

**SOME COMMENTS ON ENGLEWOOD INCISED, SAFETY HARBOR INCISED,  
AND SCARRY'S PROPOSED CERAMIC CHANGES**

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First, I will express a few general criticisms of John Scarry's proposed ceramic classification, and then show: 1) that two ceramic types, Englewood Incised and Safety Harbor Incised, should not be changed to varieties of Fort Walton Incised, and 2) that Scarry's so-called varieties "Safety Harbor and "Thomas" are misnamed.

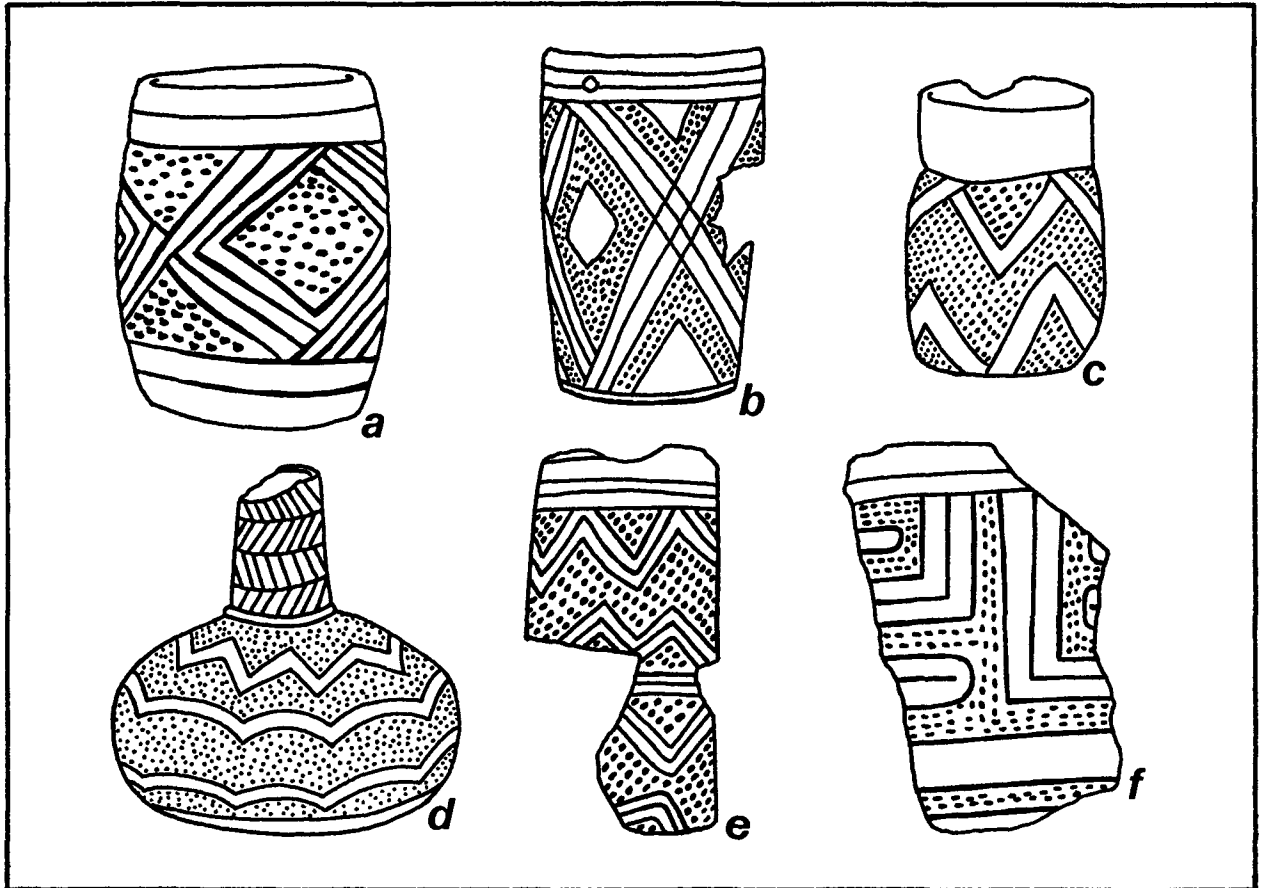
Some of John Scarry's proposed changes obscure relationships and origins which have been reflected in prior classifications by the different ceramic series and cultural complexes to which the types have been assigned. Some ceramic types in Scarry's proposed "type-variety" system include too many "varieties" traditionally classified as separate types. For example, had Scarry seen larger samples of Englewood Incised and Safety Harbor Incised ceramics, he would have realized that they were indeed distinct types rather than varieties of Fort Walton Incised. I can say this because I am familiar with these two types from my work on the Gulf coast of south-Central Florida. This is the region where both Englewood Incised and Safety Harbor Incised were discovered, and where many specimens of each have been found (but where Fort Walton Incised is rare).

Englewood Incised and Safety Harbor Incised each differ from Fort Walton Incised in vessel form and decoration. Common Fort Walton Incised vessel forms such as casuela bowls, straight-sided shallow bowls, effigy bowls, "soup plates," and dippers do not occur in Englewood Series and Safety Harbor Incised ceramics. Figures 1, 2, and 3 show some of the bowls, bottles, and cylindrical beakers which are the vessel forms typical of the Englewood Series and of Safety Harbor Incised pottery.

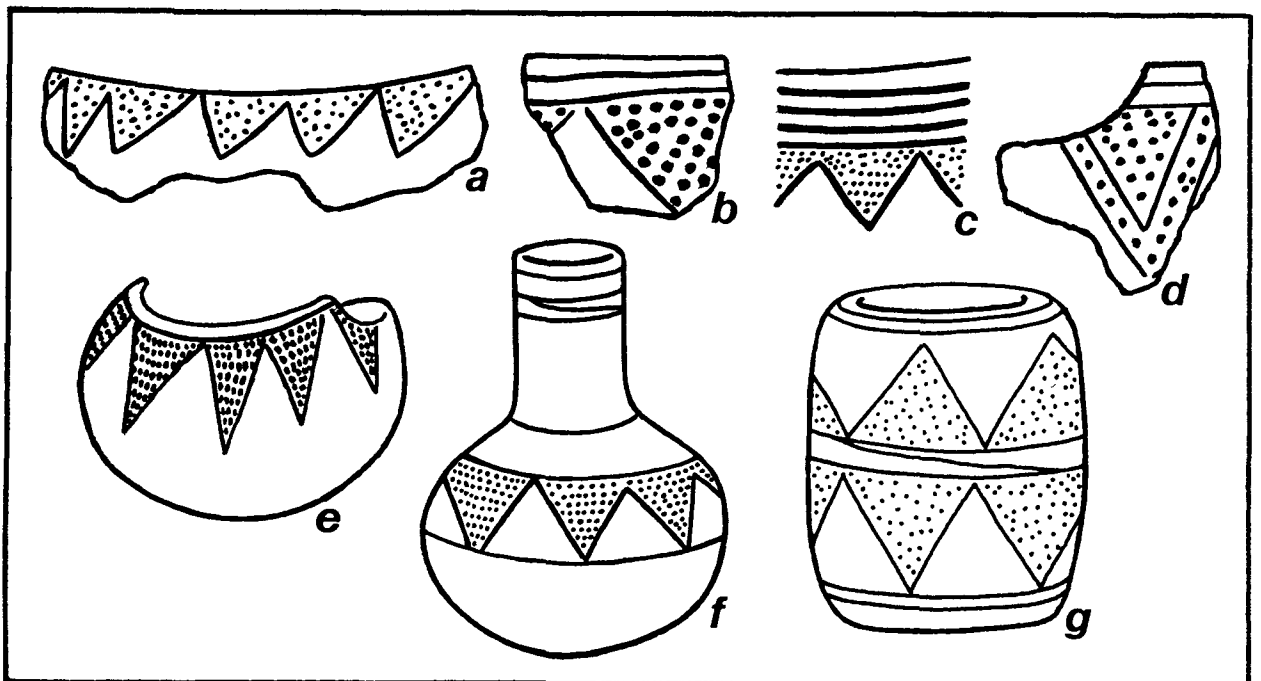
The predominant types of the Englewood Series are Sarasota Incised and Englewood Incised. Stirling (1935:384) described some pottery from the Englewood Mound (8Sol) as having "Punctate markings enclosed in a joined triangular pattern...." Willey (1949:474) named this pottery "Sarasota Incised" but his description of its having "Biscayne" paste was too limited considering that some subsequently-found specimens have the same designs on sand-tempered ware (see Figure 1). In addition, Willey (1949:472) gave the name "Englewood Incised" to other pottery from the Englewood Mound which had plain bands forming often rectilinear designs (triangles, diamonds, chevrons, zigzags) with punctate-filled background. Examples of Englewood Incised are shown in Figure 2. These vessel forms and designs are so different from those of Fort Walton Incised that I cannot consider them to be a variety of Fort Walton Incised.

Figure 3 shows the distinctive incised and punctated scroll, hand, and nested semicircle motifs that characterize Safety Harbor Incised pottery. Typical vessel forms are bottles or bottle-like collared jars. Scarry has incorrectly dubbed some of this pottery "variety Thomas" and placed it under Fort Walton Incised. Furthermore, what he calls "Fort Walton Incised, variety Safety Harbor" in northwestern Florida is definitely different than the "true" Safety Harbor Incised of the peninsula. He needs to come up with a name different from "Safety Harbor" for the variety to which he has applied that name. Moreover, he should do away with "variety Thomas" and acknowledge Safety Harbor Incised as a separate type.

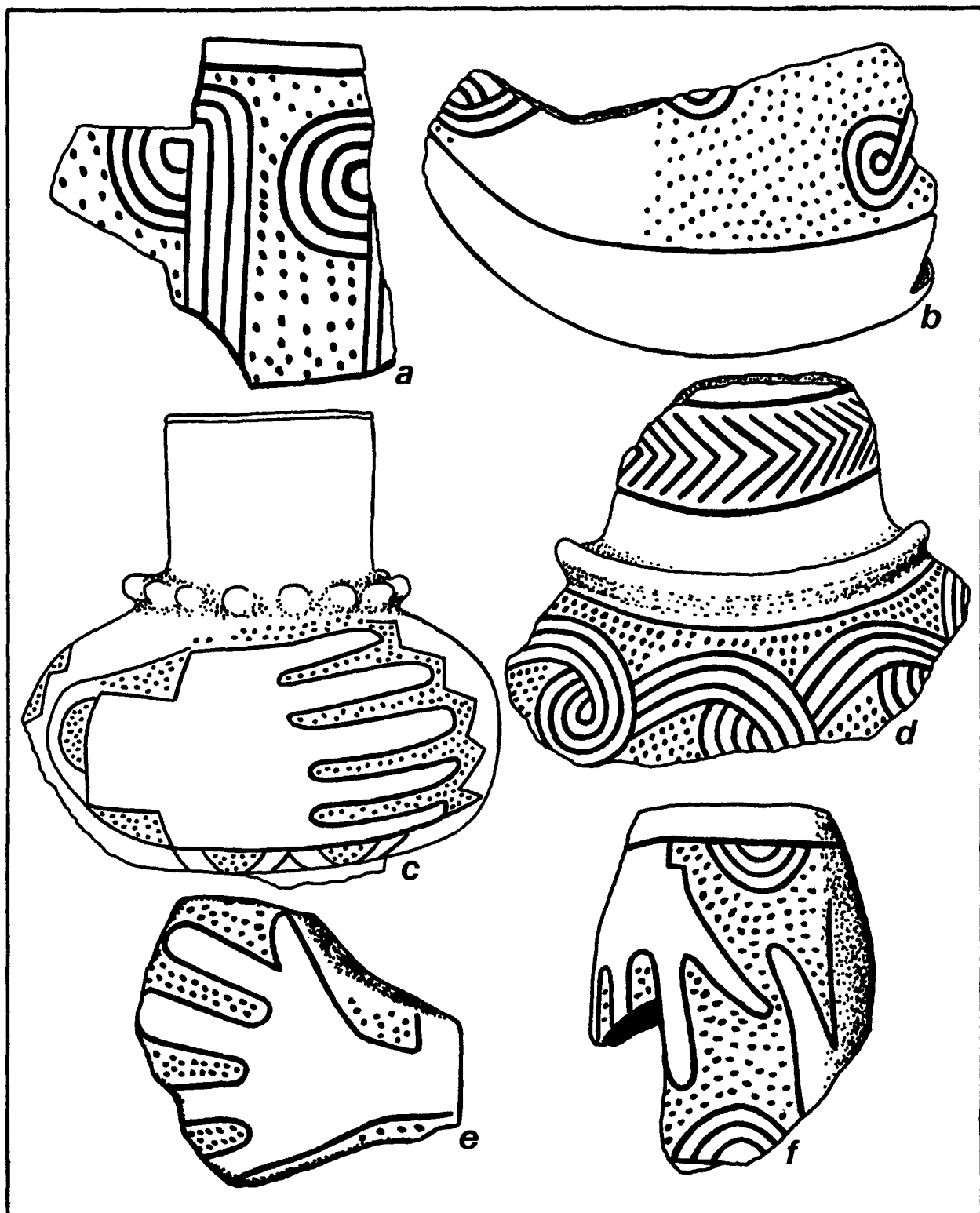
In contrast to Fort Walton Incised ceramics in the Florida panhandle, both



**Figure 1.** Sarasota Incised. Typical examples of punctation-filled triangular designs on rims (top) and vessels (bottom): **a, d** - Aqui Esta (Luer 1980); **b** - Pineland (Randell collection); **c** - Weeden Island (Fewkes 1924); **e** - Englewood Mound (Willey 1949); **f** - Tallant collection (South Florida Museum and Bishop Planetarium); and, **g** - Wrecked site.



**Figure 2.** Englewood Incised. Typical examples of diamonds, chevrons, zigzags, and angled bands on punctate background: **a** - Buck Island (Bullen 1952); **b, c, f** - Englewood Mound (Willey 1949); **d** - 8Del (Willey 1949); and, **e** - Tierra Verde (FSM 97110).



**Figure 3.** Safety Harbor Incised. Typical examples of incised scroll, hand, and semicircle motifs on punctate background: **a** - Picknic (Bullen 1952); **b, c, d** - Aqui Esta (Luer 1980); **e, f** - Tierra Verde (Warren, Bushnell, and Spence 1965).

the Englewood Series and Safety Harbor Incised ceramics occur almost exclusively in sacred contexts in peninsular Florida. It should be noted that Safety Harbor Incised and Sarasota Incised have similarities to Nunnally Incised and Andrews Decorated respectively, each of which occur in Georgia (see Schnell, Knight and Schnell 1981). It should also be noted that many specimens in the Englewood Series have been mis-identified or ignored ever since the types were first described. This has happened so often that the Englewood Series has been overlooked in recent years by many researchers in Florida.

These brief comments and few figures do not begin to reveal the complexities of Englewood and Safety Harbor pottery. What we need in Florida is more ceramic research with a regional and series-specific focus.

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