

POMPEIAN RED STYLE WARE FROM CAMELON

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Small body-sherd from a (?) dish in a soft, smooth fine fabric with a distinctive weak red (between Munsell 10R 5/4 and 5/6) slip reminiscent of Pompeian Red ware. However, in this case it covers both surfaces, unlike much Pompeian Red ware which only carries an internal slip. A study in thin section under the petrological microscope shows a fine-textured fabric containing subangular grains of quartz 0.30mm and under in size, some red iron ore and a few flecks of mica. This fabric cannot be matched with Peacock's (1977) fabric groupings of Pompeian Red ware. For example, it lacks the high mica content of his Fabric 3 (the suggested parallel for this sherd). Unfortunately, the common nature of the non-plastic inclusions noted in thin section make it difficult to predict a likely source area. It is, therefore, perhaps best at this stage to regard the Camelon sherd as coming from one of those small scale centres that seem to have produced colour coated ware after the style of Pompeian Red (Peacock, 1977, 156).

Peacock, D.P.S.

(1977) 'Pompeian Red ware', in Peacock, D.P.S. (ed.),

Pottery and Early Commerce (London, 1977), 147-162.