

I can. I will only add that the remains of ancient pottery at Worsden have always been known & the men employed in the pipe clay works there.

Yours very truly
Mary de S. & S. Stilwell.

Rehins found at Worsden in the last 8 years from the site of ancient Roman pottery works
Coins from the times of Hadrian, usually sent to Incombe
Roof tiles of stone, pierced for a peg to secure them to the roof.
Long iron nails.
Stone mortars.
Large round stones in numbers, looking like gunstones.

Rough pottery, consisting of large jugs with the handle formed over bent wood. Only fragments of these, upwards of 60 forms of domestic utensils.
A large amphora (at Incombe) this is foreign.
Pierced bricks for the kilns.
A finer ware in pipe clay & copies of Samian ware forms.
Ornaments in shale or Gages.
Any fragments I can send you.

M. de S. & S.
2. One of these round stones is in the d. c. M. giving by M. S.
3. Three fragments
E. a fragment

Lesson. Wareham. Dec. 20. 1841.

V806

Dear W. Merle,
W. Bankes has sent me your letter of the 15th asking for particulars about the discovery of the Roman Pottery site at Worsden, and I am sending you some notes I made at the time. The kilns are on the right ^{west} side of the Corp road, and the following lists of articles have been found at various times. On the western side of the castle and right side of the road there seems to have been a station or group of habitations, as Samian ware and other fragments of foreign pottery are found, but

on that side no traces of Kilns
are to be found. As far as the
fragments can be accepted as
evidence, there seem to have
been three distinct manufactures,
the largest & the most important
is the coarse pottery for house-
hold use, of which fragments
of 63 different forms are in
my possession. The second is a
kind of white pottery probably
made of what we call the
pipe clay, of which I have several
specimens, all of a good, some-
what form. The 3^d is the
"Gargates" Kimmeridge coal,
or shale, which seems to have
been largely manufactured at
the Potteries, probably to make use

of the potters' wheel or lathe in
forming it into armlets, spindle
whorls, beads, lamps and discs.
This Gargates was considered a
charm against the bites of snakes
or other venomous reptiles, and
on this account was a favourite
material for Roman ornaments.

Dec. 21. I delayed my letter
till today, as I could not find the
notes, which I made at my first
finding the remains of the Kilns &
fragments of the Manufactures.
I am afraid that I must have
sent the notes to a friend who was
much interested about it. I will
get them returned and will send
them to you. In the mean time if
you would send me any questions
you would like answered, I will
gladly send you all the information

J. C.

Dorchester. Dec. 22. 1841.

L806

Dear Sir,

As I said in my last letter I wrote to Mr. Gustave Bonkas, son of the Doctor of Corbe Castle, about the Worden pottery. He answered that not having any notes on the subject, he did not like to give any account of it merely from memory. That he kindly passed on my letter to Mr. Stowell, a lady well known to me as much interested in antiquities in general & those at Worden in particular. But as Mr. S. B. is on the spot, and as it was he who took me to the pottery site, I erroneously thought that he was the best person to apply to. Mr.

Stilwell has most obligingly written to me & promises more information. Meanwhile I enclose for you a verbatim copy of her letter. And I am writing to ask her (what is not distinctly laid down in her letter) the nature of the evidence that the pottery was actually made on the spot - at least the coarse kind of the white.

I don't know on what authority Wm. S. identifies Gagates with ^{Kimmeridge} coal. I have read Pliny's description of the former, lib. XXXVI. ch. 34, and I should think, as I may well know from myself think, that he is talking of jet, geologically a totally different thing. At the same I think, and in a paper in the now due Field Club volume I have said, that very likely the Romans & Britons thought the two

things to be of the same nature, & the Kim: coal therefore to have the magical virtues of Gagates, or jet. Some of the characteristics of Gagates, in Pliny & Valpy's illustrations quoted are: - Niger est, pumicosus, non multum a ligno differens, levis, fragilis, odore si teratur, gravis. Fichilia 98 20 inscripta non desunt. [This is remarkable] Cum uritur, odorem sulfuris reddet. [This is painfully true of Kim: Coal, as to burning jet I know nothing] ^{de Metallis} Nubrum nigrum est crasse Alabrum. Paleas eo attrahi auctor est Marbodius de Lapidibus pretiosis. Albertus Magnus says "incensum ardet sicut thus".

As soon as Mr. Stilwell writes again I will let you know what further information he gives.
I am yours truly & respectfully
L. G. Pitt Rivers. R. A. H. Mould.