AUPHORAE FROM BRAUGHING (VENDERSON COLLECTION)

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The amphorae shords, which are to be regarded as unstratified, were classified by fabric and form and then weighed and counted.

The types represented are Dressel 1, Dressel 2-4, Dressel 6,

Dressel 20, Dressel 30, Camuladunum 186a and 186c, and a small group of unassigned types.

Total weight of amphorae 26,780gms

Total number of amphorae sherds 338

% Total of each fabric

% By weight		% By coun	% By count	
Dr. 1	7772gms	29%	90	26.6%
Probable . Dr. 1	6270gms	23.4%	51	15.1%
Dr. 2-4	575gms	2.1%	. 13	3.8%
Dr. 6	603gma	2.3%	20	5.9%
Dr. 20	8338gma	31.2%	87	25.7%
Dr. 30	1220gms	4.6%	22	6.5%
Cam. 186a	833gms	3.1%	26	7.7%
Cam. 186c	463gms	1.7%	12 '	3.6%
Unassigmed	706gms	2.6%	17	5.0%

Dressel 1

If the 'probable' Dressel 1 sherds are included, this type represents over half of the total weight of the group and just under half of the total number of sherds. Dressel 1 most likely held Italian wine, and in Britain is characteristic of first century B.C. contexts. A Dressel 1B rim is present, which can be dated to the second half of the first century B.C. Three sherds contain the 'black sand' of Peacock's Group 2 (1971) indicating a Campanian origin.

Dressel 2-4

Probably used for carrying wine, and to be dated to the first and second centuries A.D. Three rims are present in a distinctive very light-buff fabric, containing numerous white and colourless inclusions which protrude through the surfaces, giving a 'pimply' effect. Two samples were examined in thin section under the petrological microscope, revealing large discrete grains of plagioclase and orthoclase felspar, quartz and quartzite set in an isotropic matrix containing a groundmass of smaller quartz grains and plentiful flecks of mica. A few small pieces of granite were also present in one of the slides. While outcrops of granite occur in many areas associated with the classical wine-trade, it seems likely that these sherds have a Spanish origin.

Dressel 6

Probably carried olive-oil from Istria or Northern Italy, and to be dated to the turn of the millennium.

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