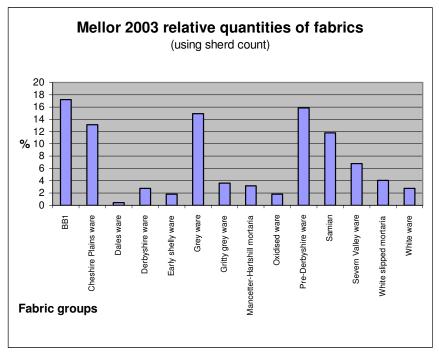
Mellor Romano-British pottery 2003

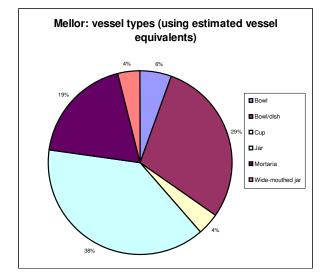
R.S. Leary

221 sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the excavations along with around 40 scraps of briquetage. As in previous years the excavations produced a wide range of wares (chart 1) coming from distant sources including Dorset, Mancetter-Hartshill, the Severn Valley kilns to the south, the Cheshire Plains kilns, Derbyshire kilns around Belper, Lincolnshire kilns and mortaria, perhaps from Wilderspool. Most of the pottery came from the large ditch 304/5. The vessel types indicate a date range from the late first/early second centuries to the mid third century at least. One jar rim sherd may date as late as the late-fourth century and the Dales ware and developed flanged bowl is more likely to be late third or early fourth century. This extends the date range suggested during spot dating of the material recovered during 2002.



The pottery was abraded and sherds tended to be small, particularly the samian. Although the samian was badly abraded and the sherds were small, many vessels were represented. The group seems to be a rubbish deposit which has accumulated elsewhare over several centuries before being cleared into the ditch. Many of the jars, particulary in BB1, dales and gritty grey ware retained signs of use in the form of burt depoits still adhering around the rim and upper bodies, perhaps where food had boiled over and burnt on. Rivet holes indicate that pottery supply was not always regular and curation was necessary. This is common in Wales but not South Yorkshire where it has been suggested that pottery supply met demand.

The vessel types indicate a high status site (chart 2). Evans has done extensive work on this area and the Mellor assemblage compares with urban and villa sites rather than rural sites on the basis of its jar:bowl ratio. This conclusion is supported by the range of traded wares present (chart 1)



## Pottery catalogue

	No inShero circlegroup	Fabric Code	Count	-		Part of vessel	Form	Rim diam		Decorative technique		Decorative technique2	Position on pot2	Condition	Comments
	1	MOW1	1						7						
	2	OAB5?	1		very abraded	bodysherd									
18	1	TS	3	5	abraded	bodysherd				Stamped	outside body				
18	2	OAC1	5	27			simple base								
18	3	MOW1	1	1		bodysherd									
18	4	OAC2	2	10	abraded	bodysherd									
18	5	SV	4		very abraded	bodysherd									
18	6	OBB5	2	4	abraded	bodysherd									
18	7	OBB3	4	34	abraded	bodysherd									
18	8	OBB3	1		moderately abraded	rim sherd		14	9	Frilled	outside rim				
18	9	OA	2		very abraded	scraps									

		nShero egroup	Fabric Code	Count	-	Abrasion type	Part of vessel	Form	Rim I diam <sup>c</sup>	Decorative technique			Decorative technique2	Position on pot2	Condition	Comments
18		10	FLA1	2	3	abraded	scraps									
18		11	MH1			abraded	flange									
18		12	DBY				bodysherd									
18		13	BB1	6	27	abraded	bodysherd									
18		14	BB1	1	10	abraded	bodysherd	BB1 jar, 3rd		 burnished	obtuse lines	outside body			burnt matter ouside rim	
18		15	BB1	1	6	abraded		simple bowl/dish base		burnished		ISB				
18		16	GRB1	8		very abraded	simple base sherd									
18		17	MED		0											
18	301	1	PM	5	11											
18	301	2	OAC1/MED?	?4		very abraded	bodysherd									
18	301	3	SALT?	4		very abraded	scraps									
18	301	4	TS	1	1	very abraded	scraps									
18	301	5	OAA1	1		very abraded	scraps									

		nSherc egroup	Fabric Code	Count	-	Abrasion type	Part of vessel	Form	Rim dian		Decorative technique	Decorative motif	Decorative technique2	Position on pot2	Condition	Comments
18	301	6	GRB1	1		very abraded	bodysherd	jar								
18	301	7	GRB/BB1	1	12		base	simple bowl/dish base								Grey but otherwise like BB1
18	301	8	DBY	2	9	unabraded	rim sherd	cupped rim jar	18	3						
18	301	9	MOW1	1	45	abraded		bead and flange mortarium 2nd		7						
18	301	10	OAB5	3	36	abraded	bodysherd									
18	304	1	OAC1	3				Simple base								2 sherds adjoin but old dirty break
18	304	2	MO1	1			incomplete rim section									break
18	304	3	MOW1	1		abraded		simple base								No trit left
18	304	4	MH	1		moderately	incomplete rim section			7						
18	304	5	OBC1	3	7	abraded	bodysherd									

Trench		Sherc	Fabric Code	Count		Abrasion type	Part of vessel	Form	Rim diam		Decorative technique	Decorative motif		Decorative technique2		Position on pot2		Commen
		group				()))0	100001		diam			in oth	onpor			on poiz		
18	304	6	MOW1	1		very abraded	bodysherd											
18	304	7	OBB3	2	12	abraded	simple base sherd	footring base										Jar
18	304	8	SV?	8	43	abraded	bodysherd											
18	304	9	TS	4	10	abraded	rim sherd	Dr 27	10	10								
18	304	10	OBC1	3		very abraded	scraps											
18	304	11	OAB4	1		moderately abraded	vbodysherd	closed vessel			painted	vertical white	outside body	grooved	double	outside upper body		
18	304	12	СТ	2	7	abraded	bodysherd											
18	304	13	GRC7	2	21	moderately abraded		double lid seated rim jar, probably 4th	16 1	13							Burnt matter outside rim	
18	304	14	BB1	2	19	abraded		flat rim bowl or dish, 2nd- E3rd		8	burnished		all over					
18	304	15	BB1	1	12	abraded		Splayed rim jar, EL3rd-4th		5				L3rd-e4th			Burnt	

Trench			Fabric Code	Count			Part of vessel	Form	Rim diarr		Decorative technique	Decorative		Decorative technique2		Position on pot2		Comments
	Circle	group	,			type	Vessei		ulan	170	lechnique	moun	on pot	lechniquez	mouiz			
18	304	16	BB1	1	3	unabraded	bodysherd				burnished		outside					
													body					
18	304	17	GR	2	23	abraded	bodysherd											
18	304	18	GR	1				simple jar base										Small vessel
18	304	19	GR	1		moderately abraded		everted rim	14	6								
18	304	20	GR	1	37	abraded		developed flanged bowl, L3rd-4th	20	8								
18	304	21	GR	2	33	abraded		flat rim bowl or dish, 2nd- E3rd	22	8	burnished	acute lattice	outside body					
18	305	1	CTA2	1		moderately abraded		Dales ware lid seated jar	22	5							burnt matter outside neck	
18	305		SLAG	2	7													
18	305	1	TS	17	68	abraded												
18	305	2	СТ	1	8	abraded	bodysherd											PRE?
18	305	2	SALT		0													

		nSherc egroup	Fabric Code	Count			Part of vessel	Form				Decorative motif		Decorative technique2	ePosition on pot2	Condition	Comments
18	305	3	СТ	1		moderately abraded	bodysherd										Hand made PRE?
18	305	4	FC/SALT?	21	35	abraded	scraps										
18	305	5	OAC2	4	35	abraded	bodysherd				grooved		outside body				1 sherd is burnt
18	305	6	OAC1	14	62	abraded	bodysherd										
18	305	7	OAB4	1	1	abraded	scraps				painted	white blobs	outside body				
18	305	8	OAA?	1		very abraded	bodysherd										
18	305	9	OBB3	2	6	abraded	bodysherd										
18	305	10	OBB3	1	7	moderately abraded		flange from hemi spherical bowl	-								
18	305	11	SV	2	10	abraded	bodysherd										
18	305	12	SV?	1	10	moderately abraded		wide mouthed jar with blunt, everted rim, L2nd- 3rd	26	5							

Trench		nSherc egroup	Fabric Code	Count	-		Part of vessel	Form	Rim diam		Decorative technique		Decorative technique2	Position on pot2	Condition	Comments
18	305	13	OAB5	5		very abraded	bodysherd									
18	305	14	OAB5	1		abraded		open vessel								
18	305	15	OAB5	1	18	abraded		simple base								
18	305	16	OAB5	1	13	abraded		bowl with stubby flange, Antonine.								
18	305	17	OAA13	1		abraded		turned base								Small base 5cm diam
18	305	18	OBB3	1		moderately abraded	bodysherd									
18	305	19	MOW1	3	62	abraded		bead and flange mortarium 2nd		4						
18	305	20	DBY	2				Simple base								
18	305	21	DBY	1	9	unabraded	rim sherd	Rebated rim jar, 2nd	14	7						

		Sherd group	Fabric Code	Count			Part of vessel		Rim diam		Decorative technique	Decorative motif		Decorative technique2	Position on pot2	Condition	Comments
18	305	22	OAC1	1	34	moderately abraded		hooked rim jar, mid 2nd- 4th	20	10							
18	305	23	GRC7	6		moderately abraded		double lid seated rim jar, probably 4th		25						Burnt matter outside rim	
18	305	24	GRB1	2		moderately abraded		small jar with bead rim, mid 2nd	12	10	burnished		outside upper body				
18	305	25	GRB1	5	35	moderately abraded	bodysherd										
18	305	26	GRB1	1				Simple base									
18	305	27	GRB1	1	96	abraded		cavetto rim jar, L2nd-3rd	20	9	burnished		outside body				
18	305	28	GRB1	2	66	abraded	rim sherd	developed flanged bowl, L3rd-4th	20	19							
18	305	29	GRB1	1	2	abraded		everted rim		1							

		Sherce group	Fabric Code	Count	-	Abrasion type	Part of vessel	Form	Rim diar		Decorative technique			Decorative technique2	Position on pot2	Condition	Comments
18	305	30	GRB1	1	4	abraded	rim sherd	cavetto rim jar, L2nd-3rd	18	2							
18	305	31	GRB1	1	7	abraded	rim sherd	everted rim	10	5							
18	305	32	GRB1	1	14	abraded	rim sherd	flat rim bowl or dish, 2nd- E3rd	26	5							
18	305	33	BB1	15		moderately abraded	bodysherd	BB1 jar			burnished	acute lattoce	outside body				
18	305	34	BB1	1		moderately abraded		BB1 jar, 3rd+I102			burnished	obtuse lattice	outside body				
18	305	35	BB1	3			simple base sherd	simple base									
18	305	36	BB1	1		moderately abraded		simple bowl/dish base			burnished	acute lattice	outside body				
18	305	37	BB1	1		moderately abraded	rim sherd	Necked jar. M- L2nd	18	2	burnished	wavy line	outside neck				
18	305	38	BB1	1		moderately abraded	rim sherd	Incipient flange dish/bowl	22	6							

Trencl		Sherce group	Fabric Code	Count	Weight		Part of vessel	Form	Rim dian		Decorative technique	Decorative motif		Decorative technique2	Position on pot2	Condition	Comments
18	305	39	BB1	1		moderately abraded		flat rim bowl or dish, 2nd- E3rd	18	5	burnished		all over rim				
18	305	40	BB1	1		moderately abraded	profile	flat rim bowl or dish, 2nd- E3rd	24	5	burnished	intersecting loops	)				
18	305	41	BB1	1		moderately abraded		flat rim bowl or dish, 2nd- E3rd	22	6	burnished	acute lattice	outside body				
18	305	42	BB1	1	22	moderately abraded		flat rim bowl or dish, 2nd- E3rd	24	7							
18	305	43	MH1	4	44	moderately abraded	bodysherd										
18	305	44	MH1	1	10	unabraded	incomplete rim section										
18	305	45	FLA1	1		moderately abraded	bodysherd	flagon									
18	305	46	FLA1	3		moderately abraded		carinated bowl, L1st-E2nd		6	cordoned	single	outside upper body				

circlegroup     18   305   47     18   306   1     18   311   1     18   311   2     18   314   1	OBA16	1		type	vessel		diam	1/0	technique	moun	on por	technique2	mouiz	on pot2	
18   306   1     18   311   1     18   311   2     18   314   1	OBA16	1													
18   306   1     18   311   1     18   311   2     18   314   1	OBA16	1													
18 311 1   18 311 2   18 314 1		•		moderately abraded		bowl with cupped rim. L1st- E2nd	20	9							
18 311 2 18 314 1	TS	1	4	abraded	bodysherd	Dr 18/31									
18 314 1	OBA15	1	8	abraded	bodysherd	closed vessel									
	SALT?		0												
	SALT/FC?	C? 11	21	abraded	scraps										
18 315 1	FC/SALT	.T 1	5												
18 329 1	FC/PRE	Ξ 1	5	abraded	bodysherd										
21 02 1	GR	1	10	abraded	bodysherd										
21 02 2	PM?	1	6		simple base sherd										
22 442 1	SALT?	1		very abraded	scraps										
23 1	SALT?	2			scraps										
4 1			1	abraded											