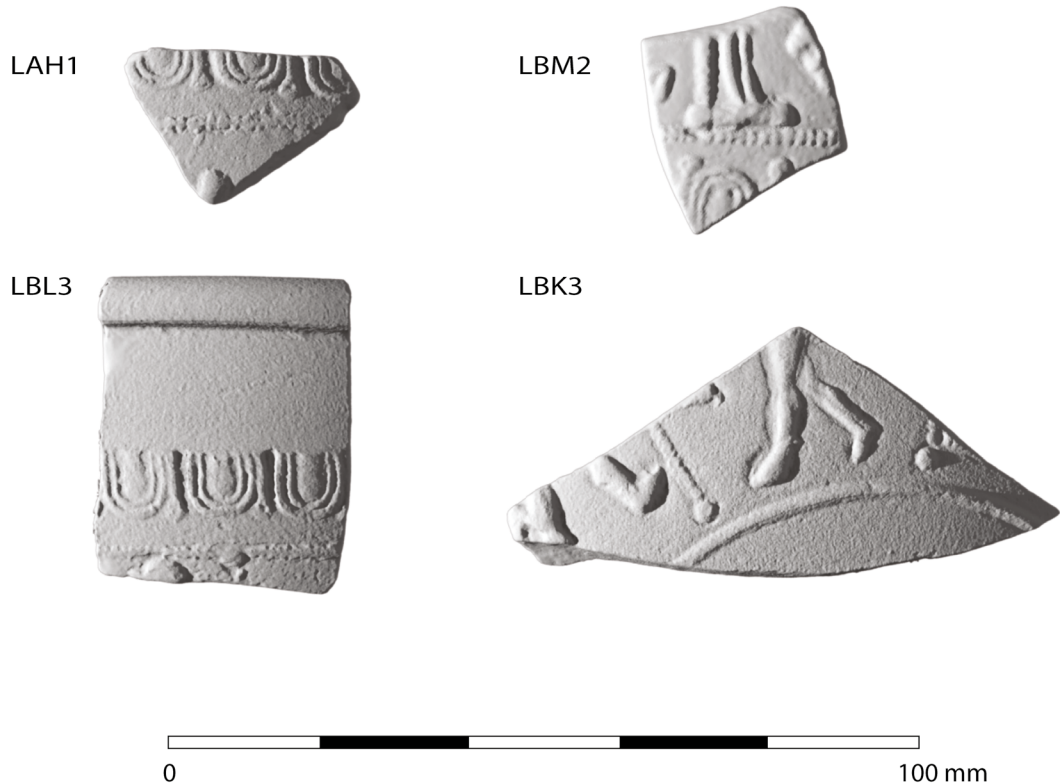


11. THE SAMIAN WARE

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Illus 11.1 Scans of decorated samian



Illus 11.2 Samian owner's mark

11.1 Catalogue¹⁹

► **AAA topsoil over pre-fort enclosure**

Forms 18/31 or 31, 30 or 37 rim (?) and a dish. All Central Gaulish and Hadrianic or Antonine.

► **BBB topsoil over pre-fort enclosure**

Form 31, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **BBQ (with LAB 4) pre-fort enclosure ditch**

Two large, joining fragments of Form 33, Central Gaulish. There is a faint external groove above the junction of the base and wall, as on some Hadrianic examples of the form, but it is probably accidental and this cup is certainly Antonine.

► **CAC 1 (with CCT) bypass road ditch**

Five fragments, two joining, of a small, medium-mouthed jar, with a rim resembling Derbyshire ware. Probably in Central Gaulish fabric, though origin at Montans cannot be entirely ruled out. No parallel has been noted for the form in samian ware. Presumably Antonine.

► **CCA 1 pre-fort enclosure ditch**

Form 18/31 or 31, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **CCC topsoil over pre-fort enclosure ditch**

Form 33, Central Gaulish, perhaps from Les Martres-de-Veyre. Late-Hadrianic or early Antonine.

► **CCT bypass road ditch east of pre-fort enclosure**

i) See CAC 1.

ii) Form 37, Central Gaulish, grooved for mending. A panelled bowl, with a double festoon containing a Cupid (D 254) and a leaf (?), attached to the festoon. The silky glaze suggests origin at Les Martres-de-Veyre, and the figure was used there by Cettus (cf a bowl from Corbridge: Stanfield & Simpson 1958: pl 141, 6). As on several of his other bowls (Stanfield & Simpson 1958: pl 141, 1, 10, 13, etc), careless spacing is shown, and the feet of the Cupid overlap the border of the festoon. Cettus' bowls are relatively common in Antonine Scotland, but rare at sites on Hadrian's Wall. For a discussion of his date, see Hartley 1972: 34. *c AD 135–60.*

► **CCK bypass road ditch south of pre-fort enclosure**

Footring fragment from a rouletted dish (18/31R?), Central Gaulish, just possibly from Les Martres-de-Veyre. An owner's mark, /X, is incised under the footring (Illus 11.2). Early Antonine.

► **DBL 1 occupation/midden material north of land divisions, Area D**

Central Gaulish scrap (?). Hadrianic or Antonine (?).

► **EAA topsoil over land divisions, Area E**

i) Form 38 or 44 base, Central Gaulish. Antonine.
ii) A tiny Central Gaulish flake. 2nd century.

► **EAJ shallow ditch, land divisions, Area E**

Central Gaulish scrap. 2nd century.

► **GAE linear gully/fence line, land divisions, Area G**

Four fragments, at least three joining, from the rim and plain band above the decoration of Form 30 or 37, Central Gaulish. Antonine (cf GAI).

► **GAI drainage gully, land divisions, Area G**

Form 37 rim, Central Gaulish, with a fragment of ovolo (eroded). Probably from the bowl in GAE. Antonine.

► **HAA topsoil over land divisions, Area H**

Central Gaulish flake (Form 31, etc?). Antonine (?).

► **LAA topsoil over vicus**

i) Form 33 base, Central Gaulish. Antonine

ii) Form 37, Central Gaulish, with an ovolo-replacement of eight-petalled rosettes. Various motifs were occasionally used at Lezoux instead of ovolos, usually in the Hadrianic period, but more rarely also in the early Antonine. A notable example is the unusual stamped bowl of Tittius from Alchester (Stanfield & Simpson 1958: pl 146, 1). The rosette on the Croy Hill piece is smaller, however, and matches one used on bowls in the Cerialis ii-Cinnamus ii style, though not attested as an ovolo-replacement. Hadrianic or early Antonine.

iii) A flake and a large fragment of a base from a dish with a relatively small footring. The vessel is considerably eroded, but the surviving glaze and the paleness of the fabric suggest that it comes from Montans. Second-century Montans ware is not uncommon in Antonine Scotland (Hartley 1972: 42–5). *c AD 100–45.*

iv) Forms 18/31 or 31 and 18/31R, both probably from Les Martres-de-Veyre. Hadrianic or early Antonine.

v) (With LBK 1 and RAA/RAE) Form Curle 15, in Central Gaulish or late-Montans fabric. The form is predominantly pre-Antonine, but examples are known from Antonine Scotland. Whether South or Central Gaulish, this piece should be Hadrianic or early Antonine.

vi) Forms 30 or 37 rim, 31 and three unidentified scraps, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **LCC surface of bypass road LBZ south of vicus**

Central Gaulish scrap. 2nd century.

► **LDR drainage ditch of primary bypass road, LDT, south of vicus**

Central Gaulish scrap, possibly from a jar. 2nd century.

► **LAA/RAA topsoil over *vicus***

Form 33 (?) and a small scrap (roughly shaped as a counter). Both Central Gaulish and Antonine.

► **LAB trackway drainage ditch, *vicus***

LAB 1: Form 37, Central Gaulish, with a panel with a hare (larger than D 950A) and another with a double medallion and a lozenge (Rogers 1974: U36). The hollow bead at the base of the panel-border and the lozenge are diagnostic for Cinnamus ii, and he also used the hare. *c.* AD 150–80 (cf LBM 2 ii, which may be from the same bowl).

LAB 4: i) Central Gaulish flake. Hadrianic or Antonine.

ii) Form 37, with ovolo (Rogers 1974: B223) and large, double medallion used at Lezoux by Cinnamus ii. *c.* AD 150–80.

iii) Form 30 or 37 rim, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

iv) See BBQ.

► **LAG drainage ditch of primary bypass road, south of *vicus***

A Central Gaulish scrap. Probably Antonine.

► **LAH 1 (with LAL 1, LBL 3 and LBK 3) trackway drainage ditch, *vicus***

Four fragments of Form 37, with one of the ring-tongued ovolos used at Lezoux by members of the Paternus v group (Rogers 1974: B107) (Illus 11.1). One panel has the warrior D 120, which appears, infrequently, on bowls by some members of the group. The figure in the other panel is probably the slave with amphora (D 365). This figure-type and the astragalus border below the ovolo suggest the work of Albucius ii. *c.* AD 150–80.

► **LAK 4 trackway drainage ditch, *vicus***

i) Form 37, Central Gaulish, with a fragment of (eroded) ovolo. Perhaps Hadrianic rather than Antonine.

ii) Form 27, Central Gaulish. Hadrianic-Antonine.

iii) Form 33, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **LAL 1 early linear gully, *vicus***

See LAH 1.

► **LBB trackway drainage ditch, *vicus***

A fragment of bead-lip, probably from Form 30 or 37. Central Gaulish. Probably Antonine.

► **LBD trackway drainage ditch, *vicus***

Form 18/31R, Central Gaulish. Hadrianic or early Antonine.

LBD 1: i) Form 18/31 or 31, Central Gaulish. Hadrianic-Antonine.

ii) Two fragments from Form 33, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

LBD 2: Form 33, Central Gaulish, perhaps from Les Martres-de-Veyre, in view of the fabric. This cup has a double central groove. Hadrianic-Antonine.

LBD 6: Form 18/31 or 31, Central Gaulish. Probably Antonine.

► **LBK trackway drainage ditch, *vicus***

LBK 1: i) See LAA v); ii) Form 18/31 or 31, Central Gaulish. The glaze has completely gone, probably through deliberate removal, rather than erosion. Hadrianic or Antonine.

LBK 2: Form 33, Central Gaulish. Hadrianic or Antonine.

LBK 3: See LAH 1.

LBK 6: Form Curle 15 or 23, burnt, Central Gaulish. Early- to mid-Antonine.

► **LBL trackway drainage ditch, *vicus***

LBL 1: Central Gaulish scrap. Hadrianic or Antonine.

LBL 3: See LAH 1.

► **LBM trackway drainage ditch, *vicus***

LBM 1: i) A large fragment and two joining flakes from Form 37, Central Gaulish. The rosette (Rogers 1974: C84) was used by Cettus of Les Martres-de-Veyre (Stanfield & Simpson 1958: pl 144, 61, from Corbridge). The piece may also have the double festoon used on the Corbridge bowl. *c.* AD 135–60.

ii) Form 31, Central Gaulish, stamped REBV[RRIXOFF] by Reburus ii of Lezoux (die 3a). Reburus had a long career and this stamp is likely to have been used in the central part of it, as it occurs on Form 27 and occasionally on Form 79. Confirmation comes from its presence in a large group of material of *c.* AD 155–65 at Lezoux. *c.* AD 150–70.

iii) Form 31, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

LBM 2: i) A Central Gaulish scrap. Hadrianic or Antonine.

ii) Two fragments, probably from the same bowl of Form 37, Central Gaulish. Panelled decoration with: a) a small, double festoon with a dolphin (D 1050); b) a lozenge (Rogers 1974: U36) (Illus 11.1). All these, together with the ovolo (Rogers 1974: B231) and (occasionally) vertical borders of astragali, were used at Lezoux by Cinnamus ii. *c* AD 150–80 (cf LAB 1, which may be from the same vessel).

► **LBO 2 trackway drainage ditch, vicus**

i) Form 37, perhaps with a winding scroll, and a cup or bowl fragment, Central Gaulish. Antonine.
ii) Form 37, Central Gaulish, with an ovolo (Rogers 1974: B143) used at Lezoux principally by Cinnamus ii. The type of beaded border below the ovolo suggests that this is his work. *c* AD 150–80.

► **LBR trackway drainage ditch, vicus**

LBR 1: i) Form 18/31R, Central Gaulish. The piece has been grooved for a rivet. Hadrianic or early Antonine.

ii) (with LBR 3) Two fragments from an enclosed vessel, one rouletted, Central Gaulish. The fabric is very light and the glaze dull and almost maroon. The pieces probably belong to one of the jars classified under Déchelette Form 72 (Oswald & Pryce 1920: pl LXXVII, 2). This form was introduced at Lezoux in the 2nd century, perhaps under Hadrian, but it is more characteristic of the second half of the century.

LBR 2: Form 31, Central Gaulish. Antonine, probably from the earlier half of the period.

LBR 3: See LBR 1 ii).

► **LBS 1 trackway drainage ditch, vicus**

A Central Gaulish scrap. Antonine.

► **LBT trackway drainage ditch, vicus**

A small, eroded flake, Central Gaulish. 2nd century.
LBT 1: Form 31, Central Gaulish. Early- to mid-Antonine.

LBT 2: A small scrap, Central Gaulish, with ‘cut-glass’ decoration as on Form 72. This decoration on small, thin jars is not uncommon in Antonine Scotland. Finds at Lezoux in contexts of *c* AD 150–65 suggest that it came into use soon after the middle of the century.

► **LCG 1 bypass road drainage ditch, south of vicus**

A small, neat footing from Form 30 or 37, burnt, Central Gaulish. Hadrianic or early Antonine.

► **LCK 1 trackway drainage ditch, vicus**

i) Form 18/31–31, slightly burnt, Central Gaulish. Early Antonine.

ii) Form 18/31R, Central Gaulish. Early- or mid-Antonine.

iii) Form 33 (?), Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **LCQ 1 trackway drainage ditch, vicus**

A Central Gaulish scrap. Hadrianic or Antonine.

► **LDY 1 trackway drainage ditch, vicus**

Form 33, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **PAA topsoil over fort rampart.**

Form 18/31 or 31 and a dish (perhaps Form 18/31R), Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **QAA topsoil over fortlet**

Two joining fragments perhaps from Form Curle 15 or 23, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **RAA topsoil south of bypass road, south of vicus**

i) Form 18/31 (R?), heavily eroded, Central Gaulish. Hadrianic-Antonine.

ii) Form 38, Central Gaulish. Antonine.

► **RAA/RAE topsoil/post-medieval stone dyke, vicus**

See LAA v).

► **RAC gully/fence line cutting Iron Age palisade, vicus**

Form 31, Central Gaulish. The stamp is almost illegible because of erosion, but the traces suggest the possible reading (VESTM). Stamps of this potter (Vest-) are on Hadrianic-Antonine forms and he presumably worked at Lezoux, to judge by his fabrics.

► **RAX hillwash, vicus, Area R**

Central Gaulish scrap. 2nd century.

► **RBP topsoil/hillwash over vicus, Area R**

Form 31, Central Gaulish. Early- or mid-Antonine.

► **RBX burning within hillwash over *vicus*, Area R**

A dish fragment, probably East Gaulish and from one of the Hadrianic-Antonine factories.

11.2 Summary

The samian discussed here is almost entirely Central Gaulish and comes mainly from Lezoux, with a small proportion of vessels from Les-Martres-de-Veyre. There are also two possible examples of late Montans ware from South Gaul, to add to the growing list from Antonine sites in Scotland. In addition, there is an East Gaulish sherd, unfortunately of unknown origin. The potters' stamps from these excavations are apparently the first ones to have been recorded from Croy Hill (Hartley 1972: 18).

The commonest vessel type in the finds is the dish with a basal kick, but only Drag 18/31R and Drag 31 can be identified with certainty. However, the sherds listed here as Drag 18/31 or 31 or as 'Dish' will almost certainly include examples of Drag 18/31, unless the supply to Croy Hill was untypical for Britain. The absence of Drag 31R, a form introduced *c.* AD 155–60, is consistent with

the finds from other sites on the Antonine Wall and the presence of its predecessor, Drag 18/31R, which ceased to be made in Central Gaul about AD 160, reinforces the impression that this is an early Antonine assemblage. It is also noticeable that there is only one example of the cup Drag 27, a form uncommon after AD 160. The rest of the samian includes single examples of Drag 38, Drag 38 or 44, Curle 15, Curle 15 or 23, Déchelette 72?, a jar and an enclosed vessel of uncertain form.

The decorated ware includes two bowls in the style of Cettus, a potter working at Les Martres-de Veyre in the Hadrianic-Antonine period, whose wares are well represented in Scotland (Hartley 1972: 33). The only other identifiable decoration is on bowls in the style of the *Cerialis ii-Cinnamus* group (one example), of *Cinnamus ii* (three examples) and *Albucius ii* (one example).

The quantity of samian from the excavation is too small to provide any useful statistics, but this is a typically early Antonine assemblage, *c.* AD 140–60, with a relatively restricted range of the commoner forms, all familiar on one or more of the Antonine Wall sites.