Lower Tyne Valley painted ware

Location
So far the ware has been identified at South Shields, Wallsend and Newcastle in the Hadrian’s Wall frontier zone. Elsewhere it has been found at York, Piercebridge and Cramond.

Production
Its distribution is consistent with production somewhere in the Lower Tyne Valley, as the lack of any examples in or near Corbridge indicates that it was not produced in the kilns there.

Dating
Production may have started during the early second century. Although oxidised wares decorated with white paint are not common, similar wares were being made by the kilns set up to supply the fort at Little Chester near Derby during the Trajanic to early Hadrianic period, and the Lower Tyne Valley ware might be part of the same fashion. It probably continued until the Antonine period.

Type
Most of the vessels are bowls, ranging from large hemispherical bowls imitating Dr 37s to small segmental bowls with high flanges. Closed forms, such as beakers and flagons, were also made, but in much smaller quantities.

Catalogue
1. Wallsend. Published in N. Hodgson 2003 The Roman Fort at Wallsend (Segedunum), fig. 158, no. 21, but further sherds from the same vessel now reveal
2. Wallsend, context M14:45 (third-century). d1.253
3. Wallsend, context N04:03 (unstratified). d1.369
4. Wallsend, context N05:23 (late second-century). d1.87
5. Wallsend, context N05:23 (late second-century). d1.89
8. Not painted. Wallsend, context L05:29 (late second or third-century). d1.271
9. Wallsend, context D08:12 (Hadrianic). d1.206
10. Wallsend, context N04:01 (unstratified). d1.363