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# EXCAVATIONS AT GRAVEL WALK, CANTERBURY, 1967\*

By J. H. WILLIAMS, M.A.

With

A REPORT ON THE SAMIAN BY MR. A. P. DETSICAS, M.A., F.S.A.

and

APPENDICES BY MR. R. A. G. CARSON, M.A., F.S.A., MISS D. CHARLESWORTH, M.A., F.S.A., MR. R. HARCOURT, M.Sc., B.V.M.S., M.R.C.V.S., AND MR. D. MACKRETH, B.A.

## INTRODUCTION

EXCAVATIONS commenced on 4th September, 1967, and continued for five weeks on a temporary car park on the south corner of Rose Lane and Gravel Walk, Canterbury. The site (Fig. 1), measuring approximately 80 m. by 40 m., was to be developed as a multi-storey car park and any archaeological deposits would be damaged by piling. During the excavation the temporary car park remained in use and only a limited area was available at any one time for examination. It was, therefore, decided to trench as much of the site as possible by machine, back-filling one trench before opening up another, in order to establish the character of the site. This in itself, however, was a slow process—with 3.5 m. of unstable archaeological deposits each trench had to be shored before investigation could proceed and removal of any spoil was difficult and time-consuming. Accordingly, only two long trenches, A and B (and small areas C and D), were excavated. This method of excavation is not recommended, for interpretation based solely on sections is unsatisfactory and results must be treated with caution.

Little was known of the archaeological potential of the site. Frere had postulated a Roman street running north-west to south-east across the site and forming part of a regular street grid,<sup>1</sup> and sunken floor dwellings of probable fifth-century date had been found to the north-east of Gravel Walk in 1960 by Wachter.<sup>2</sup> During the Angevin period the site appears to have been used as gardens.<sup>3</sup> The excavations

\* The Department of the Environment has contributed to the cost of the publication of this report.

<sup>1</sup> S. S. Frere, *Roman Canterbury, the City of Durovernum* (1965), 8; reproduced in S. S. Frere, *Britannia*, i (1970), 84.

<sup>2</sup> S. S. Frere, *The End of Towns in Roman Britain*, in J. S. Wachter (Ed.), *The Civitas Capitals of Roman Britain*, (1966), 91.

<sup>3</sup> W. Urry, *Canterbury under the Angevin Kings*, (1967), 275; also map 26. Larger scale sheet 2.

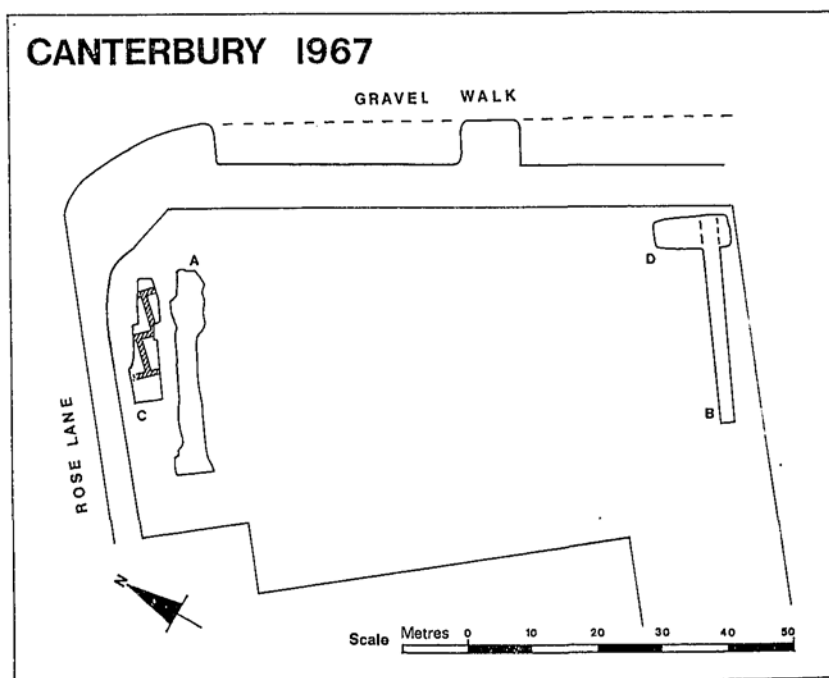


FIG. 1. Location of Site

showed occupation on the site from soon after the Roman conquest. Although there was much pottery of 'Belgic' character, no group could be definitely assigned to the pre-conquest period, and it would seem that 'Belgic' wares continued into the second half of the first century. Timber and stone buildings of first- and second-century date were revealed at both ends of the site but, although third- and fourth-century material was recovered, no structures could be assigned to that period. Furthermore, it is clear that no Roman street ran across the site along the projected line. No medieval structures were found, although several rubbish pits, predominantly of eleventh-century date, were recorded.

The work was undertaken for the Canterbury Excavation Committee and the Department of the Environment, and by courtesy of Canterbury City Council. Many persons from these bodies were most helpful, in particular, Mr. J. Boyle and Miss S. Butcher. I would like also to

# TRENCHES A and C

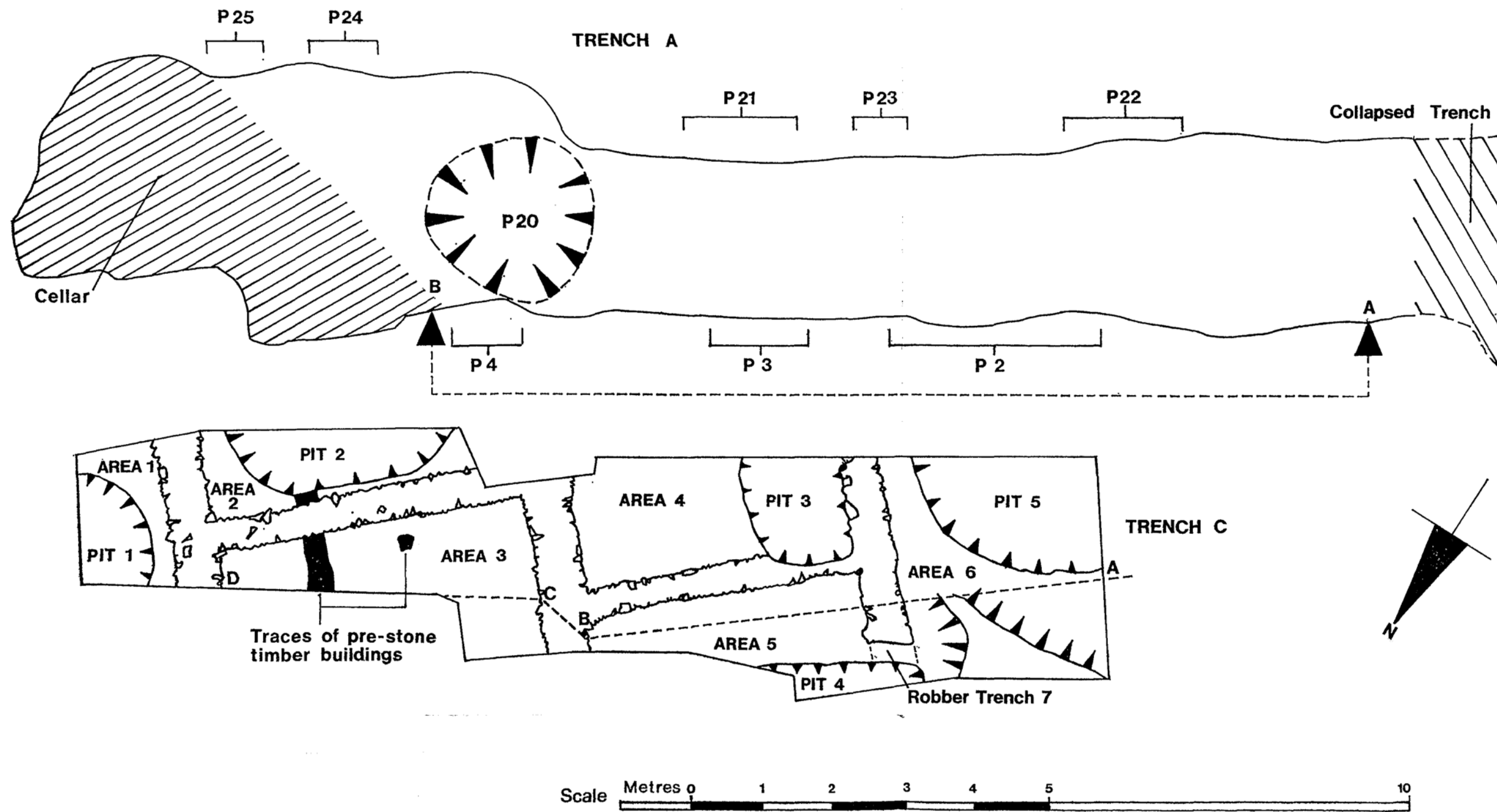


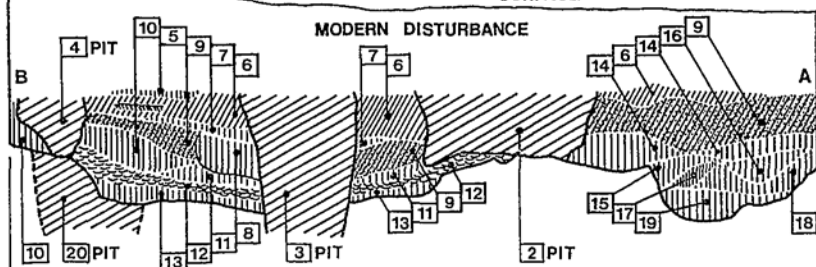
FIG. 2.

# TRENCH A

East

West East

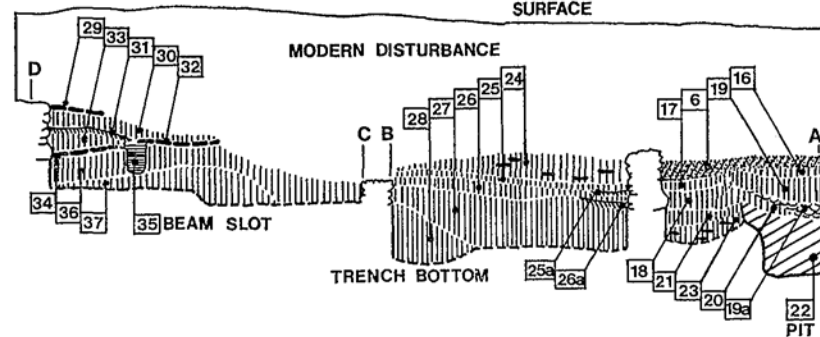
SURFACE



# TRENCH C

West

SURFACE



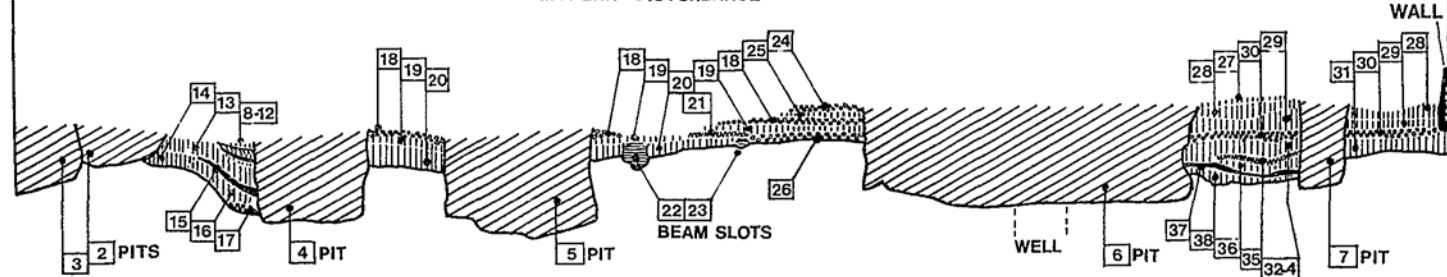
# TRENCH B

East

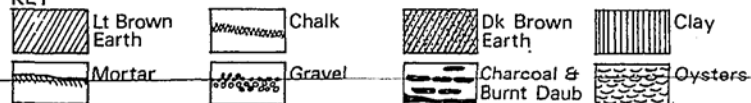
SURFACE

West

MODERN DISTURBANCE



KEY



Scale Metres 0 1 2 3 4 5 10

FIG. 3. Sections.

thank all the supervisors and volunteers who assisted in the excavation. Many also have given advice on the preparation of the report and assisted myself and Mr. Detsicas with the pottery; in particular, Professor S. S. Frere, Miss M. Wilson, Mr. B. R. Hartley, Dr. and Mrs. J. P. Wild, Mrs. J. Bird and Miss V. Rigby. Mrs. J. Brayne, Mr. M. Card and Mr. K. Connor assisted with the drawing.

The excavations are considered trench by trench with dating evidence integrated within the structural discussion. Drawn coarse-ware sherds are described firstly by colour—exterior; core; interior and, then, by fabric type, etc. For reasons of economy, body sherds are not generally discussed.

#### TRENCH A—THE EXCAVATION (Figs. 2 and 3)

Trench A was excavated first as most likely to locate the north-west to south-east street postulated by Frere.<sup>4</sup> Before any shoring could be inserted, the western end of the trench had collapsed and re-excavation was considered unnecessary. At the east end of the trench modern cellars cut down to the subsoil. The drawn section represents the north side of the trench, drawn in negative, where observation was possible and productive. The south side of the trench was similar, but cut by different pits.

The uppermost c. 1.25 m. was a homogeneous black soil underlying the make-up for the existing car-park; no archaeological features could be distinguished. Beneath this general level was a series of light-brown clay and brown earth deposits cut by pits uniformly filled with black organic soil, bones and pottery. Several of the pits had thin horizontal fillets of clay, which had probably acted as intermediate seals; all pits dated to the early medieval period. A gully at the west end of the trench (Layers 14–19) was filled with re-deposited natural Brickearth and contained early Romano-British pottery and a coin of Constantine II (Coin list no. 1), probably intrusive. A wide depression at the centre of the trench (Layers 11–13) contained a layer of oyster shells in a black organic deposit between layers of clay; the pottery was of first-century date.

There was no real evidence of building activity in the section, apart from a thin layer of mortar within Layer 6, but Pit 20, located centrally in the trench and thus not stratigraphically linked to either section,<sup>5</sup> contained two large blocks of flint-and-mortar masonry. It is unlikely that these blocks had moved far, and a stone building nearby seems probable. No trace was found of a road surface; some evidence would have been expected, even within the cellar, if a road had existed.

<sup>4</sup> See note 1.

<sup>5</sup> Projected onto the section in Fig. 3.

TRENCH A—THE POTTERY (Figs. 4 and 5).

Layer 22: Romano-British and Belgic body sherds, presumably residual.

Layer 21: Romano-British and medieval body sherds.

Layer 20: Samian: S.G. Form 27, Neronian; S. G. Ritterling 9, Neronian, both probably residual.

Coarse wares: Third century?

Layer 18: Coarse wares: 1. Grey/red; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric with rough surface. Cf. S. S. Frere, *Arch. Cant.*, lxxviii (1954), 117, no. 80. Probably Neronian. Coin list no. 1.

Layer 12: Samian: S.G. (?) Form 15/17, pre-Flavian; S.G. Form 15 or 15/17, probably Neronian; two other fragments probably from one of these vessels. Coarse wares: 3. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth hard fabric. Cf. J. P. Bushe-Fox, *Richborough I*, (1926), no. 82. Claudio-Neronian.

4. Grey; grey; grey. Hard surface, slightly rough. Cf. F. Jenkins, *Arch. Cant.*, lxxv (1952), 11, no. 4. Belgic type, probably post-conquest.

5. Grey/fawn; grey; grey. Hard surface, smooth neck but rougher body. Stab marks on shoulder. Cf. Jenkins, 1952, *op. cit.*, 11, no. 5. Claudio-Neronian.

Dating: Probably the third quarter of the first century.

Layer 9: Samian: S.G. Form 18, pre-Flavian.

Coarse wares: 2. Grey; grey; grey. Hard coarsish fabric, burnished on outside of neck and top of rim. Horizontal combing round neck. Cf. C. F. C. Hawkes and M. R. Hull, *Camulodunum*, (1947), nos. 270 and 271. Late first-century.

6. Purple-brown; white; purple-brown. Rough-cast ware in fine fabric. Cf. Frere, 1954, *op. cit.*, 119, no. 70; also, Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, 103, no. 10. Second century.

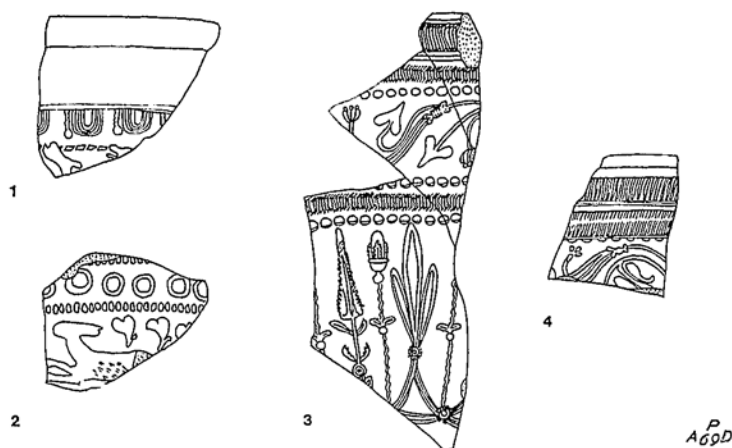
7. Grey; grey; grey. Hard sandy. Probably second-century.

8. Grey; grey; grey. Hard smooth. Belgic type. Pre-Flavian.

Dating: Probably late first-century or early second-century.

Layer 8: Belgic type coarse wares and white butt beaker.

Layer 6: Samian: Fig. 4, 1. C.G. Form 37. A small scrap from the upper part of the decoration, in good condition. The ovolo is rather square and rounded, double-bordered with a fairly wide central projection and its corded tongue ends in a swelling, probably a blurred rosette. This ovolo recalls one used by DRVSVS II (CGP, 156, fig. 20, no. 2), ATTIANVS (CGP, 167, fig. 23, no. 2), IANVARIS II (CGP, 213, fig. 34, no. 2), and PATERNVS (CGP, 196, fig. 30, no. 8) who is the only one among these potters to use a rhomboidal bead-row border like the one present, albeit somewhat squashed, below the ovolo-band of this sherd. Though too little remains of

FIG. 4. Samian Ware (Scale:  $\frac{1}{2}$ )

the decorative scheme for even a tentative attribution, this sherd need not be later than a Hadrianic-Antonine date.

Fig. 4, 2. C.G. Form 37. Fairly good condition. The figure-type is Hare to left (D.969 = O.2127), though here it appears rather larger due to squashing; it was used by LIBERTVS, PATERNVS and ATTIANVS. The decorative detail stamped three times over this figure-type is a partial impression, badly squashed, of a detail used by several Central Gaulish potters, though only ATTIANVS (*CGP*, pls. 85/1 and 86/10, both signed) appears to use this decorative detail in a way that omits the impression of its third leaf. Hadrianic-Antonine.

Also: S.G. Form 18R, stamp badly impressed reading /// FCAN, of the potter CANVS, usually Claudio-Neronian. The right edge of the stamp is badly squashed and there is a faint possibility of a ligatured NT, in which case the potter would be CANTVS working at about the same period; C.G. Form 37, Antonine; C.G. Form 33, Hadrianic-Antonine; C.G. Form 37, Hadrianic-Antonine.

Coarse wares: 9. Grey; grey; grey. Hard sandy, hand made, thumb impressions on neck. Anglo-Saxon, probably  $\pm$  ninth-century. Also: Possible medieval body sherds, Romano-British grey wares and tiles.

Dating: Either Romano-British (late second-century?) with no. 9 intrusive, or Anglo-Saxon. Because of the position of the layer disturbance is possible.

Layer 3: Medieval body sherds and pieces of glazed medieval roofing-tile.

Layer 2: Medieval body sherds and residual Belgic-type wares.

#### TRENCH A—SUMMARY

The trench therefore showed:

1. The earliest occupation was post-conquest.
2. No clear structural evidence for the Romano-British period, but a stone building nearby seemed probable.
3. No evidence for the postulated north-west to south-east street.
4. Little evidence for late Romano-British or Anglo-Saxon activity.
5. The area was used in the early medieval period for rubbish pits.
6. Little evidence for subsequent history.

#### TRENCH C—THE EXCAVATION (Figs. 2 and 3)

Because of the blocks of stonework found in Trench A (Pit 20) a small area was stripped to the north of Trench A in an attempt to locate the possible stone buildings. As in Trench A, there was a deep deposit of up to 2 m. of dark brown-black soil, but below this was a series of flint and mortar walls c. 0.50 m. across, pits, etc. The pits were all of early medieval date and apparently later than the walls. Because of time factors, it was not possible to excavate the trench fully, and only Area 3 and Areas 5 and 6 to the north of section line A-B were excavated to any great depth. The deposits within each area were as follows:

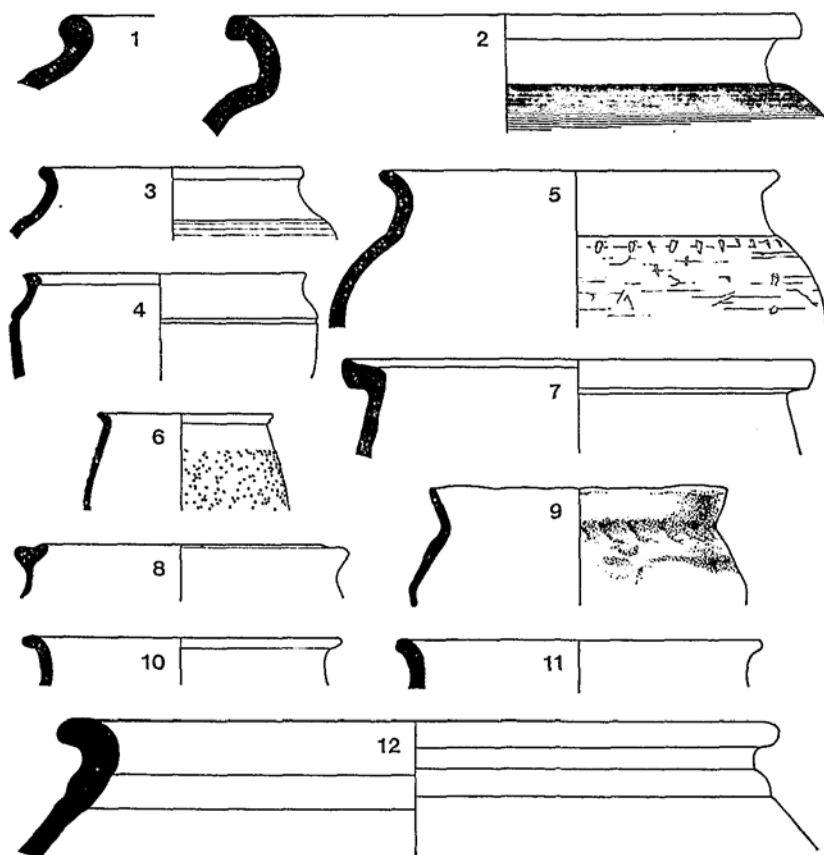
Area 1: A dark pit cut into orange clay abutting the wall. This area was not excavated further.

Area 2: Pit 2 occupied the greater part of the area and cut into an orange-brown clay and, on excavating this clay, the continuation of a beam slot in area 4 (Layer 35) was located.

Area 3: Abutting the east wall of the area was a layer of burnt daub (29) overlying clay and a layer of mortar (31). This latter layer was probably contemporary with the construction of the wall. On removal of a further clay level (33), a beam slot (35) was found cutting into the underlying clay (36) and overlain by a burnt daub layer (32 and 34). An isolated post-hole was probably contemporary. Clay level 36 was re-deposited and overlay a grey clay level (see Area 5), which again was apparently not natural. The bottom of this layer was not established.

Area 4: Pit 3 cut through an area of fawn clay with brick and mortar overlying a clean orange clay; this area was not excavated further.

Area 5: Pit 4 cut through the clay layers as in the other areas and also through the robber trench (7) of the west wall. Two clay layers (24 and 25) contained several large pieces of *tegulae*. Below 25, a thin

FIG. 5. Coarse Ware, Trenches A and C (Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$ ).

lens of mortar (25a) abutted the west wall and overlay a thin clay level (26), which in turn overlay another mortar lens (26a). Both 25a and 26a are certainly contemporary with and probably associated with the construction of the west wall. Below were two further clay levels, 27 and 28, again corresponding with 36 and 37. Layer 28 was not bottomed.

Area 6: A layer of light brown earth (6) overlay the earlier clay deposits and was itself cut by Pit 5. A construction trench for the east wall was carefully searched for but not located. No relationship was established between Layers 21/23 and Layer 22, but Layers 21/23 continued under the wall. Layers 19 and 19a were probably later than 17 and 18. The character of the wall changed at the

junction between Layers 6 and 17. Above this, the face was smooth and the joints well pointed, but below it the surface was considerably rougher. Certainly the top of Layer 17 marked the original ground surface contemporary with the wall, but it is not clear whether the foundations cut through Layers 17 and 18 or whether 17 and 18 were packed up against the wall, although this is probably not crucial for dating the construction of the wall.

# TRENCH C—THE POTTERY (Figs. 6 and 7)

Layer 36: Flat tile, Belgic and early Romano-British fabrics.

Layer 27: Samian: S.G. Form 27 or 35, first-century; S.G. Form 35/36, Flavian/Trajanic; S.G. Form 24, pre-Flavian; S.G. Form 27?, late Flavian; S.G. Form 30, Claudio-Neronian; S.G. Form 29, early Flavian.

Coarse wares: 10. Grey; grey; grey. Very smooth fabric.

Dating: Late first-century.

Layer 23: Samian: S.G. Form 18R, Neronian; S.G. Form 15/17, Neronian/Vespasianic.

Coarse wares: 11. Grey; grey; grey. Normally second-century and later. Other coarse wares include nothing necessarily later than Claudian.

Dating: Third quarter of the first century.

Layer 22: Samian: S.G. Form 18—broken stamp AVDAX (c. A.D. 45–65); S.G. Form 18, Claudian.

Coarse wares: 12. Grey; grey; grey. Coarse soapy fabric but smooth external surface. Cf. F. Jenkins, *Arch. Cant.*, lxiii (1950), fig. 22, 19.

Dating: Claudian.

Layer 19: (19a and 19b are combined). Samian: S.G. Form 27 stamped BIRACILI /// (the last letter is not clear and could be either I or L, and beyond it, in a worn patch, can be seen faint traces of the middle of a vertical stroke, either I or M) of the well-known Banassac potter; C.G. Curle 15, first half of the second century; C.G. Form 18/31, Hadrianic; S.G. Form 15/17R, Flavian; S.G. Form 37, Flavian-late Flavian; S.G. Form 18R, pre- or early-Flavian; S.G. variant of Form 16, pre-Flavian.

Coarse wares: 13. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy.

14. Grey; pink; grey. Very fine fabric with burnished surface.

15. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy surface.

16. Grey; grey; grey. Very fine and burnished surface.

17. Grey; grey; grey.

18. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy surface. Cf. 101, below.

19. Grey; pink; grey. Fairly fine fabric with burnished surface.

20. Grey; grey; grey. Very fine and smooth fabric. Cf. A. P. Detsicas, *Arch. Cant.*, lxxxiii (1968), 84, no. 50.

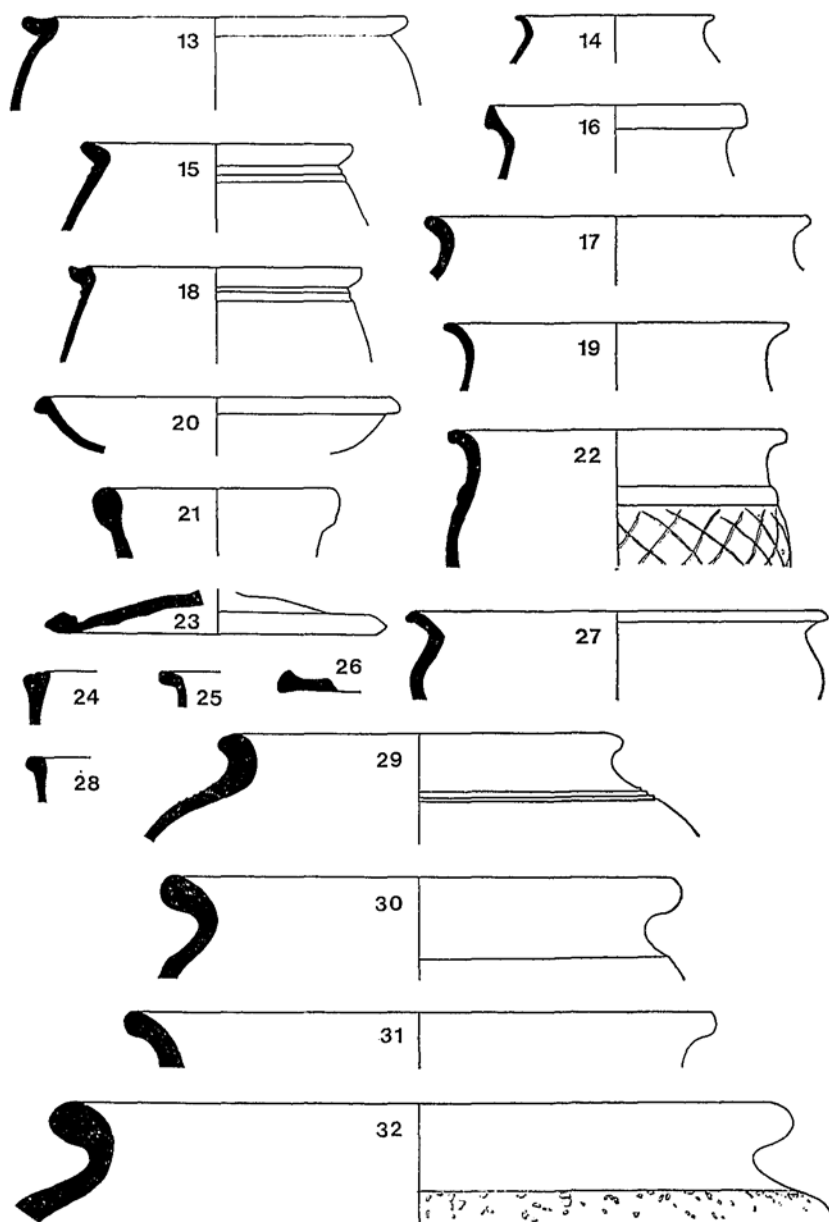


FIG. 6. Coarse Ware, Trench C (Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$ ).

21. Cream; pink; cream. Colour-coated. Sandy with smallish grits.
22. Grey/purple-brown; light brown; grey. Smooth burnished surface with cross-hatching below shoulder. Cf. below 118; also, Frere, 1954, *op. cit.*, fig. 12, 103.
23. Grey; pink; grey. Sandy.
24. Pale orange; pale orange; pale orange. Smoothish surface.
25. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth.
26. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy.
27. Grey; grey; grey. Hard and smooth.
28. Grey; grey; grey. Hard and smooth.
29. Grey; grey; grey. Hard, burnished on neck and rim; horizontal grooves on shoulder but rougher body. Most of these rims are typically late first-century.

Dating: Very early second-century A.D.

Layer 18: Samian: S.G. Form 18, Neronian-Vespasianic; S.G. Form 15/17 or 15/17R, Flavian; S.G. Form 27, Neronian-early Flavian; S.G. Form 18?, C.G. Form 18/31—possibly not later than A.D. 100.

Coarse wares: 30. Grey-pink; grey; grey. Hard coarsish fabric, burnished on neck and rim but rougher body. Cf. Jenkins, 1950, *op. cit.*, fig. 10, 25.

31. Grey; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric but smooth surface.
32. Grey-pink; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric. Smoothish neck and rim but coarser body. Cf. S. S. Frere, *Verulamium Excavations I* (1972), nos. 203, 308.
33. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth surface.
34. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth.
35. Grey; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric with smooth but uneven surface.
36. Grey; grey; grey. Very fine fabric well finished.
37. Fawn; fawn; fawn. Smoothish. Cf. 111, below.
38. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth.
39. Grey; grey; grey. Very fine smooth fabric.
40. Grey; light grey; grey. *Terra nigra*. Hawkes and Hull, *op. cit.*, *terra nigra* Form 9.
41. Grey; grey; grey. Hard sandy.
42. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth surface.
43. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth but sandyish feel.
44. Grey; grey; grey. Smoothish.

Dating: c. A.D. 100.

Layer 7: Samian: three residual scraps.

Coarse wares: 45. Grey; pink; grey. Smooth but sandy.

46. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy.
47. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth but sandy. Cf. A. Williams and S. S.

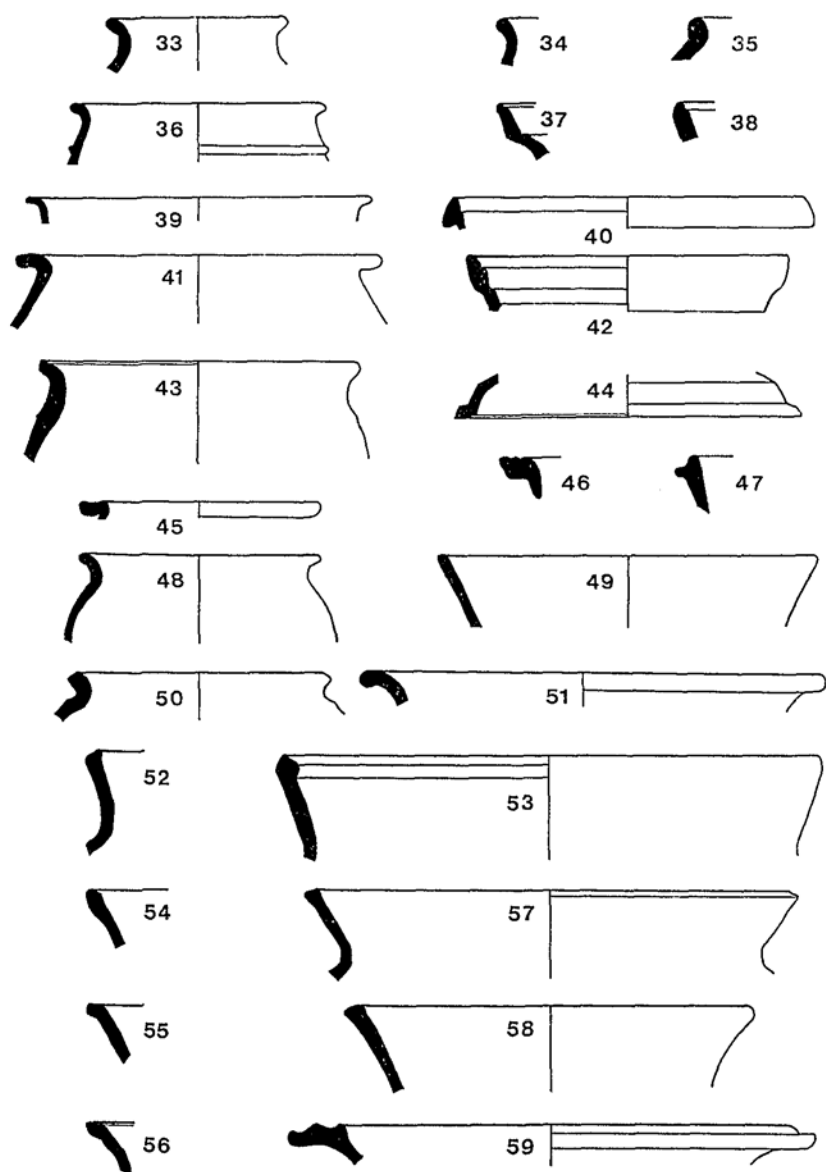


FIG. 7. Coarse Ware, Trench C (Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$ ).

Frere, *Arch. Cant.*, lxi (1948), fig. 9, 17 and 19; Bushe-Fox, 1926, *op. cit.*, nos. 121-2; Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, nos. 1101-2. Third- or fourth-century type.

48. Grey-orange; grey; grey. Hard fabric, slightly sandy in core but burnished all over outside and internally down to the shoulder.

49. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth surface inside and out. Cf. Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 10, 31.

50. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth but sandy.

51. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth but slightly uneven. Fabric itself slightly coarse.

Other coarse ware includes Romano-British and possibly medieval pottery although the junction between the robber trench and Pit 4 was not really clear. Also tile and wall-plaster.

Dating: Probably late-third or early-fourth century as shown by 47 and 49, with much residual material.

Layer 6: Coarse wares: 54. Grey; grey; grey. Smoothish, some shell in core.

55. Pink; grey; pink. Sandyish finish.

56. Pink; grey; pink. Sandyish finish.

For 54-56, cf. Frere, 1954, *op. cit.*, fig. 16, 6-13.

Dating: Eleventh-century.

Pit 1: Fragments of sandy ware probably medieval.

Pit 3: Coarse wares: 52. Grey; grey; pink. Sandy surface.

53. Pink; grey; pink. Sandy surface.

Dating: Late eleventh-century.

Pit 4: Coarse wares: 57. Grey-pink; grey; pink. Sandy and uneven finish. Cf. Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 12, nos. 1 and 2.

58. Grey-pink; grey; pink. Sandy and uneven finish.

59. Fawn; grey; fawn. Very smooth, wheel-finished. Residual Romano-British?

Dating: Eleventh-century.

Area 4: Clay cut by Pit 3 contained Belgic type and Romano-British coarse wares as well as fragments of *tegulae* and *imbrices*.

#### TRENCH C—SUMMARY

The trench therefore showed: 1. That there were clay layers (37 and 28) of uncertain depth and date. 2. The earliest recognizable occupation was immediately post-conquest and consisted of Pit 22 and Gully 21/23, which were probably contemporary with a timber building (Layers 32, 34 and 35). 3. A stone building was erected sometime at the end of the first century or the beginning of the second century. Although construction levels were found, no floor levels were located unless they were represented by some light-brown clay deposits. The function of the building is also unknown. 4. The building seems to have been out

of use by some time in the third century when one of the walls was robbed. 5. No late Romano-British or Anglo-Saxon occupation was found. 6. In the early medieval period several rubbish pits were cut (cf. Trench A). 7. No later archaeological features could be identified.

#### TRENCH B—THE EXCAVATION (Fig. 3)

Trench B was cut to compare variations over the area available for excavation. There were up to 3 m. of overburden, a dark soil with no detectable archaeological features (cf. Trench A). Similarly, large pits in both sections, full of dark soil and containing some medieval pottery, had damaged the underlying stratigraphy.

The earliest feature was a depression, filled with various layers of charcoal, oyster-shell and clay (Layers 32–8) and dating to sometime between the conquest and c. A.D. 80. Above this gully was a series of clay and gravel deposits apparently representing either internal or external floor deposits. The best sequence can be seen at the centre of the trench (Layers 24, 25, 18, 19 and 26) where three gravel deposits are interposed by clay bands. Layers 22 and 23 possibly represent post-holes or beam slots associated with the first period. Both features were followed into the section for approximately 0.30 m. where they possibly stopped and seemed to be aligned at roughly 90° to the trench, although this was not definite. Three similar features were located in the north section and excavated. No obvious pattern could be established and interpretation was hindered by the late pits.

At the west end of the trench, in the area of Layer 6, a well was located in the centre of the trench. No relationship could be established with any of the early features because of its position and the disturbance caused by Layer 6. The well continued down for just over 2.50 m. below the trench bottom where water was encountered. The shaft was approximately 0.66 m. across and lined with packed chalk approximately 0.33 m. thick. Although there was some early Romano-British pottery, this was mixed with later material, and it seems likely that the filling-in commenced in the late first century and continued into the second century. No structural evidence later than the second century was found although two unstratified third-century coins were recovered.

#### TRENCH B—THE POTTERY (Figs. 4, 8, 9 and 10)

Layer 38: Coarse wares: 60. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy. Cf. Bushe-Fox, 1926, *op. cit.*, no. 11.

61. Grey; grey; grey. Fairly fine and smooth. Cf. J. P. Bushe-Fox, *Richborough III*, (1932), no. 290; A. Williams, *Arch. Cant.*, ix (1947), fig. 6, nos. 3 and 13.

62. Grey; grey; grey. Medium fabric with smooth surface. Cf. Williams, 1947, *op. cit.*, fig. 15, no. 9; Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 9, no. 16; also, 95 below.

63. Grey; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric but burnished on outside and on top of rim. Cf. Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 9, no. 18; Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, no. 74.

64. Purple-brown; grey; purple-brown. Smooth.

65. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth but uneven finish.

66. Grey; white; grey. Very worn *terra nigra*. Hawkes and Hull, 1947, *op. cit.*, Form 8; cf. Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, no. 24.

67. Grey-fawn; grey; fawn. Smooth surface.

68. Grey; grey; grey. Very smooth surface.

69. Grey; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric. Smooth surface round neck. Cross-hatching on shoulder and roughish body. Cf. Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 9, no. 17.

Dating: no. 60 perhaps appears somewhat later than the rest of the group being typically Flavian, but reeded-rim bowls are known at Verulamium from c. A.D. 60—see 99 below. The rest of the group dates to c. A.D. 60.

Layer 36: Samian: S.G. Form 18, Claudian?

Coarse wares: 70. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth but uneven surface.

71. Grey; grey; grey. Fairly fine fabric and smooth surface. Native imitation of Gallo-Belgic butt beaker.

72. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth but poor finish giving irregular profile.

73. Dark grey; grey; grey. Burnished neck with rough body. Cf. Bushe-Fox, 1926, *op. cit.*, no. 21; Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 9, no. 7.

74. Grey; grey; grey. Shell-filled. Smooth neck but rough body. Cf. Frere, 1954, *op. cit.*, fig. 5, no. 24.

75. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth surface. Cf. Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 9, nos. 4 and 16.

76. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth surface.

77. Grey; white; grey. Very fine *terra nigra*. Hawkes and Hull, 1947, *op. cit.*, *terra nigra* Form 5A; cf. Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, no. 25.

78. Grey/fawn; grey; grey/fawn. Smooth surface.

79. Grey; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric but smooth surface. Cf. Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 9, no. 10. Some fragments of painted wall-plaster were present.

Dating: This group appears similar in date to Layer 38, c. A.D. 60. Some of the pieces are somewhat earlier.

Layer 35: Coarse wares: 80. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth.

81. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth.

82. Grey; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric but smooth, rather uneven surface.

Dating: First century, A.D.

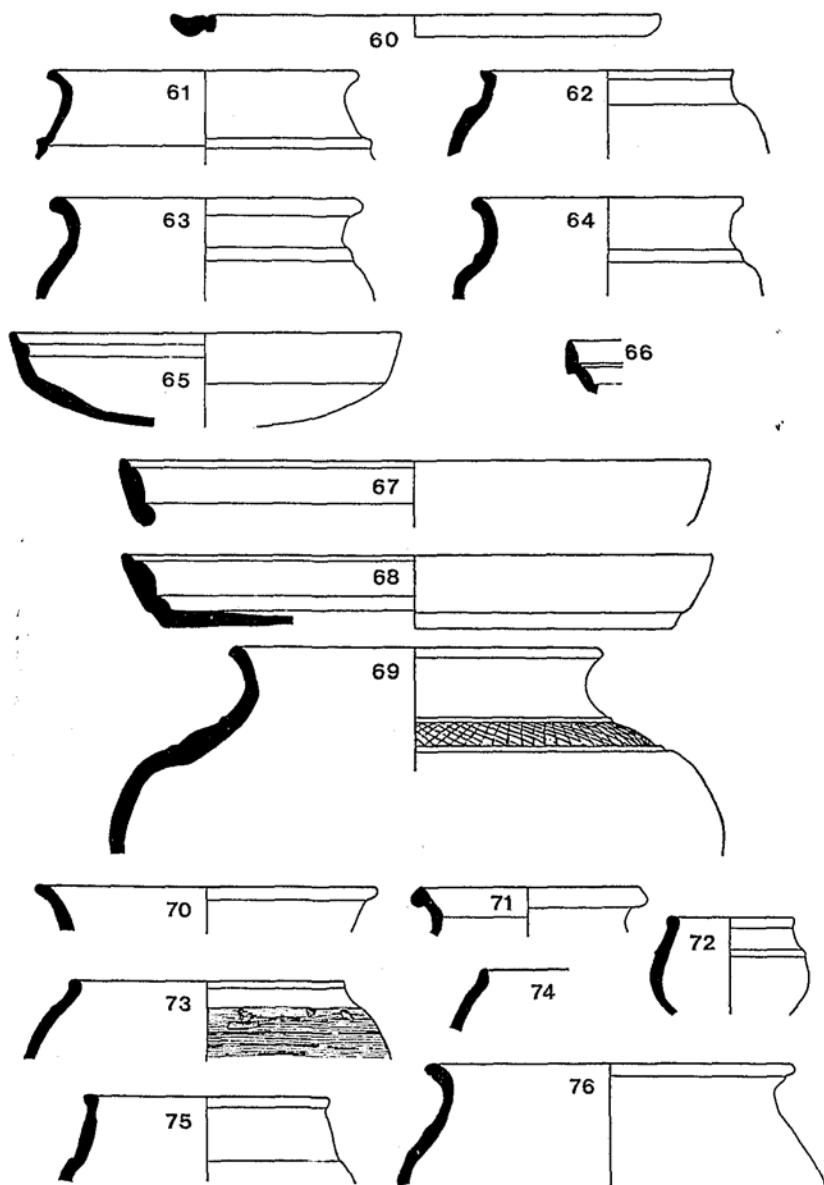


FIG. 8. Coarse Ware, Trench B (Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$ ).

Layers 32-4: Coarse wares: 83. Fawn; grey; fawn. Smooth.

84. Grey; grey; grey. Smooth surface.

85. Grey; grey; grey.

Dating: First century, A.D.

Layer 3: Samian: S.G. Form 27, Neronian-Flavian.

Layer 29: Coarse wares: 86. Grey-brown; grey; grey-brown. Smooth.

Also part of a *tegula*.

Layer 19: Samian: S.G. Form 36, Flavian.

Dating: Late first-century, A.D.

Well-Layer 40: Samian: (a) from bottom: Fig. 4, 3. S.G. Form 29.

Three conjoining fragments, with brilliant glaze but poor relief owing to careless moulding. The upper zone consists of a scroll with a leaf used by LICINVS (R. Knorr, *Töpfer und Fabriken verzierter Terra-Sigillata des ersten Jahrhunderts*, (1919), Taf. 45, no. 28) who also used the squashed decorative detail at the upper left and lower right edges of this sherd (*ibid.*, Taf. 45, no. 26; cf. *ibid.*, Taf. 56, no. 11, by MELVS, and Taf. 58, no. 11 by MODESTVS). Elements of what remains of the lower zone's decorative scheme can be paralleled in the work of several contemporary potters, e.g. the inverted arcades, with rosettes at their junctions, were used by ACVTVS (R. Knorr, *Terra-Sigillata-Gefässe des ersten Jahrhunderts mit Töpfernamen*, (1952), Taf. 1/E), CADMVS (*ibid.*, Taf. 13/F) and SENICIO (*ibid.*, Taf. 56/M, N and Taf. 58/R); the serrated leaf to left was used by AQVITANVS (*ibid.*, Taf. 4/D) and MVRANVS (*ibid.*, Taf. 44/B); the acorn by DARIBITVS (*ibid.*, Taf. 81/B). Sherds with similar decoration in their lower zones occur at Colchester in Claudian levels (Hawkes and Hull, 1947, *op. cit.*, pl. XXIII, 10-13 and pl. XXIV, 1) and, though definite attribution to the style of an individual potter is impracticable, Mr. B. R. Hartley suggests a date of c. A.D. 40-55, on the basis of the rouletted central moulding.

Fig. 4, 4. S.G. Form 29. In good condition, with remnants of a leafy winding-scroll, and a leaf used by PASSENVS (Knorr, 1919, *op. cit.*, Taf. 62, no. 58) and GALICANVS (*ibid.*, Taf. 33, no. 13). The triple bud on the left (*ibid.*, Textbild 7, p. 15) was used by several S.G. potters as was the tendril binding (*ibid.*, Textbild 6, p. 13). A pre-Flavian date for this sherd is very likely.

Also: S.G. Form 27, Claudian; S.G. Form 29, Claudian-pre-Flavian; S.G. Form 18 or 18/31, Flavian-Trajanic.

(b) From remainder of well: S.G. Form 36, Flavian-Trajanic; C.G. Form Curle 15, first half of second century; S.G. Form 27, Flavian; S.G. Form 29, Flavian.

Coarse wares: 87. Red; grey; red.

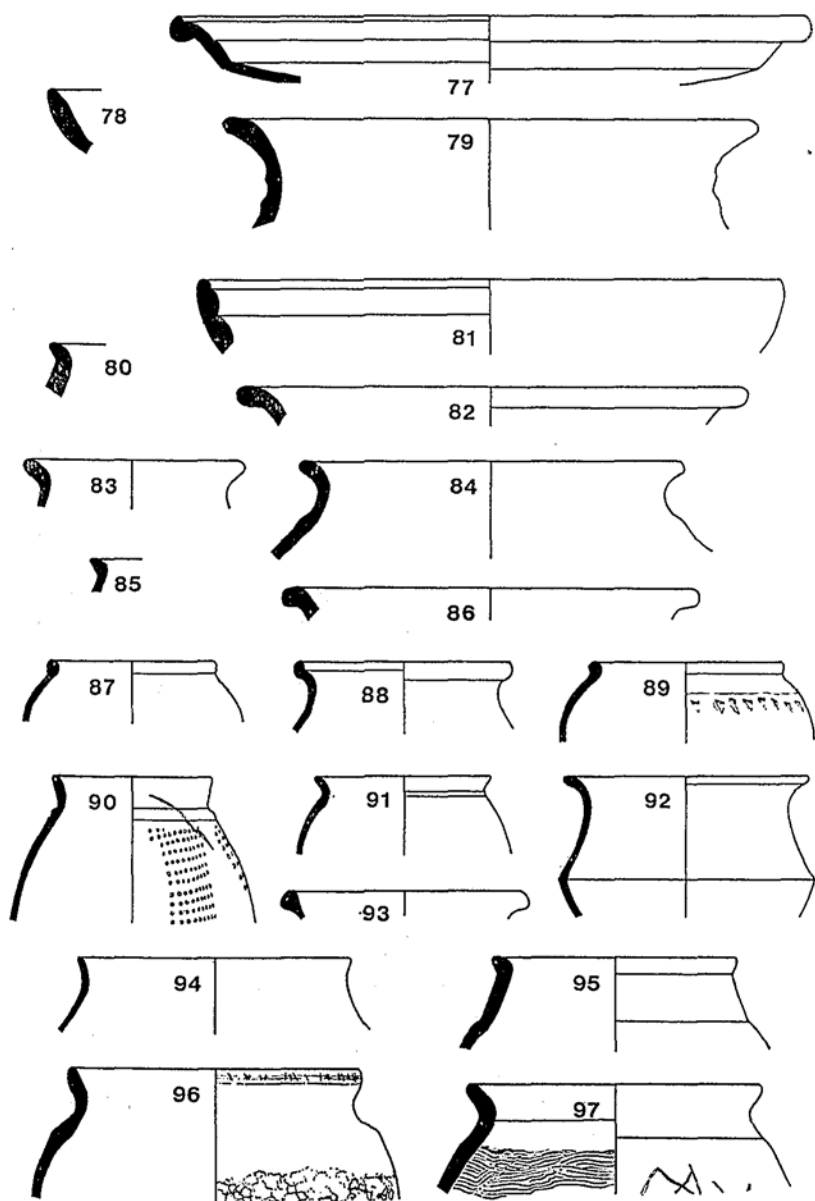


FIG. 9. Coarse Ware, Trench B (Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$ ).

- Traces of cream colour coating on exterior. Smooth. Cf. Jenkins, 1952, *op. cit.*, fig. 4, 15.
88. Grey; grey; grey. Very fine fabric and smooth surface.
89. Purple-brown; grey; purple-brown. Fairly smooth with stab-marks on shoulder.
90. Grey; grey; grey. Very fine fabric with hard metallic finish. Cf. Williams, 1947, *op. cit.*, fig. 7, no. 3; Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, no. 424; Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 10, nos. 12, 19 and 20.
91. Grey; grey; grey. Cf. Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, 447.
92. Grey-fawn; pink; grey. Very fine and hard fabric. Cf. Bushe-Fox, 1926, *op. cit.*, nos. 76, 77; Frere, 1954, *op. cit.*, fig. 8, no. 77.
93. Cream; cream; cream. Very fine. Top of butt beaker.
94. Grey; pink; grey. Very fine fabric highly burnished on top interior of rim. Hawkes and Hull, 1947, *op. cit.*, Form 120. Miss V. Rigby comments—A fairly common post-conquest type, which occurs in a number of black fabrics of which this is the least fine and most commonly found in Britain. Claudian to early Flavian contexts with examples from Richborough, Wroxeter, Cirencester, Verulamium, Baldock, Camulodunum, etc. Frequently described as *terra nigra*, but it was not made by the potters who manufactured *terra nigra* and *terra rubra* cups and platters. Some of the thinner well-polished examples are stamped under the base, e.g. Gloucester, Fishbourne, Richborough, Wroxeter.
95. Grey; grey; grey. Slightly pimpled surface. Cf. Hawkes and Hull, 1947, *op. cit.*, Form 257 (p. 268, no. 8); Williams, 1947, *op. cit.*, fig. 15, no. 9.
96. Grey-fawn; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric. Smooth but uneven surface.
97. Grey; grey; fawn-grey. Possibly burnished on neck but rougher below. Coarsish fabric. Scratch marks.
98. Grey/red; grey; grey. Rough surface and coarsish fabric.
99. Light grey; light grey; light grey. Sandy.
- Reeded bowls occur at Verulamium from c. A.D. 60 to the middle of the second century A.D. though apparently commonest c. A.D. 100. Cf. Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, no. 211, etc., also no. 659.
100. Grey; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric but smooth surface. Cf. Bushe-Fox, 1932, *op. cit.*, no. 276.
101. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy. Cf. Frere, 1954, *op. cit.*, fig. 7, nos. 60, 61 and fig. 8, nos. 71, 72; also Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, no. 660.
102. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy. Cf. Frere, 1972, *op. cit.*, no. 682.
103. Grey; grey; grey. Coarsish fabric. Smoothed on neck but combing on body.
104. White; white; white. Smooth fabric with 'knife-trimmed' surface.

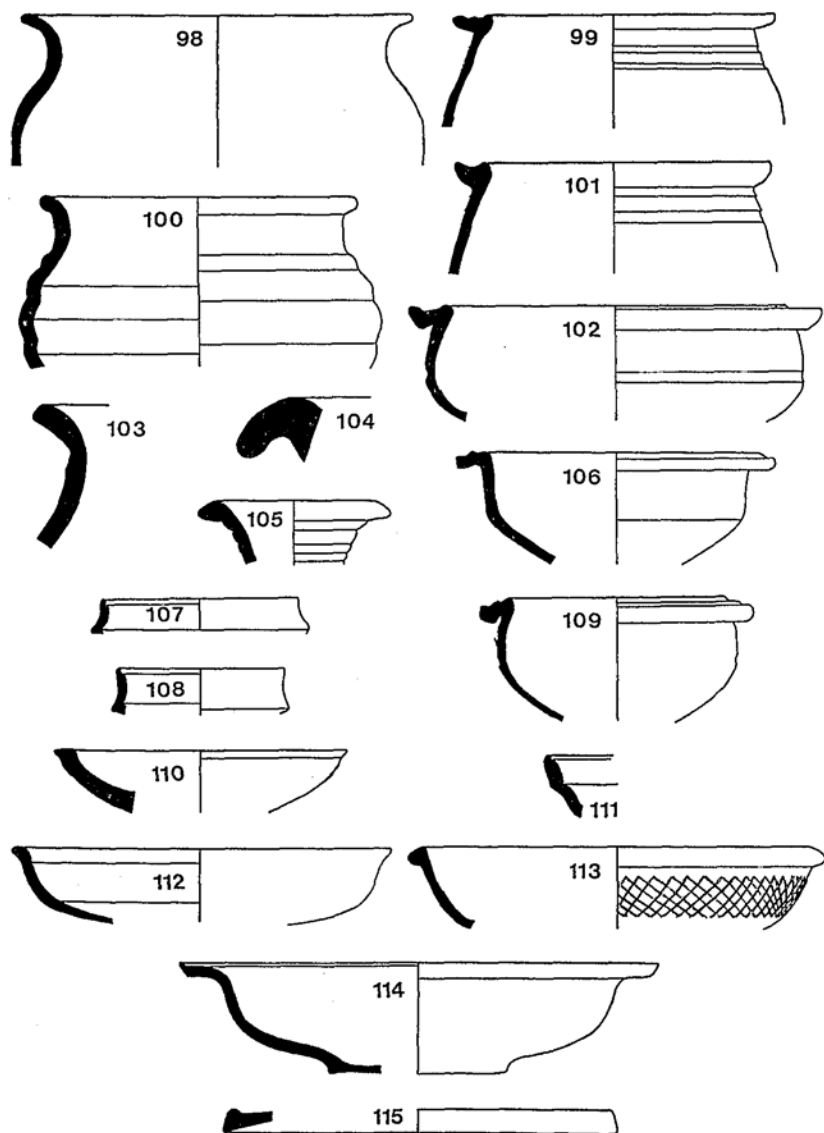


FIG. 10. Coarse Ware, Trench B (Scale:  $\frac{1}{4}$ ).

105. Pink; pink; pink. Sandy.
106. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy.
107. Dark blue-grey; pale blue-grey; dark blue-grey. Highly polished surfaces with hard fine grained dense paste. Hawkes and Hull, 1947, *op. cit.*, Cup, Form 56C.
108. Dark blue-grey; pale blue-grey; dark blue-grey. Cf. 107 above.
109. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy.
110. Grey; grey; grey.
111. Grey; grey; grey. Hawkes and Hull, 1947, *op. cit.*, 222, nos. 26 and 27; Frere, 1970, *op. cit.*, fig. 9, no. 19.
112. Grey; grey; grey. Hard burnished surface. Cf. Bushe-Fox, 1932, *op. cit.*, no. 235.
113. Grey; grey; grey. Hard burnished surface with cross-hatching. Cf. Jenkins, 1950, *op. cit.*, fig. 11, no. 28; M. R. Hull, *Roman Colchester* (1958), 29.
114. Pink; grey; pink. Smoothish but soft surface. Miss V. Rigby comments: Probably a fairly local product from kilns not necessarily imitating samian or Gallo-Belgic imports, but influenced by the demand for fairly shallow bowls, dishes or platters. Cf. a range of decorated red and orange bowls with flat broad rims from north Lincolnshire and Yorkshire—Roxby, Brough, Malton, Rudston. Flavian-Antonine.
115. Grey; grey; grey. Sandy.

Dating: Several pieces of samian found at the well bottom suggest the well was dug, c. A.D. 60. Most of the rest of the material dates from the end of the first century to the middle of the second century and there is nothing necessarily later than c. A.D. 150. The well infilling probably dates to the first half of the second century.

#### TRENCH B—SUMMARY

The trench therefore showed: 1. The earliest occupation on the site was soon after the conquest. 2. There was probably a series of timber buildings in the late-first and early-second century. 3. A well cut in the first century was probably filled by the middle of the second century. 4. There was little evidence for the later Romano-British and subsequent periods before pits covering the site in the medieval period.

#### TRENCH D—THE EXCAVATION (Fig. 11)

Area D was opened at the end of the excavation to test the hypothesis of timber buildings in Trench B. Because of the time factor, the work was unsatisfactory and a detailed description of the results would be misleading; no pottery is illustrated as it was limited in quantity and not securely stratified. At least five phases of occupation were,

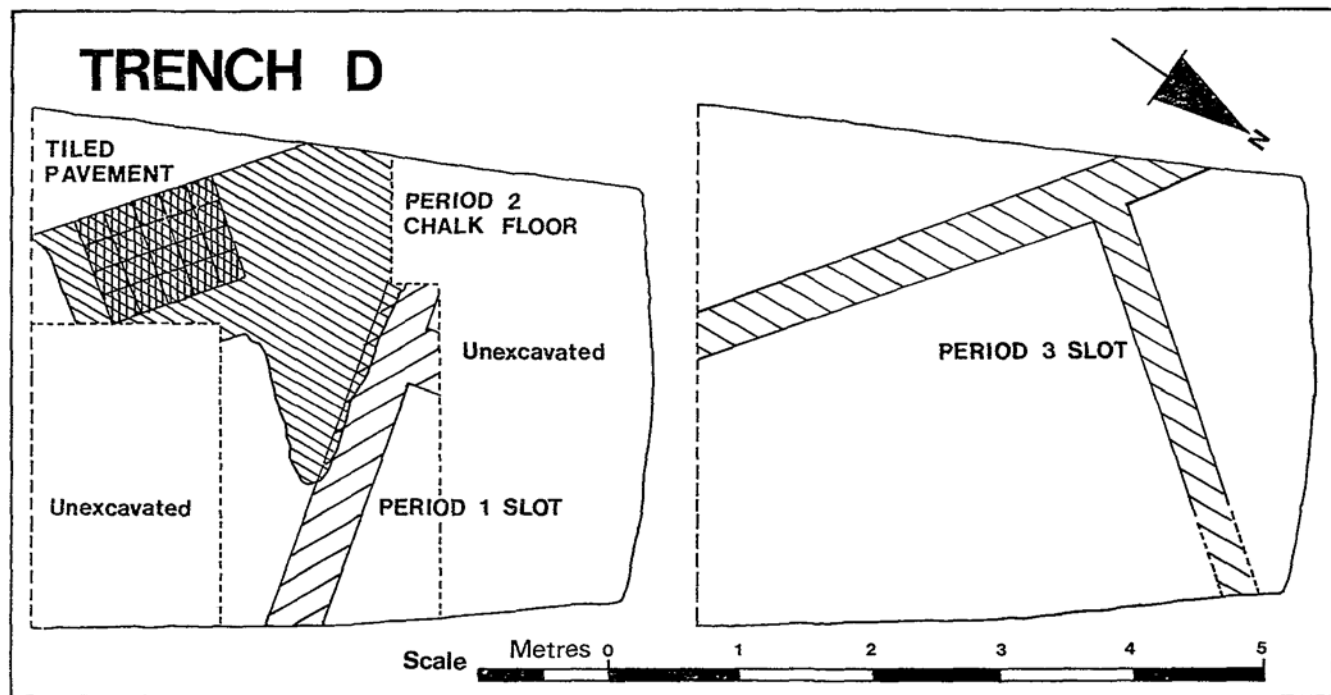


FIG. 11.

however, recognized and these are summarized below in their excavation sequence.

1. Phase V. On removal of the overburden there was a series of clay deposits into which was cut a group of five post-holes arranged in no clear structural pattern. Among the clay deposits was a *sestertius* of Trajan (Coin list no. 8).
2. Phase IV. On removal of the clay levels two walls at right angles to each other (Layers 13 and 23) were defined by narrow gullies containing dark earth and packed with stones presumably to hold uprights rigid. To the north of 13 an orange clay level (14) underlay a grey occupation level (12b) which, in turn, was below a layer of burnt daub (12a), presumably the occupation and destruction levels associated with 13 and 23.
3. Phase III. On removal of Layers 13, 14 and 23, a chalk floor (?) level covered with burnt daub was revealed. The south edge of the chalk formed a straight line parallel to the line of 13 and beyond its edge were possible post-holes of a wall. Additionally, twenty tiles c. 0.20 m. square were laid flat at the edge of and parallel with this line, possibly forming a doorway. The tiles could not have been original to this phase since they lay on top of the daub.
4. Phase II. At the north west end of the trench, there seemed to be evidence for an earlier beam slot. A trial hole revealed a slot (Layer 30) running at c. 30° to the later buildings.
5. Earlier occupation. Although there was earlier building, it was not possible to investigate it further.

All the timber phases would appear to be of first- or early second-century date.

#### THE COINS

By R. A. G. Carson, M.A., F.S.A.

1. Layer A 18. Constantine II. Rev. *Gloria exercitus*. Mint of Lugdunum. P. V. Hill and J. P. C. Kent, *Late Roman Bronze Coinage*, (1960), i, 187; A.D. 330-335.
2. Unstratified, Trench B. Carausius. Rev. uncertain. A.D. 286-293.
3. Unstratified, Trench B. Uncertain radiate  $\pm$  A.D. 270.
4. Unstratified, Trench B. Nuremberg token of Hans Schultes; sixteenth century.
5. Unstratified, Trench C. Hadrian. Rev. *COS III, Salus*. H. Mattingly, E. A. Sydenham and C. H. V. Sutherland, *The Roman Imperial Coinage*, (1923), Hadrian, 975; A.D. 134-8.
6. Trench C, Area 4, top clay level. Constantine period. Rev. *Beata tranquillitas*; c. A.D. 320.

7. Trench C, Area 2, top clay level. Local imitation *as* of Claudius. Prototype, *ibid.*, Claudius 66; c. A.D. 50.
8. Trench D, clay layer overlying Layer 12. Trajan. Rev. Bridge, *ibid.*, Trajan 569; A.D. 103-111.

## THE GLASS

By D. Charlesworth, M.A., F.S.A.

1. Rim and part of neck of flask or bottle in blue-green glass. First to second century, A.D. Trench A, Layer 20.
2. Part of the side of a square bottle. c. A.D. 70-130. Trench C, Layer 6.
3. Three small fragments of blue glass with cut line. Probably first century, A.D. Trench C, area 5.
4. Fragment of square bottle, blue-green, c. A.D. 70-130. Trench D, Layer 13.

## THE SMALL FINDS (Fig. 12)

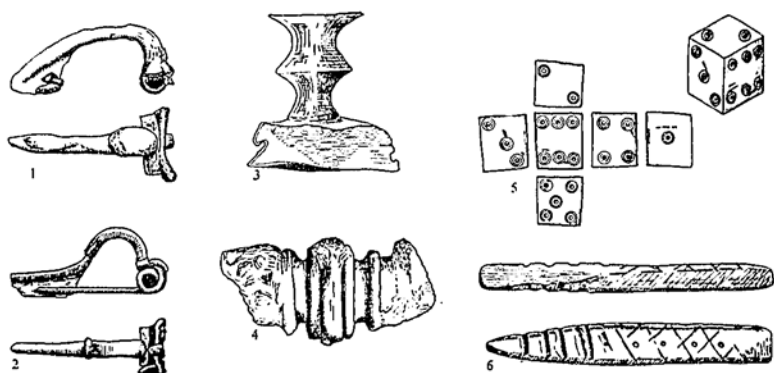


FIG. 12. Small Finds (Scale:  $\frac{1}{2}$ ).

## THE BROOCHES

By D. F. Mackreth, B.A.

1. Colchester type. The spring is an integral part of the body of the brooch. The wings are plain and the bow appears to be plain and somewhat wide for its length. The details are obscured by considerable corrosion. The catch-plate is complete and seems to be unpierced. The spring starts immediately behind the head and coils out to the left. Four coils survive with the chord, which passes across the head of the bow. Only the stalk of the hook, which once held the chord down, is present.

The Colchester type begins its life before the Roman conquest, but the present specimen belongs to the period after that event, and is probably late in the sequence, when it had begun to display features which belong to the succeeding derivative types. In the present case, little can be detected of any such characteristics, except the wide bow. The date range is possibly A.D. 50-60. Trench D, unstratified.

2. Continental import. The spring arrangement is the same as in the preceding specimen, but survives complete. The wings are very short and on each is a small boss. The bow is divided into two parts of which the upper has a pronounced curve and a D section, while the lower part has a marked recurve. At the junction of the two parts is a small cross-moulding. The foot of the bow comes to a blunted point. Like so many of the brooches from the Continent in this period, the catch-plate is almost parallel with the bow.

This type of brooch is to be found in the Rhineland forts belonging to the period before the conquest. However, it is clear that, by c. A.D. 40, it was at the end of its life; the number coming into Britain is low and, although brooches of the general type reached Wroxeter (unpublished), the *floruit* is effectively over by c. A.D. 50. Trench B, well, Layer 40.

#### OTHER SMALL FINDS

3. Bronze candlestick base, distorted. Trench C, Layer 6.
4. Possible part of bar of folding stool. Metal has high lead content and there are traces of bronze plating—such stools often had bronze decoration. Cf. J. Curle, *Newstead*, (1911), pl. LXIV; also J. Liveridge, *Furniture in Roman Britain*, (1953), 33. Trench B, well, Layer 40.
5. Grey, polished bone dice. Double ring-and-dot marking, fairly regularly spaced on sub-cube. Trench B, well, Layer 40.
6. Worked and smoothed bone, pointed at one end and with criss-cross decoration worn smooth in places. Grooves across pointed end. Trench C, Pit 4.

#### THE ANIMAL BONES

By R. Harcourt, M.Sc., B.V.M.S., M.R.C.V.S.

#### INTRODUCTION

Chronologically the material falls into two groups, Romano-British and medieval, and has been so treated for study. The small size of the collection allows little more than an enumeration of the species present.

*Description of the material*

1. Romano-British. The species present were cattle (4), sheep (1), pig (2) and domestic fowl (2) represented by a total of fifty-eight fragmentary bones. (Bracketed numbers represent minimum numbers of individuals.)

2. Medieval. This group contained 109 specimens.

Cattle: Five animals, indicated by this number of right metacarpals, were present and their measurements, as shown in the table, point to their being the typical small animals of the period.

Sheep: Four animals were represented by skulls. Three of these were horned and one polled, a feature first seen in the Romano-British period, which was quite common by the medieval.

Pig: A total of fifteen bones included three mandibles of different ages.

Horse: This species provided only twelve bones from two animals, one adult and one half-grown.

Dog: There was evidence of two animals, one adult but very small, c. 0.21 m., and the other immature but already standing some 0.66 m. at the shoulder.

Birds: The four bones found were those of domestic fowl and goose.

## Measurements of Long Bones—medieval cattle:

	tl	tlh	pw	msd	dw	Ht.
Humerus	270	239	—	37	69	—
	—	—	—	—	64	—
Radius	250	—	64	33	55	—
	—	—	67 (2)	—	—	—
Metacarpal	180	—	47	26	49	108 cm. 42"
Tibia	305	—	88	37	52	
Metatarsal	224	—	42	24	58	120 cm. 47"
	229	—	45	25	58	122 cm. 48"

tl: total length. tlh: total length to head. pw: proximal width. msd: mid-shaft diameter. dw: distal width. Both extremities are measured across articular surfaces. Ht: height at shoulder. All dimensions are in millimetres unless stated otherwise.

