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SOME MINOR EXCAVATIONS UNDERTAKEN BY THE CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST IN 1977–78

EXCAVATIONS AT 8 NEW STREET, CANTERBURY (Fig. 1)

During the lowering of the level of the basement of no. 8 New Street, a number of human bones and a Roman pot were discovered by workmen. The owners of the house, Mr. and Mrs. M. Waldock, informed the Trust and asked us to investigate.

As a result, an area roughly 2·80 m. square was cleared of débris and cleaned. This operation, undertaken on the 18th and 19th of April, revealed the remains of three graves and part of a large linear feature, probably a ditch. We are very grateful to Dr. P. Garrard for examining and reporting on all the human bones.

The floor of the old basement was approximately 1·53 m. (5 ft.) below the level of the present ground surface, and was to be lowered a further 50 cm. (1 ft. 8 in.) to 2·03 m. (6 ft. 8 in.) below the present ground surface. The graves were cut to a maximum depth of 92 cm. (3 ft.) below the level of the old basement.

GRAVE A

Only the lower legs and feet of the skeleton were uncovered. The main part of the skeleton laid under the wall separating nos. 8 and 7 New Street. The grave was 0·65 cm. (2 ft. 1 in.) wide and projected into the excavated area for 0·63 cm. (2 ft.). The remains of a coffin 40 cm. wide (1 ft. 4 in.) was discovered, in that a stain made by decomposed wood was found, together with a number of coffin nails. A complete Roman pot, dated to the fourth century A.D., was found between the feet of the skeleton.

GRAVE B

The grave was 2·15 m. (*c.* 7 ft.) long and 0·85 m. (2 ft. 9 in.) wide. Traces of a coffin 1·88 m. (6 ft. 3 in.) and 0·40 m. (1 ft. 4 in.) wide were detected. The coffin had collapsed in antiquity; this collapse was easily

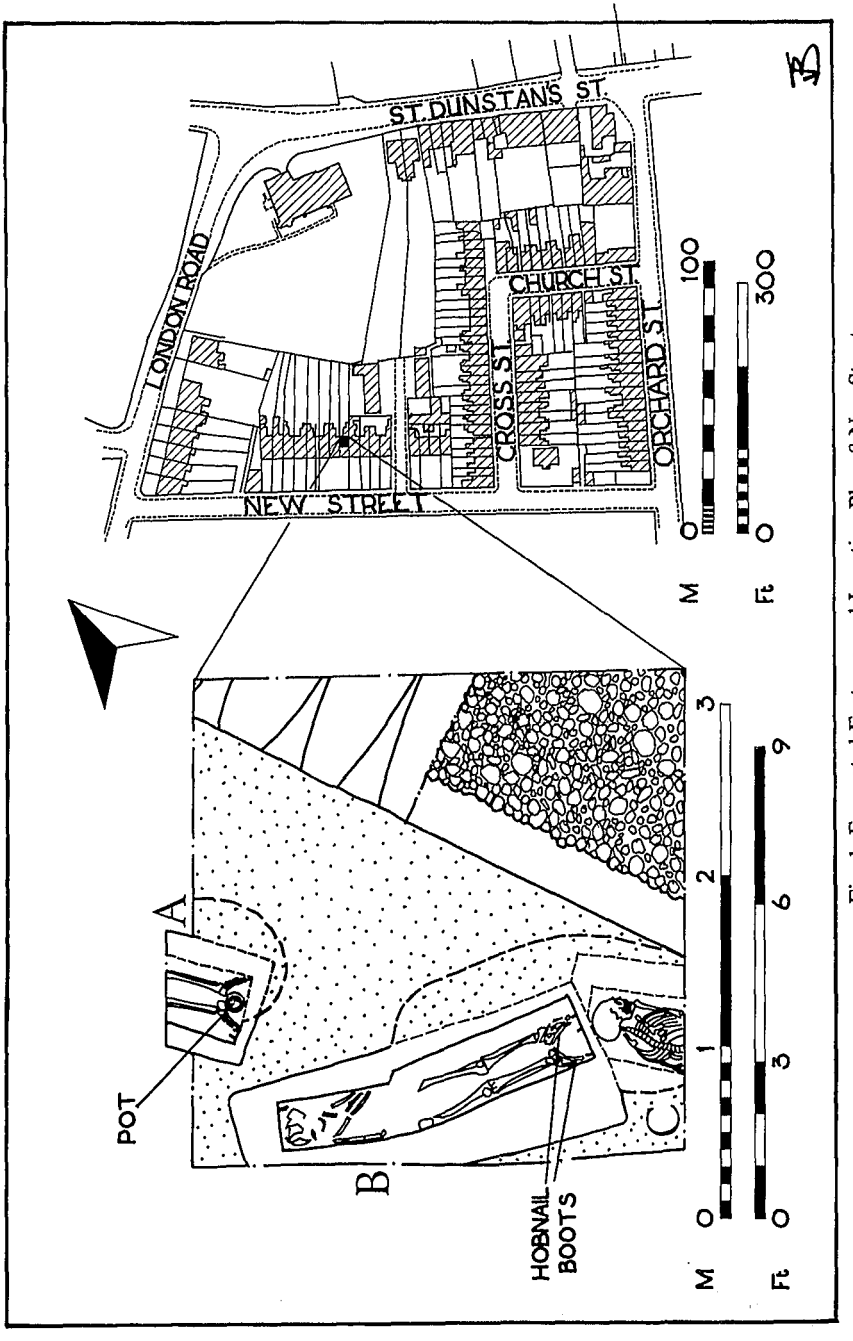

Fig. 1. Excavated Features and Location Plan, 8 New Street.

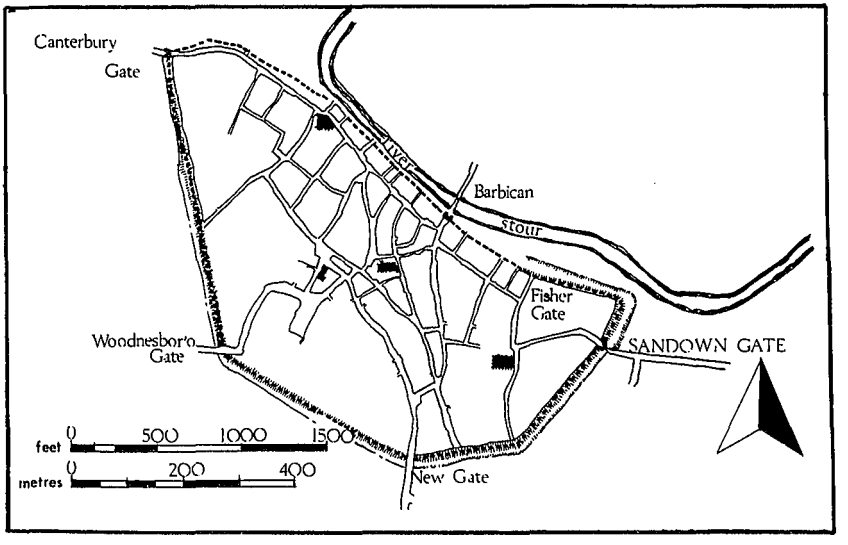

Fig. 2. Sandown Gate, Location Plan.

discernible by means of differences in colour and texture of the grave fill. The skeleton, that of a female aged approximately 16–18 years, 1·55 m. (5 ft. 2 in.) in height, was badly decomposed. Only the legs, a few ribs and skull fragments were recovered. The corpse had been laid on her back, head to the south-east, with legs fully extended. The remains of a pair of 'hobnail' boots were found on her feet.

GRAVE C

Grave C was cut by Grave B. Only the upper half of the skeleton was within the excavated area. The grave was 0·75 m. (2 ft. 6 in.) wide and extended 0·65 m. (2 ft. 2 in.) into the trench. The remains of a coffin, 0·45 m. (1 ft. 6 in.) wide, was detected in the grave fill. The coffin extended 0·55 m. (1 ft. 10 in.) into the trench. The upper half of a male aged 16–20 years, with an approximate height of 1·59 m. (5 ft 4 in.), was recovered. He was laid on his back with his head to the south-south-east and with his face to the east.

THE DITCH

The linear feature, possibly a large V-shaped ditch, was aligned roughly north-south. At most, only half the full width of the feature

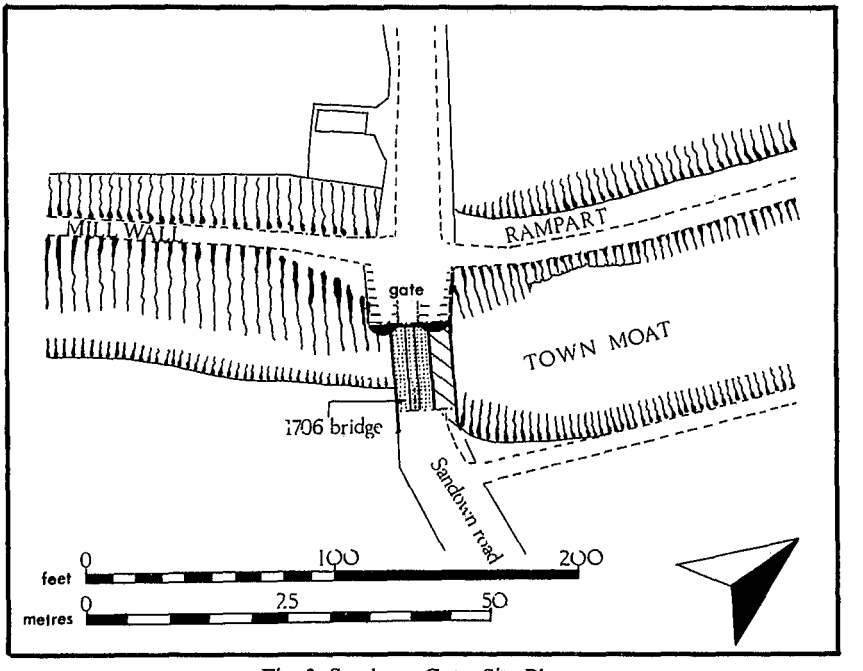

Fig. 3. Sandown Gate, Site Plan.

was within the excavated area. The ditch was at least 1·50 m. (*c.* 2 ft.) below the floor of the old basement and had a steeply sloping side. The sump of the feature was not found. The ditch had been filled with grey to light-brown silty clay heavily flecked with charcoal, and containing a few pebbles and fragmented Roman roofing-tiles. This deposit was sealed at a level just below the old basement floor, with a 0·15 m. (6 in.) layer of compacted pebbles. The feature contained no datable finds.

The burials are probably associated with the large Roman inhumation cemetery in the St. Dunstan's area. The fact that the three burials from New Street, are set closely together, with Grave B cutting Grave C, implies that we are still in the cemetery proper, rather than on the fringes. These graves, taken together with the other burials found in the vicinity, indicate that the cemetery covered a considerable area. The relationship of the ditch to the graves is unknown.

PAUL BENNETT

CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST EXCAVATIONS

THE SANDOWN GATE AT SANDWICH

As a result of flooding on the east coast in January 1978, the Sandown Bridge, which leads across the Town Moat on the east side of the city (Fig. 4), was damaged. Early in February workmen from the Kent County Council started restoration work and the filling of the central part of the bridge was removed so that it could be replaced with reinforced concrete. During the course of removal of this filling the foundations of the original 1706 bridge were found and just on the western edge of the excavation the front of the Sandown Gate was uncovered (Fig. 2). The gate itself had been demolished in 1781–82, but part of the southern drum tower has always been visible in the grass bank on the western edge of the Town Moat and until 1923, when the bridge was widened (presumably for increased traffic going to the new Sandwich Bay estate), more of it must have been visible.[1]

During the week-end of 4th–5th February 1978, members of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust cleared up the remaining rubble and cleaned up the surviving remains. The gate itself, which was constructed in 1455[2] just before the great French raid of 1457, was made entirely of red-orange bricks and then plastered over. Only the upper quoins on either side of the gateway arch were of stone (see Figs. 5 and 6) and some worked blocks of stone (Fig. 7), which were found in the rubble fill of the later bridge, must also have come from the gate. Some of these stones were presumably parts of the vault in the gateway while others were for window jambs and the top of the main arch. The bricks used for the gate were fairly hard-fired and varied in colour from red to orange or even orangey-yellow. They were all 0·24 by 0·12 by 0·06 m. ($9\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $4\frac{3}{4}$ in. by $2\frac{1}{4}$ in.), which is a size found in several later fifteenth-century brick buildings in east Kent (for example, these are almost exactly the dimensions of the red bricks used in the 1490's in the 'Bell Harry' tower at Canterbury Cathedral). All the bricks used in the drum towers of the gate were laid as 'headers' and the walls were here about 0·76 m. (2 ft. 6 in.) thick, i.e. three bricks laid longways. It was not possible to see the thickness of the walls flanking the gateway itself. Blocking the gateway, which was 2·25 m (7 ft 4 in.) wide was a later wall of yellow to buff bricks. These were laid in an English bond and had dimensions 0·21 by 0·11 by 0·06 m. ($8\frac{1}{4}$ in. by 4 in. by $2\frac{1}{3}$ in.) and may perhaps have been put there in the sixteenth or early seventeenth century to raise the height of the road passing through the arch when a new bridge over the moat was made.[3] All that can be said with

[1] It is mentioned for example in Gordon's *'Walk about Sandwich'* (1912).

[2] William Boys, *'Collections for an History of Sandwich in Kent, etc;'* (1792), 674.

[3] Boys *op. cit. supra.*, 684 records that in 1531 "the bridge at Sandown to be repaired for the King to pass over", and in 1643, "drawbridge made at Sandown Gate".

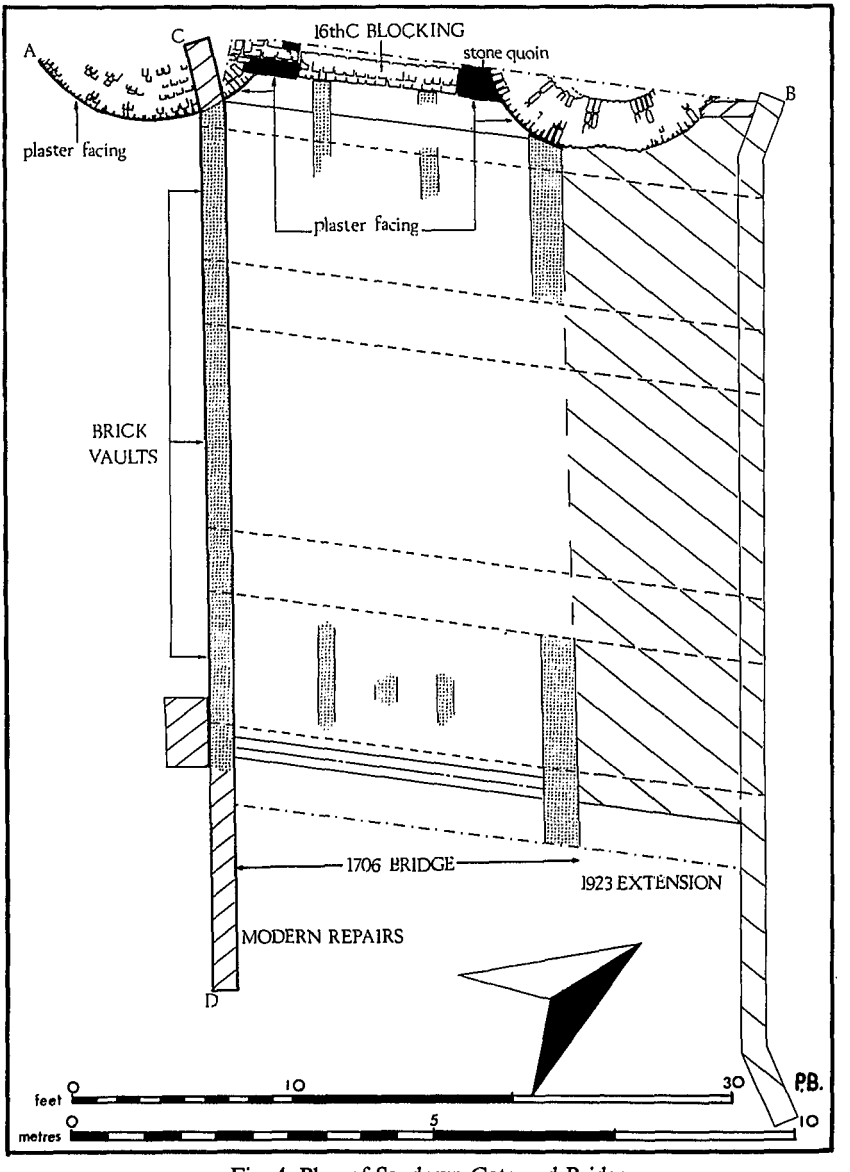

Fig. 4. Plan of Sandown Gate and Bridge.

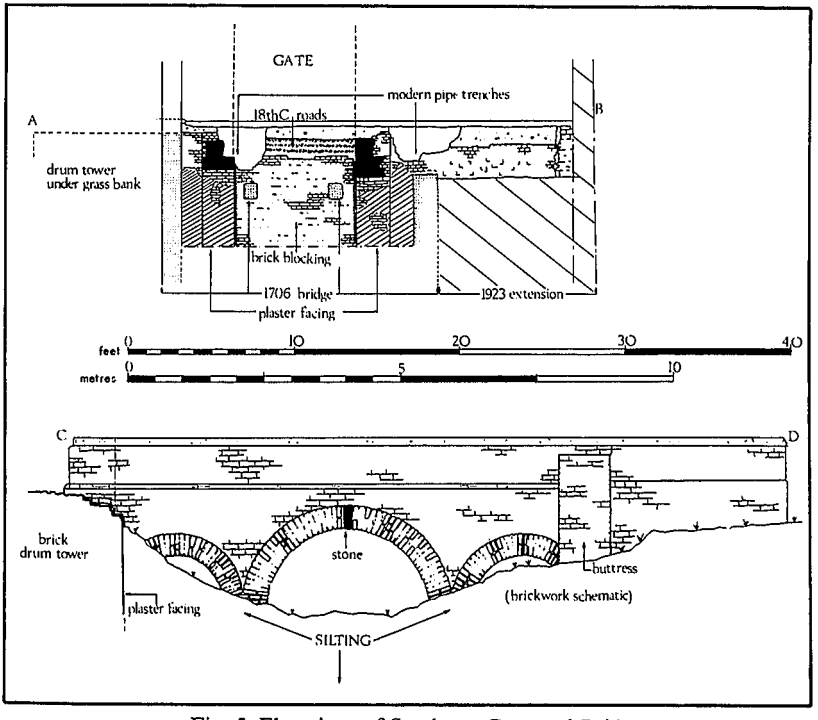

Fig. 5. Elevations of Sandown Gate and Bridge.

certainty is that this yellow brick blocking was made before 1706 when the present bridge was first constructed. This bridge, which is shown with the gate in a mid-eighteenth century engraving in Boys' *Collections for an History of Sandwich in Kent, etc.*, was constructed up against the drum towers of the gate and had central road supports which butted against the yellow brick blocking (see Fig. 6).

The gate itself was probably demolished in 1782[4] and subsequently the parapets of the bridge were built over the drum towers, which were clearly only dismantled to road level; at least 2·50 m. (8 ft.) in height of the gate must still survive below ground. In 1923, the northern parapet of the bridge was demolished and a new and wider bridge was constructed (Fig. 5). This completely covered and partly damaged the front of the northern drum tower. On 7th February 1978, the surviving remains within the bridge were buried in concrete after being covered by plastic sheeting.

TIM TATTON-BROWN

[4] D. Gardiner, "*Historic Haven, the Story of Sandwich*" (1954), 308.

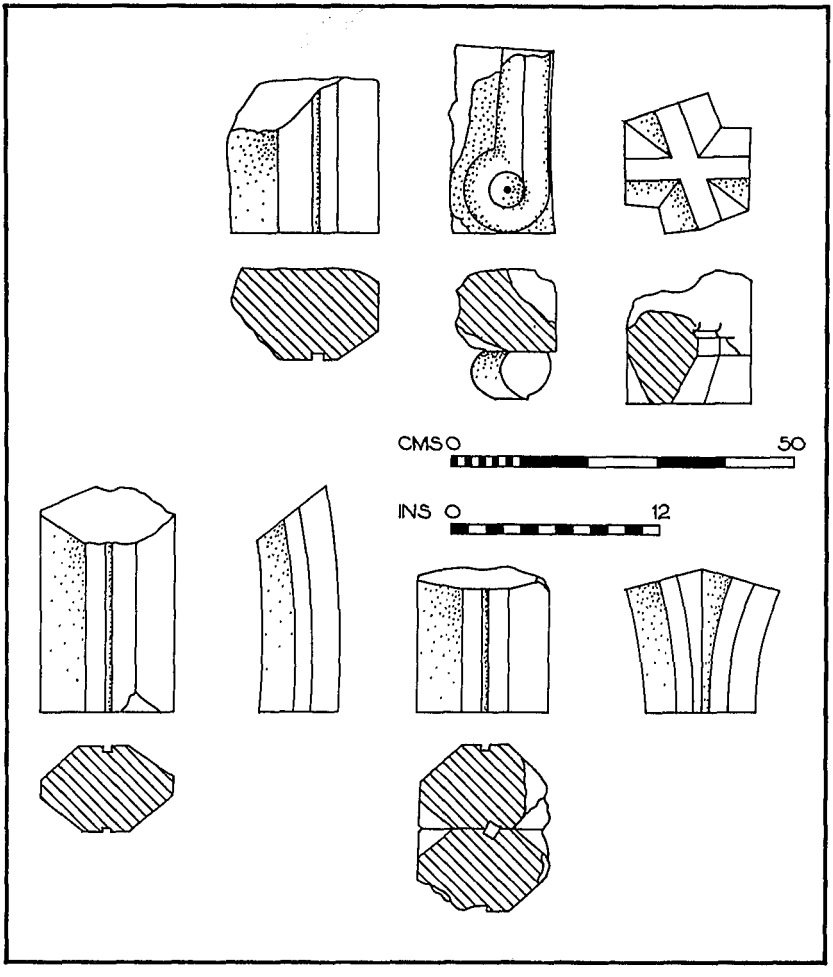

Fig. 6. Worked Stone Fragments from the Sandown Gate.

MOAT HOUSE, ROUGH COMMON

Work in advance of the construction of a new housing estate was undertaken by the Trust in November 1977. Observation continues as new houses are still being built.

During the laying of mains services to the estate, a large, 1·50 m.-wide trench was cut through the south corner of the ditch surrounding

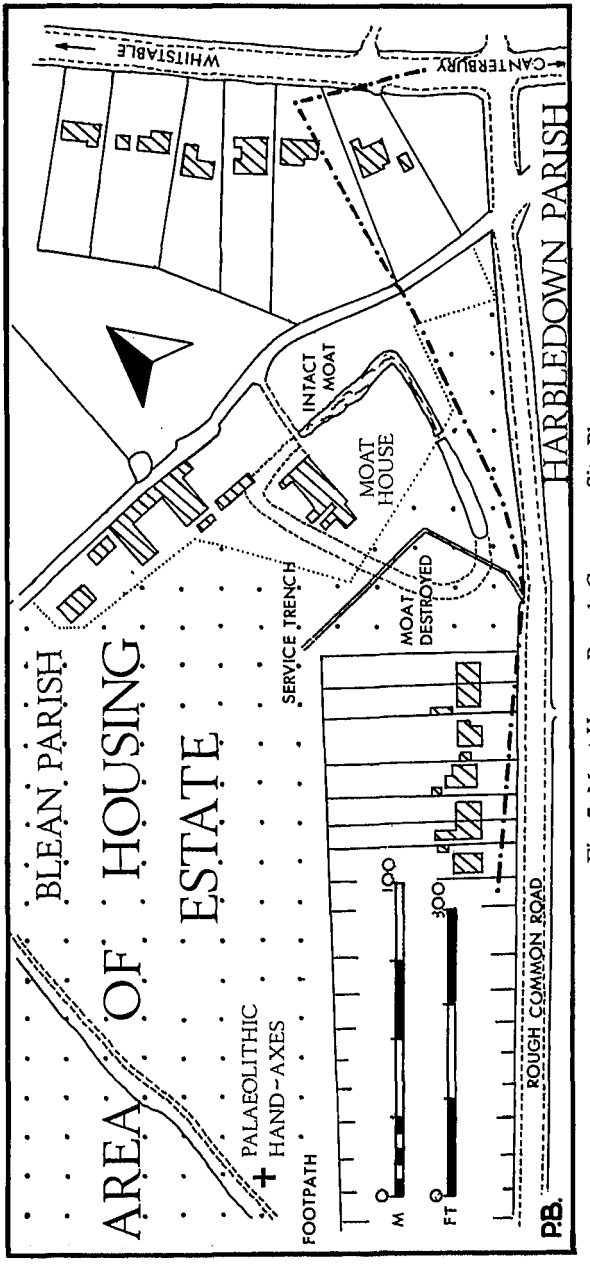

Fig. 7. Moat House, Rough Common, Site Plan.

moat house (see Fig. 2). Part of the original moat still survives filled with water, elsewhere the ditch showed as a slight depression in the ground surface. The cutting through the two sides indicated that the ditch had steeply sloping sides and a flat bottom 2·50 m. wide. The ditch was 4 m. wide at ground level and was cut 2 m. deep through the underlying gravel and clay deposits. The bulk of the ditch fill consisted of thick bands of gravel and clay; the lowest levels however, consisted of water-logged organic material. A number of pottery body sherds dating from the fourteenth to eighteenth centuries were recovered from this area.

No traces of stratigraphy or structures were detected during the cutting of the service trench, or during the later disturbances caused by the construction of a road and some new houses.

The site foreman, Mr. Gillam, found three palaeolithic hand axes in disturbed ground to the south-west of the moat (see Fig. 2). The exact location and stratigraphical position of the finds are unknown. Geologically however, they were on the 70 m. contour in the fourth gravel terrace.

PAUL BENNETT

THREE LOWER PALAEOLITHIC HANDAXES FROM ROUGH COMMON, CANTERBURY

Introduction

The three implements shown in Figs. 1–3 were found separately in 1978, during the building of houses at the Willet Homes site near Moat House, Rough Common, on the western outskirts of Canterbury (TR 128594). The building site lies on the fourth terrace of the Great Stour, on the left (north) side of the present valley; the main part of the terrace deposits consists of a hard gravel containing many iron pans, lying directly on the Tertiary (Eocene) London Clay.

The relationship of the three handaxes to the gravel is not really known and their physical state seems of interest in this connection. On each implement, the ridges between the flake scars show little trace of abrasion. All three implements bear only a wash of ochreous staining, not very pronounced; nos. 2 and 3 also have some small spots or lines of heavier iron stain. Nos. 1 and 3 show an appreciable degree of creamy white patination beneath the ochreous stain; nos. 2 and 3 exhibit traces of weathering, with small areas of exfoliation, more frequent on one face than the other. Such traces are very slight indeed on no. 1. It seems to the writer that these observations would be

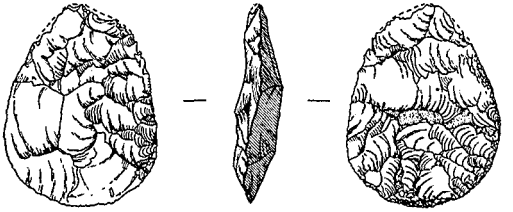

Fig. 8. Three Views of Handaxe No. 1 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

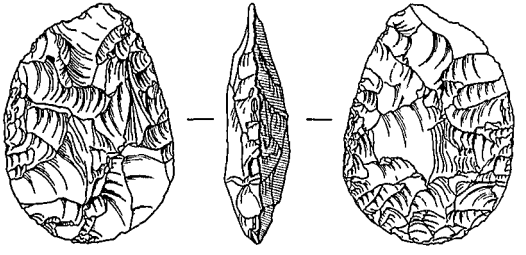

Fig. 9. Three Views of Handaxe No. 2 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

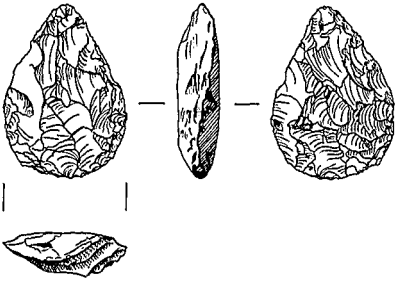

Fig. 10. Three Views of Handaxe No. 3 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

consistent with the implements' having lain undisturbed for some time on the gravel surface, rather than having been incorporated deep within the gravel, and this is worth bearing in mind if a watch is to be kept for further artefacts as housing development continues in this area. For the Stour terraces and their palaeolithic artefacts, see Dewey and Smith (1924), Dewey *et al.* (1925), Smith (1933), Coleman (1952) and Coleman (1954).

The three handaxes are strikingly consistent in condition, in typology and in technology at quite a detailed level. While this does not

afford conclusive evidence, it at least allows one to surmise that they originally belonged together and that an interesting and important Acheulian site may be awaiting discovery nearby – a site which, while it may not be in primary context, is unlikely to have suffered major disturbance. For this reason, the three artefacts seem worth more than a passing comment.

Technical Description of the Artefacts

No. 1 (Fig. 1). Length: 102 mm.; breadth: 78 mm.; thickness: 24 mm. (note: all measurements are maximum existing dimensions, to the nearest mm., taken parallel to the long axis of the implement, or perpendicular to it, as appropriate). This is a flat ovate handaxe with a sharp edge extending right round its circumference. It is somewhat square-ended in the plan view, and appears to have been damaged slightly (anciently) at the tip end. Minor traces of cortex remain on one face (Fig. 1, right); the other face shows two areas of 'thermally' fractured surface into which the 'mechanical' scars of the implement's working cut, suggesting that the blank for this implement was a large cortical flake of 'pot-lid' type – perfectly suitable for the intended implement, given that the conditions which produced the pot-lid fracture had not left the flint internally shattered. The handaxe has been shaped and finished from this blank by shallow 'soft-hammer' flaking of excellent quality. At the butt and along one side, the final production of the working edge was achieved by numerous delicate flake removals almost entirely from the same face. The centre section of the other side, however, was finished by comparable flaking in the opposite direction. In profile, this implement has a slight twist, probably deliberate but somewhat masked by the damage to the tip. One face (Fig. 1, right) has a clear '*tranchet* finish' scar at the tip – i.e., the carefully planned removal, at a late stage, of a flat transverse flake, to give the implement a sharp, bevelled cutting edge, a process not unlike the sharpening of a Mesolithic axe. The opposite face has a somewhat similar scar, though it runs much more obliquely and the damage already referred to makes it hard to decide whether or not this was a second true *tranchet* blow; if it were, the implement could be said to have a 'double *tranchet* finish'.

No. 2 (Fig. 2). Length: 123 mm.; breadth: 85 mm.; thickness: 30 mm. This fine, flat, rather square-ended ovate handaxe is generally similar to no. 1 in shape, especially when the damage to no. 1 is allowed for. In this case too, the entire circumference has a sharp worked edge. No cortex survives on either face. There is a 'double *tranchet*' style finish at the tip end, but this time one of the *tranchet* scars is actually

not a flake removal at a late stage but a carefully reserved area of the original surface of the blank from which this handaxe was made. Its presence indicates that the implement, for all its fully bifacial appearance, was in fact made from a big flake rather than from a flat pebble or a piece of tabular flint. As was the case with no. 1, final finishing of the implement's edge has been achieved by delicate flaking mainly in the same face (Fig. 2, right), except that the centre of one side has again been worked by flaking in the opposite direction. Viewed in profile, the edge of this implement shows no sign of a twist – indeed, it is impressively straight.

No. 3 (Fig. 3). Length: 88 mm.; breadth: 63 mm.; thickness: 24 mm. This is another finely made flat ovate, but unlike the other two it is acutely pointed rather than square at the tip end. The edge is again fully worked right round the circumference, and is sharply twisted when viewed in profile or end-on. There is no tranchet scar on either face. As Fig. 3 shows, the final working of the cutting edge has been achieved in a very similar way to that used for the other two handaxes, one half being flaked almost entirely on one face and the other half on the other face. No cortex at all remains on either face. One small area of the face shown on the right in Fig. 3 may be a remnant of a main flake surface, demonstrating, if so, that this handaxe, like the others, was made from a flake.

The technological standard of these three implements is consistently high and the actual flaking processes were undoubtedly very similar. With so little known about their positions in the deposits, it would clearly be unreasonable to assert that they seem to be the work of a single maker, but at least one may observe that their manufacture followed a remarkably uniform pattern; nor are there any obvious differences in the kind of flint used in each case. The employment of advanced flaking techniques, notably the *tranchet* finishing device and the deliberate twisting of the cutting edge, places them in a developed stage of the British Acheulian (cf. Roe 1968a: 64–68, 1976), if we assume that they were typical rather than exceptional in the industry to which they belonged. They offer, for example, a complete contrast to the archaic-looking handaxes so frequent in the assemblage from the Stour high terrace gravels at Fordwich, only $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles away on the opposite side of the present river (Smith, 1933; Roe, 1968a).

Affinities of the implements

It is true that occasional examples of flat, refined ovate handaxes may occur in British Middle Acheulian industries in which other handaxe types are actually dominant. But there are also Acheulian industries in

Britain where handaxes like these three are overwhelmingly in the majority, and one need look no further away than the Swanscombe–Dartford area of north Kent to see examples (Waechter, 1973; Wymer, 1968: 320–362). Where the stratigraphy is clearly known, such industries usually lie on the top of the '100 foot terrace' gravels of the Lower Thames, or in overlying loams, and site names include Rickson's and Barnfield Pits at Swanscombe and Bowmans Lodge and the Wansunt Pit at Dartford, along with several others. All these occurrences furnished examples of the tranchet finish and twisted profile features; sometimes the twisted profiles are very frequent, as in the case of Rickson's Pit.

Similar 'ovate-dominated' industries occur elsewhere in Britain – High Lodge and Warren Hill near Mildenhall in Suffolk are well-known examples and Elveden, also in Suffolk, was another one with a high proportion of twisted ovates (for brief details and references, see Roe, 1968a). In general, such occurrences seem to date between the end of the Hoxnian interglacial and the earlier part of the Ipswichian interglacial, with some examples falling within milder phases of the intervening Wolstonian glacial complex, to use the terminology of Mitchell *et al.* (1973). Whether the overwhelming dominance of ovate handaxe types in these industries has functional significance, or is to be interpreted in some other way, remains uncertain at present.

We may suppose, then, that an Acheulian industry of this general character existed (and may still survive in reasonably good condition) in the Rough Common area. There is at present no indication at all as to what its age might be in terms of Pleistocene stages. There seems a fair chance that the fourth Stour terrace gravel is older than the time range just mentioned, but it has already been suggested that these implements may never have been in that gravel. Only further finds and careful observation can clarify such matters. It is worth remarking that the archaic handaxes from a Stour high terrace deposit at Forwich, already referred to, certainly did occur deep in the gravel.

Lower Palaeolithic artefacts have long been known to be numerous in the Canterbury–Sturry–Herne Bay area, particularly in gravels of the Stour Valley. If we seek local material comparable to the three Rough Common implements, many examples of refined ovate handaxes certainly survive. Some can be seen in the collections of the Royal Museum at Canterbury and others at the Herne Bay and Maidstone Museums. The British Museum has the largest number, divided between the Brent, Grace, Ince, Warren, Wellcome and (especially) Armstrong Bowes Collections. Others have wandered farther afield: to the University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Cambridge, and even to Exeter, Gloucester and Bolton Museums, doubtless through exchanges between collectors. A little

information can be gleaned from the distribution of find-spots. In general, it is clear that in Canterbury itself the fine ovate types are rather rare amongst a mixture of derived Middle Acheulian material. St. Stephen's Pit (also called Forty Acre Pit) produced at least two (now at Cambridge), one twisted with a single *tranchet* finish and one untwisted with double *tranchet*, out of over 30 handaxes. A good example, untwisted with single *tranchet*, came from the site of the St. Dunstan's Telephone Exchange and is now in the Canterbury Royal Museum; there are others in various collections merely marked 'Canterbury'. Fine ovates are also relatively rare in the Herne Bay–Reculver area, though plenty of Lower Palaeolithic material and even some Middle Palaeolithic is known from the gravels which can be seen capping the modern cliffs.

At Sturry, on the other hand, ovates are relatively common and amongst them twisted examples are frequent: for example, the writer noted 54 ovate handaxes amongst the collections of Sturry Lower Palaeolithic artefacts at Maidstone, of which 22 were twisted. Many other refined ovates from Sturry, including examples with twist and/or *tranchet* finish, are now in the British Museum, many coming from specified sites or gravel pits such as Brett's Pit, Whatmer Hall Pit, Homersham's West Pit, Meadow Pit, Milner Pit, the School Pit and Street Hill (Roe, 1968b: 177–179). The Pleistocene exposures at most of these localities have long vanished, mainly through residential development, but the gravel workings at Sturry were observed with a high degree of competence during their most productive period in the 1920's by Dr. A. G. Ince (Dewey and Smith, 1924), who found many specimens *in situ* and recorded their depths in the deposits, especially at Homersham's West Pit. Examples not at all unlike the Rough Common specimens were described and illustrated by Dewey and Smith (*op. cit.*, 123–127 and Figs. 5, 6, 12, 13, 15–19).

It does not appear from Ince's observations that any undisturbed Acheulian site in primary context was present at Sturry, and some of the artefacts are considerably abraded although others are in pretty fresh condition. The Sturry terrace gravels belong to a later stage in the Stour sequence than those of Rough Common, but the artefacts were incorporated deep within them, implying that they had been transported or moved to some extent by the river: some may well have been brought down the valley sides from an original position on a higher terrace step by any of various geological processes. But in any case, whether the artefacts are a mixture or not, the typology and technology of the handaxes in the Sturry collections make it clear that the particular tradition of Acheulian workmanship that produced fine ovate implements, using advanced flaking methods, was well established in the area and is responsible for a generous contribution to

the assemblage. The Sturry sites lie some three miles east of Rough Common, also on the north side of the present Stour.

Conclusion

The potential interest of the three strikingly similar handaxes from Rough Common is clear enough. At the worst, nothing more will turn up and we shall be left to surmize that these were three isolated implements, abandoned or lost by their users in the course of ordinary movements about their territory. But there is a better than average chance that a careful watch as commercial development proceeds may reveal the remains of a working or living site of this particular Acheulian variant, with more handaxes and other artefacts, not redeposited in a fluviatile gravel but associated with a land surface representing some part of the contemporary Stour floodplain or valley flank. Such a discovery would be an important addition to our knowledge of the Palaeolithic of east Kent and indeed of all Kent and perhaps of Britain in general.

Acknowledgements. This report has been prepared at the request of Mr. Tim Tatton-Brown, Director of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust, to whom the writer is grateful for drawing the finds to his attention, for the loan of the implements for study, and for supplying information about the find-spot. The drawings are by D. Gilbert, to whom the writer would like also to express his thanks. Special thanks are also due to the finder of the three handaxes, Mr. Gillam, of Willet Homes Ltd. The implements are now in the Royal Museum, Canterbury.

DEREK A. ROE

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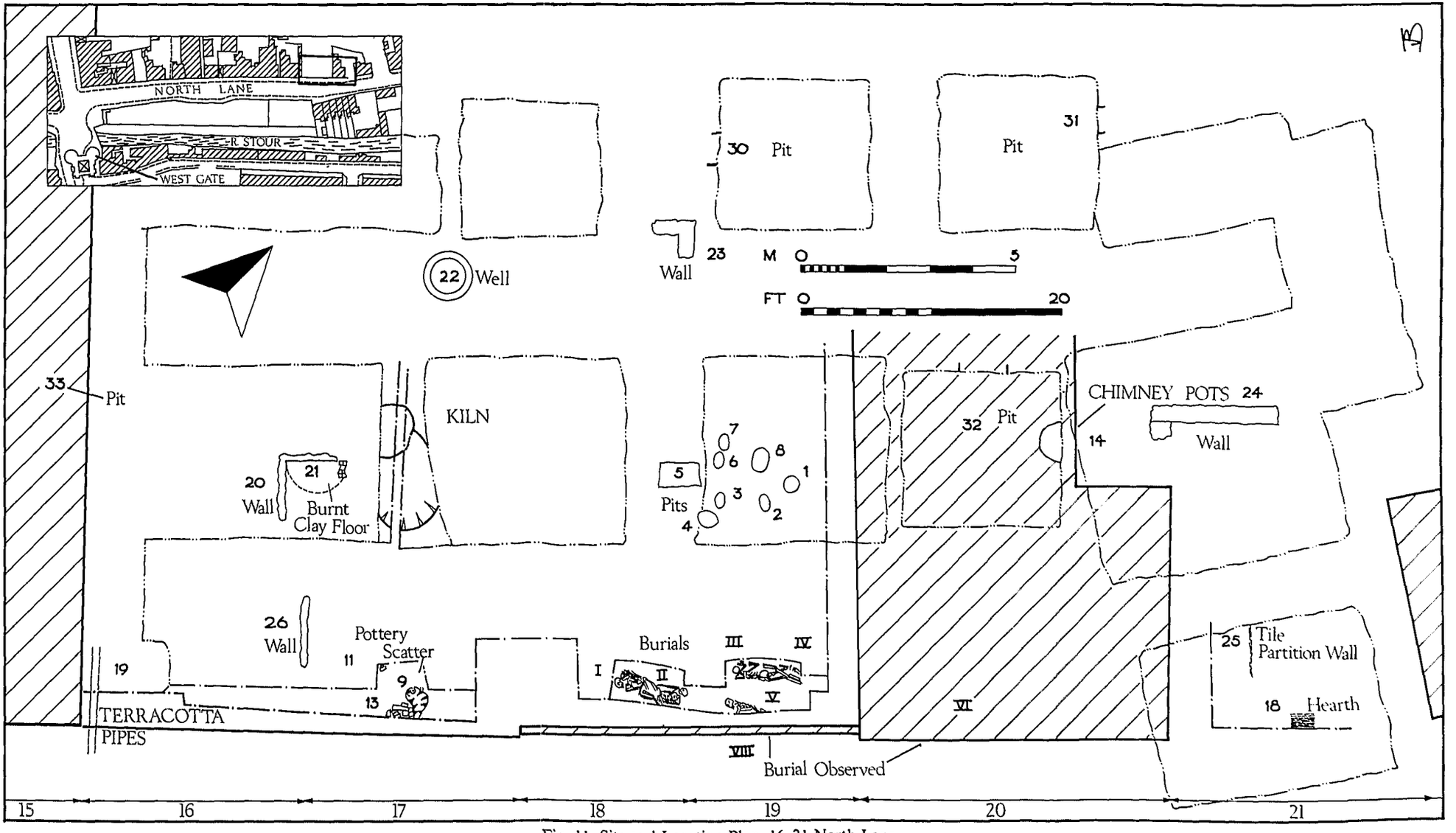

Fig. 11. Site and Location Plan, 16–21 North Lane.

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EXCAVATIONS AT 16–21 NORTH LANE, CANTERBURY

During April 1978, a rapid salvage excavation was prompted by the construction of a new building at 16–21 North Lane, Canterbury. The building, being constructed by Messrs. Denne Builders Ltd. for the East Kent Bus Company, was to be a large structure set on deep foundation piles.

The building site, situated outside the City walls (Fig. 11), was thought to have been in a relatively 'safe' archaeological area, not warranting total advance excavation. A 'watching brief' during the development was arranged with both the consent of the owners, the East Kent Bus Company and the contractors, Messrs. Denne Builders Ltd.

Early in April the contractors demolished the existing houses on the site and proceeded to reduce the ground level prior to cutting the foundation holes for the building raft.

During an underpinning operation on the wall of no. 15 North Lane, a small, late thirteenth-century anthropomorphic jug was found in a small pit by the workmen. The site foreman, Mr. Frank Arnisson, reported the find to the Trust and our work on the site commenced. However, work proved very difficult; the developers building schedules did not allow for an archaeological presence and their first considerations were naturally not ours. Nevertheless, at every stage they helped us as much as was possible. The work done at North Lane is a good example of archaeologist and developer working together even under stress conditions. We hope that this will encourage future developers to allow us to record archaeological evidence before heavy machinery destroys it forever.

Time and pressure of work did not allow for a complete archaeological record to be made. The stratified archaeological levels were almost totally removed by machine, and only the deeply-cut features were examined in any detail. In most instances even these were located only after they had been partly removed during the cutting of

building foundations. Only a location plan of the features found on site was achieved. Our policy from the outset was to locate the features and recover from them as much dating evidence as possible.

The earliest find recorded on site was a Roman kiln. Possibly associated with it, and contained within a thick deposit of Roman top soil, was a scatter of late first or early second-century A.D. pottery.

A number of inhumation burials were found on the site, probably medieval. Five skeletons were actually excavated, two others were observed by contractors during the cutting of building foundations.

Elements of a number of buildings, dating from the late thirteenth or fourteenth centuries were recorded, together with several rubbish pits.

THE KILN (Fig. 12)

The badly damaged remains of a Roman kiln, Layer 17, was excavated. The kiln had been cut on either side of its central axis by large foundation holes.

The kiln was constructed in a large oval pit, aligned south-east/north-west, with the stoke hole to the south-east. The pit measured some 3·10 m. (*c.* 10 ft.), survived to a depth of 1·20 m. (*c.* 4 ft.), and was cut at a slant through the underlying natural brick-earth for 2·54 m. (*c.* $8\frac{1}{3}$ ft.) from south-east to north-west with a maximum depth at the north-west end of 1·20 m. (4 ft.). The stoke hole was also cut with sloping sides. However, the kiln itself was cut vertically, with the base, made of rammed gravel set in burnt clay, being set slightly deeper than the lowest level of the stoke-hole.

The kiln originally had two fire chambers, only one of which survived, the chambers being separated by a rough mud-brick wall, which was 20 cm. (8 in.) wide at the fire-mouth. This wall, 31 cm. (*c.* 1 ft.) high, supported a floor of roofing-tiles, six courses thick; the roofing-tiles were set one on another, with each successive tile being offset from the one below until a vault over the fire-boxes was achieved. The heavily burnt and oxidized kiln floor, would have been at the level of the ground surface or slightly below it. No traces of vents through the floor were detected during excavation, but these undoubtedly existed for the kiln would hardly have functioned without them. It is possible that small vents were located around the edge of the kiln just inside the main walls where the tile vault was located on the inward projecting shoulder of the fire-box wall. Destruction débris may well have blocked these vents.

A few fragments of the original kiln walls were found. It is possible that their survival may be due to the fact that the floor was set below the Roman ground surface and that the lowest levels of the walls were

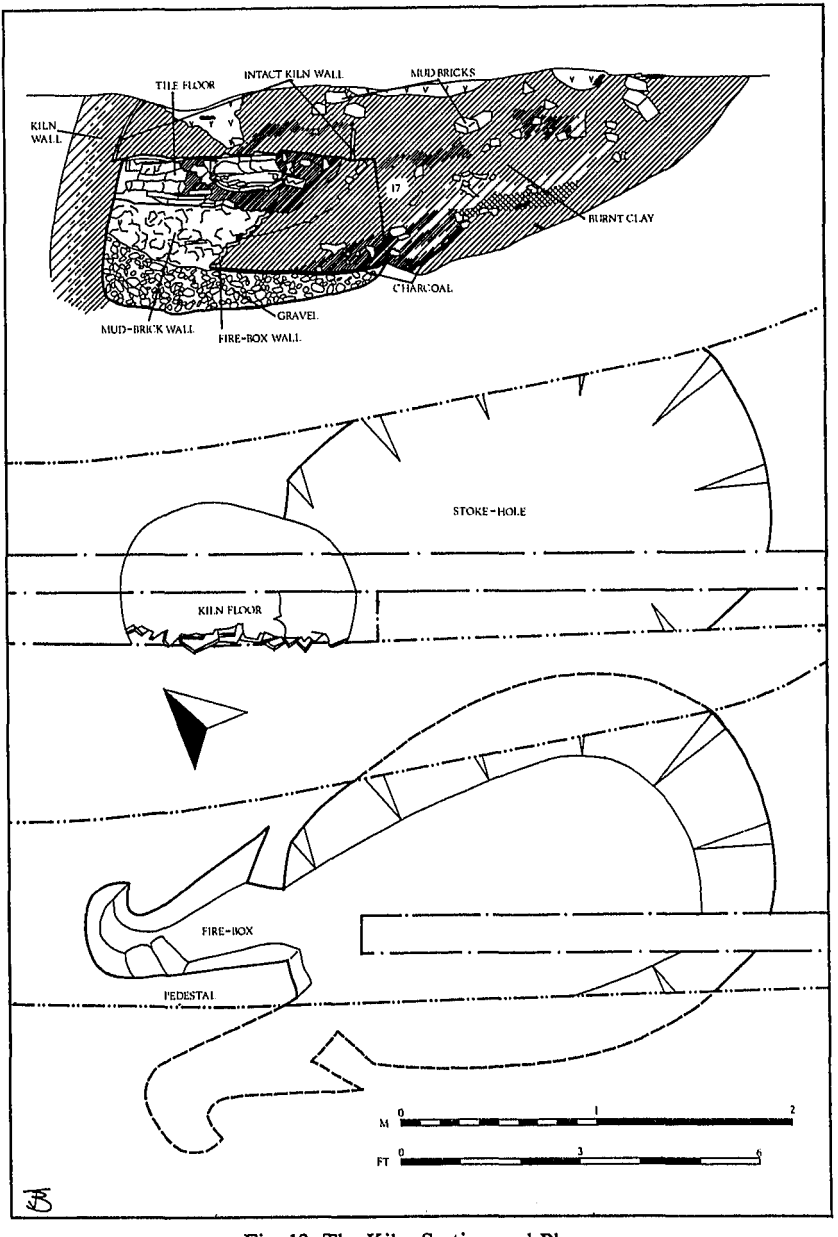


Fig. 12. The Kiln, Section and Plans.

also sunk below the ground horizon. The fired remains of the walls were oval-shaped, measuring some 1·20 m. (*c.* 4 ft.) at its widest point. An examination of the clay rendering of the fire-box and the kiln indicated that only one firing had taken place, as no obvious repairs to either were in evidence.

After firing, the kiln seems to have been deliberately destroyed. The stoking pit was filled with the remains of the super-structure, consisting of a uniform deposit of orange-red burnt clay with lenses of dark red and dark brown burnt clay. Quantities of fragmented fired mud bricks were recovered from this deposit, together with a number of pottery sherds, Layer 17 (Pottery report, p. 174). The demolition deposit sealed a thin, 2–4 cm. (*c.* 2 in.) layer of charcoal which covered the bottom of the fire pit and sealed the floor of the intact fire-box. Patches of carbonized wood were found at the south-west end of the stoke-hole. The fire-box was virtually free of débris, only a 3 cm. (*c.* $1\frac{1}{4}$ in.) layer of charcoal and burnt soil covered the floor.

The walls of the stoking pit, particularly those near the entrance of the fire-boxes, were heavily burnt and had a hard surface. The walls of the only surviving fire-box were clay lined and had a number of finger and thumb impressions still surviving on the fired surface. The shape of the fire-box, with a slight outward curve at the north-west end is unusual; its function, if indeed this design was deliberate, is unknown.

The associated Roman topsoil through which the kiln had been cut, overlay the natural brickearth and was on average 23 cm. (*c.* $9\frac{1}{4}$ in.) thick. The top soil, Layers 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16, buff to light brown silt clay flecked with charcoal, contained pottery dating from the first and early second centuries (Pottery report, p. 176). Many of the pots recovered from this deposit may have been products of the kiln itself, most of them showed very little wear, though none could definitely be called 'wasters'—pots damaged during firing. A number of Roman sherds of a similar date were recovered from the Graves A and B (Pottery report, p. 176–8). One small find, a melon bead fragment (Small Find 5) was recovered from Layer 9.

THE INHUMATIONS (Fig. 13)

Five skeletons were located during building construction. Two others were observed by contractors during the cutting of foundations. The graves, aligned roughly north-east/south-west, were cut parallel to and on the north side of North Lane. Two excavated graves contained two double and one single burial. The two observed by contractors were single burials, the skeletons from these were not recovered.

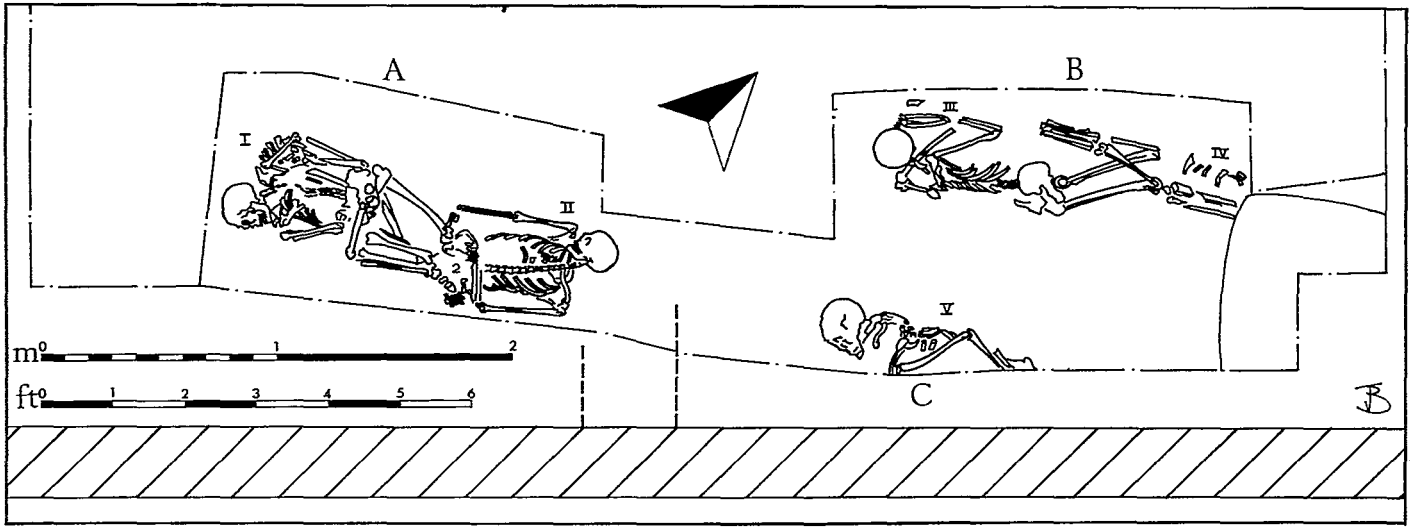


Fig. 13. Inhumation Burials.

GRAVE A

Grave A contained two individuals. Skeleton I was an adult female, aged approximately 25, height approximately 1·52 m. (5 ft. $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.). She was laid on her right side with her head to the west and her face to the south-east. The body was bent slightly forward, to the east. The left arm was under the pelvis, the right arm was flexed in front of the body with the hand under the right shoulder. The legs were flexed with the left leg well forward and bent at 90° to the body, the lower leg at 90° to the femur, with the left foot overlying the lower left side of skeleton II. The right leg was only slightly flexed to the front of the body and extended under skeleton II. An iron object, Small Find 4, was found overlying the pelvis of skeleton I.

Skeleton II was that of a young adult male, aged about 18 years, height approximately 1·76 m. (5 ft. 10 in.). He was laid on his back with his head to the east, face to the north-west. The arms were laid either side of the body with the forearms extending over the body and the hands overlying the pelvis. The legs were slightly flexed to the west and underlay the right leg and body of skeleton I.

Some sherds of residual Roman pottery were recovered from the grave fill (Pottery report, p. 176–8). One small find, Small Find 2, bronze ? fishing hook (Small Finds report, p. 174), was found overlying the pelvis of skeleton II.

GRAVE B

Two individuals were found in this grave, an adult and a child. Skeleton III was an adult male aged approximately 23 years, height 1·77 m. (5 ft. 11 in.). He was laid on his left side with his head to the west and facing to the north-west. The arms were flexed in front of the body, with both forearms in front of the skull and hands in front of the face. The legs were extended and slightly flexed to the north-west. The left lower leg and both feet were removed by Pit, Layer 34.

Skeleton IV was that of a child of indeterminable sex, aged between 12 and 15 years, height approximately 1·50 m. (5 ft.). The child overlaid burial III, with its head to the east. Only the legs and part of the rib-cage survived, the upper part of the body having been cut away by Pit, Layer 34. The surviving fragments indicated that the body had been laid on its back with its legs full extended.

GRAVE C

Only a part of a single individual was recovered from this grave. The skeleton was that of an adult male, aged approximately 25, height

approximately 1·72 m. (5 ft. 9 in.). He was laid on his right side with his head to the west and face to the south. The left arm was flexed to the back of the body, the forearm and hand extending to the front. The skull and a number of other bones showed signs of burning.[5]

The remains of at least two other burials, skeletons VI and VII, were observed by the contractors. The location of these burials has been recorded on Fig. 11; no bones were recovered.

All three graves cut through the Roman horizon and were sealed by the remains of a number of medieval timber-framed buildings. The burials are unlikely to have been of Roman date, though a major well-known Roman cemetery did exist nearby, flanking either side of the London road. Since the graves were sealed by the timber buildings they cannot post-date them.

Documentary evidence perhaps suggests that in about 1200 this area was probably open land.[6] W. Urry suggests that the East Bridge Hospital owned three plots of land somewhere in the vicinity, but it is impossible to pin-point their location. Even so, it is unlikely that these plots were used as a cemetery. The nearest church was Holy Cross, before 1379 sited over the original West Gate. There is no evidence suggesting that Holy Cross had a church yard, but even had there been one, it would be most unlikely to have extended so far down North Lane (see Fig. 11). If the burials fell within the jurisdiction of Holy Cross, then they must date to before 1380, as Holy Cross was rebuilt on a new site when Archbishop Simon Sudbury commissioned the rebuilding of the West Gate.[7] The location of the burials in an area outside the City walls, on the other side of the river, on what was possibly open land, taken together with the probably hurried nature of their interment, suggests that this may have been a plague cemetery of the fourteenth century.

THE BUILDINGS

The badly-disturbed remains of a number of probable timber-framed buildings with clay floors were found during clearance operations, prior to the construction of the new building foundations. No coherent plan of the buildings nor their exact number could be ascertained. Patches of clay floors, Layers 15, 21, 29 and 36 were observed. Fragments of mortared flint and chalk dwarf walls which probably

[5] All the human bones were kindly identified by Dr. Peter Garrard.

[6] W. Urry, *Canterbury under the Angevin Kings*, Map 2, Large scale sheet 3, *c.* 1200.

[7] Licence for the rebuilding of Holy Cross. See Somner '*The Antiquities of Canterbury*' (Battely's edition) 1703. Appendix LXXIII, page 78.

once carried timber wall-plates were located and planned, Layers 23 and 24. Fragments of possible partition wall pads made of roofing-tiles were also found, Layers 20 and 25. A small hearth, Layer 18 measuring 55 cm. by 20 cm. was also recorded; it was constructed of roofing-tiles set on edge and bonded by clay.

THE CHIMNEY POTS (Figs. 18 and 19)

In one small area, at least seven medieval chimney pots, together with a number of domestic pots were recovered; Layer 14 (Pottery report, p. 178). This collection dated to the late thirteenth or fourteenth century, and was mixed with quantities of broken roofing-tile and sealed a primary clay floor, Layer 15. The clay floor had subsided into an earlier pit, Layer 34. The pottery and tiles may have been deposited in the depression to level the surface prior to laying a new floor, Layer 36. The primary clay floor contained a few sherds of late thirteenth- or fourteenth-century pottery (Pottery report, p. 178), and two small finds: Small Find 1, bronze strap-end; and Small Find 3, bronze half ounce weight (Small Finds report, p. 174). The underlying pit, Layer 34, and the overlying clay floor, Layer 36, contained no finds.

THE WATER-PIPE (Fig. 20)

A well-preserved fourteenth-century water-pipe (or sewer pipe), Layer 19 (Pottery report, p. 183), was found parallel to and up against the side wall of no. 15 North Lane. The pipe was well stratified, overlying a primary clay floor and sealed by a later clay floor. The angle of the pipe indicates that it was taking water from the properties to the river.

THE PITS

A number of large and small rubbish pits were examined during building construction. These were:

Pit, Layer 1. A small sub-circular pit containing no finds.
Pit, Layer 2. A small circular pit containing late thirteenth- or fourteenth-century pottery (Pottery report, p. 185).
Pit, Layer 3. A small circular pit containing one sherd of twelfth- to thirteenth-century pottery.
Pit, Layer 4. A small circular pit containing no finds.
Pit, Layer 5. A small rectangular pit containing fifteenth-century pottery (Pottery report, p. 190).

Pit, Layer 6. A small sub-circular pit containing no finds.
Pit, Layer 7. A small sub-circular pit containing no finds.
Pit, Layer 8. A small sub-circular pit containing late eleventh- or twelfth-century pottery (Pottery report, p. 185).
Pit, Layer 30. A large rubbish pit containing fifteenth-century pottery (Pottery report, p. 190).
Pit, Layer 31. A large rubbish pit containing late thirteenth-century pottery, including three whole baluster jugs (Pottery report, p. 185).
Pit, Layer 32. A large rubbish pit containing late fourteenth- or fifteenth-century pottery including a small whole pot (Pottery report, p. 190).
Pit, Layer 33. A small rubbish pit located during the underpinning of no. 15 North Lane, containing mid- to late thirteenth-century pottery including an almost complete anthropomorphic jug (Pottery report, p. 188).
Pit, Layer 34. A large rubbish pit cutting Grave B containing no finds.
Pit, Layer 35. A large rubbish pit located under clay floor, Layer 15 and Layer 14, containing no finds.

PAUL BENNETT

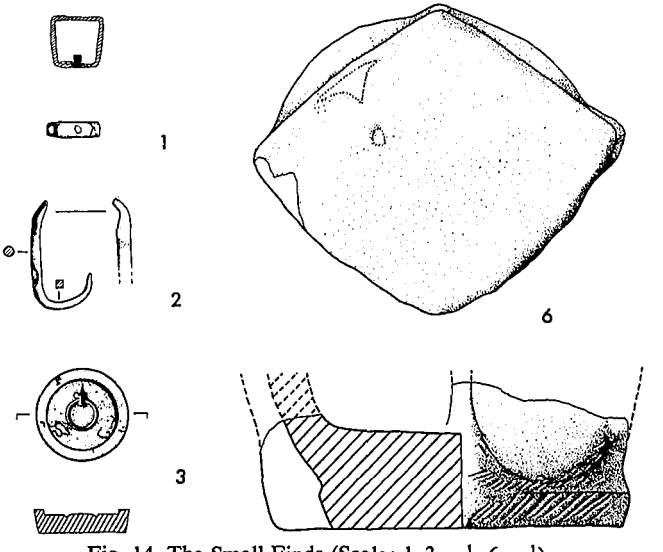


Fig. 14. The Small Finds (Scale: 1–3 = $\frac{1}{1}$, 6 = $\frac{1}{2}$).

THE SMALL FINDS
(Fig. 14)

Bronze objects

1. Rectangular object with rivet, perhaps a binding. Layer 15.
2. Bronze wire, incomplete. 4·5 cm. long, 2 mm. thick. In Grave B.
3. Heavy object, probably a weight (weight ½ oz.). Two fleur-de-lys stamped on internal surface, and what could be a 'G' with a crown above. Layer 15.

Iron objects

4. (Not illustrated). Bolt like object – incomplete. From the waist area of skeleton I, Grave A.

Glass

5. (Not illustrated). Blue 'melon' bead, incomplete. Found in the Roman topsoil, Layer 9.

Stone

6. Stone mortar (unstratified). Made from a tight-grained limestone, possibly Caen stone.

PAN GARRARD

THE POTTERY

The Kiln (Fig. 15)

1. NL(17). Belgic. Beaker in well-fired dark grey granulated ware with orange-buff surfaces. In this context presumably residual.

2–9. NL(17). A group of six jars and two flanged-rim bowls, and a number of body sherds, all in grey or pink-brown sandy ware, with dark or light grey surfaces. The material is directly associated with débris from the kiln, and though most are damaged or slightly warped, none can be classed as true 'wasters'. The forms are typical of the late first – early second centuries. Within the group the only formal outsider is no. 7.

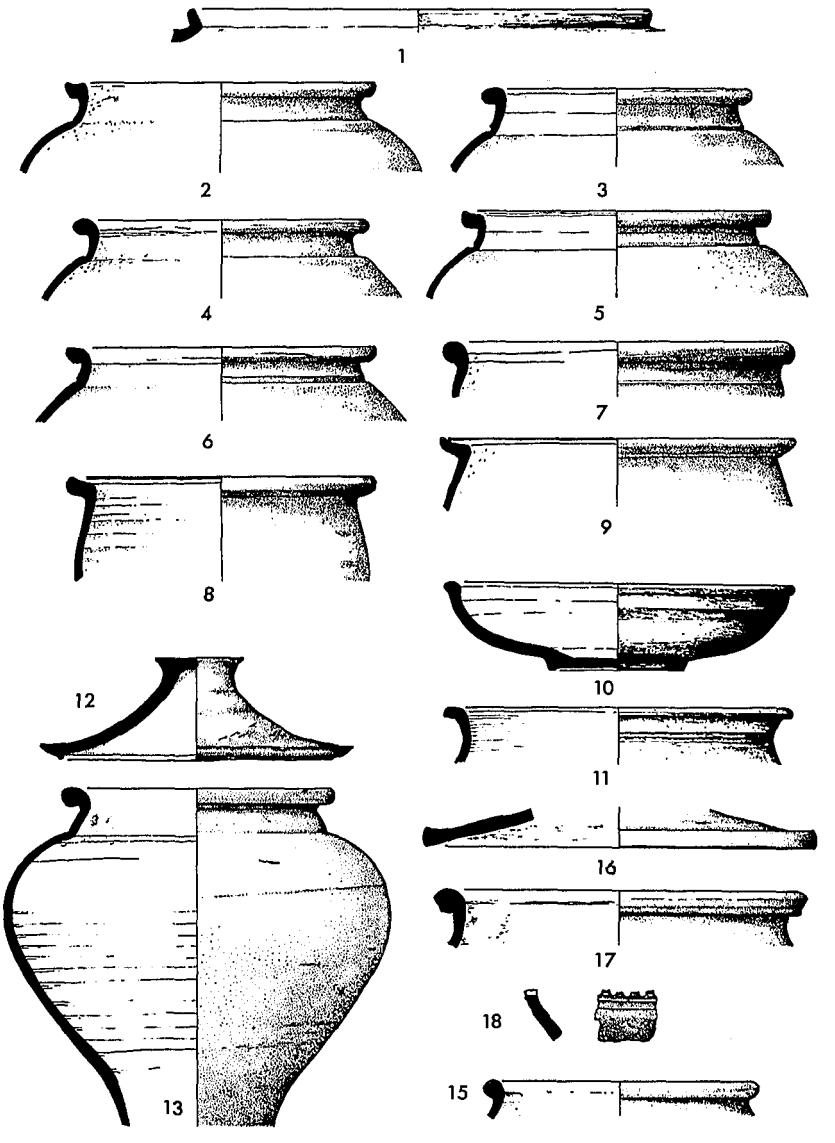


Fig. 15. Pottery. Nos. 1–9, from the Kiln; nos. 10–13, 15–18, from Roman Topsoil (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

Pottery from the associated Roman Topsoil (Figs. 15 and 16)

10. NL(10). Bowl in soft pink-brown, fairly micaceous ware, with black core and dirty grey surfaces. Light overall burnish – stronger inside.
11. NL(10). Jar in fairly hard grey ware – fabric micaceous and containing some sand; grey-brown grog or ironstone grains mottle the surface.
12. NL(10). Lid in red-brown sandy ware with grey surfaces.
13. NL(10). Jar in pink-brown sandy ware with light grey surfaces. Rim sooted.
14. NL(11). Belgic. Jar in soft, light grey granulated ware, fired pink under the buff-dirty grey surfaces. Rim, neck and incipient cordons lightly burnished. Three near vertical tooled lines down from the shoulder – apparently not continuous round the body.
15. NL(12). Jar in pink-brown sandy ware with light grey surfaces.
16. NL(12). Lid in brown-red sandy ware with light grey surfaces.
17. NL(12). Jar in brown-red sandy ware with dark grey surfaces.
18. NL(12). Dish or bowl with crenellated rim in light grey sandy ware. Patchy buff and grey surfaces.

With the exception of no. 11, all the above are again typical products of the late first – early second centures, and the sandy wares in this group are so nearly identical in fabric and finish to nos. 2–9, that they may well be products of the same kiln. Nos. 12 and 13 were found in direct association, and are assumed to have served each other. It is also suggested that no. 13 should serve as the profile pattern for most of the jars from the kiln group.

Pottery from the Grave Fillings (Fig. 16)

19. NL(GA). Belgic. Jar in pink-red granulated ware. Rim and neck lightly burnished. Worn.
20. NL(GA). Belgic. Jar in bright pink-red granulated ware. Fabric contains occasional chalk grains. Worn.
21. NL(GA). Romano-British, as are the remainder below.
    Dish in pale pink sandy ware with orange oxidized surfaces. Worn.
22. NL(GA). Jar with lid-recessed rim in dirty grey sandy ware with dark grey surfaces. Several voids in the outer surface and the fabric contains some fairly coarse grits (1–2 mm.).
23. NL(GA). Jar, lid recessed, in dirty pink sandy ware with buff-pink surfaces.

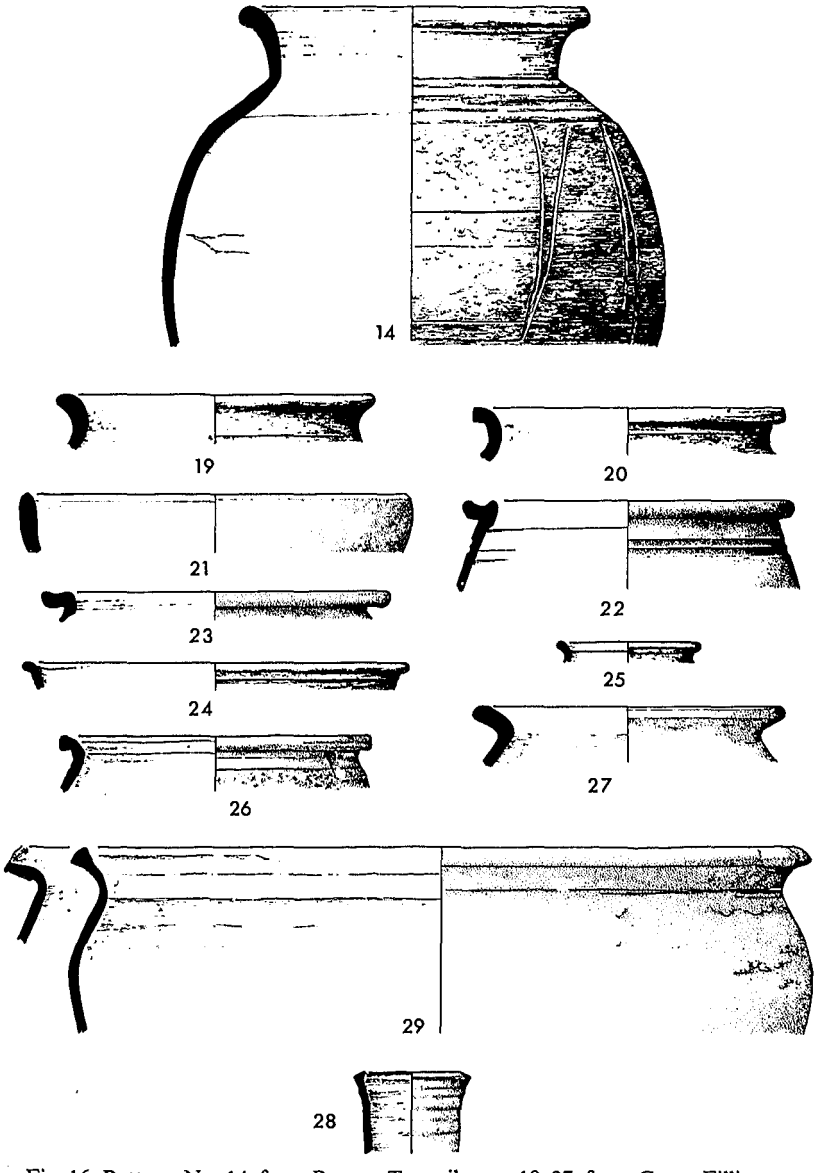


Fig. 16. Pottery. No. 14, from Roman Topsoil; nos. 19–27, from Grave Fillings; nos. 28–29, Layer 15 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

24. NL(GA). Jar in smooth dark pink ware – slightly micaceous with thin black core and buff-grey surfaces. Surfaces mottled with drab brown grains of grog/ironstone.
25. NL(GA). Beaker in smooth dark pink ware, with grey surfaces. Inclusions and surfaces as no. 24.
26. NL(GB). Jar in hard overfired buff-grey ware. Fabric contains an uneven scatter of milky quartz grains (0·5 mm.), and pale brown – dark red inclusions of grog/ironstone.
27. NL(GB). Jar in finely sanded grey ware with brown lining to core and dark grey surfaces. Burnished exterior and rim, inside to neck bend. Here the pottery is certainly residual, with an approximate date range from the late first – late-second centuries, possibly later. The forms and fabrics of nos. 22–25, in particular, belong in the late first – early second centuries, with the emphasis on the latter for no. 13. Only no. 18, which is related to the black-burnished ware tradition, is likely to be much later.

Medieval (Figs. 16 and 17)

28. NL(15). Jug in hard, rather finely sanded grey ware with dark grey surfaces. One dark olive-green speck inside.
29. NL(15). Cooking-pot in red-brown sandy ware, with bright red lining beneath pink-brown surfaces. Sooted inside and out. Very large diameter with nicely moulded rim, internally slightly recessed and supplied with a spout. ? originally handled.
30. NL(14). Jug in grey sandy ware with pink-brown surfaces. Handle missing. Neck and upper body splashed with mottled brown and olive-green glaze. The glaze overlies: on the neck, four uneven, horizontal, white painted lines; and running down from the neck-base to below maximum girth a continuous series of alternating straight and 'wiggly' stripes in white paint.
31. NL(14). Cooking-pot in grey sandy ware with pink-brown surfaces. Shallow voids on the rim suggest that the rim was originally dusted with crushed shell. Rim edge slightly sooted.
32. NL(14). Cooking-pot in fairly hard grey sandy ware with light buff-brown surfaces. Rim stabbed. One orange-brown glaze drip on rim. Sooted exterior.
33. NL(14). Presumed cooking-pot with external lid-seating. Light grey sandy ware with a fairly thick, but ill-sorted scatter of grog inclusions. Surfaces grey-pink-brown.
34. NL(14). Sherd from jug in hard dark grey sandy ware with surfaces fired almost steel grey. Specks of very dark green, almost black glaze over at least two horizontal bands of wavy-line decoration.

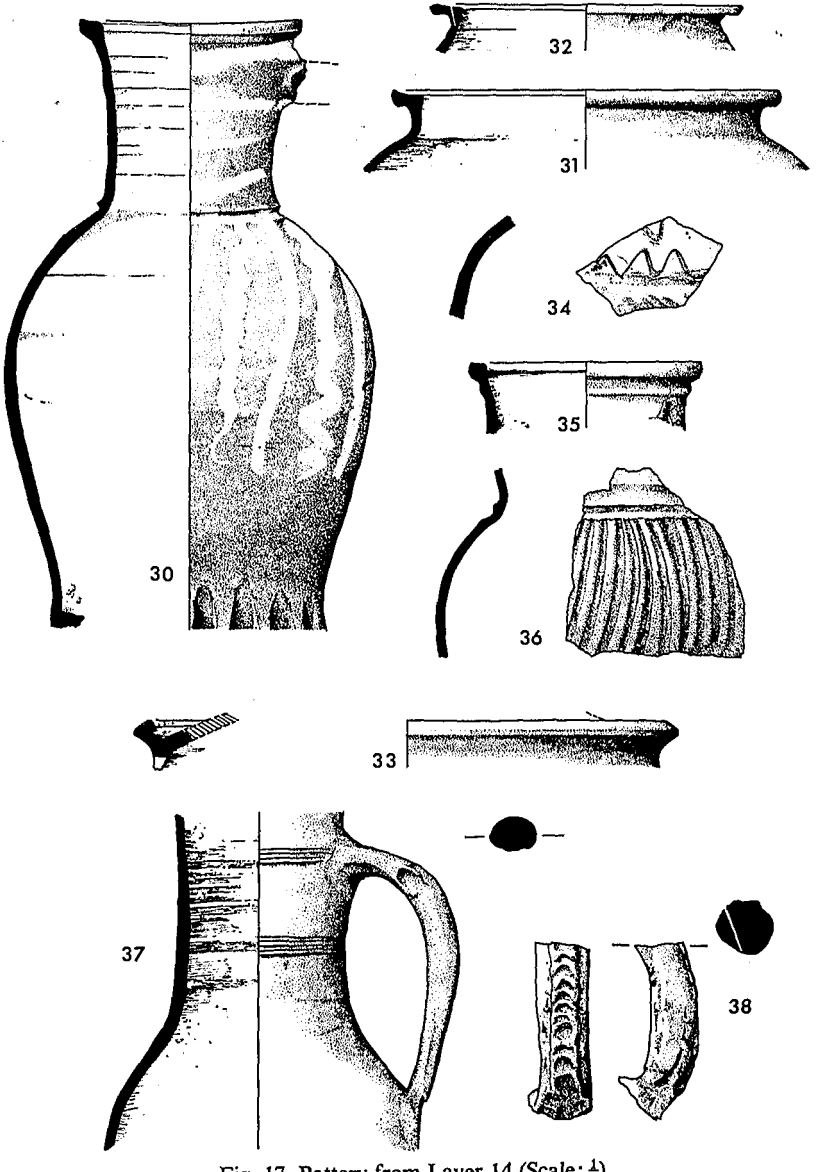


Fig. 17. Pottery from Layer 14 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

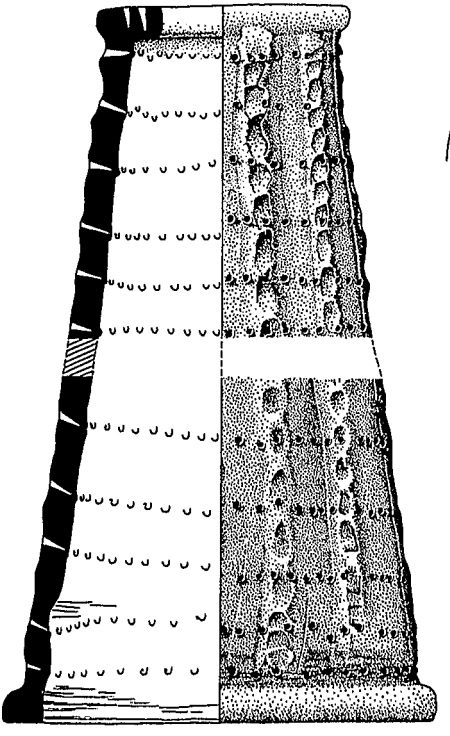
35. NL(14). Jug in hard grey sandy ware with dull red surfaces. Traces of applied white or buff clay decoration, covered with a dirty green glaze, showing drab light brown over the clay.
36. NL(14). Jug sherd in dark grey sandy ware with inside grey, exterior buff. Half of body from the shoulder, decorated with slightly diagonal downward grooves. Neck and body covered with mottled pale green-brown glaze, giving a 'lichen' effect.
37. NL(14). Part jug in rather finely sanded grey ware with buff surfaces. Decayed matt grey-green and orange glaze on neck. The slightly flattened rod-handle has been stabbed, with the majority of stab-holes smoothed over. Knife-trimming facets at the base of handle.
38. NL(14). Rod-handle in dirty grey sandy ware with chocolate-brown surfaces covered with an uneven pale buff-brown slip. The handle has a central rib decorated with finger-tip thrusts and covered with a decayed lustrous orange glaze. The handle has been pierced with deep diagonal stabs on each side of the midrib.

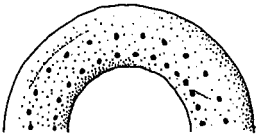
Chimney-pots (Figs. 18 and 19). Together with the above pottery from Layer 14, parts of seven assumed chimney-pots were recovered. Of the whole group, no. 39 is an outsider.

39. NL(14). This chimney-pot is in a hard dark grey sandy ware with patchy grey – dark pink surfaces and orange-red linings beneath them. The restorable height is 36·60 cm. Diameter at base is 22·20 cm., and at the top, 13 cm. The base is thickened and flanged, as with the top which is nicely moulded and internally flanged. The top is stabbed with two rows of holes. The walls are pierced through with twelve neat and evenly spaced horizontal rows of large stab-holes, and the sides of the chimney-pot are 'decorated' with applied vertical thumb-pressed strips (*c.* ten to eleven originally), which on this example are simple and unexaggerated.

40–41. NL(14). Of the remaining six chimney-pots, three were drawn. No. 40 has a complete profile, and since they are all virtually identical in fabric, form and finish, this one is used as the model for the others.

40. NL(14). Height of the chimney-pot is 32·30 cm., with a basal diameter of 22 cm. tapering to 13·60 cm. at the top. Made in a hard light grey sandy ware with patchy dirty grey/buff-pink surfaces. The out-curving base is thickened and flanged and irregularly pierced with stab-holes; the top is thickened and slightly everted (markedly so with the others) and stabbed. Again the body is 'decorated' with twelve applied vertical thumb-pressed strips. Unlike no. 39 these are boldly executed. The body





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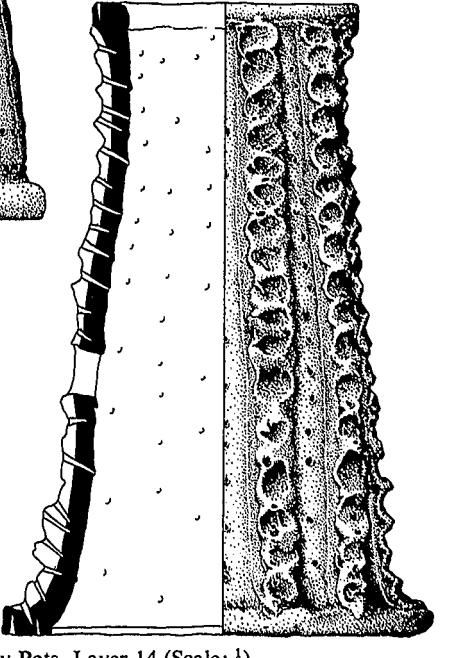

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Fig. 18. Chimney-Pots, Layer 14 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

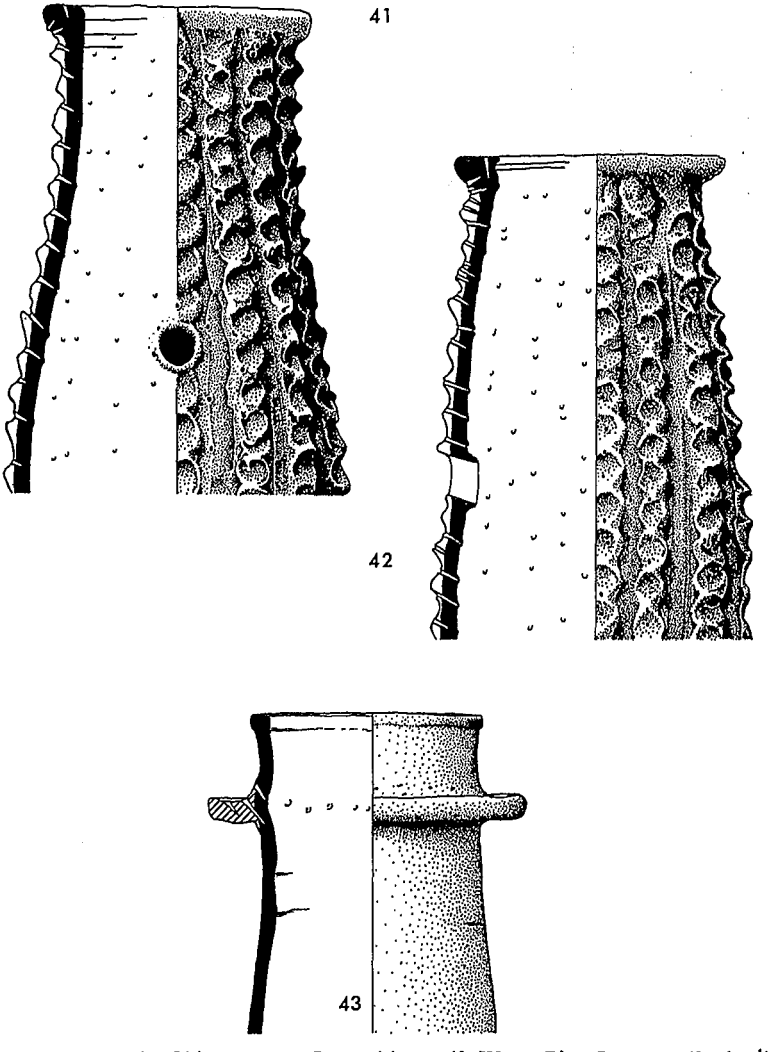

Fig. 19. Nos. 41–42, Chimney-Pots, Layer 14; no. 43, Water-Pipe, Layer 19 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

is pierced, but with this type, the stab-holes are in vertical rows, one for each thumb-pressed strip and intervening space, respectively. The three figured examples (and presumably the others of this type), each have one hole in the side just below half-height – all are *c.* 2·50 cm. in diameter and are pushed through from the outside. These six have a particular 'mass-produced' appearance. All show slight traces of sooting near the top, inside.

The group of chimney-pots published here bears most of the formal characteristics of known medieval chimney-pots, in that they taper inward from base to top, are supplied with vertical 'decoration', and, in some cases, have at least one side-vent. The majority of chimney-pots so far found in England have been dateable to the thirteenth century, with perhaps, a currency emphasis towards the latter half of that century. With this group it is impossible to be more specific. Nos. 28–9, from Layer 15, the only pottery definitely from a building context, should, by form and finish, belong in the early fourteenth century. This layer is sealed by that containing the chimney-pots and accompanying pottery – Layer 14. The latter contains jugs and cooking-pot forms that appear mid-late thirteenth century in character, particularly the decoration of nos. 36 and 38. At the same time, the lid-seated no. 33 is unlikely to have appeared before the fourteenth century. In fact the whole group from Layer 14, has the appearance of a 'dumped' collection, rather than a collapsed roof, as suggested by the presence of the chimney-pots.

Therefore, the material from Layers 14 and 15 should be dated to approximately the late thirteenth – early fourteenth centuries, with the proviso that the majority of the pottery from Layer 14, including the chimney-pots, can bear an emphasis towards the late thirteenth.

The Water-Pipes (Figs. 19 and 20)

43. NL(19). Male end of sewer/water-pipe in hard dark grey sandy ware with orange-red linings below grey surfaces. The flange has been added on separately, with the junction smoothed over and then stabbed diagonally through flange and body.
44. NL(19). Complete pipe in hard dark grey sandy ware, almost totally oxidized orange-red, with one side buff-grey. Length: 49·80 cm. Diameter at the male end – 12·30 cm., and at the female end – 15·90 cm. Part of the flange is missing, and the fracture shows clearly that the body of each water-pipe was made separately on the wheel and the flange added after. The function

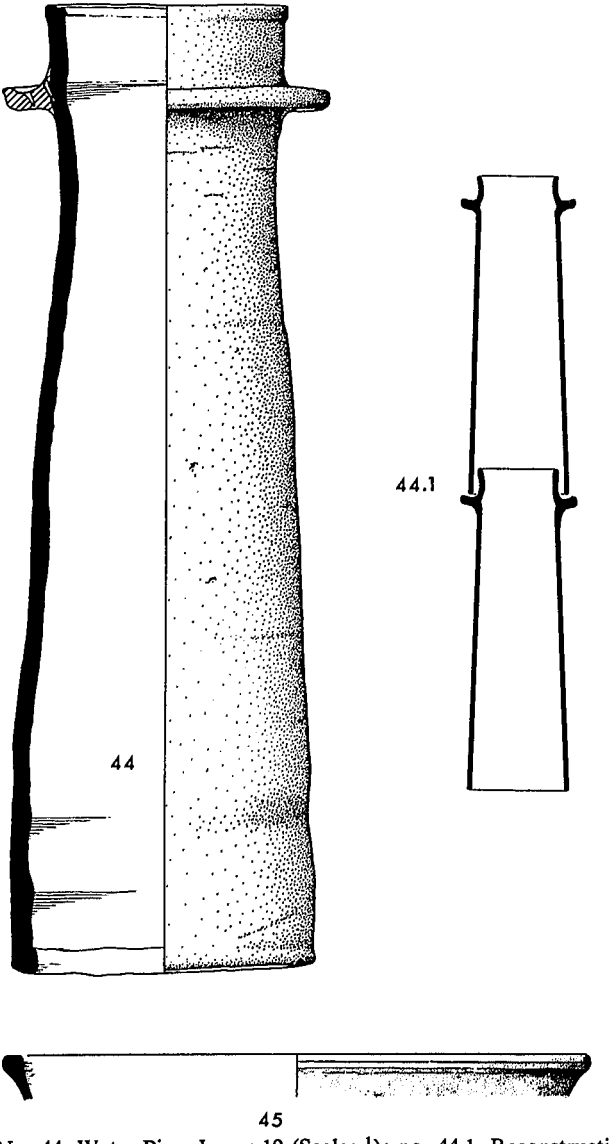

Fig. 20. No. 44, Water-Pipe, Layer 19 (Scale: $\frac{1}{2}$); no. 44.1, Reconstruction (*c.* 1/3); no. 45, Pottery, Pit Layer 8 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

of the flange was to act as a crude pipe-to-pipe junction-seal. In this example, the flange is again stabbed through and into the body. The fabric contains occasional grits of rounded milky quartz.

The quality of manufacture, degree of fabric hardness and colouring suggests a fourteenth-century date, almost certainly the first half.

The remainder of the illustrated material is from a series of pits and described in chronological order (Figs. 20–23).

45. NL(8). Cooking-pot in grey sandy ware – rim and exterior heavily sooted. This form belongs to the twelfth, possibly eleventh, centuries and is the only example of this date from the whole excavation.
46. NL(2). Jug in hard dark grey sandy ware with buff-pink surfaces. Exterior and handle splashed with green-brown glaze. The strap handle has well-defined raised edges and is stabbed down the central hollow. Dated to the late thirteenth – early fourteenth centuries.
47. NL(31). Jug in dirty grey sandy ware with pink-brown surfaces. The jug is decorated from the base of the neck to the maximum girth, with vertical panels of white painted wavy lines, framed by two straight ones. Between each panel is a vertical line of three bosses pushed out from the inside, which in turn are linked by paint. The base is thumb-pressed.
48. NL(31). Squat jug in brown-red sandy ware with light chocolate-brown surfaces. Decorated from the base of the neck to just below maximum girth with a repeating series of triangular panels. Inside these are two smaller triangular panels, the smallest divided by a vertical line. The space between each triangle is filled with three circles – the whole design executed in a white-cream paint. Over the whole is a decayed brown-green glaze. The fabric contains an uneven admixture of red-brown grog (2–4 mm.), and the occasional grain of milky quartz (2·5 mm.). Plain sagging base.
49. NL(31). Jug in dirty grey sandy ware, fired red-brown inside and dirty buff-brown externally. Decayed yellow-brown glaze on neck and shoulder. Flattened rod-handle irregularly stabbed.
50. NL(31). Cooking-pot in dirty grey, coarse sandy ware with chocolate-brown surfaces. The fabric contains a scatter of black ? clay specks, and grains of grog. Scatter of crushed shell and ? chalk added to the final surface finish.

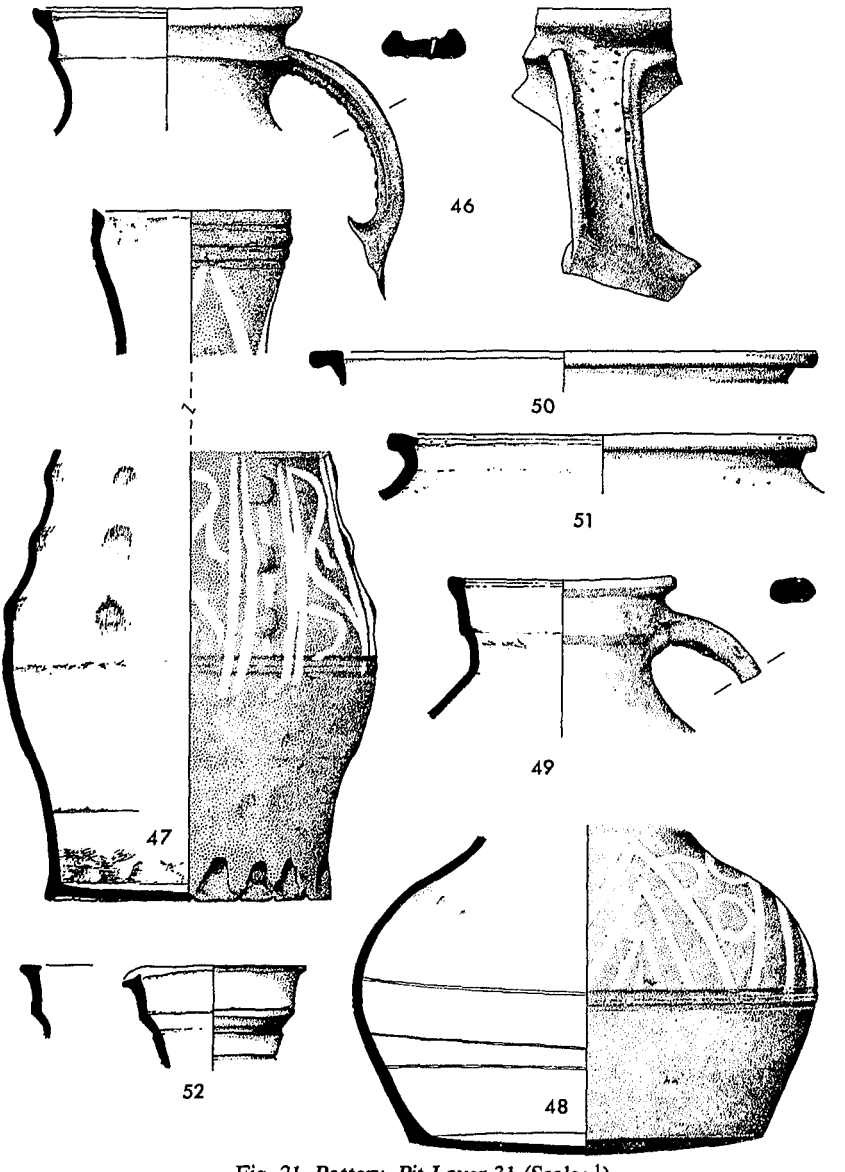

Fig. 21. Pottery, Pit Layer 31 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

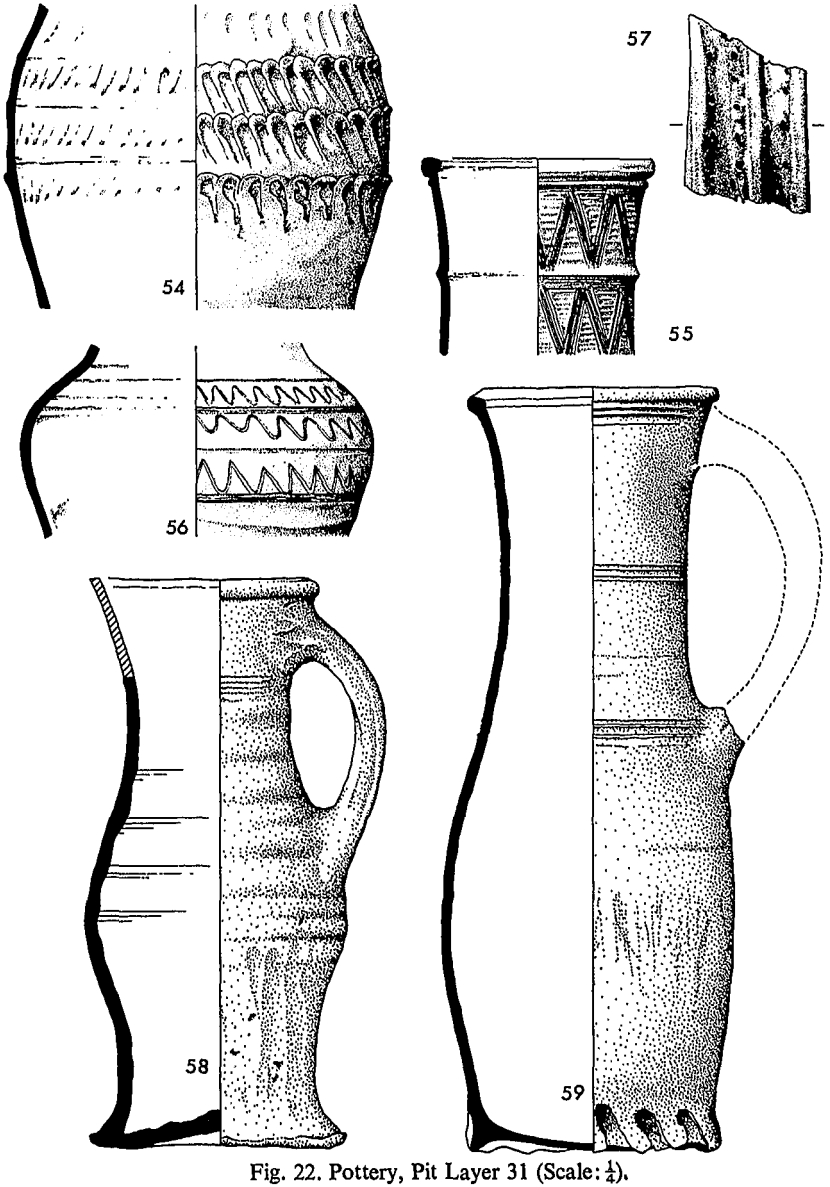

Fig. 22. Pottery, Pit Layer 31 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

51. NL(31). Cooking-pot in dirty grey sandy ware with dirty buff surfaces. Finely crushed chalk or shell addition to rim surface.
52. NL(31). Jug in hard grey sandy ware with grey-pink surfaces. Brown-green glaze on neck.
53. NL(31). (Not illustrated). Jug in red-brown sandy ware with light chocolate-brown surfaces. Traces of white painted decoration under pale brown decayed glaze.
54. NL(31). Jug in dirty grey sandy ware fired a rich buff-brown internally and buff to pink-brown outside. Broad band of decoration from neck to below maximum girth consisting of horizontal rows of diagonal, slightly overlapping finger – impressions (upward thrusting). These are covered by a decayed orange-brown and green mottled glaze. The final bottom row is unglazed and untidy – the upthrust tending to make the jug biconical.
55. NL(31). Jug in hard grey sandy ware with orange-buff surfaces. The fabric has occasional chalk or grog inclusions (3 mm.). Neck decorated with two horizontal panels of elongated triangles. The design is cut into a background of horizontal combing. Overall is a matt olive-green glaze.
56. NL(31). Jug in dark grey sandy ware – surfaces fired to a pink-brown. The fabric contains occasional grains of brick-red grog and milky quartz (3 and 2 mm.). A squat jug form, with the body decorated with three bands of incised wavy-lines separated by horizontal grooves.
57. NL(31). Broad jug strap-handle in coarse, hard, dark grey sandy ware. The handle has well defined raised edges and mid-rib with two rows of large, deep stab-holes on each side of the centre rib. Glaze – lustrous green-brown.
58. NL(31). Jug in pale grey sandy ware with pale pink linings below surfaces. Exterior surface fired patchy pale grey-buff. Bib of pale drab green glaze mottled with darker olive-green. Narrow strap-handle. Body below maximum girth lightly knife-trimmed. Wide splayed foot.
59. NL(31). Baluster jug in hard grey sandy ware, with orange-grey exterior surface. Neck and body splashed with mottled brown-green glaze.

    The whole group is of local (Tyler Hill) manufacture, with the exception of no. 58, which though sand-tempered, is distinctly different. All should be placed into the thirteenth century, mid–late; it is unlikely that any of this material is later.
60. NL(33). Small, squat, anthropomorphic jug with neck and handle missing, in grey sandy ware. Interior surface fired orange –

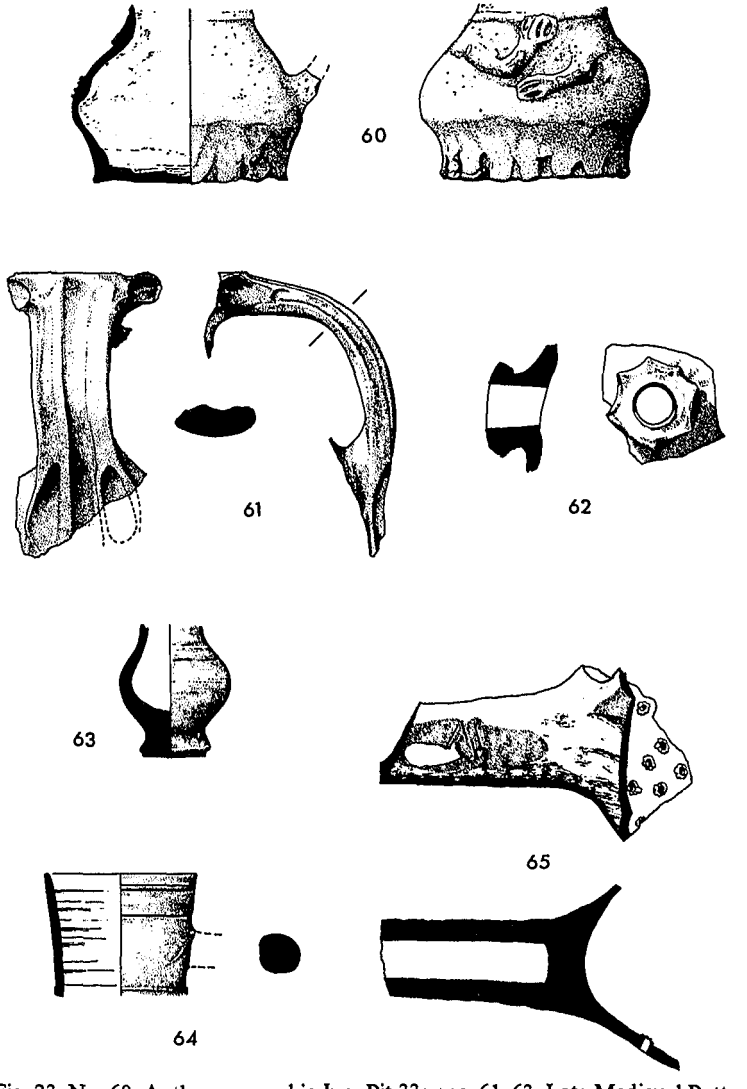

Fig. 23. No. 60, Anthropomorphic Jug, Pit 33; nos. 61–63, Late Medieval Pottery, Pit 32; no. 64, Post-Medieval Pottery, Pit 5; no. 65, Post-Medieval Pottery, Pit 30 (Scale: $\frac{1}{4}$).

exterior a patchy grey-orange. Upper body down to maximum girth covered by brown-green glaze. The fabric contains an uneven scatter of chalk grits (0·30 mm.). Two arms have been applied onto the shoulder at the base of the neck, the hands squashed out, with fingers crudely incised in. Lower body knife-trimmed. Roughly formed thumb-pressed base.

This intriguing and frustratingly incomplete little jug belongs to the mid–late thirteenth century.

Late to post-medieval (Fig. 23)

61. NL(32). Jug handle in pink hard sandy ware with buff-pink and grey surfaces and grey core to handle. The fabric contains many small black grits. Junction of handle and rim top trimmed off with a knife. Lustrous brown-green glaze splashes.
62. NL(32). Spigot spout in sandy light grey ware with pale buff surfaces. The grits are large and coarse, compared with the majority of known later Tyler Hill wares (up to 1 mm.). Splash of brown-green glaze.
63. NL(32). Small pot in finely sanded dark pink ware, with the sand showing as a fairly dense white speckle in the breaks. One large ? chaff impression where the surface has broken away. The exterior has been coated with a pale flesh-pink slip covered with a pale lustrous green and brown glaze. A curious non-local product. The fabrics and forms of nos. 61–2 are typical of the local later medieval wares, and can be approximately dated to the very late fourteenth-fifteenth centuries.
64. NL(5). Jug in hard finely sanded brick-red ware. Exterior and interior down to shoulder angle covered with a fairly thick lustrous brown-orange glaze. Rod-handle missing.

    Again, presumably a local product, but of fifteenth-, possibly early sixteenth-century date.
65. NL(30). Part of a handled strainer in hard fine pale pink ware. The fabric contains small specks of black or dark red inclusions. Cream surfaces. The handle is a separately wheel-made tube, ribbed and slightly conical, attached to the outside surface only. The strainer holes are pushed through from the outside, with the upstanding excess inside only roughly flattened. The glaze is lustrous – a clear pale yellow on the underside, and with an oblong olive green splash on the handle and at the junction of handle and body. Possibly made in Surrey, and dated as no. 64.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The small finds were drawn by Miss G. Hulse, the pottery by Messrs. L. Sartin and D. Gilbert, and the site plans by Mr. J. Bowen.

A ROMAN BUILDING NEAR SANDWICH

In September 1978 a scatter of Roman roofing-tiles and pebbles was found by Mr. Charles Burch, in an area just cleared by contractors for a slip road to the new Sandwich by-pass, at N.G.R. TR 319573. The contractors had already started laying a thick deposit of shale over the area to act as a base for their site huts; however, they agreed to delay their work for a few days and Mr. Burch informed the Canterbury Archaeological Trust. A small team from the Trust started work and quickly uncovered the well-preserved foundations of a Roman building. Work continued throughout the next few days with the co-operation of the Kent County Council and the by-pass contractors, and with enthusiastic assistance from local people, the Dover Archaeological Group and Dr. J. D. Ogilvie, F.S.A.

The site, approximately 1 mile west-south-west from the centre of Sandwich, and 1½ miles due south of Richborough Castle, stands on the Thanet beds, on high ground (approximately 11·3 m. O.D.) south of the South Poulders marshes, on the south side of Woodnesborough-Sandwich road. In the 1950's, fieldwork done by Dr. J. D. Ogilvie, F.S.A., in the vicinity produced a wide scatter of Roman building material; the existence of the structure was therefore not totally unexpected.

The building, aligned north-north-west/south-south-east faced east-north-east. Two wings connected by a long narrow room were fronted by the remains of a possible verandah. No traces of associated rooms at the rear of the building were found. Large scale clearance of an area immediately to the east of the building indicated the existence of a number of rubbish pits and other features which are currently being investigated at week-ends by the Dover Archaeological Group.

Centuries of agricultural activity had severely reduced and disturbed the archaeological levels. This disturbance taken together with the removal of the topsoil and the slight reduction of the natural sandy clay subsoil by heavy earth-moving machinery, meant that only the bare foundations of the building survived.

A quantity of late-medieval, post-medieval and modern pottery was recovered during clearance operations, together with a seventeenth-century token, Small Find 2.

Not only had the plough and heavy machinery disturbed the levels but the north-west corner of the building had previously been removed due to the down-cutting over the centuries of the Woodnesborough-Sandwich road. Two modern field drains were found to have cut through the walls of Room 1. Part of Room 2, together with most of Room 3, was unfortunately covered by shale before the building was discovered. This area, however, will be accessible when the slip-road is completed early next year and the site offices removed.

Although complete excavation of the building was not achieved, the overall plan suggests a symmetrical arrangement of two large identical rooms joined by the long narrow room. The probable overall length of the building therefore measured some 28·50 m. The known width including the possible verandah was 11·05 m.

The best-preserved sections of walls suggest an average wall width at foundation level of between 0·60 and 0·70 m. These foundations consisted of 1–2 courses of large, water-rounded flints rammed into puddled clay and set in a construction trench, which survived to a depth of between 0·07 and 0·10 m. These flints used for the foundations are very similar to those found at Richborough,[8] and probably derived from the Stonar bank. The wide and well-laid foundations were probably laid to take a considerable weight, and indicate that the building was possibly of masonry construction.

In two small areas patches of small pebbles were found overlying the cobble sub-foundations, Layers 1 and 2 (see Fig. 24). These pebbles, again set in puddled clay, may be the sole remains of the original wall foundation, upon which the first courses of masonry were laid. The small pebbles used for the foundation, on average 0·01–0·015 m. in diameter, are found in the local clay. A number of broken roofing-tiles were found overlying the cobble foundation of the front wall of the building. These may have been incorporated into the foundation matrix, but are more likely to be residual material associated with post-occupation débris.

Thorough clearing of the area at the rear of the building and inside the room and corridor did not indicate either a range of rooms at the rear of the structure or any sign of partition walls; this does not discount the possibility that they may have existed. Indeed, it is likely that the rooms were sub-divided, and that a building of this size probably had some timber-framed walls as well. The disturbance and the reduction of the archaeological levels probably removed all trace of possible extensions or partitions.

The interior of Room 1 had overall dimensions of 7·50 m. deep by

[8] For example, the '2nd house' on Site III (*Richborough II* (1928) 15–18) which is probably second-century in date.

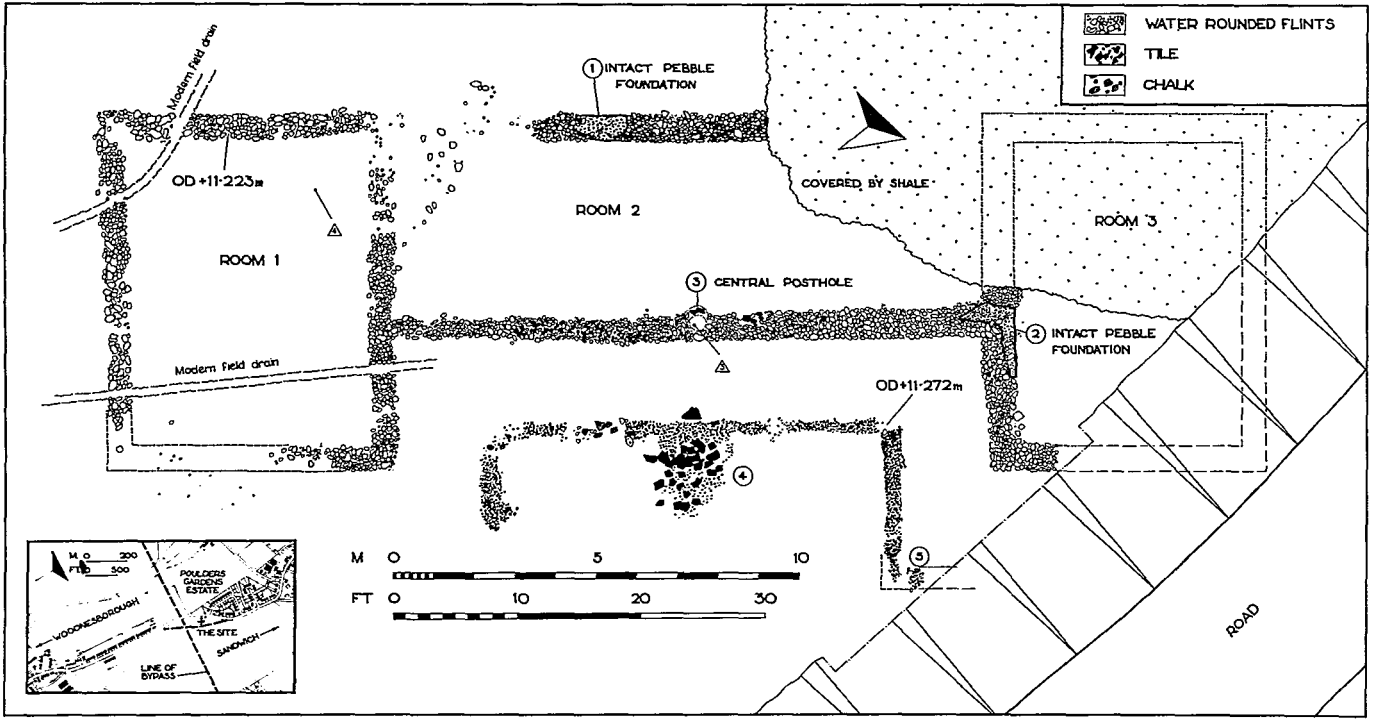

Fig. 24. Roman Building near Sandwich.

6 m. wide. The overall length of Room 2 (internal) measured some 14·50 m., with an internal width of 5·30 m. The front wall of the building was set back some 3·25 m. from the front of Rooms 1 and 3.

A post-hole, 0·435 m. in diameter, and cut 0·15 m. deep, was located almost halfway along the front wall of the corridor, being some 0·55 m. closer to Room 3 than Room 1, this was possibly for a door-post. A small badly worn, and probably late Roman coin (Small Find 1), was recovered from the back-fill of the post-hole. This coin may be residual, having fallen into the post-hole after the building was abandoned, or the door-post may have been located or replaced during the life of the building.

Set in front of the building were the flimsy small pebble foundations of a verandah. Only a thin layer, barely one pebble thick, survived the ravages of plough and machine disturbance. The most intact section suggests a foundation width of approximately 0·32 m. The use of small pebbles and the narrow width of the foundation suggest that the roof may have been supported on wooden pillars set on sleeper beams. The verandah flanked the front of the building, being some 2 m. away from the front wall of Room 2 and some 2·20 m. away from the outside walls of Rooms 1 and 3.

A patch of small pebbles, Layer 5, may indicate that the portico also continued across the front of Room 3. If the interpretation of Layer 5 as a continuation of the portico is correct, then it seems fair to assume that the portico flanked the whole of the building frontage, being set some 2·30 m. away from the front of Rooms 1 and 3 at its furthest point south and north. At the centre of the portico a large deposit of roofing-tiles was uncovered, Layer 4. This consisted of both *tegulae* and *imbrices*, some retaining the original bonding mortar. The tiles were set in a slight hollow opposite a possible central door. The tiles filling the hollow mixed, flanked and sealed a thin small pebble layer, possibly a surfacing, which may originally have been a path leading to the doorway. These roofing-tiles may have been laid over the pebble metalling to fill the slight hollow which no doubt collected rain water; or, more likely, as many of the tiles still had mortar adhering to them and as the deposit also contained lumps of loose mortar associated with the tiles, this deposit probably relates to the collapse of the roof when the building had been abandoned.

Insufficient pottery was recovered during the excavation to date either the destruction or the construction of the building, but by comparison with the Richborough buildings, a construction date in the late first or second centuries is probable.

PAUL BENNETT

Sandown Gate.

PLATE II.

General View of the Roman Building near Sandwich.