

ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORY

REPORT

2780

SERIES/No

CONTRACTOR

AUTHOR

Dr D F Williams

March 1979

TITLE

Petrology of Bronze Age, Iron Age and
Roman Pottery from Nornour, Isles of
Scilly. (Second report).

162.

PETROLOGY OF BRONZE AGE, IRON AGE AND ROMAN POTTERY
FROM NORNOUR, ISLES OF SCILLY (SECOND REPORT)

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(DOE Ceramic Petrology Project)

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A further six samples of pottery from Nornour were examined in thin section under the petrological microscope (Nos. 780090, 780091, 780092, 780093, 780095 and 780096). All the sherds are inclined to be dark grey in colour, with flecks of mica present on the surfaces and white grains of feldspar visible in fresh fracture.

In thin section each sample was seen to be similar in composition to 780089 previously studied: fragments of granite are scattered throughout the clay matrix, together with large discrete grains of feldspar, quartz, mica and variable amounts of tourmaline (a re-examination of 780089 shows a few grains present). Deposits of coarse granite comprise the majority of the landmass of the Scilly Isles, including the area of Nornour in the Eastern Isles, and so a local source for the pottery would agree with the petrology. However, it may be worth noting that inclusions of tourmaline-granite have been found in certain types of Iron Age pottery from Carn Euny, Cornwall (Williams, 1978), which is also situated on the granite.

Williams, D.F. (1978) 'Petrological analysis of the pottery',
in Christie, P. 'The excavation of an Iron

Age souterrain and settlement at Carn Euny,
Sancreed, Cornwall', PFS, 44(1978), 405-406.

David's copy - 2 Shards & 1 S. of them sent to you today (per Marilyn Brown) - we spoke at our last meeting:
 LIST OF TECHNOLOGICAL MATERIAL SENT TO THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORY
 (PLEASE CONSULT LEO BIEK ROOM 537, EXT 335/6, ON QUERIES BEFORE COMPLETING) I explain this was most urgent job, now, from my point of view.

SITE: NORNOUR

COUNTY: ISLES OF SULLY PERIOD: to ROMAN SHEET NO. 1

SUPERVISOR: S.A. BUTCHER (Polic. Insp. AM., DUE) DATE SENT: FEB. 1978

Please use a separate sheet for each Production Category; specify and ring it, below:

IRON

COPPER ALLOY

OTHER METAL

POTTERY

CERAMICS Report

GLASS

LIME

CHEMICALS

OTHER

HEAT/FIRE (incidental) being written up at last for John

On any one sheet, please distinguish where possible between types of residue, viz., (at last)

Raw material (ore, clay, sand, coal)	Structures & vessels (furnace, kiln, crucible, alembic)
Crude products (bloom, ingot, pig, glass bun, enamel cake)	Waste (slag, dross, ash)
Building material (brick, tile, mortar, plaster, burnt daub and floor)	

Please send these lists to Room 522, 23 Savile Row, London W1X 2AA under separate cover. Parcels should be labelled ON THE OUTSIDE with site name and contents, and contain identification label. Tel No 734 6010.

(The others available if of interest) 15.5.78

Site Number (Separate entry for each item)	AM Laboratory Number	Description and full archaeological and stratigraphic context. Relation to any other finds not listed here. Any special problem to be investigated. (Please use BLACK ink and send sketch plan and section, photographs and colour slides)
POT-SAMPLE 1 (P.238; J)	780089	"FINER" LOCAL WARE? From Building 7; later than deposit with radio-carbon date of c. A.D. 110. (A.D.)
POT-SAMPLE 2 (P.168; B)	780090	VERY COARSE WARE - LOCAL? From first occupation of Building 9: radio-carbon dates of c. 1070 b.c and c. 1040 b.c.
POT-SAMPLE 3 (P.99; B+)	780091	VERY COARSE: PERHAPS OVEN-LINING RATHER THAN POTTERY? FROM SOIL OVER BUILDING 6.
POT-SAMPLE 4 (P.99; A)	780092	LOCAL WARE? From soil over Building 6
POT-SAMPLE 5 (P.383; B/C)	780093	COARSE LOCAL WARE? From occupation Building 6 (Magnetic date c AD. 55).
POT-SAMPLE 6 (69/6; D)	780094	HARDER WARE, WHEEL-MADE? IMPORTED? From upper Stones of Building I.
CONTINUED		
SHEET 2		

LIST OF TECHNOLOGICAL MATERIAL SENT TO THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS LABORATORY
(PLEASE CONSULT LEO BIER, ROOM 537, POST 335/6, ON QUERIES BEFORE COMPLETING)

COUNTY:

SHEET NO. 2

DATE SENT: Feb. 78

Please use a separate sheet for each Production Category; specify and (ring) it, below:

COPPER ALLOY

OTHER METAL

(POTTERY

CERAMICS

LINE

CHEMICALS

OTHER

HEAT/FIRE

(incidental)

On any one sheet, please distinguish where possible between types of residue, viz.,

Raw material (ore, clay, sand, coal)	Structures & vessels (furnace, kiln, crucible, alembic)
Crude products (bloom, ingot, pig, glass bun, enamel cake)	Waste (slag, dross, ash)
Building material (brick, tile, mortar, plaster, burnt daub and floor)	

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[illegible]