

Ancient Monuments Laboratory
Report 96/88

AMPHORAE FROM EXCAVATIONS AT
SILCHESTER, 1986-87.

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Summary

A detailed study of some 188 amphorae sherds allowed the following forms to be identified: Dressel 1B, Dressel 2-4, Dressel 1- Pascual 1, Catalan, Dressel 20, Camulodunum 185A, Camulodunum 186sp, Southern Spanish, Gallic and possibly North African. Of particular interest are a Dressel 1B rim and Dressel 1- Pascual 1 bodysherds, suggesting a pre-Conquest date.

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AMPHORAE FROM EXCAVATIONS AT SILCHES TER 1986-87

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Introduction

No complete amphora was found during the 1986-87 excavations, but a number of rims, handles and spikes were recovered, together with featureless bodysherds. The amphorae as a whole 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), Pascual (1962), the Camulodunum series (Hawkes and Hull, 1947), Pélichet (1946), Laubenheimer (1985) and Peacock and Williams (1986), supplemented by descriptive terms suggested by Peacock (1971; 1977) and in common usage (see Peacock and Williams, 1986). Brief notes on the origins and chronological span of the amphorae are given in the report of the amphorae recovered from the 1979-85 excavations (A.M. Lab. report). Of particular interest amongst the 1986-87 finds are the Dressel 1B rim and the Dressel 1 - Pascual 1 bodysherds, suggestive of a pre-Conquest use.

Total weight of amphorae	7,736gms
Total number of amphorae sherds	188

Dressel 1B

2301	rim	265gms
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Dressel 1sp

2301	b/s	96gms
"	"	90gms
"	"	242gms
2303	part of handle	36gms
"	b/s	213gms
2225	part of handle	84gms
1724	b/s	168gms

Dressel 2-4

935	part of handle	145gms
1723	b/s	29gms
1722	"	48gms
1725	"	59gms
1693	"	7gms
"	"	93gms
89	"	99gms
2002	"	52gms
2111	"	27gms
2324	"	54gms
2226	"	48gms
1968	" (2)	38gms
1910	" (3)	21gms
2100	"	102gms

2213	b/s	4gms	
2247	"(3)	32gms	
1933	"	18gms	
1839	"(3)	23gms	
1878	"	15gms	
2022	"(3)	24gms	
1760	"(5)	30gms	
"	rim	24gms	
2099	b/s	108gms	
1757	"(3)	68gms	
1916	part of handle	192gms	
1939	b/s	25gms	
"	3 bits of handle, probably same vessel	440gms	
2222	rim	20gms	

Dressel 1 / Dressel 2-4

2318	b/s	58gms	
2110	"	111gms	
2317	part of spike	95gms	
2101	b/s(3)	141gms	
1816	"	62gms	
2109	"	59gms	

Dressel 1 - Pascual 1

2197	b/s	96gms	Fabric 2
2213	"	52gms	"
1840	"	31gms	"

Catalan

947	b/s	36gms
1750	"	37gms
2018	"	47gms
1752	"	28gms

Dressel 20

223	"	21gms
2021	"(2)	54gms
2112	"	87gms
1901	"(5)	158gms
"	"(5)	313gms
1812	"	89gms
1979	"	5gms
1909	"	4gms
1910	"	14gms
1836	"	5gms
1760	"	37gms
1966	"	46gms

1757	b/s(4)	112gms
2027	handle	334gms
"	b/s(5)	115gms
"	rim	216gms

Camulodunum 185A (or thin Dressel 20 sherds)

1724	b/s(2)	47gms
1935	"	72gms
2197	"	108gms
2248	"	42gms
2199	"	11gms
1931	"	29gms
1572	"	42gms

Camulodunum 186sp

2225	"(2)	76gms
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Southern Spanish

1725	b/s	7gms
2030	"	92gms
2248	part of a handle	30gms
2192	b/s	37gms
2223	"(6)	226gms

2199	b/s	31gms	
2027	"(2)	89gms	
1763	part of a handle		101gms

Gallic

223	b/s	18gms	
1853	"(3)	61gms	
1753	"	4gms	
2253	"	29gms	
1815	"	65gms	

Possible North African

62	b/s	57gms	
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Unassigned

77 45	b/s(3)	45gms	
"	"	20gms	
100	"	8gms	
77 62	part of a handle		28gms
223	b/s	11gms	

44	b/s(7)	36gms
1572	"(3)	35gms
1724	"(3)	12gms
2066	"(2)	13gms
2080	"	11gms
1313	"	6gms
1820	"	39gms
2218	"	36gms
2215	"(2)	25gms
2216	"(3)	14gms
2108	"	15gms
2191	"	1gm
1867	"	7gms
1752	"(2)	30gms
1836	"	12gms
2101	"(2)	10gms
1818	"(2)	15gms
2342	"	22gms
1816	"(3)	60gms
1754	"(5)	50gms
2287	"	13gms
2007	"	10gms
2225	"(2)	23gms
2027	"	62gms
2106	"	62gms
2022	"	18gms
2109	"	101gms

Amphora stopper

1936		5gms
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Non-Amphorae

1955

2133 probably flagon rather than amphorae

1984 " " " " "

1983 " " " " "

1973

2067

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