

AMPHORAE FROM DENVER, NORFOLK

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Dressel 20

Bag: SF11(1), 11(2), 15(2), 17(1), 29(1), 39(3), 57(2), 76(1), 80(4),
87(1), 89(1), 93(1), 96(1), 107(1), 109(1), 142(1), 143(1), 147(1),
166(1), 168(1), 170(3).

All thirty-one sherds of amphorae from Denver, representing some 3,437gms weight, can be identified by their fabric as belonging to the Dressel 20 amphora form (cf. Williams and Peacock, 1983). There is some slight variation of fabric but this can be accounted for in the dispersed nature of the production sites (cf. Ponsich, 1974; 1979) and the length of time this form was in use. Dressel 20 amphorae were made along the banks of the River Guadalquivir and its tributaries between Seville and Cordoba in the Roman southern Spanish province of Baetica, where they were used for the transportation of olive-oil (Bonsor, 1931; Ponsich, 1974; 1979). They have a wide date-range, from the Augustan prototype (Oberaden 83) to the well-known globular form which, with some typological variation, was in use up to the third century A.D. (Zevi, 1967). It is the most common amphora form found in Roman Britain (Williams and Peacock, 1983).

Two of the sherds at Denver are handles, one of which is stamped L·I·T . This stamp occurs in Callender (1965, no. 878), where it is dated c.A.D.150-198. It is also found at the site of Alamo Alta, on the banks of the River Guadalquivir (Ponsich, 1979, Fig.8, no.3).

References

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