A Research Framework

for Post-Roman Ceramic Studies in Britain

Anne Irving

MEDIEVAL POTTERY RESEARCH GROUP OCCASIONAL PAPER NO. 6

A Research Framework for Post-Roman Ceramic Studies in Britain

In memory of Sarah Jennings

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ABBREVIATIONS

ADS	Archaeology Data Service
AIP	Archaeological Investigations Project
ALGAO	Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers
BGS	British Geological Survey
CBA	Council for British Archaeology
EH	English Heritage
FAME	Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund
HS	Historic Scotland
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
MPRG	Medieval Pottery Research Group
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations
PCRG	Prehistoric Ceramic Research Group
SGRP	Study Group for Roman Pottery
SMA	Society for Medieval Archaeology
SMuA	Society of Museum Archaeologists
SPMA	Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

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SUMMARY

This Research Framework provides a focus for post-Roman ceramic studies in England, Scotland and Wales for the next five years. Its aim is to inform all archaeologists during the development of local, regional and national research programmes, as well as period-specific strategies

Part one is a *Resource Assessment* and survey of the profession. **Part two** presents the *Research Agenda* and **Part three** the S*trategy* to achieve it. **Part four** lists the expected outcomes. All the aims were devised to fit the programme of heritage and wider priorities set by English Heritage, Cadw and Historic Scotland, as well as to complement other regional and artefact frameworks.

INTRODUCTION

Maureen Mellor's *'Medieval Ceramic Studies in England, a review for English Heritage*' was published on behalf of the Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) in (1994). Based on questionnaires and group discussions, this was a comprehensive survey of the state of the discipline at that time. It considered the importance of medieval ceramic studies to archaeology as a whole, issues surrounding pottery processing methods, publication, and the requirements of the profession.

All these areas required fresh examination in light of subsequent developments within professional archaeology in the UK, most notably the increased emphasis on competitive commercial practice since the introduction of Planning Policy Guidance 16 in 1990. In 2008, the MPRG recognised the urgent need to re-assess the priorities of the discipline in line with these developments, and to set out a strategy for the future which meshes with the present requirements and structure of the profession. In 2009 English Heritage funding was secured to carry out a review and to develop a revised *Research Agenda and Strategy*. This coincided with the release of Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5) which replaced PPG16.

PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims of the project were to:

- Review what has been achieved so far in respect of the recommendations in Mellor (1994)
- Assess the present state of the discipline in England, Scotland and Wales. Including: the state of knowledge nationally and regionally; the quantity and quality of unpublished material; modes of professional practice, with methods of analysis and reporting; the character of the human resource; the provision of training and the development of the discipline; inter-dependencies and relations with other archaeological disciplines
- Present a revised agenda incorporating new recommendations and aims
- Present a new medium-term research strategy for the development of post-Roman ceramic studies together with a programme for completing the Revised Agenda.

Objectives for the project were to:

- Conduct a survey of the state of the discipline of post-Roman ceramic studies in England, Scotland and Wales to establish:
    - the current state of knowledge
    - the range of research agendas that include post-Roman ceramic studies
    - relationships between the range of archaeological projects and levels of analysis, reporting and synthetic research
    - relationships with other archaeological disciplines and periods
    - the quantity, scope, quality and availability of published and unpublished research results
    - levels of training and career development
    - priorities and recommendations for the future
- To conduct a census of the profession to establish the size of the human resource and the distribution of expertise geographically and in terms of employment conditions and demography. Also to establish a format for the continuation of this census on a regular basis
- To examine the potential contribution of post-Roman ceramic studies to archaeology as a whole and the ways in which this is, or is not, being realised
- To examine existing relationships with other archaeological disciplines and develop a strategy for promoting and strengthening links as appropriate
- To create a new research agenda for the development of the discipline, internally and alongside other relevant areas of archaeology as a whole
- To develop a strategy for the delivery of the new agenda that will progress the development of post-Roman ceramic studies
- To produce a report that sets out the research agenda and presents the associated strategy.

The Research Framework presented here will provide focus for post-Roman ceramic studies in England,

Scotland and Wales over the next five years. Its aim is to inform all archaeologists during the development of local, regional and national research programmes, as well as period-specific strategies.

A key concept behind the agenda and strategy is that it is part of a dynamic process. Issues and research priorities raised here will require continual reassessment, and should be constantly open to critical review and adaptation.

METHODOLOGY

Data to inform the Resource Assessment and Research Framework were collected from libraries, the internet, questionnaires and consultation meetings.

Geographic and chronological scope

Whilst the previous review concentrated on England, the current project includes Wales and Scotland. Equally, *'Medieval Ceramic Studies in England'* did not consider the post-medieval and early modern periods, but it was considered advantageous to include them in this project.

Information is largely arranged as per the MPRG regions listed in Mellor (1994, 35), with a few amendments to counties where boundaries have changed since 1994 (*Figure 1*). This document refers in the main to administrative or ceremonial counties (for example Lincolnshire, which incorporates the modern unitary authorities of Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and North-East Lincolnshire). In some areas it was more appropriate to used modern boundaries (for example, the West Midlands) as these relate to how sites are curated under development control. Potentially this obfuscates the association between a site and its historic county, which may be relevant to understanding a site's setting and context. Therefore, historic boundaries should be considered when projects are devised.

Consultation

MPRG members were the primary consultees for the project, although anyone with an interest in post-Roman ceramic studies was welcome to contribute. Views were sought via questionnaires, online and face-to-face meetings.

Figure 1, MPRG regions referred to in the 2011 Research Framework

Questionnaires

All the questionnaires were made available on the internet via Survey Gizmo[1] and were in circulation for three months.

Questionnaires aimed at local government planning authorities, museums, universities, journals and commercial units were devised in conjunction with Rob Perrin, who was undertaking a similar review for the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Perrin forthcoming).

Return rates for the institutional questionnaires were mixed. Responses were received from:

- 13 (30%) of 43 archaeological, period and local journals
- 10 (30%) of 33 archaeology departments based in universities

[1] http://www.surveygizmo.com/

- 30 development control archaeologists (distributed via ALGAO to their Regional Committees in England, Scotland and Wales)
- 10 (16%) of 64 commercial units (sent by the Institute for Archaeologists to their Registered Archaeological Organisations)
- 33 members of the Society of Museum Archaeologists.

A questionnaire targeting ceramic practitioners was also devised. It was based on the survey circulated by Mellor (1994), but revised to incorporate questions concerning commercial archaeological practice. It was devised in line with the SGRP's questionnaire so comparison could be made between the two groups.

As of May 2010, the number of UK based personal members of the MPRG stood at 204, with an additional 50 personal members based abroad. This provides a minimum number of those with an interest in, or working with, post-Roman ceramics in the United Kingdom. These 254 MPRG members were the main sampling frame (Denscombe 2007) for the practitioner questionnaire and comprise students, professional and avocational practitioners.[2]

In total, 60 useable practitioner questionnaires were returned, primarily covering England, Scotland and Wales, although the Middle East and Central Asia, Europe and America were also represented. Fifty-three respondents gave details of professional groups to which they belong, and 42 listed the Medieval Pottery Research Group, giving a return rate for MPRG members of 21%. A 20% return rate is considered excellent for 'cold' postal questionnaires (Denscombe 2007), so in a targeted survey such as this a higher return rate could have been expected.

Meetings and online consultation

Initial consultation meetings were held to establish the *Research Agenda* for each region during June and July 2010 and were attended by 53 individuals. A meeting to agree the *Research Strategy* was held on the 4th December 2010 with 18 attendees. Further consultation was carried out via email and an interactive 'wiki' website.[3]

Results from the consultation exercise were collated and form the basis of the *Research Agenda and Strategy*.

[2] Here defined as practitioners working with ceramics in addition to their regular profession or in an unpaid capacity.

[3] http://mprg.wikispaces.com/

PROJECT PERSONNEL

The project was overseen by:

Project Executive

David Dawson, Medieval Pottery Research Group

Steering Group

Duncan Brown, Medieval Pottery Research Group

Michael Russell, English Heritage

Dr Dawn Hadley, Society for Medieval Archaeology

Jacqui Pearce, Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology

English Heritage funded the work, with a contribution from Cadw.

OUTLINE SUMMARY

The following document is presented in four parts. **Part one** is a *Resource Assessment* and survey of the profession. **Part two** presents the *Research Agenda* and **Part three** the S*trategy* to achieve it. **Part four** summarises the intended outcomes. All the aims and objectives laid out in the *research framework* are devised to fit the programme of heritage priorities set by English Heritage, Cadw and Historic Scotland, as well as to complement other regional and artefact frameworks.

Appendices are included for the *Regional Research Agenda* (**Appendix 1**), *List of Internet Resources* (**Appendix 2**), *List of Ceramic Type Series* (**Appendix 3**) and an *Annotated Bibliography* (**Appendix 4**).

PART ONE: RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

An assessment of the current resource was undertaken to document the 'as is' situation and to highlight how the discipline has evolved since Mellor's 1994 study. A profile of the profession was developed, along with an examination of the literature and archival material available to researchers.

THE HUMAN RESOURCE

One aim of the project was to undertake an assessment of the state of the discipline and to map the current human resource. Analysis of feedback from the questionnaire circulated to individuals working with ceramics was compared to the data collected by Mellor in 1994, Perrin in 2010 and the IfA survey of the archaeological profession published in 2008.

Levels of practice

By far the largest group represented in the questionnaire responses are those who work with ceramics on a professional basis (44 of 57 responses - 78%). The number of avocational practitioners and students accounted for just over 12% and 10% responses respectively (Table 1).

Table 1, Number of questionnaire responses to 'How long have you been working with ceramics (cumulative experience)?'

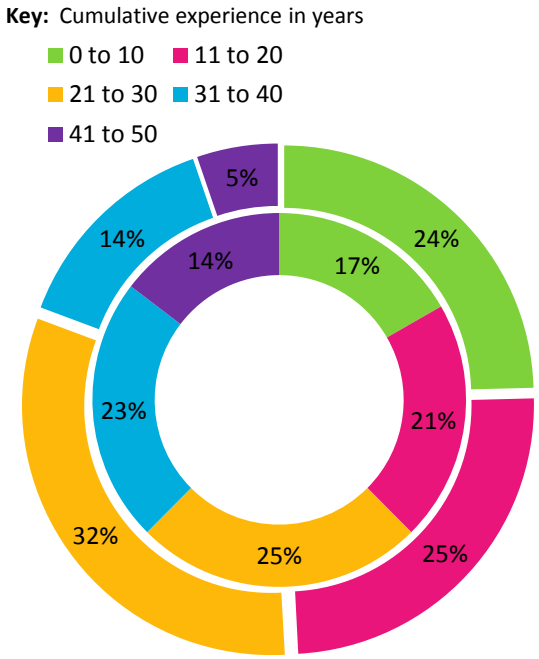
Years	Avocational	Professional	Student	Total
0-10	1	7	6	**14**
11-20	1	13	0	**14**
21-30	2	16	0	**18**
31-40	2	6	0	**8**
41-50	1	2	0	**3**
Total	**7**	**44**	**6**	**57**
Years	**Avocational**	**Professional**	**Student**	**Ave.**
Lowest	5	1.5	0.5	**0.5**
Highest	50	45	5	**50**
Average	**30**	**22.25**	**3.25**	**21.20**

The responses to the MPRG questionnaire show a similar trend to the data collected by the SGRP. Of their 64 respondents, 75% are professionals, 13% avocational practitioners, 3% students and 9% classified themselves as 'other' (Perrin, forthcoming, Appendix 2.1).

Students, junior and avocational practitioners

Overall the low number of students versus the high number of professionals indicated by both the MPRG and SGRP surveys seems to support the widely held belief that the profession comprises largely long-established practitioners, with few students and junior specialists embarking on a career in ceramics.

Figure 2, Breakdown of the number of years cumulative experience practitioners have worked with ceramics. Outer ring data collected by the MPRG, inner ring by the SGRP (Perrin, forthcoming, Appendix 2.1)



However, analysis of the amount of time respondents have been working with ceramics offers a more positive picture (Table 1). Fourteen responses are from avocational practitioners, students and professionals in their first 10 years of ceramic experience, representing

25% of the 57 responses. A question asking the age of respondents was not included, but future profiling could include this to see the relative age of junior practitioners to those with over 10 years' experience.

Data collected by the SGRP again reflects this trend (Figure 2), although the MPRG has more practitioners with '0 to 10' and '31 to 40' years' experience, with far fewer in the '41 to 50' range.

As noted in Table 1, avocational practitioners are as numerous as students and often have many more years of working with ceramics than professionals. Support for avocational practitioners is often provided by those working professionally and important work is frequently carried out on by this group on projects which are unfunded.

It is essential that practitioners are attracted to the sector to maintain the body of knowledge and expertise which currently exists: aims and objectives for supporting and encouraging new and avocational practitioners are laid out in the *Research Agenda* under **Developing Expertise: Building capacity** (*p.13*).

Established practitioners

Mellor's 1994 survey revealed that most respondents work in archaeological units (37%), followed by museums, universities and polytechnics, with some working from home (Mellor 1994).

Analysis of data collected in 2010 reveals a large shift towards freelance ceramic practitioners (43%), with reduced numbers employed by commercial units (25% - including units based in universities and charitable trusts) and local authorities (20%).

Interestingly the IfA's 2007/08 profile of the profession did not pick up on this trend. The IfA survey found the level of "independent consultants and specialists" remained at a constant 3% of the whole profession between surveys conducted in 1999 and 2002 (Aitchison and Edwards 2008). The IfA 2007/08 survey does not directly assess the employment of ceramic specialists, but did identify 72 individuals with the collective post title of 'Finds Officer': two are explicitly listed as 'Medieval Pottery Specialist' and 'Ceramic Specialist'. Ceramic practitioners for other periods (e.g. Roman) are absent from the study (Aitchison and Edwards 2008).

This suggests the IfA's profile has not identified the circumstances in which many ceramic specialists find themselves, despite the fact 24 of the 53 respondents (45%) to the MPRG questionnaire identified themselves as members of the Institute for Archaeologists.

Therefore, it may be that the IfA has not recognised that specialists (particularly those who are freelance) are presented with a different set of challenges in their professional careers than those based in more 'mainstream' archaeological roles. High numbers of freelance practitioners may also hinder opportunities for training the next generation, as apprenticeships are near impossible to deliver when the onus falls on an individual with no institutional support.

The MPRG surveys identified small numbers of ceramic practitioners currently based in museums (17% in 1994, 6% in 2010) and universities (13% in 1994, 2% in 2010). This supports anecdotal concerns that ceramic knowledge and practice is under-represented in these environments.

The IfA's 2007/08 profile of the profession suggests the number of UK archaeologists employed by museums stands at just 5% (Aitchison and Edwards 2008). This is very close to the percentage of ceramic practitioners employed in museums (6%). However, in the case of universities this cannot be accounted for by a lack of archaeologists employed in the sector; the IfA's survey found that, of the archaeologists working in the UK, 15% worked for universities(Aitchison and Edwards 2008). This is substantially higher than 2% of ceramic practitioners.

A lack of personnel with ceramic knowledge in these environments is to the detriment of ceramic studies, as universities and museums are pivotal in providing research opportunities and securing ceramic resources for future analysis.

Overall it appears that those currently working in the profession wish to stay within it, as the possible reasons MPRG respondents gave as to why they may cease to work as a ceramic specialist concentrated on a lack of work or funding, retirement and redundancy, rather than any desire to change profession or leave the specialism. Therefore, retention of knowledge within the sector may be viewed as relatively stable.

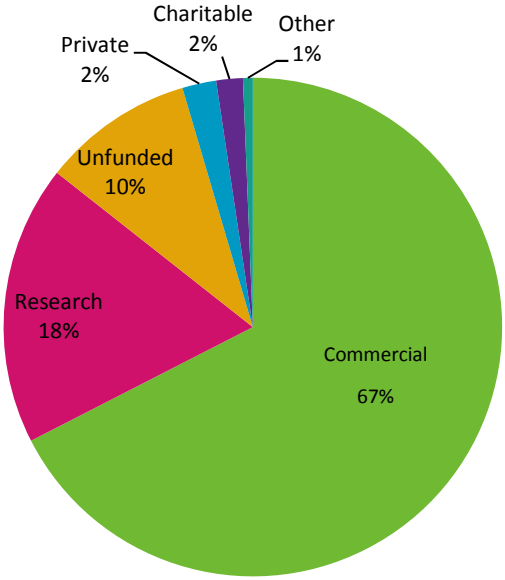
Future problems facing professional practitioners include a lack of development opportunities and provision of training, along with unstructured career paths: aims and objectives for supporting established practitioners are laid out in the *Research Agenda* under **Developing Expertise: Continuing Professional Development** (*p.14*).

NATURE OF THE INDUSTRY

An important change since Mellor's 1994 survey has been the upsurge in work driven by PPG16 (and subsequently PPS5) in England and Wales, and Archaeological Planning Policy NPPG5 and Advice Note PAN42 in Scotland.

Commercial work accounts for the majority of projects undertaken by practitioners (67%), with research accounting for 18% and unfunded work 10% (*Figure 3*). Anecdotal evidence suggests the latter includes goodwill work with local societies and avocational practitioners, assemblages which lack adequate funding, analysis of pre-PPG16 sites, personal research and liaison with other specialists.

Figure 3, Average percentage of the types of work undertaken by 47 respondents



Asked to estimate the number of site assemblages analysed in 2009, 92% of practitioners said they examined between one and 50. Taking an example of 50 sites, this means in 2009, on average each practitioner analysed 33 commercial sites, undertook nine research and five unfunded projects.

The SGRP survey asked how many sites practitioners have worked on in the last five years, with 33 replies for less than 20 sites, and 21 responses for 21 sites and over. Both the MPRG and SGRP datasets imply an extremely low yearly average of assemblages sent for specialist analysis, particularly given the number of watching briefs and evaluations carried out across the country. For example, data collected by the *Archaeological Investigations Project* (AIP) reveal the number of evaluations carried out in England between 2006 to 2008 total 4,249 (*Table 2*).

It may be the case only a fraction of these interventions encountered post-Roman ceramics, but given the AIP just considered evaluations (and not watching briefs or other types of archaeological intervention, such as community-based work), it would seem reasonable to suggest archaeological investigations in the UK are occurring at a steady rate. Whether this is enough to sustain specialists already working in the sector, or to support new practitioners joining the field, is difficult to judge. It would appear that there are enough assemblages available but that the levels of work requested result in poor prospects for current and new pottery specialists.

Table 2, Number of evaluations carried out in England between 2006 and 2008 based on AIP data

Region	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
East Anglia	102	117	112	**331**
East Midlands	129	99	133	**361**
Multi-Region	48	4	30	**82**
North-East	100	98	77	**275**
North-West	102	111	96	**309**
South Central	203	310	257	**770**
South-East	157	229	255	**641**
South-East Midlands	176	224	203	**603**
South-West	117	151	105	**373**
West Midlands	83	74	90	**247**
Yorkshire	124	74	59	**257**
TOTAL	1341	1491	1417	**4249**

Some respondents to the MPRG survey commented that the study of ceramics is not their only working role, with some feeling this is positive whilst others consider it to the detriment of the ceramic work they undertake. The SGRP survey asked respondents if they work full-time on pottery or combine it with another role. Of 62 replies only 12 (19%) said full-time (Perrin, forthcoming, Appendix 2.2).

This is a complete reversal of the data presented in the IfA's 07/08 profile of the profession, where 88% of All Staff, 48% of Self-employed Archaeologists and 71% of Finds Officers are employed full-time(Aitchison and Edwards 2008). Again, this suggests the IfA is failing to represent the situation faced by finds specialists.

Another striking feature of the current profession is that practitioners are increasingly working across large, sometimes geographically dispersed, areas (*Figure 4*). On average each of 46 practitioners named two regions they work in. It is also apparent practitioners are often engaged with a wide range of ceramics, both in date and type (*Table 3* and *Figure 5*).

There are still areas of ceramic knowledge which are not widely tackled. As identified in Mellor's survey (1994), fewer practitioners are involved with early and middle Saxon ceramics. In 1994, 38% of respondents reported experience with early- or middle- Saxon pottery compared to 74% with early, high and late medieval pottery.

In the most recent survey this level continues, with 37.5% and 35% of 48 respondents working on early and

middle Saxon pottery respectively. The percentage working on medieval pottery remains *c.* 70%, with a drop off in the early modern period (*Table 3*).

Results of a *Survey of Archaeological Specialists* in 1999, indicated respondents felt a 'notably threatened' area was the study of Post-Medieval pottery (Aitchison 2000, section 4.4), although this is not reflected in either of the MPRG surveys.

The current state of ceramic studies is probably driven by commercial practices: units vie for work far beyond their operating base and often prefer to use in-house specialists or those freelance practitioners with whom they are familiar to carry out work. Equally, financial pressures may require practitioners to expand their knowledge base, allowing them to deal with a wide range of material in order to secure adequate amounts of work.

Future problems facing practitioners include a lack of resources, training and liaison opportunities: aims and objectives for dealing with these issues are laid out in the *Research Agenda* under **Best Practice: Minimum Standards** (*p.11*), **Developing Expertise: Continuing Professional Development** (*p.14*), **Assessing, Updating and Securing Resources: Surveys of Ceramic Potential** (*p.15*) and **Ceramic Type Series** (*p.15).*

Figure 4, Number of practitioners who responded that they work in the following regions (based on 46 questionnaire responses)

Region	No.
East Anglia	3
East Midlands	7
North-East	6
North-West	6
Scotland	8
South Central	5
South-East	8
South-East Midlands	6
South-West	16
Wales	10
West Midlands	11
Yorkshire	4
TOTAL	90

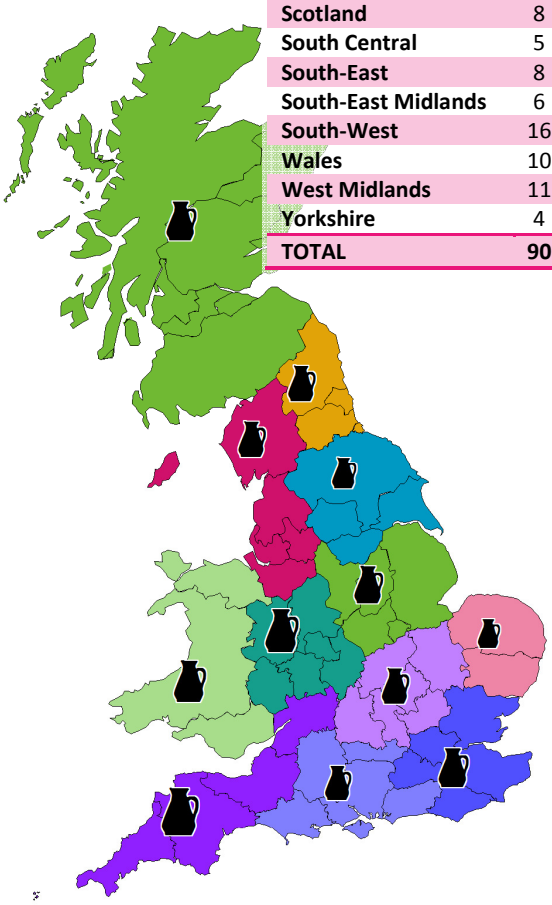
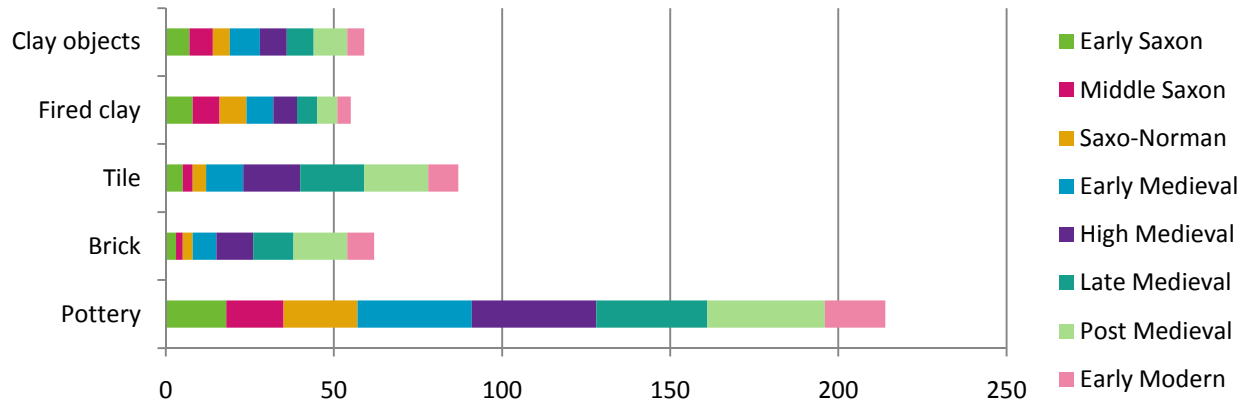


Table 3, Number of practitioners specialising in pottery by period

Period	Number of practitioners	% of 48 responses
Early Saxon	18	37
Middle Saxon	17	35
Late Saxon	22	45
Early medieval	34	70
High medieval	37	77
Late medieval	33	68
Post medieval	35	72
Early modern	18	37
TOTAL	214	

Figure 5, Chart showing the number of practitioners who specialise in the following chronological periods and types of ceramics (based on 48 responses)



PUBLISHED RESOURCES

A search of literature was undertaken, with the aim of identifying key publications for each county which appeared in print between 1992 and February 2010. This makes the bibliography included in **Appendix 4** contiguous with that published in Mellor's 1994 volume.

It is clear from the literature search that some regions and/or counties are well represented, whilst a lack of information is apparent for others. This may reflect real lacunae of archaeological investigations or published material, although it could equally be due to a flaw in the methodology of data collection.

Articles in specialist/period journals and monographs are the two most common methods of publication, most often available as hard copy in traditional form and increasingly accessible through the internet and CD-ROMs in digital formats.

Forty-three archaeological, period and local journals were questioned about the inclusion of ceramics in the articles they publish. Thirteen responses were received, giving a return rate of 30%. Encouragingly, all journals replying to the survey still accept reports on pottery-related subjects or with a large pottery component.

Overall 50% of journals who answered the survey do not charge for publication or limit the size of articles. However, 42% of the 13 journals who responded to the questionnaire charge for publication; of these 25% limit the size of articles they include. Twenty-five percent of journals that do not charge for publication also limit the size of articles.

A move towards digital media is unsurprising given the near total lack of restriction offered by digital media in terms of the accessibility, size and varied scope of resources that can easily be dealt with in a cost-effective manner. Online repositories for publications (which are often out of print or defined as 'grey literature') are increasingly common, with portals such as OASIS, AIP, ADS and the British Library offering instant access to a wide range of archaeological reports, articles and theses. Some commercial units are also making their reports accessible through their own websites. Bodies overseeing archaeological work and those that offer funding increasingly favour projects which utilise new media in disseminating their results. Therefore, it seems likely that the amount of information available digitally will continue to expand.

By late 2010 OASIS alone contained over 7,000 archaeological reports. In their survey examining publication of archaeological projects Jones *et al*. (2003) noted that contractors and local government staff exhibited *'greater anxiety about knowledge acquisition [that] could reflect greater awareness of the sheer bulk of information being produced as grey literature'* along with the '*multi-period nature of their work, the limited time…[to] devote to reading/broader research, and perhaps a sense of alienation in respect to broader synthetic knowledge'*. During consultation the increased availability of grey literature was identified as essential and outweighed any concerns about an inundation of data available for digestion.

The situation may be best described as feast or famine: problems with producing and accessing literature are evident and, as noted above, some areas or periods are under-represented in the published material. This appears linked to developer driven commercial excavation, which results in large amounts of grey literature with far fewer opportunities for research or synthetic work resulting in publication. As an illustration, *Archaeological Project Services* undertook 128 evaluations and excavations between 2005 and 2010. Of these just eight (6%) received developer funding to be published as journal articles or monographs.

Fossilisation of published material is also an issue. The MPRG has built up a wide range of ceramic resources. These require revision in light of recent archaeological practices and discoveries. As online information can be more easily updated than hard copy, their addition to the MPRG website would be a logical step.

Future problems facing practitioners include difficulties in accessing grey literature, fossilisation of resources and fewer opportunities to undertake synthetic research: aims and objectives for dealing with these issues are laid out in the *Research Agenda* under **Best Practice: Minimum Standards** (*p.11*), **Frameworks** (*p.12*), **Assessing, Updating and Securing Resources: Publication of Key Sites** (*p.15*), **National Guide to the Classification of Pottery Forms** (*p.16*), **National List of Production Centres** (*p.16*) and **Scientific Resources** (*p.16*).

ARCHIVED RESOURCES

Problems with accessing archived material were highlighted many times during the consultation process. Some museums and repositories deny or heavily restrict access to their collections for a variety of reasons. In response to the museum questionnaire, 33% commented that access to collections was impossible or extremely restricted, most often due to

lack of staff, off-site storage or Health and Safety issues.

Some assemblages are 'lost' or in the possession of individuals. Other material remains with contracting units for the long-term due to delays in post-excavation analysis, disputes with the developer or because a suitable repository is full/non-existent. In response to the questionnaire, 75% of contracting units stated that they hold archived ceramic collections resulting from archaeological projects.

Whether ceramic material should be retained or discarded by museums, and who should make such decisions, has large repercussions for the future of ceramic archives and research. The museum questionnaire shows that 18 of those that responded act as repositories for archaeological archives and rely on specialist recommendations regarding the retention or discard of ceramics: this may lead to gaps in archives in the future if not guided by a museum collections policy.

Other issues surround rights to use fabric and form type series held by contracting units and museums. In the case of the former this may present an unfair competitive advantage if the type series is not openly and freely accessible to external practitioners and researchers. The questionnaires indicate 62% of the contracting units who responded and 27% of museums hold a fabric type series, with 37% of units and 33% of museums holding a form type series.

These problems present an enormous hurdle to ceramic research: aims and objectives for dealing with these issues are laid out in the *Research Agenda* under **Best Practice: Minimum Standards** (*p.11*), **Sampling and Selection Strategies** (*p.12),* **Assessing, Updating and Securing Resources: Surveys of Ceramic Potential** (*p.15*), **Ceramic Type Series** (*p.15*) and **Scientific Resources** (*p.16*).

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Traditionally, funding for synthetic projects has relied heavily on government heritage bodies such as English Heritage. Current cuts will see their capacity to offer grants reduced by one third.[4] Universities have limited resources for hiring external expertise, so rely on internal staff and resources to conduct research. Commercial archaeology projects sometimes support research and publication, but these are limited in scope. Opportunities to conduct wide ranging synthetic studies are non-existent: building developers are understandably unwilling to fund work which does not concentrate solely on their site (e.g. comparison of assemblages from different sites or a regional survey).

Obtaining funding in the future may therefore be more challenging. This will require a move away from traditional sources and a willingness to adapt projects so that they meet the criteria of other grant making bodies. The Heritage Lottery Fund recently announced an additional £45 million in grants available from 2011, with £21 million budgeted for the *Your Heritage* programme. [5] Community archaeology schemes such as those supported by *Your Heritage* grants can deliver synthetic research where commercial archaeology cannot. However, the success of such projects relies on close ties between the community groups and archaeologists.

Smaller grants are available from a range of archaeological and historical groups and societies. Again these often have a specific focus which means a careful consideration of the suitability of a project for the grant. Also worthy of consideration are non-UK sources of funding (particularly European and American) and grants which concentrate on the utilisation of new technologies or techniques.

In kind contributions towards projects may also be available from different sources, such as universities and government bodies and facilities.

The MPRG itself is also able to fund initiatives both financially and in kind. By stimulating interest in the group and its activities it may be possible to increase the number of membership subscriptions.

[4]www.english-heritage.org.uk/about/news/eh-responds/public-sector-cuts/

[5]www.hlf.org.uk/news/Pages/HLFannouncesanadditional45minvestmentnextyear.aspx

PART TWO: RESEARCH AGENDA

Research aims for developing post-Roman pottery studies were put forward during the consultation process. Presented in this section are aims for post-Roman ceramic studies across England, Scotland and Wales; these are the main focus for the *Research Agenda and Strategy*. The research aims (denoted by an A) are grouped under the following headings: **Best Practice**, **Professional Development** and **Assessing, Updating and Securing Resources**. Objectives (OBJ) are listed for each aim: priorities, funding, timescales and outcomes are identified for each objective in **Part Three**.

Research aims with a regional scope were also identified and many of these feed into the *Research Framework* these are included in **Appendix 1**. A concordance table, illustrating how the aims in the *Regional Research Agenda* directly contribute to the *Research Framework* is included in **Appendix 2**.

As a general point, the consultation process highlighted the scope for improved liaison between the MPRG and other bodies concerned with artefacts, development control, commercial archaeology and the curation of finds. This is an important consideration for all the *Research Agenda* aims presented here.

BEST PRACTICE

The consultation process highlighted the critical need for ceramics to be properly addressed in Research Designs, Written Statements of Investigation (WSI) and archaeological briefs. These documents are the method of facilitating ceramic work, from basic recording through to detailed research and synthesis. Mellor highlighted the importance of Research Designs in 1994, whilst WSIs and archaeological briefs have mainly arisen due to PPG16 and the ascendancy of commercial archaeological practice. Currently, ceramics are not given appropriate consideration in these documents, which can result in missed opportunities for research and chronic underfunding.

In order to address this situation, the MPRG believes three important elements should be drawn together into a statement of ***Best Practice*: Minimum Standards**, **Sampling and Selection Strategies** and **Frameworks**. This document must also demonstrate to development control archaeologists and managers of archaeological investigations how the adoption of *Best Practice* is of benefit to archaeological projects.

MINIMUM STANDARDS

"*Minimum Standards for the Processing, Recording, Analysis and Publication of Post-Roman Ceramics*" (Slowikowski *et al*) was published by the MPRG in 2001 in response to Mellor's recommendation. Although acknowledged by ceramic specialists as crucial in maintaining standards, several issues have come to light concerning the adoption of the *Minimum Standards* across the board and their feasibility in terms of commercial practice.

Of the 30 returned curatorial questionnaires, only 40% stated that their planning authority demanded that specialist work is carried out in line with specialist minimum standards. This suggests the importance of upholding the *Minimum Standards* requires promotion within curatorial and planning departments and throughout the commercial archaeology sector.

Information gathered from the local government questionnaire shows 28% of local authorities expect finds to be recorded in line with museum deposition policies, 22% in line with MPRG and SGRP minimum standards and 13% in line with standards set by the local authority. Encouragingly, 35% also expect reference to established ceramic type series. Currently, a range of formal and informal minimum standards exist for ceramics in the United Kingdom and on the continent. The formulation of *Minimum Standards* which encompass ceramics of all periods would aid the regulation of ceramic work by contracting units, development control archaeologists and repositories.

The extent to which these standards for recording are recognised in archaeological briefs, WSIs and project designs varies enormously, as does the recognition of their potential impact on a project. Therefore, a summary statement regarding the importance of archaeological ceramics and the adoption of *Best Practice*, agreed between all the groups with a ceramic remit, would provide a method of highlighting these issues to development control archaeologists and managers of archaeological projects.

SAMPLING AND SELECTION STRATEGIES

Issues of on-site sampling of assemblages and selection are of utmost importance to ceramic studies but are rarely considered in everyday archaeological practice.

Equally, site archives are increasingly subject to criteria pertaining to their retention or disposal set by stores and museums. In some areas, site archives can be compromised due to, for example, a commercial unit ceasing to operate or because there is no depositing body. Such issues have an impact on how ceramics are dealt with and their future research potential and accessibility. Some of these issues may be addressed by the development of archaeological resource centres(Brown 2010), the feasibility of which has been examined by the Archaeological Archives Forum(2009). However, in the meantime, liaison between the MPRG, the Society of Museum Archaeologists and the Archive Forum on the future of data and archives would be of benefit.

In order to ensure that the impact of sampling and selection is recognised and understood, a review is necessary to examine current sampling and selection strategies and establish their shortcomings.

FRAMEWORKS

Archaeological briefs and Written Statements of Investigation often make reference to the research objectives laid out in regional frameworks, although regional frameworks do not exist for all areas and are not always embraced when they do.

Frameworks are essential as they focus resources towards achieving common research goals and stimulate involvement across the archaeology sector. They are recognised as 'drivers' in MoRPHE (Lee 2009). Question 29 of the practitioner questionnaire asked how often ceramic work was taken beyond the accepted minimum standard: of the 44 responses to this question, 16% said 'Never'; 16% 'Rarely'; 52% 'Sometimes'; 14% 'Most of the time' and 2% 'Always'. This suggests most commercial ceramics analysis does not exceed the basic level of work, resulting in little opportunity for research and synthesis to take place.

Archaeological briefs and WSIs are the mechanism for ensuring the research aims laid out in frameworks are achieved. Therefore, it is crucial that explicit research aims are considered at this stage to secure developer investment and allow ceramic investigation beyond the accepted minimum. A list of current research frameworks is included in **Appendix 4**.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To address these issues, the MPRG proposes:

A1. Reassessment of *Minimum Standards* and examination of the issues surrounding *sampling and selection strategies* to produce a document which details *best practice* for archaeological interventions and post-excavation procedures. This is to be aimed at ceramic practitioners, development control archaeologists, curatorial staff and managers of contracting units

OBJ1. Reassessing the current *Minimum Standards* in light of commercial archaeological practice, museum/deposition guidelines and PPS5: this should be carried out jointly with other ceramic groups

OBJ2. Assessing issues of *sampling and selection strategies* and their impact on the retrieval and interpretation of ceramic assemblages

OBJ3. Composing a short statement concerning ceramics and the role of *Best Practice* for circulation to development control archaeologists and managers of archaeological projects, devised in consultation with other ceramic societies/groups

OBJ4. Demonstrating why the adoption of *Best Practice* is essential to stimulate research and synthetic work and its benefit to archaeological projects. Encouraging reference to *Best Practice* in archaeological briefs and Written Statements of Investigation and Promoting the *Best Practice* document to relevant authorities and bodies

OBJ5. Compiling a document of *Best Practice* for working with ceramics, including reference to *Minimum Standards, sampling and selection strategies* and issues surrounding the adoption of best practice.

OBJ6. Promotion of regional, period and artefact frameworks which are concerned with ceramics

OBJ7. Regular review of this *Research Framework* by a steering group to initiate objectives and gauge progress and priorities.

A2. Creating a network of expertise by forming partnerships with other organisations and promoting the MPRG as an advisory body

OBJ8. Raising the profile of the UK network of ceramic expertise by including a list of practitioners on the MPRG website

OBJ9. Developing partnerships and liaising with the relevant professional, government, period and artefact groups and societies.

DEVELOPING EXPERTISE

Opportunities for training and development are essential to build capacity in the sector, ensure the retention of knowledge, allow professional development and attract new practitioners to the field.

However, many factors prohibit training and development including a lack of suitable training opportunities and support for students/junior practitioners, as well as the reluctance of employers to pay for training, and project budgets not allowing for consultation with other specialists or reference collections.

BUILDING CAPACITY

The discipline requires new practitioners to carry the expertise and knowledge into the future. Overall, the impression within the discipline is that the number of young professionals taking up studies or careers in pottery is too low to sustain the discipline in the future. As noted above, however, the specialist questionnaire suggests a more positive picture, with 14 responses from avocational practitioners, students and professionals who are in their first ten years of ceramics experience. This represents 24.6% of the 57 responses (Table 1). Nevertheless, a crisis waits if new practitioners fail to be attracted to the sector.

Two routes into ceramic studies are apparent: **academic study** usually via a research M.A. or Ph.D. and **workplace learning**. **Avocational practitioners** engaged in ceramic studies also require recognition and support.

Academic study

Ten responses (from seven different universities) were received to the university questionnaire and provide an insight into the provision of ceramic teaching and research at under- and post-graduate level.

The questionnaires indicate Prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman ceramics are included in taught modules at both undergraduate and post-graduate level covering theoretical issues, as well as practical and research opportunities. However, all the universities that responded stated they do not currently offer modules or subsidiary courses which focus primarily on ceramics.

Fourteen ceramic research projects which are being undertaken by staff or students are described, and 30% of universities are undertaking ceramic projects in partnership with other archaeological organisations. Moreover, 60% of the universities received funding for ceramic related projects and gave details (20% did not receive any funding and 20% did not respond to this question).

Half the universities used external ceramic specialists to provide additional input to training for students.

As with other aspects of ceramic practice, university research offers an opportunity for developing new scientific specialists. This aim ties in with the National Heritage Science Strategy which is due to be released in 2011. The third NHSS report (Williams 2009) highlights the need for practitioners who can carry out thin-section analysis for pottery characterisation and offer materials analysis for ancient technology. Building capacity in the scientific sector is also crucial for ceramic analysis.

There is a need for the MPRG to build stronger relationships with universities, particularly to encourage an increase in taught modules with ceramics as their main focus. The forging of links between departments and external specialists will help demonstrate the wealth of ceramic topics suitable as the basis of academic research.

Workplace Learning

Schemes such as English Heritage's (EH) EPIC placements and the IfA's Workplace Learning Bursaries, allow a varied range of institutions to offer training via a vocational route. The IfA's scheme was built around *National Occupational Standards in Archaeological Practice* with bursary holders encouraged to work towards a vocational Qualification in Archaeological Practice.[6] The scheme aims to address skills gaps in archaeology, of which artefact studies is one. With current funding due to run out in 2011, the IfA are aiming to identify and train Workplace Learning Champions who will promote workplace learning across the sector. Since 2006, the IfA's bursary scheme has supported the training of four ceramic specialists (one prehistoric, two Roman and one post-Roman out of a total of 43 bursaries), of whom at least two are continuing to work with ceramics.

For freelance ceramic specialists, and even those based in institutions, the opportunities to train an apprentice may be limited, particularly in the case of the former, as funding is targeted towards institutions.

Of the eight commercial units who returned questionnaires, three have trained specialists. Without

[6] http://www.archaeologists.net/learning/hlfbursaries

support from a bursary, workplace training seems a financially daunting prospect. However, with planning and co-operation between commercial units and established practitioners, costs can be managed. As an illustration, *Archaeological Project Services* invested £11,700 over 30 months (between 2006 and mid 2008) to train a post-Roman ceramic specialist, of which £6,000 paid for training and mentoring from established specialists. Over the same period, the trainee undertook £45,600 of ceramic work which was the basis of their training. This represents a return of nearly four times the amount which was invested.

A review of workplace training which has taken place in the last few years, the process and costs involved and the benefits to companies and individuals, may encourage commercial archaeological units to take on trainees. This could form the basis of an apprenticeship system for providing guidance and support for those wishing to train, or be trained, as a ceramic practitioner.

Avocational practitioners

The introduction of PPS5 sees greater emphasis placed on community involvement in commercial archaeology projects, and grants such as those provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund allow local groups to explore their local archaeology by hiring in professional support.

Therefore, the MPRG should make every effort to promote itself as a hub for expertise, support and advice to those embarking on community or unfunded projects. The regional groups are the best method for offering this support, and regular meetings would offer a useful forum for meeting and advising professional and avocational practitioners.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Results of the consultation highlighted the importance of professional development and the provision of training. A perceived problem is that some employers are reluctant to allow staff training time, or to pay for courses. However, the success of the MPRG professional training days suggests practitioners are keen to take advantage of these opportunities where they exist.

Attending conferences was also highlighted as an important feature of professional development, and new approaches (such as multi-discipline or experimental sessions) were suggested as methods of adding value to the attendees, their employers and the MPRG. Equally, although few of the regional groups are now active, their revival could offer professional support, partnership development, knowledge exchange, learning and research opportunities to practitioners.

Development of a professional structure for a career as a ceramic specialist is deemed important and guidelines as to standards, ethics and levels of responsibility (along the lines of the IfA's *continuing professional development*) may help practitioners, and their employers, to develop and guide their careers.

Equally, periodic reviews of the state of the discipline are important to monitor progress and revise the needs of those involved with ceramics.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

MPRG proposes:

A3. Encouraging and supporting new practitioners into ceramic studies

OBJ10. Developing closer and sustainable partnerships with universities

OBJ11. Demonstrating the variety and breadth of topics available to student researchers

OBJ12. Providing and advertising training opportunities to young professionals and students

OBJ13. Managing expectations as to the realities of becoming a ceramic specialist for practitioners and employers

OBJ14. Carrying out a review of workplace training including the process and costs involved and the benefits to companies and individuals

OBJ15. Developing an apprenticeship system for young professionals, laying out the stages involved and the time it takes.

A4. Providing training and development opportunities to professional and avocational practitioners

OBJ16. Providing more professional training opportunities

OBJ17. Making wider training opportunities known to the group

OBJ18. Extending the scope of topics and approaches used for the MPRG conferences

OBJ19. Encouraging and supporting the revival of the regional groups

OBJ20. Developing CPD and PDP specifically tailored to ceramic specialists

OBJ21. Continuing to publish *Medieval Ceramics* and occasional papers

OBJ22. Creating closer partnerships with other artefact and period societies

OBJ23. Establishing a mentoring group to offer advice and support to specialists throughout their careers

OBJ24. Repeating the census of the profession on a regular basis to establish the size of the human resource and the distribution of expertise geographically, and in terms of employment conditions and demography.

ASSESSING, UPDATING AND SECURING RESOURCES

Ensuring the future curation and accessibility of resources is important to enhance ceramic studies and stimulate new research opportunities. Resources considered here include published material as well as actual assemblages.

SURVEYS OF CERAMIC POTENTIAL

Surveys of ceramic potential are pivotal in formulating focused and achievable research objectives. They can highlight ceramic lacunae and reveal geographical gaps where specific ceramic assemblages are lacking.

First recommended by Mellor (1994), surveys have been achieved in some regions although coverage is patchy across England, Scotland and Wales with many areas still in need of assessment.

Surveys of ceramic potential are particularly important as the nature of commercial archaeology results in a fragmented approach, often with the focus of archaeological investigation concentrating on the immediate site with few opportunities to place it into a wider context. That much information is buried in grey literature is problematic.

Equally, ceramic specialists increasingly work in several (sometimes geographically dispersed) regions, with opportunities for consultation between practitioners rarely built into projects. This can make it difficult to assess new discoveries and their significance in a regional or national context.

Current problems facing regional surveys include the condition and accessibility of collections. Museums and other repositories can be difficult, if not impossible, to access for a variety of reasons (*p.9*). In some areas, museums and repositories have ceased to accept archives, resulting in material remaining with commercial units or universities. The recent economic downturn has highlighted the problem of what happens to archives when commercial units cease to operate. Discard and retention policies should ideally be made on an individual project basis and agreed between specialists, managers and museums (Brown 2007). This is important as some archaeological repositories are introducing 'across the board' decisions which will impact on the range and nature of material available for study in the future.

CERAMIC TYPE SERIES

Type series for fabrics and forms exist in a variety of guises, often organised by ware type, period and/or geographic area. Many regions require type series to be established, updated or expanded. Ideally, these should fit into a national network of type series covering England, Scotland and Wales. Much of this work could be achieved during *surveys of ceramic potential*, as this is an ideal time to identify and remove examples to type series.

Terminology is increasingly an issue as no accepted national standardised terminology exists for ware types and concordance between different recording systems can be difficult. Equally, the potential for a duplication of effort, mainly due to the uncoordinated nature of such projects, may result in a fragmented or financially costly approach being taken.

Issues surrounding the maintenance and future curation of type series are also very important and are not, in many cases, considered in archaeological briefs, WSIs or project designs.

An important consideration is what type series are designed for. By examining their intended purpose, how they are used and their function in aiding ceramic work, it may be possible to enhance their usability and ensure they are a worthwhile investment.

PUBLICATION OF KEY SITES

Mellor's recommendation (1994, 8.4) has been partly achieved, but could be extended to include those archives which remain unanalysed. This could easily feed into the *regional surveys of ceramic potential*.

The production of a league table of important unpublished material would help to develop priorities so that scarce resources can be concentrated. This would stimulate debate over what is important and why.

A list of published articles and monographs is available on the MPRG's bibliography[7]. This requires continued updating on an annual basis. Reports published as grey literature can be hard to locate and access, which can

[7] dbweb.liv.ac.uk/mprg/

hinder research for projects which are often time constrained. Increasingly, grey literature is available through the web: a list of sites where reports are available online is included in **Appendix 2: Internet Resources**. This list could be added to the MPRG website and updated periodically.

NATIONAL GUIDE TO THE CLASSIFICATION OF MEDIEVAL POTTERY FORMS

This was completed in 1998, but has never been updated to include new forms. Potentially the date range and geographic area it covers could also be extended. A section on the contemporary terminology used for vessels versus how their function is best described could also be developed.

NATIONAL LIST OF PRODUCTION CENTRES

Completed in 2003 and available on disc as the *Database of medieval pottery production centres in England (Gerrard and Marter 2003)*, this was not widely circulated and is not a well known resource. It requires updating with new discoveries and revisions to dating, and could be extended geographically and by period.

SCIENTIFIC RESOURCES

Best Practice concerning the application of scientific resources to ceramics must be established. Any project must demonstrate the procedural process by which analysis will take place, with specific aims and objectives for the analysis. Using scientific techniques within a framework relating to specific questions and a project design can ensure the appropriate techniques are used and a clear business case put forward to justify the work.

Barclay's '*Scientific Analysis of Archaeological Ceramics: A Handbook of Resources*' (2002) is a valuable resource but requires updating. A web-based publication would be more widely accessible and could be easily updated. Any revised version could include a contact list for services and practitioners specialising in chemical analyses.

A recent English Heritage-funded project has secured the late Dr Alan Vince's archive and made much information, including his chemical analyses, available through ADS.[8] Dr Vince's work is a valuable resource and the MPRG is committed to finding ways to enhance it.

A nationwide strategy of large-scale geological sampling may help identify possible sources for the raw materials used in pottery. This could be used to establish a reference collection for ceramicists of all periods to utilise, and would prevent the unnecessary duplication of scientific work.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

MPRG proposes:

A5. Updating and maintaining MPRG and ceramic resources

OBJ25. Assessing the current MPRG resources (the Classification of Forms, production sites database etc) and identifying what further work is required to update them. This may include extending these resources to reflect Welsh, Scottish, post-medieval and early modern ceramics

OBJ26. Updating the MPRG resources based on the prior assessment.

A6. Making key information and resources as widely accessible as possible

OBJ27. Creation of an online hub to house the MPRG resources and other ceramic data, such as details of the regional surveys, location and information about ceramic type series and lists/concordances of common names

OBJ28. Maintaining the MPRG bibliography and adding a list of internet resources to the MPRG website

OBJ29. Liaising with museums, depositing bodies and commercial units to negotiate access to collections

OBJ30. Liaising with government bodies over ensuring accessibility to and provision of archaeological archives to house collections

OBJ31. Liaising with the NMR, ALGAO and other relevant bodies to resolve questions of copyright and access to digital collections

A7. Promoting and co-ordinating a rolling programme of *surveys of ceramic potential* and the subsequent creation of *ceramic type series*, which the MPRG committee will oversee in consultation and liaison with the Regional Groups

OBJ32. Undertaking a baseline survey to gauge which regions have carried out surveys and the state of/need for established type series

OBJ33. Working with a selected regional group and specialist(s) to carry out a *survey of ceramic potential* and create a *type series* to understand the processes and issues involved

[8] //archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/alanvince_eh_2010/

OBJ34. Creating documentation that details *Best Practice* for conducting surveys and creating type series and dissemination of the results

OBJ35. Working towards consistent terminology for ceramic recording, building on the success of the *Classification of Forms*

OBJ36. Adding issues of maintenance into the *Best Practice* document to ensure type series are curated and updated.

A8. Increasing the provision for scientific analysis of ceramics

OBJ37. Updating Barclay's 2002 '*Handbook of Resources'* in light of current scientific and technical advances and making it available online

OBJ38. Conducting a survey of which scientific techniques are available at which institutions, listing appropriate information and contacts

OBJ39. Addition of a section to the *Best Practice* document concerning scientific analyses

OBJ40. Undertaking a feasibility study for adding chemical analyses carried out by others to Dr Vince's archive of ICPS and thin-section data

OBJ41. Liaising with BGS about the practicalities and scope for geological sampling

OBJ42. Developing a pilot study to explore how new technologies and scientific techniques might be applied to ceramics.

PART THREE: STRATEGY

This section identifies the priorities, timescales, consultation, funding and outcomes which are necessary for delivering the aims and objectives detailed above.

LIST OF PRIORITIES

In the following **List of Priorities**, the aims identified in the *Research Agenda* are classified as being of **High**, **Medium** or **Low** priority. This list indicates that the most immediate concerns revolve around establishing *best practice* and *developing expertise*. These aims should be the primary targets for funding and delivery.

HIGH PRIORITY

A1. Reassessment of *Minimum Standards* and examination of the issues surrounding *sampling and selection strategies* to produce a document which details *best practice* for archaeological interventions and post-excavation procedures

A3. Encouraging and supporting new practitioners into ceramic studies

A4. Providing training and development opportunities to professional and avocational practitioners

MEDIUM PRIORITY

A2. Creating a network of expertise by forming partnerships with other organisations and promoting the MPRG as an advisory body

A6. Making key information and resources as widely accessible as possible

A8. Increasing the provision for scientific analysis of ceramics

LOW PRIORITY

A5. Updating and maintaining MPRG and ceramic resources

A7. Promoting and co-ordinating a rolling programme of *surveys of ceramic potential* and the subsequent creation of *ceramic type series*, which the MPRG committee will oversee in consultation and liaison with the regional groups

TIMESCALES, CONSULTATION, FUNDING AND OUTCOMES

This section on **Timescales, Consultation, Funding and Outcomes** lists all the aims, the related objectives, whether these can be started in the short (1 to 2 years), medium (2 to 4 years) or long-term (4 to 5+ years). Timeframes indicate the order of delivery for objectives; many of the objectives are ongoing (for example, *OBJ30. Maintaining the MPRG bibliography and adding a list of internet resources to the MPRG website*) so the timeframe provides only an indication of when work towards meeting the objective should start.

Also indicated are bodies, groups and societies with whom the MPRG could liaise for advice or partnership working to achieve the objective.

Funding is a critical issue, particularly in light of the economic downturn and drastic cuts to heritage bodies. The majority of these objectives can be met by the MPRG through funding 'in kind' and using the financial resources of the group. For larger projects, which will require greater financial support than the group can manage, suggested funding sources have been listed.

Outcomes are listed for each objective as a method of illustrating the steps involved in achieving the overall aim.

BEST PRACTICE

A1. Reassessment of *Minimum Standards* and examination of the issues surrounding s*ampling and selection strategies* to produce a document which details *Best Practice* for archaeological interventions and post-excavation procedures. This is to be aimed at ceramic practitioners, development control archaeologists, curatorial staff and managers of contracting units

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
OBJ1.	Reassessing the current *Minimum Standards* in light of commercial archaeological practice, museum/deposition guidelines and PPS5	✓			CBA, EH, PCRG, SGRP, SMA, SPMA, SMuA	MPRG	Production of a joint standards document
OBJ2.	Assessing issues of *sampling and selection strategies* and their impact on the retrieval and interpretation of ceramic assemblages	✓			CBA, EH, PCRG, SGRP, SMA, SMA, SPMA, SMuA	MPRG	Production of a draft document
OBJ3.	Composing a short statement concerning ceramics and the role of *Best Practice* for circulation to development control archaeologists and managers of archaeological projects, devised in consultation with other ceramic societies/groups	✓			CBA, EH, PCRG, SGRP, SMA, SMA, SPMA, SMuA	MPRG	Production and circulation of short statement
OBJ4.	Demonstrating why the adoption of *Best Practice* is essential to stimulate research and synthetic work and its benefit to archaeological projects. Encouraging *Best Practice* in archaeological briefs and Written Statements of Investigation and promoting the *Best Practice* document to relevant authorities and bodies	✓			ALGAO, CBA, EH, FAME, IfA, PCRG, SGRP, SMA, SMA SPMA, SMuA	MPRG	*Best Practice* document circulated to relevant authorities and bodies; reference to *Best Practice* documents is included in *archaeological briefs* and *Written Statements of Investigation*
OBJ5.	Compiling a document of *Best Practice* for working with ceramics, including reference to *Minimum Standards* and *sampling and selection strategies*		✓		PCRG, SGRP, ALGAO, FAME	MPRG	Document combining *Minimum Standards, sampling and selection strategies* and issues surrounding the adoption of Best Practice
OBJ6.	Promotion of regional, period and artefact frameworks which are concerned with ceramics	✓				MPRG	Production and circulation of a draft document; liaison with relevant authorities
OBJ7.	Regular review of this research framework to initiate projects and gauge progress and priorities		✓			MPRG	Steering group meeting minutes

A2. Creating a network of expertise by forming partnerships with other organisations and promoting the MPRG as an advisory body

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
OBJ10.	Raising the profile of the UK network of ceramic expertise by including a list of practitioners on the MPRG website	✓			PCRG, SGRP, IfA, IfA Finds Group	MPRG	Inclusion of a list of ceramic practitioners on the MPRG website
OBJ11.	Developing partnerships and liaising with the relevant professional, government, period and artefact groups and societies	✓			ALGAO, CBA, EH, FAME, IfA, SMuA, Period and Artefact groups	MPRG	Liaison and consultation with relevant bodies by the MPRG council

DEVELOPING EXPERTISE

A3. Encouraging and supporting new practitioners into ceramic studies

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
OBJ10.	Developing closer and sustainable partnerships with universities	✓				MPRG	Development of taught courses in universities; increased liaison and partnership working between universities and ceramic practitioners
OBJ11.	Demonstrating the variety and breadth of topics available to student researchers	✓			PCRG, SGRP	MPRG	Increase in the number of research degrees focussing on ceramics by promotion of suitable topics
OBJ12.	Providing and advertising training opportunities to young professionals and students		✓		ALGAO, CBA, EH, FAME, IfA, SMuA, Period and Artefact groups	CADW, EH, HS, MPRG	Development of a training programme (e.g. conferences, training days, regional group meetings) and circulation to universities, period and artefact societies
OBJ13.	Managing expectations as to the realities of becoming a ceramic specialist for practitioners and employers		✓		SGRP, PCRG	MPRG	Establishing a mentoring system and promotion of the MPRG as an advisory body
OBJ14.	Carrying out a review of workplace training including the process and costs involved and the benefits to companies and individuals		✓		ALGAO, Contracting Units, EH, IfA, SMA	MPRG	Production and circulation of document
OBJ15.	Developing an apprenticeship system for young professionals, laying out the stages involved and the time it takes			✓	ALGAO, Contracting Units, EH, IfA, SMA	MPRG	Establish a system of apprenticeships

A4. Providing training and development opportunities to professional and avocational practitioners

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
OBJ16.	Providing more professional training opportunities		✓		ALGAO, CBA, EH, FAME, IfA, Period and Artefact groups	CADW, CBA, EH, HLF HS, MPRG	Development of training programmes (e.g. conferences, training days, regional group meetings) and circulation to universities, period and artefact societies
OBJ17.	Making wider training opportunities known to the group	✓			ALGAO, CBA, EH, FAME, IfA, Period and Artefact groups	MPRG	Creation of a ceramic training bulletin for e-circulation and inclusion in the MPRG newsletter and website
OBJ18.	Extending the scope of topics and approaches used for the MPRG conferences		✓		Period and Artefact groups	MPRG	Holding of regular conferences with multi-disciplinary and experimental approaches
OBJ19.	Encouraging and supporting the revival of the regional groups	✓				MPRG	Recruiting a head for regional groups where none exists; promotion of regional meetings;

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
							encouraging cross-regional events; using framework objectives as a method of stimulating regional groups to meet (e.g. for consultation meetings)
OBJ20.	Developing CPD and PDP specifically tailored to ceramic specialists	✓				MPRG	Documentation detailing the MPRG's CPD and PDP scheme
OBJ21.	Continuing to publish Medieval Ceramics and occasional papers	✓				MPRG	Yearly release of the journal and development of the occasional paper series
OBJ22.	Creating closer partnerships with other artefact and period societies		✓		Period and Artefact groups	MPRG	Liaison and partnership working with relevant bodies by the MPRG Council
OBJ23.	Establishing a mentoring group to offer advice and support to specialists throughout their careers		✓			MPRG	Establishing a mentoring system and promotion of the MPRG as an advisory body
OBJ24.	Repeating the census of the profession on a regular basis to establish the size of the human resource and the distribution of expertise geographically, and in terms of employment conditions and demography			✓		MPRG	Undertaking of a census and publication of the results

ASSESSING, UPDATING AND SECURING RESOURCES

A5. Updating and maintaining MPRG and ceramic resources

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
OBJ25.	Assessing the current MPRG resources (the classification of forms, production sites database etc) and identifying what further work is required to update them. This may include extending these resources to reflect Welsh, Scottish, post-medieval and early modern ceramics		✓			CADW, EH, HS, MPRG	An assessment of the current resources and production of a timetable and tasks for updating them
OBJ26.	Updating the MPRG resources based on the prior assessment			✓		CADW, EH, HS, MPRG	Publication and circulation of updated resources

A6. Making key information and resources as widely accessible as possible

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
OBJ27.	Creation of an online hub to house the MPRG resources and other ceramic data, such as details of the regional surveys, location and information about ceramic type series and lists/concordances of common names		✓			MPRG	Hub hosted on the web and linked to the MPRG website
OBJ28.	Maintaining the MPRG bibliography	✓				MPRG	Bibliography updated

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
	and adding a list of internet resources to the MPRG website						annually
OBJ29.	Liaising with museums, depositing bodies and commercial units to negotiate access to collections		✓			MPRG	Increased access to collections
OBJ30.	Liaising with government bodies over ensuring accessibility to and provision of archaeological archives to house collections			✓		MPRG	Increased access to collections
OBJ31.	Liaising with the NMR, ALGAO and other relevant bodies to resolve questions of copyright and access to archives and digital collections			✓		MPRG	Increased access to digital collections

A7. Promoting and co-ordinating a rolling programme of *surveys of ceramic potential* and the subsequent creation of *ceramic type series*, which the MPRG committee will oversee in consultation and liaison with the regional groups

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
OBJ32.	Undertaking a baseline survey to gauge which regions have carried out surveys and the state of/need for established type series		✓			CADW, EH, HS, MPRG	Consultation and production of a document
OBJ33.	Working with a selected regional group and specialist(s) to carry out a *survey of ceramic potential* and create a t*ype series* to understand the processes and issues involved			✓		CADW, EH, HS, MPRG	Consultation and production of a document
OBJ34.	Creating documentation that details *best practice* for conducting surveys and creating type series and dissemination of the results			✓		MPRG	Production of a document
OBJ35.	Working towards consistent terminology for ceramic recording, building on the success of the *Classification of Forms*			✓	Other Artefact and Period groups	MPRG	Production of a resource in an easily updateable format by multiple users (e.g. a Wiki)
OBJ36.	Adding issues of maintenance into the *best practice* document to ensure type series are curated and updated		✓			MPRG	Addition of section to the *best practice* document

A8. Increasing the provision for scientific analysis of ceramics

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
OBJ37.	Updating Barclay's 2002 '*Handbook of Resources*' in light of current scientific and technical advances and making it available online		✓		PCRG, SGRP, Universities and Companies	CADW, EH, HS, MPRG	Revised version of the handbook available online
OBJ38.	Conducting a survey of which scientific techniques are available at which institutions, listing appropriate information and contacts		✓		PCRG, SGRP, Universities and Companies	MPRG	Addition of a techniques and resource list to the handbook
OBJ39.	Addition of a section to the *best practice* document concerning scientific analysis		✓			MPRG	Addition of section to the *best practice* document
OBJ40.	Investigating the creation of a resource making chemical and thin-section data available, based on Dr Vince's work combined with the data of others			✓	PCRG, SGRP, ADS, British Museum	MPRG	An action plan for how this can be achieved
OBJ41.	Establishing what resources exist to			✓	BGS, PCRG, SGRP	MPRG	Consultation with the

Objective		1-2 years	2-4 years	4-5+ years	Consulted	Funding/ in kind	Outcome
	support the study of raw materials; for example, liaising with BGS about the practicalities and scope for geological sampling						relevant bodies
OBJ42.	Developing a pilot study to explore how new technologies and scientific techniques might be applied to ceramics			✓	BGS, PCRG, SGRP	MPRG	Consultation with the relevant bodies, production of a project design

CORRELATION WITH REGIONAL RESEARCH AIMS

During the consultation process research aims were defined for each region. Many of these have the potential to contribute towards the aims laid out in the *Research Agenda and Strategy*; these are correlated in Table 4. Aims 2, 3, 4 and 5 are not included as many of the *Regional Research Aims* could be tailored to meet these during project planning.

RESEARCH AGENDA AIMS

The aims of the *Research Agenda* are:

A1. **Reassessment of *Minimum Standards* and examination of the issues surrounding *sampling and selection strategies* to produce a document which details *best practice* for archaeological interventions and post-excavation procedures**

A2. **Creating a network of expertise by forming partnerships with other organisations and promoting the MPRG as an advisory body**

A3. **Encouraging and supporting new practitioners into ceramic studies**

A4. **Providing training and development opportunities to professional and avocational practitioners**

A5. **Updating and maintaining MPRG and ceramic resources**

A6. **Making key information and resources as widely accessible as possible**

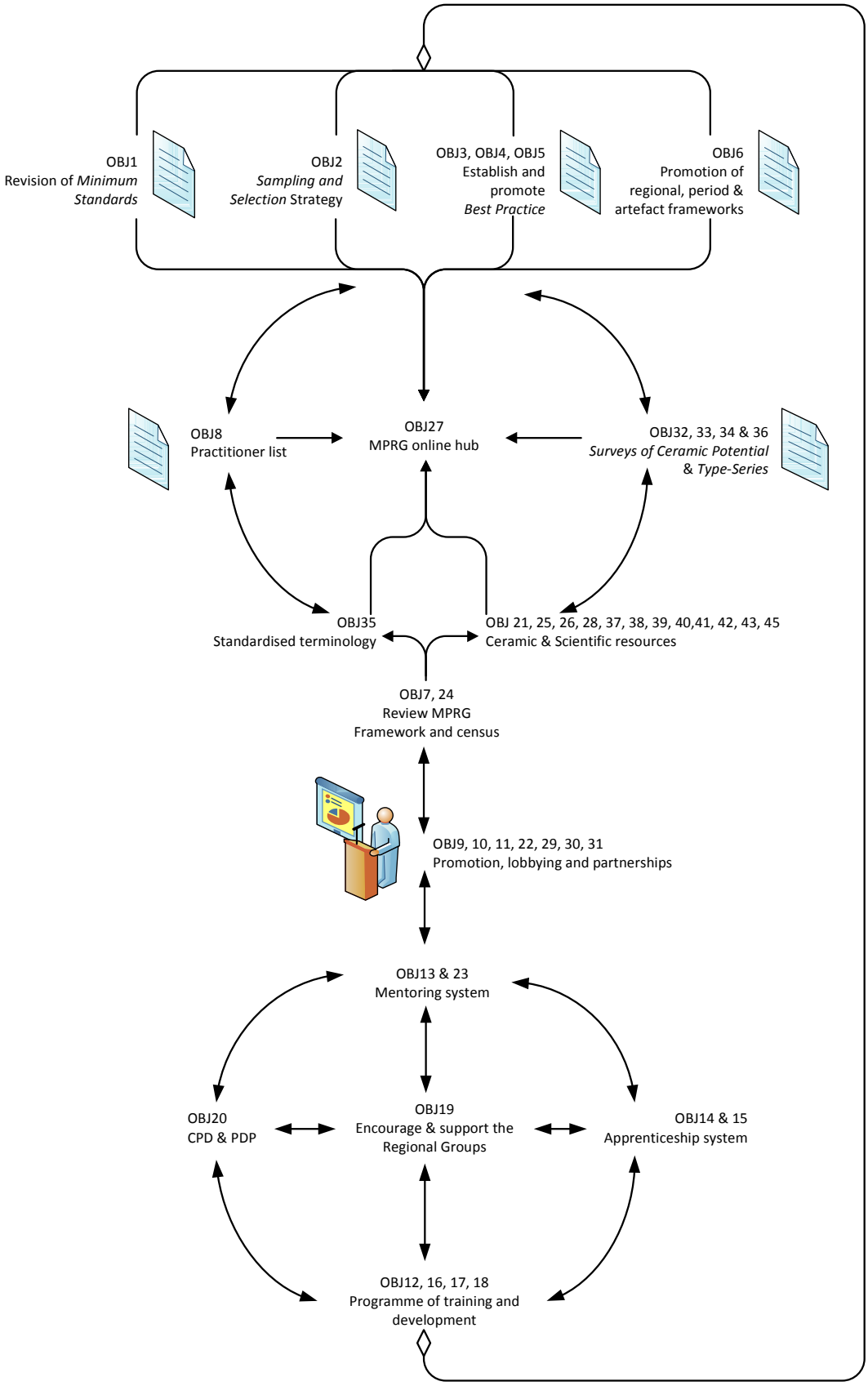
A7. **Promoting and co-ordinating a rolling programme of s*urveys of ceramic potential* and the subsequent creation of *ceramic type series*, which the MPRG committee will oversee in consultation and liaison with the regional groups**

A8. **Increasing the provision for scientific analysis of ceramics.**

Table 4, Correlation of the aims presented in the national and regional Research Agendas

Region	A1 Best Practice	A6 Accessibility	A7 Surveys of ceramic potential and type series	A8 Scientific
Multi-region	MR1, MR3, MR4	MR1, MR2	MR1, MR2, MR3, MR4	MR1, MR2, MR3, MR4
North-East	NW2	NE3, NE11, NE12, NE16	NE2, NE6, NE7	NE1, NE6
North-West	NW18, NW20, NW33	NW10, NW19	NW1, NW3, NW9, NW15, NW24, NW25, NW30, NW31	NW8
Yorkshire	YO6, YO15, YO25	YO5, YO13, YO14, YO16, YO20	YO2, YO4, YO5, YO8, YO10, YO12, YO22	YO17, YO18, YO19
East Midlands	EM2, EM12, EM13, EM16, EM22	EM1, EM2, EM14, EM19	EM4, EM5, EM8, EM11, EM15, EM18, EM23, EM24	
West Midlands	WM3, WM6, WM7, WM31, WM37	WM9, WM10, WM17, WM19, WM22, WM24, WM25, WM27, WM28, WM29, WM31, WM25	WM1, WM4, WM5, WM11, WM14, WM15, WM16, WM20, WM23, WM30, WM33, WM34, WM36	
East Anglia		EA6, EA7, EA8, EA9	EA1, EA2, EA3, EA4, EA5	
South-East Midlands	SEM33, SE29	SEM2, SEM9, SEM20, SEM23, SEM24, SEM30, SEM32	SEM4, SEM5, SEM8, SEM10, SEM13, SEM14, SEM15, SEM17, SEM19, SEM22, SEM27, SEM29	SEM3, SEM12, SEM17, SEM35
South-East	SE17	SE14, SE15, SE16, SE24, SE25, SE27	SE6, SE19, SE20, SE21, SE27	SE3
South-Central	SC11, SC15, SC20, SC30	SC7	SC2, SC3, SC9, SC10, SC11, SC16, SC18, SC21	
South-West	SW4, SW9, SW17	SW1, SW2, SW7, SW8, SW23,SW20, SW25, SW26	SW5, SW6, SW13, SW14, SW15, SW16, SW17, SW18, SW19, SW21, SW24, SW25	SW3; SW5, SW10, SW11, SW18, SW27
Channel Islands			CH1, CH4	
Wales		WA1, WA2, WA8	WA1, WA3, WA4, WA6	WA3
Scotland	SCO8, SCO15	SCO5	SCO1, SCO3, SCO4, SCO7, SCO14	SCO2, SCO9, SCO11

Figure 6, Relationship between each of the objective outcomes



PART FOUR: OUTCOMES

The outcomes of the aims and objectives will be:

O1. **A document detailing *best practice*, containing revised *Minimum Standards* and an assessment of s*ampling and selection strategies***

O2. **An online hub containing ceramic and scientific resources including:**

- Revised and updated MPRG resources
- Lists of standardised terminology
- Information for utilising scientific resources

O3. **A strategy and pilot study for conducting *Ceramic surveys* and compiling t*ype series***

O4. **The creation of a steering group to periodically review the progress towards achieving the aims laid out in this framework**

O5. **Establishing a programme of training and development opportunities**

O6. **Creation of a mentoring system**

O7. **Review of workplace learning and creation of an apprenticeship system**

O8. **A system for *continuing professional development* and *professional development plans***

O9. **Active promotion, lobbying and development of partnerships.**

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APPENDICIES

APPENDIX 1: REGIONAL RESEARCH AGENDA

APPENDIX 2: LIST OF INTERNET RESOURCES

APPENDIX 3: LIST OF CERAMIC TYPE SERIES

APPENDIX 4: ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

APPENDIX 1: REGIONAL RESEARCH AGENDA

Listed below are the research objectives for each region which were identified during the consultation period (via the questionnaire and regional meetings).

This is not an exhaustive list of research objectives, nor is it presented in priority order: it is intended to highlight the research identified as necessary for each region and to inform and guide future efforts. It should be used alongside other frameworks. As with the *Research Framework* above, it will need to be critically reviewed and assessed periodically.

Some regions are under-represented and have few aims listed. This possibly reflects a lack of archaeological work and/or ceramic practitioners in these areas and therefore may actually be areas where ceramic work should be prioritised.

MULTI-REGIONAL STUDIES

The following are research topics which span several or all of the regions; these may benefit from an umbrella approach with different regions feeding into each aim. It is envisaged the multi-regional research aims could be overseen by the MPRG, with the group devising strategies for delivery, obtaining funding and managing projects, at least to a pilot study stage.

Many provide an avenue for engaging a range of people in ceramic studies and potentially provide training for professional and avocational practitioners.

MR1 Medieval and post-medieval tiles

Many regions require further work and synthesis on brick, floor and roof tiles. Some tile manufacturers enjoyed a wide distribution and a number of these have extant documentary evidence which has not been examined. Current research on brick and tile would benefit from amalgamation and regional syntheses could be undertaken. Identification of examples using petrological and chemical analysis is required.

Such studies would be enhanced by consideration of decoration (primarily for floor tiles) and nib/peg typologies for flat roofing tiles. A scheme along the lines of the Felix Oswald Samian project, where rubbings of Samian ware were undertaken by volunteers and added to an online catalogue could be attempted. A digital resource in the form of *Tileweb* currently exists and is a particularly useful resource for the tiles of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire: this may provide a good framework from which to expand.

Research on the use and importation of brick and tile into Britain from the Low Countries would also be beneficial. This should include collaboration with Dutch and Belgian floor tile specialists. Partnerships could be also be forged with the Archaeological Ceramic Buildings Material Group (ACBMG) in the UK.

MR2 Periods of Transition

Periods of transition differ across England, Scotland and Wales, but an approach encompassing the entire UK may help significant trends to emerge. An interdisciplinary approach may prove to be academically rewarding as it could highlight trends across classes of material culture which are placed into artificial categories for the purpose of study. Wider considerations include the mechanisms by which new 'fashions' or styles evolved, socio-economic change and cultural influences.

In particular, the following could be considered:

Romano-British to Post-Roman

Research could attempt to determine the impact of the withdrawal of Rome on ceramic manufacture and usage in the late 4th and early 5th centuries. This could explore whether:

- 'new' styles of pottery appearing in the post-Roman period have earlier precedents
- 'Roman' pottery styles continue into the post-Roman period
- some regions are truly aceramic.

The Norman Conquest

As in the post-Roman period, changes in material culture are evident in the years following the Norman Conquest. Not currently known is how great an impact the Conquest had on ceramic manufacture, style and related technologies. Further issues, such as whether ceramic distribution is reflected in Norman settlement patterns (e.g. in the South-West), could also be examined.

Early/mid medieval to mid/late medieval

Exploring ceramic changes between the 12th/13th and 14th/15th centuries.

Late to post-medieval

A consideration of changes in late to post-medieval manufacture and products could examine:

- mechanisms by which medieval industries continue and adapt in later periods or the reasons for their decline

- whether there is a shift from from urban to rural-based industries
- the location and construction of kilns, potteries and production centres
- Changes and developments in operational and manufacturing techniques

Post-Industrial Revolution

Studies to explore the post-medieval to early modern transition in ceramics could explore

- the introduction of industrial practice
- the continuation of 'post-medieval' industries
- the impact this industry has on the landscape

Partnerships could be formed with the *Study Group for Roman Pottery* and the *Clay Pipe Society* to aid understanding of technologies, typologies and dating.

MR3. Theoretical Frameworks

Ceramic research would benefit from a wider perspective of material culture. Possible topics which were highlighted during consultation include examinations of:

- regional variations in decoration and finishes such as scratch marks and grass wiping, and investigation whether these vary according to form and/or fabric. This could include the iconography of decorative motifs and the application of an art historical approach
- why handbuilt pottery is sometimes favoured over wheel-thrown pottery, and whether this has a cultural, rather than technological explanation
- how different types of vessels were actually utilised and the evidence for how material culture functioned
- whether choices concerning raw material reflect other social relationships and whether the distribution of pottery follows social trends rather than being purely influenced by distribution mechanisms
- investigation into pottery vessels and their size in relation to food and drink, combining environmental, historical and archaeological approaches

MR4 National Reference Collection of Imported Ceramics

Establishing a reference collection of imported ceramics would be an invaluable aid to pottery research. Current recording of imported wares is often based on outdated typologies and inconsistent terminology which does not reflect recent continental research. The creation of a physical collection and an online resource would therefore be of great benefit for standardising recording.

Consultation and partnership working with continental ceramic practitioners would be essential.

ENGLAND

NORTH-EAST REGION

Research aims for the North-East region include:

NE1. Extension of fabric studies which have already been undertaken with further thin-section and chemical analysis, with a focus on targeting archived assemblages. There remains the need for a pilot ICP programme to establish the use of ICP techniques on pottery produced from the mixed glacial tills of the North-East, as its worth has still yet to be proven conclusively except in particular circumstances

NE2. Establishing an accessible set of reference material (relating to published sites) housed in the main regional museums

NE3. Publication of the North-East's Anglo-Saxon (5th to 11th century) pottery, which formed part of Dr Alan Vince's *Northumbrian Anglo-Saxon Project* (NASP)

NE4. Examination of regional and continental imports and exports in the medieval and post-medieval periods, including projects focusing on integration within the border area (historically the region shares links with Yorkshire to the south and strong links with Scotland to the north) and the movement of imports (for example, the occurrence of German Slipwares in Tyneside)

NE5. Examination of post-medieval and early modern assemblages, for which a good body of material is available

NE6. Assessment of Late Reduced Greenwares, which are found throughout the North-East and critical for understanding both towns and rural sites: this is currently recognised as a broad type, but little is known about where it was made and by how many potteries etc. Both fabric and form type series need to be established, along with research to enable interpretation of this type in social and economic terms

Durham and Tees Valley

Research aims for Durham and the Tees Valley include:

NE7. Establishing a chronological type series for Durham and Cleveland as an urgent priority

NE8. Reassessment of Tees Valley wares, which are critical for understanding assemblages from the North-East and North Yorkshire, including work to establish the location of production sites, a chronology for the ware and a comparative study with the aim of distinguishing Tees Valley wares from Scarborough wares

NE9. Need for further work to build on the assessment of the Hartlepool collections as set out by Peter Didsbury in 'Hartlepool: An Archaeology of the Medieval Town' by R. Daniels (2010)

NE10. Examination of a high status collection from the lower Tees Valley, such as that from Kilton Castle (Redcar and Cleveland), to compare with that from Barnard Castle at the western end of the Tees Valley

NE11. Publication of key sites, including:

Cleveland/Tees Valley

Elston

Claxton

Kilton Castle, Skelton, comprising 250 boxes of unrecorded late 12th to 15th century pottery. The assemblage is from Alan Aberg's excavations at the castle and in urgent need of assessment

County Durham

Aldin Grange Kiln, an unpublished medieval whiteware kiln

Swainston

Coxhoe Hall

Dalden Tower, an important late-medieval assemblage, located just to the north of Hartlepool

Durham City

Claypath Millennium Site, a large medieval and post-medieval/early modern assemblage which is currently only assessed

Embleton's Garage, New Elvet

Hallgarth Street

South Street

Northumberland

Research aims for Northumberland include:

NE12. Publication of key sites, including:

Pottergate, Alnwick (2002), 985 sherds of 12th to 15th century pottery

Castle Terrace, Berwick (2006), 315 sherds of 12th to mid 14th century pottery

Eastern Lane, Berwick (1998), 520 sherds of 13th to 15th century pottery

Main Street, Cornhill-on-Tweed (2004), 465 sherds of 12th to 15th century pottery

West Hartford, Cramlington (2003), 1,656 sherds of 12th to 15th century pottery which is currently assessed

Edlingham Castle (1983), 2,479 sherds dating from the 13th to the 16th century; this constitutes an important assemblage from rural central Northumberland.

Station Road, Embleton (2005), 1,691 sherds dating from the 12th to early 14th century

Lindisfarne Priory, *c.* 3,500 sherds (12th to 16th century); a large unrecorded group of material from Ministry of Works interventions during the 1920s

Prudhoe Castle (1974 – 1976), 13,532 sherds (12th to 17th century); a large unpublished assemblage containing a significant quantity of early 13th century material

Spring Park, Bedlington (2005), *c.* 1,000 19th century sherds from apparent clearance deposits relating to steel workers' cottages. Basic recording is complete but the assemblage is unanalysed and is currently in the care of Dr Jane Webster at Newcastle University

Tyne and Wear

Research aims for Tyne and Wear include:

NE13. Undertaking of a synthetic study of pottery found in Newcastle Quayside, and comparison with assemblages from other parts of the town

NE14. Assessment and analysis of the less well stratified medieval material from Newcastle Castle

NE15. Identification, assessment and analysis of post-medieval groups from Tyneside and Wearside

NE16. Publication of key sites, including:

Newcastle

*Blackfriars. R*eview and amendment of the medieval assemblage from Blackfriars (Newcastle-upon-Tyne) before eventual publication

Newcastle Castle early excavations including the unpublished medieval assemblage from the *South Curtain Wall*

Bastion Ditch, Newcastle Castle, 17th century assemblage requires publication

Three Bulls Head, Castle Garth, basic recording has been carried out on this 19th century assemblage from a public house. It is currently on offer to students at Newcastle University through the 'Heritage City' project.

Tanners Bank, Low Lights Pottery waster assemblage

Tuthill Stairs, unpublished medieval assemblage dating from the mid 13th to early 15th century

NORTH-WEST REGION

Research aims for the North-West region include:

NW1. Establishment of fabric type series based on a range of chemical and dating analyses

NW2. Identification of good stratigraphic sequences from excavations and an examination of pottery from them

NW3. Undertaking a regional ceramic survey along the lines of that carried out in the North-East, allowing a coherent picture of the development and supply of medieval pottery in the region to emerge

NW4. Examination of, and in some areas further work on, imports from the continent and elsewhere in the UK for all periods

NW5. Investigation of whether supply zones were governed by natural features in the medieval period (for example, the rivers Mersey and Ribble) resulting in ceramic sub-regions; type series should be created for each sub-region

Cheshire

Research aims for Cheshire include:

NW6. Synthesis of the Nantwich excavations, along with technological studies of all dates and research into production centres

NW7. Investigation of pottery use and supply in East Cheshire, which is poorly understood; work carried out in Middlewich requires publication

NW8. Research and confirmation of the source/s of Chester/Stafford wares in Chester and Cheshire

NW9. Extension of the Chester type series, which is based on 16th to early 18th century pottery from 25 Bridge Street: this could be expanded to cover the 13th to mid 18th centuries, and possibly the 12th century, based on work currently in progress

NW10. Publication of production sites and their associated pottery, including the distribution of these wares

NW11. Study of the supply, use and distribution of pottery in Chester and its hinterland

NW12. Investigation of the lacuna between the late Saxon period and early 13th century

Cumbria

Research aims for Cumbria include:

NW13. Investigation of production at Whitehaven

NW14. Research and publication of production in Carlisle, Kendal and Silverdale: waste medieval and late medieval pottery has been found in these locations, but no kilns excavated except the potential clamp kiln at Fremington, which is early medieval in date

NW15. Establishment of a type series for Cumbria

NW16. Reassessment of pottery in Cumbrian assemblages identified as being from south-west Scotland; this is required to determine cross border exchange/trade in pottery and/or influences

NW17. Examination of the Romano-British transition and exploration of whether Cumbria is aceramic after the Roman period until the 11th century

NW18. Establishment of excavation strategies for Castle sites, and those with the potential for good stratigraphic sequences, with reference to the retrieval of ceramic groups

Greater Manchester

Research aims for Greater Manchester include:

NW19. Collation of existing medieval and post-medieval pottery finds to determine the distribution and identification of medieval and early post-medieval production sites. A type series needs to be created to elucidate pottery use and supply, and whether there was local production

NW20. Establish a methodology to identify kiln sites in the area

NW21. Focusing on rural sites to identify if there is a pre-Norman pottery tradition in the North-West

Isle of Man

Research aims for the Isle of Man include:

NW22. Recovery of substantial ceramic groups from rural sites, especially the quarter-land farms

NW23. Identification of the production sites for Manx granite tempered ware

NW24. Reassessment of the evidence from south-west Scotland and eastern Ireland in order to identify the degree of ceramic contact between these areas and the Isle of Man

NW25. Production of a synthesis of ceramic evidence for the period 1600-1900

NW26. Full post-excavation processing and publication of the ceramic assemblage from excavations at Rushen Abbey 1998 to 2008

NW27. Scientific analysis of the Manx encaustic tile series in relation to that from Dublin and Chester

Lancashire

Research aims for Lancashire include:

NW28. Investigation into whether the pre-Norman period is truly aceramic

NW29. Investigation of changes in the organisation of pottery industries, particularly during the 17th and 18th centuries

NW30. Assessment of assemblages from major pottery production centres to produce a specific local typology, for example Lancaster and Docker Moor

Merseyside

Research aims for Merseyside include:

NW31. Undertaking a full review of medieval and later pottery from Liverpool, Rainford and other sites

NW32. Examination of the export market, particularly transatlantic and African trade

NW33. Focusing of excavation on well-stratified medieval sites in order to recover a sequence of medieval and early post medieval wares for the Wirral and south-west Lancashire

YORKSHIRE REGION

Research aims for Yorkshire include the:

YO1. Investigation of how pottery manufacture is organised between the early 17th and late 18th centuries in South and West Yorkshire

YO2. Undertaking of a survey of post-conquest pottery in Yorkshire

YO3. Examination of the inter-regional trade in sandy wares, especially Humberware, and the circulation of Coal Measures wares

East Yorkshire

Research aims for East Yorkshire include:

YO4. Correlation of the East Yorkshire type series with those of surrounding counties. The type series for East Yorkshire is held by the Humber Archaeology Partnership and is backed by good publications of sites in Hull and Beverley. Future work should include reassessment of some ware types and their chronology. This may be of value in providing a dated ceramic sequence for areas to the north and west and Scarborough

YO5. Publication of an updated type series for Humberware

YO6. Targeted efforts to locate more production sites

YO7. Examination of the Scarborough ware industry, continuing the work of Sarah Jennings

North Yorkshire

Research aims for North Yorkshire include:

YO8. Addition of material from assemblages from York (such as the later deposits from Coppergate) to established type series

YO9. Assessment of ceramics from medieval sites, which are a rich resource in the county

YO10. Compilation of a comprehensive list of sites, their potential and an examination of the research required on ceramics in North Yorkshire and the North-East region. This should include a synthesis of ceramics from Wharram Percy and the surrounding area

YO11. Development of a type series for the county

YO12. Undertaking of a review of the medieval pottery industry of North Yorkshire and the

Tees Valley, including material from production, urban and rural sites

YO13. Publication of the assemblage from High Worsall

YO14. Analysis and publication of the Anglo-Saxon assemblage from Sancton

South Yorkshire

Research aims for South Yorkshire include:

YO15. Creation of horizon dates for South Yorkshire where possible, allowing comparison with other places where these exist (for example, Doncaster and Lincoln)

YO16. Publication and further work on key sites, including:

Doncaster

North Bridge

Conisborough

Conisborough Castle

Sheffield area

Bolsterstone, production site

Midhope/Midhopestones, production site

Sheffield

Sheffield Castle

Sheffield Manor, production site

Inner Ring Road

Upper Allen Street

London Road

Surrey Street

Riverside, all of which may reveal something about site formation processes in the city

YO17. Undertaking of field surveys to locate more Coal Measures ware potteries in the Conisbrough Parks/middle Don Valley area

YO18. Investigation and review of the chronology of pottery manufacture in the Don Valley

YO19. Investigation and review of the chronology of pottery manufacture in Doncaster

West Yorkshire

Research aims for West Yorkshire include:

YO20. Publication of key sites, including:

Halifax, Otley and others held by the Tolson Museum, Huddersfield

Hillam Birchard

Pontefract, urban sites

YO21. Reassessment of the assemblage from Sandal Castle

YO22. Amalgamation of pottery from extant site type series into a single series for West Yorkshire, including material from Pontefract Castle and town, Kirkstall Abbey, Sandal Castle and the DMVs of Hillam Burchard and Colton

YO23. Investigation of known potteries, including the origins of West Yorkshire Gritty ware in light of the recent excavation of the Pontefract Stamford ware kiln

YO24. Investigation of the later medieval (13th to 15th century) gritty wares

YO25. Prospection to identify and locate pottery production sites of early medieval date (late 10th to 12th century)

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

Research aims for East Midlands include:

EM1. Publication of Dr Alan Vince's *East Midlands Anglo Saxon Pottery Project* once further work has been carried out for it to fulfil its potential

EM2. Concordance and rationalisation of pottery codenames used across the East Midlands with those established in surrounding counties/regions

Derbyshire

Research aims for Derbyshire include:

EM3. Continuation of research at the production centre of Ticknall, particularly to confirm if a medieval whiteware was produced there

EM4. Extension of the type series for north Derbyshire to encompass the rest of the county, including regional imports

EM5. Undertaking of a ceramic survey to assess the potential of extant pottery collections, culminating in the creation of a database identifying assemblages which require assessment or further work

EM6. Investigation of a potential medieval kiln at Hartshorne (SK32182177)

EM7. Targeted excavation of the Gresley early modern production site at Church Gresley, Derbyshire

Leicestershire and Rutland

Research aims for Leicestershire and Rutland include:

EM8. Synthesis of sites from these counties and creation of a type series for the area, including regional imports

EM9. Exploration of Stamford 'type' wares which occur in Rutland, to establish whether they are Stamford products

EM10. Examination of early Saxon pottery from this area and the categorisation of broad fabric groups

EM11. Undertaking of a ceramic survey to assess the potential of extant pottery collections, culminating in the creation of a database identifying assemblages which require assessment or further work

EM12. Establishment of horizon dates and the ceramic sequence for Leicester

Lincolnshire

Research aims for Lincolnshire include:

EM13. Construction of horizons for urban centres, such as Grimsby, Louth and Sleaford

EM14. Analysis and publication of production sites, including Boston, Baston, Bourne, Toynton and Kirkstead

EM15. Identification of securely dateable groups from the county and addition of examples to the relevant type series

EM16. Targeted excavation of good ceramic sequences to add to ceramic knowledge in the county

EM17. An examination of medieval roofing tile from Lincoln and the production of a type series

EM18. Reassessment of pottery from Bottesford, North Lincolnshire and the addition of any new types to the North Lincolnshire type series

EM19. Comparison between Late Saxon assemblages from east coast settlements, for example Old Leake and Wrangle

EM20. Publication of key sites, some of which have recently been reassessed including:

Goltho

Bishop's Palace, Lincoln

Stamford Castle, Stamford

Blackfriars, Boston

Ruskington, Anglo-Saxon cemetery

Nottinghamshire

Research aims for Nottinghamshire include:

EM21. Reassessment of assemblages from Newark and area to confirm the presence of Nottingham-type pottery production

EM22. Establishment of horizon dates for Nottingham

EM23. A review of the type series for the city and establishment of one for the county, along with work to establish the relationship between the two and concordance with type series from the East Midlands

EM24. Undertaking a survey of collections

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

Research aims for the West Midlands include:

WM1. Creation of a single form type series for general reference, in order to raise the compatibility and structuring of data to a higher level and facilitate referencing

WM2. Synthesis of diverse and disparate information for the county

WM3. Targeting fieldwork projects to further investigate local ceramic industries and aid their characterisation

WM4. Undertaking of a survey of collections and a concordance of pottery ware types across the region

WM5. Creation of a corpus for floor tiles, drawing together scattered sources via a survey

WM6. Excavation of rural sites as currently a lot of investigation is concentrated in a small number of (mainly urban) locations, resulting in big geographical gaps

WM7. Prospection to locate production sites

WM8. Synthesis of Saxon pottery in the West Midlands, taking the work on Catholme (Staffordshire) as a starting point: this should include unpublished museum collections and a reassessment of older published sites

WM9. Assessment and publication of material collected via field walking

Herefordshire

Research aims for Herefordshire include:

WM10. Publication of the Much Marcle excavation

WM11. Construction of a specialist fabric-type reference series for the county, as this is fundamental to progressing ceramic study in this area

WM12. Investigation of the Deerfold and Lingen (Deerfold Farm and Ridges Wood, Birtley) potteries

WM13. Infilling gaps in the north of the county, concentrating on small towns such as Ledbury, Ross-on-Wye, Leominster and rural assemblages

Shropshire

Research aims for Shropshire include:

WM14. Developing a fabric type series which is county-wide and cross-references collections from excavated sites (e.g. Shrewsbury Abbey and Haughmond Abbey)

WM15. Studying ceramic traditions in the county between the 5th and 13th centuries

WM16. Investigation of the apparent dearth of early Anglo Saxon material in Shropshire

WM17. Synthesis on work carried out in the county and publication of sites where needed

Staffordshire

Research aims for Staffordshire include:

WM18. Investigation of the current state of knowledge in Stoke on Trent and the impact of new discoveries, for example the Tipping Lane Saxon kiln site

WM19. Analysis and publication of post-medieval material from Stafford town, which includes some extremely good groups

Warwickshire

Research aims for Warwickshire include:

WM20. Conducting an overhaul of the type series for Warwickshire

WM21. Reassessment of, and further work on, the Chilvers Coton production site; the Nuneaton industry is large but its extent is not known

WM22. Publication of Market Street, Warwick

West Midlands County

Research aims for West Midlands County include:

WM23. An overhaul of ceramics in the West Midlands county and the creation of an easily accessible type series for the county

WM24. Publication of Dudley Castle (formerly in Staffordshire), which contains a large outstanding assemblage of great potential

WM25. Raising awareness of the importance of Wednesbury (formerly in Staffordshire), particularly as a major production site in the 17th century: assessment and publication of products

WM26. Collation and analysis of information from sites in Digbeth (formerly Warwickshire) referring to Deritend ware

WM27. Further work in Coventry (formerly in Warwickshire) to publish old sites, such as Hay Lane, Bailey Lane and Broadgate

WM28. Collation and publication of the Shelton Collection at Coventry (formerly in Warwickshire), assemblage of complete pottery vessels spanning *c.* 1150-1750

WM29. Working with relevant bodies to improve accessibility to information on assemblages from this region and increasing the amount of material which is published

Worcestershire

Research aims for Worcestershire include:

WM30. Enhancement of the Worcestershire fabric website with the addition of post-medieval wares and creation of a form type series, along with further synthetic work

WM31. Concordance of the Worcestershire fabric type series with surrounding counties

WM32. Study of documentary evidence relating to the production of ceramic building material within the county

WM33. Continuation of work on the ceramic building material fabric type series; the basic work is in place but following recent discoveries of kilns this can now be expanded

WM34. Synthesis of work on the fabrics and designs of floor tiles, pulling together all previous work and producing an easily accessible resource

WM35. Publication of the assemblage from Bordesley Abbey gatehouse

WM36. Exploration of the medieval pottery of South-East Worcestershire, which has been

relatively little studied, and its links with Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire

WM37. Targeting of rural sites for excavation, which are hugely under-represented in the available site collections, especially in the case of moated sites, despite being a type-site for the region

WM38. Construction of distribution plots of medieval wares across the county

EAST ANGLIA REGION

Research aims for East Anglia include:

EA1. Compilation of a corpus of early Saxon pottery in East Anglia, including a comparison of fabrics in use in different areas and Lackford where fabrics now recorded

EA2. Undertaking a study of the late medieval and transitional industry in East Anglia and publication of late medieval and transitional production sites

EA3. Synthesis of the evidence for medieval floor tiles and production of a catalogue

EA4. Comparison of east coast wares in Norfolk and Suffolk, including fabric analysis, to aid their identification

Norfolk

Research aims for Norfolk include:

EA5. Revision of the Norwich corpus based on recent work with additions from the rest of Norfolk, including broader Norfolk wares and revision of the fabric series

EA6. Locating and publishing the material from the Local Medieval Unglazed production sites

Suffolk

Research aims for Suffolk include:

EA7. Publication of the Hollesley and (medieval) Ipswich kilns

EA8. Compilation of a corpus of post-Roman pottery in Suffolk, as most reports for the area are unpublished

EA9. Publication of the main Suffolk medieval kilns

SOUTH-EAST MIDLANDS REGION

Bedfordshire

Research aims for Bedfordshire include:

SEM1. Analysis of late medieval Oxidised ware to mirror the Reduced ware synthesis

SEM2. Publication of important assemblages such as Elstow, Dunstable, Warden and Newnham monastic sites

SEM3. Radiocarbon dating of well-preserved residues from Bedfordshire

SEM4. Assessment of Harrold and consideration of shelly wares in a wider context, as these impact on Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire

SEM5. Assessment of floor tile assemblages from Elstow, Warden, Dunstable and Newnham Abbeys, including work on the fabrics and designs of floor tiles from the region, pulling together all previous work, published and unpublished, to produce an easily accessible resource. This research should link to the East Anglian floor tile series

SEM6. Assessment of pottery industries (bar Late Medieval Greyware), especially in the east of the county

SEM7. Characterisation and examination of late-medieval pottery in relation to known production centres, their distribution and use on consumption sites

SEM8. Characterisation and examination of the chronology, technology, sources, function etc of shelly wares, as one of the most important medieval pottery types in the region, spanning middle Saxon to high/late medieval period. Comparison with Roman pottery with the same fabric made at the same site

SEM9. Analysis of important backlog sites which are unfunded. These include major monastic sites with large, widely dated assemblages, including floor tiles

SEM10. Re-examination/synthesis of pottery from major towns in the region (e.g. Bedford), allowing recent and future fieldwork to be put in context. This will enable hypotheses about the origins, developments and demise of the town to be developed

SEM11. Comparison of assemblages from different types of site, e.g. monastic, urban, rural etc

SEM12. Reassessment of the function of Anglo-Saxon pottery, including residue analysis

SEM13. Updating of the fabric and form type series, providing a basis for region-wide research

SEM14. Updating the research on Brill/Boarstall ware, which is a major ware in the region with known production sites. This work could build on that of Mellor and examine the distribution of Brill/Boarstall ware beyond its immediate boundaries

SEM15. Exploring the dating, development and distribution of various types of early medieval pottery, including the middle Saxon/Saxo-Norman shelly ware transition and its relationship with early medieval sandy ware

SEM16. Characterisation and examination of Saxon ceramics (early, middle and late), taking into consideration discoveries of the past 20 years

SEM17. Assess the viability of establishing a reference collection of clays from the county/region as a source for future research

Buckinghamshire

Research aims for Buckinghamshire include:

SEM17. Establishment of a ceramic type series for Buckinghamshire

SEM18. Assessment of the pottery from the recent Hambleden excavations

SEM19. Expansion of the fabric and form analysis carried out on the Tyler's Green and Penn Tilery

SEM20. Synthesis and publication of the Brill production site, particularly the 18th century kiln waste

Cambridgeshire

Research aims for Cambridgeshire include:

SEM21. Further analysis of the Colne production site and its links to Bourne in Lincolnshire and Glapthorn in Northamptonshire

SEM22. Creation of a typology of early medieval handmade wares in the county and their relationship to similar wares produced in Lincolnshire and Norfolk

SEM23. Analysis and publication of the Anglo-Saxon assemblage from Girton St Johns, Great Wilbraham and Little Wilbraham

Hertfordshire

Research aims for Hertfordshire include:

SEM24. Publication of St Albans Chapter House and 1982 excavations of the Cloister, which are mainly pre-Conquest assemblages

SEM25. Revisiting the Manor of More assemblage which represents the first deeply stratified site in North-West London

SEM26. Progressing backlog sites, such as the important Hunsdon site which is a hunting estate of Henry VIII

Huntingdonshire

Research aims for Huntingdonshire include:

SEM27. Assessment of St Neot's ware and consideration of this type as part of the shelly ware tradition which also occurs in Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire

SEM28. Synthesis of several large sites excavated around the castle and medieval town

Northamptonshire

Research aims for Northamptonshire include:

SEM29. Extension of the Northamptonshire types-series to include forms

SEM30. Analysis and publication of the products and production sites of Potterspury, building on the work of Mynard. This should include an examination of their distribution and consumption within and beyond their immediate boundaries

SEM31. Synthesis of the Stanion/Lyveden production sites in light of recent discoveries

Oxfordshire

Research aims for Oxfordshire include:

SEM32. Synthesis and publication of pottery from small towns (for example, Wallingford and Henley) and rural excavations in the Oxford region

SEM33. Submission of grey literature to OASIS for the Oxford region

SEM34. Analysis of Ashampstead and Camley Gardens Kiln products, and comparison with sandy wares in the region

SEM35. Scientific characterisation studies (e.g. ICPS) to narrow down the sources of unprovenanced wares in this region which has few known kiln sites

SOUTH-EAST REGION

Research aims for the South-East include:

SE1. Researching the provenance of certain types of early medieval and medieval pottery

SE2. Synthesis of pottery from Kent, Surrey and Sussex with Streeten's 1984 thesis providing a solid foundation for this work

SE3. Continuation of investigations into ceramic technology: progress has been made at Noak Hill (Essex) and during Pearce's Border wares project

SE4. Further work on bricks and ceramic building material. This has been achieved for Essex (Ryan 1996) but further work is required on assemblages from Kent and London, e.g. Hampton court

SE5. Analysis of important backlog sites which are unfunded, including major monastic sites e.g. Long Market Canterbury, Barking Abbey and town

SE6. Establishing a reference collections of clays from the county/region as a source for future analysis

SE7. Cataloguing medieval tile and brick production in South-East England

East Sussex

Research aims for East Sussex include:

SE8. Relating consumer and production sites to one another to better understand distribution mechanisms

SE9. Synthesis of pottery from Sussex (updating Barton's 1979 *Medieval Sussex Pottery*)

Essex

Research aims for Essex include:

SE10. Synthesis of pottery in Essex, looking at thematic issues such as supply, distribution and differences by site type

SE11. Synthesis of pottery from Chelmsford using data from assemblages that have been written up but not published

SE12. Revisiting important Essex assemblages (such as Pleshey Castle and Rayleigh Castle) which were recorded before current methodologies were introduced

SE13. Examination of pottery from moated sites in Essex

SE14. Publication of the Mill Green and Hedingham ware industries: the Hedingham publication is ongoing and Mill Green production sites at Mill Green and Noak Hill have been published but others have since been excavated. An assessment of these would reveal how much new information they have the potential to provide

SE15. Publication of the production site at Loughton

SE16. Publication of a typology of Harlow ware vessel forms etc

SE17. Investigation into the dearth of late 14th/15th century pottery in the area. This may be linked to a lack of pottery due to population decrease after a series of poor harvests and the Black Death. A survey of sites with pottery of this date may tell us which areas best survived the downturn

Greater London

Research aims for Greater London include:

SE18. Identification of production centres in Woolwich (London) and synthesis of Woolwich pottery between the 13th and 18th centuries

SE19. Creation of an overview and correlation of London ceramics, identifying gaps in knowledge such as North-East London

SE20. Examination of the continuity between the Roman and Saxon periods

Kent

Research aims for Kent include:

SE21. Examination of the Romano-Saxon transition in Kent

SE22. Undertaking a study of Tyler Hill ware, based on the detailed list of Tyler Hill/Hackington/Blean Forest pottery and tile production sites which now exists

SE23. Adding the known production sites for the area to Gerrard and Marter's (2003) kiln database

SE24. Publication of remaining documentary research on kilns

SE25. Publication of a comprehensive corpus of local Kent wares (like the London corpora)

SE26. Completion of the work on Canterbury's extra-mural sites including:

St Augustine's Abbey

Christchurch College

Diocesan House (1980s/90s excavations)

St Radigund's Street (1970s)

Longmarket site

St George's Clocktower

SE27. Publication of form and fabric type series by Canterbury Archaeological Trust

Surrey

Research aims for Surrey include:

SE28. Identification of production centres in Ewell

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Berkshire

Research aims for Berkshire include:

SC1. Integration of the Camley Gardens kilns, which was previously the subject of a post-graduate thesis, with pottery from Windsor and Old Windsor

Dorset

Research aims for Dorset include:

SC2. Development of a dated type series of Verwood pottery and post-medieval redwares, based on excavated production and occupation sites

SC3. Creation of a dated type series, using Poole as a starting point

SC4. Synthesis and further research on medieval wares, for example Dorset whitewares and tripod pitchers

Hampshire

Research aims for Hampshire include:

SC5. Research on the production sites of Horton and the Verwood-type industry at Wellow

SC6. Synthesis and research on post-medieval pottery

SC7. Publication of pottery from regions within Hampshire, e.g. Test and Itchen Valleys, East Hampshire

SC8. Publication of assemblages from outside Southampton (including Winchester). Work has already demonstrated the presence of several ceramic 'zones' within the county, which need to be better understood

SC9. Correlation of the type series held by Wessex Archaeology, Hampshire County Council, Winchester Research Committee, Southampton City Council, Winchester City Council and site specific type series

SC10. Conducting a study of post-medieval (post 1500) pottery from Southampton and the study of comparative assemblages from Romsey, Andover, Winchester, Portsmouth and elsewhere

SC11. Correlation of regional type series, e.g. those from Wessex, Southampton, Hampshire, Windsor

SC12. Research into Anglo-Saxon Glazed ware, including a consideration of imported types

SC13. Research into Anglo-Saxon pottery (principally organic tempered wares) in the Andover area, particularly Charlton

SC14. Analysis of pottery forms from excavations in *Hamwic*

West Sussex

Research aims for West Sussex include:

SC15. Revised analysis of post-Saxon pottery from Chichester, including correlation to the West Sussex type series

SC16. Definition of types produced at Graffam and other kilns

Isle of Wight

Research aims for the Isle of Wight include:

SC17. Definition of the products of known production sites, such as Knighton

SC18. Establishing a unified pottery type series for the Isle of Wight, cross-referenced to mainland products

SC19. Examine the distribution patterns of pottery types produced on the Isle of Wight

SC20. Produce a statement listing research aims for the Isle of Wight which reviews the types of assemblage previously recovered, identifies sites of potential and provides a strategy for future studies

Wiltshire

Research aims for Wiltshire include:

SC21. Correlation of type series across the West Country (Wiltshire, Dorset and Somerset), linked to characterisation studies to try to identify production centres/areas

SC22. Synthetic work on Saxon ceramics (particularly those of the middle/late period) as these are not well understood and it is likely some remain unrecognised in museum collections

SC23. Further research into the pottery of the heathland in and around Verwood

SC24. Undertaking a regional synthesis including identification of production centres, some of which are only known from documentary sources

SC25. Publication of post medieval kiln assemblages

SC26. A study of Saxo-Norman traditions in the county

SOUTH-WEST REGION

Research aims for the South-West include:

SW1. Bringing to publication the key unpublished sequences and fabric series from consumption sites. The most important are urban; Bristol is probably the most pressing case, but there are now major unpublished sequences and groups from Gloucester, Plymouth, Barnstaple and Bridgwater which are unlikely to be published without external intervention

SW2. Analysis and publishing the most important unpublished kiln collections: Ham Green Bristol, Wanstrow, St Germans, Barnstaple, Hemyock and Lostwithiel

SW3. Pursuing the programme of ICP analysis of South-West fabrics currently being developed by Mike Hughes and exploring new techniques of characterisation

SW4. Initiating/supporting surveys which attempt to look at wider issues using the mass of data generated by commercial archaeology, e.g. patterns of consumption and vessel use

SW5. Developing a series of accurately described regional type series, supported by thin-section collections and perhaps related to ICP data. This could be based on the principal museum collections currently holding type series in Truro, Bristol, Exeter and Taunton

SW6. Offering regional or wider reviews of the imported wares, which form a particularly striking and important component of South-West collections, especially those which have not so far been subject to regional survey, for example the French post-medieval wares and most of the North European imports

SW7. Supporting efforts to bring to publication the ongoing census volumes for the floor-tiles of Gloucestershire, Devon and Cornwall

Avon

Research aims for Avon include:

SW8. Publication of Westbury College, Bristol which has a pottery sequence from *c.* 900-1645 and is dated by documents and buildings: this work would augment knowledge of the City of Bristol material

SW9. Further fieldwork on the Ham Green kilns as they are probably spread over a large area. Only one kiln is currently known

SW10. Acquisition of dendrochronology dates from Bristol sites could provide absolute dates for some waterlogged deposits and pottery therein

SW11. Scientific input to the Bristol sequence to identify clay and aggregate sources

SW12. Characterising the relationship of the Bath sequence to its rural hinterland

SW13. Study and comparison of pottery sequences from small towns such as Thornbury and Keynsham with known assemblages

Cornwall

Research aims for Cornwall include:

SW14. Analysis of the ceramic chronology in Cornwall between the 4th and 11th centuries, as this is the only ceramic sequence in the South-West of England for this period

SW15. Investigation of the 10th to 12th century Sandy Lane wares and the 12th to 14th century Bunning Park Stuffle wares, which were a precursor to more traditional national pottery forms using different methods of production. This could allow the dating and social context of early settlements in Cornwall

SW16. Review of assemblages for 10th to 14th century towns and villages in Cornwall as this would significantly contribute to understanding the process of occupation and planted market squares

SW17. Correlation of type series in the area

Devon

Research aims for Devon include:

SW18. Study of the Barnstaple potteries collection by selection of key groups, combining an examination of the pottery with an examination of the kiln technology and a programme of petrological and chemical analyses to see whether the different North Devon kiln centres are distinguishable. The international significance of the Barnstaple potteries (especially in Wales, Ireland, Canada, the USA and West Indies) has been recognised since the 1970s, and since that time the case for publication of its large collections has featured prominently

SW19. An examination of pottery from Plymouth. Several excellent sequences have been excavated since the late 1980s but only two have been published. Some of this material is certainly of international significance; the outstanding richness of the port in imported ceramics – the post-medieval equivalent of medieval Southampton – is not widely appreciated

SW20. Detailed publication of the large quantities of recently excavated kiln waste from Plympton (17th century) and Clayhydon (*c.* 1500); no funding is in place at present for this to happen. The wider significance of these sites is underlined by the recent recovery of possible examples of pottery from each centre at James Fort and Jamestown, Virginia

SW21. Revision of the Exeter sequence, which was first published in 1984, remains fundamental to the dating and identification of medieval and later wares over much of Devon and beyond; again, this sequence is used elsewhere, e.g. in North America. Thirty years of excavation has been conducted since it was published. It would now be extremely valuable to revise it in the light of new finds

SW22. Synthesis to produce a general picture from the numerous archival listings of dozens of commercially excavated sites dug since 1990. Whilst some of these will be more reliable than others, they certainly represent a huge body of undigested data which has the potential to offer much fuller patterns of marketing and consumption than we have at present

Gloucestershire

Research aims for Gloucestershire include:

SW23. Processing of the Gloucester material for publication: several sites are stuck with no prospect of immediate attention. This would supplement and broaden the existing type series

SW24. Conducting work on all Gloucestershire pottery as it is a county with a variety of locally made products including Cotswold wares, Falfield ware, Newent, Stroat, Winchcombe which have so far only been studied superficially and need correlation into major urban or county sequences

Somerset

Research aims for Somerset include:

SW25. Correlation of the Cheddar series with the fabrics from Bath, Bristol and other Somerset urban centres

SW26. Analysis and publication of pottery from Somerset production sites to augment understanding of patterns of consumption in towns and rural areas

SW27. Scientific analysis could usefully be applied to the strong local sequences in Bridgwater, Glastonbury, Ilchester, Taunton and Wells

Isles of Scilly

Research aims for the Isles of Scilly include:

SW28. Comparison of assemblages with those from Cornwall, including the impact of imported wares and the possibility of production on the island

CHANNEL ISLANDS

Research aims for the Channel Islands include:

CH1. Establishing a local type series for each island as appropriate, which are complementary in structure and terminology, allowing an overall type series for the Channel Islands to be formulated

CH2. Developing a consistent terminology across all the Channel Islands and a reference collection for imported wares, from both the British Isles and mainland Europe

CH3. Full analysis and publication of major assemblages

CH4. Identification and prioritisation of research questions related to the acquisition, distribution and use of ceramics in and between the Channel Islands

WALES

Research aims for Wales include:

WA1. The development of the National Reference Collection, held at the National Museum of Wales. This is an ongoing project, but one which is considered a high priority. As well as this central archive, a number of subsidiary reference collections available throughout the country should be established, in association with local museums or other bodies such as trusts

WA2. Creation of a web resource containing information on kiln sites, as well as including the reference collection to support any physical collections. Due to Wales' geography, this would be a valuable way to provide wider access to information

WA3. An updated survey of the known medieval and post-medieval production sites in Wales, and accompanying petrological analysis which would support the work on the National Reference collection.

WA4. Further analysis and publication of a number of sites in Wales, and in particular urban sites. The assessment of the material from Swansea, as well as ceramic material from Carmarthen, reported on in the grey literature, should be made more widely available. Publication of this material would develop understanding of ceramics from urban sites in South Wales.

WA5. Publication of ceramics from Monmouth, based on 50 years of archaeological work: full publication of assemblages or a series of papers covering a number of key themes is considered vital

WA6. Comparison of material from sites in Wales to material from English ceramic industries, such as Chester. Further work on the ceramic assemblage from Chester would provide a vital resource for those working with material from sites in North Wales.

WA7. Publication of North Welsh ceramic material, particularly of developer funded excavations which identified a number of kilns in the Buckley area. Synthesis of the material from these kilns would enable a clearer understanding of the ceramics from these production sites

WA8. Forging greater links with community groups and developing opportunities for the profession and voluntary groups to exchange information

SCOTLAND

Research aims for Scotland include:

SCO1. Undertaking a survey of all the imported medieval and post-medieval pottery in Scotland

SCO2. Continuation of the ICPMS project

SCO3. Refining the Redware project to include regional variations

SCO4. Development of a form series for regions and nationally for Redwares

SCO5. Publication of Leith sites, the Edinburgh Council backlog and imported medieval wares

SCO6. Synthesise current knowledge of Scottish medieval ceramics

SCO7. Establishing a chronology of 2nd millennium ceramics in the Western Isles, West coast and Northern Isles

SCO8. Locating and excavating production centres

SCO9. Carrying out glaze analysis and lead sourcing

SCO10. Establishing a chronological framework for Scottish fabrics, using scientific dating where possible

SCO11. Carrying out a programme of residue analysis

SCO12. Conducting research into later brick and tile works

SCO13. Examining the origin of Scottish ceramic production

SCO14. Carrying out an audit of Scottish museum ceramic collections

SCO15. Formulating a strategy for the curation and retention of ceramics

APPENDIX 2: LIST OF INTERNET RESOURCES

All web addresses are delimitated by square brackets.

GENERAL

Archaeological Data Service (ADS)

[ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/specColl/index.cfm]

[ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/index.cfm]

Special collections and published resources available for download.

The British Brick Society

[www.britishbricksoc.free-online.co.uk/index.htm]

The Society, founded in 1972, promotes the study and recording of all aspects of the archaeology and history of bricks, brick-making and brickwork.

Ceramic Building Materials Bibliography

[www.tegula.freeserve.co.uk/bib.htm]

Provides general references for ceramic building material with an emphasis on material from Yorkshire.

Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG)

[www.medievalpottery.org.uk]

MPRG was founded in 1975 to bring together people with an interest in the pottery vessels that were made, traded, and used in Europe between the end of the Roman period and the 16th century. Its remit has subsequently expanded to include the pottery of the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries from both sides of the Atlantic and beyond, as well as post-Roman ceramic building materials.

The Medieval Pottery Research Group has a broad and diverse membership. The membership includes professional and non-professional archaeologists actively engaged in the study of ceramics as well as those with a general interest in ceramics or who are involved with local archaeology/history societies. Institutional members include universities, commercial archaeological field units and local, regional and national museums. The Group has strong overseas representation among its membership, in particular from the European Union and North America.

Museum of London

[www.museumoflondon.org.uk]

The London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) Online Catalogue holds summary information on over 7,500 sites or projects that have taken place in Greater London over the past 100 years, and the archives for more than 3,000 of these sites/projects. The online database includes catalogue records of items of all dates within the museum's substantial ceramic and glass collection.

Portable Antiquities Scheme

[www.finds.org.uk]

The British Museum's Portable Antiquities database currently contains records of around 5,500 pieces of pottery from across England and Wales.

PotWeb

[www.ashmolean.org/PotWeb/HomePage.html]

Potweb is the online catalogue for the Ashmolean Museum's ceramic collection.

TileWeb

[tileweb.ashmolean.museum]

Tileweb is an online archive of the paving tiles held by the Parker-Hore Collection (Worcester) and the Ashmolean Museum (Oxford).

ANGLO-SAXON

The Sutton Hoo Society

[www.suttonhoo.org/directory.asp]

This website contains a comprehensive list of online resources dealing with Anglo-Saxon material culture.

MEDIEVAL

Campots

[www.campots.co.uk]

An online guide to the methods and techniques used to produce English pottery vessels during the 13th and 14th centuries.

Colchester Post-Roman ceramics

[cat.essex.ac.uk/summaries/CAR-0007.html]

A downloadable PDF version of Cotter, J. P., 2000, Post-Roman pottery from excavations in Colchester, 1971-85, Colchester *Archaeological Report* 7, including the sequence of early Saxon to modern wares, imports, stratigraphic information and discussion of fabrics, forms and the development of pottery industries.

South Yorkshire/North Derbyshire Medieval Ceramics Reference Collection

[ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/specColl/ceramics_eh_2003/index.cfm?CFID=4695898&CFTOKEN=41238824]

The South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire regional medieval ceramics reference collection is one of the results of the review of medieval pottery studies in England undertaken by Maureen Mellor on behalf of the Medieval Pottery Research Group and English Heritage in the early 1990s (Mellor 1994).

The on-line database consists of descriptive information, including photographs covering medieval and post-medieval pottery from the county of South Yorkshire and the northern part of Derbyshire from a line drawn approximately between Stone, Uttoxeter and Derby, northward.

POST-MEDIEVAL

Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland

[www.jefpat.org/diagnostic/Index.htm]

An introduction to some of the most significant types of artefacts recovered from archaeological sites in Maryland.

English Registry Marks

[virtual.parkland.edu/lstelle1/len/center_for_social_research/english_registry_marks/ARCH%20GUIDE_ENGLISH%20REGISTRY%20MARKS.html]

A useful guide to the registry marks and numbers found on British made ceramics produced after 1842.

Florida Museum of Natural History

[www.flmnh.ufl.edu/histarch/gallery_types/ceramics_intro.asp]

A ceramic type series and associated database produced by The Florida Museum of Natural History historical archaeology programme, which has active research projects ongoing in St. Augustine, Florida since 1973, and in Hispaniola since 1979. The sites and their collections have provided a continuum of Spanish colonial settlement in the circum-Caribbean region, spanning the period between the arrival of Columbus in 1492 and the end of Spanish dominion in 1821.

Jamestown Ceramics Research Group

[www.preservationvirginia.org/rediscovery/page.php?page_id=284]

The Jamestown Ceramics Research Group was formed to identify and define all the ceramic ware types that appear on pre-1650 Jamestown and vicinity sites.

Northern Ceramics Society

[www.northernceramicsociety.org/Home.htm]

The Northern Ceramic Society was founded in 1972 by a small group of enthusiastic collectors. From small beginnings, the Society has grown substantially and now has nearly a thousand members in the UK and overseas. The society is one of the leading lights in the study of British ceramics.

Scottish Pottery Society

[www.scottishpotterysociety.co.uk]

Website of the Scottish Pottery Society (SPS). The SPS was formed in 1972 to encourage research into the history and products of the Scottish pottery industry. The industry lasted for about two hundred years from 1748.

Spanish Pottery

[www.dur.ac.uk/spanish.pottery]

A guide to the recognition of Seville wares found in the UK (a work in progress at this stage).

Upper Sangamon Basin, Central Illinois

[virtual.parkland.edu/lstelle1/len/archguide/documents/arcguide.htm]

An archaeological guide to historic artefacts of the Upper Sangamon Basin, central Illinois, including detailed descriptions of post-medieval pottery types imported from Britain.

MULTI-PERIOD

Worcestershire On-line Ceramic Database

[www.worcestershireceramics.org]

Database making the complete pottery fabric and form type series for Worcestershire accessible on-line, which currently contains information on all the pottery fabrics used and made in Worcestershire from the Neolithic (*c.*

4000 BC) to the early post-medieval period (*c.* AD 1650).

DEVELOPER REPORTS

Many developer funded investigations are now online and available through the OASIS scheme run by the Archaeological Data Service (for England and Scotland) and through the individual sites of contracting units.

Archaeological Data Service (ADS)

[ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit/]

[ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/search/basic.cfm]

Archaeology South East

[archaeologyse.co.uk/04-Projects/ReportPDFs.asp]

Colchester Archaeological Trust

[cat.essex.ac.uk]

Thames Valley Archaeological Services

[www.tvas.co.uk/reports/reports.asp]

Wessex Archaeology

[www.wessexarch.co.uk/reports]

[www.scribd.com/wessexarchaeology]

Field Section of the Worcestershire Historic Environment Archaeology Service

[www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/environment-and-planning/archaeology/information-and-advice/historic-environment-record/online-archaeology-library.aspx]

Site includes reports by other contractors working in Worcestershire.

OpenSIGLE – System for Information on Grey Literature in Europe

[http://opensigle.inist.fr/]

Open access to SIGLE bibliographical references of reports and other grey literature (GL) produced in Europe until 2005. Examples of GL include technical or research reports, doctoral dissertations, some conference papers, some official publications, and other types of grey literature.

OpenSIGLE covers pure and applied science and technology, economics, other sciences and humanities

ONLINE JOURNALS

ArchLib

[archlib.britarch.net/cgi-bin/open.cgi?page=home/index2]

ArchLib provides online access to a broad range of archaeological publications. You can search down to the level of individual words within just one journal or publisher, or search throughout the whole library at once. Once you have found what you are looking for, you can view, purchase and download your article or book chapter to keep.

Assemblage

[assemblage.group.shef.ac.uk/journal]

Assemblage is Sheffield University's post-graduate journal which contains various articles on ceramics.

Society for Medieval Archaeology

Council for British Archaeology

[www.britarch.ac.uk/info/mags.html]

Listing of various online journals and magazines concerned with archaeology.

Internet Archaeology

[http://intarch.ac.uk/]

Internet Archaeology is the first fully refereed e-journal for archaeology and publishes articles of a high academic standing which utilise the potential of electronic publication. Internet Archaeology is hosted by the Department of Archaeology at the University of York and published by the Council for British Archaeology.

Medieval Archaeology

[http://www.medievalarchaeology.org/]

The first 50 volumes of the Society for Medieval Archaeology's journal are available through ADS.

Post-Medieval Archaeology

[www.spma.org.uk/journal.php]

Contents lists for the journal of the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology are available on the SPMA website.

APPENDIX 3: LIST OF CERAMIC TYPE SERIES

This list was originally compiled and published in 2001 (Slowikowski, Nenk *et al*.) and was updated in 2010 by Ben Jervis. The following numerical abbreviations are used to indicate the period(s) covered by each type series and whether it contains examples of fabrics and/or forms.

KEY:

PERIOD		TYPE	
Prehistoric	P1	Fabric	CTS 1
Roman	P2	Forms	CTS 2
Anglo-Saxon	P3		
Medieval	P4		
Post-medieval	P5		
Uncertain	P?		

Table 5, Summary list of regional ceramic type series and the periods they cover

Ceramic type series	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P?
Aberdeen City				*	*	
Bedfordshire and North Buckinghamshire, including Milton Keynes	*	*	*	*	*	
Berkshire, Wiltshire, Dorset and some surrounding counties	*	*	*	*	*	
Bristol and Greater Bristol area			*	*	*	
Cambridgeshire			*	*		
Carlisle and North Cumbria				*	*	
Chester and North-West region		*	*	*	*	
Cleveland				*	*	
Cumbria (West)				*	*	
Devon						*
Devon (North)	*	*	*	*	*	
Dunstable (Bedfordshire)			*			
Durham and County Durham				*		
Essex			*	*	*	
Glastonbury	*	*	*	*	*	
Gloucester	*	*	*	*	*	
Greater London and sources of supply		*	*	*	*	
Guernsey	*			*	*	
Hampshire (Test Valley)		*	*	*	*	
Hereford				*	*	
Hertfordshire (St Albans and Greyware kilns)				*		
Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire				*		
Islamic world						*
Isle of Man (Manx Collection including North-West)				*	*	
Kent	*	*	*	*	*	
Leicestershire	*	*	*	*	*	
Lincoln City			*	*		
Lincolnshire			*	*	*	
Lincolnshire (South Kesteven)	*	*	*	*	*	
Monmouth and North Gwent				*	*	
National Ceramic Reference Collection for Scotland				*	*	
National Ceramic Reference Collection for Wales						*
National Reference Collection of Medieval Pottery			*	*	*	
National Reference Collection of Post-Medieval Pottery					*	
Nonsuch Palace (Surrey, London area, Essex, Hampshire/Surrey border)				*		
North Lincolnshire		*	*	*	*	
Northamptonshire			*	*	*	
Northern Ireland (a)				*	*	
Northern Ireland (b)					*	
Nottingham			*	*	*	
Oxford region			*	*	*	
Oxfordshire			*			
Plymouth	*	*	*	*	*	
Republic of Ireland				*		
Shropshire	*	*	*	*	*	
Somerset	*	*	*	*	*	
Somerset (North)				*	*	
South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire				*	*	
Southampton			*	*	*	
South-West England (Avon and Somerset, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset)						*
Stafford Castle				*		
Staffordshire including Stafford				*		
Suffolk		*	*	*	*	
Surrey				*		
Sussex (east and west) and Romney Marsh (west Kent)			*	*	*	
Tyne and Wearside and North-East region (Cleveland, Newcastle, Northumberland)						*
Wharram Percy and region	*	*	*	*	*	
Winchester	*	*	*	*	*	
Worcestershire	*	*	*	*	*	
York						*

ENGLAND

NATIONAL

National Reference Collection of Medieval Pottery

Beverley Nenk
Department of Prehistory and Europe
British Museum
Great Russell Street
London, WC1B 3DG
Tel: 0207 3238286/0207 3238629
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 3, 4, 5

National Reference Collection of Post-Medieval Pottery

Archaeology Section
The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery
Bethesda Street
Hanley
Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3DE
Tel: 0178 223 2519
CTS: 1
Period: 5

REGIONAL

Aberdeen City

Alison Cameron
Learning and Leisure, Arts & Recreation
Aberdeen City Council
Whitespace
60 Frederick Street
Aberdeen
Tel: 0122 45 23654
Email: alisonc@arts-rec.aberdeen.net.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 4, 5

Bedfordshire and North Buckinghamshire, including Milton Keynes

Anna Slowikowski
Albion Archaeology
St Mary's Church Archaeology Centre
St Mary's Street
Bedford, MK42 0AS
Tel: 01234 29 4005
Email: anna.slowikowski@albion-arch.com
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Comment: Cross-references with Northamptonshire.

Berkshire, Wiltshire, Dorset and some surrounding counties

Lorraine Mepham
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Sailsbury, SP4 6EB
Tel: 0172 2326867
Email: l.mepham@wessexarch.co.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Bristol and Greater Bristol area

Kate Iles
Bristol City Museum
Queens Road
Bristol, BS8 1RL
Tel: 0117 9223459
Email: kate.iles@bristol.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 3, 4, 5
Comment: Relevant to parts of pre-1974 South Gloucestershire and North Somerset.

Cambridgeshire

Paul Spoerry and Carole Fletcher
Oxford Archaeology East
15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire, CB23 8SQ
Tel: 01223 850550
Email: paul.spoerry@thehumanjourney.net
carole.fletcher@thehumanjourney.net
CTS: 1
Period: 3, 4

Carlisle and North Cumbria

Tim Padley
Keeper of Archaeology
Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery
Castle Street
Carlisle, CA3 8TP
Tel: 01228 618768
Email: timp@carlisle.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 4, 5

Chester and North-West region

Julie Edwards, Gill Dunn and Alison Heke

Historic Environment Team
Cheshire West and Chester Council
27 Grosvenor Street
Chester, CH1 2DD
Tel: 01244 40 2027
Email: julie.edwards@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
gill.dunn@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
alison.heke@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 2, 3, 4, 5
Comment: Includes Romano-British covering North-West Britain

Cleveland

Robin Daniels
Tees Archaeology
Sir William Gray House
Clarence Road
Hartlepool, TS24 8BT
Tel: 01492 523455
Email: Robin.Daniels@hartlepool.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 4

Cumbria (West), Cockermouth

Peter Davey
Manx National Heritage
Kingswood Grove
Douglas
Isle of Man, IM1 3LY
Tel: 01624 648000
Email: enquiries@mnh.gov.im
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4, 5

Devon

Thomas Cadbury
Royal Albert Memorial Museum
Queen Street
Exeter, EX4 3RX
Tel: 01392 665356
Email: thomas.cadbury@exeter.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2

Devon (North)

Ruth Spires
North Devon Museums
The Square
Barnstaple
Devon, EX32 8LN
Tel: 01271 346747
Email: Ruth.Spires@northdevon.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4. 5
Comment: In the process of development.

Dunstable (Bedfordshire)

Dave Hills
Manshead Archaeological Society
5 Winfield Street
Dunstable
Tel: 01525 873271
Email: enquiries@manshead.org.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 3
Comment: Free, but donations welcome

Durham and County Durham

No formal reference collection. Contact Andrew Sage or Jenny Vaughan.
Email: andrew.sage@dunelm.org.uk
jen.ncas@virgin.net
CTS: 1
Period: 4

Essex

Helen Walker
Essex County Council Archaeology Field Unit
Fairfield Court
Fairfield Road
Braintree
Essex, CM7 3YQ
Tel: 01376 33 1431
Email: helen.walker@essexcc.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 3, 4, 5

Glastonbury

Chris Gerrard and Alejandra Gutierrez
The Shapwick Project
Department of Archaeology
University of Durham
South Road
Durham, DH1 3LE
Tel: 0191 37 43634
Email: C.M.Gerrard@durham.ac.uk
Alejandra.Gutierrez@durham.ac.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Comment: Deposited in Taunton Museum, Taunton from 2003.

Gloucester

David Rice
Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery

Brunswick Road
Gloucester, GL1 1HP
Tel: 01452 396131
Email: David.Rice@gloucester.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Guernsey

Phillip de Jersey
Guernsey Museum and Art Gallery
Candie Gardens
St Peter Port
Guernsey, GY1 1UG
Tel: 01481 70 0477
Email: Phillip.DeJersey@cultureleisure.gov.gg
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 4, 5

Hampshire (Test Valley)

David Allen
Hampshire County Museum Service
Chilcomb House
Chilcomb Lane
Winchester
Hampshire, SO23 8RD
Tel: 01962 826738
Email: Alan.Jacobs@hants.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 2, 3, 4, 5

Hereford

Kath Crooks
Archaeological Investigations Ltd
Unit 1, Premier Business Park
Faraday Road
Hereford, HR4 9NZ
Tel: 01432 364905
Email: kathc@aihereford.com
CTS: 1
Period: 4, 5

Hereford

Judy Stevenson
Herefordshire Heritage Services
Museum Resource and Learning Centre
58 Friar Street
Hereford, HR4 0AS
Tel: 01432 383593
Email: jstevenson@herefordshire.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Hertfordshire (St Albans and Greyware kilns)

Simon West and Alison Turner-Rugg
St Albans Museum
Unit 7, Sandridge Gate Business Centre
Ronson's Way
St Albans, AL4 9XR
Tel: 01727 819338/01727 751819
Email: S.West@stalbans.gov.uk
A.Turner-Rugg@stalbans.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 4

Islamic world

Venetia Porter
Department of the Middle East
British Museum
Great Russell Street
London, WC1B 3DG
CTS: 1, 2

Isle of Man (Manx Collection including North-West)

Allison Fox
Manx National Heritage
Kingswood Grove
Douglas
Isle of Man, IM1 3LY
Tel: 01624 648000
Email: enquiries@mnh.gov.im
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4, 5

Isle of Wight

Ruth Waller and Rebecca Loader
County Archaeology Service
Archaeological Centre
61 Clatterford Rd
Carisbrooke
Newport
Isle of Wight, PO30 1NZ
Tel: 01983 823810
Email: Ruth.Waller@iow.gov.uk
Rebecca.Loader@iow.gov.uk

Kent

Andrew Richardson
Canterbury Archaeological Trust
92A Broad St
Canterbury
Kent, CT1 2LU
Tel: 01227 462062
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Leicestershire

Debbie Sawday (Medieval & Post Medieval) and Nick Cooper (Prehistoric-Saxon)
University of Leicester Archaeological Services
School of Archaeology and Ancient History
University Rd
Leicester
Tel: 0116 252848
Email: dmas1@le.ac.uk
njc9@le.ac.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Lincoln City

Dawn Heywood
The Collection
Danesgate
Lincoln
Lincolnshire, LN2 1LP
Tel: 01522 550990
Email: dawn.heywood@lincolnshire.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period:2, 3, 4

North Lincolnshire

Rose Nicholson
North Lincolnshire Museum
Oswald Road
Scunthorpe, DN15 7BD
Tel: 01724 843533
Email: rose.nicholson@northlincs.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 2, 3, 4, 5

Lincolnshire (South Kesteven)

Anne Irving
Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire
The Old School
Cameron Street
Heckington, NG34 9RW
Tel: 01529 461618
Email: anne.irving@apsarchaeology.co.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Lincolnshire

Jane Young
25 West Parade
Lincoln, LN1 1NW
Email: janeyoung.pottery@googlemail.com
CTS: 1
Period: 3, 4, 5

Greater London and sources of supply

Jacqui Pearce
MOL Archaeology
46 Eagle Wharf Road
London N1 7ED
Tel: 020 7566 9325
Email: jpearce@museumoflondon.org.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 2, 3, 4, 5

Nonsuch Palace (Surrey, London area, Essex, Hampshire/Surrey border)

Hazel Forsyth
Museum of London
London Wall
London, EC2Y 5HH
Tel: 020 7600 3699
Email: hforsyth@museumoflondon.org.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4

Northamptonshire

Iain Soden
Northamptonshire County Council Archaeology
2 Bolton House
Wootton Hall Park
Mereway
Northampton, NN4 8BE
Tel: 01604 70 0493/ 01604 70 0494
Email: Isoden@northamptonshire.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 3, 4, 5

Nottingham

Judith Edgar
Brewhouse Yard Museum
Castle Boulevard
Nottingham, NG7 1FB
Tel: 0115 915 3600
Email: Judith.edgar@nottinghamcity.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 3, 4, 5

Oxfordshire

Leigh Allen
Oxford Archaeological Unit
Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford, OX2 0ES
Tel: 01865 26 3800
Email: leigh.allen@oxfordarch.co.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 3

Oxford region

Susan Walker
Department of Antiquities
Ashmolean Museum
Beaumont Street
Oxford, OX1 2PH
Email: susan.walker@ashmus.ox.ac.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 3, 4, 5

Plymouth

Fiona Pitt
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery
Drake Circus
Plymouth
Devon, PL4 8AJ
Tel: 01752 304775
Email: Fiona.Pitt@plymouth.gov.uk
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Comment: Several important collections, particularly of post-medieval imports. Archive includes the St Germans kiln material. No formal fabric/form reference collection.

Shropshire

Cameron Moffett
Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery
Rowley's House
Barker Street
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
Tel: 01743 281205
Email: shrewsburymuseums@shropshire.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Somerset

Steve Minnitt
Somerset County Museums Service
Somerset Heritage Centre
Brunel Way
Taunton, TA2 6SF
Email: scminnitt@somerset.gov.uk
CTS 1, 2
Periods 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
Comment: Has Barton Reference Collection of European Vernacular Pottery

Somerset (North)

Jane Hill
North Somerset Museum
Burlington Street
Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1PR
Tel: 01934 621028
Email: jane.hill@n-somerset.gov.uk
Period: 4, 5
Comment: No formal reference collection, but several important site assemblages.

Southampton

Gill Woolrich
Arts and Heritage
Southampton City Council
Civic Centre
Southampton, SO14 7LP
Tel: 02380 63 5904
Email: gill.woolrich@southampton.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 3, 4, 5

Stafford Castle

Stephanie Ratkai
7 Pinehurst Drive
Kings Norton
Birmingham, B38 8TH
Tel: 01214 59 4108
Email: stephanieratkai@yahoo.co.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4
Comment: To be deposited at Stoke Museum or with the Borough Council.

Staffordshire including Stafford

Debbie Ford
Archaeology Section
The Potteries Museum and Art Gallery
Bethesda Street
Hanley
Stoke on Trent, ST1 3DE
Tel: 01782 23 2519
Email: deb.ford@civic2.stoke.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4

Suffolk

Richenda Goffin (medieval and later)
Cathy Tester (Roman)
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2AR
Tel: 01284 35 2446
Email: richenda.goffin@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 2, 3, 4, 5

Sussex (east and west) and Romney Marsh (west Kent)

Luke Barber
Barbican House
169 High Street
Lewes
East Sussex, BN7 1YE
Tel: 01273 405733
Email: research@sussexpast.co.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 3, 4, 5

Surrey

Phil Jones
Surrey County Archaeology Unit
Surrey History Centre
130 Goldsworth Road
Woking
Surrey, GU21 1ND
Tel: 01483 59 4629
Email: crockpot@ukonline.co.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 4

Tyne and Wearside and North-East region (Cleveland, Newcastle, Northumberland)

No formal reference collection, contact Andrew Sage or Jenny Vaughan.
Email: andrew.sage@dunelm.org.uk
jen.ncas@virgin.net

South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire

Chris Cumberpatch
22 Tennyson Road
Lower Walkley
Sheffield, S6 2WE
Tel: 01142 31 0051
Email: cgc@ccumberpatch.freeserve.co.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4, 5

Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire

Dave Evans
Humber Archaeology Partnership
The Old School
Northumberland Avenue
Hull, HU2 0LN
Tel: 01482 310619
Email: Archaeology@hullcc.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4

Wharram Percy and region

Anna Slowikowski
Albion Archaeology
St Mary's Church Archaeology Centre
St Mary's Street
Bedford, MK42 0AS
Tel: 01234 29 4005
Email: anna.slowikowski@albion-arch.com
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Comment: To be accessioned to Hull Museum on completion of project

Winchester

Helen Rees (post- 1972 material)
Geoff Denford (pre-1971 material)
Winchester City Council
Unit F2
Bar End Industrial Estate
Winchester. SO23 9NP
Tel: 01962 848338
Email: hrees@winchester.gov.uk
gdenford@winchester.gov.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Worcestershire

Victoria Bryant, Derek Hurst and Laura Griffin
Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service
Woodbury Hall
University of Worcester
Henwick Grove
Worcester, WR2 6AJ
Tel: 01905 85 5495
Email: lgriffin@worcestershire.gov.uk
dhurst@worcesterhire.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Comment: Worcestershire online ceramic database: http://www.worcestershireceramics

York

Ailsa Mainman and Anne Jenner
York Archaeological Trust
47 Aldwark
York, YO1 7BX
Tel: 01904 663030/ 01904 66 3023
Email: ajenner@yorkat.co.uk

SCOTLAND

National Ceramic Reference Collection for Scotland

David Caldwell and Jackie Moran
Department of Scotland and Europe
National Museums of Scotland
Chambers Street
Edinburgh, EH1 1JF
Tel: 0131 2474068/ 0131 2474079
Email: d.caldwell@nms.ac.uk or j.moran@nms.ac.uk
CTS: 1
Period: 4, 5

WALES

NATIONAL

National Ceramic Reference Collection for Wales

Mark Redknap/Elizabeth Walker/Sian Iles
Department of Archaeology and Numismatics
National Museum of Wales
Cathays Park
Cardiff, CF1 3NP
Tel: 0292 057 3223
Email: mark.redknap@nmgw.ac.uk

REGIONAL

Monmouth and North Gwent

Stephen Clarke
Monmouth Archaeology
Town Wall
St. James Square
Monmouth
Gwent
Wales, NP25 3DN
Tel: 01600 71 4136
Email: monarch@cavedd.freeserve.co.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4, 5

NORTHERN IRELAND

Reference Collection for Northern Ireland (a)

Lesley Simpson
Down County Museum
The Mall
Downpatrick
County Down
Northern Ireland
Tel: 028 44 615218
Email: lesley.simpson@downdc.gov.uk
CTS: 1, 2
Period: 4, 5
Comment: Individual collection, but the museum holds material from the two Northern Ireland kiln sites at Downpatrick and Carrick Fergus.

Reference Collection for Northern Ireland (b)

Craig McHuicken
Harbour Museum
Harbour Square
Derry, BT48 6AF
Tel: 028 71 377331
Period: 5
Comment: Holds Derry, mostly 17th Century.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Clare McCutcheon
Old Chapel
Bandon
County Cork
Republic of Ireland
Email: mccutcc@gofree.indigo.ie
CTS: 1
Period: 4

MULTI-REGIONAL

Archive of Anglo-Saxon pottery stamps

Diana Briscoe
124 Chomley Gardens
Fortune Green Road
London, NW6 1AA
Email: asarchive@briscoe.fsnet.co.uk

Ipswich ware stamp archive

Keith Wade
Suffolk County Archaeologist
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service
Shire Hall
Bury St Edmunds, IP33 2AR

APPENDIX 4: ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

This annotated bibliography aims to highlight key publications for each county which appeared in print between 1992 and February 2010. Comments are included for some publications.

ENGLAND

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Berkshire

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Vince, A. G., S. J. Lobb, J. C. Richards and L. Mepham, 1997, *Excavations in Newbury, Berkshire, 1979-1990,* Wessex Archaeology Report 13

Buckinghamshire

Blinkhorn P., 1993, 'The Saxon Pottery' in R.J. Williams, *Pennyland and Hartigans. Two Iron Age and Saxon Sites in Milton Keynes*. Buckinghamshire Archaeology Society Monograph 4, 246-64

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Cambridgeshire

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Devon

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East Sussex

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East Yorkshire

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Essex

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Gloucestershire

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Greater London

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REGIONAL FRAMEWORKS

South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF)

Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall:
[www1.somerset.gov.uk/archives/hes/swarf.htm]

Solent Thames Archaeological Research Framework

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight:
[www.buckscc.gov.uk/bcc/archaeology/solent_framework.page]

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Historic Environment Research Strategy for Greater London

[www.museumoflondonarchaeology.org.uk/English/ArchiveResearch/Researchstrat/]

An Archaeological Research Framework for the Greater Thames Estuary

Coastline from Clacton in Essex to Whitstable in Kent, and upstream to Tower Bridge:
[www.essexcc.gov.uk/vip8/ecc/ECCWebsite/dis/guc.jsp?channelOid=15274&guideOid=16017&guideContentOid=16224]

Research and Archaeology: a Framework for the Eastern Counties

Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk:
[www.eaareports.org.uk/research_and_archaeology.htm]

Surrey Archaeological Research Framework

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West Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology

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East Midlands Archaeological Research Framework Project

Derbyshire, Leicestershire and Rutland, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire and Nottinghamshire:
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Shared Visions: The North East Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment (NERRF)

County Durham, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear and Teesside:
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North West Archaeological Research Framework

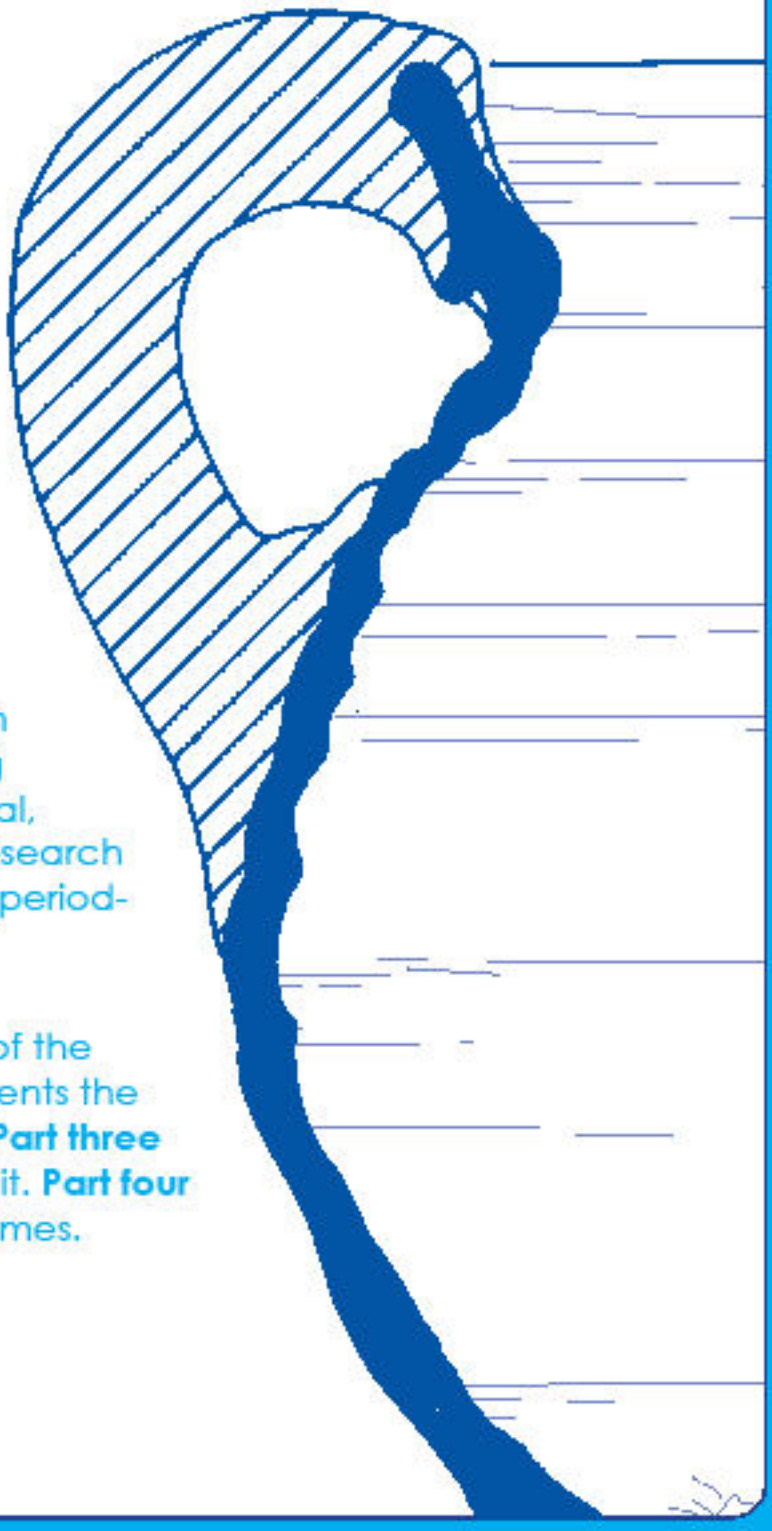
Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside:
[www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/mol/archaeology/arf/]

A Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales

[www.archaeoleg.org.uk/]

Scottish Archaeological Research Framework (ScARF)

[www.socantscot.org/scarf.asp?Menu=]



The Medieval Pottery Research Group's *Research Framework* provides a focus for post-Roman ceramic studies in England, Scotland and Wales. Its aim is to inform all archaeologists during the development of local, regional and national research programmes, as well as period-specific strategies.

Part one is a *Resource Assessment* and survey of the profession. **Part two** presents the *Research Agenda* and **Part three** the *Strategy* to achieve it. **Part four** lists the expected outcomes.

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