

THE GLASS FINDS FROM ḤORBAT 'OFRAT

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INTRODUCTION

The 2008 excavation in the dwellings and agricultural installations at Ḥorbat 'Ofrat in the Lower Galilee yielded nearly 400 glass fragments, about half of which are diagnostic pieces (see Alexandre, this volume).¹ The largest quantities of glass were retrieved from Areas A and D, while smaller amounts of glass finds were discovered in Areas B, C and E (Table 1). These finds range in date from the Early Roman to the late Ottoman periods (Table 2).

The earliest glass find from Ḥorbat 'Ofrat is an inlay or gaming piece (Fig. 1), which probably dates to the Early Roman period. All the glass vessels from Area A, most of those from Area C, and some from Areas D and E date to the fourth–early fifth centuries CE (Fig. 2), roughly corresponding to Strata IV and III (see Alexandre, this volume). Most of the glass vessels from Areas B, D and E date from the sixth–seventh centuries CE (Fig. 3), corresponding to Strata II and I, yet with a chronological range that extends throughout the seventh century CE. Fragments of two beads (from Area E, L602, not illustrated) probably date from the Late Roman or Byzantine period. Furthermore, all excavation areas yielded windowpane fragments and raw glass chunks from the twentieth century (Fig. 4).

The vessels were free-blown of translucent glass in various shades of blue and green; several are colorless. Most of the vessels are plain, although some are decorated with applied trails. The dating of the glass finds was based mainly on

**Table 1. Number of Glass
Fragments per Area**

Area	Total	Diagnostic Fragments
A	161	62
B	43	17
C	31	19
D	114	69
E	41	21
<i>Total</i>	<i>390</i>	<i>188</i>

¹ This report was completed in April 2012. I wish to thank Yardenna Alexandre for her efficient cooperation, Yael Gorin-Rosen for reviewing the manuscript and Ilana Peters, for editing it. The glass finds were drawn by Hagit Tahan-Rosen and photographed by Clara Amit.

Table 2. Distribution of Glass Finds by Excavation Areas and Periods

Area	Early Roman	Late Roman and Early Byzantine	Byzantine and Early Umayyad	Late Ottoman
A		+		+
B			+	+
C		+		+
D	+	+	+	+
E		+	+	+

their shape, fabric and color, as well as on comparisons to other glass corpora. Analogous examples were cited primarily from excavations in the vicinity of Ḥorbat ‘Ofrat, for example, Zippori (Sepphoris; 8 km southeast), Jalame (12 km southwest), Qiryat Ata (8 km west–northwest) and Ḥorbat ‘Uza (15 km north–northwest), as well as various sites in the western Galilee, and on Mount Carmel and the adjoining coastal plain.

THE GLASS FINDS

The Early Roman Period

Dome-Shaped Inlay or Gaming Piece (Fig. 1).—Circular and oval dome-shaped glass inlays and gaming pieces are generally associated with the Hellenistic and Early Roman periods (Spaer 2001:233, 236, Pl. 41:548). This piece was found in a context (L527) assigned by the excavator to the Middle–Late Roman period (Stratum IV; see Alexandre, this volume).

A circular inlay or gaming piece was recovered at nearby Ḥorbat ‘Uza, yet its specific context and date are unclear (Gorin-Rosen 2009:96–97, Fig. 2.55:4, and see therein reference to examples dated from the Hellenistic and Early Roman periods from ‘Akko and Samaria-Sebaste). Analogous examples were discovered in Jerusalem: several specimens in various fills dated from the Hellenistic period until 70 CE in the City of David (Ariel 1990:157, Fig. 31: GL37–GL40), and a single piece in a context dated to the third quarter of the first century CE in the Burnt House within the Old City’s Jewish Quarter (Israeli 2010:228, Pl. 6.3:G50, and see therein another example from the Jewish Quarter, Area X-2).

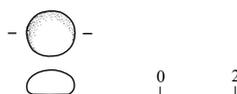


Fig. 1. Glass inlay or gaming piece from the Early Roman period.

Area	Locus	Basket	Description
D	527	5121	Circular dome-shaped, unpierced inlay or gaming piece with a flat bottom (diam. 12 mm). Cobalt blue. Iridescence; slight pitting

The Late Roman and Early Byzantine Periods

The glass vessels under this chronological category belong to types that were common predominantly during the fourth and early fifth centuries CE, roughly corresponding to Strata IV and III at Ḥorbat 'Ofrat. The repertoire comprises bowls of various types (Fig. 2:1–3), including some with an exterior horizontal ridge (from Loci 110, 111, 602, not illustrated) and many 'pad bases' (Fig. 2:4). There are also beakers, bottles, and jugs (Fig. 2:5–13), as well as a tube-shaped container (Fig. 2:14).

Bowls

Bowls with an Outfolded Rim (Fig. 2:1, 2).— Bowls with a hollow outfolded rim were either shallow or deep, and generally had a pushed-in ring base. They were widespread in Syria-Palestine during the Roman and Byzantine periods.

Many variants of bowls with a hollow outfolded rim, some resembling the one in Fig. 2:1, were recovered from contexts of the Late Roman–early Byzantine periods at Ḥorbat 'Uza (Gorin-Rosen 2009:80–82, Fig. 2.50:2–4, 11), and from Byzantine-period contexts at Ḥorbat Rozez on Mount Carmel (Winter 2010:147, Fig. 1:2–4, and see therein examples from other sites on Mount Carmel, the coastal plain and farther south). Numerous bowls with a hollow outfolded rim, some resembling those illustrated in Fig. 2:1, 2, were discovered at Jalame, mostly in the glass factory dump dated to the second half of the fourth century CE, and in the winepress vat dated from the late fourth to the early fifth centuries CE (Weinberg and Goldstein 1988:41–44, Fig. 4-3, and see therein discussion including technique, geographical spread and analogous examples).

Bowl with a Double-Fold Rim (Fig. 2:3).— Fashioning rims with two hollow folds is typical of bowls from the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods.

A complete bowl with a rim resembling Fig. 2:3 and a solid base resembling Fig. 2:4 were unearthed in Tomb XV at Ḥanita, dated from the third–early fourth centuries CE (Barag 1978:21, Fig. 11:40). Bowls with a similarly folded rim were also discovered in the winepress vat at Jalame, dated from the late fourth to the early fifth century CE (Weinberg and Goldstein 1988:49, Fig. 4-8:79).

Tooled Solid Base (Fig. 2:4).— This base probably supported a bowl. Ten additional bases of this type (not illustrated) were excavated in Loci 110, 121, 125, 127, 402, 406, 407, 519, 526 and 534.

Bases of this type are known as 'pad bases' for the mass of molten glass applied as a pad to the bottom of the base (see Harden 1936:15–16). These bases generally supported bowls, beakers and jugs of types that were widespread in Syria-Palestine, particularly during the fourth–early fifth centuries CE.

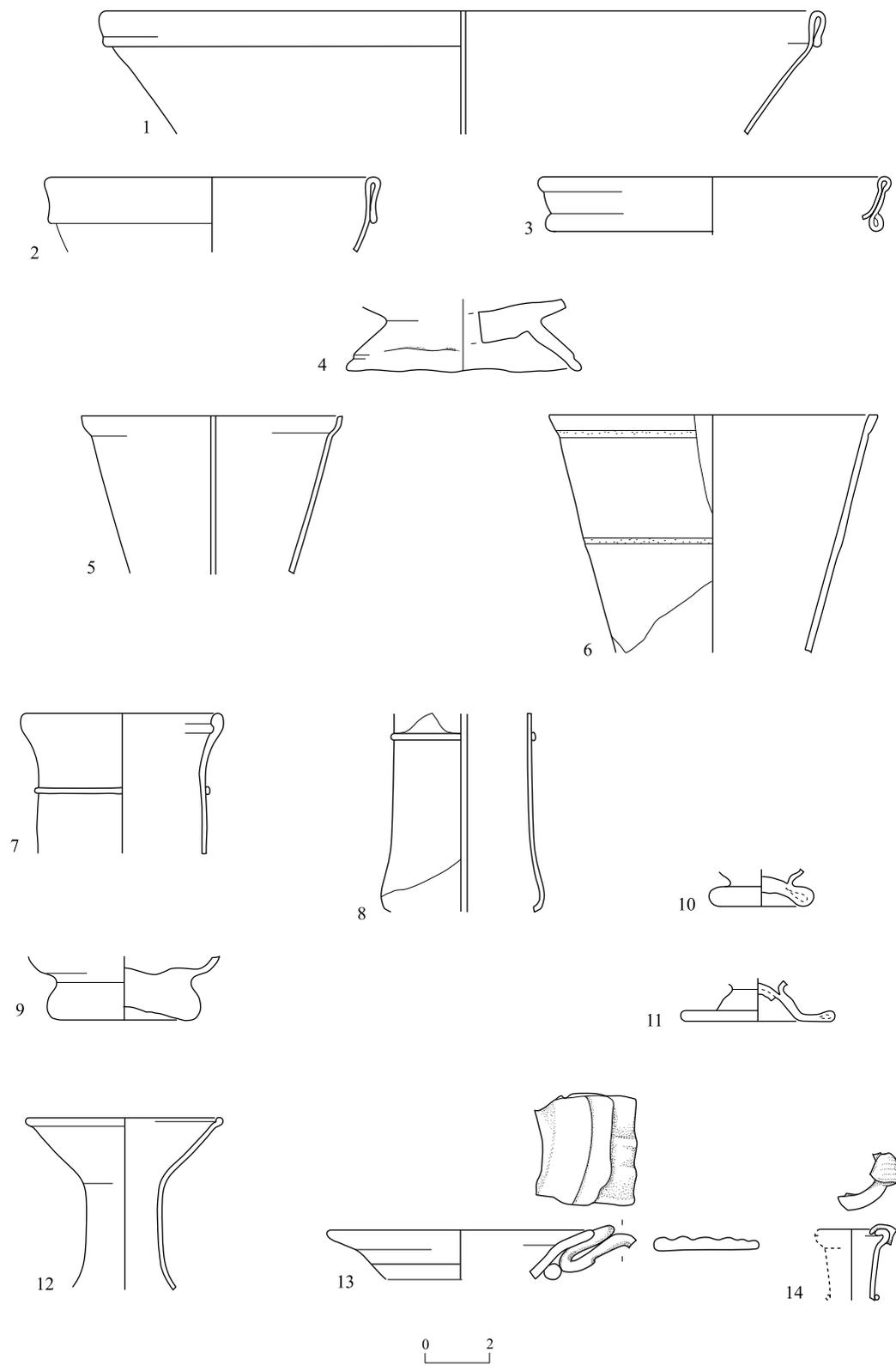


Fig. 2. Glass vessels from the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods.

◀ Fig. 2

No.	Area	Locus	Basket	Description
1	D	532	5168	Bowl with a rounded outfolded rim (diam. c. 225 mm) and a slanting wall. Light green. Iridescence; slight pitting
2	D	519	5152	Bowl with a rounded outfolded rim (diam. 100 mm) and a small part of the wall. Light greenish blue. Iridescence; slight pitting
3	A	111	1047	Bowl with a rim (diam. c. 105 mm) folded outward and then back toward the wall, forming two hollow folds. Colorless. Weathering; iridescence; slight pitting
4	A	121	1056	Thick, slanting, irregular, tooled base (diam. c. 75 mm). Bluish green. Iridescence; sand deposit
5	A	111	1037	Beaker with a cut-off rim (diam. 80 mm), and a slanting wall with polishing marks on the exterior. Colorless. Weathering; iridescence
6	A	103	1007	Beaker with a cut-off rim (diam. 100 mm), and a slanting wall with a horizontal abraded groove below the rim and polishing marks on the exterior. Colorless. Weathering; iridescence; slight pitting
7	A	111	1037	Beaker with a thick rounded rim (diam. 60 mm) and a cylindrical body, with a trail wound horizontally on the wall, c. 25 mm below the rim. Light green. Iridescence
8	C	407	4018	Wall fragment of a beaker with a thin trail wound horizontally on its upper part. Light green. Iridescence; sand deposit
9	D	512	5052	Thick solid base (diam. c. 45 mm) with a pontil scar on the underside. Light green. Weathering; iridescence; sand deposit
10	E	615	6039	Beaker or jug with a hollow pushed-in ring base (diam. 30 mm) with a scar and traces from the pontil on the underside and a small part of the body. Greenish blue. Iridescence; sand deposit
11	C	407	4018	Beaker or jug with a hollow pushed-in ring base (diam. c. 47 mm) with a pontil scar on the underside. Greenish blue. Weathering; iridescence; slight pitting
12	D	532	5154	Bottle with a rounded rim (diam. 60 mm), a funnel-shaped mouth, and a cylindrical neck. Light blue. Weathering; iridescence; sand deposit
13	E	615	6039	Jug with a rounded flaring rim (diam. c. 80 mm), a piece of a strap handle attached and folded below it, and a thick trail wound below the rim. Olive green. Iridescence; sand deposit
14	A	129	1078	Tube-shaped container with a rounded, unevenly infolded rim (diam. c. 22 mm) and a piece of a trail handle (broken) attached to it. A thin turquoise-colored trail is applied horizontally on the vessel wall. Light green. Iridescence

A complete deep bowl with a pad base was unearthed in Tomb XV at Ḥanita, dated from the third and early fourth centuries CE (Barag 1978:21, Fig. 11:40). Jugs on a high pad base were recovered from a burial cave at Qiryat Ata and dated from the mid-fourth to the early fifth centuries CE (Vitto 2008:146–151, Figs. 11, 12). Several pad bases were excavated

in contexts of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods at Ḥorbat ‘Uẓa (Gorin-Rosen 2009:87–88, Fig. 2.52:14, 15, and see therein examples from Kisra, Akhziv and Ḥammāt Gader). Additional pad bases were discovered in Jalame, mostly in the glass factory dump dated to the second half of the fourth century CE (Weinberg and Goldstein 1988:58, Fig. 4-20, and see therein discussion and examples from Nahariyya and Ḥorbat Shema’).

Beakers

Conical Beakers (Fig. 2:5, 6).— Vessels of this type generally had a flaring, cut-off rim that was usually polished. Their base was either solid or hollow, and could have been pointed, flattened, or knob-shaped. The beakers were decorated with various elements, including grooves, abraded incisions, applied blobs of contrasting dark blue or turquoise-colored glass, or a combination of some or all of the above.

Conical beakers were used as lamps and drinking vessels, and may have also served in ceremonial rituals. They are confidently dated to the fourth century CE, and were widespread throughout the Roman Empire, particularly in Syria-Palestine and Egypt (Gorin-Rosen and Katsnelson 2007:90–93, Fig. 8:1, 2, and see therein examples; Stern 2001:267–268, 293–295, Cat. Nos. 157, 158).

Several fragments of conical beakers were recovered from contexts of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods at Ḥorbat ‘Uẓa (Gorin-Rosen 2009:90, Fig. 2.53:10–13, and see therein reference to a fourth-century CE specimen from Ḥorbat Manot [Khirbat Manawat] in the western Galilee). Additionally, the glass workshop at Jalame most likely produced conical beakers (Weinberg and Goldstein 1988:87–94, Fig. 4-46, and see therein a discussion of the type, its function and technique). Complete conical beakers from the Eastern Mediterranean are in the collections of the Israel Museum, Jerusalem (Israeli 2003:193–196, Cat. Nos. 229–231, color photographs on p. 154).

Beakers with a Solid Base (Fig. 2:7–9).— This vessel type is represented by a rim and wall fragment (Fig. 2:7), a body fragment (Fig. 2:8) and a base (Fig. 2:9). Three additional pieces were excavated in Loci 107, 113 and 601 (not illustrated).

Beakers with a solid base generally had a slightly flaring, rounded rim with an applied horizontal trail below it, and a cylindrical body. They were widespread in Syria-Palestine and are securely dated to the fourth and early fifth centuries CE (Weinberg and Goldstein 1988:60–62, Fig. 4-23; Gorin-Rosen and Katsnelson 2007:93, Fig. 8:3–9, and see discussion and examples therein).

A complete beaker was unearthed in a burial cave dated to the fourth century CE at ‘Araba (Syon 1999: Fig. 28:a). Another complete beaker and many beaker fragments were recovered from contexts of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods at Ḥorbat ‘Uẓa (Gorin-Rosen 2009:88–90, Fig. 2.53:1–9, and see therein examples from sites in the western Galilee, i.e., Akhziv, Loḥame Ha-Geṭa’ot, ‘Akko and Khirbat esh-Shubeika, as well as in other parts of the country).

Beakers or Jugs with a Pushed-In Base (Fig. 2:10, 11).— Two bases of this type are presented here, and another was recovered in L108 (not illustrated). Pushed-in bases with a hollow ring supported beakers and jugs characteristic of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods (Gorin-Rosen and Katsnelson 2007:93, Fig. 8:11–13, and see therein discussion and additional examples).

Complete jugs with a base resembling the one illustrated in Fig. 2:10 were unearthed in burials at Zippori. These vessels were dated to the fourth and early fifth centuries CE, and were probably produced in a local workshop (Israeli 2005). Complete jugs with a base resembling the one in Fig. 2:11 were excavated at Ḥorbat Qaştra (Gorin-Rosen and Katsnelson 1999:27*, Fig. 51, Color Plate iii:6, 9). An incomplete jug with another variant of the hollow pushed-in base was recovered from a burial cave at Qiryat Ata and dated from the mid-fourth to the early fifth centuries CE (Vitto 2008:146–151, Fig. 15:1). Various pushed-in hollow ring bases were recovered from contexts of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods at Ḥorbat 'Uẓa (Gorin-Rosen 2009:95, Fig. 2.54:13–16, and see therein discussion and examples from el-Bassa, Akhziv, Khirbat esh-Shubeika and Bet She'arim). The excavations at Jalame yielded beakers and jugs with bases resembling those illustrated in Fig. 2:10, 11 (Weinberg and Goldstein 1988:62–63, 65, 68, Figs. 4-24, 4-29).

Bottles and Jugs

Bottle with a Funnel-Shaped Mouth and a Cylindrical Neck (Fig. 2:12).— Bottles of this type had a short funnel-mouth and a cylindrical neck. They generally had a pear-shaped body and a concave bottom. These bottles are characteristic of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods.

Two similar complete bottles—one plain and the other decorated with trails on the mouth and neck—were unearthed in Cave 3 at Kisra, and dated to the fourth century CE (Stern 1997:110–111, Fig. 4:16, 17, and see therein examples particularly from the Galilee and Samaria-Sebaste). A somewhat similar rim-and-neck fragment was recovered from a context of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods at Ḥorbat 'Uẓa (Gorin-Rosen 2009:92, Fig. 2.54:2, and see therein reference to an example from Akhziv).

Jug with a Funnel-Shaped Mouth and a Trail Wound Below the Rim (Fig. 2:13).— This type of a single-handled jug with a funnel-shaped mouth and a single trail wound below the rim occurred in several variants and was widespread in Syria-Palestine during the fourth and fifth centuries CE.

Several examples, including one with a strap handle attached to the rim, were recovered from contexts of the Late Roman and early Byzantine periods at Ḥorbat 'Uẓa (Gorin-Rosen 2009:92–94, Fig. 2.54:3–6, and see therein discussion and examples from Kisra, el-Bassa and Akhziv). At Jalame, most of the jug fragments adorned with a single trail wound below the rim were discovered in the glass factory dump, dated to the second half of the fourth century CE (Weinberg and Goldstein 1988:65–67, Fig. 4-28).

Tube-Shaped Container with an Infolded Rim and a Handle (Fig. 2:14).— This small rim fragment probably belonged to a cosmetic container comprising either a single or a double tube. These vessels were widespread in Syria-Palestine during the fourth and early fifth centuries CE (Gorin-Rosen and Katsnelson 2007:108–114, Figs. 16–21, and see therein discussion and numerous examples). The ancient cemetery at Migdal Ha-‘Emeq yielded complete fourth-century CE double tubes from Tombs S and B (Tatcher and Gal 2009:25*, 29*–30*, Figs. 16:3, 19:4), and an upper part of a single tube from Burial Cave 21 (Getzov, Avshalom-Gorni and Muqari 1998: Fig. 9:2).

The Byzantine and Early Umayyad Periods

The glass vessels under this chronological category were common predominantly during the sixth and seventh centuries CE, corresponding to Strata II and I at Ḥorbat ‘Ofrat, yet with a chronological range that encompasses the entire seventh century CE. The glass repertoire comprises bowls of various types (Fig. 3:1), including some with a hollow outfolded rim (not illustrated); many wineglasses (Fig. 3:2, 3); bottles adorned with a thick wavy trail (Fig. 3:4) and bottles with a thin applied trail wound around the mouth/neck (not illustrated); and various types of lamps (Fig. 3:5–7).

Vessels typical of the sixth and seventh centuries CE were unearthed in the vicinity of Ḥorbat ‘Ofrat, for example, at nearby Shefar‘am (no published illustrations, Gorin-Rosen 2010a), in the Zippori synagogue (Gorin-Rosen 2005: Pl. D.I), at Bet She‘arim (Vitto 1996: Fig. 26) and at Nazareth (Bagatti 1969: Fig. 237). However, although these assemblages include bowls, wineglasses, bottles and lamps, most are of subtypes different than those recovered at Ḥorbat ‘Ofrat. Analogous examples to the specimens presented below were cited from other, more distant sites.

Bowls, Wineglasses and Bottles

Small Bowl or Beaker with a Trail Fused-In on the Rim (Fig. 3:1).— This thick rounded rim probably belonged to a small bowl or beaker typical of the late Byzantine and Umayyad periods; it may have been used as an oil lamp. The cobalt blue trail fused-in on the rim is also a feature that occasionally appears on deep bowls or beakers of this type.

Similar vessels adorned with a dark-colored trail fused-in on the rim were excavated, for example, at Khirbat el-Baṭīya, in an assemblage dated from the late Byzantine and Umayyad periods (Gorin-Rosen 2006:29*, Fig. 1:1) and in Umayyad-period contexts at Ramla (Gorin-Rosen 2010c:215–218, Pl. 10.1:1, 4, and see therein examples of similar bowls without a fused-in trail on the rim).

Wineglasses (Fig. 3:2, 3).— These upper and lower vessel parts of wineglasses were discovered together in the same locus and basket, but belonged to two different vessels, as attested by their fabric and color.

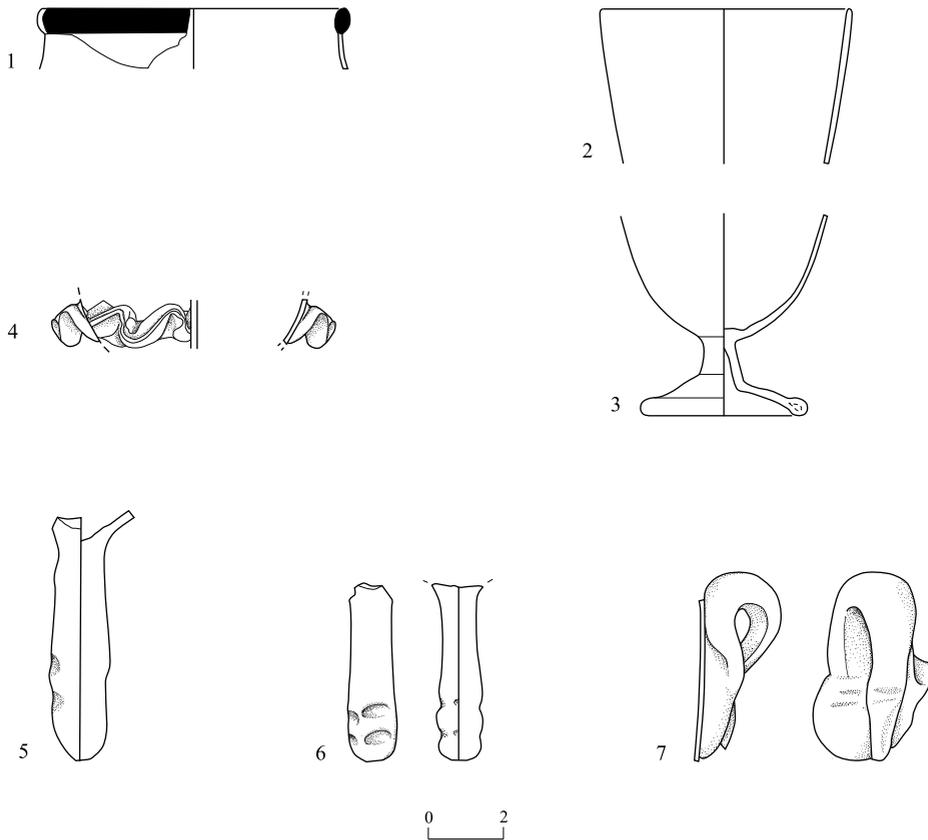


Fig. 3. Glass vessels from the Byzantine and early Umayyad periods.

No.	Area	Locus	Basket	Description
1	D	511	5048	Thin-walled bowl or beaker with a rounded rim (diam. c. 80 mm) adorned with a cobalt blue trail fused-in on it. Light blue. Iridescence
2	D	523	5117	Wineglass with a rounded rim (diam. c. 65 mm) and a thin wall. Light blue. Iridescence; slight pitting
3	D	523	5117	Wineglass with a part of the ovoid bowl. A cylindrical stem is set off the center of an irregularly shaped hollow ring base (diam. 42–44 mm), with a pontil scar on its underside. Light green. Iridescence; sand deposit
4	D	523	5168	Small wall fragment of a bottle or jug with a funnel-shaped mouth/neck and a single, uneven, thick wavy trail of the same color wound horizontally around it. Greenish blue. Iridescence
5	D	507	5044	Cylindrical solid stem of a lamp and a small part of the lamp bowl; the stem bears sunken tooling marks on its lower part, and a pontil scar on the bottom. Green. Weathering; iridescence; pitting; sand deposit
6	D	527	1521	Cylindrical solid stem of a lamp with sunken tooling marks on its lower part and a pontil scar on the bottom. Greenish blue. Weathering; iridescence; sand deposit
7	A	107	1010	Large, thick, slightly pinched, loop handle of a lamp, attached to a thin wall. Greenish blue. Weathering; iridescence; sand deposit

Footed vessels known as ‘wineglasses’ occurred in several variations, and were widespread in Syria-Palestine and the Eastern Mediterranean basin during the Byzantine and early Umayyad periods (Gorin-Rosen and Winter 2010:167–170). The 17 specimens from Ḥorbat ‘Ofrat have a plain rounded rim (Fig. 3:2), and all but one (from L514, not illustrated) have a hollow ring base (Fig. 3:3). Fifteen additional hollow wineglass bases were excavated in Loci 307, 501, 514, 515, 519, 523, 601, 602 and 603 (not illustrated).

Wineglasses supported by a hollow ring base and a cylindrical stem were discovered, for example, in the Byzantine-period church at Shave Ziyon (Barag 1967:67–68, Fig. 16:15, 17) and in a Byzantine-period context at Ḥorbat Rozez on Mount Carmel, where the wineglass bowl is much larger (Winter 2010:148, Fig. 2:1, 2).

Bottle with a Funnel-Shaped Mouth Adorned with a Thick Wavy Trail (Fig. 3:4).— This type of decoration is represented by a small wall fragment; another piece was found in L515 (not illustrated). Bottles adorned with a thick horizontal wavy trail on the mouth or neck were especially widespread during the late Byzantine and Umayyad periods.

A complete bottle from Jericho, dated by Barag (1970:51–52) to the late Byzantine and Umayyad periods, has a globular body and a long cylindrical neck tapering upward, bearing a thick wavy trail (Sellin and Watzinger 1913:165, Pl. 45:III, 9). A wide funnel-shaped mouth adorned with a thick wavy trail was discovered in the chapel at Ḥorbat Ḥermeshit (Winter 1998:176, Fig. 2:3, and see therein examples from Bet Yerah, Samaria-Sebaste and Gerasa/Jerash).

Lamps

Several types of lamps were widespread in Syria-Palestine during the Byzantine and early Umayyad periods. Two of these types are represented in this corpus: the stemmed bowl-shaped lamp (Fig. 3:5, 6) and the bowl-shaped lamp with a cut-off rim and three loop handles (Fig. 3:7).

Stemmed Bowl-Shaped Lamps (Fig. 3:5, 6).— Two variations of stems were collected at Ḥorbat ‘Ofrat: the solid tooled stem (Fig. 3:5, 6, and three similar stems from Loci 501, 514 and 519; not illustrated) and the beaded stem (from L303, not illustrated). Hollow stems are absent from the assemblage.

Stemmed bowl-shaped lamps were widespread in the Eastern Mediterranean basin throughout the Byzantine period, particularly during the sixth and seventh centuries CE, and continued into the Umayyad period. A solid stem with similar sunken tooling marks on its lower part was excavated near Shiqmona in a context dated to the late Byzantine period (Gorin-Rosen 2010b:213–214, Fig. 2:11, and see therein examples from Bet She’an, Ḥorbat Qastra, Bat Gallim and Khirbat Tinani in Haifa, as well as from Lebanon and Jordan).

Bowl-Shaped Lamp with a Cut-Off Rim (Fig. 3:7).— The handle with its small loop and its extension is typical of a bowl-shaped lamp. Two additional lamp handles were excavated

in Loci 307 and 502 (not illustrated). Bowl-shaped lamps with a cut-off rim generally had a globular or ovoid body and three small handles attached to the wall. Lamps of this type first appeared in Syria-Palestine probably in the second half of the fourth century CE and continued into the seventh century CE (Gorin-Rosen and Winter 2010:173–174, Fig. 5:2, 4–6).

A nearly complete lamp of this type was exposed in a burial cave on the Mount of Olives (Bagatti and Milik 1958:148, Fig. 35:12); this is probably its earliest appearance, dated by Barag to no later than the mid-fourth century CE (Barag 1970:183–184, Type 13:10). Examples from Byzantine-period contexts were excavated, for example, at Khirbat Ṭabaliya, south of Jerusalem (Gorin-Rosen 2000:89*, Fig. 3:26), and at Caesarea Maritima (Peleg and Reich 1992:155–156, Fig. 18:19). A lamp with its handles intact was discovered in the odeum at Pella, dated from the sixth to the early seventh century CE (Smith and Day 1989:110, Pl. 51:23).

The Modern Era

Windowpane fragments and raw glass chunks were discovered in all excavation areas. The pieces presented herein include five fragments of windowpanes (thickness 4–5 mm; Fig. 4:1–5) and four raw glass chunks (Fig. 4:6–9). They are attributed to the twentieth century CE due to their light greenish blue hue and brown weathering, which are typical of that period. The specimens were found on surface soil, and do not bear stratigraphic



Fig. 4. Glass windowpanes and raw glass chunks from the twentieth century.

significance. Moreover, the raw glass chunks are insufficient to determine the existence of glass production at the site (for a discussion on the significance of glass production debris, see Gorin-Rosen and Katsnelson 2007:124–129, Fig. 25).

SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION

The glass finds from the site at Ḥorbat 'Ofrat were discovered in all excavation areas (A–E). None were associated with the Hellenistic period (Stratum VI), and only a single find was assigned to the Early Roman period.

The lion's share of the finds date from the fourth–early fifth centuries CE, roughly conforming with the date assigned by the excavator to Strata IV and III, and from the sixth–seventh centuries CE, corresponding to the dating of Strata II and I, although with a chronological range that extends throughout the seventh century CE. The vessels from the fourth–early fifth centuries CE included typical bowls, beakers, bottles and jugs, whereas the glass assemblage from the sixth–seventh centuries CE comprised bowls, wineglasses, bottles and lamps, all characteristic of their respective periods. The glass vessels shed light on everyday life in a rural settlement in the lower Galilee, and the plain, scarcely ornamented tablewares are in keeping with the domestic nature of the excavated remains.

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