

BRISTOL
&
AVON
ARCHAEOLOGY



Volume 6

BRISTOL AND AVON ARCHAEOLOGY 6 - 1987

CONTENTS

Address by L.V. Grinsell on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of B(A)ARG	2
L.V. Grinsell Bibliography 1972-1988 <i>compiled by N. Thomas</i>	3
Domesday Keynsham - a retrospective examination of an old English Royal Estate <i>M. Whittock</i>	5
Excavations in Bristol in 1985-86 <i>R. Burchill, M. Coxah, A. Nicholson & M.W. Ponsford</i>	11
The Lesser Cloister and a medieval drain at St. Augustine's Abbey, Bristol <i>E.J. Boore</i>	31
Common types of earthenware found in the Bristol area <i>G.L. Good & V.E.J. Russett</i>	35
Avon Archaeology 1986 and 1987 <i>R. Iles & A. Kidd</i>	44
A Bi-facial polished-edge flint knife from Compton Dando <i>Alan Saville</i>	57
Excavations at Burwalls House, Bristol, 1980 <i>N.M. Watson</i>	58
Cromhall Romano-British villa <i>Peter Ellis</i>	60
An Anglo-Saxon strap-end from Winterbourne, Bristol <i>J. Stewart</i>	62
Eden rediscovered at Twerton, Bath <i>Mike Chapman</i>	63
St. John's Keynsham - results of excavation, 1979 <i>Peter Ellis</i>	64
An 18th-19th century Limekiln at Water Lane, Temple, Bristol <i>G.L. Good</i>	66
Medieval floor tiles from Winterbourne <i>J.M. Hunt & J.R. Russell</i>	70
Book reviews	72

(c) Authors and Bristol & Avon Archaeological Research Group

COMMITTEE 1987-88

Chairman	N. Thomas	Vice-Chairman	A.J. Parker
Secretary	J. Bryant	Treasurer	J. Russell
Membership Secretary	A. Buchan	Associates Secretary	G. Dawson
Fieldwork Advisor	M. Ponsford	Editor, Special Publications	R. Williams
Publicity Officer	F. Moor	Editor, BAA	R. Iles
M. Aston, R. Burchill, J. Fowles, R. Jones, V. Russett, J. Stewart			

For details about membership of Bristol & Avon Archaeological Research Group write to:
Membership Secretary, BAARG, Bristol City Museum, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1 RL

Design by Davina Ware. Typesetting by Angela Harris

Printed by Typing Facilities, Midland Road, Bristol.

ISSN 0263-1091

COVER ILLUSTRATION: This shows some of the variety of pottery from Bristol:
in the back row 2 large, decorated medieval jugs; in the front row, post-medieval pottery
- chamber-pot, flask, skillet and drug jar. (VR)

ADDRESS ON THE 25th ANNIVERSARY OF B.A.(A.)R.G.

L.V.Grinsell OBE

My first act on being invited to give this address was to look around for parallels; and the only one which comes anywhere near this occasion in importance was the Address given by Lt. Gen. A.H.L.F. Pitt-Rivers on the occasion of the opening of the Dorset County Museum in 1884, when he began by thanking the Earl of Shaftesbury for introducing him. So I begin by thanking our Chairman Nicholas Thomas for introducing me, and I may add that he surpasses the General in that he is a Past President of both the Museums Association and the Council for British Archaeology, neither of which was formed until after the General's death. It is a pleasure to see so many of our original or very early members here, some of whom have held office as either Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor, Excavations Adviser, Publicity Officer, Secretary for Junior Members, or the so easily forgotten Auditor.

I have been encouraged to note how many of those who joined as Junior Members are now occupying posts of distinction in archaeological administration or research: Dr Stephen Green (joined 1965), now Assistant Keeper of Archaeology in the National Museum of Wales and on the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of London*; Dr. Ann Hamlin (joined 1965), now Principal Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings in Northern Ireland - both of them in spite of the fact that they attended my extra-mural classes in archaeology. I recall also Dr. Alan Vince (joined 1968), a leading authority on medieval pottery now on the staff of the Museum of London; and Stephen Cogbill (joined 1970), whose computer analysis of the contents of Bronze Age round barrows in Southern England (for his Cambridge PhD) is awaited with increasing impatience by others besides myself.

B.A.R.G. was formed early in 1962 to fill what we then believed was largely an archaeological void. Our formation was welcomed by the Somerset A & N H Society which had a long-established tradition of encouraging local societies, and provided for it by holding its Autumn Meetings of Affiliated Societies, which tended to have the effect of increasing the membership of the parent Society. However, our formation was misunderstood by the B. & G.A.S. which then had no such structure for encouraging the establishment of local societies which it regarded as 'splinter groups'. Not until the late 1970s did they form their *Committee for Archaeology in Gloucestershire* with its annual autumn meetings of affiliated societies and groups, and I expect they now realise that the formation of our own Research Group was no bad thing after all.

However, since we formed in 1962, the County of Avon came into existence as a result of the Local Government Reorganisation which took effect from 1974. In 1981 we changed our title from B.A.R.G. to Bristol and Avon Archaeological Research Group: certainly a step in the right direction. The county of Avon is the only one in Southern England without a county archaeological

society properly so-called. Our Editor Rob Iles is producing in our annual volume *Bristol & Avon Archaeology*, what is in effect the equal of any county archaeological periodical, but to make it financially viable we need many more members.

Some of you already know that I believe that we should be flexible enough to adapt to changing conditions, and that the time has come for us to change our title to the Bristol & Avon Archaeological Society, to bring ourselves into line with the archaeological structure of the rest of our country. In the language of the newest of the New Archaeology, we should then acquire Peer Polity with our neighbouring counties and talk to them in their own language and on our own terms.

I believe that such a change, if adequately publicised, could result in such an increase in membership as would help us to balance our budget. It is also possible that if we refrain from taking this step, we may leave the way clear for some other organisation to usurp what is surely our function.

I have two other suggestions for our improvement:

- 1) that instead of advertising our forthcoming events in a *Newsletter* or *Bulletin*, which tends to get mislaid or filed away, we revert to our former method of having a *Fixture Card*, one that stands on its own feet as it were, which usually lives on the mantelpiece along with those of the Somerset A&NH Soc., Bath & Bristol Num. Soc., and others, and is always available for consultation;
- 2) that it is time we produced a fresh **List of Members**, our last one having been issued in 1981. It is the essential requirement for enabling us to communicate with our archaeological friends and colleagues.

I now come to the main purpose of this address: to draw your attention to this excellent exhibition of the manner in which we have been disporting ourselves during the last 25 years. Such exhibitions do not arrange themselves, and I am sure we are grateful to all those who have participated in bringing it together: my successor Jennifer Stewart; Mike Ponsford who has I believe been the main-spring of the operation; and the numerous backroom boys and girls of all ages who have assisted in one way or another. There is a certain emphasis on excavation, survey, and experimental archaeology, and especially on projects undertaken jointly with Museum staff or the staff of the Department of Classics and Archaeology in the University. Of course, no two people would have produced the same type of display. If I had done it, prehistory would have occupied almost the whole area (together with publications), and everything else would have overflowed into the adjoining and much smaller room.

I end with a few desultory remarks on our Publications. From the start we adopted the motto: NO EXCAVATION

WITHOUT PUBLICATION. Had we chose NO PUBLICATION WITHOUT EXCAVATION, I should never have had anything published at all ! Despite our motto, our formation early in 1962 was greeted with rhetorical question by a former President of one of the adjoining county archaeological societies: 'what reason have we to think that this upstart group would ever publish anything that they did?'. We took that rhetorical question as a challenge and forthwith persuaded the Extra-Mural Department of the University to sponsor a course of six lectures on 'The Preparation of Archaeological Reports' given by Philip Rahtz Alan Warhurst and myself. The result, after suitable editing, was published at first as a cyclostyled booklet in 1962, 2nd edition 1963, and later as a proper hardback book published by John Baker in 1966. Later still it was rewritten under slightly different authorship and published as a handsome quarto hardback volume by Adam & Charles Black, under the imprint John Baker whose business had taken over by them, in 1974; and there was an American edition about the same time or shortly afterwards. The English edition is now out of print but I feel that a new edition should be edited by someone younger than myself.

Because of the limited space, we have had to confine ourselves to the display of those of our publications which are still in print. I would however suggest that our *Survey and Policy*, Part I to 1066, Part II from 1066, is still well worth reading as a guide to outstanding problems. The changing approaches of the last 25 years will have doubtless created as many problems again.

In thanking you for listening to me so patiently, I now leave you free to continue viewing the display or to socialize as you wish.

* Shortly after giving this speech, Dr. Green was promoted Keeper of Archaeology there - Ed.

L.V.G.

N. Thomas wishes to point out that he has never been - and never will be - President of the Museums Association - Ed.

LVG : a selected Bibliography, 1972 to the present day. As promised in *Bristol and Avon Archaeology* 5, the volume dedicated to Leslie Grinsell, this bibliography of his main writings is published as a continuation of the record of his published works in *Archaeology and the Landscape*, 1972. Essentially, the only items omitted (in itself a not inconsiderable and interesting list) have been letters and reviews. Here is a remarkable record of the scholarly output of a man officially 'in retirement'!

1972

"Perambulations of the Bounds of Mendip Parishes". *Notes Queries Somerset Dorset* 29, 212-213.

1973

With R.W. Knight and Charles Browne, "Prehistoric Skeletons from Tormarton, Glos." *Trans. Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.* 91, 14-17.

The Folklore of Stanton Drew. Toucan Press, Guernsey.

With C.E. Blunt, FBA and Michael Dolley, MRIA, *Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles* 19, *Bristol and Gloucester Museums*. British Academy, London.

The Bath Mint. Spink & Son Ltd., London.

"Witchcraft at Prehistoric Sites". In ed. Venetia Newall, *The Witch Figure* (in honour of K.M. Briggs), 72-79.

1974

"Disc-barrows". *Proc. Prehistoric Soc.* 40, 79-112.

With P.A. Rahtz and D. Price Williams, *The Preparation of Archaeological Reports*. John Baker.

"A Viking Burial in a Stone Coffin in Bath". *Notes Queries Somerset Dorset* 30, 67.

"A Bath Penny of the Benediction Hand Type of Aethelred II, *Spink's Numis. Circ.* 82, 339.

1975

Barrow, Pyramid and Tomb. Thames & Hudson (issued in 1976; paperback edition, 1977).

Ancient Burial Mounds of England. Reprint of 1953 edn, with fresh introduction, and bibliography 1953-1973. Greenwood Inc., Westport, Conn.

1976

"Legendary History and Folklore of Stonehenge". *Folklore* 87, 5-20.

Legendary History and Folklore of Stonehenge. Toucan Press, Guernsey.

Folklore of Prehistoric Sites in Britain. David & Charles.

Prehistoric Sites in the Quantock Country. Somerset Archaeol. Natur. Hist. Soc., Taunton.

"Folklore of Prehistoric Sites in Britain". *IX U.I.S.P.P. Congress, Nice*, I, 12.

1977

With F. Neale, "Notes on the Medieval Mints in Bath and Bristol". *Spink's Numis. Circ.* 85, 210.

With Owen Legg, *Cut in the Chalk*. Tonbridge. (Folio volume, limited edition: chalk hill figures, description (LVG) and linocuts).

Barrow, Pyramid and Tomb. Thames & Hudson. Paperback edn.

1978

The Rollright Stones and their Folklore. Toucan Press, Guernsey.

The Druids and Stonehenge: the Story of a Myth. Toucan Press, Guernsey.

The Stonehenge Barrow Groups. Salisbury Museum.

Piramidi, Necropoli & Mondì Sepolti. Italian edition of *Barrow, Pyramid and Tomb*, updated text. Rome. Newton Compton Editore.

"The Development of Local Archaeology in the City Museum, Bristol, until 1952". *Bristol Archaeol. Res. Gp. Bull.* 6, No. 5, 120-121.

- "Exmoor antiquities in popular tradition". *Exmoor Review* 20 (dated 1979, issued Nov. 1978), 62-63.
- "The Continuing Need for BARG". *Bristol Archaeol. Res. Gp. Bull.* 6, No. 6, 149-151.
- "Dartmoor Barrows". *Proc. Devonshire Archaeol. Soc.* 36, 85-180.
- 1979
- Barrows in England and Wales*. Shire Archaeologies.
- "Notes on the Folklore of Prehistoric Sites in Britain". *Folklore* 90, 66-70.
- 1980
- "The Cerne Abbas Giant: 1764-1980". *Antiquity* 54, 29-33.
- Earlier Medieval Sites in and around Bristol and Bath* (Editor and part author). B.A.R.G. Field Guide 3A.
- "Thomas Hardy and the Giant of Cerne Abbas". *Notes Queries Somerset Dorset* 31, 38.
- "The Druid Stoke Megalithic Monument". *Trans. Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.* 97, 119-121.
- "Barrows in the County of Avon". *Avon Past* 3, 5-7.
- "A Century of the Study of the Folklore of Archaeological Sites". In ed. Venetia Newall, *Folklore Studies in the Twentieth Century*, 213-216.
- 1981
- "Exploring Prehistoric Menorca". *Popular Archaeology* 3, No. 1, 28-31.
- "The Naveta of Els Tudons". *Antiquity* 55, 196-199.
- 1982
- "The Stone at Snivelling Corner, Ashbury". *Trans. Newbury Dist. Fld. Club* 12, No. 6, 54-55.
- Mitchell's Fold Stone Circle and its Folklore*. Toucan Press, Guernsey.
- Exmoor's Archaeology: Early Man*. Exmoor National Park Department.
- Belas Knap Long Barrow*. Revised edition. Department of the Environment.
- Stoney Littleton Long Barrow*. Revised edition. Department of the Environment.
- With Dorothy Carrington, "Folklore of Archaeological Sites in Corsica". *Folklore* 93, 61-69.
- "Wessex Bronze Age Round Barrows since 1930". *Current Archaeol.* 81, 313-314.
- "The Later History of Ty Illtud Long Barrow". *Archaeol. Cambrensis* 130 (1981), 131-139.
- Prehistoric Sites on Mendip*. B.A.R.G. Folder Guide.
- Dorset Barrows Supplement*. Dorset Natur. Hist. Archaeol. Soc., Dorchester.
- 1983
- "Priddy Nine Barrows: a 'Correction' Corrected". *Proc. Somerset Archaeol. Natur. Hist. Soc.* 127, 103-104.
- "Stanton Drew: from Folk Tradition to the New Archaeology". *Avon Past* 8, 4-8.
- "Peter Orlando Hutchinson: a Devon Antiquary". *Antiquity* 57, 126-127.
- "Peter Orlando Hutchinson: His Advice on Barrow-Digging". *The Devon Historian* 26, 23.
- Discovering Roman Britain* (part author). Shire Archaeologies.
- "The Barrows of South and East Devon". *Proc. Devonshire Archaeol. Soc.* 41, 5-46.
- 1984
- "The Popular Names and Folklore of Prehistoric Sites in Menorca". *Folklore* 95, 90-99.
- Barrows in England and Wales*. 2nd Edition. Shire Archaeologies.
- 1985
- "Hangman's Stones and their Traditions". *Folklore* 96, 217-222.
- "Out with the Prehistorians". *Current Archaeol.* 95, Jan., 362-365.
- The Stanton Drew Stone Circles and Associated Monuments*. Folder Field Guide. Bristol Avon Res. Gp.
- "Making a Local Barrow Study". In ed. J.F. Dyer, *Archaeology and Death*, 11-13. C.B.A.
- "Bronze Age Artifacts in Avon". *Bristol Avon Archaeol.* 4, 2-5.
- 1986
- "Carrying Flint Cores to Mendip". *Lithics* 6, for 1985, 15-17.
- "Rainbarrows and Thomas Hardy". *Thomas Hardy Journ.* II, 2, 59-61.
- The Bristol Mint*. City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery.
- 1987
- "John Jarman and Priddy Barrows". *Notes Queries Somerset Dorset* 32, 594-595.
- "A Beaker from a Cairn at Thornworthy, Chagford". *Trans. Procs. Torquay Natur. Hist. Soc.* XIX (iv), 180-181.
- "Bronze Age Settlement and Burial Ritual". In eds. Michael Aston and Rob Iles, *The Archaeology of Avon*, 29-39. Avon County Council.
- "The Mints of Bath and Bristol". In *ibid*, 173-175.
- "The Lower Bristol Avon as a Thoroughfare from Prehistoric Times to the Norman Conquest". *Bristol Avon Archaeol.* 5, 2-4.
- "The Christianization of Prehistoric and Other Pagan Sites". *Landscape Hist.* 8, 27-37.
- "Surrey Barrows: A Reappraisal 1934-1986". *Surrey Archaeol. Collns.* 78, 1-41.
- 1988
- "Somerset Barrows: Revisions 1971-87". *Proc. Somerset Archaeol. and Natur. Hist. Soc.* 131, forthcoming.
- "Alfred Watkins and the Old Straight Track". *Trans. Woolhope Natur. Field Club*, forthcoming.

DOMESDAY KEYNSHAM: A Retrospective Examination of an Old English Royal Estate

M. Whittock

The Domesday survey contains a fairly detailed reference to an Old English royal estate ('manerium') at Cainesham (Keynsham). According to the survey this estate had belonged to Queen Edith. Edith, who died in 1075, had been the wife of King Edward in 1066. She had held a number of estates, in her own right, in the shire of Somerset. These estates were: Milverton, Martock, Keynsham, Chewton Mendip, Batheaston and Bath. Of these estates, that at Keynsham was the largest in stated area. It was rated at 50 'hides' for taxation purposes. The word hide was used rather flexibly in terms of area and so it is difficult to reduce it to an exact number of acres or hectares. However using the rough guide of 1 hide = 120 acres would give an estate of about 6000 acres.

The lack of a charter and perambulation for the estate at Keynsham makes it difficult to plot the extent of the estate with certainty. Any attempt to define the boundaries must therefore be regarded as hypothetical.

In attempting to construct a boundary, that is in essence Old English, the information recorded in the Domesday survey must be combined with other sources of information. That done it should be possible to attempt the following tasks:

- (1) The boundaries of the units of the estate can be plotted.
- (2) The settlement pattern can be outlined with regard to those settlements contemporary with the Old English estate.
- (3) Something of the topography of the estate can be suggested by plotting those topographical features whose names and locations have survived from the Old English period.
- (4) The overall resource distributions of the estate can be shown in terms of their spatial distribution by mapping them with regard to the units of the estate.

The term 'units' has been used advisedly as the Domesday survey indicates that the pre conquest estate was made up of at least 4 major settlements (here termed units). These Old English units were:

- Keynsham : recorded in 1086 as Cainesham, Old English Caeginesham.
- Belluton : recorded in 1086 as Beleton, Old English Belgetun(?)
- Stanton : recorded in 1086 as Stantone, Old English Stantun and probably named, by English settlers, after the stone circles.
- Burnett : recorded in the Exeter Domesday Book as 'a manor called Bernet' and belonging to Wulward White's wife. The Old English form of the place name would probably have been Baernet.

To these 4 principal units should also be added the parcels of land held by the Bishop of Cornwall in 1086 and Aelfric in 1086 (Wulmer in 1066). The location of

the latter parcel of land is likely to have been in the vicinity of the Keynsham unit. This location is assisted by other evidence contained within the Tax Returns for 1084 appended to the Exeter Domesday. The 1 hide of land in question was designated as 'thane land' in the Exeter manuscript. Thaneland was land capable of supporting a member of the Old English gentry. It may be that the granting of thaneland here was a deliberate attempt to locate a man, owing military service, at the heart of the estate.

The later analysis of resource distribution will serve to justify this singling out of the Keynsham unit for special attention. It is clear that this unit formed the core, or head, unit of the Old English estate and that the other 3 units served a more peripheral rôle as subsidiary units. In this sense the Keynsham manerium may be termed a multiple estate even if it does not rival other, much larger, Old English multiple estates (such as that at Bath with its 100 hides). For these factors expressed in the form of a model see Fig. 2.

Another reason for stressing the 'multiple' nature of the estate is the possibility that the manerium was built up over the centuries before 1066 by the addition of successive units. There is some reason for believing that, whilst the head unit was at Keynsham, the subsidiary units were not originally part of the estate. Firstly it should be remembered that the Keynsham unit would have made up a sizeable estate in its own right. The suggestion that it may have at some time lacked the subsidiary units would not undermine its economic viability. Secondly the extinction of the through Roman road may indicate that the original estate was not structured in the form revealed in 1086.

THE BOUNDARY OF THE ESTATE

The various units of the estate may well be represented by the later ecclesiastical parishes and tithings. If this is so, and it is a fair hypothesis, then the Keynsham unit can be plotted as 'A' on Fig. 1. The Belluton unit is more difficult to plot since it did not give rise to a later administrative unit. It is plotted as 'B' and this suggests that the eastern part of the later parish of Stanton Drew was combined with what later became the parish of Publow. The extensive nature of the Belluton unit is revealed by the fact that it possessed a mill, which indicates that it stretched as far as the river Chew. The Stanton unit is plotted as 'C' and follows the later parish boundary. The area 'D' represents the tithing of Burnett and it is possible that this grew out of the pre conquest estate unit. The area 'A 1' (Charlton) was probably part of the Keynsham unit. Area 'A 2' (Brislington) may also have been linked to the Keynsham unit.

The extent of the royal estate (outlined above) can be checked against other forms of evidence. In 1405 a composition between the abbey and the vicar at Keynsham listed chapels dependent on Keynsham. It is possible that

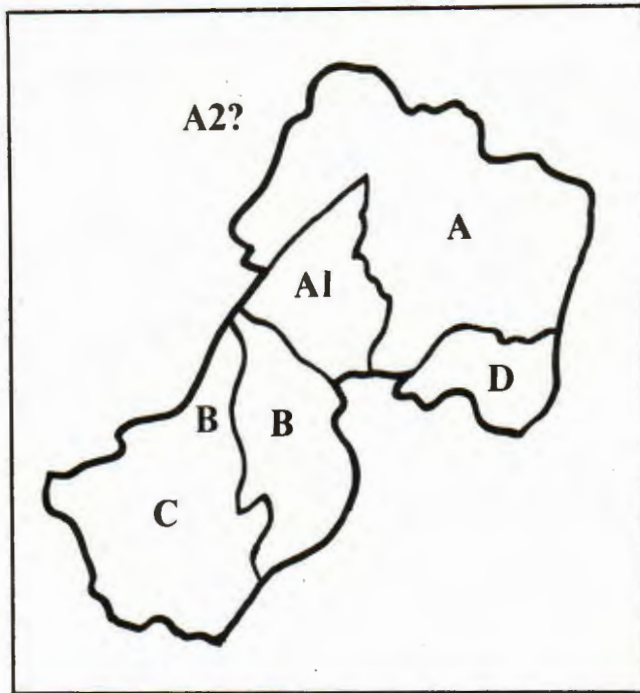


Fig 1

this relationship was built on an earlier set up, with a minster church at the heart of the royal estate. The dependent chapels were: Charlton, Publow, Filton (Whitchurch), and Brislington. Another source (*Rymer Foedera* xiv 629) adds Pensford to the list. What is clear from this is that while Stanton had been detached and Burnett omitted, the general outline of the estate, as suggested earlier, would seem to be correct. It is however likely that while Whitchurch had come into the Keynsham orbit by the 15th century it had not been part of the original manerium. In 1065 King Edward had confirmed 'Hwitecirce' as part of the lands belonging to the Bishop of Wells.

Place names support what has been suggested so far. To the west of Keynsham, Scotland Bottom may contain the Old English word 'sceat' meaning 'a corner', 'a strip of land'. This would admirably describe the position of this land, jutting out of the western border of the estate. An alternative meaning of 'detached land' may refer to the fact that woodland around Durley and Stockwood separated this land from the rest of the estate proper. To the east of Keynsham the farm name Eastover may contain a survival of the Old English 'ofer', meaning 'border' or 'Margin'. This would then describe its position on the eastern edge of the Keynsham estate. Similarly the name Utcombe, south west of Stanton Wick, may be derived from the Old English 'ut', 'out', referring to its position out on the southern boundary of the Stanton unit. Another pioneering settlement, on the very edge of the estate, may have given rise to the names Curl's Wood and Curl's Farm, west of Utcombe. This may represent a survival of the Old English 'ceorl', or 'peasant'. This whole matter of planted colonies of servile cultivators, on the margins of the estate, will be considered later on in this study.

RESOURCES OF AN OLD ENGLISH ESTATE

The distribution of resources within the Old English estate appear clearly outlined within the Domesday account. In terms of population the distribution was by no means even. Of the total listed population of 201, 77.1% lived in the vicinity of Keynsham; 13.9% lived at Stanton; 4.9% lived at Burnett; 3.9% lived at Belluton. This indicates

a concentration of manpower in the north of the estate. Given the high hidage rating of Keynsham (32½ hides, or 3900 acres) there is no need to think of this concentration confined in one small area.

Breaking down the population figures into figures for freemen and slaves continues to underline this distribution pattern. Of the total of 152 men listed under the category of 'villanus' (villager) and that of 'bordarius' (small holder) 72.3% lived at Keynsham; 18.4% lived at Stanton; 4.6% lived at Belluton and 4.6% at Burnett. The distribution of those classified under 'slave' is more extreme again: of a total of 24, all but 4 resided at Keynsham. Similarly all listed under 'colibertus' (freedman), 25 in all, lived at Keynsham. This latter figure is hardly a surprise given the number of unfree men in the vicinity. The Domesday classification of 'slave' represents the Old English 'theow' or 'thraell'. The manuscript *Rectitudines Singularum Personarum*, of the 11th century, lists the slave's duties as everything from labourer to swineherd, beekeeper and herdsman.

The slaves were not the only social class towards the bottom of the social order. A number of other groups also had their freedom limited, or owed service to their lords. Linked to the slaves were the coliberti, the freedmen. These were raised up out of slavery and Domesday Book indicates that some of them had been allocated land and ploughs of their own. The lowest freedman was the 'cotsetla' (referred to in Domesday Book as a 'coscet' or sometimes as a 'bordarius'). Modern English renders cotsetla as cottager. Since the Keynsham entry refers to 'xxv colibti' (freedmen) and not 'xxv coscez' (cottagers) we may presume that the Keynsham freedmen were *not* from this lowest strata. An entry for Chelwood, for example, does specifically refer to 'iv coscez' (cottagers).

If the Keynsham men were not coscez they may have been described by the Old English term of 'gebur'. According to the *Rectitudines* such geburas were granted 2 oxen, 1 cow, 6 sheep and sufficient land ('geburland') to form a small farm. All such remained the property of the estate owner.

Some of the freedmen may have been elevated to the rank of 'gafolgelda' who was set up as a rent paying farmer, occupying 'gafolland'. The 7th century laws of Ine refer to such men as middle ranking cultivators of Welsh extraction. Clearly, by the 11th century, such a class would also have included Englishmen but the Welsh connection should not be dismissed. In Wessex many native peasant farmers must have been incorporated into the English agrarian class system. Many of these must have made up the theow, gebur and gafolgelda classes, by the late Old English period. Domesday lists the bulk of coliberti as being in Wessex and western Mercia, areas where English penetration came comparatively late. The main concentration was in Somerset and Wiltshire, areas where a fairly vibrant sub Roman society existed into the late 6th century, in the case of the latter, and the late 7th century, in the case of the former (Evison, Hodges, & Hurst 1974).

It is suggestive that the heart of Edith's estate and the greatest proportion of slaves and freedmen lay in the north of the estate. Here it is likely that the villages of labourers would have attended the large villa at Keynsham. Some will argue that a high proportion of slaves was inevitable where demesne land was concentrated. However this can be stood on its head: perhaps the demesne land's location was dictated by the high population of servile cultivators and worked farmland around the villa. That demesne land and cultivators concentrated in the vicinity of a large and influential villa is clearly a striking coincidence. Perhaps the English pattern was imposed on a Romano British one?

Place name study may help to locate some of these lower class cultivators. Some 2 miles to the south west of Keynsham is Queen Charlton. Charlton is derived from the Old English 'Ceorlatun', village of the ceorls. There is some controversy over the role and rights of the ceorliscman. Some clearly prospered and by 1086 were classed as bordari or villani (Finberg 1976), whilst others clearly remained as geburas and gafolgeldas and were classed in 1086 as coliberti. For these the rank of ceorl expressed 'lowest rank of peasant', or 'villein'.

It is clear therefore that a proportion of the Domesday coliberti must have farmed the land at Charlton. By the 12th century the village belonged to the abbey at Keynsham. However it is obvious that such a link predated the establishment of the religious house (in 1180) and was rooted in the manorial structure of Edith's estate. The land in the vicinity of Charlton would therefore have been geburland. Charlton Field (derived from Ceorlatun Feld?) probably represents the pasture land of the village. Immediately south west of Charlton Field the 1.25,000 map shows an area of land called Lypiatt. This is clearly derived from the Old English 'hlypgeat' meaning 'leap gate'. It implies a fence capable of penning sheep but which a deer could leap. This clearly relates directly to the pasture belonging to Charlton. It is clear that a large number of sheep must have been located at Charlton in the pre conquest period. The presence of Stocwudu (?) and Deora Leah, to the north east and north of Charlton, and Horsa Leah, to the south west may represent limits to pioneering farming in the first case and the results of agricultural expansion in the second and third cases.

The fact that Keynsham was noted for its tied labour is obvious from the 1084 Tax Return included in the Exeter Domesday (*Liber Exoniensis*). Here there is a reference to 'land of the King's villagers'. This may be a reference to all those living on the estate. Alternatively it may refer to those tied to the demesne land in a peculiar way.

Finally we come to the 110 men listed in Domesday Book under the headings of villanus and bordarius (villager and small holder). Of these respective groups Keynsham had 70 and 40; Stanton Drew had 15 and 13; Belluton had 2 and 5; Burnett had 3 and 4. These groups represent the Old English 'frigmen' or freemen. Including the upper peasantry and lower gentry within their ranks they occupied a key position in pre conquest society. It is a little difficult to differentiate the villanus from the bordarius, although it does seem that the villanus held more land. It is possible that the bordarius represented the gafolgelda class and that the colibertus (discussed previously) represented only the gebur class.

What is clear is that some of the villani must have included those Old English men mentioned in pre conquest sources as 'geneat' farmers and 'radcnihts'. The geneat was a minor land holder in his own right; whilst he owed tithe to the church, sometimes rent to the lord and did owe some labour service on the demesne land he possessed sufficient land property and prestige to lift him above the other cultivators.

Domesday Book gives us the names of some of these geneat landowners under Edith. At Burnett the landholder was a woman. The 'History from the Sources' edition of *Domesday Somerset* (J. Morris 1980) identifies her as Edeva, wife of Wulfward White. It indicates that she also held land in Buckinghamshire in the 1060's. In Old English her name would have been Eadgifu. If the identification of this woman is correct then she must have been the same Eadgifu who held land in Cambridgeshire; Essex, Hertfordshire, Lincolnshire, Suffolk and Yorkshire. In some of the Domesday entries she is referred to as 'Eddiva Pulchra', Eadgifu the Beautiful; in others there is evidence that in Old English she was known as 'Eadgifu Faira' (Eadgifu the Fair). It has been suggested that she was in some way related to the Godwin family; it was this family that held Keynsham, through Edith. Less substantial land holders in the 1060's were Wulfward White and a certain Wulfmer. Wulfmer must have held land close to Keynsham as in 1086 he had been replaced by Aelfric 'of Keynsham' (Exeter Domesday). At Belluton the holder of the 4 hides in 1066 was Tovi, Sheriff of Somerset (1061-1068) a powerful thane.

It is likely that some of the satellite settlements not mentioned in 1086 would have been occupied by some of the villani of the Domesday entry. Such a satellite was clearly at Stanton Wick. The place name element 'wick' implies a dependent settlement; in 1086 this settlement was simply included within the general assessment of Stanton.

The distribution of animal resources within the estate is revealing, particularly with regard to the senior unit ('caput') of the estate, Keynsham. Of the total number of sheep in 1086 (1034); 67.6% grazed in the Keynsham unit; 9.6% were at Burnett; 8.4% were at Stanton; 4.5% were at Belluton. The 9.6% of sheep belonging to Aelfric should probably be grouped with those of Keynsham. This would give Keynsham a total of 77.2%. The grazing of sheep in the pre conquest period can be checked alongside the evidence of place and field names. Lypiatt, near Charlton Field, has already been noted. However this is not a unique survival of this name. The 19th century Tithe Map contains a number of such survivals of the form. Lipeat is found on the Keynsham Tithe Map at T.908; Lipyeat can be found at T. 1489, T. 1497, T. 1445. At Burnett a field name Lipyeat survived at T.76. At Publow the form Lypeat could be found, in 1839, at T.387. A similar kind of survival is that of the field name Sleight. This is probably derived from the Old English word 'slaeget' meaning a 'level pasture, down, sheep walk'. The name survived in the Keynsham unit at T.1509, T.1230, T.817, T.997, T.845 (M. Costen Pers Comm).

Concerning goats Keynsham had 70 and Belluton 10, Keynsham also had 44 pigs compared to 13 at Belluton and 6 at Burnett. Concerning cattle the estate owned only 20; 10 at Keynsham and 10 at Belluton.

In terms of the physical resources of the estate the prominence of the Keynsham unit remained pronounced. Of a total of 155 acres of meadow Keynsham possessed 100 (117 with Aelfric's); Belluton had 22 acres; Stanton had 15; Burnett had 12 acres. This predominant position of the Keynsham area is reflected in the pasture acreage:

FACTOR	EVIDENCE
(i) PLACE NAME HIERARCHY	Topographical place names at Main Unit (Head Place); Settlement place names at subsidiary units.
(ii) DEMESNE FARM	Barton place name or similar (eg Kingston)
(iii) CONCENTRATION OF DEMESNE LAND	High hideage rating comparable to subsidiary units
(iv) SERVILE CULTIVATORS	(a) High rating of slave, freed, colibertus at Domesday. (b) Attendant village(s) with "Charlton" place name.

Fig 2 Model of factors relating to 'head place' status within Old English Estates

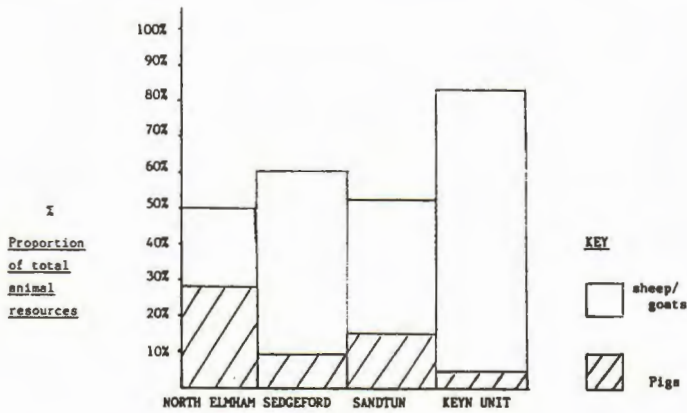


Fig 3 Sheep and pigs at the Keynsham unit, as a proportion of total animal resources, compared to archaeological evidence from 3 mid late Saxon sites (from Clutton-Brock in Wilson 1976). In order to arrive at Keynsham figures an estimate has been made of available plough oxen, based on figures for plough teams for 1086. Figures for Keynsham Unit are combined with those for 'Aelfric of Keynsham'.

Keynsham 100 acres (102 with Aelfric's), Stanton 60, Belluton 20.

Given the concentration of resources at Keynsham it is not surprising to learn that the demesne land there made up 15½ hides. This reinforces all that has been stated concerning this unit and its prominent economic importance within the estate. This unit had a number of features reminiscent of other central places ('caputs') within large estates, noted by a number of researchers (P. Sawyer, 1976, M. Gelling, 1978). The place name of such a central place, in Old English estates, was often a topographical one. This is true of Keynsham ('hamm'); habitative place names were often reserved for the subsidiary units and this too is correct in the estate: Belluton, Charlton, Chewton, Stanton ('tun'); Stanton Wick ('Wick'). In addition to this it is possible that some evidence has survived concerning the location of the administrative centre of the estate. To the west of the present parish church of Keynsham lies an area still called Pool Barton. The word Barton may have two possible origins. It may be from the Old English 'beretun' or corn farm/demesne farm (E. Ekwall, 1960). The alternative origin lies in 'burhtun' or 'fortified manor'. Either way it is highly likely that the area now known as Pool Barton was the site of the original demesne farm of the royal estate. At Abingdon it was the Barton area that formed the nucleus of the trading community of the settlement (Haslam, 1984). The Barton area lies on the higher ground overlooking the site of the Roman villa, situated ½ a mile to the west.

The estate was well provided with woodland according to the domesday survey. Some 1000 acres were spread over the Keynsham unit and Belluton and Stanton had 60 acres each. Areas of old woodland may be revealed by the element 'leah', meaning 'clearing, glade' to be found in a number of parts of the estate. The 'leah' place and field names include: Durley, Whitley, Catsley, Bearleaze, Gorley, Ruckly, Winkly and Hickerleys Splot.

The name Stockwood may contain the Old English word 'stoc' which means a 'trunk of a tree' and the original name may have been Stoccwudu. More probably it contains the element 'stoc' meaning a 'place dependent on a village or manor' (E. Ekwall, 1960). The original name would then have been Stoccwudu. This etymology fits in well with the assumption that at least part of this woodland belonged to Edith's estate.

The final resource of Edith's estate was that of the water mills. Of 9250 manors covered by Domesday Book 3463 had mills; in total 5624 mills (Syson 1965). These average out at 1.6 mills per manor with a mill. Keynsham however had 8 mills within its manor (6 at Keynsham, 1 at Stanton, 1 at Belluton), this figure was 5 times the national average!

In 1066 the mills at Keynsham were worth 60/- p.a., the one at Belluton was worth 15/- and the one at Stanton 10/-. This compares favourably with a maximum income per mill of 40/- in Cornwall and 25/- in Devon. In Dorset £1 was the maximum income for a mill.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OLD ENGLISH ESTATE

Setting the Keynsham estate within the context of Edith's total holdings offers some insight into the importance of the manerium. It has been estimated that in 1066 the total income of her estates amounted to somewhere in the region of £1000 (Hill 1981). To this total the estate at Keynsham contributed some 9% and the Keynsham unit alone contributed 8%. Regarding total royal estate income, the estate contributed some 1.5% and the Keynsham unit alone some 1.3%. This economic performance was assisted by an above average population density. The estate had a population density of about 10 per square mile. This may be set against 7 per square mile for Somerset as a whole, 8 for Devon, 7 for Dorset. The average number of people per Domesday settlement was 20. This compares dramatically with the total estate population of 201, with its 4 named settlements.

The population figures quoted above are those listed in Domesday Book and do not include the dependent population. Using the formula constructed in order to turn Domesday statistics into actual population statistics (i.e. Domesday population of England: 268,984, estimated actual population: 2 million) gives the Keynsham estate a total population of 1,494. This would have been made up of 1,316 'free' and 178 'unfree' men, women and children.

The importance of the estate can be seen by comparing it to other estates within the southwest. The 100

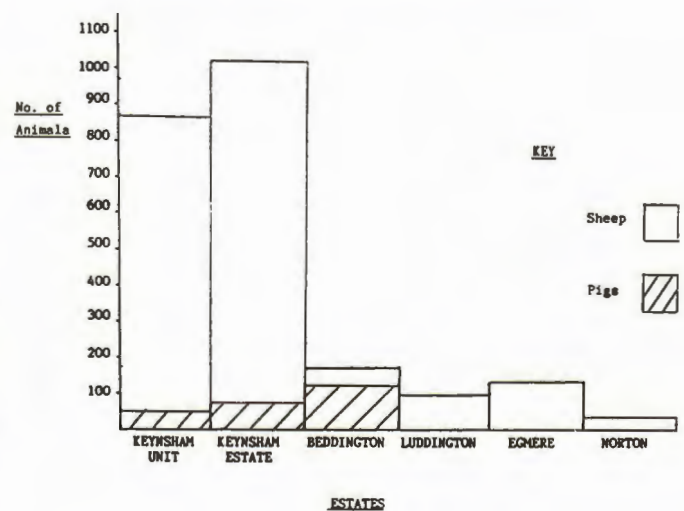


Fig 4 Comparison between sheep and pig resources at the Keynsham Unit/Keynsham Estate and four other late Saxon Estates evidenced in Charter documents. Keynsham Unit numbers combined with those of Aelfric of Keynsham'.

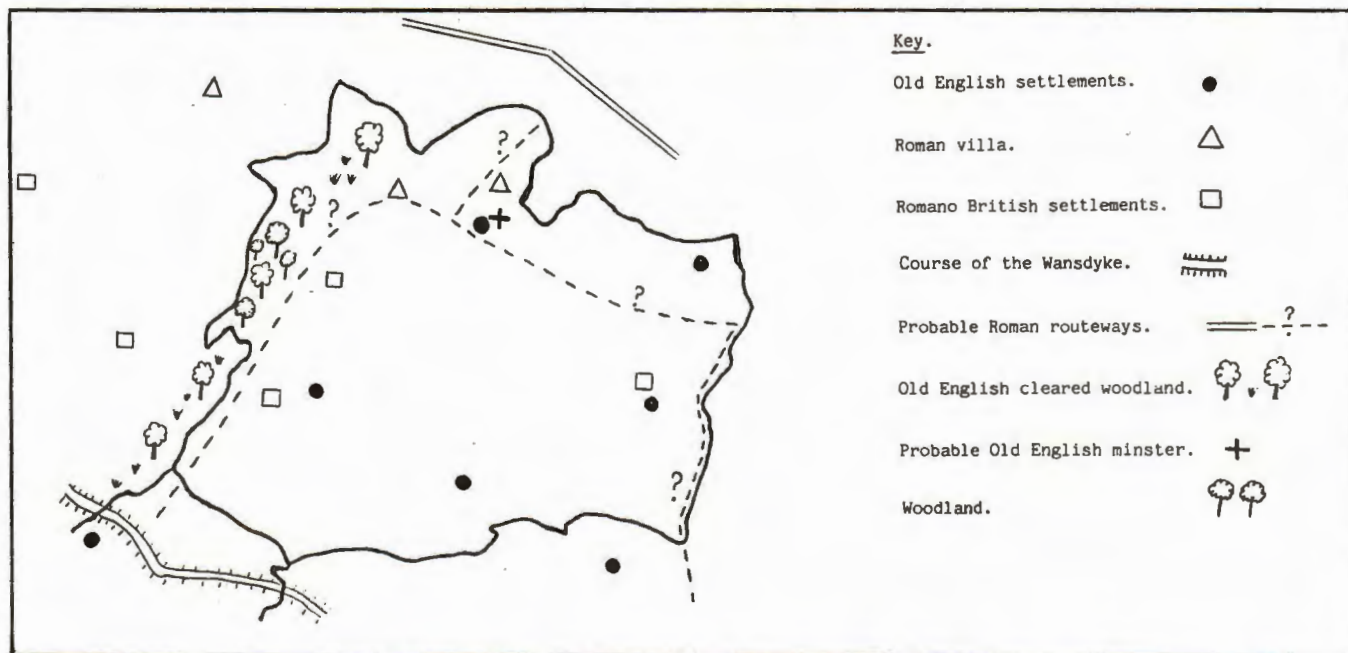


Fig 5 Romano-British settlement in the head unit of the Old English Estate. Some of the later settlements may have destroyed evidence of earlier ones.

acres of pasture and 100 acres of meadow at Keynsham compare favourably with the average per settlement of 50 acres and 30 acres respectively for Somerset, 50 acres and 40 acres for Dorset. Its 700 sheep should be set against a county where the majority of settlements owned between 50 and 200 sheep. Neither should it be forgotten that the estate also owned 8 burgesses in Bath. The town properties owed rents to the rural estate and were part of the estate's assessment.

The analysis of the royal estate points towards a number of features of Old English rural life. The number of sheep indicates the increasing importance of this animal within the economy. The Keynsham figures are similar to those from other sites such as Sedgford (Fig.3) and other Old English estates, described in charters, such as Beddington (Fig.4).

It may be provocative but not unjustifiable to suggest that the royal manerium, at Keynsham, was based on a Romano British original (at least with regard to the head unit of the estate). According to this reconstruction of events the role of 'central place' would have passed from the villa at Keynsham, to the Barton. This 'new' rural administrative centre may itself have grown out of a village which once served the estate. Such a village may well have survived the physical decline of the actual villa itself. The distribution map (Fig.5) may show some correlation between Romano British sites and later English ones. Both the villa and the later site of Keynsham occupy positions juxtaposed on the periphery of the estate. This conforms to distribution type II(b) (Wilson 1976) of P.J. Fowler's model of relationships between administrative centres in the Roman and post Roman periods. It may indicate a similar function, performed by both centres. The possibility that this area possessed a link road to both Aqua Sulis (Bath) and Traiectus (Bitton) may help explain this positioning. Similarly, if a Roman road did run down the west of the estate this may help explain the siting of subsidiary

settlements in Charlton Bottom, in the Roman period, and Charlton in the later English period. Indeed, if this is correct, then Charlton itself may have evolved from a Romano British village which survived. This pattern of primary and subsidiary centres is found elsewhere within the estate. It is likely that such a subsidiary unit occupied the site at Manor Road (excavated in 1985). As with the site in Charlton Bottom the presence of iron slag suggests a centre of semi rural industry which probably served the villa estate. The presence of Eastover farm may indicate some survival of occupation within this general area; it also indicates that the settlement was situated close to the boundary of the estate. This eastern boundary was undoubtedly formed from the Roman (or pre Roman) track running from Camerton to Saltford (Costen 1983). This points to the antiquity of this estate boundary and the settlement pattern based on it.

It may be significant that the course of the Wansdyke through the estate appears to have had no significant influence on estate boundaries, parish boundaries, roads or tracks. This may indicate that many of these features predate the building of the earthwork in the late 6th/early 7th century (Fowler 1972).

It is not unreasonable to wonder if the Keynsham estate was seized by the West Saxon royal house during the campaigns, that brought them into the lands south of the Avon, in the decades following AD. 600. There is reason to believe that Cotswold estates survived into this period and the same may have happened regarding the villa estate at Keynsham. The physical decay of the villa need not have caused the total destruction of the estate. Subsidiary villages of labourers may well have survived and the old tenurial framework of the villa may well have bequeathed them boundaries which would then have passed into the control of incoming English royalty. The ownership of royal estates south of the Avon may also be considered in the light of early English power politics; such land may well have been held as a buffer against the



Fig 6 The Old English landscape with place names as they may have existed in the pre-Conquest period. Upper case letters indicate forms of names supported by documentary evidence; lower case names represent reconstructions based on forms documented elsewhere.

hegemony of Mercia to the north. In this way Edith's estate may stand as some kind of lineal descendant of pre English social structures and land tenure.

REFERENCES

Costen, M., 'Stantonbury and district in the 10th Century' *Bristol and Avon Archaeology*, 2
 Ekwall, E., 1960. *Oxford Dictionary of English Place Names* (Oxford)
 Evison, V., Hodges, H., Hurst, J. 1974. *Medieval Pottery from Excavations* (London)
 Finberg, H., 1976. *The Formation of England* (St. Albans)
 Fowler, P., (ed) 1972. *Archaeology and the Landscape* (London)
 Gelling, M., 1978. *Sign Posts to the Past* (London)
 Haslam, J., 1984. *Anglo Saxon Towns* (Chichester)
 Hill, D., 1981. *An Atlas of Anglo Saxon England* (Oxford)
 Morris, J., (ed) 1980. *Domesday Somerset* (Chichester)
 Sawyer, P., (ed) 1976. *Medieval Settlement: Continuity and Change* (London)
 Syson, L., 1965. *British Watermills* (London)
 Wilson, D., (ed) 1976. *The Archaeology of Anglo Saxon England* (London)

ADDENDUM

In support of my suggestion that the head place of the Anglo Saxon royal estate replaced an earlier Romano British village, dependent on the villa, the following evidence has been brought to my attention. An inscription from the Somerdale site (CON.VIC.GA.) may be interpreted as an abbreviation for CONDUCTOR VICI GA. This reference to a 'Lessor of a village whose name began with GA' suggests that a subservient settlement existed in the vicinity of the Somerdale Roman house; the reference to a Lessor implies its ultimate dependence on a large estate, ie. the cemetery villa. (Birley A. *The People of Roman Britain*, 1979.)

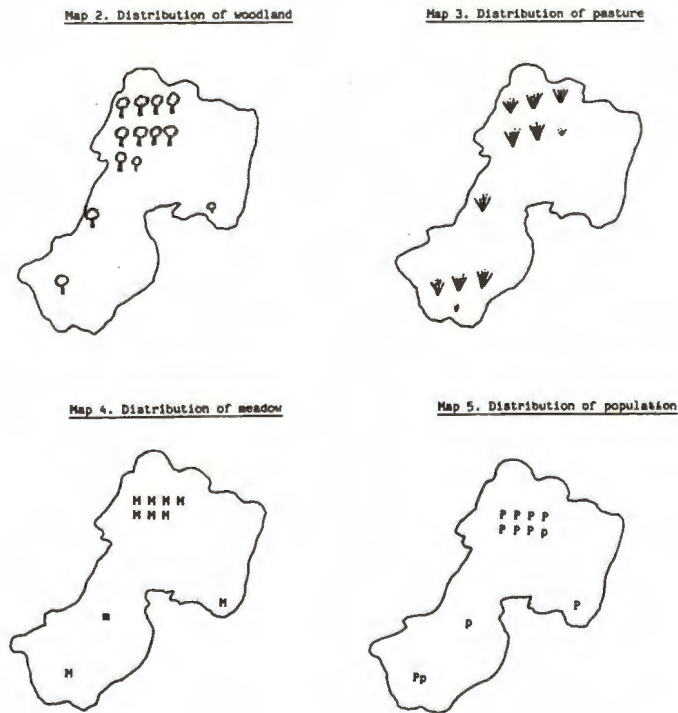


Fig 7 Distribution of key resources within the overall Old English Estate. Lower case letters indicate smaller quantities than upper case letters.

EXCAVATIONS IN BRISTOL IN 1985-6

R.Burchill, M.Coxah, A.Nicholson & M.Ponsford

The work reported here was carried out by the field staff of a Manpower Services Commission Community Programme scheme entitled 'Recording Bristol Past' supervised by Bristol City Council through the Archaeology section of the City Museum and Art Gallery and administered by Employment Initiatives, the city's agency. The work originally planned was the excavation of threatened areas of the important late medieval and Renaissance site of Acton Court, Iron Acton. That project was put out to tender by English Heritage to a selected number of units without reference to the City Museum. As a result the scheme was left without a planned programme of work. Despite this setback it was possible to generate a year's project composed of four rescue excavations in Bristol and trial excavations on two shrunken medieval settlements north of the city. The first three authors named supervised the work under the general direction of M. Ponsford who alone is responsible for editing this version. The sites, with their Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery codes (BRSMG) were:

Somerset Street, Redcliffe, Bristol	56/1985
Buchanan's Wharf, Redcliffe, Bristol	60/1985
Elm Farm, Charlton, Almondsbury	14/1986
The Glen, Westbury, Bristol	53/1986
Springfort House, Stoke Bishop, Bristol	54/1986
Harry Stoke, Stoke Gifford	80/1986

The reports presented here were compiled using the minimum data necessary to arrive at a reasonable interpretation of the evidence. For further information the site records may be consulted in archive in the collections of the City Museum by quoting the relevant accession number. It is hoped to publish reports on the other sites in Northavon in a forthcoming issue of *BAA*. The principal authors of each report or section are indicated by their initials.

EXCAVATIONS AT SOMERSET STREET, REDCLIFF, BRISTOL (M C).

An excavation was carried out on the site formerly occupied by the Caxton Printing Works in the parish of St. Mary Redcliffe in the autumn of 1985. The available area approximately 2.5ha in size, was bounded by Temple Gate, Clarence Road, Somerset Street and Redcliff Mead Lane and occupied the south-east slope of the hill of Redcliffe (ST 5945 7225). Of this a total area of 400m² was excavated (figures 1 and 2).

Although outside the walled area of Bristol it was thought possible that there might be evidence for medieval and later industrial activity. The glasshouses on Prewett Street and Red Lane and Price and Powell's stoneware factory at Temple Gate might also have made use of the area for industrial dumping (Witt, Weeden and Schwind 1984 37f; Pountney 1920, 249-50).

The geology is Triassic sandstone (Mercian Mudstone) varying in height between 17m to the west and 9m A.O.D. near the New Cut of the river Avon. The site had been altered by terracing for the print works in the 1960s and rubble deposition after demolition.

From cartographic evidence there is little to show that there was anything but meadow (Redcliff Mead) until the 17th century. The road through Temple Gate diverged here, the major branch forming the Bath Road, the western one to be known as Red Lane by 1710. At the junction of Red Lane and Pile Street was a glasshouse drawn on Millerd's plan of 1710 (Accession No.: BRSMG:M 767) or Kip's view from the south of 1717 (Accession No. BRSMG:M 387). Building had commenced by 1780 for in Richard Benning's updated plan there are developments on either side of 'Cathay' with Somerset Square to the south. Somerset Street was there by 1828 according to Plumley and Ashmead's plan, with a glasshouse at the top or north end. To the east was the parallel Colston Street and Arnold's the parchment-makers' fronting Red Lane. By Ashmead's update of 1833 Chatterton Square had been added to the south of the former parchment-makers' which was now a yard since Arnold's had moved to Bedminster by 1855 (Mathews 1855). On a City estates plan of 1855 the floorcloth manufactory is clearly shown (Winstone 1968 12, map 84). In T.L.S. Rowbotham's fine panoramic view of Bristol from Pile Hill, Totterdown, of c 1829, John Hare's important but little-known floorcloth manufactory is plainly visible and also shown in Plumley and Ashmead's plan of 1833 east of a formal garden (figure 3; BRSMG; register no. Mb 497 and 498). The factory had been moved from its former site in Temple Meads where the railway station was built c 1840.

Elton, Miles and Co.'s glass-house (formerly Perrott's) in Red Lane and Langton Street chapel (built c 1820) are also visible on the Rowbotham (Witt, Weeden and Schwind 1984, 37f.). From 1824 the glass-house was Powell's stoneware factory. In 1906 it was pulled down for Mardon, Son and Hall's print factory, later rebuilt as their Caxton House works in the 1960s.

THE EXCAVATION

The area was trial-trenched by mechanical excavator to assess its potential for further archaeological work (figure 2). Most trenches were abortive and the only ones to be described here are O, A and B.

Trench O.

A substantial pit containing eighteenth-century stoneware and kiln waste was recorded in section and the material sampled (see finds below).

Trench A.

A trench 3m in width and 12m in length was excavated

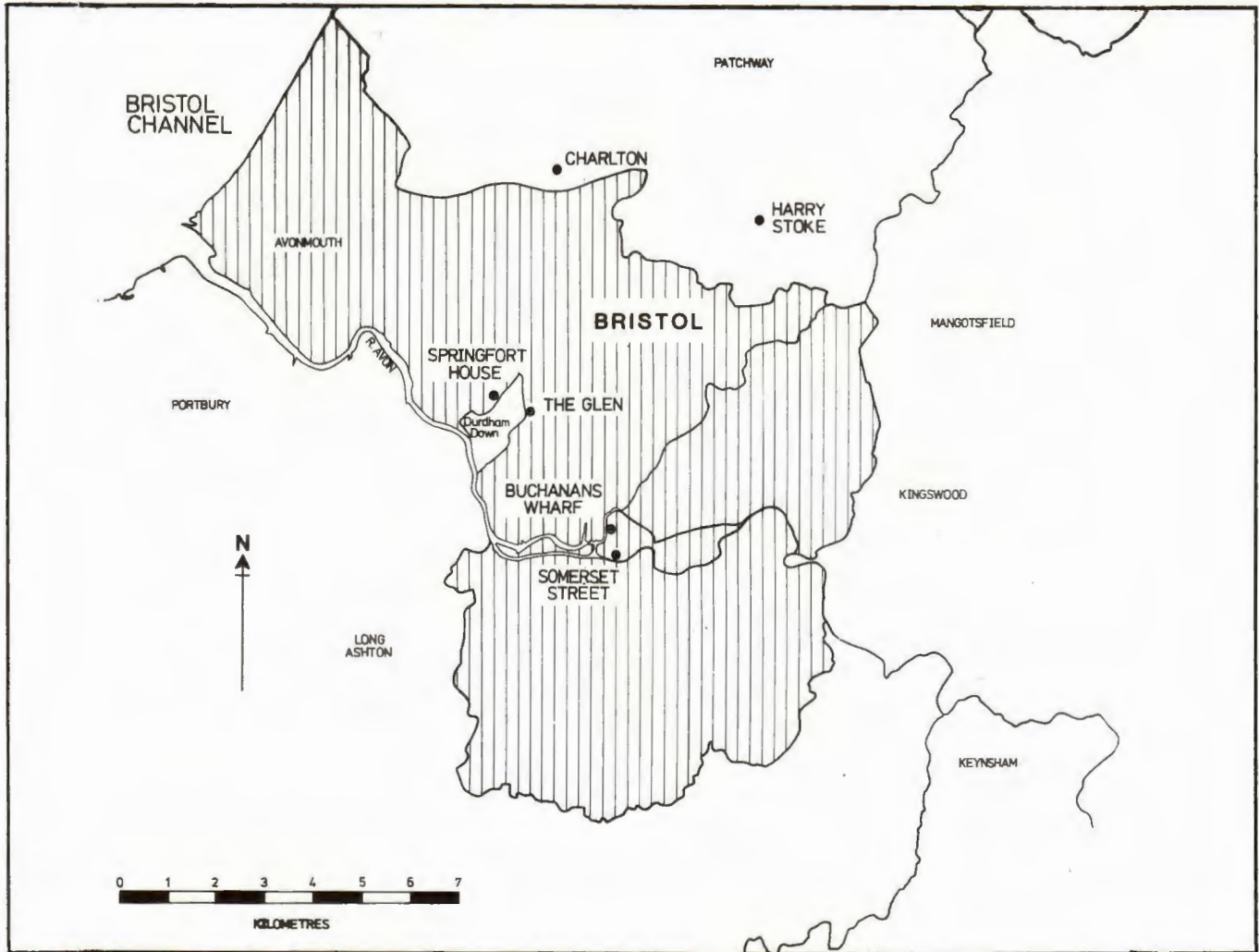


Fig. 1 Location plan of excavated sites

towards the southern part of the available site (plans, figures 2 and 4). The top 0.25m of the sandy subsoil, a red-brown loamy material, contained abraded medieval sherds, bone and flint, one fragment of which was worked. Two cellars with stone walls (not fully excavated) one of which was a revetment, and with brick roofs were the principal structures (37 and 58, Phase 1). The roof of 37 was pierced with a later chute composed of unbonded brickwork. New walls were then built across the area and most of the remaining space was occupied by a series of foul-water drains (Phase 2).

It is thought that terrace housing on the east side of Colston Street and represented by the cellars found, was replaced by an infant school by 1883, when the first edition of the 1:500 Ordnance Survey plan was drawn (figure 7).

Trench B.

The earliest archaeological features in trench B were three shallow ditches (91, 93 and 95) and several small post-holes and shallow pits found at the same level, dated by the finds to c 1800 (figure 5). These were cut through the red sandy clay subsoil which contained a few medieval sherds and flints. These features were overlain by most of a 19th-century terraced house in Chatterton Square (figure 6). The building originally consisted of two ground-floor rooms with a substantial cellar below the east room (31) which would have fronted the square. The walls were of Carboniferous Limestone and a little sandstone and

oolitic limestone bonded in pale pink mortar and were only 0.6 to 0.7m in width. The wall was thickened on the north for a fireplace and chimney (71) and there was a hearth foundation on the south side of the north wall of the eastern room (80). There was probably an extension to the north represented by a spread of mortar for a wall (63) and further traces alongside a stone-lined drain (67). There was a compact clay floor within and a brick and stone-flagged floor to the south (72). East of it there was a raised platform of clay surrounded by a low stone wall. An adjacent property to the north also had a cellar (33) and dividing wall (76) faced with plaster and with traces of flooring alongside it.

The machining of trenches E and O located two large dumps of wasted stoneware sherds incorporated in other dumped material (BPT 277). The unstable ground conditions and the large volume of material made sampling essential. Meaningful fragments have been selected from the collection for illustration and comment. In trench E the relevant context is 101 and in trench O contexts 119 and 120. A drawn section of the latter is in archive..

DISCUSSION

The archaeological evidence would appear to bear out the cartographic. The earliest deposits were probably the outcome of the use of the land for meadow (trench A) and horticulture (trench B features) until housing was constructed in the early 19th century (probably by 1833). This shows that the south end of medieval Bristol lay largely

within the area indicated by Millerd's plan. Massive disturbances for housing, factories and services had damaged large areas of the available site. Only the two trenches discussed were worthy of excavation below the destruction deposits.

FINDS (RB)

Medieval pottery was found in the lowest deposit, the red-brown loam, and consisted of abraded sherds of glazed jugs (Bristol Pottery Type 118) and unglazed cooking pot (BPT 46) in association with worn natural stones and flint and gravel (see Price 1979 for a version of the Bristol pottery type series). This material would appear to be hillwashed or at least weathered. The buildings contained 19th-century wares, a few residual sherds of an earlier date and a similar range of clay pipe fragments (all listed in archive).

The Stoneware Wasters

The machining of trenches E and O located two large dumps of wasted stoneware sherds incorporated in other dumped material (BPT 277). The unstable ground conditions and the large volume of material made sampling essential. Meaningful fragments have been selected from the collection for illustration and comment. In trench E the relevant context is 101 and in trench O contexts 119 and 120. A drawn section of the latter is in archive.

Fabric

Fabric 1. Most of the material in trench O was in a blue-grey to off-white rather dense and fine-textured ware with no visible inclusions at x10 magnification. There are frequent tiny elongated holes. The glaze is usually applied over an iron-rich wash on the upper half only, the colour affected by the number of applications and often giving the familiar orange-skin effect. There is frequently a thin

internal wash or a thicker one at the neck.

Fabric 2. Mostly found in trench E, it is a creamy-white, rather coarse, more open and grainy material with red inclusions, either as lumps or frequent red flecks. The iron-rich wash tends to be more even than in fabric 1.

Fabric 3. Represented by one sherd, it is a grainy grey fabric with frequent black flecks.

Forms.

The forms represented appear to be straight-sided tankards, globular jars, jugs and bottles. Some of these of the familiar large type stamped with the user's name and town and some straight-sided bottles.

A quantity of kiln debris, consisting largely of lumps of fired clay coated in saltglaze, vessel separators and sagers was also found but is not illustrated.

Wasted stoneware sherds, sagers and kiln debris have also been recorded from Ship Lane, Redcliffe (figure 2; Barton 1961). Whether the Somerset Street pottery is from the same source is difficult to determine but there are differences in glaze, decoration and form. The tankards, which, as at Somerset Street are of pint and half-pint size, have more complex mouldings and double reeds are rare on the Somerset Street material (no. 7). The Ship Lane pottery tends to have a browner, more pitted and duller finish. The jar bases from that site also have rounded foot-rings unlike the plain slightly chamfered bases of the Somerset Street vessels. This may be seen as a chronological feature as much as a typological one. There are more forms among the Somerset Street material, including a range of small cylindrical bottles and jars (nos. 21-25) and rilled-neck jugs (nos. 8-9). No excise marks were found among the Somerset Street sherds. Further stoneware was found in pit 10, Temple Back in 1974, excavated by the City Museum, the forms confined to tankards and flagons, the latter having similar foot-rings to those from Somerset Street.

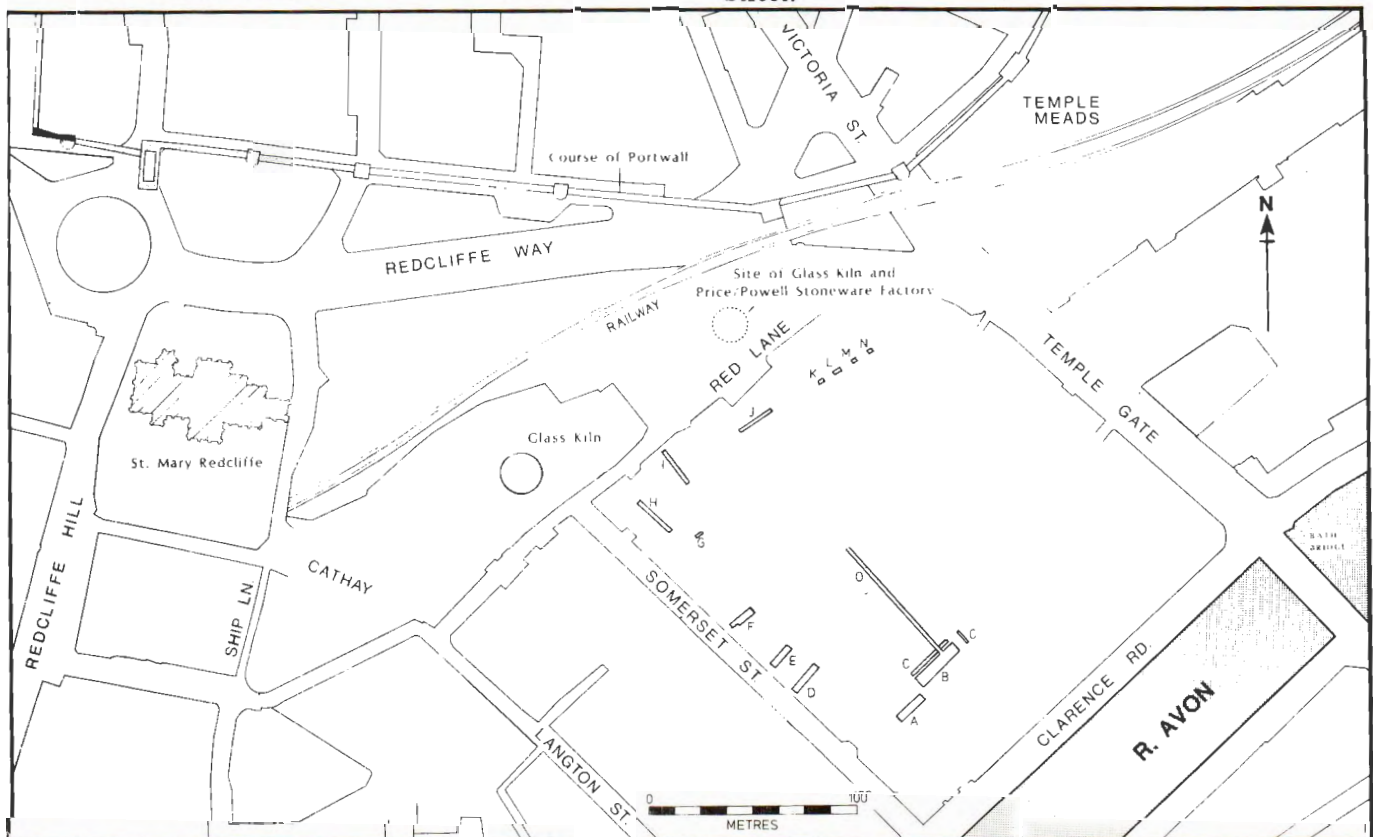


Fig. 2 Plan of trenches at Somerset Street, Redcliff, Bristol

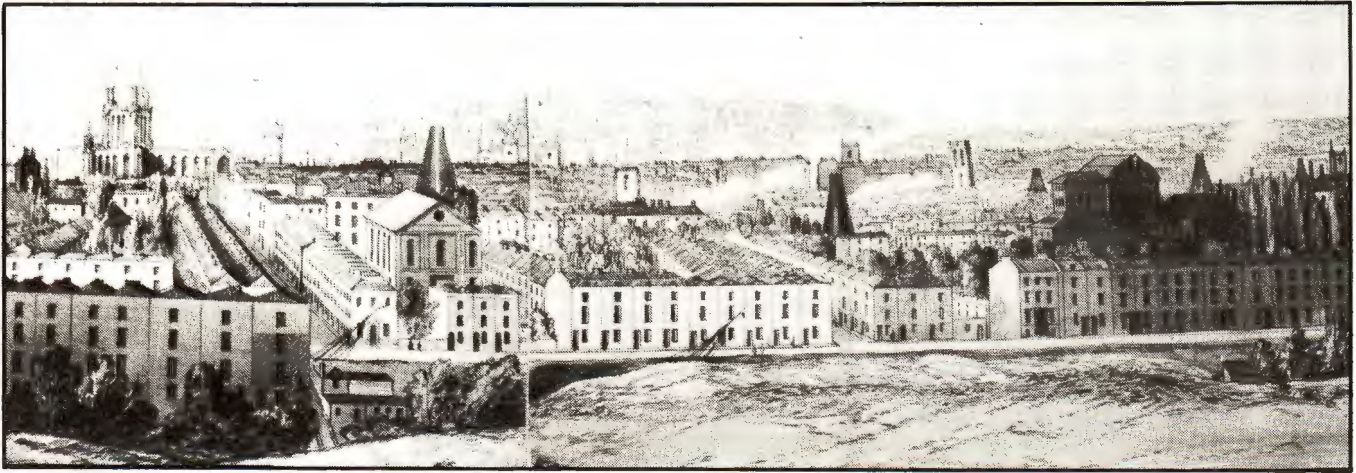


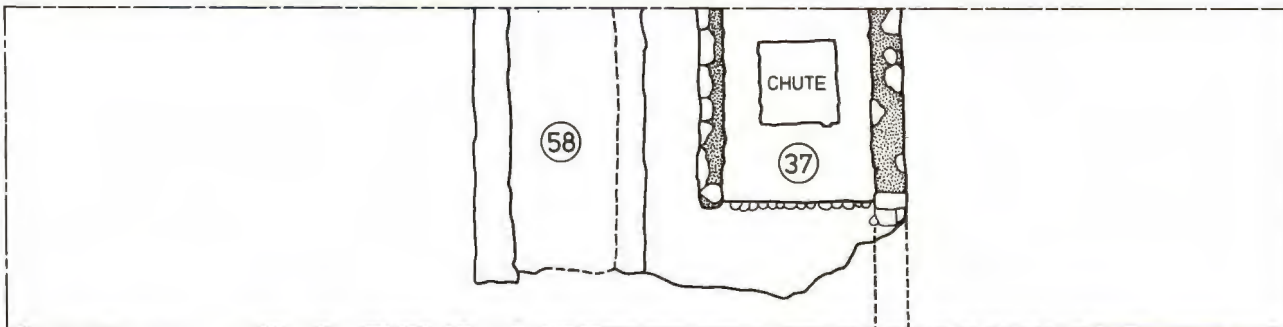
Fig. 3 View of the south of the city of Bristol from T.L.S. Rowbotham's etching.

Other Pottery.




Only selected stoneware was collected from contexts 119 and 120. From context 101 came a few sherds of cream-ware, some of which was waste (nos. 36-40) and one of pearl ware, fragments of delftware, transfer-printed ware, yellow-glazed ware, red wares and gravel-tempered ware from North Devon. As the material was mixed the obviously later transfer-printed sherds are not significant although the waste cream-ware might have been associated with the stoneware waste.

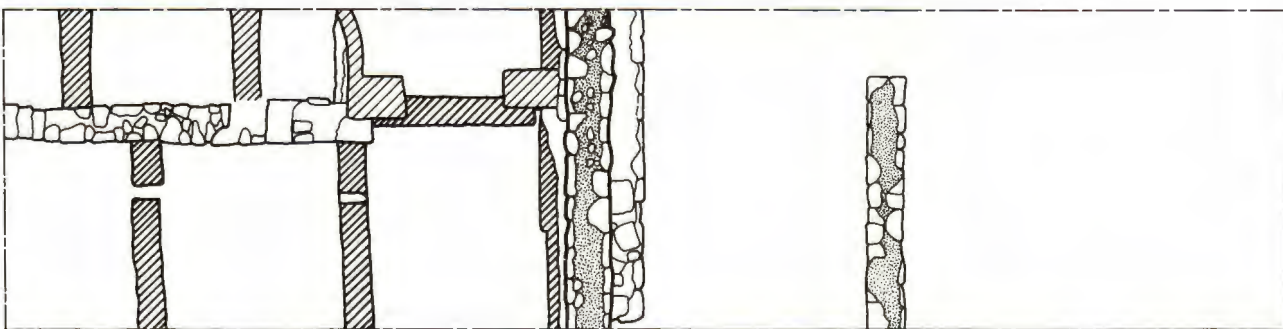
Discussion.

The group of types represented at Somerset Street has not been recognized before. Fabric 1 is known from all the sites discussed and may indicate a common source in the Redcliffe-Temple area. Fabric 2 seems to be confined to Somerset Street. Of significance for dating is the range of types, particularly the rilled-neck jugs. The form is found in white saltglaze or 'tavern ware', Westerwald and other brown stoneware (Jennings 1981 No.1631; Fox and Barton 1986 Fig. 76, 22 and 25). This suggests a date in the



TRENCH A Phase 1

-  BRICK PIERS
-  BRICK WALLS
-  STONE WALLS



Phase 2

Fig. 4 Plan of cellared building in Trench A.

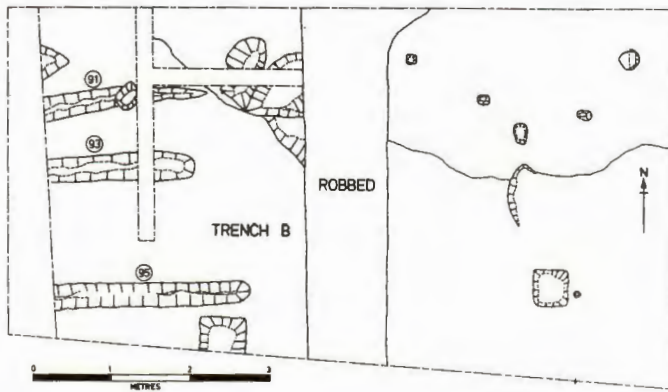


Fig. 5 Plan of early 19th-century features in Trench B.

middle of the 18th century. If the cream ware is associated a date in the latter half of the 18th century is assured. This remains a tentative conclusion until firmly-stratified stoneware can be published.

CATALOGUE OF ILLUSTRATED POTTERY

The fabric is indicated by a single number at the end of each description.

Figure 8.

1. Fragment of tankard, blue-grey fabric. Single groove below rim. Dark iron wash on upper part and over rim, dull glaze. Handle springing has impression. Context 119.1.
2. Body sherd of tankard, grey fabric. Decorated with groove at ? rim and standard decoration of two reeds over cord at ?base. Iron wash at top, even glaze. Context 101.1
3. Rim fragment of a tankard. Single groove below rim, orange-skin glaze, external wash and over rim. Glaze over failed handle scar. Context 119.1.
4. Fragment of base of tankard in off-white fabric, lower handle fixing turned back. Foot decorated with standard reed-cord-reed-cord. Creamy external glaze, bubbled surface. Context 119.1
5. As no.1 with bubbled glaze patches on base. Context 101/119, joining sherds.1.
6. Base fragment of tankard, grey fabric, handle root turned back. Standard decoration at base, dull beige glaze, darker internal wash and glaze. Context 101.1
7. Base fragment of tankard, decorated with single reed over plain cord over two reeds over plain cord footing. Pale orange-skin glaze. Context 101.1.
8. Rim fragment of large jug, fine rilling below rim, poor glaze. Context 101.2.
9. Rim of small tankard or jug, blue-grey fabric, fine rilling below rim. Handle fixing present. Dark glaze externally and over rim top, internal wash. Context 101.1.
10. Rim fragment, small vessel probably a jug, grey-white fabric, handle root, dark brown glaze externally, wash internally. Context 119.1.
11. Fragment of globular vessel, white fabric, turned back base to handle, thick iron-rich wash on upper part, beige internally. Context 119.?.1.
12. Shoulder fragment of globular vessel in grey fabric, neck rilled, dull glaze over two-tone brown wash with internal glossy wash. Context 119.1.
13. Base fragment, off-white fabric, globular form. Bright glaze over orange-skin. Glaze detached giving bumpy effect. Context 119.1.
14. Base fragment, simple footing, beige glaze. Context 101.?.1.
15. Lower body fragment, grey-white fabric, decorated with fine rilling. Pale brown glaze. Context 101.1.
16. Rounded rim fragment, white fabric,? jar, internal iron wash, lustrous orange-skin glaze. Context 120.?.1.
17. Rim of jar in creamy-white fabric, even brown glaze. Context 101.2.
18. Rim fragment, creamy white fabric, poor red-tinged yellow glaze. Context 101.2.
19. Fragment of rim of small globular vessel, pale brown wash under glaze. Context 119.1.
20. Rim fragment of small jar, faint groove on body, poor finish, even glaze. Context 101.?.1.
21. Rim and body fragment in grainy grey fabric. Simple upright rim over squared lid-seat with three grooves on body, dark brown glaze but not over rim top. Context 101.3.
22. Body fragment of cylindrical vessel in very dense grey-white fabric and two-tone bright brown glaze. There are also some straight-sided bases without foot-rings (not illustrated). Context 120.?.1.
23. Neck and body fragment of bottle in off-white fabric, even pale brown glaze. Context 101.1.
24. Fragment of small, round-shouldered bottle, white fabric and red wash. The vessel is almost unglazed, underfired. Context 101.2.
25. Rim and neck of small bottle, grey fabric, mid brown glaze. Context 120.1.

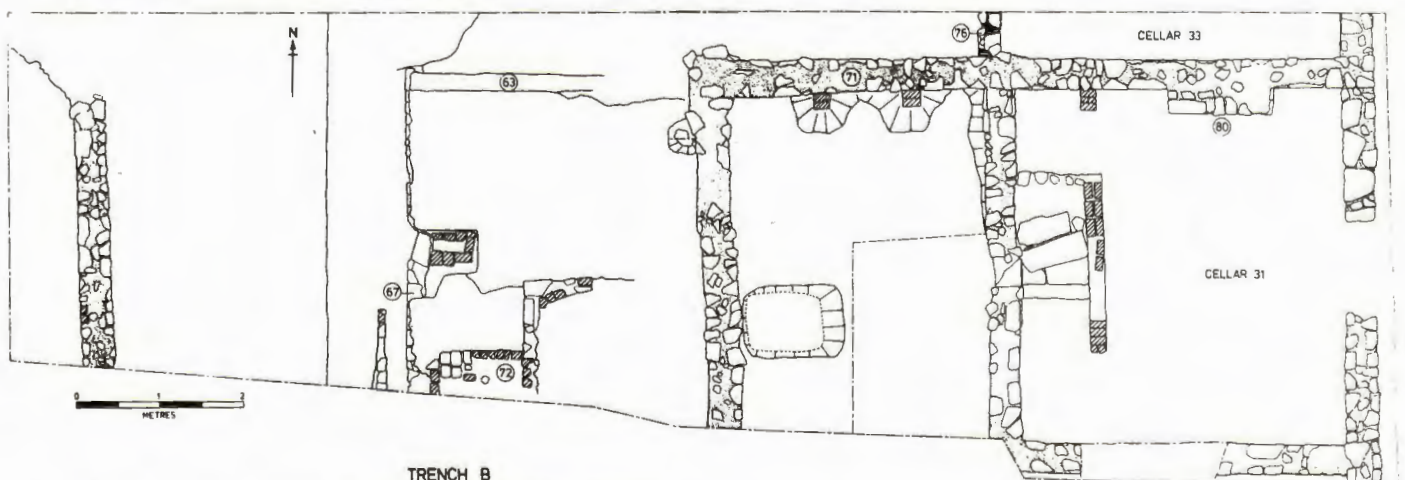


Fig. 6 Plan of terraced house in Chatterton Square

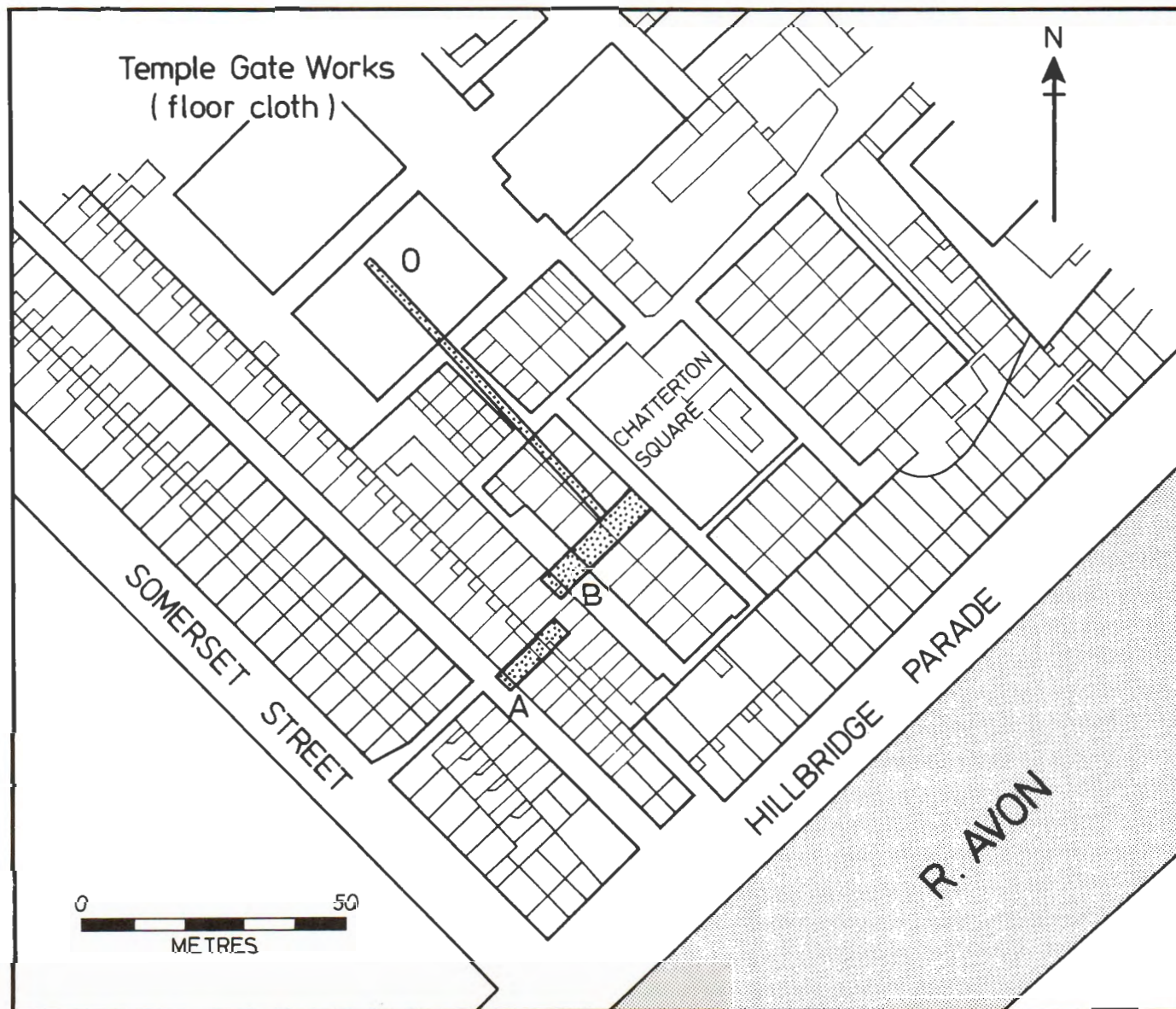


Fig. 7 The area near Somerset Street c1855.

Figure 9

26. Rim and neck of small bottle, white fabric, bright glaze on iron wash. Context 101.2.
27. Rim and neck of large bottle, grey fabric. Twin grooves on neck, even brown glaze, precise area of wash on inside of neck. Context 101.71.
28. Neck of bottle, coarse creamy-white fabric, decorated with three grooves, yellow-brown glaze. Precise area of wash on inside of neck. Stamp on shoulder = 4 probably. Context 101.2.
29. Fragment of globular vessel in grey-white fabric, narrow strap handle, central groove, yellowish glaze, brown blotches. Context 119.1.
30. Body fragment of large flagon in creamy-white fabric with upper part of grooved strap handle, orange-skin glaze, precise internal wash. Context 101.1.
31. Body fragment and wide strap handle of globular flagon in dense off-white fabric, wide strap handle with central ridge, lower fixing heavily indented, even brown external glaze and internal red wash. Context 101.71.

32. Fragment of globular vessel, off-white fabric, blotchy glaze, wide strap handle with two grooves and central ridge, deeply indented. Below there would have been a continuation of strip with further indent. Context 119.1.
33. Base fragment of a large vessel in thick unglazed creamy-white fabric. Context 119.2.
34. Base of large vessel in grainy white fabric, badly-fitting external glaze. Context 101.2.
35. Body fragment of flagon in creamy white fabric inscribed 'T Vine (G)osp(ort)?'. Context 101.2.1. Examples like 33 and 34 also occur in diameters of 16, 18, 22 and 23 cms.

Creamware

All from context 101.

36. Rim of large jar form, possibly a chamber.
37. Rounded rim of open bowl.
38. Rim fragment of scalloped-edge bowl.
39. Base of plate with foot-ring. Biscuit.
40. Base of cup/small bowl with foot-ring. Biscuit.

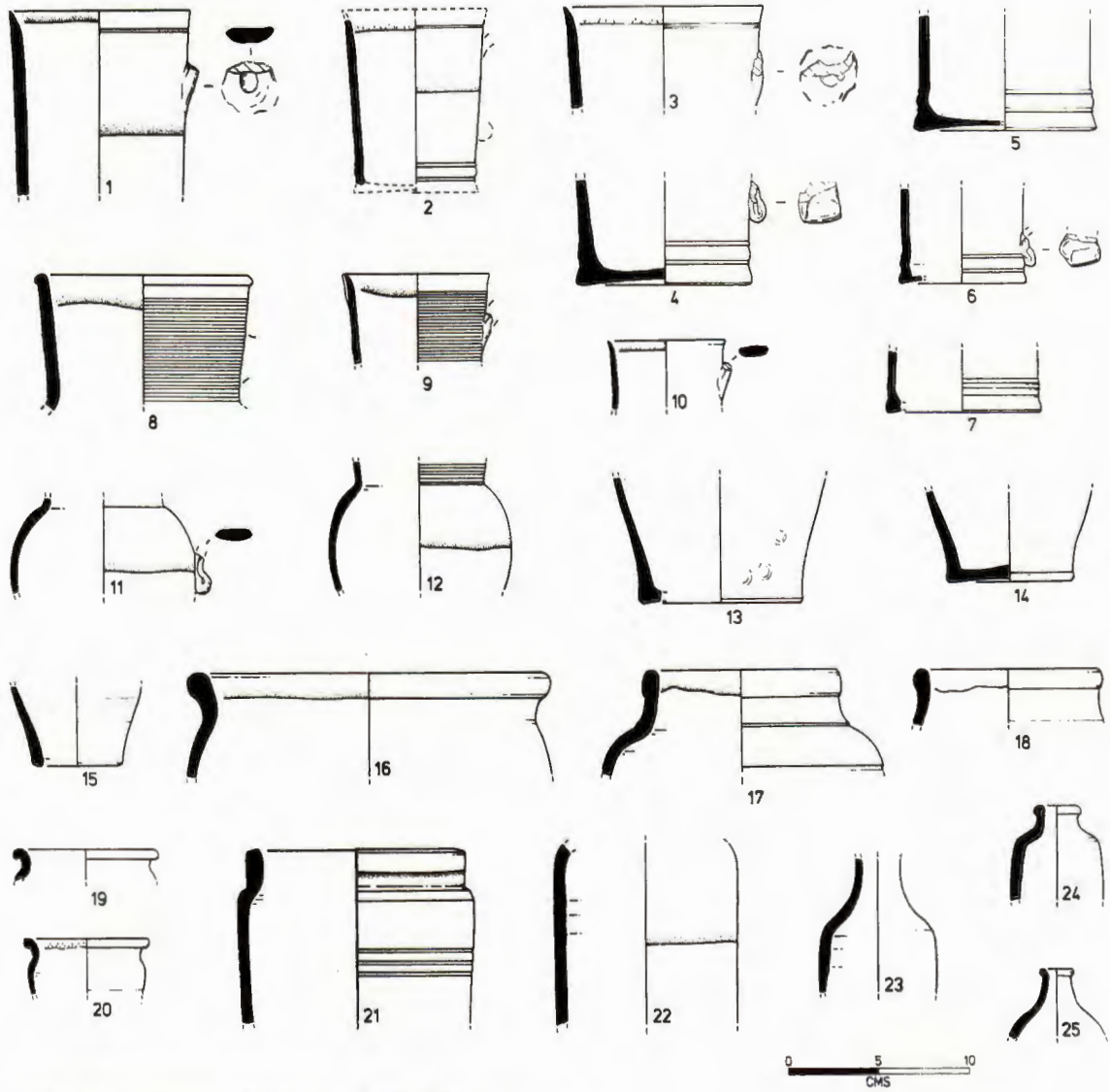


Fig. 8 Later 18th-century stoneware from Somerset Street. Scale 1:4

EXCAVATIONS AT BUCHANAN'S WHARF, REDCLIFF STREET, BRISTOL. (A N).

The site of 110-112 Redcliff Street, which lies between two large listed warehouses and the waterfront, was the subject of rescue excavations in the winter of 1985/6. The principal aim was to establish whether the riverside structures were similar to those found in a long series of excavations carried out since 1980 throughout Redcliff Street (figure 10; Williams 1982, Jones 1986). A major objective was to attempt to locate the original line of the medieval waterfront.

The site had been occupied since 1969 by a printing works of Mardon, Son and Hall Ltd. who were producing packaging for the tobacco industry. The parish boundary between St. Mary's and St. Thomas's runs along the south side of the lane to the north (figure 11). The area excavated has now been redeveloped for private housing by Messrs. Lovell Urban Renewal Ltd.

HISTORICAL PROBLEMS

There is a continuing debate on the origins of this suburb and when it was reclaimed for urban purposes (Ponsford 1985). Redcliff, then in Somerset, is well-known from

documentary sources as a thriving settlement by 1200 when it was contributing as much in taxation as Bristol itself (Ponsford 1985). That the Redcliff quayside was a mirror image of Bristol's is therefore likely but the criteria for direct comparison are at present limited to the few historical references since no waterfront deposits have yet been excavated on the 'Bricgstow' side of the river Avon. The Redcliff quays probably continued to develop until the 16th century by which time the present river frontage had been reached and consolidated.

THE EXCAVATION

The area excavated lay immediately south of the cobbled lane which formed the parish boundary and had Redcliff Street on the east and the end of Redcliff Backs upon the south (figure 11). Areas D and E were backfilled cellars which had almost totally removed the archaeological deposits. Areas A,B and C were separated by substantial modern walls which had also heavily disturbed the archaeological levels. These were not removed and were used as baulks. The bottom of deposits excavated was 6.85-6.95m

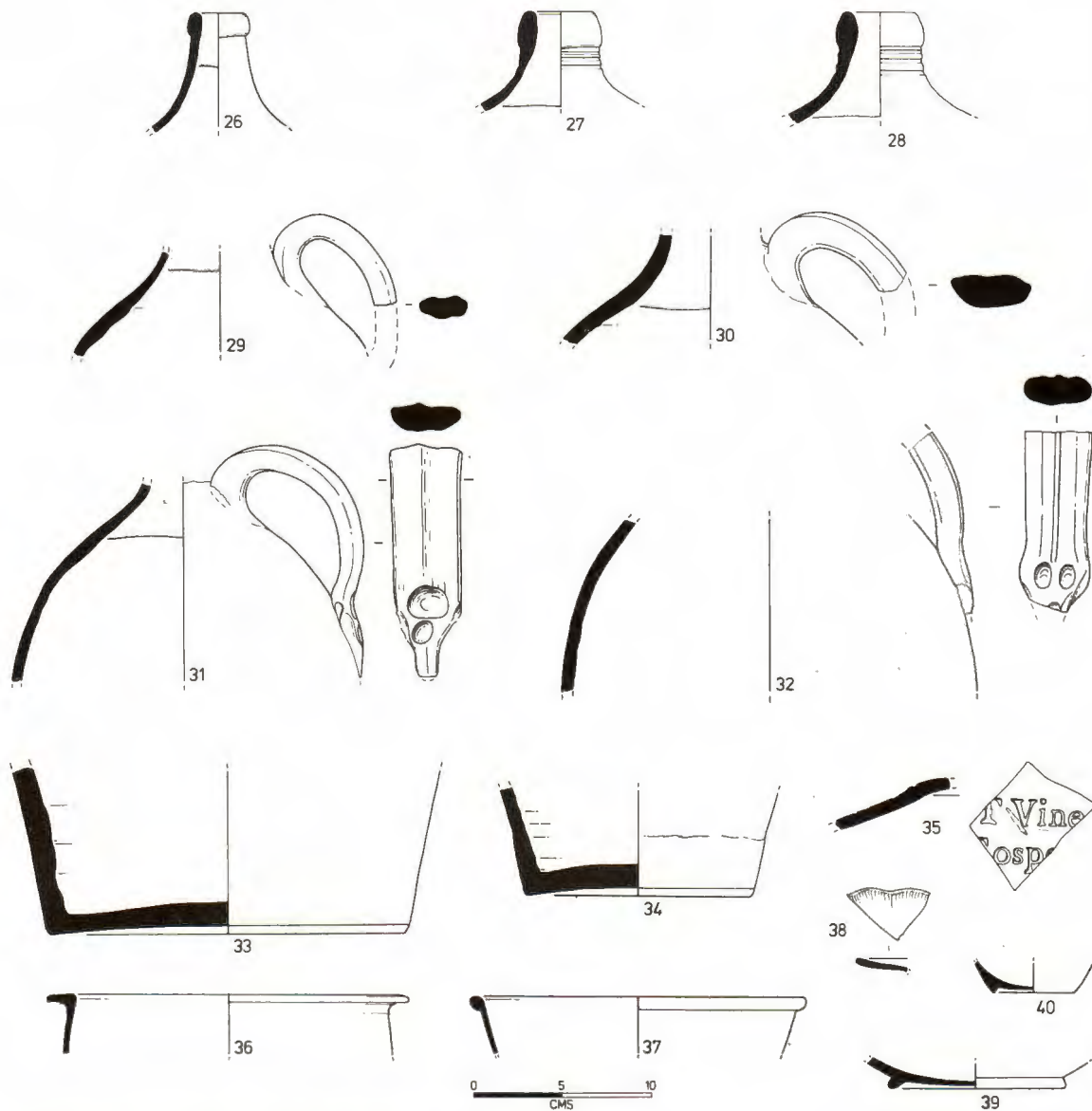


Fig. 9 Later 18th-century stoneware and creamware from Somerset Street. Scale 1:4.

AOD or about 1.3m below existing ground level. The mean medieval high tide level is about 6.44m AOD. Natural alluvial clay was rarely reached in the excavation.

The dating evidence for the following period divisions is based on the evidence of the pottery (below).

Period I

The earliest deposits were excavated in Areas B and C and consisted of an area of clay dumps over the natural clay (figure 12). On the dumped material were constructed two poorly-preserved stone walls (248 and 249) and a disturbed stone feature (350). Associated with these was a thin deposit of red sandy material (260), possibly decayed mortar. Grey clay had been dumped over this as levelling material for a floor (247) while the occupation deposit east of the structure contained animal bone and 12th-century pottery.

Period II

The structures of period I were demolished and robbed and a new building constructed which was also enlarged to extend westwards (figure 12). The walls were found

at a slightly higher level in Area A. One wall had survived (288) and continued as the robbed trench 286. Red sandy material was also found in and around these wall-trenches. To the north and west a dump of yellow-grey clay appeared to form a floor deposit (228) on which was a spread of sherds and bone. A second levelling followed, overlain by a thin layer of dark sand and gravel (225).

Period III

In Area B the wall represented by 286 was replaced by 273 (which was bonded with 272) in the 12th to 13th century (figure 13). The wall 178/296 is contemporary with these and may represent a property boundary extending to the waterfront.

Feature 356, a pit, was dug into the natural subsoil to a depth of 0.8m. Its fill, 188, was a green stained clay containing a good group of late 12-13th-century pottery with two iron objects and fragments of mortar. A mortar floor (187) was laid over this. Among finds from the mortar was a bone die (other finds no.10). The floor had subsided into the pit (356) and the area had had to be levelled up with a fresh series of deposits.

In Area C a levelling deposit of clay (224) in the western half of the area contained a shallow depression (223) filled with occupation material. Above 223 were the remains of a curving stone feature, probably a setting for a hearth. This was later incorporated into the floor 210 which sloped down to the north and west. The stones were cracked and discoloured as if they had been subjected to heat.

Area A contained a series of dumps made towards the river, raising and extending the properties westwards. The investigation of these could not be completed due to lack of time. Certainly a bank of the river lay somewhere in this trench.

Period IV

Major changes took place during the 13th century. The building of period III was demolished and a new stone building constructed, mainly in Area B (figure 14). This commenced first with the widening of wall 178 and re-facing it on the north; replacing wall 288 by 175 which had footings 1.1m in width and 0.6m in depth; founding a new north-south wall 173 and 176. In the footings of 173 was found an unfinished stone base which had split during shaping (see other finds no. 7).

On removal of a succession of deposits it was noted that there were changes on an east-west axis rather than either side of 173/176 as if there had been a division of

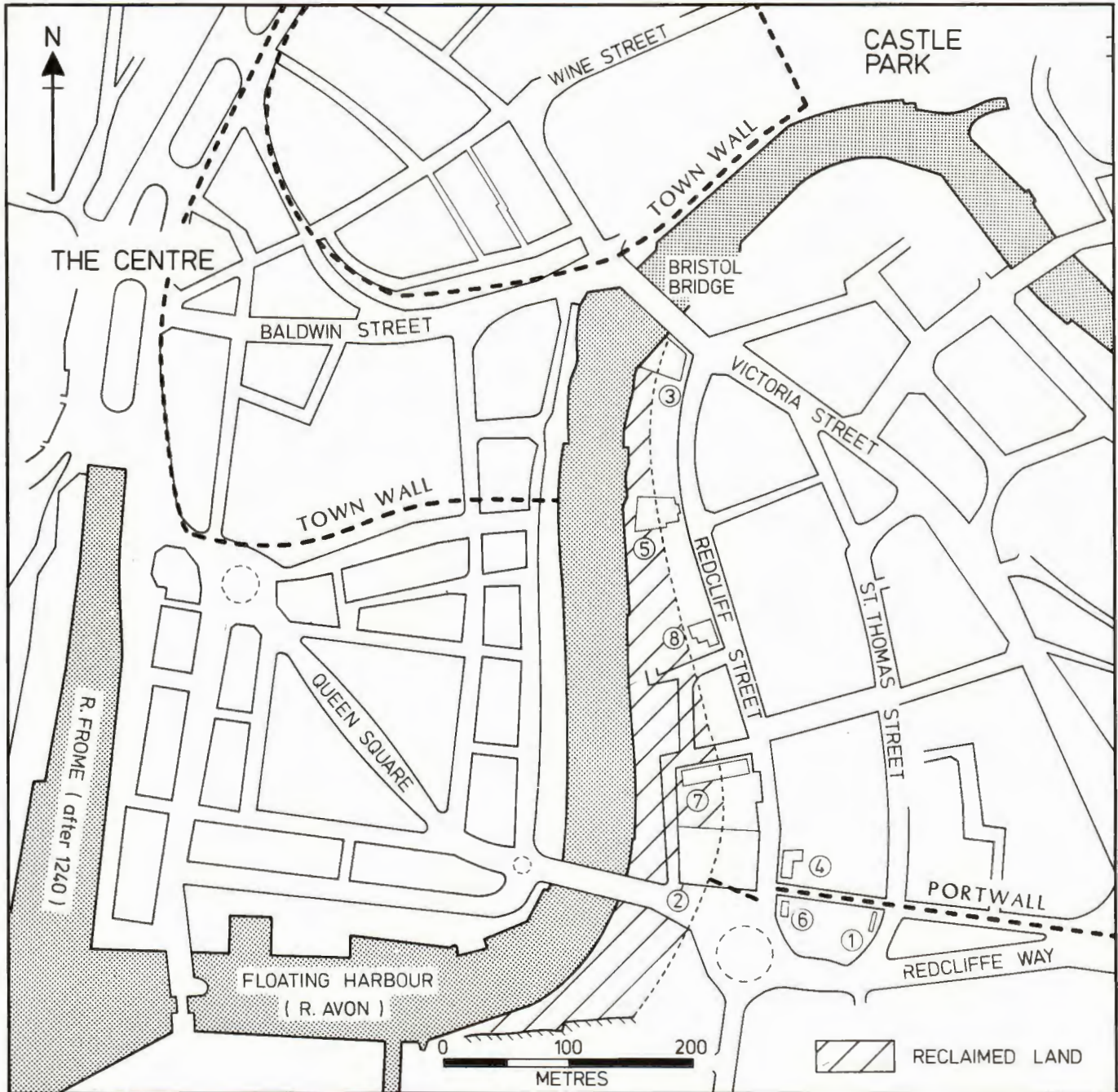


Fig. 10 Location plan of excavations by the City Museum at Buchanan's Wharf, Redcliff Street. 1. Portwall Lane (1965) 2. 80-87 Redcliff Street 3. Penner Wharf 4. 67-70 Redcliff Street 5. Dundas Wharf 6. Portwall Lane (1982) 7. Canynges House 8. Buchanan's Wharf

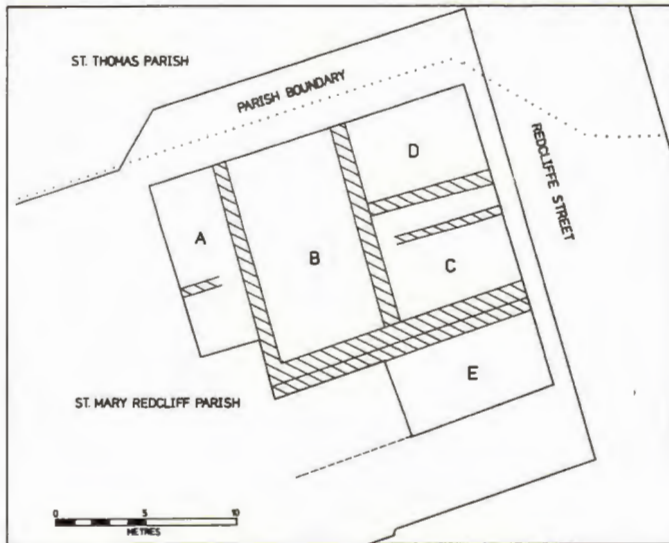


Fig. 11 Plan of excavated areas, Buchanan's Wharf

property perhaps once defined by a physical barrier. In Area C the primary occupation layer from this period contained a wide range of pottery and bone. The base-slabs of a stone drain were found to the south of it (207). Above levelling layers and a mortar spread was an overall layer of fine red sand (60) which probably formed the junction between Periods IV and V. A burnt patch in this material is 61. Features in this sand had been removed by later disturbances.

In Area A traces of an east-west wall, 309, were found which turned north and then south as 305.

Period V

The main structure was modified (figure 15). Wall 173 was removed and a layer of reddish sand (163 = 60 in Area C) laid over the rob. A slighter wall of limestone (146/261), possibly an internal partition, ran west from 176. At the west end of 146 it is thought that there was a doorway as there were differences in the deposits on either side of it.

In the south-west of Area B, a stone structure was built above the red sand but was badly truncated by later features. It had a pennant slab floor and circular walls curving inwards. The inside faces of the walls were faced with white mortar and re-mortared in pink. There was no trace of burning within.

Period VI

In the post-medieval period, 175 and 176 were rebuilt and a cellar dug in the north-east (Area D) with a stone-stepped entrance from the west in Area B (figure 15). The south wall (166) was excavated but no trace found of a northern one.

Period VII

The final period was represented by the demolition of the buildings of Period V/VI and construction of a tobacco factory (figure 16). The site was levelled up and a major complex of cellars, walls, drains (2,5,8,10,26) and ducts filled the site. This accounted for the destruction of the underlying medieval deposits. The cellar in Area B was infilled with a white mortary material. A new entrance was made elsewhere since the south wall had been rebuilt.

The top metre of the archaeological deposits was removed by machine to reveal the structures of Period VII. Areas D and E were backfilled cellars. In Area D the fill

was a compact powdery material but natural clay was reached at a depth of 2.7m. A trench was excavated to a depth of 4.9m below modern ground level to test the alluvium which here was the usual grey clay. Area E included demolition rubble from 1969 and stacked around the walls were lithographic printing blocks made of a Bavarian stone dating from 1946-1959 (Bennett 1988). A sample of these has been collected by the Technology Department of the City Museum. The cellar had a stone-flagged floor set in grey mortar.

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

Some of the documents held by the church of St. Mary Redcliffe add something to the later period which is not represented by the archaeological record and fill the gap between Periods VI and VII (the mid 19th-century tobacco factory). The documentation begins in 1567 when nos. 111 and 112 were lately in the occupation of a tucker, Richard Wyall, now held by a William Davis coverlet maker. (1).

In 1629 nos. 111 and 112 were leased to John Yeamans of Tortworth, Gloucestershire, although the properties are occupied by his younger brother John, a brewer. The lease had been held previously by Christopher Pitt, weaver. John the brewer acquired the lease of 110 also from the merchant Henry Pitt, probably a relation of Christopher.

Joseph Yeamans succeeded to 111 and 112. At this time no. 112 was called 'Parishe End' and no. 110 'End House'. No. 110 was occupied by a Nicholas Harbottle. Joseph's widow, Elizabeth, succeeded in 1632 and held all three properties until 1673 (2). Another John Yeamans, brewer, came into possession by 1679 when he occupied one end (?112), the others occupied by brother Robert (?111) and Thomasine Garland, spinster. John is charged to spend at least £30 on repairs to make the two tenements fit for tenants. John had probably married Thomasine by 1694/5 and they had a daughter Thomasine. Elizabeth Yeamans is still alive and living at No. 108 according to a deed of 1703.

By 1705/6 the buildings were sub-let to Richard Browning, mariner (112), Elinor Shuter, widow (111) and Gabriel Fisher (110). In 1727 the lease passed to John Britten, mason, who had married Thomasine, the daughter. Sub-letting continued, now to John Fisher, distiller, Caleb Minor and William West, a tobacco cutter. On May 1 1737 the properties reverted from the Yeamans family to the Dean and Chapter.

In December 1791 the lease was acquired by a tobaccoist, Peter Lilly, for £308 with a covenant to spend £700 on repairing and rebuilding the tenement (3). The property is a dwelling house and warehouse premises with a frontage of 45 feet, reducing to 38 feet at the rear and 198 feet from Redcliff Street to Redcliff Backs (the first time the Backs are mentioned in these documents). This represents nos. 111 and 112 as shown on the O.S. first edition 1:500 scale published 1884 (figure 17). No. 110 was occupied by a hooper, Charles Andrews in 1752. No. 109 was occupied by Joseph Waters, combmaker and stables and other premises were in the tenure of Lilly, Wills and Co., tobaccoists.

By 1806, the dwelling-house and warehouses are in the tenure of Wills and Co., tobaccoists and Whitchurch and Richards, druggists, as undertenants of Peter Lilly. In 1828, Lilly relinquished his lease to William Bell and Wills and Co. now occupy the entire property as well as more to the south, part of which is a pump and pump-house which in turn went out of use in 1834 (4 and 5). A lease of the Wharf is mentioned in this last deed. From these beginnings grew the most important of Bristol's tobacco families.

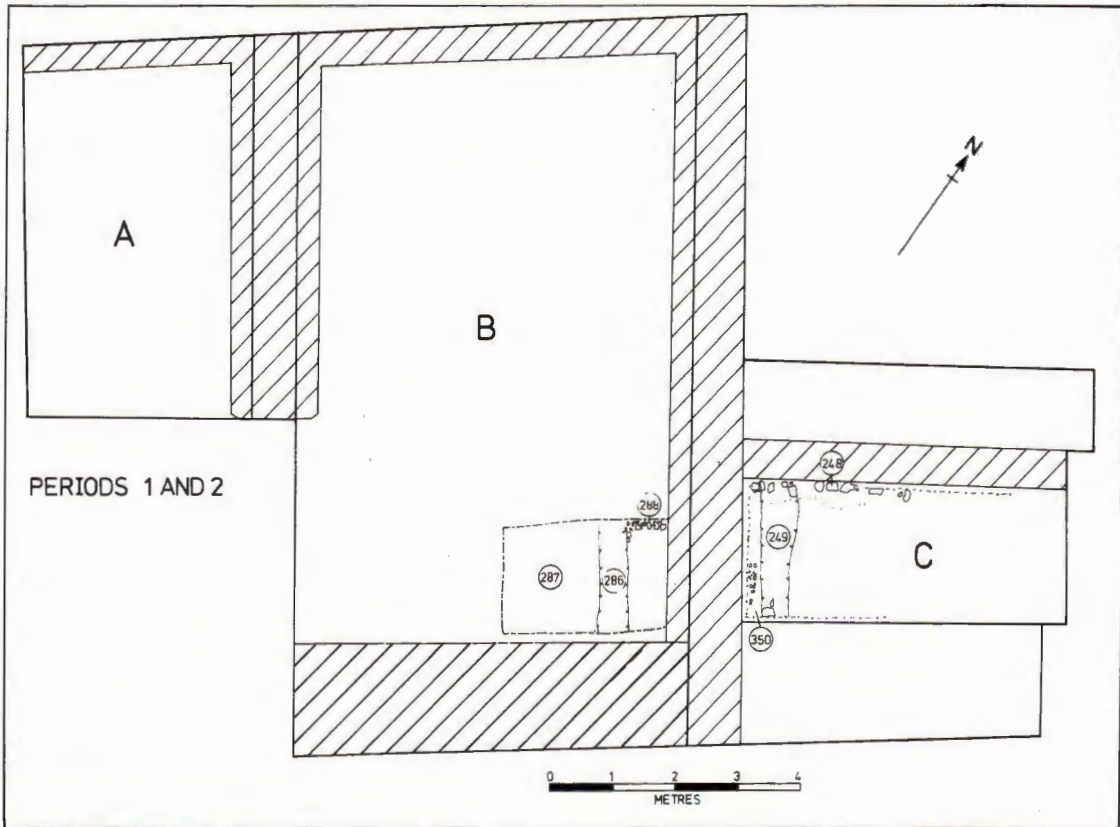


Fig. 12 Plan of structures of Periods 1 and 2, Buchanan's Wharf

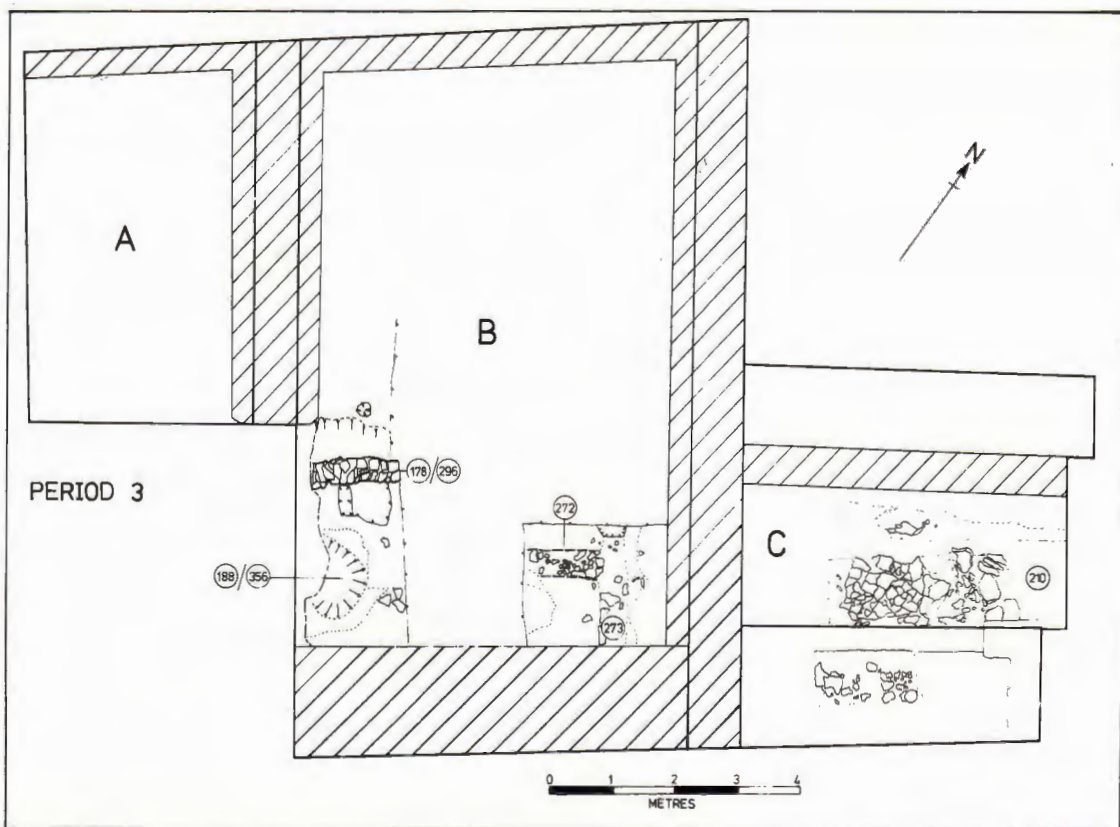


Fig. 13 Plan of structures of Period 3, Buchanan's Wharf

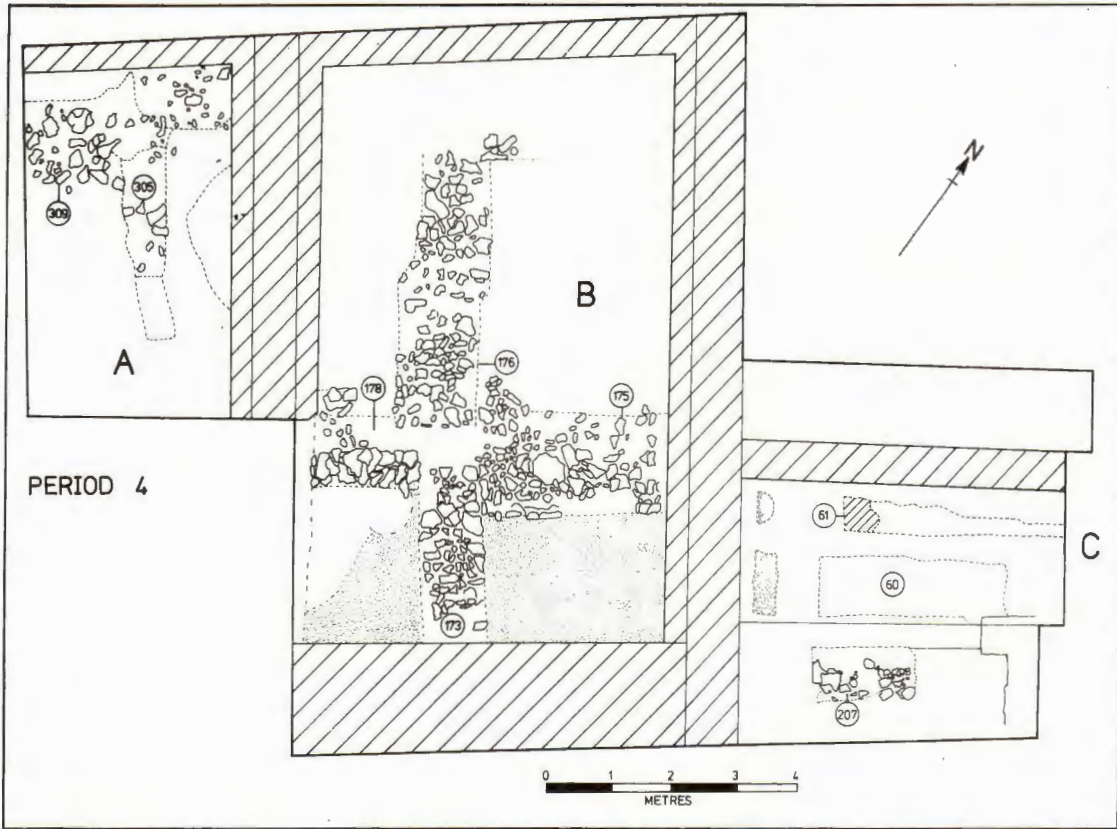


Fig. 14 Plan of structures of period 4, Buchanan's Wharf

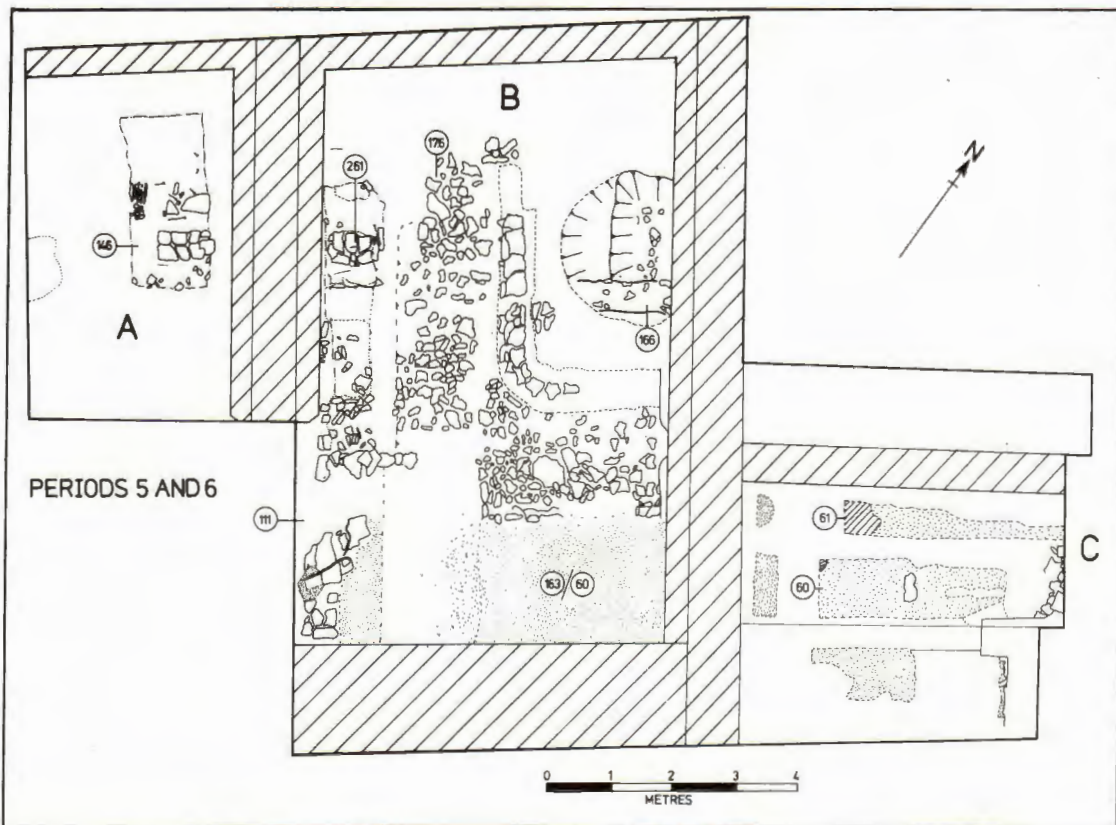


Fig. 15 Plan of structures of Periods 5 and 6, Buchanan's Wharf

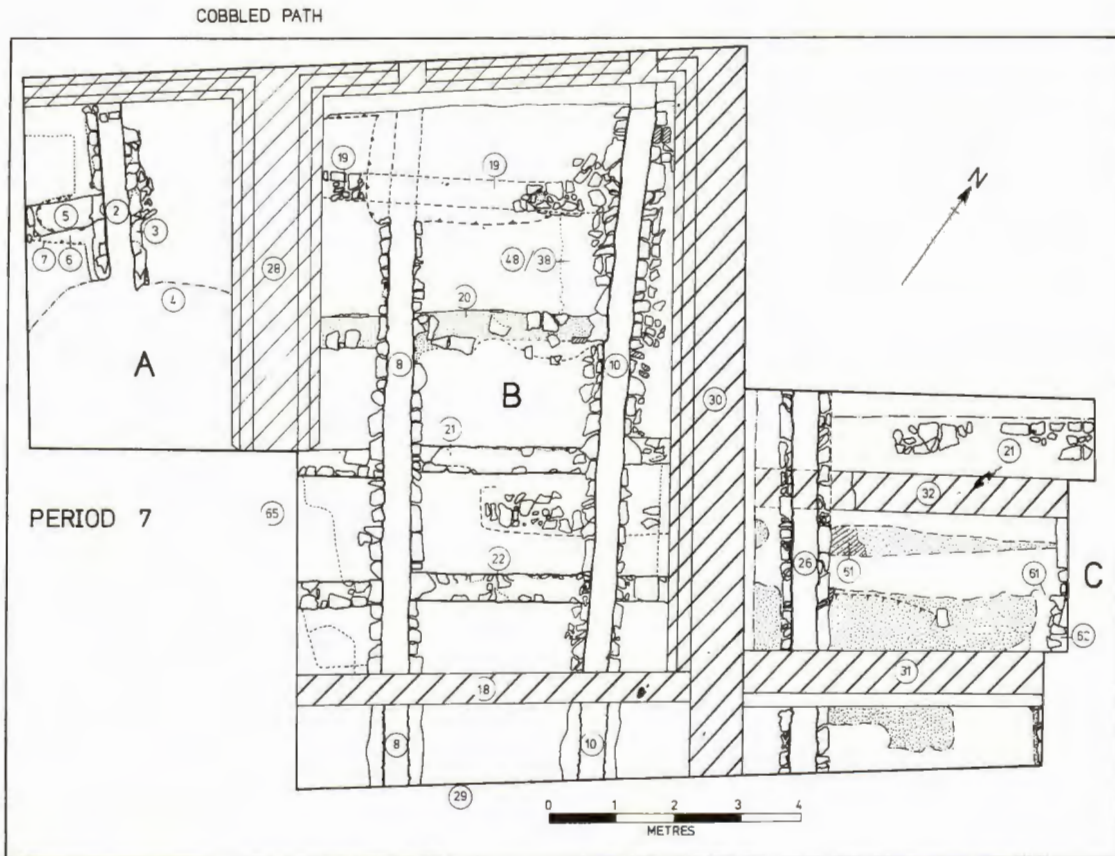


Fig. 16 Plan of part of the tobacco factory, Buchanan's Wharf

DISCUSSION

The development of the three tenements reflects in outline that of other excavated sites in Redcliff Street. The first occupation recognised consisted of slight stone foundations, possibly for timber-framed buildings, near the street frontage (Periods 1 and 2). During period 3 there were extensions towards the river and possibly some division into tenements (wall 178/296). During period 4 there was a major rebuilding programme but the nature of the structures could not be determined. The width of the walls suggests substantial structures, perhaps warehouses rather than domestic buildings, but still probably of timber. Further encroachment into the river can be seen in Area A which in period 3 was probably river bank and being reclaimed by dumping behind a wall which was beyond or west of the excavated area. It was during this period that the division into 112 and 111 Redcliff Street was probably initiated, wall 174/178 forming the boundary. The same general scheme was apparent in periods 5 and 6 and the red sandy spreads might well be further evidence of a warehouse function while the cellar is further evidence of a storage facility. The next three centuries are represented more by documentary evidence until the tobacco factory is established in the mid 19th century which largely swept away evidence for the late medieval and post-medieval periods. The setts in the lane to the north showed no sign of being laid until the 19th century.

THE FINDS (RB)

POTTERY

The material, most of which was stratified, consisted of 1092 medieval sherds but two sherds of late 16th-century pottery came from the fill of drain 10 (see below). The

pottery is of some interest since the publication of the dendrochronological dates for the waterfront structures at Dundas Wharf, Redcliff Street (Nicholson and Hillam 1987). This work has shown that some of the well-known products found in the town, such as Ham Green ware, were being made in the 12th century. In fact Ham Green appeared in contexts of the mid 12th century. It is hoped to publish the pottery related to these closely-dated contexts in a future volume of the Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society.

The Types

The types represented in the histogram (Figure 18) are commonly found in the town with the exception of BPT (Bristol Pottery Type) 305 and some imports. These types are to be found described in Price and Ponsford 1979. BPT 305 is a variant of BPT 114 and is a form of large jar which occurs on the Redcliffe waterfront and may be an industrial form associated with one of the waterfront trades such as soap-making. Since the pottery can be dated by documentary and dendrochronological evidence the following descriptions of the material by periods will contain conclusions arrived at by using this evidence.

Period 1

This period is characterised by a predominance of BPT 114 (similar to Ham Green pottery but grittier) but there is some BPT 32 (Ham Green cook-pots) and a significant amount of Ham Green A jug sherds (BPT 26). All the wares were absent from the fill of the motte ditch at Bristol Castle (c1135-1147) but present in contexts of 1142 onwards at Dundas Wharf (Ponsford 1979).

Period 2

In this period BPT32 starts to predominate. One imported sherd is in a wheel-thrown quartz fabric with an English-looking glaze. The other is illustrated below and is probably from Normandy. Both came from context 241. Since BPT 27 has not yet appeared a date no later than the later 12th century seems appropriate.

Period 3

BPT 27 makes its first appearance alongside established material such as Wiltshire tripod pitchers (BPT 18) and the ubiquitous micaceous fabric, BPT 46. BPT 114 is noticeably decreasing in proportion but the thick-walled industrial ware BPT 305 continues. A date either side of 1200 is proposed for these contexts.

Period 4

BPT 32 continues to be common but BPT 118 (Redcliffe jugs) begins to appear. It is thought that these wheelthrown glazed jugs commence c 1250 particularly as they are associated with Saintonge imports from the first. A single sherd of Saintonge green-glazed jug came from context 66.

Period 5

There is a noticeable increase in all glazed wares. There is still plenty of BPT 114 but this by now should be residual. The imports are sherds of Saintonge green-glazed from

contexts 147 and 150 and three sherds of BPT 192 in 156 (see Ponsford 1983 for BPT 192).

Period 7

Two sherds found in Context 10 (drain fill). These are a bowl with internal slip paralleled by no. 54 from Narrow Quay and a green-glazed large bowl in a micaceous fabric normally attributed to southern Iberia (Good 1987). A date in the late 16th -early 17th century would be appropriate for these.

CATALOGUE OF ILLUSTRATED SHERDS

Period 1

1. Rim, handle root and neck sherd of a glazed jug. Squared rim with diamond rouletting on outside edge, thick strap handle. Context 242. BPT 26.
2. Rim and body sherds of a glazed jug. The squared rim has a simple lip and diamond rouletting on the outer edge and below. The body is decorated with three-toothed wavy combing. Context 242. BPT 26.
3. Simple rim of a glazed jug. Context 299. BPT 26.

Period 2

4. Rim and body sherd. Rim thumbled inside. Combed decoration on shoulder. Context 241. BPT 32.

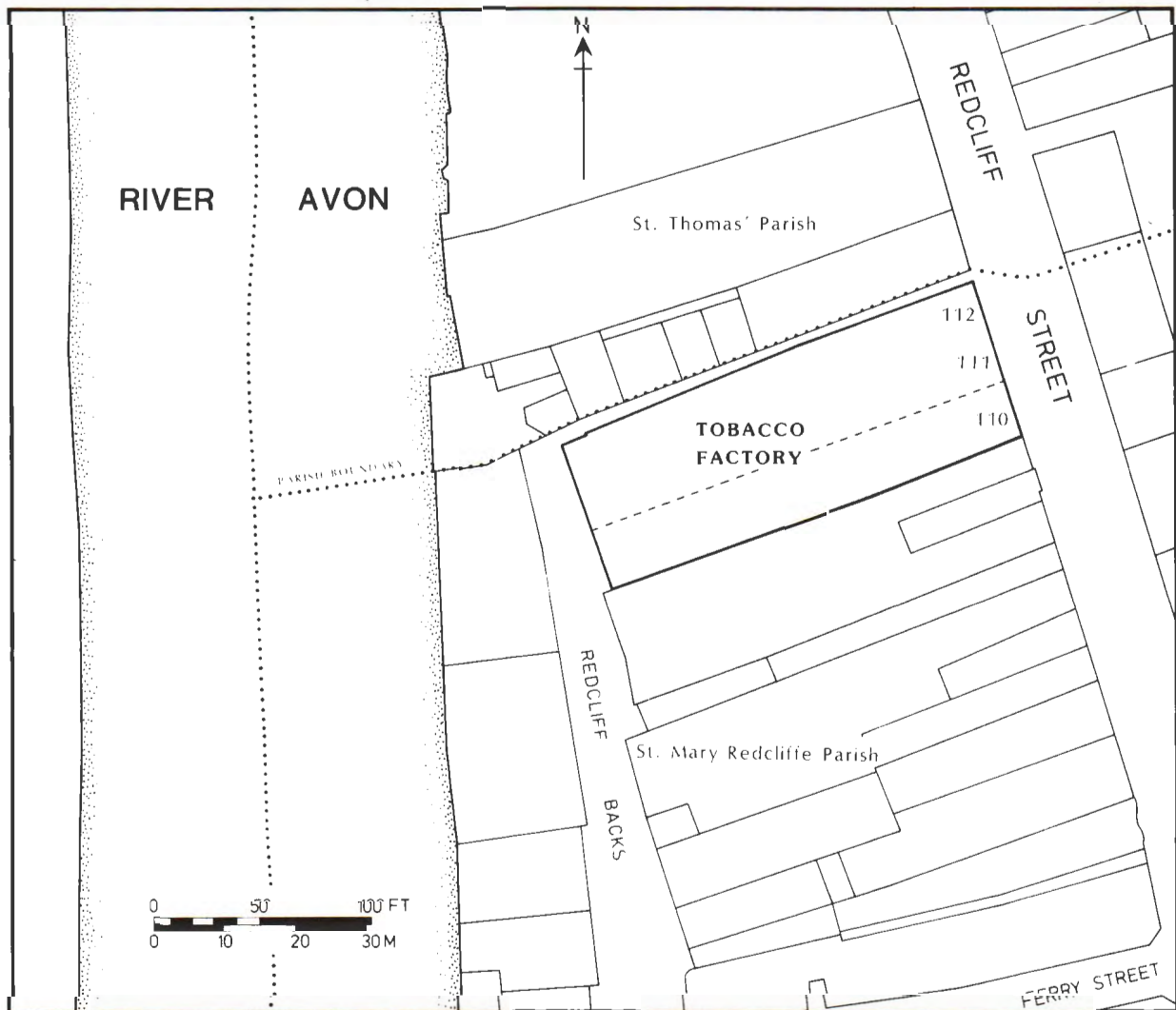


Fig. 17 Plan of part of Redcliff Street from O.S. 1st edition 1884.

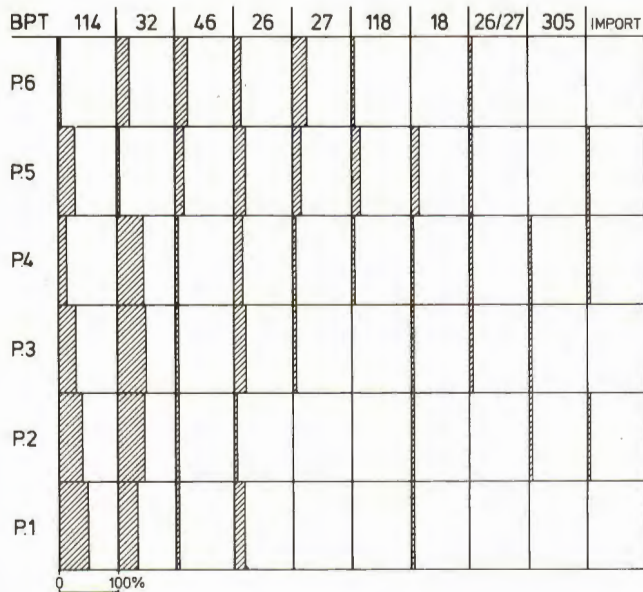


Fig. 18 Histogram of relative proportions of pottery sherds at Buchanan's Wharf, by period.

5. Rim and body sherds of a cook-pot. Rounded rim with two-tooth wavy combing on neck and shoulder. Context 241. BPT 32.
6. Body sherd of large wheel-thrown vessel. The fabric is creamy in colour with sandy texture given by abundant quartz inclusions. There is external yellow-green glaze with signs of wear. This fabric, BPT 116, is known from Bristol Castle Site D where it is thought to date from the late 12th century and consist of specialist cooking vessels and jugs (Ponsford 1979). Context 241. Probably import,? North French.
7. Squared rim of cook-pot with single-line decoration at neck/shoulder junction. Context 287. BPT 32.
8. Rim of 'large jar' fabric with three-tooth combed decoration inside and out. Context 287. BPT 305.

Period 3

9. Rim and shoulder of a cook-pot. Triangular rim with grooves on it and three-tooth wavy combing on inside of neck and on shoulder, Context 181. BPT 32.
10. Body sherd with arced combing, knife-trimming on lower part. Context 181. BPT 32.
11. Rim and handle sherds of a glazed jug. The rim is internally concave with diamond rouletting on the top. The neck is decorated with an applied, thumbed strip. The strap handle is also rouletted and has central stabs, some right through the handle. The wide form suggests that this may be a tripod pitcher. Context 181. BPT 26.
12. Rim and body sherds of a cook-pot. The rim is thumbed inside and out and there is rough combing on the neck. As with many Ham Green vessels this has a thin orange surface skin and dark grey core. Context 188. BPT 32.
13. Rounded rim of a cook-pot. The internal concavity and rough finish of the outside of the rim is an early feature of this type. Context 188. BPT 46.
14. Rim and body sherds of a cook-pot with seven-tooth wavy combing on neck and body and thumbing on inside of rim. Very hard-fired. Context 192. BPT 32.
15. Rim and body sherds of a cook-pot. The rim is as no. 9 with thumbing on the outer edge, the body

16. Cordoned body sherd, sparse glaze inside and out, form uncertain. Context 197. BPT 26.
17. Rim of a cook-pot, rounded form, internal bead. Unusual form in this fabric. Context 255. Fabric as BPT 26.
18. Rim of cook-pot, simple but typical form. Context 255. BPT 114.
19. Rim and shoulder sherd of a large jar. The rim is slightly beaded externally and there is a band of two-tooth combing on neck and shoulder. Context 255. BPT 305.
20. Angular rib and shoulder sherd of a cook-pot. The decoration at the shoulder is three-tooth combing and there are traces of cross-hatching on the body. Context 314. BPT 32.

Period 4

21. Rim and shoulder sherd of a cook-pot. The rim has an internal bead and rough external combing on neck and shoulder. A scar on the neck and shoulder may represent the site of a handle. Context 75. BPT 32.
22. Shoulder sherd of glazed jug with protuberances and a vertical rouletted strip. Context 152 and sherds in 8 and 9. BPT 26.
23. Rim sherd of a glazed jug. The collar has a pointed edge typical of A jugs and applied rim-faces. The rim-top is decorated with rouletting. Context 152. BPT 26.
24. Rim and body sherds of a green-glazed pitcher. The body is decorated with oblique seven-tooth combing. Context 176. This vessel is wheel-thrown and ought to be classified as BPT 84 (Minety-type ware). It has been included with the earlier hand-built wares, BPT 18, in the histogram.
25. Pointed, possible wheel-thrown rim with single-line groove on neck. The surfaces are a darker grey, possibly a wash. Context 203. BPT 32.
26. Squared rim of a cook-pot with thumbing internally and three-tooth wavy combing on neck. Context 208. BPT 32.
27. Rounded rim of a cook-pot with single-line groove on shoulder. Context 289. BPT 114.
28. Angular rim and body sherds of a cook-pot. External thumbing on rim and at least one small pre-firing hole in the side. Context 290. BPT 46.
29. Simple rim and stabbed strap handle of a tripod pitcher. The handle was made by folding a flat piece of clay around a rod, a common form. Context 310. BPT 18.

Period 5

30. Pointed rim sherd of cook-pot with external thumbing. Context 83. BPT 46.
31. Base sherd of a green-glazed jug with downward-thumb feet. Import. Context 91. BPT 192.
32. Body sherds of a green-glazed jug decorated with channelled applied strips and contrasting ring-and-dot nodes. Fine-quality fabric and glaze. Contexts 108/109. Probably BPT 118.
33. Rim and bridge-spout of a green-glazed jug. The rim has an applied pointed collar which wraps around the spout in a way familiar on tripod pitchers. There are also rim faces very similar to those on no. 22 and it seems likely that both vessels are by the same potter. Context 141. BPT 26.
34. Flaring rim of a green-glazed jug with external diamond rouletting. Context 302. BPT 26.

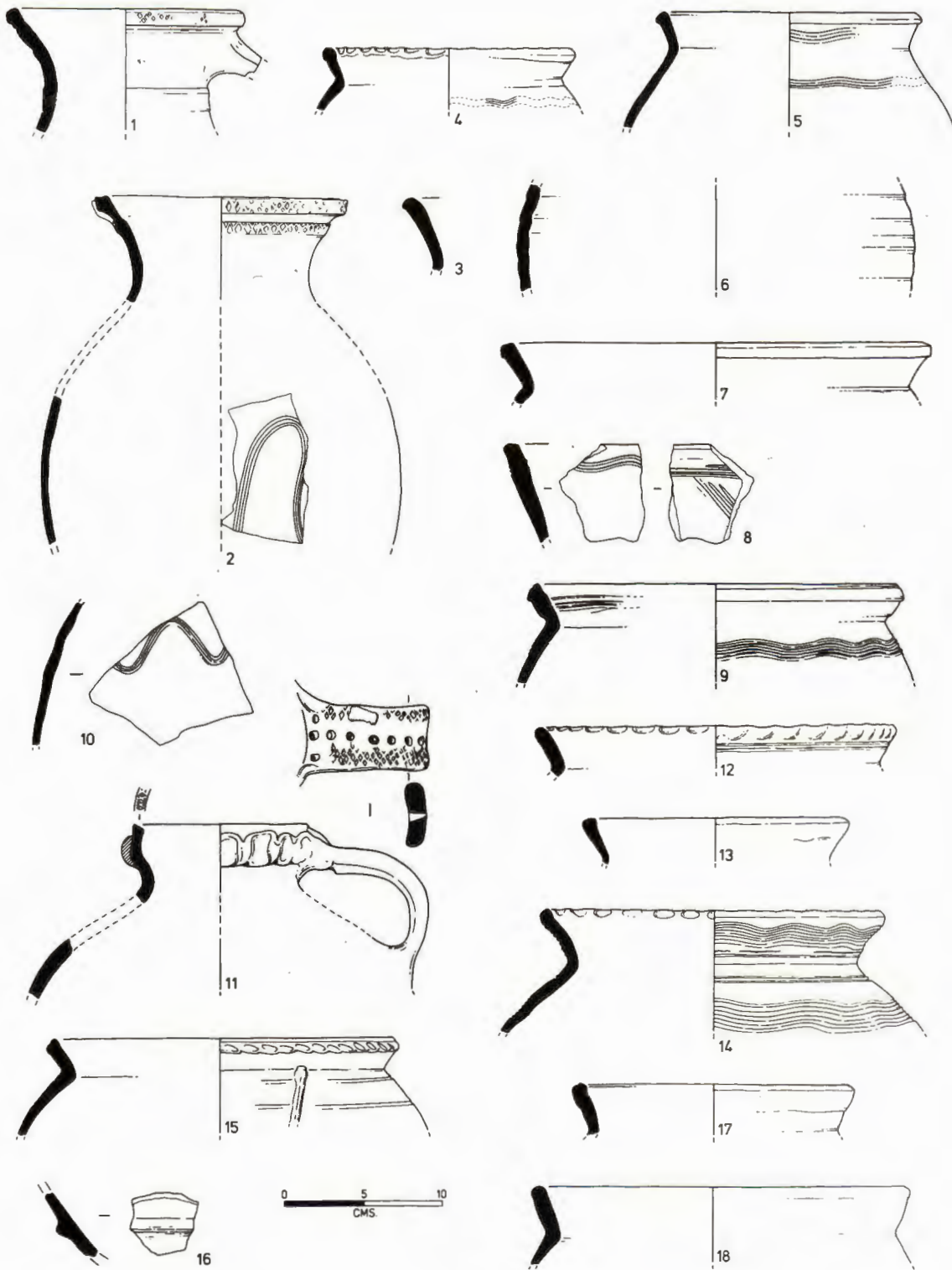


Fig. 19 Twelfth-century pottery. Scale 1:4.

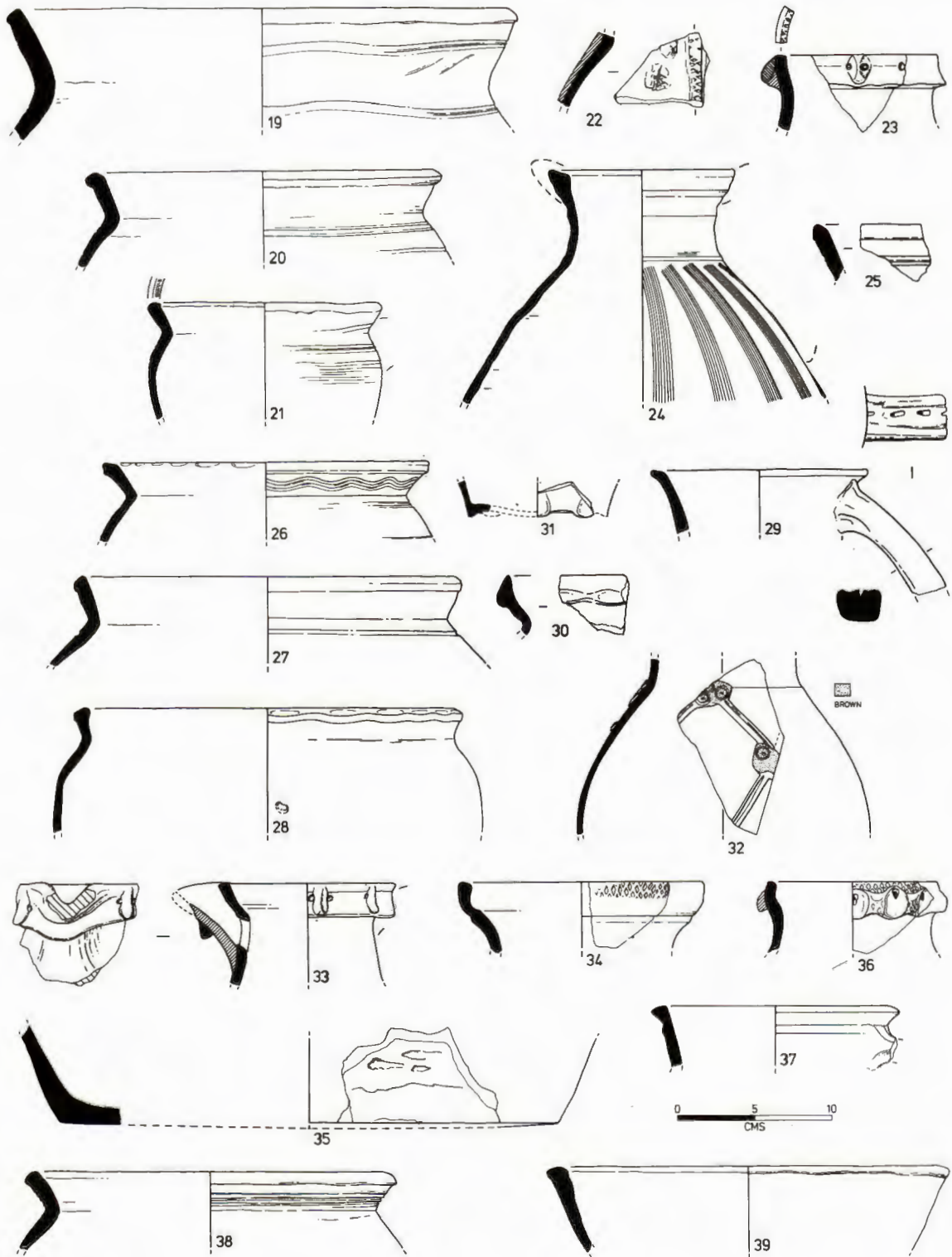


Fig. 20 Twelfth and thirteenth-century pottery. Scale 1:4

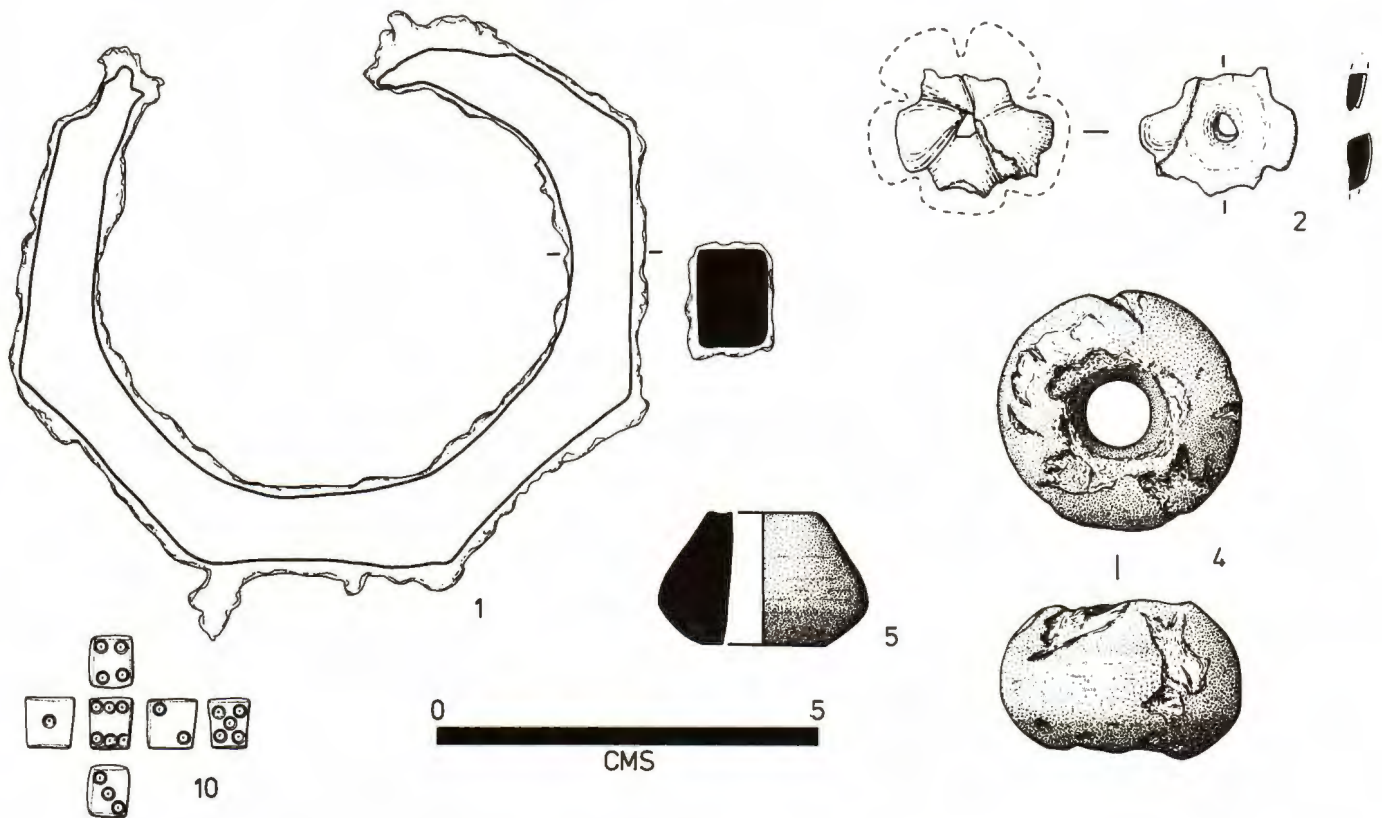


Fig. 21 Objects of iron(1), copper alloy(2) and stone (4 and 5). Scale 1:1.

35. Sagging base of a large jar with much knife-trimming and scraping. Context 302. BPT 305.
36. Rim of a green-glazed jug. There is an applied and thumb-stabbed strip at the rim with diamond rouletting applied before the strip above and on the strip itself to complete the decoration. Context 304. BPT 304.
37. Simple rim and handle root of a green-glazed jug. Context 305. BPT 26.
38. Rim of a cook-pot with horizontal combing on neck. Context 358. BPT 32.

Period 6

39. Rim of a bowl. Context 100. BPT 32.

Glazed ridge tile.

Fragments of tile in Redcliffe fabrics were found in contexts 91 and 140, Period 5.

OTHER FINDS

METAL

Fifteen fragments of iron, mostly nails, one of copper alloy and lead and one other lead fragment found.

1. Faceted penannular iron ring. Drawn from an X-radiograph. Context 304. Period 5.
2. Copper-alloy mount, probably of rosette shape with central perforation and lead backing. Context 187. Period 3.

STONE

3. Part of a Pennant stone mortar with side pouring

- hole, the opening thickened for strength. Context 188. Period 3.
4. Stone ?whorl or weight of calcite mudstone, this with 5 are well-known types (Watts and Rahtz 1985, 143). Context 200. Period 3.
5. Stone spindle whorl of calcitic mudstone. Context 15. Period 4.
6. 'Column base' in Pennant sandstone which probably split during manufacture. Context 96. Period 4, construction levels.
7. Part of a forge-stone in Pennant Sandstone. The object is not circular, as with a quern but oval. It is dressed on the forge side with traces of burning as indicated. The other side is roughly dressed and the edge is chamfered. The perforation is for bellows. These stones have seldom been recognised in this country but an example was found in situ at Bristol Castle and there is a fragment from Peter Street, excavated by the City Museum in 1975 (Ponsford 1979). Most have been found in Scandinavia. Context 311. Period 4.
8. Head of a round-headed window in limestone. There are parallels in situ at 10 Lower Park Row, Bristol, which may be seen adjacent to the chimney stack. An early-17th century date is proposed. Context 182. Period 6, in dump at cellar entrance.

GLASS

9. Small pale green translucent glass bead. This was unfortunately associated with modern glass fragments and may be intrusive in context 72, period 3/4 (not illustrated).

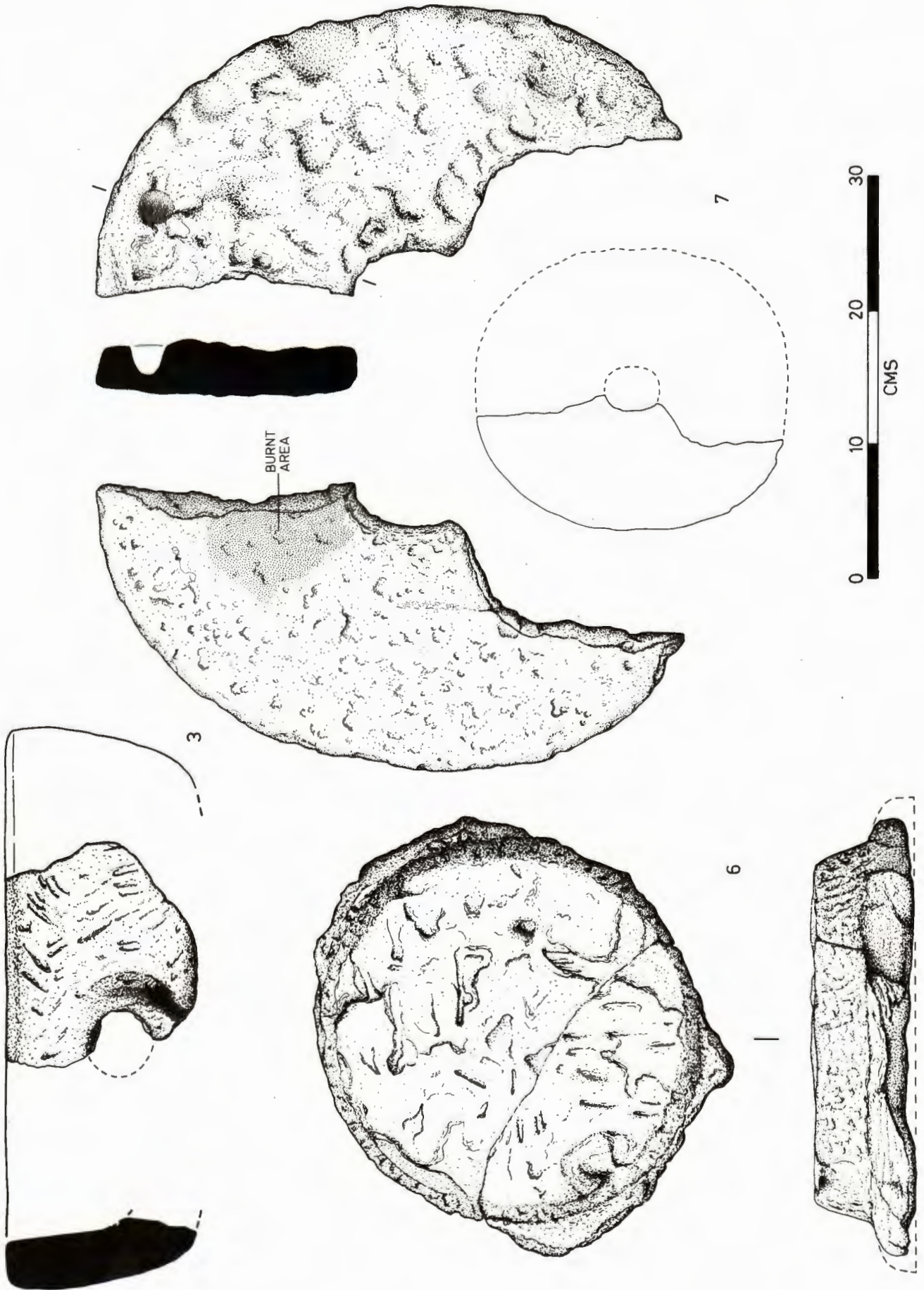


Fig. 22 Objects of stone. Scale 1:4.

BONE

10. Bone die of usual medieval type. Context 187. Period 3.

ANIMAL BONE

No work has been carried out on this material to date since it is a relatively small sample and has been superseded by those from the larger waterfront sites in Redcliff Street.

OYSTER

Common in most contexts, the same comments apply as for the animal bone.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are pleased to thank the staff of Lovell Urban Renewal for their co-operation and help with the excavation at Buchanan's Wharf and the City Valuer for allowing the excavation to proceed; the staff of Bristol Record Office; Heron Homes Ltd. for permission to excavate at Somerset Street; the staff of the conservation Section, City Museum; Ann Linge and Natasha Weekes for preparing the illustrations for publication; Employment Initiatives for the general administration of the MSC programme; the Manpower Services Commission for finance; and last, but not least, the many participants in the scheme without whose help, willingness and enthusiasm the work could not have been done.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Barton, K.J., 1961. 'Some Evidence of Two Types of Pottery Manufactured in Bristol in the early 18th Century'. *Trans Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.* 80,160-172.
- Bennett, G., 1988. 'Bristol Industries Continued-Mardon, Son and Hall 1823-1987 (Part II), in *Temple Local History Group Newsletter* no.1/88,20-30. Bristol.
- Fox, R. and Barton, K.J., 1986. 'Excavations at Oyster

- Street, Portsmouth, Hampshire, 1968-71'. *Post-Medieval Archaeol.* 20,31-255.
- Jennings, S., 1981. *Eighteen Centuries of Pottery from Norwich*. Norwich.
- Jones, R.H., 1986. *Excavations in Redcliffe 1983-85, Interim Report*. Bristol.
- Mathews, W.S., 1855. *Mathews Annual Bristol Directory and Commercial List*. Bristol.
- Nicholson, R.A. and Hillam, J., 1987. 'A dendrochronological analysis of oak timbers from the early medieval site at Dundas Wharf, Bristol'. *Trans. Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.*, 105,133-145.
- Ponsford, M.W., 1979. *Bristol Castle: Archaeology and the history of a Royal fortress*. Unpublished M.Litt thesis, University of Bristol.
- Ponsford, M.W., 1983. 'North European Pottery imported into Bristol. 1200-1500', in Davey, P. and Hodges, R. (eds.), *Ceramics and Trade*, 219-224, Sheffield.
- Ponsford, M.W., 1985. 'Bristol's Medieval Waterfront: the Redcliffe Project', in Herteig, A.E. (ed.) *Conference on Waterfront Archaeology in North European Towns No. 2 Bergen 1983*, 112-121. Bergen
- Pountney, W.J., 1920. *Old Bristol Potteries*. Bristol.
- Price, R., 1979. 'Excavations at the town wall, 65 Baldwin Street, Bristol, 1974', in Thomas, N. (ed.) *Rescue Archaeology in the Bristol Area* :1, 15-28. Bristol.
- Williams, B., 1982. 'Excavations at Bristol Bridge, 1981'. *Bristol and Avon Archaeology* 1,12-15.
- Winstone, R., 1968. *Bristol in the 1850s*. Bristol.
- Witt, C., Weeden, C. and Schwind, A.P., *Bristol Glass*. Bristol.

DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES

1. Bristol Record Office 01028 (10)
2. Redcliffe Deeds 22/7/1-3 and 24/4/1a-b
3. Redcliffe Deeds 25/-
4. Redcliffe Deeds 26/-
5. Bristol Record Office 04335 (27)

THE LESSER CLOISTER AND A MEDIEVAL DRAIN AT St.AUGUSTINE'S ABBEY, BRISTOL

E.J.Boore

A watching brief took place in July 1987 at Bristol Cathedral School to observe the foundation trenches for the new 6th Form Block. The site is on the south edge of the school playground, west of the Palliser Martin Hall and north of Anchor Road (ST 58337262). Playground toilets and bicycle sheds were demolished prior to excavation. The south wall of these structures was retained to be incorporated into the two new 6th Form Rooms. The position of the north and east foundation trenches ran across the conjectural location of the walls of the west and south walks of the Lesser Cloister of St. Augustine's Abbey (Paul 1912, Plate XXXIV, 247). Both trenches confirmed Paul's siting of the Lesser Cloister walls and also led to the discovery and recording part of a large stone-built culvert which is interpreted as the main drain for the Abbey (fig. 1).

The construction of the Lesser Cloister was probably part of the work carried out under Abbot Newland or Nailheart (1481-1515) and his successor Robert Elyot (1515-1526) who were responsible for considerable work on the monastic buildings to the south and west of the abbey church (Paul, 1912, 244). It was Abbot Newland who began rebuilding the nave of the Abbey which had reached the height of the windows when the abbey was dissolved in 1539. The nave was eventually rebuilt by the architect G.E. Street in 1868 and completed in 1888. Evidence of Abbot Elyot's work can still be seen in the choir stalls which bear Elyot's initials and also in the intricately carved misericords.

The upper part of the great gatehouse, above the Norman gateway to the west of the church, was also rebuilt at this time and again restored in the 19th century. The second smaller Norman gateway further south which led to the abbot's lodgings, was strengthened with an internal arch which bears the Berkeley arms and the rebus of Abbot Newland, 'a bleeding heart pierced with nails', hence Nailheart (Harrison 1962, 6). In the church there are decorated floor tiles of the late 15th century and early 16th century date which bear the arms and initials of both Abbots Newland and Elyot (Warren 1901, Plate XXII, 123). A fragment of floor tile decorated with the initials RE of Abbot Elyot was found during the watching brief.

Access from the lower Norman gate leads to the Cathedral School playground which occupies the area covered by the Lesser Cloister. The frater or refectory on the north side, which was rebuilt by Abbot Newland, includes the remains of an arcade on its south side, now incorporated into a modern structure. This arcade represents the surviving remains of the north walk of the Lesser Cloister with panelled windows above, of the early 16th century (Pevsner 1958, 385). There were contemporary buildings to the west of the Lesser Cloister which are recorded as the abbot's lodgings and the monastic kitchens (Paul 1912, 247, and Godman 1961, 312-313. This area is

now occupied by a science classroom and toilets.

The eastern range of the Lesser Cloister may survive below the Palliser Martin Hall. The hall was constructed on a concrete raft foundation. A trial trench in 1985 immediately to the west of the hall and 7.5m south of the north arcade, exposed the hall foundations at a depth of 1m. The foundations, c.0.5m deep, rested on the natural Keuper Marl which overlies Dolomitic Conglomerate. The trial trench cut through a mixed layer of grey mortar, ash and red-brown soil representing a make-up deposit for the tarmac surface of the school playground. Piling by the present contractors towards the south-east corner of the play-ground hit natural bedrock at a depth of c.7m.

A drop in level of some 6m between the two trial holes revealed the presence of natural terracing. This is the second drop in level south of the abbey church. The Cathedral School, formerly the abbey Frater and situated on the south side of the main cloister garth, occupies the middle ground between the two cloisters. The southern precincts of the abbey were built on this natural terracing which reduces in level overall some 8m between the abbey church and the monastic buildings to the south. A dove-cote of the 14th century was found further to the east of the Lesser Cloister area (Boore 1979, 198). The dove-cote was 7m below the abbey church level. This south-east corner of the monastic lands was probably part of the abbey garden area (Sabin and Beachcroft 1938, 220 and F. Neale pers comm).

The area between the Lesser Cloister and the dove-cote, now occupied by the school hall and classrooms, contained the remains of the Bishop's Palace which was destroyed during the Bristol Riots of 1831. The Bishop's Palace which lies to the south of the Dorter and Chapter House incorporated earlier remains dating from the Norman period (Paul, 235, and Pevsner, 386). The earlier structures could have represented the remains of the abbey reredorter and infirmary.

During the watching brief extensive remains of bonded stone in a hard pinkish mortar were observed and hastily noted in a shallow trench cut into the pavement on the north side of Anchor Road, south of the school playground. The trench was excavated for British Telecom. The walls which were very briefly exposed probably represented the buttresses and oriel window foundations of the south facade of the Bishop's Palace (Paul, 1912, 247 and Winstone 1972, 59).

The Lesser Cloister walls of the west walk, towards its south end, were found in the north trench (figure 1). Both walls were aligned north-south and continued into their respective trench edges. The outer wall (W1) was found 19m south of the Frater and 16m west of the Palliser Martin Hall. The wall was located 1.1m below the school playground, beneath a make-up deposit of pink and grey mortar, ash and red-brown soil. The outer wall mea-

sured 1.2m x 0.85 x 0.6m, and was constructed of Pennant Sandstone and bonded in a hard pinkish-buff mortar. The second, inner wall (W2) occurred 3m to the east. It measured 0.75 x 0.85 x 0.6m. The late make-up layer sealing both walls continued to the west and east. Between both walls there occurred a different deposit of reddish-brown sandy soil. A small area excavated to a depth of 0.6m produced oyster shell and animal bone refuse and sherds of later medieval pottery.

In the south-east corner of the site, a short length of the inner wall (W3) of the south walk was also recorded. This was located 0.4m west of the Palliser Martin Hall and 2.5m north of the south boundary wall to Anchor Road. This wall measured 0.8 x 1.25m and its south inner face was recorded for a depth of 2.5m and continuing. This extensive foundation reflects the considerable drop in ground level caused by the natural terracing. Unfortunately the area within the south walk was badly disturbed and consisted of the same late make-up deposit. Wall W3 was of similar construction to the west cloister walls. The remains of a dressed freestone block at its east end, in the south face, may suggest a feature, possibly a door or

window, opening to the inner cloister area. There were no contemporary floor levels. The deposits found in the west walk were presumably a make-up level for a floor of flagstones or possibly tiles. Further machining in the south-east corner confirmed that the outer wall return for the south walk served as a foundation for the later standing boundary wall.

The area covered by the Lesser Cloister, based on Paul's plan measured c. 25m square, slightly smaller than the main cloister garth. There was no surviving archaeological evidence to indicate when the Lesser Cloister was demolished. The Bishop's Palace had the lead removed from its roof and was converted for use as a malt-mill in the middle of the 17th century (Lobel & Wilson 1975, 18). However, the building shown on Paul's plan which encroaches onto the east walk of the Lesser Cloister was probably the work of Bishop Joseph Butler (1738-1752) who rebuilt and embellished the palace (Nicholls & Taylor 1881, 78, and Little 1954, 191-192). It was this palace which was destroyed in the Bristol Riots of 1831, but whose remains stood until 1962. The Lesser Cloister appears to have survived until at least the middle of the

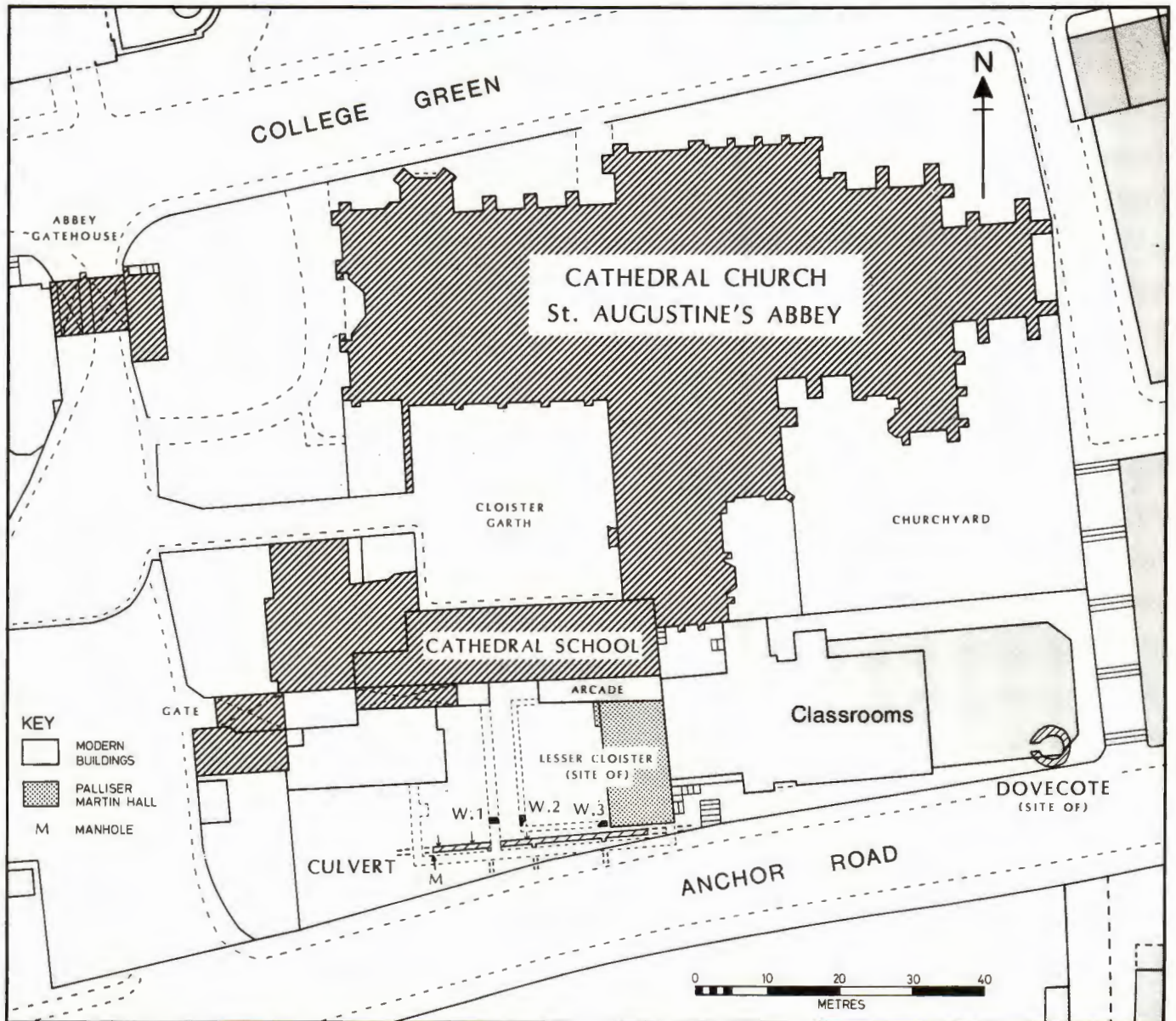


Fig. 1 Site location plan. The Lesser Cloister and Drain, St. Augustine's Abbey, Bristol (after R.W. Paul).



Plate 1 Medieval drain, St. Augustine's Bristol

17th century and possibly in a modified form into the early 19th century. Although not indicated on Millerd's map of Bristol of 1673, the area of Lesser Cloister walk is shown on Rocque's map of 1742, Bennings map of 1780 and also on Plumley & Ashmead's of 1828, suggesting that it may have survived perhaps in altered form until 1831. The remains of the medieval lesser cloister and associated buildings, probably the dorter and infirmary, still survive from the Dominican Friary in Broadmead. The building, now called Quaker's Friars, is in use as the Registry Office (Leighton 1933, 179).

During the watching brief, Mr. W. Proctor pointed out the existence of a subterranean stone-built feature. A modern manhole 2m to the west of the new classroom leads directly down to the feature which lies 5m below the playground level. Investigation of this structure revealed a substantial stone-built culvert which pre-dated the Lesser Cloister walls. The culvert is aligned on an east-west axis and survives for a length of some 30m (figure 1).

The culvert is of massive stone construction and probably represents the main abbey drain for the disposal of waste. Its location suggests that it may have originally served as the main outlet for the abbey reredorter located to the east of the Lesser Cloister. The waste from the abbey kitchens to the west and the frater and lavatorium to the north was also probably discharged into this drain.

There were three small channels opening into the drain wall on its north side, while three major structural outlets occurred on the south side. The drain could have been flushed through with water taken from the conduit situated to the west of the lower Norman gate (Lobel & Wilson 1975, 9, map 8). Another source of water may have been from the fishponds which lay in the Abbot's Park to the south-west of the abbey and a stream to the south of the monastic buildings (Lobel & Wilson 1975, map 3, and Dennison & Iles 1985, 43). The St. Augustine's Abbey drain is provisionally dated to the later 12th century and is contemporary with the original abbey and its monastic buildings. It continued in use at least as a soakaway up until the 19th century and later, as the playground drains

discharge into it. A ceramic-pipe drainage system has now replaced it. A similar large drain was found at the Franciscan Friary site in Lewin's Mead (Ponsford 1975, 13).

The drain runs east-west below the Lesser Cloister south walk. It is capped with massive slabs of Pennant Sandstone 0.16m thick. The manhole allows access via a missing cap-stone. West of this opening the drain is blocked by a later north-south wall. The drain walls are constructed of dressed Brandon Hill Grit and are c.0.50m thick. The walls are bonded in various mortars with evidence of later repointing. The earliest is a red sandy mortar towards the east end of the drain. Similar mortar has been recorded in the town wall construction (Price 1979, 18).

A substantial deposit of silt lay along the bottom of the drain. A small trial trench revealed this to be c.0.70m deep and of late post-medieval date. At this point the floor of the drain was made of a large block of stone, possibly lias limestone with a shallow V-shaped profile. The drain continued east from the manhole opening for c.30m where it had been disturbed and collapsed. The width of the drain was consistent at c. 0.75m. The height of the roof varied considerably. To the east of the manhole entrance the roof was tunnel-vaulted with a pointed arch (plate 1). The height of the drain from the silt to the apex of the arch was c.1.10m or just under 4 feet. The construction and dimensions of the drain are similar to the surviving section of the abbey conduit between Gorse Lane and Jacobs Wells Road on the west side of Brandon Hill (Vaughan & Martelet 1987, 10, and Vaughan & Price et al, 1987, 1-4, including plan and illustrations, forthcoming). A further 3m to the east of the manhole the drain roof rises vertically for 3m for a length of 5m. Internal arches occur at this rise in height and are constructed of pitched Pennant Sandstone with keystones of oolitic limestone. This rise in roof level may originally have marked the site of a later garderobe. At a point 14m east of the manhole the drain height reduced to c.80cm above the silt with horizontal Pennant Sandstone cap-stones. Construction putlog holes for timber scaffold-

ing occurred at regular intervals on both internal wall faces throughout the drain. The putlogs were voids of c.17cm square. The site of the Lesser Cloister west wall was clearly defined by its bridging over the drain.

Contemporary with the north wall were two small gutters made of oolitic limestone and a slightly larger one to the west which were set high up in the wall (plate 2). Three much larger outlets were found in the south wall. These were defined with lintels and jambs of dressed oolite and could be seen to continue for several metres to the south. They presumably extended as far as the Canon's Marsh area if not to the river Avon itself.

The bottom of the drain at its west end was located at c.5m below the playground level. After allowing for variations in the drain roof and cap-stones it is probable that the top of the abbey drain was more or less contemporary with the original ground level at the foot of a low cliff. This would explain the large-scale construction of the drain and also provide access for maintenance and cleaning. Later branch drains and repointing of the walls reflect not only its continuing use as a drain or soakaway but also the considerable skill and expertise of the original builders.

The limited time factor and restricted conditions at the time allowed for only a basic investigation and recording of this important feature. Further excavations and a comprehensive record could be carried out in the future.

The construction of the 6th Form rooms and their foundations did not disturb or damage either the lesser cloister walls or the abbey drain. Both features are preserved intact as a result of the willing co-operation of the contractors and architects. Other late features were recorded, in particular a substantial stone wall running north-south situated 1.5m to the east of the manhole. This wall was found c.0.15m below the tarmac level. The wall is shown on the Ordnance Survey plan of 1953 and also on Paul's plan. The mortar in the upper levels suggested that the wall was of the late post-medieval period, but this may have been a later rebuild on earlier foundations.

Most of the finds were recovered from the general make-up layer for the playground and were of fairly recent date. A fragment of carved oolitic limestone decorated with chevrons had been built into the lower east face of the standing wall, to the south of the Palliser Martin Hall. A few sherds of Redcliffe and Ham Green ware pottery along with animal bone and oyster shell were found in the deposit between the cloister walls on the west side. This layer may be stratified and could represent either a make-up deposit for floor levels or a medieval midden deposit from the abbey pre-dating the building of the Lesser Cloister. A sample of the lowest level of silt from the drain was taken. Finds from that deposit included tinglazed sherds of the 18th century and pottery of more recent date. All site records and finds are deposited in the City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery (Accession number 104/1987).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The watching brief was carried out by the Department of Field Archaeology of the City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery. The City Museum is most grateful to the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral and to the Cathedral School

for allowing access and for providing resources during the watching brief. I am pleased to acknowledge the help and encouragement of the architects, particularly Mr. W.D. Proctor and Mr. L. Phillips, Civil and Structural Engineer, and Mr. D. Woolner and Mr. A. Harper of the contractors J. Colman & Son. I am also grateful to the School caretaker for allowing storage of equipment. I am especially grateful for the forbearance and help of the site foreman, Mr. J. Taylor, and his assistant, Mr. P. Maggs, and to my colleagues, Mr. B. Williams and Mr. V. Russett for their help with surveying and recording of the abbey drain. The text was typed by Philippa Jones and Marilyn James, and the plans drawn by Ann Linge.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Beachcroft, G., Sabin, A., 1938, Two Compotus Rolls of St. Augustine's Abbey, Bristol, for 1491-2 and 1511-12. *Bristol Record Society* 9.
- Boore, E.J., 1979, "Bristol Cathedral School Classroom Extension - Watching Brief - A Medieval Dovecote". *Bull. Bristol Archaeol. Res. Group* 6(8), 198-200
- Dennison, E., Iles, R., 1985, 'Medieval Fishponds in Avon'. *Bristol Avon Archaeology*, vol. 4, 43.
- Godman, C., 1961, St. Augustine's Abbey, *Medieval Archaeology*, 5, 312-313
- Harrison, D.E.W., 1962, *Bristol Cathedral*.
- Leighton, W., 1933, "The Black Friars, now Quaker's Friars, Bristol". *Trans. Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeological Soc.* 15, 179.
- Little, B., 1954, *The City and County of Bristol*
- Lobel, M.D., Carus-Wilson, E.M., 1975, *Bristol Historic Towns Atlas* 2.
- Nicholls, J.F., Taylor, J., 1881, *Bristol Past and Present* 2, 45-89.
- Paul, R.W., 1912, The Plan of the Church and Monastery of St. Augustine Bristol, *Archaeologia* 63, 231-250.
- Pevsner, N., 1958, *North Somerset and Bristol - Buildings of England*, 371-386
- Ponsford, M.W., 1975, *Excavations at Greyfriars, Bristol*.
- Price, R.H., 1979, Excavations at the Town Wall, Bristol, 1974 in Thomas, N., *Rescue Archaeology in the Bristol Area -1.*, 15-27
- Vaughan, R., Martelet, J., 1987, The Dean and Chapter's Conduit (Abbey Conduit), *Newsletter* 3, 87, 10, Temple Local History Group
- Vaughan, R., Price, D., The Dean and Chapter's Conduit (Abbey Conduit) Temple Local History Group, (forthcoming).
- Warren, R.H., 1901, Tiles of Bristol Cathedral. *Proc. Clifton Antiq. Club*, 5, 122-127
- Winstone, R., 1972, *Bristol As It Was 1866-1860* 59

MAPS

- James Millerd, 1673, *An Exact Delineation of the Famous City of Bristol and Suburbs*.
- John Rocque, 1742, *Plan of the City of Bristol*
- Richard Benning, 1780, *Plan of the City of Bristol*
- John Plumley and George C. Ashmead, 1828, *Plan of the City of Bristol and its suburbs.*, (City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery)

COMMON TYPES OF EARTHENWARE FOUND IN THE BRISTOL AREA

G.L. Good & V.E. J. Russett

This article is designed as a guide to the locally-made earthenwares of medieval and post-medieval date most commonly found on excavations in Bristol. As such it should be of use to those involved in excavations in the area around the city who are not experts in the field of pottery research, and to members of local societies undertaking field work who can only occasionally take part in excavations, but need to know about the artifacts they find. It should be noted that the only way of identifying pottery with certainty, in particular small sherds, is by comparing it with material already identified such as that in museum collections.

Only earthenwares which regularly turn up on excavation in fairly large quantities have been included. These have been arranged by source where this is known (Fig 1), with a brief description of the fabric. Typical examples of the commonest forms are illustrated and their diagnostic features described, though some of the drawings are representative reconstructions to illustrate particular features or characteristics rather than actual examples. Roof tiles and other roof furniture are also common in many of the fabrics, but these have been excluded for economy of space.

The approximate date range for each form is shown on

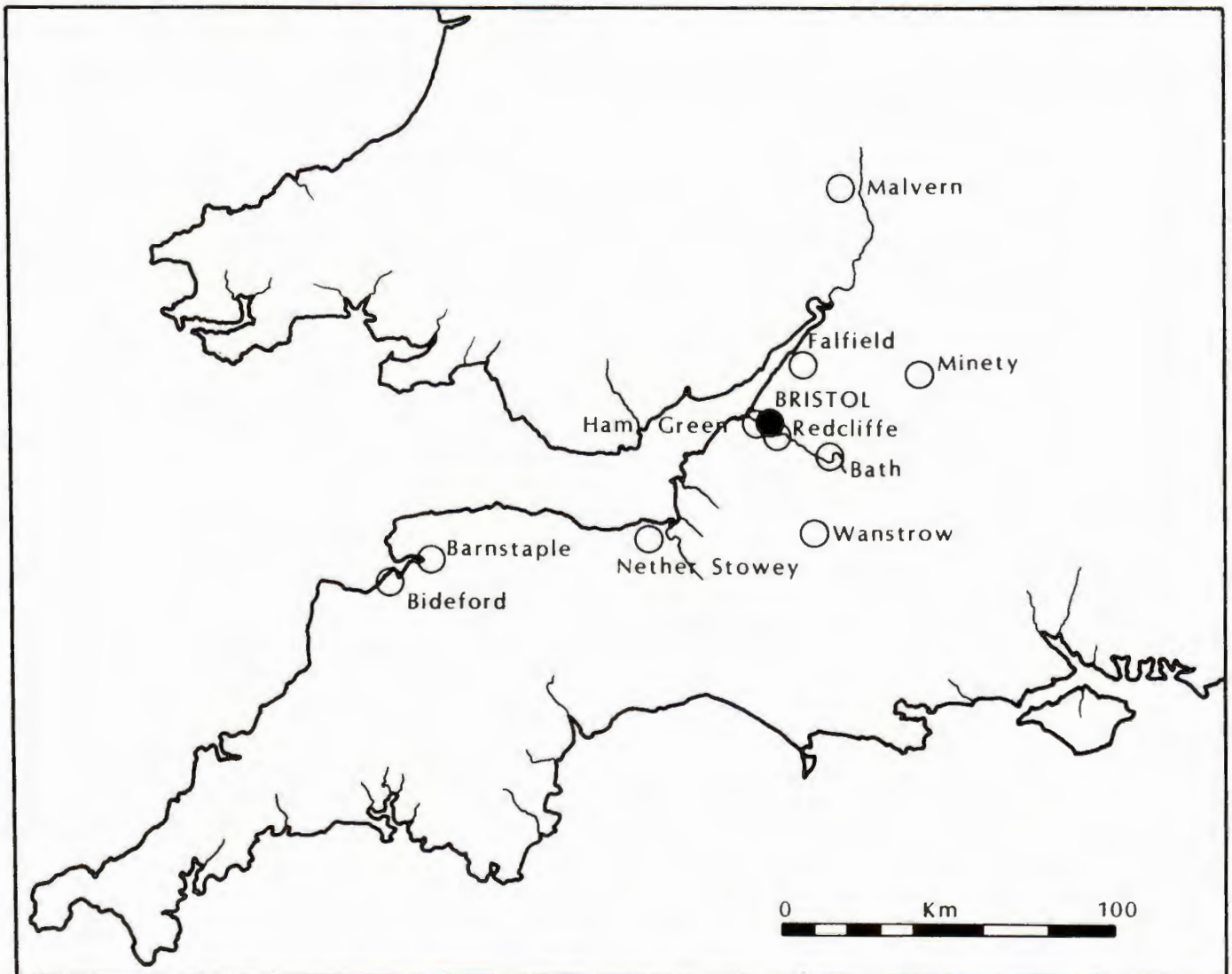


Fig 1. Location of pottery production centres mentioned in text.

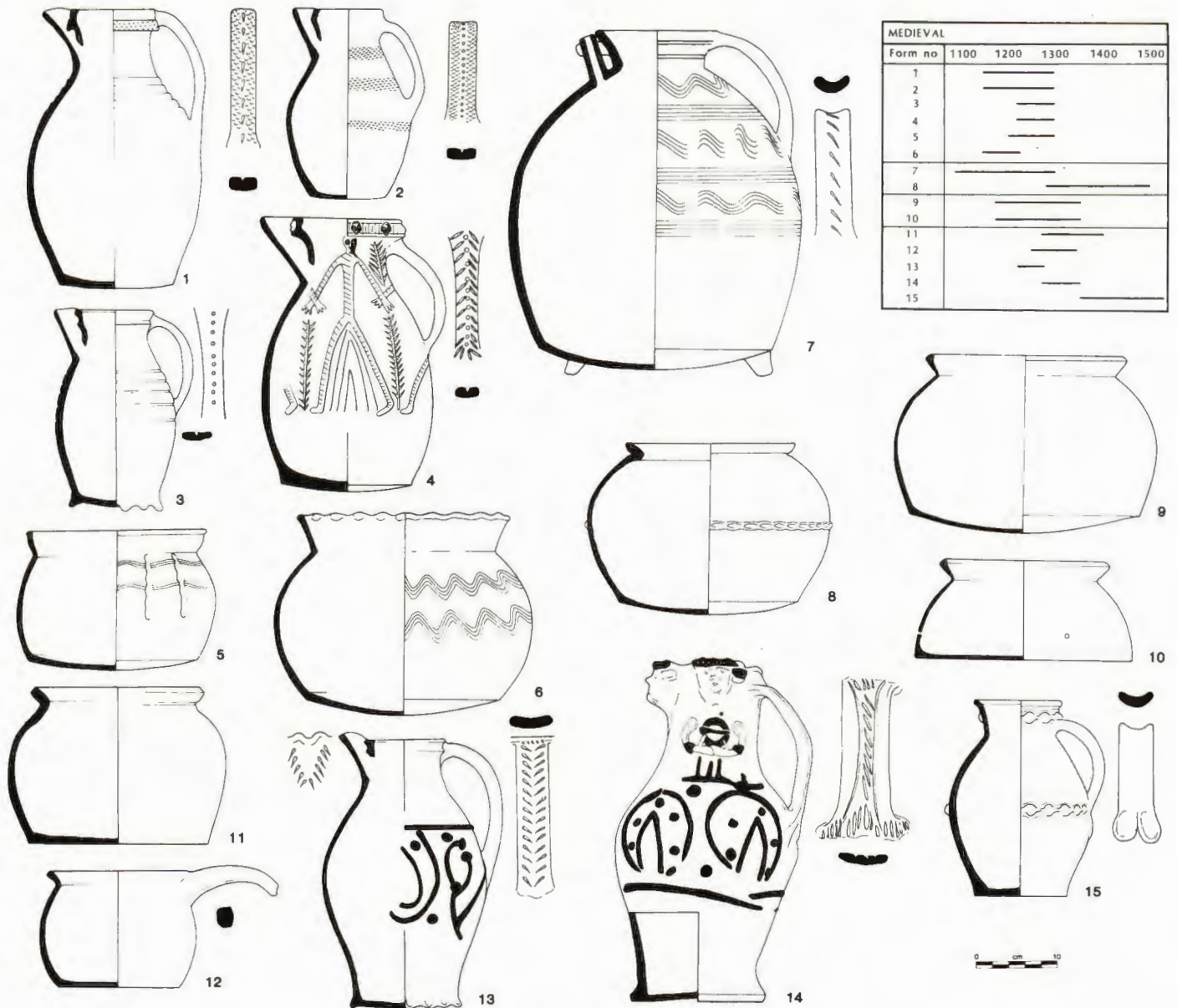


Fig 2. Medieval pottery forms with date ranges inset.

the same figure as its illustration. The period covered is c 1100-1800, though much of the later material carried on into the 19th century. It should also be stressed that the date ranges given are those when the products were common in Bristol, though occasional examples may occur outside these ranges. In most cases where the production centres were some distance from Bristol, forms may have had a much greater date range in the locality of the kilns.

The work is based on the Bristol Pottery Type Series (BPT nos) (Ponsford 1979) and excavations in Bristol which have produced fairly large, well-stratified groups of pottery, particularly those at Bristol Castle (Ponsford 1979), Ham Green (Barton 1963), Greyfriars (Ponsford forthcoming), Narrow Quay (Good 1987), 94-102 Temple Street (Williams forthcoming) and St Nicholas' Almshouse (Barton 1964). The descriptions are inevitably generalised and for further detail the reader is referred to these and other reports of excavations in the city carried out by the City Museum and Art Gallery.

HAM GREEN (Fig 2)

Ham Green wares are found in Bristol in contexts dating from the middle of the 12th century to the end of the 13th. The products occur in at least two different fabrics (A and B), and it is probable that pottery in a third fabric (BPT 114) was also produced there. Cooking pots in the BPT 114 fabric are earlier than those in fabric B, though there appears to have been a period of overlap in production around 1200. Production of fabric A jugs began earlier than of jugs in fabric B, but both were probably being made at the same time from about 1225.

Fabric A has a sandy, even texture with some black inclusions. It is grey in colour with pale buff surfaces when unglazed.

Fabric B is coarser than A, with fine, gritty inclusions of quartz. In jugs the fabric contains dark clay pellets and is similar in colour to A, but in cooking pots it normally has red or purplish red surfaces, though often the surfaces are grey, and can be red throughout.

The fabric of BPT 114 is similar to that of B cooking pots but has larger quartz grits and frequent calcareous inclusions. Surfaces are usually red or grey and feel sandy.

FORMS

- 1-2. Jugs (Fabric A - BPT 26) - Coil-built jugs with rims made separately and finished on a turntable. External green glaze. Though shape and size can vary, typical jugs are wide-bodied with plain bases, bridge spouts, and narrow but thick strap handles, which often have rouletting and sometimes round stabbed holes. Typical decoration includes thumbled strips or rouletting at the rim, ledges at the neck and shoulder with wavy combing and rouletting around the body. Rouletting is often found just above the basal angle.
- 3-4. Jugs (Fabric B - BPT 27) - The general shapes are narrower than fabric A jugs, with standard collared rims, broader, thinner handles, and almost invariably frilly bases. Decoration includes cross-hatching and vertical and horizontal grooving, sometimes with overlying applied decoration, which can be quite elaborate, as for example in no 4 which shows a decoration of 'stick men' around the body of the pot.
5. Cooking pots (Fabric B - BPT 32) - Hand-built cooking pots, often with rims finished on a turntable. Rims are often thumbled, and wavy combing, single line grooving and vertical applied strips are common body decoration. Bases sag and are typically knife-trimmed.
6. Cooking pots (BPT 114) - Very similar to fabric B cooking pots in form and decoration, but usually with taller rims.

Tripod pitchers are known in fabric A, and unglazed bowls, bee skeps and other forms in fabric B.

NORTH WILTSHIRE (MINETY) (Fig 2)

Vessels in this ware, thought to have been manufactured in the area around Minety in North Wiltshire, were common in the Bristol area from the 12th to the 15th century.

Grey to black fabric, sometimes with buff or pinkish-buff surfaces. Many grains of rounded, often fossiliferous limestone occur, though this is often burnt or leached out internally leaving the surfaces pitted.

FORMS

7. Tripod pitchers (BPT 18) - Hand-built, large globular jugs with tubular spouts and three feet, and curved strap handles with slashes. Thin external green glaze, often patchy. They often have combed line decoration around body.
8. Cooking pots (BPT 84) - Wheel-thrown cooking pots with everted rims. Green glaze on the top and inside of the rim. Decoration similar to 7 but formalised into oblique bands.

Also occurs less commonly in a variety of other utilitarian forms.

? BATH (BPT 46) (Fig 2)

The source of this ware (also known as Bath "A" ware (Vince 1979, 127-128) and Cheddar "J" ware (Rahtz 1979, 310) is uncertain, but it is likely that it originated near Bath since this is where the earliest forms occur. It first appeared in Bristol in the 12th century and was very common in the 13th and 14th centuries.

Grey fabric, often with lighter grey or buff surfaces. Highly micaceous with flint and occasional chalk inclusions. The earliest material tends to have a fairly large proportion of flint. Generally unglazed, though glazed jugs occasionally occur.

FORMS

9. Cooking pots - Generally undecorated cooking pots with characteristic rim shapes. Hand built, though the rims were finished on a turntable from the beginning of the 13th century.
10. 'Honey pots' - Flat-based vessels with incurving walls and the same rim forms as cooking pots. A small round hole in the vessel wall about 2cm above the base is a characteristic feature. Possibly bee skeps.

REDCLIFFE (Fig. 2)

Redcliffe wares, named after wasters found at Redcliffe Hill in Bristol (Dawson and Ponsford forthcoming), were first produced around the middle of the 13th century and continued in production until the late 15th century. From the beginning of the 14th century they replaced Ham Green wares as the most commonly occurring glazed pottery in Bristol.

Generally a buff sandy fabric with a grey core, though occasionally reduced pale bluish grey throughout. Sometimes also in a slightly softer fabric which is usually pinkish towards unglazed surfaces, or in a much harder fired fabric. Characteristic inclusions are fragments of shale, clay pellets, limestone and ubiquitous quartz sand.

FORMS

11. Cooking pots (BPT 85) - Deep, internally glazed bowl-shaped vessels with everted rims.
12. Skillets (BPT 131) - Very like small cooking pots with distinctive curved thick projecting handles.
- 13-15. Jugs (BPT 118) - Wheel-thrown jugs with external, usually green glaze. Early jugs such as no. 13 tend to be tall and highly decorated, with frilled bases and wide strap handles decorated with slashes. Bridge spouts are typical, often with 'bearded' slash surround. Applied strip decoration is common, often in a contrasting dark-firing clay which appears brown beneath the glaze. Rarely the colour scheme is reversed with white strips on red bodies. Between c. 1280 and c. 1350 jugs have a sophisticated appearance. They are highly decorated have slashed strap handles and splayed bases. No 14 is a typical example of a jug of this period. Bands of combing is also a common decorative technique in the 14th century. Late jugs, such as no 15, are usually more squat, with simple bases, uncollared rims and pulled spouts. Strap handles are broad and undecorated, with thumbled pads where they join the body. Glaze is often confined to a bib. Decoration often includes thumbled applied strips around the girth and neck.

Also occurs less commonly as bowls and in a large variety of other forms.

MALVERN (Fig 3)

Pottery was manufactured in the region of the Malvern Hills from the 12th century (Vince 1977), and Malvernian wares began to appear regularly in Bristol in the late 14th century and continued until the 17th century. During the late 15th and early 16th centuries they were at their most common and the Malvern pottery of this period is among the most frequently recovered from excavations in the city.

The fabric is usually pink to pinkish-buff with varying amounts of sand and some haematite and diagnostic, pinkish white rock fragments (which can be quite large), though the earlier material is often browner and more sandy. Most vessels are only partially glazed and the glaze generally appears orange, though it can be greenish, and often over-

lies a pinkish red wash - a fairly characteristic feature of some forms of the ware. (BPT197).

FORMS

16. Bowls - Open bowls with internal glaze except near the rim.
17. Pipkins - Small open cooking pots with three feet and projecting handles. Internally glazed to just below the rim.
18. Jars - Usually undecorated apart from a slight ridge at the neck and unglazed except at the inside of the rim (usually over a wash), though splashes from this do sometimes occur on the inside. Some vessels have thumbled strips at the neck and these often have characteristic slight footings at the base.
19. Jugs - Bulbous jugs with strap handles and pulled spouts. Shallow, sometimes double groove around the middle of the body. Often with a thick bib glaze. Other forms of jug also occur in this fabric, but these are less common in Bristol.
20. Flagons - Distinctively shaped vessels with characteristic splayed bases, rounded rims and rod handles. Unglazed except for a splash opposite the handle. Also occurs as skillets, tripod cisterns and chafing dishes

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE (FALFIELD)

(Fig 3)

This ware, often called 'Cistercian ware', was common in Bristol throughout the 16th century and continued, though less commonly, into the 17th century.

Reddish orange to purplish black, usually hard-fired fabric with some sand, haematite and pale yellow inclusions. Very dark brown or purplish black glaze, often with a metallic sheen. (BPT 266).

FORMS

21. Cups (1) - Cups with a bulbous body and two opposed handles. Overall glaze.
22. Cups (2) - Upright cups with two opposed handles. Many ridges around the body with a particularly pronounced ridge near the rim. Overall glaze. This form is not known from the published kiln site (Bennett et al 1975) but has been identified from the fabric.

EAST SOMERSET (WANSTROW) (Fig 4)

Very common in the late 16th and 17th centuries and continuing into the 18th. Manufactured in the area around Wanstrow, near Frome in East Somerset where many wasters have been found.

The fabric is generally dull orange to reddish orange, often with a dark grey core where thicker. Occasionally occurs in a reduced light to mid grey fabric. Though the vessels are finely made, the texture of the clay matrix is fairly coarse, and there are occasionally inclusions of haematite, clay pellets or fine sand. The normal glaze varies in colour from green through orange-green to orange, but some forms are black-glazed. (BPT 96/98).

FORMS

23. Pancheons - Large open bowls with the same rim form as bowls (1). Internally glazed and knife-trimmed at the base.
24. Bowls (1) - Bowls curving inwards at the shoulder with an everted rim. This rim shape is a particular feature of some of the East Somerset forms and is repeated in the pancheons and small pipkins. Knife-trimmed bases. Internally glazed.
25. Bowls (2) - Generally slightly smaller than bowls (1). Rims rounded and bulging slightly inwards. Sometimes with knife-trimmed bases. Internal glaze.
26. Bowls (3) - Shallow, internally glazed bowls with notched cordon just below the rim.
27. Slipware bowls (1) - Shallow bowls/dishes with internal trailed slip decoration. Internal glaze.
28. Slipware bowls (2) - Small bowls with single handles. Internal trailed slip decoration and glaze.
29. Chamber-pots - Vessels with characteristic rim-form and external trailed slip decoration. Glazed internally and externally in a horizontal band over the decoration.
30. Jars (1) - Medium to large jars, internally glazed, with dark grey external surfaces. The base shape is characteristic of East Somerset jars, and also appears in costrels and pipkins.
31. Jars (2) - Small to medium-sized jars with handles. Overall glaze, though externally the glaze often does not reach to the base.
32. Jars (3) - Very similar to jars (2) but with basket handles and small pouring lips.
33. Pipkins (1) - Similar in shape to jars (1), but much smaller and squatter and with three legs, projecting handles and pouring lips.
34. Pipkins (2) - Small vessels with the same rim shape as bowls (1) but with three legs, flat projecting handles and pouring lips. Internally glazed.
35. Slipware flasks - Narrow necked vessels with single rod handles. External white slip and glaze, usually with sgraffito initials on shoulder.
36. Costrels - Very small bottles with two opposed pierced upright lug handles. External glaze. Bases similar in shape to jars.
37. Cups (1) - Two-handled cups in the form of inverted cones set on extremely splayed bases. Overall black glaze.
38. Cups (2) - Slightly globular cups, with single handles and overall black glaze.
39. Chafing dishes - Vessels with pedestal bases which are closed at the bottom with sections cut out from the side. Bowls have small holes or slashes in the side. Four stubs project upwards from the rim, one on each side of two opposed handles. Overall glaze except inside the pedestal.

Also occurs as dripping pans and candlesticks.

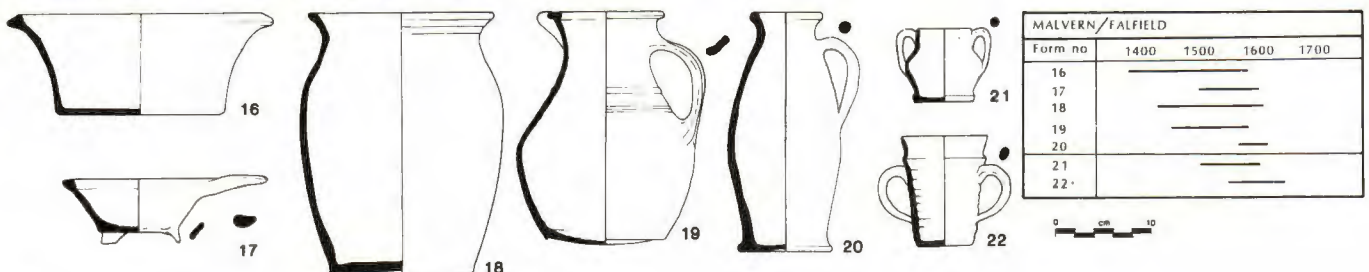


Fig 3. Malvern and Falfield forms with date ranges inset.

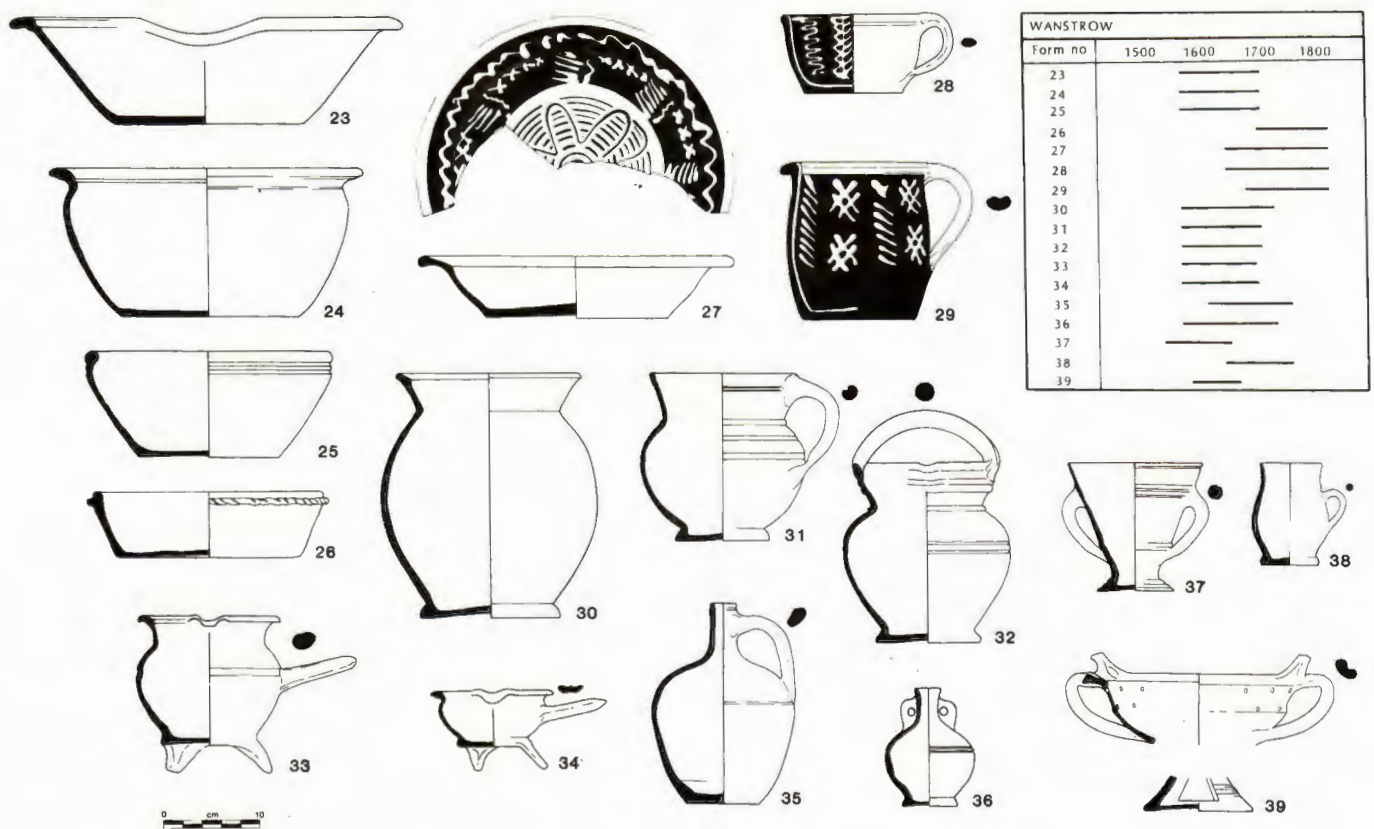


Fig 4. Wanstrow forms with date ranges inset.

WEST SOMERSET (NETHER STOWEY) (Fig 5)

West Somerset wares are by far the most common pottery types found in Bristol in contexts of late 16th- and 17th-century date, and they occur in a large variety of forms. The source of nearly all of the material found in Bristol is Nether Stowey, where large quantities of wasters have been found (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1970), but similar wares, made at Donyatt and Wrangway in south Somerset, are also found on occasion.

The fabric is very variable in both colour and texture. The colour varies from buff through orange and orange-grey to grey and dark grey. It usually has fine sand grains and often larger sand in varying amounts, as well as clay pellets or haematite inclusions. Glazes tend to be thick and treacly or metallic, and slip, when applied, is often splashed carelessly. Runs of glaze across unglazed surfaces of vessels are very common. (BPT 280/284).

FORMS

40. Sgraffito bowls - Bowls with internal slip and glaze, with sgraffito decoration, often in the form of 'scrolls', around the inside of the rim.
41. Sgraffito dishes - Shallow versions of the bowls often with additional internal sgraffito decoration.
42. Pancheons - Wide-rimmed open bowls often with a pouring lip, internally glazed green through greenish brown to orange-brown except near the rim. Occasionally with thumbled strip below the rim.
43. Bowls - Wide, shallow bowls with two opposed horizontal handles, internally glazed green to orange-brown. Usually with a thumbled strip just below the rim, and often with a scratched wavy line on the inside of the rim.
44. Colanders - Bowls with holes pierced through the base and bottom of the side. Internally slipped and glazed. Two opposed horizontal handles.
45. Jars (1) - Large jars, internally glazed green, brown or orange. Often have traces of white slip at the rim. Thumbled strips around the collar and often around the body. Shallow grooves around the upper part of the body.
46. Jars (2) - Medium sized jars, very similar to jars (1) in form and decoration but without thumbled strips.
47. Jars (3) - Very similar to jars (2), but with a slightly different rim shape, and with pouring lips and basket handles, usually made from four coils of clay twisted together. These sometimes have soot on the base, showing that they were used for cooking.
48. Cooking pots - Similar to jars (2) and (3) but squatter and with two opposed handles and three feet.
49. Slipware jars - Small jars with external white slip beneath an amber glaze, sometimes with patches of green, both usually continuing down the inside of the rim for a few centimetres. These also occur with sgraffito decoration.
50. Cisterns - Large jars with bung-holes near the base. Externally glazed over the upper part of the body. Thumbled strips below the rim and shallow grooves around the upper part of the body. Characteristically decorated with bands of white slip around the shoulder, the slip being scraped and smeared with a spatula to leave waves across the bands. Sometimes have wide strap handles.
51. Chafing dishes - Coarsely-made vessels with pedestal bases usually open at the bottom with small holes pierced through the sides, though occasionally closed at the bottom with triangular sections cut out of the

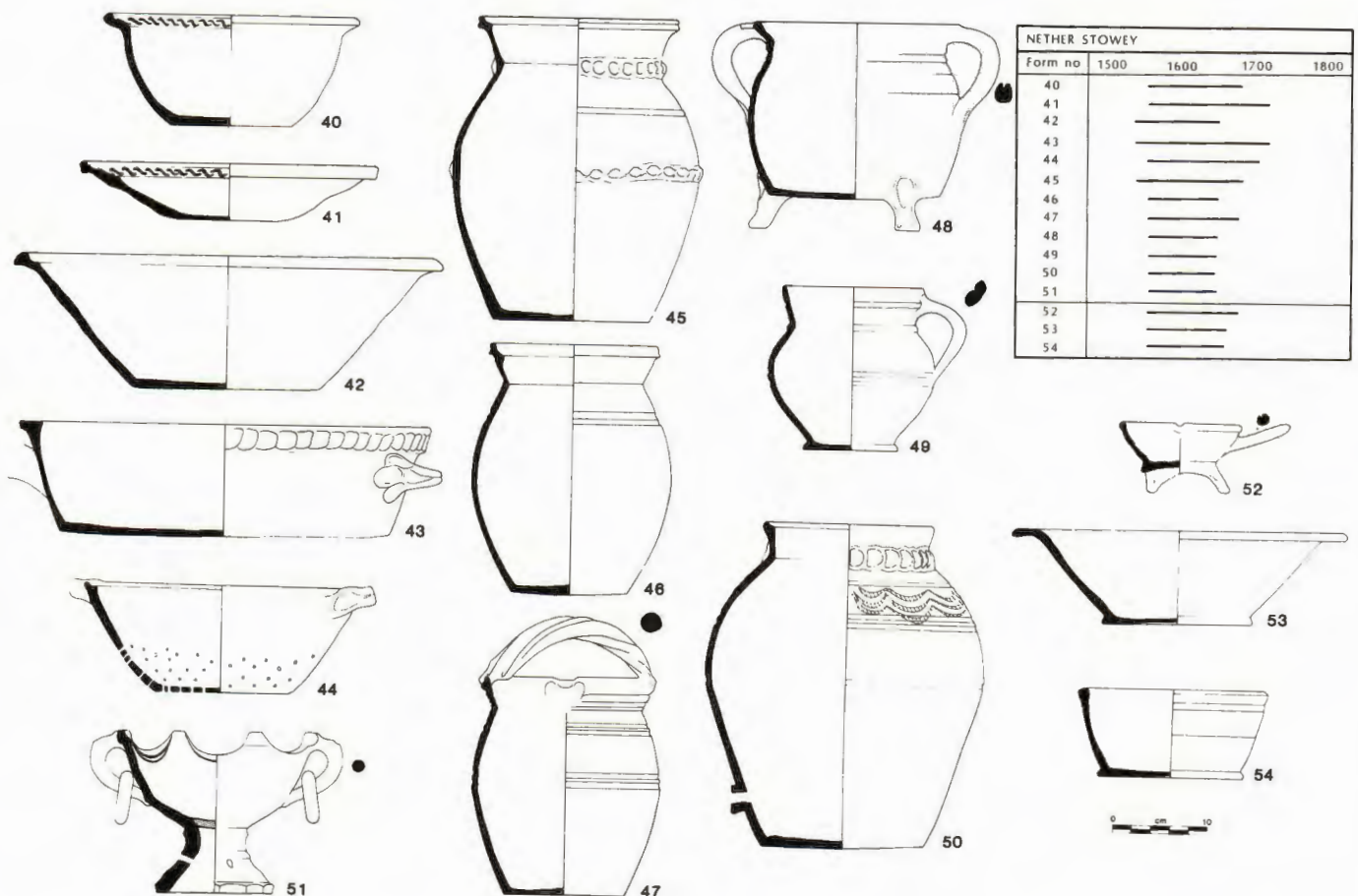


Fig 5. Nether Stowey forms with date ranges inset.

sides. The bowls have sections cut out of the rims and are internally, and usually externally, slipped and glazed, sometimes with sgraffito decoration. Two opposed handles with loose rings looped through. Also occurs as pipkins, dripping pans, cucurbits and candlesticks.

WEST SOMERSET SANDY FABRIC (PROBABLY NETHER STOWEY) (Fig 5)

Though it is possible that the source of this material could be elsewhere since the fabric is quite distinct from the rest of the West Somerset material, it is fairly certain that it too is a Nether Stowey product.

The fabric varies in colour from red or purple to light grey or dark grey. Smooth clay matrix, slightly micaceous with sand grains usually in large amounts. (BPT 280/284).

FORMS

52. Pipkins - Very small bowls with three legs, projecting handles and pouring lips. Internally glazed green.
53. Bowls (1) - Open bowls with everted rims. Internal pale green glaze over a white slip. Glaze often splashed over the outside.
54. Bowls (2) - Fairly upright bowls with rounded rims. Shallow horizontal grooves around the outside. Internal white slip and pale green glaze, both often splashed over the outside.

Also occurs as jars and unslipped bowls.

NORTH DEVON (Fig 6)

North Devon wares began to appear in Bristol about 1600, and became common from the second half of the 17th century onwards. They were produced in the area around Barnstaple and Bideford (Grant 1983).

Light grey fabric, with a smooth clay matrix, pinkish buff towards unglazed surfaces. Many large, generally angular, quartzitic inclusions, though sometimes these are missing (gravel-free ware). Most of the coarseware forms always occur in gravel-tempered ware, whereas the fine-wares are always gravel-free; some forms, however, can occur in either. Glaze usually appears green or orange-brown, and runs of glaze across unglazed surfaces are common. (BPT 112).

FORMS

55. Sgraffito dishes - Dishes with a characteristic rim form. Amber glaze over white slip with sgraffito decoration. Always gravel-free.
56. Pancheons - Large, open bowls, often with two opposed small horizontal handles. Internal glaze. Always gravel-tempered.
57. Bowls (1) - Internally glazed open bowls. Gravel-tempered.
58. Bowls (2) - Small internally glazed bowls with rounded rims.
59. Cooking pots - Tripod cooking pots with two opposed upright rod handles. Internally glazed. Usually

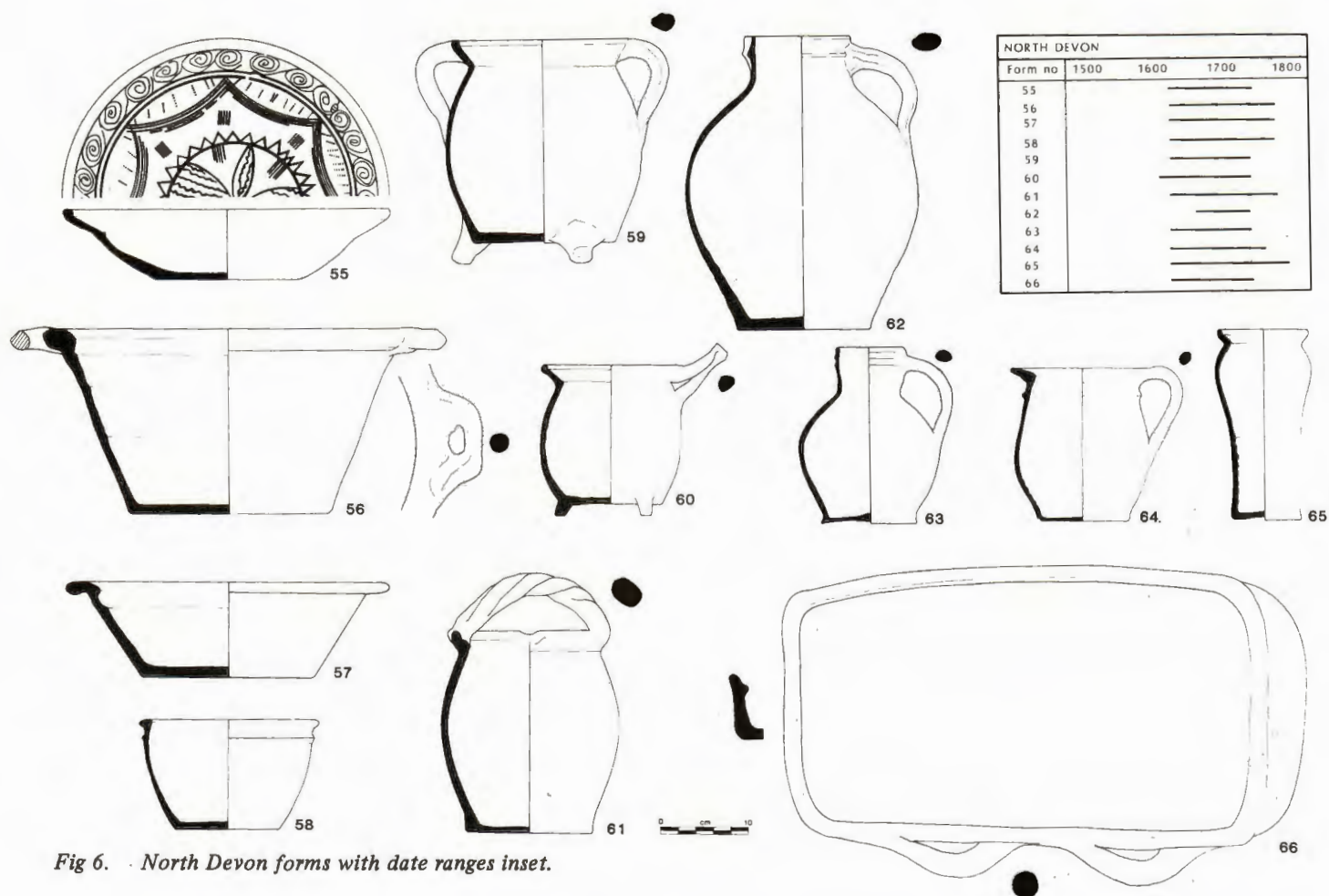


Fig 6. North Devon forms with date ranges inset.

- heavily sooted on the outside. Gravel-tempered.
60. Pipkins - Small cooking pots with three feet and return handles. Internally glazed. Usually heavily sooted on the outside. Generally gravel-tempered.
 61. Basket-handled pots - Internally glazed jars with pouring lips and basket handles. These often occur with gravel-tempered body and gravel-free handle.
 62. Pitchers - Large internally glazed jugs with pouring lips and plain rod handles. Internal glaze.
 63. Jugs - Relatively small jugs with plain rod handles. Internal glaze.
 64. Chamber pots - Internally glazed vessels with fairly flat rims and plain rod handles. Characteristic cordon decoration about 3-4 cm below the rim.
 65. Pilchard pots - Narrow, distinctively shaped jars. Internal glaze. Usually gravel-tempered.
 66. Dripping pans - Large hand-built rectangular jars with two horizontal handles on the same side. Internal glaze. Always gravel-tempered.

Also occurs as colanders.

BRISTOL/STAFFORDSHIRE TYPE (Fig 7)

These wares began to appear towards the end of the 17th century and were common thereafter. It is sometimes difficult to be certain as to source since the pottery from both areas was so similar, but it is likely that most of the wares found in Bristol were made locally.

Creamy white to pale buff fabric, occasionally with streaks of red clay. Decorated with red, and usually also white, slip beneath a pale yellow glaze. (BPT 100/101).

FORMS

67. Dishes - Press-moulded dishes with trailed, and usually combed-and-feathered slip decoration. Often with pie-crust or cockle-shell decoration at the rim. Considerable variation in size.
68. Bowls - Small bowls with external red trailed slip decoration.
69. Handled bowls - Two-handled vessels shaped rather like very wide cups. Dots and trailed and combed slip decoration on outside.
70. Mugs/cups - Large cups with single handles. Dots and trailed and combed slip decoration on outside.
71. Mugs/tankards - Upright tankards with a mottled brown glaze.
72. Porringers - Small bowls with single flat handles and external slip decoration. These are probably Staffordshire products.

Also occurs as chamber pots, rectangular dishes, lids, candlesticks and jugs.

TIN-GLAZED WARES (Fig 7)

Tin-glazed earthenware, or delft, was produced in Bristol from about 1650 (Pountney 1920, 4) and occurs commonly on excavations in contexts dating from the end of the 17th century onwards. There were other sources of very similar tin-glazed wares, but it is likely that most of the English material found in the area was locally produced.

Pale creamy white or pinkish white fabric, usually smooth but sometimes with sand in varying amounts. Overall tin glaze is generally white but sometimes has a

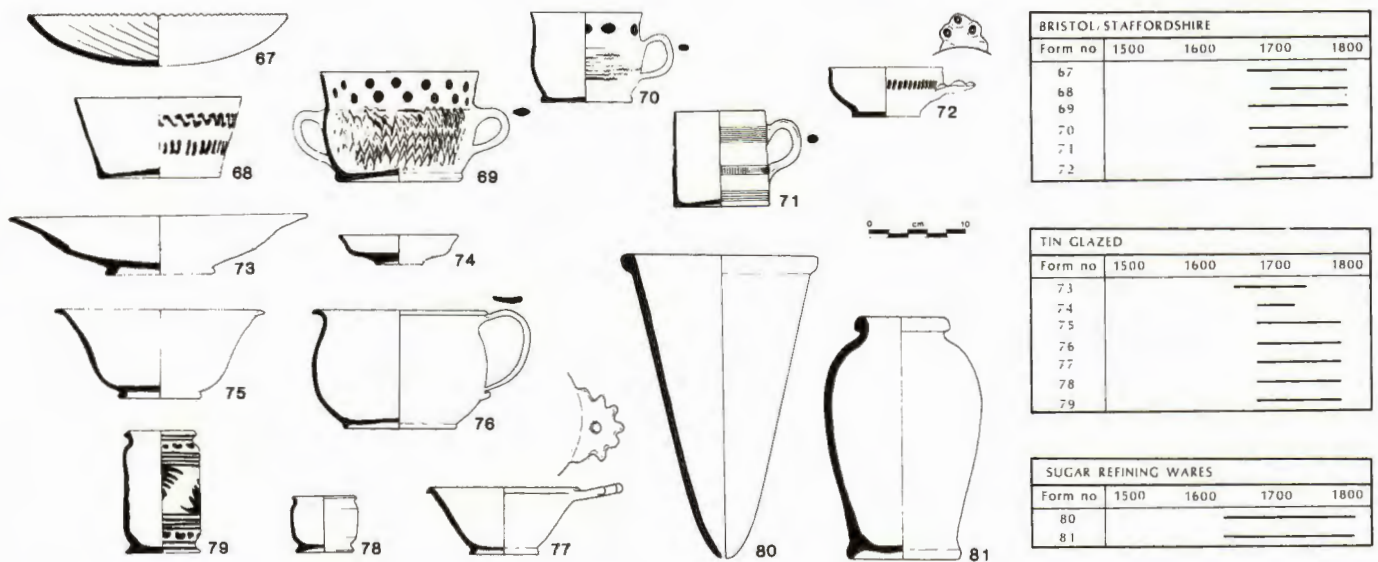


Fig 7. Other post-medieval pottery forms with date ranges inset.

blue tint. Shallow bowls and dishes often had an external pale green lead glaze in the 17th century. Many forms have painted decoration, usually in blue, but often also in a number of colours, particularly purple, pale blue, turquoise and yellow. (BPT 99).

FORMS

73. Dishes - Wide dishes with foot rings, shaped very like more open and flattened versions of the bowls. The foot ring often has a hole drilled through it for suspension.
74. Saucers - Small dishes with upright rims, usually internally glazed only.
75. Bowls - Small open bowls generally with simple rims and foot rings, or occasionally pedestal bases. Usually decorated internally in blue and purple, and occasionally also externally decorated.
76. Chamber pots - Thin-walled vessels with out- or overturned rims and short footings. Thin strap handles often with a scroll at the bottom. Undecorated.
77. Porringer - Small bowls with foot rings and flat pierced handles. Often with polychrome decoration on the inside and on the handle.
78. Ointment pots - Small distinctively shaped, upright jars. Usually undecorated.
79. Albarellos - Drug jars shaped like tall ointment pots, with external painted decoration, usually blue but occasionally with other colours. Illustrated decoration is typical.

Also occurs as mugs. Highly decorated wares such as those commonly on view in museums are rarely found on excavations.

SUGAR REFINING WARES (BPT 310) (Fig 7)

80. Sugar loaf moulds - Distinctively shaped conical vessels with a small hole in the tip. These usually occur in a fairly smooth red earthenware fabric, often with central grey zone, and with some grog and very fine white inclusions, with characteristic smooth interior surface. Unglazed. Other fabrics occur less frequently, including a coarse red earthenware with large mica plates, and a local stoneware.
81. Syrup jars - Plain unglazed jars in the same earthenware fabric as the sugar loaf moulds.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors are indebted to Mike Ponsford for reading through the early drafts and providing much useful advice, and also for the use of his notes on the Bristol pottery type series, particularly with regard to the medieval wares, to Terry Pearson who provided extremely helpful advice on the identification of the products of the Somerset kilns, especially the Nether Stowey material, and to Rod Burchill for his helpful comments.

REFERENCES

- Barton, K.J., 1963. A Medieval Pottery Kiln at Ham Green, Bristol. *Trans. Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.*, 82, 95-126.
- Barton, K.J., 1964. The Excavation of a Medieval Bastion at St. Nicholas' Almshouses, King Street, Bristol. *Medieval Archaeol.* 8, 184-212.
- Bennett, J., Ponsford, M.W., and Solley, W., 1975. Falfield, Heneage Court in P. Fowler and J. Bennett (eds), *Archaeology and the M5 motorway 3rd report. Trans. Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.*, 93, 125-126.
- Coleman-Smith, R. and Pearson, T., 1970. *Excavations at Donyatt and Nether Stowey, Somerset*. Donyatt Research Group 1970 Interim Report.
- Dawson, D.P. and Ponsford, M.W., forthcoming. *Salvage Excavations at Redcliffe Hill, 1970* in D.P. Dawson and M.W. Ponsford (eds) *Ceramics in Bristol 1000 to 1750* Bristol Museum Monograph No. 4.
- Good, G.L., 1987. The Excavation of Two Docks at Narrow Quay, Bristol, 1978-9. (ST 586726). *Post Medieval Archaeol.*, 21.
- Grant, A., 1983. *North Devon Pottery: The Seventeenth Century*.
- Ponsford, M.W. 1979, *Bristol Castle: Archaeology and the History of a Royal Fortress*. Unpublished M Litt thesis, University of Bristol.
- Ponsford, M.W., forthcoming. *Excavations at Greyfriars, Bristol, 1973*.
- Pountney, W.J., 1920. *Old Bristol Potteries*.
- Rahtz, P.A., 1979. *The Saxon and Medieval Palaces at Cheddar*. British Archaeological Reports, 65.
- Vince, A. 1977. The Medieval and Post-Medieval Ceramic Industry of the Malvern Region: The Study of a Ware and its Distribution, in D.P.S. Peacock (ed), *Pottery and Early Commerce: Characterisation and the Trade in Roman and Later Ceramics*, 257-305.
- Vince, A., 1979. The Medieval Pottery Fabric Types in B. Cunliffe (ed), *Excavations in Bath, 1950-1975*, 27-38.
- Williams, B., forthcoming. *Excavations at 94-102 Temple Street, Bristol, 1975*. *Trans. Bristol Gloucestershire Archaeol. Soc.*

AVON ARCHAEOLOGY 1986 & 1987

R. Iles & A. Kidd

This review covers the years 1986 and 1987. That period has seen continuing activity on an encouragingly wide-range of excavation projects throughout Avon. Probably the largest current excavation is at Acton Court, Iron Acton, where Bath Archaeological Trust are both excavating and recording the standing structures as part of English Heritage programme to restore the building.

The period 1986-87 has also seen a great increase in people recording and surveying the County's archaeology. Two BAARG Parish surveys, of Cleeve and Cold Ashton, were completed largely due to the efforts of Mary Campbell. An intensive survey of Congresbury has been finished by Dick Broomhead for Avon County Council. Area surveys for the Mendips AONB and the Avon Levels have been finished by Peter Ellis and Richard McDonnell respectively. The Royal Commission on Historic Monuments has been up-dating its surveys for the Ordnance Survey for Clevedon, Keynsham and Nailsea. We can now truly say that such sites as Nailsea Glassworks and the Elms Colliery are truly on the map!

As ever we are grateful for all items reported to the Sites and Monuments Record during the past couple of years. Unfortunately due to high publication costs new finds to be published will probably have to be more selective. However with the provision of new software from English Heritage the computerised Sites and Monuments Record for Avon is now much more able to do searches and print-outs.

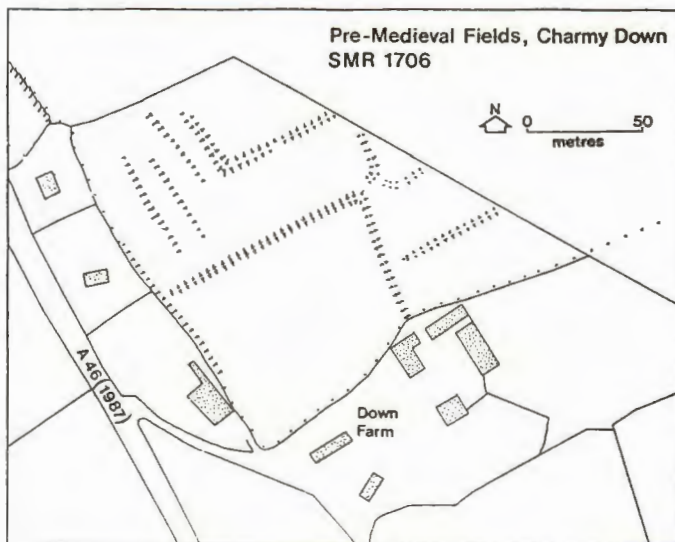


Fig. 1 Charmy Down fields, Batheaston.

PREHISTORIC

BACKWELL, Home Farm, Backwell Hill, c ST493671
Middle Bronze Age side looped spearhead found by Mr M. Vowles. (V. Pirie)

BATH, 9-13 Bath Street and St. Michael's Place,
ST74956473

See Roman section.

BATH, Lower Common, ST74156520

See Roman section.

BATHEASTON, Charmy Down, ST 754696

A measured survey of the pre-medieval fields was carried out by R. Iles and P. Ellis in advance of a new road scheme (Fig. 1). A geophysical survey was also undertaken by HBMC.

CHEW STOKE, Pagans Hill, ST557626

See Roman section

HINTON CHARTERHOUSE, ST8455790

Large chert scraper found in gas pipeline spoil in an area with other pieces of chert and flint. (R. Iles)

KEWSTOKE, Chestnut House, ST34156344

A Middle Bronze Age looped palstave with median rib was found in the garden (Fig 2). Inspection of the find spot area revealed no features or other material. The palstave is complete and in good condition. (V. Pirie)

MARSHFIELD, Clift Hill, ST79427644

See Roman section.

PORTBURY, near St. Mary's Church, c ST503754

Portbury Historical Association recovered a standing stone which had been dumped in a pond near the church and re-erected it between the church and the primary school.

PORTBURY, N of Sheepway Village, ST492769

Fieldwalking over a recently ploughed field yielded three heavily rolled Lower Palaeolithic implements of Greensand Chert (Fig 3). A flint with secondary working was also found but its condition (no rolling) suggests a later date. (R.N. Roberts).

PORTISHEAD, N of Weston Wood, ST456753

Barbed and tanged arrowhead discovered by Mr. C. Dunn; who reports many other pieces of flint from the same area.

PUBLOW, ST626623

Fieldwalking produced a small flint thumb-nail scraper and two un-touched flakes. (N. Roberts).

STANTON DREW, ST61106265

Flint blade, possibly neolithic, presented to Bristol City Museum. (J. Stewart).

THORNBURY, ST654896

Neolithic flint scraper and a few flint flakes found during

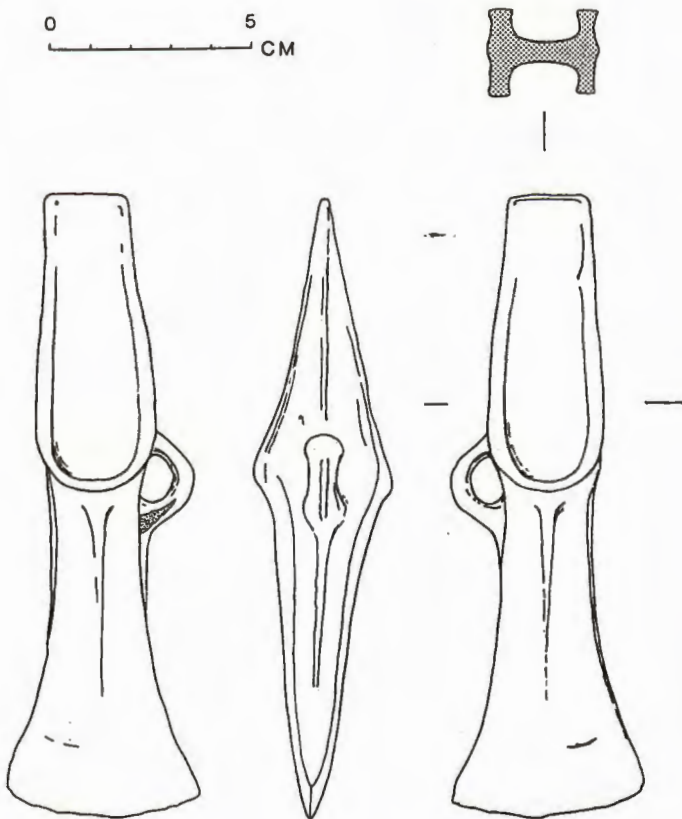


Fig. 2. Middle Bronze Age looped palstave, Chestnut House, Kewstoke (drawn by A.P. Fitzpatrick)

fieldwalking by P. Wildgoose.

TORMARTON, Grange Farm, ST77147860
See Roman section.

TYTHERINGTON, ST674876
See Roman section.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Worle Hill, ST31696235

Worle Hill Project undertook a trial excavation of the cross-ditches outside Worlebury Hillfort. The inner ditch was sectioned close to a causeway in it with the objective of dating both features. Excavation was extended beyond the ditch to assess whether the causeway was protected by a palisade.

The ditch proved to be c4m wide and c1.5m deep with a vertical outer (western) face. Comparatively little silting of the ditch occurred before it was deliberately infilled by the pushing in of the rampart. No evidence was recorded which suggested that the causeway was ancient nor were any traces of a palisade found. A large number of snails were found in the primary fill of the ditch, but nothing suitable to date the cutting or backfilling of the ditch. However, the ditch was certainly infilled by the later Roman period as it was overlain by contexts associated with a small bank which ran parallel to it. The bank is interpreted as a field boundary and third-fourth century AD pottery was found in it. This was sealed by a turf line indicating that the field reverted to pasture and no further activity was identified until the planting of trees in 1823. It is probable that the causeway was created around this time.

A prehistoric date for the cross-ditch and rampart seems likely and as it was apparently not incorporated within the multivallate defences of the hillfort, which approach within c20m of it, it may be that the cross-ditch antedates it. (A.P. Fitzpatrick & V. Pirie).

WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Town Quarry, ST320624

A polished flint axehead of triangular shape was found here at the beginning of the century. (V. Pirie).

WINScombe, Old Quarry Farm, ST402560

A Late Bronze Age socketed sickle, with a closed top socket was found in permanent pasture (Fig 4). There are no features apparent in the immediate area and no other material was found with the sickle. It is complete and in good condition. (V. Pirie).

ROMAN

ALVESTON, SE of Abbey Camp, c ST651885

Roman coins were reported over a wide area. (M. Green).

BACKWELL, Home Farm, c ST498668

Late 1st/2nd century bow brooch were reported. (V. Pirie).

BANWELL, S of Banwell Castle, ST402579

Six Roman coins, two brooches, a Roman spoon and four plain lead seals reported from this site. (V. Pirie).

BANWELL, W of Hillcrest Farm, ST415584

Finds reported as scattered across a field include three Roman brooches, two coins, part of a spoon and a small quantity of Roman pottery. (V. Pirie).

BANWELL, 20 West Garstang, Knightcott, c ST3959

A small bronze of the House of Constantine (324-326) was found in a garden. (V. Pirie).

BATH, 9-13 Bath Street & St. Michael's Place, ST74956473

A large site situated between the hot springs of the King's Bath and the Cross Bath, was excavated down to the 60-foot terrace prior to redevelopment. From the buried soil

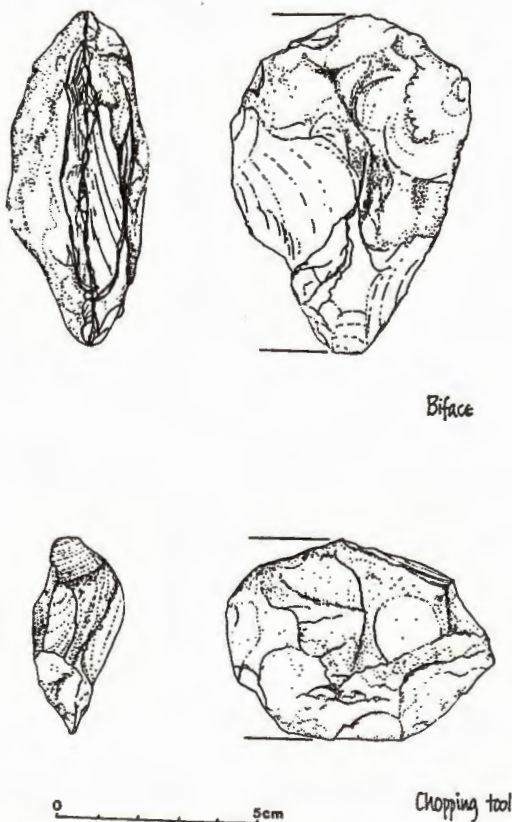


Fig. 3 Lower Palaeolithic chopping tools, North of Sheepway Village, Portbury

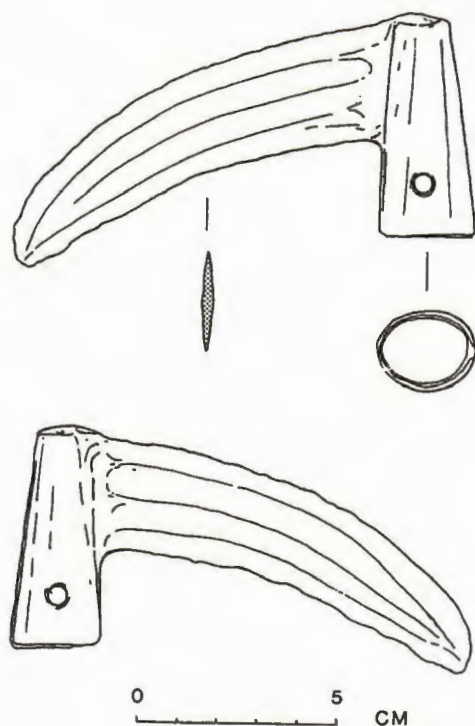


Fig. 4 Late Bronze Age socketed sickle, Old Quarry Farm, Winscombe (drawn by A.P. Fitzpatrick)

lying on the gravel (and from later levels) came several hundred microlithic flint blades, flakes and cores. The earliest Roman feature was a road, 4m wide, running SW-NE, datable c AD 50. This road was truncated by the west wall of the outer precinct of the Temple of Sulis Minerva, and it was diverted around the NW corner of the precinct (as seen in 1879 by J.T. Irvine), in c AD 70. Both the original and the diverted road were abandoned and built over, on the south part of the site by the 3rd century, or possibly earlier. The north part of the site was given over to an open space, where a layer, 30cm deep, of dark brown loam formed. This open space extended some 75m westward from the temple precinct wall, and was bounded on the west by a substantial masonry wall, running N-S. On the west side of this wall was a gravelled surface with wheel-ruts, apparently a road, also running N-S, and to the west of this was the east part of a large multiroomed masonry building. This building was not aligned exactly with the other excavated features, and was of 4th century date. At the extreme SW of the excavation site was found the edge of a deeply-founded building with an apse, possibly a bath-building around the Hot Bath or Cross Bath spring.

The Roman features were covered with "Dark Earth" in those parts of the excavation where stratification to this level was preserved. On this a fragment of a cobbled surface running N-S along the western side of the collapsed precinct wall is interpreted as part of a Saxon road layout. This was blocked after a short time with an E-W clay bank. The bank was buried by accumulating organic rubbish on which occasional late Saxon hearths and floors were constructed. From c 1050 onwards, a lane (surviving until the last century as White Hart Lane) was laid out E-W across the centre of the site. This formed access to Cross Bath from King's Bath. Evidence of craft/industry in the form of leather, wood, horn, and ironworking was recovered. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust).

BATH, Lower Common, ST4156520

Excavation has continued on this site since 1985 (see *BAA* 5, 51).

This has revealed a Roman settlement spread over 2-3 acres, consisting of cobbled yards and masonry buildings, all on the same alignment. There is evidence of glass working and tesserae manufacture. The occupation is dated to the 4th century and may be either a villa or an industrial/agricultural settlement. Underlying this were ditches and late Iron Age hut circles.

Modern Marlborough Lane on the east side of the site is on the same alignment and may therefore be of Roman origin. The settlement/villa stands on a slight spur with a now-culverted brook on the eastern side of the valley forming a clear boundary. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust).

BATH, Roman Baths Museum, ST5096474

Excavations were conducted under the floor at the south end of the men's toilets, situated at the east end of the concert room basement. These revealed the remains of a massive ashlar pier identical to those preserved in the museum a few metres to the west. The link wall continues eastwards and further piers may exist in that direction. A further wall runs north from the pier. This forms a massive substructure to some platform for a public building extending under the Abbey. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust).

BATH, Beau Street, ST74986467

Three small trial trenches were dug prior to possible re-development. Two were in the swimming bath and revealed substantial Roman walls, a gravel floor, makeup, an early ditch and much samian. The third was in the Hot Bath, at the west end of Beau Street, where a N-S stone-capped drain, possibly serving the Cross Bath, was set in 1m of Roman mortar and rubble. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust).

BATH, Nelson Place, Walcot, ST75246566

A watching brief on the removal of an 18th and 19th century cemetery from behind the Methodist chapel recorded stone footings of Roman walls over a considerable area, architectural fragments, a stone coffin, and a little pottery. This may be a funerary/suburb overlap area. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust).

BATH, Cross Bath, ST74956469

A stone ashlar wall, 0.5m thick, was rediscovered (first noted in 1886). It formed an elliptical tank (10 x 12.5m) of which a third occurred within the 19th century chamber under the bath. A stone sluice on the south side of the ellipse survived though much disturbed. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust).

BATH, Julian Road, St. Andrews, ST74576553

A 4th century cobbled yard, of at least 10 x 15m extent, was discovered underneath 3.5m of hillwash and dumps. It produced coins, bronze objects (including a stylus), much pottery and bone which had been crushed underfoot. Its function is unknown although it is presumed to be related to a known cemetery on the other side of the modern road. Below the yard was a probable E-W metalled track. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust).

BLAGDON, West Croft, ST506586

A sestertius of Septimus Severus (AD 193-211) was found in a garden. (V. Pirie).

CHEW STOKE, Pagans Hill, ST557626

Excavations were undertaken around the well at the Roman temple site. Prehistoric features consisted of a linear ditch and, to the NE of this, a hearth, four stakeholes, and dark soil with large pieces of decayed animal bone. Four sherds, possibly of Early Bronze Age date, came from the ditch. There were also many flints scattered across all excavated areas.

The west outer wall of the temple was relocated and further observations were made regarding its construction. The well was relocated and a new section was drawn of the pit and well-mouth. Pieces of oolite limestone and pennant roof-tile were discovered in the upper two layers of the well construction pit suggesting that the well was built at the same time as, or after, the temple itself. There was no further evidence for either the method of construction or the well superstructure.

A trench to the south of the temple located a broad shallow terrace or hollow way which was filled with dark soil containing hundreds of pieces of animal bone (otherwise rare at Pagans Hill), and other finds. In the SE corner of the site a cutting located a robbed out wall-trench, which extends the line of the southern "long building" further south. Outside this was much mortuary material, stucco, and some late Roman coins and pottery. Inside was a dark soil and metalling with further finds. (P.A. Rahtz & L. Watts).

CONGRESBURY, Yew Tree Farm, ST445627

Large quantities of pottery were found on the edge of a rhyne. The pottery is of the local Congresbury ware with a few fragments of undiagnostic kiln furniture. The Congresbury Local History Society conducted a small excavation and found more pottery but no features. It is possible that the pottery was thrown up from rhyne cleaning and that the rhyne itself cuts through a waste dump. (V. Pirie).

CROMHALL, Meadow Road, Leyhill, ST696915

Late 3rd-4th century pottery was found during house-building in 1970/71. It is possible that there were other finds in the adjacent road at the same time, not reported. (W. Solley).

DYRHAM & HINTON, Lowerfields Farm, ST720772

The site of a recently looted Roman burial in a field to the east of the farm was examined by M. Ponsford, J. Stewart and A.J. Parker. Much of the skeleton and some fragments of the lead coffin were recovered. Roman finds from the vicinity of the farm were also seen, including a dozen 3rd and 4th century coins. (A.J. Parker).

HINTON CHARTERHOUSE, ST7958

A watching brief on a gas pipeline revealed Roman finds between ST79545822 and ST79895817. Most finds, and also walls and building materials, occurred between ST79725819 and ST9805817. This is close to the site of a villa dug by Skinner in 1822. (R. Iles).

HINTON CHARTERHOUSE, ST79427644

See Medieval section.

MARSHFIELD, Clift Hill, ST79427644

Fieldwalking produced a handful of flints and 3 fragments of Roman pottery. Two 1 x 1m trenches were excavated, one at this grid reference, the other 18m NW. Both were devoid of finds and features. (A.J. Parker).

MARSHFIELD, Ironmongers Piece, ST798760

The training excavation of the Department of Classics &

Archaeology, University of Bristol, (1986) aimed to elucidate a 5m long straight wall (K. Blockley, *Marshfield Ironmongers Piece Excavations 1982-3*, BAR 1985, fig.6, no.143), which in 1985 appeared to be one side of a building; a dark deposit visible to the west of the wall was thought to be an occupation layer. In 1986, no trace of any return walls could be found, nor any floor. Some areas of pennant sandstone flags, limestone pitching, and crushed limestone surfacing were explored, but previous excavation, exposure to the weather, and subsequent ploughing had rendered these impossible to interpret or relate closely to the wall. The wall was quite insubstantial, and it may in fact be the robbed remains of a yard or fold wall. The supposed occupation layer on its west side was the fill of an irregular pit, some 3 x 2m, which contained a mass of burnt material, apparently the sweepings from hearths; among it is a variety of chaff, weed seeds of different types and some cereal grains, together with animal teeth and butchered bones. Black-burnished pottery from the pit indicates a date not earlier than c AD 370-380, and it could be considerably later. No further excavation is planned on the Ironmongers site. (A.J. Parker).

MARSHFIELD, The Ham, ST78867339

The annual excavation of the Department of Classics and Archaeology, University of Bristol, was held here in summer 1987. An area 15 x 10m was opened and the foundations and floor makeup layers of a Roman building, probably a small house were found. NW of the house was a boundary wall of dry-stone slabs, which appear to have enclosed a roughly-cobbled pound or yard (Fig 5). In the SE corner was found the end of what seems to be a wall of limestone slabs set in clay. It rests on a substantial stone footing of pitched slabs, which is overlain by a deposit full of charcoal, pottery, and other occupation material; this rubbish, which includes 2nd century AD pottery, apparently representing either a yard surface or a destruction layer.

A trial trench, dug some 18m south of the main excavation, showed considerable depth of ploughwash, apparently relatively modern, overlying a buried "turfline" containing tiny fragments of Roman material.

The house and boundary wall to its rear are of the same period, and only one structural phase has been identified. The date of construction is not clear, but fragments of painted wall plaster and worn roof tiles underlie and were incorporated into the floor makeup, so an earlier building, perhaps already ruined and demolished, must have existed nearby, and this implies a date later than the earliest years of Roman Britain anyway. In ploughsoil, just over the cobbling behind the house, was found a coin of (probably) Valens, AD 364-378, implying some kind of occupation in the 4th century.

Fieldwalking reports and the lie of the building indicate that this is only part of a substantial settlement which extends for some distance to the north and east of the 1987 excavations. (A.J. Parker).

OLVESTON, White Cottage, Alveston, ST623878

An extensive spread of Roman pottery has been found to the north and west of White Cottage. (W. Solley).

PORTISHEAD, Nore Road,

One silver denarius of Faustine (141-161) found in a garden. Exact location uncertain. (V. Pirie).

PUXTON, Oldbridge River, Hewish, ST397641

Roman pottery and a few other finds occurred sporadically in the clay dumped on either side of the river during its clearing and cutting back. (V. Pirie).

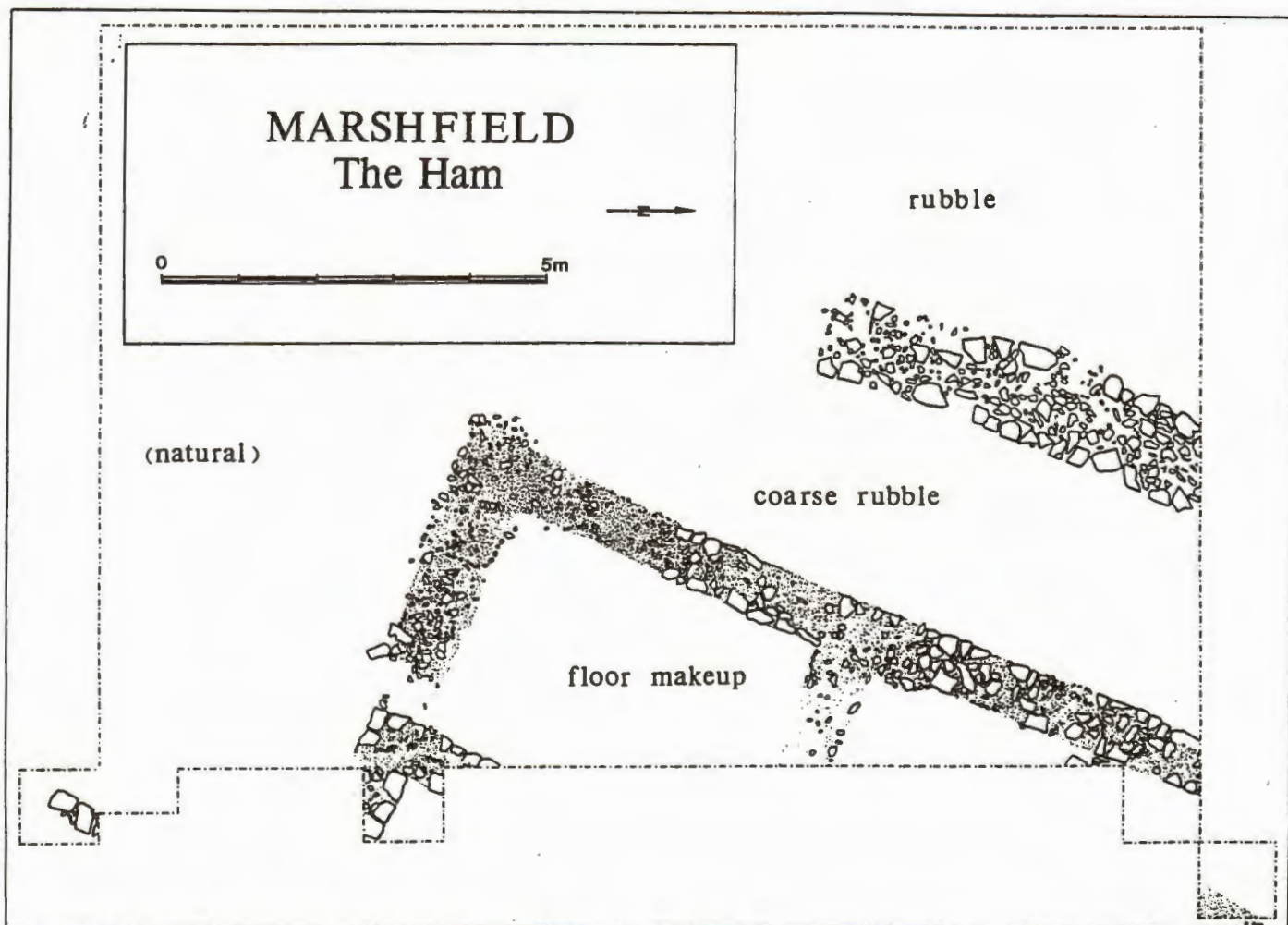


Fig. 5 Roman building, The Ham, Marshfield

STEEP HOLM, ST2260

Fragment of 4th century engraved glass of Winthill bowl type found unstratified on the medieval priory site of St. Michael. Further details to be published in *Britannia* and *Antiquaries Journal*. (S. & J. Rendell).

TORMARTON, Grange Farm, ST77147860

A Roman stone coffin was uncovered during the building of a barn; the site was subsequently examined by G. Stock, R. Iles, and H. White. The coffin was of oolitic limestone, had a semi-circular head end and tapered to a square foot end, with a shallowly arched lid. It contained a child, provisionally aged under 5 years. The burial was aligned approximately N-S. Finds consisted of some Roman pottery but no building remains, and also 3 sherds of Iron Age pottery. It is possible that there is an associated settlement in an undisturbed area to the south.

TYTHERINGTON, Mill Farm, ST674876

A thick scatter of Romano-British sherds were discovered over an area 60 x 50m along with pennant sandstone slabs, building stone, burnt bone and a fragment of burnt flint blade. At the NW edge of the field (ST673878) lies a mound around which were found hypocaust tile fragments and iron nails, perhaps the edge of a villa. (R.J. Howell).

TYTHERINGTON, Summerleaze Farm, ST681885

Two bronze coins (of Constantius II and Magnetius) were found in the 1960s. (R.J. Howell).

WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Worle Hill, ST31696235

See Prehistoric Section.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE, 31 South Road, ST313623

An as of Vespasian (AD69-79) was found in the garden. (V. Pirie).

MEDIEVAL

ALMONDSBURY, Elm Farm, Charlton, ST57857980

Trial excavations were carried out by a Bristol City Museum MSC team, directed by M. Coxah and R. Burchill, on a group of earthworks related to the village of Charlton, which was largely removed for the Brabazon runway.

The earliest occupation consisted of charcoal, a series of post and stake holes and part of a gully. Overlying this was the possible remains of a timber building on stone foundations. There were spreads of stone and cobbling around it and possible impressions in this material for timber uprights. South of the building a stone structure was hearth-shaped, but exhibited little sign of burning. The remains of a pond or substantial ditch was found to the south adjacent to the modern road. It had been partly backfilled with rubble.

The site was then abandoned until a long rectangular stone building with stone floor, frequently rebuilt, was constructed in the 18th century.

Finds from the earliest structures suggested the site had been occupied from the 11th century with a gap in

the 14th - 18th centuries. (M.W. Ponsford).

BANWELL, West Garston, ST392592

A small quantity of medieval pottery was discovered while digging a building trench. (V. Pirie).

BANWELL, Prospect House, Knightcott, ST38405925

A small quantity of medieval pottery was discovered while digging a building trench. (V. Pirie).

BANWELL, S. of Towerhead, ST414592

Three medieval coins were found by a metal detector. (V. Pirie).

BATH, 9-13 Bath Street & St. Michael's Place, ST74956473

See Roman section.

BITTON, ST68977020

A copper alloy candlestick in the form of a ram was found during the cutting of a pipeline. Possibly medieval. (J. Stewart).

BRISTOL, Jacob's Wells Road, ST57697287

In the course of rebuilding a property in Jacob's Wells Road against an existing cliff a small cave with a flowing spring was cleared by developers. The entrance to the cave was through a well-built and massive freestone doorway with square head rebated for a door. The lintel bears the Hebrew inscription "Zacklim" meaning "flowing" (pers. comm. Ralph Emmanuel) a clear reference to the nature of the waterworks. This implies that the find is a Jewish ritual spring and architecturally could date to the 12th century and to a period before the abbot of St. Augustine conduited the free flowing waters of the adjacent Brandon Hill. It is the only surviving mikveh in Britain. The water has been used in corporate water supplies for centuries since the expulsion of English Jews in 1290.

BRISTOL, Park Street to St. John the Baptist Church, c ST5873

A report of a survey of the medieval water system running from the side of Brandon Hill to St. John's Church on the Wall has been published by the Temple Local History Group.

BRISTOL, Welsh Back, ST58937252

In a watching brief for Bristol City Museum at C and D Sheds, Bruce Williams recorded the medieval bank of the river Avon. The bank lay some 16m from the more recent quay wall of the Floating Harbour. Three clear stages of post-medieval reclamation were discerned.

BRISTOL, Newgate, ST59077313

A narrow service trench by S.W.E.B. in the pavement on the south side of Newgate revealed an extensive area of masonry bonded in buff mortar which may be part of the south side of the 12th century Old Gate. A gap in this masonry may represent a door into the gate. Slightly to the east were the fragmentary remains of another wall, probably part of a post-medieval wall which was found in excavations to the south in 1975 on top of the 12th century town wall. About 12m to the east remains were found of another wall bonded in compact red sand. This is likely to be the same as that found in the 1975 excavation and interpreted as the wall constructed in 1312-15 during the Burgesses' Revolt. (R. Jones).

CHEW STOKE, shrunken settlement, ST540598

The Mendip Hills survey recorded house platforms, trackways and other earthworks representing elements of a shrunken settlement at Breach Hill. (P. Ellis).

CLEEVE, ST451650

Excavations continued in 1986 and 1987. The building postulated in 1984 (see BAA 5, 53) has been defined and at least two phases isolated. It is of posthole construction, but the south wall consists of closely set smaller posts with a sill-beam foundation of flat stones outside it suggesting a double wall, whilst the west end was defined by stoney strip with a drain curving round it. Floors, consisting of clay and charcoal, have survived. Large quantities of finds, particularly pottery, were spread over the east end of the building. The building appears to have had a short life in the 12th century after which the site was abandoned. Other postholes were probably for fences, except for the corner of a further posthole building to the south of the main structure (and possibly cut by it).

The terracing appears to go with the beginnings of a field system, and a deep soil against the revetted lynchet suggests ploughing during the period AD 1000-1200. South of this field cultivation trenches suggest perhaps an area of garden. (M.W. Ponsford).

CLEVEDON, Walton Road, ST41717230

A cast uniface lead token with a bale mark was found in a garden. Probably 14th or 15th century. (J.M.M. Dagnall).

COMPTON MARTIN, field system, ST545593

The Mendip Hills survey has recorded earthwork banks running N-S and E-W, forming rectilinear closes. (P. Ellis).

CONGRESBURY, Venus Street, ST441631

A copper alloy alnagers seal was found in a garden. (J. Stewart).

HINTON CHARTERHOUSE, ST781577

Over 50 sherds of medieval pottery and a smaller quantity of Roman pottery found during the laying of a gas pipeline. (R. Iles & H. White).

HUTTON, Ludwell, ST360593

Earthworks east of Ludwell Farm were surveyed by a Bristol University Extra-Mural Class. Documentary records suggest that Ludwell was a small hamlet within the combined manor of Elborough and Hutton in the Middle Ages. By the mid-thirteenth century the holding of the Payne family at Ludwell was of quasi-manorial status. An extent of Hutton manor in 1309 (BRO/AC/M8/LO) records lands at Ludwell and implies the existence of at least two dwellings belonging to John Payne, free tenant, and John de Lodwelle, tennant-at-the-lord's will. Contributors to the 1327 Lay Subsidy listed under Hutton included Johanne Lodwelle and Adam Lodwelle, both of whom were assessed for 18d. There are several later references to tenements and holdings in Ludwell, including a late sixteenth century terrier recording two dwellings and a mill (BRO/AC/M8/1a/Roll 7). Some contraction had occurred by 1748 when a deed mentions "all that messuage or mansion house called Great Ludwell" and "that little parrook of Land whereon there lately stood a Tenement called Little Ludwell" (BRO/AC/ex Box 10), and an estate map of 1759 shows only the present farmhouse (BRO/AC/PL/85/1). The survey confirmed that there had been at least one more substantial holding in addition to the present farm; while much of the site had been disturbed by old drainage grypes, stone-digging and spoil-tipping, it was still possible to identify several banks and ditches which appear to repre-

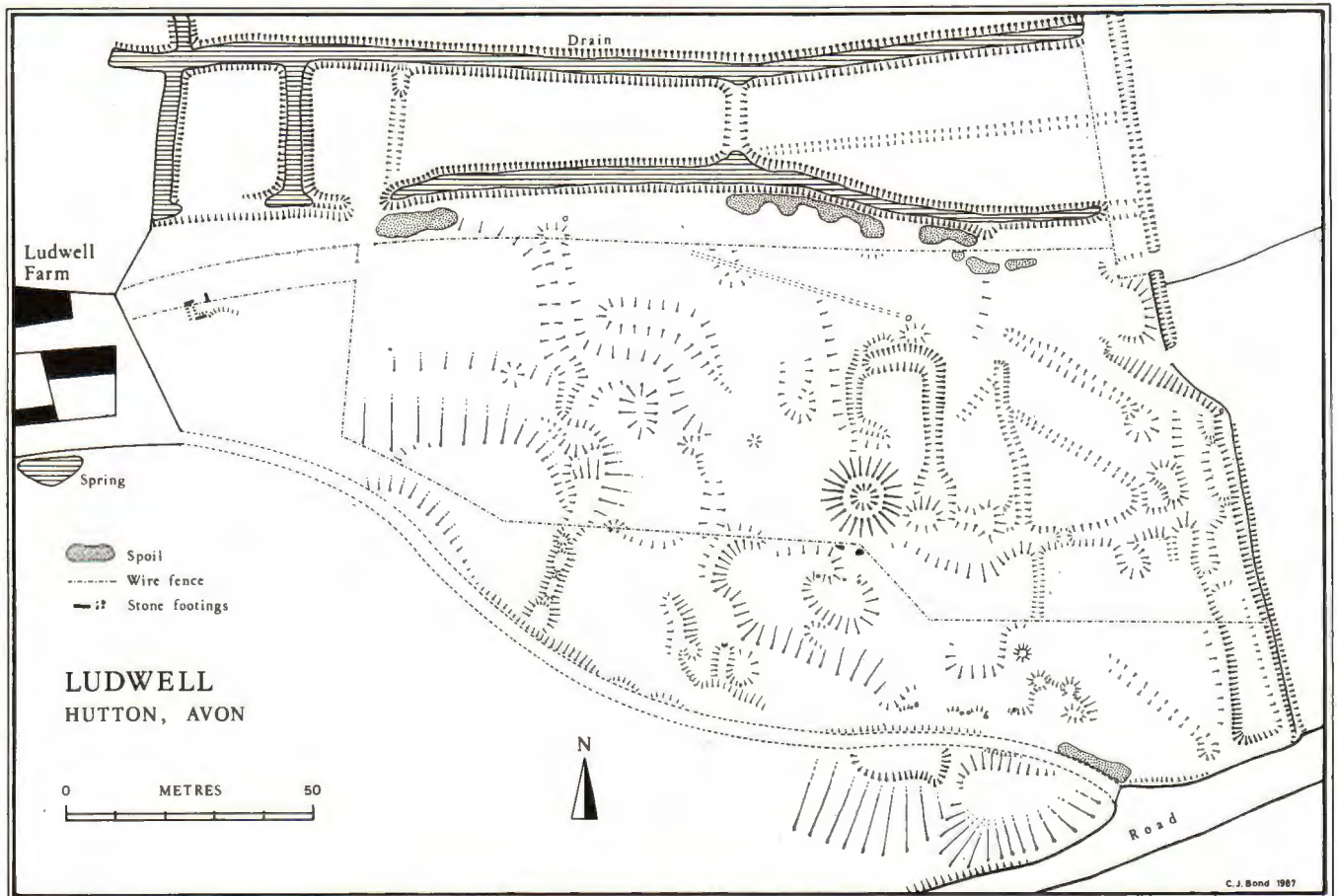


Fig. 6 Ludwell deserted settlement, Hutton

sent farmyard enclosures, several areas of stone footings and the foundations of a circular stone building which was most probably a dovecote. (C.J. Bond).

IRON ACTON, Acton Court, ST677843

Large-scale excavations in 1986-7 by the Bath Archaeological Trust examined the demolished part of the main court, the courtyard on the east side of the house, and the area to the south.

Much more is now known about the layout of the medieval house which preceded the Tudor mansion. The earliest building located so far is 13th century. The house was completely re-modelled in the 14th century, possibly when it was acquired by the Poyntz family, and a moat was constructed. This has been sectioned on three sides of the house, and a lot of early-mid 16th century material, dumped immediately prior to the filling-in of the moat, has been found. The west side of the 15th century gate-house and the central part of the south range were excavated. Although most of the medieval house was demolished in the 1540's, they survived to be incorporated in the Tudor mansion. Another curious survival was the oblique building, possibly a hall, which remained in the angle between the Tudor west and north ranges.

East of the house, a second range was unexpectedly found. This probably contained stables and more lodgings, and appears to date from the 1540's.

Trial work in the field to the north and west of the house, investigating the earthworks surveyed by Rob Iles (BAA 5, 55-56), confirmed his view that the double-ditch and bank overlying ridge-and-furrow, was a medieval boundary. In addition the pond to the north of the house,

thought to be a flooded quarry, proved to be late-medieval/early Tudor, and may be a formal garden feature. A second stone-lined pond was found south-west of the house. Both could well be associated with the sundial, dated 1520, which was found in 1985. (R. Bell).

KENN, Kenn Mill, ST410695

A silver penny probably of Edward I, Lincoln Mint, possibly minted 1280-1281, was discovered. (V. Pirie).

KEYNSHAM, KEYNSHAM ABBEY, ST655688

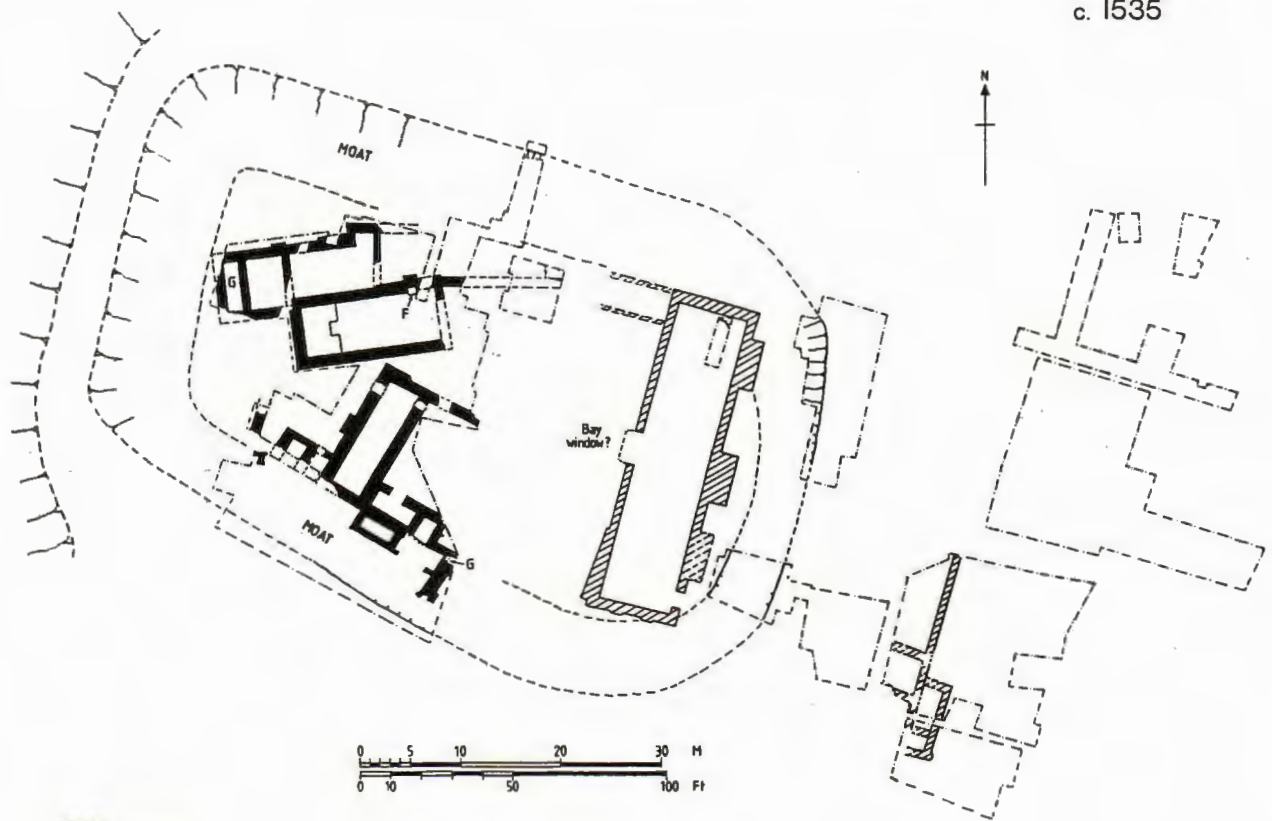
Excavations continued by the Folk House Archaeological Society. These revealed four bell-casting pits to the west of the furnace in the floor of the chapter house. A room or undercroft to the south of the chapter house is also being investigated. (B.J. Lowe).

STOKE GIFFORD, Harry Stoke, ST62207914

Trial excavations were conducted by a Bristol City Museum MSC team, directed by R. Burchill and A. Nicholson, on the deserted medieval village of Harry Stoke prior to re-development. Two small trenches were excavated on the northern edge of the earthworks. One trench located the remains of a dry-built stone wall which defined this boundary, with a stone yard inside it. The second trench, 10m to the south west, located the remains of a substantial stone-founded building of two phases constructed on a terrace. The structures had stone floors and large parts of the pennant roof had fallen onto part of the floor. The pottery suggested 14th - 15th century date for the structures. (M.W. Ponsford).

Excavations are continuing (1987-8) in the same field

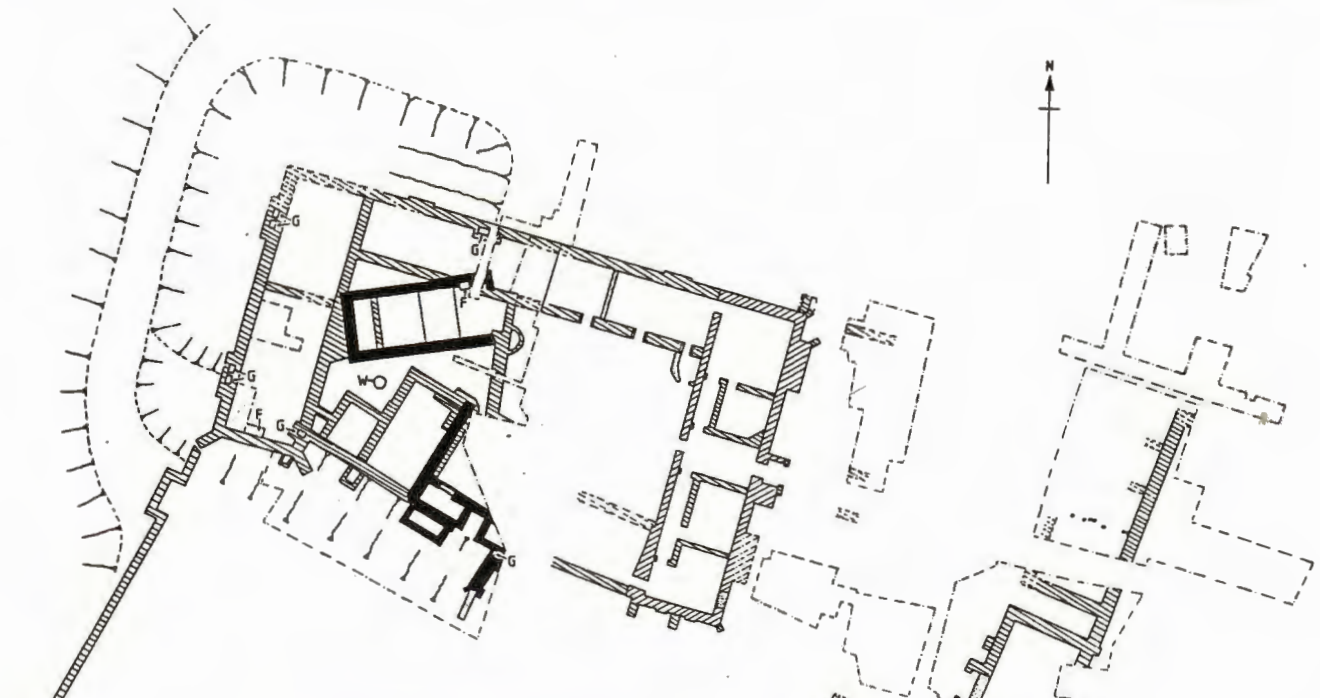
c. 1535



- Pre-1530's
- ▨ 1534-35
- G Garderobe
- F Fireplace

Fig. 7 Acton Court c1535, Iron Acton

c. 1555



- Pre-1530's
- ▨ 1534-35
- ▩ Late 1530's-1540's
- Early 1550's
- G Garderobe
- F Fireplace
- W Well

Fig. 8 Acton Court c1555, Iron Acton

under the direction of A. Young for Avon County Council.

WINSCOMBE, ST441569

The Mendip Hills Survey recorded earthwork banks on Winterhead Hill which represent the remains of field and enclosure boundaries. (P. Ellis).

POST-MEDIEVAL

BATH, Nelson Place, Walcot, ST75246566
See Roman section.

BATH, ST74926488
17th century levels of the City Ditch were examined. (P. Davenport, Bath Archaeological Trust).

BRISTOL, Kingsweston House, ST542773
Excavation and survey by B. Williams and J. Bryant for

Bristol City Museum in advance of redevelopment and landscaping of standing remains at Kingsweston House, revealed details of the Loggia/Laundry and Brewhouse designed by Sir John Vanbrugh for Edward Southwell from 1710. Built into the hillside to the SW of the loggia were the foundations of a pre-Vanbrughian building, recorded in Kip's (1712) drawing of Kingsweston Estate, and representing an extension to the pre-Loggia Banqueting Hall.

BURRINGTON, ST487583
The Mendip Hills Survey recorded low linear banks running N-S and E-W which apparently respected by an area of mining to the west. (P. Ellis).

NAILSEA, Nailsea Glassworks, ST477709
Excavations by Avon Industrial Buildings Trust have continued revealing the complete outline of the cone wall and, to the south of this, a 10 stage blowing hole. It is hoped

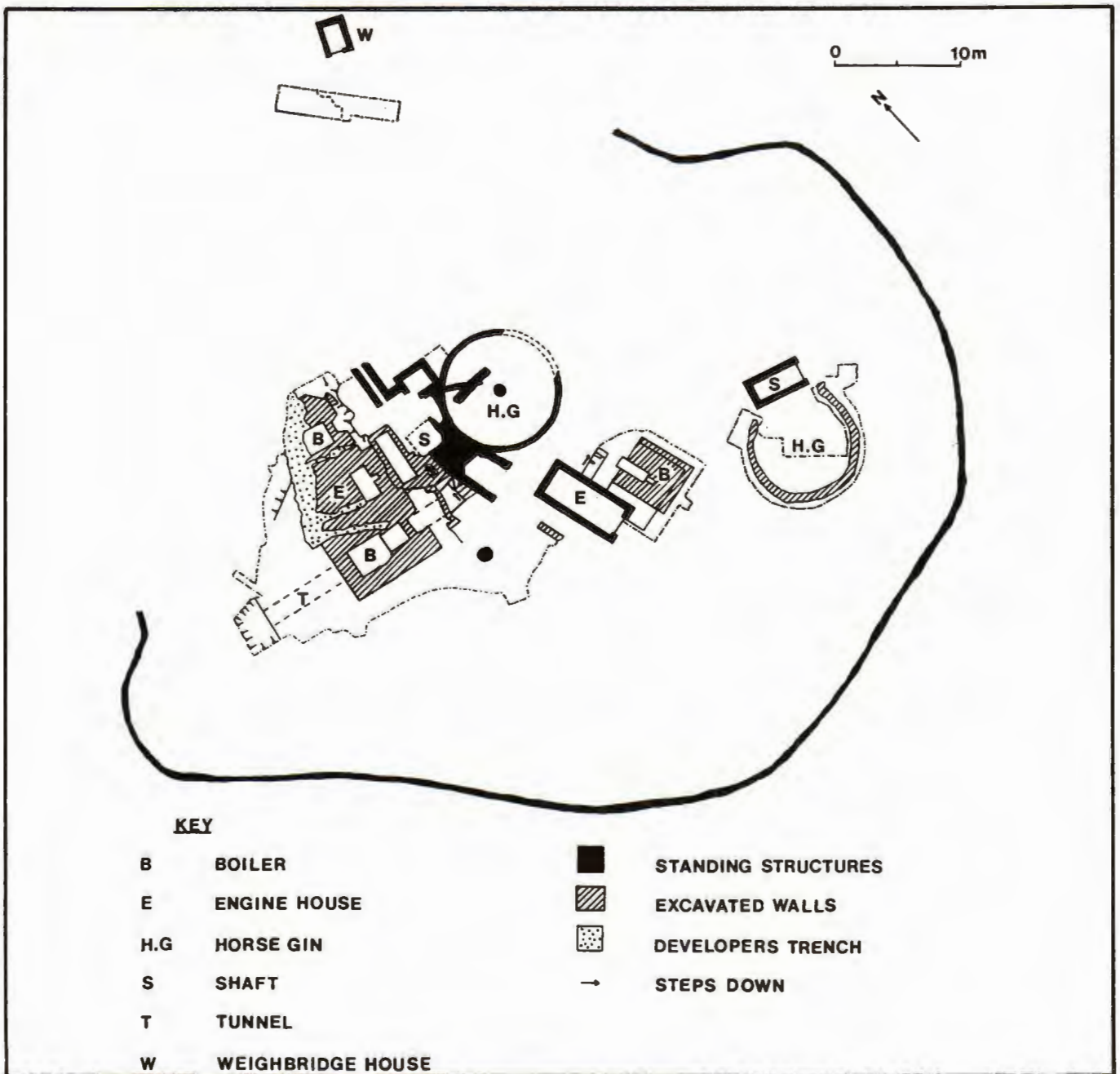


Fig. 9 Elms Colliery, Nailsea

that these remains will be incorporated into a new re-development scheme. (B. Bentham).

NAILSEA, The Elms Colliery, ST48207054

Survey and excavation has been carried out by Avon Industrial Buildings Trust on a late 18th and 19th century colliery complex following its discovery by Nailsea Local History Society. Features revealed include a central mine shaft, the foundation walls of a pumping-engine house and two associated boiler-houses, of which one overlies a barrel-vaulted tunnel and the other, an infilled ash-rake. Adjacent to the shaft are two, virtually intact, buttressed headstock footings, and a standing circular whim-gin retaining wall (Fig 9)

Immediately south of this area is a standing building, which probably housed a winding-engine, before it was converted into a water-tower when The Elms house was built. Lying alongside its eastern wall are the remains of a third boiler house, and the footings of an associated chimney. While a second mine shaft and circular whim-gin foundation wall are situated a few metres away to the SE. Finally on the north edge of the site, there is a roughly square building which may have served as a weigh-house.

There is clear evidence for at least two phases of use and building activity, and the remains represent one of the most complete examples of a late 18th and 19th century colliery known. Documentary work by M. Thomas suggests that "The Elms" was probably the site of a colliery owned by White and Co., known as Middle Engine Pit, dating from c 1790-1870. (P. Lane).

SALTFORD, Saltford Brassmill, ST687669

A limited excavation was undertaken in 1986 on part of this 18th century brassmill to assess possible damage from a scheme for adaptive reuse. A number of features were exposed, the most important being a large wooden anvil-base for one of the water powered hammers. However these remains were at or near water-level, well below any proposed development. (R. Iles).

SISTON, Champion's Works, Warmley House, ST669728
Salvage excavations by Bristol Industrial Archaeology Society at a site c 50 yards SE of Warmley House revealed a block of three small circular furnaces set within a walled enclosure. The two smaller ones had a reddish refractory brick lining, an internal diameter of c 3 ft 6 ins, and a ledge 1ft 6 ins above floor level, presumably to carry crucible support iron bars or sheet. The most westerly furnace was much larger with an internal diameter of 5ft approximately, no brick lining above a ledge 2ft 3ins above floor level but the springing of a semi-circular arch for its firing tunnel. Nothing remained higher than 4ft above floor level but the original height of the furnaces would appear to have been that much again.

Further to the north were the remains of three small brick-floored stores, that furthest from the furnaces containing a fill mixture of coal and charcoal pieces together with lumps of surface-melted furnace lining, suffused through with a distinct dark blue colouring (which analysis subsequently proved to be due to zinc).

These are very early remains of Champion's Spelter Works located very much closer to his house than has ever been previously suspected and presumably predating its erection. (R. Stiles & J. Cornwell).

STOKE GIFFORD, Barn Wood, Stoke Park, ST61887731

An excavation by BAARG exposed the largely robbed-out base of a mid 18th century rotunda, part of the elaborate landscaping of Stoke Park carried out from 1749

onwards by the eccentric polymath Thomas Wright. The structure consisted of ten freestone columns set in a circle of 6m diameter and supporting a domed roof. (J. Russell).

TICKENHAM, Mary Lilly's Garden, Cadbury ST452724

A deserted cottage enclosure 150m west of Cadbury Camp was surveyed by a Bristol University Extra-Mural class. The low remains of a roughly square stone-walled enclosure 0.4ha in extent on the south flank of the hilltop, contain the vestiges of three separate small stone buildings. The main dwelling-house stood by the western entrance, another three-cell building stood near the middle of the enclosure. This property was occupied by Mary Lilly in 1844 under lease from Sir Charles Abraham Elton (Tithe award, Somerset Record Office D/D/Rt 433). The enclosure is shown on Greenwood's map of 1822, but no reference has been found in any earlier source. Its island position, entirely surrounded by hill pasture, suggests its origin as an encroachment, and it is of interest that the Lilly family had previously been evicted from a squatters' encroachment on Portbury Common. No evidence was found to suggest that there were any buildings on the site prior to the early 19th century. (J. Bond).

WELLOW, Midford basin, ST758605

A pipeline cut through the southern arm of three basins of the Somerset Coal Canal at Midford. Stripping for the pipeline revealed not only the southern end of this basin but also numerous lines of sleeper blocks and hard-core. These were the remains of about 20 tram lines. The basin itself looked as though it had been slightly reduced in width at some time; adjacent to it was the base for a crane. A survey was made by A. Kidd, R. Iles and M. Chapman (Fig. 11).

WEST HARPTREE, deserted farm, ST55625563

The Mendip Hills Survey noted the ruins of a farm building with walled yard and outbuildings. (P. Ellis).

WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Weston Woods, ST321623

The Town Quarry has been researched, mapped, and photographically surveyed by Avon Industrial Buildings Trust.

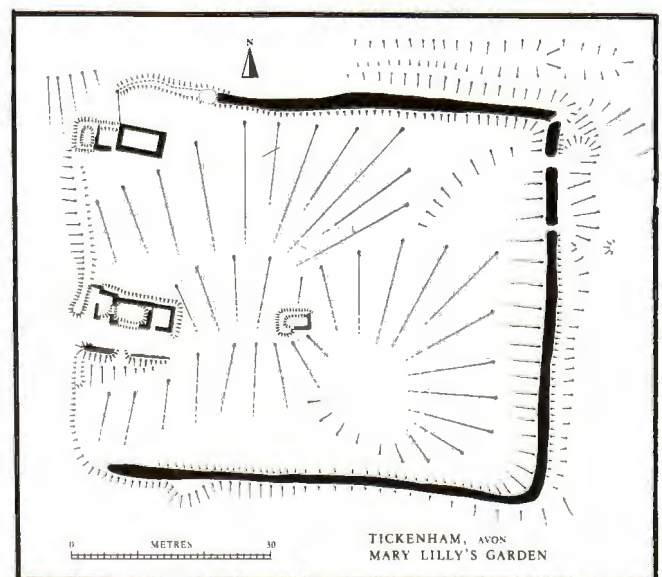


Fig.10 Mary Lilly's Garden, Cadbury Hill, Tickenham

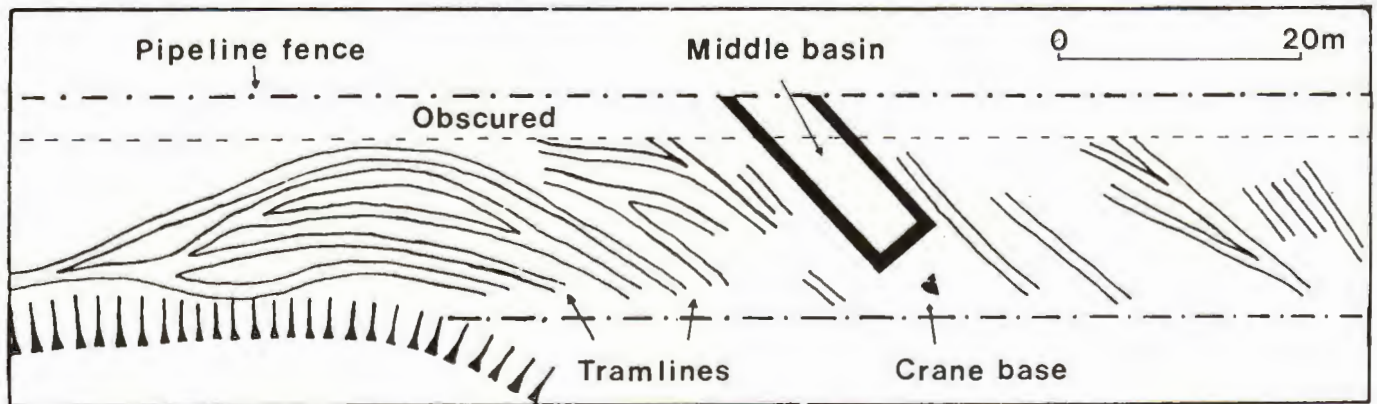
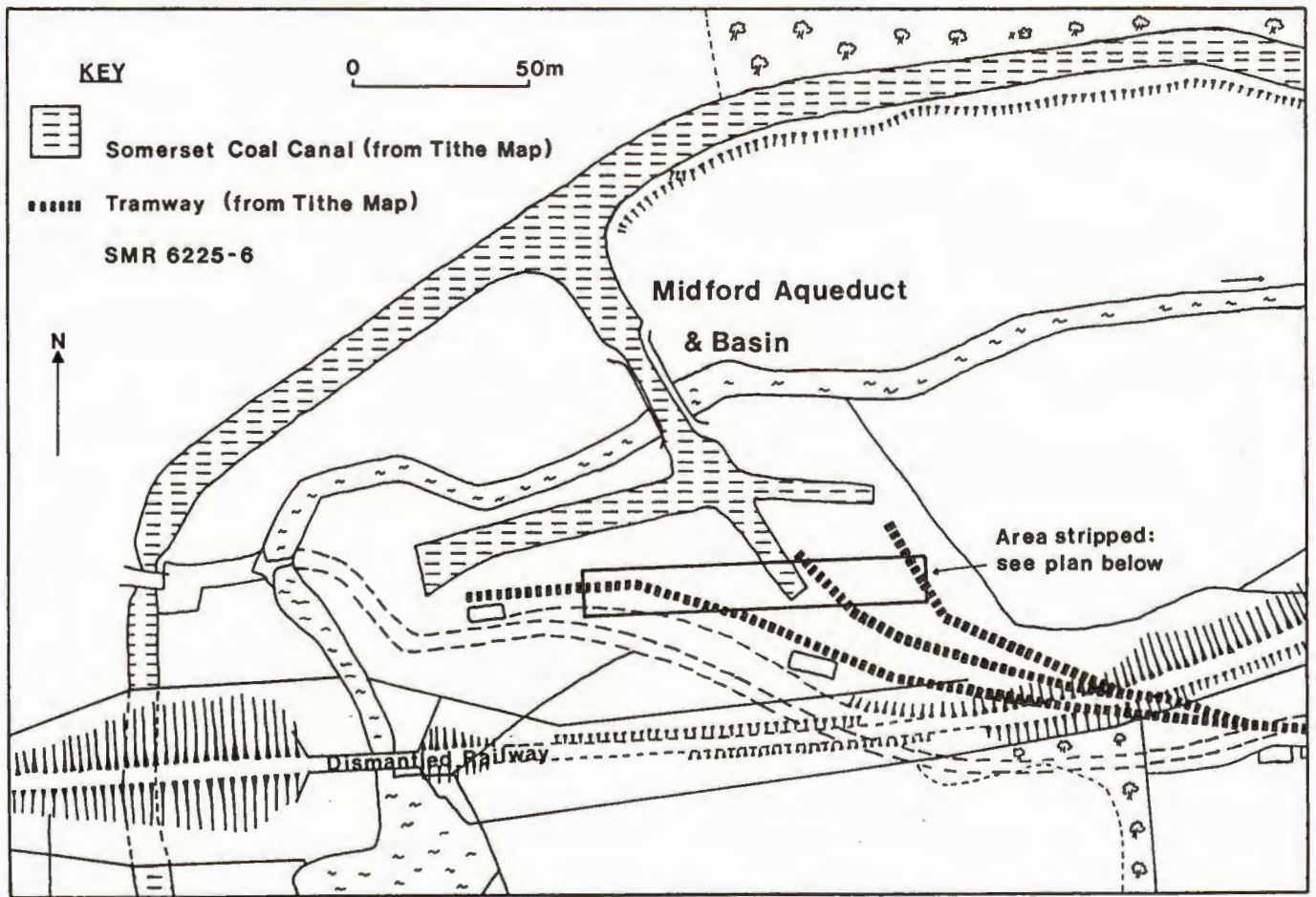


Fig. 11 Midford basin, Wellow

BUILDING RECORDING

The national barns survey of the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings has been continued for South Avon. Locally this work is being co-ordinated by John Winstone.

In the following list the surveyors of buildings are indicated by their initials at the end of the brief description: LH- Linda Hall, EHDW- E.H.D. Williams, JW- John Winstone, RGG- R.G. Gilson.

- ALMONDSBURY, 34 & 36 Townsend Lane, ST599840
16th century with a superb panelled ceiling of that date. LH
- ALMONDSBURY, Brotherswood Farm, ST616836
Early 18th century. LH
- ALMONDSBURY, Court Farm Barn, ST603841
15th century, with later cross-range. Part of grange to St. Augustine's Abbey. JW
- AUST, Redhill Farm, Elberton, ST599888
Probably late 17th century origins, few old features survive. LH
- BANWELL, Bowman's Batch, ST384592
Possibly originated as a late medieval longhouse, heavily modified. EHDW
- BANWELL, Wait's Cottage, ST385593
Probably 17th century. EHDW
- BATH, South Bank, Weston
Modified early 17th century house. EHDW
- BATHFORD, Sheephouse Farm, Warleigh, ST794639
Probably originally a 15th century non-domestic building. EHDW
- BITTON, Manor House Farm, Upton Cheyney
Mid 18th century farmhouse with contemporary piers and later stable. JW
- BRISTOL, 3 & 4 Clifton Park
c 1840 probably by Chas. Underwood. JW
- BROCKLEY, Brockley Court, ST467670
A large T plan house of late 17th/18th century style. EHDW
- BROCKLEY, Chelvey Court Barn, ST466683
Probably late 15th century, perhaps a partial rebuild of an earlier barn. EHDW
- CHELWOOD, Malt House Farm, ST632618
Medieval origins but much altered, one roof truss incorporates part of a true cruck blade suggesting that the present roof is a replacement of possibly early 16th century date. EHDW
- CHURCHILL, Old Farm, Front Street, ST436599
Original house is not later than the early 16th century, reroofed late 17th century. EHDW
- CHURCHILL, Mountain Ash Cottage, ST443598
Possibly originated as a 16th century open hall, much modified. EHDW
- CLAPTON-IN-GORDANO, Myrtle Cottage, ST473739 & Jasmine Cottage, ST475740
Both are probably 17th century in origin. EHDW
- CONGRESBURY, West Brinsea Farm, ST441611
A former curing chamber was recorded. EHDW
- CORSTON, Manor Farm, ST693651
Medieval in origin, but very extensively modified in the 17th and 18th centuries. EHDW
- CORSTON, Forge house
A 16th century central-entry house, with a well preserved curing chamber. EHDW
- DUNDRY, Lower Grove Farmhouse, ST554673
Probably originally a 16th century longhouse, extensive-ly rebuilt in the mid 17th century. EHDW
- DUNDRY, The Grove, ST550673
17th century house with 18th century facade and later additions. EHDW
- HINTON CHARTERHOUSE, Memorial Hall Cottage
Originally a single storey true cruck house, rebuilt c 1500 and modified later. EHDW
- IRON ACTON, The Gables, Park Street, ST678836
Probable late 17th century house with 18th century dairy and outhouse. LH
- IRON ACTON, Green Cottage, The Green, ST677837
Late 18th/early 19th century. LH
- IRON ACTON, Sunset Cottage and The Old Farmhouse, Holly Hill, ST683834
Two houses joined together. The former has a datestone 1741, and The Old Farmhouse postdates Sunset Cottage. LH
- KEWSTOKE, Norton Court Farm, ST346639
Original house is not later than 16th century, heavily modified subsequently. EHDW
- KINGSTON SEYMOUR, Gout Farm, ST394665
c 1500 hall of cross-passage plan. EHDW
- KINGSWOOD, 35 High Street, ST651838
17th century small house. LH
- LITTLE SODBURY, Star Vale Farm, ST739839
Mid/late 17th century. LH
- LONG ASHTON, Gatcombe Court, ST526699
This is a large house of complex plan due to a succession of partial rebuildings and additions from the Middle-Ages up to the 17th century. EHDW
- NAILSEA, Bath Farmhouse, ST450694
Original building not later than 16th century, extensively rebuilt in the 17th century. EHDW
- NEMPNETT THRUBWELL, Howgrove Farmhouse, ST522621.
Medieval in origin, extensively rebuilt in the 17th century. EHDW
- NEWTON St. LOE, School House, ST701648
Built in 1698. EHDW
- OLDBURY-ON-SEVERN, Lower Farm, Cowhill, ST600915.
Early 18th century house with later additions. LH
- OLDLAND, 54 High Street, Oldland Common
Late Georgian House two storey house. JW
- OLVESTON, The Day House, The Common, ST595871
15th/16th century, possibly non-domestic. A 1st floor garderobe feeds into a culvert under the house. LH
- PORTISHEAD, Kilkenny, Lake Road
Small cottage, possibly late 17th/early 18th century. EHDW
- PUBLOW, Publow Farmhouse, ST622646
Originally a cross-passage house, rebuilt in the 18th century. EHDW
- PUBLOW, Guy's Farmhouse, Pensford, ST618636
An open hall house modified in the 17th and 18th centuries. EHDW
- PUBLOW, Newbridge House and Chew Cottage, Wollard
Originally a single storey building, possibly a chapel. EHDW
- PUBLOW, Old Tannery, Wollard
A small 3 room cross-passage house, in which the open hall had a fine late 15th century fireplace. Modified in the 17th and 19th centuries. The tannery was started and run by Carthusian monks. EHDW
- PUBLOW, Bridge House, Pensford
Probably an early 16th century house with later additions. EHDW

- RANGEWORTHY, Stephenville, ST688862
No old features survive, appears to be the hall and inner room of a 3 room passage house. LH
- ROCKHAMPTON, The Green, ST655936
3 room and through-passage house though little remains, crucks were sawn off recently. LH
- ST. CATHERINE'S, St. Catherine's Court Barn, ST777702
Late 15th century barn with nine bay, stone tiled roof; eight trusses, of which four are raised true crucks and one is a jointed cruck. EHDW
- SISTON, Blue Lodge, Abson, ST693741
17th/18th century wing attached to a much larger and superficially later house. LH
- THORNBURY, Poplar Farm, Lower Morton, ST642922
Possibly originated as a medieval open hall; existing features 16th/17th century onwards. LH
- TICKENHAM, Tickenham Court Outbuilding, ST457714
Possibly originally a Church House on the edge of the churchyard, extensively altered in the 17th century. EHDW
- WESTON-SUPER-MARE, Springwell, Kewstoke Road, ST354631
Early 16th century, heavily modified. EHDW
- WICK & ABSON, Collins Farm, ST704749
Substantial mid 17th century house. LH
- WICK ST. LAWRENCE, Banksea Cottages, ST366654
Church House, adapted for use as Poor Houses in the 17th century. EHDW
- WINFORD, Kentshare Farm, ST546648
Early 16th century cross-passage house. EHDW
- WINFORD, Court Farmhouse, ST543649
Late 16th/17th century building. EHDW
- WINSCOMBE, Max Hill Farm, ST402576
Possibly medieval in origin but surviving details not earlier than 16th century. EHDW
- WINSCOMBE, Westend Cottages, Barton, ST396568
18th/19th century? LH
- WINTERBOURNE, Winterbourne Court Barn & Dovecote, ST641809 JW
- WRAXALL, Failand Farmhouse, ST526725
Early/mid 17th century 3 room and cross-passage house. EHDW
- WRAXALL, Birdcombe Court Farmhouse, ST479718
Much altered farmhouse standing behind and at right angles to Birdcombe Court; now linked to it by a later building. Possibly originally a detached kitchen. EHDW
- WRINGTON, Lye Hole Farm, ST502624
Mid/late 16th century origins with later additions. EHDW
- YATE, Oxwick Farm, ST722859
Large 3-storey house built in 1722. LH
- YATE, Leechpool Farm, ST708852
Possibly medieval in origin; existing features 17th century onwards. LH
- YATE, Tanhouse Farm, ST714852
Medieval/16th century house. Associated tannery with open front having 16th-17th century wooden pillars. LH
- YATE, Hartstrow Farm, ST711882
17th or 18th century house. LH
- YATE, Hallend Cottage, ST708868
Possibly originally a medieval longhouse; existing features 17th century. LH
- YATTON, Claverham Court, ST445672
A substantial medieval hall house of probable 15th century date, much altered from the 17th to the 19th centuries. EHDW
- YATTON, Box Bush Farmhouse, ST417659
Originally a medieval longhouse, much rebuilt. It contains a hall fireplace with a magnificent carved wooden lintel of early 16th century date. EHDW
- YATTON, Brick House Farmhouse, Northend, ST418670
Early 18th century. An early example of a brick house in this area. EHDW
- YATTON, Dame Florence Stalling Charity Almshouse, ST432654
Church House origins. May have a cruck roof of uncertain type. EHDW
- YATTON, Prince of Orange Inn, ST433655
The building started as a two room plan house in the mid 17th century, it has been extensively altered. RGG
- YATTON, Macquarie Farm, ST423664
17th century in origin, main building extensively modernised in the 18th century, rear wing retains 17th century details. RGG
- YATTON, Court de Wyck Cottages, ST446664
A small 17th century house, heavily modified in the late 18th or 19th century. RGG

A BI-FACIAL POLISHED-EDGE FLINT KNIFE FROM COMPTON DANDO

Alan Saville

The implement (Fig. 1) which forms the subject of this note was found in September 1987 by Dr. J.H. Bettey, on the surface of a stubble field in the parish of Compton Dando (ST642635), south of Bristol. It is a fine example of one of a class of later prehistoric flint tools known as 'discooidal polished knives' (Clark 1929).

DESCRIPTION

Shape: ovoid planform and lenticular cross-section.

Dimensions: length 75 mm, maximum width 52 mm, maximum thickness 11 mm.

Weight: 49.2 grams.

This is presumably a flake tool, though only a small patch of what is probably the original bulbar flake surface exists on its ventral face (marked 'A' on Fig. 1). If correctly identified, the direction of the ripples on this original flake surface would indicate a very broad flake blank. The nearly parallel longitudinal negative flake scars on the dorsal surface, which would predate the production of the flake blank, give no indication of a 'Levallois'-style preparatory technique, but the fact that they are orientated at right angles to the direction of the postulated bulbar surface might imply the flake has been struck from a 'discooidal' core.

The initial blank has received extensive bifacial re-touch, followed by bifacial polishing of the edges. Damage and slight reflaking of the edge have occurred subsequent to polishing, so that the apparent predominance of polishing along both faces of one long side is misleading. The polish was formerly more extensive, although whether it continued around the whole perimeter is uncertain and probably unlikely. Certainly the polish was largely restricted, intentionally, to the edges of the implement and did not encroach over much of the internal surfaces, where only a few isolated patches of polish occur on ridges. The polished edge, where it survives best, is symmetrically bevelled, but with a slightly faceted effect, which could indicate re-sharpening. Under magnification the polished surface is markedly striated, presumably from use of a coarse medium in the polishing process.

The flint is in a fresh and undiscoloured (uncorticated) condition. A small area of the implement is medium grey in colour, with the rest a lighter grey, reflecting variegation in the raw material. There is no cortex present and there is nothing distinctive about the flint itself to give any indication of the origin of the raw material. The size of the implement and the absence of any cortex, however, suggest production from a large core and therefore a substantial nodule, such as would only have been available from chalk country to the east of Avon (cf. Grinsell 1985). It is always possible, of course, that 'quality' products such as this were transported in finished form rather than manufactured locally.

DISCUSSION

On the basis of its shape, the Compton Dando knife falls into Type III of Clark's classification, his 'lozenge form' of the 'discooidal' polished knife (Clark 1929, 44 and fig. 6). The wide variety of shapes these tools exhibit often makes

the term 'discooidal' somewhat misleading, as it would in the present instance, and use of the less specific designation *bifacial polished-edge knife* seems preferable.

A number of examples of this insular implement type have been found and/or recorded in England since Clark's classic paper of 1929, and the evidence for their associations and dating has recently been reviewed most conveniently by Cotton (1984). On balance the bifacial polished-edge knife can be regarded as a late neolithic artefact, with the few ceramic associations being predominantly of grooved ware. There is the possibility of continued manufacture and use of bifacial knives into the middle bronze age (Saville 1981, 56). As in the present instance, most of these knives have been discovered as isolated surface finds, and none are definitely recorded as having accompanied burials.

In the South-West the type remains rare, although the recent publication of an example from Cornwall (Varndell 1983) has removed former doubts about the extent of their distribution. The only published parallel from Avon known to the writer is the knife from Compton Martin on the boundary with Somerset (Grinsell 1968, fig. 2, 32b). The Compton Martin example is of remarkably similar size and shape to the Compton Dando piece. The precise provenance of the Compton Martin knife is unknown, but it may not be coincidental that the same parish has produced the only late neolithic grooved ware pottery from Avon (from the Ben Bridge site: Rahtz and Greenfield 1977, 186). The Compton Dando find encourages the view that further evidence for late neolithic settlement will occur in the area. Settlement evidence of this period is surely to be expected in a region with such outstanding late neolithic monuments as the stone circles at Stanton Drew and the henges at Priddy and Gorsey Bigbury.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am grateful to Mick Aston for bringing this find to my attention, to Joe Bettey for his co-operation in its publication, and to both him and Leslie Grinsell for helpful correspondence. The accompanying illustration was kindly prepared by Lizzy Induni. The knife remains in the possession of Dr. Bettey.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Clark, J.G.D. 1929. Discooidal polished flint knives - their typology and distribution. *Proc. Prehist. Soc. East Anglia* 6, 4-54.
- Cotton, J. 1984. Three later neolithic discooidal knives from north-east Surrey: with a note on similar examples from the county. *Surrey Archaeol. Collect* 75, 225-233.
- Grinsell, L.V. 1968. *Guide catalogue to the south-western British prehistoric collections*. Bristol: City Museum.
- Grinsell, L.V. 1985. Carrying flint cores to Mendip. *Lithics* 6, 15-17.
- Rahtz, P.A. and Greenfield, E. 1977. *Excavations at Chew Valley Lake, Somerset*. London: HMSO.
- Saville, A. 1981. *Grimes Graves, Norfolk: excavations 1971-72. Vol. 2. The flint assemblage*. London: HMSO.
- Varndell, G. 1983. A polished-edge flint knife found near Coverack, St. Keverne. *Cornish Archaeol.* 22, 117.

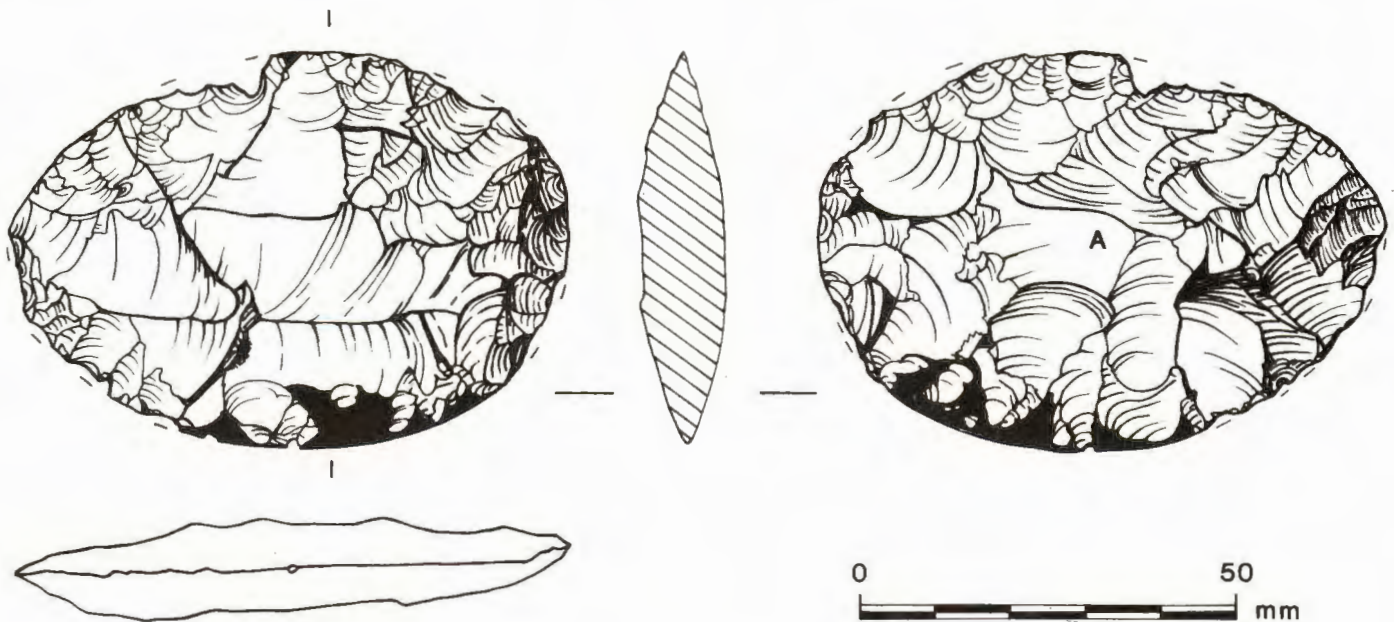


Fig. 1 Flint knife from Compton Dando (1:1)

EXCAVATIONS AT BURWALLS HOUSE, BRISTOL, 1980.

N.M. Watson

The subject of this report is an excavation of earthworks preserved in the grounds of Burwalls House in Leigh Woods, Bristol. The work took place between the 9th and 19th of June 1980 and was directed by Dr. R.J. Harrison of the Department of Classics and Archaeology, Bristol University. The site was first surveyed and planned by Dr. P.J. Fowler in 1978.

Burwalls House is the property of the University. It is situated on a limestone ridge overlooking the Avon Gorge. The gardens were landscaped in the 19th century, thus it was possible that any occupation debris had been re-deposited downslope to the east and south. The removal of laurel bushes in 1980 along a section of bank marked as ramparts on Dr. Fowler's plan provided an opportunity to examine and date the earthwork.

Four trenches were laid out (Fig 1). Trenches I and II sectioned the eastern rampart, trench III was positioned to recover evidence of occupation of the enclosure and trench IV sectioned the rampart to the south.

Trenches I and II (10 x 2 m)

Beneath the top soil was a stone wall running north-south made from uncoursed limestone rubble and roughly faced on either side. It was set to a depth of 0.45m and rested on bedrock to the south (Fig 2). The wall was probably a Victorian garden feature designed to stop soil slipping

downslope before shrubbery had grown large enough to hold the surface. Neither trench provided evidence of earlier features nor were there any finds.

Trench III (10 x 4)

The trench was laid down in four sections separated by metre wide baulks. The limestone bedrock dipped south at a uniform depth of 0.6m. An orange-brown clay covered the bedrock and graded into a brown clayey topsoil. These layers contained a large quantity of Victorian detritus including bottles, nails and pottery. There were no intact archaeological layers and the only find was a stray sherd of heavily eroded Roman pottery recovered from the upper part of the clay subsoil.

Trench IV (6 x 2m)

Lack of time and poor weather prevented a thorough excavation of this trench. Future work would best be concentrated here where the recovery of datable material is perhaps most hopeful.

CONCLUSION

The interior of the earthwork has been destroyed by the Victorian landscaping which was also responsible for the "ramparts" to the east. It is not known whether this earthwork has any relationship with the nearby hillfort in Leigh Woods.

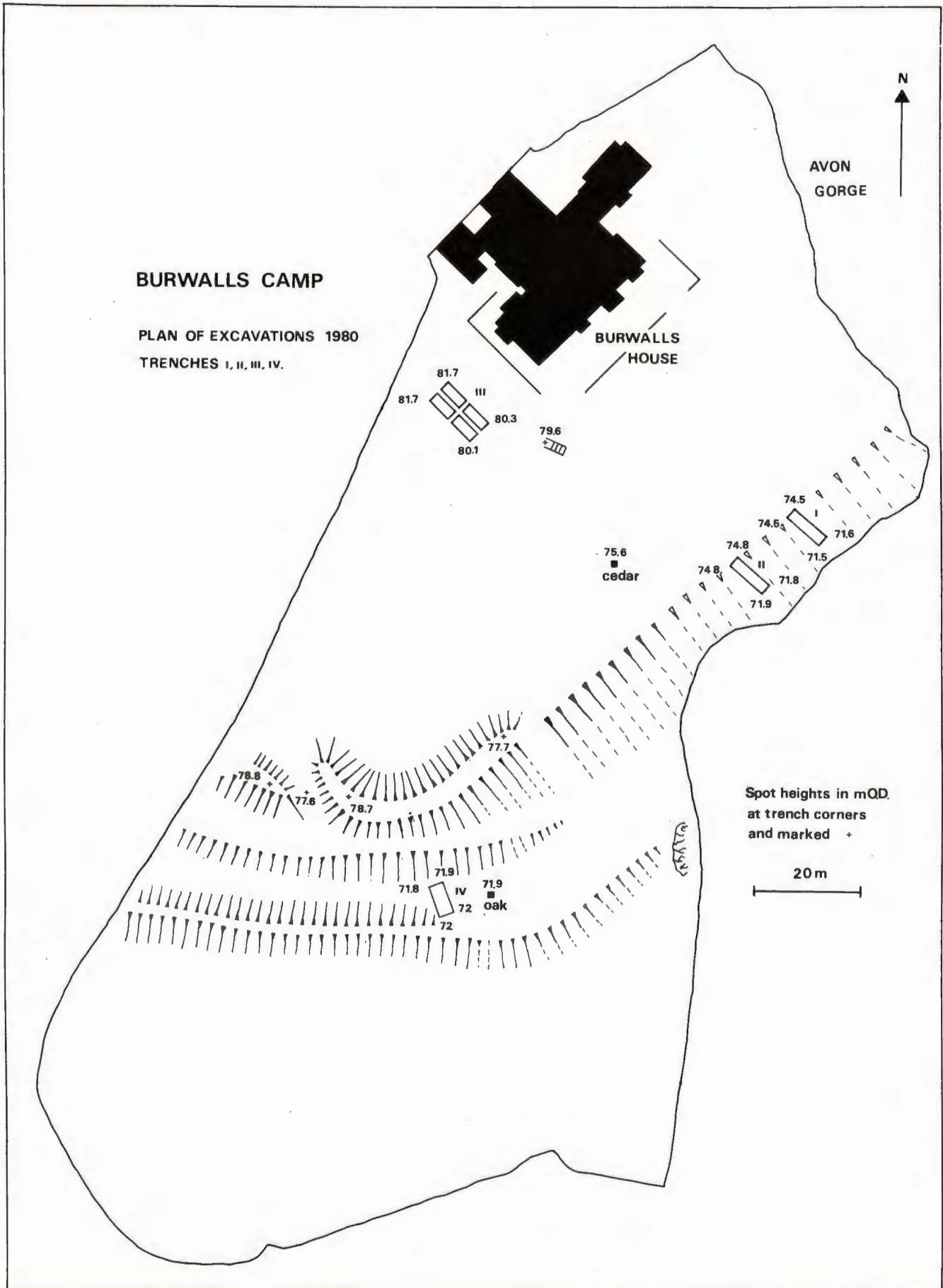


Fig. 1 Burwalls Camp

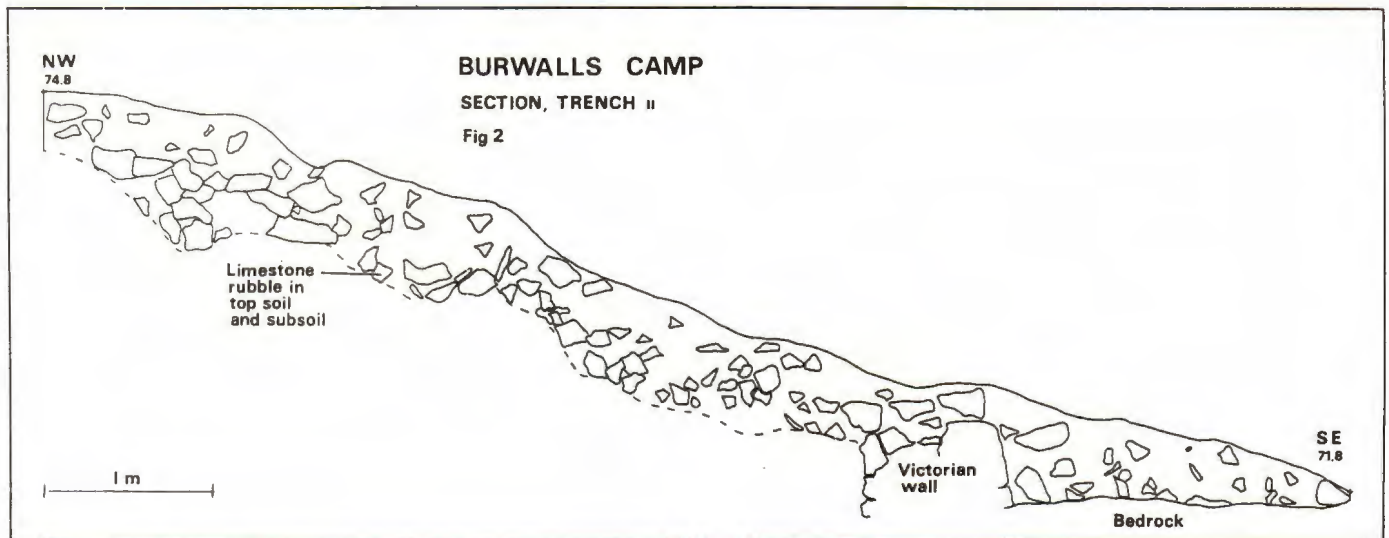


Fig. 2 Section, Burwalls Camp

CROMHALL ROMANO-BRITISH VILLA THE RESULTS OF FIELDWORK AND TRIAL TRENCHING IN 1980

Peter Ellis

The Romano-British villa at Cromhall was discovered and investigated in the 1850's and a plan of the remains published, its location though being defined only by the O.S. antiquity symbol. Its location was roughly rediscovered as a result of aerial photography by Rob Iles and John White in 1977.

A proposal to quarry quartzite from an area directly to the east of its presumed position resulted in a project by the Department of the Environment to locate the exact position of the villa. A geophysical survey was carried out by the Ancient Monuments Laboratory along the western limit of the threatened area and the resulting indications of below ground structures were confirmed by exploratory machine trenching directed by the author, a field officer with the Committee for Rescue Archaeology in Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset in 1980.

A north-south trench was cut along the western side of the quarry application area and six additional trenches were cut at right angles to the east. The external and external walls of the north wing of the villa were located and only

minimally disturbed in the trenches, allowing the published plan to be orientated and located within the modern topography. The villa walls or wall footings comprised horizontally laid lias blocks cut to a depth of not more than two courses below the surviving clay and mortar floor levels. The recognition that the widths of the east-west running internal walls differed at various points intersected by the trenches suggested that each successive section to the east may have been an addition rather than of one contemporary build.

No features were recorded beyond the confines of the north wing, the trenches within the courtyard area exposing the natural rock below the topsoil and a thin subsoil.

Though the trenches did not explore the area to the south occupied by the apparently detached building recorded in the 1850's, it is possible that the building formed part of the south wing of a corridor villa with its nucleus in the western section and a courtyard enclosed by three wings. The illustration is the work of Trevor Pearson.

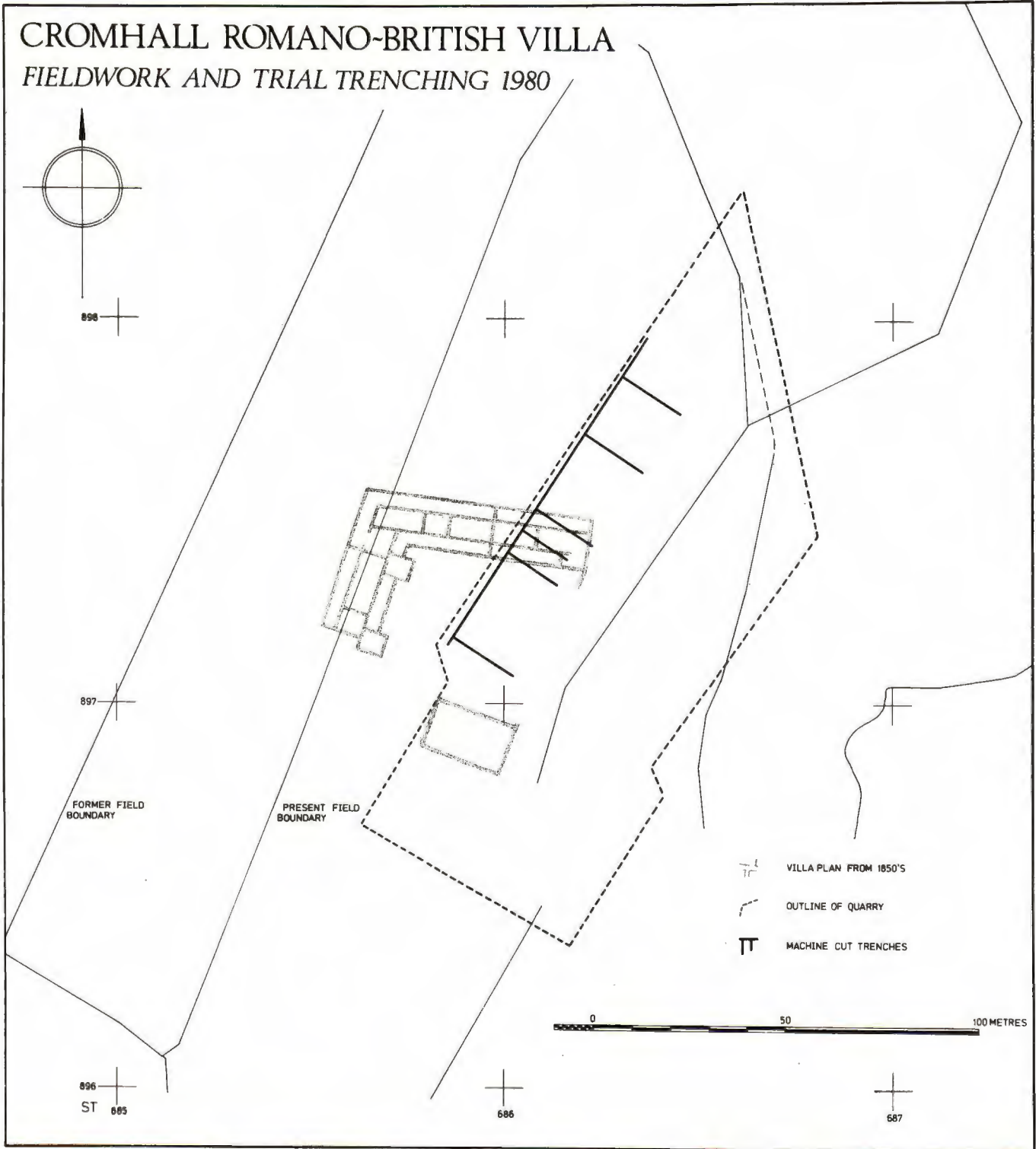


Fig. 1 Cromhall Roman villa

AN ANGLO-SAXON STRAP-END FROM WINTERBOURNE, BRISTOL

J. Stewart

Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery acquired by gift a late Anglo-Saxon decorated, openwork strap-end (Fig. 1) made of a copper alloy (BRSMG : 81/1986). The item was found in open fields near Court Farm, Winterbourne (ST 6402 8095).

The strap-end consists of a flattened, tongue-like piece of metal (length 5.6 cm). On the upper face, the intertwined decoration appears to represent a human head and body delineated within a low border. The lower limbs of the figure become confused as they form part of an interconnecting pattern. The head shows 'sprayed-out' hair. The facial features are delineated only by two partly-drilled holes for eyes. One arm is raised and touches the hair; the other is similarly raised, but broken off. The torso shows no sexual characteristics. Where the lower limbs of the figure form the intertwining mass, one of the limbs seems to form a strong diagonal which appears to curve back on itself to end in a bulbous shape round the stomach of the anthropomorph (perhaps some form of schematised serpent?).

Except for the scorings to delimit the locks of hair, the only other decorative features are feathery, angled lines along both of the long sides of the strap-ends. The back of the strap-end is flat and undecorated. There appears to be no trace of inlay.

The attachment plate of the strap-end consists of a narrow recessed lip of metal into which has been drilled from the upper face, three small rivet holes (diameter 1.5 mm). Only the central hole is complete, the holes at either end being broken through.

This is a particularly interesting piece of late Anglo-Saxon metalwork not only because of the paucity of such material from the area (true comparable material, for example, from the Saxon palace at Cheddar (Rahtz, 1979)

is not available), but also because of the unusual decorative patterning of the surface.

Backhouse (1984, 95-97) describes and illustrates what has been termed the Winchester style of metalwork (first identified by Kendrick, 1938, 377-87) of which strap-ends form a part. This style of bone and metal strap-end (Backhouse's 80-83, 133) shows pairs of addorsed or affronted birds or animals arranged symmetrically round a central foliage stem, and are dated to the late 10th century. Parallels with illustrated manuscript decoration can also be cited. The Winterbourne example, however, is anthropomorphic not zoomorphic and the field of decoration is not symmetrically patterned.

The feature of the figure's arms reaching up as if to pull out its hair is a decorative motif found on a gaming piece, part of the Gloucester Tables set. This motif, the 'Tress Puller', is viewed by Watkins (1985, 61) as a common if ill-understood Romanesque motif.

Further research will be needed to ascertain its affinities with craft pieces in other materials such as stone sculpture or jewellery, perhaps of Scandinavian origin.

REFERENCES

- Backhouse, J., Turner, D.H., and Webster, L., 1984, *The Golden Age of Anglo-Saxon Art, 966-1066*. British Museum.
- Rahtz, P., 1979, *The Saxon and Medieval Palaces at Cheddar, Excavations 1960-62*. B.A.R. British Series, 65.
- Watkins, M.J., 1985, *Gloucester: The Normans and Domesday. An Exhibition to celebrate the 900th Anniversary of Domesday*. Friends of Gloucester Museum.

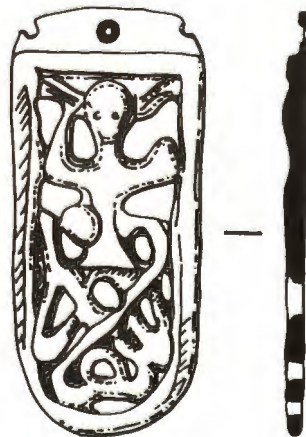


Fig. 1 Anglo-Saxon strap-end from Winterbourne (1:1)

EDEN REDISCOVERED AT TWERTON, BATH?

Mike Chapman

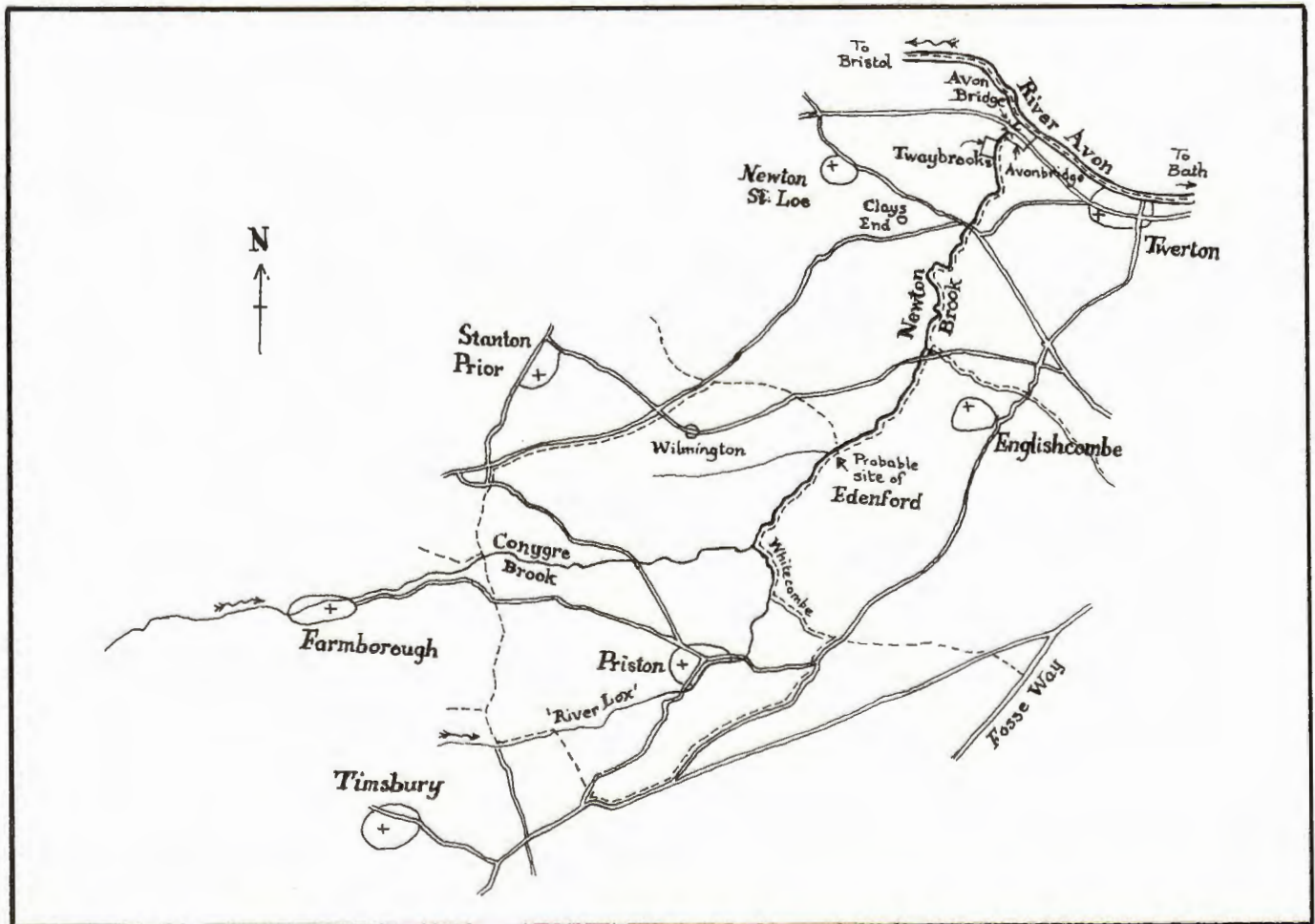
The study of the Anglo-Saxon Charters of the Stantonbury District by M. Costen (*BAA* 2, 1983, 25-34) encouraged me to add some further details which appeared while I was carrying out research into the history of Twerton. Hopefully this will contribute to a clearer picture of Bath and the surrounding districts in even earlier times.

Sometime between 1200-1230 a series of grants were made by Geoffrey Malreward, one of the Lords of the Manor at Twerton, to the church and monks of Bath Abbey involving several properties at Twerton (SRS Vol. 73 II 298/3,4.) Not only did he give them 'molendinum meum de Twyvertone super Avene' - 'my mill at Twerton on the Avon', but also 'unum locum super Edene ubi antiquitus molendinum erat', translated (and indexed) by Mr. Shorrocks as '- the place on the (river) Eden where a mill formerly stood'. Although it is probable that the Malreward manor covered the north and west part of the later parish of Twerton, no river or brook exists today by this name, either here or anywhere else in the district. In another series of grants (SRS Vol. 73 I 114,115.) made about the same time, between 1225-75, a certain Robert the Clerk gave to the Hospital of St. John the Baptist in Bath a half-acre of his land at Newton St. Loe 'in the East Field lying next to Edene/Edne'. Assuming that this refers to the river Eden mentioned above, then this river must flow between

the two manors, forming an eastern boundary to Newton and a western boundary to Twerton. The only possible candidate recognisable today is Newton Brook which has formed the common boundary of the two parishes for many centuries and continues to do so as a District boundary.

That the name Eden persisted into later time is shown in a Twerton glebe Terrier of 1624 (SRO D/D Rg 14). Although here the stream is already called 'Newton Brook', a field is listed near the north-west boundary of the parish with the name 'Edenbridge'. Again, among the Gore-Langton papers (SRO DD/GL 64/2) is a lease dated 1717 which describes a field in the parish of Newton St. Loe called 'Twaybrooks' as '-lying by the highway leading to Eden Bridge on the north side thereof'. Twaybrooks (tithe no. 338-40), now a caravan site, lies a few hundred yards south of the Bath to Bristol (A4) roadbridge over Newton Brook at NGR ST71766548. This crossing is probably a very ancient site, the main road being mentioned in the above Malreward grant. In the early 18thC. the bridge was also known as 'Avon Bridge', and likewise the glebe field had the alternative name 'Avonbridge'. It seems that the present structure, built by the Bath Turnpike Trust in 1824, is no longer referred to by any of these names.

Newton Brook has two main tributaries, a northern



branch rising in Farmborough, and a southern branch rising in Timsbury and Camerton. Both tributaries then pass eastward into Priston where they join to form a common stream which flows northward, with Englishcombe and Twerton on the east side, and Newton St. Loe on the west side. It falls into the Avon about 25 yards north of the above mentioned 'Avon Bridge'.

Further evidence of this name from the other parishes through which the present Newton Brook passes has not been forthcoming. This might be explained by a notable clue which appears in the Bath Priory Chartulary of Corpus Christi College Cambridge. Here the boundary charter for Priston (BCS 670) opens with the words 'AErest on Pone ealdan edenan ford'. '- first to the old eden ford'. The adjective 'old' is probably the reason Dr. Grundy offered the translation 'the old ford of the heathens', but an easier meaning might be 'the old ford of the river Eden'. Although the charter clearly states that further upstream the river

was called 'Lox', it traces the boundary over the two tributaries of the stream and only the southern branch is given this name. The northern branch (afterwards called Conygre Brook) is not named, but it is possible that it, and the stream below the confluence, could each have had names of their own, just as they do today; the latter then being called Eden. Wherever the ford was precisely, the charter certainly locates it below this confluence.

The river-name Eden occurs elsewhere. Ekwall's 'River Names' lists five, mostly in the North or in Wales, the best known example being Eden Vale in Cumberland. He considers it to be a variation of the British word 'Ituna', associated with plant growth and fecundity, derived from the Indo-European word 'Pituna' meaning 'full of sap'. This would not be out of place for Newton Brook; the Lox and many other streams in the Bath and Stantonbury area also have British names.

ST. JOHN'S, KEYNSHAM

A report on small-scale excavations in 1979

Peter Ellis

In 1979 small-scale excavations were carried out in St. John's Church, Keynsham, during work relaying floors in the nave and at the crossing. The importance of the church and its relationship to the Abbey has been discussed by Roger Leech (1975, p. 35). Three small areas were excavated by the author, one in the south aisle and two at the crossing abutting the easternmost piers of the nave. In the south aisle excavation exposed the outline of a brick-lined nineteenth-century crypt. The two excavations at the crossing were however carried down to the natural clay surface, 0.8m below the level of the church floor.

Resting directly on the natural clay was a 0.3m thick layer of clay containing charcoal flecks, which may represent a pre-church land surface. A layer of clay containing stone chippings, 0.2m deep, overlay this layer and both were cut by the foundation trench of the south pier.

Above this a layer of rubble lay below the church floor with a 0.3m void between. The original, and perhaps successive floors, and levels contemporary with the present church, must be presumed to have been removed by flooring in the 19th century.

Although the area examined was small, it would appear that an earlier phase of church building, in stone, is indicated by the layer of clay with stone predating the present piers. The foundation trench below the south pier may belong to a structure earlier than the present church but still later than that early phase. The illustration is the work of Trevor Pearson.

REFERENCE

Leech, R.H., 1975 'Keynsham', in *Small Medieval Towns in Avon*, C.R.A.A.G.S. Survey No. 1, Bristol.

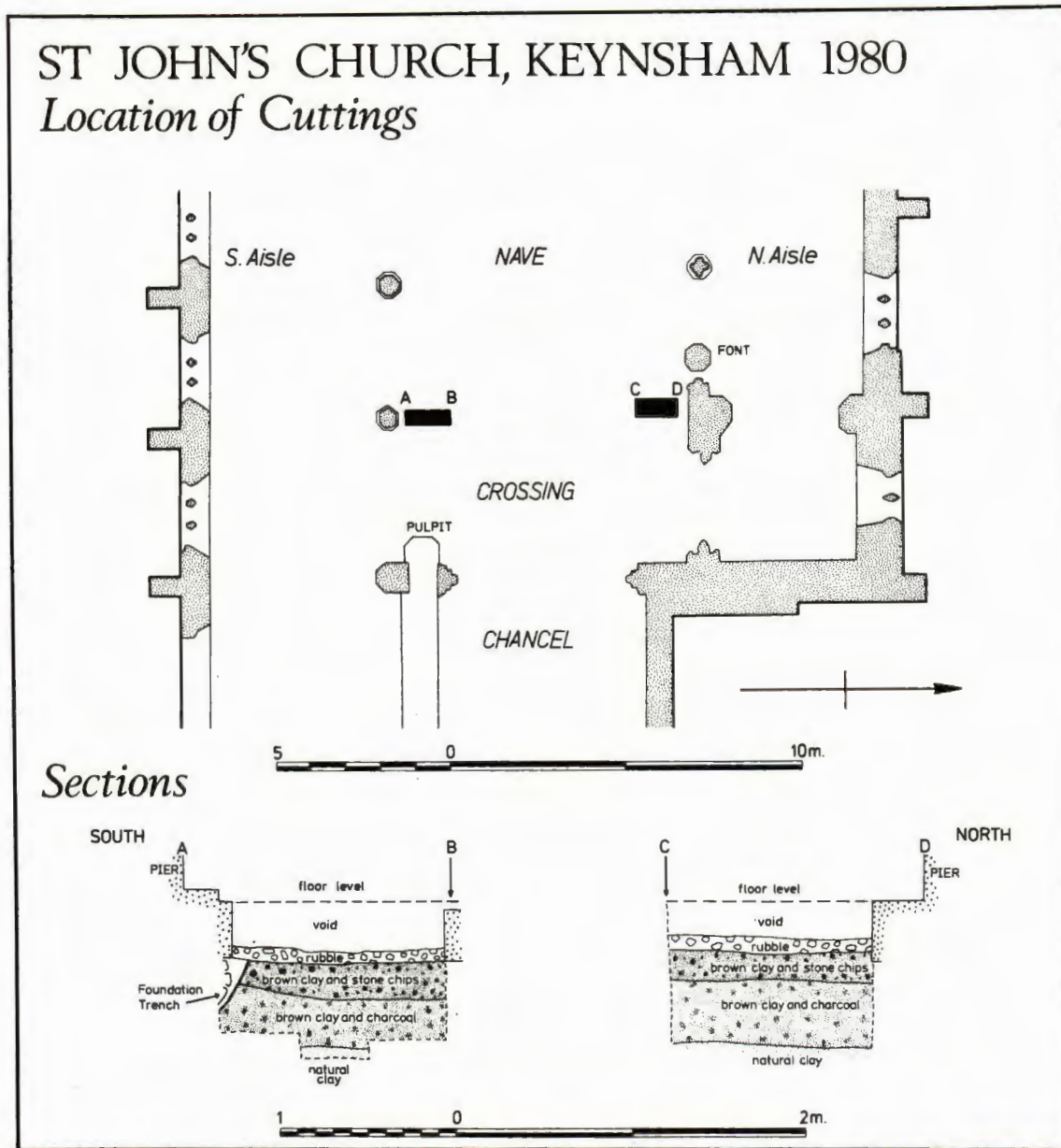


Fig. 1 Keynsham Church

AN 18TH-19TH CENTURY LIMEKILN AT WATER LANE, TEMPLE, BRISTOL

G.L. Good

During an excavation at Water Lane, near Temple Church, Bristol, in 1971 (Good forthcoming), a limekiln of late 18th to 19th century date was uncovered and part of a second one located (Fig 1). These belonged to a group of three kilns shown in a plan of Bristol prepared by Ashmead and Plumley between 1813 and 1828 (Ashmead, 1829) (Fig 2), and it is fairly certain that they lay in a property referred to in the Temple Church inventory as containing a 'Lymekill' from at least as early as 1598 (B R O).

The surviving part of the excavated kiln stood nearly 1m high and was about 5.70m square, with the north-east corner rounded off (Figs 3 and 4). It was built mainly of stone bonded with white mortar, though the furnace was lined with bricks. This lining was set in a slightly different mortar, showing that it had been replaced. It is probable that this happened regularly, as the brickwork became damaged by the heat of the furnace.

The normal way of firing such kilns was to fill the furnace with alternate layers of limestone and fuel, generally coal, and start the fire from beneath. An alternative method separated the fuel from the limestone and had fires burning in chambers opening into the side of the kiln well above the floor level. Unfortunately there was too little left of the excavated kiln to be certain which method had been used.

At the bottom of the kiln there were four square passages, 600mm across, leading from the furnace to the work areas on each side. These provided access to the kiln so that the calcined lime could be drawn out. They also allowed the passage of sufficient air into the kiln during the start of the firing process. When firing was fully underway these would be closed off, and air supplied by way of much smaller vent-holes, c100mm across, immediately above. These could be blocked off and re-opened easily to regulate the supply of air. At the time of excavation two of the vent-holes were in fact blocked off with fireclay.

The passages had cast iron plates as ceilings to support the overlying stonework. They also had iron plates along the bottom halves of the sides, and these continued round the bottom of the furnace lining, providing some protection for the brickwork (Fig 5).

In the middle of the furnace floor was a timber post, 200mm across and set some 500mm deep. The actual post survived to within 100mm of the floor level. It is possible that the post acted as a central support for an iron grate, which would hold up the lumps of still burning material while allowing the powdery lime to fall through. Unfortunately no trace of such a grate survived and there was no obvious indication of where it might have been attached to the furnace sides. It is possible, though, that it simply

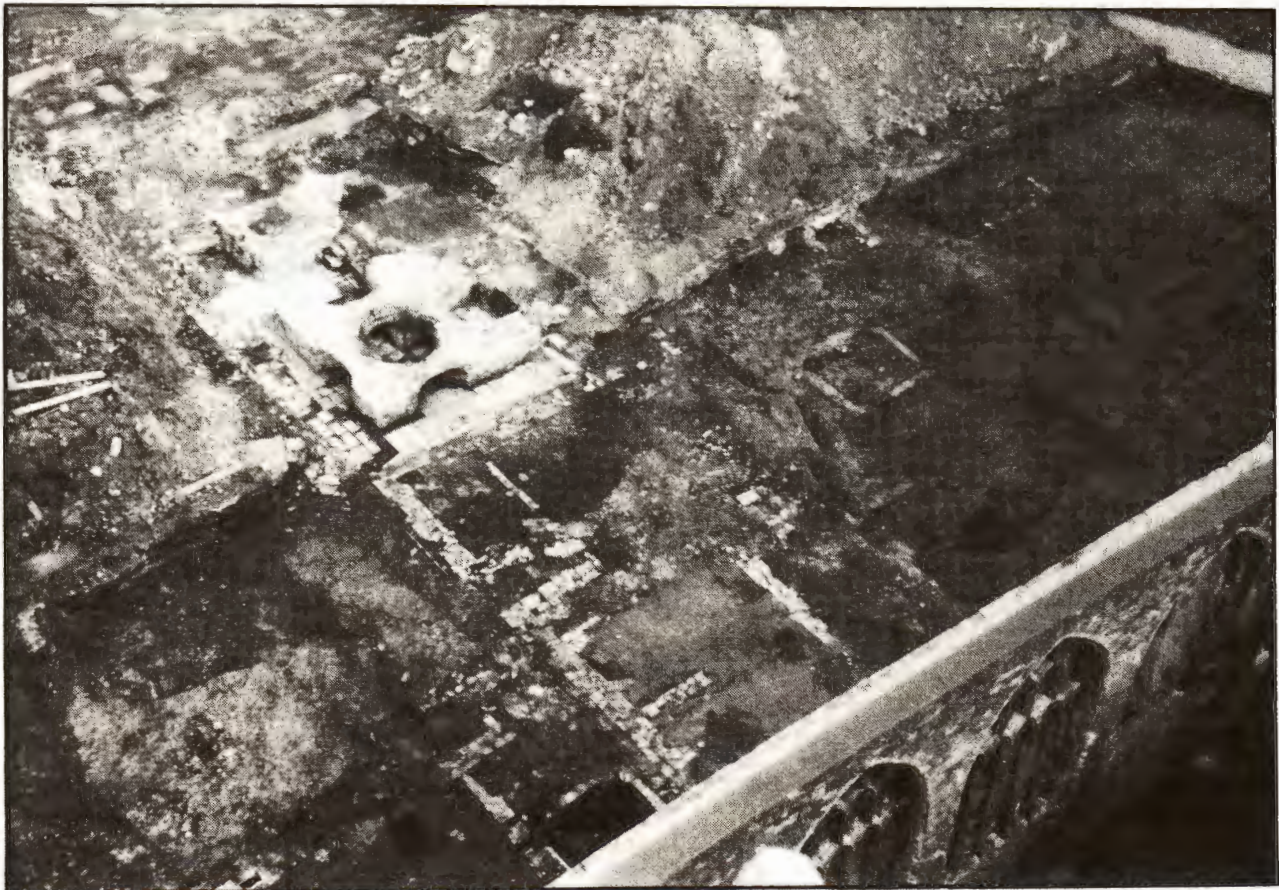


Fig 1. View of the excavation taken from the top of Temple Church tower.

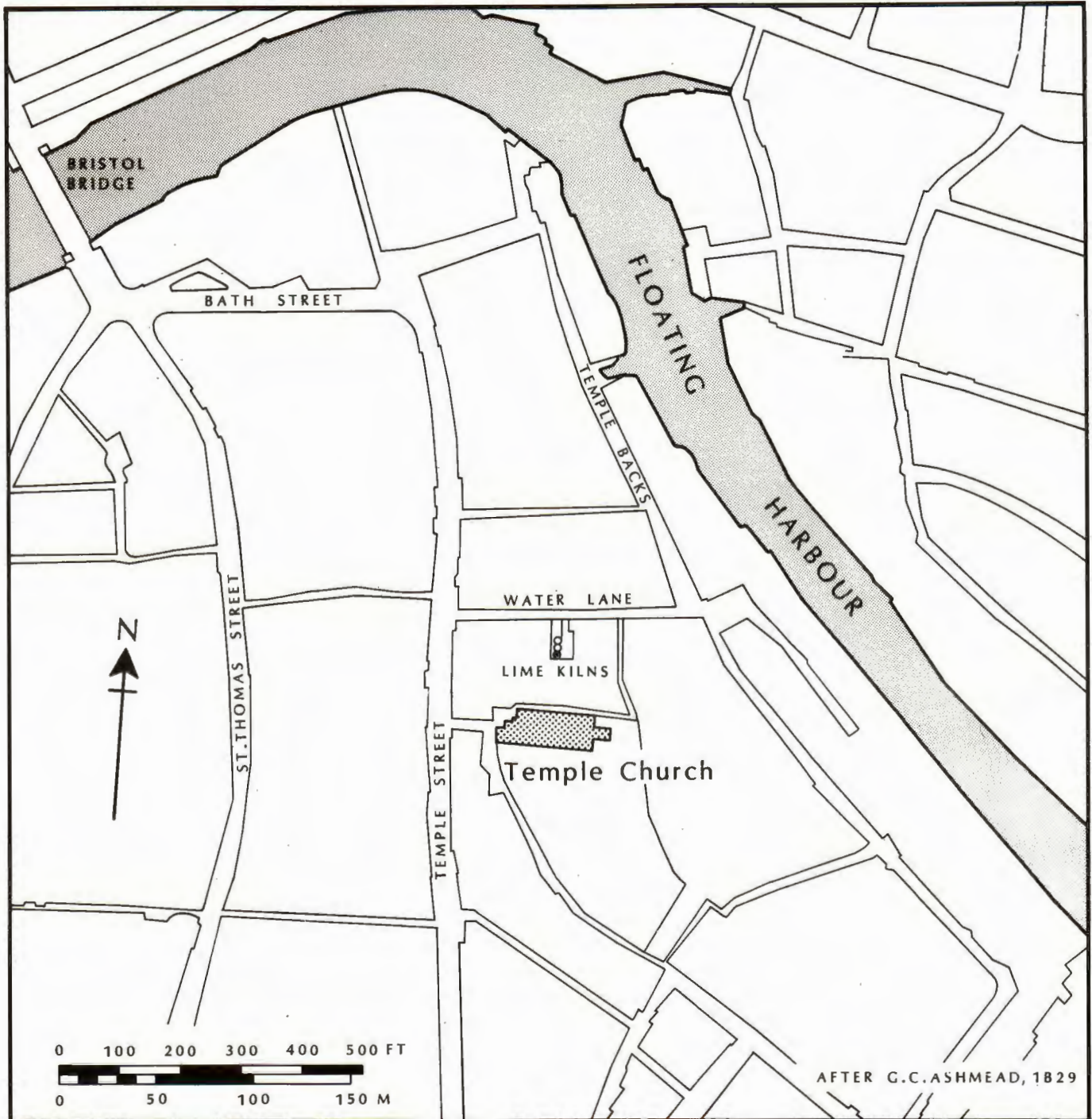


Fig. 2. Plan of Temple Fee in the 19th century (after Ashmead) showing the location of the excavated kiln (solid circle).

rested on the iron plates at the bottom, or, perhaps more likely, that it was supported at the vent-holes.

This type of kiln (a perpetual or draw-kiln) was extremely efficient. The overall internal shape of the furnace would have been oval, allowing the maximum internal reflection of heat. In addition, as the calcined lime was removed at the bottom, more limestone and fuel could be added to the furnace from above so that the kiln could be used continuously, with a minimum of heat loss, until as much lime had been produced as was needed.

The overall height of the kiln is not certain, though it probably stood well over 5m tall and may have been much higher. The difficulty of raising the heavy limestone to the top for loading into the kiln, however, is likely to have restricted its height. It was probably to gain extra height that the base of the kiln and the flagged floor of the work area around it were set below the contemporary ground level. Access to this work area was gained by way of steps on the north side and at the south-east corner.

The excavated kiln continued in use throughout the

BRISTOL, WATER LANE, 1971

LIMEKILN

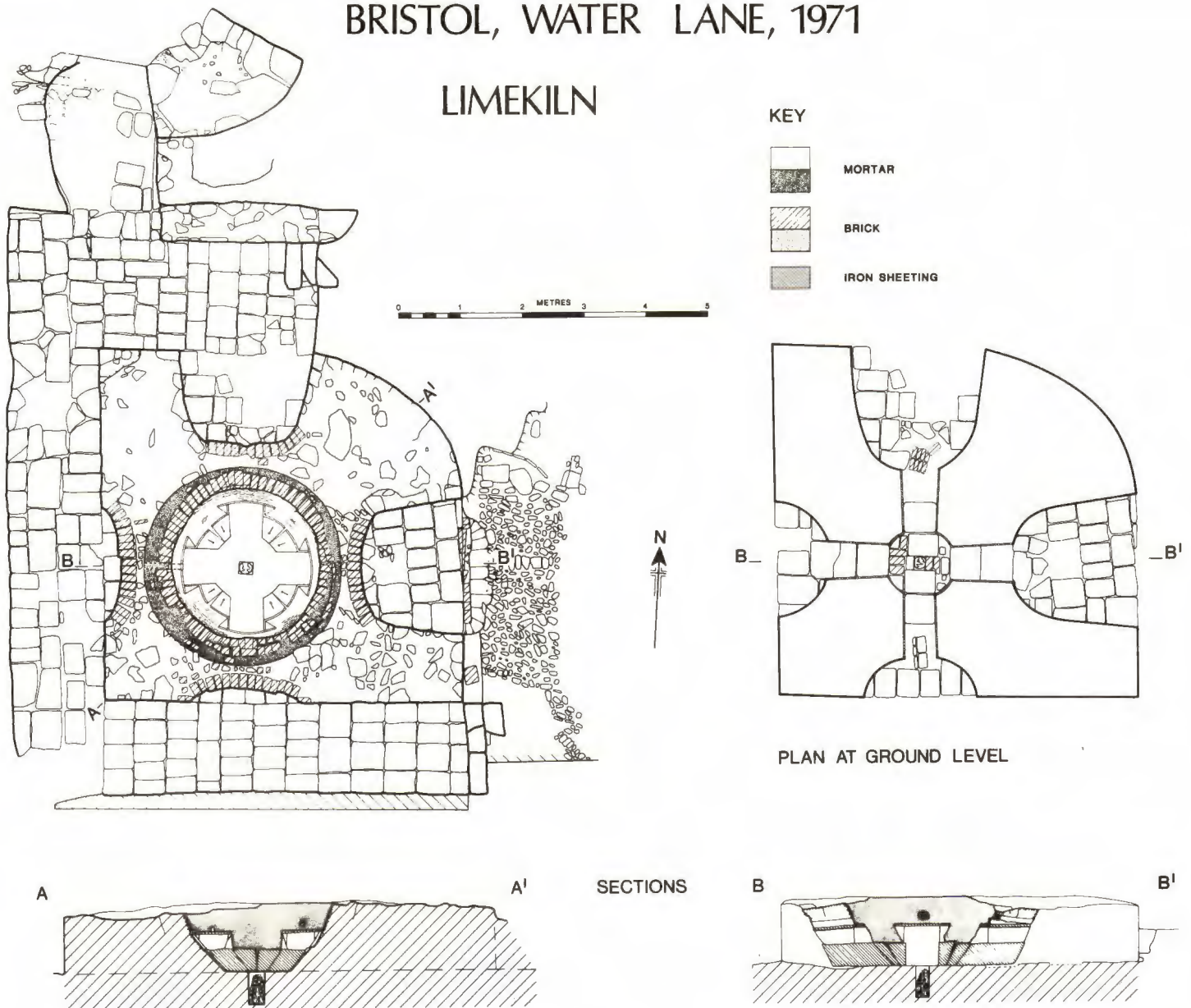


Fig 3. Plans and sections of the limekiln.

19th century and is shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:500 map of the area surveyed in 1883 (O S 1885), but by this time the other kilns shown on Ashmead's plan had been taken down. The Trade listings in the Bristol Directory suggest that the limekiln was still in operation until 1904 (Wright, 1904, 255 and 686), after which year George Nurse, then in occupation of the premises and previously listed as a limeburner and stone merchant, dropped the limeburning side of his business and presumably demolished his last kiln.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The on-site recording of the kiln was carried out with the assistance of Mrs. A.M. Bell, and the preparation of the drawings for publication was by Ms B.A. Carter and Miss A. Linge.

REFERENCES

- Ashmead, G.C. (with Plumley, J), 1829. *Plan of the City of Bristol and its Suburbs*.
 B R O Bristol Records Office document Aa 45(1) 00142 (10).
 Good, G.L., forthcoming. *Excavations at Water Lane, Temple, Bristol, 1971*.
 O.S. 1885. *Gloucestershire Sheet LXXVI.1.1*.
 Wright, J., 1904. *Bristol Directory*.



Fig 4. View of the limekiln from the west.



Fig 5. The kiln furnace, showing the iron sheets used to protect the brick lining.

MEDIEVAL FLOOR TILES FROM WINTERBOURNE

J.M. Hunt & J.R. Russell

In March 1987 a number of fragments of decorated medieval floor tiles were found by Mr. J.M. Hunt in a walled enclosure to the west of Winterbourne parish church, now incorporated in the churchyard but formerly part of the gardens of the adjacent Winterbourne Court Farm. The fragments were lying on the ground surface close to the western boundary of the enclosure (NGR ST 64078103). With the permission of the incumbent they were removed for further study. While it is possible that the tiles derive from the parish church it is equally likely that they were associated with the manor house which until 1881 occupied the site of Court Farm. This house was between 1337 and 1601 the seat of the Bradeston family; two medieval out-buildings, a barn and a circular dovecote, survive largely intact (Elliott 1936, 77-8), while a group of fish ponds has been recorded in the valley bottom to the west (Dennison & Iles 1986, 41). The garden enclosure in which the tiles were found is probably of 16th or 17th century date; it is bounded at its northern end by a raised, stone-walled terrace known locally as the "Monk's Walk" (Elliott 1936, 12).

Two designs, A and B, are represented on the fragments recovered in 1987. Of the 44 pieces found 18 show design A and 24 design B, the remaining two fragments being unidentifiable. The tiles of both designs are approximately 19 cm (7.5 inches) square and between 21 and 27 mm thick; the edges have a bevel of up to 12°. One example of design A has been cut diagonally in half. The

designs are executed in a shallow inlay, approximately 1 mm deep, filled with white pipeclay. In several examples of design B the pattern has been stamped into the tile twice, on slightly different alignments, leading to blurring and distortion. The faces of the tiles are covered, often very patchily, in a near colourless lead glaze. Their backs are generally somewhat uneven, with irregularly spaced keying hollows of variable size and depth, apparently scooped out with a knife or sharp-edged spatula.

The tile fabric contains numerous quartz grains between 0.5 and 1 mm in diameter, together with large nodules of iron ore, sometimes as much as 14 mm across. Smaller red or brown inclusions, either of iron ore or sandstone and up to 5 mm in diameter, are also frequent, as are white flecks of limestone or shell. Colouration and hardness are extremely variable, suggesting that the maker had limited control over the firing process. The general technical standard of the tiles is at best indifferent, and some have the appearance of wasters. It is evident, however, from wear on the upper surfaces and traces of pink sandy mortar on their backs and edges that most if not all of the tiles were in fact employed for flooring.

None of the tiles found are complete and no joins are apparent between the available fragments. Despite this the two designs can be reconstructed without great difficulty. Design A has four fleur-de-lys facing outwards towards the corners from a small central quatrefoil. Design B forms part

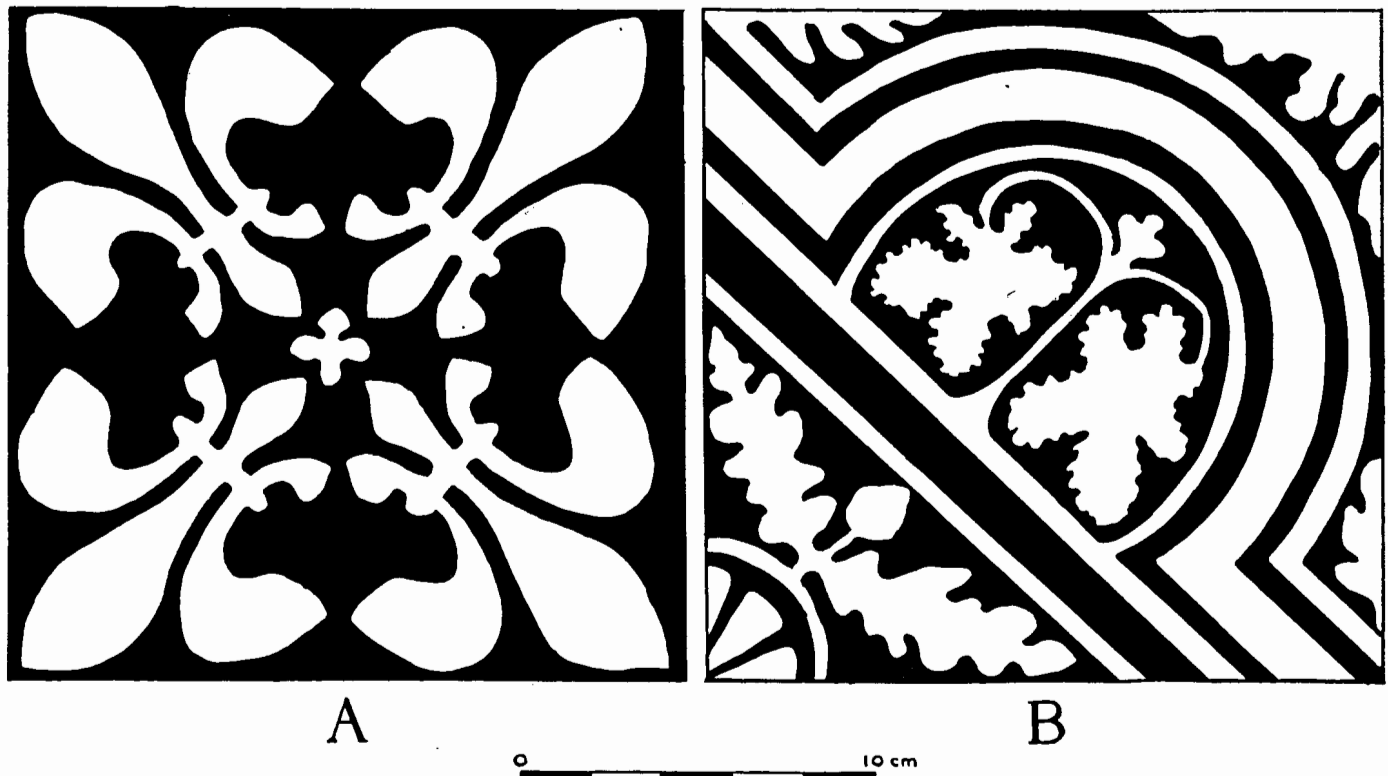


Fig. 1 Reconstructed designs of medieval tiles from Winterbourne.

of a repeating four-tile pattern. One corner is occupied by a rosette from which spring two oak leaves with a central (?) acorn. These elements are separated by diagonal bands from a central semicircular zone containing a further pair of (?) oak leaves springing from a central stalk. Further stylized leaves occupy the remaining angles.

The Winterbourne tiles are unusual for their large size, the majority of English medieval pottery paving tiles being no more than 14 or 15 cm square. This, coupled with their relatively low quality, suggests that they may have been produced as a sideline or experiment by a local potter or roof-tile maker without much experience of floor-tile manufacture. From the limited study made so far no precise local parallels for the designs are apparent. Technically and stylistically they seem to occupy a position midway between the products of the 13th century "Wessex

School", best represented locally at Keynsham Abbey (Lowe 1978) and those of the late 15th century "Malvern School" and its offshoots, represented, for instance, by the pavements from Canynges' House, Bristol and Iron Acton Court (Williams 1979). A 14th or early 15th century date for the Winterbourne examples may therefore be tentatively suggested.

REFERENCES

- Dennison, E. & Iles, R., 1986. Medieval Fishponds in Avon, *Bristol & Avon Archaeology* 4, 34-51.
Elliott, C.H.B., 1936. *Winterbourne, Gloucestershire*.
Lowe, B.J., 1978. *Medieval Floor Tiles of Keynsham Abbey*
Williams, B., 1979. Late Medieval Floor Tiles from Acton Court, Iron Acton, Avon, 1974 in *Rescue Archaeology in the Bristol Area* (1) ed. N. Thomas, 61-76.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE ROMAN TOWN OF ABONAE: EXCAVATIONS AT NAZARETH HOUSE, SEA MILLS, BRISTOL 1972.

by Julian Bennett et al, City of Bristol Museum & Art
able Monograph No. 3, 1985. £11.00.

The 1972 excavations described in this well-produced if somewhat misleadingly entitled monograph were carried out in advance of housing developments on the prominent ridge immediately to the south of the known Roman settlement at Sea Mills. The site had not previously been examined archaeologically and the only known find from the area was the crude and curious "SPES C SENTI" tombstone, discovered on the crest of the ridge in 1873. During the summer of 1972 the available area was comprehensively sampled by machine-cut trenches covering a total of 1500 square metres.

The results of the excavation were in some respects disappointing, since it soon became apparent that the site lay just outside the built-up area of the Roman town; apart from a few traces of possible timber structures no building remains were encountered. Towards the northern end of the site a complex of quarry-scoops in use (probably for mortar rubble rather than building stone) during the late 1st and early 2nd centuries was exposed; the fillings of the pits were largely sterile but included some domestic debris and butchers' waste as well as three extended inhumations. Further south, on the ridge-top, a small and modestly furnished cremation cemetery, again of late 1st-early 2nd century date, was found close to the find-spot of the (presumably later) "SPES C SENTI" tombstone. The remainder of the area appeared to be archaeologically barren; no evidence was found for a defensive circuit round the Roman town, while the line of the Roman road from Sea Mills to Bath, previously thought to follow the northern boundary of the site, could not be conclusively located despite extensive exploratory trenching.

In general there is little to complain of in Bennett's thorough and conscientious reporting of this somewhat unrewarding excavation. The central descriptive chapter 2 is, perhaps inevitably, as laborious to read as it appears to have been to write, and contains a few misprints and inconsistencies. For the less persevering reader there is however a clear and concise summary and discussion of the main findings in Chapter 4; in general they were limited both in quantity and intrinsic interest, although the stratified pottery assemblages are of some value for local studies. Some sherds of an unusual moulded ware of Flavian date are discussed separately in Appendix 3. Another appendix contains an interesting re-examination of the tombstone found in 1873; the stone used is shown to be of local origin while the bones associated with the find have been

relocated in the Bristol Museum collection and proved to be those of a young woman, presumably the lady so unflatteringly portrayed on this ineptly executed memorial.

Like other monographs in this series the Sea Mills report is nicely printed and produced by the City of Bristol Printing and Stationery Department; this reviewer would however have gladly accepted a more modest standard of production in return for a more attractive price!! The numerous line drawings (there are no photographs) are of variable quality; while the illustrations of finds are adequate the plans and sections leave a good deal to be desired. The sections are decidedly schematic, with little attempt to show the content or texture of the layers, while the detailed trench plans, seemingly copied with little modification from the original site records, make few concessions to the needs of the reader. In figure 7 the north point is misplaced, while in figure 9 the trenches DI and DII, almost contiguous in reality, are unaccountably shown 6 metres apart; in both plans and sections many lines are too thinly drawn to stand reduction, leading to considerable loss of clarity and detail. In the case of the three areas containing quarry pits (A, D and E) the inclusion of a general plan showing the various trenches and the features they contained in relation to one another would have greatly eased comprehension of the findings.

Despite these minor defects in presentation the value of this report remains considerable, and is not diminished by the fact that such new evidence as is presented concerning the nature and extent of Roman Sea Mills is generally of a negative or indirect character. The defences, approach roads and principal cemeteries of the settlement remain elusive, and must now be sought elsewhere on its periphery; the task of locating them should provide a stimulating challenge to local BAARG members, both professional and amateur, in decades to come.

James Russell

MARY-LE-PORT, BRISTOL. EXCAVATIONS 1962-1963

by Lorna Watts and Philip Rahtz, City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery Monograph No. 7, 1985 £24.50

The report describes excavations conducted by Philip Rahtz for Bristol City Museum in advance of a proposed, and subsequently cancelled, redevelopment of the Mary-le-Port area of central Bristol, which had lain derelict since the Second World War. Twenty five years ago this was an ambitious and pioneering project since it was the first large-scale modern excavation in Bristol; also it aimed to investigate the development of St. Mary-le-Port Church and Street at a time when both church and medieval archaeology were in their infancy. In other ways, however, the excavation shows its age since scant regard was paid

to post-medieval levels, human remains were not analysed and the standing structure of the church was only superficially investigated. Furthermore the excavation records and finds are admitted to have suffered from inadequate care and neglect resulting in confusion and lost data.

The publication itself consists of 208 glossy, well laid-out, pages. It is lavishly illustrated including some excellent 19th and early 20th century paintings of the church and street. There are also ten microfiche sheets and, unlike many reports where these are used only for the more turgid details, this volume uses the printed text as a guide to, and summary of, the full report which is consigned to the microfiche. Since this reviewer does not have easy access to a microfiche reader all comments are based on the printed text.

In addition to the archaeological excavation we are also presented with a piece of exemplary documentary research by Frances Neale, who presents all the evidence for the layout and character of the street from the fourteenth century until 1940. This provides interesting insights into the increasing population pressure in the city as gardens are no longer mentioned after the fourteenth century and after 1648 houses were constructed on top of a narrow cemetery between the churches' north aisle and the road. The character of the street also changed with a mixed community of merchants and artisans giving way, by the seventeenth century, to one of small artisans. Unfortunately there were few links between the documentary and archaeological evidence, mainly because most excavated features in the street were of pre-fourteenth century date. Particularly disappointing was the failure to discover correlations between the written record and materials remains of trades, crafts and occupations: the sole possible instance being late seventeenth - early eighteenth apothecary phials from where one Robert Meads may have practised in 1670.

The excavations were divided into three areas: two along Mary-le-Port Street and the other within the church. In all areas the stratigraphy was badly cut-about by post-medieval disturbance: this made phasing and structural reconstruction rather tentative, depending on structural similarities, stratigraphy, finds and "inductive probability evaluation" (p.89). Bearing these caveats in mind it was possible to trace the development of the site beginning with a few stray finds of ?prehistoric and Roman date. The earliest features were several aceramic ditches and gullies of uncertain date and purpose. Mary-le-Port Street first appeared in the late Saxon period when it developed into a hollow way. Occupation of both domestic and industrial character along its line is indicated by the finds and also by the corner of a timber building discovered next to the church. Metal working, mainly iron, was well represented. Analysis of the animal bones suggested that much of it represented butchers' waste and that horn working was carried out. There was also limited evidence for leather working, wood working, and textile manufacture. The stratigraphy of the street is complex and vital to the phasing of the site: it must have begun life as an open route way, been worn down to form a hollow way, and subsequently filled up and then been paved along its whole length. Interpretation of the fill of the hollow way required consideration of the state of preservation and nature of the finds in order to suggest that some layers represented mire accumulating during its use, while others were ?redeposited dumped rubbish or deliberate make-up in preparation for paving. Chronological uncertainties remain such that the initial paving of the street could be dated between the thirteenth and fifteenth centuries (although the former is the more probable). Possibly

it was at this time that the timber building next to the church was replaced by a complex of stone walls defining the limits of the northern churchyard.

The excavations inside the church were seriously affected by the massive destruction of stratigraphy caused by eighteenth and nineteenth century brick burial vaults. The earliest features have been tentatively postulated as belonging to a late Saxon or early post conquest church on the same alignment as the present building. In reality, these features are too diverse and ephemeral for any confidence to be placed in this reconstruction: the cutaways and burnt areas could well be secular and the traces of stone foundations may belong to the phase 2 church. Subsequent development consisted of the construction of a Norman church in the later twelfth century (phase 2). This was followed by reconstruction in Early English style and the addition of a north aisle in the thirteenth century (phase 3). It is uncertain whether a south aisle was ever built; if one was then it must have been demolished by the early sixteenth century. The late fifteenth century saw extensive modifications including the construction of the tower, rebuilding of the north aisle and chancel, and the construction of a cellared property, possibly the parsonage, in the corner between the north aisle and chancel (phase 4). Finally, in the early sixteenth century, the building was remodelled in Late Perpendicular style, and it was this structure, with modifications, which survived as a place of worship until 1940.

Arguably the most important result of this excavation is the evidence of pre-conquest occupation along a route which became a medieval street. This is fundamental to developing new theories as to the origins of Bristol (e.g. Ponsford, 1987, 145). A few iron and copper alloy objects from residual contexts are believed to be of pre-conquest date. A coin of Harold II was found in a rubbish dump underneath the street paving. Pottery was common in all phases, except the enigmatic and aceramic features of phase 1, and thus a clear understanding of this material is vital to the medieval, and particularly the pre-conquest, chronology of Bristol and its environs. Unfortunately the pottery report is a most confusing piece of work. We are presented with elements of no less than three fabric series: one is, presumably, the work of the authors, whilst the others appear as interpolated comments by Alan Vince or Mike Ponsford. The authors' series consists of 27 fabrics denoted by the letters A - Z and AA; this causes some initial confusion since Vince's classifications cross-cut these and include groups labelled "Bristol A, B & C". More problems arise from the frequent references to Ponsford's Bristol pottery type (BPT) series since this is unfortunately as yet unpublished. Consideration of the sole probable pre-conquest fabric (A) brings these difficulties to the fore since we are informed (p.84) that it subsumes BPT 1 (c 1000-1070) and BPT 115 (c 1070-1100); later (p. 147) we are told that "Fabric A ... does not occur at Bristol Castle" but that "Castle types ... do occur at Mary-le-Port; it is therefore suggested that Fabric A and relatives are earlier than BC groups, with perhaps a starting date in tenth rather than eleventh century".

Despite these criticisms, all of which have been made with the benefit of 25 years of hindsight, and many of which are freely acknowledged by the authors, I nevertheless feel that this is a carefully researched and produced report which should greatly benefit Bristol archaeology. One wonders however whether a much cheaper and shorter popular version would not be worth considering in order to appeal to tourists and Bristolians alike.

Alexander Kidd

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF AVON: A REVIEW FROM THE NEOLITHIC TO THE MIDDLE AGES

edited by Michael Aston and Rob Iles, Avon County Council, 1987 £6.95 (pb)

After the frenetic efforts of the 1960s and 1970s to provide an effective archaeological response to development threats, the 1980s have been a period of retrenchment and stocktaking. The changing climate has been reflected in the character of current publications. The archaeological implications reports fashionable during the 1970s were essentially political documents, designed to draw the attention of government, planning authorities and developers to the problem of threatened sites and to recommend preservation and excavation priorities. Almost incidentally they did often provide the best available summary of knowledge for their given topics, but this was never their primary aim. By the late 1970s a new class of publication was beginning to emerge: county-based reviews providing updated archaeological syntheses for their own sake, without the tub-thumping or turgid policy deliberations of the implications reports (not that the need for propaganda or coherent policies are any the less today). The new reviews were aimed at the interested public rather than the bureaucrat. They ranged from the ponderously academic to the unashamedly popular, and adopted a variety of forms, from the monumental but prohibitively expensive West Yorkshire survey (1981) to the much slighter but altogether more accessible *Archaeology of Somerset* (1982).

The Archaeology of Avon most closely resembles the Somerset model, small and somewhat awkward in format (21cm x 19.7cm), but attractively designed and well-illustrated with nearly fifty half-tone plates, over twenty maps (many in two colours), and numerous other plans and line drawings. As its subtitle indicates, it covers the timespan from the neolithic to the middle ages. A chapter on the palaeolithic and mesolithic had been reserved for Anne Everton, but sadly her final illness and death intervened, and it was rightly decided not to cobble something together in haste just to fill the gap. Post-medieval and industrial archaeology and historic buildings are also not covered, not through any lack of interest or information, but simply because of the impossibility of doing them justice within the book's confines.

The volume opens with a characteristically lively preface by Peter Fowler, who during his time in Bristol did so much to awaken public interest in the archaeology of the region. There follow chapters by Michael Dawson on the physical background, Timothy Darvill on the neolithic, Leslie Grinsell on the Bronze Age, Ian Burrow on the Iron Age, Stephen Bird on the Roman period, Philip Rahtz on the post-Roman, Michael Costen on the late Saxon, Michael Aston on medieval settlements, Rob Iles on the medieval rural landscape, castles and monasteries, and Joseph Bettey on medieval parish churches. The final three chapters take a closer look at particular cities and themes: Michael Ponsford covers Bristol, Barry Cunliffe Bath, and Leslie Grinsell contributes a chapter on the mints of these two places.

As is inevitable in any multi-author compilation, there

are variations in approach. Grinsell's chapter on the Bronze Age is primarily concerned with implements and burials, and he has little to say about the contemporary landscape. By contrast Darvill and Burrow have been more interested in examining the artefacts alongside the landscape evidence to illustrate broader social and economic themes. For this reviewer the most exciting chapters were those by the two editors on medieval settlements and rural landscapes, for it is here that the greatest advances in our knowledge have taken place in recent years. Bettey's contribution on churches is also refreshing, breathing new life into a topic which for too long has been stultified by antiquarianism. However, every essay contains much of interest.

Rather than referencing each chapter separately, the references are gathered together in a single bibliography at the end. Unfortunately communications between authors and editors evidently broke down at this stage. There are several awful tangles, for example where Branigan 1976a and 1976b are referred to on p. 60, but only Branigan 1976 appears in the bibliography, or conversely where Moore 1982 is referred to on pp. 86 and 88, but in the bibliography we find Moore 1982a and 1982b. Does Blockley & Day 1983 (p.60) equate with Blockley 1985 in the bibliography? A number of text references, e.g. Boon 1964 (pp.53 & 71), Hassall & Tomlin 1982 (p.69) and 1984 (p.67), Lobel & Carus-Wilson 1975 (pp.153 & 155) and Tratman 1924 (p.43) fail to appear in the bibliography at all. However, this is the only real blemish on an otherwise admirable publication, which should find a place on the bookshelves of everyone interested in the archaeology of the region.

James Bond

PREHISTORIC GLOUCESTERSHIRE

by Timothy Darvill. Alan Sutton and Gloucestershire County Library. 1987. A 5. 216 pages. £5.95 (pb).

This volume includes Northavon and parts of the surrounding counties in order to present Gloucestershire in its wider context. It is impossible to comment on the whole text in this review. With increasing evidence now available from C14 dates from Hazleton North long barrow and elsewhere, the author divides the Neolithic into Early (3500-3000 bc), Middle (3000-2400 bc), and Late (2400-2000 bc), dates to which several centuries require to be added for calibration into calendar years. He would put the so-called 'rotunda' graves as Early (consistent with Paul Ashbee's suggestion of 1982 that the entrance-graves of Cornwall and Scilly date from the Mesolithic). All the long barrows he refers to the Middle Neolithic regardless of type. On this basis the funerary record of the Late Neolithic contains very little indeed unless one includes the earlier beaker graves, and it is suggested that for some centuries if not longer it ceased to be the custom to erect substantial monuments over the dead, until the emergence of the Beaker phase. A minor detail is that on page 127 the plans of the two hillforts have inadvertently been transposed.

Leslie Grinsell

THE HISTORY AND COINAGE OF THE BRISTOL MINT

by Leslie Grinsell, City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, 1986. 60 pages. £3.75.

Leslie has made the study of the Bristol mint, from its inception in the 11th century to the 17th century, very much his own. This attractively produced book follows on from several earlier ones he has written on the same topic. This particular book is, according to its author, intended to be for a general readership. The book includes an historical summary with notes on the moneyers and a brief but interesting account on the various locations of the mint. The main part lists the coins minted in Bristol and has photographs of 25 of them. There is also a useful glossary and full references are given to the coins as well as to relevant published work.

Rob Iles

THE NAILSEA GLASSWORKS

by Margaret Thomas, published by the author, 1987. 55 pages.

This booklet, based on documentary sources, provides a very good introduction to the Nailsea glass making industry. The glassworks started in the 1780's and lasted a little under a century but they were a large enterprise and had a considerable impact on the rural locality at that time. This account provides details not only of the owners, methods of production and types of glass made but also has information on the glassworkers and their lives. It is well illustrated with numerous photographs and plans.

Rob Iles

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR BRISTOL

by Nick Dixon, City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, 1987. 58 pages.

This is a useful compilation of references for the area divided by period and other categories with a site-based index.