

Excavations in the northern annexe of the Roman fort at Camelon, near Falkirk, 1961-3

N McCord* and the late J Tait

The fort of Camelon lies $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles W of Falkirk and about 1,100 yards N of the Antonine Wall on one of the main roads running N from that barrier. Standing virtually on the S side of the Stirling gap, it is placed in an area which was for many centuries of crucial military importance (RCAHMS, *Stirlingshire* (1963), 107-12; Breeze *et al* 1973, 73-5). The site occupies a small eminence composed of sand and gravel, cut away on two sides by the meanderings of the River Carron.

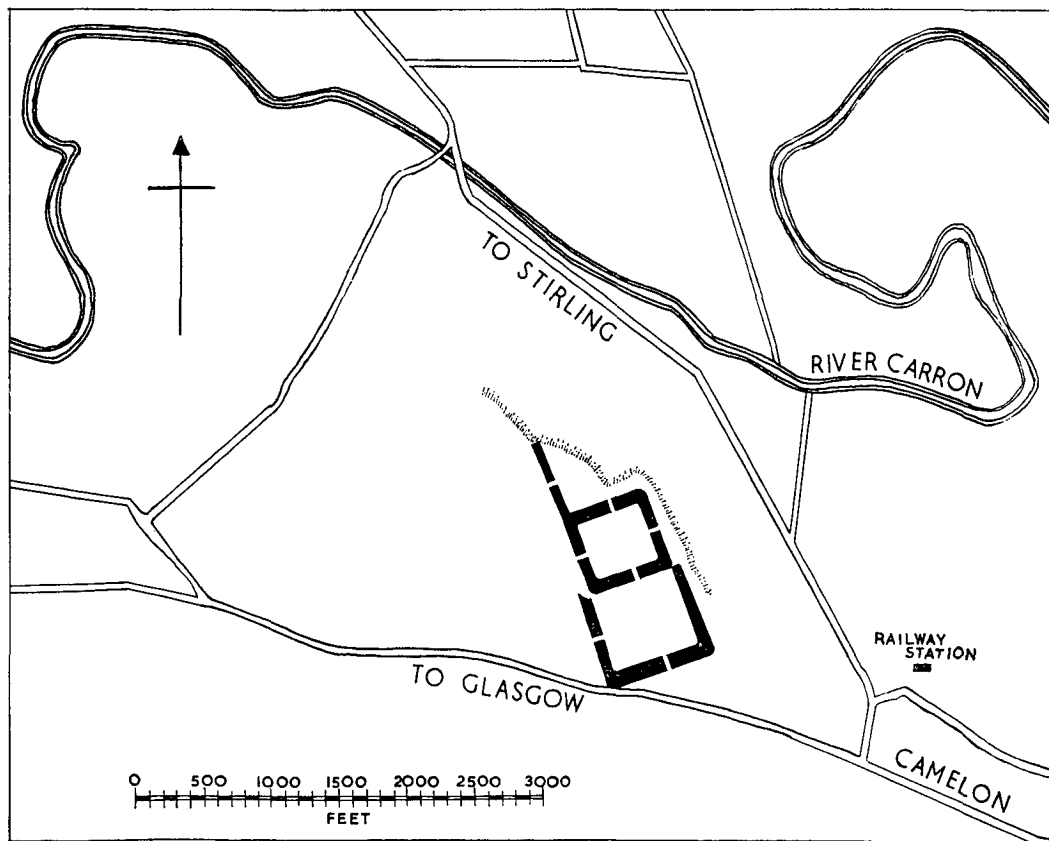


FIG 1 Camelon: location map

* Department of History, University of Newcastle upon Tyne

The Roman works at Camelon were extensively investigated at the turn of the century under the direction of members of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (Christison *et al* 1901). In more recent years the report on these excavations has been the subject of caustic criticism (Macdonald 1919, 126-38; Crawford 1949, 10-16), and indeed is clearly in some parts unreliable, but the general pattern of the works is reasonably clear. A Flavian fort or forts lay in the S part of the site, and has since been almost completely destroyed (for interim reports on Dr V A Maxfield's excavations here see *Britannia*, 7 (1976), 300; 8 (1977), 362-4; 9 (1978), 411). To the N the Antonine fort is still visible on the ground for the most part. Continuing the line of the W defences of this fort, slighter surface traces mark the remains of the W defences of a fortified annexe lying to the N of the Antonine fort itself. The greater part of this N annexe has been destroyed by quarrying, and the excavations of 1961-3 were carried out at the instance of the then Ministry of Public Building and Works to investigate the threatened area.

EXCAVATION

The Defences of the Annexe

a *Section across the W defences (see fig 3)*

At a point 200 ft N of the NW corner of the Antonine fort, a trench, 88 ft long, was dug to expose a section of the defences. The cut revealed the existence of two distinct phases in the defences.

Phase I. The defences consisted of a small ditch, measuring only 11 ft across and 5 ft deep with a rampart 30 ft wide composed of soil and gravel covered with turf; two small trenches defined the E and W sides of the rampart and retained traces of turfwork, presumably the remains of turf revetments.

The filling of the ditch showed three main levels:

- (i) In the bottom was an accumulation of mixed sand and gravel covered by a slight turf line. This probably represents natural spill into the ditch in its early days; the ditch is cut into sandy gravel which would tend to trickle. Immediately above this is a more sandy level, lying within which is a thin silt line, and then above this is a further level of sandy gravel. These deposits were quite clean, and showed no signs of disturbance, and can together be taken as representing natural accumulation in the ditch bottom.
- (ii) Above these clean layers is a thick mass of mixed sand, soil and gravel, containing many fragments of turf which probably represents debris from the Phase I rampart, pushed into the ditch when these defences were demolished.
- (iii) Above this mixed deposit was a thick layer of brown sand with very few stones in it; this was covered by a marked turf line. This layer probably represents a thorough filling of the small Phase I ditch at the time of the construction of the Phase II defences. Some of this material had in fact spilled over the lip of the Phase II ditch and trickled down its side.

Phase II. The defences in the second phase were more formidable. The rampart is similar in size and character to that of Phase I. In this section its exact dimensions could not be determined, for although the E revetment trench was found filled with turfwork 28 ft E of the E edge of the

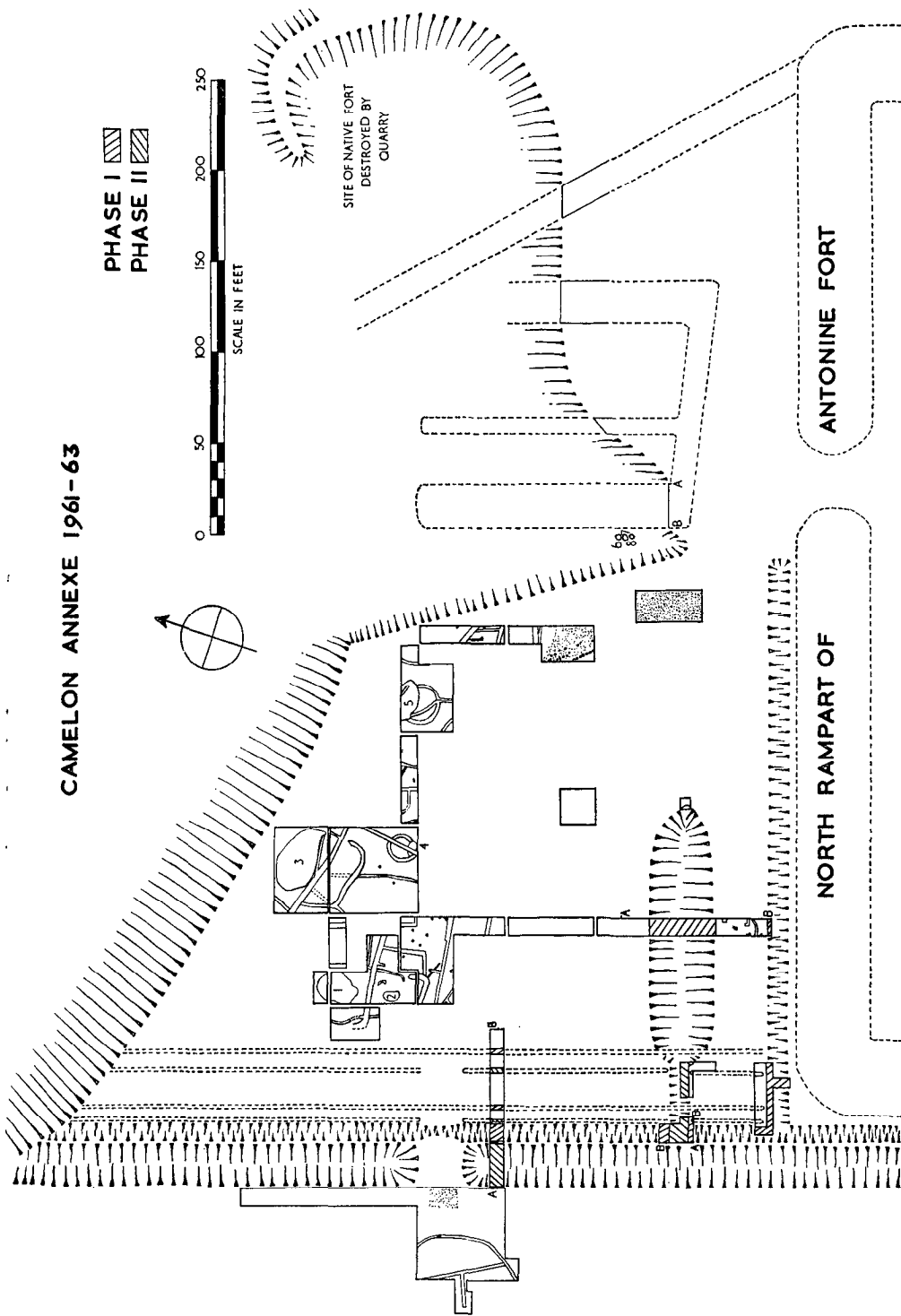


FIG 2 Camelon: plan of excavations

CAMELON ANNEXE DEFENCES

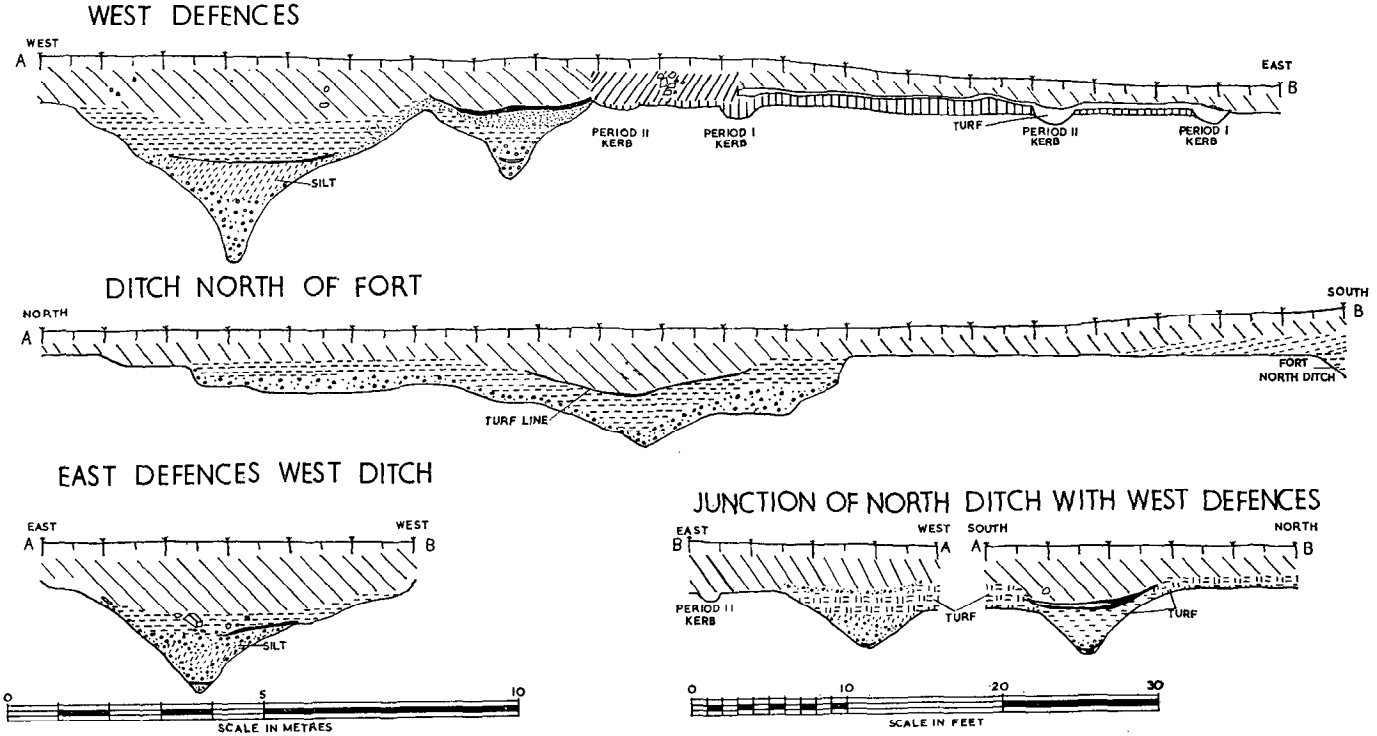


FIG 3 Camelon: sections

Phase I ditch (see fig 3), the W edge of the rampart at this point was disturbed by a medieval wall and a modern hedge-line. However, the W revetment trench of this rampart was picked up in another trench further S and its position indicated a rampart some 30 ft wide; it is clear that the Phase II rampart is of the same order as its forerunner. The ditch, however, is very different; 24 ft wide and 10 ft deep, it is a much more formidable obstacle than the Phase I ditch.

Again three main levels were distinguished in the filling of the Phase II ditch:

- (i) In the bottom of the ditch was a clean accumulation of sand and gravel overlain by a thick layer of silt.
- (ii) An accumulation of fairly clean brown sandy soil overlain by a turf line.
- (iii) A great mass of mixed sand, gravel and soil, containing many scraps of turf, presumably again rampart debris, either used as deliberate fill or spread by subsequent ploughing.

In both cases the ditch fillings indicate that the defences were deliberately slighted rather than left to natural accumulation or later cultivation to destroy them.

b *Junction of the W defences of fort annexe (see fig 2)*

A number of trenches were cut at the NW corner of the Antonine fort to establish the relationship of the defences of the annexe to those of the fort. The evidence produced showed that the W defences of the annexe corresponded to the defences of the fort itself and represented merely a prolongation of the line of the defences of the fort.

Moreover the defences of the fort are continued around its NW corner and run inside the annexe along the N side of the fort for some distance at least. Here again two ditches exist,¹ and both join the western defences in T-junctions. The larger and most northerly of these two ditches inside the annexe, narrowing markedly as it approaches its junction with the Phase II W ditch, clearly cuts through the filled in-Phase I W ditch; it does not, however seem to run right along the N face of the fort inside the annexe, but stops about 150 ft E of its junction with the W defences. In addition its profile is unusual (see fig 3), as if it had been re-cut, or perhaps never completed. One odd feature is that in both phases the W rampart must have been interrupted to allow the ditches to make their T-junctions at the NW corner of the fort. Certainly the ditches are continuous around the corner, and in addition the butt ends of the two revetment trenches were found stopping just 1 ft short of the S lip of the larger E-W ditch, suggesting a rampart interrupted for the passage of the ditch,

Nowhere was there any clear line of demarcation between defences of fort and defences of annexe in either phase; this suggests that the annexe was not simply something tacked on to the fort, but rather an integral part of the scheme of the works in both phases.

c *The E defences of the annexe*

On this side of the annexe the problems were more difficult. No surface traces whatever survive and quarrying had already affected this part of the site. In fact the area occupied by the E defences was not in the part of the site available for excavation, but from examination of the sections showing in the quarry face, and from a very small amount of digging carried out while part of the surface here was being stripped for quarrying, a certain amount of information was gleaned. There are in fact four ditches at the E side of the annexe, three representing the 'remarkable 3 trenches' of the 1900 report (Christison *et al* 1901, 343), and to the E of these a fourth ditch, running from the most easterly of the three parallel ditches in a slanting direction heading

for the NE corner of the Antonine fort. Clearly these ditches cannot all have belonged to the same phase. The most easterly of the three parallel ditches had gone out of use some time during the site's occupation, for its fill included a hard packed gravel surface as if a road had at some time occupied this line. We were able to determine within narrow limits the N end of this ditch as a result of quarrying operations conducted while we were on the site. The N ends of the other two of the group of three parallel ditches had already been destroyed by quarrying, and fig 2 shows their N ends as given in the 1900 report; it should however be noted that the 'remarkable 3 trenches' are in fact about 40 ft further E than is shown in the plan published after the 1900 excavation.² The dimensions of the four ditches to the E of the annexe were as follows:

| | <i>Width</i> | <i>Depth</i> |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| West parallel ditch | 24 ft | 7 ft |
| Centre parallel ditch | 9 ft | 5 ft |
| East parallel ditch | 23 ft 6 ins | 8 ft |
| Slanting easternmost ditch | 18 ft | 3 ft 6 ins |

It was not possible to discover any traces of ramparts in this part of the site.

Structural remains in the annexe area

A large part of the area destined for quarrying was stripped in order to determine whether or not the annexe had contained buildings. In addition to several large areas, 10 ft trenches were driven right across the annexe from N to S and from E to W in order to make as thorough a test as possible. As a result of these investigations it seems probable that the greater part of the annexe had never been built upon, but unfortunately it is clear that the area has been a good deal affected by subsequent cultivation. The very slight surface traces of the annexe defences suggested this, for the annexe had obviously not contained the great masses of stonework which made the fort itself relatively immune to such attentions, and the very scrappy nature of the structural evidence recovered from the annexe, as well as the shape of some of the pits found, confirmed that some of the occupation level had been destroyed.

Nevertheless it was clear that the NW area of the annexe had contained a series of timber buildings. Since only partial remains survived, it was not possible to recover complete plans or to determine the exact function of any of these buildings, but some clues as to their character emerged. They do not resemble standard Roman military structures, for some of them are irregular in shape, apparently with lean-to extensions; in some cases the construction trenches are far from straight. At one point the superimposed traces of five such structures could be distinguished. This number, and the nature of the surviving trenches, suggests that we are dealing here with temporary rather than permanent buildings. Nor would the volume of finds in the area suggest anything like intensive occupation; even if the area has been subsequently damaged it seems probable that more occupation material would have survived if there had been prolonged or large scale occupation. The construction trenches found were almost all quite clean and contained very few finds. The best analogy is the similar situation found in the annexe at Cadder (Clarke 1933, 60-1); somewhat further afield another parallel which could be cited are the structures excavated outside Birdoswald fort (Simpson & Richmond 1933, fig 15), which were interpreted as temporary sheds or storehouses erected while building operations were in progress and demolished when their purpose had been fulfilled. At Camelon these structures were not confined to the annexe, for an area to the W of the annexe's W defences contained traces of a similar Roman building, cut by a probable post-Roman building surviving as a very dark curving construction

trench. Very scrappy remains of timber were also found on the spit of natural gravel lying between the two E-W ditches to the N of the Antonine fort.

Some of the trenches found inside the annexe can scarcely have belonged to buildings, but must represent lines of fencing or similar materials used to divide the area of the annexe. In addition within the area of the annexe two circular construction trenches were found; they were the earliest features in those parts of the site, being cut by later pits and trenches, and presumably should be related to a pre-Roman native occupation. A little distance away a native site on the NE tip of the eminence has been excavated by Mrs Edwina Proudfoot (1978, 112-28). A few scraps of native pottery were found in an area of the annexe but none of them in any relation to structures.

In the NW part of the annexe a number of pits was also found. Two of them were of particular interest, those numbered 1 and 2 in fig 2. Pit no 2 was a very shallow saucer-shaped depression, perhaps representing only the surviving lower part of a larger pit. It was crammed with a solid mass of burnt material, composed almost entirely of burnt wattle and daub, clearly debris from some building. An analysis of the wood from this pit is given below; it is clearly the pegs and withies of wattlework. Pit 1 was much bigger, and some 8 ft deep. It also contained a good deal of burnt material, although it was not so compactly filled as Pit 2; in addition the larger pit contained a good deal of broken and damaged equipment – a rather battered shield boss, for example, fragments of harness, and a variety of other metal objects, most of them very badly decayed. These two pits were the only places on the site which produced evidence of destruction in any form. A number of other pits were also found in the annexe but only a few of them produced finds, and these are dealt with below when the finds are considered in more detail.

THE FINDS

Pottery (figs 4-5). The following abbreviations are used:

Corbridge stamps: Birley and Gillam 1948

Mumrills: Steer 1961

Newstead: Curle 1911

Newstead 1947: Richmond 1950

Samian Ware

Very few samian sherds were found. They included three scraps of decorated ware, very worn and decayed, from pit 1. Plain samian was as follows:

Dragendorff type

18 From filling of Phase I W ditch of annexe close to its junction with the E-W Phase II ditch. This piece bears a complete stamp, LOGIRNI, and must be a Flavian stray or survival.

18/31 Represented four times, twice in pit 8, once in pit 3 and once in the filling of the westernmost of the three parallel E ditches.

27 One fragment from the apparently Roman construction trench found in the area stripped outside the W defences of the annexe.

35 One example from pit 5.

In addition a small fragment was found from a construction trench just south of pit 3; this piece bears a scrap of potter's stamp in the form of a vertical stroke followed by an A.

Only one piece of samian ware is illustrated here (fig 4, no 1). This is the fragment of the Flavian bowl type 35 found in pit 5. Newstead, pl XXL, no 6 is very similar.

Coarse Pottery

The numbers refer to the illustrations in figs 4 and 5.

2 Jar in light grey fabric with burnished lines on neck, soot encrusted. Pit 3.

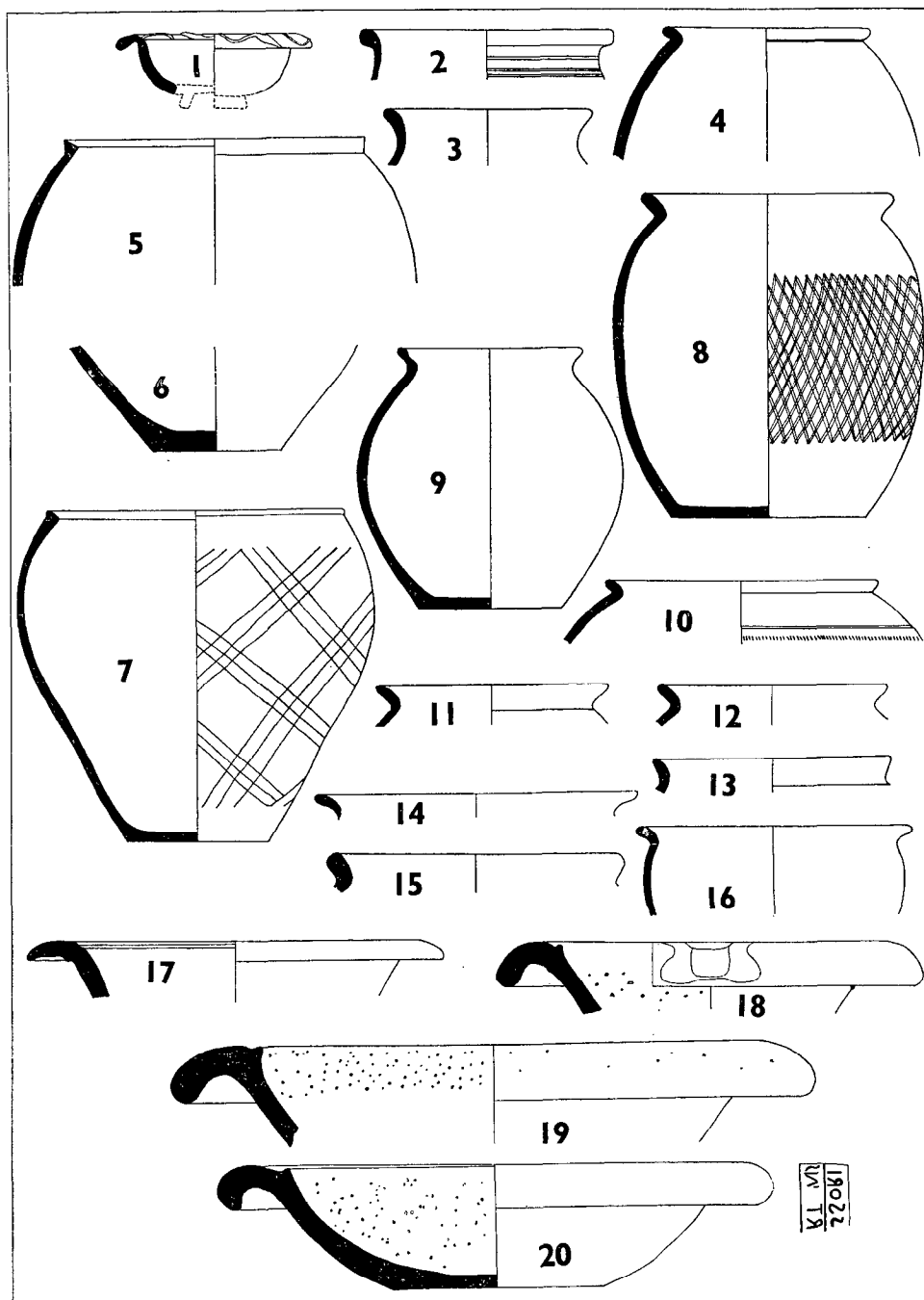


FIG 4 Camelon: pottery (scale 1 : 4)

- 3 Jar of dark coated buff fabric; cf Newstead 1947, 32, no 15. From a construction trench in the area stripped to the W of the annexe.
- 4 Cooking pit in dark fabric; cf Gillam no 118, AD 125–60. Find spot as no 3 above.
- 5 Cooking pot in light buff fabric containing brown flecks, and with a smooth light brown surface (BB 2) Pit 3. AD 140–60 in the N.
- 6 Base of vessel in similar fabric to that of no 5, and from same deposit.
- 7 Cooking pot in hard brown fabric (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 29. From a construction trench to SW of pit 3.
- 8 Cooking pot in grey gritty fabric, with black burnished and sooty surface (BB 1); cf Gillam no 117, AD 140–60. Pit 3.
- 9 Jar with seating for lid in pink self-coloured fabric, with sooty surface; cf Gillam no 150, AD 140–80. Pit 3.
- 10 Light grey fabric with darker grey surface. Flavian; possibly a survivor in its context. Pit 1.
- 11 Brown fabric with dark grey surface (BB 2). Vessels of this form appear in eastern Britain at various dates between the early years of Hadrian and the close of the second century. In Scotland they can hardly be earlier than 140 and need not be later than 160; cf Mumrills no 35. Find spot as for no 3.
- 12 Reddish brown fabric, with burnished darker surface (BB 2). For date see no 11. Unstratified.
- 13 Black fabric, probably once burnished. Several joining fragments found in pits 7, 8 and 9.
- 14 Light brown fabric, smooth surface (BB 2). For date see no 11. Found with no 7.
- 15 Grey fabric with darker surface, burnished; cf Gillam no 131, AD 140–80. Pit 3.
- 16 Bowl in pink self-coloured fabric. Find spot as no 3.
- 17 Bowl in a soft reddish pink fabric; cf Gillam no 294, AD 120–50. From Pit 1.
- 18 Mortarium in buff fabric with brown grit; cf Gillam no 245, AD 110–60. Pit 3.
- 19 Mortarium with light buff fabric with white grit on rim as well as inside the vessel; cf Gillam no 238, AD 70–110. Pit 5.
- 20 Mortarium in gritty red fabric with a cream slip, with brown and white grit inside. Bears retrograde stamp of MESSORIUS MARTIUS; cf Birley and Gillam 1948, no 40, AD 130–60. Find spot as no 3.
- 21 Mortarium in buff fabric with white grit. Bears herringbone stamp from one of the Colchester dies; cf Gillam no 261. Similar forms and similar dies appear on the Antonine Wall in the period 140–60 and continue on the market further S for some time thereafter. From pits 6–8.
- 22 Mortarium in buff fabric with brown and white grit. Probably a Colchester product and of about the same date as no 21. Pit 3.
- 23 Bowl in grey fabric with dark grey surface (BB 1); cf Gillam no 233, AD 125–60. Pit 3.
- 24 Bowl in grey fabric, burnished (BB 2). Bowls and dishes in BB 2 with this form of rim were on the market at various times between c 120 and c 180. On or near the Antonine Wall they can hardly be earlier than 140 and need not be later than 160. Pits 6–8.
- 25 Bowl in grey sandy fabric probably once burnished (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 42. For date see no 24. Pits 6–8.
- 26 Bowl in grey fabric probably once burnished (BB 2); cf Mumrills, no 42. For date see no 24. Unstratified.
- 27 Bowl in greyish brown fabric with grey surface (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 43. For date see no 24. Pits 6–8.
- 28 Dish in black burnished fabric (BB 2); cf Gillam no 328. For date see no 24. From filling of the easternmost of the three parallel ditches at E of annexe.
- 29 Dish in greyish brown fabric, probably once burnished (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 48. For date see no 24. From filling of westernmost of three parallel ditches.
- 30 Dish in grey fabric with surface burnt red (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 45. For date see no 24. Find spot as no 29.
- 31 Dish in burnished grey fabric (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 48. For date see no 24. Find spot as no 29.
- 32 Bowl in grey fabric, with burnished black surface (BB 2). For date see no 24. Pits 6–8.
- 33 Bowl in greyish brown fabric, burnished (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 42. For date see no 24. Find spot as no 29.
- 34 Bowl in dark grey fabric, burnished (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 42. For date see no 24. From Phase II ditch in annexe W defences.
- 35 Bowl in greyish brown fabric with dark grey surface (BB 2); cf Mumrills no 42. For date see no 24. Find spot as no 29.

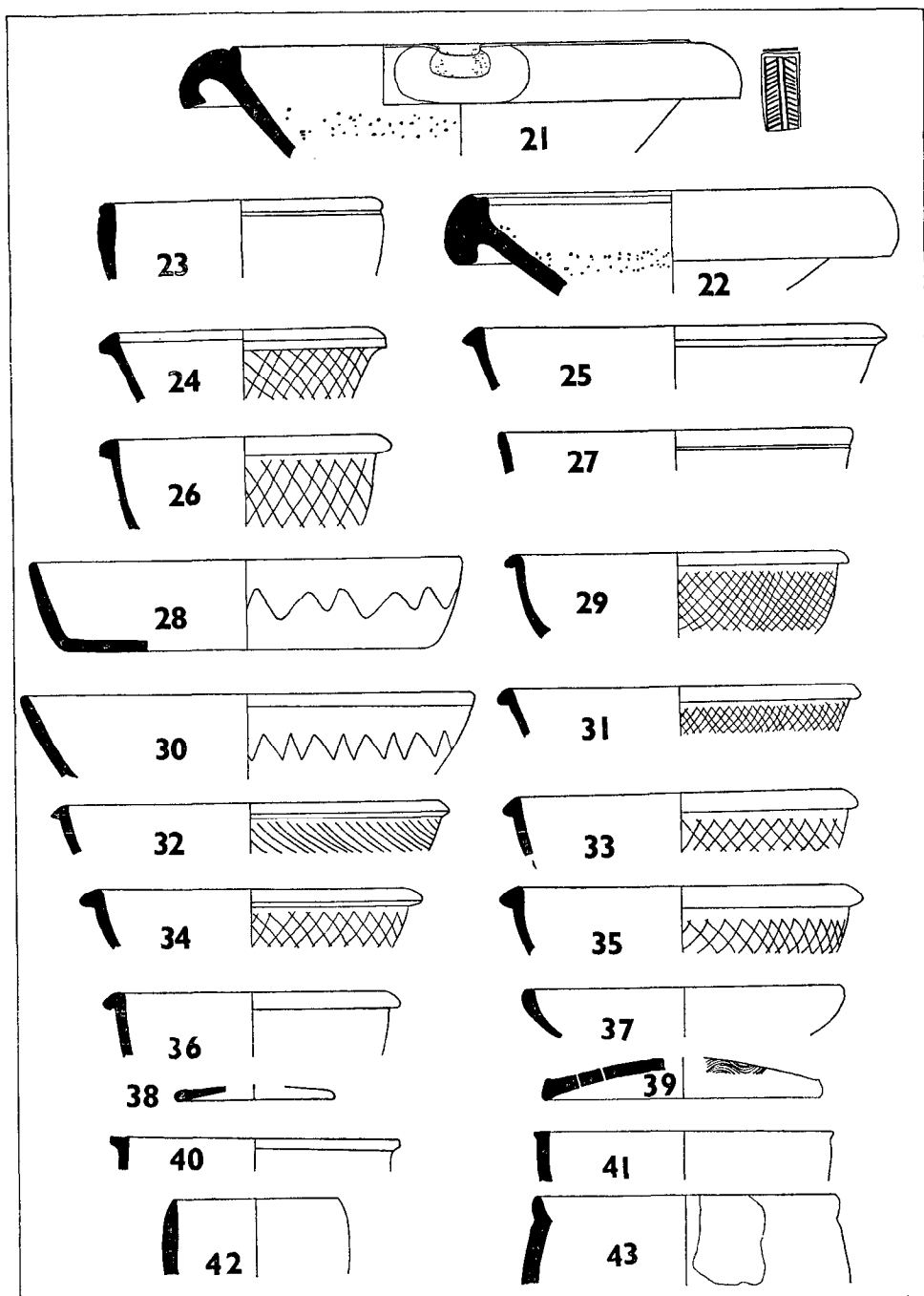


FIG 5 Camelon: pottery (scale 1 : 4)

- 36 Bowl in light grey fabric, probably once burnished. If this is BB 2 the comment made in no 24 also applies. From a construction trench just S of Pit 3.
- 37 Dish in light buff fabric, with black surfaces. Possibly a residue first century piece. Pit 1.
- 38 Lid in buff fabric. At Mumrills (no 90) AD 120–60. Pit 3.
- 39 Fragments of a lid in a dark porous fabric. This piece is very light in weight and bears a decoration of wavy lines produced with a comb. Pits 6–8.
- 40 In pink self-coloured fabric, perhaps from a carinated bowl; cf Gillam nos 214 & 215, AD 80–125. Pit 3.
- 41 Bowl in light grey fabric with darker surface. Pit 3.
- 42 Crucible in grey flaky fabric with purple core. Pits 6–8.
- 43 Rim of a native Iron Age cooking pot. Several fragments of other similar ware were found, but this was the only rim amongst them. Pit 1.

Although, as already mentioned, the volume of pottery found is not great, further consideration of the nature of these sherds is worthwhile. Apart from stray surface and quarry finds almost all of the pieces come from pits, ditch-filling and construction trenches, and can be divided into three groups. The first consists of the two vessels represented in Pit 5, nos 1 and 19, and it is almost certainly a Flavian deposit, for this pit is cut by a Roman construction trench (although it is later than the circular construction trench and a bent construction trench, both probably of pre-Roman date, which run across the circular structure). The other two groups are more interesting. Pits 1 and 3 and the one Roman structure found in the area excavated to the W of the annexe W defences provide sherds of similar date. Pit 1, 8 ft deep, contained a good deal of burnt material, broken and battered objects, and sherds nos 10, 17, 37, and 43. Pit 3 was approximately 25 ft wide and only some 3–4 ft deep; it contained smaller amounts of burnt material and sherds nos 5, 6, 8, 9, 15, 18, 22, 23, 38, 40 and 41. The construction trench found outside the area of the annexe contained sherds 3, 4, 11, 16, 20 and a fragment of Dragendorff form 27. If these deposits are considered we find that they have the following characteristics:

- (i) The group contains some Hadrianic/early Antonine types.
- (ii) It contains many types which had gone out of general use by AD 160.
- (iii) It does not contain any types which are characteristically *late* Antonine.

It seems reasonable therefore to regard these deposits as an early Antonine group.

The other main group consists of sherds from the following sources:

- a The filling of the Phase II Ditch of the western defences of the annexe. Vessel no 34.
- b The filling of the most easterly and most westerly of the three parallel ditches at the E of the annexe. Vessels nos 28, 29, 30, 31, 33 and 35.
- c A group of construction trenches inside the annexe to the S and SW of Pit 3. Vessels nos 7, 14 and 36.
- d The trio of small pits 6, 7, and 8, near the eastern ditches. These pits are of the same type; in addition some of the vessels found had fragments in more than one of the trio of pits (for example fig 4 no 13) so that we may safely assume that they are contemporary. Vessels nos 13, 21, 24, 25, 27, 32, 39 and 42.

These deposits closely resemble two well-known destruction deposits, one the Corbridge group from the destruction now dated to c 180 (Richmond & Gillam 1950, 177; Breeze 1976, 67–72) and the other the Mumrills group cited above. For example, the herringbone mortar stamp from Colchester also occurred in the Corbridge deposit. Mrs K F Hartley (1961, 112) writes of this type that ‘on the whole production before AD 150 seems unlikely, and it may not have begun until after 160’. The Mumrills deposit is an even better parallel for the Camelton material in this

group. Whereas almost all the *Camelon* types in this group occur in the Mumrills deposit they are totally absent from the other main Antonine group at *Camelon*. The second main group from *Camelon* is thus a later Antonine group.

The 2nd-century pieces from the site taken as a whole so closely resemble assemblages from sites on the Antonine Wall that the Antonine occupation of *Camelon* was almost certainly contemporary with the occupation of the Antonine Wall. While types are present which were already on the market before the building of the Antonine Wall or which were still on the market after the date now usually assigned to its abandonment there is no single type datable at all which would be out of place within that period. It is interesting that among the kitchen wares examples in BB 2 far outnumber examples in BB 1, in sharp contrast to, for example, the published group from Barburgh Mill (Gillam 1974, 156-9). As the two groups are probably contemporary this difference can only be due to patterns of supply.

SMALL FINDS (fig. 6)

The numbers refer to illustrations in fig 6.

- 1 Bronze zoomorphic terminal or handle in shape of a snake or sea serpent found in the hard packed gravel area immediately NW of the N gate of the Antonine fort. This object was found embedded in the gravel surface below what seems to have been a mud-filled hollow in that surface, as if it had fallen into this hollow and then been pushed or trodden into the gravel. The nearest parallel is represented by the handles of a coarse pottery jar in the Tullie House Museum, Carlisle, which is known to be Roman but has no more precise dating. These handles also represent a crested serpentine creature with marks along its body, but it is of course a much cruder representation.
Analysis of the metal by Dr R R Tylecote, Newcastle-upon-Tyne: A leaded tin bronze, containing about 10% lead, showing the eight eutectoid. The hardness was 74 (VPN-10 Kg). This object therefore has a tin content of probably about 10%. It is still in its cast state.
- 2 Bronze plate (broken) with an attachment for a pin behind. Found in Roman construction trench in area to W of annexe.
- 3 Bronze trumpet-brooch of Collingwood type Rii. From the same construction trench as no 2, but found very close to the junction of that trench with the curving post-Roman feature.
- 4 Bronze harness mount, saucer-shaped, with a central rivet still in position. Found beside the E revetment trench of the Phase II rampart amongst fragments of decayed turf which could have belonged to the rampart of either Antonine phase.
- 5 Bronze harness mount with three projections, one of which still carries a hooked attachment, to which fragments of organic material, probably leather, are still adhering. A similar object is in the Corbridge Museum. The *Camelon* piece is from Pit 1.
- 6 Half of a green paste melon bead. Pit 3.
- 7 Fragment of a melon bead with a blue glaze. Pit 1.
- 8 Half a melon bead with a blue glaze. Pit 1.
- 9 Section of a battered shield boss. Pit 1.
- 10 Part of a polished Neolithic stone axe in a greenish-grey, close-grained stone with streaks of red on its polished surface. Found 15 in from the bottom of the wide Phase II E-W ditch inside annexe near the point at which it cuts the Phase I N-S ditch.

No separate coin report is given, for only two bronze coins were found, both unstratified, and both in very poor condition; one was totally unrecognisable, and the other, found in the topsoil, was a very worn bronze of Vespasian.

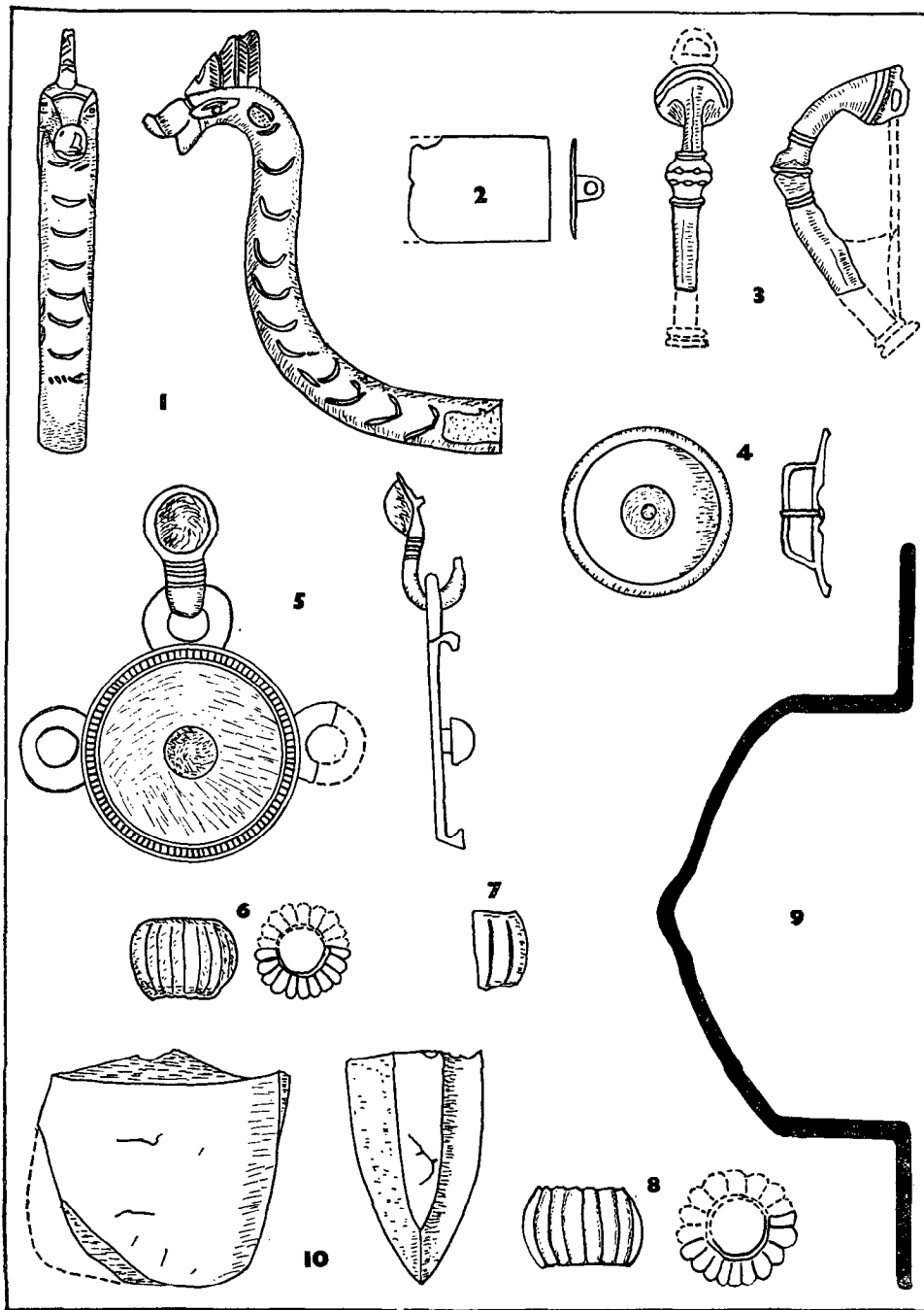


FIG 6 Camelon: small finds (scale 2 : 3 except no 9, 1 : 2)

Wood by Dr R R Tylecote, Newcastle upon Tyne
Types of Charcoal found in Burnt Material from Pits 1 and 2

| <i>Type of Wood</i> | <i>No of examples in sample</i> |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Pit 1</i> | |
| Willow-Poplar | 8 |
| Hazel | 6 |
| Birch | 4 |
| Oak | 3 |
| Conifer | 2 |
| Ash | 1 |
| Elm | 1 |
| Unidentified | 4 |
| <i>Pit 2</i> | |
| Hazel | 21 |
| Willow-Poplar | 9 |
| Birch | 18 |
| Oak | 6 |
| Cherry (?) | 1 |
| Unidentified | 5 |

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The main conclusion drawn from these excavations is that there appear to have been only two Antonine phases in the area of the annexe at Camelon; both the main structural evidence found from the W defences and a consideration of the finds suggest this, and provide no evidence for further Antonine occupations. The evidence of the pottery suggests that Camelon was abandoned at the same time as the Antonine Wall. The smaller early group of Antonine pottery is not a safe basis for firm dating conclusions, but would be consistent with an occupation ending before 160.

As to the purpose of the annexe little has been added to our knowledge. The fragmentary structural palimpsest found in the NW part of the enclosure suggests successive temporary buildings rather than permanent structures and occupation in that area. On the other hand it seems that the annexe was not an afterthought, but was envisaged as part of the construction scheme for the Antonine site from the beginning, and remained an integral part of the works in both Antonine phases, although there was no evidence to explain the function which the annexe was designed to fulfil. Perhaps, however, when more results from work on Antonine sites in Scotland accumulate, these small pieces from Camelon may find a place in the larger pattern.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to thank our kindly and long-suffering hosts, the Commandant and staff of the Scottish Police Training College; it seems probable to us that there at least the policeman's lot may be a happy one. We are grateful also to the volunteer helpers who did so much of the hard work, to the Edinburgh staff of the Ministry of Public Building and Works (now Scottish Development Department) and in particular to Mr I MacIvor and Dr D J Breeze for their invariable helpfulness on site and in the preparation of this report, to Dr R R Tylecote for his specialist reports and to Mr J P Gillam for his help in the preparation of the report on the coarse pottery.

The excavation report was completed in 1964 but circumstances beyond the control of the authors have since delayed its publication: the report was revised, in the light of recent work, in 1978.

NOTES

- 1 This represents a correction of the 1900 Report, where only one small ditch is shown in this position. Since the N rampart of the Antonine fort lies behind both of these E-W ditches it is possible that both of them may have been in use at one time, unlike those of the W defences, but there is no proof either way.
- 2 It should be noted that this re-plotting changes the relationship of the eastern ditches to the N gate of the fort. The dimensions of the ditches as we found them also differ from those of the 1900 report. From the limited information we were able to recover in this area we could not determine the relationship of these ditches one to another.

REFERENCES

- Birley, E B & Gillam, J P 1948 'Mortarium stamps from Corbridge', *Archaeol Aeliana*, 4 ser, 26 (1948), 172-204.
- Breeze, D J 1976 'The abandonment of the Antonine Wall, its date and implications', *Scot Archaeol Forum*, 1975 (1976), 67-80.
- Breeze, D J, Close-Brooks, J & Ritchie, J N G 1976 'Soldier burials at Camelton, 1922 and 1975', *Britannia*, 7 (1976), 67-80.
- Christison, D, Buchanan, M & Anderson, J 1901 'Account of the excavation of the Roman Station of Camelton, near Falkirk', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, 35 (1900-01), 329-417.
- Clarke, J 1933 *The Roman Fort at Cadder*. Glasgow.
- Crawford, O G S 1949 *Topography of Roman Scotland*. Cambridge.
- Curle, J 1911 *A Roman Frontier Post and its people. The Fort at Newstead*. Glasgow.
- Gillam, J P 1961 'The coarse pottery', in Steer 1961, 113-29.
- Gillam, J P 1970 *Types of Roman Coarse Pottery in Northern Britain*. 3rd ed, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- Gillam, J P 1974 'The coarse pottery', in Breeze, D J, 'The Roman fortlet at Barburgh Mill, Dumfriesshire', *Britannia*, 5 (1974), 130-62.
- Hartley, K F 1961 'The Stamped Mortaria', in Steer 1961, 110-13.
- Macdonald, Sir G 1919 'The Agricolan Occupation of North Britain', *J Rom Stud*, 9 (1919), 111-38.
- Proudfoot, E 1978 'Camelton native site', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, 109 (1977-8), 112-28.
- Richmond, I A 1950 'Excavations at the Roman fort of Newstead, 1947', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, 84 (1949-50), 2-38.
- Richmond, I A & Gillam, J P 1950 'Excavations on the Roman Site at Corbridge', *Archaeol Aeliana*, 4 ser, 28 (1950), 152-201.
- Simpson, F G & Richmond, I A 1933 'Birdoswald' in Simpson, F G, Richmond, I A and McIntyre, J, 'Report of the Cumberland Excavation Committee for 1932', *Trans Cumberland Westmorland Antiq Archaeol Soc*, 33 (1933), 246-62.
- Steer, K A 1961 'Excavations at Mumrills Roman Fort 1958-60', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot*, 94 (1960-1), 86-132.

The Society is indebted to the Scottish Development Department for a grant towards the cost of this paper