

AMPHORAE FROM OIVING, SUSSEX

D.F. Williams, Ph.D., F.S.A.

(DOE Ceramic Petrology Project)

Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton

- 1) 5000/C/1 Bodysherd from a ?Camulodunum 185A.
- 2) 5000/E/1 Bodysherd from a Dressel 20.
- 3) 5000/E/1 Bodysherd from a Dressel 1 or Dressel 2-4, in a 'black sand' fabric.
- 4) 5000/E/24 " " " " " " " " " " .
- 5) 5000/E/24 Handle from a Dressel 1, probably the 1B form.
- 6) 5000/E/40 Bodysherd from a ?Camulodunum 185A.
- 7) 5000/E/35 Bodysherd from a Dressel 1 or Dressel 2-4.
- 8) 5000/A/3 " " " " " " .
- 9) 5000/E/3 Bodysherd from a Southern Spanish amphora.
- 10) 5000/E/30 " " " " " " .

Trench B

- 11) 5000/B/113 Handle from a Dressel 1, probably the 1B form.
- 12) 5000/B/11 Two bodysherds from a Dressel 1 or Dressel 2-4, in a 'black sand' fabric.
- 13) 5000/B/3 Two bodysherds from a Dressel 1 or Dressel 2-4.
- 14) 5000/B/3 L8 " " " " " " " " .
- 15) 5000/B/41 Bodysherd from a Dressel 1 or Dressel 2-4.
- 16) 5000/B/113 " " " " " " .
- 17) 5000/B/1 " " " " " " .

Comments

It is possible that none of the material from Trench B (?pre-Roman) is later than the end of the 1st century B.C. or early 1st century A.D. If Dressel 2-4 is present the date-range can be lengthened, though not necessarily so (see below). If the non-Trench B material is associated with Roman features then the Dressel 1 sherds are probably residual, as this form belongs to the first two centuries B.C.

Comments on Individual Forms

Dressel 1 and Dressel 2-4

Dressel 1 are wine-carrying amphorae that were made primarily in the Campanian, Latium and Etruria districts of Italy (Peacock, 1971; 1977a). The 1A form was produced from about 130B.C. till around the middle of the first century B.C., while the 1B form was made from the first quarter of the first century B.C. until the last decade of the century (*ibid.*; Tchernia, 1983). Fairly large numbers of Dressel 1A have been recovered from Hengistbury Head in Dorset, while the majority of Dressel 1B vessels are found north of the Thames (Peacock, 1984). It is clear, however, that the 1B form is also found in small numbers along the central south coast. A few rims of the 1B form appear for instance at Hengistbury Head (Peacock, 1971), while examples are also known from Fishbourne (Cunliffe, 1975, Fig.100, no.159) and Chichester (Peacock, 1978, Fig.10.15, no.3).

Apart from the two Dressel 1 handles, there are a number of featureless bodysherds from Oving which may also belong to this form. However, it is difficult to be precise because similar fabrics were used for the later Dressel 2-4 form, which is the direct successor on Italian kiln sites to Dressel 1 amphorae (Peacock, 1977a). It is possible therefore that these bodysherds belong instead to the Dressel 2-4 form, which ranges in date from the later first century B.C. to the mid second century A.D. (Zevi, 1966). In particular the comparative thin-walling of one of the sherds numbered 5000/B/3 is suggestive of a Dressel 2-4 vessel rather than

the heavier, thicker-walled Dressel 1. In addition to Italy, this important form, widely distributed in late Iron Age and Roman Britain, was also made in a range of different fabrics in France, Spain and the Aegean, as well as in England, at Brockley Hill (Castle, 1978).

Four bodysherds at Oving are in a distinctive 'black sand' fabric - caused by dark-coloured inclusions of augite - which occurs in both the Dressel 1A and 1B forms as well as Dressel 2-4. 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 as well as the 1B mentioned by 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 (1977b). 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 (1977b) suggestion, but as yet there is no archaeological evidence for an origin near Rome for the 'black sand' fabric.

Dressel 20

Dressel 20 amphorae were made in the southern Spanish province of Baetica, along the River Guadalquivir and its tributaries between Seville and Cordoba, and carried olive-oil. The form and its precursor Oberaden 83 had a long life, from at least the last years of the first century B.C. to the late third, possibly fourth century A.D. (Williams and Peacock, 1983).

Camulodunum 185A

This form also 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 the two featureless bodysherds attributed here to the Camulodunum 185A form are in reality 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 from 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).

Southern Spanish

This material probably derives from the coastal regions of southern Spain, between Cadiz and Malaga, and seems to have been mainly used to carry fish-based products from the late 1st century B.C. to the 2nd century A.D. (Peacock, 1971; 1974).

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