

## UNSTAMPED AND STAMPED AMPHORA FRAGMENTS FROM RABBI YEHUDA ME-RAGUZA STREET, YAFO (JAFFA)

GERALD FINKIELSZTEJN

### INTRODUCTION

The Rabbi Yehuda Me-Raguza Street excavations in Yafo (see Arbel and Rauchberger, this volume) yielded 28 fragments of imported amphorae. The unstamped fragments of imported amphorae consist of toes, rims and handles. They originated from the Northern Aegean (3; Nos. 1–3), Chios (1; No. 4), the Southeastern Aegean (6; Nos. 5–10), Rhodes (4; Nos. 11–14), Kos and the surrounding region (4; Nos. 15–18), Ephesos (1; No. 19) and the Levant (2; Nos. 20, 21). The stamped Rhodian amphorae (7; Nos. 22–28) range in date from c. 220 to 145/120 BCE, with some gaps. The datable unstamped finds can be attributed to the period spanning roughly the fourth century BCE (n = 4) to the first half of the first century CE (n = 1); most of the fragments date to the third century BCE (n = 10), followed by the second century BCE (n = 4). The registration numbers of the amphora fragments combine the permit, locus and basket numbers.

### CATALOGUE

#### UNSTAMPED FRAGMENTS

##### *Northern Aegean*

For a survey of the amphora forms from the area in the fourth–third centuries BCE, see Lawall 2004a.

No. 1. 6482.438.4100 (Fig. 1:1)

Broken solid cylindrical toe. Complete, slightly concave profile toe bottom showing its slightly cuplike form, c. 7 cm upward, to a cut edge. The short concave profile (c. 3 cm mid-arch) attests to a short cylindrical toe. A parallel may be found in Monachov 2003:278, Pl. 48:2, Type IIC2.

*Fabric:* Reddish brown with few small brownish white and many very small copper-colored shiny inclusions; outer surface light red, covered with a light brown wash, with many very small copper-colored shiny inclusions.

*Date:* Probably the first half of the fourth century BCE.

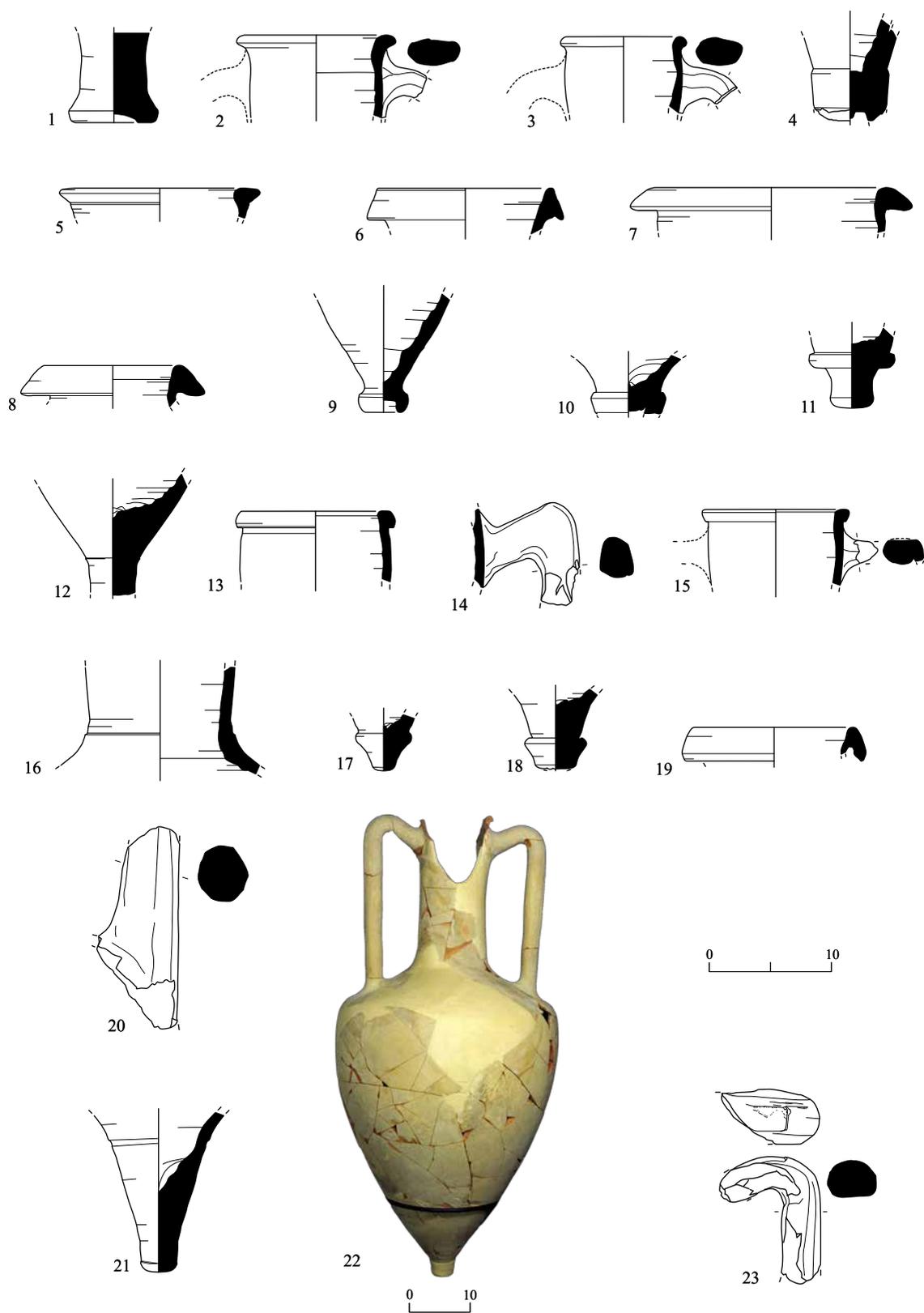


Fig. 1. Unstamped (1-21) and stamped (22, 23) amphorae.

No. 2. 6482.438.4173.2 (Fig. 1:2)

Rim with upper part of one handle attached. The lip's profile is triangular and the diameter is close to that of example No. 3, although here less of the fragment is preserved. This amphora may be either slightly earlier or derives from a different workshop.

*Fabric:* Inner half red, outer half light brown with few white and brownish white inclusions; inner surface light red, outer surface light yellowish brown.

*Date:* Probably the second–third quarters of the third century BCE.

No. 3. 6482.438.4173.1 (Fig. 1:3)

Rim with upper part of one handle attached. The profile of this and of No. 2 (above) fit late Thasian amphorae (Monachov 2003:76, Types II-C-3 and III, Pls. 50, 51) but here the lip is rounded.

*Fabric:* Light reddish brown with some brownish white inclusions of all sizes including inclusions larger than 1 mm. Inner surface light brown, outer surface light yellowish brown with few very small shiny inclusions.

*Date:* Probably the second–third quarters of the third century BCE.

#### *Chios*

No. 4. 6482.441.4120 (Fig. 1:4)

Broken toe. Amphora base with the broken toe attached (diam. 6.5 cm).

*Fabric:* Light to brownish red with very small brown inclusions; inner surface reddish white, outer surface very light red. The lower part of the hollow toe is missing.

*Date:* Second–third quarters of the fourth century BCE.

#### *Southeastern Aegean*

For a survey of the amphora forms from the Southeastern Aegean in the fourth and third centuries BCE, see Lawall 2004a.

No. 5. 6482.517.5058 (Fig. 1:5)

Rim fragment. Profile horizontally triangular, not folded as in the following examples. Transition from rim to neck is marked by pulled-up clay.

*Fabric:* Light grayish brown with few brown and black inclusions; surface very light brown.

*Date:* Circa 325–300 BCE.

No. 6. 6482.357.3512 (Fig. 1:6)

Rim fragment. 'mushroom' profile.

*Fabric:* Light brown; inner and outer surface brownish white.

*Date:* First half of the third century BCE.

No. 7. 6482.375.3245 (Fig. 1:7)

Rim fragment. 'Mushroom' profile.

*Fabric:* Light brown, seemingly quite light for a Rhodian or Koan production; inner and outer surface brownish white, with one very small copper-colored shiny inclusion.

*Date:* First half of the third century BCE.

No. 8. 6482.523.5099 (Fig. 1:8)

Rim fragment. 'Mushroom' profile, with a slight groove at the junction with the neck.

*Fabric:* Light red with very few white inclusions; surface light reddish brown.

*Date:* First half of the third century BCE.

No. 9. 6482.524.5172 (Fig. 1:9)

Base with toe. The base belongs to a pear-shaped amphora ending in a cup-toe (diam. 3.8 cm), evidence that this was a fractional amphora. The walls of the lower body are noticeably thick (up to 1.7 cm) for its size.

*Fabric:* Light brown with many very small and few larger brownish white inclusions; inner and outer surfaces very light brown.

*Date:* Probably the second half of the third century BCE.

No. 10. 6233.129.1103 (Fig. 1:10)

Base with cut toe. The preserved fragment of the toe reveals that it was hollow and progressively conical, which would have hidden the tip of the non-smoothed base, meaning that it is not a cup-toe as is No. 9 above. This amphora may hail from the Southeastern Aegean.

*Fabric:* Light reddish brown, with some small brownish white and few shining copper-colored inclusions; inner surface light red, outer surface light brown with some shining copper-colored inclusions.

*Date:* Probably the mid-third century BCE.

#### *Rhodes*

No. 11. 6482.421.4035 (Fig. 1:11)

Base with toe. Conical base with a ring at the transition with a cylindrical toe and a concave shaft, smoothed at the base (Monachov 2003:310, Pl. 80:4; 2005:74–75, Fig. 2:6; Finkielsztein 2001:236, Pl. B:9, 10).

*Fabric:* Light brownish red; inner and outer surface light reddish brown.

*Date:* 252–247 BCE.

No. 12. 6482.211.2003 (Fig. 1:12)

Base with toe. Almost complete profile of a probably half-capacity amphora. Fully developed cylinder-shaped toe, with a slight offset at the junction with the base.

*Date:* After c. 235 BCE.

No. 13. 6482.373.3243.2 (Fig. 1:13)

Rim with part of neck. Fully developed squarish thickened and folded rim, with a flat top and a rounded outer surface.

*Fabric:* Light red with some small black inclusions; surface very light brown.

*Date:* After c. 235 BCE.

No. 14. 6482.610.6065 (Fig. 1:14)

Top of handle. Very high 'horn-shaped' profile of the unstamped handle of a late amphora.

*Date:* Second–third quarters of the first century CE.

*Kos and Koan-Type*

No. 15. 6233.405.4114 (Fig. 1:15)

Rim with upper attachment of one handle. Squarish with slightly convex outer side thickened and folded rim, with double-barreled handle.

*Fabric:* Light red with very small whitish inclusions; inner and outer surface very light brown with one very small flake of a shining particle. The vessel is most probably Koan.

*Date:* Probably the second century BCE.

No. 16. 6233.108.1018 (Fig. 1:16)

Fragment of join of neck with shoulder. The clearly marked offset at the bottom of the neck is typical of a Koan type, with double-barreled handles and relatively thin walls.

*Fabric:* Reddish brown with a light brown core and very few brownish white small inclusions; inner surface very light brown with many very small copper-colored shiny inclusions; the outer surface is the same, but with few shiny inclusions. In Kos, the fabric is very common.

*Date:* Second century BCE.

No. 17. 6233.105.1015 (Fig. 1:17)

Toe with a small fragment of the base. The maximum diameter of the toe (4.4 cm) is evidence of a fractional (half-capacity?) amphora. The toe is a compact cone with a discrete transition from the top thickening and the cone itself.

*Fabric:* Light reddish-brown with rare brownish white inclusions; inner and outer surfaces very light brown. The fabric is not typically Koan.

*Date:* Roughly mid-third century BCE.

No. 18. 6482.373.3243.1 (Fig. 1:18)

Base with eroded toe. The top of the toe is of the Koan type, but the lower preserved part may have ended in a shortened or flattened cone. The latter form is known from Mazor (Finkielsztejn, forthcoming) but the fabric is not necessarily Koan, contrary to that of our example.

*Fabric:* Light reddish brown with very small brown, brownish white and white (the largest) inclusions, and some very small shiny copper-colored inclusions; inner surface very light reddish brown and outer surface light brown with many very small and few shiny copper-colored inclusions.

*Date:* Probably second century BCE.

*Ephesos (Nikandros Group)*

No. 19. 6482.214.2052 (Fig. 1:19)

Rim fragment. ‘Mushroom’ profile with a marked squarish groove at the join with the neck. This profile is found on Nikandros amphorae thought to have originated from Ephesos (Lawall 2004b).

*Fabric:* Reddish brown with very few white inclusions; surface very light brown with many very small shiny inclusions.

*Date:* Probably the third quarter of the third century BCE.

*East Mediterranean*

This group of Levantine amphorae was studied by Humbert (1991). As is generally the case for amphorae from the Mediterranean, these vessels evolved from a globular to an elongated body. Concomitantly, the profile of the ‘basket-handles’ attached at the transition from shoulder to body evolved from an arched high profile to a very short elongated one—so close to the shoulder that it lost its functionality.

No. 20. 6428.438.4151 (Fig. 1:20)

Lower part of handle still attached to shoulder. The handle is straight (preserved outer height 16.5 cm; inner height 8.5 cm; diam. at break 4 cm) and the slanted break may indicate that the curve of the top part started here. In addition, the shoulder’s inner profile indicates that it is somewhat pronounced.

*Fabric:* Light brown with small and very small white, whitish and brown inclusions; inner surface light reddish brown (shoulder), outer surface very light brown with some inclusions visible (handle).

*Date:* Probably the transition from the fourth to the third century BCE.

No. 21. 6428.438.4104.2 (Fig. 1:21)

Toe, with the base ending in a solid elongated cone.

*Fabric:* Reddish brown with very small white, small light brown and few very small whitish inclusions; inner surface light red, outer surface light to very light brown.

Not datable.

## STAMPED AMPHORAE

*Rhodes*

No. 22. 6482.521.5140

Handle with a rectangular stamp.



Ἐπί [Τιμο]

κλείδα

This is the only possible restoration of the name, based on the rounded profile of the handle and the size of the stamp.

*Date:* Circa 220–215 BCE.

No. 23. 6233.125.1068 (Fig. 1:22)

Complete profile of an amphora; rectangular stamps.

23.1. Fabricant:



Θεόδωρος

Αγριάνιος

23.2. Eponym:



Symbol of Ἐπί Σιμυ

Helios λίνου

For handles with the ‘Symbol of Helios’ and their dating, see Finkielsztejn 2001:98–101, 105, 112, 188, 190, 191. The location of Σιμυλίνος in the chronological sequence is not fully understood.

*Date:* Circa 215–200 BCE.

No. 24. 6482.438.4104.1 (Fig. 1:23)

Top of handle; rectangular stamp (not illustrated).

]ρα[

[----?]

The profile of the handle dates the amphora to the last quarter of Period II (Finkielsztein 2001:191, Tables 18:196; 22:1).

*Date:* Circa 225–200 BCE.

No. 25. 6233.102.1010

Handle with a rectangular stamp.



Ἐπι [

[

The aspect of the handle and the stamp are similar to that of No. 24.

*Date:* Circa 225–200 BCE.

No. 26. 6482.425.4148

Handle with rectangular stamp.



Illegible

Stamp completely smooth, as if the die was not engraved at all. Based on the angular bend and slightly convex top, this amphora belongs to Period III–IV of the Rhodian chronology (Finkielsztein 2001:192–193, Tables 19, 20).

*Date:* First half of the second century BCE.

No. 27. 6233.105.1043



Handle with rectangular stamp.

Β]ρομίο[υ

For a discussion on this fabricant, see Finkielsztejn 2001:121–123. Several associations with eponyms are known.

*Date:* Circa 150–135 BCE.

No. 28. 6233.129.1083

Handle with two stamps.



28.1. Main circular stamp:

]ε[

Rose

28.2. Secondary square stamp:



C

The main stamp is quite large for the handle, which may be an indication that the amphora was a half-capacity vessel. It is most probably an eponym stamp with the month, based on the size of the letter. The lunate sigma secondary stamp was used by potters of the workshop(s) of Τιμόξενος, Δαμόφιλος and Άναξιππίδας (Finkielsztejn 2001:145).

*Date:* 145–120 BCE (dating is for the careers of the three fabricants, who probably worked in the same workshop, succeeding each other with probable overlaps).

## REFERENCES

- Arbel Y. and Rauchberger L. This volume. Remains from Middle Bronze Age II and the Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, Crusader, Late Ottoman and British Mandate Periods on Rabbi Yehuda Me-Raguza Street, Yafo (Jaffa).
- Finkielsztejn G. 2001. *Chronologie détaillée et révisée des éponymes amphoriques rhodiens de 270 à 108 av. J.-C. environ: Premier bilan* (BAR Int. S. 990). Oxford.
- Finkielsztejn G. Forthcoming. Hellenistic Amphora Types from El'ad. In D. Amit, I. Zilberbod and Y. Zelinger eds. *Excavations at El'ad (Mazor)*. Supplement of the Journal of Hellenistic Pottery and Material Culture.
- Humbert J.-B. 1991. Essai de classification des amphores dites "à anses de panier". *RB* 98:574–590.
- Lawall M.L. 2004a. Amphoras without Stamps: Chronologies and Typologies from the Athenian Agora. In *Proceedings of the 6th Scientific Meeting on Hellenistic Pottery, Volos, Greece, April 17–23 2000*. Athens. Pp. 445–454.
- Lawall M.L. 2004b. Archaeological Context and Aegean Amphora Chronologies: A Case Study of Hellenistic Ephesos. In J. Eiring and J. Lund eds. *Transport Amphorae and Trade in the Eastern Mediterranean. Athens September 26–29 2001* (Monographs of the Danish Institute at Athens 5). Aarhus. Pp. 171–188.
- Monachov S.Y. 2003. *Greek Amphorae in the Black Sea: Typology of Amphorae of the Main Centers of Export of Goods in Ceramic Containers, Descriptive Catalogue*. Saratov (Russian).
- Monachov S.Y. 2005. Rhodian Amphoras: Developments in Form and Measurements. In F. Stolba and L. Hannestad. *Chronologies of the Black Sea Area in the Period c. 400–100 BC* (Black Sea Studies 3). Aarhus. Pp. 69–95.