

AMPHORAE FROM HENGISTBURY HEAD

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Introduction

The amphorae¹ were classified by fabric and form, and in order to consider the material quantitatively were then weighed and counted. The classification of types is based on Dressel (1899), the Camulodunum series (Hawkes and Hull, 1947), Pascual (1962), supplemented by descriptive terms suggested by Peacock (1971; 1977). The commonest types represented are Dressel 1 and Dressel 20, with lesser amounts of Dressel 1 - Pascual 1, Camulodunum 185A, Camulodunum 186 and a number of unassigned types. Brief notes on the origins and chronological span of the amphorae are given below.

¹ From the excavations in 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, and some material from the Red House Museum, Christchurch (sz-17-90).

Total weight of amphorae	83,762gms.
Total number of amphorae sherds	1,187

% Total of each fabric

	<u>% By Weight</u>	<u>% By Count</u>
Dressel 1A	3,649 _{gms} 4.4%	41 3.4%
Dressel 1B	1,335 _{gms} 1.6%	7 0.6%
Dressel 1 sp	50,163 _{gms} 59.9%	827 69.7%
Dr.1 - Pas.1	3,563 _{gms} 4.3%	39 3.3%
Dressel 20	21,893 _{gms} 26.1%	214 18.0%
Cam. 185A	1,761 _{gms} 2.1%	33 2.8%
Cam. 186	125 _{gms} 0.1%	1 0.1%
Unassigned	1,273 _{gms} 1.5%	25 2.1%

Dressel 1A

These are wine-carrying amphorae characteristic of the Campanian, Latium and Etruria districts of Italy and were produced from about 130B.C. (Tchernia, 1983) till around the middle of the first century B.C. (Lamboglia, 1955; Peacock, 1971). There are similarities of rim profile with the earlier Graeco-Italic types, but as Peacock (1984) suggests, it is unlikely that the latter type was ever exported to Northern Europe in any quantity. It is best therefore to regard these eleven triangular-shaped rims at Hengistbury as belonging to the Dressel 1A form. A few of the Dressel 1 bodysherds at Hengistbury are in a streaky laminated fabric previously noted by Peacock (1979) at Gussage, Hamworthy and Knighton, Isle of Wight, as well as from continental sites (Danebury can also be added to the list).

When associated with rim forms, this distinctive fabric is always found as Dressel 1A rather than the later 1B type, and so has tentatively been assigned to Dressel 1A below.

'82 R18/1 (rim); '82 1/+ (rim); '83 O/647 (2 rims); '81 O/360 (rim);
'81 O/357 (rim); P37-12-1A (rim); PB 1A1 (rim); P37-9 1A (rim); '80 42/44 (rim);
'80 42/65 (rim); '83 F384/572 (streaky fabric); '83 Ph 1411/1 (streaky fabric);
'83 F427/703 (streaky fabric); '83 Box 18 (streaky fabric); '83 F415/652 (10
(streaky fabric); '81 O/269 (4) (streaky fabric); '81 205/305 (streaky fabric);
'81 O/357 (2) (streaky fabric); '80 F40/49 (streaky fabric); '81 F226/355 (3)
(streaky fabric); '80 Ph. 240 [5] [streaky fabric].

Dressel 1B

This wine-amphora was also made in the same parts of Italy as the earlier Dressel 1A type, from about shortly after the first quarter of the first century B.C. till the last decade of the century (Peacock, 1971; 1977). There are seven rim profiles at Hengistbury which are characteristic of the Dressel 1B form.

'83 O/563 (rim); '83 O/647 (rim); '83 O/620 (rim); '83 O/643 (rim);
'83 O/660 (rim); P37-16 1^A/_B (rim); P37-19^A/_B(rim).

Dressel 1 sp

Listed under this heading are those sherds which it is difficult to identify as belonging to either the Dressel 1A or 1B form. They are composed in the main of featureless bodysherds, but also included are a small amount of handles and bases. A broad scheme for the allocation of Dressel 1 handles and bases to 1A or 1B forms has been proposed by Stöckli (1979), mainly on the basis of size, but its practical use remains doubtful given the nuances of form which are sometimes apparent in this general class of amphora.

Some of the Dressel 1 bodysherds at Hengistbury are in a distinctive 'black sand' fabric - caused by dark-coloured augite - which occurs in both the 1A and 1B forms. The recent find of a Dressel 1A rim from Lake Farm, Dorset, in the 'black sand' fabric demonstrates that this fabric also reached Britain in the 1A form (cf. Peacock, 1971). The presence of yellow (melanitic) garnet in this fabric led Courtois and Velde (1978) to suggest an origin in the Latium region. However, yellow-brown garnet is also a feature of the sands further south, and a Campanian origin, in particular the area around Pompeii and Herculanium, has been advocated by Peacock (1977). Further analysis by Velde and Courtois (1983) using an electron microprobe has distinguished two separate compositional groups of yellow garnet, of which one source they propose is situated near to Rome and another in the Vesuvius region. The latter suggestion agrees with Peacock's (1977) suggestion, but as yet there is no archaeological evidence for an origin near Rome for the 'black sand' fabric.

'81 O/346 (2); '81 O/194; '81 F237/386; '81 O/254 (2); '81 F199/312;
'81 F226/355; '81 O/246 (2); '81 F228/364; '81 O/247; '81 O/251 (2);
'83 O/697 (24); '83 F386/564; '83 F430/710; '83 Ph 1496/0 (2); '83 Ph 1466/0;
'83 F384/572 (7); '83 O/689 (5); '83 O/617 (101); '82 Ph 918/1; '82 R19-R29/1 (11);
'82 F294/43; '82 Ph 1361/1; '82 R17/1; '82 Ph 1169/1; '82 Ph 1110/1 (2);

'82 Ph 1211/1; '82 Ph 890/1; '82 Ph 855/1; '82 F351/491; '82 Ph 917/1 (12);
'82 F270/504; '82 F269/423 (2); '82 F260/452 (2); '82 F335/520; '83 0/567 (4);
'83 0/563 (2); '83 0/567 (7); '83 1/⊕; '83 0/604 (2); '83 0/573 (5);
'83 0/563 (5); '83 0/566 (3); '83 0/573 (5); '83 F393/590; '83 0/616 (5);
'83 0/647 (13); '83 0/609; '83 0/570 (6); '83 0/620; '83 F399/601;
'83 0/643 (15); '83 0/568 (11); '83 F389/613; '83 0/637 (2); '83 0/617 (20);
'83 0/582 (4); '83 F393/588 (2); '83 F393/614; '83 Ph 1414/①; '83 0/570 (11);
'83 0/596 (4); '83 Ph 1464/① (2); '83 Ph 1407/①; '83 0/707; '83 0/689 (2);
'83 0/657 (2); '83 0/688 (2); '83 F422/679; '83 Ph 1459/1 (2);
'83 Ph 1475/① (30); '83 0/684; '83 0/697 (3); '83 Box 18 unmarked (5);
'83 0/680; '83 0/660 (5); '83 0/688 (5); '83 Box 18 unmarked (9);
'83 F416/655 (3); '83 F423/686 (2); '83 0/654 (9); '83 P389/613 (2); '83 0/649;
'83 0/638 (2); '83 F421/674; '83 Ph 1424/②; '83 F414/663 (8); '83 0/616 (2);
'83 0/568 (2); '83 F415/652 (7); '83 0/660; '83 0/638 (9); '84 F593/988;
'84 0/837 (2); '84 0/822 (2); '84 F538/832; '84 0/823 (5); '84 0/822 (3);
'81 F164/239 (3); '81 F212/324; '81 Ph 486; '81 F179/266; '81 0/349;
'81 F199/313; '81 0/351; '81 Ph 567/1; '81 F128/196; '81 0/258 (4);
'81 0/362 (3); '81 0/360; '81 F235/358; '81 0/250; '81 F226/350 (8); '81 0/257;
'81 F199/312 (2); '81 F188/289; '81 0/295; '81 0/346 (3); '81 0/251 (5);
'81 0/281 (18); '81 0/382; '81 0/379; '81 0/361 (2); '81 0/300 (3);
'81 0/374; '81 0/264; '81 0/366 (4); '81 0/357 (4); '81 0/354 (8);
'81 0/367 (14); '81 Ph 710; '81 0/181; '81 0/179; '81 0/184; '81 0/185 (4);
'81 0/193 (2); '81 0/191 (12); '81 0/232 (2); '81 F161/198 (2); '81 0/192;
'81 0/191 (4); '81 F226/355 (90); '81 F128/196 (2); '81 0/246 (9); '81 P22;
'81 F40/49 (1); '81 Ph 240; '81 0/194; '81 42/50 (4); '80 0/14 (6);
'80 0/27 (4); '80 0/29 (2); '80 42/44 (9); '80 42/46 (5); '80 F40/49;
'80 42/65 (17); '80 0/67 (7); '80 0/70 (13); '80 F42/89; '80 F115 (3);
'80 P31/149 (4); B II; 1 VII; B IV; B VII; 1 VI; 1 III; 1 V; B I; P37-51A;

1 IV; N II; 1 IX; BY II; 1 VIII.

"Black Sand Fabric"

'83 0/567; '83 0/566; '83 0/609; '83 0/604 (2); '83 0/570; '83 0/657;
'83 0/660 (2); '83 Box 18 unmarked (2); '83 0/568 (19); '83 0/638 (2);
'81 F40/49 (2); '80 42/44;

Dressel 1 - Pascual 1

This type of amphora is characteristic of the Catalonia region of Spain, particularly the Barcelona region, and probably carried wine (Pascual, 1977; Keay and Jones, 1982). It was made from the late Republican period to A.D.79 at Pompeii (Tchernia, 1971), though the majority of dateable finds from north western Europe are generally Augustan in date (Williams, 1981; Galliou, 1984). The material from Hengistbury is in two distinctive fabrics : Fabric 1 is in a hard, rough dark red to reddish-brown fabric (Munsell 10R 4/4 to 4/6), while Fabric 2 is in a slightly softer, smoother creamy-white fabric (between 7.5YR 8/2 and 7/4) (see Williams, 1981).

Fabric 1

'82 F351/489-490; '83 F398/594; '83 0/565; '83 0/647; '83 0/620 (2);
'83 0/604; '83 0/617; '83 F389/613; '81 0/246; '80 42/44 (4); '80 0/67;
'80 0/70 (2);

Fabric 2

'83 0/647; '83 0/637; '83 0/638; '84 F593/989; '81 0/191; '81 F128/196;
'80 0/14 (4); '80 42/44 (2); '80 0/60; '80 0/67 (7); '80 0/109; B V 516.

Dressel 20

This is the most common amphora type imported into Roman Britain, though recent research has made it clear that it was already present in some numbers during the late Iron Age (Williams and Peacock, 1983). Dressel 20 amphorae were made along the banks of the River Guadalquivir and its tributaries between Seville and Cordoba in the southern Spanish province of Baetica, where they were used for the transportation of olive-oil (Bonsor, 1931; Ponsich, 1974; 1979). This type of amphora has a wide date-range, from the Augustan prototype (Oberaden 83) with a fairly upright rim, a short spike and less of a squat bulbous body than the later form, to the developed well-known globular form which, with some typological variation, was in use up to the late third century A.D. (Zevi, 1967). Rim forms of the earlier Oberaden 83 type are known from pre-Roman levels at Prae Wood and at Gatesbury Track, so that importation of Baetican olive-oil into Britain may have begun from as late as the last decade of the first century B.C. (Williams and Peacock, 1983). Only two Dressel 20 rims were recovered from Hengistbury ('83 O/567 and '83 O/566), and these appear to be late first century A.D. - early second century in date (Martin-Kilcher, 1984). Some of the body-sherds listed below may well be from earlier forms, but unfortunately it is not possible to more closely identify these sherds, devoid as they are of typological features.

'82 R07/1; '83 O/563 (6); '83 O/567 (2:1 Rim); '83 O/573; '83 O/563 (3);
'83 O/566 (7:1 Rim); '83 O/563; '83 O/565; '83 u/s; '83 O/616 (2); '83 O/568;
'83 O/596 (8); '83 O/684; '83 F423/690; '83 F423/690 (3); '83 F423/686;
'83 F423/585 (4); '83 O/643; '83 F389/613; '83 F389/613; '84 O/837;
'81 F232/372 (3); '81 F128/196 (2); '81 O/187; '81 O/179; '81 O/184;
'81 O/185 (8); '81 O/191 (5); '81 O/192 (2); '81 F140/202 (4); '81 O/194 (10);
'81 O/191 (3); '80 O/10 (3); '80 O/11 (5); '80 O/12 (9); '80 F7/13 (2);

'80 0/14 (6); '80 F33/15; '80 0/27 (4); '80 0/44; '80 42/44; '80 F50;
'80 0/59 (30); '80 0/60 (3); '80 0/61; '80 0/109 (9); '80 P24/121;
'80 0/124 (3); '80 0/128 (43); '80 0/129; '80 0/131; '80 P30/148;

Camulodunum 185A (Haltern 70)

This form has its origin in Baetica (Tchernia, 1980), the similarity in fabric with the more common Dressel 20 suggesting a source in the region of the River Guadalquivir (Peacock, 1971). Due to the fabric similarities of the two types, it is possible that some of the featureless bodysherds attributed here to the Camulodunum 185A form are in fact thin-walled Dressel 20 sherds. Amphorae of Camulodunum 185A form (Haltern 70) recovered from the Port Vendres II shipwreck carry inscriptions describing the contents as defrutum, a sweet liquid obtained by boiling down the must (Colls et al, 1977; Parker and Price, 1981). The date range for this form is from about the mid first century B.C. to the mid first century A.D. (Colls et al, 1977; Tchernia, 1980).

'81 F140/202 (3); '81 0/251; '83 0/567; '83 0/563 (3); '83 0/567 (2);
'83 0/573; '83 0/563 (2); '83 0/563 (3); '83 u/s (3); '83 0/596 (2);
'83 F389/613; '83 F415/652; '81F225/345; '81 0/338; '81 0/352 (2);
'81 0/185 (3); '81 0/194; '81 0/195 (2);

Camulodunum 186sp (Beltrán I/IIA)

Only one sherd is present, part of the handle, although it is not possible to say to which variety of form it belongs, Camulodunum 186A or 186C. Both types were made along the southern Spanish coast and tituli picti suggest that fish-based products were carried (Zevi, 1966; Beltrán, 1970; Peacock, 1974). Camulodunum 186A was made from the late first century B.C. to the early second century A.D., while Camulodunum 186C is probably to be dated Flavian or shortly before to the early second century A.D. (Beltrán, 1970; Panella, 1973). Both forms were widely distributed in the western Roman Empire.

'83 0/566

Unassigned

'81 F237/380; '83 0/697; '83 0/620; '83 0/596; '84 F559/847; '84 F593/989;
'81 0/251; '81 0/281 (4); '81 0/390 (3); '81 0/185 (3); '81 0/193; '81 0/191;
'81 F128/196; '81 0/246; '81 0/180; '80 0/14; '80 42/44; '80 42/57.

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