Bibliography of Medieval Glass Vessels from British Sites
AD 1200-1500

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The Association for the History of Glass
1994

The need for a bibliography of Medieval vessel glass was expressed at the one day conference 'Medieval Glass from British Sites AD 1000-1600' held at the Museum of London in March 1992. It is intended especially for those dealing with vessel glass from British sites, the main section being 'British Excavation Reports and Other Finds'. Although entitled 'British', we know of no currently published significant glass in Scotland, Ireland or Wales.

The date range covers mainly AD 1200-1500, including the few fragments of the 11th/12th centuries, and some slightly later material, of overlapping forms, is included. Single undiagnostic fragments have not been included. Date ranges are given as far as possible, as published. The other sections are intended as broad introductions: General Surveys, Production and Composition, Glass from other Countries, and Other Sources of Evidence. The major publications are marked *.

We are grateful for the advice of members of the Board of the Association for the History of Glass, including Patricia Baker, Robert Charleston, Ian Freestone, Jennifer Price and Hugh Tait, as well as Catherine Mortimer and Martine Newby. We would be grateful for any suggestions for additional inclusions, or newly published references.

GENERAL SURVEYS
Also see under specific countries: Foy D, Sennequier G, 1989 (France); Mentasti et al, 1982 (Italy); Lamm CJ, 1929/30 (Eastern Mediterranean).

*Baumgartner E, Krueger I, 1988, Phoenix aus Sand und Asche: Glas des Mittelalters, Munich: Klinkhardt & Biermann
  Exhibition catalogue with glass from all over Europe, including a number from England. Comprehensive bibliography, especially for glass found in Germany.

  Useful general background Introduction by Nigel Ramsay xv-xxiv; also see RJ Charleston 'Vessel Glass' 237-264, and Richard Marks 'Window Glass' 265-294.


  Most up to date general introduction. 13th to 16th centuries.

Harden DB, 1969a, Medieval Glass in the West, Proceedings of the 8th International Congress on Glass (1968), Sheffield, 97-111
  12th to 15th centuries.

Harden DB, 1972, Ancient Glass III, Archaeological Journal 128, 78-117
Harden DB, 1975, Table-glass in the Middle Ages, Renaud JGN (ed.), Rotterdam Papers 2, 35-45
12th to 15th centuries.

Harden DB, 1978, Anglo-Saxon and Later Glass in Britain: Some Recent Developments, Medieval Archaeology 22, 1-24
AD 400-1500.


Exhibition catalogue, multi-period.


5th to 16th centuries.


13th-17th centuries.

(Publishers) Ltd

PRODUCTION AND COMPOSITION

*Moorhouse SA et al, 1972, Medieval Distilling-Apparatus of Glass and Pottery, Medieval Archaeology 16, 79-121


14/15th centuries.

Introduction by Robert Charleston; essential source of multi-period terms and cross-references.

Exhibition catalogue: Mainly the Felix Slade Collection of the British Museum, but also a few earlier Medieval and Islamic comparisons. 12th to 18th centuries.

Includes photographic sequences of techniques for making ancient glass by William Gudenrath (New York).

2nd-20th centuries.

Winbolt SE, 1933, Wealden Glass, Hove
Despite analysis, very little is known about the composition and production of Medieval glass, which is summarised by Ian Freestone (1993). The most significant recent discovery is that some vessels contained up to 75% lead - see Baumgartner E, Krueger I, (1988), 161-175, (under ‘General Surveys’). Furnace sites from England are included in this section; those from Europe are found under their relevant countries.

Charleston RJ, 1960, Lead in Glass, Archaeometry 3, 1-4
Views before high lead medieval glass vessels were recognised.


Detailed report of ‘immigrant’ type furnaces and their significance, useful for comparison with Medieval furnaces; Charleston, The Vessel Glass, 128-152, includes finds which overlap with Medieval forms.

Book 2: 12th century treatise on Glassworking, 36-60.

Shows weathering of medieval type glass in acidic and alkaline conditions.

General discussion of glass analysis, with section on ‘Enamelled Glass’ (13th century ‘Syro-Frankish’ beakers).

Current understanding of composition compared with Theophilus’ instructions, examples from a wide range of 12th century objects and locations.

Book 2: 12th century treatise on Glassworking, 45-74.

Hunter JR, 1985, Glass and glassmaking; overview of material technology, Phillips P, (ed.), The archaeologist and the laboratory, Council for British Archaeology Research Report 58, 63-66

Includes Eraclius ‘De Coloribus et Artibus Romanorum’: how glass was invented, is made, coloured, painted and sculpted.


Includes nature and development of glass, technology of production, deterioration and conservation.

Experiments on seaweed (N.Yorkshire) and oak and beech ash (Surrey/Sussex Weald), showing high compositional variability.

Key reference in the composition of Venetian glass.


Includes discussion of 10-12th century AD soda, potash and lead glass found in London and their sources.


Dated to c.1330 AD.

**BRITISH EXCAVATION REPORTS AND OTHER FINDS**

This section is divided into regions, and includes all published Medieval Vessel Glass, except where it is only mentioned but not described, or if there is only one undiagnostic fragment. Entries are annotated to give a brief description of the glass described. It is specified if fragments are known to be unstratified, although some of the stratified fragments have no dating evidence. Glass is listed under the place *found*, rather than the place of origin.

Central England

(Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Gloucestershire, Hereford and Worcester, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands)


Fragment of 13/14th century bright green/yellow goblet from St Mary's Street.


Enamelled 'Syro-Frankish' glass fragment, 13/14th century.


1 colourless blobbed rim, 12/13th century.


15/16th century flask fragment.


Pale blue goblet fragment, c.1500 AD.


13/14th century urinal fragment.


4 fragments of forest glass, including possible alembic, c.1500 AD.


Urinal fragment, 'Medieval' context.
Some stratified fragments, including hanging lamps, urinals, beakers, flasks. Late 14th to early 16th centuries.

From bases of 5 vessels including hanging lamps, c.AD 1260-1500.

Eastern England
(Cambridgeshire, Essex, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Suffolk)
*Charleston RJ, 1972, Glass, Moorhouse S, Finds from Excavations in the Refectory at the Dominican Friary, Boston, Lincolnshire Archaeology and History 1:7, 45-48, 52-3
Fine colourless glass - bowl with blue and colourless prunts, 5 other fragments, with discussion. Late 13th to late 14th centuries.

Charleston RJ, 1980b, Vessel Glass, Christie PM, Coad JG, Excavations at Denny Abbey, Archaeological Journal 137, 138-279
11 fragments, late 15th/early 16th centuries.

4 15th century flasks - 3 potash, 1 soda glass - other fragments were present.

15th century flask rim and kicked base.

Haslam J, 1982, Medieval Vessel Glass, Coad JG, Streten ADF, Excavations at Castle Acre Castle, Norfolk 1972-77, Archaeological Journal 139, 265
Neck fragment of small bottle, in 12th century layers.

'Medieval types' Nos. 599-608, and scattered amongst other sections. c. AD 1200-1500 and later.

c. 5 fragments, identified by J. Haslam. c.13th to early 16th centuries.

Fragments from late 15th century urinal, dish, flask and goblet in dissolution debris.

Williams V, 1987, Glass Objects, Ayers B, Excavations at St. Martin-at-Palace Plain, Norwich, 1981, East Anglian Archaeology 37, Norfolk Archaeology Unit, 73
Fragment with applied trail.

Northern England
(Cleveland, Cumbria, Durham, Humberside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Yorkshire)

Armstrong P, 1974, Excavations in Sewer Lane, Hull, East Riding Archaeologist 3, 61-3
3 fragments, late 13th to 15th centuries (and later).
7 fragments, late 14th to early 16th centuries.

6 late 13th/14th century stratified, 2 unstratified fragments.

Charleston RJ, 1959 (March), The Luck of Edenhall, *The Connoisseur* 143, No.575, 34/5
13th century Islamic enamelled beaker with 14th century leather case.

8 fragments from flasks/ hanging lamps, ?13th century.

Harden DB, 1966, Glass, Jean le Patourel HEJ, Knaresborough Castle, *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal* 164, 606-7
Fragments from 5 vessels including lead glass goblet and Islamic hanging lamp, 13/14th century.

5 fragments from East Haddesley, late 15th/early 16th century.

5 fragments, late 12th to 15th centuries.

11/12th C. ?bowl fragment; 14th C. yellowish fragment with pincered trail.

Over 200 fragments, including distilling equipment and other forest glass.

No. 13: 14th century urinal/flask fragments.

South East England
(Greater London, Hertfordshire, Kent, Surrey, Sussex)

5 fragments, including unusual goblet form. Late 13th - early 15th century cellar fill.

Charleston RJ, 1981, Medieval and Post-Medieval Glass from the North-West Quadrant, Down A, *Chichester Excavations V*, Chichester Excavations Committee, 221-228
3 vessels represented, late 13/14th century.

Medieval bowl and flask fragments; much green forest glass in mid 13th century to post-Dissolution debris.
c. 43 vessels represented, with discussion. Late 13th to early 15th centuries.

*Clark J, 1983, Medieval Enamelled Glasses from London, Medieval Archaeology 27, 152-156
  Fragments from 8 13th/14th century 'Syro-Frankish' enamelled beakers from Foster Lane.

Clark J, 1986, Medieval Glass, Blackmore L, Schwab I, From the Templars to the Tenement: A Medieval and Post-Medieval site at 18 Shore Rd, E9, Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society 37, or Department of Greater London Archaeology Offprint 13, 180-1
  Includes fragments from 2 colourless blue trailed goblets, an undecorated fragment and discussion of parallels. 13th to 15th centuries.

Cook JL, 1958, A Fragment of Early Medieval Glass from London, Medieval Archaeology 2, 173-177
  Discussion of Cheapside House 13th century high-stemmed ‘Syro-Frankish’ enamelled glass.

  15th/16th century bottles/flasks from Dyers Arms, near Cannon Street.

  14th century red glass fragment with pincered trail.

  Prunt from 13th/14th century beaker.

Harden DB, 1969b, Glass, Evans KJ, The Maison Dieu, Arundel, Sussex Archaeological Collections 107, 73-4
  14th/15th century opaque red fragments.

Harden DB, 1989, Glass Objects, Martin D, Three Moated Sites in N-E Sussex Part 1: Glottenham, Sussex Archaeological Collections 127, 113-4
  3 13th/14th century fragments, green bowl and goblets.

  5 15th/16th century flasks and alembics represented, from 1956 clearance work by National Trust.

  Includes various late 13th to (mostly) 15th century flasks, ‘urinals’ and phials unpublished elsewhere.

  13th-16th century flask/urinal fragment.

  Up to 20 vessels represented - 13th to late 15th century and later.

  Gilded enamelled beaker of c.1500 AD.
Williams DW, 1983, Islamic Glass Vessel Fragments from the Old Vicarage, Reigate, Surrey, Medieval Archaeology 27, 143-6
5 small fragments of 13th century manganese glass, identified by Robert Charleston.

South West England
(Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset)

Beresford G, 1974, Glass, 'The Medieval Manor of Penhallam, Jacobstow, Cornwall', Medieval Archaeology 16, 90-139
Fragments of 13th to 15th century blue jug and green glass.

6 fragments: colourless from Priory garderobe; green and black from Staggs site. 13th to 15th century.

At least 48 vessels represented, with discussion, c.AD 1300-1500 (and later).

13/14th century fragment.

References to 'Syro-Frankish' enamelled vessel, urinal and other fine glassware from c.1300 AD, not illustrated.

Southern England
(Berkshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire, Wiltshire)

Biddle M, 1961/2, Objects of Glass, The Deserted Medieval Village of Seacourt, Oxoniensia 26, 185 & Plate X.D
Fragment of gilded blue glass bottle, prob. 12th century East Mediterranean. Commented on by DB Harden.

13/14th century to mostly post-Medieval.

Numerous and wide ranging, with introductory essay. Late 13th to late 15th century and post-Medieval.

14th century jug fragment.

Fragments from a ?14th century goblet.
*Charleston RJ, 1990, Vessel Glass of the late Medieval and Modern Periods, Biddle M, ,Object and Economy in Medieval Winchester, Winchester Studies 7.2, Oxford University Press, 934-947
At least 36 Medieval vessels represented, with discussion, from late 11th century onwards.

Sutermeister H, 1975, Excavations on the Site of the Tudor Manor House at Micheldever, Hampshire, Post-Medieval Archaeology 9, 132-3
Soda glass bowl fragment in 14th century pit.

*Wenzel M, 1984, Thirteenth-Century Islamic Enamelled Glass found in Medieval Abingdon, in Oxford Journal of Archaeology 3.3, 1-21
13th century beaker, with discussion of parallels and other Islamic glass found in England.

MEDIEVAL VESSEL GLASS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES
This section is intended only as a brief introduction for each country, from some of the more accessible publications. Some of the exhibition catalogues carry a fully comprehensive bibliography. Again, the glass is listed under the place found, not place of origin.

EASTERN EUROPE
Charleston RJ, 1975b, Some English Finds of Medieval Glass with Balkan Analogues, Verre Médiéval aux Balkans, Belgrade, 101-7


Hejdova D, 1975, Types of Medieval Glass Vessels in Bohemia, Journal of Glass Studies 17, 142-150
14/15th century.

12th to 15th centuries.

From graves, altars and settlements of the 14/15th centuries.


FRANCE
Barrelet J, 1953, La verrerie en France de l'époque gallo-romaine à nos jours, Paris: Larousse


Barrera J, 1990b, La Verrerie Médiévale et Moderne, Collection Thaurin, Musée des Antiquités de Rouen, Revue archéologique de l'Ouest 7, 115-129
With table of results of chemical analysis.

9th-17th centuries.

Barrera J, Velde B, 1989b, A Study of French Medieval Glass Composition, Archéologie Médiévale 19, 81-130
A full report of what is summarised in 1989a, including tables of results of analysis, 9th-17th centuries.


English summary; fully illustrated, 12th-16th centuries.

Foy D, 1988, Le verre médiéval et son artisanat en France méditerranéenne, Paris: Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique

*Foy D, Sennequier G, 1989, A travers le verre du moyen âge à la Renaissance, Rouen: Musée Départemental des Antiquités

Catalogue from major exhibition at Musée des Antiquités, Rouen, 1989-90, with comprehensive bibliography for French glass. 5th to 16th centuries.

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GERMANY, SCANDINAVIA AND THE LOW COUNTRIES
(Also see Baumgartner E, Krueger I, 1988, under ‘General Surveys’)

Baumgartner E, 1987, Glas des Späten Mittelalters: die Sammlung Karl Amendt, Düsseldorf


Boymans-van Beuningen Museum, 1991, Pre-industriele Gebruiksvoorwerpen / Pre-industrial Utensils, 1150-1800, Rotterdam: Museum Boymans-van Beuningen

Chambon R, 1955, L’histoire de la verrerie en Belgique du 11e siècle à nos jours, Brussels


Includes a gazeteer of finds of Islamic glass in the West.


13/14th century ‘Syro-Frankish’ enamelled type, depicting large birds.


Krueger I, 1984, Mittelalterliches Glas aus dem Rheinland, Bonner Jahrbücher 84, 505-560

12th-16th centuries.

Lamm CJ, 1941, Oriental Glass of Medieval Date Found in Sweden and the Early History of Lustre-Painting, Stockholm: Wahlstrom and Widstrand

Includes ‘Syro-Frankish’ enamelled vessels.

Rademacher F, 1933, Die deutschen Gläser des Mittelalters, Berlin


ITALY
(Also see Tait H, 1979, under ‘General Surveys’)

Calegari M, Moreno D; Fossati S, Mannoni J; Castelletti L, 1975, La Vetreria Medievale di Monte Lecco, Archeologia Medievale II, 13-160

Gasparotto A, 1958, Il vetro di murano dalle origini ad oggi, Venice

Harden DB, 1966, Some Glass Fragments mainly of the 12th-13th Centuries AD, from Northern Apulia, Journal of Glass Studies 8, 70-79


13th-15th centuries.


Exhibition catalogue with comprehensive bibliography for Italian glass from the 7th century onwards.


Roman to 18th century: includes 7-9th and 10-15th century glass.


Roman to 18th century: includes 7-9th and 10-15th century glass.


Zecchin L, 1987, Vetro e vetrai di Murano, Studi sulla storia del vetro, 3 vols, Venice

The collected papers of many years of a leading scholar on Venetian glassmaking.

**SPAIN AND PORTUGAL**


English summary. From the Castles of Mértola - Islamic coloured glass 12-13th centuries, and Pombal - European and Islamic influence.


Medieval glass chapter is mostly based on documentary evidence from the Barcelona area.

**EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN**

The following is only a very small selection of a vast area of study. We have included a few of the references most commonly used in, and relevant to, Western Europe. Further references can be found in the following bibliography:

Creswell KAS, 1961, A bibliography of the Architecture, Arts and Crafts of Islam: to 1st January 1960, American University at Cairo Press

1973, Supplement I: to January 1972, AUC Press

1984, Supplement II: to December 1980, AUC Press, (Pearson JD (ed.))
Crowfoot GM, Harden DB, 1931, Early Byzantine and Later Glass Lamps, *Journal of Egyptian Archaeology* 17, 196-208, pls. XXVIII-XXX
4th to 14th centuries.

Davidson GR, 1940, A Medieval Glass Factory at Corinth, *American Journal of Archaeology* 44, 297-324
Dated to 11/12th century, but see Whitehouse D, 1991.

From the 5th century onwards.

12/13th century.

Corinth dated to the 11/12th century, but see Whitehouse D, 1991.

Re-dates the glassmaking from 11/12th to 13/14th centuries, on the basis of new finds from Italy and reassessment of the stratigraphy.
OTHER SOURCES OF EVIDENCE


The *Journal of Glass Studies* (Corning Museum of Glass, New York, from 1959) publishes a 'Check List of Recently Published Articles and Books on Glass' at the back of each volume.

The *British Archaeological Bibliography* is now published twice a year, with abstracts from books and journals, and 'Glass (vessel)' indexed in the 2nd volume of each year. Until 1991 published by the Council for British Archaeology, combining the former British Archaeological Abstracts (1968-91), the Archaeological Bulletin, and the Archaeological Bulletin for Great Britain and Ireland (1950s-1980s). From 1992 at: Institute of Archaeology, UCL, 31-4 Gordon Square, London WC1H OPY.

The *Art and Archaeology Technical Abstracts* (formerly the *International Institute for Conservation Abstracts*) have been published twice a year since the 1960s by the Getty Conservation Institute and the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works, California. They cover dating, analysis, deterioration and conservation.

The *Bulletins de l'Association Internationale pour l'Histoire du Verre* published by the AIHV at Liège from 1962, contain surveys of the glass in museums of the country hosting the Congrès: Holland, Poland, Syria, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Tunisia, W. Germany, Italy, excepting the British issue which contains articles by period (see Charleston RJ (1980a)). The Association also publishes the papers from each congress as the *Annales*, which are referred to in the bibliography as relevant.

Additionally, the *Association Française pour l'Archéologie du Verre* sends out bulletins and has its own conferences. Contact: G. Sennequier, Musée des Antiquités, 198 Rue Beauvoisine, 76000 Rouen, France.