

ROMAN DOMESTIC DEVELOPMENT TO THE NORTH OF THE FORUM: EXCAVATIONS AT CROSBY SQUARE, CITY OF LONDON EC2

Ken Pitt

With contributions by Ian M Betts (building material), Joanna Bird (decorated samian), Jo M Mills (samian stamps), Michael Marshall (coins), James Morris (animal bone), Karen Stewart (plant remains), Amy Thorp (pottery) and Angela Wardle (accessioned finds)

INTRODUCTION

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THE ROMAN BUILDING MATERIAL

Ian M Betts

Some 953kg of Roman building material was recovered from site A, including c.490kg of ceramic building material and c.271kg of painted wall plaster. The full specialist report (Betts 2012) could not be included here but is available in the site archive or on application to MOLA. The more significant findings have been integrated into the narrative and discussion sections of this report and the illustrated building material is summarised in Table 1.

Table 1. Details of the illustrated building material

Catalogue no.	Period	Land use	Site/context	Site/acc no.	Type	Figure
Stone						
<A 1>	3	B4	A[870]	A<252>	mosaic floor	Fig 23
<A 2>	4	OA14	A[161]	A<405>	<i>opus sectile</i> paving	Fig 21
	3	OA8	A[385]	A<250>		
	-	-	B[387]	B<351>		
	5	OA18	A[1091]	A<340/1><340/2>		
<A 3>	-	-	B[329]	B<669>	<i>opus sectile</i> paving	Fig 22
Ceramic						
<T 1>	3	OA3	A[1277]	A<411>	shaped <i>opus signinum</i>	Fig 6

The wall plaster, some of high quality, is particularly noteworthy. In total there are 2957 individual fragments from site A and many hundreds more from site B, although many are of relatively small size. Some of the plaster is of outstanding quality, with decorative schemes containing both Egyptian blue (an artificially produced glassy pigment containing copper calcium silicate) and bright red cinnabar (mercuric sulphide), which is extremely rare in London. Because of its importance and size, the plaster assemblage is being published separately (Betts 2023).

THE ROMAN POTTERY

Amy Thorp

Introduction

The stratified Roman pottery assemblage from site A amounts to 5106 sherds (109kg), with a noticeable concentration of late 1st- to early 2nd-century AD material. The vast majority of the pottery was found within small sized groups (less than 30 sherds).

However, it has proved possible to date a number of landuses and to provide a general characterisation of life at the site from the functions associated with the recovered vessel forms. This information has been integrated into the main sections of the report. Details of the illustrated pottery are given in Table 2.

Table 2. Details of the illustrated pottery

Catalogue no.	Period	Land use	Site/context	Fabric	Form	Figure
<P 1>	3	OA8	A[385]	VRW	2FACE	Fig 11
<P 2>	4	OA12	A[797]	SPEC	7LWAL SPT	Fig 18

Catalogue of the Decorated Samian Ware

Joanna Bird

A full catalogue of the decorated samian ware from site A (Bird 2011) is available in the site archive or on application to MOLA. The catalogue entries given here are those specifically mentioned in the article.

SAMLG 4DR37

A[329]; period 3, OA5

The ovolo has been almost completely removed in finishing; below is a row of triple festoons with bifid pendants, containing spurred leaves, and what is probably a chevron wreath beneath. The bifid leaf, unusual as a pendant, was used by Vitalis ii (Mees 1995, pl 198, 1) between double festoons containing spirals; for the spurred leaves and triple festoons *cf ibid*, pl 190, 2, by Severus iii. *c*.AD 70–90.

SAMRZ DR37

A[698] (one sherd); period 3, OA8

A[762] (one sherd); period 4, OA14

In the style of Julius viii/II-Julianus iii/I. The motifs are all recorded in their work: Ricken and Thomas 2005, pl 205, 10, has the Abundantia (Ricken & Fischer 1963, type M36) and Apollo (M72) under similar arcades, with the acanthus (P111) between. The arcades stand on a support (O177) and the ovolo is E17. *c*.AD 225–50.

SAMLG 4DR29

A[823] (four sherds); period 3, B2

Lower zone scroll of pinnate leaves winding over an arrangement of opposed trifid leaves flanked by corded tendrils. Pinnate leaf scrolls were used over similar arrangements by such Flavian potters as Iustus i and Meddillus (Mees 1995, pls 95, 1, and 123, 1). *c*.AD 70–85.

THE ROMAN GLASS

Angela Wardle

One hundred and sixty-two fragments of Roman vessel glass were found in Roman contexts (periods 3–4) or were identified as Roman in post-Roman deposits (periods 5–6) on site A. These are summarised by glass colour in (Table 3). Sixty-five fragments could be identified by form (Table 4) and the total glass assemblage represents a minimum number of 36 individual vessels. Illustrated glass is catalogued below. Details of other finds mentioned in the text and a full

archive report (Wardle 2012) and catalogue are available in the site archive or on application to MOLA.

Table 3. Summary of the Roman vessel glass by colour

Period	Monochrome	Colourless	Blue-green	Late Roman green
3	1	18	63	
4	2	8	18	
5		13	26	2
6		5	6	
Total	3	44	113	2

Table 4. Summary of Roman vessel glass by form

Period	Beaker	Cup	Bowl	Jar	Jug	Phial	Bottle
3	2	1	2	3	3	2	21
4	1	1			1		11
5	1	2	5				5
6		2					2
Total	4	6	7	3	4	2	39

Catalogue of the Illustrated 1st- to 2nd-Century AD Glass

Cast Glass

<G 1> Ribbed bowl (Fig 24)

A<269>, A[710]; period 3, B2

Blue-green. Rim Diam 180mm. Fragment from the upright rim of a ribbed bowl (Isings form 3), wheel-grinding marks below rim and on inside. Mid- to late 1st century AD.

Free-Blown Glass

<G 2> Beaker (Fig 12)

A<230>, A[1235]; period 3, OA8

Colourless. Fragment from the rim of a conical beaker with facet-cut and relief decoration, cut from a thick blown blank. Horizontal cordons at rim and on upper body, but below this is figurative scene, with the Greek inscription ΘΥCΙΑ (?thysia or 'sacrifice'), the letters picked out in opaque white. To the right of the inscription is a human head and to the left a teardrop shape, also with white paint and possibly another letter, now illegible. Below the inscription are a slanting long rice facet and a curved line, with white paint below,

perhaps a scene of combat? The cut decoration is consistently picked out in white paint. Rim Diam 100mm. 1st to early 2nd century AD.

The decoration is more reminiscent of later vessels and figured decoration is extremely rare in the Flavian period. The closest parallel from Britain appears to be a conical cup from Caerleon (Wheeler & Wheeler 1928, 170, pl 34, fig 1; Boon 1968, 83), which is similar in shape to faceted cups, where the decoration is cut into the blown blank. In the zone that is usually reserved for facet-cut decoration, there is a relief-cut and scratched design of a chariot race. In the upper zone is an inscription, in Greek capitals. Oliver (1984, 39–40) suggests that, while the engraved scene is reminiscent of the earlier series of mould-blown sports cups manufactured in the western provinces and inscribed with Latin names, the Greek on the Caerleon cup points to the eastern Empire. This piece lacks the inscribed upper zone but has a Greek inscription that may well suggest affinities to the eastern Mediterranean.

<G 3> Beaker (Fig 24)

A<303>, A[881]; period 3, B4

Colourless. Fragment of vertical rim from a conical beaker; rim edge cracked off and ground smooth, wheel-cut grooved below. Late 1st century AD.

<G 4> Bowl or jar (Fig 24)

A<177>, A[213]; period 3, OA8

Colourless. Part of an out-turned fire-rounded rim from a bowl or ?jar, the body curving out under the rim more akin to a jar form. Rim Diam 120mm.

<G 5> Jar (Fig 25)

A<221>, A[704]; period 3, B3

Blue-green. Fragment of folded rim from a collared jar of Isings form 67c; rim edge fire rounded then folded in and bent out; exceptionally thick – large storage or possibly a cinerary jar. Rim Diam 100mm. Late 1st/2nd century AD.

<G 6> Jar (Fig 25)

A<271>, A[720]; period 3, OA7

Blue green. Small fragment from the rim of a funnel-mouth jar; rim edge turned in, then bent out. Rim Diam approx 100mm.

<G 7> Jug (or flask) (Fig 25)

A<217>, A[592]; period 3, B3

Blue-green (pale), stress marks. Present H 76.4mm. Fragment from the lower part of the neck of a jug (*eg* Isings 55b) or flask, with tooled constriction at junction of neck and body. No signs of any handle attachment, but the neck is broken below this point. Late 1st/2nd century AD.

<G 8> Jug (Fig 25)

A<300>, A[870]; period 3, B4

Blue-green; discoloured. Lower part of ribbon handle where attached to the body of a convex jug. The glass is of poor quality, with streaks of green/brown glass within it; surface dull and ?burnt. The handle is quite short as it appears to turn at 48mm from lower sticking point, as

Isings form 56/88, rather than Isings form 52, which has a longer neck. Late 1st/2nd century AD.

<G 9> Jug (Fig 25)

A<218>, A[598]; period 3, OA7

Blue-green. Fragment of ribbon handle, with lower sticking point where attached to a convex or globular body; handle broken at change of angle on upper part. The handle is relatively short, 46mm to angle, so possibly from a small jug form as Isings 56/88.

<G 10> Jug/Jar (Fig 25)

A<180>, A[213]; period 3, OA8

Blue-green. Thick pushed-in concave base from a jug or jar, probably a utilitarian jar form. Base Diam approx 66mm.

<G 11> Phial (Fig 25)

A<2>, A[67]; period 3, OA7

Blue-green. Fragment from the base and lower body of a phial or unguentarium, Isings form 82b. Late 1st/2nd century AD.

<G 12> Bottle (Fig 25)

A<219>, A[598]; period 3, OA7

Blue-green. Square bottle, Isings form 50. Full profile to shoulder; moulded circle on incomplete base; very bubbly glass (seed), also impurities (batch); stress marks; typical scratches on external surface. H 88mm; W approx 71mm.

<G 13> Bottle base (Fig 25)

A<282>, A[797]; period 4, OA12

Blue-green. Incomplete base, with part of a circle and cross in relief, the cross placed in the corner, outside circle. 1st/2nd century AD.

Catalogue of the Illustrated Late Roman Glass

<G 14> Bowl (Fig 34)

A<315>, A[1138]; period 5, OA18

Colourless. Body sherd from a ?hemispherical convex bowl with facet cutting; wheel-cut lines, bordering a band of vertical lines bordered by horizontal rice facets. Late 2nd to early 4th century AD.

<G 15> Bottle (Fig 34)

A<333>, A[1368]; period 4, OA16

Greenish colourless, iridescent, flaking. Three fragments from a tall cylindrical bottle with funnel mouth and one handle. Rim fragment; out-turned, edge fire-rounded, funnel mouth, with thick horizontal trail below rim edge; the larger fragment consists of the cylindrical neck and slightly sloping shoulder; single handle applied to shoulder and attached to neck below rim; handle undecorated. Third small fragment from shoulder. Rim Diam 70mm. Isings form 126-127. Late 3rd/4th century AD.

THE ROMAN ACCESSIONED FINDS

Angela Wardle

Two hundred and eighty-eight accessioned finds, of all categories, including building materials, but excluding vessel glass (above) were found in Roman contexts (periods 3–4) or were identified as Roman in post-Roman deposits (periods 5–6) on site A. Of these some 74 artefacts were identifiable and could be assigned to a specific functional group (Table 5).

The assemblage comprises domestic material that can be extensively paralleled elsewhere in the city, largely dating from the 1st and 2nd centuries AD, together with a small number of highly unusual artefacts, which are of great intrinsic interest and which may suggest a degree of luxury or sophistication in the life of this part of Londinium. Unfortunately, although excavation has revealed the presence of at least 13 buildings, it is not in general possible to assign finds to specific buildings with any confidence.

Illustrated accessioned finds are catalogued by functional category below. Details of other finds mentioned in the text and a full archive report (Wardle 2012) and catalogue are available in the site archive or on application to MOLA.

Table 5. Summary of the identified Roman artefacts by functional category

Functional category	Period				
	2	3	4	5	6
Personal ornament		5	3	9	
Toilet implements		3	1		
Textiles		3	2		1
Domestic utensils	1	11		3	
Recreation		2	1	1	
Building services		4			
Tools		1	1	1	
Fasteners and fittings		9	3	5	
Religious association			2		
Industrial			1		1
Total	1	38	14	19	2

Catalogue of the Illustrated Roman Accessioned Finds

Personal Ornament

<S 1> Copper-alloy brooch (Fig 26)

A<117>, A[963]; period 3, OA3

Almost complete; L 50mm. Hod Hill, Mackreth type 1.b. The upper bow has a triple central ridge, a central undulating element flanked by beaded ridges, with two bordering beaded ridges on the outer edges of the bow.

A beaded cross-moulding separates the upper and lower bow, which has a plain bar at the top and punctum decoration in a series of lines and circles; out-turned foot with beaded decoration; single perforation on the catch plate. The head is also decorated, with two transverse beaded ridges flanking a central zig-zag element; hinged pin, held in a cylindrical housing, with an iron axis bar.

There are traces of ‘silvering’, white metal plating, which is probably tin, on much of the visible brooch surface. This is especially noticeable on the decorative beading and within the punched dots, where it is better preserved, but traces on the flat surface of the lower bow suggest that it was not confined to the decorative elements. It is possible that on the upper bow the plated ribs may have contrasted with the ‘gold’ of the copper-alloy background.

As Mackreth points out, the Hod Hill brooch form was descended from the Aucissa and reached Britain, fully developed, at the conquest (Mackreth 2011, 133). He distinguishes sub-varieties by the decoration of the upper bow and this form, type 1.b, has parallels at various military sites, including Colchester in the Claudian and Neronian period, although they are also found quite widely in later contexts.

<S 2> Shale bracelet (Fig 35)

A<417>, A[1253]; period 5, OA18

Complete. Diam (ext) 58.4mm; (int) 46.9mm; Th 8.5mm. Plain armlet with D-shaped section, slightly irregular on the inside where cut from the parent block, but well made; now slightly distorted. 3rd/4th century AD.

<S 3> Bone pin (Fig 27)

A<27>, A[300], period 3, OA7

Complete; L 54mm. Very small slender pin, of Crummy type 1 (Crummy 1983, 20), with plain conical head. AD 50–200.

<S 4> Bone hairpin (Fig 27)

A<37>, A[598], period 3, OA7

Incomplete, L 59.3mm. Upper part of a hairpin of Crummy type 2 (Crummy 1983, 21), with conical head over grooves and cordon. AD 50–200.

<S 5> Bone hairpin (Fig 27)

A<339>, A[797]; period 4, OA12

Almost complete; L 107mm. Crummy type 2, with sharply pointed conical head over two grooves and a cordon; shaft broken above point.

<S 6> Bone hairpin (Fig 27)

A<337>, A[698]; period 3, OA8

Incomplete; L 81.3mm. ‘Bust’ pin, broken at the neck; bust surmounting a grooved rectangular pedestal; straight tapering shank, broken. Typical of other bust pins from the City of London, but like most others from London the head is missing (Hall & Wardle 2005, 175, fig 2), broken at the weakest point.

The pin would have borne a portrait head, possible a decorative female bust.

<S 7> Bone hairpin (Fig 35)

A<338>, A[700]; period 4, OA12

Incomplete; L 49.5mm. Upper part of a pin with globular head and swelling shank, Crummy type 3 (Crummy 1983, 22); point missing.

<S 8> Bone hairpin (not illustrated)

A<335>, A[696]; period 5, OA17

Complete; L 56mm. Hairpin with globular head (damaged) as Crummy type 3; very short. AD 200–400.

<S 9> Glass bracelet (Fig 35)

A<461>, A[1769]; period 5, OA18

Incomplete; Diam 70mm; section 5.6 x 4.2mm. Black? – or deep purple. Fragment of plain bracelet in dark glass that is probably intended to appear black; D-shaped section. Gold iridescence on all exposed surfaces and an old break (but not over a fresh break).

Toilet, Cosmetic and Surgical Implements

<S 10> Copper-alloy tweezers (Fig 28)

A<455>, A[1894]; period 3, OA3

Complete; L 83.5mm. Plain tweezers made from a robust bent strip, the terminals turned in sharply.

<S 11> Copper-alloy ligula (Fig 28)

A<114>, A[858]; period 4, OA12

Almost complete. L 84mm. Flat round spoon in same plane as circular-sectioned handle.

Objects Used in the Working of Textiles

<S 12> Bone needle (Fig 27)

A<341>, A[839]; period 4, OA12

Complete; L 66.7mm. Pointed head, with figure-of-eight eye, formed by drilling two circular holes, asymmetrical point appears to have been reworked.

Domestic Utensils and Furniture

<S 13> Shale vessel (Fig 30)

A<22>, A[331]; period 3, OA8

Incomplete. Diam c220mm; Th 2.6mm. Fragment of flat vessel with a narrow rim, very distorted and flaking, with three other non-joining fragments. This is probably a shallow tray and may have been either circular or oval.

<S 14> Ceramic open lamp (Fig 29)

A<48>, A[343]; period 3, OA3

Incomplete; Diam approx 93mm; H 29.5mm. Fragment from the body of a wheel-made open lamp in unsourced oxidised ware (OXID).

<S 15> Ceramic lamp (Fig 29)

A<71>, A[778]; period 3, OA4

Incomplete; H 27mm. Part of the handle, back and base of a factory lamp; stamped]TTUSA F, for ATTUSA. The maker worked in Gaul around AD 75–125 (Eckardt 2002, 204). Two Loeschcke type IXb lamps have been found in London and it is probable that this incomplete example is the same form. Imported colour coat.

<S 16> Ceramic lamp (Fig 29)

A<42>, A[213]; period 3, OA8

Incomplete; L 59mm; W 39.05mm. Upper part of a factory lamp, Loeschcke type Xb, with open nozzle channel, very poorly moulded; end of nozzle broken, handle stump; OXID.

<S 17> Copper-alloy furniture mount (Fig 5)

A<125>, A[967]; period 2, OA2

L 112mm; H 50mm; L of bracket 65.6mm; Th of bracket 6mm. Cast mount in the form of a lion's paw, which was attached to the corner of a box, or item of furniture, such as a footstool. The four claws are realistically modelled in the round, with a small circular hole at the mid-point. A volute on each side rises from the central claws, running along each side of the square bracket, which has stylised winged terminals. There is no obvious indication of the method of attachment or visible trace of soldering, but the reverse of the bracket is very corroded. The context suggests a mid-1st-century date, which is consistent with known examples of this style of fitting.

There are many parallels for feline feet on a variety of types of furniture or vessels of the Roman period, both square and round. The most familiar are perhaps three-legged circular tables fashionable throughout the Roman period and found in a variety of materials, typically wood at Herculaneum and shale in Britain. Many had animal-foot terminals that could be either stylised or carved with great realism and, while lion, panther, or fabulous griffin terminals were perhaps most common, other forms, including cloven hooves, are also seen (Croom 2007, 70). Similar terminals appear on more durable table legs in stone and marble and are, of course, seen in sculptural reliefs, both in Italy and the provinces as on the Igel monument in Germany (*ibid*, 81, fig 29). Survivals in metal are, however, rare, although there is a circular dining table in bronze from Pompeii (Croom 2007, 71, fig 24). In metal, the feet are usually surmounted by wings, vegetal ornament or, as here, volutes where they were attached to the main body of the object. Lion's paw feet can be seen on a miniature circular altar from Pompeii (Ward-Perkins & Claridge 1976, no. 213). Closer to home, a small silver lion paw mount was found at Piddington, Northamptonshire (R Friendship-Taylor pers comm; PAS ID: NARC-081A11), although this differs in the method of attachment – a short tapering spike – and may have come from a box. Two small bronze lion paws from Nijmegen were attached to utensils (Jitta *et al* 1973, 100–1, nos 189, 190). More elaborate mounts were topped with winged figures, as on a notable example from Silchester (Crummy 2011, 158, fig 1), affixed to a circular vessel, possibly a drink warmer, identified as of Campanian origin (*ibid*, 164).

The new mount is similarly robust but was clearly secured to the corner of a rectangular object such as a stool or footstool, although a rectangular brazier remains a possibility (Ward-Perkins & Claridge 1976, no. 159), although it is much shorter than this Pompeian example. Close parallels in terms of size and (rectangular) form come from Volubilis (Boube-Piccot 1975, 247, nos 432–5, pl 183), where it is suggested that

they came from the rectangular bases of candelabra or tables. Good examples of the more familiar tripod terminal, from candelabra dated to the Augustan period, can be seen at Banasa, also in Morocco (*ibid.*, 289, nos 504–5, pl 222).

<S 18> Iron ladle (Fig 30)

A<363>, A[507], period 3, B8

Incomplete; L 146.6mm; Diam 70mm; Depth of bowl 28mm. Ladle with round bowl and plain square-sectioned handle; very encrusted.

Small ladles, used in a domestic environment are quite common in Britain, although few survive from London, presumably due to soil conditions. Thus, all seven examples in the MOL permanent collections are from waterlogged Walbrook valley sites, although more recent excavations have produced examples from Southwark (4STS82, <10>) and at Brentford (Cowie *et al* 2013, 61).

Tools

<S 19> Obsidian handle (Fig 31)

A<232>, A[698]; period 3, OA8

Incomplete; L 42.9mm; W 15.5mm. Mahogany obsidian, with small flecks of snowflake obsidian. Octagonal-sectioned fragment of handle, broken at the upper end, and a neatly drilled hole at the unbroken end, which apparently held the metal tang of a blade, of which no trace remains. The perforation is 5mm in diameter and is 15mm in length.

The form is reminiscent of octagonal-sectioned handles used on various Roman implements, notably surgical tools, but the material is highly unusual. Obsidian, which is a volcanic glass, is normally thought of as black, but can occur in a variety of colours, this affected by trace elements or occlusions. The brown/black obsidian seen here is known, from its colour, as mahogany obsidian. There were major sources of obsidian in the ancient world and the material is mentioned by Pliny (*Naturalis Historia* xxxvi), but it was not extensively used for artefacts. This handle is the first example of an obsidian tool from Roman London, but intriguingly a second small example was subsequently discovered on a Fenchurch Street site (FEU08; Wardle & Marshall 2013; Wroe-Brown 2014, 39, fig 38, 85–6) and there appears to be no doubt as to its Roman date. It has been placed with the tools within this catalogue, but it is likely from its general size that it belonged to a small implement, perhaps a personal knife or razor, although the form and material of the blade is unknown.

<S 20> Iron spade sheath (Fig 31)

A<366>, A[797]; period 4, OA12

Complete. W 220mm. Spade sheath, with iron cutting edge, which was affixed to a wooden blade by means of squared brackets on each side, iron rivets remaining *in situ*. The upper edge of the iron blade is grooved to take the wooden blade, of which no trace now remains; very encrusted.

The spade sheath belongs to Manning's type 2b, the straight-mouthed form (Manning 1985, 46, fig 11) in

which the edge is grooved but the relatively short straight arms end in angled lugs that clasp the wooden blade. This form appears to be less common than the rounded blade, seen for example at Stonea Grange (Potter & Jackson 1996, 547, fig 205) and at 1 Poultry (Wardle in Hill & Rowsome 2011, 201, fig 197, 393, fig 335, 509), although both forms appear to have been in use throughout the Roman period.

Fasteners and Fittings

<S 21> Iron lock bolt (Fig 32)

A<365>, A[773]; period 4, OA14

Incomplete, L 71mm. Four triangular cut-outs on bit. The type, from a tumbler lock operated by a slide-key (Manning 1985, 92), is more commonly seen in copper alloy.

<S 22> Copper-alloy lock plate (Fig 32)

A<111>, A[797]; period 4, OA12

Almost complete. Diam 65.8mm; Th 1.5mm. Circular lock plate, with central keyhole and four perforations around the circumference for attachment to a wooden box or chest. The outer surface has concentric circle decoration.

Objects with Religious Association

<S 23> Ceramic figurine (Fig 33)

A<347>, A[839]; period 4, OA12

Incomplete; H (surviving) 102.5mm. Lower part of a Venus figurine, nude, in the classical pose of *Venus anadyomene*, the left hand holding drapery; broken at the waist and where the feet joined a plinth or hemispherical support; air hole on reverse above drapery. Central Gaul. 2nd century AD.

THE ROMAN, MEDIEVAL AND POST-MEDIEVAL COINS AND JETONS

Michael Marshall

Introduction

A total of 22 coins were recovered from excavations at Crosby Square/38 Bishopsgate (site code CYQ05). They were cleaned after excavation by Elizabeth Barham and Elizabeth Goodman. Twenty of the coins were Roman in date. Only one coin, a Claudian copy CYQ05 <15>, had previously been recorded in detail, as part of a wider survey of Claudian coinage by Julian Bowsher.

The Roman coins are summarised by Reece Coin Period (together with a single coin from an adjacent site at Crosby Square – YSQ19) in Table 6 but, given the modest size of the assemblage, there is no detailed numismatic discussion. The intention is to make these Roman coins available for integration into any future analysis of the north-eastern part of Roman London.

The medieval and post-medieval periods at CYQ05 are represented by only one numismatic piece each and these are relatively common types; a silver groat of Henry IV (annulet issue) <17>, dated 1422–30, and a

copper-alloy Nuremberg biblical series jeton of Hans Krauwinckel II <16>, dated *c.* 1590–1600. Although identified, catalogued and referenced below, they are not discussed further.

Overview of the Roman Assemblage

The Roman coins from CYQ05 and an additional nummus of Crispus recovered from site YSQ19 (<19>) are presented in the summary of the assemblage by Reece Coin Period (RCP) (Fig 36). They are mostly relatively low denomination issues and, as is often the case, include a fair number of irregular issues or copies. There is no gold or genuine silver of any date, only two silver-plated copies of 2nd-century denarii. Where the denomination of the early Roman copper-alloy coins is clear there is only one sestertius, with the remainder comprised of dupondii, asses or copies. No hoards were identified and most of the coins are poorly stratified.

Well-stratified Roman coins from period 3 are limited to a Claudian copy <15> from the brickearth floor deposits of Building 2 (B2), minted *c.* AD 43–65 and associated with building material dated *c.* AD 50–80; and a regular issue of Domitian, minted AD 88–9, associated with a dump of demolition material in Open Area 7 (OA7) that also produced a small quantity of mid-2nd-century AD pottery. A 4th-century coin of Crispus is seemingly intrusive in a period 3 deposit associated with Building 6 (B6). In period 4 a copy of a denarius of Hadrian <12> dated AD 117 or later was found in a pit in Open Area 13 (OA13).

The great majority of the Roman coins were found as residual items in post-Roman (site period 5) deposits. Though obviously *ex situ* and derived from Roman deposits that were later disturbed, they form a useful proxy record through which to date activity on the site more generally. The sequence of depositional activity/coin loss attested to by the coins runs from the mid–late 1st century AD until at least the mid-4th century AD.

A total of 16 coins (a total which includes the one coin from YSQ19) can be assigned to a specific Reece Coin Period (RCP). The remaining five Roman coins include two radiates which can only be assigned less precisely to RCP 13–14; two illegible coins which are probably radiates or nummi and a single nummus of uncertain emperor. While these coins cannot be precisely placed, they all add to the evidence for later Roman activity in a more general sense.

There are no pre-Claudian coins or regular Claudian issues and the only coin assigned to RCP2 is a common Minerva reverse type copy of *c.* AD 43–65 which might well have still circulated in the Neronian period (alongside RCP3). This probably reflects the fact that, until the early Flavian period, the site lay at or beyond the northern edge of the main core of the eastern part of Roman London, which lay further south near modern Cornhill.

Comparison with the RBM (Fig 37) shows that a relative scarcity of later 2nd- or early 3rd-century coins is not uncommon in Roman Britain as a whole and the marked increase in deposition during the mid-3rd and 4th century is also absolutely typical. However, the very

modest numbers of coins from Crosby Square mean it is not appropriate to characterise the coin loss profile of the later Roman material from the site in greater detail. The latest firmly dated coins belong to the mid-4th century.

The small size of the assemblage firmly limits the reliability of any kind of detailed statistical statements/chronological comparisons, but a few comments can at least be made. In terms of percentages the later 1st–early 2nd century (RCP 2–7) is better represented at Crosby Square than within Reece's British Mean (RBM) coin profile. However, in real terms the number of early Roman coins is very small with no more than one or two coins from any given RCP. Many London assemblages do have a strong early Roman emphasis and it is possible that this is reflected to some degree here, however, the Crosby Square assemblage has less evidence for very early coins than at many other London sites.

Taken in isolation, the small Roman coin assemblage from Crosby Square (CYQ05) provides few surprises but it is hoped that it will be able to contribute to future numismatic work as part of wider synthetic datasets.

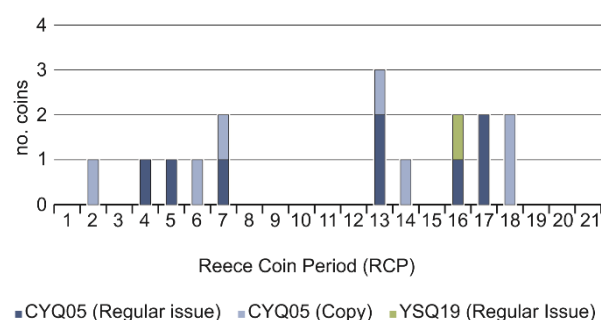


Fig 36. Distribution of the Roman coins from CYQ05 and a nummus of Crispus from site YSQ19 (<19>) by Reece Coin Period (RCP)

Catalogue

Roman Coins

RCP 2: CLAUDIUS I (1 COIN)

Copper-alloy coin

A<15>, [809]; period 3, B2

Claudius I, AD 43–65, copy. C&VW/SW. Diam(eter) 25.9mm; Th(ickness) 2.4mm; W(eight) 6.1g. Ax(is) 6 Obv(erse): [TI CLAVDI]VS CAESAR AV[G](P)[M...; bust, l.

Rev(erse): SC; Minerva advancing r. with shield in l. hand and spear raised in r(ight). hand.

An ongoing review of Claudian copies (Julian Bowsher with Robert Kenyon) identifies this as an imitation of Lyon Atelier I, á la grosse tête (*cf* RIC 1, 100; Besombes and Barrandon 2000, 180–2)

RCP 4: DOMITIAN (1 COIN)

Copper-alloy coin

A<13>, [422]; period 3, OA7

Domitian, AD 88–9, as. SW/W. Diam 27.2mm; Th 3.1mm; Wt 10.48g. Ax 7.

Obv: MPCAESDOMITAVGGGERMCOSXIII[C]ENS[P]ER[PP]; Bust r. laureate

Rev: [VIRTVTI]AVGUSTI SC; Virtus standing r., l(eft). foot on helmet, spear in r. hand, parazonium in l.

RIC II, part I (2nd ed), Domitian no. 650 minted in Rome

RCP 5: TRAJAN (1 coin)

Copper-alloy coin

A<262>, [1347]; period 5, OA19

Trajan, AD 98–117, sestertius. EW. Diam 34.9mm; Th 4.01mm; Wt 21.3g. Ax unclear

Obv: Illegible; Bust of Trajan r. laureate

Rev: Illegible

RCP 6: HADRIAN (1 coin)

Silver-plated coin

A<12>, [237]; period 4, OA13

Hadrian, AD 117–30, possibly AD 128–30, silver-plated copper-alloy copy of a denarius. C&VW. Diam 18.9mm; Th 2.6mm; Wt 3.2g; Ax 5.

Obv:] (PP); bust r. laureate

Rev: Illegible, possibly COS[] in exergue; Justitia seated l. with patera and sceptre

RCP 7: ANTONINUS PIUS (2 COINS)

Copper-alloy coin

A<10>, [188]; period 5, OA17

Antoninus Pius (Marcus Aurelius as Caesar), AD 154–5, as or dupondius, irregular flan, SW/W; Diam 27.2mm; Th 3.5mm; Wt 11.68g. Die Axis 10.

Obv: [AVREL]IVS CAE SAR AVG[PII FIL]; bearded bust r., bearded bare headed

Rev: TR POT VIII COS [II] SC. Salus standing l. with patera in r. hand over altar.

As RIC III no. 1324a/b minted in Rome

Silver-plated coin

A<11>, [195]; period 5, OA17

Antoninus Pius, 'AD 138–61', silver-plated copper-alloy copy of a denarius. W/VW. Diam 17.7mm; Th 2.1mm; Wt 2.25g. Ax 5.

Obv: ANTON[I]M[P]; bust r. bearded, laureate?

Rev: Illegible perhaps]S(AVGO? Female figure standing r. with vertical sceptre or spear in right hand and cornucopia in left, possibly Concordia or Tranquillitas? Reverse is very unclear and doesn't seem to clearly match a regular denarius of Antoninus Pius which is what is implied by the obverse. Perhaps a mule?

RCP 13: TETRICUS I (3 COINS)

Copper-alloy coin

A<6>, [86]; period 5, OA17

Tetricus I, 'AD 270–3', cast copy of a radiate with sprue ends on opposite edges, one edge damaged. C&W. Diam 17.2mm; Th 2.45mm; Wt 3.4g. Ax 12

Obv: T]E] radiate bust r.

Rev: P(A)X [AVG]; Pax standing l. with right arm out with branch and transverse sceptre.

Copper-alloy coin

A<442>, [1772]; period 5, OA18

Tetricus I, AD 273–4, radiate. W. Diam 19.1mm; Th 1.7mm; Wt 2.44g. Ax 12.

Obv:]ES(V) TETRICVS C(AES); Radiate bust r. of Tetricus II

Rev:]AVG; Victory standing l. winged and draped, wreath raised in r. hand, palm in l. arm

As RIC V Tetricus I nos 224, 277 or 279

Copper-alloy coin

A<446>, [1830]; period 5, OA18

Victorinus or Tetricus I, AD 269–74, radiate. VW/W. Diam 17mm; Th 1.9mm; Wt 1.9g. Ax 4.

Obv: Illegible; bearded bust r. radiate, cuirassed

Rev: L(AE)TIT[IA AVG]; Latitia standing l. with wreath in right hand and anchor in right

RCP 14: CARAUSIUS (1 coin)

Copper-alloy coin

A<8>, [86]; period 5, OA17

Carausius, 'AD 286v93', radiate, possibly a copy. W/SW. Diam 20mm; Th 1.56mm; Wt 1.67g. Ax 4

Obv: garbled legend (C)A(R)AVSVIS[...]C; radiate bearded bust r.

Rev: PAX [AV]G; Pax standing l. with branch in r. hand and vertical sceptre in l. No letters in field or exergue.

RCP 13–14: RADIATES OF UNCERTAIN RULER (2 COINS)

Copper-alloy coin

A<9>, [148]; period 5, OA17

Uncertain ruler, RCP 13–14, AD 260–96, 'barbarous' radiate, reverse very off centre. UW/SW. Diam 11.2mm; Th 1.6mm; Wt 0.9g. Ax 3

Obv: Illiterate legend mixed up with radiate crown (AIAAA)VSS; radiate bearded bust r.

Rev: [P]AX AV[G]; Pax standing l. with vertical sceptre

Copper-alloy coin

A<7>, [86]; period 5, OA17

Uncertain ruler, radiate, two chipped edges. C&EW. Diam 16.2mm; Th 1.8mm; Wt 1.7g. Ax 12

Obv: illegible; radiate bust r.

Rev: illegible; standing figure

RCP 16: CRISPUS (1 COIN)

Note: Another coin of this type was found at the adjacent site of YSQ19 and is included in the Reece Coin Period summary graph above.

Copper-alloy coin

A<14>, [496]; period 3, B6

Crispus, AD 322, nummus. UW/SW. Diam 19.91mm; Th 1.88mm; Wt 3.15g. Ax 7.

Obv: IVLCRISPVSNOBCAES; Bust l. laureate with spear over r. shoulder and shield on l. arm

Rev: B[EA]TA TRANQUILLITAS S TR; Altar with globe on top inscribed VO/TIS/XX and three stars in the legend above.

RIC VII Trier no.347

RCP 17: HOUSE OF CONSTANTINE UNCERTAIN RULER

Copper-alloy coin

A<19>, [1200]; period 5, OA18

House of Constantine, AD 335–41, nummus, struck off-centre and one edge badly damaged. SW. Diam 17mm; Th 1.5mm; Wt 1.15g; Ax 12

Obv: FLIVLCO[]; bust r. laureate, cuirassed

Rev: [GLOR]IA EXER CITVS; Two soldiers holding one central standard, mint mark off edge of coin.

RCP 17: CONSTANS

Copper-alloy coin

A<443>, [1827]; period 5, OA18

Constans, AD 347–8, nummus. SW. Diam 16.85mm; Th 1.58g; Wt 2.07g. Ax 5.

Obv: CONSTAN[S P F] AVG; Bust r. rosette diadem, draped, cuirassed.

Rev: VIC(T)ORIA(E) [DD AVGG] QNN. TRP below exergue and leaf mark above; two victories, winged and draped standing facing each other holding wreaths and palms.

As RIC VIII Trier no. 183–6

RCP 18: FALLEN HORSEMEN COPIES

Copper-alloy coin

A<18>, [1138]; period 5, OA18

?Constantius II, 'AD 354–365', irregular copy, one damaged edge. SW. Diam 12.5mm; Th 2mm; Wt 1.5g. Ax 6.

Obv: Illegible legend; bust r.

Rev: Illegible legend; ?Crude 'fallen horseman' l. being speared by emperor r.

Copper-alloy coin

A<20>, [1298]; period 5, OA18

Constantius II, 'AD 354–65', irregular copy, damaged edges. W. Diam 12.5mm; Th 1.4mm; Wt 0.6g. Ax 8.

Obv: Illegible legend. Bust r. ?diadem

Rev: Illegible legend. Crude 'fallen horseman' l. being speared by emperor r.

RCP 13–21: RADIATES OR NUMMI OF UNCERTAIN RULER (3 COINS)

Copper-alloy coin

A<444>, [1828]; period 5, S10

Uncertain ruler, ? AD 268–402, ?radiate or nummi. VC. Diam 19.1mm; Th 3.3mm; Wt 2.1g. Ax unclear.

Obv: Illegible

Rev: Illegible

Copper-alloy coin

A<445>, [1829]; period 5, OA18

Uncertain ruler, AD 268–402, most likely AD 294–318 or AD 350–357 on size, ?nummus, slightly bent. C&VW. Diam 21.8mm; Th 1.8mm; Wt 3.1g. Ax unclear.

Obv: Illegible; bust r.

Rev: Illegible

Copper-alloy coin

A<5>, [124]; period 5, OA19

?Uncertain ruler, nummus probably RCP 19 or 21 perhaps the former on size, W/VW. Diam 17.7mm; Th 1.9mm; Wt 2.5g. Ax 12.

Obv: Illegible legend; bust r. diadem, cuirass

Rev: Illegible legend; ?Victory standing or advancing l, winged, holding out ?wreath

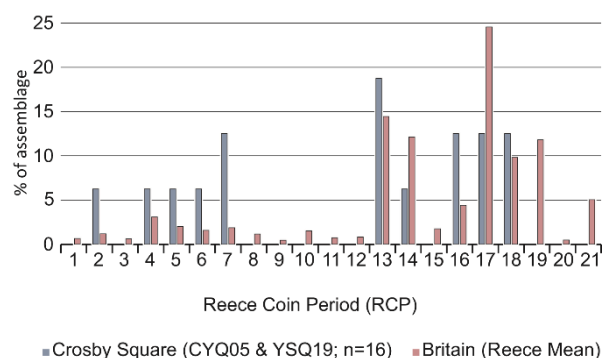


Fig 37. Profile of the Roman coins from CYQ05 and a nummus of Crispus from site YSQ19 (<19>) using Reece's British Mean (RBM)

Medieval Coin

HENRY VI

Silver coin

A<17>, [1109]; period 6, OA24

Henry VI, 1422–30 (annulet issue), groat, one edge damaged. SW. Diam 27.1mm; Th 1.04mm; Wt 3.47g. Die Axis 3.

Obv: HENRIC'.DI (GRA) REX ANGL Z FRA(NC); bust forward, crowned

Rev: POSVI: DEV(MA) DIVTOR E:MEUM/ CIVI TAS: LON DON: Long cross with triple pellets, annulets linking pellets in two opposing quarters

Initial mark North II/Spink 136/18; Obv. saltire stops.

Rev. double saltire stops, except annulet after POSVI.

As Spink 2018 no.1835.

Post-Medieval Jeton

NUREMBERG – HANS KRAUWINCKEL II

Copper-alloy coin

A<16>, [1034]; period 6, OA25

Hans Krauwinckel II, not closely dated but probably 1590s, jeton (biblical series). UW/SW. Diam 28.6mm; Th 1.02mm; Wt 4.01g. Die axis 12.

Obv: HAMAN MARDOCHE/ESTHER VI, in exergue H.K below laurel; Haman standing l. at left facing Mordecai riding l. on right
 Rev: in exergue DAS HAVS HAMAN; Haman hanging from gallows in middle of city street.
 As Mitchener 1988, nos. 1626–7

THE ANIMAL BONE

James Morris

A full report on the combined animal bone assemblage from sites A (CYQ05) and B (BOP82) (Morris 2011) is available in the project archive or on application to MOLA. The more significant findings have been integrated into the narrative and discussion sections of this report.

A summary of species distribution by period is given in (Table 6).

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