

APPENDIX III

EAST HAM, MILK STREET 1996 HE-MS 96: FINDS SUMMARY

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1 Introduction

The finds are from two layers, 2 and 3, context 3 being the uppermost. One sherd is unstratified. Both contain mixed material with the predominant finds being Roman pottery. Initially the material was quantified for the bulk finds record by number and weight. For the primary ceramic archive (Study Group for Roman Pottery, 1993) the pottery was separated and recorded by fabric and form, and occasionally by vessel type (using the Essex form series with additions from other typologies where appropriate).

2 Nature of the assemblage

2.1 Quantity (Totals for all contexts)

Quantities of bulk finds comprise:

Burnt flint: 10 pieces (95g)

Daub: 18 fragments (342g)

Bone: 32+ fragments (185g) including one very small piece of burnt bone

Ceramic Building Material: 15 fragments (476g)

Briquetage: 1 fragment of a pedestal base (11g) in a chaff-tempered briquetage fabric and possibly a chaff-tempered rim.

Waterlogged wood: 1 fragment

Roman pottery: 225 sherds (2902g) (*plus a further 6 sherds (not weighed) found in the samples*)

Chaff-tempered fabric: 1 rim (2g). Possibly associated with the briquetage/industrial activity or early Saxon.

There is a generally similar range of material in each layer, though the larger and more varied assemblage is from context 2 (see the Bulk Finds Record).

2.2 Condition

In general the pottery and other finds are in good condition though there are some abraded sherds. There has been some staining from the deposits; this has mostly affected the whiter and buff fabrics, and possibly some of the lighter grey fabrics which will need clean breaks for closer identification.

3 Date Range

3.1 Context 2

The pottery from this layer where diagnostic could belong in the 2nd-late 4th century range, but the predominant emphasis is in the late 2nd to late 3rd centuries. It is likely that some of the late wares, being few and rare, such as the New Forest ware flagon fragment (NFRC) are at the beginning of their range (AD 270-360).

3.2 Context 3

This context appears to have a similar date range to the layer below (2) with 2nd-century Samian and a number of forms found from the mid-2nd century onwards.

Again the main emphasis seems to be in the late 2nd to late 3rd centuries.

This layer also contains a CAM 306 bowl a rare type in the London area and which is dated to the 4th century in Essex but has been found as early as AD180/220-230 in the City of London (Symonds and Tomber, 1992). It is the first time it has been recorded in North-east London.

Both layers have a few sherds of types which belong in the 4th century, but most of these have 3rd-century beginnings. Further work on later assemblages in the area should improve the knowledge of the date ranges specific to this part of London which may not always match those of the City or inner Essex.

4 Comments

The dating of the material reflects the dating of the fabrics and forms in Essex and London. Some fabrics and wares may appear earlier than their general distribution elsewhere, reflecting the geographical position in the Thames valley, close to the City and to the Lea valley, and the origin of this deposit.

The general aspect of these two collections of finds is of dumped rubbish, albeit quite good quality rubbish which from this limited range appears to have a similar date range in each.

This is an interesting assemblage with a number of 'firsts' for the area. The New Forest Slipped Ware (NFRS) will add another point to the distribution map and is interesting for being near the edge of its known range. The material from Milk Street should be compared with the assemblages from Chelmsford (as in Going, 1987) and the City of London (recently published in Symonds and Tomber, 1992).

5 Bibliography

- Going, C. 1987 *The Mansio and other sites in the south-eastern sector of Caesaromagus: the Roman Pottery* **CBA Res Rep 62** (1987).
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- Dore, J. and Tomber, R. 1996 'A "National Roman Fabric Reference Collection" ' *Britannia* **XXVII** (1996) 368-382.
- Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group AD 700-1700. 1993 *The Guidelines for the Preparation of Site Archives & Assessments for All Finds other than Fired Clay Vessels* (1993).
- Study Group for Roman Pottery 1993 *Proposed Agreed Minimum Archive Levels for Roman Pottery* (1993).
- Symonds, R. and Tomber, R. 1991 'Late Roman London: an assessment of the ceramic evidence from the City of London' *Trans London Middlesex Archaeol Soc* **42** (1991, published 1994) 59-99.
- Tyers, P. *Roman Pottery in Britain* (1996).

6 HE-MS 96 FINDS RECORD

6.1 BULK FINDS RECORD

The Bulk Finds are quantified by number and weight (grammes), with the following abbreviations:

BS = burnt stone CBM = ceramic building material - in this case all Roman

Context	BS	Daub	Bone	Roman Pot	Saxon Pot/ Briquetage	CBM	'Slag'	Other
2	8/81	12/302	26±/152	149/2024	1/2	11/327	1/74	Briquetage 1/11 Wood (wet) 1/*
3	2/14	6/40	6+/33	75/866	-	4/149	-	-
Unstratified	-	-	-	1/12	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	10/95g	18/342g	32+/185g	225/2902g	1/2	15/476g	1/74	

Briquetage 1/11g

Waterlogged Wood 1 (too wet to weigh)

6.2 PRIMARY CERAMIC ARCHIVE - CERAMIC DATING CATALOGUE

Context	No	Fabric	Form	Date Range/Comments	Condition	Work	Illus
UNSTRATIFIED U/S							
	1	CGSA	-	1st-2nd C Lezoux?	-	ID	N
LAYER 2							
2	1 rim	CGSA	Dr 37??	2nd C + wide date range	A	Y	N
2	2	CGSA	-	as above	A	Y	N
2	4	SA	-	2nd C + (frag Dr 18/31R?)	A	Y	N
2	1	COLN/RHN??	H	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	1	AMPH	P	ROMAN	A	Y	N
2	1	LVNCC	H	mid-2nd C +	-	Y	N
2	1	LVNCC?	-	mid-2nd C +	A	Y	N
2	2	WW	D	ROMAN badly stained	-	Y	N
2	2	WW	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	1 rim	WW/VRW	J	ROMAN ring-necked flagon	-	Y	Y
2	2	WCS	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	1 rim	BUF	C 2.2	Flavian to early 2nd C	-	Y	Y
2	1 rim	BUF	H?	ROMAN	A	Y	Y
2	1	BUF	-	ROMAN once slipped?	A	Y	N
2	1	PORD??	-	250+ stained sherd	A	Y	N
2	1	NFRC	J	270-360	-	Y	N

PRIMARY CERAMIC ARCHIVE - CERAMIC DATING CATALOGUE HE-MS 96

Context	No	Fabric	Form	Date Range/Comments	Condition	Work	Illus
LAYER 2							
2	1 rim	RED	E?	late 2nd +? broadly similar in fabric to CAM 306 bowl in layer (3)	-	Y	Y
2	3	RED	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	1	RED G	-	ROMAN odd fabric	A	Y	N
2	1 rim	RED G	B1.4/1	125+	-	Y	Y
2	2	RED/GRF	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	4	GRF/BUF	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	3	GRF	-	ROMAN local fabrics	-	Y	N
2	15	GRS/GRF	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	1 rim	GRS/GRF	B1	125 +	-	Y	Y
2	1 rim	GRS/GRF	B5	120+	-	Y	Y
2	3 rims	GRS/GRF	B6	250 +	-	Y	Y
2	6 rims	GRS/GRF	G	LATER ROMAN local fabrics	-	Y	Y
2	2	GRS/RED	STO	2nd C +	-	Y	N
2	2	GRS G/GROG	STO	2nd C +	-	Y	N
2	56	GRS	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	8 rims	GRS	-	2nd C+	-	Y	Y
2	1	RET?	B?	LATER ROMAN 2nd C+	-	Y	N
2	3	BB1	B	ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	4	LBS	-	LATER ROMAN	-	Y	N
2	2 rims	LBS	B	2nd C +	-	Y	Y
2	1 rim	LBS	B1	2nd C +	-	Y	Y
2	1 rim	LBS	G	2nd C +	-	Y	Y
2	2	LBS/HADS	-	LATER ROMAN	A	Y	N
2	1	LSH	-	especially 300+	-	Y	N
2	1	Q INDET	-	ROMAN	-	ID	N
2	1 rim	QCh	-	Briquetage? or early SAXON?A	-	Y	Y

LAYER 3

3	1 rim	CGSA	Dr 18/31?	2nd C +	A	Y	N
3	4	CGSA	-	2nd C +	A	Y	N
3	1 rim	SGSA	Dr 18 or 31	1st-2nd C	A	Y	N
3	1	SGSA	-	1st-2nd C	A	Y	N
3	1	LNVCC	H	mid-2nd C+	-	Y	N
3	4	WW/BUF	-	ROMAN stained by deposit?	-	Y	N
3	1	BUF	D	ROMAN stained by deposit?	-	Y	N
3	2	BUF	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
3	2	PORD/MAYEN	-	250+	-	Y	N
3	1	AMPH	P	ROMAN	A	Y	N
3	1	BUF/RED	J	ROMAN stained?	-	Y	N
3	2	BUF/GRF	-	ROMAN stained?	-	Y	N
3	1 rim	RED	C	CAM 306 4th C in Essex 180/220-230 in City	-	Y	Y

PRIMARY CERAMIC ARCHIVE - CERAMIC DATING CATALOGUE HE-MS 96

Context	No	Fabric	Form	Date Range/Comments	Condition	Work	Illus
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LAYER 3

3	1	RED	-	ROMAN stained?	-	Y	N
3	3	RED/GRS	-	ROMAN including rouletted sherd		Y	N
3	1 rim	RED/GRS	G	ROMAN very small	A	Y	N?
3	1	GRF	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
3	2 rims	GRF	B6	mid-2nd C +	-	Y	Y
3	6	GRS/GRF	-	ROMAN	-	Y	N
3	28	GRS	-	LATER ROMAN	-	Y	N
3	1 rim	GRS	B6	mid-2nd C+	-	Y	Y
3	1 rim	GRS	G	2nd C +? overfired?	-	Y	Y
3	1 rim	GRS	G	ROMAN	-	Y	Y
3	1 rim	GRS	G	early 2nd C?	-	Y	Y
3	1 rim	GRS	G	ROMAN	-	Y	Y
3	1 rim	GRS	G5.4/1	2nd to early/mid-3rd C	-	Y	Y
3	1 rim	GRS/RED	H or G	ROMAN	A	Y	Y?
3	2	GRS/RED	STO	2nd C +	-	Y	N
3	1	GRS/RET	B?	2nd C+	-	Y	N
3	1	LBS	-	LATER ROMAN B6/C?	-	Y	N
3	1	ESH	STO	1st-2nd C ROMAN	-	Y	N

The codes for the fabrics are the NMS Roman Fabric codes with the National Roman Fabric Reference Collection codes for traded wares used as their basic level, as in the 1993 proposed codes, with the addition of Q = quartz/quartzite sand, G = grog and Ch = grass or chaff.

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NOTE

Some further sherds were recovered during work on the samples, of which only six sherds 'were identifiable' (R. Symonds in the palaeoenvironmental report). These include 'Oxfordshire mortarium' (1), Highgate Wood (C) (4) and a sandy fabric (1). The date ranges for these, spanning AD50-400, effectively the entire Roman period, do not affect the dating already suggested for the site.

Some extra comments have been added as appropriate to the text.
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