

THE GLASS FINDS FROM MOSHAV HA-BONIM

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The excavation south of Moshav Ha-Bonim yielded roughly 300 glass fragments, about 180 of them retrieved from Area A, and the rest, from Area B (see 'Ad, this volume).¹ About 120 pieces (~40%) are diagnostic fragments, of which nine representative specimens were studied and illustrated. The glass finds from both excavation areas included mostly plain bowls, beakers, bottles, juglets, wineglasses and lamps (Figs. 1, 2), as well as two quadrangular windowpane fragments (not illustrated) and glass-production debris (Fig. 3). The vessels were all free-blown of translucent glass in various shades of blue and green, and bear iridescence and pitting, and occasionally sand deposits.

The glass vessels are presented in chronological order, beginning with the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods (Fig. 1), followed by the finds from the Byzantine and Umayyad periods (Fig. 2). Analogous examples are cited with preference to excavated sites in the vicinity, e.g., Caesarea Maritima, Tel Tanninim, the Naḥal Tanninim Dam site and Ḥorbat Rozez, as well as Ḥorbat 'Aqav, Ḥorbat Raqit and Ḥorbat Sumaq (Sumaqa) on Mount Carmel.

GLASS VESSELS

The Late Roman–Early Byzantine Periods

Bowl with a Horizontal Ridge Below the Rim (Fig. 1:1).— This fragment belongs to a rather deep bowl with a horizontal ridge below the rim. Thirteen additional fragments of similar rims were collected in Area A (Locs 100, 115, 119, 120, 121 and 139).

Bowls of this type were widespread in northern Israel in the fourth and early fifth centuries CE. More than 200 such rim fragments, probably locally manufactured, were discovered at Jalame, most of them in the factory dump dating to the second half of the fourth century CE (Weinberg and Goldstein 1988:45–47, Fig. 4-6, Pls. 4-4, 4-5). A complete bowl of this type was excavated in a Byzantine refuse pit at Khirbat Ibreica (Taxel and Feldstein 2006:44, Fig. 12:2). Similar bowl rims were discovered, e.g., at Caesarea Maritima (Israeli 2008: Cat. Nos. 70–72), Ḥorbat Raqit (Jacobson 2004: Pl. I:4) and Tīrat Ha-Karmel (Pollak 2005: Fig. 1:8, 9).

1. L156, B1196. Two fragments of a bowl with a rounded upright rim (diam. 140 mm) and a

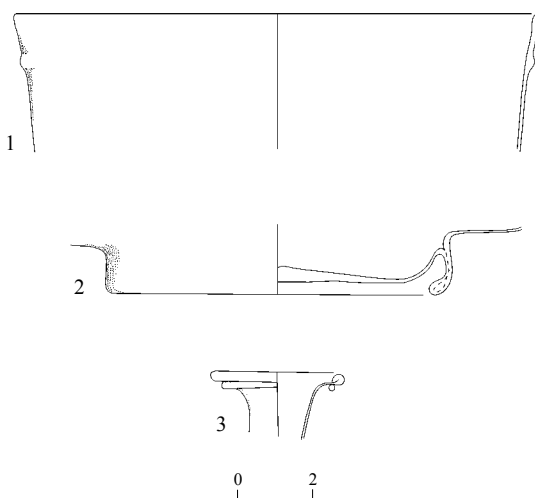


Fig. 1. Glass vessels from the Late Roman and Early Byzantine periods.

horizontal ridge on the wall, about 12 mm below the rim. Polishing marks are evident on the exterior. Light blue, bubbles. Weathering, iridescence, pitting, sand deposits.

Hollow Ring Base (Fig. 1:2).— This hollow, pushed-in ring base belonged to a large bowl, and is typical of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods.

Bowls with similar bases were unearthed at the Nahal Tanninim Dam site,² at Tel Tanninim (Pollak 2006:164–165, Fig. 132:55–58) and on Mount Carmel, e.g., at Horbat Sumaq (Lehrer-Jacobson 1999:333, 337, Figs. 1:2; 2:31, 32) and Horbat Raqit (Jacobson 2004:237, Pl. III:1, 2, 4, 6, 8–10). Others were discovered in Wadi ‘Ara, e.g., at Khirbat Jarar (Gorin-Rosen 2004:18*, Fig. 27:4) and in a tomb at Kafr ‘Ara, dated to the fourth–sixth centuries CE (Sussman 1976:99, Fig. 4:14, 15). Similar bases were also excavated farther north, in Late Roman and early Byzantine burial caves in the western Galilee (e.g., Gorin-Rosen 1997: Fig. 1:2; Stern 1997:106, Fig. 1:1, 2), and farther south at Khirbat Ni‘ana, in an assemblage from the fourth and early fifth centuries CE (Gorin-Rosen and Katsnelson 2007:86–88, Fig. 6, and see discussion therein).

2. L121, B1135. Complete, irregular ring base (diam. 90 mm), convex at its center. The base walls are curved inward and there are traces of glass from the pontil on the underside. Yellowish green. Iridescence, pitting.

Juglet with a Funnel-Shaped Mouth (Fig. 1:3).— This short funnel-shaped mouth, with its infolded rim and thin trail wound below it, belonged to a juglet of a type commonplace in the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods. Similar pieces were excavated at Khirbat Ni‘ana, in an assemblage from the fourth and early fifth centuries CE (Gorin-Rosen and Katsnelson 2007:98, Fig. 11:3) and in a fourth-century CE winepress at Akhziv (Syon 1998: Fig. 15:19, 20).

3. L144, B1156. Two fragments of a juglet with a rounded flaring rim (diam. 35 mm), a thin trail applied horizontally below the rim, and a small part of the neck. Light blue. Iridescence, slight pitting, sand deposits.

The Byzantine–Umayyad Periods

Wineglass or Beaker with a Rounded Rim (Fig. 2:4).— This rounded rim could belong to either a beaker or a wineglass; yet, as the basket yielded four wineglass feet (see Fig. 2:5), it probably belonged to a wineglass.

The footed vessels, known as wineglasses, were one of the most common glass vessel types in Palestine and the eastern Mediterranean region in the Byzantine and early Umayyad periods. They generally had either a plain rounded rim (as Fig. 2:4) or a rim and wall adorned with a darker, horizontally wound trail (see e.g., Winter 2010:149, Fig. 2:3, 4; Pollak 2006:174, Fig. 137; Gorin-Rosen and Winter 2010:167–170). Many wineglass rims were discovered in Byzantine contexts at Tel Tanninim (Pollak 2006:172–173, Fig. 136). A similar rim was excavated at Ramat Yishay, within a glass assemblage that was dated to the Umayyad period (Gorin-Rosen 2007: Fig. 9:1).

4. L243, B2074. Rounded rim (diam. 80 mm) and funnel-shaped mouth with polishing marks on the exterior. Light blue, bubbles. Iridescence, slight pitting.

Wineglass with a Hollow Ring Base (Fig. 2:5).— This foot may have been surmounted by the rim from the same basket (Fig. 2:4). The basket also yielded three additional sloppily made wineglass feet, and three others were collected from Loci 100 and 122. Wineglasses with a hollow ring base were the most widespread wineglass type. Hollow wineglass ring-bases with a cylindrical or single-beaded stem were discovered in Late Roman and early Byzantine glass corpora from Mount Carmel, e.g., at Horbat ‘Aqav (Cohen 2000:168, Pl. 2:19), Horbat Sumaq (Lehrer-Jacobson 1999:337, Fig. 2:23) and Horbat

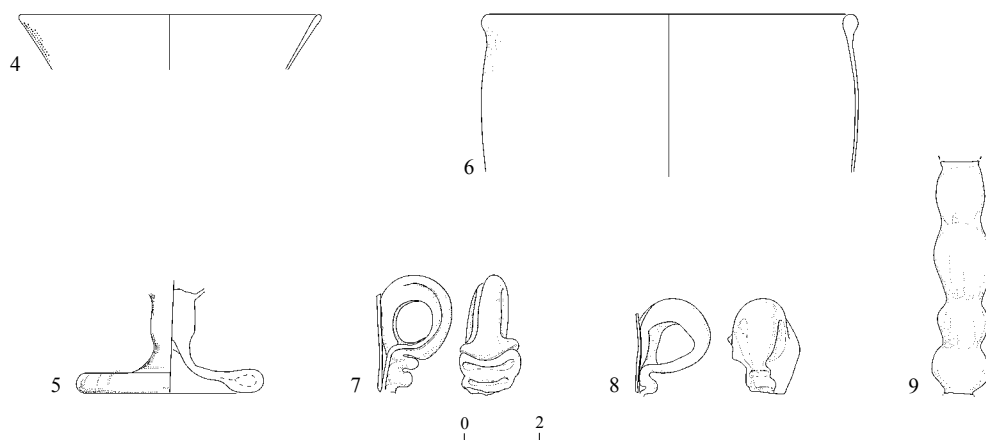


Fig. 2. Glass vessels from the Byzantine and Umayyad periods.

Raqit (Jacobson 2003:238, Pl. V:1–4). Many specimens were also excavated at Caesarea Maritima (Israeli 2008: Cat. Nos. 184–197) and Tel Tanninim (Pollak 2006:171–172, Fig. 135).

5. L243, B2074. Wineglass foot with an irregular stem and a hollow ring base (diam. 50 mm). Light blue, bubbles. Iridescence, pitting.

Bowl or Beaker with a Thick Rounded Rim (Fig. 2:6).— This type of cylindrical bowl/beaker appeared during the Umayyad period and remained in use in the ‘Abbasid period. Vessels of this type were excavated at Caesarea Maritima Stratum VIII, which was dated 640–750 CE, and in Stratum VII, dated between 750 CE and the late ninth century CE (Pollak 2003: Figs. 1:1, 2; 2:21, 22). Similar vessels were discovered in an assemblage dated to the late Byzantine and early Umayyad periods at Ḥorbat Ḥermeshit (Winter 1998: Fig. 1:2) and in Umayyad-period contexts at Bet She’an (Hadad 2005: Pl. 1:14, 16–19).

6. L109, B1030. Thickened rounded rim (diam. 100 mm) and upright wall with polishing marks on the exterior. Light blue, bubbles. Iridescence, slight pitting.

Globular Lamps with Loop Handles (Fig. 2:7, 8).— The illustrated handles belong to a less

familiar type of lamp that is characterized by a thin-walled globular body, a cut-off rim, three loop handles (some more delicate than others), and occasionally, extended tooled trails below the handles along the body (Fig. 2:7; the handle illustrated in Fig. 2:8 is broken, so it is unclear whether there was a tooled trail extending below it).

This type of globular lamp was common during the Byzantine period (Gorin-Rosen and Winter 2010:172–175, and see discussion and examples therein). An incomplete example was excavated at Tel Tanninim and a loop handle from the same locus may have belonged to it (Pollak 2006: Fig. 133:74, 79). Other specimens were discovered at Caesarea Maritima (Israeli 2008: Cat. Nos. 136–139; Peleg and Reich 1992: Fig. 18:19) and at Qiryat Nordau, Netanya.³

7. L109, B1030. Loop handle with a tooled trail (broken) and small part of the wall. Light blue, bubbles. Iridescence, slight pitting, sand deposits.

8. L248, B2080. Loop handle with a tooled trail (broken) and small part of the wall. Green, bubbles. Iridescence, slight pitting, sand deposits.

Stemmed Lamp (Fig. 2:9).— The stemmed lamps had a bowl- or beaker-shaped body and a hollow, solid or beaded stem. The only stem



Fig. 3. Glass-production debris.

that was collected at the site is of the beaded type.

Stemmed lamps were widespread in the eastern Mediterranean throughout the Byzantine period, particularly during the sixth–seventh centuries CE, and continued into the Umayyad period and later (Crowfoot and Harden 1931:198, Pl. 29:21–25; Barag 1970:182–183, Types 13:3–9, Pl. 40:3–9). A complete bowl-shaped lamp with a beaded stem was recovered from Catacomb 15 at Bet She‘arim (Barag 1976:204–208, Fig. 98:15). A beaded lamp stem was unearthed at Ḥorbat Sumaq (Lehrer-Jacobson 1999:335, Fig. 2:16). Beaded stems were excavated in Byzantine- and Umayyad-period contexts at Bet She‘an (Zori 1967:161–162, Fig. 11:2; Hadad 2005: Pl. 22:425–426) and in an Umayyad-period assemblage at Ramat Yishay (Gorin-Rosen 2007: Fig. 9:8).

9. L111, B1028. Solid beaded stem of a lamp with a pontil scar at the bottom. Light blue; bubbles. Iridescence, slight pitting.

GLASS PRODUCTION

Glass-production remains were discovered in Area A, together with glass vessels from the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods. Among the remains were 20 raw-glass chunks, most of them small (e.g., Fig. 3:10–12); glass-production debris, including pieces of furnace debris (Fig. 3:13, 14); and a body fragment distorted by fire (Fig. 3:15).

These remains may suggest that a glass workshop functioned at the site. Glass production is known to have been carried out in the vicinity of Ha-Bonim, as well as farther away (see map and discussion in Gorin-Rosen and Katsnleson 2007:145–147).

SUMMARY

The glass vessels from Area A at Moshav Ha-Bonim are characteristic mostly of the Late Roman and Byzantine periods. The glass finds from the third–fourth-centuries CE Winepress 1 (L140; see ‘Ad, this volume: Plan 4), date to

the fourth and early fifth centuries CE; the diagnostic glass finds from Winepresses 2 and 3 (Loci 133, 164; see 'Ad, this volume: Plan 5), date to the Byzantine period; and those from Winepress 4 (L131; see 'Ad, this volume: Plan 5) date to the Late Roman and Byzantine periods. The glass finds from the plastered installation (L109; see 'Ad, this volume: Plan 6) at the northeastern edge of the compound date to the late Byzantine and Umayyad periods.

The glass production remains from Area A, where several winepresses and various

installations were also found, may suggest that a glass workshop functioned at the site during the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods.

The excavation in Area B, enclosing a large church with a clover-leaf plan from the fifth–seventh centuries CE, yielded glass finds from the Byzantine period. These include bowls and/or beakers (from L243), wineglasses (from L243; Fig. 2:4, 5), bottles (from L230 and L236), a lamp (from L248; Fig. 2:8), and a fragment of a quadrangular windowpane (not illustrated; from L236).

NOTES

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² The excavation at Nahal Tanninim Dam (Permit No. A-3356) was headed by Uzi 'Ad; the glass was studied by the author.

³ The excavation at Qiryat Nordau, Netanya (Permit No. A-4093) was headed by Marwan Masarwa; the glass was studied by the author.

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