

CONTENTS

<i>List of figures</i>	page xi
<i>List of tables</i>	xiii
<i>Preface</i>	xiv
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xvi

PART I HISTORY AND POTENTIAL 1

1 HISTORY OF POTTERY STUDIES 3

Introduction	3
The art-historical phase	5
The typological phase	8
The contextual phase	13
Parallel themes – ethnography	15
Parallel themes – technology	17
Parallel themes – scientific methods	18
Parallel themes – quantification	21

2 THE POTENTIAL OF POTTERY AS ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE 23

Aims	23
The 'big three' – evidence for date, trade and function or status	23
Manufacture and technology	30
Sherds in the soil	32
The playground of ideas	33
Implications for practice	34

PART II PRACTICALITIES: A GUIDE TO POTTERY PROCESSING AND RECORDING 37

3 INTEGRATION WITH RESEARCH DESIGNS 39

4	LIFE IN THE POT SHED	44
	Introduction	44
	Setting up base	44
	Collection policy and practice	46
	Initial processing	48
	Equipment	49
	Retrieval procedures	50
	Cleaning and drying	51
	Initial recording and processing	52
	Initial viewing and spot-dating	54
	Sorting	55
	Physical reconstruction	56
	Cataloguing	57
	Computers in pottery research	62
	To keep or not to keep	65
5	FABRIC ANALYSIS	67
	Introduction	67
	Equipment	67
	Firing characteristics	68
	Inclusions	70
	The matrix	71
	Creating and using a fabric type-series	72
6	CLASSIFICATION OF FORM AND DECORATION	76
	Introduction	76
	Uses of form data	76
	Creating and using a form type-series	77
	Describing shapes	79
	Vessels and sherds	80
7	ILLUSTRATION	87
	Introduction	87
	The purpose of illustrations	87
	Drawing pottery	89
	Photography	94
8	POTTERY ARCHIVES	98
	Introduction	98
	Uses of archives	98
	Practical issues	99

9 PUBLICATION	105
Introduction	105
Purpose of report	105
Layout of report	106
Indexing and correlation	107
Minimum standards of publication	107
Microfiche and microtype, computer media	108
Pottery specialists do it on their own	108
Summary	109

PART III THEMES IN CERAMIC STUDIES 111

10 MAKING POTTERY	113
Raw materials for pottery manufacture	114
Clay preparation	117
Forming	117
Surface treatments	126
Drying	126
Firing	126
11 POTTERY FABRICS	132
Why look at fabrics?	132
Visual examination	135
Petrological analysis	140
Compositional analysis	144
Comparison between techniques	149
12 FORM	152
Approaches to the classification of shape	152
The type-series approach	153
Formal classification systems	153
Measurement-based classification	155
Geometric shapes	158
The envelope system	158
Mathematical curves as descriptions of shape	159
Classification of manufacturing stages	163
13 QUANTIFICATION	166
Introduction	166
The sampling basis	167
Uses of comparisons of assemblages	168

	Assessment of measures	168
	Practicalities	171
	Are the assemblages really different?	173
	How big should an assemblage be?	175
	Case studies	175
	Spin-offs	178
	Case study	179
	Discussion	181
14	CHRONOLOGY	182
	Introduction	182
	Pinning down dates	185
	Bringing the evidence together	189
	Seriation	189
	A case study	194
	Summary	196
15	PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION	197
	Information content of distribution	197
	Distribution of artefact types	199
	Sources of supply to a site	202
	The identification of source from distribution	203
16	ASSEMBLAGES AND SITES	207
	Pottery life-expectancy	207
	Sherd-links	209
	Field survey data	212
	Sherds after burial	214
	The role of quantification	215
17	POTTERY AND FUNCTION	217
	Individual vessel function	217
	Function, production and distribution	226
	Symbolic meaning	227
	Conclusion: The future of pottery studies	229
	<i>Appendix</i>	231
	<i>Bibliography</i>	243
	<i>Index</i>	263