

9. SCARBOROUGH WARE FROM THE OVERGATE, DUNDEE¹

MR G. C. Dunning² has already drawn attention to a sherd of Scarborough ware among a large quantity of medieval and later material collected by Mr Daniel C. Henderson, F.S.A.SCOT., in 1961-2, from what appears to have been a series of middens, brought to light during excavations for the first phase of redevelopment at the Overgate, Dundee. The material rescued by Mr Henderson is now in the Dundee Museum and closer examination of the pottery has revealed a small group of Scarborough ware sherds, in which at least five different Scarborough vessel types are represented.³ The more significant sherds are listed below⁴ (fig. 7).

1. Part of round-sectioned handle. Light grey ware, with green glaze with light brown patches and finger-impressions at base.
2. Fragment of round-sectioned handle with multiple grooves. Light grey ware, with glaze varying from dark green to light greenish-brown.
3. Fragment of bearded mask, from the upper part of a jug of Scarborough type 5. Sandy buff ware with light grey core, and olive green glaze.
4. Sherd decorated with cluster of scales. Orange-buff ware, with honey-coloured glaze; the scales are covered with maroon and dark green glaze. Probably from vessel of Scarborough type 19.

¹ Published with the permission of Mr J. D. Boyd, D.A., F.M.A., Director of the Dundee City Museums.

² P.S.A.S., xcvi (1962-3), 235.

³ As published by Rutter, J. G., in *Medieval Pottery in the Scarborough Museum: 13th and 14th Centuries*, Scarborough and District Archaeological Society, Research Report No. 3 (1961). My sincere thanks are due to Mr Rutter, who kindly examined the sherds and confirmed my identifications.

⁴ I am indebted to Miss M. J. Webb, who assisted me in the drawing of the sherds.

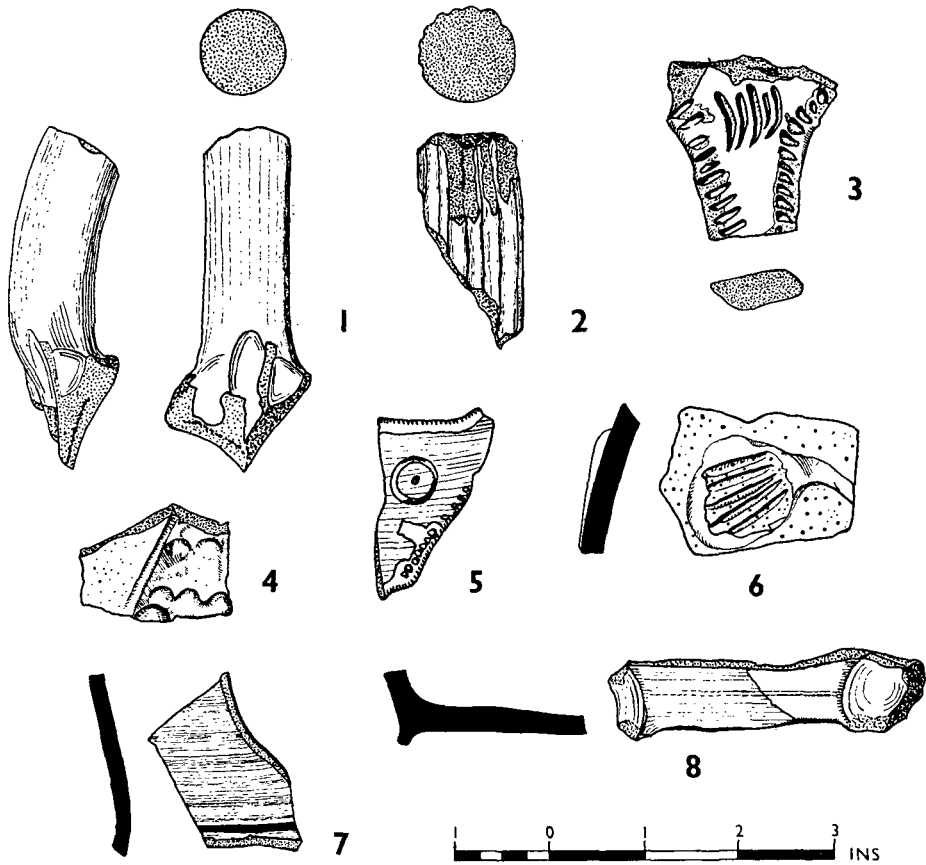


FIG. 7. Scarborough ware from the Overgate, Dundee

5. Part of mask from a vessel of Scarborough type 5. Buff ware with light grey core, and green-brown glaze.
6. Sherd decorated with hand, probably from vessel of Scarborough type 5. Pinkish-buff ware with grey core, and light green glaze with purple specks.
7. Neck sherd. Pinkish-buff ware, with olive green glaze.
8. Base fragment. With slightly sagging base and two finger-impressions around the basal angle. On its underside it has the imprint of the rim of a jug upon which it must have stood when packed in the kiln. Pinkish-buff ware, with a splash of green glaze.
9. Fragment of beard from the upper part of a jug of Scarborough type 5. Buff ware, with olive green glaze.
10. Fragment with circular brooch decoration similar to that found on vessels of Scarborough type 10. Pinkish buff ware, grey towards the surface, with light green-brown glaze.
11. Small sherd. Grey ware, pinkish-buff towards the inside surface, with olive green glaze. Decorated with applied pellet covered with brown-black glaze. Scarborough type 20.

12. Two small sherds. Pinkish-buff ware, with olive green glaze and decorated with scales. Scarborough type 18.

The discovery of imported Scarborough ware of late thirteenth- or early fourteenth-century date at Dundee has revealed a feature of the medieval town's trade with the English E. coast ports not mentioned in the historical sources.

HERBERT COUTTS