

Gazetteer - Southend (E) to Swalecliffe (K)

SOUTHEND (E)

TQ 87 87 Zone 2

Pottery from burials has been retrieved from several spots in the area:

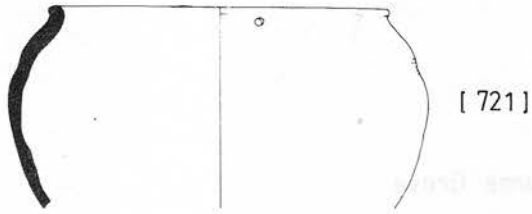
1 North Avenue. This was the only find, in a sewer trench at TQ 886 684, and accessioned 8/11/1924. It had a curved base, according to Pollitt (1953, 63).

[721] D3-1. SM 229/1. Fine grey grog with grey surfaces, not burnished; at least 2 holes, after firing, for suspension, and probably a third; surface now worn.

2 Hastings Road: a pot presented by Mr W.T. Darke, Jan. 1921, and a bag of sherds presented by Mr Darke in 1929 comprising 2 vessels and several fragments of others, including sherds from a jar with rippled shoulder, a carinated cup and a broken pedestal, all grog-tempered; and 2 Roman bases. The fragments are too small to be sure of their forms. All these were found in 1887 (Pollitt 1953, 63).

[719] B3-4. SM 59/1. Grey grog, faint tooled decoration. 1921.

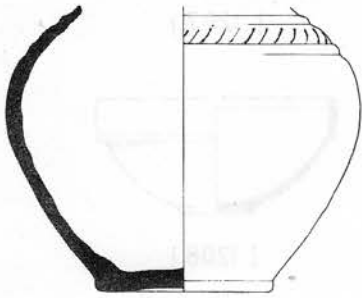
[216] F3-4. 1929. Very brittle red-grey grog, grey surfaces, worn inside, burnished pale brown outside. Now in many small pieces but profile probably accurate.



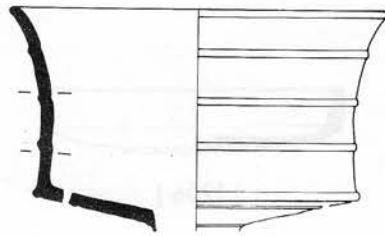
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North Avenue

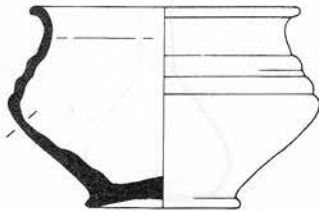
Hastings Road



[ 719 ]

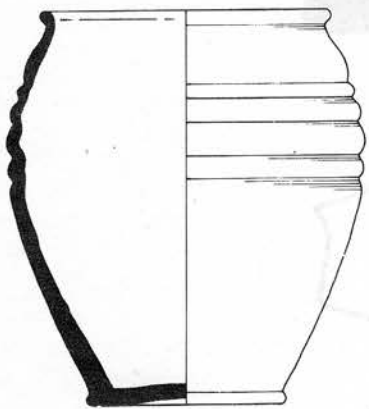


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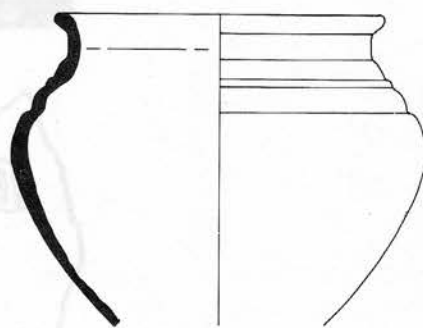


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Marine Parade



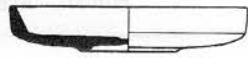
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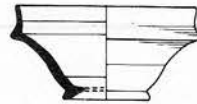
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Fig.71a: Pottery from Southend. 1:4

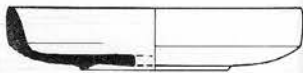
Southbourne Grove



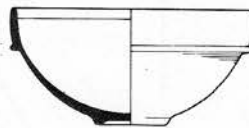
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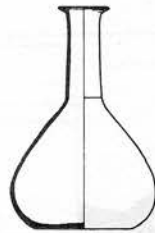
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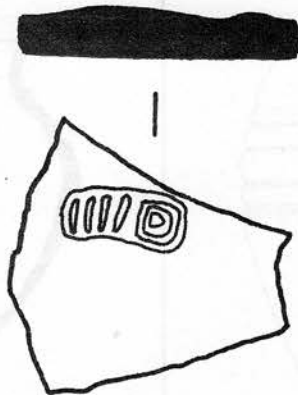
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[ 1208 ]



[ 1209 ]



[ 1210 ]

Fig.71b: Pottery and glass from Southend. 1:4

[215] D2-4. 1929. Not entirely certain the base belongs. Grey-brown with fine grog, romanised, buff-grey surfaces, patchy reddish on outside. Once burnished.

3 Marine Parade: a fine jar, a larger, taller version of one of the Southminster pots (q.v.).

[1199] B5-3. SM 1/56, Benton Coll. Hard slightly gritty grey grog, in poor condition and badly restored but once a good pot with very neat shaping. Rather pink below hard grey smooth surfaces.

4 Southbourne Grove: a rich burial dating to the early Roman period was salvaged by a Mr Upton from a celery trench in the garden of his house, 'Denehurst', at the junction of Southbourne Grove with Carlton Drive, in 1922 (JRS 12, 1922, 261). With two platters, two imported cups and a glass flask were a broken amphora and a plain jar base sketched in the SM Accession Book and described as 'flower-pot' red, 4 ins tall and 2 1/4 ins in base diameter. The base has long been lost; the amphora fragment is Spanish (W. Rodwell 1976a, 310). A letter from Mr Upton copied into the Accession Book reveals that he found 'no trace of the neck or handles' of the amphora and points out that the ground had previously been ploughed and disturbed by pipe-laying. This may also account for the one sherd of a sixth vessel which remains, with its curious stamp.

[1205] Cam.21 SM 162. Hard grey sandy, feels Roman, grey smooth surfaces. No surviving stamp but edge of depression shows just off centre where part missing.

[1206] Cam.22 SM 162/6. Hard grey fine sandy Roman, bright red sandwich below dark grey sandy surfaces.

[1209] SM 162/1. Pale green glass, rim almost all broken off but otherwise complete.

[1207] Cam.56, TN. SM 162. Worn.

[1208] SM 162/4. Copies Drag.24/25. TR, red all through; stamp inside (less worn than outside) reads ILLOS, according to note by V. Rigby. Very smooth darkish red inside, worn outside, much of little foot chipped off.

[1210] stamped sherd from centre of platter, hard reddish-grey dense fabric, dark grey surfaces, to look like TN, very smooth on top.

5 Unassociated and of unknown provenance:

[217] B3-6. SM. Grey-brown grog, hard, grey surfaces, inside much worn. Roughly lined outside with faint vertical scoring below girth, perhaps originally burnished on neck.

SOUTHMINSTER (E)

TQ 970 013 Zone 1

The five pots in CM, 165.1900, are said to be a burial group. VCH 1963, 45 (under Asheldham) refers to 'six Belgic vessels said to have been found together in making the waterworks', near the site of Asheldham Camp (q.v.).

[962] D3-4 (=AB 149). Restored, thick grey grog with pink below grey surfaces. Contains bones. Not too distorted; no lid has survived.

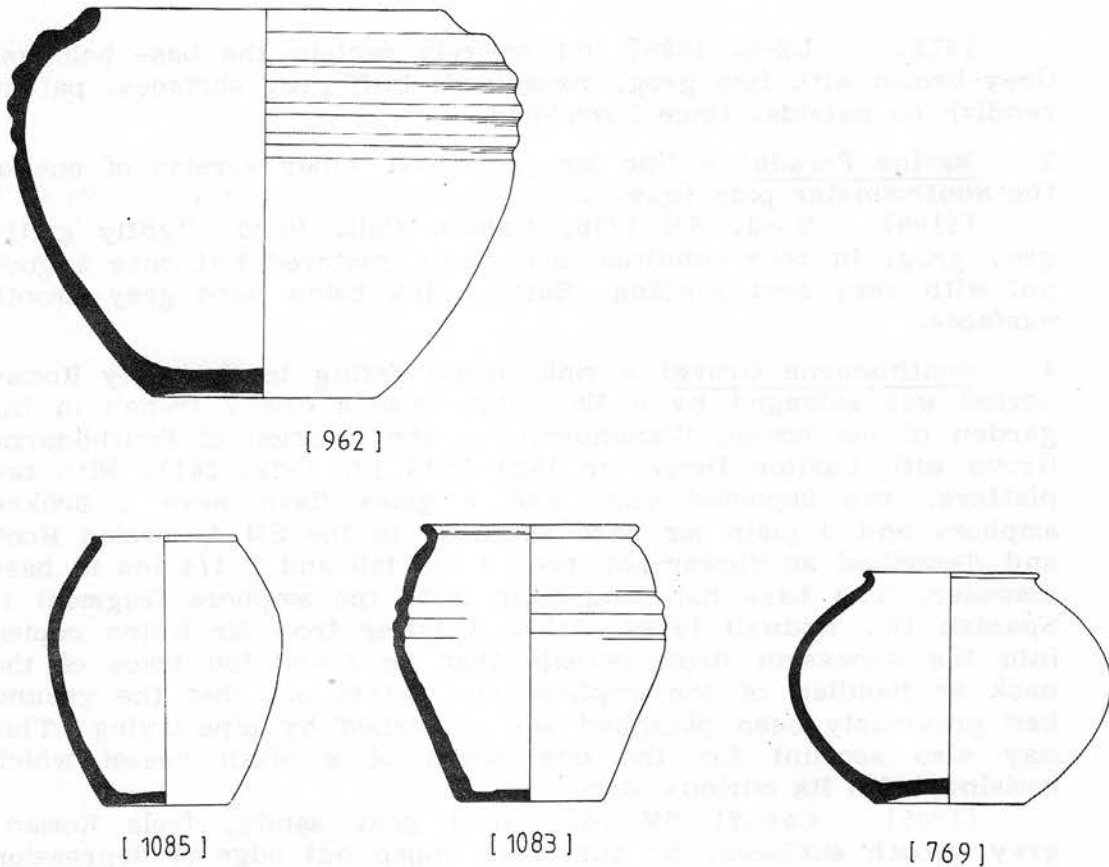


Fig.72: Pottery from Southminster. 1:4.

[1085] B5-1 (=AB 146). Grey-brown grog, chipped rim, otherwise complete, dark grey-brown surfaces, burnished all over outside. Slightly gritty feel, but grog shows in fresh chip at rim.

[1083] B5-3 (=AB 148). Restored; patchy grey, lighter on upper part, showing grog at surface. Outside burnished, very dark grey below cordons which were given rough extra definition with a sharp point. Dent at foot, and leans to one side.

[769] B5-4 (=AB 145). Complete so hard to be accurate about thickness of body wall, but base is thick and drawing should be quite accurate. Grey-brown grog, pink below grey-brown surfaces, very smooth outside but not shiny. Symmetrical and well made.

AB 147: B3-9. Not yet found in CM.

VCH (1963, 180) notes that 'British and Roman sherds' were found when the railway was made. The distribution map of Essex Red Hills (de Brisay 1975, fig.1) shows Southminster to have been very near the Iron Age coastline.

SOUTH OCKENDON (E)

TQ 582 831 Zone 2

The 1st century settlement excavated in Little Belhus Farm gravel pit in 1964 did not include any grog-tempered pottery except a large sandy grog-tempered cup of debased E1-2 form. The finds, in PEM, include some interesting early Roman pieces; none of it is pre-conquest. The site was published as beginning before AD 43 (Chaplin and Brooks 1966) but it is now realised that

plain thickened-rim and ledge-rim jars, shell-tempered and sometimes with graffiti, are conquest period in the south Essex area (Jones 1972).

A small kiln or oven was one of the features discovered; a few rim scraps were associated (nos.44-46, Chaplin and Brooks 1966 fig.6), but are no evidence of what was fired in the kiln.

SPRINGHEAD (K)

TQ 617 725 Zone 3

Excavations have been in progress here for some years; settlement evidence appears immediately after the conquest, if not a little before, in pits filled quickly with debris in order to lay the London-Dover road across them (Harker 1970). See Penn 1965 for a map of previous discoveries, and Harker 1980 for a revised map and a summary with references. Work at Springhead was published in Archaeol. Cant. in the 1950s and 1960s, but it is all post-conquest and no pottery groups are included. The site is too far W of the Medway to have much pre-conquest grog-tempered pottery, but coins and brooches are known (C.R. Smith 1848 for brooches). The site clearance pits beneath the first Roman road include several good grog-tempered pieces and some romanised and gritty fabrics.

STANDON (H)

TL 393 228 Zone 7

Ditches and two burials of late Iron Age date were excavated 'in advance of a new housing estate at the S end of Wickham Hill', producing pottery similar to that from Skeleton Green (Partridge 1975b, 40). The area is part of the Braughing complex (q.v.). Two ditches and a palisade trench at the Ralph Sadlier Middle School, 1973, are now published (Partridge 1977): I would not date the pottery from F.1, the larger ditch, as early as indicated (fig.34).

- 1,2 B1-1.
- 3 C6-1, combed shoulder sherd.
- 4,5 B3-1.
- 6 Dressel IB amphora rim.
- 7 G1-10.
- 8,9 bases only.

At TL 407 216, in the garden of 'Balsams', some 'Belgic' sherds were found in 1952, one with a bronze thistle brooch (Holmes 1958-61, 97).

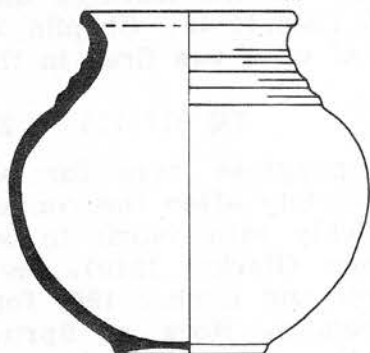
STANFORD-LE-HOPE (E)

c.TQ 68 82 Zone 2

Birchall's pot no.191 was found locally and given to 'Stanford-le-Hope School Museum' by J.L. Wall, Esq. (Welsford and Rudsdale, n.d.): D1-4. VCH (1963, 181) refers to 'much pottery from scattered graves' of Roman date from a gravel pit E of the village at TQ 687 828, some pots being 'now in the village school'.

K. Rodwell and W. Rodwell (1973) give a brief account of the Roman burials found in local gravel quarries in the 1930s. One 1st century pot of Cam.264 form is known (fig.2 no.2) but its exact provenance is not recorded.

Jenkins (1962, fig.2 no.7) describes a complete vessel as coming from Swanton Farm, Stodmarsh, 'from grave'; this was found in 1951:



[88] B2-4. RM 1952/13, Stodmarsh Road. Hard grey-brown grog with brown and patchy buff surfaces, burnished outside.

Grey grog-tempered combed sherds and red fired clay lumps, RM 1952/17, are from Brett and Sons Quarry, Stodmarsh Road, Canterbury. Champion (1976, 136) refers to rectangular enclosures recorded by Jenkins (1962, 12) found in gravel quarrying. This refers to the Fordwich site (in List of Additional Sites) also on Stodmarsh Road.

Occupation debris rescued in 1960 and 1963, and from more work in 1966, in a gravel quarry has recently been published (Field and Mynard 1979). Small sections of ditch and some pits were the features; the material was Iron Age, with 1st century AD pottery from the large ditch B, and ditch D. The earliest date given for the 1st century AD pottery is c.50-60, on analogy with that from Quinton nearby (q.v.).

The period 1 pottery (AD 50-60) includes a few grog-tempered pieces, and some 'Belgic' forms in other fabrics (BAFC). Included in the type series are:

69 D1-1. Very good grog, red-surfaced, burnished.

76 G4. Hard grey grog, orange surfaces.

77 B3-2. Hard, some shell, ?any grog, orange surfaces.

86 E1-1. Not seen, but same fabric as no.69; 'heavily burnished' orange surface.

Notable also are the variety of other decorated girth beakers similar to no.76; some butt-beaker forms, which are not grog-tempered, and the platter, no.99, which is Roman in fabric. The use of grog is fairly sparse, and apparently confined to period 1, in competition with a variety of other fabrics: shell, sand, matt grey Roman wares. These vessels may be a little earlier than Quinton, which had no evident orange-surfaced wares of late 'Belgic' forms.

At SP 8190 4944 'Belgic pottery was recovered from a recently cleaned out ditch (BAFC 1976/1)' (Farley 1977, 482).

Cotton Lane Pit: pottery from a cemetery found in gravel quarrying above the Thames estuary here was collected and sent to DM (Cotton and Richardson 1941). No associations were kept except a brooch inside one of the pots, but most of the pots and all the brooches were found in one spot: the rest of the pots were together 60 feet away, apart from a Roman jug and bowl at a third spot near some bronze and fragments, and the site of Roman burials found 1906-7. The brooches could all be Claudian (Colchester, Hod Hill, thistle types and a fourth with a plain wide strip bow); the pottery, all of which was published, would accord well with the suggested date of AD 25-45, and perhaps a little later. It is very good pottery; the published drawings are accurate.

## Fig.2:

- 1 A1. DM 1943.66 Matt pale grey, much grog in darker grey core. Leans slightly; irregular foot.
- 2 F1-1. DM 1943.67. Hard grey rather gritty grog, neat, smooth dark grey outside.
- 3 F5. DM 1943.67a. Dark grey, small white grits.
- 4 A4. DM 1943.67b. Dark grey grog.
- 5 B3-8. DM 1943.68. Contains bones. Roman: hard gritty reddish ware with darker grey surface, very precise. No grog. Tooling lines.
- 6 A8. DM 1943.69. Thick grey grog, brown below grey surfaces.
- 7 B3-8. DM 1943.70. Rather gritty grey grog, complete but for chipped rim, neat, with tooling lines. The pot is marked no.8 on base, but is no.7
- 8 B3-8. DM 1943.71 (marked no.7). Hard grey rather gritty grog, much like no.7.

## Fig.3:

- 1 B5-5. DM 1943.72. Rather gritty hard dark grey grog, restored.
- 2 B5-4. DM 1943.73. Hard grey-buff rather gritty grog, patchy, restored. Smooth grey surface. Contained a bronze thistle brooch.
- 3 B1-3. DM 1943.74. Brown grog, grey surfaces, very shiny outside, faint vertical lines on neck. The cordon is very shallow, formed by two burnish lines.
- 4 E1-4. DM 1943.75. Gritty, rather rough, dark grey outside, paler grey inside.
- 5 E1-2. DM 1943.76. One sherd, grey grog, thick red sandwich below soapy brown-grey surfaces.
- 6 E2-2. DM 1943.77 (marked as no.8). Good grey grog, reddish-brown surfaces, not burnished.
- 7 E3-1. DM 1943.78. Rough rather lumpy dark grey, restored, and fabric uncertain.
- 8 E2-2. DM 1943.79 (marked as no.6). Grey grog, reddish-brown surfaces, very neat, burnished.
- 9 E2-2. DM 1943.80. Very precise, rather hard and gritty, grey with buff patch; ?any grog.



- 10 E3-1. DM 1943.81. Restored, rather gritty dark grey grog, buff patch, smooth but not shiny.
- 11 E3-1. DM 1943.82. Restored, lumpy dark grey, probably grog.
- 12 E1-4. DM 1943.83. Restored, gritty dark grey grog, burnished outside.
- 13 F3-1. DM 1943.84. Wheel-made but irregular. Hard slightly gritty grey grog, patchy smooth buff-grey surfaces.
- 14 E3-4. DM 1943.85. Neat grey-buff gritty ware.
- 15 not in series. DM 1943.85a. Very rough, dark grey, gritty, pitted. Not shell.
- 16 not in series. DM 1943.86. Vesiculated, burnt to black outside, brown-grey inside.

Fig.4:

1 DM 1943.87. Not one of the best of butt-beakers: pale brown-buff fine sandy ware, some burnish on outside rather browner.

2 DM 1943.88. Roman matt pale grey ware.

3 DM 1943.89. Roman jug, buff sandy ware.

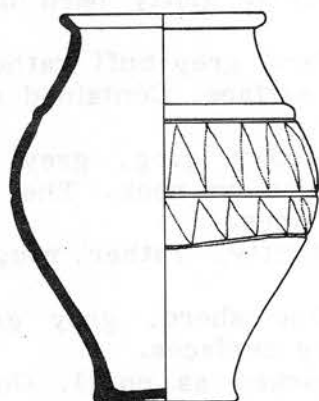
Some years later the digging of water main trenches nearby found 3 pits containing 'large Belgic sherds', loomweights, wattle and calcined flints (Greenfield et al. 1948).

The Roman cemetery in Stone Court Pit, 600 yds NE of the 'Belgic' cemetery, produced three tall jars of 'Patch Grove ware', contemporary with the 2nd century Roman vessels (Cotton and Richardson 1949, fig.2).

STOTFOLD (B)

c.TL 22 36 Zone 7

A pedestal urn noted by Holmes (1958-61, 99) as being in the BM has not been located, nor does there seem to be any record of it. In the BM, however, is a large butt-beaker copy from the Ransom Collection:



[6] G5-5. BM 1915/12-8/14. Dark grey core with some grog shows in worn base. Hard, rather gritty, greyish-orange-buff smooth surfaces. Pattern is of dots imitating rouletting. Mended rim.

A cemetery of Aylesford type was noted in a gravel pit 'a furlong NE of Sturry vicarage'; four U-shaped depressions may have been the burial pits (Ince 1928, 94): 'unfortunately only one urn was found complete enough for restoration.'

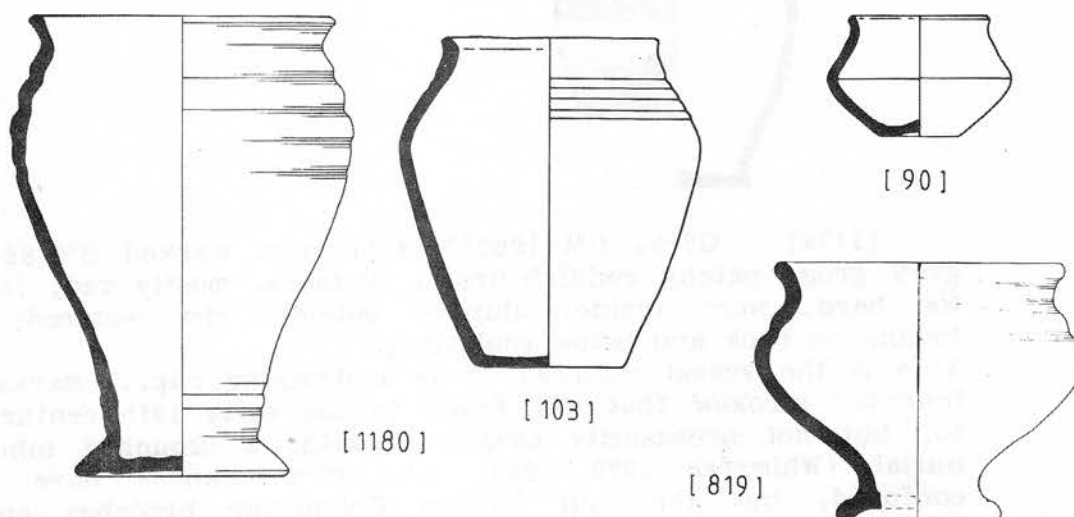


Fig.73: Pottery from Sturry. 1:4.

[1180] A3. BM 1929/3-4/1. Wheel-made but badly; wobbles, distorted. Substantially complete. Grog and some sand, very pitted surface. Grey core, buff below very patchy grey-buff surfaces, roughly shaped and tooled outside; cordons very rough. Good wheel marks inside.

Ince's other published pieces, also in the BM, are all HM, flint-gritted and accompanied by many plain flint-gritted sherds, pieces of a combed grog-tempered storage jar, a red amphora sherd, a piece of grog-tempered butt-beaker, and several small Roman pieces with brick and tile; some of all these are burnt and bloated. The published illustrations, although accurate enough, are considerably larger than the 1:4 scale indicated.

Other Sturry vessels are in RM and Herne Bay:

[103] B2-3. RM 7845. Sturry Hill, found 1913, bought 18.11.34. HM, grog, grey-buff inside, polished patchy black-buff outside.

[90] E1-4. Staines Hill, Sturry. RM 997. HM, grog, brown surfaces, burnished outside.

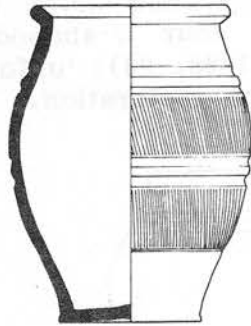
[819] F2. Herne Bay Mus. H.834. Coarse grey grog, thick, patchy buff-dark grey surfaces. Foot full of plaster and much restored.

H.834 refers to 'Belgic burial, 3 pots, and bones' now in a modern glass jar. The other two vessels are a small dark grey gritty cup of E3-5 type, and a bowl of Cam.218 form in a soft sandy red fabric, very light, strongly carinated, and with a girth groove: this is Roman, later 1st century AD.

These burials cluster near the main road NE out of Sturry; cf. Westbere also. The site called Sturry by Jenkins (1958, 197) is at Fordwich (see List of Additional Sites).

SUTTON COURTENAY (Oxon.)

?c.SU 50 94 Zone 7



[1179] G5-5. BM 1862/7-19/14, also marked BM 86. Good grey grog, patchy reddish-brown surfaces, mostly red; feels not too hard, worn inside, chipped outside, rim restored; rough tooling on neck and below rouletting.

This is the vessel referred to as a 'drinking cup... marked with indented strokes' that was found in the early 19th century near to, but not necessarily associated with, a crouched inhumation burial (Whimster 1979, 95). The circumstances have become confused, but the four bronze Colchester brooches and one Langton Down brooch illustrated in Whimster's paper, contemporary with the pot, form a consistent element in the discovery. The brooches, and the bronze ring, are also in the BM.

SWALECLIFFE (K)

c.TR 13 67 Zone 5

In Herne Bay Museum is the base of a large coarse grog-tempered storage jar, H.389.