

A Synthesis of Middle and Late Saxon, Medieval and Early Post-medieval Pottery in the Oxford Region

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SUMMARY

The synthesis draws together medieval pottery from over 700 sites in the Oxford region, found prior to 1988. Fourteen major ceramic traditions have been isolated and each set in its wider geographical context to highlight likely production centres. The relationship between the ceramic networks is examined as are the underlying processes that may have shaped each respective distribution.

The quality and range of vessel types of each of these ceramic traditions shows great diversity and yet each found a substantial market.

During the late 9th–10th centuries three ceramic networks coincide with earlier Mid Saxon territories (OXAC, OXBF and OXR). By the mid 11th century, two of the long-established late Saxon traditions (OXB) and (OXR) had ceased, while the two remaining ceramic traditions (OXAC) and (OXBF) widened their distribution networks, presumably to cover the area originally supplied by the lapsed traditions.

Two new glazed traditions emerged (OXY and OXAG), possibly under the administration of Norman magnates, and provided tablewares for both the urban and rural consumer during the 12th and early 13th centuries. At the periphery of the region some traditions were more closely allied to peasant communities (OX162 and OX234) and part-time potters may have been responsible for their manufacture.

The 13th century saw some surprising distributions managed by middlemen and merchants. Some traditions remained technically very conservative (OXBB), (OXCX) and (OXAQ), and were probably closely tied to a rural economy such as dairying and the wool trade (OXAQ and OXBB). Others were associated with great technical innovation. The vitality of the tablewares from the Brill/Boarstall workshops (OXAW and OXAM), suggests that craftworkers with great ability and a wider intellectual vision were engaged at these workshops. These potters were almost certainly working for a wealthy patron.

Although this industrialization continued through to the 16th century, the artistic and the technical control quickly deteriorated. The potting tradition was continued during the 14th and 15th century by artisans manufacturing mass-produced wares.

In south-east Oxfordshire, however, fine tablewares copying metal prototypes were manufactured by very skilled potters, again probably working under patronage, in the later 14th–15th centuries.

This process of industrialization was interrupted in the 16th century and short-lived smaller workshops emerged to fill the lacunae (CO). By the second quarter of the 17th century the medieval ceramic tradition was finally replaced in the Oxford region.

The gazetteer is held on a computerised database which can be used in future as an aid to planning archaeological strategies.

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1: INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Over the past 100 years pottery from the Oxford region has been published in various journals at both local and national levels. This is the first attempt to bring together a wealth of information on the major ceramic traditions operating within the region from the 9th to the 17th century. To understand more clearly the early Late Saxon period, it has been necessary to scan cursorily all the early Saxon pottery within Oxfordshire.

This region has been variously defined;¹ for the purposes of this survey the boundaries reflect those of the medieval ceramic networks operating within the region (Fig. 1).

The region is noted for its pioneering studies on the subject of Late Saxon and Medieval pottery. Bruce Mitford's work in the late 1930s at the Bodleian Extension in Oxford created the first typological series which, sixty years later, is still substantially valid;² Jope's work in

¹ E. M. Jope, 'Saxon Oxford and its Region', in D. B. Harden (ed.), *Dark-Age Britain: Studies presented to E. T. Leeds* (1956), 234-58; R. J. Ivens, 'Patterns of Medieval Activity in the Southern Midlands of England: Archaeological and Historical Evidence' (Unpubl. PhD. thesis, Belfast University, 1981); T. Hassall, 'The Oxford Region from the Conversion to the Conquest', in G. Briggs et al. (eds.), *The Archaeology of the Oxford Region* (1986), 109-14.

² Sometimes referred to as New Bodleian: R. L. S. Bruce-Mitford, 'The archaeology of the site of the Bodleian Extension in Broad Street, Oxford', *Oxoniensia*, iv (1939), 89-146.

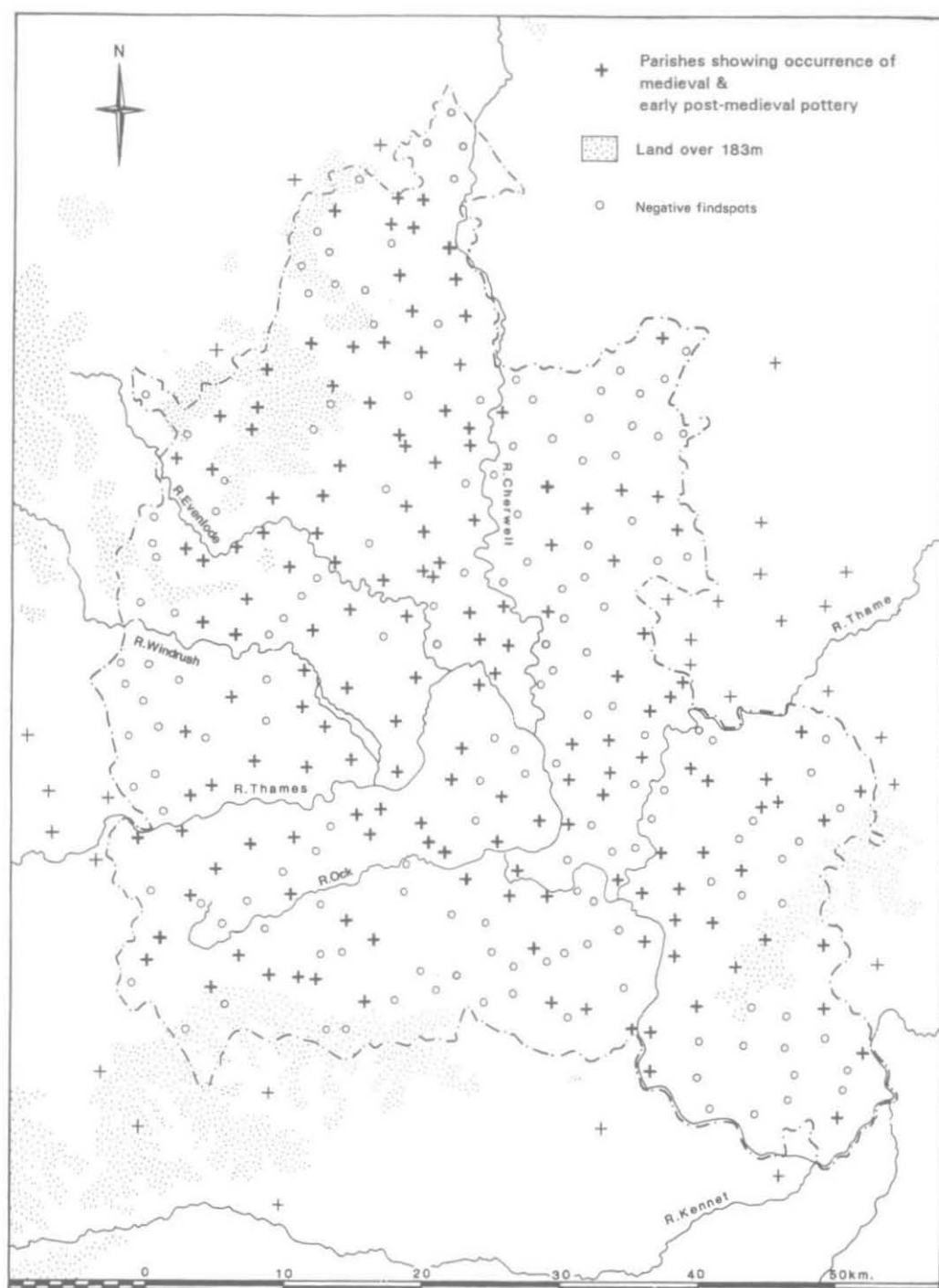


Fig. 1. Parishes showing occurrence of medieval and early post-medieval pottery.

the Oxford region over a period of forty years laid the foundation for pottery studies in the region and beyond.³

During the last thirty years largescale development in Oxford, Abingdon and Wallingford, together with a series of smaller excavations in many of the lesser market towns – Banbury, Deddington, Bicester, Witney and Henley – have resulted in large quantities of stratified pottery groups being recovered which greatly extend and amplify previous knowledge. The rural areas have received rather less archaeological attention but largescale excavations at a moated manor at Chalgrove in south-east Oxfordshire, at Middleton Stoney in north-east Oxfordshire, and at Dean Court, Cumnor, to the west of Oxford – and at a number of deserted village sites – have given some insights into the spatial patterning in the countryside.

In recent years, the writing-up and publication of this material has been on a site-by-site, project-by-project basis in order to comply with the funding requirements of such excavations. Although many are in typescript some 50 per cent of these sites still remain unpublished.

Worse, local museum collections have been augmented by finds, particularly from rural areas, for which there is no provision for publication; nor has there been adequate provision for the publication of material in private hands, much of which supplements areas where there has been little archaeology.

While no kilns have been located in the county, three deposits of pottery wasters have been recovered, two of them within the last decade; the material examined indicates that several pottery industries must have been operating within the region in addition to that mentioned in Domesday⁴ and the topographical evidence adds support to this claim (Figs. 2, 3). It is clear that there exists a large corpus of pottery available for presentation in the form of a comprehensive synthesis.

The study of pottery draws on historical, archaeological, scientific and technological evidence, and medieval ceramics is also an intensely regional and, on occasions, even a local subject; the Oxford region with its remarkably diverse geological formations has enormous potential for the subject. The reasons for pottery's importance have been convincingly discussed elsewhere.⁵ The authors bring together all aspects of the study, but their gazetteer in Part II – based on 'type sites' throughout the British Isles – is necessarily rather too superficial for the more serious student in any one region. It is hoped that the present synthesis of the Oxford region will go some way to redressing these limitations and better refine some of the regional ceramic cultures illustrated by Jope⁶ for this particular region, so furthering the study of their cultural diversity and related social strategies.

³ E. M. Jope, 'Medieval Pottery in Berkshire', *Berkshire Arch. Jnl.*, 1 (1947), 49–76; E. M. Jope, 'Regional character in West Country medieval pottery', *Trans. Bristol Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 71 (1952), 88–97; E. M. Jope, 'Medieval Pottery' in H. E. O'Neill, 'Whittington Court Roman villa, Whittington, Gloucestershire', *Trans. Bristol Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 71 (1952), 61–76; E. M. Jope and H. W. M. Hodges, 'The Medieval pottery' in H. E. O'Neill, 'Prestbury Moat: a manor house of the Bishops of Hereford in Gloucestershire', *Trans. Bristol Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 75 (1956), 5–34; E. M. Jope and R. I. Threlfall, 'The Twelfth-century Castle of Ascot Doilly, Oxon. . . .', *Antiq. Jnl.*, 39 (1959), 219–73; E. M. Jope, 'The Regional Cultures of Medieval Britain', in I. L. Foster and L. Alcock (eds.), *Culture and Environment* (1963), 327–50; E. M. Jope, 'Models in medieval studies', in D. L. Clarke, *Models in Archaeology* (1972), 963–90.

⁴ J. Morris (ed.), *Domesday Book: 14 Oxfordshire* (1978).

⁵ M. R. McCarthy and C. M. Brooks, *Medieval Pottery in Britain AD 900–1600* (1988), 3–5.

⁶ Jope, op. cit. note 3 (1947) and Jope in O'Neill (1952).



Fig. 2. Evidence for potteries: topographical, archaeological and documentary. Also shown are occupational surnames in potter or crocker which may or may not be indicative of local production.

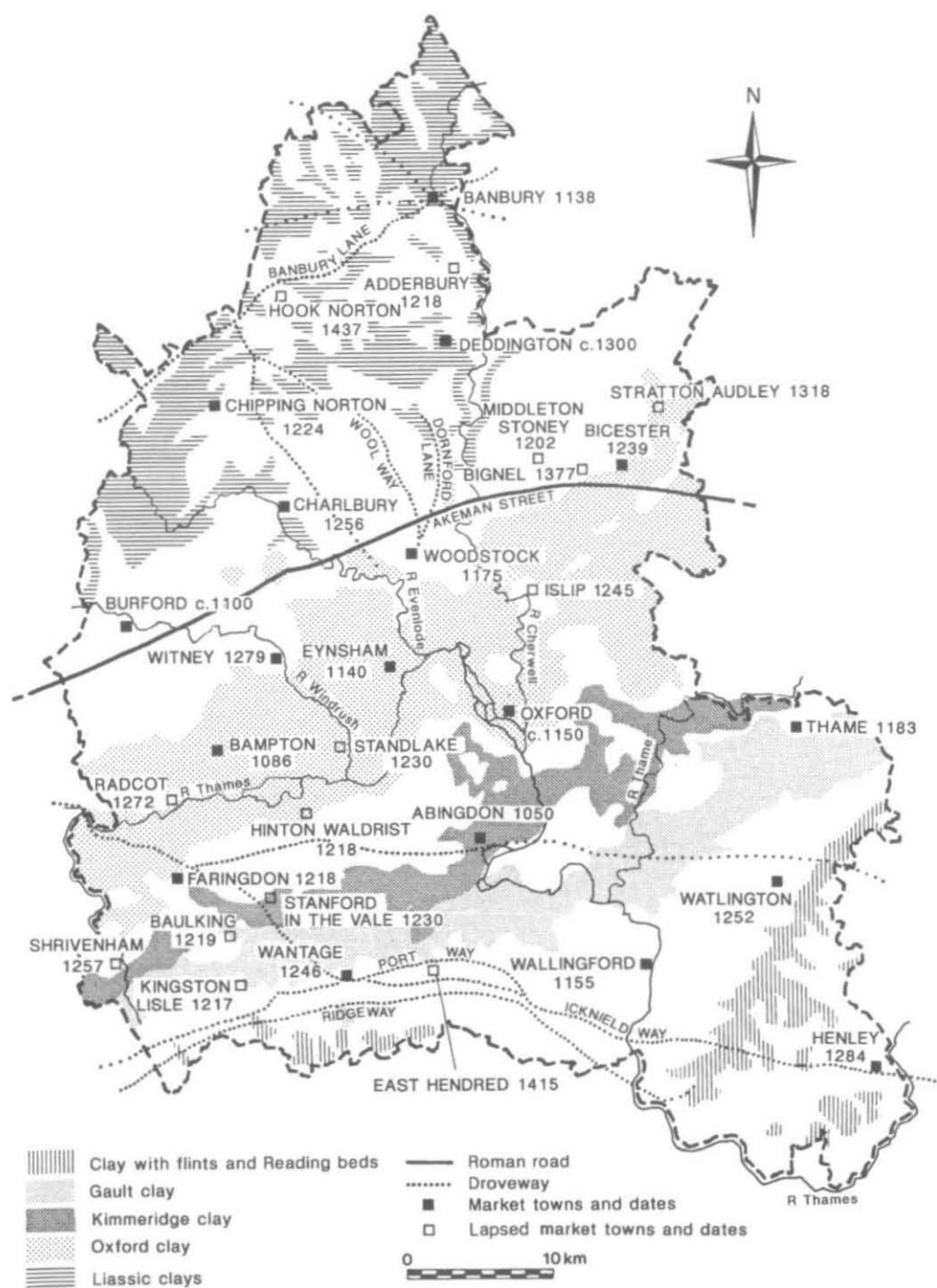


Fig. 3. Geological map showing Roman roads, droveways, market towns and lapsed markets.

OBJECTIVES FOR THE SYNTHESIS

The objectives of the study are twofold:

a) to draw together all the major ceramic traditions operating within the county between the 9th and 17th centuries, and to isolate their associated forms, typical rim and base types, styles of handles and their respective decorative elements, to form a regional type series of vessel forms within each ceramic tradition.⁷

b) to highlight their likely production sites or centres and suggest patterns of marketing and distribution networks within the region.

The intention is to provide archaeologists, local historians, social and economic historians and art historians working at national level with a series of models of distribution networks; hopefully, this will stimulate further fieldwork in the area as well as emphasise future research directions in ceramics.

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2: THE SURVEY

DATA COLLECTION FOR THE GAZETTEER

Records of thousands of sherds are already held by the Oxford Archaeological Unit, and new ceramic data has been collected and integrated with pottery from excavations that had already been analysed up to 1988. The basic recording unit adopted is a single sherd or, alternatively, a group of sherds with effectively identical characteristics, to facilitate rapid recording.⁸ Each discrete excavation or fieldwalking project was regarded as a 'site' and the sites were categorized under three main headings:

⁷ A ceramic tradition is the repeated occurrence of specific traits in space and time possibly reflecting a number of production sites, but not necessarily so, sometimes spread over considerable distances, producing pottery very similar in both fabric and form.

⁸ H. Blake and P. Davey (eds.), *Guidelines for the processing and publication of medieval pottery from excavations*, Department of the Environment Occ. Paper 5, Appendix 4, 50.

(1) *Type sites*: Pottery data, published or in typescript, from recently excavated stratified sites where the sherds had been quantified using either sherd number, sherd weight or minimum vessel numbers (see Appendix II).

Within Oxfordshire all the 'type sites' with one exception have been quantified by 'sherd count' during the past fifteen years. Some have also used 'sherd weight'. In the neighbouring counties the methods of quantification were more variable but, provided the method gives a clear resolution of fabric development of the major ceramic traditions, they are acceptable as 'type sites'. Given that the major ceramic traditions are so dominant, it has been shown that the same broad trends of these traditions are present irrespective of whether sherd number or sherd weight has been used.⁹ For comparative purposes the results are presented by way of piecharts which reflect the major ceramic traditions and their broad trends (Figs. 8, 9, 23, 24, 35, 36, 37, 73, 74).

When two or more 'type sites' within a town showed similar ceramic sequences only the most complete was recorded in the gazetteer, i.e. over 100 excavations have been carried out in the City of Oxford and environs e.g. Dean Court Farm and Seacourt, but only two excavations with long stratified sequences are presented in the gazetteer. One dates from the late 8th to late 12th century, the other begins in the late 12th century and continues until the 16th. Ideally, all information from larger urban sites would be recorded but, given the constraints of time and finance, resources were concentrated on breadth rather than depth of survey.

(2) *Other sites published or in typescript*: Site reports with inadequate pottery quantification; the major ceramic traditions from these sites are illustrated as presences only. Examples of this can be seen at Cirencester, Cricklade and Reading. Data from these sites were the most problematic and least satisfactory in terms of how to record the information for the gazetteer. The archives, if they existed, rarely included a stratigraphic matrix. There were two alternative procedures:

a) to reconstruct the stratigraphic relationships and fully analyse the pottery – but this was deemed to be too time-consuming for the amount of information gained, or,

b) to examine cursorily all the sherds for anything exceptional, but to record in detail only those illustrated in the publication on the assumption that these included the major traditions on that site.

The latter procedure was adopted, but its scientific limitations are acknowledged.

(3) *Small unpublished sites, material from fieldwalking and private collections*: These sites were recorded in detail as part of the gazetteer. They represent the bulk of 700 sites in Oxfordshire and are the major new contribution to the county.

The sites were identified through publications and by examining all the boxes containing ceramics housed in the local museums, with the exceptions outlined above; ceramic data collected by the author since then exist as a paper archive and are awaiting computerization; further data have been collected by the Oxford Archaeological Unit and other organizations that have carried out evaluations and excavations in the county in the recent past. Although over 700 site assemblages from within the modern day county boundary have been recorded, a further forty in the literature have not been located. Some are known to be still in private hands but the majority are missing from two museums; one handed its pottery

⁹ M. Mellor, 'Pottery' in N. J. Palmer, 'A Beaker burial and medieval tenements in The Hamel, Oxford', *Oxoniensia*, xlv (1980), 160–82, fiche 1 E06; C. Underwood-Keevil in B. Durham, 'Oxford before the University: Four Saxon Themes' (in prep.), Thames Valley Landscapes Mono.

collections – since dispersed – to the Education Department, and the other appears to have lost material prior to the early 1970s (see Appendix III).

The pottery from these new sites was recorded on a printed form which included information on the parish/town, a unique site code, site address, date when found or excavated and national grid reference to six digits and context identifiers. The details of the sherds were then recorded together with broad date groups, i.e. Prehistoric, Romano-British or Medieval, and where possible with a more precise date, i.e. late 12th to the early 13th century. Where present, the Museum Accession number was also recorded. The class of vessel follows the terminology designated in the Medieval Pottery Research Group Draft Glossary (privately circulated).

DATA MANAGEMENT OF THE GAZETTEER

The data was keyed into an IBM PC, one day each week under the auspices of a job creation scheme. The programs in dBase were especially written for the project by Simon Palmer of the Oxford Archaeological Unit. The suite of programs is menu-driven so information is easily accessible to all. The information stored in the pottery gazetteer can be accessed at three levels, and these are interactive.

- 1) The site data – an inventory of all towns/parishes and their respective grid references.
- 2) The pot type data – database with eight programs which sort and index the fields of information followed by counts and percentages of the total number of sherds present, to show the presence/absence of the major ceramic traditions in any one context.
- 3) Fabric type data – details of each fabric type with a correlation table showing different fabric types and their common names (see nomenclature and Appendix IV).

A separate file, but following the same format, contains the data from non-Oxfordshire sites.

PLOTTING THE CERAMIC DATA IN SPACE AND TIME

There was too much data to plot individual locations, so the quantity of sherds is represented by parish (Fig. 1). The overall timescale is split according to broad archaeological and typological periods, and these do not necessarily coincide with the emergence or demise of the major ceramic industries. The earliest date *c.* AD 780 is the earliest possible one attributed to Phase 1 at 79–80 St Aldate's, by radio-carbon and thermoluminescent dating.¹⁰ This period, Mid–Late Saxon, terminates *c.* AD 1080, which represents the early wash off the Castle Mound at Oxford, built *c.* AD 1071; the second period, Late Saxon and Early Medieval, terminates *c.* AD 1250, when the friars had acquired land for the second Dominican Friary.¹¹ The third period, Medieval, terminates *c.* AD 1400; this latter is not tied to an archaeological date but a typological date with the introduction of bifid rims, lids, cisterns; the final span, Late Medieval–Early Post-Medieval, ends *c.* AD 1625 with the emergence of the Early Post-Medieval ceramic tradition at Brill.¹²

These ceramic traditions were plotted onto the period maps. Traditions with wide

¹⁰ B. G. Durham, 'Archaeological Investigations in St. Aldates, Oxford', *Oxoniensia*, xlii (1977), 178.

¹¹ G. Lambrick, 'Further Excavations on the Second Site of the Dominican Priory, Oxford', *Oxoniensia*, l (1985), 142.

¹² M. Farley, 'Pottery and Pottery kilns of the Post-Medieval Period at Brill, Buckinghamshire', *Post-Medieval Arch.*, 13 (1979), 127–52; T. G. Hassall, C. E. Halpin and M. Mellor, 'Excavations in St Ebbe's, Oxford, 1967–1976: Part II: Post-Medieval Domestic Tenements and the Post-Dissolution Site of the Greyfriars', *Oxoniensia*, xlix (1984), 213–15.

distributions or those that were long-lived raised special problems. Where a sherd belonged to a ceramic tradition spanning several generations the latest date was taken, i.e. *OXBB* 12th–14th centuries appears on the map of AD 1250–1400. For the period AD 780–1080 in the rural areas, where a calcareous ceramic tradition (*OXAC*) is found stratified in association with the shelly limestone tradition (*OXB*) or St Neot's type (*OXR*), it has been recorded and plotted as Late Saxon. When, however, it is found in isolation it has been recorded as post AD 1080, i.e. 12th century or early 13th century – but it is clear that it could be earlier, particularly in the west and north-west of the county as at Wiggington Romano-British villa. In order to avoid any possible bias resulting from this period split, a key to the overall date-range of individual ceramic traditions is to be found in the left-hand corner of the maps, showing the date at which it first emerged and the date at which it disappeared from the archaeological record (Figs. 8, 23, 35, 73). A dotted line indicates that the dating evidence is either weak or unclear.

NOMENCLATURE

The broad chronological headings follow those set out many years ago.¹³ The four major local traditions (*OXB*, *OXAC*, *OXY*, *OXAM*) and their nomenclature were isolated in the 1970s at Oxford,¹⁴ but the regional synthesis has changed the existing local names slightly while still retaining elements of the existing local nomenclature, i.e. Oxford Late Saxon Ware now reads Late Saxon Oxford Ware in line with nomenclature in London (LSS Late Saxon Shelly).¹⁵ Once the production site/centre is located the common name will be changed and defined more precisely, following national procedures. Where a production site/centre has already been located in this region the common name takes the site name, as with Potterspury or Brill/Boarstall (Fig. 2).

DRAWING CONVENTIONS

The illustrations of the decorative features on the pots, where present, are shown as an inset with the relevant vessel; this approach was adopted merely to keep within the financial budget. It is hoped that the inclusion of colour photographs goes some way to redressing this. Following previous publications of medieval pottery in *Oxoniensia*, the colour conventions adopted for slip or applied decoration are shown in the key below (Fig. 4).



White



Red / brown

Fig. 4. Colour conventions of applied decoration.

¹³ J. G. Hurst, 'The Pottery', in D. M. Wilson (ed.), *The Archaeology of Anglo-Saxon England* (1976), 283–88.

¹⁴ R. Haldon and M. Mellor, 'The Saxon and Medieval Pottery', in B. Durham, op. cit. note 10, 113–19, 137–39.

¹⁵ A. G. Vince (ed.), *Aspects of Saxo-Norman London: II Finds and Environmental Evidence*, London and Middlesex Arch. Soc. Special Paper 12 (1991), 19.

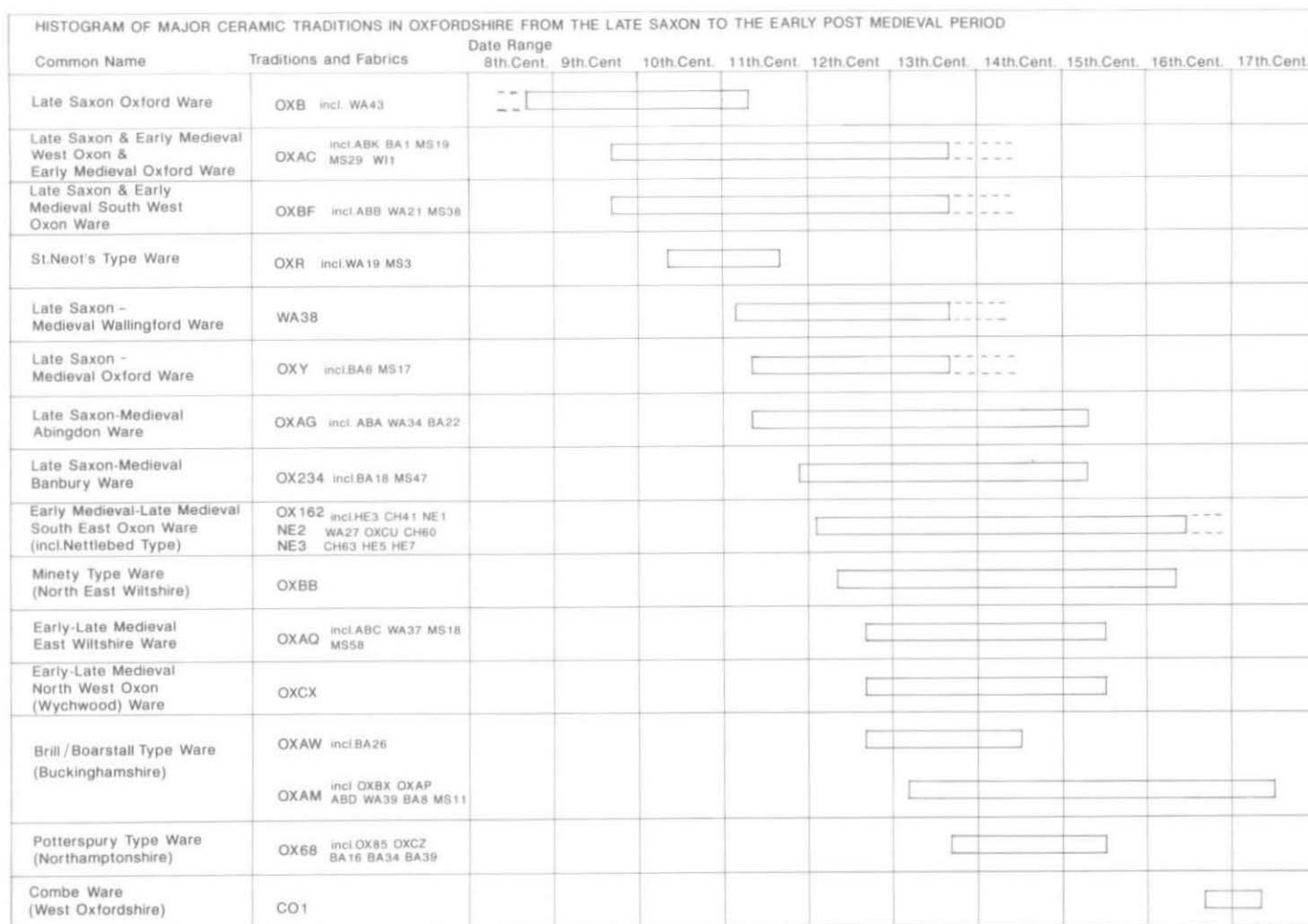


Fig. 5. Histogram of Major Ceramic Traditions in Oxfordshire from the Late Saxon to the Early Post-Medieval Period.

SYNTHESIS OF THE DATA

The first objective for the synthesis, that of identifying all the major ceramic traditions, was achieved; some fourteen different major ceramic traditions have been identified (Fig. 5). Given the size of the database it is unlikely that new major ceramic traditions will emerge within the county for the period in question, although small short-lived workshops, as at Combe in west Oxfordshire (see Section 8), will continue to be discovered.

It was soon apparent, however, that the distribution patterns would be incomplete without the picture from the adjoining territory, so these major traditions were therefore followed up outside the county with visits to local museums, archaeological units and private individuals (Appendix I), in order to help fulfil the second objective, namely to isolate the likely production areas. Pottery found from parishes bordering the county in Berkshire, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire was searched for these major Oxfordshire traditions, and where present they were recorded. Visits to London helped clarify Middle and Late Saxon ceramics.

Four of the major Oxfordshire traditions were recognized as coming from production areas outside the county: firstly, Minety in north-east Wiltshire (*OXBB*); secondly, a source identified by Alan Vince as possibly originating in the Savernake Forest, at a hamlet called 'Crockerestrop' (thorp or hamlet of the Crocker or maker of pots) east of Marlborough (*OXAQ*) – first mentioned in c. AD 1257;¹⁶ thirdly, the Brill/Boarstall kilns in central Buckinghamshire (*OXAM*), where 10 kilns are recorded as early as AD 1254 but potters' surnames occur earlier (see Section 3; the potters had the right to take small branches from the copse adjacent to the field of Boarstall);¹⁷ and finally Potterspury in south Northamptonshire (*OX68*).¹⁸ The name 'Potterispirye' was first mentioned in 1287 AD, being previously known as Pirie or Estpirie.¹⁹

The distribution patterns of another six ceramic traditions indicated that they were probably made within the modern county boundaries of Oxfordshire (*AXB*, *OXAC*, *WA38*, *OXY*, *OX162*, *OXCX*). Three were less certain, but have been assigned to specific areas which straddle the county boundaries within the Oxford region (*OXBF*, *OX234* and possibly *OXAG*), while a fourth probably originated outside the region to the north-east (*OXR*).²⁰

3: DOCUMENTARY AND TOPOGRAPHICAL SOURCES

PLACENAMES SUGGESTING MEDIEVAL PRODUCTION SITES

As the likely areas for the production sites/centres within Oxfordshire emerged, some of the secondary sources of documents were examined. The Victoria County History has covered much of Oxfordshire but some hundreds, notably in the south-east and south-west, have not

¹⁶ A. G. Vince, 'The Medieval Ceramic Industry of the Severn Valley' (Unpubl. PhD. thesis, Southampton University, 1984).

¹⁷ R. J. Ivens, 'Medieval Pottery Kilns at Brill, Buckinghamshire', *Records of Bucks.* xxiii (1981), 102; *Rotuli Hundredorum* I, 22a.

¹⁸ E. M. Jope, 'Northamptonshire: a late medieval pottery kiln at Potterspury', *Arch. News Letter*, 2, no. 10 (1950), 156–7; D. C. Mynard, 'Medieval pottery of Potterspury type', *Bull. Northamptonshire Federation Arch. Soc.* (1970), 49–55.

¹⁹ J. E. B. Gover, A. Mawer and F. M. Stenton, *Place Names of Northamptonshire* (E.P.N.S. x, 1933), 105.

²⁰ For the most up to date discussion concerning *OXR* see Mellor in Durham, *op. cit.* note 9.

been covered in detail. A comparatively new source of topographical reference is the fieldname survey for Oxfordshire compiled by WI and housed in the Sites and Monuments Record. This is two-thirds complete, but some parishes in the areas most likely to have long-lived pottery industries – as in the south-east of the county – are still awaited. This survey has produced many new post-medieval names relating to potters, tilers and brickworks in the region (Appendix IX), and five 'crock' names for the medieval period or earlier have emerged (Fig. 2).

'Crocc' is the early English for pot or vessel, and the new 'crock' names all occur within the denser areas of distribution of the major ceramic traditions. A crock name occurs eight miles to the east of Banbury at Woodford Halse in Northamptonshire²¹ and falls within the distribution of Late Saxon-Medieval Banbury Ware (OX234). Crockwell, just west of Bicester in north-east Oxfordshire, and first mentioned c. AD 1225,²² may be associated with Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OX1). In the 13th century this area was enclosed by a sheepfold and pens of Bicester Priory and later became the site of a stone quarry.²³ This site and Crockwell Assarts in the parish of Ramsden, in west Oxfordshire²⁴ at the centre of distribution of Wychwood Ware (OXCX), are both situated close to Romano-British roads. A very small hamlet of Crockmore in Buckinghamshire, three miles north of Henley, was also found through the survey and may be linked to the major ceramic tradition in the town (OX162). This is three miles to the east of Crocker End at Nettlebed, first mentioned as 'Crockkernende' in AD 1417.²⁵ Further west, a 15th-century place-name 'Crock Hill' is found at South Stoke just south of Wallingford.²⁶ In the post-medieval period this parish was important for brick and tile making.²⁷

Other medieval fieldnames suggesting production sites/centres include Putfurlong in Drayton north of Banbury, first mentioned in AD 1289–1318 and which may be worth investigation;²⁸ Potter's Close at Horton-cum-Studley, a parish adjoining Boarstall in Buckinghamshire where medieval wasters have been identified (Fig. 2);²⁹ Potter's Farm at Benson, referred to in AD 1449–1450 as 'lands called Pottys'³⁰ and again in a survey of AD 1606;³¹ and Potter's Lane, running south from Potter's Farm towards the parish of Nuffield, along the line of a Romano-British road and so to Nettlebed. The land on either side of the lane should be fieldwalked as black soil is evident on a triangular piece of land which was under winter wheat at the time of the survey.³² These parishes lie to the east of Wallingford in an area originally within the manor of Bensington in the parish of Benson, very close to the boundary with Nuffield parish.

²¹ Terry Pearson, pers. comm.

²² M. Gelling, *The Place-Names of Oxfordshire*, i (E.P.N.S. xxiii, 1953), 198.

²³ J. C. Blomfield, *History of the Deanery of Bicester*, II (1884), 110, 126.

²⁴ The Women's Institute fieldname survey, held with the Oxfordshire Sites and Monuments Record. I am very grateful to Ival Hornbrook who kept me informed as new information was added to the survey and to Elizabeth Leggat for drawing my attention to other fieldnames cited in the Enclosure Awards.

²⁵ H. Salter, 'An Early Mention of Bricks', in Notes and Queries, *Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Arch. Jnl.*, xix (1913), 91; Gelling, op. cit. note 22, 131.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ J. Bond, S. Gosling and J. Rhodes, *Oxfordshire Brickmakers*, Oxfordshire Museums Service Publication no. 14 (1980), 17, 19 and 21.

²⁸ N. Denholm-Young (ed.), *The Mediaeval Archives of Christ Church* (O.H.S. xcii, 1931), 56, 64.

²⁹ M. Farley, 'A Medieval Pottery Industry at Boarstall, Buckinghamshire', *Records of Bucks*, xxiv (1982), 107–17.

³⁰ Inq. p.m. 28 Hen VI no. 25, m.3 (1449–1450); H. A. Napier, *Historical notices of the parishes of Swyncombe and Ewelme in the County of Oxon.* (1858), 104; M. T. Pearman, *A History of the Manor of Bensington* (1896), 124.

³¹ Gelling, op. cit. note 22, 118.

³² I am grateful to the previous owner, Mr. Dykes, for drawing my attention to this area.

Nuffield adjoins the parish of Swyncombe. 'Potters and Soulas' are both mentioned in AD 1422-61,³³ and 'Soulas' may be equated with Soundess Farm, in the parish of Swyncombe.³⁴ The name implies that a ceramic industry existed before this date and many of the surrounding parishes may have been involved in ceramic industries of one type or another. Swyncombe is recorded as having a thick bed of greenish white sandy clay in the 19th century³⁵ which could be responsible for the white firing clay (see NE3). Plot in his *Natural History of Oxfordshire* (1677) makes mention of a short-lived late medieval industry at Marsh Baldon and Nuneham Courtney which may have been associated with the fieldname 'Potlands' and was active some time after AD 1514 – though it was clearly out of use before AD 1677.³⁶

'Potter's Hill' and 'Potter's Quarre' in the parish of Leafield in West Oxfordshire are known from an account in AD 1591 and two surveys of Wychwood in AD 1608-9 – in this case they could indicate pottery manufacture (see Section 8). The parish of Leafield is first recorded as an assart in Wychwood Forest in AD 1213;³⁷ this parish adjoins Ramsden which has a 'crock' name (above).

Outside the county to the south, at Reading, a 'Potterslane' c. AD 1347 is known, but its exact position in the town cannot be located; by that date the term might have become associated with the metal rather than the clay worker, particularly in an urban setting.³⁸

Post-medieval fieldnames

Many parishes in the post-medieval period have fieldnames suggesting possible associations with ceramic industries (Appendix IX), and all would justify some fieldwork to establish their beginning and end dates; the origins of some may lie in the medieval period.

DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE OF PRODUCTION, AND OCCUPATIONAL SURNAMES

Only one area of pottery production is known from the Domesday Survey, and this was at Bladon in central Oxfordshire where 10s. (over eight per cent of the total value of the manor) was returned by the *ollaria* or *pottaria*, suggesting that in AD 1086 pottery accounted for a considerable income. Mrs le Patourel estimated that this might indicate about eleven potters paying small rents, the total of which implies a sizeable industry.³⁹ Reference to potters working at New Woodstock close to Bladon⁴⁰ has been discounted by local historians. The furnace mentioned in Adam Beneyth's holdings and the furnace rented by Agnes Siber for one penny a year need not refer to potters' kilns but could equally well be smithies or forges;⁴¹ the distribution patterns of the major ceramic traditions suggest that

³³ Napier, *op. cit.* note 30, 104.

³⁴ Gelling, *op. cit.* note 22, 131.

³⁵ *Ibid.* 131.

³⁶ N. Stebbing, J. Rhodes and M. Mellor, *Oxfordshire Potters*, Oxfordshire Museums Service Publication no. 13 (1980), 4 and 26.

³⁷ *Ibid.* 4 and 21; this booklet draws together all knowledge concerning potters up to 1980.

³⁸ H. E. Jean le Patourel, 'Documentary Evidence and the Medieval Pottery Industry', *Medieval Arch.*, xii (1968), 102.

³⁹ *Ibid.* 104.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.* 107.

⁴¹ *Ibid.* 109, 116; See Henley below. I am grateful to Christopher Day of the Victoria County History and Richard Sharpe of Oxford University for their research into this matter.

none had a focus in the town. However, there is still a William le Pottare mentioned in the Hundred Rolls in AD 1279 in Woodstock, suggesting that an individual craftsman with a small workshop may have been active.⁴² In this town little pottery has been recovered from the archaeological record. An order for 4,500 cups from Woodstock in AD 1267, costing 53s. 7¹/₂d., may have been directed to the Brill/Boarstall workshops, if the cups were made from pottery.⁴³

Several other potters' names are known from within the region. An Alexander le Poter leased land in Oxford c. AD 1316–1320.⁴⁴ In AD 1225 a potter's surname is known in Banbury;⁴⁵ in AD 1245 William le Poter is mentioned from Wallingford;⁴⁶ in AD 1272 Nicholas and Richard le Poter from Leafield⁴⁷ and John le Potter from Ascot under Wychwood were mentioned in the Forest Proceedings,⁴⁸ and another potter probably of medieval date, some 4 miles to the west of Bladon in the forest of Wychwood, is mentioned in another document.⁴⁹

The most important charter evidence in Oxfordshire relates to Henley, where Adam le Pottar son of William Pottar was granted a messuage *in nouo uico* (New Street). The grant is undated but Hughes suggests a date before AD 1290; the earliest dates suggested are AD 1260 and AD 1268, and William occurs among witnesses who also appear in charters of AD 1240 and AD 1246. References to potters occur in the last four decades of the 13th century and the first two decades of the 14th. In an undated record William Pallemor or Palmer of Henley grants Richard Wython a messuage 'in le New Street'

from the street which leads from the oven that stands opposite (the house) of William Potter on the Thames side as far as the land that William Palmer held on the south side.

The witness list includes William 'Poter'.⁵⁰ Again, as at Woodstock, 'furno' could be translated as furnace or possibly kiln.

Outside the county, but north of the river Kennett, potters' names are known at East Garston for the post-medieval period.⁵¹ Two potters' surnames are known at Brill in the first quarter of the 13th century – Sampson le Poter and Walter le Poter are recorded as holding land in c. AD 1210–1220⁵² – and there is also a 12th-century reference to Ralph Poter, a witness, though it is not clear whether he is associated with the manor at Brill.⁵³ In AD 1417–18 Robert Potter of Boarstall was granted land, but by this date there is no certainty that surnames denote occupations.⁵⁴ It seems likely that the ceramic industry was in operation c. AD 1200, but this needs to be tested in the archaeological record.

⁴² Le Patourel, *op. cit.* note 38, 109.

⁴³ *Ibid.* 107; also see 'prices in the documents'.

⁴⁴ H. E. Salter, *Cartulary of Oseney Abbey*, iii (O.H.S. xci, 1931), 134, 145, 150; Mellor, in Palmer, *op. cit.* note 9, 178–9.

⁴⁵ *V.C.H. Oxon.* x, 62.

⁴⁶ J. and S. Dewey, *The Book of Wallingford* (1977), 70.

⁴⁷ Stebbing, *op. cit.* note 36 (1980), 27; P.R.O., Forest Proceedings for 1272 (E32/137).

⁴⁸ John le Potter of Estcote, P.R.O., Forest Proceedings for 1272 (E32/137, membrane 2).

⁴⁹ Le Patourel, *op. cit.* note 38, 109.

⁵⁰ I am indebted to the late Dr. W. O. Hassall for bringing M. Hughes's handlists to my attention, to Oxfordshire Archives for locating the original deed – Henley Borough Records, A IX/1/AD7 – and to Richard Sharpe for the translation from medieval latin.

⁵¹ M. Gelling, *Place-Names of Berkshire* (E.P.N.S. i, 1973), 332.

⁵² H. E. Salter, *The Boarstall Cartulary* (O.H.S. lxxxviii, 1930), 78; Farley, *op. cit.* note 29, 116.

⁵³ Ivens, *op. cit.* note 17, 102; Farley, *op. cit.* note 29, 116.

⁵⁴ Le Patourel, *op. cit.* note 38, 102.

OTHER DOCUMENTARY SOURCES

The south-east

Ceramic tiles and brick-making had been established at Nettlebed since the 14th century,⁵⁵ and it is possible that pottery was also being made there at that time. Abingdon Abbey purchased tiles in the 15th century from Nettlebed.⁵⁶ In AD 1442 Henry Potter of Sidford, Middlesex appears in the Ministers' Accounts for Nettlebed,⁵⁷ and although the surname may not reflect his occupation at this period, given that both Nettlebed and nearby Crocker End were engaged in ceramic industries the association may be valid; William Butler, a potter at Nettlebed, died c. AD 1560.⁵⁸ The parish of Nettlebed adjoins Swyncombe, where wasters of the late 14th–early 15th century were discovered.⁵⁹

As a pilot project, Sarah Donovan spent two weeks looking for pottery references in some primary sources for south-east Oxfordshire (Fig. 77; see Appendix V). This is an area known as having a long-lived ceramic industry, and part of the area under investigation coincides with the west-facing scarp of the Chiltern Hills. At the time of the Domesday Survey it was one of the poorest parts of the county with low settlement density; marginal agricultural land is often associated with long-lived pottery industries.⁶⁰

The Lay Subsidy Rolls covering eight hundreds were systemically perused for the period AD 1295–1581 (Appendix V).

The work has clarified the potential resources of each hundred, the availability of clay, timber, bushes and underwood during the period in question, and has shown that there are many versions of 'potter' and 'crocker' in the early 14th century at a time when the name may still be meaningful. These names in the later period, in this particular area, may also be relevant.⁶¹ In further support of this, a parallel case to the potters can be found in a continuing concentration of surnames such as Fuller around Standlake in the 15th century, several of whom can be shown to have been still involved in fulling or textile manufacture even though the name was apparently hereditary.⁶² To put this in context, however, the documentary work needs to be extended over a larger area to see whether there are positive correlations with the areas of pottery production, for example north-west Oxfordshire.

South-east Oxfordshire also supported several hunting lodges, as at Ewelme and Huntercombe⁶³ and possibly Swyncombe, favoured by royalty during the medieval and later medieval periods. These hunting stations or lodges would have created a demand for vessels for storage, cooking and eating, and pottery along with vessels in wood and metal would have been needed. The Forests were also an obvious source of fuel and in these areas Forest Law would have applied; thus the earlier Forest Pleas contained in the Pipe Rolls for the south-east area were examined. The volumes consulted dated from AD 1199–1242, but the results for this area were disappointing.

⁵⁵ 36,000 tiles were made at Nettlebed for building works at Wallingford Castle in 1365 AD, L. F. Salzmann, *Building in England down to 1540* (1952), 230; Bond, *op. cit.* note 27, 2.

⁵⁶ R. E. G. Kirk (ed.), *Accounts of the Obedientia of Abingdon Abbey* (Camden Soc., n.s. li, 1892), in AD 1422, 1428–9, 1436–7, 96, 97, 107 and 114, respectively.

⁵⁷ P.R.O., SC 6/961/21–6, 21–8.

⁵⁸ Oxon. R.O., MS Wills Oxon. 183, f. 347.

⁵⁹ Oxford Archaeological Newsletter, ix, no. 6 December 1982.

⁶⁰ C. Dyer, 'The Social and Economic Changes of the Later Middle Ages, and the Pottery of the Period', *Medieval Ceramics*, 6 (1982), 38.

⁶¹ C. Dyer, *pers. comm.*

⁶² S. Townley, *pers. comm.*

⁶³ Gelling, *op. cit.* note 22, xxvii.

West Oxfordshire

The Forest Pleas of the royal forest of Wychwood in AD 1272 were more productive; the largest groups of 'vert offenders' came from Combe, Stonesfield, Wootton and Witney, although there were 19 from Leafield; among them, Richard le Poter and Nicholas le Poter were each fined 12d. for wholesale and persistent taking of the king's wood. Neither of the potters appear in the Hundred Rolls of AD 1279, either suggesting that they must have been landless men, though they should still have appeared as cottagers, or that there are omissions from the Hundred Rolls.⁶⁴ John le Poter from Ascot-under-Wychwood, also mentioned in the Pleas, may have been responsible for the wasters recovered from Ascott by Jope.⁶⁵

Central Buckinghamshire

In the Hundred Rolls for Brill, there were recorded ten *furna vel plurima* at 3d. each in AD 1255. The lord of the manor required a potter to pay a licence to dig clay, and it was this raw material on which he, the lord, made his profit. At Brill a reeve's account of AD 1279 gives 4s. 6d. for 'claygavel', and claygavel was entered regularly in the steward's accounts in the 13th and 14th centuries.⁶⁶

CONCLUSION TO THE DOCUMENTARY SECTION

It is clear that the available documents can provide useful background information on the potters and production sites/centres, but many sources still remain to be explored and investigated – in particular, household rolls, manorial accounts and court rolls in the areas where the distribution patterns of pottery are very confined, and for the south-east in particular the later Forest Pleas housed in the Record Office in London.

One such household roll belonging to Richard Swinfield, Bishop of Hereford, for AD 1289–90, details not only the crockery purchased for the Christmas feast at Prestbury Manor, Gloucestershire (12 mugs, 300 dishes, 150 plates, 200 saucers, plus 10 sextaries of red and white wine and an unscored quantity of beer at the Great Feast), but also the route taken by the household that same winter to London, crossing the river into Oxfordshire at Lechlade and so to Faringdon, Wantage and Reading and on to London. On the return journey the kitchen cart upset at Buscot near Lechlade – the crockery had to be replaced and a further supply of 24 cups, 50 dishes, 100 plates and 50 saucers purchased by the cook at the market.⁶⁷ The exact provenance of the market and how many items were pottery can only remain a matter for conjecture.

Sellers of earthenware are sometimes mentioned in the documents, as in Oxford where they shared a stall with charcoal sellers in the High Street during the 14th century.⁶⁸

⁶⁴ Stebbing, *op. cit.* note 36, 4, 21.

⁶⁵ E. M. Jope and R. I. Threlfall, 'The twelfth century castle of Ascot Doilly, Oxon.', *Antiq. Jnl.*, xxxix (1959), 246.

⁶⁶ P.R.O., SC6/759/ 30–31; Farley, *op. cit.* note 29, 117.

⁶⁷ Jope in O'Neill, *op. cit.* note 3, 24–5.

⁶⁸ O. Ogle, 'The Oxford Market', in M. Burrows (ed.), *Collectanea*, II (O.H.S., xvi, 1890), 14.

Charcoal was a necessary fuel for cooking and for providing warmth for the house. For these products to share the same stall would be mutually beneficial. Potter and charcoal burner had much in common – both relied on the woods for fuel and both had to control and understand firing technology, which requires considerable skill. They may have travelled together to the market and so shared costs of transport.

Prices in the documents

Prices of individual items are rare, but documented evidence exists for Bicester Priory, which purchased pots, platters and dishes for the Priors' Chamber in AD 1346 at 3s. 7d.,⁶⁹ in AD 1421 three earthen pots (*ollis*) for Priors' Hall were purchased in Oxford at 3d.⁷⁰ It is very probable that at this period these items were either made in the vicinity of Brill or, in the case of the three earthen pots, might be in the ceramic tradition from east Wiltshire (*OXAQ*). It is interesting to note that the prior did not go directly to the producer at Brill/Boarstall which would have been nearer than going to market at Oxford. An inventory for a dairy at the moated manor at Hampstead Marshall, which lies within the heartland of the distribution of *OXAQ*, may be relevant:⁷¹

In 1288 pots and pans cost	4d.
In 1290 pots and pans	4d.
In 1292 pots and pans	2d.
In 1293 pots and pans	6d.
From 1297–9 2 pots, 6 pans	3d.

Only the latter item indicates the price of an individual pot – which was not cheap, given that the average man was earning $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per day, the equivalent to two loaves of bread or four pints of ale,⁷² but it does suggest that prices were comparatively stable at this period.

For the south-east of the county the only reference to pots being produced within the manor of Benson occurs in the late 13th century (*Exitus Manerii . . . Et de 4d de tolneto ollarum lutearum de Bensynton, hoc anno affirmato*);⁷³ at this time Henley was still within the manor. Rather later, in AD 1498, a payment of 17d. *de redditu sales et ollarum luti vitri et urinal apud Bensynton, Stokynghchurch et Henley* was made,⁷⁴ but it is not clear whether these items were purchased or made at these settlements.

For the late medieval period the cost of a pot, possibly a cistern, for the storage of ale was recorded as 4d. in the late 15th century; this may have been a product of the Brill industry.⁷⁵

⁶⁹ Blomfield, *op. cit.* note 23, 158.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.* 169; D. A. Hinton, 'Bicester Priory', *Oxoniensia*, xxxiii (1968), 51.

⁷¹ E. Jervoise, 'Norman Motte at West Woodhay, Berkshire', *Trans. of the Newbury District Field Club*, vii, no. 4 (1937), 261–73; prices of pots presented by J. Le Patourel, at the Medieval Pottery Research Group annual meeting 1981.

⁷² Dyer, *op. cit.* note 60, 38.

⁷³ L. M. Midgley (ed.), *Ministers' Accounts of the Earldom of Cornwall 1296–1297* (Camden 3rd Ser., lxxvi 1942), vol. 3, 98.

⁷⁴ Pearman, *op. cit.* note 30, 89–90.

⁷⁵ Magdalen College, *Oxford Libri Compoti* (1481–2); Dyer, *op. cit.* note 60, 38.

4: EARLY SAXON AND MIDDLE SAXON TRADITIONS

Before turning to the early Late Saxon period, it is necessary to consider the immediate post-Roman settlement evidence from the Thames Valley. Many sites are recognised as belonging to the 5th and 6th century and pottery with chaff temper is usually associated with these 'pagan' Saxon sites. Few sites are conventionally dated to the 7th century because of the absence of grave-goods and this archaeological hiatus continues through to the 8th century.

Recent work emphasises that it is very difficult to know when sites which are outside the sandy Ipswich Ware distribution zone really end, and that some of the sites may go on later than had been thought.⁷⁶ There is no evidence of a local specific Middle Saxon ceramic tradition and as yet only one Ipswich-type sherd⁷⁷ and no shelly Maxey-type wares are known from Oxfordshire; occasional Ipswich-type sherds are known from the neighbouring counties with a sherd from Winchcombe in Gloucestershire, another from Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire and three from Northampton,⁷⁸ and Maxey-types are known as near as north Buckinghamshire.⁷⁹

There are, however, a number of sites throughout the county with both Early Saxon and Late Saxon pottery from the same ceramic assemblages, i.e. Northmoor and Chesterton, although the Early Saxon pottery may be residual. It is tentatively thought that the Early Saxon traditions continued until the Late Saxon traditions were introduced; a similar pattern is recognised at Northampton.⁸⁰

Evidence in the west of the county suggests that chaff tempered wares with some quartz tempered wares continued until the Late Saxon traditions were introduced, as at Loders, Lechlade and possibly Fawler.⁸¹ In the south, close to the Thames, and in the south-east, early quartz tempered wares with shell tempered and chaff tempered wares in equal proportions are found in association with Late Saxon traditions, i.e. Dorchester Beech House,⁸² two sites at Benson, and North Stoke.⁸³ At the latter site some 800 sherds were predominantly sandy, with some 100 chaff tempered and only 2 or 3 the shelly St Neot's type. In the north-east of the county at Chesterton Manor House, early quartz tempered sherds are found in association with St Neot's *OXR*, *OXAC* and *OXY* and, in one lone context, with other early wares and St Neot's type.⁸⁴ This association of Early Saxon with St Neot's type can be paralleled in a ditch running north-south at 31-34 Church Street,⁸⁵ at St Frideswide's Oxford⁸⁶ and on other sites to the south-east of Oxfordshire (see Fig. 8).

While the evidence is circumstantial, and it could be argued that these early wares are always

⁷⁶ H. F. Hamerow, 'Settlement mobility and the "Middle Saxon Shift": rural settlements and settlement patterns in Anglo-Saxon England', *Anglo Saxon England*, 20 (1991), 14.

⁷⁷ Recently excavated at Worton Rectory Farm, Yarnton: *South Midl. Arch.* xxi (1991), 86-92.

⁷⁸ A. Vince, 'The Pottery', in P. Ellis, 'Excavations in Winchcombe, Gloucestershire 1962-1972: a report on excavation and fieldwork by B. K. Davison and J. Hinchcliffe at Cowl Lane and Back Lane 1962', *Trans. Bristol Glou. Arch. Soc.*, 104 (1986), 124; J. Evans, 'The Pottery', in H. Dalwood, J. Dillon, J. Evans and A. Hawkins, 'Excavations in Walton, Aylesbury, 1985-1986', *Records of Bucks.* xxxi (1989), 161; V. Denham, 'The Saxon, medieval and post-medieval pottery', in J. Williams, M. Shaw and V. Denham, *Middle Saxon Palaces at Northampton 1985*, Northampton Development Corp. Arch. Mono. 4 (1985), 47, 49.

⁷⁹ M. Farley, 'Middle Saxon occupation at Chicheley, Buckinghamshire', *Records of Bucks.*, xxii (1980), 92-104.

⁸⁰ M. Gyspeerd, 'The Pottery', in J. H. Williams and M. Shaw, 'Excavations in Chalk Lane, Northampton, 1975-1978', *Northamptonshire Arch.* 16 (1981), 110.

⁸¹ T. G. Allen, 'The Loders, Lechlade', *Trans. Bristol Glou. Arch. Soc.*, 104 (1986), Fig. 11, 45; M. Mellor in T. G. Allen, 'Excavations at Bury Close, Fawler, Oxon.', *Oxoniensia*, liii (1988), 302.

⁸² F. Berisford, 'The Anglo-Saxon Pottery', in T. Rowley and L. Brown, 'Excavations at Beech House Hotel, Dorchester-on-Thames, 1972', *Oxoniensia*, xlv (1981), Table III, 43.

⁸³ Benson sites recorded by Gordon Miles now deposited in County Museum store; S. Ford and A. Hazell, 'Prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon Settlement Patterns at North Stoke, Oxfordshire', *Oxoniensia*, liv (1989), 18.

⁸⁴ J. Blair, pers. comm., but Dr. Blair would prefer to interpret the earlier 'pagan' pottery as being residual.

⁸⁵ T. G. Hassall, C. E. Halpin and M. Mellor, 'Excavations in St. Ebbe's, Oxford, 1967-1976: Part I: Late Saxon and Medieval Domestic Tenements, and the Medieval Greyfriars', *Oxoniensia*, liv (1989), 198.

⁸⁶ M. Mellor, 'Pottery', in C. Scull, 'Excavations in the Cloister of St. Frideswide's Priory, 1985', *Oxoniensia*, liii (1988), 34.

residual, the same pattern is occurring at a number of sites over a wide area, which lends some weight to the hypothesis that there is no distinctive Middle Saxon ceramic tradition in Oxfordshire and that the transition from Early Saxon to Late Saxon ceramic traditions is still improperly understood.

The recognition of Middle Saxon horizons is therefore very difficult and only a carefully integrated approach of archaeological excavation, aided by metal detectors, together with finds management including the study of artefacts and coins, will help to characterize the end of the Early Saxon period, any interface with the Middle Saxon period – if it is discernible in the archaeological record locally – and the early Late Saxon pottery in Oxfordshire.

5: MID-LATE SAXON TRADITIONS (AD 780–1080)⁸⁷

THE BACKGROUND

Several of the Late Saxon and possibly Early Medieval ceramic distributions broadly correlate with Mid Saxon territories⁸⁸ – the 'Chiltern dwellers' of south-east Oxfordshire (*OX162*) and the Middle Anglian of north and east and possibly central and south Oxfordshire (*OXR*), with territory belonging to the Hwicce in west and north Oxfordshire saturated with a calcareous gravel ceramic tradition (*OXAC*). North Berkshire, formerly West Saxon territory, also had a distinct ceramic tradition (*OXBF*).

There are three major Late Saxon ceramic traditions clearly evident by the late 9th century, one of which may be present by the late 8th century (*OXB*).⁸⁹ By the early 10th century a fourth major ceramic tradition is evident but this, despite its wide penetration as shown on the distribution map (Fig. 8), may be a regional import (*OXR*).⁹⁰

LATE SAXON OXFORD WARE (*OXB*) (Figs. 6–9)

Fabric and associated technology

Exposures of the Oxford Clay, which is believed to be the clay source for this tradition, run from south-west to north-east Oxfordshire and slightly to the north of the city. Alan Vince has identified the fossil shell as coming from an oyster-like *Gryphaea*, characteristic of this deposit.⁹¹ The only other shell to be identified is a recent freshwater species. It has been postulated that the clay and its fossils, together with sparse rounded quartzite pebbles several millimetres across, may have been redeposited in a recent alluvium. However, local expertise discounts this, as such deposits are not known locally.⁹² Alluvium over Oxford Clay is, however, found all along the river valleys and, geologically, there is no shortage of such a source even today. But such deposits could be found further north and east as far as the Oxford Clay extends (Yorkshire). The distribution of pottery coupled with the geology suggests that an area slightly to the west and upstream of Oxford would best lend itself to supporting such a pottery industry (see distribution below).

This pottery was handmade; only towards the end of the tradition is there evidence of the rim being finished on a turn-table. It must be distinguished from the late Romano-British shelly wares often thrown on a fast wheel but sometimes handmade. The bases of the two traditions are, however, quite distinct with an acute angle in the Romano-British period and a 'sagging base' in

⁸⁷ See above 'Plotting the ceramic data in space and time'.

⁸⁸ J. Blair, *Anglo-Saxon Oxfordshire* (1994), Figs. 35 and 39.

⁸⁹ R. Haldon and M. Mellor, 'The Saxon and Medieval Pottery', in Durham, op. cit. note 10, Fig. 14, 132–3.

⁹⁰ M. Mellor, in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

⁹¹ A. G. Vince, 'The Petrography of Saxon and Early Medieval Pottery in the Thames Valley', in J. Henderson (ed.), *Scientific Analysis in Archaeology* (OUCA Monograph 19, 1989), 173; Vince, op. cit. note 15, 49.

⁹² I am grateful to Philip Powell of the University Museum for many discussions concerning the local geology.

the Late Saxon period. The rims too are usually distinct, with rolled rims in the Romano-British ware while the Late Saxon ware favours simple and everted rims with the occasional beaded example; but the Late Saxon and Romano-British handmade body sherds may be difficult to distinguish on multi-phase sites in Oxfordshire, and only those from secure Late Saxon contexts have been added to the gazetteer for the Saxon period. The relative chronology is based on stratified sequences from Oxford and Wallingford and the dating is based on a combination of historical, numismatic, dendrochronological and radio-carbon calibrations.⁹³ In the rural areas, *OXB* is always found in association with at least two other major ceramic traditions. Only shelly wares from secure Late Saxon contexts have been added to the gazetteer; in rural contexts they are almost always found in association with other Late Saxon traditions, and in one instance a distinctive rim-form was found at Shakenoak.⁹⁴ The Romano-British shelly wares are widely distributed throughout southern Britain and the inspiration of the Late Saxon shelly tradition may well partly lie with these Romano-British wares, as well as with the Late Saxon traditions to the west (*OXAC*, *OXBF*).

A visually identical fabric was subsequently in use on 5th–6th century sites in the county,⁹⁵ but the different manufacturing techniques and vessel forms normally allow these wares to be distinguished from each other.

The firing of these vessels is likely to have been in a clamp or bonfire kiln; the sherds are largely oxidized but the colouring is variable. Wood firing always gives variety. A slight improvement in firing over time has been noted,⁹⁶ but the hardness of the individual sherds has not increased and may be the consequence of differing burial conditions (see p. 59).

Vessel types

The predominant vessel forms of *OXB* in Oxfordshire are two sizes of cooking or storage vessel, the larger being the more popular (Fig. 6, nos. 1, 4), the smaller (Fig. 6, no. 2) coinciding with the appearance of St Neot's types in Oxford, dated by dendrochronology to the early 10th century.⁹⁷ The larger vessels are very occasionally adorned with roller stamp decoration (Fig. 6, no. 18): diamond patterns are known⁹⁸ – dated from early–mid 11th century – and a rectangular pattern from 4 Queen Street, Oxford.⁹⁹ Similar decoration can be found on the Lincolnshire shelly wares.¹⁰⁰ Other vessel forms include shallow dishes (Fig. 7, nos. 2–4). Bowls are less common (Fig. 7, no. 1). Rarer forms include a bowl with a hole in its side which may originally have supported a spout (Fig. 7, no. 5), one possible lamp base (Fig. 6, no. 7), a curved sherd possibly from a spout (Fig. 6, no. 8), and a bodysherd with applied thumb-pressed decoration (not illustrated) possibly from a storage jar and a lug, reminiscent of early Saxon lugs (Fig. 6, no. 9). These rare vessel types are unstratified, with the exception of the lamp, so it is still unclear when these types were added to the potters' repertoire.

⁹³ M. Mellor, 'Late Saxon Pottery from Oxfordshire: Evidence and Speculation', *Medieval Ceramics*, 4 (1980), 17; for synthesis of dating see Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

⁹⁴ F. Berisford, 'The Anglo-Saxon Pottery', in A. C. C. Brodribb, A. R. Hands and D. R. Walker, *Excavations at Shakenoak Farm, near Wilcote, Oxfordshire*, Part III (1972), no. 423, 59.

⁹⁵ Ibid. note 4, 'calcite-gritting', 58.

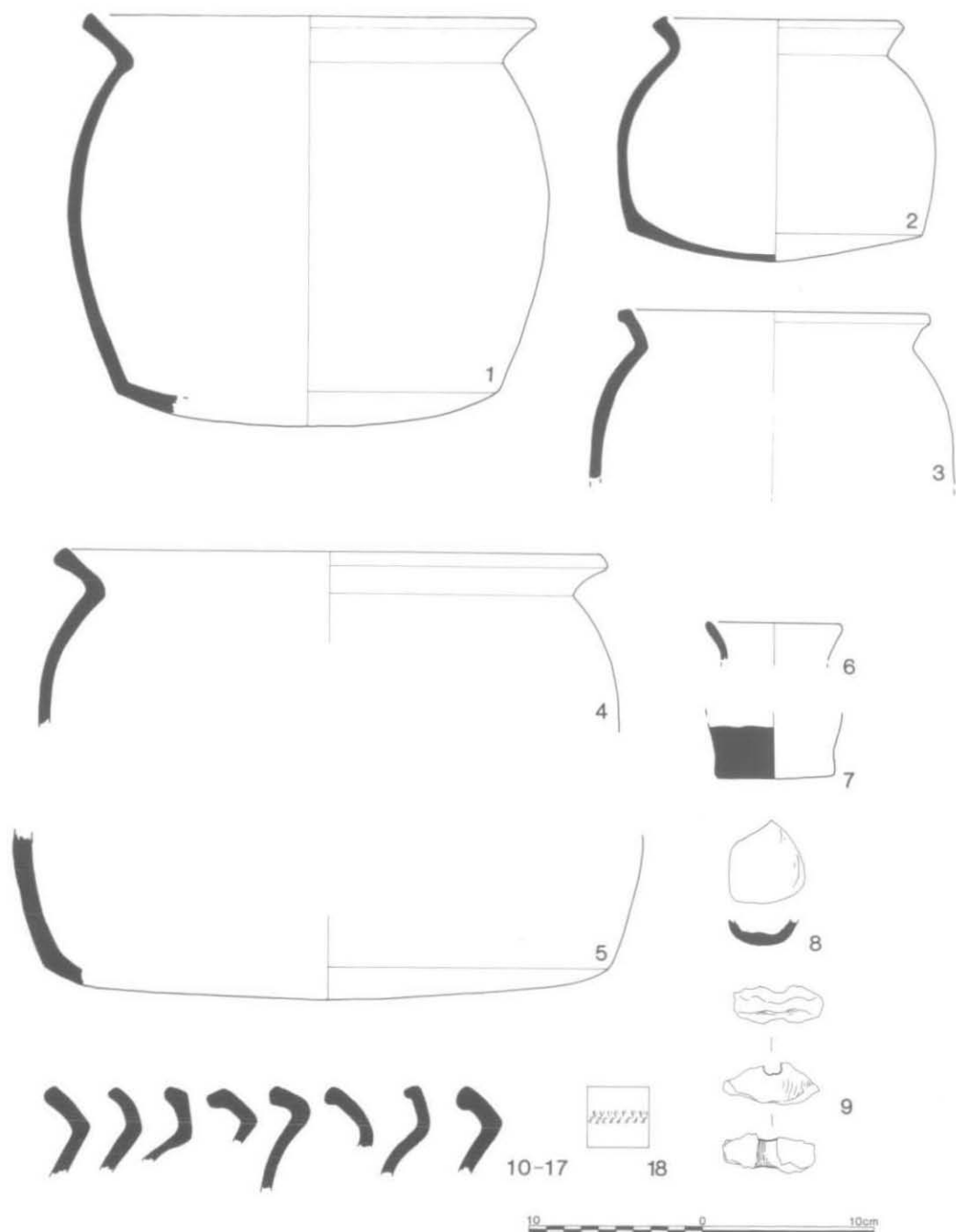
⁹⁶ Haldon in Durham, op. cit. note 10, 139.

⁹⁷ Mellor, 'Trill Mill Stream', in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

⁹⁸ M. Mellor, 'The Late Saxon and Medieval Pottery from All Saints', in Durham, op. cit. note 9; M. Mellor, 'Pottery', in D. Sturdy and J. Munby, 'Early Domestic Sites in Oxford: Excavations in Cornmarket and Queen Street, 1959–62', *Oxoniensia*, 1 (1985), Fig. 13 no. 10, 75.

⁹⁹ Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

¹⁰⁰ P. Miles, J. Young and J. Wachter, *A late Saxon kiln site at Silver Street, Lincoln*, The Archaeology of Lincoln 17.3, Trust for Lincolnshire Arch. and CBA.

Fig. 6. Late Saxon Oxford Shelly Ware (*OXB*).

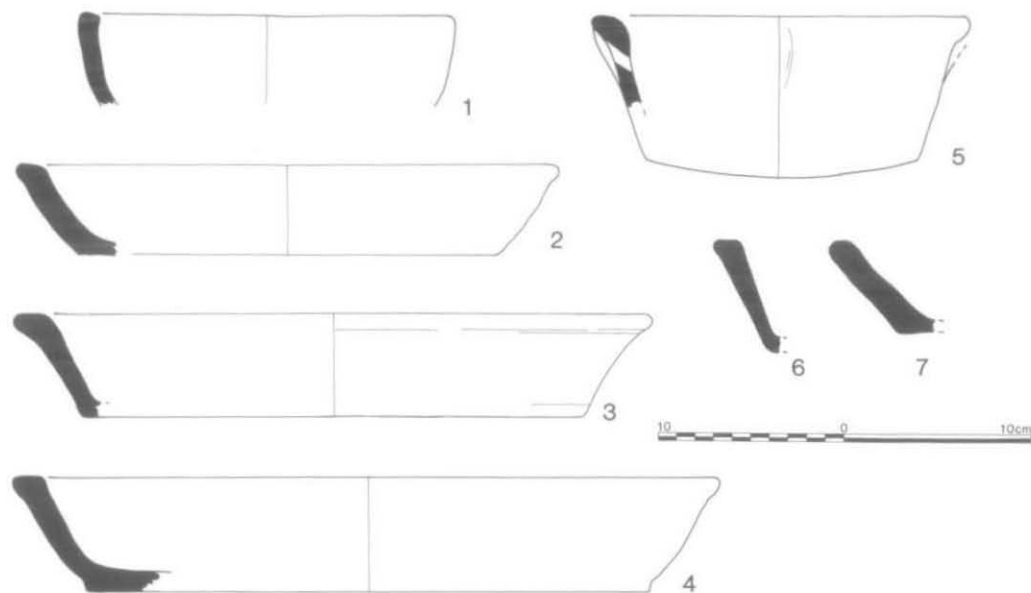


Fig. 7. Late Saxon Oxford Shelly Ware (OXB) contd.

Distribution

Late Saxon Oxford Ware (OXB) represents 80–90 per cent of Oxford pottery during the 9th and 10th centuries and a source close to Oxford is envisaged (Fig. 9). The distribution of this tradition within Oxfordshire is largely along the Thames, occurring at North Broad Street and more recently at the Vineyard excavations Abingdon,¹⁰¹ Beech House Dorchester,¹⁰² St Martin's Street (Fig. 9) and Wood Street Wallingford (where it is dominant),¹⁰³ with only the occasional find spot in rural areas, mainly to the north and north-west of Oxford (Fig. 8). Distribution may in part reflect an archaeological bias, but present evidence would suggest that distribution of this ceramic tradition may reflect river-borne transport.

While occasional vessels are known as far as Worcester and Droitwich to the north-west, where Late Saxon Shelly Ware was found in association with St Neot's, Stamford and Chester wares,¹⁰⁴ one sherd was found at Winchcombe in the rampart,¹⁰⁵ another at Upton in Gloucestershire¹⁰⁶ and a few sherds from Gloucester.¹⁰⁷ This westerly distribution may be related to the salt industry.¹⁰⁸ It was the

¹⁰¹ R. Haldon and M. Parrington, 'The Medieval Pottery', in M. Parrington and C. Balkwill, 'Excavations at Broad Street, Abingdon', *Oxoniensia*, xl (1975), 30–44; T. Allen, Abingdon Vineyard (in prep.).

¹⁰² 'The Medieval Pottery', in Rowley and Brown, *op. cit.* note 82, 43.

¹⁰³ Typescripts and records held by the Oxfordshire Archaeological Unit.

¹⁰⁴ E. Morris, 'Late Saxon Pottery from Worcester', *Trans. Worcs. Arch. Soc.*, 6 (1978), 75, 77; also one sherd from Upwich, D. Hurst, pers. comm.

¹⁰⁵ Vince in Ellis, *op. cit.* note 78, TF45, Table 3, 124.

¹⁰⁶ P. A. Rahtz, 'The Pottery', in 'Upton, Gloucestershire, 1959–1964', *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 85 (1966), Fig. 13, no. 60, 19.

¹⁰⁷ A. Vince, 'Appendix 1: The pottery' in C. M. Heighway, A. P. Garrod and A. G. Vince, 'Excavations at 1 Westgate Street, Gloucester 1975', *Medieval Arch.*, xxiii (1979), 170–81.

¹⁰⁸ D. Hooke, *The Droitwich Salt Industry* (BAR British Ser. 92, 1981), 123–69; J. Morris, *op. cit.* note 4, 1, for Bampton where a very high return indicates salt rights pre-dating the 1080s.

dominant tradition throughout the 9th, 10th and early 11th centuries in Oxford and some vessels may have been shipped as far as London as testified by evidence from St Mildred's, New Fresh Wharf and more recently Billingsgate,¹⁰⁹ but the proportions must await further evidence from securely dated 10th- and early 11th-century sites in London. Two sherds were recently discovered at Thame from excavations at the church, known to be founded in the 7th century (not plotted on the distribution map), but Late Saxon Shelly Ware is not known further east in Buckinghamshire or Northampton where another shelly limestone tradition, Maxey-type, is present.¹¹⁰ The industry declined markedly at some time during the first quarter of the 11th century in Oxford, possibly due to a combination of competition from St Neot's type, which began to be used by some inhabitants in the commercial hub of the *burh* at this time,¹¹¹ and some disruption to the distribution via the Thames (historical sources cite a number of incidents of unrest between locals and Danes at Wallingford and Oxford in the early 11th century).¹¹² Its decline must be associated with external pressures rather than with a shortage of source material.

Dating

This shelly limestone tradition is found in association with Continental blackwares from Northern France and Belgium in the earliest phases in Oxford at 79-80 St Aldates,¹¹³ which lay just north of the modern Thames river-crossing at Folly Bridge and was dated by radio-carbon and thermoluminescence to the late 8th/early 9th century.¹¹⁴ A 10th-century date for this tradition was confirmed by the dendrochronological dating at the Trill Mill Stream excavations in Oxford. (Dates of AD 900 and AD 930 were given to a phase containing both OXB and OXR; this combination of the two ceramic traditions parallels phase 3 at the St Aldates' sequence.) The upper part of a cooking pot of this shelly tradition was also found at Shakenoak with earlier Saxon pottery;¹¹⁵ other sherds were found at Benson and at Dorchester, Beech House, with a coin of Burgred, in association with earlier Saxon pottery and St Neot's type. It is possible that these shelly limestone tempered sherds may be contemporary with the coin, although the pottery researcher at that time dismissed this association with the Early Saxon pottery.¹¹⁶

From stratigraphic, numismatic, radio-carbon and historical evidence it has been tentatively assumed that the demise of the shelly wares (OXB) had come about by AD 1020¹¹⁷ but, given its longstanding association with the *burh*, considerable residuality is likely to have occurred. The evidence is based on a radio-carbon date of AD 993 \pm 77 (HAR 419), associated with the shelly tradition and its absence from a cellar pit at All Saints Church which contained a coin of Edward the Confessor minted AD 1042-1044. This same ceramic sequence can be paralleled at Cornmarket and other market frontages.¹¹⁸ The variety and range of regional imports in these cellar pits, together with St Neot's type accounting for about 50 per cent of the assemblage and local handmade calcareous and sandy traditions, suggests that their infilling occurred at about the same time, logically therefore in the mid 11th century.

¹⁰⁹ M. Rhodes, 'The Pottery: Saxon and Medieval' in 'Excavations on the site of St. Mildred's Church, Bread Street, London 1973-74', *Trans. London and Middx. Arch. Soc.*, 26 (1975), 201-205; Vince, op. cit. note 15, 53-4.

¹¹⁰ Farley, op. cit. note 79.

¹¹¹ Mellor, op. cit. note 9.

¹¹² J. Cooper and A. Crossley, 'Medieval Oxford', *V.C.H. Oxon.* iv (1979), 22.

¹¹³ Haldon in Durham, op. cit. note 10, Fabric E, 132, 138; also at other nearby sites: M. Mellor, 'Late Saxon, Medieval and later pottery', in B. G. Durham, 'The Thames Crossing at Oxford: Archaeological Studies 1979-82', *Oxonienia*, xlix (1984), 68; Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

¹¹⁴ Durham, op. cit. note 10, 178.

¹¹⁵ Berisford, op. cit. note 94.

¹¹⁶ Berisford, op. cit. note 82, L3 in Table III, 43.

¹¹⁷ Mellor, op. cit. note 93, 17-22.

¹¹⁸ Mellor, in Sturdy and Munby, op. cit. note 98, 73; Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.



Fig. 8. Distribution of Mid-Late Saxon pottery find spots 780 AD–1080 AD, with histogram showing the date range of these traditions.

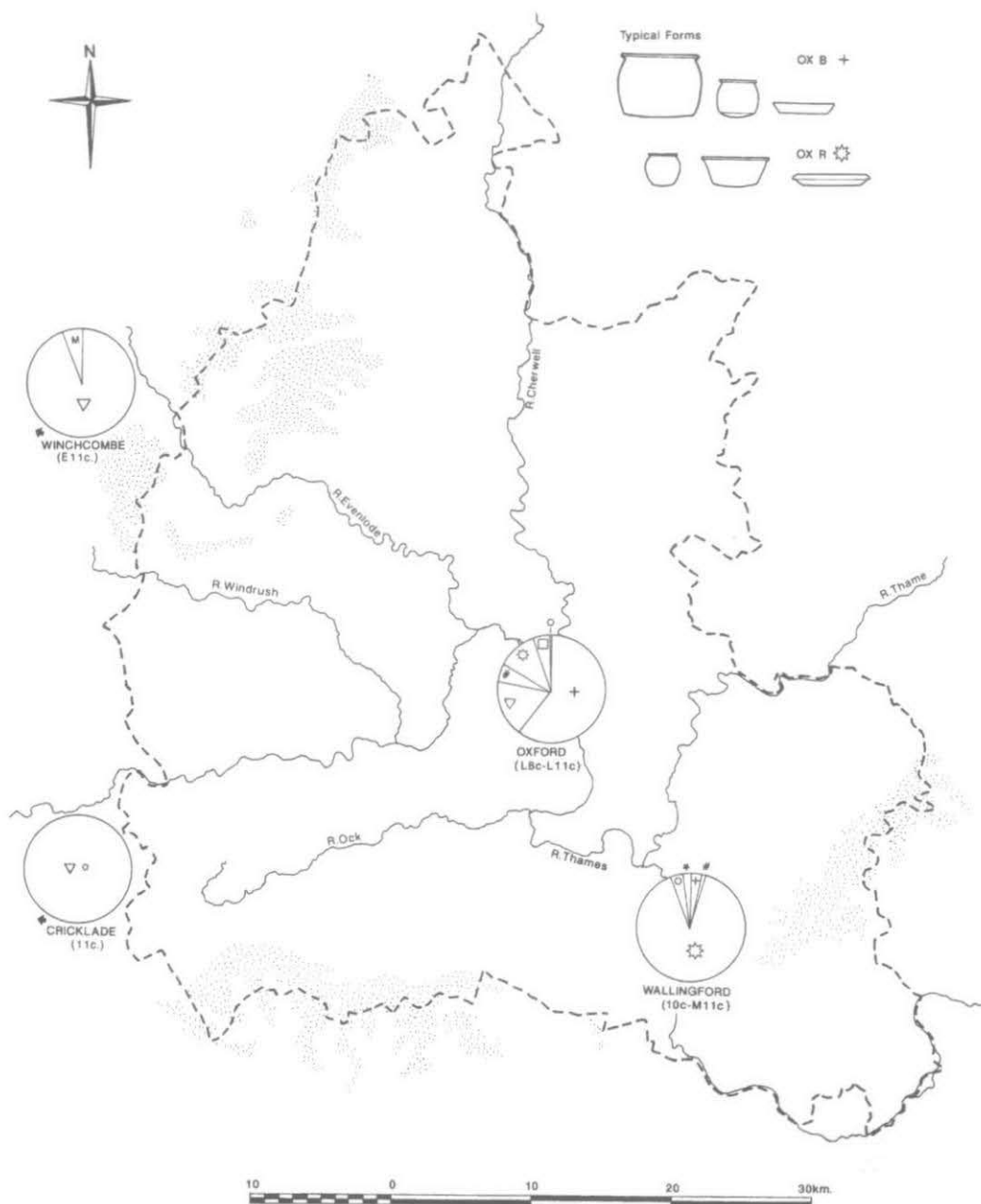


Fig. 9. Piecharts representing the percentages or presence of major ceramic traditions at selected sites during the Mid-Late Saxon period and associated vessel forms.

The demise of *OXB* and the appearance of *OXR* within the town coincides with a period of apparent stability in Oxford, following the meeting of royal councils under King Cnut, which may have attracted new traders and inhabitants as witnessed by encroachment on the market place at Queen Street¹¹⁹ and much infilling of areas immediately behind the west-east road axis to the town as at Hinksey Hall and Church Street.¹²⁰ But independent dating of the demise of *OXB* in the immediate hinterland and at Wallingford is necessary as the relationship between *OXB* and *OXR* may be particular to Oxford.

LATE SAXON AND EARLY MEDIEVAL WEST OXFORDSHIRE WARE AND EARLY MEDIEVAL OXFORD WARE (*OXAC*) (Figs. 8, 9, 10-13)

Fabrics and associated technology

This calcareous gravel tempered tradition (*OXAC*) was first defined by Jope as a 'Cotswold type' but has been recognized as including several different regional styles,¹²¹ with also some minor variations in fabric type. One such regional style, with small amounts of flint amongst the calcareous gravel temper, supplied Cirencester,¹²² Cricklade,¹²³ Swindon¹²⁴ and Great Somerford¹²⁵ and the area to the west with utilitarian products which included the 'west country dishes', sometimes known as 'beehive' dishes.¹²⁶ Another similar but distinct style exists at Gloucester (TF41b) with a wide distribution extending up to Hereford and Worcester¹²⁷ and down to Bristol and Stroud.¹²⁸

To the east of Oxfordshire, two vessels including a straight-sided pot were recognized at Bourton, near Buckingham, but the fabric had more quartz than the Oxfordshire examples.¹²⁹ Similar fabrics can be found at Northampton in small numbers (Northampton fabrics T11, V5, V8), where one sherd from the extension of the stone hall may suggest a 10th-century date,¹³⁰ and small quantities are known at Milton Keynes,¹³¹ but it is not certain whether these are distinctive regional styles or belong to those further west.

Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire Ware and early Medieval Oxford Ware (*OXAC*, local calcareous gravel regional styles) includes one style with inclusions largely derived from the second gravel terrace, and is widespread in central and western Oxfordshire and further west. Another style may also be derived from the detrital clays of the lias found in the north-west and north of the county.¹³² These are visually indistinguishable and are also petrologically similar.

A fabric type like these but finer than the true *OXAC*, found at Barrow Hills Radley, was in use on an early Saxon settlement.¹³³

¹¹⁹ Durham, op. cit. note 9.

¹²⁰ C. Halpin, 'Late Saxon Evidence and Excavation of Hinxey Hall, Queen Street, Oxford', *Oxoniensia*, xlviii (1983), 41-69; T. G. Hassall, C. E. Halpin and M. Mellor, 'Excavations in St Ebbe's, Oxford, 1967-1976: Part I: Late Saxon and Medieval Domestic Occupation and Tenements, and the Medieval Greyfriars', *Oxoniensia*, liv (1989), 272.

¹²¹ Jope in O'Neill, op. cit. note 3, 61-76; Jope in O'Neill, op. cit. note 3 (1956), 5-34.

¹²² Fabric F202; sites recorded by Caroline Ireland including typescript for Cirencester Abbey are held by the Corinium Museum, Cirencester.

¹²³ Numerous unpublished sites from Cricklade held by the Museum, Cricklade; E. M. Jope, 'Pre-Conquest Pottery' in C. A. Ralegh Radford, 'Excavations at Cricklade: 1948-1963', *Wiltshire Arch. Natur. Hist. Mag.*, 67 (1972), 90-3.

¹²⁴ Sites from Swindon held by Thamesdown's Museums Service.

¹²⁵ McCarthy, op. cit. note 5, 192.

¹²⁶ Jope, op. cit. note 3 (1952), Fig. 8, 65-6; McCarthy, op. cit. note 5, 191-2.

¹²⁷ D. Hurst, pers. comm.

¹²⁸ A. G. Vince, 'The post-Roman pottery,' in R. Leech, A. D. McWhirr, 'Excavations at St John's Hospital, Cirencester, Gloucestershire', *Trans. Bristol and Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 100 (1982), 202-7.

¹²⁹ These are held in the Buckinghamshire Museum Store, CASO786 Box 923.

¹³⁰ Denham, op. cit. note 78, Table 2, 49.

¹³¹ D. Mynard, pers. comm., Fabric MSC4.

¹³² Jope and Threlfall, op. cit. note 65, 244.

¹³³ Shiela Raven, pers. comm.; see also *OX162*.

This handmade tradition would also have been fired in a similar manner to the shelly tradition in a clamp or bonfire kiln, which would leave little evidence of structure on the production site. But the pots are largely reduced, giving a dark grey or black appearance. This suggests that the bonfire firing was dampened down towards the end, probably by adding leaves and sapwood to allow a controlled 'cooling down' period.

Vessel types

The Oxfordshire styles are handmade, as was the ceramic tradition to the west, but in this case forms include globular cooking pots (Fig. 10, no. 2; Fig. 11, no. 7) and some straight-sided vessels (Fig. 11, nos. 2, 3); the latter seem to be more popular in west Oxfordshire/east Gloucestershire along the Cotswold Ridge than in central Oxfordshire.¹³⁴ But those vessels at Winchcombe were less well finished than those used in Oxford, and some evidence from the Bishop of Winchester's 12th-century palace at Witney suggests similar crude workmanship.

Excavations at Upton near Brockley¹³⁵ and in Winchcombe in Gloucestershire between 1962 and 1972 suggest that straight-sided pots with clubbed rims were more popular earlier, and that everted rims and globular vessel types represent a later innovation.¹³⁶ Examples of Jope's 'vertical-sided cooking pots with clubbed rims' were absent from Prestbury manor in Gloucestershire which belonged to the estates of the Bishop of Hereford.¹³⁷ Straight-sided vessels with flared rims as at Swinbrook (Fig. 11, no. 1) may be a slightly later (if short-lived) style than the clubbed rims (Fig. 11, nos. 21, 22).¹³⁸ Cooking pots, both globular and straight-sided with simple flared rim forms, are found in Cirencester¹³⁹ and Lechlade (LGLF),¹⁴⁰ and an early 10th-century example, dated by dendrochronology, is known from Oxford.¹⁴¹ This type of rim form is also typical of the Late Saxon shelly cooking pots in central Oxfordshire (OXB) (Fig. 6), and flared rims may be either a useful chronological indicator locally in isolating the earlier Late Saxon pottery from that of the 11th century or later, or indicative of the regional style more common to the west of Oxford.

Shallow dishes (Fig. 12, nos. 2-4) and spouted cooking pots (Fig. 12, no. 14), with a variety of incised decoration, are also found (Fig. 13, nos. 15, 16, 18, 20-23).

The repertoire of vessels had increased by the early 12th century, with storage jars, sometimes with applied thumbled decoration (Fig. 13, no. 19), fire buckets for carrying live embers or possibly chimney pots (Fig. 12, nos. 16, 18), lamps (Fig. 13, nos. 9-11) and firecovers (curfews) (Fig. 13, nos. 12, 13; Fig. 12, no. 21) being introduced.¹⁴² The range of vessels in Oxford and Bampton was more limited than at Witney where jugs (Fig. 13, nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8), and a variety of bowls with or without socketed handles (Fig. 12, nos. 15, 17) were present. The lack of jugs in this tradition in Oxford may be accounted for by the presence of another ceramic competitor which supplied handsome pitchers (OXT), as well as a full range of domestic vessels. But the absence of any tablewares from Bampton in West Oxfordshire may reflect an archaeological bias; perhaps there the regional style dates to the Late Saxon period rather than to the 12th century or later. A larger sample of this tradition is needed from the rural hinterland not associated with high status sites.

¹³⁴ Pottery from Mrs. O'Neill's excavations, now housed in the Corinium Museum, Cirencester.

¹³⁵ Rahtz, *op. cit.* note 106.

¹³⁶ Vince in Ellis, *op. cit.* note 78, 127.

¹³⁷ Jope, *op. cit.* note 3, 28.

¹³⁸ D. A. Hinton, 'Medieval Pottery from Swinbrook, Oxon.', *Oxoniensia*, xxxvi (1971), 107-10.

¹³⁹ Ireland, *op. cit.* note 122.

¹⁴⁰ Simon Palmer, *pers. comm.*

¹⁴¹ Durham, 'Trill Mill Stream', *op. cit.* note 9.

¹⁴² E. M. Jope and R. I. Threlfall, 'Pottery from Enstone, Filkins and Great Milton, Oxon.', *Oxoniensia*, xi and xii (1946-7), Fig. 24, no. 3, 169.

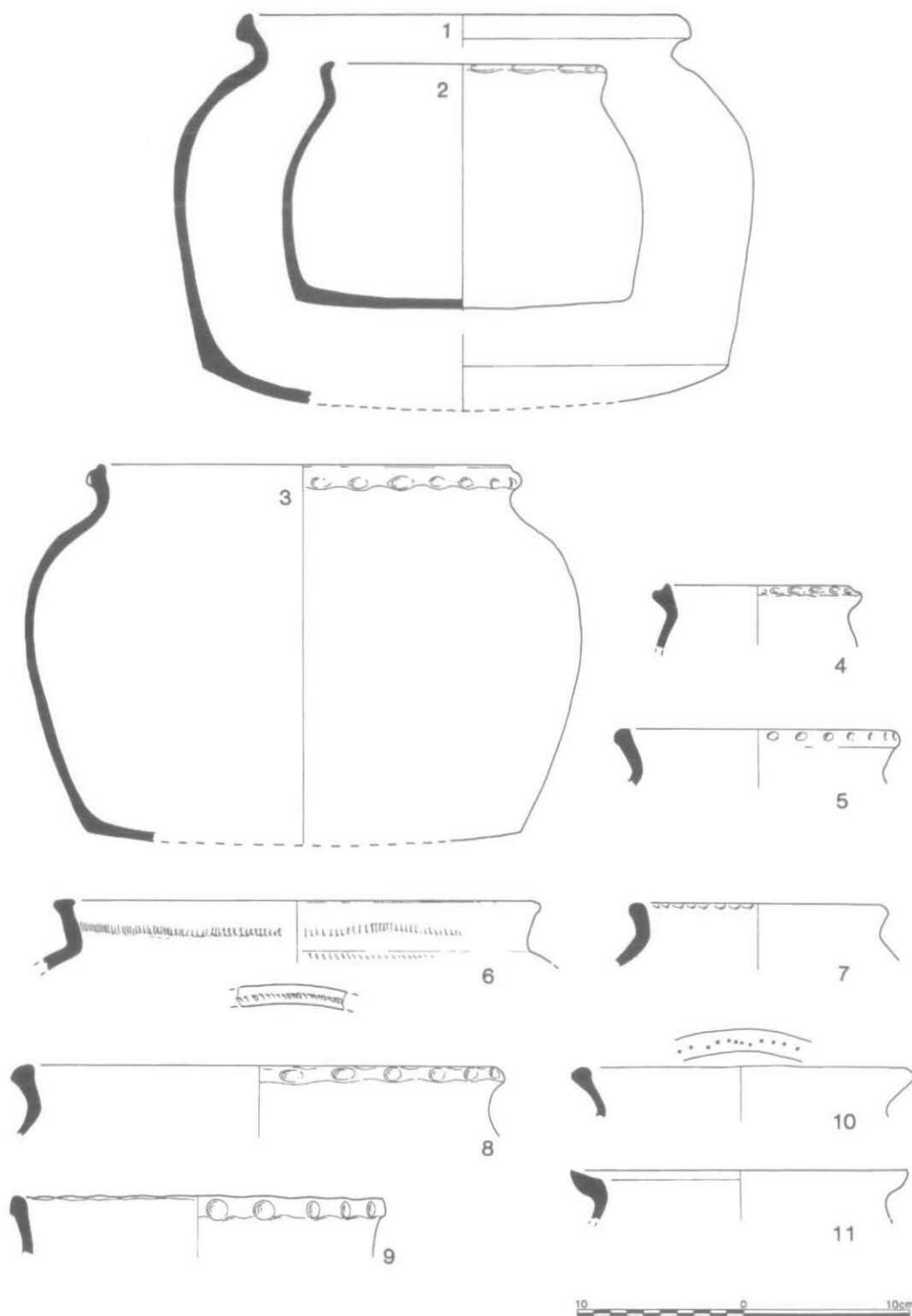


Fig. 10. Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxford Ware (OXAC).

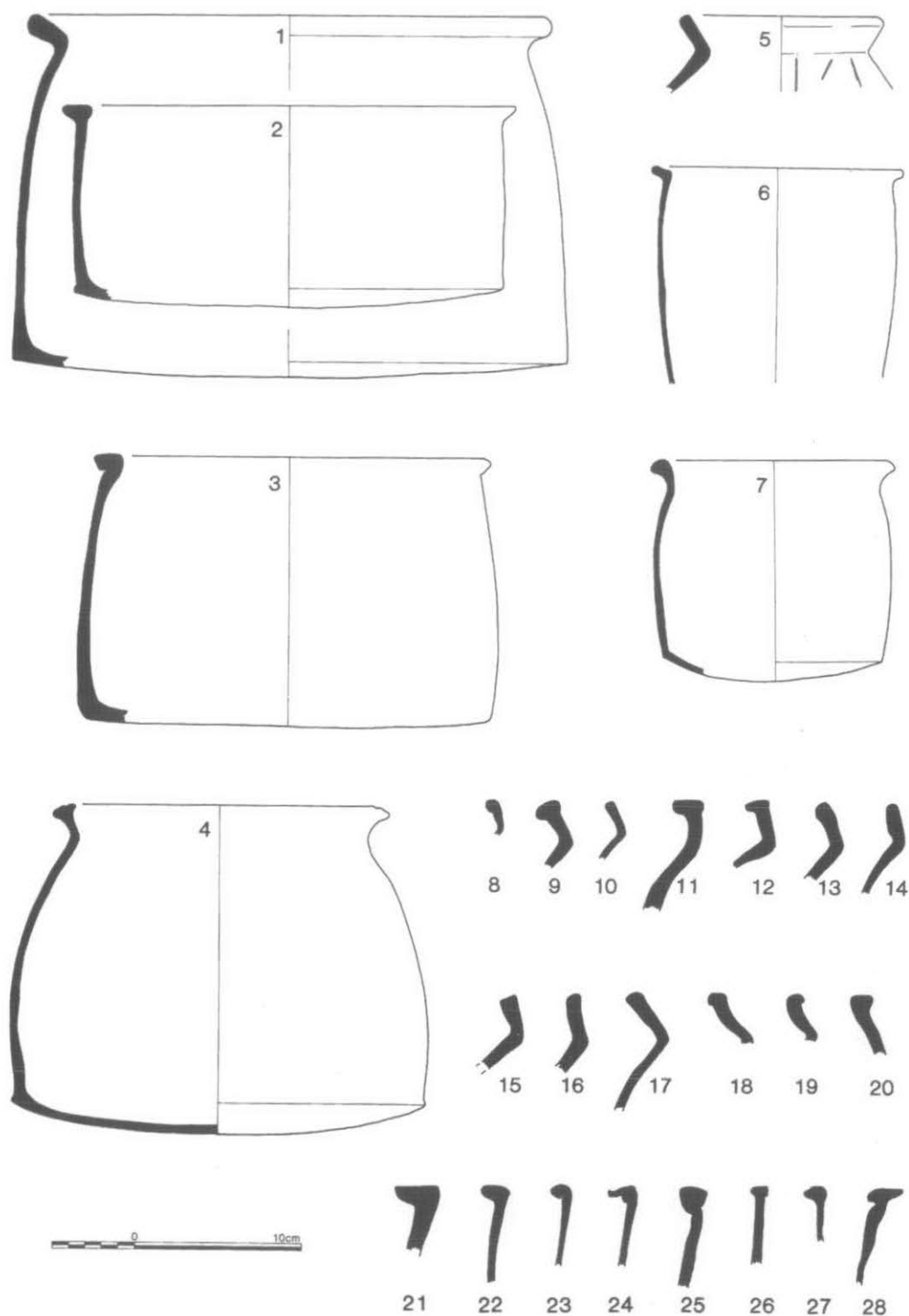


Fig. 11 Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxford Ware (OXAC).

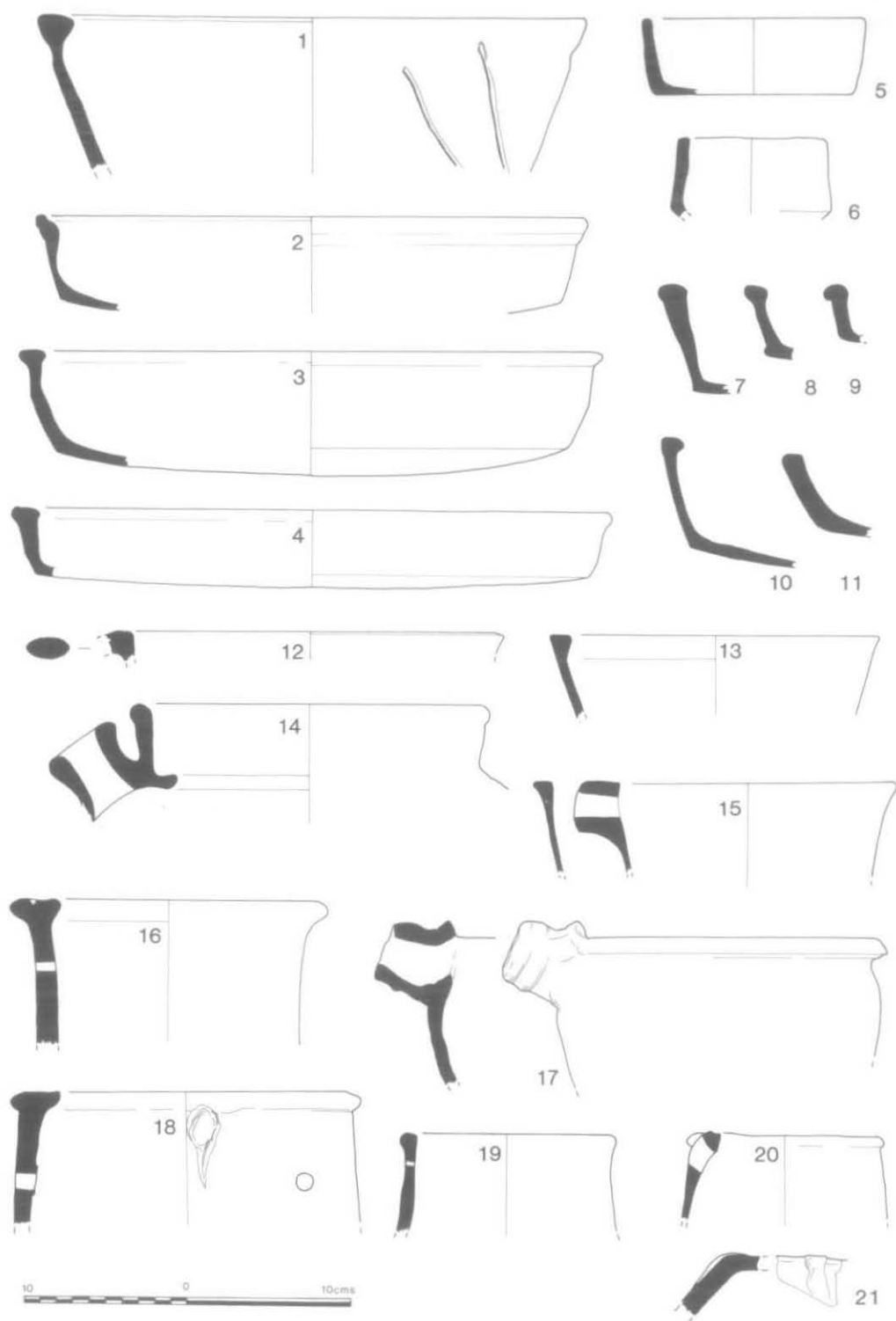


Fig. 12. Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxfordshire Ware (OXAC) contd.

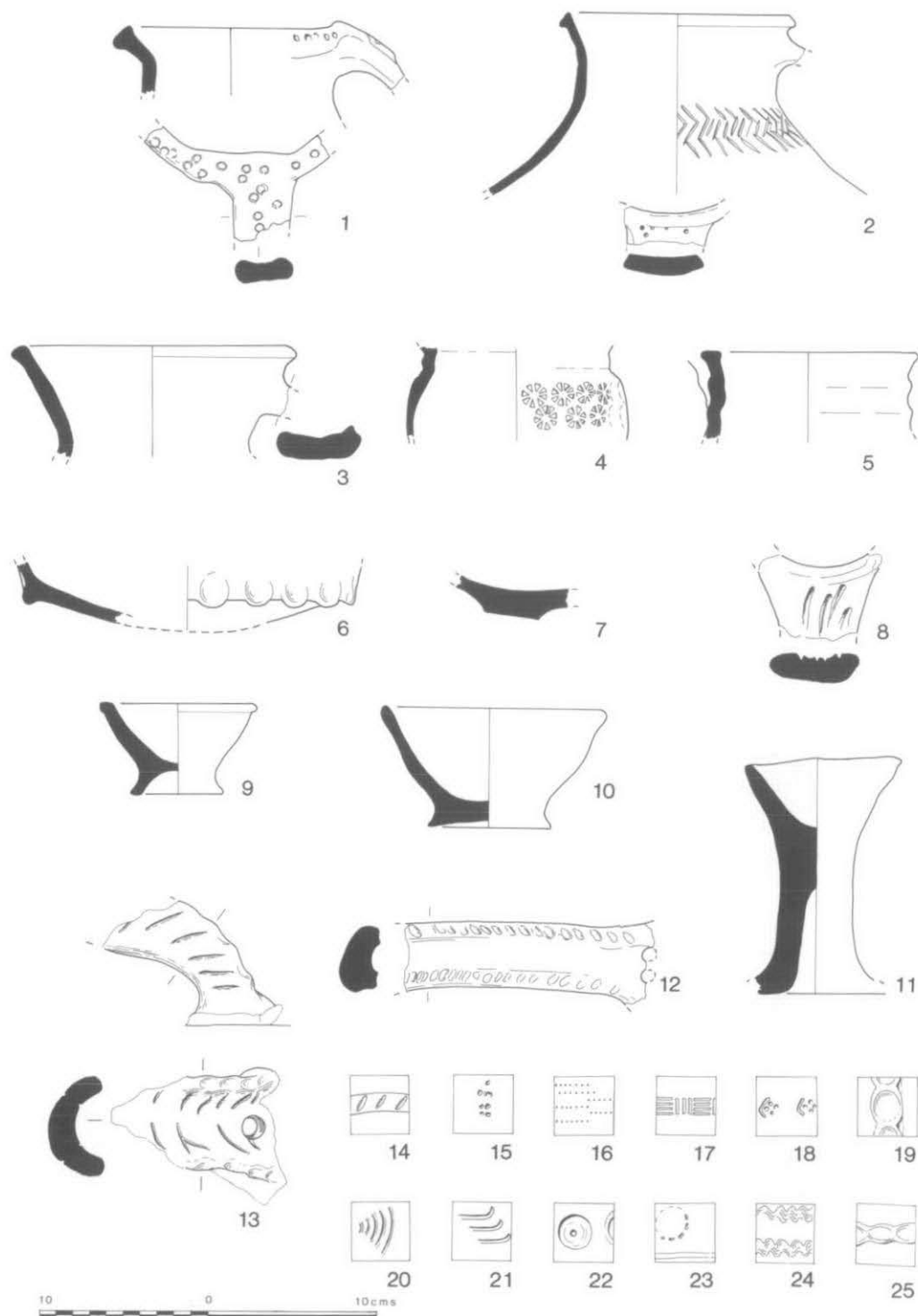


Fig. 13. Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxford Ware (OXAC) contd.

Distribution and Source

As can be seen from the distribution map, the Oxfordshire regional styles of *OXAC* are found in large quantities west of the river Cherwell and north of the Thames, with small amounts south of the Thames and to the east of Oxford. The area of high density conforms with an area of Mercia and suggests that the River Thames was an impediment to marketing at that time and that the mechanism of distribution was overland.

It is clear that several production sites/centres were producing pottery using calcareous gravel in the Oxford region and in the area which stretched west from Oxfordshire towards the Bristol Channel in the Late Saxon period¹⁴³ and up towards Worcester. But given the long time span for this tradition and that it was in use in the west and possibly north-west some 150 years before it was found in any quantity in central Oxfordshire, and that the influence of this tradition almost certainly came from the west – perhaps from within Mercia – it is proposed that perhaps at least two foci may have existed during the Late Saxon period in Oxfordshire. Perhaps there existed an earlier production centre closer to Winchcombe, which is reputed to have been an important Mercian centre and was certainly strong administratively in the 10th century. Such a centre as Winchcombe would have provided the stability for a production centre to become firmly established and develop a widespread marketing strategy. This production centre could have supplied an area as far south as the Thames, where Fairford, Cirencester and Cricklade would have been at the extremity of its distribution, but would have respected the area around Oxford which was served by the local shelly limestone tradition (*AXB*) during the 9th, 10th and early 11th centuries.

Alternatively, a production centre may have been sited in the Wychwood, possibly within the manor of Shipton-under-Wychwood, a wealthy royal vill at the time of the Domesday survey. A centre at Shipton or nearby at Ascot-under-Wychwood could have supplied Winchcombe and west Oxfordshire. This area may have looked towards the heartland of Mercia for its early inspiration: a 9th-century charter indicates that some hides of the Wychwood belonged to the Bishop of Worcester,¹⁴⁴ and the parish of Enstone had historical ties with Winchcombe. Again, the salt trade centred on Droitwich would have provided an incentive to encourage liaison with the West Midlands, particularly during the Late Saxon and early medieval periods,¹⁴⁵ and may have underpinned much of the distribution network of this ceramic tradition.¹⁴⁶ By the 13th century Worcester type wares are not uncommon in Winchcombe and similar products were found at the Bishop's Palace, Witney; there were isolated finds from within the Wychwood (Hailey) but these are absent from the Oxford assemblages.

At the end of the Late Saxon period a contraction of the major ceramic industries has been noted for southern England.¹⁴⁷ Locally, two such traditions do contract and disappear from the archaeological record (*AXB*, *OXR*), albeit for different reasons, but two other Late Saxon traditions appear to expand their distributions in the early 12th century (*OXAC*, *OXBF*). Jope suggested that a number of different villages were making pots for their own use during the early medieval period.¹⁴⁸ This model may still prove to be valid in this area of west Oxfordshire during the 12th century and may account for the wider penetration of *OXAC*. The manor of Witney, extending as far north as the Roman road (Akeman Street), could have supported its own production site/centre by the 12th century – this might also explain the wider repertoire of pots at the Bishop's Palace, Witney, in comparison with that of pottery from the area to the north of Akeman Street within the manor of Shipton. More stratified sequences from within these two manors are necessary to support this hypothesis.

¹⁴³ Jope, *op. cit.* note 3 (1952), 65–6.

¹⁴⁴ M. Gelling, *The Place Names of Oxfordshire*, ii (E.P.N.S. xxiv, 1954), 347.

¹⁴⁵ D. Hurst, 'Saxo-Norman Pottery', in S. Woodiwiss (ed.), *Iron Age and Roman Salt Production and the Medieval Town of Droitwich* (CBA Research Report 81, 1992, 138).

¹⁴⁶ Blair, *op. cit.* note 88, Fig. 54.

¹⁴⁷ A. G. Vince, 'The medieval pottery industry in southern England: tenth to thirteenth centuries', in H. Howard and E. Morris (eds.), *Production and distribution: a ceramic viewpoint* (BAR International Ser. 120, 1981), 309–22; Vince, *op. cit.* note 15, 434.

¹⁴⁸ Jope and Threlfall, *op. cit.* note 65, 240.

Not until the middle of the 11th century was another focus established, this time at Bladon, six miles north of Oxford, to replace *OXB* and compete with or replace the declining St Neot's type ware (*OXR*). The Bladon potters may well have continued to use calcareous gravel fabrics of the old tradition, but with an emphasis on making globular domestic vessels rather than straight-sided vessels; the latter were not common in Oxford.

The establishment of this focus at Bladon would explain why Oxford was not supplied with this regional style until the mid 11th century in any numbers,¹⁴⁹ and why it then rapidly became the dominant tradition prior to the building of Oxford Castle c. AD 1071 and the building of Deddington Castle in the north, AD 1100 at the latest. By AD 1085 the industry was well established, with possibly as many as eleven potters working at Bladon.¹⁵⁰

The omission in Domesday of other potters working in the county might imply that the earlier production centre had declined or was no longer producing pots by the end of the 11th century. But the archaeological evidence hints at there being some continuity for this ceramic tradition in west and north-west Oxfordshire; the castle at Ascot Doilly continued to use the 'standard fabric' as did the urban sequence at Winchcombe. This ceramic tradition (fabric A1) was found in levels pre-dating a silver coin of c. AD 1220 in the sequence at Whichford Castle, 5 miles north of Chipping Norton. The castle was known to have been in the ownership of the de Mohun family from about AD 1086.¹⁵¹ A stratified sequence was dominated by this tradition at the Bishop's Palace in Witney and was found in association with a coin of Stephen.¹⁵² Could they all have been supplied by the Bladon potters during the 12th century? The evidence concerning technology and vessel types (see pp. 44-5) would argue against this.

Dating

The earliest evidence for this tradition was from a pit at Fairford, Gloucestershire, where it was found in association with an Alfred coin which Dr Metcalf of the Ashmolean Museum has identified as being minted before AD 875 and lost by AD 880. Nearby, another coin of Baldred, lost before the mid 9th century, was also recovered. In addition, a sherd was found in the clay bank of the *burh* at Cricklade, presumed to have been thrown up in the late 9th century.¹⁵³ While it cannot be certain that this sherd was contemporary with the foundation of the *burh* there is no evidence of any earlier residual ceramic traditions, with the exception of a few chaff tempered sherds, as might be expected given the number of sites excavated and their positions within the *burh*.

This tradition has also been found in association with Early Saxon sherds (Great Coxwell in south-west Oxfordshire).¹⁵⁴

It was the dominant ceramic tradition at Winchcombe in the early 11th century, dated by radiocarbon to AD 1020 \pm 70 (North Cotswold I, Glos type TF41a).¹⁵⁵ As at Cricklade, there was no evidence of earlier residual ceramic traditions within the Domesday borough at Winchcombe, which supported a mint during the 10th century and which may also have been a chief settlement of the ruler of the Hwicce.

One vessel was found in Oxford in a securely dated early 10th-century context at the Trill Mill, Oxford,¹⁵⁶ but it did not occur reliably in Oxford until after the mid 11th century. It was present in association with an Edward the Confessor coin (AD 1042),¹⁵⁷ and prior to the building of the castle

¹⁴⁹ Mellor, 'All Saint's', in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

¹⁵⁰ Morris, op. cit. note 104; Le Patourel, op. cit. note 38, 109.

¹⁵¹ L. S. Whittingham, 'Whichford Castle: A Moated Manor Site of the De Mohun Family' (Postgraduate thesis, Leicester University 1981).

¹⁵² B. Durham, typescript held by the Oxford Archaeological Unit.

¹⁵³ Joep, in Raleigh Radford, op. cit. note 123, 90-4.

¹⁵⁴ Recorded in the gazetteer, held on disc.

¹⁵⁵ Vince, op. cit. note 16.

¹⁵⁶ Mellor, 'Trill Mill', in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

¹⁵⁷ Mellor 'All Saints', in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

c. AD 1070 it had established itself as the major ceramic industry supplying the *burh*.¹⁵⁸ Small amounts are known in pre-motte levels at Deddington Castle in the north of the county.¹⁵⁹

It was clearly present at Witney and Ascot Doily¹⁶⁰ during the first half of the 12th century, if not earlier, and at Whichford and Ratley Castles in Warwickshire by the end of that century.¹⁶¹ By the late 11th century it was probably at Banbury,¹⁶² and by the 12th at Middleton Stoney in the north-east of the county.¹⁶³

Evidence from Oxford and Deddington suggests that it was meeting strong competition by the mid 12th century¹⁶⁴ and gradually declined in the north, to the east of the Cherwell and in Oxford, and probably ceased to supply those areas by the second quarter of the 13th century.¹⁶⁵ But in Witney and possibly elsewhere in west Oxfordshire it was dominant throughout the 12th century and into the 13th, when larger cooking and storage pots were used (Fig. 10, nos. 1, 3, 6). The stratified sequence at the Bishop's Palace, Witney, suggests that this tradition continued throughout the medieval period, but the author believes that this may be residual (Fig. 9).

More dating evidence for the early Late Saxon period and careful analysis of the possible stylistic and technological differences of this ceramic tradition may help to define the regional styles more clearly and isolate possible production sites/centres, leading to a better understanding of the ceramic networks. At its inception was there only one production site/centre with a very wide distribution network? Or were there multiple production sites at the outset? Comparison with the stratified and dated assemblages of the differing calcareous gravel tempered styles for the same period from the area to the north-west and west of Oxfordshire would prove instructive and help to establish the interfaces and overlaps of these regional styles and their influence on one another; however, new excavations are needed in the market towns of north and west Oxfordshire with securely dated sequences and more evidence from within the manor of Shipton and Witney to establish whether any differences are evident in their material culture.

LATE SAXON AND EARLY MEDIEVAL SOUTH WEST OXFORDSHIRE WARE (*OXBF*) (Figs. 8, 9, 14)

The third ceramic tradition, Late Saxon and Early Medieval South West Oxfordshire Ware (*OXBF*), is a coarseware which is distinctive because of the large proportion of fine flint in the fabric. It was first described by Haldon and Mellor,¹⁶⁶ in Oxford where it overlapped with Late Saxon Oxford Ware (*OXB*) and was contemporary with Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxford Ware (*OXAC*).

Fabric and associated technology

This ceramic tradition, a flint- and quartz-rich fabric (*OXBF*), was handmade (Appendix VII), and firing procedures would have been similar to other contemporary traditions in a clamp kiln or bonfire (see *OXAC*).

¹⁵⁸ M. Mellor, 'The Pottery', in T. G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford Castle, 1965-73', *Oxoniensia*, xli (1976), 265.

¹⁵⁹ R. Ivens, pers. comm.

¹⁶⁰ Jope and Threlfall, op. cit. note 65, 'standard fabric'.

¹⁶¹ L. S. Whittingham, op. cit. note 151; K. Steane, pers. comm.

¹⁶² A. M. Robinson, 'The Pottery', in P. J. Fasham, 'Excavations in Banbury, 1972: Second and Final Report', *Oxoniensia*, xlviii (1983), 113.

¹⁶³ S. Woodiwiss, 'Medieval Pottery', in S. Rahtz and R. T. Rowley, *Middleton Stoney: Excavation and Survey in a North Oxfordshire Parish, 1970-1982* (1984), 93.

¹⁶⁴ Haldon in Durham, op. cit. note 10, Fig. 14, Phases 6b and 7, 113; Ivens typescript, held by the author.

¹⁶⁵ Ibid.; Mellor in Palmer, op. cit. note 9, Fig. 8, 161, 176-7; Woodiwiss, op. cit. note 163, 93.

¹⁶⁶ Haldon in Durham, op. cit. note 10, 113.

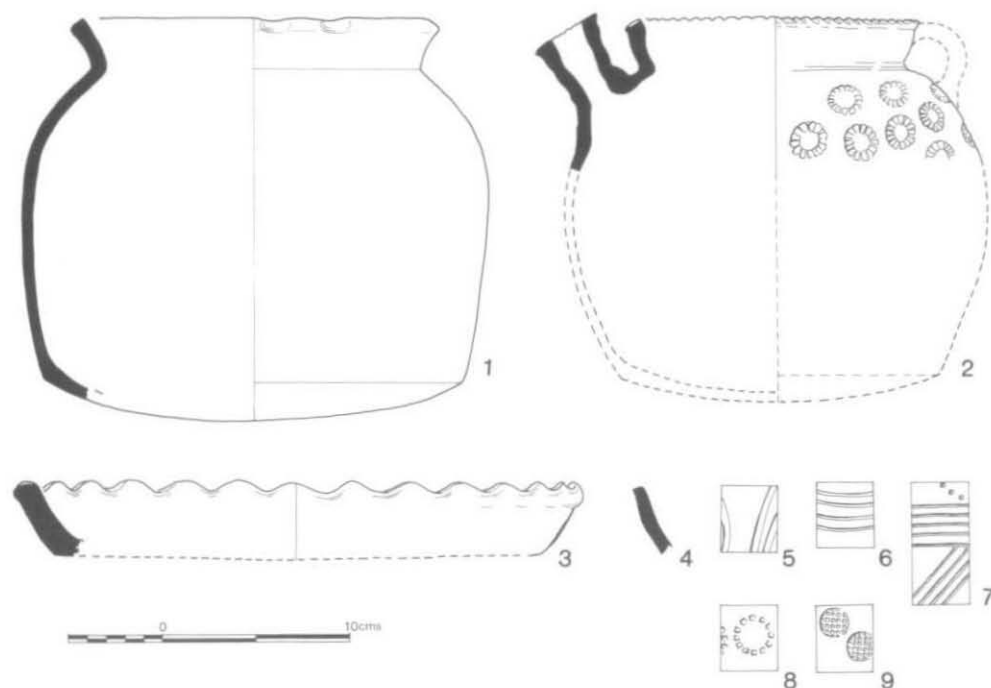


Fig. 14. Late Saxon and Early Medieval South West Oxfordshire Ware (OXBF).

Vessel types

This ceramic tradition was also typologically similar to the calcareous gravel tempered tradition (OXAC), and included globular cooking pots (Fig. 14, no. 1) which in turn were similar to the Late Saxon shelly tradition (OXB), but did not include the 'vertical-sided or straight-sided' pots in its repertoire. Shallow dishes (Fig. 14, no. 3) and spouted cooking pots, sometimes with vestigial strap handles (Fig. 14, no. 2) and decorated with incised decoration or stamps, were also popular (Fig. 14, nos. 5–9) and are clearly a proto jug. Thumb- and finger-pressed decoration on the simple rims (Fig. 14, no. 4) appear to be a common trait of this tradition.

Distribution and Source

The distribution map (Fig. 8) shows small amounts at Fairford, Cirencester and Cricklade; it is known along the Kennet Valley, at Newbury,¹⁶⁷ at the fortified manor at Membury¹⁶⁸ and at Purley, but is absent from assemblages at Reading.¹⁶⁹ It is present throughout the Vale of White Horse (formerly north Berkshire) and at Wallingford, Dorchester, Abingdon and Oxford in small quantities (Fig. 8).

¹⁶⁷ A. G. Vince, 'St Bartholomew Street, Newbury', typescript held by Newbury Museum.

¹⁶⁸ H. Healey, pers. comm.

¹⁶⁹ S. Moorhouse, 'The Pottery', in C. F. Slade, 'Excavation at Reading Abbey 1964–1967', *Berkshire Arch. Jnl.*, lxxvi (1971–72), 92–110.

The influence of this tradition undoubtedly lay with Wessex and by the mid 9th century much of north Berkshire and north Wiltshire had become West Saxon, which coincides well with the distribution of this tradition. No great quantity crossed the River Thames to the north into Mercian territory in the Late Saxon period, although some is known as far north as Swinbrook and Fawler.¹⁷⁰ It also occurs at Northmoor¹⁷¹ and Bampton.

In the south-west of the county, 9th- and 10th-century charter evidence would attest to there being substantial activity at this period,¹⁷² as would the numismatic evidence;¹⁷³ however, the archaeological record in this area is poor with no 'type site' until the late 10th century, and then only at its furthest extremity at St Martin's Wallingford.¹⁷⁴

In the early medieval period penetration widened and extended as far north as Deddington and Middleton Stoney, as well as to Witney; this follows a similar pattern to *OXAC* (Fig. 8). Production would appear to be in or near the Savernake Forest in Wiltshire (see *OXAQ* p. 100). Further Late Saxon sites closer to the supposed production site/centre would clarify both the distribution and range of associated vessels, and show whether any stylistic differences emerge in the early medieval period.

Dating

The dating for the early period rests solely on its association with the Alfred coin at Fairford (see p. 51). It is known to be present prior to the 1080s in Newbury¹⁷⁵ but, as with the calcareous gravel tradition (*OXAC*), it did not reach Oxford in any quantity until the mid 11th century.¹⁷⁶ Thereafter small amounts are found throughout the 12th and early 13th centuries but never in sufficient quantities to be a reliable indicator for trade or cultural preference. The temporal span of this tradition would seem to mirror closely that of the calcareous gravel tradition (*OXAC*) and is always found in association with that tradition or St Neot's type (Fig. 8).

ST NEOT'S TYPE WARE (*OXR*) (Figs. 8, 9, 15)

By the early 10th century another major tradition was beginning to supply pots to Oxford – St Neot's type ware (*OXR*).¹⁷⁷ During the second half of the 10th century it was dominant on specific sites in Oxford, but by the early 11th century it became a serious competitor to the local shelly tradition (Late Saxon Oxford Ware *OXB*) and remained popular until the mid 11th century.¹⁷⁸ It was first defined by Hurst¹⁷⁹ but was recognized by Jope in Oxfordshire by the early 1940s.¹⁸⁰

¹⁷⁰ Mellor in Allen, op. cit. note 81 (Fawler), Fig. 6 no. 5, 302.

¹⁷¹ S. Raven, 'Medieval Pottery', in T. G. Allen, *Watkins Farm, Northmoor, Oxon.*, Thames Valley Landscapes: The Windrush Valley vol. 1, Fig. 27, nos. 6, 11 and 12, 51.

¹⁷² Della Hooke et al. 'Anglo-Saxon Estates in the Vale of the White Horse', *Oxoniensia*, lii (1987), 142.

¹⁷³ Dr. M. Metcalf, pers. comm.

¹⁷⁴ B. Durham, 'Wallingford', C.B.A. Group 9, *Newsletter*, 11 (1981), 140–2; typescript held by the Oxfordshire Archaeological Unit.

¹⁷⁵ A. Vince, pers. comm.

¹⁷⁶ Durham, 'All Saints', op. cit. note 9; Mellor in Hassall, op. cit. note 158, Table III, 265.

¹⁷⁷ F. Radcliffe, 'Excavations at Logic Lane, Oxford. The prehistoric and early medieval finds', *Oxoniensia*, xxvi–xxvii (1961/2), 38–69; Mellor, op. cit. note 158 (1976), 255–66; Haldon in Durham, op. cit. note 10, 111–39.

¹⁷⁸ Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

¹⁷⁹ J. G. Hurst, 'Saxo-Norman pottery in East Anglia: pt. 1, general discussion and St Neots ware', *Proc. Cambridge Antiq. Soc.*, xlix (1956), 43–70.

¹⁸⁰ E. M. Jope, 'Hinton Pottery', in H. Gardiner and M. Jope, 'The Earthwork at Hinton Waldrist', *Berkshire Arch. Jnl.*, xlv (1940), 54.

Fabric and associated technology

The clay and inclusions, a shelly marl, are petrologically and chemically distinct when compared with the earlier shelly limestone tradition (OXB), and chemical analysis using neutron activation¹⁸¹ also suggests that this tradition is typical of St Neot's-type nationally.

As with the earlier Late Saxon traditions it would have been made in bonfire and clamp kilns, and fired in an oxidizing atmosphere. On the site where it was originally recognized in St Neot's Huntingdon, overfired sherds were found in pits with heavily burnt sides and filled with ash and charcoal; this has been suggested as evidence of a production site.¹⁸²

Yet with its decline the art of the wheel was lost to the Oxford region – a trend which extends across southern England. If St Neot's type ware was made locally then the skilled potters, apprentices, and general helpers must have left too, suggesting a very closed community. Given the period of use of this tradition locally (some 150 years), it would be surprising that the technology or some stylistic influence had not been absorbed by the local potters making the other major traditions (OXB, OXAC, OXBF). On balance, therefore, it seems that St Neot's type was a regional import to the Oxford region;¹⁸³ the pattern of its distribution locally also supports this conclusion (see pp. 57, 60). The vessels were designed to meet the needs of the individual, both lay and military, rather than the family unit.

Vessel types

Its products were wheel-thrown fine-walled cooking pots (Fig. 15, no. 1) of varying rim diameter, handmade deep sided dishes (Fig. 15, nos. 2 and 3), and shallow dishes (Fig. 15, no. 11). Lamps (Fig. 15, no. 5) and storage jars, with applied thumb-pressed decoration (Fig. 15, no. 4), were rarities amongst the range. But the local repertoire is not as wide as that in Northampton and further east.

Distribution and Source

Whether it was carted in or brought by packhorse – long distances – or whether it was made closer to Oxford, St Neot's type was very widely distributed throughout rural Oxfordshire. It was often found on sites with the suffix 'bury',¹⁸⁴ unlike the distribution pattern of the Late Saxon shelly tradition (OXB) which apparently favoured riverside settlements. It appears to respect none of the territorial boundaries apparently respected by earlier ceramic traditions (OXAC, OXBF). It was the preferred ware by some inhabitants in Oxford and Wallingford (see Fig. 9 for Wallingford) and much used in Oxford, first in the peripheral areas to the *burh* and later within the town along the market frontages, at a time when the population was rapidly expanding and the suburbs were infilled for the first time.¹⁸⁵ This rapid expansion is also evident at Lincoln and London for the same period.¹⁸⁶ A similar ceramic pattern is evident in the hinterland with only St Neot's types occurring on some sites or in association with Early Saxon sherds; it is particularly marked in the east of the county (earlier), albeit in very small

¹⁸¹ R. Hunter, *Neutron Activation Analysis of St. Neot's type Ware* (M.A. thesis, Bradford University, 1975); M. Cowell, Appendix VI.

¹⁸² P. V. Addyman, 'Late Saxon settlements in the St Neots area: I', *Proc. Cambridge Antiq. Soc.*, lvii, (1965), 38–73; P. V. Addyman, 'Late Saxon settlements in the St Neots area: II', *Proc. Cambridge Antiq. Soc.*, lxii (1969), 59–93; P. V. Addyman, 'Late Saxon settlements in the St Neots area, III', *Proc. Cambridge Antiq. Soc.*, lxiv (1973), 45–99; McCarthy, *op. cit.* note 5 (1988), 176.

¹⁸³ For most up to date discussion see Mellor in Durham, *op. cit.* note 9.

¹⁸⁴ Mellor in Allen, *op. cit.* note 81 (Fawler), 302; M. Mellor, 'Medieval Pottery', in T. G. Allen, 'Archaeological Discoveries on the Banbury East-West Road', *Oxoniensia*, liv (1989), 34–5.

¹⁸⁵ Mellor in Durham, *op. cit.* note 9.

¹⁸⁶ A. Vince, 'Urban Pottery: Pre-circulated Paper for the ESRC Colloquium on English Urban Industries in the Earlier Middle Ages c. 650–1300, 7th November 1992'.

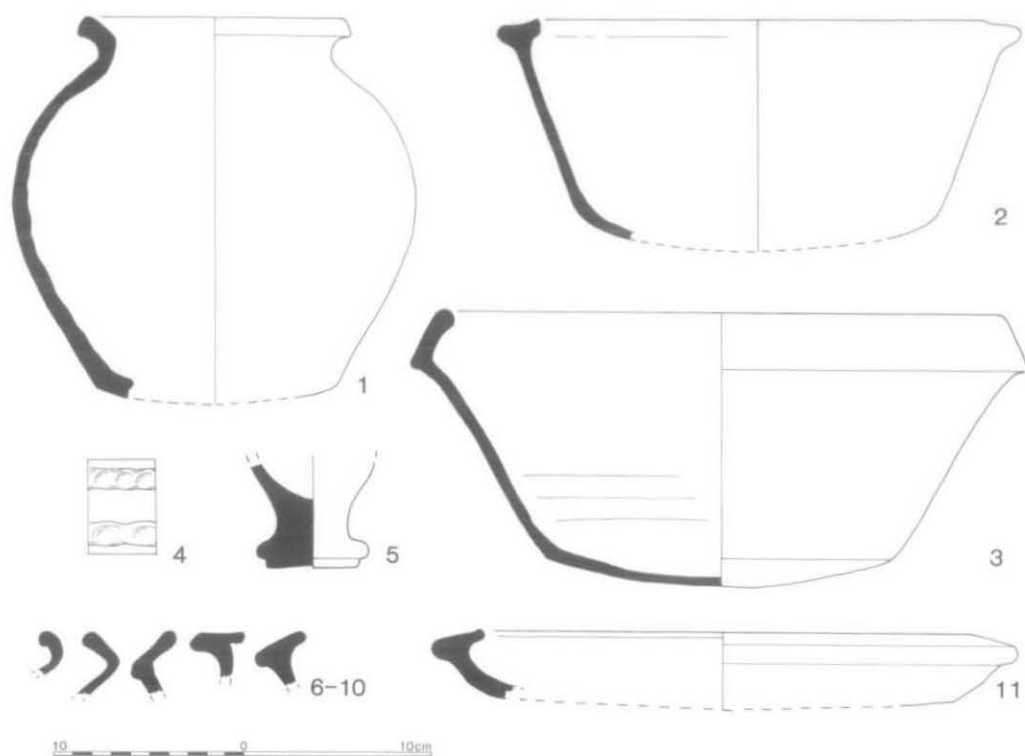


Fig. 15. Late Saxon St Neot's type (*OXR*).

quantities (Fig. 8), while on other sites it is occurring most frequently with *OXAC*, but also with *OXBF* and *OXB*. This preference was interpreted in Oxford as being due to migrants with East Midlands connections, who continued to prepare and cook their food following their own traditional tastes which favoured smaller cooking vessels (see Fig. 9 for typical vessel forms), whose method of manufacture was distinct from that of the local products and whose mechanisms of heating food stuffs also differed from those who used Late Saxon Oxford cooking vessels (*OXB*).¹⁸⁷ The three earlier Late Saxon traditions (*OXB*, *OXAC*, *OXBF*) shared some characteristics, suggesting that interchange of ideas took place and that the craftworkers were open to each others' ideas, despite apparent differing geographical origins. St Neot's type ware, however, was distinct. The evidence would perhaps suggest that it was not made in central Oxfordshire but was carried considerable distances overland from the north-east. A source closer to Northampton is possible since it continued in use there until the 12th century, albeit with some modifications;¹⁸⁸ despite the superior technology, local craftworkers and craftworkers across the south Midlands did not attempt to absorb the new technology, suggesting a resistance to a new 'culture' and a tension between these craftworkers and those supplying *OXB*, *OXAC* and *OXBF*.

The reasons for the demise of St Neot's type at Oxford and Wallingford may lie both with the remote producer and with the consumer locally. The influx of new inhabitants in the *burhs* may have

¹⁸⁷ Mellor in Durham, *op. cit.* note 9.

¹⁸⁸ V. Denham, 'The Saxon pottery', in J. H. Williams, M. Shaw and V. Denham, *Middle Saxon Palaces at Northampton* (1985), 46-62.

created a false market with a demand for the ceramic tradition from their own homeland. Once this population became assimilated, about a generation later, this need might diminish with a corresponding fall-off in demand locally. This, coupled with some contraction at the production centre, might further accelerate its demise in the region. Stamford type glazed tablewares continued to be supplied in small quantities to the larger market towns locally in the later 11th century and throughout the 12th, suggesting that no major disruption to the routes between Northampton and Oxford had occurred.

Dating

The earliest dateable occurrence of St Neot's type locally in an urban settlement is in the first quarter of the 10th century where it was found in association with the Late Saxon shelly tradition (OXB) and was dated, outside the *burh*, by dendrochronology from the Trill Mill stream.¹⁸⁹ Stratigraphic evidence from the Trill Mill site and five other more central sites show that its distribution gradually increased. It was found in the area beneath Oxford Castle, outside the *burh* in association with a post structure and coin of Eadred (AD 946-955) minted in Oxford, and in 11th-century contexts within the town already outlined above (see Late Saxon shelly ware).

The *floruit* of St Neot's type appears to coincide with the infilling of areas of Oxford, which were previously free of settlement. Where St Neot's type ware occurs it is invariably in the earliest phases of these settlements. Its ascendancy in the commercial hub of Oxford, some two generations later, has been tentatively dated to c. AD 1015-1020,¹⁹⁰ while at Northampton this ascendancy occurred AD 900-975.¹⁹¹ Given that Northampton was probably nearer to the production centre than Oxford, an earlier date for its dominance would be expected. However, these dates would conform with the settlement in the new suburbs of the *burh* under Oxford Castle and possibly Logic Lane.¹⁹² The dates in north Oxfordshire may coincide more closely with those at Northampton, but only new sites will serve to answer this point.

By the 1040s it was already in decline, when new ceramic industries from the north-west and south-west began to widen their markets to central Oxfordshire (OXAC, OXBF). St Neot's type then only represented some 50 per cent of the total assemblage, as seen in the backfill of a cellar pit with a coin of Edward the Confessor (AD 1042-1044). The 'new' tradition (OXAC) to central Oxfordshire then became the dominant ceramic tradition prior to the building of Oxford Castle c. AD 1071. The presence of St Neot's type was also noted in some quantity in pre-motte levels at Deddington Castle in the north of the county, and a few sherds are known from Wallingford Castle, to the south. The decline in St Neot's type in Oxford occurs at about the same time as the demise of Late Saxon shelly wares (LSS) in London. Is this fortuitous? It heralds the return to handmade pottery across much of southern England, and must be linked to political, cultural or environmental changes which encouraged the indigenous potter craftworker to reassert themselves at local level.

LATE SAXON TRADITIONS: DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

There is still a paucity of Late Saxon pottery, particularly marked in the south of the county and along the modern boundaries (see Fig. 8). The distributions and the long-lived traditions of the Late Saxon industries must initially have been founded within the network of strong administrations which ensured stability to allow these ceramic industries to develop. These well organized industries are likely to be close to administrative centres and were distributed to the consumer through a developed

¹⁸⁹ Durham, *op. cit.* note 9.

¹⁹⁰ Mellor, *op. cit.* note 93, 21.

¹⁹¹ Denham, *op. cit.* note 78, Table 12, 55.

¹⁹² Hassall, *op. cit.* note 158, 232-308; Radcliffe, *op. cit.* note 177, 38-69.

marketing system, which accounts for the very large-scale distributions of these traditions during the Late Saxon period.¹⁹³

Evidence from Oxford suggests that *OXB* was there at the inception of habitation, close to the causeway, and that the industry probably developed between the late 8th and late 9th centuries.¹⁹⁴

Two of these ceramic traditions suggest a strong westerly influence, one from the north (*OXAC*) and the other from the south (*OXBF*); the third (*OXB*) also suggests links with the west but has a much more confined distribution within central Oxfordshire (see Fig. 8), while the fourth originates from the north-east (*OXR*). This Late Saxon evidence reinforces early Anglo-Saxon and possibly Middle Saxon activity in west and north-west Oxfordshire.

Further work is necessary to establish the beginning dates for three of these industries and to clarify their relationship to the earlier Saxon traditions. The possible typological implications in one particular tradition (*OXAC*) may help in distinguishing 9th and 10th-century sherds in this tradition from those of the 11th and early 12th century; only more exhaustive cataloguing to include further characterization of technology will isolate the variants within these regional styles and the neighbouring calcareous gravel tempered styles and help establish their interfaces.

A larger sample of stratified pottery from both high status and rural sites is needed to test the differences and correlations in patterns of consumption, in particular in west Oxfordshire.

The archaeological record is poor for the area of the Vale of the White Horse (formerly North Berkshire) for this period and excavations at the royal vill of Wantage and at Blewbury might help in understanding the evolution of the flint tempered tradition (*OXBF*) and its associated vessels in the Oxford region.

Analytical research to include a programme of Neutron Activation Analysis might be employed to isolate the various calcareous gravel regional styles in Oxfordshire (*OXAC*) and to the west, and to compare the Late Saxon shelly wares (*OXB*) with similar shelly wares in use during the Romano-British and Iron Age within the region.

The ceramic distribution patterns suggest that major changes to the administration occurred in some places as early as the mid 11th century, a generation before the Norman Conquest, changes which resulted in major new ceramic networks becoming established (see Section 6).

Documentary evidence shows the abbot of Abingdon conveying goods along the Thames to London during the 11th century, and it is possible that river-borne trading connections existed between Oxford and London earlier;¹⁹⁵ some continental imports of 10th and 11th-century dates may have arrived in Oxford by this mechanism.¹⁹⁶ The numismatic evidence shows the river Thames to have been a corridor for trade from Kent as far as Lechlade,¹⁹⁷ but the ceramic evidence still remains equivocal. Continental imports for the Late Saxon period elsewhere in the region are virtually non-existent, suggesting that Oxford – and to a lesser extent Wallingford – was the focus, and open to many different cultural and trading influences.

The author has suggested,¹⁹⁸ and Alan Vince has argued more recently,¹⁹⁹ that London Late Saxon shelly wares and the Late Saxon shelly limestone tradition from Oxfordshire (*OXB*) originate from the same source, and indeed the petrological and chemical analysis on the temper and the clay would suggest that they used clay with similar composition.²⁰⁰

There are, however, three substantial differences between the shelly limestone wares found in London and Oxford.

The first concerns manufacture, because none of the Oxfordshire vessels dated to the 10th century or earlier are wheel-thrown; even in the 11th century there is no more than occasional evidence of

¹⁹³ Vince in Howard and Vince, op. cit. note 147, 309–22.

¹⁹⁴ Durham, op. cit. note 10, 178.

¹⁹⁵ *V.C.H. Oxon.* iv, 35.

¹⁹⁶ Mellor, op. cit. note 93, 19; Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

¹⁹⁷ Dr. M. Metcalf, pers. comm.

¹⁹⁸ Mellor, op. cit. note 93, 19.

¹⁹⁹ A. G. Vince, *Saxon London: an Archaeological Investigation* (1990), 102–3, 106.

²⁰⁰ Vince, op. cit. note 15, 49–54; Appendices VI and VII.

rotation on a turntable. London shelly vessels are handmade and wheel-thrown,²⁰¹ and many are also apparently harder fired than the Oxford examples – although this may be due to differential soil deposits in Oxfordshire and London.

The second difference lies in the wide range of London vessel types which are unparalleled in Oxfordshire in this shelly ware, i.e. the deep-sided bowls with or without a socketed handle, and the spouted and handled jars and lamps would appear to be largely absent from the Oxfordshire shelly repertoire. The few that exist have been mentioned above, and could be London 'imports'. These forms do occur in Oxfordshire, however, made in St Neot's type and in Stamford type ware in early to mid 11th-century assemblages.

In strictly typological terms therefore, some of the London shelly repertoire would seem to match vessel types which are regional imports in the Oxfordshire sequences, where they are stratigraphically later than the local shelly wares.

The third difference is in the dating. In London there are dendrochronological dates showing that LSS was still in use in the 1040s but out of use by the mid 1050s, although it may be residual at the former date.²⁰² There is no comparable dating in Oxford but, on numismatic, radio-carbon, historical and stratigraphic evidence, it was clear that the shelly wares pre-dated St Neot's type; later, however, the two traditions co-existed and the earlier shelly tradition was finally superseded by St Neot's type ware at least by the 1040s (see p. 41).

The local ceramic industry and parallel industry in London had been unable to meet the demands of the rising population from the end of the 10th century,²⁰³ and the production of *OXB* could have been affected by the considerable unrest early in the 11th century following Danish raids in the region which may have interrupted marketing, given its riverine distribution. The fire of AD 1009, which destroyed the Mint, may have further aggravated the local market. But *OXB* continued to be made for another decade and a considerable residual element should still be expected both in Oxford and London. This argument concerning dating is not immutable however. It is clear that both Oxford Late Saxon shelly and St Neot's type had been replaced by another local tradition (*OXAC*) before the building of Oxford Castle c. AD 1071. It was first recognized in any quantity in Oxford in the 1040s along with other local traditions, with a more finite temporal span, which may have been attempting to fill the vacuum left by *OXB*, its amplified vessels, and the waning of St Neot's type,²⁰⁴ and it may be that the end of *OXB* in fact occurred 20 years later than previously envisaged, i.e. just prior to the 1040s. However, this hypothesis would suggest that an enormous increase in activity and infilling took place in Oxford, along the town centre properties and behind these properties between AD 1040 and 1070. It would also imply that many of the other regional and continental imports found in the backfilling of the cellar pits would postdate the 1040s; such imports had previously been thought to be indicators of widening contacts with the rural areas and the Continent, which Oxford enjoyed when royal councils met several times prior to AD 1020.²⁰⁵ If this were the case then the *apogee* of the St Neot's type tradition in the central areas was 60 years later than at Northampton and the suburbs of Oxford under Oxford Castle and Logic Lane.

Alan Vince has shown that the distribution of LSS has two foci, one in Oxfordshire and the other around London – the Middle Thames towns being virtually devoid of LSS. This could be interpreted as London and Oxford having two distinct production centres, or that travel to London was overland rather than by river.²⁰⁶ Such an overland route would have to pass through the rival St Neot's type territory and there is no evidence of these shelly wares (*OXB*) at places like Tetworth, nine miles north-east of Wallingford, or indeed at any distance from the river Thames in the foothills of the

²⁰¹ A. Jenner, pers. comm.

²⁰² Vince, op. cit. note 15, 53, 434.

²⁰³ Ibid., for the introduction of new types Fig. 2.2, 20 and 434.

²⁰⁴ Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

²⁰⁵ Mellor, op. cit. note 93, 21; Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

²⁰⁶ Vince, op. cit. note 199, 102–3, 106.

Chilterns in the vicinity of the river crossing at what was later to become Henley (see distribution map).

The preferred option is therefore that London was supplied by another production centre whose ties with the ceramic industries within the Danelaw were stronger than with the 10th-century shelly tradition in Oxfordshire. This would accommodate the use of the wheel, the harder fired sherds, the vessel types with strong affinities with St Neot's types and Stamford types; it would also allow the dating of 11th-century London and Oxford to remain independent.

Such a model would also go some way towards explaining why so little of St Neot's type is found within the City of London, and the demise of both St Neot's types in Oxford and that of LSS in London at the same time may be significant. The art of the wheel for pottery making was lost to both urban centres and could indicate the weakening of the influence of the Danelaw on these areas and the emergence of a new political era.

It is clear that further work and liaison between London and Oxford are necessary in order to establish whether these differences are the result of different regional styles of the same shelly tradition emanating from different production centres, or whether a common source should be sought for the 10th century and, if so, what proportion of vessels were reaching London from Oxfordshire. The City of London has only one sequence spanning the 11th century, and clearly more are needed to resolve the relationship of its Late Saxon ceramic industry with that of Oxford and other Middle Thames urban sites.

If the increase in demand of St Neot's type does coincide with the take-up of vacant plots in Oxford, it would imply that the new inhabitants did have a preference for this pottery almost to the exclusion of the other shelly limestone tradition (*OXB*). This points to the possible existence of a distinct cultural and economic group within Oxford, possibly in Wallingford and in east Oxfordshire, people whose cultural links lie to the north-east of the town, and who may have been encouraged to settle in Oxfordshire from the second half of the 10th century and moved into more central sites at Oxford, at a time when Cnut was King of England. St Neot's type is thus tangible evidence of material culture closely associated with the Danelaw. The presence of St Neot's type alone in rural areas may indicate small short-lived settlements or even military encampments. There are few personal names of Scandinavian origin in Oxfordshire in the 11th century, but a charter of AD 1005–1012 states that at least one Dane, Toti, 'buys' six hides of land to the north-east of Oxford at Beckley and Horton, including a valley stream called Danes Brook.²⁰⁷ It is also noteworthy that St Neot's type is the only Late Saxon ceramic tradition which does not reflect local territorial or topographical boundaries, reinforcing the idea that it was an import to the region, not pre-conditioned by local folklore, and that an aggressive marketing strategy was employed to reach the furthestmost rural areas. Further work on dateable assemblages for this period throughout the region would help to clarify the interfaces of these major ceramic traditions and regional styles, since the dating of St Neot's type in its heartland has improved little over the past 40 years. Careful comparison between the vessels of St Neot's type and Late Saxon shelly (*OXB*) using new statistical analysis (pieslice) might help evaluate these vessel populations and their trends more precisely, together with their cultural and economic links in Oxford and Wallingford.²⁰⁸ The sooting patterns on complete pots or their profiles would refine ideas of the culinary practices employed,²⁰⁹ the results then to be compared with London and other sites in the East Midlands. Further work to refine the dating for this period within the *burhs* would enable the ceramics to be set into the historical context more accurately, in order to highlight the complex changing social, cultural and economic trends of the Late Saxon period that was to set the foundations for the medieval period.

²⁰⁷ Gelling, *op. cit.* note 22, i, xxv.

²⁰⁸ P. A. Tyers and C. R. Orton, 'Statistical analysis of ceramic assemblages', in K. Lockyear and S. P. Q. Rahtz (eds.), *Computer applications and quantitative methods in archaeology, 1990* (Oxford: Tempus Reparatum), (BAR International Ser. 565, 117–20).

²⁰⁹ Underwood Keevill in Durham, *op. cit.* note 9.

6: LATE SAXON AND EARLY MEDIEVAL TRADITIONS AD 1080-1250

THE BACKGROUND

By the later 11th and early 12th centuries the distribution of the major ceramic traditions had become smaller and more regional with five new ceramic networks emerging. The emergence of these local sandy traditions may have been in response to the decline of shelly St Neot's type locally. A similar pattern of new traditions can be paralleled in Oxford and in London.²¹⁰

Decoration of locally produced tablewares began to be evident for the first time, suggesting that some consumers were becoming visually more aware and that daily life was easing.

LATE SAXON TO MEDIEVAL WALLINGFORD WARE (*WA38*) (Figs. 16, 23, 24)

Fabric and associated technology

One such network was typified by a quartz tradition (*WA38*): the fabric with abundantly rounded quartz, with some polycrystalline quartz, probably originates from the lower greensand (Appendix VII), the nearest source being some four miles east of Wallingford in the foothills of the Chilterns, away from the river Thames and South Stoke, where a 'crock' name is evident (see Section 3; Fig. 2).

These vessels are generally well made on the wheel but the larger vessels appear to be handmade. They may have been wood fired in an updraught kiln, in both reducing and oxidizing atmospheres, but during their *floruit* they are almost always oxidized on the outer surfaces.

Vessel types

Cooking/storage vessels were very common (Fig. 16, nos. 1-5) by the 12th century, often with pronounced thumb-pressed rims (Fig. 16, no. 20). Bowls occur occasionally (Fig. 16, no. 11). Larger storage jars with applied thumb-pressed strips (Fig. 16, no. 22) are known, as are glazed spouted pitchers (Fig. 16, no. 14) with strap handles. Some of the pitchers are tripod pitchers, not all of which are glazed (Fig. 16, no. 12). The strap handles often display a wide variety of decorative styles (Fig. 16, nos. 15-19); the narrow width of some of these handles imply that other smaller jug types were made, but so far no profiles of these types have been found. The body of the vessel is sometimes decorated with incised (Fig. 16, no. 21) or roller stamped decoration (Fig. 16, nos. 8, 23). Only one unglazed bottle/flask was found (Fig. 16, no. 13), but this is not dissimilar to a Laverstock-type bottle from Wiltshire.²¹¹

Distribution and Source

The distribution map (Figs. 23, 24) shows it was found in association with St Neot's in the Late Saxon period in the rural areas to the east of the river Thames. By the early medieval period the distribution of Late Saxon and Medieval Wallingford ware (*WA38*) was centred on Wallingford; small amounts, however, were found at other settlements along the Thames as far as Reading and upstream at Dorchester and Abingdon, the only rural settlements being Benson and Ewelme to the east of Wallingford and at Blewburton Hill to the west. This tradition had the most confined distribution of all traditions in the survey area and may reflect the strong administration of the Honor of Wallingford.

²¹⁰ Vince, *op. cit.* note 15, 434.

²¹¹ B. Rackham, *English Medieval Pottery* (1948), no. 54, 9, 23.

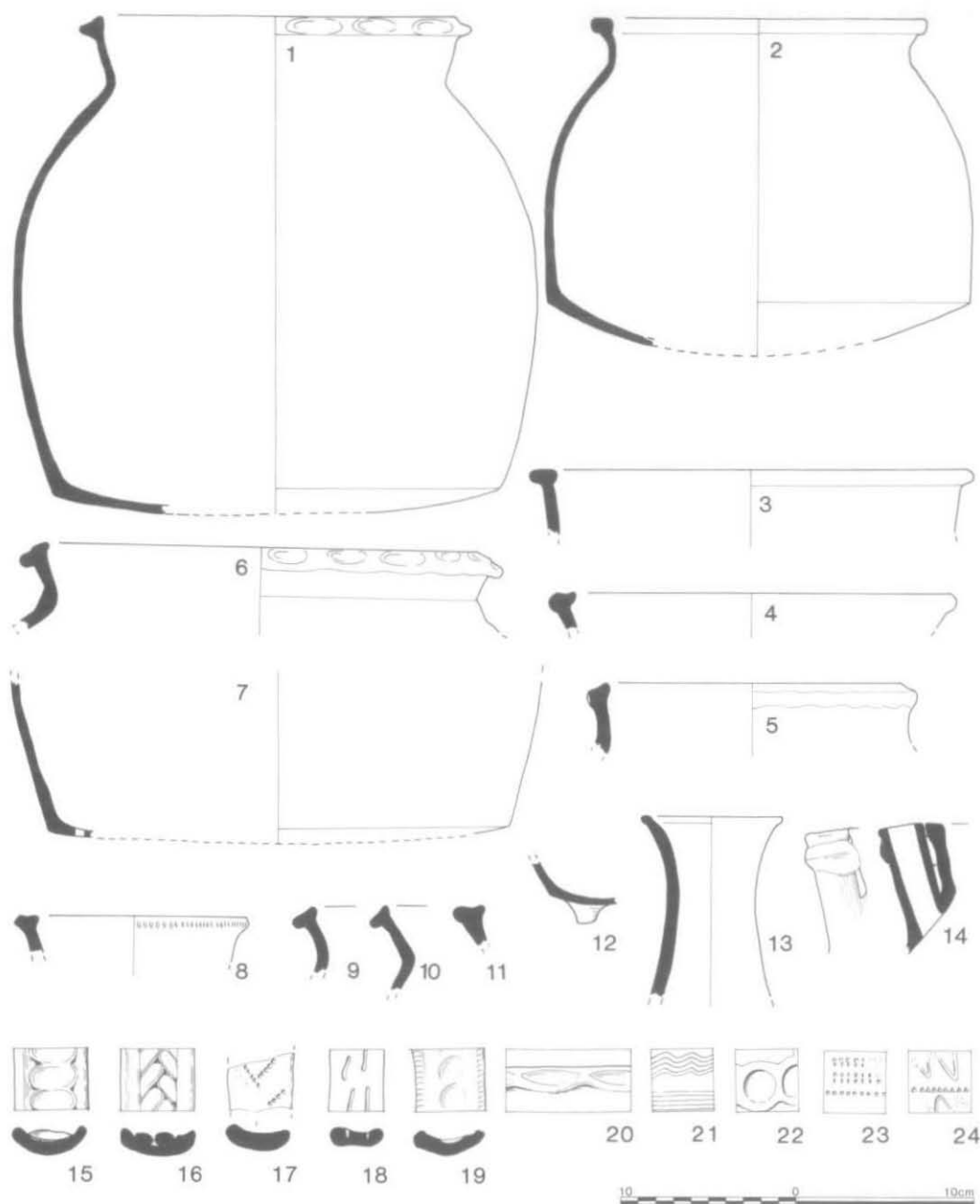


Fig. 16. Late Saxon-Medieval Wallingford Ware (W438).

Dating

It was first recognized in small quantities in early–mid 11th-century contexts at St Martin's and Wilder's, Wallingford.²¹² By the later 11th century it was found at Blewbury in association with other Late Saxon types which parallel those from Wallingford Castle. Throughout the 12th century it gradually increased²¹³ and, by the early 13th century, accounted for 50 per cent of the assemblage at St Martin's (Fig. 24). It was also the dominant tradition in the back-filling of the cob building at Wallingford Castle dated c. AD 1250, and more recently was recovered from beneath a structure at Aston Tirrold dated by dendrochronology to AD 1282–1286 (not marked on distribution map).²¹⁴ The William le Poter mentioned in the borough records may have been a practising potter or a descendant of the potters responsible for Late Saxon and Medieval Wallingford ware (see Section 3, p. 32). He was clearly a strong man as indicated by a plaint against him in AD 1245, where he stands accused of entering the house of Alice Gartus by breaking down the door and causing physical injury to her companion.²¹⁵ There is no certain evidence that this ware continued much beyond the mid 13th century, when it may have been superseded by another local tradition which had been gradually increasing its dominance of the market since the 11th century (*OX162*).

LATE SAXON AND EARLY MEDIEVAL OXFORD WARE (*OX1*) (Figs. 21–24)

Another network was represented by a quartz tempered ware, Late Saxon–Medieval Oxford Ware.

Fabric and associated technology

The fabric, with abundant sub-angular quartz, some rounded hard clay pellets and the occasional polycrystalline quartz (one per cent), was used for both handmade and wheel-thrown vessels. The coarse wares (cooking pots, storage jars, and lamps) were almost always fired in a reducing atmosphere. But the pitchers and the decorated bowls were fired either in an oxidizing atmosphere giving orange or light yellow glazes, or a reducing atmosphere giving light green glazes. The kiln for the glazed wares was almost certainly an updraught with two or more flues, but the domestic wares could have been fired in a clamp kiln, given the variability of hues on the outer surfaces.

Vessel types

A wide range of vessels were included in the repertoire: baggy curved sided cooking pots/storage jars in three sizes were made (Fig. 17, nos. 1, 6, 14), the smallest size being introduced later than the medium and larger size,²¹⁶ but variations occur suggesting that templates were not used. The rims were almost always thickened, and flattened on the top. Tool trimming was sometimes evident where the potter had pared off the clay from the shoulder and above the basal angle (Fig. 17, no. 1). The rims were sometimes thumbled but, generally, the coarsewares remained undecorated. The bases were slightly convex. By the early 13th century some of the rims were noticeably thicker and more

²¹² The type site at St Martin's has a gap in the ceramic sequence between the mid–late 11th century; pottery records concerning Wilder's Wallingford are held by the Oxford Archaeological Unit.

²¹³ T. J. Weare et al., 'Excavations at Wallingford, 1974', *Oxoniensia*, xlii (1977), 212.

²¹⁴ A.D.W. Richmond, *The Cottage, Aston Street, Aston Tirrold. Archaeological Excavations 1991–2* (Assessment Report, 1993).

²¹⁵ Dewey, *op. cit.* note 46, 70.

²¹⁶ Mellor in Hassall, Halpin and Mellor, *op. cit.* note 120, 202.

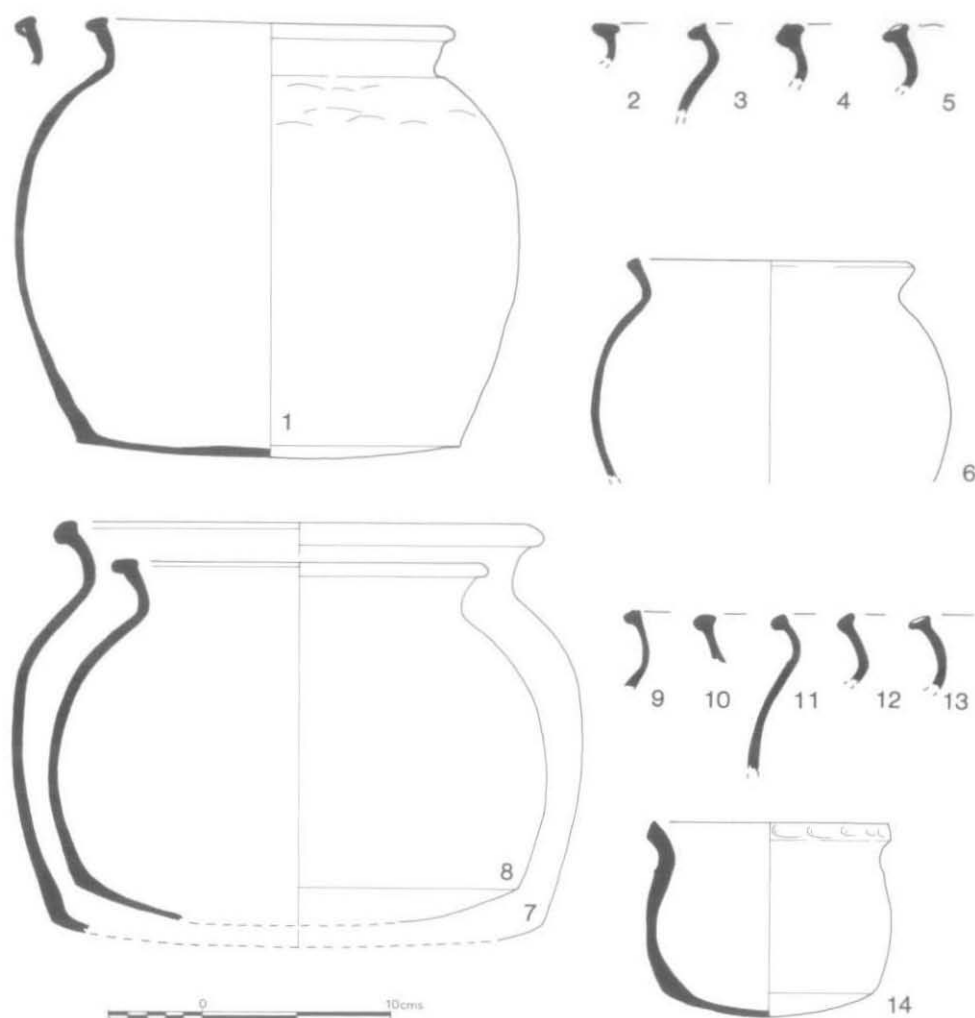


Fig. 17. Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OXI).

developed (Fig. 18 nos. 1, 9). Bowls and pans were a minor component of the repertoire, some with handles; decoration and a thin wash of glaze was more common to this type of vessel, suggesting that it may have been regarded as tableware. Combing (Fig. 19, no. 2), incised (Fig. 19, nos. 3 and 8), or applied thumb strips were used. More unusual was a bowl with a drilled hole made prior to firing (Fig. 20, no. 1). This may have been used as a firecover, and another may be the top of a firecover with drilled holes (Fig. 20, no. 8) or the base of a possible strainer/colander. Firecovers (curfews) have not been recognized amongst the vessels in this ware but were a very necessary commodity. Their function was to ensure that the sparks from the embers were contained when the fire was not in use, particularly during the night. Introduction to the ceramic repertoire may indicate a heightening of communal responsibility in matters concerning safety but was also a pragmatic response to keeping live coals overnight. Ceramic firecovers were clearly present in other contemporary traditions, i.e. *OXAG*. Also unusual was the socketed bowl (Fig. 20, no. 5), designed for use with a wooden handle. This socketed style was more popular amongst the tradition to the south (*OXAG*). Cresset lamps,

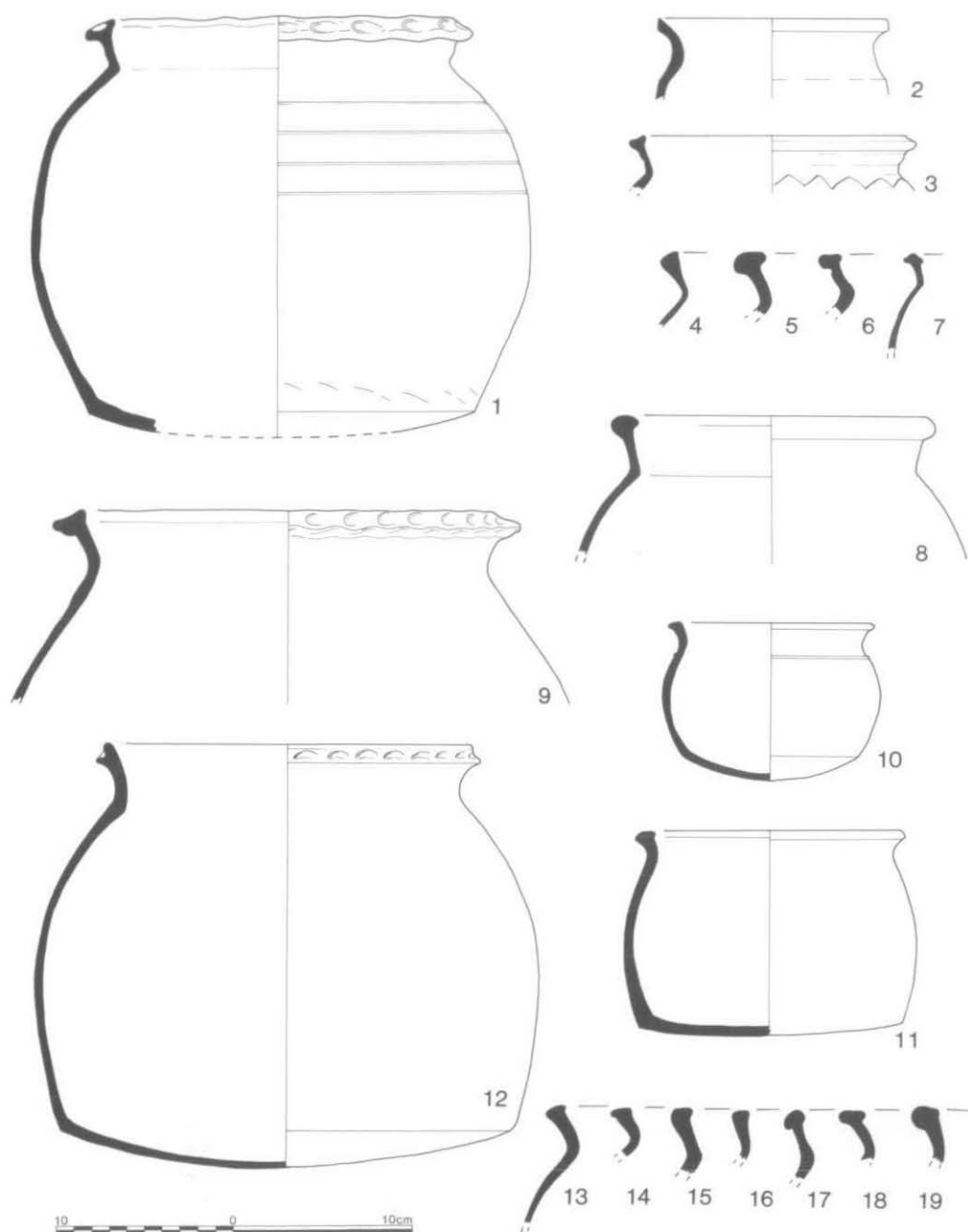


Fig. 18. Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OX1) contd.

designed for suspension, copying Late Saxon glass prototypes, were found (Fig. 20, nos. 9–11), as was a cup or possibly a squat lamp (Fig. 20, no. 6), and a possible lid (Fig. 20 no. 7).

The most common pitcher in this tradition was the elegant spouted tripod pitcher, a decanter for wine or ale (Plate 4, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.70). The manufacture of the Oxford type tripod pitchers has already been fully discussed and illustrated.²¹⁷ It was decorated with a variety of incised and applied thin strips which characterize this tradition, and a transparent glaze which in the kiln fired to either yellow or orange in an oxidizing atmosphere or to a light green in a reducing atmosphere. Small spouted flasks were made (Fig. 21, nos. 1 and 4), some with tripods (Fig. 21, no. 8), the inspiration for such vessels may lie with leather goods; two-handled pitchers were the exception (Fig. 21, no. 9). Some of the earlier rims were simple flared types (Fig. 21, no. 10), but the majority were developed thickened rims. Strap handles with a variety of plaits were very well executed (Fig. 22, nos. 11–14) and typical of this tradition.

In Oxford nearly all the pitchers were well glazed but unglazed examples are known from Deddington and Middleton Stoney. By the 13th century other jugs were added to the range, standard types with thumb bases and thin glaze (Fig. 22, no. 7) and a wedge-shaped handle. Other smaller handles testify to smaller jugs being used (Fig. 22, nos. 15–17), and the use of red slip was introduced (Fig. 22, no. 22) though only rarely found. An impudent anthropomorphic jug beautifully executed with red iron rich clay around the eyes of the figure to highlight the detail, was recovered from Exeter College, Oxford (Fig. 22, no. 10).²¹⁸ The execution of these eyes was similar to Fig. 57 no. 6 in another tradition (*OXAM*). So uncharacteristic of this tradition, it almost certainly represents a special commission – perhaps reflecting student humour – but it also reinforces typological links with other ceramic traditions (*OXAW* and *OXAM*). The rilling on the neck is reminiscent of French jugs and can also be paralleled in Bristol with their local jugs²¹⁹ and this is also characteristic of the early Brill/Boarstall types (*OXAW*).

The unglazed grey reduced body sherds might be mistaken for Romano-British greywares by less experienced archaeologists. Towards the end of the production of this ware some of the body sherds of the pitchers and jugs were visually very similar to the earlier Brill/Boarstall types (*OXAW*). Both *OXI* and *OXAW* have clay pellets in their respective fabric types and this, together with the typological link mentioned above (the special commission), again points to some contact, at least between the craftsmen of the two industries.

This ware shares some similarities with *OXAC* in that there appear to be three sizes of cooking/storage jar but, technologically, it is far superior and specializes in tripod pitchers with a variety of plastic decoration which could be confused with similar traditions further north in the Midlands, as seen at Coventry.²²⁰ As the database for the north-east of the county increases regional types may become evident.

It has been suggested that the size of cooking pot may have been dictated by the consumer or the market administrators rather than a direct link between the two ceramic industries.²²¹

Distribution and Source

A source on the Oxford Clay should be sought. This ware dominates central, east and north-east Oxfordshire, supplying both urban and rural areas. A few sherds are also known over the border into Buckinghamshire and Northamptonshire and also in the north-west and west Oxfordshire (Fig. 23).

²¹⁷ E. M. Jope, 'The Clarendon Hotel, Oxford Part 1, The Site', *Oxoniensia*, xxiii (1958), 54–9; for aspects of technical potting for *OXI*, see Pl II A and C.

²¹⁸ McCarthy, op. cit. note 5, Fig. 62.

²¹⁹ M. Ponsford, pers. comm.

²²⁰ M. Redknap, 'Twelfth and thirteenth-century Coventry wares with special reference to a waster group from Cannon Park Estate (Lychgate Road), Coventry', *Medieval Ceramics*, 9 (1986), 65–77.

²²¹ D. A. Hinton, 'Rudely Made Earthen Vessels', in D. P. S. Peacock (ed.), *Pottery and Early Commerce* (1977), 222; Mellor in Hassall, op. cit. note 120, 204.

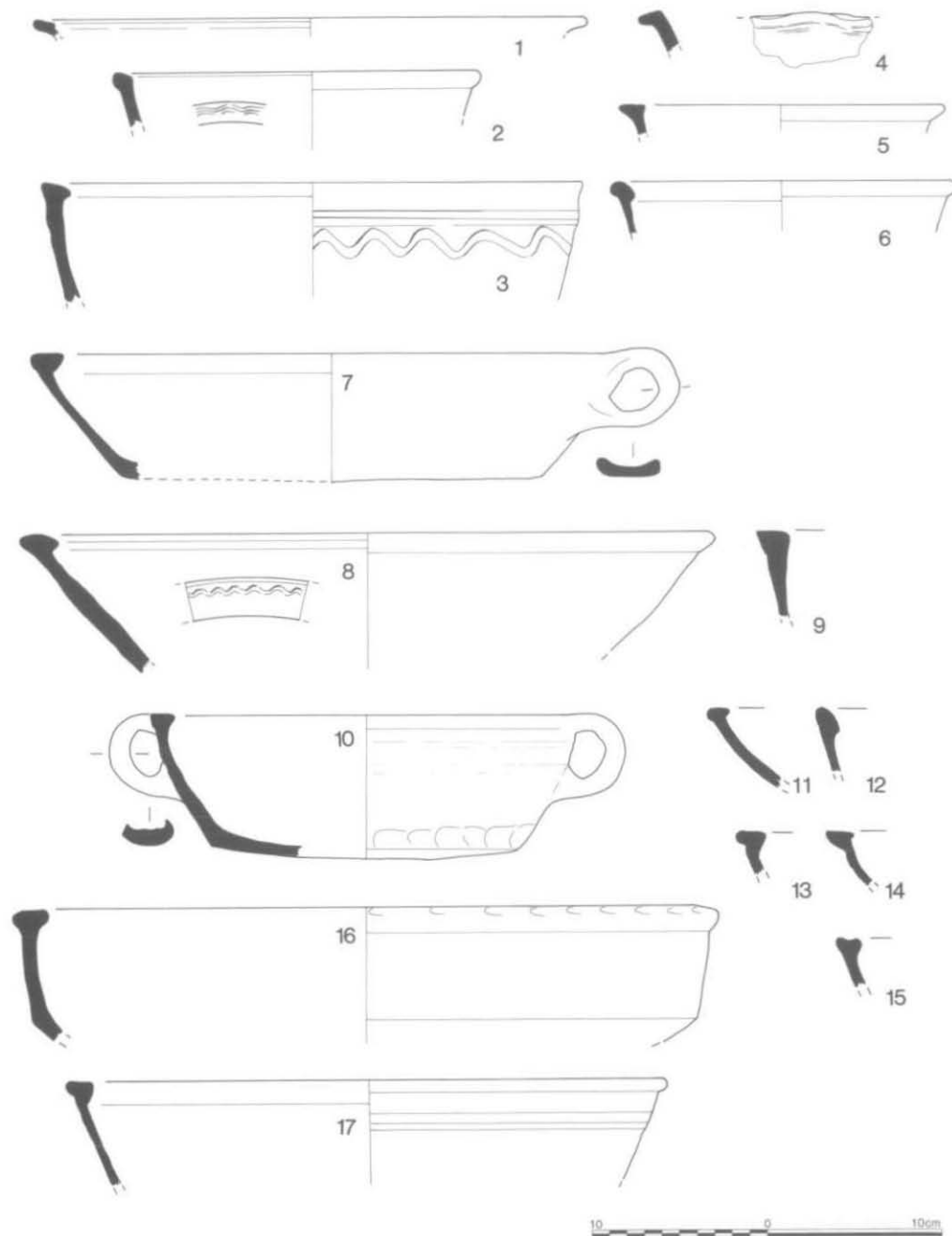


Fig. 19. Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OXY) contd.

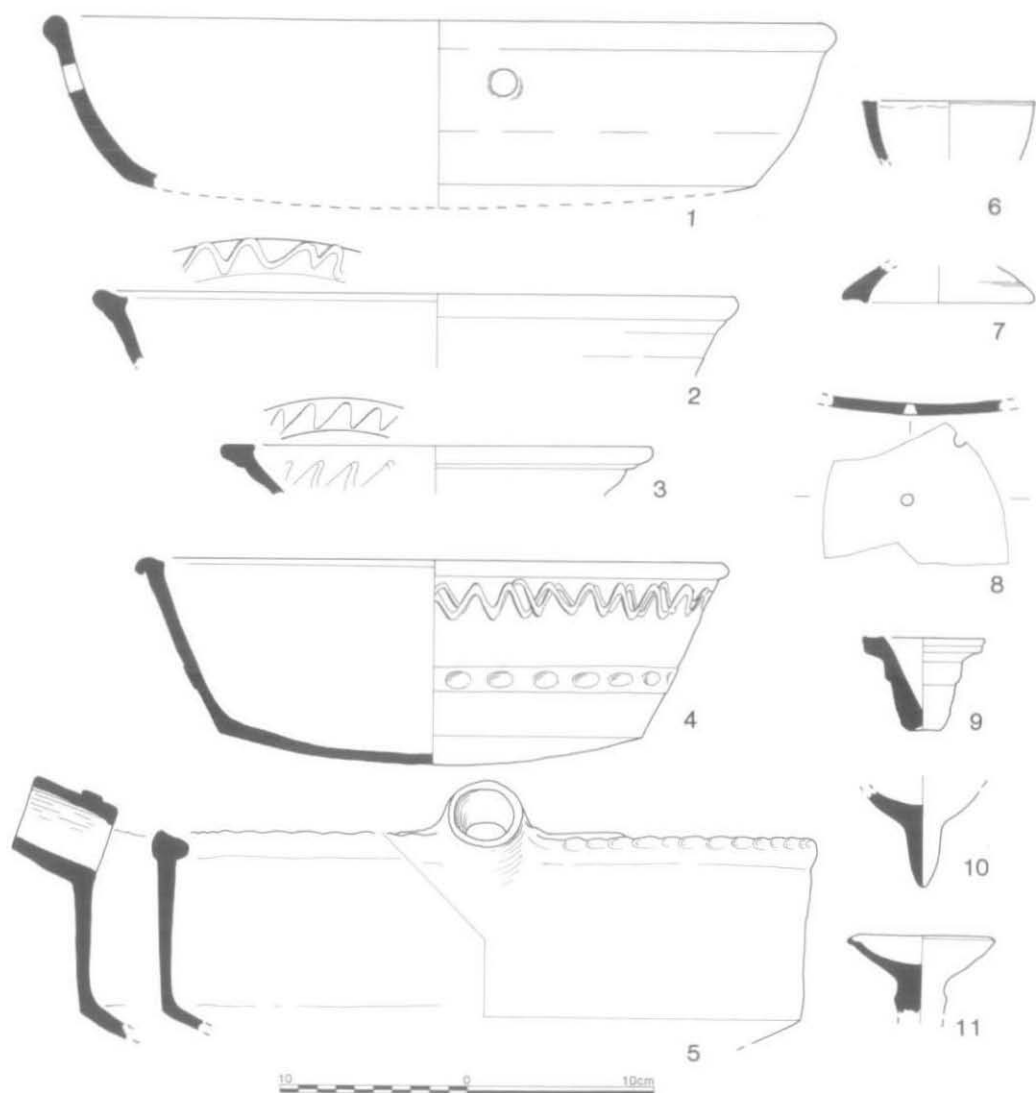


Fig. 20. Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OX) contd.

Only two sherds were found at the Bishop's Palace, Witney, in mid-late 12th-century contexts with a slight increase by the later 12th and early 13th centuries; comparatively little is found south of Oxford. This ceramic network may also be influenced by some administration, possibly a Domesday barony. There is no evidence to suggest distribution along the river Cherwell, which flows north-south across the county from Banbury to Oxford, where it joins the river Thames.

The source for this ware would seem to lie to the north of Oxford but south of Banbury, closer to Deddington and Middleton Stoney (Fig. 24). Given that the earliest context to date may be at Chesterton, a production site/centre close to that area might be sought. The adjoining parish is Bicester, which includes Crockwell to the north of the town (see Documentary: Place-names suggesting medieval production sites). However, if the production centre had been in the vicinity of Crockwell, it

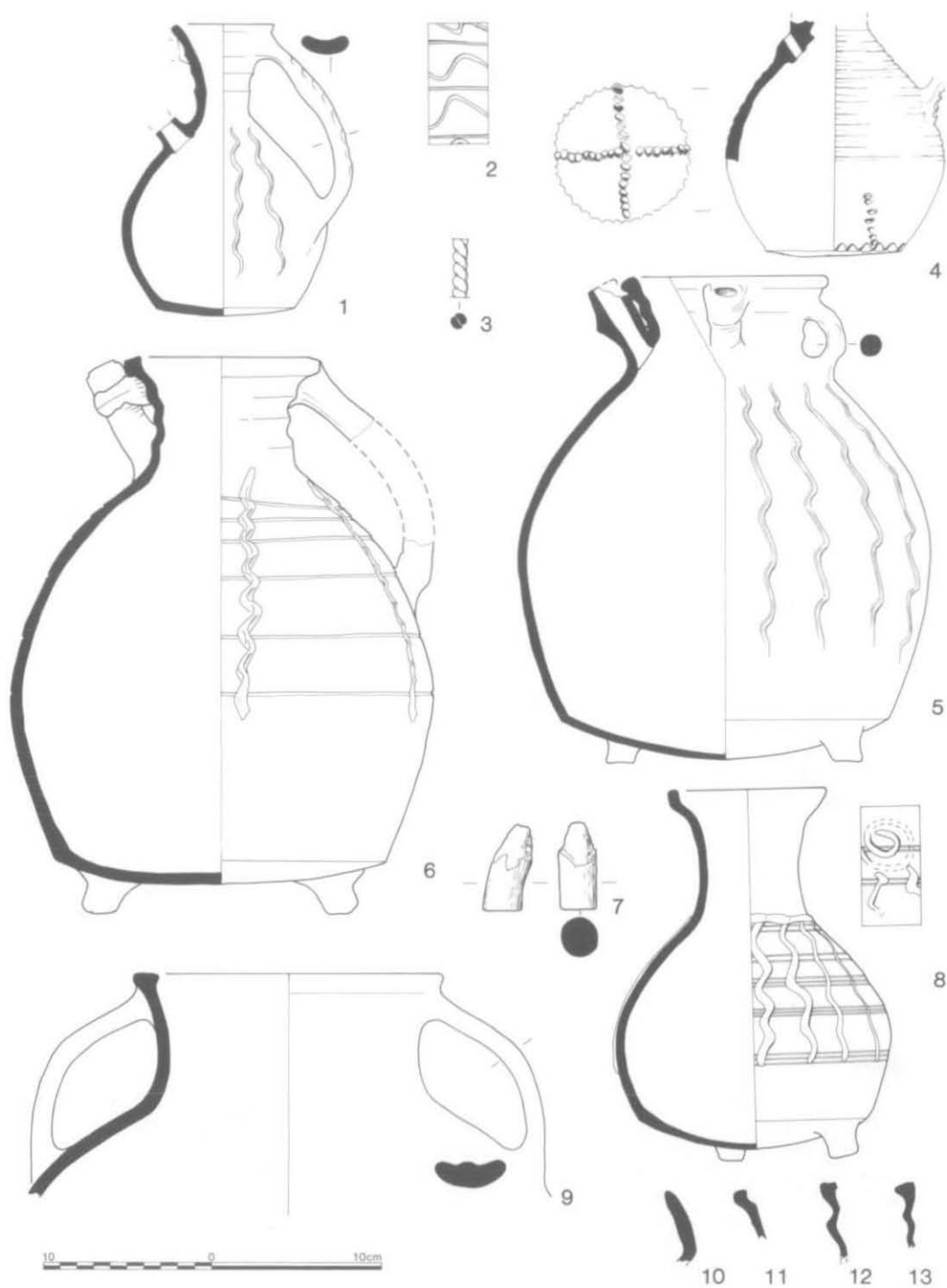


Fig. 21. Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OX1) contd.

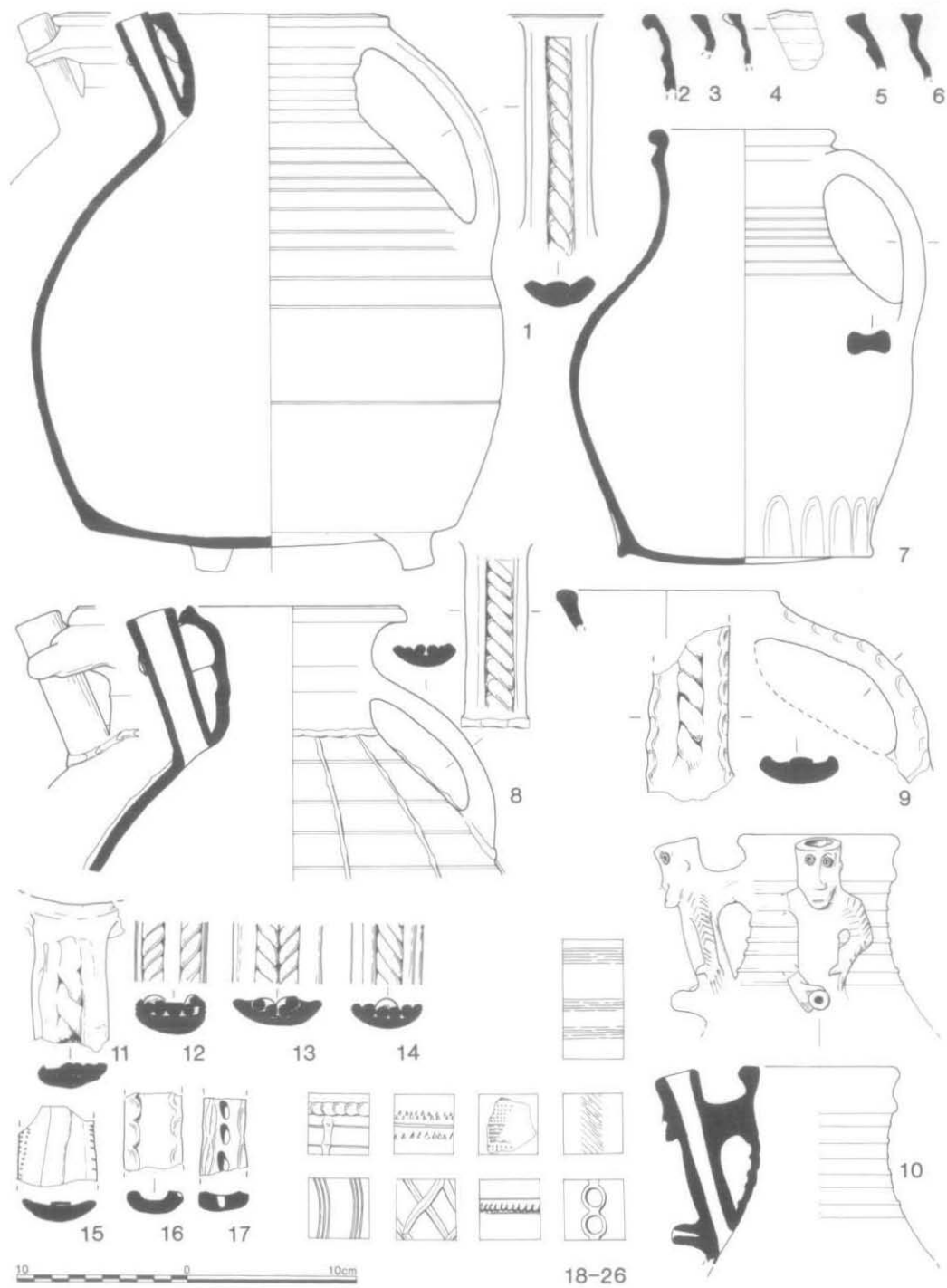


Fig. 22. Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OXY) contd.

is surprising that so little reached Brackley in comparison with the large supply to Deddington. Another production site east of the Cherwell should not be ruled out, therefore, possibly close to the later Brill/Boarstall ceramic industries but with easy access to the Oxford Clay.

Dating

It was probably emerging as early as the mid-late 11th century to the north-east of Oxford, closer to the production centre. It was found in association with St Neot's type ware at Chesterton and in mid to late 11th-century contexts at 79–80 St Aldates, Oxford,²²² but it was not present under Oxford Castle (built AD 1070) and it was absent from beneath Deddington Castle.²²³ It was, however, present in the early wash off Oxford Castle Mound,²²⁴ and at Deddington in the later 11th–early 12th century levels.²²⁵ It was probably present at Banbury Castle in the late 11th century.²²⁶

Thereafter it gradually grew in popularity throughout the 12th century in Oxford and to the north; by the mid 12th century it had superseded the calcareous gravel tradition in Oxford (OXAC).²²⁷ By the 13th century it accounted for 60 per cent of the total pottery at Deddington Castle,²²⁸ and this proportion can also be mirrored at Middleton Stoney in the early to mid 13th century.²²⁹ By the mid 13th century (c. AD 1250) it represents less than 15 per cent of the total pottery assemblage at the Dominican Priory in Oxford.²³⁰ It is likely, therefore, that its presence in 14th-century deposits at some other Oxford sites was residual²³¹ and confirmation for this has come from Hall's Brewery, Hollybush Row in Oxford.²³² It seems possible that its occurrence in 14th-century deposits at Banbury was also residual, if it is indeed part of the same tradition (see n. 226). At Deddington it was found in association with Potterspury wares (OX68), which are unlikely to date much before the late 13th century (see Section 7), and this industry may have struggled on into the later 13th century in areas closer to the production centre.

LATE SAXON TO MEDIEVAL ABINGDON WARE (OXAG) (Figs 23, 24, 25–27)

A third ceramic network, a quartz tempered tradition, was evident (OXAG), and was often found in association with other quartz tempered traditions OX162 and WA38.

Fabric and associated technology

The quartz tradition (OXAG) includes two distinct fabric types, one with subangular quartz (ABA) the other with rounded quartz (OXAG). These were originally recorded at sites in Abingdon under one

²²² Haldon in Durham, *op. cit.* note 10, Phase 6, Fig. 14, 132–33.

²²³ R. Ivens, *pers. comm.*

²²⁴ Mellor in Hassall, *op. cit.* note 158, Table III, III L5.

²²⁵ R. Ivens, *pers. comm.*

²²⁶ Robinson in Fasham, *op. cit.* note 162, Fig. 17, Fabric 6, 104; the author is not convinced that all the sherds attributed to OX7 at Banbury are the same tradition as those found at Deddington and Oxford in the late 11th century.

²²⁷ Durham, *op. cit.* note 10, Phase 6b, Fig. 14, 133, where the transition was found in association with a Stephen coin.

²²⁸ R. Ivens, *pers. comm.*

²²⁹ Woodiwiss in Rahtz, *op. cit.* note 163, Site 5, Fabric III 1, 93.

²³⁰ Mellor in Lambrick, *op. cit.* note 11, Table 1, 175–7.

²³¹ Haldon in Durham, *op. cit.* note 10, Phase 10, 135; for further discussion of residuality see Mellor in Lambrick, *op. cit.* note 11, 177.

²³² Typescript held by the Oxford Archaeological Unit.

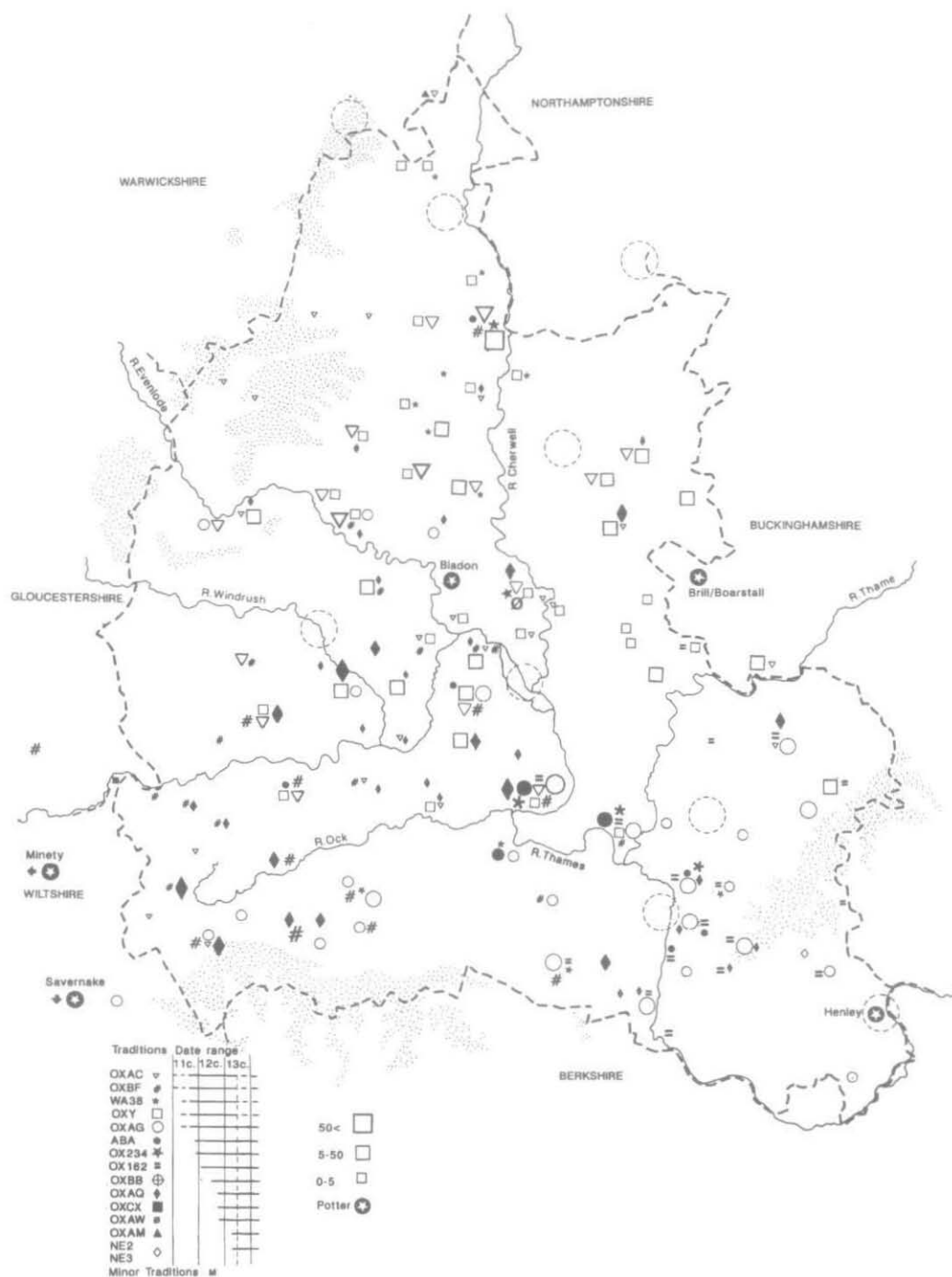


Fig. 23 Distribution of Late Saxon and Early Medieval pottery find spots 1080 AD–1250 AD, with histogram showing the date range of these traditions.

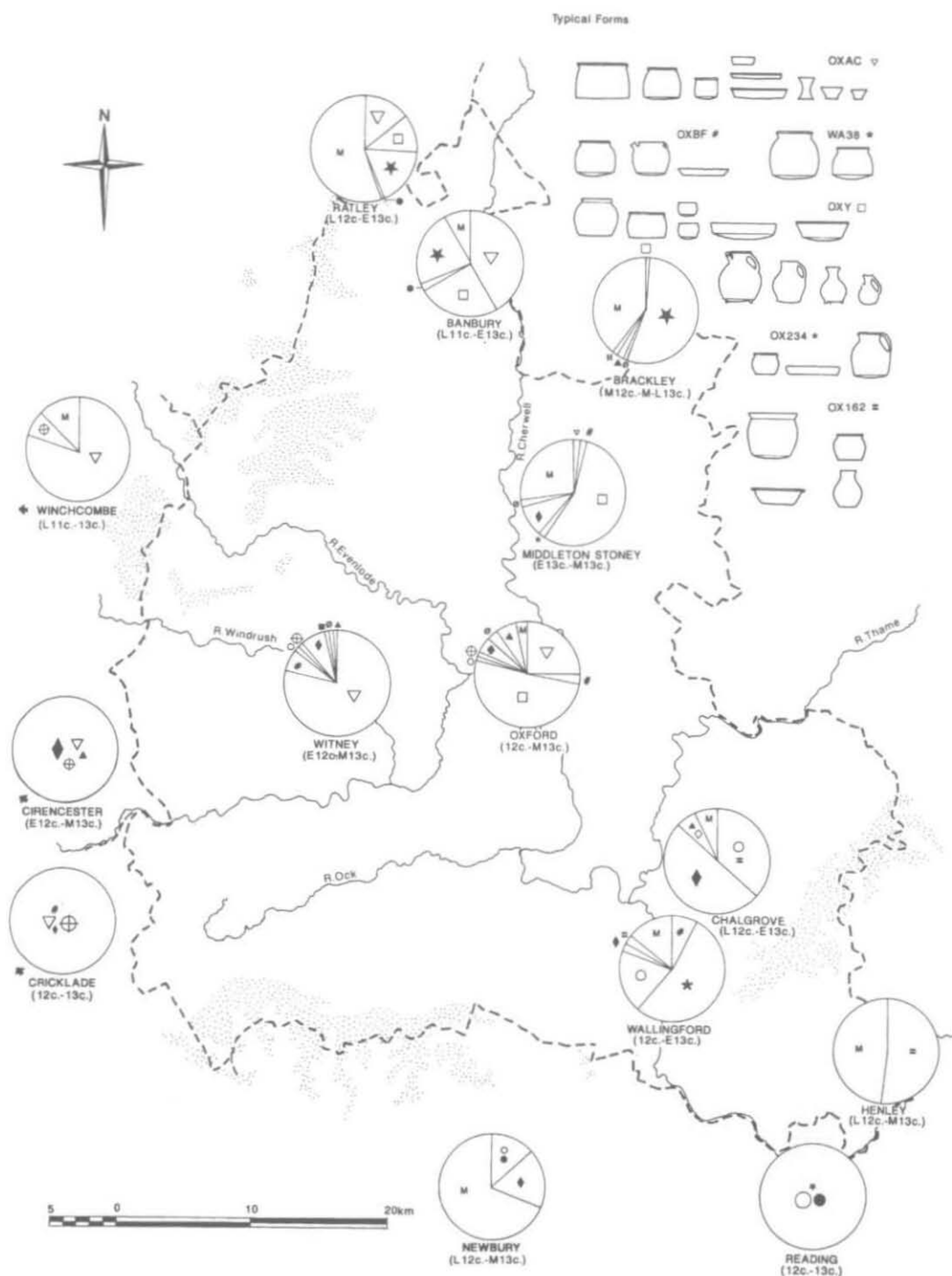


Fig. 24. Piecharts representing the percentages or presence of major ceramic traditions at selected sites during the Late Saxon and Early Medieval period and associated vessel forms.

broad fabric type, Abingdon A.²³³ For the present survey they were separated into two fabric types, later recognized as the same tradition, Late Saxon to Medieval Abingdon Ware. Vince isolated 3 sub-groups at Newbury.²³⁴ The source would suggest an area with mixed sand, some of which derived from the lower greensand, and these sub-groups may also represent different fabric types from one production site/centre.

The fabric types are visually distinct from those of the Nettlebed area (see Sections 6, 7).

The firing of these pots was variable: some were reduced and others oxidized, but gradually oxidized surfaces prevailed. The depth of colour is due to the iron in the clay. The pots were probably wood fired in an updraught kiln, leaving some evidence of a structure in the ground after it was abandoned.

Vessel types

The vessels in fabric *ABA* were largely wheel-thrown and included cooking pots (Fig. 25, no. 1), bowls (Fig. 25, no. 7), fine walled spouted pitchers (Fig. 25, no. 3), some with tripods (Fig. 25, no. 6), with a variety of incised (Fig. 25, no. 2) or thumbbed decoration, but often only thinly glazed. Some of the pitchers were very skilfully executed while others were crude in comparison. Strap handles with plaited or applied thumb pressed strips and roller stamp decoration along the edges of the handles were a common trait of this tradition (Fig. 25, nos. 4, 5). By the late 12th century white and red slip, applied with the finger, were used to decorate the jugs and pitchers (Fig. 25, no. 17), the former being more popular (Fig. 25, nos. 11, 12, 19–20).

During the second half of the 13th century, tablewares were often covered with white or more rarely red slip and glazed mottled green, rather than the clear glazes favoured during the earlier part of the century (Fig. 25, no. 21). Applied strips and pellets (Fig. 25, no. 18), stamps possibly copying the die of a coin, were among the unusual styles of decoration (Fig. 25, no. 14). A face mask with slightly quizzical expression and impressed eyes but sculptured nose, probably represented an anthropomorphic jug rim. It had been dipped into white slip and glazed light green and was found in Abingdon. The glaze on the remaining jug had fired to dark green (Plate 1A, A.M. 1886.1688a, height 9.8 cms).

A wider variety of products appears to be available in fabric *OXAG*. Cooking pots/storage vessels (Fig. 26, nos. 1–5) remained the most common type, but lamps (Fig. 26, no. 17), shallow dishes (Fig. 26, nos. 12, 14), some with socketed handles (Fig. 26, nos. 10, 11),²³⁵ small bowls (Fig. 26, no. 8), flasks/bottles (Fig. 26, no. 15) and a firecover (Fig. 26, no. 9) were discovered.

This wider range may merely reflect the larger quantity of this fabric found, but the introduction of some vessels, such as small bowls, may be of chronological significance. The pitchers too show a wider range, with round-bodied tripod pitchers (Fig. 27, nos. 3, 31) and small ovoid types (Fig. 27, no. 1). The pods of many of these tripod pitchers were often stabbed at the base (Fig. 27, no. 33), possibly to ensure that the pod was well-fired throughout; this is a characteristic unknown on similar pitchers in *OXY*. The handles included both strap and rod (Fig. 27, nos. 5–7), with a variety of decoration. Transparent lead glazes giving orange, and less commonly light green, were used. As witnessed with fabric *ABA*, mottled green glazes and dark green glazes over a white slip became more frequent during the latter part of the 13th century.

The potters of this tradition were innovative, as seen by the copying of an angular handle of a metal cauldron (Fig. 27, no. 4) and they had a good sense of spatial design and decoration (Fig. 27, no. 31). This may go some way to explaining the wide distribution of this ceramic tradition.

The early influence probably lay with Wessex, where tripod pitchers occur earlier than in the

²³³ M. Parrington and C. Balkwill, 'Excavations at Broad Street', *Oxoniensia*, xl (1975), 5–58.

²³⁴ Vince thesis, op. cit. note 16, Fabric Newbury C.

²³⁵ S. D. Ford, 'Excavations Newbury Town Centre 1971–74, Pt. III', *Trans. of the Newbury District Field Club*, 12, no. 6 (1981), Fig. 1 no. 5.

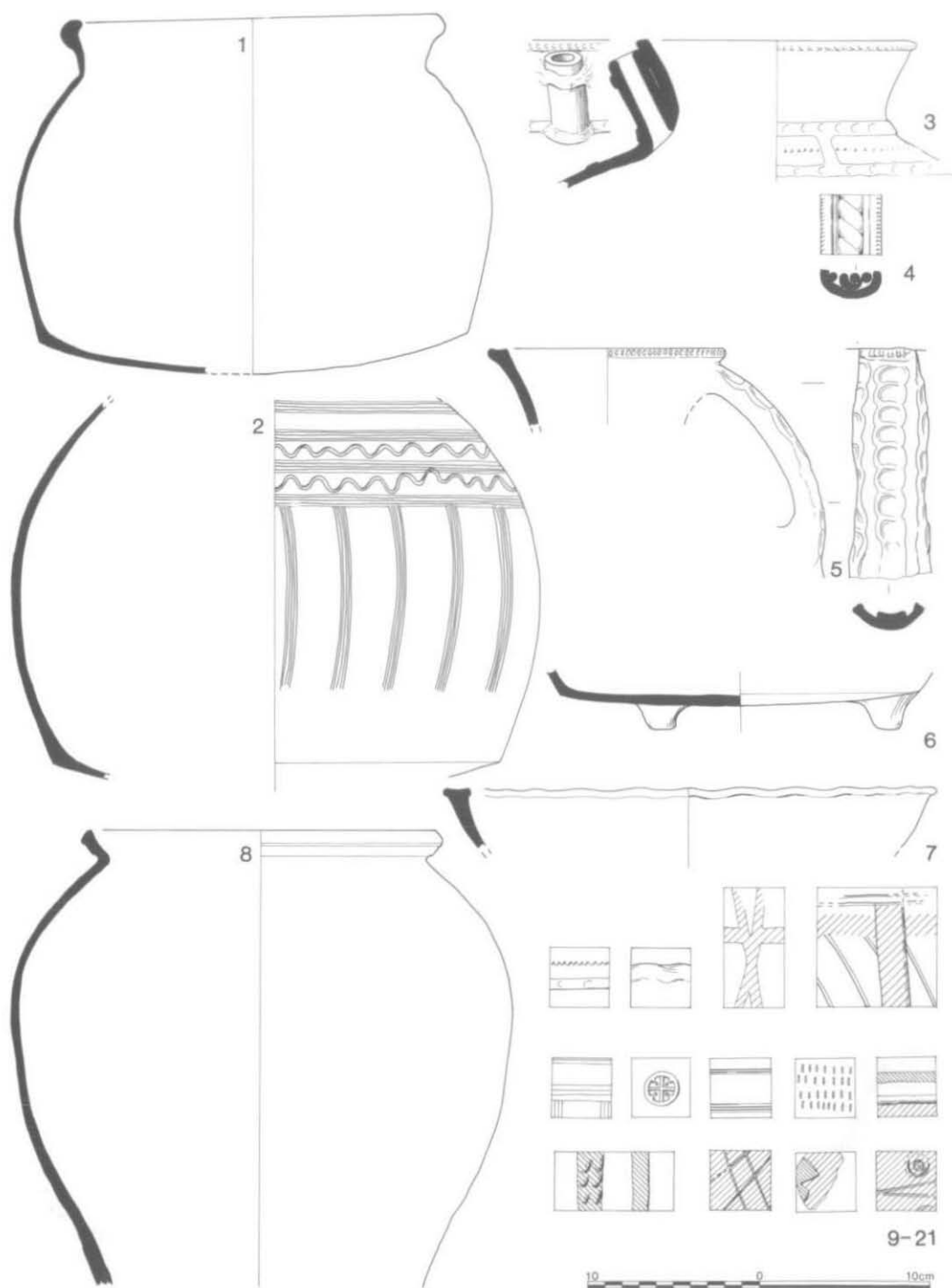


Fig. 25. Late Saxon-Medieval Abingdon Ware (ABA).

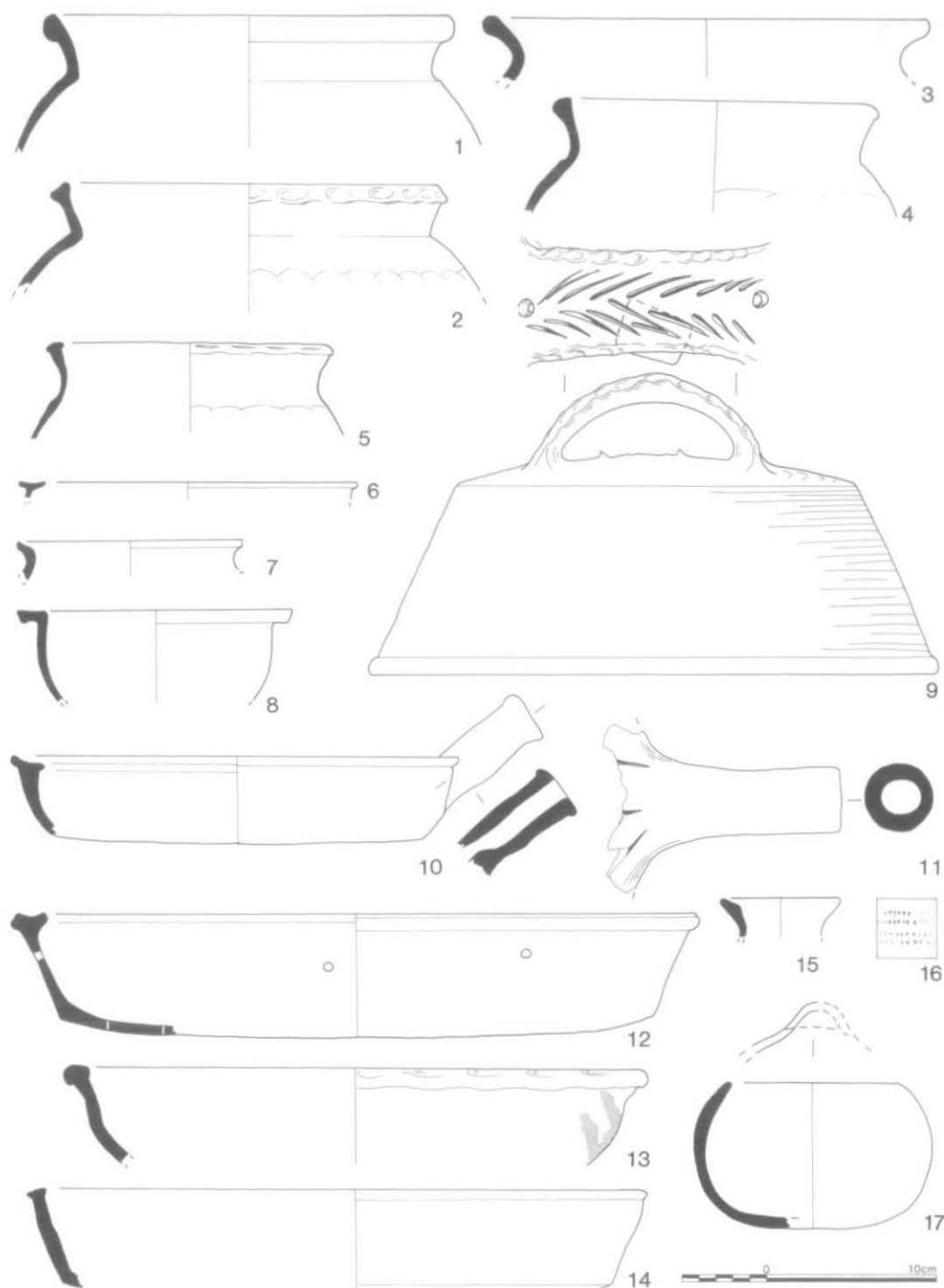


Fig. 26. Late Saxon-Medieval Abingdon Ware (*ABA*) contd.

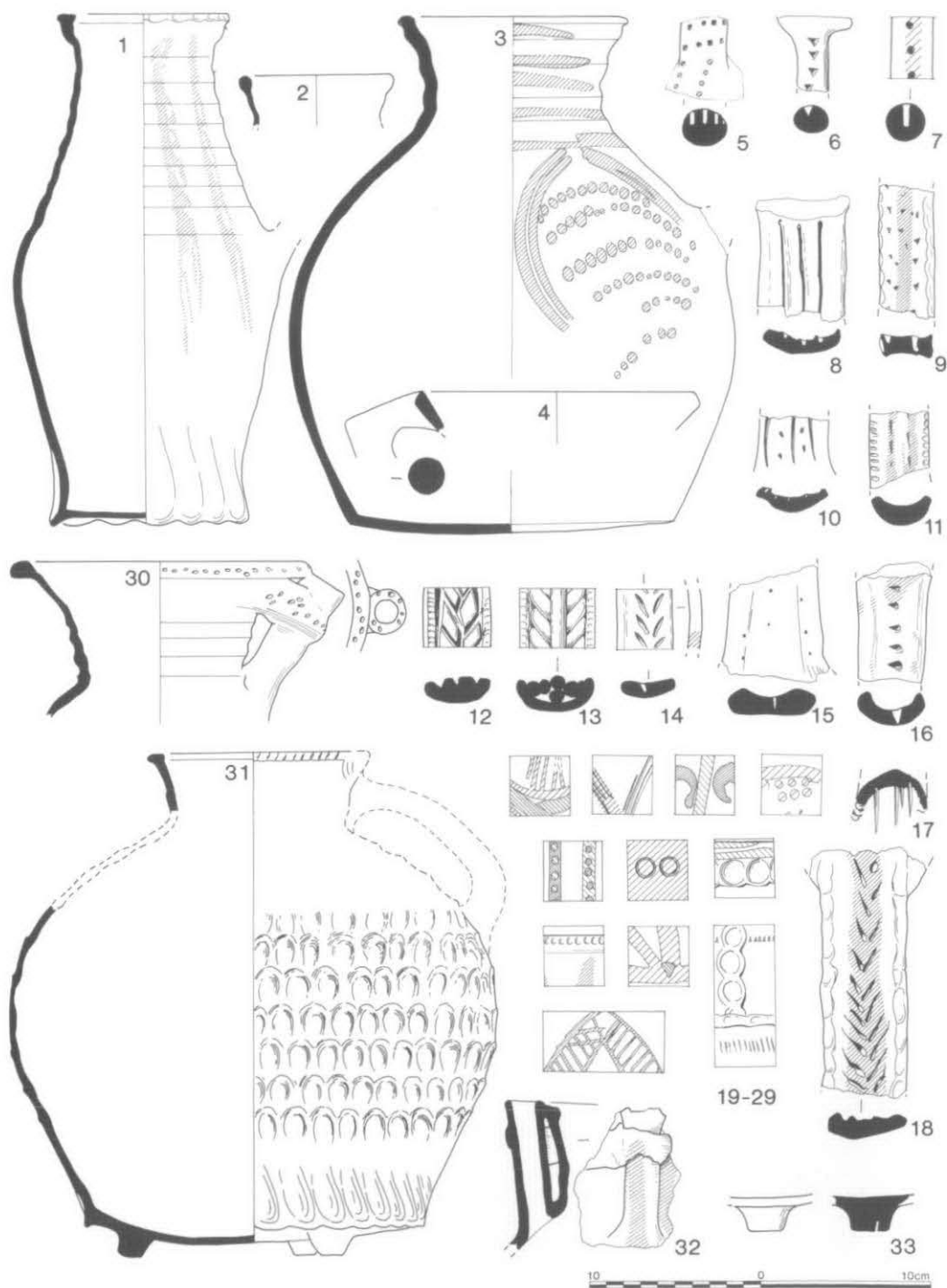


Fig. 27. Late Saxon-Medieval Abingdon Ware (ABA) contd.

Oxford region,²³⁶ and Winchester-type pitchers occur in 10th-century contexts in Oxford. Slip decorated pots were also used in north Hampshire²³⁷ and north-east Wiltshire,²³⁸ as well as in London; as yet it is not possible to determine whether the influence for the use of slip came from the west or from London to the east, but originally the inspiration may have derived from northern France.

Some peasants clearly thought it worthwhile to mend their pots with plugs of lead, an example of this thrift being found on a grange belonging to Abingdon Abbey;²³⁹ only two other such examples exist within the region, at Cogges in West Oxfordshire²⁴⁰ and at Lewknor in the Chilterns,²⁴¹ but they can be paralleled outside the region,²⁴² and during the Roman occupation.

Distribution and Source

In the Late Saxon period this tradition is present at Wallingford, Benson, Tetsworth and Blewbury, suggesting that these sites were within the same ceramic network. The area to the west of Blewbury has had little archaeological investigation for the medieval period, so an archaeological bias exists for this area. Despite Wallingford being within the territory of Wessex and having close links with the heartland of Wessex,²⁴³ it was also trading across the river Thames with Oxfordshire.

By the second half of the 12th century it was the major quartz-tempered tradition at Abingdon, and very small quantities are known at Oxford.²⁴⁴ Isolated sherds are known as far north as the castles at Banbury and Deddington and at sites in west Oxfordshire. It was widely dispersed throughout south-east Oxfordshire and the Vale, though not in large quantities. It is present at Reading,²⁴⁵ along the Kennet Valley, and also at Newbury (Fabric C) in late 12th-early 16th century contexts;²⁴⁶ similar pottery is known at Netherton in north Hampshire. Documentary evidence points to close ties between Newbury and Abingdon in the mid 13th century,²⁴⁷ and the wide distribution may be related to Abingdon Abbey and its estates and granges.²⁴⁸

The pottery distribution indicates both river and overland transport, but until the likely location is known this is merely conjecture. The dominance at Abingdon, with only small amounts in the market towns of Oxford and Wallingford (although the latter has a higher percentage than Oxford), points to the possibility of a production site possibly close to Abingdon. Parishes to the west of Abingdon at Marcham and Appleton supported post-medieval ceramic industries, and medieval ceramic production site/centres should therefore not be discounted²⁴⁹ and warrant fieldwork. But a production site to the south of Abingdon, west of the present major road, the A34, would afford easy distribution to Newbury and beyond as well as to Abingdon. Vince's work in north Berkshire shows a distribution

²³⁶ M. Biddle and K. Barclay, 'Winchester Ware', in V. Evison, H. Hodges and J. G. Hurst (eds.), *Medieval Pottery from Excavations: Studies presented to Gerald Clough Dunning* (1974), 155-7.

²³⁷ J. Fairbrother, *Facombe Netherton: Archaeological and Historical Research* (unpubl. M Phil thesis, Southampton University, 1984).

²³⁸ M. R. McCarthy, 'The medieval kilns on Nash Hill, Lacock, Wiltshire', *Wiltshire Arch. Natur. Mag.*, 69 (1974), 97-145.

²³⁹ T. Allen, 'A Medieval grange of Abingdon Abbey at Dean Court Farm, Cumnor, Oxon.', this volume.

²⁴⁰ J. Blair and J. M. Steane, 'Investigations at Cogges, Oxfordshire, 1978-81: the Priory', *Oxoniensia*, xlvii (1982), Fig. 26.30, 116.

²⁴¹ Oxfordshire SMR 5857, located 1957.

²⁴² C. Dyer, *Standards of living in the later Middle Ages* (1989), 174.

²⁴³ Mellor, op. cit. note 93, 21.

²⁴⁴ Haldon, op. cit. note 10, Phase 8, 134.

²⁴⁵ Type series curated by Reading Museum, Fabrics 6 and 7.

²⁴⁶ Vince, op. cit. note 167, see Fig. 24.

²⁴⁷ W. Money, *The History of the Ancient Town and Borough of Newbury in the County of Berkshire* (1887), 561, where a certain William of Newbury became Abbot of the great monastery of Abingdon in 1259 AD.

²⁴⁸ S. Moorhouse, 'Documentary Evidence and its Potential for Understanding the Inland movement of Medieval Pottery', *Medieval Ceramics*, 7 (1983), 65.

²⁴⁹ D. J. Algar, A. Light and P. Trecharne, *The Verwood and District Potteries* (1979).

along the river Lambourne and in the area just to the east of this valley, where potters' names are known at East Garston for the post-medieval period (see Section 3).²⁵⁰ Again, a medieval ceramic production site/centre may be located nearby.

The distribution of other major ceramic traditions to the west (OXBB, OXAQ) suggests that a source further west than Wantage is unlikely, and the very few sherds found in an intensive fieldwalking survey in the area of Compton Beauchamp confirms the paucity of this tradition in the south-west of the county.²⁵¹ This comparative absence is also reflected at the fortified Manor at Membury (Berkshire), which lies to the west of the River Lambourne.²⁵²

A large tile production industry, specializing in white inlaid tiles, was using similar clay and inclusions. These tiles were supplied to Oxford in great numbers and a common source for the pottery and tile should be sought.

A few wasters have been found in Bagley wood on the old line of the route from Oxford to Abingdon²⁵³ and more recently, after the hurricane of 1987, more tiles were recovered in the roots of fallen trees but with no indication of a large scale industry. This area should, however, continue to be surveyed for further evidence. From AD 1105 Bagley Wood was owned by Abingdon Abbey. These tiles may have been made for internal consumption in the abbey buildings. There are no references to any tile industry in the cartulary.

During the later 12th to 14th centuries this tradition would seem to be a good indicator for market preferences. One site of particular interest was that of Dean Court Farm, Cumnor, a grange belonging to Abingdon Abbey. The market at Oxford lay two miles to the west of the site and would seem the obvious choice of market for the inhabitants. But a much higher proportion of the major Abingdon ceramic tradition (OXAG) was found at this site in 13th and 14th-century contexts than at sites within the City of Oxford.²⁵⁴ In contrast, evidence from Kennington manor to the south of Oxford and closer to Abingdon showed a preference for pottery types used in Oxford, rather than the Abingdon ceramic tradition.²⁵⁵ Such consumer preference was evident at Cuxham, where Abingdon market was favoured over the nearer Wallingford.²⁵⁶

Dating

As with the Late Saxon and Medieval Wallingford tradition (WA38) this tradition (OXAG) was also found in association with St Neot's at Dorchester, Benson, Tetsworth and North Stoke as well as at Wilders (Fig. 23) in Wallingford. It was first noted in mid 11th-century levels at Wallingford,²⁵⁷ but corroborative evidence is still needed as these traditions were not present in Late Saxon levels from Wood Street, although they were at Wilders,²⁵⁸ and St Martin's Wallingford (Fig. 24). In Oxford, it was present in mid-late 11th century contexts.²⁵⁹ There are no dateable Late Saxon assemblages at Abingdon, although a coin of Cnut was found in a residual context at Broad Street.²⁶⁰ This tradition gradually became more popular throughout the 12th and into the 13th centuries.²⁶¹

Cooking pots of this tradition were also found in small percentages at St Bartholomew Street Newbury in the late 11th century, and continued to be represented in the early-mid 12th century.

²⁵⁰ Gelling, op. cit. note 51, ii, 330.

²⁵¹ M. Tingle, *The Vale of the White Horse Survey: the study of a changing landscape in the clay lowlands of southern Britain from prehistory to the present* (Oxford: Tempus Reparatum) (BAR., British Ser. 218, 1991), Fig. 6.5, 92.

²⁵² H. Healey, pers. comm.

²⁵³ L. Haberly, *Medieval English Paving Tiles* (1939).

²⁵⁴ Haldon in Durham, op. cit. note 10, Phase 8; Mellor in Palmer, op. cit. note 9, Fig. 8, 162.

²⁵⁵ I am grateful to Lauren Gilmour for showing me material from the late Dr. Myres' garden.

²⁵⁶ P. D. A. Harvey, *Manorial Records of Cuxham, Oxfordshire c. 1200–1359* (1965), 102.

²⁵⁷ '9–11 St. Martin's Street', in B. Durham, 'Wallingford', C.B.A. Group 9, *Newsletter*, 11 (1980), 140–2.

²⁵⁸ Records held by Oxford Archaeological Unit, contexts II 50, I 5, I 148.

²⁵⁹ Haldon in Durham, op. cit. note 10, Phase 6a, 132–3.

²⁶⁰ Parrington, op. cit. note 233, 5.

²⁶¹ Weare, op. cit. note 213, 215.

At Oxford it represents some 2 per cent of the total number of sherds during the first half of the 12th century, and its popularity remained constant throughout the later 12th and 13th centuries. By the later 12th century tripod pitchers were present and slip decorated pots occur at Netherton (Hampshire) after c. AD 1210, reaching a peak in the mid 13th century. By the late 13th century all over white slipped vessels were found at Newbury and possibly continue until the mid 14th century, where it is dated by coin evidence.²⁶² It was present in 13th and 14th-century levels at the Bishop's Palace, Witney, and at Oxford,²⁶³ though both these sites may have residual pottery in the later phases. The sequence at Newbury and Netherton closely parallels that of south Oxfordshire (formerly north Berkshire), except that it may continue longer in the Abingdon area; evidence for this is given by an unpublished jar from Abingdon Market Place (Fig. 25, no. 8) which would, on typological grounds, belong to the second half of the 14th century or later. At Dean Court Farm, a grange farm at Cumnor close to Oxford, it continued in use until the 14th and possibly 15th centuries.²⁶⁴ However, in the early 15th century Abingdon Abbey made several purchases of tiles from Nettlebed, perhaps indicating that the earlier source had gone out of production.²⁶⁵

LATE SAXON TO MEDIEVAL BANBURY WARE (OX234) (Figs. 23, 24, 28–30)

A fourth ceramic network ran east–west in the north of Oxfordshire, centred on Brackley in Northamptonshire and on Banbury, Oxfordshire (OX234).

Fabric and associated technology

The fabric, abundantly tempered with quartz, and the occasional limestone, iron ore, chert and sandstone, is probably derived from a glacial sand gravel (Appendix VII).

The pots were either handmade or wheel-thrown; some were very clumsily made while others display much greater dexterity, suggesting perhaps that apprentices or possibly part-time potters, engaged at other times in agriculture,²⁶⁶ were working alongside the potter craftworker. Knife trimming at the base of the vessel was not uncommon (Fig. 29, no. 1) and this feature was also noted on the ceramic tradition to the south of Banbury (OX1), but in all other respects it is a distinct tradition and its early influence lies beyond the north of the region.

The pots were fired either in an oxidizing atmosphere, giving a reddish brown to the outer surfaces, or in a reducing atmosphere giving a near black colour to the vessels. The variation in colour suggests that the firing of the kilns was not always controlled.

Vessel types

Vessels were largely shouldered cooking pots/storage jars, in at least three sizes, small (Fig. 28, nos. 1, 3), medium (Fig. 28, no. 4) and large (Fig. 28, no. 16), also bowls (Fig. 28, no. 8), pitchers (Fig. 30, nos. 1, 2), occasional firecovers (Fig. 30, no. 3) and storage jars (Fig. 29, no. 7). The rims were either simple flared (Fig. 28, no. 1, Fig. 30, no. 2) or slightly thickened (Fig. 28, nos. 6, 7) and some were more angular (Fig. 28, nos. 13, 14). While bases were almost flat (Fig. 28, nos. 2, 17).

Jugs with wedge-shaped handles were peculiar to this tradition, often decorated (Fig. 29, nos. 1, 10–12). No tripod pitchers or spouted pitchers were found and the tablewares were never glazed.

Decoration included very distinctive thumbing (Fig. 28, no. 4) and bands of horizontal rectangular

²⁶² Vince, *op. cit.* note 16.

²⁶³ Durham in 'Bishop's Palace, Witney', *op. cit.* note 152; Mellor, *op. cit.* note 93, Fig. 8.

²⁶⁴ Site D, Buildings XVI, XV in 'Cumnor, Dean Court', *Medieval Settlement Research Group* (1986), 30–1.

²⁶⁵ Kirk, *op. cit.* note 56, 96, 97, 107 and 114.

²⁶⁶ Appendix V.

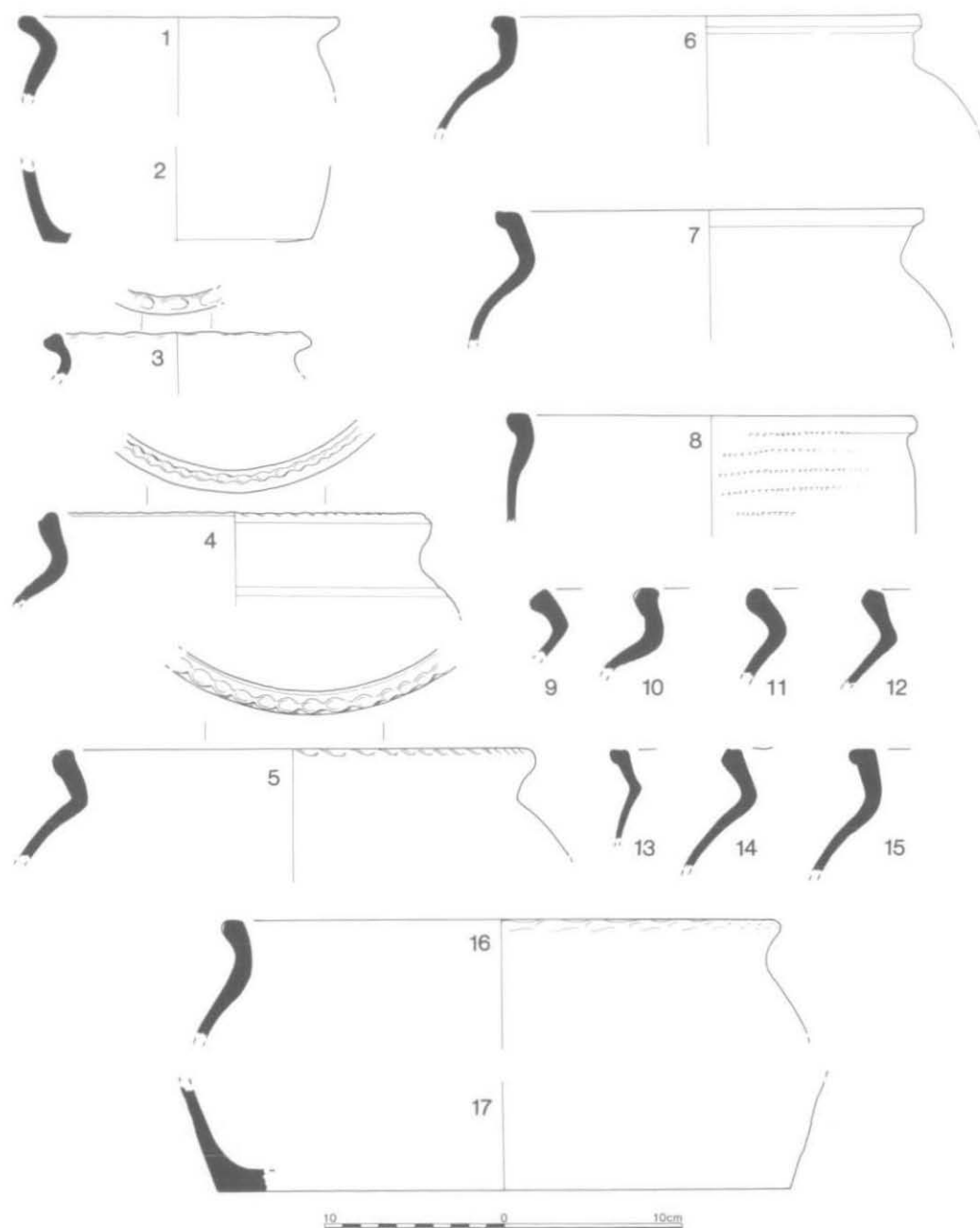


Fig. 28. Late Saxon-Medieval Banbury Ware (OX234).

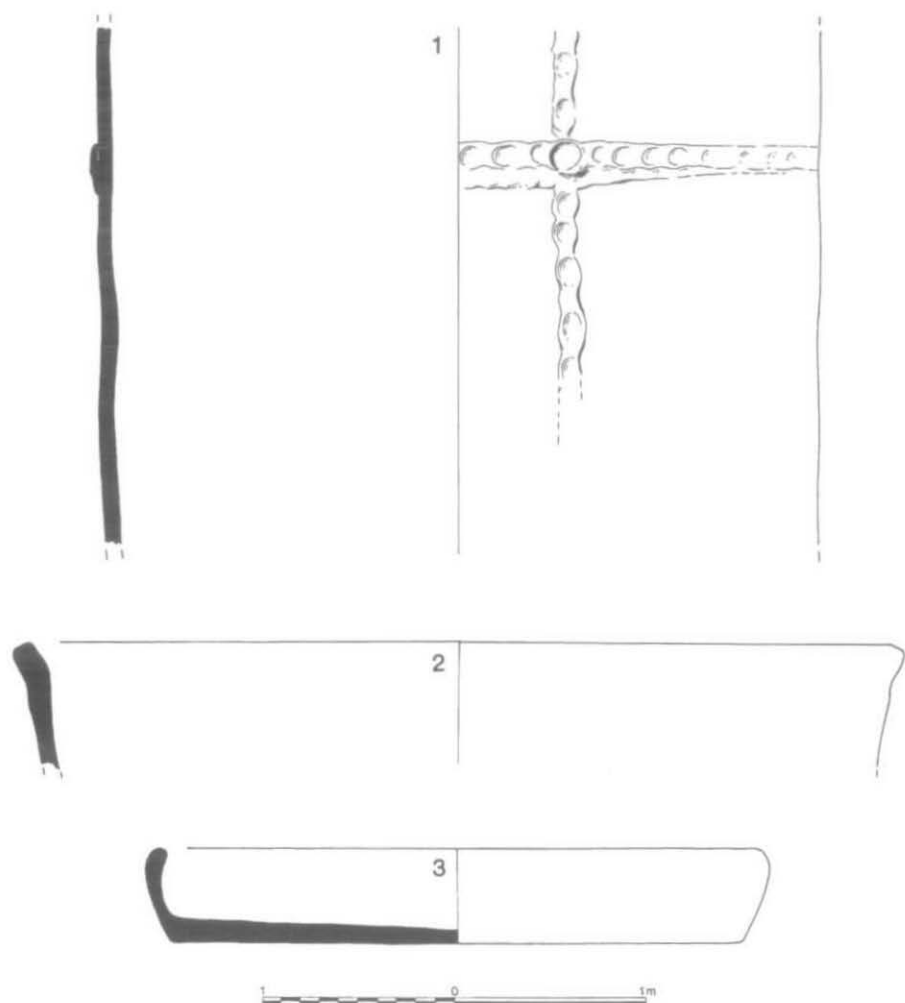


Fig. 29. Late Saxon-Medieval Banbury Ware (OX234) contd.

or triangular rouletting (Fig. 30, nos. 1, 5, 6). Incised (Fig. 30, nos. 11, 12), applied thumb-pressed decoration and combing were less common and the latter may have been reserved for large cisterns or storage vessels (Fig. 30, no. 7). The narrow wedge-shaped handles were often thumb-pressed at the outer edges (Fig. 30, nos. 8, 9).

Distribution and Source

Late Saxon to Medieval Banbury Ware (OX234) was dominant in Banbury and by the end of the 12th century and the early 13th it was also dominant in Brackley;²⁶⁷ small amounts are known in the

²⁶⁷ Terry Pearson, pers. comm.

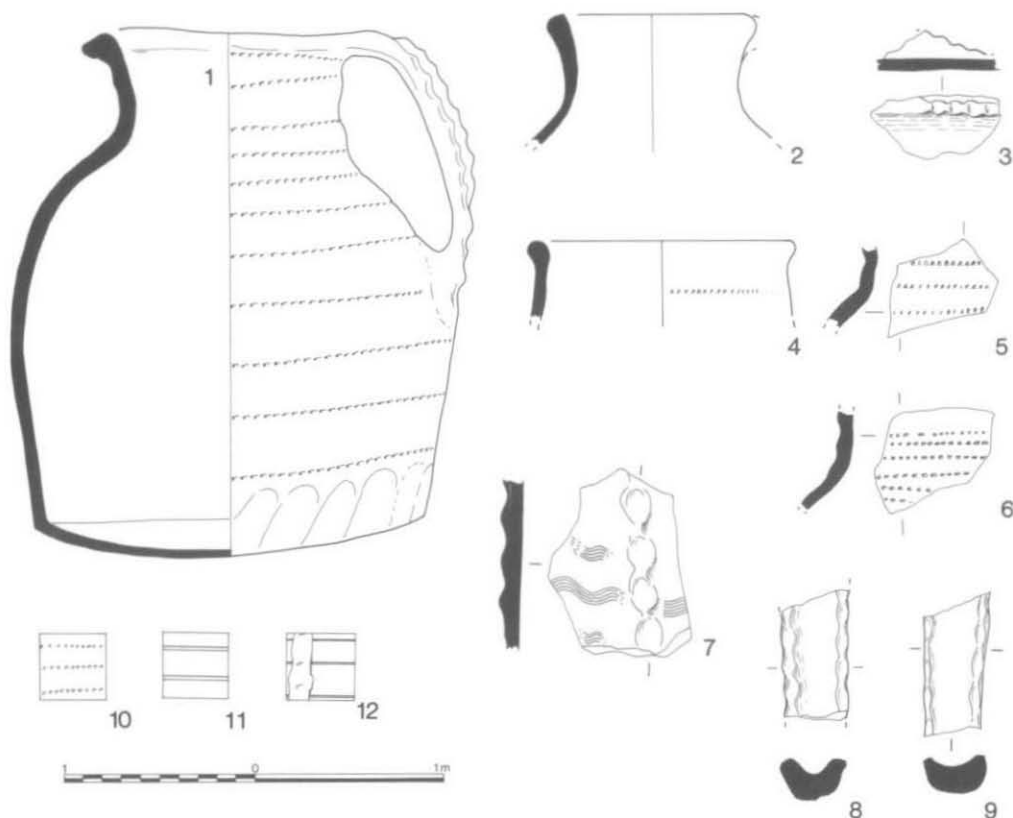


Fig. 30. Late Saxon-Medieval Banbury Ware (OX234) contd.

Milton Keynes area²⁶⁸ and at Grafton Regis, three miles from Potterspury in Northamptonshire.²⁶⁹ The distribution extends west into Warwickshire with considerable amounts being found at Ratley Castle, but very few sherds were found further west at Burton Dassett, a 13th-century market town, and in Warwick.²⁷⁰ It extends south to Deddington where it was found both at the castle and within the town, and a very few sherds were found further south at Middleton Stoney and Kidlington Moated Manor.²⁷¹ Only small quantities were found on the rural sites in the north but this may reflect an archaeological bias.

Documentary sources hint at considerable regular movement of stock to recognized market centres during the 13th century; such stock would have been driven down the 'green lanes' which later became known as drove roads.²⁷² This east-west ceramic distribution at Banbury may be linked with the 'green lanes'. The main drove road in Oxfordshire followed a prehistoric route via Rollright to

²⁶⁸ Denis Mynard, pers. comm., Fabric MSC 3.

²⁶⁹ Paul Miles, pers. comm., Fabrics 6 and 8.

²⁷⁰ S. Ratkai in N. Palmer, 'Burton Dassett' (in prep.) and 'Bridge Street, Warwick', forthcoming.

²⁷¹ Woodiwiss, op. cit. note 163; unpubl. material from Kidlington Moated Manor in Oxfordshire Museums County store.

²⁷² K. Lawrence, *Drove Roads in Oxfordshire*, pamphlet published by the Oxfordshire Museum Service (1977).

Tadmorton Heath and Banbury to Northampton. By the post-medieval period cattle were brought from Wales to Banbury. This east-west ceramic link persisted into the late medieval period (OX68) and beyond.

A source for this conservative tradition is therefore likely to be close to Banbury and Brackley. A potter's name is known in Banbury in AD 1225 (see Occupational Surnames, Section 3), but there is also a 'crock' name some eight miles north-east of Banbury at Woodford Halse in Northamptonshire.

Dating

Small quantities of this tradition may pre-date the motte at Deddington Castle,²⁷³ but by the late 11th century it was present at Banbury Castle and thereafter gradually increased in popularity. By the second half of the 12th century it was present at Brackley where it continued to the end of the site, dated to the second half of the 13th century.²⁷⁴ The monastic site at Grafton Regis, founded AD 1170–1180, contained some hundred vessels of this ceramic tradition and the site went out of use c. AD 1340.²⁷⁵ It was apparently present in 14th-century levels at Banbury but, given that Late Saxon to Medieval Oxford Ware (OXY) represented 25 per cent and was almost certainly residual at that time, it may be that much of Late Saxon to Medieval Banbury Ware was also residual. The demise of this tradition was probably associated with the growing ascendancy of Potterspury type wares (OX68) during the 14th and 15th centuries.

LATE SAXON TO LATE MEDIEVAL SOUTH-EAST OXFORDSHIRE WARE (OX162) (Figs. 23, 24, 31–34)

This tradition includes a number of fabric types probably representing a dispersed ceramic industry over several hundred years and extending into the late medieval period. (Therefore this tradition has been split between the two periods; see Section 7.) The clay and inclusions of the iron-rich clay are visually similar – a common factor for all these fabrics was the inclusion of polycrystalline quartz in a range of 10–20 per cent. This is a characteristic unparalleled elsewhere in Oxfordshire. Although petrologically these fabrics are distinct, it is difficult and time-consuming to isolate the different types. This same problem was encountered when comparing the pottery from Maidenhead with that of Henley.

Fabric and associated technology

The earliest fabric within the fifth ceramic network, a quartz tempered tradition (OX162), is fabric 27 (Fig. 5), rounded quartz with re-entrant angles and some polycrystalline quartz.

The fine walled pots were both handmade and wheel-finished and were always wood fired in reducing conditions, giving a very dark grey or black appearance to the pots.

Vessel types

The vessels included at least two sizes of cooking pot/storage jars (Fig. 31, nos. 1, 2, 4), some of which were decorated with roller stamp and incised decoration (Fig. 31, nos. 6–8).²⁷⁶ Rims were also thumbled (Fig. 31, no. 5).

²⁷³ R. Ivens, pers. comm., Fabric 19.

²⁷⁴ Terry Pearson, pers. comm.

²⁷⁵ P. Miles, pers. comm.

²⁷⁶ L. R. A. Grove, 'Norman Pottery from Wallingford Market Place', *Berkshire Arch. Jnl.*, 1 (1938), 67–71.

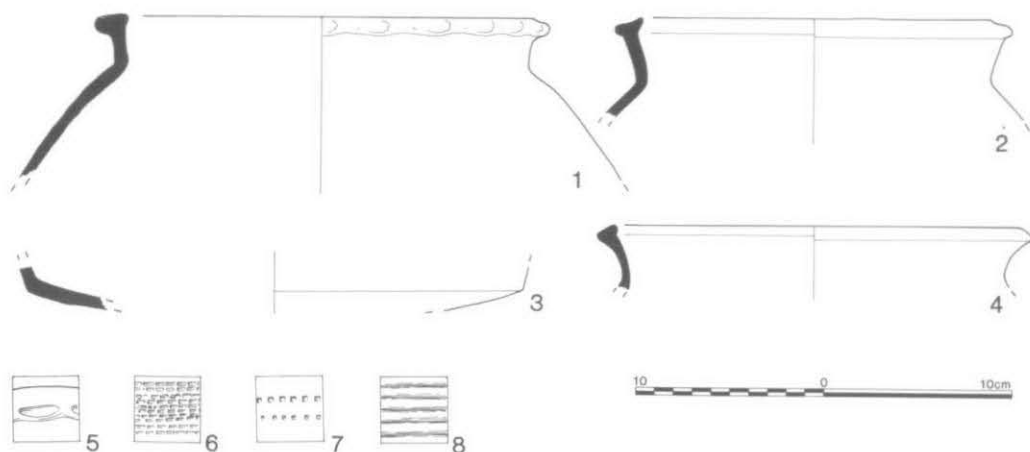


Fig. 31. Early-Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (WA27).

Distribution and Source

It was first recognized at Wallingford Castle (unpubl.) and subsequently at Wallingford New Road.²⁷⁷ More recently, small amounts have been recognized as one of the mid 11th-century sandy wares found in Oxford, but were formerly included in fabric AE,²⁷⁸ from the Kennel in the High Street, Oxford.²⁷⁹ It is also visually similar to fabric 61 at Barrow Hills, Radley, dating 5th–7th century.

Dating

This fabric accounted for 24 per cent in the earliest phase at Wallingford Castle, dated late 11th–early 12th century; thereafter it gradually declined, but possibly continued to as late as the early 13th century.²⁸⁰

Fabric and associated technology

The next fabric type within the Late Saxon to Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire tradition (OX162) was tempered with abundant angular quartz and some polycrystalline quartz. It was used to make wheel-finished fine walled vessels.

Utilitarian vessels were largely fired in a reducing atmosphere in the kiln, but the jugs appear to be fired in a controlled oxidizing atmosphere. Again, this may indicate that the jugs were fired in more controlled conditions – perhaps in an updraught kiln – while the domestic pots were fired in clamp kilns; if this was the case, the production site/centre was clearly organized.

²⁷⁷ Weare, op. cit. note 213, 212 Group III: sandy wares.

²⁷⁸ Haldon in Durham, op. cit. note 10, 117.

²⁷⁹ Mellor in Durham, op. cit. note 9.

²⁸⁰ Weare, op. cit. note 213, 215.

Vessel types

These included cooking pots or storage vessels, without shoulders (Fig. 32, no. 1), similar to the earlier Late Saxon vessels. The rims were often flared with a slight concavity on the internal surface (Fig. 32, nos. 5, 6, 8). These vessels occasionally had applied thumb-pressed strips added to them (Fig. 32, no. 3), and some had vertical combed decoration (Fig. 32, nos. 1, 2). This style of decoration was originally recognized along the line of the original M40 route, and pots thus decorated were named 'M40' ware.²⁸¹ However, there were probably several distinct ceramic traditions using this decoration as it is also known from the Camley Gardens kilns at Maidenhead Berkshire,²⁸² from the medieval manor at Fulmer, and from the kilns at Denham, Buckinghamshire.²⁸³ Bowls (Fig. 32, nos. 9, 12–13) and shallow dishes (Fig. 32, nos. 10, 11) are known. A very few ovoid jugs with thumb bases and thin orange glaze were found (Fig. 32, nos. 16, 17), but no tripod pitchers have been recognized.

Distribution and Source

Vessels in this fabric type were found to the east at Booker, High Wycombe, in Buckinghamshire,²⁸⁴ and further west at Great Haseley. In the early 14th century there are documentary references to potters in parishes to the east of Oxford, just south of Shotover Forest (Fig. 2; Appendix V). The distribution of the ceramic evidence further south coincides with many shrunken and deserted settlements,²⁸⁵ however, and is too slight, as yet, to be helpful in isolating the potential production site.

Dating

There is no independent dating for this type but it was recovered from medieval village earthworks at Tetsworth, believed to be out of use by the end of 13th century. On typological grounds the pottery probably dates from the 12th to the 14th centuries.²⁸⁶

Fabric and associated technology

Another type within this tradition, a fabric type with rounded, sub-angular quartz with re-entrant angles and some polycrystalline quartz (*HE3*), is similar to *WA27*. The source of these two fabrics may lie with the Jurassic or Kimmeridge, in the south-eastern tip of the county. The pottery was wheel-made.

The pottery in these fabrics (*HE3*, *HE19*) – the latter was not thin sectioned – was fired in a reducing atmosphere, but there is no clear indication of whether a clamp or updraught kiln was used.

²⁸¹ D. A. Hinton, 'Excavations on the Route of the M40. Appendix 2. 'M40 Ware'', *Oxoniensia*, xxviii (1973), 181–3.

²⁸² G. Pike, 'A medieval pottery kiln site on the Camley Gardens Estate, Maidenhead', *Berkshire Arch. Jnl.*, lxii (1965–6), 22–33.

²⁸³ M. Farley, 'Excavation at Low Farm, Fulmer, Bucks: The medieval manor', *Records of Bucks.*, xxiv (1982), 46–72; M. Farley and H. Leach, 'Medieval pottery production areas near Rush Green, Denham, Buckinghamshire', *Records of Bucks.*, xxx (1988), 53–102.

²⁸⁴ Buckinghamshire Museum Store, CAS0155.

²⁸⁵ J. Bond, 'The Oxford Region in the Middle Ages', in G. Briggs, J. Cook & T. Rowley (eds.), *The Archaeology of the Oxford Region* (1981), Table 14, 185.

²⁸⁶ M. Robinson, 'Excavations at Court Hay, Tetsworth, Oxon.', *Oxoniensia*, xxxviii (1973), 41–115.

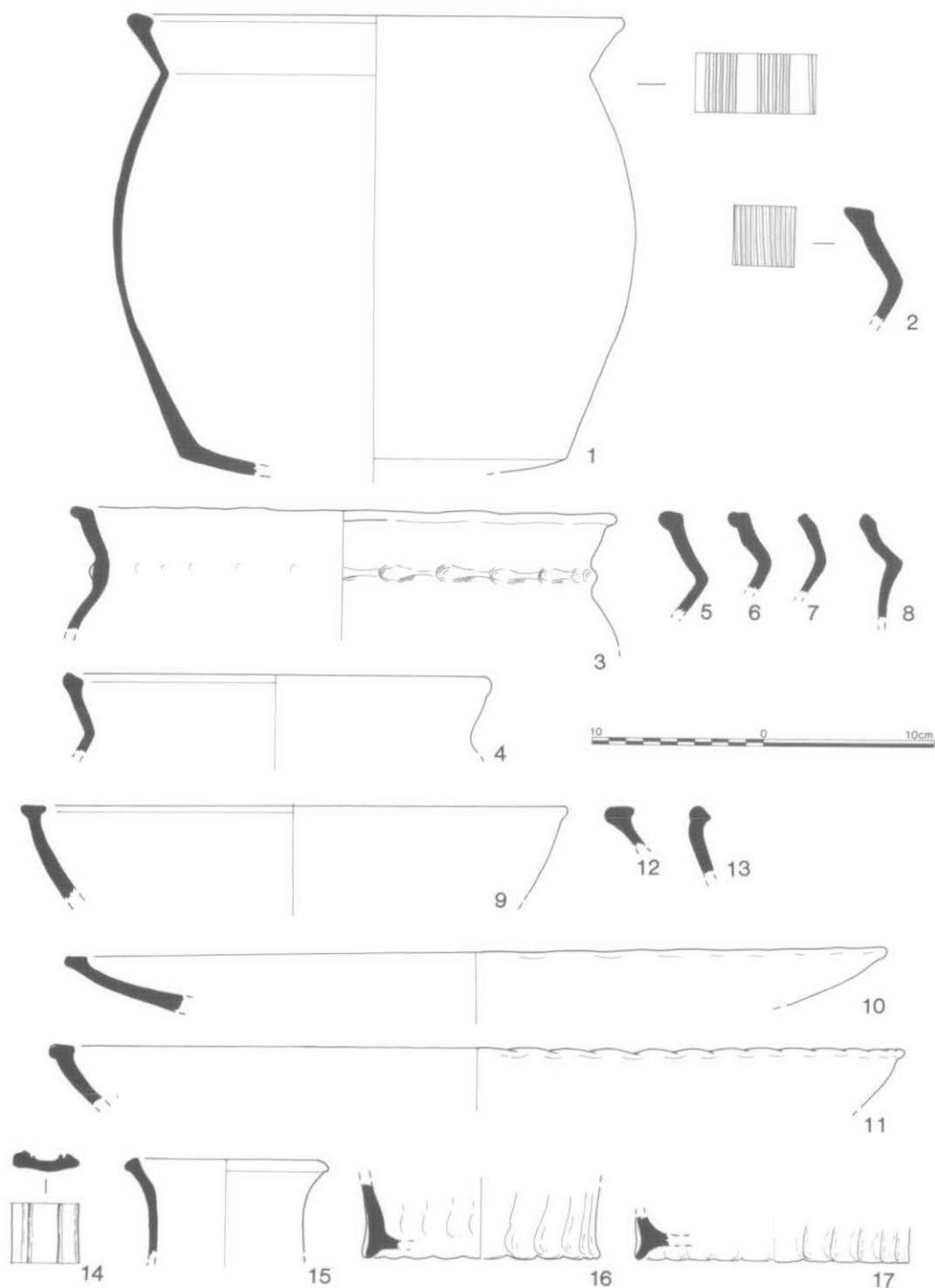


Fig. 32. Early Medieval-Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (OX162).

Vessel types

The cooking pots/storage jars include types with shoulders (Fig. 33, no. 1) and without (Fig. 33, no. 12); bowls include inverted types (Fig. 33, no. 19) and shallow dishes (Fig. 33, nos. 14, 17). Decoration of the domestic vessels again included vertical combing (Fig. 33, nos. 23, 24) and applied thumb-pressed strips (Fig. 33, nos. 1, 22). Jugs were poorly glazed, some with thumb-pressed bases (Fig. 33, no. 18), strap handles were incised or stabbed (Fig. 33, nos. 25, 21, 26). The decoration associated with these wares was minimal when compared with the dominant tradition at Abingdon (*OXAG*), suggesting that the craftworkers of the two traditions did not influence one another.

The application of a vertical thumb-pressed strip on a domestic vessel was not a common trait on domestic pots in central Oxfordshire. It was, however, found at Reading²⁸⁷ and Maidenhead, and is known in south Northamptonshire²⁸⁸ and at Grove Priory in Bedfordshire,²⁸⁹ suggesting that the influence on local workshops was coming from the east rather than from central Oxfordshire or from farther west. There are typological affinities with the kilns at Maidenhead, and the fabric types are visually very similar though petrologically distinct; therefore, they may belong to the same tradition, but more evidence is necessary from the Middle Thames area and south-east Oxfordshire.

Dating

This fabric type was first recognized in a stratified sequence at Henley where it occurred in the first phase representing 55 per cent of the total pottery present – this proportion remained constant until the 14th century. The dating is based on the founding of Henley as a planned town *c.* AD 1179 and also rests heavily on the occurrence of regional imports from London and Surrey in the 13th and 14th centuries.²⁹⁰ A near complete baggy pitcher, with distinctive thumb-pressed base and bib of glaze around the shoulder in Coarse Border Ware from the Surrey/Hampshire border,²⁹¹ was found in association with a brooch dated to the 14th century by the British Museum,²⁹² which dated the end of the ceramic sequence.

Distribution and Source

By the second half of the 13th century and into the early 14th, potters were known to have been working at New Road, Henley. The archaeological evidence suggests that this type of pottery was present in the earliest phases which correspond with the founding of the town. If so, the potters were using an identical clay source to those potters in operation in the late 12th century, which may indicate a continuum of the craft. This pottery type was also supplied to the neighbouring parish at Bix, which adjoins the parish with a hamlet called Crockmore (see Section 3, documentary in Buckinghamshire) which may also have been a focus for a pottery industry. This hamlet should be the subject of a more intensive investigation.

Fabric and associated technology

The major fabric type at Chalgrove Moated Manor (CH41) was petrologically very similar to the fabric type from Tetsworth (see earlier), with abundant angular quartz and some polycrystalline

²⁸⁷ Jope, *op. cit.* note 3 (1947), Fig. 5 no. 2.

²⁸⁸ D. Mynard, *pers. comm.*

²⁸⁹ G. Byrne, *pers. comm.*

²⁹⁰ The typescript of Henley Rectory is held by the Oxford Archaeological Unit.

²⁹¹ Mellor in Palmer, *op. cit.* note 9, 162, Fabric BG.

²⁹² J. Cherry, *pers. comm.*



Fig. 33 Early Medieval-Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (HE3 and HE19) contd.

quartz. The pottery was largely wheel-thrown and well executed. Again the glaze was poor, but the manufacturing techniques were much better than those at Henley.

These vessels were often fired in both oxidizing and reducing temperatures, suggesting that the potters did not have full control over their firing procedures.

Vessel types

Two sizes of cooking pot/storage vessels with flared rims were evident (Fig. 34, nos. 5, 6–8), some with applied thumb-pressed strips (Fig. 34, nos. 3, 18). There were also bowls (Fig. 34, nos. 11, 12), bowls with flanged rims (Fig. 34, no. 13), and storage jars with bifid rims (Fig. 34, no. 10). Jugs, some with white slip (Fig. 34, nos. 15, 17), were either baggy or ovoid types (Fig. 34, no. 16), but other types may be present (Fig. 34, no. 14). Wider strap handles (Fig. 34, no. 19) suggested that pitchers might also have been made. A lid was also found (Fig. 34 no. 20).

Distribution and Source

Possible potters are known from within the parish at Warpsgrove, and in the adjoining parish of Cuxham in the late 13th century, where potters combined agriculture and pot making;²⁹³ the source of this pottery may therefore be very local.

Dating

Pottery of this type was present in the earliest levels (pre-dating any building) at Chalgrove Moated Manor, dated to pre-AD 1255.²⁹⁴ It was found in association with another major ceramic tradition (OXAQ, see Section 7) and was apparently in use throughout the life of the site until the Manor was abandoned by the mid 15th century, but in the later levels it may have been residual.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The archaeological record showed that all five of these ceramic networks were evident by the early 12th century at the latest. Many were present as early as the 11th century; their distribution patterns do not conform to Hundred boundaries, believed to have been established by the 10th century, where they are known for Oxfordshire.²⁹⁵

Although all these ceramic networks overlap at the extremity of their distributions, there is also an area where competitors are excluded. Some neighbouring craftworkers had close links (OXY, OXAW), while others exhibit no tangible contact or influence (OX162, OXAG); a few were influenced by industries beyond the region (OX234) and from further east (OX162). The above industries, with the possible exception of OXAW, do not appear to have evolved out of the local Late Saxon ceramic industries (see Section 7), and new craftworkers, with a preference for sand tempered wares, must have been introduced to the region at the beginning of this period. The preference for sand tempering may be allied to the introduction of lead galena on pottery. This new technology introduced into the region may in turn be associated with the making of ecclesiastical stained glass, which also relied heavily on use of sand.²⁹⁶ Was their introduction related to Norman patrons or magnates, who were more familiar

²⁹³ Appendix V: Cuxham; Dyer, op. cit. note 60, 37.

²⁹⁴ P. Page, pers. comm.; 'Chalgrove Moated Manor', *S. Midl. Arch.* no. 13 (1983), 117–20.

²⁹⁵ Ivens, op. cit. note 1.

²⁹⁶ Painton Cowen, *Rose Windows* (1992), 41.

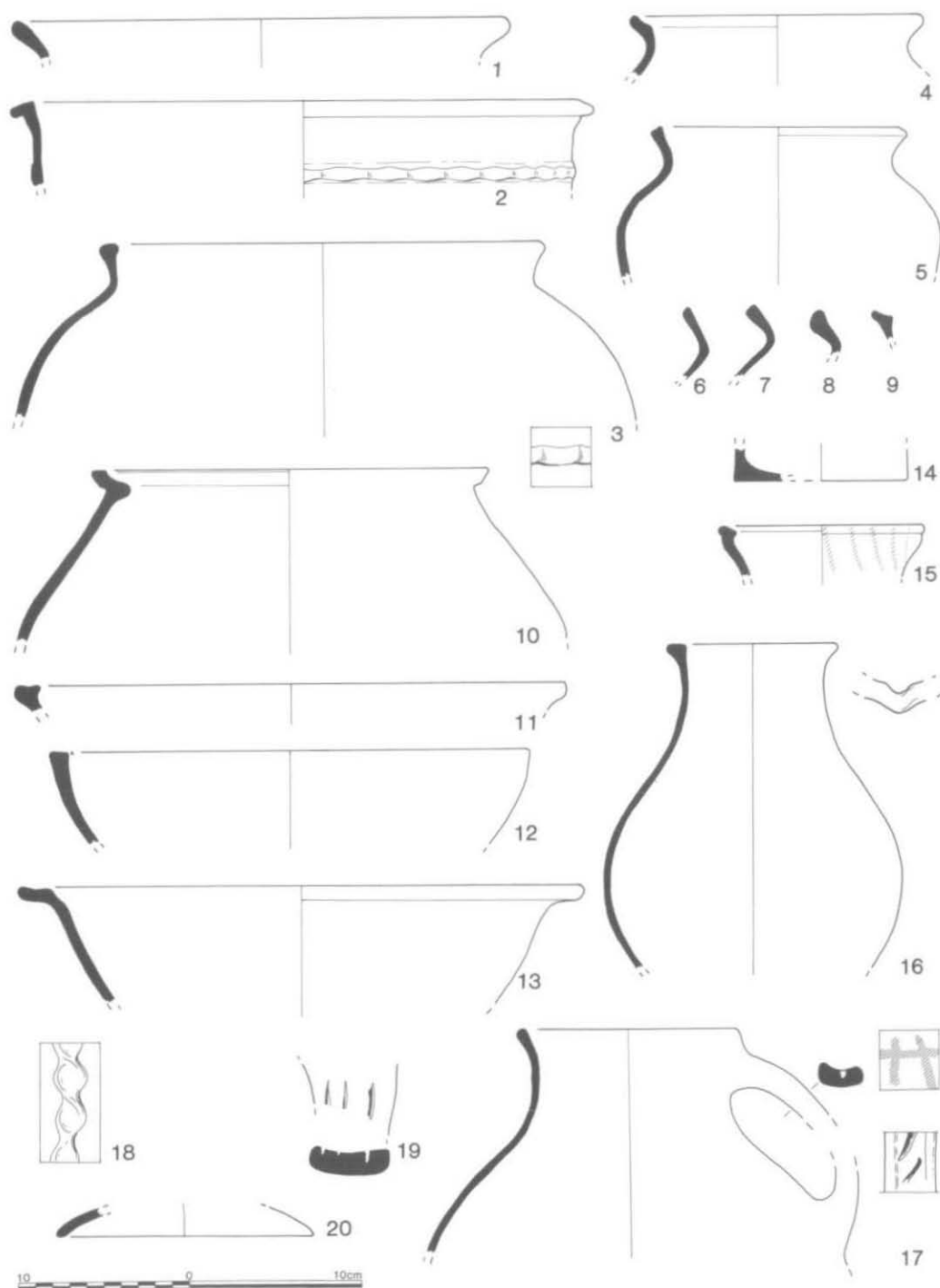


Fig. 34. Early Medieval-Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (CH41) contd.

with glaze technology? More detailed questions as to the nature of these influences will only be resolved when the production sites are located (see below).

Firmer dating evidence is needed from other urban settlements within each of these ceramic networks to clarify when such ceramic traditions first emerge. Ceramic sequences, dating from the mid 11th century to the mid 12th century in particular, would facilitate the understanding of how the networks developed and their relationship one to another. Did the distribution patterns change or did the vessel population alter when the market towns were given formal status (see Fig. 3 for dates). The founding of the late 12th-century market towns probably gave a new stimulus to the existing ceramic industries, who could then risk their merchandise travelling further and be assured of a demand at some more distant market. The creation of specific market days at each market town would have further facilitated a planned itinerary for the middleman and thus encouraged a degree of industrialisation. Fairs, such as at Watlington with two annually, were also important in the exchange of goods.²⁹⁷

The area south of the Thames and west of Oxford is still in need of some long stratified sequences to establish 'type' sites.

Equally important is the fieldwork and documentary research necessary to isolate the production centres for the period AD 1080–1250 more precisely, and to follow up possible correlations between 'crock' names and Akeman Street, a Romano-British road. Only then can the mechanisms of distribution be fully understood and so establish the local routes used to serve the needs of the potter, the producer and the consumer,²⁹⁸ and discover how these changed over time. This may then result in correlations between some of the major ceramic networks and the boundaries of a specific manor. Alternatively, they could indicate whether or not these networks relate to the administrative areas controlled by the numerous castles or fortified manor houses in Oxfordshire (*WA38*, *OX1*), and whether or not patronage lay behind these ceramic workshops at their inception – or merely that the networks reflect the hierarchy of settlement.

In some areas the ceramic networks do appear to coincide with manors – as in the south-east at Benson (*OX162*), a wealthy manor at Domesday,²⁹⁹ and an area which continued to prevent penetration by the other major ceramic traditions (*OXAQ*, *OXAM*) in the later period too (see Section 7), although until the kilns for this period are found this must remain mere speculation. When more kiln sites have been found in south-east Oxfordshire, it may be possible to subdivide the present broad south-east Oxfordshire tradition (*OX162*) into regional styles for the 12th and 13th centuries. One could possibly be centred on Henley (which remained within the manor of Benson until the late 13th century; see Section 3), with the others focused on Thame and Tetworth, and a distribution area which might extend over the Chilterns into Buckinghamshire and further west towards the area east of Oxford. It was in this area that a number of potter or crock surnames were recognized (Section 3; Appendix V). Investigation between monastic holdings and links with urban centres, as in the case of Abingdon Abbey and the ceramic tradition Medieval Abingdon Ware (*OXAG*), has not provided any positive correlation.

The quality of each of these ceramic traditions is very varied and yet each found a substantial market. Customers need to be nurtured and the marketing strategies employed for some traditions must have been dynamic. The ceramic networks may have been underpinned by the exchange of other artifacts or trade, in particular in the north of the county (*OX234*). The orientation of these ceramic networks then continued through to the early post-medieval period despite the individual ceramic traditions being replaced. The existence of drove roads running west–east (Fig. 3) may suggest that cattle and sheep were the commodities which established the network for marketing the potters' products. In the central and southern parts of the Oxford region wool may again have been responsible for drawing together the economies of the urban and rural hinterland. It would appear that in the 12th and 13th centuries there was a dispersed ceramic industry in the south-east of the

²⁹⁷ Moorhouse, *op. cit.* note 248, 55.

²⁹⁸ S. Moorhouse, 'The medieval pottery industry and its markets', in D. W. Crossley (ed.), *Medieval Industry* (1981), 110–11.

²⁹⁹ Ivens, *op. cit.* note 1.

county. The potters here may have combined potting with agriculture as at Cuxham.³⁰⁰ This network will be better understood when more data is available for the area, so that the different fabric types can be disentangled, regional styles can be established and the chronological framework can be tightened.

Market towns such as Thame and Watlington, only four miles from the river Thames, would be worth investigation; more stratified sequences from Henley and Wallingford are needed to increase the dataset and any information from the surrounding countryside is likely to add to present ceramic knowledge.

The introduction of decoration during this period coincides with the embellishment of Romanesque architecture; both applied structural decoration, and potters used red and white slip and finally glaze. This suggests a greater stability in some of the major pottery workshops. Not only did the producer master the improved technology which was required to achieve a glaze, i.e. more controlled firing of the kiln, but he also had the confidence to buy in new commodities, iron rich clay and iron free clay for the decorative slips and the lead glaze. The latter had to be imported considerable distances from either the Mendips, or possibly Cornwall or Derbyshire. This would have necessitated considerable interaction with middlemen who supplied these new commodities. Only one major tradition for this period, Medieval Banbury Ware (*OX234*), did not follow the new fashion, which was not only decorative but also improved the function of the vessel by better retaining liquid. The consumer in central Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse also benefited by having tablewares (*OX1* and *OXAG*) which were not only a delight to behold but also suggest an improvement in the quality of life for many during the 12th and early 13th centuries as well as a certain affluence when compared with consumers in the north-west, north and south-east, who lacked such quality decorative tablewares.

7: MEDIEVAL TRADITIONS AD 1250-1400 AND LATE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY POST MEDIEVAL TRADITIONS AD 1400-1625

THE BACKGROUND

During the second half of the 12th century four more ceramic networks gradually emerged, perhaps reflecting regional growth patterns³⁰¹ and the official status given to market towns. The fabrics were akin to Late Saxon types in the size and abundance of their inclusions (*OXAQ*, *OXCX*, *OXBB*). They developed into the major ceramic traditions which supplied Oxfordshire throughout the medieval and later periods, until the emergence of the early post-medieval traditions (Figs. 35, 36, 73, 74). These ceramic traditions were probably replacing earlier ones: Early-Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware (*OXAQ*) broadly follows the distribution of *OXBF*, Minety (*OXBB*) and Wychwood types (*OXCX*) replaced Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire Ware (*OXAC*) in the west and north-west, and Brill/Boarstall types (*OXAW*, *OXAM*) replaced Late Saxon to Medieval Oxford Ware (*OX1*) in the east and north of the county. Other Late Saxon and Early Medieval ceramic industries may have persisted until the 14th century (*OX234*) and possibly later (*OXAG*, *OX162*).

In theory, the known location of the production centres and the amount of pottery associated with these 'new' industries was sufficiently large a sample to attempt to reconstruct some marketing patterns based on the numerous weekly markets (Fig. 3) and fairs, particularly in the late 13th and 14th centuries. This has been attempted by Ivens for the Brill/Boarstall wares with limited data.³⁰² The mechanisms by which these ceramic traditions were dispersed, and the effect and relationships between the individual ceramic tradition and their competitors, is also pursued. Some surprising and varied ceramic distribution penetrations were recognized (Figs. 35, 36).

The function of certain utilitarian pots is also considered.

³⁰⁰ Harvey, op. cit. note 256, see Appendix V; Dyer, op. cit. note 60, 38.

³⁰¹ Moorhouse, op. cit. note 248, 58.

³⁰² Ivens, op. cit. note 1.

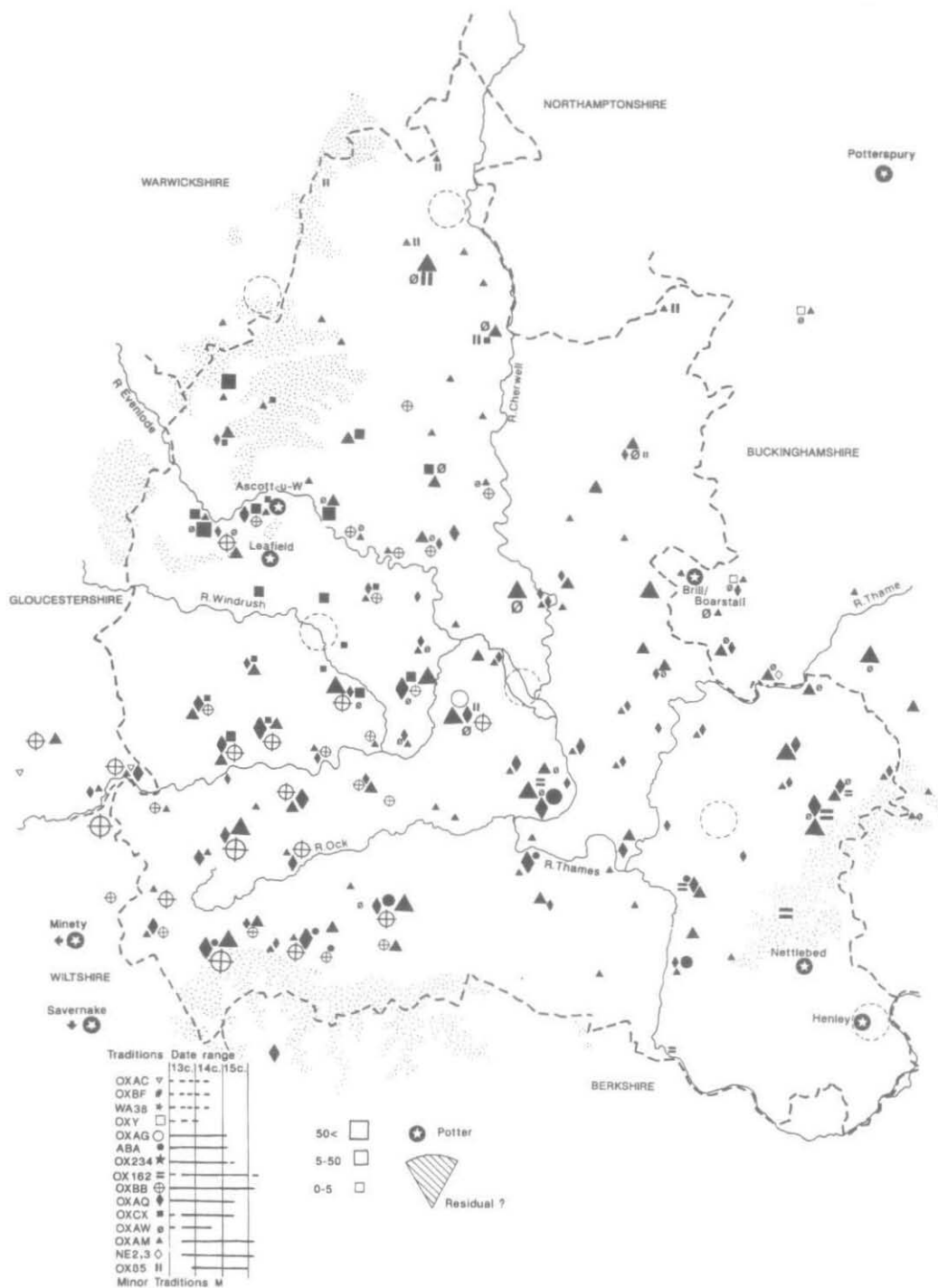


Fig. 35. Distribution of Medieval pottery find spots 1250 AD–1400 AD, with histogram showing the date range of these traditions.

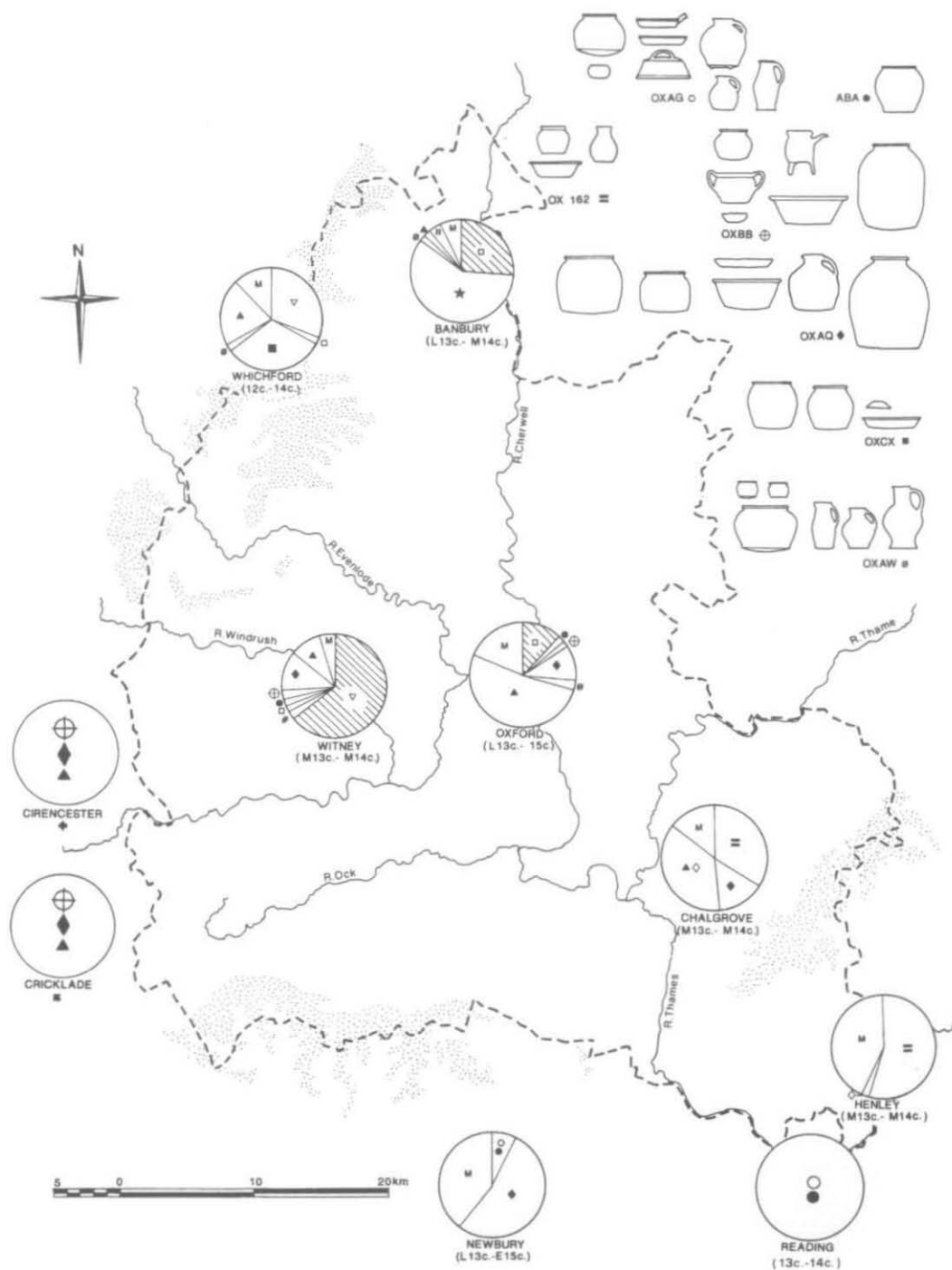


Fig. 36. Piecharts representing the percentages or presence of major ceramic traditions at selected sites during the Medieval period and associated vessel forms.



Fig. 37. Further associated vessel forms showing the increase of the potter's repertoire at this period.

MINETY TYPE WARE, NORTH-EAST WILTSHIRE (*OXBB*) (Figs. 35, 36, 38–40)

Minety and east Wiltshire products (*OXBB* and *OXAQ*) were travelling south-east and eastwards from their respective production centres.

Fabric and associated technology

The Minety tradition (*OXBB*) used a limestone tempered fabric, and most of the vessels reaching Oxfordshire were wheel-thrown and very well made and finished; some of the vessels were also very thin walled (2mm.).

Vessel types

The limited repertoire supplied to Oxfordshire included cooking pots/storage jars (Fig. 38, nos. 1, 7), standard jugs with strap handles (Fig. 39, no. 4), pitchers (Fig. 38, no. 4), oval dishes with pinched spouts (Fig. 38, no. 6), jars – some with spouts (Fig. 38, no. 8), others with two handles (Fig. 39, no. 1) – deep sided pans (Fig. 39, no. 2), occasional tripod skillets (Fig. 39, no. 3) and large storage jars or cisterns (Fig. 40, no. 1). An unusual vessel in the shape of a jar or a jug, but with a large drilled

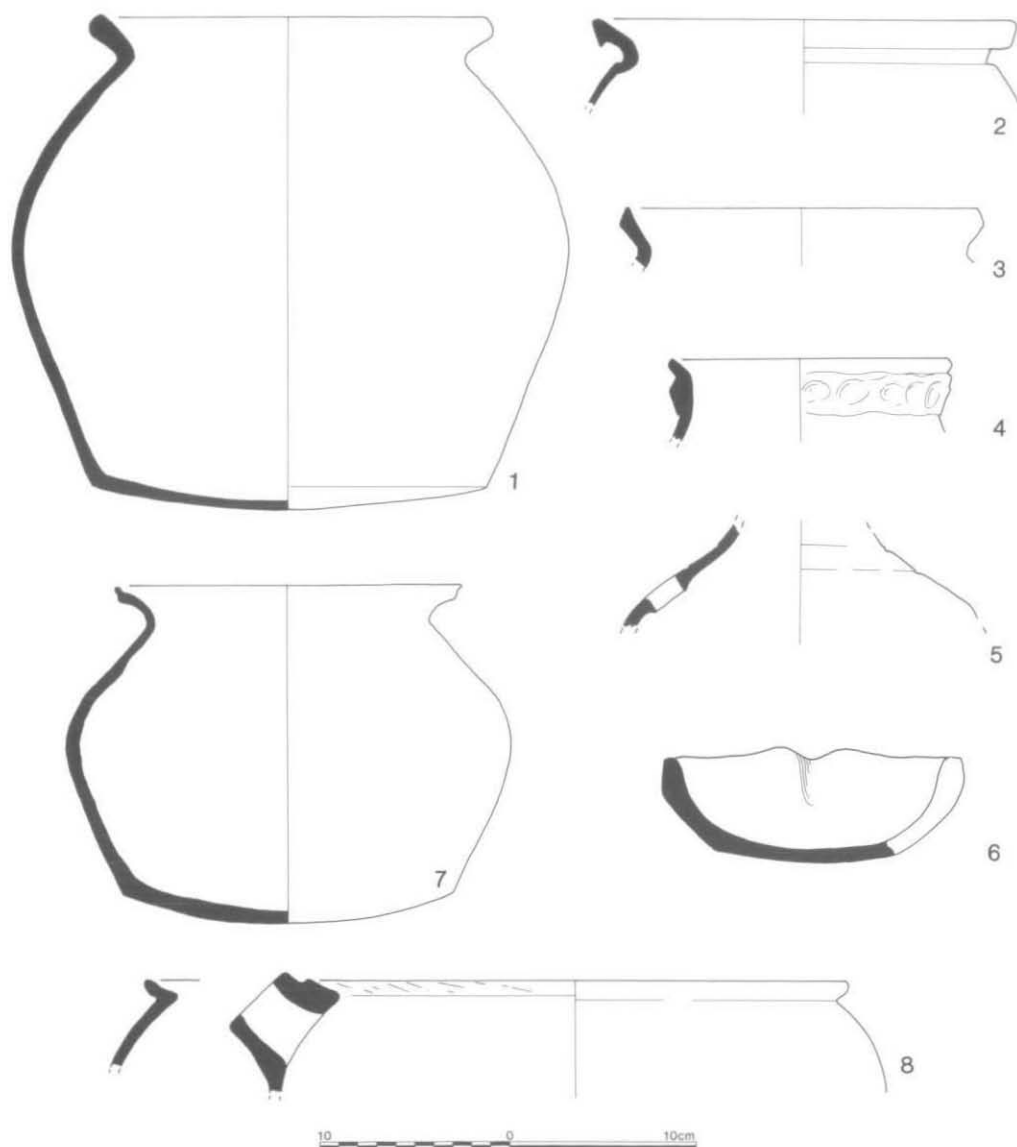


Fig. 38. Minety-type, North East Wiltshire Ware (*OXBB*).

hole in the shoulder, made prior to firing, was found (Fig. 38, no. 5). The white deposit on the internal surface was probably lime due to heating water in the vessel, but the function of this vessel is still not clear.

Rims on the coarsewares were simple and flaring, while some thickening was evident on the tablewares and on the cisterns or large storage jars. Bases were again slightly sagging. Decoration was minimal on both the coarsewares and the tablewares; applied thumbled strips were sometimes used but were probably added to strengthen a vessel rather than put there merely to please the eye

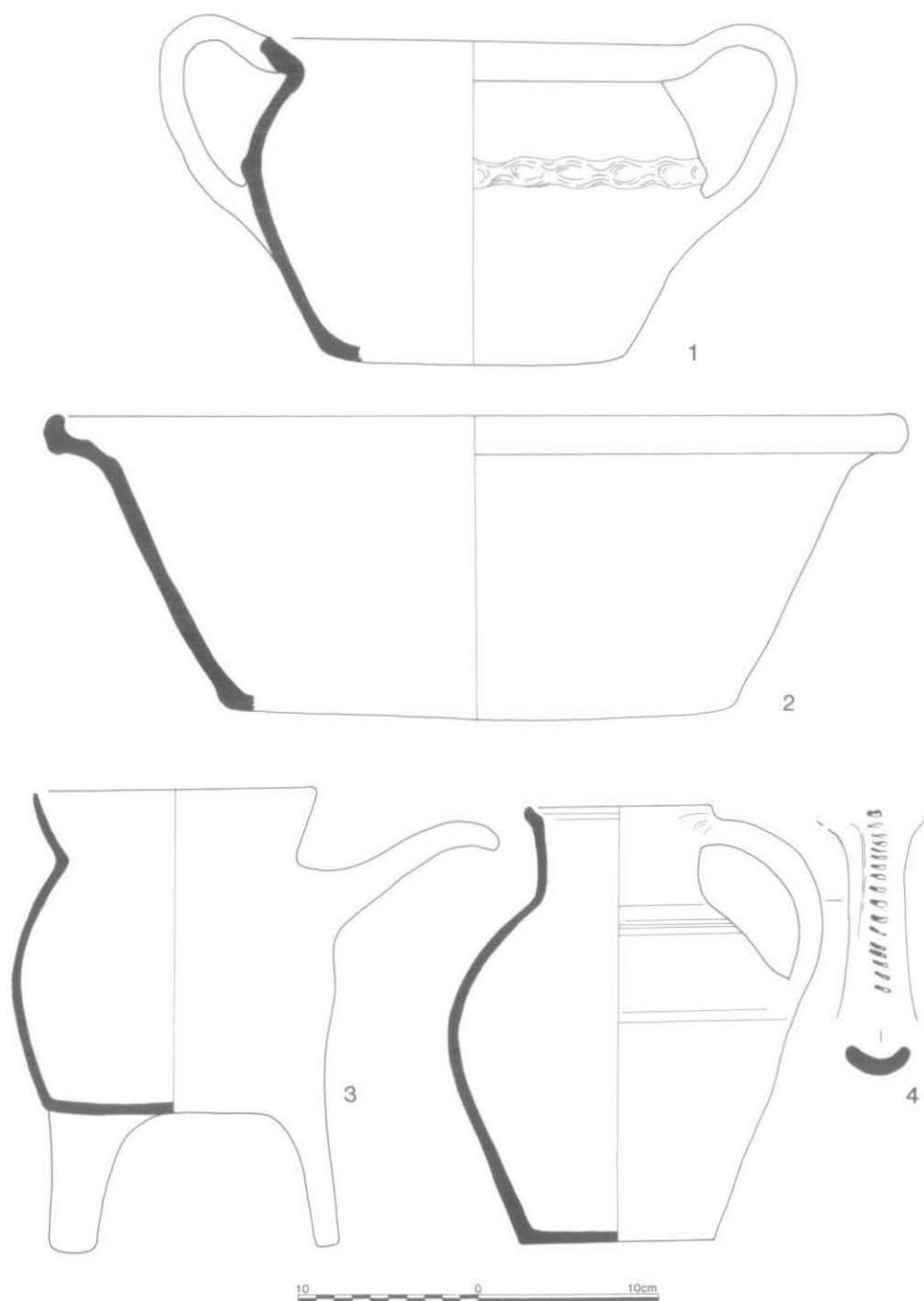


Fig. 39. Minety-type, North East Wiltshire Ware (*OXBB*) contd.

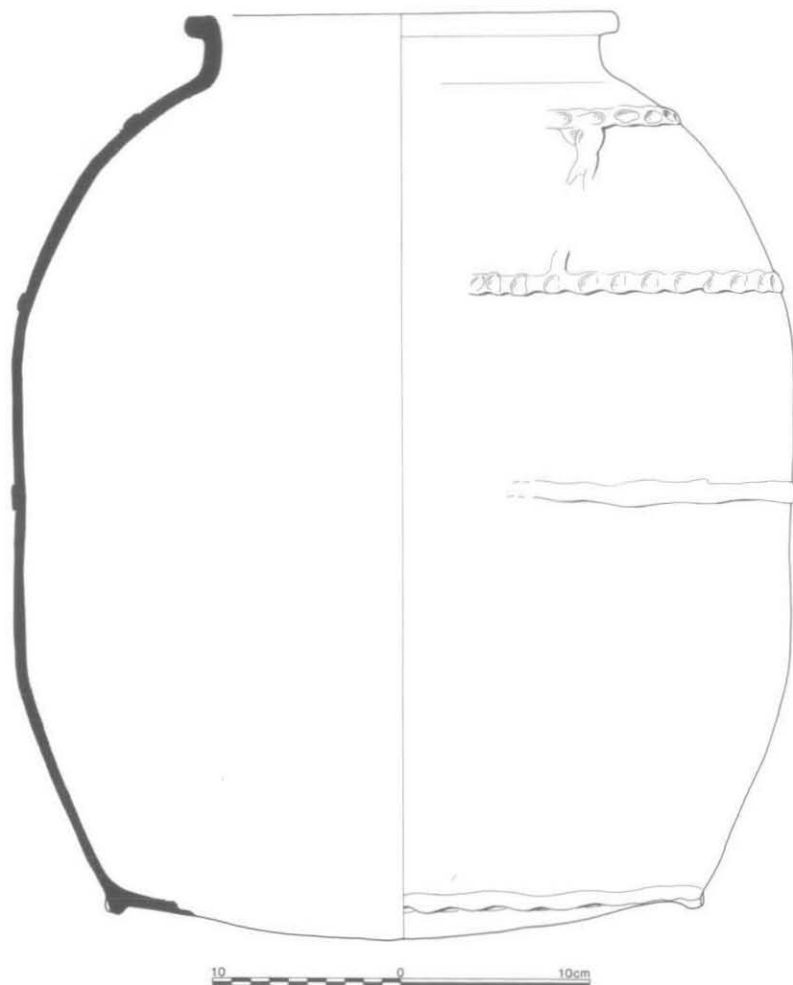


Fig. 40. Minety-type, North East Wiltshire Ware (OXBB) contd.

(Fig. 38, no. 4; Fig. 39 no. 1; Fig. 40, no. 1). A thin wash of transparent glaze was often apparent on top of the rim of cooking/storage vessels.

The pots were fired in a controlled oxidizing kiln giving a uniform pale brown to the vessels; some kiln structures have been excavated.³⁰³

Distribution and Source

Medieval and Late Medieval North-East Wiltshire or Minety products (OXBB) were noted in small quantities at Bishop's Palace, Witney. It was a minor regional import in Oxford. Further west at

³⁰³ J. W. G. Musty, 'A preliminary account of a medieval pottery industry at Minety, North Wiltshire', *Wiltshire Arch. Natur. Hist. Mag.*, 68 (1973), 79–88.

Faringdon and to the north between the Windrush and the Thames, where it overlapped with two other major ceramic traditions (*OXAQ*, *OXCX*), it could reliably be found throughout the 13th, 14th and into the 15th centuries, and small amounts were also present in the north-west, the territory of the Wychwood ceramic tradition. The Minety tradition also extended west as far as Selsley Common in Gloucestershire³⁰⁴ and was more popular at Swindon than its rival to the south (*OXAQ*).

A parish in the south-west of the county at Compton Beauchamp was supplied by both Minety and East Wiltshire products (*OXAQ*) in the ratio of 1:2, despite the fact that this parish was the same distance from both production areas.³⁰⁵ This differential may be explained by the route taken by the potters or middlemen to distribute their goods. Those from Savernake/Braydon Forest took the Ridgeway trackway, possibly following the marketing route used by the Romano-British potters who were also making pots in Savernake³⁰⁶ to supply the Vale of the White Horse (south-west Oxfordshire) and Abingdon, while the Minety products followed the drove road from the direction of Cirencester, known as the 'Welsh Way' through Fairford, Lechlade and to Faringdon where it divides. One branch runs eastwards towards Abingdon while the other travels south-eastwards to join the Ridgeway near Wantage (Fig. 3), again the ceramic distribution may be underpinned by the wool trade.

Dating

The earliest occurrence in West Oxfordshire was at Bishop's Palace, Witney; here, isolated sherds of glazed Minety pitchers were recovered from a stratified sequence dated to the mid 12th century, where it was found in association with a coin of Stephen dated AD 1135–1144. Coarsewares, cooking pots and storage jars did not begin to supply west and south-west Oxfordshire (formerly north Berkshire) until the late 12th century.³⁰⁷ It gradually moved eastwards, reaching Oxford by the early 13th century, and it continued to be a minor regional import in Oxford up to the 16th century (Hamel one per cent only). It continued in use, closer to the production centre, throughout the medieval and later periods, and probably disappeared by c. AD 1540; it was then replaced by a post-medieval redware from Ashton Keynes³⁰⁸ which, together with Country pottery from Inkpen (sherds held in Newbury museum), supplied south-western Oxfordshire in the post-medieval period.

EARLY TO LATE MEDIEVAL EAST WILTSHIRE WARE (*OXAQ*) (Figs 35, 36, 41–44)

Fabric and associated technology

Early to Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware (*OXAQ*) was coil-made, the rims were often wheel finished, and the bases were slightly sagging. The distinctive fabric was flint and limestone tempered; this calcareous algae was formed around freshwater and other shell, and a likely source is the clay and inclusions in the Kennet Valley.

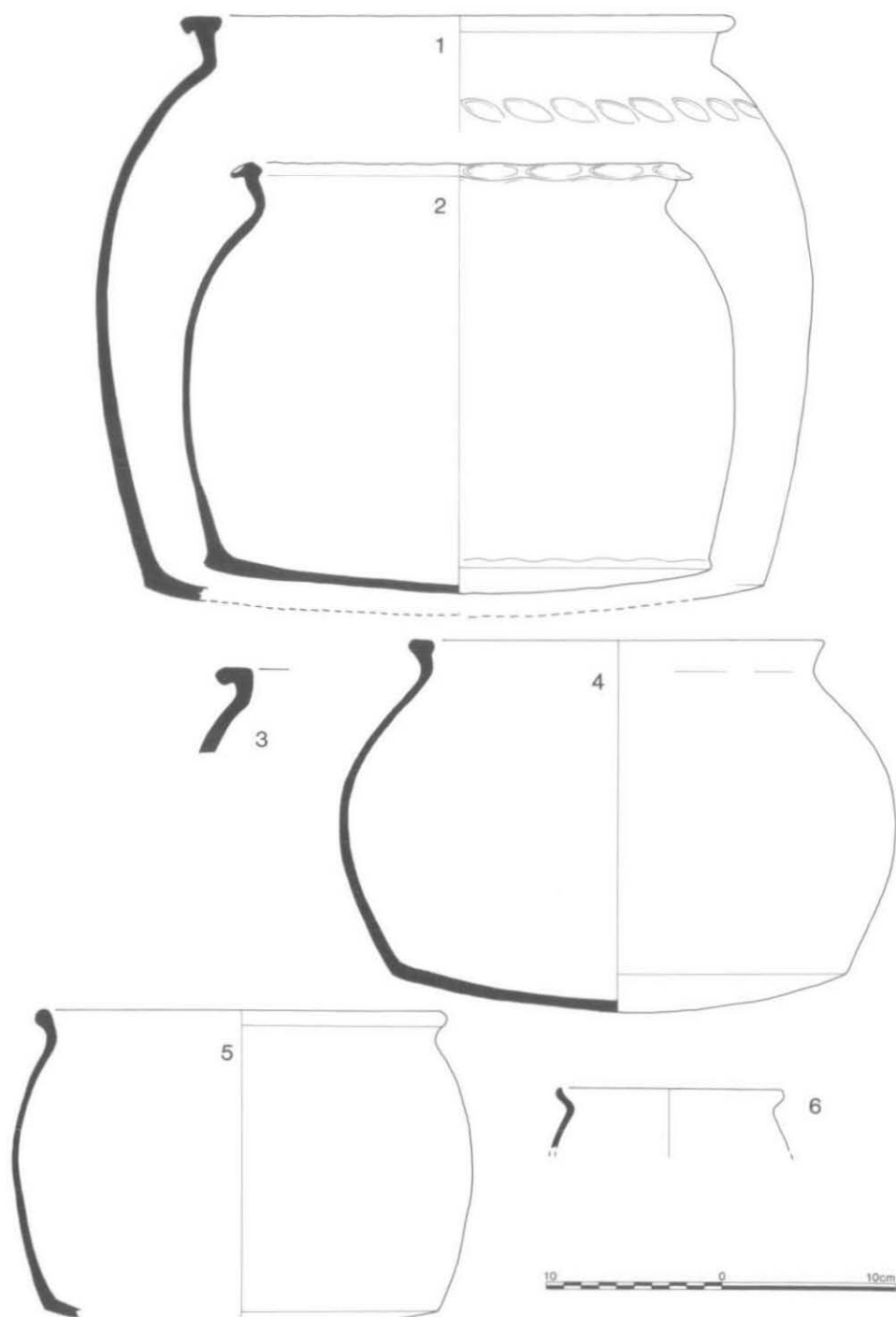
³⁰⁴ G. C. Dunning, 'Report on the medieval pottery', in H. S. Gracie, 'Hut sites on Selsley Common, near Stroud', *Trans. Bristol Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 68 (1949), 30–44; Jope, *op. cit.* note 3 (1952), 88–97.

³⁰⁵ Tingle, *op. cit.* note 251, Fig. 6.3, 92 and Fig. 6.4, 94. The ratio is masked by the distribution map in the synthesis because the number of the sherds was so large.

³⁰⁶ I. Hodder, 'The Distribution of Savernake Ware', *Wiltshire Arch. Mag.*, 69 (1974), 67–84.

³⁰⁷ Durham, 'Bishop's Palace Witney', *op. cit.* note 152.

³⁰⁸ A. Vince, *pers. comm.*, Fabric TF80 at Gloucester.

Fig. 41. Early Medieval–Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware (*OXAQ*).

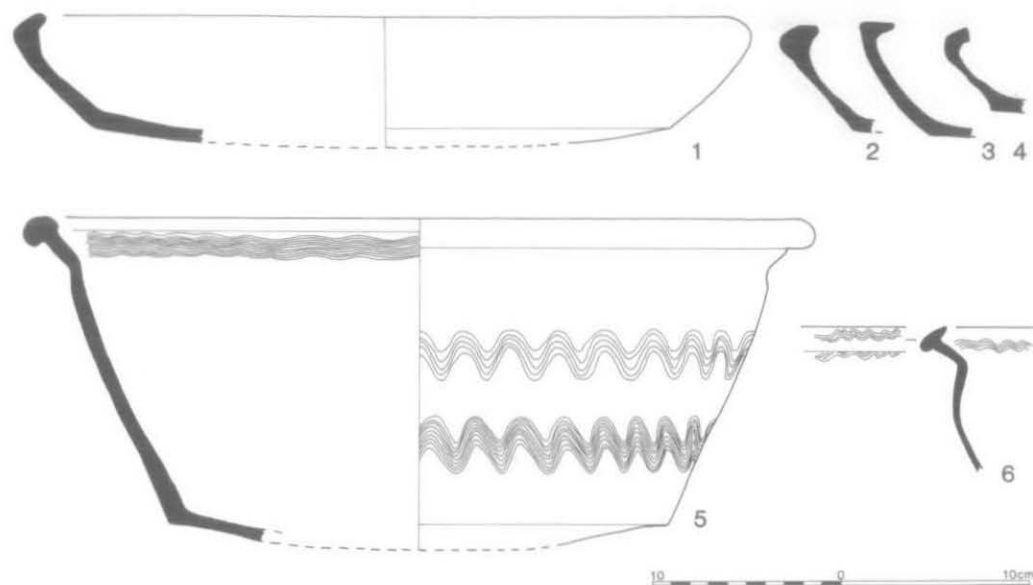


Fig. 42. Early Medieval–Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware (OXAQ) contd.

Vessel types

Vessels include at least three sizes of cooking pots/storage vessels, large (Fig. 41, no. 1), medium (Fig. 41, nos. 2, 4, 5) and small (Fig. 41, no. 6), shallow dishes with inverted rims (Fig. 42, nos. 1–4), deep sided pans (Fig. 42, nos. 5–6), cisterns (Fig. 43, no. 1) often with combed decoration and pitchers with broad strap handles (Fig. 44, nos. 1, 5 and 6). Less popular were firecovers (Fig. 44, nos. 2, 3), a possible griddle (Fig. 44, no. 4), and a possible fire pot for carrying live embers (Fig. 44, no. 7). One medium sized cooking pot/storage jar was used as an acoustic pot in the church at Great Milton to improve the sound.³⁰⁹ This is the only ceramic acoustic jar known in Oxfordshire; they are more common in East Anglia.

Decoration, if present, was always simple but effective, well thumbled rims and occasional decoration around the shoulder of the vessel (Fig. 41, nos. 1, 2) or along the edge of a strap handle (Fig. 44, no. 5); a roller stamp or roller stamp was sometimes used (Fig. 43, no. 2), stabbed and incised decoration also occurred (Fig. 44, nos. 1, 5), but the preferred technique was the use of the comb to achieve a variety of results – a stabbed comb (Fig. 44, no. 6), or horizontal, wavy and vertical lines (Fig. 44, no. 5; Fig. 44 no. 1).

These pots were low fired probably in a bonfire or clamp kiln in a partially oxidized atmosphere, giving a reddish brown hue to the external surfaces; however, the core was underfired, leaving a greyish black core.

Distribution and Source

The production area is likely to be in the Savernake/Braydon Forest. The hamlet of 'Crockerestrop' near Mynall, marked on a 14th-century map copied in the 16th century, might be the source.³¹⁰ The astonishing distribution of this tradition extends west into Wiltshire – it was the dominant ceramic

³⁰⁹ 'Recess in Great Milton Church, Oxfordshire', *Oxon. Arch. Soc. Report* (1895/6), 23–4.

³¹⁰ Vince, *op. cit.* note 16.

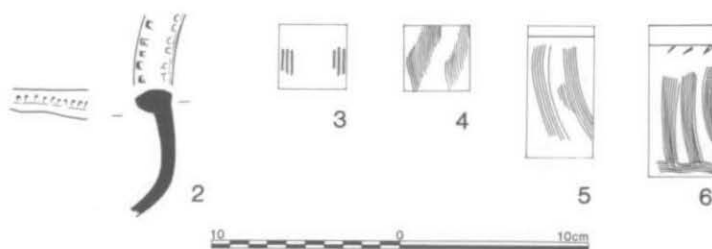
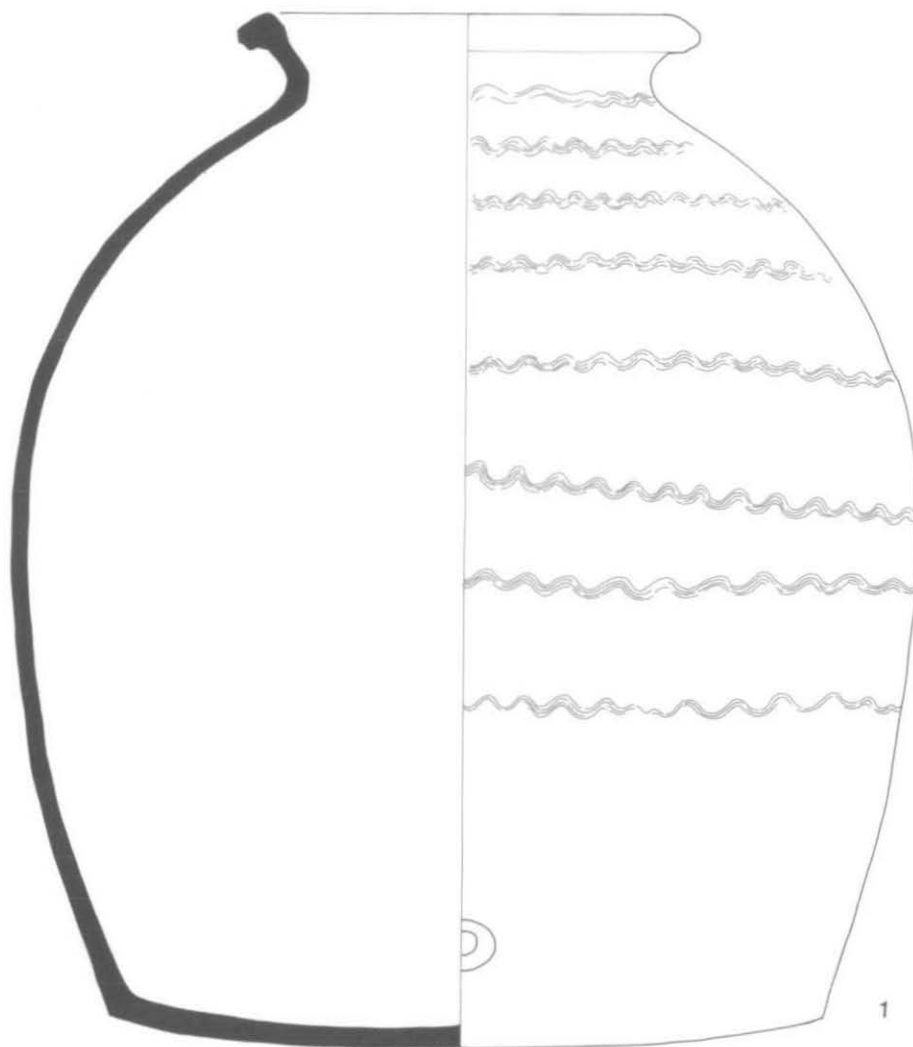


Fig. 43. Early Medieval-Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware (OX4Q) contd.

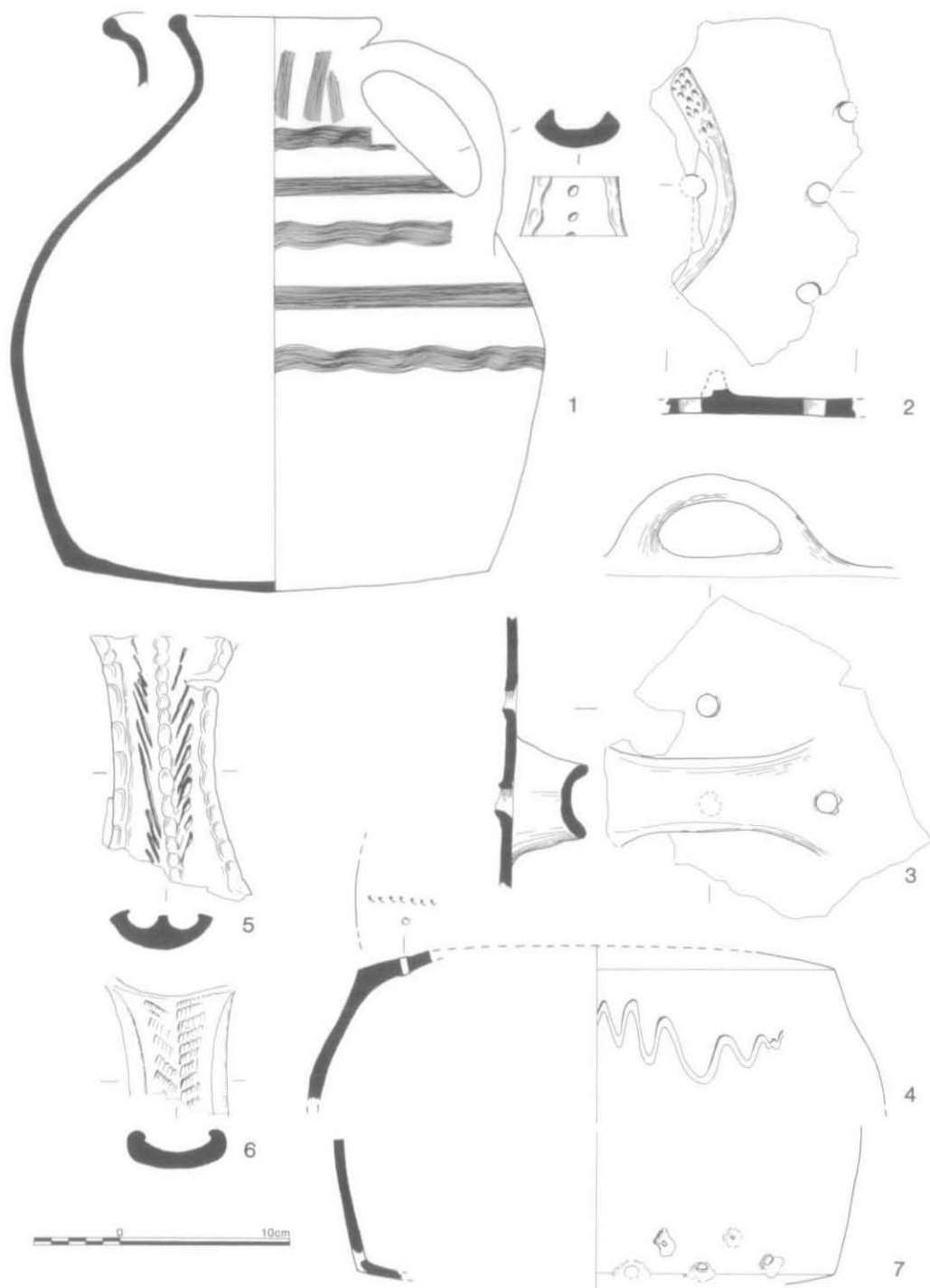


Fig. 44. Early Medieval-Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware (OX4Q) contd.

type at Avebury (sherds held in Avebury Museum) – to Hampshire at Netherton, where it was one of the major ceramic traditions on the site, and to north Berkshire at Ludgershall Castle, at a fortified Manor at Membury, and at Reading Abbey,³¹¹ but it is absent further east. It penetrates into Oxfordshire as far as Middleton Stoney in the north-east, to Deddington, and to west Oxfordshire, with high concentrations at Bishop's Palace, Witney. It is absent from Banbury in north Oxfordshire and at Henley in the south-eastern corner of the county, but it was present in surprising quantities at Chalgrove, some eleven miles north-west of Henley. The large quantities at Chalgrove Moated Manor, throughout the life span of the site, may indicate a preference for supporting the market at Abingdon as did the manor of Cuxham, though not necessarily through buying pottery,³¹² and may be related to dairy farming, since the densest concentrations are found in the Vale of White Horse (formerly north-west Berkshire), which yielded high renders of cheese. But it may also indicate that it fulfilled a special function, cherished by those of some social standing, since it occurs in higher quantities at Bishop's Palace, Witney, also (see p. 148). This lacuna in the south-east of the county is also mirrored by the lack of Brill/Boarstall products (OXAW, OXAM) south of Chalgrove.

The penetration of this ceramic tradition (OXAQ) covers some forty miles into Oxfordshire, a much greater distance than that covered by any of the other coarsewares. This dominance may in part reflect the fact that it was well established before its competitors in the west (OXBB) and north-west (OXCX), but it was also clearly marketed aggressively as it continued to overwhelm them until the 15th century when Minety appears to have gained ascendancy.³¹³

The mechanism for transporting these pots was clearly overland, either with pack animals or carts, and the distribution would favour a route along the Ridgeway on the Berkshire Downs. Corroborative evidence of contact with the Savernake Forest can be found in the documentary record concerning Greyfriars in Oxford: in AD 1232 Henry III granted 30 beams from the Forest for their chapel and in AD 1240 a further ten oaks were granted for building.³¹⁴ The distribution in south-west Oxfordshire, where there is considerable overlap of the five-mile-radius circles around the market towns,³¹⁵ may indicate that some movement of pottery took place from market to market, as these markets were held on different days or bi-weekly as at Oxford in the 14th century³¹⁶ or even three times a week as at Wallingford in AD 1284 (Fig. 3) (see p. 149, discussion for lacuna in this area).

Its popularity may also be due in part to the open texture of the clay and inclusions, which lent itself to the perpetual expansion and contraction endured during the heating and cooling down processes associated with cooking. By the 13th century if not earlier cooking was no longer done over an open fire but was often carried out on or in an oven, where higher temperatures may have been achieved in comparison with that of an open fire. The large pans may have retained bacteria more readily which would hasten the curdling of milk to make yoghurt and cheese (contemporary ethnographic evidence from the west of Scotland continues to favour the use of ceramic coarsewares for preparing dairy products). But these vessels are also often found – at the furthest extremity of their distribution – to be discarded in garderobes, as at Middleton Stoney, Witney, and Netherton in Hampshire.³¹⁷ And they may indicate some improvement in hygiene by the mid 13th century, becoming fashionable at high status venues, as pots for the lord's chamber, later to be known as chamberpots.

³¹¹ C. Underwood, 'The Medieval and Post-medieval Pottery', in P. Fasham and J. Hawkes, 'Excavations at Reading Abbey Waterfront Sites', *Wessex Arch. Monograph* (forthcoming).

³¹² Harvey, op. cit. note 256, 102.

³¹³ Vince, op. cit. note 16; Durham, op. cit. note 152.

³¹⁴ Hassall, op. cit. note 85, 143.

³¹⁵ Jope, op. cit. note 3 (1972), Fig. 25.9.

³¹⁶ *V.C.H. Oxon.* iv (1979), 305–7.

³¹⁷ Woodiwiss, op. cit. note 163, Fabric II 5, 93; Durham, typescript with Oxford Archaeological Unit; Fairbrother, op. cit. note 237.

Dating

The earliest dating for this tradition is at Netherton in north Hampshire where it occurs in stratified sequences in the early 12th century. But the earliest occurrence in Oxfordshire was in the well filling at St John's College, Oxford, where it was found in association with a coin of Henry II minted AD 1168–80.³¹⁸ It gradually became more popular during the 13th century, and by the 14th century was the only coarseware serving the town; it continued in use into the early 15th century. Sellers of earthenware are recorded for Oxford in AD 1318 and may have dealt in this ceramic tradition.³¹⁹ It was also used in Newbury during the later 13th and early 14th centuries until it was replaced by Coarse Border Wares (*OXBG*) in Oxford.³²⁰ It continued in use at Netherton until AD 1356, but was out of use by AD 1418 when the village was rehhabited.³²¹

It is interesting to note that both these Wiltshire-based medieval ceramic traditions, situated in the Savernake/Braydon Forest and at Minety respectively, were founded close to important Romano-British ceramic industries.³²²

EARLY TO LATE MEDIEVAL NORTH-WEST OXFORDSHIRE (WYCHWOOD) WARE (*OXCX*)

(Figs. 35, 36, 45–47)

By the end of the 12th century potters in the north-west of Oxfordshire were probably re-establishing themselves, perhaps in response to the earlier failing industry (*OXAC*), and this enigmatic ceramic tradition (*OXCX*) may represent a continuum which was based on the Wychwood area. It may have received fresh impetus from the potters from Minety, as there are many affinities between the two although the local industry is technically much inferior, or it may be a discrete industry copying the Minety tradition.

Fabric

The fabric of this limestone tradition (*OXCX*) is very similar to the earlier calcareous gravel tradition (*OXAC*), the major difference being in the use of the wheel and the vessel types. The limestone is probably derived from the Upper Middle lias at Ascott-under-Wychwood and the second gravel terrace. It is also similar to the North Wiltshire Minety fabric (*OXBB*).

Associated technology and vessel types

These handmade, wheel-finished and wheel-thrown vessels included cooking vessels/storage jars both globular (Fig. 45, no. 4) and straight-sided (Fig. 45, no. 14), though the latter were rare; some vessels very similar to Minety types (Fig. 45, no. 1); shallow dishes (Fig. 46, no. 16), jars with bifid rims designed for lid seating (Fig. 45, no. 20), cisterns with bungholes (Fig. 46, no. 12), lids (Fig. 46, nos. 8–11), dripping pans (Fig. 46, no. 18), inverted pots, reminiscent of 19th and 20th-century rhubarb forcers (Fig. 46, no. 14), handled jars (Fig. 47, no. 1), jugs with strap handles (Fig. 47, nos. 2, 3) and wedge-shaped handles (Fig. 47, nos. 14, 15). A wide variety of rims were found, some typical of the earlier tradition (*OXAC*) with thickened infolded rims (Fig. 45, nos. 2, 3), while others were everted and

³¹⁸ Jope, op. cit. note 3 (1959), 243.

³¹⁹ Ogle, op. cit. note 68, 14.

³²⁰ Vince, op. cit. note 167; Mellor, op. cit. note 93, Fig. 8, 176.

³²¹ Fairbrother, op. cit. note 237.

³²² Hodder, op. cit. note 306.

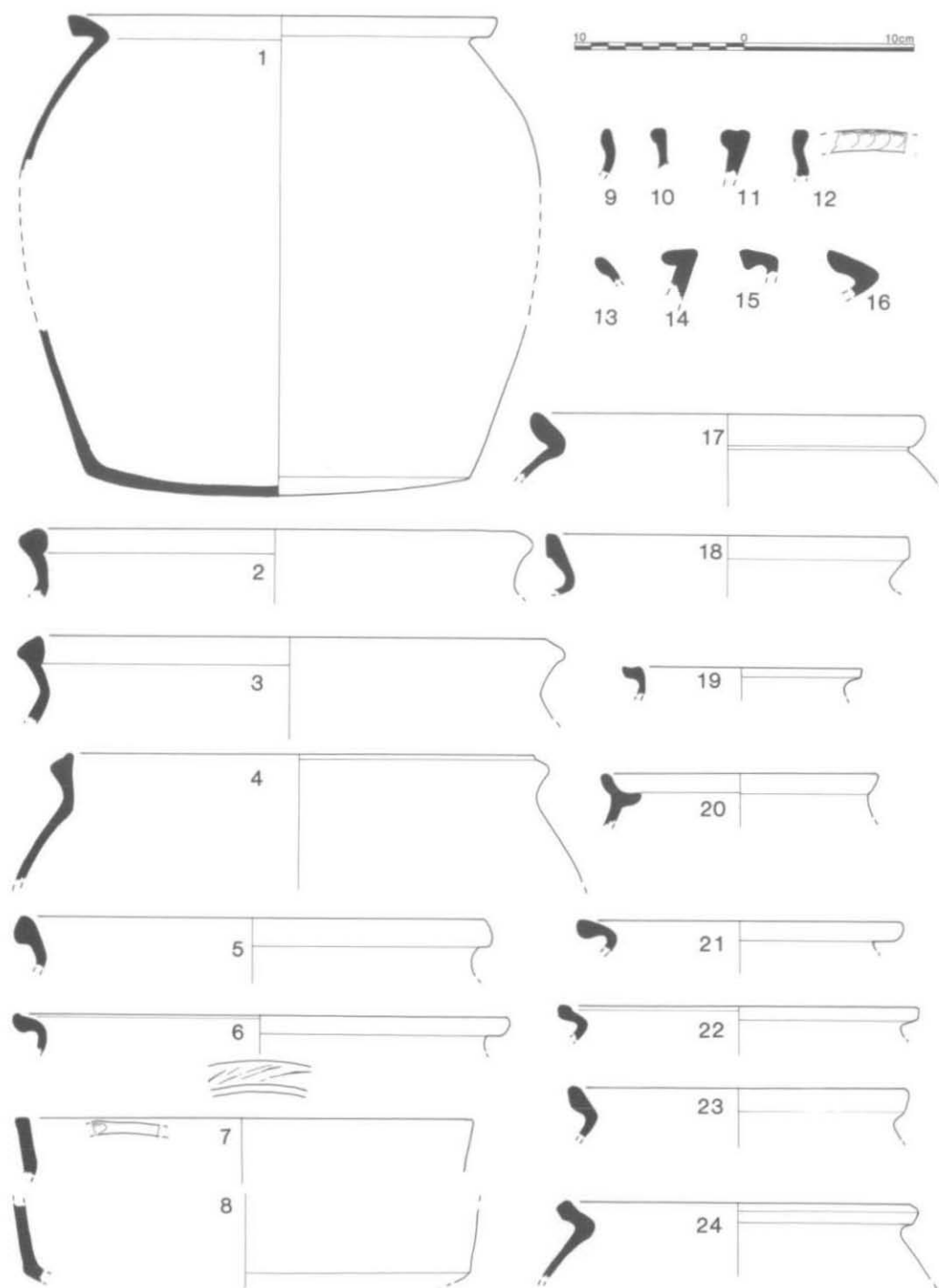


Fig. 45. Wychwood-type, Early Medieval-Late Medieval North West Oxfordshire Ware (*OXCX*).

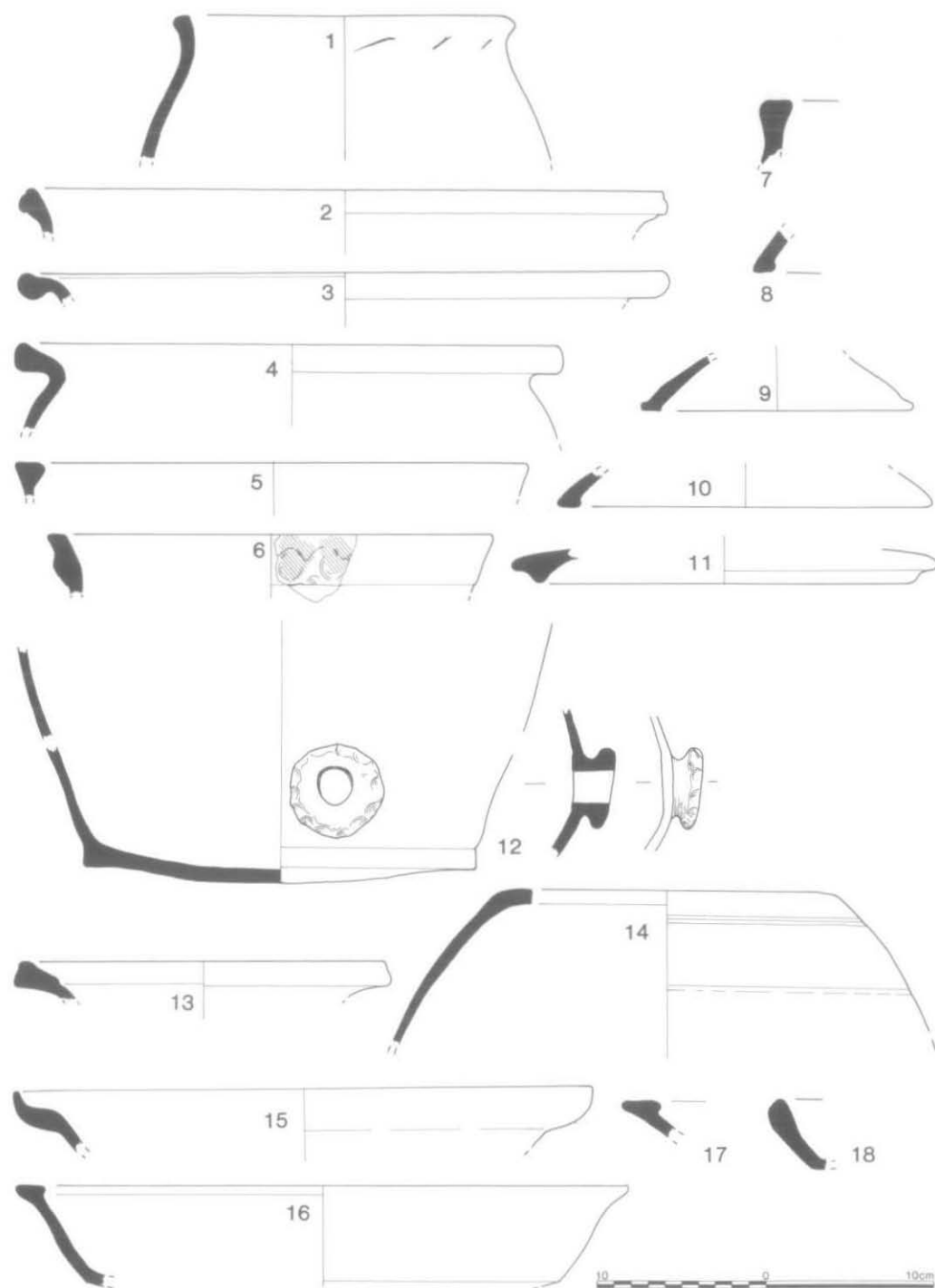


Fig. 46. Wychwood-type, Early Medieval-Late Medieval North West Oxfordshire Ware (OXCA) contd.

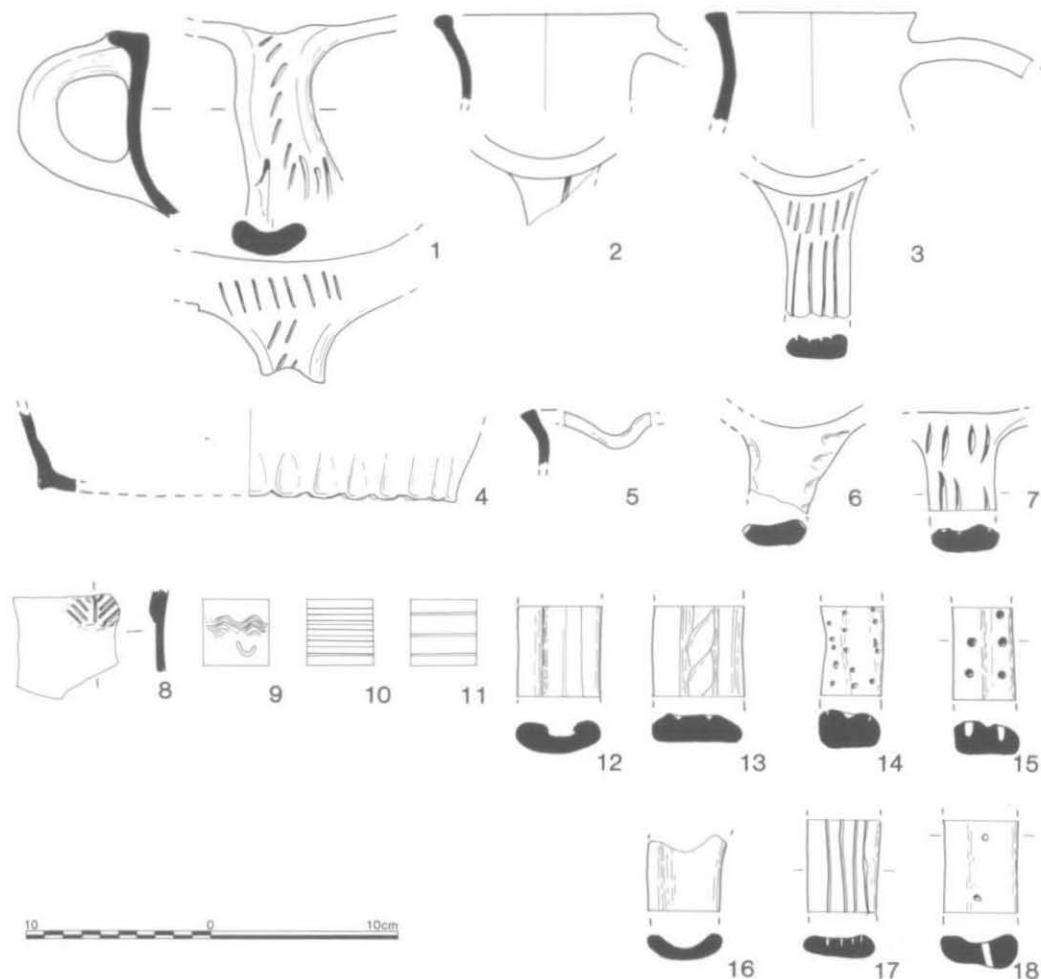


Fig. 47. Wychwood-type, Early Medieval-Late Medieval North West Oxfordshire (OXCA) contd.

flared (Fig. 45, nos. 21-24), similar to the Minety types but less deftly executed. These rim types may prove to be of chronological significance. Bases of the coarsewares were very slightly convex, but pitchers and jugs with thumb bases were particularly popular (Fig. 47, no. 4).

Decoration, as with the Minety products, was minimal, with very occasional fingering on the rim (Fig. 45, no. 12), applied thumb-pressed strip and white slip (Fig. 46, no. 6), and incised decoration (Fig. 47, nos. 8-11). A wide variety of stabbing (Fig. 47, nos. 14, 15) and slashing (Fig. 47, nos. 3, 7, 17) was employed on the handles, and one 'plaited' handle was found (Fig. 47, no. 13), copying the ceramic traditions of central and south Oxfordshire. Transparent lead glaze, if applied at all, was very thin and only partially covered the vessel. Occasionally copper oxide was added to give a mottled green glaze, and the use of white slip was equally rare.

This tradition was wood fired in an oxidizing atmosphere to give reddish-brown surfaces, but the core was often underfired, appearing grey in colour. The vessels could have been fired in an upright draught kiln, which would leave some visible structure in the ground, or in a clamp kiln leaving no structural evidence.

Distribution and Source

The distribution was very contained and focused largely on the north-west of the county, but it is found in very small amounts at Witney (Fabric 12) and Bampton in west Oxfordshire where it overlaps with the distribution of *OXBB* and *OXAQ*; in this area, however, it may respect the territory of the superior Minety products and the strong penetration of East Wiltshire Ware (*OXAQ*). Or vice versa – which would be surprising given that Minety products were technically far superior, but, for the inhabitants of Wychwood, the function of the vessel may have been of prime concern. This conservative tradition extends as far east as Deddington, where it overlaps with three other major ceramic traditions (Ilbury Close, *OXY*, *OXAM*, and *OX68*; see later). Much of the ‘corky’ fabric which has the limestone leached out of the clay may be a Wychwood type, though this is not scientifically proven; it was found in Deddington (Fabric *OX81*) and to the north as far as Hanwell.³²³ The earlier St Neot’s type ware *OXR* is also ‘corky’ in this part of Oxfordshire, suggesting acidic soil conditions.

This tradition was present in large numbers at Whichford Castle (fabric AII; Cotswold II),³²⁴ five miles north of Chipping Norton, but absent from Winchcombe in Gloucestershire and Ratley Castle in Warwickshire – though absence at the latter may merely be that the Castle had been slighted by this time. The distribution is no more than twelve miles from the known production sites at Ascott-under-Wychwood and possibly Leaffield, and could be facilitated by a potter carting his merchandise to the local markets at Charlbury, Chipping Norton and possibly farther north close to the Warwickshire border at Great Rollright. The round trip could have been accomplished within a long day.

This tradition was possibly made at several places: wasters from two kilns are known from Ascott under Wychwood,³²⁵ and potters are also known from Leaffield (See Section 3 for potter names). Nineteen ‘vert offenders’ are mentioned in the Forest Pleas as coming from Leaffield, and these may well have included potters who were collecting wood for their kilns. (See Section 3 for ‘crock’ names.) Langley Palace, a hunting lodge in Leaffield, might have acted as a focus initially, a ready consumer for the potter’s products. There may be others further to the north who were supplying Whichford Castle during the 13th and 14th centuries.

Dating

Much of this pottery was collected casually by individuals,³²⁶ or through fieldwalking surveys,³²⁷ so that there is little independent dating. The earliest occurrence was at Bishop’s Palace, Witney, where a few sherds were found in late 12th-century levels, but further confirmatory evidence is needed, and the comparative absence at this site may be chronological or it may be outside the area of major penetration. It is not found reliably with other major traditions, so dating by analogy is difficult too. There are no ‘type sites’ from the Wychwood area. However, a stratified sequence at Whichford Castle contained considerable quantities which replaced the earlier calcareous gravel tempered tradition (AI = *OXAC*). It was thought that this change took place sometime between the mid to late 13th century, when it was found in association with Brill/Boarstall type wares; a silver coin of c. AD 1220 pre-dated this transition.³²⁸ The pottery from Glympton, an assart farmstead founded in the early 13th century (c. AD 1220),³²⁹ was found in association with highly decorated Brill types, suggesting a mid-late 13th century date. Documentary evidence suggests that the site was largely depopulated during the 14th century.

³²³ R. Chambers, ‘Excavations at Hanwell, near Banbury, Oxon. 1974’, *Oxoniensia*, xl (1975), 218–37.

³²⁴ Cotswold II, defined by Vince, op. cit. note 16.

³²⁵ Jope, op. cit. note 3 (1959), 246.

³²⁶ In particular John Campbell, Margaret Ware and the Wychwood Society.

³²⁷ T. Copeland, ‘Coat’, and ‘Walcott DMV, Charlbury, Oxon.’ *S. Midl. Arch.* 13 (1983), 120, 122–3.

³²⁸ Whittington, op. cit. note 151.

³²⁹ M. Mellor, ‘The Pottery from the 1979 Excavation’, in P. J. Fasham, ‘The Evaluation in 1971 and 1979 of an assart farmstead at Slape Copse, Glympton, Oxfordshire’, *Oxoniensia*, li (1986), 85.

The wasters from the kilns at Ascott-under-Wychwood were also dated to the 13th century,³³⁰ and a John le Poter is mentioned in AD 1272 (see Section 3 and Appendix IX).

Typologically, the presence of cisterns with bungholes and lids and jars with bifid rims suggests that this pottery was still being made in the late 14th century and into the 15th – and possibly into the 16th century as at Minety.³³¹

The documentary evidence attests to potters in AD 1272 from Leafield, first recorded in AD 1213 as an assart. Fieldnames in Leafield are known as early as AD 1591, and two surveys of AD 1608-9 pre-date the later Leafield pottery industry (see Section 3 for details). It seems probable that this medieval tradition may have continued until the post-medieval ceramic industry was established at Leafield,³³² much as the ceramic industries of south-east Oxfordshire continued.

BRILL/BOARSTALL TYPE WARE (BUCKINGHAMSHIRE OXAW, OXAM)

By the end of the 12th century the Brill/Boarstall potters in west Buckinghamshire were probably beginning to make pots (see Section 3). The earliest pottery purported to be made at Brill³³³ is of a very different fabric, with a coarse open texture reminiscent of Minety (OXB) or Wychwood (OXCX) and this, together with the vessel forms, gives some support to the hypothesis that the earliest potters may have been influenced or even have originated from the Bristol area.

Fabric and associated technology

The earliest potters (OXAW) were using two similar fabric types one with sub-angular quartz (OXAW2), the other with abundant rounded quartz (OXAW1); some iron stained quartz and clay pellets were present suggesting that the potters had deliberately added the inclusions to improve the clay. This can be paralleled in another earlier local tradition (OXY). The texture of both OXAW and OXY is very harsh unlike the later OXAM. It is possible that OXY is the precursor to the OXAW tradition.

Neutron Activation Analysis was carried out on sherds from the 13th or 14th-century kilns and the results show that the clay source matches with that used for the pottery in the 17th-century kilns,³³⁴ but distinct from some OXY which were originally recorded as OXAW.³³⁵ Brill is situated on an outcrop of Kimmeridge clay on the edge of Otmoor, but the surrounding geology is very complicated.

The remarkable range of vessels were wheel-thrown and competently potted (Fig. 37).

Vessel types

Cooking pots/storage jars were the largest component of the repertoire. The smaller sizes (Fig. 48, nos. 10, 11, 12) were more popular than the medium-sized vessels (Fig. 48, nos. 1-4), and the larger vessels were comparatively rare (Fig. 39, nos. 1, 2). Bowls, in a variety of sizes (Fig. 48, nos. 15, 16; Fig. 49, no. 3), were also commonplace. No other local ceramic tradition produced such a range of bowls. The wide open pans found in earlier and contemporary traditions (OXAC and OXAQ) were absent.

³³⁰ Jope and Threlfall, op. cit. note 3 (1959), 246.

³³¹ Vince, op. cit. note 16.

³³² Stebbing, op. cit. note 36, 7-9.

³³³ E. M. Jope and R. J. Ivens, 'Some Early Products of the Brill Pottery, Buckinghamshire', *Records of Bucks.*, xxiii (1981), 32-8.

³³⁴ Ibid., 32; Farley, op. cit. note 13, 127-52.

³³⁵ Ivens, op. cit. note 1.

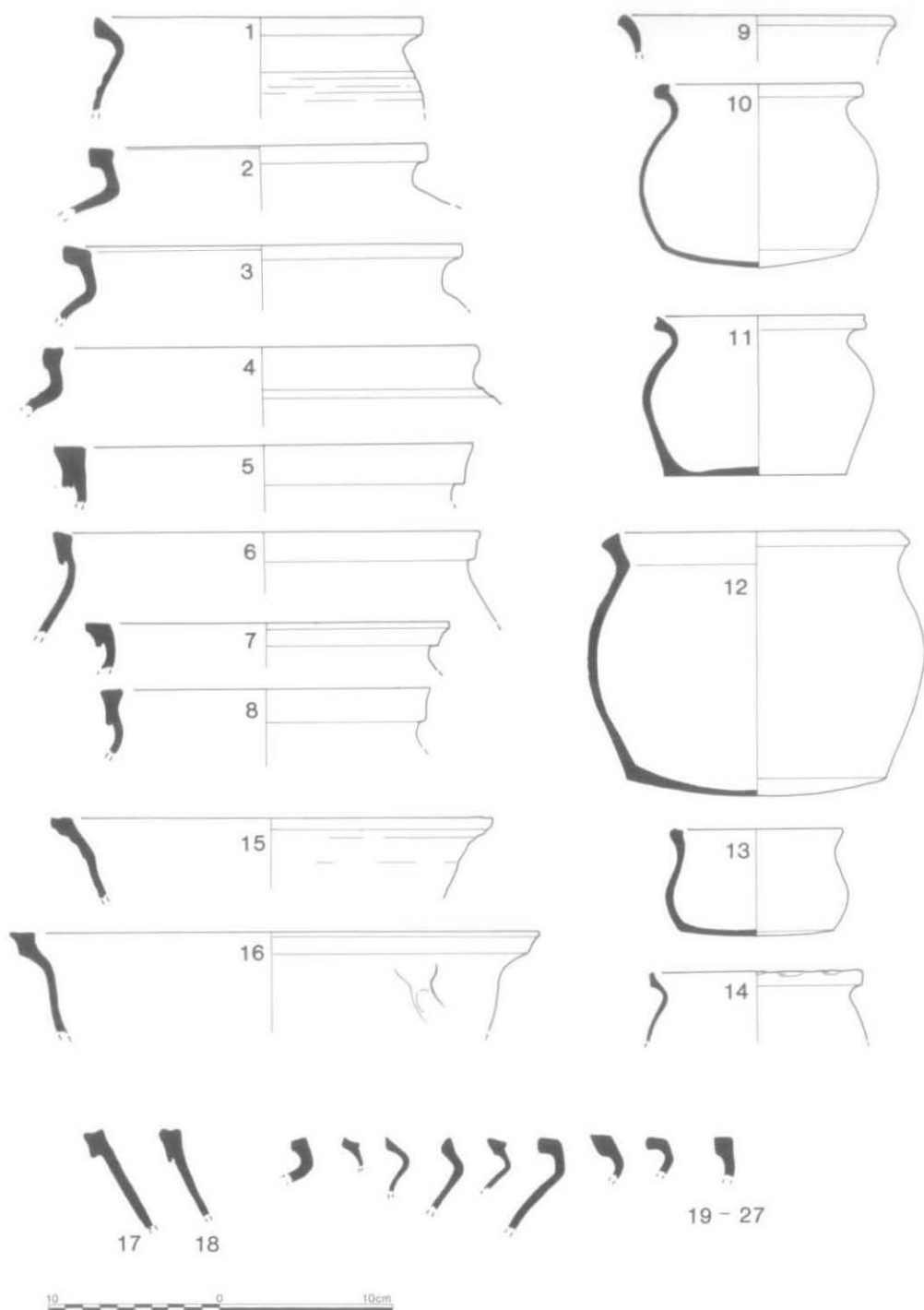
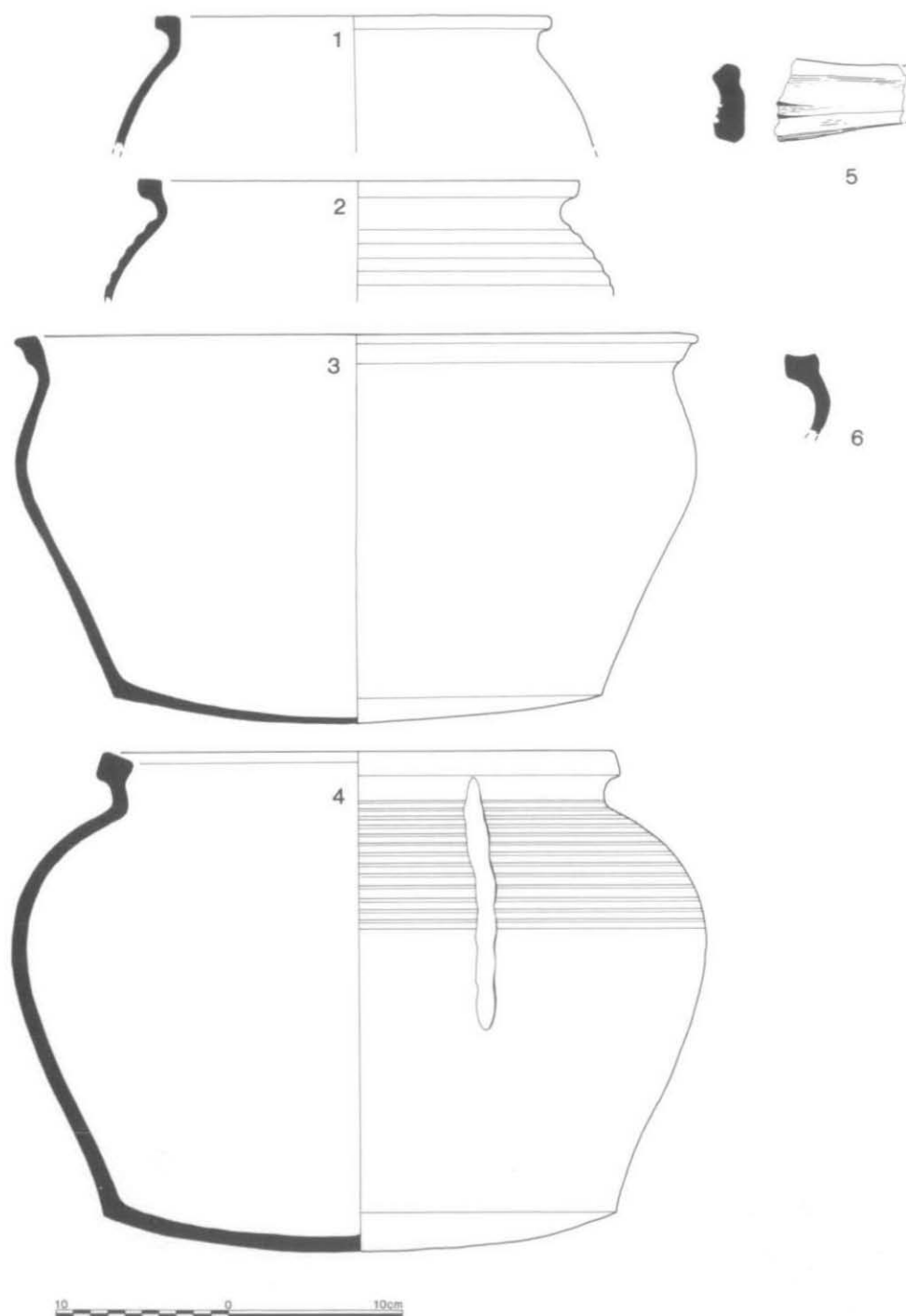


Fig. 48. Brill/Boarstall type, Early Medieval (Ox4W).

Fig. 49. Brill/Boarstall type, Early Medieval (*OXAW*) contd.

This may suggest either that these potters were not supplying the agricultural community with vessels suitable for dairying practices such as the making of butter, cheese and allied products, or that wood had perhaps replaced pottery in the dairy. Rather fewer skillets (Fig. 49, no. 5) and large storage jars (Fig. 49, no. 4) were found.

A variety of inspired jug and pitcher types, some perhaps used as decanters and others as drinking vessels, were known and included rounded types (Fig. 50, no. 3), the standard types (Fig. 50, no. 1), ovoid types (Fig. 50, no. 4; Plate 5, A.M. 1937.444) and smaller baluster types (Fig. 50, no. 2; Fig. 51, no. 3), but only two tripod pitcher types are known, both from the Bodleian Extension, Oxford.³³⁶ Slightly later types include the stout baluster type (Fig. 51, no. 1; Plate 6, A.M. 1886.1290D-M16), and, very rarely, aquamaniles or ewers (Fig. 51, no. 24)³³⁷ and flasks (Fig. 51, no. 4), possibly copying metal prototypes.

The rim types were very distinctive, occasionally flaring and thickened (Fig. 48, nos. 1, 11, 14, 21); squared types (Fig. 48, nos. 2-4) were more common, and undercut types were the most distinctive (Fig. 48, nos. 5-8), but not very common in stratified urban sequences.³³⁸ Bases were sometimes convex (Fig. 48, nos. 10, 12) but more often flat (Fig. 48, no. 11), suggesting that these vessels were designed to sit on flat surfaces rather than earthen floors. Bases of the jugs were sometimes thumbled (Fig. 50, nos. 1, 4) to give them greater stability on flat surfaces. It is surprising that only two tripod pitchers bases have been found in this tradition given that they continued to be produced by other traditions throughout the first half of the 13th century (*OXY* and *QXAG*).

Decoration on domestic coarsewares was minimal; rilling (throwing grooves) were sometimes accentuated between the shoulder and belly of the vessel (Fig. 49, nos. 2, 4), and applied strips were sometimes present to strengthen the pot (Fig. 48, no. 16; Fig. 49, no. 4).

The tablewares were skilfully decorated, some only with horizontal incised lines (Fig. 50, nos. 1, 4), with thin washes of glaze or rilling reminiscent of French jugs and also paralleled on Bristol type jugs,³³⁹ while others had red (Fig. 50, no. 3; Fig. 51, nos. 7, 9, 10, 22) or white slip (Fig. 51, nos. 8, 15) or red and white slip (Fig. 51, no. 16). Later more elaborate examples were found, with applied strips and slip (Fig. 50, no. 2; Fig. 51, no. 11), roller stamped using different roller stamps in a variety of combinations (Fig. 51, nos. 12, 14 and 21), some of which can be paralleled on leatherwork (Fig. 51, no. 24),³⁴⁰ and applied pellets of clay (Fig. 51, nos. 5, 13, 20); grid stamped pads (Fig. 51, no. 18) were also popular, but less frequent was the use of the comb (Fig. 51, no. 17) and incised decoration (Fig. 51, no. 23). Face pads were also present in small numbers (Fig. 51, nos. 3, 6); these face pads have parallels amongst the Bristol wares (Redcliffe). Some of the curvilinear decoration which finish in terminals of red iron rich clay represent the flowers of the vine (Fig. 58, no. 18) and are also reminiscent of vessels from Ham Green, Bristol.³⁴¹ Others were clearly influenced by the floral and foliate motifs on ironwork (Fig. 60, nos. 13, 19), which are similar to the decorative iron scrolls at St George's Chapel Windsor, dated AD 1240-1249,³⁴² and at Notre Dame in Paris. It is clear that these potters were also copying French jugs with their parrot (bridge) spouts, and occasionally even the shield type decoration so common on Saintonge vessels from south-west France (Fig. 51, no. 3). Originally much of the inspiration for the Brill/Boarstall workshops came from France, either via Bristol or possibly through direct contact.

Jugs from the Brill/Boarstall kilns are a large component of the vessels recovered from the Bodleian Extension, Oxford, in the 1930s. They were arranged into the first typological series of medieval jugs, a series which is substantially correct even today for the local types.³⁴³ But there are some gaps in the sequence which can now be filled for the mid 13th century; these include the highly decorated stout

³³⁶ Bruce-Mitford, op. cit. note 2, A.M. 1959.191, A.M. 1959.193, unpublished.

³³⁷ For another aquamanile in the same tradition, Joep op. cit. note 217, Pl III c.

³³⁸ Mellor in Palmer, op. cit. note 9, 181.

³³⁹ M. Ponsford, pers. comm.

³⁴⁰ J. Cherry, 'Leather', in J. Blair and N. Ramsay (eds.), *English Medieval Industries* (1991), Fig. 152.

³⁴¹ K. J. Barton, 'A medieval pottery kiln at Ham Green, Bristol', *Trans. Bristol Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 82 (1963), 95-126; D. Dawson, R. Jackson, R. Jeffrey, and M. W. Ponsford, 'Medieval kiln wasters from St Peter's Church, Bristol', *Trans. Bristol Glos. Arch. Soc.*, 91 (1972), 161-7.

³⁴² J. Geddes, 'Iron', in Blair, op. cit. note 340, Fig. 84, 180.

³⁴³ Bruce Mitford, op. cit. note 2.

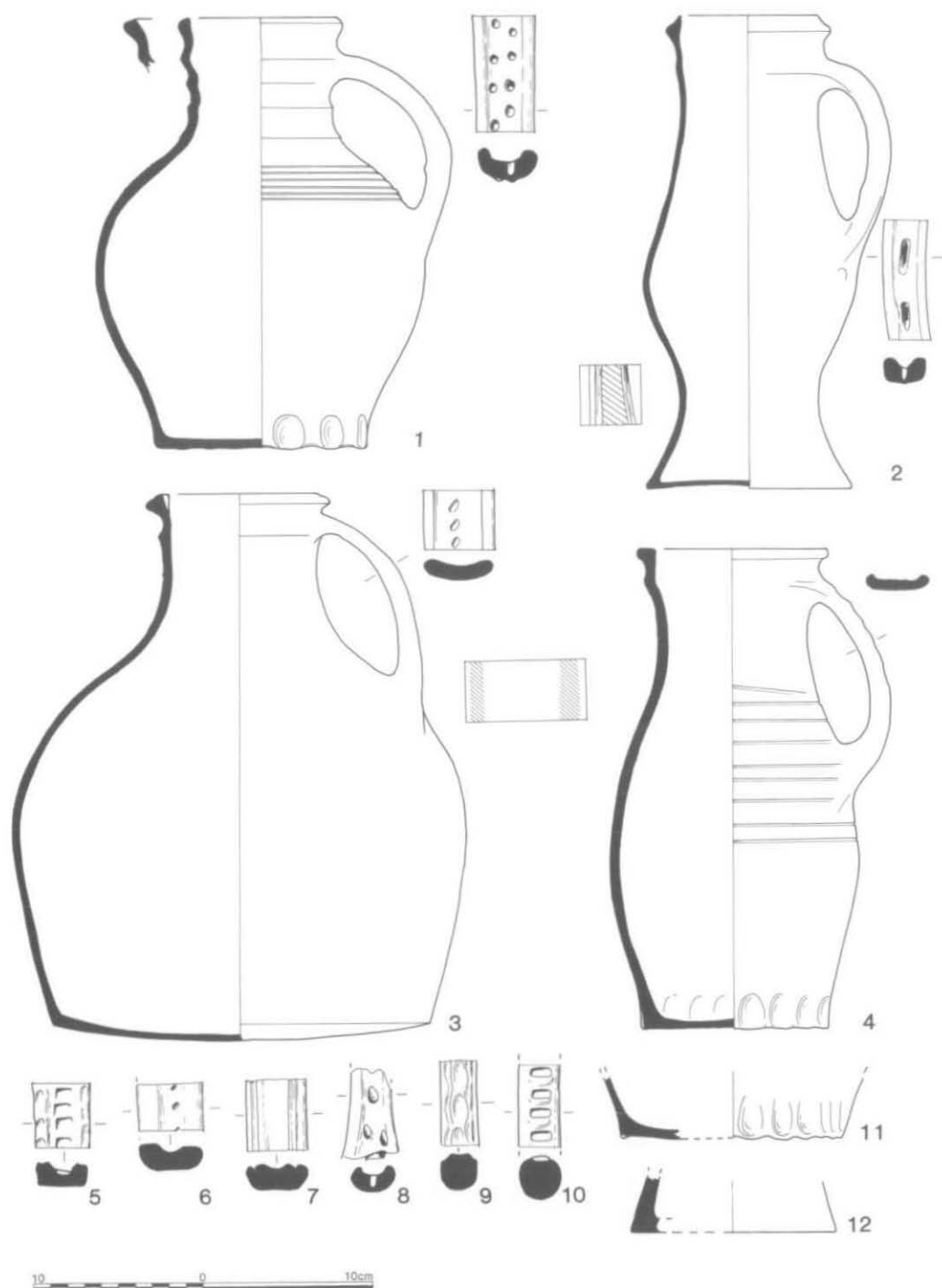


Fig. 50. Brill/Boarstall type (OXAW) contd.

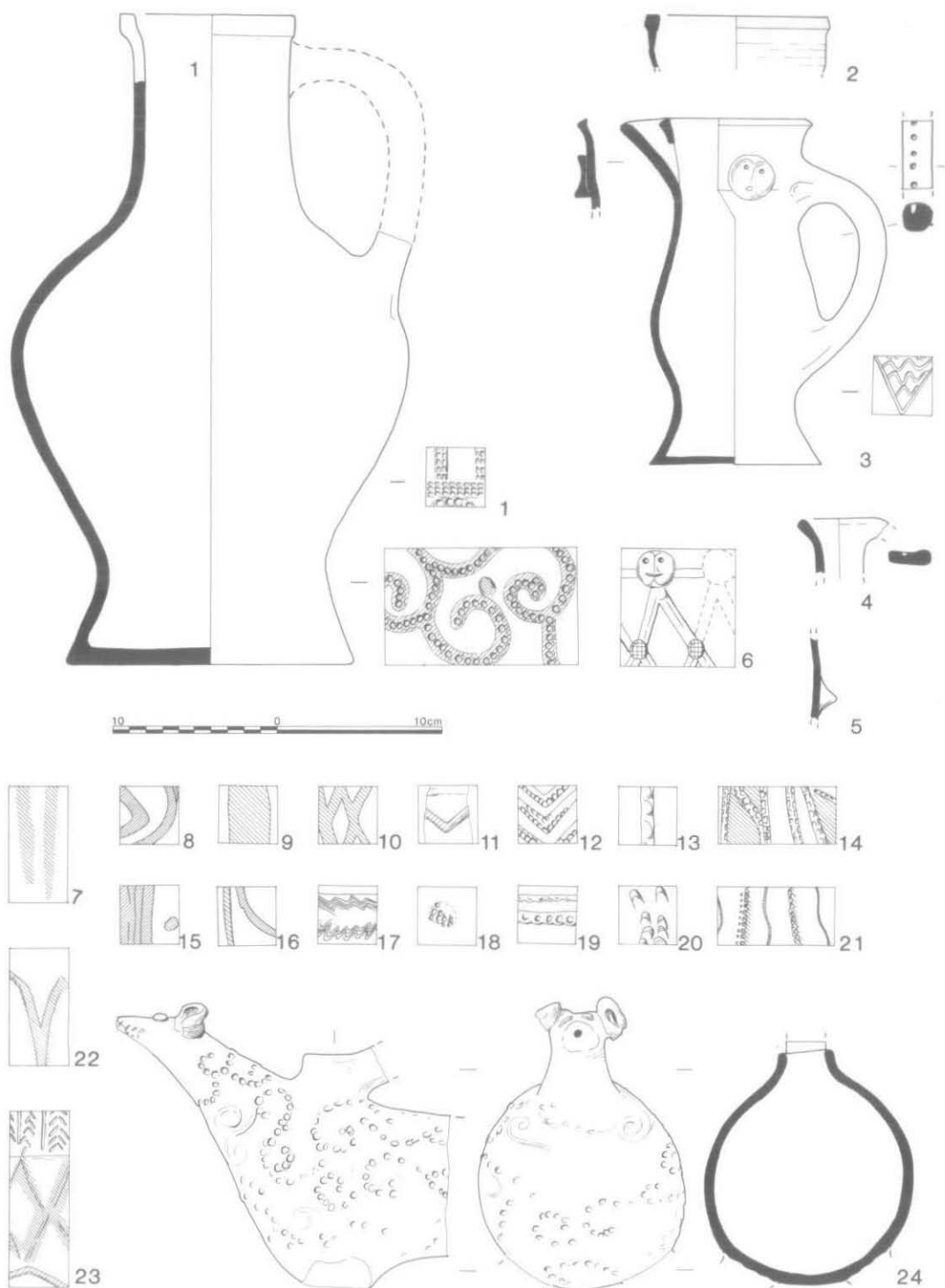


Fig. 51. Brill/Boarstall type (OX4W) contd.

baluster types and the triple decker vessels (Plate 6; Fig. 51, no. 1; Plate 7 and Fig. 56, no. 1),³⁴⁴ and some vessel types are very long-lived, e.g. the baluster type.

Clear transparent glazes were initially used, but later copper oxide was added to the lead glazes giving a mottled green or dark green glaze; the vessels were not dipped into a suspension of glaze until the late 14th–15th century.

Distribution and Source

This pottery was made at Brill and in the adjoining parish of Boarstall in central west Buckinghamshire; the latter was within the manor of Brill until AD 1213 and possibly a century after. It was also within the Forest of Bernwood.³⁴⁵ The adjoining parish of Horton cum Studley in Oxfordshire also has a field called Potter's Close, which should be investigated. Professor Jope excavated the site of four superimposed kilns, where he recovered 25,000 pots and the remains of 20,000 pots from a waster dump.³⁴⁶ Since then further excavations have taken place in the vicinity.³⁴⁷

The distribution of the coarsewares extends to the south along the Chiltern ridge to Lewknor, across to Oxford and to the riverside towns of Abingdon and Dorchester, and to a few sites in the Vale and west Oxfordshire. Little of these fabrics extend beyond the county borders of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire. The main thrust is local to Oxford and to rural manors such as Kidlington Moated Manor and to the north of the production area in the towns of Bicester, Deddington and Banbury, and in the more rural areas as seen at Glympton and Bloxham. The tablewares also follow this distribution, but not in such quantities as the coarsewares. The possible links between this ceramic industry and the Bristol wares should be further explored, possibly backed up by documentary evidence, as should the northern French decorative wares.

Dating

Broken jugs of this tradition were found in levels which pre-date the founding of St John's Hospital in Oxford in AD 1231.³⁴⁸ By the mid 13th century it was evident in considerable quantities³⁴⁹ and the flowering of the highly decorated jugs and pitchers coincides with this date. For potters' surnames see Section 3.

This fabric continued to be used after the 13th century for coarsewares only and small amounts may have persisted into the 15th century.³⁵⁰

Fabric and associated technology

By the second quarter of the 13th century the potters from this production area started to use clay without the heavy admixture of quartz (*OXAM* Late Medieval Oxford Ware) (see Appendix VII); this was sometimes over-fired giving a near proto-stoneware (*OXAP*); a third fabric with occasional large opaque ironstone inclusions (*OXBX*) became more popular during the later medieval period.

³⁴⁴ Hinton, *op. cit.* note 221, 228.

³⁴⁵ Farley, *op. cit.* note 29, 116.

³⁴⁶ E. M. Jope, 'Medieval Pottery Kilns at Brill, Buckinghamshire: Preliminary report on excavations in 1953', *Records of Bucks.*, xvi (1953–4), 39–42.

³⁴⁷ Ivens, *op. cit.* note 17; R. Ivens, 'Medieval Pottery from the 1978 Excavations at Temple Farm, Brill', *Records of Bucks.*, xxiv (1982), 144–70.

³⁴⁸ M. Mellor, 'The Pottery', in B. Durham, 'The Infirmary and Hall of the Medieval Hospital of St. John the Baptist at Oxford', *Oxoniensia*, lvi (1991), 49.

³⁴⁹ Mellor in Palmer, *op. cit.* note 9, BIOb, Fig. 8, 162; Mellor in Lambrick, *op. cit.* note 11, Phase 1, Table I, 175.

³⁵⁰ Mellor in Palmer, *op. cit.* note 9, Phases BII5, BII6, Fig. 8, 162.

These graceful vessels were thrown on a fast wheel. Their wood firing was in single or double updraught kilns, with a central pedestal,³⁵¹ in a well regulated oxidizing atmosphere. Each of the four kilns excavated at Brill in Buckinghamshire in the 1950s on the east facing slope away from the prevailing wind showed considerable variety in the method of construction and quality. Brushwood impressions were found associated with one kiln. Wasters have been found in the adjoining parish of Boarstall, dating from the mid 13th century to the 15th.

Vessel types

Products included fine walled small cooking pots/storage jars, some more closed (Fig. 52, nos. 1, 2), others with squared rims (Fig. 52, nos. 3, 5), undercut examples (Fig. 52, nos. 4, 7, 8), others flared (Fig. 52, nos. 9, 11). There was little typological change during the 13th and 14th centuries, but by the late medieval period bifid rims (Fig. 52, nos. 31–33) and more flared rims (Fig. 52, nos. 34, 35) became fashionable; the undercut types continued into the late medieval period, however (Fig. 52, no. 36). The bases were flat (Fig. 52, no. 6). Bowls (Fig. 52, no. 15), some with pinched spouts (Fig. 52, nos. 16, 17), were less common. Decoration included deep horizontal grooves (Fig. 52, nos. 3, 7) imitating metal vessels; occasionally the internal surfaces were coated with transparent lead glaze giving a light green or orange colour (Fig. 52, no. 11). Knife paring around the base to remove excess clay was also a characteristic (Fig. 52, no. 14).

A much wider range of smaller vessels evident amongst this ceramic tradition and probably used at table included small shallow dishes (Fig. 53, nos. 1, 3), possibly replacing wooden dishes, traditionally used for drinking, some oval shaped (Fig. 53, no. 2), small dishes, glazed internally (Fig. 53, nos. 5, 6), drinking vessels (Fig. 53, no. 13), some with face masks (Fig. 53, nos. 14, 15; Pl. 3A, A.M. 1896–1908 M18, height 9.2 cms), salts (Fig. 53, nos. 16, 17) and cups (Fig. 53, nos. 18, 20, 22, 23, 26, 27). Some were glazed externally while others were well glazed both internally and externally. Cups were not introduced until the late medieval period; prior to that date small jugs were used for drinking (Fig. 62, nos. 4, 5). Three handled tygs, a late medieval innovation known as Cistercian types, were also found (Fig. 53, no. 24). It is likely that these small fine walled glazed drinking cups were fired in saggars. Saggars were found at a kiln in Brill along with a drinking cup.³⁵² Lids designed to fit cooking pots and storage jars were found (Fig. 53, nos. 8–12), some with holes in the top, possibly to let out the vapour during cooking (Fig. 53, no. 10), while some were glazed (Fig. 53, no. 11) and probably fitted jugs.

Decorated pans and/or bowls may have been used as tablewares (Fig. 54, nos. 1, 6, 7), while unglazed examples were used in the kitchen or dairy. Rim forms were usually angular with variations of squared (Fig. 54, nos. 4, 5) or undercut types. Skillet handles (frying pans) (Fig. 54, nos. 8, 10, 11, 14), whistles (Fig. 54, no. 9), small chafing dishes (Fig. 54, nos. 12, 15, and 16) to cook food or keep it warm, strainers (Fig. 54, no. 13), cresset lamps (Fig. 54, no. 17), double shelled lamps (Fig. 54, nos. 18–22), and a later more enclosed version (Fig. 54, no. 23) were among the less common vessels. Bottles in a variety of sizes (Fig. 55, nos. 13–15) with a thin wash of glaze on the shoulder were probably used as containers of oils and sauces for culinary use. One site at Rewley Abbey, Oxford, had a higher proportion of these vessels and residue analysis might establish their contents. Costrels were rare (Fig. 55, nos. 10, 11), as were cruets (Fig. 55, nos. 12, 17, 18), and money boxes (Fig. 55, nos. 19–23). But the real achievement of this ceramic industry lay with the jugs and pitchers.

The earliest types included the magnificent tripledecker which was peculiar to this production centre (Fig. 56, no. 1; Plate 7, A.M. 1937.960); a wide variety of plastic decoration was associated with this type (Fig. 56, nos. 7–10). The stimulus for these decorative styles may be derived from life in the forest, textiles, leather work, wrought iron work and stained glass, the latter four all derived from medieval iconography associated with the Church. Baluster types derived from the architectural columns of the same name continued throughout the medieval period (Fig. 56, nos. 2, 3) and were

³⁵¹ Joep, op. cit. note 346, Ivens, op. cit. notes 17 and 347.

³⁵² Farley, op. cit. note 13, Fig. 8, nos. 5 and 6, 141.

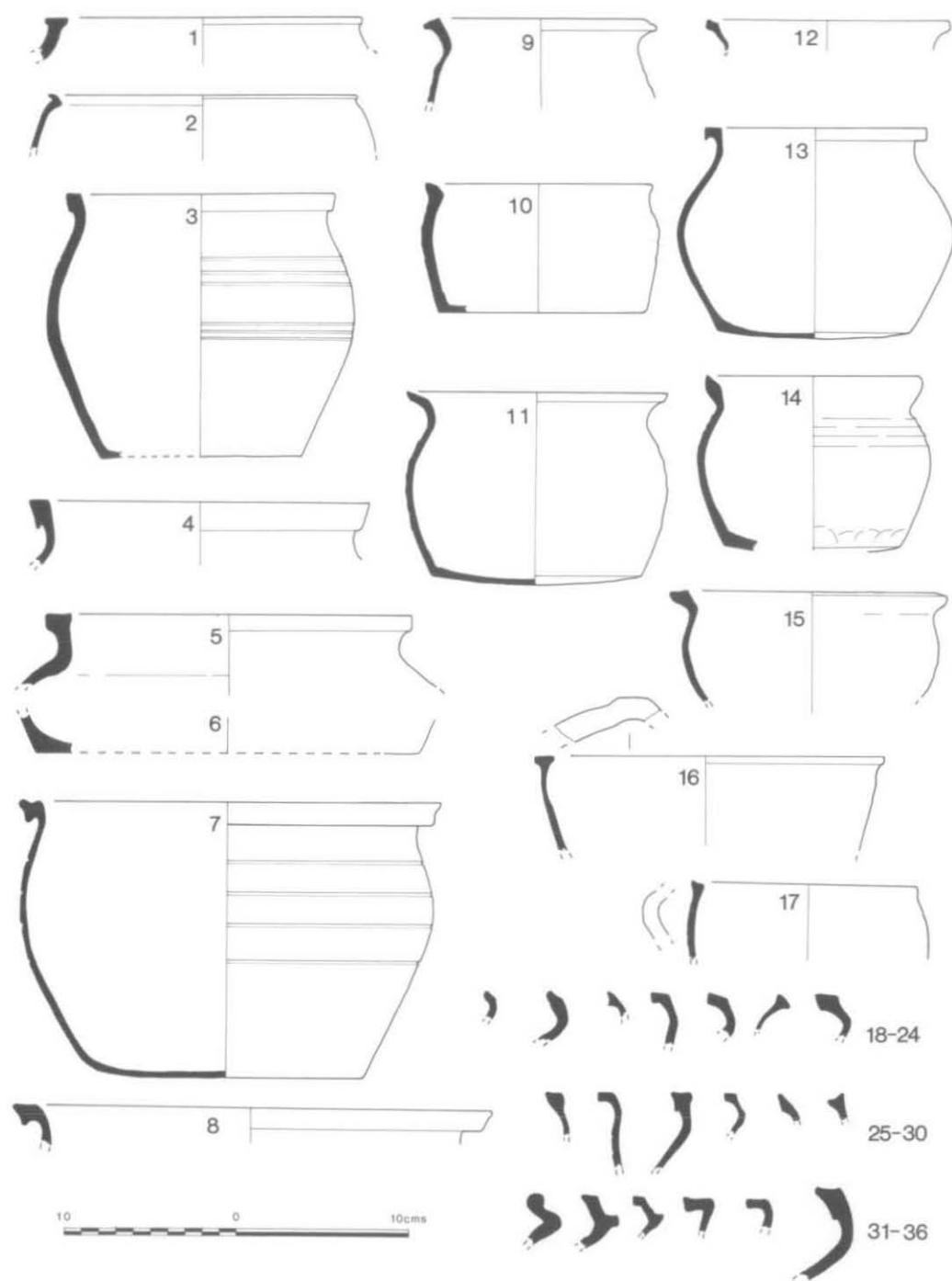


Fig. 52. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval, Later Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBA*).

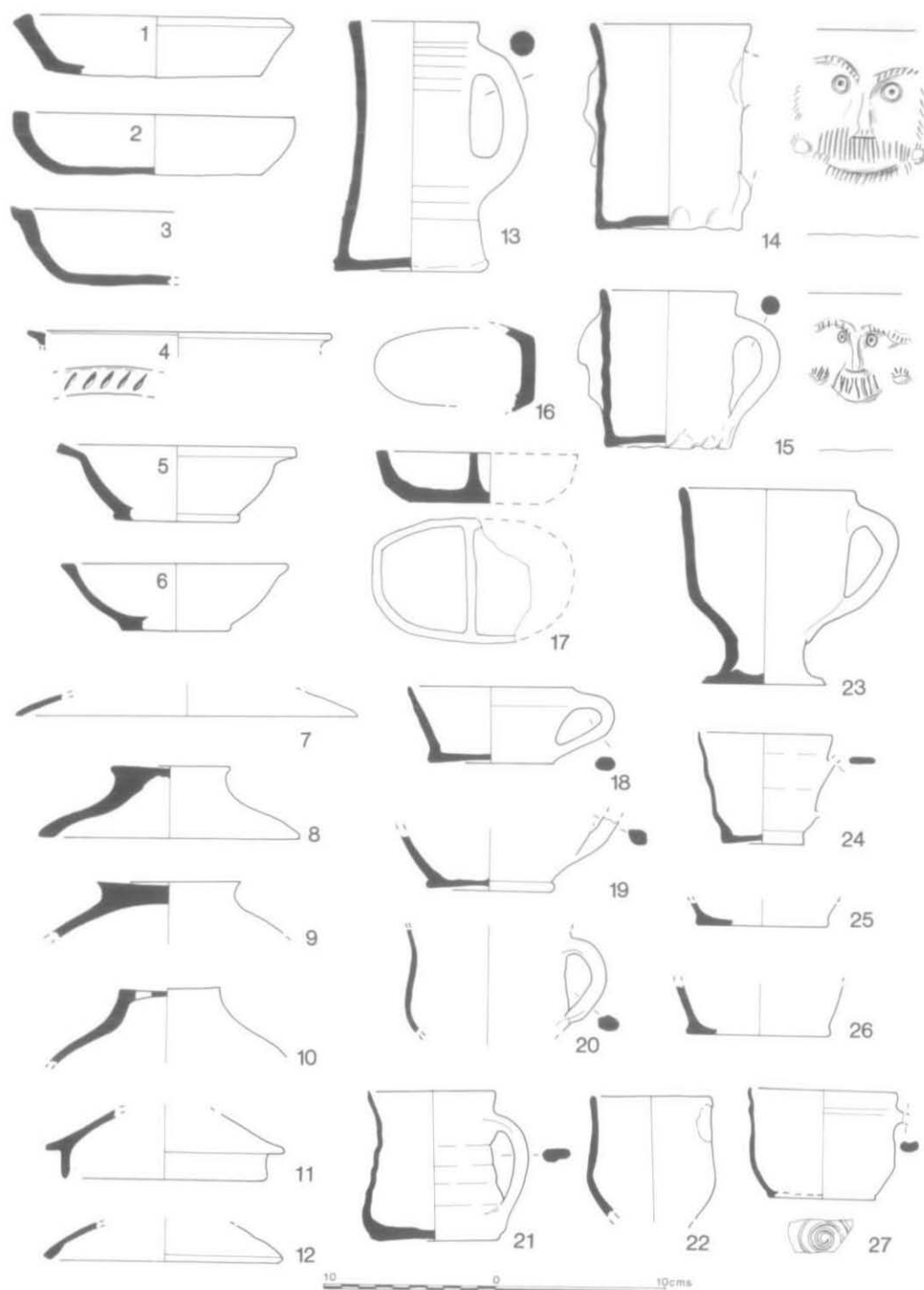


Fig. 53. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval, Late Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Ware (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX), contd.

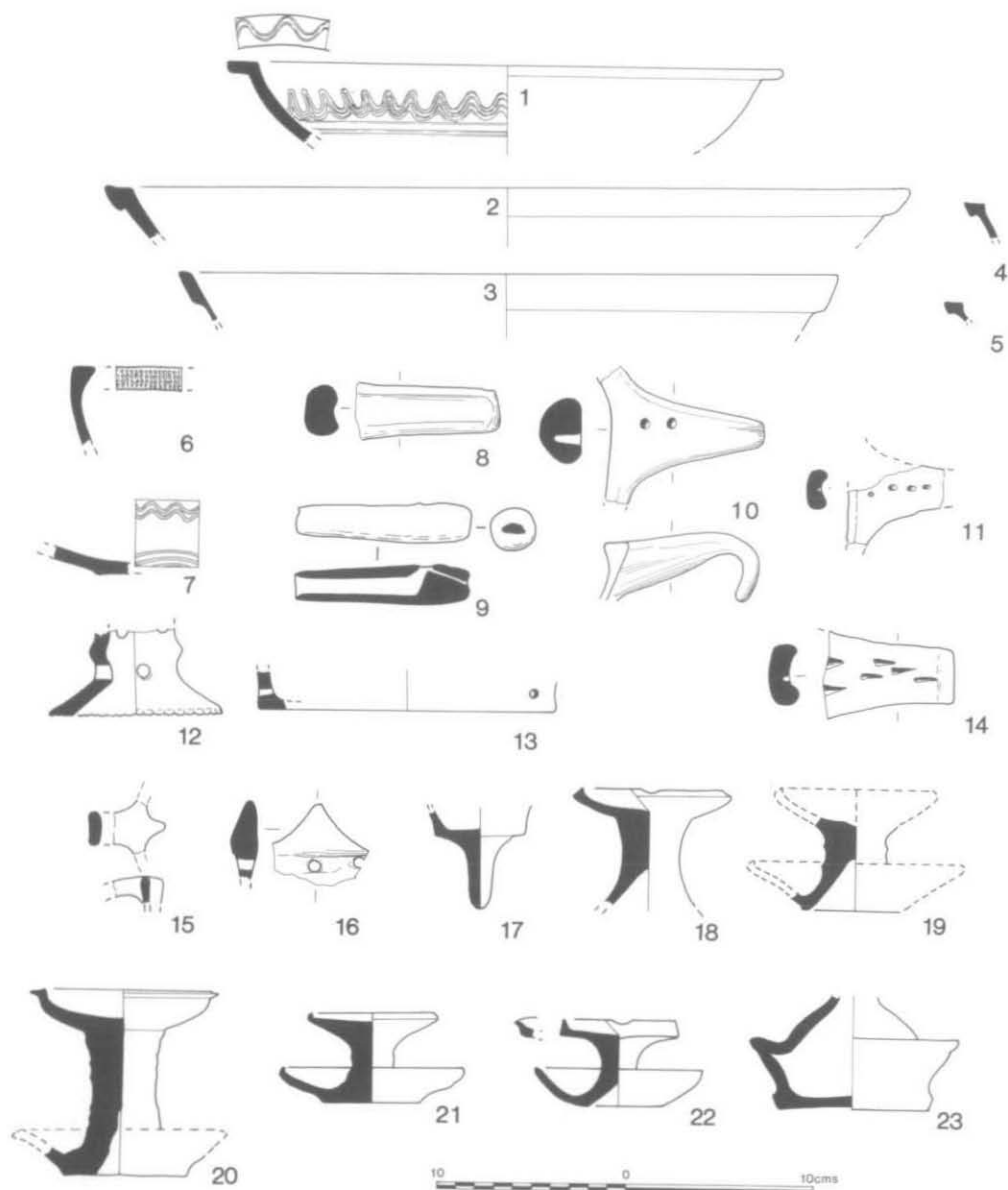


Fig. 54. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval, Late Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Ware contd. (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*).

often decorated with red slip (Fig. 56, no. 5). Rim types were largely thickened and squared (Fig. 56, nos. 12-20) and showed neither evidence of being made in conjunction with a template nor chronological development. Puzzle jugs, for drinking games, were sometimes thrown in two parts (Fig. 57, no. 1, Plate 8, A.M. 1921.202); one exuberant example was elaborately decorated with clay pellets representing the leaves of the forest, with a stag's head with splendid antlers peering through the foliage and human faces around the top of the rim. This example almost certainly represents a

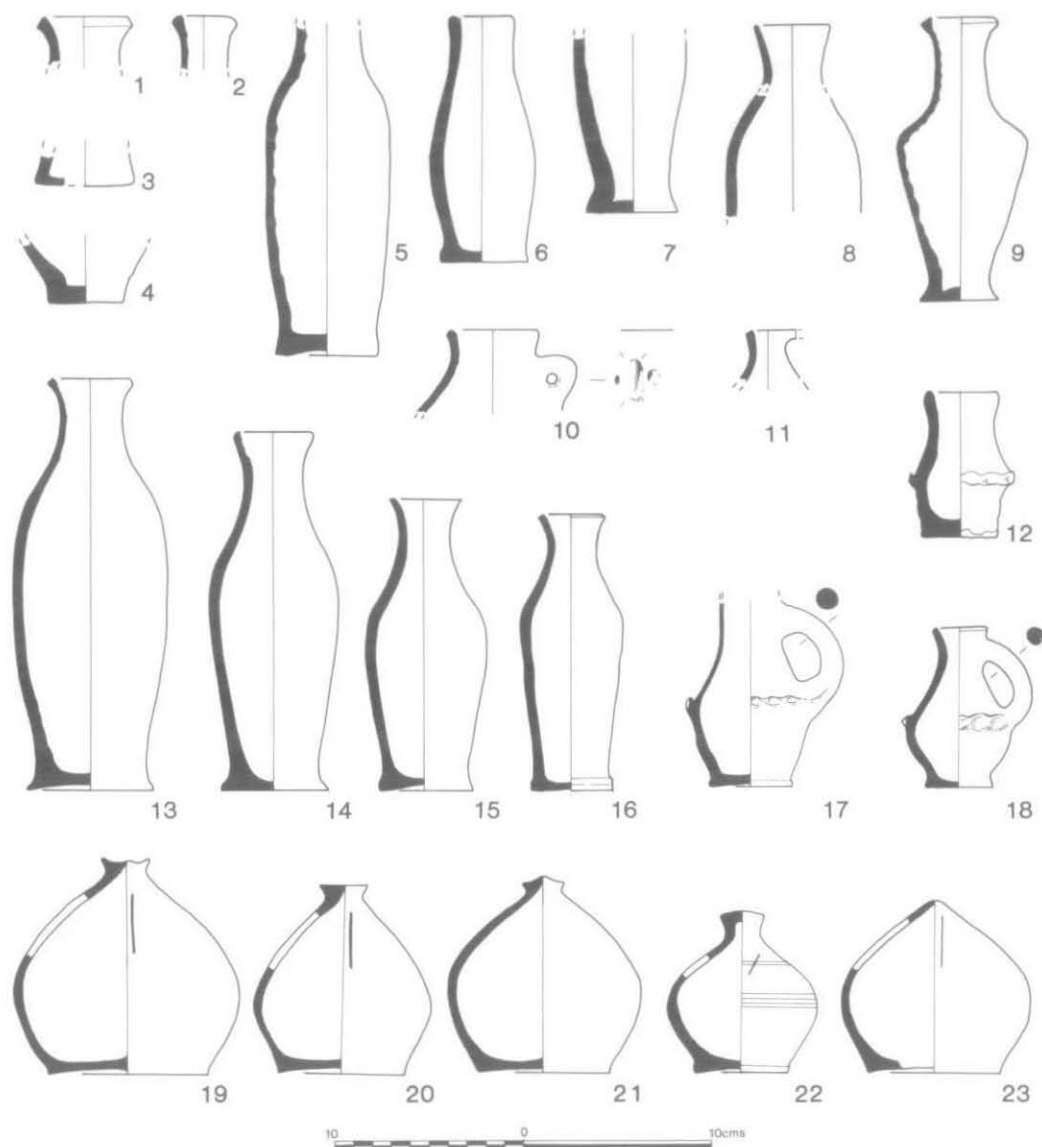


Fig. 55. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*) contd.

commemorative jug made as a special commission, perhaps for a hunting party, and it illustrates the immense skill, artistry and confidence of the potter.

Other light hearted anthropomorphic jugs (Fig. 57, nos. 4–6) may have belonged to puzzle jugs or to spouted jugs (Fig. 57, no. 3). The latter, with a ram's head and 'hands' around the spout, was glazed dark green (Plate 3B, Oxford A.M. 1874.13, height 4.7 cms.) and a comical figure with an alarmed expression on its face, glazed mottled green, probably once decorated such a jug (Plate 1B, A.M. 1937.859, height 7 cms.). Occasional copies of French vessels continued to be made (Fig. 57, no. 2) (see

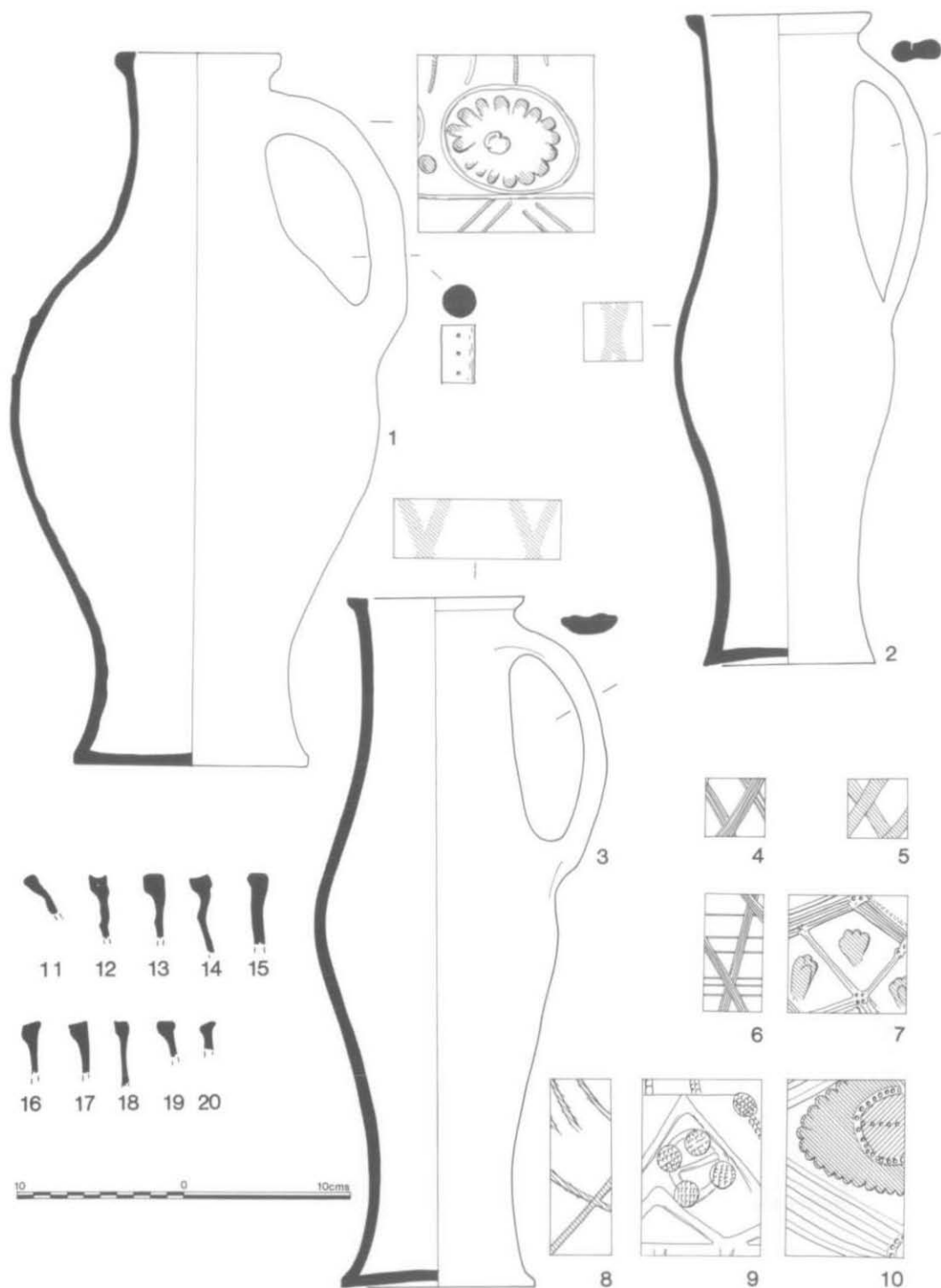


Fig. 56. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*) contd.

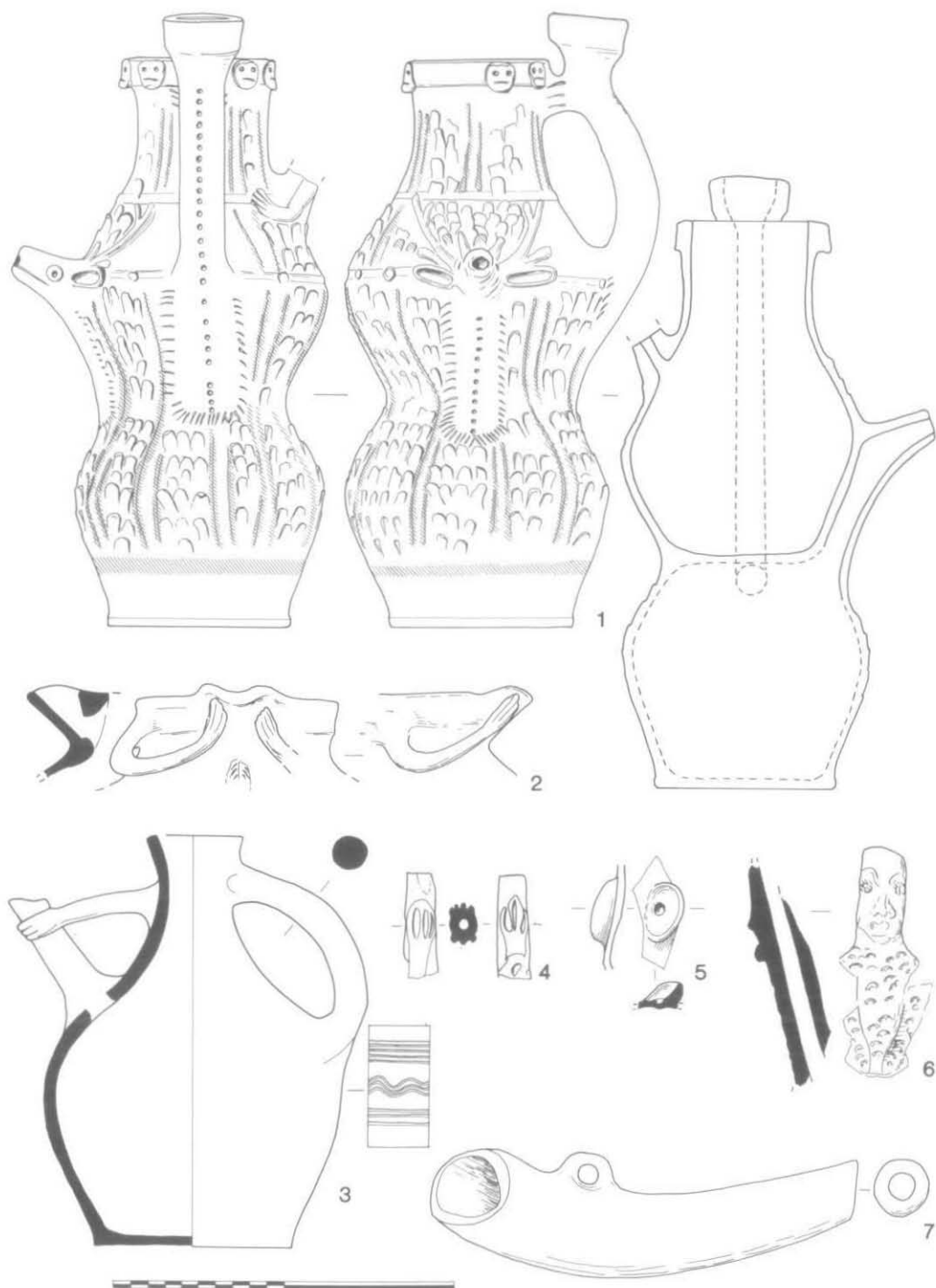


Fig. 57. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*) contd.

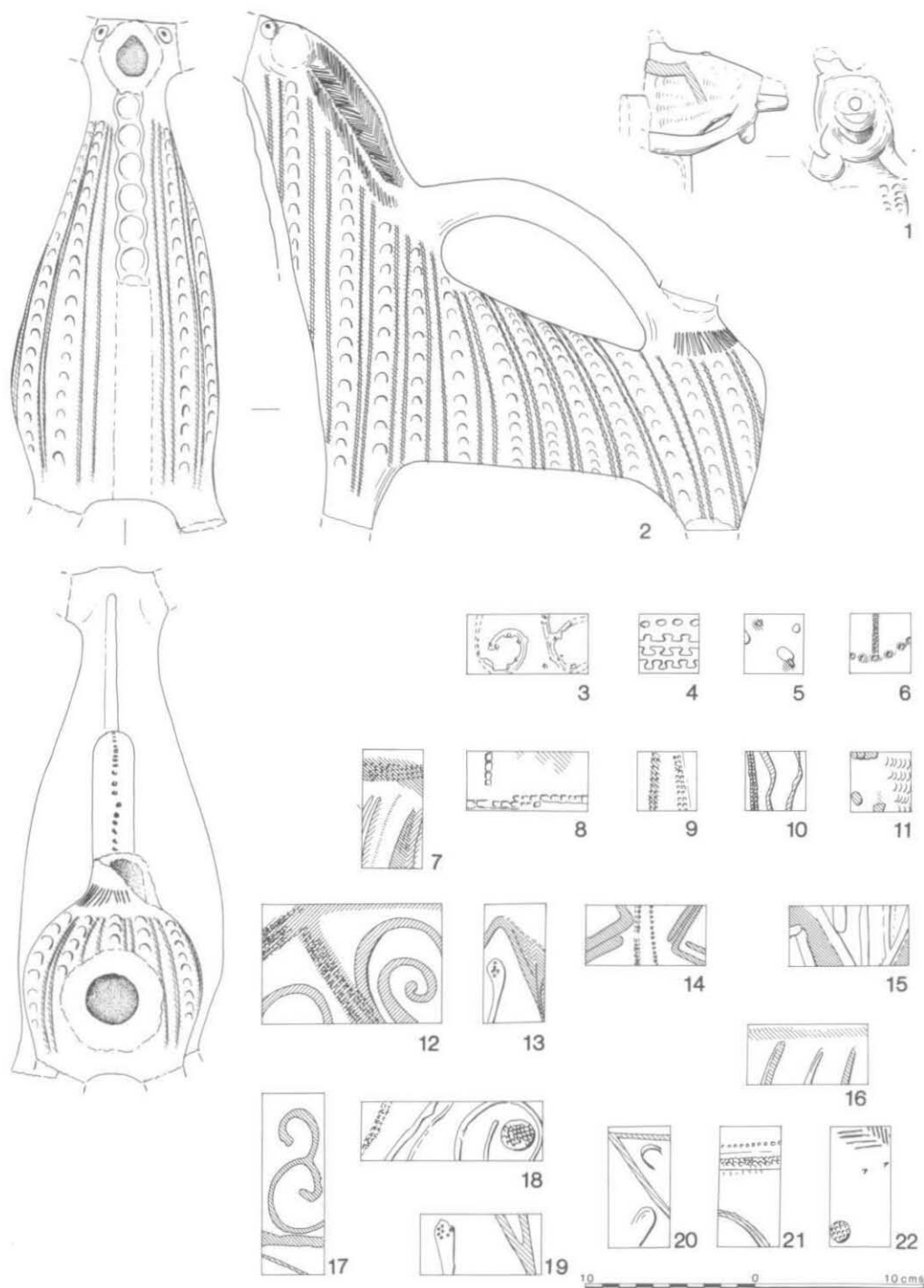


Fig. 58. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX) contd.

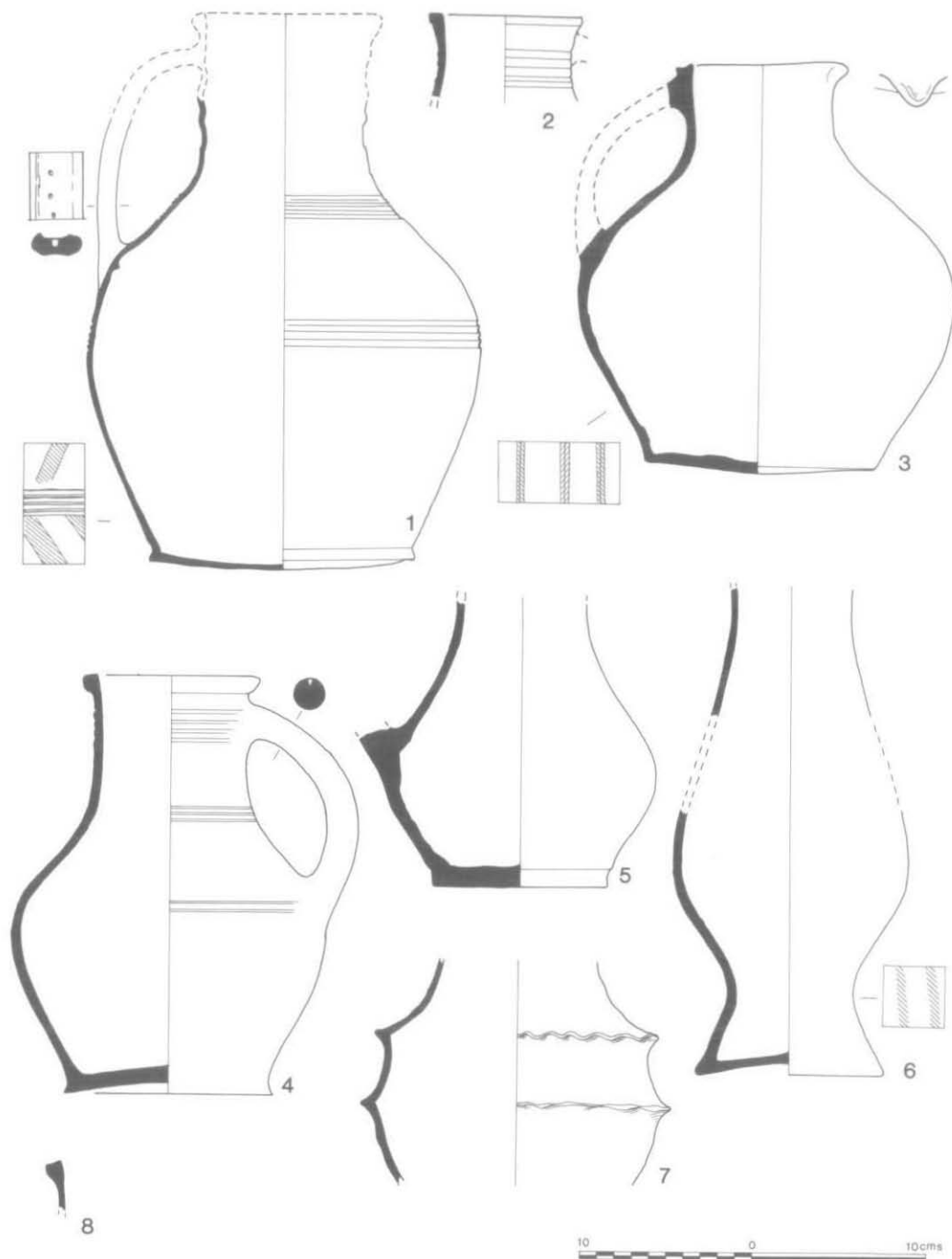


Fig. 59. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*) contd.

OXAW). Very rarely, pottery horns are known (Fig. 57, no. 7), and aquamaniles (Fig. 58, nos. 1, 2) copying metal prototypes, the latter used for dispensing liquid at table. One such aquamanile was very highly decorated (Plate 2, lateral view Rushey Platt, A.M. 1955.408e, height 18.3 cms.); it represented a horse with applied pads of red clay, clay the same colour as the body of the ewer, applied red strips in chevron design, and punched decoration. This vessel was identified by Nita and Peter Farmer as Scarborough type ware,³⁵³ but the author believes this to be the workmanship of the Brill potters. This punched decoration is unusual for ceramics but is known on two other vessels (see Plate 6; Fig. 51, no. 1; Fig. 51, no. 24), made in Fabric OXAW; all three may be the workmanship of one potter or workshop, despite the differing fabric types (see 117, 118). The inspiration for this type of decoration may lie with jewellery as depicted in stain glass.³⁵⁴

An astonishing variety of decorative styles was present by the mid 13th century (Fig. 58, nos. 3-22); most of the applied decorative types were associated with tripledecker or stout baluster types, or the exotic puzzle jugs and aquamaniles. The vitality and quality of craftsmanship associated with this tradition during this period is outstanding amongst the contemporary English ceramic industries.

Plainer jugs (Fig. 59, nos. 4, 5) were also contemporary; while some were decorated with red slip (Fig. 59, no. 1); squat and small baluster types had simple vertical applied strips in contrasting clay (Fig. 59, nos. 3, 6). Less frequent was the application of applied thumbed strips (Fig. 59, no. 7). Biconical jugs were introduced slightly later, with only the upper part being decorated – if even that. The plastic decoration included applied strips extruded onto the pot, so avoiding the use of the potter's fingers (Fig. 60, no. 1; Plate 9, A.M. 1896.1904 M5), as well as the simpler application of red slip brushed onto the surface of the pot (Fig. 60, no. 2) and incised decoration (Fig. 60, no. 3), or the jug was simply glazed (Fig. 60, no. 4). Many of the taller slender jug types such as the baluster and conical and pear-shaped jugs were decorated when they were first introduced into the repertoire: baluster types were usually decorated with simple red trellis (Fig. 61, no. 2), pear-shaped jugs were more elaborately decorated (Fig. 61, nos. 4, 5), as were conical types (Fig. 61, nos. 1, 6), but later these types were just glazed. The cylindrical types were never highly decorated, though they were well glazed (Fig. 61, no. 3).

By the 14th century large jugs were still used (Fig. 62, no. 1), some with thumbed bases (Fig. 62, nos. 2, 3). Occasional copies of slender metal flagons were made, one such vessel was recovered from Frewin Hall, Oxford.³⁵⁵ This is similar to three flagons depicted on a misericord at St Mary's church, Wantage. Glazed but undecorated jugs were common (Fig. 62, nos. 7, 8). But smaller jugs, perhaps used as drinking vessels, were popular. Rounded (Fig. 62, nos. 2-4) and pear-shaped jugs (Fig. 62, nos. 9, 10) were in use. The rim forms were mainly upright or flared with squared and angular rims (Fig. 62, nos. 14-18); less common were thickened and sloping rims (Fig. 62, nos. 12, 13).

By the later medieval period some of the earlier types persisted and included large rounded but more angular types (Fig. 63, no. 1; Fig. 64, no. 15); the luting of the strap handle to the top of the jug with a thumb impression is a characteristic of the Brill pottery,³⁵⁶ but it was clearly used by a number of potters over a considerable time span; many jug handles were also attached without leaving the accentuated thumb impression. Pear-shaped jugs and baluster types continued in use but the deep horizontal grooves on the jugs were introduced comparatively late (Fig. 63, no. 2; Fig. 64, nos. 1, 9). The decorative motif of a stamp of a single letter on a pad of clay adhering to a jug with deep horizontal grooves (Fig. 63, no. 3) is unique locally and probably dates to the late medieval period.³⁵⁷ The anthropomorphic graffiti incised on a small baluster jug was another isolated example of decoration (Fig. 63, no. 4). The incised Roman numeral II on the neck of a jug made prior to firing may be a consignment mark (Fig. 64, no. 1); it is too crude to be a merchant's mark. A good example from the same pottery workshops was excavated from Northampton Castle in 1961 and depicts a

³⁵³ P. G. Farmer, *An Introduction to Scarborough Ware and a Re-assessment of Knight Jugs* (1979).

³⁵⁴ S. Brown, *Stained Glass* (1992), 27.

³⁵⁵ Unpublished site, excavated by R. Ainslie.

³⁵⁶ Jope, *op. cit.* note 3 (1947), 42.

³⁵⁷ T. G. Hassall, 'Excavations at Oxford 1968', *Oxoniensia*, xxxiv (1969), Fig. 3 no. 2, 12.

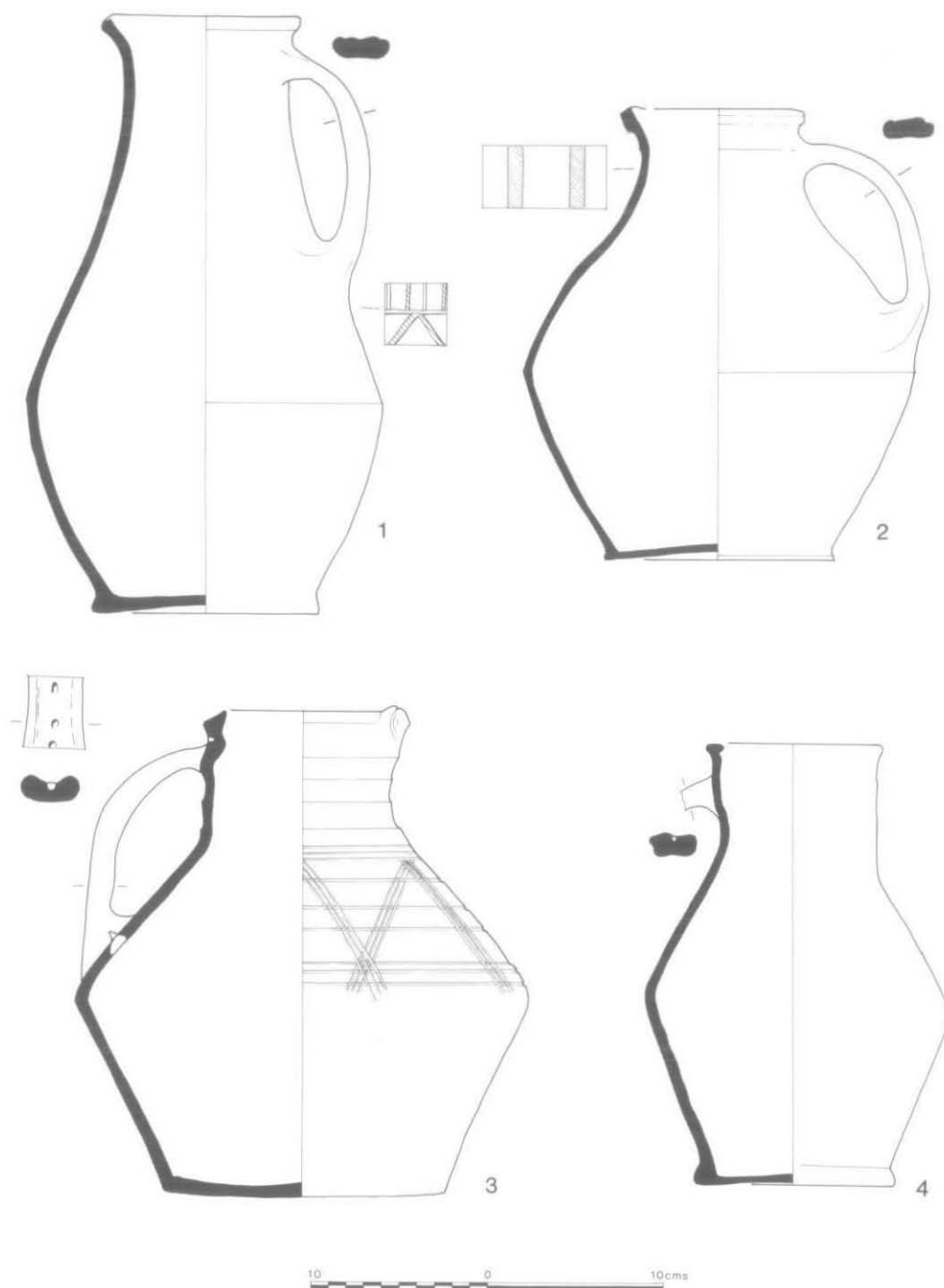


Fig. 60. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBA*) contd.

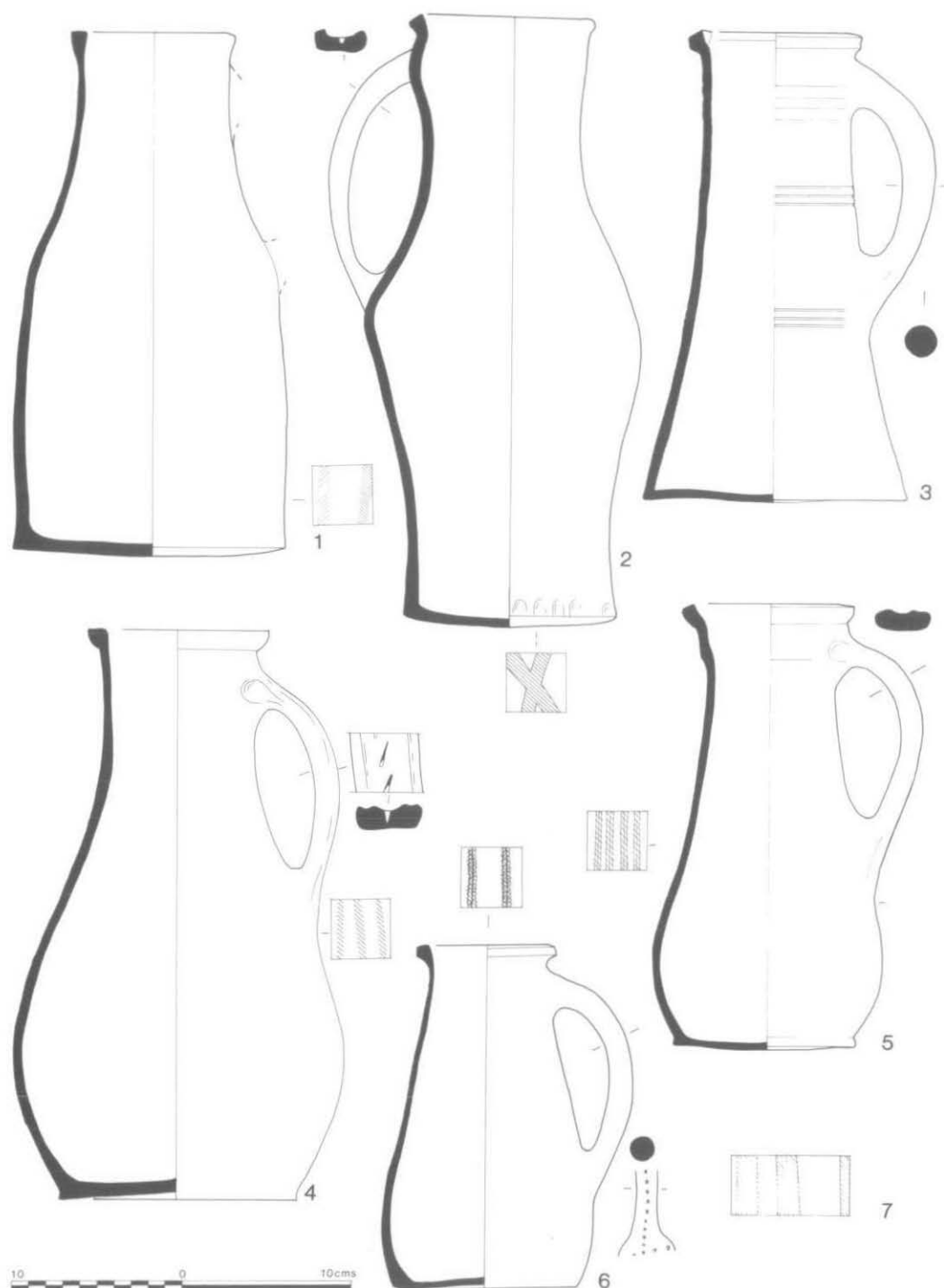


Fig. 61. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*) contd.

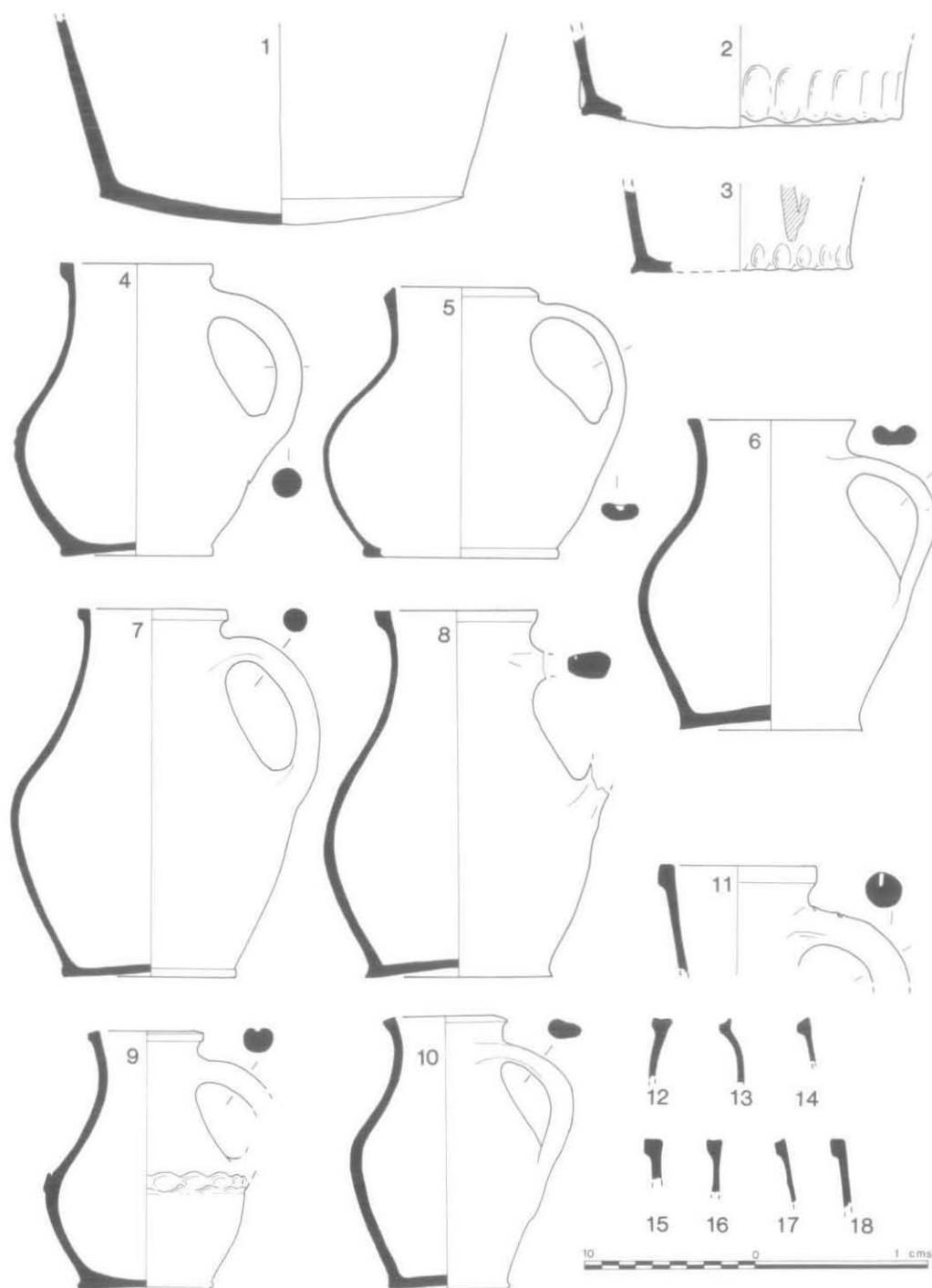


Fig. 62. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*) contd.

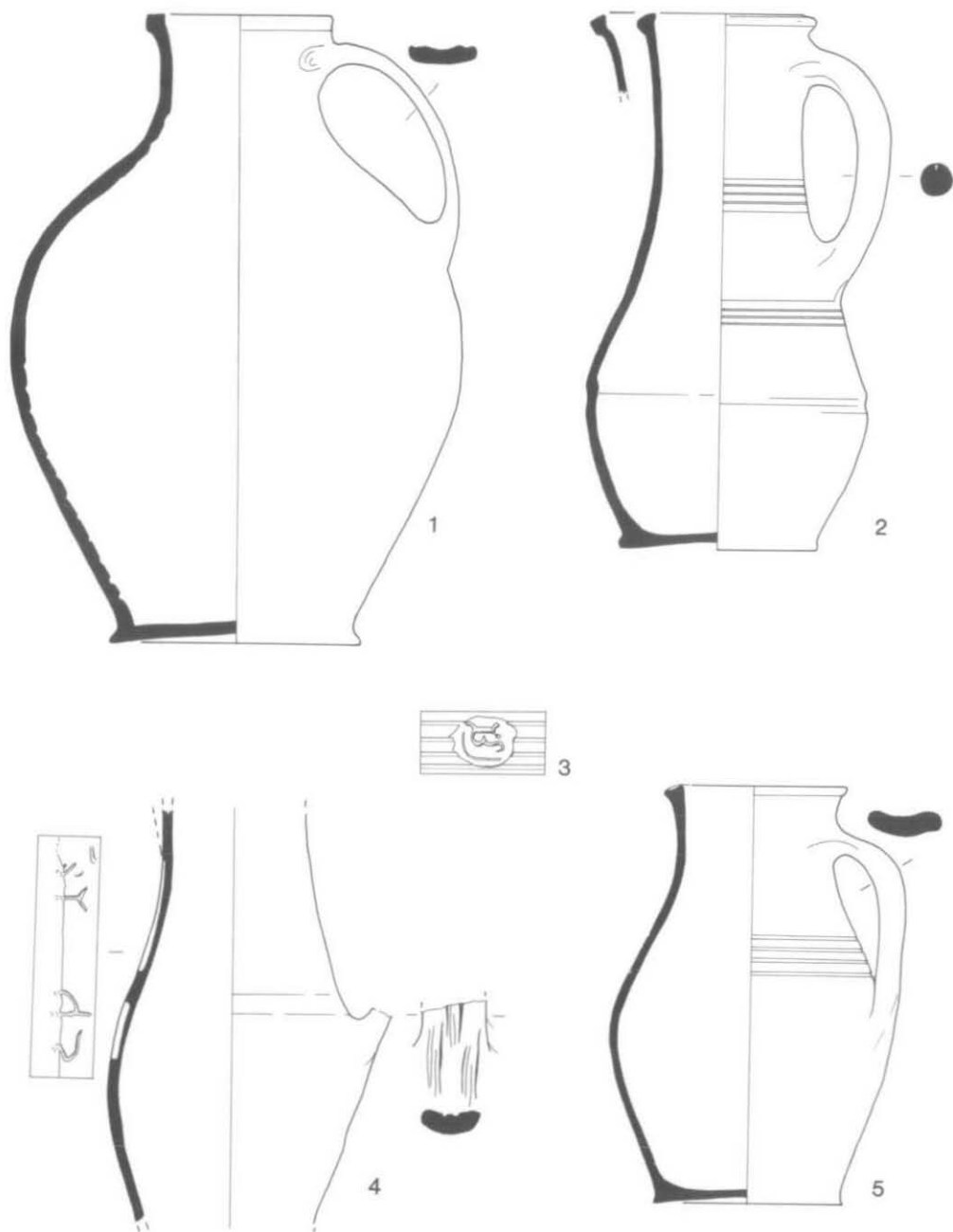


Fig. 63. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*) contd.

medieval key incised after firing onto the pot.³⁵⁸ Barrel-shaped jugs may represent a new jug type to this industry in the late medieval period (Fig. 63, no. 5; Fig. 64, nos. 7, 8, 10).

Rim types show little typological change (Fig. 64, nos. 2–6), but the strap handles were finished more distinctively with sharp knife cuts (Fig. 64, nos. 11, 12) or with a blunt tool making regular patterns (Fig. 64, nos. 13, 14); identical patterns have been noted in late medieval contexts from several sites in Oxford³⁵⁹ and may be the work of one craftworker.

Variations of these jug types continued through the 15th and into the 16th centuries (Fig. 65), with deep horizontal grooves sometimes apparent, possibly emulating metal prototypes. The use of glaze, however, became more sparse and was finally absent. Some vessels show poor quality workmanship, and badly finished pots suggest uneven standards of training and quality control, indicating that individual craftworkers were suffering from stress.³⁶⁰ Rim types included squared angular types but simpler rims were also present (Fig. 65, nos. 6–10). Another stamp, made from a metal dye, was used to decorate a handle of a jug (Fig. 65, no. 14; cf. Fig. 63, no. 3).

During the second half of the 15th century the potters widened their repertoire to include tall jars (Fig. 66, nos. 1, 2) and cisterns (Fig. 66, nos. 3, 4), perhaps replacing wooden casks³⁶¹ and watering pots (Fig. 66, no. 5). Glaze if present was patchy and transparent, unlike the cisterns with mottled green glaze from Chalgrove moated manor in south-east Oxfordshire.

Some of the rims were designed for use with a lid (Fig. 67, no. 7). Very large pitchers (Fig. 67, nos. 1, 2, 3, 6) and jugs, both conical and barrel-shaped, continued to be made (Fig. 67, nos. 4, 5) and were all very hard fired. Costrels, both flat-backed and barrel-shaped, were less common (Fig. 67, no. 8); these vessels were often thrown in two parts and luted together, the neck and lugs being then joined to the body of the costrel. Dripping pans (Fig. 68, no. 1), designed to catch the juices under a spit cooking the meat, were also rare amongst the late medieval assemblages. The deep-sided pans missing from the early repertoire were, however, well represented in a variety of sizes at this period (Fig. 68, nos. 2–6), suggesting that prior to this date either another ceramic tradition may have held a monopoly concerning the supply of this type of vessel for dairying (*OXAQ*) or non-ceramic vessels may have been in use.

The documentary evidence depicts Brill as a hunting lodge, very popular during the period c. AD 1230–1270, during which eighty-nine tons of wine are recorded, arriving in wooden barrels (tuns). The majority of these came from Southampton, but thirteen were from the king's cellars in Oxford and four from London.³⁶² One could speculate that this wine needed decanting, creating a need for ceramic jugs and pitchers. A misericord from Ludlow (Shropshire) depicts liquid being decanted from a large barrel into a ceramic jug, probably a stout baluster type. Thus the potters may have been under the king's patronage by the mid 13th century which may have given a new impetus to the ceramic industry, prompting them to adopt a different method of preparing their clay (the introduction of fabric *OXAM*), and enabling them to experiment in the making of elaborate jugs whose decorative motifs reflect the rich material culture of the period. The inspiration which lay behind the great flowering of these jugs and pitchers may be derived from the ceramic industries based on the Bristol area, again suggesting a western influence in the Oxford region (see *OXBB*, *OXAC*).

Pottery making was first mentioned in an inquisition in AD 1254 (see Section 3). In AD 1460s bricks were brought into Oxford from Brill³⁶³ and the brick-making industry continued to operate at Brill until recently. It is this industry that is responsible for such a rugged landscape at Brill today.

³⁵⁸ M. Gryspeerdt, 'Medieval and Later Pottery in Northampton, A Study in Ceramic Development', *Ceramic Review*, no. 86 (1984), 26.

³⁵⁹ M. Mellor, 'Late Saxon, Medieval and later pottery', in B. Durham, 'The Thames Crossing at Oxford: Archaeological Studies 1979–82', *Oxoniensia*, xlix (1984), Fig. 8 no. 3, 71, and nearby Hall's Brewery (in prep.).

³⁶⁰ Dyer, op. cit. note 60, 37 and 40.

³⁶¹ Dyer, op. cit. note 242, 174.

³⁶² Farley, op. cit. note 29, 117.

³⁶³ Joep, op. cit. note 346, 42.

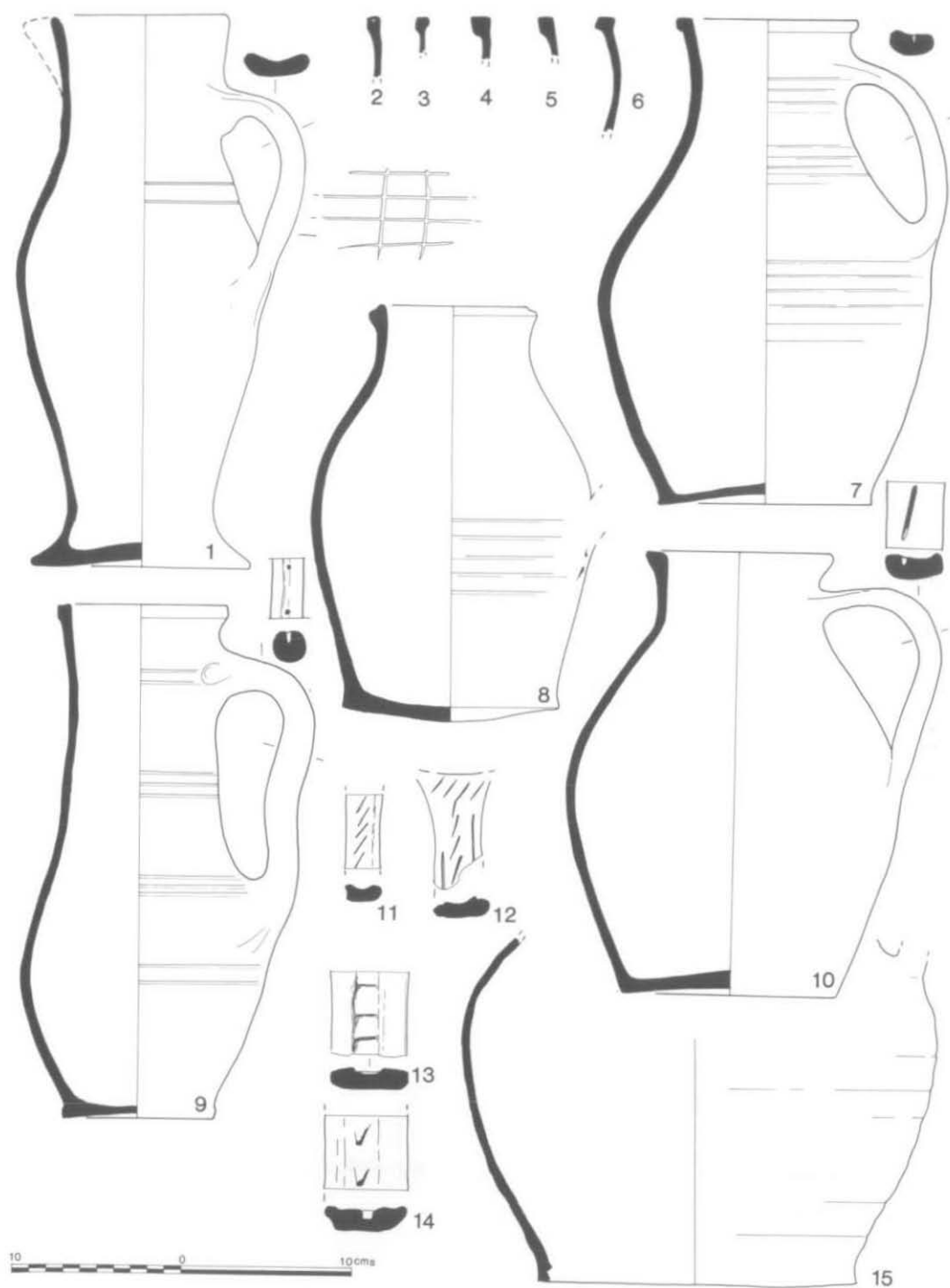


Fig. 64. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX) contd.

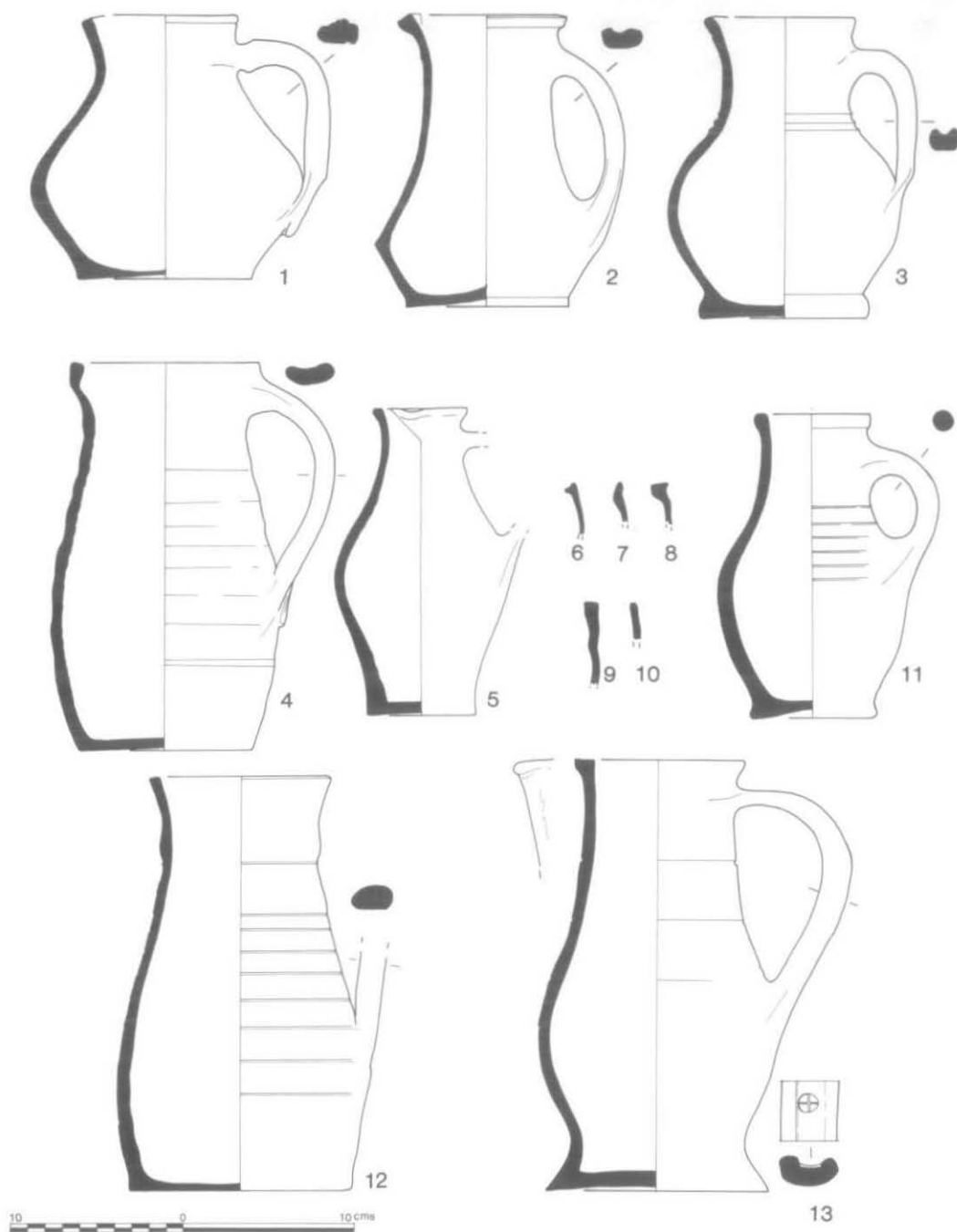


Fig. 65. Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBX*) contd.

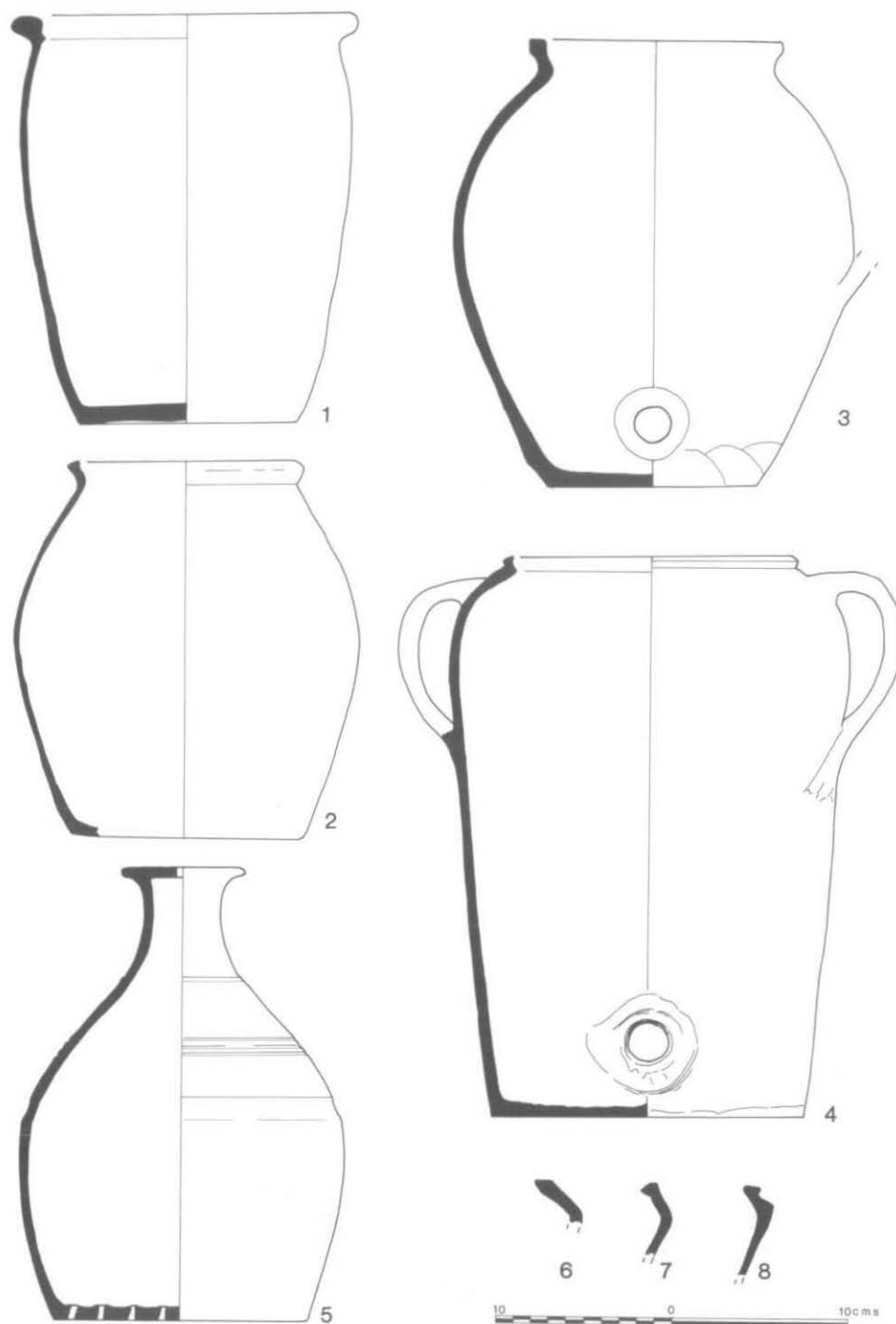


Fig. 66. Brill/Boarstall type, An Early Post-Medieval Ware.

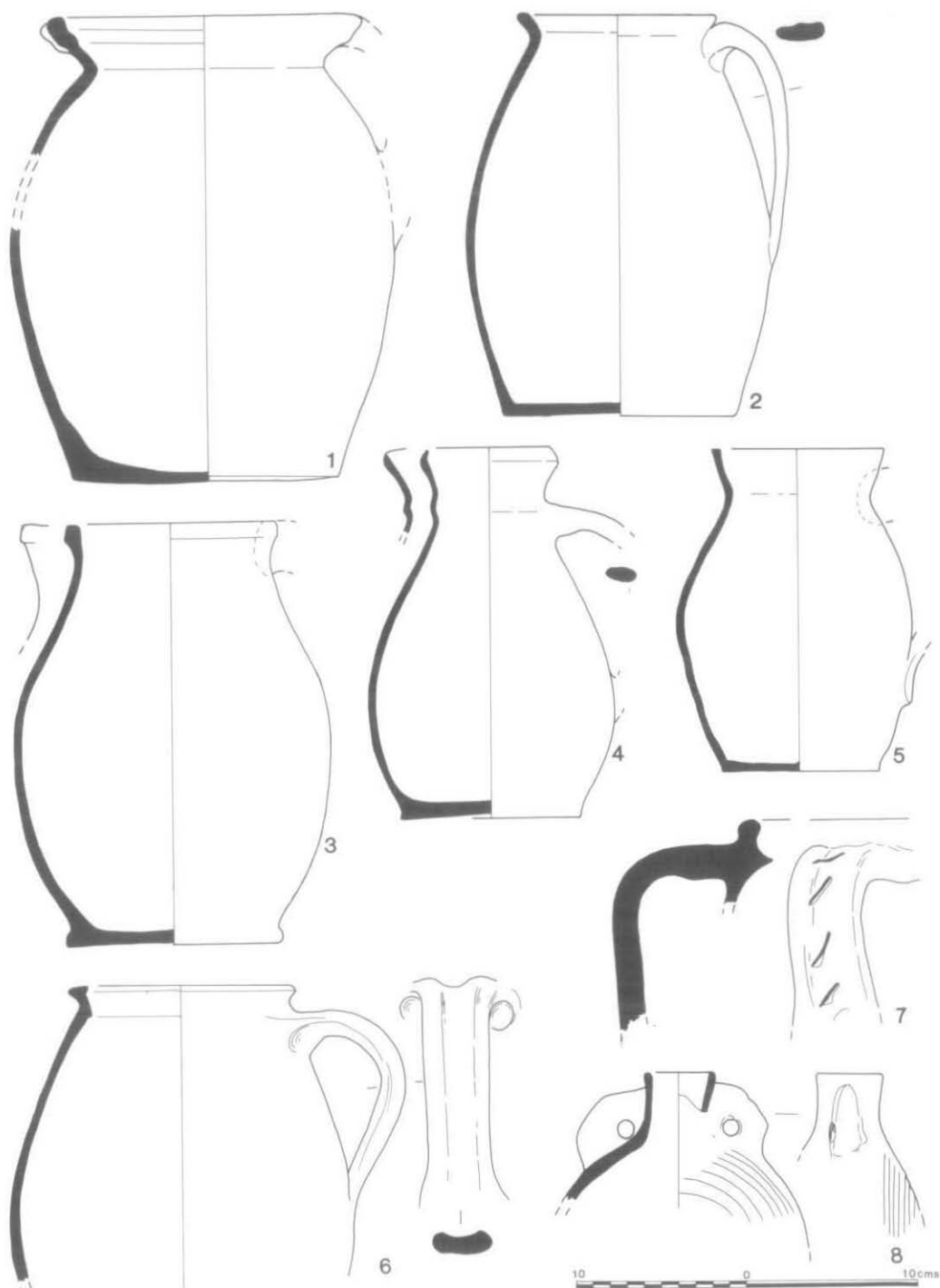


Fig. 67. Brill/Boarstall type, An Early Post-Medieval Ware contd.

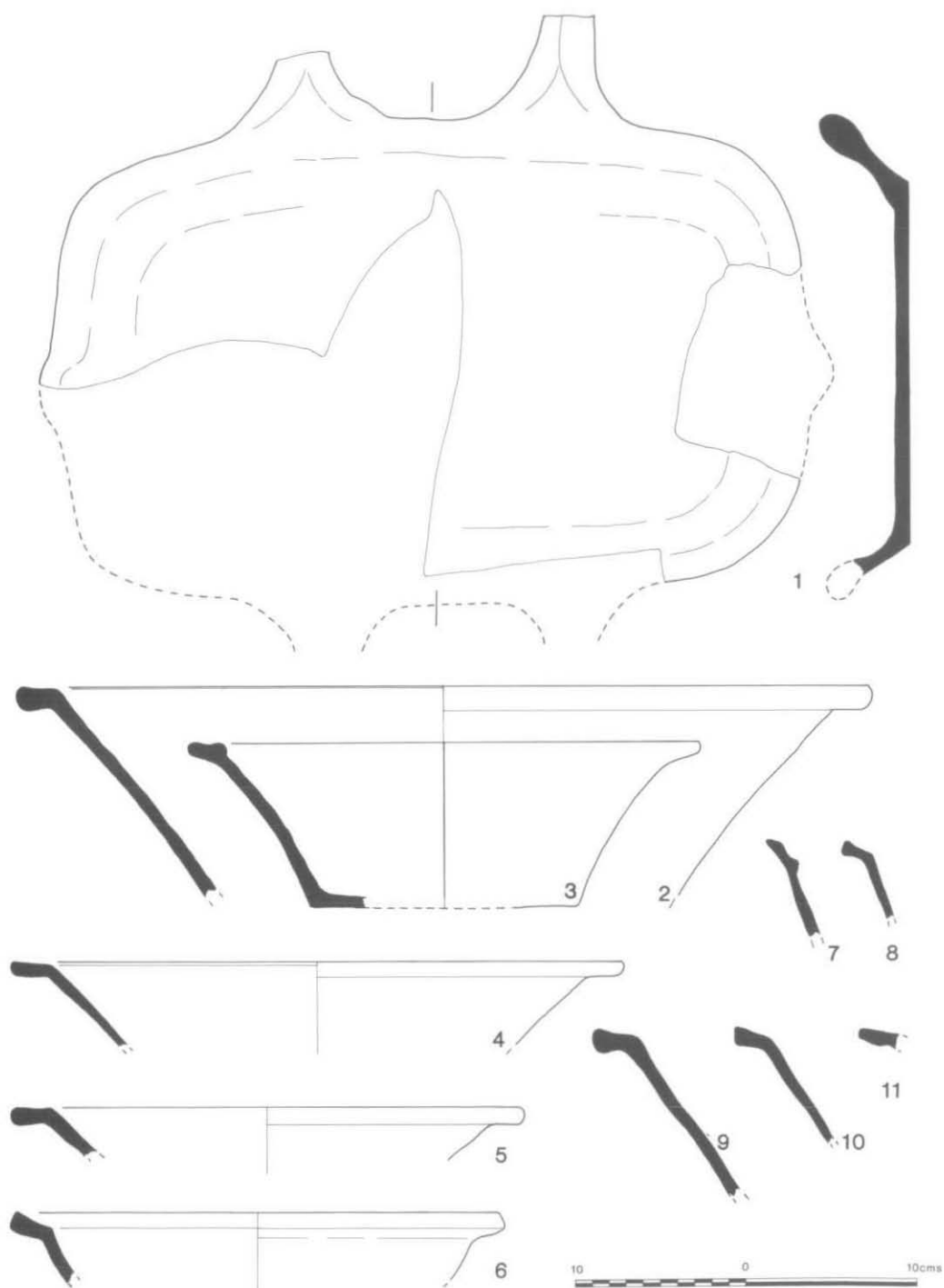


Fig. 68. Brill/Boarstall type, An Early Post-Medieval Ware contd.

Distribution and Source

The distribution pattern of Brill products which extends throughout the South Midlands has a vacuum in the Benson area, only fifteen miles from its source, as if it was suppressed by the south-east Oxfordshire industry despite the latter's comparatively crude products in the 13th century. East Wiltshire products (*OXAQ*) are also hindered from penetrating this area, with the exception of pots found at Chalgrove Moated Manor, which may indicate preferences for centres some distance away or an affiliation with a specific market, e.g. Abingdon. This can be reflected to a lesser extent in the Wychwood, where little of the superior Minety products were found. This suppression or wish to avoid competition can be seen in Hampshire where the fine jugs of Laverstock, often copying French prototypes, did not apparently supply Winchester some twenty miles west, which was supplied by a lesser ceramic industry,³⁶⁴ despite the documentary record that 3,000 vessels were ordered from Laverstock for visits of the Royal household.³⁶⁵

Baluster and biconical types in particular travelled the farthest. Small amounts have been found west of Oxfordshire with less than one per cent at Gloucester.³⁶⁶ Northampton, forty miles to the north, was regularly supplied with small quantities of high quality jugs;³⁶⁷ aquamaniles are known from Grafton Regis and a pitcher from Raunds in east Northamptonshire. This ware was present at Bedford, again in very small quantities. But, by the mid 14th century, a visually similar ceramic industry, Late Medieval Hertfordshire Glazed Ware, was operating,³⁶⁸ and this probably ensured that little of Brill/Boarstall types extended east of Buckinghamshire. Small amounts of these types are known from Reading in Berkshire (Reading 17) and Newbury (Newbury 16), where it accounted for 1½ per cent in the mid 14th–mid 15th centuries when Coarse Border Wares were dominant.

There are many isolated examples but they do not signify trade; one or two vessels are known from London (including a baluster type), Dorset, the West Midlands, Wales, and Sandal Castle in Yorkshire³⁶⁹ and these probably represent gifts (Appendix VIII), but could be expected at other households of the gentry across England,³⁷⁰ since the craftsmen of some of the jugs were outstanding – both technically and artistically – particularly during the second half of the 13th century.

But the bulk of the capacious ceramic industry supplied Oxford, which was undoubtedly its principal market, and most of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire throughout the 13th and early 14th centuries, with the exception of south-east Oxfordshire. Here the local sandy tradition (*OXI62*) appeared to exclude the Brill/Boarstall types and this lacuna roughly conforms with the manor of Benson.

Ivens has argued that the distribution of this ceramic industry (*OXAM*) was in a fifty-mile radius of Brill, which is rarely exceeded, and was predominantly within thirty miles.³⁷¹ This would seem to be substantially correct in a westerly direction at the time of its *floruit* in the second half of the 13th century, but not in a south-westerly direction (south-east Oxfordshire). To the north, where Potterspury gradually became established from the late 13th century and gradually increased its market during the first half of the 14th century,³⁷² the Brill types are not so widely distributed. Both Potterspury and Brill types are present at Buckingham but, again, the exact proportions one to another are not clear and will only be resolved by new excavations. Further east the interface between Brill/Boarstall types and Late Medieval Hertfordshire Ware needs to be established.

³⁶⁴ Hinton, *op. cit.* note 221, 236.

³⁶⁵ Le Patourel, *op. cit.* note 38, 20.

³⁶⁶ Vince, *op. cit.* note 16.

³⁶⁷ Gyspeerd, *op. cit.* note 356, 26.

³⁶⁸ A. Jenner and A. Vince, 'A dated type-series of London medieval pottery: Part 3, A late medieval Hertfordshire Glazed Ware', *Trans. London Middlesex Arch. Soc.*, xxxiv (1983), 151–70.

³⁶⁹ S. Moorhouse, 'The medieval pottery', in P. Mayes and L.A.S. Butler, *Sandal Castle Excavations 1964–1973* (1983), 83–212.

³⁷⁰ Farley, *op. cit.* note 29, 117; Moorhouse, *op. cit.* note 248, Fig. 7, 58.

³⁷¹ Ivens, *op. cit.* note 1.

³⁷² D. C. Mynard, 'Medieval pottery of Potterspury type', *Bull. Northamptonshire Federation Arch. Soc.*, 4 (1970), 49–55.

But at the beginning of the industry, during the first half of the 13th century, the distribution was confined to perhaps within a twelve-mile radius, which just included Oxford. This penetration gradually increased, but by the mid 14th century it had diminished markedly, never to regain control of the wide distribution of the second half of the 13th century.

Ivens also outlined that thirteen markets in Oxfordshire lay within the distribution of Brill in the later 13th century, namely, Oxford, Faringdon, Bampton, Abingdon, Thame, Middleton Stoney, Bicester, Witney, Woodstock, Eynsham, Charlbury, Deddington and Lechlade. He suggested that Brill was marketed to Oxford, which lies twelve miles to the south-west of Brill, and then to a network of twelve secondary markets, perhaps with a third level of even smaller ones. This would divide the Oxford marketing zone into two, three, or four sub-circuits. Such a hypothesis could be tested against the known market days of these towns to better understand the sub zones.³⁷³ This model might also be applicable to *OXAQ* in the south-west of the county. But at present there is insufficient quantitative data from many of these market towns, other than Oxford, to test this hypothesis, nor is the theoretical framework available to do so as yet.

The mechanism of distribution during the hey-day of the industry (*OXAQ* and *OXAM*) was almost certainly by middlemen, who collected the vessels from the potters' workshops and packed the pots into carts or onto pack animals and transported the goods to market.³⁷⁴

By the late medieval period it is clear that the Coarse Border Ware industry from the Surrey/Hampshire borders (fabric BG at the Hamel) began to supply the Vale and some of the riverside towns such as Abingdon with its products. This Surrey/Hants industry had been well established since the 13th century and regularly supplied this part of Oxfordshire by the late 14th and 15th centuries, suggesting that the increased popularity of Coarse Border Wares was in direct response to the decline of the Brill industry (Fig. 74). Further evidence of this decline was seen in south-east Oxfordshire at Chalgrove Moated Manor where the cisterns and jars were still well glazed with mottled green at a time when the Brill/Boarstall ceramic industry was using transparent glazes very sparingly. The copper oxide used to attain the mottled green glaze would be imported into this country from France or from even further afield. The lead used for the transparent glaze was a regional import from the Mendips or Cornwall, or possibly Derbyshire. Both these items would have been an added expense for the potters and, if the economic circumstances were not favourable, they could forego these purchases but still make and sell their products. The lead industry was in decline in the 15th century; it was considered an expensive building material at this time and this would have had its effect on the potter.³⁷⁵ Evidence from the pottery industry to the north of Brill also points to a decline of this ceramic tradition (*OXAM*) in the later medieval period (see *OX68* later).

Brill manor passed out of the king's direct control in AD 1324 and this, coupled with the economic depression of the 1330s which affected the volume of trade, may have contributed to the slump of this ceramic industry by the mid 14th century, which also coincides with the period in which the Potterspury industry to the north was beginning to flourish. In addition, the Black Death must have affected both consumer and producer alike.³⁷⁶ The potters continued to supply functional vessels without the decorative elements.

It is clear that there were periods of economic stress during the 15th century too where potters turned out badly made pots which, nonetheless, still found a market.³⁷⁷ The dissolution of the Dominican Priory and the Greyfriars in Oxford early in the 16th century must have affected demand. The Brill/Boarstall workshops had been the major suppliers to these ecclesiastical houses since the mid 13th century.³⁷⁸

³⁷³ Ivens, op. cit. note 1.

³⁷⁴ Dyer, op. cit. note 60, 36.

³⁷⁵ Ibid. 36.

³⁷⁶ Harvey, op. cit. note 256, 15, 135.

³⁷⁷ B. Durham and M. Mellor, 'Pottery from Peckwater Quadrangle, Christ Church, Oxford', *Oxoniensia*, xlii (1977), 265-6.

³⁷⁸ Lambrick, op. cit. note 11; Hassall, op. cit. note 85.

The increasing popularity of pewter at this period, as illustrated by a wealthy peasant from Harwell with two dishes and two saucers, may also have affected the demand of pottery tablewares.³⁷⁹ In times of recession individuals may have left the major industries to set up on their own and to cater for very localized markets, and such an example may be that of Combe in west Oxfordshire (see Section 8).

Dating

The dating of Oxford Late Medieval Ware, Brill/Boarstall types (*OXAM*, *OXAP*, *OXBA*), rests on stratigraphic urban sequences from Oxford, and on numismatic and historical evidence. The earliest occurrence was from deposits at the Dominican Priory. The friars were in possession of the site by AD 1245. The earliest levels of the Dominican Priory included considerable quantities of discarded pots from the Brill/Boarstall kilns.³⁸⁰ The dumped soil in the south-western area Phase 1 probably accumulated in the early years of their occupation and may date from c. AD 1250 (a coin lost in c. AD 1250 came from the layer overlying these deposits). The material from the Priory suggested that the Brill/Boarstall industry was well established by c. AD 1250, and was then producing its most elaborate jugs – the tripledecker and stout baluster types. This accords well with the documentary references to at least ten kilns at Brill in AD 1254/5.³⁸¹

Other assemblages include baluster type jugs, one from Trinity College dated by a coin of Henry III (AD 1216–72) and by the enclosure of land on which they were recovered in AD 1290,³⁸² three more assemblages from St Aldates dated by a coin AD 1279–1324 and a jetton of the 1320s (Phase 9), two coins AD 1260–79 and AD 1280–1300 (Phase 10), two coins, AD 1300–2 and 14th/15th centuries, and a jetton c. AD 1460 (Phase 11). The Hamel added other groups with a coin of AD 1430–4 (BII6) and with the building of HII, BIII, and HIII, dated c. AD 1265 and c. AD 1275 by a combination of coin and documentary evidence.

A tripledecker vessel and other highly decorated pottery was found in a stone-lined pit at Banbury, in association with three coins of an issue withdrawn prior to AD 1279.³⁸³

The stratigraphic evidence at the Hamel suggests that the production centre continued into the 16th century, and from evidence at St Ebbes, where it was found in association with tinglaze earthenware, Rhenish stonewares and clay tobacco pipe stems, it may have continued into the early 17th.³⁸⁴

The only new ceramic tradition to emerge locally, in the second half of the 13th century, was Potterspury type ware (*OX68*). The strong stylistic links between the coarsewares in this industry and the Brill/Boarstall types suggests either that craftworkers from the Brill workshops may have set up a rival industry at Potterspury, or that the neighbouring potters at Potterspury directly copied the fashionable products from Brill.

POTTERSPURY TYPE WARE (NORTHAMPTONSHIRE *OX68*) (Figs 35, 36, 69–70)

Fabric and associated technology

Several fabric types are associated with this production area, as seen at Milton Keynes, but only one was found in Oxfordshire. It is a smooth fabric with few but wide ranging inclusions (Appendix VII), suggesting a glacial deposit as the source for the clay.

³⁷⁹ Dyer, *op. cit.* note 242, 173.

³⁸⁰ Lambrick, *op. cit.* note 11, Phase 1, 175.

³⁸¹ *Rotuli Hundredorum*; *V.C.H. Oxon.* iv, 11.

³⁸² J. Ingrams, 'Medieval Pottery', *Arch. Jnl.*, iii (1846), 62–4.

³⁸³ Hinton, *op. cit.* note 221, 229.

³⁸⁴ Hassall, *op. cit.* note 85, A F2504 L8, 185–6.

Vessel types

The vessels were competently thrown on a wheel, and the bases were knife trimmed to remove excess clay at the basal angle. The majority of vessels reaching Oxfordshire were cooking pots/storage jars (Fig. 69, nos. 1-5, 7), some with applied thumb-pressed strips to reinforce the vessel (Fig. 69, no. 6), and pans (Fig. 69, nos. 11-13); the occasional lid (Fig. 69, no. 8), a possible dripping pan (Fig. 69, no. 15) and large storage vessels (Fig. 70, no. 1) were found. Small quantities of jugs, some with strap handles, were present (Fig. 69, nos. 9, 10), the two main forms being the standard and baluster types. None of the stabbed handles found at the kiln site have been recognized in Oxfordshire. Glaze where present was sparse, mainly mottled green, typical of the plainer jugs of the late 14th-15th centuries.

Distribution and Source

Roof furniture, including fine louvers, was made by Potterspury and obviously travelled a considerable distance – as testified by one example from Warmington in Warwickshire (held in Warwick County Museum), but no examples are known as yet from Oxfordshire.

The kiln site of Potterspury³⁸⁵ was situated twelve miles south of Northampton and six miles south-east of Towcester. Excavations at Towcester showed that it represented 85 per cent of the pottery from the town ditches³⁸⁶ and that during the late 13th-early 14th century Brill types were popular. However, it had been superseded in popularity by the Potterspury types in the late 14th century and this sequence is reflected at Northampton.³⁸⁷ In the late medieval period Potterspury appeared to be at least as important as Brill/Boarstall types at Banbury³⁸⁸ but, given the obvious residual element, corroborative evidence is needed. The main distribution was in Northamptonshire and North Buckinghamshire in the vicinity of Milton Keynes.³⁸⁹ The distribution map shows small quantities were distributed throughout north Oxfordshire (Fig. 35) in the rural areas, as at Bloxham, but few examples are found south of a line drawn between Deddington and Buckingham, further south being the territory of the contracted ceramic industry centred on Brill/Boarstall in the second half of the 14th and 15th centuries. Only a few vessels reached Oxford and its environs.³⁹⁰

However, during the period that both Potterspury and Brill types were marketed in the north of the county, did they use the same routes? Possibly there was a drove road between Buckingham and Banbury – or were Potterspury types introduced into Oxfordshire via Brackley?

The pots clearly travelled overland to Oxfordshire possibly via Brackley and on to Banbury, with maybe a second more southerly route via Buckingham to Deddington. These two market towns, Deddington (after AD 1300) and Banbury, could have then supplied the rural communities in the north. There was considerable overlap of Potterspury with the three other major ceramic traditions (*OX234*, *OXI* and *OXAM*) at Deddington and possibly in the area of the Northamptonshire/Oxfordshire border around Brackley.

The east-west ceramic network, first forged in the late Saxon period by St Neot's type ware (*OXR*), was continued by Medieval Banbury Ware (*OX234*) through the 12th and 13th centuries and perpetuated by Potterspury types (*OX68*) through to the early post-medieval period.

³⁸⁵ Joep, op. cit. note 3 (1947); Mynard, op. cit. note 370.

³⁸⁶ Information supplied by Tony Brown and Denis Mynard from John Alexander's unpublished excavation.

³⁸⁷ M. R. McCarthy, 'The pottery', in J. H. Williams, *St Peter's Street, Northampton: Excavations 1973-76* (1979), 162.

³⁸⁸ Robinson in Fasham, op. cit. note 162, 113.

³⁸⁹ M. Blockley, *Windows on the Past* (1992), 30.

³⁹⁰ E. M. Joep, 'Medieval Pottery Lids and Pots with Lid-seating', *Oxoniensia*, xiv (1949), 78; M. Biddle, 'The deserted medieval village of Seacourt, Berkshire', *Oxoniensia*, xxvi-vii (1961-2), Fig. 27 no. 1, 163; M. Mellor, 'The Pottery', in J. Sharpe, 'Oseney Abbey, Oxford: Archaeological Investigations 1975-83', *Oxoniensia*, I (1985), 117-18; Mellor in Lambrick, op. cit. note 11, 172; Mellor op. cit. note 86, 117.

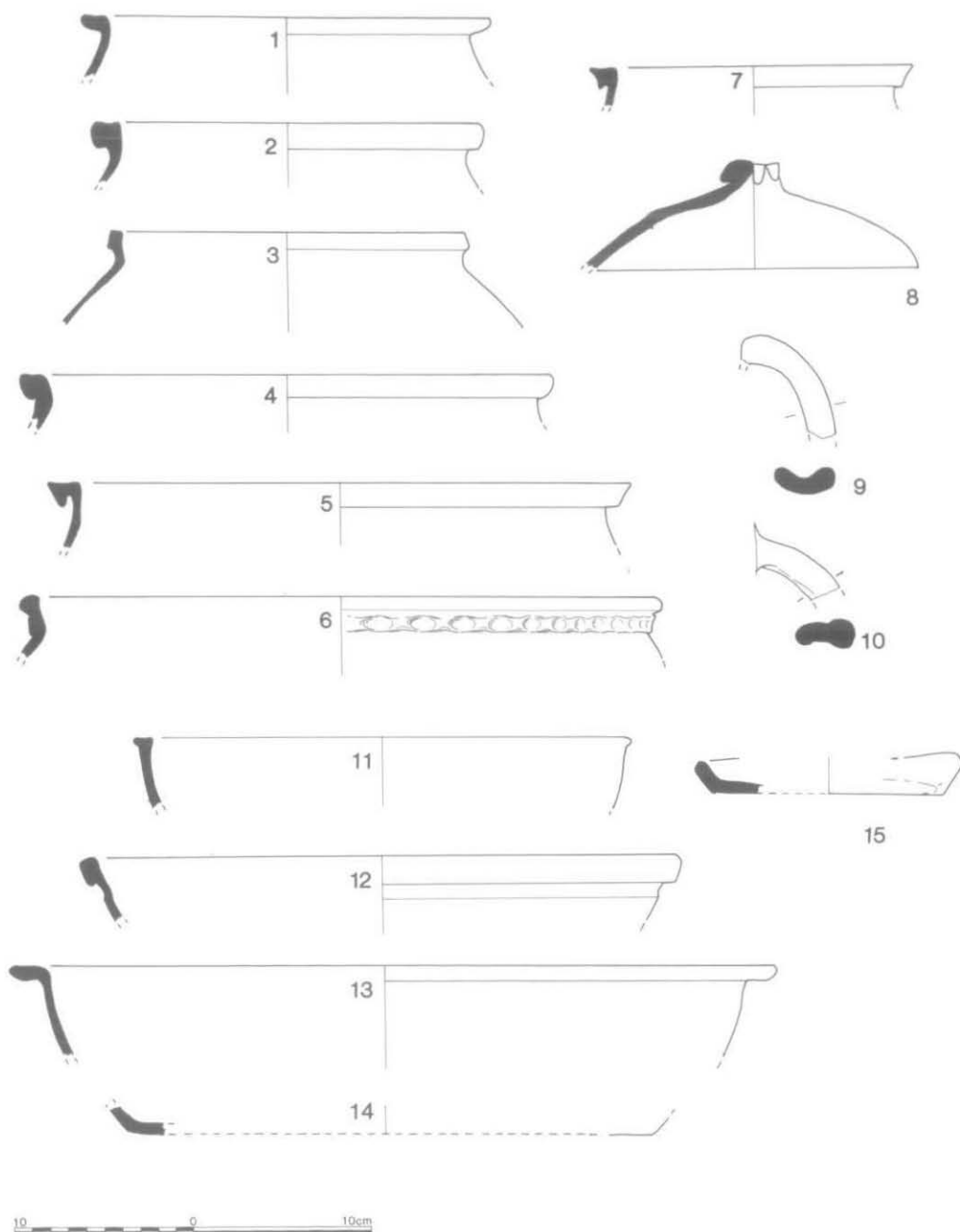


Fig. 69. Potterspury type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (OX68).

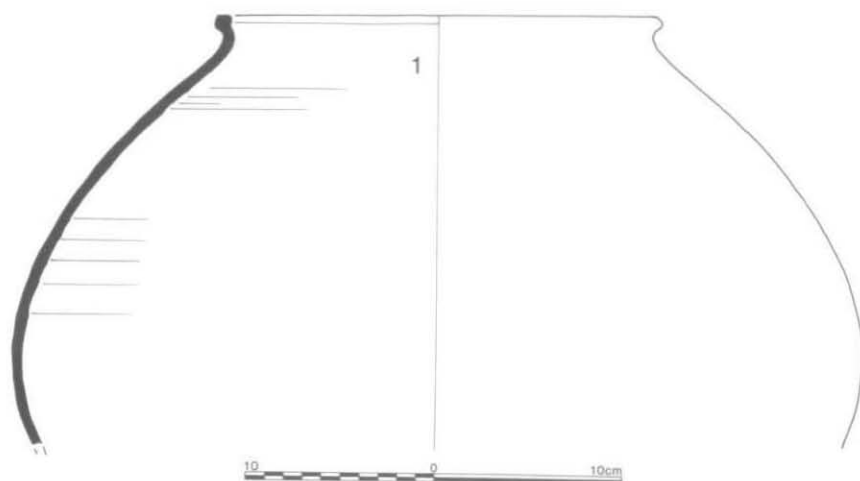


Fig. 70. Potterspury type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (OX68) contd.

Dating

Twenty-five samples of burnt clay were submitted for archaeomagnetic dating which established that the last firing of the kiln had been in the mid-late 14th century.³⁹¹ A very few sherds were found at Brackley in the latest phase of occupation, dated to the third quarter of the 13th century. This beginning date was also reflected at Northampton. It supplied north Oxfordshire throughout the 14th century; although there is no independent dating for this period locally, it was found in association with Brill types. But no identifiably late medieval forms such as cisterns or bifid rims have been recovered from Oxfordshire.

SOUTH-EAST OXFORDSHIRE WARE (OX162, continued from Section 6; see Section 6 for full title)

A substantial tile industry was also established at Nettlebed by the mid 14th century, when large quantities of tiles were ordered for Wallingford Castle,³⁹² and it may well be that pots were also being manufactured there (see Section 3).

The individual potters and their families, working in the foothills of the Chilterns, were very likely the precursors to the early post-medieval industry focused at Nettlebed which still remains so elusive in the archaeological record.

There was an abundant source of clay in the Chilterns, including white firing clay near Soundess Farm, Swyncombe. The archaeological record suggests that it was not used for the making of pottery before the mid-late 14th century. The land was largely marginal and of little use to agriculture, but there was plenty of scrub and underwood necessary for firing the kilns.

This ceramic tradition, containing 10–20 per cent of polycrystalline quartz, caused the pottery researcher working on Chalgrove Moated Manor considerable problems. At length the fabric types containing quartz were amalgamated and, as a result, more than one tradition can be found within the broad fabric types (OXAM, NE1, NE2; see Fig. 36).

³⁹¹ D. Mynard, pers. comm.

³⁹² Salzmann, op. cit. note 55; Bond, op. cit. note 27, 2–3.

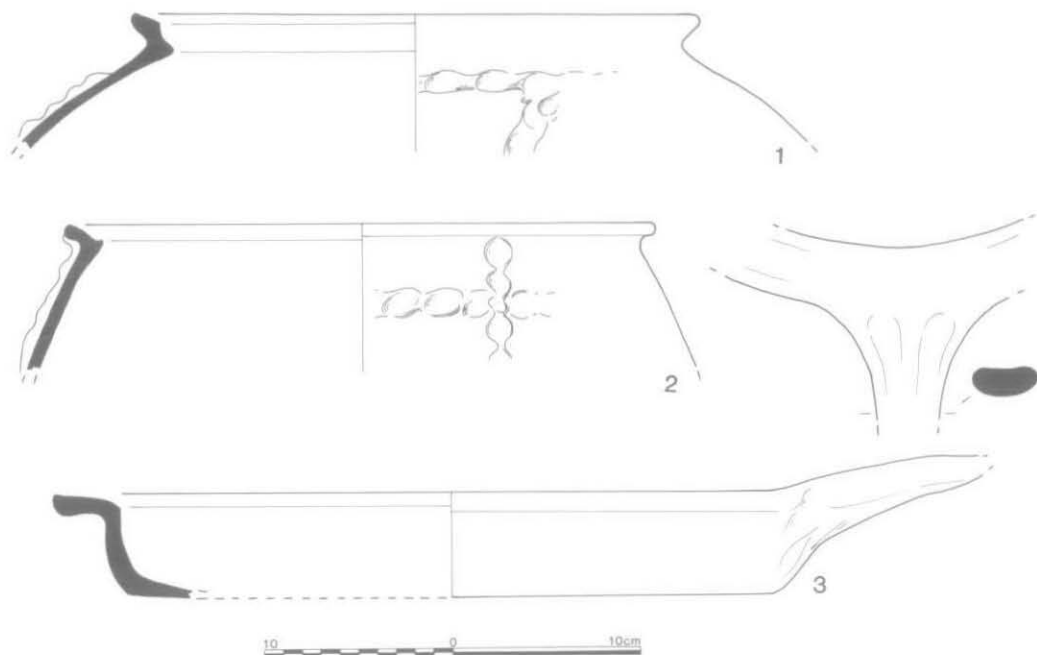


Fig. 71. Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (NE3).

Fabric and associated technology

Another fabric very similar to CH41 (Appendix VII, no 25; see Section 6) was also visually similar to the sandier Brill/Boarstall types, and was recorded as such in the Chalgrove report. It was harder fired than CH41. The late medieval wares were lavishly glazed with mottled green at a time when the Brill/Boarstall potters were only using transparent glazes and then only as a 'bib'.

Vessel types

It was used in the making of large jars with thumb-pressed strips, glazed in thick rich mottled green glaze covering the entire vessel both internally and externally. Cisterns with bung-holes were glazed like the jars. Jugs, bottles and very wide strap handles were also made. These vessels may be expected to form a substantial part of the late medieval tradition in this area, but the archaeological record is still poor. A minor component of this industry were types similar to Tudor Green with dark green glaze (CH59), and these copied or may indeed be part of the Surrey White Ware tradition. The ability of the potter craftworker to produce pottery vessels copying the fine metal tablewares may also have aided this particular ceramic industry to survive and flourish at a time when their competitors, i.e. the artisans at Brill, were suffering economic stress.

Distribution and Source

Most of these vessels were recognized from the destruction levels of Chalgrove Moated Manor, where they were originally attributed to Brill because visually the fabric types were similar to that industry; typologically, though, they are closer to the Surrey White Wares although probably locally made.

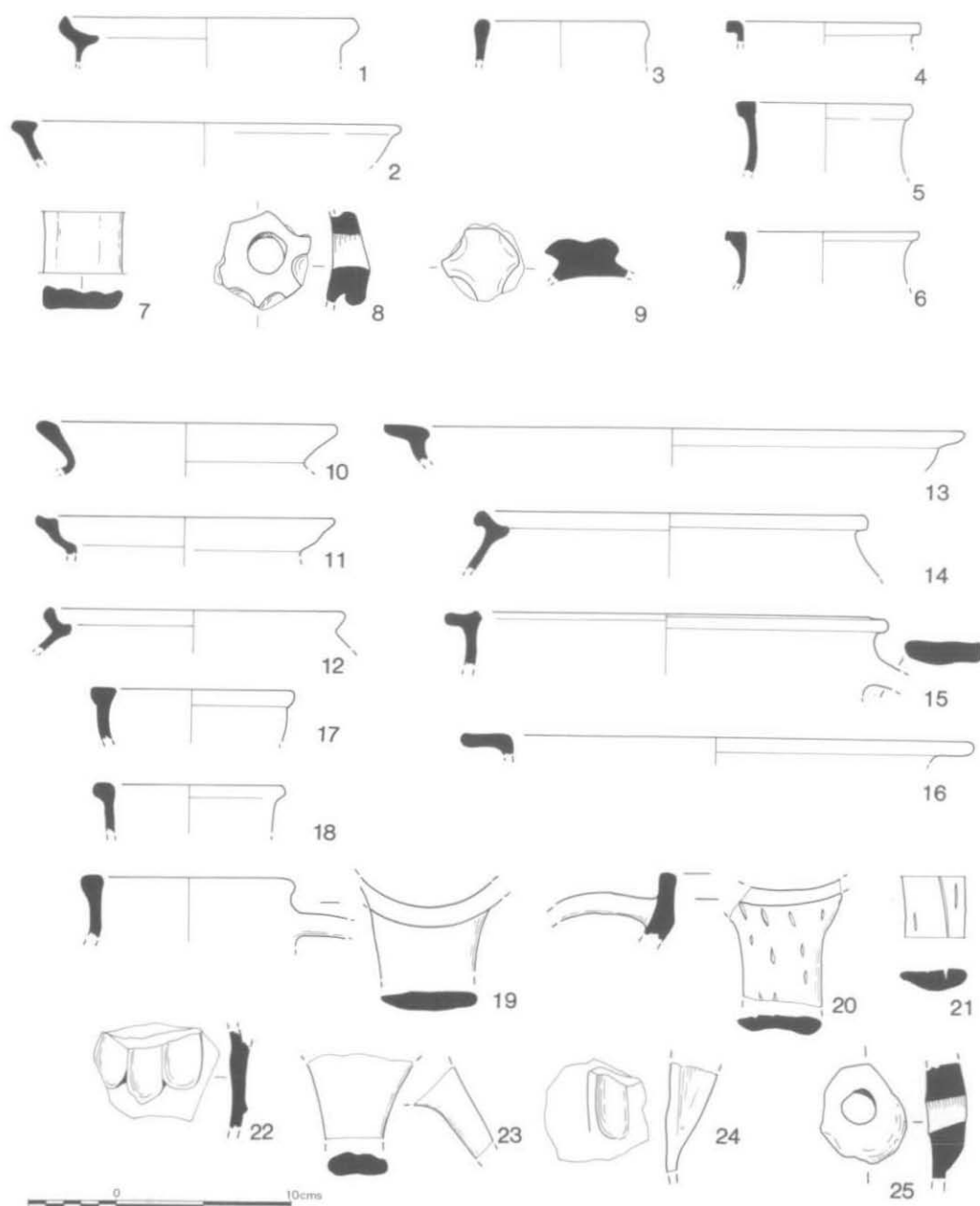


Fig. 72. Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (NE1, NE2, NE3) contd.

Dating

The destruction of the Moated Manor was dated by numismatic evidence to the mid 15th century or earlier, and documentary evidence shows that the site was vacant by AD 1485.³⁹³

Fabric and associated technology

The wasters from Swyncombe included three fabric types: two were iron rich, with sub-angular quartz (*NE2*), more rounded quartz (*NE1*), and both with polycrystalline quartz. The third fabric was a near white iron free clay (*NE3*) with sub-angular quartz. The latter was wheel-thrown. There was limited evidence of glazing and the little that existed was much over-fired, making it difficult to judge the original colours.

Vessel types

Vessel types of fabric *NE3* were very limited but included large jars, frequently with applied thumb-pressed strips and bifid rims (Fig. 71, nos. 1, 2; Fig. 72, no. 1) and almost certainly designed to be used with lids, a skillet (Fig. 71, no. 3), bowls (Fig. 72, no. 2), jugs (Fig. 72, no. 6), broad strap handles (Fig. 72, no. 7), implying that large handled pitchers or jars were also part of the repertoire, cisterns with bungholes (Fig. 72, no. 8), lids (Fig. 72, no. 9), jars with bifid rims (Fig. 72, no. 1), bowls (Fig. 72, no. 2), and jugs (Fig. 72, no. 3).

The majority of vessels were made in *NE1* or *NE2*; these were also wheel-thrown and included jugs (Fig. 72, nos. 4, 5, 17, 18), some with broad strap handles (Fig. 72, nos. 19, 20) and some narrower examples (Fig. 72, no. 21). One handle had been luted to the pot with three thumb impressions (Fig. 72, no. 22), while another had only one thumb impression (Fig. 72, no. 24). Also included were jars (Fig. 72, no. 10), some with bifid rims (Fig. 72, nos. 11, 12), bowls with flanged rims (Fig. 72, nos. 13, 16), and large jars (Fig. 72, no. 14), some with strap handles (Fig. 72, no. 15). The foot of a tripod vessel was also found (Fig. 72, no. 23), and a bunghole from a cistern (Fig. 72, no. 25).

Distribution and Source

Wasters were recovered during an intensive fieldwalking survey (*NE1*, *NE2*, *NE3*), prior to the laying of a gas pipeline in 1982 in the parish of Swyncombe which adjoins Nettlebed. Clay pits were found nearby. A magnetometer survey accurately located a kiln at SU 7053 8785 and showed an area of magnetic disturbance to the south-west, possibly a dump of kiln wasters. A resistivity survey near the kiln suggested the presence of a building, which might be a workshop.³⁹⁴

The ceramic industry of this area seems to have always been closely controlled, perhaps indicating management by a manorial estate of individual craftsmen also working as smallholders.³⁹⁵

The flowering of this ceramic tradition in the late 14th–15th century may be associated with patronage. A number of hunting lodges were favoured by kings during the 13th–14th century and included Huntercombe; by the later 14th century, however, such patronage may have come from a wealthy landowner or a number of magnates, such as the occupants of moated seats at Chalgrove, Shirburn Castle and Stonor Park, rather than through a demand from the local markets, which seem to have been in decline at this time, e.g. those at Watlington and Wallingford.

³⁹³ P. Page, pers. comm.

³⁹⁴ M. Mellor, 'Swyncombe: Soundess Farm', *S. Midl. Arch.* no. 13 (1983), 147; more details of the survey are held with the S.M.R. records.

³⁹⁵ Dyer, *op. cit.* note 242, 133.

Dating

There was no independent dating for these wasters but, on typological evidence, these vessels belong to the second half of the 14th century and may continue into the early 15th. A few examples of the white firing clay (*NE3*) have been found in Oxford, in contexts dating to the first half of the 16th century (Hamel fabric *CU*), suggesting that these types continued to be made during the 15th century and possibly into the 16th.³⁹⁶

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Source and Distribution

The production centres for several of the major ceramic traditions are known during the period AD 1250-1400; this encourages the understanding of marketing systems of pottery and the mechanisms by which it was distributed. However, there remain the problems of the recovery and archaeological bias, common to all periods but for which there is still an insufficient theoretical framework, and this period is also compounded by a dating bias. These problems serve to confuse the temporal patterns and it is important not to lend too much weight to each distribution map.

The dating bias is exacerbated by the long established conservative ceramic traditions which, for many rural contexts, can only be dated within 200 years. Occasionally typological changes, such as the introduction of cisterns, lids and bifid rims, are present towards the end of the period and for the subsequent period AD 1400-1625. The dating bias could in future be addressed by the digging of vacant plots where the date of vacancy is known from documents.³⁹⁷

The known documented production centres serving the region show that forest potters as at Brill, those working on assarts in the Wychwood, and those on marginal land as in south-east Oxfordshire, are each likely to have different marketing patterns, and the quality of the products and the repertoire of the vessels are likely further to contribute to this diversity. These differing production sites, together with the biases mentioned above and consumer choice, probably account for some of the anomalies between rural sites and those in an urban setting, such as the wealthy Chalgrove Moated Manor in south-east Oxfordshire.

While it is possible to isolate general trends and show that the patterns have changed since the previous period – the networks are now fewer but cover a larger area, similar to but not as extensive as in the Late Saxon period – most of the major ceramic traditions appear to start with quality products and limited penetration, then the penetration deepens, only to contract, so that any further interpretation is probably invalid. Only in the case of the Brill/Boarstall types (*OXAM*) can this ceramic tradition be tied to a sound archaeological framework, which highlights some of the periods of economic expansion or economic stress at these workshops.

But it is clear that some unexpectedly wide marketing distributions were apparent (*OXAQ*, *OXAM*), while others remain more confined, perhaps tied to a very local rural economy or restricted by administrative constraints (*OXCX*). Parallels for the latter can be sought in Somerset where historical sources of the 15th century record that a potter sold pots to the countryside, contrary to a ruling of the manor court,³⁹⁸ implying that the potter had some commitment to supply only the manor.

Did these distribution patterns and routes vary over time? Communication by road was good in the Oxford region as seen by the king's itinerary³⁹⁹ and roads were not necessarily impassable or muddy.⁴⁰⁰ The two Wiltshire-based industries (*OXAQ*, *OXBB*) were situated in rural areas but close to

³⁹⁶ Mellor in Palmer, *op. cit.* note 9, Fig. 8, 180-2.

³⁹⁷ I am very grateful to Andrew Rogerson for this suggestion.

³⁹⁸ Dr. R. Dunning, *pers. comm.*

³⁹⁹ P. B. Hindle, 'The road network of medieval England and Wales', *Jnl. Hist. Geogr.* 2 (1976), 207-17.

⁴⁰⁰ F. M. Stenton, 'The road system of medieval England', *Econ. Hist. Rev.* 7 (1936), 1-21.

Romano-British roads, and these were possibly used to distribute products into the Oxford region. River transport for ceramics during this period was not favoured locally, with the possible exception of Medieval Abingdon Ware (*OXAG*).

Excavation of stratified sequences

It is as yet not possible to reconstruct market patterns based on the weekly markets, for the stratified sequences in Oxfordshire sharply decline after the 13th century and many suffer from residual pottery. More stratified sites from the market towns are needed for the later period in particular, in order to understand the decline or transition of some of the major ceramic traditions and to better perceive the temporal development.

Knowing more about the ceramic sequence for Wallingford and Watlington, together with further work at Henley, would be very valuable in helping to understand the relationships between the various workshops obviously competing in south-east Oxfordshire, and would give more information about the vessel profiles.

In the Vale, excavations in Wantage might establish the percentage of Medieval Abingdon Ware (*OXAG*) supplied to the town during the early medieval and medieval period, thus helping to define more closely, the geographical area associated with the production centre, the overlap with east Wiltshire Ware (*OXAQ*), and the ceramic industries of north-east Wiltshire (*OXBB*).

Few, if any, of the lapsed markets in this region have been archaeologically explored (Baulking, East Hendred, Hinton Waldrist, Kingston Lisle, Shrivenham and Stanford-in-the Vale) and any ceramic information would enable the interaction between the major ceramic traditions to be better understood.

A stratified site at Faringdon for this period would help establish the exact proportions of Minety type (*OXBB*) in the Vale and the relationship with the east Wiltshire Ware (*OXAQ*), over a temporal span; at present the data strongly favours Minety. The ceramic evidence suggests that this area still had strong ties with the area to the west rather than with central Oxfordshire.

Some of the type sites, as at Bishop's Palace, Witney, in west Oxfordshire, may not be typical of this area, being subjected to more visits by travelling households which might effect pottery movement.⁴⁰¹ Witney Palace belonged to the bishop of Winchester and therefore may have been more susceptible to products made outside the region (*OXBB*, *OXAQ*) than to the local wares. The regional imports from this site are clearly biased towards the south-west, so another 'control' site in urban Witney would add considerably to current knowledge and establish whether Wychwood types (*OXCX*) were in use in the town.

The medieval Wychwood tradition (*OXCX*) may be managed within a manorial estate, which would explain the confined nature of this ceramic industry. Stratified sites at Chipping Norton, Charlbury, Enstone and Burford would help establish whether a typological development is evident within the Wychwood tradition. The end of this ceramic tradition (*OXCX*) and the emergence of the post-medieval red earthenwares from Leafield also need to be defined.

In the north of the region, at Banbury, a late medieval ceramic sequence is clearly needed to understand the relationships between four major ceramic traditions (previous excavations have suffered from extensive residual material); the demise of both Medieval Oxford Ware (*OXI*) and Medieval Banbury Ware (*OX234*), and the interaction between them and Brill (*OXAM*) and Potterspury type wares (*OX68*), need to be explored. The distribution of the latter may be linked with routes running east-west, associated with the cattle or possibly the wool trade.

Evidence from several sources show that the outstanding ceramic industry at Brill/Boarstall in the second half of the 13th century declined by the mid 14th. A late medieval sequence at Bicester could confirm whether Potterspury types are marketed north of an east-west line extending from Buckingham to Deddington and also establish the relationships between the two industries at Brill and Potterspury, to test whether their marketing routes into Oxfordshire shifted between the 13th and 16th centuries.

⁴⁰¹ Moorhouse, *op. cit.* note 248, 69–72.

Documentary and Fieldwork

Research into documentary sources on specific production sites might throw more light on the organization of individual industries, their scale of production, and on distribution patterns to determine the place of trade and the mechanisms of transport. Evidence for consumption may be documented for some hunting lodges, such as those in the Wychwood in north-west Oxfordshire and in the south-east.

Further documentary and fieldwork in south-east Oxfordshire would probably result in more waster dumps and kilns being located. Recognition of the production area/s would also help in understanding the associated tile industry.

Medieval Abingdon Ware overlaps with Oxford Medieval Ware (*OXM*) at Oxford, but the latter does not penetrate much south of Oxford. Documents relating to Abingdon Abbey have failed to throw any light on the possible source, but fieldwork and work on the documentation of the post-medieval industries in the Vale and closer to the river Kennett would either confirm or discount possible links with medieval ceramic production.

Documentary and fieldwork might well isolate some of the kilns in the area of the Wychwood (*OXCX*), in particular in the vicinity of the 'crock' names, and this area might prove to be a 'control' to test the historical record against that of south-east Oxfordshire – in the area east of the River Cherwell and south of Deddington (*OXI*) and possibly in the area east of Banbury (*OX234*), although this may be in Northamptonshire.

The archaeological record in south-east Oxfordshire at this period is very scant. The importance of the Nettlebed pottery industry is almost certainly under-represented in the gazetteer. It would appear that one of the local industries in south-east Oxfordshire – as seen at Chalgrove Moated Manor – was flourishing, while the industry in central Buckinghamshire (*OXAM*) was possibly contracting as were many other ceramic production sites across England;⁴⁰² this might indicate patronage rather than the industry having to rely on market forces. While the presence of good quality pottery, copying metal vessels, on a high-status site may be related to social hierarchy of pottery consumption, all the evidence – both material and documentary – needs to be more systematically analysed before consumption can be fully understood, and more comparative evidence is necessary from the rural areas.

By the second half of the 14th century the focus of the south-eastern ceramic industries may have shifted to Nettlebed and the surrounding parishes, where it became thoroughly established and closely allied with the tilers and brickmakers.⁴⁰⁴ By the 15th century it was clearly copying both Brill and Surrey types and was not suffering from the economic stress experienced by the Brill industry. But the distribution apparently remained very confined until it finally fostered the emergence of the post-medieval ceramic industries centred on Nettlebed.⁴⁰⁵

Function and decoration of the vessels

The functional examination of ceramics in Oxfordshire is rare since so many of the excavations were 'key-hole' giving rise to featureless bodysherds; selective residue analysis such as on pots from garderobes (*OXAQ*) would help establish whether hygiene was improving and whether these pots were serving a specialist function, that of chamber pots for the lord's chamber. Much remains to be done on the stimulus and the stylistic development of many decorative vessels.

Glazes have also received little attention since Jope's work in the early 1950s and it is surprising that even at the sophisticated workshops at Brill/Boarstall, lead glaze continued to be dusted or brushed on vessels until the late 14th–15th century. Only then were jugs dipped into a suspension of glaze.

⁴⁰² Ibid. 75.

⁴⁰³ Dyer, *op. cit.* note 60, 37.

⁴⁰⁴ Bond and Gosling, *op. cit.* note 27, 3.

⁴⁰⁵ Stebbing, *op. cit.* note 36, 13–19.

Analytical study of the glazes of the major ceramic traditions (*Y*, *AW*, and *AM*) might further link these industries, while spectrographic analysis on the glazes of the Wychwood tradition (*OXCX*) and Minety types – which have a high percentage of tin present in the lead glaze – could provide more connections between the two industries.⁴⁰⁶

The relationship of all these major ceramic industries and their respective strategies need to be better understood; in addition, the influences of other ceramic industries outside the region on local ones need to be pursued – as in the cases of the Bristol types and those of the Brill/Boarstall production sites, and possibly highly decorative wares of the Picardy region in northern France, backed up by the documentary record.⁴⁰⁷

8: LATE MEDIEVAL AND EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL TRADITIONS AD 1400–1625

BACKGROUND

Some of these ceramic traditions retained their medieval characteristics until the early 17th century, as at Brill and Combe in west Oxfordshire. At Combe, wasters were found which are typologically and stylistically identical to Brill but petrologically distinct. No new ceramic traditions emerged for this period.

Distribution and Source

A contraction of the medieval ceramic industries is evident (*OXAQ*, *OXBB*, *OXCX* and possibly *OX68*) (Fig. 73). While this trend is probably accurate, since the 'type sites' also show a decline in the major ceramic traditions and an increase in other regional imports (*M*) (Fig. 74), this mirrors a demographic decline nationally.⁴⁰⁸ The archaeological bias is at its height and the bias of the dating is not markedly improved over the previous period, the latter relying heavily on typological characteristics outlined above.

Brill type wares, although suffering repeated economic stress throughout the 15th and 16th centuries (see Section 7), continued to supply Oxford and the area to the north. The area to the south was increasingly subjected to the powerful market forces of the Surrey Whitewares. In the south-east the archaeological evidence is poor but the ceramic industry was vibrant in the first half of the 15th century and clearly continued as a medieval tradition until the 16th century⁴⁰⁹ – but to what extent and how the transition to early post-medieval wares was achieved is still unknown. Was it gradual or was there no continuity?

Was it linked to the manufacture of glass mentioned by Plot in the mid 17th century⁴¹⁰ at Henley and other places in the Chilterns? Mention is also made in the *computus* of Thomas Howe, collector of rents for the manor of Benson in 20 Henry VI (1441–2), that glass was being manufactured and that the whitest sand could be obtained from Nettlebed.⁴¹¹

Only one new production site is known in the late medieval period (*CO*); undoubtedly there are many others but they, like that from Combe, are unlikely to rate amongst the major ceramic traditions of the region.

⁴⁰⁶ Jope, *op. cit.* note 3 (1952), 88–97.

⁴⁰⁷ B. Hillewaert, 'A Class of Non-Flemish Highly Decorated Ceramics found in the Bruges Area', *Medieval Ceramics*, 14 (1990), 41–6.

⁴⁰⁸ Dyer, *op. cit.* note 248, 33.

⁴⁰⁹ Mellor in Palmer, *op. cit.* note 9, Fabric *CU* in E4, 181.

⁴¹⁰ R. Plot, *The Natural History of Oxfordshire* (1676).

⁴¹¹ Pearman, *op. cit.* note 30, 89–90.

COMBE TYPE WARE (CO)

Pottery from this site was first given to the County Museum in the early 1970s, but was not recognized as wasters until recently. In May 1988, during the building of a house extension at Combe near Woodstock, grey distorted jars and jugs were found. The prompt action of the house owner resulted in both the Museum and the author being alerted.

There was no evidence of burning nor any structural remains, and a magnetometer scan over the orchard directly to the north of the find spot and to the south of the house failed to find any significant magnetic anomalies. But it was not possible to check within fifteen feet of the house and garage, due to the interference that these dwellings would generate. It seems probable that the kiln or kilns lie under the house, which was constructed in about the 1950s, or under the garage. To the east a neighbouring property with two old cottages included an inglenook with the inscription AD 1661, until recently obscured by a kitchen range.

Fabric and associated technology

Waster sherds numbering 1,643 were recovered. All the wasters were grey and over reduced, causing distortion and twisting to the vessels. The fabric had an even well-mixed clay, abundant angular quartz well sorted about 1 mm., and sparse laths of feldspar, while the clay matrix was silty. The clay was similar to that used at Ashton Keynes, and although coarser than the contemporary Brill types, was better sorted. Visually Combe and the late medieval Brill types are very similar. One vessel, the chafing dish, was pink and oxidized and the yellow glaze suggested that it was underfired. One jug suggests that the vessels were stacked in the kiln upside down, hence the kiln scar of a rim on the base of a jug (Fig. 76, no. 4). Thirty seven saggars were found, some with circular vent holes (Fig. 75, no. 5), some with triangular vents (Fig. 75, no. 2), and some with semi-circular vents (Fig. 75, no. 3). These saggars were designed to protect small vessels, such as the drinking mug (Fig. 75, no. 10), during firing. All the saggars appear to have been used, suggesting that many small vessels had been made. One sagger had two sets of kiln scars, evidence that it had been used at least twice (Fig. 75, no. 4).

Vessel types

The vessels included fragments of 59 jars (Fig. 75, nos. 1, 6, 9), 12 jugs (Fig. 75, nos. 8, 11; Fig. 76, nos. 1–5), 4 cisterns (Fig. 76, no. 6), 4 deep sided dishes (Fig. 76, nos. 12, 13), a chafing dish (Fig. 75, no. 7), and a glazed cup (Fig. 75, no. 10). Some had bibs of glaze on the shoulder of the pot and one had deep grooves around the neck (Fig. 76, no. 2). One jug was very reminiscent of metal prototypes (Fig. 76, no. 5).

Distribution and Source

It seems very likely that these pots were made by a potter who had worked in the Brill workshops before setting up his own workshop in west Oxfordshire. Historical sources point to a depression of the Brill ceramic industry at this time, which may have persuaded competent potters to find new markets and set up on their own elsewhere. There is as yet no evidence to suggest that this was part of a larger industry or that this potter was associated with the ceramic industry which later emerged at Leafield. But too little is known about the transition of the medieval to the early post-medieval industry in this area.

Dating

The vessels appear to be contemporary, although not from the same firing, and on typological grounds date to the second half of the 16th century,⁴¹² but the presence of the chafing dish and the saggars may

⁴¹² Mellor in Palmer, op. cit. note 9, Fig. 19 no. 46, Phase E4(2), 179.



Fig. 73. Distribution of Late Medieval-Early Post-Medieval pottery find spots 1400 AD-1625 AD, with histogram showing the date range of these traditions.



Fig. 74. Piecharts representing the percentages or presence of major ceramic traditions at selected sites during the Late Medieval-Early Post-Medieval period.

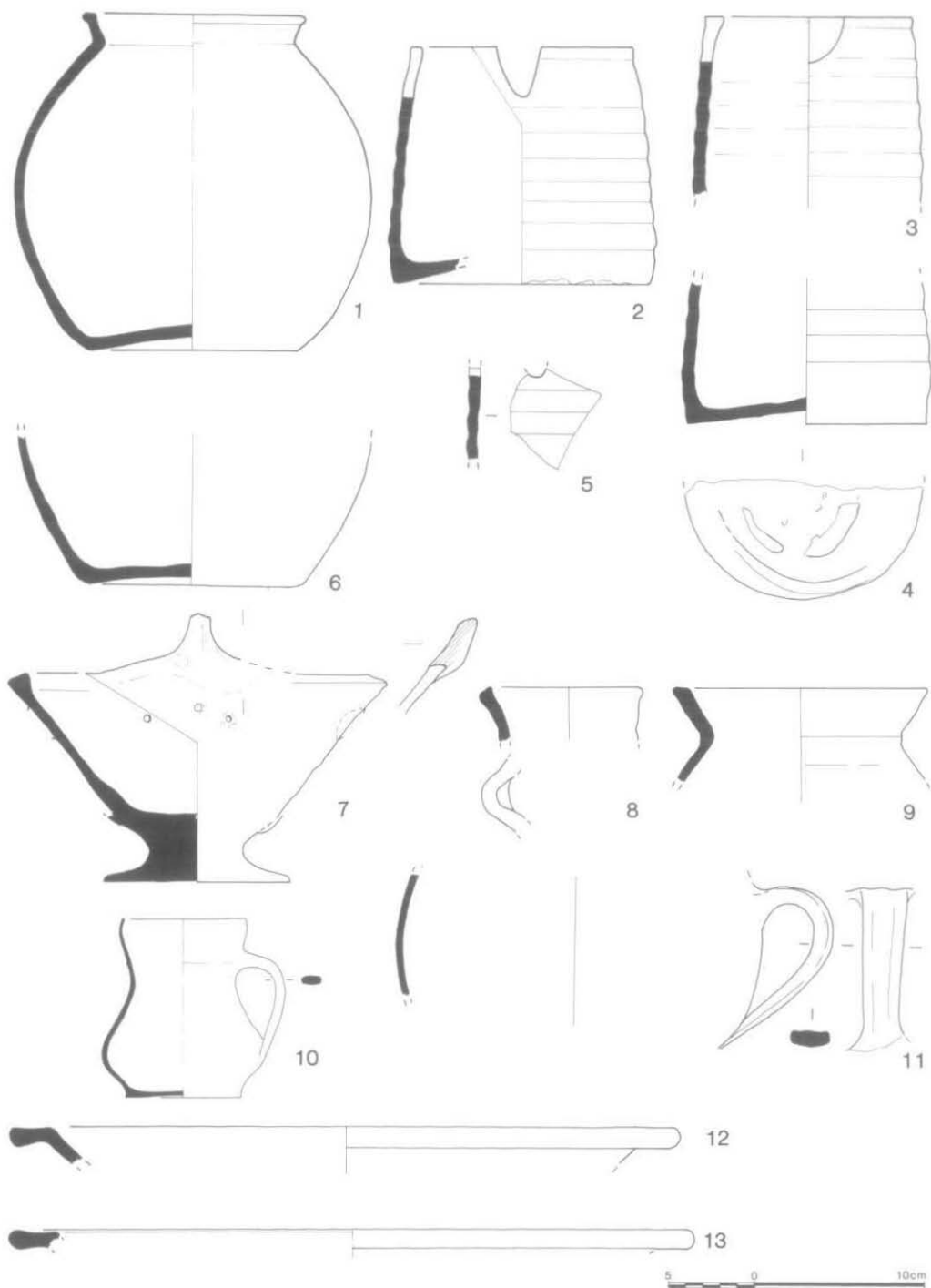


Fig. 75. Combe Ware, West Oxfordshire in the Brill tradition.

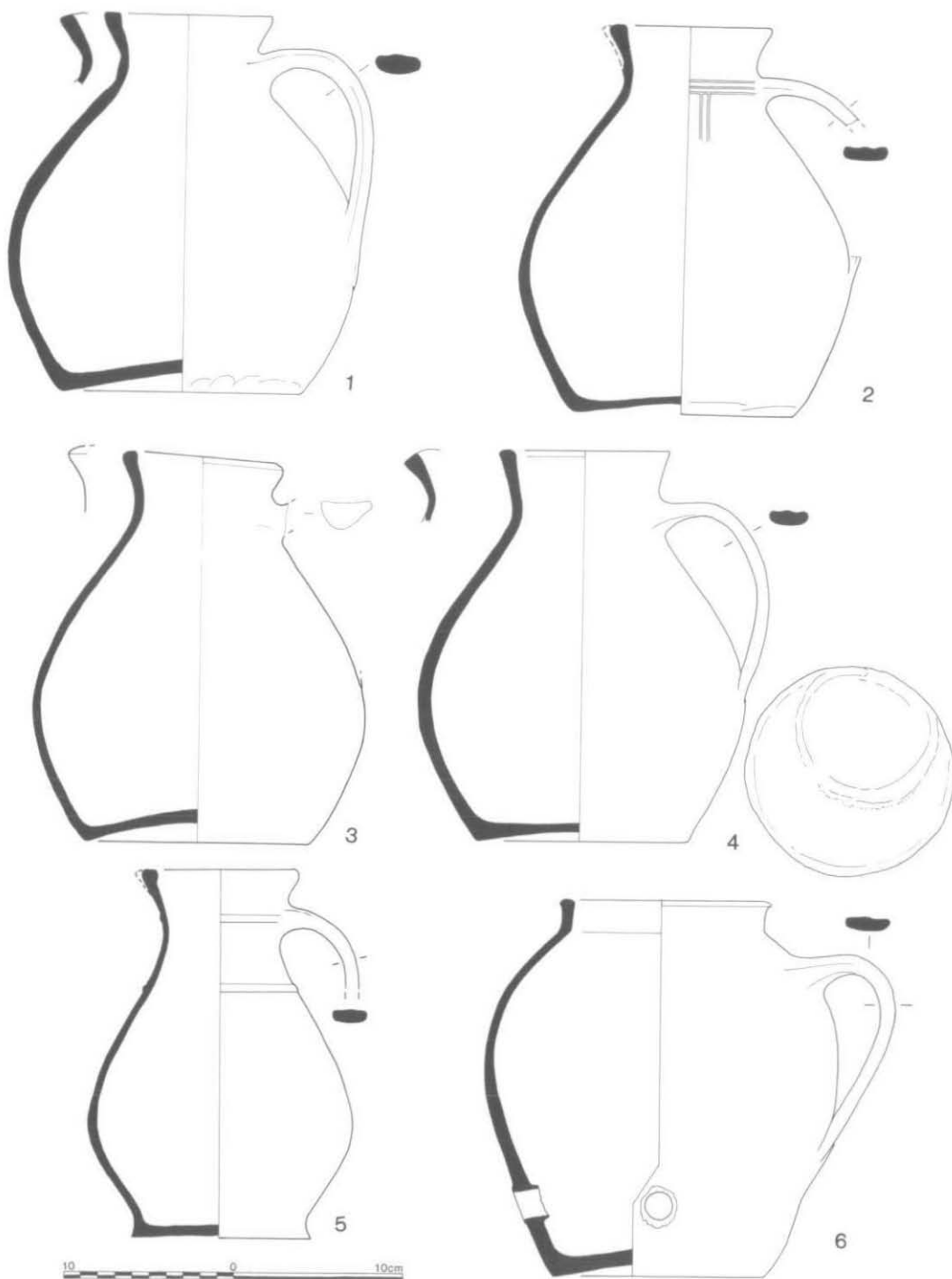


Fig. 76. Combe Ware, West Oxfordshire contd.

favour a slightly later date. These vessels parallel wasters from Brill excavated in 1975 and dated to the early 17th century by the presence of a clay pipe stem in the flue.⁴¹³ It is clear that these vessels belong to the Brill tradition, although petrologically the fabric is distinct.

By the middle of the 17th century there was apparently a dramatic change which heralded the beginning of the post-medieval industry. Three of these traditions, Brill in Buckinghamshire, Leafield in the area of the Wychwood in north-west Oxfordshire, and Nettlebed in south-east Oxfordshire, then continued as Country Potters until the early 20th century.⁴¹⁴

RECOMMENDATIONS

Discrete stratified sites for this period are necessary to understand the transition from the late medieval ceramic industries and the emergence of the early post-medieval industries in Oxfordshire; the areas of the north-west and the south-east would be well situated to answer these questions.

9: CONCLUDING REMARKS

THE GAZETTEER

The gazetteer has brought together a great deal of information, making it now possible to take a much wider view of medieval ceramics within the Oxford region. It has also helped place medieval ceramics in the wider commodity market, through the examination of the relationship between the ceramic networks. The synthesis has also highlighted more detailed questions that need to be redressed through the study of in-depth landscape studies.

For the synthesis of medieval pottery, the gazetteer still retains much information which has not been made use of. If periodically updated it will remain a good tool in aiding the management of archaeological strategies for the medieval period, and will help set archaeological evaluations and 'key-hole' excavations in context in the Oxford region.

This substantial computerized database of low-level and medium-level (type-sites) records has considerable spin-offs beyond the objectives of the pottery synthesis. It can be used to aid the planning of future archaeological strategies within the county or within a specific area of the county (since all the sites are recorded by grid reference and it is possible to screen an area within specific co-ordinates). With the gazetteer it is also possible to overview sites of particular date range, such as the Late Saxon period, and to recognize occupation in the rural areas from

- a) under modern day villages
- b) beneath deserted medieval villages
- c) under known early ecclesiastical sites
- d) medieval manor complexes
- e) failed Late Saxon sites
- f) potential Middle Saxon sites known from early documentary sources

Finally, by way of the gazetteer it is possible to reconsider the Late Saxon and medieval topography of many of the smaller towns.

⁴¹³ Farley, *op. cit.* note 13, 132.

⁴¹⁴ Jope, *op. cit.* note 3 (1947), 67.

DISTRIBUTION PATTERNS AND TRADE

The patterns, reflecting trading links, of the major ceramic traditions were well established by the beginning of the 12th century. These orientations remained the same throughout the medieval period and into the early post-medieval period, despite the fact that the specific ceramic traditions were replaced over time. Hence the north of Oxfordshire had always looked east for its pottery, while west Oxfordshire had always received its pottery from further west.

Underpinning this ceramic trade were probably other commodities, in particular cattle and sheep, less obvious in the archaeological record, and administrative and/or cultural links which may pre-date the Late Saxon period. Some of these links were evident in the ceramic record as early as the 9th and 10th centuries (*OXAC*, *OXBF*, *OXR*).

Distinct cultural and possibly economic groups may still be present in the Late Saxon period and could be pursued by excavating stratified sequences from *villae regales*, early monasteries, old minsters and *burhs* to compare with the evidence from Oxford and Wallingford. Such cultural or economic groups may be apparent in the earlier post-Roman period too.

Despite the strong archaeological and chronological biases, there is much that can be gleaned about the discrete ceramic networks, their cultures if any, and about the interaction and strategies of the various ceramic industries, some of which do appear to respect territorial and topographical boundaries in the earlier period (*OXAC*, *OXBF*) with others paying scant regard to these boundaries (*OXR*). The sherd population does appear to reflect growth patterns.

For the 12th century there are distinct regional ceramic networks, some of which are tied to sophisticated social strategies (*OXI* and *OXAG*). The patterns exhibit different penetrations, some very localized (*OXI62* and *OX234*), suggesting part-time peasant potters serving only the local community.

For the later period the penetrations widen, in twenty-mile radii (*OXBB* and *OX68*), while others have exceptional penetrations, over thirty miles (*OXAQ*, *OXAM*), managed by entrepreneurial middlemen.⁴¹⁵ Given the variety of recognizable regional medieval ceramic traditions and their regional styles in the Oxford region, it should occasion no surprise that the spatial patterns and methods of distribution of each ceramic tradition should be equally varied and regional, even within the same temporal span.

For the medieval and later periods the ceramic traditions bear no relation to contemporary administrative, social or political boundaries, thus confirming Jope's findings,⁴¹⁶ but the distribution patterns of some are probably allied to rural economies (*OXBB*, and *OXAQ*). The decorative jugs of the Brill/Boarstall workshops (*OXAM*) were assured of a market throughout the region until competition from the Surrey Whitewares, together with a contraction of local markets, finally led to the demise of the industry.

The differences arise from a variety of factors that embrace many of the elements fundamental to medieval pottery. These include:

Aspects of technology: the coil-made pots of East Wiltshire Medieval Ware (*OXAQ*), the use of lead glaze with a high tin content associated with Minety type (*OXBB*).

The function of pottery: the use of wide pans which facilitated the making of dairy products. The coarse open textured fabric retained bacteria, and the 'cooking pots' may have

⁴¹⁵ Jope, *op. cit.* note 3 (1952), Fig. 11, 75.

⁴¹⁶ Jope, *op. cit.* note 3 (1963).

served as chamber pots too (*OXAQ*). The exceptionally fine tablewares of the Brill/Boarstall types (*OXAM*), used initially as decanters for wine or beer from large wooden tuns and later as drinking vessels.

The cultural and artistic expression: again particularly associated with products from the Brill/Boarstall kilns (*OXAW*, *OXAM*), from the Vale (*OXAG*), and central Oxfordshire (*OXI*), which at their inception may be associated with patronage; the extreme conservatism as seen in the Wychwood and Potterspury types (*OXCX* and *OX68*).

Finally, the social and economic trends illustrated by all the major ceramic traditions locally.

CERAMIC STUDIES IN THE FUTURE

Much attention has concentrated on the clay and the inclusions (fabric analysis) in recent years, but more needs to be given in future studies to the various technologies of each of these major ceramic traditions and their functions and to vessel shapes and their capacities. The latter can best be served by locating the respective production sites through a combination of fieldwork and documentary research, while the former can only be answered from consumer sites such as well stratified urban sequences, and discrete rural sites with good documentary evidence.

Decorative elements are easily copied and the use of metal dyes used as stamps to enhance decoration increased in the period post *c.* AD 1400, as did the copying of metal vessels. It is clear which medieval ceramic traditions were in contact with other contemporary ceramic traditions, but some remained exclusive (*OXR*, *OX234*), suggesting perhaps that the potters were either working outside the Oxford region or that they were much influenced by other ceramic traditions from outside Oxfordshire (*OX162*), rather than from within the region. The influences behind these decorative elements and individual ceramic traditions needs to be further explored.

CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL IMPORTS

Continental imports, other than during the 10th and 11th centuries at Oxford,⁴¹⁷ have not played a significant part in the ceramic history of the region; it is only occasionally that jugs or pitchers from northern and south-west France or costrels from the Iberian Peninsular are found. Equally, regional imports never account for more than one or two per cent until the later medieval period; then, Surrey Whitewares begin to replace the Brill/Boarstall tradition. The latter, with its workshops, served to spawn a number of 'new' industries across southern England during the late 13th, 14th and 16th centuries, which at their inception were producing products in the Brill/Boarstall tradition.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Underlying this is a need for pottery to be conceived as part of a wider whole, to be fully integrated with contemporary material culture as well as archaeological, historical and

⁴¹⁷ Mellor in Durham, *op. cit.* note 9.

topographical evidence. There is an urgent need to maintain and improve on the quality of retrieval and then to assess pottery through a clear methodological framework. Only then will the ceramics from the Oxford region truly fulfil their potential, not merely as an aid to dating, but as a primary tool for understanding the nature of medieval economy and society, to tell a better story of everyday medieval life.⁴¹⁸

10: POTTERY CATALOGUE (For full references see Bibliography at end)

FIG. 6

Tradition: Late Saxon Oxford Shelly Ware

Fabric: OXB (Group 1A – Shelly Limestone) Petrology: see Appendices VI and VII⁴¹⁹

Manufacture: Hand-made and/or wheel finished

Firing: Munsell Internal surface: greyish brown (10YR 5/2); Core: grey (10YR 4.5/1)

Date: Late 8th–early 11th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, 55–58 Cornmarket PC7/0, Fig. 13, no. 9, 75) 10th–early 11th C.
2. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hertford College A.M. 1909.907).
3. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Trill Mill Stream P641/0/1) 10th C.
4. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, St Aldates P214/3/3, Fig. 16, no. 12, 132) Mid 10th C.
5. Base of large cooking/storage jar (Oxford, St Aldates P211/2/1, Fig. 17, no. 20, 132) Mid 10th C.
6. Rim of ?flask (Oxford, Hinksey Hall, Queen Street P29/2/11, Fig. 12, no. 5, 61) 11th C.⁴²⁰
7. Base of ?lamp (Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976, P32/0/1, Fig. 12, no. 2, 255) 10th–mid 11th C.
8. ?Tubular spout from spouted pitcher (Oxford, Hinksey Hall, Queen Street P48/0, Fig. 12, no. 1, 61) 10th C.
9. ?Lug of vessel (Oxford, St Aldates P123/3/4, Fig. 19, no. 18, 133) Residual.
- 10, 11, 14. Typical cooking pot/storage jar rims: (10. Oxford, St Aldates P226/0/1, Fig. 15, no. 11, 132; early–mid 9th C; 11. Oxford, St Aldates P220/1/4, Fig. 16, no. 2, 132; Mid 10th C; 14. P211/0/1, Fig. 17, no. 3, 132) Mid–late 10th C.
- 12, 13, 15–17. Atypical developed rims: (12. Oxford, St Aldates P215/1/2, Fig. 16, no. 3, 132; Mid 10th C. 13. Oxford, St Aldates P211/1/1, Fig. 17, no. 2, 132; Mid–late 10th C. 15. Oxford, St Aldates P209/0/8, Fig. 17, no. 16, 132; Mid–late 10th C. 16. Oxford, All Saints P112/9/1, early 10th C. 17. Oxford, All Saints P137/0/1) Mid–late 10th C.
18. Triangular roller stamp decoration on cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, 55–58 Cornmarket PC7/0, Fig. 13, no. 10, 75) Early 11th C.

FIG. 7

Tradition: Late Saxon Oxford Shelly Ware contd.

1. Bowl (Oxford, St Aldates P225/3/1, Fig. 15, no. 13, 132) Late 8th–early 9th C.
2. Shallow dish (Oxford, St Aldates P216/1/4, Fig. 16, no. 8, 132) Mid 10th C.
3. Shallow dish (Oxford, St Aldates P211/1/4, Fig. 17, no. 21, 132) Mid–late 11th C.
4. Shallow dish (Oxford, St Aldates P211/1/2, Fig. 17, no. 22, 132) Mid–late 10th C.
5. Bowl with possible tubular spout (Abingdon, Broad Street III layer 69).
- 6–7. Typical bowl profiles: (6. Oxford, St Aldates P225/3/5, Fig. 15, no. 11, 132; Early–mid 9th C. 7. Oxford, St Aldates P216/1/2, Fig. 16, no. 10, 132) Mid 10th C.

⁴¹⁸ Dyer, *op. cit.* note 60, 40.

⁴¹⁹ Vince, *op. cit.* note 91.

⁴²⁰ For parallel, A. G. Vince, 'Saxon and medieval pottery in London: A Review', *Medieval Arch.* xxix (1985), Fig. 3 no. 6, 32.

FIG. 10

Tradition: Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxford Ware

Fabric: OXAC (Group IB – calcareous gravel) Petrology: see Appendices VI and VII⁴²¹

Manufacture: Hand-made

Firing: Munsell: Internal surface: Reddish brown-grey-brown (5YR 5/3–7.5YR 4/0–5/2); Core: grey (10YR 4.5–5/1)

Date: Late 9th–13th century

1. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Witney, Bishop's Palace, P142/1/2, Phase 4E (lat)) Early 13th C.
2. Cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P2503/2/1, Fig. 46, no. 6, 202) 12th C.
3. Large cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration (Witney, Bishop's Palace, P558/13/3, Phase 4NB) Mid 13th C.
4. Very small cooking pot, finger-pressed decoration (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 23, no. 10, 154) Late 12th–early 13th C.
5. Small cooking pot/storage jar, thumb-pressed decoration (Oxford, Logic Lane Fig. 13, no. 10, 61) Residual.
6. Large cooking pot, roller stamp decoration on rim and neck (Witney, Bishop's Palace P102/0/1, Phase 4E) Early 13th C.
7. Small cooking pot/storage jar, finger-pressed decoration on interior of rim (Oxford, Logic Lane Fig. 11, no. 10, 60) 12th C.
8. Large cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 23, no. 19, 154) Late 12th C.
9. Cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 22, no. 11, 151) Early 13th C.
10. Cooking pot/storage jar, stab decoration (Oxford, Hamel P645/9/1, Fig. 9, no. 1) Mid-late 12th C.
11. Cooking pot/storage jar, unusual flared rim (Oxford, Hinxey Hall, Queen Street P32/2/1, Fig. 12, no. 14, 61) Third quarter of 11th C.

FIG. 11

Tradition: Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxford Ware contd.

1. Large straight-sided cooking pot/storage jar (Swinbrook, Fig. 1, no. 8, 108) 12th C.
2. Straight-sided cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P1540/0/1, Fig. 47, no. 3, 208) Late 12th–early 13th C.
3. Straight-sided cooking pot/storage jar (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1972, Fig. 8 no. 1, 330).
4. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Queen Street in Ascott D'Oilly Fig. 8, no. OX 1, 248; A.M. 1959.197 and *Medieval Pottery in the Oxford Region*, Pl. 5).
5. Small cooking pot/storage jar, slash decoration on the shoulder (Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976, P47/0/1, Fig. 13, no. 1, 257) 12th C.
6. Small atypical straight-sided cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, St Aldates P159/0/8, Fig. 18, no. 23, 133) First half of 12th C.
7. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 23, no. 7, 154) Early 13th C.
- 8–14. Typical cooking pot/storage jar rims: (8. Oxford, New College 1949, Fig. 15, no. 1, 37; Late–early 13th C. 9. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1958, Fig. 17, BIB.43, 64; 10. Oxford, 126 High Street Fig. 20, no. 10/11.4, 302; 11. Oxford, St Aldates P123/2/4, Fig. 20, no. 17, 134; Late 12th–early 13th C. 12. Oxford, St Aldates P200/0/1, Fig. 18, no. 7, 132; Mid-late 11th C. 13. Oxford, St Aldates P200/0/3, Fig. 18, no. 5, 132; Mid-late 11th C. 14. Oxford, St Aldates P157/0/2, Fig. 18, no. 17, 133) First half 12th C.
- 15–20. (Oxford, 13 High Street Fig. 5, no. 6/1, 279; Late 11th C. 16. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 23, no. 1, 153; Late 12th C. 17. Oxford, St Aldates P159/3/3, Fig. 18, no. 10, 132–133; Mid-late 11th C. 18. Oxford, St Aldates P157/0/5, Fig. 18, no. 26, 133; First half of 12th C. 19. Oxford, St. Aldates P159/0/13, Fig. 18, no. 28, 133; First half of 12th C. 20. Oxford, St Aldates P123/3/7, Fig. 19, no. 20, 133) Third quarter of 12th C.
- 21–28. Typical straight-sided rims: (21. Swinbrook, Fig. 1, no. 7, 108, 12th C. 22. Swinbrook, Fig. 1, no. 6, 108) 12th C. Atypical straight-sided rims: (23. Oxford, Logic Lane Fig. 12, no. 2, 61; Unstratified. 24. Cumnor, Seacourt 1938, Fig. 4, no. 8, 58; 12th C. 25. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1958, Fig. 16, BICI, 64; Late 11th–early 12th C. 26. Swinbrook, Fig. 1 no. 2, 108; 12th C. 27. Oxford, St Aldates P202/1/1, Fig. 19, no. 4, 133; First half 12th C. 28. Filkins, Fig. 24, no. 6, 169; A.M. 1947.370).

⁴²¹ D. Williams, 'Petrological Examination of Medieval Pottery', in N. Palmer, 'A Beaker Burial and Medieval Tenements in The Hamel, Oxford', *Oxoniensia*, xlv (1980), 2, BO6; Vince, op. cit. note 91.

PLATES 1-2



Plate 1A (Left). Face mask with impressed eyes, probably part of jug rim, white slip over face, light green glaze (ABA) (Abingdon, transferred from University Museum 1885 A.M. 1886.1688a). Height 9.8 cms. 13th century. Plate 1B (Right). Comical figure with buttoned vest and incised eyes, part of an anthropomorphic jug, mottled green glaze (OXAM) (Oxford, Carfax, A.M. 1937.859). Height 7 cms. Late 13th century.



Plate 2. Aquamanile, lateral view of a horse with horizontal rod handle, and applied pads of red and white clay, applied red strips in chevron design and punched decoration, mottled green glaze (OXAM) (Swindon, Rushey Platt A.M. 1955.408c). Height 18.3 cms. Mid-late 13th century.



PLATE 3

Plate 3A (*Left*). Face mask with impressed eyes, on a drinking vessel, dark green glaze internally and externally (OXAM) (Oxford, Cornmarket Street A.M. 1896.1908 M18). Height 9.2 cms. Late 14th–15th century. See also Fig. 53, no. 15. Plate 3B (*Right*). Snout of anthropomorphic jug with applied strip to highlight the eyes, possibly a ram with vestigial horns, dark green glaze (OXAM) (Oxford, Cornmarket A.M. 1874.13) Height 4.7 cms. Late 13th century.

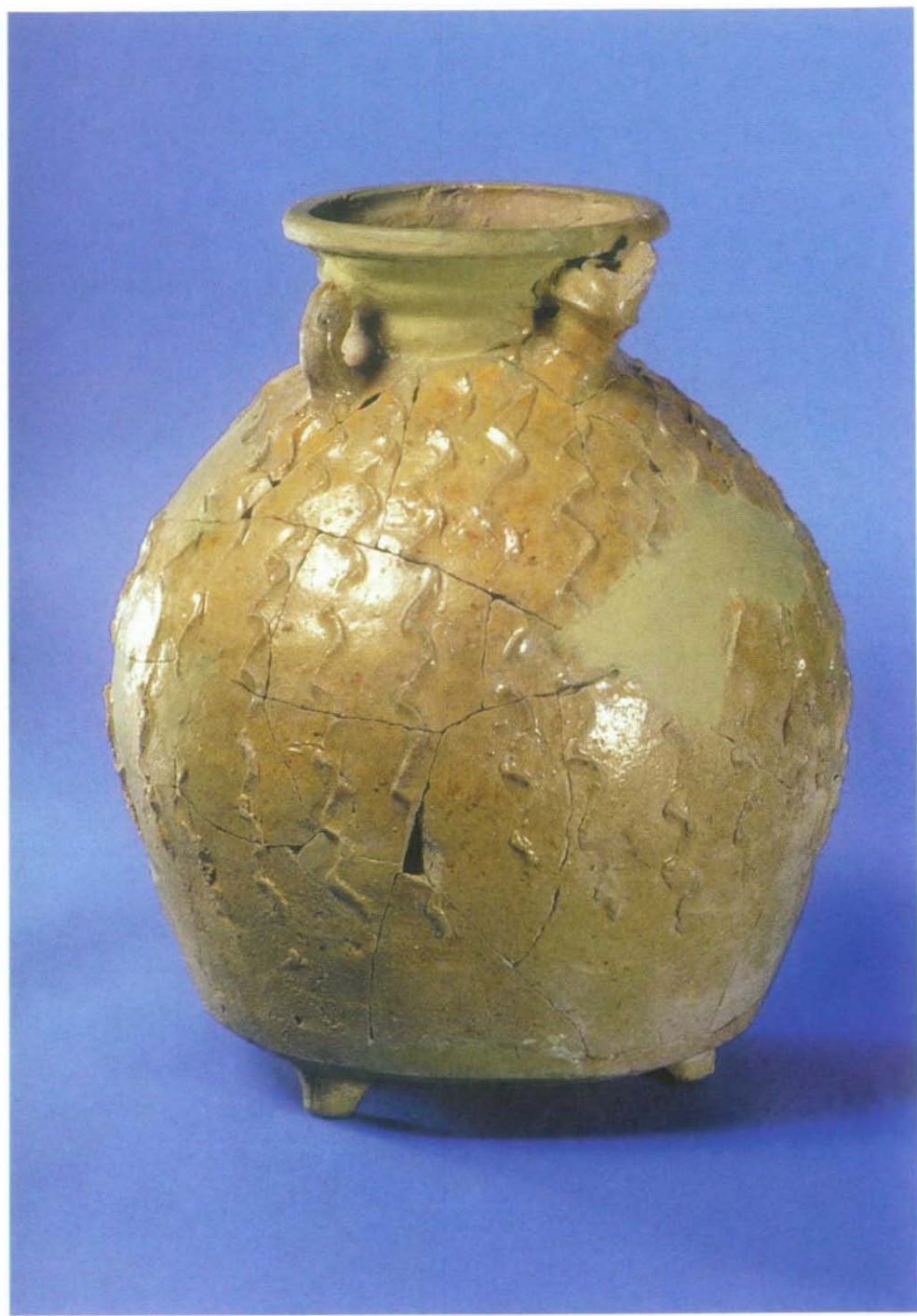


Plate 4. Spouted tripod pitcher, tubular spout, small loop, applied vertical wavy strips, orange glaze (OYT) (Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.70). Height 29.8 cms. 12th-early 13th century.

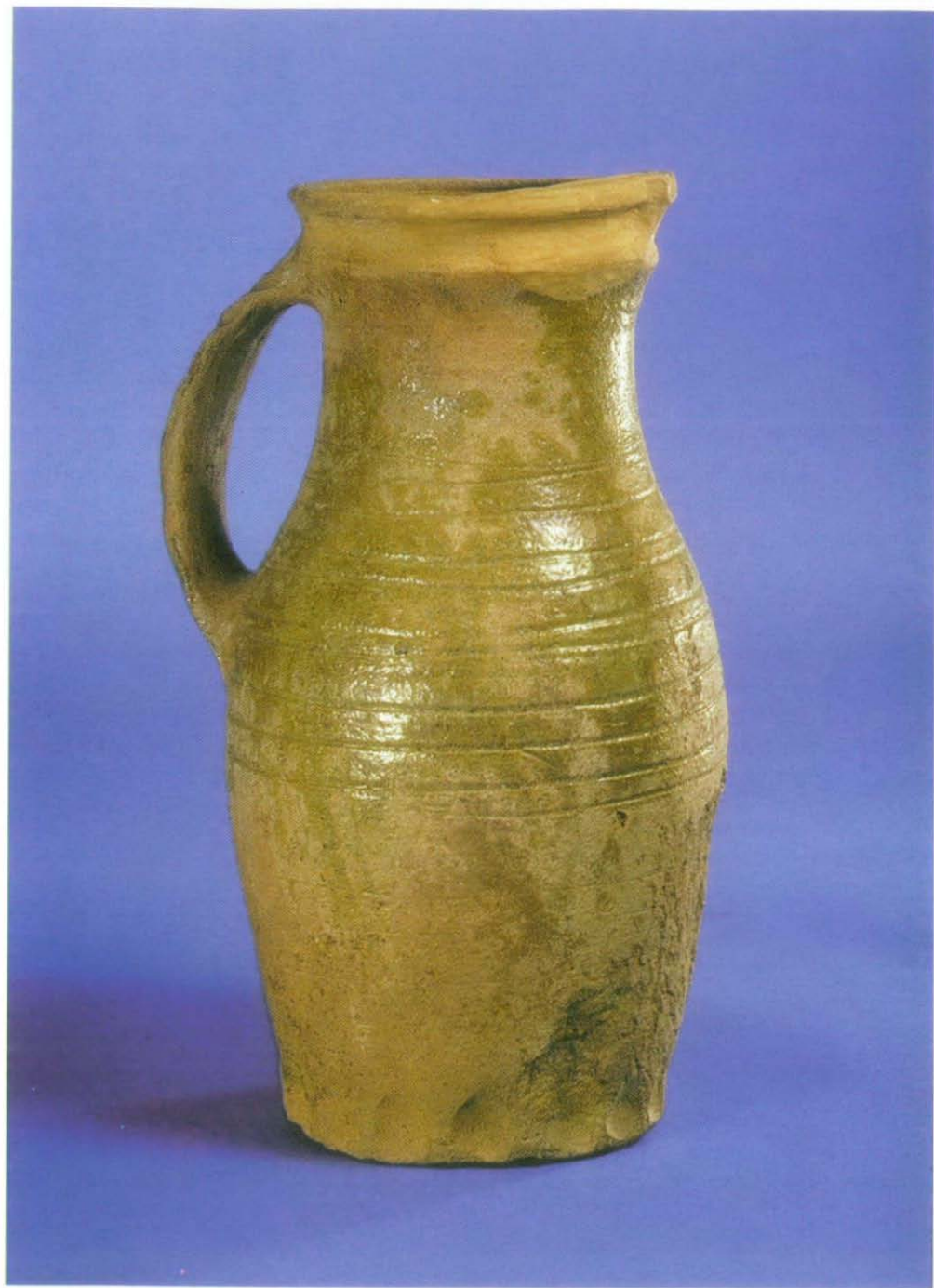


Plate 5. Ovoid jug, thumb-shaped base, small strap handle with thumb-shaped edges, horizontal irregular grooves, thin patchy light green glaze on upper part (OX.114) (Oxford, Bodleian Extension A.M. 1937.444). Height 28.5 cms. Early 13th century. See also Fig. 50, no. 4.

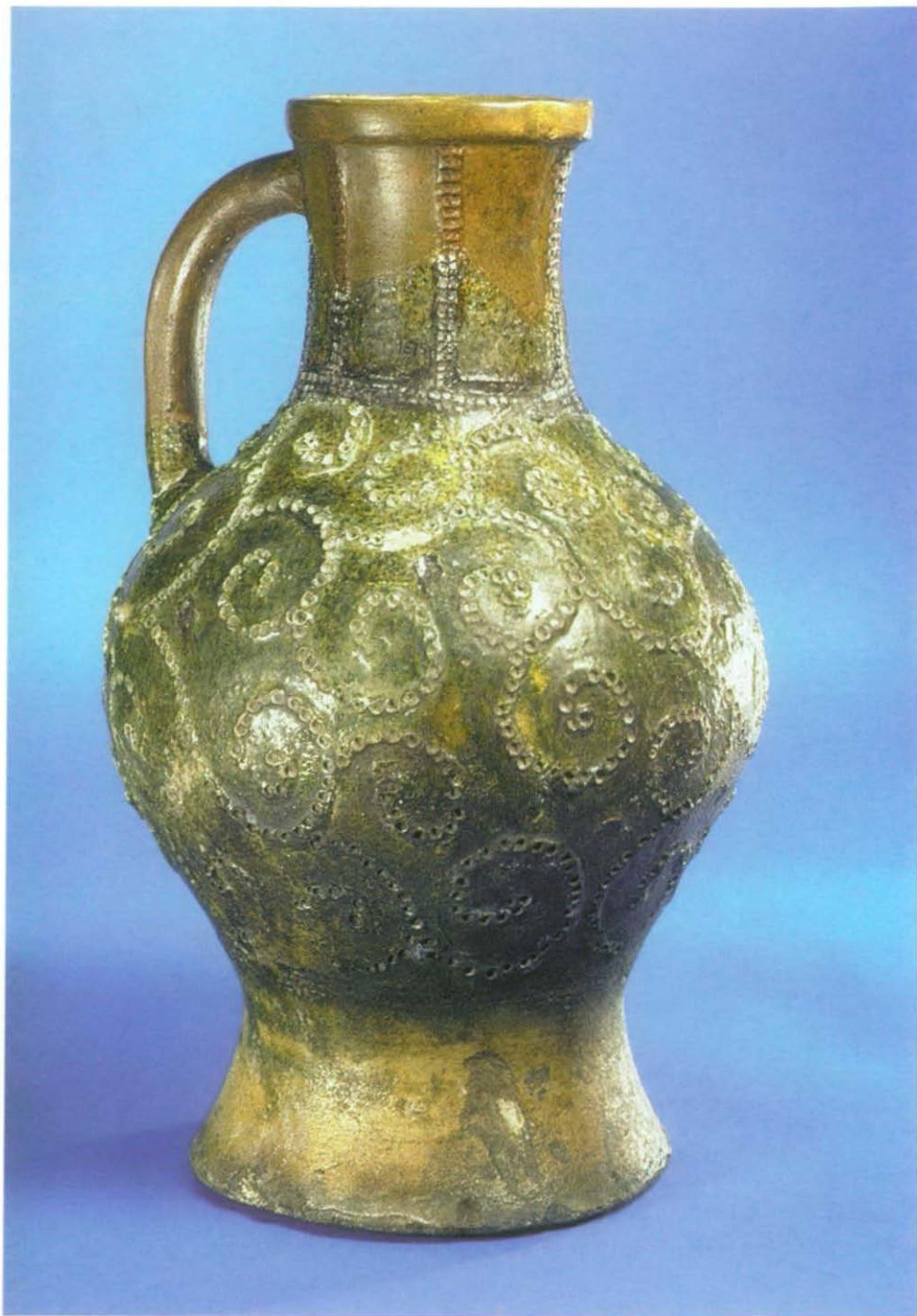


Plate 6. Stout baluster, rod handle, applied scrolls with punched decoration, mottled green glaze (OX.III) (Oxford, Balliol College A.M. 1886.1290D-M16). Height c. 38 cms. (rim restored) Mid-late 13th century. See also Fig. 51, no. 1.

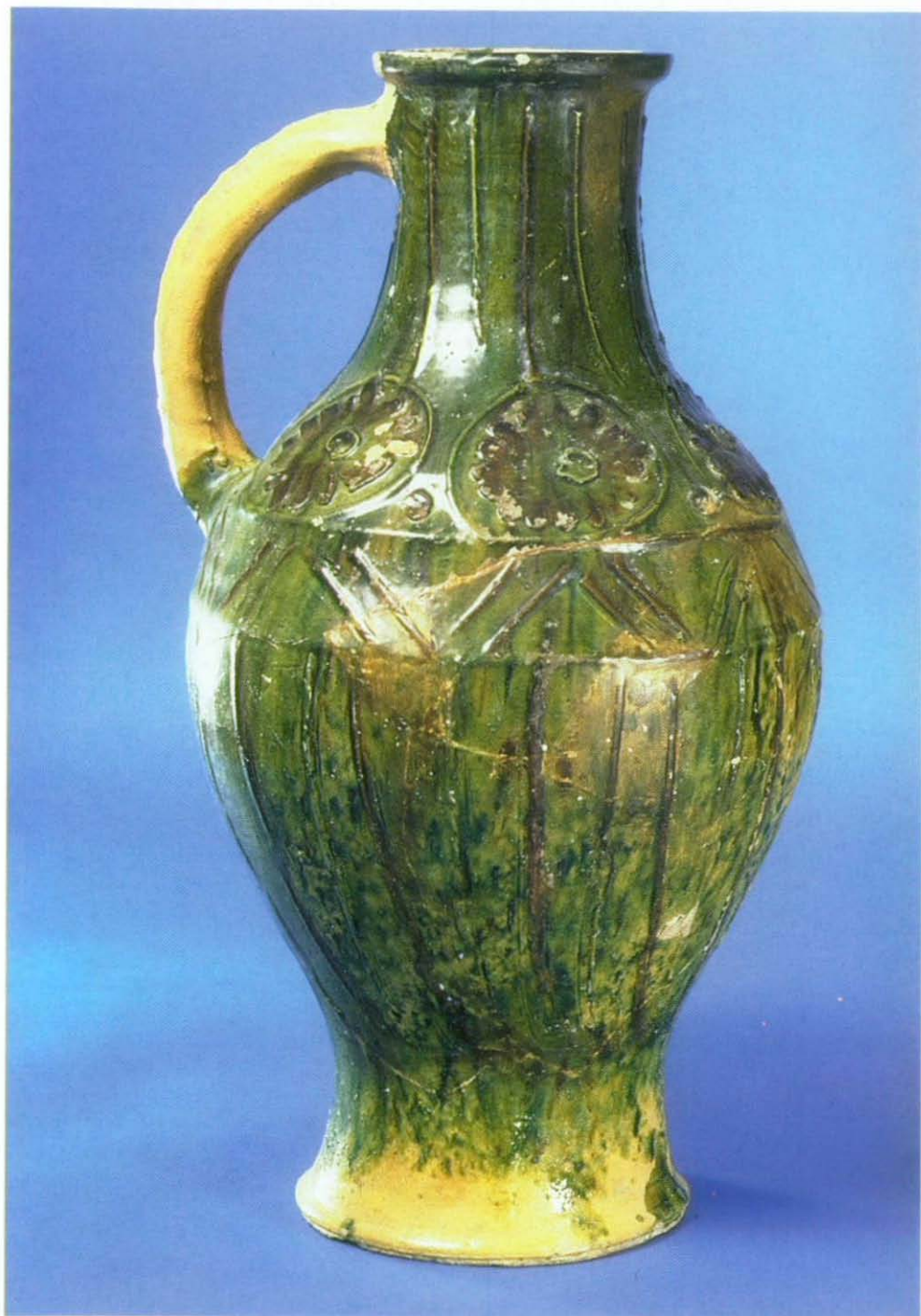


Plate 7. Tripledecker jug, rod handle, applied red and white strips, rosettes of red clay on the shoulder, mottled green glaze (OxAM) (Oxford, Carfax, St Aldates A.M. 1937.960). Height 43 cms. Mid-late 13th century. See also Fig. 56, no. 1.



Plate 8. Puzzle jug, with stag spout, applied scales, representing foliage with applied red strips and eight face pads around the rim, mottled green glaze (OX4M) (Oxford, Town Hall A.M. 1921.202). Height 35.5 cms. Mid-late 13th century. See also Fig. 57, no. 1.

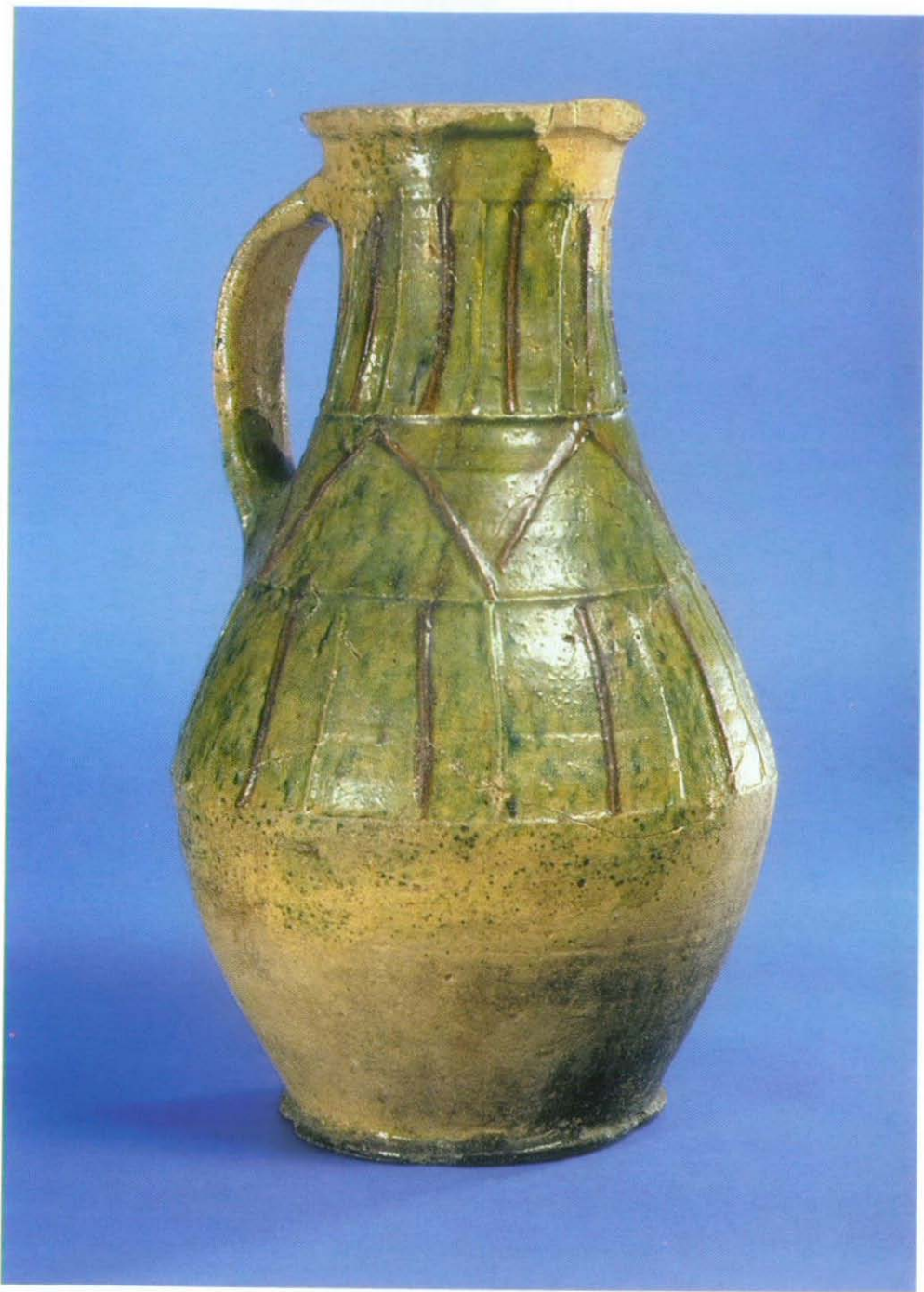
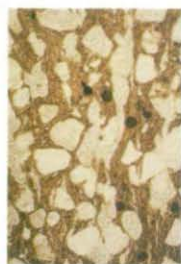
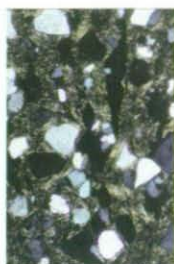


Plate 9. Biconical jug, strap handle, applied strips of alternating red and white clay, mottled green glaze on upper part (OXAM) (Oxford, George Street A.M. 1896.1904 M5). Height 34.2 cms. Late 13th century. See also Fig. 60, no. 1.

PLATE 10



1A



1B



1C

Plate 10. 1A–ppl, 1B–xpl and 1C–macro. Camley Garden Waster Maidenhead (kiln 2). Abundant angular quartz, well sorted ϵ , 0.2 mm. across, moderate rounded quartz up to 0.6 mm., polycrystalline quartz, milky inclusions. Little iron staining, some opaque sparse sub-angular ? iron oxides/minerals, sparse angular flint/chert. Clay matrix: clean, anisotropic. *Source*: Glacial sands rather than lower greensand.



9A



9B



9C

Plate 10. 9A–ppl, 9B–xpl and 9C–macro. Late Saxon Shelley (OXB). Gastropods, mainly bivalve shell, some shelly limestone, cemented calcite with shells 'oyster-esque', abundant angular quartz up to 0.2 mm., two fragments of limestone. Fragments stained brown around edges, (therefore not crushed by man). 1 rounded fragment iron cemented sandstone up to 2 mm., grain 0.1 mm., across subangular. No fossil wood as previously recognized, therefore not standard LSS. For standard description, see A.G. Vince (ed.), *Aspects of Saxo-Norman London: II Finds and Environmental Evidence*, London and Middlesex Archaeol. Soc. Special Paper 12 (1991), 49.



15A



15B



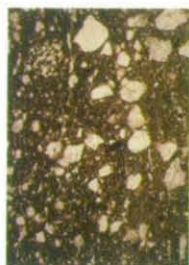
15C

Plate 10. 15A–ppl, 15B xpl and 15C–macro. St Neots type Ware (OVR). Abundant fragments of bivalve sherds, echonoid shell, echonoid spine, little quartz, bryozoa and brachiopod shell.

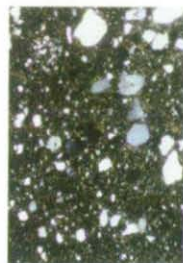
Magnification: thin sections (A and B) $\times 40$; macroscopic photos (C) $\times 4$.

(For discussion of Plates 10–17, see Appendix VII, pp. 206–7.)

PLATE 11



2A

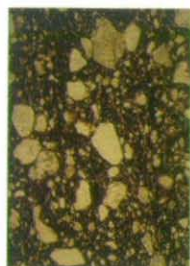


2B

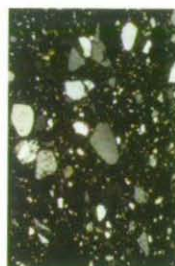


2C

Plate 11. 2A-ppl, 2B-xpl and 2C macro. Soundess Waster Swyncombe (Nettlebed-type *NE2*). Moderate sub-angular quartz, abundant angular quartz up to 0.1 mm., sub-angular quartz inc polycrystalline quartz, small angular sandstone, one sub-angular quartz up to 0.1 mm. across. No coating. One sub-angular flint/chert up to 0.3 mm. *Source*: ?Coarser Reading Beds.



4A

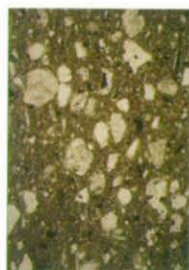


4B

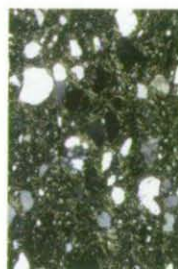


4C

Plate 11. 4A-ppl, 4B-xpl and 4C-macro. Soundess Waster Swyncombe (Nettlebed-type *NE1* oxidized). More rounded quartz than *NE2*, up to 0.4 mm., rounded flint/chert, polycrystalline quartz, some iron rich pellets up to 1 mm. (?haematite). Clay matrix more vesicular than *NE3*.



17A



17B



17C

Plate 11. 17A-ppl, 17B-xpl and 17C-macro. Soundess Waster Swyncombe (Nettlebed-type *NE3*). Sub-angular quartz up to 0.4 mm. Sparse rounded quartz up to 0.6 mm. Sparse rounded black iron ore up to 0.2 mm. Sparse brown clay pellets up to 1 mm. Clay matrix low in iron, anisotropic.

PLATE 12



24A

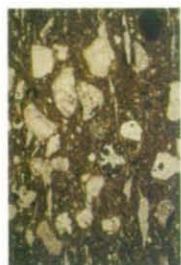


24B

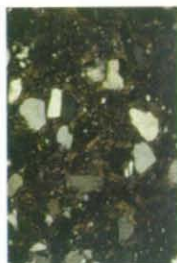


24C

Plate 12. 24A-ppl, 24B-xpl and 24C-macro. Early Medieval-late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (OX162). Abundant angular quartz up to 0.3 mm., red clay 0.5 mm. across, polycrystalline quartz and chert. Clay matrix: quite clean, some white mica, anisotropic.



25A

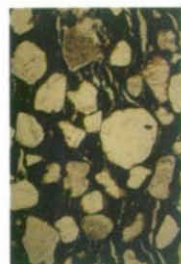


25B



25C

Plate 12. 25A-ppl, 25B-xpl and 25C-macro. Early Medieval-late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (CH1) in the style of Brill/Boarstall types, Buckinghamshire. Similar to 24 but little red clay, some sub-angular and rounded recrystallized grains.



27A



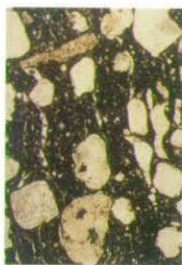
27B



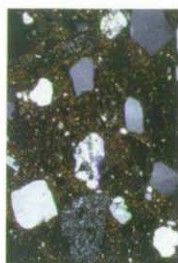
27C

Plate 12. 27A-ppl, 27B-xpl and 27C-macro. Early Medieval-late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (HE3). Rounded, sub-angular quartz with re-entrant angles, recrystallized quartz with inclusions, polycrystalline quartz, flint/chert, red clay pellets, clay pellets up to 1 mm. Same colour as matrix.

PLATE 13



28A

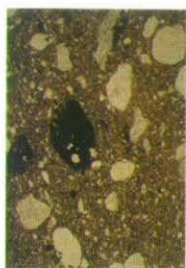


28B

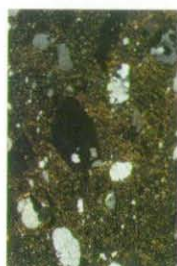


28C

Plate 13. 28A–ppl, 28B–xpl and 28C–macro. Early Medieval–late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware (W427). Rounded quartz with re-entrant angles, sub-angular quartz, some rounded polycrystalline, some quartz with recrystallized inclusions, rounded chert. Clay matrix: white mica, angular quartz. Anisotropic. *Source*: Jurassic/Kimmeridge.



7A



7B

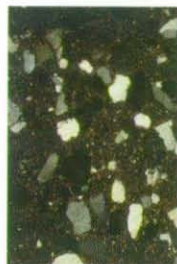


7C

Plate 13. 7A–ppl, 7B–xpl and 7C–macro. Late Saxon–Medieval Wallingford Ware (W438). Soft light coloured silty clay cemented to form ironstone in places. Abundant rounded quartz, some polycrystalline quartz. No iron staining. Clay matrix: white mica, some angular quartz, low iron, no burnt organic temper. Anisotropic. *Source*: Lower greensand.



5A



5B



5C

Plate 13. 5A–ppl, 5B–xpl and 5C–macro. Late Saxon–Medieval Abingdon Ware (AB4). Sub-angular rounded quartz sand up to 0.4 mm., with re-entrant angles, some iron-coated grains, polycrystalline quartz, rounded chert/flint, sparse rounded red clay pellets up to 3 mm. Clay matrix: scatter of angular quartz in matrix, sparse white mica. *Source*: Mixed sand, some from lower greensand.

PLATE 14



26A



26B

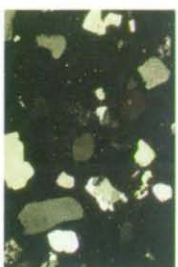


26C

Plate 14. 26A–ppl, 26B–xpl and 26C–macro, Early–late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware (*OX1Q*) Savernake Forest (2 Crockersthorpe East Wiltshire). Calcareous algae formed around fresh water and other shell, sparse rounded quartz, angular flint. Clay matrix: clean. *Source*: Kennett Valley.



6A

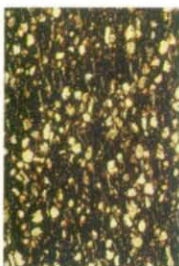


6B



6C

Plate 14. 6A–ppl, 6B–xpl and 6C–macro, Late Saxon–Medieval Abingdon Ware (*OX1G* = Vince M1158, Fabric 17 Newbury). Abundant rounded quartz – overgrown (originally in sandstone, same silica matrix, worn out again) rounded flint/chert up to 1 mm. across, sparse rounded silty clay pellet up to 1mm., in places anisotropic, in middle isotropic, muscovite, occasional organic material, rounded red iron ore. Polycrystalline quartz, pellets of silty micaceous clay.



12A



12B



12C

Plate 14. 12A–ppl, 12B–xpl and 12C–macro, Combe Waster West Oxfordshire (*CO1* oxidized) in the style of Brill types, Buckinghamshire. Even well mixed clay, abundant angular quartz well sorted about 0.1 mm., sparse laths of feldspar. Clay matrix: silty. *Source*: similar clay to Ashton Keynes.

PLATE 15



29A



29B



29C

Plate 15. 29A-ppl, 29B-xpl and 29C-macro. Early-late Medieval north west Oxfordshire (Wychwood) Ware, (OXCX). Abundant fragments of limestone up to 2 mm. across, rounded pellets and oolites, shell fragments laced by micrite in sparry matrix, some oolites up to 0.5 mm., pellets up to 0.1 mm., some individual oolites. Matrix: Abundant angular quartz silt up to 0.2 mm. *Source*: ?Corallian limestone beds.



30A



30B



30C

Plate 15. 30A-ppl, 30B-xpl and 30C-macro. Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxford Ware, (OXC). Less quartz than OXCX (no. 18), more rounded quartz. Very little shell. *Source*: Second terrace: corallian limestone.



31A



31B



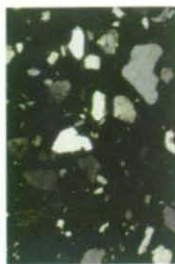
31C

Plate 15. 31A-ppl, 31B-xpl and 31C-macro. Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OXT reduced and glazed). Abundant sub-angular quartz, some rounded hard clay pellets up to 0.3 mm., some polycrystalline quartz, occasional flint/chert. Clay matrix: high birefringes (low firing, low iron = not shown, therefore not a reliable diagnostic feature).

PLATE 16



32A



32B

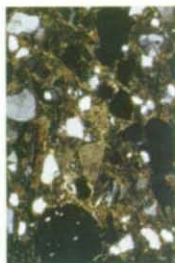


32C

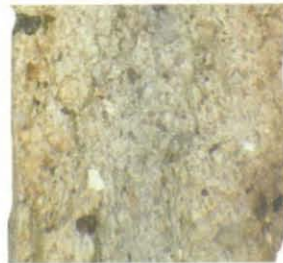
Plate 16. 32A-ppl, 32B-xpl and 32C-macro, Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (OX1). As 31 but grains larger and less well sorted.



33A



33B

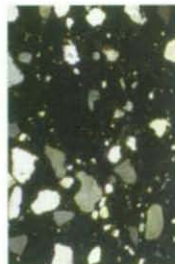


33C

Plate 16. 33A-ppl, 33B-xpl and 33C-macro, Late Saxon-Medieval Banbury Ware (OX234). Abundant sub-angular quartz up to 0.5 mm, occasionally much larger polycrystalline quartz, fragment of limestone possibly chalk, sparse micrite 0.6 mm. (calcite mud), rounded iron ore with quartz inclusions, sub-angular flint/chert up to 1mm., recrystallized quartz occasional sandstone fragments up to 0.1-0.2 mm. across. *Source:* Glacial Sand Gravel.



19A



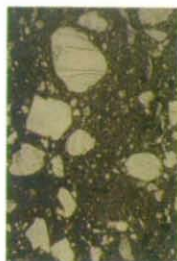
19B



19C

Plate 16. 19A-ppl, 19B-xpl and 19C-macro, Brill/Boarstall type ware (Buckinghamshire), (OX4117). Sub-angular quartz up to 0.8 mm., ill-sorted, sparse rounded quartz. Clay matrix: fine clay pellets, some coating, laminated.

PLATE 17



20A

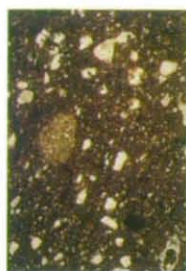


20B

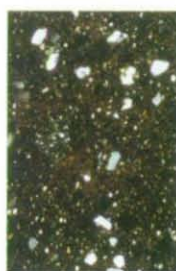


20C

Plate 17. 20A–ppl, 20B–xpl, and 20C–macro. Brill/Boarstall type ware (Buckinghamshire). (OX4H2). Abundant sub-angular quartz up to 1 mm., sparse rounded quartz up to 0.6 mm., iron coating, sparse red iron ore. Fine clay pellets.



21A

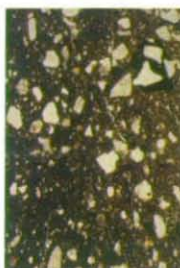


21B



21C

Plate 17. 21A–ppl, 21B–xpl and 21C–macro. Brill/Boarstall type late medieval ware (Buckinghamshire). (OXBX). Sub-angular quartz. Clay matrix: ill-sorted scatter of quartz silt, low in iron, large opaque inclusion up to 0.5 mm. across, moderate, abundant tabular. *Source:* Not Kimmeridge.



37A



37B



37C

Plate 17. 37A–ppl, 37B–xpl and 37C–macro. Potterspury type ware (Northamptonshire). (OX63). Quartz moderate sub-angular 0.4 mm, calcite fragment voids moderate – 0.3 mm, iron stone moderate rounded 0.5 mm clay pellet coated with manganese or iron 0.5 mm white mica sparse – 0.2 mm. birefringent clay.

FIG. 12

Tradition: Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxfordshire Ware

1. Bowl, incised grooves externally (Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/84, Fig. 21, no. 1, 134) Late 12th–early 13th C.
2. Shallow dish (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 24, no. 7, 157) Late 12th–early 13th C.
3. Shallow dish (Oxford, Hamel P775/0/2, Fig. 9, no. 16) Early 13th C.
4. Very shallow dish (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P84/1/1, Fig. 45 no. 7, 202) Mid–late 11th C.
5. Small shallow dish (Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976, P5/0/4, Fig. 13, no. 2, 257) Post 1216 A.D.
6. Possible cup (Witney, Bishop's Palace P507/0/3, Phase 5NA-Y) Mid 13th–early 14th C (probably residual).
- 7–11. Shallow dish profiles: (7. Swinbrook, Fig. 1, no. 11, 108; 12th C. 8. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 24, no. 5, 156; Late 12th–early 13th C. 9. Oxford, St Aldates P159/0/11, Fig. 18, no. 31, 132–133; First half of 12th C. 10. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 24, no. 12, 157; Early 13th C. 11. Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976, P63/0/2, Fig. 13, no. 3, 258) 12th C.
12. Bowl or dish with handle (Oxford, Hamel P708/0/3, Fig. 9, no. 17) Early 13th C.
13. Small bowl (Oxford, Hamel P700/0/6, Fig. 9, no. 15) Early 13th C.
14. Globular cooking pot, tubular spout and lid seating (Oxford, Hinxey Hall Queen Street Fig. 12, no. 20, 61) Unstratified.
15. Bowl, atypical tubular spout (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 18, no. 5, 140) 11th C.
16. ?Brazier or firepot, for carrying embers or chimney pot drilled hole made prior to firing (Oxford, Hamel P774/0/1, Fig. 9, no. 18) Early 13th C.
17. Bowl, tubular spout, much carbon externally (Witney, Bishop's Palace P142/1/1, Phase 4E) 12th–early 13th C.
18. Brazier or firepot for carrying embers or chimney pot, drilled hole made prior to firing (Oxford, St Aldates P50/1/0, Fig. 19, no. 16, 133) Third quarter of 12th C.
19. Possible jug, drilled hole, made prior to firing (Witney, Bishop's Palace P36/0/1, Phase 2ECTW) Mid–late 12th C.
20. Possible chimney pot, large punched hole, made prior to firing (Witney, Bishop's Palace P585/0/1, Phase 5NA R) Mid 13th–early 14th C (probably residual).
21. Corner of firecover, applied thumb-pressed strip (Witney, Bishop's Palace P596/0/6, Phase 5NA R) Mid 13th–early 14th C (probably residual).

FIG. 13

Tradition: Late Saxon and Early Medieval West Oxfordshire and Early Medieval Oxford Ware contd.

1. Pitcher, strap handle, stamp decoration (Witney, Bishop's Palace P539/4/6, Phase 4NA Y) Late 12th–early 13th C.
2. Pitcher, strap handle, chevron decoration on neck (Witney, Bishop's Palace P148/0/1, Phase 4E) Late 12th–early 13th C.
3. Pitcher, strap handle (Witney, Bishop's Palace P141/D/5, Phase 2EC(TW)) Mid–late 12th C.
4. Possible small globular cooking pot, formerly with tubular spout, stamp rosette decoration (Witney, Bishop's Palace P211/D/3, Phase 1EB (TW)) Mid–late 12th C.
5. Pitcher rim (Witney, Bishop's Palace P101/0/1, Phase 4E) Late 12th–early 13th C.
6. Pitcher base, thumb decoration (Witney, Bishop's Palace P596/0/5, Phase 5NA R) Mid 13th–early 14th C.⁴²²
7. Possible tripod foot or decorative element (Oxford, St Aldates P159/1/1, Fig. 18, no. 9, 133) Mid–late 11th C.
8. Wide strap handle, slash decoration (Witney, Bishop's Palace P578/0/1, Phase 5NA R) Mid 13th–early 14th C.
9. Small squat lamp (Oxford, St Mary's Entry 1894 in Oxford St John's, Fig. 21, no. 3, 59 and Oxford, Oxford Castle 1952–53, Fig. 35, no. 55, 105).
10. Large squat lamp (Deddington, Deddington Castle 1952–3, Fig. 35, no. 56, 105) ?11th C.
11. Tall pedestal lamp (Oxford, Town Hall 1952–3, Fig. 35 no. 57, 105; A.M. 1921.210 and Oxford, St John's Fig. 21, no. 2, 59).

⁴²² See the Wychwood tradition Fig. 47, no. 4.

12. Firecover handle, notch decoration, drilled holes made prior to firing (Witney, Bishop's Palace, P254/0/1, Phase 4E) Late 12th–early 13th C.
13. Firecover handle, slash and thumb decoration and air vent, drilled prior to firing – (Oxford, Church Street 1989, layer 2) Unstratified.
- 14–19. Stab, roller stamp, stamp, thumb and incise decoration associated with globular cooking pots with tubular spouts: (14. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 18, no. 13, 142; 15. Oxford, St Aldates P159/0/7, Fig. 18, no. 32, 133; First half of 12th C. 16. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 18, no. 11, 142; Late 11th–early 12th C. 17. Oxford, St Aldates P159/0/17, Fig. 18 no. 19, 133; First half of 12th C.; 18. Oxford, 55–58 Cornmarket PB1/5–12 Fig. 13 no. 4, 75; Early–mid 11th C. 19. Oxford, Westgate 1989) Unstratified.
- 20–25. (20. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1958, Fig. 14, no. C2C.10, 66; 11th–12th C. 21. Oxford, St Aldates P157/0/7, Fig. 19, no. 9 133; First half of 12th C. 22. Oxford, St. Aldates P200/0/6, Fig. 18, no. 8, 133; Mid–late 11th C. 23. Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/64, Fig. 21, no. 2, 134; Late 12th–early 13th C. 24. Witney, Bishop's Palace P507/4/5, Phase 5NA Y Mid 13th–early 14th C (possibly residual). 25. Witney, Bishop's Palace P507/4/3, Phase 5NA Y) Mid 13th–early 14th C (possibly residual).

FIG. 14

Tradition: Late Saxon and Early Medieval South-West Oxfordshire Ware

Fabric: OXBF (Group II – flint tempered) Petrology⁴²³

Manufacture: Hand-made

Firing: Munsell Light reddish brown (5YR 6/4); Core: grey–very dark grey (5YR 5/0–3/1)

Date: Late 9th–mid 13th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar with two finger impressions only (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P84/0/1, Fig. 45, no. 1, 202) Mid–late 11th C.
2. Globular cooking pot with tubular spout and rosette stamped decoration (Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.9a and b, Fig. 34, no. 37, 104 and Oxford, Oxford Castle 1952–53; also Oxford, Logic Lane (1940), Fig. 8, no. 1, 47, 48).
3. Shallow dish with thumb decoration (Oxford, Logic Lane Fig. 7, no. 7, 58) 12th C.
4. Typical rim with slight concave profile (Oxford, St Aldates P209/0/4, Fig. 17, no. 13, 132) Mid–late 10th C.
- 5–7. Linear and stamped decoration associated with globular cooking pots with tubular spouts (5. Oxford, Logic Lane Fig. 13, no. 3, 61; 6. Oxford, St Aldates P159/2/2, Fig. 18, no. 14, 133; Mid–late 11th C. 7. Oxford, Hinxey Hall Queen Street P29/2/3, Fig. 12, no. 4, 61) 11th C.
- 8–9. (8. Oxford, Logic Lane Fig. 13, nos. 6, 7, 61; 12th C. 9. Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976 P45/0/1, Fig. 12, no. 16, 259) 12th.

FIG. 15

Tradition: Late Saxon St Neot's type

Fabric: OXR (Group IA – Shelly limestone) Petrology: see Appendices VI and VII⁴²⁴

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: Munsell Internal surface: pinkish grey (5YR/6/2); Core: dark grey (5YR 4/0)

Date: Early 10th–mid 11th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1958 Fig. 10, no. AIB.I, 61) Mid 10th–mid 11th C.
2. Deep sided bowl (Oxford, Logic Lane B4.1 Fig. 10, no. 1, 56) Mid 10th–mid 11th C.
3. Deep sided bowl (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P0/354/2, Fig. 45, no. 12 and *Medieval Pottery of the Oxford Region*, Pl. 3) Mid–late 11th C.
4. Applied thumb-pressed strip from ?storage jar (Oxford, 23–26 Queen Street PC9.3/0, Fig. 21, no. 8, 90) Mid 11th C.
5. Base of lamp (Oxford, 55–58 Cornmarket PB1/5–12, Fig. 13, no. 3, 75) Early–mid 11th C.

⁴²³ Williams, op. cit. note 419.

⁴²⁴ Vince, op. cit. note 91; Hunter, op. cit. note 181.

- 6-7. Typical cooking pot/storage jar rims (6. Oxford, All Saints P94/1/1, Mid 11th C. 7. Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976, P23/1/3, Fig. 12, no. 3, 257) Early-mid 11th C.
 8-10. Typical bowls and shallow dish rims (8. Oxford, All Saints P75/0/5, Mid 11th C. 9. Oxford, St Aldates P200/0/5, Fig. 18, no. 2, 132; Mid-late 11th C. 10. Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976 P51/0/1, Fig. 12, no. 9, 257) Early-mid 11th C.
 11. Shallow dish (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P1534/0/1, Fig. 45, no. 14) Mid-late 11th C.

FIG. 16

Tradition: Late Saxon-Medieval Wallingford Ware

Fabric: WA38 (Group III - quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Handmade and wheel-thrown

Firing: Munsell: Light grey (5YR 7/1)

Date: Mid 11th-mid 14th century

1. Large cooking pot/storage jar, thumb-pressed decoration, tool-trimmed (Abingdon, Stert Street Fig. 5, no. 1, 9) 13th C.
2. Cooking pot/storage jar (Abingdon, Market Place 1972, CE).
- 3-4. Typical cooking pot/storage jar rims: (3. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 514. 4. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 47 1).
5. Smaller cooking pot/storage jar (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 6).
6. Large cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 19 3).
7. Base of cooking pot/storage jar (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 13 1).
8. Pitcher rim, roller stamp decoration, glaze (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 19 2).
- 9-10. Typical cooking pot/storage jar rims, thumb decoration: (9. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 9/16. 10. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 5W).
11. Shallow dish (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 58 3).
12. Tripod pitcher foot (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 68).
13. Flask/bottle rim (Wallingford, Market Place 5/8).
14. Spouted pitcher rim, glaze (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 54 1).
15. Strap handle, applied thumb decoration, light green glaze (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 54 7).⁴²⁵
- 16-17. Atypical decorative styles (16. Small strap handle, roller stamp decoration, light green glaze Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 4; 17. Small strap handle, slash decoration, light green glaze Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 78).
- 18-19. Typical decorative styles (18. Strap handle, plait decoration, light green glaze Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 10, 1; 19. Strap handle, roller stamp and thumb decoration Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 18/20 1).
- 20-24. Heavy thumb, comb applied, roller stamp and incise decorative styles (20. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 5N 1. 21. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 48. 22. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 47 1.⁴²⁶ 23. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 24B. 24. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 5W 2) Early 13th C.

FIG. 17

Tradition: Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware

Fabric: OXY (Group III - quartz tempered) Petrology⁴²⁷

Manufacture: Hand-made and/or wheel-finished

Firing: Munsell: Light grey-light brown (7.5YR 6/1-10YR 5-6/2-3) Core: Light grey (10YR 5.5-6/1)

Date: Mid 11th-mid 13th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1956, Fig. 17, no. BIB.23, 63).
- 2-5. Typical larger cooking pot/storage jar rims (2. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1956, Fig. 17, no. BIB.38, 64; Early 12th C. 3. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1956, Fig. 17, no. BIB.25, 63; Early 12th C. 4. Oxford, Clarendon

⁴²⁵ Robinson, op. cit. note 286, Fig. 15, no. 1, 91; early 13th C.

⁴²⁶ Ibid. Fig. 18, no. 43, 94; early 13th C.

⁴²⁷ Williams, op. cit. note 419.

- Hotel 1956, Fig. 17, no. BIB.21, 63; Late 11th–early 12th C. 5. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1956, Fig. 16, no. BIB.17, 62) Late 11th–early 12th C.
6. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P795/0/2, Fig. 9, no. 8) Late 12th C.
 7. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P145/309/1, Fig. 47 no. 5, 208) Late 12th–early 13th C.
 8. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P145/142/1, Fig. 47 no. 6, 208) Late 12th–early 13th C.
 - 9–13. Typical cooking pot/storage jar rims (9. Oxford, St Aldates P159/0/9, Fig. 19 no. 8, 133; First half of the 12th C. 10. Oxford, Hamel P780/0/1, Fig. 9, no. 5; Late 12th C. 11. Oxford, Hamel P786/17/2, Fig. 9, no. 7; Late 12th C. 12. Oxford, Hamel P807/0/1, Fig. 9, no. 9; Late 12th C. 13. Oxford, Hamel P645/1/1, Fig. 9, no. 4) Late 12th C.
 14. Small cooking pot/storage jar with much external tool trimming and finger tipped decoration (Oxford, Hamel P786/20/1, Fig. 9, no. 10) Late 12th C.

FIG. 18

Tradition: Late Saxon–Medieval Oxford Ware contd.

1. Large cooking pot/storage jar with thumb decoration (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1956, Fig. 18, no. A4.2, 70) 12th–early 13th C.
2. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, St Aldates P158/2/1, Fig. 20, no. 22, 134) Late 12th–early 13th C.
3. Small cooking pot, tool trimmed externally (Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/20, Fig. 21, no. 25, 134) Late 12th–early 13th C.
- 4–7. Typical later cooking pot/storage jar rims (4. Oxford, St Aldates P178/1/2, Fig. 20, no. 8, 134; Late 12th–early 13th C. 5. Oxford, Hamel P479/0/3, Fig. 10, no. 5; Late 12th–early 13th C. 6. Oxford, Hamel P700/0/2, Fig. 10, no. 2; Late 12th–early 13th C. 7. Oxford, Hamel P700/0/1, Fig. 10, no. 13) Late 12th–early 13th C.
8. Cooking pot (Oxford, Hamel P689/0/2, Fig. 12, no. 1) Early–mid 13th C.
9. Storage jar, thumb decoration (Oxford, Hamel P775/0/1, Fig. 10, no. 7) Late 12th–early 13th C.
10. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Westgate 1989, P30/0/2, Fig. 51 no. 4, 209) First half of 13th C.
11. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Westgate 1989, P99/0/3, Fig. 51 no. 2, 209) First half of 13th C.
12. Cooking pot with finger tip decoration (Oxford, Westgate 1989, P27/0/2, Fig. 51 no. 7, 209) First half of 13th C.
- 13–19. Typical of the latest cooking pots/storage jars: (13. Oxford, Hamel P525/0/3, Fig. 11, no. 23; Early–mid 13th C. 14. Oxford, Hamel P681/0/2, Fig. 11, no. 10; Early–mid 13th C. 15. Oxford, Hamel P457/0/2/, Fig. 11, no. 6; Early–mid 13th C. 16. Oxford, Hamel P375/0/1, Fig. 11, no. 11; Early–mid 13th C. 17. Oxford, Hamel P688/0/1, Fig. 12, no. 8; Early–mid 13th C. 18. Oxford, Hamel P525/0/2, Fig. 11, no. 13; Early–mid 13th C. 19. Oxford, Hamel P457/0/3, Fig. 11, no. 3) Early–mid 13th C.

FIG. 19

Tradition: Late Saxon–Medieval Oxford Ware contd.

1. Bowl/pan (Oxford, Hamel P761/0/1, Fig. 10, no. 4) Late 12th–early 13th C.
2. Small bowl/pan, comb decoration on rim (Oxford, Hamel P734/0/1, Fig. 10, no. 18) Late 12th–early 13th C.
3. Bowl/pan, incise decoration externally (Oxford, St. Aldates P158/0/6, Fig. 20, no. 26, 134) Late 12th–early 13th C.
4. Bowl/pan rim, thumb decoration (Oxford, St. Aldates P159/0/1, Fig. 19, no. 4, 133) First half of 12th C.
5. Small bowl/pan (Oxford, St Aldates P178/1/1, Fig. 20, no. 10, 134) Late 12th–early 13th C.
6. Small bowl/pan (Oxford, St Aldates P123/2/2, Fig. 20, no. 5, 134) Late 12th–early 13th C.
7. Bowl with strap handle (Woodperry, Fig. 23, no. 8, A.M. 1878.9 and Oxford, Merton College, Fig. 33, no. 8, 103–4) Late 12th–13th C.
8. Bowl/pan, incise decoration (Middleton Stoney, 519 III 1 90).
9. Atypical bowl/pan rim (Oxford, 44–46 Cornmarket Fig. 5, no. 8/8, 25) Early 13th C.
10. Bowl/pan with probably 2 handles, much tool trimmed about base, thin light green glaze (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 24, no. 10, 157) Early 13th C.

- 11-15. Typical bowl/pan rims (11. Oxford, Hamel P589/0/1, Fig. 13, no. 6; Early-mid 13th C. 12. Oxford, Hamel P689/0/1, Fig. 12, no. 12; Early-mid 13th C. 13. Oxford, Hamel P757/0/1, Fig. 13, no. 4; Early-mid 13th C. 14. Oxford, Hamel P499/0/1, Fig. 14, no. 1; Mid 13th C. 15. Oxford, Hamel P689/0/3, Fig. 12, no. 14) Early-mid 13th C.
16. Bowl/pan, thumb decoration (Oxford, Hamel P671/0/1, Fig. 12, no. 13) Early-mid 13th C.
17. Bowl/pan (Oxford, Hamel P754/1/1, Fig. 13, no. 5) Early-mid 13th C.

FIG. 20

Tradition: Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware contd.

1. Shallow dish, drilled hole (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P2502/1/1, Fig. 53, no. 1, 214) Residual.
2. Shallow bowl/pan, incise decoration, glazed internally (Oxford, St Aldates P123/0/13, Fig. 22, no. 19, 134) Second half of 13th-early 14th C.
3. Small bowl/pan, incise decoration (Oxford, St Aldates P110/2/5, Fig. 23, no. 3, 135) 14th C.
4. Bowl/pan, incise and thumb press decoration (Oxford, Oriel College 1943-44, Fig. 33, no. 4, 105) Late 12th-13th C.
5. Bowl/pan, socketed handle, thumb press decoration (Oxford, 55-58 Cornmarket PG1b, Fig. 13, no. 13, 75) Late 12th-early 13th C.
6. Cup or lamp (Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/9, Fig. 21, no. 8, 134) Late 12th-early 13th C.
7. ?Lid (Oxford, St Aldates P158/0/7, Fig. 20, no. 23, 134) Late 12th-early 13th C.
8. Base of colander/strainer, drilled holes (Oxford, Hamel P778/0/1, Fig. 10, no. 19, 134) 14th C.
9. Lamp (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P2517/1/15, Fig. 46 no. 17, 204) 12th C.
10. Lamp (Oxford, Cornmarket A.M. 1954.2).
11. Lamp (Oxford, Old Music School, Bodleian Library A.M. 1892.15 in Oxford, St John's Fig. 21 no. 4, 60).

FIG. 21

Tradition: Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware contd.

1. Flask with tubular spout and strap handle, applied vertical wavy strips, light green glaze (Oxford, Town Hall in Oxford, Bodleian Extension, Pl. X, no. 7 A.M. 1921.207).
2. Atypical incise decoration on tripod pitchers, thin orange to light green glaze (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1959, Fig. 19, Z.18, 59) 12th C.
3. Decorative twisted strips used on tripod pitchers (Oxford, Oriel College 1942 Fig. 1 no. 2, 179).
4. Flask as in no. 1 but with stab decoration on base (Oxford Trans City Library acc 74.19.5).
5. Tripod pitcher, tubular spout, small twisted loop, applied vertical wavy strips light green glaze (Oxford, Oriel College 1942, Fig. 1, no. 2, 179).⁴²⁸
6. Spouted tripod pitcher, horizontal grooves, applied vertical wavy strips, light yellow glaze (Oxford, St John's Fig. 16, no. 1, 48) c. AD 1168-80.
7. Atypical long pod, light green glaze (Middleton Stoney, 600 III 1 F80).
8. Small tripod flask, incised horizontal grooves, applied vertical wavy and curvilinear strips; light green glaze (Oxford, Selfridges P23/32/1, Fig. 50, no. 1, 209) Late 12th-early 13th C.
9. Two handled pitcher, thin light green-yellow glaze (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel 1959, Fig. 21, Z.22 72, A.M. 1971.1165) Early 13th C.
- 10-13. Rims associated with spouted tripod pitchers (10. Oxford, St Aldates P171/2/1, Fig. 19, no. 5, 133; First half of 12th C. 11. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 19, no. 6, 144, light green glaze, A.M. 1968.1997; 12th-early 13th C. 12. Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/35, Fig. 21, no. 10, 134; Late 12th-early 13th C. 13. Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/51, Fig. 21, no. 9, 134) Late 12th-early 13th C.

⁴²⁸ For similar, E. M. Jope, H. M. Jope and S. E. Rigold, 'Pottery from a late 12th Century Well-filling and other Medieval Finds from St. John's College, Oxford, 1947', *Oxoniensia*, xv (1950), Fig. 16, no. 2, 50; Late 12th C.; Radcliffe Square in Oxford, Jope, op. cit. note 217, Pl. IIIA A.M. 1915.70 and Plate 4 this volume.

FIG. 22

Tradition: Late Saxon–Medieval Oxford Ware contd.

1. Spouted tripod pitcher, horizontal grooves and strap handle with plait decoration, light yellow (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P99/0/1, Fig. 51 no. 1, 209) First half of 13th century.
- 2–6. Typical spouted pitcher rims (2. Oxford, Hamel P596/0/1, Fig. 13, no. 14; Early–mid 13th C. 3. Oxford, Hamel P237/0/1, Fig. 11, no. 16; early–mid 13th C. 4. Oxford, Hamel P671/0/4, Fig. 12, no. 15; early–mid 13th C. 5. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 19, no. 4, 144; A.M. 1968.1995, yellow/green glaze; 12th–early 13th C. 6. Middleton Stoney, Unstratified.)
7. Jug, pinched base and narrow strap handle, incised horizontal decoration of neck, thin light green glaze (Oxford, Frewin Hall Fig. 14.A, 97) Early 13th C.
8. Spouted pitcher, strap handle with plait decoration, incised horizontal decoration and applied finger-pressed vertical strips, light green glaze (Oxford, Westgate 1989, P35/0/1, Fig. 49 no. 1, 209) Late 12th–early 13th C.
9. Pitcher, strap handle with plait and thumb decoration, glaze (Middleton Stoney, 601 III 1 F84).
10. Spouted pitcher, with moulded face, arm and male principle, incised horizontal decoration on neck, light green glaze (Oxford, Exeter College Fig. 62, 130–1).
- 11–14. Typical pitcher strap handles (11. Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/85, Fig. 21, no. 12, 134; Late 12th–early 13th C. 12. Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.90A, light green glaze. 13. Oxford, Godstow A.M. 1885.37 light orange glaze. 14. Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.90B, light green glaze) 12th C.
- 15–17. Atypical pitcher and jug strap handles (15. Oxford, Hamel P689/0/4, Fig. 12, no. 10; Early–mid 13th C. 16. Oxford, Hamel P479/0/2, Fig. 10, no. 20; Late 12th–early 13th C. 17. Oxford, Hamel P854/0/4, Fig. 14, no. 21) 13th C.
- 18–26. Atypical incise, applied, roller stamp, red slip decorative styles associated with pitchers, jugs and flasks. (18. Oxford, Logic Lane Fig. 14, no. 11, 62 A.M. 1967.93; 12th C. 19. Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 22B, 101, Pl. X no. 5; 20. Oxford, St Aldates P39/0/1, Fig. 20, no. 21, 134; Late 12th–early 13th C. 21. Middleton Stoney, 76.431. 22. Middleton Stoney, 96. 23. Oxford, Lincoln Hall Fig. 17, no. 4, 52, light green glaze. 24. Oxford, Church Street 1989, P2517/1/1, Fig. 46, no. 13, 204, light green glaze, 12th C. 25. Oxford, St. John's Fig. 16, no. 6, 50; Late 12th C. 26. Oxford, Logic Lane Fig. 14, no. 2, 62) c. AD 1120.

FIG. 25

Tradition: Late Saxon–Medieval Abingdon Ware

Fabric: ABA (Group III, quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Handmade and/or wheel thrown

Firing: Munsell: Internal surface: Light red (2.5YR 6/8); Core: As internal surface of Grey (10YR 5.5/1)

Date: Mid 11th–14th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Abingdon, Stert Street Pit 66, Fig. 5, no. 4, 9) 13th C.
2. Pitcher, incised vertical, horizontal and wavy decoration, thick orange/light green glaze (Abingdon, Stert Street Pit 33, Fig. 6, no. 8, 9) 13th C.
3. Spouted pitcher, roller stamp and applied horizontal and vertical strips, yellow/light green glaze (Abingdon, Broad Street III Fig. 25, no. 6, 34) 13th C.
4. Strap handle, plait and roller stamp decoration, light green glaze (Abingdon, Broad Street III Fig. 25, no. 7, 34) 13th C.
5. Pitcher strap handle, applied thumb-pressed strip and roller stamp decoration, light green glaze (Abingdon, Stert Street Pit 33 Fig. 6, no. 7, 9) 13th C.
6. Tripod pitcher base, light green glaze (Abingdon, Market Place 1972, AQ).
7. Bowl, thumb decoration (Abingdon, Broad Street III Fig. 27, no. 56, 36) Early 13th C.
8. Jar, thin mottled green glaze internally (Abingdon, Market Place 1972, BX).
- 9–21. Typical incise, thumb, applied, slip, roller stamp and stamp decorative styles, with light green glaze but sherds with all over slip are glazed mottled green (9. Abingdon, Broad Street layer 73 III 13th C. 10. Abingdon, Old Gaol Fig. 49, no. 1, 69. 11. Abingdon, Broad Street layer 14. 12. Abingdon, Market Place BA, CR, BR. 13. Abingdon, Old Gaol Fig. 49, no. 4, 69. 14. Oxford, Bodleian Extension Well XV, A.M. 1938.302. 15. Abingdon, Broad Street 24, 13th C. 16. Abingdon, Broad Street Fig. 28, no. 57, 38; Early 13th C. 17. Abingdon, Broad Street 14. 18. Abingdon, Broad Street 14. 19. Abingdon, Broad Street 32. 20. Abingdon, Broad Street 28. 21. Abingdon, Fairlawn Wharf M13).

FIG. 26

Tradition: Late Saxon-Medieval Abingdon Ware contd.

Fabric: OXAG (Group III quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Handmade and/or wheel thrown

Firing: Red (2.5YR 5/0) - Grey (10YR 5.5/1)

Date: Mid 11th-14th century

1. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Dean Court P1731/B/2/2a Site A Fig. 69, no. 8; Phase 1) Late 12th-early 13th C.
2. Large cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration and tool trimmed (Abingdon, Broad Street 1973 Fig. 25, no. 10, 34) 13th C.
3. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 58).
4. Cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration and tool trimmed on shoulder (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 23, no. 16, 154) Late 12th C.
5. Small cooking pot/storage jar, tool trimmed on shoulder (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 23, no. 12, 154) Early 13th C.
6. ?Bowl (Oxford, Hamel P197/0/1, Fig. 17, no. 1) Early 15th C.
7. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Dean Court P1771/A/1 Fig. 73, no. 2; Phase 3) Second half 13th C.
8. Small bowl (Cumnor, Dean Court P1366/0/1 Fig. 81, no. 2; Site D Building XVI) 14th C.
9. Firecover, strap handle with slash decoration and drilled vents. A large square vent was made after firing, presumably because the existing vents let in insufficient air to keep the embers alight (Cumnor, Dean Court P322/1/1 Fig. 73, no. 4; Site A Building II phase 2) 13th C.
10. Shallow dish/pan with tubular handle (Crowmarsh, 8.9).
11. Large tubular handle, slashed decoration on underside (Cumnor, Dean Court P1310/0/1 Fig. 81, no. 7; Site D, Building XV) 14th C.
12. Shallow dish, several drilled holes (Crowmarsh, 1911.603a).
13. Shallow dish, thumb and white slip decoration (Oxford, St Aldates P37/0/1, Fig. 20, no. 30, 134) Late 12th-early 13th C.
14. Shallow dish (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 28).
15. Flask rim, decayed mottled green glaze internally and externally (Cumnor, Dean Court P432/0/1 Fig. 80, no. 1; Phase 4) 14th C.
16. Roller stamp decoration (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972, 78, 34) Early 13th C.
17. Small ovoid lamp (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P1540/1/1, Fig. 47 no. 7, 208) Late 12th-early 13th C.

FIG. 27

Tradition: Late Saxon-Medieval Abingdon Ware contd.

1. Ovoid jug, thumb base, finger-tipped rim and white slip decoration, thin orange glaze (Oxford, Westgate 1989, P16/0/1, Fig. 51 no. 8, 209) First half of 13th C.
2. Small jug, glazed dark green externally mottled green internally (Cumnor, Dean Court P412/0/4, Fig. 80, no. 7; Phase 4).
3. Pitcher, white slip decoration, thin orange glaze (Oxford, Radcliffe Camera Square in Bodleian Extension Pl. X, no. 8, A.M. 1915.71) 12th-early 13th C.
4. Jug, angular handle, brownish purple glaze inside rim (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 27, no. 11, 165) pre-1400.⁴²⁹
5. Rod handle, stab and white slip decoration, light green glaze (Abingdon, Broad Street Fig. 29, no. 67, 39) Late 13th-14th C.
6. Rod handle, triangular stab decoration (Wallingford, New Road Fig. 9, no. 49, 212) 12th-early 13th C.
7. Rod handle, stab and white slip decoration, orange glaze (Abingdon, Market Place 1972, CC).
8. Wide strap handle, slashed decoration (Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/30, Fig. 20, no. 31, 134) Late 12th-early 13th C.

⁴²⁹ J. B. Ward Perkins, *London Museum Medieval Catalogue* (1954: Reprinted 1967), Fig. 74, 225 for typical 14th-century metal cauldron.

9. Small strap handle, triangular stab and thumb and white slip decoration, orange glaze (Wallingford, New Road Fig. 8, no. 18, 212) Late 12th–early 13th C.
10. Strap handle, slash and stab decoration (Oxford, Hamel P732/0/1, Fig. 13, no. 17) Early–mid 13th C.
11. Small strap handle, stab, roller stamp and white slip decoration (Oxford, Hamel P456/0/7, Fig. 14, no. 20) Mid 13th C.
12. Small strap handle ?plait and roller stamp decoration (Oxford, St John's College A.M. 1950.239).
13. Strap handle with double plait, light green glaze (Oxford, Clarendon Z 1959).
14. Small strap handle, slash decoration, light green glaze (Abingdon, Broad Street Fig. 30, no. 85, 39) 14th C.
15. Wide strap handle, stab decoration (Cumnor, Dean Court P403/2/1 Fig. 80, no. 12; Phase 4) 14th C.
16. Strap handle, stab and white slip decoration, thin orange glaze (Cumnor, Dean Court P574/0/1 Fig. 74, no. 5; Site B, Phase 1) Mid–late 13th C.
17. Strap handle, deep slash decoration, thin orange glaze (Abingdon, Market Place AB).
18. Wide strap handle, deep slash, thumb and white slip decoration, thin orange glaze (Oxford, St Aldate's P137/1/71, Fig. 20, no. 15, 134) Late 12th–early 13th C.
- 19–29. Typical slip and applied thumb decorative styles mainly light green, or orange glaze but with overall white slip glazed mottled green. (19. Abingdon, Broad Street 20. 20. Abingdon, Broad Street 14. 21. Oxford, St Aldates P46/0/1, Fig. 20, no. 27, 134 Late 12th–early 13th C. 22. Abingdon, Broad Street 10. 23. Oxford, St Aldates P125/4/4, Fig. 22, no. 32, 134; Second half of 13th–early 14th C. 24. Abingdon, Broad Street 14. 25. Oxford, St Aldates P36/1/1, Fig. 22, no. 47, 134; Second half of 13th–early 14th C. 26. Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/34, Fig. 21, no. 11, 134; Late 12th–early 13th C. 27. Abingdon, Broad Street 36. 28. Oxford, Bodleian Extension A. M. 1938.1001. 29. Abingdon, Broad Street 114).
30. Spouted pitcher neck (Cumnor, Seacourt Area 2 pit 2 Fig. 12.5).
31. Pitcher with thumb decoration all over (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 22 E, 112, Well 14 A.M. 1938.1267, Pl. X no. 8).
32. Spouted tripod pitcher, white slip decoration (Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/73, Fig. 21, no. 14, 134) Late 12th–early 13th C.
33. Tripod foot, central hole, light green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P784/0/1, Fig. 10, no. 9) Late 12th–early 13th C.

FIG. 28

Tradition: Late Saxon–Medieval Banbury Ware

Fabric: OX234 (Group III quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Hand-made or wheel-thrown; rims often added to body and wheel-finished

Firing: Reddish yellow (5YR 6/6) Int surface Pink (7.5YR 7/4) Core: Dark Grey (7.5YR 4/0)

Date: Mid 12th–Mid 13th century

1. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976 Fig. 11, no. 30, 124, phase 2a) 12th–13th C.
2. Base of cooking pot/storage jar (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976 I A 11).
3. Small cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, III 102, phases 3 and 4) Residual.
4. Cooking pot/storage jar, thumb-pressed decoration, rilling on shoulder (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 10, no. 13, 123, phase 1) 12th C.
5. Large cooking pot/storage jar, thumb-pressed decoration (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, 186).
6. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 11, no. 16, 124, phase 2a) 12–13th C.
7. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, III 26 3).
8. Bowl, fine roller stamp decoration (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, B 127).
- 9–12. (9. Large cooking pot/storage jar rim Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 10, no. 10, 123, phase 1, 12th C. 10. Cooking pot/storage jar rim, finger-tip decoration Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 11, no. 23, 124, phase 2a, 12th–13th C. 11. Cooking pot/storage jar rim Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, B 180. 12. Large cooking pot/storage jar rim Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 11, no. 19, 124, phase 2a) 12th–13th C.
- 13–15. Atypical rim (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 11, no. 20, 124, phase 2a, 12th–13th C. 14. Cooking pot/storage jar rim, finger-tip decoration Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, 103. 15. Cooking pot/storage jar rim (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 12, no. 46, 126, phase 2b) 14th C.
16. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Banbury, Banbury Castle, 1976 B 105, phases 3 and 4) Residual.
17. Base of large cooking pot/storage jar (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, II 50, phase 2b) 14th C.

FIG. 29

Tradition: Late Saxon–Medieval Banbury Ware contd.

1. Large storage jar/cistern, applied vertical and horizontal thumb-pressed strips (South Newington, PRN 11,857).
2. Shallow dish or pan (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, B 184).
3. Shallow baking dish (Provenance unknown A.M. 1971.1167).

FIG. 30

Tradition: Late Saxon–Medieval Banbury Ware contd.

1. Pitcher, strap handle, thumbled at edges, body decorated with rectangular rouletting, tool trimmed base (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 10 no. 8, 123, phase 1) 12th C.
2. Pitcher rim (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, IV, X).
3. ?Firecover fragment, applied finger-pressed decoration (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, II 271).
4. Pitcher rim (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, III 126, phase 2b) 14th C.
5. Neck of pitcher, triangular roller stamp decoration (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, B 177).
6. Neck of pitcher, small rectangular roller stamp decoration (Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 11, no. 36, 126, phase 2a) 12th–13th C.
- 7, 10, 11–12. Typical decorative style (7. Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, Fig. 11, no. 27, 124, phase 2a, 12th–13th C. 10. Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, III 122; phase 2a, 12th–13th C. 11. Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, 177. 12. Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, 21, phase 2a) 12th–13th C.
- 8–9. Strap handle, thumb decoration at the edges: (8. Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, B 177; 9. Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, IV B 177).

FIG. 31

Tradition: Early–Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware

Fabric: WA27 (Group III – quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: hand-made and/or wheel finished

Firing: Munsell: Reddish-brown – dark grey (2.5YR 5/4 – 4/0)

Date: Early 11th–late 12th century

1. Large cooking pot/storage jar, thumbled on outer edge of rim (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972 14, 3).
2. Cooking pot/storage jar (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972 68, 2) Early 13th C.
3. Base of cooking pot/storage jar (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972 24, 8).
4. Cooking pot/storage jar (Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972 7, 1).
- 5–8. Thumb, roller stamp and linear decoration associated with cooking pots/storage jars (5. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972 14, 3. 6. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972 70, 2. 7. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972 24B. 8. Wallingford, Wallingford Castle 1972 21) Late 11th–early 12th C.

FIG. 32

Tradition: Early Medieval–Late Medieval South-East Oxfordshire Ware

Fabric: OX162 (Group III, quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Wheel-finished

Firing: Munsell Internal and external surfaces light reddish-yellow (5YR 6/8), core light grey (2.5Y N8/1)

Date: 12th–early 14th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar, comb decoration (Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 16, no. 12) 12th C.
2. Cooking pot/storage jar rim, comb decoration (Chinnor, Oakley Fig. 6, no. 2).
3. Cooking pot/storage jar, applied thumb-pressed strip (Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 18, no. 47, 94) Early 13th C.

4. Cooking pot/storage jar (Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 17, no. 28, 94) Late 13th–early 14th C.
- 5–8. Typical cooking pot/storage jar rims (5. Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 17, no. 26, 94; Mid 13th C. 6. Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 17, no. 27, 94; Late 13th–early 14th C. 7. Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 17, no. 36, 94; Early 13th C. 8. Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 17, no. 24, 94) Late 12th C.
9. Bowl (Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 21, no. 86, 97) Late 13th–early 14th C.
10. Shallow dish/pan, light thumb decoration (Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 21, no. 89, 100) Late 13th–early 14th C.
11. Shallow dish/pan (Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 21, no. 95, 100) Late 13th–early 14th C.
- 12–13. Bowl rims (12. Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 21, no. 90, 100; Late 12th C. 13. Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 21, no. 82, 97) Late 12th C.
14. Strap handle, thin orange glaze (Tetsworth, Copt Hay layer 46/2) Mid 13th C.
15. Pitcher rim, thin orange glaze (Tetsworth, Copt Hay layer 4).
16. Base of pitcher, thumb decoration, thin orange glaze (Tetsworth, Copt Hay layer 46/2) Mid 13th C.
17. Base of pitcher, thumb decoration, thin orange glaze (Tetsworth, Copt Hay layer 46/2) Mid 13th C.

FIG. 33

Tradition: Early Medieval–Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware contd.

Fabrics: HE3 and HE19 (Group III quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: Munsell Fabric 3: Internal surface and core: dark grey (7.5YR 4/0); Fabric 19: Internal surface: reddish brown (5YR 5/4) Core: Light grey (7.5YR 7/0)

Date: Late 12th–Mid 14th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Henley, The Rectory P24/0/13, Fabric 3 Phase 1) Late 12th C.
2. Cooking pot/storage jar (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 3) Late 12th–early 13th C.⁴³⁰
3. Cooking pot rim (Henley, The Rectory P18/0/4, Fabric 19) Late 12th–early 13th C.
4. Cooking pot/storage jar (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 19, no. 4) Late 12th–early 13th C.
5. Large cooking pot rim (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 9) Late 12th–early 13th C.
6. Cooking pot/storage jar rim (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 9, no. 7) Late 12th–early 13th C.
7. Large cooking pot/storage jar rim (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 9, no. 6) Late 12th–early 13th C.
8. Cooking pot/storage pot rim (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 9, no. 5) Late 12th–early 13th C.
9. Cooking pot/storage jar (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 9, no. 2) Late 12th–early 13th C.
10. Cooking pot/storage jar base (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 19, no. 3) Late 12th–early 13th C.
11. Cooking pot/storage jar base (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 2) Late 12th–early 13th C.
12. Cooking pot rim (Henley, The Rectory P11/2/1, Fabric 19) Late 12th–early 13th C.
13. Large cooking pot (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 8) Late 12th–early 13th C.
14. Shallow dish/pan (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 7) Late 12th–early 13th C.
15. Shallow dish/pan (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 19, no. 2) Late 12th–early 13th C.
16. Shallow dish/cooking pot rim (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 9, no. 3) Late 12th–early 13th C.
17. Shallow dish/pan (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 9, no. 4) Late 12th–early 13th C.
18. Jug base (Henley, The Rectory P14/0/5, Fabric 19) Late 12th–early 13th C.
19. Bowl, inverted rim (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 6) Late 12th–early 13th C.
20. Jug rim (Henley, The Rectory P14/0/4, Fabric 3) Late 12th–early 13th C.
21. Jug rim, strap handle (Henley, The Rectory P22/0/1, Fabric 19) Late 12th–early 13th C.
- 22–24. Decorative styles: applied horizontal and vertical thumb decoration (22. Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 4. 23. vertical comb Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 1. 24. vertical comb Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 1) Late 12th–early 13th C.
25. Wide strap handle, deep vertical grooves, thin light green glaze (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 19, no. 1) 13th C.
26. Strap handle, vertical groove and stab decoration (Bix, Middle Assendon Fabric 3, no. 5) Late 12th–13th C.

⁴³⁰ Sherds from Middle Assendon are in a private collection held in that parish.

FIG. 34

Tradition: Early Medieval–Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware contd.

Fabric: CH41 (Group III, quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: Munsell Red (2.5YR 5/6) – Dark Grey (2.5YR 5\0)

Date: Late 12th–15th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P88/0/2) Late 12th–early 13th C.
2. Cooking pot/storage jar, applied thumb-pressed decoration (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P43/0/2) Late 12th–early 13th C.
3. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P600/5) Early 14th–late 15th C.
4. Cooking pot (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P1015/2/1) Early–mid 14th C.
5. Cooking pot/storage jar (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P228/1/1 joins P211/1) Early 14th C.
- 6–8. Cooking pot rims: (6. Chalgrove, Harding's Field P534/1/2; Late 12th–early 13th C. 7. Chalgrove, Harding's Field P1031/0/2; Mid 13th–early 14th C. 8. Chalgrove, Harding's Field P960/1/1) Mid 13th–early 14th C.
9. Bowl or jug rim (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P488/1/1) Mid 13th–early 14th C.
10. Jar, bifid rim (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P726/4/1) Late 14th C.
11. Bowl rim (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P960/1/1) Mid 13th–early 14th C.
12. Bowl rim (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P1301/0/1) 13th–14th C.
13. Bowl rim (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P639/1/3) 14th–15th C.
14. Small jug base (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P966/1/1) Late 12th–early 13th C.
15. Jug, white slip decoration (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P1053/1/1) Mid 13th–early 14th C.
16. Jug, applied red slip (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P573/1/2) Mid 14th–mid 15th C.
17. Jug, strap handle, slash decoration, white slip (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P1095/0/1).
18. Applied thumb-pressed strips (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P537/1/1) Mid 13th–early 14th C.
19. Wide strap handle, vertical slash (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P700/1/1) Mid 14th–mid 15th C.
20. Lid (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P14/0/2).

FIG. 38

Tradition: Minety-type, North-East Wiltshire Ware

Fabric: OXBB (Group IB limestone tempered) Petrology⁴³¹

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: Internal surface: Light brown (7.5YR 6/3) Core: Grey (10YR 5/1)

Date: Late 12th–16th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Provenance unknown A.M. 1971.1161).
2. Cooking pot/storage jar (Faringdon, Faringdon Clump Fig. 5, no. 7).
3. Cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Seacourt, Fig. 21, no. 2, 149) Late 13th C.
4. ?Pitcher, applied thumb-press strip (Witney, Bishop's Palace, P571/1/3, Phase 5NA R) Mid 13th–early 14th C.
5. ?Jug/jar, with large drilled hole (Oxford, Hamel P337/0/1, Fig. 16, no. 19) Mid 14th C.
6. Oval shallow dish, pinched spout (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 26, no. 17, 163) Mid 14th C.
7. Smaller cooking pot (Oxford, provenance unknown A.M. M189 Oxoniensis, 1948 Fig. 14, no. 17).
8. Spouted jar, slash decoration (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 18, no. 4, 140) Unstratified.

FIG. 39

Tradition: Minety type, North-East Wiltshire Ware contd.

1. Two handled jar, applied thumb-press decoration, partial yellow-green glaze (Cumnor, Seacourt 1938 Fig. 5, no. 6, 66).
2. Deep sided dish/pan (Witney, Bishop's Palace P571/0/1, Phase 5NA R) Mid 13th–early 14th C.

⁴³¹ Williams, op. cit. note 419.

3. Tripod skillet (Grove, Fig. 1, no. 1, 118).
4. Jug, strap handle, slash decoration, patches of light green glaze (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 21, no. 1, 149) Early 14th C.

FIG. 40

Tradition: Minety type, North-East Wiltshire Ware contd.

1. Storage jar, applied horizontal thumb-press strips, patches of thin light green glaze (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 21, no. 4, 149) Unstratified.

FIG. 41

Tradition: Early Medieval–Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware

Fabric: OXAQ (Group II, flint tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Coil-made, finished on a wheel

Firing: Munsell External surface: reddish yellow (5YR 6/6) Core: grey (7.5YR 6/0) Internal surface: (7.5YR 5/0)

Date: Late 12th–14th century

1. Large cooking/storage jar, thumb decoration on shoulder (Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 19, no. 51, 97) Mid 13th C.
2. Large cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration (Tetsworth, Copt Hay Fig. 20, no. 67, 97) Early 13th C.
3. Cooking pot/storage jar rim (Oxford, St John's Fig. 18, no. 1, 53) c. AD 1168–1180.
4. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P116/0/1, Fig. 47 no. 9, 208) Late 12th–early 13th C.
5. Cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 26, no. 3, 161) Late 13th C.
6. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P399/0/2, Fig. 16, no. 6) Late 13th–early 14th C.

FIG. 42

Tradition: Early Medieval–Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware contd.

1. Shallow dish (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 24, no. 14, 157) 13th C.
- 2–4. Typical shallow dish profiles (2. Oxford, St Aldates P137/1/45, Fig. 21, no. 6, 134; Late 12th–early 13th C. 3. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 24, no. 13, 157; 13th C. 4. Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 27, no. 1, 128).
5. Deep sided dish, wavy comb decoration (Oxford, Church Street 1989, P0/2/1, Fig. 57 no. 10, 216) Unstratified.
6. Deep-sided dish, wavy comb decoration (Abingdon, Stert Street Fig. 7, no. 12, 9) 13th C.

FIG. 43

Tradition: Early Medieval–Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware contd.

1. Large cistern, wavy comb decoration (Churchill, Fig. 17, 66–70; O.C.C.M. Acc. no. 1056 and *Medieval Pottery of the Oxford Region*, Pl. 10).
2. Pitcher rim, roller stamp decoration (Abingdon, Stert Street Fig. 6, no. 10, 9) 13th C.
- 3–6. Typical comb decoration: (3. Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976, WP 5/0/3, Fig. 13, no. 8, 259; Early 14th–mid 15th C. 4. Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976, WP 5/0/2, Fig. 13, no. 9, 259; Early 14th–mid 15th C. 5. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 18, no. 9, 142; Unstratified. 6. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 18, no. 8, 141).

FIG. 44

Tradition: Early Medieval–Late Medieval East Wiltshire Ware contd.

1. Pitcher, strap handle and wavy comb decoration (Oxford, St Giles A.M. 1869.15 in Oxford, Bodleian Extension Pl. X no. 1).
2. Fragment of firecover (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 25, no. 10, 160) Late 13th C.

3. Firecover, strap handle (Oxford, Church Street 1989, 106 118/999 2L).
4. Possible griddle, drilled vents, stab and comb decoration (Abingdon, Market Place 1972, AK 2L).
5. Strap handle, applied thumb strips and slash decoration (Oxford, St Aldates P45/42/4, Fig. 24, no. 1, 135) 15th C.
6. Strap handle (Oxford, Oxford Castle 1976, WP5/0/1 Fig. 13, no. 10, 259) Post AD 1216.
7. Brazier or fire-pot, drilled vents made after firing (Abingdon, Market Place) Unstratified.

FIG. 45

Tradition: Wychwood-type, Early Medieval-Late Medieval North-West Oxfordshire Ware

Fabric: OXCX (Group 1B limestone tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Handmade and wheel-thrown, rims finished on wheel

Firing: Munsell Surfaces: Reddish yellow (5YR 6/8 - 7.6) Core Grey (7.5YR 5/0)

Date: Late 12th-15th century

1. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Glympton, Slape Copse no. 3).
2. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Shipton under Wychwood, SHO 31.4. Wychwood Society).
3. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Shipton under Wychwood, SHO 31.4. Wychwood Society).
4. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Shipton under Wychwood, SHO 26.26. Wychwood Society).
5. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Ascott under Wychwood, PRN 9530 John Campbell collection).
6. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207).
7. Cooking pot/storage jar, one thumb impression (Ascott under Wychwood, John Campbell collection).
8. Base of cooking pot/storage jar (Ascott under Wychwood, AO 4.1 Wychwood Society).
- 9-10, 12, 13. Atypical rimsherds (Ascott under Wychwood, John Campbell collection).
- 11, 14. Typical rims from early medieval straight-sided vessels (11. Shipton under Wychwood, Fig. 1, no. 7. 14. Shipton under Wychwood, Fig. 1, no. 5, 133).
- 15-16. Typical late medieval rimsherds (15. Shipton under Wychwood, 1.6. 16. Shipton under Wychwood, 1. 4).
17. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Glympton, Slape Copse).
18. Cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/8).
19. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Ascott under Wychwood).
20. Cooking pot/storage jar with bifid rim (Milton under Wychwood, M 4-11, Wychwood Society).
21. Cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/7).
22. Cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/5).
23. Cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/6).
24. Cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/4).

FIG. 46

Tradition: Wychwood-type, Early Medieval-Late Medieval North-West Oxfordshire Ware contd.

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Combe).
2. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/3).
3. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/11).
4. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/2).
5. ?Bowl (Ascott under Wychwood, John Campbell collection).
6. Jar, applied thumb-press strip and white slip (Ascott under Wychwood, John Campbell collection).
7. Storage jar rim (Ascott under Wychwood).
8. Lid fragment (Ascott under Wychwood).
9. Small lid, internal thin light green glaze (Ascott under Wychwood, Reg Edginton collection).
10. Large lid (Ascott under Wychwood).
11. Large lid, light green glaze (Shipton under Wychwood, SHO 22. Wychwood Society).
12. Base of bung-hole cistern (Oxford, Church Street 1989, 110/1000) Unstratified.
13. ?Jar (Ascott under Wychwood Fig. 3, no. 1).
14. Rhubarb forcer, partially glazed light green (Ascott under Wychwood, Fig. 1, no. 12 John Campbell collection).
15. ?Bowl, bifid rim designed as a lid seating (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/1).
16. Shallow dish (Ascott under Wychwood, John Campbell collection).
17. ?Dish (Ascott under Wychwood, John Campbell collection).
18. Shallow dish (Shipton under Wychwood, Fig. 1, no. 18, 133-6).

FIG. 47

Tradition: Wychwood-type, Early Medieval-Late Medieval North-West Oxfordshire Ware contd.

1. Handled jar, slash decoration, decayed glaze (Syngewood, Hailey PRN 9326 John Campbell collection).
2. Jug, strap handle (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/9).
3. Jug, strap handle, deep slash decoration (Ascott under Wychwood, Fig. 1, no. 14 PRN 9530 John Campbell collection).
4. Jug, thumb base (Shipton under Wychwood, 26.1).
5. Pinched spout of $\frac{2}{3}$ jug (Ascott under Wychwood, PRN 9530 John Campbell collection).
6. Strap handle, finger-press decoration along edges (Walcot, Charlbury PRN 1207/10).
7. Strap handle, slash decoration (Ascott under Wychwood, Fig. 1, no. 8, 133).
- 8-11. Atypical decoration (8. applied pad, slash decoration Ascott under Wychwood, Reg Edginton collection. 9. wavy comb Hailey, Singewood. 9. horizontal grooves Ascott under Wychwood, PRN 9530 John Campbell collection; regular horizontal grooves, light green glaze, Ascott under Wychwood, PRN 9530 John Campbell collection).
- 12-18. Strap handles with plait, stab, incise decoration, (Ascott under Wychwood, PRN 9530 John Campbell collection, no. 17 decayed glaze).

FIG. 48

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, Early Medieval

Fabric: OXAW (Group III quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII.

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: Munsell: Internal surface: Pale brown (7.5YR 7/4) Core: Grey (7.5YR 5/0)

Date: Early-Late 13th Century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P455/0/1, Fig. 14, no. 2) Mid 13th C.
2. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P746/0/1, Fig. 12, no. 22) Early-mid 13th C.
3. Cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 23, no. 23, 156) Late 13th C.
4. Cooking pot/storage jar (Middleton Stoney, Fig. 49, no. 12, 97).
5. Cooking pot/storage jar (Middleton Stoney, 50, 386).
6. Cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 26, no. 15, 163) Early 14th C.
7. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, St Aldates P110/2/2, Fig. 23, no. 24, 135) 14th C.
8. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Brill 1942, Fig. 18, no. 1, 74-5).
9. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P629/0/1, Fig. 12, no. 17) Early-mid 13th C.
10. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.15).
11. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P429/1/1, Fig. 11, no. 22) Early-mid 13th C.
12. Cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 26, no. 9, 161) Late 13th C.
13. Very small pot (Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.16).
14. Small cooking pot/storage jar, thumb decoration (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 26, no. 11, 161) Late 13th-early 14th C.
15. Small bowl (Lewknor, Sadlers Wood Fig. 9, no. 8, 163) 14th C.
16. Large bowl, applied strip (Lewknor, Sadlers Wood Fig. 9, no. 6, 163) 14th C.
- 17-18. Typical bowl rims (Brill 1942, Fig. 18, no. 4; Fig. 18, no. 3, 74-5) 14th C.
- 19-27. Typical small cooking pot/storage jar rims (19. Oxford, Hamel P708/0/2, Fig. 10, no. 10; Late 12th-early 13th C. 20. Oxford, Hamel P438/0/2, Fig. 15, no. 3; Mid-late 13th C. 21. Oxford, Hamel P438/0/1, Fig. 15, no. 4; Mid-late 13th C. 22. Oxford, Hamel P437/0/10, Fig. 15, no. 5; Mid-late 13th C. 23. Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 27, no. 21, 131; Late 13th C. 24. Oxford, Hamel P392/0/3, Fig. 16, no. 3; Late 13th-early 14th C. 25. Oxford, Hamel P363/1/3, Fig. 16, no. 2; Late 13th-early 14th C. 26. Oxford, Hamel P392/0/2, Fig. 16, no. 4; Late 13th-early 14th C. 27. Oxford, Hamel P299/0/1, Fig. 16, no. 16) Mid 14th C.

FIG. 49

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, Early Medieval contd. (OXAW)

1. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P531/0/4, Fig. 12, no. 21) Early-mid 13th C.
2. Large cooking pot/storage jar, external rilling (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 27, no. 17, 131) Mid 13th C.

3. Large bowl, orange glaze internally (Woodperry, A.M. 1873.23).
4. Large cooking pot/storage jar, external rilling and applied thumb pressed strip (Oxford, 18 Walton Street Fig. 6, 266) Mid 13th–mid 15th C.
5. Skillet handle (Oxford, St Aldates P53/9/4, Fig. 23, no. 4, 135) 14th C.
6. Rimsherd of large cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 26, no. 5, 161) Late 13th C.

FIG. 50

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type contd.

Jug profiles only in this tradition are illustrated. Specific decoration is shown as inset beside relevant pot, other decorative styles associated with vessel types are illustrated close to that type, the remaining decorative types cannot as yet be attributed to any specific class of jug or pitcher.

1. Rounded jug, thumb base, strap handle, stab decoration, horizontal regular grooves, thin yellow glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 23 H, Pl. X no. 6, 99, A.M. 1938.1251) 12th–early 13th C.
2. Small baluster type jug, small strap handle with stab decoration, applied strips with red slip, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Magdalen College P89/0/1, Fig. 11, no. 1) 13th C.
3. Bulbous pitcher, strap handle, central stab decoration, red slip on body (Oxford, George Street A.M. M172 in *Medieval Pottery of the Oxford Region*, Pl. 8).
4. Ovoid jug, thumb base, small strap handle with thumb edges, horizontal grooves, light green glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Pl. X no. 3, 114, A.M. 1937.444 and Plate 5) 12th–early 13th C.⁴³²
- 5–8. Atypical strap handles (5. Oxford, Thames Crossing P33/1/1/, Fig. 8, no. 10, 71, Residual. 6. Middleton Stoney SF 344 F5/A–5/22. 7. Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976 B 102, phases 3 and 4, Residual. 8. Oxford, Hamel P753/2/1, Fig. 13, no. 19) Early–mid 13th C.
- 9–10. Atypical rod handles (9. Banbury, Banbury Castle 1976, B 48, 152. 10. Oxford, Church Street 1989, 2 M 100/1014, Unstratified).
11. Thumb base of jug (Oxford, Hamel P757/0/2, Fig. 13, no. 23) Early–mid 13th C.
12. Baluster-type base (Middleton Stoney 425) Early–mid 13th C.

FIG. 51

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type contd.

1. Stout baluster, applied scrolls with punched decoration, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Balliol College A.M. 1886.1290D–M16 in *English Medieval Pottery*, Pl. XIII Fig. 15, 124) and Plate 6.
2. Rim of pitcher, dark glaze (Oxford, St Aldates P49/2/2, Fig. 22, no. 36, 134) Second half of 13th–early 14th C.
3. Small baluster type, bridge spout, rod handle, applied face pad decoration, incised shield like motifs, mottled green glaze (Hertford College A.M. 1888.106 in *Medieval Pottery of the Oxford Region*, Pl. 11).⁴³³
4. Copy of metal ecclesiastical ewer/flask, small strap handle, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Dominican Priory P617/0/1, Fig. 18, no. 5, 173–4) Mid 13th–early 14th C.
5. Applied decorative knob, light green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P451/0/2, Fig. 14, no. 16) Mid 13th C. 6–23.
- 6–23. Decorative motifs of applied strips, pads and pellets, with or without rouletting associated with small baluster types, stout baluster types; slip decoration associated with baluster and bulbous types, usually covered with mottled green glaze; less common comb and applied thumb decoration (no. 13).
6. (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 24 K, 105) Mid 13th C.
- 7–14. (Middleton Stoney SF 253, no. 73, 3/22. 8. Oxford, Hamel P685/0/6, Fig. 12, no. 20; Mid 13th C. 9. Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 23, no. C, Pl. XI, no. 4, A.M. 1937.456, 13th C. 10. Middleton Stoney Fig. 49, no. 14, 97–98. 11. Oxford, Church Street unstratified. 12. Oxford, Dominican Priory Fig. 10 P211/1/1; 211, Late 13th–early 14th C. 13. Oxford, Hamel P597/0/1, Fig. 16, no. 28; Late 14th C. 14. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 25, no. 1, 158) Mid–late 13th C.

⁴³² Woodiwiss in Rahtz and Rowley, op. cit. note 163, Fig. 49, no. 14, 96, for form only.

⁴³³ Bruce-Mitford, op. cit. note 2, for bridge spout and face pad Fig. 24, No. K, 105, dated A.D. 1240–80.

- 15–21. (15. Oxford, St Aldates P111/1/1, Fig. 23, no. 26, 135; 14th C. 16. Oxford, St Aldates P105/0/1, Fig. 23, no. 25, 135; 14th C. 17. Oxford, Church Street unstratified. 18. Oxford, St Aldates P125/4/6, Fig. 22, no. 46, 134; Late 13th–early 14th C. 19. St Aldates P125/1/7, Fig. 22, no. 44, 134; Late 13th–early 14th C. 20. Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 24D 105; Mid 13th C. 21. Oxford, Hamel P548/0/5, Fig. 13, no. 28) Early–mid 13th C.
 22–24. (22. Middleton Stoney 13 313B/5/13. 23. Church Street unstratified, possibly from a tripledecker jug. 24. Aquamanile, a ram with stamp decoration, mottled green glaze Oxford, Clarendon Z Pl. III C; see no. 1 for similar punch decoration).

FIG. 52

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval, Later Medieval and Early Post Medieval Ware.

Fabrics: OXAM, OXAP, OXBX (Group III, quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: Reddish yellow (7.5YR 7/5) Core: Grey – Pink (10YR 7/0–7.5 YR 7.5)

Date: Mid 13th–mid 16th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (ginger jar shape) (Oxford, Hamel P406/0/2, Fig. 15, no. 18) Mid–late 13th C.
2. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P406/0/1, Fig. 15, no. 17) Mid–late 13th C.
3. Cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, St Aldates P123/0/1, Fig. 22, no. 23, 134) Second half of 13th–early 14th C.
4. Cooking pot/storage jar (Cumnor, Seacourt 1961–2 Fig. 26, no. 15, 163) Early 14th C.
5. Cooking pot/storage jar (Middleton Stoney 1973, SF345).
6. Base of cooking pot/storage jar (Middleton Stoney 1973, SF 351).
7. Large cooking pot/storage jar, deep rilling externally (Oxford, Church Street F98) 15th C.
8. Rim of large cooking pot/jar (Lewknor, Sadlers Wood Fig. 9, no. 11, 163) 14th C.
9. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Hamel P590/0/1, Fig. 13 no. 7) Early–mid 13th C.
10. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Church Street P1019/1102/2, Fig. 52 no. 8) Late 13th–14th C.
11. Small cooking pot/storage jar, partially glazed light green on both surfaces (Oxford, Dominican Priory Fig. 10, P247/0/1, 212) 14th C.
12. Rim of small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, St Aldates P110/0/4, Fig. 23, no. 17, 135) 14th C.
13. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Oxford, Church Street P121/235/2, Fig. 54 no. 6, 214) 14th C.
14. Small cooking pot/storage jar, tool trimmed around base (Cumnor, Seacourt 1961–2 Fig. 26, no. 10, 161) Early 14th C.
15. Bowl (Oxford, Oxford Castle 1965–73 WP5/0/8 Fig. 13, no. 12, 260–1) Post AD 1216.
16. Bowl, pinched spout (Oxford, Hamel P31/1/1, Fig. 21, no. 13) Early–mid 16th C.
17. Bowl, pinched spout (Oxford, Hamel P308/0/20, Fig. 20, no. 8) Early–mid 16th C.
- 18–24. Typical rims (18. Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 27, no. 24, 131 with spots of glaze; 14th C. 19. Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 27, no. 23, 131, glaze; 20. Oxford, Hamel P334/2/3, Fig. 16, no. 1; Late 13th–early 14th C. 21. Cumnor, Seacourt 1961–2 Fig. 23, no. 25, 156; Late 13th C. 22. Cumnor, Seacourt 1961–2 Fig. 26, no. 13, 163; Late 13th–early 14th C. 23. Oxford, St Aldates P123/0/7, Fig. 22, no. 28, 134; Second half 13th–early 14th C. 24. Oxford, Hamel P315/0/1, Fig. 16, no. 15) Mid 14th C.
- 25–30. Typical 14th C rims (25. Oxford, St. Aldates P110/0/2, Fig. 23, no. 12, 135; 14th C. 26. Cumnor, Seacourt 1961–2 Fig. 27, no. 9, 165; Unstratified. 27. Oxford, Church Street 1968 Fig. 4, no. 9, 17; Early 14th C. 28. Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 26, no. 12, 161; Mid 14th C. 29. Oxford, St Aldates P110/0/5 Fig. 23, no. 16, 135; 14th C. 30. Oxford, St Aldates P105/0/3 Fig. 23, no. 15, 135) 14th C.
- 31–36. Typical Late Medieval rims (31. Cumnor, Seacourt 1961–2 Fig. 26, no. 16, 163; Late 14th C. 32. Cumnor, Seacourt 1961–2 Fig. 27, no. 12, 165, spots of glaze; Late 14th C. 33. Oxford, Hamel P49/0/1, Fig. 18, no. 3; 15th C.) 34–35. Typical Early Post Medieval rims (34. Oxford, Hamel E P789/0/1, Fig. 19, no. 7; Early–mid 16th C. 35. Oxford, Hamel E P789/0/4, Fig. 19, no. 6; Early–mid 16th C.) 36. Large cooking pot/storage rim Cumnor, Seacourt 1961–2 Fig. 27, no. 3, 165; Late 14th C.

FIG. 53

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval, Late Medieval and Early Post Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX)

1. Shallow dish, light green glaze internally (Oxford, Oxford Castle 1965–73 WP5/0/6, Fig. 13, no. 12, 260–1) Post AD 1216.
2. Oval dish (Deddington, Deddington Castle A.M. 1971.1168).

3. Shallow dish (Oxford, St Aldates P45/42/5, Fig. 24, no. 7, 135-6) 15th C.
4. ?Bowl, slash decoration on top of rim (Oxford, Hamel P85/0/1, Fig. 17, no. 5) Mid-late 15th C.
5. Small dish, glazed internally (Oxford, Hamel P308/0/28, Fig. 20, no. 17) Early-mid 16th C.
6. Small dish, light green glaze internally (Oxford, Dominican Priory Fig. 10, P29/1/1, 213) 14th C.
7. Large lid, (Oxford, Hamel P49/0/3, Fig. 18, no. 4) 15th C.
8. Lid (Oxford, Church Street P110/998) Unstratified.
9. Lid (Oxford, Hamel P75/0/2, Fig. 21, no. 14) 15th C.
10. Lid, drilled holes in top, made after firing (Oxford, Hamel P49/0/2, Fig. 18, no. 20) 15th C.
11. Lid, light green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P839/0/1, Fig. 17, no. 29) 14th-15th C.
12. Lid, (Cumnor, Seacourt 1961-2 Fig. 27, no. 6) 14th C.
13. Drinking vessel, rod handle, horizontal groove decoration, speckled yellow green glaze (Oxford, Lincoln Hall Fig. 8, no. 4, 65, A.M. 1943.41) 14th C.
14. Cylindrical tankard, thumb base, applied face mask, dark green glaze (Oxford, Cornmarket A.M. 1935.862 in Oxford, St John's Fig. 22, no. 2, 60-2) Late 14th-15th C.⁴³⁴
15. Cylindrical tankard, small face mask, ?mottled green glaze (Oxford, Cornmarket A.M. 1896.1908 M18 in Oxford, St John's Fig. 22, no. 1, 60-2 and Colour Pl. 9B) Late 14th-15th C.
16. Small oval ?salt (Brill A.M. 1971.1181).
17. Oval salt, partially glazed mottled green internally (Oxford, Hertford College A.M. 1909.904).
18. Small cup, dark green glaze (Oxford, Parks Road A.M. 1938.373 and *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 1, 30).
19. Globular jug base, green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P226/1/5, Fig. 21, no. 5) Early-mid 16th C.
20. Thistle shaped cup, rod handle, with thumb impression at base of handle, partially glazed streaky mottled green internally and externally (Oxford, Hamel P308/0/15, Fig. 20, no. 12) Early-mid 16th C.
21. Mug, glazed mottled green internally and externally (Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.63, no. 3, 30) 15th-16th C.
22. Cup, light green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P71/0/2, Fig. 18, no. 23) 15th C.
23. Cup, ?mottled green glaze (Oxford, St Johns Fig. 22, no. 3, 60-2) Late 14th-15th C.
24. Three-handled small tyg, mottled brown glaze (Oxford, Cornmarket A.M. 1934.64 and *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 2, 30).
25. Base of drinking vessel, (Oxford, Hamel P308/0/14, Fig. 20, no. 20) Early-mid 16th C.
26. Cup base, internally glazed mottled green (Oxford, Hamel P308/0/10, Fig. 20, no. 19) Early-mid 16th C.
27. Small cup, rod handle, glazed orange internally and externally, base with incise mark (Oxford, Hamel P1/0/1, Fig. 21, no. 18) Late 16th C.

FIG. 54

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval, Late Medieval and Early Post Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBA)

1. Pan, combed decoration internally and along top of rim (Oxford, Hamel P379/0/2, Fig. 16, no. 5) Late 13th-early 14th C.
2. Large bowl/pan (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 24, no. 1, 156) Late 13th-early 14th C.
3. Large bowl/pan (Oxford, Hamel P839/0/4, Fig. 17, no. 27) 15th C.
- 4-5. Rims: (4. Oxford, St Aldates P110/0/7, Fig. 23, no. 13, 135; 14th C. 5. Oxford, St Aldates P119/0/1, Fig. 23, no. 14, 135) 14th C.
6. Pan, roller stamp decoration on rim, mottled green glaze internally (Oxford, Hamel P438/0/5, Fig. 15, no. 12) Mid-late 13th C.
7. Pan incise decoration and mottled green glaze internally (Oxford, Hamel P407/0/5, Fig. 15, no. 23) Mid-late 13th C.
8. Skillet handle (Oxford, Church Street P110/1014) Unstratified.
9. Whistle, glaze (Oxford, St Aldates P35/0/1, Fig. 24, no. 13, 135-6) 15th C.
10. Skillet handle (Oxford, Church Street P104/1002) Unstratified.
11. Skillet handle (Oxford, Church Street 1968 Fig. 4, no. 7, 17) 14th C.
12. Chafing dish pedestal base, drilled holes, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Dominican Priory Fig. 10, no. P119/0/1, 211).
13. ?Strainer (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 19, no. 10, 144, A.M. 1968.2001) Late 13th C.

⁴³⁴ Similar vessel identified from Sherborne Abbey, Dorset.

14. Skillet handle, stab decoration (Oxford, Hamel P1/0/10, Fig. 21, no. 21) Late 16th C.
15. Top of chafing dish, small strap handle, dk brown glaze (Oxford, Hamel P802/0/1, Fig. 18, no. 30) Late 15th C.
16. Top of chafing dish, drilled holes, mottled orange glaze (Oxford, P108/996) Unstratified.
17. Cresset lamp base, rare in this tradition (Cumnor, Seacourt 1961-2 Fig. 27, no. 13, 165) Unstratified.
18. Double-shelled lamp, light green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P457/0/5, Fig. 11, no. 1) Early-mid 13th C.
19. Fragment of double-shelled lamp (Oxford, City Ditch, Holywell 1899 A.M. 1921.213 in St John's Fig. 21, no. 5) First half of 13th C.
20. Tall double-shelled lamp, thin patchy light green glaze (Oxford, St John's Fig. 21, no. 11, 60) Late 13th-14th C.
21. Double-shelled lamp, dark green glaze internally (Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.79 in St John's Fig. 21, no. 9) Mid 13th-15th C.
22. Small double-shelled lamp mottled green glaze internally (Oxford, Church Street P0/2/1, SF 234, Fig. 57, no. 13) Unstratified.
23. Conical lamp, thick yellow glaze (Oxford, Hertford College A.M. 1909.905) Late 16th-early 17th C.

FIG. 55

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX)

1. Bottle rim (Oxford, Hamel P407/0/8, Fig. 15, no. 27) Mid-late 13th C.
2. Bottle rim (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 27, no. 8, 165) Pre-1400.
3. Bottle base (Oxford, Hamel P407/0/3, Fig. 15, no. 3) Mid-late 13th C.
4. Bottle base (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 19, no. 16, 145 A.M. 1968.2007) Mid 13th C.
5. Bottle, partially glazed, thick green on the shoulder (Oxford Castle WP5/0/7, Fig. 13, no. 14, 260-1) Post AD 1216.
6. Bottle, upper part mottled green glaze (Oxford, King Edward Street A.M. 1872.2430).
7. Bottle base, partially glazed mottled green (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 25, no. 12, 160) Late 13th-early 14th C.
8. Bottle, spot of glaze on shoulder (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 19, no. 14, 145 A.M. 1968.2005) Early 14th C.
9. Bottle, light green glaze (Oxford, Oriel College 1942, Fig. 1).
10. Rim and lug of costrel, light green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P1/0/12, Fig. 22, no. 1) Mid-late 16th C.
11. Small costrel, (Oxford, Hamel P92/0/1, Fig. 18, no. 22) 15th C.
12. Small cruet, applied thumb strip, around belly (Oxford, Church Street P110/994, Fig. 57, no. 9, 216) Unstratified.
13. Large bottle, over-fired (Oxford, Church Street P98/90/1, Fig. 57, no. 11, 216) 15th C.
14. Bottle (Oxford, Pembroke College A.M. 1896.1908 M2).
15. Small bottle (Oxford, Balliol Chapel 1857).
16. Small bottle, bib of mottled green glaze (Oxford, Trinity College A.M. 1836.1868).
17. Cruet, applied thumb-pressed strip around belly, upper part partially glazed mottled green (Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.35).
18. Small cruet, applied thumb strip, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Magdalen Street A.M. 1965.63 in *Medieval Pottery of the Oxford Region*, Pl. 16).
19. Large money box, partially glazed mottled green (Oxford, 55-58 Cornmarket Street Fig. 14, no. 4, 75) 16th C.
20. Money box, partially glazed mottled green (Oxford, 55-58 Cornmarket Fig. 14, no. 21, 75) 16th C.
21. Money box, partially glazed mottled green (Oxford, 55-58 Cornmarket Fig. 14, no. 5, 75) 16th C.
22. Small money box, streaky mottled green glaze (Oxford, Brasenose College A.M. 1887.3035 in *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 5, 30).
23. Conical money box, upper part partially glazed mottled green (Oxford, 55-58 Cornmarket Fig. 14, no. 1, 75) 16th C.

FIG. 56

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX)

1. Tripledecker jug, rod handle, applied red and white strips, rosettes of red clay on the shoulder, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Carfax St Aldates A.M. 1937.960 in *Medieval Pottery of the Oxford Region*, Pl. 13 and *Medieval English Pottery*, no. 83, 27 and Plate 7) Late 13th-early 14th C.
2. Baluster jug, strap handle and slash decoration, red slip decoration on body, partially glazed orange (Oxford, Westgate P89/0/1, Fig. 55 no. 3, 214) 14th C.

3. Baluster jug, slashed strap handle and red slip decoration (Oxford, High Street, A.M. 1885.45 in *Medieval Pottery of the Oxford Region*, Pl. 14) First half 14th C.
4. Intersecting bands of 3/4 narrow red slip grooves in trellis pattern, thin light green glaze, associated with ovoid jug (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 24 J, 105, Well 9, A.M. 1938.1264) dated AD 1240–80.
5. Red slip trellis decoration, associated with baluster-types (Oxford, Oriel College 1942, no. 3) Late 13th C.
6. Narrow criss-cross grooves over bands of horizontal grooves mottled glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Pl. XI, 7, Fig. 25 A, 108, A.M. 1938.1259).
7. Applied strips decorated with punched holes dividing surface into diamond-shaped panels, applied scale decoration, dark green glaze, associated with tripledecker or stout baluster types (Oxford, Carfax 1942 no. 6) 13th C.
8. Applied red strips, yellow glaze, associated with a tripledecker (Oxford, St Aldates Fig. 22, no. 46, 134–5) Second half of 13th–early 14th C.
9. Applied strips and grid stamps, reminiscent of medieval brooch with applied chevrons and roller stamp strips, mottled green glaze, associated with a tripledecker (Abingdon, Broad Street Fig. 35, no. 135) Late 13th C.
10. Applied rosette, punched holes and applied strips, streaky mottled green glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Pl. XII, no. 1, 126–7, A.M. 1938.1258).
- 11–15. Rim types (11. Oxford, Hamel P673/0/2, Fig. 12, no. 19; Early–mid 13th C. 12. Oxford, Carfax 1942 Fig. 17 no. 7; 13th C. 13. Oxford, Hamel P523/0/4, Fig. 14, no. 5; Mid 13th C. 14. Hamel P519/0/1, Fig. 14, no. 13; Mid 13th C. 15. Cumnor, Seacourt A.M. 1968.2012) Mid 13th C.
- 16–20. (16. Oxford, Hamel P437/0/1, Fig. 15, no. 24; Mid–late 13th C. 17. Oxford, St John's Fig. 20, no. 3; Late 13th C. 18. Abingdon, Broad Street Fig. 35 no. 135, 43; Late 13th C. 19. Oxford, Hamel P232/0/1, Fig. 15, no. 26, mid–late 13th C. 20. Hamel P437/0/7, Fig. 15, no. 26) Mid–late 13th C.

FIG. 57

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX)

1. Puzzle jug, with stag spout, applied scales, representing foliage with applied red strips and eight face pads around the rim, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Town Hall A.M. 1921.202 and in *Medieval Pottery of the Oxford Region*, Pl. 12 and *Age of Chivalry*, 1987–88, no. 551, 549 and Plate 8). c. AD 1275.
2. Rounded jug, bridge spout and arms terminating in hands and applied strip with incise decoration, light green glaze (Oxford, Thames Crossing Fig. 8, no. 7, 71) Late 13th–14th C.
3. Jug, tubular spout supported with 'an arm' terminating in a hand, punched holes around the junction of spout and arm and body, alternating zones of grooves and wavy lines, light green glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 24 A, Pl. XI, no. 5, A.M. 1937.467) Late 13th–early 14th C.
4. Green glazed spout, applied 'hands' (Oxford, Dominican Priory Fig. 10, P206/1/1, 212) Late 13–14th C.
5. Lug decoration, punched holes, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Church Street 104/1000 2037L).
6. Spout decorated in anthropomorphic style, eyes highlighted in red clay, incised decoration, mottled green glaze, possibly from a puzzle jug (Oxford, Dominican Priory Fig. 10, P201/0/1, 212) 14th C.
7. Horn, dark green glaze (Wytham, Godstow Fig. 42, no. 1, 221, A.M. 1915.113).

FIG. 58

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX)

1. Aquamanile horsehead, applied red strip for bridle (Oxford, Hamel P611/0/1, Fig. 22 no. 3) Early–mid 16th C.
2. Aquamanile ram, applied scales and red vertical strips, slash decoration representing mane, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Cornmarket A.M. 1955.480) 13th C.
- 3–6. Decorative motifs: 3. Applied strip spirals, punched holes, dark green glaze (Oxford, Carfax 1942, no. 5) 13th C. 4. Unusual roller stamp decoration, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P722/0/1, Fig. 13, no. 12) Early–mid 13th C. 5. Random pellets of red and white clay light green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P495/0/1, Fig. 13, no. 13) Early–mid 13th C. 6. Applied white roller stamp strip and white strip, punched holes, dark green glaze (Oxford, Church Street P112/1002) Unstratified.
- 7–11. 7. Red slip, small square roller stamp, applied red and white strips (Oxford, Hamel P523/0/1, Fig. 14, no. 18) Mid 13th C. 8. Red slip and large rectangular rouletting (Oxford, Hamel P455/0/4, Fig. 14, no. 14) Mid 13th C. 9. Red and white alternating roller stamped strips (Oxford, Hamel P227/0/1, Fig. 15, no. 15) Mid–late 13th C. 10. Roller stamp and white curvilinear strips (Oxford, Hamel P437/0/13, Fig. 15, no. 33),

- Mid-late 13th C. 11. Applied red pads and stamp decoration, dark green glaze, possibly from an aquamanile (horse and rider) (Oxford, Hamel P407/0/14, Fig. 15, no. 22) Mid-late 13th C.
- 12-16. Decorative motifs contd.: White slip, white spiral strips, and white rectangular roller stamp strips (Oxford, Hamel P437/0/15, Fig. 15, no. 28), Mid-late 13th C. 13. Applied red and white strips, the latter with punched holes at the thickened terminal, red and white slip (Oxford, Hamel P438/0/4, Fig. 15, no. 20) Mid-late 13th C. 14. Applied red strips chevron, small square roller stamp decoration (Oxford, Hamel P437/0/2, Fig. 15, no. 10) Mid-late 13th C. 15. Applied strips, red slip in zones (Oxford, Hamel P437/0/1, Fig. 15, no. 11) Mid-late 13th C. 16. Red slip and alternating red and white vertical strips, (Oxford, Hamel P437/0/14, Fig. 15, no. 21) Mid-late 13th C.
- 17-22. 17. Applied red spirals (Oxford, 83 St Aldates P22/0/1, Fig. 22, no. 45) Second half of 13th-early 14th C. 18. Applied spirals, red clay grid stamp and roller stamp decoration (Oxford, Hamel P826/0/5, Fig. 18, no. 36) Residual. 19. Rectangular roller stamp and applied curvilinear red strip (Oxford, Hamel P146/0/8, Fig. 17, no. 9) Residual. 20. Applied red strips and pellets, dark green glaze (Oxford, Hamel P145/0/2, Fig. 17, no. 4) Residual. 21. Applied roller stamped red strips and roller stamped decoration (Oxford, Hamel P146/0/5, Fig. 17, no. 9) Residual. 22. Red clay grid stamp and incise decoration, mottled green glaze, possibly from an aquamanile (Oxford, Hamel P613/0/3, Fig. 17, no. 26) Mid 13th C.

FIG. 59

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBK)

1. Large rounded jug, strap handle, oblique red strip, separated by horizontal bands of grooves (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 24 C, 105, A.M. 1938.1255) Mid-late 13th C.
2. Jug rim, horizontal grooves, light green glaze (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 20, no. 4, 147, A.M. 1968.2011) Late 13th C.
3. Rounded pitcher, strap handle, applied alternating red and white strips, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 25 E, 108, A.M. 1937.961) Late 13th-early 14th C.
4. Rounded jug, rod handle, horizontal grooves, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 24 B, Pl. XI, no. 10, 104, A.M. 1938.1262) 13th-early 14th C.
5. Pear-shaped jug, rod handle, mottled green glaze (Abingdon, Broad Street Fig. 35, no. 136, 43) Late 13th C.
6. Small baluster type jug, applied red strips (Oxford, Thames Crossing P56/1/3, Fig. 7, no. 14) First half 14th C.
7. Small rounded jug, double row of frills, partial green and orange glaze (Oxford, St Aldates P22/0/2, Fig. 22, no. 27) Second half 13th-14th C.
8. Jug rim (Oxford, St Aldates P34/0/1, Fig. 22, no. 3) Late 13th-early 14th C.

FIG. 60

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBK)

1. Biconical jug, strap handle, applied strips of alternating red and white clay (Oxford, George Street A.M. 1896.1904 M5 and Plate 9) Late 13th-early 14th C.
2. Biconical jug, strap handle, red slip, upper part glazed yellow (Oxford, St Ebbes A.M. 1927.2120).
3. Biconical jug, strap handle with stab and drag marks, upper part body criss-cross incised lines, horizontal grooves, mottled green and yellow glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 25 A, 108, Pl. XI, no. 7, A.M. 1938.1259) Late 13th-early 14th C.
4. Biconical jug, strap handle stab decoration, upper part mottled green glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 25 C, 108 A.M. 1938.1266).

FIG. 61

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBK)

1. Conical jug, applied vertical strips of alternating red and white clay, strap handle, stab decoration, decayed glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 25 B, 107, A.M. 1938.1254) Late 13th-early 14th C.
2. Baluster jug, strap handle, slashed decoration, thumb decoration on base, red trellis decoration, poorly executed (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 24 H, 105, Pl. XI, no. 1 A.M. 1938.1256 and in *Medieval English Pottery* no. 84, 27).

3. Cylindrical jug, rod handle, horizontal grooves, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 26 D Pl. XII, no. 6, 111 A.M. 1937.860) Unstratified.⁴³⁵
4. Large pear-shaped pitcher, strap handle, slash decoration, thumb impression where handle luted to top of pitcher, applied red strips, light yellow glaze (Oxford, St John's 78).
5. Pear-shaped jug, strap handle, applied red strips, light green glaze (Oxford, Hertford A.M. 1888.107 and in *Medieval English Pottery*, no. 85, 27) Late 13th C.
6. Conical jug, rod handle, applied roller stamped strips, mottled green and orange glaze (Oxford, Radcliffe Square, A. M. 1917.47 in *Berkshire Arch. Jnl.* (1947), Fig. 7, no. 3, 63) Late 13th C.
7. Vertical pairs of red slip, horizontal grooves, associated with pitchers similar to no. 4 (Oxford, St John's Fig. 20, no. 4, 56) Mid 13th C.

FIG. 62

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX)

1. Large jug base, two small patches of glaze (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 20, no. 10, 147 A.M. 1968.2017) Early 14th C.
2. Jug, thumb base (Oxford, Hamel P392/0/4, Fig. 16, no. 14) Late 13th-early 14th C.
3. Jug, thumb base red slip decoration (Oxford, Thames Crossing Fig. 7, no. 3) Mid 13th C.
4. Small rounded jug, rod handle, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Westgate P89/0/7, Fig. 55 no. 8, 214) 14th C.
5. Small rounded jug, small strap handle, stabbed decoration, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Church Street P121/235/6, Fig. 54, no. 2, 214) 14th C.⁴³⁶
6. Rounded jug, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Temple Cowley, Pl. IX A, A.M. 1954.666) 14th-15th C.
7. Rounded jug, rod handle, upper part glazed mottled orange (Oxford, Beaumont Street A.M. 1940.158).
8. Rounded jug, small rod handle, stab decoration, bib of yellow glaze (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Pl. XI no. 9, 126, A.M. 1937.963) Unstratified.
9. Small pear-shaped jug, rod handle, applied thumb strip, upper part glazed mottled green (Oxford, Frewin Hall, New Inn Hall Street, Fig. 14 B.1, 99, A.M. 1984.1074) 14th-15th C.
10. Small pear-shaped jug, strap handle, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Campion Hall A.M. 1937.862).
11. Jug neck, rod handle, stab decoration (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig. 20, no. 3, 146-147, A.M. 1968.2010) Early 14th C.
- 12-14. Jug rims, mottled green glaze (12. Abingdon, Broad Street, Fig. 30, no. 80, 39. 13. Oxford, Hamel P171/0/1, Fig. 16, no. 26; Late 14th. 14. Oxford, St. Aldates P119/0/2, Fig. 23, no. 8, 135) 14th C.
- 15-18. (15. Abingdon, Broad Street Fig. 31, no. 95 40; Late 14th C. 16. Abingdon, Broad Street, Fig. 32, no. 108, 41; 17. Oxford, St Aldates P122/1/1, Fig. 23, no. 22, 135; 14th C. 18. Lewknor, Sadler's Wood Fig. 9, no. 10, 163) 14th C.

FIG. 63

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBX)

1. Large rounded jug, strap handle, thumb impression at the top, upper part glazed mottled green (Oxford, Bodleian Extension Fig. 26A, 125, Pl. XIII, no. 2, A.M. 1937.445) Late 14th C.
2. Large pear-shaped jug, horizontal grooves, mottled green glaze (Witney P678/0/1, Phase 5NB WR) Early-mid 14th C.
3. Decorative motif deep regular horizontal grooves, pad of clay with stamp of single letter, glazed mottled green glaze (Oxford, Church Street 1968 Fig. 3, no. 2), originally published as 14th C. but possibly later.
4. Small baluster with two deeply incised motifs on neck and belly, connected by vertical groove, made in leather hard condition, on small baluster type jug, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Peckwater Quad Fig. 5 P1/0/4, 266) 14th-15th C.
5. Barrel-shaped jug, deep horizontal grooves, upper part mottled green glaze (Oxford, Radcliffe Square A.M. 1915.41).

⁴³⁵ Hassall, op. cit. note 355, Fig. 4, dated late 13th-early 14th C.

⁴³⁶ Bruce-Mitford, op. cit. note 2, Fig. 25D, Pl. xi, no. 8, 111, A.M. 1938.1260, late 13th-early 14th C.

FIG. 64

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBK)

1. Baluster jug, very poorly executed deep horizontal grooves on neck, with incised Roman numeral II, made prior to firing (Oxford, Peckwater Quad Fig. 5 P1/0/1) 15th C.
- 2-6. Typical late medieval rims (2. Abingdon, Broad Street Fig. 33, no. 119, 42; Early 15th C. 3. Broad Street Fig. 33, no. 124, 42; Early 15th C. 4. Broad Street Fig. 33, no. 123, 42; Early 15th C. 5. Oxford, Hamel P50/0/5, Fig. 18, no. 13, 15th C. 6. Hamel P49/0/5, Fig. 18, no. 18) 15th C.
7. Jug, upper part glazed mottled green (Oxford, 45 Little Clarendon Street).
8. Jug, upper part mottled orange glaze (Oxford, Oriel College) 16th C.
9. Jug, rod handle with stabbed decoration, green glaze (Oxford, University College A.M. 1892.2617).
10. Jug, strap handle, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Temple Cowley Pl. IXA, 146, A.M. 1954.665) 14th-15th C.
11. Typical late medieval strap handle, fine oblique slashes (Oxford, Hamel P790/0/2, Fig. 18, no. 32) Late 15th C.
12. Wide strap handle (Oxford, Hamel P31/1/2, Fig. 21, no. 14a) 15th C.
13. Atypical decorative style (Oxford, Thames Crossing P44/3/1, Fig. 8, no. 3) 14th-15th C.
14. Very wide strap handle, deep stabs (Oxford, Hamel P92/0/1, Fig. 18, no. 22) 15th C.
15. Base of pitcher, streaky mottled green glaze (Oxford, St Aldates P45/42/3, Fig. 24, no. 11, 136) 15th C.

FIG. 65

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, A Medieval, Late Medieval and Early Post Medieval contd. (OXAM, OXAP, OXBK)

1. Small rounded jug, strap handle, large bib of decayed glaze (Oxford, King Edward Street A.M. 1872.2431) 15th C.
2. Small biconical jug, upper part mottled green glaze (Oxford, High Street A.M. 1891.7) 15th C.
3. Small rounded jug, strap handle, horizontal grooves, green glaze (University College A.M. 1892.2620 in *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 8, 30) 15th C.
4. Jug, small handle, thumb pressed at base, green glaze (Oxford, Cornmarket A.M. 1935.537).⁴³⁷
5. Small jug, partially glazed dark brown (Oxford, Hertford College A.M. 1888.116) 15th C.
- 6-8. Typical late medieval jug rim forms (6. Oxford, Hamel P810/2/1, Fig. 19, no. 17; Early-mid 16th C. 7. Oxford, Hamel P801/0/6, Fig. 19, no. 12 Early-mid 16th C. 8. Hanwell, Fig. 5, no. 5, 231) 15th C.
- 9-10. (9. Oxford, Hamel P1/0/11, Fig. 21, no. 17, Late 16th C. 10. Hamel P308/0/25, Fig. 20, no. 10) Early-mid 16th C.
11. Small rounded jug, deep grooves, mottled green glaze (Oxford, St. Edmund Hall A.M. 1935.636).
12. Conical jug (Oxford, Balliol College A.M. 1881.7).
13. Squat baluster jug, strap handle, deep horizontal grooves, stamp cross decoration on handle (Oxford, King Edward Street, 1874).

FIG. 66

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, An Early Post Medieval Ware

1. Tall jar (Oxford, Bodleian Quadrangle 1941 A.M. 1959.161 in Clarendon Hotel and other sites Fig. 16, no. 5 36, and *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 14, 30).
2. Jar (Oxford, Cornmarket in Clarendon Hotel and other sites Fig. 15, no. 2, 32).
3. Cistern, bib of orange glaze (Oxford, Church Street 1984 P2504/8, Fig. 15, no. 1) 16th-early 17th C.
4. Two handled cistern, speckled light green bib of glaze above bung-hole (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel and other sites Fig. 14, no. 3, 29) 15th C.
5. Watering pot, deep horizontal grooves, (Oxford, Westgate 1984 P112/0/2, Fig. 15, no. 16, 185 and *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 13, 30).
- 6-8. Jar rims (6. Oxford, Hamel P791/0/2, Fig. 19, no. 20, Early-mid 16th C. 7. Hamel P810/2/16, Fig. 19, no. 16, Early-mid 16th C. 8. Hamel P226/0/7, Fig. 21, no. 1) Early-mid 16th C.

⁴³⁷ Durham and Mellor, op. cit. note 375, Fig. 5 P1/0/3, late 15th-early 16th C.

FIG. 67

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, An Early Post Medieval Ware

1. Large pitcher (Oxford, Bodleian Quadrangle 1942, Fig. 20, no. 1, 76–8).
2. Pitcher (Clarendon Hotel Z, Fig. 11, no. 2).
3. Pitcher (Provenance unknown, *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 12, 30) 15th–16th C.
4. Conical jug (Oxford, Radcliffe Square *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 9, 30) 15th–16th C.
5. Barrel-shaped jug (Oxford, Carfax A.M. 1931.521 in *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 6, 30) 15th–16th C.
6. Pitcher, neck and upper part with thumb impression on handle (Oxford, Hamel P226/0/2, Fig. 21, no. 9).
7. Jar, bifid rim strap handle, diagonal stab decoration (Hanwell 1974, Fig. 5, no. 7, 231) 14th–15th C.
8. Costrel, mottled orange glaze (Oxford, 126 High Street Fig. 23, no. 14) Late 15th C.

FIG. 68

Tradition: Brill/Boarstall type, An Early Post Medieval Ware contd.

1. Dripping pan, light green and orange glaze internally (Oxford, Bodleian Quadrangle A.M. 1941.1181 in Clarendon Hotel and other sites Fig. 16, no. 1 and *Oxfordshire Potters*, no. 15, 30).
2. Very large deep sided bowl/pan (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel p2).
3. Deep sided bowl/pan (Oxford, Bodleian Quadrangle 1941 no. 11) 14th C.
4. Deep sided bowl/pan (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel Z 51).
5. Large deep sided bowl/pan (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel p3).
6. Deep sided bowl/pan (Oxford, Clarendon Hotel Z 41).
- 7–8. Typical rims 7. (Oxford, Hamel P801/0/4, Fig. 19, no. 4; Early–mid 16th C. 8. Oxford, Hamel P810/2/4, Fig. 19, no. 3; Mid 16th C. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel Z 23; 16th C;
- 9–11. 9. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel Z 23; 16th C. 10. Oxford, Clarendon Hotel Z; 16th C. 11. Oxford, Hamel P226/1/1, Fig. 21, no. 8; Early–mid 16th C.

FIG. 69

Tradition: Potterspury type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware

Fabric: OX68 (Group III quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: Surfaces: Reddish yellow (5YR 7/8) – Pink (7.5YR 7/4) Core: Grey (7.5YR 5/0)

Date: Late 13th–Late 14th century

1. Cooking pot/storage jar (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 9).
2. Cooking pot/storage jar (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 7).
3. Cooking pot/storage jar, splashes of light green glaze (Banbury, Banbury Castle Fig. 12, no. 49, 126, phase 2b) 14th C.
4. Cooking pot/storage jar (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 12).
5. Large cooking pot/storage jar (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 2).
6. Large storage jar, horizontal applied thumb-pressed strip (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 11).
7. Small cooking pot/storage jar (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 3).
8. Lid, mottled green glaze (Oxford, Radcliffe Square (1949), A.M. 1915.72, Fig. 11, no. 1, 78–99) 15th C.
9. Strap handle (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 5).
10. Strap handle (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 4).
11. Pan (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 13).
12. Large pan (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 10).
13. Large pan (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 1).
14. Base of cooking pot/storage jar (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 8).
15. ?Dripping pan (Deddington, Deddington Castle no. 6).

FIG. 70

Tradition: Pottersbury type, A Medieval and Late Medieval Ware contd. (OX68)

1. Large storage jar, spots of light green glaze internally and externally, tool trimmed near base (Cumnor, Seacourt Fig 27, no. 1, 163) Pre-1400.⁴³⁸

FIG. 71

Tradition: Late Medieval South-East Oxfordshire Ware

Fabric: CH60 = NE3 (Group III quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: Munsell Pink (7.5YR 8/4) Core: Reddish yellow (5YR 7/6)

Date: Late 14th–16th century

1. Large jar, bifid rim, applied vertical and horizontal thumb-pressed strips (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P1044/1/1) Early–mid 15th C.
2. Large jar, bifid rim, applied vertical and horizontal thumb-pressed strips (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P5/0/2) Mid 14th–mid 15th C.
3. Skillet yellow glaze internally (Chalgrove, Harding's Field P279/1/1) 16th C.

FIG. 72

Tradition: Late Medieval South East Oxfordshire Ware contd. (NE1, NE2, NE3)

Location: Swyncombe, near Nettlebed. Wasters from a late medieval kiln

Fabric: NE1 = CH41 = OX162 = HE3 and HE9; NE2 = CH63 = HE5 and HE7; NE3 = OXCU = CH60, clay low in iron

Manufacture: Wheel-thrown

Firing: NE1: Overfired see OX162, CH41; NE2: Overfired; NE3 see above

Date: Late 14th–Mid 15th century

1. Jar, bifid rim (Nettlebed 23) Fabric NE3, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
2. Bowl (Nettlebed 2) Fabric NE3, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
3. Jug rim (Nettlebed 19) Fabric NE3, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
4. Jug rim (Nettlebed 20) Fabric NE1, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
5. Jug rim, splash of light green glaze (Nettlebed 15) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
6. Jug rim (Nettlebed 18) Fabric NE3, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
7. Strap handle mottled green glaze (Nettlebed 4) Fabric NE3, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
8. Bung-hole from large cistern (Nettlebed 6) Fabric NE3, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
9. Knob of lid (Nettlebed 10) Fabric NE3, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
10. Jar (Nettlebed 17) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
11. Jar, bifid rim (Nettlebed 21) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
12. Jar, bifid rim (Nettlebed 24) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
13. Bowl, flanged rim (Nettlebed 22) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
14. Large jar, bifid rim (Nettlebed 25) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
15. Jar, strap handle, stab decoration, splash of light green glaze (Nettlebed 5) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
16. Deep-sided bowl (Nettlebed 14) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
17. Jug rim, splash of light green glaze (Nettlebed 12) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
18. Jug rim, partial light green glaze (Nettlebed 16) Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.
19. Pitcher, wide strap handle (Nettlebed 2), Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th–mid 15th C.

⁴³⁸ The Deddington Castle sherds were supplied by Dennis Mynard, who was given them by E. M. Jope in 1950s; they are now housed in the County Museum store.

20. Pitcher, wide strap handle, slash decoration (Nettlebed 1), Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th-mid 15th C.
21. Small strap handle, incise decoration (Nettlebed 7), Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th-mid 15th C.
22. Base of handle luted to pot with 3 thumb impressions (Nettlebed 3), Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th-mid 15th C.
23. Foot of tripod vessel (Nettlebed 11), Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th-mid 15th C.
24. Strap handle luted to pot with one thumb impression (Nettlebed 8), Fabric NE1/NE2, Late 14th-mid 15th C.
25. Bung-hole from cistern (Nettlebed 9), Fabric NE1, Late 14th-mid 15th C.

FIG. 75

Tradition: Combe Ware, West Oxfordshire in the Brill tradition
Fabric: CO1 (Group III quartz tempered) Petrology: see Appendix VII
Manufacture: Wheel-thrown, occasional tool trimmed bases
Firing: Mainly highly reduced (overfired)
Date: 16th-Early 17th century

1. Jar (no. 1).
2. Saggar, V-shaped vent (no. 3).
3. Saggar, U-shaped vent (no. 15).
4. Saggar base, two kiln scars, suggesting two separate firings, one of which included a small thistle shaped cup (no. 10).
5. Saggar, circular vent (no. 14).
6. Jar base (no. 4).
7. Chafing dish, holes drilled prior to firing, light yellow glaze. Only oxidized product amongst the wasters (nos. 5, 12).
8. Jug, pinched spout (no. 19).
9. Jar rim (no. 18).
10. Thistle cup, glazed internally and externally light green (no. 6).
11. ?Jar, strap handle, partial olive green glaze on strap handle (no. 21).
12. Deep-sided dish (no. 16).
13. Deep-sided dish (no. 17).

FIG. 76

Tradition: Combe Ware, West Oxfordshire contd. (CO1)

1. Pitcher, strap handle, tool trimmed base and bib of light green glaze (no. 9).
2. Pitcher, strap handle with incised decoration, splash of light green glaze on neck and shoulder, fabric spalded where limestone flecks present (no. 10).
3. Pitcher, bib of green glaze (no. 2).
4. Pitcher, strap handle, bib of light green glaze. Kiln scar of cup on base (no. 7).
5. Angular jug, splash of olive green glaze on rim and neck, possibly copying metal vessel (no. 11).
6. Cistern with strap handle (no. 6).

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11: APPENDICES

APPENDIX I. LIST OF MUSEUMS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNITS CONTACTED/VISITED

Abingdon Museum	Maidenhead Museum
Banbury Museum	Milton Keynes Archaeology Unit
Bedford Archaeology Centre	Oxfordshire County Museum, Woodstock
Buckinghamshire County Museum Store	Newbury Museum
Cambridge FitzWilliam Museum	Northampton Archaeology Unit
Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum	Oxford Ashmolean Museum
Cirencester Corinium Museum	Reading Museum
Filkins Museum, West Oxfordshire	Swindon Thamesdown Museum
Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery	Vale and Downland Museum, Wantage
Herbert Art Gallery and Museum, Coventry	Wallingford Museum
London: British Museum	Warwickshire Museum
Department of Urban Archaeology	Wessex Archaeological Trust
Inner London Unit	Worcester County Museum Archaeology Section

APPENDIX II. TYPE SITES AND THEIR RESPECTIVE METHOD OF QUANTIFICATION

SITE	SITE CODE	METHOD
Banbury	BACAS	Wt.
Brackley	NOBRC	No.
Chalgrove	CHHF	No.
Henley	HENR	No.
Middleton Stoney	MS	No.

SITE	SITE CODE	METHOD
Oxford	OXH	No.
Oxford	OX79S	No.
Newbury	BENWB	Wt.
Ratley	WARC	No.
Wallingford	WAL9M	No.
Whichford	WAWC	Min. Ves.
Winchcombe	GLWNN	Wt.
Witney	WMH	No.

Sites represented by presences only

Cirencester	GLCIA	No.
Cricklade	WICRG	No.
Reading	BEREG	No.

APPENDIX III. PUBLISHED SITES NOT LOCATED FOR INCLUSION IN THE GAZETTEER

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Cumnor, 43 Leys Road: 'Notes and News', *Oxoniensia*, xix (1954), 119.

Dorchester, The Defences: 'Mediaeval Pottery from the Outer Ditch', in A. H. A. Hogg and C. E. Stevens, 'The Defences of Roman Dorchester', *Oxoniensia*, ii (1937), 60-4, Fig. 17.

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APPENDIX IV. FABRIC TYPE CORRELATIONS

<i>ORIGINAL FABRIC CODE</i>	<i>MASTER FABRIC CODE</i>	<i>COMMON NAME</i>
ABB	OXBF	Late Saxon and early medieval south west Oxfordshire ware
ABC	OXAQ	Early-late medieval east Wiltshire ware
ABD	OXAM	Brill/Boarstall type ware
ABK	OXAC	Late Saxon and early medieval west Oxfordshire and early medieval Oxford ware
BA1	OXAC	
BA3	OXZ	Stamford type ware
BA6	OXY	Late Saxon and early medieval Oxford ware
BA8	OXAM	
BA16	OX85	Potterspury type ware
BA18	OX234	Late Saxon-medieval Banbury ware
BA22	OXAG	Late Saxon-medieval Abingdon ware
BA26	OXAW	Brill/Boarstall type ware
BA34	OX85	
BA39	OX85	
BM1	OXAC	
CH20	OXAQ	
CH41	OX162	Late Saxon-late medieval south-east Oxfordshire ware
CH44	OXAG	
CH46	OXAM	
CH47	OXBG	Coarse Border ware
CH54	OXBN	
CH60	NE3	
CH63	HE7	
DE1	OXAC	
DE2	OXAQ	
DE4	OXAC	
DE5	OX68	
DE6	OXAC	
DE7	OXAC	
DE9	OXCG	Olney Hyde type ware
DE10	OX234	
DE15	OXAT	
DE16	OXBX	Brill/Boarstall type ware
DE17	OXAM	
DE19	OX234	
DE20	OXBF	
DE23	OXR	St Neot's type ware
DE25	OXY	
DE26	ABA	Late Saxon-medieval Abingdon ware
DE29	OXY	
DE30	OXY	
HE3	OX162	
HE5	CH63	Late Saxon-late medieval south-east Oxfordshire ware
HE6	OXBG	
HE9	CH41	Late Saxon-late medieval south-east Oxfordshire ware
HE12	CH51	
HE21	OXR	
HE32	WA13	
HE99	OX291	Miscellaneous
MS2	OXCG	
MS3	OXR	
MS11	OXAM	
MS17	OXY	
MS18	OXAQ	
MS19	OXAC	

ORIGINAL FABRIC CODE	MASTER FABRIC CODE	COMMON NAME
MS29	OXAC	
MS38	OXBF	
MS47	OX234	
MS58	OXAQ	
NE1	OX162	
NE2	CH63	
OX2	OX162	
OX85	OX68	Potterspury type ware
OX99	OX291	
OX226	OXCX	Early-late medieval north west Oxfordshire (Wychwood) ware
OX288	OX162	
OX383	OX162	
OX473	OXBB	Minety type ware
OX506	OXCX	
OXCU	NE3	
OXCZ	OX85	
WA19	OXR	
WA21	OXBF	
WA27	OX162	
WA34	OXAG	
WA37	OXAQ	
WA39	OXAM	
WA43	OXB	Late Saxon Oxford ware
WA99	OX291	
WI2	OXBF	
WI3	OXAQ	
WI5	OXAG	
WI6	OXAM	
WI7	OXY	
WI9	OXBB	
WI11	OXAC	
WI12	OXCX	
WI13	OXAH	
WI17	OXAW	Brill/Boarstall type ware
WI30	OXAC	
WI31	OXCG	
WI32	OXBN	
WI37	OXBB	
WI38	WI16	
WI99	OX291	

APPENDIX V. LAY SUBSIDY ROLLS AND MEDIEVAL POTTERS IN SOUTH-EAST OXFORDSHIRE, by SARAH NEWNS

Introduction

This project was designed to form part of Maureen Mellor's work on medieval pottery production in Oxfordshire. Her aim has been to produce distribution maps of the major ceramic traditions in the medieval period.

Archaeological evidence has shown the existence of a major ceramic tradition in the south-east of the county (OX162), but no fieldwork has been done to locate kiln-sites. (Post-medieval pottery and kilns are known at Nettlebed and late medieval wasters have been located at Swyncombe.)

A certain amount of documentary research has already been undertaken. Wills and inventories referring to brickmakers, tilers, kilnmen and potters have previously been consulted by the compilers of *'Oxfordshire Potters'* (Oxfordshire Museum Service Publication, no. 13). It is clear from this

publication however, that, although the post-medieval pottery and brick industries in areas such as Nettlebed and Stoke Row are well documented, information is much more sparse for the earlier periods.

It was hoped that systematic perusal of a specified class of medieval document would shed some light on the existence and whereabouts of medieval potters. The choice of the lay subsidy rolls was dictated largely by the fact that as a class they have not been consulted for this purpose before in Oxfordshire; they are also freely available for consultation at the Bodleian on microfilm, and give a wide, if patchy, coverage of the area in question, for certain dates between 1295 and 1581. (In fact, most of the surviving assessments were made between 1524 and 1581, a little late for the purpose of this project.)

The documents themselves are arranged geographically under the contemporary Hundreds (with boundaries somewhat changed since Domesday – see maps). The manors or towns are listed for each Hundred, and, under each manor, there follows a list of names with the total value of goods at which each person is assessed. It follows that, if a man is very poor, he will not be mentioned on this list, as his goods will not meet the minimum rateable value. (For the 14th-century poll tax, the lowest rate of assessment was 4d. for a man and wife.)

If this information is to be of use for locating medieval potters, two assumptions have to be made. The first is that, at the time during which these assessments were being taken, a man's surname denoted his occupation. This is highly questionable for the above-mentioned period, as Jean le Patourel points out. She distinguishes three main phases:

- 1 Up to the end of the 12th century: the surname indicates occupation.
- 2 The 13th century: more and more people become potters, without adopting the surname.
- 3 By the mid 14th century: these later incomers outnumber those who are descendants of original potters.

However, she considers that the use of a potter surname up to the end of 14th century may still provide 'a valid clue', if backed up by other documentary or archaeological evidence.

As for the names themselves, these, too, are of doubtful validity. Relying again on information from le Patourel, it is possible to distinguish between two types of potter-name. There are names which refer solely to a worker in clay (*crocker*, *figulus*, *figulator*); there are also those which may refer either to a clay- or metal-worker (*pottarius*, *ollarius*, *ollator*). In the documents consulted for this project, the most frequently occurring potter-names have been 'crocker' or 'potter', with variants.

The second major requirement is that potters should have been included in these assessments. As mentioned above, only those possessing goods of above a certain value were included. The occupation of potter has never been one of high social status, and potters were often amongst the most poorly remunerated in the community. (Together with charcoal burners they were often relegated, for reasons of practicality, to the outskirts of any settlement, where they could dig their clay, fire their kilns, and collect brushwood on the more marginal land.) It was common, too, for a potter to supplement his income by farming, as indicated by the Cuxham manorial records (below). The lay subsidy rolls consulted for the purposes of this project show that certain of the later 'potter' families in particular were relatively wealthy.

Although the lay subsidies were the only documents consulted in a systematic way, other documents, including the pipe rolls, were also referred to. These include payments arising from pleas of the Forest, i.e. transgressions made against the Forest law, in the medieval period. As Beryl Schumer explains, the earlier pleas were very unspecific in terms of parish or offence. The aim in consulting these was to have discovered whether any potters were fined, in the period and area in question, for unlawfully taking wood to which they had no right. The volumes consulted dated from 1199 to 1242 AD. The results were disappointing, in that references to offenders were not sufficiently detailed to be relevant to the project.

Other documents consulted incidentally included P.D.A. Harvey's transcription of the manorial records of Cuxham, and occasional Ministers' Accounts and surveys. (The original documents are in the Public Record Office and there are microfilms in the Bodleian.)

The results are presented under parish and Hundred, and linked with relevant background information principally from the *Victoria County History*, where available. As far as possible, the documentary evidence has been transcribed letter for letter (apart from the parish-names), highlighting the variations in spelling. Parishes with no potter-names have been omitted from the list



Fig. 77. South-East Oxfordshire showing hundred and parish boundaries.

(except in cases where other documentary or archaeological research has suggested the presence of potters).

The Hundreds thus surveyed are: Bullingdon, Thame, Lewknor, Pyrton, Binfield, Langtree, Ewelme and Dorchester (Fig. 77).

BULLINGDON HUNDRED

Background

The landscape is favourable, with some clay and also wooded marginal land, as at Forest Hill. There were also ready markets in Oxford, Wallingford, Abingdon and Henley, with transport via the Thames.

Lay Subsidies

1327	<i>Denton</i>	
	John le Potere	12d.
	<i>Garsington</i>	
	de Richardo Crok	6s.
	de Johanne Potte	6s.
	de Edmundo Crokes	12d.
	<i>Littlemore</i>	
	de Roberto Potterio	6s.
	de Hugone Potterio	3s.
	<i>Woodeaton</i>	
	de Thome Potterio	4s.
	<i>Alberbury</i>	
	de Willelmo Potterio	3s.
1524	<i>Cuddesdon</i>	
	Item of John Croke in goodes	40s. (12d.)
	Item of William Croke in gaynes	20s. (4d.)
	Item of Thomas Croker in gaynes	20s. (4d.)
1547	<i>Toot Baldon</i>	
	Wylliam Kroker in goodes	£5 3s. 2d.

Further information: Marsh/Toot Baldon

The site of a Roman kiln in the area is known as 'Clay Pit Ground'. Other field-names testify to a 16th-century pottery industry. Potland Lower and Upper Furlongs may be traced back to 1514 when the original 'Godlands' became 'Potlands'.

Robert Plot, in his survey of the county in 1676, writes: 'At Marsh Baldon Heath . . . they have a sort of Earth . . . formerly used by Potters, but . . . now neglected' (quoted in N. Stebbing, J. Rhodes and M. Mellor, *Oxfordshire Potters* (Oxfordshire Museum Service Publication, no. 13), 26).

Brickmaking in the area continued until the 18th century, and in Nuneham Courteney until the 19th.

Overall Interpretation for Bullingdon Hundred

The background information for the Baldons suggests that the pottery industry there was short-lived, from the early-mid 16th century until the early 17th century.

Lay subsidy evidence, however, suggests the earlier presence of potters in the following parishes: Denton, Garsington, Littlemore, Woodeaton and Albury, at a time when the surname could still be meaningful.

THAME HUNDRED

Background

For Thame, *Kelly's Directory* refers to a 19th-century brick, tile and pot manufacturer.

Lay Subsidies

1327	<i>Tetsworth</i> de Johanne Potinge		4d.
[N.B. 'Potinge' is not necessarily linked with potting.]			
1547	<i>Milton Magna, Waterstoke, Tetsworth and Alcott</i> John Potty in goods	£26	(34s. 8d.)
	John Potty in goods	£20	(26s. 8d.)
1559	John Potty in goods	£3	(6s. 8d.)
1577	John Pottye, senior, gent, in goods	£50	(50s.)
	Wedowe Pottye, in goods	£12	(12s.)
1581	Marie Pottie, widow, in goods	£16	(26s. 8d.)
	Christopher Pottie in goods	£12	(20s.)

Overall Interpretation for Thame Hundred

The lay subsidies indicate the presence of a family named Potty from the mid to late 15th century. However, it would seem that the records are too late and the family is too wealthy for the individuals whose names are recorded above to be earning a living through pot-making. Wills may survive for some of these individuals, in which case the occupation would also be recorded.

A list of wills may be found in an Index compiled by E. Cheyne, revised by D.M. Barratt, *Probate Records of the Courts of the Bishop and Archdeacon of Oxford 1516-1732*, vols. 93, 94 (1981, 1985).

LEWKINOR HUNDRED

Background

The *Victoria County History* suggests that the villages of Lewknor were mainly engaged in agriculture, with some marginal hill-land. Lewknor was one of the four and a half Hundreds included in the royal manor of Benson. (The others were Binfield, Langtree, Pyrton and the half-hundred of Ewelme.)

Kingston Manor was said to have very productive soil, being chalk with clay. There was also much woodland, which was used for keeping pigs, for brushwood and for building. There are references to the customary rights to wood ('hillwerkes'), for example in a document of 1579, referring to 'hegging wood' etc., concerned with the rights to take brushwood for fuel and hedging.

There is also evidence for a later brick industry, with a kiln at Kingston Blount from 1729 to 1739.

Both Chinnor and Lewknor parishes contained substantial amounts of woodland to which the inhabitants held rights as mentioned above.

Lay Subsidies

1577	<i>Kingston Blount</i> William Croke in goods	£6	(6s.)
1581	William Croucke in goods	£4	(6s. 8d.)

No evidence of potters was found in the lay subsidy rolls for the parishes of Chinnor or Lewknor.

Overall Interpretation for Lewknor Hundred

The lay subsidy evidence from Kingston Blount is too late to be very useful. It does, however, highlight a parish with strong possibilities of an early pottery industry. The resources were available in terms of the clay and the wood for fuel. The presence of the later brick-making industry may also suggest earlier exploitation.

PYRTON HUNDRED

Background

The *Victoria County History* describes the Hundred in 1841 as thinly populated, with varied land-use, including rough pasture, beech woods and clay arable fields. Pyrton was one of the four and a half Chiltern Hundreds, under the Lord of Wallingford honor, and later attached to Ewelme honor.

The relevant field-name evidence for Pyrton parish is limited to a 'Pot Ash' field, Pyrton. The geological background is promising, with clay lands in the north-west of Pyrton parish. There was also plentiful rough pasture and timber. Harvey mentions that the manor of Cuxham bought hay and wood from Pyrton.

The region was well supplied with markets. Henley was of great local importance, especially for corn, and river traffic. There were also through-routes to Wallingford, Oxford and Woodstock. There is evidence for a local post-medieval industry in that a record of 1760 refers to bricks for Stonor House having been supplied by a local kilnswoman.

Lay Subsidies

1577	<i>Golder</i>	
	John Pottye in goods	£10 (10s.)
(John Pottye was the only inhabitant recorded).		

Further Information: Survey of the Manor of Watlington, 1616

A certain John Croocke is one of the signatories to this survey, and is also mentioned as holding a messuage in Watlington worth 8s. and lands worth 8s. 4d. His other lands are recorded as follows:

<i>Tenant</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>Rent</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Lives</i>
John Croocke	tent. 8 rod	10s. 4d.	33s. 4d.	first life
the same	7 acr terrae	12d.	35s.	first life

There are references to Watlington Park, which contained 'small timber trees, bushes and underwood'. There is also a reference to a coppice consisting of 'pollard beeches and younger springs of hazel and fellable oak, all which has been much abused by the browse of cattle and as it seemeth by unseasonable felling. . . Valued at £16 per acre or thereabouts.'

The concluding remarks concerning the woodland in the park include the following: 'There are no good tymber trees in all the parke. The best that latelie were have byn in these two yeares felled. . .'

The surveyor refers to the trees taken for repairing the prince's tenements in Watlington: 'the most of them yett lying in the streets . . . There ought to be care howe tymber be stowed'.

The survey also refers to Watlington's market and the two annual fairs. It is emphasised that: 'It lieth, within four miles of the Thames for transportation.'

The survey records the acreages of land held by respective tenants. These fields include some with clay-names i.e. 'in campo vocat. the Clayhill; in campo vocat. the Clare; in campo vocat. the Claves'. (The 'Clare', first recorded in 1130, comes from the Old English for clay, 'claeg', and for slope, 'ora'.)

Overall Interpretation for Pyrton Hundred

The lay subsidy item from Golder (Pyrton parish) is too late, and the inhabitant seems to have been too wealthy to have been a potter.

The Watlington Survey is also very late, but it does emphasise what is already known. It stresses the presence of plentiful wood, for fuel; of frequent local markets and fairs in Watlington; and of trade-routes to Henley, London, Wallingford, Oxford and Woodstock. The area would thus seem very suitable for a pottery industry, although there is no lay subsidy evidence for one.

BINFIELD HUNDRED (also incorporating Crockmore Farm, South Buckinghamshire)

Background

There is no *Victoria County History* for this area. The Hundred contains much wooded marginal land, for example Binfield Heath, Bix etc. The main market is at Henley, with the use of the Thames for transporting goods. None of the lay subsidies produced potting names.

Henley

Potters are recorded in the borough records of the late 13th century/early 14th century. In the Ministers' Accounts of 1341 to 1344 there are references to wood being sold, for example: 'de talwode et halfwode vend. de Thome le Fullere . . .' (Bodleian microfilm MS Film 15 Ministers' Accounts 26 and 27) ('Talwode' is wood for fuel).

Eye and Dunsden

The name, 'Kiln Road', testifies to the presence of a post-medieval pottery kiln.

Further Information

Crockmore Farm is recorded in the *Victoria County History* for Buckinghamshire under Fawley parish and is said to date from the 17th century (*V.C.H. Bucks.* iii, 37). Present-day land-use, with a high proportion of woodland, appears promising, but there is no additional information about the place-name.

Overall Interpretation for Binfield Hundred

The lay subsidies for this Hundred proved unproductive. The Henley borough records perhaps warrant further investigation.

The area is potentially favourable to the pottery industry, being well supplied with fuel, and with the market at Henley, with communication via the Thames. Place-name evidence exists near the Buckinghamshire border, in Crockmore Farm.

LANGTREE HUNDRED

Background

This Hundred is not covered in the *Victoria County History*. The Hundred contains much wooded land, potentially useful as fuel. Wallingford could have served both as a market and as an 'entrepot' providing links with other trading centres via the Thames.

At Woodcote, there are known to have been 15th-century tiles. The same area included old clay workings and a 'Pot Kiln Cottage'. Known post-medieval industries include the pottery and brickworks at Stoke Row, the brick kilns and 'Pot Kiln Cottages' of Goring Heath, and the 'Neil Farms Kiln' at Checkendon. Gelling records a local field-name, 'The Clays', in Whitchurch.

Lay Subsidies

1327	<i>Stoke Bassett (now in Stoke Row) and Ipsden</i>	
	de Willelmo Croke	20d.
	de Waltero Crok	12d.
	de Rogero Crok	2s.

Overall Interpretation for Langtree Hundred

The lay subsidy is sufficiently early to be relevant. Also, the relative poverty of those recorded suggests that they may have been potters. This may corroborate the evidence on the 15th-century tilers in nearby Woodcote (see *Eynsham Cartulary*).

EWELME HUNDRED

Background

This Hundred has not yet been recorded in the *Victoria County History*. There is well documented evidence of post-medieval pottery and brick industries at both Nettlebed and Swyncombe. There is archaeological evidence to suggest that these may have been centres of medieval industry too, but no field work has been carried out.

Ministers' Accounts for Nettlebed, in 1442, list a Henry Potter. Stonor Estate accounts from 1417 refer to the place-name Crocker End. Stonor House itself was provided with bricks from Nettlebed. Margaret Gelling writes that the name 'soundess' in Soundess House or Farm, Nettlebed, may be derived from the Old English 'sand', meaning 'sandy soil'. There is evidence to suggest that there is a thick bed of greenish-white sandy clay in this part of Nettlebed (*Kelly's Directory*). For Nettlebed, there is thus the suggestion of a possible clay source (Soundess), linked with marginal land (Nettlebed), and with a potting-name (Crocker End).

For Benson/Nuffield, Gelling refers to a 'Pottys als. Potters Farm', occurring in a 1606 survey (and also 1470s Ministers' Accounts); and to a 'Pottye als. Potters Lane End', also occurring in the 1606 survey. This name may be traced back to 1422.

Ewelme itself was originally a part of the Hundred of Benson. It later became a Half-Hundred.

Chalgrove

The moated manor-house has recently been excavated.⁴³⁹

Lay Subsidies

1327	<i>Warpsgrove</i>	
	Walter Croke	2s. 4d.

Walter may well have been a potter, as this is a comparatively early reference, and he was relatively poor.

⁴³⁹ Page, *op. cit.* note 294.

Cuxham

Harvey's transcription of the manorial records includes the following items containing potter-names:

Court records: 89 (1294), 27 July 1294: 'Mis. iii d. Hereward croc in Mis. pro ovibus suis inventis pascentes in frumento domine per plegios Gilberti le aumener et Ricardi le Wyte.'

Account Rolls: 64 (1296-7), sales of grain: 'Item resp. de xiii s. de ii qr. frumenti de rem, Mutuatis et venditis Thome Crok.'

Court records 136 (1353): 'Mis. ii s. iiii d.: ' . . . Thomas Crok' vi d. pro ovibus suis ibidem (i.e. 'in blado domini') plegius ballivus.'

There are also references to a John le Porter/Porter/le Potter in miscellaneous records from 1352 to 1356. He is referred to as 'homo domini Edmundi de Bereford' (a neighbouring lord). In the accounts concerning allowances, John is once assigned a pair of stockings, and once a pair of shoes, 'causa habendi favorem'. Therefore it is perhaps likely that he is in a more important relationship towards Edmund of Bereford than that of potter/customer.

Lay Subsidies

1577	John Crooker in goods	£8	(8s.)
1581	John Crouke in goods	£8	(13s. 4d.)

The early references in the court records and the manorial accounts suggest that there may have been potters in Cuxham, making a living partly through potting, partly through agriculture, as suggested by the nature of the fines: for sheep trespassing into the lord's corn, and through the reference to the selling of corn. The later references from the lay subsidy rolls are less likely to refer to a potter.

Newington: Britwell Prior

Britwell Prior was that part of Britwell given to Christ Church Priory, Canterbury. Britwell Prior became part of the parish of Newington. In addition to 100 acres of arable land, the priory owned 10 acres of woodland, within which the virgaters had the right of 'husbote' (the right to gather wood).

Lay Subsidies

1547	Richard Crooker in goods	£5	(3s. 4d.)
1577	Rychard Croker in goods	£8	(8s.)
1581	Isobell Crouke, widow, in goods	£4	(6s. 8d.)
	John Crouke in goods	£5	(8s. 4d.)

(For the lay subsidies of 1577, Britwell Prior was assessed at twice the amount of Britwell Salome.)

The Croker family seems unlikely to have been engaged in the pottery industry at this period, judging from the worth of the goods assessed, but they may have been descendants of original local potters.

Nettlebed

As mentioned in the background summary to the Hundred, a Henry Potter of Sidford appears in the Ministers' Accounts for Nettlebed, 1442. As this is a late reference, the name may not refer to his occupation. However, the

known brick and tile industry operated by Flemings at Crocker End would suggest that there were potters there too.

Crocker End, first referred to in the Stonor Estate accounts for 1417, as 'Crockern End', is probably derived from the Old English, 'crocca', meaning 'pot', and 'aern', meaning 'house', giving 'the house where pots are made'.

Lay Subsidies

1577	Thomas Pothe in goods	£3	(3s.)
1581	Thomas Pothe in lands	£20	(11s. 8d.)

These later lay subsidy assessments suggest that Thomas Pothe was probably too rich to have been earning a living solely from the pottery industry. However, there is the definite presence of the known brick and tile industry in the area, under the Flemings.

Swyncombe/Ewelme

Archaeological evidence suggests that there was a pottery industry centred on this area by the late 14th/early 15th century.

A 17th-century survey of the honour and manor of Ewelme mentions that Ewelme Park adjoins a field called 'Potters Field'. This is probably a part of the 'Pottys Farm' recorded by Gelling under Benson/Nuffield. One of the signatories to this survey is a William Croke. The Park itself is on or near the site of a medieval hunting lodge, which may perhaps have provided a market for the above pottery production (as at Brill) (see p. 132).

Overall Interpretation for Ewelme Hundred

The archaeological evidence for the 13th-century pottery industry at Nettlebed is corroborated to some extent, although there are only later references to Crocker End (1417). For the 15th-century industry at Swyncombe, there is the possibility of a ready market, with the existence of a medieval hunting lodge and medieval fair held in June. The lay subsidies bring to light an early Croker in Warpsgrove (Chalgrove). From other documentary evidence, the Cuxham manorial records show an early Croker family supplementing their income through farming.

DORCHESTER HUNDRED

Background

Dorchester was an important centre, being the first episcopal see of the West Saxons, and the site of the abbey church. Culham was also very important in the Anglo-Saxon period, and was the site of a 15th-century grange of Abingdon Abbey.

Culham

The River Thames was important for communication. Culham served as the wharfage for Abingdon. In the Norman period, there was a royal hunting lodge on Andersey Island until 1101, when Andersey was given back to Abingdon Abbey. From the mid 19th century until 1932 there was a small brickworks at Culham.

Lay Subsidies

1577	John Croker in goods	£5	(3s. 4d.)
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Dorchester

The geological and land-use background appears unpromising, as it is an area of few trees, with the clay geology overlain by gravel. Timber had to be obtained from the abbot of Eynsham's wood at Woodcote (see *Eynsham Cartulary*). However, Dorchester was near the Oxford market and to Wallingford, from where produce (especially grain) could be taken to London.

Lay Subsidies

1577	Nicholas Pottinger in goods	£3 (3s.)
1581	Jane Pottinger, widow, in goods	£3 (5s.)

[N.B. The surname Pottinger probably refers to the article rather than to its manufacture.]

Overall Interpretation for Dorchester Hundred

The information from the lay subsidies is not of much value. There is little background information of much potential, apart, possibly, from the post-medieval brickworks.

CONCLUSION

This project has attempted to gain a little additional information on the whereabouts of medieval potters in south-east Oxfordshire. If a similar study were to be carried out for the western part of the county, a comparison between the two would help to reveal significant concentrations of potter-names.

It must be emphasized that it would be unwise, for the reasons outlined in the introduction, to take this information as an unbiased guide to the distribution of working potters in the period in question. Much further work remains to be done.

On the documentary side, there are many important sources of information which remain to be tapped. Chief amongst these are manorial records, which are more likely to provide a full economic and agricultural background. For south-east Oxfordshire, it would be particularly appropriate to consult the manorial records of Benson (where these survive), the Domesday manor which occupied much of the later Half-Hundred of Ewelme. These would provide vital information on contemporary markets and prices. Also deserving investigation are the later Forest Pleas.

Perhaps most importantly, this documentary research must be tied in with the archaeology, so that areas highlighted in this way may be intensively field-walked for ceramic evidence, or some sort of a sampling routine devised to test for kiln-sites.

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APPENDIX VI. REPORT ON THE ANALYSIS OF SOME LATE SAXON SHELLY WARE

Sherds of late Saxon Shelly ware were submitted for NAA analysis to establish whether material from Oxford and London originated from the same geological source. Petrographic and typological studies have failed to distinguish between the two groups. The material analysed consisted of six sherds from Oxfordshire (several sites) and six from London (Barking Abbey).

Samples were taken by drilling with a tungsten-carbide drill bit and then analysed using the standard procedures for NAA at the MMRL. The full analytical results are presented in Table 1.

TABLE 1. NAA RESULTS: BRITISH MUSEUM RESEARCH LABORATORY

Site	Na	Na	K*	Rb	Cr*	Ba	Sc*	La*	Ce*	Eu*	La*	Hf*	Th*	Ta	Fe	U	Ca	As	Sm*	Yb*	Tb
Oxford	1.11	1.44	68.5	4.30	220	10.1	22.2	44.2	1.01	.278	2.51	6.19		2.35	1.2	9.0	6.5	4.52	1.55	.58	
Oxford	2.17	1.97	97.3	5.91	285	13.2	29.6	61.5	1.40	.359	4.32	8.53		3.56	1.8	16.4	11.9	6.13	2.16	.78	
Oxford	3.20	2.34	108.	6.09	311	15.3	34.8	71.5	1.57	.411	4.72	10.1	1.14	4.60	2.2	12.6	71.7	7.01	2.43	.87	
Oxford	4.22	2.49	104.	6.25	316	15.6	33.5	71.5	1.54	.368	5.12	10.2	1.22	4.69	2.0	13.9	26.3	6.75	2.40	.85	
Oxford	5.13	1.89	80.7	5.58	285	12.1	27.1	52.7	1.17	.311	3.27	7.70		3.06	1.8	8.5	9.4	5.48	1.83	.69	
Oxford	6.18	2.33	119.	6.10	377	15.8	35.9	72.0	1.61	.419	4.66	9.90	1.36	4.41	2.0	13.1	133.	7.16	2.38	.88	
London	22.16	1.57	98.4	6.21	265	13.1	28.8	59.9	1.35	.323	5.12	9.37	.68	3.99	2.0	10.0	7.7	6.20	2.00	.73	
London	20.22	2.32	107.	7.03	382	15.2	33.1	69.4	1.55	.393	4.99	10.0		4.58	2.0	13.7	9.6	6.77	2.52	.85	
London	57.19	2.32	116	6.71	457	15.9	35.2	72.8	1.56	.424	4.37	10.4		4.82	2.1	15.5	13.6	7.05	2.46	.94	
London	56.25	2.23	134	6.31	404	16.0	47.7	72.1	1.61	.396	6.08	9.99		4.58	2.9	10.3	13.5	8.01	2.34	.94	
London	12.21	2.28	135.	8.38	485	17.5	40.9	85.7	2.01	.523	5.98	12.4		5.67	2.3	8.9	17.0	8.88	3.10	1.12	
London	27.14	2.09	127.	6.12	477	15.7	35.3	72.0	1.62	.404	4.46	9.99	.98	4.72	2.0	14.5	17.8	7.09	2.54	.88	

all results in parts per million except Na, K, Fe and Ca in percent

* data used in statistical analysis

Prior to statistical analysis the data-set was reduced to remove elements with missing values, poor precision, and those subject to environmental and sampling contamination. This restricted the elements to those starred in Table 1. The data values were scaled to the scandium concentration of each sample and then logged. The scaling is applied to overcome variations induced in the raw element data by different amounts of temper and differences in firing. It has been found that scaling to scandium is a useful step to take in the characterization of clay sources. Logging is a standard procedure designed to reduce the numerical range of the data values. For comparison the scaled values are listed in Table 2.

TABLE 2. NAA RESULTS SCALED TO SCANDIUM CONCENTRATION

Site	Num	K/Sc	Cs/Sc	La/Sc	Ce/Sc	Eu/Sc	Lu/Sc	Hf/Sc	Th/Sc	Sm/Sc	Yb/Sc
Oxford	1	.14	.43	2.2	4.4	.10	.028	.25	.62	.45	.15
Oxford	2	.15	.45	2.2	4.6	.11	.027	.33	.64	.46	.16
Oxford	3	.15	.40	2.3	4.7	.10	.027	.31	.66	.46	.16
Oxford	4	.16	.40	2.2	4.6	.10	.024	.33	.65	.43	.15
Oxford	5	.16	.46	2.2	4.3	.10	.026	.27	.64	.45	.15
Oxford	6	.15	.39	2.3	4.6	.10	.027	.30	.63	.45	.15
London	22	.12	.47	2.2	4.6	.10	.025	.39	.71	.47	.15
London	20	.15	.46	2.2	4.6	.10	.026	.33	.66	.45	.17
London	575	.15	.42	2.2	4.6	.10	.027	.27	.65	.44	.15
London	565	.14	.40	3.0	4.5	.10	.025	.38	.63	.50	.15
London	12	.13	.48	2.3	4.9	.11	.030	.34	.71	.51	.18
London	373	.13	.39	2.3	4.6	.10	.026	.28	.64	.45	.16

After the data transformation the two groups were tested for differences using the MANOVA (multivariate analysis of variance) option in the SPSS PC statistical package. The result was that no significant difference was found between the two groups (equivalent f value = 1.93, significance = 0.51). The NAA results suggest therefore that the pottery from the two sites, or regions, was manufactured using clay with the same composition, possibly from the same source. This is in support of the results obtained from the petrographic and typological studies of the material.

This data has been compared with that obtained for the St Neot's ware (of similar fabric) by Hunter and Coleman (Bradford MA dissertations, 1975, 1976), also using NAA. Only visual comparisons of the data have been made but there seem to be minor differences between the two types of material, chiefly in samarium (SM) and europium (EU) concentrations. However, possibly systematic differences in the analytical procedures have not been allowed for.

23 June 1989 Mike Cowell and M.S. Tite
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APPENDIX VII. PETROLOGY by A.G. VINCE

The descriptions (see Plates 10–17) are based on thin-section analysis of a single thin-section and therefore can only be taken as a rough guide to the characteristics of the fabric. Inclusions are divided into petrological groups and listed in approximate order of frequency. Where it was thought to be significant the frequency, roundness and size of the inclusion type is given. These lists are followed by a description of the clay matrix and inclusions of less than 0.2mm across. Finally, there may be comments upon the likely source of the raw materials and comparisons of one fabric with another. The thin-sections were prepared by Philip Jackson of the Department of Geology, University of Oxford with the aid of a grant from the Eric Fletcher Fund of the Society of Medieval Archaeology and are deposited at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, where they are available for consultation. The petrological slides were photographed by Chris Doherty of the Research Laboratory for Archaeology, University of Oxford. The macroscopic photographs of fabrics with 'fresh fractures', varying from smooth to hackly surfaces were undertaken by the author, who benefited from advice from Douwtje van der Meulen of the Ashmolean Museum.

Several examples of each fabric were thin-sectioned and photographed (magnification x40) using plane polarised light (A) and crossed polars (B), but only one example of each type is published. The macroscopic photographs (C, magnification x4) have potential as a first step to fabric recognition, but should be followed up by thin section analysis.

Some general points concerning comparison of one fabric with another are set out below. Combe Ware (Fabric CO1 - reduced) in the style of Brill types, Buckinghamshire, is coarser but better sorted than the contemporary Brill/Boarstall type (Fabric OXB). Minety types from Wiltshire (Fabric OXBB) contain no quartz silt, have finer limestone, and less variety than Wychwood types (Fabric OXC). But the limestone type is the same and also has much iron staining of limestone. Wychwood Ware (Fabric OXC) is less well sorted than (OXAC no. 30) with more quartz and less rounded quartz. The author writes 'possibly from Middle Lias which is sandier than Lower Lias and is present in North West Oxfordshire - needs further work to clarify'.

Late Saxon-Medieval Oxford Ware (Fabric OX) has only 1 per cent polycrystalline quartz, whereas south east Oxfordshire has 10–20 per cent. It has finer quartz than south east Oxfordshire.

Dr. D.F. Williams examined a prepared thin section of one typical sherd from the 1974 Brill kiln,

Buckinghamshire (Fabric *OXAM*), published in M. Farley, 'Pottery and Pottery Kilns of the Post-Medieval Period at Brill, Buckinghamshire', *Post-Medieval Arch.*, 13 (1979), 137, and describes it as follows:-

'Medium thick hard fabric, light red (10R 6/6) throughout, small red pellets can be seen in fresh fracture. Thin sectioning shows a fine micaceous anisotropic matrix containing a scatter of ill-sorted subangular quartz grains in the range 0.05-0.40 mm. Also present are frequent grains of iron-rich argillaceous matter, probably ironstone'.

APPENDIX VIII. BRILL/BOARSTALL TYPES OUTSIDE OXFORDSHIRE/BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

COUNTY	SITE	VESSELS
Bedfordshire	Grove Priory	? jugs
Berkshire	Reading	jugs
Cambridge	Mill Lane	2 jugs
	University Extension	1 jug
	Provenance Unknown	4 jugs
Cheshire	Beeston Castle	1 jug
Dorset	Sherbourne Abbey	1 cylindrical mug with face mask
Hampshire	Southampton	1 jug
Gloucester	Various	32 jugs, 1 chafing
	Whittington	7 jugs
Lincolnshire	Boston Town Centre	1 jug
	Holme	1 jug
London	Museum of London	1 baluster jug
	British Museum	1 jug
Northamptonshire	Raunds	1 stout baluster
	Grafton Regis	1 aquamanile + 12 vessels
	Northampton	various
Warwickshire	Alcester	jugs
Wiltshire	Avebury	jugs
Worcester	Droitwich	1 jug
Yorkshire	Sandal Castle	3 jugs
Wales	Penhow Castle	1 lobed cup
	Rhuddlan	1 jug

APPENDIX IX. OXFORDSHIRE PARISHES ASSOCIATED WITH CERAMIC INDUSTRIES (EXCLUDING THOSE MENTIONED IN APPENDIX V)

PARISH	DETAILS
Abingdon	George Ecton, potter 1696 (<i>Jnl. of Ceramic History</i> , (1974), 13-42); 19th-century brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 17).
Adderbury	Brick Kiln Field c. 1774 (Gelling, pt. ii, 392); 19th-century brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 19).
Appleton with Eaton	Kiln Heath 1840 TA (Gelling, Berkshire, pt. ii, 404).
Ascott under Wychwood	John le Potter 1272 (<i>Oxon. Potters</i> , 29), Brick Hill, 19th-century brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 19).
Aston Bampton	19th-century brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 23).
Asthall	19th-century brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 23).
Banbury	Potter-name 1225 AD (<i>V.C.H. Oxon.</i> , x, 62); 19th and 20th-century potters (<i>Oxon. Potters</i> , 26) 18th-century brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 20); Tylers Ground, a brickyard 1831 TA (SMR, PRN 8857); Tylers Middle Ground, Tylers Further Ground, Potters Meadow 1852 TA (SMR W.I. fieldname survey).
Barford St Michael	18th and 19th-century potters and brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Potters</i> , 27 and <i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 17).
Benson	Potter's Farm, Potter's Lane, Pottys als Potters (1606 Survey, Gelling, pt. 1, 118, p. 30 FN30).

- Bicester Crockwell, 'crocwelle furlong' 1225 (Gelling, pt. 1, 198-9); 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 23).
- Bix 18th-century brickmaker (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 13).
- Blackthorn 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- Bladon Potters returning 10s. (*Domesday*, 10). 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 19).
- Bletchington 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 23).
- Bloxham 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- Bourton 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- Buckland Kiln Ground, possibly lime kiln (1839 TA, Gelling, Berkshire pt ii, 388).
- Chawley 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 19).
- Checkendon Neal's Farm Kiln, kilnmen, brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 18).
- Childrey Childrey Bridge and Kiln (Gelling, Berkshire, pt. ii, 471). Brick kiln at Petwick Farm 18th century (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14).
- Chipping Norton 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 15).
- Chislehampton Kiln Close (1743 Estate Map); 1746 Brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14).
- Cholsey Kiln Piece (Gelling, Berkshire pt. 1, 165).
- Clifton Hampden 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 18).
- Cogges Kiln Ground by Northfield Farm - lime kiln (SMR, PRN 802); John Harwood, brickmaker 1781-1809 (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14).
- Combe 16th-17th century pottery wasters (see p. 151); 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 24).
- Compton Beauchamp The Pot Corner (Estate Map 1820 Reading D/E Pb P7).
- Cropredy Brick kiln c. 1775 (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14).
- Culham The Leys at the kiln 1802 (pre-enclosure map); Kiln Close 1849 TA; 19th-century brickmaker (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 27). Wood Kiln Wood Farm 1761 (Rocque Map).
- Curbridge Chinalands, Old Field Chinaland Samuel Jarvis 1749-1770 (*Oxon. Potters*, 29).
- Deddington 19th-century potters and brickmakers (*Oxon. Potters*, 27 and *Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- Dorchester 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 22).
- Drayton (N Oxon) Putforlong, Cleiputtis, le Cleypittes, Cleypitteshul, Simon de Potkote (O.H.S. xcii, 1931, 64, 66, 77).
- Eye and Dunsden Kiln Road, Nr Clayfield Copse; 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 18).
- Eynsham 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17 and 19).
- Finnere 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 23).
- Forest Hill with Shotover 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 24, 25).
- Garsington Kiln Ground, Kiln Farm (OS Map 1822, Gelling, pt. 1, 174).
- Goring Heath Pot Kiln cottage, Greenmoor Hill 1824; Brick kiln road (Encl A 1812, Gelling pt. 1, 54) and pottery at Grimmer Hill (Bryant's Map); Pot kiln cottages (OS Maps 1881, 1892).
- Great Milton Polts Close.
- Great Tew 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 23).
- Grimsbury Nathaniel Banbury, 19th-century potter (*Oxon. Potters*, 27).
- Hanborough Brickmakers, Henry Wise and Thomas Lardner c. 1706 (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14).
- Headington Henry Rivers c. 1739; Thomas Godfrey c. 1744 and c. 1772; and 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14, 17).
- Henley Potters 13th-14th century (Borough Records).
- Holwell 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 21).
- Horton cum Studley Tile Close 1641 (*V.C.H. Oxon. V*, 65); Potters Close; 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 23).
- Idbury 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 23).
- Islip 19th-century brickmaker (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 18).
- Launton 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 23).
- Leafield Nicholas le Poter; Richard le Poter (*Oxon. Potters*, 29); Potter's Hill, Potter's Quarre 1591, (Gelling, pt. ii, 389); 18th, 19th and 20th-century potters (*Oxon. Potters*, 27).
- Lewknor Thomas Keene, tilemaker c. 1629 (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 13).
- Lockinge Kiln Farm, 19th and 20th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14, 17).
- Long Wittenham 19th-century brickmaker (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 18).
- Longworth Kiln Field (date unknown - SMR, W.I. fieldname survey).
- Marcham Kiln Copse (Gelling, Berkshire pt. ii, 415); Thomas Ayris, sen. kilnman, old claypit (Poll of Freeman of Oxford, 1818, 23).
- Marsh Baldon Heath Potters prior to 1676 (Plot (1677), 66).

- Marsh Baldon Richard Spindler, brickmaker 1680-1710; Henry Spindler, son - 1754 (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 13); kiln in Stubbleground (1830 Survey and *Oxon. Brickmakers*, 13).
- Milton Kiln Ground 1840 TA; 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 22).
- Milton under Wychwood Alfred Groves, brickmakers, potters etc. 1887-1920 (*Kelly's Directory*).
- Nettlebed Tilery 1365 (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 2); Crockkernende 1416-17 (Gelling, pt. 1, 131); Croker End Common 1840 TA (Gelling); 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th-century potters (*Oxon. Potters*, 28).
- North Leigh Stiles, Tilgenley's kilns (JQJ Nov 1782, 82.334 L).
- Oxford Alexander le Poter 1316-1320 (Hamel, 178-79); Pot Stream (*V.C.H.* iv, 23); Tylehoste Furlong (tile oast or kiln) at Marston (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14); Richard Barker, manufacturer of earthenware (Poll of Freeman of Oxford 1802, 5); Richard Barker St Michael's, manufacturer of earthenware 1806, Appendix, 37; J Barker, Lane End, Staffs earthenware manufacturer Oxford 1812; Joseph Allen, St Martins Oxford, chinaman (Poll of Freeman of Oxford 1818); Marsh Abraham, son of Aron M of Oxford, potter 1711 (Oxford City Apprentices 1987, 54); Michael Lewis Brown, St. Mary Magdalen, chinaman (Poll of Freeman of Oxford, 1812, 6); John Pike, St Thomas's, earthenware man (Poll of Freeman of Oxford 1818, 13); Samuel Sutton, St Michael's, chinaman (Poll of the Freeman of Oxford 1818, 16); John Woodward, brickmaker (Poll of the Freeman of Oxford 1818, 28); 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- Pishill John Kimber, brickmaker c. 1695; William Crooke, brickmaker c. 1697; Plumridge, brickmaker 18th-century (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 13).
- Ramsden Crockwell Assarts (SMR, W.I. fieldname survey).
- Rotherfield Greys Richard Sarney, brickmaker c. 1619; Brick Field c. 1684; Kilnmen (*Oxon. Potters*, 13).
- Salford 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- Shilton Edwards Ground/Potters Ground (SMR, W.I. fieldname survey).
- Shiplake Old Kiln; 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 18).
- Shipton under Wychwood Big Pottery or cow pasture; Little Pottery or School Ground; Great Potters and Little Potters; John Taylor, potter 1713-1735 (SMR, W.I. fieldname survey and *Oxon. Potters*, 29).
- Somerton 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- South Stoke John Martin, tiler 1487-8 (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 2) Brick kiln acre; Devils Kitchen; Crock Hill; Tile Hill (SMR, W.I. fieldname survey).
- Stadhampton 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 22).
- Stanton St John Kiln Ground (SMR, PRN 12,211); Hell's Kitchen; Hells Coppice; Brick kiln c. 1534, contract between New College and 2 brickmakers from London (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 7).
- Steeple Aston Brickmakers 19th-century (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- Stoke Row Pot kiln road; traces of kilns and working on southern boundary with Checkendon; 17th, 18th and 19th-century potters and brickmakers (*Oxon. Potters*, 29 and *Oxon. Brickmakers*, 17).
- Stratton Audley Middle and Kiln Close (Brickyard) (SMR, W.I. fieldname survey).
- Sunningwell Kiln Close (Gelling, Berkshire pt. ii, 461).
- Swalcliffe 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 23).
- Swyncombe Pottery wasters late 14th-15th century (O.A.U. Newsletter, 1982); clay pit; kiln copse; Soundess House Farm-Sounds AD 1545-6 (see Nettlebed, Gelling, pt. 1, 131).
- Tackley Brick kiln c. 1787 (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14).
- Thame 19th-century potters and brickmakers (*Oxon. Potters*, 29 and *Oxon. Brickmakers*, 13, 19).
- Toot Baldon William Jordon, brickmaker c. 1757; Potlands Furlong 1840 TA (Gelling, pt. 1, 163-164).
- Wallingford William le Poter c. 1245 (Dewey, 70).
- Wantage Inventory of Robert Clement, potter 26 Oct 1704 earthenware and furnace in cellar (Wilts RO, Peculiar of Dean and Canon of Windsor); brick kilns at Lattin Down c. 1761; 19th-century brickmakers (*Oxon. Brickmakers*, 14).
- Watlington Richard White, brickmaker c. 1665, son of John White farmer and brickmaker. Another John White, brickmaker c. 1681; Brick kiln yard, occupied by John White (1815 Encl Map, *Oxon. Brickmakers*, 13).
- Wheatfield Kiln Copse 1840 TA (Gelling, pt. 1, 100).

Wheatley	Richard Griffin c. 1763–96 (<i>Oxon. Potters</i> , 29); 18th, 19th and 20th-century brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 14, 19).
Witney/Newland	Town Kiln Ground (limekiln); Samuel Jarvis 1749–1770; John Pritchard 1830 (<i>Oxon. Potters</i> , 29).
Woodcote	19th-century brickmakers (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 19).
Woodstock	William le Pottare (<i>Oxon. Potters</i> , 29).
Woolstone	Brick kiln mead c. 1771 (<i>Oxon. Brickmakers</i> , 14).
Wootton	Beesley Jn. son of John Beesley of Foxcombe Hill, Berks, kilnman to Jn Johnson 1788 (<i>Oxford City Apprentices</i> 1987, 220).
Wootton by Woodstock	Kiln Piece (1770 Encl. Awards).

Non-Oxfordshire parishes associated with ceramic industries

Basildon	Kiln Corner and Ground; Kiln Farm adjacent to Brickworks 1846; kiln bottom; The Kiln Ground TA 1838 (Gelling, Berkshire pt. ii, 514).
Cadmore End, Stokenchurch	Richard Plumridge, brickmaker c. 1704. Caversham brickmakers c. 1676.
Chaddleworth	Kiln Ground TA 1841 (Gelling, Berkshire pt. ii, 292).
Crockmore	Crockmore Farm, ('croce' = early English word for pot).
East Garston	Potter's Barn (OS 1830, Gelling, pt. ii, 332); North Potters Field, South Potters Field TA 1841.
East Ilsley	Tylers Pond (SMR, W.I. fieldname survey).
Farnborough	Tylers Pond; Kiln furlong and kiln piece (OS 1830 and Gelling, Berkshire pt. ii, 502).
Hampstead Marshall	Kiln Close TA 1840 (Gelling, Berkshire pt. ii, 300).
Inkpen	Pot kiln meadow TA 1840 (Gelling, Berkshire pt. ii, 312); Kiln Close and Ground (TA 1841); Wasters found recently (Newbury Museum).
Pangbourne	Kiln pighule TA 1839 (Gelling, Berkshire pt. i, 169).
Reading	Potterslane c. 1347 (Gelling, Berkshire pt. i, 174).
Stokenchurch	Kiln Ground at Stodderidge (TA 1840); Kiln Close 1598 (Lewknor Map, 1815 Encl Award).
Tilehurst	Tegularia deed of AD 1182 (Gelling, Berkshire pt. i, 194); kiln copse; kiln coppice and close 1824; kiln close (1843 TA).
West Ilsley	Kiln Barn (1828 Encl A, Gelling, pt. ii, 506).

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APPENDIX X. PARISHES WITH NO MEDIEVAL OR EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL CERAMIC FINDS

North Oxon.

Claydon with Clattercot
Mollington
Cropredy
Bourton
Wardington
Prescote
Horley
Horton
North Newington
Shutford
Epwell
Sibford Gower
Sibford Ferris
Swalcliffe
Tadmorton
Milcombe
Milton
Worton

West Oxon.

Freeland
Cassington
Bladon
Burford
Upton and Signet
Minster Lovell
Curbridge
Westwell

North west Oxon.

Little Tew
Heythrop
Chastleton
Cornwell
Kingham
Sarsden
Lynham
Spelsbury
Rousham
Kiddington with Asterleigh
Fyfield
Bruern
Taynton
Fulbrook
Crawley
Ramsden

South West Oxon.

Coleshill
Longcot
Fernham
Hatford
Pusey
Shillingford
Bourton
Ashbury

Holwell
 Shilton
 Lew
 Carterton and Black Bourton
 Fencott
 Broadwell
 Filkins and Broughton Pogges
 Little Faringdon
 Kelmscott

South Oxon.

West Hendred
 East Hendred
 Drayton
 Stevenon
 Milton
 Harwell
 Chilton
 Upton
 West Hagbourne
 East Hagbourne
 Long Wittenham
 Little Wittenham
 North Moreton
 South Moreton
 Brightwell cum Sotwell
 Cholsey

East Oxon.

Noke
 Hampton Gay and Poyle
 Woodeaton
 Elsfeld
 Beckley and Stowood
 Marston
 Risinghurst and Sandhills
 Forest Hill with Shotover
 Wheatley
 Denton
 Garsington
 Littlemore
 Sandford-on-Thames
 Marsh Baldon
 Clifton Hampden
 Berinsfield
 Drayton St Leonard
 Stadhampton
 Little Milton
 Tiddington with Albury
 Waterstock
 Towersey
 Sydenham
 Crowell
 Adwell
 Stoke Talmage

Baulking
 Goosey
 East Challow
 West Challow
 Letcombe Regis
 West Hanney
 Lyford
 Garford
 East Hanney
 Lockinge
 Ardington

South east.

Shirburn
 Pyrton
 Watlington
 Brightwell Baldwin
 Britwell
 Nettlebed
 Highmoor
 Stoke Row
 Rotherfield Greys
 Harpsden
 Rotherfield Peppard
 Checkendon
 Woodcote
 Shiplake
 Sonning Common
 Kidmore End
 Mapledurham
 Whitchurch
 Goring Heath
 Woodcote

North east Oxon.

Souldern
 Fritwell
 Upper Heyford
 Ardley
 Lower Heyford
 Bucknell
 Stoke Lyne
 Hardwick with Tusmore
 Cottisford
 Finmere
 Newton Purcell with Shelswell
 Hethe
 Stratton Audley
 Godington
 Caversfield
 Kirtlington
 Bletchington
 Wendlebury
 Ambrosden
 Arncott
 Piddington
 Charlton-on-Otmoor
 Fencott and Murcott

APPENDIX XI. NON-OXFORDSHIRE SITES WHICH INCLUDE THE MAJOR
OXFORDSHIRE CERAMIC TRADITIONS (EXCLUDING 'TYPE-SITES' AND
SITES WITH PRESENCES ON THE DISTRIBUTION MAPS)

<i>SITE</i>	<i>NO. OF SHERDS</i>	<i>FABRIC CODE</i>	<i>APPROX. DATE</i>
COUNTY: BERKSHIRE			
Ashhampstead	13	ABA	12-14th C
Bray Gravel Pit	1	OX517	11-12th C
Cookham	4	OX291	11-12th C
	6	OX291	12-13th C
	2	OXR	10-11th C
	1	OXB	10-11th C
	3	OX588	12-13th C
	1	OX519	12-13th C
Hambledon M40	1	OX173	MED
Hungerford	1	OXAQ	L12-14th C
Hurley	1	OX173	12-14th C
Lambourne	6	OXAQ	12-14th C
Maidenhead	4	OXBG	12-14th C
	1	CG1	12-14th C
	1	CG2	12-14th C
	2	M50	12-14th C
	1	OX291	MED
	1	OX173	12-14th C
Membury	308	OXAQ	12-13th C
	36	OXBF	12-13th C
	5	ABA	12-13th C
	7	OXAG	12-13th C
	1	OXBB	12-13th C
	2	OXAM	13-13th C
Old Windsor	3	OXB	10-11th C
	6	OX585	12-L13th C
Purley	43	ABB	12-13th C
	2	OXAG	12-13th C
	42	OX291	12-13th C
	11	OX583	12-13th C
Southcote	6	OXAQ	12-14th C
	5	ABA	12-14th C
	3	RE53	12-14th C
	1	OXAM	12-14th C
COUNTY: BUCKINGHAMSHIRE			
Ashenden	1	OXY	12-13th C
Bledlow	1	OXBG	13-15th C
	13	OXAM	13-15th C
	2	OX517	13-15th C
	3	OX291	13-15th C
Boarstall	2	OX291	13-14th C
	2	OXAM	13-14th C
Bourton	2	OXAC?	12-13th C
	15	OX85	13-14th C
	23	OXCG	13-14th C
	4	OX519	13-14th C
	6	OX582	13-14th C
	59	OX291	13-14th C
Brill	1	OXY	12-13th C
	4	OX291	12-13th C

<i>SITE</i>	<i>NO. OF SHERDS</i>	<i>FABRIC CODE</i>	<i>APPROX. DATE</i>
Buckingham	1	OXAM	13-14th C
	5	OXAW	13-14th C
	1	OXAQ?	13-14th C
	5	OX518	MEDIEVAL
	1	OXY	12-13th C
	1	OXAW	12-13th C
	31	OX85	12-13th C
	2	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	3	OXAM	13-14th C
	2	OX518	12-13th C
Chetwood	1	OXAM	13-14th C
Grendon Underwood	3	OXCG	12-14th C
	4	OX68	13-14th C
	5	OBX	14-15th C
	1	OXAW	13-14th C
	4	OXY	12-14th C
Haddenham	2	OXAM	13-14th C
	43	OXAM	13-14th C
	7	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	3	OX517	MEDIEVAL
	2	OX519	MEDIEVAL
	3	OXAW	13-14th C
	5	OXCG	13-14th C
	13	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	1	OXAP	13-14th C
	3	OBX	14-15th C
High Wycombe	18	OX162	13th C
(Booker)	1	OXAW	13th C
Longwick cum Ilmer	51	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	27	OXAM	13-14th C
	13	OX518	MEDIEVAL
	10	OX517	MEDIEVAL
Nether Winchendon	5	OX584	13-14th C
	5	OXAM	13-14th C
Oakley	4	OXAM	13-14th C
	25	OXAW	13-14th C
	1	OBX	14-15th C
	23	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	2	OXY	12-13th C
Princes Risborough	25	OXAM	13-14th C
	16	OX291	MEDIEVAL
Shabbington	12	OXAM	13-14th C
	17	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	6	OX518	MEDIEVAL
	73	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	1	OBX	14-15th C
	4	OXAW	13-14th C
	5	OX517	MEDIEVAL
	5	OXR	10-11th C
	4	OXAC?	12-13th C
	3	OXCG	12-13th C
	1	WA27	11-12th C
	9	OXY	12-13th C
	1	NE3	14-15th C
Waddesdon	20	OXCG	13-14th C
Wootton Underwood	24	OBX	15-16th C
	5	OX291	14-15th C
Worminghall	1	OXAW	13-14th C
	11	OXAM	13-14th C

<i>SITE</i>	<i>NO. OF SHERDS</i>	<i>FABRIC CODE</i>	<i>APPROX. DATE</i>
	1	OXBX	13-14th C
	2	OXAQ	13-14th C
COUNTY: GLOUCESTERSHIRE			
Chedworth	3	OX578	12-E13th C
	31	OXBB	12-14th C
	16	OXAC	MEDIEVAL
Down Ampney	3	OX518	MEDIEVAL
	1	OXBB	12L-15 C
Downington	9	OXBB	13-15th C
Guiting	1	OXAM	13-14th C
	2	OX518	MEDIEVAL
	2	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	2	OXAC	MEDIEVAL
Hatherop	3	OX518	MEDIEVAL
Hullasee	1	OXBB	12L-15th C
Kemble	15	OXBB	12L-15th C
	1	OX568	MEDIEVAL
	1	OX518	MEDIEVAL
Maiseyhampton	2	OX518	MEDIEVAL
	1	OXAC	12-13th C
Marston Meysey	14	OX518	MEDIEVAL
	12	OX291	MEDIEVAL
Prestbury	3	OXAW	13-14th C
	5	OXAM	14th C
	1	OXAC	11-13th C
	2	OXBB	13-15th C
	5	OXBX	15-16th C
Preston	1	OX518	MEDIEVAL
Sevenhampton	2	OXBB	12-15th C
	4	OX291	MEDIEVAL
Shorncliffe	1	OXBB	13-15th C
Siddington	3	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	14	OXBB	12-15th C
	3	OX578	12-13th C
	2	OXAC	MEDIEVAL
	1	OXAM	13-13th C
	2	OX518	MEDIEVAL
Temple Guiting	1	OX518	12-13th C
Whittington	38	OXBB	13-15th C
	26	OXAM	13-14th C
	1	OXAC	MEDIEVAL
	6	OXAQ	12-14th C
	1	OX82	13-14th C
	1	OX291	13-13th C
	3	OXR	10-11th C

COUNTY: NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Badby	?	OXAM	13-14th C
	?	OX234	MEDIEVAL
	?	OX68	MEDIEVAL
Northampton	2%	OXAC?	11-12th C
	1%	OX234	MEDIEVAL
	1%	OXAW	13-14th C
	1%	OXY	12-13th C
	50%	OX68	14-15th C
	25%?	OXAM	13-E14th C

<i>SITE</i>	<i>NO. OF SHERDS</i>	<i>FABRIC CODE</i>	<i>APPROX. DATE</i>
Raunds	?	OXR	9-11th C
	?	OXAM	13-14th C
	?	OX68	13-15th C
Stoke Goldington	?	OXR	9-11th C
	?	OX234	
	?	OXAW	13-14th C
	?	OXAM	13-14th C
	?	OX68	13-15th C

COUNTY: WARWICKSHIRE

Birdingbury	4	OXR	10-11th C
Burton Dassett	1	OX234	13-13th C
Edgecote	1	OX586	MEDIEVAL
Long Compton	1	OXAM	14-14th C
Napton Green	2	OXCG	13-14th C
	6	OX68	13-15th C
	12	OXCG	12-14th C
	3	OX519	MEDIEVAL
	2	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	2	OX586	MEDIEVAL
	1	OXR	10-11th C
Tysoe	2	OXCG	12-14th C
	2	BA1	12-13th C
	1	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	1	OX518	MEDIEVAL
Warmington	16	OX85	13-14th C
	1	OXAC	MEDIEVAL
	1	OXAM	13-14th C
Warwick	2	OXCX	13-15th C
	1	OX234	12-13th C
	2	OXR	10-11th C
	2	OXAC	MEDIEVAL
	4	OXAQ	13-14th C
	7	OXAM	13-14th C
	6	OXY?	12-13th C

COUNTY: WILTSHIRE

Aldbourn	20	OXAQ	12-14th C
Avebury	51	OXAQ	12-14th C
	5	OXAG	12-14th C
	20	OX82	12-14th C
Cherhill	5	OX587	12-14th C
	30	OX82	13-14th C
	250	OXAQ	12-14th C
Fyfield Down	1	OXAM	14-15th C
	1	OXBB	L12-14th C
	830	OXAQ	L12-14th C
Great Bedwyn	1	OXAQ	L12-15th C
Inglesham	51	OXBB	L12-15th C
	85	OX291	MEDIEVAL
	4	OXAM	L13-15th C
	6	OXAQ	L12-15th C
	51	OX578	MEDIEVAL
Kintbury	1	OX292	MEDIEVAL
	2	OXBF	11-13th C
	1	OXAQ	L12-14th C
	1	OX291	MEDIEVAL

SITE	NO. OF SHERDS	FABRIC CODE	APPROX. DATE
Liddington	1	ABA	12-13th C
Ludgershall	16	OXAQ	L12-14th C
	2	OX587	13-14th C
	1	OXBF	11-13th C
	1	OX82	MEDIEVAL
	1	OXAM	14th C
Lydiard Tregoze	12	OXBB	L12-14th C
	3	OXAM	13-14th C
	2	OXAQ	L12-14th C
	45	OX291	MEDIEVAL
Malmesbury	1	OXBB	13-15th C
	2	OX518	MEDIEVAL
Manningford	2	OXAQ	12-14th C
Marlborough	8	OXAQ	12-14th C
	31	OX291	12-14th C
	2	ABA	12-14th C
Ogbourne St Andrew	5	OXAQ	L12-14th C
	29	OX518	MEDIEVAL
	2	OX517	MEDIEVAL
	22	OXBB	12-15th C
	1	OX82	12-13th C
	20	OX291	MEDIEVAL
Old Sarum	1	OXAM	14-15th C
Pewsey	19	OXAQ	12-14th C
	1	OX291	12-14th C
Shafton Wilton	20	OXAQ	12-14th C
	1	OX291	MEDIEVAL
Shalbourne	187	OXAQ	12-14th C
Stratton	1	OXBB	13-15th C
Swindon	1	OXAM	13-14th C
	2	OXAQ	L12-15th C
	83	OXBB	L12-15th C
	23	OX291	MEDIEVAL
Tidcombe	1	OXAQ	L12-14th C
	1	OXAM	13-14th C
	2	OX82	13-14th C

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