

VESSEL

Unique ID: IOW-7529EC

Object type certainty: Certain

Workflow status: Awaiting validation

A Roman ceramic rim fragment from a Vectis Ware vessel of unclassified form, c. AD 43-c. 375. Tomalin 1987: 30-40.

The rim sherd of this vessel is dark grey and orange. It has a greyish orange core.

The breaks appear to be fresh.

When complete, the outer diameter of the rim would have been about 22cm.

Height: 33.0mm; length: 54.8mm; width: 38.4mm; thickness at rim: 8.2mm. Weight: 28.01g.

Vectis ware is hand-made, well finished and relatively hard, being barely scratched with the fingernail. Its internal and external surface is partly reddish-yellow (Munsell Color 5YR 6/6), which is the colour yielded by a characteristic oxidised crust which is usually weakly visible due to a more general darkening of the final surface burnishing. The colour produced by burnishing is usually very dark grey (Munsell Color 5YR 3/1) but hints of the reddish sub-surface is ever present in the form of oxidised patches or a general speckling. On a few pots the burnish has seemingly failed and the whole the whole of the surface may be reddened. In such cases the oxidised sub-surface may tend to decay and laminate. A macroscopic examination of the core of a typical Vectis ware sherd reveals 10-20% sub-angular medium quartz sand...The Combley [Roman Villa, Isle of Wight] kiln bars show 20% honey and milky translucent quartz grains but in other variants black morion quartz and shell sea sand have been noted. Vectis ware may be decorated with burnished hatching which, like that on black burnished ware, is frequently difficult to discern. On rare vessels, like forms 30 and 32, comb point decoration is employed' (Tomalin 1987, 'Roman Wight: A Guide Catalogue'. 31).

Tomalin, D. J. 1987. Roman Wight: A Guide Catalogue to 'The Island of Vectis, Very Near Britannia'. The Isle of Wight: Isle of Wight Council.

Class: Rim fragment

Subsequent actions

Current location of find: Finder

Subsequent action after recording: Returned to finder

Chronology

Broad period: ROMAN

Subperiod from: Early

Period from: ROMAN

Subperiod to: Late

Period to: ROMAN

Date from: Circa AD 43

Date to: Circa AD 375

Dimensions and weight

Quantity: 1

Length: 54.8 mm

Height: 33 mm

Width: 38.4 mm

Thickness: 8.2 mm

Weight: 28.01 g

Personal details

Found by: This information is restricted for your login.

Recorded by: Mr Frank Basford

Identified by: Dr Vicky Basford

Secondary identifier: Mr Frank Basford

Other reference numbers

Other reference: IOW2014-10-6

Materials and construction

Primary material: Ceramic

Manufacture method: Hand made

Completeness: Fragment

Spatial metadata

Region: [South East](#) (European Region)

County or Unitary authority: [Isle of Wight](#) (Unitary Authority)

District: [Isle of Wight](#) (Unitary Authority)

To be known as: Isle of Wight

Spatial coordinates

Grid reference source: Generated from computer mapping software

Unmasked grid reference accurate to a 1 metre square.

Discovery metadata

Method of discovery: Other chance find

Discovery circumstances: Found while searching cliff slopes

Current location: Finder

General landuse: Coastland

Specific landuse: Cliff and related features

Tomalin, D.J., 1987 [Roman Wight: A Guide Catalogue to 'The Island of Vectis, Very Near Britannia'](#)

Isle of Wight: The Isle of Wight County Council 30-40