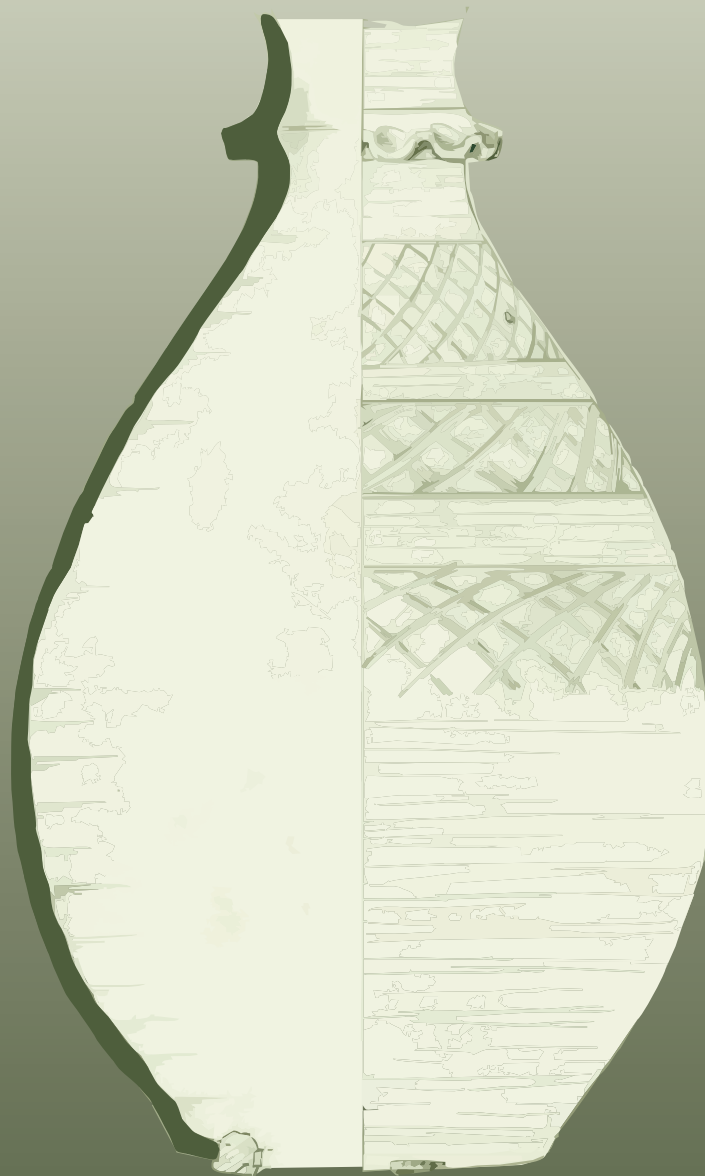


# Landscape Evolution in the Middle Thames Valley Heathrow Terminal 5 Excavations Volume 2

## Late Iron Age and Roman Pottery

(Section 2)



*by Grace Jones with Kayt Brown*

## SECTION 2

### LATE IRON AGE AND ROMAN POTTERY

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#### Introduction

The excavations at WPR 98, POK 96, PSH 02, LFA 05 and TEC 05 produced a total of 9049 sherds of Late Iron Age and Roman pottery, weighing 113,696 g. The vast majority of material was recovered from PSH 02 (5791 sherds, 77,156 g) and WPR 98 (3179 sherds, 35,874 g). The other sites produced much smaller assemblages, with only 65 sherds (455 g) of late Roman pottery from POK96; 12 sherds (200g) from TEC 05 and two sherds (11g) from LFA 05. No Late Iron Age or Roman pottery was recovered from Northern Taxiway (GAI 99) or from Grass Area 21 (GAA 00). The pottery from WPR 98 and POK 96 has been published (Brown 2006) but incorporated into this report to present a complete picture of the ceramics from Terminal 5, the material considered as a whole rather than on a site by site basis. All Tables are located at the end of this report.

#### Nature of assemblage

The assemblage was of variable condition, with 55% of the number of sherds in moderate condition and 30% in poor condition (**Table 1**). The average sherd weight was 12.6 g. A total of 939 contexts produced Late Iron Age and Roman pottery. Most context groups, however, were small in size, with 632 contexts producing five sherds or less and only 63 producing 30 sherds or more. The larger, better preserved material was generally recovered from few contexts and includes the material from the waterholes. Evidence of use was restricted to sooting and burnt residue, a small number of sherds also displayed traces of limescale. One vessel, a samian bowl, had been repaired with a rivet which was still attached to the sherd.

## Methodology

The material from each context was initially spot dated and quantified by sherd count and weight during the excavation. Further detailed analysis comprised characterisation of the fabrics (by use of x10 microscope) and forms present, and refinement of the spot dating. The Late Iron Age pottery was recorded in accordance with the nationally recommended guidelines (PCRG 1997), whilst the recording system for the Roman pottery was largely based on that employed by Oxford Archaeology for the recording of assemblages within the Thames Valley. Within this system fabrics are grouped by common major characteristics which are defined by letter (for example M = mortaria, S = samian etc). These major ware groups can then be divided numerically into sub-groups and individual wares (for example 'R' denotes all sandy reduced wares, 'R30' all medium/fine reduced sandy wares, and 'R39' refers to the Alice Holt industry). A hierarchical alphabetical sequence system is used for the definition of vessel types (Oxford Archaeology unpub.). Vessel numbers were calculated using Estimated Vessel Equivalents (EVEs). Decoration, evidence of use, repair and sherd condition were also recorded. The information was recorded directly onto the Framework Access Database.

## Fabrics

A total of 68 fabric types were identified, although many of these are general ware categories, such as romanised sandy greywares (R20 and R30), with in many cases, only a small number of sherds assigned to the more precise fabric code (some 33 fabrics comprised less than 10 sherds). The fabrics are quantified in **Table 2**, with a summary of the Roman ware groups in **Table 3**.

As noted in the 2006 publication, defining a distinct pre-Roman Late Iron Age ceramic horizon has been problematic (Every and Mephram 2006). The ceramic sequence for the Middle to Late Iron Age in the Lower Thames Valley is poorly defined, and many of the Late Iron Age traditions continue into the early Roman period. The use of sandy wares, and grog and shell as tempering agents, occur widely throughout the Late Iron Age up to the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, and forms such as bead-

rim jars and necked jars have a similar currency. It is this difficulty in clearly defining groups of pottery from the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC to the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD that has led the Late Iron Age pottery to be considered with the Roman pottery.

For the purposes of analysis, a somewhat arbitrary distinction has been made between the Late Iron Age and Roman pottery, and 15 fabrics have been identified that tend to occur without the presence of more Romanised sandy greywares. These Late Iron Age fabrics are dominated by grog-tempered wares (53% by number), followed by sandy (24%) and shell-tempered (22%) wares and a small amount of flint-tempered pottery (1%). The material is all likely to have been made locally.

The Roman assemblage is dominated by the unsourced, presumably locally produced, Romanised reduced (R10; R20; R30; R31; R50; R70) and oxidised (O10; O20; O25; O27; O80; O83) sandy wares. White wares are also reasonably well represented. Coarsewares that could be linked to the known regional sources include vessels from Alice Holt; Overwey-Tilford ware from the Hampshire-Surrey border region; the Oxfordshire industries; the Verulamium region and Black Burnished ware (BB1) from the Wareham / Poole Harbour area of Dorset, although the latter is poorly represented. Combined, the coarsewares account for 95.2% of the assemblage (by sherd count, 93.2 % by weight). Although diagnostic sherds within these fabrics enable some sherds to be more closely dated, the majority can only be assigned a broad Roman date spanning the 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, possibly extending into the early 5<sup>th</sup> century.

The unsourced grog-tempered (E80) and shell-tempered (C10 and E40) wares which characterise the Late Iron Age / early Roman transitional period continue in use during the first half of the early Roman period alongside more Romanised sandy greywares and other products such as the Verulamium-region white ware. Material of this type is well recorded within the study area; although most of the Terminal 5 material is likely to have been made locally, production centres have been identified in London at Highgate Wood (Davies *et al.* 1994, 74-88), and possible production along the Colne Valley has also been suggested (Crouch and Shanks 1984).

## **Vessel Forms**

Diagnostic sherds were assigned a vessel class and, where possible, to an individual vessel type. A breakdown of the codes used is presented below in **Table 4**, with quantification by EVEs. In a number of cases featured body sherds, rather than rims, were indicative of vessel type. The fragmentary nature of the assemblage precluded, in many cases, more precise vessel form identification past that of general vessel class.

## **Composition of the Assemblage**

### ***Late Iron Age***

The Late Iron Age forms (**Table 5**) are dominated by jars which represent 76% of the identified forms, whilst bowls account for 17%. A further 5% of the rims were classified as jar/bowl as too little of the vessel profiles were present to determine their form. A single thin-walled vessel may be a cup or beaker, a lid was also present. The most commonly occurring forms are neckless, bead-rimmed jars. The rims of these vessels were often internally thickened and the surfaces were occasionally burnished. Rim diameters vary from 130mm to 200mm, with most around 160mm. The necked and cordoned jar forms also first appear during this period. A number of the Late Iron Age body sherds displayed scoring on their external surfaces. This is often described as the East Midlands scored tradition (after Elsdon 1992), a technique used throughout the Middle and Late Iron Age periods.

### ***Late Iron Age / early Roman transitional phase (RCP 1)***

Pottery that could not clearly be identified as belonging specifically to the pre-Roman Late Iron Age or early Roman periods was classed as Roman Ceramic Phase 1. The dominate forms of this ceramic phase are neckless bead-rimmed jars and storage vessels, a tradition continuing from the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC. Many of the bead-rim jars again demonstrate an internal thickening of the rim, possibly to create a lid-seating, and are most commonly seen in grog-tempered fabrics, although shell-tempered

examples also occur, including a complete example from waterhole 627043. The form is equivalent to class IIA at Southwark, London, most commonly occurring during the Flavian period, although earlier and later examples are also known (Marsh and Tyers 1978, 554). The storage jars had either beaded or everted rims. Necked jars with everted rims occur in the grog-tempered fabrics however most had broken at the neck and precluded any further identification of the forms. A number of jars had been decorated with cordons. Bead-rim bowl forms also occur. A possible copy of a Gallo-Belgic girth beaker, or a samian form 29, occurred in a grog-tempered fabric in ditch 542387.

### ***Roman imported and British fine and specialist wares***

#### *Finewares*

The finewares are poorly represented within the assemblage, accounting for just 3.3% of the sherd count. Samian is the only imported ware, with vessels predominantly coming from production centers in central and southern Gaul, whilst eastern Gaulish samian was represented by only four sherds. The southern Gaulish vessels include a form 18 platter (Dragendorff series), two 18/31 vessels and one form 36 bowl. Central Gaulish forms include the conical cup form 33, which replaced the late 1<sup>st</sup> century form 27 to become the most common samian cup form in the mid – late 2<sup>nd</sup> century. Bowls are represented by the transitional plate/bowl form 18/31 which occurs from the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century, one example of which had been repaired, the rivet still in place. Other bowl forms present include form 31 and 31R. The east Gaulish samian comprised a form 45 mortarium, decorated body sherds from bowl form 37, and a form 33 cup.

The early Roman finewares are restricted to a small quantity (26 sherds, 185 g) of mica-dusted wares from gully 614245 and waterholes 523315 and 611027. They include a plain everted rim beaker (Type 22, Marsh 1978, 153), a simple platter (Type 24, *ibid*) and a deep bowl (Type 37, *ibid*). These fabrics occur in large quantities at Staines and excavations at Northgate have confirmed that they are being produced in London. A single mica-dusted sherd has been recorded from Kingsmead Quarry, Horton (Jones, forthcoming) but none from the nearby Harlington site (Seager Smith

forthcoming). Mica-dusted fabrics are susceptible to the post-depositional environment and other sherds may exist amongst the abraded oxidised wares.

Later Roman finewares include colour-coat products of the Oxfordshire and Nene Valley (predominantly the former), and two sherds which represent the New Forest industry. A small number of colour-coated sherds could not be sourced due to their size and poor surface preservation. Identified Oxford forms include six examples of the C51 drop-flanged bowl (Young 1977) and fragments from a further possible three vessels of this form; four C45 bowls, copying samian form 31; two C47 dishes, copying samian form 36; two C22 beakers; one C69 bowl; a C100 mortarium and one rosette-stamped C83 vessel. Of note is a small and very abraded sherd of uncertain form but the rim appears to curve in two directions suggesting it is a pinched jug rim, perhaps an example of the rare C12 form. Nene Valley products include an indented beaker (no rim present), a straight-sided flanged bowl and a plain-rimmed dish. Unsourced colour-coated products comprise a globular beaker with everted rim and a poppyhead beaker with barbotine dot decoration.

#### *Amphorae*

Only three sherds of amphora were recovered, all in a Baetican (southern Spanish) fabric. This figure is surprisingly low in comparison to Staines where the amphora sherds accounted for 4.8% of the overall count (McKinley 2004, Table 3), but comparable to the minute quantities from Kingmead Quarry, Horton (Jones forthcoming) and Harlington (Seager Smith forthcoming).

#### *Mortaria*

The mortaria were rather better represented with products identified from the Oxfordshire and Verulamium industries (57 and 56 sherds respectively). The mortaria represent 1.6% of the Terminal 5 assemblage (Table 3), in comparison to 1% at Staines (McKinley 2004) and Harlington (Seager Smith forthcoming) and less than 1% at Horton (Jones forthcoming).

The earlier mortaria include a number of forms from the Verulamium region. One demonstrated an upstanding bead rim with a dropped flange and is paralleled at Verulamium (Wilson 1984, fig. 112 no. 2677). Four similar examples have a groove on the bead (Wilson 1984, nos. 2682-92, Crouch and Shanks 1984, fig. 29 no. 165). Another had a rolled rim with internal bead, similar to examples from Verulamium

(Wilson 1984, nos 2646, 2651). Two vessels had been stamped, one with a border stamp on the rim, the other consisted of two counterstamps on the flange, both 'FECIT' (**ILL. 18**). The rim of the latter (from ditch 593231) is beaded and the flange hooked, similar to an example from St. Thomas Street, Southwark (Hammerson and Murray 1978, fig. 160 no. 1199). Three unsourced white-slipped mortaria from this site are likely to date from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD, and a similar fabric has been identified at Staines (R.Seager-Smith pers.comm). One of these vessels has an oblique perforation from the top of the rim to the lower junction of rim and wall. Later mortaria comprise an east Gaulish samian Dr 45 form and the Oxford industry imitation of this form, dated from AD 240 (Young 1977, type C97). The Oxfordshire mortaria included white ware vessels and oxidised fabrics with white slip or red colour coat. Eleven oxidised sherds, some with white slip or red colour coat, could not be sourced but may again represent Oxford products. Oxfordshire white-ware mortaria are represented by the rim of a type M17 vessel, two M22 vessels and one example of C100.

### *Beakers and flagons*

Flagons, many from the Verulamium-region industry, include ring-necked examples, collared flagons and one with a pulley-wheel rim. A large and nearly complete Alice Holt flask, dated AD 330-420, was recovered from the base of well 174040 (Brown 2006). A white-slipped redware flagon was also present, the handle of which was triple-ribbed.

Beakers in reduced fabrics include a small number of globular beakers with everted rims, mostly in fine, micaceous fabrics. At least one poppyhead beaker and a carinated beaker (**ILL. 20**) were also present, the latter paralleled by Southwark class IIIG, a 1st century form with Gallo-Belgic origins (Marsh and Tyers 1978, 570). Oxidised beakers included one with a beaded rim and a globular beaker with a sharply everted rim. A copy of a Gallo-Belgic girth beaker, possibly a CAM 85B (**ILL. 2**), was present in a whiteware fabric. This vessel had been decorated with two bands of incised, paired lines forming crosses between vertical lines, divided by a cordon. A second possible copy of a girth beaker, or possibly even samian form 29, in a red-finished grog-tempered ware, was also present (**ILL. 19**).



*Utilitarian jars and bowls*

The identifiable sandy greyware and oxidised ware vessels were dominated by 1st and 2nd century forms, predominantly upright-necked jars with everted rims, often decorated with a cordon. This form has many counterparts including Southwark form IID where it occurs in the pre-Flavian to early Antonine periods (Marsh and Tyers 1978). More carinated examples were also recognised in the assemblage (Southwark class IIC, *ibid*). A number of small, necked jars with beaded rims were recorded, paralleled by the plain jars at Verulamium during the second half of the 1st century (Wilson 1984, fig. 86 no. 2099). Narrow-necked jars were also present. Two necked jars demonstrated a lustre effect created by applying a slip and burnishing to a very high finish. One had been manufactured at Alice Holt, however the source of the second is uncertain. The Alice Holt vessel is a Class 3B, produced from the mid 2nd century onwards (Lyne and Jefferies 1979, 34). Other Alice Holt jar forms include a flat-rimmed jar (Class 3a) and the ubiquitous Class 10 storage jars. A number demonstrated finger-clawing on the interior, a trait of the later industry (post AD 180). Body sherds from another storage jar had at least six oval holes, vertically set. This type of vessel has been interpreted as a possible beehive (Lyne and Jeffries 1979). Other later greyware forms include jars with hooked rims or triangular rims and a square-shouldered jar with everted rim, similar to an example from Verulamium (Wilson 1984, fig. 87 no. 2139, AD 350+), and the fourth century Overwey-Tilford hooked rim jar with rilled surfaces (paralleled at Alice Holt by Class 3C, Lyne and Jefferies 1979).

Early Roman bowl forms include four Atrebatian bowls, at least two of which had been produced at Alice Holt. Other sources for these bowls have also been suggested, including Staines (Lyne and Jefferies 1979, 31). This form was superseded by triangular-rimmed dishes and bowls from the mid 2nd century onwards at Alice Holt (Lyne and Jefferies 1979, 34). Straight-sided bowls with flat, flanged rims were also present, as were examples of reeded-rim bowls (Marsh and Tyers 1978, class IVA, early Flavian). Second century versions included a Black Burnished ware (BB1) flat flanged bowl (Type 22, Seager Smith and Davies 1993) and unsourced examples of the same form. An Alice Holt Class 5D bowl with burnished lattice decoration was also present (Lyne and Jeffries 1979). Five late Roman drop-flanged bowls were recorded, two in the Black Burnished ware fabric (Type 25, Seager Smith and Davies

1993). Plain-rimmed dishes were present in small numbers (eight examples), including one in Black Burnished ware (Type 20, Seager Smith and Davies 1993) and one from Alice Holt (Lyne and Jefferies 1979, Class 6A).

#### *Other forms*

Other forms include a copy of a Gallo-Belgic or samian platter (form 18/31), and a small number of strainers (Lyne and Jeffries 1979, Class 5C).

### **Dating**

For the purposes of analysis six broad ceramic phases were identified, including a generalised 'Roman' group (Table 6). Due to the levels of residuality and low number of contexts producing 30 or more sherds (6.7%), the minimum amount required to produce a statistically reliable estimation of phase (PCRG 1997, 21; Hodder 1976), 87% of the Roman assemblage (excluding material from RCP 1) could not be closely dated. The more diagnostic fabrics and forms were relatively evenly divided across phases RCP 2-4.

The difficulties in defining a distinct pre-Roman Iron Age ceramic phase have been discussed above. Contexts containing only Late Iron Age material, without Romanised fabrics and forms, were classified as Late Iron Age. A total of 1561 sherds (17.3% of the assemblage) was assigned to this phase. Many of the forms of this period show continuity from the Middle Iron Age and indicate a date in the earlier part of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC for at least part of this phase. Material of 1<sup>st</sup> century AD date, that could not be placed on either side of the conquest, has been recorded as RCP 1 (12.8% of the assemblage).

Where grog and shell-tempered pottery occurs alongside more 'Romanised' sandy grey wares and products from the Verulamium region, the material has been classified as ceramic phase 2 (RCP2). This group is dominated by neckless, bead-rimmed jars which continue into the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century. Necked jars, often decorated with a cordon, are also present. Early bowl forms include the Atrebatian bowls from Alice Holt and other industries. The most common form of beaker during this period displays a short, sharply everted rim and includes two mica-dusted examples (Marsh 1978, Type 22).

Imitations of Gallo-Belgic forms were also in use, including at least one girth beaker (pit 617178). Flagons of the period include collared examples, one with a pulley-wheel rim, and ring-necked flagons from the Verulamium region. Early Roman platters include a mica-dusted example (Type 24, Marsh 1978) and a local copy of a Gallo-Belgic or samian platter. South Gaulish samian was also available.

Good context groups of material typical of the middle Roman period are rare within the assemblage (RCP3). Vessels include samian forms and Verulamium-region mortaria from the second half of the 2nd century. Late Roman material is characterised by products of the Oxfordshire industry, the late Alice Holt industry, the Overwey-Tilford fabric and a small quantity of late Black-Burnished ware from Dorset (RCP4).

## **Distribution**

The Late Iron Age and Roman pottery was predominantly recovered from ditches (41% of the number of sherds), waterholes/wells (28%) and pits (21%). The remaining 10% came from a range of features, including gullies, postholes, tree-throw holes, a drip gully and a number of layers.

### ***Late Iron Age***

Few features produced large groups of Late Iron Age pottery, with only seven containing more than 25 sherds (pits 130212, 137114, 167119 and 641098, waterholes/wells 593207 and 642004 and ditch 617182). Much of the assemblage therefore represents a background spread of material rather than any meaningful deposits. The preservation in the different feature types showed little variation, with the exception of two nearly complete vessels from well/waterhole 593207, generating a mean sherd weight of 55.4 g. Late Iron Age pottery was also identified from some of the Middle Iron Age roundhouse gullies, indicating a continuation of occupation.

Well 593207 contained four fills, the lowest of which was waterlogged. Approximately halfway up the deposit two nearly complete vessels were discovered, one lying on its side and the other standing vertically (**ILL. 22 and 23**). Both are

bead-rimmed jars, made from grog-tempered fabrics. The vertically placed vessel was nearly intact, with only an area of 40mm x 70mm missing from the rim and shoulder (**ILL. 22**). It weighs 808g and is completely unoxidised, creating an almost black fabric. Deposits of soot on the exterior and burnt residue on interior demonstrate that this vessel was used for cooking. The pot is 155mm high with an external rim diameter of 150mm. It would have been capable of holding approximately 1.78 litres of liquid when full (capacity calculation based on a formula for cylinders). The vessel discovered on its side had been smashed when the section collapsed during excavation, creating a total of 26 sherds weighing 916g (**ILL. 23**). This vessel is slightly larger than ON 240, with a height of 175mm and rim diameter of 160mm, creating an estimated capacity of 3 litres. It too was coated in external soot deposits and internal burnt residue. The exterior of the vessel was very smooth and was probably once burnished. It was completely unoxidised and a very dark greyish brown colour. A single rim sherd from a slightly larger bead-rimmed jar was also recovered from this deposit, along with six sherds of Middle Iron Age sandy pottery. The upper fill contained six sherds (152g) of Late Iron Age material including a storage jar rim, two bowl sherds and one sherd decorated with tooled lines.

Pit 641098 contained five deposits, four of which produced late Iron Age pottery, including a shell-tempered slack-sided vessel, possibly a bowl (**ILL. 24**). Two decorated vessels were recovered from waterhole 642004 (**ILL. 25 and 26**), including a shell-tempered bowl with a burnished exterior, displaying two parallel horizontal tooled lines around the neck, below which is a panel of incised diagonal decoration (**ILL. 25**). The vessel is in very poor condition and the shell had leached from the fabric.

### ***Roman***

The Roman pottery originates from a range of features across the site. Much of this does not appear to represent actual dumps of material with 67% of contexts that contained pottery producing five sherds or less. Pottery was most commonly recovered from ditches (42% of the sherd count), followed by waterholes (28%) and pits (20%). The average sherd weight of material recovered from ditch fills is 10 g, compared to 15 g from pit fills and 16 g from waterholes. The majority of contexts that contained more than 30 sherds date to the early Roman period (ditches 523222,

636100, 593231, 558206, 542387; waterholes 611027, 523315 and 653026; pits 617178, 623027 and gully 614245). Several of these features also contained a later rim or other diagnostic sherd that was not in keeping with the rest of the assemblage and are presumed to be intrusive. The pottery from pit 617178 (**ILL. 1–7**) is predominantly early Roman (third quarter of the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD) and includes a copy of a *Terra Rubra Gallo-Belgic* girth beaker (CAM 85B), dating to the first half of the 1st century AD (**ILL. 2**), but also a later triangular-rimmed jar. A copy of a *Gallo-Belgic* platter, or samian form 18/31, was present amongst a group of early Roman pottery from waterhole 611027. A large group of early Roman pottery came from ditch 542387. It consisted of necked jars, storage jars, an Atrebatian bowl, a mica-dusted straight-sided dish (Marsh and Tyers 1978 type 24), a mica-dusted globular beaker (Marsh and Tyers 1978 type 22) and three other globular beakers, and the base from a south Gaulish samian vessel, probably a platter, part of a stamp remains, the letters [OFC are visible. It also contained an imitation *Gallo-Belgic* girth beaker (**ILL. 19**), with a red finish. It is not exactly paralleled in the CAM series and may even be a copy of a samian form 29. Ditch 558206 also produced a good early Roman group with lots of bead-rim jars and an Atrebatian bowl.

Key groups of Middle Roman pottery were not identified, however ditch 636085 contained a group of middle to late Roman material. Key groups of late Roman pottery were recovered from pits 662080 and 666014, ditches 539370, 636025 (**ILL. 8–17**), 676019, 636025 and 678025, and waterholes 651048 and 527388. Diagnostic vessels from these features include products from the Oxfordshire industry (colour-coated finewares and mortaria) and Overwey-Tilford vessels.

## **Discussion**

The assemblage from Heathrow, Terminal 5 is typically rural and in-keeping with other sites in the region. Aspects of the Late Iron Age pottery share many characteristics with the Middle Iron Age assemblage, indicating a continuous ceramic sequence from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BC into the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC. The number of key groups of Late Iron Age pottery is too small to make further comment on any phases within this period, however the ‘Belgic’ ceramic traditions of grog and shell-tempered

fabrics, including bead-rimmed and necked, cordoned jars, continue throughout the 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC and AD, and perhaps into the early 2<sup>nd</sup> century. During the early Roman period these fabrics and forms occur alongside more Romanised material such as greywares, whitewares from the Verulamium region, samian from southern Gaul and mica-dusted finewares. The samian is the only imported fineware, accounting for 1.3% of the Roman assemblage, comparable to other low-status rural assemblages such as Harlington (1%, Seager Smith forthcoming) and Horton (0.9%, Jones forthcoming). Samian is better represented in the assemblage from Staines where it accounts for 3% of the assemblage (McKinley 2004). ‘Romanised’ forms of the early Roman period include copies of *Gallo-Belgic* forms such as the girth beaker (**ILL. 2 and 19**) and platter, indicating an appreciation of these forms and a desire to copy them. Flagons from the Verulamium region were also in use. The remainder of the early Roman assemblage comprised utilitarian jars and bowls, particularly bead-rimmed jars and necked jars with ‘figure-7’ rims. A limited form repertoire in the early Roman assemblage at Binfield Park, combined with the low representation of amphorae and finewares, was taken to indicate low status rural settlements (Booth 1995, 114), a pattern also recognised within the Upper Thames Valley. The other pottery from Terminal 5 consists predominantly of typical jar and bowl forms, with few more specialised wares such as mortaria, and very little amphora. During the late Roman period flagons, mortaria and beakers continue to be seen alongside bowls and jars, with finewares supplied by the Oxfordshire and Nene Valley industries.

In terms of ceramic supply, the Terminal 5 assemblage is dominated by local industries in the early period. Coarsewares were being supplied by producers in the Colne and lower Thames Valleys, occurring alongside some early Alice Holt material. White wares were supplied by the Verulamium region industry and other, unsourced, producers. Regional industries from the early – mid 2<sup>nd</sup> century include the Black Burnished ware from the Wareham/Poole Harbour region, although by the mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century the large industries of Alice Holt, Oxfordshire and the Nene Valley were the principal suppliers. In the 4<sup>th</sup> century there is a small quantity of Overwey-Tilford wares. The supply patterns are very similar to those observed at Harlington (Seager Smith forthcoming) and Horton (Jones forthcoming). Other comparative assemblages are few within the west London area; many of the sites are as yet un-published.



**List of illustrated vessels (Fig. 1)**

- 1) Neckless bead-rim jar, E80 (ware group), context 617169, pit 617178.
- 2) Girth beaker, W20, context 617169, pit 617178.
- 3) Upright necked cordoned jar, R20, context 617170, pit 617178.
- 4) Atrebatic bowl, R20, context 617171, pit 617178.
- 5) Neckless bead-rim jar, context 617171, pit 617178.
- 6) Bead-rim jar, E80, context 617171, pit 617178.
- 7) Necked jar with rounded shoulder and 'figure 7' rim, R20, context 617171, pit 617178.
- 8) Mortaria, M41, C100 (after Young 1977), context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 9) Mortaria, M22 (ware), M22 (after Young 1977), context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 10) Flagon, R39, Alice Holt Class 8, context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 11) Flagon, R39, Alice Holt Class 8, context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 12) Shallow bowl, F51, C47 (after Young 1977), context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 13) Necked jar with undercut rim, O24, context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 14) Necked jar with undercut rim, O24, context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 15) Necked jar with undercut rim, O24, context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 16) Flanged bowl, F52, context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.



- 17) Bead-rim dish, R29, Alice Holt Class 6A, context 676018, intervention 676016, sub-group 636026, ditch 636025.
- 18) Mortaria, W21, two counterstamps 'FECIT', context 602273, intervention 602271, sub-group 614209, ditch 593231.
- 19) Imitation of Gallo-Belgic girth beaker or Drag. 29, E80, red finish, context 599149, intervention 599148, sub-group 542386, ditch 542387.
- 20) Carinated beaker, R20, context 611130, intervention 611131, ditch 614225.
- 21) Alice Holt flagon, R39, context 174039, intervention 174063, waterhole 174069
- 22) Bead-rimmed jar, fabric GR3, context 593201, well 593207
- 23) Bead-rimmed jar, fabric GR3, context 593201, well 593207
- 24) Slack-sided vessel, possible bowl, with internally bevelled rim, fabric SH1, context 64041, pit 641098
- 25) Everted rim vessel, probable bowl, with traces of burnished line decoration, fabric SH3, context 643012, waterhole 642004
- 26) Upright rimmed vessel with high rounded shoulder, fabric FL7, context 642005, waterhole 642004

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## Tables

**Table 1: Pottery condition**

Condition	No Sherds	% Sherds	Weight (g)	% Weight
Good	622	6.9	19,878	17.5
Moderate	4976	55.0	69,465	61.1
Poor	2715	30.0	21,850	19.2
Very Poor	736	8.1	2503	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>9049</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>113,696</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 2: Quantification of individual fabric types by sherd count, weight and EVEs**

Fabric Type	Fabric Type Description	No Sherds	Weight (g)	EVEs	Ave Sherd size (g)
<i>Late Iron Age fabrics</i>					
FL7	Frequent coarse-moderate flint, frequent organic and sparse mica	12	206		17.2
FL28	Common amount of poorly sorted flint	7	42	0.04	6
GR3	frequent grog, sparse quartz, mica and iron oxide	794	9972	8.21	12.6
GR4	Grog-tempered fabric with organic inclusions	18	198	0.33	11
GR7	Hard fabric containing common grog and sparse flint	4	54		13.5
GR8	Common to very common grog and moderate flint	1	132	0.06	132
QU6	Abundant quartz and sparse mica	204	1743	0.88	8.5
QU10	Moderate to fine flint with sparse organic, mica and rare quartz, rare iron pellets	25	416		16.6
QU11	Quartz, frequent mica and sparse iron oxides	105	1324	0.6	12.6
QU14	Quartz with sparse mica and frequent clay pellets	23	440	0.24	19.1
QU16	Coarse sandy fabric (visible quartz grains)	8	61	0.02	7.6
QU20	Sandy fabric containing a common amount of sub-angular to angular coarse-grained quartz, moderate to poorly sorted, micaceous clay matrix.	10	108	0.1	10.8
QU21	common amount of sub-rounded to rounded quartz and sparse organic inclusions	2	40	0.18	20
SH1	Frequent shell voids, mica, quartz and sparse clay pellets	286	3606	2.82	12.6
SH3	Silty fabric with sparse plate-shaped voids and argillaceous inclusions	62	300	0.16	4.8
	<i>Sub-total</i>	<i>1561</i>	<i>18,642</i>	<i>13.64</i>	<i>11.9</i>
<i>Roman fabrics</i>					
A11	South Spanish (Dressel 20 etc)	3	674	0.05	224.7
B10	Hand made black-burnished ware 1	36	395	0.8	11.0
B11	Standard Dorset black-burnished fabric	8	96	0.46	12.0
B30	Other black-burnished type/imitation fabrics (possible overlap with some R30 & R50 fabrics)	53	554	0.38	10.5
C10	Shell tempered fabrics	41	383	0.69	9.3
C11	incl . late Roman shell tempered fabrics (Harrold?)	4	10	0.07	2.5
E40	Shell tempered fabrics	80	749	1.44	9.4
E80	Grog-tempered fabrics	1111	17,828	9.86	16.0
F30	Mica dusted fabrics	26	185	0.62	7.1

Fabric Type	Fabric Type Description	No Sherds	Weight (g)	EVEs	Ave Sherd size (g)
F50	Colour-coated fabrics (major British)	1	14	0.12	14.0
F51	Oxfordshire	71	908	1.09	12.8
F52	Nene Valley	32	211	0.26	6.6
F53	New Forest white or grey	2	31		15.5
F60	Red/brown colour-coated fabrics	14	76	0.18	5.4
F70	Other red/brown colour-coated fabrics	1	1		1.0
M21	Verulamium region mortaria	56	3095	1.78	55.3
M22	Oxfordshire white ware mortaria	30	660	0.35	22.0
M30	oxidised mortaria with white slip	8	116	0.11	14.5
M31	Oxfordshire white-slipped mortaria	7	105		15.0
M40	Oxidised with red colour-coat etc	2	57		28.5
M41	Oxfordshire red colour-coat mortaria	18	193	0.37	10.7
M50	Oxidised	1	140	0.05	140.0
O10	Fine oxidised sandy fabrics	27	158	0.04	5.9
O11	Fine Oxfordshire oxidised	7	57		8.1
O20	'Standard' sandy fabrics	1116	10,690	7.59	9.6
O21	Sandy Oxfordshire oxidised	6	23	0.11	3.8
O24	Sandy oxidised 'Portchester D type' Overwey white ware	136	1312	1.95	9.6
O25	Sandy with clay pellets	8	340	0.07	42.5
O27	Coarse sandy	1	56		56.0
O80	Coarse tempered fabrics. The temper is usually grog, but can be other materials.	5	249		49.8
O83	Very coarse sandy	9	219	0.06	24.3
Q10	White slipped, oxidised fine fabrics, ?early Roman	4	20		5.0
Q11	Fairly fine	1	1		1.0
Q20	White-slipped oxidised fabrics	87	720	1.55	8.3
Q25	Verulamium sandy (cf W21) oxidised, white slip	1	4	0.02	4.0
R10	Fine reduced fabrics (usually Oxfordshire) sand inclusions are very fine or not visible at all	27	133	0.91	4.9
R20	Sandy fabrics	2388	24,204	26.14	10.1
R30	Medium/fine fabrics	1256	10,843	10.47	8.6
R31	Organic and sand inclusions	3	8		2.7
R39	Alice Holt fine sandy	364	14,755	5.24	40.5
R50	Dark surfaced fabrics (Young reduced fabric 5)	5	16		3.2
R70	Calcareous fabrics	47	501		10.7
S	Samian ware (not often subdivided)	6	22		3.7
S20	South Gaulish general (including La Graufesenque)	38	231	0.65	6.1
S30	Central Gaulish (including Lezoux)	47	511	1.23	10.9
S40	East Gaulish	4	79	0.15	19.8
S42	Chémery-Faulquemont	4	24		6.0
W10	'Standard' white fabrics	5	14		2.8
W11	Oxfordshire parchment ware	4	31		7.8
W12	Oxfordshire fine white ware	1	30	0.12	30.0
W20	Sandy white fabrics	127	1017	0.39	8.0
W21	Verulamium region	145	2289	3.19	15.8
W30	'Fine' white fabrics	4	16	0.75	4.0
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>7488</b>	<b>95,054</b>	<b>79.31</b>	<b>12.7</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9049</b>	<b>113,696</b>	<b>92.95</b>	<b>12.6</b>

**Table 3: Summary of ware types by sherd count, weight and eves**

Ware Type	Ware Type Description	No Sherds	% Sherds	Weight (g)	% Weight (g)	EVEs	% EVEs
<b>FINE AND SPECIALIST WARES</b>							
A	Amphora	3	0.0	674	0.7	0.05	0.1
M	Mortaria	122	1.6	4366	4.6	2.66	3.4
S	Samian	99	1.3	867	0.9	2.03	2.6
F	Fine wares	147	2.0	1426	1.5	2.27	2.9
Q	White-slip wares	93	1.2	745	0.8	1.57	2.0
W	White wares	286	3.8	3397	3.6	4.45	5.6
<b>COARSEWARES</b>							
B	Black-burnished ware types	97	1.3	1045	1.1	1.64	2.1
C	Shell-tempered	45	0.6	393	0.4	0.76	1.0
E	Early Roman fabrics	1191	15.9	18,577	19.5	11.3	14.2
O	Oxidised wares	1315	17.6	13,104	13.8	9.82	12.4
R	Reduced wares	4090	54.6	50,460	53.1	42.76	54.0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7488</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>95,054</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>79.31</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table 4: Quantification of vessel form (number of sherds and EVEs)**

Vessel Class	Vessel Description	Class	Vessel Type	Vessel Type Description	No Sherds	EVEs	% of EVEs by class
A	Amphora		A	Uncertain amphora form	1	0.05	
				<i>Sub-total amphora</i>		0.05	0.1
B	Flagons		B	Uncertain flagon form	69	1	
			BA	Small flagon	43	2.2	
			BB	Large flagon	12	3.4	
				<i>Sub-total flagons</i>		6.6	8.3
C	Jars		C	Uncertain jar form	237	12.72	
			CC	Narrow-mouthed jars	7	1.24	
			CD	Medium-mouthed jar	233	20.46	
			CE	High-shouldered or necked jars	51	1.3	
			CH	Bead-rim jars	159	9.17	
			CI	Angled everted rim jars	28	0.73	
			CJ	Lid seated jars	3	0.08	
			CN	Storage jars	50	1.71	
				<i>Sub-total jars</i>		47.41	59.8
D	Jar/bowl		D	Uncertain jar/bowl	53	3.14	
			DA	Medium mouthed jar/bowl	1	0.09	
			DC	Necked jar/bowl	2	0.36	
				<i>Sub-total jar/bowl</i>		3.59	4.5
E	Beakers		E	Uncertain beaker form	30	3.15	
			EB	Girth beakers	6	0.37	
			ED	Globular/bulbous beakers	17	1.3	
			EF	Poppyhead beaker	2		
			EG	'Carinated' beakers	5	0.16	
			EH	'Jar' beaker	3	0.2	
				<i>Sub-total beakers</i>		5.18	6.5

Vessel Class	Vessel Description	Class	Vessel Type	Vessel Type Description	No Sherds	EVEs	% of EVEs by class
F	Cups		F	Uncertain cup	1		
			FC	Conical cup	16	1.00	
				<i>Sub-total cups</i>		<i>1.0</i>	<i>1.3</i>
H	Bowls		H	Uncertain bowl	42	2.51	
			HA	Carinated bowl	3	0.08	
			HB	Straight sided bowl	54	3.8	
			HC	Curving sided bowl	24	1.59	
			HD	Necked bowl	1		
				<i>Sub-total bowls</i>		<i>7.98</i>	<i>10.1</i>
I	Bowl/dish		I	Uncertain bowl/ dish	11	0.43	
			IA	Straight-sided bowl/dish	18	0.98	
				<i>Sub-total dishes</i>		<i>1.41</i>	<i>1.8</i>
J	Dish/plate		J	Uncertain dish form	4	0.28	
			JA	Straight sided dish	13	0.51	
			JB	Curving sided dish	3	0.28	
			JC	Platter	29	0.67	
				<i>Sub-total plates</i>		<i>1.74</i>	<i>2.2</i>
K	Mortaria		K	Uncertain mortaria form	88	2.31	
			KA	Hook-rimmed/bead and flange	5	0.15	
			KC	Hammerhead mortaria	9	0.29	
			KD	Wall-sided mortaria	1	0.10	
				<i>Sub-total mortaria</i>		<i>2.85</i>	<i>3.6</i>
L	Lids		L	Lids	4	0.27	
				<i>Sub-total lids</i>		<i>0.27</i>	<i>0.3</i>
M	Miscellaneous		MF	Cheese press	2		
			MG	Strainer	2	0.13	
				<i>Sub-total miscellaneous</i>		<i>0.13</i>	<i>0.2</i>
Z	Unidentified		Z	Uncertain	49	1.1	
				<i>Sub-total unidentified</i>		<i>1.1</i>	<i>1.4</i>

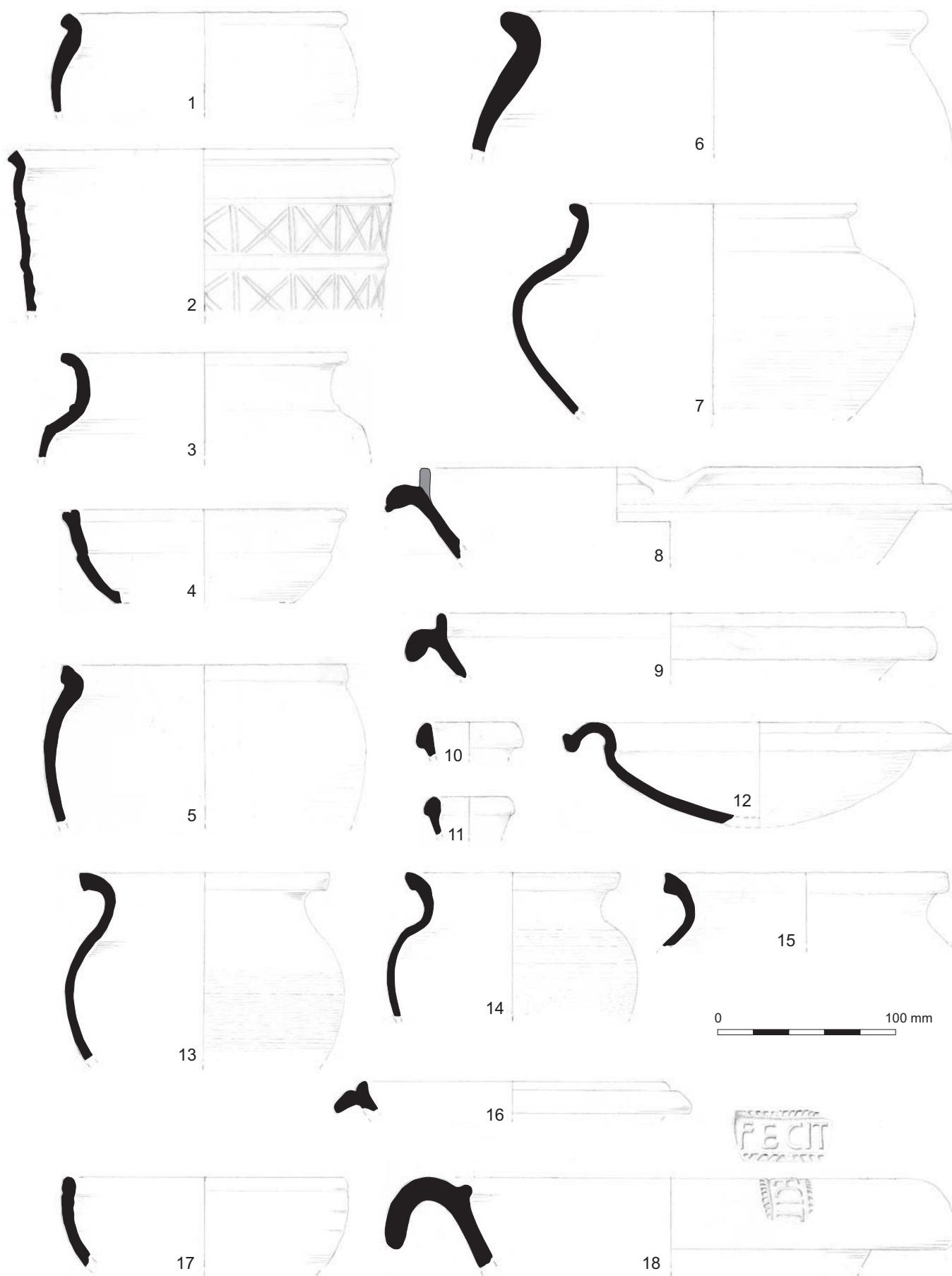
**Table 5: LIA vessel forms by fabric ware group (number of rim sherds)**

	Ware group				
Vessel form	Grog-tempered	Shell-tempered	Sandy wares	Flint-tempered	Total
Jar, unspecified	20	5	9		<b>34</b>
Bead-rim jar	66	12	6		<b>84</b>
Cordoned jar	3				<b>3</b>
Everted rim jar	2		4	1	<b>7</b>
High-shouldered, necked jar	5		3	1	<b>9</b>
Medium-mouthed jar	2				<b>2</b>
Necked jar, everted or upright rim	3		6		<b>9</b>
Ovoid profile jar			2		<b>2</b>
Slack-sided jar		1	1		<b>2</b>
Storage jar	6		1		<b>7</b>
Jar/bowl indeterminate	3	1			<b>4</b>
Bowl, unspecified	2	1	5		<b>8</b>
Bead-rim bowl		24			<b>24</b>
Carinated bowl			4		<b>4</b>
Bead-rim, uncertain form	1	4	2		<b>7</b>
Beaker / cup			1		<b>1</b>
Lid	1				<b>1</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>208</b>

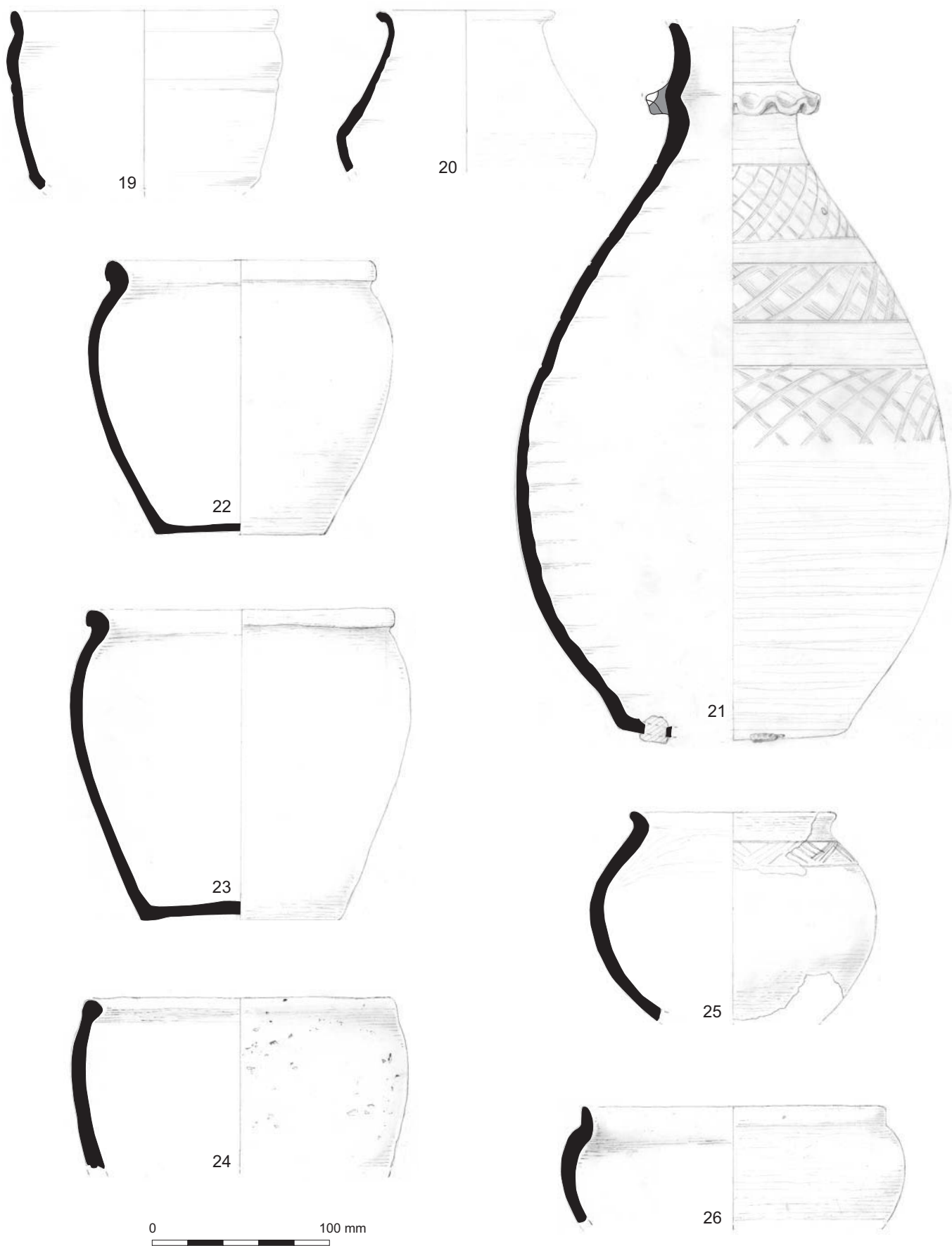
**Table 6. Summary of ceramic phases**

Ceramic Phase	Description	Date range
LIA	Late Iron Age	100 BC – AD 43
RCP 1	Late Iron Age/early Roman transition	100 BC – AD 100
RCP 2	Early Roman	AD 43 – 120
RCP 3	Middle Roman	AD 120 - 240
RCP 4	Late Roman	AD 240 - 410
RCP 5	Roman unspecified	AD 43 - 410





Late Iron Age - Romano British pottery



Late Iron Age - Romano British pottery

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