

# A late 15th-century manufactory of the Brill/Boarstall pottery industry at Ludgershall, Buckinghamshire

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## SUMMARY

*A desk-top study, evaluation and small excavation on a small site on the northern margins of Ludgershall led to the discovery of a large quantity of kiln waste comprising both pottery and tiles. This indicated the existence of a hitherto unknown production site of the Brill/Boarstall pottery tradition. Its mid to late 15th-century date makes it the only known manufactory of the period at the present time. This report includes a detailed analysis of the pottery, together with illustrations. Also described are two areas of metalling and a possible wall foundation. No kiln structures were discovered during the excavation.*

## INTRODUCTION

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A desk-top study, evaluation and small excavation were carried out by Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd in advance of the construction of two houses and associated garages between February and May 2000. The development occupied an area of c. 1500 sq. m. on the northern margins of Ludgershall (SP 6640 1778), adjacent Duck Lane (Fig. 1). It is generally level, lying at a mean height of 69.40 m above Ordnance Datum, and the underlying geology is Oxford Clay (BGS 1994).

Ludgershall is first mentioned in Domesday Book, where it is stated that it consisted of two manors (Morris 1976). The site lies within the historic medieval core of the village, which is surrounded by a well-preserved open field system (ridge and furrow). Important settlement earthworks surviving within the village include a moated site, the site of a post-medieval mansion, fishponds and areas of crofts and tofts. Documentary sources indicate that a second manor house and possible medieval hospital also lay somewhere within the village. Historic maps indicate that, during the medieval period, the village was laid out around a green with a church and manor in the south-west corner and with a U-shaped linear green with crofts on each side.

Given the possibility of finding deposits associated with medieval settlement and, perhaps, also of late Saxon date, the Buckinghamshire County Archaeologist advised the local planning authority that a field evaluation should be carried out to assess the archaeological potential of the proposal area. The results of the evaluation led to a follow-up excavation and both stages of fieldwork were carried out to specifications drawn up in consultation with the Buckinghamshire County Archaeologist. Full details of the project are to be found in the site archive, which is to be deposited with Buckinghamshire Museum Service (Accession No. AYBCM: 2000.21). The site code is CDL00/07.

## RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION AND EXCAVATION

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The evaluation consisted of a desk-top assessment, followed by field evaluation consisting of three machine-excavated trenches (Fig. 1). The trenches were each 10 m long and between 0.40 m and 0.62 m deep. They were targeted at the footprints of the proposed buildings, but also took into account the findings of the desk-based assessment. None of the trenches located archaeological cut features or structural elements relating to former buildings on the site, but a large quantity of late medieval and early post-medieval pottery and tile was recovered from topsoil layers in each of the

trenches. The quantity and nature of the pottery indicated that it represented kiln waste, probably from a nearby, unlocated kiln.

The follow-up excavation comprised an area strip of the footprint of the new buildings and access road; about 600 sq m (Fig. 1). The topsoil was removed in spits under archaeological supervision, by a machine fitted with a

toothless bucket. In common with the evaluation, no cut features or structures that might directly relate to kilns were found. However, a very large quantity of pottery and tile was discovered, the majority of which was kiln waste and came from the topsoil, with larger concentrations in certain parts of the site. Two areas of metalling were also found. The first [1] consisted of a metallated surface of roughly-hewn pieces of

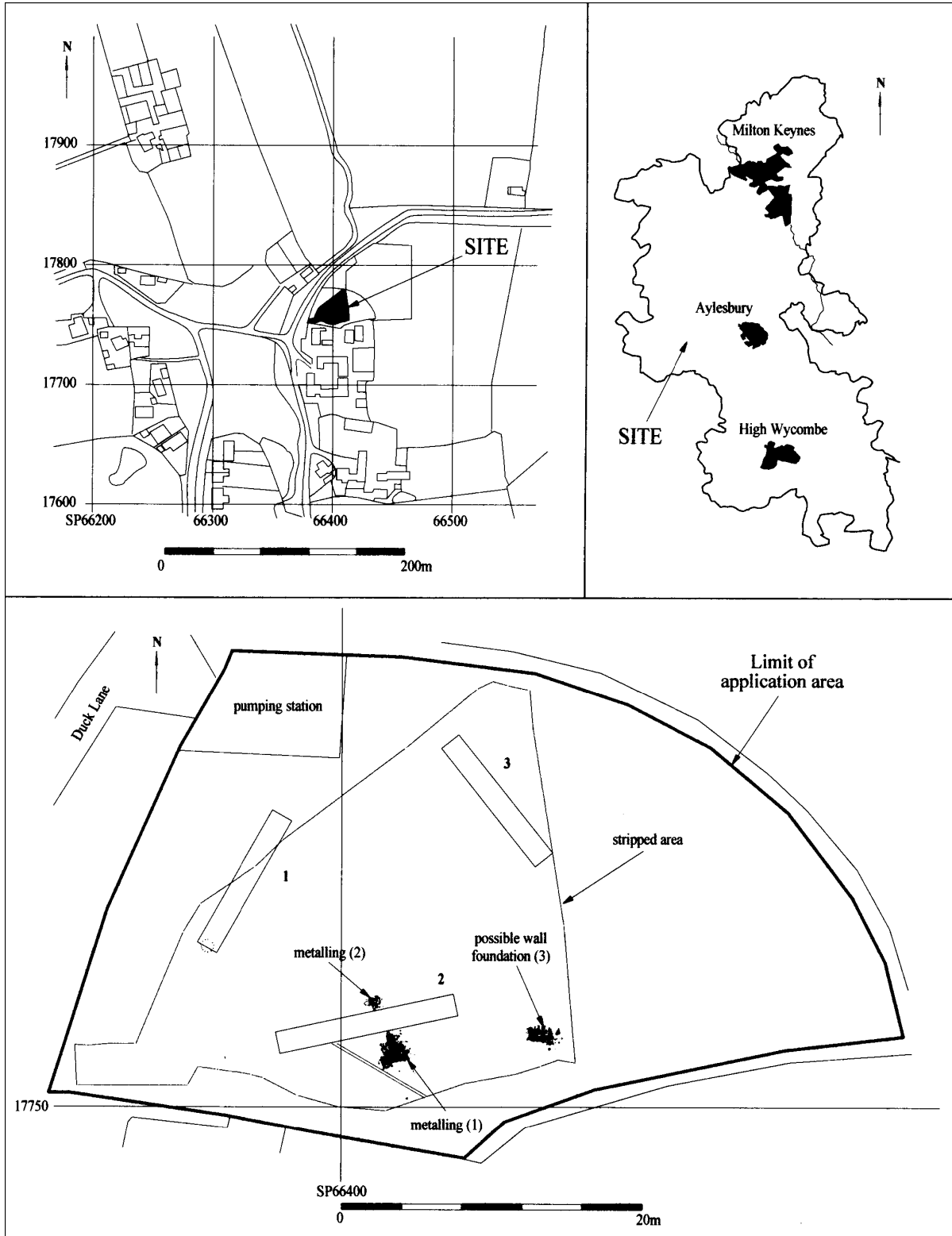


Fig. 1 Site location map and plan

limestone, situated towards the southern part of the site, with the second, smaller area of metalling [2] a little to the north. The latter might represent a post-pad, although it seems more likely that it originally formed part of the same surface as metallated area 1. The metallated areas were probably hard standing or yard surfaces. Pottery and tile of late 15th-century date was found both above, within and beneath these features. A third feature [3] discovered in the south-eastern part of the excavated area appeared to represent the lower courses of a wall foundation.

## THE POTTERY by Paul Blinkhorn

The assemblage comprised 110,795 g of pottery, with the minimum number of vessels (MNV), by measurement of rimsherd length, being 40.00. The majority of the assemblage comprised wasters of Brill/Boarstall type pottery, with the range of vessel types present, mainly cisterns, jugs and pancheons, as well as 'Tudor Green' lobed cups and mugs, indicating a date of the mid to late 15th century. The group is the first kiln waste of Brill/Boarstall-type ware of this date, and only the second site to yield evidence of production of pottery of this tradition outside the eponymous villages.

### Fabric

All the pottery was weighed, and the percentage of the surviving rimsherds measured. However, due to the large size of the assemblage, only feature sherds were counted. The majority of the sherds were in a slightly sandy fabric, with most vessels white/buff to salmon pink with a darker core, although examples with dark grey surfaces were also noted. This fabric is typical of the products of the Brill/Boarstall industry (Mellor 1994). A small proportion of the sherds occurred in a rougher, sandier fabric, most of which were reduced, and showed many similarities with the late medieval reduced and oxidized wares found throughout the South Midlands.

A number of vessels of 'Tudor Green' type were noted, and these also were in the standard Brill/Boarstall salmon-pink sandy fabric, although a few were in a very pale grey variant. The fabric is obviously very different to the better-known 'Tudor Green' products of the Surrey/Hampshire kilns (Pearce and Vince 1988) and the vessels are without doubt of local manufacture.

A few sherds of other wares were noted. Most were medieval wares, which are likely to pre-date or be broadly contemporary with the kiln, but some sherds of late post-medieval wares were also present. The red earthenware sherds, in the main 16th century or later, may be contemporary with the kiln. However, nearly all the kiln waste was recovered from what had been a dump on the contemporary ground surface and was, at the time of

excavation, integrated into a later topsoil accumulation, and thus it is entirely possible that the red earthenwares are the result of activity which post-dates the abandonment of the kiln. Certainly, none of the red earthenwares had any evidence of being kiln waste, unlike the Brill/Boarstall-type wares, which had extensive evidence of cracking and spalling, with many sherds showing glaze on their edges where they had broken during firing.

The coding system and chronology of the Oxfordshire county type-series (Mellor 1994) has been used, as follows:

OXBX Medieval shelly ware, 11 g, EVE = 0.

OXAW Brill Boarstall sandy ware, 17 g, EVE = 0.

OXAM Brill/Boarstall ware, AD 1200–1600, 103,421 g, EVE = 35.03.

OXAM 'Tudor Green' types, late 15th–16th century, 3,593 g, EVE = 4.11.

OXAM 'Reduced ware', 1,132 g, EVE = 0.74.

OXAM 'Oxidized ware', 28 g, EVE = 0.12.

OX68 Potterspury ware, late 13th–17th century, 8 g, EVE = 0.

OXAP Brill/Boarstall 'Midland Purple' type, *c.* mid 15th–16th century, 113 g, EVE = 0.

Brill slipware, 17th century, 227 g, EVE = 0.

OXDR Red earthenwares, 1550+, 2,098 g, EVE = 0.

OXFI Chinese porcelain, *c.* 1650+, 10 g, EVE = 0.

Midland Blackware, late 16th century+, 29 g.

Late English stoneware, 1750+, 92 g, EVE = 0.

Ironstone China, late 18th century+, 11 g, EVE = 0.

The pottery occurred in three discrete groups, hereafter referred to as Groups 1, 2 or 3. They were centred on site grid 65E/45N, 65E/65N and 50E/55N respectively. The pottery occurrence per group was as follows:

Group 1: 88,077 g, EVE = 32.36.

Group 2: 15,885 g, EVE = 5.34.

Group 3: 1,499 g, EVE = 0.05.

These do not include unstratified material.

### Chronology

This group of kiln waste appears likely to be mid 15th century in date, evidenced particularly by the presence of imitation 'Tudor Green' type vessels, bifid-rim jars, bunghole cisterns, pancheons and skillet/dripping dish handles. Brill/Boarstall cisterns and pancheons first occur in Oxford during the second half of the 15th century (Mellor 1994, 132). Skillets and bifid-rim jars are another late medieval introduction, and are known from 14th- and 15th-century

sites (*ibid.*, 118).

Brill/Boarstall ‘Tudor Green’ vessels are dated to around 1475 from the evidence at the Hamel, Oxford (Mellor 1980, 179), but there may be grounds for dating the material to slightly earlier than 1475. A kiln from Temple Street in Brill was excavated in 1983 (Yeoman 1988) and produced a similar range of pottery types to this one, but also Cistercian-type wares. Such pottery, which is generally given a start date of 1475, was not present amongst the Ludgershall assemblage, and thus it seems likely that production ceased before the Cistercian ware was first manufactured in the region.

The date of 1475 for Brill-type Tudor Green does appear rather late; pottery of this tradition, although from sources other than the Brill/Boarstall industry, is thought to have been made elsewhere from around AD 1400, if not slightly earlier. Certainly, there are a number of dated groups of the material dated to the first half of the 15th century, including some sherds from Coventry dated to c. 1420, and a group from Hertfordshire dated to between 1366 and 1426 (Moorhouse 1979, 54). In Essex, at least one group is known dating to before 1425 (*ibid.*). The material has been dated as early as 1380 in London (Orton 1988, 297). Brill/Boarstall Tudor Green wares are generally rare in Oxford, but were noted in building HIII at the Hamel, Oxford, dated to the late 13th to late 15th century.

The manufacture of Brill/Boarstall Tudor Green wares are thought to have been stimulated by the first arrival of Surrey-type wares in Oxford. The earliest examples of the latter are from building BII5 at The Hamel, dated to the early 15th century (Mellor 1980, 176 and fig. 8). Surrey Tudor Green wares occurred in greater amounts in building BII6, and dated to the mid 15th century (*ibid.*), although it produced a coin dated to 1430–4. It seems likely, therefore, that the given date for Brill/Boarstall Tudor Green wares is an over-cautious one, and that a date of 1450 is perhaps more appropriate, and a case could be made for the material appearing as early as 1435. Certainly, Cistercian wares (Oxford fabric OXCL) were not found in any of the buildings at the Hamel discussed above, but did occur in phase ST3, which is also dated to the 15th century (*ibid.*, figs 8 and 18). As noted above, the Ludgershall kiln group appears to pre-date the introduction of Cistercian ware. The majority of the OXAM (non-‘Tudor Green’) sherds show evidence of sparse glazing, again a typical trait of the later Brill/Boarstall industry; the use of the glaze declined throughout the 15th century, and was not used at all by the 16th century (Mellor 1994, 132). Another later medieval Brill/Boarstall tradition, the luting of strap handles by the use of a single thumb impression (*ibid.*, 127), was noted on the majority of the handles from this group which had retained their terminals.

The weight of evidence would therefore suggest that the Ludgershall kiln waste dates to after the introduction of Tudor Green ware to the region, but before the manufacture of Cistercian wares, indicating a date in the mid–late 15th century.

### Vessel forms

The majority of the vessel forms were jars or bunghole cisterns, bowls/pancheons, and jugs, a lug from a costrel and a ginger jar rim. The Tudor Green types were primarily lobed cups or mugs, although a fragment of a possible chafing dish rim was also noted along with part of the edge of a ?candlestick. A fragment of a ‘Tudor Green’ modelled face-mask, probably from a mug, was also present. Such vessels are extremely rare, although a small number have been found during excavations in Oxford (Mellor 1994, fig. 53, nos 15 and 16, and pl. 3A).

Table 1 Vessel occurrence by EVE per fabric type by vessel type, all groups

	OXAM	Tudor Green	Reduced ware	Oxidized ware
Jar/cistern	9.64		0.38	0.09
Bowl/ pancheon	7.36	0.02		0.03
Jug	17.28		0.36	
?Candlestick	0.38			
Cup/mug		3.89		
Lobed cup		0.15		
Chafing dish		0.05		
‘Ginger jar’	0.37			

The same range of the commoner vessel forms occurred in both of the main waste dumps, although jugs were somewhat less common in Group 2 than in Group 1. This appears likely to be due to the small assemblage size of the former distorting the data, as there was otherwise little obvious difference in the groups.

One factor worthy of further consideration is the number of Tudor Green vessels present. It is obvious from the analysis that rimsherds appear very under-represented when compared to bases. This is almost certainly due to the fineness of the rims, which are extremely thin and broken into very small pieces. Relatively few were noted when compared to the number of the sturdier Tudor Green bases present, and it seems likely that these were broken into such small pieces that they could not be recovered by normal excavation techniques.

The Tudor Green bases comprise two types, a flat version, which reconstruction suggests is that of the cup or mug form, and a pedestal type, almost certainly from a lobed cup. In total, there were eleven flat mug/cup bases, and twelve pedestal lobed cup types, with many further small fragments of both types.

### Rim forms

#### JARS/CISTERNS (Fig. 2)

It was not possible to differentiate between jar and cistern rims, and it is entirely possible that all the rims of this type

were from cisterns. The range of forms, which were mainly bifid type or sub-variants, is shown in Figure 2. A total of 27 bungholes were noted, with each vessel likely to have had

only one. All were one of two basic types, with either a plain or thumb-frilled surround. A single vessel was reconstructed to full profile (Fig. 2, no 3).

Table 2 Rim occurrence by EVE per type, jars/cisterns

Type	EVE	Type	EVE
1	0.06	14	0.19
2	0.79	15	0.05
3	0.50	16	0.15
4	0.09	17	0.05
5	0.41	18	0.1
6	2.17	19	0.43
7	0.73	20	0.77
8	0.97	21	0.11
9	0.56	22	0.08
10	0.07	23	0.05
11	0.23	24	0.17
12	0.06	25	0.37
13	0.81	26	0.16

Fig. 2, no.1, Jar/cistern rim. Group 1. Applied thumbed strip on neck. Orange-pink fabric with purplish surfaces. Orange-green glaze on outer surface.

surfaces. Orange green glaze on outer surface.

Fig. 2, no.2, Jar/cistern rim. Group 1. Applied thumbed strip on neck. Orange-pink fabric with purplish

Fig. 2, no.3, Reconstructed cistern, evaluation trench. Orange pink fabric with grey surfaces. Sparse patches of dark green glaze on outer surface. Handles missing, bunghole blown off during firing.

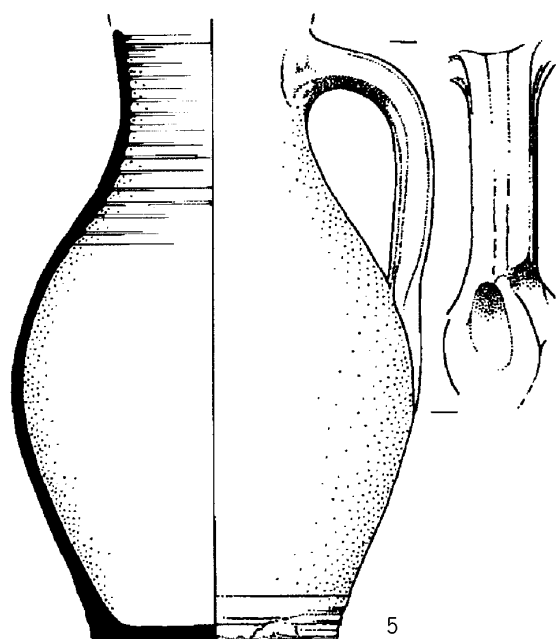
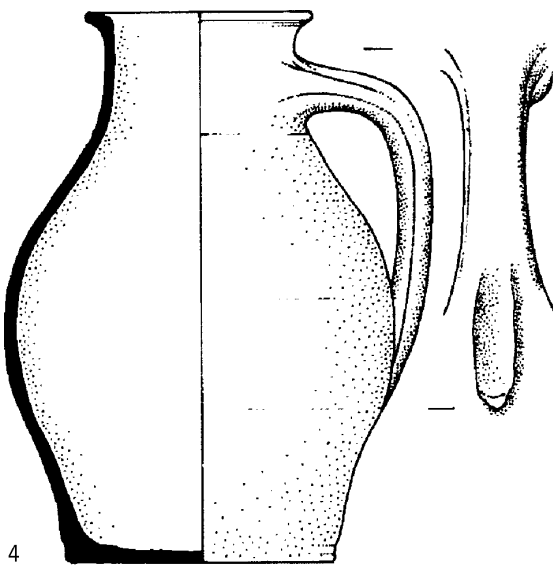
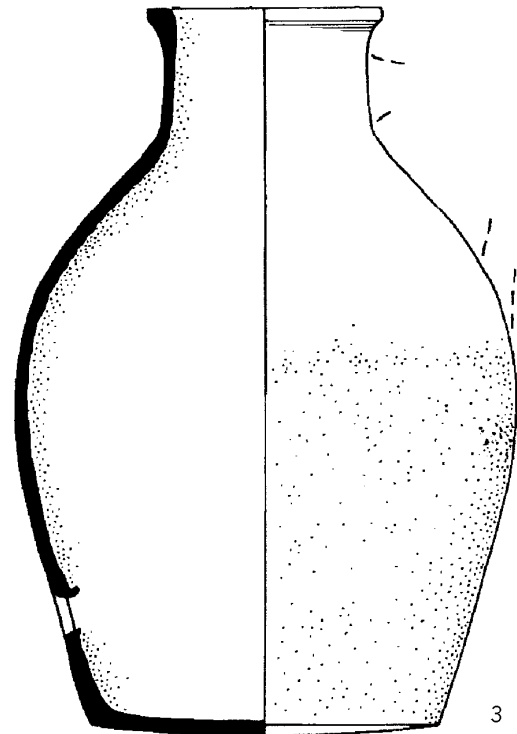
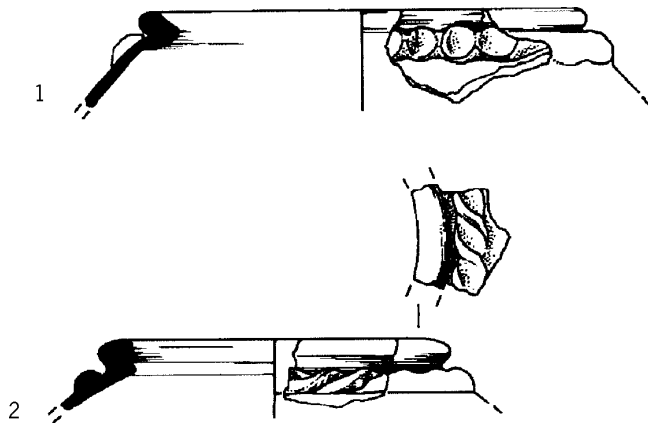


Fig. 2 Brill/Boarstall-type ware; 1-3 jars/cisterns, 4-5 jugs. Scale 1:4

JUGS (Fig. 2)

The range of jug rimforms is shown in Figure 2. It was only possible to reconstruct two jugs to full profile, but both were sub-globular, with straight necks and flattened and everted rims. Glazing was somewhat rare, and one of the reconstructed vessels was unglazed, but this may have been due to more vessels failing during the biscuit firing stage.

Fig. 2, no. 4, Reconstructed jug, group 1. Buff-pink fabric with pale grey core. Patchy 'bib' of semi-vitrified, pale yellow-green glaze.

Fig. 2, no 5, Reconstructed jug, group 1. Pale grey fabric with variegated buff and pale grey surfaces.

Table 3 Rim occurrence by EVE per type, jugs

Type	EVE	Type	EVE
301	4.38	308	0.73
302	0.98	309	0.53
303	0.52	310	0.28
304	4.55	311	0.40
305	0.05	312	0.26
306	2.63	313	0.19
307	0.74	314	1.65

PANCHEONS (Fig. 3)

The pancheon rims were all fairly simple everted types. Many vessels had glaze on the interior, but it was at best thin and patchy. Some had glaze on the exterior of the rim flange, with runnels suggesting that at least some of the vessels were inverted in the kiln.

The range of rimforms is shown in Figure 3. It was not possible to reconstruct any of the pancheons to full profile, suggesting that the body/base join may have been a major point of weakness in such vessels.

Table 4 Rim occurrence by EVE per type, pancheons

Type	EVE	Type	EVE
100	1.16	109	0.80
101	0.10	110	0.12
102	0.52	111	0.60
103	0.93	112	0.28
104	0.30	113	1.15
105	0.27	114	0.07
106	0.43	115	0.34
107	0.06	116	0.07
108	0.07	117	0.11

Fig. 3, no.6, Pancheon rim. Group 1. Pale, buff-pink fabric with a darker core. Thin, mottled, orange glaze with green smudges from partially-dissolved copper filings. Outer rim bead has very thick, glossy green glaze with numerous angular clay chips adhering to it. The glaze has run over the edge of the rim, indicating that the vessel was inverted in the kiln.

Fig. 3, no. 8, Pancheon rim. Group 2. Fabric as LG2. Sparse splashes of apple-green glaze. Stamp impressions on rim-top.

Fig. 3, no. 9, Pancheon rim. Group 1. Two non-joining sherds from the same vessel. Fabric as LG2. Sparse splashes of apple-green glaze. Stamp impressions on rim.

Fig. 3, no. 7, Pancheon rim. Group 2. Uniform orange buff fabric. Stamp impression on rim. Thin even clear glaze on both surfaces.

Fig. 3, no.10, Pancheon/bowl rim. Group 1. Fabric as LG1. Applied thumbled strip on the carination.

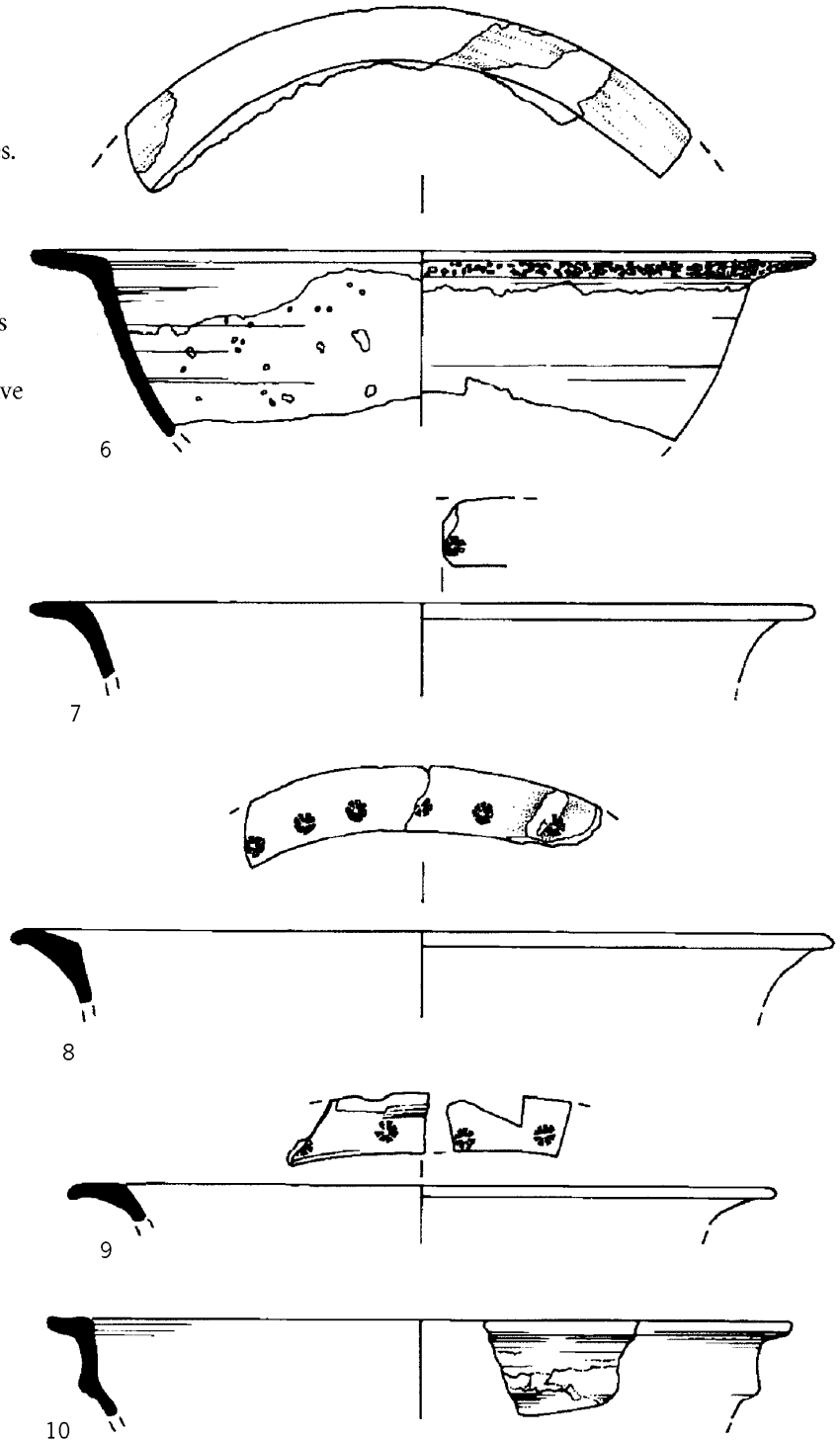


Fig. 3 Brill/Boarstall-type ware; 6-9 pancheons, 10 pancheon/bowl. Scale 1:4

TUDOR GREEN (Fig. 4)

The Tudor Green rims were, by and large, small fragments of simple upright forms which could have originated from any of the vessel types. However, a few larger sherds did occur, and have been illustrated. The handles comprised mainly rods (21 examples), but four strap types were also noted. Vessel reconstruction suggests that the mugs and cups had only rod handles, and thus the strap types may have been from lobed cups.

Fig. 4, no.11, 'Tudor Green' lobed cup and base. Group 2. Soft, orange-pink fabric. Dark, mottled copper-green glaze which has extensively flaked from both surfaces.

Fig. 4, no. 12, 'Tudor Green' mug. Group 1. Light grey fabric. Thin green glaze with copper spotting on both surfaces.

Fig. 4, no.13, 'Tudor Green' ?candlestick base. Group 1. Orange-pink fabric with green, copper-spotted glaze on upper surface.

Fig. 4, no.14, 'Tudor Green' cup rim. Group 1. Slightly sandy orange-pink fabric, glossy, dark green copper-spotted glaze on both surfaces.

Fig. 4, no.15, 'Tudor Green' cup/drinking jug. Group 1. Buff-pink fabric, glossy green glaze on inner surface. Vessel wasted, upper body showing evidence of spalling and collapse, with glaze runnels over the edges.

Fig. 4, no. 16, 'Tudor Green' mug fragment. Group 1. Plastic face-mask. Buff-pink fabric, glossy, copper-spotted green glaze on both surfaces.

Fig. 4, no.17, 'Tudor Green' pedestal base from lobed cup. Pale buff-pink fabric, some visible ironstone. Thick, glossy green glaze on inner surface, thin, copper-spotted green glaze on outer surface.

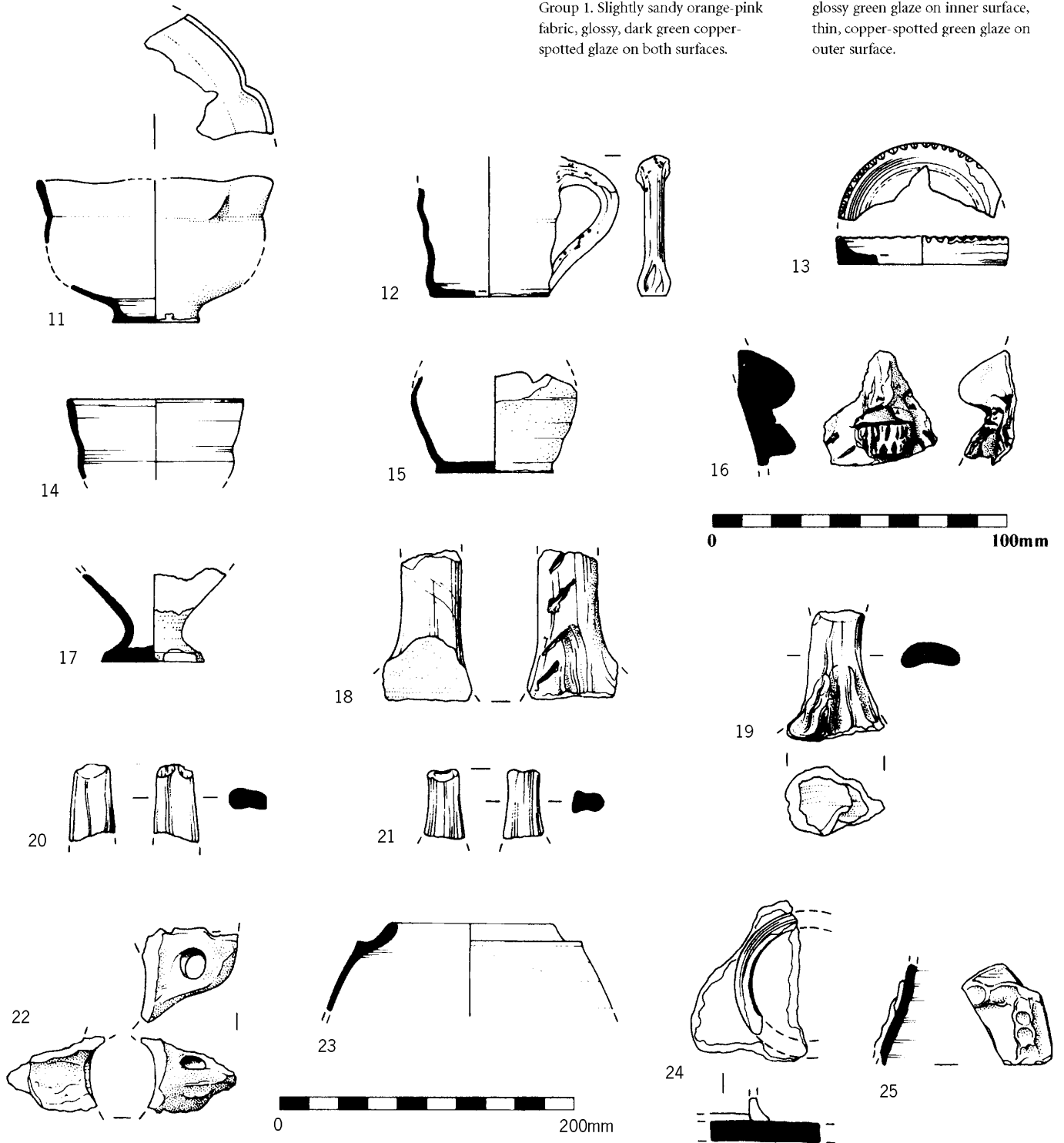


Fig. 4 11-17 Brill/Boarstall 'Tudor Green' type vessels, 18-21 Brill/Boarstall-type ware handles, 22-25 Brill/Boarstall-type ware costrel, ginger jar, tile and miscellaneous vessel. Scale 1:4

HANDLES (Fig. 4)

The majority of the non-Tudor Green handles were large strap types, usually with a shallow thumb-groove and a single thumb-imprint at the lower terminal. These types occurred on both jugs and cisterns and it was not possible to differentiate between the two. Some examples had deep, diagonal slash-decoration. Horizontal skillet handles were also noted, but this was the only evidence of such vessels being present. A total of 178 strap handles or fragments were noted, along with eight skillet handles, and nine rod types.

Fig. 4, no.18, Slashed strap handle. Group 1. Buff fabric with grey core.

Fig. 4, no.19, Dripping dish handle. Group 1. Orange-pink fabric, thin, copper-spotted green glaze on interior of vessel.

Fig. 4, no.20, Skillet handle. Group 1. Orange-pink fabric with grey core. Patches of thin clear glaze.

Fig. 4, no. 21, Skillet handle. Group 1. Pale grey fabric.

MISCELLANEOUS

As noted above, a few fragments of other vessel types were noted (Fig. 4, nos 22 and 23), such as a costrel neck, and a 'ginger jar' rim (although this may have been an unusual jar/cistern form).

One technological factor worthy of note is that flat tiles appear to have been used as kiln furniture. A jug rim was found adhering to a tile (Fig. 4, no. 24), with the glaze runnels which caused the adhesion indicating that the vessel was inverted in the kiln.

Fig. 4, no. 22, Costrel neck and lug. Group 1. Orange-pink fabric with grey surfaces. Sparse splashes of dark green glaze.

Fig. 4, no. 23, 'Ginger jar' rim. Group 1. Orange-pink fabric, greyish-brown surfaces. Glossy khaki glaze on the outside of the rim.

Fig. 4, no. 24, Tile fragment with jug rim adhered to surface by glaze runs. Group 2. Orange-pink sandy fabric, olive green glaze.

Fig. 4, no. 25, Bodysherd with applied strips. Group 1. Buff-pink fabric with buff core, patches of glossy clear glaze on outer surface.

Decoration

Decoration was not common, and as noted, even glazing was scarce. Several pancheon rims were noted with stamp decoration (total MNV = 0.43), which is extremely unusual and cannot be paralleled away from the kiln site. A small bodysherd with an impression from the same die was also noted. Twelve rim sherds were noted with thumbbed applied strips. Some of these were from cistern or storage jar rims (MNV = 0.5) and a single rim from a pancheon was also noted (MNV = 0.08). A very few bodysherds with thumbbed applied strip decoration were also noted (e.g., Fig. 4, no. 25). These all appear to have been from large vessels, presumably cisterns or storage jars. The Tudor Green wares were largely undecorated except for the single plastic facemask (Fig. 4, no. 16).

Vessel size

There is some evidence (Blinkhorn 1999) that the size of some medieval vessels is very closely correlated with their rim diameters, particularly bowls. With this in mind, the rim diameters of the major OXAM vessel types have been collated, and the data shown in Figures 5–7 (below). The results suggest that the jugs have a typical unimodal distribution, with the commonest rim diameter being in the 100–120 mm range. The jars/cisterns and bowls/pancheons have produced quite different patterns. The data for the former (Fig. 5) has a bimodal distribution, indicating that there were two preferred vessel sizes. One has its peak in the 161–180 mm size range, the other at 181–200 mm. This suggests that these bifid rim vessels had two functional types, the smaller perhaps being general purpose jars, while the larger were cisterns, although it is possible that it is simply a reflection of form, with one group having a relatively narrow neck diameter and other being larger. In the case of the bowl/pancheons, there appears to be a trimodal size distribution. The first peak is at the

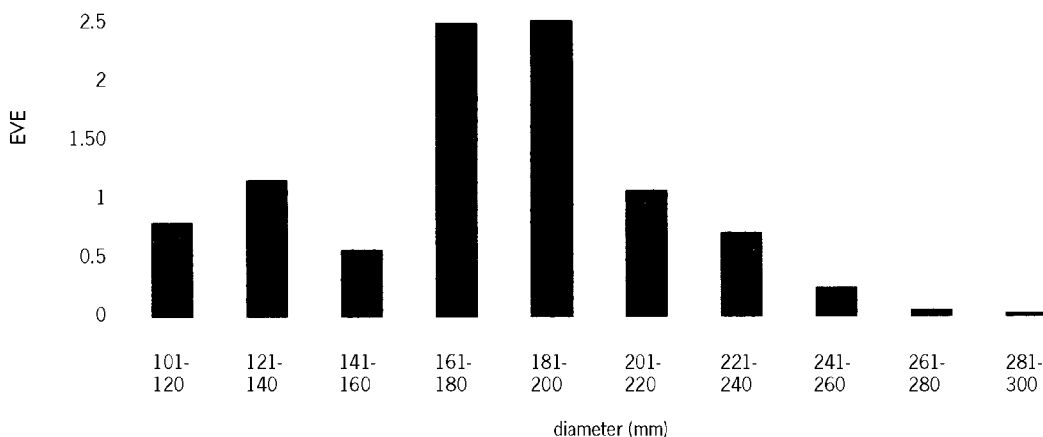


Fig. 5 EVE and rim diameters of jars/cisterns in OXAM



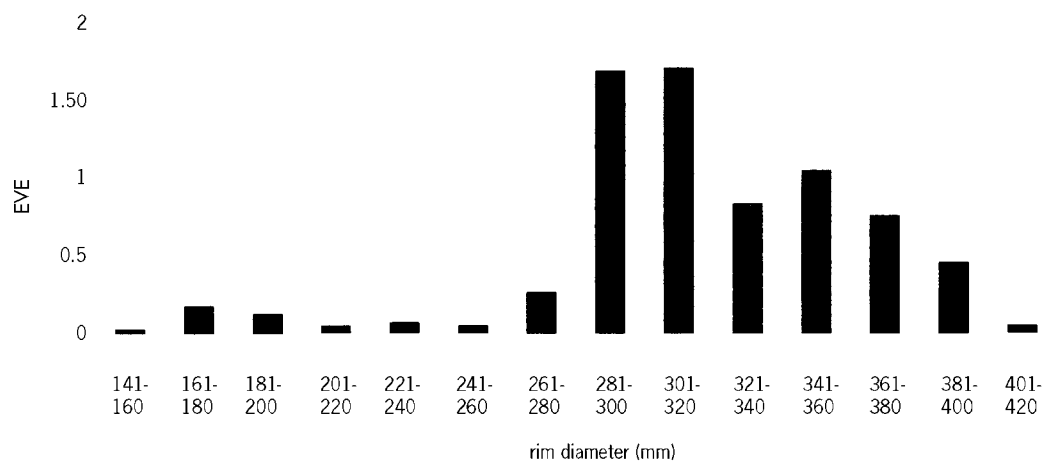


Fig. 6 EVE and rim diameters of bowls/pancheons in OXAM

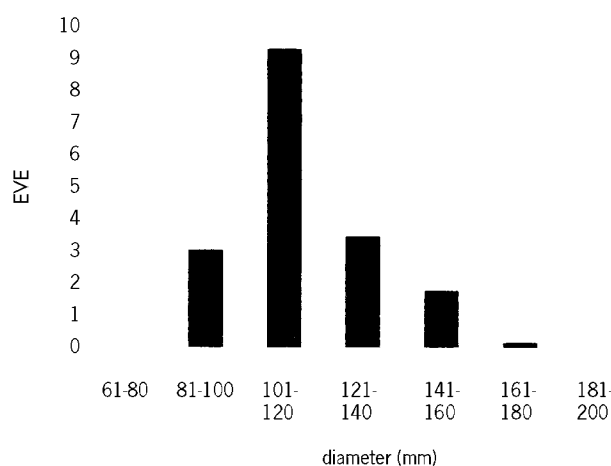


Fig. 7 EVE and rim diameters of jugs in OXAM

281–300 mm range, the second at 301–320 mm, and the third at 341–360 mm. It is worthy of note that the medieval shelly ware bowls from the settlement at West Cotton in Northamptonshire also had a trimodal size distribution, suggesting that there were different functions for the various sizes. In the case of the West Cotton bowls, most were found around bakehouses, and appear to have functioned as different-sized flour and meal measures (*ibid.*), although there is little doubt that they had numerous other uses in various contexts.

### The assemblage in its regional context

This group of kiln waste is a key addition to the sum of knowledge of the Brill/Boarstall pottery industry, one of the most important in the South Midlands of England. Its products are found in large quantities in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire and outliers to its distribution are known from Yorkshire, Wales, London, Southampton, Dorset, Cheshire and Lincolnshire (Mellor 1994, 207), making it one of the most-widely distributed of

English medieval pottery types.

The presence of this kiln waste in Ludgershall means that it is now possible to add a previously unknown production centre to the tradition, which has considerable implications for our understanding of this important pottery type. All of the excavated kilns which produced pottery in this tradition were located in the eponymous Buckinghamshire villages, although wasters of Brill/Boarstall type were noted at the nearby village of Marston during road construction (Richard Ivens, pers. comm.).

The other area of importance is the chronology. Very little mid to late 15th-century Brill/Boarstall kiln material is known (M. Mellor, pers. comm.), despite pottery of that date being noted at many sites in the South Midlands, particularly Oxford. While there may be other, as yet undiscovered, sources for wares of this date, this kiln waste represents the only known manufactory of the period at this time.

The Brill/Boarstall industry is one which has been subject to a great deal of research, with a number of medieval and post-medieval kilns excavated and published. A post-medieval kiln was excavated at Temple Street in Brill in 1983 (Yeoman 1988), where there is a documentary reference to a potter operating in 1580 (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 435). The pottery was dated to the late 15th to 16th centuries, mainly on the grounds that the material is very similar to well-dated Brill/Boarstall pottery from the Hamel, Oxford, and that Cistercian ware cups were amongst the products of the manufactory (Hurman 1988, 135). There are many similarities with the products of this kiln, but also differences. Most vessels, Cistercian wares excepted, were in the orange-pink, fine, sandy fabric typical of the industry, as was the case here. Cistercian wares were not found at Ludgershall, but the range of vessel forms was otherwise similar. However, the Temple Street kiln did produce around 86 kg of saggars fragments. This was not the case at Ludgershall, where such kiln furniture was absent, and suggests that this kiln waste predates the introduction of the use of saggars in the region. Certainly, the Temple Street saggars are said to be

very early examples (Yeoman 1988, 134).

Two post-medieval kilns are known from Prosser's Yard, Brill (Cocroft 1985). These were dated to after 1612 on the evidence of a coin, and to the late 17th century on the basis of kiln design and clay pipes. The products of the kiln were mainly bowls and jars in two fabrics, a redware and a whiteware, and overall the manufactory and its products are very obviously much later than the Ludgershall pottery.

Four post-medieval kilns were excavated in Windmill Street in Brill in 1974 and 1975 (Farley 1979). One was dated to the early 17th century, two to the later 17th century and the last to the 19th century. The early 17th-century kiln site, like that from Temple Street, showed some similarities with the Ludgershall kiln site, but also important differences. The main products of the Windmill Street kiln were pancheons, with jugs forming only a small part of the production, and cisterns virtually absent. Other vessel forms were extremely rare, although dishes, chamber pots, cups, chafing dishes, costrels and a single cistern were noted. In addition, saggars were found, which again means that the group post-dates the Ludgershall group.

It would seem, therefore, the Ludgershall kiln waste is unique amongst the known production sites of the Brill/Boarstall industry, and may have been the only source of the local 'Tudor Green' type wares, which are known at many sites in the South Midlands. It is possible that future work in Brill may reveal another source of the ware, but at this time, it is this hitherto unknown manufactory that appears to be the source.

## CONCLUSIONS

The project has been successful in identifying the probable production site of late 15th-century pottery of Brill/Boarstall type. Although no evidence was recovered for the site of the kilns themselves, this discovery is an important addition to what is already known of the origins of Brill/Boarstall pottery and, in particular, would appear to have located the source of the 'Tudor Green' wares commonly found throughout the region.

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## Résumé

Une étude préparatoire, une évaluation de terrain et des fouilles réduites sur un site de petite dimension dans la zone au nord de Ludgershall ont permis de découvrir une grande quantité de ratés de cuisson à la fois de poterie et de tuiles. Cela a permis d'identifier l'existence d'un site de production dans la tradition de Brill/Boarstall jusque là inconnu. Sa datation du milieu à la fin du 15<sup>ème</sup> siècle en fait le seul atelier de la période connu à ce jour. Ce rapport comprend une étude détaillée de la poterie accompagnée d'illustrations. Le rapport inclut aussi la description de deux zones de terrassement et de fondation, probablement pour un mur. Aucune structure de four n'a été retrouvée pendant la fouille..

## Zusammenfassung

Eine Desktop-Studie, Wertbestimmung und Ausgrabung auf einer kleinen Fläche am nördlichen Rand von Ludgershall förderte eine große Menge Brennofenabfalls zu tage, die sowohl Töpferware als auch Fliesen enthielt. Dieses weist auf das Vorhandensein einer bis dato nicht bekannten Produktionsstätte im Brill/Boarstall-Stil hin. Die Datierung im späten 15. Jh. macht es zu der bis heute einzig bekannten Herstellungsstätte dieser Zeit. Der Bericht enthält eine detaillierte Analyse der Töpferware und auch Abbildungen. Ebenfalls werden zwei Plätze mit kiesigen Hofflächen und ein Wandfundament beschrieben. Die Ausgrabung brachte keinen Ofen zutage.

