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MORTARIA FROM WEST STOW, BRAMPTON AND ELLINGHAM

Mrs K. Hartley & Dr D.F. Williams\*

\*(DGE Ceramic Petrology Project)

Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton

West Stow, Suffolk (sherds P387, P389)

Hard, smooth slightly sandy fabric, white (Munsell 2.5Y 8/2) to buff throughout. A small amount of quartz and quartzite, with a few fragments of flint and iron ore can be seen in fresh fracture. Trituration grits: mostly grains of quartz and quartzite, with occasional flint and ironstone.

Thin Section Analysis

Groundmass of subangular grains of quartz up to 0.10mm. across, with an ill-sorted scatter of larger grains in the size-range 0.20-.60mm. Also present are grains of quartzite, flint, chert, plagioclase and microcline feldspar and flecks of mica.

Brampton, Norfolk Potter 'AESVMINVS' (sherds D 2/7 from Brampton  
and 229 from Caister-by-Norwich)

Hard, fairly smooth slightly sandy fabric, dark reddish-grey (5YR 5/2) to reddish-yellow<sup>(7.5YR 7/6)</sup> surfaces, reddish-brown core. Small amounts of quartz and limestone can be seen in fresh fracture. Trituration grits: mostly grains of quartz and quartzite with a little ironstone.

Thin Section Analysis

Numerous ill-sorted subangular quartz grains in the size-range

0.10-.60mm, together with grains of reddish-brown biotite, fragments of limestone, a little quartzite, sandstone, plagioclase and microcline felspar and flecks of mica. The variety of inclusions would seem to suggest that clay from the nearby glacial drift was used.

Ellingham, Norfolk (sherd 1007 Sc1 15)

Very hard, smooth slightly sandy fabric, light brownish-buff (7.5YR 7/4) surfaces, reddish-brown core. A small amount of quartz, mica and iron ore can be seen in fresh fracture.

Trituration grits: mostly grains of quartz and quartzite, with occasional ironstone.

Thin Section Analysis

Frequent small fragments of limestone, with numerous ill-sorted grains of quartz ranging in size from 0.10-.80mm, a little quartzite and flecks of mica.