G6: GROG-TEMPERED JUGS

The first imported jugs arrived in the later first century BC (Welwyn Garden City) and there are apparently a large number of pre-conquest copies of various jug forms made in the native fabric. This is a form that can be recognised from handle fragments etc.: it is nearly always made in the fine brown or grey version of grog with pale red surfaces.

1 Colchester, Sheepen, Cam.132: two, rough native ware. R* -S
   Cam.133: one, Region 3. -S
   Cam.163: fig.51.12, native copy, 'Brown'. * AD10-49
   Cam.165: fig.51.17, a few copies in native brown ware. AD10-49
   Cam.249C: Region 1, school site. * -S
2 Braintree, site E, no.4, residual (cf. Cam.136). R -S
3 Woodham Walter, small (Cam.161/5) (not illus.). R (3S)
4 Allington, no.11, [1951]. R* -B
5 Birchington, Minnis Bay shaft 30 pot 11 [1322] - buff (Cam.165).
6 Canterbury, Burgate St mid-1st cent. deposits, no.8 (Cam.165).
   Whitehall Road [1193] (Cam.161).
   recent excavations: ring-neck (Cam.155). R -S
   a few Cam.161, thick. R -S
   a plug handle (not illus.). R* -S
7 Deal, burial II, AB 99. R 2B+
8 Folkestone, settlement sherds (Cam.161) (not illus.). R -S
9 Braughing, two handles, Henderson Coll. (not illus.). R -S
10 Brickwall Hill ditch 3, fig.4 no.2 (cf. Cam.133) R 2S
11 Welwyn Garden City main grave, nos.33-35. R* 2B+
12 Prae Wood, Liv Black Earth [495] (all Cam.161/65). AD5-40/45
   LIV Grey Clay [355]. AD5-40/45
   [540]. AD5-40/45 △
   unmarked [372]. R -S
   South Ditch [706]. R AD30-50
   [1340] (Cam.155), & another in T.A.1. AD30-50
   U Ditch [1338] (Cam.165). R AD30-50
   Zero Ditch, group D no.1 (Cam.165). R AD30-50
   Transverse A ditch [867] (Cam.165). R AD30-50
13 St Albans, King Harry Lane (Cam.161) + extra base (not illus.). R* -B
14 Weston [726] (Cam.165). R -S
15 Berkhamsted, Dellfield, ditch A no.24. 3S

Notes
The Cam. form number given in brackets after each example is the Sheepen form that the specimen is copying. Some are not ascertainable; some do not have Sheepen equivalents. The list can be divided as follows:
G6: grog-tempered jugs.
1. Copies of Cam. 161/5, the usual form.
2. Copies of Cam. 136.
3. Copies of Cam. 153-5.
4. Unique single forms.
5. Plug handles, marked * above.

1. Cam. 161 is the Gallo-Belgic form, from the end of the 1st century BC on the continent. Enormous numbers occurred at Sheepen in all periods, made in thin hard white pipe-clay. Cam. 162 & 163 are variants of this, and also imported; Cam. 165 is the 'British rendering of the type of 161-3 in red ware with white coating', 'limited to British sites where occupation began before the conquest' such as Braughing and Silchester. The true Cam. 165 is not grog-tempered; it has a white slip, curving shoulders, and a rather different rim from the Cam. 161 'collar', with instead a 'drooping ledge, rather hollowed on the top'. The range is I-IV, AD 10-60.

   All the examples noted above are grog-tempered copies of the general Cam. 161/5 shape; some are closer to one or the other. One or two of Cam. 165 were noted at Sheepen, with brown surfaces; most of those elsewhere are red. It may be significant that those in the predominantly later levels at Prae Wood shown here are closer to 165; but there are many others at Prae Wood represented only by fragments and not listed above.

2. One copy in red grog of a small Cam.136: range III-IV at Sheepen, AD 43-60.

3. Prae Wood has at least two grog-tempered copies of Cam. 155 in levels dated c.AD 30-50, and there is a ring-neck at Canterbury. Hawkes & Hull note (1947, 245) that the ring-necks 'originate in pre-Claudian times on the Continent'; the stepped rings are Cam. 155, a Claudian development that becomes the common Roman form. Cam. 155 is III-IV/VI at Sheepen, AD 43-65.

4. The Welwyn Garden City pots are the earliest in a dated context, and they are grog-tempered with, orange surfaces. Other individual pieces are known from Sheepen and from Brickwall Hill, and all of these are illustrations of native potters' early attempts at unfamiliar forms. The high incidence of jug copies in toto shows them to have been in some demand. Several of these have plug handles.

5. Plug handles are another instance of native potters making their first attempts at a new form; it is not good technique, or structurally sound, to attach a handle to a pot by piercing a hole in the body of the vessel and plugging the handle through. As a technique it is better allied to metalworking, and early ceramic (one-handled) jugs may have owed some inspiration to bronze originals. Evidence for the practice of plugging handles is widespread.

   See also:
   - London, 106-114 Borough High St, no.383 (Southwark 1978) - Cam.140D in dark grey with plug handle, from a pre-Flavian ditch deposit.

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Leicester, Jewry Wall (Kenyon 1948 fig. 34 no. 3), a plain form with plug handle, apparently, from an early pit group, c. AD 50.