

Appendix 1 – Ceramics: methodology

by Alistair Barclay

Chronology and approach to the assemblage

The chronological framework followed in this report is outlined in Table App 1.1 (Barclay 2000; Benson and Whittle 2007), which divides the Neolithic and early Bronze Age period into a series of stages. It was recognised at the assessment stage that most of the Area 6 assemblage could be subdivided into Carinated Bowl and Plain and Decorated Bowl groups. Herne's (1988) critique of Carinated Bowl suggests that this ceramic was typologically early within the Round Bowl tradition, while Plain and Decorated Bowl are generally accepted as being a subsequent development. Peterborough Ware is thought to have evolved from the earlier Bowl tradition, and although the dating of its origins remains obscure (Gibson and Kinnes 1997), it is nonetheless possible to suggest the existence of an earlier Ebbsfleet phase (3500-3350 cal BC) which was followed by a developed Mortlake/Fengate phase (3350-2900 cal BC). Grooved Ware is thought to have been used between 2900-2200 cal BC with little overlap with the preceding Peterborough Ware tradition but perhaps significant overlap with the later Beaker tradition (Garwood 1999; Barclay 1999). Needham has suggested that Beaker pottery had a currency from 2400-1700 cal BC, while Food Vessel and Collared Urn are thought to have appeared towards the end of the 3rd millennium cal BC (Needham 1996; 2005).

Recording

The assemblage was recorded using the current OA recording system for earlier prehistoric pottery onto proforma record sheets with the data then entered

onto an Access database. Additional information has been added directly onto the database (eg thin section sample numbers, residue sample numbers and residue analysis identifications).

The pottery was characterised by fabric, form, surface treatment, decoration and colour. The sherds were analysed using a binocular microscope (x 20) and were divided into fabric groups by principal inclusion type. Fabrics were recorded using the standard OA alpha-numeric coding system for earlier prehistoric pottery, where the principal inclusions are denoted by letters, the size of the main inclusion by a number, and the date of the fabric by an abbreviation (eg F2/EN= medium flint tempered fabric of early Neolithic date).

A = sand (quartz and other mineral matter)
 F= flint
 G= grog
 Q= quartzite
 S= shell

Size range for inclusions:

1 = <1mm fine
 2 = 1-3mm fine-medium
 3 = 3mm < medium-coarse

Frequency range for inclusions:

rare = <3%
 sparse = <7%
 moderate = 10%
 common = 15%
 abundant = >20%

Condition is recorded either as excellent, average, average to poor, or very poor.

Table App 1.1 Adopted periodisation and suggested chronological date ranges for earlier prehistoric pottery (after Barclay 2000; Benson and Whittle 2007)

<i>Period nomenclature</i>	<i>Date range cal BC</i>	<i>Pottery style</i>
Final Mesolithic/earliest Neolithic	4200-3800	?Carinated Bowl
Earliest Neolithic	3800-3650	Carinated Bowl
Early Neolithic	3650-3350	Plain and Decorated Bowl
Early/middle Neolithic	3500-3350	Ebbsfleet Ware and Plain Bowl
Middle Neolithic	3350-2900	Mortlake/Fengate Ware
Late Neolithic	2900-2200	Grooved Ware
Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age	2450-1700	Earlier style Beakers and late Grooved Ware
Early Bronze Age	2150-1500	Later style Beakers, Food Vessels Collared Urns & Biconical Urns
Middle Bronze Age	1500-1150	Deverel-Rimbury

Fabrics

Early Neolithic fabrics

Sand-tempered

A1/EN – Hard fabric with abundant medium to coarse (0.5-1mm) quartz sand. Most of the quartz is colourless, sometimes it is iron stained and occasionally fabrics contain a proportion of black glauconitic sand.

Sand and flint-tempered

AF1/EN – Hard fabric with abundant medium to coarse (0.5-1mm) quartz sand and sparse fine (up to 1mm) angular flint. Some fabrics also contain a proportion of black glauconitic sand.

AF2/EN – Hard fabric with abundant medium to coarse quartz sand and fine to medium angular flint (up to 3mm). Some sherds contain a proportion of black glauconitic sand.

AF3/EN – Hard fabric with abundant medium to coarse quartz sand and fine to coarse angular flint (over 3mm). Some fabrics also contain a proportion of black glauconitic sand.

AFQ2/EN – as AF2 but containing quartzite as well.

Sand and quartzite-tempered

AQ/AQR2-3/EN – Hard fabric with abundant medium to coarse quartz sand and sparse to rare medium or coarse angular quartzite. One sherd also appears to contain rock. Thin section ETS6.

Sand and shell-tempered

AS1/EN? – Hard fabric with moderate medium quartz sand and sparse shell.

Flint-tempered

F1/EN – Hard fabric with fine (1mm), generally well-sorted angular flint inclusions.

F2/EN – Hard fabric with fine to medium, generally poorly sorted (1-3mm) angular flint inclusions.

F3/EN – Hard fabric with fine to coarse (over 3mm), generally poorly sorted angular flint inclusions.

Flint and sand-tempered

FA1/EN – Hard fabric with fine (1mm) angular flint and rare quartz sand.

FA2/EN – Hard fabric with fine to medium (1-3mm) angular flint and rare quartz sand.

FA3/EN – Hard fabric with fine to coarse (over 3mm) angular flint and rare quartz sand.

FAGM3/EN – a soft to hard, irregularly fired fabric with sparse amounts of poorly sorted fine to coarse grade, flint temper and moderate amounts of quartz sand

Flint and quartzite-tempered

FQ2/EN – Hard fabric with moderate medium angular flint and sparse to rare angular quartzite.

FQ3/EN – Hard fabric with moderate coarse angular flint and sparse to rare angular quartzite.

FQA2/EN – Hard fabric with moderate medium flint and sparse to rare angular quartzite and quartz sand.

FQA3/EN – Hard fabric with moderate coarse flint and sparse to rare angular quartzite and quartz sand.

Quartzite-tempered

Q2/EN – Hard fabric with medium angular quartzite.

Q3/EN – Hard fabric with coarse angular quartzite.

QA2/EN – Hard fabric with fine-medium angular quartzite and sparse quartz sand. Two sherds also contain rare flint. Thin section ETS15.

QAF2/EN – as QA2 but also containing flint

Shell-tempered

S3/EN – Soft fabric with medium shell platelets. The shell is mostly represented by voids.

SA2/EN – Soft fabric with fine to medium shell platelets (mostly voids) and rare quartz sand.

Early/middle Neolithic fabrics

Flint-tempered

F1/EMN – Hard fabric with fine angular flint.

F2/EMN – Hard fabric with medium angular flint.

F3/EMN – Hard fabric with coarse angular flint.

Flint and sand-tempered

FA3/EMN – Hard fabric with coarse angular flint and sparse quartz sand.

Flint and quartzite-tempered

FQ3/EMN – Hard fabric with moderate coarse angular quartzite and rare angular flint.

FQA2/EMN – Hard fabric with moderate coarse flint, sparse to rare angular quartzite and quartz sand.

Quartzite and flint-tempered

QF2/EMN – Hard fabric with moderate medium angular quartzite and rare angular flint.

QF3/EMN – Hard fabric with moderate coarse angular quartzite and rare angular flint.

QAF3/EMN – Hard fabric with moderate coarse angular quartzite, quartz sand and rare angular flint.

Grog-tempered

G3/EMN – Soft fabric with coarse angular grog.

Middle Neolithic fabrics

Sand-tempered

A1/MN – Hard fabric tempered with quartz sand.

Sand and flint-tempered

AF/MN – Hard fabric tempered with quartz sand and rare flint and sometimes occasional grog.

AF1/MN – hard fabric with moderate coarse sand and rare angular flint inclusions.

Sand and grog-tempered

AG/MN – Hard fabric with coarse quartz sand and sparse grog.

Flint-tempered

F1/MN – Hard fabric with fine to medium, generally poorly sorted (1mm) angular flint inclusions.

F2/MN – Hard fabric with fine to medium, generally poorly sorted (1-3mm) angular flint inclusions.

F3/MN – Hard fabric with fine to coarse, generally poorly sorted (1->3mm) angular flint inclusions.

Flint and sand-tempered

FA1/MN – Hard fabric with fine to medium (1mm) angular flint and rare quartz sand. Some fabrics also contain grog.

FA2/MN – Hard fabric with fine to medium (1-3mm) angular flint and rare quartz sand. Some fabrics also contain grog.

FA3/MN – Hard fabric with fine to coarse (over 3mm), generally poorly sorted angular flint inclusions, quartz sand and occasional grog.

Flint and grog-tempered

FG2/MN – Hard fabric with fine to coarse (over 3mm), generally poorly sorted angular flint inclusions and coarse angular grog.

FG3/MN – Hard fabric with fine to coarse (over 3mm), generally poorly sorted angular flint inclusions and coarse angular grog.

Flint and quartz-tempered

FQA3/MN – Hard fabric with fine to coarse (over 3mm), generally poorly sorted angular flint and quartzite inclusions and quartz sand.

Quartzite-tempered

Q1/MN – Hard fabric with moderate fine angular quartzite.

Q2/MN – Hard fabric with moderate medium angular quartzite.

Quartzite and sand-tempered

QA2/MN – Hard fabric with fine-medium angular quartzite and sparse quartz sand.

QAF2/MN – Hard fabric with moderate coarse angular quartzite, quartz sand and rare angular flint.

QAF3/MN – Hard fabric with moderate coarse angular quartzite, quartz sand and rare angular flint.

Grog-tempered

G2/MN – Hard fabric with medium angular grog.

Grog and sand-tempered

GA2/MN – Hard fabric with medium angular grog and rare quartz sand.

GAF3/MN – Hard fabric with coarse angular grog, rare quartz sand and rare angular flint

Grog and flint-tempered

GF2/MN – Hard fabric with medium angular grog, quartz sand and angular flint.

GF3/MN – Hard fabric with medium to coarse angular grog and angular flint.

GFA2/MN – Hard fabric with coarse angular grog, rare quartz sand and rare angular flint.

Late Neolithic fabrics

Sand and grog-tempered

AG1/LN – Hard fabric with common coarse quartz sand and rare grog.

AG1/2/LN – Hard fabric with coarse quartz sand and rare angular grog.

Flint and grog-tempered

FG2/LN – Hard fabric with coarse flint and rare angular grog.

FGA2/LN – Hard fabric with coarse flint, quartz sand and rare angular grog.

Shell and quartz-tempered

SA3/LN – Hard fabric with moderate fine to coarse shell platelets and rare quartz sand.

Shell and grog-tempered

SGA2/LN – Soft fabric with common shell (leached), rare grog and rare quartz sand.

Grog and sand-tempered

GA1/LN – Soft fabric with fine grog and rare quartz sand.

GA2/LN – Soft fabric with common medium subangular grog and sparse to rare quartz sand.

GA3/LN – Soft fabric with coarse grog and rare quartz sand.

GAF2/LN – Soft fabric with medium grog, rare quartz sand and rare angular flint.

Grog and flint-tempered

GF2/LN – Hard fabric with medium angular grog, quartz sand and angular flint.

GFA3/LN – Soft fabric with sparse medium-coarse angular grog, rare coarse flint and rare coarse quartz sand.

Grog-tempered and voids/organics

GV2/LN – Soft fabric with medium grog and lenticular voids.

GO2/LN – Soft fabric with sparse medium angular grog and burnt out organics.

Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age fabrics

Sand-tempered

A1/LNEBA – Soft fabric with coarse quartz sand.

Sand and grog-tempered

AG2/LNEBA – Soft fabric with coarse quartz sand and angular grog.

AGF2/LNEBA – Soft fabric with coarse quartz sand, angular grog and rare flint.

Flint and grog-tempered

FG2/LNEBA- Soft fabric with medium angular flint and rare angular grog.

Voids and sand

VA2/LNEBA- Hard fabric with lenticular voids (?shell) and rare quartz sand.

Grog-tempered

G2/LNEBA- Soft fabric with small to medium angular grog.

Grog and sand-tempered

GA1/LNEBA – Soft fabric with small angular grog and rare quartz sand.

GA2/LNEBA – Soft fabric with small to medium angular grog and rare quartz sand.

GA3/LNEBA – Soft fabric with sparse coarse grog and rare quartz sand.

GAF1/LNEBA – Soft fabric with sparse fine grog, rare quartz sand and rare angular flint.

GAF2/LNEBA – Soft fabric with medium angular grog, rare angular flint and quartz sand.

GAF3/LNEBA – Soft fabric with coarse angular grog, rare angular flint and quartz sand.

GABM3/EBA – soft fabric containing moderate to common amounts of medium to very coarse (2mm) grade grog and sparse to moderate amounts of medium grade quartz sand.

Early Bronze Age fabrics

Sand and grog-tempered

AG1/EBA Soft fabric with coarse quartz sand and fine angular grog.

Grog-tempered

G2/EBA- Soft fabric with sparse medium angular grog fragments.

Grog and sand-tempered

GA2/EBA Soft fabric with medium angular grog and rare quartz sand.

Grog and flint-tempered

GFA3/EBA Soft fabric with medium to coarse angular grog, rare angular flint and rare quartz sand.