

Chapter 6: Finds

FINDS FROM THE THAMES CROSSING SITES: 89-91 ST ALDATE'S (THE TRILL MILL STREAM), 24-26 ST ALDATE'S (THE POLICE STATION), 30-31 ST ALDATE'S (LAND ADJOINING THE POLICE STATION), 56-60 ST ALDATE'S, THE BRITISH TELECOM TUNNEL AND 42-43 ST ALDATE'S (THE HEAD OF THE RIVER)

Finds from the excavations at 89-91 St Aldate's
(the Trill Mill Stream)

by Leigh Allen and Brian Durham

Finds from all four trenches (I, II, VI and VII) have been catalogued together. Objects with context numbers between 1 and 24 are from Trench I, and those with context numbers between 30 and 38 are from Trench II. Objects with Small Find and context numbers in the 600s are from Trench VI; those with Small Find and context numbers in the 700s and 800s are from Trench VII.

Coins

NI **Coin**, silver. Complete. Groat of Edward IV. (SF:TMS.1, ctx. TMS.1, top clearance). (Identification by N Mayhew)

Silver and Copper Alloy Objects (Fig. 6.1)

Comments and identifications by Alison Goodall unless otherwise attributed; some identifications supplied by Nicola Rogers

Among the small number of copper alloy finds are a hooked fastener (1) of mid to late Saxon type and two mounts (3 and 7) of later date. No. 3 is probably a casket fitting. Other copper alloy finds include a U-sectioned ring, a coil of wire and a pin.

Personal Ornaments

- 1 **Garment hook**, silver. Incomplete. Triangular plate with two perforations. L:26 mm. (SF:TMS.12, ctx. TMS.17/ 1, Ph:TMS.2). (N Rogers)
- NI **Ring**, polished, copper alloy. Complete. Penannular, U-shaped section, tiny piece of thread attached to inside surface. (SF:TMS.701, ctx. TMS.702, Ph:TMS.7).
- 2 **Pin**, copper alloy. Complete. Coiled wire head. L:25mm. (SF:TMS.734, ctx. TMS.733, Ph:TMS.6b).

Other

- 3 **Mount**, gilded, copper alloy. 'Fleur-de-lys' terminals bearing large-headed rivets. L:85 mm. (SF:TMS.713, ctx. TMS.752, Ph:TMS.6a).
- 4 **Coil**, fine wire, copper alloy. Incomplete. Bound at one end, probably with the end of the wire. L:40 mm. (SF:TMS.707, ctx. TMS.720, Ph:TMS.6b).

Unidentified Objects

- NI **Object**, curved, copper alloy. Incomplete. Possible broken cylinder embedded in ferrous corrosion. L:45 mm. (SF:TMS.710, ctx. TMS.733, Ph:TMS.6b).
- 5 **Object**, globular, copper alloy. Incomplete. Possible button. D:9 mm. (SF:TMS.725, ctx. TMS.719/ 2, Ph:TMS.6c).
- 6 **Sheet**, rectangular, copper alloy. Complete. With rivet hole; possibly part of strap end or buckle plate. L:15mm. (SF:TMS.714, ctx. TMS.752, Ph:TMS.6a).
- NI **Sheet**, folded, copper alloy. (SF:TMS.17, ctx. TMS.1/1, top clearance).
- NI **Sheet**, fragment, copper alloy. L:15mm. (SF:TMS.702, ctx. TMS.704, Ph:TMS.7).
- NI **Sheet**, fragment, copper alloy. L:14mm. (SF:TMS.711, ctx. TMS.732, Ph:TMS.6a).
- 7 **Strip**, binding, copper alloy. Incomplete. Large oval boss at complete end; three pinholes for attachment. L:71 mm. (SF:TMS.5, ctx. TMS.1, top clearance).
- 8 **Strip**, fragments, copper alloy. (SF:TMS.704, ctx. TMS.709, Ph:TMS.7).

Lead Objects (Fig. 6.1)

- 9 **Weight**, lead. Complete. Heavily concreted very squat circular cylinder. D:62 mm. (SF:TMS.708, ctx. TMS.724/ 1, Ph:TMS.6c). (N Rogers)
- NI **Offcut**, lead. (SF:TMS.18, ctx. TMS.2, Ph:TMS.6b). (A Goodall)

Iron Objects (Figs 6.1, 6.2)

Comments and identifications by Ian Goodall unless otherwise attributed

Tools are the most numerous category of iron objects, including an awl, a slicker and three heckle teeth. The awl (11) and slicker (13) were leatherworkers' tools, the former used for piercing a hole, the

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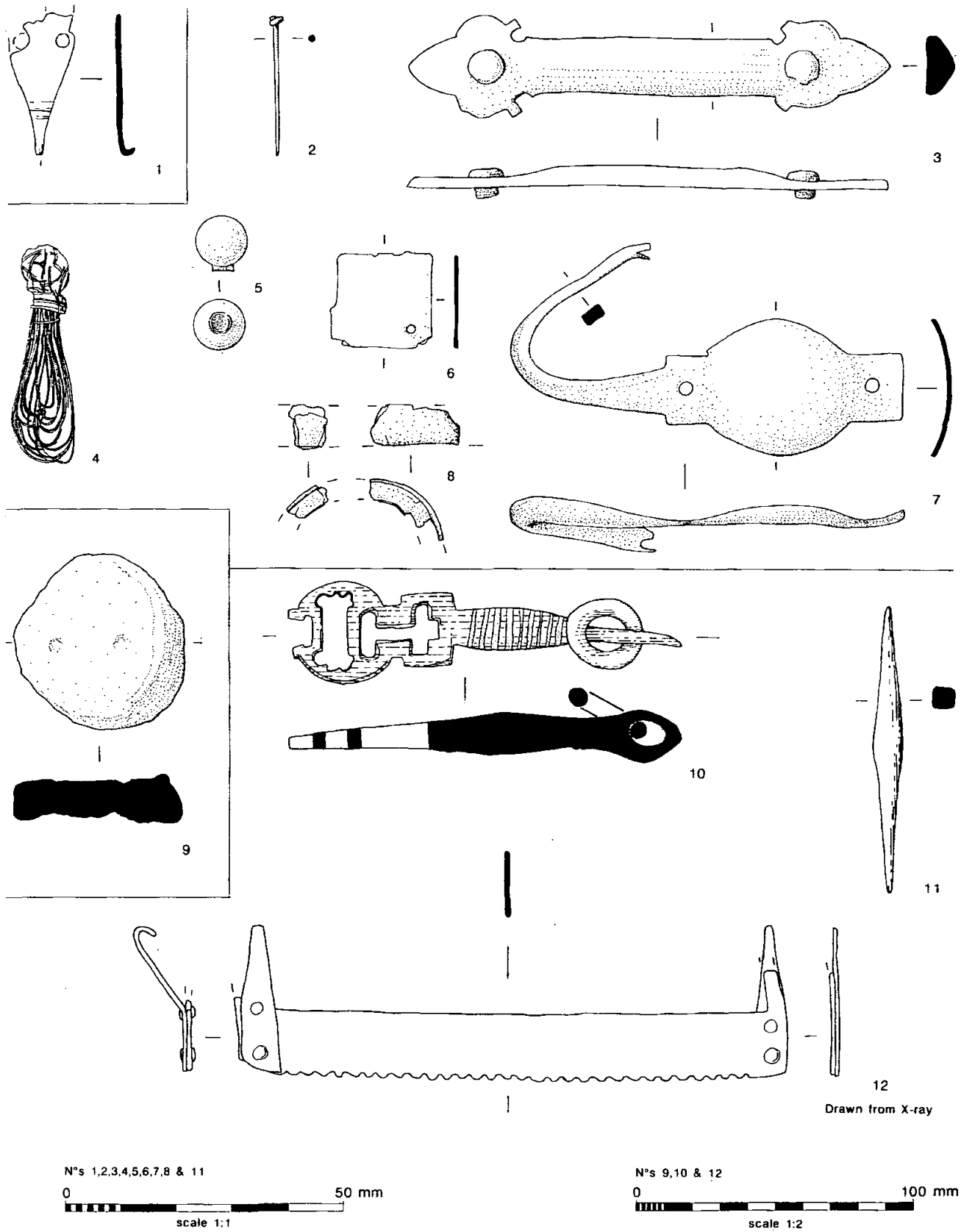


Figure 6.1 Small Finds from 89-91 St Aldate's (the Trill Mill Stream): Silver and Copper Alloy nos 1-8; Lead no. 9; Iron nos 10-12.

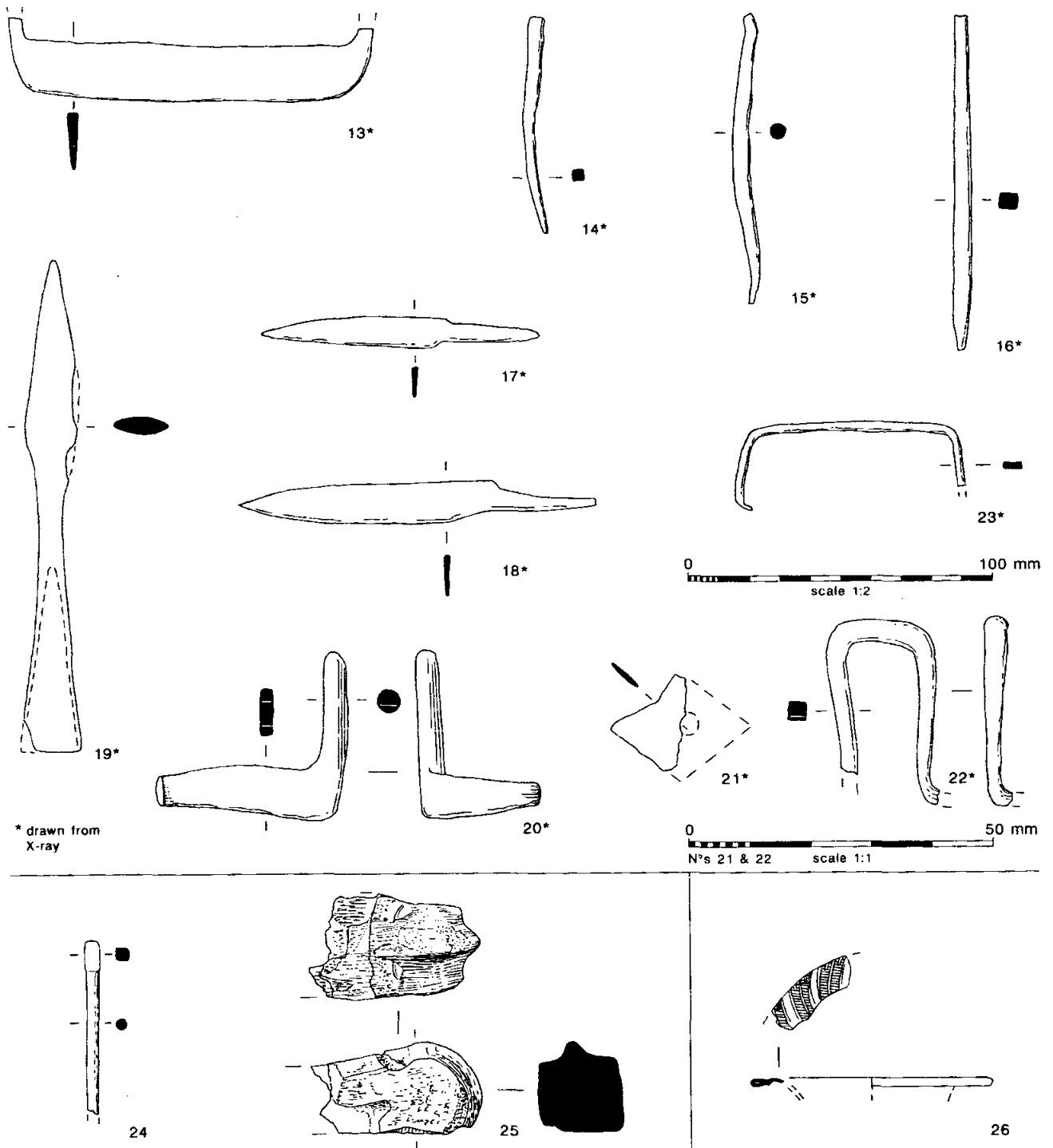


Figure 6.2 Small Finds from 89-91 St Aldate's (the Trill Mill Stream): Iron nos 13-23; Bone nos 24-5; Glass no. 26.

latter by a curer during the tanning of leather. No. 12 with its saw-like blade resembles a slicker used to force dirt out of hides, but it might have been used for wood. The heckle teeth (14-16), used to comb fibres, were mounted in multiple numbers in a backplate or stock. Nos 20-23 are items of building ironwork, namely a hinge pivot, a rove, and two rectangular staples. No. 19 is a spearhead and 10 an

elaborate padlock key with spirally-bound stem and complex bit.

Lock Furniture

10 **Padlock key**, iron. Complete. Complex bit, spirally-inlaid non-ferrous wire on bulbous stem; suspension ring through bow. L:142 mm. (SF:TMS.13, ctx. TMS.20/3, Ph:TMS.6b).

Tools

- 11 **Awl**, iron. Complete. L:52 mm. (SF:TMS.15, ctx. TMS.5/4, Ph:TMS.5).
- 12 **Saw**, iron. Incomplete. Blade fragment. L:200 mm. (SF:TMS.729, ctx. TMS.799, Ph:TMS.3).
- 13 **Slicker**, iron. Incomplete. Both end-tangs broken. L:122 mm. (SF:TMS.4, ctx. TMS.5/2, Ph:TMS.6a).
- 14 **Comb tooth**, iron. Incomplete. L:75 mm. (SF:TMS.605, ctx. TMS.626, Ph:TMS.6a).
- 15 **Comb tooth**, iron. Incomplete. Headless. L:70 mm. (SF:TMS.606, ctx. TMS.626, Ph:TMS.6a).
- 16 **Comb tooth**, iron. Incomplete. L:106 mm. (SF:TMS.716, ctx. TMS.767/2, Ph:TMS.5).

Knives

- 17 **Whittle-tang knife**, iron. Complete. L:98 mm. (SF:TMS.607, ctx. TMS.633, Ph:TMS.4).
- 18 **Whittle-tang knife**, iron. Complete. L:122 mm. (SF:TMS.715, ctx. TMS.776, Ph:TMS.4b).

Weaponry

- 19 **Spearhead**, socketed, iron. Incomplete. L:166 mm. (SF:TMS.14, ctx. TMS.31, Ph:TMS.3).

Furniture and Fittings

- 20 **Hinge pivot**, iron. L:55 mm. (SF:TMS.604, ctx. TMS.630, Ph:TMS.6a).
- 21 **Rove**, flat, lozenge-shaped, iron. Original length c 23 mm. (SF:TMS.19, ctx. TMS.33, Ph:TMS.6b).
- 22 **Staple**, rectangular, iron. U-shaped. L:31 mm. (SF:TMS.6, ctx. TMS.2/3, Ph:TMS.6b).
- 23 **Staple**, rectangular, iron. Incomplete. Both arms broken, one intumed. L:70 mm. (SF:TMS.722, ctx. TMS.786, Ph:TMS.4a).

Unidentified Iron Objects

- NI **Object**, iron. (SF:TMS.7, ctx. TMS.5/1, Ph:TMS.6a).

Antler and Bone Objects (Fig. 6.2)

Comments and identifications by Leigh Allen with Bob Wilson

The bone objects include a red deer antler tine which has several cut marks on it. It has possibly been used as a rough-out for an awl. No. 24 is a tuning peg from a harp or fiddle; it has a square head and a cylindrical shaft, and although the tip is missing there is evidence of a single perforation for the attachment of the string. The date range for pegs such as these extends from 1300 through to the 17th century. This example is similar to type A from Winchester (Biddle 1990, fig. 201, III and IV) and to an example found at St Aldate's, Oxford (Durham 1977, 164, fig. 39, no. 9). There are two fragments from bone skates. Bone skate SF738 is slightly upswept at the rear end, a common feature intended to improve performance on ice or light snow. Finds in Britain range from the 8th to the 13th century in date.

- NI **Object**, antler. Complete. Polished broken tine of red deer antler; several cut marks. L:83 mm. (SF:TMS.739, ctx. TMS.15/2, Ph:TMS.2). (R Wilson)
- 24 **Tuning peg**, bone. Incomplete. Square head, cylindrical shaft. Traces of perforation in the broken end; the very tip is missing. L:55 mm. (SF:TMS.706, ctx. TMS.711, Ph:TMS.6c).
 - 25 **Skate**, bone. Incomplete. Fragment of a worked and polished object, possibly a skate. Cow metacarpal. L:56 mm (SF:TMS.23, ctx. TMS.5/3, Ph:TMS.5). (R Wilson)
- NI **Skate**, bone. Incomplete. Slightly upswept at the rear, wear on the underside, the front is missing. Cow metacarpal. L:88 mm. (SF:TMS.738, ctx. TMS.22, Ph:TMS.6a).

Glass Objects (Fig. 6.2)

- 26 **Vessel fragment**, glass. Finely marbled piece of folded rim. RD:80 mm. (SF:TMS.709, ctx. TMS.724/1, Ph:TMS.7).

Stone Objects (Fig. 6.3)

Comments and identifications by Leigh Allen

The stone objects include two rectangular hones (27–8) of fine-grained schist, a fragment from a shelly limestone mortar (29) with an inverted lip and slight evidence for peck mark tooling on the outer surface, and a fragment from a stone lamp (30). The lamp is of the simplest form and could have served either as a reservoir for oil or tallow, or as a stand or holder for a pottery lamp. Stone and pottery lamps are often found together in archaeological contexts (Barclay and Biddle in Biddle 1990, 983–5). Lamps such as these range in date from the 11th to the 14th centuries. This example was found in a late 12th- to early 13th-century context.

- 27 **Hone**, schistose. Rectangular bar with signs of wear on two surfaces. One end is chipped and the other broken. L:78 mm. (SF:TMS.3, ctx. TMS.5, Ph:TMS.6a).
- 28 **Hone**, schistose. Incomplete. Rectangular bar, one end chipped and the other broken. L:95 mm. (SF:TMS.717, ctx. TMS.767/2, Ph:TMS.5).
- 29 **Mortar**, shelly limestone, local Jurassic. Incomplete. Fragment from a simple stone mortar with slight evidence of peck marks on the outer surface. Diameter: 252 mm. (SF:TMS.20, ctx. TMS.2/5, Ph:TMS.6b).
- 30 **Lamp**, rectangular, fine-grained limestone, probably local. Incomplete. Fragment from a rectangular block lamp, with slightly flaring sides and a flat bottom. L:134 mm. (SF:TMS.737, ctx. TMS.767/2, Ph:TMS.5).
- 31 **Object**, chalk. Pentagonal. (SF:TMS.2, ctx. TMS.5/1, Ph:TMS.6a).

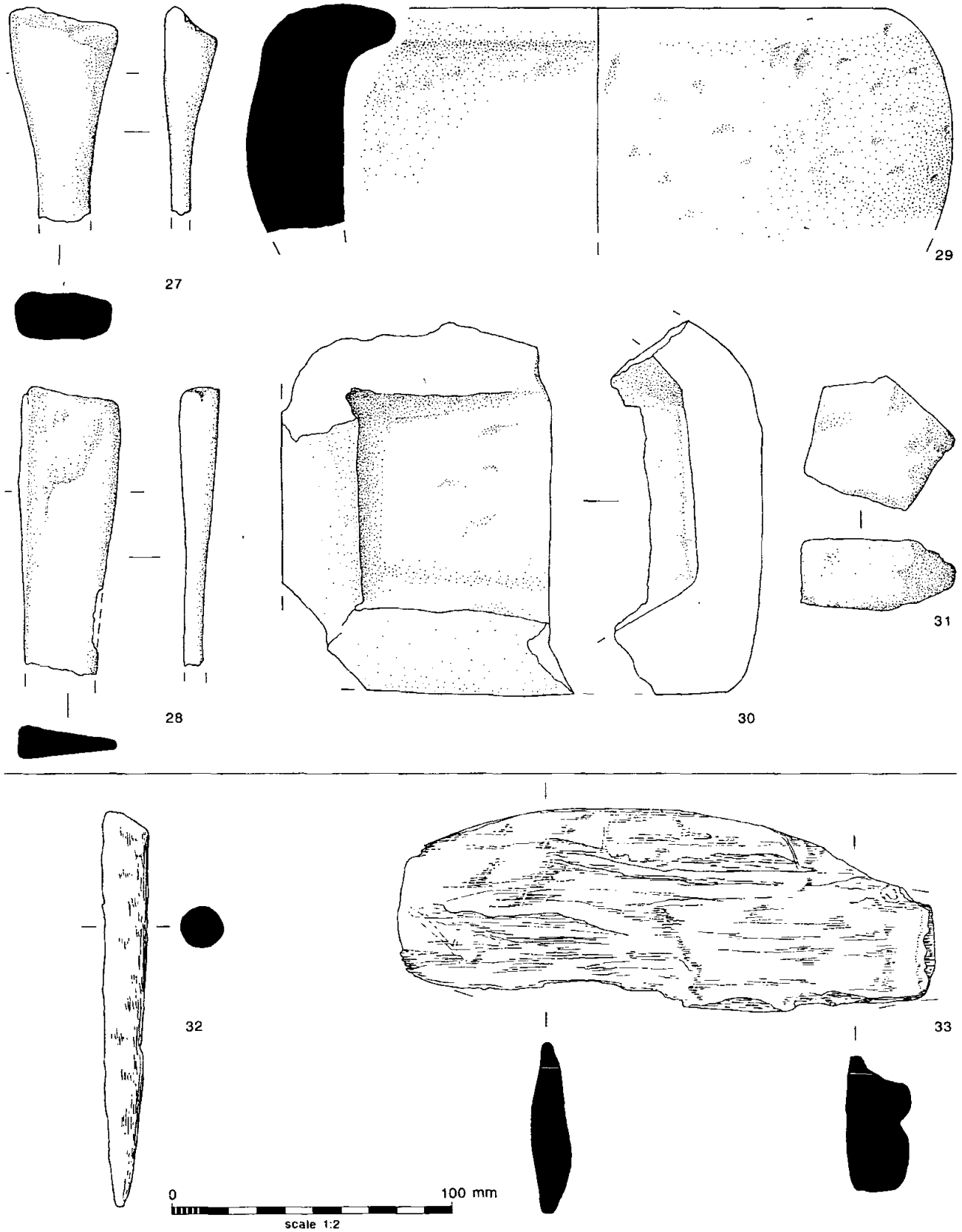


Figure 6.3 Small Finds from 89-91 St Aldate's (the Trill Mill Stream): Stone nos 27-31; Wood nos 32-3.

Wooden Objects (Fig. 6.3)

- 32 **Peg**, wood. Complete. Tapered cylinder. L:140 mm. (SF:TMS.608, ctx. TMS.636, Ph:TMS.4).
NI **Peg**, wood. Complete. Narrow cone. L:99 mm. (SF:TMS.613, ctx. TMS.634=633, Ph:TMS.4).
33 **Object**, paddle-shaped, wood. Possible water-wheel blade. L:190 mm. (SF:TMS.16, ctx. TMS.34/1, Ph:TMS.3a).
NI **Objects**, wood. Incomplete. Several small irregular pieces. (SF:TMS.723, ctx. TMS.793, Ph:TMS.4a).

Leather Objects (Fig. 6.4)

Identifications by Brian Durham

- NI **Shoe**, leather. Incomplete. Possible sole piece. L:100 mm. (SF:TMS.601, ctx. TMS.626, Ph:TMS.6a).
NI **Shoe**, leather. Incomplete. Possible sole piece. L:100 mm. (SF:TMS.602, ctx. TMS.626, Ph:TMS.6a).
NI **Shoe**, leather. Incomplete. Possible sole piece. L:80mm. (SF:TMS.603, ctx. TMS.626, Ph:TMS.6a).
NI **Shoe**, turn, leather. Incomplete. Heel end, thonged vamp-wing quarter (VWQ) rt. side, stiffener att. w/obl. stitches, thong 1.5 mm; sole seam grain flush upper, sole missing; (SF:TMS.612, ctx. TMS.641, Ph:TMS.4).
34 **Shoe**, leather. Incomplete. Large piece. L:340 mm. (SF:TMS.614, ctx. TMS.656, Ph:TMS.3).
NI **Shoe**, fragments, leather. 3 pieces; 72 mm, stitch holes one edge; 70 mm; 48 mm, stitch holes one edge. (SF:TMS.616, ctx. TMS.656, Ph:TMS.3).
NI **Shoe**, leather. Possible part of shoe; small flap folded over one end. L:185 mm. (SF:TMS.617, ctx. TMS.656, Ph:TMS.3).
35 **Shoe**, turn, leather. Incomplete. Thonged, possible Lf; sole seam grain flush upper, edge flush sole; VWQ edge flush; large, irregular. Slashes toe-end; square throat opening. L:210 mm. (SF:TMS.620, ctx. TMS.656, Ph:TMS.3).
36 **Shoe**, turn, leather. Complete. Thonged, VWQ right side; sole decayed, upper complete; no instep tie, possible seam tongue; 3 cuts right side toe end; VWQ seam edge flush. L:295 mm. (SF:TMS.732, ctx. TMS.816, Ph:TMS.1).

Finds from the excavations at 24–26 St Aldate's (The Police Station), 30–31 St Aldate's (Land adjoining the Police Station) and 56–60 St Aldate's
by Leigh Allen and Brian Durham

The excavation of these three sites produced over 120 finds comprising a wide range of tools and practical everyday objects, which primarily reflect manufacturing processes but also include domestic items relating to the buildings. There were few exotic or ornamental objects. Finds from all three sites have been catalogued together, and the provenance of

individual finds is denoted by a prefix: PS for the Police Station, LA for Land adjoining the Police Station and SA for 56–60 St Aldate's.

Most of the finds from the Police Station site (PS) would have accumulated in the layers of silt that overlay the timbers of the pre-Conquest waterfront. These finds comprise 22 nails, including 4 fiddle key nails, and some leather scrap. The remaining finds from this site originate from late medieval dumping.

The site Land adjoining the Police Station (LA) lay in the mid-channel zone fronting onto the bridge, and in the 12th to 13th centuries it became the back yard of a tenement. In the underlying late Saxon and Norman levels (Phases 4–5) were 60 g of leather offcuts and an early example of a key for a mounted lock. More lock furniture in the form of two barrel padlock keys is evident in Phase 6 in 13th-century pit LA 153/1. In later phases, an awl, a punch, a wedge-shaped tool head, a whittle-tang knife, a hone and a hinge pivot reflect domestic activity and possible leatherworking associated with the backyard of the tenement. A large group of finds came from late medieval pit 203, and included 70 g of leather offcuts and parts of three shoes, as well as an awl and a knife tang, implying late medieval leatherworking in the vicinity.

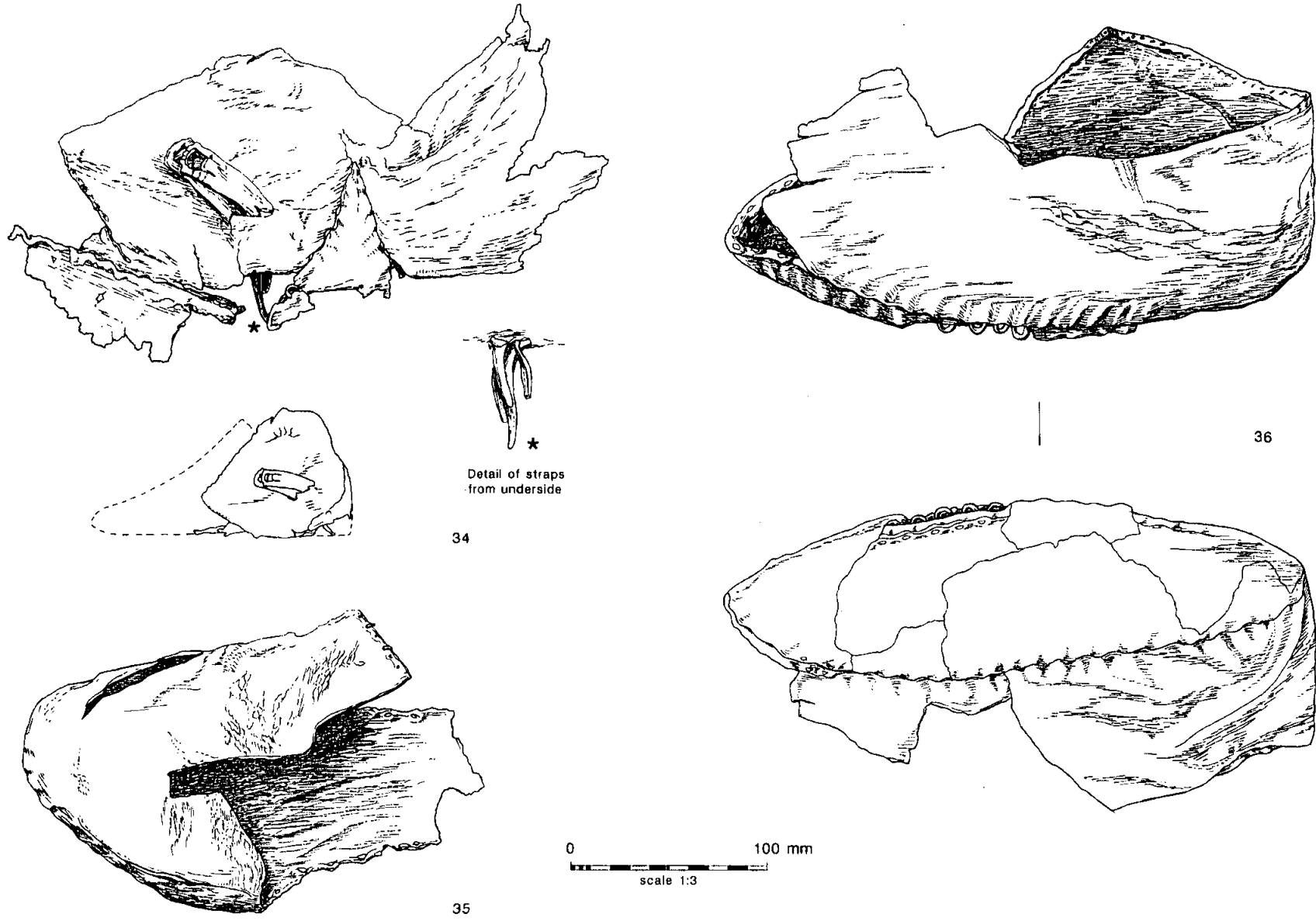
56–60 St Aldate's (SA) produced the largest number of finds representing all the phases. The site is closest to the bridge and was occupied by a tenement by the 13th century. The earlier phases (2–5) contain 3195 g of leather which include fragments from shoes and offcuts from their manufacture, as well as two early types of whittle-tang knife and hones for sharpening blades. These suggest that leatherworking was being carried out in the vicinity, and that the offcuts were the product of an organised workshop rather than domestic or cobbling repairs. The presence of heckle teeth in Phase 5 may also indicate textile manufacture in this area. In Phase 7 a complete pair of shears, whittle-tang knives and two hones were found in layers associated with buildings erected in the second quarter of the 14th century and from river silts adjoining the building. These suggest textile manufacture in the late medieval period.

In conclusion, it appears that sites LA and SA provide strong evidence for leatherworking, both tools and offcuts. In both cases the finds from early phases do not necessarily derive from activities on the site itself, but may have been brought from within the town for dumping. In the later medieval period the finds from LA indicate a continuation of leather manufacture, whereas the finds from SA suggest a shift to textile manufacture.

Coins

Identifications by Michael Metcalf and Cathy King

Two coins were found. The first is a fragment from a 13th-century silver coin (SF SA 10), identified by the existence of a 'closed E' on the very edge of the fragment. The second coin (SF SA 28) is Roman,



Detail of straps
from underside

Figure 6.4 Small Finds from 89-91 St Aldate's (the Trill Mill Stream): Leather nos 34-6.

dated to the period AD 310–316, and is perforated near the circumference for suspension from a necklace or bangle.

- NI **Coin fragment**, silver. Incomplete. Dated by the presence of a 'closed E'. 13th cent. (SF SA 10, ctx. SA 12, Ph:SA 7).
- NI **Coin**, perforated, copper alloy. Complete. Nummus. Obv: IMP LICINIUS PF AUG. Rev: GENIO POP ROM. Minted in London. AD 310–316 (SF SA 28, ctx. SA 47/1, Ph:SA 4).

Copper alloy and pewter artefacts (Fig. 6.5)

There are five items of copper alloy. Three are personal ornaments: a brooch pin from an annular brooch (1) from a late medieval provenance, a lace end (SF PS 32) and a plain penannular ring (2). The others are a length of tubing and a perforated disc. A pewter vessel rim was also recovered.

- 1 **Brooch pin**, copper alloy. Incomplete pin from an annular brooch. L:49 mm. (SF LA 62, ctx. LA 203, late med. pit/well). (Similar to Rogerson and Dallas 1984, 70, fig. 109, no. 9, dated to the 13th to 14th century.)
- NI **Lace end**, copper alloy. Complete. L:26 mm. (SF PS 32, ctx. PS 33/1, Ph:PS 8/9).
- 2 **Ring**, penannular, copper alloy. Complete. Plain ring with tapering terminals. D: 25 mm. (SF SA 19, ctx. SA 33, Ph:SA 6).
- NI **Vessel rim**, pewter. L:26 mm. (SF LA 68, ctx. LA 203, late med pit/well).
- NI **Tube**, copper alloy. Incomplete. Plain, hollow with a slight taper. L:79 mm. (SF LA 60, ctx. LA 203, late med. pit/well).
- NI **Disc**, copper alloy. Complete. Three perforations near the edge for attachment (not evenly spaced around the circumference). D:42 mm. (SF SA 30, ctx. SA 46, Ph:SA 6).

Lead artefacts

The items comprise a single fishing weight (SF LA 82), a fragment of lead sheet (SF LA 84) and 36 g (SF LA 81 and PS 63) of waste.

- NI **Sheet**, lead. L:30 mm. (SF LA 84, ctx. LA 151, Ph:LA 6/7).
- NI **Weight**, lead. Complete. Slightly flattened on one side. L:65 mm. 37 g. (SF LA 82, ctx. LA 5, Trial Trench I).
- NI **Waste**, lead. L:74 mm. (SF LA 81, ctx. LA 5, Trial Trench I).
- NI **Waste**, lead. (SF PS 63, ctx. PS 38/2, Ph:PS 6).

Ironwork (Figs 6.5, 6.6)

The ironwork is the largest group, comprising 90 items, 42 of which are nails. Notable groups include the lock furniture, the tools, and the knives. All the objects in this category have been X-rayed. The lock furniture includes part of a barrel padlock (4) from

a late medieval provenance, which appears to have the leaves of the spring still compressed inside the padlock. The padlock itself is strengthened by three straps secured by rivets, and can be dated to the 13th century. Also amongst the lock furniture are two barrel padlock keys; both examples have the bit set laterally to the stem, which dates them to the 13th to 14th centuries. The key for a mounted lock (6) is of even earlier construction, with a hollow shaft and a simple looped bow. From an 11th-century context on the downstream side of the bridge it is typical of the period and compares with 11th-century examples from Winchester. The tools include awls, punches, heckle teeth and a complete pair of shears which have plain blade tops and a fully looped bow. Simple types of shears such as these with pronounced bows at the junction of the arms appear in Scandinavia as early as the 10th century, but in this country they are more common in 13th-century contexts, as in this example from the 13th- to 14th-century silting of the river between two houses.

The knives fall into two groups, the whittle-tang type with protruding tangs for insertion into a handle, and the scale-tang type which would have had a bone or wooden handle attached by rivets. The whittle-tang knives display four distinct blade types. The earliest (13) has a curved back and a cutting edge that has been heavily sharpened to form an elongated 'S'. The tang, although incomplete, would probably equal the length of the blade. Similar examples from Thetford are of Viking type. The second type (15), from a late 10th- or early 11th-century context, has a blade back that rises before it angles down to the tip and corresponds to type A from Winchester. The third and fourth types of blade (Nos 14 and 16 and SF SA 16) correspond to types C and D from Winchester and have a date range from the 10th to the 14th centuries. The scale-tang knives, of which there are only two, have shoulder and end plates which in one case (17) have been plated with non-ferrous metal. The shoulder plate is marked only by a strip of plating that has been brazed into position. Both knives had handles secured by three rivets; in the case of 17 two of the rivets survive in part and are visible on the X-ray. Blade 18 has three incised grooves which run horizontally along the length of the blade and may originate from the pattern welding process. Scale-tang knives come into use in the 13th century, which makes No. 18 unusually early, being from a late 10th- or early 11th-century provenance.

Iron fittings include a strap hinge and a hinge pivot, both of which are small, and are most probably from a box or chest rather than from a door or window. The others are a split pin, a sliding bolt with a single lower projection, a handle with looped terminals and two incomplete pricket candlesticks with decorative side scrolls.

- 3 **Buckle**, iron. Complete. Rectangular, with central bar, pin rusted in position. L:35 mm. (SF PS 35, ctx. PS 31/1, Ph:PS 8/9.)

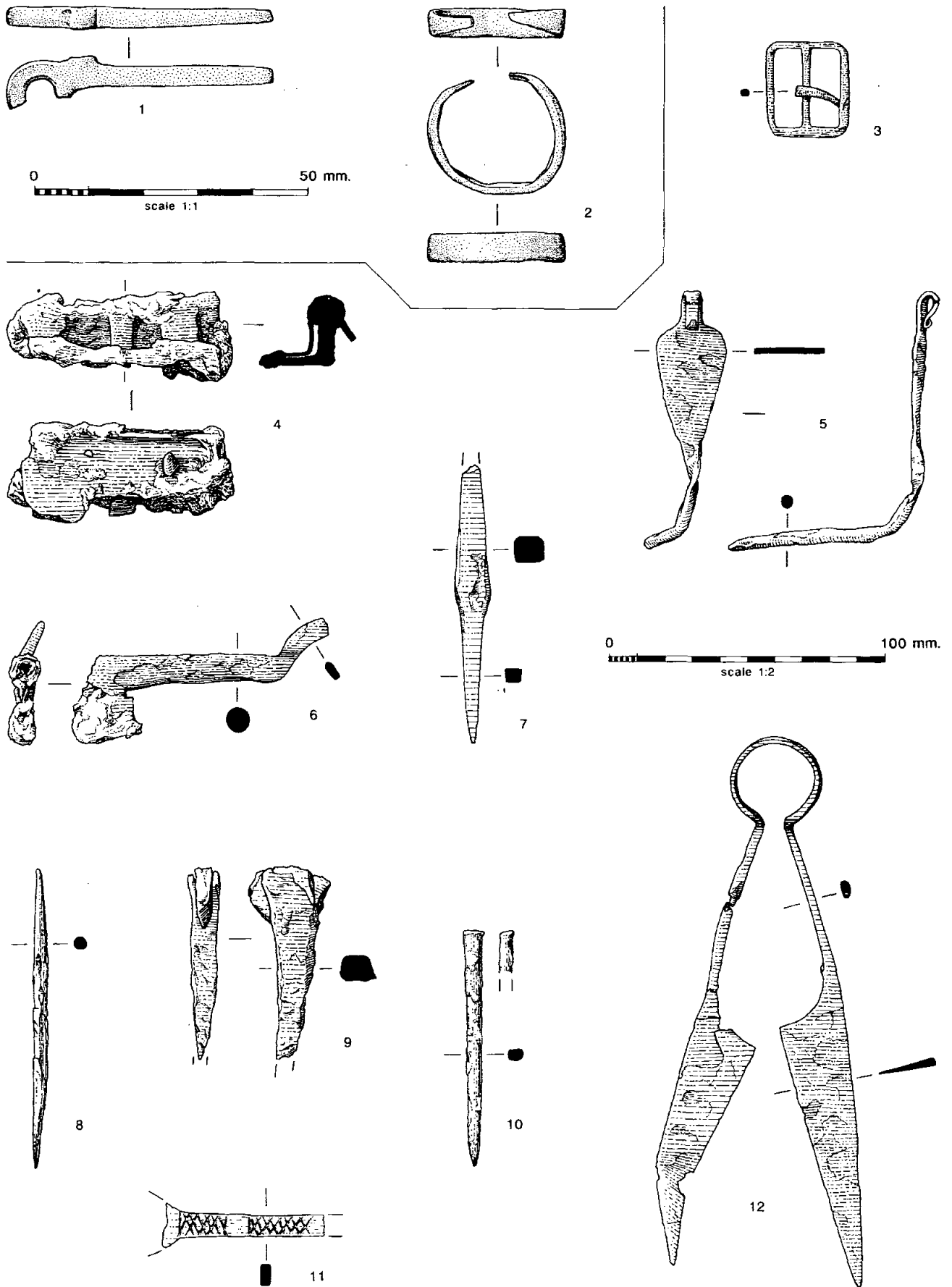


Figure 6.5 Small Finds from 24–26 St Aldate's (the Police Station), 30–31 St Aldate's (Land adjoining the Police Station) and 56–60 St Aldate's: Copper alloy nos 1–2; Iron nos 3–12.

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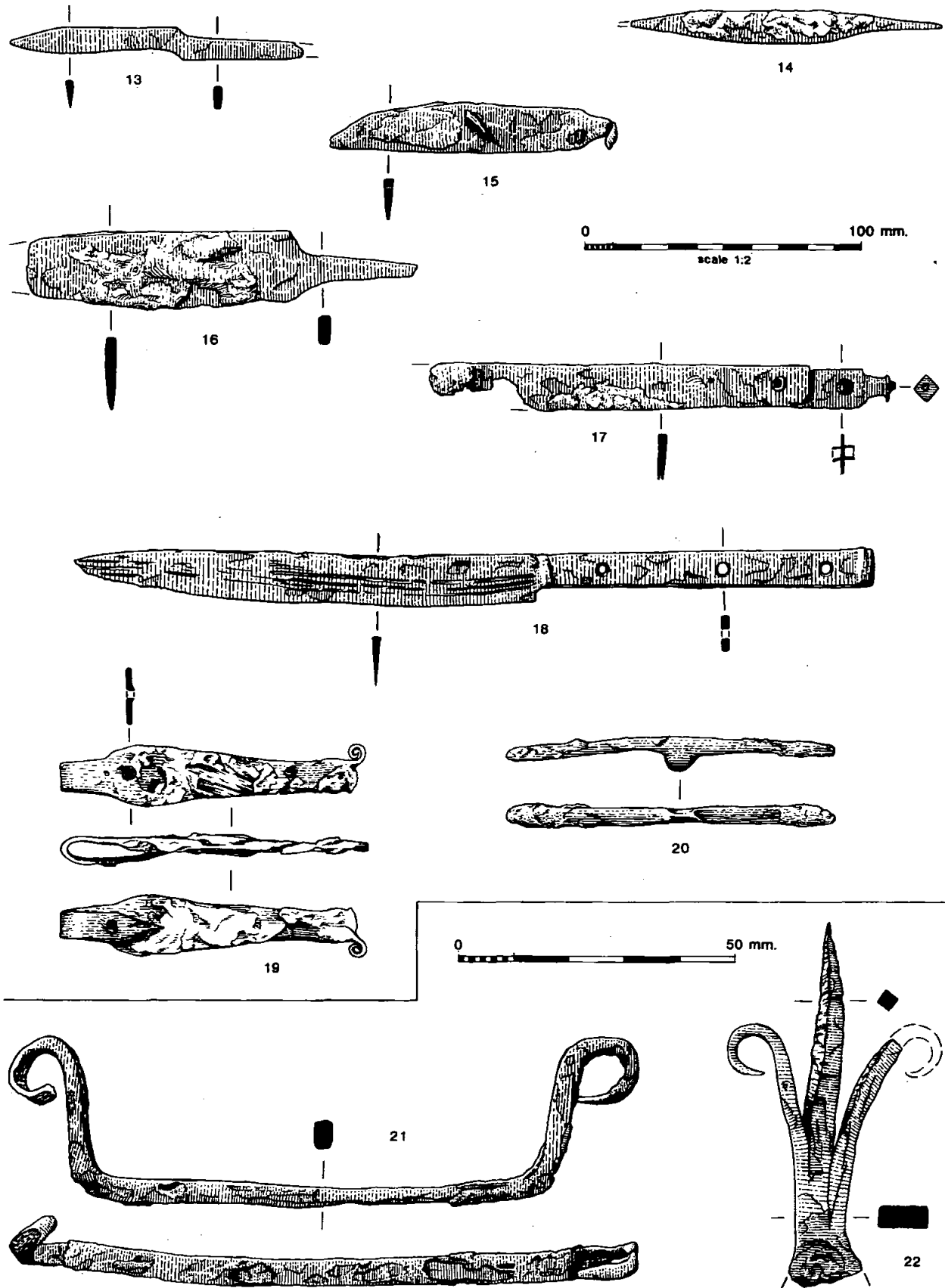


Figure 6.6 Small Finds from 24-6 St Aldate's, 30-31 St Aldate's and 56-60 St Aldate's: Iron nos 13-22.

- 4 **Barrel padlock**, iron, incomplete. Plain case, strengthened by three straps secured by rivets around circumference. L:81 mm (SF SA 6, ctx. SA 4, Ph:SA 8). (Case similar to Biddle 1990, 1014, fig. 315, no. 3672.)
- NI **Padlock key**, iron, complete. Bit set laterally to the stem. L:145 mm. (SF LA 55, ctx. LA 153/1, Ph:LA 6-7). (Biddle 1990, 1020-4, fig. 322 Type A.)
- 5 **Padlock key**, iron, incomplete. Stem and bit missing. L:145 mm (SF LA 56, ctx. LA 153/1, Ph:LA 6). (Biddle 1990, 1020-4, fig. 322.)
- 6 **Key**, for mounted lock, iron, incomplete. Hollow; Xray indicates that it is constructed from a single strip of metal. L:92 mm. (SF LA 63, ctx. LA 22, Ph:LA 4). (Biddle 1990, 1024-39, figs 326-7, type 3.)
- 7 **Awl**, iron. Incomplete. Square in section tapering to a point. L:102 mm (SF LA 57, ctx. LA 203, late med. pit/well).
- 8 **Awl**, iron, complete. L:110 mm. (SF LA 87, ctx. LA 201, Ph:LA 6-7). (Biddle 1990, 249, fig. 53b.)
- 9 **Punch**, iron, complete. Rectangular in section, upper end slightly burred by repeated blows. L:65 mm (SF LA 78, ctx. LA 101/1, Ph:LA 6-7).
- NI **Punch**, iron, complete. Rectangular in cross-section, tapering to a point. L:91 mm (SF SA 3, ctx. SA 4, Ph:SA 8).
- NI **Tool head**, wedge-shaped, iron, incomplete. X-ray shows that wire or a thin strip of metal has been wound around the outside of the socket. L:54 mm (SF LA 53, ctx. LA 153/1, Ph:LA 6-7).
- NI **Heckle tooth**, iron, incomplete. Stem broken. L:94 mm (SF LA 77, ctx. LA 101/1, Ph:LA 6-7). (Biddle 1990, 214-16, fig. 44.)
- 10 **Heckle tooth**, iron, incomplete. Stem fragment. L:88 mm (SF SA 35, ctx. SA 47, Ph:SA 5). (Biddle 1990, 214-16, fig. 44.)
- NI **Heckle teeth**, iron, incomplete. Three stems and two heads. L (longest):117 mm (SF SA 42, ctx. SA 47, Ph:SA 5).
- 11 **Handle**, decorated, iron, incomplete. Rectangular in section, decorated with criss-cross incised lines. Plated with non-ferrous metal. L:61 mm (SF SA 67, ctx. SA 22, Ph:SA 7).
- 12 **Shears**, iron, incomplete. The blade tops are plain and the bow is fully looped. L:201 mm (SF SA 15, ctx. SA 8, Ph:SA 7).
- 13 **Knife**, whittle-tang, iron, incomplete. Curved back, cutting edge heavily sharpened forming an elongated 'S' shape. L:107 mm (SF SA 29, ctx. SA 51, Ph:SA 4). (Rogerson and Dallas 1984, fig. 124 no. 89, fig. 125, nos. 91 and 101.)
- NI **Knife**, whittle-tang, iron, incomplete. Cutting edge and flat back are parallel before tapering to a point. L:82 mm (SF SA 16, ctx. SA 8/1, Ph:SA 7). (Biddle 1990, 844-5.)
- 14 **Knife**, whittle-tang, iron. Incomplete. Cutting edge and flat back parallel before tapering to tip. L:112 mm (SF LA 88, ctx. LA 201, Ph:LA 6-7). (Biddle 1990, 844-5, type C.)
- 15 **Knife**, whittle-tang, iron, incomplete. Blade back rises and angles down to the tip. The cutting edge is straight. L:105 mm. 10th-13th cent. (SF SA 36, ctx. SA 47/1, Ph:SA 4). (Biddle 1990, 843, fig. 253 no. 2664, type A.)
- 16 **Knife**, whittle-tang, iron, incomplete. Back and cutting edge taper from junction with tang to tip. L:144 mm (SF SA 13, ctx. SA 8/1, Ph:SA 7). (Biddle 1990, 847.)
- NI **Tang**, iron, incomplete. Knife blade broken off. L:58 mm (SF LA 61, ctx. LA 203, late med. pit/well).
- 17 **Knife blade**, scale-tang, iron, incomplete. End plate capped with non-ferrous metal, shoulder plate marked by an applied strip of non-ferrous metal which had been brazed in position. Two rivets survive for attachment to the handle. L:176 mm (SF PS 31, ctx. PS 33/1, Ph:PS 8/9).
- 18 **Knife**, scale-tang, iron, complete. Plain, with shoulder and end plate. Three rivet holes for attachment of the handle. Three incised grooves run along the length of the blade parallel to the blade back. L:290 mm (SF SA 38, ctx. SA 47/3, Ph:SA 4).
- 19 **Strap hinge**, iron, incomplete. Nailed 'U'-shaped eye and incomplete scroll terminals. Three rivets, two to secure the eye, the third is decorative. L:110 mm (SF SA 4, ctx. SA 4, Ph:SA 8).
- NI **Hinge pivot**, iron, incomplete. L:54 mm (SF LA 89, ctx. LA 151/1, Ph:LA 6-7). (Biddle 1990, 338-43, fig. 83.)
- 20 **Sliding bolt**, iron, complete. Single lower projection. L:120 mm. (SF SA 68, ctx. SA 8, Ph:SA 7). (Rogerson and Dallas 1984, 92, fig. 131, no. 178.)
- NI **Split pin**, iron. L:52 mm (SF SA 69, ctx. SA 16, Ph:SA 8).
- 21 **Handle**, iron, complete. Strip, rectangular in section with looped terminals. L:114 mm (SF LA 54, ctx. LA 19, Ph:LA 6-7).
- 22 **Pricket candlestick**, iron, incomplete. Decorative side scrolls. L:67 mm (SF PS 34, ctx. PS 31/1, Ph:PS 8/9). (Hassall *et al.* 1989, 228, fig. 65, no. 96.)
- NI **Pricket candlestick**, iron, incomplete. One of the two decorative side scrolls survives. L:90 mm (SF PS 38, ctx. PS 31/3, Ph:PS 8/9).
- NI **Horseshoe**, iron, incomplete. Three countersunk holes in extant arm. Fiddle key nail present in one hole. L:96 mm (SF SA 18, ctx. SA 508/1, Ph:SA 5). (Biddle 1990, fig. 340, no. 3941.)
- NI **Nail**, fiddle key, iron. L:27 mm (SF LA 76, ctx. LA 18, Ph:LA 6-7).
- NI **Nail**, fiddle key, iron. L:35 mm (SF PS 44, ctx. PS 38/2, Ph. PS 6).
- NI **Nail**, fiddle key, iron, complete. L:25 mm (SF PS 55, ctx. PS 38/2, Ph:PS 6).
- NI **Nail**, fiddle key, iron, incomplete. L:22 mm (SF PS 56, ctx. PS 38/2, Ph:PS 6).
- NI **Nail**, fiddle key, iron, complete. L:40 mm (SF PS 61, ctx. PS 38/2, Ph:PS 6).

- NI **Nail**, fiddle key, iron, complete. L:30 mm (SF PS 67, ctx. PS 31/2, Ph:PS 8/9).
- NI **Object**, iron, incomplete. Strip, rectangular in section, tapering and then bent at 90 degrees to the shaft. L:115 mm (SF LA 93, ctx. LA 202, after Phase 7).
- NI **Object**, iron, incomplete. Square in section, flared and curved over at upper end. L:72 mm (SF SA 5, ctx. SA 4, Ph:SA 8).
- NI **Object**, iron. Square in section, flaring out and then tapering to a point. L:57 mm (SF SA 71, ctx. SA 4/1, Ph:SA 8).
- NI **Band**, iron, incomplete. L:93 mm (SF LA 83, ctx. LA 5, Trial Trench I).
- NI **Strip**, iron, incomplete. Tapering at one end and curved at the other. Applied strip of non-ferrous metal. L:121 mm (SF SA 7, ctx. SA 4/1, Trial Trench I).
- NI **Band**, iron, incomplete. With single perforation. L:123 mm (SF LA 79, ctx. LA 0/US).
- NI **Strip**, perforated, iron, incomplete. Two perforations. L:33 mm (SF SA 65, ctx. SA 22, Ph:SA 7).
- NI **Band**, perforated, iron, incomplete. Two perforations plated with non-ferrous metal. L:66 mm (SF SA 66, ctx. SA 21/1, Ph:SA 8).
- NI **Strip**, iron, incomplete (SF PS 64, ctx. PS 38/2, Ph:PS 6).
- NI **Sheet**, iron, incomplete. Four fragments, one with a rivet through it (SF SA 8, ctx. SA 12, Ph:SA 7).
- NI **Sheet**, iron, incomplete. One fragment has a curved seam (SF SA 12, ctx. SA 17, Ph:SA 8).
- NI **Nails** were recovered from the following contexts. Full details are available in archive:
- LA: 203, 201;
 PS: 31/1, 35/4, 35/1, 38, 38/1, 35, 37, 38/2, 31/3, 35/2, 33/2;
 SA: 4, 12, 8, 16/3, 19, 33, 32, 509/2, 47/3, 47, 40, 21/6, 16/5, 34.

Bone artefacts (Fig. 6.7)

Artefact identifications by Arthur MacGregor; bone identifications by Miranda Armour-Chelu

There are 10 objects, 3 of which are associated with textile manufacture: a thread twister, a picker/beater, and a sub-circular spindlewhorl. The other identified objects are an ice-skate, a decorated spoon handle and a socketed point. One object whose function is uncertain is a complete dog radius which has been highly polished and has ripples along one surface. This was possibly used as the strop for a blade.

- 23 **Thread twister**, bone. Complete. Signs of wear on the inside of each prong but not at the base of the 'U'-shaped notch. L:140 mm (SF LA 74, ctx. LA 203, late med. pit/well). (MacGregor 1982, 95-6, fig. 50.)
- 24 **Picker/beater**, bone, incomplete. Smooth and highly polished; remaining end has been flattened and cut straight across. L:72 mm (SF LA 85, ctx. LA 203, late med. pit/well). (Biddle 1990, 225-32, fig. 47; Walton Rogers 1997, 1755-7.)
- 25 **Spindlewhorl**, bone, incomplete. Sub-circular, plano-convex. From a large ungulate. 19 g, D:53 mm (SF SA 25, ctx. SA 22, Ph:SA 7).
- NI **Ice-skate**, bone, complete. Signs of wear at the distal end. Cow metacarpal. L:174 mm (SF SA 94, ctx. SA 52, Ph:SA 3). (MacGregor 1976.)
- 26 **Spoon**, decorated handle, bone, incomplete. From a large ungulate. Incised groove around the circumference of the handle in a screw thread. Spoon bowl broken off. L:79 mm (SF PS 1, ctx. PS 5, top clearance).
- NI **Handle?**, bone, complete. Shaft of a horse metacarpal. L:127 mm (SF LA 80, ctx. LA 51/4, Ph:LA 6-7).
- 27 **Socketed point**, bone, incomplete. Cut at the upper end and hollowed out to form an irregular socket. Large ungulate humerus shaft (SF LA 91, ctx. LA 201, Ph:LA 6-7). (MacGregor 1982, 96-7, fig. 51.)
- NI **Object**, bone, incomplete. Sheep metacarpal, possibly perforated. L:94 mm (SF LA 92, ctx. LA 201, Ph:LA 6-7).
- 28 **Object**, bone, complete. Dog radius. Highly polished with ripples along upper surface. Could have been used as a strop for a blade. L:144 mm (SF LA 94, ctx. LA 24, Ph:LA 4).
- NI **Object**, bone, incomplete. Worked bird bone (tibiotarsus) not identifiable to species. L:106 mm (SF PS 33, ctx. PS 37, Ph:PS 7).

Objects of fired clay (Fig. 6.7)

- 29 **Spindlewhorl**, fired clay, complete. D: 41 mm, 33 g (SF LA 69, ctx. LA 24, Ph:LA 4).

Stone artefacts (Figs 6.7 and 6.8)

Stone identifications by Alistair Barclay

Six of the seven objects are hones or sharpeners of either fine schist or phyllite. One is a rectangular bar with the upper end pierced so that it could be suspended from a thong (31); it also has a deep, narrow groove in one face where a point has been sharpened. The only other stone find is a spindlewhorl of calcareous siltstone.

- 30 **Spindlewhorl**, calcareous siltstone, complete. D:34 mm, 31 g (SF SA 22, ctx. SA 16/5, Ph:SA 8).
- 31 **Hone/sharpener**, phyllite, incomplete. Rectangular bar, upper end pierced. Deep narrow groove in one surface. L:60 mm (SF SA 20, ctx. SA 8/1, Ph:SA 7).
- NI **Hone/sharpener**, banded schist, incomplete. Broken at upper and lower ends. Trace of perforation. L:60 mm (SF LA 90, ctx. LA 151/1, Ph:LA 6-7).
- NI **Hone**, schist, incomplete. Rectangular bar. L:47 mm (SF PS 36, ctx. PS 31/1, Ph:PS 8/9).

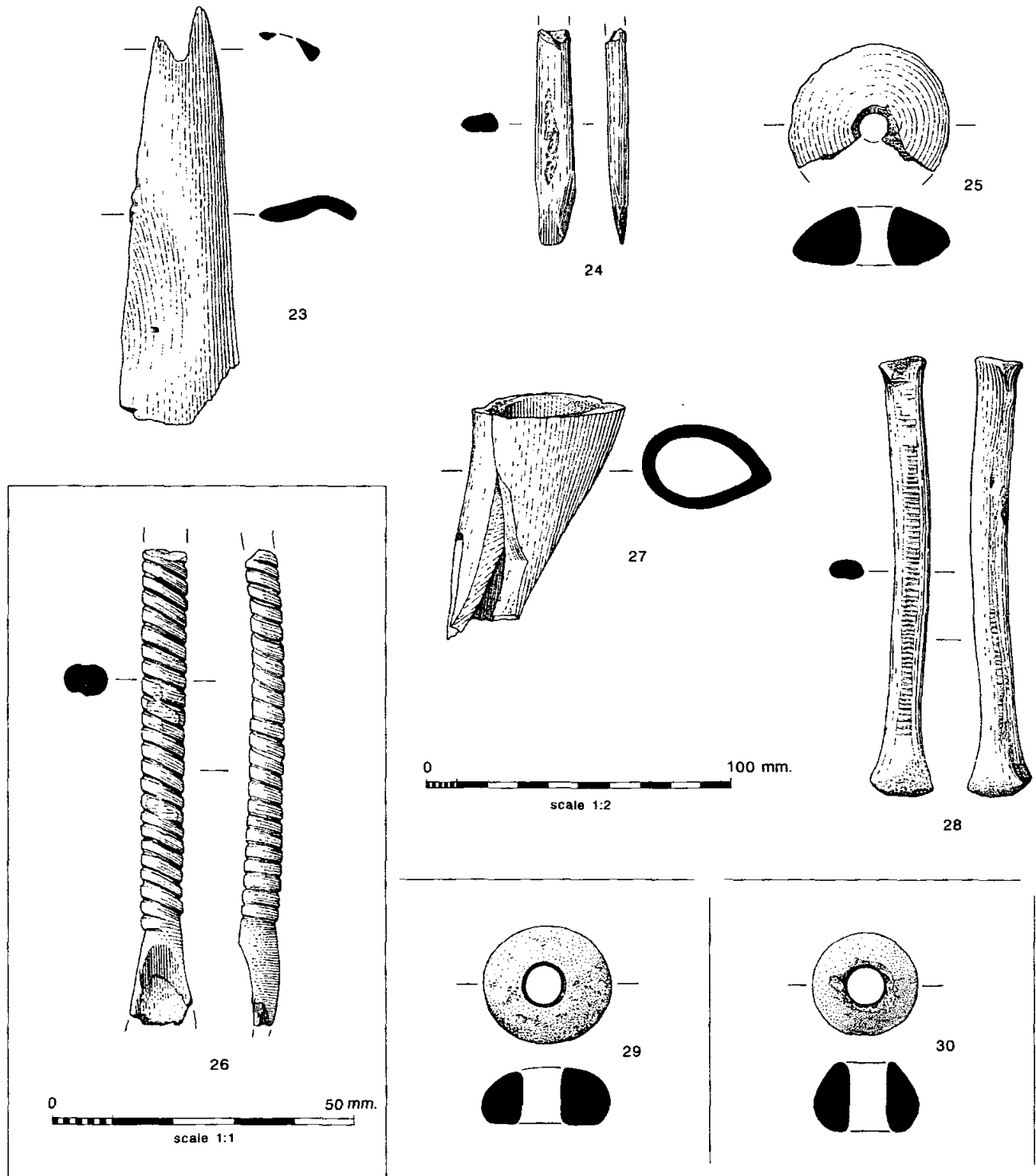


Figure 6.7 Small Finds from 24-6 St Aldate's, 30-31 St Aldate's and 56-60 St Aldate's: Bone nos 23-8; Fired clay no. 29; Stone no. 30.

- 32 **Hone**, fine schist, incomplete. Rectangular bar, corners slightly chamfered. L:336 mm (SF SA 27, ctx. SA 29, Ph:SA 7).
- 33 **Hone**, phyllite, incomplete. Rectangular bar, upper and lower ends broken. L:145 mm (SF SA 37, ctx. SA 47/3, Ph:SA 4).

- 34 **Sharpener**, phyllite, incomplete. Broken at one end. L:57 mm (SF SA 40, ctx. SA 514, Ph:SA 4).

Leatherwork (Fig. 6.9)

Of the 35 groups of leather finds recorded from the three sites, four were recognisable as shoes or

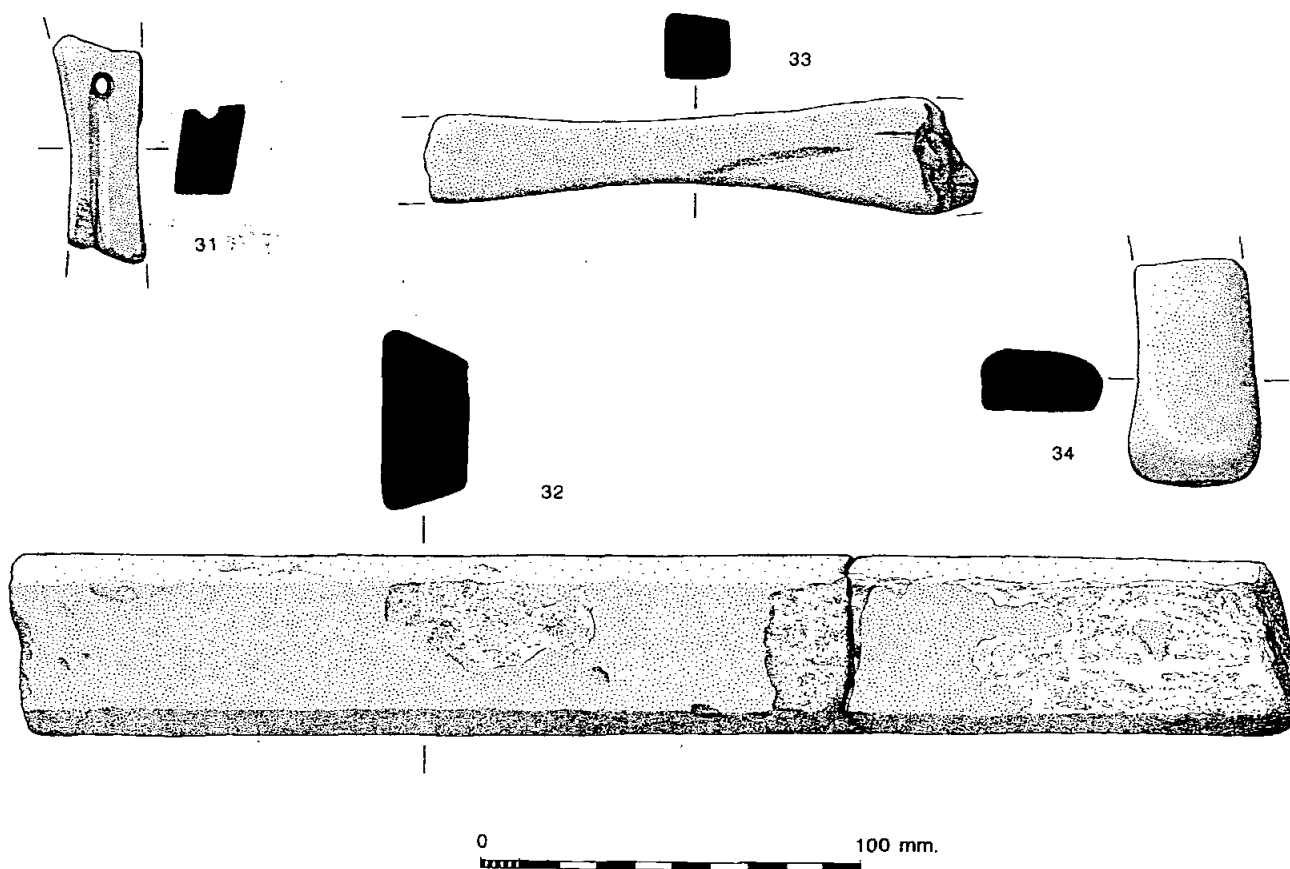


Figure 6.8 Small Finds from 24-6 St Aldate's, 30-31 St Aldate's and 56-60 St Aldate's: Stone nos 31-4.

substantial parts of shoes, the remainder being a wide variety of scrap. Details of the scrap assemblages are available in archive. Leather first appears in Phase SA 2, but the largest volume is from SA 3, comprising 2665 g of cutting waste and scrap leather. Out of 430 individual items, less than 2% were recognisable as parts of shoes and 10% seemed to be scrap from repairs, but most were clean manufacturing offcuts. In a very much smaller sample from Phase SA 4 (10 items) the general proportions were not very different, but here the bulk by weight was made up by a thonged turnshoe (No. 35), the earliest recognised from the present group of sites. It had a single-piece upper with a rounded heel-end, of a type already known from local sites (Durham 1977, fig. 36). A second shoe was recovered from SA Phase 5 (SF SA 41), but this was the latest of the leather items from this site. There was only one find of leather scrap from the Police Station site. For the mid-stream site Land adjoining the Police Station, on the downstream side of the crossing, leather begins to appear in Phase LA 4, but never in the quantity of the upstream side. Rectangular and irregular shapes predominate, as if offcuts from domestic jobs rather than a craft workshop (SF LA 65, SF LA 70-2; not catalogued - details in archive). There was one major medieval leather assemblage here, that from Pit LA 203, with substantially complete shoes (No. 36, SF LA 52 and 64) and several fragments.

The shoes were all of randed or early welted construction (Durham 1984a, fig. 13, fiche E09).

- 35 Two-thirds of the upper of a **thonged turnshoe**, and parts of sole of same. L:c 300 mm, decorative cuts around throat (SF SA 44, ctx. SA 514, Ph:SA 4).
 NI Part of upper and 50 mm of thonged stitching to sole of **thonged turnshoe**. 5.5 mm stitches, edge-flesh in upper, flesh-flesh in sole, creating 11 mm scalloping (SF SA 41, ctx. SA 509/2, Ph:SA 5).

Parts of three **welted shoes** from Pit LA 203:

- 36 a: almost complete **welted shoe**, middle sole length 232 mm;
 NI b: two-part upper and fragments of sole of **welted shoe**, length uncertain;
 NI c: sole and parts of upper of **welted shoe**, sole length 250 mm (SF LA 51, 52 and 64, ctx. LA 203, late med. pit/well).

Finds from the British Telecom Tunnel
 (Figs 6.10, 6.11)
 by Catherine Underwood-Keevill

The most notable objects recovered from the BT Tunnel Watching Brief are catalogued below. Details of other finds are available in the archive.

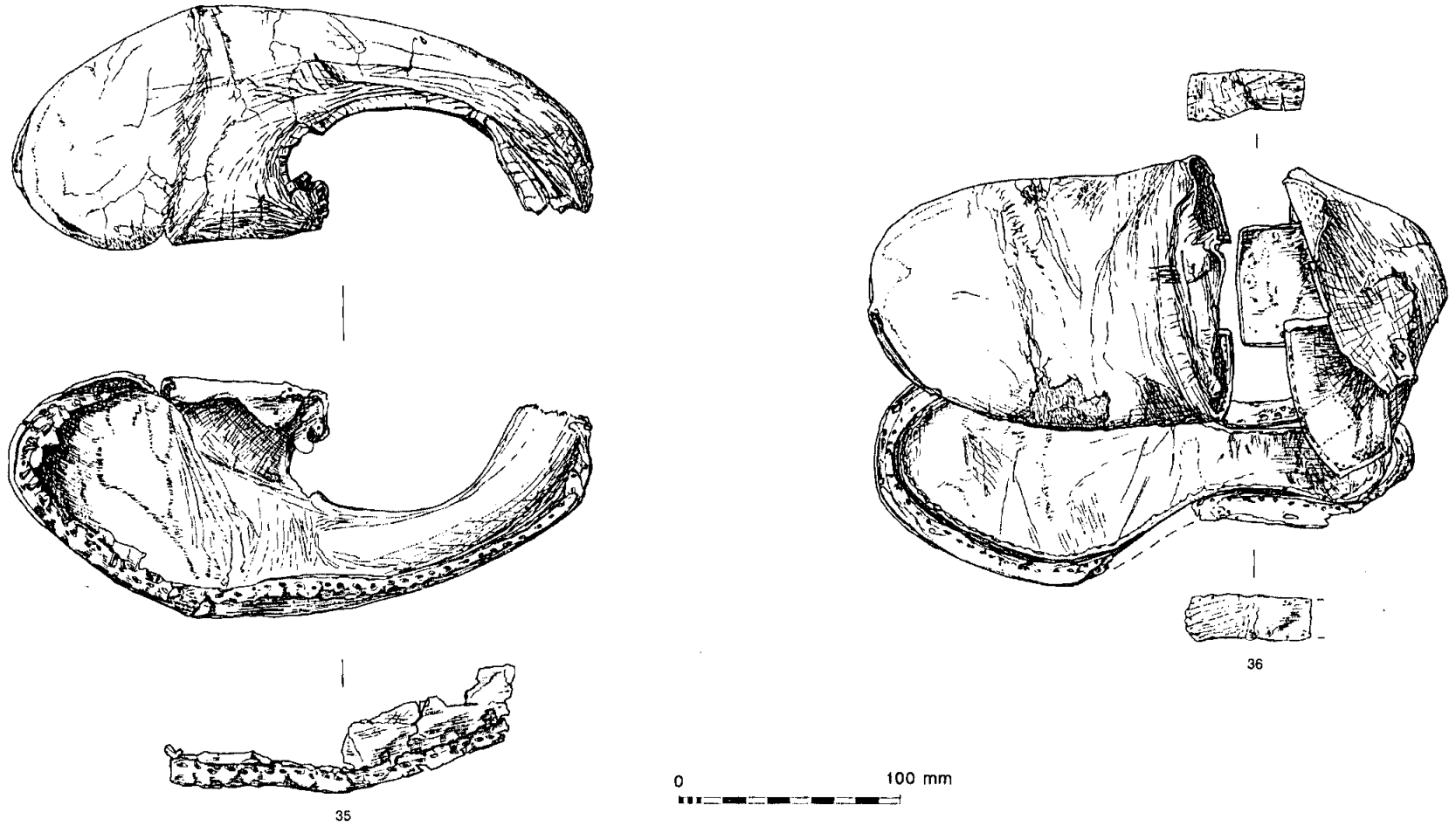


Figure 6.9 Small Finds from 24-6 St Aldate's, 30-31 St Aldate's and 56-60 St Aldate's: Leather nos 35-6.

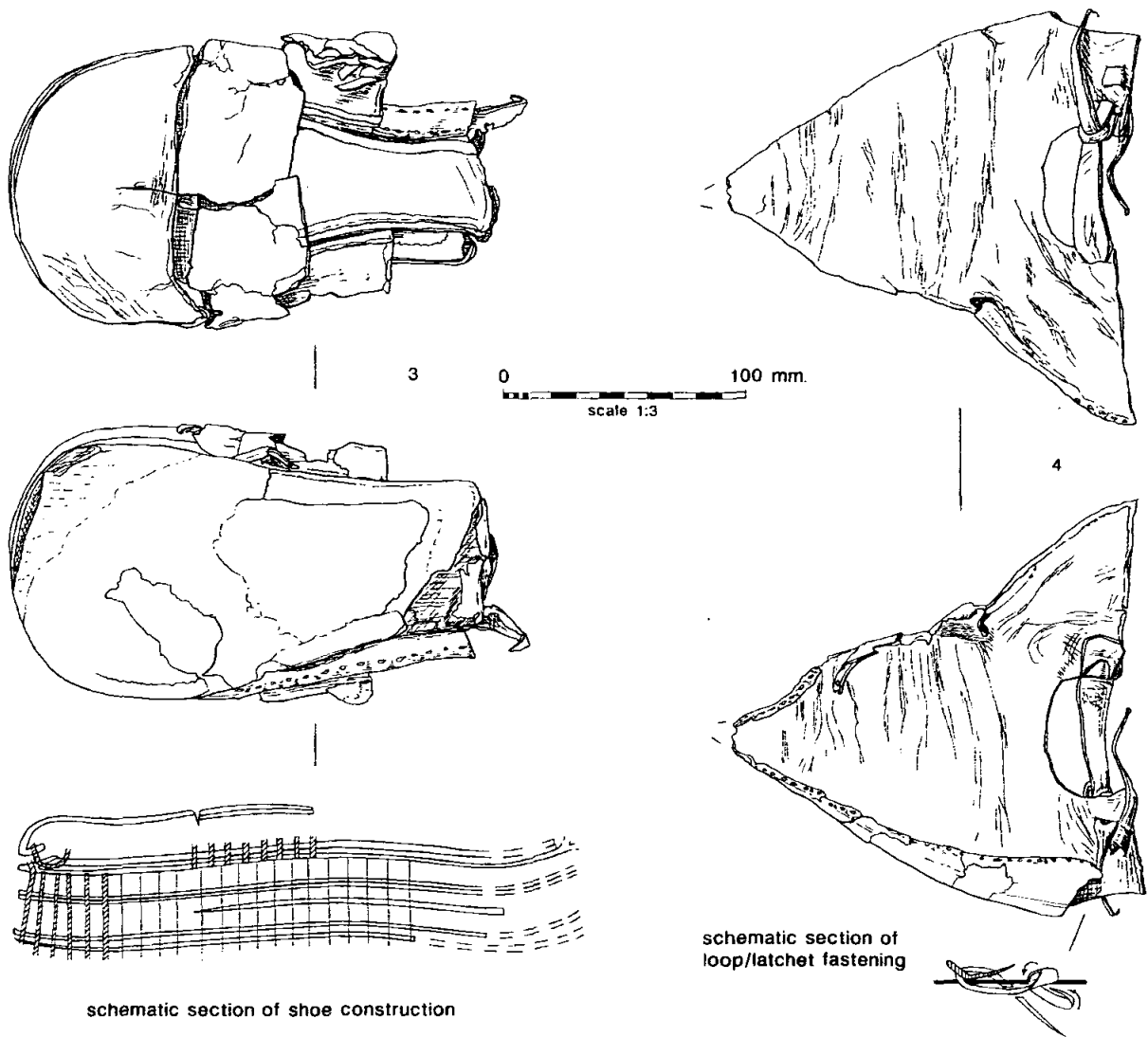
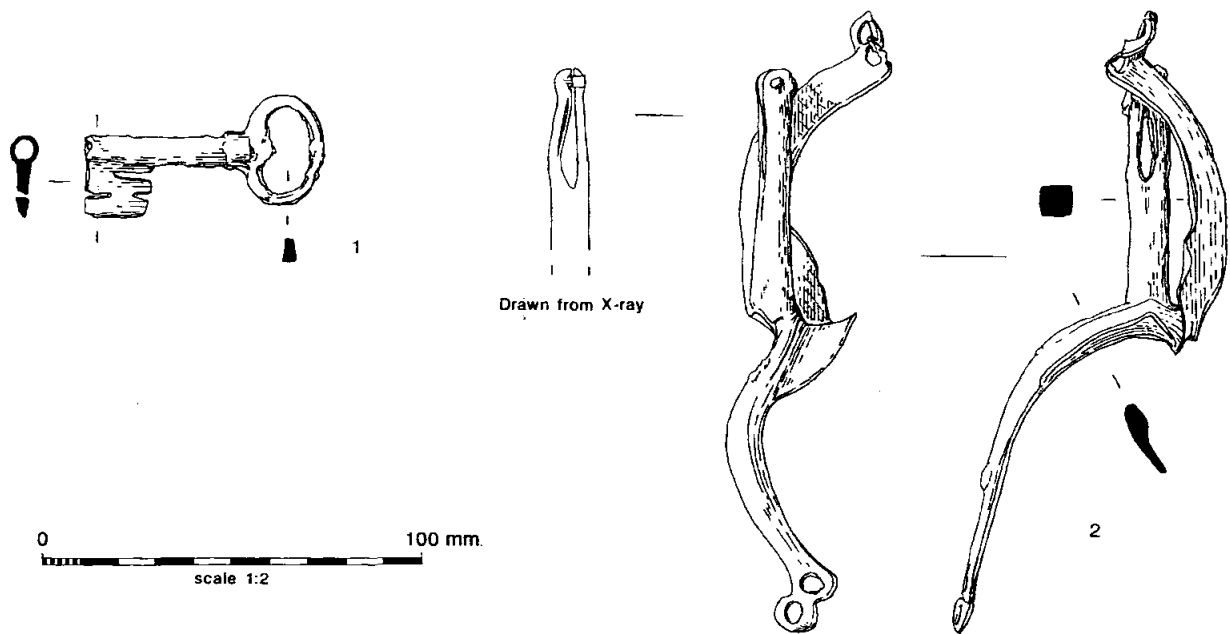


Figure 6.10 Small Finds from the BT Tunnel: Copper alloy no. 1; Iron no. 2; Leather nos 3-4.

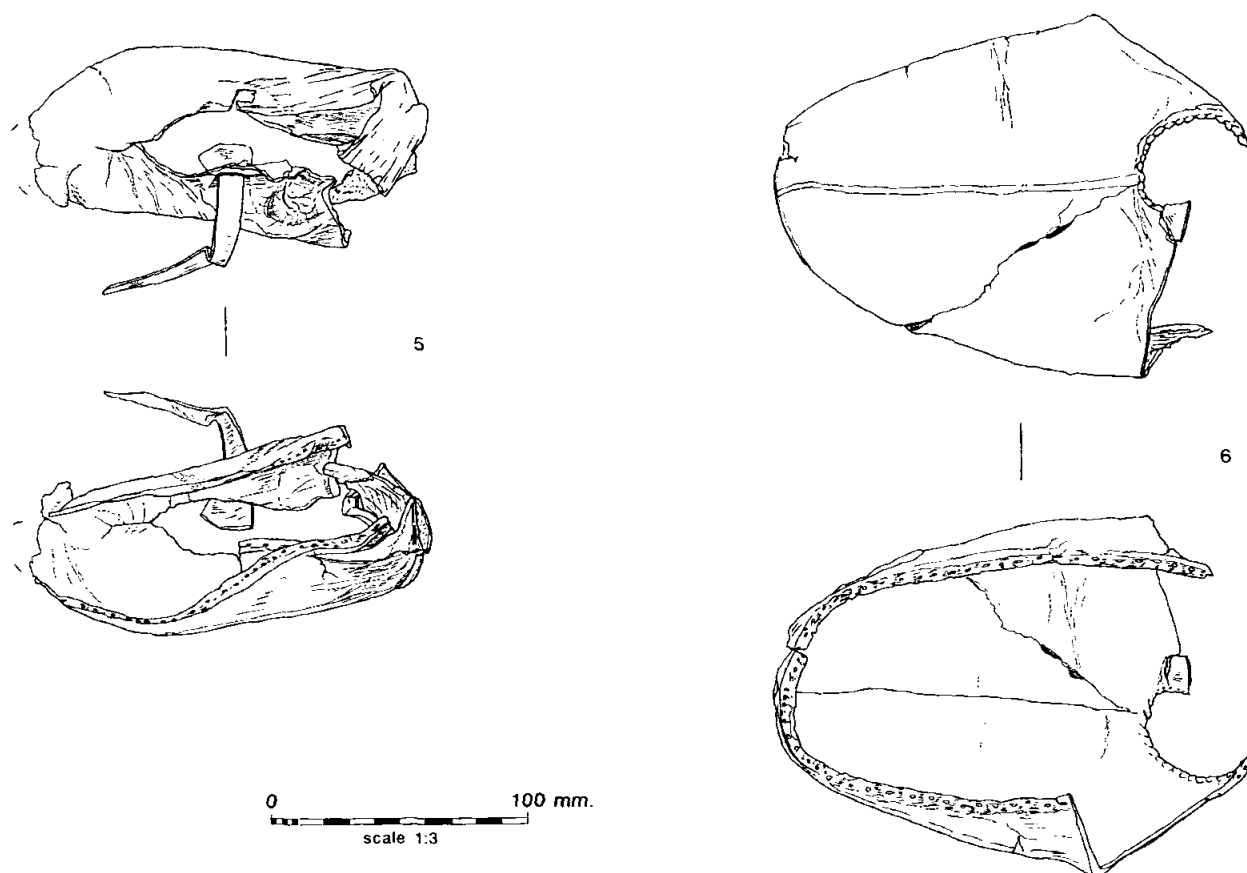


Figure 6.11 Small Finds from the BT Tunnel: Leather nos 5-6.

Copper Alloy

- 1 **Key**, copper alloy, with oval bow and moulded tubular stem and irregular ward. Medieval, similar to Colchester no. 3231, fig. 88 (Crummy 1988, 82-3). Length: 61 mm; width: 28 mm; thickness: 7 mm (SF: SAM 19; U/S, tunnel 1, bay 21).
- NI **Key**, copper alloy, with intricately cut patterned ward and large round incomplete bow. Moulded at junction of stem and bow. Post-medieval (SF: SAM 1; U/S).
- NI **Plating**, bronze/brass, wide strip with rivet holes at edges. Post-medieval (SF: SAM 9; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 14).
- NI **Pins**, bronze/brass. Ten pins. Heads moulded in two halves. Post-medieval (SF: SAM 7; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 1; SF: SAM 17, U/S, tunnel 1 bay 17; SF: SAM 18, U/S, tunnel 1).
- NI **Plating/fitting**, bronze/brass. Post-medieval (SF: SAM 8, U/S, tunnel 1 bay 11).
- NI **Handle**, brass. Ornate scrolled handle. Post-medieval (SF: SAM 3, U/S, tunnel 1 bay 4).

Iron

2 **Rowel Spur** by *Blanche Ellis*

Traces of non-ferrous plating which is probably tin. The D-section sides curve under the wear-

er's ankle, rising towards figure-eight terminals. Behind the wearer's heel the top edges of the spur sides are drawn up gracefully into a high flange with a pointed crest above the junction of the sides. Below the crest the round straight and fairly long neck is set low. The rowel is missing and the rowel bosses have been compressed together with traces of the rowel pin in them. One side of the spur is badly bent so that it now lies alongside the neck. A single incised line runs horizontally below the flange and across the junction of the neck and sides. The outer surface of the flange appears to have been slightly recessed below a plain top border but this area is now corroded. Early 15th century; an early stage in the development of the 'long spur', the term used by 15th-century writers of inventories etc. to describe fashionable spurs with very long necks (Ellis 1991, 55). Length: 150 mm, length of neck: 65 mm, length of rowel box: 30 mm (SF: SAM 16; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 15).

- NI **Scissors**. Incomplete, only one blade present. Short handle, oval loop, narrow blade with point missing. No rivet hole through centre. Post-medieval (SF: SAM 4; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 4).
- NI **Tool**. Incomplete. Part of tongs; narrow, flat rods, one straight and one hooked. Possible leather-working tool (SF: SAM 11; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 14).

Leather

- 3 **Shoe**, upper and sole, leather. Incomplete, heel and quarters missing. Square toed. Thick layered sole with insole. Horizontal slit over the front vamp. Slashed shoes C15th onwards (Allin 1981, 154–5, fig. 59). Length: 198 mm, width: 104 mm (SF: SAM 12; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 14).
 - 4 **Shoe**, upper and fastening, leather. Complete front vamp with front latchet fastening. Lace with spade-shaped terminal attached through hole and fastened by loop/latchet. Wide shoe with pointed toe. Late C14th (Grew and de Neergaard 1988, 69, fig. 103). Length: 162 mm, width: 116 mm (SF: SAM 13; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 15).
 - 5 **Shoe**, upper, leather. Complete upper made from one piece of leather. Child's shoe. Round toed with single front lacing. Late C14th (Grew and de Neergaard 1988, 28, fig. 41). Length: 158 mm, width: 66 mm (SF: SAM 14; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 15).
 - 6 **Ankle boot**, upper, leather. Front vamp. Round toed with raised linear detail on top surface. Stitching on top surface on one side indicates attached to quarter and possible ankle boot. C15th? (Allin 1981, 152–3, fig. 58, 18). Length: 140 mm, width: 131 mm (SF: SAM 20; U/S).
- NI **Belt**, leather. Belt end with three punched holes. Double leather strip stitched around edge. Narrow cut strips added on to belt end by small collar/ring to aid repair or replacement. Length: 251 mm, width: 33 mm, thickness: 7 mm (SF: SAM 15; U/S, tunnel 1 bay 15).
- NI Other leather **shoe fragments** and **offcuts** were noted and illustrated in archive (SAM 2, 21, 22, 23, and 24; all U/S).

POTTERY FROM THE THAMES CROSSING SITES

Introduction

by *Maureen Mellor*

The pottery from the sites in this volume produced useful sequences from the late 9th/early 10th century to the early 12th century, and thereafter the assemblages continued to the post-medieval period but were less relevant to the present volume. The presence of a number of continental and regional imports hitherto not recognised from recent excavations in Oxford was of particular interest. Amongst these imports, the dating and nature of the St Neot's-type ware tradition in Oxford poses a number of questions.

Abbreviations and methodology

The abbreviations used in this volume follow those set out in Haldon 1977, 110–39, Mellor 1980, 160–82, Fiche 1 E06, and Mellor 1994 (omitting the OX prefix) for the medieval period, and Mellor and Oakley 1984, 176–219 Fiche M1 G5 – III G2 for the post-medieval period.

The classification of the pottery from these sites and the nomenclature of the major ceramic traditions was similar to that outlined in 79–80 St Aldate's (Haldon 1977). The basic recording unit adopted is a single sherd, or alternatively a group of sherds with effectively identical characteristics and was sherd-based to facilitate rapid recording (Blake and Davey 1983, 50). Numbers of vessels are estimated from the number of rims and represent a minimum (Haldon 1977). For the post-medieval period, the methodology follows the Oxford St Ebbe's report (Mellor and Oakley 1984). Sherds classified as miscellaneous were either too small to be assigned to a fabric type or their fabrics were obscured through secondary burning etc. The sherds from these sites were recorded between 1976 and 1988 and the reports were revised in 1991 to accommodate the radiocarbon dates, to update the table of imports, expand the discussion of cultural implications and provide an overview of late Saxon Oxford.

The major ceramic traditions showed the same broad trends one to another, irrespective of whether sherd number or sherd weight was used (Mellor 1980). Sites analysed in the 1980s (Queen Street) included data concerning surviving rim percentages and sooting patterns.

The illustrations were drawn over a period of 11 years and were redrawn from reductions; therefore the published profiles are two stages removed from the original sherds.

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to Kathy Kilmurry for her identification of the Stamford types and to Richard Hodges for his identification of many of the continental imports and finally to David Williams of the Department of Archaeology, Southampton University for his work on the petrological analysis of the continental imports (see Table 6.7).

Pottery from the excavations at 89–91 St Aldate's by *Maureen Mellor*

This investigation fell into two parts: a staggered section across the study area (Trenches I, II and VI), and limited excavation of a building sequence beginning in the first half of the 10th century and running through to the stone house demolished in 1987 (Trench VII). They are discussed separately below because of the contrast in structural type and the absence of any stratigraphic link between them, which prevented the allocation of phases across both. The phasing is broadly similar, although the ceramics in Trench VII Phase 4b were similar to Phase 3 on the mill stream. These differences are discussed below.

The Trill Mill Stream trenches (Trenches I, II and VI) (Figs 6.12, 6.13; Table 6.1)

These narrow trenches into the silts of the mill stream produced some 1524 pottery sherds ranging

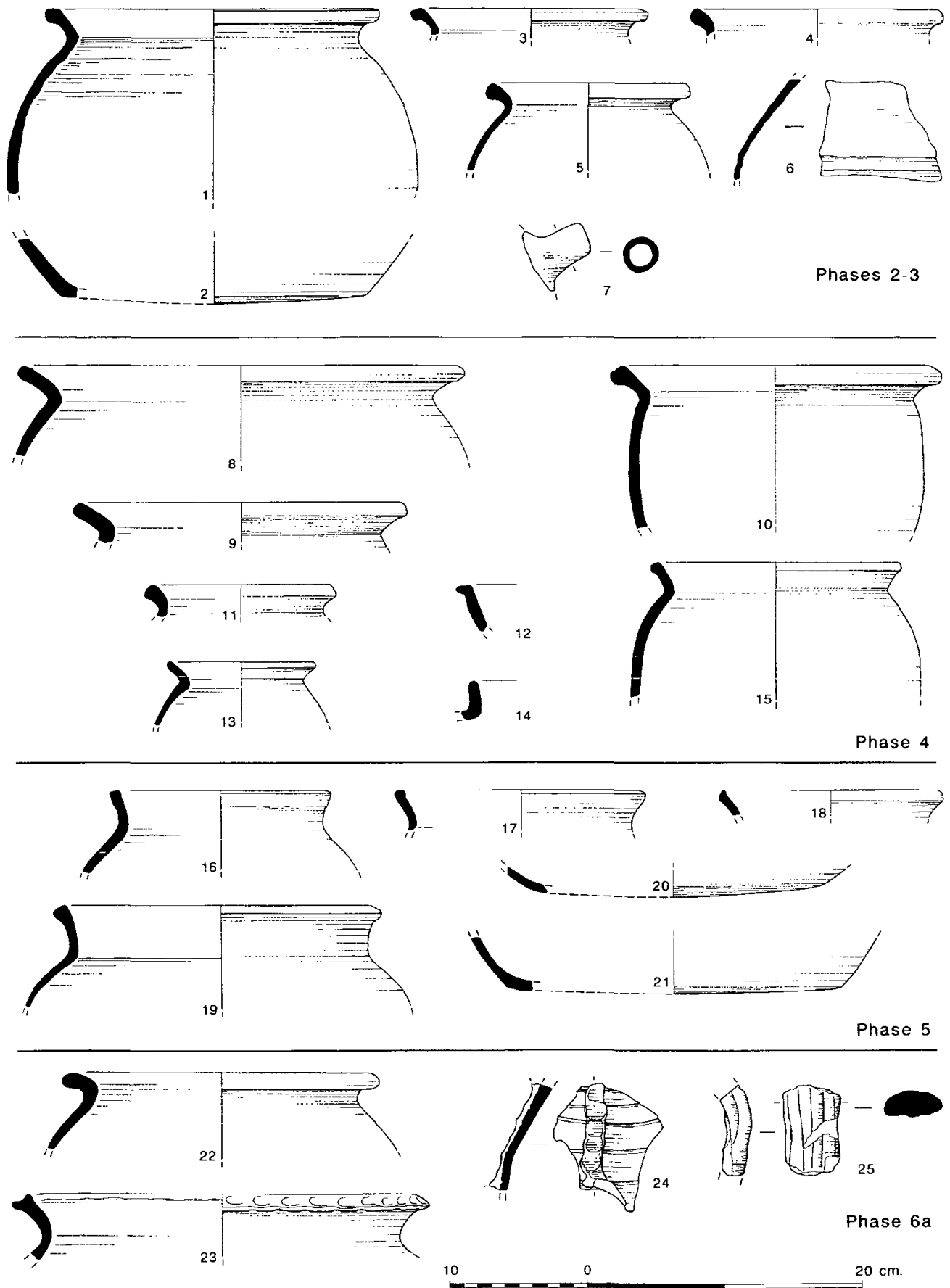


Figure 6.12 Pottery from 89-91 St Aldate's: nos 1-25.

Oxford Before the University

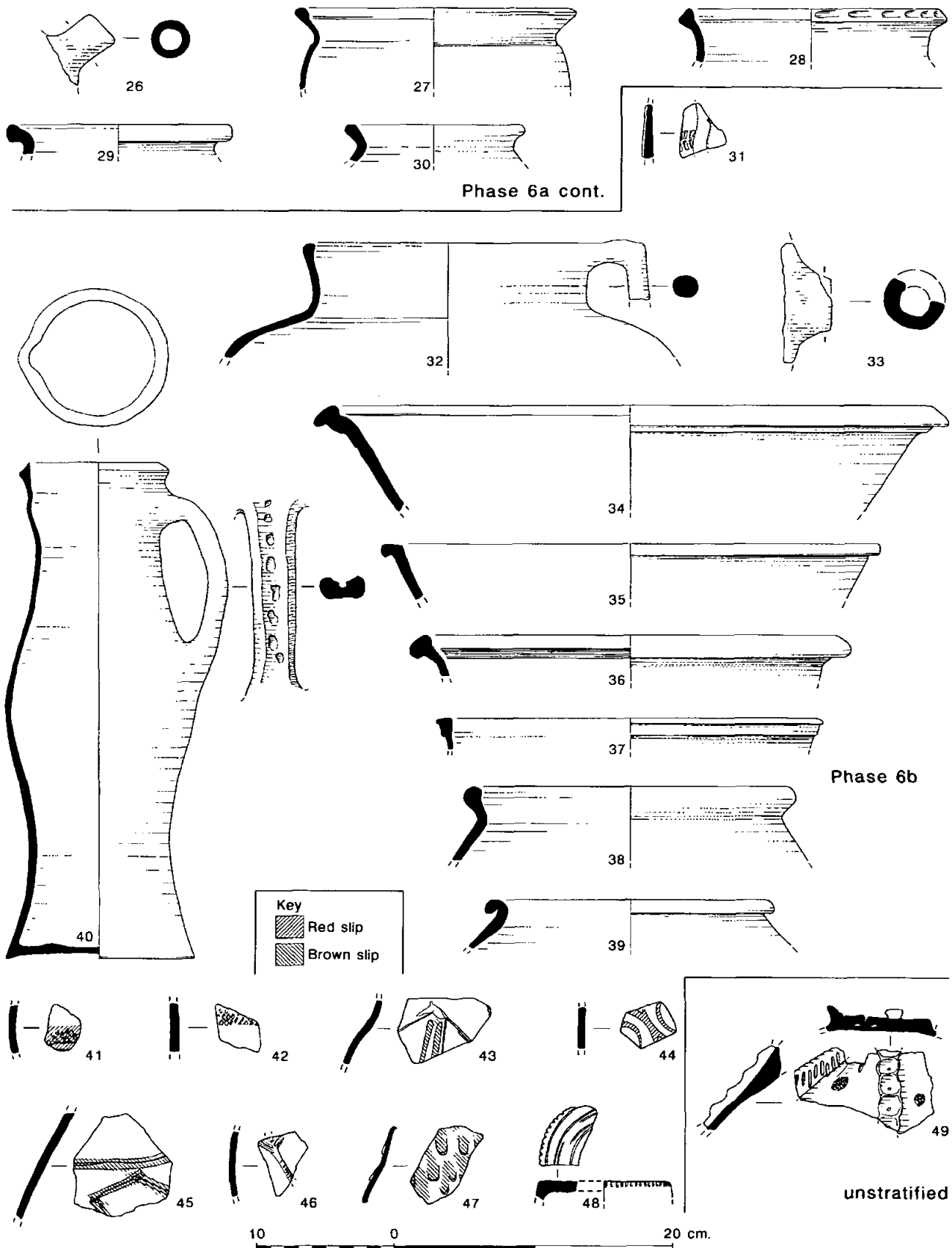


Figure 6.13 Pottery from 89-91 St Aldate's: nos 26-49.

Chapter Six

Table 6.1 Pottery from 89–91 St Aldate's (the Trill Mill Stream), Trenches I, II and VI

Fabric	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4	Phase 5	Phase 6a	Phase 6b	Phase 7	Total
GpIA B		17 85%	10 19%	28 46%		7 1%		1 1%	63
R		2 10%	36 69%	23 38%	27 49%	15 2%	4 0.7%		107
BK							1 0.2%		1
CG							3 0.5%	1 1%	4
GpIB AC				3 5%	4 7%	141 22%	25 4%	8 10%	181
BR					6 11%	1 0.2%			7
BS						1 0.2%	1 0.2%		2
CT						1 0.2%			1
GpII AQ							66 11%	4 5%	70
BF					5 9%	4 0.6%			9
GpIII J				1 2%					1
S					4 7%				4
T					1 2%				1
Y				3 5%	1 2%	408 63%	141 23%	27 34%	580
AB							2 0.5%		2
AG						38 6%	94 15%	4 5%	136
AH						2 0.3%	3 0.5%		5
AK							1 0.2%		1
AM						1 0.2%	208 34%	27 34%	236
AP							2 0.3%		2
AR						1 0.2%			1
AT						3 0.5%	1 0.2%		4
AW						1 0.2%	6 1%		7
BQ		1 5%	1 2%	1 2%					3
BV					1 2%	1 0.2%			2
BY					1 2%				1
BX							?1 0.2%	?1 0.2%	2
GA			1 2%						1
GB						1 0.2%			1
GC					1 2%				1
RST								?1 1%	1
ZZ			1 2%	2 3%	4 7%	25 4%	44 7%	6 8%	82
RB	1 100%		3 6%				1 0.2%		5
Total	1	20	52	61	55	651	604	80	1524

in date from late Roman to post-medieval, with a fairly complete ceramic sequence from the early 10th century through the 13th century, but not necessarily continuous across the site. For instance a period of reclamation of the north bank (Phase 5), probably during the second quarter of the 11th century, was represented only in Trench I, and the absence of deposits further south within the channel itself may indicate that for a period there was no activity there because of an increased depth of water. Thereafter, with the appearance of rubbish pits and more general dumping in Phases 6a and 6b, the site takes on ceramically the aspect of sites like 65 St Aldate's (Gaz No. 93).

Phases 1–2, early pottery from the margins of the mill stream

Phase 1 spring-line deposits in the north part of the transect yielded a single Romano-British sherd.

Sarah Green writes 'this greyware can be equated with R47, dating to the 3rd or 4th century (Young 1977, 220, fig. 81)'.

The early Phase 2 cut of the mill stream regrettably yielded no sherds to corroborate the radiocarbon evidence for activity before AD 900 (HAR 8363, 8364). Pottery begins to appear in later Phase 2 levels however, with one sherd of a Belgian blackware fabric BQ from a possible gully (Fig. 6.12 No. 6; 35/1). These wares are known from several sites along the line of St Aldate's (see Underwood-Keevill, below) and also at 44–6 Cornmarket, which is a continuation of the same route where it forms the main north-south market street within the town (Hassall 1971a, fig. 4, nos 27/1, 22). To the west, another vessel from a pit (F512) at Church Street was found in association with late Saxon shelly wares (fabric B and fabric R, group IA, Mellor 1989, 201). As the gullies were disused, the overlying silts yielded a more familiar range of wares, predominantly the local handmade

shelly Late Saxon Oxford ware tradition (fabric *B*, group IA), but with two sherds of St Neot's-type ware tradition (fabric *R*). The assemblage included a large handmade jar (Fig. 6.12 No. 1; P15/0/1). Taken with the stylistic evidence of a mid to late Saxon silver garment hook from the lower fill of gully 17 (Fig. 6.1 No. 1), this material would be consistent with a date in the 10th century; a radiocarbon determination of cal AD 890–1290 was obtained from a small sample of wattle from the same deposit (HAR 5344).

Phase 3, pottery from early embanking of the stream

Meaningful quantities of pottery appear first in Phase 3 silts around a narrow wattle-revetted gravel embankment (14). By now the proportions of the local ware fabric *B* to St Neot's-type is almost reversed, with the wheel-thrown regional coarsewares representing 70% of the assemblage overall. The assemblage included large handmade jars (Fig. 6.12 No. 2; P11/1/2); and smaller vessels similar to St Neot's-types (Fig. 6.12 No. 3; P11/1/1). Similar smaller vessels were found at 79–80 St Aldate's, All Saints and 56–60 St Aldate's, where they were found in association with St Neot's-types in contexts dated to the 10th century (Haldon 1977, Mellor this volume, Underwood-Keevill this volume). A limited range of utilitarian St Neot's-type vessels occurred at 89–91 St Aldate's, with the classic rolled and flared rims (Fig. 6.12 Nos 4 P11/0/1 and 5 P14/0/1).

An interesting find from within the bank itself was a pitcher spout, glazed light green, and covered with tiny fragments of clay adhering to the glaze. Katherine Barclay writes that this may be a burnt example of Winchester ware (Oxford fabric *GA*, group III), and it is possible that the clay fragments came from a neighbouring pot which had shattered during firing (Fig. 6.12 No. 7, P14/0/2). The construction of this spout with its inner lining is very distinctive (Biddle and Barclay 1974, 161, nos 31–2). Two other examples only are known from Oxford, both of probable 10th-century date (Hassall 1971a, fig. 5, no. 17/1 and Mellor 1976, 264). The only other significant component here was a storage vessel of Belgian blackware (fabric *BQ*) from gully 34/1, which parallels another from Cornmarket where it was found in association with a Winchester-type pitcher (see above), and a further three Romano-British sherds.

The rise to dominance of St Neot's-type in Phase 3 on this site is seen in many sequences across Oxford, but its dating is difficult because many of the groups are isolated from dating groups where the regional import comes to dominance. A possible solution in terms of the colonisation of marginal sites around the *burh* by Danish migrant settlers is discussed in the context of the pottery from All Saints Church (Mellor this volume, below), and the activity at the margin of the mill stream might be one such situation.

Phase 4, pottery from the flooded mill stream

In the next phase, the succession of the local to imported coarsewares again becomes significant. The proportions of fabrics *B* to *R* in the silting above the Phase 3 gravel bank begins to favour *B* again (*B* 52%, *R* 27%) while from the silts further out into the stream in Trench VI the proportions are still like Phase 3 (*B* 27%, *R* 61%). The handmade vessels (Fig. 6.12 Nos 8, 9, 10 and 15; P642/0/1, P636/2/1, P647/1/1, and P641/0/1) have a much greater capacity than the imported coarsewares (Fig. 6.12 Nos 11 and 13; P632/0/1 and P23/0/1), and a shallow dish in Late Saxon Oxford ware was also found (Fig. 6.12 No. 12; P647/0/1).

The reason for amalgamating these layers as Phase 4 is the appearance in the silt assemblages of later types, Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric *AC*, group IB) and Medieval Oxford ware (fabric *Y*, group III). It may be that the latter should be regarded as intrusive in the surface of silts which were perhaps exposed on the bed of the mill stream for nearly two centuries. However one of the sherds in fabric *AC* seemed to be mimicking the simple rim form of Late Saxon Oxford ware (Fig. 6.12 No. 14; P636/0/1), and may genuinely be an early Oxford example of a tradition which is widespread in west Oxfordshire at this early date (Mellor 1994).

Continental grey and blackwares (fabrics *J* and *BQ*, group III) were again present.

Phase 5, reclamation of the mill stream

Table 6.1 reflects once again the development in pottery resources in the Oxford area, with the collapse of the local tradition *B* and the emergence of several new local types (Fig. 6.12 Nos 16 and 17; P5/4/1 *BR* and P5/6/1 *BF*) including some large vessels possibly with a similar capacity to the earlier shelly tradition (Fig. 6.12 Nos 19 and 21; P9/0/2 *GC* and P9/0/1 *BF*), and continental imports (fabrics *T*, *BY*, and *BV* group III) from the Pas de Calais region of France and the Rhineland (Fig. 6.12 Nos 18 and 20; P5/4/2 and P5/3/1). These imports can be paralleled from the infill of the All Saints cellar pit (Mellor this volume, below), at 65 St Aldate's (Durham 1984a, 68, fig. 13, nos 7–8) and a cellar pit in Cornmarket (Sturdy and Munby 1985, 75, fig. 13, nos 7 and 8), as can the emergence of 'new' local types, suggesting a date in the second quarter of the 11th century.

Unglazed utilitarian products from the East Midlands (Stamford types) as seen at All Saints Church and Queen St (Mellor this volume, below) were absent from these late Saxon levels. Other regional imports included jars from Wessex (Fig. 6.12 Nos 17 and 21; P5/6/1 and P9/0/1) and a sandy ware, also known in London (fabric *S*, group III: Department of Urban Archaeology Type series 893, code *Sy*; see All Saints, Mellor this volume, below).

Phase 6a

Thereafter, a ceramic hiatus occurred during the reclamation until the very late 12th to early 13th centuries when new pottery types appear in the sequence. Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y, group III) was dominant (Fig. 6.12 Nos 23 and 24; P5/2/1, P33/0/1; Fig. 6.13 Nos 27 and 28; P5/2/3 and P5/2/2). Jars were common and glazed pitchers were present (Jope and Pantin 1958, BIB 45). Some of the sherds were stained purple on the interior surface. This phenomenon has been noted on 11th- and 12th-century vessels elsewhere in Oxford (St Ebbe's, Mellor 1989 and 7 Queen St, Mellor this volume, below) and Wallingford (Wilders, Goldsmith Lane Wallingford, unpublished records with OxMus) and may result from heating soft fruits such as elderberries or possibly madder, used as a dye-stuff (Vince 1991, 431).

A number of regional imports were also present. The tubular spout, glazed orange, from an unknown source (fabric GB, group III; Fig. 6.13 No. 26) has no known parallels locally. Other regional imports were recovered which came from the north, possibly from the Nuneaton kilns in Warwickshire (fabric AH, group III), Stamford in south Lincolnshire (fabric AT, group III), Lyveden in Northamptonshire (fabric CT, group IB) and from Olney Hyde in Buckinghamshire (Fig. 6.12 No. 22; P631/2/1); other vessels from this source are known in the vicinity (Mellor 1984, 71 and see Underwood-Keevill, below). A single sherd of Mérida-type (fabric AR, group III) from Spain or possibly Alentejo, Portugal, was found (Hurst *et al.* 1986, 69, fig. 31). Only two other such sherds have been recognised in Oxford, one close by (Haldon 1977, 118) and the other at Magdalen College (Mellor 1991, 50, fig. 12, no. 5). A residual 11th-century sherd of Pingsdorf-type (fabric BV, group III) was present, as were some sherds of St Neot's-type ware tradition. The latter are certainly residual from early to mid 11th-century contexts, but are perhaps occurring in these late 12th- to early 13th-century contexts because of pit-digging into the late Saxon levels (Fig. 6.13 Nos 29 and 30; P627/0/1 and P627/1/1). The remaining pottery from this phase is comparable with the pottery from the latest infilling of the ditches at the Hamel (Palmer 1980, 161, DB3).

Phase 6b

The subsequent phase of pit assemblages showed Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y, group III) to have declined in popularity in favour of large quantities of the highly decorated jugs and pitchers from the Brill/Boarstall kilns (fabric AM, AW, group III), known locally as Late Medieval Oxford ware (including Fig. 6.13 No. 40, a plain baluster-type jug; P2/3/1).

The highly decorated vessels with composite designs (Fig. 6.13 Nos 41, 43, 45, 46 and 47; P2/0/5; P2/3/2; P2/0/3; P1/2/1 and P2/3/3) are not always evident on other medieval sites such as the

New Bodleian (Bruce-Mitford 1939), but it is now clear that by the time these products were marketed in Oxford (Palmer 1980, 177), the potters were extremely skilled and these elaborately decorated vessels must have made a very considerable impact in the market place. A possible lid with notched decorations and mottled green glaze was also noted (Fig. 6.13 No. 48; P2/3/1).

Regional imports include a vessel from the south-east of Oxfordshire (Fig. 6.13 No. 31; P20/0/1 BW) with distinctive roller stamped decoration and an applied strip; from the south-west, coarsewares: bowls and jars (fabric AQ, group III, Fig. 6.13 Nos 34, 36 and 38; P6/1/1 and P2/3/4), and from the Buckinghamshire/Oxfordshire border vessels with a similar function to those from the SW (Fig. 6.13 Nos 35 and 37; P2/0/2 and P2/0/4 fabric AM). From the south, a highly decorated sherd (Fig. 6.13 No. 44; P2/5/2 fabric AG, group III) and a vessel (Fig. 6.13 No. 32; P670/2/1), partially glazed green internally and with an angular rod handle, which is reminiscent of metal ewers or cauldrons (Mellor 1984, 69, fig. 7, no. 4), suggesting that some potters were influenced by metal workers. It may have had another handle opposite the surviving one. From north-east of Oxford were some shelly limestone domestic wares (Fig. 6.13 No. 39; P2/0/1) from Olney Hyde (fabric CG, group IA; Mynard 1984; Mellor 1984 where they were originally described as Developed St Neot's; Mellor 1989, 208-9) and from a source to the east of Oxford was a possible jug with roller stamped decoration (Fig. 6.13 No. 42; P2/5/1 fabric BK, group IA). From the north and east come possible Nuneaton types from Warwickshire (fabric AH, group III) and Stamford types. Pitchers, sometimes spouted, appear to come from two other sources whose origins are unknown (fabrics AB and AK, group III, Haldon 1977, 117-18).

This phase also included some calcareous gravel-tempered vessels, possibly Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB), in vessel types only rarely recognised in Oxford, such as a strap handle from either a bowl or jug (Fig. 6.12 No. 25, originally attributed to Phase 6a but subsequently revised to Phase 6b). Handles are rare in this tradition in Oxford but are known further west at Witney in 12th- and possibly 13th-century contexts (Allen and Hiller 2002) possibly because Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y, group III) had cornered the Oxford market for jugs and pitchers. A bung-hole from a cistern was also in a similar fabric (Fig. 6.13 No. 33); cisterns, however, are a late medieval development nationally, and this example is unlikely to be earlier than the mid 14th century, rather later than the other vessels in this phase. Fabric AC is believed to be out of production by the mid 13th century (Mellor 1994), so these sherds may instead belong to another calcareous tradition whose source would be to the north-west of Oxford (fabric CX, Mellor 1994). The rest of the assemblage probably dates to the third quarter of the 13th century (Mellor 1980, BIOA-BIII, 176 and 178).

Phase 7

Phase 7 contained residual medieval pottery together with 17th-century Rhenish Stonewares and Red Earthenwares, perhaps of the third quarter of the 17th century.

Pottery from the street frontage site (Trench VII)
(Fig. 6.14; Table 6.2)

523 sherds were recovered from this trench. A small number of late Saxon sherds were associated with a gravel bank (Phase 2). This was followed by a short ceramic hiatus (Phase 3, silting levels), but the ceramic sequence resumed again in the first half of the 10th century (the timber structure, Phase 4a) and continued into the second half of the 10th century (Phase 4b and 4c timber structure and floors). It lacked the early and mid 11th-century assemblages present at Trenches I, II and VI, a sterile period which continued until the later 12th to early 13th century. The ceramic sequence then resumed (Phase 5) until the early post-medieval period (Phase 7).

Phases 1-4c

The earliest excavated silts (Phase 2) contained a few sherds of handmade Late Saxon Oxford ware (fabric B, group IA), and a fine example of a wheel-thrown continental blackware jar (Fig. 6.14 No. 50; fabric BM, group III P811/0/1) was recovered from a gravel embankment (TM 811). The silting around the area of the embankment produced no pottery (Phase 3). Phase 4a, the first timber structures on the street frontage, saw the continued dominance of Late Saxon Oxford ware (fabric B, group IA; Fig. 6.14 Nos 51-3; P792/0/1, P792/0/2, P793/2/1) and probably dates to the 10th century. A glazed sherd of Stamford ware (fabric L, group III) and two glazed sherds of Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y, group III) were found, but are believed to be intrusive (contexts 786, 788).

The subsequent phase (Phase 4b) showed Late Saxon Oxford ware to be in decline (fabric B, group IA), with St Neot's-tradition (fabric R, group IA) the most popular ware (see Table 6.2; Fig. 6.14 No. 54; P776/0/1). This phase probably parallels the ceramic evidence from Phase 3 in Trenches I, II and VI, and may belong to the same phase of settlement under Oxford Castle and probably dates to the second half of the 10th century as suggested by the dendrochronological dates AD 925-965. Phase 4c with only three sherds is similar in date to Phase 4b.

Phase 5

This was followed by a gap of some five or six generations, as at Trenches I, II and VI, until the area began to be infilled with rubbish of the later 12th or early 13th century (Phase 5). The hiatus on these sites in the early 11th to late 12th centuries matched that at 65 St Aldate's, perhaps waiting for the water levels to stabilize. Medieval Oxford ware dominated (fabric Y, group III) with a smaller proportion of Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB). Residual early 11th-century pottery was also present (fabric R, group IA) and an unusual rim sherd from a bowl or shallow dish in Late Saxon Oxford ware (fabric B, group IA; Fig. 6.14 No. 55; P767/0/1) was included. The rim type is similar to the mid-later 11th-century vessels in Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB).

Regional imports come from the north, possibly Nuneaton (fabric AH, group III), from the south (fabric AG, group III Medieval Abingdon ware), and from the Brill/Boarstall kilns (fabric AM, group III) to the east of Oxford. This phase parallels the beginning of Phase 8 at 79-80 St Aldate's.

Phase 6a

Late Medieval Oxford ware (fabrics AM and AW, group III, from the Brill/Boarstall kilns) dominates, having replaced Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y,

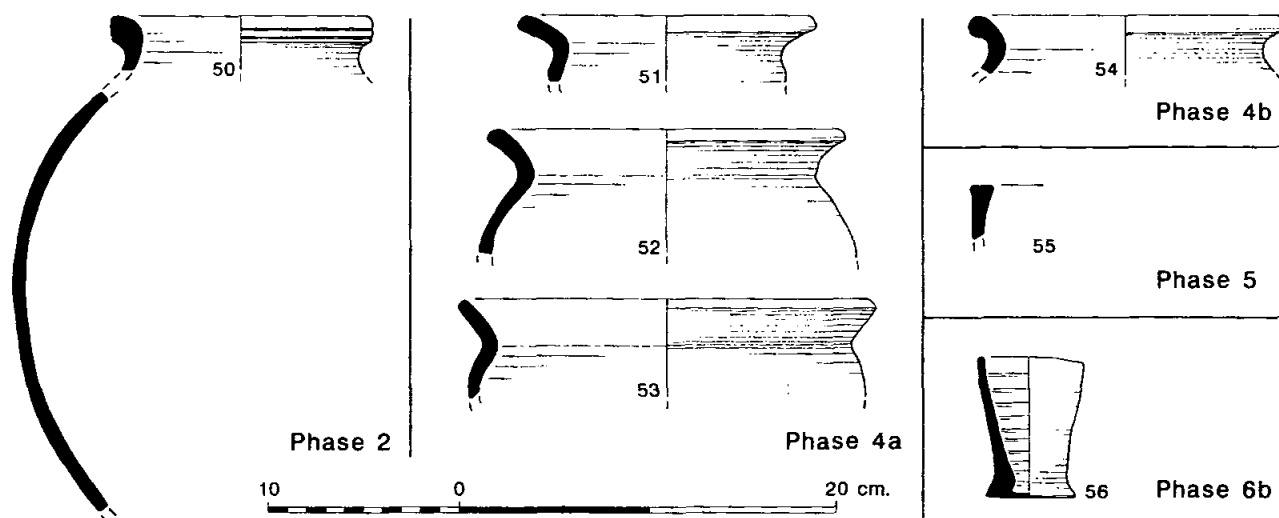


Figure 6.14 Pottery from 89-91 St Aldate's Trench VII: nos 50-56.

Table 6.2 Pottery from 89–91 St Aldate's (the Trill Mill Stream), Trench VII

Fabric	Phase 2	Phase 4A	Phase 4B	Phase 4C	Phase 5	Phase 6A	Phase 6B	Phase 6C	Phase 7	Phase 7B	Total
GpIA B	3 43%	28 88%	4 18%	1 33%	1 0.9%						37 7%
R			17 77%	2 67%	12 11%	1 0.5%					32 6%
GpIB AC					18 16%	3 2%		1 2%	5 9%		27 5%
BB						1 0.5%					1 0.2%
GpII AQ						8 4%	2 5%	1 2%	1 2%		12 2%
BF					1 0.9%						1 0.2%
GpIII L		1 3%									1 0.2%
W									1 2%		1 0.2%
Y		2 6%			50 44%	39 21%		6 11%	27 51%		124 24%
AB						1 0.5%					1 0.2%
AG					8 7%	10 5%		6 11%	5 9%		29 6%
AH					1 0.9%	4 2%		1 2%			6 1%
AM					2 2%	66 35%	30 68%	14 25%	7 13%	1 25%	120 23%
AP								12 21%			12 2%
AW						37 20%	1 2%	8 14%			46 9%
BM	4 57%										4 0.8%
BX							2 5%	4 7%			6 1%
Misc		1 3%	1 5%		21 18%	18 10%	9 20%	3 5%	7 13%	3 75%	63 12%
Total	7	32	22	3	114	188	44	56	53	4	523

group III) as the major source by the second half of the 13th century. Coarsewares from Minety in Wiltshire (fabric *BB*, group IB) and another from an east Wiltshire source (fabric *AQ*, group II) are also present.

Phase 6b

Late Medieval Oxford ware (fabrics *AM*, *AW* and *BX*, group III) continued to dominate the assemblage and included a vessel which resembled a cut-down bottle, but was possibly a goblet or drinking vessel (Fig. 6.14 No. 56; P736/1/1). It showed signs of heavy wear along the rim and had carbon adhering to the rim, but the latter may not be associated with its primary use and function.

Phase 6c

Phase 6c embraces later developments of the building dating to the 14th and 15th centuries, still dominated by Late Medieval Oxford ware (fabrics *AM*, *AP*, *AW* and *BX*, group III).

Phase 7

This phase contained much residual pottery dating to the late 12th to early 13th century and included a 'fire-pot' or possibly a chimney pot in Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric *AC*, group IB), similar to one from the Hamel in the western suburb of Oxford and another from 79–80 St Aldate's (Mellor 1980, fig. 9, no. 18, dated early 13th century and Haldon 1977, 133, fig. 19, no. 16, dated to the third quarter of the 12th century). The example from this site had two rows of stabbed decoration along the top of the rim. Chimney pots have not been widely

recognised amongst the ceramic artefacts from excavations, but must almost certainly have existed, and these examples may be the missing link. Despite the presence of this early pottery, this phase is clearly dated by fragments of Cistercian-type drinking vessels (recorded under miscellaneous) and sherds of English tinglaze earthenware.

Dating of the Trill Mill Stream pottery

The dendrochronological date, with a felling date of AD 925–965 in Phase 4b (Trench VII), suggests that St Neot's-type was dominant by the second half of the 10th century on this site. This corroborates evidence from under Oxford Castle (Hassall 1976, 268–9, coin of Eadred AD 946–955). Sadly the end-dates of the Late Saxon Oxford tradition and St Neot's-type are no clearer than those proposed for All Saints Church and the Queen St sites (see below).

Conclusions

The overall ceramic sequences have confirmed those established elsewhere (see All Saints Church and the Queen St sites, below). The sherds are too fragmentary to add much to the social or economic questions of the period but dendrochronological dates have affirmed the existing dating of the late Saxon ceramic sequence. The presence of continental blackwares in the earliest phases of several sites in the vicinity at 79–80 St Aldate's, 65 St Aldate's and this site, suggests that these waterways were used by people who had contact with the continent, but may not be truly indicative of trade. The presence of Winchester-type pitchers in probable 10th-century levels corroborates the dating evidence from

Winchester. The occurrence of this fabric in association with continental blackwares, also seen at 79–80 St Aldate's may suggest that the latter arrived overland from Southampton, perhaps via Winchester. The absence of Stamford coarsewares in this area outside the town in comparison with the central sites is also interesting, as is the lack of a St Neot's-type horizon on several of the sites in this area (see above). This could suggest that the population was largely an indigenous community exposed to fewer influences from the Danelaw, which had grown up around St Frideswide's and along the main south road in the 10th century and had more contact with Wessex and possibly London. The colonising of the Trill Mill Stream with its preference for St Neot's-type, may belong to the same phase of settlement as that under Oxford Castle, later than the properties to the north and south of this marshy area.

Roof finials

A possible roof finial (Fig. 6.13 No. 49; P1/2/3) with applied thumbed decoration with stabbed decoration, applied grid stamped pellets and combed decoration with thick orange glaze was recovered in the initial top clearance. The deep knife incisions and the rough finishing on the interior are reminiscent of the closed form from Phase 4b at 65 St Aldate's (Mellor 1984, fig. 7, no. 10).

Pottery from the excavations at 56–60 St Aldate's, 30–31 St Aldate's (Land adjoining the Police Station) and 24–26 St Aldate's (the Police Station) (Fig. 6.15; Table 6.3)

by Catherine Underwood-Keevill

Introduction

A total of 1674 sherds weighing 21.1 kg was analysed in detail from all three sites. The remaining 678 sherds have been recorded as part of the assessment programme and form part of the archive.

The aim of this analysis was to examine the late Saxon development of the three sites, and to compare them with other sequences at All Saints (Mellor this volume, below), 79–80 St Aldate's (Haldon 1977) and the Thames river crossing at 33 St Aldate's and 65 St Aldate's (Mellor 1984). The emphasis therefore has been placed on well-stratified and larger assemblages from the three sites which would provide more information on the late Saxon and early Norman phases. The analysis was undertaken in order to understand the progression of silting and reclamation levels. In addition, since the Shire Lake river channel defined the medieval boundary between Oxford and Berkshire, it was thought interesting to observe whether the material evidence reflected social and political differences in the late Saxon and early medieval period. The analysis was accordingly designed to identify differences between the ceramic assemblages north of the channel (at the Police Station and Land

adjoining the Police Station), and south of the channel (at 56–60 St Aldate's).

Methodology

The stratigraphic and the ceramic assessment phasing were combined to form a coherent sequence for all three sites. This was retained in the first instance for ease of reference. All fabrics have been defined by comparison with the Oxford fabric reference collection using coding and fabric groups established at 79–80 St Aldate's (Haldon 1977) and elsewhere in Oxford. Fabrics have been counted and weighed by context. Vessel types and decoration types have been illustrated (in archive). All context data has been summed for each phase (Table 6.3). The data were recorded on computer using DBase III+ for accessibility and ease of manipulation of sherd counts and weights.

The three sites and the pottery sequences for each site are described separately below. A discussion of all three assemblages follows. Throughout this report, and in the pottery catalogue and table, the provenance of material is identified by a site code prefix: SA for 56–60 St Aldate's, LA for Land adjoining the Police Station and PS for the Police Station.

56–60 St Aldate's

A total of 1064 sherds weighing 14.9 kg was examined from this site.

Phase SA3

The earliest levels are contexts SA 52/3, SA 52 and SA 49/2 with 61 sherds weighing 2.06 kg. These contexts are dominated by Late Saxon Oxford ware (fabric B) with shallow bowl profiles in context 52 and squat everted rim jars in context 52/3 (Fig. 6.15 Nos 57, 59, 60). Most of the material from context 52/3 consists of semicomplete vessels, probably two vessels deposited together. The bowls and the jars are comparable with vessels from 79–80 St Aldate's dated to the mid 10th century (Haldon 1977). A continental import also appears in context 52 (fabric BQ), a fine sandy blackware probably from Belgium.

Phase SA4

The next phase group contains 167 sherds weighing 2.1 kg (Fig. 6.15 Nos 61–4). This phase has large quantities of the Late Saxon fabric, fabric B, (35% by number, 30% by weight), and also small amounts of St Neot's-type ware (fabric R) and Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC). Imported wares are northern French/Belgian blackware (fabric BQ), Pingsdorf-type ware (fabric BV) and a northern French greyware type (fabric X). One sherd of Stamford ware (fabric Z) is also present.

Vessel forms in fabric B are limited to rolled rim, narrow-necked jars with a small diameter, similar to

Table 6.3 24-6 St Aldate's, 30-31 St Aldate's and 56-60 St Aldate's: pottery fabrics by number and weight. Total 1017/13.07 kg

Fabric	Phase 3		Phase 4				Phase 5				Phase 6				Phase 7							
	SA3		SA4		LA4		PS4		SA5		LA5		SA6		LA6		PS6		LA7		PS7	
	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)
B	59	2002	59	639	5	66	3	88	2	12			1	164			2	13			2	18
	97%	97%																				
R			17	186	1	6	5	52	4	71	9	79			2	29	4	27	1	4	2	17
			10%	9%	17%	9%	45%	30%	3%	4%	10%	6%										
CG													2	25					4	78		
AC	1	31	47	643			2	21	35	611	52	922	6	142	59	658	15	153	27	314	5	84
	1.5%	1.5%	28%	30%			18%	12%	26%	37%	59%	69%	10%	26%	54%	60%	13%	17%	15%	17%	5%	9%
BR			2	35					1	23									1	5		
			1%	2%						1.4%												
AG			1	11										1	6	1	25				2	19
			0.6%	0.5%																		
BF			7	83					3	31	4	54			2	25			9	123	1	9
			4%	4%								4%							5%	7%		
X			2	10																		
Y			12	138					76	749	9	100	43	594	37	311	80	593	123	1114	40	415
			7%	6%					57%	45%	10%	8%	74%	62%	34%	29%	70%	67%	69%	60%	42%	45%
Z			1	5							1	5			1	6	1	3	1	4		
AD									1	18												
AE			13	287			1	12	2	42	5	49					2	8				
			8%	13%			9%	7%	1.5%	2.5%	6%	4%										
AG			3	56					10	95	6	73			7	52	4	33	6	74	3	60
				3%					7%	6%	7%	5%					3%	4%	3%	4%		
AK													1	10								
AM			1	4									5	12			2	12			22	180
																					23%	20%
AW																			1	47	18	119
																				2.5%	19%	13%
BQ	1	33	1	36																		
	1.5%	1.5%																				
BV			1	9																		
CZ																			1	60		
CT																	1	9	2	14		
																	1	8	1	8		
Total	61	2066	167	2142	6	72	11	173	134	1652	86	1282	58	947	109	1087	113	884	177	1845	95	921

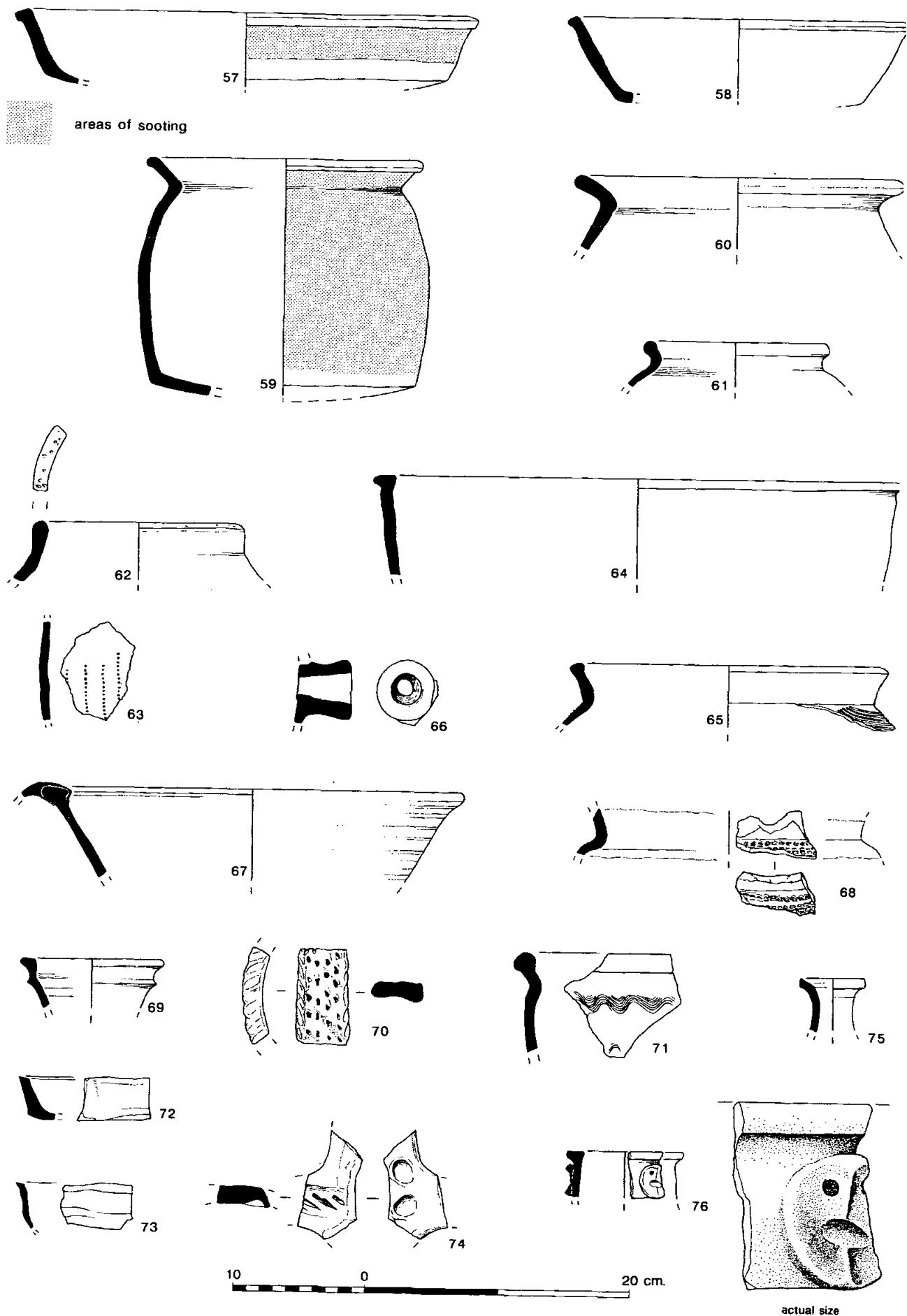


Figure 6.15 Pottery from 56-60 St Aldate's, 30-31 St Aldate's and 24-6 St Aldate's: nos 57-76.

the St Neot's-type forms. This decrease in the size of rim diameter in jars is noted elsewhere in Oxford and is associated with the introduction of the St Neot's-type wheel-thrown wares (Mellor 1994). The range of forms indicates a late 10th- to early 11th-century dating for this phase, with splayed and bevelled rim jars in fabric AC also being present.

Phase SA5

Phase SA5 is characterised by a decrease in the amount of fabric AC and the increase of Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y). Vessels include pitchers, jars with straight-topped rims and splayed rims in fabric Y and bowls and jars in fabric AC which compare well with jar types from 79–80 St Aldate's (Haldon 1977, fig. 18, no. 28) dated to the early 12th century. A rim sherd from an Andenne ware jug is also present in context 47, which confirms the early 12th-century date.

Phase SA6

Phase SA6 contains only a small amount of material: 58 sherds weighing 0.9 kg. The phase is dominated by Medieval Oxford ware, fabric Y (74% by number), although small amounts of Late Medieval Oxford ware, fabric AM, are present. Thumbbed and triangular-moulded rim jars are prevalent and are dated to the 13th century.

Phase SA7

Phase SA7 contains the largest proportion of the assemblage (Fig. 6.15, Nos 71–6). The group is distinguished by the large amounts of late medieval wares, fabrics AM and AW, and the range of decoration and glaze types visible. Ribbed, roller stamped and redbrown slip-painted jugs with green speckled glaze appear to be the most popular. Other more complex designs are found, such as applied roundels with stamped checkerboard designs, applied curvilinear detail with stamped dot florette motif, and complex applied vertical ribs with diagonal roller stamped lines. One anthropomorphic jug with an applied face on the rim comes from context 8/1. The range of vessels consists of baluster jugs, round-bodied jugs with flat bases, either with a square rim with a pinched spout/lip or a cut pulled-out spout/lip. Other regional imports include Surrey Hampshire Border ware (fabric BG), and a limestone-tempered ware with combed decoration from the Wiltshire/Berkshire area (fabric AQ). The phase can be dated to the 14th century on the basis of the jug types.

30–31 St Aldate's (Land adjoining St Aldate's Police Station)

A total of 391 sherds weighing 4.3 kg was analysed from this site. Only very small numbers of sherds were from early contexts.

Phase LA4

Phase LA4 contains only six sherds, mainly of Late Saxon ware (fabric B) with simple large diameter everted rim jar forms, and one sherd of fabric R, St Neot's-type ware.

Phase LA5

Phase LA5 is defined by the large quantities of fabric AC, Early Medieval Oxford ware (59% by number and 69% by weight). The vessel types are limited to thickened and flat everted rim jars of early 12th-century type (Fig. 6.15, Nos 65–6).

Phase LA6

Phase LA6 is still dominated by large proportions of fabric AC (54% by number and 60% by weight), but fabric Y, Medieval Oxford ware, is also represented in larger numbers (35% by number and 29% by weight). Thumbbed rim late 12th- to 13th-century jars in fabric Y are present.

Phase LA7

Phase LA7 shows a large increase in fabric Y (69% by number and 60% by weight) but very little Late Medieval ware, fabric AM and AW (2.5% by weight). A limestone-gritted fabric, fabric CG, is also present in small quantities. Vessel types include triangular moulded rim jars and long thumbbed everted rim jars in fabric Y dated to the late 13th century (Fig. 6.15 Nos 67–70).

24–26 St Aldate's (the Police Station)

A total of 219 sherds weighing 1.9 kg was analysed from this site.

Phase PS4

The earliest contexts are PS 45, PS 43/3 and 43/1 and PS 41. Fabric R, St Neot's-type ware, appears in higher proportions on this site (45% by number and 30% by weight), mostly in context 41 with typical rolled rim jar forms of the mid to late 11th century. Fabric B is present in contexts 45, 43/3 and 43/1, and a mid to late 10th-century bowl form comparable with one from 79–80 St Aldate's (Haldon 1977, fig. 17, no. 22) is evident in context 43/3.

No ceramic dating evidence is present for the 12th century on the Police Station site, and PS5 has therefore not been assigned to any of the contexts.

Phase PS6

Phase PS6 consists predominantly of fabric Y, Medieval Oxford ware (70% by number and 67% by weight), and small amounts of fabric AC. The vessel types comprise thumbbed rim jars, miniature jars and squared rim jars of 13th-century date in fabric Y.

Phase PS7

Phase PS7 still has large numbers of sherds of fabric Y (45% by number and weight). Vessel types include square-topped jars and green glazed jug sherds. There is also a large presence of Late Medieval ware (fabrics AM and AW) in the assemblage (42% by number and 33% by weight). Decoration is not as varied as at 56–60 St Aldate's, with mainly applied and roller stamped strip decoration and painted line decoration. The surface finish is mainly a dark green and speckled green glaze.

Discussion

The phasing for all three sites is broadly consistent. Variations present can be attributed to the differences in the numbers and weights for the three sites and perhaps also to different disposal patterns. Chronological differences are distinct only in the case of the Land adjoining the Police Station site, where LA6 and LA7 seem to differ from the progression on the other two sites. It is possible that this can be explained by the nature of the contexts analysed, which were mainly yard contexts and a clean-up layer, possibly with a high presence of residual sherds. The average sherd sizes for fabric AC in particular are smaller in Phase LA6 than in the previous phase, suggesting that the material may be derived from earlier deposits and incorporated into these layers.

The dating for the groups follows the sequence established at 79–80 St Aldate's (Haldon 1977). In the early 10th century, shelly wares (including fabric B) were the main ceramic type. In the late 10th century the St Neot's-type ware (fabric R) becomes more popular but is gradually replaced by vessels in fabric AC in the late 11th century. The finer sandy fabric Y also starts to appear at the same time, together with imported wares such as the Stamford types (fabrics Z, AL and AT). Fabric AC vessel types continue into the early 12th century in spite of the increasing competition from the variety of competently made glazed pitchers and jars in fabric Y. Other fabrics from outside the region such as a Northampton/Stamford ware (fabric G) and Andenne ware (AD) are also present.

In the 12th to 13th centuries the assemblages are dominated by fabrics Y and AG and jugs, while other vessel types in the Brill/Boarstall fabric AM start to appear. In the late 13th century to 14th century the fine jugs in fabric AM dominate the market and have increased amounts of decoration. Variation in the amounts of fabric types, however, tends to differ from site to site. At All Saints Phase 3a (dated to the mid 11th century) there is a large percentage (85%) of fabric R, the St Neot's-type ware (Mellor this volume, below). This was also the case at Oxford Castle (Hassall 1976, 268–9) and Logic Lane (Radcliffe 1961/2, 53, pits B4 and C1). The ratio of fabric R was very low at 79–80 St Aldate's, as noted above, and seems to be generally missing from sites on the

north-south street axis but present on sites from the suburbs of the *burh*. At 56–60 St Aldate's, the site with the highest amount of fabric R, the fabric only forms 10% of Phase SA4.

The sequence from the Thames river crossing sites, 65 St Aldate's and 33 St Aldate's (Durham 1984a) is similar to the smaller Land adjoining and Police Station sites in that the earliest phase contains very little material and it is difficult to assess proportions. It is notable that a new fabric type CG appears in the Thames river crossing sequence in the early 13th century and is also present on the Land adjoining site in Phase LA7. The late 11th- to late 12th-century phase in the Thames river crossing sequence shows a pattern of larger amounts of AC being gradually replaced by Y, as at Land adjoining the Police Station.

There are also contrasts in the nature of the fabric types present on the three sites. The 56–60 St Aldate's site, south of the river channel, is relatively rich in imports, both continental and regional. Continental blackwares and greywares (BQ and X) and Andenne (AD) wares were present as a single sherd or at most two sherds, but these were not apparent elsewhere. Material from south of the Thames such as fabric AG, a slip-decorated pitcher and jar fabric known at Reading, Abingdon and Newbury and possibly manufactured in the Maidenhead area (Underwood 1997), is found mainly on this site (48% by number, 45% by weight of the fabric total for all sites). Fabric BF, probably from the Berkshire/Wiltshire area, is also more prevalent (65% by number and weight), as is fabric AQ, a Wiltshire/West Country fabric type (89% by number, 93% by weight). It should be noted that none of these fabrics forms a major proportion on any of the sites at any one period and it should be emphasised that a larger amount of pottery was available for analysis from this site, so it is statistically more likely that a greater range of fabric types may appear.

It is noticeable that localised fabrics such as AC are more common at Land adjoining the Police Station, and that there is a more even distribution over the sites of fabric Y. The later medieval fabric types AM and AW are only present in any number at 56–60 St Aldate's and the Police Station. This may be due to trading and ease of access to these two sites but other factors are evident, such as the nature of the deposits. A greater range of decorated material with a larger number of cross-joins and larger sherd size is evident at 56–60 St Aldate's, suggesting semi-complete, high quality vessels that have been quickly incorporated into the channel deposits. The Police Station produced a smaller amount of later material of lower quality and smaller sherd size, suggesting that the material may have lain on the surface or have been redeposited in the silting layers. The differences in fabric proportions in different areas of Oxford may indicate different markets and possibly different social organisation and fashions in material culture. It has been suggested by Vince (1991, 40) that the different ceramic types available in the late

9th to 11th centuries can be divided into zones that may correspond with political/social divisions. The zones relevant to Oxford include a Mercian zone taking in Stafford, probably Northampton and other Midland kilns, Gloucester, and the source of Late Saxon Shelly ware.

It has been assumed that Late Saxon Shelly (*LSS*) derives from the Thames Valley, possibly from around Oxford, on the basis of similarities between Oxford fabric *B* and London *LSS* fabric (Vince 1989). The Mercian zone is defined by the presence of wheelthrown wares replacing handmade forms in the 10th century. In two cases however (Gloucester and the *LSS* area), wheelthrowing was used together with hand-forming techniques. Wheelthrowing seems to have gone out of use during the 11th century.

Another zone south of the Thames, the Wessex zone, has wheelthrown vessels from the late 10th to early 11th century, but wheelthrowing never completely replaces handmade production and is only a short-lived enterprise, lasting at most a generation or two.

The third zone that may have influenced Oxford ceramics is termed the central or Danelaw zone, which is served by wheelthrown wares such as Stamford and Ipswich and the sources of St Neot's-type ware. These continue in use into the 10th and 11th centuries.

The examples of fabric *B* from 56–60 St Aldate's suggest different techniques in the production of different vessels. Shallow jar forms appear to be coil-built and knife trimmed around the base. Round simple topped jars appear to be handmade. Bevelled and possibly tooled rim jars appear to have a handmade vessel body and base, with a possible wheel-finished rim. Slurried horizontal striations are visible on the interior surfaces of many of the 'wheel-finished' rims. All these vessel types are apparent in London, but the method of manufacture, as noted here, seems varied and uncertain (Vince 1991, 25). Some of the vessels in London, such as a sprinkler type, point to the wheel being used for throwing instead of finishing a vessel, but at the moment the majority of the vessels can be described as being definitely handmade and possibly wheel-finished. X-ray techniques may improve present knowledge of the technology involved. It is suggested in Oxford that production of fabric *B* may have ceased in the early 11th century (Mellor 1980, 19) and been replaced by St Neot's-type ware, possibly as result of the Danish settlement in Oxford. Oxford, like London, could be described as being part of the Mercian zone, at least for the period dominated by fabric *B*, the Late Saxon ware. Influences from the Danelaw region may have had a different level of impact on different areas of the town.

Assessment of vessel use from the sooting patterns on different fabrics has proved interesting in discovering the influences of the different zones in culinary practices. Analysis of the sooting patterns was carried out, using the data collected at Kirkstall Abbey as a guideline (Moorhouse 1987, 99–100).

Sooting on bowls in fabric *B*, Late Saxon ware, is limited to the upper half of the vessel and the under edge of the rim, suggesting use as a lid or within another vessel. The sooting on fabric *B* jars is extensive, but the bases appear to be untouched. This suggests that these may have been placed in a position in the fire where the base would have been protected. This could have been done by placing the jar within another shallow vessel or by placing stones around the base. The jars were not suspended directly above heat. This is in contrast to the later smaller diameter jars in fabric *B* copying St Neot's-type wares, which appear to have been used quite differently, with sooting and burning limited to the area around the rim and neck or on part of the body, a very similar phenomenon to the sooting and burning effects on St Neot's-type ware jars. One possible explanation for this sooting pattern is that the vessels were used as 'double boilers', smaller vessels being nested within larger vessels containing water, or suspended on the rims of other vessels (Moorhouse 1987, 100). The localised potting tradition appears to have adapted to different tastes. The lack of St Neot's-type wares on some sites may be due to the local ware being used in a similar manner to the imported pots.

Unfortunately, the lack of numerous examples of possible Wessex fabrics, such as the flint-gritted fabric, fabric *BF*, limits the conclusions that can be drawn concerning the level of influence of Wessex products on the Oxford market.

Pottery from the British Telecom Tunnel by Catherine Underwood-Keevill

A total of 236 sherds weighing 5.7 kg was recovered from the two tunnels. This includes unstratified material from bays within tunnel 1. Stratified sherds from contexts in sections in both tunnels have also been included and provide the basis for the dating of contexts. All material was assigned to fabric types by comparison with the Oxford Archaeological Unit fabric type series (Haldon 1977).

Two stratified Roman sherds were noted. Sherd number 6 in layer 154 is a Roman greyware sherd dated to the 3rd to 4th century. Sherd number 12 in layer 342 was identified by Paul Booth of the Oxford Archaeological Unit as a Samian Dragendorff 44 bowl with a projecting cordon or small flange, of the second half of the 2nd century.

The earliest medieval sherds came from tunnel 1 bays 21 and 22. These consisted of mid 10th-century jar types with square clubbed rims in shell-tempered fabric, fabric *B*. These are comparable with material from the earliest levels at 56–60 St Aldate's (contexts 52 and 49/2, Phase SA2 and 3, see Underwood-Keevill this volume, above). Sherd number 14 in layer 313 is an unstratified, residual sherd of fabric *B*.

Early 12th-century material was present in large quantities in tunnel 1, bay 29 and to a lesser extent in bays 23 and 30. Unfortunately the majority of the material is unstratified but it does indicate

the presence of early 12th-century levels equivalent to Phase 4 at 56–60 St Aldate's and Phase 2a at the Thames Crossing sites, 33 St Aldate's and 65 St Aldate's (Durham 1984a). Stratified sherd number 7 in layer 155 is a bodysherd in fabric AC, Early Medieval Oxford ware dated to the 11th to 12th centuries. Another Saxo-Norman fabric type, Oxford fabric BF, is also represented in stratified contexts. Pottery sherd number 10 in fill 138 is a bodysherd in fabric BF, and sherd 18 in layer 358 is an early 12th-century jar rim in the same fabric.

In the 12th to 13th centuries vessels in fabric Y, Medieval Oxford ware, and fabric AG, a fabric from Berkshire, dominate the market. Jar rims of this date are present in tunnel 1, bays 21 and 22. Bay 24 has late 12th- to 13th-century decorated tripod pitcher sherds. Stratified sherds of fabric Y include sherd numbers 13 (layer 344), 15 (layer 352), 16 (layer 356) and 17 (layer 354) and sherd numbers 5 and 8 (layer 155). The Berkshire fabric type AG is limited to two stratified sherds in tunnel 1, sherd numbers 9 (layer 147) and 11 (fill 130 in ditch 137).

In the 13th to 14th century Brill/Boarstall jugs and fine wares, fabric type BM, replaced fabric Y vessels. Stratified sherds comprise a mid-to late 13th-century rod handle from a jug, sherd number 4 (layer 175), and a 14th-century jug sherd, sherd number 3 (fill 188 in ditch 191).

Post-medieval sherds are represented by stratified sherds 1 and 2 in tunnel 1. These are a late 19th-century transfer printed sherd (fill 194 of pit 195) and an 18th- to 19th-century Stoneware blacking bottle sherd (fill 187 of ditch 191).

Pottery from the Head of the River by Lucy Whittingham

The assemblage of 180 sherds (2.25 kg) appears to be typical for a site in Oxford near to the commercial centre of the city. The predominant wares are local products but the number of regional and continental imports, represented sometimes by a single sherd, shows that a considerable variety of sources in pottery were available to the occupants of this site.

The earliest wares present in this assemblage are local Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC) in which a 12th-century jar rim and sherd are residual, and Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y). Two late 12th- to 13th-century jar rims, two sherds from a tripod pitcher and a further two sherds in Medieval Oxford ware are probably contemporary in contexts 312, 318 and 116 whilst the remaining four sherds occurred residually. The tripod pitcher sherds have a glazed external surface and decoration in the form of bands of horizontal incised lines around the body of the vessel.

By the mid 13th century the ceramic assemblage on this site is dominated by Brill/Boarstall wares which form 70% of the total assemblage. Within this ware three fabric types are present: fabric AM (56%), fabric BX (9%) and fabric AW (5%). The majority of

the sherds in fabric AM are from well-thrown highly decorated jugs with good quality mottled copper glazes which are characteristic of the mid 13th- to early 14th-century phase of production. Forms of decoration include applied grid stamped pads, applied and roller stamped vertical strips of red clay, alternating red and white strips of clay, applied scales in red clay and various combinations of incised line decoration. Vessel forms include jugs of various sizes, from small rounded to tall 'triple-decker' forms, and a bottle. A small number of jug sherds are partially glazed with a clear lead glaze which is more characteristic of the late 14th- and early 15th-century production. A small number of thick, crudely made and poorly glazed sherds might also belong to the latest phase of this industry in the mid to late 15th century. The majority of sherds in fabrics BX and AW belong to jugs and bottle forms, with the exception of two jar rims which are found in the coarsely gritted fabric AW. These undiagnostic sherds could belong to any phase of the Brill/Boarstall industry between the mid 13th to 15th century.

A small number of regional imports occur with the Brill/Boarstall products between the 13th and 15th centuries. These include one sherd of mid 12th- to mid 14th-century London-type ware, four jug sherds of mid 14th- to late 15th-century Surrey Hampshire Coarse Border ware (fabric BG), one jug sherd with white slip in Abingdon fabric A (Oxford fabric AG), and nine sherds in the late 12th- to 15th-century East Wiltshire flint and limestone tradition (fabric AQ). Within the East Wiltshire tradition two jar rims support the evidence found at the Hamel, for example, where the larger jars are supplied in this tradition in the 14th century (Mellor 1980).

A small number of sherds of 15th- to 16th-century date represent the transition from the medieval to post-medieval period. 15th- to 16th-century local wares include three sherds of fabric AX, six sherds of fabric AY and Glazed Red Earthenwares, some of which might be Brill/Boarstall products of the 16th to 17th century, and some mid 15th- to early 17th-century Nettlebed products. Regional imports include one sherd from a 16th-century Cistercian ware cup, one possible Reversed Cistercian ware sherd, a lead glazed plate rim in mid 16th- to early 18th-century Surrey Hampshire Border ware and the base of a bowl with internal copper green glaze in either Surrey Hampshire Border ware or a local copy of the same tradition. Continental imports include a Raeren/Aachen drinking jug imported to this country in great quantity in the late 15th to 16th century, one sherd of a mid 16th-century Cologne/Frechen drinking jug and two sherds from a Cologne/Frechen Bellarmine of 17th- or early 18th-century date.

Late post-medieval wares include one sherd of 18th-century white tinglaze earthenware and one sherd of possible English Stoneware produced in imitation of the Rhenish Stonewares in the late 17th to 18th century.

CATALOGUE OF ILLUSTRATED SHERDS (89–91 ST ALDATE'S, 56–60 ST ALDATE'S, 30–31 ST ALDATE'S AND 24–26 ST ALDATE'S)

89–91 St Aldate's (the Trill Mill Stream)

Nos 1–49 Trenches I, II and VI (Figs 6.12 and 6.13)

- 1 Context 15, Ph 2, Fabric B, jar with rolled rim.
- 2 Context 11/1, Ph 3, Fabric B, base of jar.
- 3 Context 11/1, Ph 3, Fabric B, small jar with everted, squared rim.
- 4 Context 11, Ph 3, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim (flared?).
- 5 Context 14, Ph 3, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim (flared?).
- 6 Context 35, Ph 2, Fabric BQ, shoulder of storage vessel.
- 7 Context 14, Ph 3, Fabric GA, tubular spout from pitcher.
- 8 Context 642, Ph 4, Fabric B, large jar.
- 9 Context 636/2, Ph 4, Fabric B, jar with flared rim.
- 10 Context 647/1, Ph 4, Fabric B, jar.
- 11 Context 632, Ph 4, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
- 12 Context 647, Ph 4, Fabric B, dish.
- 13 Context 23, Ph 4, Fabric R, jar with flared rim.
- 14 Context 636, Ph 4, Fabric AC, jar with upright rim.
- 15 Context 641, Ph 4, Fabric B, simple jar.
- 16 Context 5/4, Ph 5, Fabric BR, jar with upright rim.
- 17 Context 5/6, Ph 5, Fabric BF, jar.
- 18 Context 5/4, Ph 5, Fabric I, jar.
- 19 Context 9, Ph 5, Fabric GC, jar.
- 20 Context 5.3, Ph 5, Fabric BY, base of jar.
- 21 Context 9, Ph 5, Fabric BF, base of jar.
- 22 Context 631/2, Ph 6a, Fabric R, large jar with rolled rim.
- 23 Context 5/2, Ph 6a, Fabric Y, jar with thumbled decoration around rim.
- 24 Context 33, Ph 6a, Fabric Y, shoulder of jar with incised grooves and applied thumbled decoration.
- 25 Context 673, Ph 6b (originally attributed to Phase 6a), Fabric AC, strap handle.
- 26 Context 5/2, Ph 6a, Fabric GB, tubular spout.
- 27 Context 5/2, Ph 6a, Fabric Y, jar.
- 28 Context 5/2, Ph 6a, Fabric Y, jar with thumbled decoration around rim.
- 29 Context 627, Ph 6a, Fabric R, jar with rolled and flared rim.
- 30 Context 627/1, Ph 6a, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
- 31 Context 20, Ph 6b, Fabric BW, decorated sherd.
- 32 Context 32, Ph 6b, Fabric AG, pitcher with angular handle.
- 33 Context 623, Ph 6b, Fabric AC, ?bung-hole.
- 34 Context 6/1, Ph 6b, Fabric AQ, pan or bowl.
- 35 Context 2, Ph 6b, Fabric AM, bowl.
- 36 Context 2/3, Ph 6b, Fabric AQ, jar rim.
- 37 Context 2, Ph 6b, Fabric AM, bowl with slightly undercut rim.
- 38 Context 2/3, Ph 6b, Fabric AQ, jar with rolled rim.
- 39 Context 2, Ph 6b, Fabric CG, jar with everted rim.
- 40 Context 2/3, Ph 6b, Fabric AM, baluster jug.

- 41 Context 2, Ph 6b, Fabric AW, body sherd with red slip and roller stamped decoration.
- 42 Context 2/5, Ph 6b, Fabric BK, body sherd with rolled stamped decoration.
- 43 Context 2/3, Ph 6b, Fabric AM, body sherd with applied brown strips and a glaze.
- 44 Context 2/5, Ph 6b, Fabric AG, body sherd with applied red slip.
- 45 Context 2, Ph 6b, Fabric AM, shoulder of pitcher with applied brown strips and a glaze.
- 46 Context 1/2, Ph 6b, Fabric AM, body sherd with applied strip.
- 47 Context 2/3, Ph 6b, Fabric AM, body sherd with applied pellets of clay.
- 48 Context 2/3, Ph 6b, Fabric AM, ?lid with incised decoration, slip and a glaze.
- 49 Context 1/2, Top clearance, Fabric AM, roof finial with applied thumbled decoration with stabbed and applied grid stamped pellets and combed decoration.

Nos 50–56 Trench VII (Fig. 6.14)

- 50 Context 811, Phase 2, Fabric BM, pitcher with thickened rolled rim.
- 51 Context 792, Phase 4a, Fabric B, jar with everted rim.
- 52 Context 792, Phase 4a, Fabric B, jar with everted rim.
- 53 Context 793/2, Phase 4a, Fabric B, jar with everted rim.
- 54 Context 776, Phase 4b, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
- 55 Context 767, Phase 5, Fabric B, bowl or dish.
- 56 Context 736/1, Phase 6b, Fabric AM, base of goblet or drinking vessel.

56–60 St Aldate's, 30–31 St Aldate's (Land adjoining the Police Station) and 24–26 St Aldate's (the Police Station)

Nos 57–76 (Fig. 6.15)

- 57 Shallow bowl with flat-topped bevelled rim, sagging base: sooted on top half of exterior of bowl under rim. Ctx. SA 52, Ph SA 3, Fabric B.
- 58 Bowl, simple rounded rim, indented on exterior under rim. Handmade - coil built? Ctx. PS Trench III 43/1, Ph PS 4, Fabric B.
- 59 Squat, everted rim jar. slightly bevelled rim, sagging base. Elliptical neck/rim. Sooted on exterior excluding base. Semi-complete vessel. Ctx. SA 52, Ph SA 3, Fabric B.
- 60 Everted rim jar. Simple round-topped everted rim. Slight sooting on junction of neck to vessel body. Ctx. SA 52, Ph SA 3, Fabric B.
- 61 Rolled rim narrow-necked jar. St Neot's-type jar in local Oxford Late Saxon Shelly ware. Ctx. SA 50, Ph SA 4, Fabric B.
- 62 Long-necked jar rim with punched dot decoration through top of rim. Ctx. SA 47, Ph SA 4, Fabric AC.
- 63 Punched dot decoration in vertical lines on vessel body - probably same vessel as 62. Ctx. SA 47, Ph SA 4, Fabric AC.

- 64 Flat-topped, almost straight-sided bowl. Ctx. SA 47, Ph SA 4, Fabric AC.
- 65 Flat-topped rim jar - indented internally, lid seating. Combed wavy line decoration on shoulder. Ctx. LA 105, Ph LA 5, Fabric AC.
- 66 Spout - irregular, smoothed onto vessel body. Hole pierced through vessel body from exterior. Spouted pitcher. Ctx. LA 105, Ph LA 5, Fabric AC.
- 67 Handled bowl. Thickened flat-topped rim with flat strap handle moulded onto rim. Yellow/green bubbled glaze on interior. Wheel-thrown. Ctx. LA 151/1, Ph LA 7, Fabric Y.
- 68 Jar. Decorated with deeply incised trapezoidal roller stamping - done when clay still plastic. Ctx. LA 151, Ph LA 7, Fabric Y.
- 69 Jug rim with slight triangular flange on neck. Olney Hyde type product. Ctx. LA 151/1, Ph LA 7, Fabric CG.
- 70 Unusual strap handle from large jug/pitcher. Thick, thumbed diagonally down sides. Deep triangular series of pierced holes running in groups of four across handle; white diagonal slip-painted lines under olive green glaze. Pottersbury type. Ctx. LA 151/1, Ph LA 7, Fabric OX68.
- 71 Thick everted rolled rim jar - possible lid seating on interior. Decorated with fine wavy line combing on exterior of shoulder. Remains of combed band on girth of vessel. Ctx. SA 8, Ph SA 7, Fabric AQ.
- 72 Profile of dish/dripping pan with flat top and pouring lip. Green-glazed interior. Ctx. SA 8/1, Ph SA 7, Fabric Y.
- 73 Profile of cooking pan/dripping pan. Flat topped. Interior burnt. Knife-trimmed exterior at base. Ctx. SA 8/1, Ph SA 7, Fabric Y.
- 74 Skillet handle. Flat, probably triangular, handle with slashed diagonal lines on top. Double thumb decoration on junction of handle and vessel side. Ctx. SA 8/1, Ph SA 7, Fabric AM.
- 75 Collared bottle rim. Flecked orange/green glaze on exterior. Ctx. SA 8/1, Ph SA 7, Fabric AM.
- 76 Face jug. Small thumbed face forming angled roundel. Simple collared rim jug. Ctx. SA 8, Ph SA 7, Fabric AM.

**THE DEFENCES: FINDS FROM 24A
ST MICHAEL'S ST AND CORPUS
CHRISTI BASTION 21**

by Leigh Allen

There were very few finds from the sites in Chapter 4, and they have been catalogued together. The provenance of individual objects is denoted by a prefix: 24M for 24A St Michael's St and CCC for Corpus Christi Bastion 21.

Coin

Identified by Cathy King

- NI **Coin**, perforated, copper alloy. Complete. Barbarous radiate of 3rd cent. AD; pierced near edge. (SF:24M.15, ctx. 24M.60, Ph:24M.5)

Copper Alloy Objects (Fig. 6.16)

Identified by Nicola Rogers

- 1 **Ring**, copper alloy. Complete. Irregular polygonal cross-section. D:30 mm (SF:24M.2, ctx. 24M.31/1, Ph:24M.7-8).

Iron Objects (Fig. 6.16)

- 2 **Rowel spur**. Incomplete and in very poor condition. Length of the neck excluding the rowel: 42 mm (SF:CCC.4, ctx. CCC.222). Blanche Ellis comments as follows: 'The spur is in poor condition and has been described from the X-rays alone. Only stumps of the spur sides remain and the larger of these projects downward from its junction with the straight neck. Despite the loss of much of its surface, the neck appears to taper towards the rowel. The middle of a star rowel of about eight points remains in place in spite of one side of the rowel box having been broken off, but this survives separately. Further very small scraps of the spur are uncertain but may include part of a hook attachment for the leathers. Also what appears to be a narrow right-angle bend: the downward projecting spur sides would either have bent or curved under the wearer's ankle. The spur is of a type used throughout the 14th century, comparable to those worn by Sir William de Bryene on his monumental brass in Seal Church, Kent, which dates to 1395 (Ellis 1991, 73, fig. 17.1).'

- NI **Nail**. Incomplete; several crushed pieces. (SF:24M.9, ctx. 24M.42/4, Ph:24M.3). (N Rogers)

Bone Objects (Fig. 6.16)

These include two ivory fragments from double-sided combs of a form common from the 13th and 14th centuries, but which continued in popularity into the Renaissance. They are plain and rectangular, with teeth of differing fineness on either side of the central panel. No. 4 is a bone gaming piece or tableman used in the game of 'tables'; it is simply decorated with concentric, incised grooves and ring and dot ornament. The game of tables was popular in the medieval period, spreading to England from France in the course of the 11th or early 12th century (D. Brown in Biddle 1990, 696, fig. 195, 2224-5 and 2223).

- 3 **Comb**, ivory? Incomplete fragment from a double-sided comb; the uncut zone is straight, 21 fine teeth remain (of which 8 are complete), 11 coarse teeth survive. L:29 mm (SF:24M.3, ctx. 24M.12, Ph:24M.6).
- NI **Comb**, elephant ivory. Incomplete fragment from a double-sided comb. Only the uncut zone remains, no teeth. L:58 mm (SF:24M.17, ctx. 24M.12, Ph:24M.6).
- 4 **Gaming piece**, bone. Incomplete. Two thirds of a bone tableman, decorated on one face with incised concentric circles with ring and

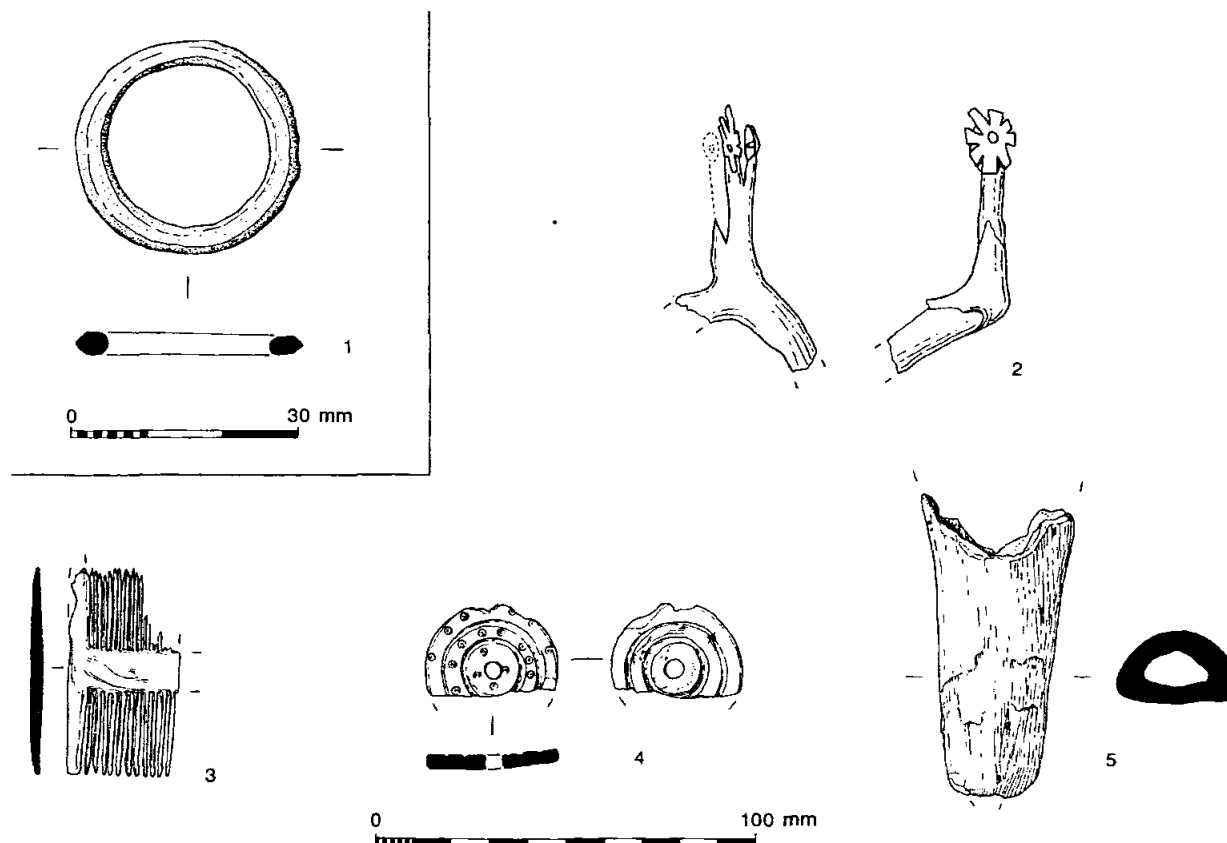


Figure 6.16 Small Finds from 24A St Michael's Street and Corpus Christi College Bastion RCHM No 21: Copper alloy no. 1; Iron no. 2; Bone nos 3-5.

dot decoration, around a central perforation. (MacGregor 1985, 137, fig. 71 i-j). D:34 mm (SF:24M.1, ctx. 24M.2, Ph:24M.5).

- 5 Object, bone. Incomplete. Shaped and hollowed out. L:77 mm (SF:24M.18, ctx. 24M.57, Ph:24M.5).

Burford) itself. This is a buff-coloured, compact limestone.

Burford Stone: in this report, stone from the Taynton Limestone Formation from localities in the Burford area other than Taynton itself. Similar to Taynton, except for the paler colour — white to white/grey.

BUILDING STONE FROM ST MICHAEL AT THE NORTHGATE (FIGS 4.12-4.15 AND TABLES 6.4-6.5)

by Philip Powell

Definition of stone types

Middle Jurassic Sequence in Oxfordshire

Within the Great Oolite of the Middle Jurassic Sequence are:

- Oxford Clay
- Cornbrash
- Forest Marble
- White Limestone
- Hampden Marly Beds
- Taynton Limestone Formation
- Sharp's Hill Beds
- Chipping Norton Limestone

Taynton Stone: in this report, stone from the Taynton Limestone formation which is from Taynton (near

Simplified Sequence of the Corallian (Upper Jurassic) rocks near Oxford:

- (Kimmeridge Clay)
- Coral Rag/Wheatley Limestone
- Shell Bed
- sands and limestones
- Lower Calcareous Grit
- (Oxford Clay)

Coral Rag: a crystalline limestone with abundant coral debris.

Wheatley Limestone: a lateral equivalent of the Coral Rag, representing accumulations of ground-up coral debris, shell fragments and ooliths in channels between the coral patches. The name is a Formation name and does not imply that a specimen of Wheatley Limestone necessarily comes from Wheatley. Headington Stone, for example, is a type of Wheatley Limestone, and similar material occurs at Cumnor and elsewhere.

Oxford Before the University

Table 6.4 St Michael at the Northgate: stone of the internal walls

Sample no.	No. in lithological list	Description	Identification
Ground floor			
South Wall			
GS1	36	Squared block about head height near east end of wall	Forest Marble?*
West Wall			
GW1	22	South side of DOORFRAME, at ground level	Burford Stone
GW2	10	South side of DOORFRAME immediately above GW1	Taynton Stone
GW3	11	South side of DOORFRAME, immediately above GW2	" "
GW4	4	South side of DOORFRAME; IMPOST	" "
GW5	24	North side of DOORFRAME; IMPOST	Burford Stone
GW6	19	North side of DOORFRAME, immediately below IMPOST	" "
GW7	21	North side of DOORFRAME, immediately below GW6	" "
GW8	-	North side of DOORFRAME, at ground level	Sample lost
First Floor			
North Wall			
FN1	29	Corbel supporting beam for floor above	Coral Rag
South Wall			
FS1	28	Corbel, upper east corner	Coral Rag
FS2	18	Western IMPOST of doorway	Burford Stone
FS3	20	Stone immediately above FS2	" "
FS4	16	Eastern IMPOST of doorway	" "
FS5	14	Infill of doorway	" "
FS6	13	" "	" "
FS7	30	" "	1. Lower Calcareous Grit (Corallian) 2. Wheatley Limestone
FS8	15	" "	Burford Stone
FS9	1	" "	Taynton Stone
West Wall			
FW1	35	Wall immediately below window	Wheatley Limestone
FW2	25	Walling below window	Burford Stone or possibly Forest Marble
FW3	-	" "	Taynton Stone
FW4	12	" "	Burford Stone
FW5	-	" "	Taynton Stone
FW6	26	Arch of window	" "
FW7	9	" "	" "
Second Floor			
North Wall			
TN1	34	Wall stone just below level of windowsill and just west of western side of windows	Wheatley Limestone
South Wall			
TS1	39	Eastern impost of windows	Burford Stone
West Wall			
TW1	7	Southern impost of windows	Taynton Stone
TW2	37	Walling-stone at windowsill level below northern edge of windows	Forest Marble?

Table 6.4 (continued)

Sample no.	No. in lithological list	Description	Identification
Belfry			
North Wall			
BN1	6	Western IMPOST of windows	Taynton Stone
BN2	8	Eastern IMPOST of windows	" "
BN3	32	Cut back CORBEL above centre of windows	Wheatley Limestone
BN4	33	Immediately below BN3	" "
South Wall			
BS1	23	Eastern IMPOST of windows	Burford Stone
BS2	3	Western IMPOST of windows	Taynton Stone
BS3	27	Half way up wall of western end	Burford Stone
BS4	31	CORBEL above centre of windows	Wheatley Limestone
West Wall			
BW1	5	Northern IMPOST of windows	Taynton Stone
BW2	38	Small piece of walling-stone east of middle of windows	Great Oolite

Some identifications, where they could be made with confidence without sampling the stone, have been noted directly onto the plans.

* See notes on names in text.

Summary

All the stone used in the original fabric is from Oxfordshire. The walling is mostly undressed Coral Rag and other Corallian rocks from the hills around the city. There are occasional fragments of Taynton Stone and other Oxfordshire stones, as well as a few pebbles of quartzite from nearby Pleistocene drift, which were probably gathered along with the Corallian rubble. The dressings, that is the impostes of the doorways and windows, and the frame of the west doorway at street level, are all Taynton Stone or 'Burford' Stone.

MORTAR FROM 24A ST MICHAEL'S ST (TABLE 6.6)

by Peter McKeague

Samples of mortar were taken from the stone face of the rampart (23/1) and the later rebuild (23) as well as from within the rampart (42/15, /21, /22). They were examined to try to determine any significant variations in composition. Each sample was inspected by eye, and under a binocular microscope (x20), for size of grain and the presence and nature of any inclusions. The colour and hardness were also noted. Of the samples, that from the stone refacing (23/1) stands out: there is a significant difference in the basic composition, using sand rather than lime (hence the colour variation). The absence of larger inclusions and the presence of earth in the mortar also highlights the crude techniques used. In contrast, the mortars within the body of the rampart demonstrate some technical understanding. The bonding of the sample from 42/15 is very tough, whilst the samples from 42/21 and 42/22 are consistently fine; the same is almost true for that from 42/2. The mortar from the

wall rebuild 23 is similar to the rampart materials but it also incorporates coarse inclusions not seen in any of the other samples.

In outlining the general principles of church architecture recording, Rodwell summarised the appearance of different dated mortar types (1989, 137). There is a good correlation between the mortar used in the stone refacing 23/1 and his Saxon and Norman 'yellow and sandy' mortar, and also between the off-white, gritty mortar from context 23 and his early medieval type, 'white and gritty'. The four samples of redeposited mortar from within the rampart are all fine-grained and white, and this quality would be consistent with a Roman origin.

The presence of alien mortar fragments of a Roman character within the rampart argues for the existence of a Roman masonry structure within the relatively short transportation distance from the construction site.

THE CERAMIC FINDS FROM SITES ON THE DEFENCES

by Maureen Mellor

The abbreviations and methodology adopted for this report are as set out in the introduction to the pottery report on the Thames Crossing sites (above).

Pottery from 24A St Michael's St

Roman pottery was recovered from both the ploughsoil sequence, 46, 48, and the overlying rampart material, 42. Paul Booth comments: 'the pottery covers the whole Romano-British period (1st-4th century) and was all local with four different colour coat types (C45, C51, C68 and C75; Young 1977) except for two sherds — a fragment of samian

Oxford Before the University

Table 6.5 *St Michael at the Northgate: stone of the internal walls. Lithological notes*

Sample no.	No. in lithological list	Description	Identification
FS9	1	A buff-coloured, compact limestone composed of rather micritic ooliths and a few shell-fragments, with a cement of buff, sparry calcite. It is typical of Taynton Stone from Taynton itself.	Taynton Stone
SN3	2	"	"
BS2	3	"	"
GW4	4	"	"
BW1	5	"	"
BN1	6	"	"
TW1	7	"	"
BN2	8	"	"
FW7	9	"	"
GM2	10	Large shell fragments (up to 5 mm) more prominent, more micrite, and few ooliths but within the range of variation for Taynton Stone. Similar to 10. Partly superficially pink in colour as if affected by fire.	"
GW3	11		"
FW4	12	Lithology and fabric similar in character to the above group of samples but the pale colour is unlike the Taynton Stone from Taynton. It matches specimens of Taynton Stone from Windruch in Oxford University Museum collections. Sherborne and Swinbrook are also said to produce white varieties of this stone (Arkell 1947, 74). It is referred to here as Burford Stone, meaning stone from the Taynton Stone horizon from an unspecified quarry in the Burford area.	Burford Stone
FS6	13	"	"
FS5	14	"	"
FS8	15	"	"
FS4	16	"	"
SN1	17	"	"
FS2	18	More shelly and coarser (fragments up to 4 mm long) but essentially similar to 12-17	"
GW6	19	Shellier and coarser than 18 but still essentially similar to 12-18	"
FS3	20	Similar to 19 but pink and grey in colour, perhaps as a result of fire	"
GW7	21	Similar to 18	"
GW1	22	"	"
BS1	23	Similar to 18 but intermediate in colour between typical Taynton and paler Burford Stone	"
GW5	24	More micrite, rather dark spar and speckled with black dendritic? MnO ₂ .	"
FW2	25	Lithologically similar to 12-17	Burford Stone? or Forest Marble?
FW6	26	Lithologically similar to 12-17 though finer-grained	Burford Stone
BS3	27	Coarse variety of this group (12-17) tending to be typical Taynton in colour	"
FS1	28	Compact crystalline limestone, sugary in appearance and with coral fragments	Coral Rag
FN1	29	"	"
FS7	30	This appears to be one block but the two samples from it are different: 1. calcareous quartz grit; 2. compact crystalline limestone composed of rounded shell fragments up to 4 mm long, and other rounded or elongated grains made up of sparry calcite within a white micrite skin, occasional pockets or pellets of orangish amorphous sediment, all bound with sparry calcite cement. Matches varieties of Wheatley Limestone in Oxford University Museum collections.	1. Lower Calcareous Grit (Corallian) 2. Wheatley Limestone

Table 6.5 (continued)

Sample no.	No. in lithological list	Description	Identification
BS4	31	Similar to 30 but greyer and more micritic. Very similar to Headington Freestone	Wheatley Limestone
BN3	32	"	"
BN4	33	"	"
TN1	34	Porous, friable, pelley limestone with micritic (rather than sparry) appearance. Matches varieties of Wheatley Limestone (eg dressings of early medieval west doorway at Cumnor Church)	"
FW1	35	Lithologically like 34 but dead white in colour	"
GS1	36	Fabric and composition very similar to the Burford Stone but the spar is grey to dark grey or bluish-grey. The square shape of the block suggests that it is a later insertion in the wall and this makes the identification as Forest Marble more likely since there are similar stones used as packing under the corbels supporting the ring beam between second and third floors.	Forest Marble?
TW2	37	Somewhat similar to 36. Perhaps a later repair.	Forest Marble?
BW2	38	Very fine-grained limestone breaking with almost conchoidal fracture. Resembles some of the beds of the upper Great Oolite, eg <i>Aphanoptyxis bladonensis</i> bed at Astall between Witney and Burford	Great Oolite
TS1	39	Same material as 12-17	Burford Stone

and one of black-burnished ware. The rampart material is consistent with a 4th-century date, so that there is a possible gap between the earlier ploughsoil (1st- to 2nd-century material) and the pottery from the rampart.

No Saxon pottery was found in the rampart (42, Phase 3), and no pottery was found in its stone facing (23/1, Phase 4). The next ceramics were limited pottery assemblages from medieval pits dug into the back of the rampart (Phase 5), suggesting two main periods of activity: mid 12th- to 13th-century, and 14th-century. Such activity must reflect periods when the maintenance of the earthen bank behind the town wall had declined in importance. Given the documentary

evidence for a refurbishment of the defences in the first half of the 13th century, it would seem plausible that some of the pits (30 and 36) were dug after its completion.

A subsequent refurbishing of the town wall (23 and 43, Phase 6) contained material of the mid to late 17th century: two sherds of Surrey Hampshire Border ware and an Oxford type B clay pipe bowl dated 1650-1690 (Oswald 1984, 252-3). This evidence is considered in the excavation report and discussion, Chapter 4, above. The uppermost fills of feature 12, with small groups of red earthenware, Rhenish Stoneware, Surrey Hampshire Border ware, a sherd of tinglaze earthenware and another of Midland Buff ware, point to a mid to late

Table 6.6 Mortar samples from 24A St Michael's Street

Context	Location	Period	Description
42/15	Residual within Phase 3 rampart	Roman	Very hard almost concreted off-white fine-grained limey mortar with a high proportion of small grits
42/21	Residual within Phase 3 rampart	Roman	Fine-grained white mortar with infrequent yellow mottling with few visible inclusions
42/22	Residual within Phase 3 rampart	Roman	Fine-grained almost powdery white mortar with no significant larger inclusions
42/2	From robber trench 27, adhering to loose stone, Phase 7/8	Roman	Hard dirty off-white fine-grained mortar with occasional small rounded grits
23/1 (47)	From stone facing, Phase 4	?early 10th century	Yellow-brown sandy mortar; fine to medium-sized grains but no larger inclusions; seems to be partly mixed with earth
23	Rebuild of wall, Phase 6	?first half of 13th century or earlier	Hard off-white fine-grained mortar with frequent small grits and occasional large more angular inclusions

17th-century date for the backfilling of the town ditch, as seen elsewhere on the defensive line (Mellor and Durham 1983, 31; Daniell 1939, 153–61).

The sequence of pits in Phases 7 and 8 is generally borne-out by the ceramic evidence, which also reflects the social status of the property holders. A stone-lined pit (19) contained Chinese porcelain teawares, part of a moulded Staffordshire white saltglazed dinner service and a sherd from a probable olive jar from Spain or Portugal (Hurst *et al.* 1986, 66–7). White saltglazed teapot lids and small plates from a tea service were found in stone-lined pit 31, and the presence of flower pots, the precursors to the late 20th-century types, all suggests that the occupants, during the mid 18th century, had considerable leisure and were comparatively well-to-do.

Pottery from the 'Oxford Story', Broad St

Three very limited medieval assemblages were collected from the W cellar of the former Ship Inn. The earliest level excavated in Trench III (302) produced 15th- to 16th-century pottery, while earlier assemblages were recovered from the layer above (301; 13th-century pottery) and by the contractors' hand-excavation across the rest of the cellar (304; 14th century). The stratification was thus clearly very disturbed. The assemblage from layer 302 included a sherd from a vessel made at Minety in north-east Wiltshire, with a heavy carbon deposit externally and a cuprous substance adhering to the concave inner surface. This vessel may have been used for an industrial purpose, possibly as a crucible. The coarse open texture of the calcareous fabric associated with Minety types would be better suited to heating to higher temperatures than the contemporary dense sandy wares from the Brill/Boarstall region, which would be prone to shatter. Unstratified sherds from the cellar floor (BS U/S Trench III) dated to the late medieval period. Jugs and vessels for cooking or storage were supplied from the workshops of Brill/Boarstall in central Buckinghamshire and further north from the workshops of Potterspury in southern Northamptonshire.

Trenches I and II against the bastion outside the town wall, as with other deposits from the north ditch, are likely to be slightly later than the infilling of the town ditch *c.* 1650 (as at 24A St Michael's St, above, Phase 6; see also Durham *et al.* 1983). Deposits much later are probably the contents of pits, dug at the rear of tenements fronting onto Broad Street (see also 24A St Michael's St Phases 7 and 8, above).

Assemblages tight up to the City Wall (BS 201 Trench II) were again very fragmentary and included Surrey Hampshire Border ware and a clay pipe bowl dated *c.* 1690–1720 (Oxford type C in Oswald 1984, 252–3).

The lowest levels (BS 14 Trench I) included Rhenish Stoneware and clay pipes with a date range of 1630–1720 (Oxford types A–C) and a type 8/9G (Oswald 1984, 255). The stratigraphic sequence (BS 9, 11 and 13)

then showed red earthenware represented mainly by bowls and Surrey Hampshire Border wares associated with English Stoneware. Overlying this, the rubble (BS 8/2) contained mainly local slipware of the Brill tradition dating to the mid 18th century (Farley 1979 and Mellor and Oakley 1984, Fiche MI G5), together with creamware dinner plates and a pearlware bowl with a handpainted underglaze blue design. The design can be paralleled on a jug dating to the mid-late 18th century (Mellor and Oakley 1984, 217, pl. 8).

A much larger assemblage (BS 8/1) representing some 50 vessels (recorded as one sherd family per record, Orton and Tyers 1990, conforming with the recording of vessels from St Ebbe's, Mellor 1984) overlay the rubble (BS 8/2). It included local Red Earthenwares, a near complete slipware handled bowl (a vessel type not recovered from the St Ebbe's excavations), tinglaze earthenware bowls and albar-elio type containers, almost certainly from London production sites, a cylindrical tankard of stoneware from Westerwald in northern Germany, two Chinese porcelain tea cups and fragments of a creamware tea service. The dominant ware in this assemblage was white saltglazed stoneware from Staffordshire with eight plates, a chamber pot, three bowls and a smaller example (Mellor and Oakley 1984, 217) and discarded clay pipes (Oxford type D) dating to 1750–1790.

The 17th- and 18th-century assemblages from both 24A St Michael's Street and Broad Street should be reconsidered in more depth when a study of the function and social differences of this period are undertaken within the city, in association with the historical record, in particular contexts 24M 13, 24M 19, 24M 28, 24M 31, BS 8/1 and BS 8/2. Artefacts from the Bodleian Tunnel excavated in 1938 and the Castle moat in 1965–73 should be re-analysed in a similar way (Daniell 1939; Hassall 1976, 260–3).

Pottery from Bastion 21, Corpus Christi College

The interior Trench I yielded a sequence of post-medieval pottery from the mid 17th century onwards. Layer 16, the lowest excavated context, contained clay pipes dating to the second half of the 18th century. Above 16, layers 10 and 11 yielded small amounts of pottery dating to the mid 17th century, and a clay pipe, Oxford type A dated *c.* 1630–1655 (Oswald 1984, 251–3). Overlying these layers were 9 and 8, which contained clay pipes of Oxford type C dating *c.* 1690–1720, and a pipe stem incised with the letters 'OC'. This can be paralleled at St Ebbe's, where it was dated to *c.* 1700–1720 (Mellor and Oakley 1984, A F60). 19th-century clay pipes and pottery were recovered from contexts 12 and 13. Layer 12 included some very fine quality creamware tableware and an Astbury type (Mellor 1989, fig. 26, no. 14, and fiche for creamwares; 201 and fiche for red stonewares), together with a variety of red earthenware flowerpots.

The exterior trenches III and IV produced both stratified medieval and post-medieval pottery. The earliest group, pit-fill 226, contained mainly Early

Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB) and probably dated to the early 12th century. The gravel and loam deposits (224, 225, 221, 220, 223) overlying the pit included pottery dating to the early to mid 12th century.

The wall or wall foundation 307 contained only six sherds, few of which were sandy (fabrics Y and AG, group III), suggesting a possible mid 12th-century date.

A small group of pottery (215, 311, 212) dating to the mid 13th century due to Brill/Boarstall types being present (Late Medieval Oxford ware fabric AM, group III) may possibly indicate some rebuilding at that time. A sherd of Surrey Hampshire Border ware Farnborough Hill type (fabric BG, group III) dating to the late 14th–15th century was recovered from layer 210.

Overlying the latter, garden soil (206) contained Rhenish stoneware, Surrey Hampshire Border ware, and tinglaze earthenware dating to the 17th century. Other features dating to this period included 204, 302, 305, 216, 218, 219. The topsoil (202) included 19th-century fine tableware and flowerpots.

Conclusion

No certain late Saxon deposits were associated with the bastion; the earliest deposits in the exterior trenches probably dated to the early 12th century although ceramically a date pre-1100 is not impossible, since Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB) was in use in Oxford as early as the second quarter of the 11th century (see All Saints F75).

Pottery from Pembroke College New Library 1973

A single body sherd, SF1, was recovered from beneath the turf bank L6 behind the town wall (Gaz No. 79; Fig. A1.2). The sherd, whose fabric cannot be paralleled locally, is very similar to the sandy wares recovered from a north-south ditch in St Ebbe's and St Frideswide's (Hassall *et al.* 1989, F502, 198 and Mellor 1988). The former was dated to between the 6th and 8th centuries on account of the associated decorated motifs.

THE TOWN: FINDS FROM ALL SAINTS CHURCH, 4 QUEEN ST, 7-8 QUEEN ST, 33-35 QUEEN ST AND THE HIGH STREET SURFACE WATER DRAIN

by Leigh Allen and Brian Durham

Finds from all the town sites (Chapter 5) have been catalogued together. The provenance of individual objects is denoted by a prefix: AST for All Saints Church, 4QS for 4 Queen Street, 7QS for 7-8 Queen Street, 33Q for 33-35 Queen Street and HSS for the High Street Surface Water Drain. No small finds were recovered from 43-44 Queen Street. In total there are 157 finds from these sites. The majority came from the excavations at All Saints Church, and are divided almost evenly between Phases 1-3

(before the construction of the first single cell church) and Phases 7-10 (the later phases of the church from the 13th century onwards). As expected, very few finds originate from contexts associated with the construction of the church itself. From the three Queen Street sites, there are no finds from contexts later than Phase 6; finds from Phases 3, 4 and 5 predominate, dating to just before and just after the Conquest. In addition, a note is included on the coin of Edward the Elder found at 18-24 New Inn Hall Street in 1979, during contractors' cleaning. This coin was pressed into a metal surface of hard-set cobbles characteristic of the primary street metalling of the *burh*; it provides the best dating evidence recovered so far for the laying-out of the original street grid (see Observations of the early street surfaces, Chapter 5, above).

Coins, Jettons and Tokens

Identifications by Stewart Lyon, Nicholas Mayhew and † Stuart Rigold

The coin of Edward the Elder from 24 New Inn Hall Street (Plate 6.1)

by Stewart Lyon

This coin (Plate 6.1, left) is a penny of Edward the Elder's most plentiful type, issued throughout the reign, with the king's name and title (+EADVVEARD



Oxford
24 NIH ST
79 v - sf 501

British Museum
ex Rome
(Vatican 1928 Hoard)

Plate 6.1 Left: penny of Edward the Elder by the moneyer Rihard, found on the earliest street surface at 24 New Inn Hall St (SF 24N.501), obv and rev.; Right: coin by the moneyer Londbriht found in the Rome (Vatican) hoard of 1928, now in the British Museum, obv. and rev.

REX) on the obverse around a circled small cross. On the reverse, above and below a central line of three small crosses, is the moneyer's name (here RIHA / RDMO, with a contraction line above the O denoting an abbreviation of MONETA for coin or die). At the top and bottom of the reverse is a small ornament, probably in this case a trefoil of three pellets though the condition of the coin makes it hard to be certain. The coin, though damaged and corroded, is of full weight (1.78 g or 27.5 grains), and is of a variety on which a linear circle is drawn on both sides just within the beaded edge; this is generally a late feature and is typical of coins struck in Wessex and English Mercia after c 920 (CTCE, 24, 47). The style of the lettering points to the dies having been cut in Wessex, almost certainly at Winchester, and indicates that the town in which Rihard worked, if not Winchester itself, was one whose moneyers could obtain dies from the workshop there.

Coins of Rihard are quite scarce. His career as a moneyer appears to have been limited to the later years of Edward's reign and the early years of Athelstan's – say from c 915 to c 930. In Athelstan's first issue (essentially a continuation of Edward's coinage) he used obverse dies of which at least one had the *eth* (Ð) of the king's name crossed on the curve, not the upright (Blunt 1974, no. 89). That form of *eth* is typical of Mercian engraving and is not found on dies thought to have been cut in Wessex. However, both forms are found on dies used by Rihard, which makes it likely that he was active in a location from which it would sometimes be convenient to obtain dies from Winchester and at other times from a Mercian source.

It is unfortunate that we do not have any coins of Rihard which name his town. Athelstan's middle coinage, which reproduces the king's long title *rex totius Britanniae* in abbreviated form, generally incorporates both the moneyer's name and that of his town in an inscription which circumscribes a circled small cross. However, the only obverse die of that issue known to have been used by Rihard is coupled with two reverse dies, one of which was left over from the early coinage while the other simply reads +RIHARD MONETA (Blunt 1974, nos 118 and 253). The most that can be said with confidence is that he is likely to have functioned in a Mercian town close to the border with Wessex. Oxford must be a possibility given that a coin of his has been found there, and it is worth mentioning that in this issue, whereas most dies of the named Oxford moneyers are of Winchester style, one (Sigeland) used a pair that shows every sign of having been made by an engraver from a workshop in Derby (Blunt 1974, no. 202).

Whatever the truth of the matter, it is likely that another scarce moneyer, Londbriht, was a colleague of Rihard, for in Edward's coinage they shared an obverse die (CTCE, 67 no. 224, and 69 no. 255(ii)). Indeed it is probable that the coin found in New Inn Hall Street is an earlier striking from the obverse die that Londbriht used to mint a coin found in the Rome (Vatican) hoard of 1928, now in

the British Museum (Plate 6.1 right; O'Donovan 1964, no. 298). Londbriht is known in Athelstan's early issue but not subsequently, so he too provides us with no information on where the pair worked. The question is unlikely to be resolved unless a signed coin of one of them is discovered in a new find.

- Pl. 6.1 **Coin**, penny, silver. Complete. Edward the Elder penny. c AD 920, die cutting associated with Winchester (18–24 New Inn Hall Street, 1979. SF:24N.501, ctx. 24N.0, Ph:24N.1). (SL)
- NI **Coin**, silver. Incomplete. Possible cut farthing, Edward Confessor; PACX, minted 1042–44, unlikely to circulate after Conquest (SF:AST.158, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3). (NM)
- NI **Coin**, farthing, copper alloy. Complete. James I 'Harrington' type, 1613–4 (SF:AST.74, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.10). (NM)
- NI **Coin**, farthing, copper alloy. Complete. James I 'Harrington' farthing, 1613–4; reads IOCA instead of IACO (SF:AST.106, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (NM)
- NI **Coin**, farthing, copper alloy. Complete. Charles I 'Richmond' farthing, 1625–34 (SF:AST.93, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.10). (NM)
- NI **Coin**, farthing, copper alloy. Complete. Charles I 'Maltravers' farthing, 1634–6 (SF:AST.78, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.10). (NM)
- NI **Coin**, farthing, copper alloy. Complete. Charles I 'rose' farthing, 1636–44. U/S (SF:AST.45, ctx. AST.0/0, Ph:AST.10). (NM)
- NI **Coin**, farthing, copper alloy. Complete. Charles I 'rose' farthing, 1636–44 (SF:AST.91, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (NM)
- NI **Jetton**, Nuremberg type, copper alloy. Complete. 'Very early', Nuremberg, c 1490; Bavarian arms, I's & +'s in border; Rosettes, I's & stars in border (SF:AST.92, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (†SR)
- NI **Jetton**, Nuremberg type, copper alloy. Complete. 'Early-mid', Nuremberg, 1500–50, standard types (amulet...to crowns, NC.1987) (SF:AST.77, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (†SR)
- NI **Jetton**, Nuremberg type, copper alloy. Complete. 'Early-mid', Nuremberg, 1520–5, standard types (large REICHSAPFEL, NC.1987) (SF:AST.89, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (†SR)
- NI **Jetton**, Nuremberg type, copper alloy. Complete. 'Early-mid', Nuremberg, c 1540 (SF:AST.25, ctx. AST.U/S). (†SR)
- NI **Jetton**, Nuremberg type, copper alloy. Complete. 'Early-middle', Nuremberg, c 1540–50, standard type (NC.1987) (SF:AST.107, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (†SR)
- NI **Jetton**, Nuremberg type, copper alloy. Complete. Made by Krauwinkel, 1550–1635 (NC.147, 1987, 114–55) (SF:AST.60, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (†SR)

- NI **Jetton**, English, copper alloy. Complete. Sometimes called Anglo-Gallic; +moline; bdr of pellets (plts in angles)/rosette of pellets, bdr of pellets; slovenly (SF:AST.57, ctx. AST.0/0, Ph:AST.10). (†SR)
- NI **Token**, 1/2d, copper alloy. Complete. Inscribed THOMAS SUTTON AT THE RAINDEAR IN BANBURY, HIS HALF PENNY 1666 (Milne 1935, no. 25) (SF:AST.72, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9). (NM)
- NI **Token**, 1/4d, copper alloy. Complete. Inscribed HUGH LAMBE IN OXFORD, HOSIER. H.L. 1668, (Leeds 1923, no.66) (SF:AST.108, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9) (NM)
- NI **Token**, 1/4d, copper alloy. Complete. JOHN STRINGER IN OXFORD 1670; rare; latest of Oxford tokens; only 6 sadlers issued tokens (Leeds 1923, 440 and no. 94) (SF:AST.90, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9). (NM)

Copper alloy objects (Fig. 6.17)

Comments and identifications by Alison Goodall unless otherwise attributed

The copper alloy finds include an early medieval ansate brooch, similar to the one from Old Erringham, Sussex, with a suggested 8th-century date, although the type is current from the 7th to the 9th century (Evison 1966, 149-51, fig. 60a, pl. X). Caterpillar brooches have been found in northern France, Belgium and Holland, and the Oxford example may point to trade with the north European coastal areas. The folding balances, like those from Goltho, Lincs. (Goodall 1975, 95, fig. 44.37), could date from before or after the Conquest and may also be associated with the trading activities on the site. Small balances could be used to weigh precious metals and gems or precious substances, such as spices and drugs.

A finger ring of simple form set with a single stone, and two book clasps, are characteristic finds from an ecclesiastical or monastic site. Other copper alloy finds include a medieval buckle and a decorated strap end, a skillet foot, fragments from a strainer, a wire eyelet, pins, lace ends and a small quantity of casting waste. The latter may indicate small scale working, or possibly only repair work, in the area.

Personal Ornaments

- 1 **Brooch**, ansate, copper alloy. Complete. Simple bar-construction with head and foot of equal width, original bow profile poss. accentuated during disposal; simple ridges at tips, three further corded ridges; pin missing. (Evison 1966, 149). L:41 mm (SF:AST.151, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3).
- 2 **Buckle**, moulded, copper alloy. Frame with folded-over plate; plate tinned with two large headed rivets. L:29 mm (SF:AST.157, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9).
- 3 **Strap end**, decorated, copper alloy. Complete. Incised border, decoration of punched dots. L:35 mm (SF:AST.81, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9).
- 4 **Lace end**, copper alloy. L:23 mm (SF:AST.51, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- NI **Lace end**, copper alloy. L:17 mm (SF:AST.103, ctx. AST.18, Ph:AST.9).
- NI **Lace end**, copper alloy. L:23 mm (SF:AST.119, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9).
- 5 **Ring**, finger, copper alloy. Complete. Stone or paste in raised setting. D:21 mm (SF:AST.115, ctx. AST.49, Ph:AST.8).
- 6 **Eyelet**, wire, copper alloy. Complete. D:10 mm (SF:AST.53, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- NI **Pin**, copper alloy. Complete. Coiled wire head. L:41 mm (SF:AST.32, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- NI **Pin**, copper alloy. Coiled wire head. L:46 mm (SF:AST.43, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- 7 **Pins**, copper alloy. Six pins; lengths 43, 40, 30, 26, 26, and 24 mm (SF:AST.46, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- NI **Pins**, copper alloy. Three pins with coiled wire heads. (SF:AST.69, ctx. AST.23/ 1, Ph:AST.7-9).
- NI **Pin**, copper alloy. Coiled wire head. L:25 mm (SF:AST.79, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9).
- NI **Pin**, copper alloy. Two pins with coiled wire heads. L:31 mm (SF:AST.102, ctx. AST.18, Ph:AST.9).

Other

- 8 **Balances**, folding, copper alloy. Incomplete. Hinged arms end in rectangular collars and loops with suspension rings attached; pointer joined to bar with tenon; suspension stirrup missing. L:48 mm (SF:AST.122, ctx. AST.24/ 1, Ph:AST.6).

Book Clasps

- 9 **Clasp**, bookbinding, copper alloy. Incomplete. Simple incised design. L:22 mm (SF:AST.52, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- 10 **Clasp**, book-binding, copper alloy. Incomplete. Flared end and concentric-ring decoration common to late medieval to post-medieval clasps. L:31 mm (SF:AST.56, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).

Discs

- NI **Disc**, copper alloy. Complete. Rather thicker than most jettons; crudely clipped into a disc; un-struck; uninscribed (SF:AST.59, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9).
- NI **Disc**, copper alloy. Complete (SF:AST.88, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9).

Vessels

- 11 **Plate**, fragments, copper alloy. Possible strainer; one fragment has a finished edge. D:112 mm (SF:4QS.1, ctx. 4QS.19, Ph:4QS.5). (N Rogers)
- 12 **Foot**, fragment, copper alloy. From jug or small skillet. H:11 mm (SF:AST.118, ctx. AST.49, Ph:AST.8).

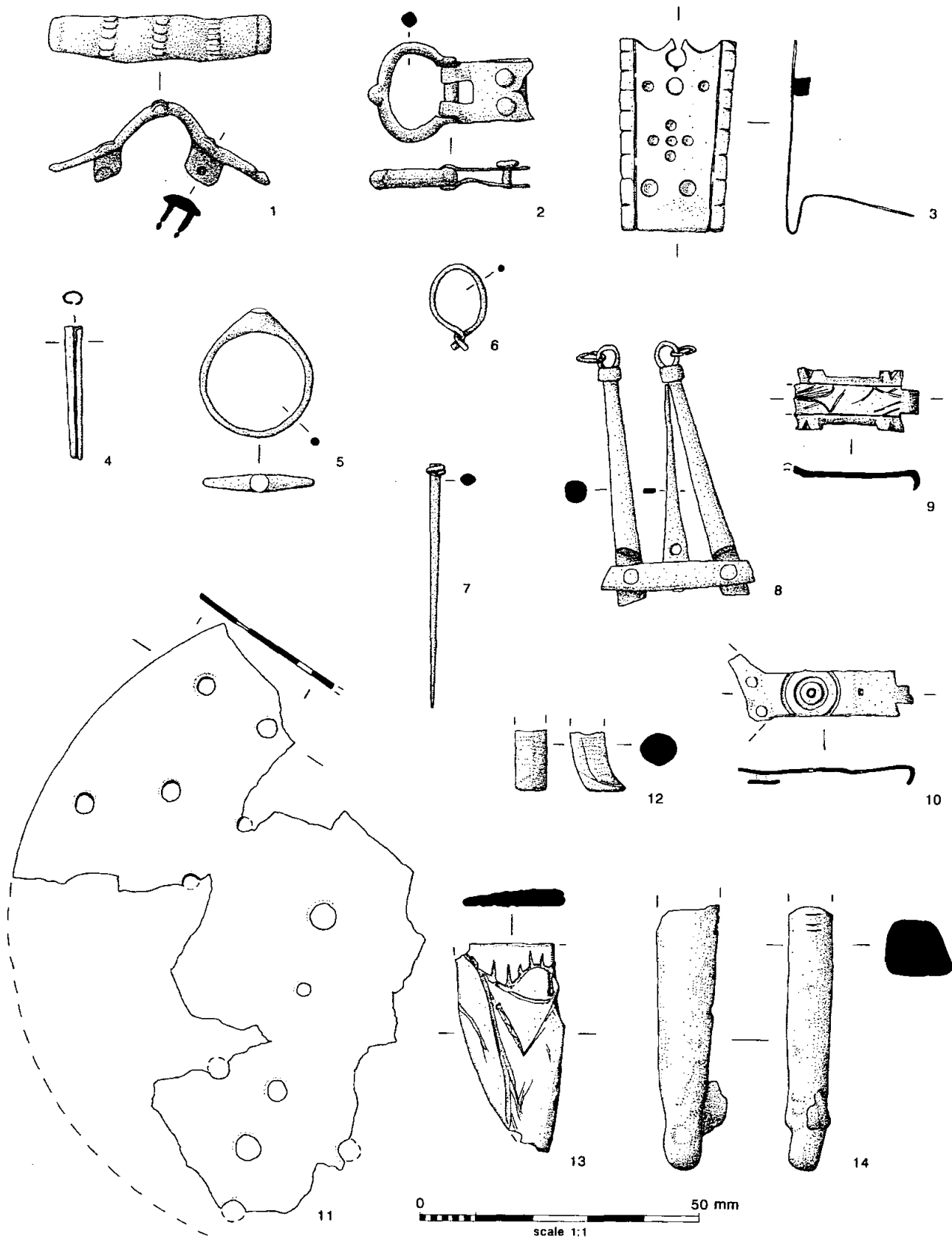


Figure 6.17 Small Finds from All Saints Church and no. 4 Queen St: Copper alloy nos 1-14.

Unidentified Objects

- NI **Object**, copper alloy. Badly corroded object or fragment with wood attached (SF:4QS.5, ctx. 4QS.22, Ph:4QS.4). (N Rogers)
- NI **Fragment**, copper alloy. Possible casting debris (SF:4QS.4, ctx. 4QS.34, Ph:4QS.3). (N Rogers)

Rods, Tubes, Sheets and Strips

- NI **Rod**, copper alloy. Broken at one end. L:25 mm (SF:AST.191, ctx. AST.123/ 2, Ph:AST.2).
- NI **Tube**, copper alloy. L:28 mm (SF:4QS.7, ctx. 4QS.36, Ph:4QS.3). (N Rogers)
- NI **Sheet**, fragment, copper alloy (SF:AST.142, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3).
- NI **Strip**, copper alloy. Incomplete. Two pieces; L:102 and 65 mm (SF:7QS.220, ctx. 7QS.3/ 1, Ph:7QS.6). (N Rogers)
- NI **Strip**, binding, copper alloy. Incomplete. Narrow; perforations at each end (SF:AST.27, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- NI **Strip**, fragment, copper alloy (SF:AST.247, ctx. AST.244/4, Ph:AST.2B).
- NI **Sheet**, fragment, copper alloy. L:7 mm (SF:AST.117, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9).
- 13 **Waste**, casting, copper alloy. L:37 mm (SF:AST.85, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9).
- NI **Waste**, casting, copper alloy (SF:AST.140, ctx. AST.70, Ph:AST.9).
- 14 **Waste**, casting, copper alloy. L:49 mm (SF:AST.216, ctx. AST.75/ 3, Ph:AST.3).

Tin, lead and iron Coffin Plates

Comments and identifications by Julian Litten.

Oval grip-plates (SF nos AST.235 and AST.44). Although grip-plates of this type and design survive on coffins of the period c 1750–1825, the earliest known trade catalogue, that issued by the upmarket manufacturer Tuesby and Cooper of Southwark and dated 1783, only shows designs of the most extreme elaboration. The grip-plates in question are closest in design to no. 37 shown full size in an Anon Coffin Furniture trade catalogue of 1802 (Victoria and Albert Museum Design, prints and drawings collection, on folio E.1014–1978) and similar to no. 11 shown on folio E.3119–1910 in a Coffin Furniture trade catalogue issued by EL in 1826. The former retailed at 26/6d per dozen pairs, the latter at 2/- per dozen pairs. Grip-plates such as these, albeit much smaller, were still being used on children's coffins well into the 1920s.

Depositum plate (SF no. AST.58). From the lid of the inner lead shell of the coffin of Mary Wyatt, d.1829. Coffins destined for vault deposit comprised a wooden coffin containing the remains (*sans depositum plate*), and an outer wooden case, upholstered with velvet and with appliqué coffin furniture. As it was common knowledge in the funerary trade that the outer wooden case would eventually crumble away, a lead depositum plate was affixed to the lid

of the longer-lasting lead shell. The item in question is an example of such a lead shell depositum plate. The six blobs of solder adhering it to the lead shell can easily be seen. Items of this kind were not supplied through trade catalogues; rather they were provided by the plumber casing the body for the funeral furnisher to inscribe, being fixed before the plumber left the premises.

Depositum plate (SF no. AST.87). Depositum plates of this type are distinctly 19th-century; the 1689 date cannot be. I suggest that the fourth line of the inscription is the age of Mary Jones at decease rather than the year of her death. As one would expect, it does not appear in the Tuesby and Cooper 1783 catalogue, but a similar version can be found as no. 1056 in the anonymous 1803 catalogue, retailing at 25/- per dozen (folio E.1000–1978) and as no. 200 in the EL's catalogue (folio E.3102–1910) at 23/- per dozen. From folio E.3102–1910 we know that the full height of the complete depositum plate was 21.5 inches and that its width was 13.5 inches. Shield-shaped depositum plates of this type were more generally used for male teenagers.

- NI **Oval grip-plate**, tin-dipped stamped iron. Incomplete. ENGLISH: 1829 (SF:AST.235, ctx. AST.14, Ph:AST. 10).
- NI **Oval-grip plate**, tin-dipped stamped iron. Incomplete. ENGLISH: 1829 (SF:AST.44, ctx. AST.0, Ph:AST.10).
- NI **Depositum plate**, lead with traces of lead fixative. Complete. Inscription reads: MARY WYATT/ died Sept 16th 1829/ aged 56 years. ENGLISH: 1829 (SF:AST.58, ctx. AST.12, Ph:AST.10).
- NI **Depositum plate**, tin-dipped stamped iron. Incomplete. Inscription reads: MARY JONE(S)/ DIE(D)/ July 13/ 68/ ENGLISH: c 1803–1826 (SF:AST.87, ctx. AST.0, Ph:AST.10).

Lead Objects

Identifications by Alison Goodall and Nicola Rogers.

- NI **Lump**, irregular, lead. Some concretion, weight 900 g. L:110 mm (SF:4QS.11, ctx. 4QS.34, Ph:4QS.3). (N Rogers)
- NI **Offcut**, lead (SF:AST.238, ctx. AST.210/2, Ph:AST.10). (A Goodall)
- NI **Small offcut**, lead; incomplete. L:50 mm (SF:4QS.2, ctx. 4QS.12, Ph:4QS.6). (N Rogers)
- NI **Small offcut**, lead. L:39 mm (SF:7QS.205, ctx. 7QS.218/2, Ph:7QS.4). (N Rogers)
- NI **Waste**, lead. Small chips have been cut from this piece with a knife (SF:AST.198, ctx. AST.112/9, Ph:AST.1a). (A Goodall)

Iron objects (Figs 6.18, 6.19)

Comments and identifications by Ian Goodall unless otherwise attributed

The ironwork is principally of 10th- and 11th-century date. The two buckles (15 and 17) are both of simple

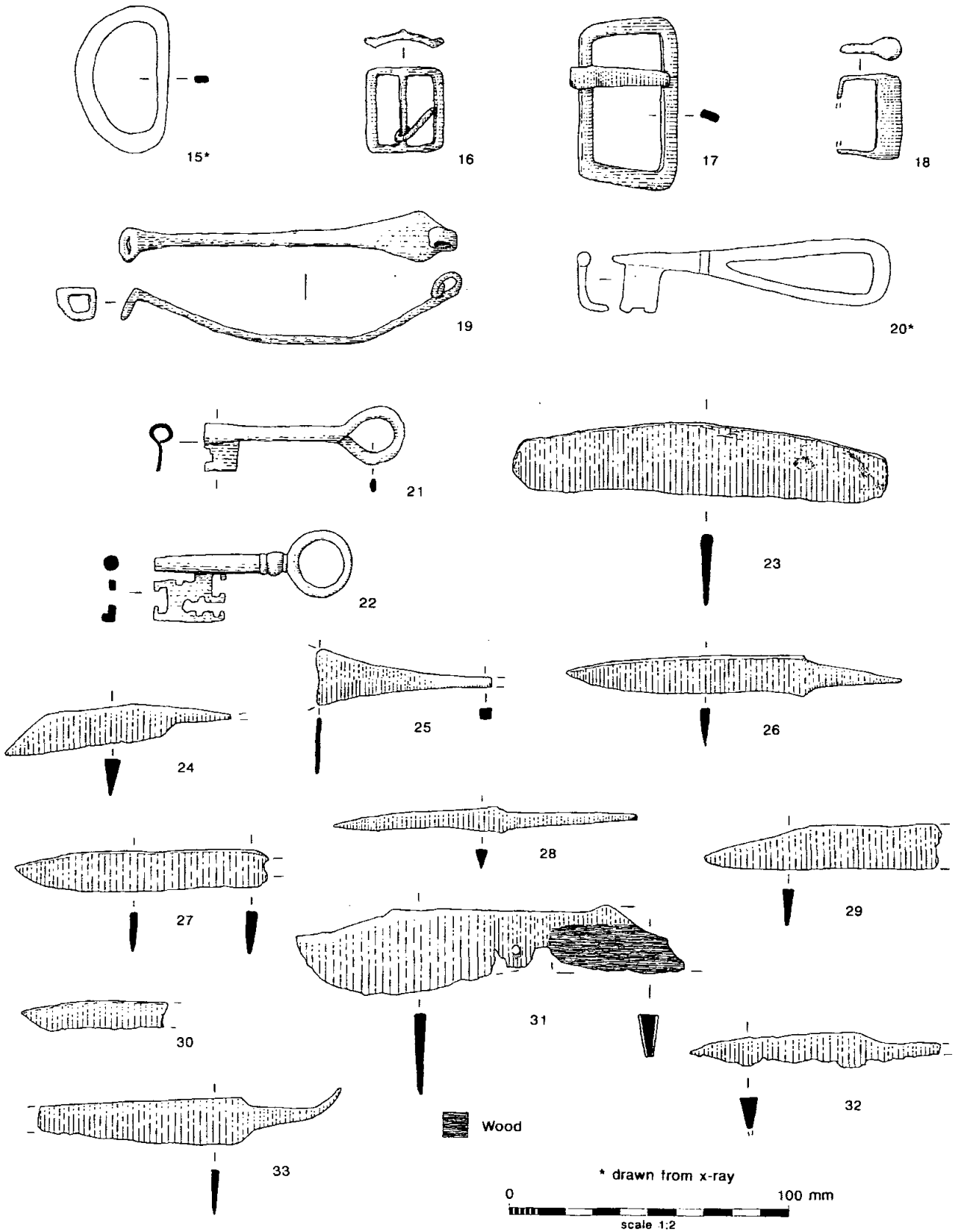


Figure 6.18 Small Finds from All Saints Church, no. 7 Queen St, nos 33-35 Queen St and the High St Surface Water Drain: Iron nos 15-33.

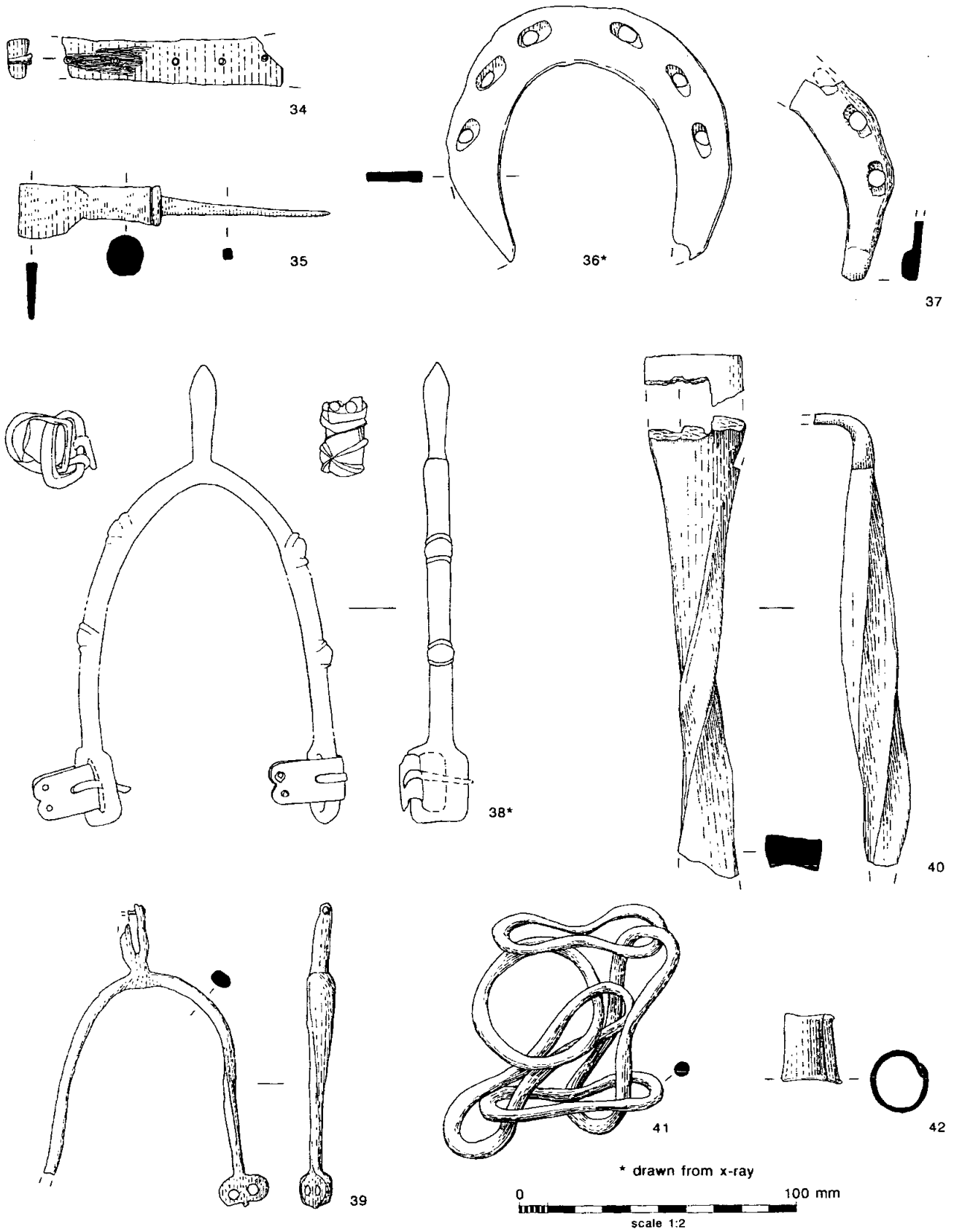


Figure 6.19 Small Finds from All Saints Church: Iron nos 34-42.

shape without any decoration; the strap slide (18) was used in conjunction with a buckle and a plate in the manner of an earlier example from Balladoole, Isle of Man (Bersu and Wilson 1966, 36–7, fig. 26, pl. VIID). Its simple shape recalls an example from Winchester (Goodall in Biddle 1990, 526, 536, fig. 141.1345); a wider range is known from York (Ottaway 1992, 688–90, fig. 297). Padlock key (19), with its expanded terminal and laterally-set bit, had a long life, but key (20) with its distinctive elongated pear-shaped bow and L-sectioned bit is normally of pre-Conquest date in Britain (Goodall in Biddle 1990, 1006–8, 1024, fig. 325; see also locks 1003–5, 1016–17, fig. 317).

Knives are the most numerous objects, and they include a pivoting knife (31) with its M-shaped indent and pivoting rivet. Such knives, probably used for craftwork, date from the 8th to the 11th century (Goodall in Biddle 1990, 836–8, 840,1, figs 250–1; Ottaway 1992, 586–8, figs 243–4). The other knives (23–30, 32) have, or had, whittle-tangs, and they display a variety of blade shapes, some with cutting edges shaped by sharpening.

Horseshoes with countersunk nail holes span from the 9th to the 13th century but those with broad but thin arm widths (web) like Nos 36–7 and SFs 33Q.7, 4QS.8 and 7QS.201, are characteristic of the 9th to late 11th centuries (Goodall in Biddle 1990, 1054–55, 1057, fig. 340.3939–42). The prick spur (38) is also characteristic of this period (see below).

A number of objects are typologically later than the 10th and 11th centuries, notably the key (22) which is likely to be of 13th-century date, the double looped buckle (16) of late medieval or post-medieval date, and the knife with a bolster (35) which is probably 17th century. The other objects are whittle- and scale-tang knives (33–4), bars (SF 7QS.206 and No. 40), a chain (41), collar (42) and items of structural ironwork including nails.

Personal Ornaments

- 15 **Buckle**, iron. Dshaped, pin missing. L:54 mm (SF:7QS.203, ctx. 7QS.214, Ph:7QS.4). (N Rogers)
- 16 **Buckle**, iron. Complete. Double-looped. L:34 mm (SF:AST.62, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- 17 **Buckle**, trapezoidal, iron. Complete. With pin. L:63 mm (SF:AST.127, ctx. AST.24/ 1, Ph:AST.6).
- 18 **Strap slide** from a buckle, iron. Traces of non-ferrous plating. L:30 mm (SF:AST.177, ctx. AST.94/ 9, Ph:AST.3a).

Lock Furniture

- 19 **Padlock key**, iron. Complete. Expanded and hooked terminal. L:122 mm (SF:AST.130, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3).
- 20 **Key**, iron. Complete pear-shaped bow, L-shaped bit, projecting stem tip. L:105 mm (SF:7QS.202, ctx. 7QS.211, Ph:7QS.4). (N Rogers)
- 21 **Key**, iron. Complete. Ring bow; bit rolled in one with hollow stem. L:72 mm (SF:AST.178, ctx. AST.94/ 9, Ph:AST.3).

- 22 **Key**, iron. Complete. Ring bow, moulded solid stem and elaborate bit; whole with copious non-ferrous plating. L:71 mm (SF:AST.28, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).

Knives

- 23 **Knife**, blade, iron. L:135 mm (SF:AST.197, ctx. AST.110/ 9, Ph:AST.1a).
- 24 **Whittle-tang knife**, iron. Incomplete. L:88 mm (SF:7QS.216, ctx. 7QS.209/ 3, Ph:7QS.4).
- 25 **Whittle-tang knife**, iron. Incomplete. Base of blade and part of tang; knife or tool? L:64 mm (SF:AST.182, ctx. AST.113/ 2, Ph:AST.2a).
- 26 **Whittle-tang knife**, whittle-tang, iron. Complete. L:122 mm (SF:AST.217, ctx. AST.75/4, Ph:AST.3).
- 27 **Whittle-tang knife**, whittle-tang, iron. Incomplete. Blade only. L:92 mm (SF:AST.229, ctx. AST.75/ 4, Ph:AST.3).
- 28 **Whittle-tang knife**, whittle-tang, iron. Complete. L:109 mm (SF:AST.128, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3).
- 29 **Knife blade**, iron. Incomplete. L:90 mm from X-ray (SF:7QS.210, ctx. 7QS.230, Ph:7QS.3).
- 30 **Knife blade**, iron. Incomplete. Heavy back carried through to tip, edge corroded or worn away. L:52 mm (SF:AST.231, ctx. AST.75/ 4, Ph:AST.3).
- 31 **Knife**, pivoting, iron. L:140 mm (SF:33Q.202, ctx. 33Q.105/4).
- 32 **Whittle-tang knife**, iron. Incomplete. L:90 mm (High Street Surface Water Drain, SF:HSS.12, ctx. HSS.7).
- 33 **Whittle-tang knife**, whittle-tang, iron. Incomplete. Blade-tip missing; tang and blade bent. L:110 mm (SF:AST.109, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9).
- 34 **Scale-tang knife**, scale-tang, iron. Incomplete. Scale-tang retains five hollow copper-alloy rivets and traces of wooden handle. L:82 mm (SF:AST.104, ctx. AST.18, Ph:AST.9).
- 35 **Whittle-tang knife**, whittle-tang, iron. Incomplete. Moulded, circular-sectioned bolster and broken blade. L:114 mm (SF:AST.30, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).

Furniture and Fittings

- NI **Hinge pivot**, iron. Incomplete. Broken off at angle. L:46 mm (SF:7QS.221, ctx. 7QS.4/ 8, Ph:7QS.5). (N Rogers)

Horse and Riding Equipment

- 36 **Horseshoe**, iron. Incomplete. Countersunk nail-holes, one retaining a fiddle-key nail; slightly wavy edge, no calkins, tip missing. Width of web: 22 mm (SF:AST.146, ctx. AST.75/2, Ph:AST.3).
- 37 **Horseshoe**, iron. Incomplete. Arm with countersunk nail-holes, slightly wavy edge and calkin. Width of web: 20 mm (SF:AST.215, ctx. AST.75/ 4, Ph:AST.3).

- NI **Horseshoe**, iron. Incomplete. Arm with two countersunk nails, one nail remaining. Plain outline. Width of web: 23 mm (SF:33Q.7, ctx. 33Q.203). (N Rogers)
- NI **Horseshoe**, half, iron. Incomplete. Arm with two countersunk nail holes, plain outline. Width of the web: 22 mm (SF:4QS.8, ctx. 4QS.31, Ph:4QS.5). (N Rogers)
- NI **Horseshoe**, iron. Incomplete. Arm with two countersunk nail holes, plain outline. Width of the web: 26 mm (SF:7QS.201, ctx. 7QS.210, Ph:7QS.4). (N Rogers)

Spurs

Comments and identifications by Blanche Ellis

The prick spur (38) is heavily rusted and broken with traces of non-ferrous plating indicated on the X-ray. It has long straight sides; lumps on the outer surfaces were probably decorative bosses. The rectangular terminals are each pierced with a horizontal slot (or just possibly two slots). A broad, flat rectangular strap end is doubled so that it can be looped onto the top bar of each terminal, clasping the missing leather between its scalloped ends, where it is held by two rivets. Many contemporary spurs had combined buckle terminals comprising strap ends as described above, with a buckle pin also fitted onto the upper terminal bar in the centre of the looped-over strap end, which had a slot to allow this. The X-ray of this spur suggests the probable presence of buckle pins on the terminals.

The straight neck thickens evenly towards the base of the goad which tapers to a point. Two fragments which accompany the spur are remains of another separate buckle; one fragment appears to be slightly thicker than the spur sides, and has two or three circular projections (rivet heads?) at one end. At the other end there is a domed shape, marked with double lines forming a cross. The second fragment appears to be a kidney-shaped loop with a D-shaped loop (strap guide?) at right-angles to it.

The spur is English, dating to the late Saxon period, 10th to 11th century. A similar iron spur from Linton Heath has combined buckle terminals (Neville 1854, 99), as has a tinned copper alloy spur of this type from York (Jope 1956b, 38–9, fig. 13.3). The non-ferrous plating on 38 is probably tin (*ibid.* 35–42). The fragments of the separate buckle and strap guide are identified by comparison with an iron spur from York (Ottaway 1992, 700, fig. 304.3832) and another from Northampton (Williams 1979, 273, fig. 121, nos 120–1), which were also accompanied by separate buckles having strap guide loops. The York example includes a buckle frame or loop incorporating a central curved disc decorated with double lines forming a cross; comparable to the decoration on the Oxford example, it is from an Anglo-Scandinavian context. The York spur has one surviving side with a buckle terminal and the Northampton example, although unclear, appears from the X-ray to be of similar buckle terminal type.

The rowel spur (39) is severely rusted, with straight D-section sides and one terminal missing. It has a short straight neck, most of which is divided by the rowel box which has one broken side and from which half of the rowel boss and the rowel are missing. The front end of the complete side has become twisted so that the large terminal is no longer vertical in relation to it. This terminal is pierced by two holes one above the other and X-ray XXXVI confirms the original presence of a small point projecting forward from the central indentation on the front edge of the terminal, a feature which has since disappeared. There are possible traces of non-ferrous plating.

Typologically it is English, post-medieval, probably mid to late 16th century. Iron spurs with similar terminals, each featuring a small point on its front edge, include Castle Rising, Norfolk (Ellis 1997, 96–7, fig. 70, no. 30), Somerby, Lincs. (Mynard 1969, 81 and fig. 11, no. IW.24) and Southampton, Hants. (Platt and Coleman-Smith 1975, 277–8, fig. 250, no. 1995). Copper alloy Irish spurs nos 1944:308 and 1881:297 in the National Museum of Ireland, Dublin also have such terminals. These spurs all date from the 16th to the early 17th century.

- 38 **Prick spur**, iron. Incomplete. Iron prick spur with decorative bosses, combined buckle terminals and traces of non-ferrous plating. The spur is in six heavily corroded fragments. Length of the neck is 36 mm (SF:AST.246, ctx. AST.243, Ph:AST.6).
- 39 **Rowel spur**, iron. Incomplete. Severely rusted, it has straight D-sectioned sides and one terminal missing. The neck is short and straight divided by the rowel box. Half the rowel boss and the rowel itself are missing. L:112 mm (SF:AST.29, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).

Other

- NI **Bar**, iron. Incomplete. Rectangular cross-section; poss. head of tool. L:60 mm (SF:7QS.206, ctx. 7QS.218/ 2, Ph:7QS.4). (N Rogers)
- 40 **Bar**, iron. Incomplete. Length of twisted iron. L:190 mm (SF:AST.223, ctx. AST.75/ 4, Ph:AST.3).
- 41 **Chain**, iron. Four figure-of-eight links and a ring. L:114 mm (SF:AST.132, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3).
- 42 **Collar**, circular, iron. Complete. D:20 mm (SF:AST.202, ctx. AST.126/ 7, Ph:AST.1a).
- NI **Sheet**, fragment, iron. Very thin; X-ray shows no detail. L:82 mm (SF:AST.245, ctx. AST.244, Ph:AST.2b).
- NI **Strip**, iron (SF:33Q.1, ctx. 33Q.201).

Structural Ironwork

- NI **Spike**, iron (SF:33Q.13, ctx. 33Q.201).
- NI **Staple**, rectangular, iron. Incomplete. L:46 mm (SF:AST.232, ctx. AST.75/ 4, Ph:AST.3).
- NI **Staple**, rectangular, iron. Incomplete (SF:33Q.12, ctx. 33Q.201).

- NI **Nail**, iron. Complete. Round, flat head. L:46 mm (SF:33Q.14, ctx. 33Q.9/ 2).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Complete. Round, flat head. L:29 mm (SF:33Q.15, ctx. 33Q.3, Ph:33Q.6).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Complete. Rounded, slightly domed head. L:104 mm (SF:33Q.16, ctx. 33Q.9/ 1).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Complete. Rounded, flat head. L:41 mm (SF:7QS.208, ctx. 7QS.218/ 2, Ph:7QS.4).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Incomplete. Head missing (SF:AST.31, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).
- NI **Nails**, iron. Complete. 19 nails, 16 with rounded, flat heads and lengths ranging from 32–77 mm. 3 have flat heads and their lengths range from 51–74 mm (SF:AST.55, ctx. AST.U/S).
- NI **Nails**, iron. Complete. 6 nails, 2 have rounded, flat heads, their lengths are 45 and 50 mm, 2 have rounded heads, their lengths are 45 and 60 mm, and 2 have square heads and lengths of 70 and 80 mm (SF:AST.100, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Complete. Rounded, slightly domed head. L:46 mm (SF:AST.101, ctx. AST.18, Ph:AST.9).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Complete. Flat head. L:70 mm (SF:AST.111, ctx. AST.25, Ph:AST.7–9).
- NI **Nails**, iron. Complete. 2 nails, 1 with a flat head, L:63 mm, and the other with a rounded, flat head, L:37 mm (SF:AST.135, ctx. AST.19/ 1, Ph:AST.4).
- NI **Nail**, coffin, iron. Complete. Rounded, flat head. L:63 mm (SF:AST.139, ctx. AST.70, Ph:AST.7–9).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Complete. Rounded, flat head. L:78 mm (SF:AST.154, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Incomplete. Rounded, flat head. Tip of shaft missing. L:52 mm (SF:AST.185, ctx. AST.113/ 4, Ph:AST.2a).
- NI **Nail**, iron. Complete. Rounded, flat head. L:93 mm (SF:AST.230, ctx. AST.75/ 4, Ph:AST.3).
- 44 **Pin**, bone. Incomplete. Pig fibula pin with perforated head, shaped and polished shaft, broken at tip. L:49 mm (SF:7QS.213, ctx. 7QS.230, Ph:7QS.3).
- 45 **Pin**, bone. Incomplete. Pig fibula, with perforated head, shaft with slight shaping, tip broken off. L:78 mm (SF:7QS.222, ctx. 7QS.4/13, Ph:7QS.5).
- NI **Pin**, antler, bone. Pointed polished rod of antler; subsequently chipped round and broken off from rest of shaft (SF:AST.233, ctx. AST.177/ 1, Ph:AST.3a).
- 46 **Needle**, bone. Incomplete. Possible bird bone, tip broken off. L:60 mm (SF:AST.153, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3b).
- 47 **Threadpicker**, rough out, bone. Incomplete. From a large mammal cattle/horse, roughly worked point, broken at upper end. L:101 mm (SF:AST.186, ctx. AST.113/ 4, Ph:AST.2a).
- 48 **Spindlewhorl**, bone. Complete. Epiphysis, from a bovine proximal femur, squat conical shape, central hole dia. 11 mm. Diameter: 38 mm (SF:AST.152, ctx. AST.75, Ph:AST.3b).
- NI **Skate**, bone. Incomplete. Flattened and heavily polished on underside, front end is missing. Cattle radius. L:56 mm (SF:7QS.224, ctx. 7QS.209/ 5, Ph:7QS.4).
- 49 **Strip**, decorated, bone. Incomplete. Length of bone, one end broken off; decorated with incised lines forming a lozenge pattern, each lozenge containing a dot. L:56 mm (SF:AST.296, ctx. AST.75/ 4, Ph:AST.3b).

Glass objects (Fig. 6.20)

Window glass by Brian Durham, incorporating comments and identifications by Jill Channer; other comments and identifications by Catherine Mortimer and Nicola Rogers

Window glass from the church included many finds of clear glass of post-medieval type from the podium of the 18th-century church, which are not discussed further. Of the medieval glass from all provenances, 83% was decorated in some way, though only 12% was coloured. Blue was predominant, with four fragments; there were two each of green and turquoise, and one of flashed red.

Earliest in both design and provenance was No. 56, deep green glass, possibly part of a boss from a geometric grisaille panel. This fragment came from the masonry forming the base of the chancel arch, apparently not disturbed since the first building of the church in the mid 11th century. However, the piece is typical of the 13th century, and such an early provenance raises difficulties, not least because it is difficult to see why there should be glass on the site while the church was being built. There must therefore be some doubt as to whether there had been some tampering with the masonry of the chancel arch in the 13th century, which was not recognised in the excavation.

Apart from this piece, the only glass which was in any way stratified was a group from layer AS24,

Unidentified Objects

- NI **Object**, iron (SF:33Q.6, ctx. 33Q.202). (Missing)

Antler and bone objects (Fig. 6.20)

Comments and identifications by Leigh Allen and Bob Wilson

The bone artefacts are mostly objects associated with sewing, spinning and weaving, and include three pins, two of bone and one of antler, a needle, an unfinished rough-out for a thread-picker and a spindlewhorl. There is also the rear end of a bone skate with a flattened and highly polished underside; skates such as these are common finds in Britain from between the 8th and the 13th centuries. The worked and decorated piece of bone (No. 49) was possibly the handle to a knife or other implement, although no trace of its method of attachment survives.

- 43 **Ring**, penannular, bone. Complete. Possible tracheal ring of bird. Diameter:15.5 mm (SF:AST.26, ctx. AST.1/ 1, Ph:AST.10).

Chapter Six

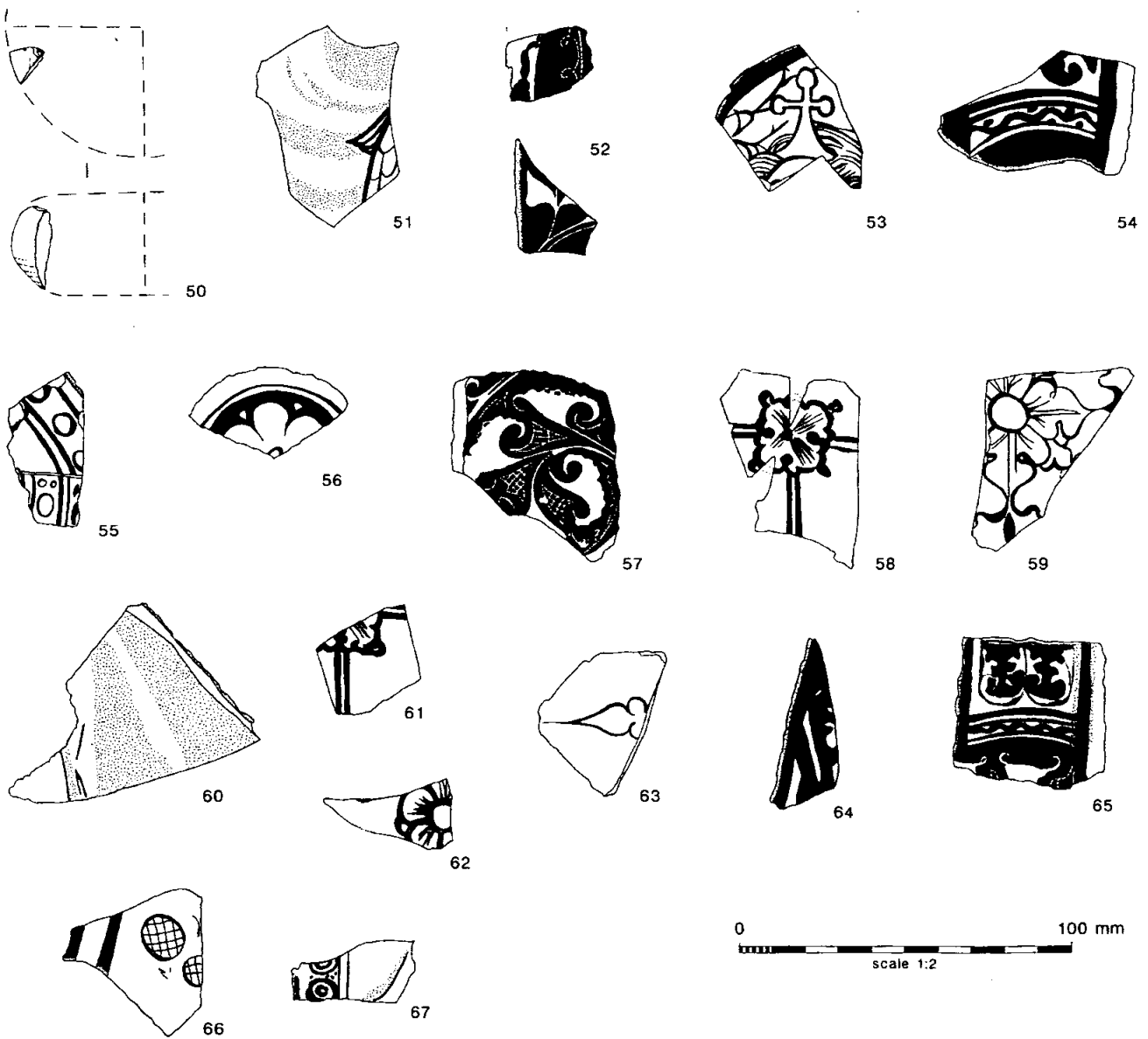
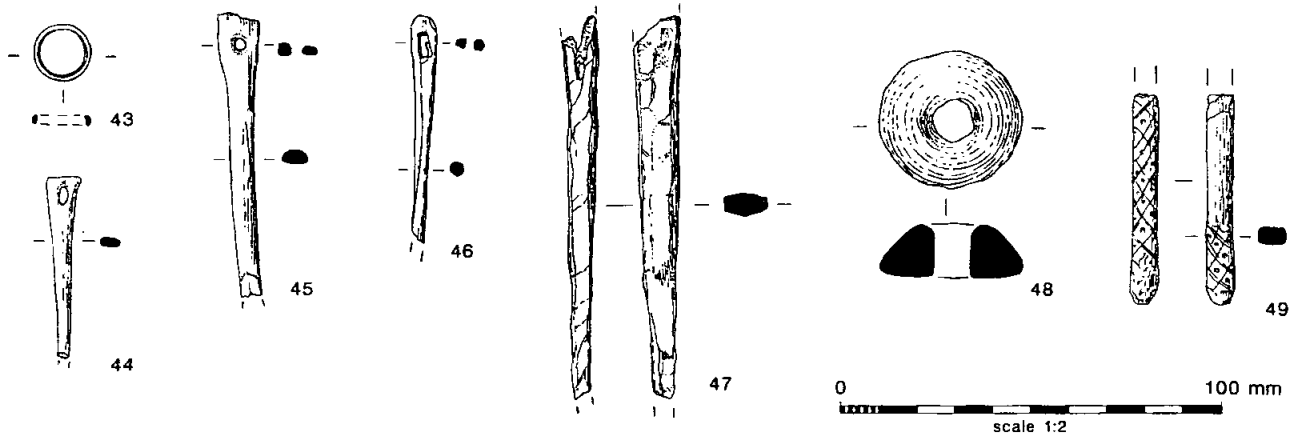


Figure 6.20 Small Finds from All Saints Church and no. 7 Queen St: Bone nos 43-9; Glass nos 50-67.

broadly the deposits beneath the floor level of the medieval church, but which had been disturbed by earth graves which may in some cases have been as late as 1700 when the medieval church was destroyed by the collapse of the tower. Of the total of 75 fragments, 32 were of smooth, thin, relatively unweathered glass, presumably of the 16th or 17th centuries, none of which was painted. The remaining fragments are assumed to be mainly medieval in origin; of these, three-quarters had painted decoration but relatively little was coloured, ie three blue (SF 110a, b and c), one green (SF64c) and one flashed red (SF 285).

Most of the glass designs from this level are of the 14th and 15th centuries, but because of the degree of disturbance of the deposit by later graves (illustrated by such a high proportion of post-medieval glass), it does not provide any independent evidence as to how much of All Saints' medieval decorative glass had survived the Reformation *in situ*.

- 50 **Linen smoother**, glass. Incomplete. Severely weathered (iridescent) fragment, shaped like a segment of a small, flattened bun. Weathering suggests forest glass, colour obscured. Resembles fragment from slickstone or linen smoother (SF:AST.171, ctx. AST.97, Ph:AST.2b). (C Mortimer)
- NI **Vessel**, glass. Incomplete. Severely weathered (pitted) vessel fragment, presumed original colour green. Too small a fragment to suggest form. Weathering suggests forest glass (SF:AST.116, ctx. AST.49, Ph:AST.8). (C Mortimer)
- NI **Window, fragment**, glass (SF:33Q.8, ctx. 33Q.6/1). (J Channer)
- NI **Window, fragments**, glass. Several small pieces. (SF:4QS.9, ctx. 4QS.34, Ph:4QS.3). (N Rogers)
- NI **Window, fragment**, glass. (Lozenge-shaped piece). L:40 mm. (SF:4QS.10, ctx. 4QS.9, Ph:4QS.5). (N Rogers)
- 51 **Window, fragment**, glass. 3 mm thick buff-yellow, red and black paint in broad light strokes, finer details superimposed in thicker paint of similar colour; poss. angel wing with background. U/S (SF:AST.7, ctx. AST.0, Ph:AST.10). (J Channer)
- 52 **Window, fragment**, glass. 4 pieces; 3 have painted designs. U/S (SF:AST.54, ctx. AST.0, Ph:AST.10). (J Channer)
- 53 **Window, fragment**, glass. Pale green 2.5–3.5 mm thick one edge grozed; PN head and wings of angel, cross diadem on forehead, late 14th–early 15th cent (SF:AST.94, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 54 **Window, fragment**, glass. 2.5 mm thick pale green glass, two edges grozed; PN poss. base of crown 14th–15th cent (SF:AST.98, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.79). (J Channer)
- 55 **Window, fragment**, glass. 2.5 mm thick pale green, two edges grozed; two-toned painting PN drapery of a mantle (SF:AST.113, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 56 **Window, fragment**, glass. 2.5 mm thick emerald green, all three edges grozed; PN boss for grisaille glass; 13th century (would not rule out 12th cent) (SF:AST.134, ctx. AST.19/ 1, Ph:AST.4–9). (J Channer)
- 57 **Window, fragment**, glass. 3 mm thick pale green, grozed on two pos three edges; floral design in black; PN mid 14th cent., background design a formalised leaf (SF:AST.141, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 58 **Window, fragment**, glass. 2 mm thick pale green; rose design in black; PN 14th–early 15th cent (SF:AST.275, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 59 **Window, fragment**, glass. Clear glass 2 mm thick, no grozing; flower design in black; PN 15th cent on brushwork, part of quarry glass sim. to Oxon type 8–9 (SF:AST.276, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 60 **Window, fragment**, glass. 3 mm thick pale green glass, one grozed edge; geometrical pattern PN poss decorative border to garment hem (SF:AST. 277, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 61 **Window, fragment**, glass. Pale green colourless glass, on poss grozed edge; flower design in black (SF:AST.278, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 62 **Window, fragment**, glass. Pale green 2.5 mm thick flower design in black (SF:AST.279, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 63 **Window, fragment**, glass. Colourless glass, 3 mm thick, one poss two grozed edges; design in black (SF:AST.280, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 64 **Window, fragment**, glass. Pale green 1.5–3.5 mm thick; one grozed edge; two paint layers, inner one red/black, possible flower petal, outer coat paler; PN possible serpentine border (SF:AST.281, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 65 **Window, fragment**, glass. 4 mm thick colourless, three grozed edges; Crude design in black; PN crown over initial letter, not first-rate (SF:AST. 283, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 66 **Window, fragment**, glass. 1 mm thick colourless; two poss three grozed edges; painted design; PN 15th cent. on glass type (SF:AST.290, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)
- 67 **Window, fragment**, glass. 3 mm thick colourless; one grozed edge; border and other painted design; PN poss drapery border (SF:AST.291, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7–9). (J Channer)

Fired Clay objects (Fig. 6.21)

- 68 **Spindlewhorl**, decorated, fired clay. Complete. Flattened hemispherical shape; decorated with turned grooves. Diameter: 44 mm (SF:7QS.217, ctx. 7QS.209/ 3, Ph:7QS.2). (N Rogers)

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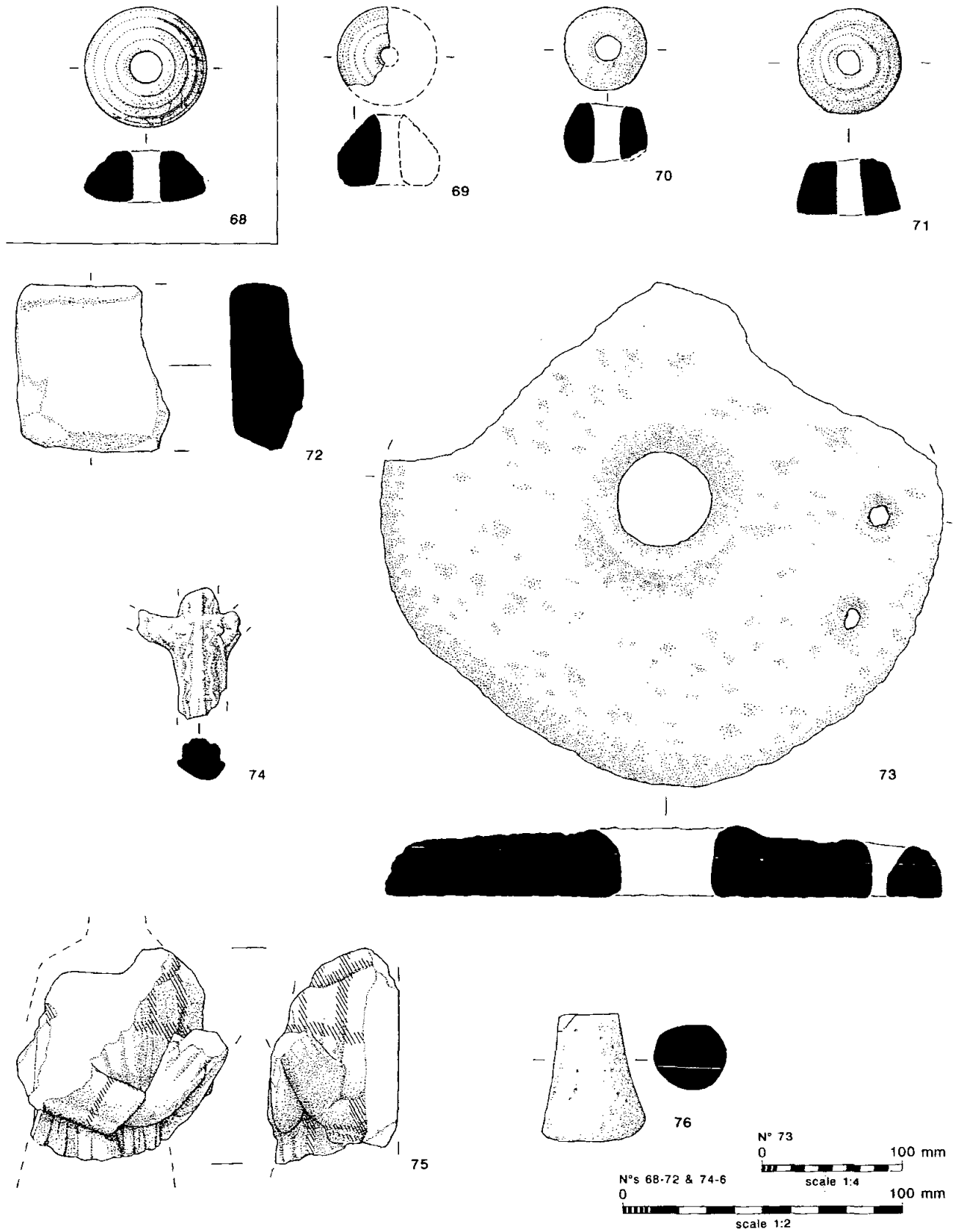


Figure 6.21 Small Finds from All Saints Church and no. 7 Queen St: Fired clay no. 68; Stone nos 69-76.

Stone objects (Fig. 6.21)

Comments and identifications by Leigh Allen and Nicola Rogers, with Fiona Roe; alabaster fragments by Brian Durham incorporating comments by Nigel Ramsay

The stone objects include three spindlewhorls: two of chalk and one of calcareous mud; Nos 69 and 71 are decorated with incised grooves. The spindlewhorls conform to the common plano-convex or conoid types and chalk and stone are common media for their construction in this period. There are also two hones; both are rectangular slabs and incomplete; SF 33Q.2 is of micaceous sandstone, and No. 72 is of pink quartzite. The latter is not a very suitable material for a hone and it is possible that it was utilized in some other way.

The stone objects also include four fragments of worked alabaster, and the author is grateful to Nigel Ramsay for his comments on these pieces. All are typical products of the late medieval industry centred on the counties of Derbyshire and Staffordshire and traded throughout Europe via such towns such as Burton-on-Trent, Nottingham and York. They are devotional objects. Many a parish church would have had a few or several figures, panels or altarpieces comprising several panels, so that England alone may have accounted for perhaps 50,000 items, all made in the space of 150 years. All the All Saints Church material is typical of the late 15th and early 16th centuries. Its damage is most likely to have taken place at the time of the Reformation.

- 69 **Spindlewhorl**, decorated, stone. Incomplete. Two adjoining fragments of conical whorl; calcareous mud, turned groove decoration. Diameter: 34 mm (SF:7QS.209, ctx. 7QS.215, Ph:7QS.4). (N Rogers)
- 70 **Spindlewhorl**, stone (chalk). Complete, hemispherical; considerable iron staining. Diameter: 32 mm (SF:7QS.223, ctx. 7QS.2, Ph:7QS.5). (N Rogers)
- 71 **Spindlewhorl**, stone (chalk). Complete. Hard chalk or limestone; (squat truncated cone, smaller circular surface decorated with concentric groove; hole diameter, upper surface 9.5 mm, lower surface 11 mm). Diameter: 38 mm (SF:AST.180, ctx. AST.111/7, Ph:AST.2b)
- NI **Hone**, stone (buff micaceous sandstone). Incomplete. Rectangular slab, tapering along its length, broken at one end. L:65 mm (SF:33Q.2, ctx. 33Q.5/1) (F Roe)
- 72 **Hone**, stone (pink quartzite). Incomplete. Rectangular slab with signs of wear on two surfaces, one end broken. L:50 mm (SF:AST.163, ctx. AST.94/1, Ph:AST.3a) (F Roe)
- 73 **Quern**, rotary, stone. Almost complete upper stone; two small handle holes near rim. Lower Old Red Sandstone. Original diameter: c 397 mm (SF:7QS.218, ctx. 7QS.209/6, Ph:7QS.2). (N Rogers)

- 74 **Sculpture, fragment**, stone (alabaster). Incomplete. Piece of panel; tracery with zigzag moulding, probably from a devotional panel. Late 15th-early 16th cent (SF:AST.114, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.79). (B Durham)
- 75 **Sculpture**, painted, stone (alabaster). Incomplete. Piece of panel; figure of a man praying, decorated with red and geometric bands of gold size. Late 15th cent (SF:AST.73, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.79). (B Durham)
- NI **Sculpture**, painted, stone (alabaster). Incomplete. 2 pieces of carving; edge of panel, perhaps halo or mandorla of Virgin, painted blue and red with gold size. Late 15th cent (SF:AST.297, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9). (B Durham)
- NI **Sculpture**, painted, stone (alabaster). Incomplete. 3 pieces of carved panel, motif uncertain. One bears black or dark green paint (SF:AST.298, ctx. AST.24, Ph:AST.7-9). (B Durham)
- 76 **Object**, decorated, stone (chalk). Complete. Round base, sides taper up to circular top; chipped near base; traces of punched hole decoration. L: 43 mm (SF:7QS.207, ctx. 7QS.218/2, Ph:7QS.4). (N Rogers)

Stone architectural fragments (Fig. 5.13)

Comments by Brian Durham, incorporating identifications by John Blair

A total of 46 fragments were recovered during the excavations at All Saints, of which eight have no significant features and are not included in the following catalogue. Also omitted from the catalogue are six floor slab fragments (one of Purbeck marble), and five fragments of dressings with 45° or 35° chamfers. A full record of all the architectural fragments is available in archive. The catalogued fragments below, unless noted otherwise in the text, were of freestone and were recovered from the podium of the 18th-century church (AS1/1, Phase AS10). A note is included at the end of the catalogue concerning architectural fragments seen during construction work at 6-7 Bear Lane in 1975, which are assumed to have come from All Saints Church.

The most remarkable aspect is that so little stone was wasted either in the medieval church levels or in the thick podium of the present building, which is evidently just the unsaleable debris from the collapse of 1700. It appears that the churchwardens tried to cover the costs of clearing the ruins by selling everything they could, even the brasses (see Bertram, Monuments and brasses, Chapter 5, above).

Most of the recognisable mouldings were late, ie Perpendicular, and there is nothing on which to base a conception of the early church. A delicate filleted roll moulding (BM.38), and a burnt ?mullion fragment (BM.39), are the only pieces from undoubtedly medieval contexts. The sunk chamfer of BM.14 is datable to the 14th century, and one of the Bear Lane

fragments may be 13th century, but there is no certainty that the latter came from All Saints. A tracery fragment (BM.16) may be paralleled with the 15th-century window of the north chapel at St Michael at the Northgate. The only architectural feature which can be substantially reconstructed is the crypt of St Anne's Chapel, which is described under Phase 9 of the archaeological description (above), and is discussed by Stephen Terry below.

77 BM.44, ctx. AS.235, Ph:AS9

78 BM.46, ctx. AS.218, Ph:AS9

79 **Middle and corner springers** of quadripartite segmental vault exposed in the contractors' excavation in the NE corner of the standing church. No. 78 was *in situ* on its chamfered pilaster. No. 77 possibly had not been moved from its place on pilaster AS235 until the modern contractors disturbed it. Chamfered ribs spring at angles of roughly 20° from vertical, with curvatures of about 2.7 m radius.

NI **Window tracery fragment** with two cusps, possibly of trefoil heads of two unequal lights of a Perpendicular window. The glazing groove is towards the more weathered face, and it is this face, presumably external, which has several coats of lime wash. (BM.16)

NI **Block with casement moulding and sunk chamfer.** White paint with red scroll, overpainted in white with black design, again overpainted in white and finally re-used as mortared rubble. Moulding c 14th century. (BM.14).

NI **Base fragment**, possibly from an octagonal column. (BM.5).

NI **Voussoir** with rebate, possibly for door. Arc of c 2 ft 6 in. centre (0.76 m). Thick paint on outside of soffit suggests an internal door, perhaps to the vestry, but see also No. 79 for evidence of exterior painting of the church. (BM.19).

NI **Coping**, showing 45° return, heavily weathered and re-cut. (BM.22).

NI **Fragment** possibly of mullion, heavily burnt on surface of moulding. (BM.39, ctx. AS.49, Ph:8).

NI **Mullion fragment** with V-shaped glazing groove. (BM.23).

NI **Plain roll mouldings**, diameters 86–115 mm. (BM.42, ctx. AS.234, Ph: 10; BM.1, BM.8, BM.18, BM.30, BM.31, BM.33, BM.42, BM.43).

NI As above, **plain roll moulding**; complete block showing slight curve (radius 10–12 ft, 3.0–3.7 m), possibly label of nave arch or chancel arch. (BM.27).

NI **Single filleted roll**; small with narrow fillet. (BM.38, ctx. AS.24, Ph:9).

NI **Single filleted roll.** (BM.4) See Blair 1976, fig. 15, no. 30.

NI **Wide fillet**; entire. L:66mm. Flat-backed with keys. (BM.3).

NI **Wide fillet.** (BM.7).

NI **Fragments** with shallow linear mouldings. (BM.40, ctx. AS.49, Ph:8; BM.2, BM.6, BM.29).

NI A number of **architectural fragments** were seen during construction work at 6–7 Bear Lane in 1975, and are assumed to have come from All Saints after the collapse of 1700. The group included parts of similar cinquefoil headed tracery, four windows and four blind; part of a window voussoir; part of a shaft base, possibly quatrefoil; a heavily weathered cornice, gargoyle and capital. The pieces were recorded with dimensioned sketches and photographs (OA site archive Neg 904/8–12, 905/1–6), but were not preserved owing to the uncertainty of their origin. Further fragments are visible set in the garden wall of No. 115 High Street.

St Anne's Crypt (Fig. 5.13)

by Stephen Terry

The excavation of All Saints Church revealed the S wall of a crypt lying below St Anne's chapel. This chapel, according to the Victoria County History, had been built c1333 by William of Bicester, who later, by his will, established a chantry there. All that remained of the crypt was the lowest 0.9 m of the S wall with returns at either end, including pilasters and the central and W springers for a vault (AS 218, 235). These give the basis for a crypt of two bays at 3.9 m centres (c 13 ft).

In order to help reconstruct the crypt, other extant Oxford vaults of the 14th century were examined. A markedly good parallel was found at St Aldate's (see Fig. 5.13). Here there is a crypt which belonged to the chantry chapel built by John of Ducklington 'by 1334' (VCH iv). It is slightly shorter (7.5 m as opposed to 7.8 m overall). The central shaft is broader and more complex, carrying down the rib mouldings to the floor. But most interesting is the way in which, in both crypts, the vault ribs themselves spring at an angle from the shaft, instead of rising smoothly, ie these vaults are both based on segmental arches.

The elevation of the All Saints crypt has been reconstructed on the assumption that the curvature of the vault overall was as calculated from the surviving springers, which suggest a radius of 3 m for the ribs, 3.15 m for the vault. At St Aldate's, the arches have identical radii, which in imperial measure would be 10 ft and 10 ft 6 ins respectively. They appear to be centred at floor level, and by centring the All Saints arches at floor level the slightly higher and sharper springing of the segmental arches fits perfectly into the reconstructed arcs. The S elevation of the All Saints crypt can therefore be reconstructed with considerable confidence.

The rib mouldings at St Aldate's are deeper than those at the All Saints crypt, and perhaps represent a development from the very narrow deep ribs at the Congregation House attached to the church of St Mary the Virgin in Oxford, which was begun in 1320 and completed in 1327, and Tackleys Inn of 1320 (VCH iv, 34, 393). In both crypts the ashlar

stonework was confined to the vault ribs, the remaining structure being of rough-faced rubble.

The St Aldate's crypt has a door in its SW corner from which an internal stair must have led up into the chantry chapel.

Tile

Not illustrated

An assemblage of 328 fragments of tile was recovered and recorded from the excavations at All Saints Church. The great majority of fragments were recovered from the general rubble layer associated with the demolition of the medieval church (AS1/1) and the general fill of the medieval church (AS24). All recognisable floor tiles came from these late contexts. Only 43 fragments derived from earlier contexts; some of the earlier fragments were not certainly identified as tile, and the remainder were roof tile. The tiles were recorded by Simon Robinson, and decorated fragments were drawn for archive. The assemblage was compared with examples from Bicester Priory (Hinton 1968) and with examples catalogued by Haberly (1937), and comparable types were identified and listed. A summary report was prepared in draft, but not to publication standard. All records relating to the tile assemblage are available in archive, but it has unfortunately not been possible to complete the report for publication in the present volume.

THE SAXON AND MEDIEVAL CERAMIC FINDS FROM THE TOWN SITES (FIGS 6.22, 6.23, 6.24; TABLES 6.7, 6.8, 6.9)

by Maureen Mellor

The abbreviations and methodology adopted for this report are as set out in the introduction to the pottery report on the Thames Crossing sites (above).

Pottery from 4 Queen Street (Fig. 6.22)

No pottery from the street surfaces (Phase 2) was recovered at 4 Queen Street (4Q). The earliest pottery came from Phase 3 with a possible corner of a cellar pit, and a well; the infill contained predominately St Neot's-types (fabric R, group IA) (Fig. 6.22 No. 41), including two larger vessels (Fig. 6.22 Nos 42–3 and 39) with Oxford Late Saxon shelly tradition (fabric B, group IA) representing only 26% of the total (Fig. 6.22 No. 38). The latter included a body sherd with roller stamped decoration obscured by soot (Fig. 6.22 No. 40). Decoration on jars of this tradition is very rare locally (Mellor 1985, 75, fig. 13, no. 10, and All Saints this volume), although decoration on the Lincoln and York shelly wares and the occasional London examples are known (Mainman 1990, 421 and Vince 1991, 50, 2.23 No. 10).

Local sandy traditions (fabrics Y and AG, group III) may be largely intrusive from Phase 4 as a result of subsidence of the well and pit fills (4Q36), but one vessel may be contemporary (Fig. 6.22 No. 37).

Again regional imports reflect the East Midlands: with Stamford types (fabric L, group III; Mellor 1985, 90) and a possible continental greyware (fabric J, group III, see All Saints, this volume).

The later phases, associated with floor levels, contained very few sherds. The hearth and occupation levels in Phase 4 were dominated by the Early Medieval Oxford ware tradition (fabric AC, group IB); a few sherds of fabric BR (group IB) were also present including a jar with thumbled decoration (Fig. 6.22 No. 44). This is a characteristic on such vessels, not known before the mid 11th century locally, but finger tipping and thumbing increased in popularity toward the end of that century (Mellor 1989, 202).

The floor levels of Phase 5 contained Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y, group III) and one sherd of Late Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AM, group III), which could indicate a date possibly as early as the second quarter of the 13th century (Mellor 1985, 177 and Mellor 1991, 49).

The robbing of the stone dividing wall (Phase 6) included Rhenish stoneware from Frechen, English tinglaze earthenware, and black-glazed red earthenware, suggesting a mid to late 17th-century date.

Pottery from 7–8 Queen Street (Fig. 6.22)

Some 692 sherds of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered from 7–8 Queen Street (7Q). One Romano-British sherd, an Oxfordshire white-ware, was found under the primary metallised road surface (7Q Phase 1 Trench II). The ceramic evidence supports the tentative interpretation that some activity may have occurred before the laying of the series of gravel surfaces (7Q5, 7Q209) which may represent the original street metallising of the late Saxon *burh*. Sherds of the handmade shelly limestone tradition (fabric B, group IA) dominate (Fig. 6.22 Nos 2–5); No. 4, a jar with narrow neck and thick carbon deposit externally, is a rare vessel type, but parallels another from behind Queen Street (Mellor 1983, fig. 12, no. 5). Only one sherd of St Neot's-type ware tradition (fabric R, group IA) was found in this phase. A regional import was a jar from Stamford in S Lincolnshire (fabric L, group III, Fig. 6.22 No. 1).

By the time the cellars and pits were infilled (Phase 3), St Neot's-type (fabric R, group IA) had apparently replaced the earlier Oxford Late Saxon tradition (fabric B, group IA). In Trench II, the construction, use and infilling of the cellar closely parallels the ceramic findings in the infill of a cellar pit at All Saints (see below) and another at 55–58 Cornmarket Street (Mellor 1985, 73). Fill 7Q242 of pit 7Q258 (Trench III) contained a St Neot's-type jar (fabric R, group IA; Fig. 6.22 No. 7). In Trench I, a pit (7Q 6) contained 6 sherds, each from a different source (fabric B, group IA, Fig. 6.22 No. 6, fabric R, group IA, fabric AC, group IB, fabric BF, group II, fabric Y, group III and a miscellaneous sandy sherd group III). Although there is no independent dating available for this vertical stratification, the emergence of

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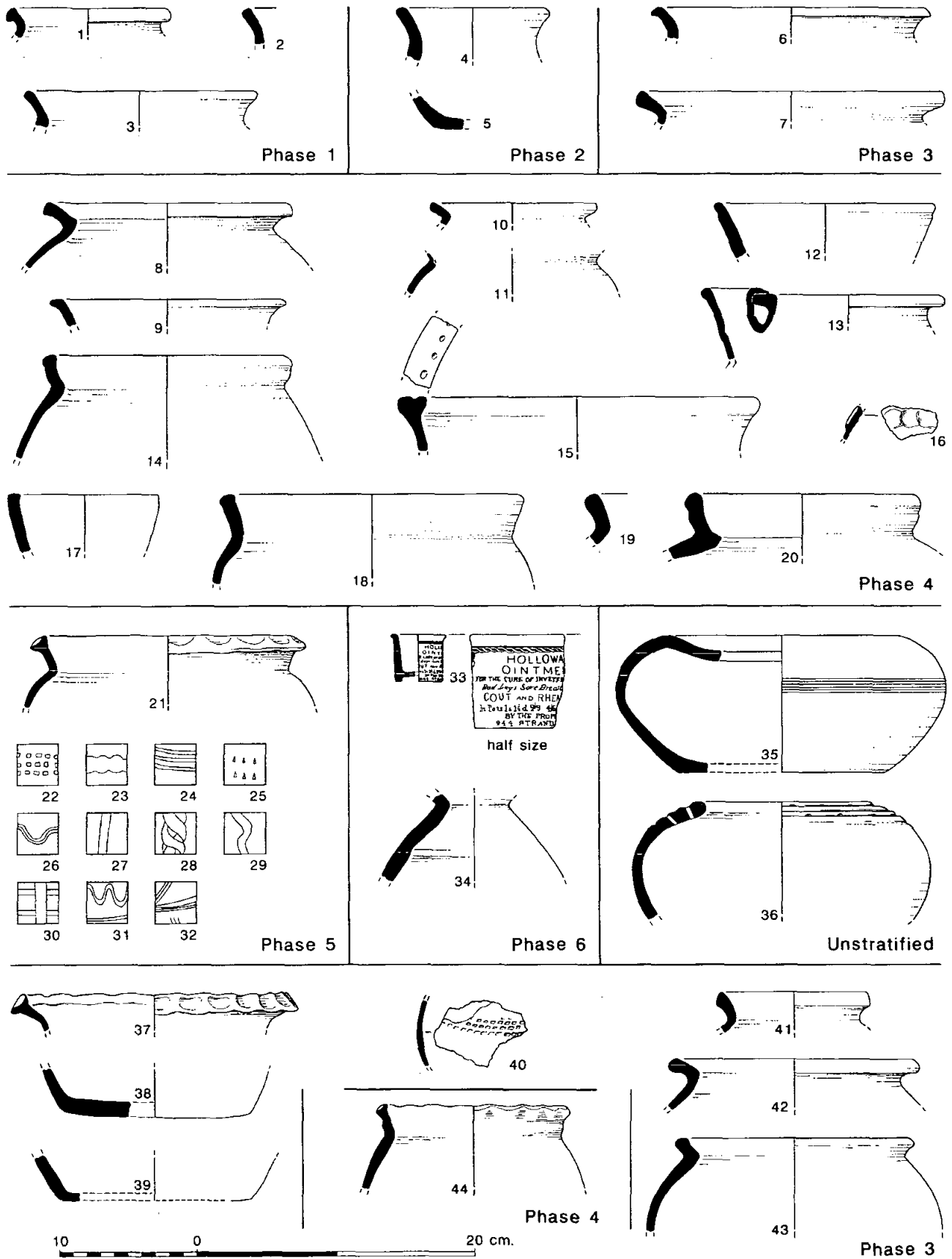


Figure 6.22 Pottery from nos 7-8 Queen Street: nos 1-36; pottery from no. 4 Queen St: nos 37-44.

Oxford Before the University

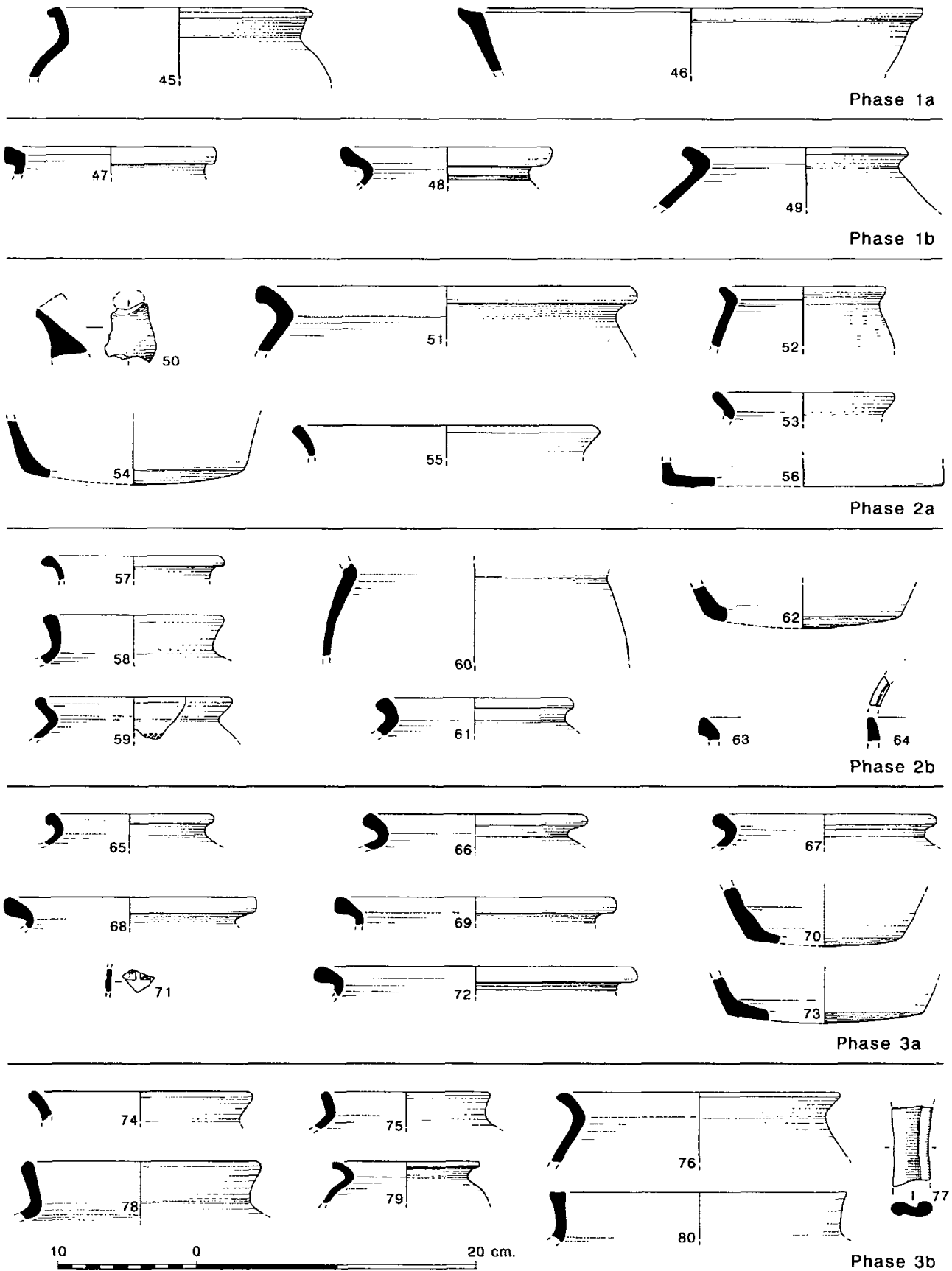


Figure 6.23 Pottery from All Saints Church: nos 45-80.

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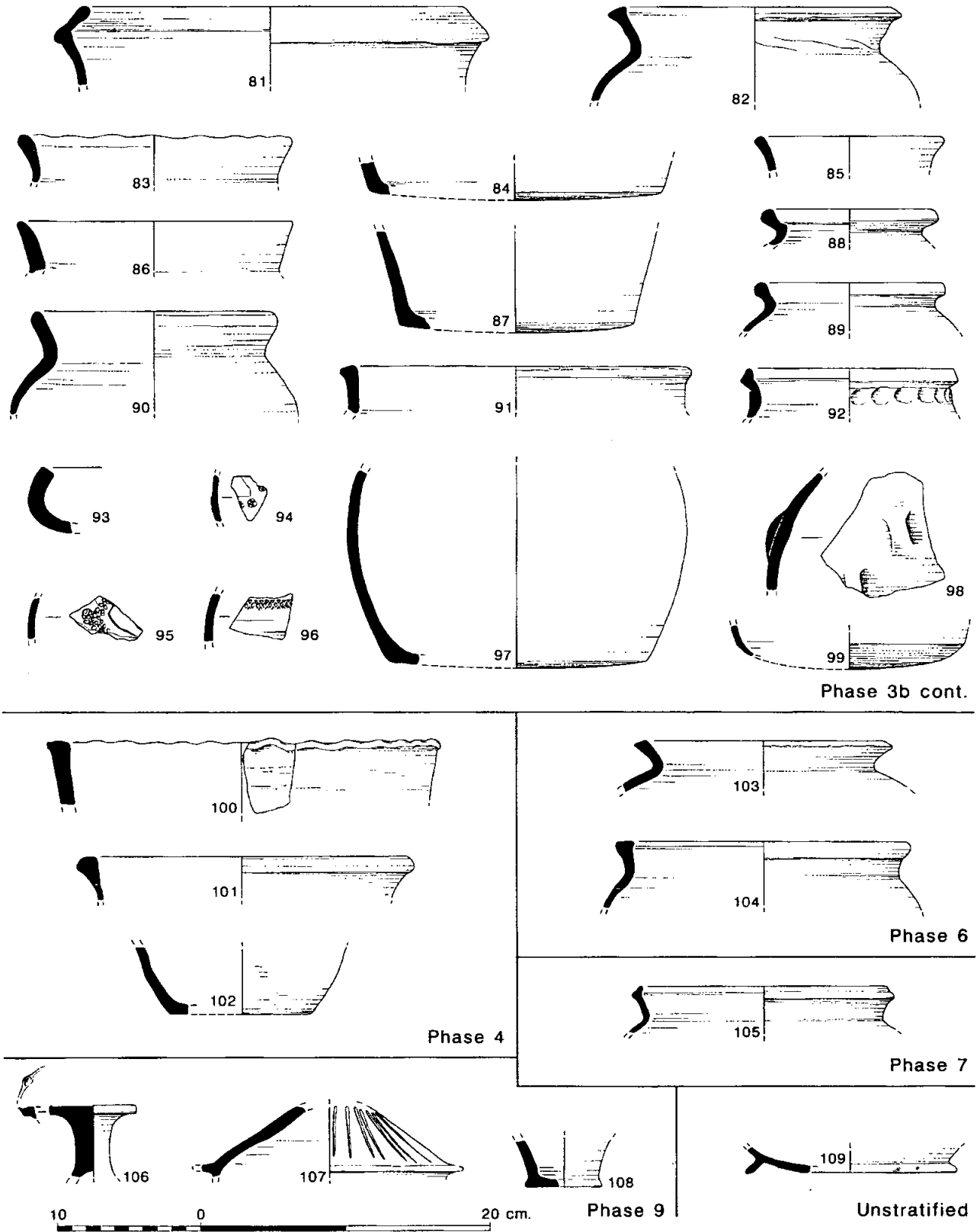


Figure 6.24 Pottery from All Saints Church: nos 81-109.

Table 6.7 Late Saxon wheel-thrown Continental imported pottery from recent excavations AD 800-1100

Common name	Fabric code	Inclusions	Potting techniques	Form	Munsell code	Probable date	Reference
Blackware	E	Abundant sub-angular quartz (0.2-0.5 mm), small frags of limestone and sandstone	Wheel-thrown; th. 5-6	Jars	Dark grey (10YR 4/1)	late C8-early C9	Haldon 1977
Greyware	J	Abundant ill-sorted sub-angular quartz (0.1-0.4 mm), some iron ore	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	Jars	Ext. v. dark grey (2.5YR N/3)	early C9-C10	Haldon 1977; Mellor this volume - Queen Street
Greyware	Q	Abundant sub-angular quartz (0.1-0.4 mm)	Wheel-thrown; th. 4 Applied thumb-pressed strips, triangular roller stamping, bosses	Pitcher	Ext. v. dark grey (2.5YR N/3)	mid-C11	Haldon 1977; Mellor this volume - Queen Street; Mellor this volume - All Saints
Blackware Pas de Calais	T	Moderate sub-angular quartz (0.4-0.6 mm), some small frags of sandstone and chert	Wheel-thrown; th. 8	-	Greyish-brown (10YR 5/2)	late C8-C11	Haldon 1977; Mellor 1984; Mellor 1985; Mellor 1989; All Saints this volume
Blackware	X	Abundant sub-angular quartz (0.2-0.6 mm) sparse flint	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	-	Int. dark grey-brown (10YR 4/2); core light grey-brown (10YR 5/2)	C10 or later	Mellor 1976; Haldon 1977; Mellor 1983; Underwood-Keevill this volume; Mellor this volume - All Saints
Andenne-type	AD	Abundant quartz (0.1 mm), some quartz (0.2-0.3 mm), mica	Wheel-thrown, th. 4 Orange glaze	Pitcher	Pinkish-yellow (7.5YR 7/5)	early C12	Haldon 1977; Mellor 1989; Underwood-Keevill this volume; Mellor this volume - Queen Street
Andenne-type	AF	Not thin-sectioned	Wheel-thrown; th. 4 Yellow-brown mottled glaze	-	Grey-brown (10YR 6/2)	early C12	Haldon 1977; Mellor 1983
	BE	Not thin-sectioned	Wheel-thrown; th. 4 Brown glaze	-	Int. v. pale brown (10YR 7.5/3); Core pink (7.5YR 7/4)	C10	Haldon 1977

Greyware Northern French-type	BI	Not thin-sectioned	Wheel-thrown; th. 5 Diamond roller stamping	-	Grey (10YR 4.5/1)	Late C11 or earlier	Haldon 1977
	BM	Abundant sub-angular quartz (0.4–0.5 mm), sandstone quartzite	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	Jar	Grey (10YR 5/1)		Mellor this volume – All Saints; Trill Mill
Blackware Belgium	BQ	Abundant quartz (0–0.1 mm), some quartz (0.1–0.3 mm), mica, sparse iron ore	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	Jar	Grey (10YR 4/1)	C10	Hassall 1971; Mellor 1989; Underwood-Keevill this volume; Mellor this volume – Trill Mill
Class 13	BT	Moderate sub-angular quartz (0.1–0.5 mm), some small frags of sandstone	Wheel-thrown; Burnished	Jar	Ext. red (2.5YR 5/8); Core grey (2.5YR 5/0)	C10	Mellor this volume – All Saints
Pingsdorf- Rhenish type	BV	Moderate sub-angular quartz (0.5–0.8 mm)	Wheel-thrown; th. 5–6, Red slip	Pitcher	Dark grey (7.5YR N/4)	mid-C11	Mellor 1985; Mellor 1988; Mellor 1989; Under- wood-Keevill this volume
Blackware Pas de Calais	BY	Abundant sub-angular quartz (0.1–0.5 mm), some quartzite and mica	Wheel-thrown; th. 4	Jar	Ext. v. dark grey (10YR 4/2); Core dark grey (2.5YR 4/0)	C10–C11	Mellor this volume – All Saints
Flanders	BZ	Abundant quartz (0.1–0.3 mm), sparse lime- stone, mica	Wheel-thrown; th. 4	-	Red (2.5YR 5/6)	Late C9	Mellor this volume – All Saints
Greyware French	CA	Abundant silt-sized grains (0.3–0.6 mm), some quartzite and mica	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	Jar	Light grey (10YR 7/2)	C11	Mellor this volume –All Saints
?Rhenish	CQ	Not thin-sectioned	Wheel-thrown; th. 5, Rectangular roller stamping	Jar	Ext. red-yellow (5YR 6/6), Core grey (2.5YR N/6)	C11	Mellor 1989

Table 6.8 Late Saxon wheel-thrown regional imported pottery from recent excavations AD 800–1100

Common name	Fabric code	Inclusions	Potting techniques	Form	Munsell code	Probable date	Reference
Greyware	D	Moderate well-sorted sub-angular quartz (0.1-0.2 mm), occ. clay pellets and iron ore	Wheel-thrown; th. 5–6	Jar	Dark grey (2.5Y N/4)	C9–11	Haldon 1977; Mellor 1989; Mellor this volume – Queen Street, All Saints
Northampton	G	Abundant fine brown, white grains, glassy quartz	Wheel-thrown; th. 3–5	Jar	Int. reddish-brown (5YR 4/3); Core dark grey (7.5YR 4/0)	C12	Mellor 1976; Haldon 1977; Mellor 1980; Mellor 1983
Michelmersh, Hampshire	K	Abundant silt-sized grains (0.05 mm), sub-angular quartz (0.3-0.6 mm), occ. quartzite, mica	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	–	Int. light brown-grey (10YR 6/2); Core grey (7.5YR 4/0)	C11	Mellor 1985; Mellor this volume – All Saints; Mellor unpublished; Underwood-Keevill 1992
Stamford type A	L	Moderate fine brown, black grains, occ. red brown pellets	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	–	Int. reddish-yellow (5YR 7/6); Core grey (5YR 6/1)	C11	Haldon 1977; Mellor this volume – Queen Street; All Saints; Trill Mill
Known in London	S	Abundant sub-angular quartz (0.3-0.8 mm), occ. sandstone and flint	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	Jar	Int. light brown-grey (10YR 6/2); Core grey (10YR 5/1)	C9–11	Mellor 1976; Haldon 1977; Mellor this volume – All Saints
Michelmersh, Hampshire	W	Not thin-sectioned	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	–	Int. reddish-brown (5YR 5/3); Core pinkish-grey (7.5YR 6/2)	C11	Haldon 1977; Mellor this volume – All Saints
Stamford types A & G	Z	Sparse grey, white quartz, black iron mineral (indigenous in clay)	Wheel-thrown; th. 4–5	–	Int. pinkish-grey (7.5YR 6/3); Core v. light grey (10YR 7/2)	C11–12	Mellor 1976; Haldon 1977; Mellor 1980; Mellor 1983; Mellor 1988; Mellor 1989; Mellor this volume – Queen Street; Underwood-Keevill this volume – St Aldate's
Stamford type A	AL	Moderate sub-angular quartz (0.1–0.3 mm), occ. clay pellets	Wheel-thrown; th. 4–5	Jar	Int. red-brown (5YR 5/4); Core dark grey (7.5YR 4/0)	C11–13	Haldon 1977; Mellor 1983; Mellor 1985; Mellor 1989; Mellor this volume – Queen Street, All Saints; Underwood-Keevill this volume 56–60 St Aldate's

Stamford types B & G	AT	Sparse fine to coarse red and white pellets	Wheel-thrown; th. 4	Spouted pitchers	Pink (5YR 7/4)	C11-12	Haldon 1977; Mellor 1983; Mellor 1988; Mellor 1989; Underwood-Keevill this volume - 56-60 St Aldate's
	BU	Abundant fine siltstones, quartzite, sub-angular quartz (0.3-0.8 mm), occ. chert	Wheel-thrown; th. 6	-	Ext. v. dark grey (7.5YR 3/0); Core v. dark grey (5YR 3/1)	C10	Mellor this volume - All Saints
Stamford type F	CB	Abundant sub-angular quartz (0.2-0.3 mm), occ. sandstone	Wheel-thrown; th. 5-6	-	Int. white (10YR 8/2); Core grey (2.5YR 5/0)	C9-10	Mellor 1983; Mellor 1989; Mellor this volume - Queen Street, All Saints
Stamford	CD	Abundant sub-angular quartz (0.15-0.3 mm), occ. sandstone	Wheel-thrown; th. 5	-	Black (2.5Y N/2)	C10	Mellor this volume - Queen Street, All Saints
	CF	Not thin-sectioned	Wheel-thrown; th. 7	-	Int. white (2.5Y 8/2); Core white (2.5Y 8/0)	C12	Mellor this volume - All Saints
Stamford D	CY	Abundant fine quartz occ. medium quartz	Wheel-thrown	Crucible		C11	Mellor 1989
Winchester Ware	GA	Not thin-sectioned	Wheel-thrown Light green glaze	Spouted pitcher	Core pink-reddish yel low (5YR 7/4 5YR 7/6)	C10	Mellor this volume - Trill Mill
	GB	Not thin-sectioned	Orange glaze	Spouted pitcher	Int. light red (2.5YR 6/8); Core grey (2.5YR 6/0)	CL12-13	Mellor this volume - Trill Mill
	GC	Not thin-sectioned		Jar	-	CM11	Mellor this volume - Trill Mill
	GD	Not thin-sectioned	Wheel-thrown	Jar	Ext. v. pale brown (10YR 8/4); Int. v. pale brown (10YR 8/3); Core light grey (7.5YR 7/0)	CL12-13	Mellor this volume - 33 Queen Street

Table 6.9 Heavy mineral analysis of selected late Saxon imported sherds (percentage)

Fabric type	Zircon	Tourmaline	Rutile	Kyanite	Analusite	Staurolite	Garnet	Apatite	Anatase	No. grains counted
Continental imports										
J	73.7	9.8	2.2	8.4	0.6	4.4	0.6	-	0.3	357
Q	76.4	5.0	4.4	0.3	1.8	0.9	10.6	0.3	0.3	340
Regional imports										
S	43.7	24.8	1.5	11.6	3.0	13.9	1.5	-	-	137
T	66.5	10.8	8.3	4.8	3.6	-	4.8	-	1.2	83
AL	73.3	3.9	15.3	-	3.0	0.3	3.9	-	0.3	363

handmade traditions other than the shelly types is now recognised as a trend beginning in the second quarter of the 11th century in Oxford (see below All Saints F75 for dating). A similar trend is evident in Abingdon from a pit associated with a Cnut coin (Haldon and Parrington 1975, 32), in Wallingford St Martin's (Durham 1980b) and in London (Vince 1991, 24, 42). Stamford types, both utilitarian unglazed vessels and glazed tablewares, were also present as at 23-26 Queen Street, 31-34 Church Street (Mellor 1989, 201) and possibly also at Clarendon Hotel in Cornmarket (Jope and Pantin 1958, 34-7).

The building erected over the infilled cellar in Trench II contained much pottery (238 sherds). The hearth (7Q218/1-/10) yielded similar quantities of St Neot's-type (fabric R, group IA), Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB) and Wessex-type (fabric BF, group II). The clay floors, as is often the case, were comparatively free of pottery but 7Q228 contained St Neot's-type exclusively. A pit (7Q204) dug into the floors and underlying road surfaces is also dominated by St Neot's-type (Fig. 6.22 No. 8) but also included a late Saxon shelly jar (Fig. 6.22 No. 9; fabric B, group IA). Pit digging into road surfaces was also noted at Church Street and was there dated to the third quarter of the 11th century (Mellor 1989, 201). This coincides with a time that Oxford's economic wealth was in decline (Domesday Book 154a), and here too the stratigraphy would suggest that the pit was late, and its pottery was derived from the deeper levels.

The remaining pottery from this phase was dominated by Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB). Vessels included jars (Fig. 6.22 Nos 14-15, No. 18), a possible cup (Fig. 6.22 No. 17), a vessel (Fig. 6.22 No. 19) copying a shelly tradition form, and a jar with lid seating (Fig. 6.22 No. 20; Mellor 1983, fig. 12, no. 20). Lid seating is not a common feature locally at this period; whether the lid was ceramic or wood remains unproven, but at Coppergate in York wooden discs may have served as lids to pottery containers (Mainman 1990). A small sherd showing thumb-pressed decoration on a St Neot's-type jar is also a rarity locally (Fig. 6.22 No. 16) but the decoration parallels a similar vessel from 23-26 Queen Street (Mellor 1985, 90, fig. 21, no. 8), and another in a different ceramic tradition from the

St Frideswide excavations (Mellor 1988, 34, fig. 18, no. 5). Small amounts of local sandy traditions (fabrics Y and AG, group III) were also present, and included an over-fired glazed sherd with metallic residue in the interior of the vessel (7Q210). The metal had penetrated the pores of the fabric, and recalls similar forms found at 31-34 Church Street in the 11th-, 12th- and 13th-century contexts (Mellor 1989, fig. 44, no. 9, dated to the mid 11th century and fig. 47, no. 7 in a later 12th- to early 13th-century deposit). A continental import came from Andenne in Belgium (Mellor 1989, 202 and Thames Crossing, this volume), and regional imports from Stamford included a glazed pitcher (Fig. 6.22 No. 13) and unglazed utilitarian vessels (Fig. 6.22 Nos 10-11). This phase also included some redeposited material (7Q227): a bowl (Fig. 6.22 No. 12, fabric B, group IA).

The date of the hearth and floor level (and redeposited pottery in the pit cut into the road surface) is probably very similar to Phase 3 but the remainder dates to the third and fourth quarters of the 11th and possibly into the first half of the 12th century. The dating rests on the ascendancy of Early Medieval Oxford ware tradition (fabric AC, group IB) over the earlier shelly limestone traditions (Group IA) which occurred prior to the building of Oxford Castle c AD 1071 (Jope 1952/3 and Mellor 1976, Table 3) but the sandy ware (fabric Y, group III) was only present in the early wash off the Castle Mound (Mellor 1976, table 3, III L5), suggesting that it was establishing a market for itself in the last quarter of the 11th century.

In Trench I there was no pottery corresponding to the above (Phase 4) assemblages. In the subsequent phase (Phase 5) some 216 sherds were recovered from a large pit (7Q4) and an associated feature (7Q2). Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y, group III) dominated (74% of the total assemblage) with Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB) representing only 21% of the total assemblage. The local vessels included jars, some with developed rims (Fig. 6.22 No.21) and an unusually high proportion of glazed sherds (28% of the total) representing pitchers with a wide variety of underglaze or applied decoration (Fig. 6.22 Nos 22-32), typical of the Oxford tripod pitchers (Jope and Pantin 1958, description of potting techniques 51-6). Only one regional import, a Stamford-type pitcher with light yellow glaze was found. The pottery is typically that

of the second half of the 12th century (Haldon 1977, Phases 7–8, 133). The presence of so many glazed sherds may suggest that this assemblage was not ordinary household rubbish, which is usually represented by unglazed jars and only a few glazed sherds representing tablewares, but had a more specialist function, an ale house or possibly a shop.

The high medieval and late medieval period were not represented in Trench II (Phase 5), but Phase 6 deposits contained much residual material from Phase 4. The true date of these features was given by Surrey Hampshire Border wares, Chinese porcelain, Westerwald stoneware of the 18th century and white earthenwares and pearlware dating to the 19th century (Mellor and Oakley 1984, 195–211, figs. 63–11, MI G5 – III G2 in fiche). In Trench I, the well (7Q3) yielded only 4 sherds of probable 17th-century date, including a sherd from an Iberian olive jar (7Q3/1 Fig. 6.22 No. 34; fabric ZZ, group III) (see Pottery from 24A St Michael's St, above) and from 7Q1/1, 19th-century sherds included a small ointment jar with black-printed lettering 'HOLLOWAY OINTMEN ... FOR THE CURE OF INVERTER ... BAD LEGS SORE BREAST ... GOUT..RHEU... IN POTS, 1s, 1 1/2, 2/9, 4/6 ... BY PROP ... 244 STRAND ...' (Fig. 6.22 No. 33, fabric WHEW) suggesting that the 19th-century inhabitants were in need of palliatives in much the same way as their 20th-century successors!

The unstratified levels produced two post-medieval vessels of particular interest. A possible bedpan, externally decorated with mottled green glaze (Fig. 6.22 No. 35, Brill-type) had an unusually small diameter which may indicate that it was intended for a child. A similar vessel type but larger was recovered from St Ebbe's (Mellor and Oakley 1984, fig. 25, no. 2, WP48/0/13 DG), dated to the mid 18th century. The other, a closed form with two rows of perforations around the rim and glazed externally orange (Fig. 6.22 No. 36; fabric DS, a possible Brill-type) may represent a warming pan. This would have contained live embers which gave out heat through the holes around the vessel. The latter is unparalleled from local excavations.

Pottery from 33–35 Queen St

Not illustrated

Some 184 sherds of medieval and post-medieval date were collected from 33–35 Queen Street (33Q). In the absence of a clear stratigraphic sequence, the pottery finds have been grouped broadly according to the phasing established for the other Queen Street sites.

The earliest phase with a minimum of 6 vessels from 5 pit groups (13 sherds) — only partially excavated — showed the handmade Late Saxon shelly tradition (fabric B, group IA) to be dominant, and included a jar with carbon deposit at the mid point between the rim and base, and another with sooting on the shoulder of the vessel and the interior of the rim. Only one vessel of St Neot's-type ware tradition was present (fabric R, group IA), with a

rolled rim, and carbon on the underside of the rim. There were two imports (fabric J, group III), one a wheel-thrown jar in the Saxo-Norman tradition with carbon externally on the underside of the rim, and another, a base, possibly handmade, may originate from Northampton. These vessels probably date to the second half of the 10th to early 11th century.

The above pottery probably corresponds with Phase 2 at Nos 4 and 7–8 Queen Street. The pottery that could be equated with Phases 3 and 4 at those sites derived from one pit (33Q8), again only partially excavated, with two featureless body sherds of the Early Medieval Oxford ware tradition (fabric AC, group IB). The earliest level (33Q9/6) contained one Roman sherd, an Oxfordshire oxidised coarseware — a large jar with a band of acute angled lattice decoration dated to the early 2nd century or later, kindly identified by Paul Booth.

The pit assemblages corresponding to Phase 5 with a minimum of 18 vessels (123 sherds) were dominated by the two major ceramic traditions, Medieval Oxford ware (fabric Y, group III, representing 71% of the phase total) and Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB with only 34%). The former included tablewares - glazed jugs and pitchers with applied decoration which were fired in a reducing atmosphere resulting in a light green glaze for the majority of these containers on this site. A few such pitchers originated from the south of Oxford (Oxford fabric AG, group III). Sooting deposits on these jars in these sandy wares are far less conspicuous than on the earlier shelly wares and suggest that a change in cooking practices may have occurred by the second half of the 11th century, when the sandy wares were first introduced. A possible chimney pot was recovered from this phase (context 33Q9/3), and parallels one from the Hamel (Mellor 1980, fig. 9, no. 18) and another from St Aldate's (Pottery from 89–91 St Aldate's, Trench VII, Phase 7, see above). A regional import, a jar, probably from the north, close to the Coal Measures of Warwickshire or possibly further north east was unparalleled locally (Mayes and Scott 1984; Hayfield and Buckland 1989). The fabric (fabric GD, group III) is abundantly tempered with sub-rounded colourless quartz and an occasional coarse to very coarse quartz in an iron free clay matrix. The ceramics from this phase compare well with Phase 5 at 7–8 Queen Street (see later) and with Phases 7 and 8 at 79–80 St Aldate's (Haldon 1977, 133) and therefore are dated to the second half of the 12th century to the early 13th century.

Many fragmentary sherds (24 in total) suggest the dating of well shaft 33Q4 to c 1600, and the infilling of the well (33Q5/1-/7 and 33Q7) to the early 17th century; the well appears to have been in operation for a very short time. The construction of the well shaft contained a Late Medieval Reduced ware from the East Midlands (Moorhouse 1974), together with locally made jars (fabric BX, a Brill type) and some residual late Saxon pottery (33Q 5/1). Vessels from

the East Midlands source were present in the levels machined off at the Hamel (Mellor 1980). The base of a Tudor Green cup, a red earthenware tripod pipkin and a fragment of a flat costrel of Mérida-type ware from Spain or possibly Portugal (33Q 5/2) (I am grateful to John Ashdown for the identification of this imported vessel type) together with a clay pipe stem were recovered from the infill of the well.

Overlying this was debris containing a stoneware sanitation pipe and a white earthenware cylindrical marmalade pot with lettering in black transfer, suggesting modern household rubbish of the 19th century.

Very few excavations have taken place N of Queen Street in comparison with the near saturation of the frontages on the S side. This ceramic material is too patchy for comparisons to be made and more excavation is needed in order to establish if there are social and possible cultural differences between the N and S sides of the street during the late Saxon period.

Pottery from 43–44 Queen Street

Not illustrated

Very few sherds were recovered from the two trenches at 43–44 Queen St (44Q) (12 sherds). The earliest floor layer in Trench I (44Q 8) included a possibly intrusive sherd (fabric AC, group IB); overlying this, a floor layer (44Q6) included one handmade late Saxon shelly tradition (Fabric B, Group IA). These were cut by a pit (44Q3) with 4 sherds (fabrics R, group IA, AC group IB and 2 sherds Y group III) including one with applied strips and light green glaze, typical of the decorated tablewares of the 12th century (Jope and Pantin 1958, 51–9). Another pit (44Q2) contained 5 sherds (3 fabric R - St Neot's-type group IA, 1 AC group IB, and an intrusive 17th-century Surrey Hampshire Border ware) together with an Oxford type A clay pipe bowl datable to 1630–55 (Oswald 1984, 251–3).

Trench II had pottery from two late pits, the earlier (44Q103) with clay pipe stems; a floor tile probably originating from SE Oxfordshire, on account of white lenses of clay in the iron rich clay matrix, together with a large flint inclusion possibly dates to the 17th century. This was cut by 44Q 104 with a medieval sherd with an unusual rim and a carbon deposit externally (fabric AC, group IB) which may be residual, together with a brick and two roof tiles and three clay pipe stems.

Pottery from excavations at All Saints Church 1973–4 (Figs 6.23 and 6.24)

The stratified sequence from All Saints Church (AS) situated on the main east-west axis of the town is of immense importance to the understanding of late Saxon Oxford and its early origins, despite the small quantities of pottery in the earlier phases. There are several possible correlations with the documented historical evidence of the period.

The well-stratified contexts are discussed in detail (Phases 1–3) and were considered very useful for the further understanding of late Saxon pottery in Oxford. Contexts post-dating the building of the church contained pottery groups which were largely contaminated, and are only mentioned where they add to the present knowledge of medieval pottery in Oxford.

The presence of a number of residual Romano-British sherds is typical of Oxford sites, probably related to agricultural use of the gravel terrace.

The stratified sequence

Phase AS1a

Pottery associated with the earliest phase, containing charred grain, included a jar (Fig. 6.23 No. 45; Haldon 1977, 132, fig. 17, no. 18, Phase 4 mid-late 10th century) and a bowl or shallow dish (Fig. 6.23 No. 46). The local handmade shelly tradition (fabrics B and H, group IA) predominated. All the sandy wares were wheel-thrown and included three Stamford-type fabrics: Stamford-type F group III, Oxford type CB (Mellor 1989, 201) and fabrics L and AL. The former is identical with fabric F from the mid 9th-century Stamford Castle kiln, and production lasted half a century and an overlap with the appearance of fabrics A, D and H occurred c AD 900 (Mainman 1990, 466). Two possible continental greywares were present (fabrics J and CD, group III see Table 6.7); the former belongs to the wheel-thrown Saxo-Norman tradition and was originally published as a possible Northampton-type (Haldon 1977 table 1, 57), but Mary Gryspeerdt's work shows that this Oxford type does not fall within the range of Northampton types and another source must be sought, possibly on the continent (pers. comm. Mary Gryspeerdt). Another greyware is a possible regional import (fabric D, group III, see Table 6.8) which had already been recognised at 79–80 St Aldate's Phases 1–4, and under Oxford Castle, but the proportions of these wheel-thrown imports to local handmade traditions still remain very small.

Phase AS1b, the first building

The next phase (AS1b), associated with the first building on the site, included a minimum of three jars of regional or continental origin but as in AS1a, the local shelly tradition still dominated (fabrics A, B, C and H Group IA). A jar of Stamford type F was again present (fabric CB, group III Fig. 6.23 No. 47), and an undiagnostic greyware bodysherd of fabric D (group III see Haldon 1977, 116 and Mellor 1989, 198); continental imports included a blackware from the Pas de Calais (fabric BY, group III Fig. 6.23 No. 48), a parallel with Southampton Class 13 (fabric BT, group III, Fig. 6.23 No. 49). Some residual Romano-British pottery (including a sherd of colour coat and an Oxfordshire greyware) was also present.

Phase AS2a, posthole building

In the posthole building phase were a minimum of four jars including smaller vessels (Fig. 6.23 Nos 52–3). The former, with a smoothed external surface, is atypical of this shelly tradition in copying earlier Saxon vessels; also present were larger types (Fig. 6.23 Nos 54–5) and a very large example with an everted rim (Fig. 6.23 No. 51; Jope and Pantin 1958, fig. 11 CIB.1 for form and fabric). Other sherds associated with these vessels included one with an acute-angled base (Fig. 6.23 No. 56; Jope 1952/3, 102, fig. 33, no. 14, for form only), and one possible spout (Fig. 6.23 No. 50), for which only one other example is known from Oxford (Mellor 1983, fig. 12, no. 1) and which may represent a spouted pitcher (Vince 1991, 52, fig. 2.27).

As in the earlier sub-phases, the local shelly tradition continued to dominate (fabrics *B*, *C*, *H* group IA). However, three sherds of St Neot's-type ware tradition (fabric *R*, group IA) were also present, together with a possible continental greyware (fabric *J*, group III) and two residual Romano-British sherds: an orange ware, wide mouthed jar, a local kiln product from Churchill Hospital or Cowley, and a Samian bodysherd.

Phase AS2b the fire horizon

Overlying this, the fire horizon contained a minimum of seven jars. The coarse local shelly tradition (fabric *B*, group IA), although still dominant, had decreased slightly in popularity with a corresponding increase in St Neot's-type (fabric *R*, group IA). Late Saxon Oxford ware (fabric *B*, group IA) included two smaller jars with simple rims (Fig. 6.23 No. 58; Haldon 1977, 132, fig. 16, no. 2, Phase 3 dated to the mid 10th century), two with rolled rims (Fig. 6.23 No. 57) including one with roller stamped decoration (fig. 6.23 No. 59; see 4 Queen Street and Mellor 1985, fig. 13, no. 10). This phase also included the shoulder of a larger jar (Fig. 6.23 No. 60), and a rim fragment of a possible spout or lamp (Fig. 6.23 No. 64). St Neot's-type included a jar with classic rolled rim (Fig. 6.23 No. 61) and a base (Fig. 6.23 No. 62).

Other regional types include a sherd from Wessex (fabric *BF*, group II) and another from the SE of Oxfordshire (fabric *AE*, group III; see also High Street Surface Water Drain pottery, below) and a possible East Anglian type (fabric *BU*, group III). Continental greywares continued to be present (fabric *J*), a Flanders-type jar (Fig. 6.23 No. 63, fabric *BZ*, group III) with a similar rim profile to that of Stamford types seen in Phase AS1b (Fig. 6.23 No. 47), and more residual Romano-British pottery, including a wide-mouthed jar from a local kiln at either Churchill Hospital or Cowley.

The introduction of smaller jars in the local shelly limestone fabrics was noted in Phases AS2a and AS2b, and a similar range of sizes was also present at 79–80 St Aldate's Phases 3 and 4, dated to the 10th century, and at the Thames Crossing sites (this

volume, above). The appearance of smaller jars in this local fabric coincides at these sites with the appearance of St Neot's-type (fabric *R*, group IA), a competently wheel-thrown tradition from the East Midlands, and appears to be copying this tradition. Phase AS2a yielded only three sherds of the imported ware, but by Phase AS2b St Neot's-type accounted for 20% of the assemblage and was obviously in competition with the older tradition, possibly helping to meet the demand for pottery at a time when Oxford was expanding. The trend towards smaller pots by the local industry may have been in response to competition.

Phase AS3a

The usage of the cellar pit and associated features included a minimum of nine jars. The coarse shelly tradition encountered in the earlier phases had been largely superseded by the wheel-thrown St Neot's-type jars, and these now displayed a range of sizes. There were examples with rolled rims (Fig. 6.23 Nos 65–7 and 72), two with flared rims (Fig. 6.23 Nos 68–9; Mellor 1976, 255–7, fig. 12, no. 4) and seven bases (Fig. 6.23 Nos 70 and 73), but none was as capacious as the majority of vessels of the preceding local tradition (Fig. 6.23 No. 51). The range of St Neot's-type vessels was also still limited in comparison with those known from Bedford and Northampton (Baker *et al.* 1979, 165; Denham 1985, 46–63); thus socketed bowls, handles, lugged jars are absent, with lamps, jars, straight-sided bowls and shallow dishes being rare among the material reaching Oxford.

The pottery assemblage (85% St Neot's-type fabric *R*) in Phase 3a can be paralleled by pit groups under Oxford Castle found in association with an Eadred coin of AD 946–55, almost certainly minted in Oxford (Hassall 1976, 268–9), and at Logic Lane (Radcliffe 1961/2, Pits B4 and C1, 53), both sites being in suburbs outside the primary *burh*. The reason for treating this material as rather later than that from the castle is because the stratigraphy at All Saints provides a firmer historical framework.

A regional import from Wessex, with stamped decoration was possibly from the Michelmersham kiln in Hampshire (Fig. 6.23 No. 71). Similar imports are known from the Clarendon Hotel, Oxford, where they were believed to be from the East Midlands (Jope and Pantin 1958, fig. 8 BIB.3), from 23–26 Queen Street (Mellor 1985, fig. 21, no. 9), and one at St Martin's Wallingford (Durham 1980b). A slightly wider range of continental imports from northern France, the Rhineland and Belgium was present (fabrics *Q*, *X*, *BV* and *BY*, group III, see Table 6.7) — these included a Pingsdorf type and a Pas de Calais type (Mellor 1985, fig. 13 no. 2; Mellor 1989, 202, fig. 44, no. 24 and fig. 46, no. 2). A similar range of imports was also evident at 56–60 St Aldate's (Pottery from the Thames Crossing sites, Phase SA4; see above). Miscellaneous sherds included a Romano-British Oxford colour coat.

Phase AS3b: Infill of cellar pit

The infill of the cellar pit yielded a very substantial volume of pottery in comparison with the earlier structural phases. A minimum of 34 jars were recovered, including two deep-sided bowls (Fig. 6.24 No. 81), a possible crucible (Fig. 6.24 No. 93) and fragments of pitcher/jars. St Neot's-type (fabric R) was still dominant but had declined in popularity (40% fabric R, group IA); this included eleven jars with rolled rims (Fig. 6.23 No. 79), and three with everted rims (see Fig. 6.23 No. 66). The earlier coarse shelly tradition (fabrics B and C, group IA) was still evident, including three jars with everted rims (Fig. 6.23 Nos 74 and 76). New local handmade wares were appearing (fabric AC, group IB) with three jars with simple rims, including one with slightly thickened rim (Fig. 6.24 No. 91; Mellor 1989 198–201, figs 44–45, for similar assemblages). Fabric BR included two jars with simple everted rims (Fig. 6.24 Nos 86 and 90), and nine bases (Fig. 6.24 No. 87). Fabric BS had two jars with thumbbed everted rims (Fig. 6.24 No. 83), one jar with simple rim (Fig. 6.24 No. 85), a base (Fig. 6.24 No. 84), and a possible crucible (Fig. 6.24 No. 93). Finally fabric BF (group II) yielded four jars with everted rims (Fig. 6.23 Nos 75 and 78), two with thickened rims (Fig. 6.23 No. 80 and Fig. 6.24 No. 82) and a sherd with linear incised grooves (Jope 1952/3, fig. 33, nos 10–11 for decoration only).

Some of these handmade vessels were decorated with thumb impressions on the rim (fabrics AC and BS) and one sherd (fabric BF), decorated with incised lines, probably represented a spouted jar, the functional precursor of the spouted pitcher and jug (Mellor 1989, 198, fig. 44, no. 8). The size (volume) of these jars was closer to the earlier local handmade coarse shelly tradition and there was apparently no attempt to copy the smaller jars or deep-sided bowls of the St Neot's-type which had by this time been available to Oxford consumers for some few generations.

This range of handmade coarsewares can be paralleled in Oxford with the latest pre-Mound level at Oxford Castle and at the Clarendon Hotel (Mellor 1976, table 3, 265 F36; Jope and Pantin 1958, 14–15, Pits BIA and BIB), and they may have been attempting to fill the lacuna left by the decline of the earlier local shelly traditions, but, once established, they ousted the St Neot's-type from the local markets.

Imported wares from other regions include a body sherd of a vessel from SE Oxfordshire (fabric AE, group III; see also Queen Street and the High Street Surface Water Drain); from Wessex a Michelmersh type (fabrics K and W) with applied stamped strip (Fig. 6.24 No. 94); and another with cruciform decoration (Fig. 6.24 No. 93; Jope and Pantin 1958, 36, fig. 8, no. BIB.3, and Addyman P V *et al.* 1972, 127–30, fig. 37 d and c). Another type known from the City of London excavations (fabric S, group III) included the lower half of a jar (Fig. 6.24 No. 96). The East Midlands was only represented by a

green-glazed strap handle (Stamford type A; Fig. 6.23 No. 77) and an unglazed body sherd from a domestic vessel (fabric AL, group III).

Continental imports (see Table 6.7) included greyware and blackware vessels from France, in the region of the Pas de Calais (de Bouard 1976) with a rim from a possible jar/pitcher with applied thumbbed strip (Fig. 6.24 No. 92), a body sherd with triangular roller stamping, another with diamond roller stamping (Fig. 6.24 No. 97), and another (Fig. 6.24 No. 98) from the shoulder of a vessel with elongated bosses (Mellor 1985, 75, fig. 13 no. 14; Platt and Coleman-Smith 1975, 126, fig. 177 no. 901) and a base (Fig. 6.24 No. 99). Other French types included a jar with rolled rim (Fig. 6.24 No. 88, fabric CA, group III) and from the Rhineland, a Pingsdorf-type (Fabric BV Group III). Other vessels in the Saxo-Norman tradition probably from the Continent but whose source is unknown included a sherd of fabric J, group III (see Queen Street, below) and another import, a jar with rolled rim (Fig. 6.24 No. 89, fabric BM group III).

This phase also yielded a coin of Edward the Confessor 1042–1044 in the infill of the cellar pit. A similar range of pottery finds came from the infill of cellar pit BI at 55–58 Cornmarket Street, associated with a coin of Aethelred II (c 979–85) believed to be lost before 991 (Mellor 1985, 73), but these infills reflect secondary deposits and probably occurred at the same period as the All Saints cellar, when St Neot's-type was dominant in central Oxford in the early-mid 11th century.

Pottery from the church phases at All Saints Phases AS 4 – 6

Deposits associated with the single cell church (AS4) yielded too few sherds to detect any trends, and only thirteen sherds were found in Phase AS5. They included the handmade calcareous gravel-tempered tradition with a jar with simple rim (fabric AC, group IB; Mellor 1976, 257, fig. 12 no. 13, for rim only), another simple thumbbed rim (Fig. 6.24 No. 100, fabric BS, group IB), a sherd of fabric BF (group II) and a sandy ware with thickened rim (fabric Y, group III, Fig. 6.24 No. 101). Regional imports included St Neot's-type, a Stamford type, a base (Stamford type F Fig. 6.24 No. 102) and others (fabrics S, I, AH and CF). This phase corresponds to the ceramics in Phase 4 on the Queen Street sites and to the Clarendon Hotel BI sequence, layers 12 and 14 (Jope and Pantin 1958, 55, fig. 20). Probably some of these finds were residual, possibly reworked from Phase AS4 levels during the construction of the church extension.

The North graveyard (Phase AS6) contained rather more sherds, of which many are likely to be residual resulting from the insertion of graves into late Saxon deposits (ie the shelly ware group IA); it also included more of fabric AC, the handmade calcareous gravel-tempered tradition (Fig. 6.24 No. 104; Jope and Pantin 1958, 63–4, fig. 17 no. BIB.39),

including a jar with simple rim (Mellor 1975, fig. 20 no. 11.2 for fabric and form). The newly dominant sandy ware (fabric Y, group III) initially specialised in jars, but the potters later added glazed pitchers to their repertoire, becoming the first local ceramic industry to initiate the use of glaze to decorate tablewares (Jope and Pantin 1958 for tripod pitchers dated from c AD 1120).

A jar from SE Oxfordshire was present (Fig. 6.24 No. 103, see earlier) and regional imports still included a Stamford-type pitcher with a light green glazed spout and a sherd from a jug with an applied triangular red strip and another with dark green glaze, possibly from the Nuneaton kilns in Warwickshire (fabric AH, group III). These jugs are usually associated with the late 12th century as at the Hamel in the western suburb of Oxford where they were dated by documentary evidence to c 1190 (Phase 3b, Mellor 1980, 161).

Pottery from later church deposits (Phases AS 7–9)

Deposits associated with the addition of the north nave of the church (Phase AS7) contained only two sherds. Phase AS8 the north chancel, with 12 sherds, included a jar with sloping rim (Fig. 6.24 No. 105; Hunter and Jope 1951, Fig. 15, no. 15 form only), together with fragments associated with the highly decorated period made in the vicinity of the Brill/Boarstall in Buckinghamshire, dating to the mid 13th century.

From Phase AS9, a number of vessels in Late Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AM, group III) were found associated with the internal burials; these vessels included a shelled lamp (Fig. 6.24 No. 106), a possible lid (Fig. 6.24 No. 107) and the base of a bottle (Fig. 6.24 No. 108), and may have been used in the church during the late medieval period. The unstratified material included the base of a Pingsdorf-type pitcher (Fig. 6.24 No. 109).

Conclusions

The overall ceramic sequence at All Saints mirrors that of the other town centre sites and can therefore be used to draw comparison with sites from the edges of the early town. The introduction and use of St Neot's-type corresponds with the development of some of the suburbs, for example the castle, possibly in the mid 10th century; a continuing rise in population may accord with the digging and the infilling of the cellar pits, some hundred years later, suggesting that by this stage the market frontages were under far more intensive pressure to expand and develop. These infills contained secondary debris including a wider range of continental and regional imports including St Neot's-types, which reflects the widening contact with the hinterland and the continent, suggesting increasing economic and political stability. This is supported by the documentary evidence for meetings of the royal council in Oxford during the second decade of the

11th century. London also shows rapid growth in population and is a trading centre at the same period (Vince 1991, 434).

It would appear that all the known cellar pits were probably infilled at a similar time in the town (Mellor 1985, 73), when St Neot's-type had replaced the late Saxon shelly tradition. All Saints Church also shows that some contexts can contain exclusively St Neot's-type, even when the earlier shelly tradition or the later local handmade wares were apparently available, giving strong contrasts between the pottery of apparently contemporary pits on adjoining properties AS 75, 94. This pattern, seen elsewhere, may indicate that some households prepared and cooked their food in smaller vessels, perhaps reflecting different culinary practices (see Thames Crossing pottery, above, for assessment of usage of vessels), which in turn might emanate from cultural differences. The logical distinction would be a culture used to St Neot's-type vessels in the Danelaw as opposed to the indigenous Mercian population. Interestingly the ceramic traditions associated with Wessex make little impact before the second quarter of the 11th century (ASF75) and never represent more than 10% of the assemblage during the later 11th and 12th centuries.

Pottery from the High Street Surface Water Drain

Not illustrated

Some 41 sherds were recovered during this watching brief. Most came from deposits which were only accessible for a short time, and for this reason were recorded as small finds marked on section drawings. Several were from fills of two deep medieval drains or kennels, HS 6 and HS 7, and the excavator was able to group these into layers representing the primary silt of the main kennel (7/B), the bulk infills of both kennels (6/C and 7/C) and layers dipping into this infill which seemed to form the floor of a central gutter replacing the main deep channel (7/D). Further pottery was recorded from pits and unstratified contexts. The value of this material is in providing a dating framework for the early street drainage system.

The earliest context to produce pottery was an early street surface beside Kennel HS 7, a single sherd of St Neot's-type (fabric R, group IA HS SF7). The primary fill of the kennel itself, ie the primary silt HS 7/B, produced four sherds of fabric AC, group IB (HS SF11 and 13), typical of the 11th–12th centuries. The bulk infill of this drain yielded three sherds of the same fabric, and suggests the system of deep drains was abandoned in the late 11th or 12th century (HS 7/C, SFs 10 and 15). Interestingly, however, the equivalent deposit HS 6/C in the butt-ended side branch of the kennel yielded a sherd of an earlier tradition, Late Saxon Oxford ware B, which may indicate that this drain was abandoned earlier, perhaps before the 11th century (but not necessarily so).

The infilling of the deep drain was apparently not the end of central drainage however, because road

surfaces HS 7/D recorded as dipping across the line of the drain yielded pottery of the 12th century (HS SFs 3, 4, 14 and 17) and also 3 sherds of 14th- to 15th-century date. These may all be related to the bedding of stones for a central stone-lined gully providing the same function as the original deep drain, in a more durable form.

Sherds from the mid-road drain, though very few in number, could therefore be fitted into a stratigraphical sequence in order to corroborate their evidence. Pottery was also recovered in very small quantities from features other than the drain, for which no more than a *terminus post quem* can be offered, as follows: Pit HS 3: mid-late 11th century or later; Pit HS 1, SF 1, Ditch HS 8, SF 5: 11th–12th century or later; stone-lined feature HS 4: 13th–14th century or later. A similar kennel or central drainage channel with late 11th- to early 12th-century pottery was seen in the Castle Street sections (Hassall *et al.* 1989, 125).

Discussion: the pottery used at the town sites

Overall chronology

The late Saxon levels show the now familiar local ceramic sequence: the shelly limestone tradition (Late Saxon Oxford ware, fabric B, group IA, Phases 1 and 2) overlapped by the wheel-thrown St Neot's-type ware tradition (fabric R, group IA, Phase 3). The latter tradition was, in turn, superseded by the handmade tradition Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric AC, group IB, Phase 4). A handmade and wheel-thrown tradition (Medieval Oxford ware, fabric Y, group III) then became the dominant ware (Phase 5). This local progression is refined by wares imported from elsewhere.

Regional or continental imports (Tables 6.7–6.9)

The presence or absence of regional or continental imports at any one period could not be relied upon. It is possible that the vessels were not deliberately traded, rather moved around as containers or personal possessions. But the range of imports at All Saints when compared with other late Saxon sites was exceptional, and may be more typical of a mercantile quarter rather than simply an especially rich household.

Stamford-type jars at All Saints included products typical of the mid 9th-century Stamford kiln (group III, fabric CB). A few other domestic Stamford-types were recovered throughout the sequence and included the only vessel which could be construed as glazed tableware, a strap handle from a pitcher recovered from an assemblage dated to the second quarter of the 11th century. This is the earliest deposit in which such glazed vessels have been recovered in Oxford (Fig. 6.23 No. 77). Other imports present at All Saints, in 10th- and 11th-century contexts, included continental greywares (group III, fabric J) which were recognised for the first time in Oxford at 79–80 St Aldate's Phases 2 and 4. Other

types had not been recognised here previously: fabric BT, a Southampton Class 13 type, fabric BY, a new Pas de Calais type and a Flanders-type, (fabric BZ).

Phase 3 at All Saints yielded a slightly wider range of imports. The continental imports included more French types (group III fabrics T, X, CA and BY; Radcliffe 1961–2, 58, fig. 7, no. 9; 60, fig. 7, no. 10), a Rhenish type from the Pingsdorf area (fabric BV, group III) and fabric Q, group III from an unknown source. Greywares in fabric X were previously known from the Castle Mound, at 79–80 St Aldate's Phases 4 and 6a and from the sites along the Thames Crossing (this volume).

Imports from other regions of England had also increased by the mid 11th century. Michelmersham types (fabrics K and W, group III) from Hampshire in the heartland of the former Wessex have distinctive decoration, and vessels occurred from a source also known in London (fabric S, group III; see earlier). But regional imports from the East Midlands are the only ones of significance to the life of these town centre properties. The vessel types confirm evidence from nearby sites in Queen Street, St Ebbe's, Cornmarket and High Street (Mellor 1985, 189, fig. 21, nos 2–6; Mellor 1989, 198, fig. 44 no. 18; Jope and Pantin 1958, 35–7, fig. 8 and All Saints this volume) that these central sites appear to have more links with the East Midlands than do properties in other parts of the town during the late Saxon period. An interesting grouping within this trend is that unglazed Stamford-type vessels appear to concentrate to the N and W of the Queen Street and St Ebbe's Street, at 31–34 Church Street and in the Cornmarket, while there are fewer at frontages further east such as All Saints, and they are virtually absent from late Saxon sites south of the *burh*. These East Midland coarsewares may have been used as containers, while the glazed tablewares may have been imported solely for their functional use. The presence of St Neot's-type pottery in Oxford over some 5 generations also lends support to the historical evidence for the influence of the Danelaw in this part of Mercia.

These regional and continental vessels may have arrived in Oxford via the Northampton-Southampton route which passed through the town linking central Mercia with the Danelaw and the heartland of Wessex, or alternatively may have travelled up river from London from an E coast trade. First-hand comparison with imports from London might establish which if any had passed through London. Continental imports are not common in London in the 10th century, though the 11th century saw an increase (Vince 1991, 40–2, 433). In Oxford such imports are equally abundant in both centuries and may indicate that another route, perhaps via Southampton, was more favoured by Oxford merchants during the 10th century. There is however historical evidence that barges plied the River Thames between Oxford and London in the 11th century (Davis 1973, 258–67) and the river may therefore

have been instrumental in the distribution of some of the late Saxon shelly wares to both Oxford and London from a source upstream; continental imports may have come in on the return trip (Vince 1991, 40–2, 433; Mellor 1994, 57–60).

Technology and source of pottery

The production sites for the four major ceramic traditions (fabrics *B*, *R*, *AC*, and *Y*) in use on all these frontage sites between the late 9th and 12th centuries have not yet been located. This is perhaps less surprising in the case of the three earlier traditions, because their limestone inclusions pre-suppose a low firing temperature, and hence a bonfire or clamp kiln, which would leave minimal structural evidence for the archaeologist. It is ironic that the county which carried out some of the most intensive pioneering work on medieval pottery with the work of Bruce-Mitford (1939) and Jope (various see bibliography), and which has a wide range of clay sources in the county, has yet to find its first medieval kiln, though three small groups of potters' wasters are known. However, it is possible by plotting distributions to suggest the general area whence these pots originated as follows.

The handmade coarse shelly wares were probably made close to Oxford, for they account for a very high proportion of the assemblages in the 10th century and are absent from the W and N of the county at Bampton and Banbury (Mellor 1994). By the time that All Saints was first settled this local pottery industry was already established (Haldon 1977 Phases 1 and 2) and the production centre/centres seem already to have had a monopoly within the *burh* and possibly its hinterland.

The origin of the second major ceramic tradition, St Neot's-type, is rather more elusive. These competently wheel-thrown pots were made by skilled potters. St Neot's-type was originally recognised and defined in the East Midlands (Hurst 1955, 43–60) and Oxfordshire is still the furthest west that these vessels have been recovered in any quantity (Bruce Mitford and Jope 1940). It may therefore have been imported from outside the region, over a period of some 100 years. The use of the wheel and the independent development of its vessel forms would argue a ceramic tradition which was remote from Oxfordshire, and that its skilled potters and apprentices were making no impact on local craftsmen, so that some elements at least of the tradition were not carried on. There is evidence that Late Saxon Oxford ware (fabric *B*, group IA) may have copied or been influenced by the forms of St Neot's-type, but not vice versa. It is not clear whether the decline of this tradition in Oxford was rapid or gradual; but its demise is somewhat surprising, for the use of this tradition in counties to the NE of Oxfordshire continued into the next century (McCarthy and Brooks 1988, 176). With the decline of St Neot's-type in Oxford nearly a generation before the Norman Conquest, the art of the wheel was lost to the local

domestic ceramic industry, which was dominated by handmade wares for another three or four generations, a trend that can be demonstrated elsewhere in England (Vince 1991, 40) and must surely be related to political, cultural or even environmental pressures.

The replacement of St Neot's-type products in Oxford by the third major tradition, Early Medieval Oxford ware (fabric *AC*, group IB) prior to the building of the Castle *c* 1071 (Hassall 1976), this time with a distribution towards the N and W of the county, heralded new cultural and technological influences. The only potters returned for the county in Domesday were those at Bladon (Domesday Book, f. 156), some six miles NW of Oxford, which could be the site of this ceramic industry from the middle of the 11th century.

Finally, Medieval Oxford ware (fabric *Y*, group III) was also probably made to the N and slightly E of Oxford. But this ware used a sandy fabric and included glazed wares, which would almost certainly have been fired in an updraught kiln which could achieve the necessary higher temperatures, and it might therefore be expected to leave some structural evidence. Despite this technological advance, however, its products were initially hand-made and only sometimes finished on a turntable; not until the 13th century were they invariably wheel-thrown.

A fifth less popular but widespread ceramic tradition in Oxford (fabric *BF*, group II) had its origins in the SW of the county, possibly in the vicinity of the Savernake Forest, Wiltshire (formerly Wessex).

Cultural/social implications

The sequence of pottery sources described above is confirmed over most Oxford sites and can therefore be used to chart the development of vessel styles. The vessel forms of the local handmade traditions were initially very conservative, being mainly jars and the occasional dish, but by the mid 11th century a wider range of vessels and production sources was evident, perhaps stimulated by the growth in population, and exchange of goods over a wider region (see above, imports) indicating a certain economic and political stability.

But the contrast in size between these local handmade vessels and the St Neot's-types suggests that only smaller vessels in the St Neot's-type repertoire as known at Bedford were transported regularly to Oxford; some difference in domestic or culinary habits was clear, in particular during the second half of the 10th to first half of the 11th century, where the refuse in pit groups tends to polarise between one ceramic tradition or the other (fabrics *B* and *R*, group IA). This pattern is evident elsewhere in Oxford and also occurs at Wallingford (Mellor unpublished). Thick sooting deposits are evident on one ceramic tradition (Fabric *B*) but not on those of St Neot's-types on these sites. This contradicts the evidence from Northampton, where St Neot's-types are heavily sooted (Denham 1985, 55).

These putative domestic or culinary differences may be related to cultural differences, but more data on the capacity of vessels of this period would be instructive. The distribution of tradition within site is revealing. Only one pit group under the Castle yielded a high proportion of the coarse handmade shelly tradition (fabric B, group IA), while a number of pits yielded a high proportion of St Neot's-type (fabric R, group IA) suggesting that the first settlers of that area had a preference for St Neot's-type ware. It is striking that the two other excavations which yielded pits with a high proportion of St Neot's-type were both peripheral to the main streets and both likely to have been inhabited for the first time, and yet the refuse of these first settlers, as seen at Logic Lane and at a slightly later date at 31-34 Church Street (Radcliffe 1961/2 and Mellor 1989), shows little or no evidence of the earlier coarse handmade shelly wares. Could these new inhabitants have originated from elsewhere, bringing their own pottery with them?

It may be significant that the distribution pattern of St Neot's-type originated within the areas of the Danelaw, and that its ascendancy in Oxford overlaps the period where there are references to a Danish community here (VCH iv). By the 11th century, possibly following the fire of 1009, which was interpreted as a delayed reprisal for an outrage in which Oxford's Danish community was burnt in the minster church, the settlers with a preference for St Neot's-type pots are to be found in more central sites along the Market frontages living alongside others who still used locally made pots (fabrics B and later AC). This new confidence between the two communities may have been encouraged by the new stability in the reign of Cnut (see above), but although the inhabitants were more integrated they still retained their own cultural links and were not sufficiently at ease to initiate changes in their habits of consumption or to absorb new technology, suggesting that relationships were still stressed.

Oxford pottery dating: evidence from the town sites

The existing chronology of Oxford before the University is broadly based on eight dated groups. The first was at 79-80 St Aldate's where a historical model is dated by radiocarbon and thermoluminescence to the late 8th-early 9th century (Durham 1977). The second is an Eadred coin of 946-55 from beneath Oxford Castle (Mellor 1976, 263), and the third, an Aethelred II coin c 979-85 from a cellar pit in Cornmarket (Mellor 1985, 73). All Saints adds a fourth and fifth; the fire horizon of Phase AS2b which seems likely to date to the late 10th century or the early 11th century, and could represent the Danish attack of 1009 (see All Saints report, above), and the Phase AS3b infill of a cellar pit with a coin of Edward the Confessor, minted 1042-1044. The building of Oxford Castle gives a *terminus ante quem* of 1071 for the pits beneath it, and the building of the

church at All Saints gives a *taq* of 1122 at the latest for the earlier phases. The final group is of mid-late 12th-century date: a Stephen coin of c 1141 at 79-80 St Aldate's; a stone vault of c 1150-70 at the Clarendon Hotel and the St John's Well group dated by a coin of Henry II, 1168-80, which give the final dates for the early medieval period (Durham 1977, 141; Jope and Pantin 1958, 13; Jope *et al.* 1950, 44-55).

Using this broad chronology it is clear that the coarse handmade shelly wares (fabrics B, C and H) appeared at 79-80 St Aldate's c 800 and continued in use on that site until at least the 11th century. No development in typology is evident in this tradition, and the only internal variation is in the size of vessels; All Saints AS2a and AS2b can be paralleled at 79-80 St Aldate's Phases 3 and 4 and may suggest that these phases were contemporary. The end date for this tradition is rather more problematic: its dominance is reduced by St Neot's-type and it is certainly associated with the introduction of the handmade calcareous traditions (group IB), but whether the introduction of St Neot's-type was because the local industry could not meet the demand as the town expanded, or whether the 'new' inhabitants had a preference for their own products is not certain, although a preferred model based on cultural preference is set out above. A similar sequence can be seen in London with the introduction of EMS and EMFL from the mid 10th to early 11th century, rather than St Neot's-type as in Oxford (Vince 1991, 24).

It is now seen that perhaps there was no substantive hiatus between the demise of the earlier tradition (fabric B) and the appearance of Early Medieval Oxford ware in the town (fabric AC, group IB Mellor 1983, 60). It had been provisionally suggested that the 1009 fire (Mellor 1980) might have seriously affected pottery production. However, it is now clear that the beginning of the final demise of the Late Saxon Oxford ware tradition (fabric B, group IA) seems to coincide with the end of the Saxon dynasty (79-80 St Aldate's Phase 4 and All Saints Phases 2b and 3a). But the London evidence suggests this tradition (London fabric LSS) persisted until the mid 11th century, perhaps dying out between c 1030-1050 (Vince 1991, 24, 42); at Billingsgate Lorry Park, the sherds may already be residual (Vince 1991, 54). Comparison of the rise and fall of the late Saxon shelly tradition in Oxford and London is made difficult by the lack of impact by St Neot's-type in London, and more stratified sequences from the metropolis are necessary to clarify the dating (Mellor 1994); but it also requires the ceramic data from the two regions to be recorded in a manner that is directly comparable.

The ceramic evidence from 10th- and 11th-century Oxford does not follow the classic boom and bust development of the medieval traditions which tend to be common to all parts of the town, so a standard chronological development cannot be assumed. The town centre stratigraphy suggests a model at least

for the local population *B* to *R* to *AC*, with the proviso that pit groups with a preponderance of *R* can occur at any time, but in the 10th century they occur at the periphery and after c 1009 they can occur on the town centre frontages too. So pottery dating at the edges of late Saxon Oxford will continue to be problematic, while in the centre it may be safer up to c 1009, and then more secure after the arrival of substantial quantities of *AC*.

This situation, though unsatisfactory for the dating of new deposits, provides a stimulus for the next phase of ceramic studies, which will be to look at anomalies in the 'normal' development of the ceramic market place, and in the case of Oxford a bi-cultural model based on the infiltration of Danish settlers is offered as the simplest fit in the historical context.

Conclusion

Evidence of the dominance of St Neot's-types can be used to suggest that Danish settlers chose initially to settle on peripheral plots *E* and *W* of the *burh* in the area beneath the Castle and at Logic Lane. But during the second decade of the 11th century, possibly after the fire of 1009, the Danish and indigenous population lived side by side on central sites. This corresponds with the *floruit* of St Neot's-type in Oxford assemblages (All Saints Phase 3a and other town centre sites, see above), perhaps when Cnut was King of both Denmark and England, and royal councils were held in Oxford. For Oxford this reflects increased trade and the expansion of population which led to the development of the side streets such as Church Street dated to the second quarter of the 11th century (Mellor 1989, 201). But it accommodates the evidence of the 10th-century coin from a suburb under the Castle bailey, where Danish influence may have existed much earlier. So the story of Oxford's late Saxon ceramic resources may parallel the political climate of the period. With the waning of the Danish influence, or the increased assimilation of the newcomer, the indigenous handmade industries reassert themselves locally and elsewhere across southern England (Vince 1991, 43–4).

CATALOGUE OF ILLUSTRATED SHERDS (7–8 QUEEN ST, 4 QUEEN ST AND ALL SAINTS CHURCH)

7–8 Queen St (Fig. 6.22).

- 1 Context 5, Phase 1, Fabric *L*, jar with rolled rim.
- 2 Context 5, Phase 1, Fabric *B*, jar with everted rim.
- 3 Context 5, Phase 1, Fabric *B*, jar with everted rim.
- 4 Context 209/5, Phase 2, Fabric *B*, jar with everted rim.
- 5 Context 209, Phase 2, Fabric *B*, base.
- 6 Context 6, Phase 3, Fabric *B*, jar with everted rim.
- 7 Context 242, Phase 3, Fabric *R*, jar with flared rim.
- 8 Context 204, Phase 4, Fabric *R*, jar with flared rim.
- 9 Context 204, Phase 4, Fabric *B*, jar with everted rim.
- 10 Context 211, Phase 4, Fabric *L*, jar with flared rim.
- 11 Context 208, Phase 4, Fabric *L*, shoulder of jar.
- 12 Context 277, Phase 4, Fabric *B*, bowl.
- 13 Context 211, Phase 4, Fabric *L*, spouted pitcher.
- 14 Context 208, Phase 4, Fabric *AC*, jar with everted rim.
- 15 Context 208, Phase 4, Fabric *AC*, jar with thickened rim.
- 16 Context 215, Phase 4, Fabric *R*, body sherd with applied thumb-pressed strip.
- 17 Context 215, Phase 4, Fabric *AC*, ?cup.
- 18 Context 215, Phase 4, Fabric *AC*, jar with everted rim.
- 19 Context 215, Phase 4, Fabric *AC*, jar with everted rim.
- 20 Context 214, Phase 4, Fabric *AC*, jar with lid seating.
- 21 Context 2/2, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, jar with thickened thumb-pressed rim.
- 22 Context 4/4, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with roller stamped decoration.
- 23 Context 4/1, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with incised decoration.
- 24 Context 4/3, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with combed decoration.
- 25 Context 4/13, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with roller stamped decoration.
- 26 Context 4/13, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with combed wavy decoration.
- 27 Context 4/5, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with applied strip.
- 28 Context 4/13, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with plaited decoration.
- 29 Context 4/5, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with applied wavy decoration.
- 30 Context 4/5, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with incised horizontal grooves and applied vertical strip.
- 31 Context 4/4, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with incised and combed decoration.
- 32 Context 4/3, Phase 5, Fabric *Y*, sherd with combed decoration.
- 33 Context 1/1, Phase 6, Fabric *WHEW*, ointment jar.
- 34 Context 3/1, Phase 6, Fabric *ZZ*, shoulder of jar.
- 35 Unstratified, Fabric *REW*, bed pan.
- 36 Unstratified, Fabric *REW*, closed vessel.

4 Queen Street (Fig. 6.22)

- 37 Context 34, Phase 3, Fabric *Y*, jar with thickened thumb-pressed rim.
- 38 Context 35, Phase 3, Fabric *B*, base.
- 39 Context 35, Phase 3, Fabric *R*, base.
- 40 Context 34, Phase 3, Fabric *B*, sherd with roller stamped decoration.
- 41 Context 35, Phase 3, Fabric *R*, jar with rolled rim.
- 42 Context 35, Phase 3, Fabric *R*, jar with flared rolled rim.

- 43 Context 35, Phase 3, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
 44 Context 22, Phase 4, Fabric BR, jar with everted thumb-pressed rim.
- All Saints Church (Figs 6.23 and 6.24)**
- 45 Context 112/9, Phase 1a, Fabric B, jar with everted rim.
 46 Context 112/9, Phase 1a, Fabric H, bowl or shallow dish.
 47 Context 126/5, Phase 1b, Fabric CB, jar with everted squared rim.
 48 Context 112/7, Phase 1b, Fabric BY, jar with flared rim.
 49 Context 113/7, Phase 1b, Fabric BT, jar with everted rim.
 50 Context 222, Phase 2a, Fabric B, tubular spout.
 51 Context 137, Phase 2a, Fabric B, large jar with everted rim.
 52 Context 112/4, Phase 2a, Fabric B, jar with everted rim.
 53 Context 123, Phase 2a, Fabric B, jar with flared rim.
 54 Context 244 (salvage observations), Phase 2, Fabric B, base.
 55 Context 244 (salvage observations), Phase 2, Fabric B, jar with flared rim.
 56 Context 113/4, Phase 2a, Fabric B, acute-angled base.
 57 Context 97, Phase 2b, Fabric B, jar with rolled rim.
 58 Context 111/7, Phase 2b, Fabric B, jar with simple rim.
 59 Context 111/7, Phase 2b, Fabric B, jar with rolled rim and roller stamped decoration.
 60 Context 97, Phase 2b, Fabric B, shoulder of jar.
 61 Context 95/5, Phase 2b, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
 62 Context 111/6, Phase 2b, Fabric R, base.
 63 Context 95/5, Phase 2b, Fabric BZ, jar with everted squared rim.
 64 Context 111/6, Phase 2b, Fabric B, upright rim of spout or lamp.
 65 Context 94/1, Phase 3a, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
 66 Context 94/9, Phase 3a, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
 67 Context 94/9, Phase 3a, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
 68 Context 94/7, Phase 3a, Fabric R, jar with flared rim.
 69 Context 94/9, Phase 3a, Fabric R, jar with flared rim.
 70 Context 94/9, Phase 3a, Fabric R, base.
 71 Context 97/4, Phase 3a, Fabric W, sherd with roller stamped decoration.
 72 Context 101, Phase 3a, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
 73 Context 101, Phase 3a, Fabric R, base.
 74 Context 83, Phase 3b, Fabric B, jar with everted rim.
 75 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric Bf, jar with everted rim.
 76 Context 83, Phase 3b, Fabric B, jar with everted rim.
 77 Context 75/2, Phase 3b, Fabric L, strap handle from a pitcher.
 78 Context 75/2, Phase 3b, Fabric BF, jar with everted rim.
 79 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric R, jar with rolled rim.
 80 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric BF, jar with thickened rim.
 81 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric R, deep-sided bowl.
 82 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric BF, jar with thickened rim.
 83 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric BS, jar with everted rim and thumbed decoration.
 84 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric BS, base.
 85 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric BS, jar with simple rim.
 86 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric BR, jar with everted rim.
 87 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric BR, base.
 88 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric CA, jar with rolled rim.
 89 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric BM, jar with rolled rim.
 90 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric BR, jar with everted rim.
 91 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric AC, jar with upright and slightly thickened rim.
 92 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric T, jar with everted thickened rim with thumbed strip around neck of vessel.
 93 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric BS, crucible.
 94 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric K, sherd with applied strips and stamped decoration.
 95 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric K, sherd with applied strips and stamped decoration.
 96 Context 75, Phase 3b, Fabric S, sherd with roller stamped decoration.
 97 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric T, base.
 98 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric T, shoulder of pitcher with elongated bosses.
 99 Context 75/4, Phase 3b, Fabric T, base.
 100 Context 80, Phase 4, Fabric BS, bowl with simple thumbed rim.
 101 Context 80, Phase 4, Fabric Y, jar with thickened rim.
 102 Context 80, Phase 4, Fabric CB, base.
 103 Context 230, Phase 6, Fabric AE, jar with everted rim.
 104 Context 246/2, Phase 6, Fabric AC, jar with upright rim.
 105 Context 49, Phase 7, Fabric Y, jar with sloping rim.
 106 Context 24, Phase 9, Fabric AM, shelled lamp.
 107 Context 24, Phase 9, Fabric AM, ?lid.
 108 Context 64, Phase 9, Fabric AM, base of a bottle.
 109 Unstratified, Fabric BV, footring from a Rhenish pitcher.

LATE SAXON POTTERY AT OXFORD; CONCLUSIONS

by Maureen Mellor

Reconsideration of published sites and several more recent ones has tended to confirm the picture of the development of local pottery traditions as seen from previous excavations. A rise both in non-local wares in the 11th century and in overall pottery 'population' from the founding of the *burh* through to the Conquest probably reflects the increasing prosperity of the town, noted elsewhere for this period by Vince (1992).

Pottery vessels imported from the north-east were seen in the earliest levels of the *burh* at All Saints, and this repertoire increased in the 11th century (Mellor 1989, 201). The distribution of unglazed Stamford vessels was interesting, being a significant proportion of the early groups at All Saints, but later much more localised, in particular sites north and west of Carfax in the 11th century. They were largely absent from the sites south of the town. This may indicate that they were used as containers for some product and not traded for themselves, so once having entered the town from the north, they were never traded on to the south. Alternatively the inhabitants on the south bridge may have been able to furnish their needs by purchasing from merchants coming over the bridge from the south before the payment of market tolls.

Also from the north-east was St Neot's-type, imported into the region over four or five generations and its distribution in the *burh* and later in the town has generated speculation for over a decade (Mellor 1980). The pattern confirms previous work, and can only be described as idiosyncratic. The simplest model historically seems to be one of a consumer choice reflecting cultural traditions, and given its source it is suggested that the pots were supplied to Oxford for the benefit of migrants from the Danelaw attracted to the commercial success of Oxford, who settled in suburban locations in the 10th century, and only later took up town centre properties. Throughout they must have retained a preference for smaller vessels, as if employing different culinary practices. These vessels are imitated by the local traditions, but the local producers apparently could not use the fast wheel, and this technique dies out in the Oxford series, only to re-emerge some three or four generations later.

Continental pottery is found in Oxford in the earliest deposits. Blackwares were noted from each

of the sites outside the south gate of the *burh*, in the suburb which grew up on the road to the river crossing and to the presumed wharfage on the river, but in this situation there is no obvious way of discriminating between what might have been a waterborne trade up river from London, and an overland trade from the south coast via Winchester and Abingdon, although the evidence hints at the latter.

There was clear evidence of a change in sooting patterns through the late Saxon period, the thickest deposits being noted on the local shelly tradition, Late Saxon Oxford ware, less so on St Neot's-type, and so little on the later sandy wares that it was not possible to be sure whether it arose from cooking or was residual charcoal from the original firing. Was this an effect of a change in fuel from wood to charcoal as services to the town improved, or was it because different traditions could accommodate higher cooking temperature and consequently less soot was deposited? This needs critical study, and Underwood-Keevill (above) has suggested that sooting high up on certain vessels might be the result of using a double-boiler arrangement.

A change to charcoal as fuel might have been a move to improve the home environment by reducing smoke, and it is interesting that pots are being recognised which could have contributed to cleaner air, ie chimney pots, which first appear in the archaeological record in the early 13th century.

For the future, the most pressing need regionally is to carry out an in-depth comparative study of the shelly wares known from Oxford and London. It seems likely that by collating all aspects of fabric, form and manufacturing technology it will be possible to resolve the question of whether LSS in London was really produced in the Upper Thames valley, with London receiving better quality products than local consumers in Oxford and Wallingford; or whether it was from another unidentified source where fast wheel technology was available to the producers. The author's preference is clear; if fast wheel technology had been available to Oxfordshire potters the subsequent tradition AC would have used it, and it seems most likely, if LSS was made on a fast wheel, that it was made some way away from Oxford.

Stratified sequences from neighbouring *burhs*, such as Aylesbury, Buckingham, Cricklade, Towcester and Wallingford, would help to place the ceramic traditions of late Saxon Oxford in its regional context.