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CNIP 2 & 3, 1989

ARMIT & DUNWELL

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**Fiche Section 1 - Cnip 2: finds**

Ian Armit

**Pottery**

Contexts 001-004:

01 - A collection of 14 sherds, including 5 base sherds, which probably all derived from the same vessel. None have decorative or diagnostic features. The sherds measure 5mm in thickness and the largest has a surface area of 60 x 32mm. They have a sooted, black exterior, and a dark brown/black interior, both smooth in texture, and the base sherds are moderately grass-marked. The fabric contains medium-grained quartz and mica inclusions.

**Ferrous Artefacts**

01 - This object appears to be an oxidised wooden handle holding a projecting iron blade, possibly the remains of a small knife. It is 96mm long and around 8mm in diameter, and is corroded and covered in surface accretions.

## **Fiche Section 2 - Cnip 3: finds**

Ian Armit

### **Pottery**

#### **Block 2**

##### *Context 011:*

01 - One plain body sherd with angular fractures, of surface area 39mm x 22mm, and thickness 4mm. It has a slightly uneven section and is hard and moderately fired. Both interior and exterior are of a buff/brown colour with an unburnt, smoothed texture. The fabric contains medium quartz grits with mica inclusions.

#### **Block 4**

##### *Context 005:*

01 - One plain body sherd with an angular fracture, of surface area 50mm x 34mm, and thickness 6mm, which is hard and well-fired. Both interior and exterior are burnt black; the section is also black. The surfaces are irregular, gritty and pocked. The fabric contains coarse-grained mineral inclusions.

02 - One plain body sherd with a slightly rolled angular fracture, of surface area 34mm x 32mm, and thickness 5mm, which is hard and well-fired. Both interior and exterior are black, the interior having a smoothed texture containing two grass impressions, and the exterior a more irregular but smoothed texture. The fabric contains fine-grained mica inclusions, though none are visible on the surfaces, and some flaking is visible in section.

#### **Block 5**

##### *Context 009:*

01 - One plain body sherd with sharp, angular fractures, of surface area 49mm x 42mm, and thickness 4mm, which is hard and well-fired. Both interior and exterior are black and smoothed. The exterior surface is stained by sooting. The fabric contains very fine-grained micaceous inclusions.

02 - One plain body sherd with sharp, angular fractures, of surface area 28mm x 24mm, and thickness 4mm, which is hard and well-fired. Both surfaces are black and smoothed. The fabric contains very fine-grained mica inclusions.

The following sherds probably all derive from the same pot as 02, and have the same basic properties:-

03 - Surface area 25mm x 14mm.

04 - Surface area 32mm x 19mm, with a dull brown, unburnt interior surface.

05 - Surface area 34mm x 19mm; thickness 7mm; heavily sooted interior surface.

**Context 019:**

01 - One rim sherd with an angular fracture, of surface area 40mm x 37mm, and thickness 7mm, which is moderately fired. Both interior and exterior are unburnt, buff/brown and smoothed. The fabric contains fine-grained quartz grits and mica inclusions.

The rim is flattened and upright, and possibly slightly flaring; its angle and diameter are undetermined.

**Context 025:**

01 - One plain body sherd with angular fractures, of surface area 46mm x 33mm, and thickness 5mm. The interior is buff and the exterior black, and both surfaces are smoothed. The fabric is uneven and flakey and contains medium-grained quartz grits and mica inclusions. This sherd is derived from a bulging bodied fine jar.

02 - One plain body sherd with angular fractures, of surface area 28mm x 20mm, and thickness 4mm, which is well-fired. The exterior is brown/black and the interior brown; both surfaces are smoothed. The fabric contains fine-grained micaceous inclusions.

03 - One plain body sherd with a rounded fracture, of surface area 24mm x 13mm, and thickness 6mm, which is well-fired. The interior is black and sooted, and the exterior is orange-brown; both surfaces are smoothed. The fabric contains fine-grained micaceous inclusions.

**Block 6**

**Context 007:**

01 - One plain body sherd with angular fractures, of surface area 52mm x 30mm, and thickness 5mm, which is hard and well-fired. Both surfaces have are black, sooted, and are smoothed. The fabric contains fine-grained mineral grit and mica inclusions.

02 - One plain body sherd with angular fractures, of surface area 26mm x 24mm, and

thickness 3mm, which is hard and well-fired. Both surfaces are black, sooted, and smoothed. The fabric contains a few fine-grained micaceous inclusions.

*Context 017:*

01 - One rim sherd with angular fractures, of surface area 36mm x 26mm, and thickness 5mm, which has a slightly uneven section but is well-fired. The exterior is red-brown with some sooting, and the interior mid-brown: both surfaces are smoothed. The fabric contains very fine-grained grit inclusions. The form of the rim is either sharply everted or rolled out. Its diameter cannot be ascertained with any accuracy.

*Context 026:*

01 - One plain fine body sherd with angular fractures, of surface area 38mm x 22mm, and thickness 5mm, which is well-fired. The exterior is brown, heavily sooted, and smoothed, and the interior buff and containing coarse-grained inclusions. The fabric contains medium-grained quartz and mica grit inclusions.

02 - One plain body sherd with an angular fracture, of surface area 27mm x 27mm, and thickness 4mm, which is hard and well-fired. The exterior is red/brown, with the lower half sooted, and the interior is dull brown; both surfaces are smoothed. A skin of clay is visible on the exterior surface, which appears red in section, and is separate from the medium-grained quartz and mica gritted interior fabric - the clay skin is gritless but does contain mica. The sharp curve to the lower body of the sherd suggests that it may have derived from an angular jar.

03 - One plain body sherd with a somewhat rolled fracture, of surface area 29mm x 27mm, and thickness 7mm. Both surfaces are black, sooted, and smoothed. The texture itself is slightly more friable than for the previous two descriptions, though the fabric is similar (medium-grained quartz grit and mica inclusions).

04 - One plain body sherd with angular fractures, of surface area 32mm x 25mm, and thickness 5mm, which has a friable, irregular section and is poorly-fired. The exterior is buff, and the interior dull brown, and both surfaces are sooted, with a highly irregular, pocked surface texture. The fabric contains large-grained quartz and mica inclusions.

## **Block 7**

### *Context 027:*

01 - One plain body sherd with an angular fracture, of surface area 44mm x 30mm, and thickness 4mm, which is well-fired. The exterior is black, sooted and abraded, and the interior buff/black. Both surfaces are smoothed. The fabric contains fine-grained micaceous inclusions.

### **Unstratified**

01 - One plain body sherd with an angular fracture, of surface area 40mm x 22mm, and thickness 5mm, which is relatively well-fired. The exterior is dark brown/black, and the interior is black, sooted, and has been subjected to heat distortion; the exterior, and possibly the interior, is of a smoothed texture. The fabric contains medium-grained quartz inclusions.

02 - One plain body sherd with an angular fracture, of surface area 36mm x 24mm, and thickness 5mm, which is hard and well-fired. The interior is brown and burnt, and the exterior is black, sooted, and smoothed. The fabric contains fine-grained micaceous inclusions.

03 - One plain body sherd with an angular fracture, of surface area 33mm x 30mm, and thickness 4mm, which is hard and well-fired. Both surfaces are black, sooted, and smoothed. The fabric contains fine-grained micaceous inclusions.

04 - One plain body sherd with an angular fracture, of surface area 23mm x 22mm, and thickness 6mm, which is moderately fired. The exterior is black, and the interior dull brown, and both surfaces have an unburnt, smoothed texture. The fabric contains micaceous inclusions.

05 - As above, but of dimensions 30mm x 18mm x 5mm.

### **Uncatalogued**

- a) Modern brown glazed sherd.
- b) Two white china sherds.

Derived from unstratified sand deposits.

## **Ferrous Material**

### **Block 5**

#### *Context 012:*

- 01 - Iron rivet: head 26mm x 23mm.
- 02 - Five large corroded iron objects.
- 03 - Thirteen small rounded, corroded iron objects.

#### *Context 016:*

- 01 - Large lump of vitrified, glassy slag of dimensions 110mm x 90mm x 40mm: possibly hearthbottom or some similar material.
- 02 - Large rounded lump of ferrous material of dimensions 105mm x 90mm x 40mm, with a glassy feel to one side.
- 03 - Two small pieces of dense, glassy, angular slag.
- 04 - Eleven small ferrous pieces, (largest 36mm x 26mm x 15mm, the smallest 11mm x 10mm x 6mm), all rounded, friable, and highly corroded.
- 05 - Four pieces of ferrous material that are possible artefacts.

#### *Context 013:*

- 01 - Two large pieces of slag.
- 02 - Two small pieces of slag.
- 03 - Thirteen corroded iron pieces of rounded shape.
- 04 - Four corroded iron pieces that are possibly objects.

#### *Context 019:*

- 01 - Corroded iron object.
- 02 - A heavily corroded ferrous object.

#### *Context 025:*

- 01 - A socketed iron object, 54mm tall; external socket diameter 22mm, internal socket diameter 14mm, socket depth 36mm. The top of the artefact is corroded. The object may be a gouge, or part of a larger, broken artefact.
- 02 - Two corroded pieces of iron, probably the remains of objects.

#### *Context 009:*

- 01 - Iron rivet: head 30mm x 24mm.
- 02 - Iron rivet: head 25mm x 21mm.
- 03 - Very heavy, wedge-shaped, ferrous piece, of dimensions 50mm long, 24-50mm



wide, 25mm thick.

**Block 6**

*Context 023:*

- 01 - Two pieces of slag.
- 02 - Three small, rounded, ferrous objects.
- 03 - Elongated iron object 46mm in length and around 9mm in diameter: X-Ray analysis may assist its identification.

*Context 007:*

- 01 - Five sooted fragments of buff clay.
- 02 - Clay fragment, vitrified on one side.
- 03 - Nine lumps of iron slag with a bubbled appearance and a very glassy texture.
- 04 - Two lumps of hard, smooth slag; one very large, and one small.
- 05 - Lump of blackened clay.
- 06 - Twelve pieces of agglomerated ferrous material which resemble iron slag.
- 07 - Twelve pieces of corroded iron, the largest of dimensions 32mm x 32mm x 11mm, and the rest substantially smaller.
- 08 - 5 pieces of iron slag.

**Block 7**

*Context 028*

- 01 - 028: Small ferrous fragment, 11mm x 10mm x 5mm.

## **Copper Alloy**

### **Block 6**

#### ***Context 029***

(1) 5 pieces of very distorted and crumpled sheet bronze fragments, the largest being 38mm x 20mm in surface area and the smallest 12mm x 6mm, which appear to have been subject to heat distortion. There is no indication of function for these pieces, but they are likely to have simply been scrap bronze sheet.

(2) 20 pieces of bronze with regular proportions and an elongated and triangular shape (illus 6, within a), the largest 30mm tall with a 10mm width at the base and the smallest 9mm x 3mm. All of the pieces are curved in a way as to suggest that they were cut from sheet bronze. These are interpreted as waste clippings from straight sided sheet bronze mountings.

(3) 75 unassignable fragments of sheet bronze, ranging in surface area from 20mm x 11mm to 2mm x 1mm. This group includes many broken strip or clipping fragments.

(4) 2 large bronze waste cuts -

(a) A triangular piece bent along one end and clipped at its base, of surface area 40mm x 26mm (illus 6, left of group a).

(b) A sheet fragment of irregular shape, 25 x 14mm.

(5) 6 rectangular strips of bronze, the largest 34mm x 9mm and the smallest 19mm x 5mm (illus 6, within b). These pieces have been cut along the long sides and broken along the short sides. They may be either cuts from a long strip, or waste trimmings of sheet bronze.

(6) 5 perforated sheet bronze strips (illus 6, c). Two are rectangular and similar to pieces from group 5, the latter cut up, whilst another has two elongated perforations. The regularity of the perforations suggests that they were all made deliberately. The function of these pieces is unclear, but they are demonstrably connected with pieces belonging to group 7.

(7) 15 folded sheet bronze studs, the largest head of surface area 13mm x 12mm and the smallest 8mm x 5mm, with "legs" of up to 18mm in length (illus 6, e). The appearance of these pieces is very regular, with the sheet folded to give a central flat head, and the ends folded back to give two legs. Their function is unclear, although

pieces from group 8 indicate that they were clipped into perforations in sheet bronze.

(8) 3 examples of group 6 and group 7 pieces in conjunction - i.e. perforated sheet bronze filled by studs (illus 6, d). The legs of the studs have been forced through the perforation and folded back, and the heads hammered flat over the perforation. The effect is therefore either a patching exercise or a decorative one.

In all three cases the head of the stud overlaps the edge of the sheet fragment, suggesting that the studs were inserted after the fragments had been cut up. This seems implausible.

N.B. A small fragment of heavily corroded iron, possibly sheet iron, 22mm x 13mm, was found within the same context as the bronzework.

**Total number of bronze pieces = 131**