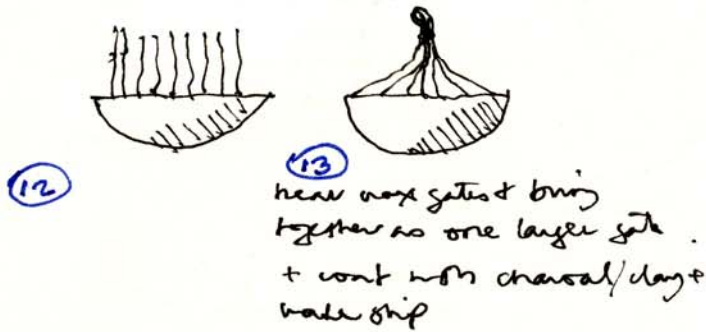
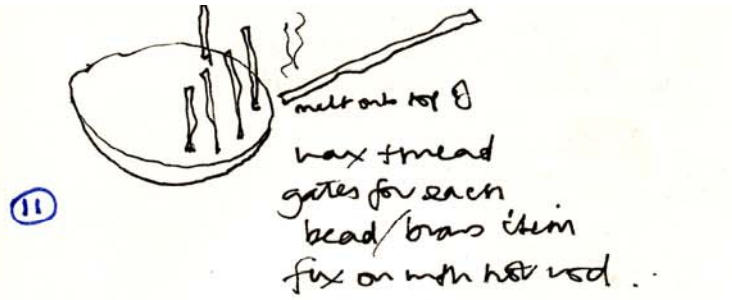
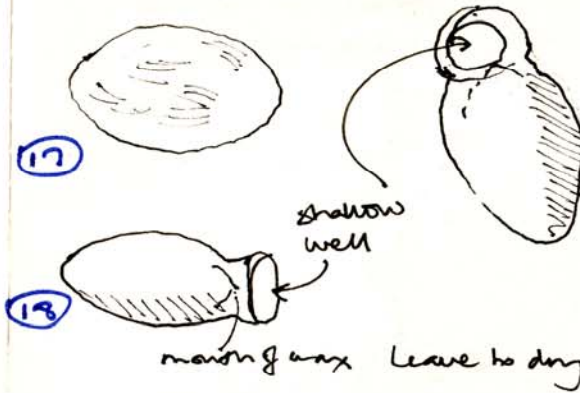
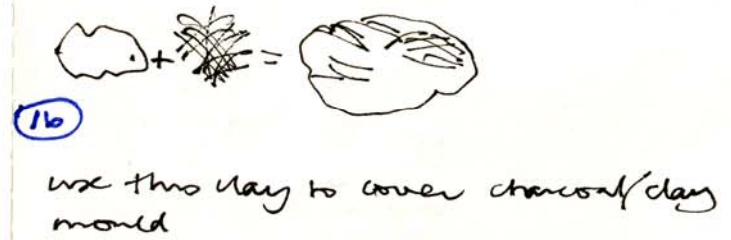


Mix clay, charcoal and cow dung (1). Form this mixture into different shapes and let these dry in the sun (2). Take beeswax and form this into a thread by using press fixed onto wooden work bench (3 & 4). Wrap beeswax thread around charcoal bead template to form design required (5 to 7). Form slip or slurry with charcoal, clay and water sieved and dip the bead into the mixture to get a coating – leave to dry hard (8). Attach to clay and charcoal block and add these to make up a larger clay form (9 & 10).

Lost Wax Casting, Ghana: Mould-making

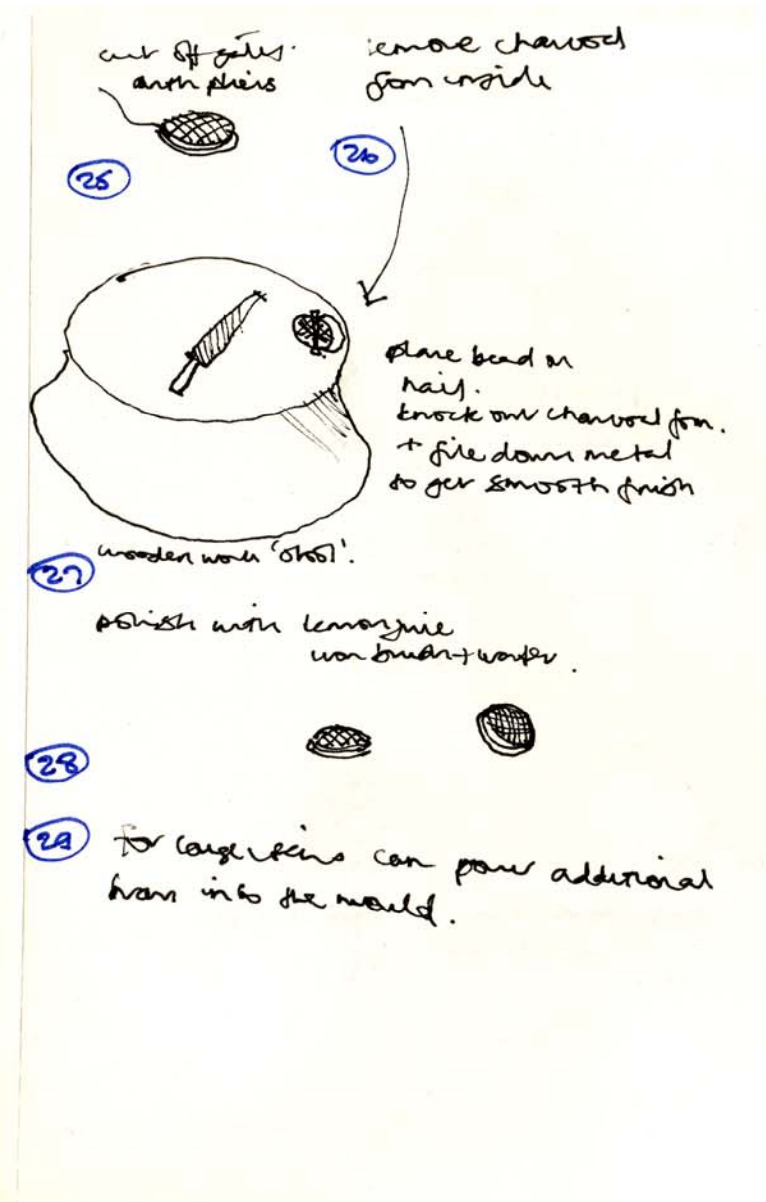
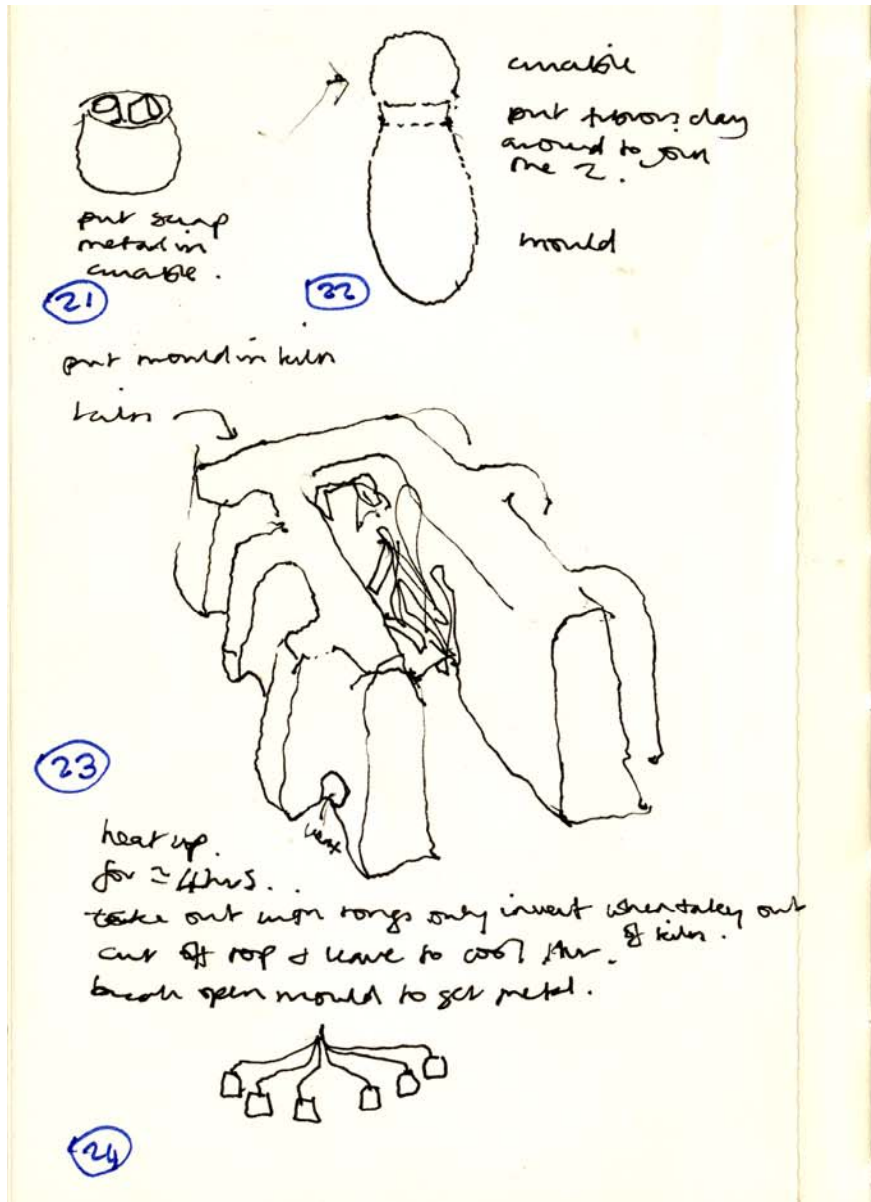


mix clay with palm fibre .



Attach wax thread gates to each item in the form by heating (11 & 12). Bring these together into one larger gate (13). Completely coat form in charcoal/clay slip (14). Mix clay with palm fibre and use this to cover and reinforce mould (15 to 17). Form a shallow well beside a mouth of wax and leave to dry (18). Heat the mould to remove the wax and allow to drain from the mould (20). Make a crucible from fibrous clay (19).

Lost Wax Casting, Ghana: Firing and finishing



Put scrap metal into the crucible (21). Attach the crucible to the mould and seal the join with fibrous clay (22). Put mould into the clay kiln for about 4 hours which will allow the metal to melt and drain down into the spaces left by the wax (23). Take the mould out of the kiln with tongs and invert only when out of the kiln. Cut off the top crucible part and leave to cool for an hour. Break open mould to obtain metal mould with gates attached (24). Cut off gates with pliers and remove charcoal from inside hollow moulds (25 & 26). File down metal to get smooth finish and polish using lemon juice, an iron brush and water (27 & 28). Additional metal can be poured into the mould for larger items (29).