Breamore

(2002-2004)

Finds Report

L. Mitchell 2010

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Introduction

A programme of field- walking, test- pitting, and trial-trenching was carried out at Breamore between 2002 and 2004 by students of the University of Southampton as part of the Breamore Settlement and Landscape Project directed by Prof. David Hinton and Dr. Christopher Loveluck. Breamore is situated on the River Avon in the New Forest (National Grid: SU158182). This project followed on from work by Light et al. (1994) where a programme of surface collection between 1979 and 1986 produced evidence for activity from the Mesolithic to the Post-Medieval Period in the Breamore area.

Methodology

Field-Walking

Field-walking was carried out on the 30 x 30m grid used for the geophysical prospection (see geophysical report above) in the Duck Pond Field (2002) and the North Street south field (Bullcroft Field, 2003). Collection units in Duck Pond Field were 30m by 3m; collection units in Bullcroft Field were 10m by 3m. All artefacts within each grid were collected. On Duck Pond Field the total collection area was 29,700m^2; on Bullcroft Field the total collection area was 36,900m^2.

Visibility in Duck Pond Field was poor. Much of the area was covered by the remains of a legume crop. This was raked to the sides of each rectangular collection unit prior to walking, but, of course, meant that collection was impossible for up to half a metre between each 30m collection strip. The field sloped steeply down towards the south and east. Visibility on Bullcroft Field was poor due to stubble remains from a cereal crop. The field was on a river terrace, with a gravely soil which was dry when walked. The field was level.

Test-Pits/Trenches

A trial-trenches was excavated in Rally Field (2002), to test a geophysics anomaly. Fifteen test-pits were dug in Duck Pond Field (2002), allowing comparison of the subsurface finds with those recovered from the surface. Eight test-pits/trenches were dug in Butcher's Field (2004).

Finds Analysis

All finds were recorded by count and weight. Data were entered onto a Microsoft Access n *'Access'* database.

Pottery

The small and abraded nature of the pottery sherds meant that very few sherds could be dated by diagnostic form type. Most pottery sherds were dated by a fabric match (using a x10 binocular microscope) to a known ware type (e.g. Roman Oxford wares);

or by a fabric match to a sherd in the assemblage that did show a diagnostic form/type of decoration. For some fabrics/fabric groups no diagnostic form was available. These sherds were dated by consideration of the fabric, firing and method of manufacture (where it was possible to tell) in relation to the general chronological sequence in the area and by comparison to those fabrics whose date had been established as above. Nonetheless, some fabrics remain questionable in date, and this is discussed below. Fabric types were assigned for dating purposes, and, as a consequence, some fabrics were more 'lumped' and others more 'split' than might have been the case if the purpose was solely fabric analysis.

Flint

Burnt flint from all contexts was counted, weighed and discarded. Worked flint was recorded as a tool, flake, blade or core. Flakes were recorded as 'primary' (showing no clear indication of previous removal); 'secondary' (between 10% and 90% of dorsal showing previous removal/s) or tertiary (less than 10% of dorsal not showing previous flake scars). These definitions are a slight adjustment of those based solely on areas of dorsal cortex because: firstly, in many cases, naturally fractured pieces were further flaked; and secondly, given that recovery was from the plough soil, many pieces had areas of dorsal cortex that had been removed by plough damage, not previous flaking. Areas of retouch were noted, and tools, complete enough to categorise, were assigned to a type following Butler (2005), except where a different reference is given in the text. Given the high incidence of damage and breakage, and the unstratified nature of the assemblage, the flint was not measured.

Ceramic Building Material

All recognised ridge and floor tile was retained, as was all ceramic building material recovered from trenches and test-pits. Brick and tile recovered from field-walking on Duck Pond Field was counted and weighed without further division, and then, apart from a few selected pieces, discarded. The material from field-walking on Bullcroft Field was treated in a similar manner, but, prior to discard, rapid notes were made concerning forms and fabric, at the level of each 30 x 30m square (see Appendix 2).

Other finds

Glass was counted and weighed by form type; that from field-walking which dated to later than the early 19th century was recorded and discarded. Slate and clay pipe from field-walking was recorded and discarded; that from test-pits was retained.

Condition of the finds

The pottery sherds were generally small and abraded: nearly half (48%) of the sherds dated High Medieval and earlier weighed 3g or less (compared to 10% of Late and Post-Medieval sherds). The colour coat on Roman pottery had largely, or completely, worn away, as had the glaze on medieval pottery. The poor condition of the sherds presented four particular problems. A series of similar micaceous fabrics were, in some instances, clearly CBM (for example combed flue/tegula tile) and in others, clearly pottery. However, a number of sherds of these fabrics were too small to show the curvature and the surfaces were too abraded to ascertain the finish: some of these

may have been misclassified. However, both the tile and the pottery were Roman. The second problem concerned the dating of three fabrics, only present in small, undiagnostic fragments (largest = 4g) which may have been either early/mid Saxon, or prehistoric. Another dating problem occurred with very tiny sherds of late Saxon to early High Medieval pottery. Due to their size it was not possible to be sure if they were hand-made or wheel-thrown, and the surface abrasion obscured any scratchmarking. In most cases the size and sorting of the inclusions offered some means of differentiating Saxo-Norman (larger sized inclusions, usually ill-sorted) from High Medieval, but some remain fairly broadly dated. Finally, severe abrasion and soil conditions that could make the pottery appear softer and glazes poorer than originally fired, made it difficult to ascertain whether some sherds were Post-Medieval Verwood, or very Late Medieval related fabrics.

The worked flint recovered during field-walking was, not surprisingly for flint recovered from the plough soil, frequently badly damaged: this often obscured details of flaking or retouch.

Due acidic nature of the soils almost no bone was recovered: the few, unstratified fragments that did survive were either teeth, or small (4g and under) abraded, fragments of mammal bone.

Undated finds

Burnt flint

The vast majority of the burnt flint, 397 pieces (12,736g) was recovered from Duck Pond Field. Sixty-one pieces (2,644g) were recovered from Bullcroft Field; 39 pieces (1109g) from Butcher's Field and one piece (28g) from Priory Field. One quarter of the burnt flint from Butcher's Field was from context 406, and more than half (29 pieces, 650g) from the 400's trench, which also produced the six sherds of prehistoric pottery recovered from this field.

On Duck Pond Field the burnt flint recovered from field-walking was fairly evenly distributed over the field. There is, perhaps, in both test-pit and field-walking data, some indication of a greater number of pieces (although not greater weight) being found down slope towards the southeast of the field, which may be a result of soil movement downhill, resulting in breakage and sorting, or, reflect a slightly larger concentration closer to the pond. The correlation between test-pit and field-walking data is not particularly good: three of the test-pits (TP7, TP 8 and TP12) yielded no burnt flint, despite the fact that it was recovered from the surface grid square of each of these test-pits. The test-pits yielding highest amounts of burnt flint (TP14, 778g; TP16, 775g; TP6, 532g; TP11, 416g) were also those yielding prehistoric pottery, with the exception of TP4 (782g burnt flint, no prehistoric pottery). The remaining test-pits yielded between 2 and 272g of burnt flint.

On Bullcroft Field the actual quantity of flint found was somewhat less than that on Duck Pond field: an average of 64g per square walked on Bullcroft Field (176g per square including only those squares where burnt flint was recovered) as compared to 386g per square walked on Duck Pond Field. However, on Bullcroft Field it formed

two large (up to 90m across), but separate groups, one on the north and one on the south of the field. Each of these may be comprised of three smaller groups. A magnetometry anomaly (m15) (Strutt 2004: 11, fig. 18) in the north west of the field, running close to, and just overlapping, the northern cluster, was interpreted as a palaeochannel.

Pasmore and Pallister (1967: 14) report on burnt flint boiling mounds found in the New Forest. These are, when undamaged, crescent or kidney shaped mounds up to 1m high and 12-15m across, found immediately adjoining a natural water supply. The burnt flint on the Bullcroft may be from very badly damaged and ploughed-out mound(s). On the Duck Pond field, whilst the quantity of flint recovered is larger, there is no obvious patterning, and it was spread upslope from the current water source (the pond). In both cases, a burnt flint mound might have been deliberately cleared at some point in the past, perhaps in order to cultivate the land, resulting in a widespread flint scatter. However, not every scatter of burnt flint need be from a boiling mound.

Slag and clinker

Nine fragments (473g, weight range: 9 to 149g) of slag were recovered from Bullcroft field; two fragments (181g) from Butchers Field and 18 fragments (1053g, weight range 8-198g) from Duck Pond Field. The quantities recovered are too low to draw conclusions about the patterns of distribution within the fields.

Stone artefacts

Two whetstones fragments and one (?)grindstone fragment were recovered from Duck Pond Field and one fragment of whetstone from Butcher's Field (a fragment of quernstone is discussed under 'Saxon').

A fragment of medium grained, very well cemented, yellow-brown sandstone (quartz in a siliceous matrix) from Duck Pond Field (u/s) may originally have been from a quern or grindstone. It had a polish on the upper and (especially) lower surfaces. This polish extended over the broken edges, suggesting some form of reuse.

BRBT04, context 404, RF9 (recorded find), (94mm^{+} x 33mm x 20mm) was a shaped whetstone with evidence of use on the top and bottom surfaces, one of which seemed to have been preferentially used, resulting in a slightly concave shape to the surface. The stone was a yellow brown (grey-brown where fresh), very well cemented, fine-grained sandstone (quartz in a siliceous matrix).

A fragment of a shaped whetstone from Duck Pond Field (21/50H) appeared (under a binocular microscope at x30) to be the same stone type as BRBT04, RF9. It had a roughly square cross-section (46mm^{+} x 20mm x 18mm), and tapered slightly. There were whetting planes on all four sides.

A fragment of a second whetstone from Duck Pond Field (22/50H) was made from a moderately well cemented, fine grained, yellow-grey, micaceous sandstone. It had a flattened shape (51mm^{+} x 39mm x 14mm), and had been used on the upper surface,

and possibly also on the base and sides (although in the case of the sides this may just be a result of shaping the stone).

Finally, a small fragment (66g) of shelly, sandy limestone with good cleavage was recovered from Duck Pond Field (23/40A). It is likely to be from a roof or paving tile.

Prehistoric Finds

Chipped Stone

There was one piece of sandstone (14g) from Butcher's Field (context 600) that may have been chipped (J. McNabb: pers. comm. 2004). The remainder of the chipped stone artefacts were, not surprisingly, flint.

Worked Flint

The worked flint assemblage consisted of 692 pieces dating from the Palaeolithic to the Late Bronze Age (Table 1), and two pieces of building flint (which are not included in further analysis). The majority of the pieces, including those from the test-pits, were badly damaged as a result of ploughing and/or rolling. The exceptions to this are discussed below. Most pieces were only dated as 'prehistoric', partly because of damage, but largely due to the fact that it is not possible to date individual, unstratified flakes with any certainty. However, it is likely, for the reasons discussed below, that the majority of the assemblage was Bronze Age/Late Bronze Age in date. The flint formed a general 'background scatter' across all fields, with the exception of Priory Field where only two pieces were found; however, there were very few finds of any type from this field. There was no discernible concentration of worked flint by either date or findspot in any field, with two possible Mesolithic exceptions, discussed below.

Raw Material

Re-deposited flint is readily available at the surface in the area. The Upper Chalk outcrops within two to five kilometres. Where present, the cortex on most worked pieces shows signs of considerable weathering and rolling damage, that is, it was re-deposited flint, and is, not surprisingly therefore, of poor quality and inclined to knap unpredictably. There are a few exceptions to this. Where datable, either by tool type or knapping technology, the better quality, chalk-derived flint was used in the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Early/Mid Neolithic. Differences in patination on some pieces between earlier removals and later removals/retouch suggest an occasional reuse of older worked flint. These reused pieces were mainly flakes with later retouch; but also included five cores that appear to have been reused as a core. The only two possible hammerstones recovered were also reused pieces: one core and the end of a ficron.

Composition of the assemblage

The bulk (67%) of the assemblage was composed of unmodified flakes (246 pieces) and flakes with some retouch (181 pieces) (Tables 2 and 3). The retouched flakes

consisted of pieces too badly damaged to assign to any particular tool type, and expedient tools.

The number of tools (Table 4) in the assemblage has certainly been underestimated, due to the result of plough/rolling damage to the edges. In particular, likely cutting flakes were rarely identified outside the lowest contexts of test-pits 11 and 16 on the Duck Pond Field, for the simple reason that elsewhere edges were frequently too badly damaged to be certain of retouch, let alone something that might be usewear.

The majority of the tools identified were various types of scraper: 37% of all tools, 8.3% of the assemblage. This result contrasts with the previous survey (Light et al 1994:64) where scrapers were 2.5% of the flint assemblages recovered from areas on river gravels. Some of this difference may be explained by differences in classification: it is possible that I have been more liberal in the use of the term. Light et al. (ibid: 69) note that their scrapers from the two fields they walked immediately to the north of Breamore are all early Neolithic, with the exception of one Bronze Age thumbnail scraper. This may mean that unless a piece fitted neatly into a recognised 'type' it was not classified as a scraper in their report. Since Bronze Age and especially Late Bronze Age flintwork often does not fit neatly into categories, tending to be expedient and often a little 'scruffy', in the current report many pieces were classified as scrapers on the basis that the nature and placement of the retouch suggested that they were expedient scrapers, even though, morphologically, they did not fit neatly into a particular category. Two possible Palaeolithic (redeposited) and two, perhaps three, Mesolithic scrapers were identified. However, two thirds of the scrapers in this report were simply dated 'prehistoric' on the basis that they did not fit neatly into a dated category: either as a result of plough damage, or because they were probably expedient tools. It is these that may not have been classified as scrapers in Light et al's report. Awls and piercers comprised 21% of the tool assemblage, and of these, most (22 of 33) could be identified as piercers. The piercing point was frequently broken, those surviving intact tended to be quite short, but it might be supposed that the longer points were those most likely to be broken in the plough soil. Notches comprised 12% of the assemblage.

The flake tools were made primarily on secondary flakes (Table 3). Three times as many scrapers (39 versus 13) and notches (10 versus 3) were made on secondary flakes than on tertiary flakes. Cutting flakes too, were more common on secondary flakes (eight versus four on tertiary flakes). In many instances the cortex on the secondary flakes was opposite the working edge and provided a means of handling the tool. The exception was awls/piercers which occurred equally on primary and secondary flakes (15 and 16 examples respectively) with one on a bladelet and one unclassifiable. Relatively few (18%) of the primary flakes were further modified: those made into recognisable tools were notches (three) or scrapers (two). The relative number of retouched flakes in the assemblage was rather high: 25% of the total worked flint assemblage. A similar point is noted by Light et al (1994:62-64, 69), whose results show the percentage of retouched flakes was 18-19% for assemblages recovered from two fields immediately to the north of Breamore and from areas on river gravels. This is actually slightly lower than the percentage recovered from other areas in their survey. The percentage of primary flakes (14.4%), and tertiary flakes (28.5%) in the assemblage are both very close to Light et al's results for similar areas: river gravel areas, and for areas under 30m OD (ibid: 64, 66).

Relatively few blades and bladelets were recovered: less than 4% of the worked flint assemblage as compared to Light et al's results of 8 to 9% for comparable areas (ibid: 62, 64).

Very few cores were recovered: 31 cores (4.5% of the flint assemblage) and one possible core tablet in an assemblage of 692 pieces of worked flint. In the case of the later Bronze Age, cores tend to be crude and are frequently not recognised (Butler 2001:181). Given that most of the fieldwork was done by undergraduates, and that most of the assemblage is likely to be Bronze Age, it is very probable that these cores were missed. However, this figure is very close to Light et al's results for similar areas (1994: 62, 64), and may genuinely reflect that tool production areas were elsewhere.

Palaeolithic
There were eight pieces that were possibly Palaeolithic in date. Those that were possibly Early/Middle Palaeolithic are all heavily patinated and abraded and all were likely to be redeposited. A fragment, likely to be the distal end of a ficron (Lower Palaeolithic, Mode 2), was well-rounded at the point and showed some crushing consistent with it being (re-?)used as a pestle, or possibly as a hammerstone, which suggests it may have been deliberately brought to the site at a later date. The Upper Palaeolithic pieces included two blades; one of which was likely to be a curved back point made on a small blade, of the Final Upper Palaeolithic, or, perhaps, a blade tool of the early Mesolithic. There were probably slightly more Palaeolithic pieces than Table 1 might suggest: a few very well patinated, large, hard hammer flakes, may be of this date, though, equally, they could be Neolithic.

Mesolithic
There were 22 pieces identified as Mesolithic and a further 19 likely to be Mesolithic: just under 6% of the assemblage (Table 1). Again this is certainly an underestimate of the proportion of Mesolithic pieces. There were a number of flakes and some flake tools, but no primary flakes, made from good quality chalk flint, patinated grey/blue/white (as were many of the certain Mesolithic pieces), and made with a soft hammer. These were probably Mesolithic (for example around square 38 of Bullcroft Field). However, given that they were damaged and most were not further modified, it is not possible to date any individual piece, with certainty, to the Mesolithic. Most of the pieces identified as Mesolithic were (not surprisingly) bladelets, soft hammer flakes and tools thereon (scrapers, awls/piecers, burin and microburin) (Table 4). There were also two bladelet cores recovered from Butcher's Field, however, one seemed to have been reused, hence the date it was discarded is uncertain. A fragment of flint from Rally Field looked like a sharpening flake from an axe or adze, and was probably Mesolithic. The only recovered piece identifiable as a microlith was a hollow based point, Jacobi type 10a (Jacobi 1978: 16, fig. 6), from Duck Pond Field. This is a later Mesolithic type, usually found in assemblages of the 7th to 5th millennium BC. Finds of Horsham points do occur outside the 'classic Wealden' assemblages of the later Mesolithic: for example a number were recovered at the later Mesolithic site of Broom Hill, near Braishfield, Hampshire (O'Malley and Jacobi 1978: 33-34).

Within the scatter of Mesolithic flint were two possible slight concentrations: one in Trench 3 on Butchers Field (contexts in the 400s), where seven (many in good condition) of the 10 pieces from that field were found; and another in Test-Pit 7 on Duck Pond Field, from which four of the 22 pieces from that field were recovered. There was no corresponding concentration recovered from field-walking on DuckPond Field, indeed, the most of the field-walking flint assemblage came from squares to the north-west of Test-Pit 7. However, since the pieces tend to be small and light, this could be the result of downslope field-wash and the build up of colluvium in Test-Pit 7.

This assemblage does not suggest any intensive use of the areas examined during the Mesolithic, but rather, a casual use (and loss of artefacts) by small groups moving along the Avon valley and penetrating the adjacent landscape whilst hunting or foraging. However, it is possible that temporary settlement areas have been obscured by, for example, colluvial build up.

Neolithic and Bronze Age

A relatively small number of pieces were dated to the early to mid-Neolithic. These were: five damaged, chunky blades (including two blade tools, one a likely to be side scraper) from the Early Neolithic; and eight side and/or end scrapers made on chunky, relatively long flakes often with a prior removal from the dorsal and/or with dorsal cortex (probably to facilitate handling), from the Neolithic to early Bronze Age, but most likely to be early Neolithic. Two of these scrapers had damage opposite the scraping edge that may have been the result of hafting.

The majority of the flint assemblage probably dated from the late Neolithic to late Bronze Age, particularly to the end of this period (even though, for the reasons stated above, individual pieces could rarely be dated better than 'prehistoric'). Whilst the number of diagnostic tool types was small (three, rather poorly made, button scrapers and a 'horned scraper', see below), the assemblage as a whole showed a number of features typical of Bronze Age flintwork. There was a small range of tool types (notches, piercers, scrapers); a large number of variably shaped flakes, often with some (frequently ragged) retouch but conforming to no specific tool type (ad hoc/expedient tools); the use of poor quality flint; and frequent knapping faults in the form of hinge/step fractures, and incipient cones on platforms showing mishits/repeated blows to the platform (or missing the platform altogether). The knapping faults were partly a consequence of the poor quality material, although some appeared to be simply unskilled knapping (for example, missing the platform, or hitting rather too far back on the platform). It is possible that some hinge fractures were produced intentionally: the smooth hinged termination does not needing blunting to facilitate handling. Intentionally produced or not, pieces with hinge fractures were frequently selected for further modification. Retouch was also found on naturally fractured and shattered pieces. One such piece, from Rally Field, morphologically resembled a horned scraper. It was made on a naturally (on one face, thermally) fractured, wedge shaped piece of flint. This had been notched and retouched on the thin end of the wedge; and showed neat abrupt/semi-abrupt retouch around the concavity (maximum height of horns: 8mm, distance between the horns: 27mm).

The most common tool type was what might be dubbed 'the scruffy scraper': retouch was often ragged, abrupt to semi-abrupt, and placed along any suitable edge on

practically any shape of flake. The opposite edge was often cortex, which would have facilitated handling. Some were on relatively narrow pieces with a roughly triangular cross section, the retouch being on the long, thinner edge (which might be a lateral or distal edge); again, the opposite, thicker, naturally steep, edge would have facilitated handling. Those pieces that seemed fairly certainly to be scrapers were classified as such. However, in many pieces the retouch was either very haphazard, or had been damaged, and these pieces were simply classified as 'flakes with retouch': many were probably intended as scrapers.

Duck Pond Field, Test-Pits 11 and 16

In the lower contexts of Test-Pits 11 and 16 (contexts 3, 5 and 4) on Duck Pond Field the flint was in a notably better condition.

In the bottom of Test-Pit 16 (context 4), were two flakes, one of which may have been a cutting flake. Contexts 3 and 5, above, contained seven pieces of worked flint, including a cutting flake and a fairly crudely made piercer(?).

The lower contexts of Test-Pit 11 (contexts 3 and 4) also contained flint in very good condition, specifically: three cores likely to be late Bronze Age; four flakes; five shattered pieces (231g), possibly the result of flint working; and five tools (a notch, a piercer(?) and three cutting flakes, two of which were cortex backed and one which had retouch on the back).

Prehistoric Pottery

Sixty sherds (122g) of prehistoric pottery were recovered, (Tables 5, 6 and 7). This figure includes eight sherds (13g) that could be prehistoric or early Saxon (see below). The small sherd size (average weight 2g, more than 25% were 1g or less) and lack of diagnostic features meant that very few pieces could be closely dated. The prehistoric pottery dated, in a probably continuous sequence, from the early Bronze Age to the late Iron Age.

The very late Iron Age pottery, specifically, those fabrics and forms that continue into the Roman period, are grouped with the Roman pottery, below.

Fabrics and forms

The prehistoric sherds were mainly tempered with crushed, burnt flint; however there were also burnt flint and grog, quartz and grog, grog, and vesicular fabrics (see Appendix 1). Four sherds with organic and quartz inclusions (fabrics O2 and O4), and four sherds with quartz and glauconite inclusions (fabric GlQ2) were possibly prehistoric, but may have been early/mid Saxon. The quartz and glauconite fabric tended be fired to a bright orange in places and was probably prehistoric. The other two fabrics contained low amounts of seed/chaff-like organic voids. Whilst organic tempering was common in early Saxon pottery it can occur in Iron Age pottery. At nearby Ellingham Farm a similar fabric was dated to the early Iron Age; the organic tempered early Saxon fabrics at Ellingham Farm contained larger amounts of grass-like voids than did the Iron Age organically tempered fabrics (Morris 1995: 70, 73). It is thus suggested that these two fabrics (O2 and O4) are probably early Iron Age. The

sherds containing grog are most likely to be early or middle Bronze Age. In the Wessex area the use of grog was typical of the early Bronze Age, but it continued in use in the middle Bronze Age in Dorset (Cleal 1995: 188, 192-3). Fabric FG1 containing well calcined flint and grog probably dates to the later part of the early Bronze Age, flint alone becoming the dominant inclusion, in Wessex, the Middle Bronze Age. One sherd in a burnt flint tempered fabric (F2) had a fingernail impression, this, along with the silty nature of the matrix, suggests a date of mid to late Bronze Age for this fabric (Elaine Morris: pers. comm.). Fabric F1, also tempered with burnt flint, was likely to be late Bronze to early Iron Age, on the basis of the fabric (slightly sandy matrix, relatively thin sherd and lower amounts of burnt flint) and a possible finger impression (the sherd is broken at this point) on one sherd (ibid.). Burnt flint tempered fabric F5 was probably mid to late Iron Age. There are two, very tiny rim fragments in this fabric: one was slightly everted; the other was possibly from a saucepan pot, having a slightly (?)inturned pointed rim, with a lightly impressed line running internally and externally around the pot just below the rim. Fabric V1 consisted of five sherds (9g) of a vesicular fabric all from the same saucepan pot (mid to late Iron Age) from Duck Pond Field, TP 16, context 5. The relatively formless shape of the majority of the voids suggests that the fabric was possibly originally tempered with chalk; but occasional laminar voids may imply that it originally contained a few pieces of shell, however, all of the carbonate material has subsequently dissolved out in Breamore's acid soils.

All of the prehistoric fabrics, except the glauconitic, could have been made from materials close to the site. There are a number of sources of both Reading Beds and London clays, and outcrops of Lower Chalk within 1 to 3 km of the site (BGS 1976). The glauconitic fabric was fairly sandy with rare glauconite, which may be a result of tempering with greensand. The nearest deposit of greensand noted by the British Geological Survey (ibid) is the Upper Greensand c. 12km northwest of Breamore (ibid); however, there may be small pockets not far beneath the surface more locally. Glauconitic sand (derived from the Lower Chalk and Upper Greensand) also occurs as beach deposits along parts of the Solent (personal observation); the pottery could have been made at the coast and carried along the River Avon.

Distribution

The majority of the prehistoric pottery (54 of 60 sherds) came from test-pits or trenches (Tables 5, 6, & 7). This is not surprising as the soft, low fired fabrics are unlikely to survive well when subjected to the plough and exposed to the elements.

Seven sherds (three of which might be early Saxon: fabrics O2 and O4) were recovered from field-walking on Bullcroft Field. Given that, on Duck Pond field, 47 sherds were recovered from the test-pits (13% by count, of pottery in test-pits, Tables 6 and 7), but none from field-walking, these sherds are more significant than their quantity might initially suggest. The small quantity recovered makes it difficult to see any significant pattern in the distribution of prehistoric pottery on Bullcroft Field. Two fragments were dated to the early/mid Bronze Age; the rest could not be dated closer than Bronze/Iron Age.

On Duck Pond Field most of the prehistoric pottery was from test-pits 11 and 16 (18 and 21 sherds, discussed later); a further seven sherds are residual in test-pit 14 (1); the single sherd in each of test-pits 1 and 6 could be early Saxon.

No prehistoric pottery was recovered from Priory field or Rally Field, however, rather less of these fields was investigated. On Butcher's Field all prehistoric pottery came from the 400's trench. The sherd in context 401 was residual. Two sherds in context 402 were Bronze Age, but three sherds (2g) in fabric GlQ2 could be prehistoric or early Saxon. Stratigraphically below context 402, was context 406 which contained five sherds (10g), thought most likely to be Saxon, but, an Iron Age date could not be discounted. The flint in these contexts included Mesolithic and Bronze Age pieces, some of which were in good condition, some not. Thus, although probably Saxon or later, the feature (cut [425]), interpreted as a large pit, may be prehistoric.

Test-Pits 11 and 16, Duck Pond Field

Test-pits 11 and 16 were located in diagonally adjacent grid squares, and both contain contexts that, on the basis of the finds, are likely to be prehistoric in date.

In test-pit 11, six of the 18 sherds of prehistoric pottery were residual in context 2 (described as 'subsoil'). However, the all 12 sherds in context 3 (Tables 6 & 7), described as 'subsoil with charcoal flecks' were prehistoric: one sherd (7g) Bronze Age; one sherd (7g) Bronze/Iron Age; and 10 sherds (6g) early to mid Iron Age. The flint from contexts 3 and 4 in this test-pit was in noticeably good condition (see above) and Bronze Age in date. This may imply that these contexts (3 and 4) were part of a prehistoric feature larger than the test-pit itself. The test-pit was located close to magnetometry anomaly m29 (Strutt 2004, fig 6).

In test-pit 16, ten sherds of prehistoric pottery in context 2 (colluvium) (Tables 6 & 7) were residual. However, in contexts 3 and 5, 'ditch fill' all pottery was prehistoric in date (8 and 5 sherds, respectively). The stratigraphically later context 3, which may be the bottom of the slope rather than ditch fill, contained pottery ranging from Bronze Age to Iron Age. The stratigraphically earlier context 5 (the lower fill of the ditch) contained five sherds from one mid to late Iron Age saucepan pot (fabric V1, discussed above, total weight just 9g). The flint, from contexts 3 and 5, and the stratigraphically earliest, context 4, was Bronze Age in date and in very good condition (see above). The feature, which is possibly on the line of magnetometry anomaly m30, may, thus be a ditch that silted up during the Bronze Age, but was filled in during the mid Iron Age or later.

Late Iron Age and Roman Finds

Pottery

A total of 137 sherds (1030g), of very late Iron Age and Roman pottery were recovered (Tables 5, 6 and 8). The vast majority (107 sherds) was from Bullcroft Field, where it formed 18% (by count) of the pottery recovered from that field, with lesser amounts from Duck Pond and Butcher's Field. The average sherd weight was 8g, with 35% weighing 3g or less. The relatively large size of the Roman sherds

(compared to much of the rest of the pottery assemblage) is partly accounted for by the robustness of some forms, and the much better firing. However, it may also be a result of some of the sherds originally being part of the fill of features, for example, in the case of some grog tempered sherds (see below), rather than a manure scatter. Most of the Roman pottery could be dated no closer than 'Roman', due to a lack of diagnostic forms. Those pieces that were dated more closely (often on fabric) span the whole of the Roman period from 1st century to 4th century, on both Bullcroft Field and Duck Pond Field. Of the nine sherds on Butcher's Field only two could be more closely dated: both to late Roman period.

Fabrics and forms

The distribution of the fabric groups across the fields is shown in Table 8.

Grog tempered coarsewares

The most abundant coarseware group was the (usually poorly) hand made, grog-tempered fabrics, which made up about a quarter of the Roman pottery. Grog tempered fabrics occurred in both the late Iron Age/early Roman and the late Roman (3rd to 5th centuries AD) periods. A single body sherd was recovered in a fabric containing rare to sparse grog and common fine quartz, the rest were in a fabric(s) with common, coarse grog (including grog within grog) and very fine, sparse quartz. The firing of this latter group was very variable, ranging from very well-fired, oxidised sherds (which look distinctly Roman) to soft-fired, muddy-grey and black sherds with burnishing (which could easily be late Iron Age), some of which contain rare to moderate amounts of partly burnt out carbonaceous material. A number of sherds fell between the extremes. One, slightly sandier, and very well fired grog tempered sherd contains a fragment that looks like the late Roman, New Forest well-fired fineware (which would date the fabric to the late Roman period), but this could simply be a grog fragment that fused on refiring. It is uncertain whether this was one, very variably fired group or two (?three) separate fabrics, which may have been of different dates. There were just two sherds with potentially datable forms: one fragment of an everted rim, which was too small and too damaged to be certain of the angle; and part of a vessel with a curved side and flat rim. This latter was from a vessel approximately 16cm diameter, fired grey with black surfaces and lightly burnished on the exterior and on the top of the rim. It was possibly from a curved-sided saucepan pot of Danebury type PA (Cunliffe 1984:293). Grog tempered vessels of this form were not found at Danebury, although at Maiden Castle, a grog tempered sherd of saucepan pot of the PB form (Brown 1991: 188) was recovered. Brown, from stratigraphic evidence at both Danebury and Maiden Castle, suggested that the PA type saucepan pot was a precursor of the PB form. At Danebury the PA forms were dated c. 550-300BC, with the PB forms occurring from approximately 550-100/50BC (Cunliffe 1984: 297). At Maiden Castle, however, the PA form was found in small amount in phase 6H, these may have been residual, or it may imply that it continued to be produced in small quantities into the 1st century BC. However, both the grog tempering and the firing of the grog tempered sherds in the Breamore assemblage suggest this is a late Iron Age/Roman fabric, rather than middle Iron Age. The alternative is that this sherd is from a shallow bowl ('dog dish'), which could date the fabric to the later Roman period, although the flattened rim type would be atypical.

The distinct clustering of the grog tempered sherds on Bullcroft Field suggests that it was one fabric, possibly in used in a fairly restricted timespan. Whilst at nearby Ellingham Farm, grog tempered sherds from an oxidised, thick walled jar were dated to the *late* Roman period (Seager Smith 1995:71-2), Light et al (1999:78) stated that most of the *early* Roman fabrics they found in the Avon Valley survey were heavily grog tempered. It is suggested therefore, that the grog tempered fabric discussed above is a late Iron Age fabric that continues into the early Roman period.

Other coarsewares

There were two main fabric groups within the greywares, both wheel thrown and well fired: those containing quartz ('sandy greywares') and those dominated by glauconite with varying amounts of quartz (Tables 5 & 6). There were not enough diagnostic forms in these fabrics be able to ascertain if the fabric differences have chronological significance. The sandy greywares, in which there were no diagnostic forms, were likely to be made fairly locally. Only two sherds could be definitely attributed to the New Forest greywares industries (by fabric).

Unlike the Prehistoric/Saxon glauconitic fabrics, two of the Roman glauconitic fabrics (GW3, CW11) contain relatively little quartz in proportion to the glauconite, and, therefore, the presence of glauconite cannot be explained by the use of glauconite-rich sand as a temper. These fabrics were possibly made from the glauconitic Gault clays, derived from the Upper and Lower Greensands. The nearest sources of Gault clays are along the River Nadder, east of Salisbury (BGS 1976), which is linked, via the Rivers Nadder and Avon, to Breamore. However, similar glauconitic fabrics have also been found in Bitterne (often identified as '*Clausentum*') (personal observation), and it is possible that this is a fairly widely distributed fabric, possibly from a more distant source. The two identifiable rims forms in this fabric, both from Bullcroft Field, were both early: one sherd, 1st century (possibly very late Iron Age) was from a bowl or jar with a high, carinated shoulder and a short upstanding to slightly everted (damaged) rim similar to the southern Atrebatic jars of this type, for example type BA2.1 at Danebury (Cunliffe 1984). The other was an everted rim of a 1st/2nd century type. However, not enough diagnostic sherds were recovered to know whether or not the fabric remained current in the later Roman period.

The remainder of the coarsewares were five sherds from the Poole Harbour area: three sherds of Black Burnished Ware and two sherds containing pieces of shale; and one sherd of Alice Holt pottery from the Surrey/Hampshire border area. One of the Black Burnished sherds, from Bullcroft Field, was from a high flanged (flat grooved rim) bowl, dating to the late 2nd to early 3rd century. The Alice Holt sherd (from the Bullcroft Field), on the basis of its fabric, was likely to be 1st or 2nd century.

Finewares

Finewares accounted for a high proportion of the Roman pottery recovered: 40% (of 137 sherds). This compares to less than 10% (of 302 sherds) at Ellingham Farm (Seager Smith 1995:72). It is possible that the poor visibility on the fields may have favoured the recovery of finewares; these tend to be oxidised, and are, thus, more easily seen. One might expect such bias to result in a tendency to recover more small oxidised (red) sherds than small greyware sherds (assuming that larger fragments of pottery, no matter what colour, would be more easily seen). However, there was little difference in average sherd weight between oxidised and non-oxidised

sherds (7g and 8g respectively) and the percentage of finewares weighing 3g or under (33%) was similar to that for the Roman pottery as a whole.

Only three fineware sherds could be dated to the 1st/2nd century. Most interesting of these was a glazed sherd (Duck Pond Field). This sherd was from a high-shouldered, bead rim jar, in a grey fabric, with a buff-orange exterior surface, and a thin, mid-olive (i.e. clear lead) glaze still adhering to the inside just under the rim, and on top of the rim (the exterior is too abraded to tell whether or not it was glazed). This does *not* match the description (an oxidised fabric with a treacly, orange glaze) of Arthur's (1978:314) '*South-Central English*' group which tended to be distributed along the Avon Valley. It matches rather better the '*South-East English*' group (ibid. 298-308) (National Roman Fabric Reference Collection *'Southern British Glazed Ware'* (Tomber and Dore 1998:213)), although Arthur (ibid) illustrates no parallel for the form found at Breamore. The distribution of the 'S*outh-East English*' group was centred along the Thames Valley, but Tyers (2006) does map two finds in Wiltshire. The ware is dated c. 70-120AD. Dated to the second century were two pieces of very abraded samian, both from Bullcroft Field, one sherd of second century Central Gaulish (Lezoux group), and one of a late second century East Gaulish fabric (?Rheinzabern).

Most of the datable finewares were 3rd/4th century, Oxford and New Forest fabrics. The New Forest wares were mainly well-fired reduced ware sherds, Fulford fabric 1 (Fulford 1975:24), from beakers and flagons. The Oxford wares were bowls and mortaria: seven of the sixteen sherds could be identified as mortaria, three of which were from flanged types, Young's (1977) C100 series (the other four being non-diagnostic).

The remaining finewares were not datable. All were in micaceous fabrics which are not local, and which were very similar to the micaceous brick and tile fabrics discussed below (and indeed, a few of the tiniest pieces may have been building material).

Distribution

On the Duck Pond Field only 25 sherds of Roman pottery were recovered, which makes any comment on the distribution tenuous. The sherds recovered from test-pits were generally smaller (average weight 4g, 14 sherds) than those recovered from field-walking (average weight 11g, 11 sherds). Whilst poor visibility may have led to bias for larger sherds to be recovered in field-walking, this does not explain the lack of large sherds recovered from test-pits (just one sherd 11g or over). The majority of the sherds from test-pits came from the ploughsoil or the colluvial layer, with two (including the 12g sherd) from contexts described as 'subsoil'. This may imply that these sherds were present in the test-pits as a result of colluviation, having become abraded in the process, however, the field-walking squares yielding Roman pottery tended to be downslope from the test-pits yielding Roman pottery. On Duck Pond Field, as one would expect, the majority of the late finewares were New Forest sherds (6 of 10 sherds), including two sherds in oxidised colour coat (presumably red-slipped, although the slip has completely abraded): one mortaria and one (?)bowl base. Only one sherd of Oxford ware was recovered from Duck Pond Field.

On the Bullcroft Field the Roman pottery was concentrated towards the south of the field, possibly coincident with a number of geophysical anomalies in this area (Strutt 2004: fig. 18). There was a noticeable gap on the course of, and to the northwest, of magnetometry anomaly m15, interpreted as a palaeochannel (ibid), raising the possibility that the area may have been wet or marshy in the Roman period.

The grog tempered pottery comprised approximately one third of the Late Iron Age/Roman pottery from Bullcroft Field (34 sherds, Table 8). It was clustered mainly towards the southeast of the field, where it made up the majority of the Late Iron Age/Roman pottery present. Grog tempered sherds from squares 12 (2940/2850), 5 (2940/2820) and 6 (2970/2820) and to some extent square 4 (2910/2820) tended to be reasonably large (up to 41g) and in noticeably better condition than most of the Roman pottery (or indeed, most of the pottery before the Late Medieval period), suggesting that they may have been recently ploughed out of a feature. The magnetometry results showed a number of anomalies in this area interpreted as pits/small trenches (m23) and a ditch (m22) (Strutt 2004: 11, fig. 18). There was also a reasonable coincidence between the north-south running ditch (m22) and a line of grog tempered sherds. It is possible that the sherds were from this feature. Assuming the grog tempered pottery is Late Iron Age/early Roman in date (see discussion above), then at some point in the first century, activity, as evidenced by the pottery scatter, spread over the rest of the southern part of the field, with the focus moving to the west. The earliest dated amongst the rest of the Roman fabrics on the field were the glauconitic greywares (see above), which plot with the remainder of the Roman group, although the Atrebatic style rim sherd (above) was on the edge of the grog group.

In contrast to Duck Pond Field, on Bullcroft Field, the late fineware were mainly Oxford ware (16) rather than New Forest (10), none of the New Forest sherds being red colour coats. A similar anomaly was noted at Ellingham Farm (Seager Smith 1995: 73) where three Oxford red colour coat vessels were present, but no New Forest red colour coat. Seager Smith suggested that the reason could be chronological. The Ellingham Farm assemblage was dated to the mid 3rd century, prior to full production in the New Forest. The Oxfordshire kilns start producing red colour coat bowls after the Samian forms Dr 35/36, 37 and Cu11 from perhaps as early as 225 AD, and increasingly from the mid 3rd century, with the flanged mortaria (C100) starting production from perhaps the late 3rd century (Young 1977:158ff). Whilst the New Forest kilns are producing beakers from the mid to late 3rd century, production of red colour coat bowls probably does not start until the very late third century, and red colour coat mortaria from about 325 on (Fulford 1975:50ff). Unfortunately, none of the Roman pottery recovered from Breamore was stratified, but it is just possible that there was a gap in the pottery sequence on the Bullcroft Field during the height of production of the New Forest kilns. If the grog tempered pottery was late Roman/sub Roman (3rd to 5th centuries AD) (see above), then its separation from the rest of the Roman pottery, along with this domination of Oxford red colour coats over New Forest red colour coats, may imply some gap in activity on this field in the 4th century, and resumption of activity in the southeast of the field in the late Roman/sub Roman period, or a cessation in the use of finewares in the source of the pottery for this field. An alternative possibility is simply a preference, amongst some sections of the population, for the red colour coats (especially mortaria) of the Oxfordshire kilns to their New Forest counterparts.

All six sherds recovered from Butcher's Field (Tables 6 & 8) were residual.

Ceramic Building Material

Sixty fragments of building material dated to the Roman period were recovered (Tables 15 and 16). It should be noted only the building material recovered from test-pits was dated for Duck Pond Field. For the Bullcroft field, only the more diagnostic pieces were retained for dating.

Fabrics and forms

There were two fabrics, consistent with local clays, of which only two pieces were retained for dating, and both were bricks. There were more fragments in these fabrics than Table 2 suggests: both were recorded occasionally in the rapid notes made before the CBM recovered from the Bullcroft Field was discarded (See Appendix 2, for details of the fabrics, and an explanation of the methodology used).

Micaceous building material
A number of fragments of a micaceous building material were recovered. This is of some considerable interest as it cannot be local. Three fabric subtypes were seen, all of which were noticeably 'sparkly' to the naked eye. Fabric B2 was a uniform fabric with fine mica, round, or elongate voids (?some voids may be where shell has leached out), and variable amounts of fine red inclusions. The remaining fabrics, bother originally classed as, T9, had more quartz inclusions. Under a binocular microscope (x10) these could be separated into two fabrics: T9a had more detrital quartz, less glauconite, and slightly more mica than T9b (full fabric descriptions are given in Appendix 2). These fabrics all have an exact match (under a binocular microscope at x10) in the Winchester Museums CBM fabric reference collection. These fabrics were recovered from the Brook's excavation (Foot undated; and 1991:6), where they were dated to the 3rd/4th century. Samples of this fabric were taken for thin sectioning, and the results (detailed in Appendix 2), compare well to David Williams (1991) results for the Brooks material. Williams (ibid) suggested a source of clay on the Wealden type rocks. Foot (1991:6), in his study of the distribution of these tiles which showed a cluster of finds in Neatham/Wyck area, suggested a source in the Gault clays of the Hampshire/Sussex border about 25km distant from Winchester, or slightly further north. Winchester was the most westerly point in Foot's distribution maps, and the occurrence of the type at Breamore extends the range of this fabric some distance. The fabric is not known at 'Clausentum' (Bitterne Manor) (A. Russel: 2004, pers. com.), although there is evidence of 3rd/4th century building there.

The very small size of the fragments, and surface abrasion meant that few pieces could be identified to form. The forms that were identified, were brick, exclusively fabric B2, and, most commonly, combed flue tile (always in fabric T9), and three fragments of possible tegular and imbrex. The tiles tended to be rather thin: 8-15mm. Where tile surfaces survived, it was usual for combing to be on the unsanded side. The combs had between 6 and 8 teeth, and the tracks, after firing, are 1.5-2.0mm wide and 1.5-2.0mm apart (on one example 1.0mm wide and 1.0mm apart). One fragment, form unknown, had part of a round hole (diameter c. 13^{+}mm) created *ante cocturam.* The tile was 8mm thick, which is rather thin for a tegula, and the hole was perhaps part of a vent in some form of hollow tile. Only

one fragment showed any evidence of mortar: a piece of combed ?box-flue (17mm thick), with sparse fragments of lime mortar adhering to the combed surface.

Distribution

On the Bullcroft Field the distribution of the Roman CBM broadly matched that of the pottery. The presence of the micaceous fabrics were noted wherever found, and most pieces were retained for further examination. The distribution of this fabric was largely centred on square 15, forming about 5%, by count, of the total CBM (all periods) for the square.

Only two fragments of Roman ceramic building material were recovered form test-pits on the Duck Pond Field, both micaceous; and four (all micaceous), from trenches and test-pits on Butchers Field.

Fragments of Roman CBM were very tiny and abraded, and the small total quantity recovered suggests that they may have come from rubbish pits and manure scatter, rather than being ploughed out of an actual building. However, they do attest to a Roman building in the area, and, in the case of the micaceous fabric, to building work in the 3rd or 4th century.

Saxon Finds

Bead

A glass bead fragment was recovered from Bullcroft Field (BRBC03, Small Find 1). It was a thick, annular bead, originally 11mm diameter, in terracotta-coloured (opaque brick red) glass, with irregularly sized and spaced, applied yellow spots which stood slightly proud of the surface (Guido (1999) schedule 8xii). The longitudinal section was asymmetrical. The technique of manufacture appears to be that described by Brugmann (2004:21) as 'piercing': that is, made from a piece of glass melt pierced from one side. Approximately 50% was present. This type of bead is found in graves dated from the 5th to the 7th centuries, and has a fairly widespread distribution (Guido 1999:59, 63). A similar bead was found at Droxford, grave 30 (Aldsworth 1971:128, fig. 27).

Rotary quern

The rotary quern fragment recovered from Duck Pond Field (TP8, context 1) had possible tooling on one surface, with the other surface ground flat. The fragment was 29mm thick (max.) and the quern would have been about 400mm in diameter. The rock is a volcanic lava containing phenocrysts of pyroxene/amphibole, obsidian and quartz, likely to be Mayen (or ?Niedermendig) lava from the Eiffel region. The fragment was badly worn, but was probably from a flat rotary quern of Saxon date (D. Williams: pers. comm.).

Pottery

Fifty-seven sherds (235g) of Saxon pottery were recovered: 24 sherds (109.5g) of early to mid Saxon pottery, and 33 sherds (125g) mid to late Saxon (Tables 5 and 6). For both groups the average sherd weight was 4g, with 58% weighing 3g or less. The majority was recovered from excavation, especially for the earlier period, where just

one sherd was recovered during field-walking. The small sherd size and the little recovered from field-walking is largely a consequence of the very soft and friable nature of the fabrics.

Fabrics and Forms

The lack of diagnostic forms meant that most of the Saxon pottery was dated on the basis of the fabric and firing. Three fabrics (eight sherds), as mentioned above, might have been prehistoric or early Saxon (Tables 7 & 9).

The earlier Saxon fabrics (detailed fabric descriptions in Appendix 1) were organic tempered and/or sandy: one (F1) contained quartz and patinated flint which may be detrital; and one (GlQ1) contained quartz and glauconite. All were softly fired and unlikely to survive well when exposed to the elements. All but the glauconitic fabric could have been made from materials obtainable from within 1 to 3km of the site. The glauconitic fabric contained a relatively large amount of quartz and is likely to have a similar geographical source as the (possibly) prehistoric glauconitic fabric (GlQ2).

The mid-to-late Saxon fabrics were better fired, but many still contained rare organic matter (although this could have been an accidental inclusion). They were composed of fine to medium quartz (generally finer and better sorted than the late Saxon/Saxo-Norman fabrics) and variable amounts of iron in the clean matrix typical of local clays. Surfaces were usually black, and frequently wiped, both inside and outside, which can resemble the later fine scratchwares (although the latter were normally oxidised and always wheel thrown, whereas the Saxon fabrics were handmade). Two (F4 and F9) contained patinated flint and medium to coarse quartz, these (especially F9) could be late Saxon. There were no diagnostic forms, except for a thumbed rim CW32, which was in a fabric containing moderate to common, ill sorted, coarse quartz. The sherds were hand made, but possibly wheel finished, and fired black/brown/grey: both the firing and manufacture look pre-Conquest. The form suggests that it was late Saxon. All the mid-to-late Saxon fabrics could have been made from resources obtainable within 1 to 3km from the site.

Distribution

One early Saxon sherd was recovered from field-walking on Bullcroft Field (although three of the prehistoric sherds from this field might be Saxon). For the same reasons as discussed for prehistoric pottery (soft firing, dark colour, small size of sherds) this sherd is more significant than it might initially seem. The glass bead (above) was also recovered from this field. The four mid-to-late Saxon sherds were all from the east of the field, one of which was to the northeast of the magnetometry anomaly, ?palaeochannel m15 (Strutt 2004: fig.18), the earliest pottery sherd recovered from this part of the field, although there was worked flint from the area.

On the Duck Pond Field approximately the same amounts of early-to-mid and mid-to-late Saxon pottery (14 and 17 sherds respectively) were recovered from test-pits, but whereas no early-to-mid Saxon pottery was recovered in field-walking, 10 sherds of mid-to-late Saxon pottery were collected in field-walking. This underlines the extent to which the earlier, soft-fired fabrics do not survive on the surface. Half of the early-to-mid Saxon sherds were from test-pit 1, whereas the later sherds were more evenly

distributed between those the test-pits which contained Saxon pottery. All Saxon sherds from test-pits on Duck Pond Field were residual. The pottery throughout the Saxon period had a fairly similar, restricted, spatial distribution on the field, with some possible indication of movement downslope.

On Butcher's Field eight of the nine early to mid-Saxon sherds were potentially stratified (one in context 405, five in 406, and two in context 408) although the total weight of these sherds was only 27g (Table 9). Only two mid-to-late Saxon sherds were recovered from this field, both residual.

Saxo-Norman Finds

Pottery

A total of 191 (1183g) of Saxo-Norman pottery was recovered (Tables 5 & 10). The average sherd weight was 6g; with 51% weighing 3g or less. However, there was a distinct difference in the size of sherds between Bullcroft and Duck Pond Field.

Fabrics and Forms

The Saxo-Norman fabrics were all composed of quartz, with varying amounts of iron, in a clean matrix, pink firing clay. Surfaces were normally oxidised to pinkish (often with a bluish tinge), but many had a white/grey core. Sherds were normally well fired. Where identifiable the sherds were from jars, with the exception of one sherd likely to be from a glazed pitcher.

Scratchwares, dominated the Saxo-Norman assemblages, forming two main groups: the coarse scratchwares containing common to very common, coarse quartz; and the fine scratchwares containing common to abundant, fine to medium quartz. The coarse scratchwares formed about half of all Saxo-Norman pottery. Fabric SW5 tended to be less well fired than the other Saxo-Norman fabrics. It was inconsistently oxidised, frequently with a blackish core and/or surfaces, often contained some organic matter which was not completely fired out, and was hand made. Without a stratified assemblage it is not possible to say whether this was an earlier fabric, or whether the different potting and firing technologies coexisted, perhaps being used by different potters. The remainder of the coarse scratchwares were normally oxidised pink to salmon pink colours, apart from SW6 which, when fully oxidised, was white. Where identifiable, bases were sagging; the few rims present were everted. The surfaces of the fine scratchwares tended to look wiped rather than scratched, and surfaces were not always completely oxidised. The sherds were generally much thinner than the coarse scratchwares, and were all wheel thrown. The only rim present was lightly thumbed, giving a 'wavy' appearance. Musty (1969:105) refers to a Laverstock fabric he called 'developed scratch-mark ware' which he believed may have continued in production into the 13th century.

The vessels in those fabric groups which are not scratched tended to be large, very thick walled, and very well fired. As a consequence, these tended to be the larger sherds amongst the Saxo-Norman assemblage.

Very coarse fabrics, containing ill sorted quartz, variable amounts of iron and occasionally (?detrital) flint, formed approx. 20%, by count, of Saxo-Norman pottery, and were the next most common Saxo-Norman fabric after scratchwares. One fabric (CW26) may have been hand made and wheel finished; the remainder were possibly wheel thrown. The surfaces were typically oxidised (purplish pink), although often unevenly so. Cores were frequently white/grey. Again, bases, where identifiable, were sagging, and rims are relatively high-angled and everted.

The coarse and medium quartz fabrics made up about 8% (by count) of the Saxo-Norman pottery. These were all thick sherds, likely to be from large jars. There was one sagging base sherd and one rim, which was thumbed. There was also a sherd with a 6mm hole, made before firing, from the outside, at the angle between body and base. It resembled a 'West Country Bowl', except that the base appeared to be sagging. These fabrics were likely to be fairly late in the Saxo-Norman period.

One glazed body sherd was found in TP16 on Duck Pond Field. The fabric was white and well-fired containing abundant, angular, rounded and subrounded, fine to medium, moderately well sorted quartz, with fine ?iron specks. This resembled the tripod pitcher fabrics found at Winchester.

Distribution

Saxo-Norman pottery accounted for 15% of the pottery recovered from the Bullcroft Field where it formed a number of discrete spatial groups. The scratchwares (coarse and fine) along with the very coarse, sandy fabrics formed a cluster in the north east of the field , an area from which no Roman pottery was recovered. Other than m15 (palaeochannel) there were no magnetometry anomalies in this area (see Strutt 2004: fig. 18). Very few sherds in these fabrics occurred to the south and east of the field. The slightly finer fabrics (coarse and medium sandy wares) were concentrated in the south of the field. The coarse, sandy wares formed a cluster within this, largely separate from the later High Medieval fabrics, in the south west of the field, close to magnetometry anomalies m27 and m28 which were interpreted as a small enclosure and ditch (Strutt 2004:12, fig. 18). The average sherd weight in this area was 18g, larger than the Saxo-Norman fabrics overall, and these sherds may have been from a feature. It is possible that these slightly finer fabric groups were slightly later in date: very late Saxo-Norman to early High Medieval. There remained a distinct gap between the northwest and southern groups, although this gap was south of the magnetometry anomaly (m15).

Overall 10% of the pottery from Duck Pond Field was Saxo-Norman, more from the test-pits than from the field-walking (16% versus 6%). Whereas on Bullcroft Field only 39% of the sherds were 3g or less, on Duck Pond Field this figure rose to 75% for sherds from the test-pits, but only 55% for those from field-walking. The fine scratchwares formed about 23% of the Saxo-Norman pottery from Duck Pond Field, but only 9% (by count) of that from the Bullcroft, and most (21 of 22 sherds) came from the test-pits. This fabric tended to break into very small (average weight 2.3g) sherds. Given the poor visibility on both fields, it is possible that fine scratchware sherds were missed in field-walking.

The Saxo-Norman pottery from test-pits on Duck Pond Field was residual. It came from contexts described as ploughsoil, hillwash or colluvium, with the exception of TP5 (context 2), TP11 (context 2) and TP 14 (context 3), all of which contained later pottery. The separation in spatial distribution of the scratchwares/coarse sandy wares and the medium/coarse sandy wares seen on the Bullcroft Field, was not apparent on Duck Pond Field.

There were just six sherds altogether from Priory Field, Rally Field and Butcher's Field. On Rally and Priory Fields, Saxo-Norman was the earliest pottery recovered (Table 5). All were in contexts containing later ceramic finds (Table 6).

Ceramic Building Material

Some possible Norman ceramic building material is discussed under 'Late Medieval', below.

High Medieval Finds

Pottery

A total of 334 sherds (1991g) of High Medieval pottery were recovered with an average weight of 6g (Tables 5 and 11); 47% weighing 3g or less. Sherds were badly abraded, and most, if not all, including those recovered from test-pits, are likely to be from manuring scatters.

Fabrics and Forms

The majority of the sherds were made from the local pink firing, clean matrix clay, in varying degrees of coarseness, and oxidised. Fabrics varied in the quantity and size of iron and quartz (which may be iron stained) present, but were generally better sorted and finer than the Saxo-Norman fabrics. Some fabrics contained cream coloured clay pellets, in varying sizes and quantity. Sherd size was generally so small and surfaces so abraded that it was not possible to identify form type for enough sherds to be able to ascertain if there was a relationship between form and fabric. It is possible that some of the finer fabrics in this group were jug fabrics. Sherds in fabric CW5 (a fine fabric), for example, had fragments of glaze remaining on some sherds, and a jug handle was also found in this fabric. However, in some cases, for example fabric CW6, a medium sandy fabric, both jars and jugs occurred in the same fabric. Jars in this group had either curved everted, rounded rims, or the straight everted rims with squared edges of Laverstock types (Type III (Musty 1969:100)). The angle of the rim remained fairly steep in the High Medieval period. Other forms identified in this fabric group were: a sherd from a bowl (Bullcroft Field), with fragments of a poor internal glaze, in the coarse variant of the group; another bowl sherd, again with fragments of internal glaze, from Duck Pond Field; and a possible dripping pan base from Duck Pond field in a medium coarse fabric. A sub-group amongst these local, pink firing, oxidised fabrics, with a 'clean' matrix were those that had (usually) a white/light grey core, pink exterior surface, and mid-grey to black interior surface, which suggests that the pots were consistently stacked during firing in such a way that oxygen was excluded from the inner surface. This sub-group also had fine, medium and coarse variants, and, whilst wheel thrown, some sherds showed wiping which

may have been a continuation of the fine scratchware tradition. One fragment, from the Bullcroft Field, (2g) is possibly the corner of the base of a dripping pan.

Some fabrics in clean matrix clays, were very similar to those above, but fired red or red-orange. In these, the iron, instead of occurring as discrete lumps, was much more finely divided, giving a redder/orange colour. The most common was a coarse quartz fabric (CW10) with moderate sorting, often poorly thrown, used for jars with rounded, everted rims. It is tempting to see this as an earlier fabric in the period, as it showed some resemblance to the very coarse Saxo-Norman fabrics both in manufacture and form types (though the CW10 jars were smaller and thinner walled). However, it may simply be a result of different potting traditions amongst contemporary potters. CW1, was a coarse, very red firing fabric with occasional detrital flint, used to make jars. This fabric closely resembled one of the tile fabrics (T5), except that the latter tended to have inclusions of larger pieces of flint.

There were six sherds from a whiteware fabric, with abundant, medium quartz in a clean, white matrix. All but one sherd was from Duck Pond Field. The only sherd identifiable to form was from a jar. Again, the clay is likely to be local.

A minority group amongst the oxidised wares were a few sherds in an orange firing clay with a sandy matrix, similar to the brickearth clays east of Breamore, towards Southampton. Two of the fabrics contain medium quartz: no forms could be identified for one fabric; in the other, slightly finer, fabric, a rim fragment with some glaze was recovered from Duck Pond Field, probably from a large bowl, a break scar on the rim was possibly from a vertical loop handle (cf Musty 1969: fig. 12:55). Five sherds were recovered in a fabric with abundant fine quartz (FW1). This fabric occurs, commonly, in Southampton where it was used for jugs. Three of the sherds from Breamore were definitely from jugs, and the other two were likely to be. Two sherds in a slightly finer fabric were also likely to be jugs.

Finally, amongst the oxidised wares were fifteen sherds in Laverstock-style jug fabrics, firing buff to light orange, often with a light grey core, with varying amounts of fine or medium to coarse quartz, and varying amounts of fine specks of iron. Of the sherds containing medium to coarse quartz, only two small sherds have decoration, other than glaze, and this consists entirely of incised lines. One is probably a geometric design, but the sherd size (2g) makes this uncertain. This type of decoration is dated by Musty (1969:112-115) to the 12th/13th century. There were two decorated sherds in the finer fabric. One had vertical, combed lines and applied dots of clay which are glazed brown-black; the other had a 'botanical' design, with applied (probably scrolling) strips of clay and an applied, stamped, 'leaf' type motif in contrasting orange clay, which dates to the 13th century (ibid:115-120). All the decorated sherds were from Duck Pond Field.

There was a distinctive group of reduced fabrics, which typically had dark grey surfaces (occasionally light grey or pinkish) with light grey cores, with very common to very abundant, fine, medium or coarse quartz, variable amounts of generally fine iron, and occasional, detrital flint in a clean matrix. They were generally very well fired, but surfaces are often flaking away. Rims were either everted or hammer head, bases were flat, and in one case, thumbed. Surfaces were sometimes wiped. The coarse variant included a thumbed base (Duck Pond Field); and a fragment with some

glaze remaining and a hammerhead rim bowl (Bullcroft Field). A parallel for the bowl, from Gillingham, Dorset, was dated to 13th/14th century (Draper 2001:41-2). Another hammerhead rim (Butcher's Field) was found in a medium quartz fabric. In the same fabric was a straight, simple rim, possibly from a curfew (Bullcroft Field). In a marginally coarser fabric there was a thumbed fragment, which may be part of a handle, or a piece of decorative, applied strip, and, most interestingly, a sherd from a strainer, which had holes pierced from the outside, prior to firing and was wiped on the outer surface (both from Duck Pond Field). Where form was identifiable, these reduced wares seemed to be in forms not present in the local, oxidised wares: for example, Dorset-style hammerhead bowls and strainers. As discussed in more detail below, on the Bullcroft Field these wares plot with the Saxo-Norman wares, which raises some questions over the dating. However, it is possible that, regardless of the date range in Dorset, the pottery only reached Breamore during a short period of time. In order to answer this one would require a stratified assemblage.

Finally, there were two, very small, sherds included as medieval, one from Duck Pond Field and one Priory Field, in a fairly distinctive fabric with a grey/black core and cream margins and surfaces, with fine to medium, fairly well sorted quartz. Both were thin, body sherds. In truth, they could date anywhere from Roman to Late Medieval (excluding the early Saxon period).

No meaningful comparison of the relative quantities of different forms can be made, as so few sherds could be conclusively identified to form. It is possible that there was a relatively high number of bowls, and relatively few jugs. Given that glazes have abraded away, jugs are difficult to identify, unless in a known jug fabric (e.g. Laverstock-type wares, and the fine, sandy ware common in Southampton). However, only one sherd ccould be definitely identified as a jug handle, which supports the view that jugs were fairly rare.

The vast majority of the sherds were from very local clays. The most distant sources are likely to be the highly decorated Laverstock style jugs; the handful of jug sherds likely to be from close to Southampton; and the reduced wares, possibly from Dorset.

Distribution

The single largest assemblage was from Bullcroft Field (175 sherds) where it formed 29% of the pottery recovered from the field and was as common by count as the more visible Post-Medieval pottery. There was still a scatter in the northwest of the field where the Saxo-Norman sherds were concentrated, however, High Medieval pottery was much more common on the rest of the field than was the case in the previous period, and the gap between the north-west and south-west scatters of sherds no longer existed. There were, however, a number of gaps in the distribution in the south and western parts of the field. Some of those in the south were in the areas where the (?later) Saxo-Norman medium to coarse sandy wares were clustered. There remain two sizeable gaps: one in the central western part of the field, approximately 60 x 45m; and one running northwest-southeast in the eastern part of the field, approximately 120 x 45m; along with a gradual thinning out of sherds towards the northeast of the field. On the Bullcroft Field the all of the High Medieval reduced wares plot in the north-west of the field, where the main cluster of the Saxo-Norman pottery (particularly the scratched wares and very coarse sandy wares) were found.

This might imply a dating problem with these sherds. It is possible that some fabrics are dated incorrectly: for example the Saxo-Norman medium to coarse sandy wares may be early High medieval; and the High Medieval reduced wares may be late Saxo-Norman. Or, this difference may imply that the manure sources for the north east of the field differed from that of the rest of the field.

On the Duck Pond Field there were 143 sherds of High Medieval pottery, 14% (by count) of the pottery assemblage from the field. The spatial distribution of High Medieval pottery on the Duck Pond Field was similar to that of the Saxo-Norman pottery. As with the Saxo-Norman Pottery, the percentage of high medieval pottery in the test-pit assemblage was higher than that in the field-walking assemblage (23% and 9% respectively). Again, poor visibility may be partly responsible: whereas 54% of High Medieval sherds from test-pits weighed 3g or less, just 23% of those recovered from the surface were this small, suggesting that small sherds may have been missed on the surface. However, visibility was also recorded as poor on the Bullcroft Field, nonetheless, 47% of the High Medieval sherds recovered (all from field-walking) weighed 3g or less. Thus visibility may not be the complete explanation for the difference and it may be that colluviation has moved and buried the smaller sherds downhill.

There were some differences in the relative quantities of different fabrics/fabric groups recorded between the Duck Pond and Bullcroft Fields. The vast majority of the highly decorated Laverstock jugs (11 of 12 sherds) were from Duck Pond Field (which was the slightly smaller High Medieval assemblage: 141 sherds as opposed to 175 sherds from Bullcroft), as were the majority of the reduced coarsewares (24 sherds Duck Pond Field, 7 sherds Bullcroft). The Bullcroft Field, by contrast, had a higher relative quantity of oxidised coarsewares with coarse quartz (most likely to be cooking pots/jars), where they formed 33% by count (vs. 10% on Duck Pond Field) of the High Medieval assemblage, however, this difference may be date related, as these could be the earlier coarsewares.

There were just five High Medieval sherds recovered from Rally Field, all medium sandy wares, one of which could be from a jug, the rest are likely to be from jars. Of the four sherds from Priory Field, three were in a fabric that possibly dates to the earlier part of the High Medieval period, and one was of uncertain date (see above). Nine sherds were found on Butcher's Field, likely to span the whole of the High Medieval period in date: one of sherd was in a fabric that could be a jug, and one, reduced ware, hammerhead type rim, was possibly from a bowl, the rest were likely to be jars.

Ceramic Building Material

This is discussed after 'Late Medieval' below.

Late Medieval Finds

Pottery

A total of 236 sherds (2619g) of Late Medieval pottery were recovered (Table 12). The Late Medieval sherds were noticeably larger than those of preceding periods: average sherd weight was 11g and just 16% weighed 3g or less. This was partly due to better firing and also a result of the thickness of some of the rim forms, which tend, therefore, to survive in larger pieces.

Fabrics and Forms

All but three sherds were from local clays. Firing, as expected, was harder and more consistent than in High Medieval sherds and throwing generally better. Clays were pink or white firing (though often reduced to pale grey), with abundant/very abundant, very fine or medium quartz which is usually well sorted, in a clean matrix clay. Identifiable forms were jugs, jars and a fragment of dripping pan base (Duck Pond Field). Jar rims were normally everted with squared edges as in the High Medieval period, but they tend further towards the horizontal, in some cases being almost flat.

Some fabrics were likely to very late medieval to early post-medieval (later 15th to 16th century). Fabrics CW4, CW4a and CW4w may have been precursors to the products of the Verwood industries. The fabric was similar, the glaze generally poorer, and firing was typically slightly softer than later Verwood, sherds were either pink throughout, or had pink surfaces with white/grey core. Occasionally, partially fired out organic matter was present. CW4w tended to be fired white on the exterior with a pink core, and had slightly less quartz inclusions. Identifiable forms were the bunghole from a cistern, socketed handle from a pipkin, and a foot from a cauldron (all from Duck Pond Field), jugs and bowls. A number of the bowls seemed to be very shallow, and may be cream pans. One of these had an incised wavy line decorating the interior rim (Rally Field). Two other fabrics, LM1 (orange firing) and LM2 (buff, near stoneware), with fairly sparse quartz inclusions, were also likely to be very late.

Three sherds in non-local fabrics were found. One sherd, from Butcher's Field, is likely to be a Late Medieval Rhenish stoneware jug/mug. Two sherds were from the Late Medieval Surrey industries: a fragment of Coarse Border Ware from the Bullcroft Field; and a sherd from a Cheam Whiteware jug with painted brown and green decoration was recovered from TP15 on Duck Pond Field.

Distribution

The majority of the Late Medieval pottery was recovered from the Duck Pond Field (167 sherds), forming 17% (by count) of the pottery assemblage from this field (Table 13). Overall the spread was slightly wider across the field than in the High Medieval period. However, over half of the Late Medieval pottery (91 sherds, 55% by count) was likely to be very late medieval in date. It is possible there was a slight decrease in activity, as evidenced by pottery scatter, in the earlier part of the Late Medieval period.

Late Medieval pottery was just 7% (by count) of the pottery on the Bullcroft (41 sherds) (Table 13. Just over one quarter of this (12 sherds) was likely to be very late medieval. Again, there was a cluster of sherds in the north-eastern corner of the field, as there had been since the Saxo-Norman period. Most of the sherds in the south of the field were likely to be very late medieval. There was a reduction in the spread of the pottery in the southeast of the Bullcroft Field between the High and Late Medieval periods, suggesting either a change of use or change in manuring pattern in the earlier part of the Late Medieval period.

Again there was some difference between the two fields in terms of the relative amounts of different types of pottery. The Duck Pond Field had 27 of the 29 sherds of whiteware, although, if this ware is late 15th century, the distribution may simply be related to the higher amount of pottery of this date on Duck Pond Field.

Ten sherds (11% by count) of Late Medieval pottery were recovered from Rally Field. Of these, six were likely to be early products of the Verwood industries and very late medieval in date. Butcher's Field produced 18 sherds (25% by count). Again, the majority (14 sherds) were likely to be very late medieval, and 13 of these were likely to be an early Verwood fabric. On both fields the late medieval pottery was found in contexts with post-medieval finds. No late medieval pottery was recovered from Priory Field.

Medieval Ceramic Building Material

A total of 392 fragments (8315g weight) of possible Norman through to Late Medieval ceramic building material was recovered, and analysed, from test-pits and trenches (including some diagnostic pieces retained from field-walking). Because none was recovered from a stratified context, certain dating was difficult, and the material is, thus, reported together. All was fragmentary and abraded, and complete measurements were only available for thicknesses, and then, rarely.

Fabrics and forms

Two of the fabrics may be Norman in date. 'Lav' is a Laverstock type, which is most likely to be High Medieval. T1, the most common fabric, is likely to be medieval. Detailed fabric descriptions are given in Appendix 2. There were also five scraps of floor tile, not assigned to a fabric type.

Tile fabrics, T5 and T10, may be from Norman 'tegula and imbrex' tiles (otherwise known as flanged and curved tiles). Both fabrics were very coarse, and are occasionally glazed. Fragments of T10 were between 18mm and 22mm thick, those of T5 were 12-26mm thick. One example of T5, 18mm thick, is glazed with a clear stopping line. Examples of T5 were also seen with square pegholes. Unfortunately no fragments were found either with curvature, or a flange. However, the fragments were, in most cases, too small to see curvature and too damaged and abraded to be able to identify a break for a flange. The fabrics, thicknesses, and style of glazing are consistent with Norman tegula and imbrex tiles (for example, see Streeten 1985: 93-4, for examples from Battle Abbey, dated from c.1100; and for examples from Southampton: Dunning 1985:189-90, dated late 12th to 13th century and Poole 2009?:7 dated from late 11th/early 12th century). These types of tile seem to have been confined to high status town and monastic sites (Streeten (ibid), Poole

2009?:7). However, at least some of the fragments in this fabric from Breamore are likely to be from floor tiles: for example, a fragment with a green glaze over a white slip; which may be later in date.

There were eight roof tiles in a Laverstock type fabric (i.e. a pink firing clay with a clean matrix, and quartz and occasional red, iron inclusions): five from Duck Pond Field and three from Bullcroft Field. Three could be identified as ridge tile (although it was not possible to tell whether or not they were crested), and four more fragments were possibly from ridge tiles, although the fragments were too small and abraded to be certain they were not gutter tiles. One unidentified object fragment, unglazed, in this fabric was probably from a piece of decorative roof furniture. A further piece of ?ridge tile was recovered from Priory Field in a sandy fabric that is also found further east in Southampton. These fabrics and forms are most frequently found in High Medieval contexts and this would seem the most likely date for the Breamore fragments.

The floor tiles, all recovered from Bullcroft Field, consisted of: one piece of decorated (encaustic) floor tile, which was too badly abraded to see the style of decoration; one fragment of mosaic/geometric tile; one fragment with a deep (8mm) pre-firing groove, which had not later been snapped; one fragment showing abrasion from being walked on; and a small (58mm) square tile with a green glaze over a white slip.

The vast majority (85%) of the medieval ceramic building material recovered was in fabric T1, which is of uncertain medieval date. It is, a (usually) low fired fabric, in a very poorly mixed, pink to orange firing clay, with abundant lumps, pellets and streaks of cream clay, and variable red lumps of ?iron and red clay pellets. The fabric was normally oxidised throughout, but may have a grey core. The tiles had one rough, slightly sanded surface and one smooth surface, which sometimes had a clear, thin lead glaze. The fabric had sometimes fired grey on patches of the smooth surface, and it is possible that these areas were originally glazed, the glaze having abraded away. Finger marks along the edges of some tiles suggest that the tile was rolled into/against a former (almost certainly wood), with liberal use of the fingers to ‘squish’ the tile into shape. In some instances these finger marks may have been the result of picking up a wet tile. The underside (sanded side) frequently showed folds and creases, occasionally finger marks, and sometimes seems to have vegetal impressions (although most fragments were too severely abraded to see the original surfaces). One fragment has impressions on the smooth surface that are possibly from wood, these are divided by a slight ridge, consistent with the tile having been tamped down, and smoothed, against its mould with a wooden object. Forms found were peg tile, ridge tile, hip tile and hearth brick.

The most common form recovered in fabric T1 was peg tile. These had both round and square holes pushed through from the smooth side with something blunt (possibly a stick), before firing. The tiles ranged from 9 to 16mm thick, most being close to 14mm. Fragments were found with a clear stopping line to the glaze, suggesting that only the lower half or third of the tile was glazed. Although some were distorted, the intention appears to have been to produce completely flat tiles, as opposed to the slight curve given to later tiles to aid even laying (Fairbrother 1990:211).

One fragment of T1 recovered from Bullcroft Field, was clearly from a crested ridge tile. Whilst there was evidence that it had been knife cut, the fragment was too damaged to identify the exact form.

One fragment of tile (T1) from Priory Field seemed to have 20mm of the edge deliberately folded up, against something thin (c. 1mm thick) and then squashed. It is possible this is a waster, if so, it would imply that the material was fired in the immediate area.

A fragment of hip tile, in fabric T1, was recovered from Priory Field. This had a splash of glaze on the upper surface, suggesting that it probably had a glazed lower half (see, for example, Gutiérrez 2000: 226,227). Given the position of the fragment of a nail hole (and assuming it to be central), the width at the upper edge was estimated to be 120 to 130mm; the thickness was 10mm; and the angle between top edge and side was 110°. Another fragment of hip tile was identified from Bullcroft Field.

A few brick fragments were recovered in fabric that is a slightly sandier version of T1. These looked distinctly like Roman brick in size (approximately 28-37mm thick), and manufacture. In the break, the alignment of inclusions suggested a fairly stiff clay was rolled or pressed perhaps into a mould or against a former, as opposed to the Post-Medieval practice of throwing fairly wet clay into a mould. The clay selection and preparation would, however, be very unusual for the Roman period: it was very poorly prepared and it fired pink, a colour that also argues against it being building brick of a later period, when orange-red is the fashionable colour (Moore 1991:220). Furthermore, by comparison to Roman material these bricks are very shoddily made. Where side edges were present they are creased and folded, not trimmed as was normal for floor tile. The majority showed greyish surface discolouration consistent with their use as hearth tiles, a use that precedes the adoption of brick as a more general building material (ibid:212).

The forms recovered in this fabric, along with the method of manufacture are consistent with a medieval date. Parallels for the forms and method of manufacture can be seen at Ludershall Castle (Gutiérrez 2000); and at Faccombe Netherton (Fairbrother 1990:211-222). Cut crested ridge tiles were in use at Faccombe Netherton by the end of the 13th century (Fairbrother 1990:218). At Ludgershall flat tiles were in use before the mid 13th century, but ceramic roof tiles were seen in greater numbers from the mid 14th century, which was when the hip tiles first appeared (Gutierrez 2000). This would suggest a date of 14th to 15th century for this fabric.

Distribution

The possible Norman fabrics were scattered across all fields. These tiles are thought to be associated with high status buildings (Poole 2009?:7), whereas the High Medieval, Laverstock types were recovered only from Bullcroft and Duck Pond Fields.

Fabric T1 (Tables 15 and 17) accounted for less than a third of the total CBM recovered from test-pits on Duck Pond Field, Butcher's Field, and Rally Field (23%, 24%, and 32% respectively). However, on Priory Field, it formed 70% of total CBM.

On Priory Field, 75% (88 of the 117 fragments) of all ceramic building materials recovered were Norman or medieval fabrics; and medieval ceramic building material formed the bulk of the (relatively few) finds from that field. On Bullcroft Field an estimated 40 to 50% (2000-2500 fragments) of the CBM recovered was in fabric T1 (see Appendix 2 for details on the methodology used for the CBM on Bullcroft Field). The quantity suggests that this was demolition debris. No pieces were found with mortar attached, but this was not surprising given exposure to the elements in an acidic soil environment. During processing it was noted that some concentration of this fabric seemed to be occurring in the south and west of the Bullcroft Field.

Ceramic materials in any quantity on roofs in this period tend to be associated with the wealthy and landowning classes (Moorhouse 1988:46), it is it perhaps significant that medieval building material was the only material found in any quantity on Priory Field; and that it was found in such quantity on the Bullcroft Field: both fields were owned by the Priory. The Bullcroft Field was owned by the Priory (Lightfoot et al. 1994:90), and it may be that this material originally was used on the Priory.

Post-Medieval Finds

Glass

A total of 98 fragments of Post-Medieval glass were recovered, the majority (83) from Duck Pond Field (Table 19). From Butcher's Field the glass was mainly 19th to 20th century wine and mineral bottles. There was also one fragment from an unidentified vessel and one fragment of a wine bottle base with a (?sand) pontil scar which could be 17th to early 19th century. From Rally Field the glass bottles dated from the 17th/18th century to the 20th century; there was also one piece of modern window glass and one fragment of milky glass, which appeared to have been affected by heat. The only fragment of Post-Medieval glass recovered from the Bullcroft Field was part of the base of an (?)18th century wine bottle. Post-Medieval glass on the Duck Pond field was recovered in field-walking (67 frags) or from ploughsoil or colluvial deposits in test-pits. The bottle glass dated from the 17/18th century to the 20th century, the vast majority (55 of 59 fragments) being 19th or 20th century. There was one fragment of wine glass stem: a ball knop in a very clear glass, probably 18th century. Additionally there were 16 fragments of modern window glass, 5 fragments of 19th/20th century vessel glass and one fragment of glass affected by heat.

Like the Post-Medieval pottery, the distribution of Post-Medieval glass was fairly uniform across the Duck Pond Field.

Clay Pipe

A total of 32 fragments of clay pipe were recovered (Table 19). All were unmarked stems. The majority of test-pit finds were in plough soil contexts. There were not enough fragments from any stratified context to make dating by borehole diameter reliable. The distribution on the field was fairly restricted, but this could be an accident of the small number recovered.

Pottery

A total of 747 sherds (13,669g) of Post-Medieval pottery was recovered. The average sherd weight was 18g and only 8% of sherds were 3g or under, and most of these were the more thinly potted finewares/tablewares. This noticeable greater size of sherd is, perhaps, not surprising given the robust nature of Post-Medieval coarse earthenwares, both in terms of fabric hardness, and in, generally, thick vessel walls. The condition of the sherds, however, was abraded, which showed most noticeably in the worn glazes of the local Verwood pottery. Post-medieval pottery was the most common pottery (by percentage count) from all fields except the Bullcroft, where both Post-Medieval and High Medieval each formed 29% of the pottery. The quantity of Post-Medieval pottery can be explained partly by the widespread use of pottery in the Post-Medieval period, but also by its robusticity and visibility: the pieces are generally large and often glazed.

Fabrics and Forms

Coarse earthenwares made up 90% of the Post-Medieval pottery (Table 13). Of this, 92% was, not surprisingly, the local Verwood and Wiltshire Brown (also known as 'Alderholt') pottery. The Verwood pottery comprised the standard range of large bowls, heavy duty storage vessels and a few jugs. Wiltshire Brown wares (eight sherds, one from Rally Field, the rest from Duck Pond) were jugs/mugs/tygs, with the typical brown glaze, save for one sherd from Duck Pond field which had an almost green interior glaze, but the typical brown manganese glaze on the exterior. Most of the remainder of the coarse earthenwares are Post-Medieval redwares, about half of which are from flowerpots, most likely to be modern. The remainder of the coarse earthenwares consisted of one piece of Post-Medieval glazed whiteware (Duck Pond Field), from an unknown source; one piece black glazed redware (Duck Pond Field) and two sherds of Surrey Border Ware (Duck Pond Field), both from dishes, with a bright (copper) green glaze.

The next most common group were the stoneware with accounted for 5% (37 sherds) of the Post-Medieval pottery assemblage. Nine sherds of fine stonewares: seven sherds of Staffordshire type white salt-glaze stoneware (18th century), six from Duck Pond Field (including a 'Barley pattern' plate rim), and one from Butcher's Field; one sherd of red Eler's type dry bodied stoneware with engine turning (late 18th century) from Duck Pond Field; and one sherd of black basalt (late 18th century) from Duck Pond Field. There were eleven sherds likely to be German stonewares, three of which were Westerwald type (one from Rally Field, the rest from Duck Pond Field); the remainder were English types, likely to be 19th to early 20th century.

Tin-glazed earthenwares were represented by just two scraps (late 17th to 18th century) from Duck Pond Field, one with blue and white painted decoration. This pottery can be rather soft and the glaze frequently cracks off, it is possible, therefore, that sherds were missed or have crumbled away.

The refined earthenwares (tablewares) comprisd of: two sherds of Staffordshire type combed slipware (late 17th to 18th century), both flat wares with pie-crust rims, both from Duck Pond Field; thirteen sherds creamware (late 18th to 19 century), six from Rally Field, possibly including a chamberpot, one from Butcher's Field, and the

remainder from Duck Pond Field (including plates/dishes); one scrap of blue and white sponged ware (19th to 20th century); and ten sherds of pearlware (late 18th to 19th century): three from Rally Field, one from Bullcroft Field, the remainder from Duck Pond Field. The pearlware sherds were blue and white transfer print where large enough to tell, save for one hand painted sherd from TP4 (Duck Pond Field).

Finally there were two scraps (2.5g) of transfer printed porcelain/bone china (19/20th century), both from Duck Pond Field, and eight piece of modern (late 19th to 20th century) 'white bodied china'.

Distribution

Post-Medieval pottery was found fairly uniformly across all areas walked of Duck Pond Field. It formed a higher percentage of field-walking assemblage (64%, by count) than that from the test-pits (18% by count). In part this may be due to poor visibility during field-walking, biasing recovery towards the larger, glazed Post-Medieval sherds. However, visibility on Bullcroft field was also recorded as poor, and there, only 29% of the pottery was from the Post-Medieval period, the same percentage as that recorded from test-pits and trenches on Butcher's Field (although the total count on Butcher's Field was only 73 sherds). Another possibility is that the colluvial build up on Duck Pond Field, may have buried sherds of earlier periods, resulting in more Post-Medieval sherds on the surface and more earlier sherds in the colluvial deposits of the test-pits.

On the Bullcroft field there was a scattering of Post-Medieval pottery over most of the field, with a thinning out towards the northwest of the field: in the area where the scratchwares were concentrated, and which had shown a cluster of sherds from the Saxo-Norman through to the Late Medieval period. Viewed by weight there may be some clustering, however some of these clusters (for example in the south east and towards the north east of the field) correlate to slight depressions shown in the contour survey (Strutt 2004: fig. 16). There was a noticeable lack of Post-Medieval tablewares (Table 13) from the Bullcroft Field (less than 2% of the Post-Medieval pottery). This is unlikely to be because the sherds were overlooked, although they are inclined to be small, the usually bright colour (often blue and white) is normally easily seen in field-walking. There was also a noticeable lack of glass and clay pipe recovered from this field (Table 14), which might suggest that anything looking 'modern' was not collected. However, the field-walkers were instructed to collect all material (Dom Barker, Kris Strutt: pers. comm.). If they did, and this difference between the Bullcroft and Duck Pond fields is real, it may reflect different sources of manure/manuring practices in the Post-Medieval period.

Ceramic Building Material

A total of 695 fragments (13,119g) of Post-Medieval ceramic building material was recovered and analysed from test-pits and trenches (including selected fragments retained from field-walking), and an estimated (see Appendix 2) 3000 fragments recovered in field-walking on Bullcroft Field were discarded without further analysis.

Fabrics and forms

Bricks formed between 32% (Rally Field) and 49% (Butcher's Field) of the Post-Medieval CBM (Table 18). Two broad fabric groups for post-medieval brick were established: fabrics containing clinker ('BSG'), typical of clamp firings, and those not containing clinker ('Post-Medieval Other') (which may or may not be clamp fired). The former group included bricks with rounded frogs; vitrified headers and moulded, semi-circular bricks. If there was all contemporary, the group is likely to date from the very late 18th to the 19th century. The second group was too fragmentary date closely.

The tile was also very fragmentary and abraded, with an average fragment weight of 20g. It included very dense, very highly fired fabrics (T3/11/13) likely to be 19th to early 20th century, and a range of orange tiles, consistently fired, and well made with sharp arrises ('post-med orange'). Some were definitely machine made, and some likely to be hand made. Both peg and nib tiles were present: the nib tile was likely to late 19th to 20th century on the basis on the fabric and manufacture. One fragment of mathematical tile (or 'brick tile'), was recovered from square 24 on Bullcroft Field.

Distribution

Post-Medieval building material was recovered from all fields. On Rally Field, Butcher's Field, and Duck Pond field test-pits, Post-Medieval CBM formed between 67% and 71% of the total CBM recovered, with tile forming between 51% and 68% of the assemblage. On Bullcroft Field an estimated (see Appendix 2), two thirds of the CBM was post-medieval, and it was scattered across the whole field. However, on Priory Field only 16% of the CBM was post-medieval, the rest being medieval.

Discussion

The acidic soils of the area meant that there was (virtually) no bone recovered, therefore the finds assemblage was mainly stone and ceramics, with the pottery providing the bulk of the evidence for changes over time. The assemblage offers an opportunity for comparisons both over time and also between the contemporary assemblages from the different fields, especially for the large assemblages from Duck Pond and Bullcroft Fields.

The area walked on the Bullcroft Field was 25% larger than that on Duck Pond Field. However, similar amounts of pottery were recovered in field-walking from each field (about 600 sherds). The worked flint recovered from field-walking was relatively smaller for Duck Pond Field (93 vs 160 fragments from the Bullcroft Field). The total assemblages from Duck Pond Field were increased by the test-pit finds. Any conclusions drawn from the assemblages from Rally Field and Butcher's Fields are slightly more tentative as both assemblages are under 100 sherds, and that from Priory Field (6 sherds of pottery and two fragments of worked flint) is, perhaps mainly notable for how small it is, although it did produce some ceramic building material (105 fragments). For the Duck Pond Field there is the opportunity to compare the results obtained from the test-pits with those from field-walking, which highlight the biases evident in the assemblages from field-walking.

Test-pit vs. field-walking data on Duck Pond Field

The only field subject to both systematic test-pitting and field-walking was the Duck Pond Field. Work on this field has highlighted some differences between the pottery assemblages recovered by the different methods, although some caution is needed in the comparison, as a greater area of the field was walked than test-pitted, and part of the field was steep sloped. Upslope erosion and downslope colluviation may affect visibility of some periods more adversely than others: for example, the softer pottery fabrics will be more adversely affected by being washed downslope than the better fired pottery; and for any early period where activity only occurred at the base of the slope, the pottery may now be buried below the plough zone.

Some of the differences between the test-pit and field-walking assemblages are predictable: prehistoric and early Saxon pottery does not survive well on the surface, or, indeed in the plough soil. Given that no prehistoric or early Saxon pottery was recovered from field-walking Duck Pond field, despite the fact that it formed 13% and 4% (by count, respectively) of the test-pit assemblages, the seven prehistoric and one early Saxon sherd recovered from field-walking on Bullcroft field may indicate quite significant activity in these periods. Other differences are less expected: for example the poor recovery of the finer scratchwares on the surface of Duck Pond Field. Comparison of the percentage by count of pottery, for each period, recovered from t field-walking vs. test-pits (Table 5), does seem to suggest that earlier pottery (even if well fired), was less likely it is to be recovered in field-walking, even when it was recovered from test-pits. The most likely explanation for this would seem to be the process of colluviation. By comparison 30% (305 fragments) of the worked flint (not subject to poor survival at the surface) recovered from this field came from field-walking. Colluviation (rather than poor recovery by field-walkers) may also explain why the size of sherds from test-pits was, in some periods, generally smaller than those recovered in field-walking. Smaller sherds were more likely to be swept downslope and buried. This, then, suggests caution should be used when considering the spatial distribution of finds on Duck Pond Field: it may simply reflect natural hollows, or temporary obstacles where small (or, in flash flooding, large) items collected. The figures show that the recovered on the surface of a grid unit were not always reflected in the finds from the test-pit in that unit.

Changes in activity over time

The use of pottery scatters as evidence of manuring and intensity of manuring is not entirely straightforward. Richard Jones (2007 pers. comm.) has pointed out, in connection to the Whittlewood project, that some areas known from documentary sources to be under the plough, did not always show the expected pottery scatter.

Light et al. (1994:69-77) found worked flint from the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age to in the area, although no pottery of this period, and early to mid Iron Age pottery in the Bullcroft Field and north of the church. The current project recovered worked flint from the Mesolithic to the Late Bronze Age on Duck Pond, Rally, Butchers and Bullcroft Fields. Possible Palaeolithic flint was probably redeposited or brought to the area at a later date, apart from three pieces that may have been Upper Palaeolithic. The current project may have produced a slightly higher percentage of scrapers, but this may have been a classification difference (see above); and a slightly higher

percentage of retouched flakes (25% vs. 18%), but produced a similar percentage (14-15%) of primary flakes. Further evidence of likely Bronze Age activity in the northern parts of Bullcroft Field (not field-walked) came from the geophysical survey (Strutt 2004). Bronze to Iron Age pottery was found on Duck Pond, Bullcroft and Butcher's Field (some possibly from a prehistoric feature), and middle to late Iron Age pottery on Duck Pond Field. Conclusions cannot be drawn about the absence of prehistoric pottery on Priory and Rally Fields given the limited area excavated and the small assemblages. The total amount of prehistoric pottery recovered was not vast, but, given the generally low amounts of pottery in circulation at this time (cf. Schofield 1991:4), and its poor survival in the topsoil/on the surface, it is significant. This suggests occasional incursions into the area in the Mesolithic and possible late Upper Palaeolithic, some use in the Neolithic with more intensive use and possible settlement from the Early Bronze Age on.

Pottery that could *definitely* be dated to the late Iron Age was not recovered, in contrast to previous work which noted Late Iron Age pottery in all areas where there was Roman activity (Light et al. 1994:78). However, this discrepancy is more apparent than real. As stated above, some of the coarsewares dated early Roman could actually be very late Iron Age. Furthermore, Light et al dated their grog tempered pottery as late Iron Age/early Roman, whereas the grog tempered pottery in this assemblage was probably late Iron Age, early Roman rather than late Roman, it could not conclusively be dated as such, and, since late Roman grog tempered pottery has been recovered nearby at Ellingham Farm (Seager Smith 1995:71-2) the date for this fabric group has been left open. What can be stated quite conclusively is that the grog tempered pottery shows a very distinct distribution on Bullcroft Field, largely isolated from the main cluster Roman pottery. If this is a consequence of date it may imply the pottery is either late Iron Age/very early Roman or late Roman/sub-Roman. Results of this project agree with those of Light et al (1994:78) in finding relatively low amounts of Dorset Black Burnished Ware and samian, but shows a difference in the relative quantities of late finewares recovered. Light et al. found relatively little late Roman pottery generally: at most 20% (one site at Breamore), where 5% of the finewares were late; and suggested that this could be a result of the centralising influence of Rockbourne in the late Roman period. Whilst most of the coarsewares from the current project could not be closely dated with great certainty, many of the finewares could be; and they are predominantly late. Even if all the undated finewares were early, which seems unlikely given their similarity to a late Roman tile fabric, well over half of the Roman finewares recovered in the Breamore Environs project were late. In part (but not entirely) this is accounted for by the unusually large amount of Oxford ware from the Bullcroft Field. Roman material (pottery and ceramic building material) was recovered from all fields but Rally Field, where its absence could be significant and Priory Field, where the assemblage was too small to draw certain conclusions. On the Bullcroft Field the southern part was a focus for Roman material. Light et al (1994) suggested that the Bullcroft was the Romano-British occupation site, and results from the current project would largely agree. The distribution of the Roman pottery coincides with an area of geophysical anomalies, and the relatively large size of some of the sherds suggests some of it may be coming from features, particularly the grog tempered wares from the south east of the field. Furthermore, there was some Roman brick and tile from this field, centred around the south eastern part of the area walked. Much of this was in a local clay, and undatable, however, for the micaceous material, comparison with that found at the Brooks, in Winchester,

suggested a 3rd/4th century date. Neither the quantity nor the condition of the material suggested that a building was being ploughed out in the area walked, but it does imply a building nearby, either built or modified in the late Roman period. Much of the material seemed to be from box flue tiles, so it may be that a bath house or hypocaust was being added to an existing building. This might argue against a centralising influence at Rockbourne suggested by Light et al (1994:78). The domination of Oxfordshire ware over New Forest Ware on Bullcroft Field remains more problematic, and this is a phenomenon that only occurs on the Bullcroft Field, although the other assemblages are rather small. There, is, perhaps, the possibility of a break in visible Roman activity on the field in the late 3rd to late 4th centuries when the New Forest kilns were at full production. It has to be admitted, though, that the use of Oxford ware could simply be a result of personal preference or contacts of one influential individual or family.

The absence of Saxon pottery on Rally and Priory Fields is, again, not significant given the limited areas excavated and the small pottery assemblages. Chaff tempered wares were recovered from Bullcroft Field and to the north of the Church by Lightfoot et al (1994:83), and a 6th century button brooch was recovered in a metal detector survey on Duck Pond Field (AVAS & AVSS 1999). The current survey added further finds of pottery on both fields, and pottery finds from Butcher's Field (some of which may have been from a feature). Saxon, especially early Saxon, activity is not going to be particularly visible in pottery assemblages from field-walking, therefore any pottery finds can be taken as significant. To put this in some perspective, the metal detector survey (ibid) recovered one Saxon item and one Roman item from Duck Pond Field: the current survey recovered twice as much Roman pottery as early Saxon from the same field, and all of the early Saxon pottery from the field was from test-pits. For both Duck Pond and Bullcroft Fields there was more mid-to-late Saxon pottery than early-to-mid Saxon pottery, but the reverse was true for Butcher's Field. Lightfoot et al (1994:85), by contrast, noted a lack of mid-to-late Saxon pottery on Bullcroft Field. However, the small quantities of pottery involved (Table 5) would make it dangerous to draw any far reaching conclusions for this. There were also finds of a fragment of quern and a bead (Duck Pond and Bullcroft Fields respectively), which again show a Saxon presence in the area, but do not conclusively indicate where the settlement was.

Saxo-Norman to Late Medieval pottery was, not surprisingly, much more common, and it was recovered in large enough quantities to make some comparisons between Duck Pond and Bullcroft fields. The Saxo-Norman to Medieval period is the main period represented in the few finds from Priory Field (aside from two piece of worked flint and 17 pieces of Post-Medieval tile). The numbers of sherds recovered from Rally and Butcher's Field was rather less than from Duck Pond Field and Bullcroft Field, but showed a general increase from the Saxo-Norman, through the High Medieval and Late Medieval periods, but with a possible decrease in the earlier Late Medieval period and an increase, probably towards the end of the 15th century, continuing into the Post-Medieval period. The same pattern broadly applies to the Duck Pond Field, but with less difference across the Late Medieval period. However, the Bullcroft assemblage is rather different. The number of sherds recovered between the Saxo-Norman period and High Medieval period show a general increase, and, also the area of the field over which pottery was scattered expands. Saxo-Norman pottery was concentrated in the northwest of the field, whereas the High Medieval pottery

also occured in the south and east areas. However, in the Late Medieval period there was a sharp decrease in the relative number of sherds recovered, which began in the earlier late medieval period, when sherds were mainly in the north (especially the northeast) of the field and continued in the 15th century, when sherds were mainly in the south of the field (with a few in the northeast), before increasing in the Post-Medieval period. The pottery tended to be small and abraded, and it is likely to be mainly from manuring scatters. It is, thus, tempting to link this pattern to an expansion of arable land in the 13th century to feed an increasing population, with a consequent decline after the Black Death. Whilst the other fields show a recovery in the number of sherds in the latter part of the Late Medieval period, on Bullcroft Field this recovery does not appear to begin until rather later. An alternative explanation is that different sources of manure were being used on the two fields: and the source for the Bullcroft Field did not contain a great deal of pottery in the Late Medieval period. There is some support for this when considering the types of pottery occurring on the two fields. The Duck Pond Field consistently had the higher percentage of fine wares, fabrics from further distances and minority types throughout the medieval period. In the Saxo-Norman period, it had the one glazed tripod pitcher sherd. In the High Medieval period, it was the Duck Pond Field that had the majority of reduced wares (likely to come from Dorset), and the highly decorated Laverstock jugs. In the Late Medieval period it had the majority of the whitewares, and whilst both fields had a sherd from the Surrey industries, it is the Duck Pond Field that had the highly decorated Cheam Whiteware sherd, whilst the Bullcroft assemblage had a plain piece of Coarse Border Ware. This suggests a different source for the manure for each of these fields, and may have been a result different ownership. However, the difference is not obvious in the ceramic building material. Fragments of Norman flanged and curved ('tegula and imbrex') tiles, were recovered from all fields. Lightfoot's survey found glazed ridge tile on the Bullcroft Field, to which the current survey can add encaustic and geometric floor tile. Glazed ridge tile was also found on Duck Pond Field, and the medieval fabric T1was recovered from both fields. However, the time lag between acquisition and discard of used building material is commonly much greater than that for pottery. It may have been well into the Post-Medieval period before the medieval building material was discarded.

In the Saxo-Norman period the Bullcroft Field remained a field of two halves: the northwest corner and the larger southeast area, separated by a gap where pottery is not recovered. This may have also been the case in earlier periods, but there was not enough pottery in the Saxon period to show any pattern. In the Roman period, however, the northeast area was devoid of pottery or building material. This may imply some form of boundary between the two areas: natural, cultural or both. Geophysics anomaly m15, interpreted as a palaeochannel (Strutt 2004: fig. 18), runs close to the dividing line, and perhaps the area remained wet. Alternatively, there may have been a trackway or hedgerow separating two areas that were treated differently and, possibly, were under different ownership. This gap was not apparent in the High Medieval assemblage, suggesting any physical boundary no longer existed, but, there remained some differences between the two areas into the late medieval period. The few sherds of High Medieval reduced ware recovered on the Bullcroft were all from the northwest corner, and, as pointed out above, there were some differences in the distributions of Late Medieval assemblage.

Post-Medieval material was fairly ubiquitous, and formed the largest group of the pottery assemblage on most fields except Bullcroft Field, where there was an equal percentage, by count, of High Medieval pottery, and on the Priory Field. Whilst there were not many finds on Priory Field, the relative lack of Post-Medieval pottery in the topsoil of the trench excavated, may well be significant, and may imply that, at least for the area excavated, Priory Field was not arable land during most of the Post-Medieval period. The differences in the types of pottery recovered from Duck Pond and Bullcroft Fields seen from the Saxo-Norman period, was still apparent in the Post-Medieval period, with the Bullcroft still dominated by everyday, coarse, local earthenwares, and the Duck Pond Field still having a much higher percentage of finewares or table wares and both the sherds of Surrey Border Ware, suggesting a continuation in the different sources for manure for these fields. Despite the much lower quantities of pottery recovered, both Butcher's Field and Rally Field have a scattering of refined earthenwares and other finewares. The question of ownership of the fields could probably be best pursued through documentary research.

Trade and contacts

The geographical sources of material changed over time in a manner that might be expected of a rural assemblage. Given the lack of suitable local stone, objects such as querns and whetstones would have had to have been brought from further afield in all periods, although of the non-flint stone objects only one could be dated (below).

In the prehistoric period both the flint and the limited range of pottery recovered were from resources available within a few kilometres, with the most distantly sourced pottery, perhaps from 12km away.

In the Roman period, not surprisingly, the network of sources for the pottery opened out. In the first and second centuries, some of the greywares were coming from at least as far away as the River Nadder, and the Poole areas, and finewares were coming from Gaul (albeit in very small quantity). In the later Roman period, all material recovered was from Britain, but there was pottery from the Oxford region, and, interestingly, non-local brick and tile, which was possibly coming from the Surrey border. An unidentified fineware, in a clay very similar to the brick and tile, was possibly of a similar date and source. It is clear there were local clays the Romans considered suitable for brick and tile, as bricks in likely local fabrics were found. However, these fragments were undated so it is possible that local tile kilns only operated in the early Roman period. Local demand may not have been enough to support an industry, but temporary clamp kilns could have been used, although perhaps not felt to be worth it if the only material required was a small amount for the modification of an existing building. Nonetheless there were sources closer than Surrey: for example the tilery at Crookhorn, near Fareham on the south coast, was operating in the latter Roman period (Soffe et al 1989), although perhaps not at the exact time the material was required at Breamore. Brick and tile, although heavy to transport can move around as ballast, although this would imply some item moving in the opposite direction: from Breamore/Winchester to the Surrey border. It is possible that the occurrence of the micaceous tile at Breamore was the result of a personal connection, a gift, or perhaps the person in question owned land in both Breamore and Surrey. It is certainly the case that the Romans were not adverse to moving ceramic building material around (see, for example Betts and Foot 1991).

The sources of the relatively few sherds of Saxon pottery, echo those of the prehistoric pottery, but there was a fragment of quern stone from the Eiffel region, popular at the time, showing wider contacts. The late Saxon and Saxo-Norman pottery could all have been made from resources available within a few kilometres, but by the High Medieval period a few sherds were coming in from both the Dorset area to the west, close to Southampton in the east and Laverstock to the north. Wider contact was seen in the Late Medieval period, with a fragment of German stoneware, and two vessels from Surrey, and this continued into the Post-Medieval period with respect to coarse earthenwares, with two bowls in Surrey Borderware. Tablewares in the Post-Medieval period, were of course, coming from the major refined earthenware industries. All Post-Medieval brick and tile was likely to be fairly local.

Clay sources and potting technology

The area is situated between two sources of clay: Reading Beds and London clay. Samples of clay from these sources, and thin-section work comparing them to the fabric types would provide more detail on which sources are being used at any one time for local pottery. Certainly, between the prehistoric and Saxon periods, there seems to be some variation. By the Saxo-Norman period, the vast majority of the pottery recovered was made from the clean matrix, pink firing Reading Beds clays, and this remained the main source through to, and including the Post-Medieval, Verwood industry. There was a general trend for the inclusions to become better sorted and finer from the Saxo-Norman to Late Medieval periods, generally, as throwing and firing became better. The pink firing clay was also that used for the medieval glazed ridge tiles, although the floor tiles were a standard orange firing clay, probably from specialist tileries. The organic tempered early Saxon sherds (fired black) used a clay with a very clean matrix, and may be from the same source. However, other Saxon sherds, prehistoric sherds, and Roman local greywares, seem to have been made from a different clay source, one firing orange, with a sandier matrix. This may be the London clay, which can vary in the size and quantity of sand present. The long use of the pink firing clay, not to mention the sizeable Verwood industry that relied on it, suggests that it made a good potting clay. The choice not to use it at other times may be technological, in that a sandier matrix was preferred, but, equally, it may have been a choice brought about by a preference for an orange firing clay. The change from the pink firing clay for tiles in the medieval period to orange firing clays for Post-Medieval ceramic building material was probably due to the fashion for red bricks. The prehistoric potters, whose pots were oxidised may have thought that pink pots simply ‘did not look right’.

Conclusions

The results from the finds analysis largely support those of Light et al (1994), but add detail, especially in the detailed comparison of assemblages between fields, and in the analysis of the distribution of finds on the Bullcroft Field, which was made possible by using a methodology of fairly small collection units, rather than line walking. However, there are some differences between the results of the two surveys.

The few sherds of prehistoric pottery, but more so the flint and the geophysics results, showed significant prehistoric activity in the area. Excavation showed two possible

prehistoric features on Duck Pond Field, one close to a geophysics anomaly likely to be a ditch, and the other likely to be too deeply colluviated to show up in geophysics surveys. The current survey found significant late Roman activity and some late Saxon material, which was less evident in the previous survey (Light et al. 1994). The presence of late Roman finewares and the late Roman micaceous building material argues against Light et al.'s suggestion that Rockbourne provided a centralising influence in the late Roman period. The presence of this tile fabric is itself of interest, as it is not a local clay. Additionally the relatively large amounts of Oxford ware imply something interesting happening in the Roman period in the vicinity of the Bullcroft Field. By contrast Rally and Priory Field produced no Roman finds. The Saxon period still remains visible mainly from the Church and cemetery, but some Saxon pottery was recovered and excavation showed a probable Saxon feature on Butcher's Field. A status building in the Norman period is suggested by scraps of probably curved and flanged tile. From the Saxo-Norman period on there are differences in the composition of the pottery assemablages from Bullcroft and Duck Pond Fields (and to some extent the other fields) suggesting different manuring practises. which may imply different use or ownership. Generally speaking, it is the Bullcroft Field that remains the 'odd one out'. Whilst the slope and the process of colluviation made spatial analysis of the distribution of finds recovered from Duck Pond Field problematic, analysis of those from the Bullcroft Field showed number of differences in the spread of pottery in different periods. In particular, there was some indication that the northwest corner was managed differently to the rest of the field, particularly in the Saxo-Norman period, and probably through to the Late Medieval period. Medieval ceramic roof tile and hearth brick in a rural area again suggest a building of some status, perhaps the Priory.

Future questions

There remain a number of dating problems with the pottery that can only be resolved with the recovery of series of decent sized stratified assemblages, specifically: the exact date of the Roman grog tempered pottery; finer dating for the prehistoric fabrics; the lifespan of the Roman greyware fabrics; the period in which the High Medieval reduced ware reached Breamore; and closer dating of the Saxon, Saxo-Norman and some High Medieval fabrics. Such an assemblage might also resolve whether or not the hand made and wheel thrown scratchwares/wiped wares were successive in date, or different technologies co-existing side by side.

There remains too, the puzzle of why the Oxford wares outnumber the New Forest wares in the later Roman period on the Bullcroft Field, and why the micaceous brick and tile fabric is being transported over relatively large distances: especially since Breamore is surrounded by suitable sources of clay. There is also the question of the location of the building from which the material is derived.

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Note
On Bullcroft Field a bag labelling problem means that square 27 maybe square 41 and vice versa.

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Tables

Table 1: Total count and weight (g) of flint by field and date

	Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)		**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Rally Field (BMRF02)**		**Priory Field (BRP04)**		***Total***	
	Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
Palaeolithic	2	152			1	80					***3***	***232***
Palaeolithic?			1	50							***1***	***50***
Lower Palaeolithic	1	46									***1***	***46***
Upper Palaeolithic	2	32			1	6					***3***	***38***
Mesolithic	7	7	6	14	8	21	1	1			***22***	***42***
Mesolithic?	15	52	1	1	2	3	1	14			***19***	***70***
Early Neolithic?	1	14	2	27			1	11			***4***	***52***
Neolithic?	1	8									***1***	***8***
Late Neolithic?					1	36					***1***	***36***
Neolithic/Bronze Age	1	39	3	68	1	6	3	73			***8***	***186***
Neolithic/Bronze Age?	2	4	2	12							***4***	***16***
Bronze Age	1	18									***1***	***18***
Bronze Age?	1	11	2	77	5	156			1	33	***9***	***277***
Late Bronze Age							1	7			***1***	***7***
Late Bronze Age?	1	14									***1***	***14***
Prehistoric	269	3282	141	2298	163	1514	37	380	1	2	***611***	***7476***
Prehistoric?	1	38			1	1					***2***	***39***
Building flint			2	125							***2***	***125***
Grand Total	***305***	***3717***	***160***	***2671***	***183***	***1822***	***44***	***486***	***2***	***35***	***694***	***8730***

Table 2: Count of worked flint other than tools, by field

		Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)	Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)	Butcher's Field (BRBT04)	Rally Field (BMRF02)	Priory Field (BRP04)	*Total*
Flakes	flake	183	91	126	30	1	***431***
	flake?	11	9	10			***30***
Blades	blade	1	1	1			***3***
	blade?	2	2				***4***
Bladelets	bladelet	4	2	4	1		***11***
	bladelet?	3	3	1			***7***
Core	core	9	5	4	1	1	***20***
	core?	3	1	2			***6***
	bladelet core			2			***2***
	core fragment	1	2				***3***
	core tablet?		1				***1***
Shattered		5	8	7			***20***
Grand Total		***222***	***125***	***157***	***32***	***2***	***538***

Note: a primary flake was defined as one with no previous removals (except at platform). In the case of Bronze Age flint, this need not mean that there is any actual dorsal cortex – it could mean that all fractures on the dorsal are natural. A flake classed as secondary shows previous removals, but retains at least 5% of the dorsal without removals (usually as cortex, but see definition of primary flake). A tertiary flake was defined as a flake where at least 95% of the dorsal show previous removals).

Table 3: Count of primary, secondary and tertiary flakes and flake tools

		Primary	**Secondary**	**Tertiary**	**Not classifiable**	***Total***
flake	retouch	2	49	59	10	*120*
	retouch?	10	20	19	1	*50*
	not retouched	73	95	74	19	*261*
	total	*85*	*165*	*152*	*30*	***431***
flake?	retouch	1	2	0	1	*4*
	not retouched	9	8	1	8	*26*
	total	*10*	*10*	*1*	*9*	***30***
flake tool		4	60	28	5	***97***
flake tool?		1	19	15	2	***37***
flake? tool		0	1	1	0	***2***
Grand Total		***100***	***254***	***197***	***46***	***597***

Table 4: Count of tool types

Type	awl	awl?	awl/piercer	awl/piercer?	piercer	piercer?	end scraper	end scraper?	end & side scraper	end & side scraper?	side scraper	side scraper?	hollow scraper	hollow scraper?	horned scraper	button scraper?	scraper	scraper?	scraper? biface?	notch	notch, double	notch?	C:notch/piercer	C:piercer/hollow scraper?	curved back point?	burin?	denticulate?	cutting flake	cutting flake?	retouch	ficron	sharpening flake	uncertain type	***Total***
Duck Pond Field BMDP02																																		
flake tool	1		1	1	6	2	3		1	1	4	2	3			1		2		5	1	1	1	1		1	2	5	1	3			1	***50***
flake tool?		2		2		2		1						1		1						4						1	4	1			5	***24***
flake? tool						1							1																					***2***
blade tool?																														1				***1***
blade? tool	1																													1			1	***3***
microlith																																	1	***1***
truncation burin?																														1				***1***
axe/adze																															1			***1***
total (Duck Pond)	*2*	*2*	*1*	*3*	*6*	*5*	*3*	*1*	*1*	*1*	*4*	*2*	*4*	*1*		*2*		*2*		*5*	*1*	*5*	*1*	*1*		*1*	*2*	*6*	*5*	*7*	*1*		*8*	*83*
Bullcroft Field BRBC03																																		
flake tool					1	3	3				4	1	2	1			5	2		2		1								1			1	***27***
flake tool?																1		1				1					1							***4***
blade tool																														1				***1***
tool on found piece																														1				***1***
total (Bullcroft)					*1*	*3*	*3*				*4*	*1*	*2*	*1*		*1*	*5*	*3*		*2*		*2*					*1*			*3*			*1*	*33*

Type	awl	awl?	awl/piercer	awl/piercer?	piercer	piercer?	end scraper	end scraper?	end & side scraper	end & side scraper?	side scraper	side scraper?	hollow scraper	hollow scraper?	horned scraper	button scraper?	scraper	scraper?	scraper? biface?	notch	notch, double	notch?	C:notch/piercer	C:piercer/hollow scraper?	curved back point?	burin?	denticulate?	cutting flake	cutting flake?	retouch	ficron	sharpening flake	uncertain type	***Total***
Butchers Field BRBT04																																			
flake tool					3	2	2				1	2	1				1		1																***13***
flake tool?		1		1		1						1										1					1			1					***7***
blade tool?																									1										***1***
bladelet tool?																		1																	***1***
microburin?																																		1	***1***
tool on found piece																				1															***1***
tool? on found piece																						1								1					***2***
total (Butchers)		*1*		*1*	*3*	*3*	*2*				*1*	*3*	*1*				*1*	*1*	*1*	*1*		*2*			*1*		*1*			*2*			*1*	26
Rally Field BMRF02																																			
flake tool	1				1		2		1				1					1																	***7***
flake tool?												1																1							***2***
blade tool																		1																	***1***
axe/adze																																1			***1***
tool on found piece															1																				***1***
total (Rally)	*1*				*1*		*2*		*1*			*1*	*1*		*1*			*2*										*1*					*1*		12
Grand Total	***3***	***3***	***1***	***4***	***11***	***11***	***10***	***1***	***2***	***1***	***9***	***7***	***8***	***2***	***1***	***3***	***6***	***8***	***1***	***8***	***1***	***9***	***1***	***1***	***1***	***1***	***4***	***7***	***5***	***12***	***1***	***1***	***10***	***154***

* C: combination tool

Note: tools will be underrepresented due to the fact that badly damaged edges meant that many would not have been recognised.

Table 5: Total count and weight (in grammes) of pottery by period by field (field-walking and test-pits/trenches)

Period	**Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)***		**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Rally Field (BMRF02)**		**Priory Field (BRP04)**		***Total***	
	Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
Bronze/Iron Age	45	93	4	7	3	9					***52***	***109***
Bronze/Iron Age? (?or early Saxon)	2	5	3	5.5	3	2					***8***	***12.5***
Late Iron Age/Roman	25	169.5	107	816.5	5	43.5					***137***	***1029.5***
Early/Mid Saxon	14	79.5	1	2	9	28					***24***	***109.5***
Mid/late Saxon	27	103.5	4	15	2	6.5					***33***	***125***
Saxo-Norman	95	419.5	90	656	3	76	2	12	1	22	***191***	***1183.5***
High Medieval	143	790.5	175	1120	9	43.5	5	21	4	16	***334***	***1991***
Late Medieval	167	1920.5	41	335.5	18	243	10	120			***236***	***2619***
Post-Medieval	469	8857.5	186	3320	21	215.5	70	1252	1	24	***747***	***13669***
Total	**985**	**12436.5**	**611**	**6277.5**	**73**	**667**	**87**	**1405**	**6**	**62**	**1762**	**20848**

Period	**Duck Pond Field (field-walking only)**		**Duck Pond Field (test-pits only)**		**percentage, by period, of pottery from field-walking**	
	Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*by count*	*by weight*
Bronze/Iron Age			47	98	*0*	*0*
Late Iron Age/Roman	11	118	14	52	*44*	*69*
Early/Mid Saxon			14	80	*0*	*0*
Mid/late Saxon	10	43	17	61	*37*	*41*
Saxo-Norman	37	232	59	188	*39*	*55*
High Medieval	57	403	83	385	*41*	*51*
Late Medieval	105	1336	61	579	*63*	*70*
Post-Medieval	404	8057	66	807	*86*	*91*
Total	**624**	**10187**	**361**	**2250**		

* Duck Pond Field Prehistoric: 15 sherds are Bronze Age, and 21 Iron Age, remainder indeterminate date.

Table 6: Count and weight (in grammes) of pottery by context and period from trenches and test-pits

Site	*Context*	**Bronze/ Iron Age**		**Late Iron Age/ Roman**		**Early/ Mid Saxon**		**Mid/ Late Saxon**		**Saxo-Norman**		**High Medieval**		**Late Medieval**		**Post-Medieval**		***Other Post - Med Finds***	**Total**	
		Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*		***Ct***	***Wt***
Duck Pond Field																				
BMDP02	TP 1 (1)											1	3	1	16	1	8	*	***3***	***27***
BMDP02	TP 1 (2)									2	2	3	3					*	***5***	***5***
BMDP02	TP 1 (3)[1]					7	54					1	4					*	***8***	***58***
BMDP02	TP 1 (4)[2]																			
BMDP02	TP 2 (1)											2	16	2	26			*	***4***	***42***
BMDP02	TP 2 (2)							1	4			7	29					*	***8***	***33***
BMDP02	TP 3 (1)			1	5					1	2			1	13	2	57	*	***5***	***77***
BMDP02	TP 3 (2)											1	2					*	***1***	***2***
BMDP02	TP 4 (1)									2	9	3	8			2	13.5	*	***7***	***30.5***
BMDP02	TP 4 (2)					1	7	1	8	1	2	1	11			1	21	*	***5***	***49***
BMDP02	TP 5 (1)[3]			1	4			1	2	9	18	11	36	6	33	3	29	*	***31***	***122***
BMDP02	TP 5 (2)					1	3			1	12	1	5	1	3			*	***4***	***23***
BMDP02	TP 6 (1)							2	8	3	22	3	16	4	85	1	0.5	*	***13***	***131.5***
BMDP02	TP 6 (2)[4]					2	6	1	5	6	10.5	1	4	**					***10***	***25.5***
BMDP02	TP 7 (1)			1	0.5					1	0.5	2	11	4	55	7	87.5		***15***	***154.5***
BMDP02	TP 7 (2)			1	12			1	4			1	8					*	***3***	***24***
BMDP02	TP 7 (3)[5]																			
BMDP02	TP 8 (1)			2	4					2	7	1	3	2	11			*	***7***	***25***
BMDP02	TP 9 (1)															1	6	*	***1***	***6***
BMDP02	TP 11 (1)													3	27			*	***3***	***27***
BMDP02	TP 11 (2)[6]	6	17			2	3	1	5	3	4.5	1	3	2	18			*	***15***	***50.5***
BMDP02	TP 11 (3)[7]	11	13																***11***	***13***
BMDP02	TP 11 (4)[8]																			

Site	*Context*	Bronze/ Iron Age		Late Iron Age/ Roman		Early/ Mid Saxon		Mid/ Late Saxon		Saxo-Norman		High Medieval		Late Medieval		Post-Medieval		*Other Post - Med Finds*	Total	
BMDP02	TP 12 (1)					1	5	1	3	1	6	1	7	7	100.5	10	133.5	*	***21***	***255***
BMDP02	TP 12 (2)			2	11	1	6			2	9	2	13					*	***7***	***39***
BMDP02	TP 13 (1)															3	29	*	***3***	***29***
BMDP02	TP 13 (2)			1	2					2	7	1	21			1	51	*	***5***	***81***
BMDP02	TP 14 (1)[9]	7	16	3	9.5					5	23	10	21	3	57.5	3	43	*	***31***	***170***
BMDP02	TP 14 (3)[10]							2	5	1	1	6	41	1	3			*	***10***	***50***
BMDP02	TP 15 (1)											3	11	1	8	5	48	*	***9***	***67***
BMDP02	TP 16 (1)[11]			1	2			3	5	4	17	9	49.5	17	100	25	274	*	***59***	***447.5***
BMDP02	TP 16 (2)[12]	10	28	1	2	1	0.5	3	12	12	33	11	60	6	23	1	6	*	***45***	***164.5***
BMDP02	TP 16 (3)[13]	6	10																***6***	***10***
BMDP02	TP 16 (4)[8]																			
BMDP02	TP 16 (5)[14]	5	9																***5***	***9***
Rally Field																				
BMRF02	(1) [15]									3	18	4	15	10	120	70	1252	*	***87***	***1405***
Priory Field																				
BRP04	(1)													**						
BRP04	(2)											1	1					*	***1***	***1***
BRP04	(3)[16]									1	22	1	2					*	***2***	***24***
BRP04	(4)																	*		
BRP04	(5)											2	13					*	***2***	***13***
BRP04	(6)															1	24	*	***1***	***24***
BRP04	(7)																	*		
Butcher's Field																				
BRBT04	100					1	1					1	0.5	5	74	6	48	*	***13***	***123.5***
BRBT04	101											2	6	3	54			*	***5***	***60***

Site	*Context*	**Bronze/ Iron Age**		**Late Iron Age/ Roman**		**Early/ Mid Saxon**		**Mid/ Late Saxon**		**Saxo-Norman**		**High Medieval**		**Late Medieval**		**Post-Medieval**		***Other Post - Med Finds***	**Total**	
BRBT04	102											1	4					*	***1***	***4***
BRBT04	103			1	0.5							1	11	2	10	1	7	*	***5***	***28.5***
BRBT04	105																			
BRBT04	106			1	30									1	10			*	***2***	***40***
BRBT04	107													**						
BRBT04	400							1	0.5					1	26	3	22	*	***5***	***48.5***
BRBT04	401[17]	1	0.5							1	6	1	14	1	2	1	0.5	*	***5***	***23***
BRBT04	402[18]	5	10.5																***5***	***10.5***
BRBT04	404[5]																			
BRBT04	405					1	6												***1***	***6***
BRBT04	406					5	10												***5***	***10***
BRBT04	408			1	8	2	11												***3***	***19***
BRBT04	426[19]																			
BRBT04	429[19]																			
BRBT04	500			1	3											3	51	*	***4***	***54***
BRBT04	501							1	6	2	70							*	***3***	***76***
BRBT04	502			1	2											1	5		***2***	***7***
BRBT04	600											1	4	1	5	1	8	*	***3***	***17***
BRBT04	601													1	38			*[20]	***1***	***38***
BRBT04	602													1	5				***1***	***5***
BRBT04	700											1	1	1	12			*	***2***	***13***
BRBT04	701																			
BRBT04	800											1	3	1	7	5	74	*	***7***	***84***
BRBT04	801													**						

Notes

* These contexts contain post-medieval clay pipe, glass, and/or building material
**These contexts contain tile type T1 (possibly Late Medieval)

1) One of the sherds listed as Saxon could be prehistoric; the medieval sherd is atypical of the fabric – just might be Saxon.
2) Contains worked flint: Mesolithic?
3) Two of the Saxo-Norman sherds may be early High Medieval ('developed scratchware')
4) One of the early Saxon sherds is an organic tempered sherd that could be Iron Age; two of the Saxo-Norman sherds could be early High Medieval ('developed scratchware'); a 5g fragment of T1 med/post-med tile was found in sieving.
5) Contains worked flint, dated 'prehistoric' and 'mesolithic'
6) Five of the prehistoric sherds are likely to be Bronze Age; two of the Saxo-Norman sherds may be early High Medieval ('developed scratchware')
7) One Bronze Age, ten (6g) likely to be Iron Age
8) Contains worked flint, possibly Bronze Age, in good condition
9) Five of the prehistoric sherds are likely to be Bronze Age
10) One Saxo-Norman sherd might be early High Medieval ('developed scratchware')
11) Three of the Saxo-Norman sherds might be early High Medieval ('developed scratchware')
12) Four of the prehistoric sherds are likely to be Iron Age; Eight of the Saxo-Norman sherds might be early High Medieval ('developed scratchware')
13) Four of the prehistoric sherds are likely to be Bronze Age; two are likely to be Iron Age
14) The prehistoric sherds are Iron Age ('saucepan pot')
15) One of the Saxo-Norman sherds might be early High Medieval ('developed scratchware')
16) The High Medieval sherd could be Medieval or Roman (or possibly mid/late Saxon?)
17) The Saxo-Norman sherd might be early High Medieval ('developed scratchware')
18) Of the prehistoric pottery, one sherd is Bronze Age, and three sherds are in a fabric that could be Iron Age or early Saxon.
19) Prehistoric flint, in good condition; could all be Mesolithic.
20) Fragment of 19th/20th century wine bottle.

Table 7: Count and weight (g) of prehistoric pottery by fabric and context

	Bronze Age						**Bronze Age/Iron Age**												**Iron Age**				**Iron Age/Early Saxon**					
	F6		*G3*		*FG1*		*F1*		*F2*		*F3*		*F7*		*G1*		*QG1*		*F5*		*V1*		*O2*		*O4*		*GlQ2*	
Context	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*
BMDP02																												
TP1(3)																									1	1		
TP6(2)																											1	4
TP11(2)	3	10			2	4					1	3																
TP11(3)			1	7											1	7			10	6								
TP14(1)									5	10	2	6																
TP16(2)							2	3			1	0.5	3	14					4	10.5								
TP16(3)			2	3	2	2									2	3			2	5								
TP16(5)																					5	9						
BRBC03																												
4 C																							1	0.5				
22 B																							1	2				
30 G																	1	2										
31 H					2	2																						
33 H																									1	3		
BRBT04																												
401							1	0.5																				
402							1	8	1	0.5																	3	2
TOTAL	**3**	**10**	**3**	**10**	**6**	**8**	**4**	**11.5**	**6**	**10.5**	**4**	**9.5**	**3**	**14**	**3**	**10**	**1**	**2**	**16**	**21.5**	**5**	**9**	**2**	**2.5**	**2**	**4**	**4**	**6**

Plus one vitrified sherd of prehistoric pottery from Bullcroft Field, 20A.

Table 8: Count and weight (g) of Late Iron Age and Roman Pottery by ware and field

Fabric Group	**Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)**		**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		***Total***	
	Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
Grog tempered (late Iron Age/ early Roman	3	8	31	232.5			***34***	***240.5***
Black Burnished Ware	1	2	2	28			***3***	***30***
Shale coarseware	1	17	1	12			***2***	***29***
Other sandy greywares (local)	9	35.5	17	129	2	10	***28***	***1745***
Glauconitic greywares	1	0.5	12	98			***13***	***98.5***
Alice Holt			1	4			***1***	***4***
Samian			2	7.5			***2***	***7.5***
Oxford	1	3	16	128			***17***	***131***
New Forest finewares	6	76.5	10	105	1	30	***17***	***211.5***
Other, non-local finewares	3	27	15	72.5	2	3.5	***20***	***103***
Total	***25***	***169.5***	***107***	***816.5***	***6***	***45***	***137***	***1029.5***

Table 9: Count and weight (g) of Saxon Pottery by ware and by field

Date	**Fabric Group**	**Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)**		**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Total**	
		Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
Iron Age or Early Saxon	Organic tempered	1	1	3	5.5			***4***	***6.5***
	Glauconite/quartz	1	4			3	2	***4***	***6***
Early/Mid Saxon	Organic tempered	4	19.5	1	2	1	1	***6***	***22.5***
	Unburnt flint	1	27					***1***	***27***
	Medium Quartz	9	33			3	1	***12***	***34***
	Coarse quartz					1	9	***1***	***9***
	Glauconite/quartz					4	17	***4***	***17***
Mid/Late Saxon	Fine Quartz	3	11	1	1	1	0.5	***5***	***12.5***
	Medium quartz	16	45.5	3	14	1	6	***20***	***65.5***
	Flint/coarse quartz	4	20					***4***	***20***
Late Saxon	Coarse quartz	4	27					***4***	***27***
Total		***43***	***188***	***8***	***22.5***	***14***	***36.5***	***65***	***247***

Table 10: Count and weight (g) of Saxo-Norman pottery by ware and field

	Fabric Group	**Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)**		**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Rally Field (BMRF02)**		**Priory Field (BRP04)**		***Total***	
		Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
Norman to High Medieval	Fine scratchwares	22	49.5	8	25	1	6	1	2			***32***	***82.5***
Saxo-Norman	Coarse scratchwares	54	160	46	182							***100***	***342***
	Very Coarse Quartz	17	178	22	201	2	70	1	10			***42***	***459***
	Coarse Quartz	1	27	11	196					1	22	***13***	***245***
	Medium Quartz			3	52							***3***	***52***
	Glazed ware	1	3									***1***	***3***
Total		***95***	***417.5***	***90***	***656***	***3***	***76***	***2***	***12***	***1***	***22***	***191***	***1183.5***

Table 11: Count of High Medieval pottery by ware and field

	Fabric Group	**Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)**		**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Rally Field (BMRF02)**		**Priory Field (BRP04)**		***Total***	
		Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
High Medieval	Reduced, Coarse Quartz	2	21	4	128							***6***	***149***
	Reduced, Medium Quartz	15	84	2	45	1	14					***18***	***143***
	Reduced, Fine Quartz	7	22	1	7							***8***	***29***
	Oxidised, Coarse Quartz	13	58	52	192.5	1	11					***66***	***261.5***
	Oxidised, Medium Quartz	57	377.5	82	408.5	5	11.5	5	21	3	14	***152***	***832.5***
	Oxidised, Fine Quartz	26	124	23	149	2	7					***51***	***280***
	Oxidised, quartz & iron			1	6							***1***	***6***
	Whiteware, local	5	19	1	8							***6***	***27***
	Oxidised sandy fineware	3	24	7	71							***10***	***95***
	Laverstock type jug	11	51.5	1	13							***12***	***64.5***
Medieval	Fine Sandy	1	0.5							1	2	***2***	***2.5***
	Pot or CBM	1	9	1	92							***2***	***101***
Total		***141***	***790.5***	***175***	***1120***	***9***	***43.5***	***5***	***21***	***4***	***16***	***334***	***1991***

Table 12: Count of Late Medieval pottery by ware and field

	Fabric Group	**Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)**		**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Rally Field (BMRF02)**		***Total***	
		Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
Late Medieval	Very fine quartz	16	129	7	36	2	9			***25***	***174***
	Medium quartz	31	346	21	227			4	20	***56***	***593***
	Local whiteware	27	160.5			2	41			***29***	***201.5***
	Non-local (Surrey)	1	8	1	5					***2***	***13***
Very Late Medieval	Fine quartz	83	1180.5	12	67.5	13	183	6	100	***114***	***1531***
	Fine-medium sparse quartz	9	96.5							***9***	***96.5***
	Stoneware					1	10			***1***	***10***
Total		***167***	***1920.5***	***41***	***335.5***	***18***	***243***	***10***	***120***	***236***	***2619***

Table 13: Count and weight (g) of Post-Medieval pottery by ware and field

Fabric Group	**Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)**		**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Rally Field (BMRF02)**		**Priory Field (BRP04)**		***Total***	
	Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
Post-Medieval Coarse Earthenware	414	8382.5	183	3306.5	17	204	55	1156	1	24	***670***	***13073***
(of which: Verwood/Wiltshire Brown)	*372*	*7749.5*	*178*	*3261.5*	*16*	*196*	*55*	*1156*	*1*	*24*	***622***	***12387***
Tin Glazed earthenware	2	5									***2***	***5***
Refined earthenwares *(e.g. slipwares, pearlwares, creamwares.)*	15	44	1	0.5	1	1	9	38			***26***	***83.5***
Finewares *(e.g. porcelain)*	2	2.5									***2***	***2.5***
Stonewares	28	308	2	13	2	8.5	5	57			***37***	***386.5***
Modern *(white bodied china)*	8	115.5			1	2	1	1			***10***	***118.5***
Total	***469***	***8857.5***	***186***	***3320***	***21***	***215.5***	***70***	***1252***	***1***	***24***	***747***	***13669***

Table 14: Numbers of rims, bases, body sherds and estimated number of fabrics by period

Number of:	**Bronze/ Iron Age**	**Roman**	**Early/ Mid Saxon**	**Mid/ Late Saxon**	**Saxo-Norman**	**High Medieval**	**Late Medieval**	**Post Medieval**	***Total***
Rims	7	19		3	30	77	69	181	***386***
Bases		13			4	12	11	69	***109***
Body sherds	53	102	24	30	165	235	151	485	***1243***
Other		3 (flange)				2 (handle)	4 (handle, bunghole)	13 (handle)	***22***
Estimated no. of fabrics	13	35	7	12	15	39*	19*	22	***162***

** this could be reduced*

Table 15: Count and weight (g) of CBM by field and period

		Duck Pond Field[1] (BMDP02)		**Bullcroft Field[2] (BRBC03)**		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Rally Field (BMRF02)**		**Priory Field (BRP04)**		***Total***	
		Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	***Ct***	***Wt***
Roman	brick	1	10	3	218	2	59					***6***	***287***
	tile	1	22	51	633	2	35					***54***	***690***
Roman Total		*2*	*32*	*54*	*851*	*4*	*94*					***60***	***977***
Med/Post-Med	brick			1	224	1	93	1	7	1	210	***4***	***534***
	brick?					2	60					***2***	***60***
	tile	100	1695	16	928	115	1741	65	1289	87	1981	***382***	***7620***
	unknown	1	32			1	64					***2***	***96***
Med/Post-Med Total		*101*	*1727*	*17*	*1152*	*119*	*1958*	*66*	*1296*	*88*	*2191*	***392***	***8315***
Post-Medieval	brick	96	1193	1	698	147	2245	42	1360			***286***	***5496***
	tile	152	2659	3	279	153	2810	88	2160	17	692	***413***	***8600***
	chimney pot[3]	3	29									***3***	***29***
	mixed	24	854									***24***	***854***
Post-Medieval Total		*251*	*3881*	*3*	*968*	*300*	*5055*	*130*	*3520*	*17*	*692*	***702***	***14125***
Date not recorded		*3559*	*111835*	*5044*	*101039*							***8603***	***212874***
Grand Total		***3913***	***117475***	***5118***	***104010***	***423***	***7107***	***196***	***4816***	***105***	***2883***	***9755***	***23691***

1 detailed figures are for test-pits only; 'date not recorded' is the CBM recovered in field-walking

2 only selected pieces from Bullcroft Field were retained for further examination: thus these figures are not representative of the dates and forms recovered from that field.

3 All Fareham type with white slip

Tile includes floor and roof tile; brick includes brick and hearth brick

Table 16: Count and weight(g) of Roman CBM by fabric and type

	Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)[1]				**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)[2]**										**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**			
	brick		tegula?		brick		unidentified tile		box flue		imbrex?		tegula?		brick		unidentified tile	
	Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*
B2[3]	1	10			1	81									2	59		
T9[3]			1	22			45	428	1	30	2	140	3	35			2	35
T12					1	68												
B5					1	69												
Grand Total	***1***	***10***	***1***	***22***											***2***	***59***	***2***	***35***

Notes:

1) *For Duck Pond Field, data is from test-pit material only*
2) *Bullcroft Field includes only those pieces for which the date was recorded*
3) *Non-local, micaceous fabrics*

Table 17: Count and weight(g) of Medieval and Late Med/Post-Medieval CBM by fabric

Fabric	Type		Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)[1]		Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)[2]		Butcher's Field (BRBT04)		Rally Field (BMRF02)		Priory Field (BRP04)		*Total*[3]	
			Ct	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*
T1	brick	hearth?			1	224	3	153			2	238	5	391
	tile	hip			1	38					1	113	1	113
		ridge	1	39	1	45							1	39
		peg					1	16					1	16
		roof[4]	82	987	1	23	99	1483	62	1232	70	1427	313	5129
	T1 total		83	1026			103	1652	62	1232	73	1653	321	5688
T5	tile	?Norman/ Medieval 'tegula & imbrex'	10	130	4	216	14	186	3	57	14	369	41	742
T10			3	227	1	49	1	56					4	283
Laverstock type	tile	ridge	2	276	1	95							2	276
		roof[4]	2	36	2	19							2	36
		roof furniture?	1	32									1	32
Sandy	tile	ridge? /Norman?									1	44	1	44
Floor tiles	encaustic				1	65								
	geometric				1	10								
	misc				3	368								
CBM							1[5]	64	1[6]	7			2	71
Total			**101**	**1727**			**119**	**1958**	**66**	**1296**	**88**	**2191**	**374**	**7172**

Notes: 1) For Duck Pond Field, data is from test-pit material only
2) Bullcroft Field includes only those pieces for which the date was recorded
3) Totals exclude Bullcroft Field
4) Exact form not identifiable
5) Fragment ?hearth brick
6) Scrap, yellow material, might be Dutch, probably not CBM

Table 18: Count and weight(g) of Post-Medieval CBM by fabric *(excluding Bullcroft Field)*

		Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)[1]		**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**		**Rally Field (BMRF02)**		**Priory Field (BRP04)**		***Total Ct***	***Total Wt***
Type	***Fabric***	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*	*Ct*	*Wt*		
brick	BSG	39	687	55	1019	12	232			***106***	***1938***
	post med other	57	506	92	1226	30	1128			***179***	***2860***
brick total		*96*	*1193*	*147*	*2245*	*42*	*1360*			***285***	***4798***
tile	T3/11/13	42	1045	22	468	8	487	2	34	***74***	***2034***
	T8	5	43	5	93	5	197			***15***	***333***
	post med orange	105	1571	126	2249	75	1476	15	658	***321***	***5954***
tile total		*152*	*2659*	*153*	*2810*	*88*	*2160*	*17*	*692*	***410***	***8321***
Total		***248***	***3852***	***300***	***5055***	***130***	***3520***	***17***	***692***	***695***	***13119***

Notes:

1) *For Duck Pond Field, data is from test-pit material only*

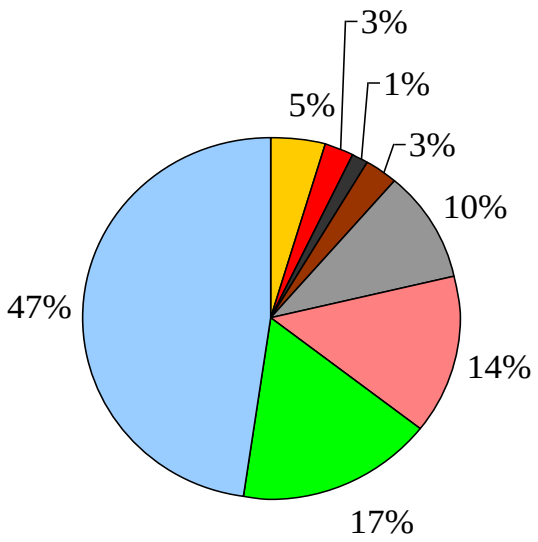
Table 19: Count of glass and clay pipe by field

	Duck Pond Field (BMDP02)	**Bullcroft Field (BRBC03)**	**Butcher's Field (BRBT04)**	**Rally Field (BMRF02)**	**Priory Field (BRP04)**	***Total***
Clay pipe (all stems)	32		2	4		***38***
Glass	83	1	5	9		***98***
(of which, bottle glass)	*59*	*1*	*4*	*6*		***66***

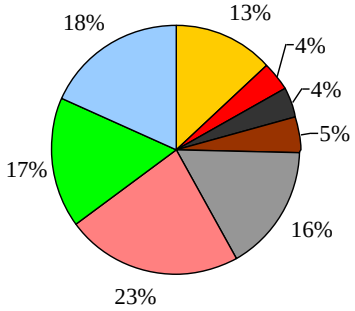
Percentage count of Pottery by Period

Duck Pond Field

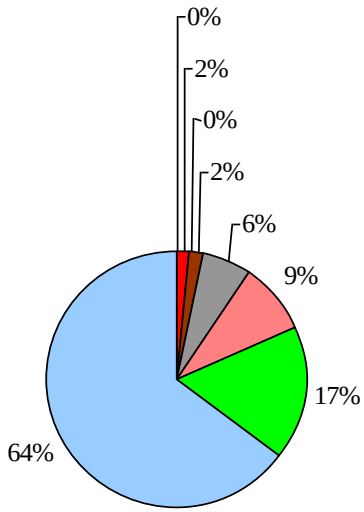
Test-Pits and Field-walking (984 sherds)



Test-Pits only (360 sherds)



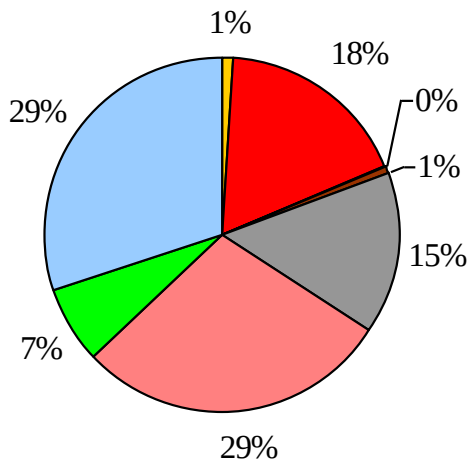
Field-Walking only (624 sherds)



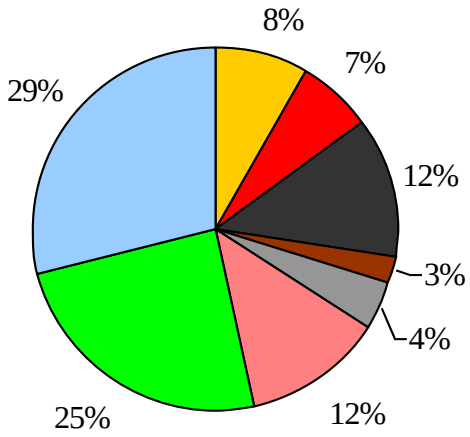


Percentage of Pottery by Period

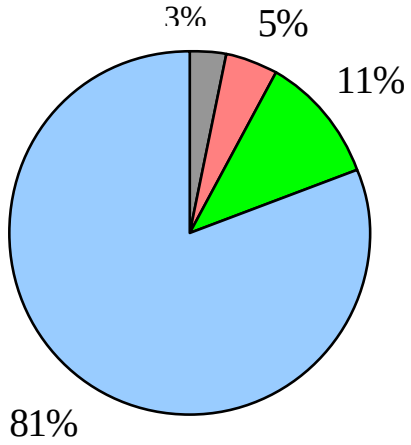
Bullcroft Field, Field-walking (611 sherds)



Butchers Field, test-pits (73 sherds)



Rally Field, trench (87 sherds)





Appendix 1: Fabric Descriptions for Prehistoric and Early Saxon Pottery

Prehistoric Pottery

All fabrics are handmade, and low fired.

Flint tempered fabrics

F1: Sparse, moderately sorted, fine/medium to very coarse (c. 3mm) blocky, burnt flint; very fine quartz common in matrix; occasional, rounded quartz to 2mm; sparse, medium to coarse red, ?iron; occasional detrital unburnt flint, sandy accretion and chalk. One sherd has a possible finger impression. Late Bronze/Early Iron Age.

F2: Moderate, ill sorted, very fine to very coarse (up to 3mm), blocky, burnt flint; rare brown/black/red ?iron to 1mm; occasional very fine quartz; silty matrix. One piece has a fingernail impression. Mid/Late Bronze Age.

F3: Common, ill sorted, fine to very coarse (>2mm), blocky, burnt flint; sparse to moderate, rounded, fairly well sorted, fine to medium quartz; ?sandy matrix. Over fired. Bronze Age to Mid Iron Age

F5: Moderate to common, ill sorted (very fine to very coarse, >2mm), blocky, burnt flint; moderate, rounded, very fine to fine, well sorted quartz, plus occasional coarse piece; rare, fine to medium ?iron rich, inclusions; sandy matrix. One fragment of slightly inturned rim, one fragment of slightly everted rim. Early to Mid Iron Age.

F6: Rare to sparse, very fine to coarse (occasionally to 2mm), blocky, burnt flint; rare, fine to medium, well sorted, rounded quartz; ?rare, very coarse grog? (?clay pellets); occasional (to 1mm) red, ?iron. Oxidised surfaces, black core; sandy feel. Bronze Age.

F7: Sparse to moderate; fine to coarse, moderately sorted, blocky, burnt flint; rare, fine to medium, well sorted, rounded quartz; occasional detrital unburnt flint; sandy matrix; tends to be black with brown surfaces. One sherd may show a faintly burnished line. Mid Bronze to Mid Iron Age.

Grog tempered fabrics

G3: Sparse, medium grog - difficult to see; rare, fine, red, ?iron; detrital unburnt flint and quartz - to 2mm; silty matrix; oxidised. Soapy feel. Bronze Age.

FG1: Sparse, medium to very coarse, blocky, burnt, flint; sparse, very coarse (to 3mm) grog; occasional quartz to 1mm; silty matrix; oxidised surfaces, often a black core; softly fired; hand made. Soapy feel. Likely to date around 1700BC: late Early Bronze Age.

QG1: Rare coarse, sub-rounded quartz (0.5-1mm); rare grog (0.5-2mm); ?iron specks; sandy matrix; oxidised. Bronze/Iron Age.

Vesicular fabrics

V1: *(silty fabric with voids)* Moderate, voids to 4mm (chalk, possibly rare shell - does not look like organics); rare, very fine glauconite; occasional rounded quartz to 1mm. Silty matrix. All sherds belong to same vessel – a PB type saucepan pot. Mid to Late Iron Age.

Prehistoric or Early Saxon Fabrics

Organic tempered fabrics

O2: Rare organics, appears to be seeds/chaff, to 2mm (could be accidental inclusion); rare, fine to very coarse (2mm), red, ?iron; rare, very fine (occasionally fine), well sorted quartz; a definitely sandy matrix; distinctly sandy feel. Iron Age or Early Saxon; probably prehistoric.

O4: Rare to sparse organics - voids to 1-2mm, tend to look like seed or chaff; very fine to medium, round and subround quartz; rare, fine, well sorted, red/brown, ?iron; occasional, angular, detrital flint; matrix silty, although a slightly sparkly look. Iron Age or early Saxon.

Sandy fabric

GlQ2: *(glauconitic fabric with sparse quartz)* Rare to sparse, fine glauconite; very fine to coarse, sparse, subangular and round, quartz; rare, fine to very coarse red/brown, ?iron; occasional detrital flint; distinctly sandy matrix. Oxidised surface(s), black core; fairly well fired. Iron Age or early/mid Saxon. Most likely to be prehistoric.

Early to mid Saxon Fabrics

All fabrics are hand made and low fired.

Organic tempered fabric

O3: Moderate organics, to 4-5mm (cut grass/straw?), resulting in very laminar looking fabric; very occasional detrital flint to 2mm; rare red/black ?iron, to 1mm; occasional, detrital quartz to 1mm; silty matrix; distinctly smooth feel. Matrix has rare, very fine quartz which is noticeable at x10 against the black fabric. Normally black, but surfaces may be oxidised. Distinctly smooth feel. No diagnostic forms. Dated early Saxon on the basis of the high amount of organics, the 'sticky' clay, and the poor manufacture. Early Saxon.

Sandy fabrics

CW15: Very coarse (0.3-3mm, esp 1mm), ill sorted, angular quartz; rare, grass-like organic voids - noticeable on surface, give a laminar look; 'sticky', silty matrix; soft fired (although tends to look well fired); black, but can be brown or pale pink in parts. Rather well fired for early Saxon, but fabric does not look late Saxon. Early/mid Saxon.

Q1: Moderate, fine to medium, subangular and rounded, quartz; rare red/brown/black, ?iron, to 1mm (variable in size and quantity); occasional detrital flint, to 1mm. Occasional sandy lumps. Some small sherds not entirely unlike Roman greywares, but fabric soft and firing variable: black, reduced or partly oxidised. Often with an un-Roman brownish cast.

Q1a: As Q1 but slightly more and slightly finer quartz. One burnished, nicely made sherd has carination - this has a vaguely early Iron Age look, however, the 'spotty' (iron?) nature of fabric at x10 does not look Iron Age (Elaine Morris agreed). Early Saxon.

Q2: Common, fine (rarely medium), angular quartz (generally finer than Q1); rare ?iron to 1mm, which is only visible if oxidised. Firing tends to be black (ish). Can be burnished. Early Saxon.

GlQ1: *(glauconitic fabric with common quartz)* Sparse, very fine, occasionally medium, glauconite (which is difficult to see, except where the fabric is oxidised); common, fine to medium (occasionally to 1mm), rounded, quartz; rare ?iron to 2mm; detrital flint to 1mm. Variable firing - reduced, oxidised and unoxidised. Flaky and fragile. Firing/manufacture feels Saxon, but no definitive forms or decoration – a scrap of base, no footrim, but difficult to tell if flat or sagging. Early to mid Saxon?

F8: *(sandy fabric with patinated flint)* Rare, unburnt, inclined to be thin & angular, flint to 2mm; rare, fine, subangular quartz, occasionally rounded to 1mm; occasional chalk to 1mm; rare, 'grassy' organic voids to 4mm; sandy matrix and sandy feel. Flint rather angular, not as nicely patinated as usual in Saxon fabrics, but probably detrital; firing looks Saxon, but only one sherd which is rather well made. Early Saxon.

Appendix 2: Fabric and Form Notes for Ceramic Building Material

9754 fragments, 236·201kg, of ceramic building material were recovered in total, dating to the Roman, medieval and Post-Medieval periods. The vast majority of that found in field-walking was very small and abraded (size 0-5cm, and rarely 5-10cm).

The material retained from trenches and test-pits was rapidly divided into very broad fabric groupings without the use of a microscope. Selected pieces were examined with a x10 binocular microscope, and samples from one group, the micaceous Roman fabrics, were examined in thin section.

CBM recovered from Bullcroft field was subject to an experimental approach. Fabrics were defined to be easily recognised by naked eye. The fabrics groups were later checked by examining selected pieces under a binocular microscope at x10. Prior to discard the all CBM from each 30x30 square was quickly examined and brief notes made concerned the forms and fabrics present. Estimates, by percentage count, were made of the relative amounts of brick vs. tile, and of the amount of any fabric present in quantity. Particular attention was paid to fabric T1, as this was clearly 'different' and possibly early in date. Measurements of any complete dimensions were taken (or, where the number of finds with a complete dimension was large, such as the thickness of post-medieval tiles, a sample were measured); and notes made of any special forms or surface finishing (e.g. frogging on bricks, combing on Roman tile). The aim of this experiment was twofold: the main purpose was to see if any useful information could be recovered very rapidly from CBM collections that would otherwise simply be weighed, counted, and discarded; a second objective was to encourage first-year undergraduates on a training excavation to look at ceramic finds and think about the types of information they might provide.

Roman Fabric Groups

B2: *(Micaceous brick)*
Typically, this fabric has orange surfaces with a pinky-orange core, and (rarely) an occasional streak of cream clay. The matrix is sandy with rare (but noticeable at x10) very fine (<0.1-0.1mm) iron/glauconite fired red or grey; rare, very fine (<0.1-0.1mm) silver, and very occasionally gold, mica; occasional cream or pink, clay pellets, (0.1mm, but to 1mm) and occasional, detrital, quartz. The fabric also contains sparse, sub-round, sometimes elongate, voids (0.1-2mm, occasionally to 10mm), which are normally lined, to a greater or lesser extent, with a white material which resembles limestone, but does not react with hydrochloric acid (perhaps this reaction has already worked out in Breamore's acid soils). In some instances the voids may represent leached out shell. The fabric has a smooth, 'powdery' feel. There appears to be no added temper, and clay preparation may have involved removing a coarse fraction. Most noticeable without a microscope are the 'sparkly' surfaces (the effect of the mica and fine quartz), and the sub-round voids. (Winchester fabric 30).

One sample of brick was examined in thin section. In thin section the fabric is very fine and well sorted. The matrix contained moderate to common to very common,

subround to subangular, monocrystalline quartz (<0.1mm, usually <0.05mm), approximately 5% of the quartz showed undulose extinction; rounded grains of an iron mineral which is possibly glauconite, (0.05-0.5mm), and sparse, but noticeable, muscovite mica (<0.05 to 0.1mm). There was also an occasional clay pellet to 1mm in size. The slide examined also contained two grains of non-sutured polycrystalline quartz and one grain of detrital flint in the same size range as the other inclusions. The thin section was made 'edge on' from the brick, and the mica showed strong directionality and is almost invariably seen edge on in the slide. This suggests that the manufacturing process of the brick involved strong compression of the clay between the upper and lower surfaces: the 'linear' look that most Roman brick and tile has in hand specimen, and which is often thought to be a result of it being manufactured by rolling, however, this manufacturing method for Roman tegula tile has been questioned by Warry (2006) on the basis of experimental archaeology.

Only bricks were identified in this fabric, the thickness of which ranged between 35-38mm.

T9: *(Micaceous tile)*
There were two sub-types, although fabrics between the two extremes were seen: T9a had more detrital quartz, less glauconite, and slightly more mica than T9b. Both fabrics were either fully oxidised (orange) or sandwich fired with a grey core, sandwich firing being more common on thicker tiles. Firing was soft to very hard. T9a had a sandy matrix with occasional, ill sorted, medium, angular milky quartz, and rounded, red stained quartz, (0.1-0.8mm), rare glauconite, (c. 0.1mm, occasionally to 0.3mm); rare, very fine (0.1mm), silver (rarely gold) mica visible on surfaces; rare/occasional, very fine, red ?iron, c. 0.1mm and occasional to sparse lumps and streaks of cream or red clay. The fabric matrix for T9b was sandy (quartz less then 0.1mm) with common, fine (<0.1-0.2mm), well sorted, well-rounded glauconite/iron, which is usually black, but occasionally red (especially in softly fired and fully oxidised examples); rare, very fine (to 0.1mm), silver mica visible on surfaces, and occasional detrital quartz. Depending on how well fired a fragment is, the feel varied from powdery to slightly sandy, and the break was from smooth to conchoidal. Sanding on surfaces consisted of quartz, glauconite and rarely, flint: the quartz was either clear, milky or white, and very well rounded, rounded or subangular, 0.1-1.0mm, poorly sorted, and occasionally polycrystalline; the very fine (0.1mm) glauconite was well sorted giving the sanding a distinct 'salt and pepper' look, to the naked eye.

Four samples of T9 were examined in thin section. Each sample showed the same range of inclusions as those in B2, but the textures varied. Sample 5, from an unidentified form, (13mm thick, fully oxidised), was very similar to B2 in the size range of inclusions, but showed slightly less quartz in the matrix. Sample 4, from a combed tile (possibly flue tile, completely oxidised), showed less alignment in the mica; the, very common, quartz ranged from 0.03 to 0.15mm, with a higher proportion in the large size range than in B2. Sample 2, from a plain piece of tile (13mm thick, with a grey core), contained very little mica or glauconite. The latter was noticeable in the hand specimen on the surfaces, which may have been from the sanding. The quartz in this sample was larger again, 0.05-0.2mm, and this was noticeable in hand specimen. Sample 1 was very similar to sample 4, but with

noticeably more glauconite, in a slightly larger size range (up to 0.08mm); and with the mica showing more alignment.

The variation in these specimens may simply be different batches of prepared clay.

Forms identified were combed box-flue and, possibly, tegula and imbrex. This fabric has a parallel amongst the Roman fabrics in the Winchester Museums CBM fabric reference collection (fabrics 1 and 9).

T12: *(sandy fabric with sparse quartz and sandwich firing)*
Usually sandwich fired with a grey core and orange margins, surfaces often being a lighter orange. The fabric had sparse to medium amounts of rounded (often looking waterworn), and subangular, poorly sorted, fine to coarse (0.2-1mm), clear, cloudy and stained, quartz; none or rare very fine glauconite; and rare, very fine (<0.1mm) flecks of mica. The sand resembles the 'Surrey sands' and this fabric may be related to B2 and T9, however, it had noticeably less mica, and one may have to search hard for red iron flecks or glauconite. This fabric has a parallel amongst the Roman fabrics in the Winchester Museums CBM fabric reference collection.

Other Roman: (o*ther fabrics likely to be Roman)*
These were all orange firing fabrics, streaked with cream clay, and showing evidence of a parallel structure to the fabric which is typical of Roman brick and tile. They were likely to be from local Reading Beds clay. A few fragments were identifiable as brick (thickness 35-40mm). (this group includes Bullcroft fabric B5 – one observed with height 30mm.)

Medieval/Post-Medieval Fabric Groups

BSG:*(irregularly fired brick fabric with black clinker)*
Red, purple, or bluish brick, often irregularly fired; varying from very hard to quite soft. Variable amounts of black angular inclusions that look like clinker at x10. Typical of post-medieval clamp fired brick. Examples were found with rounded frogs (the surface opposite the frog was wire cut), and thicknesses ranged from 60 to 70mm (five measurable examples), widths 102-108mm (three measurable examples). The groups also included a vitrified header and a moulded, half(?) circle brick (thickness 62mm). Assuming all fragments were the contemporary, the evidence of the thickness, presence of frog, and fabric, suggest this group date from the very late 18^{th,} to early 19th century.

Post-Med Other: *(bricks)*
A 'catchall' group for post-medieval brick that is not obviously 20th century, but which does not have the 'black spots'/clinker typical of clamp firing. Without further evidence (for example, the bricklaying bond used), this type of post-medieval brick cannot be dated with certainty. The examples were too fragmentary to obtain secure measurements.

Lav: *(pink, very sandy fabric with clean matrix)* (Laverstock type ridge tile/roof furniture)
The fabric was pink/buff/grey, with a clean matrix containing variable amounts of (usually) fine to medium quartz; and variable amounts of specks and lumps rounded, red ?iron. It was used for glazed ridge tiles which were hand made, appearing to be

'rolled and draped'. An unidentified item in this fabric may be part of a support for some form of decorative roof furniture. Medieval.

T1: *(very poorly mixed, soft, fabric with cream streak and spots)*
The fabric was handmade. Two subtypes were originally defined: T1a, pink fabric; and T1b, orange fabric, but these are probably extremes of firing. The clay is poorly mixed, resulting in a mottled appearance with varying amounts and sizes of cream streaks and round/subround clay pellets (often white or cream) (to 10mm) in a fabric that varies from pale salmon to pink to light orange, sometimes with a buff or grey core (the pinker variants tend to be softer). The fabric contained sparse to moderate (occasionally common), medium to coarse (0.3-0.7mm), sub-angular, poorly sorted, cloudy, clear and stained quartz; sparse, subangular, poorly sorted, fine (0.1-3mm), red ?iron; and very rare, angular, probably detrital flint (to 2mm). One side is usually rough and lightly sanded, the other smooth. The lead glaze, where it occurs, is on the smooth side, and is clear, thin, and inclined to be patchy. The fabric is often unoxidised underneath the glaze, and unoxidised areas on the surfaces of tiles may indicate where a glaze has worn away. Forms recovered were peg tiles, hip tiles, ridge tiles and hearth bricks. Likely to be medieval.

T3/11/13: *(tile: very dense, highly fired pink/purple fabrics with near conchoidal fracture)*
A group of very well fired (fracture is nearly conchoidal), very dense, purplish fabrics, usually sanded on both faces. One variant had quartz visible to the naked eye in the break, another had black spots and speckles that appeared to be clinker. The fabric occasionally had cream clay streaks visible in the break, but was generally very well mixed. The only form identified was roof tile. Post-medieval, likely to be 19th century or later.

T5: *(tile: pink/red fabric with clean matrix and common coarse quartz)*
The fabric had a clean, pink matrix with common to very common, moderately sorted, coarse (0.3-0.7mm), sub-angular, cloudy, clear and stained, quartz; and occasional very coarse (to 6mm) flint. It was usually reasonably well fired and had a sandy to harsh feel, and an uneven fracture. A variant had similar inclusions but fired pinkish red. Tiles were all rather thick (12-23mm). It often appeared to be self slipped and occasionally had a patchy lead glaze. One example was glazed from one edge for 40mm and then had a definite 'stopping' line in the glaze; another had a white slip beneath an olive green lead glaze. Some fragments had square peg holes. The redder firing variant is not dissimilar to the glazed Norman tegula and imbrex tiles occasionally found in Southampton. Probably Norman, certainly not Roman.

T6: *(tile: pink fabric with clean matrix and very coarse quartz)*
T6 is similar to T5, but slightly coarser and the tile tends to be even thicker. It is very similar to one of the coarse Norman-High Medieval jar fabrics, and it was frequently difficult to be certain whether small, abraded pieces, were pottery or tile. The clean, pink (often fired grey), matrix contained very common, coarse (0.5-2.0mm, especially 0.7-1.0mm), angular and round, moderately sorted, milky, cloudy and stained quartz; occasional angular and round detrital flint in the same size range as the quartz; and occasional red ?iron lumps. It had a harsh feel and an uneven fracture. Tiles tended to be 20+mm thick. No diagnostic forms were present. Probably Norman, certainly not Roman.

T8: *(tile: well fired pink fabric with cream streaks)*
Pink firing clay, with white/cream streaks. Much better mixed and better fired than T1, but likely to be using the same clay. Post-Medieval.

T10: *(sandwich fired orange fabric with common quartz)*
This fabric was usually sandwich fired: orange with grey core, and had a harsh, sandy feel. It had a clean matrix and inclusions of common, subangular and occasionally round, medium (0.2-1.0mm, mainly 0.5mm), moderately sorted, cloudy, milky and stained quartz; rare, red, iron (0.2-2mm); and detrital flint (to 2mm). Tiles were approximately 18mm thick and one example had a square peg hole. The tiles were similar to T12 (Roman, above), but were generally thinner, and examples with glaze were seen. Possibly Norman 'tegula and imbrex', though some examples may be floor tiles.

Post-Medieval Orange: Any well fired post-medieval orange tile. It was noted in individual records if the group looked Victorian or later; or if it might be earlier. Forms were peg tiles; nib tiles and one piece from a mathematical tile (which is smoothed on the underside and sanded on the exterior).

Comments on the Methodology

Fabric groupings

The fabrics were initially defined by naked eye, and thus the categories were quite broad. However, they held up reasonably well when examined at x10. The Roman micaceous tile, T9 was found to contain a number of variants, but all were likely to be from the same source. Since this fabric was not local to Breamore, recognising its presence was of considerable interest, and it may have been overlooked in a simple 'count and weigh' methodology. This conclusion is supported by the fact that it was not recognised in the Duck Pond Field field-walking assemblage, but fragments were found in the test-pit material that had been retained, and, a few tiny fragments from field-walking had been retained as pottery. Fabric T1 also had a number of variants, but all were likely to be of the same date. The post-medieval groups were initally over-divided, for the rapid recording methodology used, and were too subject to inter-observer error without x10 magnification. The original groups were subsequently 'lumped' into the very broad groups defined above.

The quantification method would allow basic distribution maps to be drawn up from the presence or absence of a type within a field-walking square, permitting some basic comparisons to be made between the pottery and CBM distributions across the field. The very simple estimate made of the proportion of brick to tile showed that about 90% of the medieval and post-medieval material was tile, and that the reason for this proportion was the high proportion of fabric T1, which was almost entirely tile. Noting any fabric that formed a large proportion of the material (30% or more) from any square also drew out the fact that type T1 was particularly common. This was of interest because this fabric was subsequently dated to the medieval period; and the records of those squares where it was particularly common allowed for a very basic distribution map showing that it was more frequently found on the south of the Bullcroft Field. With practice, the information could be recorded in 5-10minutes per square before the material was discarded.

The moral would seem to be that any analysis is better than none at all. Every first year student questioned quickly noticed the lack of brick and 'that weird pink stuff' (fabrics T1, T5, T6 and Lav) in the material they were about to discard: a very simple fact that would have been masked by counting and weighing an undifferentiated mass.