

Ancient Monuments Laboratory
Report 27/87

AN AMPHORA SHERD FROM RISELEY FARM,
WILTS.

D F Williams PhD FSA

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Summary

Identification of an amphora bodysherd from either a Dressel 1 or a Dressel 2-4 Italian wine amphora. This might suggest a first century B.C. date for what appears to be a small rural site, although Dressel 2-4 were made up to the mid second century A.D. so the amphora may have arrived at the site at a later date.

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FT30 W33 Trench A1 25.82/(66) Context (89) SF (66)

A bodysherd from a Dressel 1 or Dressel 2-4 amphora. These are wine-carrying amphorae that were made primarily in the Campanian, Latium and Etrurian districts of Italy, though the Dressel 2-4 type was also made in other places such as France, Spain and the Aegean (Peacock and Williams, 1986). The sherd from Riseley Farm appears to be of Italian origin, but as it is a featureless bodysherd it is difficult to tell which form is involved. Dressel 1 was made from about 130 B.C. till the last decade of the first century B.C., while Dressel 2-4 ranges in date from the later first century B.C. to the mid second century A.D. (Tchernia, 1983; Zevi, 1966).

References

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