



Bath Quays: The Pottery

Lorraine Mepham





© Wessex Archaeology Ltd 2020, all rights reserved.

Unit 9
City Business Park
Easton Road
Bristol
BS5 0SP

www.wessexarch.co.uk

Wessex Archaeology Ltd is a Registered Charity no. 287786 (England & Wales) and SC042630 (Scotland)

Disclaimer

The material contained in this report was designed as an integral part of a report to an individual client and was prepared solely for the benefit of that client. The material contained in this report does not necessarily stand on its own and is not intended to nor should it be relied upon by any third party. To the fullest extent permitted by law Wessex Archaeology will not be liable by reason of breach of contract negligence or otherwise for any loss or damage (whether direct indirect or consequential) occasioned to any person acting or omitting to act or refraining from acting in reliance upon the material contained in this report arising from or connected with any error or omission in the material contained in the report. Loss or damage as referred to above shall be deemed to include, but is not limited to, any loss of profits or anticipated profits damage to reputation or goodwill loss of business or anticipated business damages costs expenses incurred or payable to any third party (in all cases whether direct indirect or consequential) or any other direct indirect or consequential loss or damage.

Bath Quays: The Pottery

Lorraine Mephram

Introduction

The complete pottery assemblage recovered from the site amounts to 3336 sherds (112,276 g), equating to a maximum vessel count of 2711. The assemblage ranges in date from Romano-British to post-medieval/modern, but the Romano-British and medieval components make up a negligible proportion of the total, and were, moreover, largely residual finds in later deposits.

Condition of the assemblage ranges from good to poor. Romano-British and medieval sherds have suffered the highest levels of surface and edge abrasion, consistent with their residual nature. Post-medieval/modern sherds have survived in relatively good condition. Mean sherd weight overall is 33.7 g. Broken down chronologically, this drops to 18.8 g for Romano-British sherds and 14.2 g for medieval and rises slightly to 34.4 g for post-medieval/modern, although the latter figure is skewed by the presence of high numbers of thicker-walled vessels in coarse earthenwares.

Methods of analysis

The whole assemblage has been subjected to fabric and form analysis, conforming to nationally recommended minimum standards for the recording of pottery (PCRG *et al* 2016). Ware types are mostly well documented types with at least a regional if not national distribution, e.g. tin-glazed earthenware, creamware, refined whiteware. The definition of vessel forms follows recommended nomenclature as far as possible (MPRG 1998), but also includes some more recent and more specialised forms. Quantification throughout is by sherd count, weight and maximum number of vessels (MNV). Selected contexts (focusing on well stratified groups) were analysed to a more detailed level, including vessel dimensions. Data are held in spreadsheet format (Excel), and form part of the project archive. Table 1 presents a breakdown of the assemblage by ware type.

Table 1: Pottery totals by ware type

Period	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt (g)	MNV
ROMANO-BRITISH	Amphora	2	21	2
	Black Burnished ware (BB1)	37	572	37
	Greywares	38	646	37
	Grog-tempered wares	1	9	1
	Mortarium	1	330	1
	New Forest colour coated ware	1	5	1
	Oxon whiteware	3	83	3
	Oxidised sandy wares	12	87	12
	Samian	12	254	10
		<i>Sub-total Romano-British</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>2007</i>
MEDIEVAL	Medieval coarseware	25	376	23
	Medieval glazed fineware	3	36	3
	Medieval coarse sandy ware	6	46	6
	Minety-type ware	1	42	1
	Late medieval sandy ware	1	10	1
		<i>Sub-total medieval</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>510</i>
POST-MED/MODERN	Agate ware	5	184	2
	Basalt ware	4	149	4
	Biscuit ware	6	83	6
	Bone china	12	102	12
	Porcelain	163	4823	107
	Creamware	306	5707	262
	Developed creamware	146	2222	97
	English stoneware	101	11,532	85
	Frechen stoneware	5	105	5
	Jackfield ware	1	23	1
	North Devon gravel-tempered ware	83	2729	65
	Nottinghamshire-type stoneware	25	945	16
	Olive jar	14	2067	11
	Pearlware	233	3911	201
	Post-medieval redware	671	37,543	574
	Red stoneware	33	428	16
	Refined redware	2	82	2
	Refined whiteware	288	4088	210
	Seltzer bottle	8	534	8
	Staffs-/Bristol-type mottled ware	2	38	2
	Staffs-/Bristol-type slipware	235	9804	176
	Staffs-/Bristol-type dipped stoneware	4	21	4
	Tin-glazed earthenware	484	10,665	417
Verwood-type earthenware	85	6192	57	
Westerwald stoneware	38	822	38	

Period	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt (g)	MNV
	Whieldon-type ware	6	76	5
	White salt glaze	180	4062	156
	Unidentified	9	95	9
	Yellow ware	44	727	25
	<i>Sub-total post-medieval/modern</i>	<i>3193</i>	<i>109,759</i>	<i>2573</i>
	OVERALL TOTAL	3336	112,276	2711

MNV: maximum number of vessels

Romano-British

A small proportion of the pottery assemblage is of Romano-British date (107 sherds; 2007 g). This small group includes a limited range of wares, with a potential date range spanning the Romano-British period.

Imports are represented by 12 sherds of samian and two of Spanish Dressel 20 amphora. Identifiable samian vessel forms include form 18, 18/31 and 31R platters, form 27 and 33 cups, and form 45 mortaria, indicating a date range from later 1st to at least the later 2nd century AD. British finewares are limited to one sherd from a New Forest colour coated indented beaker (later 3rd or 4th century AD) and two from an Oxfordshire whiteware vessel of uncertain (but open) form.

The remaining sherds comprise coarsewares: sandy greywares and oxidised wares, and grog-tempered wares. Each of these types is likely to include the products of more than one source. Amongst the greywares, south-east Dorset Black Burnished ware (BB1) is identifiable, while other possible sources include the kilns at Congresbury. Vessel forms include everted rim jars, but open forms are more prevalent, particularly in BB1 (straight-sided 'dog dishes', flanged and dropped flange bowls), and suggest a date range of 2nd century AD onwards.

Medieval

Medieval material amounts to 36 sherds (510 g), mostly comprising small, abraded body sherds. Coarsewares predominate and are likely to be largely of local manufacture - examples of sandy and sandy/chalk-tempered wares thought to originate somewhere in the Avon valley are present (Vince 1979, fabrics A and B) – but there is also one sherd of Minety-type limestone-tempered ware from north Wiltshire. Coarseware vessel forms are confined to jars. There are two sherds from glazed jugs in a finer sandy ware. The date range of the medieval wares is likely to lie

between the 11th and early 14th centuries, although here is one sherd in a probable late medieval (14th-/15th-century) sandy ware.

Post-medieval/Modern

This chronological group makes up the bulk of the pottery assemblage (3080 sherds; 109,385 g). The potential date range spans the post-medieval/modern period, but the focus appears to be lie in the 18th to 20th centuries. The assemblage includes a range of local, regional and imported wares.

Earthenwares

Coarsewares in the form of earthenwares, both glazed and unglazed, make up a significant proportion of the post-medieval assemblage – 25.6% by sherd count and 43.2% by weight, reflecting the fact that these wares tend to have been used commonly for larger kitchen and dairying vessels (large storage jars, cream pans, etc), as well as a basic range of smaller vessels (jars, bowls and dishes, and jugs, with a few chamberpots, pipkins and flowerpots).

Undoubtedly these earthenwares represent the products of more than one source. Apart from three types which are distinctive by virtue of their fabric, and which can be definitively linked to source area (see below), the bulk comprises red-firing wares, which have not been further subdivided and for which a number of possible sources exist. The supply of redwares to Bath is likely to have largely replicated that to Bristol in focusing first on Somerset (e.g. Donyatt, Nether Stowey, Wanstrow) and later (from the mid-17th century) on north Devon. Bristol itself became a source of redwares from the mid-18th century and remained a major producer until the Second World War ([internet source](#): Bristol potteries). Some redwares may also have come from the Crockerton production centre in Wiltshire (Smith 1997). The utilitarian forms supplied by these potteries are not generally closely datable, but there is nothing here to contradict the picture of the site's development from the later 17th century. The range of vessel forms (Table 2) is consistent with the more limited repertoire produced by the Bristol potteries from the 18th century in the face of competition from tinglazed wares and stonewares, and later from factory-made refined wares, concentrating instead on utilitarian wares, while the Somerset potteries continued to make tablewares to at least the early 19th century (Jackson 2005, 129; Mason 2017, 126). Horticultural wares in the form of flowerpots

and seed pans (shallow flared dishes) are particularly characteristic of redware production in the 19th century, at a time when there was a decline in the market for redware kitchenwares.

Table 2: Earthenware vessel forms

Vessel form	Function	NDGT	OLIV	PMR	VER	TOT
Bowl	Unspecified			11	4	15
bowl: convex	Unspecified			14	1	15
bowl: flanged	Unspecified			4		4
bowl: flared	Unspecified	2		43	4	49
bowl: straight sided	Unspecified			1		1
chamberpot	Sanitary			6		6
dish	Unspecified			3		3
dish/bowl	Unspecified			8		8
dish: convex	Unspecified			1		1
dish: flanged	Unspecified			30	1	31
dish: flared	Unspecified			6	1	7
flowerpot	Horticultural			33		33
jar	Storage	1		25	1	27
jar: convex	Storage			8	4	12
jug	Beverage serving	3		15		18
lid	container			1		1
olive jar	container		10			10
pipkin	cooking			2		2
Total		6	10	1	16	243

KEY: NDGT North Devon Gravel-Tempered; OLIV Olive jar; PMR post-medieval redwares; VER Verwood-type earthenware

Some tablewares are present, but these are likely to fall earlier in the sequence. They include a few vessels (less than 10% of the total) with trailed slip or sgraffito slip decoration, and these are likely to come from Somerset or North Devon.

The appearance here of a small quantity of Verwood-type earthenwares from east Dorset is not unexpected given the wide distribution of these wares across Wessex and beyond from the mid-18th century (Draper and Copland-Griffiths 2002). Until the early 20th century, this was a strictly utilitarian industry; here, the Verwood wares appear to have supplied large dry-storage vessels (convex jars) and large flared bowls for use in kitchen or dairy; there is also one jug.

One North Devon type can be distinguished: gravel-tempered ware. The only diagnostic forms seen here comprise two jugs, two large flared bowls and a jar with an externally flanged rim; there is also a large tripod foot, presumably from a pipkin.

The gravel-tempered wares have a lengthy currency through the post-medieval period (Grant 2005, 6).

Finally, there are 14 sherds in imported redwares. These are all from olive jars of Spanish origin, although insufficiently complete to determine specific form. Olive jars are common finds in Bristol in the 16th and 17th centuries, where the contents would have been in demand for soap-making, essential to the cloth-processing trade (Ponsford 1995, 318); it is possible that it was used in a similar capacity in Bath, although not necessarily in the vicinity of Avon Street. Ten of the 14 sherds were found in a large mixed dump deposit to the west of Milk Street, with date range focusing on the second half of the 18th century although including some potentially earlier wares, of which the olive jars would be one; the refuse in the dump deposit could have originated from anywhere in Bath.

Tin-glazed earthenwares

Tin-glazed earthenwares make up a significant proportion of the post-medieval/modern assemblage (14.5% by sherd count; 9.5% by sherd weight), and it is assumed that much of this, perhaps all, derived from the nearby production centre of Bristol, where several tin-glazed kilns are documented between the mid-17th and late 18th centuries, including Brislington and Limekiln Lane (Jackson *et al* 1991; Jackson 1999; Price 2005; [internet source: Bristol potteries](#)), although there are no surviving sales records from the Bristol tin-glaze potteries. A group of wasters from Temple Back, dated *c.* 1730–50, was almost certainly made at the Water Lane Pottery (Price 2005).

The vessel forms seen at Bath Quays (Table 3) encompass a range of tablewares (convex and flared bowls, plates) with some polychrome but more commonly blue-painted decoration. There is also one candlestick. Decorative designs include floral designs and Chinese-style landscapes; plates and bowls are frequently decorated around the rim/flange with floral, geometric or diaper designs in bands and panels. Stylistically, these belong largely to the 18th century, and probably no later than the third quarter of the century.

Table 3: Other fineware vessel forms

Vessel forms	Function	TGW	STSL	STMO	SWSG	REST	AGAT	WHIE	PORC	TOTAL
bowl	unspecified	3			2				3	8
bowl: convex	unspecified	9			5				2	16
bowl: flanged	unspecified				2					2
bowl: flared	unspecified	5			1				2	8
bowl: hemispherical	unspecified	2			9				7	18
candlestick	lighting	1								1
chamberpot	sanitary	45	12		10					67
cup	beverage consumption		42		2				3	47
dish	tableware								2	2
dish/bowl	tableware								1	1
dish/plate	tableware	2								2
dish: convex	tableware				2				1	3
dish: flanged	unspecified		6		1				1	8
dish: flared	unspecified						1			1
drug jar	pharmaceutical	31								31
drug jar; cylindrical	pharmaceutical	32								32
drug jar; flared	pharmaceutical	1								1
drug jar; spout	pharmaceutical	1								1
drug jar; tulip	pharmaceutical	17								17
figurine	ornament								1	1
jar	storage				1				1	2
lid	unspecified				1					1
mug: cylindrical	beverage consumption				5					5

Vessel forms	Function	TGW	STSL	STMO	SWSG	REST	AGAT	WHIE	PORC	TOTAL
plate	tableware	30			29				30	89
platter	tableware		57							57
saucer	tableware				1				4	5
serving dish	tableware				1					1
tankard	beverage consumption			2						2
tea bowl	beverage consumption				7				8	15
tea-/coffee pot	beverage serving				2	11		1		14
toy	toy								1	1
vase	ornament								1	1
Total		179	117	2	81	11	1	1	68	60

KEY: AGAT agate ware; PORC porcelain; REST red stoneware; STSL Staffs-/Bristol-type yellow slipwares; STMO Staffs-/Bristol-type mottled wares; SWSG white salt-glazed stoneware; TGW tin-glazed earthenwares; WHIE Whieldon-type ware

Chamberpots are also common, marking the descent of the tin-glaze industry from initial decorative ‘display’ vessels to everyday, utilitarian plainwares. However, it is the pharmaceutical application of tin-glazed wares that is most in evidence here: the most common tin-glazed form is the drug jar (MNV 82), in which squat cylindrical and small cauldron-shaped forms are approximately equally represented, with one example of a small flared form, and one spouted example (for wet preparations - the rest were for dry drugs). The squat cylindrical form derives from the Italian albarello; they were in use in this country from the 17th century and appear to have formed the mainstay of tin-glaze production in the early years of the London industry; their importance in the Bristol industry is unknown. The Bath Quays examples are frequently decorated with blue and/or purple horizontal stripes. The smaller eggcup- or tulip-shaped drug jars were not made until the 18th century (they are included in a group of kiln waste from the Limekiln Lane potteries in Bristol, dated *c.* 1715–25: Jackson *et al* 1991, fig. 6; examples from the Temple Back kiln are assumed to be of similar date: Price 2005, 80, fig. 5.14) and are usually undecorated, although they occasionally carry makers’ marks (for the contents). Chemists at this period ordered drug jars or ointment pots with their names, and sometimes their addresses, written on them. One of those from Bath Quays is marked with the handwritten legend ‘Wm Singleton Lambeth Butts’. William Singleton’s pots, dating 1779–1807, have been found in London, and there is evidence that they were made at the adjacent Vauxhall pottery (Britton 1986, 168, fig. 173; Dawson 2010, 157). Another example has a partially legible mark ...ROSS...BON S..., from an unknown retailer.

The latest forms are small cylindrical vessels with only a slight rim constriction. The three examples here all have a pale blue tin-glaze, and two carry (contents) makers’ marks. One is from Gervais Chardin of the Rue St Martin in Paris. On the second, only the words ‘à Paris’ survive, and could belong to any one of a number of Parisian retailers ([internet source](#): delftware ointment pots). M. Gervais was a perfumer in the Rue St Martin; he was described as ‘perfumer of their majesties’ in 1808 ([internet source](#): Houbigant perfume bottles). He went into partnership with M. Chardin, and the firm is listed in a Paris trade directory for 1820 (Dulac 1820). Ointment pots of both M. Gervais and the Gervais-Chardin firm are also recorded in London; they could have been made either in France or London (the Glasshouse Street pottery in Lambeth was the last source of tin-glazed earthenware in

Britain; Britton 1986, 61–2, 169, fig. 176; Maloney 2001, 94). One other partial mark was recorded, on a body sherd from a drug jar of unknown form: ‘...AMOM’ (perhaps cardamom).

Also of interest here are six sherds of possible biscuit ware from the manufacture of tin-glazed earthenware, although two of these sherds may just be very worn wares from which the glaze has been abraded; these came from the refuse infilling cart ruts crossing the Fosse Dyke (S9), probably deposited 1685–95. Tin-glazed earthenware manufacture is not documented in Bath.

Staffordshire-/Bristol-type slipwares and mottled wares

Early post-medieval finewares were provided by the Staffordshire-/Bristol-type yellow slipwares and mottled wares of the later 17th and 18th centuries. In this instance, the most likely source for both types is Bristol (Barton 1961; Dawson 1979), and a group of wasters has been recorded from Temple Back, dated *c.* 1730–50 (Price 2005, 85–93). Shallow convex dishes with pie-crust rims (occasionally flanged), rounded cups and chamberpots make up the repertoire of vessel forms (Table 3); all these are seen here in both feathered and trailed/joggled slipwares. Amongst the dishes, decoration is most commonly in the form of feathered parallel lines, with a small number of vessels with trailed slip – these are mostly in white slip on a (dipped) red slip background, although there are two examples of red slip, and one of polychrome slip. The cups and chamberpots are of similar profile, differing only in size and the fact that the chamberpots (with diameters of 160mm or greater) generally have flat everted rims with applied slip dots around the rim; body sherds of the two forms cannot readily be distinguished. Decorative treatments combine feathering on the body with trailed dots around the neck and rim. All these forms and decorative treatments are paralleled amongst the mid-18th-century group from Temple Back, though overall the yellow slipwares have a suggested date of *c.* 1680–1760 (Barton 1961, 167). Their use at Bath Quays is difficult to track with any accuracy – they are very scarce in all the well-dated stratified groups.

Interestingly, mottled wares are almost completely absent here - there are just two sherds, from a cylindrical tankard.

Table 4: Stoneware vessel forms

Vessel form	Function	ENGS	FREC	NOTS	SELZ	STST	WEST	TOTAL
bottle	container (liquid)	9			8		1	18
bottle: cylindrical	container (liquid)	2						2
cylindrical jar/bottle	container	6						6
bowl	unspecified							2
bowl: convex	unspecified			2				7
bowl: flanged	unspecified							2
bowl: flared	unspecified			4				5
bowl: hemispherical	unspecified							9
chamberpot	sanitary							10
cup	beverage consumption					1		3
dish: convex	unspecified							2
dish: flanged	unspecified							1
flagon	container (liquid)	18						18
jar	storage	3		2				6
jar: cylindrical	storage	13						13
jar: shouldered	storage	1						1
jug	beverage serving	1	3	1			2	7
lid	unspecified							1
mug	beverage consumption	1						1
mug: cylindrical	beverage consumption					1		6
plate	tableware							29
saucer	tableware							1
serving dish	tableware							1

tankard	beverage consumption	3		2			22	27
tea bowl	beverage consumption							7
tea pot/coffee pot	beverage serving							5
Total		57	3	11	8	2	25	189

Key: ENGS English stoneware (source unspecified); FREC (Frechen stoneware); NOTS (Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire-type stoneware; SELZ German seltzer bottles; STST Staffordshire stoneware; WEST Westerwald stoneware

Stonewares

Raeren stonewares, ubiquitous on most late 15th- and early 16th-century sites, are completely absent here, and there are only three sherds of Frechen stoneware (all from jugs or bottles). The reliance instead on Westerwald stonewares (supplying mainly tankards but also jugs, chamberpots and seltzer (mineral water) bottles) and English stonewares supports the idea that there was little activity on the site prior to the later 17th century. As well as the Westerwald bottle, there is one other German seltzer bottle in a brown salt-glazed stoneware. The bottle is of the convex profile prevalent in the 18th century (around 1800 these were superseded by cylindrical bottles), and has a spa mark stamped on the shoulder, consisting of the word SELTERS around a Greek cross, with the letters CT below the cross-piece of the cross (see Nienhaus 1980 for an example dated *c.* 1760). Selters (from which the word 'seltzer' is derived) denotes the town of Niederselters in Hesse.

English stonewares were supplied from Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire, Staffordshire and also almost certainly Bristol, where stoneware production is documented from the end of the 17th century through to 1961 (internet source: Bristol potteries); a small group of stoneware wasters dated *c.* 1715–60 is known from Temple Back, and almost certainly relating to production at the Water Lane Pottery (Price 2005, 93–5), and another waster group, dating to the late 17th century, was found on the site of the Tower Hartz pottery in the Temple Quay area (Jackson 2003). The three sherds of Staffordshire-type dipped stoneware are from cylindrical mugs of 18th-century type (Table 4). Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire stonewares provided bowls (flared and convex), jars and tankards; several vessels have rouletted decoration. Roughly half of the English stonewares are feldspathic-glazed, a glaze type pioneered in Bristol (and hence known as 'Bristol glaze') in the 1830s. Although there are at least two cylindrical mugs or tankards of 18th-century type, most of the English stonewares seem to have been used for containers (jars, bottles and flagons), for beverages, foodstuffs and other household goods (ink, polish, cleaning products, etc), all dating to the 19th to 20th centuries. Some of the containers carry proprietary marks from either the manufacturer of the container, or of the contents: CLUB / STONE / [GIN]GER; DOULTON LAMBETH; and W.P. HARTLEY LIVERPOOL & LONDON. Nine of these stoneware containers, all feldspathic-glazed, came from a refuse dump in the stables at the bottom of Avon street (B34). These comprise five vertically ribbed preserve jars in 1lb and 2lb sizes (two from the Hartleys factory),

and four larger shouldered jars with ochre-dipped upper portions. One of the latter has an ink-stamped mark (for the contents manufacture) of E L & S. The preserve jars date to the later 19th or early 20th century – stoneware containers were superseded by glass by the second decade of the 20th century, although it is possible that the jars were reused after their original contents were consumed (see Licence 2015, 36–9). The refuse dump appears to date from the 1920s or 1930s.

White salt-glazed stoneware

The quest for a lighter-coloured salt-glazed stoneware in the early 18th century, comparable in quality to the fine Chinese porcelain that was then being imported, led to the development of white salt-glazed ware in Staffordshire around 1720, using Devon clays and calcined flint. This new ware was hard and strong and could be moulded with great precision, either by press-moulding or slip-casting in a mould. White salt-glazed stoneware is ubiquitous on 18th-century sites until the 1770s and was used for tea- and tablewares of all kinds. Here it forms 5.8% of the post-medieval/modern assemblage by sherd count (3.7% by sherd weight), and tea-wares are represented by a few tea bowls and cups, but the majority of forms are tablewares, comprising bowls, dishes and plates (see Table 3), and thus are more likely to date later in the sequence – Staffordshire production assemblages of the period *c.* 1720–45 are dominated by tea-wares (cups, tea bowls, teapots, saucers, milk jugs, etc), changing their composition in the 1750s to concentrate on plates and other tablewares, answering the demand for an extended ceramic repertoire associated with the elaboration of Georgian dining (Barker 2010, 6). By this time white salt-glazed stoneware was also competing with creamware (see below). There is also a small group of chamberpots. As well as Staffordshire, white salt glaze was made in Bristol, at the Water Lane (from an inventory of 1784: [internet source](#): Bristol potteries) and Redcliffe Back potteries (Barton 1961, 160).

The largest group of white salt-glazed stoneware came from the large-scale dumping into quarry pits to the west of Milk Street (maximum 70 vessels out of a total of 156).

Red stoneware

There is a small group of unglazed red stoneware (33 sherds, representing a maximum of 16 vessels). Red stoneware teapots were imported from Yixing in China (along

with the tea itself) from the late 1650s and were imitated by John Dwight in Fulham from the mid-1670s. The Elers brothers further developed the ware in Staffordshire in the 1690s and produced slip-cast teapots and other vessels decorated with ‘sprigged’ motifs (made in plaster of Paris moulds and then applied to the body of the pot with slip), but after they left Staffordshire production of this type appears to have ceased, and was not revived until possibly the 1740s, becoming widespread from the 1750s and maintaining a degree of status and popularity until the 1780s (Hildyard 2005, 71–8).

The majority of the vessels here (ten of the 16) carry engine-turned decoration. All appear to belong to straight-sided coffee pots or cylindrical teapots, made from the 1760s (earlier forms are round-bodied). The ‘engine lathe’ was introduced into pottery manufacture in 1763 by Josiah Wedgwood (Barker 1991, 120). There are also two sherds with mould-applied decoration (made in metal moulds and then applied, in lower relief than sprigged motifs), common during the 1760s and early 1770s.

Two vessels are stamped on the base with an imitation Chinese-style seal mark. One is a squared spiral; this was the mark of the Indeo Pottery at Bovey Tracey c. 1760s–1780 (Hildyard 2005, 78). The second is of an unknown manufacturer. The majority of red stoneware, however, was made in Staffordshire.

The majority of the red stoneware came from the large-scale dumping into quarry pits to the west of Milk Street (maximum 11 vessels out of 16).

Other early 18th-century finewares

Other early 18th-century fineware include a few sherds of agate wares (possible coffee can, dish) and tortoiseshell-glazed Whieldon-type wares (teapot). There may also be early 18th-century vessels amongst the basalt ware (two teapots and a teapot lid).

Porcelain and bone china

The first official East India cargo of Chinese porcelain arrived in this country in 1637; it remained an expensive luxury item well into the 18th century, despite an explosion of trade from the end of the 17th century which brought in tea, coffee and chocolate along with a demand for heat-resistant vessels in which to serve and consume the new drinks. European efforts to imitate the high-quality oriental porcelains were lengthy. John Dwight experimented with porcelain manufacture at his Fulham pottery in the

1670s but it was not until the mid-18th century that the factories at Bow, Limehouse and Vauxhall made it a commercial success. Porcelain was also made in Bristol from 1749 (internet source: Bristol potteries).

At Bath Quays porcelain formed a small but significant proportion of the post-medieval/modern assemblage (5.3% by sherd count, 4.4% by sherd weight). No distinction has been made here between Chinese and English porcelains, although both are certainly represented. Porcelain was used for tea-drinking equipment – cups (the earliest lacking handles, as Chinese tea bowls), saucers and small bowls – but other tablewares (plates and dishes) make up more than half of the identifiable forms (Table 3). There is also a small figurine, clothed in the style of the 1920s or 1930s, and a probable doll's limb. The role of porcelain was to some extent superseded by bone china, a cheaper alternative, from the last decade of the 18th century, at a point when the English porcelain factories were closing and Chinese imports had virtually dried up. Only a small quantity of bone china was found here, again in tea-/tableware forms.

Porcelain was found in most of the well-stratified groups (see below); a maximum 47 vessels came from the large-scale dumping into quarry pits to the west of Milk Street.

Factory-produced wares, mid-18th to 20th century

The development of refined wares through the 18th and into the 19th century can be seen here in the large groups of creamware (*c.* 1740–1870), pearlware (*c.* 1800–1900), whiteware (*c.* 1800+) and yellow ware. The creamwares include early forms such as handle-less tea bowls imitating porcelain originals but were also used for other tea- and tablewares such as cups, saucers, plates, dishes and bowls, jugs and one trivet (Table 5). Decoration is largely confined to decorative moulding on plate rims (some have blue-painted feathered edges), and vertical fluting on bowls and cups, but a few vessels carry hand-painted decoration, while some were slip-decorated (banding and marbling). There are also some more utilitarian vessels - a few chamberpots, and a group of four ale tankards from a make-up layer below a yard surface in Little Corn Street (OA24) (one with blue banding and one with mocha decoration), at least two of which carried applied crests, stamped IMPERIAL. The earliest dated piece of mocha ware recorded is from 1799, but it became much more common during the 19th century (Lewis 1987, 231–3). Creamwares were made at various potteries in Bristol

([internet source](#): Bristol potteries), and industrial slipwares, including mocha ware but also other decorative techniques such as banding and cabling, were amongst the kiln waste found at Temple Back, Bristol (and almost certainly made at the Water Lane Pottery), in a pit group dated 1837–40 (Price 2005, 95–9). This group included tankards but lacking the ‘Imperial’ crests.

One creamware sherd, from a bedding layer directly below the flagstone floor of 14–15 New Quay (B12) probably laid in the 1830s, is of interest. This has black overglaze printing with the words ‘*en Vaderland*’. This is part of the patriotic motto ‘*Voor Vryheid en Vaderland*’ (For Liberty and Fatherland), which appears on vessels produced in England for the Dutch export market during the late 18th and early 19th centuries (mainly during the 1780s and 1790s). The appreciation of these English imports in the Netherlands was not universal, as the local delftware pottery industry was badly affected – one 1780 pamphlet entitled “The Delft stick pulverizing the disgusting yellow and hideous red English earthenware” recommended that English china should be used only by prison convicts (which would then give it a bad name); in 1798 English goods were officially boycotted. This was at a time when a strong anti-British and revolutionary Patriot Movement rose in the Netherlands. Unfortunately for the delftware industry, the demand for English high-quality tea- and coffee-drinking ceramics outweighed patriotic considerations – Dutch citizens were not willing to sacrifice their pretensions to gentility for the sake of lower quality ceramics, and English potters had no objection to making products incorporating slogans unfavourable to themselves in the cause of good business (Stellingwerf 2018).

A similar but slightly wider range of tea- and tablewares (including teapots and serving dishes) is seen in pearlware and whiteware, many of them transfer-printed, but also including more slip-decorated vessels, and some hand-painted, particularly featuring Chinoiserie designs on pearlware. One small cylindrical pearlware teapot has a blue glaze with a chequer slip band around the shoulder; the spout appears to have been neatly removed. Pearlware plates frequently have blue (or occasionally green) feathered edges. Four ‘nursery’ vessels (two plates and two mugs) were recognised, all with mottos: one mug reads FOR M[OTHER?], one of the plates features an Isaac Watts hymn (‘Oh what a lovely thing for youth’), and the second, with a moulded, hand-painted border, ‘Come Up Donkey’ (an identical example is dated *c.* 1860; [internet source](#): Selling Antiques); the motto on the second mug could not be deciphered. Few manufacturers’ backstamps were recorded: there is

one of Spode, and one of Pountney and Goldney, the short-lived partnership (1837–50) of the Pountney family firm operating at the Water Lane pottery in Bristol (Henrywood 1992, 53). Other marks were too partial to decipher.

There are a few sanitary vessels (chamberpots and possible washstand jugs and bowls) and two cylindrical jars, one probably for foodstuffs (e.g. preserves) and the other possible for health/beauty product (e.g. toothpaste or cold cream).

Given the date range of the assemblage, the relatively small proportion of the utilitarian yellow ware is perhaps surprising. Yellow ware was used as a kitchen ware, found in bowls of various forms and sizes, but the smaller bowls and jugs, often slip-decorated, were suitable for table use.

Table 5: Refined ware vessel forms

Vessel forms	Function	BAS	BONE	CREA	DEV CR	JACK	PEAR	REFR	REFW	YELL	TOTAL
bowl	unspecified			1						1	2
bowl: carinated	unspecified						2		3		5
bowl: convex	unspecified			5	4		5		3	3	20
bowl: flanged	unspecified			1							1
bowl: flared	unspecified			3					1	1	5
bowl: fluted	unspecified			1							1
bowl: hemispherical	unspecified			7	1		3		1		12
bowl/dish	unspecified						1				1
chamberpot	sanitary			3	1				4	1	9
coffee pot	beverage serving							7			7
cup	beverage consumption			4	1		13		10		28
cup/bowl	?beverage consumption		1	2	1		5		2		11
cup: convex	beverage consumption								1		1
dish	tableware			1			4		2		7
dish/plate	tableware			1			1				2
dish: convex	tableware			3	2		3		2		10
dish: flanged	tableware			2							2
figurine	ornament								1		1
jar: cylindrical	storage								3		3
jug	beverage serving			4	2		6		8	4	24
ladle	tableware						1				1
lid	unspecified			1			4		4		9
mug	beverage consumption						1				1

Vessel forms	Function	BAS	BONE	CREA	DEV CR	JACK	PEAR	REFR	REFW	YELL	TOTAL
mug: cylindrical	beverage consumption			2	1		1		2		6
plate	table		1	65	22		46		27		161
saucer	table		2	7	2		12		11		34
serving dish	serve						1		1		2
tankard	beverage consumption				4		4				8
tea bowl	beverage consumption			3	2		4				9
teapot	beverage serving	3		1		1	3	2	2		12
trivet	table			2							2
tureen	tableware								1		1
Total		3	4	119	43	1	120	9	89	10	398

Key: BAS basalt ware; BONE bone china; CREA creamware; DEV CR developed creamware; JACK Jackfield ware; PEAR pearlware; REFR refined redware; REFW refined whiteware; YELL yellow ware

Distribution: selected pottery groups

Pottery Group 1: Crucial dating for bank east of Fosse Ditch

This context (1867) produced nine medieval sherds and one residual Romano-British sherd (Black Burnished ware). The medieval sherds include three glazed wares (one possibly Redcliffe), and must therefore be at least 12th-century and probably 13th-century or later.

Pottery Group 2: Infill of wheel ruts 1578 and depression of trackway (S9)

This group is dominated by redwares (74 sherds), including trailed and sgraffito slipwares in various utilitarian forms, but also including some tablewares (flanged bowls and dishes for eating; convex and flared bowls for food preparation, jugs for serving drink, jars for food storage, a chamberpot). The smattering of other wares includes German stonewares (two Frechen jugs and a Westerwald tankard), yellow slipware (cup or chamberpot) and tin-glazed earthenware. Of interest are two sherds of possible biscuit ware, waste from the manufacture of tin-glazed earthenware (this is known to have been made in Bristol, but there is no evidence of its manufacture in Bath), but these could just be very abraded tin-glazed sherds. The absence of white salt glaze (*c.* 1720–80) and any other later refined wares suggests a date no later than the first two decades of the 18th century, and in fact the only sherd which is unlikely to be earlier than 18th century is an iron-dipped English stoneware; the remainder could be accommodated within the second half of the 17th century. Clay pipes from these contexts (primarily from 1581), date *c.* 1685–1710, and probably 1685–95.

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1579	Redware	1	22	1	
1579	Tin-glazed earthenware	2	14	2	
	<i>Sub-total 1579</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>3</i>	
1581	Frechen stoneware	1	25	1	Jug
1581	Redware	73	2847	66	9 bowls (convex, flared and flanged; 5 flanged dishes; 4 jars; 2 jugs; 1 chamberpot; slipped and sgraffito wares
1581	Yellow slipwares	1	18	1	Closed form, trailed slip decoration
1581	Tin-glazed earthenware	2	23		
1581	Westerwald stoneware	1	10	1	Tankard
1581	Biscuit ware	2	20	2	Or could just be TGW with glaze removed
1581	English stoneware	1	28	1	Iron-dipped
1581	Frechen stoneware	1	23	1	jug
	<i>Sub-total 1581</i>	<i>82</i>	<i>2994</i>	<i>75</i>	
	TOTAL GROUP	85	3030	78	

Pottery Group 3: Backfill of cess pit 1701 (S51)

A small group (44 sherds), this would appear solidly 18th-century, with white salt glaze the most commonly occurring ware type (c. 1720–80), alongside porcelain, creamware, English stoneware, redware (including North Devon gravel-tempered ware and Verwood-type ware from East Dorset), yellow slipware and tin-glazed earthenware. The predominance of tablewares (nine plates) over tea-wares (one cup, one mug, one possible tea bowl) echoes a pattern which in Staffordshire emerges c. 1770 and which reflects both changing habits in dining (a greater formality in dining as food consumption became separated from its preparation) and the ability of the potteries to produce greater quantities of flatwares more cheaply due to technological advances (Barker 2010, 12–13). This small group of pottery, probably dating to the late 1770s or 1780s, lies at the cusp of this social and ceramic change, but also to the period when the initial occupation of the Avon Street district by the well-to-do had been replaced by that of middle- and lower-income households, and demonstrates that such social changes permeated all social levels. Clay pipes from this deposit include products of Joseph Smith of Bath and are dated c. 1780–90.

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1702	Porcelain	2	20	2	Underglaze blue decoration; plate; bowl
1702	Creamware	6	161	5	2 plates; dish/plate; chamberpot
1702	English stoneware	3	47	3	
1702	N Devon gravel-tempered ware	1	73	1	
1702	Pearlware	5	47	1	Tea bowl
1702	Redware	2	93	1	Internally white-slipped
1702	Yellow slipware	1	8	1	Cup
1702	Tin-glazed earthenware	3	40	3	
1702	Verwood-type earthenware	2	191	2	Bowl
1702	White salt glaze	19	112	16	5 plates; cylindrical mug
	TOTAL GROUP	44	778	35	

Pottery Group 4: Dumping within quarrying/pitting west of Milk Street

This large group is chronologically mixed, including some wares potentially as early as late 17th century (yellow slipwares, tin-glazed earthenware, Westerwald stoneware), or even earlier (redwares), some from the first half of the 18th century (white salt glaze, red stoneware), later 18th-century (creamwares), and 19th-century (developed creamware, pearlware, refined earthenware). The 19th-century wares,

however, are relatively scarce, and the emphasis seems to be on the second half of the 18th century (with a significant proportion of plates). It may therefore represent continued refuse dumping over a period of time or (more likely given the cross-context joining and possible same-vessel sherds) the redeposition of an accumulation of material in a number of dumping episodes over a restricted timespan.

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1479	Bone china	1	4	1	
1479	Porcelain	10	176	9	2 plates; 1 very small rounded vessel; 5 with underglaze decoration
1479	Creamware	17	246	16	Plates; 1 jug; 1 saucer with hand-painted decoration
1479	Developed creamware	4	17	4	
1479	English stoneware	2	28	2	Neck of cylindrical bottle; iron-dipped top, salt-glazed; 1 Staffs-type dipped stoneware
1479	N Devon gravel-tempered	32	840	24	At least 2 jugs
1479	Olive jar	2	906	2	
1479	Pearlware	2	16	1	Saucer, hand-painted decoration
1479	Redware	26	1743	24	At least 3 bowls; 3 flowerpots
1479	Red stoneware	2	40	2	Tea-/coffee pot(s) with engine-turned decoration
1479	Yellow slipware	16	588	13	2 platters; 1 flanged dish; 1 chamberpot; 1 cup; feathered and trailed slip decoration
1479	Tin-glazed earthenware	22	724	18	3 chamberpots; 7 drug jars
1479	Verwood-type earthenware	6	326	4	Large convex jar
1479	Westerwald stoneware	2	20	2	
1479	White salt glaze	19	483	17	3 chamberpots; 3 plates; 1 (tea?) bowl; 1 dish
	<i>Sub-total 1479</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>6156</i>	<i>139</i>	
1481	Black-glazed redware	2	44	1	
1481	Creamware	64	1769	55	4 plates; 2 cups (1 with vertical ribbing and brown glazed infill); 3 bowls; 1 saucer
1481	Developed creamware	17	156	17	Cup; saucer; plate
1481	Porcelain	13	551	8	4 plates; 1 bowl; 1 saucer; all with underglaze blue decoration
1481	English stoneware	4	351	3	2 Notts-type (tankard and bowl), plus mug/jug
1481	Olive jar	8	1046	5	Possibly all 1 vessel
1481	Pearlware	4	59	4	1 ?cup handle; 3 saucer (1 hand-painted; 2 transfer-printed; joining sherd 1483)
1481	Redware	38	2514	36	1 jug; 7 bowls (6 flared, various sizes); 1 slip decorated body sherd; 2 internally white-slipped (1 late white-slipped ware)
1481	Refined whiteware	1	30	1	Saucer, transfer-printed
1481	Red stoneware	2	12	1	Sprigged decoration
1481	Yellow slipwares	11	1660	8	3 platters, 2 cups; 2 chamberpots; trailed and feathered slip decoration
1481	Tin-glazed earthenware	12	535	6	4 drug jars; 2 chamberpots

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1481	Uncertain	1	8	1	Burnt refined ware, teapot spout
1481	Verwood-type earthenware	4	325	4	1 flanged dish
1481	Westerwald stoneware	2	20	2	1 possible chamberpot
1481	White salt glaze	13	494	9	4 bowls; 3 chamberpots; 1 cylindrical mug
	<i>Sub-total 1481</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>9574</i>	<i>161</i>	
1483	Creamware	10	145	6	Plate dish; body sherd (?cup), vertical ribs with red-glazed infill
1483	Developed creamware	2	44	2	Cylindrical mug
1483	Porcelain	5	315	3	Bowl; 2 underglaze blue, 1 overglaze decoration
1483	English stoneware	3	103	1	Large cylindrical jar
1483	N Devon gravel-tempered	1	45	1	
1483	Pearlware	2	57	1	1 hand painted decoration; 1 saucer, transfer-printed (joining sherd 1481)
1483	Redware	15	1004		3 bowls; 3 dishes; 1 chamberpot; 2 vessels internally white-slipped
1483	Red stoneware	5	55	1	Small vessel
1483	Yellow slipware	2	18	2	1 trailed slip (cup or chamberpot); 1 feathered slip (closed form)
1483	Tin-glazed earthenware	45	667	34	2 chamberpot; 8 drug jars
1483	Refined whiteware	1	11	1	Transfer-printed
1483	Verwood-type earthenware	2	125	2	1 large convex jar
1483	White salt glaze	6	120	6	Plate, (?tea) bowl, chamberpot, lid
	<i>Sub-total 1483</i>	<i>99</i>	<i>2709</i>	<i>75</i>	
1724	Black-glazed redware	4	97	1	jug
1724	Creamware	46	818	37	2 saucers (hand painted decoration); jug; trivet; plate; ?sauce boat
1724	Developed creamware	8	144	7	Plate, 2 ?tankards
1724	Porcelain	27	270	5	2 plates; 2 bowls; 3 tea bowls; saucer; most underglaze blue decoration; 1 overglaze decoration
1724	Redware	92	4839	68	14 bowls (13 flared, varying sizes; 2 jars; 2 jugs)
1724	Red stoneware	11	103	6	Tea-/coffeepot(s) with engine-turned decoration
1724	Yellow slipwares	34	1182	23	10 platters; 10 cups; 1 chamberpot; feathered and trailed slipwares
1724	Tin-glazed earthenware	24	413	21	4 drug jars; chamberpot; candlestick; bowl; plate
1724	Verwood-type earthenware	27	1802	10	4 bowls; 1 jar
1724	Whieldon-type ware	2	49	1	Tortoiseshell glaze
1724	White salt glaze	37	1052	28	4 bowls; 2 tea bowls; 2 cylindrical mugs; 3 chamberpots; 5 plates; 2 dishes
	<i>Sub-total 1724</i>	<i>328</i>	<i>11114</i>	<i>226</i>	
1731	Agate ware	4	171	1	Dish
1731	Creamware	14	198	13	Saucer; tea bowl; cup/tea bowl; plate; teapot
1731	Porcelain	19	1190	12	10 plates; 2 bowls
1731	English stoneware	7	145	3	2 Notts-type bowls; 1 Staffs-type dipped stoneware mug
1731	Frechen stoneware	2	36	2	Jug with cylindrical neck

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1731	N Devon gravel tempered	2	83	2	jug
1731	Pearlware	4	68	4	Saucer; convex bowl, both hand-painted; 1 transfer-printed
1731	Redware	33	3484	25	4 bowls (all flared); 1 dish, internally white-slipped
1731	Red stoneware	3	86	1	Tea-/coffeepot with engine-turned decoration
1731	Yellow slipware	14	1381	12	5 platters; 1 flanged dish
1731	Tin-glazed earthenware	23	371	16	7 drug jars
1731	Verwood-type earthenware	6	455	5	Bowl
1731	Westerwald stoneware	1	48	1	Seltzer bottle
1731	White salt glaze	5	219	5	2 bowls; 1 plate
	<i>Sub-total 1731</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>7974</i>	<i>104</i>	
1733	Creamware	15	281	8	3 plates; 2 bowls; 1 cup/bowl; 1 trivet
1733	Porcelain	1	5	1	
1733	Frechen stoneware	1	21	1	
1733	N Devon gravel-tempered	3	102	3	
1733	Redware	11	846	10	Bowl; jar; flanged dish
1733	Yellow slipware	3	153	2	Chamberpot; feathered and trailed slip decoration
1733	Tin-glazed earthenware	3	41	3	2 drug jars
1733	White salt glaze	2	47	2	Bowl; jar (scratch blue decoration)
	<i>Sub-total 1733</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>1496</i>	<i>30</i>	
1771	Redware	11	612	8	Bowl; flanged dish (internally white-slipped)
1771	Yellow slipware	9	290	6	3 platters; feathered and trailed slip decoration
1771	Tin-glazed earthenware	19	303	17	10 drug jars; 1 bowl
1771	Verwood-type earthenware	1	63	1	Large convex jar
	<i>Sub-total 1771</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>1268</i>	<i>35</i>	
1833	Porcelain	1	22	1	Flanged dish
1833	Creamware	7	279	3	Bowl (fluted); dish
1833	English stoneware	8	65	1	Tankard
1833	Redware	2	193	2	Bowl
1833	Yellow slipware	1	52	1	Platter; feathered slip decoration
1833	Tin-glazed earthenware	8	189	3	Bowl; drug jar
1833	White salt glaze	4	1213	3	plate
	<i>Sub-total 1833</i>	<i>31</i>	<i>1013</i>	<i>14</i>	
	TOTAL GROUP	896	33330	680	

Pottery Group 5: Make-up layers below 30 Kingsmead Terrace (OA20)

The deposit contained 27 sherds of pottery. This small group contains a mix of utilitarian wares (redwares, Verwood, stoneware), tin-glazed drug jars, and tea-/tablewares (porcelain, white salt glaze, creamware, transfer-printed pearlware. Two of the drug jars carry mottos advertising the (contents) manufacturer ('...ROSS... / ...BON S...' and '...à Paris'); the former is a tulip-shaped form dating broadly to the 18th century, while the latter is a small cylindrical form with pale blue glaze, a late 18th or early 19th century type. Although there are some 18th-century wares (eg

white salt glaze), other wares such as the transfer-printed pearlware would also fit with an early 19th century date. Despite the chronological range (suggesting that some of the pottery was residual when deposited), the group as a whole is in relatively good condition, featuring large unabraded sherds. Clay pipes from this context dated 1760–90.

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1882	Porcelain	5	207	2	Tea bowl (underglaze blue decoration); plate (lustre decoration)
1882	Creamware	2	201	2	Plate; lid (serving dish)
1882	English stoneware	1	102	1	Large jar or flagon
1882	Redware	6	905	6	2 flanged dish/bowl; 2 pipkins; jar; lid; mostly white-slipped
1882	Yellow slipware	2	77	2	Platter
1882	Tin-glazed earthenware	4	152	4	3 drug jars (two with mottos); bowl
1882	Pearlware	2	70	2	Transfer-printed; saucer
1882	Verwood-type earthenware	1	130	1	Flared dish
1882	White salt glaze	3	91	3	2 plates; tea-/coffee pot lid
	TOTAL GROUP	27	1957	24	

Pottery Group 6: Backfill of well 1899 to the rear of 11–13 New Quay

This constitutes a very small group; it includes diagnostic 19th-century wares (transfer-printed pearlware and whiteware), although with some earlier wares: the seltzer bottle is of the 18th-century sloping-shouldered ovoid form, with a stamp dating in the second half of the century, and the basalt ware could also pre-date the 19th century. Otherwise, the group cannot be pinned down more closely.

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1901	Basalt ware	2	38	2	Teapot spout
1901	Creamware	1	66	1	Small dish
1901	Porcelain	1	22	1	Lustre heraldic design
1901	English stoneware	1	45	1	
1901	Pearlware	4	109	4	Plate; dish; 1 transfer-printed (Willow pattern)
1901	Refined whiteware	3	38	3	2 transfer-printed
1901	German stoneware	1	145	1	Seltzer bottle (ovoid form); spa stamp
	TOTAL GROUP	20	639	17	

Pottery Group 7: Backfill of Avon Street slipway

The pottery assemblage from the infilling of the dock (132 sherds) contained a mixture of tea-/tablewares in creamware, developed creamware, pearlware, whiteware and porcelain, as well as kitchen/household utilitarian wares (kitchen vessels and chamberpots in redware and yellow ware, stoneware bottles for beverages and

blacking). There is a possible ‘nursery’ motto on one of the transfer-printed pearlware mugs. It is likely that this group contains vessels spanning a fairly wide date range, and also a mix of quality – the creamware vessels include a hand-painted tea bowl which would have been more at home in the more genteel Bath homes of the mid-18th century, as would the porcelain, rather than the lower-class housing around Avon Street in the early 19th century. The refuse included in the infilling deposit could, of course, have come from anywhere in Bath, although the clay pipemaking waste was clearly local. The latest vessels belong to the early–mid-19th century, and three stoneware bottles date no earlier than the 1830s. Clay pipes from this deposit date between 1810 and 1840.

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1505	Creamware	1	9	1	Cup
1505	Developed creamware	13	145	12	4 bowls (1 marbled slip decoration); dish; tea bowl; hand painted and mocha slip
1505	Porcelain	2	21	2	Bowl
1505	English stoneware	5	99	5	3 cylindrical jars/bottles (beverage, blacking); 1 Notts-type jug
1505	German stoneware	1	3	1	Seltzer bottle
1505	Pearlware	37	412	31	2 dishes (1 serving); 4 plates; cup/bowl; lid (serving dish); 2 mugs (1 possible nursery motto); 1 cup; 3 small bowls/cups
1505	Redware	28	1455	28	3 jugs; 3 dishes (2 for flowerpots?); 3 bowls (1 internally white-slipped); 1 jar/chamberpot
1505	Refined whiteware	20	175	17	2 bowls; 3 plates; 2 jugs; 2 cylindrical mugs
1505	Tin-glazed earthenware	3	142	1	Plate (plain)
1505	Uncertain	1	6	1	Burnt refined ware plate
1505	Yellow slipware	2	29	2	Chamberpot (trailed slip); closed form (feathered slip)
1505	Yellow ware	19	311	10	2 jugs; bowl; chamberpot; all slip decorated, including mocha
	TOTAL GROUP	132	2807	111	

Pottery Group 8: ‘Under floor deposits’ at 14 New Quay (B12)

The under-floor deposits contained 116 sherds of pottery, dominated by tea- and tablewares in porcelain and bone china, and in pearlware and whiteware, including both hand-painted and transfer-printed decoration. The transfer-printed wares include one pearlware ‘nursery’ plate with the words of an Isaac Watts hymn (‘Oh what a lovely thing for youth’), and one other possible nursery motto in whiteware. These two vessels fall into the category of ‘moralising china’, carrying maxims, religious inscriptions and children’s rhymes, which were popular during the Victorian period

(Jeffries *et al.* 2008, 336–9). There are also slip-decorated creamwares, and teapots in Jackfield and basalt wares. These would place the group in the late 18th or 19th century (there are a few earlier wares, eg yellow slipware and tin-glazed earthenware, which are presumably residual here). There are also three cylindrical stoneware jars and one bottle, dating no earlier than the 1830s, although on the whole there are few kitchen wares of any sort (redwares, yellow wares, etc).

Overall, this pottery group displays few pretensions to gentility beyond the few sherds of lustre-decorated porcelain (including a tea bowl, which could be a residual vessel). The slip-decorated and transfer-printed wares are typical of the mass-produced pottery that would have been readily and cheaply available to all sections of society from the end of the 18th century.

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1367	Basalt ware	1	59	1	Teapot lid
1367	Bone china	4	62	4	Saucer; cup/bowl
1367	Porcelain	1	51	2	Small rounded vessel; overglaze decoration; cup (lustre decoration)
1367	Creamware	4	62	4	2 cylindrical mugs; 1 bowl (all with slip decoration; joining sherd 1366)
1367	English stoneware	7	139	5	3 cylindrical jars; 1 bottle (carbonated beverage); 1 Notts-type rouletted sherd
1367	Jackfield ware	1	23	1	Teapot
1367	Pearlware	30	837	28	12 plates (1 nursery motto); 2 cups; 1 lid; jug; 2 bowls; 1 teapot; hand-painted and transfer-printed decoration
1367	Redware	1	89	1	Jug
1367	Yellow slipware	1	221	1	Cup; trailed slip decoration
1367	Tin-glazed earthenware	2	25	1	Plate
1367	Refined whiteware	35	505	71	2 plates; 2 cups; 1 cup/bowl; 1 bowl; 2 dishes; 2 saucers; teapot lid; hand painted and transfer-printed decoration (1 nursery motto)
	<i>Sub-total 1367</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>2137</i>	<i>65</i>	
1366	Creamware	3	54	2	Bowl (slip decoration; joining sherd 1367); tea bowl
1366	Porcelain	3	57	2	Tea bowl; underglaze painted; overglaze lustre
1366	Pearlware	11	350	9	2 plates; cup/bowl; 2 bowls; saucer; dish; hand-painted and transfer-printed decoration
1366	German stoneware	2	80	2	Probably 1 vessel (Seltzer bottle)
1366	Tin-glazed earthenware	2	164	2	Drug jar (small cylindrical, pale blue glaze); chamberpot
1366	Refined whiteware	2	7	2	Saucer
1366	Westerwald stoneware	1	20	1	Tankard
1366	Yellow ware	1	18	1	Bowl (mocha slip decoration)
	<i>Sub-total 1366</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>878</i>	<i>22</i>	

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
	TOTAL GROUP	116	3015	87	

Pottery Group 9: 1920s/1930s refuse dump in corner of stables at bottom of Avon Street (B34)

This dump comprises one sherd from a transfer-printed oval serving vessel, with a group of nine stoneware vessels, all feldspathic-glazed, including five ribbed preserve jars in 1lb and 2lb sizes (two from the Hartleys factory in Liverpool) and four larger shouldered jars with ochre-dipped upper portions. One of the shouldered jars has a stamped manufacturer's mark near the base (illegible), and one has an ink-stamped mark (for the contents manufacturer) of E L & S. The preserve jars date to the later 19th or early 20th century – stoneware containers were superseded by glass by the second decade of the 20th century, although it is possible that the jars were re-used after their original contents were consumed (see Licence 2015, 36–9).

Context	Ware type	No. sherds	Wt.	MNV	Vessel forms & diagnostic features
1406	English stoneware	9	5938	9	5 cylindrical ribbed preserve jars; 4 cylindrical shouldered jars
1406	Refined whiteware	1	266	1	Transfer-printed oval serving dish
	TOTAL GROUP	10	6204	10	

Discussion

This is one of the largest post-medieval/modern assemblages recovered from Bath, and pottery of this date range has not as yet received much attention in publications. While its potential here is limited by the fact that much of it appears to have been dumped on the site from elsewhere, it nevertheless provides a 'snapshot' of the range of wares in use in Bath between the late 17th and early 20th century. The assemblage thus offers an opportunity to comment on the development of various local and regional ceramic types through the period, and the changing sources of supply. In particular, the assemblage illustrates the close contacts between Bath and Bristol, where a range of pottery types were produced through the period.

In terms of the ceramic sequence, Bath still suffers from a lack of close dating evidence, a fact noted 40 years ago (Owen 1979) and not remedied by any more recent evidence. Published post-medieval groups from the city are limited (Cunliffe 1979, 51–3, 99–101, 123–4; Vince 1991, figs 80–2), and three of these four groups are dated between the mid-17th century and the 1720s/1730s, earlier than the main

chronological focus of the Bath Quays assemblage. The fourth, dated to the later 17th and 18th centuries, has features that appear to contrast with Bath Quays, having a noticeably low proportion of finewares (Vince 1991, 75).

The Bath Quays assemblage does not significantly address the lack of good dating evidence – there were very few well stratified groups of any size that could be regarded as having a relatively restricted date range. Ten such groups were selected for closer examination (see above), which range in size from ten to 907 sherds, but the largest group represents a large-scale dumping episode which potentially includes pottery from a wide range range. The next largest group is considerably smaller, at 132 sherds, and five of the nine groups produced less than 50 sherds.

Contrasts with Bristol's ceramic assemblage have previously been noted: up to at least the early 18th century the quantity of exotic imported pottery in Bristol far exceeded that found in Bath, illustrating the difference in standing and importance of the two cities (Owen 1979). The Bath Quays assemblage, dating largely from the mid-18th century onwards, does not significantly alter that picture, and is in apparent conflict with the view of Bath as a rising and wealthier city. Even German stonewares, normally ubiquitous in later 17th- and 18th-century assemblages as good quality utilitarian wares for use as containers and sanitary wares, are notable by their scarcity. Some imported porcelain is present, though the precise proportion in relation to English porcelain is unknown. But from the early 18th century British ceramics were undergoing rapid technological change. Wedgwood and other Staffordshire pioneers were introducing new and more refined ware types, and at the same time, dining habits were changing and becoming more formal as food consumption separated from food preparation (Barker 2010, 13). New British ceramic types could therefore be used as a demonstration of gentility and good taste rather than imported types, but there are likely to have been other status indicators too, such as metalware and glass.

In terms of sources of supply, the assemblage shows the expected shift from Devon and Somerset sources (supplying coarsewares in the 17th into the 18th century) towards Bristol, which from small-scale beginnings in the 17th century became a major pottery manufacturing centre from the 18th century. Redwares, yellow slipwares, stonewares (including white salt glaze), tinglazed wares, porcelain and later refined wares were all made there and the Bath Quays assemblage is likely to have included a high proportion. Sources further afield can be recognised – there is

a small quantity of Verwood-type earthenware from east Dorset, for example, and some tinglazed wares from London and Paris, but the latter would have arrived as containers for pharmaceutical products rather than as vessels in their own right. It is interesting to see the relatively high proportion of these pharmaceutical containers in Bath, a city renowned as a destination for those seeking to improve their health.

Bibliography

- Barker, D., 1991. *William Greatbatch: a Staffordshire Potter*, London: Jonathan Horne
- Barker, D., 2010. Producing for the table: a view from the Staffordshire potteries, in J. Symonds (ed.), *Table Settings: the Material Culture and Social Context of Dining AD 1700–1900*, Oxford: Oxbow Books, 6–20
- Barton, K.J., 1961. Some evidence for two types of pottery manufactured in Bristol in the early 18th century, *Trans Bristol Gloucs Archaeol. Soc.* 80, 160–8
- Britton, F., 1986. *London Delftware*, London: Jonathan Horne
- Cunliffe, B. (ed.), 1979. *Excavations in Bath 1950–1975*, Comm. Rescue Archaeol. Avon, Gloucestershire & Somerset Excav. Rep. 1
- Dawson, A., 2010. *English and Irish Delftware 1570–1840*, London: British Museum
- Dawson, D., 1979. Notes on Bristol yellow slipwares, in T Pearson, The contents of a mid eighteenth-century pit from North Petherton, Somerset, *Post-Medieval Archaeol.* 13, 204
- Draper, J. with Copland-Griffiths, P., 2002. *Dorset County Pottery: the kilns of the Verwood district*, Ramsbury: Crowood Press
- Dulac, H., 1820. *Almanach des adresses de tous les commerçans de Paris pour l'année 1820*,
https://books.google.co.uk/books?id=HvhAAAAcAAJ&pg=PA401&lpg=PA401&dq=gervais+chardin+perfumer+rue+st+martin&source=bl&ots=QQ54ZM5PB8&sig=GMMpFfUzOHtTpI_1nineSBMs7ul&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwjD1tmww5fUAhUYM8AKHYIYBP0Q6AEIOzAF#v=onepage&q=gervais%20chardin%20perfumer%20rue%20st%20martin&f=false (accessed May 2017)
- Grant, A., 2005. *North Devon Pottery*, Appledore: Edward Gaskell
- Henrywood, R.K., 1992. *Bristol Potters 1775–1906*, Bristol: Redcliffe Press
- Hildyard, R., 2005. *English Pottery 1620–1840*, London: V&A Museum

- Jackson, R., 1999. The origin and development of the seventeenth-century tin-glazed earthenware industry in Brislington and Bristol, unpubl ML dissertation, Univ Bristol (accessed online 24 October 2018: <https://www.bristolpottersandpotteries.org.uk/brislington-pottery/>)
- Jackson, R., 2003. Late 17th-century stoneware waste from the Tower Harratz Pottery, Bristol, *Post-Medieval Archaeol.* 37, 217–20
- Jackson, R., 2005. Pottery production in Westbury-on-Trym during the late 17th and 18th centuries, *Trans. Bristol Gloucs Archaeol. Soc* 123, 121–31
- Jackson, R., Jackson, P. and Beckey, I., 1991. Tin-glazed earthenware kiln waste from the Limekiln lane Potteries, Bristol, *Post-Medieval Archaeol.* 25, 89–114
- Jeffries, N, Owens, A, Hicks, D, Featherby, R and Wehner, K, 2008 Rematerialising metropolitan histories? People, places and things in modern London, in A Horning and M Palmer (eds), *Crossing Paths or Sharing Tracks? Future directions in the archaeological study of post-1550 Britain and Ireland*, Woodbridge: Boydell and Brewer, 323–49
- Lewis, G., 1987. *A Collector's History of British Pottery*, Woodbridge: Antique Collectors' Club
- Licence, T., 2015. *What the Victorians Threw Away*, Oxford: Oxbow Books
- Maloney, C., 2001. Fieldwork round-up 2000, *London Archaeologist* 9 (3), 67–94
- Mason, C., 2017. Barton Hill Pottery and the post-medieval redware industry in Bristol, *Post-Medieval Archaeol.* 51, 108–31
- Medieval Pottery Research Group [MPRG], 1998. *A Guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms*, MPRG Occas. Paper 1
- Nienhaus, H., 1980. Mineraalwaterkruiken van grès met zoutglazuuren de daaropvoorkomendebronmerken, *Antiek* 14 (9), 567–83
- Owen, M., 1979. Miscellaneous post-medieval pottery, in Cunliffe 1979, 156–9
- Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group, Study Group for Roman Pottery and Medieval Pottery Research Group, 2016. *A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology*

- Price, R., 2005. Pottery kiln waste from Temple Back, Bristol, *Bristol & Avon Archaeol.* 20, 59–114
- Ponsford, M., 1995. Iberian pottery imported into Bristol 1200–1600, in C.M. Gerrard, A. Gutierrez and A.G. Vince (eds), *Spanish Medieval Ceramics in Spain and the British Isles*, Oxford: Brit Archaeol. Rep. Int. Series 610, 315–8
- Smith, R.W., 1997. *Excavations at Emwell Street, Warminster: the early economy and environment of a Wiltshire Market Town*, Salisbury: Wessex Archaeology
- Stellingwerf, W., 2018. “The Delft stick pulverizing the disgusting yellow and hideous red English earthenware” - British ceramics on the late 18th-century Dutch market: A political question? Conference paper, Medieval Pottery Research Group, June 2018
- Vince, A., 1979. Medieval and post-medieval pottery, in J.P. Greene, Citizen House (Westgate Buildings), 1970, in Cunliffe 1979, 27–31
- Vince, A., 1991. The medieval and post-medieval pottery, in P. Davenport (ed.), *Archaeology in Bath 1976–1985*, Oxford Univ Comm Archaeol Monogr 28, 71–81

Internet sources

- Bristol potteries: <http://www.bristolpottersandpotteries.org.uk/potteries-list/> (accessed October 2018)
- Delftware ointment pots: <https://sites.google.com/site/ointmentpots/delftware> (accessed 10 July 2019)
- Houbigant perfume bottles: <https://houbigantperfumes.blogspot.co.uk/search?q=gervais> (accessed May 2017)
- Selling Antiques: <https://www.sellingantiques.co.uk/594054/victorian-nurserychilds-plate-come-up-donkey-c1860/> (accessed 11 June 2019)



Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



FS 606559