

# Medieval and later pottery in Wales No.2 1979

POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY FROM BROOKHILL, BUCKLEY, CLWYD (SITE 1)

by

A. Amery and P. J. Davey

## INTRODUCTION

Since 1974 James Bentley of Buckley has carried out in his spare time the excavation of the pottery site at Brookhill. To date he has investigated a total area of 1100 sq m almost single handed and recovered in excess of 100,000 sherds of pottery and kiln furniture.

It is a tribute to his energy and enthusiasm that ten typewritten reports totalling nearly 500 pages have been completed and lodged, together with the finds, in the County Record Office at Hawarden. These reports include diagrams of all the significant stratigraphic relationships, and plans of the buildings and kilns recovered. They also contain good sketches of all the pottery types, with descriptions and schedules.<sup>1</sup> The volume of finds, their early date compared with other Buckley Post-medieval pottery sites and their comparative inaccessibility to archaeologists persuaded the writers that some form of interim presentation was necessary so that workers in other parts of Wales and further afield might have some idea what to expect from Buckley in 17th century contexts.

The paper which follows attempts to illustrate and describe the main products of the site and to estimate dating. It is based on the Bentley manuscripts, but in cases of ambiguity or doubt the original objects have been referred to. Only the sgraffito wares have been the subject of detailed analysis.<sup>2</sup> No attempt has been made to quantify the material or to engage in 'scientific' fabric descriptions. This is not because such information would not provide valuable insights into the pottery, but because the range and quantities involved could not be dealt with in the time available to the writers.

A 494  
to Mold

19  
2  
17  
18  
1  
Brookhill

## Buckley Potteries

(For site list refer to the  
bibliography, no.12)

0  
Scale  
0  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  mile  
1 km

A 549  
to Mold

Knowl Hill

Pond

Brookhill Lane

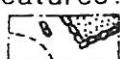
U11  
U9  
U10  
BrC  
U8  
U7  
U6  
U5  
U4  
U3  
U2  
U1

BrC  
BrH  
BrH

Stable

Former garden

Excavated  
floors and  
features:-



Brookhill  
(Site 1)

0 5m 10m

Scale

Fig. 1.

## THE SITE

Brookhill (NGR SJ 279655) lies 12½km west of Chester at an altitude of 140m on a slope which descends in a north-easterly direction towards Connah's Quay and the River Dee 4½km distant. Situated on the fire-clay outcrop, which formed the basis of Buckley's prosperity as a specialised brick producing centre, it is now surrounded by the dereliction of an industry in decline. The site occupies a neglected overgrown croft situated between the clay holes of the Brookhill and Trap Brickworks, the latter historically important as the site where Jonathan Catherall made his first firebricks in 1737. Its northern boundary is formed by a lane, with a derelict modern house on the south and a stone built stable and hayloft on the eastern side (Fig. 1).

## THE EXCAVATION

Three areas have been examined:

- (a) Brookhill (Br), from June 1974 to October 1975.<sup>3</sup> This trial excavation on the west side of the croft defined 6 'strata', the lower three of which contained considerable quantities of wasters and kiln furniture. Although no kiln structures were recovered contemporary with this material, it was clear that a pottery must have existed close by.
- (b) Brookhill Cinder Area (BrC), from October 1975 to February 1979,<sup>4</sup> included the majority of the eastern part of the croft and part of the field beyond. A total of 12 possible kiln bases were uncovered, 10 of which were defined by shallow depressions filled with ash, coal dust, kiln furniture and wasters. These appear to have been clamp kilns with the infilled material providing a firm refractory floor which, being porous, also acted as an underfloor flue. Two smaller kilns were set straight on the ground without a depression. Six 'strata' (later designated as 'layers' and 'floors') were recovered, the lower three appearing to be contemporary with some of the kilns (U1-U4).

(c) Brookhill Homestead Area (BrH), from February 1979 to present.<sup>5</sup>

This new area is contiguous with the house, yard and out-buildings. Excavations are still continuing.

#### DATING

In the absence of documentary evidence internal dating is provided by the large quantities of clay pipes recovered throughout the excavations. Their analysis immediately suggests two distinct horizons of deposition. One, which includes all the well stratified layers of the Brookhill (Br) site and Layer 4 of the 'Cinder' site (Brc), was dominated by Thomas Heyes pipes on Broseley Type 5 bowls and early eighteenth century Chester forms, and should date from c. 1690 to c. 1720. The other, which encompasses all the layers below Layer 4 on the 'Cinder' site (Brc), including U1-U4, produced early Chester forms together with 'imports' from South Lancashire and South-west England. These should belong to the period 1640-1660.<sup>6</sup> The dating of U5-U12 is more difficult due to recent levelling. Although pipe finds are rare, it is clear that these kilns also were in operation before 1700. It is tempting to assign them to the period 1660-1690 to fill the gap between the two main phases of deposition defined above. Both clay pipe and ceramic finds would certainly support this idea.

In using the illustrations and schedule below, the following tentative chronological scheme may be of use:

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| (a) First main phase of activity: BrC Layers 5-6; U1-U4       | 1640-1660   |
| (b) Second main phase of activity: Br Strata 4-6; BrC Layer 4 | 1690-1720   |
| (c) Intermediate activity: U5-U12                             | ?1660-?1690 |

All other layers were contaminated by modern gardening, agriculture and nearby industrial activity. Detailed analysis of the excavated groups, together with the site notes will be required before a more positive scheme can be suggested.

## THE ILLUSTRATIONS

The illustrations have been selected to show the range of wares produced at Brookhill and are mostly taken from the Bentley excavation reports. Vessels are numbered consecutively and the order of presentation, not necessarily chronologically correct, is as follows: thrown slip decorated flatware; press-moulded slip decorated flatware; thrown slip decorated hollow ware; thrown lead/iron glazed ware; miscellaneous glazed ware; thrown mottled glazed ware; thrown coarse ware and kiln furniture. Whilst the arrangement of vessels in the figures is mainly arbitrary, there are some instances where a loose typological grouping has been attempted. Where it can be done with certainty, some vessels have been restored in the drawing and, to save space with those of similar form, one section typical for all may be shown. Drawing conventions are based upon those used in the Stoke-on-Trent Museum Archaeological Society Reports<sup>7</sup>, i.e., stippling denotes unglazed body; horizontally ruled lines, generally at the right hand edge of a pot, indicate glaze, with any area free of stippling also to be regarded as glazed; reflection patches in the horizontal lining indicate that the glaze is dark or black. Most vessels are drawn quarter-size but where, for clarity of detail or reasons of space, it is not possible to keep to this scale, the scale used is given with the figure caption.

In the descriptions, common name terms, generally those given by the excavator, are used for vessel form, fabric and colour. Documentation for each pot follows in brackets and is made up, when known, of three elements separated by semi-colons:-

- (a) Site code.
- (b) Clwyd Record Office accession no. and box no.
- (c) Clwyd Record Office index no. for the excavation report and the relevant figure or page number.

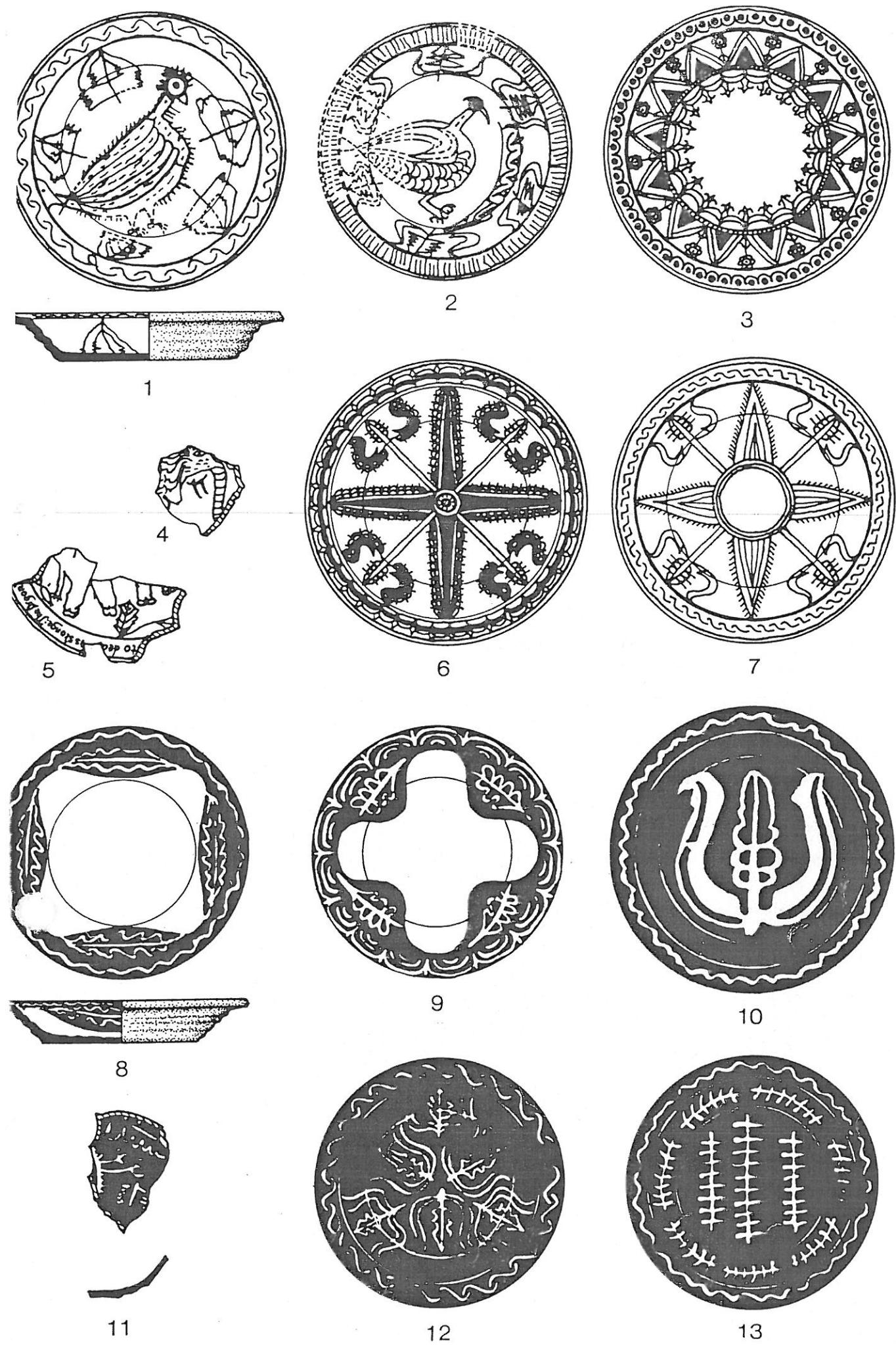


Fig. 2. Thrown, slip-decorated, lead-glazed, flat-ware: Scale 1:6.

Thrown, slip-decorated, lead-glazed flat-ware (1-20)

(a) Dishes with broad, sloping, concave rims and rilled sides; white slip-coat on interior surfaces; sgraffito decoration.

1. Bird; hard, light red fabric; warped and fire-cracked. (BrC, L6/U2; ANT 127; BP 1290, fig. 6).
2. Bird and worm; hard reddish-yellow fabric with white clay inclusions; warped and fire-cracked. (BrC, L6/U1; ANT 122, Box 1; NT/604, fig. 125).
3. Flower and leaf; soft, light red fabric. (BrC, L6/U1; ANT 127; NT/604, fig. 70).
4. Elephant; very hard, light reddish-brown fabric with quartzite inclusions. (BrC, L6/U1; - ; BP 1290, fig. 22).
5. Elephant; broad, sloping, concave rim inscribed '... to dea..hs stonge: The Drgon....'. Very hard, light red fabric with quartzite inclusions. (BrC, L6/U1; - ; NT/604, fig. 126).

Sherds with inscribed rims from four or five similar dishes also allude to the fable, drawn from bestiary tradition, of the Elephant and Dragon.<sup>8</sup>

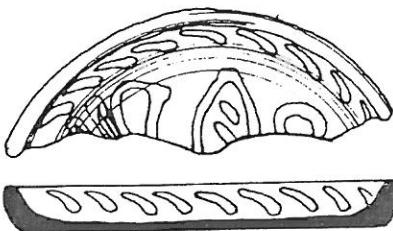
6. Cruciform; hard, light red fabric. (BrC, L6; - ; NT/607 Sheet 9).
7. Cruciform; hard, pink fabric with quartzite inclusions; warped rim, with glaze and slip badly flaked. (BrC, S1/L1; ANT 97; BP 1243, figs. 39-40).

(b) Dishes as (a) with poured and tilted white slip, and white slip-trailing.

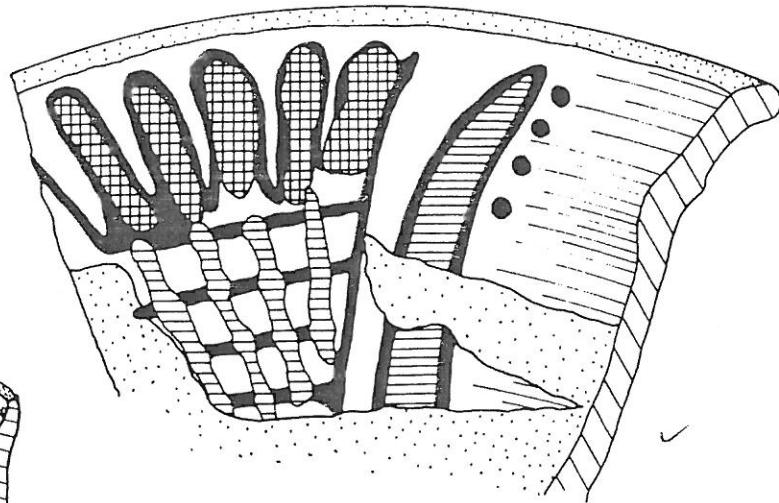
8. Oak leaf; hard, light red fabric with quartzite inclusions; brown slip-ground on interior surface with white slip poured into centre and tilted to four points; trailed-slip oak-leaf design on side panels, wavy line on rim. (BrC, S1/L1; ANT 97; BP 1243, fig. 45).
9. Oak leaf; as 8 except for rim decoration. (BrC, L6/U1; - ; BP 1290, fig. 33).

(c) Dishes as (a) with trailed white slip.

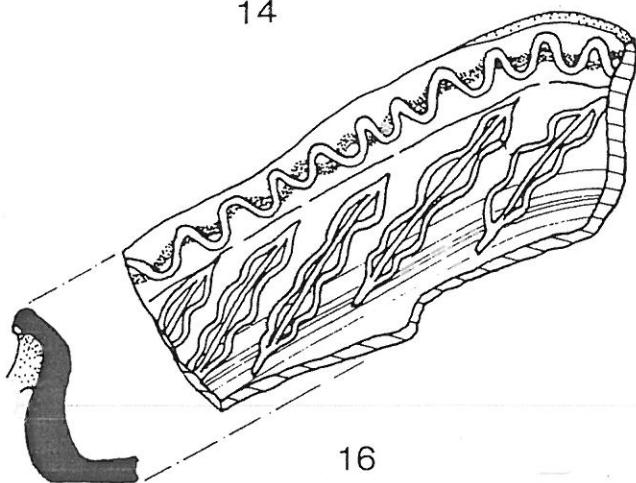
10. Tulip; hard, light red fabric; distorted into ovoid shape in firing. (BrC, S4/L4; ANT 105, Box 3; BP 1243, fig. 8).
11. Bird (fragment); white slip-trailing follows lines of pin-pricks in dark brown ground; overfired. (Br; - ; NT/608, fig. 8).



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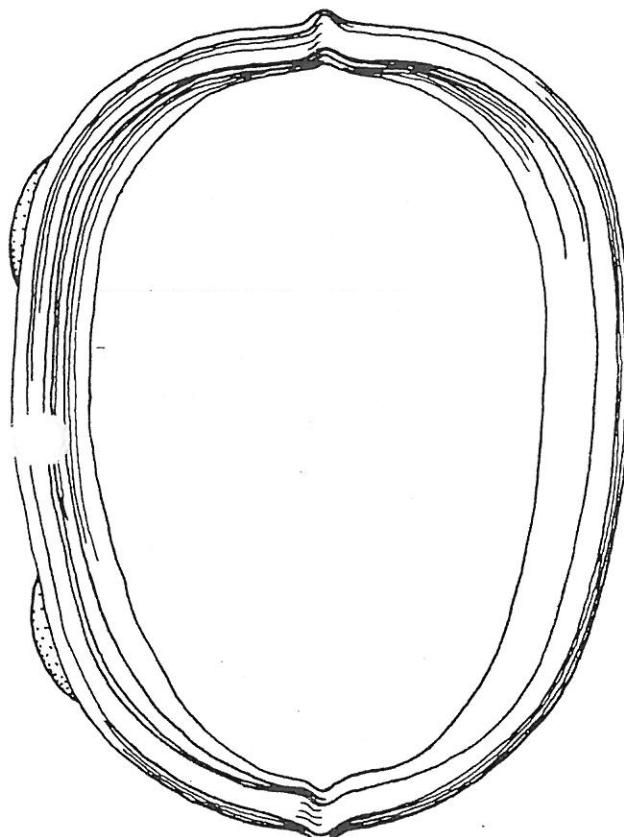
[Dotted pattern] Flaked or uncoated body.

[White square] White base slip.

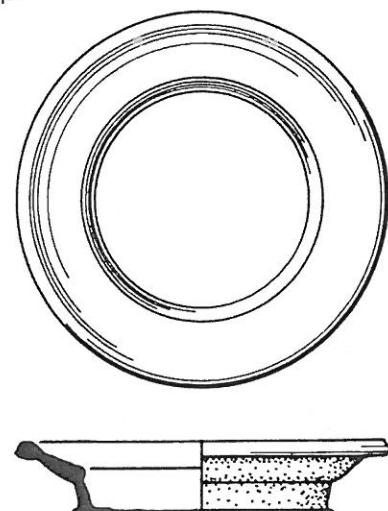
[Dark square] Dark brown slip.

[Light brown hatching] Light brown slip.

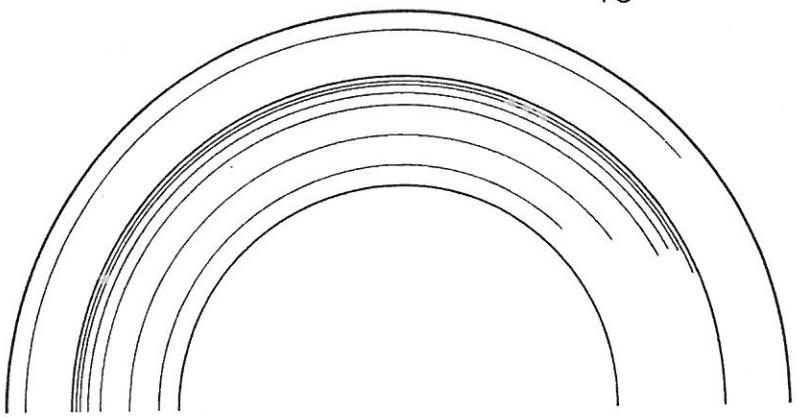
[Grid pattern] Green slip.



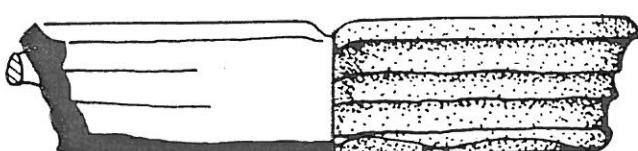
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19



20



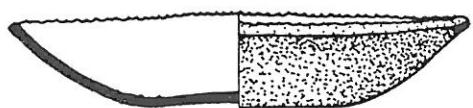
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12. Tulip; pink fabric; kiln waster. (BrC, L6/U1; - ; BP 1243, fig. 67f).
13. Comb; details as 12. (BrC, L6/U1; - ; BP 1290, fig. 29).

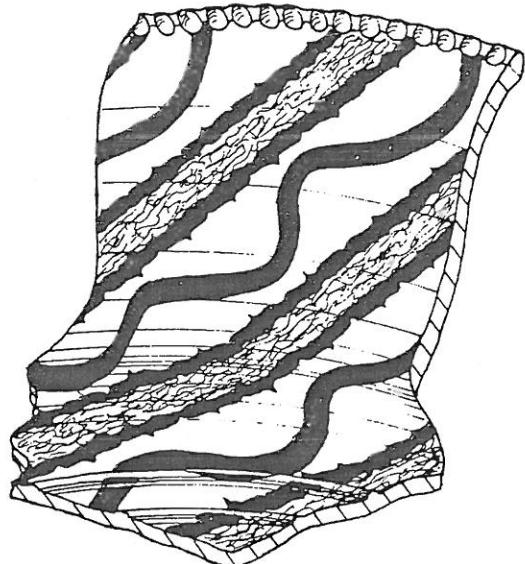
(d) Other flat wares.

14. Flat platter; pale pinkish-buff fabric covered with white slip; design trailed in brown slip. (Br, S4; ANT 93, Box 12; BP 1286, 74).
15. Dish (fragment), rim diameter 58cms, height 9.5cms; coarse, buff fabric decorated with dark brown, light brown and green trailed-slip on a white-slip ground. (Br, S4-6; ANT 93, Box 12; BP 1286, 74).
16. Fragment of dripping basin; dog-ear handle attached to sloping rim; hard, dark red fabric with occasional grit; interior white slip-coated, with brown trailed-slip design. (BrC, U10; - ; NT/590).
17. Dish sherd; anthropomorphic decoration in brown slip. (Br; - ; BP 1286, 71).
18. Large oval dish or dripping basin; pale red fabric, with interior coated with white slip. (BrC, S4; ANT 105, Box 5; BP 1290, fig. 59).
19. Small dish; light red fabric, with interior coated with white slip. (Br, S5-7; -; BP 1286, 55).
20. Shallow dish, as 19. (BrC, U4; - ; BP 1366, fig. 8).

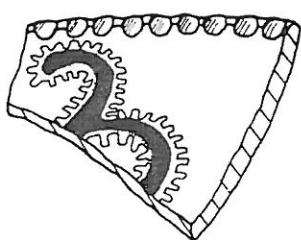
Fig. 3. Thrown, slip-decorated, lead-glazed, flat-ware:  
14-17 trailed; 18-20 plain. Scales: 15, 2:3, 17,  
1:1; the rest, 1:4.



21



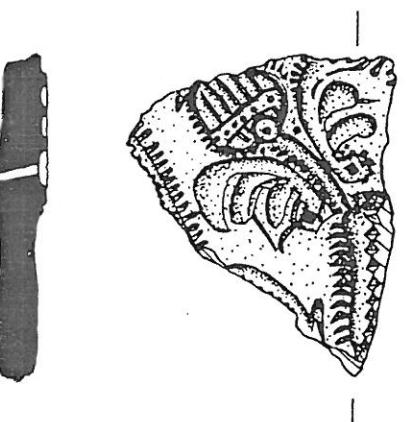
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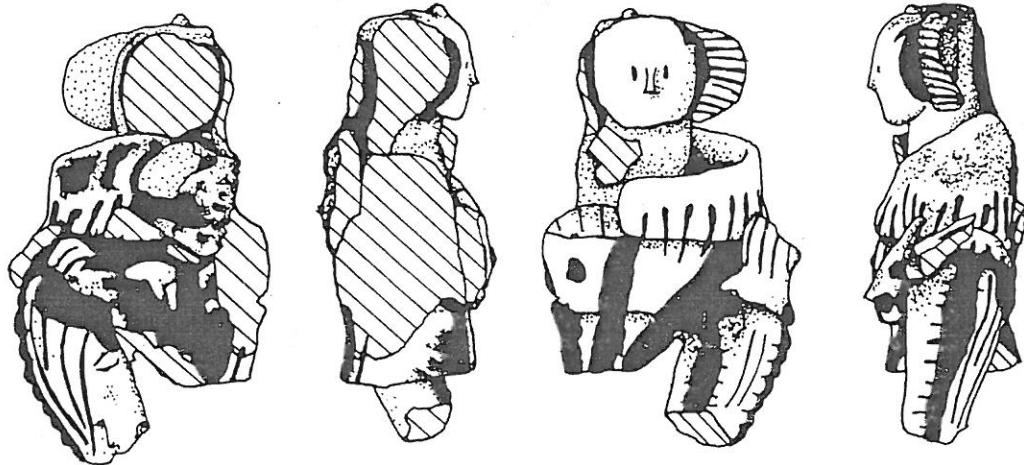
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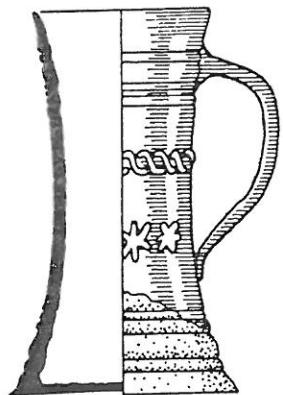
Press-moulded, slip-decorated, lead-glazed flat-ware (21-25)

21. Dish; red fabric with two concentric circles in relief near the centre and a dentelle rim; interior surface has dark brown slip-trailed lines joggled on a white ground. (Br, S4; LR no. 7; BP 1286, 66).
22. Dish (fragment) as 21, with dentelle edge; fine laminated pink/buff fabric, covered in white slip on inside and decorated with dark and light brown traileslip alternating lines, diffused while wet. (Br, S4; - ; BP 1286, 37.1).
23. Rim sherd with dentelle edge and embossed decoration; pale red fabric, white slip-coated with dark brown slip infill. (Br; ANT 89, Box 10; BP 1286, 64).
24. Mould (fragment); red clay body with uneven hand-pressed back surface; front surface scored, impressed and stabbed to form a plate-perimeter design; unglazed. (BrC, L6/U2-U3; ANT 122, Box 2; BP 1290, fig. 1).
25. Mould (fragment); hard red fabric; front surface scored and stabbed, back hand-pressed; traces of splashed glaze. (BrC, U2-3; ANT 128; - ).

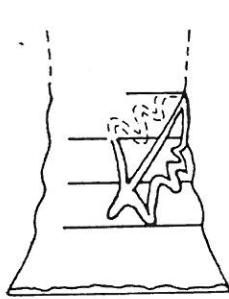
Figurine (26)

26. Female figure (upper part) in early 17th century costume; head and bust survive, but the right shoulder is missing. There are adhesion-scars on the back of the head and shoulders. Cream coloured fabric, white slip coated, with black line decoration. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 122, Box 1; NT/604, fig. 56).

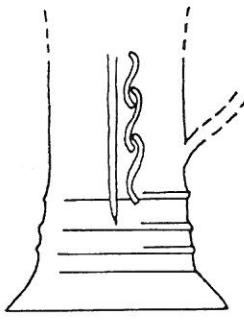
Fig. 4. Press-moulded, slip-decorated, lead-glazed, flat-ware:  
21-23. Moulds: 24, 25. Figurine: 26. Scales:  
20, 1:5; 22 & 23, 2:3; 24, 1:3; 25, 1:2; 26, 1:1.



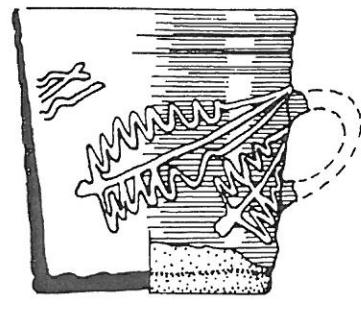
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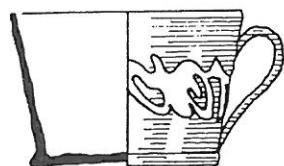
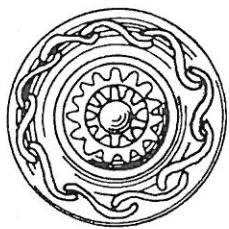
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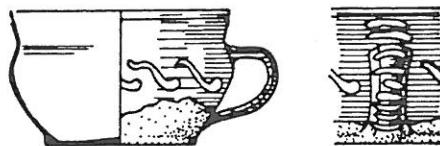
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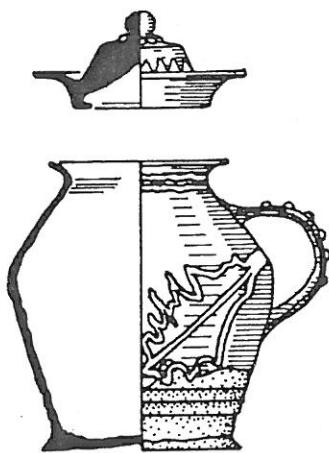
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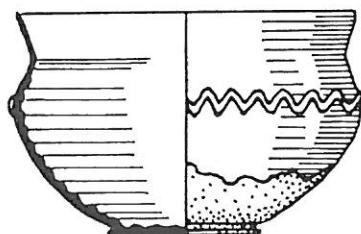
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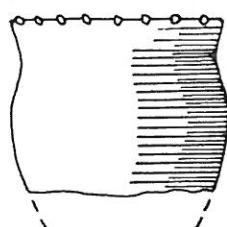
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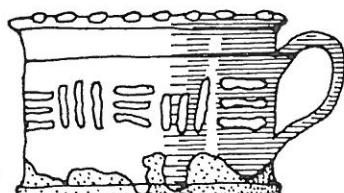
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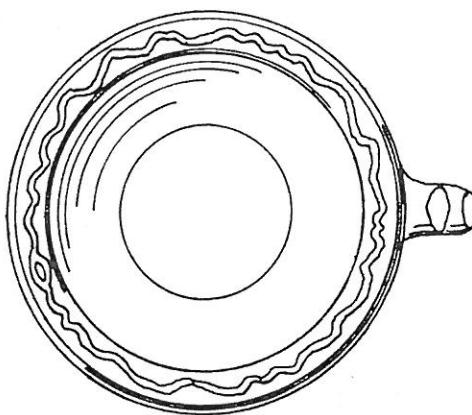
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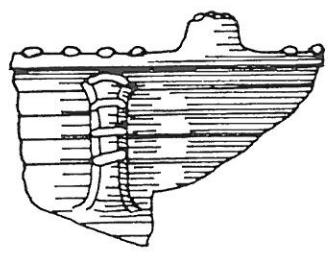
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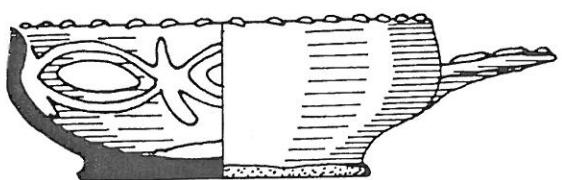
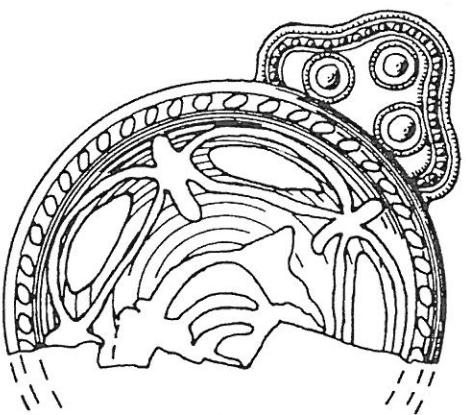


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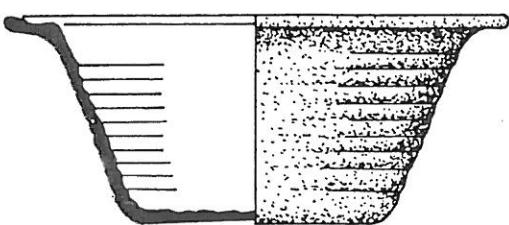
Thrown, slip-decorated, lead-glazed hollow-ware (27-47)

27. Tall, flared beaker; light red fabric with bands of star and 's' decoration round waist in white slip. (BrC, L5; ANT 114, Box 2; NT/604, fig. 45).
28. As no. 27 with sloping leaf decoration. (BrC, L5; ANT 114, Box 2; NT/604, fig. 43).
29. As no. 27 with vertical line and 's' chain decoration. (BrC, L5; ANT 114, Box 2; NT/604, fig. 44).
30. Large tapered vessel; red fabric, sloping leaf decoration in white slip. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 122, Box 2; BP 1290, fig. 39).
31. Biconical vessel with lid; light red fabric, white slip-trailed decoration. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 122, Box 1; BP 1290, fig. 69).
32. Tapered cup; red fabric with irregular looped-line design in white trailed slip round the centre; dark brown iron/lead glaze overall. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 122, Box 1; NT/604, fig. 119).
33. Cup; hard red fabric, white trailed-slip decoration round centre and on handle. (BrC, S5/L4-5; - ; BP 1243, fig. 10).
34. Posset pot; dark brown fabric, white trailed-slip decoration; overfired. (BrC, S2; BP 1243, fig. 23).
35. Bowl; fine red clay, with yellow trailed-slip dashes on exterior body, and dots on rim. (BrC, S5/L9; - ; BP 1243, fig. 22).
36. Jar; fine buff fabric, white slip-coated; faint raised slip blobs on top of rim. (Br, S5-6; - ; BP 1286, 45).
37. Cylindrical vessel; white trailed-slip dashes on body and top of rim. (Br, S4; - ; BP 1286, 75).
38. Chafing dish (fragment); pink fabric, handle and rim decorated with horizontal white trailed-slip blobs. (BrC, U1; - ; NT/604, fig. 91).
39. Chamber pot; hard, light red fabric, white trailed-slip decoration. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 101; BP 1290, fig. 63).

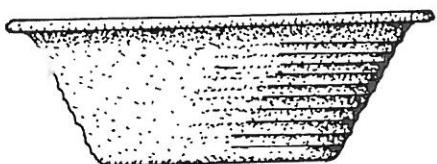
Fig. 5. Thrown, slip-decorated, lead-glazed, hollow-ware:  
27-39. Scale: 1:4.



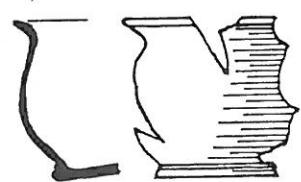
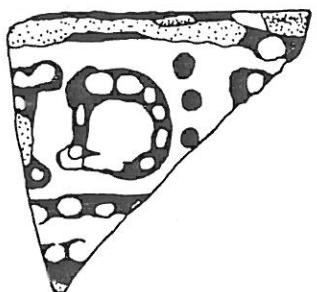
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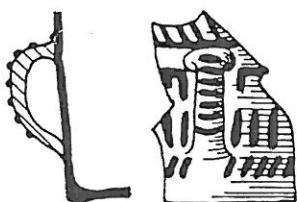
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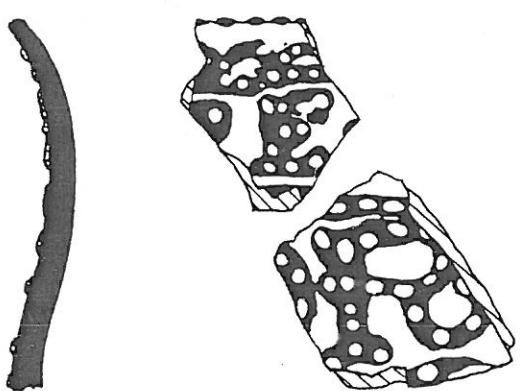
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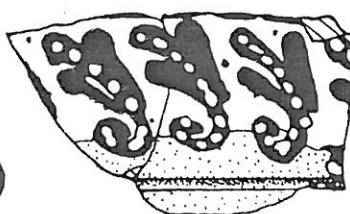
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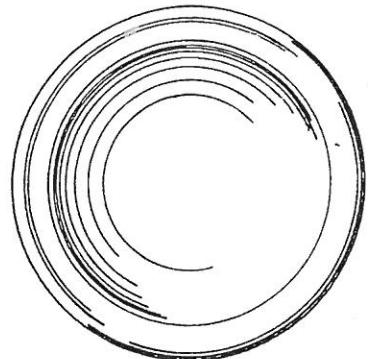
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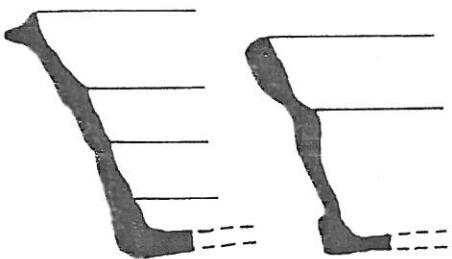
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40. Porringer or bleeding bowl; purple/red fabric with press-moulded handle, which in plan is set slightly askew (deliberately?); vesica design in white trailed-slip round interior sides, with an abstract motif in centre and white slip blobs on top of rim. (BrC, S5/L9; - ; BP 1243, fig. 30-31).
41. Deep basin; light red fabric, white slip decoration on interior and rim. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 101; BP 1290, fig. 38).
42. Deep basin as no. 41; hard, light red laminated fabric. (BrC, L6/U1; - ; BP 1243, fig. 67g).
43. Porringer; fine, light red fabric, white and brown marbled slip. (BrC, S5/L4-5; - ; BP 1243, fig. 9).
44. Cylindrical vessel; dark brown trailed-slip decoration; buff fabric, overfired. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 114, Box 3; NT/604, fig. 38).
45. Ointment jar; buff fabric; pimply surface, locally discoloured by faulty firing. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 114, Box 3; NT/604, fig. 35).
46. Posset pot; pale red fabric, white slip-coated inside and out; trailed brown lettering and white slip jewelling. (Br, S5-6; ANT 89, Box 23; - ).
47. Globular vessel; hard red fabric, white slip-coated inside and out; trailed brown slip lettering and white slip jewelling; overfired. (Br, S4; ANT 89, Box 23; - ).

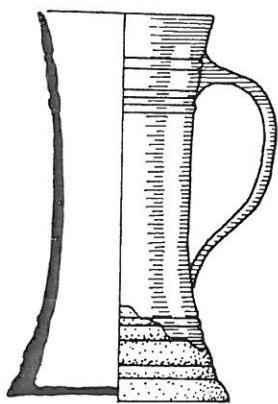
Fig. 6. Thrown, slip-decorated, lead-glazed, hollow-ware:  
40-47. Scales: 40, 46 & 47, 1:2; the rest, 1:4.



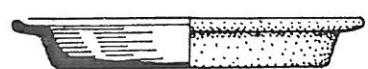
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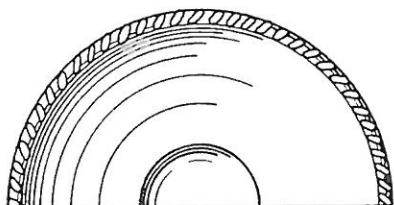
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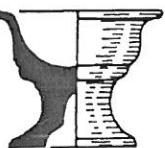
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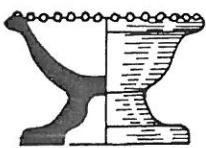
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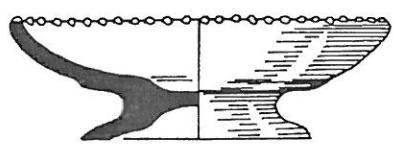
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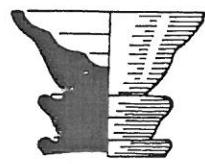
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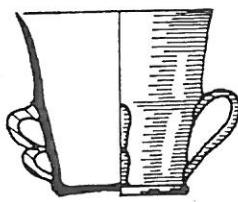
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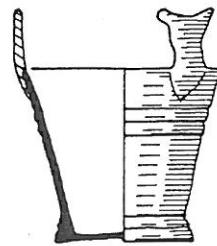
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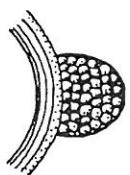
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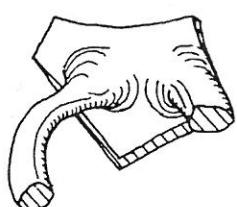
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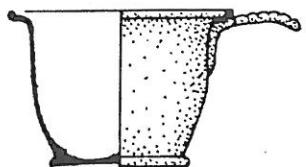
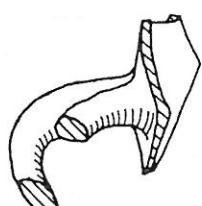
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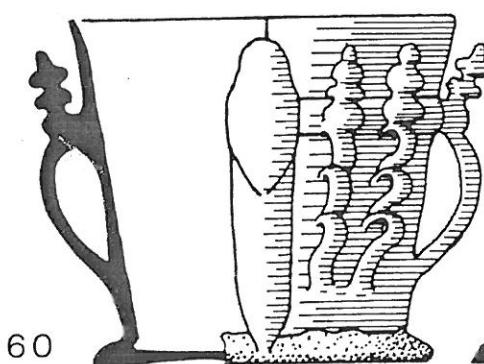
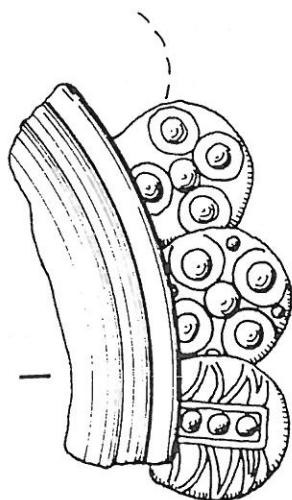
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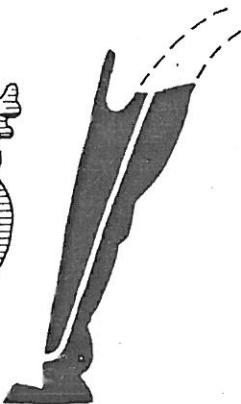
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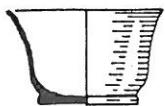


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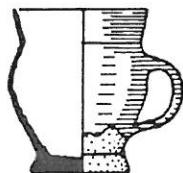
Thrown, lead/iron-glazed ware (48-101)

48. Plate; red laminated fabric with quartzite inclusions fired to reddish purple on the outside. (Br, S6; ANT 105, Box 1; BP 1286, 43).
49. Sections of deep basins, average rim diameter 22cms; pink fabric, with both plain and slip-decorated interiors. (BrC, U10; - ; NT/605, fig. 181).
50. Tall flared beaker; light red fabric, burned to dark blue in upper region. (BrC, U2; ANT 100 or ANT 133, no. 2; BP 1290, fig. 56).
- 51- Pedestal cups; light red fabric; no. 25 has knife-hollowed base
53. and white slip dots on rim. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; no. 25 - ANT 105, Box 1; NT/604, figs. 48-50).
54. Pedestal dish; hard red fabric, decorated on circumference of bead rim with slanting yellow trailed-slip lines. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; - ; NT/604, fig. 52).
55. Lamp; as 23-26. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 105, Box 2; BP 1290, Fig. 23).
56. Tyg; pairs of single-loop handles alternating with double-loop scroll handles; red fabric. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; - ; NT/604, fig. 97).
57. Posset cup; fragile fish-tailed lug handle attached to rim; light red overfired fabric. (BrC, U1-U2; ANT 101, ANT 105, Boxes 1 & 2, ANT 122, Box 1; BP 1290, fig. 67).
58. Porringer; horizontal press-moulded leaf-handle with raspberry decoration; hard purplish-red fabric with quartzite inclusion; overfired. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 105, Box 1; NT/604, fig. 66).
59. Fragments of sprouting-handled vessel; fine dark blue fabric. (BrC, S1/L1; - ; BP 1243, fig. 32).
60. Tyg; three castellated single-loop handles are set at 90° to each other, the fourth quadrant being occupied by the spout, which is integrated with the wall of the vessel up to just below the rim, with pairs of castellated treble-loop scroll handles in between; dark red fabric. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 133, no. 4; NT/604, fig. 96).
61. Porringer or bleeding bowl (fragment); overlapping circular pressed handles, each with a slightly different design, otherwise undecorated; fine mauve-grey fabric. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; ANT 122, Box 1; NT/604, 69).
62. Semi-circular pressed handle from vessel as no. 61. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; - ; NT/604, 68A).

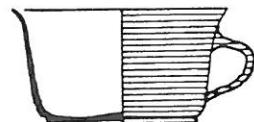
Fig. 7. Thrown lead/iron-glazed ware: 48 & 49 flat-ware; 50-61 hollow-ware. Scales: 61 & 62, 1:2; the rest, 1:4.



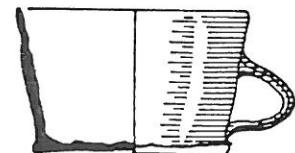
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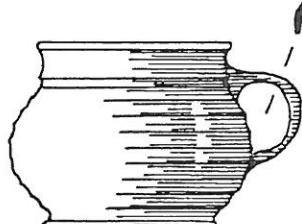
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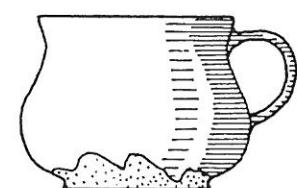
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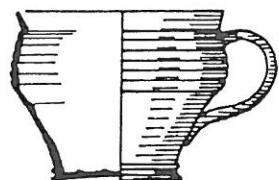
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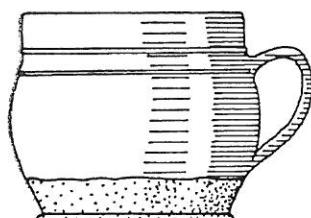
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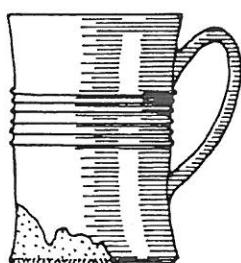
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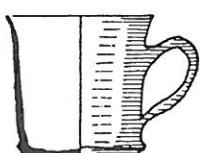
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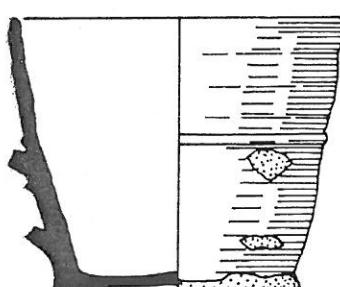
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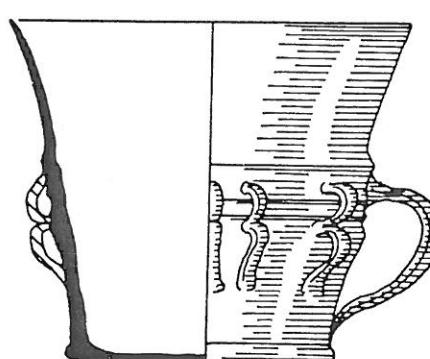
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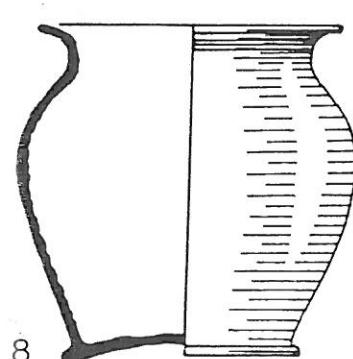
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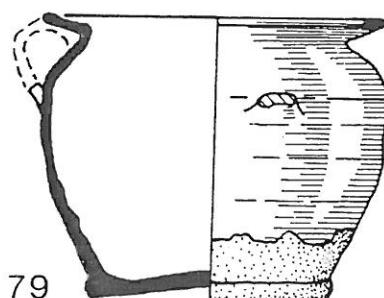
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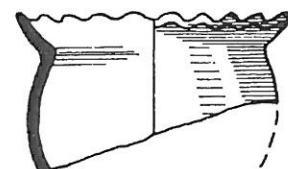
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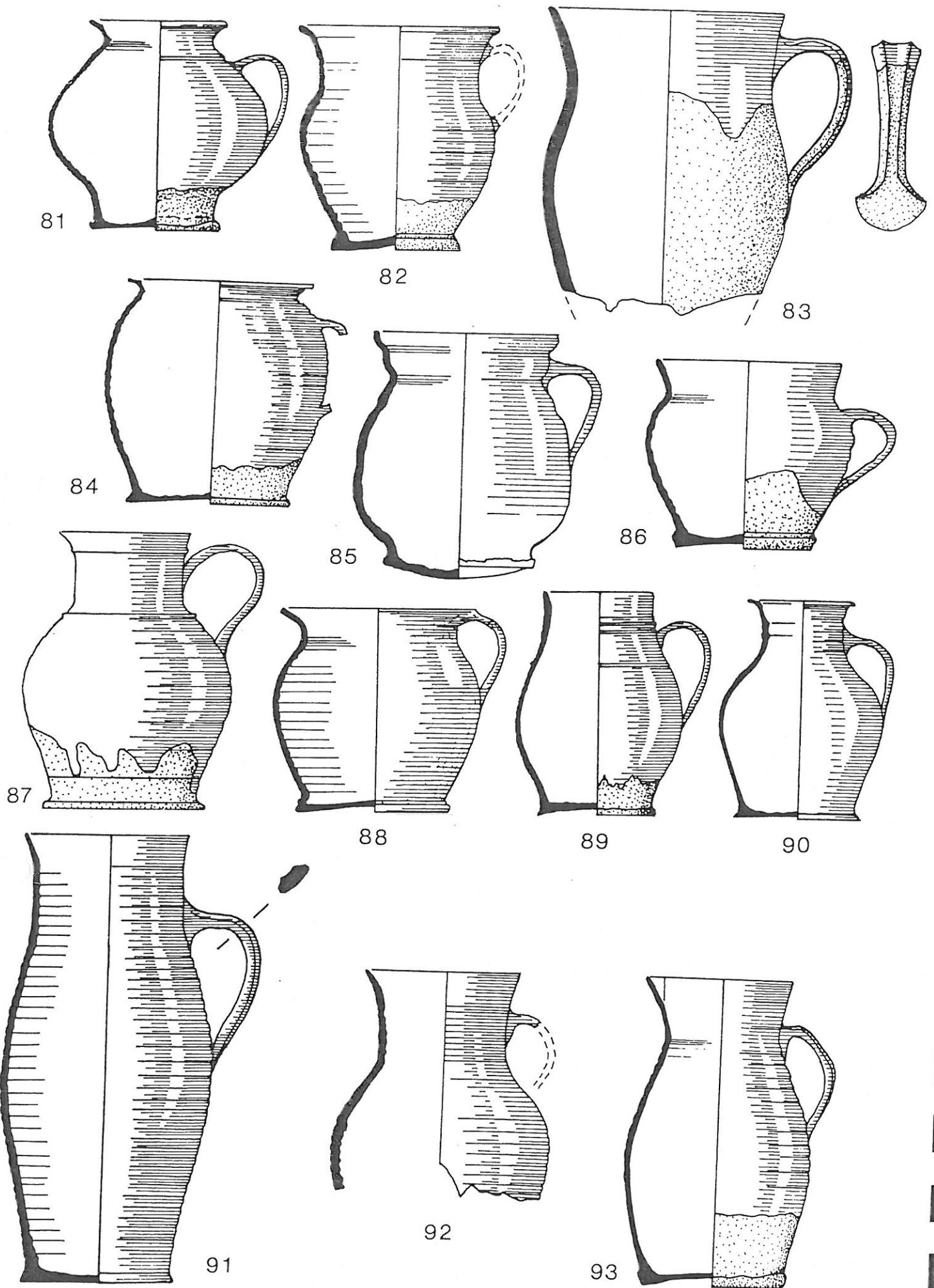
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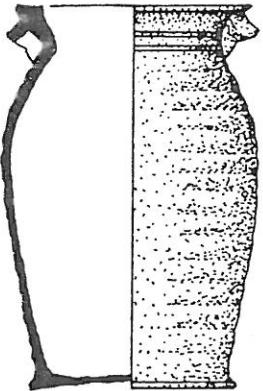
63. Bowl; fine dark red fabric, black slip inside and outside. (Br. S4; - ; BP 1286, 79).
64. Small cup; purplish red fabric. (BrC, S5/L8; - ; BP 1243, fig. 11).
65. Tapered cup; light reddish brown slip inside and outside. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; - ; NT/604, fig. 117).
66. Posset cup; red fabric. (BrC, L6/U4; ANT 114, Box 2; NT/604, fig. 118).
67. As no. 55, with high-set handle. (BrC, S5; - ; BP 1243, fig. 7).
68. Globular tankard; dark grey fabric with fine quartzite inclusions. (Br; - ; BP 1286, 82).
69. Globular tankard; hard grey fabric. (Br, S5-6; ANT 89, Box 2; BP 1286, 45).
70. Globular vessel; (Br, S5-6; - ; BP 1286, 45).
71. Large cup; red fabric. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; - ; NT/604, fig. 120).
72. Barrel-shaped vessel; light red fabric. (Br, S5-6; ANT 93, Box 1, BP 1286, 45).
73. Tankard; red fabric. (Br, S4-5; - ; BP 1286, 76).
74. Tankard base; light red fabric. (Br, S5-6; - ; BP 1286, 49).
75. Tankard; (Br; - ; BP 1286, 77).
76. Tyg; stumps of three equispaced low-set handles; pale pink fabric. (BrC, U10; - ; NT/605, fig. 183).
77. Tyg; three large looped-handles alternating with three groups of double scroll-handles. (BrC, U1; - ; NT/606).
78. Jar; light red fabric. (BrC, U10; - ; NT/605, fig. 182).
79. Stool pot; stump of vertical loop-handle attached to rim; hard light red fabric. (BrC, U10; ANT 133, no. 3; NT/590).
80. Vessel with everted scalloped rim; hard light red fabric; (Br; ANT 93, Box 3; BP 1286, 77).

Fig. 8. Thrown lead/iron-glazed hollow-ware. Scale 1:4.

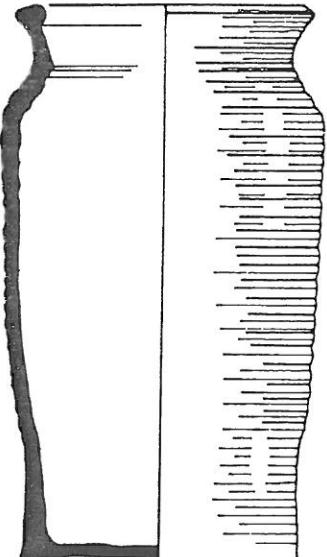


81. Jug; fine red fabric with quartzite inclusions; complete kiln-waster. (BrC, L5; - ; NT/604, fig. 123).
82. Jug; stumps of a single looped handle; red fabric with occasional grits. (BrC, U10, ANT 130; NT/590).
83. Jug; coarse, dark brown fabric, overfired. (Br, S7; ANT 93, Box 10; BP 1286, 78).
84. Jug; red fabric. (BrC, U2; - ; BP 1290, 40).
85. Jug; red fabric, overfired. (BrC; - ; NT/604, fig. 59).
86. Jug; red fabric. (BrC; - ; NT/604, fig. 60).
87. Jug; dark red fabric. (Br, S4; - ; BP 1286, 79).
88. Jug; hard, reddish-purple fabric; mottled black veins showing under glaze. (BrC, U5; - ; NT/512, fig. 147).
89. Jug; fine red fabric. (BrC, L5; - ; NT/604, fig. 124).
90. Jug; dark red fabric. (BrC, U2; - ; BP 1290, 42).
91. Jug. (Br, S6; ANT 93; BP 1286, 80).
92. Jug; pink fabric. (BrC, U10; - ; NT/605, fig. 179).
93. Jug; hard red fabric with quartzite inclusions; kiln-waster with ruptured base. (BrC, U12; ANT 132, no. 1; NT/590).

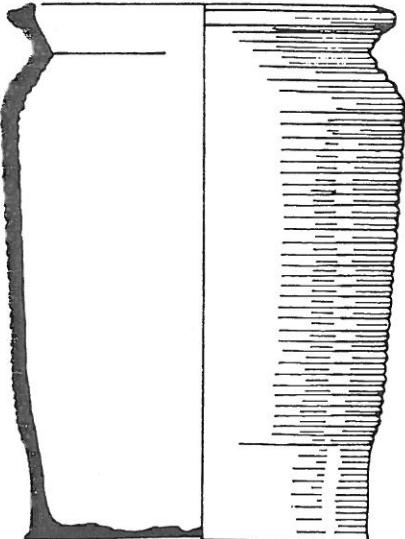
Fig. 9. Thrown lead/iron-glazed hollow-ware. Scale 1:4.



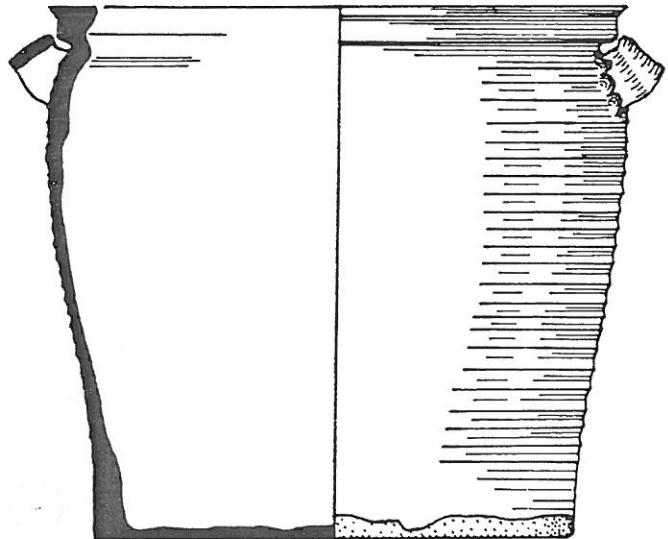
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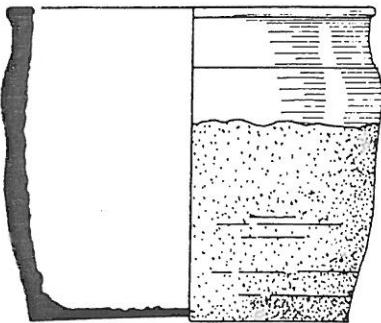
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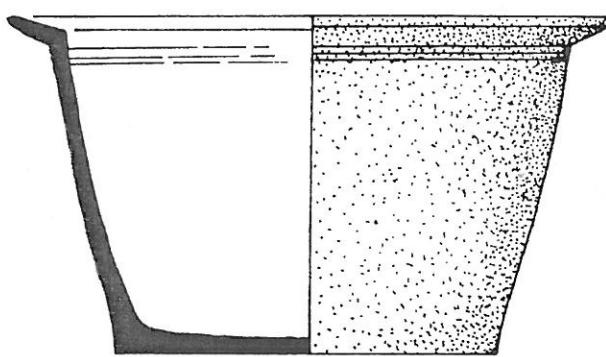
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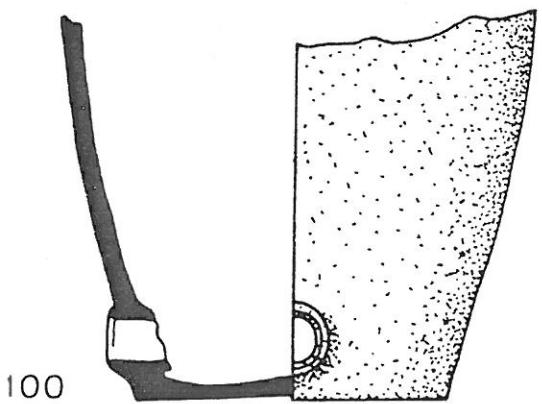
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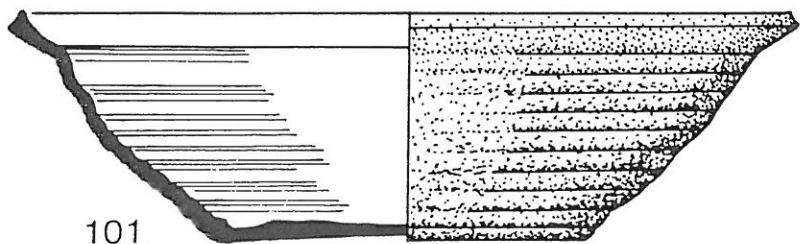
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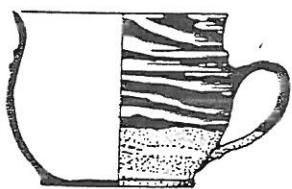
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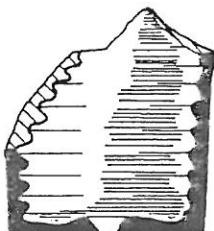
101

94. Storage vessel; two horizontal strap handles; reddish-purple fabric. (BrC, U2; - ; BP 1290, fig. 51c).
95. Storage vessel; red fabric. (BrC, L6/U1; - ; NT/604, fig. 19).
96. Storage vessel; hard pink fabric with blue-grey grit inclusions; waster. (BrC, U2; LR, no. 6; BP 1290, fig. 55).
97. Storage vessel; two horizontal strap handles; pink fabric with quartzite inclusions. (Br, S5-6; - ; BP 1286, 61).
98. Small storage vessel; hard, coarse, light red fabric with quartzite inclusions. (BrC, U10; - ; NT/590).
99. Pantheon; fine red fabric. (Br, S6; - ; BP 1286, 62).
100. Lower part of cistern; hard reddish-purple fabric with occasional grit inclusions. (BrC, S4/L4; - ; BP 1243, fig. 13).
101. Wide basin; hard light red fabric with quartzite inclusions. (BrC, U4; - ; BP 1366, fig. 6).

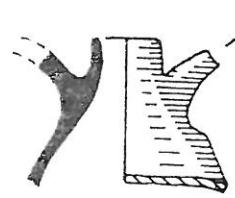
Fig. 10. Thrown lead/iron-glazed hollow-ware. Scale 1:4.



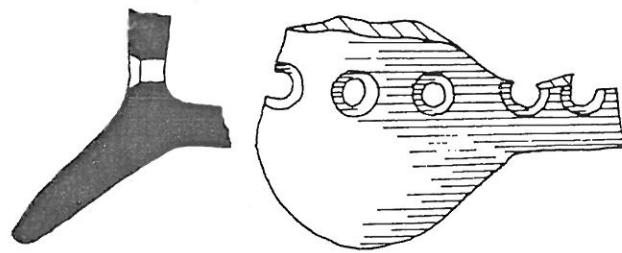
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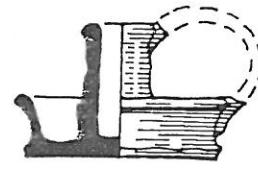
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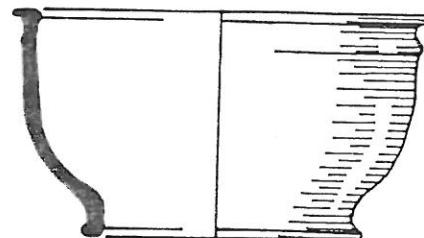
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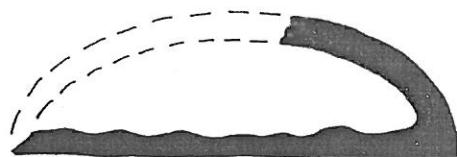
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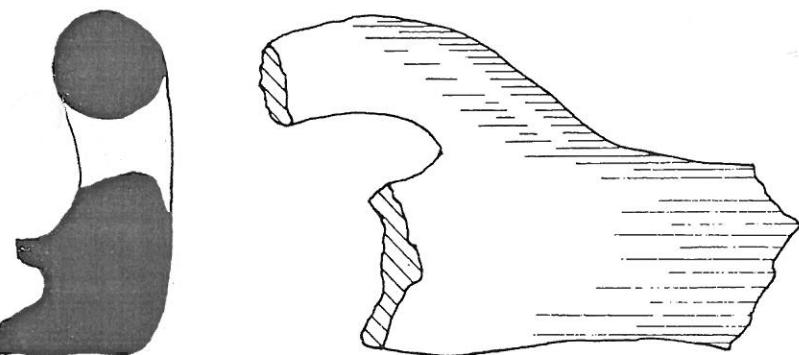


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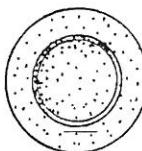


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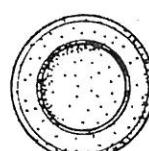
Oblique view



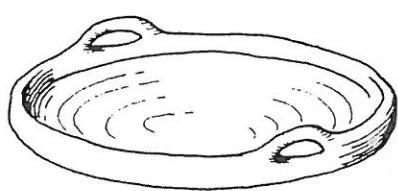
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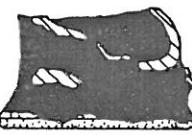
112



113

Possible complete  
appearance

114



115

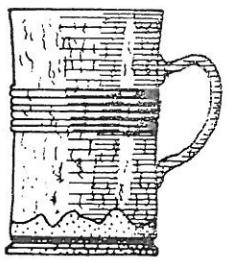
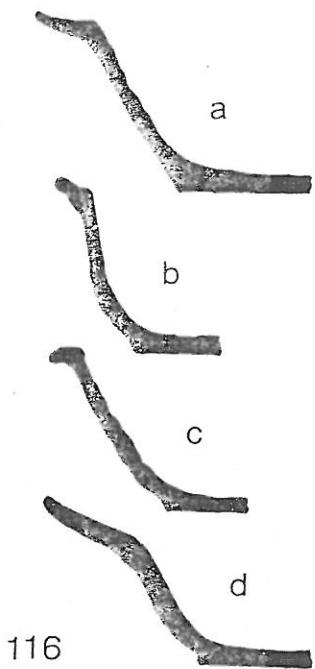
Miscellaneous (102-111)

102. Posset cup; red and buff 'agate' fabric. (Br, S2; ANT 93, Box 3; BP 1286, 63).
103. ?Flower pot (fragment); light red laminated fabric. (Br, S6; ANT 89, Box 10; BP 1286, 82).
104. Part of costrel; stumps of diametrically opposed handles on shoulder. (BrC; - ; NT/604, fig. 54).
105. Candlestick, with stump of single handle; fine red fabric. (Br, S6-7; - ; BP 1286, 56).
106. Fragment of collander; light red fabric. (Br; - ; BP 1286, 83).
107. Funnel-like vessel; two narrow, flat rims at either end, bevelled on inside edge; hard pale-red fabric with fine quartzite inclusions. (Br, S2-4; ANT 89, Box 7; BP 1286, 68).
108. Domed vessel (?fly trap); red fabric; unglazed except for under surface of base. (BrC, S2; - ; BP 1243, fig. 27).
109. Ridge tile; three spines on ridge; upper edges bevelled and underside scored with parallel scratches; red fabric, glazed on outer surface. (BrC, L4; - ; NT/604, fig. 55).
110. Bird; reddish-purple fabric, sparsely glazed. (Br, S4; ANT 89, Box 10; BP 1286, 82).
111. Fragment of flatware handle; coarse, brown, granular fabric with pebble inclusions. (Br, S4; - ; BP 1286, 58).

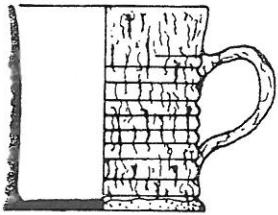
Thrown, 'chocolate'-dipped, lead-glazed hollow-ware (112-115)

112. Tankards with three-ring and five-ring bases, countersunk; buff fabric. (Br, S5-6; ANT 93, Box 3; BP 1286, 49).
113. Tyg base; stumps of three equispaced handles; light red fabric. (Br, S6; - ; BP 1286, 73).
114. Tyg base; fine buff fabric. (Br, S6; ANT 89, Box 3; BP 1286, 73).

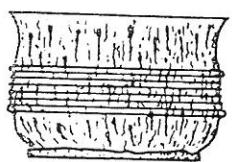
Fig. 11. Miscellaneous: 102-111. Thrown, 'chocolate'-dipped, lead-glazed hollow-ware: 112-115.  
Scales: 106, 108, 111, 114, 115, 1:2; 109, 1:12;  
110, 1:1; the rest, 1:4.



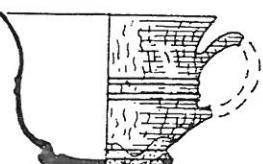
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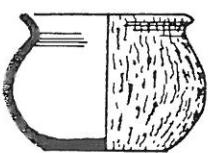
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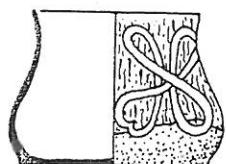
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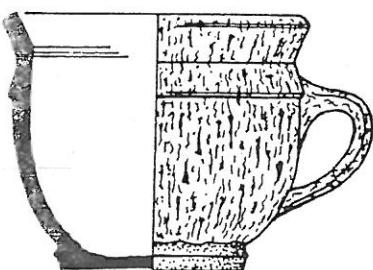
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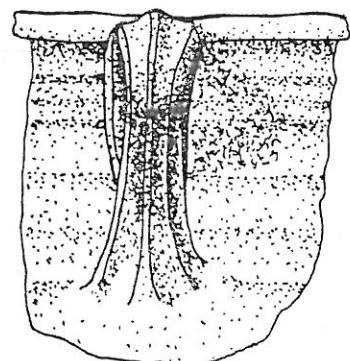
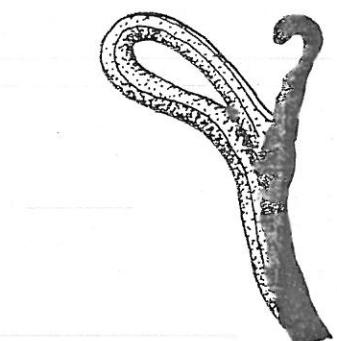
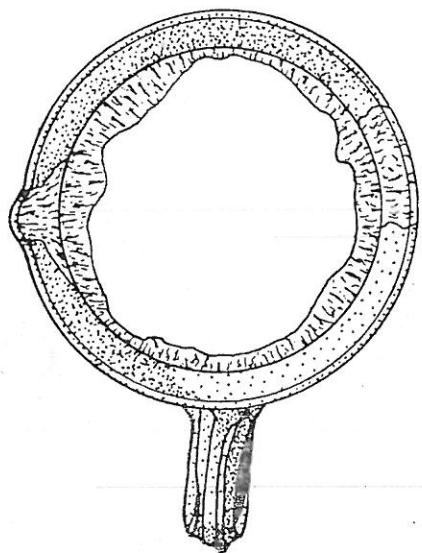
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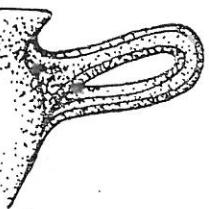
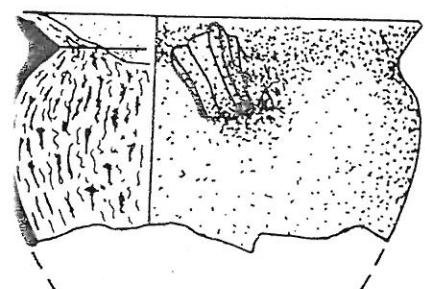
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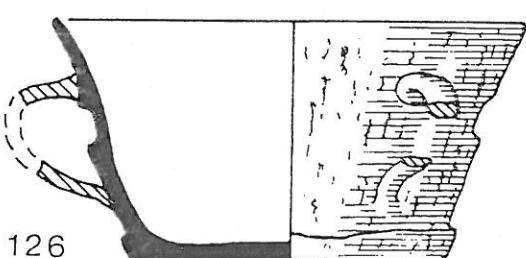
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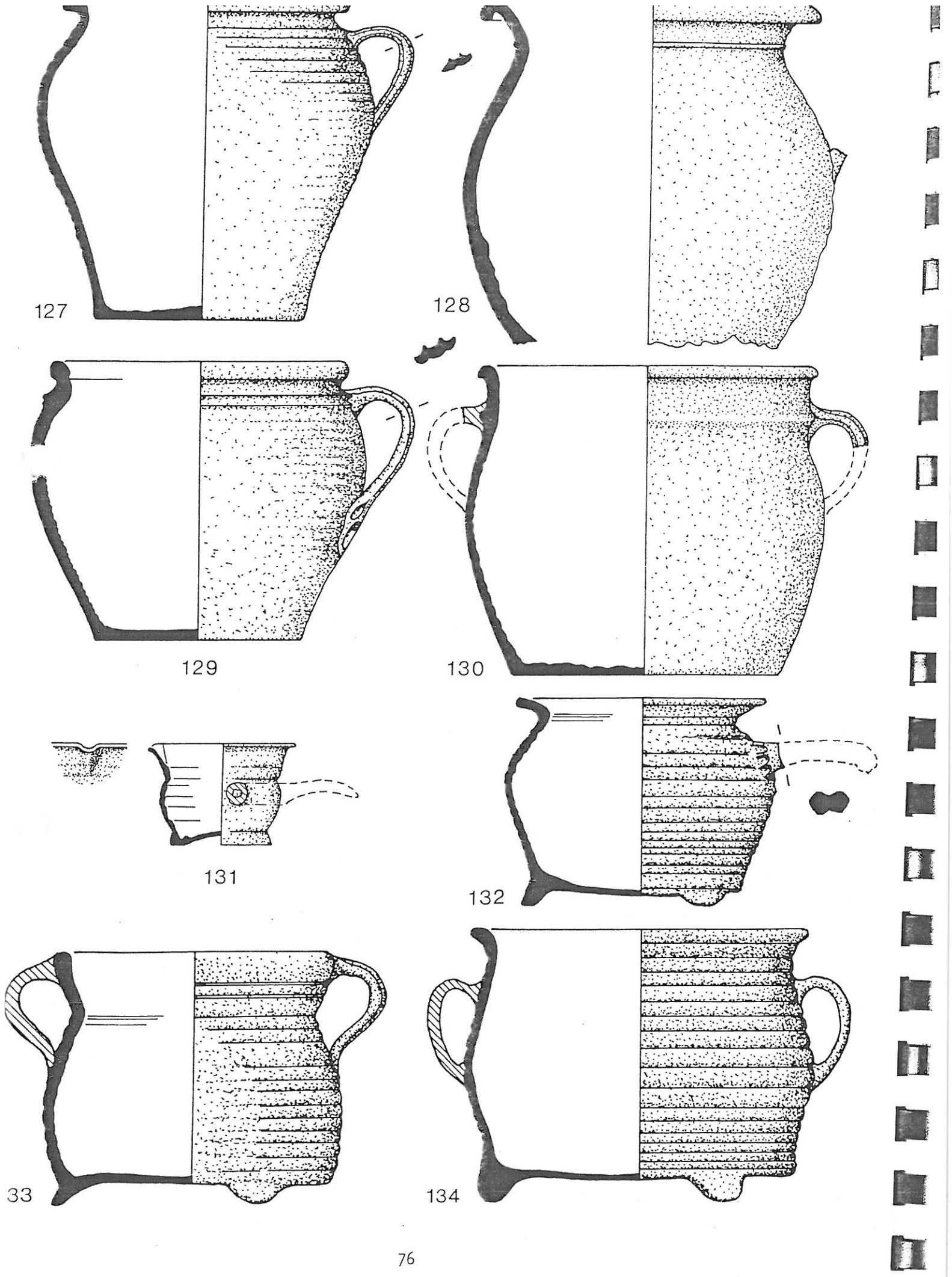
128



Thrown, mottle-glazed ware (116-126)

116. Dish sections; (a) 28cm diameter; (b) 30cm; (c) 30cm; (d) 34cm; buff fabric. (Br, S5-6; ANT 89, Box 20; BP 1286, 48).
117. Tankard; pale red fabric with grit inclusions; turned foot-ring. (Br, S5-6; ANT 122, Box 1; BP 1286, 49).
118. Tankard; fine, light red fabric with creamy grit inclusions. (Br, S4; - ; BP 1286, 50).
119. Bowl; glazed inside and out. (Br, S5-6; - ; BP 1286, 45).
120. Cup; buff fabric; glazed inside and out. (Br, S4-5; - ; BP 1286, 79).
121. Bowl; pale yellow fabric with quartzite inclusions. (Br, S7; ANT 89, Box 2; BP 1286, 47).
122. Bowl; white slip-trailed 'H' on exterior. (Br; - ; BP 1286, 46).
123. Chamber pot; light red fabric. (Br; ANT 93, Box 3; BP 1286, 83).
124. ?Cooking pot; fine buff fabric with occasional quartzite inclusions; crudely swilled internal glaze. (Br, S5; - ; BP 1286, 44).
125. ?Cooking pot (fragment); fine, dark brown fabric with white grog inclusions, glazed on inside only. (Br, S5; - ; BP 1286, 82).
126. Large tapered three handled vessel; hard laminated pale red fabric; white slip-coated under mottled glaze. (Br, S3; ANT 89, Box 21; BP 1286, 78).

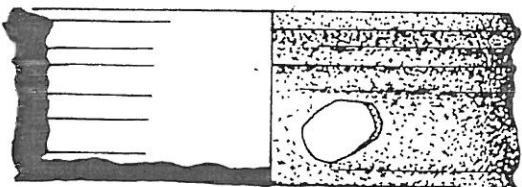
Fig. 12. Thrown, mottle-glazed ware: 116a-d flat-ware; 117-126 hollow-ware. Scales: 116, 1:3; the rest, 1:4.



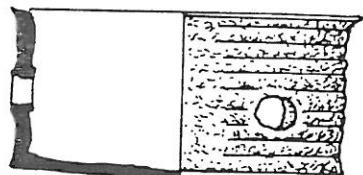
Thrown coarse-wares (127-134)

127. Storage vessel; hard reddish-purple fabric with quartzite inclusions. (BrC, S4/L4; - ; BP 1243, fig. 12).
128. Cooking pot; stump of loop handle; buff fireclay fabric with coarse grit inclusions. (BrC, U11; - ; NT/605, fig. 185).
129. Cooking vessel; coarse buff fireclay fabric with quartzite inclusions; external surface coated with black scaly deposits. (Br, S6-7; ANT 89, Box 1; BP 1286, 42).
130. Cooking vessel; two handles; coarse, red, grogged fabric, heavily sooted externally. (Br, S5; ANT 89, Box 17; BP 1286, 76).
131. Pipkin; stump of circular-sectioned handle; hard red fabric with cream and black inclusions. (BrC, U12; ANT 132, no. 2; NT/590).
132. Tripod cooking pot; stump of handle; coarse buff fireclay fabric; white slip coated and pale yellow glaze inside. (BrC, L6 U1-U2; ANT 106; NT/604, 27).
133. Tripod cooking pot, as no. 132. (BrC, U2; ANT 97; BP 1290, fig. 48).
134. Tripod cooking pot; two opposed handles; coarse buff granular fireclay fabric with iron wash finger stains. (BrC, S5/L8; ANT 97; BP 1243, fig. 2).

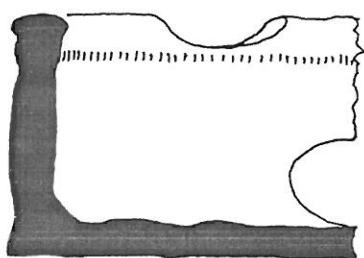
Fig. 13. Thrown coarse-wares. Scale 1:4.



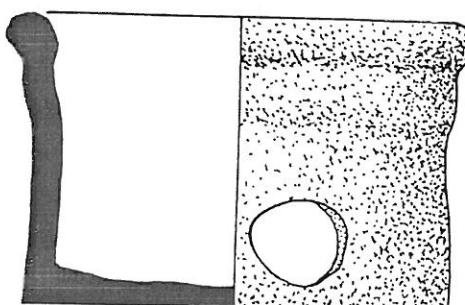
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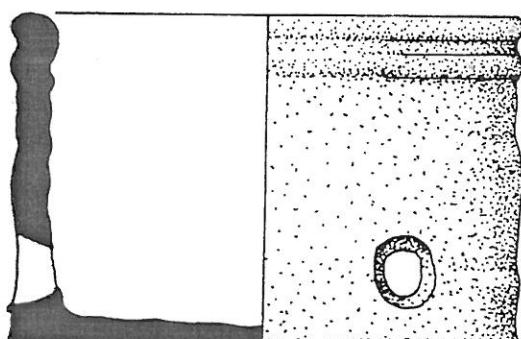
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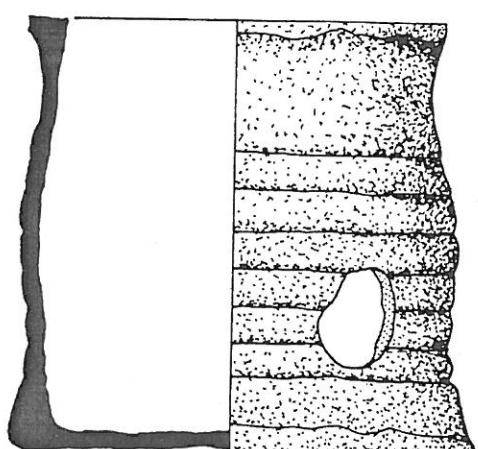
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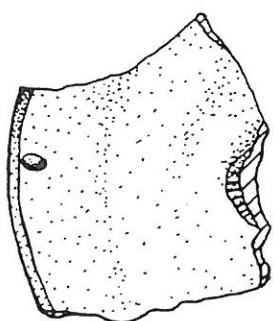
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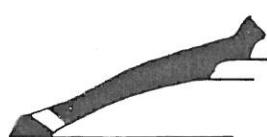
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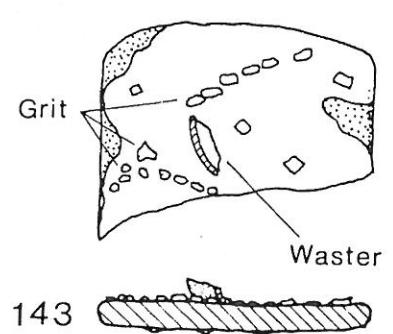
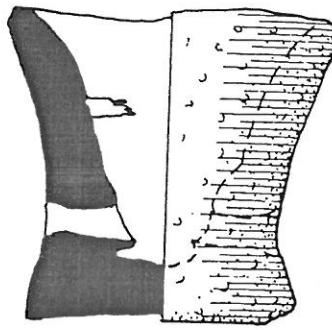
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141



142



143

Kiln furniture (135-143)

135. Sagger; four vents; coarse, dark buff fabric. (BrC, L6/U1-U2; - ; NT/604, fig. 11).
136. Sagger; four equispaced vents; coarse, grey/buff fireclay fabric. (BrC, U5; - ; NT/512, fig. 135).
137. Sagger (fragment), vent and scooped rim; coarse buff fabric with grog inclusions. (Br, S7; - ; BP 1286, 39).
138. Sagger; coarse buff fabric with grog inclusions; surface splashed with glaze. (Br, S7; - ; BP 1286, 39).
139. Sagger; four equispaced tapered vents; coarse buff fireclay fabric with grit inclusions; interior clean and glaze-free. (Br/BrC; - ; NT/590, B2).
140. Sagger; three vents; coarse buff fabric with grog inclusions. (BrC, F4/U4; - ; BP 1366, fig. 11).
141. Sagger ?lid; coarse fireclay fabric. (Br; ANT 89, Box 22; BP 1286, 61).
142. Vented kiln prop; walls pierced with two diametrically opposed vent holes near bottom; thin glaze on outside, thicker, absorbed glaze on inside and in vents. (Br, S2; ANT 93, Box 12; BP 1286, 41).
143. Bat (fragment); long sides parallel, short sides curved; coarse buff fireclay fabric with grit and siliceous inclusions; upper surface covered with glaze and grit deposits. (Br/BrC; - ; NT/590, B1).

Fig. 14. Kiln furniture. Scale: 1:4.

## DISCUSSION

The excavations at Brookhill add enormously to our understanding of the development of the Buckley pottery industry. Apart from the collection of medieval wasters from field walking in nearby Ewloe<sup>9</sup>, this material pre-dates all other finds by about half a century. Not only are there much larger quantities of pottery involved, but the range is much greater than that of the Pinfold Lane Pottery (Site 2) previously excavated by Messrs. Bentley and Harrison.<sup>10</sup>

The development of the industry in Buckley can be seen by comparing the two main phases of activity on the site and thus getting a measure of the changes which took place between c. 1640 and c. 1720. The major wares present can be summarised as follows:-

### Earlier Activity (c. 1640-1660)

Slip-trailed dishes (9, 12, 13) and basins (41, 42).  
Sgraffito dishes, some with bestiary designs (1-6).  
Marbled slipwares (43 - many more occur in isolated kilns).  
Yellow-coated, red- and buff-bodied wares (20, 45 - the Buckley equivalent of Midland Yellow).  
Figures (26).  
Moulds for embossed ware (24, 25).  
Tall beakers and biconical vessels in red earthenware and yellow trailed-slip designs (28, 30, 50, 31).  
Simple cups with slip-trailed decoration (32-35).  
Lead/iron-glazed chafing dishes (38), pedestal cups (51-55) and tygs (56, 59, 60, 77).  
Squat jugs (81, 84, 89, 90).  
Large straight-sided storage vessels (94-96).  
Fish-tail and pressed lug-handles (57, 58, 61, 62).  
Large, coarse, fireclay cooking pots (132-134).  
Ridge tiles (109).  
Coarsely made saggers (135, 140 - possibly mass produced on the site).

### Later Activity (c. 1690-1720)

Crude slip-trailed dishes with a variety of designs (14, 15, 17).  
Jewelled wares (46, 47).  
Press-moulded dishes (21-23).  
'Chocolate'-dipped wares (112-115).  
'Elegant' lead/iron-glazed vessels (63, 68, 69, 70, 72, 80).  
Tankards (73-75).  
Large, well proportioned jugs (83, 87, 91).  
Open-mouthed storage vessels with complex rims (97).  
Agate ware (102).  
Mottled wares (116-126).  
Large cooking pots with refined bodies and forms (129-130).  
Well-made saggars (137, 138, 141).  
Clay pipes of Thomas Heyes - almost certainly made on or near the site.<sup>11</sup>

While it is clear that products of the later period lack the finish and range of similar Staffordshire products (and there are no stone-wares), the earliest material is almost on a par with Staffordshire parallels and does include some material, such as the sgraffito wares, early figures and moulds, not significantly present in Staffordshire at this time. Their early date in Buckley must leave the precise relationship between Buckley and the Midlands of England somewhat in doubt. It seems reasonable to suggest that influences need not invariably have been in one direction. Some of the coarse storage vessels and sgraffito wares may in any case be more closely related to the North Devon industries, although the Buckley material is very distinctive.

Further work needs to establish, if possible, the earlier post-medieval origins of the industry. It may be that Brookhill marks the first real expansion of activity in Buckley, based on the use of fireclay saggers. It seems more likely, however, that use of specialised clays began in the later medieval period with the production of hard white wares at Ewloe, and that continuity of production may be established. Equally important to research now is the systematic, rather than casual study of the finds from all the Buckley sites, and the establishment of a fabric type series on a scientific basis. This

must be linked with the excavation of post-medieval domestic sites in Wales and beyond, which might help establish both a chronological and a marketing framework for the industry.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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