



EXCAVATIONS AT 36–39 POULTRY, LONDON EC2

Ken Pitt with Fiona Seeley (*Roman pottery*)

With contributions by Ian M Betts (*building material*), Joanna Bird (*decorated samian*), Nigel Jeffries (*post-Roman pottery*), Angela Wardle (*accessioned finds*), Karen Stewart (*plant remains*), and Alan Pipe (*animal bone*)

SUMMARY

This article reports on archaeological work undertaken in 2005–7 during the redevelopment of 36–39 Poultry in the City of London. The earliest evidence for the occupation of the site dates to c.AD 50–60/61 (Period 2): two phases of clay and timber buildings, separated by pitting, precede the Boudican revolt, which is represented by a layer of debris.

Recovery after the revolt was not immediate. In Period 3 (AD 60/1–c. 90/100), the first clay and timber building to reoccupy the site was short-lived and demolished c.AD 70 to make way for a gravel road. This road, aligned north-east–south-west, was also observed on the opposite side of modern Poultry at the excavations at 1 Poultry (ONE94), where it met the main east–west road through the Roman town. The side road served to open up a new area north of the main road for development and clay and timber buildings were constructed along its western side, apparently set back from it behind gravel yards. There is some evidence for ironworking in these yards: they may also have served as a roadside market area.

Following a fire c.AD 90–100, quite possibly just a local event, there was another short break in occupation before a new phase of more substantial buildings, with external walls founded on masonry footings, was constructed. These buildings, and the road that they flanked, appear to have continued in use until the late 3rd century AD. However, by the beginning of the 4th century the road was out of use and part of the foundations for a massive masonry building were

constructed across it. During the 4th century the site was dominated by one or possibly two large masonry buildings of uncertain extent and plan.

The site was reoccupied during the late 10th century and the late Roman masonry foundations partially robbed. By the 13th century, the modern layout of the area had been broadly established and stone footings marked the wall alignments of buildings fronting onto Poultry, Old Jewry and lesser alleyways. Pits, mainly away from the street frontages, represented the disposal of domestic waste.

INTRODUCTION

The site at 36–39 Poultry lies in the centre of the City of London, a little to the west of the Bank of England (Fig 1).¹ The approximate

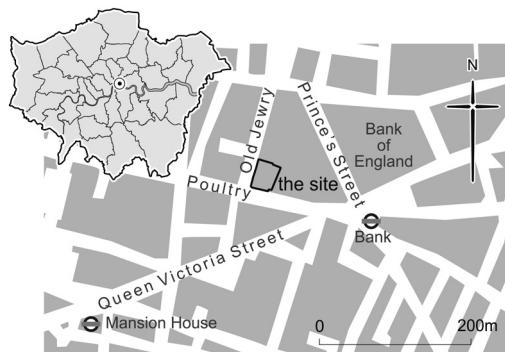


Fig 1. Site location (scale 1:10,000) and extent of 1 Poultry

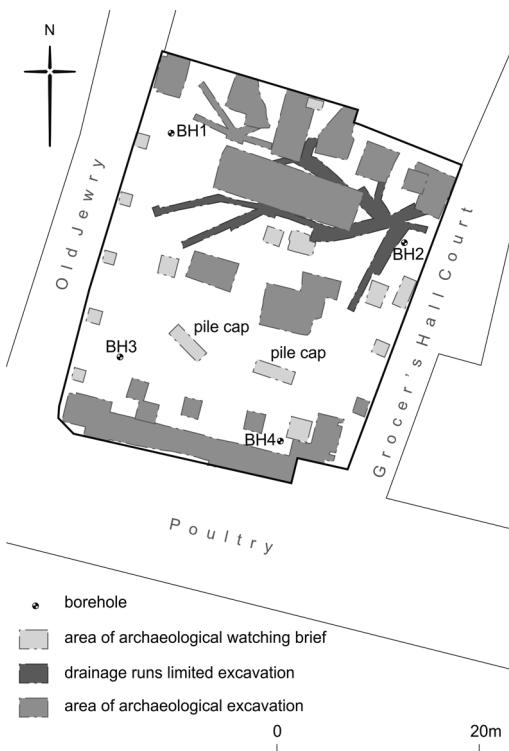


Fig 2. Areas of archaeological excavation and watching-brief (scale 1:750)

centre of the site is at NGR 532580 181160. The redevelopment was designed so that the basement slab of the last building to occupy the site was retained and the impact on the archaeology of the site was limited to the locations of the piles, pile caps, ground beams and drainage required for the new building (Fig 2). These areas were excavated by Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) in three principal phases: an evaluation (Pitt 2005a and b) in June–August 2005 to quantify the degree of survival; a main phase of archaeological excavation in February–September 2006 in the areas of new piles, pile caps and ground beams; and a watching-brief on new drainage runs in January–February 2007. The drainage runs, 0.5–0.7m deep, were subject to limited archaeological excavation where significant remains were encountered. The full stratigraphic, finds and environmental archive is available from the London Archaeological Archive Research Centre (LAARC), the site code is POU05. Detailed descriptions of Roman and

later pottery codes and fabrics are posted on the LAARC website www.museumofLondon.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/.../post92mol_fabric.pdf.

The limited scope of the archaeological interventions means that it cannot be determined with any certainty whether the structural components (walls, floors, *etc*) of the Roman buildings were parts of one or more than one building. This report has consistently veered on the side of caution and treated each structural element as part of a different building but it is quite possible that Buildings 1 and 2, for example, are actually parts of one building.

The basic unit of cross-reference throughout the archive that supports this report is the context number, always shown bracketed — [100]. The archaeological sequence has been interpreted in terms of site-specific land uses — buildings, structures and open areas (B, S, OA) — and periods showing development of the site over time and these are used in this report with accompanying drawings. The conventions used in the plan figures are shown on Fig 3.

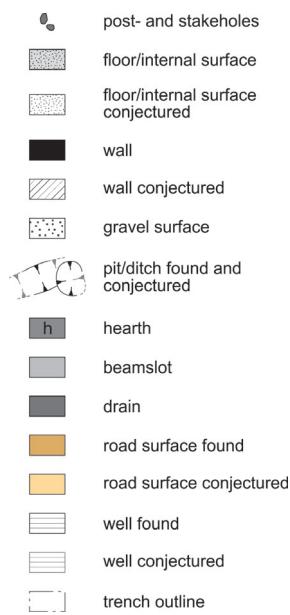


Fig 3. The graphic conventions used in this report



THE NATURAL TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF THE SITE

The site is situated on Thames River terrace gravels c.60m to the west of the Walbrook stream, which bisects the area of the City. At Poultry, therefore, the sands and gravels of this formation sloped gently down both to the east (towards the Walbrook) and south (towards the Thames). They lay at c.9.48m OD in the north-west corner of the site, c.9.20m OD in the north-east corner, and at 8.97–9.05m OD at the southern limits of the excavated area. In the north of the site, this land surface (Open Area 1) was scoured by an irregular-shaped depression (Structure 1), probably a glacial feature such as an ice wedge. Natural brickearth filled the upper levels of this depression but had elsewhere been truncated. There was no indication whatsoever that the site had been crossed by a Walbrook tributary (*contra*, for example, Hill & Rowsome 2011 and MOLA 2011).

PREHISTORIC ACTIVITY

Twelve pieces of worked flint came from the site, predominantly Mesolithic in character, although items such as the possible scraper, [705], could be later, perhaps Bronze Age (Grey 2007). At Tokenhouse Yard, c.215m to the north-east of the site and on the eastern side of the upper Walbrook valley, palaeochannel fills revealed a number of pieces of worked flint including part of a Mesolithic tranchet axe or adze and a blade probably of Mesolithic date (Leary &

Butler 2012, 7–8). One prehistoric sherd, an unsourced flint tempered ware (FLIN), was recovered from the backfill of the 1st-century AD Roman sand quarry (OA 2).

THE ROMAN OCCUPATION OF THE SITE

Period 2: the pre-Boudican occupation of the site

The site lies outside the area of earliest Roman settlement, which was on the east side of the Walbrook, but is only c.50m to the north of the main Roman road running westwards from it. Excavations at 1 Poultry (ONE94) have shown this road to be an early feature, probably constructed in AD 48 (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 22–6), and that a side road (ONE94 R2), branching northwards, and running within c.25m of 36–39 Poultry, was added after c.AD 55 (*ibid*, 71).

Initial clearance of the site (OA2) and the construction of short-lived buildings over its southern part

The earliest activity on the site was represented by pits, Open Area 2, either the clearance of tree boles and undergrowth or small-scale quarrying for sand and gravel. Irrespective of function, the pits are more likely to have been dug after the construction of ONE94 Road 2 had opened up the area for development. The site was then levelled over with dumps which acted as make-ups for clay and timber buildings (B1 and B2) constructed in the southern part of the site.

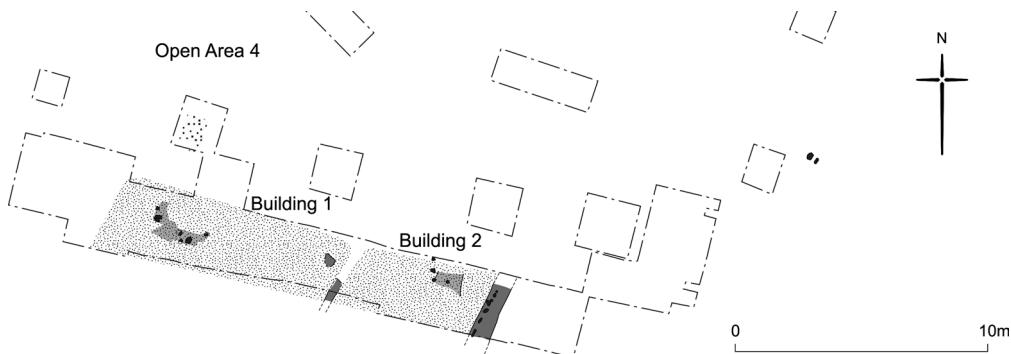


Fig 4. Plan of Buildings 1, 2 and Open Area 4, Period 2 (scale 1:300)



From west to east, the evidence for Buildings 1 and 2 comprised the fragmentary remains of a patched brickearth floor, at 8.97–9.09m OD, cut by six postholes, some of which showed signs of possibly being burnt *in situ*; a robbed beam slot with a butt end and a posthole, possibly indicating a threshold; a second area of brickearth floor at c.9.15m OD; and a second beam slot, wider than the first and with a line of postholes at its base. The western of the two slots directly overlay a gulley, [399], in Open Area 2, which could indicate that this line marked a boundary of some sort, but it is likely that the eastern, wider slot marked an external wall of the building(s). To the north of the buildings lay an external yard, Open Area 4, surfaced with compact gravel at 8.97–9.13m OD.

The pottery from Open Area 2 mostly consisted of single sherds from various external dumps. Despite the small size of the overall assemblage from Open Area 2 (41 sherds; 1157 gm), it exhibits pre-Boudican traits such as a number of early La Graufesenque samian forms, including a Ritterling form 12 bowl (SAMLG 4RT12), and a high number of early Roman sand fabrics (ERSA, ERSB, ERSI, ERMS). The high level of these fabrics

shows the dominance of jars within the early assemblage, one of which, an early Roman sandy/iron-rich ware, finely moulded bead-rimmed jar with grooves below rim (ERSI 2A15), is illustrated (<P1>, Fig 5). Other pottery included a small, unsourced, oxidised ware hook-flanged mortarium (OXID 7HOF, <P2>, Fig 5). The wear patterns on the interior of the vessel and the base suggest it was heavily used. There are no surviving trituration grits but it is not uncommon for very early mortaria to be ungritted.

A similar range of pre-Boudican pottery came from the buildings and Open Area 4. A Dragendorff form 15/17 dish (SAMLG 5DR15/17) and a Dragendorff form 29 bowl (SAMLG 4DR29) were present in the western area of floor (B1). A Highgate Wood ware B storage jar with burnished oblique lines between cordons (HWB 2V BUD, <P3>, Fig 5) was found in a posthole. (The majority of this vessel was found redeposited in the brickearth floor of later B3.) Most of the pottery found in Open Area 4 was again jars in early Roman sand fabrics; a Dragendorff form 27 cup (SAMLG 6DR27) was also present.

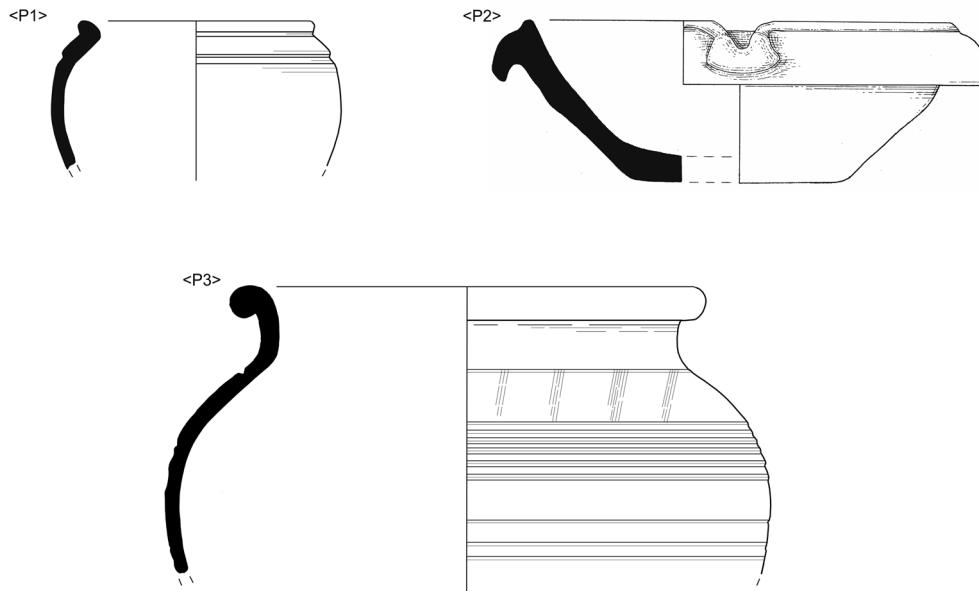


Fig 5. Pottery from Period 2 Phase 1: bead-rimmed jar <P1> and small hook-flanged mortarium <P2> from Open Area 2; and storage jar <P3> from Building 1 (scale 1:4)



A second phase of pre-Boudican activity: quarry pits followed by further levelling dumps and new buildings

Buildings 1 and 2 were short-lived and soon demolished to form Open Area 3 (not illus) in which a new phase of pits, probably quarries, was dug. Dumps were then laid down to relevel the site; the backfill of one of the pits contained four substantially complete, though broken, vessels and remains of a further five. Two amphorae are of particular interest. One, although tentatively identified as a Dressel form 28 (8DR28, <P4>, Fig 6), may, because of idiosyncrasies in both its form and fabric, have originated in southern France rather than southern Spain, although petrological analysis has failed to positively determine this (see Appendix 2).²

The second amphora, the sherds of the complete lower half of which are present, is a particularly large Gauloise amphora <P5> (Fig 7) in the Pelichet 47/Dressel 30 amphora fabric (GAUL1 8G). A hole has been punched through the centre of the base. Ceramic vessels were frequently adapted and re-used for other than their original purposes: holes were put in the bases of jars to convert them into colanders or plant pots and the use of amphorae as urinals is well attested. Callender (1965, 30–4) notes two principal types of *pissoir*. Sometimes the bottom of the amphora was used in an unmodified form to collect urine for fulling. When a drainage hole was required, either the top half of an amphora, set upside down, or the bottom half modified in the fashion of this example, could be used. This latter type, Callender notes, is found frequently at the milecastles on Hadrian's Wall and is the most common type of convenience found outside the forts. It is possible to imagine that during the initial layout and building of this new area of the town, this re-used amphora was a portable, immediate and cost-efficient way of providing sanitation.

Other vessels from this pit fill are typical of the pre-Boudican period and reaffirm the early character of this assemblage. These include a collared flagon in an unsourced white ware (OXID 1A, <P6>, Fig 6), two examples of bead-rimmed jars with low shoulder in an unsourced shell-tempered ware and early Roman sandy/iron-rich ware

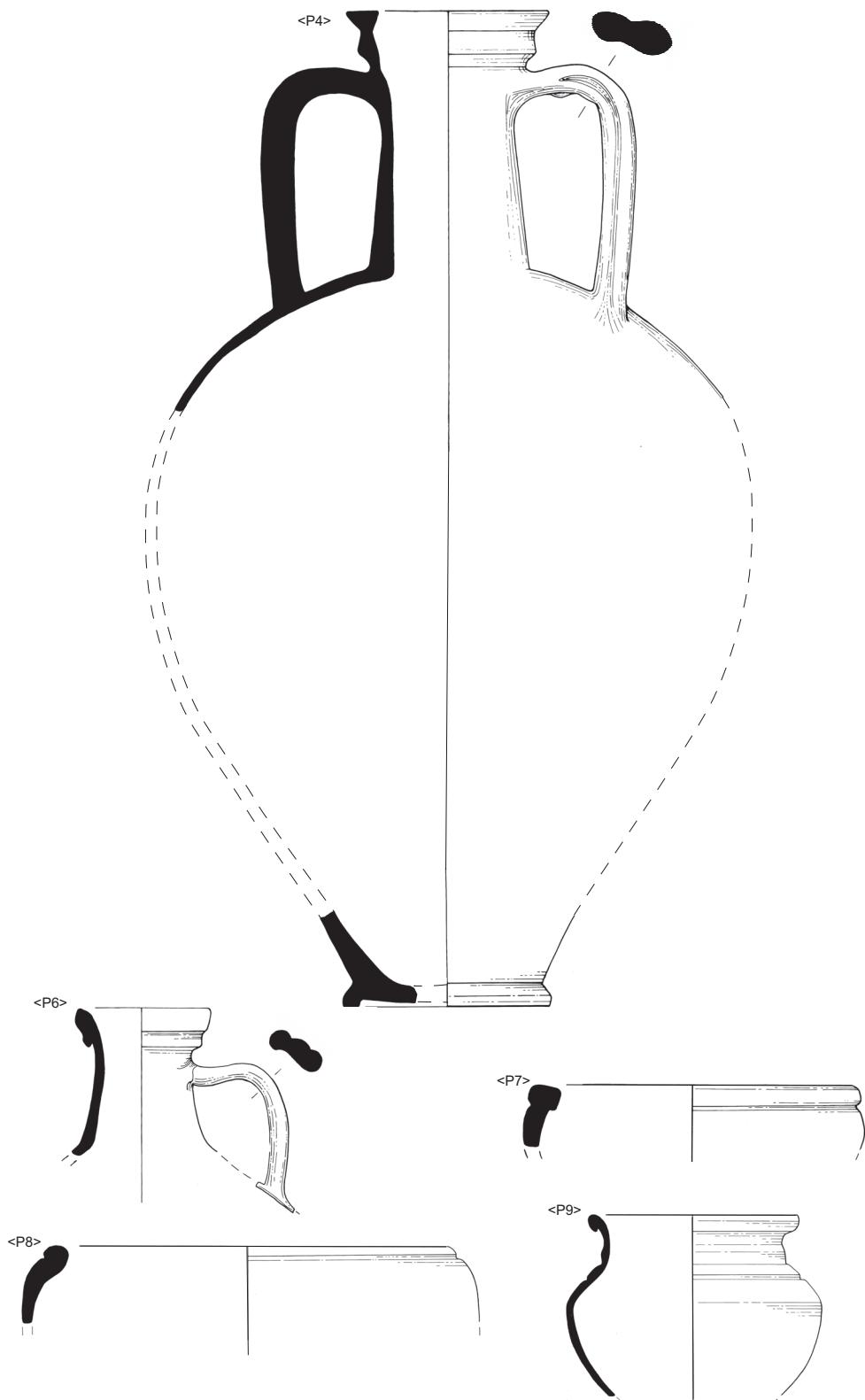
(SHEL and ERSI 2A9–11, <P7>, <P8>, Fig 6), and an early Roman micaceous ware (ERMS) necked round-bodied jar with groove/cordon on shoulder (ERMS 2Q, <P9>, Fig 6). There is also the lower half of a large flagon in north French/south-east English oxidised ware (NFSE) (not illus).

The remainder of the pottery from this phase of dumping was, with the exception of one sherd of Highgate Wood ware C (HWC), entirely consistent with a pre-Flavian date, and, though HWC is dated from c.AD 70, occasional sherds have been found in pre-Boudican levels, such as in Building 7 room B at 1 Poultry (ONE94) (Rayner 2011). Also of note are a necked jar in the early fabric Sugar Loaf Court ware (SLOW 2T, <P10>, Fig 7) from a quarry pit and an ERMS round-bodied jar with thickened or out-turned rim (ERMS 2B, <P11>, Fig 7) from a make-up layer.

New buildings (B3 and B4, Fig 8) were constructed (again in just the southern part of the site and as before these remains may be closely linked and part of the same property). In the south-west of the site, brickearth floors at 9.08–31m OD (B3) lay to the south of a brickearth wall. North of the wall, Open Area 4 was retained in use and resurfaced with compacted gravel, which raised the level of the yard to 9.19m OD. (Later resurfacing raised this again to 9.23m OD.) Further north still, the dumps were cut by a timber-lined well, [773].

Within Building 3, a beam slot, post and stakeholes defined some of its internal structure. A little further east, the brickearth floor was overlain by a gravel surface (at 9.25–35m OD) which marks some secondary modification of the building. A possible corridor aligned north–south was also added, with a brickearth wall on its western side and a wall supported on a beam to the east. A second timber-lined well, [322], sunk to at least 5.8m OD, separated these floors from further clay and timber building remains further east, where two perpendicular beam slots and associated stakeholes seem to define the north-east corner of a building (B4).

Apart from the Highgate Wood ware B storage jar <P3>, most of the vessels from Building 3 are represented by single sherds. A second sherd of HWC, from a necked jar (HWC 2T, <P12>, Fig 7), came from a brickearth floor, which also contained



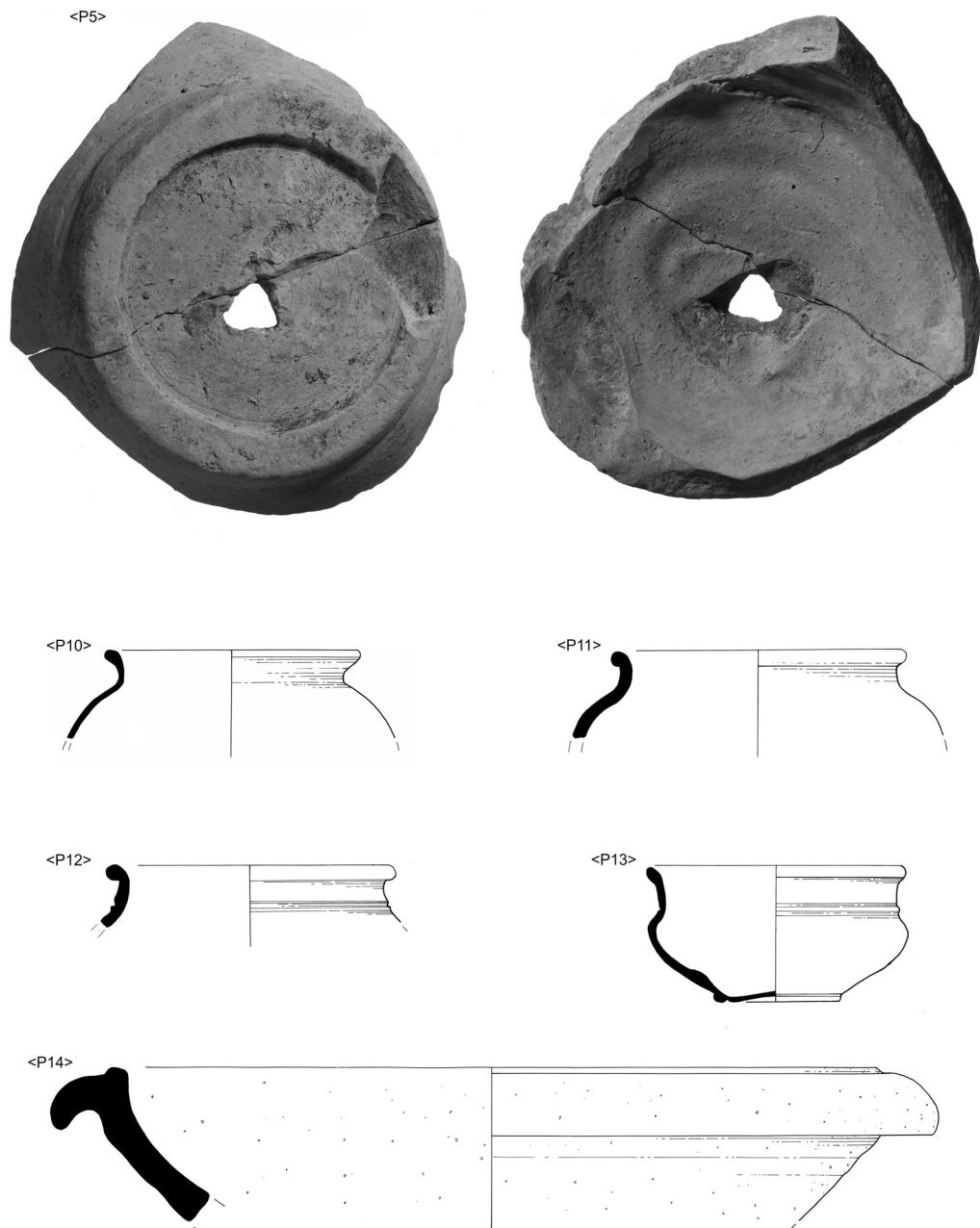


Fig 7. Further pottery from Period 2 Phase 2(ii): amphora reused as a possible urinal <P5> (scale 1:2) and jars <P10> and <P11> from Open Area 3; jars <P12>, <P13> and mortarium <P14> from Building 3 (scale 1:4)

Fig 6 (opposite). Pottery from Period 2 Phase 2(i): amphora <P4>, collared flagon <P6>, bead-rimmed jars <P7>, <P8>, and round-bodied jar <P9> from Open Area 3 (scale 1:4)

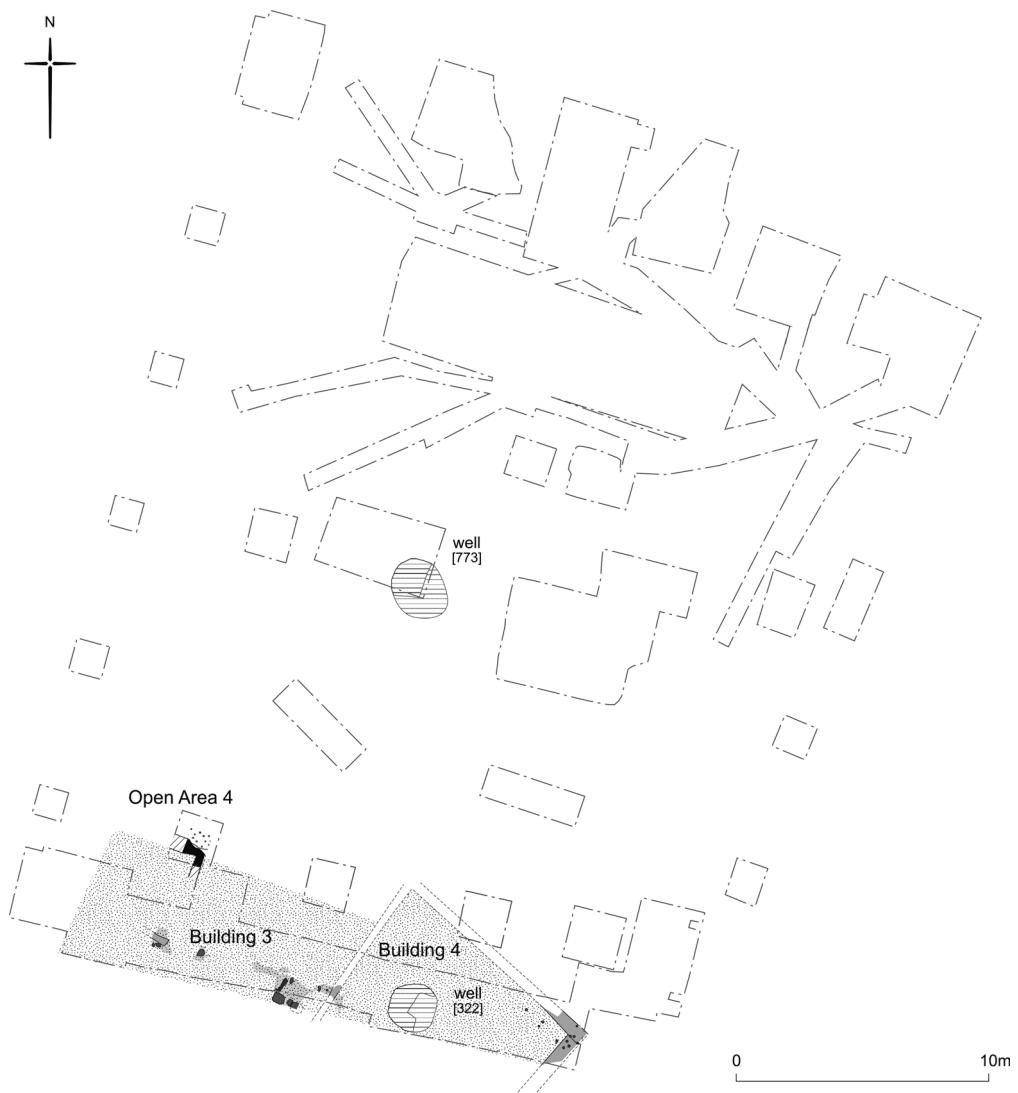


Fig 8. Plan of Building 3, Open Area 4 and Building 4 (scale 1:300)

an Alice Holt/Surrey ware necked jar with carinated shoulder and thickened lip (AHSU 2C1, <P13>, Fig 7) and a Rhône Valley hook-flanged mortarium (RVMO 7HOF, <P14>, Fig 7). The latter is similar to those found to the south of the site at 1 Poultry as part of the stock of a shop destroyed during the Boudican uprising (Rayner 2011). From the same floor are two Dragendorff form 29 bowls (4DR29); one of which is dated to c.AD 45–60 while the other, which is in the style of Murranus, is dated c.AD 50–70.

The pottery from backfill, [772], of well

[773], to the north of Open Area 4 is an assemblage of domestic pottery dominated by tempered wares and early Roman sandy fabrics, such as an early Roman sandy ware B necked round-bodied jar with groove/cordon on shoulder (ERSB 2Q, <P15>, Fig 9), a Highgate Wood ware B bead-rimmed jar with simple thickened rim (HWB 2A1–4, <P16>, Fig 9), an early Roman micaceous ware everted-rimmed beaker with stabbed decoration (ERMS 3C STAB, <P17>, Fig 9), an ERSB wide carinated bowl with combed decoration (ERSB 4D COMB, <P18>, Fig

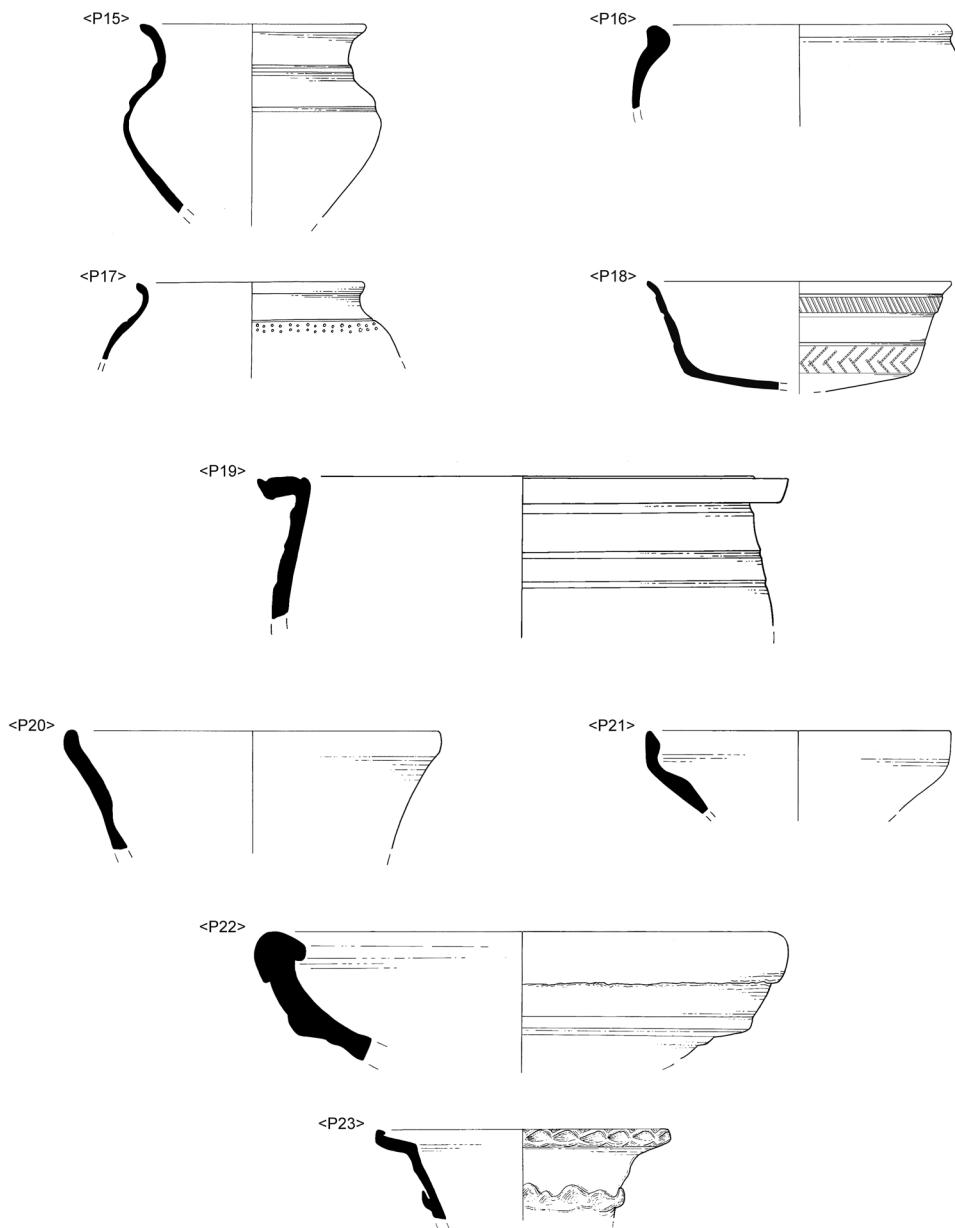


Fig 9. Pottery from Period 2 Phase 2(iii): round-bodied jar <P15>, bead-rimmed jar <P16>, everted-rimmed beaker <P17>, bowls <P18>, <P19>, <P20>, dish <P21>, stamped mortarium <P22> and tazza <P23> from the backfills of well [773] (scale 1:4).

9), an unsourced sand-tempered ware reed-rimmed bowl (SAND 4A, <P19>, Fig 9), an unusual open vessel that is possibly a bowl (ERMS 4, <P20>, Fig 9), and an early Roman sandy ware A dish with external profile and internal mouldings (ERSA 5A, <P21>, Fig

9). Of particular note is a stamped north French/south-east English oxidised ware early wall-sided mortarium (NFSE 7EWAL, <P22>, Fig 9): it has a smooth interior with no trituration grits. Only the edge of the stamp survives and, unfortunately, is unreadable.

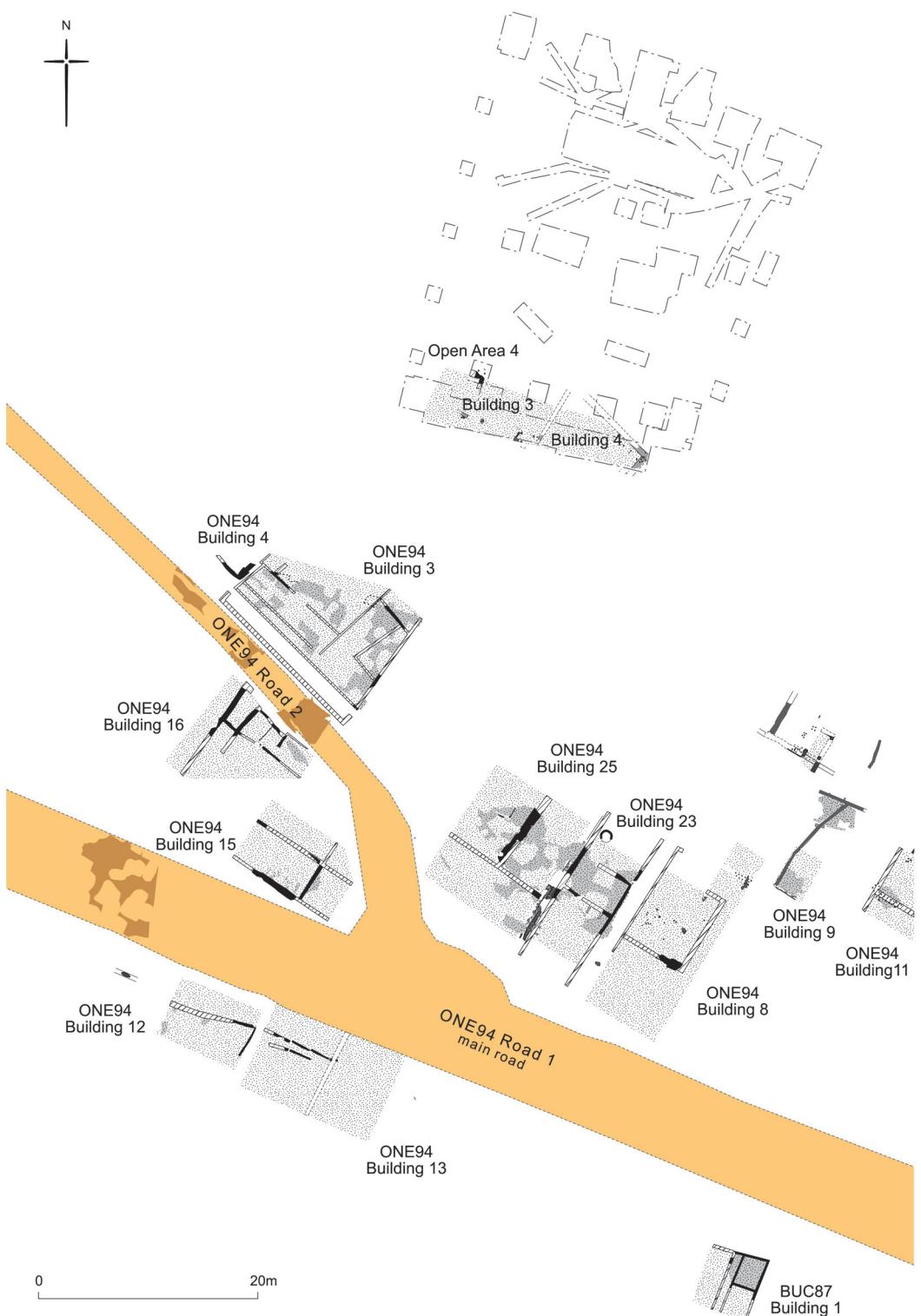


Fig 10. The second phase of pre-Boudican buildings at 36–39 Poultry (B3 and B4) in relation to contemporary activity at 1 Poultry (ONE94) and Bucklersbury (BUC87) (scale 1:600)



A Verulamium region white ware tazza with frilled decoration (VRW 9C FRLD, <P23>, Fig 9) is partially burnt and, as a ritual vessel, could possibly have been used in a household shrine. There are also two Dragendorff form 29 bowls (4DR29), both pre-Flavian and one dated c.AD 50–65, and a samian stamp <36> tentatively identified as Licinus dating to c.AD 40–65. Though not sealed by fire debris, this pottery is consistent with use before AD 60/1.

The backfill contained a large amount of bone, principally from cattle and pig feet. These are poor meat-bearing parts. Dumped together like this, they could be waste from the dismemberment of animal carcasses taking place nearby.

Discussion

The pre-Boudican activity recorded at 36–39 Poultry is consistent with that found at 1 Poultry (ONE94), c.30m to the south, where three phases of building pre-dating AD 60/61 were found to the north of the main east–west Roman road. The earliest of these phases saw a post-built building (ONE94 B1) constructed in an area otherwise given over to quarry pits (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 22–33). This building was demolished to make way, c.AD 55, for the side road (ONE94 R2) striking north from the main Roman road. There must be a strong presumption that the pre-Boudican activity recorded at 36–39 Poultry post-dates the construction of this road and dates to c.AD 55–60/1. Nothing in the pottery from the site runs counter to this interpretation.

A clay and timber building (ONE94 B2) initially built along the north side of the side road was subsequently replaced by a larger and more complex building (ONE94 B3) (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 37–47). It is possible that the building remains found at 36–39 Poultry represent the rear parts of the ONE94 properties. The levels are certainly comparable: the floors of Building 1 at 36–39 Poultry were at 8.97–9.09m OD whilst those of ONE94 Building 2 were at 9.05–9.10m OD (*ibid*). Similarly, the floors of Building 3 at 36–39 Poultry were at 9.08–9.31m OD and compare favourably with those of ONE94 Building 3 at 9.07–9.25m. It is quite likely that ONE94 Building 3 had only been standing for at most a year or two when it was destroyed in the Boudican revolt.

Period 3: Boudican fire debris dumping and resumed occupation (AD 60/1–90/100)

Building 3 was destroyed by fire: some of its extant remains showed signs of burning and were sealed by fire debris (OA5 – not illus) at 9.36–9.46m OD. Though the small assemblages of pottery from the debris itself are dated c.AD 55–100 on the presence of a miscellaneous mica-dusted ware ovoid beaker (MICA 3B), cumulatively the dating evidence from Period 2 strongly suggests that this destruction horizon represents the Boudican revolt.

The well in the southern part of the site was backfilled, probably at the same time or shortly after the demolition of Buildings 3 and 4, and levelled over with dumps of domestic waste (OA9 – not illus), though a number of roof tiles and bricks, a few pieces of daub, one of which has roller keying to aid the attachment of wall plaster, and three pieces of wall plaster (one fragment shows a border area in grey and white separated by a 9mm-thick red band, whilst the other two fragments are plain white), all probably came from these demolished buildings. A number of pits were dug through the dumps. The latest date from the pottery assemblage is c.AD 70–100 on the presence of a La Graufesenque samian ware Dragendorff form 37 bowl (SAMLG 4DR37). Overall the pottery is abraded and the average sherd size small, suggesting the material has been redeposited. An unsourced fine oxidised ware flagon (OXIDF 1, <P24>, Fig 11) with a red residue on the inside was present and further sherds of this vessel were found in Open Area 11 (Period 4). This domestic waste also included part of the base of a blue-green glass bottle in Isings form 50 <G1> (Fig 11), a fragment of cast green vessel <18> of mid-1st-century date and an irregular Claudian coin (AD 45–65), reinforcing the suggestion that the group may have contained Boudican destruction material.

Short-lived Building 5 in the south-east of the site

The fire debris was partially cleared and levelled and a building (B5), the earliest post-Boudican reoccupation of the site, erected in the south-east. The extant remains

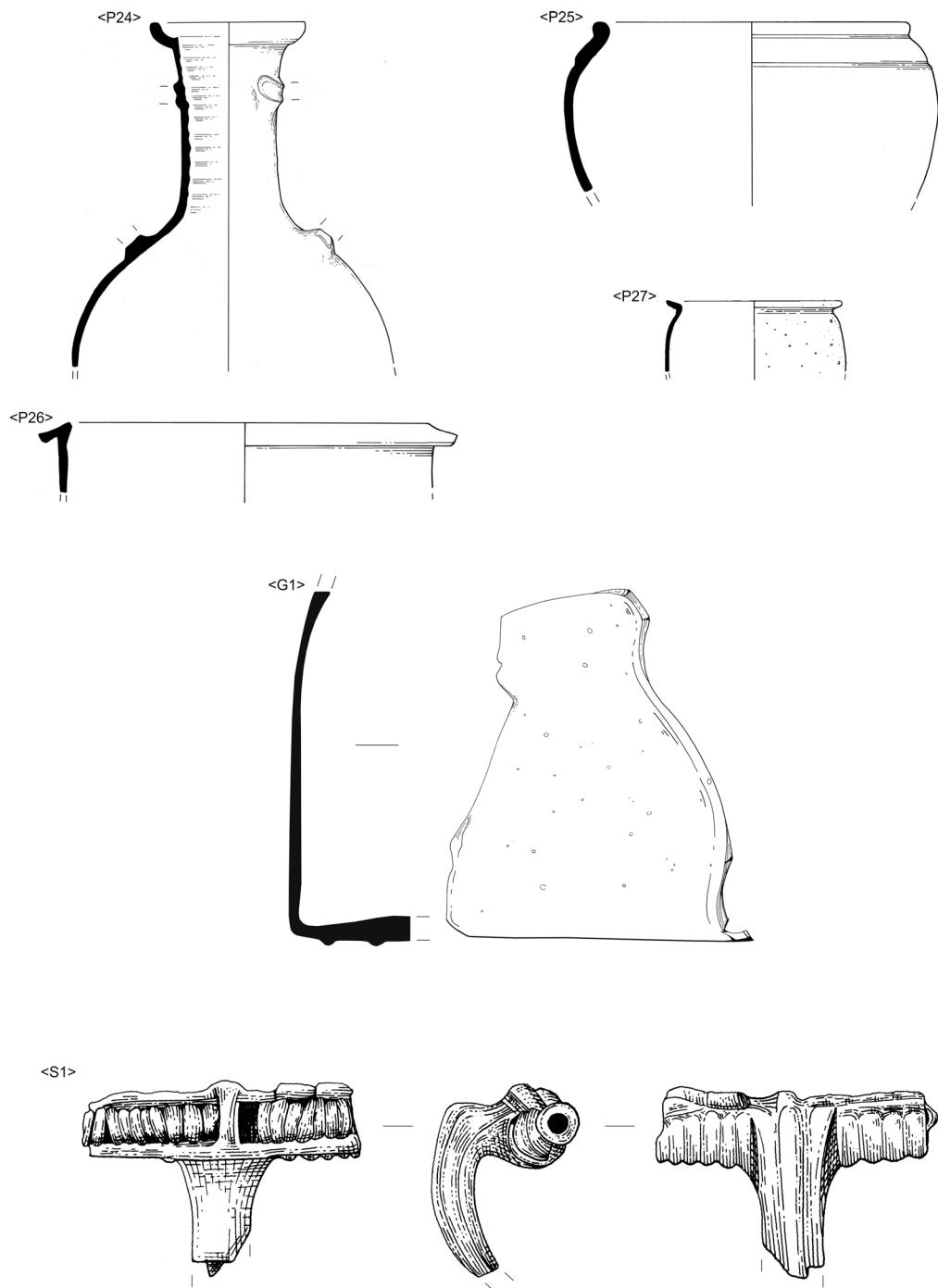


Fig 11. Finds from Period 3: glass bottle <G1> (scale 1:2) and flagon <P24> (scale 1:4) are from Open Area 9; bead-rimmed jar <P25>, bowl <P26>, ovoid beaker <P27> (scale 1:4) from Building 5 and copper-alloy brooch <S1> (scale 1:1) from Open Area 15.

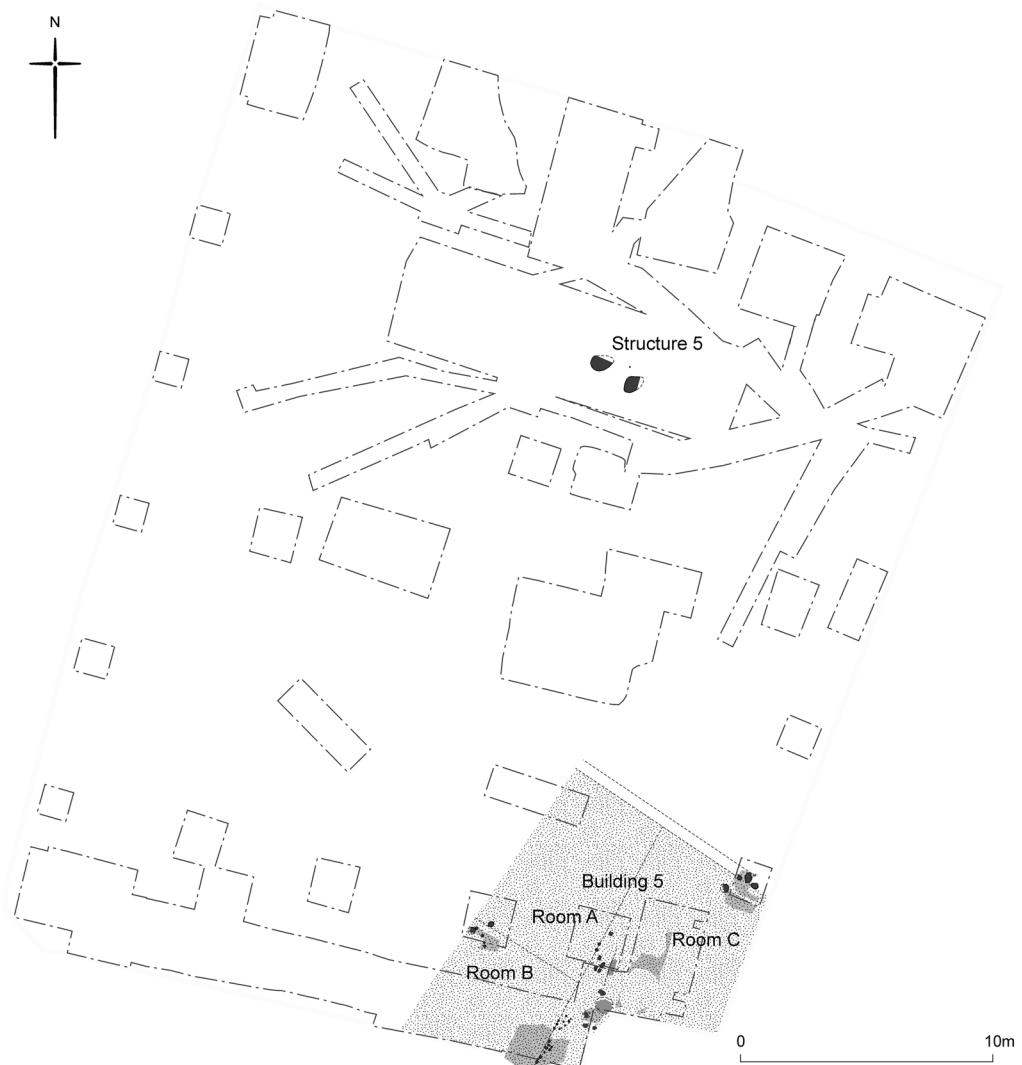


Fig 12. Plan of Building 5 and Structure 5 (scale 1:300)

comprised brickearth floors subdivided by stakehole alignments into three zones or rooms A–C (Fig 12). The floors of rooms A and B were at 9.30–9.44m OD but that of room C, at 9.23–9.36m OD, was a little lower. Resurfacings sealing some postholes demonstrate that the building underwent minor modification during its lifetime. It occupied the same plot as pre-Boudican Building 4 and it is again assumed that this was the rear of a building fronting onto ONE94 Road 2.

Overall the pottery assemblage from this building, on the presence of Highgate Wood ware B/C (HWB/C), is dated *c.*AD 65–85, though there is an appreciable, and presumably residual, admixture of characteristic pre-Boudican fabrics and forms.

Several vessels from the floor sequences of the building are illustrated; these are an early Roman sandy ware A bead-rimmed jar with girth groove (ERSA 2A5–6, <P25>, Fig 11), a Sugar Loaf Court ware reed-rimmed hemispherical bowl with downturned rim



(SLOW 4A1, <P26>, Fig 11), and a Lyon ware ovoid beaker with sand/quartz roughcast decoration (LYON 3B RCD1, <P27>, Fig 11). The latter imported vessels are normally associated with pre-Boudican assemblages. A make-up layer produced an iron mount <S2> (Fig 14) possibly for a bucket or vessel handle.

Further north, two large postholes and a stakehole aligned roughly west–east represent a small structure, possibly a contemporary outbuilding (S5, Fig 12). The pottery recovered is dated to c.ad 50–100 on the presence of early Roman micaceous sandy ware (ERMS) and Highgate Wood ware B (HWB). On its disuse, Structure 5 was removed and its site sealed over by gravels, possibly a yard (OA13) to the west of Road 1.

The reconfiguration of the site: the construction of Road 1 and buildings flanking it

Building 5 was demolished and the site cleared and levelled once again before the compact gravel layers of Road 1, cumulatively 0.1–0.25m thick, were laid down across its eastern part, on a north-east to south-west alignment (Fig 13). The road was at least 4.3m wide and sloped gently down to the south, following the natural contours of the site. In the south of the site, a kerb of small Kentish ragstone blocks was found along its eastern edge.

The majority of the large assemblage of pottery from the construction levels of Road 1 (202 sherds/7186g) could pre-date AD 70, though some intrusive material was present. Of particular interest is an unusual, unsourced imported colour-coated ware ovoid beaker with sand/quartz roughcast decoration (CCIMP 3B RCD1, <P28>, Fig 14).

In the small area to the east of the road that lay within the site boundary, four phases of compacted gravel surfaces (OA7, Fig 13) were recorded, perhaps part of a yard or roadside pavement. The earliest surface was broadly level with the surface of the road.

To the west of the road, new buildings were put up. In the south, beam slots parallel to the road delineated the front of a property (B6, Fig 13) within which was an area of brickearth floor and a hearth with two postholes to its north. At least one of the beam slots was burnt *in situ* and a charcoal-

rich deposit over the floor points to this building having been destroyed in a fire. A small group of bone — ox-sized vertebra, rib and long bone with a single fragment of adult ox metacarpal (fore foot) — was found in association with the hearth. A linear cut further west may represent the robbing of an internal partition. Overall the pottery is dated to c.ad 70–100 on the presence of Highgate Wood ware C (HWC) and London mica-dusted ware (LOMI).

In the north of the site, brickearth floors and parallel beam slots defined a second clay and timber building (B8, Fig 13). No external wall lines were identified, but the areas to its west and east both seem to have been external yards (OA14 and OA15 respectively), so Building 8 appears to have been at least 11m wide and c.4m deep and aligned parallel to, rather than running back from, the road. External yards between the road and the flanking buildings were not present at 1 Poultry, where buildings were built tight against the roadside.

Some of the slots were associated with post pits that had evidence of tile packing and post pipes. The posts may represent a modification; alternatively the slots and posts may have been contemporary but robbed at different times. In the southern room (B), a hearth was set into a shallow depression in the floor and a short length of a (burnt) internal mudbrick wall lay a little to the west. Both the rooms of Building 8 were resurfaced, room A twice. The trample over the earlier room A resurfacing contained charcoal and ash, whilst that over the later surface included occasional rusty crumbs; both these tramples may indicate an industrial function for this room. The pottery assemblage from Building 8 contexts is mostly composed of single sherds and is dated c.ad 50–70 on the presence of a La Graufesenque samian Dragendorff form 24/25 cup (SAMLG 6DR24/25).

Of particular interest is a cream coloured half-box flue tile found reused as packing within one of the post pits. It features knifescored keying on the base and part of a vent in the flange wall <T1> (Fig 14) and, on the basis of its fabric (type 2454), dates to the period c.ad 50–80. Tiles of this type were used in early masonry Roman buildings with hypocaust heating systems such as bath



Fig 13. Plan of Road 1, Buildings 6 and 8, principle features in Open Areas 7, 14 and 15 (scale 1:300)

buildings and are found on various city sites and in Southwark (Pringle 2007, 207, fig 3).

Open Area 14 (Fig 13) to the rear of Building 8 was an area of dumping and rubbish pits. A small assemblage of pottery is dated c.AD 60–100 on the basis of a Highgate Wood ware B bowl with curved walls and flat, hooked or folded rim (HWB 4F) from the fill of one of these pits. Open Area 15, next

to the road, was a gravel yard (Fig 13) which contained pottery dated to c.AD 50–100. A single fragment of a 1st-century Colchester brooch (<S1>, Fig 14), broken across the middle of the bow, was also recovered. Towards the end of the yard's life, a rubbish pit and a small ditch or gully were dug through it.

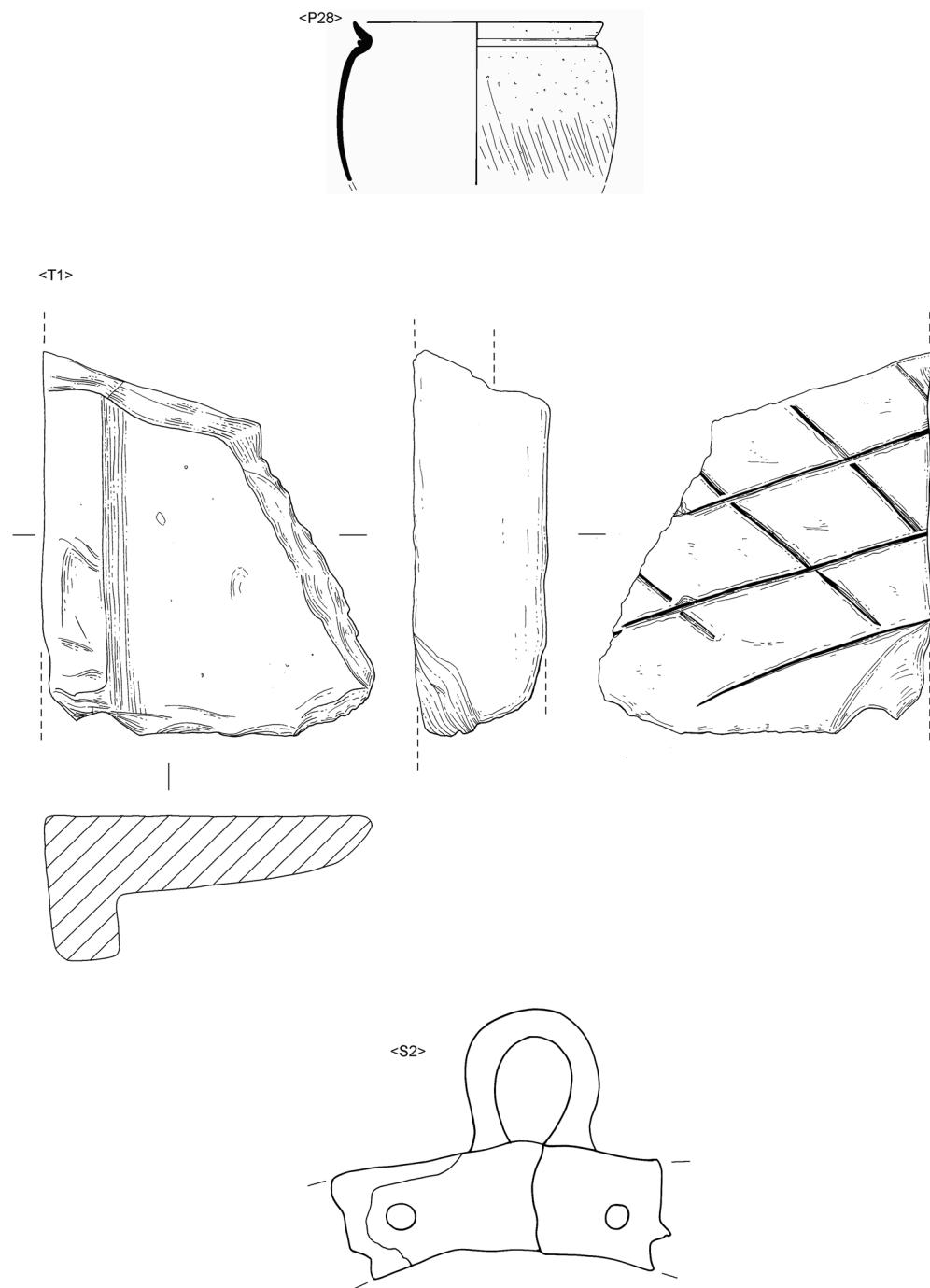


Fig 14. Finds from Period 3: ovoid beaker <P28> from make-up for Road 1 (scale 1:4); half-box flue tile <T1> from a post pit associated with Building 8 (scale 1:4); iron mount <S2> from make-ups for Building 5 (scale 1:1)



A fire debris horizon, Open Areas 10 and 16

Areas of fire debris (not illus) mark the end of Period 3. Open Areas 10 and 16 sealed the structural evidence for Buildings 6 and 8 respectively. Some of this debris was *ex situ* and probably represents raking over and levelling of the area after removal, for reuse, of any timbers from the buildings. These open areas are dated to c.AD 50–100 on the presence of Highgate Wood ware B (HWB) and La Graufesenque samian (SAMLG).

Discussion

Period 3 marks the resumption of occupation of the site after the Boudican revolt. The construction of Road 1 over what had previously been building plots is a pronounced topographic change and provides clear evidence for the onset of the redevelopment and expansion of Roman London west of the Walbrook (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 308). Road 1 extended southwards to 1 Poultry (as ONE94 R4), where it joined the junction between the main Roman road and ONE94 Road 2. To the north it would have met another east–west-aligned road (Hill & Rowsome 2011, Road 8; Fig 15), first laid out c.AD 70 and sections of which have been identified on at least three sites: 24–5 Ironmonger Lane (Shepherd 1987, 38), 33–4 Old Jewry (*ibid*, 53), and 8–10 Old Jewry (Watson 2004, 266). For Road 1, the stratigraphic evidence from 36–39 Poultry was superior to anything recovered from 1 Poultry, where the road surfaces had been removed by a Victorian double-basement (Hill & Rowsome 2011, fig 9) meaning its alignment could previously only be inferred from those of drains on either side of the remodelled junction. The evidence from 36–39 Poultry provides the basis for a revised and more secure reconstruction of the road alignment (Fig 15).

The balance of evidence from the far larger excavation at 1 Poultry was that, in general, the redevelopment of London west of the Walbrook was a Flavian enterprise undertaken after c.AD 70. Against this, it is also apparent from 1 Poultry that the property flanking ONE94 Road 2 to the south of 36–39 Poultry was amongst the first to be rebuilt, initially (and briefly) as ONE94

Building 17 and then as ONE94 Building 18/48, a substantial and complex building with some masonry footings (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 307), which may have incorporated a bakery or cookhouse (*ibid*, 316–17), and whose floor levels probably lay at 9.4–9.6m OD. At 36–39 Poultry, the intrinsic dating of the earliest post-Boudican building suggests that it is likely to post-date c.AD 65 but against the background of the 1 Poultry data it is most likely that the major changes at 36–39 Poultry, the construction of Road 1 and the buildings flanking it, occurred after c.AD 70. Road 1 opened up the area for development and Buildings 5, 6 and 8 could all be separate properties fronting onto it and quite unrelated to ONE94 Building 18/48, though broadly contemporary. The floors of Building 8 were at c.9.6m OD, while the surfaces of the open areas to its front and rear were at in excess of 9.5m OD. The floors of Building 6 in the south were at 9.4m OD. There is, however, little evidence for how these buildings were used, though the trample deposits in Building 8 and the yard in front of it hint that this building at least may have had an industrial function. The yard in front of Building 8 is unusual in the context of the general layout of buildings in this part of the Roman town and may perhaps also have been used as a roadside market place.

The areas of fire debris sealing Buildings 6 and 8 correspond to the evidence from 1 Poultry where Buildings 18/48 and 42/43 (on the north and south sides respectively of ONE94 Road 2) were also affected by fire during c.AD 90–100. However, there is no evidence that this destruction was anything other than part of separate but broadly contemporary local events which did not extend eastwards across 1 Poultry nor westwards along ONE94 Road 2 (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 127–9).

Period 4: development from the end of the 1st to the end of the 2nd century, c.AD 90/100–200

Post-fire hiatus: Open Areas 6, 11 and 17

Two rubbish pits (OA17, not illus) cut into the c.AD 90 fire debris (OA16) in the north of the site. The western pit contained 1st-

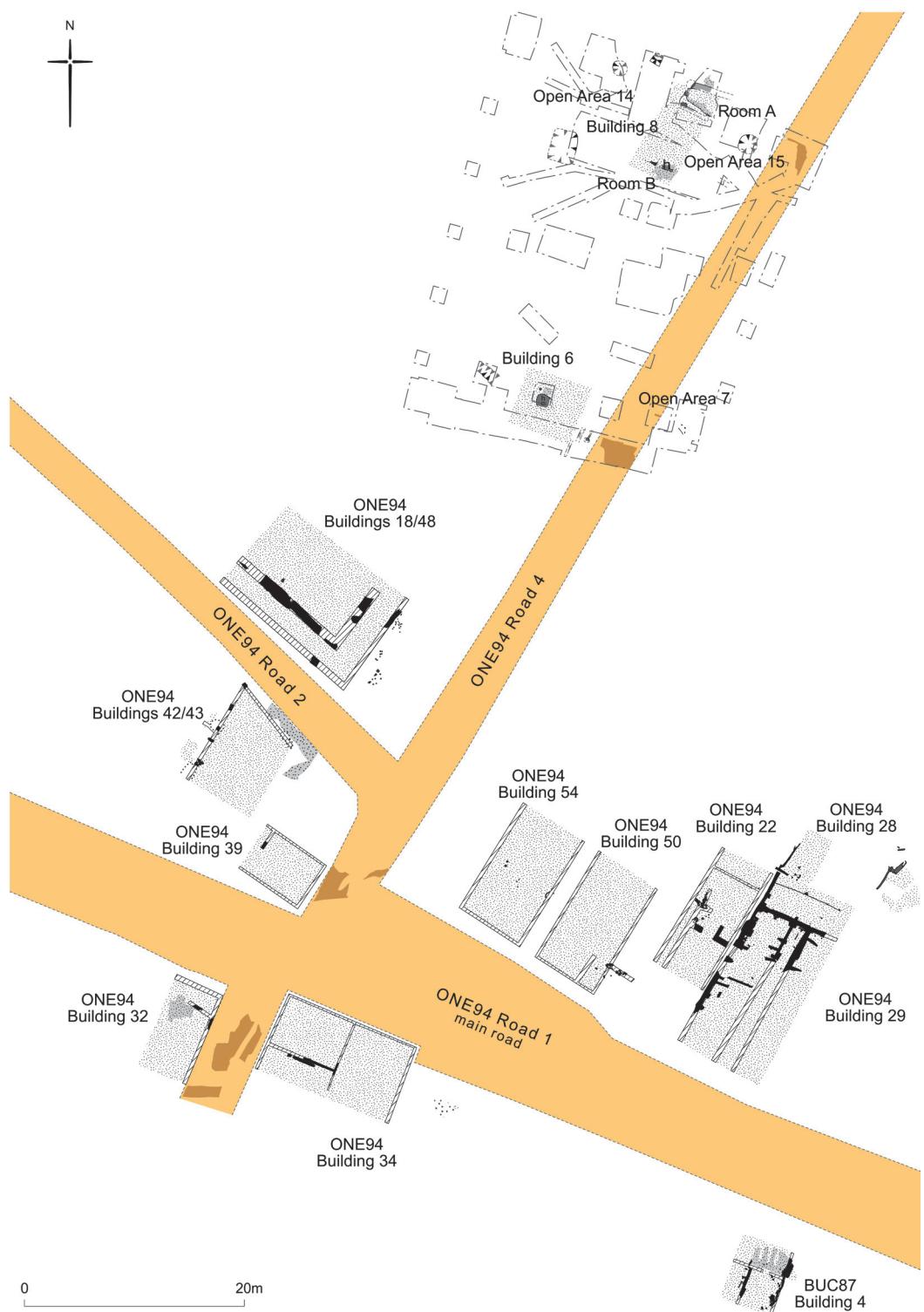


Fig 15. The site at 36–39 Poultry in the context of Flavian developments at 1 Poultry (ONE94) and Bucklersbury (BUC87) (scale 1:600)



century AD Roman pottery and medieval ceramic building material, presumed to be intrusive. Further south, dumping and pits on the former site of Building 6 (OA11, not illus) showed that the building was not immediately rebuilt. The pottery from these dumps and fills contained a notable increase in wares commoner in the first half of the 2nd century such as Highgate Wood ware C (HWC) and included examples of black-burnished wares which usually post-date c.AD 120. Good quality glass was also found in the dumps. Colourless glass became fashionable for drinking vessels and table wares from around AD 70 and both <G2> (Fig 17), a cast colourless dish or bowl, and <G3> (Fig 17), a beaker with wheel-cut decoration, are typical vessels of the late 1st to mid-2nd century. Other fragments of both colourless and more utilitarian naturally-coloured vessels also came from these dumps.

Similar activity on the other side of Road 1 was represented by Open Area 6 (not illus) where, in addition to pits, a possible well was sunk. The date of construction for this feature is unclear but its backfills contained a Verulamium region coarse white-slipped ware bead and flange mortarium (VCWS 7BEF) post-dating c.AD 140. The fills of a pit included a Central Gaulish Dragendorff form 35/36 plate (SAMCG 6DR35/36), which dates from c.AD 120.

Road resurfacing and resumed occupation

Road 1 was maintained during the 2nd century and was resurfaced several times. The second phase road surface (Fig 16) sealed a 60–100mm-thick layer of trample dated by Cologne colour-coated ware (KOLN) to c.AD 100–40. Three postholes running perpendicularly across the northern part of the primary phase of the road might have represented traces of a lightweight fence or barrier across it.

The trample over the third phase of Road 1 contained a copper-alloy stud or mount, <S3> (Fig 17), from either wooden furniture or a leather item such as a horse harness. Evidence for a fourth phase of road use was confined to the southern part of the site. An unusual part-worked piece of Kentish ragstone with a curved groove 4mm wide and up to 9mm deep, <T2> (Fig 17), was found

in these deposits. The groove may mark an attempt to cut out some kind of circular, or possibly semi-circular, stone object.

In the north of the site, Building 8 was replaced by Building 9 (Fig 16), which sealed fire debris (OA16) and pitting (OA17). A raised hearth was set on the brickearth floors within the building and, to the west of this feature, the line of a probable internal partition was defined by two post pits packed with building material. Once again, none of the external wall lines of the building survived, though a possible medieval robbing cut (in OA23) may have removed the masonry footings of the east wall. Open Areas 14 and 15 may have remained in use to its front and rear but the only extant deposits related rather to a gravel yard to its north (OA18). Here, five resurfacings suggest extended use and postholes and stakeholes in its surface could be evidence for lightweight structures such as fences or wind-breaks. Two successive slag deposits lying over one of these yard surfaces provide firmer evidence for industrial activity. The earlier slag layer was very solid and partially fused to the gravel yard beneath, which implies it had been hot when deposited. These slag layers produced the terminal from a bone bracelet <S4> (Fig 17) and a small fragment of a glass jar with a tubular rim <G4> (Fig 17). The northern part of Open Area 18 was subsequently sealed by demolition material (to form OA19, not illus) including the degraded remnants of a plastered mudbrick wall, presumably from a building which flanked the northern side of the yard, the remains of which otherwise lay beyond the site boundary.

In the south of the site, the eastern, external wall of a second building (B7, Fig 16) ran parallel with the roadside. The footings of the wall were built in Kentish ragstone (which reflects the arrangement of ONE94 B18/48), though all but the lowest course had been robbed out. The robber backfills contained demolition debris, including a fragment of plain tessellated pavement employing red, pink and light grey pottery tesserae, presumably derived from Building 7 though the *in-situ* internal floors were of rather lower status and comprised two successive brickearth surfaces, with a hearth surrounded by rake-out set in the earlier

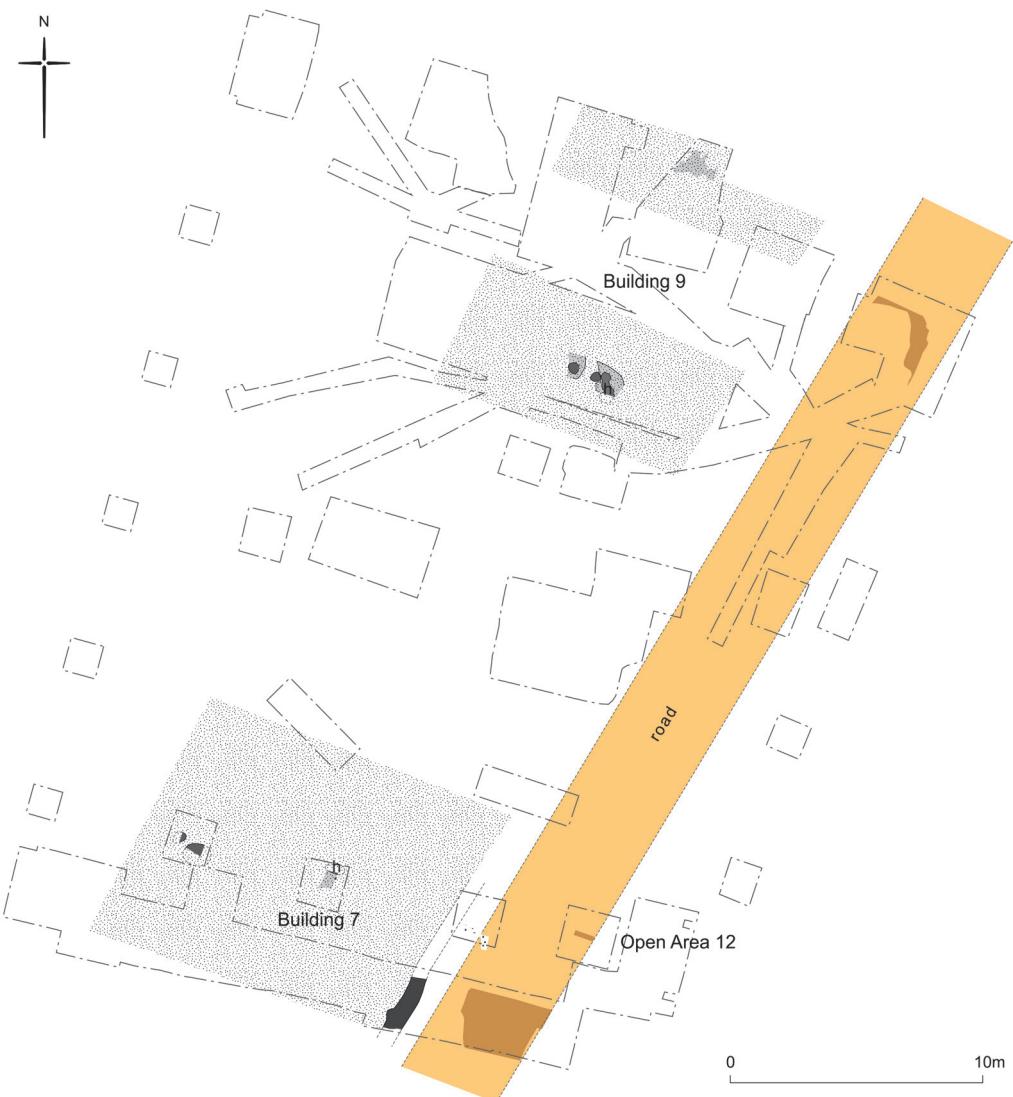


Fig 16. Plan of Road 1 (Phase 2), Buildings 7 and 9 and Open Area 12 (scale 1:300)

one. Two postholes to the west of the later floor may represent part of an internal partition. Highgate Wood ware C (HWC) in one posthole backfill provided a date of c.AD 70–160. A gravel yard (OA12, Fig 16) lay between Building 7 and Road 1. The small amount of pottery recovered is dated c.AD 90–120 on the presence of a La Graufesenque Dragendorff form 18/31 dish (SALMG 5DR18/31).

During its successive resurfacings the level

of Road 1 rose from c.9.7 to 9.97m OD at its northern end and from c.9.5m OD to 9.99m OD at its southern, which is to say that the road effectively became quite level across the site. In comparison the floors of Building 9 lay at 9.62–70m OD. Whilst the first phase of floors within Building 7 was at 9.45m OD, the later floors were at 9.63–9.74m OD sloping upwards to the north. The buildings therefore demonstrate the same levelling out of the site as the road.

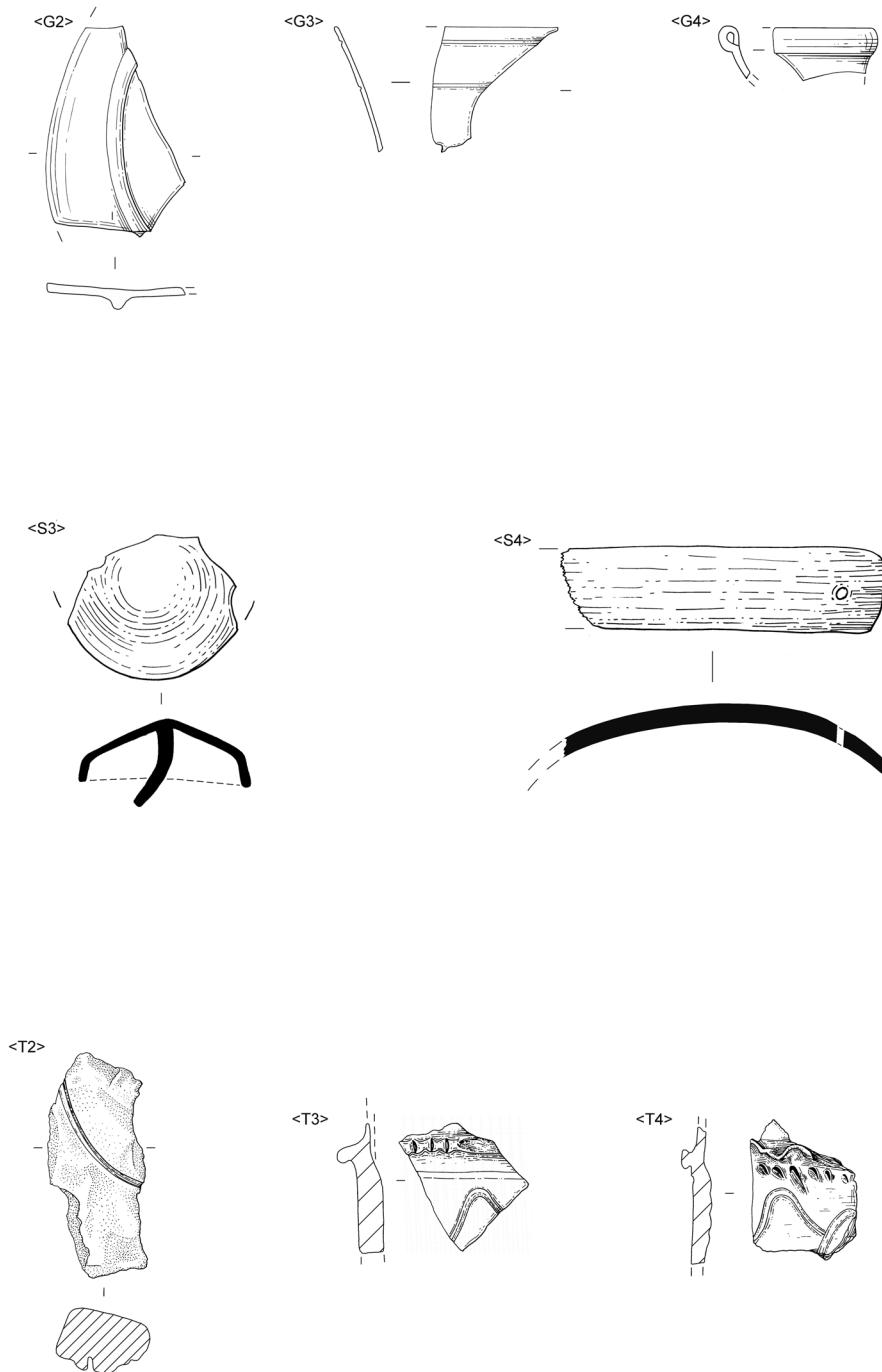


Fig 17. Finds from Period 4: copper-alloy stud <S3> from Road 1 (Phase 4) and a terminal of a bone bracelet <S4> from Open Area 18 (scale 1:1); glass vessels <G2> and <G3> from Open Area 11 and glass jar <G4> from Open Area 18 (scale 1:2); partly worked Kentish ragstone block <T2> from Road 1 (Phase 4) and fragments of lamp chimney <T3> found associated with Building 10 and <T4> from Open Area 23 (scale 1:4).



Further road resurfacing and occupation

The layout of the site was modified by the construction of Building 10. It was built close to the side of Road 1 over what had been an external yard (OA18). Part of what was very likely the mudbrick east wall of the building was found where it had collapsed westwards. The wall was finished with a plain white plaster. There were multiple resurfacings within Building 10, which by the time that the building fell out of use, had raised the

ground level to at least 10.13m OD (the level at which the site was truncated by modern basements). Building 10 may have been in use for a prolonged period: its latest two floors were dated to after c.AD 120 and c.AD 140 respectively: the earlier floor contained a black-burnished ware 2 bowl (BB2 4), whilst a make-up for the latest floor included a sherd of black-burnished-style ware with open acute lattice (BBS OAL).

In an earlier phase of the building (Fig 18), an alignment of three shallow post pits

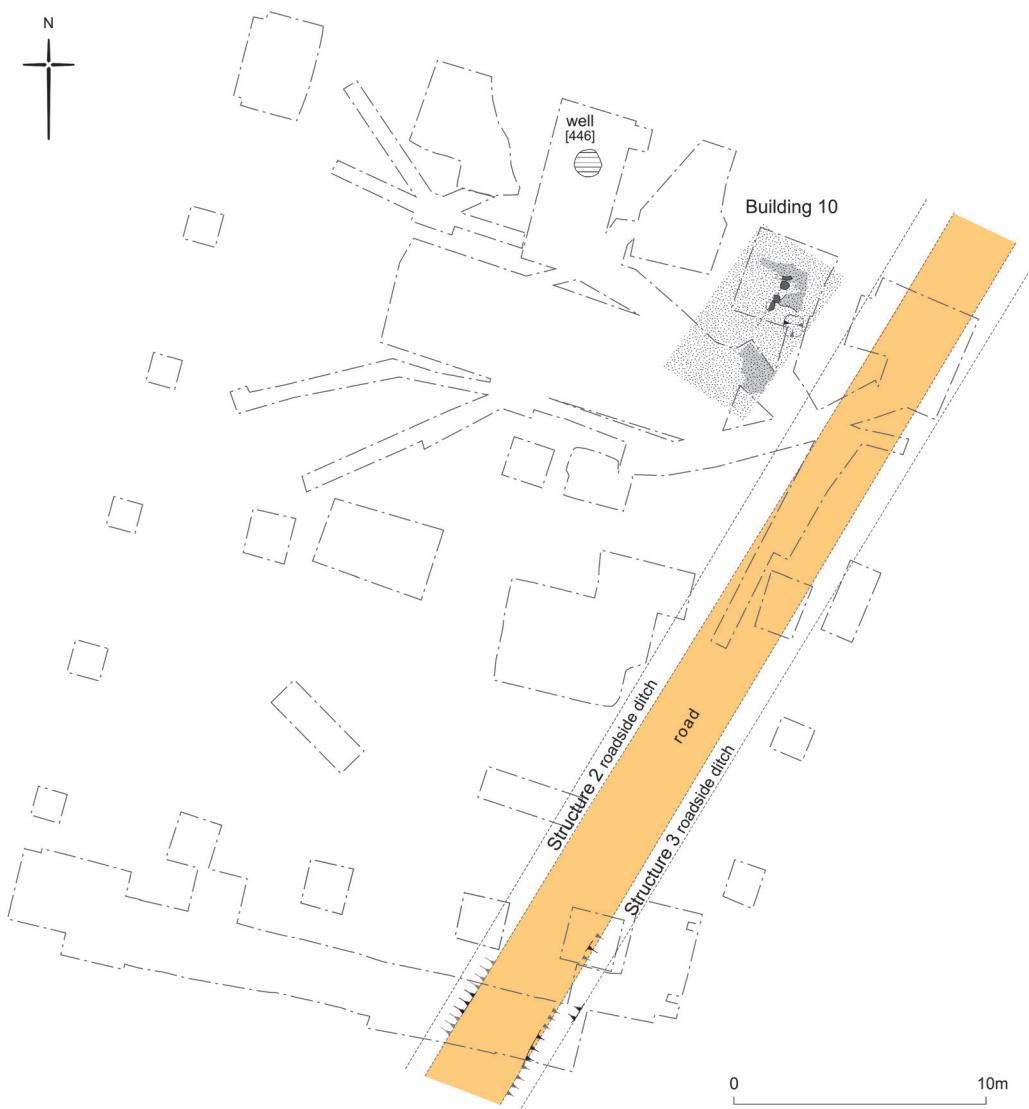


Fig 18. Plan of Structures 2 and 3, Road 1 Phase 3 and Building 10 (scale 1:300)



and a beam slot define the position of an internal partition (subsequently removed and sealed by further brick earth and tile floors). A hearth was associated with these uses. Another feature from the early use of Building 10 was a small, shallow pit at the front of the building whose backfills contained charcoal flecks and slag fragments: the very solid, burnt material at its base may in fact be remains of the lining of what was, in fact, a kiln or oven, and once again there is the strong suggestion of an industrial use.

A small piece of so-called 'lamp chimney' with pie-crust and wavy finger decoration (Fig 17 <T3>) came from a Building 10 floor. Lamp chimneys served as ventilators in the roofs of buildings, with vents in the side allowing smoke to escape whilst keeping rain out. Another part of what may be the same chimney was found in Open Area 23 (Period 6) (Fig 17 <T4>). Both pieces are in Verulamium region white ware and could have been made c.AD 50–160 by potters based in St Albans (Verulamium), Brockley Hill, Radlett, Bricket Wood or Moorgate in London (Seeley & Drummond-Murray 2005, 4). Lamp chimneys made by the same potters are known from other London sites such as 1 Paternoster Square (PNS01) (O'Shea 2003, 14).

In the southern part of the site, the later phases of Road 1 were flanked by ditches (Fig 18), Structure 2 to the west and Structure 3 to the east. It is unclear whether these features were drains in their own right or represent the robbing of timber structures. Structure 2 was 0.30m deep whilst the depth of Structure 3 varied between 0.40m and 0.70m. There was also a trace of a possible fence (S4, not illus) on the eastern side of the road. The ditches were not directly contemporary — Structure 2 cut Road 1 Phase 3, whilst Structure 3 may have post-dated Road 1 Phase 4.

Period 5: late Roman use of the site, c.AD 200–400

The backfilling of Structure 3 probably occurred when Road 1 fell out of use and almost 50% of the pottery from these deposits could be later 3rd-century in date. The latest dated forms and fabrics are those from the Oxfordshire kilns, including the red/brown colour-coated ware (OXRC) which dates

from c.AD 270. Parts, but not all, of the side road network were falling out of use by the start of 4th century AD. For example the stretch of ONE94 Road 2 excavated at 36–37 King Street was built over by this date (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 238) but at 1 Poultry itself, closer to its junction with the main road, Road 2 was apparently still in use. Similarly, though Road 1 at 36–39 Poultry was out of use, the part of the road further south (ONE94 R4) may have still functioned, though as little more than an entrance alley to properties set back from the road.

An intermediate phase is represented by Open Areas 20 and 21 (not illus). In the north of the site (OA20), Building 10 went out of use and its site was given over to dumping and pitting. An unlined, circular feature, probably a well, [446], in the north of the site went out of use during the late 3rd century, as attested by an extremely corroded coin of AD 260–285 from its fill, but the feature could actually have been in use in any of the yard areas (OA14, OA18) associated with Buildings 8, 9 and 10 and is therefore shown on Fig 18. This may explain the presence of a 1st-century ribbed bowl <G5> (Fig 19) within its fills, though alternatively it may be the case that the backfills are peculiarly mixed and disturbed. The primary backfill of the well was 0.50m deep and organic in nature and was found to contain low concentrations of charred barley grain, of the hulled six-row type (*Hordeum vulgare*), and fig (*Ficus carica*) seeds. A range of wild seeds preserved by waterlogging included significant concentrations of probable yellow-rattle (cf. *Rhinanthus* sp.) and in lower concentrations buttercup (cf. *Ranunculus* sp.), cinquefoils (*Potentilla* sp.), wild carrot (*Daucus carota*), and henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*). Grasses were represented by grass family seeds (Poaceae) and heath

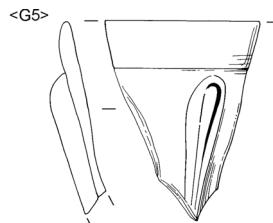


Fig 19. Glass ribbed bowl <G5> from the backfill of a well in Open Area 20 (scale 1:2)

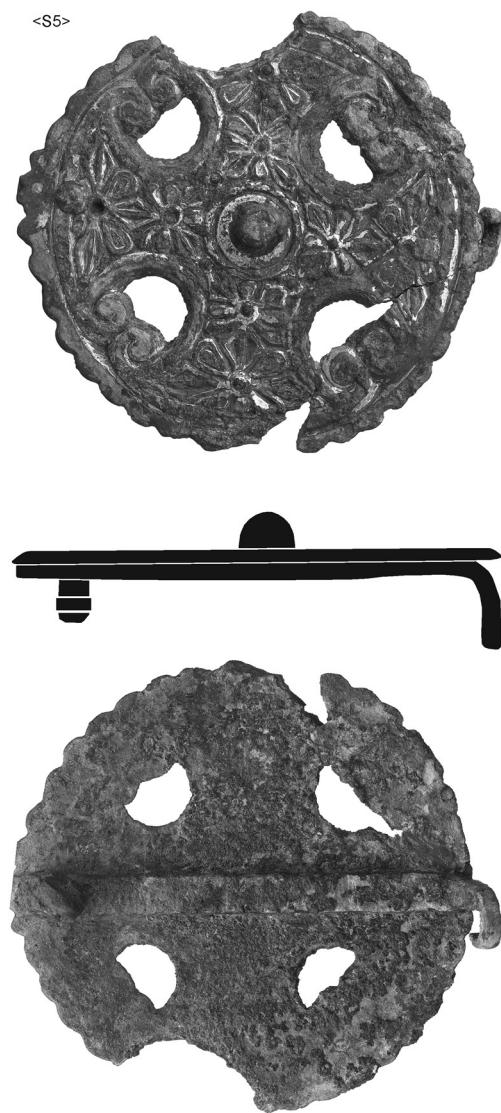


Fig 20. Gilded copper-alloy brooch <S5>, Period 5 (scale 1:1)

grass (cf. *Danthonia decumbens*). Species that prefer wet or marshy conditions included sedge (*Carex* sp.) and spike-rush (cf. *Eleocharis palustris/uniglumis*). Animal bone was derived from cattle, sheep/goat and pig and included evidence for a calf under one year in age and the mandible of a pig that was around six months old came from a later fill.

Equivalent activity in the south of the site (OA21) included thin layers of fire debris overlying deposits of midden material, and

a number of pits or robber cuts backfilled with structural debris, including further fire debris, possibly from the demolition of Building 7. One pit contained a number of pieces of *opus signinum* flooring and Kentish ragstone fragments and a few fragments of plain purple (a relatively rare colour in London) and light green wall plaster were present in a dump.

A pit in the east of the site (fill [89]) also contained part of an Oxfordshire red colour-coated ware flagon with rouletted decoration (OXRC 1). Flagons from this industry are rare finds in London, as most of the products coming to the provincial capital from the Oxfordshire kilns are overwhelmingly open forms such as bowls, dishes and mortaria. Overall the ceramic assemblage from this pit is dated from c.AD 300 on the presence of Roman late 'calcite-tempered' ware (CALC). A later rubbish pit (fill [68]) contained a group of pottery dated to the later part of the 4th century where most of the forms and fabrics could be contemporary, such as CALC, Portchester ware D (PORD), Alice Holt/Farnham ware (AHFA) and a range of wares from the Oxfordshire pottery kilns. The group contains vessels associated with the preparation, cooking and consumption of food.

A domestic waste pit (fills [86]/[94]) is dated from c.AD 270 on the presence of an Oxfordshire red/brown colour-coated ware copy of a Dragendorff form 38 bowl (OXRC 4DR38). Its fills contained evidence of fruit such as apple/crab apple (*Malus domestica/sylvestris*) and pear/apple (*Pyrus/Malus* sp.), blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus fruticosa/idaeus*), plum/cherry (*Prunus* sp.) and grape (*Vitis vinifera*). Other food species were also present, including cereals — free threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum/turgidum/durum*), oats (*Avena* sp.) and rye (*Secale cereale*) — and animal and fish bone — ox; sheep, pig and cod and carp (family). One metatarsal showed, through fusion of the proximal articulation to the tarsals, that one of the oxen had probably also been a draught animal. However, the pit also produced one of the most spectacular single finds from the site — a magnificent gilded copper-alloy disc brooch <S5> (Fig 20). The openwork brooch, which has a scalloped edge, has four pelta-shaped cut-outs and a solid central



boss. The entire surface was covered with carved eight-petalled rosettes, the individual petals shaped to fill all the available space. At the centre of each rosette, and at regular intervals around the edge and central area, are small circular glass insets in at least two colours, one of them yellow. The surface of the brooch is now very corroded, but traces of the original gilding can still be seen. There has been some debate as to the date and origin of this piece which is unparalleled in London and perhaps in Britain, although several of the individual elements can be seen on other, less elaborate, Roman brooches. Openwork peltae are seen on enamelled disc brooches from the 2nd century, as is the central boss; the deep engraving and gilding are later features. On balance, the combination of pelta, polychrome insets and gilding suggests that it should be placed in the 3rd century and it is almost certainly of Continental origin.

The construction of a late Roman masonry building (B11/15)

As demonstrated above, Road 1 was out of

use by the end of the 3rd century or the start of the 4th century AD. A substantial, east-west-aligned, regularly coursed ragstone foundation (B11) was subsequently driven across its former route. It was recorded in a number of locations running along the southern limit of the site (Fig 21), though a small area of foundation recorded in the northern part of the site (as B15) is very similar and quite possibly part of the same complex. One peculiarity was, however, that the level of the base of the foundation varied considerably (and even over short distances) from 8.76 to 9.56m OD. Included within the ragstone fabric of the foundations was some chalk and flint, Hassock sandstone and a coarse, light grey, partly glauconitic sandstone. Also present were roofing tile and brick, including an almost complete *pila* brick of *bessalis* type (Brodrribb 1987, 3), and what may be rough Kentish ragstone paving material.

No evidence for the superstructure of Building 11/15 was found, though the massive character of the foundations implies a multi-storey masonry building with a tile or stone roof. If these two buildings were



Fig 21. A section through the foundations of Building 11 as recorded in the south-east corner of site

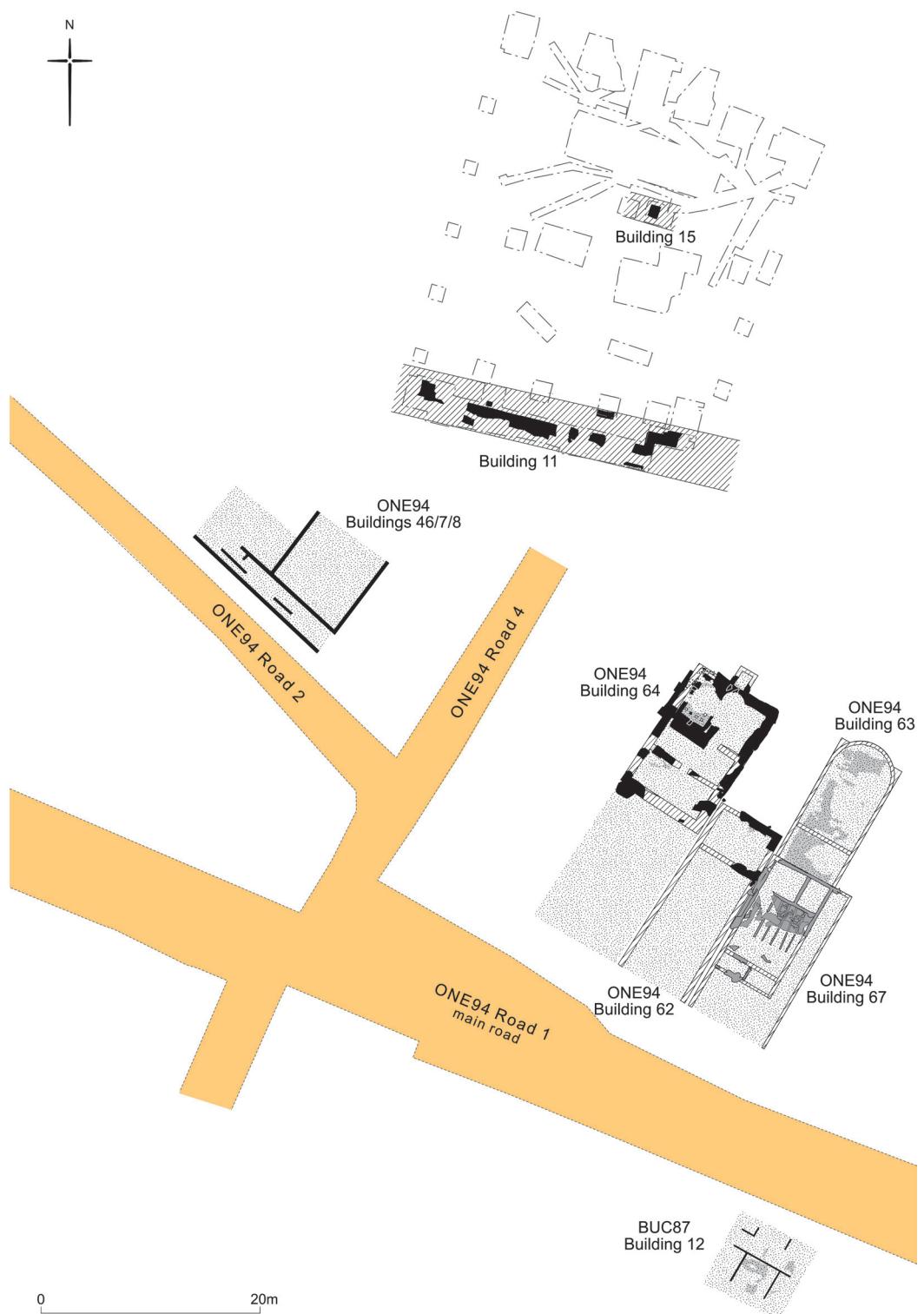


Fig 22. A possible reconstruction of Building 11/15 in the context of the 4th-century layout of the area (scale 1:600)



part of the same complex, then it could be tentatively reconstructed as a large rectangular courtyard building, perhaps with a colonnaded entrance along its southern side. The foundation of B11 is likely to be rectangular in plan, though most of its extent can only be conjectured. It is set c.40m north of the main east–west road and the southernmost part of ONE94 R4 may have remained in use to give access to it. The reconstruction shown in (Fig 22) conjectures Building 11/15 as broadly symmetrical to ONE94 Road 4 approaching it from the south.

Because no contemporary ground levels survive, the majority of the pottery from Building 11/15 is residual. Only a few sherds, including Oxfordshire red/brown colour-coated ware (OXRC), two flanged bowls in black burnished ware 1(BB1 4M) and Alice Holt/Farnham ware (AHFA 4M), date to the late 3rd century or later. Of note is an unsourced fine reduced ware dish with two potters' stamps <86> (FINE 5). The stamp is in the form of a stylised leaf and has been impressed twice in the centre of the inside of the dish. The die used, and the arrangement of the stamps, is similar to one found on copies of Gallo-Belgic dishes from a pre-Flavian group at Arcadia Buildings, Southwark (Rayner 2009, 48–50, fig 26, nos P28–29).

Late Roman discussion

At 36–39 Poultry, the construction of a masonry building or buildings (B11/15) of uncertain extent and plan took place either at the end of the 3rd century or at the beginning of the 4th century AD. This represented a major change in the pattern of local land usage. It involved the closure of a road (Fig 22), and the replacement of a number of smaller buildings with larger units. A similar process can be identified at a number of nearby sites.

At King Street, ONE94 Road 2 fell out of use c.AD 270–300 and was overlain by 'dark earth' and buildings that shared the alignment of ONE94 Road 1 further south (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 238–9). At 1 Poultry itself, ONE94 Buildings 63/64 and 66, originally built as high-status masonry extensions at the rear of separate roadside

timber buildings, in the 4th century became incorporated within one larger property (*ibid*, 180; 194–9; 212–24; 375, fig 325; 445–7). On the same site but south of Road 1, Building 72 absorbed at least two earlier (clay and timber) properties and remained in use until the late 4th century (*ibid*, 221–4; 447).

The evidence supports the contention that at some point in the later 3rd or 4th centuries AD both the number and density of buildings within the walled city of London declined. This trend was first identified by Perring (1991, fig 50) who argued that by c.AD 300, large areas of the Roman city were occupied by a relatively small number of substantial masonry houses, in complete contrast to the densely packed clay and timber buildings of the previous two centuries. Many of these masonry buildings were considerably larger than their predecessors and possessed sophisticated architectural features including hypocausts, mosaics and elaborately painted walls (Hill & Rowsome 2011, 194–211).

The implication is that the late Roman buildings at 1 Poultry, though fewer in number than their predecessors were of much higher status. Excavations at Lion Plaza, Old Board Street have revealed elements of the masonry foundations of a substantial 3rd-century building apparently enclosed by a wall (McKenzie 2011, 13–20). Another large late Roman masonry building has also been discovered nearby at Plantation Place (Dunwoodie *et al* in prep.).

MEDIEVAL POULTRY (PERIOD 6: LATE 10th–13th CENTURY)

Introduction and documentary background

The Roman city was probably abandoned by c.AD 400 and there is little evidence the Poultry area was reoccupied before the later 10th century, when it is believed that the present road network including Poultry and Cheapside was established (Burch & Treveil 2011, 17–25). Excavations at 1 Poultry have established that by c.AD 970–1050, the southern side of the street was lined with timber buildings, to the rear of which were external areas where cess and rubbish pits were dug (Burch & Treveil 2011, fig

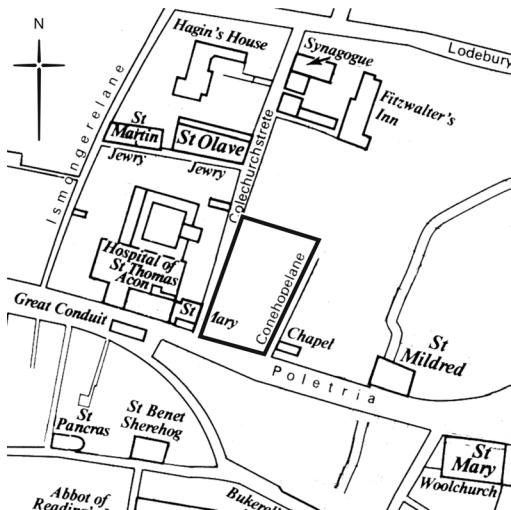


Fig 23. The site (black outline) superimposed on a map reconstructing the area as it may have been c.1270 (Lobel 1989)

25). Whilst it is likely the same pattern of development existed on the opposite side of the street at 36–39 Poultry, later truncation meant that none of the buildings survived here.

The site straddles the boundary between the parishes of St Mildred Poultry and St Mary Colechurch (Fig 23). Both churches were present by 1200 (Keene & Harding 1987, 405), though they may, in fact, pre-date 1150 (Keene 1987, 4). After the Great Fire, St Mildred's was rebuilt by Wren and survived until demolition in 1872 (Jeffrey 1996, 319), but St Mary's was not rebuilt (Cobb 1989, 138). By the 16th century, the street frontage along the western side (Colechurch Street, later known as Old Jewry), the southern side (Poultry) and the eastern side (Conyhope Lane, now Grocers' Hall Court) of the site was lined with buildings, several storeys high (Fig 24). Stow (1603i, 263) writing about the area during the later 16th century, noted that Conyhope Lane was so-called because of a sign of 'three conies' (rabbits) hung over a Poulterer's stall at its end.

Shops were well established on both sides of Poultry by 1212–13 and the retail trade remained predominant on the main road frontages throughout the medieval period (Keene 1987, 11). 13th-century Poultry was particularly noted for metal goods. Many

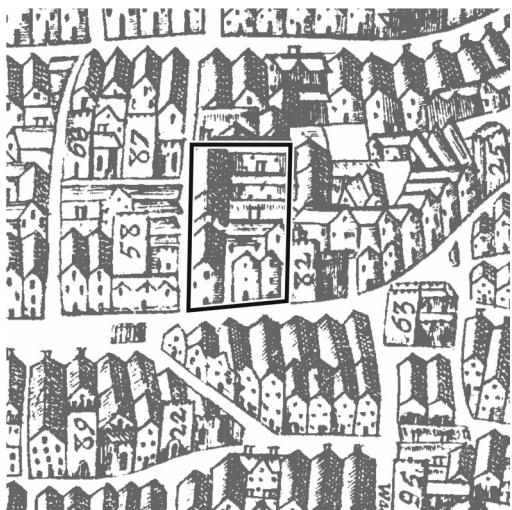


Fig 24. The site (black outline) superimposed on Faithorne and Newcourt's map of 1658

of these would have been made nearby — Ironmonger Lane lies c.70m west of the site, and the name Colechurch Street probably refers to those who supplied charcoal (cole) to the ironworkers — and some of the shops themselves would have included workshops. However, after the opening of the Stocks market house in 1274, Poulterers came to dominate the area and bequeath their name to the street (Keene 1987, 14).

The archaeological sequence

Open areas and pitting: the late 10th–late 12th century

The archaeological evidence for the occupation of the site resumes in the late 10th century. Although no structural remains were encountered, this is likely to be a direct result of the fact that the medieval ground level had been truncated and any evidence for surface built or shallowly founded timber buildings would not have survived. In the northern part of the site, an area of domestic waste disposal pits (OA23, not illus) contained a small amount of pottery, predominantly early medieval sandy ware (EMS) jars which provide a *terminus post quem* of c.AD 970 and a date range of the late 10th to mid-12th century. Among the better



preserved examples of EMS is a heavily sooted jar from [436] with internal limescale residues. Animal bone was from the main domesticates — cattle, sheep/goat, pig and chicken. On the other hand, contemporary activity in the south of the site (OA22, not illus) included the robbing of the walls and foundations of Building 11. These robber cuts were in general backfilled with domestic rubbish and in turn cut by a series of rubbish and cesspits dating from the late 12th to mid-14th century. One of these, [106], contained slag, frequent charcoal flecks and sparse ash and burnt daub. Animal bone from this same pit included a virtually complete adult chicken skeleton, though the feet were absent. The fact that pitting was generally, though not exclusively, concentrated to the north of the site may indicate that some timber buildings fronted onto Poultry during this period.

In the west of the site, a pit, [110], contained a particularly well preserved group of pottery, mostly late 12th-century (1170–1200) in date and including a coarse London-type ware (LCOAR) early rounded jug or pitcher used for serving beverages. Two, smashed, shelly-sandy ware (SSW) jars with flat-topped rims were also found. The larger jar (rim diameter 300mm) has sooting limited to its base and lower profile, whereas the smaller (rim diameter of 240mm) is more heavily burnt, sooted to the shoulder and around the rim lip and decorated with horizontally applied thumbed decoration. The external sooting contrasts with the apparent absence of obvious internal limescale or 'kettle fur' residues, the main signature of liquids being boiled and heated. The pottery from this pit is completed by the profile of an early medieval coarse whiteware (EMCW) hemispherical crucible with pouring lip, <96>, of a fabric and vessel type that is described in greater detail by Bayley *et al* (1991, 392–6): X-ray florescence (XRF) work undertaken on the inner surfaces of a sample of these crucibles has shown that this fabric was principally used for preparing copper alloys (*ibid*, 397–8).

This pit and a robber cut to the north, [586], were sampled for environmental evidence. These samples contained significant concentrations of wood charcoal along with a number of charred cereal grains,

including oat (*Avena* sp) grains, brome grass (*Avena/Bromus* sp.) and free threshing wheat (*Triticum aestivum/turgidum/durum*). The remainder of the material found was preserved by waterlogging and included possible economic species such as blackberry/raspberry (*Rubus fruticosus/ideaus*), plum or cherry (*Prunus* sp) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*). Wild species were largely represented by typically wetland-habitat species such as crowfoots (*Ranunculus* subgen. *Batrachium*), spike-rush (*Eleocharis palustris/uniglumis*), water-plantain (*Alisma* sp), sedge (*Carex* sp), rush (*Juncus* sp), and mint (*Mentha* sp). Other species noted included orache (*Atriplex* sp), cinquefoil (*Potentilla* sp), knotgrass (*Polygonum aviculare*), black bindweed (*Fallopia convolvulus*), vetch/wild pea (*Vicia/Lathyrus* sp), and goosefoot (*Chenopodium* sp). A sample from pit [660] contained many of the same species but augmented by poppy (*Papaver* sp), corncockle (*Agrostemma githago*) and chickweed/stitchwort (*Stellaria* sp). Significant concentrations of wood charcoal were also present in this feature. Animal bone from these features consisted of groups derived from poultry (mainly chicken but also goose and mallard/domestic duck), ox, sheep/goat and pig. Fragments of both the upper and lower hind leg of a piglet were present, as was a single humerus of pheasant, an introduced species for which there is no real evidence of a wild population until after the Norman conquest (the earliest pictorial representation of a pheasant does not occur until the Sherbourne Missal at the end of the 14th century; Robertson 1988, 3). Marine/estuarine fish — eel, herring family and plaice/flounder — were also recorded.

Buildings 12, 13 and 14: the late 12th–13th century

Substantial masonry foundations appear on the site from the late 12th or early 13th century onwards. Evidence for three buildings, one fronting onto each of Poultry, Old Jewry and Grocers' Hall Court, was recorded (Fig 25) but the truncation of contemporary ground levels meant that no evidence to define the character of the occupation within the buildings remained extant.

Foundations (and later robbing cuts) on the Poultry frontage, defined four parallel,

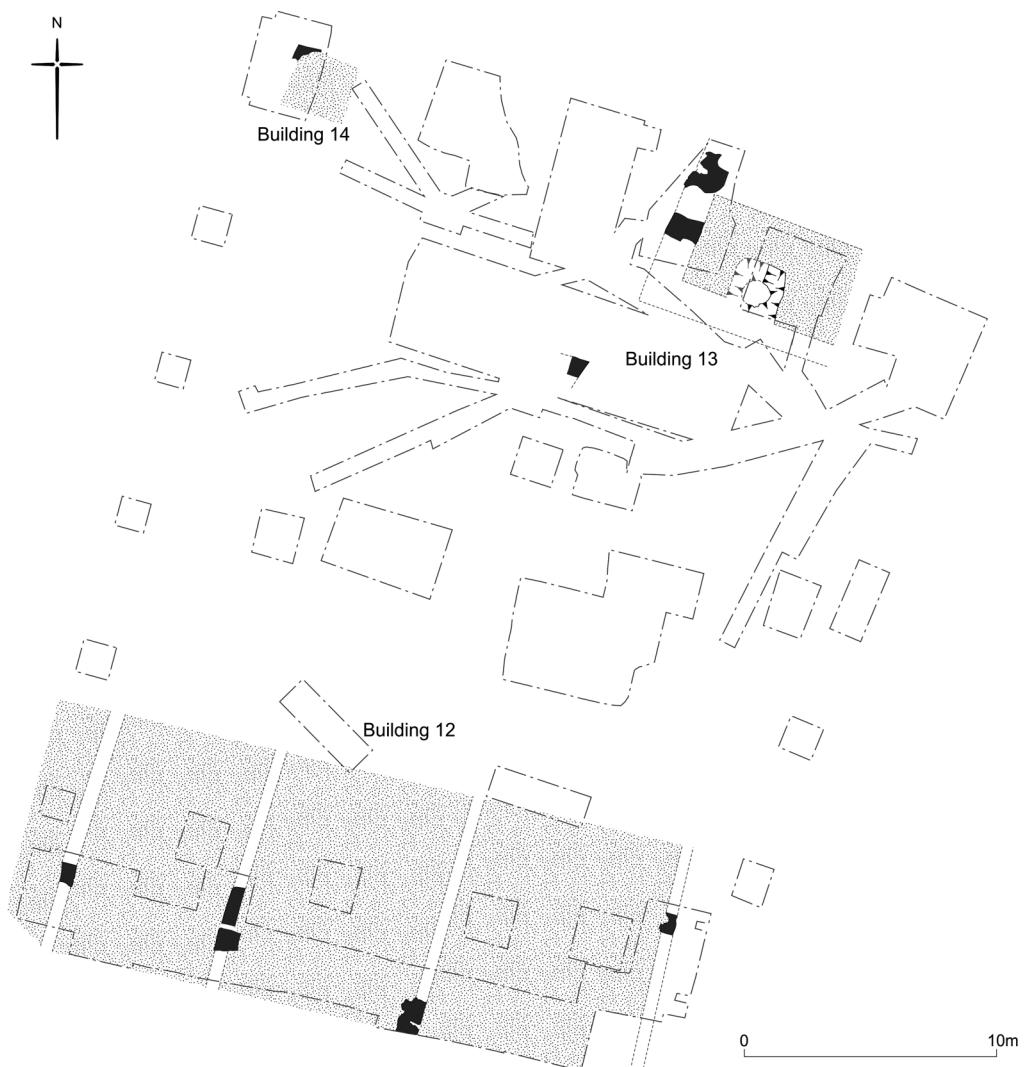


Fig 25. Plan of Buildings 12, 13 and 14 (scale 1:300)

north-south wall alignments (B12). All four were constructed from uncoursed ragstone rubble (though the eastern foundation included some chalk) but the western two were unmortared. The backfill of one of the robbing cuts (treated as features within OA24) included the upper portion of a pitcher, <P29> ([85]; Fig 26), with stamped decoration and a continuously thumbed rim. This heavily gritted fabric and its decoration share a close affinity to the 11th- and 12th-

century products of Chichester (McCarthy & Brooks 1988, 184–6) and represent a rare find in London.

Behind Building 12, in the north-east of the site, further foundations, principally of chalk, were part of Building 13 that would probably have fronted onto Grocers' Hall Court. A circular cesspit, lined with dressed greensand blocks (Fig 27), lay within the footprint of the building. Peg tiles in fabrics 2586 and 2274 found within the footings

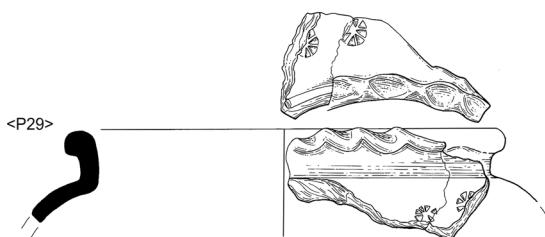


Fig 26. Chichester ware pitcher <P29> with circular roller-stamp decoration from Open Area 24 (scale 1:4)



Fig 27. Greensand lined cesspit in Building 13.

are probably of late 12th- or 13th-century date. In the north-west of the site, too little survived of a Kentish ragstone foundation to permit secure interpretation, though it was probably part of a building (B14) fronting onto Old Jewry.

SPECIALIST REPORTS

The Roman pottery, particularly the pre-Boudican assemblage, is of some note and has been extensively illustrated within this article. The appendix on the Roman pottery is intended to provide more detailed coverage of this material and to complement the illustrations. Similarly, the finds appendix provides a catalogue of illustrated items. All these appendices are abridged versions of fuller reports available within the LAARC.



Appendix 1: building material

Ian M Betts

The correlation of the illustrated building material items with their archive references is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. The illustrated building material

Illustration identification no.	Context/ Accession	Period	Landuse	Type	Figure
<T1>	[468]	3	B8	Half box-flue tile, from post pit packing associated with Building 8	Fig 14
<T2>	[159]/<99>	4	R1	Cut stone, partly worked Kentish rag-stone block from the surface of Road 1	Fig 17
<T3>	[533] <102>	4	B10	Lamp chimney	Fig 17
<T4>	[523] <103>	6	OA23	Lamp chimney	Fig 17

Appendix 2: Roman pottery

Fiona Seeley

A representative selection of vessels from the pre-Boudican levels (Period 2) is illustrated together with a few vessels which, though from Period 3 contexts, are notable early forms and are contemporary with the Period 2 pottery (see Table 2).

An overview of the Period 2 pottery assemblage

A full quantification of the pottery from Period 2, by sherd count, weight and Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs), indicates that there is a high percentage of imported wares. This is a common feature of pre-Boudican assemblages in London (Davies *et al* 1994, 167) as can be seen by the comparison (Table 3) of the site with 1 Poultry, 168 Fenchurch Street and those sites quantified for Roman Ceramic Phase 1A for the dated corpus of early Roman pottery (Davies *et al* 1994, 8). The relatively high percentage by weight of the 36–39 Poultry imports is attributable to the high average sherd weight of the amphorae, particularly the two substantially complete examples (the Dressel form 28 and the Gauloise amphora) found in pit [375] in Open Area 3. The third most common type is Baetican early Dressel 20/Halfern 70 fabric. South Gaulish samian ware from La Graufesenque is the most common fine ware. Other imported fine wares include Lyon ware beakers with sand/quartz roughcast decoration (LYON 3 RCD1) and a single sherd from a Central Gaulish glazed ware cup with hairpin decoration (CGGW 6 HPD).

The contemporary assemblage at One Poultry

is commercial in nature as much of the material derives from a shop (Building 23) (Rayner 2011) and a commercial function has also been suggested for the early pottery from 168 Fenchurch Street due to the very high levels of imports and its proximity to a probable marketplace (Richardson 2004, 39). However, although high, the level of imports at 36–39 Poultry is lower by weight and estimated vessel equivalents than both of these sites and does not necessarily support a commercial aspect to the assemblage.

In Table 4, the very high figure for north French/south-east English oxidised ware (NFSE) is due to a single large flagon in pit [375]. The second most common sourced oxidised ware is Verulamium region white ware (VRW), a fabric which is absent from the very earliest assemblages in London. As it is rare before c.AD 50, its presence at 36–39 Poultry would support a date nearer to AD 60 for the assemblage. The early oxidised fabric, Sugar Loaf Court ware (SLOW) is also present but notably in smaller quantities than VRW.

The fabrics that comprise the Early Roman sandy wares (ERMS, ERSB, ERSI, ERSS) are the most common group of reduced wares (13.8% by sherd count; 10.3% by weight; 32.6% by EVEs). These fabrics are usually present in small quantities in pre-Boudican groups (Davies *et al* 1994, 168), becoming more common in the decade immediately post-fire (*ibid*, 186) and it may be that their high figure at 36–39 Poultry is an indication of the lateness of this pre-Boudican assemblage. The grog-tempered fabric, Highgate Wood ware B (HWB) is also present in significant quantities.



Table 2. Catalogue of illustrated Roman pottery

Illustration	Period	Land use	Context	Description	Fig
<P1>	2	OA2	[303]	ERSI 2A15	Fig 5
<P2>	2	OA2	[657]	OXID 7HOF SPT	Fig 5
<P3>	2	B1/B3	[306]/[292]	HWB 2V BUD	Fig 5
<P4>	2	OA3	[374]	AMPH 8DR28	Fig 6
<P5>	2	OA3	[374]	GAULI 8G (PHOTO)	Fig 7
<P6>	2	OA3	[374]	OXID 1A	Fig 6
<P7>	2	OA3	[374]	SHEL 2A9-11	Fig 6
<P8>	2	OA3	[374]	ERSI 2A9-11	Fig 6
<P9>	2	OA3	[374]	ERMS 2Q	Fig 6
<P10>	2	OA3	[317]	SLOW 2T	Fig 7
<P11>	2	OA3	[269]	ERMS 2B	Fig 7
<P12>	2	B3	[292]	HWC 2T	Fig 7
<P13>	2	B3	[292]	AHSU 2C1	Fig 7
<P14>	2	B3	[292]	RVMO 7HOF	Fig 7
<P15>	2	OA3	[772]	ERSB 2Q	Fig 9
<P16>	2	OA3	[772]	HWB 2A1-4	Fig 9
<P17>	2	OA3	[772]	ERMS 3C STAB	Fig 9
<P18>	2	OA3	[772]	ERSB 4D COMB	Fig 9
<P19>	2	OA3	[772]	SAND 4A	Fig 9
<P20>	2	OA3	[772]	ERMS 4	Fig 9
<P21>	2	OA3	[772]	ERSA 5A	Fig 9
<P22>	2	OA3	[772]	NFSE 7EWAL <92>	Fig 9
<P23>	2	OA3	[772]	VRW 9C FRLD	Fig 9
<P24>	3	OA9/OA11	[206/[139]]	OXIDF 1	Fig 11
<P25>	3	B5	[266]	ERSA 2A5-6	Fig 11
<P26>	3	B5	[332]	SLOW 4A1	Fig 11
<P27>	3	B5	[74]	LYON 3B RCD1	Fig 11
<P28>	3	R1	[264]	CCIMP 3B RCD1	Fig 14

Table 3. Percentages of imported pottery from pre-Boudican assemblages across the City

	36 Poultry (POU05) Period 2	1 Poultry (ONE94) Period 2	168 Fenchurch Street (FEH95) Period 2	Early Roman Corpus RCP1A
Imported wares as percentages of total assemblage	632 sherds 10.89 EVEs 19335 gms	1209 sherds 29.9 EVEs 60725 gm	2625 sherds 25.5 EVEs 59587 gm	55.39 EVEs 102337 gm
Sherd count %	49.1%	53.9%	44.7%	-
EVEs %	23.8%	57.2%	44.3%	25%
Weight %	62.9%	79.1%	70.8%	-



Table 4. Percentages of fabrics from 36–39 Poultry Period 2

FABRIC	Sherd count	Sherd %	Weight	Weight %	EVEs	EVEs %
AHSU	10	1.6	138	0.7	0.1	0.9
AMPH	1	0.2	13	0.1	0	0.0
AMPH1	69	10.9	2870	14.8	1	9.2
BAET	1	0.2	37	0.2	0	0.0
BAETE	20	3.2	1276	6.6	0	0.0
BHWS	2	0.3	31	0.2	0	0.0
CADIZ	1	0.2	144	0.7	0	0.0
CAMP1	1	0.2	29	0.1	0	0.0
CGGW	0	0.0	6	0.0	0	0.0
ECCW	5	0.8	49	0.3	0	0.0
ERMS	50	7.9	768	4.0	1.8	16.5
EROX	1	0.2	18	0.1	0	0.0
ERSA	16	2.5	551	2.8	0.52	4.8
ERSA/B	1	0.2	21	0.1	0.05	0.5
ERSB	10	1.6	311	1.6	0.71	6.5
ERSI	8	1.3	316	1.6	0.57	5.2
ERSS	2	0.3	30	0.2	0	0.0
FINE	3	0.5	44	0.2	0	0.0
FLIN	1	0.2	14	0.1	0	0.0
GAUL	1	0.2	39	0.2	0	0.0
GAUL1	30	4.7	4205	21.7	0	0.0
GAUL2	2	0.3	63	0.3	0	0.0
GROG	10	1.6	216	1.1	0.43	3.9
HOO	3	0.5	47	0.2	0	0.0
HWB	59	9.3	2034	10.5	1.05	9.6
HWC	2	0.3	24	0.1	0.12	1.1
IMPT	1	0.2	9	0.0	0	0.0
LYON	7	1.1	41	0.2	0	0.0
NFSE	122	19.3	2143	11.1	0.18	1.7
NKSH	3	0.5	125	0.6	0	0.0
OXID	35	5.5	1210	6.3	1.47	13.5
OXIDF	2	0.3	28	0.1	0	0.0
PATCH	1	0.2	8	0.0	0	0.0
RVOX	2	0.3	460	2.4	0.12	1.1
SAMLG	54	8.5	842	4.4	1.29	11.8
SAND	29	4.6	335	1.7	0.8	7.3
SHEL	38	6.0	218	1.1	0.13	1.2
SLOW	9	1.4	74	0.4	0.17	1.6
SLOWR	2	0.3	52	0.3	0	0.0
VRW	18	2.8	496	2.6	0.38	3.5

632

19335

10.89



The assemblage is dominated by jars which represent almost half the total assemblage by EVEs, illustrating the early date of the assemblage. The most common forms are variants of the bead-rimmed jar (2A) and the necked round-bodied jar with groove/cordon on shoulder (2Q) (Table 5). Other jar forms present in significant numbers are round-bodied jar with thickened or out-turned rim (2B), storage jars (2V), and indistinguishable necked jars (2T). As is typical of pre-Boudican assemblages the collared (Hofheim-type) flagon (1A) is the most abundant, although there is a

single example of the ring-necked type (1B). Cups are almost twice as common as beakers, which is not surprising for this period given the high level of samian. However, the absence of butt beakers is unusual for a pre-Boudican assemblage and this may be further evidence for an overall date nearer c.AD 60. Dishes are more common than bowls by EVEs, but they are present in almost equal quantities by other forms of measurement which is also shown in other pre-Boudican city assemblages.

One interesting aspect is that, although total

Table 5. Percentages of forms from 36–39 Poultry Period 2

FORM	Sherds	Sherd %	Weight	Weight %	EVEs	EVEs %
-	100	15.8	1610	8.3	0	0.0
1	125	19.8	1966	10.2	0	0.0
½	6	0.9	276	1.4	0	0.0
1A	15	2.4	290	1.5	1	9.2
1B	1	0.2	8	0.0	0.12	1.1
2	15	2.4	642	3.3	0	0.0
2A	2	0.3	64	0.3	0.2	1.8
2A1-4	3	0.5	130	0.7	0.35	3.2
2A15	2	0.3	145	0.7	0.38	3.5
2A9-11	43	6.8	351	1.8	0.27	2.5
2B	8	1.3	135	0.7	0.51	4.7
2C1	8	1.3	90	0.5	0.1	0.9
2Q	33	5.2	503	2.6	1.56	14.3
2T	25	4.0	214	1.1	1.01	9.3
2V	32	5.1	1188	6.1	0.55	5.1
3	8	1.3	59	0.3	0	0.0
3C	1	0.2	15	0.1	0.2	1.8
3G	1	0.2	19	0.1	0	0.0
4	6	0.9	191	1.0	0	0.0
4/5	8	1.3	82	0.4	0	0.0
4A2	1	0.2	118	0.6	0.08	0.7
4D	5	0.8	135	0.7	0.15	1.4
4DR29	7	1.1	45	0.2	0	0.0
4RT12	4	0.6	15	0.1	0.05	0.5
4TD1-1	7	1.1	173	0.9	0.43	3.9
5	4	0.6	68	0.4	0	0.0
5A	4	0.6	121	0.6	0.52	4.8
5DR15/17	12	1.9	427	2.2	0.41	3.8
5DR15/17R	1	0.2	127	0.7	0	0.0
5DR18	3	0.5	14	0.1	0.16	1.5
6	2	0.3	27	0.1	0	0.0



Table 5 (cont.). Percentages of forms from 36–39 Poultry Period 2

FORM	Sherds	Sherd %	Weight	Weight %	EVEs	EVEs %
6DR24/25	1	0.2	1	0.0	0.07	0.6
6DR27	6	0.9	43	0.2	0.6	5.5
7	1	0.2	34	0.2	0	0.0
7EWAL	1	0.2	337	1.7	0.18	1.7
7HOF	4	0.6	994	5.1	0.47	4.3
8	5	0.8	123	0.6	0	0.0
8C186	1	0.2	144	0.7	0	0.0
8DR20	17	2.7	1150	5.9	0	0.0
8DR28	69	10.9	2870	14.8	1	9.2
8G	30	4.7	4205	21.7	0	0.0
8L555	2	0.3	63	0.3	0	0.0
9	1	0.2	50	0.3	0.14	1.3
9C	2	0.3	73	0.4	0.38	3.5
	632	100.0	19335	100	10.89	100

numbers are small, the hook-flanged mortaria (7HOF) are more common than the early wall-sided mortaria (7EWAL) in Period 2. Analysis of assemblages dated to the late Neronian–early Flavian (*c.*AD 60/1–75) elsewhere in London has shown that the 7HOF is more common during the immediate post-Boudican phase (Davies *et al* 1994, 191). The evidence from 36–39 Poultry indicates that this may be occurring earlier and before the Boudican uprising.

The decorated samian

Joanna Bird

The decorated samian from Periods 2 and 3 at 36–39 Poultry consists of 31 individual bowls, many of them very fragmentary; there are 27 examples of Dragendorff form 29, three of Dragendorff form 30 and one of Dragendorff form 37. Among

the Dragendorff 29 bowls is one with a stamp of Celadus, probably from a Murranus mould. The material from Period 2 is all of Neronian date, and could pre-date the Boudican destruction, though only one piece, from Building 6, is heavily burnt; the earliest piece is a small sherd from Building 3 dated *c.*AD 45–60. Unfortunately the date range for this samian runs across the Boudican date, which emphasises the importance of the shop deposits destroyed in the rebellion at 1 Poultry in London (Bird 2011) and in Colchester (Hull 1958, 152–8, 198–202). The Period 3 material is of similar date, apart from a Dragendorff form 29 bowl dated *c.*AD 60–85 and the single early example of Dragendorff form 37 bowl, dated *c.*AD 65–80, and much of it is likely to be residual.

Due to the early date of the assemblage a full catalogue is presented here (Table 6) and is ordered by period and land use.

Table 6. Catalogue of decorated samian

Cat no.	Period	Land use	Context	Description
<DS1>	2	B1	[314]	SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone festoons with scrolls; the surviving junction of two festoons has a large trifid pendant below a pair of little spirals and a bifid binding, and these may mask a gap at the end of the design. A closely similar trifid leaf is on a stamped bowl of Atusa (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Atusa D1–2, 1812ab). The lower zone has narrow corded gadroons <i>c.</i> AD 50–70.
<DS2>	2	B3	[292]	([292]:1) SAMLG 4DR29. Fragment of the lower zone with small corded medallions, one of them containing a bird; between the medallions is a beaded astragalus with a palmette above and a poppyhead pendant. The fabric and slip suggest a date <i>c.</i> AD 45–60.



Table 6 (cont.). Catalogue of decorated samian

Cat no.	Period	Land use	Context	Description
<DS3>	2	B3	[292]	([292]:2) SAMLG 4DR29. Plain trifid wreath at the base, as on a bowl in Murranus' style from 1 Poultry (Bird 2011, DS51). c.AD 50–70.
<DS4>	2	OA2	[303]	([303]:1) SAMLG 4DR29 (two joining sherds). Upper zone scroll with berries and rosettes; the lower zone has a band of large imbrication. Cf bowls of Masclus: Mees 1995, pl 114, 1, and pl 115, 1. c.AD 50–65
<DS5>	2	OA2	[303]	([303]:2). SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone scroll winding over imbrication. c.AD 50–70; the relief is shallow, suggesting that the mould was worn
<DS6>	2	OA2	[756]	SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone scroll with fine bifid bindings, trifid leaves and large rosettes. c.AD 50–65
<DS7>	2	OA3	[772]	([772]:1) SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone wreath of trifid leaves and large roundels, previously recorded on a bowl with lower zone gadroons at 1 Poultry. As noted in the 1 Poultry report, the wreath occurs on bowls stamped by Modestus and Murranus (Bird 2011, DS37); the roundel is on a stamped bowl of Montanus (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Montanus i E1, 5855) and was regularly used by the late Flavian-Trajanic potter L Cosius. c.AD 50–70
<DS8>	2	OA3	[772]	([772]:2) SAMLG 4DR29. Lower zone scroll with corded tendrils winding over corded medallions, including a hare. The medallion and hare were used by Modestus (Mees 1995, pl 138, 2 and 4), but the rosette at the base is rather more elaborate than his usual ones. c.AD 50–65
<DS9>	3	B5	[120]	SAMLG 4DR29. Basal band of small wreath medallions containing rosettes, with palmette pendants. The distinctive rosette was used in a basal row of small festoons, with the palmette in the upper zone scroll, on a stamped bowl of Aquitanus (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Aqitanus A2, 9978). The palmette was regularly used by Murranus (eg Mees 1995, pl 148, 1). c.AD 50–70
<DS10>	3	B6	[733]	SAMLG 4DR29. Lower zone scroll of frilled leaves and corded tendrils. c.AD 50–70; heavily burnt
<DS11>	3	OA7	[99]	([99]:1) SAMLG 4DR29. Hound in upper zone. c.AD 60–85
<DS12>	3	OA7	[99]	([99]:2) SAMLG 4DR29 (three sherds, probably same bowl). The upper zone has what is probably a hand-drawn leash: cf Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Murranus H1, 0766, showing cupids with leashed hounds. c.AD 50–70
<DS13>	3	OA9	[122]	([122]:1) SAMLG 4DR29 (four joining sherds). Upper zone panels with imbrication, and eagles flanked by birds; the eagle and the large bird are in a similar panel alternating with imbrication on a stamped bowl of Felix (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Felix i B1, 0412). The lower zone band has imbrication above festoons with opposed birds, and there is a similar arrangement, but with different individual motifs, on another Felix bowl (A1, 3022). c.AD 50–65
<DS14>	3	OA9	[122]	([122]:2) SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone scroll with beaded bindings and a roundel in the field. c.AD 50–70
<DS15>	3	OA9	[122]	([122]:3) SAMLG DR30. In the style of Masclus of La Graufesenque. His usual ovolo; a similar arrangement of the festoon, eagle and geese is on Mees 1995, pl 113, 4, and the same motifs are on pl 112, 1, with the triple poppyhead. c.AD 50–65



Table 6 (cont.). Catalogue of decorated samian

Cat no.	Period	Land use	Context	Description
<DS16>	3	OA9	[122]	([122]:4) SAMLG 4DR30. Berries at the base. Pre- or early Flavian.
<DS17>	3	OA9	[122]	([122]:5) SAMLG 4DR37. Panels, including a saltire with pointed leaves, a vertical wreath, and a figure above imbrication; basal wreath of tiny trifid leaves. The pointed leaf is on stamped bowls of Calvus i (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Calvus i G8, 3034). c.AD 65–80
<DS18>	3	OA9	[142]	([142]:1) SAMLG 4DR29 (two sherds). Upper zone wreath scroll with divided leaves: the leaves are probably those on a stamped bowl of Bassus (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Bassus ii G1-2, 1873ab). c.AD 50–70
<DS19>	3	OA9	[142]	([142]:2) SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone wreath festoons; the incomplete motif inside the surviving festoon has not been identified. The rosette on the pendant was used by Modestus (Mees 1995, pl 138, 1). c.AD 50–65
<DS20>	3	OA9	[183]	([183]:1) SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone panels, including rows of massed leaves, and birds. The massed leaves are characteristic of Murranus (<i>eg</i> Mees 1995, pl 152, 1), and the little goose is on pl 155, 3. c.AD 50–70
<DS21>	3	OA9	[183]	([183]:2) SAMLG 4DR29. Lower zone scroll with small lobed leaves, corded buds and fine five-beaded bindings. The lobed leaves are on a stamped bowl of Crestio (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Crestio G7, 3112). c.AD 50–65
<DS22>	3	OA9	[206]	SAMLG 4DR29 (five sherds, four of them joining). Upper zone scroll with what are probably palmettes; lower zone wreath scroll with large divided leaves, winding over animals. The leaves were used by Murranus (Mees 1995, pl 153, 1), and some of the other motifs are on stamped bowls of associated potters: the lion is on a bowl of Crestio (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Crestio A3, 3136), the dog on bowls of Modestus and Felix (Modestus i E3, 2408; Felix i D2, 2106). c.AD 50–70
<DS23>	3	OA9	[222]	<62> SAMLG 4DR29 (two joining sherds). Stamped by Celadus of La Graufesenque and Le Rozier. The stamp reads CELADI.MA[N], and is his die 5a (Hartley & Dickinson 2008, 312–15). The decoration is in the style of Murranus, a wreath festoon containing leaves with concentric veining (Mees 1995, pl 150, 6) flanked by palmettes on tendrils (pl 154, 5). Similar vertical elements are a feature of his work (<i>eg</i> pl 150, 4, and pl 155, 3). c.AD 50–75; scorched
<DS24>	3	OA9	[712]	SAMLG 4DR29. Lower zone scroll with divided leaves, long leaves with leaflets along the stem and corded buds. The long leaf has been partially removed in finishing, and the relief on the central part of the bowl is shallow, so that it is not possible to identify the individual motifs certainly. c.AD 50–70; from a worn mould
<DS25>	3	R1	[237]	([237]:1) SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone panels, including corded medallions with birds and imbrication; the bird and medallion are on Mees 1995, pl 155, 1, by Murranus, but he usually used leaf-tips rather than true imbrication. c.AD 50–70
<DS26>	3	R1	[237]	([237]:2) SAMLG 4DR29. Shallow upper zone scroll over trifid leaves, as on a bowl from 1 Poultry attributed to Bassus-Coelus (Bird 2011, DS46). c.AD 50–70
<DS27>	3	R1	[237]	([237]:3) SAMLG 4DR29. Upper zone scroll with cordate leaves. c.AD 50–70



Table 6 (cont.). Catalogue of decorated samian

Cat no.	Period	Land use	Context	Description
<DS28>	3	R1	[237]	([237]:4) SAMLG 4DR29. Lower zone gadroons. Pre- or early Flavian
<DS29>	3	R1	[237]	([237]:5) SAMLG 4DR29. Lower zone. Rosette and small medallion or scrollery at the base. Pre- or early Flavian
<DS30>	3	R1	[237]	([237]:6) Sherd, probably SAMLG 4DR30. Saltire with a rosette and small spirals marking the junction, and a bifid leaf below. c.AD 45–65
<DS31>	3	R1	[253]	SAMLG 4DR29. Shallow upper zone scroll with small trifids, rosettes and bifid bindings; the trifid is close to one on a stamped Licinus bowl from Southwark (Dannell <i>et al</i> 2003, Licinus A1, 0633). The lower zone has volutes, their stems terminating in acorns, but too incomplete to suggest attribution. c.AD 50–65

The Dressel 28 amphora from [374]

David Williams

A small sample was taken from this rather diminutive Dressel 28 for thin sectioning and study under the petrological microscope. This shows a fine-textured lime-rich clay matrix with a moderate scatter of ill-sorted subangular quartz grains ranging up to 0.60mm in size. Also present are small flecks of mica, some small pieces of cryptocrystalline limestone, a few pieces of argillaceous material and black iron oxide. There are also a number of voids with reaction rims around the edges showing that they once contained limestone which has been dissolved out. Overall, this fabric is not especially distinctive and, by itself, it would be difficult to suggest a particular source for it.

The two main production centres for Dressel 28 are Baetica, in the Guadalquivir Valley and around the Bay of Algeciras, and France, at Lyon and at Velaux, Bouches-du-Rhône (Williams & Keay 2006). The majority of Dressel 28 vessels recovered from London appear to have been made in Baetica and have a distinctive fabric in thin section, which includes discrete inclusions of feldspar, pyroxene and fragments of metamorphic rock (Davies *et al* 1994, 13–4; cf Peacock 1974; Peacock & Williams 1986, class 14). The 36–39 Poultry sherd contains none of these non-plastic inclusion types and, on this basis, is perhaps unlikely to have been made in southern Spain. Dressel 28 amphorae from Lyon contain fragments of granite and rhyolite (Schmitt 1993), which again are completely absent from the fabric of the Poultry vessel. Information on the fabrics produced at Velaux, Bouches-du-Rhône, is lacking, though the flat-based Gauloise 4 amphora, which was produced in great numbers in the general region, tends to have fabrics which are characterised by quartz, mica and

limestone (Laubenheimer & Schmitt 2009). This is a similar range of inclusions to that found in the Poultry sherd, although the mica content is somewhat low compared to that normally found in Gauloise 4 vessels from Britain. Although it is quite possible that the Poultry vessel was indeed made in southern France, the range of non-plastic inclusions is unfortunately too common to tie it down to this source on this information alone. Moreover, the pre-Boudican date for the Poultry vessel is a little too early for the start of the general importation into Roman Britain of Gauloise amphorae (Peacock 1978).

Appendix 3: The Roman accessioned finds

Angela Wardle

Sixty-seven accessioned finds, previously assessed by Nicola Powell, came from the site and most are of Roman date. The metalwork, especially the iron, is poorly preserved and 17 items remain unidentified. The Roman assemblage as a whole covers a small range of personal and domestic items and is dominated by vessel glass, all of which dates to the 1st or 2nd century. A full catalogue is held in the archive and can be consulted on application to MOLA/LAARC.

With the exception of the gilded brooch <1> <S5> the assemblage contains material typical of the London assemblages of the 1st and 2nd century, but it is small and its range is severely limited by poor preservation, particularly of the metalwork. It is also clear, from the evidence of one of the coins and much of the glass, that some of the 1st-century material is residual. The site lies close to the area of the important excavations at 1 Poultry (Hill & Rowsome 2011), where preservation close to the Walbrook



tributary was superb, leading to the discovery of a wide range of 1st- and 2nd-century finds of all materials, with some later pieces of significance also. However towards the western end of ONE94, finds were far more scarce, with more truncation of the deposits and adverse soil conditions. The same conditions have affected the recovery and

preservation of finds from 36–39 Poultry, and in these circumstances the survival of brooch <S5> is all the more remarkable. This is a showy object of some quality, almost certainly an import and one can only at this point speculate about the identity of its (probably male) wearer.

Table 7. Catalogue of illustrated glass vessels and metal objects

	Acc no.	Context	Period	Land use	Description
GLASS					
<G1>	Bottle	<49>	[712]	3	OA9 Blue-green. Part of the base with concentric moulded rings and lower body from a square bottle, Isings form 50. 1st/2nd century
<G2>	Bowl/dish	<46>	[608]	4	OA11 Colourless. Fragment from the base of a shallow bowl or dish, with short base ring; cast and ground. Base Diam 110mm. Late 1st to mid-2nd century
<G3>	Beaker	<43>	[681]	4	OA11 Colourless. Two fragments from the rim of a beaker; rim edge cracked off and ground, slightly turned out; wheel cutting below edge and on body. Late 1st to mid-2nd century
<G4>	Bowl or jar	<35>	[678]	4	OA18 NGB, almost colourless. Tubular rim, the rim edge bent out and down, from a bowl or jar. Rim Diam 70mm
<G5>	Bowl	<45>	[446]	5	OA20 NGB. Fragment from the rim of a ribbed bowl, Isings form 3, grinding marks on interior. Rim Diam 140mm
METAL					
<S1>	Copper-alloy brooch	<51>	[656]	3	OA15 Incomplete; W of head 36.5mm. Damaged head from a Colchester derivative brooch; spring of 12 turns, the forward hook damaged; cavetto mouldings on the surviving upper bow. Third quarter of the 1st century
<S2>	Iron mount	<28>	[119]	3	B5 Complete? L 45.5mm. Riveted pair of plates, linked by a loop. Possibly a handle mount, for a small bucket or other vessel.
<S3>	Copper-alloy stud	<5>	[180]	4	R1 Almost complete; Diam head 22.5mm; L 11.7mm. Domed, slightly conical head over tapering circular-sectioned shank.
<S4>	Bone ?mount	<82>	[678]	4	OA18 Incomplete; L 41mm; W 10.5mm. Curved strip of bone, broken at one end. The complete, slightly rounded, terminal is pierced with a small circular hole, around which are wear marks on both surfaces, suggesting that it originally held a circular rivet.



Table 7 (cont.). Catalogue of illustrated glass vessels and metal objects

Acc no.	Context	Period	Land use	Description
<S5>	Copper-alloy brooch	<1>	[94]	5 OA21 Almost complete; Diam 60.8mm. Openwork disc brooch; scalloped edge, with deeply cut groove just inside the edge, four opposing pelta-shaped cut-outs and a solid central boss. Filling the space between each pair of peltae are two octofoil rosettes, one near the edge, one near the centre, the petals of unequal size and shape. At the centre of each rosette is a small circular glass setting, the x-ray showing similar settings (appearing as dense voids) in a regular pattern between the rosettes in the centre and around the circumference. The insets are in at least two colours, one of which is yellow. The pattern has been deeply engraved and the entire surface was gilded, with only traces now remaining. On the plain reverse, which also has minute traces of gilding, is a single stout bar with hooked catch and a projecting hinge and axis bar for the pin, now missing. It is possible that this pin is a replacement, but a change to the patterning of the outer edge suggests that there was always a fastening mechanism in this position. There has been some debate as to the date and origin of this piece which is unparalleled in London and perhaps in Britain. Many of the individual elements can be seen on other, less elaborate, Roman brooches. Openwork peltae are seen on enamelled disc brooches from the 2nd century, as is the central boss; the deep engraving and gilding are later features. On balance, the combination of pelta, polychrome insets and gilding suggests that it should be placed in the 3rd century and it is almost certainly of Continental origin.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MOLA would firstly like to thank Standard Life Investments for funding the project. For practical assistance on site, thanks are due to Russell Doughty, Finola McNulty and Uta Stobbe of Buro Four, the project managers of the redevelopment; to Russell Thomas and Scott Edgar of Whitby Bird; to Mike Dean and his team from J F Hunt, the principal contractors on site; to Graham Duffy of Mace Plus. Thanks are also extended to Careys for their assistance during the watching-brief on pile probing and the new drainage runs.

MOLA is particularly grateful to Kathryn Stubbs, Development Manager – Historic Environment for the Corporation of London for her advice and support.

MOLA site staff involved in the project included Ryszard Bartkowiak, Stella Bickellmann, Raoul Bull, Howard Burkhill, Agnieszka Byston, Lindy Casson, Aleksandra Cetera, Andy Daykin, Val Griggs, Satsuki Harris, Richard Hewett, Isca Howell, Mark Ingram, Hana Lewis, Chris Menary, Charlotte North, Adele Pimley, Sarah Ritchie, Richard Sayer, Dave Sorapure, Kate Stevens, Dan Swift, Paul Thrale, and Sadie Watson. The site photographer was



Maggie Cox; geomatics cover was variously provided by Eamon Baldwin, Mark Burch, Neville Constantine, Catherine Drew, Cordelia Hall, Sarah Jones, Dave Mackie and Joe Severn; geoarchaeological inputs were provided by Jane Corcoran and Graham Spurr.

The Roman pottery was assessed/analysed by Rupert Feather/Fiona Seeley; the accessioned finds by Nicola Powell/Angela Wardle; the plant remains by Anne Davis/Karen Stewart; the animal bone by Kevin Rielly/Alan Pipe. In some disciplines both stages were undertaken by the same individual: Ian M Betts (building material); Nigel Jeffries (post-Roman pottery). The flint was assessed by Tony Grey. The conservation assessment was by Dylan Cox. The illustrations are by Juan José Fuldain (plans) and Hannah Faux (finds).

The MOLA project managers for this project were Robin Neilsen (excavation and assessment) and Julian Hill (analysis). Julian Hill also edited this article.

jhill@mola.org.uk

NOTES

¹ This is the principal address; the site included 36–39 Poultry, 1–5 Old Jewry and the area of Dove Court.

² The amphora is not in the classic ‘green’ Baetican 3 fabric (BAET3), nor does it have the pronounced pinched double lip which is most noticeable on the Spanish examples of this form (Davies *et al* 1994, 13–14). The flat bottomed base has a footing and, although the central part of the base is missing, does not appear to exhibit the high-kick base which is another feature of Spanish versions. It is also smaller in size, with a rim diameter of only 90mm, than a BAET3 example from a MOLA site further west along Cheapside at Bow Bells House (site code BBB05; Thorp in prep, <P45>) which had a rim diameter of 170mm, though it is also smaller than the examples of the French Dressel 28 similis on the Roman amphora website (William & Keay 2006) which have diameters of 140–50mm.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Amorosi, T, 1989 *A Postcranial Guide to Domestic Neo-Natal and Juvenile Mammals: the Identification and Ageing of Old World Species* BAR International Series 533, Oxford
- Bayley, J, Freestone, I, Jenner, A, & Vince, A G, 1991 ‘Metallurgy’ in A G Vince (ed) *Aspects*

of Saxon and Norman London: II Finds and Environmental Evidence London and Middlesex Archaeology Society Special Paper 12, London, 389–405

- Bernal Casasola, D, 1998 *Excavaciones arqueológicas en el alfar romano de la Venta del Carmen, Los Barrios (Cádiz): una aproximación a la producción de ánforas en la bahía de Algeciras en época altoimperial*, Madrid
- Betts, I M, 2008 ‘Whitefriars, Canterbury, Kent: building material’ unpub Canterbury Archaeological Trust report
- Bird, J, 2011 ‘The decorated samian’ in Hill & Rowsome 2011ii, 482
- Brodrribb, G, 1987 *Roman Brick and Tile*, Gloucester
- Burch, M, & Treveil, P, with Keene, D, 2011 *The Development of Early Medieval and Later Poultry and Cheapside: Excavations at 1 Poultry and Vicinity, City of London*, MoLAS Monograph 38, London
- Callender, M H, 1965 *Roman Amphorae*, London
- Cannon, D Y, 1987 *Marine Fish Osteology: a Manual for Archaeologists* Simon Fraser University department of archaeology publication no. 18
- Cobb, G, 1989 *London City Churches* (3rd edn revised by N Redman), London
- Dannell, G B, Dickinson, B M, Hartley, B R, Mees, A W, Polak, M, Vernhet, A, & Webster, P V, 2003 *Gestempelte südgallische Reliefsigillata (Drag 29) aus den Werkstätten von La Graufesenque, gesammelt von der Association Pegasus Recherches Européennes sur La Graufesenque*, Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum Mainz Kataloge Vor- und Frühgeschichtlicher Altertümer 34 (13 vols), Mainz
- Davies, B J, Richardson, B, & Tomber, R S, 1994 *The Archaeology of Roman London: Vol 5, A Dated Corpus of Early Roman Pottery from the City of London*, CBA Res Rep 98, London
- Davis, A, 2007 ‘Assessment of the plant remains from 36 Poultry, EC2 (POU05)’ unpub archive report, Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA)
- Dunwoodie, L, Harward, C, & Pitt, K, in prep *Roman Fortifications and Urban Development on the Eastern Hill: Excavations at Plantation Place* MOLA Monograph, London
- Grey, T, 2007 ‘Struck/worked flint assessment from 36 Poultry, London EC2 (POU05)’ unpub archive report, MOLA
- Hartley, B R, & Dickinson, B, 2008 *Names on Terra Sigillata: An Index of Makers’ Stamps and Signatures on Gallo-Roman Terra Sigillata (Samian Ware)* Bull Inst Classical Stud Supplement 102–02, London
- Hill, J, & Rowsome, P, 2011 *Roman London and the Walbrook Stream Crossing, Excavations at 1 Poultry and Vicinity*, MoLAS Monograph 37, parts i & ii, London



- Hull, M R, 1958 *Roman Colchester*, Rep Res Comm Soc Antiq London 20, London
- Jeffrey, P, 1996 *The City of London Churches of Sir Christopher Wren*, London
- Keene, D, 1987 'The Walbrook Study: a summary report', unpub typescript Social and Economic Study of Medieval London; see also <http://www.history.ac.uk/projects/social-and-economic>
- Keene, D J, & Harding, V, 1987 *Historical Gazetteer of London before the Great Fire: Cheapside; Parishes of All Hallows Honey Lane, St Martin Pomary, St Mary le Bow, St Mary Colechurch and St Pancras Soper Lane*, Centre for Metropolitan History London
- Laubenheimer, F, & Schmitt, A, 2009 *Amphores vinaires de Narbonnaise. Production et grand commerce: création d'une base de données géochimiques des ateliers*, Paris
- Leary, J, & Butler, J, 2012 *Roman Archaeology in the Upper Reaches of the Walbrook; Excavations at 6–8 Tokenhouse Yard, London EC2* Pre-Construct Archaeol Monograph 14, London
- McCarthy, M R, & Brooks, C M, 1988 *Medieval Pottery in Britain AD 900–1600*, Leicester
- McKenzie, M, 2011 'Roman, medieval and later occupation at Lion Plaza, 1–18 Old Broad Street and 43–53 Threadneedle Street' *Trans London Middlesex Archaeol Soc* 62, 1–30
- Mees, A W, 1995 *Modellsignierte Dekorationen auf südgallischer Terra Sigillata*, Stuttgart
- Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA) 2011 *Londinium: a New Map and Guide to Roman London*, London
- O'Shea, L, 2003 'Roman lamp chimneys: a reassessment of the evidence' unpub MA thesis, University College London
- Peacock, D P S, 1974 'Amphorae and the Baetican fish industry' *AntiqJ* 54, 232–43
- Peacock, D P S, 1978 'The Rhine and the problem of Gaulish wine in Roman Britain' in J du Plat Taylor and H Cleere (eds) *Roman Shipping and Trade: Britain and the Rhine Provinces*, CBA Res Rep 24, London, 49–51
- Peacock, D P S, & Williams, D F, 1986 *Amphorae and the Roman Economy*, London
- Pearce, J, Vince, A G, & Jenner, M A, 1985 *A Dated Type-Series of London Medieval Pottery Part 2, London-Type Ware*, London and Middlesex Archaeology Society Special Paper 6, London
- Perring, D, 1991 *Roman London*, London
- Perring, D, & Roskams, S, with Allen, P, 1991 *Early Development of Roman London West of the Walbrook* CBA Res Rep 70, London
- Pitt, K, 2005a '36 Poultry, London EC2: an archaeological evaluation' unpub archive report, MOLA
- Pitt, K, 2005b '36 Poultry, London EC2: a supplementary report on the archaeological evaluation' unpub archive report, MOLA
- Pringle, S, 2007 'London's earliest Roman bath-houses?' *London Archaeologist* 11, no. 5, 205–9
- Rayner, L, 2009 'Early Roman oxidised ware (EROX 4101)' in C Cowan, F Seeley, A Wardle, A Westman & L Wheeler *Roman Southwark Settlement and Economy: Excavations in Southwark 1973–91* MoLAS Monograph 42, London, 222
- Rayner, L, 2011 'The Roman pottery' in Hill & Rowsome 2011ii, 478–81
- Richardson, B, 2004 'The Roman pottery' in L Dunwoodie *Pre-Boudican and Later Activity on the Site of the Forum: Excavations at 168 Fenchurch Street, City of London* MOLAS Archaeology Stud Ser 13, London, 44–8
- Rielly, K, 2007 'Assessment of the faunal remains from 36 Poultry, London EC2, City of London (POU05)' unpub archive report, MOLA
- Robertson, P A, 1988 *The Pheasant, Princes Risborough*
- Schmid, E, 1972 *Atlas of Animal Bones for Pre-historians, Archaeologists and Quaternary Geologists*, Amsterdam, London & New York
- Schmitt, A, 1993 'Apports et limites de la pétrographie quantitative: application au cas des amphores de Lyon', *Revue d'Archéométrie*, 51–63
- Seeley, F, & Drummond-Murray, J, 2005 *Roman Pottery Production in the Walbrook Valley*, MoLAS Monograph 25, London
- Shepherd, J D, with Rowsome, P, 1987 'The pre-urban and Roman topography in the King Street and Cheapside areas of the City of London' *Trans London Middlesex Archaeol Soc* 38, 11–58
- Smith, T P, 2002 'Building material from 1 Poultry, EC2' unpub archive report, MOLA
- Stace, C, 1991 *New Flora of the British Isles*, Cambridge
- Stow, J, 1603 *A Survey of London* (2 vols) (ed C L Kingsford 1971), Oxford
- Teichert, M, 1975 'Osteometrische Untersuchungen zur Berechnung der Widerrisshöhe bei Schafen' in A T Clason (ed) *Archaeological Studies*, 51–69
- Thorp, A, in prep 'The Roman pottery' in I Howell with C Phillipotts & A Thorp *Roman and Medieval Development South of Cheapside: Excavations at Bow Bells House, City of London* MOLA Monograph
- Vince, A G, 1985 'Saxon and medieval pottery in London: a review' *Medieval Archaeol* 29, 25–93
- Vince, A G, & Jenner, A, 1991 'The Saxon and early medieval pottery of London' in A G Vince (ed) *Aspects of Saxon and Norman London: II Finds and Environmental Evidence*, London and Middlesex Archaeology Society Special Paper 12, London, 19–119



- von den Driesch, A, & Boessneck, J, 1974
'Kritische Anmerkungen zur Widerristhohen-
berechnung aus Langenmassen vor-und
fruhgeschichtlicher Tierknochen' *Saugetier-
undliche Mitteilungen* 22, 325–48
- Warry, P, 2006 *Tegulae*, BAR British Series 417,
Oxford
- Watson, S, 2004 'Roman and medieval occup-
ation at 8–10 Old Jewry, City of London'
London Archaeologist 10, no. 10, 264–70
- Williams, D F, & Keay, S J, 2006 Roman
Amphorae: a digital resource,
[http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/archive/
amphora_ahrb_2005/index.cfm](http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/archive/amphora_ahrb_2005/index.cfm)