

MAMLUK AND OTTOMAN REMAINS IN THE AL-WAṬA QUARTER, SAFED (ZEFAT)

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A salvage excavation was carried out in November 2006 in the al-Waṭa quarter of Safed (Zefat; map ref. NIG 246375–92/763187–269; OIG 196375–92/263187–269; Fig. 1),¹ located in the southwestern portion of today's city center, following severe damage to the site by a building contractor. This sector was called Ḥāret al-Waṭa, i.e., the lower quarter, in early Ottoman tax records (Cohen and Lewis 1978:155, n. 6; Shur 2000:96, Fig. 22). An area of approximately 53 sq m was opened for exploration after the contractor scraped the surface layers; debris left at the site by the contractor was removed.²

STRATIGRAPHY AND ARCHITECTURE

The surface was cleaned manually and three squares, aligned on a north–south axis (Sqs 1–3 respectively; Plan 1; Fig. 2) were opened. Following the discovery of structural remains, the balk between Sqs 2 and 3 was dismantled. The upper layers in each square (L1000, L1001, L1002) had been disturbed by the contractor's mechanical excavator. No building remains were uncovered in the north of the excavation area, but the bottom of the building fills covered

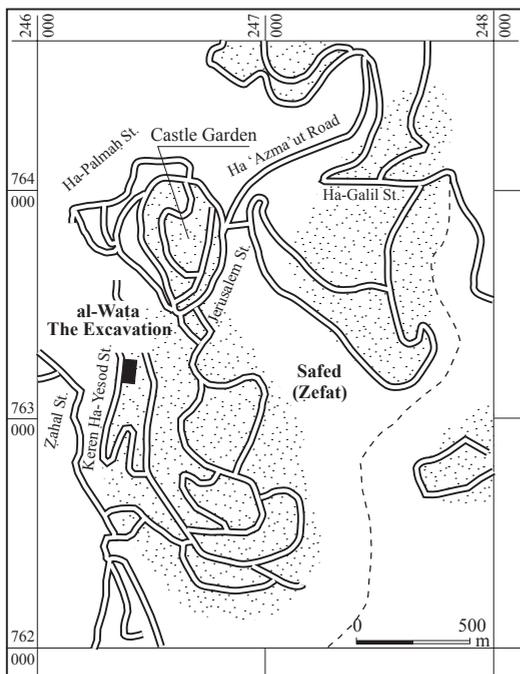
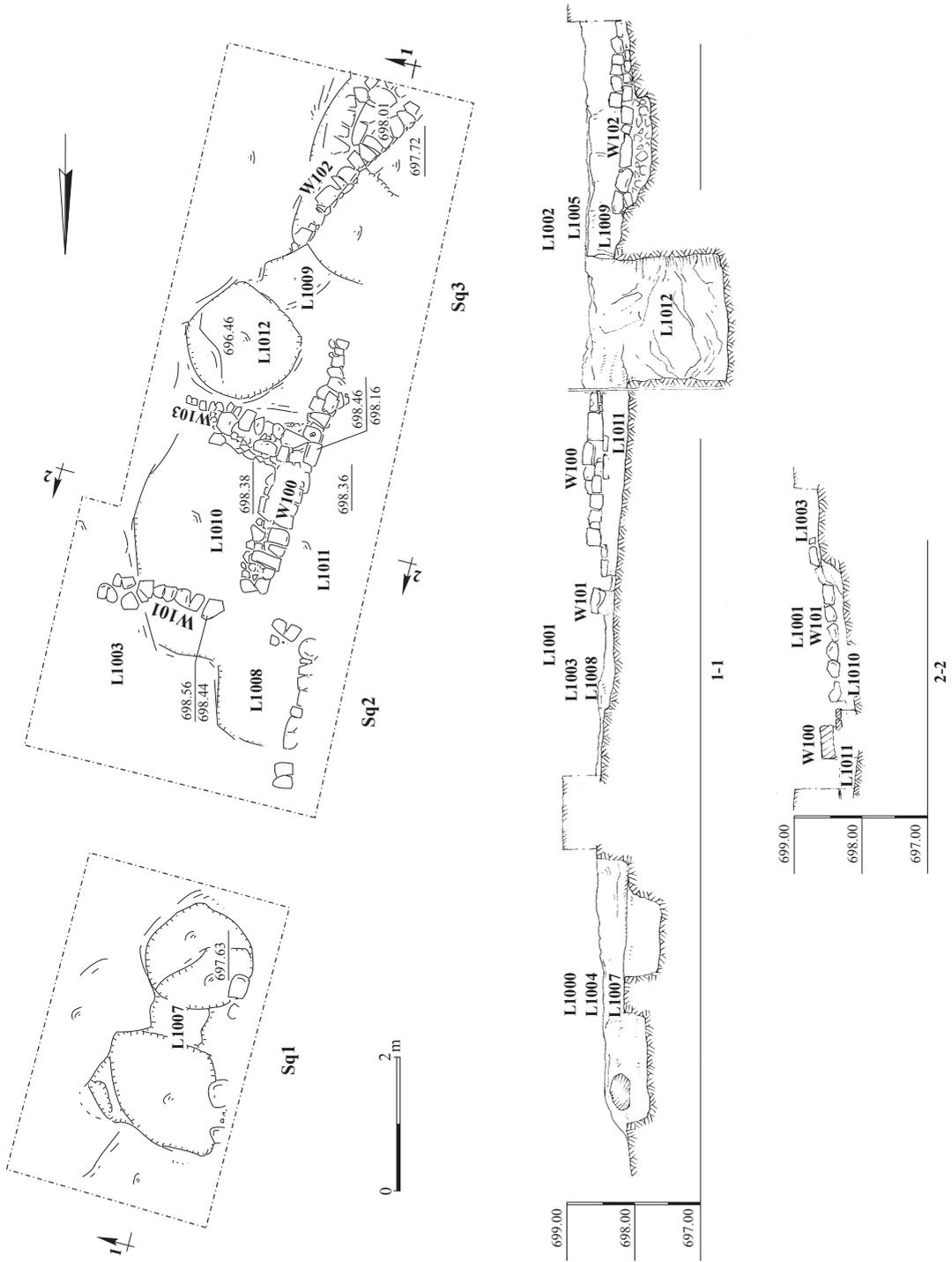


Fig. 1. Location map of the excavation in the al-Waṭa quarter, Safed.



Fig. 2. General view of the excavation, looking north.



Plan 1. Plan and sections of the excavation.

and filled two pits in the soft whitish limestone of the bedrock that had been excavated and banked up in the Mamluk period (L1007; Fig. 3). Two stones, carefully dressed on one face



Fig. 3. Two pits hewn in the bedrock in Sq 1, looking northeast.

with a gradine (Fig. 4), were discovered in this fill. Except for L1010 and L1011, the area uncovered consisted of a powdery light, reddish yellow earth. The quality of these building elements is in contrast with the remains of the walls uncovered further south in Sqs 2 and 3, where only the lower courses of stone walls, consisting of two rows of roughly trimmed fieldstones, were uncovered; their preserved height did not exceed two courses (Fig. 5).



Fig. 4. Two well-hewn building stones from the building fill in the pits (L1007).



Fig. 5. General view of the building remains in the central and southern part of the excavated area (Sqs 2, 3). In the foreground—structural remains, the bases of three of the four remaining walls, looking south–southwest.

Two distinct features were identified. The first was three of the four walls of a room, oriented roughly according to the cardinal points (W101, W103, W100), two of the walls (W100 and W103) meeting to form a corner; W100 included a threshold on its northern side (Fig. 6). The second feature was two hard-surface layers and traces of ashes that abutted the inner (L1010) and outer (L1011) faces of these walls; these may have been the inner and outer floors of the building, which are level with that of the threshold.

Two coins were uncovered on Floor 1010. One coin was minted by Baybars (1260–1277 CE; see Kool, this volume: Cat. No. 3); the other dated to the third reign of the sultan al-Naṣir al-Din Muḥammad (1310–1341; see Kool, this volume: Cat. No. 8). The latter coin hints that the building was erected no earlier than the first half of the fourteenth century.

The remains of the southernmost W102 displayed a slightly different orientation (northeast–southwest) than that of the others and its western face was carefully dressed.

This wall may have been either a terrace wall or the western limit of a building whose other walls were not preserved. A deep, circular pit (L1012) was cut in the bedrock between these buildings remains.

THE FINDS

POTTERY

The nearly total destruction of the site obliterated almost all traces of stratigraphy. Thus, the pottery assemblage is presented typologically.

Medieval Period

Unglazed Wares

*Plain Handmade and Handmade Geometrically Painted Ware*³.— Plain handmade wares are primarily characterized by large bowls or basins with flattened or slightly rounded rims and slightly incurved profiles (Fig. 7:1–4); the walls are thick (1–2 cm). The interior of these



Fig. 6. The threshold in the northern face of W100; note ashy Floor 1011, looking south–southwest.

vessels is burnished up to the rim. Handmade Geometrically Painted Ware is represented by a well-made jug (Fig. 7:5). Although parallels for this type are known from Frankish and Mamluk occupation layers, the atypical features of this

production hinder a precise chronological attribution. In fact, the type continued well into late Ottoman–modern times (Avisar and Stern 2005:88–90).

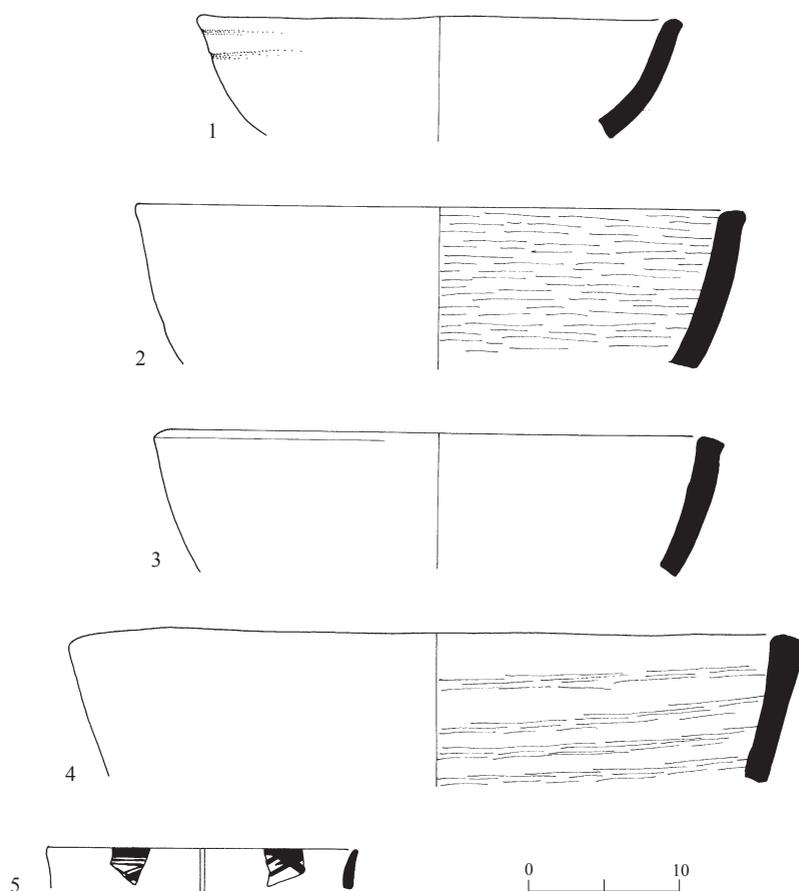


Fig. 7. Handmade and painted handmade pottery.

No.	Vessel	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	Bowl	1009	10019-6	Orange-brown clay mixed with straw, white inclusions, gray core; traces of burnish on int. and rim	
2	Bowl	1009	10022-3	Light orange-brown clay mixed with straw, white grits, gray core; orange slip; burnished on int. and rim	Avisar 1996: Fig. XIII.86:6
3	Bowl	1010	10024-1	Reddish brown clay mixed with straw, white grits, gray core; red slip on int. and over rim; burnish on int. and rim	Avisar 2005: Fig. 2:12:3
4	Bowl	1002	10016-5	Light orange-brown clay mixed with straw, black and white grits, gray core; traces of burnish on int. and rim	Avisar 2005: Fig. 2:12:4
5	Jug	1010	10023-1	Light orange-brown clay, white grits, gray core; cream slip on int. and pinkish slip on ext., burnish on ext.; brownish red geometric patterns painted on int. and ext.	Avisar and Stern 2005: Fig. 47:5

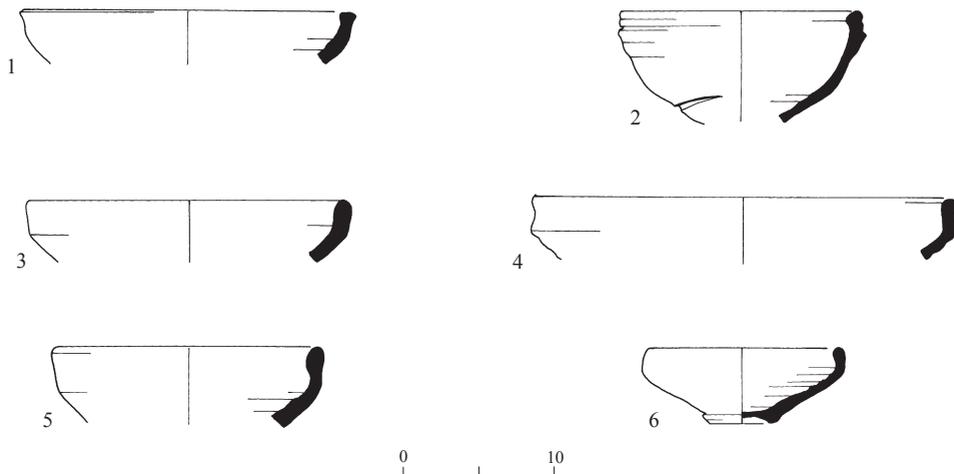


Fig. 8. Unglazed plain bowls.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	1003	10006-3	Dark brown clay, black and white grits	Avissar 1996: Fig. XIII. 77:2
2	1012	10027-2	Orange-brown clay, white inclusions, many black grits	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 35:6
3	1002	10016-2	Light orange-brown clay, black and white grits, greenish core	Tushingham 1985: Fig. 34:32
4	1003	10006-2	Orange-brown clay, white inclusions, black grits	Bagatti 1993: Fig. 31:5 de Vaux and Stève 1950: Pl. G:17 Lazar 1999: Fig. 4:4 Kletter and Stern 2006: Fig. 15:1
5	1011	10021-1	Dark brown clay, black and white grits	Tushingham 1985: Fig. 41:5
6	1002	10016-1	Light orange-brown clay, black and white grits	

Plain Bowls.— The unglazed bowls are part of a homogeneous class of pottery that has flattened or rounded rims and rounded (Fig. 8:1, 2) or, more often, carinated (Fig. 8:3–6) profiles. This type of bowl is rare in Frankish contexts at Yoqne‘am (Avissar 1996:123–124). It occurs at Abu Gosh, but no distinction was made there between vessels of Frankish or Mamluk date (de Vaux and Stève 1950:133–137).

Bowl No. 1 is similar in shape to an example uncovered on Jerusalem Street, Safed, in a context dated between the end of the twelfth and the first half of the thirteenth centuries (Barbé, forthcoming). However, there, the great majority of the plain bowls have a wide ledge rim and a round profile

similar to ‘Acre bowls’ from the Frankish period (Stern 1997:37–39). Plain bowls with round or, more often, carinated, profiles are usually found in assemblages dated to the Mamluk period (Tushingham 1985:148; Avissar and Stern 2005:82). The shapes of our vessels are similar to those of Mamluk-period monochrome glazed bowls (Kletter and Stern 2006:185), but the examples from Safed are manufactured from a coarser fabric than those of the monochrome glazed bowls discovered at this same site. The bowl illustrated in Fig. 8:2 differs from local productions in its fabric, which comprises many fine black inclusions, but in form, it is closer to that of vessels from Ramla (Avissar and Stern 2005:82–83). This

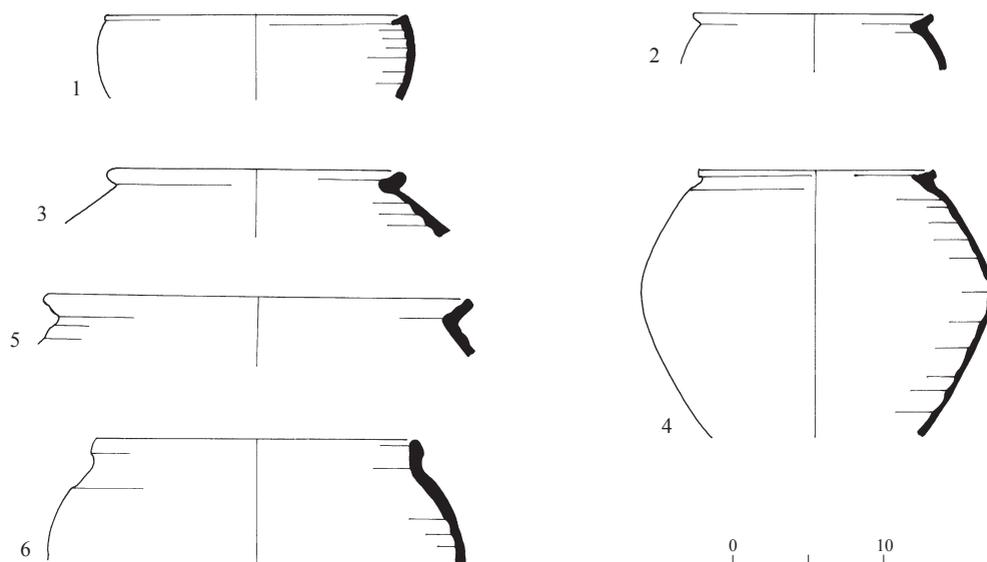


Fig. 9. Unglazed cooking vessels.

No.	Vessel	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	Cooking bowl	1009	10022-5	Brown clay, white grits	Avissar 1996: Fig. XIII.99:5
2	Globular cooking pot	1009	10022-11	Light orange-brown sandy clay, black and white grits, gray core	Pringle 1984: Fig. 5:24
3	Globular cooking pot	1003	10015-2	Dark brown clay, many white inclusions, black grits, gray core	As No. 2
4	Globular cooking pot	1007	10014-1	Orange-brown clay, white grits	Pringle 1984: Fig. 5:30
5	Globular cooking pot	1002	10002-3	Orange-brown sandy clay, black and white grits	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 39:10
6	Cooking pot	1009	10019-5	Dark purplish brown clay, black and white grits	

example, based on its fabric, may be a product of a workshop in the Ramla area. Bowl 8:4 displays traces of soot marks on its outer wall.

Cooking Vessels

The plain cooking bowl (Fig. 9:1) is similar to examples found at Yoqne‘am that are dated there to the Early Islamic period; these are apparently residual sherds deriving from Frankish contexts (Avissar 1996:139, Type 12). Three unglazed globular cooking pots (Figs. 9:2–4) are similar in form to vessels discovered at St. Mary of Carmel, where Pringle, basing his premises on historical data, rules out the continuation of occupation at the site after 1291 (Pringle

1984:94). However, the published assemblage of vessels from this site comprises examples of glazed bowls with gouged sgraffito, which are now dated to the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries (Avissar and Stern 2005:16).

Another globular cooking pot (Fig. 9:5) is similar to Mamluk productions of similar workmanship dated to the fourteenth and even the fifteenth centuries (Avissar and Stern 2005:92). I found no parallel for the cooking pot illustrated in Fig. 9:6.

Storage and Table Vessels.— One of the storage vessels (Fig. 10:1) is close in volume to that of a pithos; however, its neck, decorated

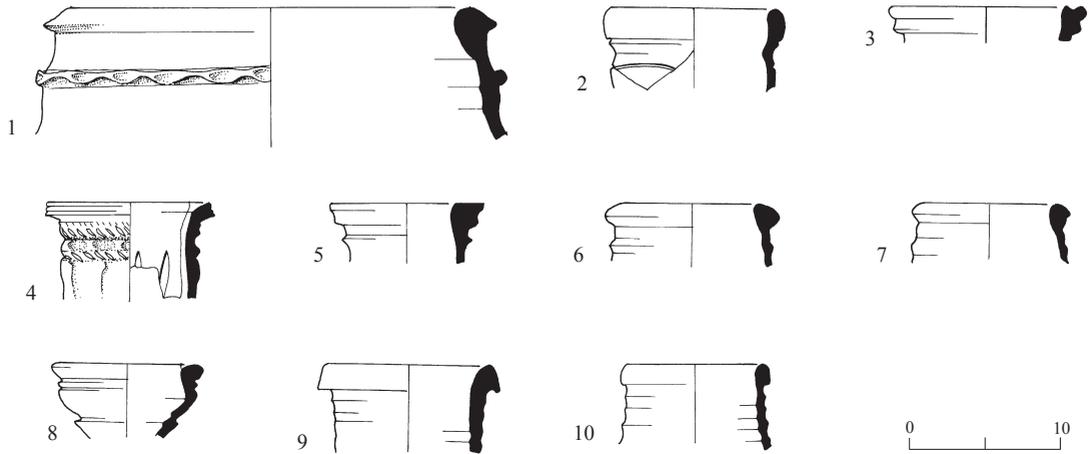


Fig. 10. Unglazed storage and table vessels.

No.	Vessel	Basket	Locus	Description	Parallels
1	Storage jar (pithos?)	10008-1	1003	Orange-brown clay, black grits, gray core	Avissar 1996: Fig. XIII.126:1 Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 42:9, 10
2	Storage jar	10000-2	1000	Light orange-brown clay, black and white grits, self slip on int. and ext.	Tushingham 1985: Fig. 42:12 Bagatti 1993: Fig. 25:1, 8 Avissar 2003: Pl. 19.2:16 Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 42:4 Boas 2006: Fig. 8:55, 56 Kletter and Stern 2006: Fig. 16:6
3	Storage jar	10010-7	1007	Light orange-brown clay, black grits, gray core	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 42:9, 10
4	Storage jar	10009-3	1005	Orange-brown clay, gray core, incised decoration	As No. 3 in shape
5	Storage jar	10014-3	1007	Orange-brown clay, black, red and white grits	Stern 1999: Fig. 4:51 Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 42:9, 10
6	Storage jar	10009-4	1005	Orange-brown clay, black and white grits	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 42:8
7	Storage jar	10014-4	1007	Orange-brown clay, black and white grits	As No. 6
8	Jar(?)	10019-7	1009	Orange-brown clay, black and white grits	
9	Table amphora	10010-8	1007	Light orange-brown clay, greenish core, black grits	Hakimian and Salamé-Sarkis 1988: Fig. 3:1, Pl. VII:2:1, 2 Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 44:9–11
10	Table amphora	10019-8	1009	Brown sandy clay, black and white grits	As No. 9

with a thumb-indented ridge under the rim, is characteristic of a well-known jar type from the Mamluk period (Avissar and Stern 2005:102). The vessel's volume and the shape of the neck recall a handmade storage jar discovered

at Yoqne'am (Avissar 1996:155), also in a Mamluk-period context. The form of Jar No. 2 is found in Mamluk contexts at various sites in the Levant, but its fabric and slip recall a type known from Jerusalem and its vicinity

(Tushingam 1985:149; Avissar 2003:437; Boas 2006:83), dated to the end of the thirteenth and the fourteenth centuries.

The storage-jar type illustrated in Fig. 10:3–7 is similar to that of a type known to date to the Mamluk period (Avissar 1996:153; Stern 1999:132; Avissar and Stern 2005:102). One (Fig. 10:4) bears a complex incised decoration on the interior and exterior of the neck for which no parallel was found. Another is identified as a jar (Fig. 10:8) based on the diameter of its opening. Two vessels (Fig. 10:9, 10) are similar to amphorae found in Frankish contexts (Avissar 1996:155) or assemblages that date to the twelfth and thirteenth centuries (Avissar and Stern 2005:106). Vessels of the same type were found on Jerusalem Street, Safed, in a context that precedes the mid-thirteenth century (Barbé, forthcoming).

Glazed Wares

Monochrome Glazed Bowls.— These bowls have rounded rims and two types of profiles—more-or-less rounded (Figs. 11:1–6) or carinated (Figs. 11:7–10). The inner slip overflows to the outer wall of the bowl, but the glaze stops right under the outer part of the rim. These vessels resemble examples from sites such as Banias, Ḥorbat Burin, Qazrin and Yoqne'am, where they are dated to the second half of the thirteenth to the fifteenth centuries, and even later (Avissar and Stern 2005:12).

Bowls with Slip-Painted Decoration.— Figure 12:1 is a Reserved Slip Ware bowl; the decoration is achieved by leaving unslipped areas on the vessel's surface, which produces a variation in the color of the glaze. This type of decoration, appearing on vessels already in the Frankish period, was very popular at the beginning of the Mamluk period in the second half of the thirteenth and the fourteenth centuries (Avissar and Stern 2005:22). However, no parallels were found for the everted profile. Examples 12:2–4 belong to a type called Slip-Painted Ware; here, the decoration is painted

with slip below the glaze. This type appears during the Frankish period in the second half of the twelfth century; it was very popular during the Mamluk period and was still produced in Ottoman times (Avissar and Stern 2005:19). The bowl in Fig. 12:2, with its thickened rim and carinated profile, resembles in form that of vessels uncovered in Jerusalem, where they were dated to the Ayyubid period (Tushingam 1985:143), and to vessels from al-Burg al-Aḥmar (the Red Tower), in a context dated between 1248 and 1390 (Pringle 1986:128, 149). This vessel type, found at a number of sites in proximity to Safed, was very popular throughout the northern Levant; it changed in fabric and form in the transition from the Crusader to the Mamluk periods (Avissar and Stern 2005:19).

Glazed Bowls with Gouged Sgraffito Decoration

(Fig. 13).— Three bowls were found of this type, which features broad incisions gouged into the surface. Examples with decoration similar to that of Bowl No. 1 were found at St. Mary of Carmel (Pringle 1986: Fig. 8:71) and in Tripoli (Salamé-Sarkis 1980: Pl. 52:2). The complex decoration on the second bowl (Fig. 13:2), combining fine sgraffito and broad gouged incisions on an open form, resembles a vessel discovered at Banias (Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 6:5). The shape and the decoration of the third bowl (Fig. 13:3) are those of a vessel from St. Mary of Carmel (Pringle 1986: Fig. 8:71). This type appears at the end of the thirteenth century (Pringle 1985:186; 1986:106–107) and is common in Mamluk assemblages from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries (Avissar and Stern 2005:16–18). It is noteworthy that this ware is completely absent at the excavations on Jerusalem Street, Safed, occupied from the second half of the twelfth to the mid-thirteenth centuries (Barbé, forthcoming).

Soft-Paste Wares

Soft-paste wares from the al-Waṭa excavation can be divided into four distinct types.

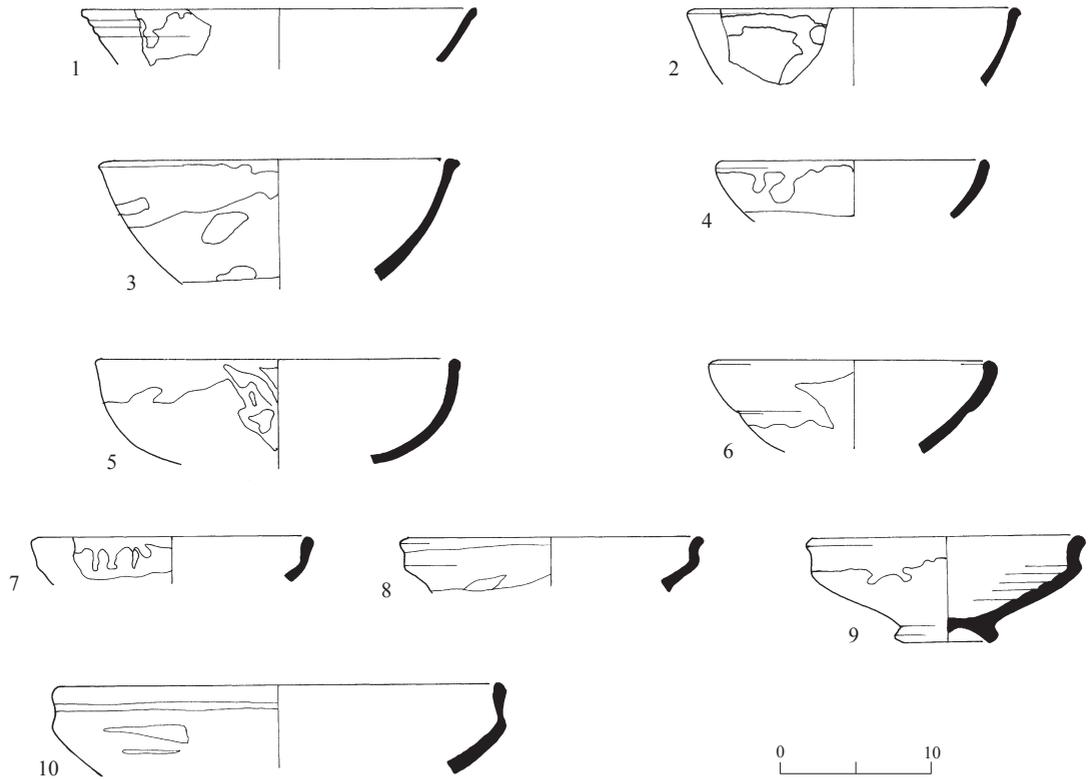


Fig. 11. Bowls: Monochrome Glazed Ware.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	1011	10021-5	Dark orange-brown clay, black grits; white slip under yellow glaze on int. and over rim	
2	1012	10025-3	Orange-brown clay, black and white grits; white slip under green glaze on int. and over rim	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 4:1
3	1009	10019-2	Light orange-brown clay, black grits; white slip under yellow glaze on int. and over rim	As No. 2
4	1007	10010-5	Light orange-brown clay, black and white grits; white slip under light green glaze on int. and over rim	Avissar 2005: Fig. 2.13:4
5	1009	10022-4	Light orange-brown clay, black grits; white slip under light greenish glaze on int. and over rim	
6	1001	10001-7	Light orange-brown clay, black grits; white slip under green glaze on int. and over rim	Kletter and Stern 2006: Fig. 19:3
7	1011	10021-4	Light orange-brown clay, black grits; white slip under light green glaze on int. and over rim	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 4:7
8	1012	10025-4	Light orange-brown clay, black and white grits; white slip on int. and over rim, light greenish glaze on int.	
9	1012	10027-1	Light orange-brown clay, black grits; white slip under green glaze on int. and over rim, traces of slip on base	
10	1012	10025-2	Light orange-brown clay, black grits; white slip under green glaze on int. and over rim	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 4:15

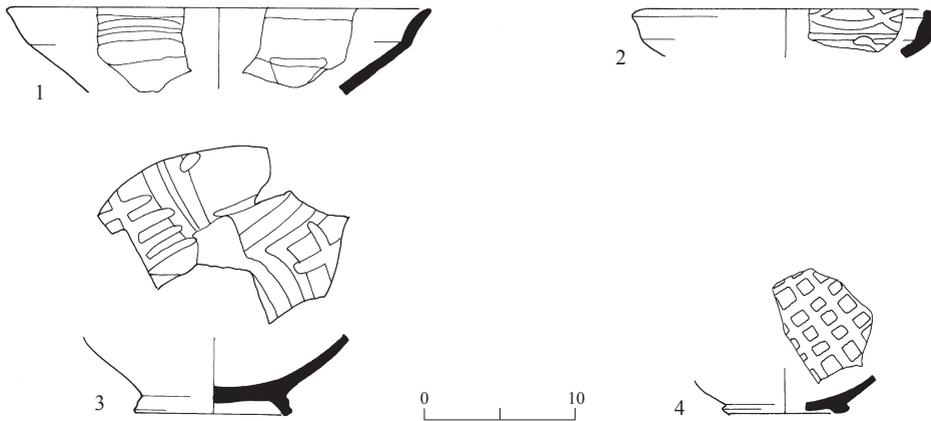


Fig. 12. Glazed bowls with slip-painted decoration.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	1007	10014-2	Light orange-brown clay, white and black grits; white reserved slip on int. and over rim under light transparent yellow and pale green glaze	
2	1000	10000-1	Dark orange-brown clay, white and black grits; slip-painted decoration under yellow glaze on int.	Tushingam 1985: Fig. 40:4 Pringle 1986: Fig. 50:68
3	1000	10017-1	Reddish brown clay, black grits; slip-painted decoration under transparent green glaze on int., splashes of glaze on bottom	
4	1002	10002-2	Light orange-brown clay, many white and black grits; slip-painted decoration under transparent yellow glaze	

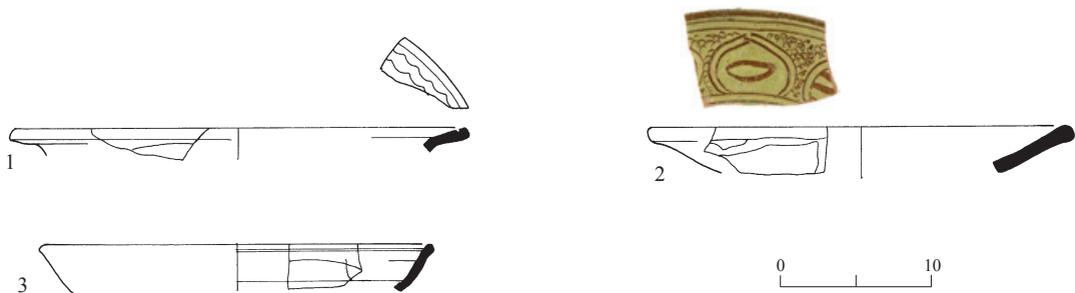


Fig. 13. Glazed bowls with gouged sgraffito decoration.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	1002	10002-5	Orange-brown clay, black and with grits; white slip on int. and over rim, sgraffito and gouged decoration on int. under dark green glaze	Salamé-Sarkis 1980: Pl. 52:2 Pringle 1986: Fig. 8:71
2	1007	10010-3	Orange-brown clay, black and with grits; white slip on int. and over rim under pale greenish glaze, sgraffito and gouged decoration on int.	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 6:5
3	1001	10001-6	Orange-brown clay; buff slip on int. and over rim under dark green glaze, sgraffito and gouged decoration on int.	Pringle 1986: Fig. 8:71

Soft-Paste Monochrome Glazed Ware (Fig. 14:1–3).— A small bowl with a wide ledge rim (Fig. 14:1), plain and covered by a turquoise glaze, is similar to a vessel discovered in Frankish contexts from the twelfth or thirteenth centuries at Yoqne'am (Avisar 1996:115). A bowl of conical form (Fig. 14:2), likewise plain and covered with a turquoise glaze, is reminiscent of a vessel recovered from Banias (Avisar and Stern 2005: Fig. 9:2).

No parallel to the strongly carinated S-profile bowl with cobalt blue glaze (Fig. 14:3) was found. The carination resembles that of similar vessels from Giv'at Dani (Lazar 1999: Fig. 3:5), Ḥama (Poulsen 1957: Fig. 767) and Alexandria (François 1999: Fig. 7:47); however, these vessels all have painted decoration under transparent colorless glaze. An identical but plain form with monochrome glaze (colorless or turquoise), was uncovered at H. Burin, where it is dated to the twelfth century (Kletter and Stern 2006: Fig. 22:1). Yet, this cobalt blue glaze is found on Persian vessels dated to the end of the twelfth and the thirteenth centuries (Lane 1956: Figs. 27, 28). Thus, it is possible that our vessel is a Persian import; productions from Sultanabad reveal examples of this carinated form (Lane 1971: Fig. 4). *Soft-Paste Monochrome Glazed Ware* is dated by Avisar and Stern (2005:25) to the twelfth and thirteenth centuries.

Soft-Paste Ware Painted in Black under Transparent Turquoise Glaze (Figs. 14:4, 5).— A bowl of conical form (Fig. 14:4) with black-painted decoration on the interior and turquoise-colored glaze resembles a Raqqa/Rafiq vessel. Production of this ware does not post-date the year 1259, although some vessels are still found at the beginning of the fourteenth century (Milwright 2005:211). The second bowl of this type (Fig. 14:5) has the form, decoration and glaze of a vessel from Qal'at Ja'bar in Syria (Tonghini 1998: Fig. 67.e). *Soft-Paste Ware Painted in Black under Transparent Turquoise Glaze* is dated to the

second quarter of the twelfth and the thirteenth centuries (Avisar and Stern 2005:26).

Soft-Paste Ware Painted in Black and Blue under Transparent Colorless Glaze (Fig. 14:6–10).— The form and interior decoration of Bowl No. 6 is identical to a vessel discovered at Bet She'an, where a local workshop may have existed (Avisar and Stern 2005:25, Pl. X:2). This ware belongs to an assemblage discovered there dated to the thirteenth–fourteenth centuries that included many vessels of this type, many of them complete. Associated with these soft-paste bowls were handmade painted wares and glass vessels (Sion 2000:41*, Fig. 63). A bowl with a ledge rim (Fig. 14:7) and decoration on the interior consisting of regularly spaced bands resembles a vessel from Ramat Ha-Nadiv (Boas 2000:222), but on the former, it is painted only in blue. The base of the bowl illustrated in Fig. 14:10, in its profile and decoration of blue and black lines radiating out from a circle, is similar to a vessel from H. Burin (Kletter and Stern 2006:195).

Soft-Paste Ware Painted in Black and Blue under Transparent Colorless Glaze first appeared at the end of the twelfth century. It was very popular during the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries and seems to have continued into the following centuries (Avisar and Stern 2005:29).

Soft-Paste Ware Painted in Black, Blue and Red under Transparent Colorless Glaze.— No convincing parallel was found for this example (Fig. 14:11). This type can probably be dated to the last quarter of the twelfth until the fourteenth centuries (Avisar and Stern 2005:28).

Imported Wares

A Chinese 'celadon' bowl (Fig. 15:1) is similar to an example discovered at Acre (Avisar and Stern 2005:79) and to another from Alexandria, Egypt (François 1999:148). This pottery type occurs in the Holy Land during the thirteenth–fourteenth centuries (Avisar and Stern 2005:78).

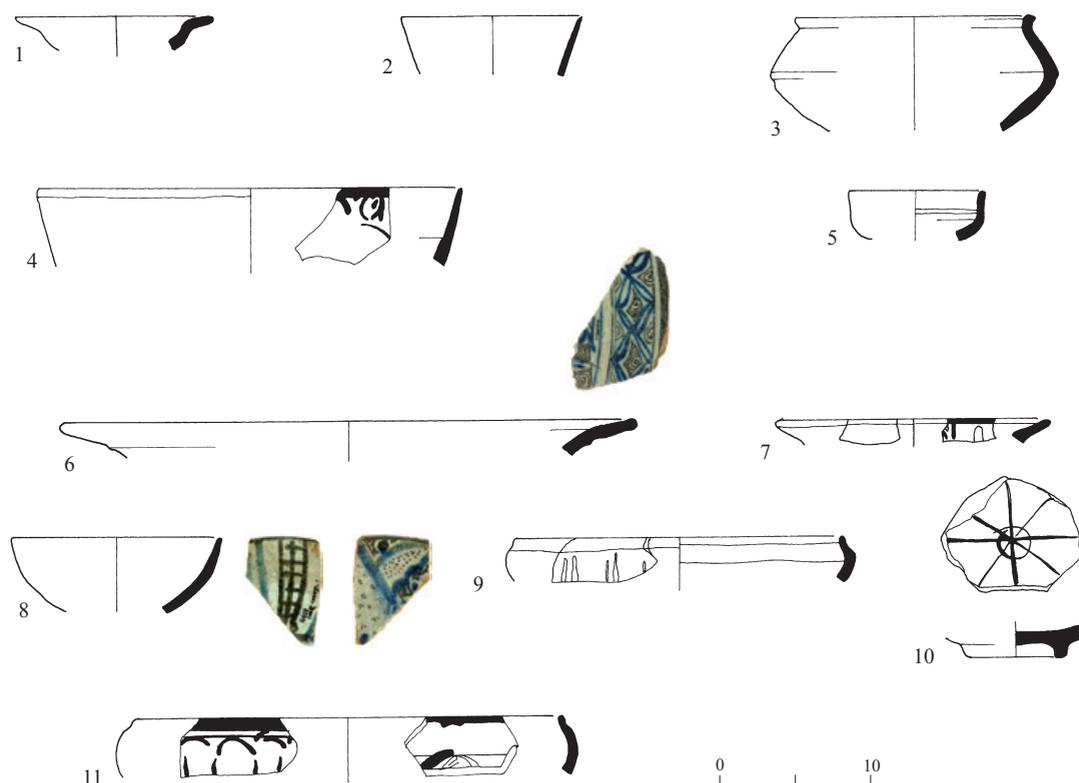


Fig. 14. Soft-Paste Wares.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	1002	10002-1	Transparent turquoise glaze on int. and ext.	Avissar 1996: Fig. XIII.61:1
2	1003	10015-5	Transparent turquoise glaze on int. and ext.	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 9:2
3	1012	10025-1	Cobalt blue glaze on int. and ext.	
4	1005	10009-1	Black painted decoration on int. under transparent turquoise glaze on int. and ext.	Milwright 2005: Fig. 12:10
5	1003	10015-4	Black painted decoration on int. and ext. under transparent turquoise glaze	Tonghini 1998: Fig. 67.e
6	1005	10009-2	Black and blue painted decoration on int. under transparent colorless glaze on int. and ext.	Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 11:2
7	1002	10016-5	Black and blue painted decoration on int. under transparent colorless glaze on int. and ext.	Boas 2000: Pl. V:6
8	1002	10005-1	Black and blue painted decoration on int. and ext. under transparent colorless glaze	
9	1001	10001-1	Black and blue painted decoration on int. and ext. under transparent colorless glaze	
10	1001	10001-2	Black and blue painted decoration on int. and ext. under transparent colorless glaze	Kletter and Stern 2006: Fig. 22:9
11	1011	10021-2	Black, blue and red painted decoration on int. and ext. under transparent colorless glaze	

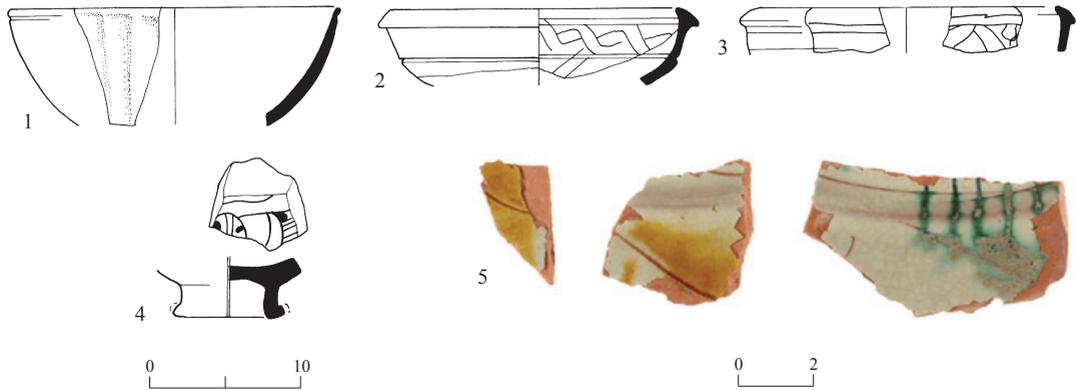


Fig. 15. Imported wares, including fragments of imports from Northern Italy.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	1001	10001-3	Light gray compact stoneware; light olive-gray glaze over entire vessel, fluting on ext.	François 1999: Fig. 34:360 Avisar and Stern 2005: Fig. 34:2
2	1009	10019-1	Light orange-brown clay, white grits; white slip on int. and ext., sgraffito decoration under very pale greenish glaze on int., splashes of darker green and yellow glaze on int., yellow glaze over rim	Avisar 1996: Fig. XIII.59:1 Avisar and Stern 2005: Fig. 22:5, 6
3	1009	10022-1	Light orange-brown clay, white grits; white slip on int. and ext., sgraffito decoration under very pale greenish glaze and splashes of darker green and yellow on int., yellow glaze over rim	As No. 2
4	1005	10009-5	Reddish brown clay, gray core, white and black grits and some mica; white slip under pale greenish yellow glaze on int. and ext., splashes of darker green and sgraffito decoration on int., greenish brown glaze on ext.	François 1999: Fig. 28:305
5	1002		Three sherds of <i>graffita arcaica</i> ware	

Two bowl fragments (Figs. 15:2, 3) which, although almost identical, belong to two different vessels, are productions from Port St. Simeon, which is located on the Syrian littoral. Parallels are known from Frankish contexts at Acre and Yoqne'am. This production seems to begin at the end of the twelfth century, but did not survive the Mamluk conquest of 1268 (Avisar 1996:113; Pringle 1997:144–145).

The base of a glazed bowl with sgraffito decoration on the interior (Fig. 15:4) is a Cypriot import found in Acre and Alexandria, Egypt. Although this type was produced in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries in Cyprus, it was not imported to the Holy Land after the end of the thirteenth century (Avisar and Stern 2005:62).

Fragments of vessels imported from Italy (Fig. 15:5) were recovered from the surface layer (L1002). This ware, known as *graffita arcaica*, was first produced in the thirteenth century, but was particularly widespread in the Po Valley in northern Italy between 1400 and 1450 (Whitehouse 1980:75–77). The final phase of this production, called *graffita arcaica tardiva* or *graffita a decori semplificati*, was manufactured in northern Italy during the fifteenth century (Gelichi and Librenti 2001:31). In the Holy Land, this pottery occurs regularly in Mamluk assemblages, for example at Giv'at Yasaf (Stern 1999: Fig. 2:26–28) and Ḥ. Burin (Kletter and Stern 2006: Fig. 23:3). It was found in Kafr Kanna, on Churches Street, in the last phase of

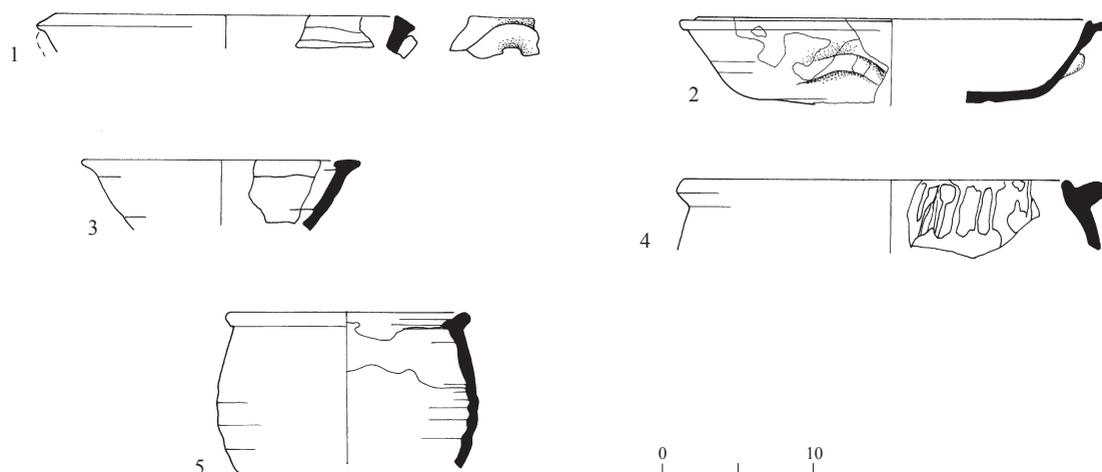


Fig. 16. Glazed cooking vessels.

No.	Vessel	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	Frying pan	1003	10008-3	Brown clay, black and white grits; brown glaze on int., splashes of glaze on rim and ext.	Thalmann 1978: Fig. 31:3–6 Loffreda 1982: Fig. 9:13 Avisar and Stern 2005: Fig. 41:2 Vitto 2005: Fig. 12:5
2	Cooking bowl	1009	10022-2	Orange-brown clay, white grits; transparent brownish glaze on int. and over rim	Pringle 1984: Fig. 5:27, 8 Pringle 1986: Fig. 48:45, 46 Avisar 1996: Fig. XIII.106:1 Lazar 1999: Fig. 5:1 Kletter and Stern 2006: Fig. 18:8
3	Cooking bowl	1009	10022-7	Light orange-brown sandy clay, black and white grits; transparent yellowish glaze on int.	Johns 1936: Fig. 14:5 Avisar 1996: Fig. XIII.105:2 Avisar and Stern 2005: Fig. 41:4
4	Deep cooking pot	1007	10010-10	Orange-brown clay, black and white grits, dark brown glaze on int. and rim	Johns 1936: Fig. 14:4 Stern 1997: Fig. 5:33 Kletter and Stern 2006: Fig. 18:5
5	Deep cooking pot	1011	10021-3	Dark orange-brown clay, black and white grits; transparent brownish glazed on int. and rim, splashes of glaze on ext.	Johns 1936: Fig. 14:4 Pringle 1984: Fig. 5:30

Mamluk occupation there, before the site was destroyed and abandoned during the transition from the fifteenth to the sixteenth centuries (Barbé and Shapiro 2012:69*–72*, Fig. 7:4). In Acre, an example dated typologically to the fifteenth century was discovered in Ottoman contexts (Stern and Shalvi-Abbas 1999:12*, Fig. 17:6). The profile of a man in the center of the decoration on this vessel strongly recalls that on an Italian import preserved in the collections of the Damascus Museum, dated to the fifteenth century (Meinecke-Berg 1983: Fig. 57:1).

Glazed Cooking Vessels

A frying pan (Fig. 16:1) is similar to vessels from Frankish occupation levels (Avisar and Stern 2005:96), particularly from Jerusalem Street, Safed (Barbé, forthcoming). Among the cooking bowls (Fig. 16:2, 3) characteristic of the Mamluk period (Avisar and Stern 2005:97), one example with a gutter rim is reminiscent of examples from assemblages dated to the end of the thirteenth–mid-fourteenth centuries (Pringle 1986:146). The cooking bowl (Fig. 16:3) and the cooking pot, illustrated above in Fig. 9:5 (Un glazed Wares) share the same sandy clay.

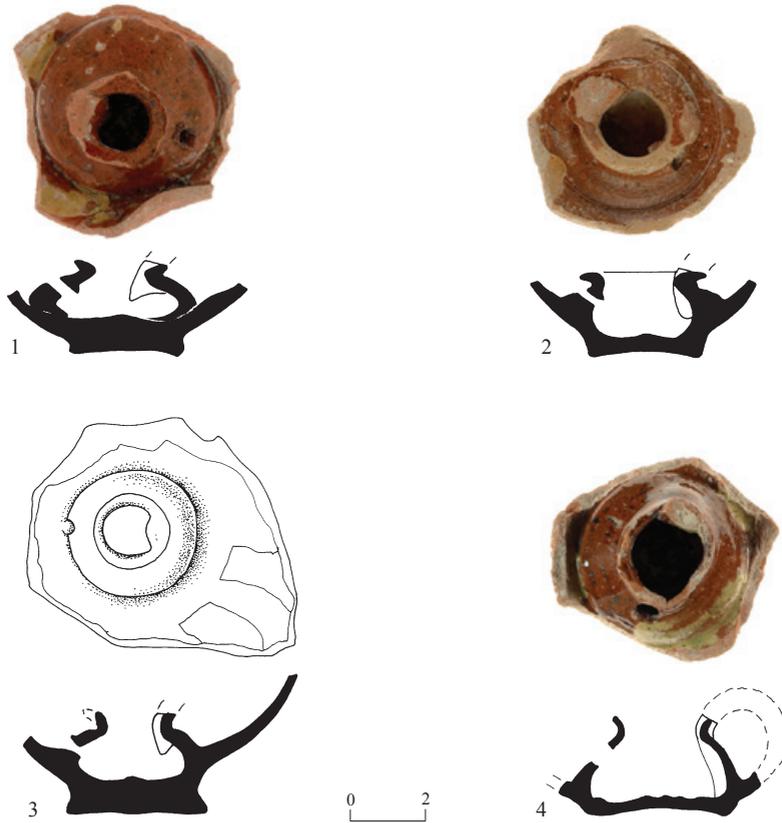


Fig. 17. Glazed oil lamps.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	1002	10002-30	Reddish brown clay; slip-painted decoration on int. under transparent yellow glaze, splashes of glaze on ext.	Poulsen 1957: Fig. 1067 Thalman 1978: Fig. 37:4 Tushingham 1985: Fig. 34:40 Avisar 2003: Pl. 19.2:21 Avisar 2005: Fig. 3.1:9 Avisar and Stern 2005: Fig. 52:3, 4
2	1007	10010-2	Light orange-brown clay; slip-painted decoration on int. under transparent yellow glaze, splashes of glaze on bottom	As No. 1
3	1007	10010-1	Dark orange-brown clay; slip-painted decoration on int. under transparent yellow glaze, splashes of glaze on ext.	As No. 1
4	1009	10019-4	Reddish brown clay; slip-painted decoration on int. under transparent yellow glaze, splashes of glaze on ext.	As No. 1

The deep cooking pots (Figs. 16:4, 5) do not seem to date later than the second half of the thirteenth century (Avisar and Stern 2005:92).

Oil Lamps.— Four oil lamps were recovered (Fig. 17), all belonging to the class known

as Glazed Saucer Lamps with Slip-Painted Decoration. Similar examples were found in a context dated to the thirteenth century at Tell ‘Arqa, albeit displaying a slight difference in the shape of the wick hole (Thalman 1978:28), in Ayyubid contexts in Jerusalem (Tushingham 1985:147) and in Frankish levels at Yoqne‘am

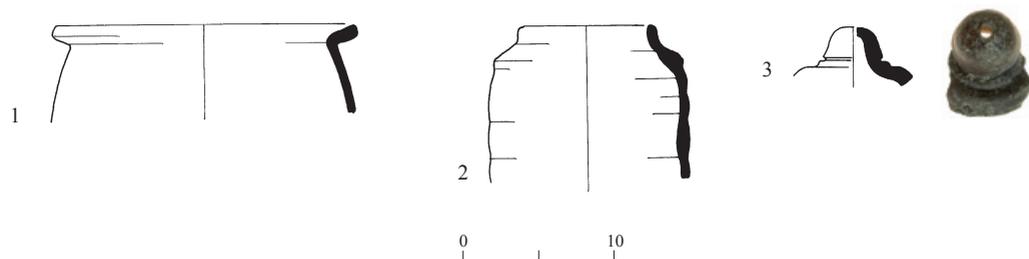


Fig. 18. Miscellaneous pottery finds.

No.	Vessel	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	Chamber pot	1002	10005-3	Reddish brown clay, greenish core, white grits	Avissar 2003: Fig. 19.1:10
2	Pipe	1003	10006-1	Light orange-brown clay, gray core	Tushingham 1985: Fig. 38:20 Boas 2006: Fig. 20:129, 130
3	Sphero-conical vessel	1007	10010-6	Dark gray clay fired to purple on surface; reddish brown self slip on int., stamped 'pinecone' or 'scale pattern' decoration	Poulsen 1957: Fig. 1050 Tushingham 1985: Figs. 43:18; 45:9, 10 Avissar and Stern 2005: Fig. 50:2 Sharvit 2008: Fig. 3.1:2

(Avissar 2005:80–81). Suggested dates for this lamp type range between the second half of the twelfth and the end of the thirteenth centuries (Avissar and Stern 2005:124). Two examples of this shape were found in the Frankish occupation stratum on Jerusalem Street, Safed, but the first is unglazed and the second is glazed without slip-painted decoration (Barbé, forthcoming). An example of this type also occurs in an occupation layer in a Mamluk hydraulic structure at el-Madahil (Hula Valley), dated between the end of the thirteenth and the end of the fourteenth centuries (Barbé 2012: Fig. 8:3).

Miscellaneous Finds

The neck of a chamber pot (Fig. 18:1) resembles an example from Jerusalem that belongs, however, to an assemblage from the Early Islamic period (Avissar 2003:434). Various chamber pots, still unpublished, were discovered in Mamluk contexts at the Safed castle, particularly in a dump that was dated to the second quarter of the fifteenth century by an associated coin hoard (Barbé and Damati 2004:88). A drainage pipe (Fig. 18:2) is similar to examples discovered in Ayyubid contexts

in Jerusalem (Tushingham 1985:147) and to the twelfth–fourteenth centuries levels at Kh. Ka‘kul (Boas 2006:95; Seligman 2006:46–47).

A so-called ‘grenade’ (Fig. 18:3; Mercier 1952:92–123, Pls. III–XV; for other suggested functions, see Poulsen 1957:274–278 and Prag 2006:302–304) or ‘sphero-conical vessel’ (Ettinghausen 1965:218; Avissar and Stern 2005:119) is similar to vessels from Banias, dated to the twelfth–fourteenth centuries (Avissar and Stern 2005:119–120; Sharvit 2008:101, Type A) and from Mamluk contexts in Jerusalem (Tushingham 1985:395, 397).

Ottoman Period

A small quantity of pottery sherds dating from the Ottoman period were discovered in the upper layers of the site (L1000, L1001, L1002 and L1003). Many pottery fragments from the Lebanese Rashaya el-Fukhar workshops (most not illustrated), some glazed pottery (for example, Fig. 19:1) and tobacco pipes (Fig. 19:3, 4) were also found.

The bowl illustrated in Fig. 19:1 seems to be a local imitation of a Turkish type, its form recalling that of glazed bowls from Saraçhane,

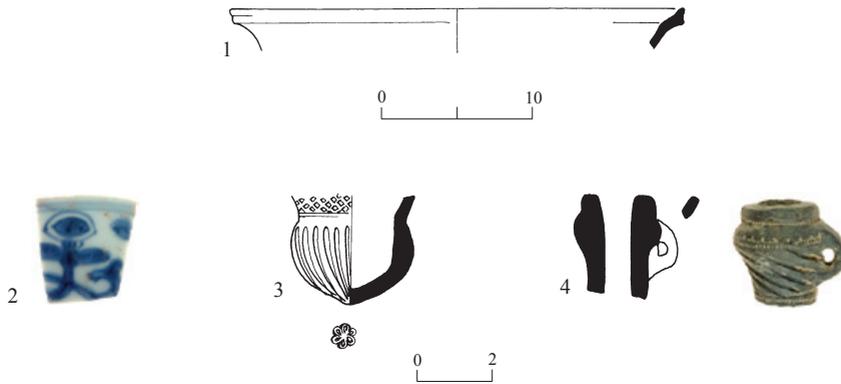


Fig. 19. Ottoman pottery.

No.	Vessel	Locus	Basket	Description	Parallels
1	Bowl	1001	10001-5	Light orange-brown clay, black and white grits, creamy slip on int. and ext. under green glaze	Hayes 1992: Figs. 107:12.1; 108:12.2
2	Fragment	1001	10004	Chinese porcelain	
3	Tobacco pipe	1003	10015-1	Light gray clay, black grits	Gosse 2007:231, Nos. 188, 216, 326
4	Tobacco pipe	1002	10005-2	Light gray clay, black grits	

Istanbul (Hayes 1992: Figs. 107:12.1, 108:12.2). These vessels are dated there to the end of the seventeenth or the beginning of the eighteenth centuries (Beam 1992:281). The Chinese imported blue and white porcelain vessel (Fig. 19:2) is similar to productions dated to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries (Medley 1989:217–224, Figs. 163, 166) or to the Kang-Hsi period (end of seventeenth–beginning of eighteenth centuries; Bushell 1980:156–175, 385, Pl. LXVIII:2). At Acre, imports of this type were discovered in contexts dated to the eighteenth or the beginning of the nineteenth centuries (Edelstein and Avissar 1997:133, Pl. IV a, b).

Tobacco Pipes.— A fragment of a tobacco pipe with a hemispherical bowl and a conical rim decorated with a lattice design (Fig. 19:3) is stamped with a floral motif below incised vertical lines. This example is similar to pipes of Syrian⁴ Type A (Type S-A) found at the site of ‘La Quarantaine’ (Marseilles Harbor, France). These pipes are dated there to the seventeenth century, probably to the first half

(Gosse 2007:234); Gosse compares one of these examples (No. 188) to a pipe from Belmont Castle, dated to the eighteenth century (Simpson 2000:149, No. 17).

A fragmentary example comprises the shank (Fig. 19:4) with incised thread/rope decoration, the stem decorated with bands of rouletting and a small ring. No parallel was found for this example, but its gray fabric and small size relate it, like the preceding one, to early types, generally dated to the seventeenth–eighteenth centuries (Robinson 1983:270; Beam 1992:393; Simpson 2000:147–149; Avissar 2005:83).

Discussion

Some of the vessels from al-Waṭa, Safed, with certainty the imports from Port St. Siméon and Cyprus (Figs. 15:2–4), belong to the thirteenth century, and provide evidence for the initial occupation of the site. Other vessels, such as the table amphoras (Figs. 10:9, 10) and the frying pan (Fig. 16:1), are similar to examples from the assemblage from the Frankish-period site on Jerusalem Street, Safed. Yet, the majority



Fig. 20. Projectile points.

Table 1. Typology of Projectile Pointsⁱ

No.	Locus	Basket	Type	Profile	Section	Length 1 (cm) ⁱⁱ	Length 2 (cm) ⁱⁱⁱ	Section (cm)	Weight (g)
1	1011	10021-1	D	Pyramidal	Square	4.0	1.8	1.3/1.3	07.50
2	1007	10010-1	E	Pyramidal	Square	7.2	4.5	0.7/0.7	10.83
3	1007	10014-1	E	Pyramidal	Square	6.1	3.6	1.1/1.0	12.66
4	1012	10027-1	E	Pyramidal	Square	5.9	5.4	1.3/1.3	17.80

ⁱ Square sections were measured along one side. Values in bold designate that the measured part of the object is clearly complete.

ⁱⁱ Length 1 is the overall length or maximum measurement of the object: head and tang.

ⁱⁱⁱ Length 2 is the overall length or maximum measure of the head.

of the pottery types are characteristic of the Mamluk period, dating to the fourteenth, and even the fifteenth centuries, if the fragments of *graffita arcaica* (Fig. 15:5) from northern Italy are taken into account. The Ottoman occupation is represented by pottery from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, e.g., tobacco pipes and Chinese imports; the dating is substantiated by the seventeenth-century coin found in L1002 (see Kool, this volume).

GLASS FINDS

Only a few glass fragments were recovered in the excavation area. The identifiable objects include four fragments from the Mamluk period and two bracelet fragments, one of them of either Mamluk or Ottoman origin (L1007, B10014) and the other, from a surface layer, of clear Ottoman date (L1001, B10001).

METAL FINDS (Fig. 20)

Projectile Points (Arrowheads or Quarrels).—

Four projectile points were uncovered. I have generated a classification based on these four in addition to a sample of 70 examples discovered in the course of the excavations at the Safed castle site (Barbé 2010:336–350, Figs. 112–114) and 13 arrowheads discovered on Jerusalem Street, Safed (Barbé, forthcoming). The classification rests on the shape of the heads, as well as the profile/section ratio (Table 1). All the heads are hafted on tangs. Two groups of projectile points corresponding to Types D and E were identified. As was the case at the Safed castle and Jerusalem Street sites, Type E is best represented.

Type D: This type is represented by a single, heavily corroded example (Fig. 20:1), an

addition to the point discovered at the Safed castle site in a thirteenth–fourteenth century context. Its main feature is the balanced ratio between the small head and the tang. The head has a pyramidal convex profile and is square in section, narrowing slightly at its base, on which a tang of circular section is attached. Projectile points of this type were found at Ḥama, where they are dated between 1302 and 1401 (Ploug and Oldenburg 1969:57, Fig. 21:1). An example from Belmont, dated to 1099–1187, has a square section and a pyramidal profile with convex edges. It is closer in resemblance to the Type D example from Safed, except for the longer head (Grey 2000: Fig. 11.3:42). However, at Belmont these projectile points are identified as crossbow quarrels.

Type E: Three examples of this type (Figs. 20:2–4) were found. Type E is characterized by a square-sectioned head with a regular pyramidal profile equipped with a flat heel at the base that is attached to a circular-sectioned tang. The best-preserved examples clearly display a narrowing from the tang toward the base. The head is always longer than the tang, the head/tang ratio varying from 1.4 to 1.7. The connection between the tang and the head is significantly narrow. The overall length of complete examples of these projectile points varies from 5.9 to 8.5 cm, the length of the heads, from 3.45 to 5.80 cm. The calculated averages reveal that the sides of the nearly square sections measure slightly more than 1 cm (1.08–1.10 cm). The weights of these projectiles, contrary to the other parameters, show a great degree of variability (6.23–33.18 g) with the majority of the examples weighing between 9 and 12 g. The head in Fig. 20:2 is classified as Type E, in spite of the absence of a heel and its more lengthened form.

At the Safed castle site, 48 out of 70 projectile points were of Type E, recovered from Mamluk contexts dated between the end of the thirteenth and the fifteenth centuries (Barbé 2010:340–342, Fig. 112:5). In the Jerusalem Street excavation, 9 out of 13 projectile points

of this type are associated with an occupation layer dated to the second half of the twelfth–first half of the thirteenth centuries (Barbé, forthcoming). This type is known to have been in use in the Middle East as early as the Roman period, and was identified as a projectile for a catapult (James and Taylor 1994: Fig. 1; James 2004:210, 219, Figs. 784–791, 793–794). The type is especially well-represented in medieval assemblages from the eastern Mediterranean, e.g., from Greece (Corinth, eleventh century; Davidson 1952:201, No. 1532, Pl. 93), Turkey (Tille Höyük, thirteenth–mid-fifteenth centuries—Moore 1993:131–132, Fig. 70:106–111; Bogâzköy—Boehmer 1972: Pl. LI:1571) and Syria (Ḥama, Bosra and Qal‘at Sem‘an—Early Islamic period; Kazanski 2003:8, Pl. 6:16–18, 21–24). At Qal‘at Sem‘an, the projectile points were correlated to an event that occurred between the end of the tenth and the thirteenth centuries (Sodini and Blanc 2003:2) while at Ḥama, the great majority of these projectile points were found in contexts dated to the fourteenth century (Ploug and Oldenburg 1969:57, Fig. 21:1). The authors note that some of the points “are so thick as compared to the length that they must probably be identified as crossbow quarrels” (Ploug and Oldenburg 1969:57). An example of this type was discovered in the Early Islamic building fills in the Christian basilica at Bosra (Khalil and Mougdad 1983: Fig. 11). It is noteworthy that Type E is the dominant projectile point in an Ayyubid-period assemblage from the dungeon of the castle at Harim (Gelichi 2003:442, Fig. 28).

In the Holy Land, a point with a similar head, but attached to a long tang with a circular section, was found in Frankish or Mamluk contexts at Yoqne‘am (Khamis 1996:219, Fig. XVIII.1:5). At al-Burg al-Aḥmar, a projectile point from a context well-dated to the twelfth-century Frankish occupation of the site displays a pyramidal profile associated with a square section (Pringle 1986:167, Fig. 56:21). Another example of this type was found at Belmont, but the long range to which it was attributed

(from 1187 to 1516) makes it useless as a dating tool (Grey 2000:134, Fig. 11.3:43). Two projectile points of this type were discovered in a Frankish context, one in the Montmusard Quarter, Acre (Vitto 2005: Fig. 20) and the other, well-dated to the thirteenth century, at H. Bet Zeneta (Getzov 2000: Fig. 29:1). Although the illustrations there lack a section, similar examples, dated to the thirteenth century, were found at Montfort castle (Dean 1927: Fig. 53: N, P). In the Holy Land, Type E points are the predominant type associated with Baybars' 1265 siege of Arsuf Castle (Raphael and Tepper 2005:85). A similar object was discovered by chance while dredging the Seine River at the Frankish site of Petit-Andély and identified as a Type K variant arrowhead within the typology of French projectile points (Serdon 2005:122). This type, displaying a form close

to that of Type E from Safed, is attributed there to the tenth–twelfth centuries; it later evolved into a squat form (twelfth–thirteenth centuries; Serdon 2005:307).

CONCLUSIONS

Despite the limited area of the excavation and the partial destruction of archaeological remains, the results supplement the data gleaned from previous excavations (Fig. 21; Permit No. A-4210—Amos 2005; Permit No. A-3708—Cohen 2007, this volume; Permit No. A-4506—Cohen 2008), all of which revealed evidence for the development of this sector of the city as early as the early Mamluk period.

The results from the excavation confirm the Arabic historical sources. Ibn-Shaddād reports that Baybars destroyed the city built previously

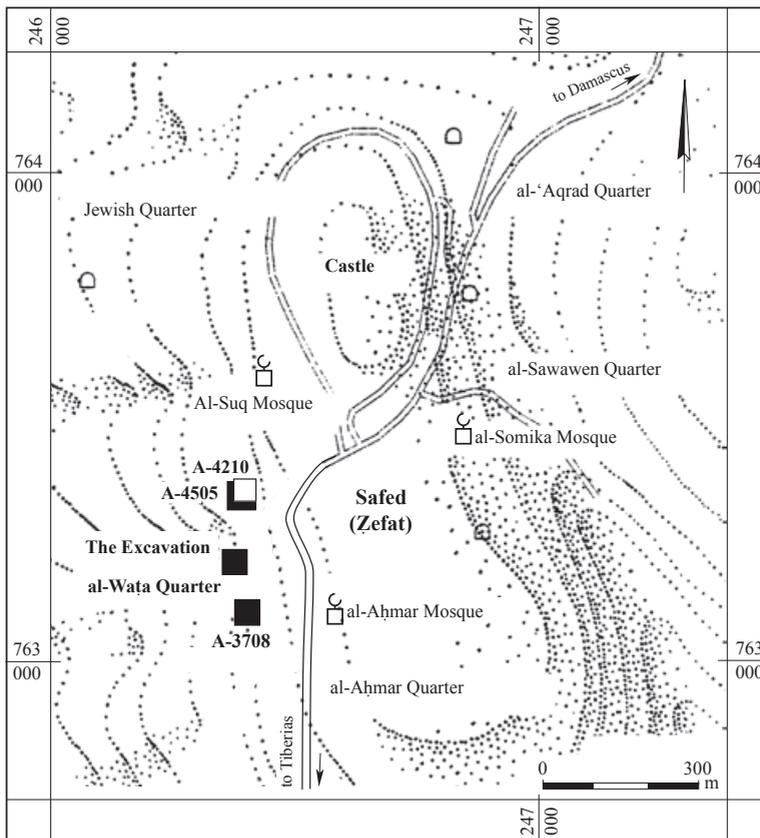


Fig. 21. Locations of the various archaeological excavations conducted in the al-Wata quarter on a sixteenth-century map of Safed.

by the Franks to the west of the castle, after its fall in 1266, and built a new village (*rabad*) in the southwest (Ibn-Shaddâd, *Tārīkh*:353; Prawer 2007:472–475).

The pottery suggests that occupation began as early as the thirteenth century, with some vessels clearly dating to the Frankish period. The numismatic study (see Kool, this volume) adds credence to this conclusion. Out of the 31 recovered coins, 19 could be identified. Sixteen coins date to the Mamluk period and two residual coins date to the Byzantine period. Five of the Mamluk coins were minted in the thirteenth century, two during the reign of Baybars (1260–1277; see Kool, this

volume: Cat. Nos. 3, 4). No coin postdates the fourteenth century, more precisely, the year 1399. One coin only (Cat. No. 18) dated to the fourteenth or the fifteenth centuries. There may have been a gap in the Mamluk occupation during the fifteenth century, which is represented by merely a few fragments of pottery imported from northern Italy. In any case, the historical data and the archaeological finds, including a seventeenth-century coin (Cat. No. 19) found in the upper layers of the site, hint that the site was occupied in the first half of the Ottoman period. However, no building remains from this period were identified.

NOTES

¹ The excavation (Permit No. A-4928), on behalf of the Israel Antiquities Authority, was directed by the author with the assistance of Michael Cohen, Yossi Yaakobi (administration), Tzila Sagiv (field photography), Vadim Essman and Viatcheslav Pirskey (survey and drafting), Natalia Zak (drafting), Robert Kool (numismatics), Yael Gorin-Rosen (glass finds), Josef Bukengolts (pottery restoration), Irena Lidsky-Reznikov (small finds drawings), Clara Amit and Marianna Salzberger (small finds photography), and Lena Kupferschmidt (metallurgical laboratory).

² Undertaken by Enno Bron (IAA Eastern Galilee and Golan regional archaeologist).

³ Hand-Made Geometrically Painted Ware is the generally accepted term coined by Johns in his seminal article on Middle Islamic handmade wares in Bilâd al-Shâm (Johns 1998).

⁴ The term Syria used herein refers to the period when Syria included the territories of Palestine and Lebanon, i.e., during the Ottoman period (Gosse 2007:188; translated from the French).

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