

PETROLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF ROMAN AMPHORAE FROM  
HAYLING ISLAND

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Three samples of Roman amphorae were submitted for fabric analysis in thin section under the petrological microscope. The results are as follows:

1) 24863

Sample from a Dressel 1 handle in a soft, rough fabric, light red in colour (between Munsell 2.5YR 6/8 and 5YR 7/8). Thin sectioning reveals green and colourless augite, quartz, feldspar, mica and volcanic rock, with some accessory garnet. The mineralogy of this sample compares well with the fabric of Italian Dressel 1 and 2-4 wine amphorae, with an origin in Southern Latium, Campania and Etruria (Peacock, 1971, Fabric 1; 1978).

2) 24876

Fairly soft, rough micaceous fabric, buff in colour (7.5YR 7/4). Thin sectioning shows frequent flecks of mica, mostly muscovite but with some biotite, together with grains of quartz, a little feldspar and quartzite. It is difficult to predict a likely origin.

3) 24869

Bodysherd from a Dressel 1 or 2-4 amphora. Fairly soft, rough

