

EXCAVATIONS AT A SAXO-NORMAN SETTLEMENT, BICKLEY, CLEEVE, 1982–89

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SUMMARY

After the find of a layer of stones with medieval pottery in 1981, an area of trenches was excavated to determine the nature of the discovery. This revealed part of a small, mainly 12th-century settlement. Two successive buildings, probably with walls of clay, timber, and wattle, were defined, the earlier 6.5 x 3.5m and the later 10 x 5m. The later building had the remains of an oven and hearth within and was probably a dwelling. The earlier may have been a stable or store. The occupation ceased at the steep slope to the south of the buildings but to the north there was evidence for cultivation possibly dating back to the 10th century. The evidence of large numbers of hones points to agricultural/woodland occupations for the inhabitants. Large amounts of pottery were recovered, enabling the site to be relatively closely dated, while the few metal objects included two copper alloy buckles and a unique iron stirrup.

INTRODUCTION

Bickley is a small estate on the south-west edge of King's Wood, Cleeve, North Somerset (Figs 1 and 2). The excavated site is at ST 4515 6505. The name is thought to be a reduction of Bickenley – Bica's clearing (Campbell 1997, 70). It is located on the south side of the A370 below a rising hill of Carboniferous Limestone at the south end of the village of Cleeve and east of Claverham. Cleeve was part of the civil parish of Yatton until 1949 although it had become a separate ecclesiastical parish in 1843. Yatton originally consisted of the four tithings of Yatton, Claverham, Wick, and Cleeve (Collinson 1791, 616). The geology of the parish, like many in north Somerset, is characteristically mixed. The local hills are of Carboniferous Limestone (Clifton Down Limestone), such as Cleeve Hill, from which Cleeve takes its name (= cliff). These hills are steep-sided and heavily wooded. To the north-west are Triassic marls and sandstones (Mercia Mudstone) and some Dolomitic Conglomerate. Part of Bickley is in King's Wood. The highest point in the wood is c. 130m above Ordnance Datum and some 80m higher than the site described here. The settlement in Cleeve is largely confined to the low-lying land on the route of the A370 on Mercia Mudstone.

'Bickley' consists of the two cottages known as Bickley and Bickley Cottage, some adjacent fields down to the A370 and a large area of King's Wood called Bickley Wood (Fig. 2; Campbell 1997, 70). It was described in the deeds of 1841 as Bickley Cottage, 'lately erected and built by

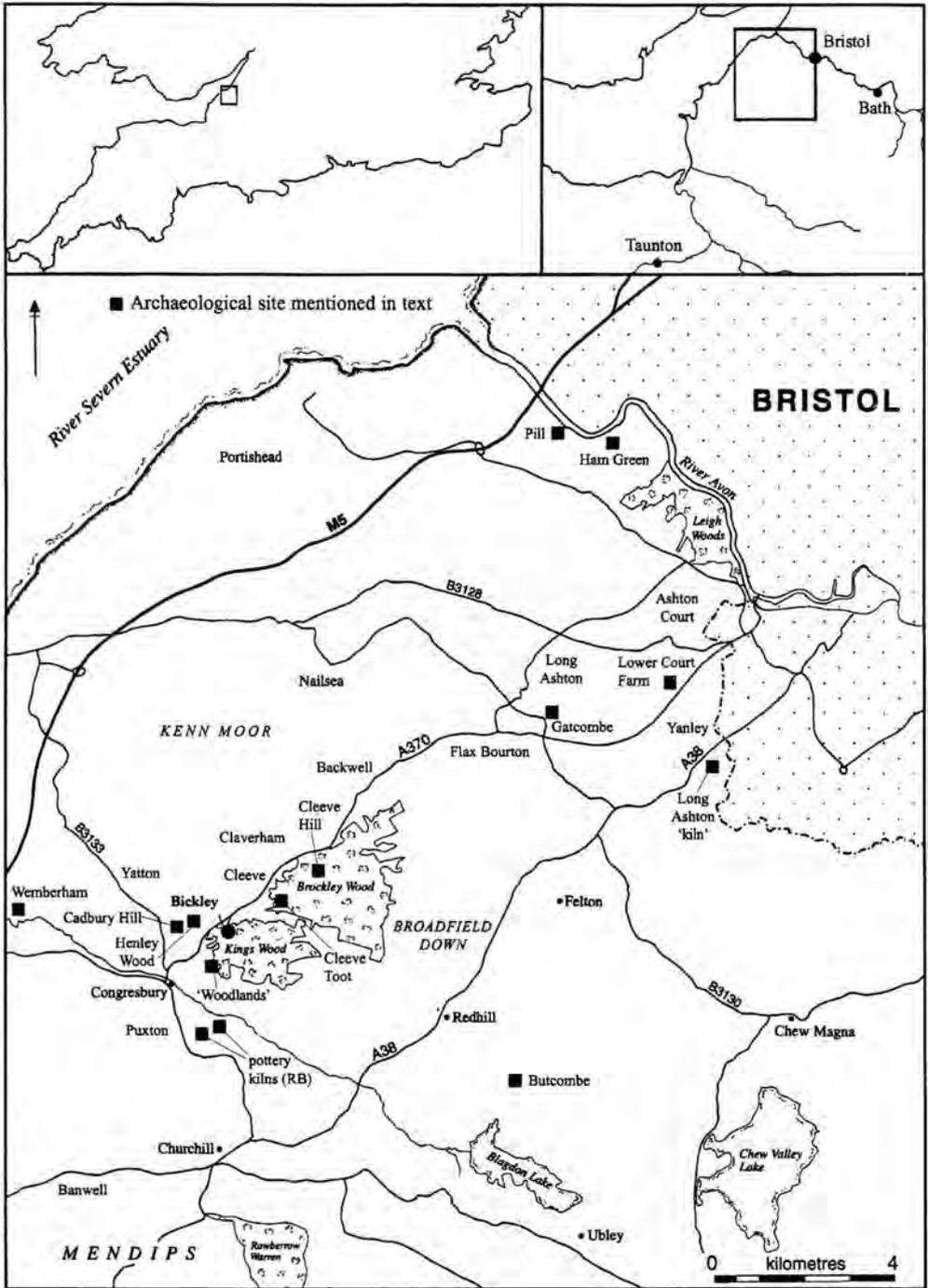


Fig. 1 Site location

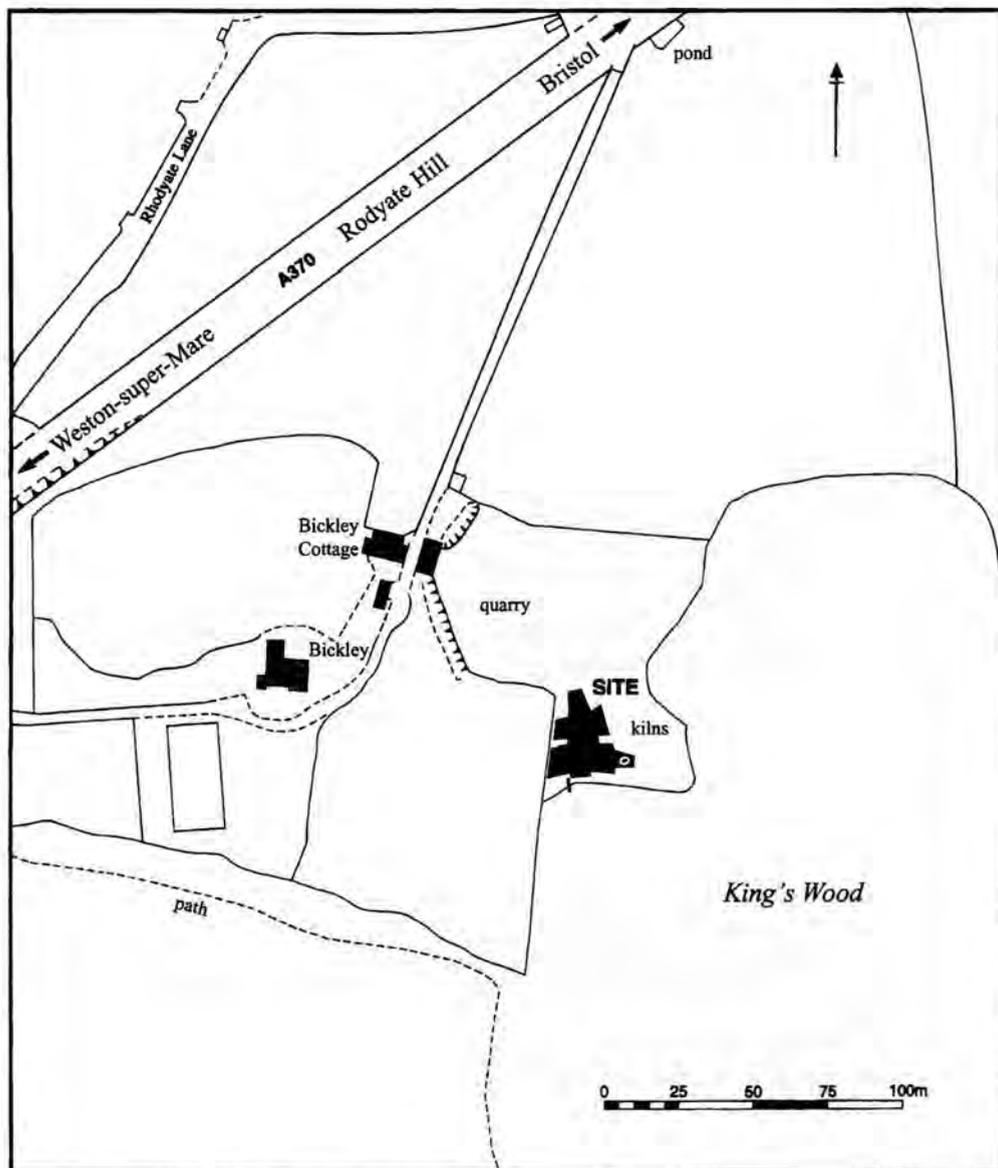


Fig. 2 Plan of Bickley and location of the excavations

the said Stephen Cox on the said piece or parcel of land called the Coppice', part of the Court de Wick Estate (Campbell 1997, 61, C8a). The east wing was added in the 1930s (Fig. 3). The present Bickley Cottage is in an old quarry and according to the deeds was originally the stable and coachhouse (Campbell 1997, 61, C8b). The hachures in Figure 2 indicate the eastern quarry face which follows the hill around to the excavation. The estate is presently owned by Mrs Mary Campbell and Dr Suzanne Clarke.

In 1981 David Dawson and Oliver Kent founded the Bickley Ceramics Project. The aims of the project were to construct and fire a replica medieval pottery kiln and to research

the processes involved (Dawson and Kent 1984; 1985; 1987; 1999). The project members came from Bristol Polytechnic, Bristol Museum, Bristol and Avon Archaeological Research Group, and people interested in experimental kilns. The site chosen for the work was the somewhat overgrown orchard of the estate. This lies above the house at the edge of the wood (Fig. 2). Mrs Campbell and Dr Clarke readily agreed to a project that would utilise a great deal of the fallen and decayed timber both in the orchard and in the wood. This in itself would replicate aspects of the woodland management necessary to run both the woods and medieval kilns.

One of the research ideas was to test the local clays for their suitability for making pots and also to provide material for kiln construction. Ironically, the first pit met stone at a high level and sherds of medieval pottery similar to that proposed for replication! An enthusiastic archaeologist, Mrs Campbell then set about cleaning the stones to see if there was any recognisable structure. The rubbly nature of the stones suggested the presence of medieval buildings. These were not suspected as there was no surface evidence for settlement. The outcome was that the author, then Field Archaeologist at Bristol City Museum, agreed that a suitable approach to attempting to understand the site was to organise a training excavation in conjunction with the pottery project and Bristol and Avon Archaeological Society. With the kind co-operation of the owners, from 1982–89 annual excavations were held in the last week in July and first two weeks in August. Trainees were drawn mainly from BAAS and local schools. In 1990 the time was spent carrying out some post-excavation work on site, particularly on the pottery and other finds. The experimental kiln project took place (and continues to do so) in the second two weeks and the two projects provided an interesting juxtaposition of training in archaeological studies, available to all who came to Bickley.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT AIMS AND STRATEGIES

The aims in fact evolved over several years, depending on new questions suggested by previous results. The relative success of the first year's work encouraged our return in later years. Among the aims were:

- 1 To elucidate the nature of the medieval settlement, its size, scale, status and date,
- 2 To provide an opportunity for beginners to learn how to excavate,
- 3 To obtain a dataset of material from a rural site to compare with urban sites in Bristol,
- 4 To obtain a coherent plan of the site in terms of complete structures, particularly buildings,
- 5 To place the findings in context locally and nationally and to publish the results,
- 6 To pass on a paper and artefact (and lately digital) archive to Weston-super-Mare Museum as requested by the site owners.

SYSTEM OF EXCAVATED AREAS

The site developed organically year by year (Figs 3 and 4). The principal aim was to open up only what could be dealt with in three weeks, given the vagaries of the weather. The excavations came to an end in 1989 by which time a satisfactory area had been completed and plans of complete structures obtained. It fell to the author to ensure continuity and the maintenance and evolution of the threads of ideas about the nature of the site.

Due to these evolving theories, areas excavated were designed to look at ongoing or developing problems. The work moved from north to south and then east and west as the shape of the buildings became apparent. The new areas were called by the relevant year and when there were two extensions, they were termed A and B.



Fig. 3 General view of the excavation and the main house at Bickley in 1987; view west

RECORDING SYSTEM

The system used a conventional metric grid that had the hedge-line as an initial baseline. The contexts were each given a two-letter code from AA to ZZ, the last recorded being XH. The letter I was omitted generally to avoid confusion, although both O and Q were used. Initially the contexts were recorded as single-line entries on pro-formas but from 1986 single-context sheets were used. Features were also recorded separately from F1 onwards. The features were regarded as the 'cuts' and were 'filled' with contexts. There was some duplication of feature numbering (e.g. F3/F38) which usually occurred after a winter's weathering and re-establishment of the grid or before features were recognised as being the same.

Drawing was done in three dimensions mostly by the students at a scale of 1:20 for plans and 1:10 or 1:20 for sections. The site was regularly levelled, again by the students. Photographs were taken by the author in colour slide and monochrome formats with single-lens reflex cameras.

Finds were recorded by context and, in the case of flint, stone, metal, and some pottery, as special finds with consecutive numbers from 1–303. Modern finds of whatever material were bagged according to context rather than material.

SITE ARCHIVE

The archive, whether paper, digital, or finds, has been prepared for deposition with Weston-super-Mare Museum under the accession number 190/1982 which was given in the 1980s. It was thought best to retain this reference during the post-excavation process, not least because everything had already been marked with these details. It has now been re-registered as WESTM:1996.229. The material has been kindly donated by Mrs Mary Campbell and Dr Suzanne Clarke.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Some prehistoric material has been found in Yatton and Cleeve. This includes flint found in Bickley Wood in the 1930s (Campbell 1997, 74, C128) and on an allotment in Meeting House Lane (C423, ST 4565 6590). The Iron Age is well represented in the parish by Cleeve Toot Camp and the possible adjacent field system, north of the limestone outcrop known as Cleeve



Fig. 4 Plan of trenches with dates of excavation

Toot (Fig. 1; ST 4626 6570 and ST 463 656; Campbell 1997, 69, C152). Cleeve Hill Camp is a univallate hillslope enclosure with nearby banks and ditches (Fig. 1; ST 4631 6588; Campbell 1997, 69, C153). Technically in Congresbury, as the parish boundary runs along the bottom of the north side, Cadbury Hill Camp is an Iron Age hillfort that is multivallate on the north-east and dominates the local topography (Fig. 1; Rahtz *et al.* 1992). It is thought that prehistoric enclosures and potential house platforms in King's Wood may have been associated with the defenders of these forts. Other Iron Age material in the area has been illustrated (Fowler *et al.* 1970, fig. 10).

Most recent work in the area has taken place in the alluvial flats (moors) to the north and west (*see below*; Rippon 1997b). Roman occupation in Cleeve is indicated by surface finds of pottery sherds and finds north of Cleeve House, Meeting House Lane and at Stallard's Batch, next to and north-east of Channel View Farm, east of Bickley (Fig. 5; Campbell 1997, 73, C167, ST 4572 6621; *ibid.*, 74, C504, ST 4561 6535). A site at Woodlands thought to be a villa is unproven (Fig. 1; Watts and Leach 1996, 5; Branigan 1976, 124). A villa to the west at Wemberham, Yatton, on the banks of the river Kenn would have absorbed some of the surrounding land into its estate, including the marsh and the higher ground to the east (Fig 1; Haverfield 1906, 306–7). About 9km to the north-east is the late Roman settlement at Gatcombe (Fig. 1; Branigan 1977). Of some significance for the social and religious order of late Roman north Somerset is the Romano-Celtic temple and cemetery at Henley Wood (Fig 1; Watts and Leach 1996). This may have coincided in part with the Roman and post-Roman use of Cadbury Hill (Rahtz *et al.* 1992).

Recent work in the adjacent moor or levels has shown significant settlement of the alluvial flats in the Roman period and has moved on the debate since the early 1980s (Burrow 1981,

12). Much of what is now known about the local archaeology has come quite recently from the results of the North Somerset Levels Project which was started in 1993 by Stephen Rippon (Rippon 1994; 1995; 1996a; 1996b; 1997a; 1997b; 1998; 1999; 2000). This has shown that settlement extended from the hills down to the coast and utilised the whole landscape, just as in later times. The alluvial settlement balances the upland story as told in long-lived prehistoric and Roman sites such as Butcombe (Fowler 1968; Fig. 1).

To the west, the upland limestone on Broadfield Down was also cultivated in the Roman period and probably extended to the hills above Bickley (Fowler 1978). Resources seem to have been maintained in a relatively continuous way since the Iron Age combining low-lying and upland landscapes and economies. The parishes of Yatton, Congresbury, and Puxton almost fit a Thiessen polygon centred on Iron Age and Roman Cadbury which includes settlements at Puxton, Yatton, Congresbury, Claverham, Cleeve, Brockley, Chelvey, and (marginally) Wrington as they existed in *c.* 1066 (Burrow 1982). The known pottery kilns on Venus Street, Congresbury, were supplying the local market with characteristic grey and oxidised wares (Fig. 1; Usher and Lilly 1964).

Data is minimal for the next few centuries. St Congar is reputedly the founder of Congresbury although the connection has had to be backdated from the 10th–11th century (Rollason 1978, 64–5; Watts and Leach 1996, 5). Congresbury was later the site of a Saxon minster given by Alfred to Asser (Radford 1961–2, 35, 41; Watts and Leach 1996, 5). This may be of some significance with reference to the present site. By Domesday, most of the inundated area had been recolonised (Rippon 1996a; 1996b). Locally, the late Saxon period is recognised by mentions in Domesday Book of John the Dane who held the manor of Yatton before the Conquest (Collinson 1791, 616ff). There was also a pre-Conquest church at Yatton. The manor of Yatton continued in church hands until the time of Queen Mary when Bishop Gilbert Bourne gave it up to the Crown in exchange for other estates. Elizabeth granted it to Richard Lewkenor, sergeant at law, and others who sold it to Sir Nicholas Stalling, knight. He married the widow of Christopher Kenn of Kenn. The manor was settled on them, coming eventually to John, Lord Poulett of Hinton St George. It remained with that family until about 1815–20 (Campbell 1988, v).

The manor of Claverham (Cliveham at the Conquest) was held by Geoffrey, bishop of Coutances (Collinson 1791, 616ff). In the time of Henry II and Edward I the manor was held by the Sores of Backwell and then came to the family of Rodney, being held by knight's service of the honour of Gloucester. The manor came to the Capels and then to Mr Seymour of Backwell, Samuel Devonshire Wilmour, and Mr Peters of Bristol. There was a free chapel endowed with lands, advowson always belonging to the lords of the manor. It stood near the old court or manor house. Parts of Cleeve came under the manor of Week. Many details of the leases are to be found in the Poulett papers. These show that the village consisted of scattered farms with cottages and adjacent arable but was largely meadow and orchards (Campbell 1988, vi). There are also mentions of limekilns and quarries and assarting from the hillslopes behind.

Court de Wick was named from the parish of Wick St Lawrence, which lay west of Wemberham. The Court was known from at least the reign of Henry III (Collinson 1791, 616ff). A boundary of the estate is thought to have run down the south side of the excavated site against the wood. Thomas de Wick held two knight's fees of Robert Bishop of Bath. John de Wighe held it in the reign of John, whose descendant John was commander in the army of Edward I against the Scots. Another John granted to John de Edyndon senior, and his heirs the manor of Wyke with lands and tenements in Clewer and Stanton Drew, reverting after the death of his mother Egelina (*Cal. Close Rolls*, 30 Edward III, 1356). Egelina married Sir Robert de Gyene who in her right held this manor and that of Norton-Hautville. He was succeeded by his brother John. His son Robert was a clerk and last of the family to hold the estate. It came to the family of Cheddar and then the Newtons, who built the standing house on the site of one of the previous

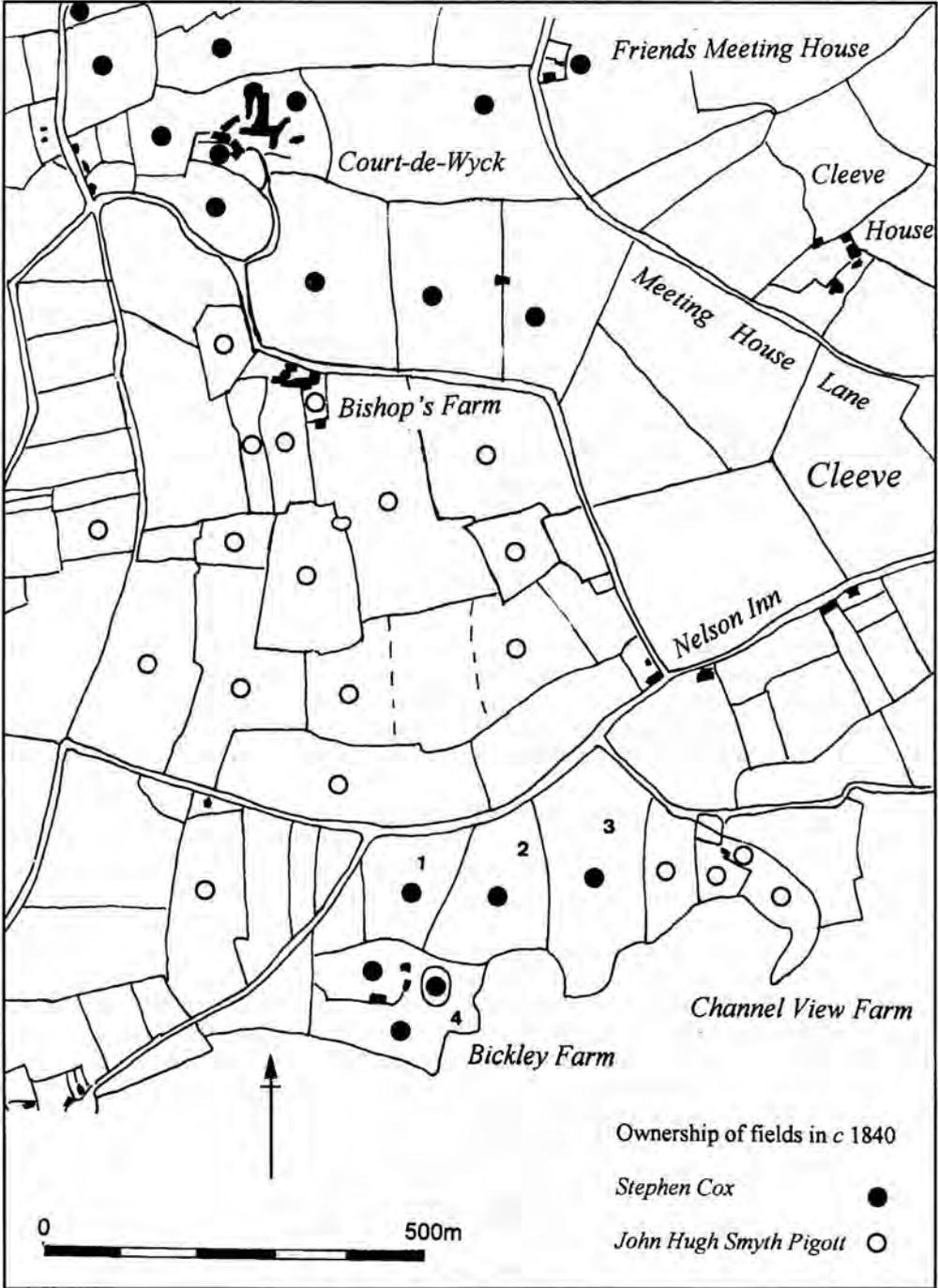


Fig. 5 Plan of the remnants of Court de Wick c. 1840

houses. The Pouletts eventually acquired it. The ruins were on the road between Brockley and Congresbury (Fig. 5) and are described by Collinson (1791, 618). Cleeve Court, built by the Revd T. S. Biddulph *c.* 1820 contains fragments from the demolished Court including the 12th-century chapel doorway, two windows, two holy-water stoups, and the Poulett coat of arms on the bread oven (Campbell 1997, 60, C3). Also within Yatton manor were the hamlet called Hewish and the manor of Ham and Wemberham towards Kenn. The church of St Mary, Yatton, was a prebend of Wells Cathedral. Much land in Cleeve was held by the Smyth Pigotts of Brockley and T.S. Biddulph.

The possible area of the Court de Wick estate in the 19th century is shown in Figure 5, a plan derived from the 1888 Ordnance Survey 1:10560 plan and the tithe map. Of interest is the fact that Stephen Cox owns both Bickley Farm and Court de Wick, probably as a remnant of a pre-existing manorial holding. The intervening land is largely held by Smyth Pigott. The unity of the Bickley holding is emphasised by the tithe award field names of Hither, Middle and Farther Bickley (Fig. 5, 1–3). In 1799 Hither and Middle were together called Inner Bickley, and Farther Bickley was called Outer Bickley. The farm buildings were erected *c.* 1840. The field to the south (and that containing the site) is called Old Croft (Fig. 5, 4) but this must refer to a relatively recent occupation rather than that excavated.

The remains of Court de Wick were being used as a tannery in 1888, according to the OS plan, and there is a large additional building to the north (Fig. 5). Other important holdings include the Friends Meeting House, also on Cox land, Bishop's Farm, and Channel View Farm. The latter contains the remains of a cruck longhouse (Campbell 1997, 61, C9a).

SITE CHRONOLOGY

The dating of the site is based on artefactual data (since historical evidence is not available) as follows, with dating evidence indicated:

<i>Period 1</i>	Prehistoric: swallet and flints of Mesolithic to Bronze Age date
<i>Period 2</i>	Roman: a few sherds of abraded Roman pottery were found in medieval and later contexts
<i>Period 3</i>	10th–11th century: presence of aceramic linear gullies and elsewhere pottery similar to that found at Cheddar Palaces from the 10th to the 11th century
<i>Period 4.1</i>	Earlier 12th century: Building 1 and possible field wall – pottery
<i>Period 4.2</i>	Mid-12th century: Building 1 demolished, Building 2 constructed, swallet walled off – field wall in decay – pottery
<i>Period 4.3</i>	Later 12th century: quarry features cut, drain, pits – no pottery later than <i>c.</i> 1200
<i>Period 5</i>	<i>c.</i> 1200 to present: construction of boundary to Court de Wick (18th or 19th century), abandonment, lack of features of the intervening period – modern finds such as beer bottles, cinder and pottery

THE EXCAVATIONS

The trenches are shown in Figure 4. The excavated features are shown in the period plans (Figs 6–9). The contexts are grouped together in a broad stratigraphic matrix as groups of associated or broadly contemporary contexts (context groups = CG). A full list is in archive. The illustrated finds are cross-referenced to the CGs. A list of features with measurements and levels is also in archive. A detailed description of the excavation of the various trenches is in archive. Here the results are described in period terms. For descriptions of the pottery types see the pottery report.

PERIOD 1 PREHISTORIC

The earliest feature is not man-made but was used by man. The swallet (F3/F38; Fig. 6) was identified from the smoothness of its edges although no attempt could be made to excavate it as a geological feature. It was at least 6m in diameter and was excavated to a depth of about 1m towards the centre. Its main use for rubbish disposal is probably contemporary with the later building (period 4.2 below).

The earliest evidence for anthropogenic activity is the large number of flints which are technically residual since they come from medieval and later deposits (*see* flint report). The datable material belongs mainly to the Neolithic and Bronze Age but a microlith and three microblades suggest an earlier presence. There is no obvious evidence for medieval reuse and it seems most likely that the flints are a component of the soil or were gathered as curiosities.

Although to the east of the site there are a number of undated visible earthworks in the wood, there is as yet no direct evidence for Iron Age occupation in the vicinity. The presence of the nearby hillforts would surely have encouraged agricultural activity nearby (Rahtz *et al.* 1992). The only possible Iron Age find is the perforated antler (*see* animal bone report).

PERIOD 2 ROMAN

A few Roman pottery sherds (Table 1) are no more than would be expected from any local archaeological site. The Roman occupation on Cadbury Hill and Henley Wood has been noted in the introduction (Rahtz *et al.* 1992; Watts and Leach 1996). The late Roman kilns in Congresbury certainly supplied the former (Rahtz *et al.* 1992) although the sherds from Bickley are probably too early to have come from there.

PERIOD 3 ?NINTH TO 11TH CENTURY

The earliest features excavated were the linear gullies F12–F16 and F21 (CGs 30 and 54) in Trenches 1983, 1986A, and 1987A (Fig. 6; Fig. 10, section 1, layer 6; Fig. 11) with their characteristic yellow-brown silty fill. They varied in size and shape from 0.4–1.65m in width and 0.15–0.4m in depth. Flat-bottomed or round-bottomed, the cuts and undercuts of the gullies go obliquely into the clay from east to west and appear to show that the trenches were dug facing west. Their irregularity suggested that they were cut without being seen as spade-cut cultivation trenches. The gullies were completely void of finds apart from three flints, a sherd of type 4 from the top edge of F14 and one of type 8 from the top edge of F13 (CG 30). A soil sample of F15 produced no molluscs or identifiable organic remains. Most striking was the almost complete lack of flints within the gullies although extensively excavated. The gullies extended below F84 and F62 (below). They were not geological as they had clearly been dug into the Mercia Mudstone in an organised way.

The gullies are thought to be horticultural – dug to deepen and aerate the soil and so encourage plant growth. Although if this were the case it would be expected that there would have been more finds in the fills, it is possible that if the topsoil had been set aside and replaced after the trench had been dug (often termed ‘double digging’) the fills of the gullies might have been little disturbed by later activity. The two 12th-century sherds found at the top edges of the fills were in just the place to have been deposited by cultivation of the layer above. A sherd of type 10 or a related type was found in the gritty NY (junction of F13 with natural) and could date to the 11th century or earlier (CG 32; Fig. 6).

To the north-west, F59 and F60 cannot be stratigraphically separated from the gullies. F60 was thought to be a posthole and may represent a marker or fence post at the end or edge of the gullies and F59 a related feature. F60 contained sherds of types 14 and 18 and F59 of type 18 suggesting a pre-Conquest date.

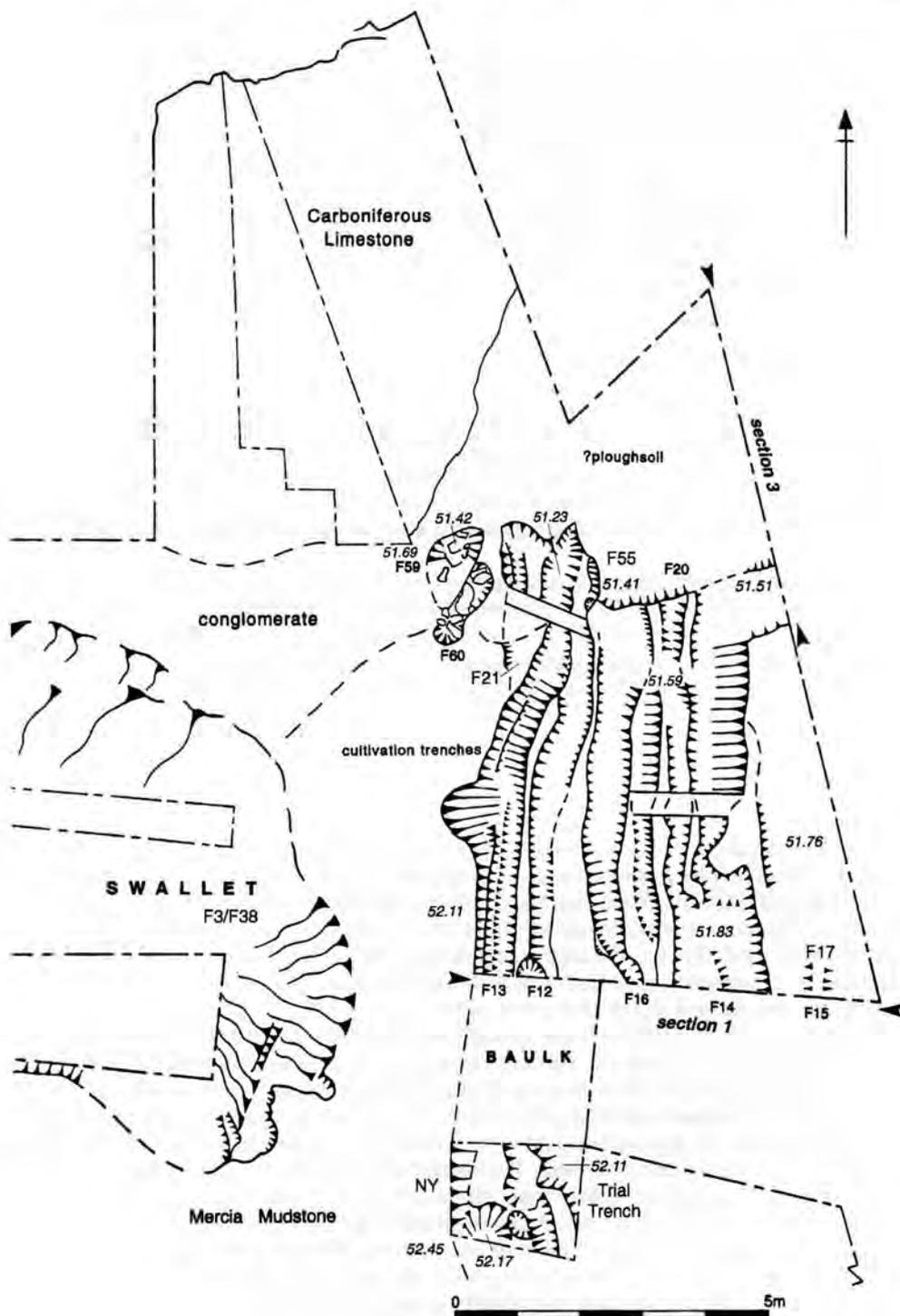


Fig. 6 Site plan: Periods 1-3; scale as shown

Such gullies or cultivation trenches have been found at Faversham Abbey where they are post-medieval (Philp 1968). Other mostly post-medieval examples have been frequently found in garden excavations in Bristol and nearby at Westbury College (excavated by the author 1970; Ponsford 1981) and recently at Bowhill, Exeter (Blaylock forthcoming, fig. 4.23). That they seem to also date from late Saxon times shows that the technique was appreciated at the time and that settlement had begun at Bickley well before the main occupation of the excavated area.

Of some importance is the occurrence of the distinctive late Saxon pottery type 7 which is the same form as Cheddar B ware (Rahtz 1979). While apparently residual at Bickley, it is likely to have been contemporary with the cultivation trenches. Type 18 is thought to be similar in date and style to type 7 except that it has calcareous inclusions. As significant is the late 11th-century type 10 and the single sherd of late Saxon type 36. Types 11, 14, 26 and 27 may also be pre-Conquest in origin.

PERIOD 4 TWELFTH CENTURY

The features assigned to this period are dated according to the criteria for dating the pottery. None of the pottery need be later than *c.* 1200. A period of at least 50 years could be estimated for the buildings described, since there is some evidence for slight structural changes within them. This in turn suggests that there are buildings elsewhere to account for the earlier finds. Three phases are suggested for the structures, based largely on pottery dating and stratigraphy where possible:

- 1 *Earlier 12th century?*: F20 and commencement (or continuation) of soil sequence to the north, 'garden' commences; Building 1 and external features constructed F68/F77/F96, F78/F92, F79, F81, F82, F101, F138 (Fig. 7).
- 2 *Mid-12th century?*: Building 2 construction, F5, F7, F19/22, F20 starts to erode, F47, F49, F51/F61, F52/F56, F84, F38 filling commences (Fig. 8).
- 3 *Later 12th century?*: F1, F2, F4, F30, F31, F36, F37, F44, F45, F53, F64, F74, F75 and F112, F106, F118, F121 (Fig. 9).

THE FIELD AND FIELD BOUNDARIES

Over the north ends of the cultivation trenches and F59 and F60 a shallow east-west foundation trench (F55) was cut for a drystone wall made of local conglomerate (Fig. 7; F20, Phase 1). The rather charcoally fill of the foundation trench, which is unlikely to have been disturbed, contained pottery of probable earlier 12th-century date (CG 25 contains type 1). The upper layers of the trench (CGs 23 and 24) were of similar date with sherds of late Saxon wares occurring residually throughout the sequence associated with F20 and also later Ham Green ware, which merely emphasises the decayed and eroded nature of F20.

To the north of F20, between it and the carboniferous limestone outcrop, the soil sequence began with the curious layer CG 22. This consisted of small rounded limestone pebbles but these are not thought to be other than natural (Fig. 10, section 3, on natural mudstone, layer 5). The sequence continued with CGs 19-21 (Fig. 10, section 3, layer 4). These were largely maroon clay, charcoal and eroded slabs up to 250mm long eroded from F20, layers probably contemporary with the life of the wall. The latest sherd was one of a Ham Green type 3B jug from CG21. CG 22 contained earlier sherds, particularly types 18 and 13 and could have preceded the construction of F20. It also contained a fragment of quernstone and a hone (Fig. 32, 2 and Fig. 33, 11). The further erosion of the wall with its stone slabs (CGs 6, 18, 60 and 61; Fig. 10, section 3, layer 3, red-brown loam below topsoil 2 and spoil heap 1) also contained Ham Green type 3A and 3B sherds. There were no glazed jug sherds in the robber trench above (F18, CG 17) cut into F20 (Fig. 9).

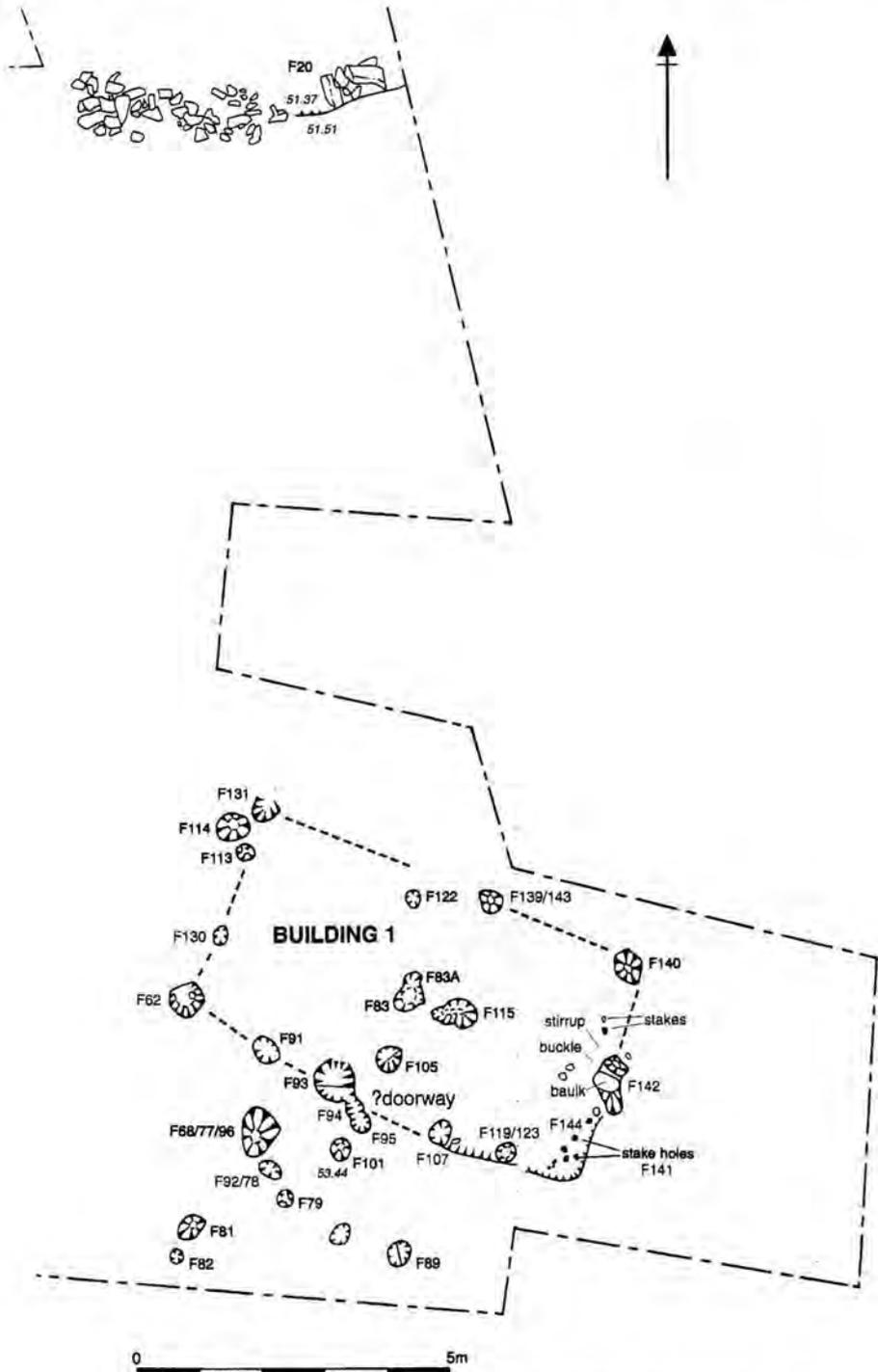


Fig. 7 Site plan: Period 4.1 – earlier 12th century; scale as shown.

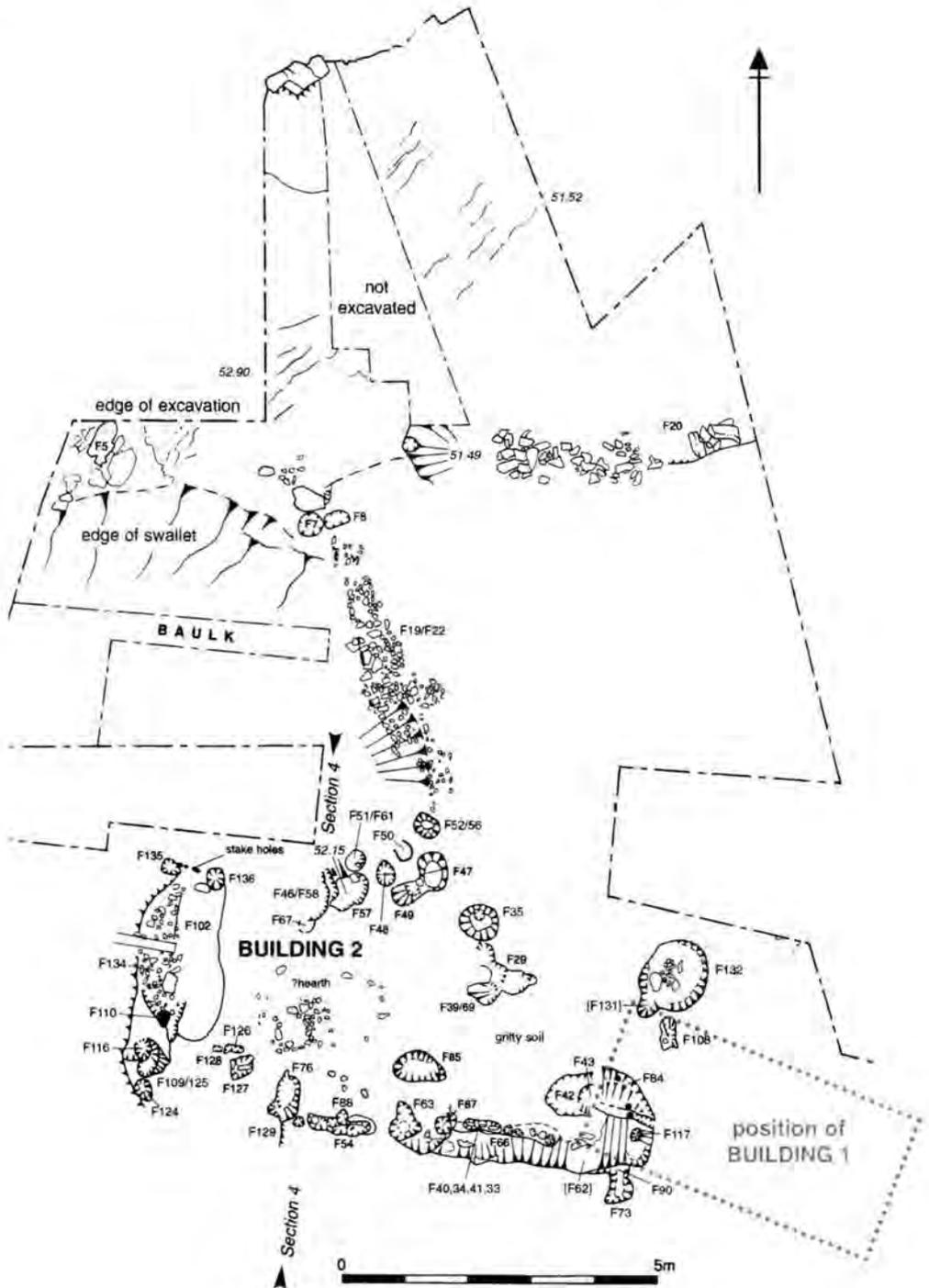


Fig. 8 Site plan: Period 4.2 – mid 12th-century; scale as shown

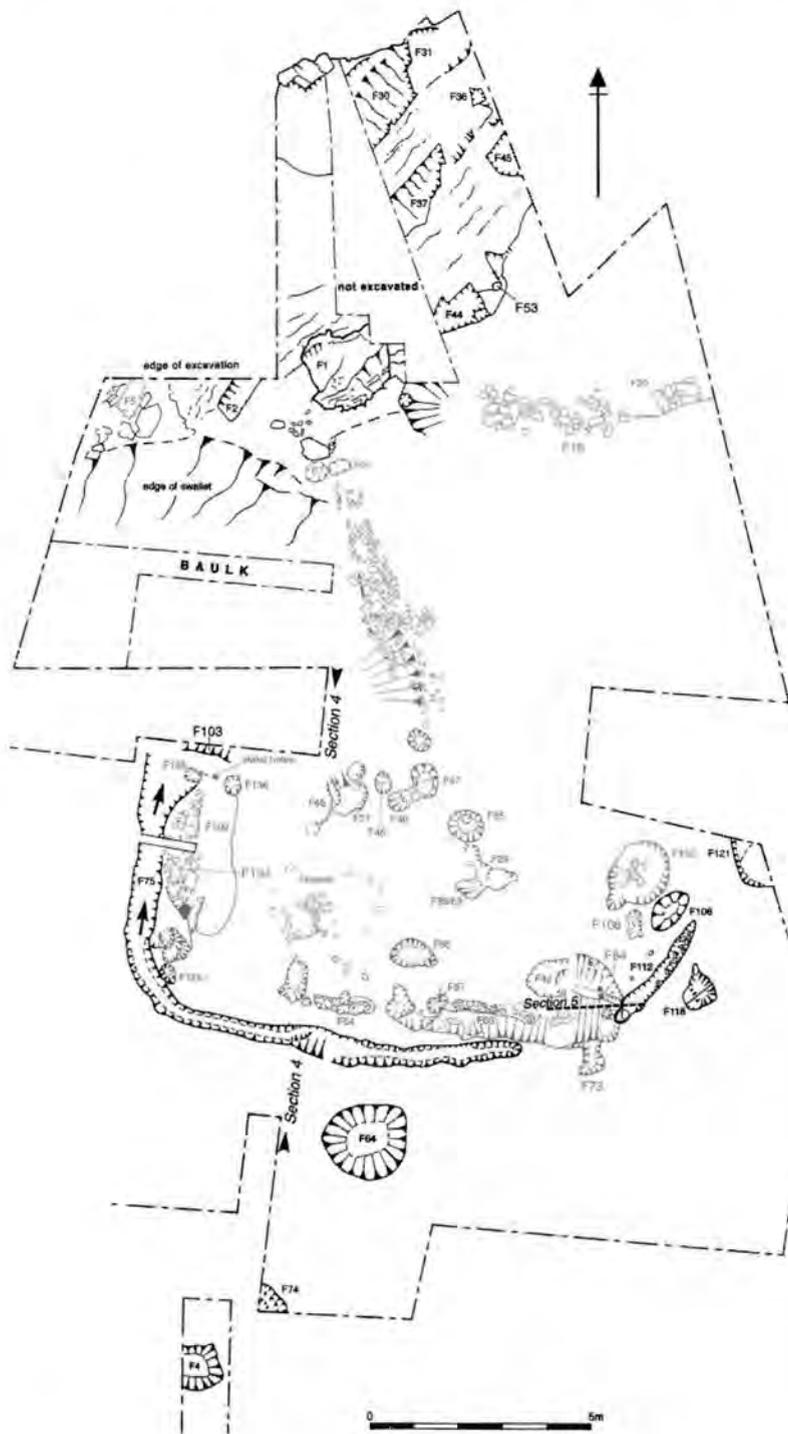


Fig. 9 Site plan: Period 4.3 – later 12th century; scale as shown

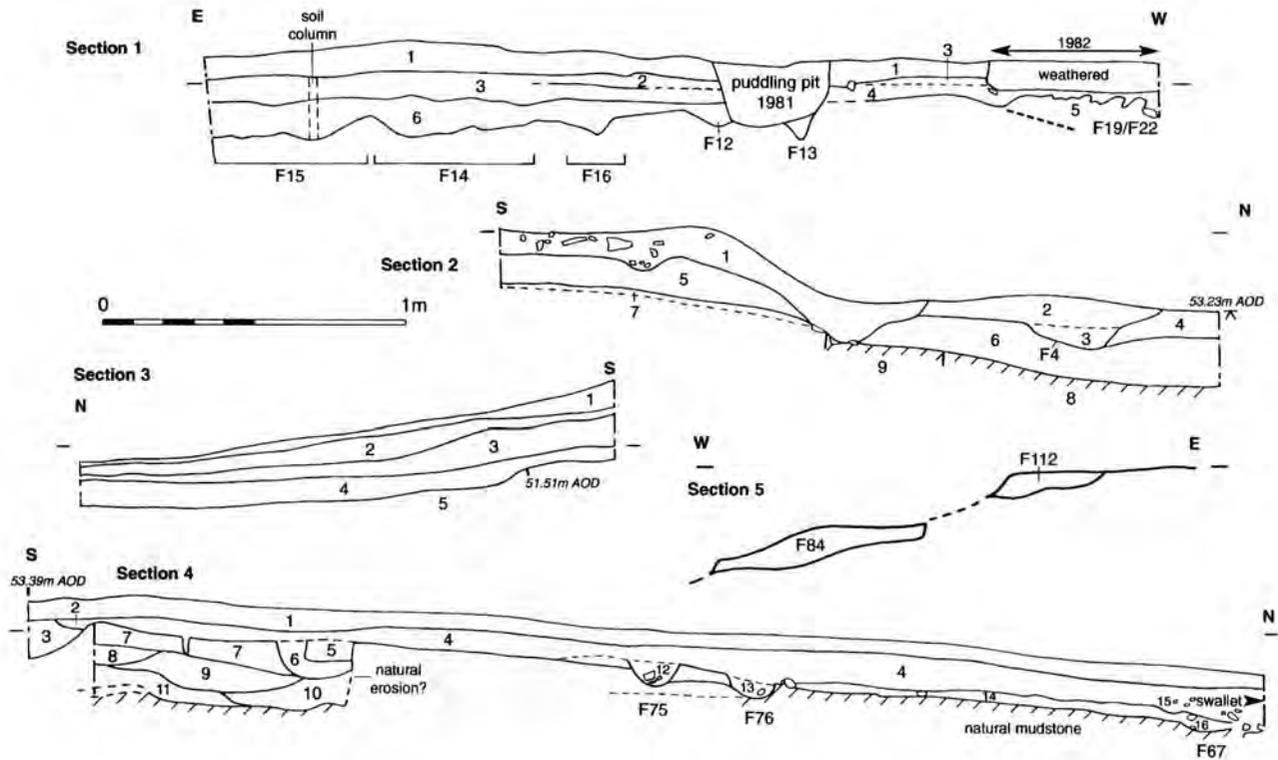


Fig. 10 Sections 1–5; scale 1:25



Fig. 11 The Period 3 linear gullies; view west

To the north of F20 the soils lay against and over the natural Carboniferous Limestone and some red soil (CG62; Fig. 12). Several features cut into the rock in trenches 1982 and 1984B have been assigned to period 4.3 (Fig. 9) for the reason that they could not be shown to be contemporary with the construction of Building 2 nor was a secure relationship to the cultivation soils established. Features F44 and F45 were possible postholes while F30, F31, F36, F37, and F53 were probably small quarry holes (CGs 55, 57 and 59). F44 and F45 may have represented a fence-line going north from F20 but this is unconvincing. F45 contained a sherd of Ham Green 3A jug. F30 and F31 (CG 55) are further quarry features but possibly later and probably cutting CG 56, the red soil overlying rock. The latest pottery from CG55 was type 3A. It was thought that as the soil on each side of the trench 1984B was different (CG 58), a north–south wall-line was perpetuated in the change, emphasised by F44 and F37 but this again is tentative.



Fig. 12 The 1982 extension trench showing rock strata



Fig. 13 Rock-cut pit F1; view south

Between F7 and the west end of F20 there was a gap that could be interpreted as a gateway or access. As a substantial rock-cut pit (F1, CG 7; Fig. 13) was found at that point measuring *c.* 1.8m square and 0.89m deep (F1; Fig. 9), it is suggested that when this was excavated, F20 no longer stood and had fallen onto the adjacent 'field'. The finds in F1 included a sherd of type 3A, a small pruning hook, a fragment of iron ?wedge, and a large hone (Fig. 29, 6 and 7 and Fig. 34, 14). F1 has been placed in phase 3 (CG 7), although it could be phase 2 from the pottery.

Of further features cut through the rock (CG 7) and probably through the soil over the rock in trench 1982A (CG 8), F5 was a possible, and F7 a probable, posthole towards the edge of the swallet. To the south were the remains of a drystone wall, F19/F22 (Figs 8 and 14). Its upper part had tumbled into the swallet and was removed as fill (context BU, CG5) and the remains of the wall as FC (CG 37). On the south edge of the swallet were a number of features below the stone spread of F19/F22 (F47–50, F51/61, F52/F56, F57; CG 37). It is possible that F47, F49, and F52/56 are postholes and continue the line of F19/F22 southwards (for F47 and F49 *see* Fig. 15, 1 light brown soil, charcoal flecks, conglomerate and limestone, 2 red clay soil, and Fig. 16, 1 light brown soil, burnt clay flecks, 2 yellower, flecks of burnt clay, 3 red clay soil). F48 (Fig. 15) was an unlikely candidate as it had no finds.

F19/F22 was built on the red clay loams (CG 6) which spread east and south and formed a consistent occupation spread, still of 12th-century date (Fig. 10, section 1, layer 4). F19/F22 is thought to be contemporary with Building 2 and began to collapse into the swallet before the site came to an end. Domestic rubbish was still being thrown into the swallet and onto the decaying wall.



Fig. 14 F19/F22 and the swallet; view north

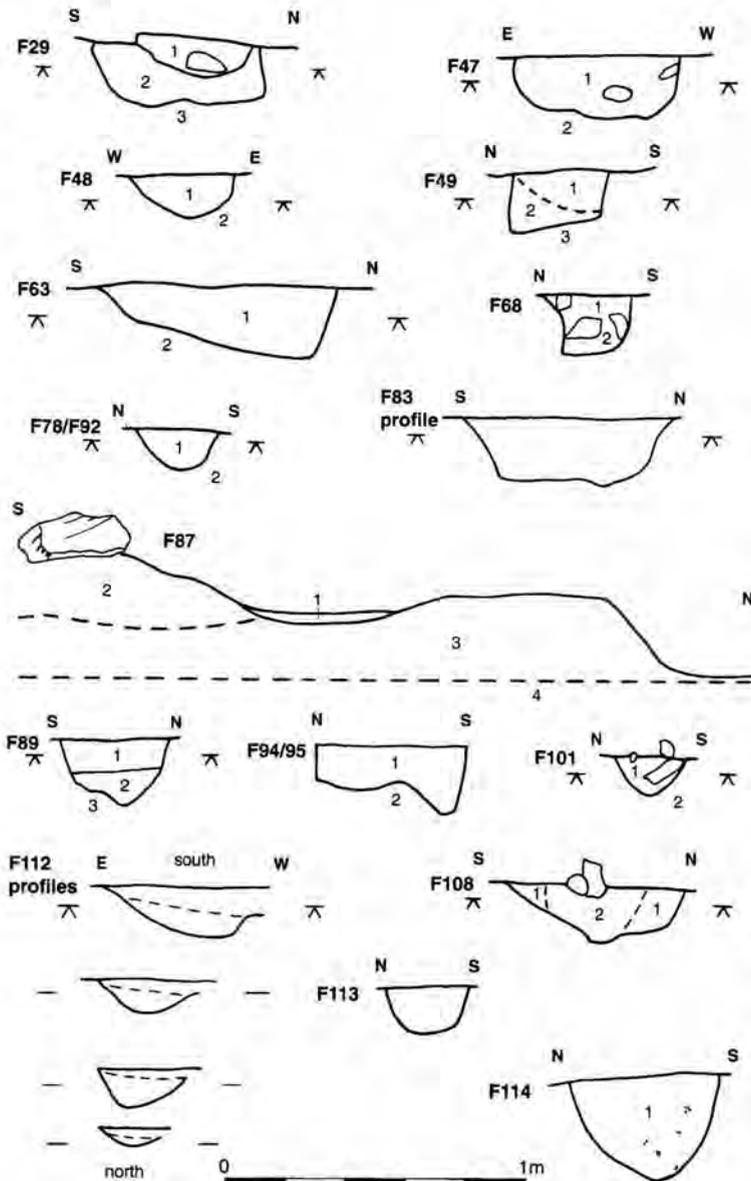


Fig. 15 Profiles of features F29-F114; scale 1:25

THE 'GARDEN'

To the east the loamy spread continued as a series of soils over the cultivation trenches. These were probably also tilled and contained some quantities of finds (CGs 12-16). They spread west from the trenches (CGs 27 and 28 over 29). No later features were found and no coherent trace of paths or other dividing features or approaches to the building. The soil came down to a redder near-natural material west of the cultivation trenches (CG 6, Fig. 10, section 1, layer 4 under stone spread 5) and was yellower over the trenches (CGs 28 and 29, Fig. 10, section 1,



Fig. 16 F47 and F49 and the swallet edge; view west

layer 6). The 1981 experimental kiln, together with some pits and postholes, were cut through these deposits (Fig. 17). To the south of the buildings was another area of loamy soil but here it appeared to be more natural (CGs 44–5, 63–6, 68, 69, 72 and 74).

In summary, it would seem that F20, F19/F22, and adjacent postholes F5, F7 and F47, F49, F50, F51/61, F52/56 and F57 served both to divide up the ground and to wall or fence off the swallet. North of F20 there was a >200mm deep sequence of soils consistent with long-term cultivation, possibly from late Saxon times. South of F20 was a further but shallower cultivated soil which also apparently received midden material from the adjacent buildings.

THE BUILDINGS

Building 1

Since Building 1 lacked a levelled floor except at the east end, it is regarded as a store or shed (Fig. 18). The west wall consisted of the posthole F62 (CG 53), which was under the flat stone 'sill' foundation and apparently had red clay (the flooring material for the later building) over it; F130 which was clearly buried under the oven F84; F113 (profile Fig. 15); and F131, recorded under the thin charcoally layer SK (CGs 53, 80 and 82). F114 (fill UC and UM, red-brown loamy clay, some burnt clay charcoal etc.) was also probably associated. The dark fill and limestone fragments of posthole F108 (Fig. 15, 2, TA, CG 79) passed through SK also but its pit was probably under SK (Fig. 15, 1, TB, CG 82, yellow-brown clay soil).

These features appeared to form the west wall of the building (Fig. 7). The south wall probably consisted of F62, F91, F93–5, F107, F119/F123, and some stakes to make up the corner (CGs 67 and 84). F94 and F95 (similar fills) formed a tail to the feature (Fig. 15, 1 dark brown fill, 2 yellow-brown soil). The east end was composed of the stakes, the substantial F142, and had F140 as a corner (CG 119; Fig. 20). The north wall was F140, F139/F143, and F131 (CGs 84 and 118). Internal features, but not certainly contemporary with it, were F105, F111, F115, F83 (Fig. 15, profile; CGs 82 and 83), and F122. F93–F115 may have formed a screen wall. At the east end was a depth of occupation soil with ash and charcoal (CG 118). There is little evidence for rebuilding or alteration although F93–5 may represent changes to the doorway. Outside the building was a little occupation to the south (CG 120) and further soil down to natural (CG 121).

The room formed by these features measured c. 6.5m east–west x 3.5m externally. Its entrance is most likely to have been between F93 and F107 where the postholes are deeper and more widely spaced and could represent door jambs about 1.5m wide. Of interest were the metal finds from the east end of the structure – the iron stirrup and copper alloy buckle (Fig. 30, 19 and 20) deposited in a dark charcoally greyish soil (CGs 115–117). From the spit above came a fragment of horseshoe (Fig. 29, 18). The iron finds, together with the lack of flooring material, suggest that this building might have been a stable.

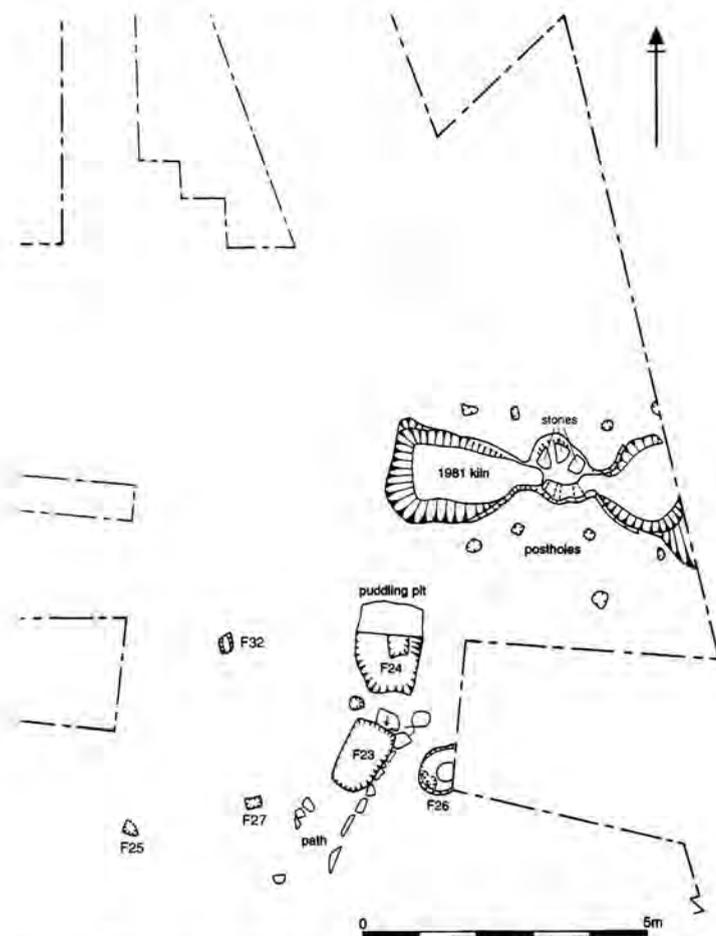


Fig. 17 Plan of potters' features from the 1981 experiment; scale as shown

Externally and to the south were F68/77/96, F78/F92, F79, F81, F82, and F89 and F101 (CGs 67 and CG 84; F68/77/96 (Fig. 15, 1 red-brown loam, limestone fragments, 2 yellow-brown clay soil). F77 was the earlier post at the south end. F78/F92 (Fig. 15, 1 red-brown loam, 2 brown, red, yellow natural clay soil) was described as a doubtful posthole as was F79, with its yellow-brown soil with stones, and F89 (Fig. 15, 1 red-brown loam, 2 yellow-brown clay soil, 3, brown-yellow clay soil). Features F81 and F82 with yellow-brown fills and a few stones were close to the south section. F101 (QH, CG 85, filled with red clay charcoal and daub) was rather like F91 and F92. All these features may have been associated and formed fences, although not all made entirely convincing postholes.

Building 2

South of the swallet and F19/F22 the structural elements of a partly earthfast building began to emerge in 1984 (Figs 8 and 19). The north side of the structure was made up of F135, two stakeholes, F136 and F67 (Fig. 8; Fig. 10, section 4, 16 red clay, charcoal, limestone chips), F35 (CG 46) and probably F132 (CG 108). The substantial pit F132 was contiguous with F131 (Fig. 20).



Fig. 18 The east end of Building 1 showing the mixture of stakes and postholes

F132 contained stones and looked as if it was of more than one phase with its uneven bottom (Figs 20 and 21). It was found below layer SK, after the excavation of pits F106 and F118 (profiles Fig. 20) and posthole F108. It seemed likely that it was contemporary with the earlier structure. It contained the best group of finds on the site including a large fragment of a Pill-type glazed jug (Fig. 23, 27; Fig. 21; Table 2). The foundation of Building 2 is effectively dated by this pit-group.

An argument for accepting F132 as the site of a corner post is that if it contained a post it would have been one of the *first* elements to be erected in a new building. After the pit had been backfilled and the new building erected, the charcoally layer SK could have accumulated over the post-pit as well as the old building. Later features could then have been cut through SK, making F132 appear to be contemporary with the early posts whereas it was contemporary with their demise. F132 probably had a previous life as, for example, a rubbish pit, subsequently reused to take a post. There was no obvious sign of its re-excitation, however.

The west end of the new building was comprised of the substantial stone and clay platform F102/F134 (the former mostly clay, the latter largely stone; CGs 93 and 100) c. 80mm thick filling a hollow, and postholes F116 and F124. East of F124 were F129/F76, F54, F88, F63/F86, and possibly F90/F73 (CG 67). F63 was a double posthole with stones packing the northern, apparently later post (Fig. 15, 1 grey-orange clay soil, 2 Mercia Mudstone).

Between F 63 and F 90/F73 was a layer of flat stones, interpreted now as the foundation for a cob wall or possibly a timber sill. The flat stones were on the edge of trench 1984A and were not properly excavated or understood at the time. The slope was however slightly terraced in the south-east corner, as attested by the linear excavation F66, with the stones on top (Fig. 15, F87, layer 2, dark orange soil) forming the south edge of the structure (Fig. 8). F62 might have been replaced by ?F90.

The east wall incorporated F84 (CG 79) and returned to F132 (CG 108) via F108. As the posthole for the latter was on its south edge, this suggests that it was part of the west wall and not the earlier building. In addition the post of F108 was one of the few features seen *through* layer SK. This suggests the post was standing as part of the later building. The dark fill of the posthole F108 (TA, CG 79) passed through SK also but its pit (TB, CG 82) was probably under SK (Fig. 15, 1 (TB) yellow-brown clay soil, 2 (TA) red-brown clay soil, charcoal and limestone fragments).

That this was not a timber-framed building is shown by the west end. F134, which was 0.75m wide, probably formed the foundation for a cob wall with posts at the ends. F102 was distinguished from F134 by being covered with a thin layer of burnt clay (CG 98). The latter probably remained clean because it had been covered with the putative clay wall. F110 and F116 were recorded as below F134 (CG 101) but there is no firm evidence for an earlier wall. The south wall was of mixed construction and there is the evidence of the layer of stone slabs to support another sill or cob wall east of F63/86. The east wall also has few postholes. The

Fig. 19 The site in the final stages of excavation showing both buildings; view east



wall line must have run on top of the demolished west end of the earlier building to F132, incorporating F84 within the thickness of the wall. F108 is the only feature that is likely to have marked the wall-line. It is also possible that F73 formed a corner. All the features could have co-existed, but it is possible that the southern wall was rebuilt and that the 'sill' and posts existed separately. The cob wall argument tends, however, to favour a single-phase structure in which all the elements form parts of the whole structure. It also suggests a relatively short-lived building.

Inside the line of the timber sill on the south were the line of small posts F33–40, F87, F54/88, and F129 (CG 46). These, particularly F33–40, may have formed an inner timber lining or wainscoting to the wall in that part. The plank-like nature of two elements of F34 may have represented vertical timbers for that part of the building. The evidence for cob was slight although it should be remembered that over time cob may completely disintegrate. Some quantities of burnt clay were, however, found in the area of the buildings, including in most postholes. Some of this had the impression of withies in it, particularly some fragments from F132. The large gaps between postholes, the mixture of timberwork, lack of a south-east wall-post and of paired posts in Building 1, strongly suggest a structure with a clay wall. In Building 2, paired posts might be represented by F135 and F124, F67 and F76, F35 and F87, and F90/73 and F132, but they are all of varying depths and sizes and more probably part of the suggested clay-walled structure.

A second phase to the history of Building 2 is suggested by the drain around the north and west sides (Fig. 9; F75, CGs 75, 76 and 92). That this was an afterthought may be indicated by an eastern arm (F112, CG 78, profiles Fig. 15), which was probably not utilised but backfilled with stones and clay. F112 clearly just cut the edge of F84 (CG 43). The reason for the gap between F75 and F112 was because F84 and the corner of the building (F90/F73?) were in the way and formed a highpoint (perhaps also a chimney?) from which to drain left and right. It was decided that F112 was not necessary. F75 also cut the foundation F134 on the east (Fig. 20, F75/F134, 1 red-yellow clay soil, 2 dark brown clay, stones, flecks of charcoal).

F112 is a very useful feature for understanding the history of this end of the site. Its excavation was clearly later than F84, which could itself be secondary as it cut the accumulating rubbish layer SK (CGs 81 and 107). SK is probably later than the construction of the building and F132 as discussed above.

Within Building 2 there were suggestions of partitions or screens in the form of F29, F39/69, and F85 (CG 46). The spread of selected flat green sandstones and some Pennant perhaps indicate a hearth although there was little trace of burning (Fig. 8). Similar green sandstone was used in F19/F22 and in the flat stone sill in the south wall. F29 was a poorly understood collection of two postholes and probably some stakes (Fig. 15, 1 medium brown clay loam, 2 as 1 with yellow clay silt, burnt clay, red clay soil). It also seems likely that F49 (CG 37) tied in the building to the swallet fence, so that there was no way through between the building and the wall, a sensible precaution.

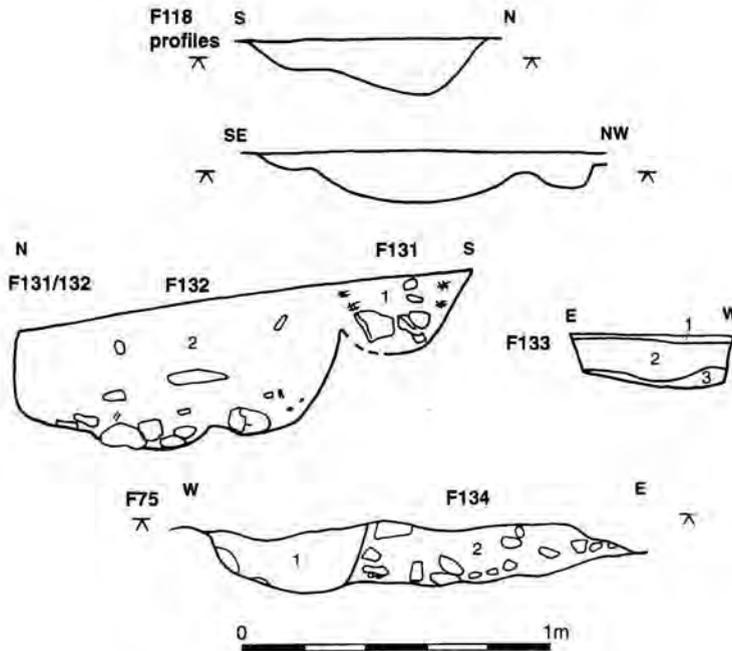


Fig. 20 Profiles of features F118–F134; scale 1:25

It is thought that there was only one doorway to the building. The obvious gap, with substantial timbers for the doorframe, is between F35 and F49, making this a single doorway *c.* 1m wide. The dimensions of the building are almost exactly 10 x 5m.

The floor and roof

Within Building 2, a layer of red clay and small stones up to 0.11m thick was laid, probably prior to the construction of the walls (CG 51, with CG 52 on subsoil; Fig. 15, section F87, layer 3). Besides being likely, the edge of the clay extended south beyond the wall-line and appeared to have been pierced for the postholes. The clay extended west and east but there was a noticeable gap between F35 and F131/F132. An area of more gritty red clay was noted between F35, F29, and F85 but not east of it (CG 31). The gritty area also extended to the north of F76 as MX and around what is thought to have been the hearth (CG 49; Fig. 10, section 4, layers 13 and 14). Over the red clay was an occupation deposit of a more loamy texture with some slight features (CGs 50, 73, 94, 98, and 99). An extra layer of clay was noted on the west side but not drawn in plan (CG 47) and over other parts of the area (CG 48). Externally and beyond the drain F75 was a sequence corresponding roughly to that within CGs 95–7.

If the walls of the buildings were of cob, this has implications for the roof. The typical medieval trusses were probably absent and the main timbers may have been poles laid on top of the walls and bedded with clay. The use of conventional trusses set in cob should not be entirely dismissed as such are known from Bowhill, Exeter, but in a building of early 16th-century date (Blaylock forthcoming). There in the northern bay of the east range the roof trusses were set in cob. Elsewhere at Bowhill cob was freely used for screens and raising wall-height. The Bickley structures are of much slighter construction, however. The covering is most likely to have been of thatch or even shingles. There is certainly little evidence for a stone roof in an area where Pennant Sandstone was used on a large scale from the 12th century. Until more buildings are found further speculation is unhelpful.



Fig. 21 Bottom of pit F132

The oven

At the east end there gradually emerged an almost circular bowl-like structure (F84) with a burnt interior and a central 'flue' (Fig. 10, section 5; Fig. 18 top centre). The edges and fill included a number of pieces of burnt daub and charcoal (CG 79). In an earlier excavation (trench 1984) the feature was seen as an area rich in pottery (F42, CG 46). Below was F43, noted in section and once thought to have been a posthole. It was badly affected by erosion between digging seasons and was not recorded adequately. In retrospect F42 (and probably F43) was part of an at least three-quarters circular structure which post-dated F62 (and probably F66). In the east edge of the structure were three small stakeholes and a larger one (F117) to the south. These may have provided the wattle frame for a clay dome for an oven. The oven may have been an insertion or a replacement as it is recorded as cutting layer SK. Ovens such as this may have contributed to the occurrence of burnt clay on the site; but the burnt fragments in the postholes of the earlier building could not have come from this one. Burnt clay can only be produced by heat, either in ovens or through accidental fires in buildings, for example. While domed wall-ovens are common in medieval stone buildings, such clay versions are unusual.

The drain

An undoubted secondary feature was the drain around the south and east sides (F75; Fig. 10, section 4, layer 12). This cut the platform at the west end (Fig. 20, F75/F134) and is thought to have been planned initially with F112 which cut the oven (itself secondary). The drain was probably cut to resolve a problem with run-off from the hillside to the south. There was no evidence that it was a recut of an earlier drain, although it may have been cleaned out from time to time. It contained sherds of Ham Green jugs.

Pits outside the buildings

F64, F106 and F121 (CGs 70, 71 and 107) were clearly used to deposit rubbish. The top fill of F64 contained some pink-red clay which could be interpreted as floor sweepings. Among the finds from F64 was a broken padlock key and a nail (Figs 29, 1 and 30, 11). The swallet was a useful rubbish disposal feature (F3/38). It was evident that there were many sherds and animal bones among the stones and soil which formed part of its fill at the edge (CGs 2, 3, 4, 34–36, 38–40, 88–91; see animal bone report). Overall animal bones were scarce on the site, possibly because of the convenience of the swallet and the soil conditions. It seems likely that wall F19/F22 and ?fence postholes F2, F5, F7 were erected to prevent people and animals from falling into what was a dangerous but useful natural feature. This was probably done when the later building was erected and the posts F47 and F51 were inserted between the wall F19/F22 and the building.

Other features

To the south-west of F64 were pits F4 (CG 11) and F74 (CG 67; Fig. 10, section 4, 2 orangey-brown soil, 3, dark brown charcoally soil) which were sectioned. Both contained a few earlier 12th-century sherds, but could date to any time in the century. Layers 7–11 in section 4 are all natural-looking yellowish silt fills and 5/6 possibly an earlier round-bottomed feature. Layer 11 was rather sandy and it is thought possible that it was an old stream bed running north-east towards the swallet with layers 7–11 filling its channel.

In trench 1988 the features F133 and a shallow gully contained no finds but are likely to be medieval from the fills (CG 110). A sherd of type 1 was found close to natural (TH). Several medieval sherds came from the soils above (UF, CG 109).

PERIOD 5

In trench 1983 the first experimental pottery kiln (of 1981) was excavated (Fig. 17) and provided good training material.

In the area of the shallow boundary bank in 1982B (Figs 4 and 10, section 2) there was no indication that the structure was medieval and a part of the Court de Wick boundary as is thought, although medieval sherds were found in CGs 9, 10, and 11, interpreted as the land surface predating the structure (Fig. 10, section 2, on layer 5 and under 1 and on 6).

F4 contained 12th-century sherds. The North Welsh slates in the humic, stony makeup of the low bank suggest an 18th to 20th-century date. The shallow ditch (section 2, part of layer 1) is likely to be contemporary. Layers 5 and 6 in section 1 contained charcoal but are undated. Layer 7 was weathered Carboniferous Limestone and layer 8 Mercia Mudstone

The present wood is likely to have undergone many changes since the 12th century and its edges would have moved frequently over the last few thousand years. The common occurrence of coppiced and pollarded small-leaved lime (*Tilia cordata*, linden or pry) in the wood, part of the natural ancient woodland of Britain, is thought to be an indication of a medieval origin. Pollarded limes can be 400 years old and coppiced wood much older (Rackham 1990, 14). Certainly the hill begins at the edge of the wood and it is unlikely that the cultivated area spread immediately south and east in the 12th century. It is more likely to have extended north-eastwards, past the limestone quarry edge. It was also never thought that the settlement consisted of the excavated structures alone.

THE FINDS

POTTERY

INTRODUCTION

The pottery from the site was classified by fabric and form, and quantified by sherd count. As this is the first known large assemblage to be excavated from the area, a new type series of fabrics was devised for the site. The well-established Bristol Type Series (BPT) was used as a basis (Ponsford and Price 1979a; 1979b; Ponsford 1980; 1998). The publication of the Medieval Pottery Research Group's standards (MPRG 2001) came after the analysis had been completed but it is hoped that those standards have at least been approached in this report.

A total of 7,252 sherds was typed and is presented in tabular form (Table 1). Only those present in the context groups (CGs) are included. Quantification by weight was not carried out. The limited forms have been classified according the Medieval Pottery Research Group's

classification guidelines (MPRG 1998). The system used to classify the sherds was based on identifying known wares first. The material was then looked at in terms of its date, origin, any evidence of function, and economic significance. Since this is a useful rural collection which has not been defined before, the drawn sherds have been published within types rather than contexts or groups. Many from recent or unstratified deposits have been selected for their intrinsic information. Table 2 contains the sherds and MNIs from context UE (F132), probably the best associated group on the site. The material as a whole has not been thin-sectioned although some Bristol pottery types have been (Vince 1988; Ponsford 1998).

TYPE FABRIC SERIES

Full details of the fabrics may be found in archive. All wares are handmade except types 21–3 which are wheel-thrown. The colouration of the wares is described generally in the type series rather than in the catalogue.

- 1 Principally rounded jars; grey core, red, brown or grey surfaces; this fabric is very common in Bristol (BPT114) and is related to jars of Ham Green type, some probably from Pill; 12th century (Ponsford 1991, tables 1 and 2; 1998, 137; Vince 1988, 158).
- 2 Principally rounded jars; dark grey core, pale orange to black externally, shades of grey and buff internally; quartz inclusions as 1 but includes frequent but irregular calcareous fragments and infrequent rounded sandstone up to 2–3mm, some pitting; 11th–12th century? May be same as or similar to type 13 but less abraded and retain calcareous inclusions.
- 3A Ham Green glazed A jugs; rounded jugs and tripod pitchers; some of the vessels are probably from Pill. Wasters from there seem to contain a lot of clay pellets; c. 1130–1170 (Ponsford 1991, 91–5; 1998, 137).
- 3B Later Ham Green glazed jugs; rounded jugs with collared rims, rare bottles; softer and less sandy than 3A; these vessels are later than 3A on form grounds and related to Ham Green knight jugs; later 12th century (Ponsford 1991, fig. 4b, 3).
- 4 Probably Ham Green jars; rounded jars, bowls, incurved jars; grey-brown cores, red to black externally, grey internally, occasionally red; sandy, inclusions similar to 1 but finer and with infrequent rounded black iron, less than 1mm; similar to 9 but sandier; can also be equated with 1, possibly another Pill fabric; 12th century.
- 5 Rounded jars; black to pale grey core, black to pale grey or orange externally, black to pale grey internally; hard, coarse sandy; quite frequent irregular red or brown sub-rounded sandstone up to 6mm, frequent regular fine rounded white or off-white quartz, infrequent, irregular medium to fine sub-rounded black iron (stone); a fabric noted at a site at Crandon Bridge (Langdon and Fowler 1971) and it may have come from the Bridgwater area; ?12th century.
- 6 Micaceous rounded jars; rare decoration; compares with the very common BPT46 which is thought to emanate from the Bath area, the flint suggesting west Wiltshire; 12th century from dendrochronology dating evidence (Ponsford 1980; 1991, tables 1 and 2; 1998, 137).
- 7 ?Cheddar B ware; rounded jars with pronounced internal neck angle or lid-seat; grey core, light to dark grey externally, grey internally, laminated fracture; frequent sub-rounded off-white and coloured quartz and quartzite up to 2mm, infrequent irregular black iron(stone) up to 2mm; burnished externally, obvious smoothing inside and outside rim; single-line light 'grooves' on shoulder with running chevron above; looks like Cheddar B ware in form but there described as calcareous which type 7 does not seem to be; 10th and 11th century (Rahtz 1979, 312; Gerrard 1987, now fabric 5)
- 8 Ham Green coarse ware; rounded jars, bowls; colour either entirely dark grey or with red 'sandwich' surfaces or entirely oxidised; evenly distributed fine quartz inclusions, the only jar fabric at the kiln site; pre-1147 to mid 13th century (Barton 1963; Ponsford 1991, 98; 1998, 137).
- 9 Rounded jars, bowls; grey core, buff to light grey externally and internally, nearly all buff to light brown; sandy but finer quartz than 4, with a few iron fragments and some sandstone; no visible surface treatment; decoration limited, single-line grooves; while similar to 8 it is much softer-fired, similar to 4 but less coarse; 12th century?
- 10 As BPT 115; rounded jars, bowls; grey to dark grey core; pale red to pale brown or black externally and internally, red surfaces predominating; late 11th to early 12th century at Bristol Castle Site D on top of the first bank; early Norman (Ponsford 1980).
- 11 Rounded jars; dark grey core, mid-grey to pale brown externally and internally; sandy, laminated fracture, some pitting, frequent, even off-white and darker rounded quartz up to 1mm, frequent, even sub-rounded and angular black ironstone up to 1mm; burnished, undecorated; similar to BPT 3 in pre-castle contexts at Bristol, which may become type 10 (above); 11th century (Ponsford 1980).

Table 1 Pottery: distribution of potsherds by trench and type

	trench														
	1982A	1982B	1983	1984	1984 (B	1984B	1985	1986B/1	1986A	1987A	1988	1989	totals		
type															%
1	130	2	218	237	234	26	139	65	200	121	7	10	1389		19.15
2	13	10	136	2	22	3	4	9	44	7		1	251		3.46
3A	6		9	33	14	12	25	12	14	11			136		1.87
3B	2		4	5	17	4	14	1	15	1			63		0.86
3	3		8		1	1		6	8	2		23	52		0.71
4	49		26	50	32	2	19	47	32	24		3	284		3.91
5	3		23	2	4		7	5	7	3		16	70		0.96
6	32		29	21	41	1	12	26	46	63	2	13	286		3.94
7	11		41	5				1		1			59		0.81
8	7		20	36	21	1	20	6	53	18		1	183		2.52
9	16		1	62	79	3	6	1	13	5			186		2.56
10	4		25	6		1	3		3	2			44		0.6
11	3		86	129	14		11	4	2	13		1	263		3.62
12	1												1		0.01
13	186	4	969	272	343	67	319	98	137	158	4	23	2580		35.57
14	13	2	14	10	30	11	13	13	9	51		1	167		2.3
15	4		3		5				1			1	14		0.19
16A	6		6			1	1		1				15		0.2
16B	11		12	4	1	2	2		2	5			39		0.53
17	12		1						1	1			15		0.2
18	107	1	124	12	15	8	1	1	24				293		4.04
19		1											1		0.01
20	3		57	11	18	1	3	7	19	12			131		1.8
21			1						1				2		0.02
22A			1		1						1		3		0.04
23			1										1		0.01
24	2		11	10	26	2	7	3	9	156		3	229		3.15
25	10		13	77	142	8	18	34	24	22	1		349		4.81
26	1		8		5	2		3	6				25		0.34
27	2		1										3		0.04
28	5		9	3	13	1				1			32		0.44
29			2	1								9	12		0.16
30	2		2	2	1					1			8		0.11
31									1			1	2		0.02
32			1										1		0.01
33	9		14		1								24		0.33
34			2	2	12		2	4	6	3			31		0.42
35			2										2		0.02
37					6								6		0.08
	653	20	1880	992	1098	157	626	346	678	681	15	106	7252		99.82
														totals	
%	9	0.27	25.92	13.67	15.14	2.16	8.63	4.77	9.34	9.39	0.17	1.46	99.92		

- 12 'Cotswold' tripod pitchers; light grey core, off-white surfaces; sandy, frequent, irregular rounded limestone and calcite fragments up to 1mm and frequent even white and off-white rounded quartz up to 1mm; sandy; thin lead glaze externally, combing and applied strip decoration; common in West Country, probably from Minety area (BPT 18); 12th and 13th centuries (Ponsford 1998, 137).
- 13 Vesicular ware; rounded jars and rare bowls; medium to light grey core, light brown to pale grey surfaces; sandy, frequent irregular white and some coloured sub-rounded and angular quartz up to 2mm, overall pitting but no reaction with acids, occasional iron and sandstone; no visible surface treatment; undecorated; pits in part may be organics which have fallen out; 11th and 12th centuries – same as type 2?; probably a very local ware.
- 14 Rounded jars; dark grey core, brown to grey surfaces; sandy, frequent irregular white and coloured sub-rounded and angular quartz and quartzite up to 2mm, ?weathered-out limestone (but rare reaction with acids), ironstone and occasional sandstone; no visible surface treatments; unglazed, undecorated; ?local fabric; pre-Conquest, found in F60.
- 15 Rounded jars; red-brown core, light brown externally, red-brown internally; sandy, frequent irregular, sub-rounded off-white quartz and quartzite, occasional irregular sub-rounded and angular brown chert up to 2–3mm, frequent irregular sub-rounded iron compounds up to 1mm; no surface treatment; undecorated; shiny appearance but not mica, ?local; ?12th century.
- 16A Rounded jars; medium grey core, distinctive red to brown surfaces; sandy, frequent, well-sorted rounded off-white quartz up to 1mm, frequent irregular angular off-white limestone up to 5mm, scattered ironstone and sandstone; ?red slip externally; decorated with groove on top of rim; ?local; ?12th century; also includes some calcareous vessels related to type 10 (Ponsford 1980).
- 16B Rounded jars as 16A; no limestone left, only pitting, scattered ironstone and sandstone; ?local; ?12th century.
- 17 Rounded jars; light grey core, light grey to buff surfaces; very sandy, frequent, irregular sub-rounded purplish-black ironstone up to 2mm, scattered irregular rounded off-white quartz up to 1mm; no surface treatments; undecorated; ?from south Somerset – ?related to type 5; 12th century.
- 18 Rounded jars; light to dark grey core, grey, buff, red, dark grey surfaces; coarse sandy, frequent irregular angular white to light grey limestone up to 3mm, infrequent irregular sub-rounded dark red to brown sandstone up to 3mm, frequent, regular white, rose, and dark quartz and quartzite up to 2mm, infrequent irregular sub-rounded black-brown iron compounds, few chert up to 2mm; no surface treatments; undecorated; ?pre-Conquest, thick sherd from ON suggests this; found in F59 and F60; ?11th century.
- 19 Rounded jars; light grey core, buff surfaces; coarse sandy, infrequent, irregular dark red/brown angular sandstone up to 3mm, infrequent, irregular, sub-rounded fine white-grey quartz, angular iron up to 1mm and sub-rounded quartzite up to 1mm; no surface treatment; undecorated; ?local; 12th century.
- 20 Rounded jars; dark grey fabric throughout; sandy, frequent, regular fine rounded white quartz, infrequent, irregular rounded, brown sandstone up to 1mm, often pitted where inclusions missing; no surface treatment; unglazed; ?source; 12th century.
- 21 Roman samian ware.
- 22A Roman grey-ware.
- 22B Roman oxidised ware.
- 23 French imported ware, BPT 192; small rounded jugs with bridge spouts; traces of rouletted decoration on single sherd found, good mid-green glaze; extraordinary to find a tiny single sherd of an import, but it is consistent chronologically; ?first half of the 12th century; Ponsford 1983; Ponsford 1991, tables 1 and 2; Ponsford 1998, table 9.
- 24 Rounded jars; orange to brown core and external surface, black to grey internally; sandy, frequent, irregular sub-angular and elongated off-white and dark quartz, rare limestone; no surface treatment; unglazed; ?source; 12th century.
- 25 Rounded jars; black fabric; sandy, frequent, irregular rounded and sub-rounded off-white quartz up to 1mm and rounded grey sandstone up to 2mm; no surface treatment; undecorated; possibly the same source as 5; 12th century.
- 26 Rounded jars; light grey to black core, light brown to black externally and light brown internally; sandy, laminated fracture, frequent, irregular off-white, rounded limestone up to 2mm, occasional, random sub-rounded white to off-white quartz up to 1mm; no surface treatment; unglazed; possibly pre-Conquest; 11th–12th century.
- 27 Rounded jars; dark grey core, grey-buff externally, dark grey internally; rough sandy, frequent, irregular rounded and sub-rounded white and coloured quartzite up to 2mm, infrequent, irregular rounded sandstone up to 0.5mm; burnished externally; unglazed; looks pre-Conquest; ?11th–12th century.
- 28 Rounded jars; dark grey core and external surface, mid-grey internally; sandy, frequent, regular, linear, rounded pinkish sandstone up to 3mm is characteristic, frequent regular rounded quartz; no surface treatment; unglazed; ?source, ?as 5; 12th century.
- 29 Fine type 6 (BPT 46); rounded jars; grey core, dark grey externally, brown internally; fine sandy, infrequent fine quartz, frequent fine mica; smoothed surfaces; unglazed; common in the Bristol and Bath area; 12th–13th century.
- 30 Rounded jars; pale grey core, buff/pale grey surfaces; sandy, infrequent, random small rounded quartz up to 1–2mm, pitted but does not react to acids; no surface treatment; unglazed; very light in weight; ?pre-Conquest.
- 31 Rounded jars; light grey core, grey-buff externally, buff internally; coarse sandy, frequent, random, sub-rounded and rounded grey stone up to 4–5 mm, irregular sandstone up to 3mm, minimal quartz, non-calcareous; no surface treatment; unglazed; ?source; ?12th century or earlier.

Table 2 Pottery: sherds, types, and minimum numbers of vessels from contexts UE/WE

	types														
sherds	1	2	3A	6	7	8	13	16B	20	25	28	30	34	168	total
	61	6	2	1	1	5	80	2	4	3	1	1	1		
MNI	5	2	1			1	1			2		1		13	total
Drawn sherds from UE are numbers 1-3, 13, 18, 20, 24, 27, 109, 161 and 190 in Figs 22-28															

- 32 Rounded jars; black fabric; sandy, frequent, random, not particularly rounded shell up to 2–3mm, random sandstone up to 2mm, infrequent, random rounded quartzite up to 3mm, fine sand matrix, other calcareous fragments; no surface treatments, unglazed; ?source; ?12th century.
- 33 Rounded jars; dark grey core, light red externally, dark grey internally; sandy, laminated fracture, fine sandy matrix, with random rounded fragments less than 0.5mm; no surface treatments, unglazed; may be related to 10 but less coarse, light weight and lamination are characteristic; ?11th–12th century.
- 34 Rounded jars; grey-brown core, brown-red surfaces; coarse sandy, frequent irregular rounded and sub-rounded quartz up to 0.5mm and darker fragments, infrequent random quartzite up to 2–3mm; no surface treatment; unglazed, undecorated; coarser than Ham Green, hard, similar to 5 but different inclusions; 12th century.
- 35 Rounded jars; grey core, light red surfaces; sandy, as hard as Ham Green type 8, frequent rounded dark, red and white quartz and quartzite, regularly sorted, lots of small calcareous fragments; no surface treatment; unglazed, undecorated; not Ham Green ware; 12th century.
- 36 Rounded jars; grey core, buff-red surfaces; very sandy, frequent large rounded quartz up to 2mm, poorly sorted, no obvious mica; worn surfaces; unglazed, undecorated; probably related to type 7, similar to BPT 176 and Cheddar C. late Saxon; 10th–11th century (Ponsford 1980; 1998, 137; Rahtz 1979).
- 37 Rounded jars; dark grey core, light red interior, black or red external surface; sandy, frequent sandstone up to 2–3mm, very frequent quartz, few mica flecks; no surface treatment; unglazed, undecorated; related to 28 but no pinkish sandstone; 12th century;

DISCUSSION

The Roman sherds (types 21, 22A and 22B) are not discussed. Only five sherds (none of type 22B) were represented in the context groups. It was surprising to the author that quite a number of types were unknown in the Bristol collection. As surprising is the position of the Lower Court Farm, Long Ashton, collection, where 95% of the wares typed were known from Bristol (Pearson 1986, 25). Rural collections within ten miles of each other can therefore vary considerably, while similar assemblages (less the European imports) can be found in a large urban complex (Bristol) and a local village (Long Ashton). Of some importance are the probable pre-Conquest wares. Primary among these is type 7, which was recognised as comparing closely with Cheddar late Saxon fabric B. In fact, fabric 7 is not noticeably calcareous (it does not react with acid) like Cheddar B but the forms are so close as to suggest contemporaneity, whether or not they share the same source. The burnishing, burnished lines, and internal lid-seat are characteristic of the Cheddar series (Rahtz 1979, nos 23–32). A date in the late 10th or the 11th century seems likely. Other possible pre-Conquest types are type fabrics 11, 14, 18, 26, 27, and 36. Type 36 is the only example of BPT 176, equated with Cheddar fabric C/CC. This ware is common at Long Ashton and dated to the 11th century (group 2; Pearson 1986, 25).

Fabric 10 (also inclined to have a laminated section) equates with fabric BPT115 found in late 11th-century contexts at Bristol Castle (Ponsford 1980). It has also been found at Chepstow (fabrics Kc and Ke; Vince 1991, 112–14). The characteristic feature is the deliberate reddening of the surfaces. The form with a grooved top and internal concavity appears to be a common one in both fabrics (Fig. 28, 173 and 177).

The commonest fabric at Bickley appears to be type 13. It is characteristically soft and made of poorly mixed clays, with numerous rounded pits. Only three decorated sherds came from the whole site. It would appear to be a local ware with a localised distribution and not found in Bristol. Fabric 2 resembles 13 as it also has small pits but a less friable appearance and *visible* limestone inclusions. There is a lack of 'infolded' forms which are characteristic of the pottery from the motte ditch at Bristol Castle, now thought to have been infilled c. 1120.

Ham Green and related wares were used as a starting point in that they have been dated by dendrochronology-dated contexts (Ponsford 1991). The jug fabric 3A is thought to be earlier and date to before 1147 up to c. 1175. Fabric 3B is certainly softer in appearance and more like the standard Ham Green 'B' jug fabric, ubiquitous on most local sites. With their rim-faces the jugs are thought to date up to c. 1200. The earlier style of collared rim tends to be used for decoration rather than being a form feature (Barton 1963; Ponsford 1991, 91). There is undoubtedly a gradation in the fabrics (hence type 3). Some of the 3A sherds are probably from Pill which produced spoutless rims and ledged shoulders and necks (Ponsford 1991, fig. 4a, 1).

The standard Ham Green kiln fabric is represented by type 8, a hard well-fired fabric with evenly distributed quartz inclusions. The related fabrics are 1, 4, and 9. Type 1 is probably what Vince calls proto-Ham Green ware (BPT114) with characteristic scattered larger quartz and quartzite (Vince 1988, 258). Type 4 is finer with some black fragments. Both appear to be represented in the Pill waster group (Ponsford 1991, 91-5). Type 9 is finer than 4 or 8 and often has a softish fabric and buff to light grey coloration externally. It seems to occur with 8. What seems certain is that they all come from the Ham Green area. The Long Ashton kiln site may ultimately prove to be the source of one of the types (le Patourel 1968). Some putative kiln material in Bristol City Museum was found in 1974 by Arthur Barker at ST 554 648 (Fig. 1).

Among other known wares is type 6, known from Bath (type A), Cheddar (Type J), Bristol (BPT46), Chepstow (fabric Lb), and a number of West Country sites. While 11th century or earlier in Bath, it does not turn up in Bristol until the mid-12th century (Vince 1988, 265; Ponsford 1980; 1991, table 1). Type 29 is a finer version of type 6. Type 5 is of interest as the author has seen this material in the collection from Crandon Bridge, Bush Marsh, some 30 miles from Bickley (Langdon and Fowler 1971). The sandstone inclusions and tall rim are characteristic. Type 28 may be a related type. The well-known type 12 (Minety-type ware; BPT 18) appears here only in small quantities (Vince 1988, 262-4). A few tripod pitchers are known in Ham Green A ware (Barton 1960, fig. 8, 14; 1988, fig. 10, 20).

The only import, and a surprising one, is represented by the tiny chip of type 23 (=BPT 192). This type has been discussed before but its origin, although northern France seems most likely, is unproven as yet (Ponsford 1983). An important point is that the ware is certainly 12th century and appeared at Dundas Wharf, Bristol, in a context dated 1147-82 (Ponsford 1991, tables 1 and 2). At Lower Court Farm, equally surprisingly, parts of a single jug from this source were also found (Pearson 1986, 25). Types 17, 19, 20, 24, 25, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 37 appear in small quantities and may all be variants of other wares.

The total number and proportion of each fabric by trench is shown in Table 1. Tables showing proportions of wares per context group are in archive. As can be seen, the commonest by sherd count is type 13, the next being type 1. Together they account for about 55% of the assemblage, the next most common being types 4 and 6 each at only 3.9%. Ham Green and related types (1, 3, 4, 8, and 9) together form 31.5% of the assemblage. Several types are probably variants of more common ones and have little statistical significance. Most noteworthy is the quantity of material from this relatively small area. In a recent pottery study from Bristol, only 6385 sherds were available from a major urban site which was not thought to be short of material (Ponsford 1998). Indeed that collection also included pottery from 1200 to 1600. Lower Court Farm produced over 9,000 sherds but from a larger area (Pearson 1986, 24).

Type 13 competes successfully with the more accomplished Ham Green wares. Other known wares come from south Somerset and west Wiltshire and the Mendips. The 12th-century date is emphasised by the relatively small quantity of glazed wares which form only 3.45% of the assemblage. This compares broadly, for example, with the 3.13% from the motte ditch at Bristol Castle (Ponsford 1980).

Most of the pottery came from the area of Building 1 and the 'garden' and decreases beyond. The largest concentration appears to have been in the garden area (trenches 1982A and 1983 – 35.195%). There were also substantial amounts in the swallet (e.g. trench 1984).

Nearly all the vessels are rounded jars or rounded jugs. Only one shouldered jar was recorded (67). Worth noting is 1, which is a specialised vessel with a lid-seat and perforated neck. Other lid-seated vessels occur among type 7 vessels (91 and 93). Further possibly specialised vessels are 24, 190, and 195. These are not rounded jar forms and could be sherds of lids, if inverted, or of shallow bowls. One jar had a collared rim (117), another a large neck perforation, probably a rimless spout (118). Only one rounded bowl was identified (166). Decoration occurs mainly on the Ham Green and related types. It is otherwise very rare. Quite a number of vessels have a groove or decoration on the rim top. It seems unlikely that this has a function.

The proposed dating of the groups relies largely on the dates suggested by the dendrochronology-dated contexts at Dundas Wharf, Bristol (Ponsford 1991). Types 1(BPT 114) and 4 are as early as the 1120s, while types 3A, 6, 8, and 9 date from the 1140s to at least the 1170s. In terms of fabric, type 3B does not appear at all in the Dundas Wharf series. An anthropomorphic vessel with rim faces (in a fabric like 3A) is, however, present as early as the 1180s and probably earlier (Ponsford 1991, fig. 1a, 9). It was proposed that this class of vessel should be dated 1175–1225 (Ponsford 1991, 98) but alongside Ham Green B jugs with bridge spouts and frilly bases which are absent from Bickley. A date of *c.* 1200 is therefore proposed as the end date for the site. As jars are less datable than jugs, types 8 and 9 are dated to the second half of the 12th century but can be both later than 1200 and pre-1147. Some wares are pre-Conquest (14 and 18 for example) and can date deposits accordingly. The common local type 13 appears to date to the 12th century as a whole but could be earlier as well. In summary the context groups are dated by using these criteria:

<i>11th century or earlier:</i>	contains pre-Norman wares only
<i>12th century:</i>	lacks diagnostic sherds for closer dating
<i>Earlier 12th century:</i>	usually with 1 and 4 only
<i>Mid 12th century:</i>	with sherds of 3A, 6, 8 and 9 only and no 3B
<i>Mid-late 12th century:</i>	with no glazed sherds but with 8 and 9
<i>Later 12th century:</i>	with sherds of 3B

Context groups can be dated using these criteria as follows:

<i>?11th century:</i>	19, 38, 52, 111, 112
<i>12th century:</i>	8, 10
<i>Earlier 12th century:</i>	4, 5, 9, 11, 13, 17, 24, 25, 35, 40, 44, 53, 60, 61, 74, 77, 85, 91, 110, 113, 114, 117, 119, 120, 121
<i>Mid 12th century:</i>	6, 12, 15, 20, 22, 42, 47, 51, 55, 57, 58, 62, 65, 75, 78, 79, 81, 82, 88, 90, 92, 98, 103, 104, 107, 108, 109, 115, 118 (context UE is in this group)
<i>Mid-late 12th century:</i>	2, 3, 22, 23, 27, 29, 30, 31, 45, 49, 56, 70, 71, 80, 83, 86, 87, 89, 95, 102, 105, 116
<i>Later 12th century:</i>	7, 18, 21, 28, 36, 37, 39, 41, 43, 46, 48, 50, 59, 63, 64, 66, 67, 68, 69, 72, 76, 84, 94, 96, 97, 99, 100, 101, 106

CATALOGUE (Figs 22-28)

TYPE 1

- 1 Rim and body sherds of a rounded jar with everted clubbed rim and internal lid-seat. In the neck are probably four perforations which are angled upwards at about 45° from the outside. The vessel is decorated with two and three-tooth combing in horizontal wavy and vertical bands. The rim top is stabbed with a two-tooth comb. The lid-seat thickening can be clearly seen internally as well as finger working diagonally across the body. Sooting on lower body. A specialised vessel with a fastening device for a cover or lid. Context UE (F132), CG 108.
- 2 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with plain everted rim. Rim decoration of finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb outside, probably left-handed. Single-line grooving on neck and shoulder is overlain by an applied strip, pinched to a central rib. Context UE (F132), CG 108. Common decoration (e.g. Ponsford 1991, fig. 1b; 1147-82).
- 3 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with slightly clubbed everted rim and applied strip on the shoulder. Context UE(F132), CG 108.
- 4 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with simple rim. The everted rim is decorated with finger-and-thumb pinching, thumb outside and probably left-handed. The neck has horizontal four-tooth combing. Context LA, CG 64 (Ponsford 1991, fig. 1b, 17; 1147-82).
- 5 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with squared rim top. The everted rim top is decorated with finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb outside, probably left-handed. The outside of the neck is decorated with heavy four-tooth combing. Other examples from PK, OA and OD. Context HJ, CG 46.
- 6 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with slightly clubbed rim. The everted rim has finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb inside, probably left-handed. There is disjointed toothed combing on the neck. Context GT, CG 46 (Ponsford 1991, fig. 1b, 13).
- 7 Rim sherd of a round-shouldered jar with slightly clubbed rim. The everted rim is decorated with finger-and-thumb pressing, finger-nail on top, probably left-handed. Context EO, modern (Ponsford 1991, fig. 1b, 13).
- 8 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Slightly clubbed everted rim with finger-and-thumb pressing, nail on top as 7. Context LH, trowelling layer.
- 9 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with squared top. The top has three-tooth combing on it, also found on the neck. Context DZ, CG 18.
- 10 Rim sherds of a rounded jar, everted rim, slight external bevelling. Three and two-tooth combing on the neck. Context TJ, CG 89.
- 11 Rim sherd of rounded jar, everted rim, flattened top, rounded exterior. Two-tooth combing on lower neck. Context KO, CG 66.
- 12 Rim sherd of a rounded jar, everted, slight rounding externally. Decoration of single groove on neck/shoulder join and ?two-tooth on shoulder. Context UE (F132), CG 108.
- 13 Sherd decorated with horizontal single-line grooves overlain by oblique narrow three-tooth combing. Context UH, CG 100.
- 14 Rim sherd of rounded jar with everted clubbed rim. Internal surface has been burnt to a spongy crust, probably in the kiln. Context ET, upper loams.
- 15 Rim sherd of rounded jar with everted clubbed rim and slight bevelling of upper part. Context FD, CG 42.
- 16 Rim sherd of rounded jar with slightly beaded, everted rim (another from EO). Context EW, CG 41.
- 17 Rim sherd of a rounded jar, everted, with slight hollowing on top. Another from ET. Context CJ, CG 27

TYPE 2

- 18 Rim and shoulder sherd of rounded jar. The everted rim has a groove cut into its outer edge and the inside and outside of the junction between neck and body have not been completely smoothed. This large sherd shows that the type is probably current in the 12th century although it could be residual. Short rims are more common in late Saxon pottery. Context UE (F132), CG 108.
- 19 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with internal clubbing. The upright rim has finger-and-thumb pressing, heavier on the inside, on ware which is usually undecorated. See also nos 164-5 below on type 13. Context GD, CG 46.
- 20 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar, everted, simple rim. Similar examples from GS and KG. Similar form from Bristol Castle is dated to the 10th century. Context UE (F132), CG 108 (Ponsford 1980, fig. 61, 21).
- 21 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with upright clubbed rim with pronounced internal bead. A similar upright sherd from Bristol Castle is dated to the 10th century. Context FY, CG 36 (Ponsford 1980, fig. 61, 26).
- 22 Rim sherd of a rounded jar, everted, with internal and external beads. Context UU, CG 92.
- 23 Rim sherd from a rounded jar, everted plain form. Context EA, CG 19.
- 24 Rim sherd of a bowl, jar or possibly a lid. There is just the start of an angle at the bottom of the sherd. Context UE (F132), CG 108.

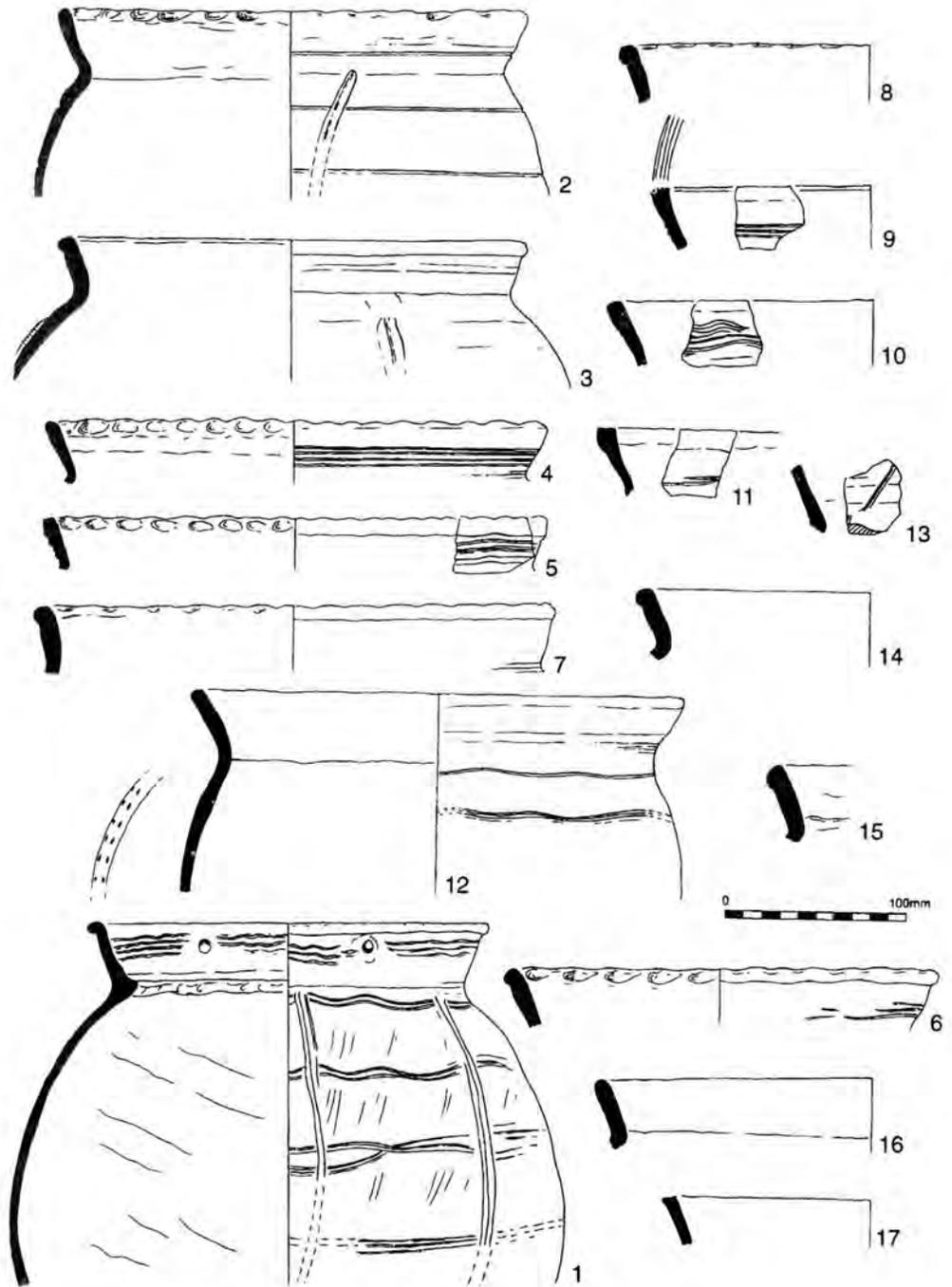


Fig. 22 Twelfth-century pottery: type 1; scale 1:4

TYPE 3A

- 25 Rim and handle sherd of a glazed rounded jug. The rim is flat-topped with a rounded exterior, edge-decorated with clumsy diamond rouletting and with slight internal bead. There are the beginnings of a thumb neck band (Ponsford 1991, fig. 4a, 2–4). The handle is a typical strap with stabbing at the neck junction with a squared tool (?nail) and more rounded stabbing in the centre of the handle. Context FY, CG 36.
- 26 Rim sherds of a glazed rounded jug. The rim form is as 25 but has the top of an inverse ledge just below it. Context OU/PJ, CGs 94 and 97.
- 27 Rim sherd of a glazed rounded jug, simple rim. Leding at the neck and on the shoulder. Probably spoutless as half the diameter of the rim is present. This is a feature of the Pill jugs (Ponsford 1991, 94). Contexts HS and UE, CGs 18 and 108.
- 28 Rim sherd of glazed rounded jug, simple rounded rim, with strap handle, central stabbing. The many large dark inclusions can be scratched with a point and are likely to be shale and/or clay. Context NJ, CG 51.
- 29 Rim sherd of glazed rounded jug with simple rim and strap handle decorated with two lengthwise bands of two-tooth wavy combing. Unusually large diameter. Context GO, CG 59.
- 30 Rim sherd of a glazed rounded jug, simple form, applied thumb neck band. Contexts HZ/RE, CG 37.
- 31–33 Glazed handle sherds from rounded jugs with central stabbed ridge outlined with bands of diamond rouletting. Contexts OB/NO, CGs 79 and 51; LB; GZ, CG 37. Typical Ham Green A handle (Barton 1963, fig. 5, 12, Barton 1988, fig. 10, 17; Ponsford 1980, fig. 66, 207).
- 34 Shoulder and body sherds of a glazed rounded jug with three shoulder ledges and an arc of two-tooth combing. Contexts RB and QZ, CG 100.
- 35 Shoulder sherds of a glazed rounded jug with four shoulder ledges. Context KN, CG 68.

TYPE 3B

- 36 Rim sherds of a glazed rounded ?jug with collared rim. The rim is decorated by applying a thickening strip and a series of pinched two-eyed 'faces' and vertical lines between. There is no sign of handle or spout although 40% of the rim is present. The sherd is quite abraded which does not usually occur with Fabric 3A. Rim decoration is similar to that on knight-jugs and 'transitional' jugs and identical to the rim of the 'dancing girls' jug from Cardiff (Ponsford 1991, fig. 1a, 9 and 4b, 3; Barton 1963, fig. 6, 1, and fig. 1, 21). Contexts JS and LX, CG 72.
- 37 Rim sherd of a glazed rounded jug with collared rim. The rim is decorated with a well-made face with ring-and-dot eyes and slashed mouth and vertical lines as on 36. Context FY, CG 36.
- 38–41 Body sherds of glazed rounded jugs with single-line horizontal decoration overlain with applied rouletted strips. Contexts KE; HU; HS, CG 18; EW, CG 41 (Barton 1963, fig. 3, 50 and 52).

TYPE 4

- 42 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The rim is everted and clubbed with thumb pressings on the outer edge, probably left-handed. There is two-tooth combing on the neck. The decoration on type 4 is very similar to type 1 which suggests a common source such as Pill. Context SQ (Ponsford 1991, fig. 1b; 1147–82)
- 43 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is decorated with finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb inside, probably left-handed. The neck has horizontal combing. Context FU, CG 57.
- 44 Rim sherd of rounded jar. The everted, slightly clubbed rim is decorated with finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb inside, probably left-handed and quite widely spaced. Context BU, CG 5.
- 45 Rim sherd of rounded jar. The everted, slightly clubbed rim is decorated with finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb outside, probably left-handed. Context LC.
- 46 Rim sherd of rounded jar. The everted, slightly beaded rim is decorated with finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb inside, probably left-handed. Context OR, CG 86
- 47 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted, slightly clubbed rim has a modelled groove on the rim top. There is an accidental narrow smear of clay on the inside of the rim. The outside of the neck has a single-line groove repeated at an angle on the shoulder. Context RF, CG 106.
- 48 Rim and shoulder sherd of rounded jar. The everted rim has an internal bead. Externally there is the beginning of an angled, applied, finger-pressed strip. Context MF, CG 71.
- 49 Rim of a rounded jar with grooving on outer edge. Context QI, CG 100.
- 50 Rim and shoulder of a rounded jar. The everted rim has an external bevel and there is some light grooving (?decoration) on the shoulder. Context FT, CG 36. Typical Ham Green rim.
- 51 Rim sherd of a rounded jar, everted, with external bevelling. Context NC, CG 49.
- 52 Rim sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled and rounded below. The shoulder has single-line grooving. Context FT, CG 36.

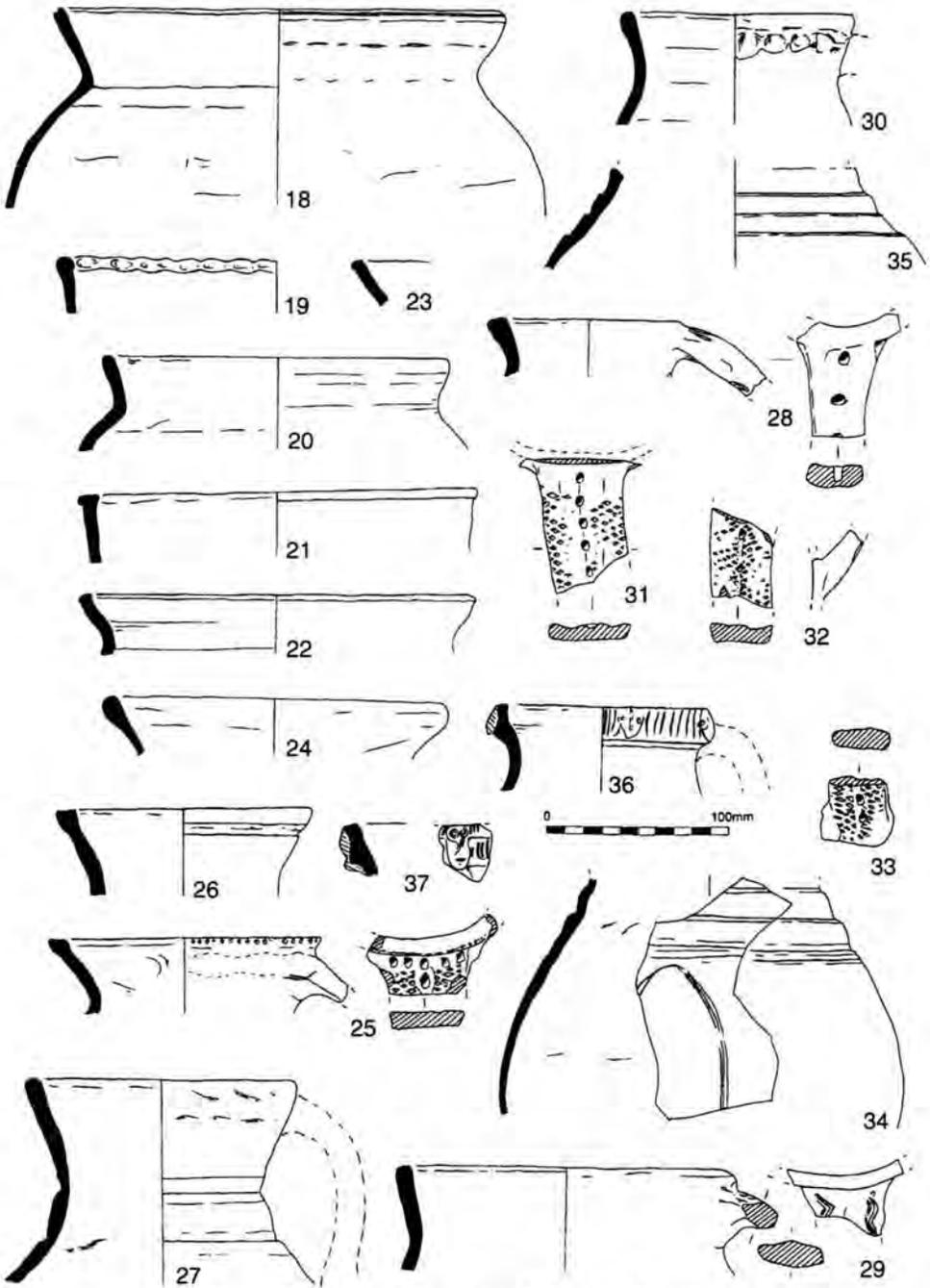


Fig. 23 Twelfth-century pottery: types 2, 3A, and 3B; scale 1:4

- 53 Rim and shoulder sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled and rounded below and the interior is beaded. Context LC.
- 54 Rim and shoulder sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled and rounded below. Context BL.
- 55 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is slightly bevelled and rounded below. There is a single-line groove on the shoulder. Context QP, CG 104.
- 56 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is slightly bevelled and angular below. Context NJ, CG 51.
- 57 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled. Context EO.
- 58 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled with an irregular or wavy groove below. Context BX, CG 4.
- 59 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a hollowing on the top. Context NZ, CG 79.
- 60 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The simple everted rim has a slight hollowing on the top. Context PD.
- 61 Rim and shoulder sherds of a rounded jar. The simple everted rim is flattened on top with a slight hollow. Context NX.
- 62 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a sharp angle at the top accidentally finger pressed. Context EE.
- 63 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is slightly flattened on the interior. Context BO, CG 6.
- 64 Rim sherds of a rounded jar, with everted edge and internal concavity. Context OZ.
- 65 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is infolded and beaded but very abraded. Context LU.
- 66 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is clubbed on the outside and beaded on the interior. Context NM, CG 78.
- 67 Rim and shoulder sherd of a shouldered jar, slight internal bead to everted rim. One edge is twice as thick which suggests a handle or spout. Context GE, CG 39 (Ponsford 1991, fig. 1b, 15 for general form; 1147-82).

TYPE 5

- 68 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a flattened top with a groove cut into it. Context DZ, CG 18.
- 69 Rim sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim is rounded and clubbed externally. Context TD, CG 78.
- 70 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is flattened on the top and has an internal bead. Context JM, CG 44.
- 71 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is rounded and flattened on top with a bead inside and concavity below. Context EX.
- 72 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is rounded and flattened on top, with a slight bead internally. Context HR, CG 18.
- 73 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is clubbed and has an internal infolding. Context RE.
- 74 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is slightly clubbed and there is an internal beaded infolding. Context DA, CG 15.
- 75 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a flat top and an external rounding emphasised by a slight groove. Context ME.
- 76 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with a flat top and internal bead. Context ME.
- 77 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The almost upright rim has slight external and internal mouldings. Context EL.
- 78 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim has an external bevel and a concavity at the neck. Internally there is an infolding. Context QJ, CG 10.

TYPE 6

- 79 Rim, shoulder, body and base sherds of a wide rounded jar. The rim has an external bevel and the base is sagging. Context RD, CG 106.
- 80 Rim and shoulder sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim has an external bevel and a slight internal moulding. Context RF, CG 106.
- 81 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is rounded externally with a slight internal bead. Context SK, CG 81.
- 82 Rim sherd of a rounded jar similar to 81. Context JO, CG 46.
- 83 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with flattened top and internal concavity. Context GW, CG 39.
- 84 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with bevelled exterior on the clubbed rim. Context RO, CG 79.
- 85 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The simple rim is poorly finished externally. Context TE, CG 107.
- 86 Rim and shoulder sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a slight central concavity to its flat top. Externally the neck/shoulder joint is marked by a rough groove. The internal concavity is a typical feature. Context QS, CG 92 (Ponsford 1998, fig. 58, 46 and 49).
- 87 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with central concavity in the expanded rim top. Context DO, CG 23. Rahtz and Hirst 1974, fig. 26, 20-21 for this rim form.
- 88 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is expanded with a rounded edge. Context RF (similar in EY), CG 106.
- 89 Rim sherd as 88. Context KO, CG 66.
- 90 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is squared with an internal concavity. The squared clubbed rim is a common form. Context TT, CG 99 (Ponsford 1998, fig. 58, 51-3, fig. 57, 30).

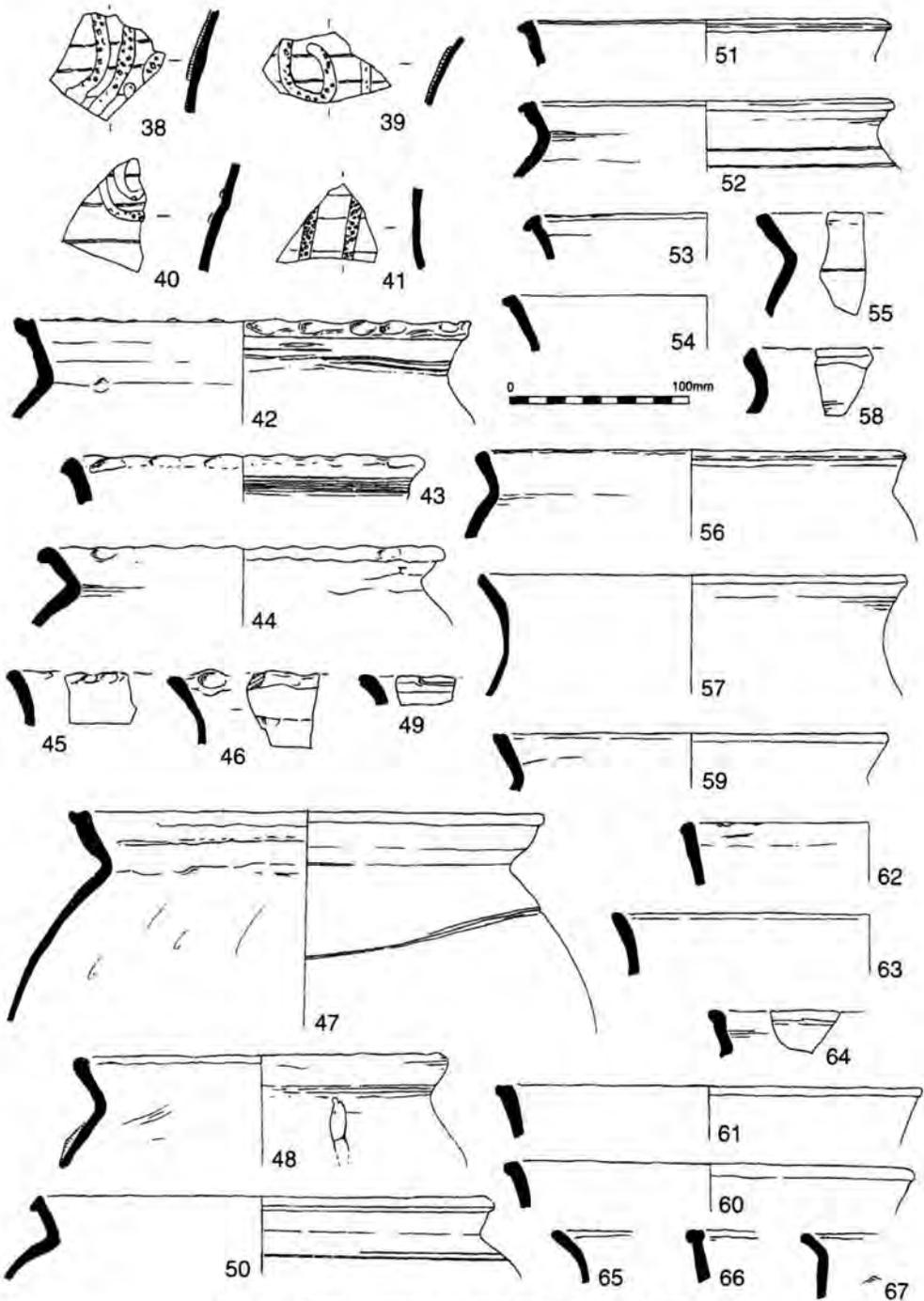


Fig. 24 Twelfth-century pottery: types 3B and 4; scale 1:4

TYPE 7

- 91 Rim and shoulder sherds of a rounded jar. The rim is everted with horizontal burnished lines on the outside of the neck and on the inside where burnishing extends to just below the neck/shoulder junction. At the junction the vessel is internally thickened, possibly to provide a lid-seat. On the shoulder there are running incised Vs (rather than stamps) above a horizontal groove, with some possible burnishing on that area. Context DN, CG 25.
- 92 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Below the simple rim there is slight flattening on the inside with rilling on the neck, but no burnishing. Context AO and a similar example from DN (CG 25).
- 93 Neck/shoulder sherds from a vessel like 91 with a pronounced internal thickening and burnishing over this feature. No burnish externally. Not illustrated. Context DL, CG 12.
- 94-95 Shoulder sherds with single-line grooving. Context DC, CG 18.
- 96 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with simple everted rim. Context AF, CG 6.
- 97 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with external bevel. Context TJ, CG 90.
- 98 Eroded rim sherd from a jar. Rounded exterior. Context TD, CG 83.

TYPE 8

- 99 Rim and shoulder sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a clubbed rim which has then been finger-and-thumb pressed, thumb more heavily outside, probably left-handed. On the neck and shoulder is combing using a tool with two broad teeth. This sherd and 100-3 have all the main features of a Ham Green jar. There is no wavy combing but it is known from other sites, Contexts LO and OP, CGs 49 and 94 (Barton 1963, fig. 7, 1-6).
- 100 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. On the everted rim there is a slight bevel externally and horizontal two-tooth combing below. Internally there is a slight bead. Context LH.
- 101 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. On the everted rim there is slight finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb inside, probably left-handed. On the shoulder there is horizontal combing. Context LH.
- 102 Rim sherd from a rounded jar. The everted rim is clubbed and there is a hollow on top. The edge has been finger-and-thumb pressed, thumb outside, probably left-handed. There is two-tooth combing on the neck. Context GQ, CG 62.
- 103 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is finger-and-thumb pressed, thumb outside, probably left-handed. There is a visible junction between neck and shoulder on the inside. Context KW, CG 46.
- 104 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The bevelled everted rim has finger-and-thumb pressing with heavier thumbing on the inside, probably left-handed. Context OX.
- 105 Rim, shoulder and body sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a slight clubbing emphasised by a groove under it. The shoulder and body have horizontal single-line grooving. Context PM, CG 85 (Barton 1963, fig. 7, 2 and 7)
- 106 Body sherds from a rounded jar with single-line horizontal grooving over a prepared surface, smoothed vertically. Context TB, CG 81.
- 107 Rim sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled with a groove under it and an intermittent groove at the neck/shoulder junction. Context LD, CG 64; MY, CG 47.
- 108 Rim sherd of a rounded jar, simple everted rim, flattening on top. Not certainly Ham Green, different sand, but could be related to Type 5. Context UW, CG 101.
- 109 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with simple rim and slight internal bead. Context UE, CG 108.
- 110 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a groove on top and internal concavity. Not certainly Ham Green by form or fabric (different sand) and may be related to Type 5 (see 108).
- 111 Body sherd with wide thumbed strip on two-tooth combing. Context RD, CG 107.

TYPE 9

- 112 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is clubbed and bevelled with an internal bead. There is the beginning of an applied finger-pressed strip on the shoulder. Context HX, CG 36 (see no. 3 above).
- 113 Sagging base sherd of a rounded jar. Context NJ, CG 51.
- 114 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled with light finger-and-thumb pressings, thumb outside, probably left-handed. Context EL.
- 115 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is clubbed and rounded. Context RE.
- 116 Body sherds of rounded jar with two and three-tooth combing. Context GO, CG 59.
- 117 Rim of a jar with collared form. Context not known.
- 118 Rim of a rounded jar. The upright rim is perforated on its broken edge, but there is no formed spout. Context QS, CG 93.

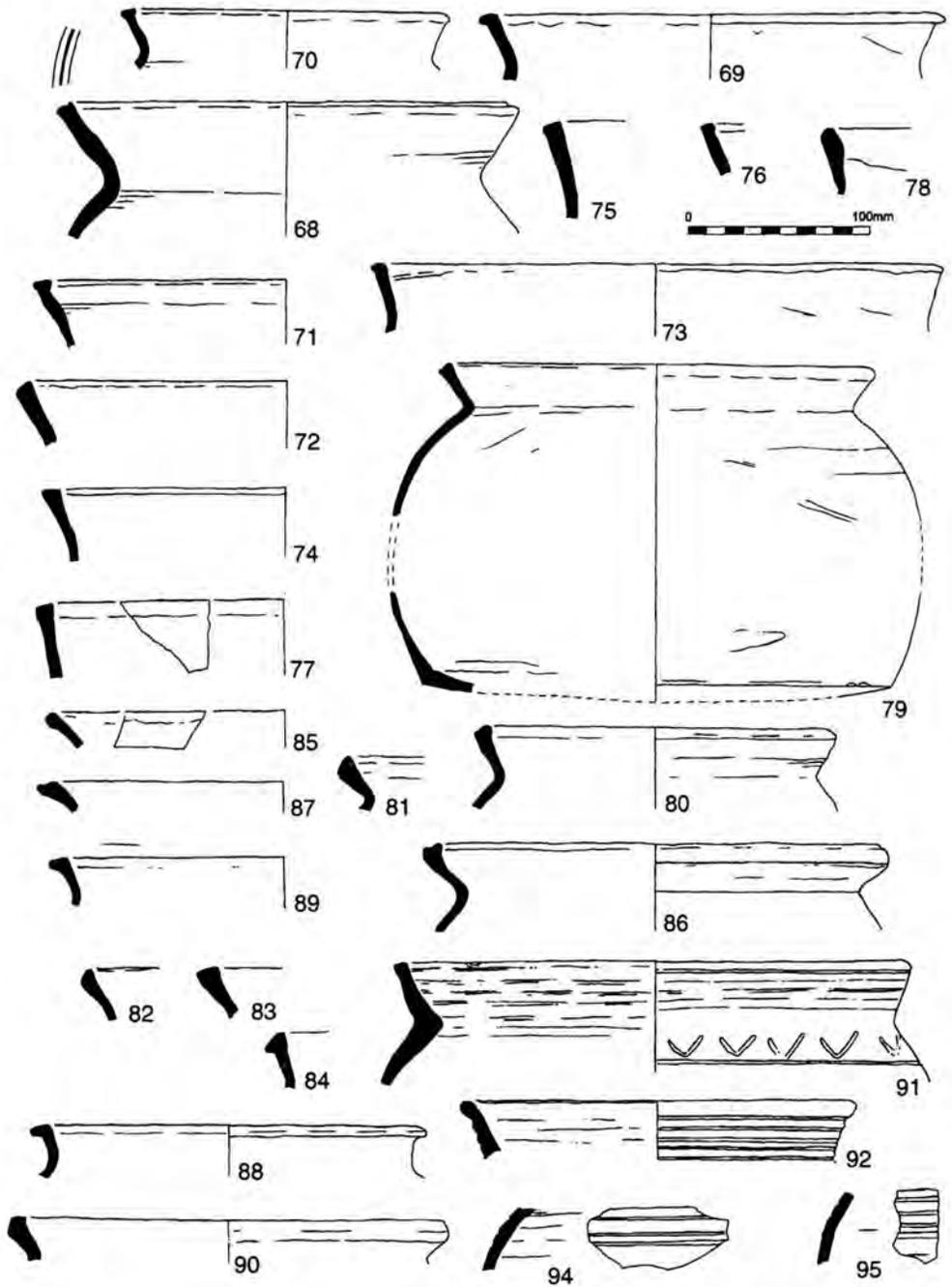


Fig. 25 Tenth to twelfth-century pottery: types 5, 6, and 7; scale 1:4

TYPE 10

- 119 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with simple everted form. Plain short rims are typical. Context CR, CG 12 (Ponsford 1980, fig. 62; Pearson 1986, 33-5).
- 120 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with simple everted form. Context JE, CG 24.
- 121 Rim sherd of a rounded jar of short, simple everted form. Context DU, CG 17.
- 122 Rim sherd of a rounded jar of short, simple everted form, slight internal bead. Context DL, CG 12.
- 123 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Almost upright rim with flat top and central groove. Context DU, CG 17.
- 124 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is curved with a bevel and slight internal bead. Context QR, CG 105.
- 125 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a slight bevel. Context BR, CG 6.
- 126 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with clubbing and internal bead. Context RX.
- 127 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has been thickened and pointed. Context HG, CG 18.
- 128 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The rim is upright with external rounding and internal bead. Context BQ, CG 7.

TYPE 11

- 129 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Simple form. Context DU, CG 17.
- 130 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Clubbed form. Context ME.
- 131 Rim sherd as 130. Context DU, CG 17.

TYPE 13

- 132 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a bevelled edge and slight internal bead. Similar example from RM. Context TG, CG 92.
- 133 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is of simple form with slight internal moulding. Context MF, CG 71.
- 134 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a slight bevel and internal bead. Context PR, CG 98.
- 135 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The simple everted rim has a slight internal moulding. Context CP, CG 27.
- 136 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled with internal moulding. Context DS, CG 12.
- 137 Rim sherd similar to 136, no moulding. Context HG, CG 18, similar from DZ.
- 138 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim has a flat top and slight internal bead. Context PZ, CG 98.
- 139 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright thickened rim has a flat top and slight internal bead. Context CP, CG 27.
- 140 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is bevelled and slightly expanded externally. Context KN, CG 68.
- 141 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim has a rounded bevel and slight internal bead. Context FL, CG 56.
- 142 Rim as 141 but more everted. Context MF, CG 71.
- 143 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is rounded on the exterior. Context DP, CG 23.
- 144 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is rounded on the exterior. Context MF, CG 71.
- 145 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled with an external rounding and internal bead. Context HG, CG 18.
- 146 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim has a slight external rounding. Context KF, CG 65. Similar from HS and DI (CG 18), NO (CG 51) and ML.
- 147 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is rounded and thickened with slight internal bead. Context PC, CG 96.
- 148 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The short, upright rim is thickened and rounded, Context MF, CG 71. Similar HS.
- 149 Rim sherd of a rounded jar as 148 but with lightly incised groove on exterior. Context EY, CG 34.
- 150 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim has a rounded bevel and pronounced internal bead. Context DN, CG 25.
- 151 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim has an external moulding. Context NZ, CG 79.
- 152 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is clubbed with slight indent at the neck. Context DP, CG 23, also one from GS.
- 153 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is rounded externally with a slight groove at the neck. Context NX.
- 154 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is clubbed with a slight internal bead. Context LB.
- 155 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is slightly clubbed. Context DC, CG 18.
- 156 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is clubbed and the neck is curved. Context CW, CG 28.
- 157 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is clubbed with a slight internal flattening at the rim top. Context HS, CG 18.

TYPE 10

- 119 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with simple everted form. Plain short rims are typical. Context CR, CG 12 (Ponsford 1980, fig. 62; Pearson 1986, 33-5).
- 120 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with simple everted form. Context JE, CG 24.
- 121 Rim sherd of a rounded jar of short, simple everted form. Context DU, CG 17.
- 122 Rim sherd of a rounded jar of short, simple everted form, slight internal bead. Context DL, CG 12.
- 123 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Almost upright rim with flat top and central groove. Context DU, CG 17.
- 124 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is curved with a bevel and slight internal bead. Context QR, CG 105.
- 125 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a slight bevel. Context BR, CG 6.
- 126 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with clubbing and internal bead. Context RX.
- 127 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has been thickened and pointed. Context HG, CG 18.
- 128 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The rim is upright with external rounding and internal bead. Context BQ, CG 7.

TYPE 11

- 129 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Simple form. Context DU, CG 17.
- 130 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Clubbed form. Context ME.
- 131 Rim sherd as 130. Context DU, CG 17.

TYPE 13

- 132 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a bevelled edge and slight internal bead. Similar example from RM. Context IG, CG 92.
- 133 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is of simple form with slight internal moulding. Context MF, CG 71.
- 134 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a slight bevel and internal bead. Context PR, CG 98.
- 135 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The simple everted rim has a slight internal moulding. Context CP, CG 27.
- 136 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled with internal moulding. Context DS, CG 12.
- 137 Rim sherd similar to 136, no moulding. Context HG, CG 18, similar from DZ.
- 138 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim has a flat top and slight internal bead. Context PZ, CG 98.
- 139 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright thickened rim has a flat top and slight internal bead. Context CP, CG 27.
- 140 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is bevelled and slightly expanded externally. Context KN, CG 68.
- 141 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim has a rounded bevel and slight internal bead. Context FL, CG 56.
- 142 Rim as 141 but more everted. Context MF, CG 71.
- 143 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is rounded on the exterior. Context DP, CG 23.
- 144 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is rounded on the exterior. Context MF, CG 71.
- 145 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled with an external rounding and internal bead. Context HG, CG 18.
- 146 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim has a slight external rounding. Context KF, CG 65. Similar from HS and DI (CG 18), NO (CG 51) and ML.
- 147 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is rounded and thickened with slight internal bead. Context PC, CG 96.
- 148 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The short, upright rim is thickened and rounded, Context MF, CG 71. Similar HS.
- 149 Rim sherd of a rounded jar as 148 but with lightly incised groove on exterior. Context EY, CG 34.
- 150 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim has a rounded bevel and pronounced internal bead. Context DN, CG 25.
- 151 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim has an external moulding. Context NZ, CG 79.
- 152 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is clubbed with slight indent at the neck. Context DP, CG 23, also one from GS.
- 153 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is rounded externally with a slight groove at the neck. Context NX.
- 154 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is clubbed with a slight internal bead. Context LB.
- 155 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is slightly clubbed. Context DC, CG 18.
- 156 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is clubbed and the neck is curved. Context CW, CG 28.
- 157 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is clubbed with a slight internal flattening at the rim top. Context HS, CG 18.

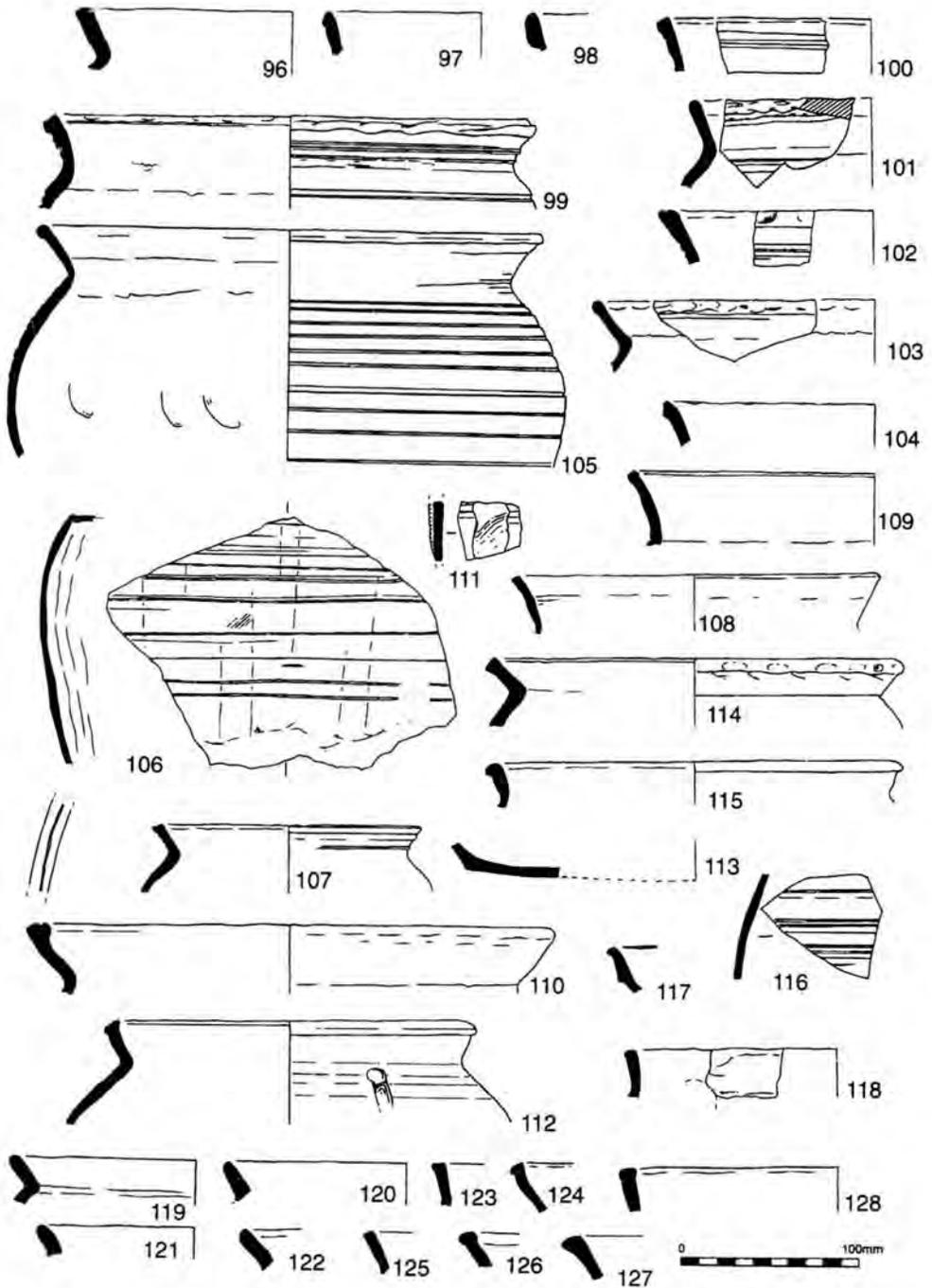


Fig. 26 Tenth to twelfth-century pottery: types 7-10; scale 1:4

- 158 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is bevelled and clubbed. Context QT.
- 159 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is slightly curved and bevelled with an internal bead. Context EO.
- 160 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is clubbed and the neck is curved. Context HS, CG 18.
- 161 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is rounded with a pronounced internal bead made by infolding. Context UE, CG 108.
- 162 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim has a rounded exterior emphasised by a groove. Context HS, CG 18.
- 163 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The slightly everted rim is rounded with a groove on top and moulding inside. Context F6 (found in 1981).
- 164 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim has finger-and-thumb pressing. Decoration is unusual on this ware. Context JK, CG 46.
- 165 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has finger-and-thumb pressing, thumb inside, probably left-handed. The neck/body junction projects slightly internally. Context RD, CG 106.
- 166 Rim of a bowl, intumed with slight groove to emphasise top of rim externally. Context DU, CG 17.
- 167 Body sherd of a jar with two- and three-tooth horizontal combing. Context RD, CG 106.

TYPE 14

- 168 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has slight clubbing externally and an internal bead. On the outer neck is slight 'combing', probably accidental. Well-preserved sherd, calcareous reaction with acid. Context QS, CG 92.
- 169 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has an internal bead and a light groove to emphasise the external rounding. On the rim-top is a slight groove. Context HW, CG 64.
- 170 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The almost upright rim is bevelled and there are the remains of finger moulding on the interior. Context KN, CG 68.
- 171 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has rough external moulding. Context CT, CG 12.
- 172 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is slightly flattened on top. Context AK, CG 6.

TYPE 16A

- 173 Rim and shoulder sherds of a rounded jar. The everted rim is concave within with a wide bead. Externally the rounding of the rim top is emphasised by a slight groove. The rim top also carries a central groove. Context AS, CG 7.
- 174 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with simple everted rim. Context JN, CG 20.
- 175 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is bevelled. Context JK, CG 46.
- 176 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The upright rim is flattened on top with a bead on the inside and outside. The neck is quite thick. Context MF, CG 71.

TYPE 16B

- 177 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. Form as 173. Context HP/HR. Similar sherds from EO, FY and DL.

TYPE 17

- 178 Rim sherds from a rounded jar. The everted rim has an external moulding outlined by a slight groove and a modelled bead within. Context QR, CG 105.

TYPE 18

- 179 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with simple, everted rim. Context JV, CG 45.
- 180 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar with simple everted rim and a lot of fingering of the neck. Context JV, CG 45.
- 181 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The simple everted rim is burnished in horizontal lines on the inside rather like 91. Context TG, CG 92.
- 182 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. Simple everted form with slight internal bead. Context JV, CG 45.
- 183 Rim sherd of a rounded jar, simple form. Context BL, CG 2.
- 184 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has an internal moulding. Context BR, CG 6.

TYPE 20

- 185 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has slight mouldings inside and outside. Context HM, CG 61.
- 186 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with simple bevelled everted rim. Context EW, CG 41.

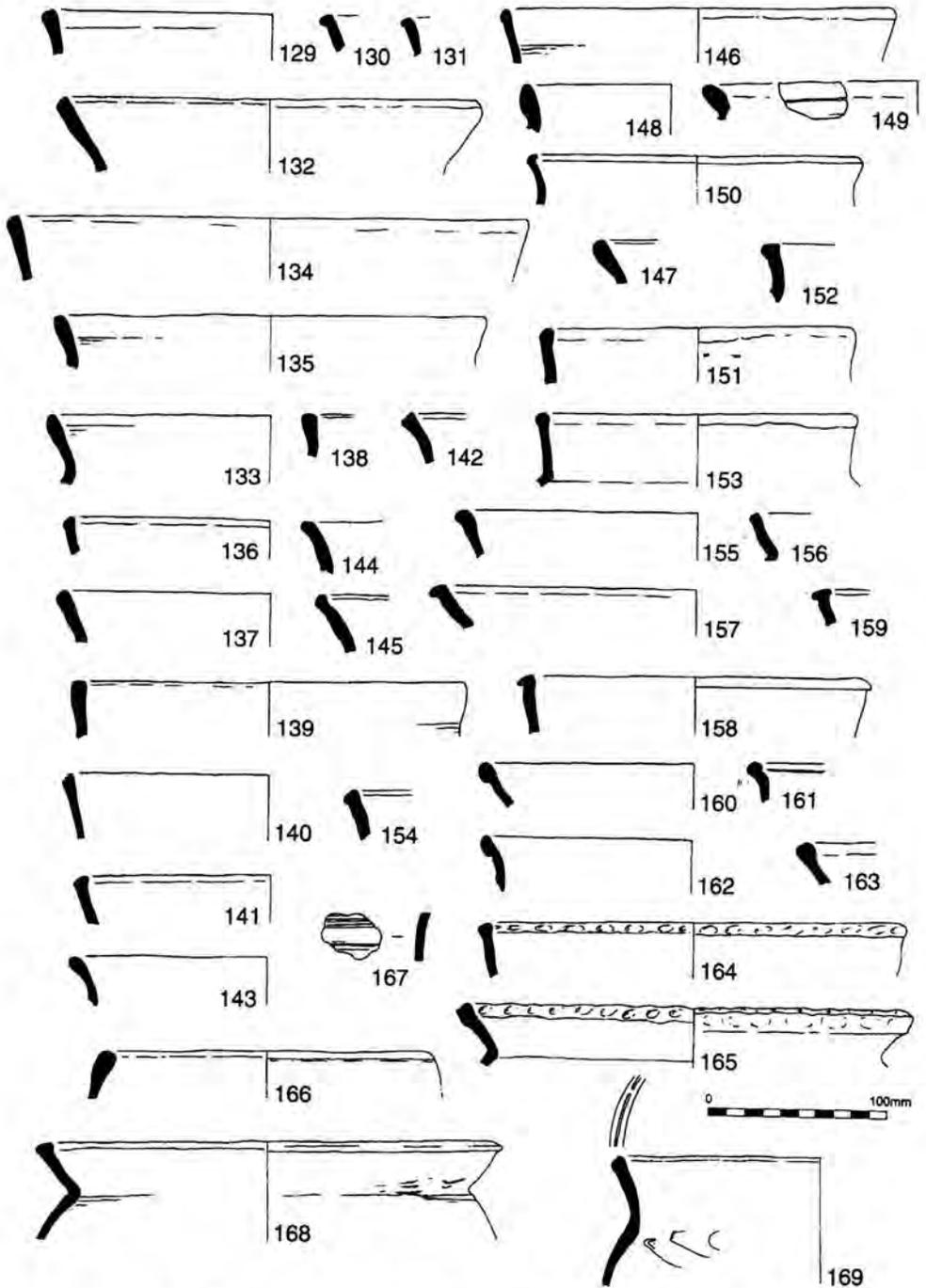


Fig. 27 Tenth to twelfth-century pottery: types 11, 13, and 14; scale 1:4

TYPE 24

187 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a slight external moulding and short incisions on the rim top. Context QP, CG 104.

TYPE 25

188 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with slight bevel and internal bead. Context DW, CG 18.

189 Base sherd of a rounded jar. Context KO, CG 66.

190 Rim sherds of a ? bowl. The strongly everted rim is clubbed with a hollow on top and is concave internally. Context UE, CG 108.

TYPE 26

191 Rim sherd of a rounded jar with rounded bevel. Context NZ, CG 79.

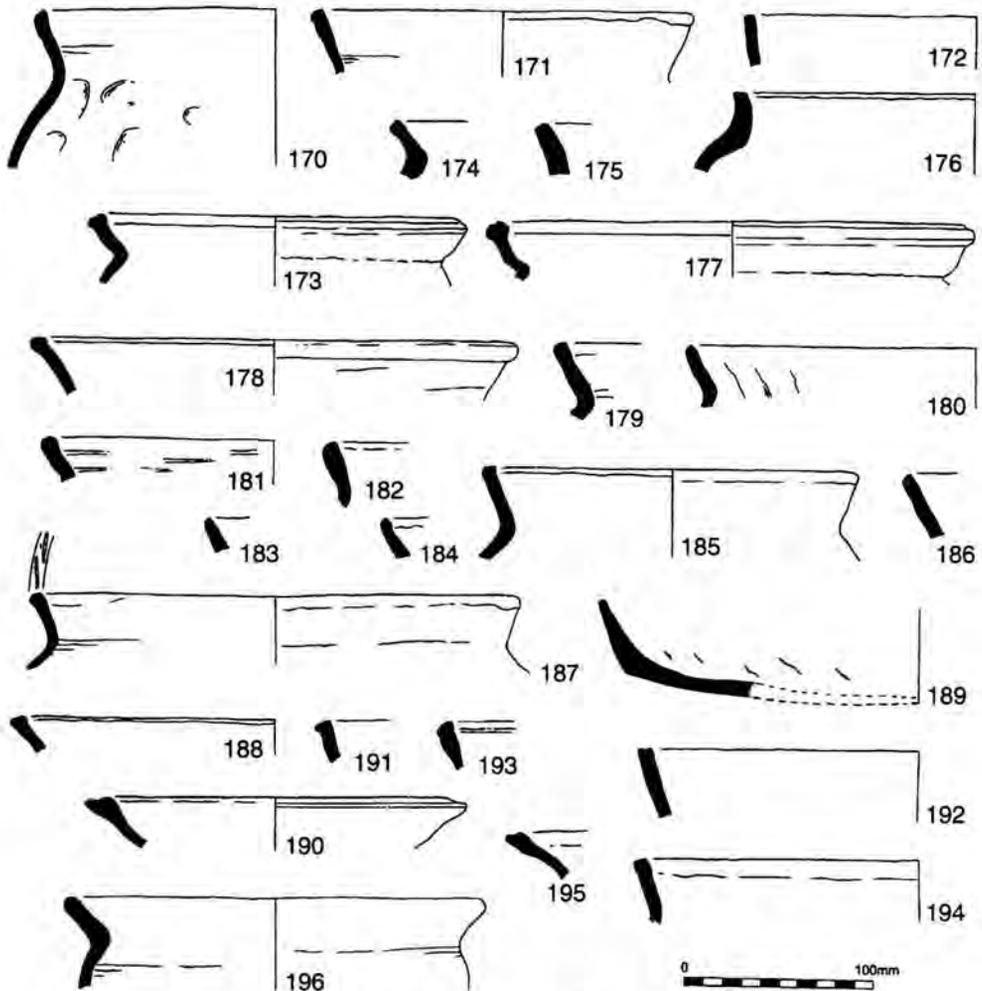


Fig. 28 Tenth to twelfth-century pottery: types 14, 16A, 16B, 17, 20, 24-7, 30, and 34; scale 1:4

TYPE 28

192 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim has a flat top with a slight hollow. Context KD, CG 22.

TYPE 30

193 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is thickened with a rounded bevel and an internal moulding and shallow groove below. Context FY, CG 36.

TYPE 34

- 194 Rim sherd of a rounded jar. The everted rim is slightly bevelled with mouldings inside and out. Context FP, CG 46.
- 195 Rim sherd of a rounded jar, bowl or lid. The strongly everted rim has a hollow in the rim top and an internal moulding. Context TB, CG 82. See Rahtz and Hirst 1974, fig. 26, 20-1 for this rim form.
- 196 Rim and shoulder sherd of a rounded jar. The simple everted rim has a slightly angled edge internally. Context QB, CG 83 (Pearson 1986, LAP 71).

METALWORK (Figs 29 and 30)

IRON OBJECTS

- 1 Padlock key, bit and terminal incomplete. The bit has broken off to leave two prongs (Goodall 1977, objects 1-3; Higham and Rouillard 80-2). Context MF (CG 71), find 174; lab no 4125, x-ray no 320.
- 2 Square-sectioned bar, hooked at each end. Context FX (CG 58), find 97; x-ray 4126.
- 3 ?Square-sectioned bar, flattened at one end with three wide indentations on each side and hooked at the other. The hook becomes thinner in section towards the end. Context XE (CG 121), find 308; x-ray no 6060.
- 4 Pointed square-sectioned bar, expanded and flattened at one end and pointed at the other. ?Drill bit. Context ?FM, find 307; x-ray no 6015.
- 5 Square sectioned iron bar, flattened at one end and slightly expanded at the other. ?Drill bit. Context UR (CG 91), find 269; x-ray no 6052.
- 6 Flat hooked blade, broken off at wider end. Pruning hook size. Context AS (CG 7), find 30; lab no 2652, x-ray no 310.
- 7 Broken section of thick iron bar. ?Part of wedge. Context AS (CG 7), find 29; lab and x-ray no 2665.
- 8 Square-sectioned nail with oval head. Context BR (CG 6), find 100; lab no 2661.
- 9 Square-sectioned nail, oval head. Context WT (CG 117), find 289; x-ray no 6059.
- 10 Square-sectioned nail, round head, badly corroded. Context PA, find 226/227; x-ray no 6040.
- 11 Square-sectioned nail, oval head. Context MF (CG 71), find 217; x-ray no 6035.
- 12 Square-sectioned nail, round head. Context UD (CG 82), find 268; x-ray no 6051.
- 13 Square-sectioned nail with oval head. Context FT (CG 36), lab no 2660.
- 14 Round-sectioned nail, round head. Well-made object intended for specialised use? Context QP (CG 104), find 235; x-ray no 6046.
- 15 Square-sectioned pointed 'hook'. Rather thin for a nail and 'head' end corroded away. Context NF (CG 73), find 209; x-ray 6037.
- 16 Square-sectioned staple. Context SA (CG 100), find 250; lab no 6050.
- 17 Badly corroded loop with projecting terminal. The terminal may be brass-tipped as that part is denser on the x-ray. Context NF (CG 73), find 210; x-ray no 6038.

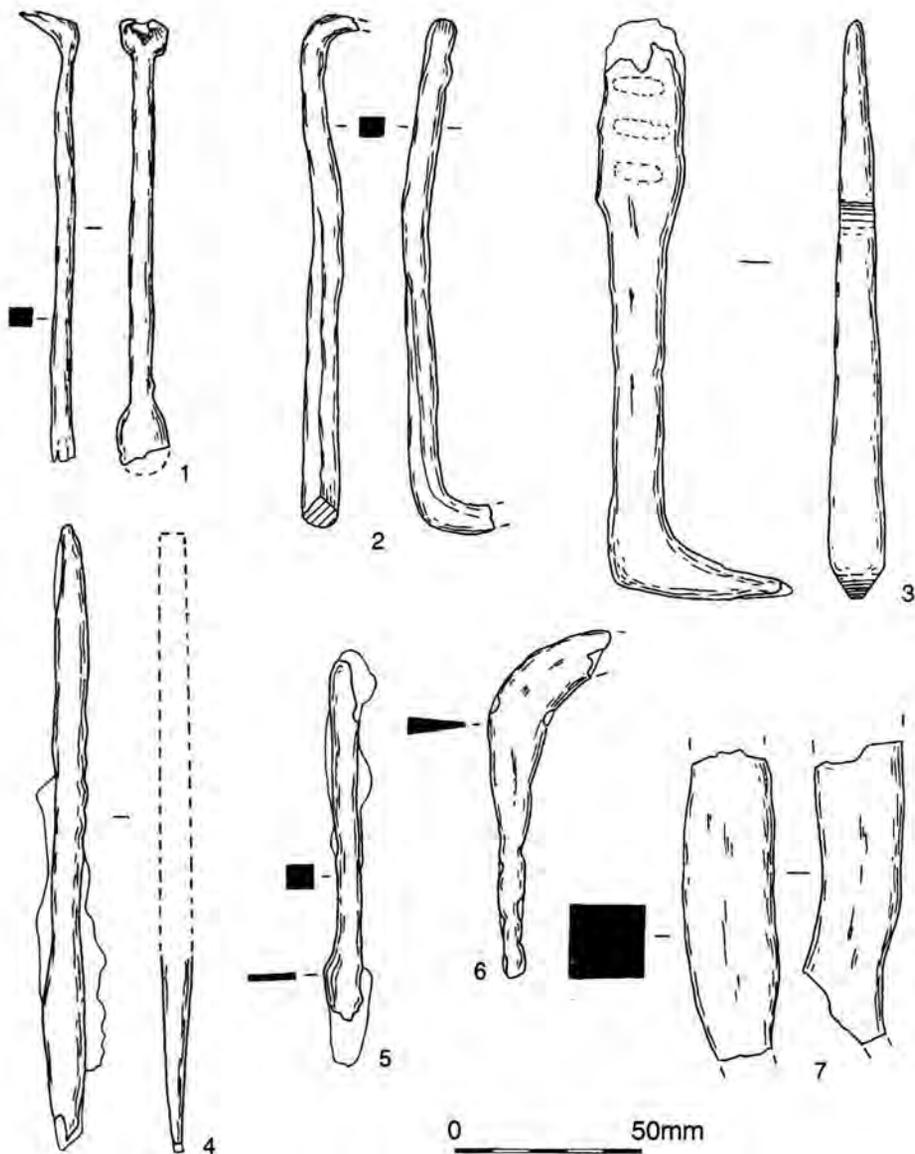


Fig. 29 Iron objects; scale 1:2

- 18 Fragment of horse-shoe, no calkin, one round nail hole. Probably Clark's type 1 (Clark 1995a, 85-6). Context WO (CG 115), find 304; x-ray no 6056.
- 19 Most of a stirrup formed of squared bar, suspension loop broken, but in the same plane as the bow. The foot-rest (badly corroded and drawn from x-ray) is broken off and appears to consist of a flat double loop of bar with a moulded dumb-bell shaped central area and two large oval openings. On the x-ray there are denser areas showing at the edges which usually indicates a covering in a copper or lead/tin alloy. This is indicated by double lines in the drawing. A small fragment on the right with hardly any iron remaining also has a little ?alloy covering.

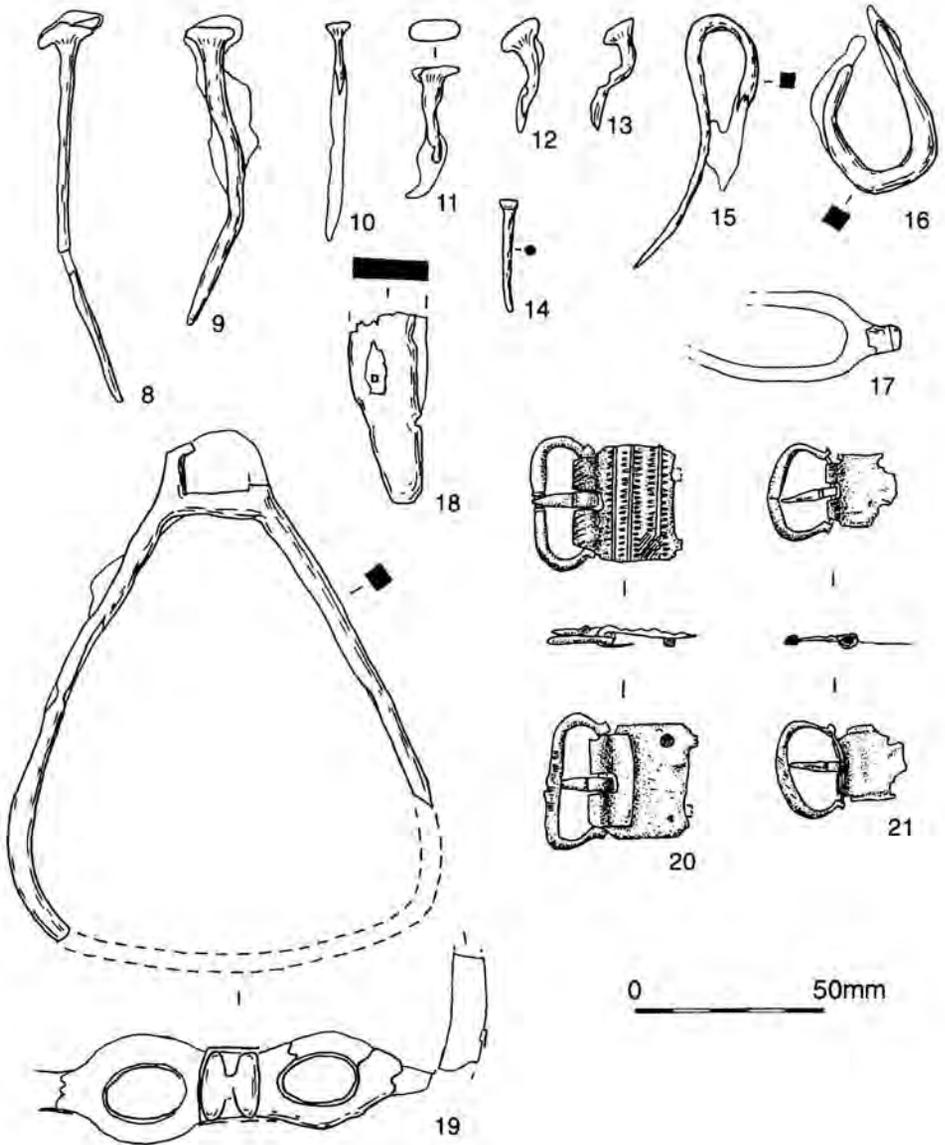


Fig. 30 Iron and copper-alloy objects; scale 1:2

Stirrups are extremely rare finds and it is something of a surprise to find one on what appears on other evidence to be a 'peasant' site. It was found close to the buckle no. 20 below. An example of similar date from Winchester had its loop at right angles to the bow (Biddle 1990, fig. 332, 3878). There are no close parallels among the Viking-period stirrups described by Seaby and Woodfield (1980). The closest apparent parallels are copper-alloy examples from London in which the underside of the foot-rests are moulded (Clark 1995b, fig. 55, 84 and MoL 025587). Even these are unsatisfactory comparanda. Context WP (CG 116), find 284; x-ray 6057.

COPPER-ALLOY OBJECTS

- 20 Large buckle with oval frame and notch for pin and terminals at the bar, pin with transverse ridge and thick plate. The plate is decorated with incised lines broken up with one wide incised line and two raised strips of the same width. One iron rivet (?repair) and one projecting truncated tang and another broken off secured the plate to the belt. Context WP (CG 116), find 285; lab no 6085 (Egan and Pritchard 1991, fig. 42, 277, dated 1350-1400, certainly too late for this example).
- 21 Small buckle with pin and transverse ridge and thin sheet plate. The buckle is undecorated apart from the pin ridge and terminals at the bar. The plate is broken off at the loops and where the rivets would have been. Context JM (CG 44), find 103; lab nos 6042 and 2650 (Egan and Pritchard 1991, fig. 45, 303, dated 1150-1200).

SLAG A. L. Tubb

A single fragment of tap slag was found in context LN (F64, CG 53). X-ray fluorescence analysis shows only iron. Other metals were not detected. The detection limit is about 0.1%. Some silicon, potassium, and calcium were detected, but as the sample has not been conserved these elements may be attributable to surface contamination with soil. The evidence is consistent with this being iron tap slag.

DISCUSSION M. Ponsford

Given the presence of iron-mining in a later period towards the top of the wood to the east in recent times, it is surprising that more evidence of iron-working was not found on the medieval site (Campbell 1997, 71, C445-C470). This provides negative evidence that the main activity at the site was of an agricultural nature although there was iron-working somewhere in the vicinity.

LITHIC FINDS Elizabeth A Walker

A total of 154 prehistoric lithics was recorded as single finds, of which 66 examples were selected for further study after flakes and blades were excluded. A full catalogue of the lithics examined is in archive. Each piece has been identified to material, typology and, where possible, to period. The finds came from a variety of contexts with many of the lithics believed to have been disturbed from their original contexts and redeposited during the medieval period. The lithics were thus found, mixed with potsherds, in the upper layers of the site overlying and in medieval features. The study here has consequently treated the collection as an unstratified group of finds and has attempted to identify patterns within it using the accepted broad period-based typologies.

MESOLITHIC

A single microlith provides evidence of Mesolithic activity in the Bickley area. This find (Fig. 31, 1, trench 1989) is the tip fragment of a microlith with an obliquely blunted point made on a chert blade. It shows a snap at the base of the retouch and, therefore, being incomplete, it cannot be assigned more precisely within a Mesolithic chronology based on microlithic typology. Both Later Mesolithic and Early Mesolithic typologies can include simple oblique points.

In addition to this microlith there are three flint microblades (find 34 – DH, CG 30); find 301, LS; find 4 – CK, CG 27) which may possibly be of Mesolithic date. However, since microblades often occur as debitage in other periods, these need not necessarily provide evidence of Mesolithic knapping at Bickley. Microblade find 34 shows evidence of utilisation along the length of one side. This may possibly have been used as a simple cutting tool at some time.

NEOLITHIC

The Neolithic period is represented at Bickley by the presence of a single leaf-shaped arrowhead of kite-shaped form made of flint (Fig. 30, 2). Such arrowhead forms have been interpreted by Green as falling between a date range of 2600 and 1900 BC (Green 1984, 19).

NEOLITHIC OR BRONZE AGE

Fourteen scrapers have been identified among the collection, two of which are flint end-scrapers made on blades (Fig. 31, 3 and find 65 – EW, CG 41), the latter made on a step-fractured blade). The rest of the scrapers are made on flakes with convex retouch. Two of these scrapers are cortical, catalogue no. 4 made on a very thick flake and catalogue no. 5 which has retouch around three-quarters of its edge. The remaining scrapers have been made on more heavily worked flint cores. Of these catalogue no. 6 is a scraper made on a core rejuvenation flake, while find 244 (QZ, CG 92) has its scraping edge retouched through an older patination. There are two standard convex scrapers (Fig. 31, 7 and 8), two crudely retouched scrapers (find 24, AS, CG 7 and find 215, OJ, CG 94) and four scraper fragments – finds 67(EB), 142 (LB), 86 (FY, CG 36) and 155 (ME). Unfortunately scrapers do not lend themselves to precise dating, for they continue in use with no typological difference throughout the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods.

A knife fragment (Fig. 31, 9) appears to have broken during manufacture and shows invasive retouch on the dorsal surface that has been truncated by a snap. This implement has also been retouched on its ventral surface.

BRONZE AGE

Two complete knives are present. A leaf-shaped knife (Fig. 31, 10), is bifacially retouched with invasive pressure flaking along on edge, while the other edge is cortical and shows signs of wear and abrasion. It is unpatinated and has had heavy use. The other knife (Fig. 31, 11), is a large plano-convex knife with pressure flaking on its dorsal surface.

CONCLUSIONS

The finds examined include artefacts of Mesolithic, Neolithic and Bronze Age date. Many of the lithics examined are difficult to assign unequivocally to a single period and are omitted from the above discussion, as are a number of retouched fragments or implements. The collection is largely unpatinated, with few of the lithics studied showing any signs of the development of a patina. A single scraper made on an older patinated flake does not show any signs of the development of a patina on its retouched scraping edge. Although unpatinated it is clear that the lithic finds studied do not display any obvious signs of later reuse. They all have retouched edges consistent with prehistoric tool types and they do not show any obvious signs of medieval usage. The debitage examined comprised blades and flakes of various sizes and a single core.

Additional note M. Ponsford

It must be wondered whether any of this lithic material was reused in the medieval period as strike-a-lights. In the following catalogue, those flints in stratified context groups are indicated. Although Elizabeth Walker considers that there is no evidence for reuse, it seems possible that the material may perhaps have been *collected* for this purpose and that slight use might result in a 'utilised' blade or flake. The lithics in actual features are those from F64 (LN, CG 53), F84 (RP, CG 79) and F132 (UE, CG 108), while the rest is from soil deposits over features. The flint from DH (fill of F12) and HF are from the linear gullies, but the amount from those features was limited as explained in the description of trench 1983 above. A similar quantity and range of lithics was also found at Lower Court Farm, Long Ashton (Leech and Pearson 1986, 23-4). These collections, albeit technically unstratified on medieval sites, demonstrate the potential for prehistoric studies in this part of north Somerset.

CATALOGUE (Fig. 31)

- 1 Chert microlith tip. Mesolithic. Context XC, find 288, trench 1989.
- 2 Flint leaf-shaped arrowhead of kite-shaped form. Unpatinated. Neolithic. Context TE (CG 107), find 264.
- 3 Flint end-scraper. Starting to develop a patina. Neolithic/Bronze Age. Context SQ, find 258.
- 4 Black flint scraper made on a cortical round flint flake. Unpatinated. Neolithic/Bronze Age. Context EW (CG 41), find 63.
- 5 Flint scraper with a cortical surface. The scraping edge is around three-quarters of the implement. Unpatinated. Neolithic/Bronze Age. Context QP (CG 104), find 236.
- 6 Flint scraper made on a core rejuvenation flake. Unpatinated. Neolithic/Bronze Age. Context EL, find 48.
- 7 Flint scraper made on a cortical flake. Unpatinated. Neolithic/Bronze Age. Context LB, find 147.
- 8 Grey flint scraper. Unpatinated. Possibly Mesolithic. Context HS (CG 18), find 114.
- 9 Flint scraper or possible knife which has broken during manufacture. It has invasive retouch on the dorsal surface which has been truncated by a snap. The piece has subsequently been further retouched on the ventral surface. Unpatinated. Neolithic/Bronze Age. Context LB, find 146.
- 10 Flint bifacially retouched knife with invasive retouch on one edge. A cortical edge shows wear and rounding of the cortex. There is some utilisation along the opposite edge. Unpatinated. Neolithic/Bronze Age. Context QL (CG 103), find 234.
- 11 Black plano-convex flint knife with marginal retouch. Cortex survives on the surface parallel to the retouch. Unpatinated. Bronze Age. Context NE (CG 94), find 207.

THE STONE OBJECTS Roger Clark

Sixty-nine objects of stone were recorded as special finds. Apart from the small schist hone (Fig. 33, 6), which is almost certainly from Scandinavia, the rest are of various sandstones of more local derivation. The majority of them are quite likely to be from Devonian Old Red Sandstone beds for which possible sources are not far away: the Mendips above Blagdon and Burrington; the coast between Clevedon and Portishead; the Failand Ridge between Clapton-in-Gordan and Abbots Leigh. Others may be sandstones and quartzites from Lower

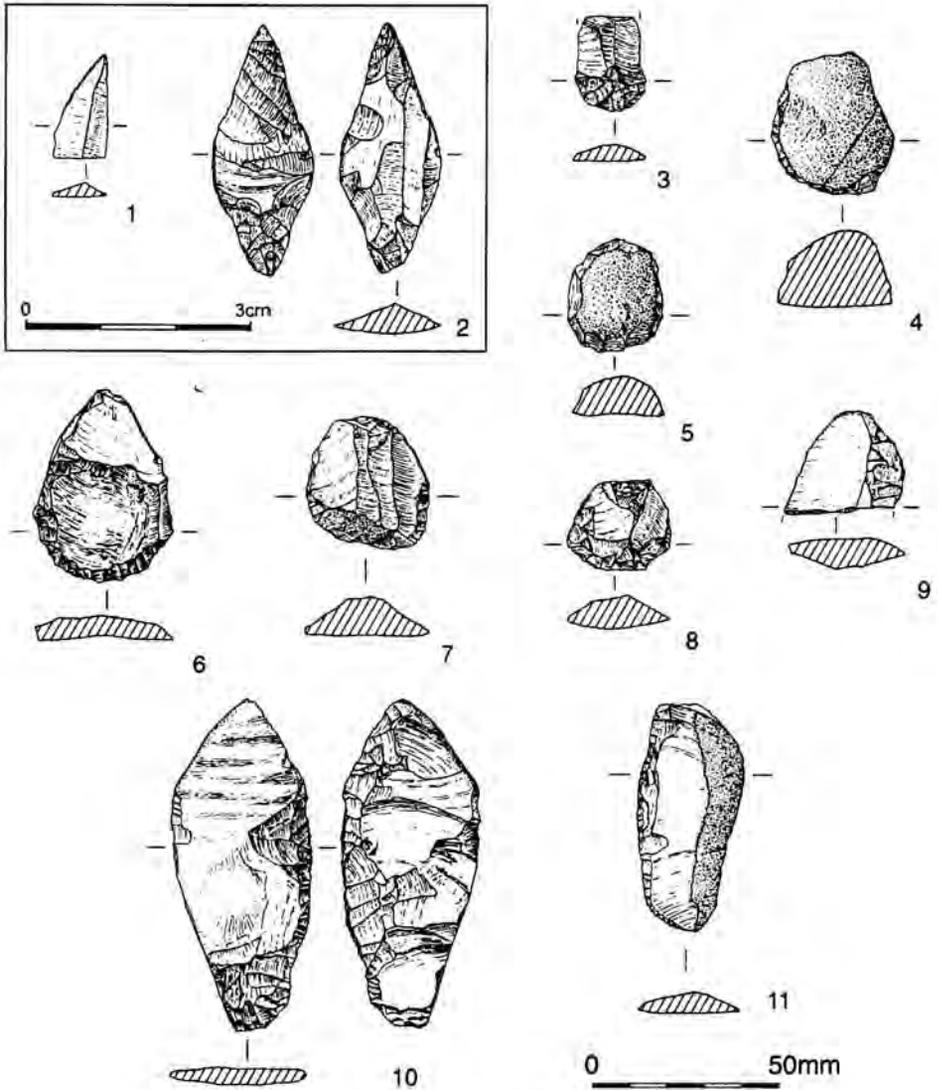


Fig. 31 Lithic objects; scale 1:2

Carboniferous beds, especially the Upper Cromhall Sandstone and Quartzitic Sandstone with sources around Ashton Court and Bristol. It is not likely that many are Pennant Sandstone with a possible nearby source at Nailsea (although not exposed there); the fragments 126, 300, and 303 (natural slab, not illustrated) have carbonaceous fragments and may be Pennant.

DISCUSSION M Ponsford

One notable feature is the lack of Pennant among the hones although over 20 fragments of Pennant slabs were found on the site. In Bristol the local stone used for hones is almost invariably Pennant. The hones from Bickley have all the appearance of having been picked up casually as

stones and used without dressing. In the city, on the other hand, hones are generally dressed for use and probably brought to market in this form. The Bickley stones vary greatly in size and were probably used for sharpening everything from a sickle (if not a scythe) to woodland tools (such as the pruning hook, Fig. 29, 6, and axes) and domestic knives. Hones in features include two from the rock-cut pit F1 (AS, Fig. 33, 8 and Fig. 34, 14) and five from the floor features and deposits in Building 1 (Fig. 33, 12 and 13, Fig. 34, 17 and Fig. 35, 24). One came from the layer KD, the bottom of the cultivated soils north of F20 (22). Also from KD was a quernstone fragment (Fig. 32, 2). This is thought to be a layer deposited in the 11th rather than the 12th century. From over the decayed F20 came quernstone fragments nos 3 (from F18) and 5 (over the wall). The quern fragments are not parts of the same stone, as the stone varies geologically. It is a moot point whether these stones had been used on site or were relics from the Roman or early medieval periods. All geological identifications are by Roger Clark.

CATALOGUE (Figs 32-35)

Quern fragments

- 1 Fragment of quernstone in coarsish sandstone, smoothed from use towards the edge. Partly burnt. Context EB, find 45.
- 2 Outer edge of a quernstone in coarsish sandstone, surface broken but smoothed at the edge. Context KD (CG 22) find 126.
- 3 Outer edge of quernstone in coarsish sandstone, smoothed at the edge. Context DU (CG 17), find 302.
- 4 Fragment of the outer edge of a quernstone. Burnt. Context XH, find 300.
- 5 Edge fragment of a quernstone, probably part of an upper stone. Perforation for ?handle towards edge is polished within. Old Red Sandstone. Context HS (CG 18), find 104.

Hones

- 6 End of a hone of micaceous schist almost certainly from Scandinavia. Such hones are common in Bristol from Norman contexts. Context EW (CG 41), find 62.
- 7 Most of a hone found in three parts, smoothed on all surfaces except broken end and perforated for suspension. Probably Old Red Sandstone. Contexts FT (CG 36), LP, RX, finds 84, 212, 257.
- 8 Rounded end of a hone in fine-grained sandstone. Context BF (CG 7), find 19.
- 9 Fragment of large hone in fine-grained sandstone. Old Red Sandstone. Context EY (CG 34), find 69.
- 10 End fragment of a hone polished on all unbroken surfaces. Old Red Sandstone. Context EL, find 49.
- 11 Large piece of stone utilised as a sharpening stone for large implements. Old Red Sandstone. Context KD (CG 22), find 125.
- 12 Large fragment of a utilised piece of fine-grained sandstone. The edge is worn and there is a point-sharpening groove on one face. The two wider faces and one edge have been worn. Context OD (CG 46), find 216.
- 13 Large fragment of stone utilised as a hone. Only one face is polished and dished with point-sharpening evidence. ?Old Red Sandstone. Context HN (CG 46), find 88.
- 14 Large fragment of a stone utilised as a hone. Smoothed on over 50% of its surface. Fine-grained sandstone. Context AS (CG 7), find 23.
- 15 Large fragment of stone utilised as a hone. The only smooth face is the curved narrow edge but there is slight wear on one face. Context KO (CG 66), find 139.

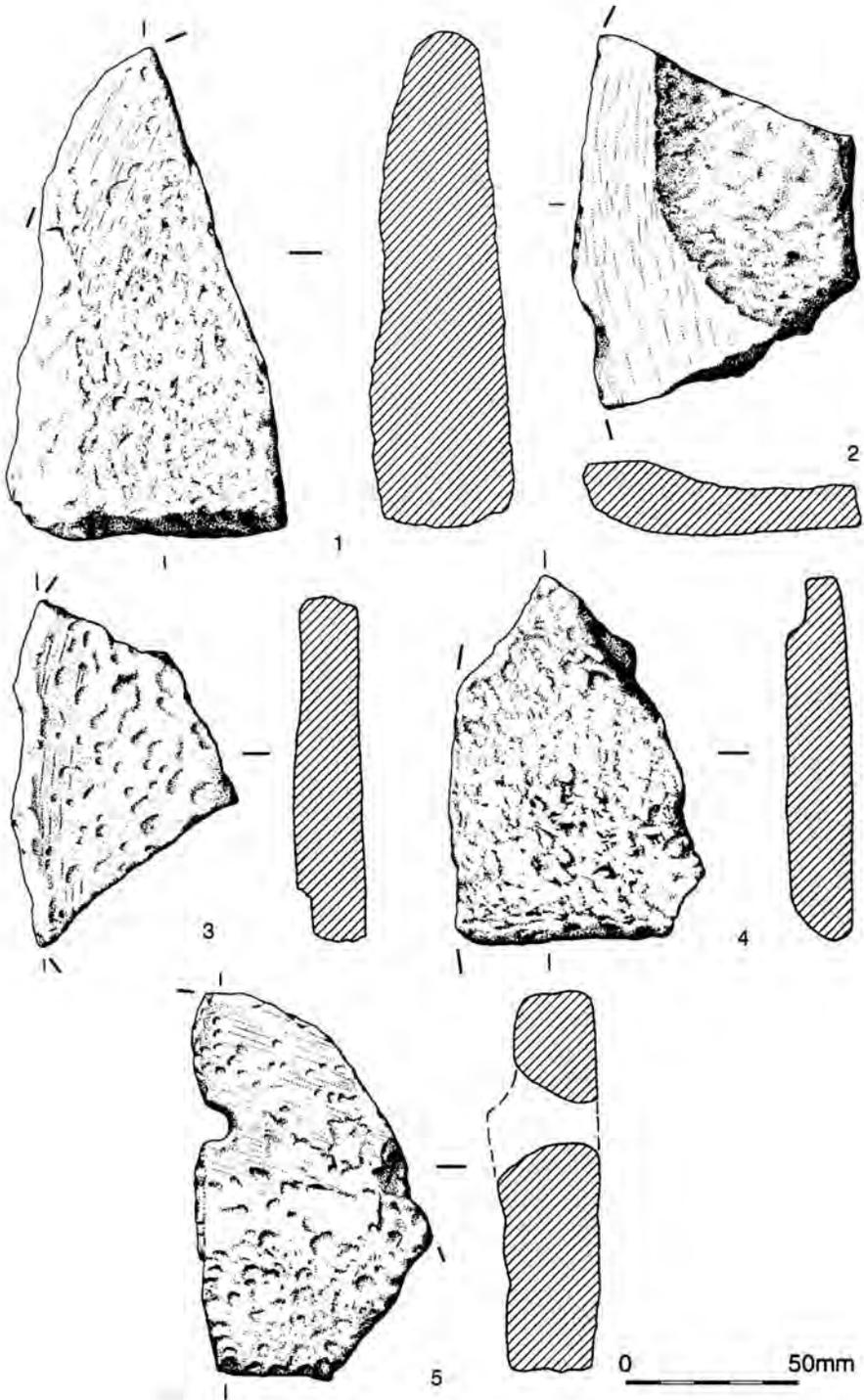


Fig. 32 Stone objects: quernstone fragments; scale as shown

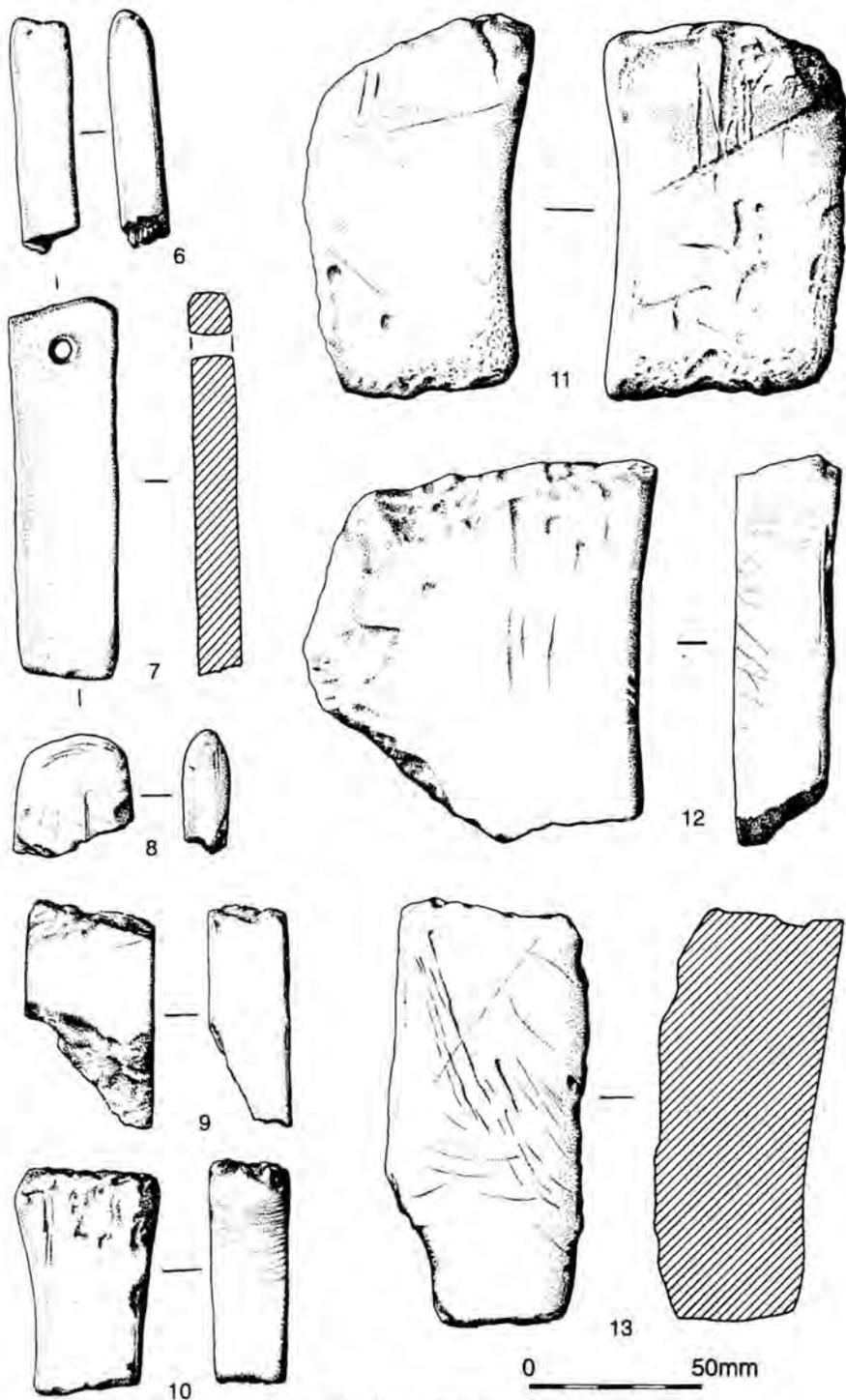


Fig. 33 Stone objects; hoes; scale as shown

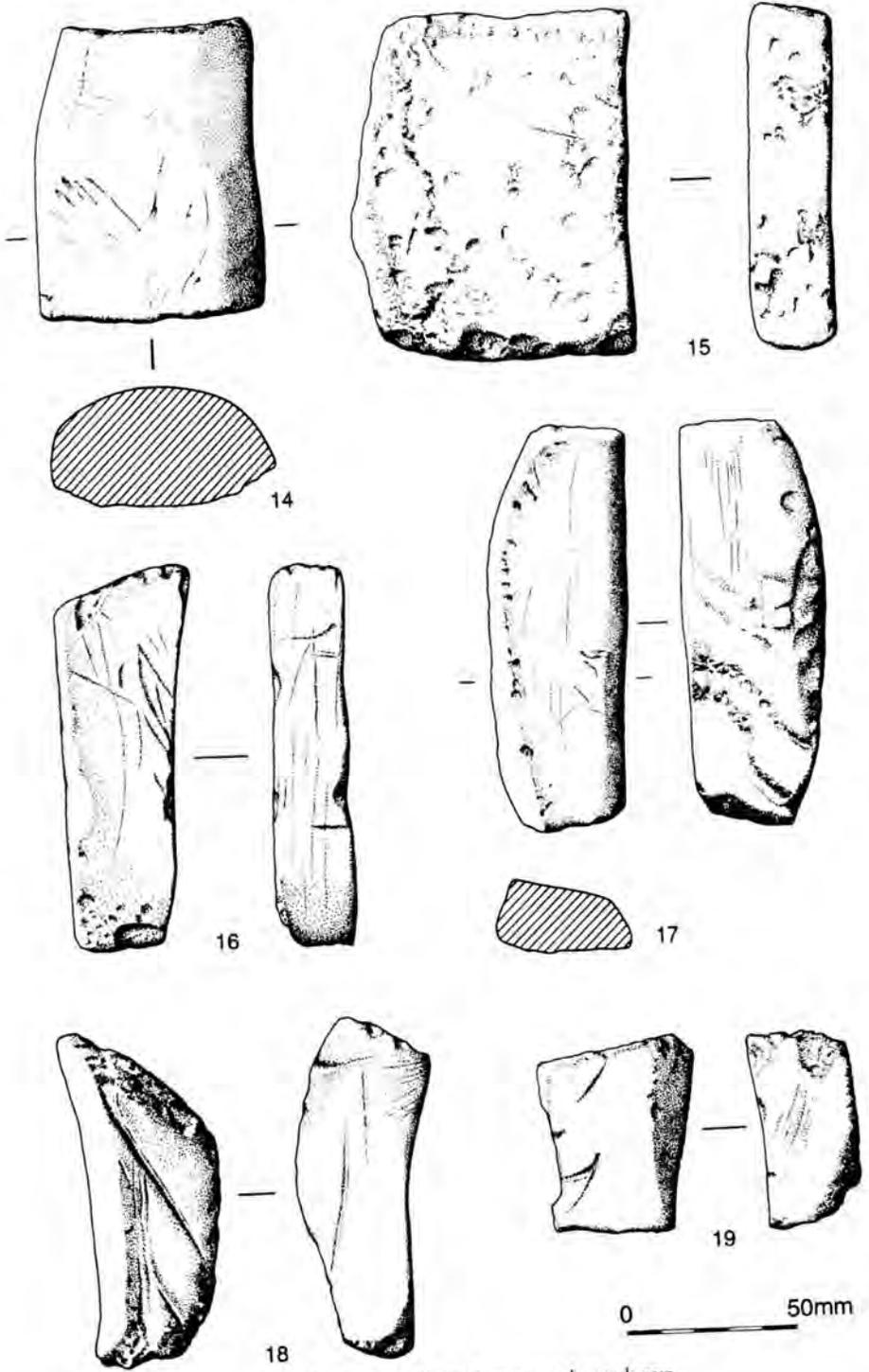


Fig. 34 Stone objects: hones; scale as shown

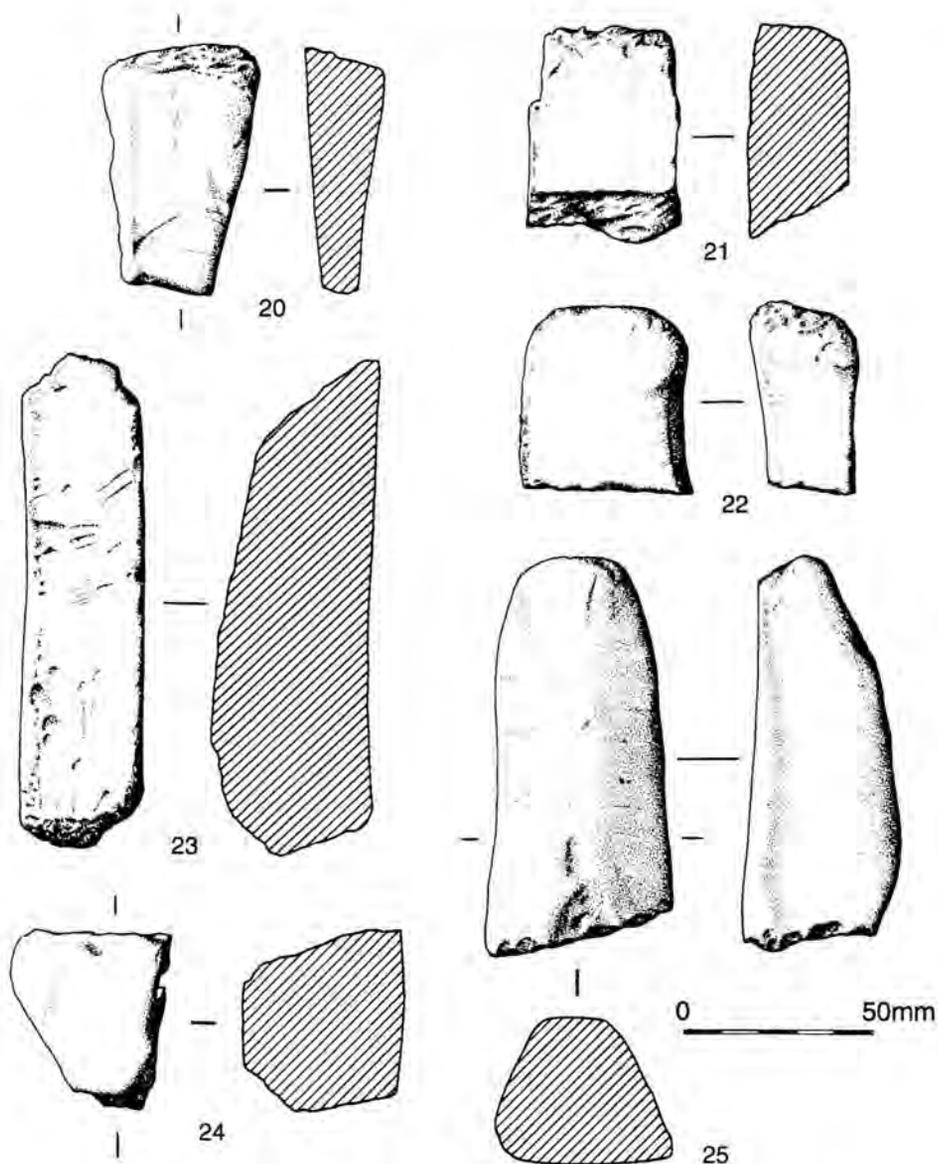


Fig. 35 Stone objects: hones; scale 1:2

- 16 Large broken fragment of a stone used as a hone. One narrow side is dished and polished and one face less so, but with point-sharpening grooves. ?Old Red Sandstone. Context LE (CG 66), find 148.
- 17 Stone, fine-grained sandstone, utilised as a hone. Polished on all surfaces. Context GB (CG 46), find 90.
- 18 Fragment of stone used as a hone. Two faces polished and dished, one with deep point-sharpening groove. ?Old Red Sandstone. Context EL, find 50.

- 19 Broken fragment of a stone utilised as a hone. Old Red Sandstone. Context FM (CG 42), find 66
- 20 Broken fragment of a stone used as a hone. Polished on four sides but not ends. Context RA, find 242.
- 21 Fragment of stone utilised as a hone. Two adjacent faces polished. Old Red Sandstone. Context RH, find 249.
- 22 End of a stone utilised as a hone with one narrow and one wide face polished and dished. Old Red Sandstone. Context WH (CG 46), find 283.
- 23 Two fragments of a large stone used as hone. Old Red Sandstone. U/S, find 78.
- 24 Broken fragment of stone used as a hone with polish on two faces. Possibly used as a hone. Old Red Sandstone. Context UJ (CG 100), find 270.
- 25 Probably a broken pebble but could have been brought to the site and utilised as a hone. Polish rather irregular for a hone. ?Old Red Sandstone but possibly Pennant. Context DI (CG 18), find 37.

THE ANIMAL BONE Gerry Skinner

THE COLLECTION

A total of 680 fragments of bone from 128 contexts was present in the sample examined. The material was mostly in poor condition with almost 90% of the fragments graded as poor (Table 3). Most of the fragments were badly abraded or weathered, indicating that they may have spent some time on the surface before final burial. A small proportion (22 fragments, 3.2%) of the bones had been burnt before burial. The fragments were also small in size, most of them below 50mm diameter. Given these factors it is not surprising that most (75%) of the fragments were not identified to species. Table 4 is a summary of the species identified, and the number of fragments of each species identified.

Table 3: Condition of the sample

<i>Condition</i>	<i>No. of fragments (%)</i>
Good	18 (2.6)
Fair	51 (7.6)
Poor	611 (89.8)
total	680 (100)

Table 4 Nos of fragments of each species identified

<i>Species</i>	<i>No. of identified fragments</i>
Bird (not identified to species)	21
Cattle	62
Red deer	4
Roe deer	3
Pig	8
Rabbit	5
Sheep/goat	70
Unidentifiable	507
total	680

DISCUSSION

Given the small number of bones identified per context it was not feasible to undertake any statistical analysis either by phase, species, or body part. However some brief observations can be made about the remains. Most of the material identified came from phases dated to the 12th century so it is appropriate to discuss the sample as a whole. The most striking observation is the relatively high proportion of deer bones. The presence of deer may indicate that hunting was carried out locally. In larger urban sites, the presence of deer has been associated with high status buildings (Grant 1984; Maltby 1979). It was not possible to identify any of the bird fragments to species, but it would have been interesting to know if they were game birds. Given the small number of bones identified there is quite a wide range of species represented. Several of the fragments had cut marks on them, indicating they were food items.

It is difficult to come to any real conclusions when the amount of material recovered is so small. The presence of a number of species, including a relatively large proportion of deer suggests that the 12th-century occupants may well have been hunting to some extent.

Additional note M. Ponsford

The deer bone came from contexts, DP, EA, FY, GQ (2), NX and UX. The only bone from a filling was that from UX (the drain, F75). The bones could be seen as part of the soil and be of any date, although a medieval one is most likely. An antler tine, perforated at the broad end (measuring 110 x 24 x 17mm), could be interpreted as an Iron Age object (e.g. Bulleid and Gray 1917, fig. 155, type A, 'cheek-pieces') but was found in the floor material NX. The rabbit bones all came from the tail of the bank in trench 1982B and are probably recent. Overall the quantities of bone were relatively small but their distribution corresponds broadly with that of the pottery, with the largest amounts coming from over F20, the garden, and the swallet. A detailed list of the provenance of the fragments is in archive.

DISCUSSION

THE DEMISE OF THE BUILDINGS

Building 1 was probably demolished before Building 2 was erected. It must have been constructed in the first half of the 12th century and was probably demolished c. 1150. There was no certain evidence for long life, such as replacement of timbers. Indeed it may have had a relatively short life. The finds of a stirrup and a horse-shoe fragment suggest that this might have been a stable or a store.

Building 2 was, therefore, probably erected c. 1150, if the pit F132 is part of the structure and of the history of Building 1. The latest Ham Green sherds on the site are those from the rim-faced jugs dated to c. 1200 although they could be earlier (Fig. 23, 36 and 37). It was thought that the building might have been burnt down from the evidence of burnt clay in postholes and on the site generally. Burnt clay was also found in the postholes of Building 1 but it seems unlikely that both buildings suffered fire. They may, however, have been burnt down as a matter of course, for reasons of cleanliness, disease, or because of accidents with ovens. The burnt clay lumps in the fill of the oven F84 were probably derived from its usage. The evidence of the pottery is that the site, or this part of it, was abandoned c. 1200. The deposits above the levelled structures were a variety of red-brown loams. Some of this material may have been the remains of wattle walls daubed with clay or cob that often takes on a yellow hue.

The swallet was evidently used for dumping rubbish but the top was only filled in the last 200 years or less; the site was largely abandoned until relatively recently. In more recent times and

certainly since the last war the area of the excavation was used as a kitchen garden for the main house. This activity also introduced an element of disturbance from digging, particularly the introduction of cinder and coal and the occasional beer bottle or fragment.

SOURCES AND PARALLELS FOR THE BUILDINGS

The Bickley buildings are as yet the only domestic timber earth-fast buildings of 12th-century date to have been excavated in north Somerset. The tradition of timber building construction discussed here is largely peculiar to the late Saxon period and into the 12th century.

Excavations at Lower Court Farm, Long Ashton (ST 548 704; Leech and Pearson 1986) on the site of what was thought to be that of the former village of Ashton Philips and dated to the 11th century, found a series of eleven enclosures thought to be individual crofts. Only three showed any signs of containing houses, the remains consisting of rudimentary walls with no coherent house plans recovered. These buildings too may have had largely cob walls as suggested at Bickley.

At Cheddar, most of the buildings were constructed of large timber frames, but Building N, which measured 9.1 x 7.6m externally by 7.9 x 6.4m internally is of similar proportions to Bickley Building 2. It was thought to be have been framed but to have had daub walls about 0.46m thick. It was described as a 'bower' associated with the Long Hall (Rahtz 1979, 109–11).

The buildings excavated in Bristol are of the greatest relevance because of their relative proximity. The most complete was at Mary-le-Port Street where a late Saxon timber building of posthole, stakehole, and possible timber-slot construction measured 6 x 4m – although it may have been truncated by later disturbances (Watts and Rahtz 1985, 78–80, fig. 43, pl. 15). Of two phases, it incorporated a cesspit at one corner, which was an original interpretation of F132.

Also discussed by Watts and Rahtz are the remains of incomplete late Saxon timber buildings at Bristol Castle excavated by the author (Watts and Rahtz 1985, table 5; Ponsford 1980). The castle structures belonged to an iron-working complex now thought to belong to the 10th century rather than the 11th. Nevertheless, the use of beams in trenches, posts, stakes, posts in trenches, and sill-beams are, like the Mary-le-Port example, very similar to Bickley Building 2. Three phases of buildings were suggested at Bristol Castle in which sill-beams were the earlier types of construction.

At the small ringwork castle at Llantrithyd, Vale of Glamorgan, the precisely planned buildings 2 and 4 consisted of posthole rather than sill-beam construction, the post-pits cut into the Carboniferous Limestone. While of 12th-century date, all the buildings had paired timbers and were regarded as timber-framed (Cardiff Archaeological Society 1977, 17–18). The pattern at Penmaen is similar where the buildings had regular paired postholes (Alcock 1966, 190–1). Building T/1 (measuring 5 x 3.6m) was clearly timber-framed but the adjacent fragmentary kitchen had small holes defining one side recalling the slight appearance of parts of the Bickley and Hen Domen structures.

One building at Hen Domen, Montgomeryshire, dated 1170–1290, invites direct comparison with Bickley Building 2. Building LIV measured *c.* 7 x 6m and consisted of a clay platform with edges defined by short lengths of small postholes and lines of stones and a single posthole inside a corner (Higham and Barker 2000, 43–5). A spread of burnt clay and charcoal may have been a hearth. The building was thought to have been of clay construction. Of interest are the small rectangular postholes in the north wall which resemble the two in the south wall of Bickley Building 2 (F34). Small, one-room buildings have few parallels at present. Whether they are houses or simply store-rooms is an important question. With its oven and hearth, Bickley Building 2 is likely to at least have been a kitchen if not a dwelling.

LATE SAXON AND EARLY NORMAN SETTLEMENT IN THE BICKLEY AREA

Rippon's work in the Levels to the west and south of the site has produced evidence for 10th to 11th-century resettlement of the Levels. A significant type of oval enclosure set in the revised landscape and termed an 'infield' is thought to represent the early stages of this colonisation on both sides of the Severn estuary and to have taken place as early as the 10th century (Rippon 1996a; 1996b). The shape is similar to assarts into medieval woodland. Examples are Church Field, Puxton, and the north end of Mays Lane, Puxton, where low banks and accompanying ditches may define the early occupation (Rippon 1996b; 1997b; 1998; 1999). Just to the south of Court de Wick is an oval field which may have had similar origins (Fig. 5). Court de Wick is on glacial head rather than alluvium. The site of Bickley may itself have been of the assart shape to invite comparison with 'infields'. No boundary to the Bickley settlement has yet been found – the bank defining the present wood has been shown to be recent. The work at Shapwick seems to be providing contrasting evidence for nucleated settlement for this period (Aston 1989a; 1989b; 1995; Aston and Costen 1992; 1993; 1994; Aston *et al.* 1998; Aston and Gerrard 1999).

The next stage of the examination of the settlement of north Somerset should be to compare sites to the linear series of well-defined enclosures at Lower Court Farm which made up (most of) the settlement of Ashton Philips (Leech and Pearson 1986, fig. 2). Bickley appears to be a settlement isolated from Cleeve/Claverham but as yet there is no information about the contemporary 12th-century settlement there apart from Domesday. We are reminded of Alfred's grant of Congresbury to Asser, the foundation of a minster there (that initially may have served Yatton and Claverham) and the details in Domesday Book which overlap the Bickley settlement. The manor of Claverham (Cliveham at the Conquest) was held by Geoffrey, bishop of Coutances (Collinson 1791, 616ff). Folcheran held it from the bishop and Gonnail in the time of King Edward. It was gelded for two hides and the arable was three carucates. There was one carucate in demesne, one servant and three villains, twelve cottagers, two ploughs, and seven acres of meadow. The wood was one furlong long and broad. Brushwood was half a mile long and as much broad. It was worth 20/- and in 1086 30/-.

It is tempting to try to put the inhabitants of Bickley into this Domesday landscape, especially since the settlement was probably in existence at that time, if not this part of the site. It is probable that the people of Bickley were in Cliveham manor and involved with the agricultural activities in the wood or on the farm, whatever their actual status.

Over the period of the excavations, the function of the emerging structures and the terms used to describe the site elements was continually under review. There is no doubt that they represent only a part of a larger settlement and this interpretation has to be coloured by what is known at present. That there is an earlier, late Saxon settlement nearby is shown by the quantities of late Saxon pottery which occur mostly in trench 1983. There are no other objects certainly of that date. The cultivation trenches are of some interest as they indicate some considerable knowledge of the benefits of double-digging to deepen soil. Two pits possibly associated probably contained marker posts/stones indicating an original boundary and corner. The activity associated with the trenches carried on into the 11th and early 12th centuries. An associated building is likely to be found to the east or south since there is no trace in the rest of this excavation. This suggests a peasant household, possibly one of many dispersed on the flatter land adjacent to the forest.

The main elements of the settlement belong to the 12th century. The earlier Building 1 is a simple structure in which it was not thought necessary to level the ground at the west end for a floor. The broken spur, buckle, and fragment of horseshoe suggest the dumping of broken items in a storage shed or stable, much as items are hoarded today in farm buildings. Whether they were once used by the inhabitants or acquired elsewhere and destined for eventual recycling cannot be answered. The fill at the west end was quite ashy and charcoally. The structure is rather basic – there was no south-east corner post, for example, and the rest is a mixture of posts

of different sizes and stakes, in fact any suitable uprights which came to hand. If the walls were largely of cob, however, the appearance of the posts themselves would be immaterial as they would have been buried in the matrix. There was no indication of the thickness of such a wall as the floor deposit extended up to the posts/stakes. If this was a store or stable the contemporary house must have been elsewhere. F132 may have started life as a cesspit for this building.

The later Building 2 shows more competence in its construction. There was a genuine attempt to level the floor area before laying a mixture of red clay and fine gravel. The west end was provided with a substantial foundation and corner posts, possibly all imbedded in a cob wall. The south and east walls utilised posts and probably more cob while the north wall with its short lengths of small posts and planks in trenches may have had a more sophisticated lining. The oddest feature was F132 but it is now thought that the post might simply have been put in a convenient existing hole which was then infilled to support an upright. If the wall was made of cob, however, there may not have been a corner post at all.

The site of the doorway was probably on the north between two substantial uprights that provided the door-frame. Internally there was probably a hearth towards the west and other supports or screens represented by F29 and F85. The oven was of some interest as it showed that some cooking went on in the building and the accumulation of pottery around it was further evidence of cooking activity.

The west end had a bench-like appearance (F102). It was also covered in a thin layer of burnt clay. This was possibly a spread of burnt material from cooking on the hearth or it could have been evidence for a fire that had consumed the roof, burning the cob to some extent. Small pieces of burnt daub were found in almost every posthole on the site and in soil and were good indicators of genuine medieval features.

It is suggested that Building 2 was a house but it might have been a subsidiary building for another nearby. There is no evidence for sleeping arrangements. The evidence of the finds helps to suggest that this might have been a house for someone working in the wood and on the land. The large number of hones found all over the site but particularly around the building suggests sharpening large implements such as sickles and woodworking tools. Two objects are thought to be drill bits (Fig. 29, 4 and 5). There are also the pruning hook from F1 and a ?wedge from the same feature which might have been used for splitting planks and/or quarrying (Fig. 29, 6 and 7). Given the position of the building, it was most likely to have been occupied by people undertaking woodland management but with their own 'garden' and infield to the south. They were not involved in metalworking, despite the extensive evidence for using metal tools. Their land holding was clearly marked by walls and ?fences.

The pottery indicates a wide range of contacts and sources. There are wares from near Bridgwater, from Bath, Bristol, west Wiltshire, north Somerset, and even a fragment from a French source. This is perhaps evidence of visits to various markets such as Bristol or Bridgwater. A large amount of the pottery is probably local and acquired in a local village, possibly even Yatton. One of the hones is from a Scandinavian source (Fig. 33, 6), probably acquired at a Bristol or Bedminster market.

The diet of the inhabitants was probably largely corn-based although the quern fragments may have been broken up for reuse, if they were ever used on site. The animal bone was generally in a poor state but the usual domestic animals and probably birds were supplemented by deer. There was no shell on the site.

CONCLUSIONS

Bickley and its structures are at present unique because little comparable work has been done in the region. There are still a number of questions to answer about:

- Prehistoric settlement:* the earthworks in the wood above the site may provide answers to the location of the sites producing the wealth of lithics found.
- Origins and continuity:* was there a gap in the post-Roman history of the Yatton/Congresbury area and if so when was settlement resumed?
- Type of settlement:* is this a farm, hamlet or village? How large is it? What is the nature of the settlement in early Cleeve/Claverham?
- Comparanda:* is Bickley comparable to settlements and buildings in the Levels and on drier sites?
- Structure of buildings:* when did clay walls give way to stone and cruck-built houses? Are clay ovens and other features the norm?
- On-site activities:* was the site purely agricultural in the purest sense or were the inhabitants engaged in working in the wood? How did this site relate to Court de Wick or its predecessor?
- Abandonment:* was the abandonment a matter of just moving on or was it due to compulsion or a local disaster, for example. Was there later occupation in another part of the site or was there a movement into Cleeve?

Many questions should be answered by further fieldwork in the neighbourhood and on the nearby Levels. This will inevitably take some time to achieve and should be preceded initially by local earthwork and general surveys following the approach of researchers like Rippon and Aston.

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