

THE OIL LAMPS FROM BET SHE'AN (YOUTH HOSTEL)

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The large assemblage of artifacts recovered from the excavation at the site of the Bet She'an Youth Hostel (see Sion, this volume) included oil lamps, which were discovered in practically all strata. The majority of these lamps came from fills that could not be related to specific occupation levels. More than half of the lamps were discovered in fills in the 'burial enclosure' (see Sion, this volume: Plans 1, 2): in the courtyard (L24), the cist tomb (L48), the staircase leading to the burial cave (L71) and the burial chamber (L76).¹

All in all, about 100 oil lamps and fragments thereof were found, comprising a lamp corpus dating from the Late Roman to the Mamluk periods (third–thirteenth centuries CE). Some of these lamps were dated according to their stratigraphic context, while others were dated on the basis of comparisons with lamps from other excavations. Almost all the lamp types from this excavation appear in the corpus of the Hebrew University excavations at Bet She'an (Hadad 2002). The lamps are arranged below in chronological order and in accordance with the typology suggested by Hadad.

Fig. 1:1. Two fragments of this variant were found. It has a round body, a sunken discus and a raised circle decoration. The earliest dating of this type is from tombs near the Jerash Hippodrome, where one example was uncovered within a group of nine oil lamps dated to the first and second centuries CE (Abu-Dalu 1995:171, Fig.7). Similar lamps, dated by Avigad to the third century CE, were discovered at Bet She'an (Hadad 1997:150, Fig.1; 2002:16–20, Type 7, Variant 2) and in the catacombs at Bet She'arim (Avigad 1976:185, Pl. LXX:5, 6).

Fig. 1:2, 3. This group is represented by an almost complete lamp (No. 2) and a fragment (No. 3). They have a circular reservoir, a short, rounded nozzle and a raised handle with two vertical grooves. The filling hole is large, surrounded by a band with a herringbone pattern and three high ridges. A stamped plait-and-dots design appears around the reservoir. On the base is a series of concentric circles with a big dot in the center. Lamp No. 2 was found in the plaster that covered the lower tier of the stone foundation within the 'burial enclosure' (L92), which is dated to the third–fourth centuries CE. A similar lamp was found in a fill adjacent to the southern gate complex of the Roman basilica at Bet She'an, dated to the mid-third through the mid-fourth centuries CE (Hadad 1997:151, Fig. 2; 2002:22, Type 13, Group 2).

Fig. 1:4–6. These lamps have a circular reservoir, no handle and a large filling hole. The discus of No. 4 is broken. They are decorated with either an ovolo (No. 4), a palm branch (No. 5) or a band of leaves (No. 6). Such lamps, known as "Karm al-Shaikh lamps", were found at Bet She'an near the amphitheater, in a fifth-century CE context (Hadad 1997:153, Fig. 6; 2002:24–25, Type 15). They were also widespread in Jerusalem (Baramki 1932). A close parallel is found in the Schloessinger collection (Rosenthal and Sivan 1978:99, No. 401).

Fig. 2. The lamps presented here belong to a group of eight complete lamps and twelve fragments that are characterized by a small ovoid body with an incorporated nozzle and a pointed handle; a prominent ridge surrounding

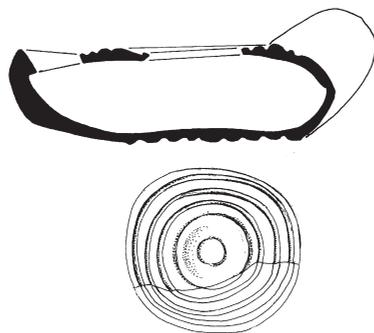
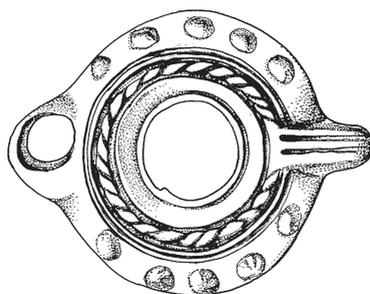


Fig. 1.

◀ Fig. 1

No.	Locus (Building/ Room)	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	100 (I/4)	395-1;2	Brown clay, reddish brown slip, burn marks on nozzle	
2	92 (Stone foundation)	365	Brown clay, reddish brown slip on upper part, slip spots on base, burn marks on nozzle	L 9.5; W 7.4; H 2.5
3	24 (Courtyard)	92-4	Light brown clay, traces of red paint	
4	24 (Courtyard)	164-1	Brown clay, burn marks on nozzle and on back part of base	L 7.2; W 5.5; H 2.5
5	14 (Courtyard)	48-1	Brown clay, red slip on the upper part, burn marks on nozzle	L 7.2; W 5.5; H 2.2
6	24 (Courtyard)	153-5	Brown clay, black paint, burn marks on nozzle, patina	L 7.0; W 5.5; H 2.5

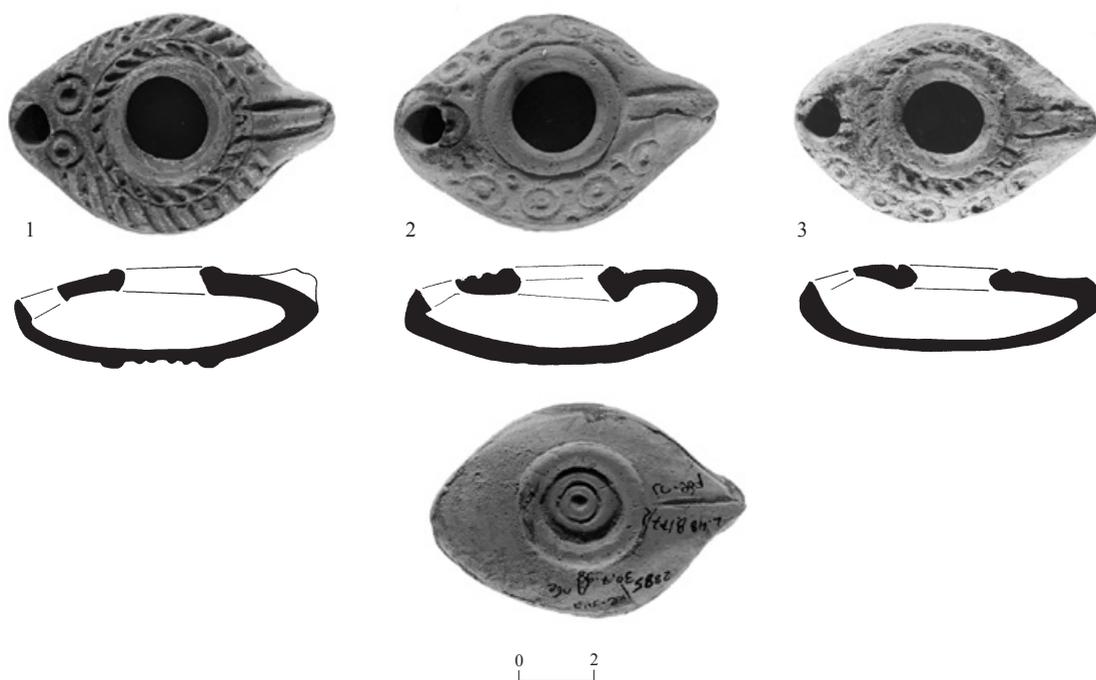


Fig. 2.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	48 (Tomb)	177-2	Light brown clay, spots of reddish brown paint on upper part and on base	L 8.0; W 5.5; H 2.5
2	24 (Courtyard)	153-1	Light brown clay, spots of reddish brown paint, burn marks on nozzle	L 8.2; W 5.6; H 2.3
3	24 (Courtyard)	153-4	Light brown clay, reddish brown paint, burn traces on nozzle	L 8.0; W 5.2; H 2.0

a large filling hole; and a flat or slightly convex base. The most common rim decorations are the herringbone pattern, lozenges, circles and a combination of these designs. The handle is often decorated with vertical or horizontal lines. Lamp No. 1 was found in the fill of the cist tomb (L48), dated to the third–fourth centuries CE. Such lamps were widespread in northern Palestine. They were found in particularly large numbers at Bet She’an, where they were dated to the fourth–fifth centuries CE (Hadad 1997:154, Fig. 7; 2002:26, Type 16). In other places, they first appeared at the end of the third century CE (Elgavish 1962: Type 31; Kennedy 1963:77, Pl. XXIII:533; Rosenthal and Sivan 1978:111, Nos. 450, 451).

Fig. 3. The three fragments in Fig. 3 are imitations of Bet Nat̄if lamps. They have a round body and a large filling hole, usually surrounded by a ridge. The bow-shaped nozzle is decorated with amphorae and grape

clusters on both sides (No. 1), or with a curved string of dots (Nos. 2, 3). The rim bears a rich geometric or floral decoration, such as the herringbone pattern in No. 3, or the large dots inside alternating circles and squares in No. 2. Number 1 was found together with Coin No. 143 (see Bijovsky and Berman, this volume) within a fill beneath the plaster floor of Room 6 (Building II, L84; see Sion, this volume: Plan 1)

A large group of these lamps was discovered in the Hebrew University excavations at Bet She’an, where they were dated to the fourth–fifth centuries CE (Hadad 2002:26, 35, Type 17). These lamps correspond to Kennedy’s Type 11 and Elgavish’s Types 34 and 37, dated to the first half of the fourth century CE (Elgavish 1962:195, 198; Kennedy 1963:78f, Pl. XXIII:557).

Figs. 4–6. These lamps are the most common type found in this excavation, as well as in the



Fig. 3.

No.	Locus (Building/Room)	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	84 (II/6)	346	Brown clay, black grits	W 5.2; H 2.5
2	58 (II/5)	326-1	Light brown clay	
3	?	TR-3	Brown clay	

◀ Fig. 4

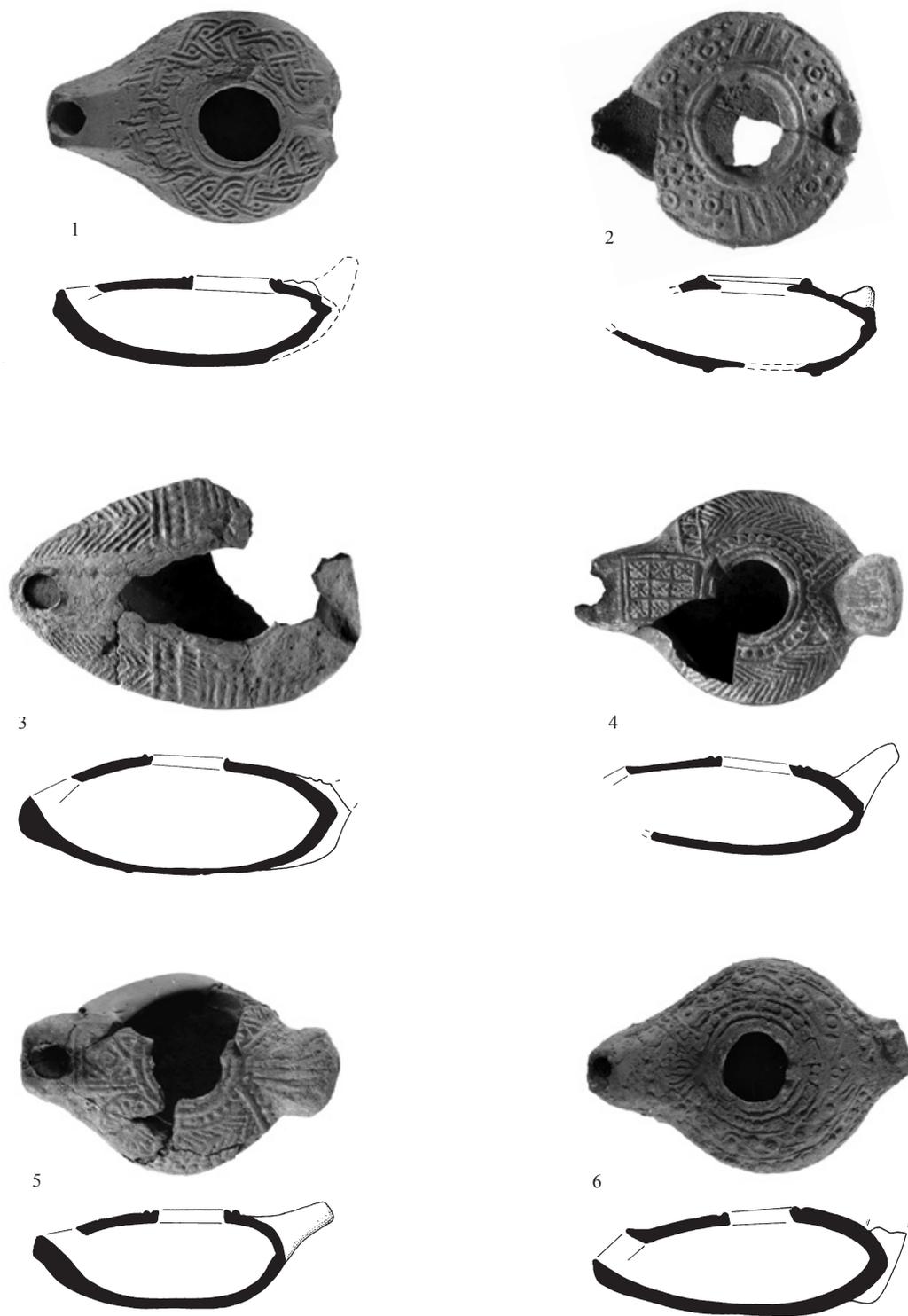
No.	Locus (Building/Room)	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	24 (Courtyard)	101	Orange clay, gray slip	L 9.5; W 6.0; H 2.5
2	24 (Courtyard)	153-6	Reddish brown clay, burn marks on nozzle	L 9.0; W 5.7; H 2.5
3	24 (Courtyard)	164-2	Buff clay, burn marks on nozzle	L 10.5; W 6.7; H 3.0
4	98 (I/4)	408	Red clay, burn marks on nozzle	L 7.0; W 5.3; H 2.3
5	24 (Courtyard)	166-4	Red clay, burn marks on nozzle	L 8.5; W 6.2; H 2.5
6	24 (Courtyard)	134-2	Reddish clay, small white grits, burn marks on nozzle	L 10.0; W 6.6; H 2.8
7	24 (Courtyard)	153-3	Red-buff clay, burn marks on upper and lower parts	L 13.2; W 8.7; H 3.0

Hebrew University excavations at Bet She'an. Fifteen complete or almost complete lamps, and 26 fragments, were uncovered. They have a rounded or slipper-shaped body, a relatively small filling hole and, in most cases, a fan-shaped handle decorated with lines. Their nozzles vary in length, and in four cases are incorporated in the body. All are heavily decorated on the rim. A few bear identical decorations, indicating that they were made in the same mold. Some of these lamps are identical to those found in the Hebrew University excavations at Bet She'an, and may have been made in the same pottery workshop. Almost all of the Hebrew University lamps were uncovered near the amphitheater. On the basis of stratigraphic analysis they were dated to the fifth century CE (Hadad 2002:50, Type 19). These lamps parallel Kennedy's Type 21, dated to the fourth–sixth centuries CE (Kennedy 1963:87), and Elgavish's Type 32, dated to the mid-fourth century CE (Elgavish 1962:193). They were also discovered in the Roman burial cave on Mt. Gilbo'a (Syon 1999: Fig. 6:5–9) and in the mausoleum near Kibbutz Mesilot (Arav 1990:84–86).

The rim of Fig. 4:1 has a geometric design of concentric rhombi, separated by rows of

dots set between two lines. The nozzle bears two pseudo-volutes, and the filling hole is surrounded by two raised ridges. The lamp in Fig. 4:2 has a herringbone pattern on the rim, while the rest of the nozzle is undecorated. Two raised ridges surround the filling hole. The nozzle in Fig. 4:3 is incorporated within the body. The entire lamp is decorated with circles filled with dots.

The complete lamp in Fig. 4:4 and a rim fragment of another lamp (not illustrated) exhibit a nozzle incorporated within the body. The reservoir is unusually deep. No close parallel for the floral design that appears on the rim was found. This lamp was uncovered in an installation excavated in Building II, Room 4 (L98; see Sion, this volume: Plan 4), alongside coins dating from the mid-fourth to the beginning of the fifth century CE (see Bijovsky and Berman, this volume: Nos. 56, 60, 66, 120, 132). The lamp in Fig. 4:5 is decorated with a defective-style branch. Its ring base is slightly pointed. A herringbone pattern decorates the rim of the lamp in Fig. 4:6. Its nozzle bears Xs within squares, and two strings of small dots surround the filling hole.



0 2

Fig. 5.

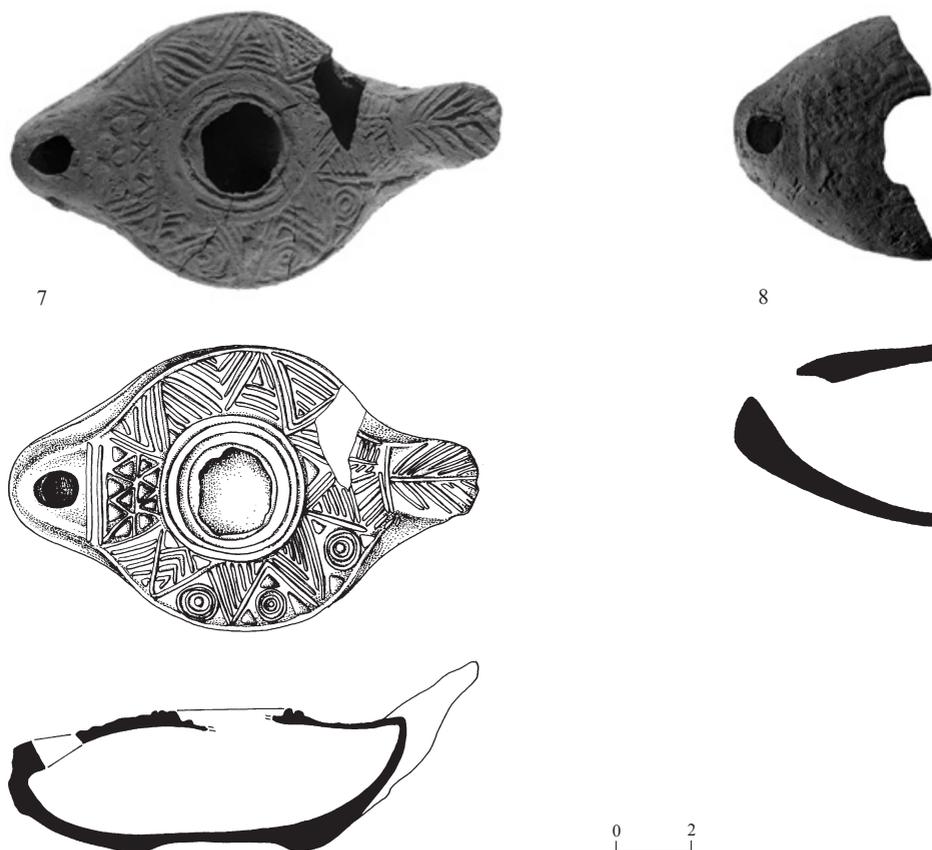


Fig. 5. (cont.)

No.	Locus (Building/Room)	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	24 (Courtyard)	157	Orange clay, burn marks on nozzle and base	W 6.0; H 2.3
2	24 (Courtyard)	164-8	Reddish clay	W 6.5; H 2.7
3	14 (Courtyard)	38-1	Red clay, burn marks on nozzle	W 6.8; H 3.5
4	24 (Courtyard)	128	Brown clay, burn marks on nozzle	W 6.0; H 2.7
5	2008 (IV/7)	1022	Restored, missing half of the rim; brown clay, gray core	L 9.0; H 2.9
6	24 (Courtyard)	153-2	Red clay, burn traces on upper part, handle is broken	W 6.2; H 3.0
7	89 (Burial cave)	358	Red-buff clay	L 12.0; W 7.0; H 3.0
8	86 (Burial cave)	350	Brown clay, burn marks on nozzle	

The very large lamp in Fig. 4:7 has a rounded body, a long nozzle and a large, low ring base. A herringbone pattern appears on the rim, and two strings of small dots surround the filling hole. The nozzle is ornamented with a rectangle filled with rhombi; the square near the handle is decorated with a geometric design. An identical specimen was found in the Hebrew University excavations, probably made in the same mold (Hadad 2002: Type 19, No. 223).

The rim of the lamp in Fig. 5:1 is ornamented with a single design of a woven-mat pattern, leaving the nozzle undecorated. Two ridges surround the filling hole. The rim of the lamp in Fig. 5:2 is covered by a geometric design of raised dots, circles and radial lines; the filling hole is surrounded by a single ridge. In Fig. 5:3, the nozzle is incorporated into the body. The rim is decorated with concentric circles filled with dots; a stylized palm tree with hanging branches; and a square divided into rhombi and filled with dots.

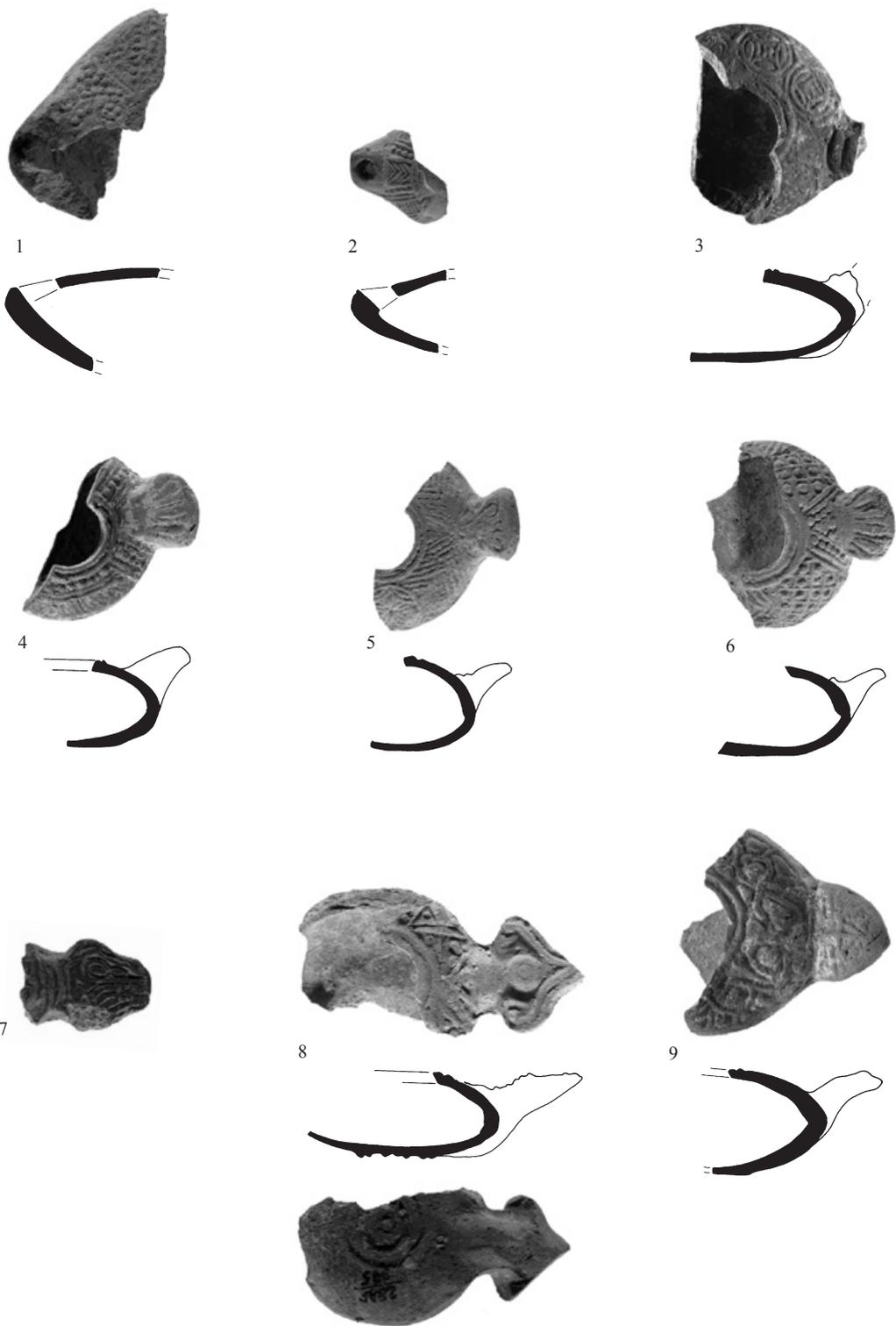
On the nozzle of the lamp in Fig. 5:4 appears a rectangle divided into nine squares, filled with Xs and dots. A herringbone motif is bordered by lines of triangles with dots, and lines of dots surround the filling hole and demarcate the handle.

The relatively small lamp in Fig. 5:5 has an exact parallel, retrieved from the Hebrew University excavations (Hadad 2002:37–38, Type 19, No. 124). It is decorated with a herringbone pattern, the filling hole is surrounded by a string of small dots, and the nozzle bears a geometric design (concentric rhombi, circle and dot) inside a square frame.

The rim of the lamp in Fig. 5:6 is decorated with a floral design and the filling hole is

surrounded by a string of small dots. A stylized flower appears on the nozzle, separated from the rim decoration by two strings of dots on both sides. There is a protuberance at the base, beneath the handle. In Fig. 5:7, one side of the rim is decorated with zigzag lines, while the other side bears triangles filled by lines and concentric circles. The nozzle is slightly concave and the handle is longer than usual. The nozzle in Fig. 5:8 bears traces of a palm branch; no other decoration was preserved.

The lamp fragment in Fig. 6:1 has a nozzle incorporated into the body and a rim decorated with circles filled by dots. Two similar fragments (Fig. 6:2; the other is not illustrated) have a nozzle decorated with a palm branch inside a frame, bordered on two sides by rows of dots. The rim in Fig. 6:3 is decorated with circles filled with a geometric pattern, and two ridges surround the filling hole. The rim in Fig. 6:4 is decorated with a herringbone pattern and strings of dots. The herringbone motif in Fig. 6:5 occurs with a stylized flower within circles. In Fig. 6:6, alternating rhombi with circles decorate the back of the rim, and in Fig. 6:7, the handle is shaped like a flower, decorated with lines. The back of the lamp in Fig. 6:8 has a raised handle, shaped like a serrated leaf. The handle was attached to the body in a horizontal position, and there is a protuberance on its lower side. It is decorated with a curved line and a large, raised dot. The rim bears large squares divided by pairs of diagonal lines creating rhombi with dots. On the base are two raised rings of large diameter and a small circle with a dot inside. The back of Fig. 6:9 is entirely decorated with a guilloche pattern; the shape of the handle is of a slightly rounded triangle.



0 2

Fig. 6.

◀ Fig. 6

No.	Locus (Building/Room)	Basket	Description (cm)
1	86 (II/5)	250	Brown clay, burn marks on nozzle
2	58 (II/5)	326-2	Light brown clay
3	24 (Courtyard)	164-3	Red clay
4	1001 (IV/9)	2010	Brown clay
5	74 (Courtyard)	305	Red clay
6	24 (Courtyard)	134-3	Red clay
7	1528 (I/4)	3091	Gray clay
8	93 (I/4)	385	Red clay
9	63 (II/4)	254-1	Brown clay

Fig. 7:1–4. These lamps are characterized by a small filling hole and a knob handle. They match Hadad's Type 20, dated to the fifth century CE (Hadad 2002:50–53).

The small lamp in Fig. 7:1 has a slipper-shaped body and the nozzle is almost incorporated within it. A herringbone pattern decorates the entire rim, ending with a few dots on the nozzle. The filling hole is surrounded by a raised ridge. The lamp in Fig. 7:2 has a rounded body, a long narrow nozzle, strongly concaved on both sides, and a radial decoration on the rim. The lamp in Fig. 7:3 has a rounded body and a relatively short, concaved nozzle. Its rim is decorated with lines between ridges. Two ridges separated the nozzle from the rim. It is completely identical to one of the lamps found in the Hebrew University excavations (Hadad 2002: Type 20, No. 240). The top and bottom of the lamp in Fig. 7:4 are flat, with a small knob-shaped handle. On the rim is a schematic leaf decoration (Kennedy 1963: Pl. XXVIII:734; Hadad 2002: Type 20, No. 239).

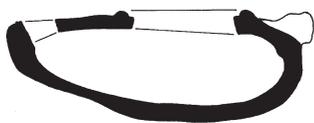
Fig. 7:5–7. Three almost complete lamps and eight fragments are imitations of Bet Naṭṭif

lamps. They are large, with a slightly concave, rounded nozzle and an almost vertical handle. The filling holes are large, surrounded by two or three ridges. The rims are decorated with herringbone or radial patterns. The nozzles bear different decorations: an amphora with two bunches of grapes (No. 5); concentric rhombi with a raised dot inside and two bunches of grapes, one on each side (No. 6); and large dots between two strings of small dots (No. 7). Similar lamps were found near the amphitheater at Bet She'an and in other contexts of the fifth–early sixth centuries CE (Hadad 2002:56, Type 21).

Fig. 8. Seven almost complete lamps and nine fragments (not all are illustrated) belong to a group of mold-made oil lamps with an oval body, biconical in section. A shallow, undecorated channel stretches from the filling to the wick-hole, and a vertical tongue handle is decorated with a herringbone pattern. The bases are wide and flat or have a flat platform, mirroring the shape of the upper part. All lamps have a round filling hole, and are decorated with a herringbone pattern on both sides of the channel.



1



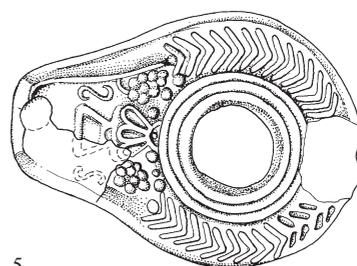
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Fig. 7.

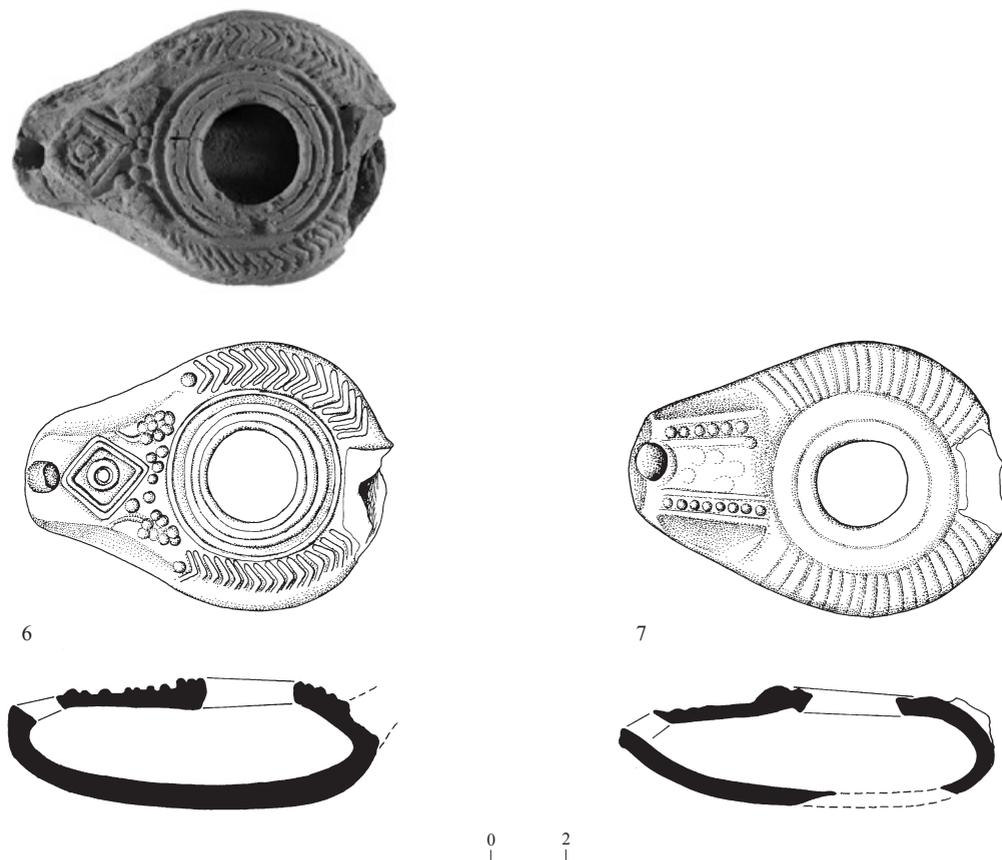
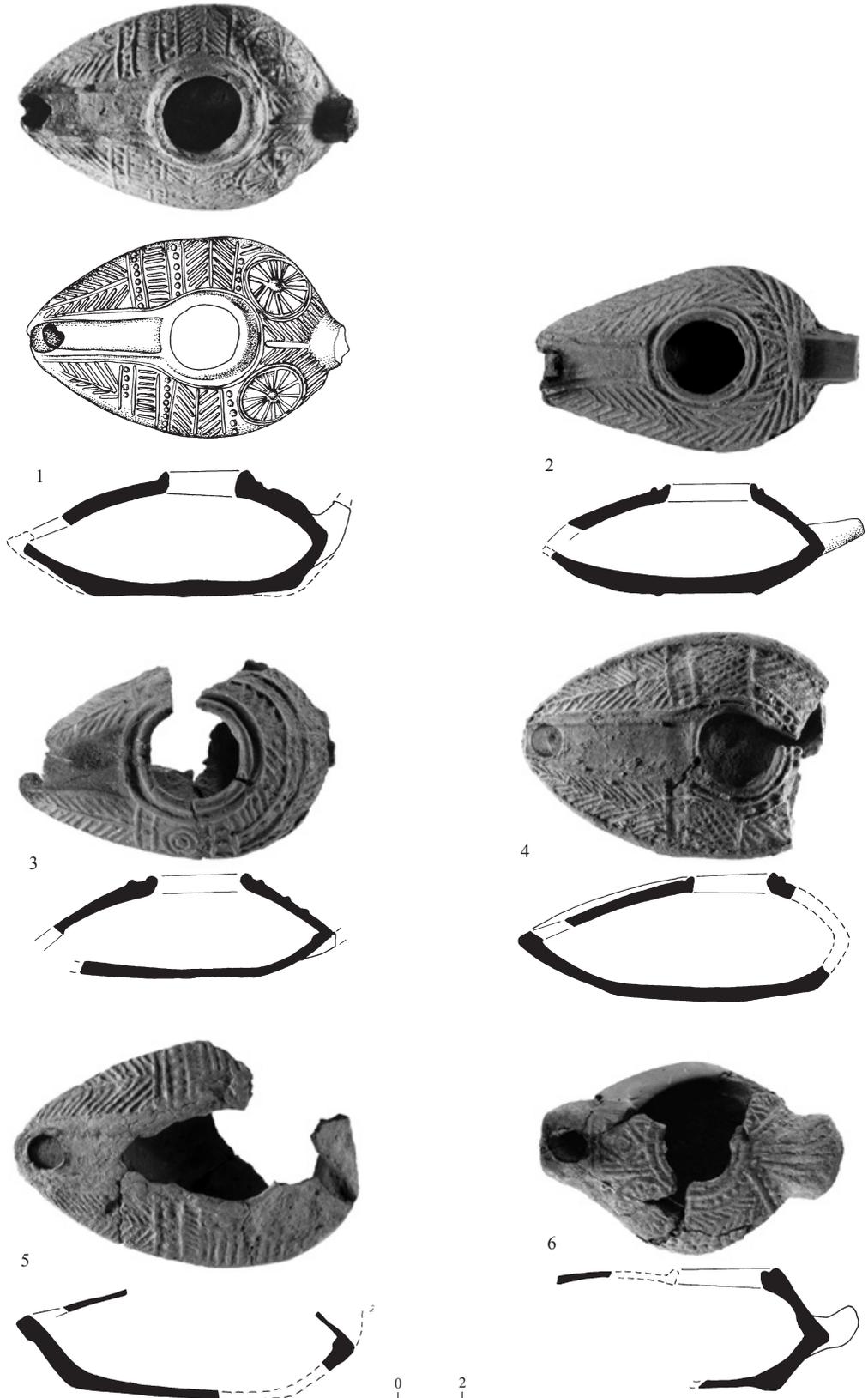


Fig. 7. (cont.)

No.	Locus (Building/Room)	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	24 (Courtyard)	166-5	Brown clay, burn traces on nozzle	L 8.0; W 6.0; H 2.7
2	48 (Tomb)	177-1	Red clay, burn marks on nozzle	L 8.5; W 5.8; H 3.0
3	24 (Courtyard)	164-5	Orange clay, burn marks on nozzle	L 8.0; W 6.0; H 2.7
4	2008 (IV/7)	1034-2	Light brown clay	L 8.2; W 6.5; H 2.2
5	71 (Staircase to burial cave)	308-1	Orange clay, smoke traces on nozzle	L 8.7; W 6.3; H 2.8
6	71 (Staircase to burial cave)	277-1	Light brown clay	W 6.3; H 2.7
7	71 (Staircase to burial cave)	308-2	Brown clay	W 7.0; H 3.0



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Fig. 8.

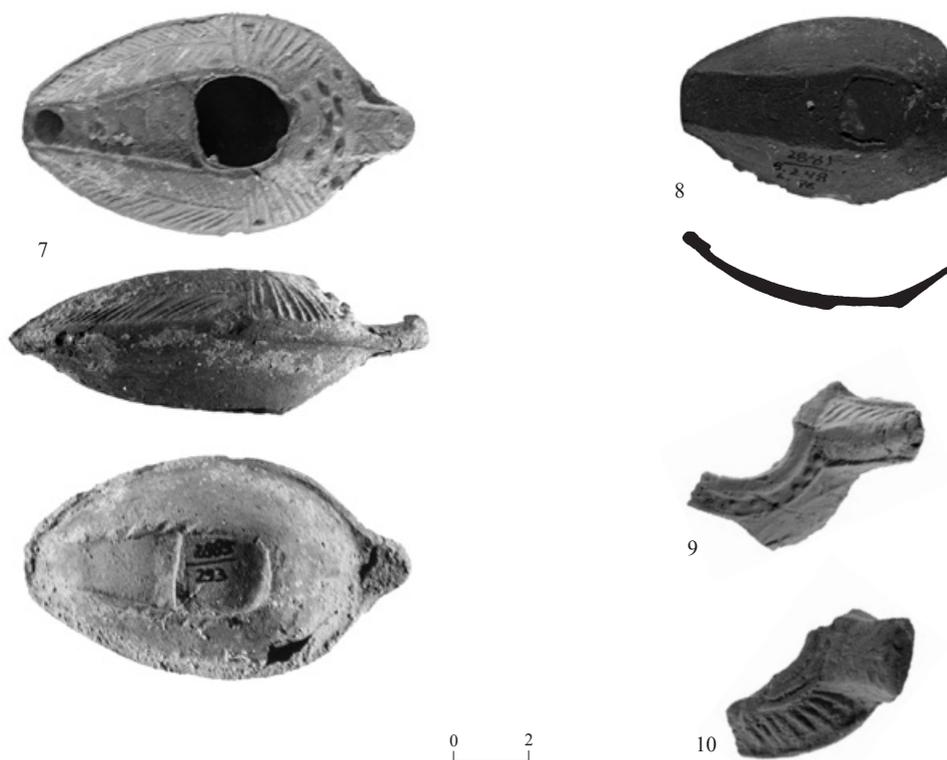


Fig. 8. (cont.)

No.	Locus (Building/Room)	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	71 (Staircase to burial cave)	304-1	Yellowish brown clay, burn marks on nozzle and back part	L 9.5; W 6.0; H 3.5
2	(Surface)	10	Light brown clay	L 10.0; W 5.5; H 3.4
3	(Surface)	288-1	Light brown clay	W 5.7; H 3.2
4	(Surface)	266	Thick ware, brown clay	W 6.8; H 3.8
5	71 (Staircase to burial cave)	289	Light brown clay, burn mark on nozzle	L 10.0; W 6.8; H 3.5
6	45 (II/8)	160	Brown clay, small white grits	W 6.7; H 3.6
7	71 (Staircase to burial cave)	293	Brown-grayish clay, burn marks on nozzle	L 10.0; W 5.5; H 3.0
8	76 (Burial cave)	248	Reddish brown clay	
9	71 (Staircase to burial cave)	308-3/1	Very pale brown clay	
10	44 (II/8)	169	Light brown clay	

In the Hebrew University excavations at Bet She'an, most of these lamps were found in and around the amphitheater. The earliest ones were dated to the sixth century CE, while others were unearthed with finds from the Umayyad period, when they were more common (Hadad 2002:74, 78). A group of similar lamps, defined as "Late Samaritan Lamps" and dated to the Umayyad period, was discovered in the pottery workshop (Bar-Nathan and Atrash 2011:300). These lamps parallel Elgavish's Type 54, dated to the fifth–sixth centuries CE through the early Islamic period (Elgavish 1962:213). Avigad (1976:193, No. 45) dated similar lamps at Bet She'arim to the end of the seventh century CE.

The decoration on the back of the rim in the lamp in Fig. 8:1 consists of multispoked wheels, separated by a herringbone motif. The central section is decorated with two rows of dots flanking a herringbone pattern, a band of parallel lines and another row of dots. A vertical herringbone motif appears on both sides of the channel. This lamp has an exact parallel in the Hebrew University lamp corpus, and was possibly made in the same mold (Hadad 2002:74–75, No. 323).

The entire rim of the lamp in Fig. 8:2 is decorated with a herringbone pattern. In Fig. 8:3, the back of the rim is decorated with radial strings filled with lines. Strings of dots demarcate the central section, which is decorated with a dot inside a circle. A radial design covers the back part of Fig. 8:4 near the handle. A net pattern, bordered by lines of dots on each side, appears on the center of the lamp. The lamp in Fig. 8:5 has horizontal strings of dots in the center and an unidentified decoration near the handle. Two ridges surround the filling hole extending toward the channel of the lamp in Fig. 8:6. A herringbone decoration, within horizontal panels, covers its entire rim. Near the handle of Fig. 8:7 are raised dots, and radial lines appear on the central section. The bottom channel of the lamp in Fig. 8:8 is particularly pronounced. A string of dots surrounds the filling hole of the lamp in Fig. 8:9 and touches a long tongue handle decorated with lines. In

Fig. 8:10, a radial design appears on the back of the rim. The lamp was found together with Coin No. 206 (565–578 CE; see Bijovsky and Berman, this volume) and with Byzantine pottery above the floor of Room 8 in Building II (L44; see Sion, this volume: Plan 1).

Fig. 9. This group comprises one almost complete lamp and six fragments. The lamps are pear-shaped with a conical handle and a high ring base. The filling hole is surrounded by a ridge, which extends toward the wick-hole, creating a channel. Two lamps are decorated with wavy lines, arranged in two rows with a ladder motif. In both cases, a stylized branch appears on the channel. Three other fragments have alternating semicircles, as on the largest lamp found in the Hebrew University excavations (Hadad 2002:94, Type 36, No. 416). Two of these lamps (Fig. 9:1, 2) have high ring bases; one is decorated with eight-spoked wheels, and the other—with circles and dots. The lamp in Fig. 9:3 was found with Coin No. 385 (see Bijovsky and Berman, this volume). These lamps were very popular in Palestine during the Early Islamic period (Hadad 2002:94–95). They were made in the Umayyad-period pottery workshop at Bet She'an and were distributed in different places, especially in the vicinity of the city (Bar-Nathan and Atrash 2011:297).

Fig. 10:1–10. These lamps are similar in shape to the previous type, but have a tongue handle and a different base and decoration. They comprise ten fragments, several of which are almost complete lamps. In the Hebrew University excavations at Bet She'an, these lamps appeared only after the mid-eighth century CE (Hadad 2002:105, Type 37). Based on comparative analysis, Rosenthal and Sivan (1978:130, Nos. 546–561) dated this type from the seventh–eighth centuries to the eleventh century CE. Parallels were found at Khirbat el-Mefjer, in contexts following the earthquake of 749 CE (Baramki 1944:73).

The lamp in Fig. 10:1 is decorated with stylized leaves and two raised lines inside the

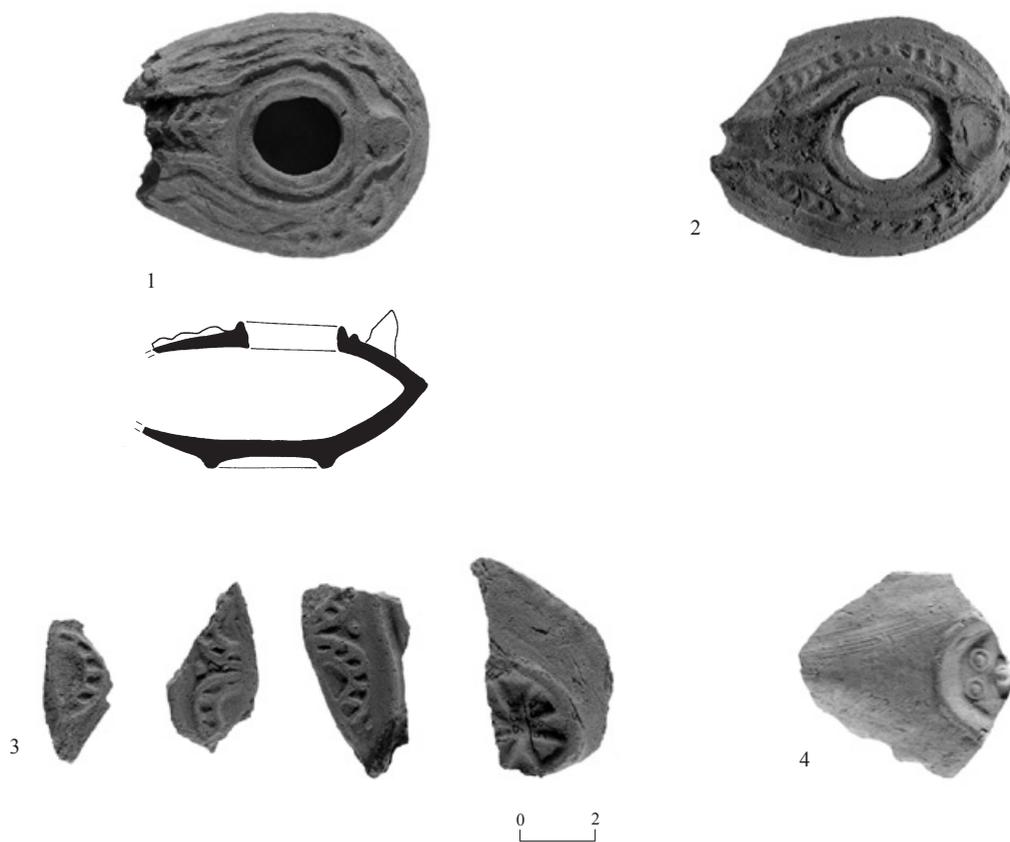


Fig. 9.

No.	Locus (Building/Room)	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	18 (II/1)	50	Burn marks on nozzle	W 6.4; H 3.5
2	1528 (I/4)	3073	Light brown clay, burn marks on nozzle	
3	1546 (I/Court G)	3136	Brown clay, burn marks on nozzle	
4	98 (I/4)	386	Brown clay	

channel, stretching between the filling hole and the wick hole. The lamp in Fig. 10:2 is decorated with alternating circles with dots and rectangles. The lamp in Fig. 10:3 has circles with a geometric pattern inside and raised dots along the edge of the rim. The channel bears a line of raised dots within circles. An exact parallel is known from the Hebrew University excavations (Hadad 2002: Type 37, No. 431). A very small part of the rim is preserved in the lamp in Fig. 10:4. Its

channel is decorated with three raised lines. In Fig. 10:5, a stylized leaf decoration appears on the back of the rim, near the handle. The lamp in Fig. 10:6 has a seven-spoked wheel decoration and two raised ridges surrounding the filling hole. A vine tendril, with a cluster of grapes and a line of dots, is preserved near the handle of the fragment in Fig. 10:7. The rim of the lamp in Fig. 10:8 is decorated with alternating circles filled with a geometric design (dots?), and concentric rhombi filled

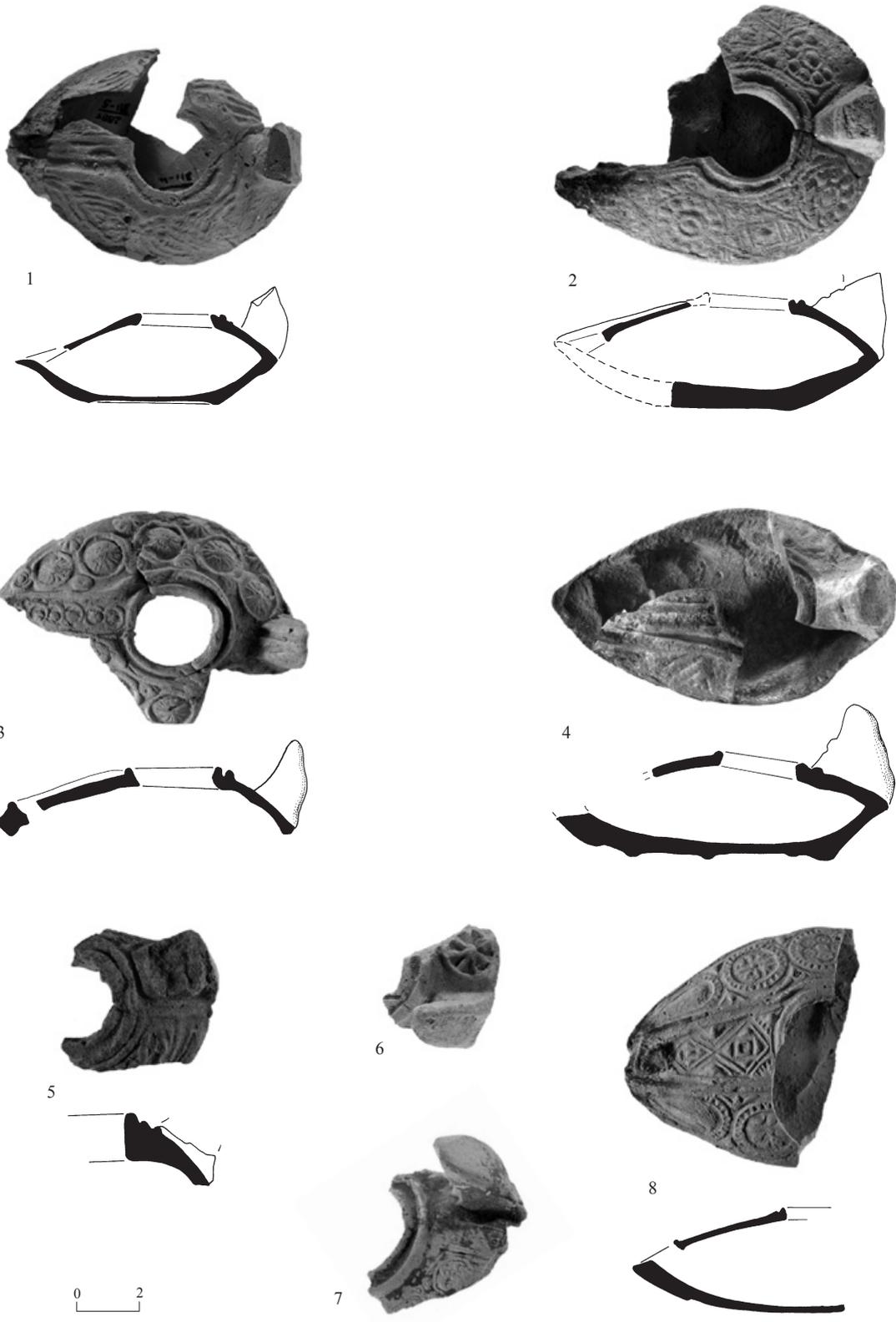


Fig. 10.

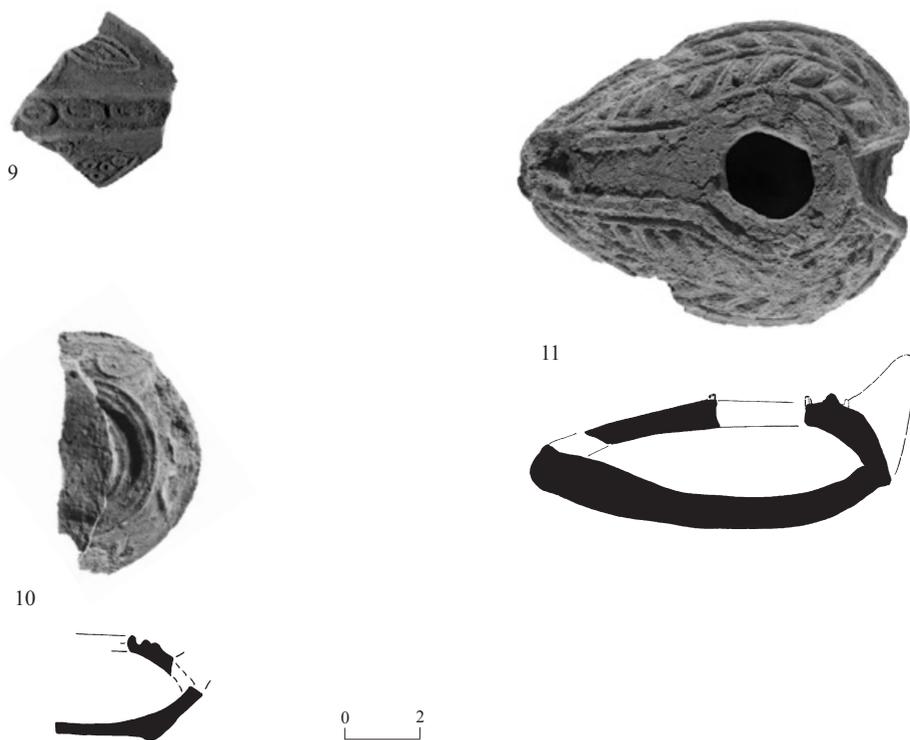


Fig. 10. (cont.)

No.	Locus (Building/Room)	Basket	Description	Measurements (cm)
1	76 (Burial cave)	311	Reddish brown clay, burn traces on nozzle	L 8.5; W 6.0; H 2.6
2	95 (II/8)	375	Light brown clay, burn marks on nozzle and lower part	L 10.4; H 3.5
3	1012 (IV/Well 2)	2073	Pale yellowish clay	
4	84 (II/6)	92	Pale yellowish clay	L 10.8; W 5.8; H 3.3
5	60 (II/W9)	226	Buff clay, burn marks on inner part	
6	504 (Stratum II)	1037-2	Yellow-greenish clay	
7	504 (Stratum II)	1037-1	Yellow-greenish clay, black patina	
8	510 (III)	1021	Greenish yellow clay, burn marks on nozzle	
9	2008 (IV/7)	1034-1	Yellowish clay	
10	1526 (Stratum II)	3265	Very pale brown clay	
11	502 (Stratum III)	1014	Brown clay, burn mark on nozzle	L 9.8; W 7.2; H 2.7

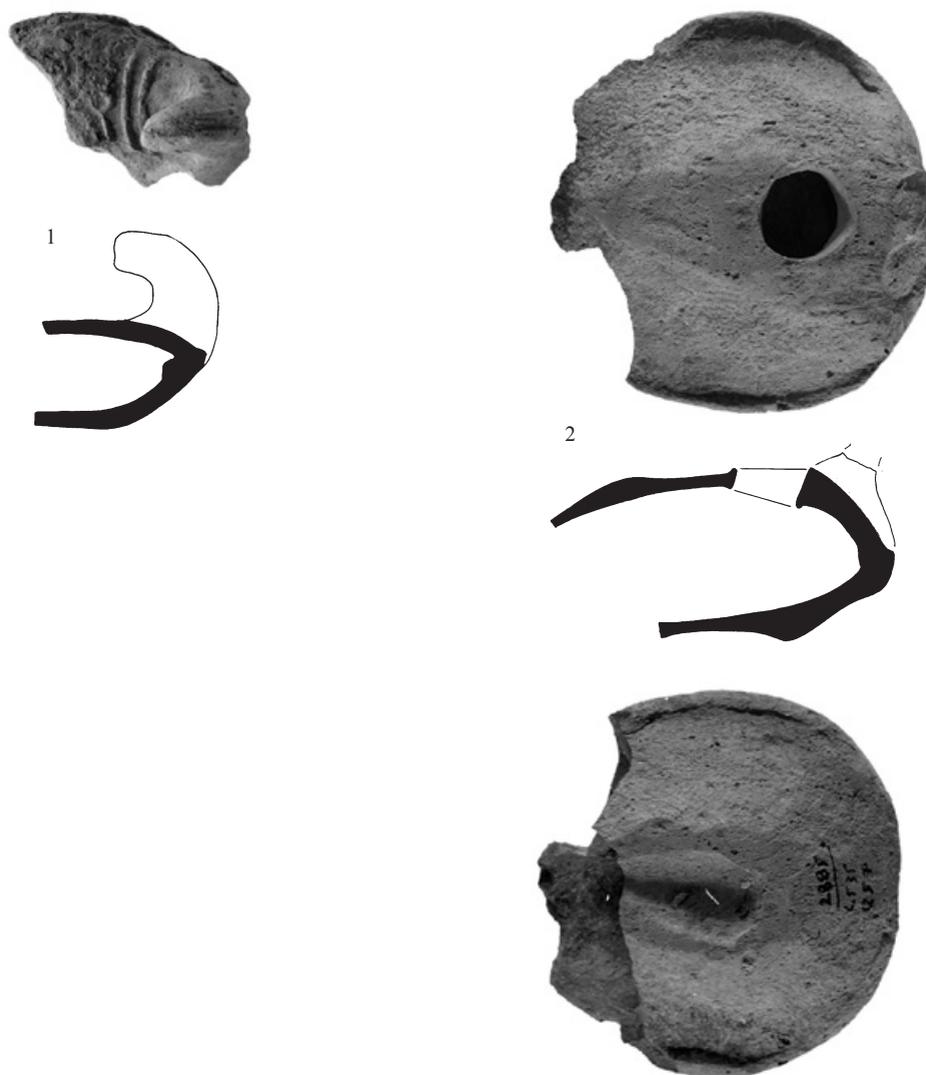


Fig. 11.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
1	24 (Courtyard)	92-5	Light greenish clay
2	535 (Stratum II)	1257	Brown clay, gray core, many small white grits, burn marks on rim

with squares appear in the channel. The rim in Fig. 10:9 is decorated with leaves filled with dots, and the channel is decorated with a row of ovals. The fragment in Fig. 10:10 is the back half of a miniature lamp with traces of a floral design on the rim and three raised ridges surrounding the filling hole.

Fig. 10:11. The lamp is made in a very rough manner; its walls are thin and the decoration has no parallels in Bet She'an. On the basis of its body shape and the channel that stretches from the filling hole to the wick hole, it may be dated to the Early Islamic period.

Fig. 11:1. Three fragments of mold-made lamps with a twisted handle above the body were uncovered (only one is illustrated). All have two raised lines on the rim, separating the decoration from the handle. The lamp in Fig. 11:1 has a pseudo-inscription design. This type was found in the Hebrew University excavations at Bet She'an, and dated there to the late twelfth–first half of the thirteenth centuries CE (Hadad 2002:112, Type 44).

Fig. 11:2. This type is represented by one broken lamp and one fragment (not illustrated), both

found on the surface layer of the excavation. Both have a very small filling hole, which was cut after the lamp was removed from the mold. The joint between the upper and lower parts created a wide rib around the body. The upper part is convex, with a slightly pointed channel between the filling and wick holes, narrowing toward the nozzle. The deep channel on the lamp base mirrors the shape of the upper channel. Based on finds from the Bet She'an amphitheater, these lamps were dated to the second half of the thirteenth and the fourteenth centuries CE (Hadad 2002:115, Type 46).

NOTE

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