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## ROMANO-BRITISH PEWTER PLATES AND DISHES

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It had been considered probable that a survey of all Romano-British pewter plates and dishes known would show a chronological sequence of rim types. Some 70 museums have co-operated in supplying illustrations, associations and references. Nearly all specimens have been inspected.

There are upwards of 200 pieces of Romano-British pewter recorded, including ewers, jugs, cups, bowls, etc., as well as plates and dishes, a few of the latter being oval. It was soon apparent that dating associations are very few indeed. Despite the paucity of dating evidence, it was considered valuable to survey in detail the field of Romano-British circular plates and dishes, omitting the holloware. The writer has notes of some 134 recorded plates and dishes: the majority fall into four main types of rim, and a classification has therefore been drawn up. There are also sufficient examples with decoration to be examined carefully.

### PEWTER MANUFACTURE IN BRITAIN

The subject of Romano-British pewter manufacture is discussed by Wedlake;<sup>1</sup> no evidence of pewter in this country can be found earlier than his dating of *c.* A.D. 250 onwards, which is quite compatible with all other evidence except possibly the two plates at the Guildhall Museum. It is true that it is recorded that Pliny (the Younger) knew of 'pewter', but this was more probably tin. He was born A.D. 61 and was last recorded as Governor of Pontus and Bithynia *c.* A.D. 111, but the reference was presumably to the Eastern Mediterranean area. Pewter appears not to be known in Gaul under the Roman Empire.

As it is not recorded elsewhere, it seems probable that pewter is a purely Romano-British discovery, evolved from the use of tin to copy the silver wares.

In Read's<sup>2</sup> description of the Appleshaw hoard, he draws the conclusion that, before the discovery of the stabilizing effect of a lead additive, tin alone was used. Since in this hoard the 'fish' dish is 99.18% tin, a bowl is 94.35% and a dish 90.55%, one may conclude that they represent some of the very first items of British 'pewter' ever made, showing the trial and error increase of lead. Perhaps it was at first an accidental, then an intentional debasement, which proved to be a better alloy. The proportion swings to as much as tin 43%, lead 57% in a dish from the

<sup>1</sup> Wedlake. (For complete references to works mentioned in footnotes, see Bibliography at end.)

<sup>2</sup> Read, p. 20.

Fens. However, the most suitable mixture for flexibility, safety (and no doubt, ease of supply) settled between 62:37 and 79:21.<sup>1</sup> One cannot agree that the evidence supports two clear-cut groups of alloy.<sup>2</sup> The proportions appear to vary in a haphazard way—perhaps initially in finding a suitable alloy, and, subsequently, merely owing to erratic measuring of quantities (Table 6). [English medieval tin pewter was of two grades 85:15 and 80:20.]

Tin had been chiefly obtained from Spain until the likelihood that the mines would soon be worked out;<sup>3</sup> then attention turned to Cornwall. At Camerton, the evidence of dating is to mid third-century manufacture. The Cornish mines had been worked previously but there is ample evidence of third-century manufacture here.<sup>4</sup> Wedlake's chapter on 'The Pewter Industry at Camerton', pp. 82-93, in 'Excavations at Camerton' should be read in full, and can be summarized:

Stone moulds in limestone, obviously for casting pewter dishes of credible detail were found in a clear mid third-century context. The moulds were made to be either clamped, or bound, together (a clamp, and incisions for registering the binding were found, and also two fragmentary plates *c.* A.D. 300). A coal store-heap was also found, and from this date on, considerable blackening of the floors by coal was evident. Coal is immediately to hand in the neighbourhood, with seams running to the surface. Also, the Mendips provide the necessary lead (the mines having been worked since *c.* A.D. 70), as well as the stone for the moulds. At the same time, *c.* A.D. 250, there is a big increase found in the workmen's dwellings and workrooms—all pointing to the establishment of a flourishing pewter industry here.

Other true moulds have come to light, notably at Lansdown, near Bath; Mr Gardiner, of Kingswood School, Bath, reports to the writer that Oatland Down has yielded three moulds—of lias and oolite—which could have been used for pewter. They range in diameter from 9 in. to 2 ft. 6 in. Also some droplets of lead were found in association. Fragments of sixteen different moulds are in Bath Museum. The writer has inspected them carefully, and finds that in none is there any detail which precludes their being moulds; the grooves and decoration can be matched in every case by drawings of dishes made by the writer. This is contrary to Wedlake's impression, but it is possible that he was confused by considering a normal plate upside down (see his drawing 57B opposite p. 253, referred to on p. 84 of the text); he could not fathom the use of this 'object', which is closely comparable with a plate from Northwold (type 1). Decoration is pricked, or cut, into the Lias moulds—and this can be matched by extant specimens of pewter. Brampton, a Romano-British settlement near Norwich, has recently yielded one piece of limestone (not native to Norfolk) with curved grooves, which might (only possibly) be a segment of a large mould for a dish some 30 in. in diameter. Mr Gunstone, of Birmingham Museum, is at present working on stone moulds.

<sup>1</sup> Liversidge, pp. 9, 10.

<sup>2</sup> Read, p. 13; Tylecote, p. 68.

<sup>3</sup> Davies.

<sup>4</sup> Collingwood and Myres, p. 231.

## SUMMARY OF OTHER DATING EVIDENCE

At this stage, having established the start of the industry to A.D. 250, let us see briefly what other dating evidence is available.

*Bucklersbury House, London* (Guildhall Museum, 18221, 18220). Two plates. Professor Grimes in a letter to the writer has redated these as 'at least third century'. These two are quite unlike any other known pewter plates. (See drawings, Fig. 4 and Table 1.)

*Tallington, Lincolnshire* (Lincoln Museum). One dish, c. A.D. 250-400.<sup>1</sup>

*Appleshaw, Hampshire* (British Museum, 97/18-12). Hoard of twenty-nine pieces. Date deduced A.D. 300-350:<sup>2</sup> 'not earlier than A.D. 284' (dated by plaster), 'not later than A.D. 351' (Decentius coin). The house was destroyed c. A.D. 355.

*Manton House, Wiltshire* (Devizes Museum, 281). Hoard of twelve dishes (four decorated in central panel); nine dishes not now traceable. 'Not earlier than c. A.D. 395' (associated coins).<sup>3</sup> Nearby a biconical jug of c. A.D. 376 was deposited.<sup>4</sup> See Pls. Vb and VI.

*Avebury Down, Wilts* (Devizes Museum, 5/60). Two fragments of the centre of a decorated dish. Probably late third to fourth century (F. K. Annable).

*Attleborough, Norfolk* (Norwich Castle Museum, 286.963). Nine dishes. Pottery, probably fourth century.

*Caister-by-Yarmouth, Norfolk*. Two plates, mid-fourth century (Charles Green).

*Bottisham Lode, Cambridgeshire* (Arch. and Eth.). One dish. Pottery of all periods.

*St Albans, Hertfordshire*. Two saucers, fourth century (S. S. Frere).

*Meare, Somerset* (Taunton Museum). One dish, fourth century.<sup>5</sup> c. A.D. 388.

The items above show all the evidence of dating so far available. Most finds have been casual with no excavation expertise. There simply is insufficient evidence to start building a type sequence.

Mention should be made here of the magnificent Anastasius silver dish from the Sutton Hoo treasure. The rim type is exactly as type 4. Although the control stamps are A.D. 491-518, it is considered to have been made c. A.D. 400.<sup>6</sup>

It is emphasized that although there is no positive dating evidence on so many of the finds, there is not known to be any evidence contrary to a dating between A.D. 250 and the collapse of the Roman occupation.

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF PEWTER FINDS

Since we have conclusive evidence of manufacture in north Somerset the question must immediately occur—was it made elsewhere? Wedlake, p. XIX, shows a distribution map of all pieces then known. This is rather incomplete now (1966). At the outset, it must be borne in mind that distribution maps are not conclusive, for they only show what has been recorded so far; therefore, there may be many enlightening hoards yet to be found, which may alter the overall view—e.g. the very recent fragment of grooved limestone mould near Norwich referred to above (p. 20), and the still more recent find of molten pewter at Hockwold (see p. 23).

<sup>1</sup> Petch, p. 15.

<sup>3</sup> V.C.H. *Wilts*.

<sup>5</sup> Gray (1939), pp. 191-200.

<sup>2</sup> Read, p. 6.

<sup>4</sup> Devizes Museum Catalogue, p. 169.

<sup>6</sup> *Sutton Hoo Ship Burial*, p. 47.

Wedlake's distribution map of all types shows that the Wessex Somerset, and the Norfolk/Cambridgeshire Fen-and-Breck are the two richest areas. Well behind this come London and Northamptonshire. All are on the lowland zone side of the Fosse Way, except the Somerset group which is very near to it. Finds in the Highland Zone to the north-west of the Fosse are negligible (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1. Main areas of pewter finds.

This pattern sets a problem—was pewter the normal garnish of villas, or was it local to the source of manufacture? In the case of Somerset it could be either. Also Appleshaw and Manton are not very far from Somerset; and again London, as the administrative centre, was in constant communication with Bath. Raw material or finished articles could equally well be transported. This leaves Northamptonshire, and the Norfolk/Cambridgeshire Fen-and-Breck. Northamptonshire shows 12 items, 9 at Duston and 3 elsewhere. Here are coal, and stone, and easy road transport of tin from Cornwall and lead from the Mendips. So there *may* have been a

manufacturing centre here. What of East Anglia? The concentration of hoards is roughly in a triangle Peterborough, Attleborough, Royston—the Fen and Breckland—much as the distribution of villas.

But how does this fit the overall villa pattern? The answer is, not very well. The villa pattern shows huge gaps (Cotswold and Oxfordshire for instance) with no pewter finds. So the evidence of pewter being normal villa furnishings is very erratic.

But if the finished articles were not transported from Camerton and Lansdowne, what is the likelihood of local manufacture in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk? Fuel, as peat or wood, was available to the Fen group, and carstone for moulds available between Hunstanton and Downham Market; perhaps chalk too could have been used. We now also have the imported limestone fragment near Norwich. It would have been possible to bring in lead and tin by sea from the Mendips and Cornwall, round southern England, to Colchester or Caister-by-Yarmouth, or round to King's Lynn—perhaps up river to Downham Market or Ely. The overland route, although tedious, would be feasible. It would seem that in the case of the Fen group, the evidence is equally balanced. Fuel and equipment materials are to hand and trade routes reasonable for raw materials, which would make local manufacture practical. Against this—rim types and decoration patterns and techniques are common or compatible with the Somerset group. All rim types are interrelated by association with others. This hints strongly towards a centralized manufacturing locality rather than dispersed factories.

Since writing the accompanying main body of text, two further East Anglian finds relevant to the problem have come to light. A further hoard has been found in the richly yielding area between Whittlesea and Attleborough—at Hockwold. Three plates have almost exact counterparts in other areas, but two dissimilar cups are apparently unique. A molten ingot of some 3 lb. weight, and some other drops of molten metal, not yet analysed, but obviously a tin/lead alloy, were found in the same field. However, direct association of these metal fragments with the finding of the hoard is not established.

In the summer of 1966, investigation of a Romano-British site at Hacheston near Framlingham, Suffolk, yielded two pieces of waste pewter. These were associated with a workshop floor, and were found in a pit just outside the floor. With them was slag, apparently iron, but slag is so common as to show no correlating significance. Miss Owles of Ipswich Museum, directing, was firmly convinced that they were waste products, and not the result of pillage and fire. She also reports that other manufacture was in progress—iron and bronze, as well as pottery. There was no evidence of coal dust—but charcoal is a feasible fuel. One item, looking like a jet from a mould, weighed 73.5 g., and the other, a thin pool of pewter, weighed 119 g. This certainly appears to be evidence of Suffolk manufacture.

The possibility of imported goods from Gaul has been considered, but there is no mention or suggestion anywhere of the import of pewter in Romano-British times. We know that tin vessels were known to the Romans by *c.* A.D. 120. We have no

evidence of the appearance of pewter in England until the undoubted date of its manufacture in this country, *c.* A.D. 250, apart from the enigmatic Guildhall plates. Furthermore, if imported, it would seem reasonable to expect plenty of finds on our eastern and south-eastern coasts—but Caister-by-Yarmouth, Attleborough, Winston near Eye in Suffolk, and London are the nearest instances, while Kent, Surrey and Sussex are almost completely devoid of any pewter, two jugs and one plate being the recorded total for the three counties. The Rijksmuseum in Holland confirm that they know of no manufacture of Gaulish pewter, as does the Romisch-Germanisches Zentral Museum at Mainz.

Distribution lists of rim types are given below (Tables 2 and 3). These show a density proportion of plates and dishes which differs from Wedlake's overall pattern. Some eighteen dishes and plates occur at Appleshaw and Manton, whereas the Fen and Fen edges of Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire show some seventy-five. Localized types do not appear to emerge, except Type 2*a* (five dishes from four find spots).

#### RIM TYPES OF PEWTER PLATES

As was originally stated, it was hoped to establish a sequence and dating of rim types, exactly as has been done for seventeenth-century English pewter. This has not yet become possible, but further finds, if well dated, may establish a sequence. If the



Fig. 2. Features of pewter plates and dishes.

suggestion as to the evolution of the alloy had substance, the range and swings of the mixtures would nullify attempts to date by this method.

The method of manufacture was that the plate, rim, and supporting ring underneath were cast. The stone of the moulds was coarse, so the plate was finished off on a primitive turning wheel. The circular 'lathe' marks are often clearly visible. Sometimes some features are not 100% true, or full. Sometimes there are untrimmed 'extras'—e.g. at Bath, one dish has a six-inch arc of extra waste on the rim. This all proves that they were cast and then trimmed up. It also shows that the turning apparatus was crude.

The circular features in most plates and dishes are shown in Fig. 2:

1. The rim.
2. The bead of the rim.
3. Sometimes a very small shallow groove close under the lee of the bead.
4. The bouge, or wall of the plate (Type 4 only).
5. Sometimes another very small groove close under the lee of the bouge.
6. Usually two or three concentric light grooves or incised circles, from one-quarter to two-thirds of the diameter of the plate. Because of erratic setting up, they are sometimes a little eccentric.

7. The chuck mark. The plate was crudely and firmly held in the centre, bruising the metal. Some observers have detected a 'flower' decoration in the centre of plain plates, but it is more likely to be purely involuntary damage, except in one or two dishes with decorated central panels.

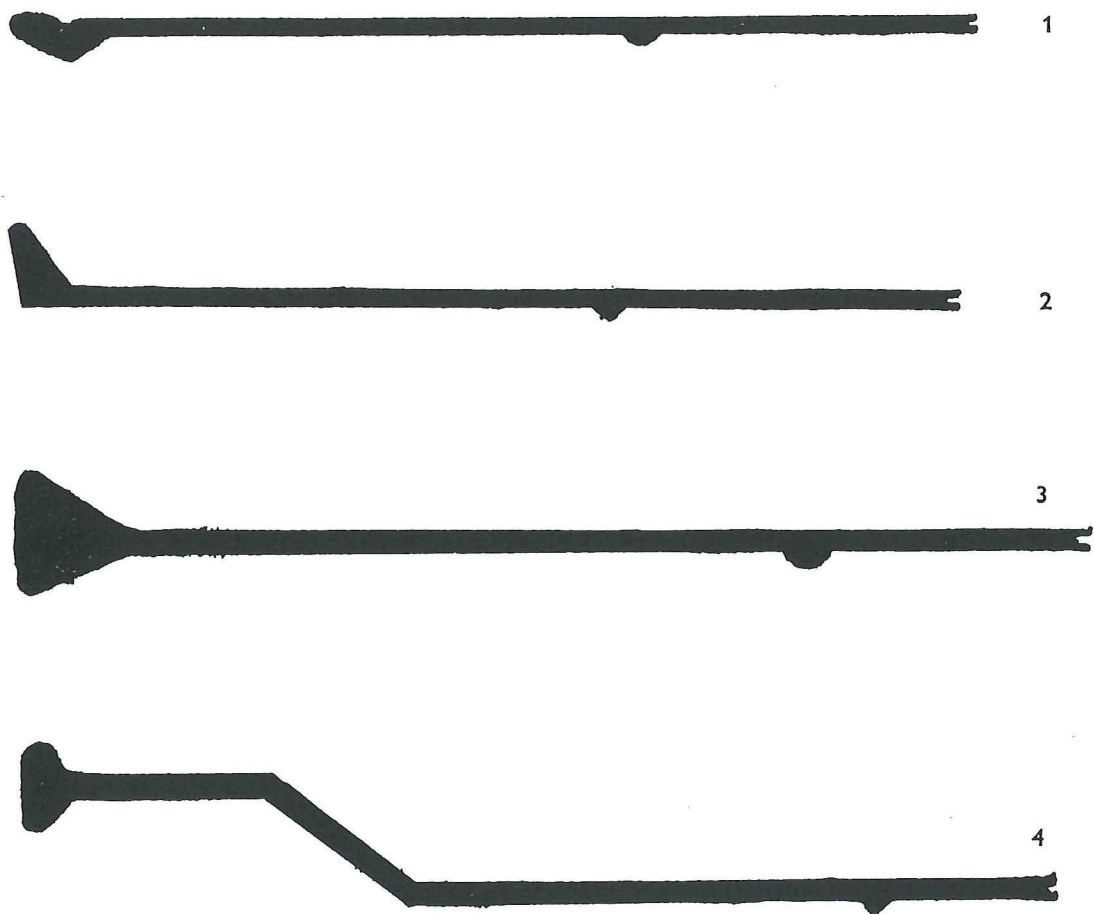


Fig. 3. Main rim types. Type 1, total number 7 (4 in Fen edge); Type 2, total number 17 (12 in Fen edge); Type 3, total number 3 (3 in Fen edge); Type 4, total number 73 (36 in East Anglia).

8. On the reverse, or bottom, invariably the only feature is the support ring or rings. This is most important in readily differentiating some Romano-British plates of type 4 from English eighteenth-century single-rim plates, which never have a support ring. This is so important that it is repeated: Romano-British plates can easily be mistaken for badly corroded eighteenth-century ones; the presence of the support rings makes Romano-British identification certain.

It will be helpful here to depict the major types (Fig. 3), with subsections of minor variations (see Table 1 and Fig. 4). Demarcation between these arbitrarily given types is sometimes difficult. The types are classified by apparent development and the chronological sequence is not clear, except that since the Bucklersbury House plates appear in an early context and are so unlike any others, they must be assumed early, despite their mature form.



There are two types of vessel which might well have been included but have not, since the present study is primarily of rim types. One is a cross between a cup and a plate and can best be described as like an inverted dustbin lid. Several variants occur.

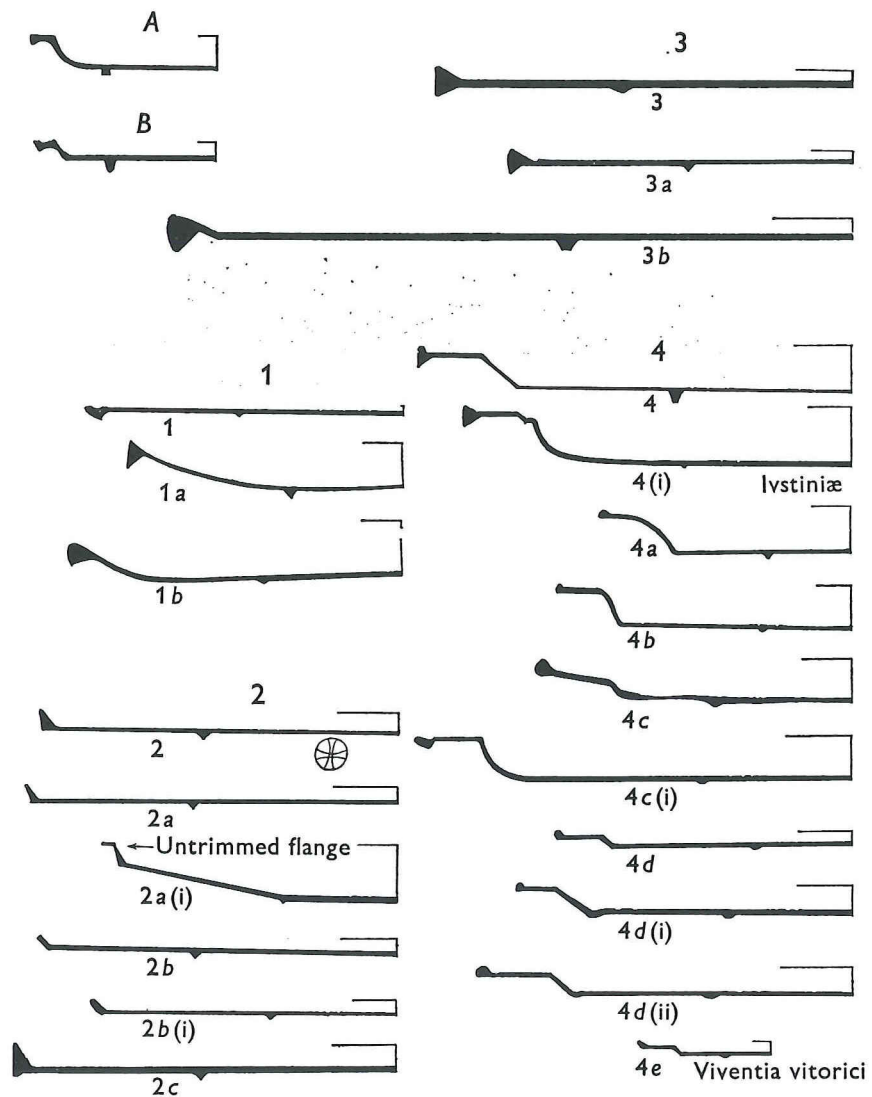


Fig. 4. Classified rim types of pewter plates and dishes (see Table 1).

Its use, with such a small base to rim proportion, is very doubtful. There is an example from Shapwick,<sup>1</sup> where a saucer was also found, showing the affinity to 'cups'. Flat shallow bowls with no rim are also omitted.

It must be borne in mind that dating evidence, where available, is for date of deposition. As pewter was obviously valued sufficiently to be hidden in separate hoards, one might guess at a period of ownership of perhaps fifteen years. However,

<sup>1</sup> Gray (1937), p. 168.

TABLE I. (Fig. 4). *Classified rim types, with examples*


Type	Provenance	Museum	References	Date A.D.
A	Bucklersbury House, London	Guildhall 18221	} Prof. Grimes letter to author	Third century
B	Bucklersbury House, London	Guildhall 18220		
1	Northwold, Norfolk	Norwich 489.960(2)	—	—
1a	Southwark, London	Brit. Mus. 69.7-26.3 and 4	—	—
1b	Lakenheath, W. Suffolk	Brit. Mus. 71.7-4.6	—	—
2	Bottisham Lode, Cambs.	Arch. and Eth.	—	—
2a	Icklingham, Suffolk	Brit. Mus. 44.2-23.4	—	—
2a(i)	Bath	Bath R.B. 106	—	—
2b	Coldham, Cambs.	Brit. Mus. 70.12-8.2	—	350
2b(i)	Northwold, Norfolk	Norwich 489.960	—	—
2c	Sutton, Cambs.	Arch. and Eth. 1891-41a	—	—
3	Sutton, Cambs.	Arch. and Eth. 1891-41b (and Brit. Mus.)	—	—
3a	Sutton, Cambs.	Brit. Mus. 96.3-7.3	—	—
3b	Welney, Norfolk	Arch. and Eth. 67.181	V.C.H. <i>Norfolk</i> , 1, p. 310	—
4	Appleshaw, Hants.	Brit. Mus. 97.12-18.5	Read; V.C.H. <i>Hants</i> (1900), 1, p. 297	c. 350
4(i)	Manton, Wilts.	Devizes 281 plain	Devizes Mus. Cat. (1934), p. 169; V.C.H. <i>Wilts.</i> (1957), 1, p. 1	Early fifth century
4a	Lakenheath, W. Suffolk	Brit. Mus. 71.7-4.5	—	—
4b	Appleshaw, Hants.	Brit. Mus. 97.12-18.30	—	350
4c	Isleworth, London	London Museum A 19574 (might be 4a worn)	—	—
4c(i)	Manton, Wilts.	Devizes 281 decorated	Devizes Mus. Cat., (1934); V.C.H. <i>Wilts.</i> (1957)	Early fifth century
4d	Whittlesea, Soke of Peterborough	Arch. and Eth. 1883-774a	—	—
4d(i)	Northwold, Norfolk	<i>Private possession</i>	—	—
4d(ii)	Not known	C. A. Peal ( <i>priv. poss.</i> )	—	—
4e	St Albans, Herts.	Inst. Arch.	Frere	Fourth century

there does not appear to have been much wear in use on plates and dishes—very few show evidence of knife or use marks. Also decorated dishes have no wear on the panels. Therefore, fifteen years is only a guess, and perhaps an average of twenty-five years' ownership before depositing in the hoards would be more accurate. Date of manufacture could be as much as fifty years earlier than deposition.

Distribution of rim types is very interesting—but local types seldom appear to emerge (Table 2). It is also interesting to note the associations of rim types, i.e. which types have been found in the same hoards (Table 3).

#### DECORATION

The decoration on Romano-British pewter takes seven forms:

1. Concentric rings.
2. Castellations on rim.
3. Dots on rim (on smaller pieces).
4. Religious—Chi Rho, etc.
5. Names of owners—e.g. 'IVSTINIAE' (Devizes).
6. Motif underneath  (Bottisham).
7. Decorative panels in the centre, and on border of rim.

1. Concentric rings appear on most plates and dishes, except the smallest. They are usually shallow turned grooves, in two pairs, or single pairs, and about one third of the radius of the well.

2. Castellations, or nicking of the rim as in a pie-crust, appears on some eighteen rims of various types. No doubt this was introduced for better gripping, but it does also appear on some of the very smallest plates. On some it is cast in the mould; on others it is filed, or cut with a saw. Distribution is widespread (see Table 5).

3. Dots are occasionally cast in the smallest pieces, on the rim. (Moulds at Bath show dots and castellations.)


4. Religious—Chi Rho, etc. It is not intended to discuss religious decoration in this paper, as it is a subject on its own. Suffice it to say that a few pieces of Romano-British pewter bear a scratched Chi Rho. Two others (not circular) bear a fish, an early Christian emblem.

5. Names—owner's name—scratched on the base:

(a) St Albans: a small plate with VIVENTIA VITORICI scratched on the base.

(b) Manton: one dish with IVSTINIAE on the base.

(c) Southwark: one dish with MARTINVS on the base.

6. A dish recently ploughed out at Bottisham bears  crudely scratched on the base.

The significance, if any, is not yet known. (Fig. 5a).

7. Panels (Pl. I–IV). Some twelve known pieces, plus two bowls and three or four more old finds which cannot now be traced, bear a circular panel of decoration within the usual concentric rings. It is, of course, possible that some, or all have some significance. The design is carried out by chisel punching or rouletted wheel. One, from Stamford, is unique. In all others, the chisel cuts are end to end in line astern, but, in the Stamford dish, the cuts are parallel like railway sleepers (Pl. III d). It is noteworthy that only two decorated dishes appear in the large Fen/Norfolk group—one from Attleborough and one from Welney, and perhaps eleven in the 'Somerset' group. It is particularly interesting that the only recorded instance of two exactly similar panels of decoration occur at Bath, and Meare, both in Somerset (see Table 5).

St George Gray<sup>1</sup> drew attention to comparable designs in Coptic textiles in the fourth and fifth centuries A.D. The writer can find no exact parallels in any other medium. The silver Anastasius dish from the Sutton Hoo Ship Burial is the nearest, bearing two features seen in pewter dishes—the interlaced squares, and the wave

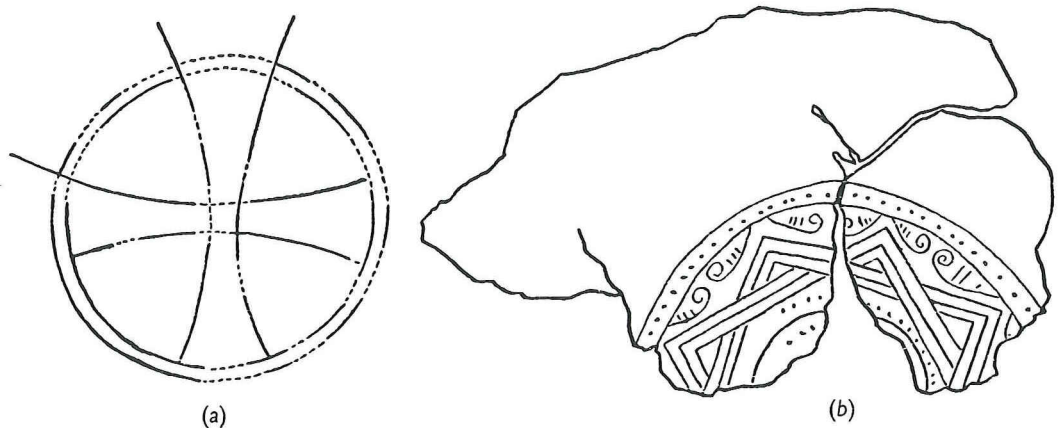


Fig. 5. Scale  $\frac{1}{2}$ . (a) Roughly scratched design on back of plate from Bottisham, Cambs. (b) Decorative panel on plate from Avebury Down, Wilts. (Table 6 and cf. Pl. III).

crest decoration. The Appleshaw dish (British Museum, 97.18-12.2) is the closest design in pewter. Silver dishes bearing decorated panels, such as that from Mildenhall, are quite different in conception of design. The examples are therefore presented in their groups of apparent similarity. Perhaps readers, or future research, or further finds, will throw light on this neglected subject.

In presenting these facts, the writer hopes that further evidence will be forthcoming. In particular, he hopes that future finds will be carefully excavated in order to find:


- Dateable examples of rim type.
- Evidence of manufacturing localities.
- Evidence of date and origin of decoration.
- Significance of decorative designs.

In the course of research, a considerable quantity of references have been accumulated, relating not only to plates and dishes, but also to the whole range of Romano-British pewter including cups, bowls, ewers and jugs. Should any reader wish for help, the writer would be pleased to co-operate; enquiries should be sent to him, c/o The Norfolk Research Committee, Castle Museum, Norwich.

The writer would like to acknowledge the co-operation of all museums and authorities concerned, in giving help, access, references and photographs, and particularly to Miss B. Green, Norwich Castle Museum, and Miss M. Cra'ster, Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, for advice in presentation.

<sup>1</sup> Gray (1939), p. 200.

TABLE 2. *List of all finds*Prefix *D*, Decorated panel; *C*, Castellation on rim; *X*, Rim type not known, for any reason.

Group	Museum	Number found	Rim types	References and notes	Date
<i>Fen, etc.</i>					
Abington Pigotts, Nr. Royston (Herts.)	Arch. and Eth. 51.344	4	<i>C1a, C1a, C4, X</i>	—	—
Attleborough (Norfolk)	Norwich 286.963	9	<i>D2c, 4, 4, 4, 4, X, X, X, X</i>	Some very fragmentary	Mid fourth century (pottery—C. Green)
Bottisham, Lode (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth.	1	2	 scratched under base	Pottery of all periods
Coldham (Cambs.)	Brit. Mus. 70.12-8	3	<i>2b, 4d, 4d</i>	—	—
Hockwold (Norfolk)	Norwich				
	34.346.958	1	<i>4d</i>	—	—
	690.966	3	<i>4b, 4d, 4e</i>	—	—
Icklingham (W. Suffolk)	Brit. Mus. 94.2-24, 44.2-23	12	<i>2a, 2b, 2b, 4a, 4b, 4b, 4d, X, X, X, X, X</i>	—	—
Isleham (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth. 22.742, -6, -8, -9	4	<i>2a, 4a, 4a, 4a</i>	—	—
Lakenheath (W. Suffolk)	Brit. Mus. 71.7-4	9	<i>1b, 4, 4a, 4a, 4a, 4d, 4d, X, X</i>	—	—
Northwold (Norfolk)	Norwich				
	489.960	2	<i>1, 2b(i)</i>	—	—
	<i>Private possession</i>	1	<i>4d(i)</i>	—	—
	Not traceable	3	<i>X, X, X</i>	—	—
St Ives (Hunts.)	St Ives	1	4	—	—
Stamford (Lincs.)	Brit. Mus. 27.1-61	1	<i>D4</i>	—	—
Sutton (Cambs.)	Brit. Mus. 96.3-7	5	<i>3a, 4, 4, X, X</i>	—	—
Sutton (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth. 1891.41	7	<i>2a, 2a, 2c, 3, C4, 4a, 4d</i>	—	—
Tallington (Lincs.)	Lincoln	1	4	Petch	Latter part of Roman period
Welney (W. Norfolk)	Arch. and Eth. 67.181	1	<i>CD3b</i>	Skertchley, p. 474; V.C.H. Norfolk, 1, 310; <i>Proc. C.A.S.</i> xli, 79, pl. xxvi, xxviii, xliv, 18-21. (The drawings are over imaginative and are <i>not</i> accurate—see Pl. Va)	—

West Row, Mildenhall, (Suffolk)	Arch. and Eth. 1914.1072/3, 340	4	2a, 4a, 4c(i), X	—	—
Whittlesea (Soke of Peterborough)	Arch. and Eth. 1884.774a	2	4a, 4d	—	—
<i>South-west</i> Appleshaw (Hants.)	Brit. Mus. 97.12-18	11	D2b, D4, C4, 4, 4b, D4d, D4d, D4d, C4d, C4d, X	Read	c. 350
Avebury Down (Wilts.)	Devizes 5/60	1	X	Two decorated fragments	Late third to fourth century (pottery— F. K. Annable)
Bath (Somerset)	Bath R.B. 106	4	2a(i), 2b, 4b, C4d	Also a decorated bowl (see Table 6)	—
Camerton (Somerset)	Som. Arch. Soc.	1	1	Wedlake	Third century
Manton, Preshute (Wilts.)	Devizes 281	3	4(i), D4c(i), X	IVSTINIAE scratched underneath 4(i).	Not earlier than 395
	Not at present traced	9	D?4, CD?4, CD?4, 4, 4, 4, X, X, X	The only evidence at present	
Meare (Somerset)	Taunton	1	X	available is a photograph	
Rushall Down, Pewsey (Wilts.)	Brit. Mus. 1902.6-16	1	4	of a sketch made at the time of the find. By comparison with the three dishes at Devizes Museum, it is obviously unreliable. Devizes Mus. Cat. (1934), p. 169; V.C.H. <i>Wilts.</i> (1957)	
<i>London</i> Bucklersbury House, (London)	Guildhall 18221, 18220	2	A, B	Quite unlike any other type	'At latest, third century' (W. F. Grimes)
Isleworth (Middlesex)	London Mus. A 19574	1	CD4c	'London in Roman Times'	—
Southwark (London)	Brit. Mus. 69.7-26	2	1a, 1a	MARTINVS underneath one	—
<i>Northamptonshire</i> Duston (Northants.)	Northampton	9	2, 4a, 4b, 4b, C4b, C4b, X, X, X	Sharp, pp. 118-130; V.C.H. <i>Northants.</i> 1	—
Irchester (Northants.)	Northampton	1	4a	—	—
Newbottle (Northants.)	Northampton	1	2	—	—
Whiston (Northants.)	Northampton	1	4a	—	—

TABLE 2 (cont.)

Group	Museum	Number found	Rim types	References and notes	Date
<i>Random</i>					
Caerwent (Mon.)	Nat. Mus. of Wales	1	<i>DX</i>	Ashby, Hudd and King	—
Caister-by-Sea (Norfolk)	Norwich 193.961	2	<i>4b, X</i>	—	Mid fourth century (C. Green)
Colchester (Essex)	Colchester 3807-19, 1945-31	2	<i>4a, 4d</i>	Note cast dots on 1945-31	—
St Albans (Herts.)	Arch. Inst., Univ. of London	2	<i>C4d, 4e</i>	Frere, <i>VIVENTIA VITORICI</i> underneath (4e)	Fourth century
Scunthorpe (Lincs.)	Scunthorpe	1	<i>4b</i>	—	Loosely second to fourth century
Winston, Eye (Suffolk)	Ipswich	1	<i>C4</i>	Note cast dots	—
Unknown provenance	R. W. Cooper ( <i>priv. poss.</i> )	1	<i>4c(i)</i>	—	—
Unknown provenance	C. A. Peal ( <i>priv. poss.</i> )	1	<i>4d(ii)</i>	—	—

TABLE 3. Associations with other rim types in each find spot

<b>A</b>	<i>B</i> Bucklersbury	<b>3<sup>a</sup></b>	2 <i>a</i>	<b>4<sup>b</sup></b>	2 <i>a</i>
<b>B</b>	<i>A</i> Bucklersbury		2 <i>c</i>		2 <i>b</i>
<b>I</b>	2 <i>b</i> (i) } Northwold		3		4 <i>a</i>
	4 <i>b</i> (i) }		4		4 <i>d</i>
<b>1<i>a</i></b>	4 Abington Pigotts		4 <i>a</i>		2 <i>b</i>
<b>1<i>b</i></b>	4 } Lakenheath	<b>3<sup>b</sup></b>	4 <i>d</i>		4
	4 <i>a</i> }		<i>Solo</i>		4 <i>d</i>
	4 <i>d</i> }	<b>4</b>	4(i) }		2 <i>a</i> (i)
<b>2</b>	4 <i>a</i> } Duston		4 <i>c</i> (i) }		2 <i>b</i>
	4 <i>b</i> }		2 <i>a</i>		4 <i>d</i>
<b>2<i>a</i></b>	4 <i>a</i> Isleham		4 <i>a</i>		2 } Duston
	2 <i>c</i>		2 <i>b</i>		4 <i>a</i>
	3		4 <i>b</i>		4 <i>d</i>
	4 } Sutton		4 <i>d</i>		4 <i>e</i>
	4 <i>a</i>		2 <i>c</i> Attleborough	<b>4<sup>c</sup></b>	<i>Solo</i>
	4 <i>d</i>		1 <i>a</i> Abington Pigotts	<b>4<sup>c</sup>(i)</b>	2 <i>a</i> } West Row
	2 <i>b</i>		1 <i>b</i>		4 <i>a</i> }
	4 <i>a</i> } Icklingham		4 <i>a</i>		4 } Manton
	4 <i>b</i> }		4 <i>d</i>		4(i) }
	4 <i>d</i> }		2 <i>a</i>	<b>4<sup>d</sup></b>	2 <i>a</i> (i)
	4 <i>a</i> } West Row		2 <i>c</i>		2 <i>b</i>
	4 <i>c</i> (i) }		3		4 <i>b</i>
<b>2<i>a</i>(i)</b>	2 <i>b</i> } Bath		3 <i>a</i>		1 <i>b</i>
	4 <i>b</i> }		4 <i>a</i>		4 } Lakenheath
	4 <i>d</i> }		4 <i>d</i>		4 <i>a</i>
<b>2<i>b</i></b>	4 <i>d</i> Coldham	<b>4(i)</b>	4		2 <i>a</i>
	4		4 <i>c</i> (i) }		2 <i>c</i>
	4 <i>b</i> } Appleshaw	<b>4<i>a</i></b>	1 <i>b</i>		3 } Sutton
	4 <i>d</i> }		4		3 <i>a</i>
	2 <i>a</i>		4 <i>d</i>		4
	4 <i>a</i> } Icklingham		2 <i>a</i> Isleham		4 <i>a</i>
	4 <i>b</i> }		2 <i>a</i>		2 <i>a</i>
	4 <i>d</i> }		2 <i>c</i>		2 <i>b</i>
	2 <i>a</i> (i) } Bath		3		4 <i>a</i>
	4 <i>b</i> }		3 <i>a</i>		4 <i>b</i>
	4 <i>d</i> }		4		2 <i>b</i> Coldham
<b>2<i>b</i>(i)</b>	1 } Northwold		4 <i>d</i>		2 <i>b</i>
	4 <i>d</i> (i) }		2 <i>a</i>		4 } Appleshaw
<b>2<i>c</i></b>	2 <i>a</i>		2 <i>b</i>		4 <i>b</i>
	3		4 <i>b</i>		4 <i>a</i> Colchester
	3 <i>a</i>		4 <i>d</i>		4 <i>e</i> St Albans
	4 } Sutton		2 <i>a</i>		4 <i>b</i>
	4 <i>a</i>		4 <i>c</i> (i) }		4 <i>e</i>
	4 <i>d</i>		2 } West Row		4 <i>b</i>
	4 Attleborough		4 <i>b</i> }		4 <i>a</i> Whittlesea
<b>3</b>	2 <i>a</i>		4 <i>d</i> } Duston	<b>4<sup>d</sup>(i)</b>	1 } Bath
	2 <i>c</i>		4 <i>d</i> Colchester		2 <i>b</i> (i) }
	3 <i>a</i>		4 <i>d</i> Whittlesea	<b>4<sup>e</sup></b>	4 <i>d</i> St Albans
	4 } Sutton				4 <i>b</i>
	4 <i>a</i>				4 <i>d</i>
	4 <i>d</i>				



TABLE 4. *Castellation*

(Rim types, and find spots.)

1a	3b	4	4b	4c	4c(i)	4d	4e
Abington Piggotts Abington Pigotts	Welney	Appleshaw  Sutton  Manton Manton Abington Pigotts	Duston  Duston	Winston  Southwark	Unknown provenance	Appleshaw  Appleshaw  St Albans Bath	Isleworth

TABLE 5. *Decoration list*

Find spot	Type	Museum	Reference	Decorated panel size (in.)	Notes
Shapwick	Bowl	Taunton	Gray, <i>c.</i> 400 (1939), p. 200, n. 36	2½	Continuous lines interlaced, corners forming multi squirls. Note 'wave crest' circle around (Pl. III b)
Bath	Bowl	Bath R.B.97	—	2½	All detail appears exactly as Shapwick above, although bowl shape differs
Appleshaw	4d	Brit. Mus. 97.12-18.10	Read; V.C.H. <i>Hants.</i> 1 (1900), p. 297	3½	Interlaced straight lines forming a chequer pattern, right angle corners, panels filled with spirals, squirls, etc. (Pl. III a)
Attleborough	X	Norwich 286.963	—	3½	As Appleshaw 10 above, but with the interlacing lines forming triangles flanked by squirls, beyond each side of the main square (Pl. III c)
Appleshaw	4d	Brit. Mus. 97.12-18.7	Above	4½	Interlacing forming a chequer of small squares. The ends of lines run off in curves to join those parallel to them (Pl. III d)
Caerwent	X	Newport, Mon.	Ashby, Hudd and King	3	Although there are no interlaced squares, this seems to be a simplified forerunner, or degenerate, form of Attleborough (Pl. III c). Note the 'flower' in the centre, which appears in all of this type (Pl. IV a)

Find spot	Type	Museum	Reference	Decorated panel size (in.)	Notes
Avebury Down	X	Devizes 5/60	—	c. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	The simplest example of the second square interlacing (Fig. 5b)
Appleshaw	4	Brit. Mus. 97.12-18.9	Above	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	As above, but more sophisticated; second square interlacing, and a closer parallel to Attleborough (Pl. IV c)
Appleshaw	X	Brit. Mus. 97.12-18.2	Above	5 $\frac{7}{8}$	Much more complex interlacing and curved 'ribbon' is added to enrich squares. Note wave crest circle around as Shapwick and Bath (Pl. III b) cf. the silver Anastasius dish, Sutton Hoo Ship Burial, pl. 12 (Pl. IV b)
Appleshaw	4	Brit. Mus. 97.12-18.4	Above	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	As above, but with slightly simpler pattern in the 'ribbon' and no wave crest border. Note this dish has a decorated band around rim, formed by wavy ribbon and squirls (Pl. IV d)
Welney	3b	Arch. and Eth. 67.181	V.C.H. <i>Norfolk</i> , 1, 310; Skertchely, p. 474; <i>Trans. Camb. Philos. Soc.</i> (1870); <i>Proc. C.A.S.</i> XLIII (1950), p. 19; <i>Proc. C.A.S.</i> XLI (1948), 79	9	The decoration is much more detailed on this huge dish (28 in. diameter). It has been fancifully drawn in the references given. Comparison of the excellent photograph by Mr Hallam Ashley, with the illustrations in the references, will show the extent of the 'enterprise' apparent in the drawings (Pl. V a)
Manton	4c(i)	Devizes 281	<i>Devizes Mus. Cat.</i> 11 (1934), p. 169; V.C.H. <i>Wilts.</i> (1957); 1, pt. 1 <i>Illus. London News</i> , Feb. 1884	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	The author has not been able to trace the majority of this hoard. Those extant do not closely resemble the illustration in the <i>Illustrated London News</i> . There appear to be three decorated dishes in this hoard not yet traced (Pls. V b and VI)
Isleworth	4c	London Museum A 19574	<i>London in Roman Times</i> , London Mus. Cat., no. 3, p. 120	2.9	An unsophisticated, crude and disjointed effort (Pl. V c)
Stamford	4	Brit. Mus. 27.1-61.1	—	4 $\frac{3}{8}$	Quite unique, in style and treatment. The decoration is carried out by the incisions being at right angles to the line of progress. The centre shows a 'wheel' arrangement, surrounded by an outer circle containing seven 'trees' (or perhaps branched candelabra), and six 'X's', two of which may incorporate an attempt at Chi Rho (Pl. V d)

TABLE 6. *Metal composition*

(Items are *not* confined to plates and dishes)

	Find spot	Museum catalogue numbers		Tin (%)	Reference	Date
'Fish' dish	Appleshaw (Hants.)	Brit. Mus.	97.18-12	99.18	Wedlake	350 A.D.
Dish	Appleshaw (Hants.)	Brit. Mus.	97.18-12	90.5	—	350 A.D.
Cup	Appleshaw (Hants.)	Brit. Mus.	97.18-12	76	Tylecote, 68	350 A.D.
Small dish	Appleshaw (Hants.)	Brit. Mus.	97.18-12	72	Tylecote, 68	350 A.D.
Flanged cup	Appleshaw (Hants.)	Brit. Mus.	97.18-12	70.6	Tylecote, 68	350 A.D.
Dish	Appleshaw (Hants.)	Brit. Mus.	97.18-12	65	Tylecote, 68	350 A.D.
Plate	Camerton (Somerset)	Som. Arch. Soc.	—	40.5	Wedlake	300 A.D.
Dish	Burwell (or Whittlesea) (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth.	83.774	43	Liversidge, 6-10	—
Dish	Abington Pigotts (Herts.)	Arch. and Eth.	51.344 <i>a</i>	62	Liversidge, 6-10	—
Dish	Abington Pigotts (Herts.)	Arch. and Eth.	51.344 <i>a</i>	70	Liversidge, 6-10	—
Tazza	Sutton (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth.	22.753	62	Liversidge, 6-10	—
Dish	Sutton (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth.	1891.41	68	Liversidge, 6-10	—
Dish	Isleham (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth.	22.755	72.5	Liversidge, 6-10	—
Dish	Isleham (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth.	22.758	76	Liversidge, 6-10	—
Dish	Isleham (Cambs.)	Arch. and Eth.	22.752	69	Liversidge, 6-10	—
Bowl	Icklingham (West Suffolk)	Arch. and Eth.	H.192 <i>a</i>	79	Liversidge, 6-10	—
	West Row, Mildenhall (West Suffolk)	Arch. and Eth.	1941.107.9	74.25	Liversidge, 6-10	—
	West Row, Mildenhall (West Suffolk)	Arch. and Eth.	1941.107.2	73	Liversidge, 6-10	—

Rim Type 4*a* is represented by recorded tin compositions of 43, 72.5, 76 and 69%.

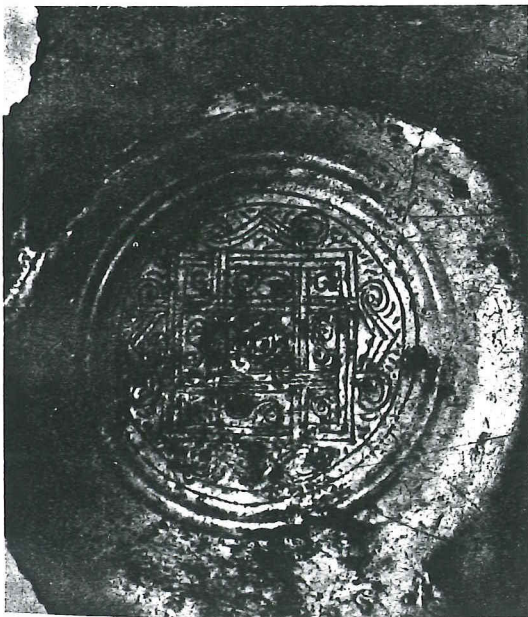
*Note.* Although the Appleshaw hoard items are of presumably similar date, they show a great variety of composition, 99 to 65%.



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Romano-British pewter dishes with decorative panels. (a) Appleshaw, no. 10, Hants.  
(b) Shapwick, Somerset. (c) Attleborough, Norfolk. (d) Appleshaw, no. 7.



(a)



(b)

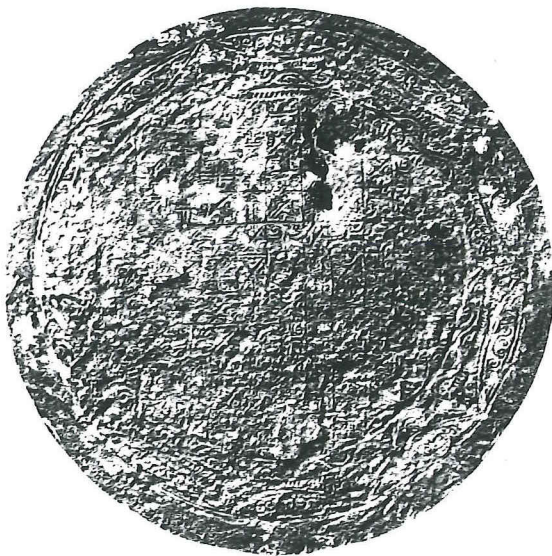


(c)



(d)

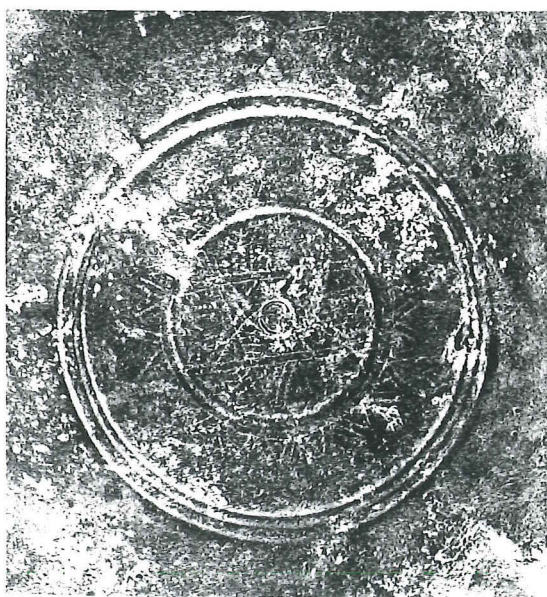
Romano-British pewter dishes with decorative panels. (a) Caerwent, Mon. (b) Appleshaw, no. 2, Hants. (c) Appleshaw, no. 9. (d) Appleshaw, no. 4.



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Romano-British pewter dishes with decorative panels. (a) Welney, Norfolk. (b) Manton, Wilts. (c) Isleworth, Middlesex. (d) Stamford, Lincs.



Pewter hoard from Manton, Wilts. (*Illustr. London News*, 1884.)  
(Asterisk below pieces stated to be in Devizes Museum;  
some only of these are recognizable).

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## ABBREVIATIONS

Arch. and Eth.	Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge
Bath	Roman Baths Museum, Bath
Brit. Mus.	British Museum
Inst. Arch.	Institute of Archaeology, University of London
Nat. Mus. of Wales	National Museum of Wales, Cardiff.
Norwich	Norwich Castle Museum
Som. Arch. Soc.	Somerset Archaeological Society, Taunton





## Pewter hoard found in Berks gravel pit

Part of the third largest-known pewter hoard, one of the most remarkable Roman British finds of recent years, being examined in the Department of Antiquities of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. Twenty-two pieces of pewter were discovered in a gravel pit at Appleford, Berks, by the Abingdon

## Big hoard of Roman pewter in gravel pit

23/12/68  
Daily Telegraph Reporter

TWENTY-TWO pieces of Roman British pewter have been found in a gravel pit at Appleford, Berks, by Abingdon Archaeological Society.

With the hoard—the third largest known—was ironwork, wood fragments, leather and pottery. All were deep in a pit owned by the Amey Group from which water had been pumped. The immersion in water is thought to have preserved the pewter.

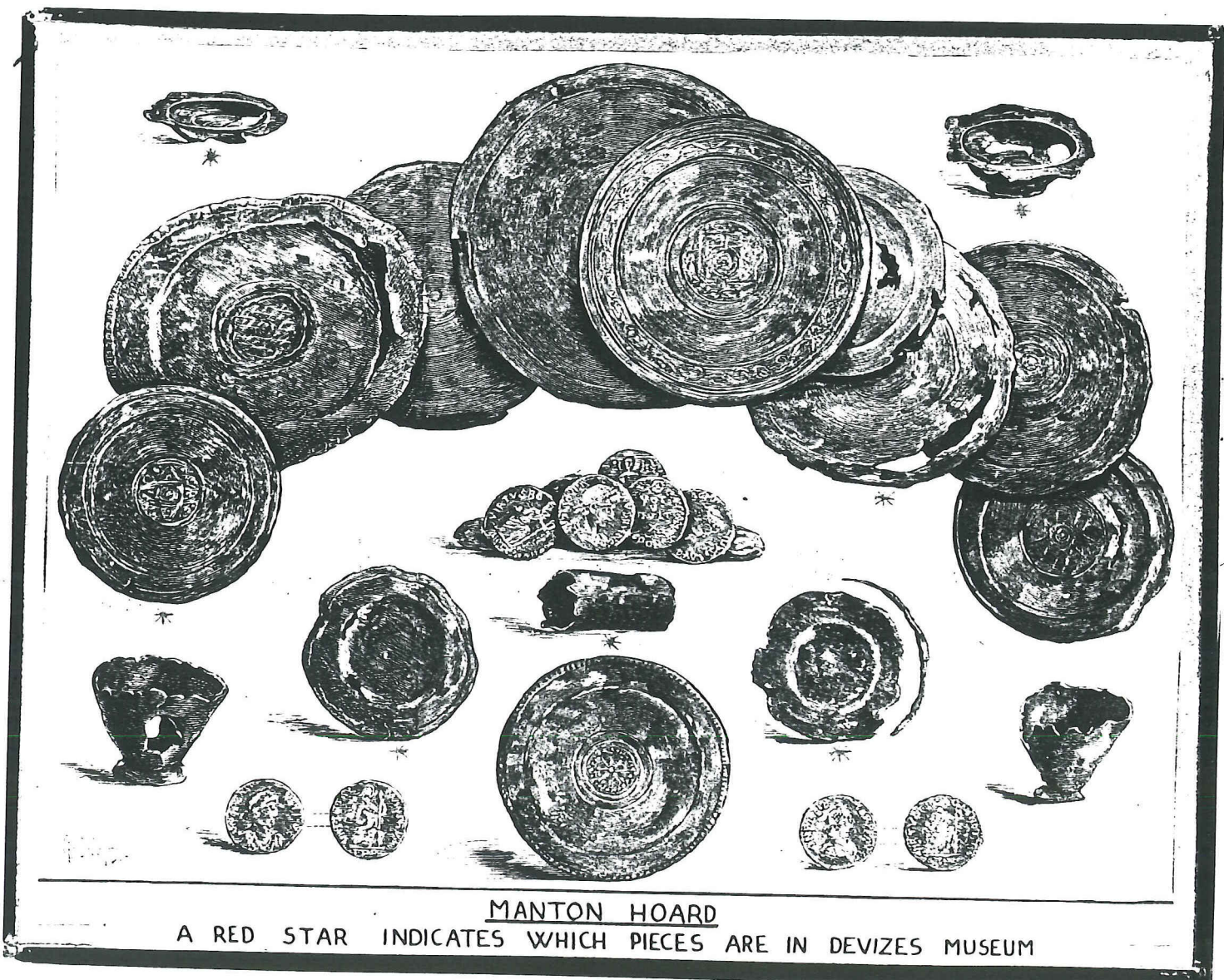
★

Mr. David Brown, assistant keeper of antiquities, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, thinks the hoard, which is in his care, was put in a well for safety during a time of disorder at the end of the 4th century or beginning of the 5th.

It is believed that some of the pieces were 100 years old when buried. One plate has the inscription: "Pacata Emita Parta Sua Iovernianus Donavit."

Mr. Mark Hassell, of the Institute of Archaeology, London, thinks this indicates ownership by Pacata, a woman. Her name appears also on a second plate. Freely interpreted the rest of the inscription reads: "Vernianus dedicated his purchases to Jupiter."

*Handwritten notes:*  
11/12/68  
P. J. ...



MANTON HOARD

A RED STAR INDICATES WHICH PIECES ARE IN DEVIZES MUSEUM

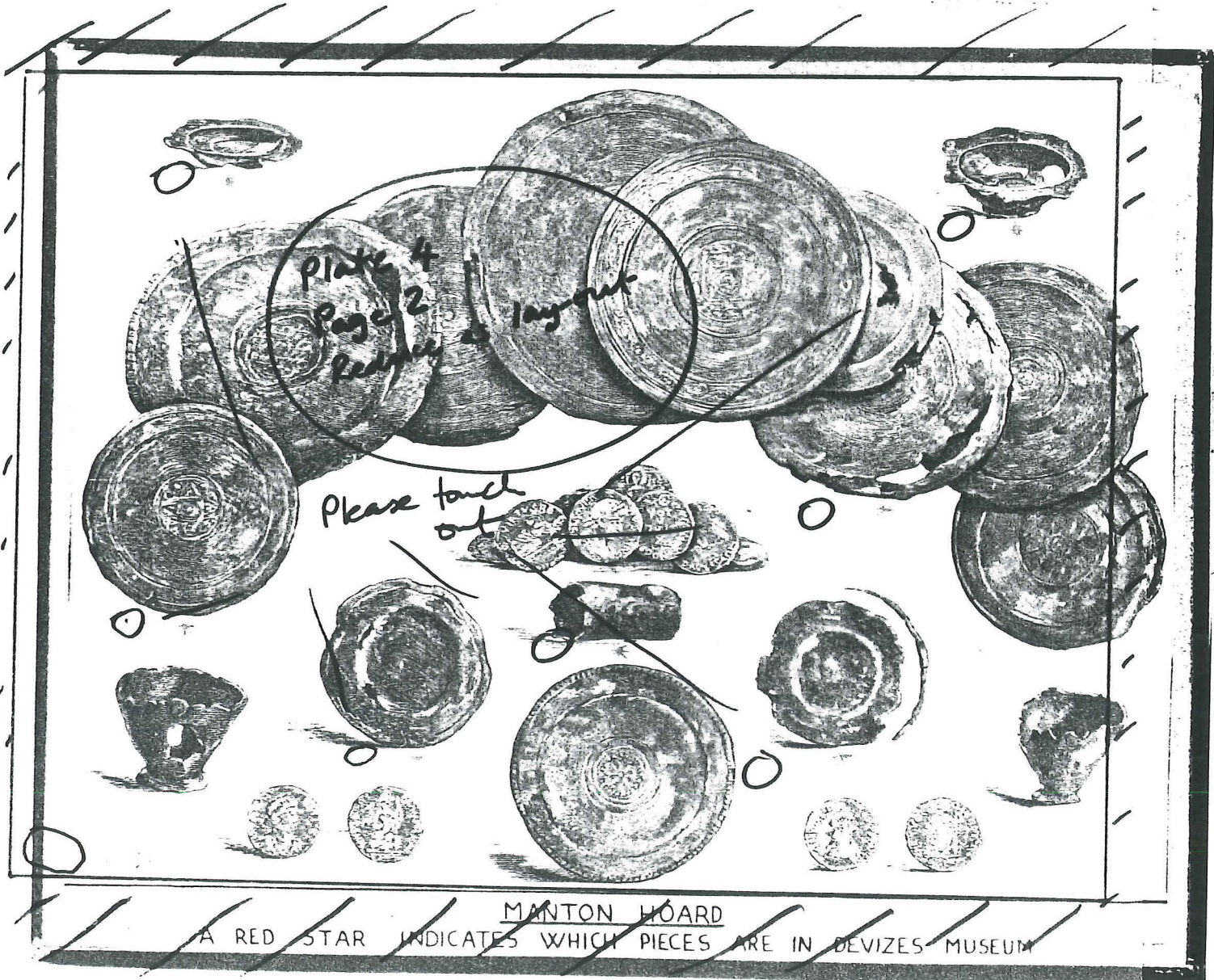


Plate 4  
Page 2  
Red Star layout

Please touch out

MANTON HOARD

A RED STAR INDICATES WHICH PIECES ARE IN DEVIZES MUSEUM