

Ceramic Phase 1: c. 50-15BC

Thirteen groups, with a total weight of 51.5kg, and 21.51 EVEs, have been assigned to this ceramic phase, of which four (21kg, 11.39 EVEs) are presented below. Most assemblages comprise mainly coarsewares, with the occasional presence of Dressel 1 amphoras, and Central Gaulish imports appearing c. 25BC. The majority of the groups assigned to the phase came from the eastern half of the site. Independent dating evidence occurs in the form of two coins, a Class I/II potin in the bottom fill of ditch 16018, and a potin fragment in the top fill of ditch 8208. In comparison with the later Roman groups the ratio of EVEs to weight is low, probably demonstrating the typical breakage pattern of grog-tempered jars, where the bases and lower walls are generally quite thick and heavy. The lower figures for the first two groups below may demonstrate the different deposition patterns between ditches and pits. Residuality in all groups is negligible, though earlier prehistoric pottery occurs in ditch 19145 in the form of three flint-tempered bodysherds weighing 30g.

Area P: Ditch 19115/19144, fills 19116, 19145 (Fig.x)

| <i>Fabric</i> | <i>Sherd no.</i> | <i>Weight (g)</i> | <i>Average sherd wt</i> | <i>% weight</i> | <i>EVE</i> | <i>% EVE</i> | <i>Forms</i> |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| ESH | 1 | 8 | 8 | <1% | 0.05 | 6% | Jar Cam 254 |
| GROG | 57 | 486 | 9 | 24% | 0.27 | 32% | Jars, handmade, Cam 219 Cam 259 |
| GROGC | 31 | 784 | 25 | 39% | 0.03 | 4% | Jar Cam 255 |
| MICW | 37 | 744 | 21 | 37% | 0.49 | 58% | Jars, handmade |
| <i>Total</i> | 126 | 2020 | | | 0.84 | | |

This pottery is representative of the assemblages recovered from features dating to the transitional period between the middle and late Iron Ages, although few were identified at Elms Farm. A feasible date for this assemblage is c. 50-30BC. This is the smallest Ceramic Phase 1 group and is composed entirely of jars, mainly handmade, of which sand-tempered coarseware forms a major component. Imports, including amphora, are entirely absent, and the small sherd of early shell-tempered ware may be intrusive. The finer grog-tempered jars are very fragmentary.

Area H: Ditch 16018, fills 6875, 6907, 6957 (Fig.x)

| <i>Fabric</i> | <i>Sherd no.</i> | <i>Weight (g)</i> | <i>Average sherd wt</i> | <i>% weight</i> | <i>EVE</i> | <i>% EVE</i> | <i>Forms</i> |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| AITAB | 1 | 314 | 314 | 7% | | | Dressel 1 |
| GROGRS | 4 | 16 | 4 | <1% | | | |
| GROG | 124 | 1536 | 12 | 36% | 1.14 | 70% | Jars, handmade, Cam 229 G3 |
| GROGC | 111 | 2049 | 18 | 48% | 0.35 | 21% | Jars |
| MICW | 24 | 346 | 14 | 8% | 0.14 | 9% | Jar, handmade |
| <i>Total</i> | 264 | 4261 | | | 1.63 | | |

Handmade jars also dominate this assemblage, although here the sand-tempered coarsewares form a much smaller proportion, a trait that is common for the remainder of the ceramic phase. Dressel 1 amphora is present in the bottom fill, but there are no other imports present. The coin evidence [\[ref. coin report\]](#) indicates a date early in the ceramic phase, between perhaps 50BC and 25BC. Four small sherds (34g) of Roman

grey ware present in the upper fills are intrusive and have been excluded from the table.

Area P: Pit 8786, fill 8785 (Fig.x)

| <i>Fabric</i> | <i>Sherd no.</i> | <i>Weight (g)</i> | <i>Average sherd wt</i> | <i>% weight</i> | <i>EVE</i> | <i>% EVE</i> | <i>Forms</i> |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| BUF | 1 | 6 | 6 | <1% | | | |
| GROG | 292 | 4120 | 14 | 51% | 3.40 | 61% | Bowl <i>Cam</i> 231, jars, handmade |
| GROGC | 64 | 2170 | 34 | 27% | 0.13 | 2% | Jar <i>Cam</i> 270 |
| MICW | 78 | 1697 | 22 | 21% | 1.88 | 34% | Jars, handmade |
| NGWFS | 3 | 34 | 11 | <1% | 0.08 | 1% | Beaker <i>Cam</i> 113 |
| TN[M] | 1 | 30 | 30 | <1% | 0.12 | 2% | Platter <i>Cam</i> 1 |
| <i>Total</i> | 439 | 8057 | | | 5.61 | | |

This assemblage demonstrates more diversity of form and fabric. There are platters, bowls and beakers present alongside the jars. The latter are still mainly handmade, but now grog-tempered pottery forms the larger component. A small number of imports are present accounting for just 3.6% by EVE; the Central Gaulish platter *Cam* 1 is among the earliest imports to Britain, and the North Gaulish beaker *Cam* 113 is typologically early in form. The tiny sherd of buff ware may well be from an amphora. A date of *c.* 30 BC is proposed for the group. Substantial parts of several jars were present, allowing the reconstruction of many profiles.

Area N: Pit 11342, fill 11329 (Fig.x)

| <i>Fabric</i> | <i>Sherd no.</i> | <i>Weight (g)</i> | <i>Average sherd wt</i> | <i>% weight</i> | <i>EVE</i> | <i>% EVE</i> | <i>Forms</i> |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|---|
| AITAD | 2 | 84 | 42 | 1% | | | Dressel 1 |
| AMISC | 2 | 64 | 32 | 1% | | | |
| CGFCS | 19 | 126 | 7 | 2% | 0.08 | 2% | Flagon <i>Cam</i> 165 |
| GROG | 180 | 3228 | 18 | 48% | 1.46 | 44% | Bowl <i>Cam</i> 211, jars <i>Cam</i> 220 <i>Cam</i> 249 <i>Cam</i> 256 <i>Cam</i> 264 G19 |
| GROGC | 100 | 2708 | 27 | 40% | 1.08 | 33% | Jars <i>Cam</i> 255 <i>Cam</i> 260 <i>Cam</i> 266 |
| GROGRS | 21 | 505 | 24 | 7% | 0.69 | 21% | Jar <i>Cam</i> 256, flagon handle |
| THORN | 1 | 8 | 8 | <1% | | | |
| TRCG | 1 | 22 | 22 | <1% | | | Platter base |
| <i>Total</i> | 326 | 6745 | | | 3.31 | | |

This assemblage is typical of the later part of the Ceramic Phase 1 date range, perhaps 25-10 BC. It comprises a variety of grog-tempered forms, including the handle from a flagon, although jars still predominate. Sand-tempered coarseware is no longer present in this group, and forms a very small proportion for the remainder of the phase. Imports are few, mainly Dressel 1 amphoras, while Central Gaulish vessels are becoming more prevalent. More diversity of form is apparent, typical of assemblages towards the final decades of the 1st century BC and later. The average sherd weight is generally high, but the flagon is fragmentary, demonstrating the fragile, thin-walled nature of these Central Gaulish vessels.

Tables for Ceramic Phase 1: c. 50-15BC

| Context | Fabric | Sherds | Weight (g) | Ave wt | % wt | EVE | % EVE |
|--------------------|--------|------------|-------------|--------|------|-------------|-------------|
| 7112 | ESH | 1 | 18 | 18 | 1% | | |
| 7112 | GROG | 30 | 630 | 21 | 43% | 0.74 | 89% |
| 7112 | GROGC | 28 | 755 | 27 | 52% | 0.09 | 11% |
| 7112 | MICW | 4 | 50 | 13 | 3% | | |
| 7112 Total | | | 1453 | | | 0.83 | 100% |
| 8206 | GROG | 38 | 212 | 6 | 25% | 0.48 | 59% |
| 8206 | GROGC | 16 | 624 | 39 | 75% | 0.34 | 41% |
| 8206 Total | | 54 | 836 | | | 0.82 | 100% |
| 8527 | GROG | 7 | 120 | 17 | 23% | 0.15 | 60% |
| 8527 | GROGC | 6 | 392 | 65 | 75% | | |
| 8527 | MICW | 1 | 8 | 8 | 2% | 0.10 | 40% |
| 8527 Total | | 14 | 520 | | | 0.25 | 100% |
| 8785 | BUF | 1 | 6 | 6 | | | |
| 8785 | GROG | 292 | 4120 | 14 | 51% | 3.40 | 61% |
| 8785 | GROGC | 64 | 2170 | 34 | 27% | 0.13 | 2% |
| 8785 | MICW | 78 | 1697 | 22 | 21% | 1.88 | 34% |
| 8785 | NGWFS | 3 | 34 | 11 | | 0.08 | 1% |
| 8785 | TN[M] | 1 | 30 | 30 | | 0.12 | 2% |
| 8785 Total | | 439 | 8057 | | | 5.61 | 100% |
| 11329 | AITAD | 2 | 84 | 42 | 1% | | |
| 11329 | AMISC | 2 | 64 | 32 | 1% | | |
| 11329 | CGFCS | 19 | 126 | 7 | 2% | 0.08 | 2% |
| 11329 | GROG | 180 | 3228 | 18 | 48% | 1.46 | 44% |
| 11329 | GROGC | 100 | 2708 | 27 | 40% | 1.08 | 33% |
| 11329 | GROGRS | 21 | 505 | 24 | 7% | 0.69 | 21% |
| 11329 | THORN | 1 | 8 | 8 | | | |
| 11329 | TRCG | 1 | 22 | 22 | | | |
| 11329 Total | | 326 | 6745 | | | 3.31 | 100% |
| 19116 | GROG | 18 | 114 | 6 | | 0.07 | 12% |
| 19116 | GROGC | 18 | 488 | 27 | | 0.03 | 5% |
| 19116 | MICW | 36 | 720 | 20 | | 0.49 | 83% |
| 19116 Total | | 72 | 1322 | | | 0.59 | 100% |
| 19145 | ESH | 1 | 8 | 8 | | 0.05 | 20% |
| 19145 | GROG | 39 | 372 | 10 | 24% | 0.20 | 80% |
| 19145 | GROGC | 13 | 296 | 23 | 39% | | |
| 19145 | MICW | 1 | 22 | 22 | 37% | | |
| 19145 Total | | 54 | 698 | | | 0.25 | 100% |
| 19159 | GROG | 10 | 124 | 12 | 10% | 0.07 | 20% |
| 19159 | GROGC | 27 | 994 | 37 | 83% | 0.22 | 63% |
| 19159 | GROGRF | 1 | 20 | 20 | 2% | 0.06 | 17% |
| 19159 | GROGRS | 2 | 58 | 29 | 5% | | |
| 19159 Total | | | 1196 | | | 0.35 | 100% |
| 11745 | AITAB | 3 | 194 | 65 | 3% | 0.14 | 7% |
| 11745 | BUF | 1 | 4 | 4 | | | |
| 11745 | ESH | 1 | 46 | 46 | 1% | | |
| 11745 | GROG | 91 | 3570 | 39 | 49% | 1.67 | 89% |
| 11745 | GROGC | 93 | 3400 | 37 | 47% | 0.06 | 3% |
| 11745 | MICW | 1 | 36 | 36 | | | |
| 11745 | TRCG | 1 | 26 | 26 | | | |
| 11745 Total | | 191 | 7276 | | | 1.87 | 100% |

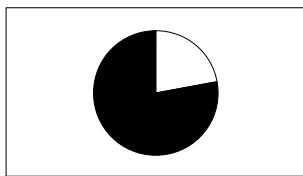
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|--------------------|--------|-----------|--------------|-----|-----|--------------|-------------|
| 11755 | AITAB | 14 | 2528 | 181 | 15% | | |
| 11755 | AITAC | 1 | 36 | 36 | | | |
| 11755 | CGFCS | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | |
| 11755 | CGSW | 9 | 52 | 6 | | 0.25 | 6% |
| 11755 | ESH | 50 | 1320 | 26 | 8% | 0.92 | 21% |
| 11755 | GROG | 116 | 3640 | 31 | 22% | 2.59 | 59% |
| 11755 | GROGC | 102 | 9235 | 91 | 55% | 0.62 | 14% |
| 11755 | MICW | 3 | 88 | 29 | 1% | | |
| 11755 Total | | | 16901 | | | 4.38 | 100% |
| 8890 | CGFCS | 5 | 66 | 13 | 6% | 0.27 | 30% |
| 8890 | GROG | 32 | 775 | 24 | 74% | 0.63 | 70% |
| 8890 | GROGC | 1 | 172 | 172 | 16% | | |
| 8890 | MICW | 1 | 18 | 18 | 2% | | |
| 8890 | NGWFS | 5 | 14 | 3 | 1% | | |
| 8890 | TN[M] | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | |
| 8890 Total | | 45 | 1047 | | | 0.90 | 100% |
| 16018 | AITAB | 1 | 314 | 314 | 7% | | |
| 16018 | GROG | 124 | 1536 | 12 | 36% | 1.14 | 70% |
| 16018 | GROGC | 111 | 2049 | 18 | 48% | 0.35 | 21% |
| 16018 | GROGRS | 4 | 16 | 4 | 1% | | |
| 16018 | MICW | 24 | 346 | 14 | 8% | 0.14 | 9% |
| 16018 Total | | | 4261 | | | 1.63 | 100% |
| 8504 | GROG | 12 | 132 | 11 | 22% | 0.12 | 36% |
| 8504 | GROGRS | 3 | 20 | 7 | 3% | | |
| 8504 | MICW | 54 | 462 | 9 | 75% | 0.21 | 64% |
| 8504 Total | | 69 | 614 | | | 0.33 | 100% |
| 8516 | GROG | 19 | 204 | 11 | 35% | 0.18 | 46% |
| 8516 | GROGC | 3 | 70 | 23 | 12% | | |
| 8516 | MICW | 13 | 302 | 23 | 52% | 0.21 | 54% |
| 8516 Total | | 35 | 576 | | | 0.39 | 100% |
| Grand Total | | | 51536 | | | 21.51 | |

N.B. Pit 11745 is included in the tables for reference purposes, but the pottery has not been drawn. There are joining sherds between fill 11487 and 11755 (pit 11774).

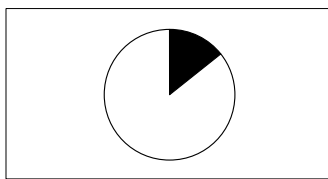
Pit 19159 includes contexts 19160 and 19161.

Ditch 16018 includes contexts 6875, 6907 and 6957.

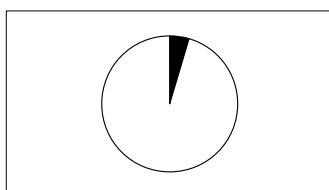
Ditch 8516 includes contexts 8517, 8518, 8519 and 8521.



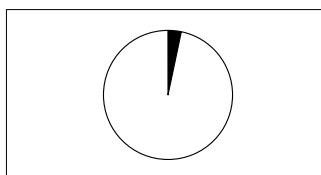
GROG (78%)



MICW (14%)



ESH (4.6%)



IMPORTS (3.4%)