

# EXCAVATIONS AT MAGIOVINIUM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, 1978-80

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Section 8 of 11:

## THE COARSE POTTERY: THE HISTOGRAMS

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### EASY ON-LINE ACCESS TO FIGURES AND PLATES:

This report runs to a total of 137 printed pages, which makes it too large for publication on-line as a single digital file. The report has therefore been split into eleven separate sections. Each can be downloaded separately and saved locally.

The report contains 56 drawings ('figures') and 12 photographs ('plates'). For ease of access these have all been saved into a single file titled 'Magiovinium – figures and plates'. The reader should open (or download) this file when reading any of the report's 11 sections. Individual illustrations referenced in the text can then be found by searching for 'Figure XX' or 'Plate XX', where 'XX' is the number of the figure or plate you wish to view.

The full details for academic source references given in the text can be found in the 11<sup>th</sup> and last section of the report: 'A bibliography of Magiovinium'.

### *The Histograms (Fig. 49)*

The constituent elements upon which the form and fabric tables and histograms are based are taken from the results of computer programs.

#### Histogram 1

This illustrates each of the *major* fabrics on Site 17 as a percentage of the total vessel rims. It will be seen that the common grey fabric 44, which may be considered as a local fabric very similar to those from the Caldecotte 2 kilns, together with its black-ware counterpart Fabric 7, produced over a quarter of the total count. These fabrics were used in a wide variety of forms, from those based upon 'Belgic' tradition to the purely Roman. Fabric 18 at 12½ per cent was the predominant shell-tempered fabric, appearing in a wide variety of forms and rim variations but with little or no change in its fabric throughout its long date range. The 'native' fabrics 26 and 46 progressed into fabrics 14 and 73 and remained in production until the advent of large numbers of shell-tempered wares. However, storage jars, as pot Nos. 254-6, were still present in late fourth-century groups such as 18,492,

The London area material (Fabric 3) at 6% is surprisingly large but specific forms are represented including many with white slips and lattice decoration.

The six remaining major fabrics each contributed about 2 per cent of the total rim numbers and these also tended to be from specific forms. The Verulamium region, represented by Fabric 45, supplied flagons and mortaria while the kilns from Much Hadham (Fabric 50) produced a number of late oxidized wares; Fabric 49, from the Oxford Kilns, is a white ware and Fabrics 13 and 38 are from an unknown source.

#### Histogram 2

This presents a count of major vessel types and gives the percentage of each form against the total number. As can be seen, jars at 44 per cent and bowls at 22.3 per cent dominate, with storage jars, dishes and beakers having roughly equal numbers at 8.29 per cent, 7.96 per cent and 7.89 per cent respectively.

#### Histogram 3

This shows the wares or industries present, as represented by vessel rims, as percentages of the whole from Sites 17 and 18. It illustrates changes in the balance of wares and seems to reinforce the differences in dates of occupation, although the comparative numbers are very disparate. The later aspects of Site 18 show up particularly in the greater number of shell-gritted wares, the rise of Oxford wares and the decline of the grey sandy types, whereas the figures for the native wares remain fairly static. There is, however, some change in the native forms which have more Roman characteristics and the fabrics evolve to the more sandy Fabric 73 types (see [Fig. 49.1](#) and list of fabric descriptions pp. 58-62). There is a significant increase in the percentage of samian rims on site 18 from 6.33 per cent to 8.88 per cent, proportionately a high amount. This may indicate some shift in domestic occupation because of the increasing industrialization of Site 17 but more likely the cremation burials, each with a samian dish, distort the picture.

[Fig. 50](#) illustrates the fabric/form series by presenting the major fabrics or industries in the majority of their forms. Imported fabrics and forms are not included in the table nor are those which occur as a single vessel. In order to make the table more manageable, some similar fabrics which appear in similar forms in the major industries have been combined. Thus Oxford white wares. Fabric 41 and 49, appear as 49 and Nene Valley colour-coated fabrics as 10. Variants of forms are included within single categories in the table, thus the 5.43 (Pot Nos. 37 and 38), an Oxford parchment-ware form, covers the similar carinated bowls made from Fabrics 7 and 44. The dimpled bowl form 5.19 (Pot No. 45) and 5.23 (Pot No. 46) has counterparts in the same local fabrics, sometimes with an obvious attempt at similar decoration. The 5.21 flanged bowl (Pot No. 30) is a rare form at Magiovinium, but is paralleled at Skeleton Green and Braughing, Herts (Partridge 1981, 92, Fig. 46, form 45). In the cremation group, Context 17-1539, this form of bowl had been inverted

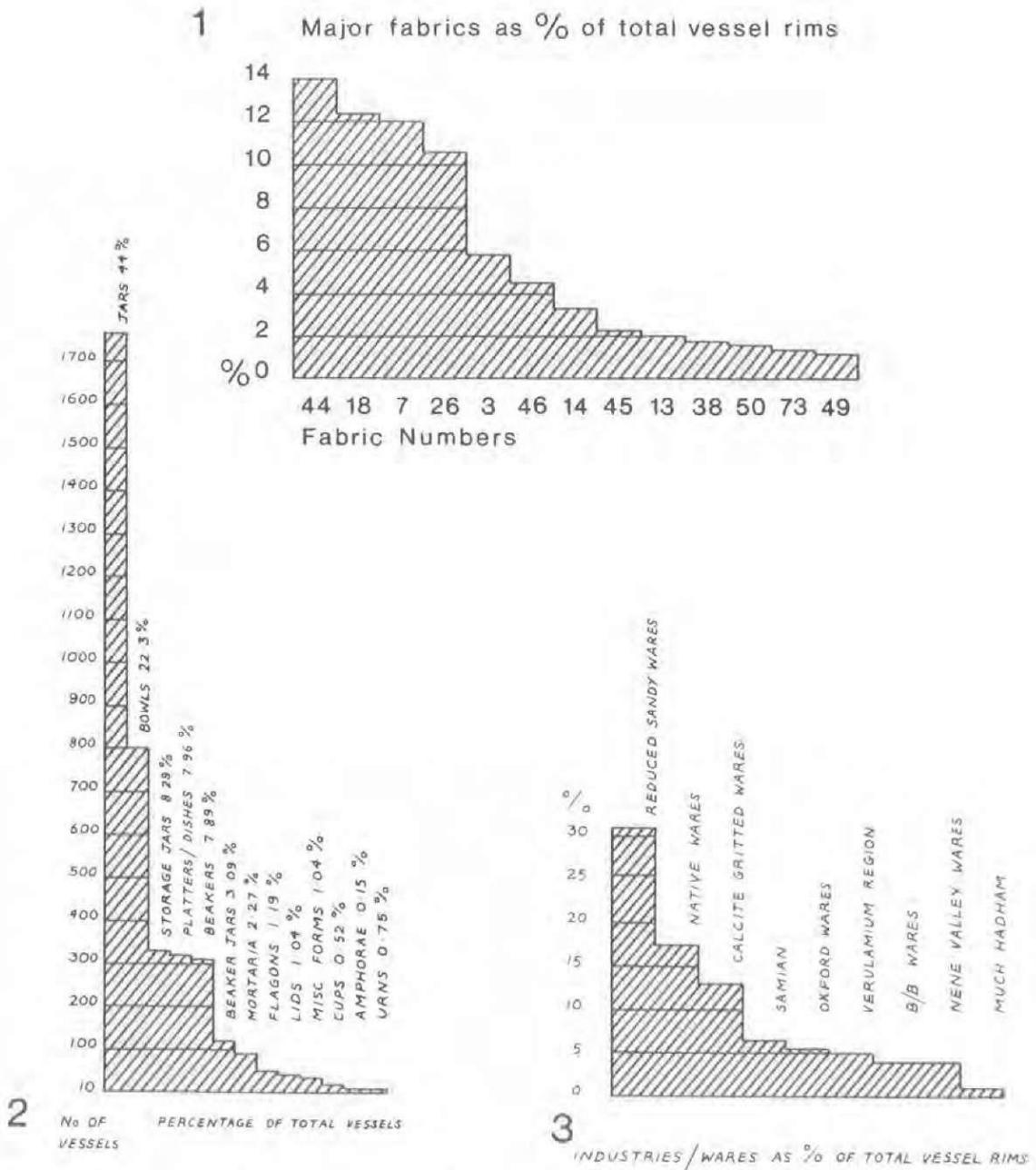


Fig. 49. Histograms 1-3: percentages of principal pottery fabrics.

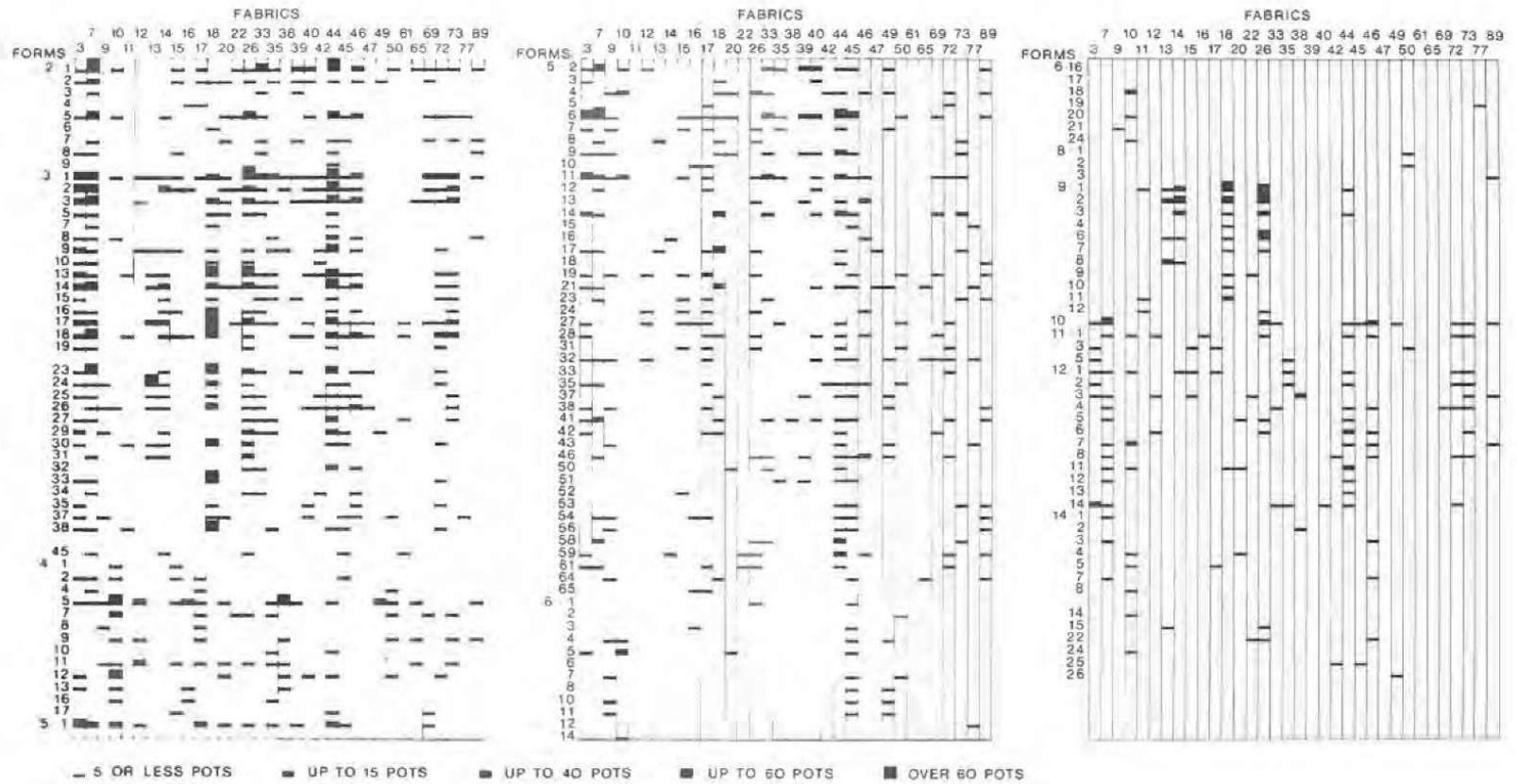


Fig. 50. Form and fabric series.

over an urn and used as a lid, however; other reeded-rimmed bowls with deeply angled flanges have been accommodated within this form.

Table 1 displays the major fabrics by weight and sherd count (including rims) and again minor fabrics have been excluded. Although this information is supplied, its validity is questionable: as expected, the ratio of fabrics, weight to count, reflects the proportion of the individual vessel shown on Histogram 1,

Table 1. Major fabrics by weight and count.

Fabrics	Weight (g)	Count	Fabrics	Weight (g)	Count
3	20584	1335	45	14460	657
6	255	3	46	9087	613
7	46550	2744	47	2150	80
9	8060	287	48	1670	76
10	8092	838	49	7207	374
11	1540	46	50	853	86
12	1412	153	54	1086	95
13	45495	1448	57	1840	46
14	58035	1637	58	140	28
15	2767	130	65	435	38
16	920	65	69	1945	145
17	1045	75	70	523	51
18	131647	4691	71	360	8
20	825	68	72	7535	457
22	1605	100	73	5500	449
23	12040	145	74	2400	197
24	1960	131	75	205	20
26	195362	7566	77	3075	100
33	9228	588	79	100	15
35	2720	237	80	175	24
38	3169	326	81	155	20
39	1215	74	82	1490	136
40	2120	109	91	30	5
41	430	25	92	205	26
42	2670	261	93	420	22
44	102294	5396			

### Discussion

There are a number of sites in mid Buckinghamshire which have produced 'native' or Belgic pottery and several of these settlements are close to Magiovinium including Saffron Gardens (Waugh *et al.* 1974, 373) located near a silted-up bed of the River Ouzel less than 1 km away (Fig. 51). The pottery here provided good parallels, both in fabric and forms, with many of the vessels present at Magiovinium, in particular two groups from the roadside ditch 2131. Contexts 1710 and 1751 produced pottery made from the 'native' fabrics only and may be

considered to be of the early first century. No later pottery was present.

The most conspicuous form found at Saffron Gardens was the hollow cordoned beaker fully discussed by Waugh *et al.* (1974, 380). This form was found at Magiovinium in context 17-1751 (Pit No. 221) together with a girth beaker (Pot No. 52), a butt-beaker with shallow girth grooving and two small jars with slashed bead rims; all the pottery was in native fabric 26. The hollow cordoned beaker occurs at Magiovinium in other contexts and in later fabrics with variations in the number of cordons, the lower body form, shape of the rim and in general dimensions. Similar types have been found at Fenny Stratford, Emberton and Cornborough in Buckinghamshire (Waugh *et al.* 1974, 375) but when found at Fulhamium (Frere 1972, Fig. 100, Pot 35) a late first to early second-century context, it was considered to be residual but post-conquest. The same form has recently been found near Ampthill, Bedfordshire (Frere *et al.* 1975, comm.), again in a native fabric and used there as a cremation urn. The evidence of these vessels in both pre- and post-conquest contexts and their distribution in the north of Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire and the south of Northamptonshire is also discussed by Waugh. Among the pottery from 17-1751 are two vessels represented by bases only, both in fabric 26. The first was a highly finished tall pedestal paralleled locally at Wotton Blossomville, Bucks (Waugh *et al.* 1974, Fig. 12, 401, form 27) and at Skeleton Green, Herts (Partridge 1981, 94, Fig. 47, forms 65-6). The second was a tazza type (Pot No. 268) with a pedestal base and only the lower part of the body remaining. Its form cannot be paralleled locally but it is similar in type and dimension to pottery found at Welwyn, Herts (Birchall 1965, 335, form 105) and Billericay, Essex (*ibid.*, 342, form 166). Context 1708 contained pottery which was still of the native 26/46 group, but with forms more comparable to those from the early post-conquest groups at Skeleton Green (Partridge 1981, Fig. 23), especially the bowl No. 219 which appears similar to an early Drag. 37, but its typically native cordons may owe more to



Fig. 51. Plan showing locations of pottery producing sites supplying Magiovinium,

the Gallo-Belgic tradition (Rodwell 1978, 270). See also Pot Nos. 125, 149, 219 and 244 for other vessels in the group.

The similarities between the material from Saffron Gardens and Magiovinium in both vessel forms and their dates would suggest contemporary occupation of both the riverside sites and those on higher land. There are indications of gradual change in

the fabrics from the native ceramic-tempered material to the sandier types. In the mid to late first century the 26 and 46 change; the clays become smoother and the ceramic tempering finer. The vessel colour also changes, the highly burnished black wares become more grey or grey-brown and the oxidized wares a brighter orange-red. These fabrics are listed in the fabric discussion

under Nos. 14, 22 and 73. Their further development into true Romanized sandy wares comes with the influx of the 44 and 7 fabrics in the early second century. In these groups, however, the fabric types shade into each other, and the periods of production overlap. The forms remain much the same, indeed traditional jars including bead-rimmed, ledged and hollow cordoned beakers are still being produced, but the range broadens to include rarer types such as the tripod bowl (Pot No. 48) and the ledged triple vase (Pot No. 173).

In 1978 during excavations at Caldecotte, Milton Keynes (Caldecotte forthcoming) a small kiln was found which had been producing butt-beakers, girth-beakers and large storage jars in 'native' fabric types, similar to fabric 26. In 1982 a second kiln was excavated whose forms and fabrics were dated from the late first to the early second centuries and whose products are recognizable as having characteristics of both the 14 and 22 and the 44 and 7 groups at Magiovinium. The significance to the town of the Caldecotte kilns is that they may represent evidence for a local supplier and also that they show the transition of the Belgic fabrics to the more standard Roman types. Although the 44 and 7 groups of fabrics at Magiovinium have no definite production site, there are similarities between them and the Caldecotte fabrics which possibly indicate a fairly local origin. There are some resemblances both in the fabrics and forms to pottery from the Fulmer/Hedgerley area and indeed some vessels may have come from those kilns (Oakley *et al.* 1937; Corder 1943; Tarrant and Sandford 1972), but the forms in 44 and 7 are rather less sophisticated in finish and it seems more likely that their provenance is local, perhaps copying the more refined wares supplied to the town via Watling Street. The trading of pottery to Magiovinium from the north-east is further emphasized by the quantity of shell-tempered vessels found there. These vary little in fabric and it seems likely that their source lies along the Great Ouse. This is the major shell-tempered pottery production area and had access to markets in north Buckinghamshire, possibly by water transport. Although the value of water transport is more apparent in the pre- or

early conquest period, the advance and completion of Watling Street would have opened an even wider range of markets.

This ware comprises many forms but only two distinct fabrics, Fabrics 18 and II. The former was originally divided into three types (18, 19 and 76) but after analysis by Dr David Williams they were amalgamated under Fabric 18. Fabric 11 is coarser and tends to be confined to the cruder vessels which are paralleled for example at Bromham in Bedfordshire (Tilson 1973), Pot Nos. 325, 326 and 328 (fabric report by Dr D. Williams, p. 97). The date range of Fabric 18 is extensive—from first-century jars with slashed rims, through many variants of ledged jars to the later products of the fourth century from the Harrold kilns (Hall and Nicholson 1966). The earliest forms are well-paralleled at Thornborough (Johnson 1975, Figs. 15-18), Danstead Way, Milton Keynes (Adkins 1977, Fig. 2) and again at Saffron Gardens (Waugh *et al.* 1974, Figs. 4-14), and at the first two are found with Fabric 26 forms. The provenance of these early shell-tempered wares could be similar to that for the later types since kilns, for example at Clapham, Beds have been given a first-century date (Tilson 1973). Indeed there is some evidence for a late Iron Age kiln at Harrold (Hall and Nicholson 1966). When the forms in the Fabric IS were compared with the range of types produced at the Harrold kilns most were represented in large numbers, from the second to the later fourth/early fifth century. [Fig. 50](#) gives an estimated count of these forms and the Form Series gives the appropriate dates. A few fine well-made bowls. Form 5.42 (Pot No. 278) do not appear to be Harrold products but the form itself is paralleled at the nearby site of Felmersham (Watson 1949).

The trade along Watling Street is confirmed by groups of pottery which are either specific forms from an industry or those with a particular finish or appearance. Flagon and mortaria came from kilns in the Verulamium region together with several distinct bowl and jar forms. The Fulmer/Hedgerley kilns (Oakley *et al.* 1937, 276) seem to have traded pie-dishes (Form 5.6) decorated with white slip. The fine

grey wares in Fabric 3, generally decorated with a simple white slip over the rim and neck but often treated more elaborately, seem to be paralleled at Verulamium, Fulmer and Highgate (Brown and Sheldon 1974). Many are close in form and date to vessels from Alice Holt (Lyne and Jefferies 1979) and Staines (Crouch 1976). Two late forms from Site 18, a flagon and a bowl, have been identified by M. Lynes as forms 8.11 and SB.9 dated 270-420 from Alice Holt (pers. comm.) but are single confirmed examples only. Most of these wares are likely to be from a variety of kiln sites using geologically similar clay deposits and to have a southerly provenance, perhaps around the Greater London area. A micaceous black-grey ware. Fabric 69, appearing in a variety of well-finished forms, is now definitely provenanced as a London kiln product and must be the result of a small but regular trade from there (Dr P. Tyer, pers. comm.).

Fabric 38 produced a considerable number of vessels, the most common being a small beaker with bands of rouletted decoration and a simple rim. However, the same fabric is found in a folded beaker with a small curved everted rim and good mica gilding (Pot No. 104). Several other forms, both beakers and jars, are represented and it is possible that two small sherds with glossy brown glaze over rouletted decoration may be from the same unknown kilns.

Trading of pottery from a north-easterly direction is further indicated by the presence of second and third-century grey wares from the Nene Valley, together with a steady and continuing supply of colour-coated wares culminating in the late fourth-century group from Site 18, Context 18-492. This contained two colour-coated flagons (Pot No. 74), a colour-coated base (Pot No. 175), two colour-coated rimless bowls and a small jar (Pot No. 100). Among other wares in the group were shell-tempered jars from Harrold and several Oxford colour-coated necked bowls (Pot No. 47). There was also a skillet type handle in Fabric IS (Pot No. 334); two accompanying coins were dated c.364-78.

Pottery from most of the Oxfordshire kilns is present in small numbers. White wares included, unexpectedly, one or two vessels in 'gritted white ware'<sup>1</sup> but their sherd count is quite small (see [Fig. 49.1](#)). Present also is a scatter of vessels in reduced wares but the main supply appears as a range of oxidized beakers, mostly with rouletted decoration, followed by a more regular occurrence of many forms of colour-coated bowls. The miniature folded beaker Form 4.2v (Pot No. 96), although not appearing in the published corpus of colour-coated forms, has been identified by Dr C. J. Young as an Oxford product. Several oxidized vessels are also present from Much Hadham, perhaps a late trade, but if some of the unprovenanced grey wares originate from this source, it would simply be the continuation of an earlier industry.

#### *Pottery from Context 567*

This group (Nos. 335-65, [Fig. 45](#) and [Fig. 46](#)) came from a small gully (760, [Fig. 9](#)) and contained about 70 vessels, of which 32 are illustrated. It was decided to publish them to show the range of material, both because of its congruity and the condition of the surviving pieces. The group is no later than the mid second century.

Fabrics 44 and 7 together make up two thirds of the vessels, marking the Romanization of the native forms and the rising ratio of sandy wares, although Fabric 26 still makes up a dozen of the heavier pots. Some of the vessels maintain strong native characteristics evident in such forms as the carinated bowls and cups (Pot Nos. 341-5), the shouldered bowl (Pot No. 356), jars with or without rim ledges, and the platters (Pot Nos. 335-7). Among the finer vessels is platter No. 337, which is mica-dusted. The forms and fabrics of context 567 are listed and illustrated separately (pp. 70, 86, 87), but the following forms in the group only appear in the main Form Series; these include a dimpled bowl as No. 46, likely to be from the same source as 340, flagons from the Verulamium area, Nos. 69 and 73, a Highgate poppy-headed beaker, No. 105, and a triple vase with ledged rim in Fabric?, No. 173,

### *Conclusion*

The pottery indicates an early area of 'Belgic' settlement which may have been associated with the river valley settlement at Saffron Gardens and contemporary with it. Indeed it seems likely that the trade in pottery may have continued via the river system even after Watling Street and other road routes were available, since the preponderance of pottery still seems to come in from the north-east, and moving such a cargo on water may well have been more satisfactory. The river Ouzel joins the main stream of the Ouse at Newport Pagnell, Bucks and from there flows past the shell-tempered kiln sites of Harrold, Felmersham (Watson 1969) and Clapham (Fig. 51) and on to a wide system of rivers, The presence of the early shell-tempered wares at Magiovinium and other nearby sites may support the premise that the rivers were widely used in the late iron Age; a map of settlements of this period shows that they were well placed along the banks of the Ouzel and on the eastern part of the Ouse in Buckinghamshire. The late first-century occupation and the rise of the small town to serve both the road traffic and the 'fort' on the south side of Watling Street were superimposed upon the older occupation areas, becoming concentrated on the line of the new road. Only a handful of medieval sherds were recovered from either site and indeed the major occupation sites at Magiovinium were simply underlying the pasture surface. Recent work by Angela Simco (1986) on sites in north Bedfordshire confirms a pattern of primal 'Belgic' occupation followed by Roman consolidation on 'high status' sites. The findings there seem confirmed by the evidence at Magiovinium; they may pertain also to other sites in north Buckinghamshire.

### *Thin Sections*

Five sherds (Fabrics 11, 18, 19, 61, 76) were thin sectioned and studied under the petrological microscope by Dr D. F. Williams of the Department Of Archaeology, University of Southampton, and his observations follow.

Fabrics 18, 19 and 76 proved to be very similar, all three containing large amounts of shell, much of which is clearly

fossiliferous. Amongst the shell it is possible to recognize scattered fragments of bryozoa, a free-floating colonial marine organism. This may be chlostomata, which is known to occur in the Jurassic (Majewske 1969) and which may indicate utilization of the local Oxford clays. Bryozoa have also been recognized in Iron Age shell-tempered pottery from Chinnor, Oxfordshire (Davis 1951), as well as in medieval St Neots ware (Hunter 1979). (The three fabrics have been combined as Fabric 18 in the fabric descriptions.)

The sherd representing Fabric 11 also contains fossiliferous shell, but not such a high content as the above group. Also present are grains of quartz and a large fragment of flint or chert; no bryozoa were to be seen in the section examined. The origin of this material is likely to be the Jurassic, though possibly a different source location from the above samples.

The remaining fabric, 61, contains oolites (clearly recognizable in the hand-specimen). In thin section it is possible to see the concentric structure of the oolites within the limestone body. The nearest oolitic sources to the find-site are the Cornbrash and Corallian deposits which are situated about 8 km north and south of Magiovinium respectively.

### *The Mortaria* by K. Hartley

Fragments from at least 98 mortaria dating from the Flavian period to the later fourth century were examined. Fabrics from the potteries of the Verulamium region, Oxford, Northamptonshire, Mancetter-Hartshill, the Lower Nene Valley and Gaul are represented.

Mortaria from the Verulamium kilns occur up until c.200-40, but the sample suggests that once the Oxford workshops started production they rapidly took over. This is perhaps surprising since Verulamium is so close. The smaller workshops in Northamptonshire would appear to have been as well placed geographically as Oxford to supply the town but the sample is very small (3), indicating negligible trade. The Mancetter-Hartshill potteries provided a normal proportion for this area; other sources, the Castor-Stibington kilns of the Lower Nene Valley,

and north-east Gaul, were of minor importance. The heaviest use of mortaria on the site seems to have been in the third century, probably the second half, with numbers in the fourth century reduced. A summary of mortaria sold to Magiovinium is as follows:

Date	VER	OX	NOR	N/V	M/H	LN	GAUL
50-130	8			1			1
110-60	4			?1			
140-200/240	5						
100-80		11	1				
180-240		10	2	?1	?1		
240-300		29					
240-400		20			2	1	
	17	70	3	3	3	1	1

VER: Verulamium region (<50-200/240)

OX: Oxford potteries (100-400)

NOR: Northamptonshire (J40-250 mainly)

N/V: Northamptonshire or Verulamium region

M/H: Mancetter-Hartshill, War, (100-370)

LN: Lower Nene Valley (Castor-Stibbington area) (140-400)

GAUL: North-east Gaul

? means date approximated to fit in with date brackets used.

### The Fabrics

#### 1. Brock ley Hill.

Kilns are known at Bricklet Wood, Brockley Hill, Radlett and Verulamium but unless the specific kiln-site is known or suspected, the term 'Verulamium region' is used.

A granular, usually greyish-cream fabric sometimes with pink core, and often will) cream to buff-brown slip; the fabric can occasionally be orange-brown. The texture is obtained by the addition of vast amounts of well-sorted, tiny quartz grit, possibly with a little flint and occasionally with very sparse red-brown material. The trituration consists of flint, red-brown material and a little quartz.

#### 2. Verulamium region. Not produced at Bricklet Wood but perhaps at the other three sites above.

Similar in every way to Fabric 1 but with fewer inclusions, giving a slightly smoother touch.

#### 3. Castor-Stibbington area of the Lower Nene Valley. Usually a hard, off-white fabric with a little fine red-brown and quartz temper; frequently with a brownish buff slip. Trituration consists of black ironstone grit occasionally with a little haematite. The single example is overfired to grey throughout most of the section.

#### 4. Cowley etc., Oxford (Young 1977).

Greyish-white fabric, often with pink core, with abundant tiny quartz and occasional red-brown inclusions; the surface feels like fine sandpaper. Trituration usually consists of mixed transparent and pink to brown quartz but occasional examples may vary e.g. 1102 (bis) with mostly transparent

quartz and rare opaque black or brown grits. Products from more than one workshop may be represented.

#### 5. Cowley, Headington, Sandford etc., Oxford (Young 1977), Slightly sandy, off-white fabric occasionally with pinkish core, and sometimes with cream to buff slip; there is very little, very fine quartz and red-brown tempering. The very distinctive trituration grit consists entirely of mined pink, brownish and transparent quartz. When no trituration grit is present. Fabrics 2, 4 and 5 can occasionally be difficult to distinguish.

#### 6. North-east Gaul (Hartley 1977, Group []). Fine-textured, slightly brownish-cream fabric with hardly any, very tiny quartz and flint inclusions; trituration consists of quartz with some flint.

#### 7. Dorchester, Cowley, Sandford, Baldon etc., Oxford (Young 1977). Fine-textured, slightly micaceous, orange-brown fabric, sometimes with a grey core, and a thin cream or white slip; abundant trituration grit identical with that for Fabric 5.

#### 8. Ditto.

Fabric and trituration as Fabric 7 but with a red-brown, samian-like slip.

#### 9. Mancetter-Hartshill potteries, Warwickshire.

Usually a distinctively fine-textured fabric, often fired harder in the 3rd or 4th centuries; it is sometimes described as pipeclay but it often has some very fine quartz and occasional red-brown inclusions. Normally self-coloured but sometimes fired to pale buff and may sometimes appear to have a pale buff slip. The trituration grit before c. 130 usually contains a lot of quartz, sometimes all quartz, but after c.135/40 it consists of abundant blackish to dark brown and/or red-brown grog.

#### 10. Probably Northamptonshire.

Fairly fine-textured cream or off-white fabric with some red-brown inclusions; trituration consists of blackish and probably some red-brown grits.

### The Stamped Mortaria

#### *Albinus* (1220, 18-200, c.29 cm).

A flange fragment in Fabric 1 (Verulamium region), with an incomplete namestamp from one of at least eight dies used by Albinus (Frere 1972, Fig. 145, No. 5 for a stamp from the same die).

Albinus is by far the most prolific mortarium producer recorded in Britain. Over 350 mortaria of his are known from sites throughout Roman Britain, including 12 from Scotland, about 115 from London and 55 from Verulamium. There is considerable evidence to attest his Flavian date and his earliest recording is in a deposit at Verulamium dated 55-61 (Richardson 1944, 123, No. 4). His overall activity is probably to be dated 60-90. His kilns have not yet been found but the fabric used was undoubtedly produced in the Verulamium region. His son Matugenus worked at Brockley Hill, while counterstamps of the type he used are recorded in number only at Bricklet Wood in the work of Oastrius (Saunders and Havercroft 1977).

*Brucius* (1221, 18-235, 30.5 cm).

A mortarium in Fabric 1 (Verulamium region), complete in the upper parts with grit worn away in much of the interior; both potter's stamps survive, reading BRVCCIVS.

Brucius had two commonly used dies and his rim-profiles strongly suggest that this is the earlier. 12 stamps, all from the same die as the Magiovinium example, are recorded from the kiln area at Brockley Hill and it may be assumed that he was active there at some time. 40 stamps of his are known from other sites in England and Wales. A date within the period 80-120 is likely for his work but the rim-profiles suggest that the die involved here was probably used c.80-110; the spout of the Magiovinium example is unlikely to be as early as 80 and the optimum production date for this example is 90-100.

*Doinus* (1659, 17-220).

A flange fragment in fabric 1 (Verulamium region), burnt throughout to dark grey. The fragmentary stamp is from the most commonly used die of Doinus (Castle 1972, 77, Fig. S, Die D for a stamp from the same die). 64 stamps, mostly from the same die as the Magiovinium example, have been recorded from his kiln-site at Brockley Hill, Middx. (*ibid.*). 152 from other sites in England and Wales and 4 from Scotland. There is no new evidence to add to that discussed in detail in Castle 1972 and to a lesser extent Frere 1972, which indicates an overall date of 70-110 for Doinus' activity and a date within the period 85-110 for the use of his latest die.

*Sollus* (1223, 18-479),

A flange fragment in Fabric 1 (Verulamium region) with an incomplete stamp from the most commonly used die of Sollus. 111 mortaria of Sollus have been found, including 4 stamps from Brockley Hill and 4 from Scotland. His primarily Flavian date is not in doubt and his rim-forms are consistently early. A date within the period 60-110 is certain, perhaps 60-100 (Frere 1972, 379, No. 38 and Frere 1984, No. 97; Castle 1972, 86).

? *Marinas* (4949, 17-1976, 33 cm).

A mortarium in Fabric 1 (Verulamium region) with an incompletely impressed stamp from an otherwise unknown die. The interpretation of this stamp is uncertain but it could well be a retrograde stamp of Marinus with MA and IN ligatured. Over 100 stamps of Marinus are known, including 5 from Scotland and 16 from Brockley Hill, Middx, where he was certainly active (Frere 1972, 376, No. 26, and Castle 1972, 86). His work can be dated 70-110. Whether or not this stamp is the work of Marinus, the rim-profile is a typical Flavian one.

? (681, 18-318).

A fragment with incomplete rim-section in a pale brownish version of Fabric 4 (Oxford potteries), with a faint and broken stamp which is not identifiable. Dated 120-80.

**This article continues in**  
**[Section 9: Finds – The decorated Samian.](#)**