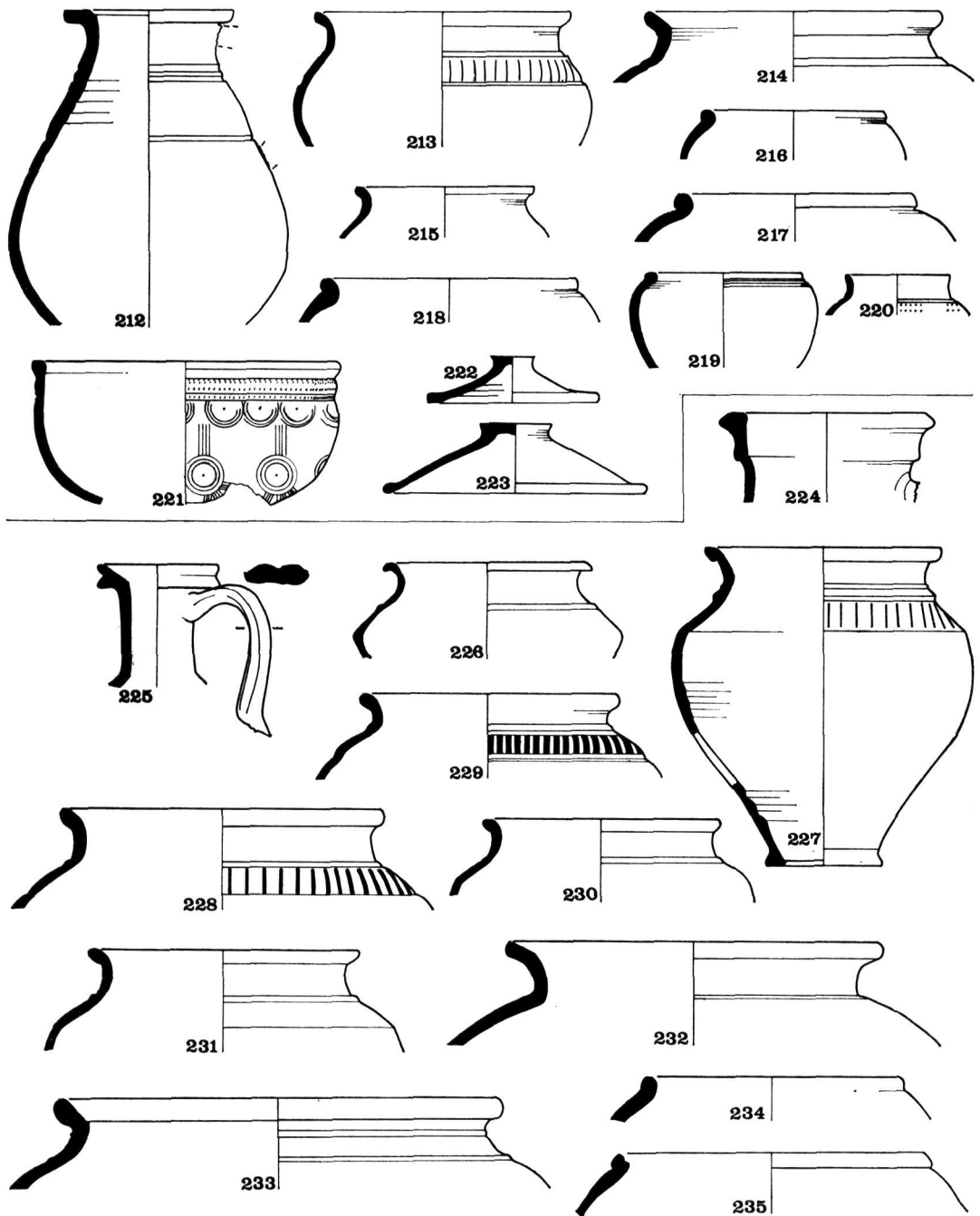


Fig. 16  
Aldgate. The Pottery 212-235 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

188. Fine sandy micaceous dark-grey fabric, lighter slip.  
*Bead-rim Jars*
189. Coarse lumpy micaceous dark-grey fabric, grey grog temper; black surfaces.
190. Micaceous sandy light-grey fabric.
191. Sandy micaceous dark-grey fabric.
192. Sandy micaceous brown fabric, dark-grey surfaces.  
*Everted-rim Jar*
193. Fine micaceous sandy grey fabric, darker surfaces.  
*Storage Jar*
194. Lumpy micaceous brown fabric, dense shell temper and some red grog; dark grey-brown surfaces.
195. Micaceous brown fabric, dense shell temper and some red flint; dark-grey surfaces.  
*Ovoid Beakers*
196. Fine micaceous brown fabric, dark-grey surfaces with stamped decoration.
197. Fine micaceous sandy pale-grey fabric, darker surfaces.  
*Beaker with Lattice Decoration*
198. Fine micaceous brown fabric, dark-grey slip on exterior.  
*"Poppy" Beakers*
199. Fine sandy grey fabric, grey slip; barbotine dots in panels.
200. Fine soft micaceous grey fabric, darker core and surfaces.  
*Cup Imitating Samian form 27*
201. Fine soft micaceous buff fabric, cream surfaces.  
*Hook-rim Bowl*
202. Sandy micaceous grey fabric.  
*Reeded-rim Bowls*
203. Fine sandy micaceous light-grey fabric, traces of cream slip.
204. Coarse sandy grey fabric; burnt.  
*Tripod Bowls*
205. (Cf. Camulodunum 45B.) Coarse micaceous sandy orange fabric, some flint inclusions, darker surfaces.
206. (Not illustrated.) Foot only; similar feet occur on a bowl from Caistor-by-Norwich (now in the Castle Museum, Norwich), where they are dated Flavian-Trajanic. Rectangular section some 6 cm x 2 cm. Hard coarse grey fabric, dense grey grog temper with some chalk inclusions; hand made.  
*Handle from a Large Bowl*
207. Sandy micaceous buff fabric, light-grey core.  
*Lid*
208. Sandy micaceous grey fabric.

## PIT I I (FLAVIAN)

*Amphorae*

209. Globular amphora. Micaceous dark pink fabric, inclusions of lime and iron pyrites; beige surfaces. Perhaps Southern Spain, or North Africa.
210. Dressel 20 oil amphora. Coarse drab-buff fabric, inclusions of lime, iron pyrites, and black grit; Southern Spain.
211. Dressel 20 oil amphora. Coarse grey fabric with inclusions of lime and iron pyrites, and cream slip; Southern Spain.

## (FIG. 16, 212-235)

*Flagon*

212. Coarse sandy buff fabric, some red grog; yellow-cream surfaces; Verulamium region.  
*Necked Jars*
213. Sandy micaceous light-grey fabric, dark surfaces.
214. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, grey surfaces.
215. Sandy micaceous light-grey fabric, burnished slip.  
*Bead-rim Jars*
216. Sandy micaceous dark-grey fabric.
217. Coarse sandy dark-grey fabric.
218. Coarse lumpy dark-grey fabric, grey grog temper.

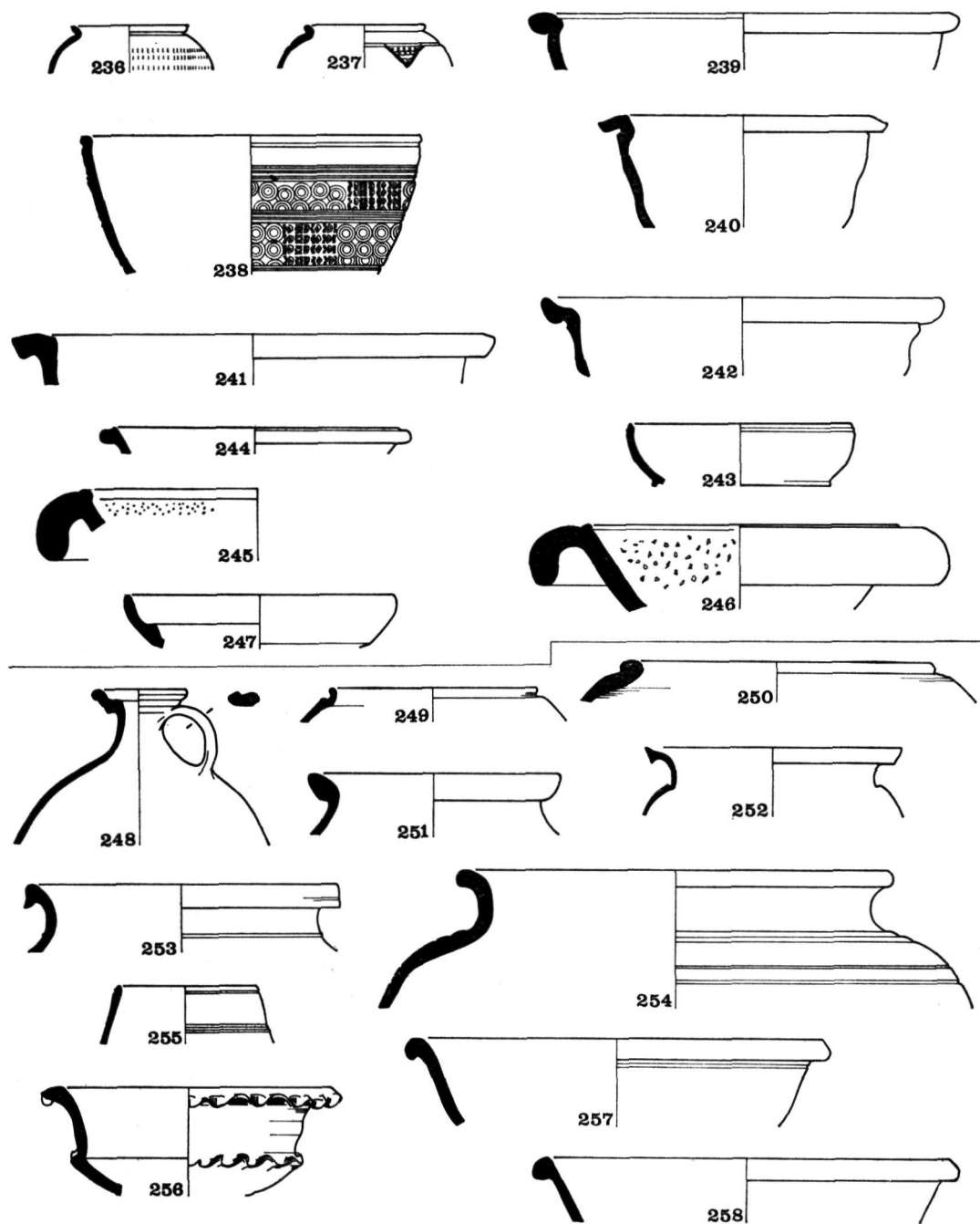


Fig. 17  
Aldgate. The Pottery 236-258 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

*Bead-rim Beaker*

219. Sandy brown fabric; burnt.  
*"Poppy" Beaker*
220. Soft sandy micaceous fabric, dark-grey slip; barbotine dots in panels.  
*Bowl Imitating Samian form 29/37*
221. Fine soft micaceous grey fabric, light-grey surfaces with elaborate compass-drawn and incised decoration.  
*Lids*
222. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, pimply surfaces.
223. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, clumsily-made knob.

## PIT 10 (FLAVIAN)

*Flagons*

224. Hard sandy drab-cream fabric, thin cream slip; burnt.
225. Fine sandy cream fabric, fine brown grit temper.  
*Necked Jars*
226. Fine micaceous pink-brown fabric, some grog; dark-grey exterior.
227. Hard sandy micaceous grey fabric, grey-white slip on shoulder.
228. Hard sandy micaceous grey fabric, burnished decoration.
229. Hard sandy micaceous brown fabric, grey surfaces with darker grey slip. Burnished decoration.
230. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, some flint inclusions.
231. Hard micaceous sandy brown fabric, grey core and surfaces.
232. Sandy micaceous grey fabric, inclusions of chalk and dark brown grit; darker surfaces.
233. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, darker surfaces.  
*Bead-rim Jars*
234. Coarse sandy micaceous dark-grey fabric, darker surfaces.
235. Coarse grey fabric, dense shell temper; darker surfaces.

## (FIG. 17, 236-258)

*Beakers*

236. Fine micaceous sandy light-grey fabric; rouletted decoration.
237. Fabric as 236, darker slip; coarse rouletted decoration.  
*Bowl Imitating Samian form 29/37*
238. Fine micaceous light-brown fabric, slightly paler surfaces. Stamped with groups of three incised concentric circles, and a dot-and-lattice motif. The distribution of these stamps suggests a production site in Essex.<sup>20</sup>  
*Hook-rim Bowl*
239. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric.  
*Carinated Bowls*
240. Hard micaceous sandy light-grey fabric, grey surfaces.
241. Coarse micaceous sandy beige fabric; burnt.
242. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric; probably Verulamium region. Burnt.  
*Small Bowls*
243. Fine micaceous sandy dark-grey fabric, black surfaces.
244. Coarse micaceous sandy light-grey fabric; black surfaces.  
*Mortaria*
245. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric, burnt. Verulamium region.
246. Coarse sandy orange-buff fabric, large red-brown grog inclusions; Verulamium region.  
*Dish*
247. Coarse micaceous sandy buff fabric, grey core and surfaces.

## PIT 9 (LATE SECOND CENTURY-EARLY THIRD CENTURY)

*Ring-neck Flagon*

248. Hard fine orange/grey fabric, worn cream slip on exterior.  
*Bead-rim Jars*
249. Coarse sandy light-grey fabric, black exterior.
250. Coarse micaceous drab-orange fabric, grey core; dense shell temper.



Plate 1. Aldgate—the military ditch (Scale in 0.5 m)



Plate 2. Aldgate—traces of a Flavian building with timber sleeper-beam and mortar floor sunk into earlier pit (Pit 20). (Large scale in 0.5 m)

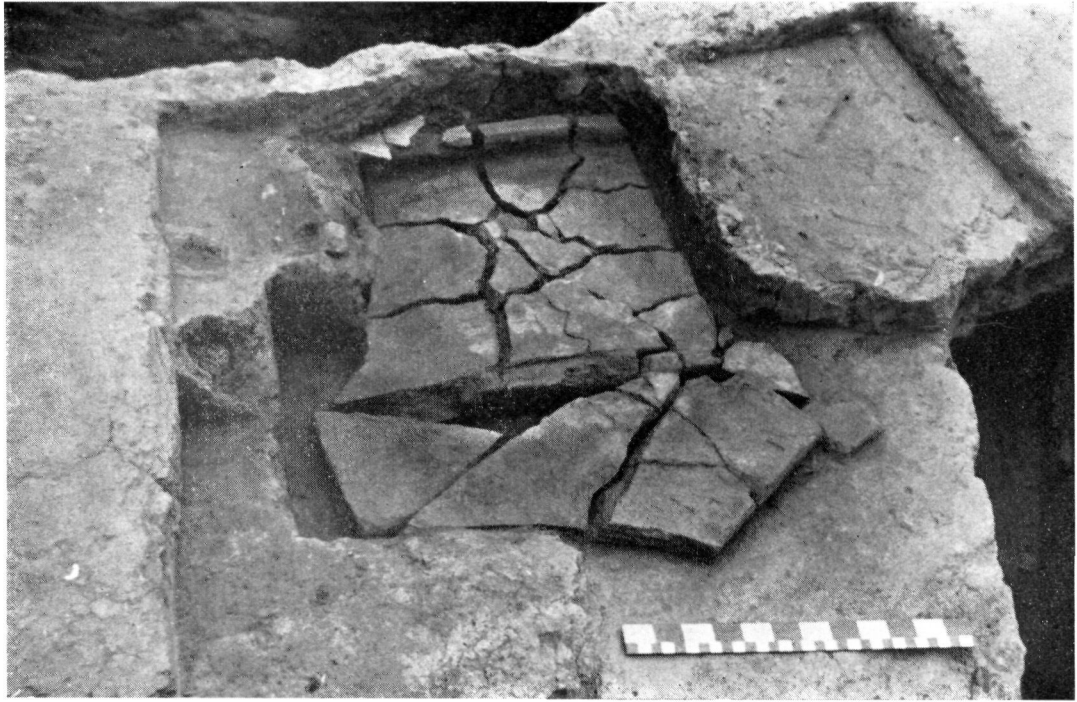


Plate 3. Aldgate—Flavian hearth re-using parts of a roof tile, and with two stake-holes on the left (scale in cms and ins)

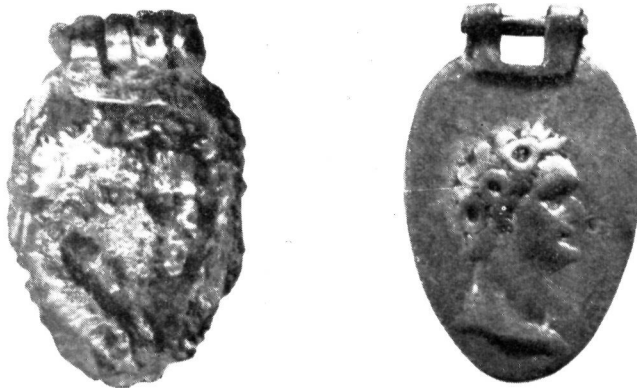


Plate 4. Aldgate—seal boxes with imperial portraits. *Left*: Vespasian, from Aldgate. *Right*: Domitian, from Bucklersbury House 1954. (See p. 48, No. 9). (Both 2/i)

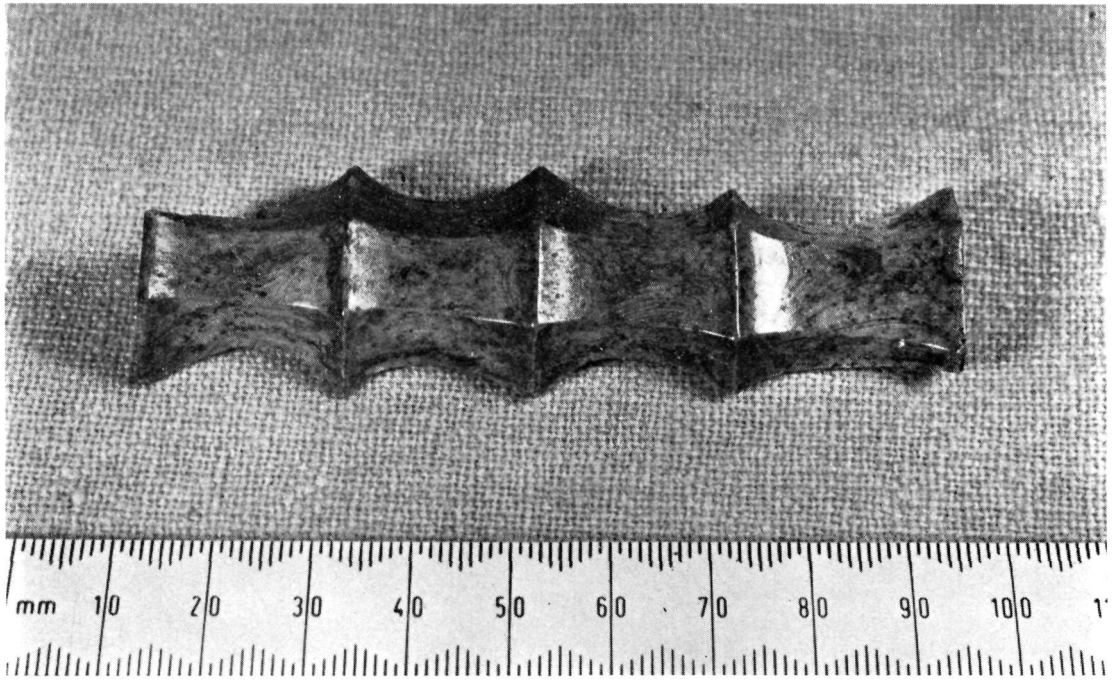


Plate 5. Aldgate—bone handle grip of legionary sword (p. 48, No. 12). (Scale in mm)



Plate 6. Bush Lane House—Timber period 1, Section across Trench B and post-hole 1, Room 9. (Scale in 10 cms)



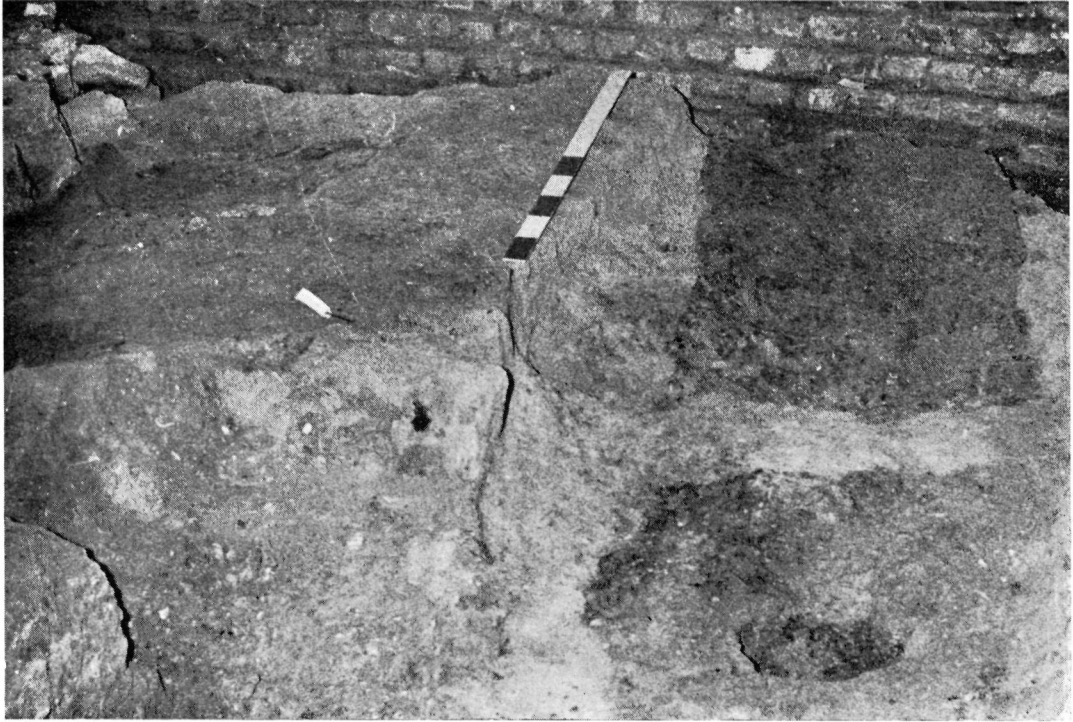


Plate 7. Bush Lane House—Timber period 2, Trench C, Room 8. (Scale 1 m)



Plate 8. Bush Lane House—hand-made bead-rim jar (No. 1, p. 69, Fig. 32). (Scale in cms)

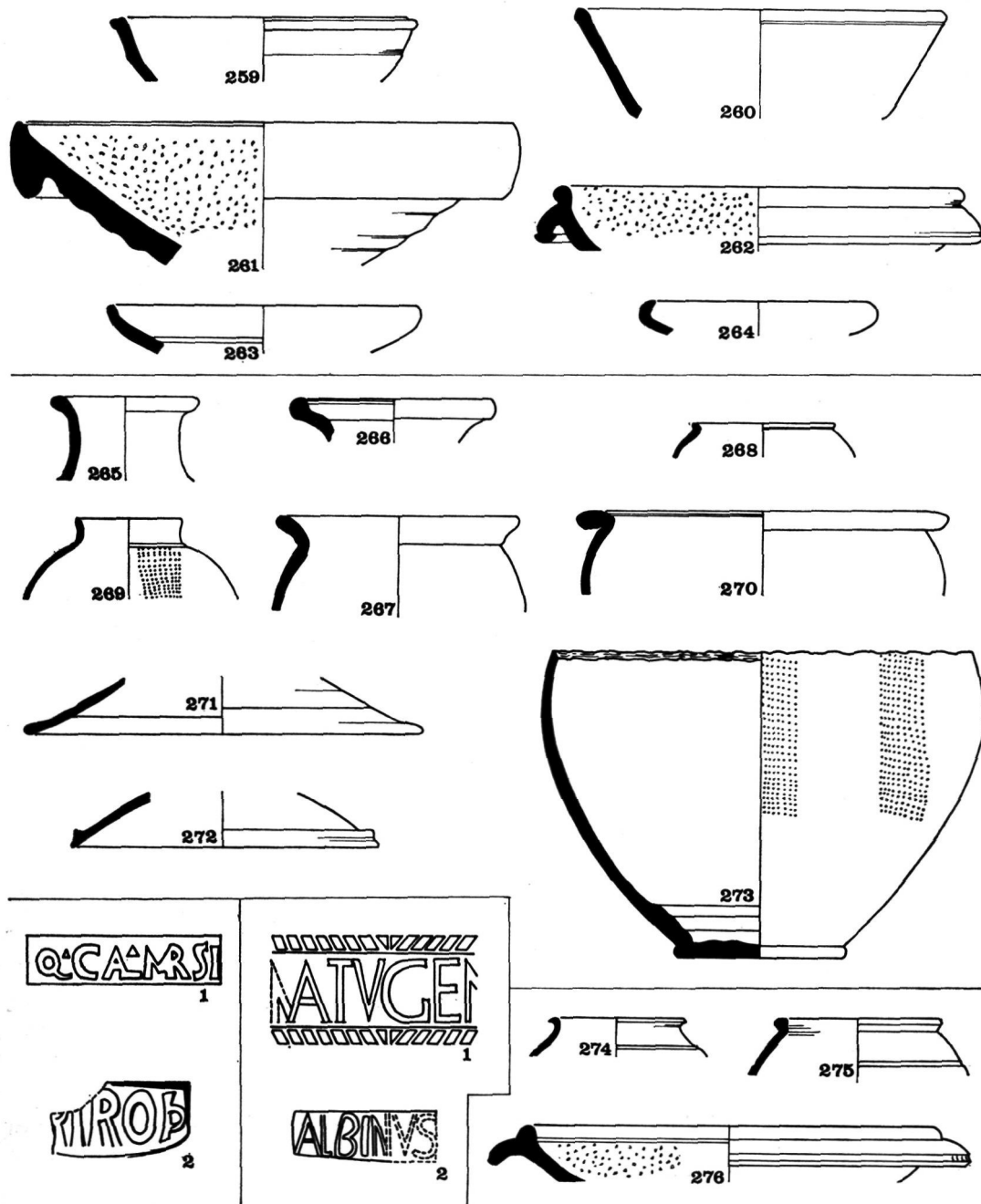


Fig. 18  
Aldgate. The Pottery 259-276 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) and amphorae and mortaria stamps ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )

- Jar with Squared Rim*  
 251. Coarse sandy cream fabric, some brown grog; perhaps a late product of the Verulamium region. Rim burnt.
- Jars with Undercut Rims*  
 252. Hard sandy grey fabric, brown core; very hard-fired.  
 253. Ware as 252.
- Storage Jar*  
 254. Coarse sandy grey fabric, light brown surfaces.
- Colour-coat Beaker*  
 255. Very pale grey fabric, dull brown colour coat. Nene Valley probably.
- Tazza*  
 256. Sandy dark cream fabric, buff core, yellow slip; Verulamium region.
- Bead-rim Bowls*  
 257. Fine sandy grey fabric, darker core and surfaces; probably a variety of "black burnished category 2", and perhaps manufactured in Colchester.  
 258. Ware as 257.

## (FIG. 18, 259-276)

- Bowl Imitating Belgic form*  
 259. Hard micaceous grey fabric, darker surfaces.
- Straight-sided Bowl*  
 260. Coarse micaceous sandy pale-grey fabric, dark-grey surfaces.
- Mortaria*  
 261. Coarse sandy drab-cream fabric, some brown grog and flint inclusions; grey and white flint trituration grits.  
 262. Hard sandy cream fabric, yellowish slip; pink and white quartz trituration grits. Oxfordshire.
- Dish Imitating Belgic form*  
 263. Soft micaceous sandy dark-grey fabric, grey surfaces.
- Shallow Dish*  
 264. Sandy brown, pale orange-buff surfaces.

## PIT 8 (MID-SECOND CENTURY)

- Flagons*  
 265. Hard sandy micaceous grey fabric, grey-white slip.  
 266. Hard micaceous fine beige fabric, large ironstone inclusion.
- Everted-rim Jar*  
 267. Hard micaceous sandy grey fabric.
- Ovoid Beaker*  
 268. Sandy cream fabric, cream slip; mica dusted.
- "Poppy" Beaker*  
 269. Fine micaceous sandy grey fabric, grey-white surfaces; barbotine dots in panels. Perhaps a Highgate product.
- Hook-rim bowl*  
 270. Hard sandy micaceous light grey fabric, darker surfaces; roughly burnished. Perhaps a Highgate product.
- Lids*  
 271. Sandy micaceous dark grey-brown fabric, dark-grey surfaces.  
 272. Hard micaceous grey fabric, patchy grey/beige surfaces.
- Re-used Beaker*  
 273. Micaceous fine sandy grey fabric, grey slip; barbotine dots in panels. The broken edge has been trimmed straight.

## PIT 6 (FIRST HALF THIRD CENTURY)

- Colour-coat Beakers*  
 274. Fine cream fabric, matt dark-grey colour coat with brown patches where thin; Nene Valley.  
 275. Micaceous orange/grey fabric; the colour coat is drab orange on the exterior, purple on the interior.
- Mortarium*  
 276. Sandy buff fabric, cream surfaces, yellow slip; pink, white and brown quartz grits. Oxfordshire.

The excavation at Aldgate provided the first substantial and closely-dated groups of Neronian and Flavian pottery to be published from London. The greatest problem in working on the pottery of this period is that of defining the production centres, since the kiln-sites that must have existed in the vicinity of the City have almost certainly been lost under later development. Apart from the kilns in the St. Paul's/Newgate area,<sup>21</sup> of which few products survive, the only kiln-site known in the London region is that in Highgate Wood<sup>22</sup> which was probably in production during the Flavian to early Hadrianic period; preliminary comparison of the products with finds from Southwark and the City does not suggest that it was a major source.<sup>23</sup>

The distinctive products of the Verulamium region (Verulamium itself, Brockley Hill, and Radlett<sup>24</sup>) make up the majority of flagons, mortaria and carinated bowls in London during the later first century. Colchester provided mortaria, and it is likely that other types will prove to originate there; kilns in the Upchurch marshes of Kent, apparently producing fine grey wares during the first century (finds now housed in Rochester Museum) may have supplied some pottery to London.

## THE STAMPS ON AMPHORAE

BY JOANNA BIRD

(FIG. 18)

1. Q. CAL MARS | on the handle of a globular oil amphora, form Dressel 20, in coarse drab-cream fabric with inclusions of lime and iron pyrites. The stamp, Callender 1427a,<sup>25</sup> probably reads Q. Calpurnii Marsi, and is sparsely but widely distributed in Gaul and the Rhineland. South Spanish. Callender suggests a date range of A.D. 90-140. (Unstratified).

2. P I R O P on the handle of a South Spanish oil amphora, form Dressel 20, in coarse drab-cream fabric with lime, iron pyrites and small black-grit inclusions. There is no close parallel for the stamp, but cf. Callender 1370, 21, reading PIRPOR, of which this could be a variant. (L23).

## THE STAMPED MORTARIA

BY MRS. K. F. HARTLEY

(FIG. 18)

NO. 1 FROM PIT 15

This is a stamp of Matugenus who worked at Brockley Hill, Herts., where thirty-seven stamps have been found to date as well as the die which was almost certainly used for this stamp (*Trans. London and Middlesex Archaeol. Soc.*, 18, Pt. 1 (1955), p. 60); it was suggested that the die found was broken in the firing and never used but this is not certain. In addition to these more than one hundred stamps have been found throughout England and Wales, including forty-three from London. Matugenus is recorded on some stamps as the son of Albinus, and the similarity of work confirms that it was the mortarium potter of that name whose work is to be dated A.D. 65-95 (see below). Two stamps from Verulamium are from deposits dated earlier than c. A.D. 120 and where so prolific a potter as Matugenus is concerned, the complete absence of his stamps from Scotland and from Hadrian's Wall is significant and supports a primarily Trajanic date. A date c. A.D. 90-125 is generally indicated for his work.

NO. 2 UNSTRATIFIED

A stamp of Albinus, by far the most prolific potter stamping mortaria in Britain or, indeed, elsewhere. More than three hundred of his stamps are now recorded, including eleven from Scotland. Securely dated stamps have been found at Inchtuthil c. A.D. 83-7, the Neronian-Flavian fort at Baginton, Warwickshire (3 exx.); and Verulamium (S. S. Frere, *Verulamium Excavations I* (1972), p. 371). The evidence and his rim-forms fit well with a date of A.D. 65-95. His kilns are not known but the fabric and distribution are entirely appropriate for the important potteries between Verulamium and London (including Radlett and Brockley Hill).

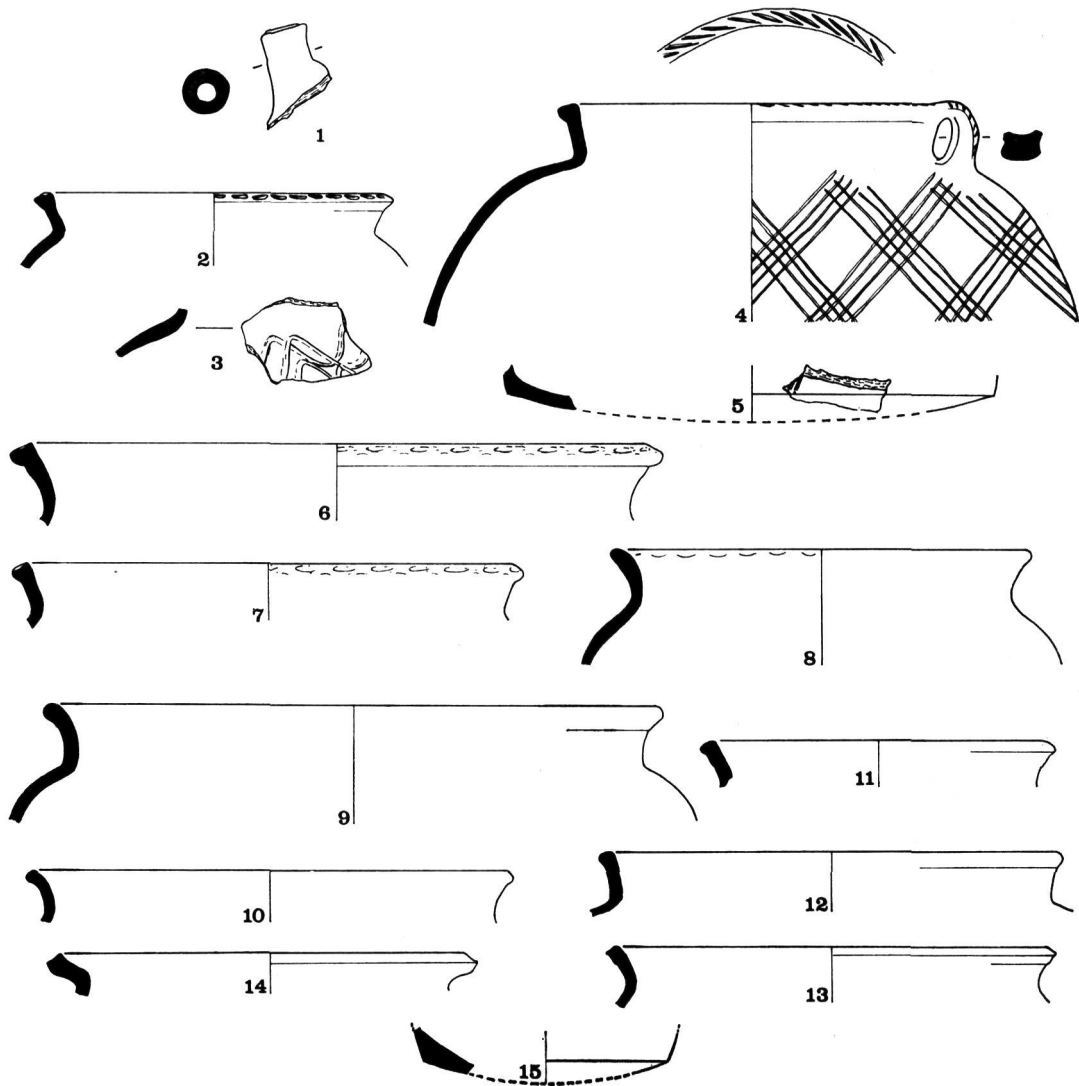


Fig. 19  
Aldgate. Medieval Pottery ( $\frac{1}{4}$ )

## EARLY MEDIEVAL POTTERY FROM PIT P4

BY JOHN CLARK

FIG. 19)

1. Spout, of hard sandy ware with grey core and pinkish-buff surfaces.
2. Everted rim of high-shouldered vessel; similar ware to 1, though with redder exterior surface, and perhaps part of same or similar vessel. Stabbed (thumbnail) decoration on top of rim, trace of incised decoration on shoulder.
3. Part of shoulder of vessel of hard sandy ware with grey core and pinkish-buff surfaces. Shallow incised wave pattern.

4. Part, including one handle, probably of a spouted pitcher, of grey ware with surface red in patches, tempered with grit and much shell. Slashed decoration on rim, incised lattice pattern produced with a four-toothed comb on body.

5. Base fragment of similar ware to 4, with edge of similar incised decoration, perhaps part of same vessel.

6, 7. Rims of cooking-pots, of ware with grey core, reddish surfaces, tempered with sand and shell. Broad flattened top with shallow finger impressions.

8. Rim and shoulder of cooking-pot, of ware with grey core, red-brown surfaces, tempered with sand and much shell. Shallow finger impressions along top inside.

9, 10. Rims of cooking-pots, of hard sandy grey/black ware with surfaces purple-brown in patches, with some shell tempering.

11-13. Rims of cooking-pots, of hard sandy ware with grey core and buff surfaces, with some shell tempering. Expanding to a slightly flattened outward sloping top.

14. Angular rim with hollowed top, of soft slightly "soapy" ware with grey core and purple-brown surfaces, tempered with shell and some sand.

15. Fragment of sagging base, of fine hard ware with off-white core, pinkish surfaces, with yellow glaze on outside, patchy on bottom, thick and slightly cracked on side.

Medieval pottery makes up just under half the number of sherds from this pit, the rest being residual Roman material, as in a number of other deposits of early medieval date from the City. Apart from the one glazed fragment and parts of at least two spouted vessels, the medieval sherds are of cooking pots with sagging bases and everted rims. Some of these rims expand to a slightly flattened top, sloping outwards (Nos. 11-13), in others (Nos. 6, 7) the top is much broader, again sloping outwards, decorated with finger impressions. Both these forms (with and without finger impressions), in similar fabrics, appear among the contents of three pits on the site of the church of St. Nicholas Acon, Nicholas Lane, excavated in 1964,<sup>26</sup> apparently predating the church, which was in existence by 1084, and in one case dated by coin evidence to after the second quarter of the eleventh century. The broader form is a common twelfth-century type, though appearing, with shallow finger impressions, before 1070 in Oxford.<sup>27</sup> It is found for example at Northolt<sup>28</sup> where the less developed form of Nos. 11-13 also appears and has been dated to the period 1050-1150. The Northolt site also produced vessels of twelfth-century date with incised or combed decoration, while vessel No. 4 is very similar in form and decoration to a spouted pitcher from St. George's Street, Winchester, dated to c. 1100.<sup>29</sup> The single glazed sherd, probably from a Stamford ware pitcher, would not be out of place at such a date, and for the whole group a date in the latter part of the eleventh or beginning of the twelfth century would seem appropriate.

## THE POTTERY AND OTHER MATERIAL FROM PIT 1

BY NAOMI TARRANT

The pottery consists mainly of pieces of tableware in a thin, cream glazed earthenware of a very plain design, unmarked except for one piece which was impressed <sup>BB</sup>/<sub>7</sub>, presumably a production mark. The rest are mostly small fragments of transfer-printed earthenware, some hard paste porcelain, probably Chinese, some eighteenth-century slipware, stoneware, brown glazed earthenware and a delftware apothecary's jar.

The glass consists of some wine bottle fragments of early nineteenth-century type, some long thincy lindrical medicine mottles, a smelling salt bottle and some wine glasses, one of which was eighteenth century but the others are what one would call "Regency".

The small finds consist of slate pencils, wood and bone knife handles, metal spoons, an oval piece of polished agate (perhaps from a brooch) and a metal badge(?) of bronze or copper, badly corroded but with traces of a pin at the back. There are fragments of two bone fine-toothed double-sided combs of the type known as nit or scurf combs. A complete glass bottle of "True Cephalick Snuff. By the King's Patent". The type is mid-eighteenth century but they seem to have gone on for a long time.

Three clay pipes have makers' names:

1. "Balme, Mile End" in shield shape and T B on the spur. This is Thomas Balme of Mile End Road, Whitechapel, 1805-40, though this bowl is type 27, c. 1780-1820 of Atkinson and Oswald's classification.<sup>30</sup>
2. "... RMAN" with scrolls and II on spur. Probably John Jerman or Jarman of New City Chambers, Bishopsgate Street, 1805-47; this bowl is type 28, c. 1820-40.
3. "MOORE" with two indecipherable motifs, not initials, on the spur. Perhaps John Moore, 1828.<sup>31</sup> There is no Moore of the right date listed in Atkinson and Oswald in the list taken from the Directories of the period. This bowl is also of type 28.

There are four other bowls of type 28 with makers' initials:

4. IC—there are several makers with these initials.
5. DW—there are two bowls of this maker, perhaps Daniel Wilson of Little Arthur Street, Golden Lane.
6. H—with a decorated bowl.

Though a few pieces belong to the eighteenth century, most of the material is of nineteenth-century date, and the group as a whole cannot date much later than *c.* 1840.

## THE GLASS

BY DR. D. B. HARDEN

### *a. Roman vessels*

(PIT 12)

1. Fragment of rim, pillar-moulded bowl; dappled mosaic-glass, translucent purple with mainly opaque-white but also some opaque-yellow insets. Cast and polished. Dulled and iridescent. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 11)

2. Two fragments bottom, flat-bottomed dish with slightly splayed sides; dappled mosaic-glass, translucent emerald-green with mainly opaque-yellow insets but a scatter also of opaque-red ones with opaque-white centres. Cast and polished. Iridescent and pitted.

(LAYER 18)

3. Fragment of side, pillar-moulded bowl; green. Cast and polished. Usage scratches; no weathering visible.

(PIT 10)

4. Fragment of rim and side, pillar-moulded bowl; bluish-green. Cast and polished. Usage scratches; incipient iridescence. (Fig. 20).

(LAYER 17)

5. Fragment of side, shallow bowl with closely-set vertical ribbing; bluish-green. Mould-blown. No weathering visible.

(PIT 21)

6. Tiny fragment of another, as No. 5. Iridescent.

(LAYER 17)

7. Fragment of handle, conical-bodied jug; bluish-green. Drawn, with median vertical rib formed by folding and tooling. No weathering; W. 2.5 cm. (Fig. 20).

(LAYER 18)

8. Top (horizontal) arm of right-angled, six-ribbed handle of jug, showing mark of attachment to under side of rim of vessel; dark blue. Drawn from bottom upwards; folded tag-end extant. Partially iridescent. L. 2.7 cm. W. 2.2 cm. (Fig. 20).

(LAYER 3)

9. Fragment of side, carinated bowl or jar(?); colourless. Blown. Two horizontal wheel-cut grooves close together, just above carination (or below it? It is not clear which is upper end of fragment). Frosted surface, many strain-cracks. 2.1 cm by 1.6 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 15)

10. Base of goblet; colourless. Blown. Shape of body uncertain; pad base-ring (formed from second paraeson applied to bottom of body); knocked-off edge, smoothed by grinding. Flaking weathering; iridescence. H. as extant 1.2 cm. D. base-ring 3.7 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 15)

11. Fragment of body, jug or olla with one vertical rib extant; yellow. Blown; rib trailed on. Outside iridescent and pitted; inside unweathered. 1.9 cm by 1.7 cm.

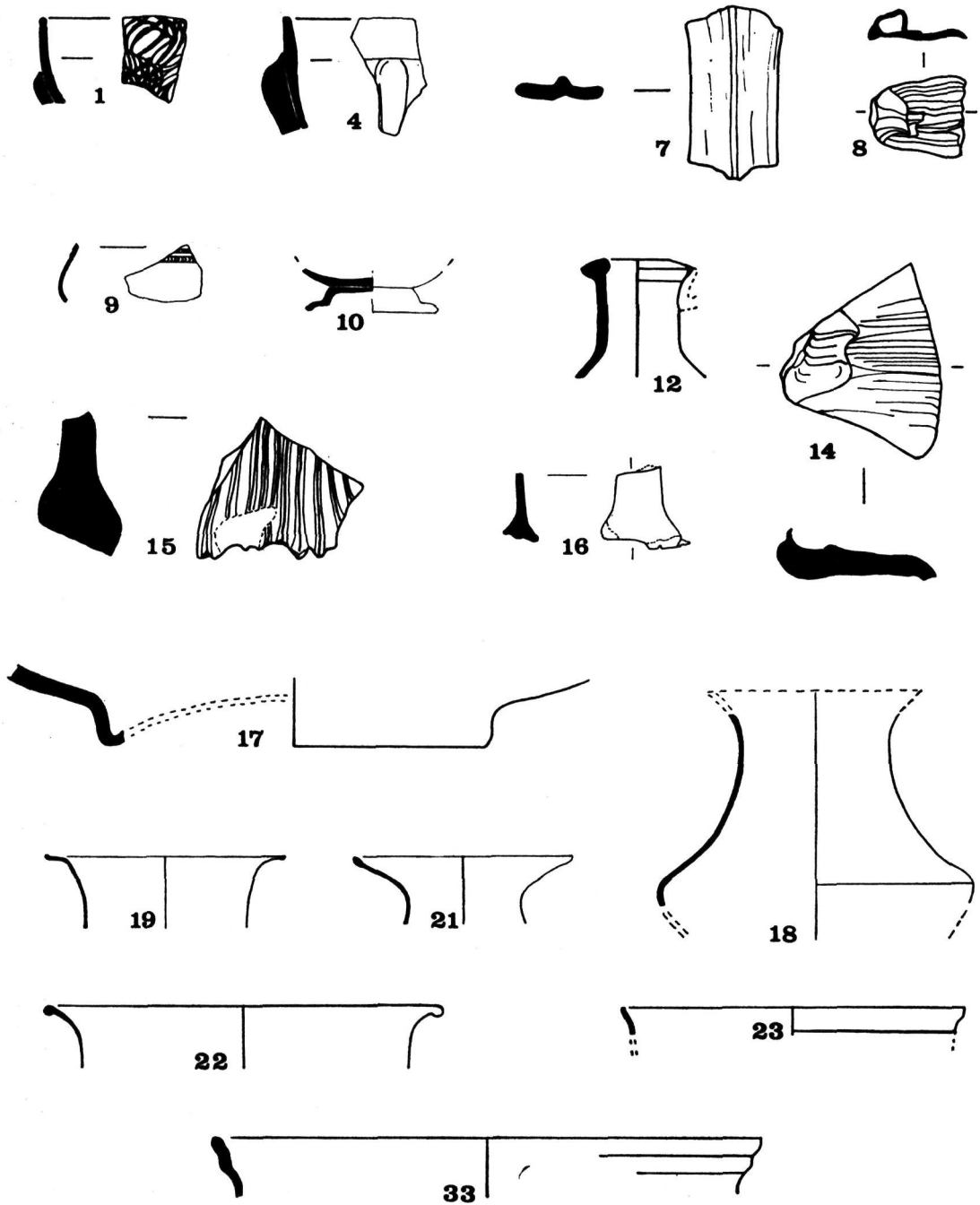


Fig. 20  
Aldgate. The Glass ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )



(PIT 12)

12. Rim, and part of neck and shoulder of bottle; bluish-green. Blown, with mould-blown(?) body. Rim folded outward, upward and inward; short cylindrical neck, faintly tooled at bottom. Fracture marks at rim and on neck where upper end of handle was attached. Shape of body not ascertainable. Also another fragment, probably from same vessel, showing part of angle between neck and shoulder, with tooling marks. Flaking iridescent. H. neck 2.5 cm. D. rim 3.0–3.3 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 11)

13. Rim and part of top of neck of bottle; bluish-green. Technique as No. 12. Rim as No. 12, but unevenly made and not truly circular. No trace of handle attachment. Flaking and iridescent. D. rim 3.9 cm – 4.2 cm.

(PIT 9)

14. Part of top (horizontal) arm of right-angled, multi-ribbed handle of bottle; dark bluish-green. Drawn. Very bubbly. Flaking and iridescent. 4.5 cm by 5.2 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 12)

15. Part of lower end of multi-ribbed handle of bottle, with part of shoulder; dark bluish-green. Drawn. Bubbly. Flaking and iridescent. 3.5 cm by 4.8 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 7)

16. Part of lower end of plain strap-handle of bottle, with portion of shoulder; bluish-green. Drawn. From a small, probably prismatic, bottle. Flaking and iridescent. H. as extant 2.0 cm; W. at bottom 2.5 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 10)

17. Part of bottom of side and basal angle, ovoid jar (a cinerary urn); dark bluish-green. Blown. Concave bottom with inward fold above, forming a false base-ring. D. bottom c. 11.0 cm. (Fig. 20).

(LAYER 17)

18. Fragment of upper half of side, biconical jar; bluish-green. Blown. Rim missing; concave sides, expanding downward to rounded carination. D. at carination c. 9.0 cm. (Fig. 20).

(LAYER 14)

19. Fragment of rim and upper part of side of thin-walled bowl(?); bluish-green. Blown. Rim splayed horizontally, lip rounded; side nearly vertical. Incipient iridescence. D. c. 7.0 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 20)

20. Fragment as No. 19, but splay of rim is at angle and not horizontal; bluish-green. Blown. No weathering. D. c. 10.0 cm.

(PIT 15)

21. Fragment of rim, neck and shoulder of jar; bright green. Blown. Rim splayed at angle, lip rounded; low constricted neck between rim and shoulder. Brownish weathering layer, beginning to flake off in places. D. 6.4 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 15)

22. Half of rim and shoulder, bowl; bluish-green. Blown. Solid rim, thickened by folding outward, downward and inward. Sides vertical. Flaking and iridescence. D. 11.5 cm. (Fig. 20).

(LAYER 13)

23. Fragment of rim, bowl; bluish-green. Blown. Rim splayed from neck-constriction and knocked off; lip ground smooth. Thin horizontal wheel-cut just below neck-constriction. Iridescent. D. c. 10.0 cm. (Fig. 20).

(PIT 10)

24. Fragment of cylindrical neck, unguent bottle(?); green. Blown. Neck expands slightly downwards. Very bubbly. Flaking and iridescent. D. c. 2.0 cm.

(LAYER 10)

25. Fragment of rim of unguent-bottle; bluish-green. Blown. Rim splayed, folded upward and inward, and pressed solid. Dulled. D. c. 4.0 cm.

(PIT 15)

26. Fragment of rim of bowl; pale bluish-green. Blown. Shape as No. 25, but rim tubular not solid. Iridescent. D. c. 5.0 cm.

(PIT 15)

27. Fragment as No. 26, but rim not so widely splayed, and solid, not tubular. Flaking and iridescence. D. c. 9.0 cm.

b. Roman, window-glass

(PIT 10)

28. Fragment of matt/glossy window-glass; bluish-green. Cylinder-blown, or cast. Part of one rounded edge extant. Early Roman.

(PIT 9)

29. Fragment of double glossy(?) window-glass; bluish-green. Cylinder-blown. At least one edge shows grozing. Late(?) Roman.

(PIT 9)

30. Fragment as No. 29. One edge is perhaps grozed. Late(?) Roman. From same Pit as No. 29.

(PIT 22)

31. Fragment as No. 29. No edge extant. Late(?) Roman.

(PIT 6)

32. Fragment as No. 29. One edge is perhaps grozed. Late(?) Roman.

c. Late Saxon or early Medieval

(PIT 4)

33. Fragment of rim, bowl; green. Blown. Broad rim splayed at angle from neck-constriction; lip thickened and rounded in flame. Flaking and iridescent. D. c. 16.0 cm.

This fragment does not look like Roman glass and, since it comes—it seems—from an eleventh-twelfth-century milieu, I do not think we can doubt that it is late Saxon or early Medieval. A bowl of such large diameter is not known to be a usual form at that period but, since so little late Saxon and early Medieval glass has been recorded, we need not be surprised if a new form turns up. (Fig. 20).

#### CONCLUSION

Apart from the last four pieces of window-glass (Nos. 29–32) and the bowl-rim (No. 33), the fragments here catalogued are entirely early Roman and belong—or, at least, could belong—to types current in the second half of the first century A.D. They can mostly be paralleled at Camulodunum (D. B. Harden in C. F. C. Hawkes and M. R. Hull, *Camulodunum*, "Res. Rept. Soc. Antiq.", London XIV, 1947, 287 ff.); Vindonissa (L. Berger, *Römische Gläser aus Vindonissa*, Basel, 1960); or Fishbourne (D. B. Harden and J. Price in B. W. Cunliffe, *Excavations at Fishbourne 1961–69*, "Res. Rept. Soc. Antiq.", London, XXVII, 1971, 317 ff.). For dated parallels from other sites see relevant entries in C. Isings, *Roman Glass from Dated Finds*, Groningen/Djakarta, 1957, 14–95. None of the fragments is of any special significance, but as a group they are of some value in that they tell a consistent and categorical tale.

One piece (No. 28) of the window-glass is of the matt/glossy type characteristic of the earlier part of the imperial period (first and second centuries with perhaps a spread into the third). The other four pieces are totally different in character. I have tentatively equated them with the double glossy variety of window-glass which belongs mainly, if not exclusively, to the third and fourth centuries. But, except that they have two smooth sides and an even thickness, they do not resemble normal examples of this glass and it may be that they are something totally different, and earlier in date than any of the double glossy window-glass. I am the more inclined to accept this view since they are the only pieces in this assemblage which I have ascribed to the late Roman period and this suggests that such a date for them is probably a wrong one. On Roman window-glass and the differentiation between the matt/glossy and double glossy varieties see D. B. Harden in E. M. Jope (ed.), *Studies in Building History*; "Essays in Recognition of the Work of B. H. St. J. O'Neil" (London, 1961), 39–63; and G. C. Boon in *J. Glass Studies*, VIII (1966), 41–7.

## THE COINS

BY RALPH MERRIFIELD

(PIT 21)

1. Nero. As. (R.I.C. 329) A.D. 66–68. Much corroded.

(PIT 20)

2. Vespasian. As. (?R.I.C. 494) A.D. 71–73. Much corroded. O [IMP. CAES.] VESPASIANVS AVG. COS. [III or IIII]. Laureate head r. R [PROVID]ENT S. C. Rectangular altar.

(LAYER 18)

3. *Vespasian*. As. (†R.I.C. 497 or 528) †A.D. 71–73. Much corroded. O [IMP. CAE]SAR VESPASIAN [————] Head, laureate, r. R [S.C.] Eagle on globe, head r.

(LAYER 7)

4. *Vespasian*. Dupondius, Mint of Lugdunum. (R.I.C. 739) A.D. 72–73. Little worn.

(PIT 20)

5. *Vespasian*. As. Much corroded. O [—————VES]PASIAN AVG COS[—————]. Head, laureate, r. R Illegible. Female figure standing l. holding cornucopiae; other attributes obscure.(† FORTVNAE REDVCI type).

(PIT 13)

6. †*Vespasian*. As. Much corroded. O Illegible. Head, laureate, r. R S.C. Illegible. †type.

(PIT 9)

7. *Nerva* — dupondius. †(R.I.C. 61 or 84). A.D. 96–7. Very worn. O IMP NERVA CAES AVG [————] Head, radiate, r. R †[ORTV]NA [AVGVST] — S.C. Fortune standing l., holding rudder and cornucopiae.

(PIT 6)

8. Dupondius or reduced sestertius (orichalc, 25 mm), possibly counterfeit. Very worn and abraded Illegible.

(LAYER 26)

9. Fragment of base metal coin. From size, †late third–fourth century. Illegible and much corroded.

(UNSTRATIFIED)

10. *Arcadius* — small bronze (AE4), contemporary forgery. Die axis ↙ VICTORIA AVGGG type of A.D. 388–402. no legible m.m. Worn and abraded by corrosion.

(PIT 2)

11. *William III*. Brass coin-weight. O GVLIELMVS III DEI GRA REX. In r. field, W. H. Laureate head r. R †GVINEA/W. Crown on crossed sceptres above.

## THE SMALL FINDS

BY HUGH CHAPMAN

(Apart from No. 33 all the small finds listed are Roman)

### Objects of Bronze

(PIT 20)

1. Brooch, badly corroded. Probably *Camulodunum* type V. (Fig. 21).

(PIT 11)

2. Brooch, badly corroded. Probably *Camulodunum* type IV or V. (Fig. 21).

(PIT 15)

3. Brooch, not as corroded as No. 1 or 2, though the details are not clear. No traces of silvering remain. *Camulodunum* type XVIII. (Fig. 21).

(PIT 15)

4. Nail cleaner, part of a set of toilet implements. (Fig. 21).

(PIT 15)

5. Instrument with long shallow bowl at one end and probe at other. A common object, often thought to be surgical, but there are so many from London that they must also have been used for other purposes, e.g. the extraction of cosmetics from unguent-bottles and their preparation. (Fig. 21).

(PIT 11)

6. Head of pin. (Fig. 21).

(LAYER 7)

7. Head of pin. (Fig. 21).

(PIT 15)

8. Part of the beam of a steelyard. Though corroded the markings for the Roman pound (*libra*) are visible on one side—probably (v)III – (v)II – (v)I (the V often being omitted)—and notches on the top and bottom edge for the sliding weight to measure ounces (*unciae*). The presence of these on both edges indicate that the steelyard was able to be turned over and used to weigh heavier objects. Other examples in the Guildhall Museum show that the notches between each pound division were rarely the correct number of 12.<sup>32</sup> (Fig. 21).

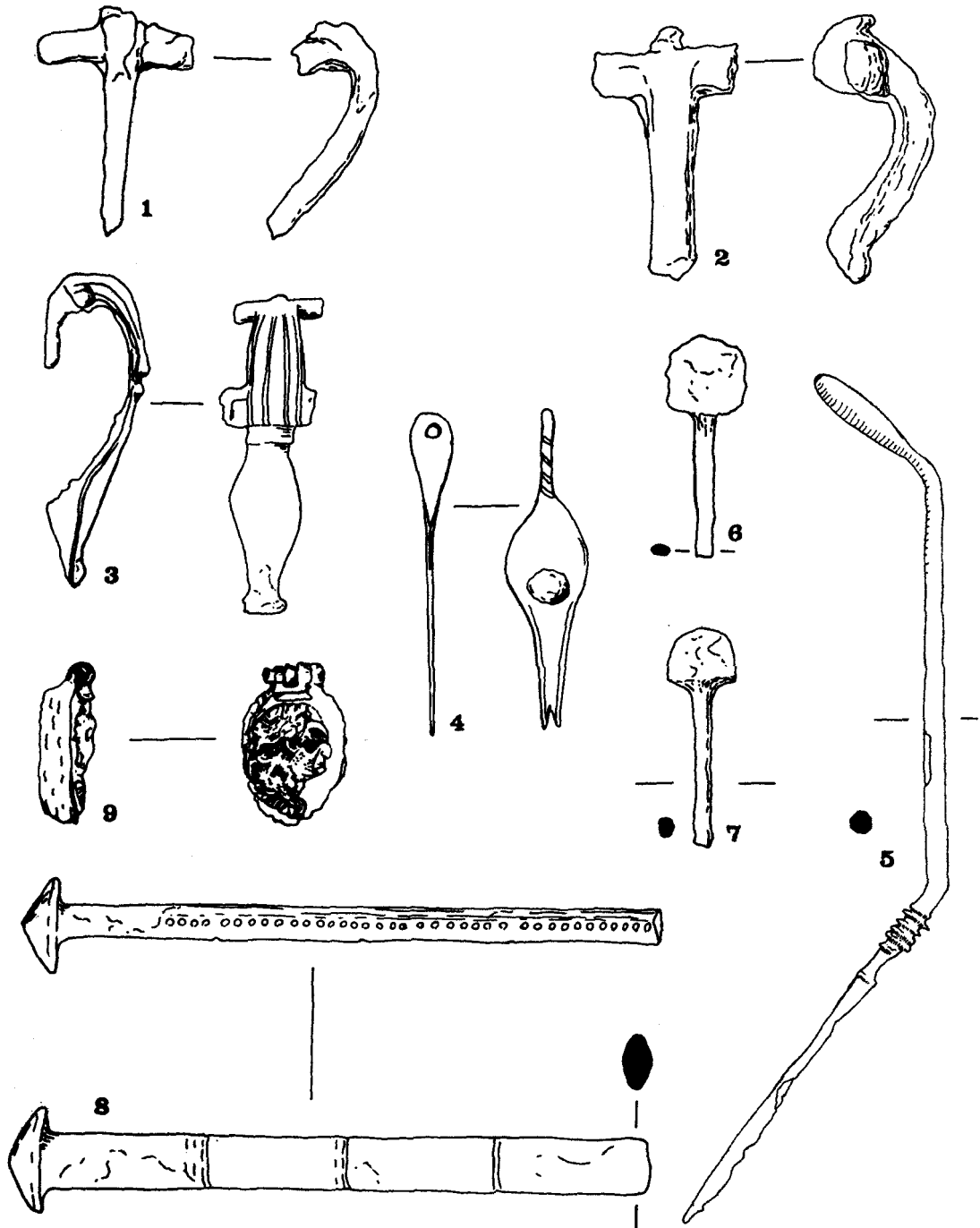


Fig. 21  
Aldgate. Small finds 1-9 (1/1)

## (LAYER 10)

9. Seal box; the shape of the box and the strong hinge (two loops instead of one) is unusual. More important is the fact that the lid bears a portrait of the Emperor Vespasian. Two other seal boxes, one bearing the imperial eagle (G.M. Acc. No. 20,081) and the other a portrait of the Emperor Domitian (Plate 4, now in private possession) are known from London, both from the Bucklersbury House site, Walbrook.<sup>33</sup> There can be little doubt that these seal boxes were government property and used to protect the seals on official documents. (Fig. 21, Plate 4).

## (UNSTRATIFIED)

10. Two (?) rectangular plates riveted together by five studs. Possible a military belt-plate, though it is smaller than normal and the central stud is unusual. (Fig. 22).

*Objects of Iron*

## (PIT 6)

11. Chisel, spatulate end. (Fig. 22).

*Objects of Bone*

## (FEATURE 6)

12. Handle grip of a legionary sword (*gladius*); only half the handle survives and the channel for the tang is exposed. The type, which was clearly standard military issue, is well known from military sites both in this country and other parts of the Empire. This example is very fine, being skilfully carved, highly polished and with little wear. There is another example in the British Museum from London,<sup>34</sup> and there are three more in the Guildhall Museum collection (Acc. Nos. 1126; 1127; 19164), one of which comes from the Walbrook, the others coming from unknown provenances in the City. (Fig. 22, Plate 5).

## (PIT 15)

13. Head of pin, lathe-turned. (Fig. 22).

## (PIT 15)

14. Short pin, the top part of the lathe-turned head is missing. (Fig. 22).

## (LAYER 9)

15. Head of pin, lathe-turned. (Fig. 22).

## (PIT 6)

16. Head of pin, hand-cut. (Fig. 22).

## (PIT 6)

17. Body of pin, head missing. (Fig. 22).

## (PIT 4)

18. Part of pin, with hand-cut globular head; residual (?) in early Medieval pit. (Fig. 22).

## (LAYER 8)

19. Polished plate, with one sharp edge and groove along the other. (Fig. 23).

*Objects of Clay*

## (PIT 9)

20. Fragment of base of mother-goddess figurine. The wicker-work of the basket-chair, in which the goddess sat nursing two infants, is visible.<sup>35</sup> (Fig. 23).

## (PIT 9)

21. Fragment of base of another mother-goddess figurine similar to No. 20, though here the feet and bottom of the tunic are visible (Fig. 23). It is interesting to note that both the figurines are of the same cult and from the same pit.

## (PIT 15)

22. Fragment of lamp, type II.<sup>36</sup> (Fig. 23).

## (PIT 15)

23. Half of a circular ring with flat base, possibly ring from lug-handle of pot. (Fig. 23).

*Objects of Stone*

## (LAYER 8)

24. Fragment of rectangular palette with bevelled edges, for mixing cosmetics. (Fig. 23).

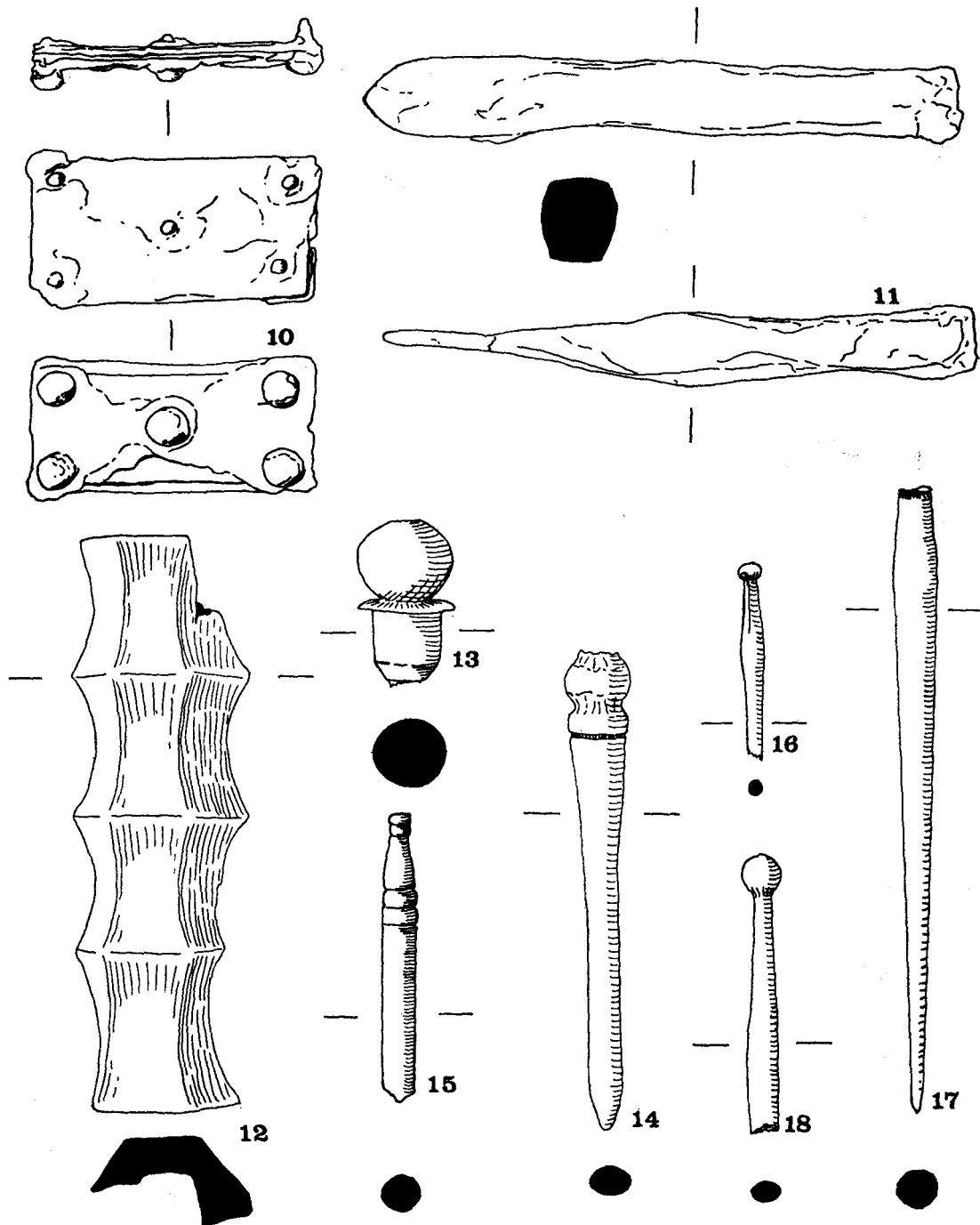


Fig. 22  
Aldgate. Small finds 10-18 (all 1/1 except No. 11 (1/2))

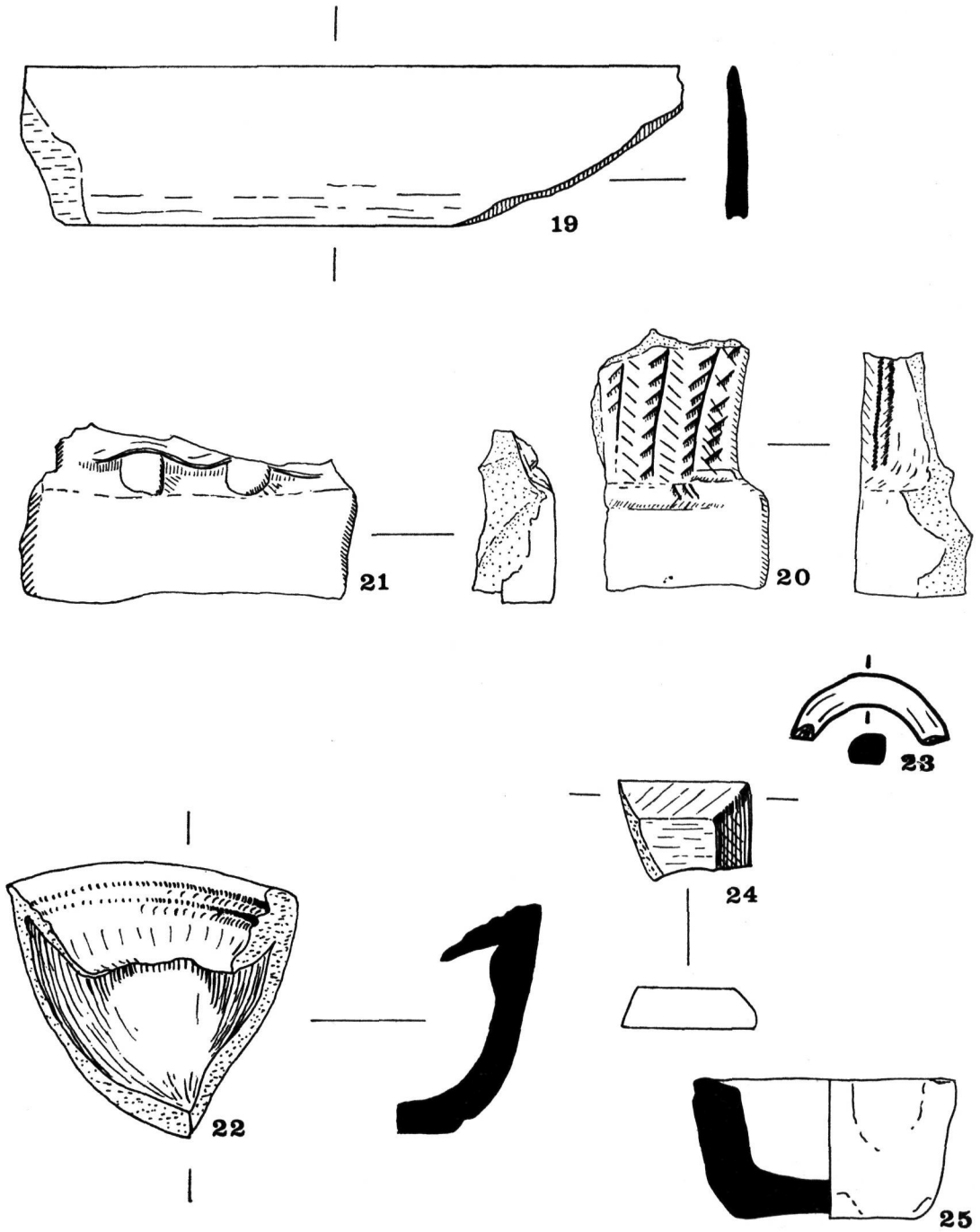


Fig. 23  
Aldgate. Small finds 19-25 (1/1)

(PIT 10)

25. Very small mortar or bowl; its size must indicate that it was used to grind materials for cosmetics or paints. (Fig. 23).

(PIT 15)

26. Fragment of an upper stone of a quern of Mayen lava. (Fig. 24).

(PIT 7)

27. Another fragment of an upper stone of a quern of Mayen lava. (Fig. 24).

These two fragments add two more examples to the already large number (over 26) of Mayen lava querns known from London. The querns can be divided into two well-defined groups: the first, to which these two belong, being slightly thinner at the edge though of a greater diameter than the second group. The hole through No. 26 received an iron loop or clamp to hold a single vertical wooden handle on the outside of the upper stone. This hole is also apparent on the broken edge of No. 27. Wear caused by the handle can be seen on the edge of No. 26. Both fragments have the usual pattern of grooves or striations on the grinding and other surfaces.<sup>37</sup>

## THE HONES

BY S. E. ELLIS

(PIT 11)

28. A micaceous greywacke-grit (turbidite) of a kind found in contexts ranging from Iron Age to seventeenth century. It has been subjected to mild "depth" metamorphism and slight shearing. It may come from any Palaeozoic or Proterozoic folded mountain region, but such rocks are particularly characteristic of the Hersynian belts of N.W. Europe and Britain, *i.e.* Cornwall-Devon, Brittany, or the Rhineland-Ardenne area. (*cf.* Ellis's type IIB 7 or 8).<sup>38</sup>

(PIT 6) 29; (PIT 12) 30; (PIT 21) 31; (UNSTRATIFIED) 32.

These are all glauconitic sandy limestones or calcareous sandstones with abundant fossil fragments including echinoid spines, ostracod tests, fragments of bone (?fish or reptile) and (excepting for No. 29) fragments of mollusian shells. They differ only in minor details of mineralogy and texture but the probable source of all is the "Kentish Rag" in the Hythe Beds of the Lower Greensand of Kent and Sussex, which was exported from the area in and since Roman times.<sup>39</sup> Similar hones were found at West Stow (Nos. 49, 76, 77 and 84) (Ellis's type IVB (1)).

(PIT 4)

33. A typical late Saxon to Medieval "schist hone"; *i.e.* a mica-quartz-schist mullion of the kind traced to Eidsborg, Telemark, Norway (Ellis's type IA (1)).

## THE BONES FROM PIT 15

BY JOHN WATSON

1. The bones from this pit were almost entirely those of cattle. The provisional count is as follows:

	Number of "diagnostic" fragments	Minimum number of individuals
Cattle ( <i>Bos</i> )	175	at least 12
Sheep/Goat ( <i>Ovis/Capra</i> )	7	2
Pug ( <i>Sus</i> )	7	2
Unidentified bird	1	1



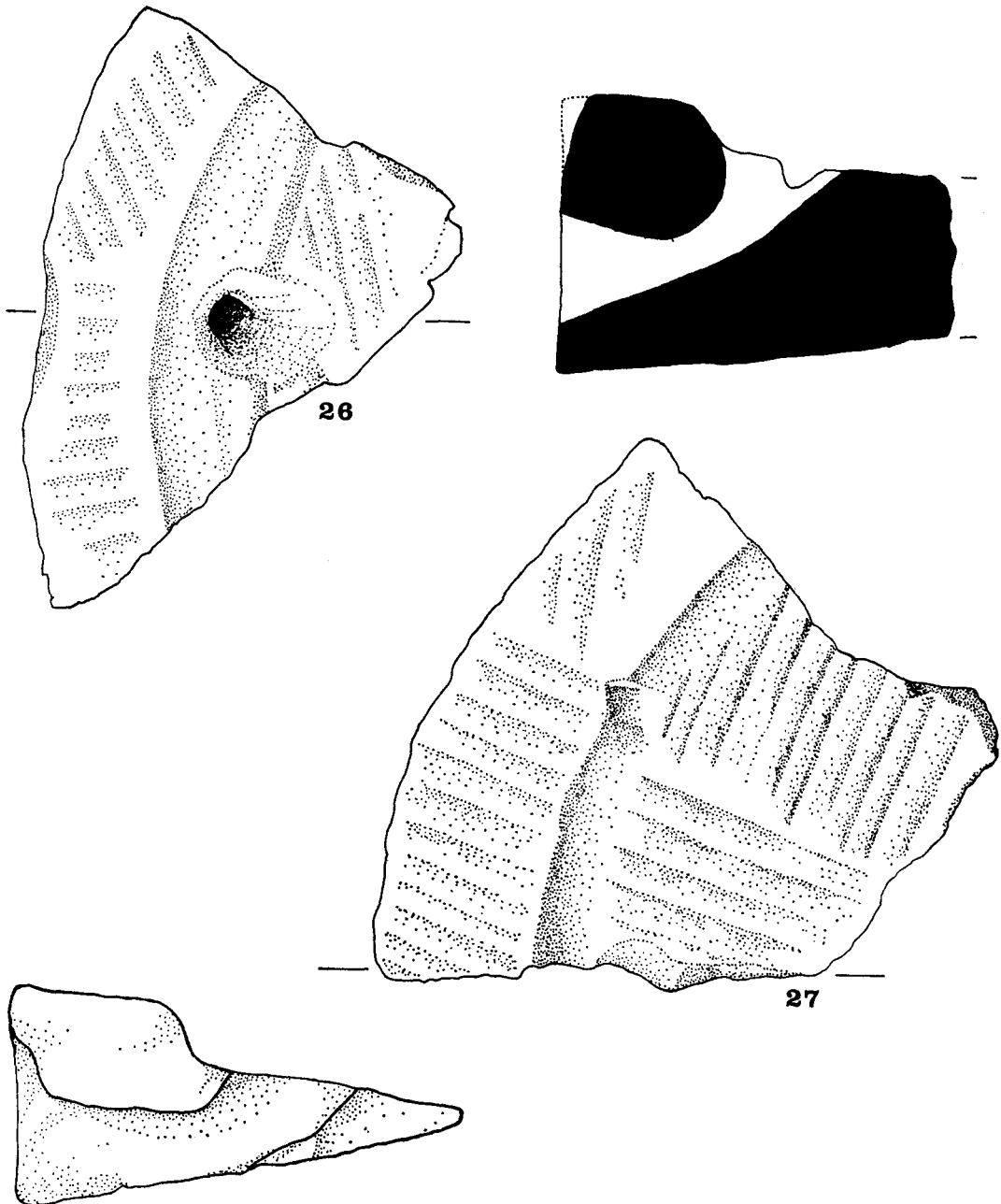


Fig. 24  
Aldgate. Small finds 26-27 ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )

## 2. The cattle:

## (a) Numbers of fragments different parts of the skeleton.

Mandible	46	Metacarpal distal	8
Maxilla	41	Metatarsal proximal	20
Scapula proximal	1	Metatarsal distal	15
Humerus distal	1	Phalanx 1	10
Radius proximal	3	Phalanx 2	7
Radius distal	3	Phalanx 3	14
Metacarpal proximal	3	Ulna proximal	3
		Total	175

Apart from these, there were large numbers of skull, vertebra and rib fragments.

- (b) There were no signs of any horn cores.
- (c) Nearly all the metapodials were broken in the middle of the shaft and nowhere else, possibly to extract the marrow.
- (d) Nearly all the animals were adult, many of them with the third molars well worn.
- (e) There were a few burnt fragments.
- (f) One proximal metatarsal was pathological.

## 3. CONCLUSIONS

The proportions of the different parts of the skeleton are not such as would result from differential preservation. They are consistent with large-scale organised slaughtering such as one would find at a modern slaughterhouse, in that (a) the bones represent almost entirely the inedible or less edible parts of the animal, (b) all the horns seem to have been removed elsewhere, (c) there is a very consistent pattern of breakage of leg bones.

## THE MOLLUSCA

BY DR. JOYCE E. RIGBY

The material contained:

- (a) One specimen of *Littorina littorea* shell.
- (b) Few pieces of *Mytilus edulis* shell—and numerous pieces in one sample from Pit 8.
- (c) Fragments of shell in Pit 15 might be *Mya*, but the material is inadequate to be conclusive.
- (d) The rest of the shells are oysters and seem to be *Ostrea edulis*:
  - (i) There is, however, quite a striking *range of size* among these shells that is probably worthy of mention from 38 mm height to 114 mm even in the material from one pit (P10).
  - (ii) Typical *O. edulis* have essentially a rounded contour and rather shallow left valve. But there is a striking *diversity of shape* of the valves and many specimens in this collection exhibit an elongation, prominent hinge and even a beak and ligament scar that characterise the related genus *Crassostrea*—especially in examples from P9, 15 and L7, 11. Typically *Crassostrea* is however, also defined by the left valve being deep and recessed. The beaked specimens in the material from Aldgate have essentially shallow valves and do not contain this excavated, deep umbo region. Surveying the whole collection, there seems to be a gradation between the elongated beaked forms at one extreme, to the rounded forms without beaks at the other extremes.
  - (iii) On balance, from the information available, I suggest they are all *Ostrea edulis* and this identification should be qualified by reference to the diversity of shape among the specimens.

## APPENDIX

## THE SAMIAN POTTERS STAMPS

BY B. R. HARTLEY F.S.A.

(FIG. 25)

(UNSTRATIFIED)

1. CARB[ONISMA] 18 Carbo of La Graufesenque. This stamp is usually on f.18, but occasionally appears on cups, including four examples of f.24. This agrees with the site-dating, which is largely Flavian, but includes a few Neronian or early Flavian contexts (e.g. Fishbourne Period Ib; Aislingen). c. A.D. 65-85.

(PIT 20)

2. OF·CRESTIO 15/17R or 18R. Crestio of La Graufesenque. One of the commonest stamps of Crestio, this must have been used for many years, as it appears in Period I and in the Boudiccan burning at Verulamium, but also at Chester (2), the Nijmegen fortress (3) and at Castledykes fort. The latter must be a long-term survival, and A.D. 55-70 should cover the likely range.

(UNSTRATIFIED)

3. CEFLICIO retr. 27? Felicio (iii) of Montans, several of whose dies were similarly miscut. For the evidence of date see *Britannia* III (1972), p. 43, where this stamp is noted for Balmuldy and Old Kilpatrick. c. A.D. 140-145.

(PIT 20)

4. [LO]GIRN 18? Logirnus of La Graufesenque. This is one of his less common stamps and probably one of his early ones, since it was found at Richborough in a pit dated A.D. 50-70. However, most of Logirnus's career was in the Flavian period (many stamps in Scotland). A.D. 65-85 is likely for this.

(PIT 11)

5. OMOM 27g. Mommo of La Graufesenque. The stamp is from a broken die which originally gave OMOM in a larger frame. Stamps from the original version regularly turn up in early Flavian contexts and the later version should be entirely Flavian. c. A.D. 70-85 and probably A.D. 70-80.

(UNSTRATIFIED)

6. PERRUSF R9. Perrus of La Graufesenque. Always on cups, including R8, R9, 24 and 27, only one example is known from a Flavian foundation (and that on f.24). c. A.D. 50-70 and probably 50-65.

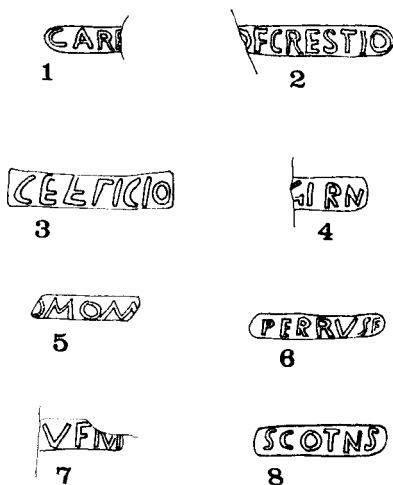


Fig. 25  
Aldgate. The Samian Stamps (1/1)

(LAYER 7)

7. [OF.R]VFNI 18: Rufinus of La Graufesenque. The stamp is discussed in Frere, *Verulamium Excavations*, Vol. I, p. 225 s22. c. A.D. 65-80.

(LAYER 16)

8. .SCOTNS. Platter. Scotnus of La Graufesenque. The dots do not always show. For the dating see Cunliffe, *Fishbourne*, Vol. 2, pp. 314, 85. No Flavian sites are involved. c. A.D. 45-65.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Finally, I have to thank my colleagues of the Guildhall Museum for making many valuable suggestions after reading this report in typescript.

HUGH CHAPMAN.

## NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> R. Merrifield, *The Roman City of London* (1965), p. 304.
- <sup>2</sup> P. Marsden, "Archaeological Finds in the City of London, 1966-68", *Trans. London & Middlesex Archaeol. Soc.* 22 (1969), p. 20.
- <sup>3</sup> P. Norman and F. Reader, "Further discoveries relating to Roman London 1906-12", *Archaeologia* LXIII (1911-12), p. 266.
- <sup>4</sup> Newgate, for example, which had two arches, was c. 29 m across; see R. Merrifield *op. cit.*, p. 103, Fig. 11.
- <sup>5</sup> R. Merrifield, *op. cit.*, p. 298.
- <sup>6</sup> See Note 4.
- <sup>7</sup> For an easily available copy of the fifteenth-century plan of the priory see H. A. Harben, *A Dictionary of London* (1918), p. 592.
- <sup>8</sup> It is hoped that the bones from the other pits and layers will be published at a later date, together with an analysis of the samples from the pit-fills.
- <sup>9</sup> A width of 7 m is somewhat wider than is recorded elsewhere (e.g. R. Merrifield, *op. cit.*, p. 106, Fig. 13), though the exact position of the wall is not certain, and may be farther to the west under the road surface of Duke's Place; see Note 1.
- <sup>10</sup> W. F. Grimes, *The Excavation of Roman and Medieval London* (1968), p. 50.
- <sup>11</sup> J. P. Bushe-Fox, *Excavations at the Roman Fort at Richborough IV* (1949), p. 11ff and plate IV(b).
- <sup>12</sup> For an early date for its construction see H. Sheldon, "Excavations at Lefevre Road, Old Ford, E.3.", *Trans. London & Middlesex Archaeol. Soc.* 23 (1971), p. 42.
- <sup>13</sup> Tacitus, *Annals* XIV, 33.
- <sup>14</sup> Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England). *An Inventory of the Historical Monuments in London, III, Roman London* (1928), p. 157, plate 55. Further burials have since been recorded in the area by Peter Marsden in 1956, and by the London Museum in 1964.
- <sup>15</sup> R. Merrifield, *op. cit.*, pp. 45, 134-135.
- <sup>16</sup> G. C. Dunning, "Two Fires of Roman London", *Antiq. J.* XXV (1945), pp. 48-52, and a revised plan in R. Merrifield, *op. cit.*, p. 90, Fig. 9.
- <sup>17</sup> *Camulodunum*: C. F. C. Hawkes and M. R. Hull: *Camulodunum* (Research Report No. XIV, Society of Antiquaries of London, 1947).
- <sup>18</sup> Information from Mr. C. Partridge; publication forthcoming.
- <sup>19</sup> See K. T. Greene, *Guide to Pre-Flavian Fine Wares* (Cardiff 1972) & cf. No. 65.
- <sup>20</sup> Information from Mr. W. J. Rodwell.
- <sup>21</sup> P. R. V. Marsden, "The Roman Pottery Industry of London", *Trans. London & Middlesex Archaeol. Soc.* 22 (1969), p. 39ff.
- <sup>22</sup> A. E. Brown and H. L. Sheldon, in *The London Archaeologist*, 1,2 and 3 (1969), 1,7 (1970), 1,13 (1971).
- <sup>23</sup> Information from Mr. H. L. Sheldon.
- <sup>24</sup> For references, see S. A. Castle, "A Kiln of the Potter Doinus", *Archaeol. J.*, 129 (1972), p. 69ff.
- <sup>25</sup> Callender: M. H. Callender, *Roman Amphorae* (Oxford 1965).
- <sup>26</sup> Guildhall Museum E.R. 878, 879, 889. The pottery has not been published, but for the site see *Trans. London & Middlesex Archaeol. Soc.* 21.3 (1967), p. 219.

- <sup>27</sup> In levels sealed under the castle mound, erected c. 1070. E. M. Jope, "Late Saxon pits under Oxford Castle mound", *Oxoniensia* XVII–XVIII (1952–3), p. 85, Fig. 33.
- <sup>28</sup> J. G. Hurst, "The Kitchen area of Northolt Manor, Middlesex", *Medieval Archaeol.*, V (1961), pp. 259–263.
- <sup>29</sup> G. C. Dunning, "Early Norman pottery from recent excavations in Winchester", *Proc. Hampshire Fld. Club*, 21 (1960), pp. 134–6.
- <sup>30</sup> D. Atkinson and A. Oswald, "London Clay Tobacco Pipes", *J. Brit. Archaeol. Ass.*, XXXII (1969).
- <sup>31</sup> A. Oswald, "The Archaeology and Economic History of English Clay Tobacco Pipes", *J. Brit. Archaeol. Ass.*, XXIII (1960).
- <sup>32</sup> F. G. Skinner, *Weights and Measures*, H.M.S.O. (1967), p. 76.
- <sup>33</sup> *Small Finds from Walbrook 1954–1955*, Guildhall Museum Publication, pp. 14–15.
- <sup>34</sup> G. Webster, "The Roman Military Advance under Ostorius Scapula", *Archaeol. J.*, CXV (1958), p. 84, No. 145 and Fig. 6. For the *Gladius* and scabbard from the Thames at Fulham and now in the British Museum, see *Guide to the Antiquities of Roman Britain*, British Museum (1964), p. 71 and Fig. 36, though the bone grip is missing. For details of construction of a sword see G. C. Boon, "The Roman sword from Caernarvon — Segontium", *Bull. Board Celtic Stud.*, XIX (1960), pp. 85–89.
- I have to thank Messrs. Russell Robinson and Cedric della Nougere for their comments on the sword handle.
- <sup>35</sup> F. Jenkins, "The Cult of the *Dea Nutrix* in Kent", *Archaeol. Cantiana* LXXI (1957), pp. 38–46. See also F. Jenkins, "Romano-Gaulish Clay Figurines found in London", *Collection Latomus* 103 (1969), pp. 312–327.
- <sup>36</sup> London Museum Catalogue No. 3, *London in Roman Times* (1930), p. 62.
- <sup>37</sup> For a reconstruction of these querns and an indication that London was the chief centre for this trade from Germany, see Hugh Chapman, "Querns and Mills" in *Roman Craftsmen* ed. by David Brown (forthcoming). For the iron handle loop see J. Curle, *A Roman Frontier Post and its People* (1911), p. 145 and Plate XVII. There is one example of this iron fixing in the Guildhall Museum (Acc. No. 13838) from the Bank of England site.
- <sup>38</sup> Ellis (S.E.), "The petrography and provenance of Anglo-Saxon and Medieval English honestones, with notes on some other hones", *Bull. Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.) Mineralogy*, vol. 2, No. 3 (1969).
- <sup>39</sup> Morey (J.E.) and Dunham (K.C.), "A petrographical study of Medieval hones from Yorkshire", *Proc. Yorks. Geol. Soc.* 29 (Pt. 2), No. 8, pp. 141–148 (1953).

## EXCAVATIONS AT BUSH LANE HOUSE, 1972

BY TONY JOHNSON

The basement of Bush Lane House, a five-storey Victorian office block at the corner of Bush Lane and Cannon Street (Fig. 26), was excavated for the Guildhall Museum in June 1972 prior to redevelopment. Proposals for the construction of the new building included the sinking of deep piles and the levelling up of the site with its own demolition material. The only opportunity for controlled archaeological excavation was presented in the interval between the vacation of the building and its demolition.

The impetus for the excavations can be traced back to 1840, when workmen digging a sewer discovered a series of walls running east–west, at regular intervals along the lane. The original engineer's plan showing the sewer trench and the approximate position, depth and dimensions of the walls still survives.<sup>1</sup> The area had been noted previously for its substantial Roman walls and paving.<sup>2</sup> It was not until 1960, however, that the opportunity arose to record any of these structures in more detail.<sup>3</sup>

Bush Lane House, which included three shops fronting onto Cannon Street, had been terraced into the north–south slope of the lane to facilitate the construction of a lower ground floor.

Beneath the floorboards a concrete sub-floor extended over the whole area of excavation. This concrete varied in thickness from 50 mm to as much as 600 mm, and invariably needed a pneumatic drill to penetrate it. Lighting in the basement was poor and most of the excavation was conducted under artificial lighting from the existing fluorescent fittings.

### THE POSITION OF THE SITE.

Situated in the eastern angle formed by the Walbrook and the Thames, the site lies almost in the centre of the circuit of the second/third-century wall. The area has produced a large proportion of the pre-Flavian material from the city, especially from the Boudiccan fire levels.<sup>4</sup> The site is known to have been favoured for the construction of a large building, thought to have been the palace of the Provincial Governor.<sup>5</sup>

### BUSH LANE HOUSE 1972.

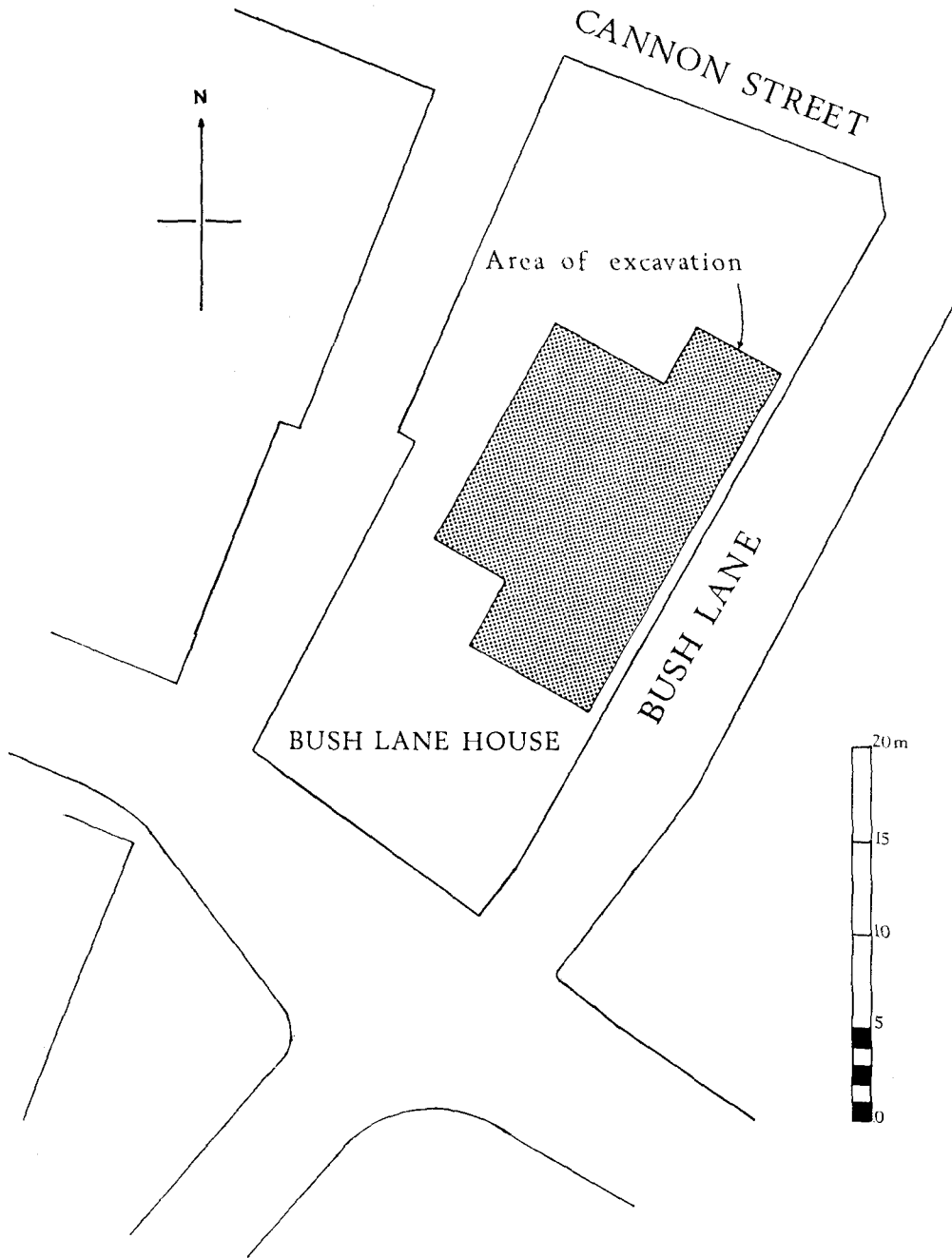


Fig. 26  
Bush Lane House. Position of Site

Nothing is known about the roads in the immediate vicinity, with the exception of one which, at least in part, underlies the modern Cannon Street.<sup>6</sup> Finally, the close proximity of the Walbrook, with its associated military finds,<sup>7</sup> must not be overlooked in a general consideration of the area.

#### THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE SITE.

The terracing for the basement floor had removed all the stratification at the north of the site, where only isolated features cut directly into the natural brickearth remained. To the south, however, almost half a metre of deposits had survived below the concrete.

The excavated area also contained over twenty Medieval pits, the tops of which had been removed by the nineteenth century construction. The combined effects of terracing and digging of footings, together with intensive Medieval pitting had resulted in the destruction of more than half of the area available for investigation (Fig. 27), and a total loss of the late Roman deposits.

The site was generally very unproductive of Roman pottery, with the exception of one early pit. There also appeared to be a complete absence of later Roman pitting which may have been expected to intrude the early levels. This is understandable if the area, as suggested, was given over to the construction of a major civil building.

The material from Medieval and post-Medieval rubbish pits will be published separately and will not, therefore, be discussed further here.

#### THE PHASES OF ROMAN OCCUPATION.

The Roman occupation of the site can be divided into two distinct phases.

*Phase 1.* A succession of three timber structures, all pre-Flavian and probably pre-A.D. 60, as these buildings terminate with a fire level almost certainly belonging to the Boudican destruction. Although the extensive disturbance caused by the massive Victorian foundations made it impossible to retrieve an acceptable ground plan of the structures, there is every indication that the fragmentary traces which remained of the first two were part of very substantial buildings.

The third timber structure, represented by a single narrow foundation slot superimposed upon the first period together with three isolated postholes, can only serve to indicate the disuse of the earlier building. The solitary Roman rubbish pit appears to be contemporary with this structure.

*Phase 2.* The timber buildings had been replaced by masonry work. A boundary or precinct wall was found running east-west across the middle of the site, and, south of this, a second wall together with a spread of Roman concrete supporting a flue system and the remains of several hypocaust *pillae*.

The same problems of interpretation met with in the timber phases were encountered with these masonry structures; essentially the availability of only a fragment of a very large complex. Within this limited area, however, it was possible to distinguish several periods. It can be seen that the hypocaust system was not contemporary with the original structure, but had been a later addition, and that the hypocaust itself underwent a major alteration, probably a reduction in size with the addition of an extra flue wall. Close dating of the masonry phases was not possible due to the total disturbance of the overlying strata down to the Roman foundations, which were cut directly into natural. The only exception was

# BUSH LANE HOUSE, 1972.

AREA OF EXCAVATION & ROOM NOS.

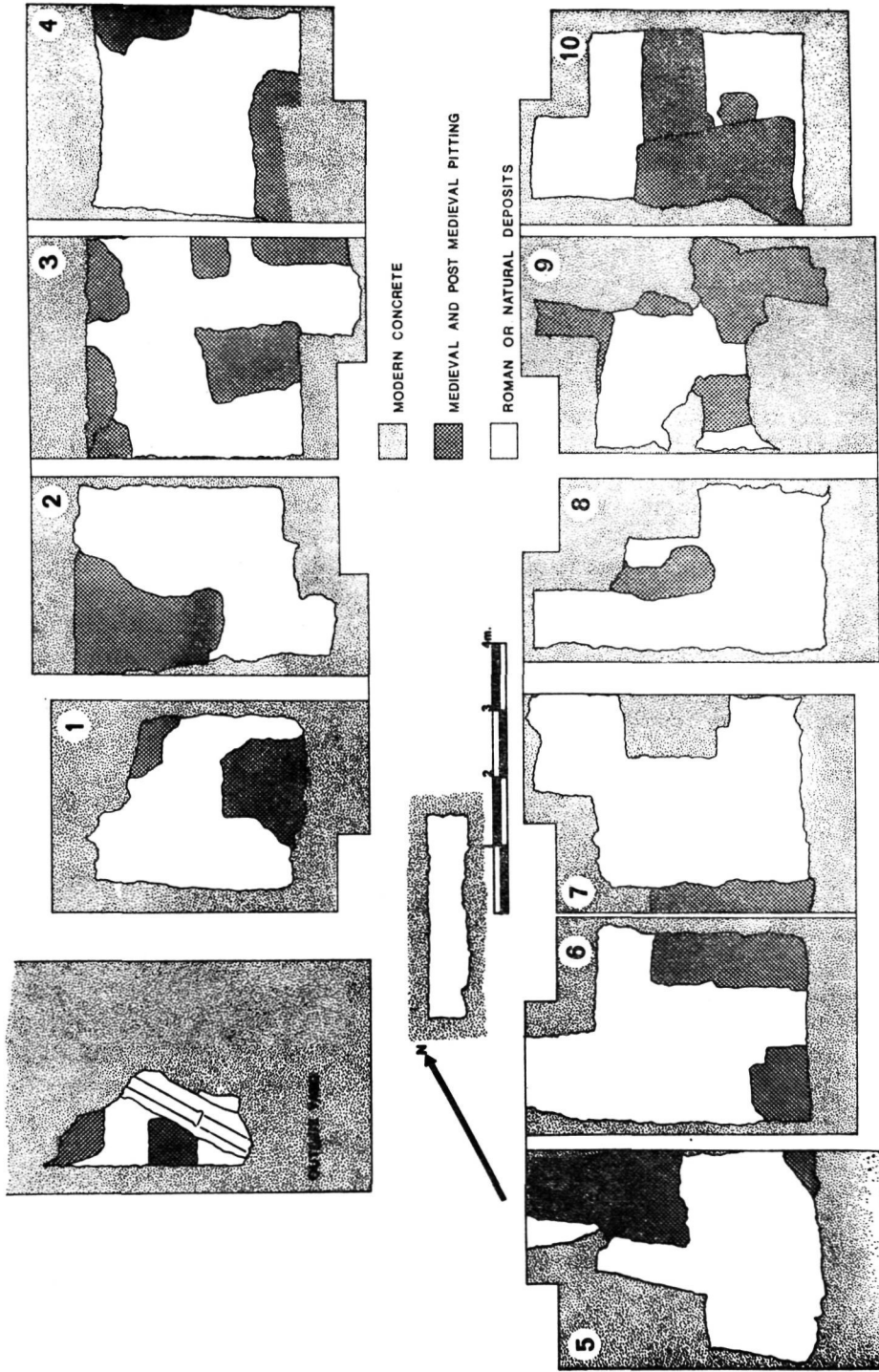


Fig. 27  
Bush Lane House. Area of excavation and Room Nos.



the boundary wall which cut both timber period two and the pre-Flavian pit. Little, therefore, can be said concerning the dating of the masonry structure, except that the *terminus post quem* for one of the walls is provided by the pit.

The nature of the site together with the lack of dateable material made it impossible to date individual features. However, with regard to the timber periods, which are by far the most important structures, the fire level and the evidence provided by the pit would allow a span of only 17 years following the initial conquest for the successive building and destruction of all three.

The plans are divided into phases. Individual areas are referred to in the text by room numbers (the numbers allocated to each basement room), and layer numbers refer to the two sections, W-X and Y-Z and area plans.

#### TIMBER PERIOD I.

Timber period I was represented by two trenches set at right-angles to each other, but unfortunately separated by modern foundations (Fig. 28, Rooms 4 and 9). The trenches were V-shaped cuts averaging 600 mm in width and 500 mm in depth, into which regularly spaced, rectangular posts had been rammed, up to 200 mm below the base of the trenches (Plate 6). The natural brickearth, removed during their construction, had been backfilled into the trenches and hard packed to position and secure the timbers. This backfill was extremely clean, which suggests that the trenches were dug after the construction of a level building platform which must have removed the topsoil leaving the surface of the brickearth exposed. Fig. 29 shows the platform of the first period in Rooms 3 and 4; also the weathered surface of the brickearth (L.1).

In Trench A two rectangular postholes were found approximately 0.5 m apart. The dimensions of these posts were 120 x 160 mm, and 140 x 150 mm. Both occurred as voids below thin patches of residual material derived from upper levels, subsequently removed by nineteenth-century terracing.

Trench B contained three postholes. Posthole 1, rectangular, 140 x 120 mm; posthole 2, circular, diameter 170 mm; posthole 3, rectangular, 140 x 180 mm. The distance between postholes 1 and 2 was 800 mm and between 2 and 3 was 2.5 m. Between postholes 2 and 3 the trench was cut by the foundations of the Victorian building. Assuming that the postholes were originally regularly spaced it is possible that two postholes have been destroyed by the partition wall separating Rooms 9 and 10.

Trench B was not found to the south of Room 9. In Room 8 an area of undisturbed natural occurred only 1.5 m from the point at which the trench disappeared under the Victorian foundations; it can be assumed that it stops or turns somewhere in this last short distance. To the north the line of Trench B is lost irretrievably under a massive spread of concrete which dominated the whole of this part of the site. The exact relationship between Trenches A and B is therefore unknown. It can be suggested from their alignment, shape, nature of fill, size and regularity of postholes, that these two features are contemporary. Even if the excavated area had been clear of any modern disturbance it would still have been necessary to extend beyond the limits of the available area to complete an acceptable plan of the structure.

The absence of any contemporary occupation material and the complete lack of finds from the trenches themselves means that this structure can only be dated by its relationship to other features, only two of which appear to pre-date it. These are a series of deposits

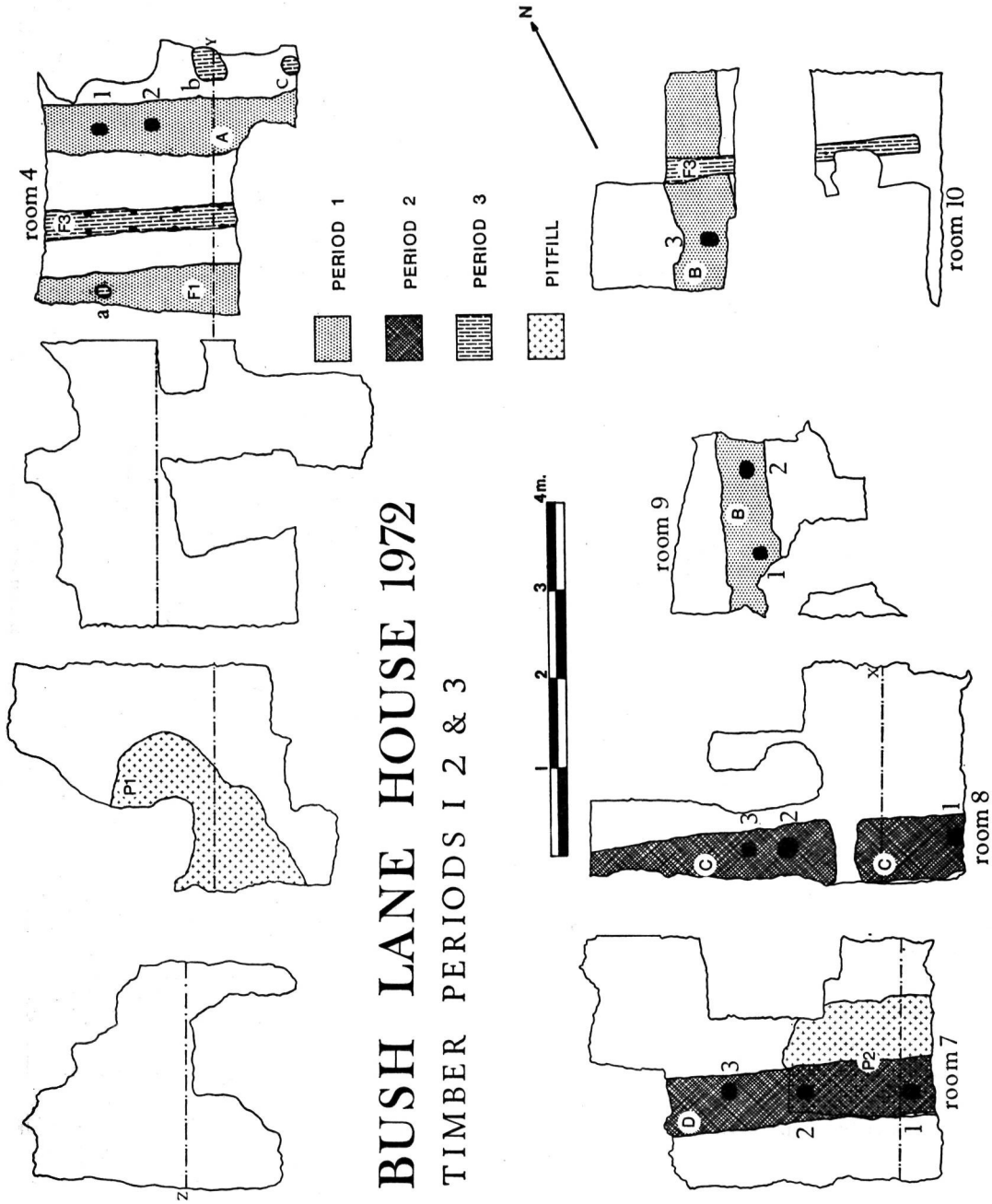


Fig. 28  
Bush Lane House. Timber Periods 1, 2 and 3

showing tip lines (Fig. 29, L.2 and L.3), presumably from the original platform construction, and a pit sealed by these levels, P.1 in Room 2. This shallow pit produced the fragmented remains of a complete hand-made jar in a crude fabric (Fig. 32, Plate 8). The overlying tipped deposits themselves contained no dateable material, nor were any other features located which may have been associated with P.1

BUSH LANE HOUSE 1972  
SECTION Y-Z

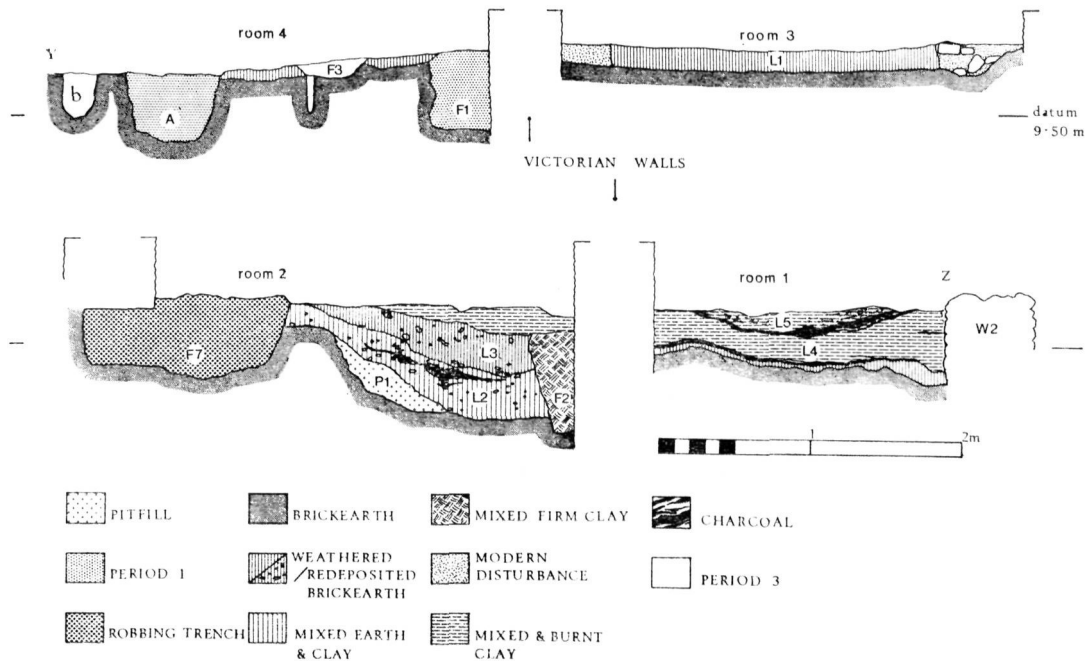


Fig. 29  
Bush Lane House. Section Y-Z

Reference to Fig. 29 will show a feature (F.1) in Room 4, parallel to Trench A, which may be contemporary with the Period 1 building; certainly by comparison of fill and by the depth of the cut it would be reasonable to link the two. Unfortunately the nineteenth-century partition wall and a post-Medieval pit destroyed most of this third trench. A small area of undisturbed natural in Room 10 showed no sign of a continuation or junction with Trench B. It can only be suggested, therefore, that this feature, which shows so well in Section W-X could belong to Period 1.

A similar problem arose in Room 2, where a second feature (F.2) occurred cutting through the tipped deposits of the first period. Again it was cut by and finally disappeared under the Victorian foundations, and it was impossible to link it with any of the other timber structures. The relative depth of this cut, however, suggests that this feature may belong to a building on a lower terrace; no other features were found which may have been associated with F.2

#### TIMBER PERIOD 2.

Timber period 2 consisted of two parallel trenches, C and D, 2.4 m apart and approximately 700 mm in width, which located six rectangular uprights. These trenches differ from A and B in that most of the material through which they had been cut had been removed by the nineteenth-century construction. Only the bases of the trenches survived, having a shallow U-shaped profile whose width exceeded its depth. The fill consisted of dirty brown and yellow clay, which indicates that, although the lower levels of the trenches were cut into the clean natural clay, a good deal of the upper occupation material, later removed by the Victorian building, had also been dragged down into the backfill. The backfill had been packed, but not rammed firm as it was in trenches A and B. The line of trench C was not continuous, as a bridge of natural broke the line between postholes 1 and 2 (Plate 7).

Posthole 1, to the east of trench C, was rectangular in shape and its dimensions were 160 x 150 mm. The base of this posthole was located 50 mm below the bottom of the trench. Posthole 2 was circular, with a diameter of 200 mm, situated at the bottom of the trench, as was posthole 3 which was rectangular, 150 x 120 mm. The distance between postholes 1 and 2 was 2.2 m and that between postholes 2 and 3 was 300 mm.

Trench D contained three postholes. Posthole 1, 180 x 160 mm; posthole 2, 200 x 150 mm; and posthole 3, 200 x 170 mm. All were rectangular in shape and occurred as voids below the immediate upper fill of the trench, spaced at intervals of 1 m (between 1 and 2), and 600 mm (between 2 and 3).

As with trenches A and B, C and D can also be linked by similar characteristics of profile, fill, posthole dimensions and alignment. Both trenches could be excavated only to a length of 3 metres, before being cut through by modern foundations.

Fig. 28 shows the relationship between the two timber structures. In Room 8 the previously mentioned break occurs when trench B fails to re-appear from under the nineteenth-century partition wall. It would seem that the two buildings were standing contemporaneously for a length of time, for the siting of the Period 2 structure allows for the presence of the former building. Both buildings appear to have been demolished at the same time. To be more accurate, both structures are down before the occupation of Period 3.

The demolition of both buildings appeared to have been carried out in an orderly and methodical manner; most of the postholes occurred as voids below a thin capping of material. None of the postholes showed signs of distortion from excessive levering of the upright; nor were they dug out. The post must have either been left to rot after being cut off at ground level, or pulled out vertically, which seems unlikely.

#### TIMBER PERIOD 3.

After the demolition of structures of Timber Periods 1 and 2 the character of the site seems to alter. The removal of the large buildings would have left an ideally suitable platform for the domestic occupation suggested by the nature of the Period 3 structure.

In Room 10 the foundation trench of Period 1 (trench B) was cut by a timber slot (F.3) 230 mm wide with a maximum depth of 200 mm (Fig. 29). The infill consisted of dark, charcoal-flecked clay. Unfortunately the slot had been cut both at the west end and in the centre by the nineteenth-century construction, although its eastern limit was found in Room 10. This gave the slot a maximum length of almost 10 metres.

Along the length excavated in Room 4, eight stake holes were found, spaced in pairs on

either side of the slot at regular 400 mm intervals. These stake holes penetrated to a depth of 50–100 mm (Fig. 29), and are probably foundations for a wattle work wall or screen.<sup>2</sup> The insubstantial nature of the slot would suggest an internal partition rather than a load-bearing structure. The only other features which could belong to this building were three postholes (Fig. 28), each infilled with mixed burnt clay, and heavily flecked with charcoal; insufficient evidence upon which to base any sort of reconstruction.

It is not possible to say more about the structure of the Period 3 building. What can be said is that its occupation brings on to the site for the first time pottery which could be regarded as belonging to a domestic phase. The rubbish pit (P.2) which cuts the construction trench of the Period 2 building must belong to this occupation. From this pit came the most useful pottery group providing key dating evidence for all three periods.

The floor level of the Period 3 building had been removed by nineteenth-century disturbance, making it impossible to establish any visual continuity between the deposits of this period in Rooms 1–4. A link can be suggested, however, between the features belonging to the occupation in Room 4 and the layers (L.4 and L.5), which overlie the tipping (L.2 and L.3), associated with the Period 1 platform. These layers (Fig. 29, Room 1) consisted of alternate layers of burnt clay and thick bands of charcoal. The lowest level of burning appears to have taken place *in situ*, but most of the other material appears to have been dumped from the north (the area of the Period 3 building).

A number of sherds of well-burnt pot, including Samian forms of Neronian date, were found amongst the fire debris. These sherds correspond well with the material from P.2 in Room 7, suggesting that the burnt levels and the pit both belong to the same period. It is very likely that layers 4/5 had originated from the destruction of a domestic-type building by fire, and there is every indication that this was the fire which followed the Boudiccan rebellion of A.D. 60. This is supported by the fact that neither the pit nor the levels of burning produced a single sherd of pot which is conclusively later than this date. The destruction by fire of the Period 3 building would naturally terminate the use of any associated rubbish pits.

Also, examination of the postholes a, b, c in Room 4 showed that they contained a good deal of burnt daub. This was presumably introduced by the removal of the charred posts, the level from which the material had been derived having been destroyed by the nineteenth-century building.

Evidence of the Boudiccan destruction has been found previously in this area immediately to the east of the Walbrook.<sup>8</sup> The fire apparently ends all activity in the immediate vicinity until the masonry structures are laid out on the southern part of the site. It seems unlikely, though, that such a favourable area should stand vacant for very long, and the opportunity was probably taken to clear a large area to make way for the large palace complex.

## PHASE 2. THE MASONRY STRUCTURES.

All the features associated with this phase occurred south of wall W.1, which runs east-west across the site in Room 8 and occurred as a robbing trench (F.7) in Room 2 (Fig. 29). There was no indication of any post-fire activity in the area to the north of W.1. The contemporary levels must have been removed by the nineteenth-century building.

Only the lower foundations of W.1 survived, having an average width of 1.1 m. The remains of the wall visible in Room 2 consisted of a core of yellow mortar and ragstone. A trial trench (not shown on the plan) was opened in the yard outside the building to the

west. This trench picked up a continuation of W.1 in a slightly better state of preservation. The total length of W.1 including the wall in the outside trench was 15.2 m.

Parallel with W.1 and situated 4 metres to the south of it was a second wall (W.2) visible in Rooms 1 and 7. The width was 800 mm, and again it ran across the full width of the area of excavation. The construction of W.2 was identical with that of W.1 and, although a more substantial part survived, nevertheless it still only represented the lower foundation material.

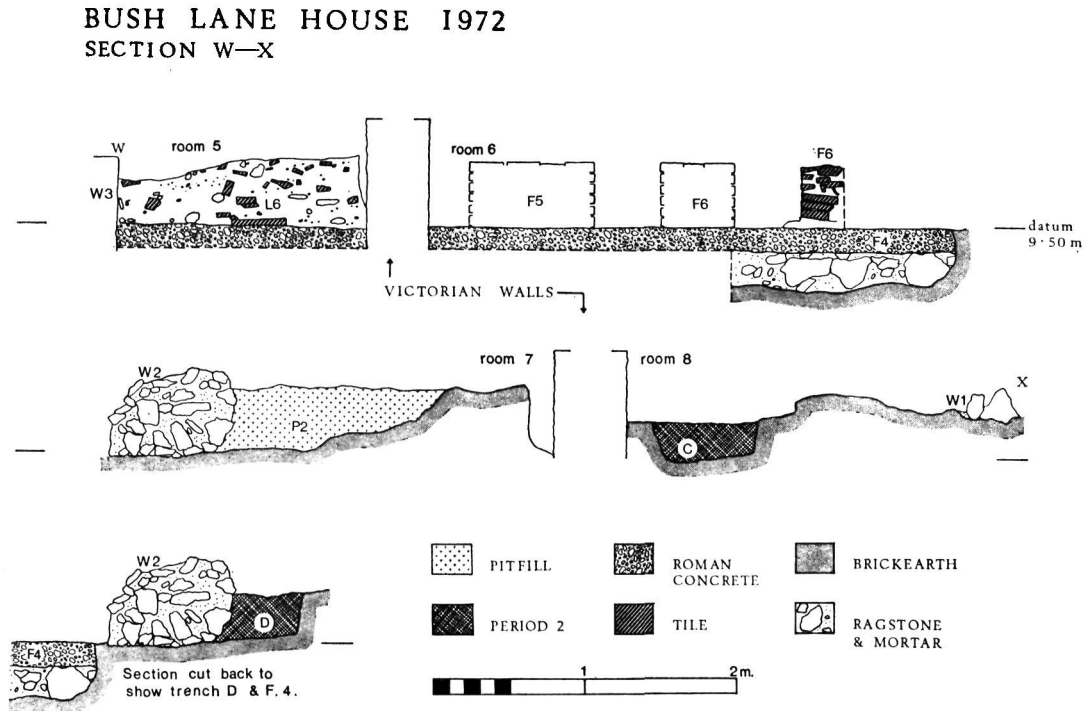


Fig. 30  
Bush Lane House. Section W—X

In the area between the two walls there was no trace of any level which could have been associated with phase 2. This is because this area had been reduced in level below the height from which both walls had been constructed, leaving the lower fire debris exposed. Fig. 29 shows W.2 cutting through the layers of burning in Room 1.

The rubbish pit of Timber Period 3 in Room 7 is also cut through by W.2 at the same point at which it cuts into the foundation trench of the Period 2 timber building (Figs. 28, 30).

Some time after the construction of W.2 a fairly large area, possibly an existing room immediately to the south (Fig. 31) was excavated in order to insert a hypocaust. Fig. 30 shows how the cut for the insertion of the hypocaust drops away well below the foundations of W.2. Had the wall and the hypocaust been planned at the same time both would have shared a common constructional level.

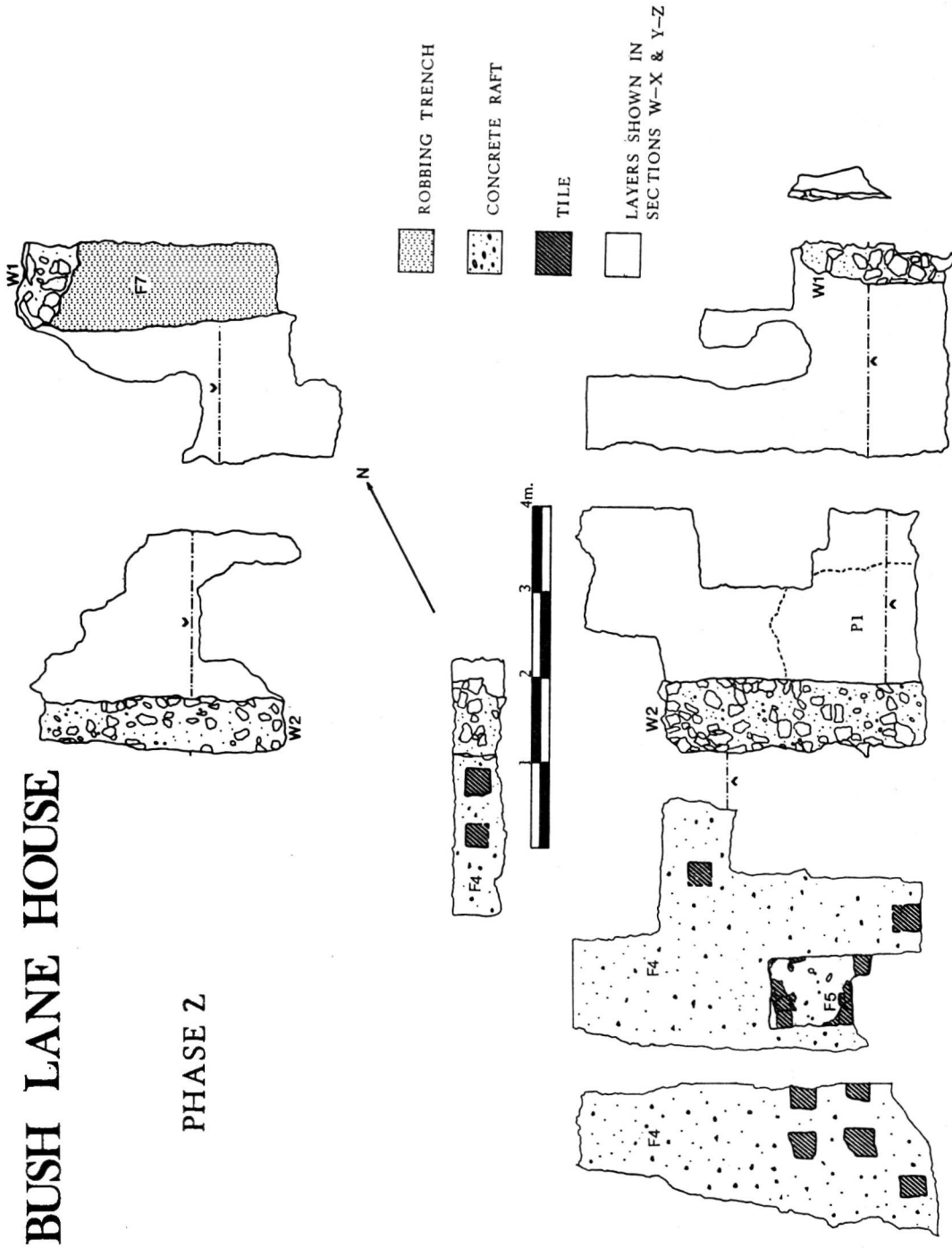


Fig. 31  
Bush Lane House. Phase 2

A 160 mm thick raft of concrete (F.4), consisting of crushed tile fragments in a very hard white matrix, upon which the pillar tiles of the hypocaust were laid, was spread over a pitched rubble foundation of mortar and large ragstone blocks (Fig. 30). The maximum combined depth of the two foundation levels was almost half a metre. Although only nine hypocaust *pillae* were found *in situ*, the area of the base which was excavated may possibly have accommodated as many as fifty individual *pillae* (Fig. 31).

The spread is only broken by an intermediate supporting wall (F.5), of which only a small part remains. The *pillae* surviving *in situ* to the south of F.5 are slightly larger than those in the area to the north.

## ALTERATION TO HYPOCAUST ADDITION OF FLUE—F.6.

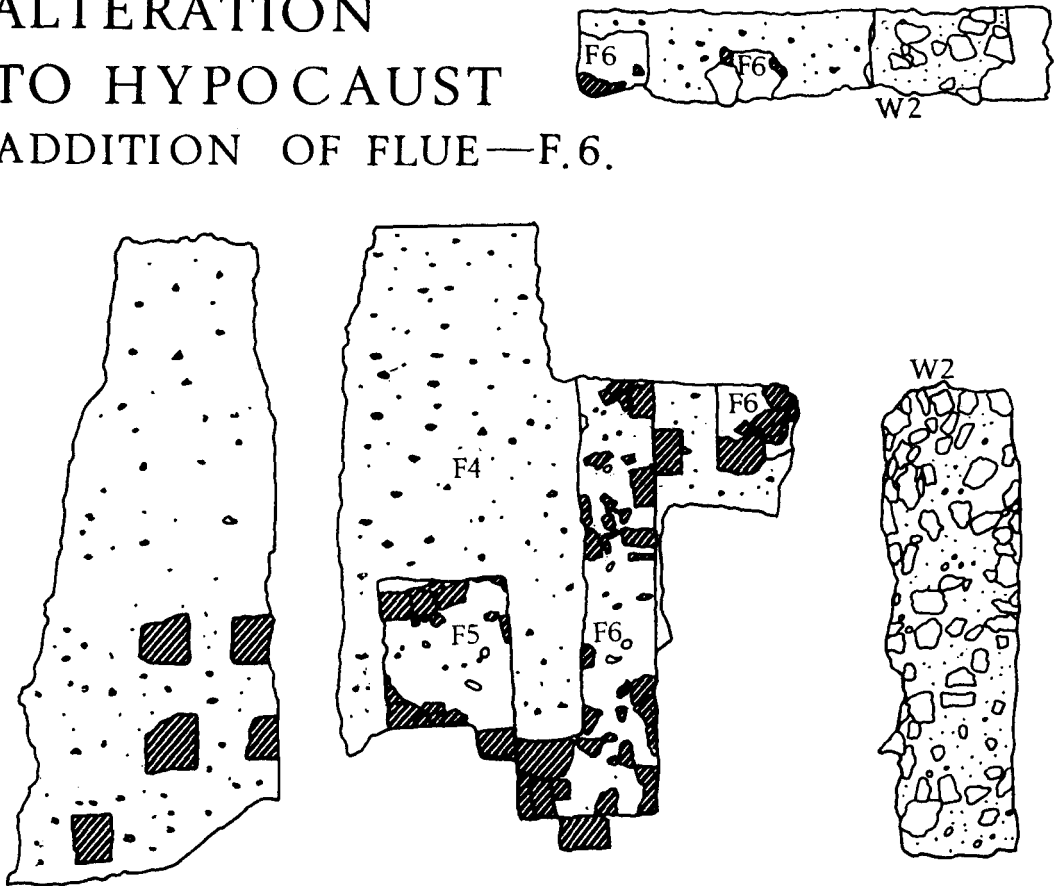


Fig. 31a  
Bush Lane House. Alteration to Hypocaust

After a period of use the hypocaust has a flue channel (F.6, Fig. 31A) added, which runs from east-west parallel with F.5. It is not clear whether all the *pillae* in this area were demolished at this time, or only those in the two rows which the new channel can be seen to overlie.



The quality of the construction of F.6 is inferior to that of the earlier build, most of the tile used consisting of broken *tegulae* laid flat with the lip forming the outer edge of the wall, giving superficially a well-constructed facade.

Overlying the concrete raft and lower pillar tiles was found a compact layer of rubble (L.6, Fig. 30), consisting of large fragments of *opus signinum*, plain white wall plaster, and rectangular white, with a few black, *tesserae*. There was also a considerable quantity of pillar tile fragments, including a complete tile bearing the stamp P R B R (No. 10, Fig. 32).<sup>9</sup>

Apart from the single stamped tile and a few fragments of window glass found in the mortar of the foundation part, there was nothing in either the construction or the destruction of the hypocaust to suggest a date for its use.

The cutting through of a cellar wall (W.3) marked an end to the stratification between the hypocaust and the southern extremity of Bush Lane House. Beyond W.3 post-Medieval cellaring had completely destroyed all the archaeological deposits.

#### INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION.

The 1972 excavations within the basement of Bush Lane House began as an attempt to shed more light upon the complex of masonry which was known to exist in the vicinity. Walls 1 and 2 and the hypocaust almost certainly belong to the palace; however, the discovery of the timber buildings was something totally new to the area.

Both the timber and masonry phases displayed a complexity which taxed the small-scale excavation to its limits. Despite the fragmentary nature of the evidence, one fact remains beyond dispute—the presence of at least two fairly large-scale early timber buildings, displaying a method of construction familiar on early Roman sites (the continual foundation trench), and usually attributed to the military. There is no reason to believe that the timber structures of Period 1 and 2 are exceptions.

Their location, near the river front and adjacent to the Walbrook in the south-west corner of the early settlement, must have been a highly favourable one; a position chosen for similar reasons by both the military and civil authorities. The site being situated on the lower ground just above the river, yet sufficiently well drained to suit large-scale development.

The type of buildings most likely to have been constructed by the military in such a position during the early years of the occupation would probably be store buildings or granaries, requiring reasonable access by river and road. The Period 2 building resembles the raised floor timber granary of the type excavated at Fishbourne,<sup>10</sup> Richborough,<sup>11</sup> and Rodgen, Germany.<sup>12</sup>

An adequate and secure supply base must have been one of the first necessities for an invading army pushing forward into unfamiliar territory. There can be no doubt that the Thames had a major role to play in providing easy transport for essential supplies. The reason for siting *horrea* within easy reach of the river needs no explanation; the choice of this particular area could be explained by the fact that the south-west corner at the junction of the Walbrook and the Thames was the place where the activity associated with bulk storage would have caused minimum inconvenience.<sup>13</sup>

The positioning of the military *horrea* within the area of initial occupation must throw some light on the situation of early defensive work. Important store buildings would not have been constructed in a strategically insecure position, and it is tempting to believe that they may belong to the layout of a riverside fort.

The apparent demolition of the structures before the fire of A.D. 60 also has wider implications, but more work in the area would be required to answer the questions posed by the fragmentary evidence provided by this excavation. A discussion of the masonry phase is not necessary here, prior to the publication of the palace site.

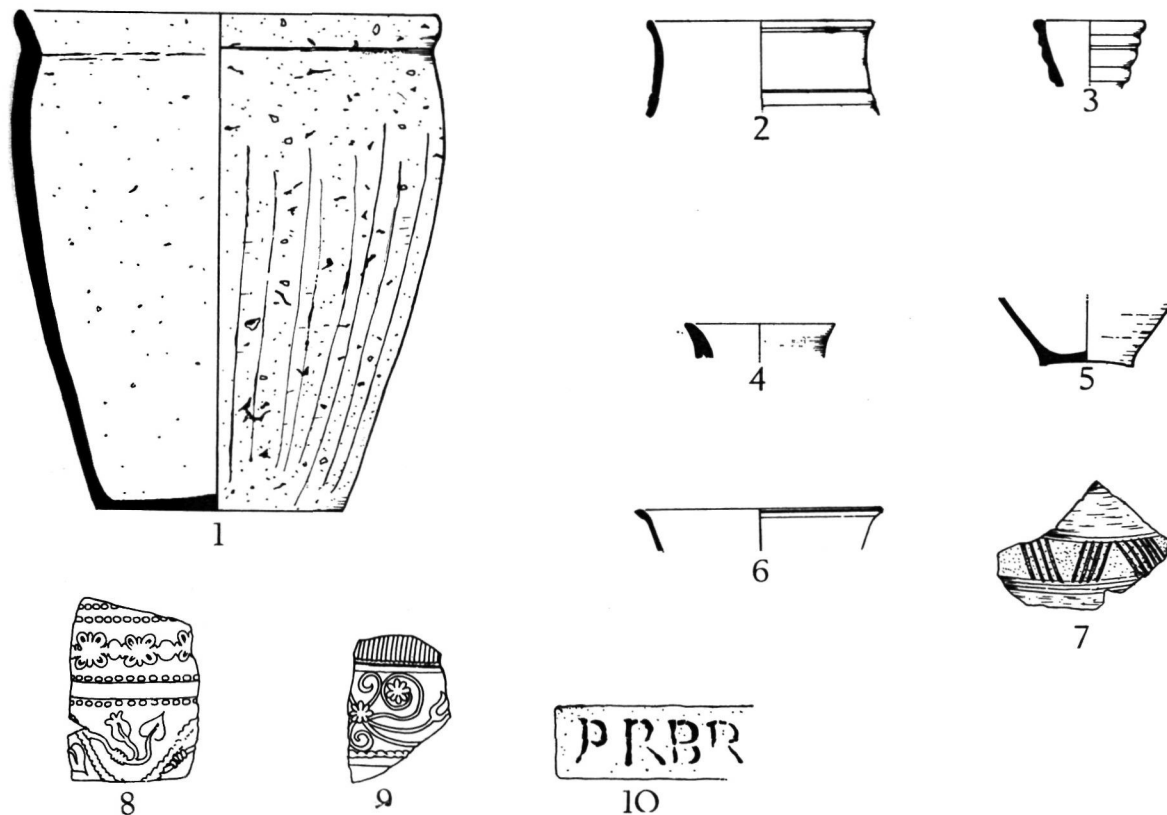


Fig. 32  
Bush Lane House. Pottery Nos. 1-7 ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ), 8-10 ( $\frac{1}{2}$ )

### THE ROMAN POTTERY BY JOANNA BIRD

(FIG. 32)

#### ROOM 2, PIT 1. (NERO PROBABLY)

##### *Bead-rim Jar*

1. Dark-grey fabric, dense shell temper, patchy grey/brown surfaces. Vertical tooling marks; hand made. (Plate 8).

#### ROOM 8, PIT 2. (NERO OR EARLY FLAVIAN)

##### *Belgic Beaker*

2. Sandy micaceous light-brown fabric, grey surfaces.

##### *Ring-neck Flagon*

3. Coarse sandy cream fabric, red grog temper; Verulamium region.

##### *Collar-rim Flagon*

4. Coarse sandy cream fabric, yellow-cream surfaces, some brown grog temper. Verulamium region.

##### *Flagon*

5. Coarse micaceous sandy grey fabric and surfaces, pale-grey core.

## ROOM 3, L.I. (NERO)

*Cup with rouletted Decoration*

6. Fine micaceous buff fabric.

## ROOM I, L. 5. (NERO)

*Necked Jar*

7. (Lacks rim). Coarse sandy pink-brown fabric, grey core; burnished diagonal decoration.

*Lamp*

(*Not illustrated*). Fragment in fine drab-cream fabric, thin orange-brown slip; probably an import from Gaul.

## THE SAMIAN WARE

BY JOANNA BIRD

(FIG. 32)

8. Form 29, La Graufesenque. The half-wreath motif in the upper frieze was used by Daribitvs (K52, 21A) and by Bassus (K52, 7C), who also used the leaf (K52, 7A). There is no exact parallel for the bud, or for the rosettes in the central band, but similar motifs are common with South Gaulish potters of this period. c. A.D. 45-65 (Room 11, Layer 1).
9. Form 29, La Graufesenque. Upper frieze with scroll and rosette terminals. The broken terminal is probably the bud motif shown on a form 30 from Kempton (K19, 95G). c. A.D. 50-70. (Room 11, Layer 1).

*(Not illustrated)*

Form 29, La Graufesenque. The upper frieze probably contained a scroll; the lanceate leaves in the central band were common to several potters at this date. The lower frieze was apparently arranged in metopes, with groups of beaded verticals. C. A.D. 45-60. (Room 11, Layer 1).

10. Detail from stamped hypocaust tile. Tiles bearing similar stamps have been found in a late Flavian context. See also note 9.

## REFERENCES

- K19; R. Knorr, *Töpfer und Fabriken verzierter Terra-sigillata*, Stuttgart (1919).  
 K52; R. Knorr, *Terra-sigillata - gefässe des Ersten Jahrhunderts*, Stuttgart (1952).

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Thanks are due to the staff of the Guildhall Museum for their advice during the excavation and the preparation of this report, especially the Director, Mr. M. Hebditch, Mr. R. Merrifield and Mr. P. Marsden. Also to Mrs. J. Bird for doing the pottery report and to Mr. Muir of Trafalgar House for his generous co-operation. Finally, to Miss A. Gentry, of Cardiff University, for the preparation of the site and final plans.

## NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> City Sewer Plan 27. See also R.C.H.M., p. 110, Fig. 32.
- <sup>2</sup> Stow, *Survey of London*, Strypes edition II. Appendix, p. 692.
- <sup>3</sup> A series of excavations was undertaken by Mr. P. R. V. Marsden, of the Guildhall Museum during the construction of Elizabeth House. The final report has not yet been published. See also Note 5 below.
- <sup>4</sup> R. Merrifield, *The Roman City of London* (1965), Fig. 9.
- <sup>5</sup> R. Merrifield, *Roman London* (1969), pp. 78-81. For plan of the complex believed to be the palace of the Provincial Governor.
- <sup>6</sup> W. F. Grimes, *The Excavation of Roman and Medieval London* (1968), pp. 142-43.
- <sup>7</sup> G. Webster, *Archaeol. J.*, CXV (1958), pp. 84-87.
- <sup>8</sup> G. C. Dunning, "Two Fires of Roman London", *Antiq. J.*, XXV (1945), pp. 48-52
- <sup>9</sup> R. Merrifield, *Roman London*, pp. 72 and 81.
- <sup>10</sup> B. Cunliffe, *The Roman Palace at Fishbourne, Excavations 1961-9*. Vol. 1.
- <sup>11</sup> B. Cunliffe, *Richborough Report V* (1968), pp. 7, 10, 11, 235-37, Fig. 3 and Fig. 28.
- <sup>12</sup> H. Schonberger, *Saalburg Jahrbuch*, XXI (1963-4), p. 95 ff.
- <sup>13</sup> For sittings of military horrea see G. E. Rickman, *Roman Granaries and Storebuildings* (1971), pp. 1-5 and 234-36.

## DISCUSSION

BY HUGH CHAPMAN AND TONY JOHNSON

The purpose of this discussion is to briefly restate the evidence for the role that London played during the early years of the Roman occupation of this country that began with the invasion in A.D. 43, and to emphasise the military origins of London.

Though the two sites described in this report do not substantially change the picture, they do provide the first archaeological evidence for early military occupation in London. This evidence may be only of a very fragmentary nature, but it does present a picture of the sort of evidence that awaits discovery, and will, as it increases, be sufficient to dispel any doubts about the military origins of the city.

Ralph Merrifield has re-affirmed Sir Mortimer Wheeler's disbelief in the existence of a pre-Roman settlement<sup>1</sup> on the site of Roman London. He has also demonstrated that the origin of London lies with the invasion of A.D. 43, and more particularly with the route taken by the main invasion force, its arrival at the River Thames and subsequent division into three main forces to penetrate the west, north-west and north-east of the country. The ultimate triumph of this first phase was the capture of Camulodunum, the centre of political power in the south-east, in the presence of the Emperor Claudius himself. Modern historians have described and commented upon the story of the invasion in much detail,<sup>2</sup> but the part that London played in this military operation has been consistently neglected.

It is unfortunate that the only full surviving account of the invasion and initial conquest is that of Dio Cassius who was writing in Greek from obscure sources some 150 years after the events took place.<sup>3</sup> It is dangerous therefore to take the details of this inadequate description as implicit historical fact, though the main events must be accepted. These were: the landing on the coast, certainly at Richborough and probably also elsewhere; the march of the main force through Kent and a fierce battle at a river, usually identified as the Medway; the advance of the main force to the Thames, "at a point near where it flows into the sea and at high tide forms a pool"; a second battle, turned like the first in favour of the Romans by the use of a crack unit of Batavian troops trained to swim across rivers in full equipment;<sup>4</sup> then a delay of at least 4-8 weeks while Claudius, as part of a pre-arranged plan, journeyed from Rome across Gaul by land and water to join Aulus Plautius, and the invasion force on the banks of the Thames. Dio then follows with a brief mention of a river being crossed and another battle against the British being fought, before the ensuing capture of Colchester.

Ralph Merrifield has shown<sup>5</sup> that the place where the invasion force fought the battle across the Thames must be where the Roman city later stood, and has suggested that Dio's reference to part of the force crossing by a bridge during this battle need not refer to a pre-Roman structure but simply to a military pontoon bridge built by the legions.<sup>6</sup> He has also suggested that Aulus Plautius occupied the thousands of troops during the long delay before the arrival of Claudius by building a more substantial bridge over the river. The reference by Dio to a river crossing and a further battle after the arrival of the Emperor is at variance with the brief account in Suetonius<sup>7</sup> and the official statement recorded on Claudius' triumphal arch in Rome,<sup>8</sup> and cannot be relied upon. It is unlikely at any rate, to refer to the Thames, which by this time had been crossed and presumably occupied on both banks, and must, if the story is accepted, refer to another river between London and Colchester, either the Lea or perhaps the Chelmer nearer Colchester. In Dio's account the capture of this city immediately follows the description of this second battle and is included in the same sentence.

It would be surprising if such extensive operations by so large a military force had not left traceable archaeological evidence on both the north and south banks of the River Thames. In the past such archaeological evidence has not been discovered for two reasons. Much archaeology in the City has been of a rescue nature and has not provided suitable conditions for the recording of the sort of insubstantial evidence that characterises early military occupation. Also the sheer physical difficulty of excavating upwards of 5 metres of deposits resulting from nearly two thousand years of active occupation and deposition of rubbish has meant that the structurally more substantial Roman levels have received a disproportionate share of attention. Until more evidence than has been presented in this report has been found, it is only possible to speculate on the form and extent that early military fortifications in London may have taken.

The exact position of any bridge at this or any later period is a much debated topic,<sup>9</sup> but the skill of the Roman engineers in choosing an area where a hard spit of sand on the south bank broke through the marshes to the water-front has been demonstrated in a recent paper by Peter Marsden.<sup>10</sup> Bridge-head defences on both the north and south banks are likely to have existed,<sup>11</sup> as such an important communications link is unlikely to have been left without close defences in an area which was still essentially enemy territory. The two hills on the north bank on which the city later developed are also obvious defensive positions, and the presence of a fort on the eastern one has long been mooted. No firm evidence of such a fort has been found, though it has been suggested that traces of an early (pre-Boudiccan) east-west road south of the later forum and running parallel to the river perhaps constituted the *via praetoria* of a fort.<sup>12</sup> Early structures of both timber and stone have also been seen in the area. The suggestion is very plausible, but it must await further evidence before confirmation. It is unlikely, however, that such a hill-top site would be the only defensive position, leaving as it does a force cut off from the all-important river. It is worth suggesting, as either an alternative or additional site, that there may have been a fort on the river bank, upstream of the bridge, using the Walbrook to guard its western flank and the river itself on the south. It is tempting to think that the position of the Flavian Palace, a large official building, in this area has some earlier significance.

Graham Webster has published some of the military equipment from London,<sup>13</sup> though a recent assessment of the collections of the Guildhall, London and British Museums shows that there is clearly very much more material to be added to this list, both in terms of objects directly connected with military use, and material which may possibly have military connections and associations. It is equally clear that not all this material belongs to the first century A.D., and some of it is demonstrably later. The find spots of the individual pieces appear at the moment to have no great significance as the majority of them come from the River Walbrook or its feeders.

Both this material and the epigraphical evidence of seven military tombstones and other dedications by military personnel from the city<sup>14</sup> add considerably to a large body of evidence that suggests that London had a continuous military presence after A.D. 43. Following the initial conquest, its position as the hub of the Roman road system on the bank of a wide navigable waterway that linked Britain with the Rhine and the military zones in the north-west of the Empire, was an obvious place to develop and maintain a military supply base. Seventeen years after the invasion at the time of the Boudiccan rebellion, troops were still stationed in London. Tacitus<sup>15</sup> tells us that the procurator Catus Decianus, who was almost certainly operating from London,<sup>16</sup> sent 200 men to the defence of Colchester, before he

himself fled to the continent, and we are also told that Suetonius Paulinus on arriving in London considered defending the site. Tacitus says that he decided against such a course of action, not because the city was devoid of troops, but because there were apparently an insufficient number to make such a stand. Between A.D. 43 and A.D. 60, therefore, a military unit of no great size, but able to maintain a supply base, existed in London. By the early years of the second century A.D. with the building of the five hectare Cripplegate fort,<sup>17</sup> the military force stationed in London, whatever its purpose at that time,<sup>18</sup> was firmly established in the north-west corner of the city, making a situation unique amongst the Roman towns of south Britain.

There is therefore sufficient evidence to suggest that London had a continuous military presence of various strengths and characters from the time of the invasion to at least the end of the occupation of the Cripplegate fort. By far the most important period, however, was during the invasion itself when the site of London played a vital role in the Roman invasion of Britain. The building of a bridge across the river and the establishment of a military base on the north bank provided both the origin and impetus for a town that was to become the capital of the country. To say that the military origins of London are obvious from its position alone is to beg the question, but it nevertheless remains the truth.

\* \* \* \* \*

Finally, the two sites in this report do show that such an early military occupation does exist in London and that even sites which at first seem unpromising because of destruction of the archaeological levels by deep modern cellars, are worth investigating. In a sense the archaeologist is positively helped by such deep cellars, in that he is automatically taken down to the early strata. The recovery of early military levels holds exciting possibilities for London archaeology in the future, but it must be stressed that their very nature ensures that they can only be recorded and interpreted if controlled modern excavating techniques are employed.

#### NOTES

- <sup>1</sup> R. Merrifield, *The Roman City of London* (1965), p. 29.
- <sup>2</sup> For example, Graham Webster and D. R. Dudley, *The Roman Conquest of Britain* (1965), and S. Frere, *Britannia* (1967), p. 61ff.
- <sup>3</sup> Dio Cassius LX 19–22.
- <sup>4</sup> M. W. C. Hassall, "Batavians and the Roman Conquest of Britain", *Britannia* I (1970), p. 131.
- <sup>5</sup> R. Merrifield, *op. cit.*, pp. 33–35.
- <sup>6</sup> For such a bridge depicted on Trajan's Column, see I. A. Richmond, "Trajan's Army on Trajan's Column", *Pap. Brit. School at Rome*, 13 (1935), p. 5 and Fig. 1.
- <sup>7</sup> Suetonius, *Divus Claudius* 17.
- <sup>8</sup> C.I.L. VI 920 (=Dessau 216).
- <sup>9</sup> R. Merrifield, *op. cit.*, pp. 116–117. Also see M. Honeybourne, "The Pre-Norman Bridge of London" in *Studies in London History* (1969), p. 17ff.
- <sup>10</sup> P. Marsden, "Report on Recent Excavations at Southwark", *Trans. London Middlesex Archaeol. Soc.* 23 (1971), p. 21.
- <sup>11</sup> For an example of a Roman bridgehead defence on Trajan's Column, see I. A. Richmond, *op. cit.*, p. 32 and Fig. 13.
- <sup>12</sup> For the road see R. Merrifield, *op. cit.*, pp. 278–9. For the suggestion that it relates to the road of a fort, see R. Merrifield in N. Pevsner, *The Cities of London and Westminster* I (1973 edition), p. 26; also W. Rodwell, *Roman London, Its Roads and the Antonine Itinerary*, pp. 17–19, unpublished undergraduate thesis, Institute of Archaeology, London (1972).
- <sup>13</sup> Graham Webster, "The Roman Military Advance under Ostorius Scapula", *Archaeol. J.* CXV (1958), p. 84. For the dagger from Copthall Court see B. W. Spencer, "Two additions to the London Museum", *Trans. London Middlesex Archaeol. Soc.* 20 (1961), p. 214.
- <sup>14</sup> R. G. Collingwood and R. P. Wright, *The Roman Inscriptions of Britain* I (1965), p. 1ff; also of course the military tombstone from the Camomile St. bastion, R. Merrifield, *op. cit.*, plate 95.
- <sup>15</sup> Tacitus, *Annals* XIV 32.
- <sup>16</sup> D. Dudley and Graham Webster, *The Rebellion of Boudicca* (1962), p. 61, and S. Frere, *Britannia* (1967), pp. 88–90.
- <sup>17</sup> W. F. Grimes, *The Excavation of Roman and Medieval London* (1968), p. 17ff.
- <sup>18</sup> For a suggestion that it housed *equites* and *pedites singulares* of the Governor's body guard see M. W. C. Hassall, "Roman Soldiers in Roman London" in *Archaeological Theory and Practice*, ed. D. E. Strong (forthcoming); papers presented to Professor W. F. Grimes.

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