

NEWS LETTER

SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

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Lexington, Kentucky

**TYPE NAME: DEPTFORD BOLD CHECK STAMPED**

**PASTE:**

Method of manufacture; coiling.

Temper: fine to medium quartz grit.

Texture: medium to coarse; very sandy.

Hardness: 2.0 - 3.5.

Color: core: continuous with the color of both surfaces, meeting at a point of differentiation at the middle of the sherd cross section. Occasionally the whole core is dark grey to black with a peculiar yellow or buff film on the exterior surface. This does not represent true filming but a color change incidental to firing. Exterior surface: usually orange or buff. Frequently dark grey to black.

Interior surface: ranges from buff through dark grey to black.

**SURFACE FINISH:**

The interiors of the vessels were smoothed while the clay was damp, leaving a gritty, carelessly finished surface.

The marks of the smoothing implement are frequently visible.

**DECORATION:**

Technique: stamping with a flat rectangular paddle.

Design: the design consists of a grill of raised lands which intersect to form squares or rectangles, occasionally diamonds. There is a characteristic variability in the size of the checks which ranges from 5mm to 10mm on the side. In many cases the lands may be as wide as the depressed areas are square, producing a very coarse, massive effect. The depressed areas are deep, sometimes attaining 3mm, and usually square cut.

Distribution: over the entire exterior of the vessel.

**FORM:**

Rim: straight to slightly flaring.

Lip: usually squared or stamped beveled; sometimes rounded. Occasionally an oval folded rim is noted.

Body: cylindrical with a slight shoulder tapering to the base

Base: round or conoidal.

Thickness: 6.9mm.

Appendages: none.

**ASSOCIATIONS:**

Part of the Deptford complex with Deptford Linear Check Stamped.

**USUAL RANGE OF TYPE:**

Same as Deptford Linear Check Stamped.

**CHRONOLOGICAL POSITION OF TYPE IN RANGE:**

Same as Deptford Linear Check Stamped.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Kelly, A. R., "A Preliminary Report on Archaeological Explorations at Macon, Ga." Bureau of American Ethnology, Chapter from Bulletin 119, Plate 10, 1938.

Holmes, W. H. "Aboriginal Pottery of the Eastern United States." Twentieth Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology, 1898-99, Plate LXXXV and Plate LXXVI (2).

Joseph R. Caldwell and Antonio J. Waring, Jr., Savannah, Ga.

**TYPE NAME: IRENE PLAIN****PASTE:**

Method of manufacture: coiling.

Temper: grit, occasionally gravel.

Texture: medium grained, sandy.

Hardness: 2.0-3.0.

Color: core, buff thru red thru grey. Surfaces, buff thru red-buff thru red-brown thru grey.

**SURFACE FINISH:**

Exteriors and interiors smoothed and burnished, sometimes sandy.

**DECORATION:**

Generally none. Applique reed punctate bands have been noted just below the rim on elongate globular vessels. The occurrence of regularly spaced ovoid pellets is a very common and distinctive feature of this type. These are generally smaller than the incidental decorative nodes occurring on Irene Fillet Stamped and are not riveted to the side of the vessel.

Distribution: on wide-mouthed bowls with incurving rims the ovoid pellets are in the shoulder region. On hemispherical bowls which lack a shoulder they are in a comparable area.

**FORM:**

Rim: incurving, straight, or flared.

Lip: rounded or squared.

Body: wide-mouthed bowl is the most common form, but hemispherical bowls and elongate globular vessels with decided rim flare frequently occur.

Base: round or flat.

Thickness: average 5.9 mm.

Appendages: none except the decorative pellets already mentioned.

**ASSOCIATIONS:**

Part of the Irene Complex which also comprises Irene Incised and Irene Plain.

**USUAL RANGE OF TYPE:**

On the Georgia Coast from St. Simon's Island northward into S. Carolina and up the Savannah River drainage as far as Augusta, Ga. G. B. Moore found comparable pottery at the following sites; north end of Creighton Island, Walker Mound, St. Catherine's Id., Ossabaw Island, and Little Island. C. C. Jones illustrates large vessels of this type from Colonel's Id., Liberty Co., Ga. Vessels of this type were also recovered from Stallings Id., (intrusive) and from Hollywood Mound on the Savannah River. The type occurs also at the following sites in Georgia: Cannon's Point on St. Simon's Island, Maxwellton and Barnett Sites on Colonel's Island, Whitmarsh Id., Wilmington Id., Irene, and also occurs at Bull Island and Potato Island in South Carolina.

**CHRONOLOGICAL POSITION OF THE TYPE IN RANGE:**

The Irene Complex appears to be the latest in Chatham County.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Moore, G. B., "Certain Aboriginal Mounds of the Georgia Coast." Journ. Acad. Nat. Sci., Second Series, Vol. XI, Philadelphia, 1897.

Joseph R. Caldwell and Antonio J. Waring, Jr., Savannah, Ga.

**TYPE NAME:** IRENE INCISED.

**PASTE:**

Method of manufacture: coiling.

Temper: grit.

Texture: medium grained, sometimes coarse and lumpy.

Hardness: 2.0 - 3.0.

Color: Core: buff to grey. The color is usually the same as that of both surfaces without inner differentiation.

Surface: various shades of dark gray, occasionally buff.

**SURFACE FINISH:**

The exteriors and interiors are smoothed or burnished.

**DECORATION:**

Technique: incising and punctuation.

Design: the design consists of a horizontal band of repeated or alternating design elements. There is little embellishment of the design motifs and apparently no attempt toward solid areas of decoration such as occur on Lamar Bold Incised. The design elements which have so far been determined at Irene are shown in the accompanying plates. It should be noted that the scroll element does not occur. There is considerable variety in the execution of the incising on most of the examples of incised sherds from Irene. The lines are generally narrow and weak and appear hastily drawn. The plate shows the upper portion of a bowl which is decorated with one of the best executed designs so far found at the site. In the sample of incised sherds from Irene the width of the incising varies from less than 1mm. to 3.5mm. with an average of about 1.5mm. Incidental punctate decoration is rare at Irene, but appears to be common at the Barnett Site on Colonel's Island in Liberty County, Ga., and at the Cedar Point and Belleville Bluff sites in McIntosh County, Ga. Incidental decorative nodes or flanges are infrequent at Irene. Sherds showing both incising and paddle stamping are rare at Irene, although this form of decoration is common on Lamar Bold Incised and seems to have a considerable occurrence at the Barnett Site, Colonel's Island, Liberty County, Ga., at Creighton Island, McIntosh County, Ga., and at Ossabaw Island, Bryan County, Georgia.

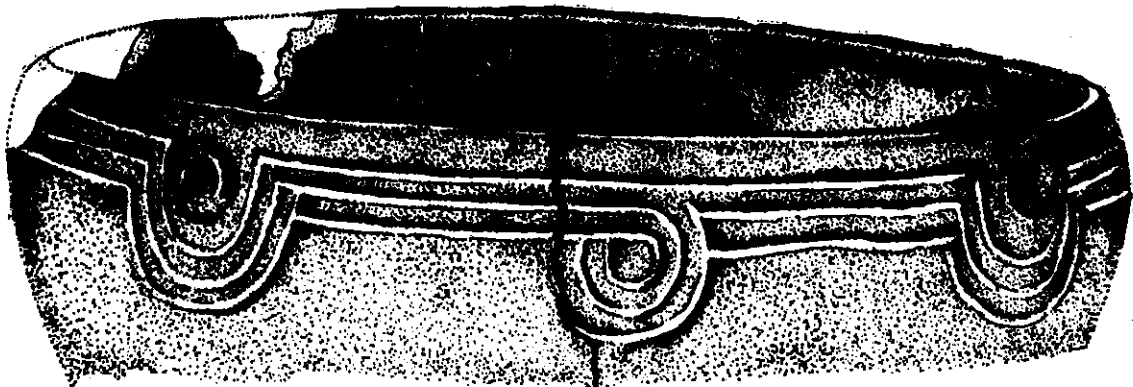
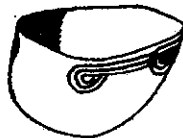
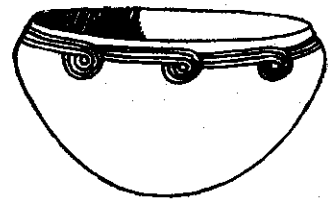
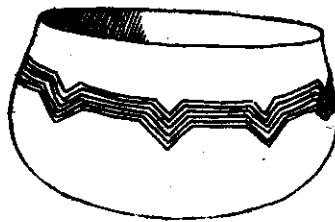
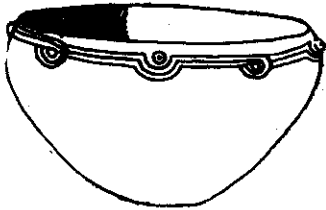
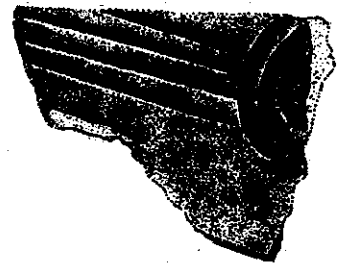
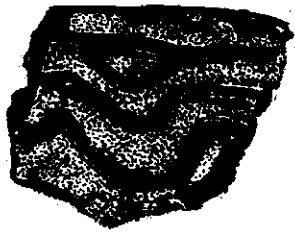
Distribution: the incised decoration is in the rim and shoulder area.

**FORM:**

Rim: incurving. At the Barnett Site and at Belleville Bluff examples of a straight rim above a thickened shoulder occur. A folded incised rim is found at Creighton Island.

Lip: the lip is rounded or squared.

Body: the wide-mouthed bowl is the most common vessel form of this type at Irene. The shoulder is rounded and lacks the angularity of the Lamar Bold Incised type. Globular vessels with elongated, straight throats are rare at Irene but occur at the Cedar Point Site in McIntosh County, and Ossabaw Island, Bryan County, and at the Barnett Site on Colonel's Island in Liberty County. One example of a boat-shaped vessel has been found at Irene.



IRENE INCISED

Base: rounded or flat.

Appendages: decorative nodes and rim flanges are very rare at Irene.

**ASSOCIATIONS:**

Part of the Irene Complex which also contains Irene Filfot Stamped, and Irene Plain.

**USUAL RANGE OF TYPE:**

Occurs along the South Atlantic Coast at least as far north as Charleston, S. C., southward. This type has never been reported from the East Coast of Florida. The greatest concentration occurs along the Georgia Coast between the mouths of the Altamaha and Savannah Rivers. Inland it shows close relation with the Lamar Complex which appears at Lamar, Etowah, Indian Island, Southern Tennessee, Peachtree, N. C., Mossy Oak near Macon. Moore found it at Creighton Island, Walker Mound, Dumoussays Field, Shell Mound Deposits on St. Catherine's Island Mound 8, Middle Settlement, Ossabaw, Mound D, Middle Settlement, Ossabaw Island.

**CHRONOLOGICAL POSITION OF THE TYPE IN RANGE:**

The Irene Complex appears to be latest in Chatham County. There may be evidence of historical contact between attenuated types of this complex and Spanish pottery farther south on the coast notably at Creighton Island, and the Barnett and Maxwellton sites on Colonel's Island. A number of sites where this complex occurs bear sherds which resemble Spanish Olive Jars, possible evidence of European influence is seen in some of the vessel forms.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

- Holmes, W. H., "Aboriginal Pottery of the Eastern United States," Twentieth Annual Report, Bureau of American Ethnology, Washington, D. C., 1903, Plate CXIIa.
- Heye, George G., Hodge, F. W., and Pepper, George H., "The Nacoochee Mound in Georgia," Museum of the American Indian Heye Foundation, 1918, pp. 69-71. Plates 19, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42.
- Kelly, A. R., "A Preliminary Report on Archaeological Explorations at Macon, Ga." Bureau of American Ethnology, Chapter from Bulletin 119, pp. 4651, Plate 12a.
- Ashley, Margaret E., "A Study of the Ceramic Art of the Etowahs," Etowah Papers, Phillips Academy by the Yale University Press, 1932, pp. 115, 122. Figures 76, 77, 79, 80, 81.

Joseph R. Caldwell and Antonio J. Waring, Jr., Savannah, Ga.

**TYPE NAME: IRENE FILFOT STAMPED**

**PASTE:**

Method of manufacture: coiling.

Temper: grit, occasionally gravel.

Texture: medium grained, sometimes coarse.

Hardness: 2.0 - 3.0.

Color: core usually grey or buff, but sometimes identical with that of the surfaces. Surfaces, dark grey thru red to light buff.

**SURFACE FINISH:**

Exterior variable, it may or may not be smoothed prior to stamping. Interior smoothed or burnished.

**DECORATION:**

Technique: carved paddle.

Design: the filfot cross is the only design motif employed on this type in Chatham County. Center of the cross formed by either the intersection of the four arms or by the projection of these from the sides of a square central element. The arms themselves consist of from four to nine parallel lands. The primary land of each arm turns or angles back on itself to form a square or circular terminal element and the other lands follow the first. The central and terminal elements of the design may themselves contain either a raised square or a circle. The execution of the stamping is rather variable. While the grooves are usually shallow, the unit design may be either clearly depicted or else obliterated by over stamping. Incidental decorative features frequently occur and are always confined to the area above the shoulder and immediately below the lip. These may consist of one or two horizontal lines of hollow reed punctations, applique collars or nodes, also pinched applique bands. The applique collars appear to be a development of the folded rim and may themselves contain reed punctations, a series of nodes or rosettes. The rosette decoration consists of regularly placed pellets of clay which were pressed with the end of a hollow reed. The large nodes were riveted to the side of the vessel and were often decorated with the end of a hollow reed.

Distribution: paddle stamping is found over the entire exterior of the vessel. The incidental decorative features occur in the rim area.

**FORM:**

Rim: generally flaring, usually straight or incurving on hemispherical bowls.

Lip: rounded or squared.

Body: generally elongate globular with a slight shoulder. Wide-mouthed hemispherical bowls also occur.

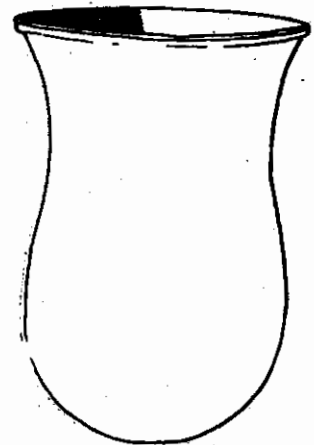
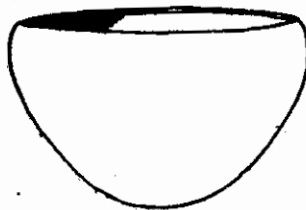
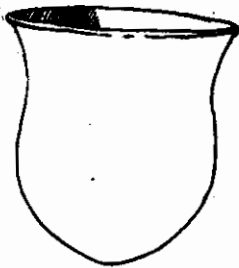
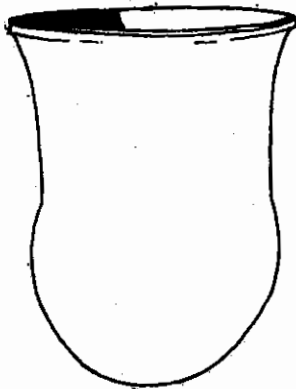
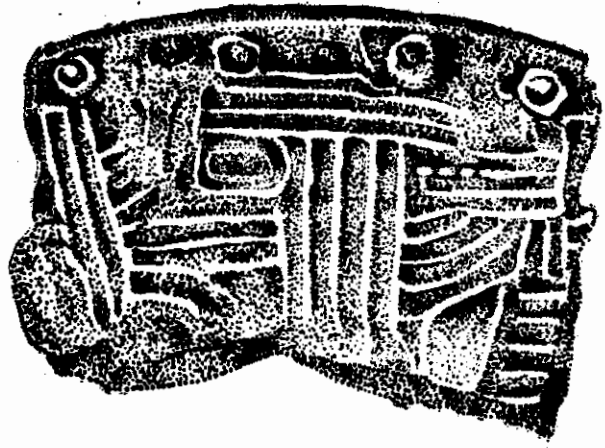
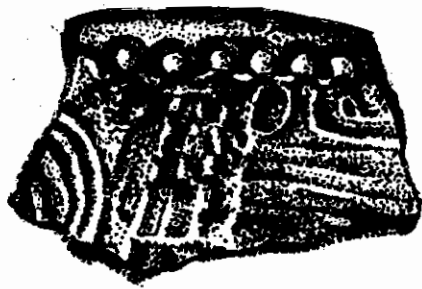
Base: round.

Thickness: average 6.4mm.

Appendages: none except the incidental decorative nodes.

**ASSOCIATIONS:**

Part of the Irene Complex which also comprises Irene Incised and Irene Plain.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

IRENE FILFOT STAMPED



**USUAL RANGE OF TYPE:**

On the Georgia Coast from St. Simons Island northward into South Carolina and up the Savannah River Drainage as far as Augusta, Ga. Clarence B. Moore found comparable pottery at the following sites: The north-end of Creighton Island, the Walker Mound, St. Catherine's Island, Ossabaw Island, and Little Island. C. C. Jones illustrates large vessels of this type from Colonel's Island, Liberty County, Ga.

Vessels of this type were also recovered from Stallings Island (intrusive) and from Hollywood Mound on the Savannah River.

The type occurs also at the following sites in Georgia; Cannon's Point on St. Simons Island, Maxwellton and Barnett Sites on Colonel's Island, Whitmarsh Island, Wilmington Island, Irene and it also occurs at Bull Island and Potato Island in South Carolina.

**CHRONOLOGICAL POSITION OF THE TYPE IN RANGE:**

The Irene Complex appears to be the latest in Chatham County.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Moore, Clarence B., "Certain Aboriginal Mounds of the Georgia Coast." Reprint from the Journal of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, Vol. XI, Philadelphia, 1897.

Frontispiece, Figures 3, 4, Plates 6, 9 and 12.

Moore, Clarence B., "Certain Aboriginal Mounds of the Coast of South Carolina." Clarence B. Moore, Philadelphia, 1898.

Figure 7.

Jones, C.C., "Antiquity of the Southern Indians."

Thomas, Cyrus, "Mound Explorations," Twelfth Annual Report, BAE.

Holmes, W. H., "Pottery of the Eastern United States," Twentieth Annual Report, BAE, 1897-1898, Plates CXVa and b, CXVI, CXIVa and b.

Joseph R. Caldwell and Antonio J. Waring, Jr., Savannah, Ga.

**TYPE NAME: SAVANNAH BURNISHED PLAIN PASTE**

**Method of manufacture:** coiling.  
**Temper:** fine sand and grit in small quantities at Irene. Grit at Cox, grit and sherd at Haven Home, sherd at Cannon's pt.  
**Texture:** fine and compact at Irene, medium fine, lumpy and contorted at Cannon's Point.

**Hardness:** 2.0 - 3.0.

**Color:** core, uniformly grey at Irene, shades of buff and grey at Cannon's Point. **Surfaces:** there is considerable variation in surface color at Irene, Cannon's Point, and Haven Home ranging from bright yellow thru red and buff to dark grey. Color often changes sharply on the surface of a single sherd giving a characteristic mottled appearance.

**SURFACE FINISH:**

Exteriors and interiors may be smoothed, polished, or burnished. Horizontal smoothing marks are often visible. Burnishing and polishing usually occur on the exterior and smoothing on the interior. A vessel from Eulonia shows careful scraping of the interior.

**DECORATION:**

Carefully made vertical or slanting tooling is found in the rim area of carinated bowls. This was undoubtedly done with the purpose of obtaining a definite decorative effect. This feature is found at Haven Home, Eulonia, Cox, and Cannon's Point. No other decoration occurs on this type. One notched rim has been noted at Irene.

**FORM:**

Considerable variation. Most common forms are carinated, shallow, and hemispherical bowls. Bowls which belly at the bottom and which rise evenly to a constricted mouth occur, as well as hemispherical bowls with flaring rims, boat-shaped vessels and dishes. Occasionally typical vessel shapes are relieved by oval depressed areas modeled inward.

**Rim:** incurving or straight, occasionally flaring, usually tapered.

**Lip:** rounded or squared. Sometimes the edge of the lip is squared and inner edge rounded.

**Base:** may be rounded, conical, or flat. A bowl from Eulonia has a concave base.

**Thickness:** at Irene varies from 5 mm.-7 mm. averaging 6 mm.

At Cannon's point ranges from 11 mm to 4 mm with 6 aver.

**Appendages:** none.

**ASSOCIATIONS:**

Part of the Savannah Complex with Savannah Fine Cordmarked and Savannah Check Stamped.

**USUAL RANGE OF TYPE:**

Found along the Georgia Coast from Cox mounds on the Altamaha (near Darien) as far north as Irene in Chatham County. It occurs at Eulonia, Shell Bluff, and the Haven Home site.

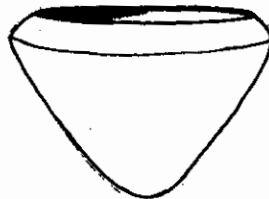
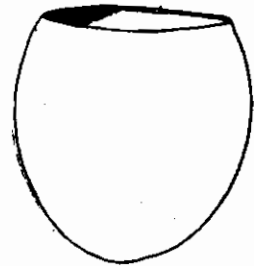
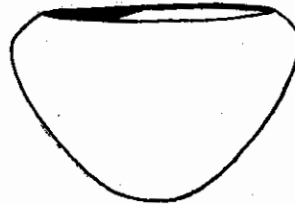
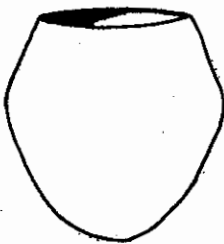
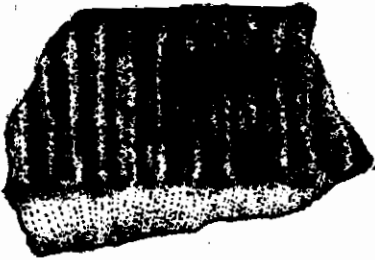
**CHRONOLOGICAL POSITION OF THE TYPE IN RANGE:**

Lies below the Irene Complex and above the Wilmington, Deptford, and St. Simon's complexes.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Moore, Clarence B., "Certain Aboriginal Mounds of the Georgia Coast", Journal Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia. Second Series, Vol. XI, 1897, pp. 26-28, p. II and III.

Joseph R. Caldwell and Antonio J. Waring, Jr., Savannah, Ga.



**SAVANNAH BURNISHED PLAIN**

TYPE NAME: SAVANNAH FINE CORDMARKED.

**PASTE:**

Method of manufacture: coiling.

Temper: almost invariably grit at Irene; sherd temper occurs however. Tempering chiefly sherd at Haven Home. Mostly grit at the Oemler Site; some sherd. Grit temper at Charlie King and at Oak Grove.

Texture: medium to coarse at all sites. Grit tempered sherds are generally sandy, sherd tempered sherds have a slightly finer texture and the paste is often lumpy.

Hardness: 2.5 - 3.5.

Color: paste: dark grey through red buff. Occasionally the exterior surface color at a point about halfway through the paste. Sometimes the paste color and the exterior and interior colors are the same.

Surfaces: varies from light buff through light grey. The exterior coloring is often of a lighter shade than that of the interior.

**SURFACE FINISH:**

The interior surface finish shows considerable variability ranging from careless smoothing through burnishing. Burnishing is prevalent at Irene. Interior shell finishing occurs at Oemler and at Haven Home.

**DECORATION:**

Technique: stamped with a flat, cord-wrapped paddle. The paddle was also used to bevel the rim. The rounded side of the paddle was almost invariably applied in finishing the bottom, giving the appearance of a basket impression.

Design: the impressions are characteristically fine and clear. Cross stamping is the rule. The majority of rims are finished with a series of vertical cord impressions. As noted above, the bottoms are finished with narrow impressions of the side of the paddle. It appears that this last trait is diagnostic of the type.

Distribution: over the entire exterior of the vessel.

**FORM:**

Rim: straight to flaring, sometimes everted. Usually slightly tapered. Excess clay from the finishing of the rim is often flattened by the application of the paddle.

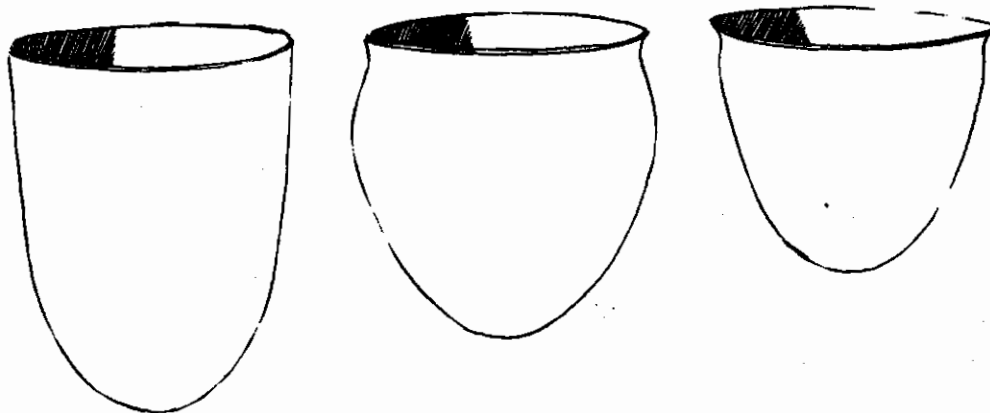
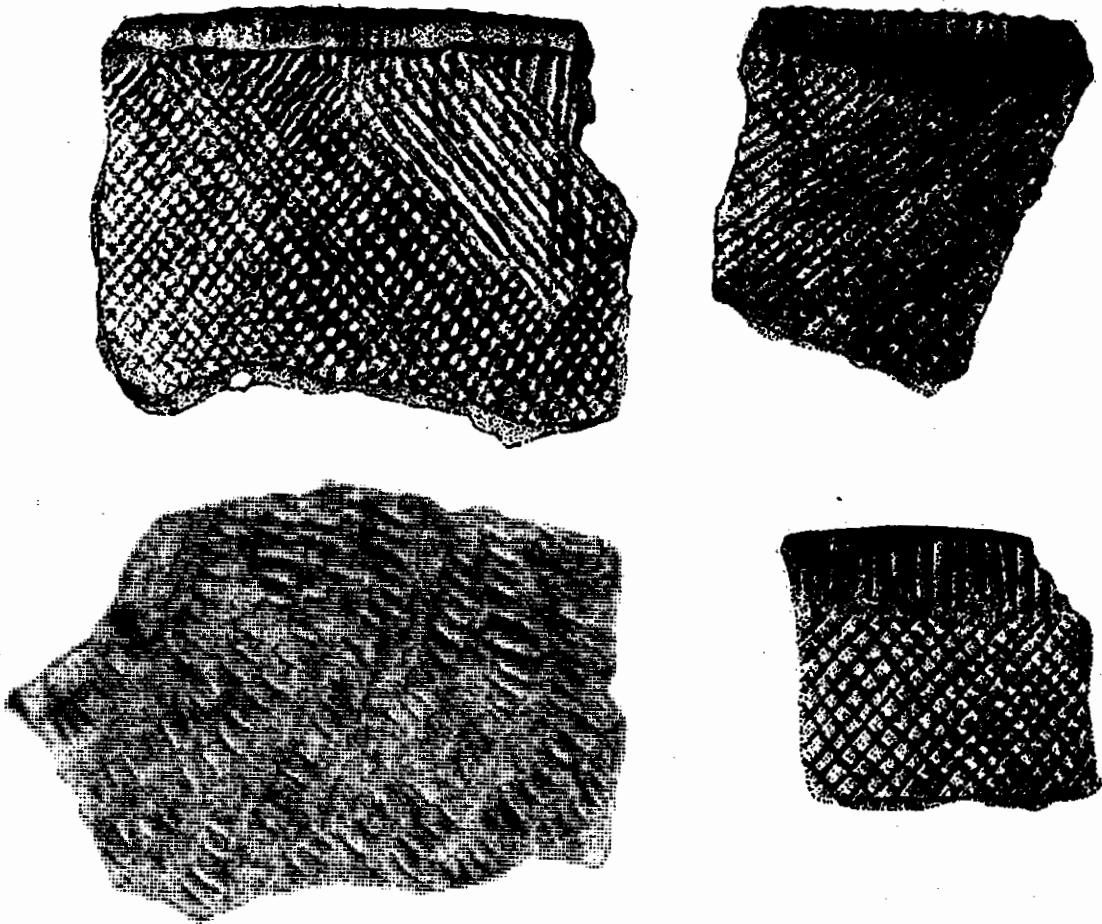
Lip: squared, rounded or stamped beveled.

Body: at Irene the most typical shape is that of a globular vessel with a flaring rim, short throat, well defined shoulder and a rounded base. At Haven Home the characteristic vessel form has a straight rim, lacking a shoulder and the body is elongated straight tapering to the base. Intergradations of the two forms occur at both sites.

Base: round or conical.

Thickness: at Irene, average 9.6mm. At Haven Home, average 7.3mm. At Oemler, average 8.2mm. At Cannon's Point, average 9.25mm.

Appendages: none.



**SAVANNAH FINE CORDMARKED**

-9-

**ASSOCIATIONS:**

Part of the Savannah Complex with Savannah Burnished Plain and Savannah Check Stamped.

Several presumably late Irene Fine Cordmarked sherds show reed punctate decoration and a pinched applique band around the rim. These were in strata which were redeposited during the interval between the utilization of the Savannah and Irene complexes. The reed punctation and pinched applique band around the rim are attributes of the Irene complex.

**USUAL RANGE OF TYPE:**

On the South Atlantic Coast from St. Simon's Island, Georgia, for an unknown distance into South Carolina.

Sites: Charlie King, and Cannon's Point on St. Simon's Island; the Haven Home and Oemler sites near Savannah, Georgia, Oak Grove.

**CHRONOLOGICAL POSITION OF THE TYPE IN RANGE:**

The Savannah complex lies below the Irene complex and above the Wilmington, Deptford and St. Simon's complexes.

Joseph R. Caldwell and Antonio J. Waring, Jr., Savannah, Ga.