

The Late Iron Age and Roman Pottery from IN18STHTT

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Introduction

There were 1148 sherds, weighing 11730g presented for study from the evaluation and excavation combined. This included 96 sherds, 137g, of material recovered from bulk samples. The material from bulk samples was rapidly scanned and identified to ware type but contained no diagnostic sherds and are not included in this analysis. There were 1020 sherds, weighing a total of 11785g with a minimum number of rims (MNR) of 72, a total rim equivalent (RE) of 920.5%, and a total base equivalent (BE) of 904% of stratified material.

The material was recorded in sherd families by context following the Warwick museum methodology (Booth 2000) and the Roman pottery standard (Barclay et al. 2016) with a fabric and form series defined for the site following the Warwick conventions. Metrics recorded included no of sherds (NoSh) weight in grams (Wt), RE, MNR, BE with derived values of mean sherd weight (MSW) calculated by Wt/ NoSh and mean percent rim (MPR) calculated by RE/MNR.

Table 1 summarises the amount of material by each defined group. (Abbreviation for each group are shown in the section below). The largest groups are the agricultural ditches and pits and roundhouse 6.

Table 1 break down of assemblage by group

Group	NoSh%	Wt%	MNR%	RE%	BE%
	9.7%	14.5%	11.1%	11.6%	4.2%
AD/P	18.7%	19.3%	13.9%	16.0%	27.4%
AOB	7.4%	2.6%	2.8%	1.4%	1.0%
EDR3/4	4.5%	7.2%	1.4%	9.1%	11.1%
EED	1.0%	0.5%			
K/O	0.4%	0.2%			
ND	5.2%	5.9%	6.9%	6.0%	7.5%
NHED	8.3%	13.0%	11.1%	10.4%	7.6%
RH1	4.9%	3.5%	11.1%	11.8%	1.8%
RH1E	5.1%	5.7%	6.9%	5.1%	3.9%
RH1P	2.2%	2.3%	6.9%	3.4%	7.1%
RH2	2.4%	0.8%			0.9%
RH3	1.8%	0.2%	1.4%	1.3%	5.1%
RH4	0.4%	0.1%			
RH5	0.2%	0.5%			0.8%
RH6	11.2%	6.9%	9.7%	10.3%	11.7%
shed	3.3%	5.2%	1.4%	0.9%	5.8%

WD	1.3%	1.3%	1.4%	0.5%	1.0%
WH	12.1%	10.2%	13.9%	12.1%	3.2%
N	1021	11786	72	920.5	904

Dating

The overall dating profile based on the rims from forms with a stated date range of 180 years or less is shown in Figure 1. There is a small component of pre-Flavian or late Iron age date with significant increase in deposition on the Flavian – Trajanic period. There is a substantial increase in deposition during the Hadrianic to Antonine period with a slight peak in the mid-2nd followed by a peak in the early 3rd. The latest pieces are two developed bead and flange rim bowls and several hammerhead mortaria. There is no evidence of any significant deposition after the late 3rd century

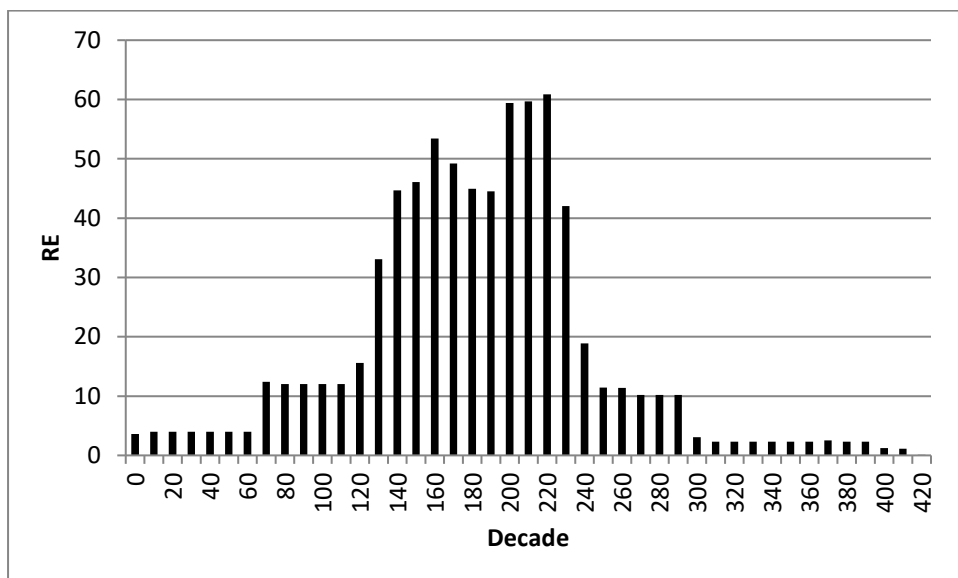


Figure 1 Date distribution of pottery with a date range of 180 years or less by RE

Roundhouse 1 (RH1)

Figure 2 shows the dating distribution of deposition in the features associated with roundhouse 1 suggesting some Flavian- Trajanic activity in the area but that the round house itself is likely of mid-2nd century date.

The main evidence for this is black burnished flanged rim bowl B01/6, Severn Valley ware wide mouth jar O32.2 greyware jar R11/4 and Derbyshire reduced ware jar R13/1 all from pit [5039]

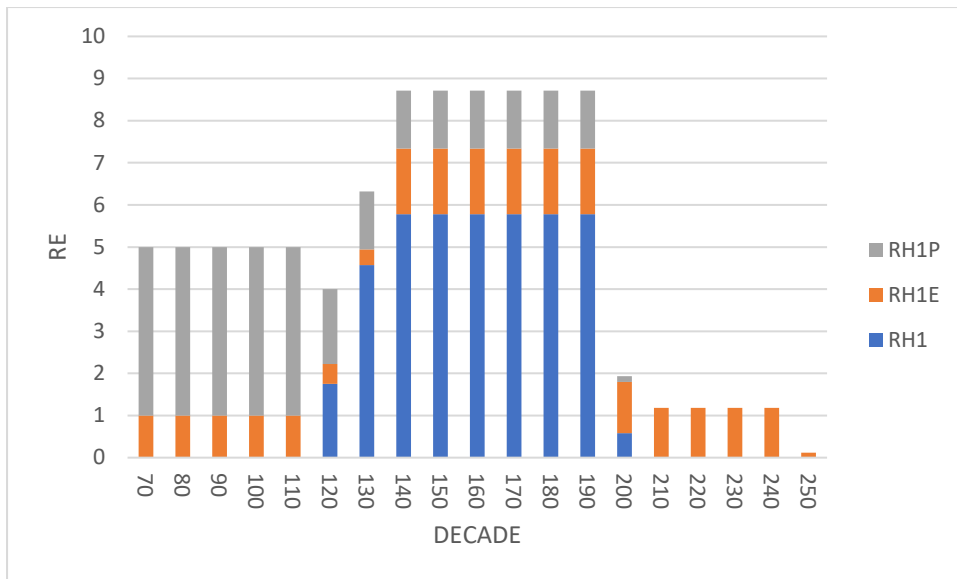


Figure 2 Date Distribution for Roundhouse 1 and related groups

Pits Roundhouse 1 (RH1P)

Material of Flavian – Trajanic date is suggested by the greyware beakers R01/3 and R11/5 and jar R11/2 which may have been a rusticated form alongside sherds of rusticated greyware from (5073). The Hadrianic – Antonine component is given by black burnished ware flanged rim bowl B01/6.

Enclosure around Round House 1 (RH1E)

Flavian – Trajanic material may be suggested by jar R11/3 and constricted necked jar R11/1 mid to later 2d century material included Derbyshire reduced ware jar R13/2 and a central Gaulish samian bowl rim fragment.

Roundhouse 2 (RH2)

There is very little useful dating evidence from the pottery for this group, the best evidence being a few sherds of Derbyshire greyware body sherds from pit [5216] suggesting a mid-2nd to 3rd century date.

Roundhouse 3 (RH3)

This roundhouse had very little pottery associated with it, but included Cologne roughcast beaker F42/1 of mid-2nd century date.

Roundhouse 4 (RH4)

This round house was also very low in pottery with the dating evidence provided by body sherds of Derbyshire ware, of mid-2nd to 3rd century date and a B01 body sherd with acute lattice decoration which would have been Hadrianic to mid-2nd century in date, so a mid 2nd century dates seems likely.

Features Outside roundhouse 3 and 4 (FOR2RD)

The only pottery was a greyware sherd.

Enclosure/ Entrance Ditch Roundhouse 3 and 4 (EDR3/4)

There was more pottery from this group, but the only datable form was black burnished ware jar B01/2 of early 3rd century date.

Roundhouse 5 / stock entrance (RH5)

There were only a few sherds from this group and the best dating came from a central Gaulish Dr 33 cup of AD160 -200 date.

Roundhouse 6 (RH6)

There was a substantial amount of pottery from this group. Figure 2 shows the date distribution based on forms with a range of less than 180 years. A small Flavian – Trajanic component is suggested by jars R01/2 and R02/2 from posthole [5277] and whiteware flagon W01/2 occurring residually in pit [5320]. Mid 2nd century material includes a flanged rim bb bowl B01/6 with acute lattice decoration. Mid to late 2nd century forms are represented by 2 examples of BB1jar B01/1 from pit [5320] and a mid-2nd to 3rd century date is suggested by Derbyshire ware jar G38.1/1 also from [5320]

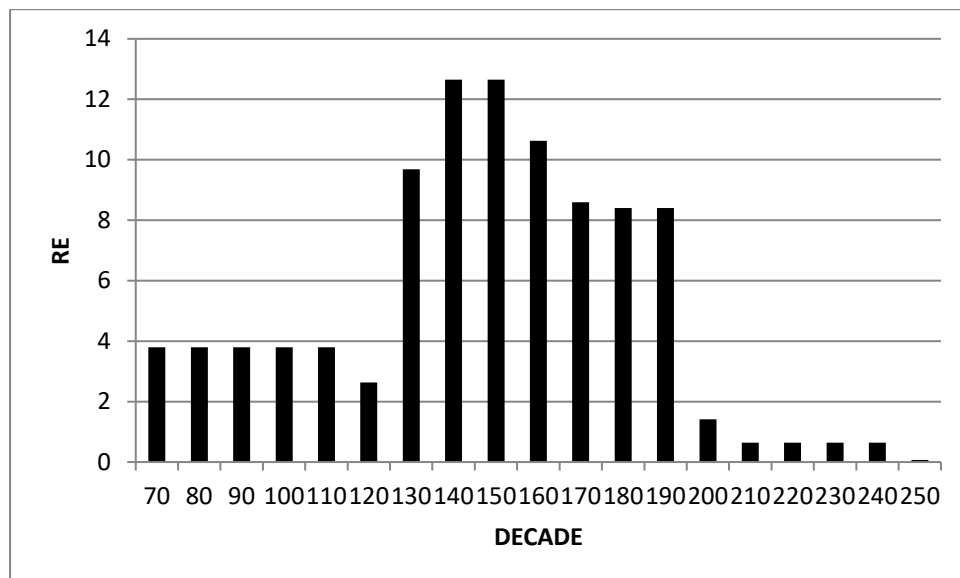


Figure 2 Date distribution for Roundhouse 6

Northern Ditch (ND)

There was a substantial amount of pottery from this group. The earliest material was Iron Age tradition bodysherd P21 from middle fill (5380). Later forms include simple rim dish B01/7 with acute lattice decoration, of mid-2nd century date, a Central Gaulish Samian Dr18/31 dish of mid-2nd century date and hammerhead mortaria M13/3 and M13/4 or AD 220 or later date.

Eastern Ditch

Figure 3 shows the date distribution form the northern and southern parts of the eastern ditch

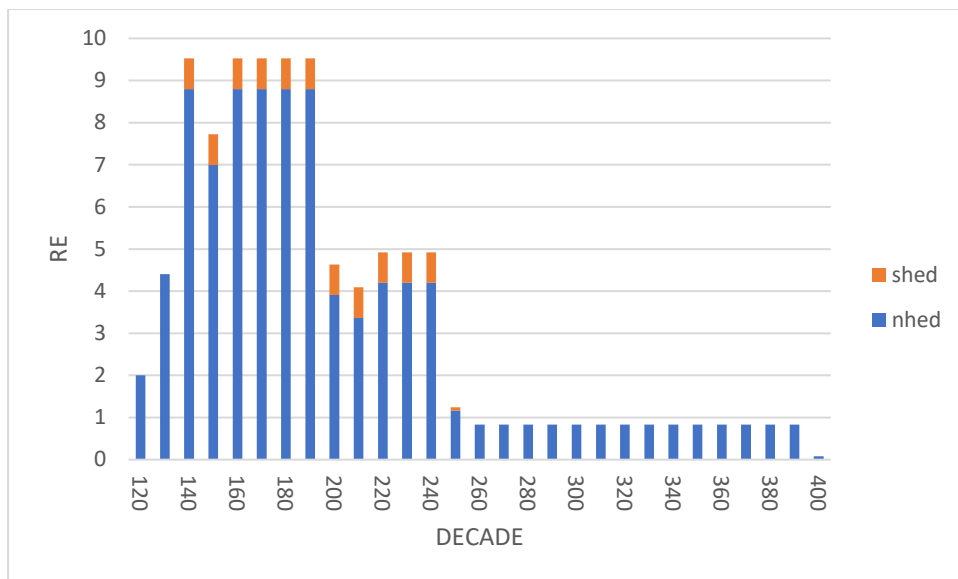


Figure 3 Date distribution of rims from Eastern ditch groups

Northern Half of East Ditch (NHED)

The earliest material are a late Iron age storage jar rim fragment and body sherds from (5081). There is also a rusticated body sherd from (5093) of Flavian-Trajanic date. Mid-2nd century material includes black burnished dish B01/8 and jar B01/1, and Rheinzabern East Gaulish samian Dr 31 bowl from (5010). Material with a slightly wider date range, to the mid-3rd century, includes BB1 bowl B01/6, Derbyshire ware jars G38/3 and G39.1/2 and greyware jar R12/2. The early 3rd and the later component is given by Mancetter-Hartshill hammerhead mortaria M13/ 2 from upper fill (5079).

Entranceway across East Ditch (EED)

Only bodysherds are from this group, including Severn valley ware O32 and Derbyshire wares, which are consistent with the date range for the ditch.

Southern Half of East Ditch (SHED)

The only rim from this group was Derbyshire ware jar G38/3, of 2nd to 3rd century date.

Western Ditch (WD)

There was a small collection of pottery from this group, with the principle dating coming from a central Gaulish samian sherd of AD120-200 date.

Kilns/ Ovens (K/O)

This was another small group of pottery comprising bodysherds only, including 6 sherds of B01 so giving a date of AD 120+

Area of Burning (AOB)

This was a more substantial collection of pottery and included BB beaker B01/5 of mid-2nd century date

Working Hollows (WH)

The date distribution for forms with a restricted date range is shown in Figure 4. There is a small Flavian- Trajanic component and a more substantial late 2nd presence peaking in the early to mid-3rd century.

The earliest sherd is Aylesford- Swarling tradition body sherd E12 from pit [5152] of AD 1 – 70 date. Flavian to Trajanic material is represented by greyware jar R01/1 and whiteware flagon W01/1. 2nd to 3rd century material is restricted to Derbyshire ware jar G38/2/

Early 3rd century material includes Mancetter-Hartshill Mortaria M13/3 and BB jar B01/3. Mid-3rd century material includes 2 examples of BB jar B01/4, one with Obtuse lattice decoration. The latest form is Derbyshire reduced ware developed beaded and flange rim bowl R15/1 with a date of AD270+ (but unlikely to be later than the 3rd century) from the upper fill of pit [5138].

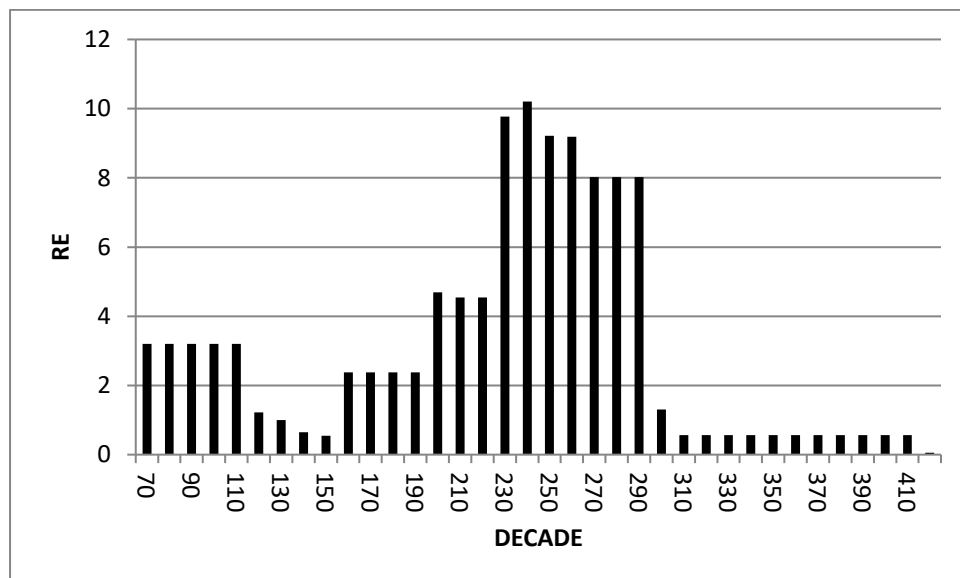


Figure 4 Date distribution of pottery from working hollows group

Agricultural Ditches/ Ponds (AD/P)

This was another larger group of pottery. Figure 5 shows the date distribution. This shows a peak in the mid-2nd century and a small 3rd century component.

There is a single shell tempered body sherd, fabric C11, from (5250) of C1-C2 date. There is a body sherd of Iron age tradition fabric P11 from (5288).

There is a rusticated bodysherd from Gully [5252] of Flavian-Trajanic date.

Mid 2nd century material includes 2 examples of Mancetter-Hartshill bead and flange rim mortaria M13/1, a CG samian Dr31R bowl, a Rheizenberg samian Dr31R bowl and a BB body sherd with acute lattice decoration. Later 2nd is suggested by BB copy jar R12/1 and possible by Wide mouth jar R01/5. Mid to late 3rd is suggested by Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria M13/2 and M13/4 and the latest piece is a developed beaded and flange rim bowl in Derbyshire reduced greyware R15/1

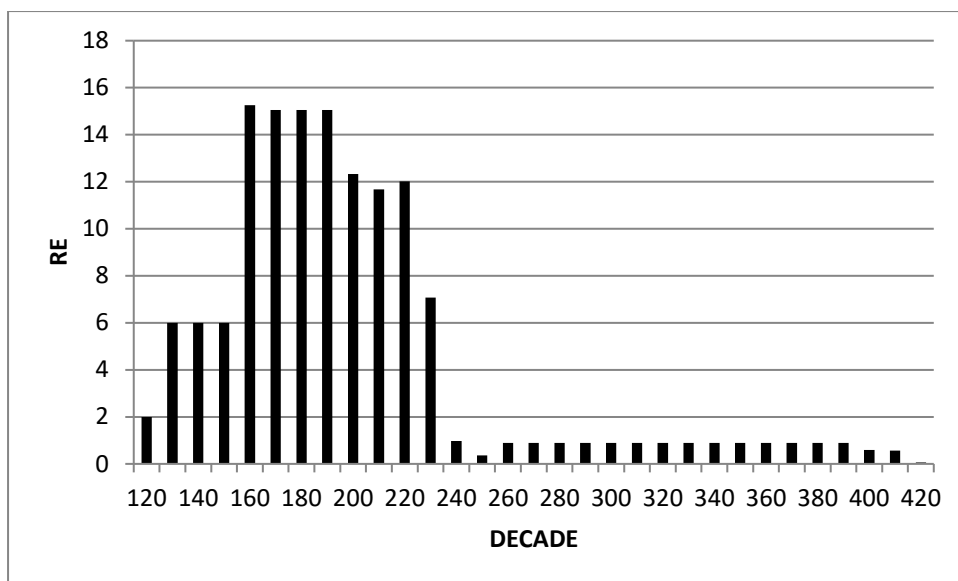


Figure 5 Date distribution of pottery from the agricultural ditches group

Ungrouped material

The earliest material from the ungrouped contexts include a late iron age handmade jar P21/1 from pit fill (2204) and a bodysherd in the same fabric in ditch (1605). There is Aylesford-Swarling tradition jar E21/1 from (3312), accompanied by a South Gaulish samian cup. Much of the rest of the pottery can be given a general 2nd to 3rd century date, with the latest piece being Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria M13/5 from pit (2810).

Taphonomy

The breakdown of quantities of pottery coming from different context types is shown in Table 2. Most of the material comes from ditches and gullies, 63%, with a small amount, less than 1%, from layers. This is typical for a basic rural settlement. The high level of material from pit s appears indicative of a light industrial component to the settlement's function.

Table 2 Pottery by Context Type

Context Type	No%	Wt%	MNR%	RE%	BE%	MSW	MPR
Ditch	48.7%	60.8%	48.6%	47.3%	51.5%	13.94	12.4
Gully	10.8%	8.6%	6.9%	11.5%	20.9%	8.94	21.20
Hearth/Oven	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%		6.00	
Layer	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%		10.00	
Pit	35.1%	26.8%	38.9%	33.6%	21.6%	8.53	11.0
Posthole	2.4%	1.5%	2.8%	2.1%	4.2%	6.96	9.50
Ring ditch	2.5%	1.9%	2.8%	5.5%	1.8%	8.56	25.50
N/AVG	1012	11301	72	920.5	904	11.17	12.69

Supply

The breakdown of the stratified assemblage by ware class is shown in Table 3. Table 4 shows the comparison between the grouped contexts, where there are more than 50 sherds, with

Round house 1 features, Roundhouse 3 and 4 and the eastern ditch features all grouped together. Even so the groups are small and should be treated with caution, especially in the case of class F which are exaggerated in both occurrences by having multiple body sherds from a single vessel. Even so there are some interesting differences between the groups. The low level of class B material in RH1 suggests that this area was in use earlier than the other areas, before black burnished ware supply become more abundant, similarly the high levels of class G in the eastern ditch may reflect later pottery deposition in this area

The high levels of class P in the eastern and Northern ditches matches the impression that earlier pottery is more frequent in the North east of the excavated area and it seems likely that earlier activities were focused to the NE outside the excavated area.

Table 3 Pottery by Ware Class

Class	Ware Type	No%	Wt%	MNR%	RE%	BE%	MSW	MPR
A	Amphora	0.3%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%		42.67	
B	Black Burnished	20.1%	12.6%	22.2%	30.1%	4.1%	7.04	17.31
C	Calcareous	0.1%	0.1%				14.00	
E	Belgic	1.8%	8.2%	2.8%	6.0%		53.9	27.50
F	Fine	2.3%	0.3%	1.4%	1.3%	5.1%	1.58	12.00
G	Gritted	8.3%	9.3%	8.3%	5.0%	13.8%	12.87	7.70
M	Mortaria	2.4%	6.5%	12.5%	9.6%	6.1%	30.63	9.83
O	Oxidised	15.3%	7.9%	4.2%	4.2%	4.9%	5.77	13.00
P	Prehistoric	2.3%	7.4%	2.8%	2.1%		36.13	9.50
R	Reduced	45.0%	48.1%	34.7%	37.0%	65.3%	11.94	13.64
S	Samian	2.0%	1.3%	8.3%	3.0%	0.8%	7.20	4.67
W	Whiteware	1.0%	0.7%	2.8%	1.6%		7.80	7.50
	N/AVG	1012	11301	72	920.5	904	11.17	12.69

Table 4 Ware class by groups

	Group							
Class	RH1	RH3 and 4	RH6	AD/P	AOB	E ditch	ND	WH
A		3%						0.8%
B	3%	41%	34.2%	16.2%	18.4%	12%	11.3%	34.7%
C				0.5%				
F		24%					13.2%	
G	1%	1%	3.5%	9.9%	2.6%	22%	1.9%	21.0%
M				3.1%		3%	15.1%	4.0%
O	14%	4%	5.3%	12.0%	32.9%	13%	26.4%	8.1%
P				1.6%		12%	3.8%	
R	78%	26%	53.5%	52.9%	46.1%	36%	26.4%	25.0%
S	1%		2.6%	2.1%		1%	1.9%	4.8%
W	3%		0.9%	1.6%				1.6%

N	124	68	114	191	76	129	53	124
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Class A, Amphora

The low level of amphora noted on the site is consistent with a basic level rural site.

A01 – Dressel 20 amphora, less than 1%

There were 3 body sherds only noted in this fabric.

Blass B, Black Burnished Wares

This is very high at 20% of the overall assemblage. This compares to Birmingham M6 toll road sites 12 and 32, (24%, 18% respectively, Leary 2008, Table 157) and to a lesser extent site 15 (14%, Leary 2008, Table 157) and is in line with military sites in the region (c.f. Leary 2008 Fig 210). The high level here is best explained by the proximity of the settlement to the Roman road, and perhaps to a lesser extent the fort at Wall.

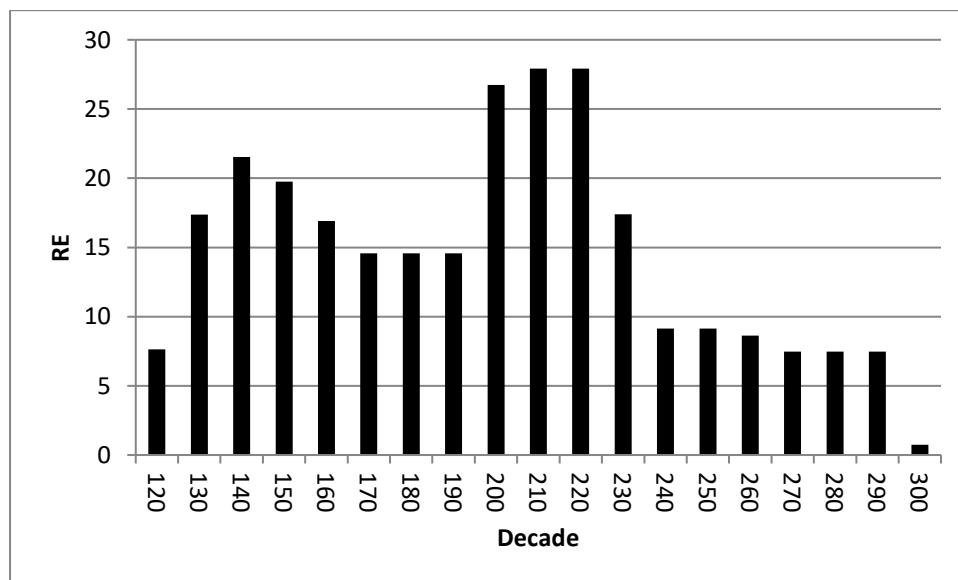


Figure 6 Date distribution of B01 vessels with a restricted date range

B01 Dorset BB1 – 20%

B01/1 A BB cooking pot with everted beaded rim as Gillam 1976 no 3-4, MC2. 3 examples.

Drawn Group: RH6 Pit Context: 5325; NoSh= 24; Wt = 212g; RE = 44; RD = 16 cm; XJ: Pit Context: 5327; NoSh= 1; Wt = 14g; RE = 8; RD = 17 cm; with acute lattice decoration and soot deposits on rim

B01/2 A BB cooking pot with everted out curving rim with squared slightly obtuse lattice decoration, as Gillam 1976 no 6 EC3

Drawn. Group: EDR3/4 Gully Context: 5344; NoSh= 6; Wt = 113g; RE = 84; RD = 11 cm

B01/3 A BB cooking pot with everted outcurving rim, as Gillam 1976 no 6-8, 1 example
E - MC3

B01/4 A BB cooking pot with strongly everted out curving rim with obtuse lattice decoration bounded by scored lines. As Gillam 1976 no 9 M-L C3 2 examples

Drawn. Group: WH Pit Context: 5193; NoSh= 21; Wt = 232g; RE = 26; RD = 17 cm

B01/5 A handled beaker with stubby everted slightly outcurving and double ribbed handle as Gillam 1976 24-6 1 example MC2

Drawn. Group: AOB Ditch Context: 5176; NoSh= 14; Wt = 26g; RE = 9; RD = 10 cm

B01/6 A flanged rim bowl 3 examples.

B01/7 A complete profile of a straight sided simple rim dish with acute lattice decoration and a straight base 1 example MC2

B01/8 A Groove rim dish, as Gillam 1976 no 69, MC2. 1 example,

Class C Calcareous Wares

This class of ware is not common in the region. The single fabric noted was present on a number of M6 toll road sites (Leary 2008, Table 167) most common at around 1%.

C11Shell tempered fabric – less than 1 %

This is represented by a single body sherd. The fabric is probably from Northamptonshire and is found in 1st to 2nd century vessels in the region

Class E Aylesford-Swarling Tradition

The site is on the extreme limits of the pottery in this tradition and its low level here is in keeping with the regional norm.

E11 grog and sand less than 1 %

This is represented by a single shoulder sherd.

E21 grog and lime 2%

There is a large jar in this fabric.

E21/1 A jar, with everted triangular in section rim sooting on internal face; Three horizontal grooves with faint diagonal lines between; as Thompson C1-4 22 AD1-70

Drawn. Ditch Context: 3312; NoSh= 9; Wt = 485g; RE = 27.5; RD = 20 cm

Class F Non Samian Fine wares

Overall fineware figures are low, again in line with a basic level rural site and consistent with much less activity after the late 2nd century.

F42 Cologne Colour coat 2%

F42/1 A Cologne rough cast beaker with a cornice rim and black slip as Anderson 1980 Fig 7 no 2 1 example MC2

Drawn. Group: RH3 Gully Context: 5390; NoSh= 16; Wt = 26g; RE = 12; RD = 10 cm

F101 Central Gaulish Black slip ware 1%

F101/1 7 sherds, 5g from the same beaker with rouletting and barbotine decoration, LC2

Class G – Gritty wares

This class was represented by Derbyshire ware, here split between the oxidised and reduced variant with an overall total of 8%. This is much higher than the sites from the Birmingham M6 toll road (Leary 2008) although there is a trend of increasing presence from West to

East. The higher level of this site, given its much closer proximity to the Derbyshire ware production sites

G38 Derbyshire ware 6%

G38/1 A Derbyshire ware jar with lid seating and internal bead as Gillam 1939 Fig 2 no 15 1 example MC2-C3

G38/2 A Derbyshire ware jar as Gillam 1939 fig 3 no 9 1 example MC2-C3

G38/3 A Derbyshire ware jar with everted beaded rim and slight lid seating as Leary 2003 no 10, 2 examples MC2-C3, 1 example

G38/4 A Derbyshire ware jar as Gillam 1939 Fig 2 no 5

G38.1 reduced Derbyshire ware 2%

G38.1/1 A reduced derbyshire ware jar with thin lid seated cupped rim as Gillam 1939 fig 3 no 4, MC2-C3, 1 example

G38.1 /2 A Derbyshire ware jar with lid seating and internal bead as Gillam 1939 Fig 2 no 15 1 example MC2-C3

Class M – Mortaria

All the mortaria are Mancetter-Hartshill products, which is expected given the proximity of the site to the industry. The presence at 2% is in keeping with a rural site and compare well with most of the rural M6 toll road sites.

Figure 7 shows the date distribution of the mortaria with a small amount or early mortaria but a peak in the early 3rd century, paralleling the supply of bb1 (Figure 6) but contrasting with the overall picture of supply to the site.

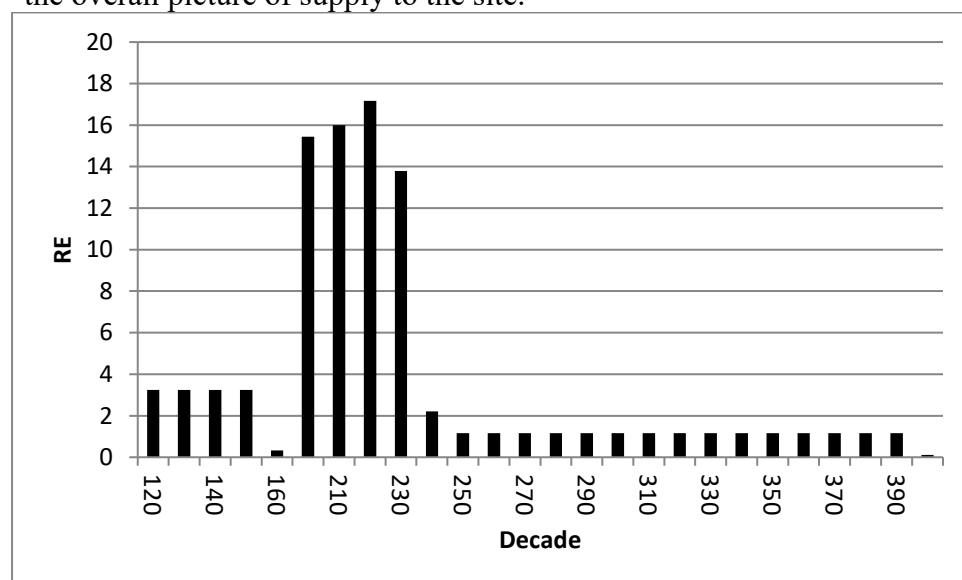


Figure 7 Date distribution of the Mortaria

M13 Mancetter-Hartshill Mortaria

M13/1 A bead and flange rim mortaria with bead above flange MC2 3 examples

M13/2 A reeded hammer head rim mortaria with 5 shallow grooves MC3+ 3 examples
Drawn. Group: NHED Ditch Context: 5079; NoSh= 1; Wt = 66g; RE = 15; RD = 20 cm

M13/3 A plain hammerhead rim mortaria, eEC3 1 example

M13/4 A plain hammerhead mortaria with prominent bead on distal end EC3 2 examples

Drawn. Group: ND Ditch Context: 5381; NoSh= 2; Wt = 65g; RE = 12; RD = 15 cm;

M13/5 A reeded rim hammerhead mortaria with 3 deep grooves E – MC3 ,1 example

Drawn. Group: Pit Context: 2810; NoSh= 1; Wt = 218g; RE = 18; RD = 30 cm;

Class O – Oxidised

Figure 8 shows the date distribution of oxidised wares in the site, but only the Severn valley wares have a close enough date range to be represented. This strongly suggest a decline in Severn valley ware supply in the 3rd.

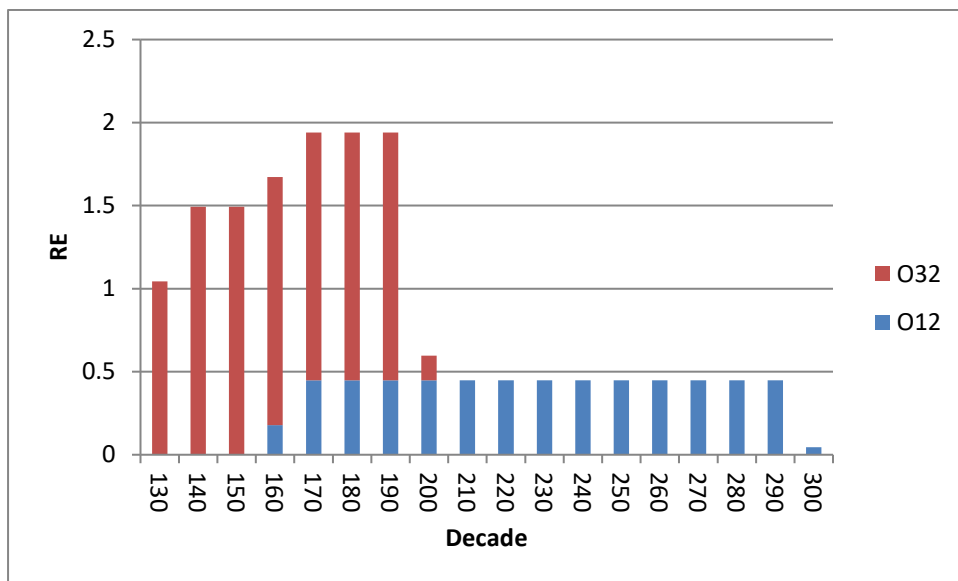


Figure 8 Date Distribution of oxidised wares with a restricted date range to the site

O01 2% Mancetter?

These were only present as body sherds

Derbyshire Oxidised fabric?

O02 Derbyshire

O02/1 A lid with a thickening rim

O31 1%

This was only present as body sherds

O13 - 1%

This was only present as body sherds

Severn Valley ware 4%

O03 1%

This was only present as body sherds

O12 - 1%

O12/1 A jar with everted rim and triangular in section tip possibly as Webster 1976 no 14 1 example LC2 - C3

O32 2%

O32/1 A jar with triangular in section slightly undercut rim as Webster 1976 no 4 C2-C4
1 example

O32/2 A wide mouth jar with strongly everted rim with a squared beaded rim as Webster 1976 no 21? MC2-LC2 1 example

Drawn. Group: RH1 Pit Context: 5038; NoSh= 2; Wt = 38g; RE = 10; RD = 25 cm;

Other

Oxidised

O11 6%

This was only present as body sherds

O21 – less than 1%

This was only present as body sherds

Class P – Pre-Roman Tradition

There was a small quantity of IA tradition pottery found on the site, and it is likely that the focus for IA deposition was outside the area of excavation.

P11 less than 1%

This was only present as body sherds

P21 2%

P21/1 A jar with an in-sloping tapering rim. 1 example

Drawn. Group: Pit Context: 2204; NoSh= 1; Wt = 6g; RE = 12; RD = 10 cm

Class R – Reduced Wares

Figure 9 shows the date distribution of the fabrics with a restricted date range in class R. This implies supply from the North Warwickshire industries until the late 2nd century where this is replaced by pottery from other area, notably derbyshire ware and BB1 as well as reflecting the decline in the settlement.

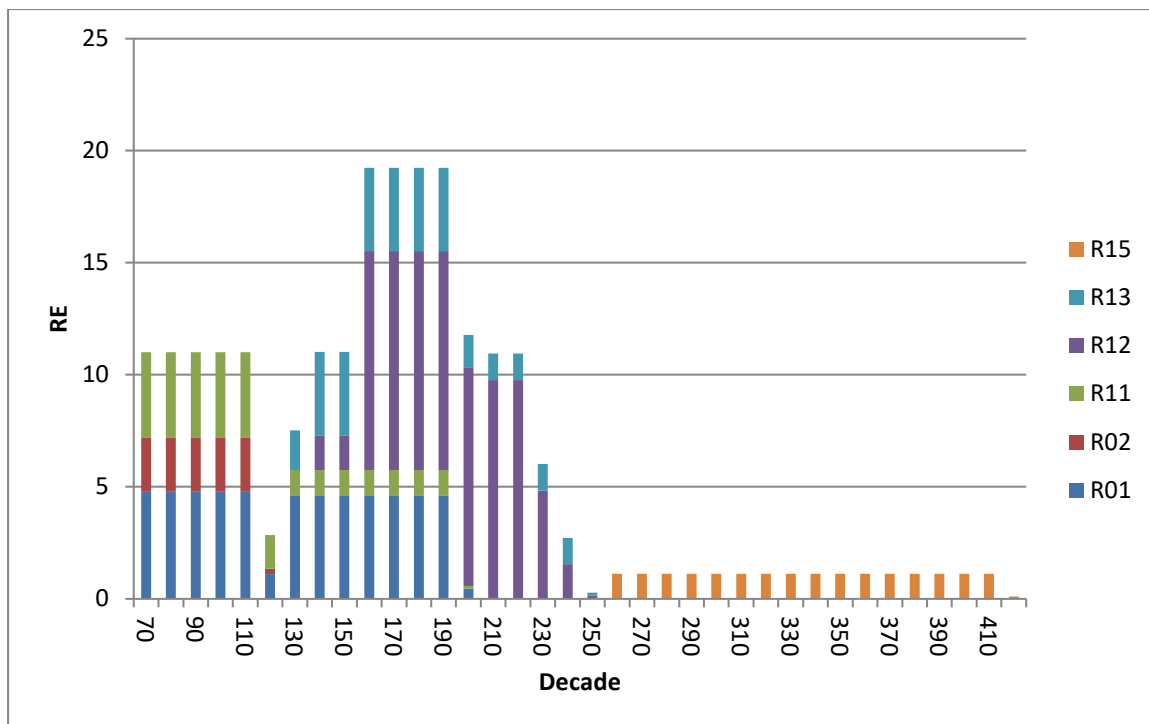


Figure 9 date distribution of class R00

N Warwickshire Greywares

R01

R01/1 A necked jar with a beaded rim. As Evans 2011 C1.2 no 23 2 examples

R01/2 A slightly necked jar with stubby st everted rim as Evans 2011 C1.1 no 21; Leary 1998 no 2? 1 example

R01/4 a beaker? with everted slightly beaded rim cordon on shoulder as Evans 2011 E1.4 no 81

. Group: RH1P Pit Context: 5071; NoSh= 1; Wt = 9g; RE = 6; RD = 10 cm;

R01/5 A beaker with an everted rim with a beaded tip as Evans 2011 E1.3 no 85 1 example

Drawn. Group: RH1P Pit Context: 5071; NoSh= 1; Wt = 9g; RE = 5; RD = 15 cm;

R01/3 A wide mouth jar with everted rim with squared tip c.f. Evans 2011 CM1.2 no 65 1 example

R21

R21/1 A necked jar with a beaded rim AS Evans 2011 C10.2 no 58

Derbyshire reduced ware

R13

R13/1 A BB copy jar c.f. Gillam 1976 no 2 - 3

R13/2 A small jar with an everted outcurving rim 1 example (5068)

R15 – 2%

R15/1 A developed beaded and flange rim bowl 2 examples

Other greywares

R02

R02/1 A necked jar with a beaded rim 1 example

R02/2 A slightly necked jar with stubby st everted rim as Leary 1998 no 2 1 example

R11

R11/1 A CJ with a horizontal squared undercut rim 1 example

R11/2 A jar with an everted rim Leary 1998 no 17 1 example

R11/3 A slightly necked jar with stubby st everted rim as Leary 1998 no 2 1 example

R11/4 A Necked jar everted rim with a beaded tip perhaps as Leary 1998 no 29

R11/5 A beaker or small jar with a triangular in section rim with slight concavity on top possible rusticated form 1 example

Drawn. Group: RH1P Pit Context: 5071; NoSh= 1; Wt = 7g; RE = 8; RD = 10 cm

R12

This is a black surface ware and seems to be imitating BB forms.

R12/1 A jar with everted beaded rim, BB copy c.f. Gillam 1976 4-6 1 example possible slight acute to square lattice decoration

Drawn. Group: AD/P Ditch Context: 4506; NoSh= 6; Wt = 202g; RE = 60; RD = 16 cm

R12/2

A jar rim fragment with an everted rim 1 example

R12/3 A dish with a simple rim 1 example

R12/4 A lid with a stubby everted triangular in section rim

R14 – 1%

Only body sherds noted in this fabric

R16 – less than 1%

Only bodysherds noted in this fabric

R32 1%

Only bodysherds noted in this fabric.

Class S – Samian

NB does not include 8 sherds identified during recording

G. Monteil

Introduction and methodology

A total of thirteen sherds of samian ware recovered from various phases of archaeological work in Streethay, Lichfield were submitted for this report. The fabric of each sherd was examined, after taking a small fresh break, under a x 20 binocular microscope and was catalogued by context number. Each archive entry consists of a context number, fabric, form and decoration identification, condition, sherd count, rim EVEs (Estimated Vessel Equivalents), rim diameter, number of vessels, weight, notes and a date range. Rubbings of the decorated fragment and the stamp have been mounted, scanned and submitted as illustrations. Detailed comments about these vessels are provided at the end of this report.

Assemblage composition and chronology

The assemblage is very small with thirteen sherds for a total weight of 143g, a maximum number of eleven vessels and a total rim EVE figure of 0.17 (table 1). Twelve sherds come from stratified deposits and one comes from the subsoil.

	sherd	weight	RE	MNV
La Graufesenque	1	1		1
South Gaulish	1	4		1
Lezoux	7	117	0.11	6
Rheinzabern	4	21	0.06	3
Total	13	143	0.17	11

Table 5: Samian fabrics recovered from the site

There is a little South Gaulish material, an extremely abraded fragment from La Graufesenque in the fill of curvilinear 5125 (context 5126), and a bodysherd from a cup in one of the fills of ditch 3309 (3312) with a South Gaulish fabric but likely from another production centre than La Graufesenque. Both suggest a Flavian-Trajanic date.

With seven sherds, Central Gaulish samian from Lezoux makes up more than half of the samian group (table 1). The range of forms is very limited and mostly consists of plain forms. The earliest is a dish form Dr.18/31 dating to the Hadrianic period in the lower fill of ditch 5382 (context 5381), the rest is more typical of the 2nd half of the 2nd c. AD with an Antonine decorated bowl in the subsoil (context 5002, see Cat. no. 1), a cup form Dr.33 with a stamp dated AD160-200 in the fill of pit 5242 (see Cat. no.2) and a bowl form Dr.31R in the fill of ditch 2905 (context 2904).

Four fragments with a fabric typical of Rheinzabern in East Gaul complete this small collection, two sherds from the rim of dish form Dr.36 in the fill of curvilinear 5125 (context 5126), a dish form Dr.31 in the second fill of ditch 5005 (context 5010) and a bowl form Dr.31R in the fill of ditch 2905 (context 2904). They are likely late 2nd c. AD in date though it is possible that they arrived on site in the first half of the 3rd c. AD.

Concluding thoughts

The samian group is small but provides an additional quantified sample to the growing body of evidence from rural sites in the area (Monteil 2014, 2017, 2018; Wild 2006, Willis 2002) and while too limited to permit much in terms of detailed analysis, a few remarks are possible. As with those other rural assemblages the various industries represented suggest access to samian ware from the late Flavian period to the later Antonine period. The three vessels from Rheinzabern do not appear particularly late but could have arrived on site as late as the first half of the 3rd c. AD. Key samian types more characteristic of the later 2nd c. and early 3rd c. AD such as gritted mortaria, normally dated to post-AD 170 are absent however which would suggest reduced occupation or access to samian ware. It must be pointed out that samian mortaria are comparatively rare on rural sites, they are absent from samian assemblages recovered nearby at Whitemoor Haye Quarry, Branston and

Tuckleshome Quarry (Willis 2002, Wild 2006, Monteil 2014, 2017 and 2018). The small size of the assemblage makes it difficult to assess the significance and relevance of such absence.

The limited range of types and the clear emphasis on plain forms makes this group typical of a basic rural site (Willis 2005, chart 17).

Decorated samian catalogue

The following catalogue provides information about the decorated piece recovered from the site

The letter and number codes used for the non-figured types on the Central Gaulish material –such as B223, C281, etc are the ones created by Rogers (1974). The figured-types referred to as Os. *** are the ones illustrated by Felix Oswald in his Index of figure-types on terra sigillata (1936).

The Inventory Numbers (Inv. No.) quoted are taken from European intake of Roman Samian ceramics. <http://www2.rgzm.de/samian/home/frames.htm> .

Cat. no.1- (5002), one body sherd, Dr.37, Lezoux. The slip is extremely abraded and the decoration partial but the feet of Apollo Os.93 or more likely Os.581 are visible next to a beaded border. A number of potters are known for both figured types but *Cinnamus* ii is known for Os.581 (Inv. No. 0010700) and the border. Probably Antonine

Potter stamp

The following catalogue entry gives the excavation context number; potter's name (i, ii etc, where homonyms are involved); die form; form type, pottery of origin, a reference to published drawing (where available) and date.

Cat. no.2- (5241), *Martio* ii, 4a, Dr.33, Lezoux, Hartley, Dickinson 2009, 324, AD160-200

Class W – Whitewares

The level here is in line with rural sites. The fabric is probably a Mancetter-Hartshill product

W01 1%

W01/1 A flagon with a slightly cupped mouth and beaded tip c.f. Leary 1996 no 61 Flavian-Trajanic

W01/2 A cupped mouth flagon, possibly cf Gillam 1970 no 14.

Function and Fineware

Table 6 shows the functional breakdown of the entire site, jars overall are at 51% with dishes and bowls at 21% in line with the average for the M6 toll road sites and probably on the high end of rural site types (Evans 2001 Fig 4). Drinking vessels (beakers, cups and flagons occur at 11% by MNR and 7% by RE which is in line with the average suggested for the M6 toll road region (Leary 2008, fig 212) and seem in line with rural sites of the region. The absence

of tankards is expected this far north of the main distribution zone of SVW. There is a relatively high level of mortaria, no doubt due to the sites closeness to Mancetter.

Tables 7 and 8 shows the functional breakdown for the larger groups identified at the site by MNR and RE respectively. with the associated features from Round house 1 combined, and the eastern ditch groups combined. Whilst the numbers are small they do suggest some spatial component to deposition, with discard occurring close to where they were used a plausible explanation. The presence of beakers lids bowls and possible constricted necked jars around roundhouse 1 suggest a location where table display was important, as would be expected. Interestingly the mortaria occur highest at the agricultural ditches and pits but also in the eastern ditch and working hollows. The presence of flagon and cup in the working hollow makes a nice picture of someone having nearby refreshments for their work.

Table 6 Functional breakdown for whole site

	F	CJ	SJ	J	WMJ	BK	CUP	M	B	D	L	N
MNR	2.8%	1.4%	1.4%	47.2%	2.8%	6.9%	1.4%	12.5%	12.5%	8.3%	2.8%	70 rims
RE	1.6%	2.5%	0.8%	65.3%	4.1%	4.3%	0.7%	9.6%	6.7%	2.9%	1.4%	888%

Table 7 Functional breakdown by group by MNR

Group	F	CJ	SJ	J	WMJ	BK	CUP	M	B	D	L	N MNR
AD/P				20.0 %	10.0 %			40.0 %	30.0 %			10
RH1+features		5.6%		44.4 %	5.6%	16.7 %			16.7 %		11.1 %	18
East Ditch			11.1 %	55.6 %				11.1 %	11.1 %	11.1 %		9
WH	10.0 %			50.0 %			10.0 %	10.0 %	10.0 %	10.0 %		10

Table 8 Functional breakdown by RE

Group	F	CJ	SJ	J	WMJ	BK	CUP	M	B	D	L	NRE
AD/P				48.1 %	19.0 %			18.0 %	14.9 %			147.5
RH1+features		12.2 %		57.1 %	5.3%	10.1 %			7.4%		6.9%	187
east ditch			6.7%	65.4 %				14.4 %	7.7%	5.8%		104
WH	6.3%			70.3 %			5.4%	7.2%	8.1%	10.0 %		111

Other aspects

Sooting

There were an overall total of 9.6% sooted sherds. The break down by ware is shown in table 9. Unsurprisingly class B is the highest level of sooting, given the number of cooking vessels in this ware. The sooting levels on mortaria fit in the pattern for this class observed around roman Britain. The breakdown of sooting by group is shown in Table 10 with the highest levels associated with the working hollows and area of burning.

Table 9 Sooting by Ware Class

Class	No%	N
B	28.1	203
G	14.2	85
M	12.3	24
O	5.6	155
R	3.4	455

Table 10 Sooting by Area

Group	No%	N no
AD/P	11.60%	191
AOB	18.42%	76
ND	1.89%	53
NHED	2.40%	85
RH1	2.00%	50
RH1E	13.50%	52
RH6	2.63%	114
WD	7.69%	13
WH	20.97%	124

Cross joins

A single cross join was noted between B01/2 from (5325) and a rim sherd almost certainly from the same vessel in (5227) both in pit [5320]

Near complete vessels

Two near complete vessels were noted but these do not appear to be indicative of special deposits

Table 11 Near complete vessels

Group	Context	Publication Name	Context key	Feature	Fabric Code	NoSh	MNR	RE	BD	BE	Drawing	Part
ND	5381	B01/8	Ditch	5382	B01	1	1	8	19	7	48	Complete Profile
RH3	5390	F42/1	Gully		F42	11	0	0			52	Almost Complete Vessel

= dish

Discussion

There is a small component of late Iron age pottery, although their distribution suggests that most activity of this period was focused outside the excavation area to the north east.

Similarly, there is some Flavian to Trajanic material to suggest some activity during this period but again focused outside the main area of excavation. The round houses seem broadly contemporary dating to the mid-2nd century, although there is a suggestion that round house 1 was the earliest in the group. There seems to be a difference in the extent of 'romanisation'

associated with the different structures. Whilst the levels of deposition in the site decline after the late 2nd century there is enough early 3rd century pottery to suggest activity in this period, presumably after the excavated round houses had been abandoned. There is no evidence of any activity after **the late** 3rd century.

The settlement itself is of largely rural character **but benefiting from to the roman road for Black burnish ware supply** although the adoption of roman style display pottery seems to be uneven in the settlement. The location and sooting pattern on the mortaria suggest an interesting adaption of roman material culture and remind us that the use of mortaria are not fully understood in roman Britain (c.f. Cool 2006, 2004)

The site is located on the extreme edge of the Severn valley ware distribution and the Aylesford Swarling tradition wares. Main supply appears to be from derby, the North Warwickshire reduced ware industry and Mancetter-Hartshill, although some material from possibly Northampton and the Verulamium region is also represented. The presence of amphora, samian and continental colour coats show that the settlement, or at least individuals within it has access to the wider market of the roman empire and aspects of Romanising culture appropriate to a rural community.

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Appendix 1 Fabric Proportions

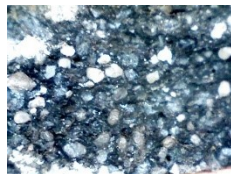
Fabric	No%	Wt%	MNR%	RE%	BE%
A01	0.3%	1.1%	0.0%	0.0%	
B01	19.9%	12.1%	22.2%	30.1%	4.1%
C11	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	
E12	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
E21	1.8%	8.2%	2.8%	6.0%	
F101	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
F42	1.6%	0.2%	1.4%	1.3%	5.1%

G38	6.3%	5.6%	5.6%	2.8%	3.7%
G38.1	2.1%	3.7%	2.8%	2.2%	10.2%
M13	2.4%	6.2%	12.5%	9.6%	6.1%
O01	1.9%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	
O02	2.3%	0.6%	1.4%	0.7%	
O03	0.9%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	
O11	5.5%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%	4.9%
O12	0.6%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	
O13	1.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	
O21	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
O31	0.9%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	
O32	2.0%	2.9%	2.8%	3.6%	
P11	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	
P21	2.0%	6.9%	2.8%	2.1%	
R01	16.7%	14.4%	8.3%	7.3%	27.1%
R02	7.5%	10.5%	2.8%	6.2%	12.7%
R11	9.0%	8.3%	9.7%	7.1%	10.5%
R12	3.2%	3.1%	5.6%	9.6%	
R13	1.3%	1.4%	2.8%	3.3%	2.7%
R14	0.7%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	
R15	1.7%	3.3%	2.8%	2.0%	5.8%
R16	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%
R21	3.3%	4.2%	1.4%	1.2%	5.5%
R32	1.0%	0.5%	1.4%	0.5%	
SAMCG	1.2%	0.9%	5.6%	2.1%	0.8%
SAMLG	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%		
SAMRZ	0.4%	0.2%	2.8%	0.7%	
SAMSG	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%		
W01	1.0%	0.7%	2.8%	1.6%	
N	1021	11786	72	920.5	904

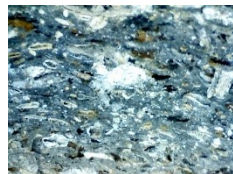
Appendix 2 Fabric Descriptions



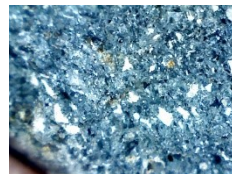
A01



B01



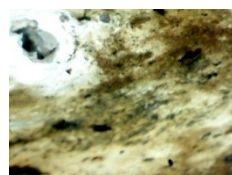
C11



E12



E21



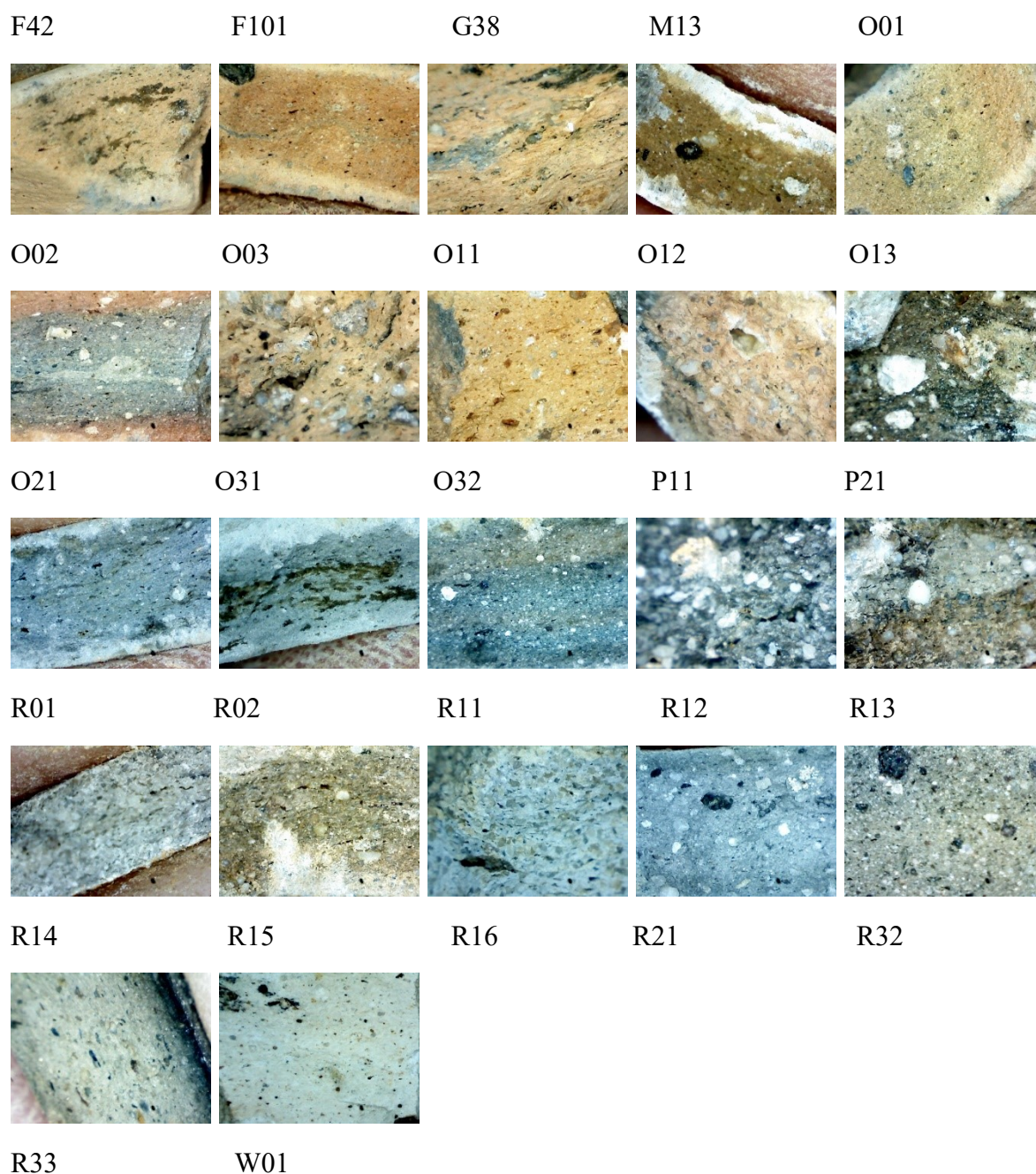


Figure 10 6mm cross sections of fresh breaks on fabric samples

A01, Dressel 20 Amphora fabric, Tomber and Dore 1998 BAT AM

B01m Dorset BB1 fabric Tomber and Dore 1998 DOR BB1

C11 A soft fabric with pale reddish yellow surfaces and a black core with abundant shell inclusions as
Warwickshire C41, Leary 2008 CTA1?

E12 A black hard fabric with a soapy feel and an irregular fracture. It has inclusions of common angular shell at
04mm with moderate grog at 0.3mm/ Leary 1997 GTA 2

E21 A pale red to brown fabric with grog at up to 0.5mm and sparse sand at 0.4mm. Leary 1997 GTA 3

F42 Cologne rough cast Colour coat Tomber and Dore 1998 KOL CC

F101 Central Gaulish black slip, Tomber and Dore 1998 CNG BS

G38 Derbyshire ware Tomber and Dore 1998 DER CO

G38.1 Derbyshire ware with reduced surfaces, Tomber and Dore 1998 DER CO

M13 Mancetter-Hartshill mortaria fabric, Tomber and Dore 1998 MAH WH

- O01 A hard oxidised fabric with a fine fracture and slightly sandy feel. It has inclusions of moderate fine lime at 0.1mm and some red brown iron stone at 0.2mm C.F Warwickshire O12, Mancetter-Hartshill oxidised ware.
- O02 An oxidised fabric with pale red surfaces and red core. It is hard with a slightly gritty feel. It has inclusions of reddish black iron streaks and fine sandy matrix Possibly Derbyshire oxidised fabric c.f. Leary 1997 DER OX
- O03 An oxidised fabric with reddish yellow surfaces and core. It is hard with a fine fracture and powdery feel It has very fine sand matrix with sparse fine voids and clay pellets at 0.1mm Severn Valley Ware as Warwickshire O29
- O11 This is a har oxidised fabric which has yellowish red surfaces and a red core. It has a sandy feel and irregular fracture. It has inclusions of occasional quartz at 0.3mm elongate voids up to 0.4mm and occasional red and black iron stone inclusions
- O12 This is a red fabric with a pale brown core. It is hard with a harsh feel. It has inclusions of sparse black iron stone at 0.5mm and sparse lime at 0.5mm and common fine silver mica SVW
- O13 This is a pale reddish yellow fabric whish is hard with an irregular fracture and sandy feel. It has inclusions of moderate clay pellets at 0.4mm and some black grits at 0.6mm. c.f. Warwickshire O26
- O21 This is an oxidised fabric with reed surfaces and a grey core. It has inclusion of common lime at 0.6mm and moderate sand at 0.1mm and moderate black iron stone at 0. 2mm. c,f, Warwickshire O25.
- O31 This is a red fabric which is hard with an irregular fracture and harsh feel. It has inclusion of common quartz at 0.5mm some red and black grits at 0.2mm possibly Derbyshire oxidised ware.
- O32 This is a red fabric with a pale grey red core with a fine fracture and slightly sandy feel it has inclusions of common red clay pellets at 0.4mm and some sad at 0.2mm Severn Valley Ware as Warwickshire O22
- P11 This is a handmade reduced fabric with black surfaces and a reddish yellow core. It has inclusions of common quartz at 0.5mm
- P21 This is a handmade reduced fabric with is dark brown to black in colour which is hard with an irregular fracture and harsh feel. It has inclusions of common coarse lime at 1.0mm and fine sand.
- R01 This is a greyware which is hard with a fine fracture and slightly sandy feel. It has inclusions of moderate quartz at 0.5mm and some black grits and fine voids ate 0.2mm c.f. NW Warwickshire grey ware Warwickshire R18
- R02 This is a greyware with common black ironstone and streaks of iron with sparse white quartz at 0.1mm
- R11 This is a dark grey fabric with common medium sand at 0.4mm with occasional white quartz at 0,6mm and black ironstone at 0.6mm
- R12 A black surface ware with abundant coarse sand inclusions c.f. Warwickshire R32
- R13 This is a grey ware with brown core, with a sandy feel and irregular fracture, it has inclusions of abundant rounded quart at 0.5mm with occasional brown inclusions Derbyshire reduced ware Leary 1997 DER RE 2
- R14 This is a pale grey ware with a sandy feel and an irregular fracture It has inclusions of abundant sand at 0.2mm
- R15 This is a grey ware with a brown core, it is hard with a sandy feel and an irregular fracture. It has inclusions of common rounded quartz at 0.3mm and common brown inclusion sat 0.6mm Derbyshire reduced ware Leary 1997 DER RE
- R16 This is a pale grey fabric with a white core It is hard with a very irregular fracture and a very sandy feel It has inclusion of abundant quartz at 0.4mm Possible Verulamium region product?
- R21 This is a greyware with moderate quartz at 0.5mm and white lime at 0.3mm and possible grog. NW Warwickshire greyware, Warwickshire fabric R34?
- R32 this is a black surface ware with a grey core it has common fine san with common white inclusion and possible grog NW Warwickshire greyware as an extreme outlier of Warwickshire R34
- W01 Mancetter whiteware, Tomber and Dore 1998 MAH WH.