

FACULDADE DE LETRAS
INSTITUTO DE ARQUEOLOGIA

CONIMBRIGA

VOLUME I



UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA

1959

SOME ROMAN POTTERY IN THE MUSEU ETNOLÓGICO, BELÉM

The following paragraphs and drawings are reconstructed from notes made hastily at the Museu Etnológico, now renamed for Dr. Leite de Vasconcelos, in the Edifício dos Jeronimos at Belém near Lisbon in 1940. My thanks are due to the helpfulness of Miss Rosa Capeans, Preparadora of the Museu, who facilitated my visit at that time. In the summer of 1958 through the kindness of Prof. Manuel Heleno, the Director, and in the company of Prof. J. Bairrão Oleiro and Dr. M. F. dos Santos, I had the welcome opportunity to review and add to some of the material previously studied, although the intervening reorganization of the museum made other items difficult to find in the brief time at my disposal. I am especially grateful to these gentlemen for their wholehearted help and interest.

Since 1940 there has been a notable increase of interest in, and knowledge of, the Roman pottery of the Iberian Peninsula. For instance, Prof. Bairrão Oleiro has given comprehensive attention to the signatures on sigillata in his *Elementos para o estudo da «Terra Sigillata» em Portugal* (1), and more recently Adília Moutinho de Alarcão has published «Sigillata hispânica em museus do norte de Portugal», a dissertation dealing especially with decorated vases (2). Finally,

(1) I, «Marcas de oleiro encontradas no País» (hereafter cited as *Elementos* I), *Revista de Guimarães* 61 1951, pp. 35 with a useful map on pi. I; see also the present writer's review in *Amer. Journ. Archaeol.* 57 1953 pp. 241-242; II, «Vaso Dragendorff 37 de fabricação hispânica procedente de Conimbriga» (hereafter cited as *Elementos* II), *Humanitas* n.s. 2/3 1954, pp. 10.

(2) *Revista de Guimarães* 68 1958 (hereafter cited as Moutinho de Alarcão), pp. 65 and pis. XXVII.

Dr. dos Santos has studied the entire collection of sigillata in the Museu Etnológico itself; his mimeographed thesis *Contribuição para um melhor conhecimento da «terra sigillata» encontrada em Portugal — A «terra sigillata» do Museu Etnológico do Dr. Leite de Vasconcelos* (Lisbon, 1958) which, in addition to full description, illustration and discussion, includes a very useful complete bibliography on Portuguese sigillata, will appear in *O Arqueólogo Português*, n.s. IV. In view of his exhaustive treatment, I have hesitated to present my own briefer sketch; but the editor's invitation to appear in these pages has been so cordial that I nevertheless submit these notes for what they may be worth.

FROM THE NECROPOLIS OF ROUCA {ALENTEJO}

1. (15661). A complete decorated Spanish terra sigillata Form 29; lip diam. 19 cm., ht. 8 cm.; panels divided by chevrons and vertical wavy lines; in the lower zone the panels are filled by concentric circles; the upper zone has small figures with arms raised, under arches resting on pillars. Nine panels in both zones. Carination has no bead-rows or moulding; interior of lip has a crude reminiscence of the usual Gaulish profiling. The clay is soft, sandy pink, and the varnish is not very adherent, — a description of general application to the fabric (3).

2. (15647). A dish; diam. 9.6 cm., ht. 2.5 cm.; clearly signed OFMCCIO (Fig. 1). The underside of the foot (Fig. 2, slightly exaggerated) rises toward the center in a gentle curve broken by a small ridge; it is a peculiarly Hispanic profile which may appear on any Spanish-made form (4). From Tomb 15.

(3) Comparative material is readily accessible, e.g. Fidel Fuidio, *Carpetania Romana* (hereafter cited as Fuidio), pi. XXV, etc.; Alice W. Frothingham, *Sigillate Pottery of the Roman Empire* (hereafter cited as Frothingham), pis. X (E 299), XII (E 300); D. M. Robinson, *C. V. A., Robinson Collection* 3, pis. XL 3, XLI 1; C. Martínez Munilla, «Terra sigillata hispánica», *Arch. Españ. de Arqueol.* 1945 pp. 227-231; M. Angeles Mezquiriz, «Sigillata hispánica de Liédena», (hereafter cited as Mezquiriz) *Príncipe de Viana* 14, nos. 52-53, 1953, renumbered pp. 16-20; Bairrão Oleiro, *Elementos* II, pp. 6-7; Moutinho de Alarcão, pis. XX-XXII, XXIV; see also no. 33 in the present list.

(4) Moutinho de Alarcão, p. 18.

3. (15651). A good sized Form 27, illegibly signed (5); also from Tomb 15.

4. (15637). Smaller Form 27, illegibly signed.

5. (15636). A dish like Fig. 1; diam. 10.3 cm., ht. 3.1cm.; signed IIXOFMIC, *ex officina Mic(cionis)*, in a characteristic Spanish formula which, oddly, is not always recognized as such (6).

6. (15642). A dish like Fig. 1 but larger and with softer transition from the sides to the rim; diam. 13.8 cm., ht. 3.8 cm.; signed IIX* ///Y * MICC. The foot is like that of no. 2 (Fig. 2). From Tomb 14.

7. (15656). A dish of Form 35; diam. 17.0cm., ht. 3.4cm.; also from Tomb 14. The barbotine leaves and stems on the rim have worn and broken away.

8. (15644). A dish like Fig. 1 but larger; diam. 14.1 cm., ht. 3.7 cm.; signed IIX'OFMI, *ex officina Mi(ccionis)*. The foot is like that of no. 2 (Fig. 2). The surface of this plate is poor.

9. (15649). A dish of Form 35, of which Fig. 3 is a rough reproduction, signed OPIC^A. My notes fail to indicate the usual barbotine leaves on the rim; they may be omitted on Spanish Form 36 (7).

10. (15789). A shallow dish signed OFMCIO (Fig. 4). The shape may approach Form Ludowici Tb as illustrated by Mezquiriz, p. 12.

Since Miccio seems to have had something of a monopoly among

(5) The shape was common among Spanish potters; cf. Fuidio, pp. 172 f.; Frothingham, Pis. XXVII, XXVIII, XXX, XXXII (all from Itália); F. Russell Cortez, *Da «Terra Sigillata» tardia encontrada em Portugal*, fig. 9 (Castro do Banho); Mezquiriz, p. 305 where, however, no examples are recorded from Liédena.

(6) In addition to some of the following signatures, compare many of those in Frothingham and *C.I.L.* 4970 181 IIXOPT (Tarragona), 270 EX OF LV-FL (Tarragona), 536b EX OFW.M (Segovia), 4972 48 EXOFHIRVN (Saguntum), 79 SEX- ORMICCI, *i.e. ex officina Micci(onis)* (Tarragona); Bairrão Oleiro, *Elementos* I, no. 50, p. 26 EX OFSE... (Coimbra); Cagnat, *Bull. Soc. Antiq. de France* 1892, p. 149 EXOFVRPA +. (Mérida); Mezquiriz, p. 9 IIXOVIF (Liédena); Russell Cortez, *op. cit.*, p. 24 EXOFVFK (Castro do Banho), p. 27 EXOF S M in swallowtail stamp (Fonte do Milho); see also the writer's review of Frothingham in *Amer. Journ. Arch.* 42 1938 pp. 187-189. A hasty spot-check in Oswald's *Index of Potters' Stamps*, on the other hand, indicates the regular absence of this formula from Gaulish signatures.

(7) Mezquiriz, p. 5.

the patrons of this cemetery, it is unfortunate that the dating of the graves is not established. No other signature of his appears in the Museum unless from Aramenha (no. 17 below), but he is attested from Alora, Tarragona and Urso (8).

FROM ARAMENHA (*ALENTEJO*)

11. (13700). A dish of Form 18, signed MXklXXXTT (9).

12. (13701). A cup of Form 27, unsigned. If my observation was correct, this cup provides an exception to Mezquiriz' general rule, p. 39, that Form 27 is always signed.

13. (13702). A cup of variant of Form 35/36 scarcely distinguishable from Frothingham, Pis. XXIV and XXV, of which the latter is signed 0.[?]VRI.

14. (13694). Another of the same; diam. 12.3 cm., ht. 4.9 cm.

15. (13693). A cup of Form 27; diam. 11.7cm., ht. 5.6cm.;

illegibly signed

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16. (13695). Another cup of Form 27, unsigned.

17. (13648). A cup of Form 24/25 «with nicely rouletted vertical rim»; diam. 11.7cm.; ht. 5.4cm. signed IIXO..., perhaps *V;lrf*, *i.e.* MICC or the like.

18. (13699). A Form 18 with small quarter-round interior moulding, unsigned (10).

19. (13697). Neck and shoulder of pitcher, also Iberian sandy clay. Also from Aramenha (?).

20. (13649). Flattish Form 35/36 with barbotine on rim (11);

(8) C./L. II 4970 325a.b., 4972 79, 6257 121; see also Bairrão Oleiro, *Elementos* I, p. 21.

(9) For the signature, cf. C./L. II 4970 290 CMAEMMF from Bilbilis; for the form, cf. Fuidio, pi. XLI, and Frothingham, pi. XXXI (E 306), signed EXOFLVCRIITIFI, without provenance; this form is not shown by Mezquiriz at Liédena.

(10) Another of similar shape is recorded from Alter do Chão in the same general area; cf. also Frothingham, pis. XXX, XXXI, of which the former is from Itálica.

(11) Perhaps like Fuidio, pi. XXXIX 5, or Frothingham, pi. XXIII or XXV.

diam. 17 cm., ht. 3.6 cm.; signed O/kA/I, *officina Lapi* (?). The foot is like that of no. 2 (Fig. 2). Also from Aramenha (?).

21. (13650). An even flatter Form 35/36; diam. 16.8 cm., ht. 2.5 cm.; unsigned. The foot is like that of no. 2 (Fig. 2). Also from Aramenha (?).

FROM PONTE DO SOR (*ALENTEJO*)

22. (13778). A Form 27 signed OAIVO.

23. (13774). Foot of a cup signed OAVO.

The feet of these two vases are illustrated, after a rough sketch, in Fig. 5; within the sigillata category they most resemble the small knobs with a conical depression which serve as the handles of covers for Arretine vases, but upside down. These two vases are not merely made by the same manufacturer, but were also inscribed almost identically by the same owner; Fig. 6 shows the graffito FV opposite a kind of appendage outside the foot, while three more or less intersecting diameters have been scratched on the conical surface under the foot.

FROM TRÓIA DE SETÚBAL (*EXTREMADURA*)

24. (13463). A piece signed OCT MA OI (12).

25. (13499). A Form 24, signed _____ in a rectangle.

26. (13498). A Form 18/31, signed OI...IEI.

27. (13466). A piece signed OFPRIMI of Montans and La Graufesenque, Claudius-Vespasian (13).

28. (13457). A Form 27, signed C O L *

29. Other pieces from the same site, collectively numbered 13465, are of Gaulish (La Graufesenque?) manufacture, including one «marbled» piece.

(12) Also at Itálica; Frothingham, pp. 42-44, pis. XXX (E 296, E 282), XXXVI (E 282, E 294).

(13) Oswald, *Index of Potters' Stamps on Terra Sigillata* (hereafter cited as *Oswald Stamps*) p. 248.

FROM THE PROVINCE OF *ALGARVE*

The sigillata from Algarve is on the whole less interesting, about twenty-five pieces being largely run-of-the-mill plain Gaulish ware. Six or seven fragments of decorated Form 37 may be Central Gaulish; one has the ovolo set diagonally, apparently stamped in with a hand-die.

30. (15240 B). The only signature worth an attempt at recording is OSILVI of La Graufesenque, Vespasian-Trajan (14), perhaps the same signature as is noted by Bairrão Oleiro, *Elementos* I, no. 53, p. 27, from Azinhal, CSILVI after Hlibner.

31. (15589). Somewhat more interesting is a South Gaulish Flavian small pot of Form 67 (from Algarve?); ht. 8 cm. It resembles examples from Hofheim and Rottweil (15) except that the hollows under the deep rinceaux are filled by the alternately placed dancing Cupids which often occur in pairs (16). The shape is discussed by Oswald and Pryce, *Terra Sigillata* pp. 126 f.

32. (15,587). A complete smallish free-style bowl showing trees, grass-bundles, deer, etc. (Germanus type?) is presumably of the same provenance as the preceding. ⁵ABINI is lightly inscribed in the mould below the cut-off line of the decorations. It would lead too far afield to pursue the, interesting implications of this signature, — especially without the illustrations of the decoration which will appear in Dr. dos Santos' catalogue. Knorr notes the close relationship between the decorative types of Sabinus, Germanus and Crucuro (17); Stanfield contrasts Sabinus' «fine *lagenae*» with «the poorly designed and executed bowls of Form 37 stamped SABIN» (18).

(14) Oswald, *Stamps* p. 302.

(15) Ritterling, «Das frühromische Lager bei Hofheim», *Annal. d. Ver. f. Nass. Altert. u. Gesch.* XL 1912, pi. XXXII 21, and Knorr, *Töpfer urtd Fabriken verzierter Terra Sigillata des ersten Jahrhunderts*, fig. 22, respectively.

(16) E.g. Oswald, *Index of Figure-Types on Terra Sigillata* pi. XXXI 646.

(17) *Töpfer und Fabriken verzierter Terra Sigillata des ersten Jahrhunderts*, p. 72.

(18) «Romano-Gaulish Decorated Jugs and the Work of the Potter Sabinus», *Journ. Rom. Stud.* 27 1937 pp. 168-179, and 11 plates, the most comprehensive study of Sabinus' best work.

33. (14656). A Hispanic Form 29; diam. 13.3 cm.; ht. 6.3 cm.; decorated in the upper zone with panels separated by chevrons and wavy lines enclosing birds or an animal (cf. note 2 above) while the lower is a repetition of the rosette and toadstool in Fig. 7 (19).

34. In addition, 15596 is a comprehensive number including many plain and decorated fragments; one Spanish, at least one Banassac (very bad), perhaps some Arretine, one «marbled», etc. from Lagos-Molião, the ancient Lacobriga. None of the signatures from Molião listed by Bairrão Oleiro, p. 34, is earlier than Claudius.

MISCELLANEOUS SIGILLATA

Of the other miscellaneous sigillata in the Museum only a few items receive mention here.

35. (14943). A Domitianic Form 37 in free-style, from Manta Rota.

36. (13773). A flattish dish with coarse rouletting on the horizontal rim and coarsely rouletted circles around the signature EXOFVALPAT; diam. 19.0 cm., ht. 3.5 cm. No provenance (20).

37. (14608). A signature OF CAST(i) of La Graufesenque, Claudius-Nero (21).

38. A decorated fragment signed BIRACIL(li) of Banassac, Domitian-Trajan (22), a name not recorded by Bairrão Oleiro, *Elementos* I.

39 and 40. (16049 and 17416). Signatures VITA and ÜFVITALI from Mértola and Beja?, respectively. Both are recorded, with parallels and comments, by Bairrão Oleiro, *Elementos* I, no. 59, p. 28.

41. (15524 A). A signature PRIMISÇ, *i.e.* Primus and Scottius of La Graufesenque, Claudius-Nero (23).

(19) Cf. Fuidio, pi. LXIV 22, and Moutinho de Alarcão, pi. VII 24.

(20) Other examples of the name cited by Bairrão Oleiro *Elementos* I, no. 5, p. 28; see also my review in *Amer. Journ. Arch.* 57 1953 p. 242.

(21) Oswald, *Stamps* p. 65; this may be the same signature as Oswald records on p. 368 from Fiães da Feira (*Entre Douro e Minho*).

(22) Oswald, *Stamps* p. 44.

(23) Oswald, *Stamps* p. 251, where PRIMISCO is noted from Monte Molião {*Algarve*}.

42. (15603 B). A signature CASTVVSF, of La Graufesenque, Claudius-Nero (24), from Molião; recorded with parallels, by Bairrão Oleiro, *Elementos* I, no. 13, p. 12.

43. ^Numerous plain and decorated Gaulish pieces from Concelho de Faro/Milreu (*Algarve*) and elsewhere, mostly of La Graufesenque manufacture and some of them «marbled».

44. A **black** Form 37; medallion decoration with scroll or similar vegetation and panel decoration of wavy lines; from Milreu. However, there is abundant evidence suggesting extreme caution in supposing that this or any other fragment of terra sigillata was originally black; red-surfaced ware may be changed into beautiful lustrous black by a destructive conflagration.

MISCELLANEOUS NON-SIGILLATA

Examples of *non-sigillata* barbotine and stamped wares from various sites are to be expected in any Hispanic museum; on the provenance of these wares I can add to the tentative remarks in *Art Bulletin* XXI 1939 pp. 274-279 only that here is some more, principally from coastal sites east of Cape St. Vincent, while somewhat surprisingly none of it is noted by Fuidio for the district around Madrid.

45. (15584). A vase *a parieti sottili* (Fig. 8), very close to *Art Bulletin*, fig. 3; one of several from Algarve which deserve further study.

46. Several bowls decorated with impressed lozenges, as *Art Bulletin*, p. 278, notes 23, 24. Also from Algarve.

47. (15474). From Olhão, Fig. 9.

48. A shape from Luz de Tavira, related to the preceding, sometimes with one handle and sometimes with two, is illustrated in Fig. 10. In one instance the upper zone is decorated with a running bud pattern between dots *en barbotine*, as indicated. There is considerable of this ware in grayish-black from the site (25).

(24) Oswald, *Stamps* p. 65.

(25) Also from Luz de Tavira, seven decorated South Gaulish pieces of the late first century.

49. (14027). A Spanish barbotine cup from Mértola (southern *Alentejo* on the Guadiana River), Fig. 11.

50. Finally, from Algarve, there are three pieces of stamped ware sometimes called «Visigothic».

ARRETINE WARE

There is a certain amount of Arretine ware found in Portugal, not to mention a collection of signatures brought from Rome in modern times.

51. (19515). A decorated bowl signed PHAR]NACES [RASINI]; the reliefs include an altar with fruits, a standing female figure, and a row of rosettes underneath. Oxé, in his unpublished *Catalogue of Arretine Signatures*, records interior stamps of this potter on decorated craters from Ampurias and Tarragona, and exterior stamps at Arezzo (moulds), Rome, Tarragona and Ampurias. One wonders, on the evidence of Pharnaces Rasini and other potters with the same general distribution, whether there were not some Arretines who worked with a specifically Iberian export in mind.

52. A signature CVIB in a rectangle, recorded also in *C.I.L.* II 6257 210, from Torre d'Ares {*Algarve*}.

53. A signature ZOILI in an elliptical rectangle, not recorded in *C.I.L.* or by Bairrão Oleiro. Several parallels from Spain are in *C.I.L.* II 4970 569.

54. A signature *_x x x x on a heavy plate, from Mértola, FELIX;
PCORF'
recorded by Bairrão Oleiro, *Elementos* I, no. 17, pp. 13-14, with Iberian parallels and discussion of P. Cornelius. His workman Felix is not previously known in the Peninsula.

GIBRALTAR MUSEUM

Finally, the present notes furnish my first and probably my last excuse for referring to a brief visit to the modest museum at Gibraltar, also some years ago. Among the local antiquities, mostly of modern date, there were visible about thirty fragments of sigillata, including

a couple decorated in the Hispano-Roman idiom. The rest were plain, probably of both Gaulish and Spanish manufacture; an illegible signature may have been Gaulish. There was apparently nothing of Italian origin. Some of the fragments were found «on the Rock», and the rest presumably came from nearby.

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Postscript. — While this article has been in press, the valuable study of F. Nunes Ribeiro, «Terra Sigillatá' encontrada nas Rêpresas — Beja: I. Marcas de Oleiro», *Arquivo de Beja* 15 1959, 29 pages, has come to hand too late for detailed use. He transcribes, with photographs, 78 stamps on miscellaneous sigillata from the site. Correspondences with the Museu Etnológico include CV(I)B(I)E *in planta pedis*; ZOILI twice; ten signatures from the shop of P. Cornelius, if his no. 20 is correctly assigned; also OFPRI and OFPR(IM) (27, above); OFVITA and OFVITÁLIS (39-40, above). One would expect some Hispanic stamps from the Represas, and I suggest that Nunes Ribeiro no. 67, OF TLS is such (cf. Monsalud, *Bol. de la Ac. de la Hist.* 34 1899, p. 59, EX OF TLS), and possibly also nos. 4 (AMABRIOF), 12 (ATTBRITON), 47 and 48 (both PETEROOFI), and 69 (OFVAPA), which seem not be attested elsewhere. Other notes: no. 7 is certainly not NATEI, but perhaps ÆVREL(I) (cf. Tarragona Museum no. 1459); no. 24 is probably INGE[nuus] P*C*[OR(neli)], and others of this group, including no. 20, could probably be deciphered; no. 31, LC*, is a different potter from no. 30, L CRIS(pi), and both are different from no. 32, CRI(?) above a palm branch; all the stamps *in planta pedis* or *planta manus* are surely Italian (Arretine), as well as 62, C SEN(ti) and some others in rectangles; no. 33, OFBELLICI is well attested by Oswald, *Stamps* p. 40; no. 75 seems to read **ERO£**, an unusual but not unparalleled mixture of alphabets; a surprisingly large proportion of names occur in two or more examples.

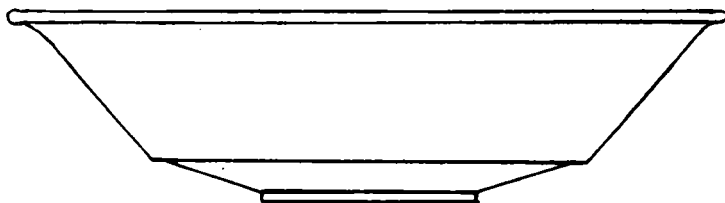


FIG. 1 (N.º 2)



FIG. 2 (N.º 2)

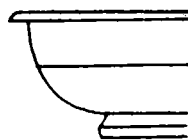


FIG. 3 (N.º 9)

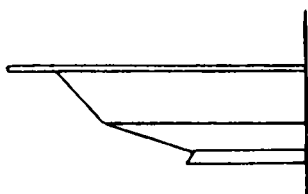


FIG. 4 (N.º 10)

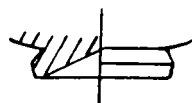


FIG. 5 (N.º 23)

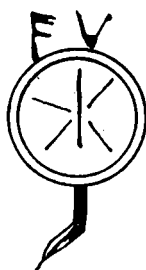


FIG. 6 (N.º 23)



FIG. 7 (N.º 33)

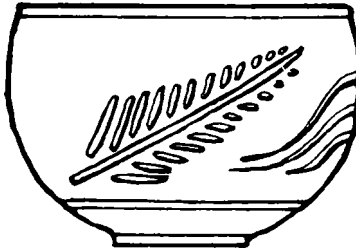


FIG. 8 (N.º 45)

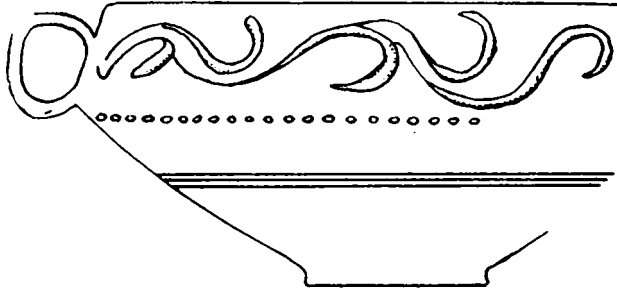


FIG. 9 (N.º 47)

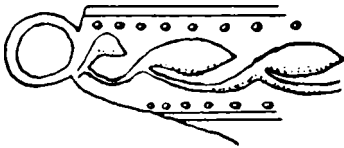


FIG. 10 (N.º 48)



FIG. 11 (N.º 49)

Roman Pottery in the Museu Etnológico