

Gazetteer - Danbury (E) to Dymchurch (E)

DANBURY (E)

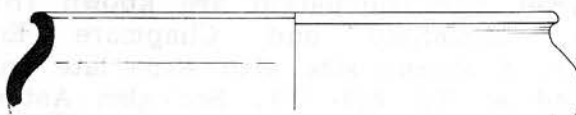
Zone 1

1 Twitty Fee (TL 791 059): gravel quarrying at Twitty Fee Farm, intensifying in the 1930s on high ground a mile E of Danbury Camp, disturbed pottery of Neolithic, Iron Age, and 'Belgic' types, with traces of ditches (Dunning 1933, 1934; Bull 1935-37). Bull cut a series of small trial trenches along traces of a rampart in the trees in the S half of the gravel pit area, and excavated a length of a substantial ditch at the opposite, NE, corner of what he supposed was a 'prehistoric camp' (Bull *op.cit.*, 89, and plan). Most of the extant 'Belgic' pottery came from this ditch. The site was more probably a settlement with a number of interconnecting ditches; we do not know how much was destroyed by quarrying. The 'Hallstatt' pottery is unstratified, recovered by the workmen; very little was found in the excavation.

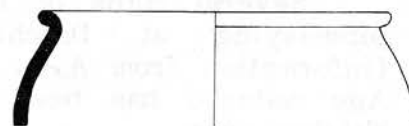
Only the pottery from Bull's ditch was recovered in situ, apart from storage jar sherds from another ditch found as it was quarried away (Dunning 1934, 188). Some of the pottery, the more complete, is in CM, and more in PEM. It was published in parts in Dunning 1933 and 1934; the 'Belgic' is more fully considered by Hull (1935-37). The types are as follows:

- 1 Iron Age base, HM, flint gritted.
- 2 A8. Not seen. 'Fine grey ware.'
- 3 D3-4. In CM: pale grey, grog, very thin, patchy brown surfaces.
- 4 not in series. Hull considered this a lid, but this is uncertain. HM, gritty, smooth red surfaces; undoubtedly earlier Iron Age.
- 5 E1-2. Not seen.
- 6 E2-2. CM, grey grog, reddish-brown surfaces.
- 7 D1-4. PEM, reddish core, grog, grey surfaces, burnished outside, spalled inside; possibly post-conquest.
- 8 D1-4. Not seen.
- 9 G1-2. Not seen.
- 10 D1-1. PEM, grey grog, pink below grey surfaces, burnished.
- 11 D1-1; described as like no.10.
- 12 G3-4. Most of this is in PEM; some sherds in CM. Brittle soft brown-grey grog, very thin and light; red surfaces, no burnish, shallow incised wavy lines. An unusual piece: see G3-4 notes.
- 13 C7-1. CM, grey.
- 14 C2-1. Not seen; Iron Age? 'Poor ware, soft yellow-brown with black inside.'

Hull's fig.2 has some rim sections evidently of other good forms: C6-1, B3-1, B2-1, G5-6, G1-1. Also in CM (36.1933; 64-69.1945) are several plain everted rim sherds, grey grog; similar body sherds, and plain bases including one of butt-beaker type; storage jar sherds, and Iron Age and medieval sherds; and the following:



[1230]



[1217]

[1230] C6-1. CM 66.1945. Brown grog, orange below dark grey surfaces, burnished outside and over rim, but much of outer surface lost.

[1217] C2-3. CM 69.1945. Hard grey grog, coarse, patchy darker grey surfaces.

The pottery overlaps the conquest slightly; what remains is interesting and it is unfortunate that we know so little about the site.

2 Danbury Camp (TL 779 051), around Danbury church, has been the subject of some modern investigation (Morris and Buckley 1978). Only the internal surface was examined: a scatter of post-holes etc. produced Iron Age, Roman and later sherds, and some of the Iron Age is grog-tempered, e.g. fig.6 no.6, a plain base; there were also shell-tempered sherds. None of these date the defences. There are other grog-tempered scraps, including the red-surfaced variety, in the Bull Collection in CM from the SW corner of the churchyard inside the camp in 1935 (*ibid.*, 20).

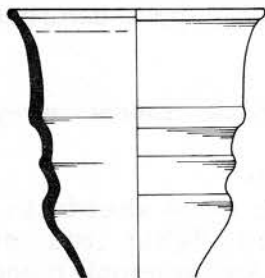
Peacock (1971, 184) records a pair of Dressel IB amphorae: these come under Sandon (q.v.).

DARTFORD (K)

TQ 5433 7400 Zone 3

Post-conquest material at the bottom of a black alluvial layer, apparently washed to its present site by the river Darent in post-Roman times, was found on the Woolworth's site in the High Street in 1959 (Dale 1971). The 'Belgic' is in fact early Roman in type; it includes some 'Patch Grove ware'.

A cup in the tradition of Gallo-Belgic cup copies, from Temple Hill, is in DM:



[1008] G3-3. DM 1979.104a. Matt very dark grey fabric with tiny pale grits, paler surfaces, inside grey, redder towards base, and burnished very precise patchy grey-buff outside. This was found on the site of a new play area next to a youth club. The area is known for Roman material, of the late 1st century (Tester 1956).

DATCHWORTH (H)

TL 283 177 Zone 7

Several signs of late Iron Age occupation are known from pipe-laying at Datchworth, Bramfield and Chapmore End (information from A.G. Rook). A Roman site with some late Iron Age material has been located at TL 283 177. See also Aston; Welches Farm.

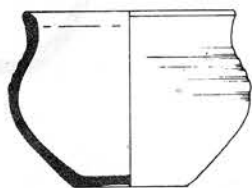
Scattered material is known over much of the higher ground W and S of the town. Iron Age pottery was collected at Mill Hill (Stebbing 1934, 207; 1936, 236; 1947, 125), Great Mongeham (Stebbing 1939, 205) and Walmer (q.v.; Stebbing 1951, 151). The combed sherds are not necessarily 'Belgic', and Stebbing's material is apparently much earlier (Champion 1976, 42-44); see also C.F.C. Hawkes 1930b; BM 1953, 40, and fig.16.

'Belgic' pottery comes from burials found over many years on Mill Hill. Two groups were kept together; these are in Deal Castle, with a collection of unassociated vessels.

Group 1 (using Birchall's numbering): 'Presented by G.H. Denne Esq. 1908.'

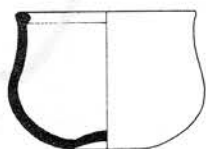
AB 88 A1. D.27. Very large, heavy thick grey grog, pink foot, burnished. Drawing reasonably accurate.

AB 89 L5. D.8. Gritty grog, dark grey, burnished outside except on foot. Suitable for the mouth of the pedestal urn.



[809] E2-3. D.5 (=AB 90). Complete, possibly gritty grog, dark grey-black, burnished top half.

AB 91 E2-3. D.4. Complete, slightly gritty grog, grey, burnished lower half.



[808] E2-4. D.6 (=AB 92). Complete, probably HM, gritty, not grog, grey-brown, burnished especially on neck.

AB 93 B3-8. D.7. Complete but for chipped rim showing red, feels gritty, dark grey, burnished. An odd jar.

AB 94 and 95 are the two straight-bow Colchester brooches (Stead 1976, 404).

Group 2: 'G.H.D[enne], autumn 1909. 2 black and one light brown urns & large red bottle in pieces, 2 brooches, toilet set, from square hole in chalk pit.'

AB 96 E1-4. D.11. Complete, gritty, perhaps some grog, dark grey, burnished.

AB 97 Cam.113, pale buff ware. D.9.

AB 98 E3-2. D.10. Local gritty fabric, complete, thick, flat foot, dark grey worn to pink at rim, burnish below cordon only; worn above.

AB 99 G6. D.12. Fine brown grog, red pale surfaces, was evidently found more complete; the foot has a rounder profile than in drawing with slight dishing underneath, a proper jug base.

AB 100 and 101 are the two brooches and the toilet set.

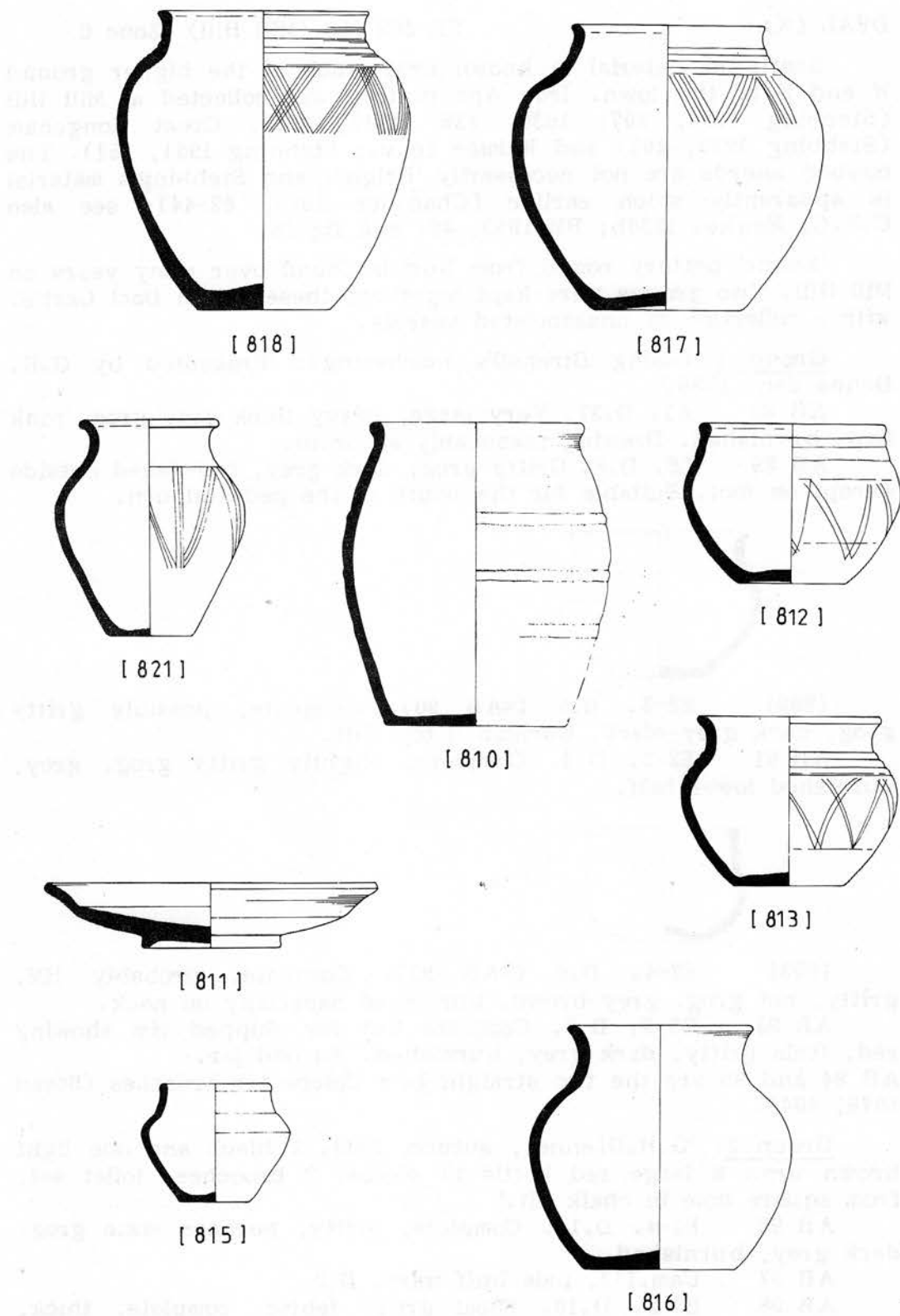


Fig.34: Pottery from Deal. 1:4

Other vessels: some of these are Roman, but the native forms persist.

[818] B2-3. D.33. 'One of 2 black urns found in round hole at Mr G.H. Denne's Chalk pit near Upper Deal 1909.' Pink sandy fabric, grey surfaces.

[817] B2-4. D.26. 'Found in G.H. Denne's chalk pit, Upper Deal.' Contains bones. Local grey slightly gritty, grey surfaces, burnish on neck, cross incised on base.

[821] (G5-5). D.51. Label illegible. Complete, gritty grey, Roman, heavily tooled neck, shallow tooled decoration.

[810] (G5-1). D.3. 'Roman - 10.9.1915. Bought from Mr Brown [?] who dug it up. From Roman cemetery Upper Walmer Waterworks Road [+ an unreadable line].' Sandy, patchy grey-orange, unburnished, poor rim, weak cordons.

[812] E2-3. D.14. '2 late Celtic burial urns from upper Deal - G.H.D.' Not known which is the other 'urn'. Grey gritty, pink below grey surfaces.

[813] E3-1. D.13. 'Cremation urn... upper Deal.' Dark grey, gritty.

[811] (G1-1 or G1-4). D.1. '1910' in pencil on the pot. Dark grey gritty, burnished underneath.

[815] E3-1. 'Small urn found in trench Waterworks Road when laying Water Main 190-.' Complete gritty grey-buff, not burnished.

[816] not in series. D.35. 'Capt F.N. Coll. no.90, July 1913, G. Denne's Chalk Pit opposite Waterworks.' Complete, dark grey, rough patchy red-buff surfaces, neat rim.

All these vessels appear to come from a large cemetery that is chiefly Roman in date. There is very little grog, and the best pre-conquest forms are those in the two groups. There is much Roman material in Deal Castle, nearly all found in the Denne chalk pit. It includes a large butt-beaker of G5-5 type, in a hard grey sandy ware, found with a Drag.36 bowl.

From the same cemetery comes the vessel illustrated by Ogilvie and Dunning (1967, 225, fig.5): form F3-4, D.21. It is grey, grog-tempered, with dark grey burnished surfaces.

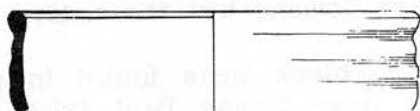
Iron Age and Roman sherds, and a pedestal urn of A1 form in a hard grey coarse sandy fabric from Upper Deal, are in the DoE store at Dover Castle.

See also Sholden and Walmer.

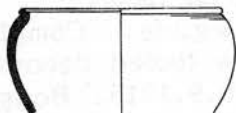
DETLING (K)

c.TQ 79 58 Zone 4/5

A limited excavation in 1968 on the line of a gas-main found signs of ditches; most of the pottery came from the spoil of the mechanical excavator and is unstratified. It is varied in fabric and date: it includes pieces of a sandy post-conquest platter (Cam.27), several Roman vessels, a large grog-tempered storage jar base, two grog-tempered plain rims in 'Patch Grove ware', several very coarse flint-gritted thickened-rim jars, and:



[1177] B2-2. No.11, late Iron Age greensand fabric, grey-buff core, patchy grey surfaces, smooth.



[1178] (G2-1). No.13. Dark grey-brown greensand, grey core, smooth, burnished outside.
All MM 57.1969. An account of the site by J.W.F. Edwards is held in MM.

'Urns' found on the site of the new vicarage in 1831 are noted in VCH 1932, 152; the bronze straight-bow Colchester brooch and sherds in MM are assumed by VCH to be part of the same find, as they were also discovered in 1831.

DORTON (Bu)

SP 68 13

Zone 7

A 'chieftain grave' was found here in 1977, well away from other such burials, but not beyond the area of grog-tempered pottery. The grave was disturbed by the mechanical excavator but the soil was carefully sifted: the grave goods included Dressel IB amphorae, two flagons, and a mirror (Farley 1977, 479). The only ordinary pottery was a cup of E1-1 type in grey grog, with an extra cordon just above the carination that almost makes the form E1-2. BCM.

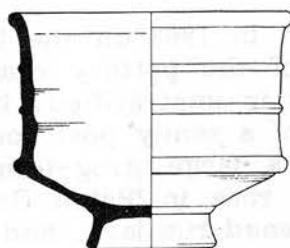
DUMPTON GAP see BROADSTAIRS

DUSTON (N)

SP 727 608

Zone 8

The site of a small Romano-British town, this was the local focus in the Roman period, not Northampton, 2 miles E. There are many vessels in NM collected during 19th century ironstone quarrying, dating from soon after the conquest onwards. There are copies of samian forms, and their originals, large platter forms, and early Roman versions of late local 'Belgic' forms (see Bushe-Fox 1925, 24). Only one is grog-tempered:



[1169] F3-4. Cowper Coll. Y905, NM. Grey grog, dark grey surfaces, burnished all over outside. Distorted asymmetrical foot; grog shows clearly where worn inside. See Stead 1976, 413, for brooches.

DYMCHURCH (K)

c.TR 10 29

There is a reference to 'Belgic and Roman pottery' from 'the vicinity of Dymchurch' in Smart, Bisson and Worssam 1966, 256 (reference from Champion 1976). Roman pottery including samian is known to have been found when the sea wall was moved, 1844-46, outside Dymchurch on the New Romney Road (MM MS Gazetteer; Isaacson 1845, 115).

The samian is now in the BM after a chequered career; there is no evidence of any 'Belgic'.

FM has a few Roman sherds from Dymchurch.

ELLESBOROUGH (Bu)

Zone 7

'Belgic' sherds as well as flints are reported from two places in this area by Farley (1977, 479-80; c.SP 836 084).

Waugh et al. 1974, fig.14 no.55 is type G4 (SP 833 054).

ELVEDEN (S)

TL 82 79

A grave found in 1888 contained three pots covered by a wooden 'tankard' with bronze plating and repousse medallions, and cremated bone in the earth dug up with the vessels. The finds, in the possession of one Henry Prigg (Prigg 1889, 81), were seen by Evans (1890, 351) who described the pots as 'three earthenware vessels of excellent make', one reddish with globular form and two rows of 'undulating striae'. This does not sound quite like a butt-beaker, but it might have been a form of Gallo-Belgic ancestry. The tankard is the only survivor, in Bury St Edmunds Museum (Corcoran 1952; Fox 1958, 109).

EMBERTON (Bu)

SP 887 508

Zone 7

Extensive gravel-digging destroyed much Romano-British occupation in ditches, etc., 1957-62. The rescued finds, to be published by Mynard, are referred to with some illustrated vessels by Waugh et al. (1974, 387, nos.31-41).

Nos.31-34 G4. Not seen.

No.35 Roman.

No.36 B1-1.

No.37 G4. Pale red, probably grog.

No.38 G4. Hard grey grog, pale red surfaces.

No.39 C6-1. Not seen.

No.40 G5-4. Grog, perhaps romanised.

No.41 G5-6. Not seen.

The girth beakers, G4, include some in hard Roman fabrics as well as grog. Three HM Iron Age rims are also shown by Waugh et al. (fig.11, 1-3); there are also shelly jars and much Roman material. The 'Belgic bricks' are coarse and shelly. BCM 39.61.

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