

Gazetteer - Farningham (K) to Foxton (C)

FARNINGHAM (K)

Zone 3

The area has much Roman occupation with early material:

1 Franks Hall villa (TQ 555 675) dates from the 2nd century but had 'strong evidence of Belgic occupation' beneath it, with imported vessels (Meates 1961). DM (which has the site under the name of Horton Kirby) has some Iron Age sherds with the Roman (not seen).

2 A site at Calfstock Lane (TQ 5504 6776) was found during the laying of a gas pipe in November 1969; excavations located two pits and two ditches. The pottery and two brooches came from the ditches and were dated c.AD 50-100 (Philp 1973, 113-117). The brooches are an iron Nauheim derivative and a developed Colchester type. The pottery is illustrative of native wares in W Kent after the conquest, and is similar to that from Fawkham (q.v.). Some, useful for dating, are in the type series (Philp 1973, fig.34):

nos.294-5 C6-1. 'Patch Grove ware', grey-brown grog, buff-orange surfaces. Feature 2.

no.296 D2-4. 'Patch Grove ware', grey grog, dark grey surfaces. Feature 2.

no.307 C6-1, as 294-5. Feature 3.

no.311 G1-7. Grey-brown 'Patch Grove ware'. Feature 3.

Philp points out that a few grog-tempered sherds do not necessarily indicate pre-conquest occupation; in W Kent in particular, 'Patch Grove ware' lasts well into the 2nd century AD (cf. Philp 1963a).

The other vessels included coarse shelly jars, parts of four Roman flagons and pieces of thin sandy rouletted butt-beakers.

FAVERSHAM (K)

TR 021 617 Zone 5

Part of a system of ditches on the site of a Roman villa was the subject of a rescue excavation in advance of new school playing fields (Philp 1968). The ditches contained a useful sequence of pottery; this is now stored in Dover Castle. No datable material other than pottery was found in these ditches.

Group 1 (enclosure ditches 1 and 2, lower fill):

168 C6-1. Not isolated.

169 not in series. Hard black ware, grey core, flint gritted.

170 E2-2. The same vessel as no.176.

171 B2-2. Not isolated.

172 C7-3. Very dark grey, ?grog, shallow combing.

173 C2-1. HM grey-brown grog, grey smooth surfaces.

This is a small group, evidently close in date to group 2, since nos.170 and 176 are parts of the same vessel (Philp 1968, 78).

Group 2 (enclosure ditches 1 and 2, middle/upper fill):

- 174 B1-1. Not isolated.
- 175 B2-1. Grey grog, dark grey surfaces, burnished outside, tooled decoration.
- 176 E2-2. Grey grog, not hard, dark grey surfaces, shallow soft ripples.
- 177 not in series. Thick matt grey, some small grog, dark grey surfaces; well made.
- 178 C4. Hard grey grog, rough dark grey surfaces.
- 179 C4. Very hard dark grey grog.
- 180 C4. Hard dark grey, perhaps grog, shallow rilling.
- 181 not in series. 'Patch Grove ware', quite hard grey grog, dark grey inside, patchy dark orange outside, soapy.
- 182 not in series. Brown fabric, some shell.
- 183 G5-1. Not isolated.
- 184 B3-3. Grey-brown good grog, smooth outside. A butt-beaker shape, but very wide and large.
- 185 A9. Fine grey grog, worn to red inside, brown surfaces, tooled outside.
- 186 not in type series. Coarse, HM, buff with grog, smooth.
- 187 S1. Smooth dark grey, some grog, smooth buff outside.
- 188 not in series. Hard dark grey, flint-gritted; hole made before firing.
- 189 not in series. Coarse brown-grey flint-gritted.
- 190 not in series. Hard grey grog, worn dark grey inside, buff outside, tooled neck.
- 191 A8. Very hard buff, some grog, reddish outside, worn; feels a bit soapy.
- 192 A8. Thick coarse dark grey grog, patchy grey-red surfaces.
- 193 not in series. Very sandy, brown-grey.
- 194 B1-1. Dark grey very sandy. Romanised.

Group 3 (field ditches 3-5).

Ditch 3:

- 195 TN, Cam.2.
- 196 pale TN, Cam.13-14.
- 197 as 196.
- 198 TN, Cam.8.
- 199 G5-1. Not isolated.
- 200 G5-6. Grey matt core, brown-grey surfaces; ?grog.
- 201 G5-1. Not isolated.
- 202 C4. Very hard grey grog.
- 203 C4. Not isolated.
- 204 E2-2. Grey-brown grog, not too hard, brown inside, dark grey outside, tooled.
- 205 C4. Dark grey, hard, shell and probably a little grog.
- 206 B3-1. Hard pale grey grog.
- 207 not in series. A very coarse piece, rough grey-buff, some grog.
- 208 C4. Very hard brittle grey grog, grey-brown surfaces, roughly rilled, incised decoration on shoulder.

209 C4. Hard grey, some small flint grits, ?some grog, patchy tooled grey-buff outside.

210 C6-1. Good grey-brown grog, not hard, red surface patches.

211 C6-1. Not isolated.

212 HM, not hard, grey grog, dark grey surfaces, smooth outside and over rim.

213 B3-8. Not isolated.

214 B3-8. Not isolated.

215 A4. Pale grey core, greensand, patchy grey-buff surfaces, neatly finished.

Ditch 4:

216 C6-1. Not isolated.

217 Cam.113 white butt-beaker rim.

218 A1. Good grey grog, grey-brown smooth surfaces.

219 not in series. Flint-gritted.

Ditch 5:

220 B1-1. Not isolated.

221 C4. Very hard, dark grey, some flint lumps.

Pit 8:

222 B1-1; almost B3-1. Dark grey coarse grog, worn inside, dark grey tooled outside, not hard.

Ditch 6:

223 C6-1. Hard red all through, grog-tempered.

Group 4 (disturbed group W of the villa):

224 C6-1. Perhaps not grog; hard, overfired, red with dark grey core, brown outside.

225 C4. Not isolated.

226 C4. Very hard grey coarse grog, tooled on neck, rough below.

227 C4. Very hard grey grog, dark grey surfaces, rough tooling.

228 C4. Fabric just like no.230.

229 C1-2. Grey grog, orange below grey-brown surfaces, tooled outside; well made.

230 B1-1. Hard, overfired, grey core with grog, red surfaces.

231 C6-1. Quite hard dark grey grog, fine shallow combing.

232 B2-1. Hard grey grog, dark grey surfaces, buff patch, smoothed outside.

233 B1-4. Hard dark grey core, Roman, hard orange surfaces.

Apart from group 1, which is very small and has one vessel in common with group 2, the ditch groups all contain Gallo-Belgic wares or copies. There are no obviously Roman pieces except no.233 from the disturbed group 4, and perhaps nos.193 and 194 which are apparently romanised. The pottery is otherwise still fully native. Philp dated the pottery AD 10-50; there is nothing sufficiently distinctive to give a more precise date to any of the levels.

The fabrics are of a range that is common in East Kent: coarse HM rough plain forms, flint-gritted, of a local Iron Age tradition (nos.169, 182, 189 etc.); very hard coarse jars of the C4 type. These are usually grog-tempered, and are a common late

Iron Age form in E Kent but hardly occur elsewhere. They are common at Canterbury, where the fabric is, as here, grog-tempered and extremely hard. Some of the Faversham examples (e.g. no.205) are not grog-tempered, but have shell or flint gritting, or possible mixtures: see remarks on pottery zone 5. The other 'Belgic' forms are all grog-tempered. One piece (215) is in greensand, which has a restricted distribution: see pottery zone 4.

The forms are local Kent forms: C4 jars (above); flared rims (no.168); absence of carinated cup forms.

Other pottery from Faversham:

[59] C2-2. BM 92/2-16/7. HM softish grey grog, worn dark grey-brown smoothed surfaces.

[60] C2-2. BM 92/2-16/6. HM softish yellow-grey, much grog, rough untreated surfaces.

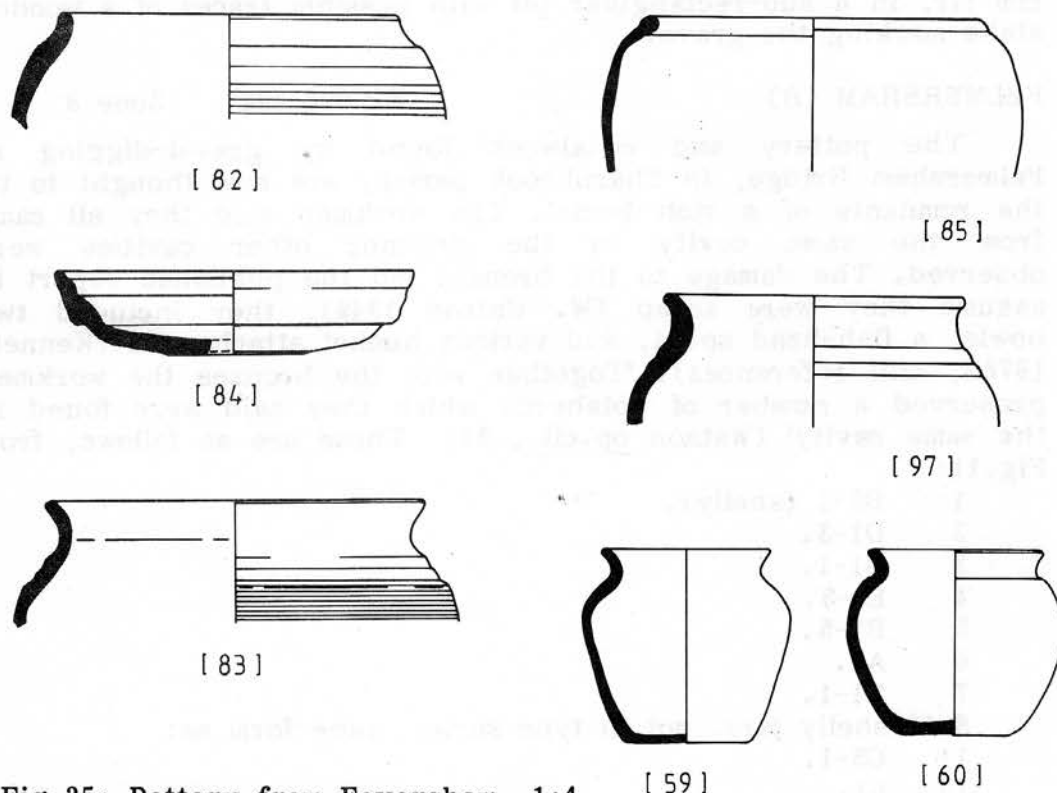


Fig.35: Pottery from Faversham. 1:4

In RM is a collection of 'Belgic' and Roman pottery from Broadlands, Ashford Road, Faversham. As well as some Roman grey ware sherds, many pieces of a Cam.165 jug, and a Cam.120 jar, some rilled sherds are included, and the following (RM 8395, 8554):

[82] C4. Burnt black, pale grey grog, patchy brown surfaces, hard, blackish burnished rim.

[85] not in series. Buff sandy fabric, largish white grits.

[84] G1-6. Coarse grey grog, brown surfaces.



[83] C7-1. Hard grog, patchy smooth brown-red surfaces.

[97] B2-1. Hard grey grog, smoothed brown surfaces.

FAWKHAM (K)

TQ 588 646 Zone 3

All the evidence is apparently post-conquest. Excavations at Eastwood Farm, 1957-61, found two ditch lengths with pottery in rubbish tips dating to AD 45-100 (Philp 1963a, b). This included 'Patch Grove ware', shell-tempered jars, and other forms paralleled in post-conquest deposits at Camulodunum, and 1st century samian and 6 post-conquest brooches.

Two cremation burials of the same later 1st century date were found later (Philp 1973, 106-110):

Burial 1: a cremation urn, B3-4, with burnished decoration; and a white Roman flagon of which only the base was recovered.

Burial 2: a Cam.120 carinated beaker and a shell-tempered bead-rim jar, in a sub-rectangular pit with possible traces of a wooden stake marking the grave.

FELMERSHAM (B)

SP 990 584 Zone 8

The pottery and metalwork found by gravel-digging at Felmersham Bridge, in Sharnbrook parish, are now thought to be the remnants of a rich burial. The workmen said they all came from the same cavity in the ground; other cavities were observed. The damage to the bronzes led the published report to assume they were scrap (W. Watson 1949); they included two bowls, a fish-head spout, and various bucket attachments (Kennett 1976b, and references). 'Together with the bronzes the workmen preserved a number of potsherds which they said were found in the same cavity' (Watson *op.cit.*, 37). These are as follows, from Fig.11:

- 1 B3-1 (shelly).
- 2 D1-3.
- 3 B1-1.
- 4 E3-3.
- 5 B1-5.
- 6 A9.
- 7 B1-1.
- 8-10 shelly jars, not in type series; same form as:
- 11 C5-1.
- 12 L1.
- 13 G1-13. Dark brown grog, some shine lost.
- 14 G1-13. Fabric as no.13.
- 15 (G1-7), Cam.26. Very sandy, pale brown-grey core, dark grey surfaces, not shiny.
- 16-7 Roman.
- 18 globular sherd only.
- 19 L5.
- 20 Roman platter fragment.

A recent search in BedM produced nos.13-15 but not the other vessels. The forms are not as early as Watson thought; nos.4 and 5 are of probable post-conquest varieties, nos.16 and 17 are romanised, and nos.8-11 are of a form that is often post-

conquest. The collection does appear to form a consistent group of c.AD50-60.

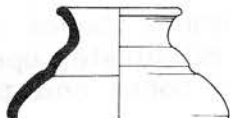
The pottery published by Kuhlicke (1969, fig.3) as having possibly come from the site is wholly Roman in fabric and decidedly later than the Felmersham Bridge finds. The vessels are in BedM, 72/B/118, and listed as from Felmersham churchyard, across the river: they are all hard pale grey Roman wares.

A small cup in BedM, form E1-3, is complete but probably grog-tempered; it is uncertain whether this pot (Simco 1975, no.55) is from Felmersham. Labels inside the pot are marked '?Kempston'.

#### FELSTED (E)

TL 664 212 Zone 1

Pottery from the site known at Felsted Railway Station from excavation by Felsted School is being prepared for publication by C. Going. Despite VCH (1963, 126: Little Dunmow parish) the pottery is entirely Roman, although it includes some forms derived from native types yet characteristic of post-conquest Essex: platters, including a base with some grog, and tooled decoration; lids; a thin grey Cam.219; rilled jars, Roman; shell-tempered ledge-rimmed jars, and one flask that is grog-tempered:



[1229] E3-6. Grey grog, pink below grey surfaces, some sandy grits, burnished on neck. This is a late form, with parallels mostly to the NW. CM 232.1949.

#### FENNY STRATFORD (Bu)

SP 887 338 Zone 7/8

Waugh et al. (1974, fig.12) illustrate three pieces from excavations at the 'Bathing Station':

no.24 G3-3.

no.25 E2-1.

no.26 G1-7, 'soapy'.

They are in the possession of Bletchley Archaeological Society. See also Bletchley.

#### FINCHINGFIELD (E)

TL 690 325

Some possibly pre-conquest pottery came from a pit on Biggins Common near Roman buildings (Covernton 1932-34; 1935-38: pit 6). The 'Belgic' pottery was identified by Hawkes as of c.AD 50 in the report: it includes storage jars, 'rilled ware' and what looks like a piece of a cordoned jar (Covernton 1932-34, pl.III no.1/1A).

The finds are said to be in Finchingfield Village Hall.

#### FLANDERS WEIR

TQ 3680 9335 Zone 7

A pot of 'Belgic' form, very like Cam.232C, was found here on the Essex-Herts. border during changes to the course of the

river Lea (Ward-Perkins 1938c, fig.3 no.1; VCH 1963, 88, under 'Chingford'). Two Roman vessels were also found, but some distance away.

B3-5, MusL 37.221/55. Restored, dark grey smooth unshiny surface; probably grog-tempered, perhaps romanised.

#### FOLKESTONE (K)

TR 24 37 (villa) Zone 6

1 Julian Road cemetery: none of the three burials found on an allotment contain grog-tempered pottery. Burial A (Champion's nomenclature, Champion 1976) contained a Cam.113 butt-beaker and a Colchester brooch; B had a gritty grey similar butt-beaker; and C a late 1st century jar in hard grey ware, a Drag.27 cup, a small flagon, and two later 1st century brooches (Bushe-Fox 1925, 20; pls.V, XI, XIV). FM.

2 East Wear Bay villa, the Warren: several pots of probably pre-conquest date were found beneath the villa site and represent a late Iron Age cremation cemetery (Winbolt 1924; 1925a, b). Winbolt is not clear about the total number of vessels or their find-spots: see Stead 1976, 404-6. Some later 1st century Roman vessels are also from the site. Included in the type series are, from Winbolt 1925a:

pl.XVIII:

no.1 B3-8. Dark grey, gritty, contains bones and bronze brooch with external cord and triangular catchplate, open.

no.2 D1-1. Fabric as no.1: contains bones and plain bronze brooch.

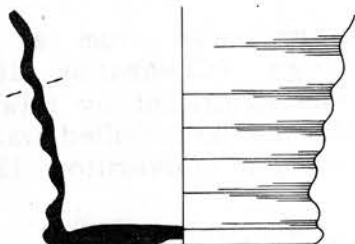
pl.XIX:

no.1 A3. Grey gritty, faint tooled zig zag between cordons, exactly like Oldbury.

no.2 B1-2. Grey gritty fabric.

These are in FM: none is grog-tempered. There is also a large amount of occupation debris of pre-villa types, but only a few decorated sherds are grog-tempered, in fine grey grog with pale red surfaces and a thin line of herringbone decoration, shallowly incised. There are some Roman forms and jug sherds, and parts of a G6 jug copy in the fine brown grog with pale red surfaces.

3 'The Warren', Folkestone. Brought by Rev. Fras. Merewether 1883: a box of sherds in BM, unregistered. This contains mostly plain body sherds, but also:



[983] D3-5. Grey-brown grog, much worn grey inside, very neat dark grey outside; worn under foot but finely finished; burnished.

Possibly the same cemetery as (2) above.

FOXTON (C)

2 = c.TL 409 490 Zone 9

1 An amphora found during ploughing in February 1852 was described as containing 'numerous portions of round dishes and the shattered remnants of an ornamented bowl' (Walters 1908). The Arretine crater, two TN platters and a large platter that is apparently a native imitation are in CambM (1883.405; Z.25728; Z.22495; see Fox 1923, pl.XX, 4 & 5).

2 Occupation debris was found disturbed by Anglo-Saxon burials in gravel digging '260 yds N of the level crossing on the Foxton-Barrington road' (Fox 1924b): the finds included some Roman fragments but also much Iron Age with plain everted rims, cordons, combing. Two vessels are illustrated:

fig.5 G5-5. 'Fine red wheel-made ware.'

fig.6 D1-5. 'Wheel-made, of black-ware, with a characteristic soapy polished surface.'