'Atiqot 100, 2020

Pottery Vessels and Stone Artifacts from the Persian, Roman and Byzantine Periods at the French Hospital Compound, Yafo (Jaffa)

Peter Gendelman

The excavations just south of Tel Yafo (see Dayan, Levy and Samora-Cohen, this volume) revealed a great deal of pottery and other small finds dating from various periods. This article presents the ceramic and stone finds that mainly came from burial grounds dating to the Persian, Roman and Byzantine periods. First, a typological study of the finds is presented according to the chronological strata at the site. Thereafter, observations on the distribution pattern of the finds are discussed according to the excavated units, followed by chronological conclusions.

The Persian Period

Pottery

Skyphos and Mortarium

Skyphos.— A fragment of a footed globular skyphos with a pointed rim and horizontal handles was made of a likely local, coarse fabric and covered with white wash (Fig. 1:1). This vessel seems to be an imitation of Cypriot vessels of the fourth century BCE, like those known from Tell el-Ḥesi (Bennett and Blakely 1989: Fig. 147:17), the farmstead near 'Atlit[1] and Kition (Salles 1983:68–69, Fig. 27:221, 222).

Mortarium.— This fragment belongs to a mortarium with a knob handle (Fig. 1:2). This type of vessel dates from the sixth to the mid-fifth–mid-fourth century BCE and is common at Yafo (Tsuf 2018:127, Fig. 9.16:327–330) and other coastal sites in Israel, such as Tel Mikhal (Singer-Avitz 1989:129, Fig. 9.9:1; Kapitaikin 2006:26–27, Fig. 3:17, 18), Appolonia/Arsuf (Tal 1999:98–99, Fig. 4.11:19), Tel Ya'oz (Segal, Kletter and Ziffer 2006:4*–6*, Fig. 7:2, 3), a fortress near Ashdod (Porath 1974:46, Fig. 4:3, Pl. XII:2) and Tel Dor (Stern 1995:55, Fig. 2.2:13).

[1] The pottery from this excavation (Permit No. A-4898/2006) was processed by the author.

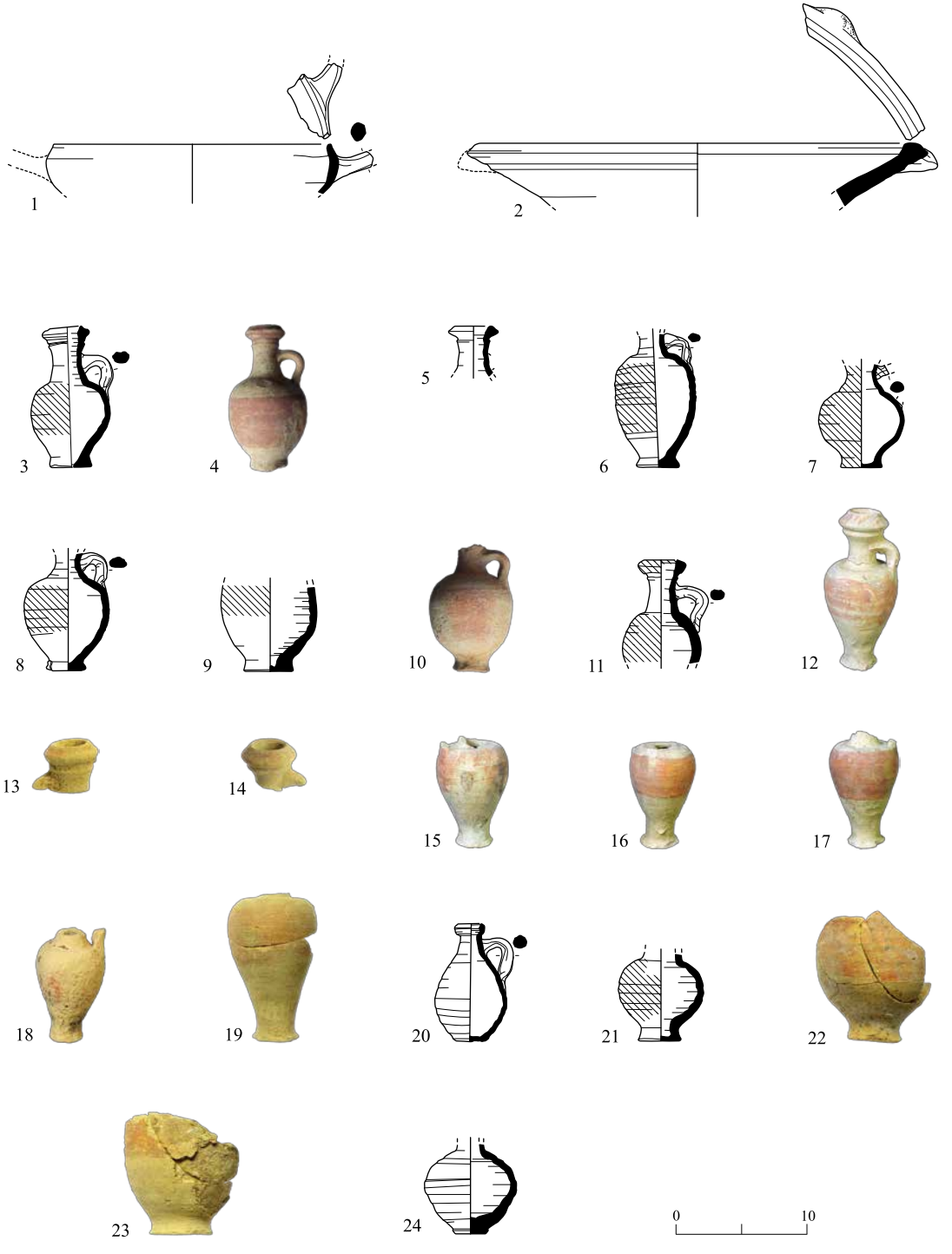

Fig. 1. Persian-period pottery: bowls, juglets and bottles.

◂ **Fig. 1**

No.	Type	Unit	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Skyphos	T22	310	3106/1	Red coarse fabric, gray on core; includes quartz sand and some lime; white wash all over
2	Mortarium	T5	145	1407/2	Beige core and reddish yellow surface; hard fabric with red and brown grits; white wash on ext. and upper int.
3	Juglet	T1	111	1102	Light pinkish yellow, rather hard fabric; quartz sand; self-slip and red wash
4	Juglet	T1	110	1104/1	As No. 3
5	Juglet	T22	310	3101	Beige, rather soft fabric; quartz sand; self-slip
6	Juglet	T22	310	3103	Light pinkish yellow, rather hard fabric; quartz sand; self-slip and red wash
7	Juglet	T22	310	3100	Beige, rather soft fabric; quartz sand; self-slip
8	Juglet	T22	310	3104	Light pinkish yellow, rather hard fabric; quartz sand; self-slip and red wash
9	Juglet	T19	280	2800/3	Reddish yellow, rather hard fabric; quartz sand and some lime; self-slip and red wash
10	Juglet	T1	110	1104/2	Light pinkish yellow, rather hard fabric; quartz sand; self-slip and red wash
11	Juglet	T5	145	1407/3	Reddish yellow, rather hard fabric; quartz sand and some lime; self-slip and red wash
12	Juglet	T4	130	1303/1	Light reddish yellow hard fabric; quartz sand and some lime; self-slip and red wash
13	Juglet	T4	130	1301/7	Pink, rather hard fabric; some red grits; self-slip and red wash
14	Juglet	T4	130	1301/8	As No.13
15	Juglet	T4	130	1300/1	Light reddish yellow hard fabric; quartz sand and some lime; self-slip and red wash
16	Juglet	T4	130	1306	Pink rather hard fabric; some red grits; self-slip and red wash
17	Juglet	T4	130	1307	Light reddish yellow hard fabric; quartz sand and some lime; self-slip and red wash
18	Juglet	T4	130	1311	Pink rather hard fabric; some red grits; self-slip and red wash
19	Juglet	T4	130	1311	As No.18
20	Juglet	T3	121	1208	Reddish yellow, rather hard fabric; some lime; self-slip; mottled ext. (red to beige)
21	Bottle	T1	110	1103	Light pink, rather hard fabric; quartz sand; self-slip and red wash
22	Bottle	T4	130	1301/5	As No. 21
23	Bottle	T4	130	1301/3	As No. 21
24	Bottle	T22	311	3109	Red, rather coarse fabric; quartz sand and lime; self-slip and salt-whitened

Juglets and Bottles

Perfume Juglets.— This group of small perfume juglets is characterized by narrow necks, thick rims with grooves underneath, and oval handles from the shoulder to the midpoint of the neck (Fig. 1:3–19). The upper body and the rim are decorated with a red wash. Similar to Stern's Perfume Juglet Type 6, this group dates to the fifth–fourth centuries BCE (Stern 1982:122, Fig. 189; 1995:65–66, Fig. 2.11:5). Such juglets are commonly reported from Yafo (Tsuf 2018:119, Fig. 9.5:117–121) and other coastal sites of the Levant (Bennett and Blakely 1989:214, Fig. 175b), including Cyprus (Plain White VII Ware; Gjerstad 1948:89, Fig. LXIII:6a), and are rarely found at inland sites such as 'En Gedi (Stern 2007:204, Fig. 5.2.7:7, Photo 5.2.11 on the left). There are two distinct variants. The first is characterized by a knob-shaped hollow base and a globular body (Fig. 1:3–10; Table 1: PJ1A). Similar juglets were reported from Shiqmona (Elgavish 1968:27, 30, 34, Pls. XXXIII:19–21; XL:52, 55, 56; XLIII:67), Tel Ḥaẓor (Yadin et al. 1958: Pls. LXXX:1–6,10–12; CLIV:15–17; Ben-Tor et al. 1997: Fig. II.60:3, 5, Photo II.54) and from deposits at Tel Mikhal Strata IX–VII dated to c. 450–350 BCE (Singer-Avitz 1989:122, 135, Figs. 9.2:7; 9.8:11; 9.9:2).

The juglets of the second variant have distinct solid legs with knob-shaped bases and slender bodies with a narrow depression on the junction between the shoulders and neck (Fig. 1:11–19; Table 1: PJ1B). Similar vessels were found in Tel Mikhal Strata VII–VI, dating to c. 400–300 BCE (Singer-Avitz 1989:122, 137, Figs. 9.8.11; 9.10:10; Kapitaikin 2006:38, Fig. 10:1, 2), and Naḥal Tut, dating to the time of Alexander the Great (Alexandre 2006:155, Fig. 53:9, 10), as well as Tel Ḥaẓor (Yadin et al. 1958: Pls. LXXX:7–9; CLIV:18, 19) and Shiqmona (Elgavish 1968:26, 30–31, Pls. XXXIII:18; XL:53; XLI:62; LVII:134).

A single, small pear-shaped juglet was found with a flat base, an out-folded rim and a rounded handle connected to the upper body and neck (Fig. 1:20; Table 1: PJ2). Similar to Stern's Perfume Juglet Type 3, it is dated to the fifth–fourth centuries BCE (Stern 1982:122, Fig. 186). Such vessels are commonly reported not only from coastal sites but also from inland (Hamilton 1935: Fig. 7; Mazar, Dothan and Dunayevsky 1966:57–58, Fig. 33:2, 3, Pl. XXXVI:7–9; Elgavish 1974: Pl XL:57; Porath 1974:46, Fig. 4:11; Bennett and Blakely 1989:214, Fig. 175a; Singer-Avitz 1989:137, Fig. 9.15:9; Stern 1995:65, Fig. 2.11:4; Ben-Tor et al. 1997: Fig. II.60:2, 8, Photos II.51, 55; Shourkin 1999: Fig. 7:4, 5; Onn 1999: Fig. 8:5; Kapitaikin 2006:38, Fig. 10:6, 7; Segal, Kletter and Ziffer 2006:15*, Fig. 11:14; Stern 2007:205–206, Fig. 5.2.7:6).

Bottles/Unguentaria.— Small bottles, each with a hollow foot and a disk-shaped base, were characterized by a squat-shouldered body and a long cylindrical neck (Fig. 1:21–23; Table 1: Bt1). Similar to Stern's Type A1, it dates from the fifth to the late fourth (Stern 1982:125, Fig. 195 on the right) or early third (Guz-Silberstein 1995:304, Fig. 6.26:3–5, Photo 6.24a) century BCE. Such bottles were common at many sites throughout the country (Reisner, Fisher and Lyon 1924: Fig. 180; FitzGerald 1930:42, Pl. LI:8; Yadin et al. 1958: Pl. LXXXIII:5; Bennett and Blakely 1989: Fig. 159:9; Singer-Avitz 1989:122, 135, 137, Figs.

9.2.11, 12; 9.13:12; 9.15:10; Gorzalczany 2003:8*, Fig. 2:12; Ben-Nachum and Getzov 2006:146, Fig. 5.11:12).

A small fragmentary pear-shaped bottle had a solid disk base (Fig. 1:24; Table 1: Bt2). A similar vessel was reported from Tel Mikhal Stratum IX, dated to 450–430 BCE (Singer-Avitz 1989:122, Fig. 9.2:9).

Amphoriskoi

Miniature amphoriskoi with knob bases, slender bodies, flattened shoulders and rather narrow necks (Fig. 2:1–3; Table 1: Am1) were found. The rim is similar to that of the small perfume juglets (Fig. 1:3–19). A pair of handles are connected to the upper body (Fig. 2:1,

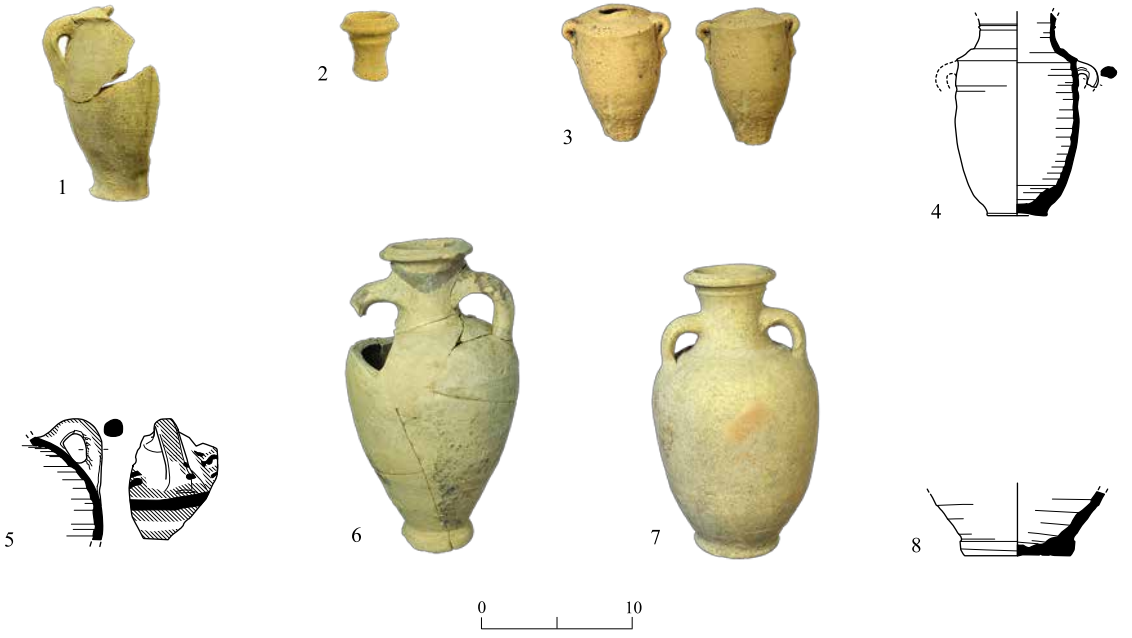

Fig. 2. Persian-period pottery: amphoriskoi and table amphorae.

No.	Type	Unit	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Amphoriskos	T4	130	1301/2	Pink, rather hard fabric; some red grits; self-slip
2	Amphoriskos	T4	130	1301/4	As No. 1
3	Amphoriskos	T4	130	1310	As No. 1
4	Amphoriskos	T5	145	1407/1	Reddish yellow, rather hard fabric; quartz sand and some red grits; self-slip
5	Amphoriskos	T22	310	3106/2	Beige, rather soft fabric; quartz sand; self-slip; red and dark gray paint
6	Table amphora	T4	130	1301/1	Pink, rather hard fabric; some red grits; self-slip
7	Table amphora	T5	141	1402	Reddish yellow, rather hard fabric; quartz sand and some red grits; self-slip
8	Table amphora	T19	280	2800/1	Reddish hard fabric; quartz sand; self-slip

3), similar to Stern's Amphoriskoi Type B reported only from Yafo and Tell Qasile, and dating to the late fifth–fourth centuries BCE (Stern 1982:124, Fig. 194; Tsuf 2018:119, Fig. 9.5:122–123).

A fragmentary, miniature, shouldered amphoriskos (Fig. 2:4; Table 1: Am2) has a disc base, a rather slender barrel body, conical shoulders, a wide cylindrical neck and a pair of handles connected to the upper body. No parallels have been found yet.

A fragment of a small amphoriskos or pot with a globular upper body (Fig. 2:5; Table 1: Am3) had loop handles connected to the shoulders. The body and handles were decorated with vertical and horizontal stripes of red and dark gray paint. No parallels for this apparently imported vessel have been found.

Table Amphorae

Each table amphora had a low ringed foot, a slender body with rounded shoulders, a tapering neck and an out-curved rim (Fig. 2:6–8). In general, their shape resembles that of the Plain White VII Ware amphorae from Cyprus (Gjerstad 1948:89, Fig. LXIX:6, 7). Two sizes were found at the French Hospital Compound in Yafo. The restored smaller vessel (Fig. 2:6) closely resembled a very similar vessel, albeit with a solid base, reported from a Persian-period burial cave at Khirbat Yamma (Gal and Muqari 2002:102, Fig. 9:1). The larger table amphora is a complete vessel with an additional base fragment and is characterized by a wider body (Fig. 2:7, 8); no good parallels were found.

Local and Imported Amphorae

Carinated Local Amphora.— The base fragment of a carinated amphora (Fig. 3:1; Table 1: LA1) is characteristic of the late Iron Age and the beginning of the Persian period (from the late eighth to the fifth century BCE). It is found mainly in the southern parts of the country

Fig. 3 ▸

No.	Type	Unit	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Storage jar	T22	311	3108/3	Coarse fabric; gray core, fired to red on ext.; quartz sand and some white grits; self-slip
2	Storage jar	T5	145	1405	Beige, hard fabric; quartz sand and some white grits; self-slip
3	Storage jar	T19	280	2800/4	As No. 2
4	Storage jar	T22	311	3108/2	As No. 2
5	Shouldered amphora	T9	183	1805/1, 2	Beige, rather soft fabric; quartz sand and some white grits; self-slip
6	Shouldered amphora	T9	181	1802	Beige, hard fabric; quartz sand and some white grits; self-slip and white wash
7	Shouldered amphora	T9	181	1801	As No. 6
8	Shouldered amphora	T19	280	2800/2	Pink, hard fabric; some red grits; self-slip

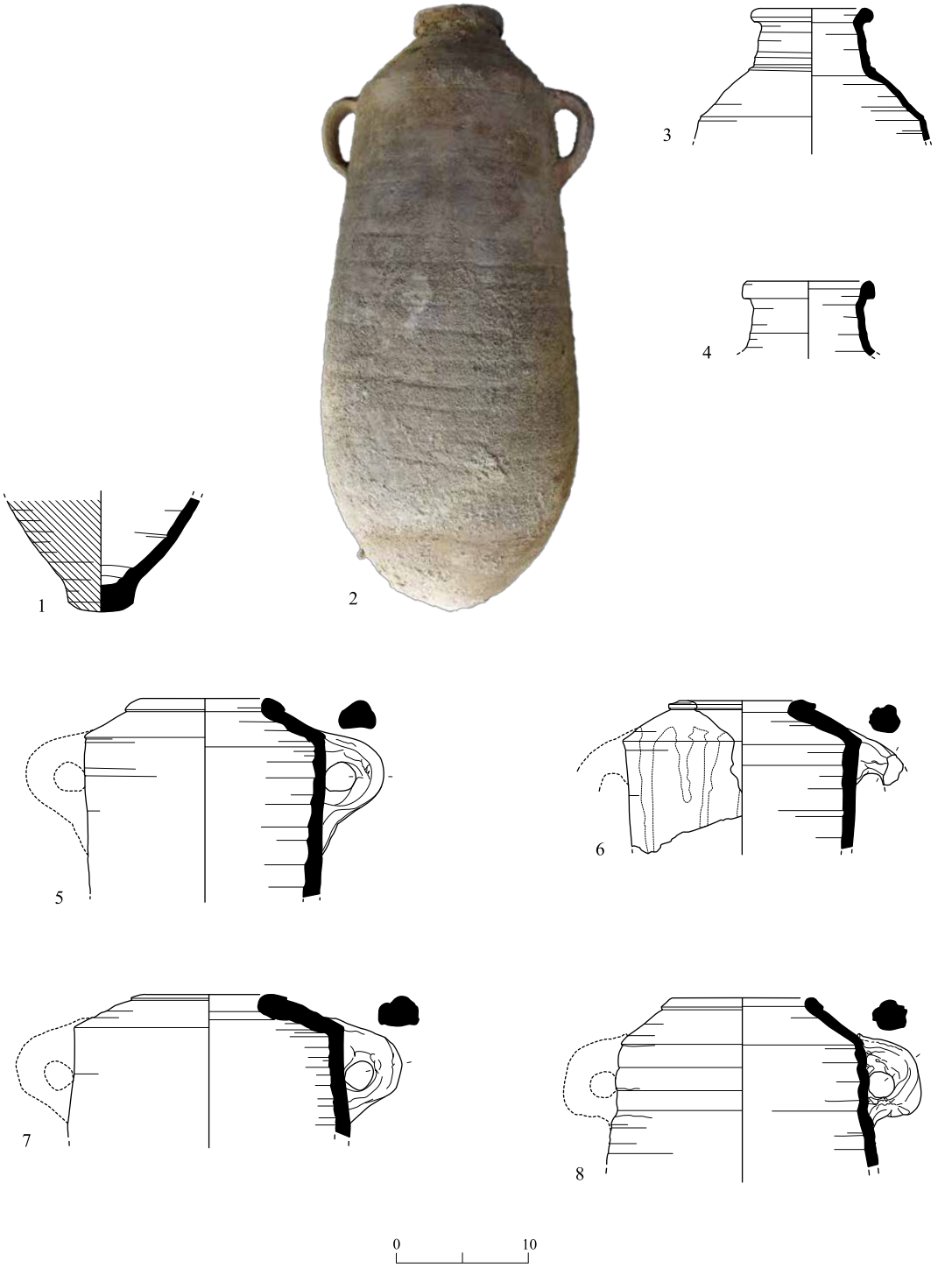

Fig. 3. Persian-period pottery: storage jars and amphorae.

(Bennett and Blakely 1989: Figs. 146:14; 149:25; Zimhoni 1990:35–41, Figs. 25, 27–28; Mazar and Panitz-Cohen 2001:97–100, Pls. 45.7; 67:6; 73:2, 3).

Sack-Shaped Local Amphorae.— These vessels, with sack-shaped bodies, are commonly found at coastal sites neighboring Yafo (see below), and are present in two variations. The first is an amphora with a body that widens toward a globular base with a slightly pointed tip, shallow-spaced ridging on the body's exterior, conical shoulders, an almost indistinct short neck, an out-folded rim and a pair of handles connecting the low shoulder to the upper body (Fig. 3:2; Table 1: LA2A). Such vessels are dated to the end of the Persian period, e.g., at Tel Mikhal (Type 1), dating to c. 450–350 BCE (Singer-Avitz 1989:124, Figs. 9.4:4, 10; 9.5:1–5; 9.6:2, 7; 9.7:10; 9.8:13; Kapitaikin 2006:30–31, Fig. 6:9–13). The second variant is an amphora with a slender body, semicircular base, pronounced high shoulders, a rather high neck, an out-turned splaying rim and a pair of opposite loop handles connected to the upper body (Fig. 3:3, 4; Table 1: LA2B). Similar vessels dated to the end of the Persian period were reported from Tel Mikhal where they are dated to c. 450–350 BCE (Singer-Avitz 1989:124, Figs. 9.3:1; 9.4:1–3, 5, 6, 9, 12; 9.5:8; 9.6:1–4, 7; 9.12:6–10; Kapitaikin 2006:30–31, Fig. 6:1, 8) and Yafo (Gendelman, forthcoming).

Regional Carinated-Shoulder Amphorae.— These vessels are typically found in southern Phoenician sites in Lebanon and the western Galilee, as well as in Phoenician colonies along the Mediterranean coast of modern Israel. These amphorae were produced in several workshops located in southern Lebanon, the western Galilee and the Mount Carmel area (Bettles 2003:264). Two different fabrics were identified among the finds from the French Hospital Compound excavations: a hard pink clay (Fabric A) and a rough beige one that includes quartz (Fabric B). The origin of Fabric A seems to point to a workshop located near Sarepta in southern Lebanon. The production center of Fabric B may be somewhere on the coastal plain of modern Israel.

These amphorae are represented by two slightly different variants. One is characterized by conical narrow shoulders and simple rope rims (Fig. 3:5–8; Table 1: RA1). All vessels of this variant except one (Fig. 3:8) were made from Fabric B. Similar to Bettles' Type C1 (Bettles 2003:108, 119, Figs. 4.2: C1; 4.14), these amphorae are reported from Persian-period burials at 'Atlit (Johns 1933: Fig. 3a, b), Tell er-Ras (dated to the late fourth century BCE; Onn 1999:61*, Figs. 6:3; 14:6) and Tel Gezer (Dever, Lance and Wright 1970: Pl. LXXX:34). The second variant is characterized by a sloping, pronounced shoulder and a low out-folded rim (Fig. 4:1–4; Table 1: RA2). All the vessels of this variant were made of Fabric A and are similar to Bettles' Type B3 (Bettles 2003:118, Fig. 4.13). Dating to the Persian period, these vessels were found at the 'Atlit cemetery (Johns 1933:50, Fig. 3d, Pl. XIX:387), Apollonia-Arsuf (Tal 1999:128, Fig. 4.26:8) and Tel Mikhal (dated c. 525–490 BCE; Singer-Avitz 1989:116, Fig. 9.1:10).

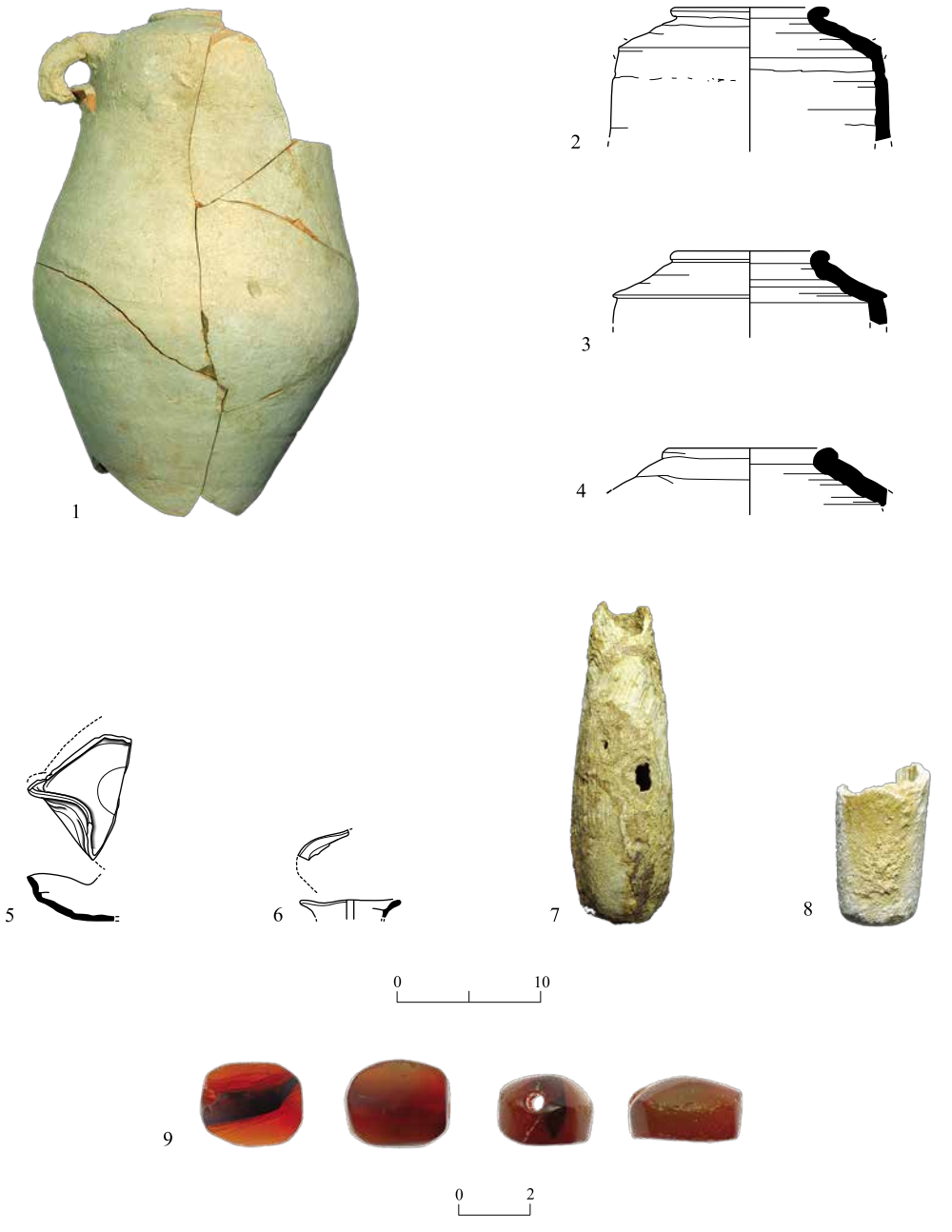

Fig. 4. Persian-period pottery (1–6) and stone objects (7–9): amphorae, oil lamps, stone alabastra and a scaraboid.

◂ **Fig. 4**

No.	Type	Unit	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Shouldered amphora	T16	250	2500	Pink, hard fabric; some red grits; self-slip
2	Shouldered amphora	T10	193	1904	As No. 1
3	Shouldered amphora	T41a	501	5004	As No. 1
4	Shouldered amphora	T2	290	2900	As No. 1
5	Oil lamp	T22	310	3105	Red, hard fabric; white wash all over
6	Oil lamp	T22	311	3108/1	As No. 5
7	Stone alabastron	T3	120	1201	White calcite(?) with brownish layers; surface eroded; rounded base
8	Stone alabastron	T19	280	2800	White gypsum(?); surface badly eroded; rounded base, vertical shelf-like handle
9	Scaraboid	T4	130	1309	Carnelian

Oil Lamp

Fragments of wheel-made, bowl-shaped lamps were found. They have wide shelf rims, flat bases and pinched wick holes whose underside had knife-shaved surfaces (Fig. 4:5, 6; Table 1: OL). This is a common regional type, usually dated to the entire Persian period (e.g., Ozoil 1977:17–24, Pls. 2:15–25; Singer-Avitz 1989:143, Figs. 9.1:8; 9.5:16; 9.7:6, 7; 9.9:3; 52:15–17; 53:18–25; Stern 1995:67, Fig. 2.14; 2007:209, Fig. 5.2.10:1–8, Photo 5.2.23 on left).

Stone Artifacts

Stone Alabastra

Two fragmentary tall alabastra with lug handles (Stern 1982) are of two different variants. The first is a larger vessel with a nearly rounded base and a long body that became narrow toward the shelf rim, which was not preserved (Fig. 4:7). It was made of a veined transparent stone, apparently calcite (Egyptian alabaster; cf. Ben-Dor 1945). Similar alabastra were reported from a fifth–fourth-century BCE burial at ʻAtlit (Johns 1933:49, 62, Fig. 19, Pl. XVIII:417) and Ḥazor (Yadin et al. 1961: Pls. CXCI:26; CCCLXIV:15). The second variant is a smaller alabastron with a narrower tube-shaped body and vertical lug handles on the upper body (Fig. 4:8). This vessel is made of a white crystalline stone, apparently gypsum (Gypsum Alabaster; cf. Ben-Dor 1945). It is comparable to the alabastron from a grave at ʻAtlit, which is dated based on coins to the early fourth century BCE (Johns 1933:49, 74,

Pl. XXII:548). These two variants of alabastra are rather common finds in burials from the Persian period (e.g., Davies and Finkelstein 1984:101; Bennett and Blakely 1989:299, Fig. 221:4).

Carnelian Scaraboid
A complete plain scaraboid was found (Fig. 4:9). It was made of reddish brown translucent and dark-veined carnelian. It has a hole drilled longitudinally from both directions.

The Roman Period

Two deposits of soil, found within bedrock cavities (T45 and F43), provided a good assemblage of pottery dating to the mid-Roman period.

Pottery

Fine Table Ware
Eastern Sigillata A (ESA).— These fragments of wide carinated bowls with flaring walls (Fig. 5:1, 2) are similar to Atlante ESA Form 54, which is dated to c. 75/80–130/150 CE (Hayes 1985:38–39, Table VII: 4, 5).

A base fragment of a small bowl was also found (Fig. 5:3); due to its fragmentary preservation, the ESA type could not be determined.

Household Wares
Basins and Mortaria.— The flat-based basins have flaring walls and wide out-turned rims, with deep groves on the rims' upper surfaces and down-curving lips (Fig. 5:5, 6). These vessels were made of a sandy fabric that resembles the material used for the local bag-shaped jars (see below). Of similar shape is the Rilled Rim Basin, which is common in Jerusalem during the late third/early fourth–fifth centuries CE (Magness 1993:203). The date of this shape was later corrected based on the material from the legionary pottery workshop at Binyane Ha-Umma, where it was already produced in the second century CE (Magness 2005:95, Fig. 26:6–8). Excavations near the Western Wall Plaza have shown that this shape already appears in the first quarter of the second century CE (Rosenthal-Heginbottom 2014:659). Similarly shaped vessels, albeit made of a different fabric, were reported from Judea (Ben-Arieh and Coen-Uzzielli 1996:79, Fig. 4.6:1; Greenhut and De Groot 2009:107, Fig. 3.29:4), the Judean Shephelah (Lupu 2010: Fig. 4:4–6) and rarely, even from Samaria (Kogan 2009:237, Pl. 1:17).

A fragment of a deep basin, with a wide rim and a wall decorated with wave incisions (Fig. 5:7), was made of a local clay like the other basins (cf. Fig. 5:5, 6). Its shape resembles Magness' Shelf-Rim Basin—although it is undecorated and made of a different fabric—which is generally dated to the late first/second–third centuries CE (Magness 1993:202–203).

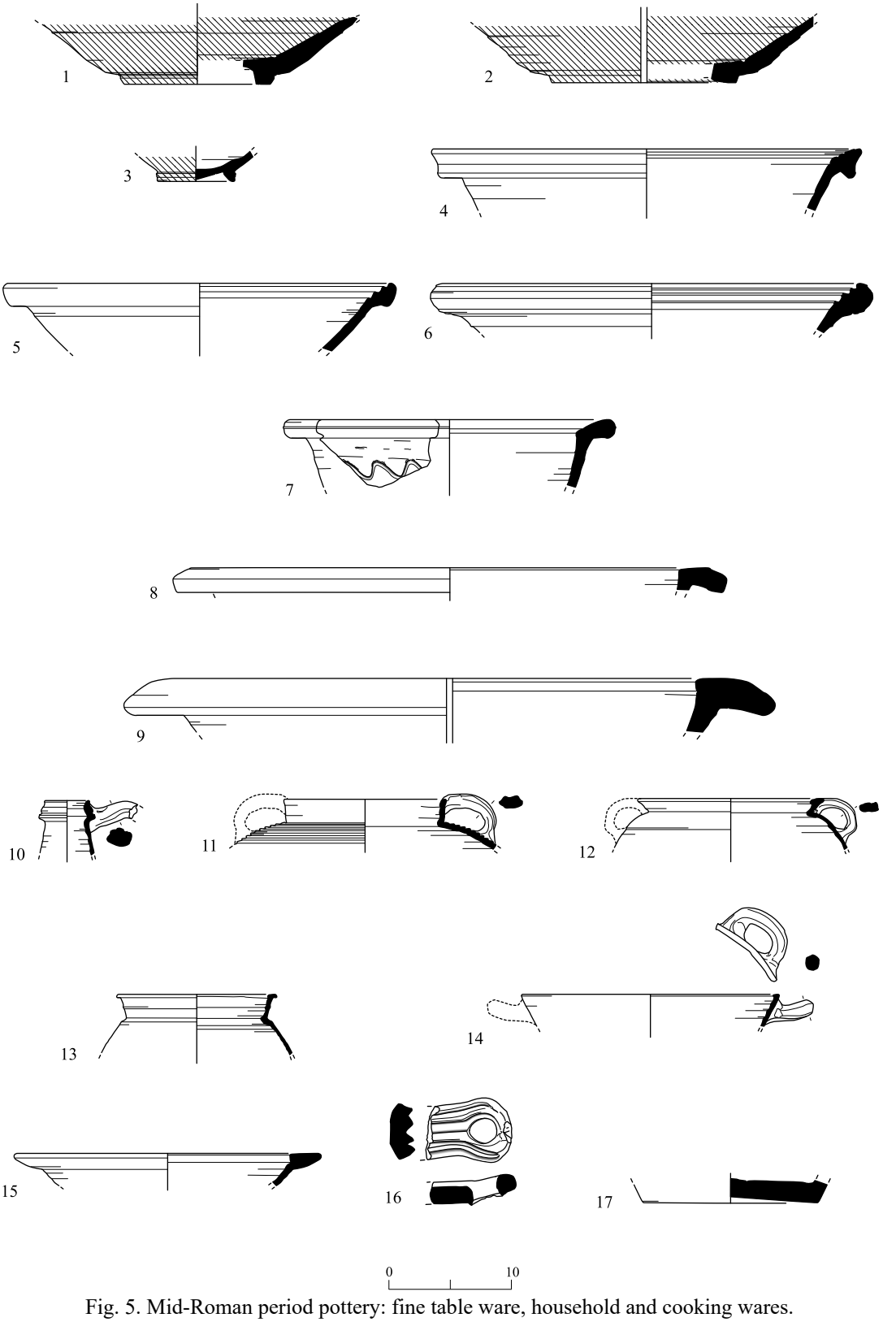

Fig. 5. Mid-Roman period pottery: fine table ware, household and cooking wares.

◂ **Fig. 5**

No.	Type	Unit	Locus	Basket	Description
1	ESA bowl	F43	521	5205/1	Pink fabric; thin red slip all over; mottled on ext.; double dipping
2	ESA bowl	F43	521	5205/3, 24	As No. 1
3	ESA bowl	T45	541	5403/1	As No. 1
4	Basin	F43	521	5205/4	Light brown, rather coarse and sandy fabric; light gray core, light gray on ext.; some lime
5	Basin	F43	521	5205/5	Light red, rather coarse and sandy fabric; white wash on ext.; some lime
6	Basin	T45	541	5403/3	Light brown, rather coarse and sandy fabric; turns to light gray on ext.; some lime
7	Basin	T45	541	5403/2	Reddish, rather coarse and sandy fabric; turns to yellow on ext.; some lime; ext. decorated with wave incision
8	Basin	F43	521	5205/7	Light red, hard fabric; light gray core; whitish wash on ext.; some lime
9	Mortarium	F43	521	5205/8	Brown coarse and hard fabric; self-slip; dark crystals and lime
10	Cooking jug	T45	541	5403/4	Red coarse and sandy fabric; soot on ext.
11	Cooking pot	F43	521	5205/10	As No. 10
12	Cooking pot	F43	521	5205/9	Dark brown, coarse and sandy fabric; over-fired
13	Cooking pot	F43	521	5205/11	As No. 12
14	Casserole	F43	521	5205/23	Hard red and coarse fabric; gray core; some lime; soot on ext.
15	Frying pan	F43	521	5205/12	Red coarse and sandy fabric; lime; soot on ext.
16	Frying pan	F43	521	5205/13	As No. 15
17	Frying pan	F43	521	5205/14	Light gray coarse fabric; lime and pebbles; soot all over

A fragmentary deep basin, with a wide arched rim (Fig. 5:8), was made of a hard-fired clay, probably of Judean origin. Similar to Magness' Arched-Rim Basin Form 2A, it is generally dated to the late third/early fourth–sixth centuries CE (Magness 1993:204).

A fragment of a large mortarium, with a flat base, rounded walls and a heavy overhanging ledge rim (Fig. 5:9), was made of a hard, dark brown clay characteristic of North Syrian Mortaria. These mortaria, first identified by Hayes (1967), are dated from the late second to the fourth century CE. They are similar to Blakely's Class 2, which were produced in eastern Mediterranean workshops such as those at Ras el-Basit (cf. Blakely, Brinkmann and Vitaliano 1992:203–204, and see p. 194 for sites in addition to Caesarea). These mortaria are common finds in Yafo (Tsuf 2018:170–171, Fig. 9.18:342–348), Caesarea and other coastal sites in Israel (Riley 1975:37, 41; Peleg and Reich 1992:154, Fig. 16:2; Oleson et al. 1994:39, Fig. 9: K28, 29; Johnson 2008:110–113).

Jug.— A single fragment of a cooking jug had a high conical neck, a flanged grooved rim and a rounded curved handle connected to the rim (Fig. 5:10). The only parallels known to the author are from the fourth century CE deposit at Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep.).

Cooking Wares

Cooking Pots.— A fragmentary globular cooking pot was found with an upright rim (Fig. 5:11). Similar vessels, roughly dated to the early second until the late fourth centuries CE, are known from Caesarea (Riley 1975:48–49, Nos. 109, 110), Jalame (Johnson 1988:198, Fig. 7-41:607) and Shekhem/Neapolis (Sarig 2009: Pl. 21:3).

Another fragmentary cooking pot had a flaring short neck and an in-folded rim (Fig. 5:12). It resembles second–third-century CE vessels from the legionary pottery workshop near Jerusalem (Magness 2005: Figs. 20:4; 22:1).

A fragment of a pear-shaped cooking pot had narrow shoulders, a wide flaring neck and an out-turned arched rim (Fig. 5:13). This form is widely presented in the coastal sites of northern Israel and Lebanon. They are the dominant form of cooking pots in third- and fourth-century CE Caesarea Maritima (Riley 1975:35, 41, Nos. 33, 56, 59; Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986b:163, Fig. 3:16; Blakely 1992: Fig. 23:9, 11), Ramat Ha-Nadiv (Silberstein 2000:433, Pl. V:14) and Shuni.[2] In Beirut, such vessels are dated from the first to late second century CE (Reynolds 1997–1998:47, Figs. 143–147, 150–153, Cooking Pots 1 and 2). Similar vessels were reported from Kaplan's excavations at Yafo (Tsuf 2018:184, Fig. 9.12:411, 412).

Casseroles and Frying Pan.— A fragment of a bevel-cut rim casserole was found, with horizontal handles connected to mid-body, which twisted up toward the rim (Fig. 5:14). Such vessels are dated from the beginning of the second to the third/fourth century CE (Elgavish 1977: Pl. IV:21; Calderon 2000:96–97, Pl. III:53; Silberstein 2000:437, Pl. VII:3, 4).

The flat-bottomed frying pans from the French Hospital Compound, Yafo, had thickened, flaring walls terminating in broad rims that are flat on top, suspension holes and solid flat handles with a deep groove on top that are attached to the rim and upper wall (Fig. 5:15–17). Such frying pans, likely of local origin, are common at Caesarea, where they were dated to the third and fourth centuries CE (Oleson et al. 1994:37, Fig. 8: K16), and were also found at Shiqmona (Elgavish 1977: Pl. V:23) and Yafo (Tsuf 2018:201–202, Fig. 9.28:500–503).

Brazier.— Fragments of a barreled brazier (Fig. 6:1) with a flat bottom and a wide opening on its side, were discovered. No good parallels have been found yet.

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[2] Roman and Byzantine pottery and oil lamps from the 1987–2000 seasons at Shuni/Maiumas (Permit No. G-135/98) were processed by the author of this paper.

Local and Imported Amphorae

Local Bag-Shaped Amphorae.— Fragments of local bag-shaped amphorae, with wide rounded bases, rounded shoulders, cylindrical necks, an external ridge at bottom, and simple rolled rims, were sometimes marked with a *tituli picti* inscription or decoration of red/ochre color on their mid-body (Fig 6:2–5). Related to Riley Type 1A, they are dated to the first half of the second to fourth centuries CE (Riley 1975:26, 29, Nos. 7–9). Such amphorae are the most common type found at Caesarea Maritima (Blakely 1987:66–69, 83–87, Figs. 21:52–55; 29:98–100, 102; 30:109, 112–114; Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986b:163, Fig. 2:1–8) and at sites in the Sharon plain (Gendelman 2012:36*–37*, Fig. 2:5, 6), as well as in the south Carmel region, where it is dated from the second to the first decades of the third century CE (Guz-Zilberstein 1995:313, Figs. 6.39:16; 6.51:1, 2; 6.58:13; Seligman 2010:121, Fig. 3.11:1–16).

A fragment of a bag-shaped amphora with a flaring rim (Fig 6:6) was made of the same clay as the other amphorae. It appears to be a local imitation of Galilean vessels dated to c. 135–450 CE (Loffreda 1974:27, 143–144, Class A2).

Southern Palestine (Askalonion) Amphora.— Fragments of a barrel-shaped amphora, with a low upraised rim and deep wheel-ridging on the shoulder (Fig. 6:7), were found. Similar to the Askalonion amphorae of Majcherek's Form 1, it dates from the mid-second to fourth century CE (Majcherek 1995:166, Pls. 3:1; 4:1, 8).

Imported Amphorae.— Two rim fragments of barreled amphorae had short, slightly flaring necks terminating in thickened rims with a shallow gutter on top (Fig. 6:8, 9). These are similar to the fourth-century CE amphorae of Ostia XVII (Palma and Panella 1968:111, Figs. 24, 189, 206, Pl. XLI:568–569), Qasrawet Type 2498 (Arthur and Oren 1998:201, Fig. 5:8) and Shuni Type A55 (see n. 2). Such amphorae, produced somewhere in the eastern Mediterranean Basin, were documented in Kaplan's excavations at Yafo (Gendelman 2018:430, Fig. 10.6:78–79).

A fragment of a *spatheion* amphora, with a flaring neck and a hooked rim, was made of a red fabric characteristic of the North African production centers (Fig. 6:10). This vessel relates to Keay's medium-sized Type XXVII of the fifth–sixth centuries CE (Keay 1984:184–185, 194, Fig. 91:2–3, 7).

A base fragment of a large amphora was made of distinctive North African clay (Fig. 6:11). The shape of the spike is similar to those of the large cylindrical amphorae dated from the end of the second to the fourth/fifth century CE, which are known as Africana IIA (Panella 1973:580–591, 629, Fig. 27), Keay's Type IV/African IIA *senza grandino* Variant 1 (Keay 1984:110–114, Figs. 19:5) and Bonifay's Type 22 Variant A2 (Bonifay 2004:111, Fig. 57:4–6); the latter was dated from the end of the second to the beginning of the third century CE. Complete amphorae of this type were also found in Kaplan's excavations at Yafo (Gendelman 2018:426, Fig. 10.5:74).

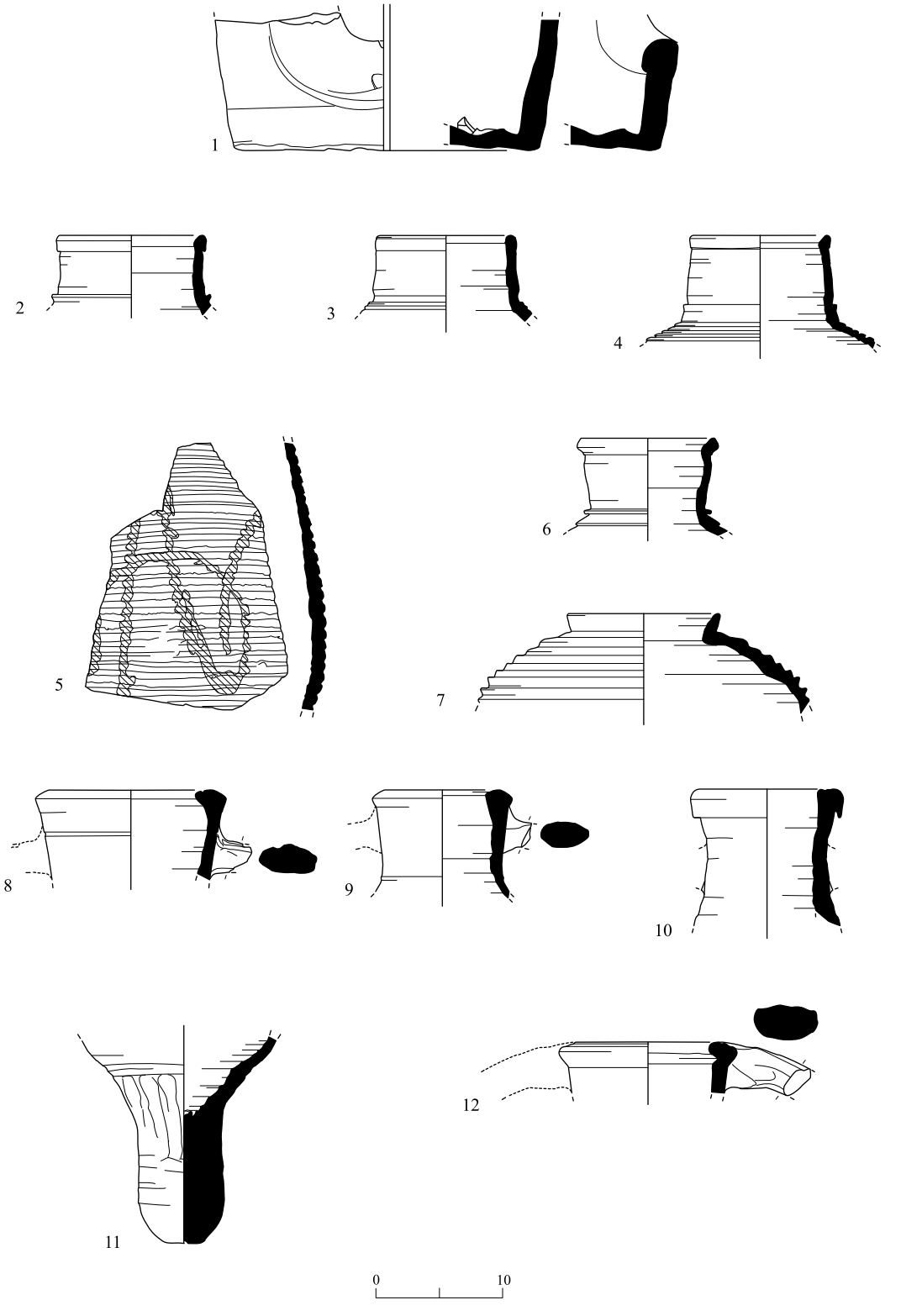


Fig. 6. Mid-Roman period pottery: cooking wares, storage jars and amphorae.

◂ **Fig. 6**

No.	Type	Unit	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Brazier	F43	521	5205/6	Brown coarse and porous fabric; straw; soot on int.
2	Storage jar	F43	521	5205/16	Reddish yellow coarse and sandy fabric; some lime
3	Storage jar	F43	521	5205/17	Red coarse and sandy fabric; some lime
4	Storage jar	F43	521	5216	As No. 3
5	Storage jar	F43	521	5205/22	Brownish red coarse and hard fabric; many lime grits; red painted design
6	Storage jar	T45	541	5403/7	Reddish yellow coarse and sandy fabric; some lime
7	Amphora	F43	521	5205/18	Reddish brown coarse fabric; some lime and fossil shells
8	Amphora	F43	521	5205/21	Reddish yellow hard fabric; some dark grits; white wash on ext.
9	Amphora	F43	521	5205/20	Brownish coarse and hard fabric; many thin lime and some dark grits; white wash on ext.
10	Amphora	F43	521	5205/19	Red coarse fabric; many thin lime; white wash on ext.
11	Amphora	T45	541	5403/6	Red coarse fabric; dark brown on ext.; many thin lime and some brown grits; white wash on ext. not including the spike; knife paring on ext.
12	Amphora	T45	541	5403/5	Reddish brown coarse and sandy fabric; some lime and many brownish grits; self-slip

A fragment of another amphora (Fig. 6:12) had a short cylindrical neck, a rolled rim with an inner gutter for setting a lid, an oval shape, and heavy handles connected to the rim. Similar to third-century CE Hayes's Type 13 (Hayes 1983:147, Fig. 20a:37), it is also related to the third–fourth-century CE Lusitanian (Portugal) amphorae of Almagro 51C (Sciallano and Sibella 1994:70). Such vessels are known from deposits dated to the end of the second–third centuries CE at Caesarea Maritima (Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986b:162, Fig. 1:17, Ill. 153), Naḥal Ḥagit (Seligman 2010:125, Fig. 3.12:3–6) and Kaplan's excavation at Yafo (Gendelman 2018:429, Fig. 10.5).

The Byzantine Period

Pottery

Imported Table Wares

Cypriot Red Slip Wares (CRSW = LRD).— This complete profile of a bowl, with a low ring base, a thick out-folded rim and an exterior decorated with a rouletting design (Fig. 7:1), is similar to Hayes' CRSW Form 9A, dated to c. 550–600 CE (Hayes 1972:379–382, Fig. 81:9.1) and Meyza's K3A, dated to c. 530/540–625 CE (Meyza 2007:66, Pl. 20: K3.1).

African Red Slip Wares (ARSW).— A fragment of a shallow curved plate, with a wide flat rim and knobbed lip (Fig. 7:2), is related to Hayes's ARSW Form 76, dated to c. 425–475 CE (Hayes 1972:124–125, Fig. 21: Form 76.3, 4).

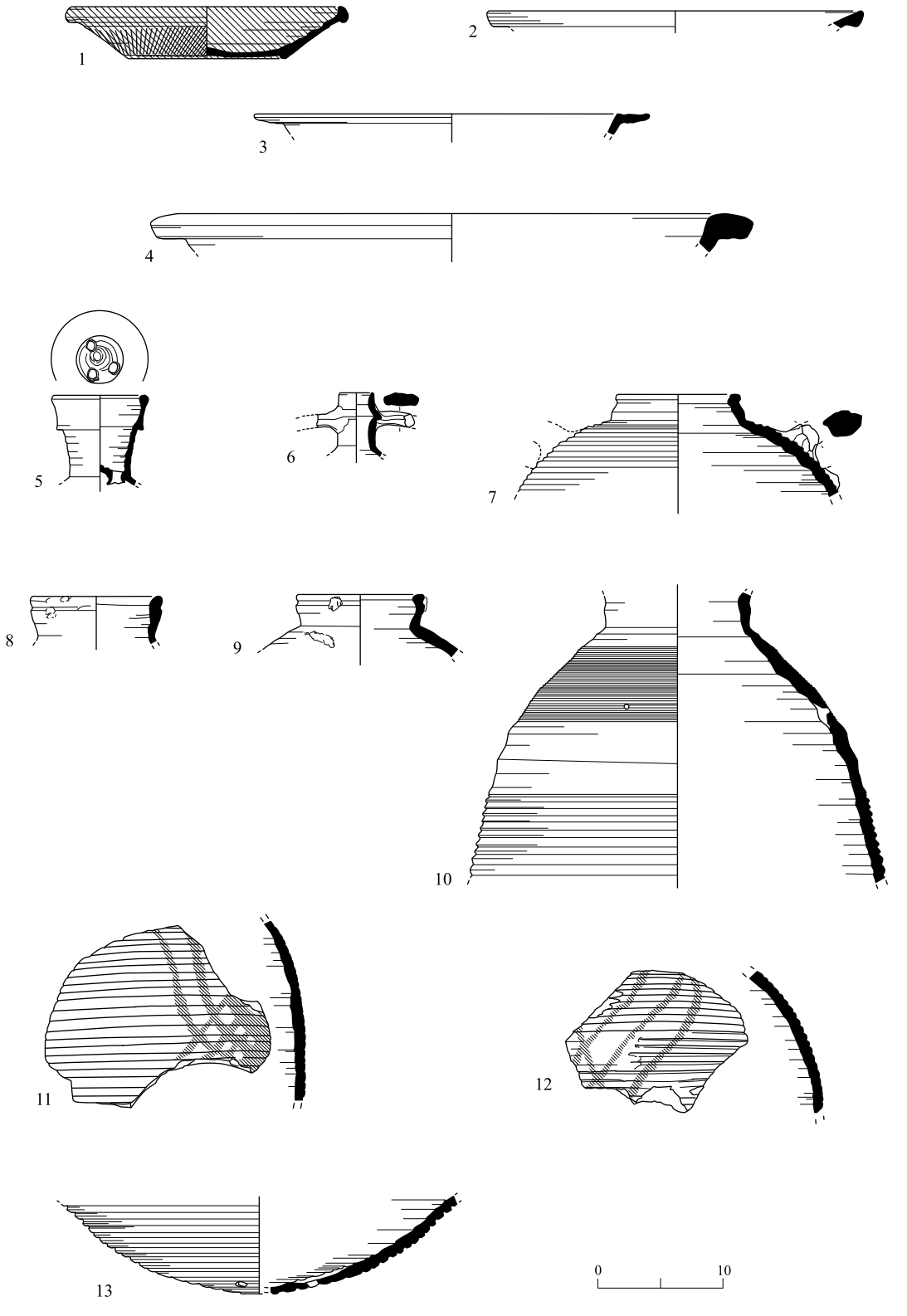


Fig. 7. Byzantine-period pottery: imported table wares, household wares, storage jars and amphorae.

◂ **Fig. 7**

No.	Type	Unit	Locus	Basket	Description
1	CRSW bowl	F34	431	4301/1	Reddish brown fabric; mottled red to dark red slip all over; rouletted design on ext.
2	ARSW plate	F21	300	3000/2	Red rather coarse fabric; some mica; good red slip all over; polished int.
3	Bowl	T39	481	4803/1	Hard red rather coarse fabric; light gray core, some lime
4	Basin	F34	431	4301/2	Pale greenish yellow coarse fabric; some lime and red grits
5	Cooking jug	T39	482	4813/5	Red, rather hard fabric, some quartz sand and lime
6	Amphoriskos	T39	482	4813/9	Reddish yellow coarse and hard fabric, some lime; white wash on ext.
7	Storage jar	T39	482	4813/1	Red coarse and sandy fabric; some lime
8	Storage jar	T39	482	4813/2	As No. 7
9	Storage jar	F34	431	4301/3	As No. 7
10	Storage jar	T27	362	3602	As No. 7
11	Storage jar	T39	482	4813/4	As No. 7, with red-painted decoration
12	Storage jar	T39	482	4813/3	As No. 11
13	Storage jar	T39	482	4813/6	Yellowish red coarse and sandy fabric, some lime

Household Wares

Bowls and Basins.— This fragment belongs to a locally made large bowl with a flattened wide rim (Fig. 7:3); no parallels were found.

Another fragment (not illustrated) was probably imported based on its fabric, which visually resembles that of the Baetican amphorae (for example, see Peacock and Williams 1986:136–140).

A basin with flaring walls and a thick out-turned rim (Fig. 7:4) has a shape resembling that of the seventh-century CE vessels from the Ramot Nof excavations (Ustinova and Nahshoni 1994:162, Fig. 3:16–17).

Jugs.— A fragment of a globular strainer jug, with a flaring neck, a strainer and a cup-shaped rim (Fig. 7:5), relates to a common form of the fifth–seventh centuries CE (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:110, Fig. 4:19; Magness 1992:140–141, Fig. 69:8; Peleg and Reich 1992:154, Figs. 13:12, 14:4, 15; Ustinova and Nahshoni 1994:162, Fig. 6:29, 30, 32; Calderon 2000:110, 144–146, Pls. VIII:51–53, XXIV:63–65).

A fragment of an amphoriskos with globular shoulders, a narrow neck, a swollen body and a pair of handles (Fig. 7:6), is similar to the seventh-century CE vessels of Gichon's Type BK1 (Gichon 1996:307–309, Fig. 1:1–8). Such vessels are common in the southern parts of the country, such as the Be'er Sheva' area (Ustinova and Nahshoni 1994:162, Fig. 5:1) and Ashqelon (Nahshoni 1999:103*, Fig. 4:14).

Storage Jars and Amphorae

Red (Coastal) Bag-Shaped Storage Jars.— Fragments of wide bag-shaped jars, with wide wheel-ridged bodies decorated with red paint and short upright rims (Fig. 7:7–13), are similar to Riley's Type 1B/Y, dated to the sixth century CE (Riley 1975:26–27, Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6). This is the dominant form of amphorae found in the late fifth–sixth-century CE deposits at Caesarea (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:91–96, Fig. 1:4–6; Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986a:132, Fig. 1:11–13; Magness 1992:131, Figs. 58:16–21, 64:2, 3) and its vicinity (Calderon 2000:104, Pls. VI:7–10, XVII:11–15).

South Palestinian (Gazation) Amphorae.— Fragments of torpedo-shaped amphorae (Fig. 8:1–3) were found. These are similar to Majcherek's Form 4, dated to the late sixth–seventh century (Majcherek 1995:169, Pls. 3:4, 7, 8), which seems to be continuously produced even later throughout the Umayyad period (Egloff 1977:116–117).

Imported Amphora.— A fragment of a small amphora was found, exhibiting a short cylindrical neck with a protruding flange on its upper part, a thickened out-turned rim and oval handles from upper neck to shoulder with ridging on top (Fig. 8:4). It is similar to the sixth–seventh-century CE Benghazy LR Amphora 1A (Riley 1979:216, Fig. 91:346–347) and Peacock and Williams' Class 44B (1986:185–187, Fig. 104B). These were commonly found at Caesarea (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:102, Fig. 2:4, 5, Ill.103; Peleg and Reich 1992: Fig. 15:15; Oren-Paskal 2008: Fig 6.24, 25) and its vicinity (Calderon 2000:106, 132–133, Pls. VII:22, XIX:20–22, Figs. 23–25; Peilstöcker 2009: Fig. 9:1, 2).

Dolia.— Two dolia were found, with wide globular bodies, no neck and massive in-turned triangular rims (Fig. 8:5, 6); one was decorated with a combed wave decoration on the shoulder (Fig. 8:6). Similar vessels are mainly known from the coastal sites of Israel, from Yavne-Yam in the south (Ayalon 1991) to Ḥorbat Qasṭra in the north (Siegelmann 1996:91*, Fig. 13:3). A complete dolium is reported from Ḥorbat 'Aqav (Calderon 2000:135–137, Pl. XXI:31, 32). In excavations at Caesarea Maritima, a large concentration of fragmentary (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:111, Fig. 4:24) and complete dolia was found *in situ* (Patrich 1996:163, Figs. 10, 11, 17, 18); the latter were found in sixth–seventh-century warehouses.

Miscellanea

Brick.— A fragment of a brick was found (Fig. 8:7). It was probably part of a hypocaust system.

Stone Artifacts

Supporting Leg of Altar or Table (Fig. 8:8).— A fragment of a supporting leg from an altar or table was made of white crystalline marble. Only part of the nearly rounded shaft, which was finished with a stylized Corinthian capital, was preserved. The capital was curved in

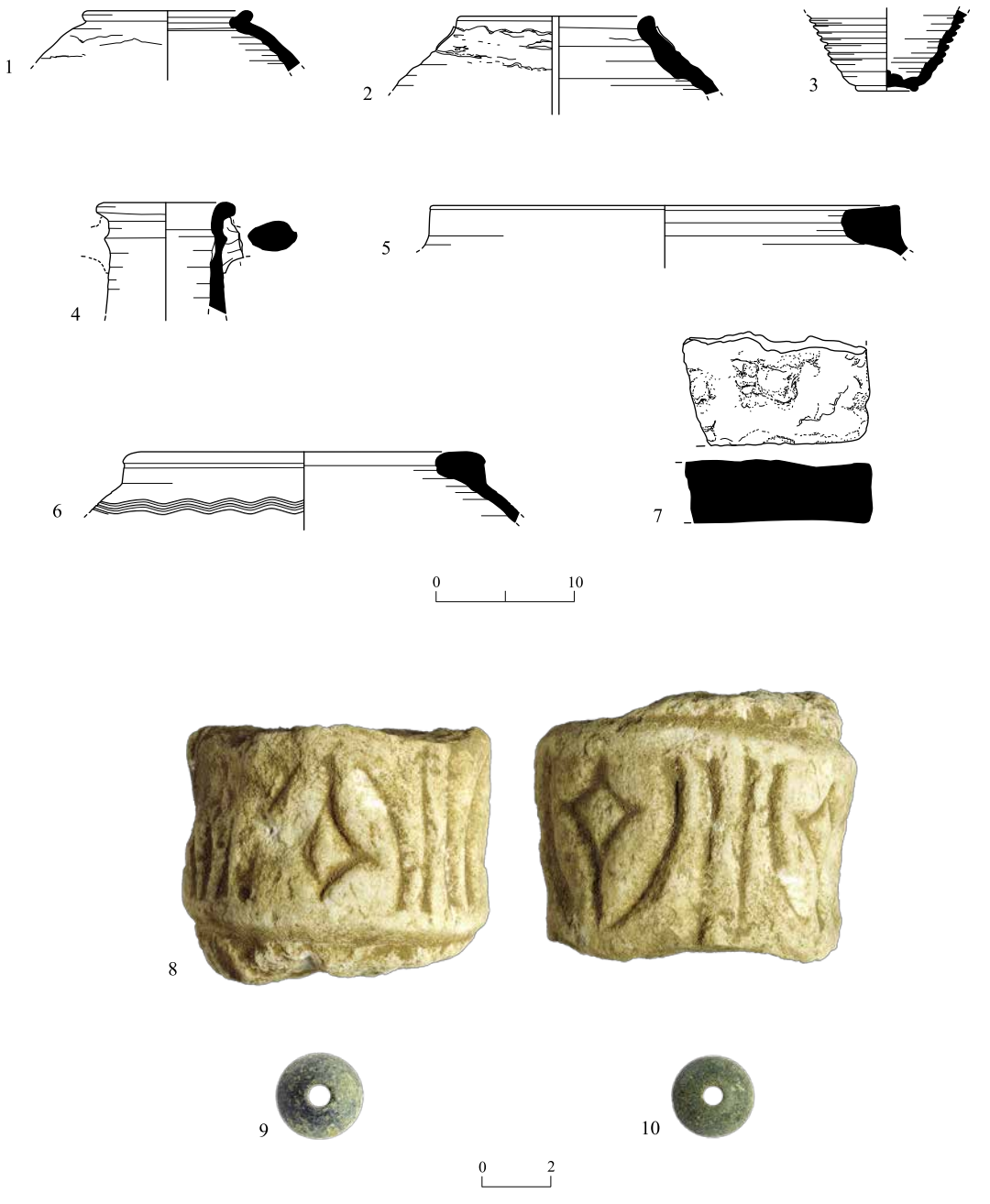


Fig. 8. Byzantine-period pottery (1–7) and stone objects (8–10).

◂ **Fig. 8**

No.	Type	Unit	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Storage jar	T39	481	4803/2	Reddish brown coarse fabric, some lime and fossil shells
2	Storage jar	F26	352	3502	As above
3	Storage jar	T39	482	4813/10	As above
4	Amphora	T39	482	4813/7	Reddish coarse fabric, some lime; surface pale
5	Dolium	T27	361	3601	Brownish coarse fabric; gray core, medium-sized white and gray grits
6	Dolium	F21	301	3001	Light brownish coarse fabric; gray core; medium-sized white, brown and gray grits
7	Brick	T39	482	4813/8	Red coarse and hard fabric, some lime and straw; gray mortar on surface
8	Table support	F33	420	4202	White crystalline marble
9	Spindle whorl	F35	440	4409	Greenish gray stone
10	Spindle whorl	F35	440	4410	Greenish gray stone

low relief. Such legs are common finds in ecclesiastical contexts in the region (for examples, see Aviam 1993: Fig. 7; Habas 1999: Pl. 1).

Spindle Whorls (Fig. 8:9, 10).— Two low conical spindle whorls were made of greenish gray stone (steatite?). Cone-shaped spindle whorls are known from various sites in the region and are dated from the Roman (Tsori 1959; Peleg 1991:143, Fig. 13:15–17; Stern and Getzov 2006:99, Figs. 7:22, 23; 15:73) to the late Byzantine–Early Islamic (Porat 2006:190, Fig. 8:10) periods.

CONCLUSIONS

The Persian Period

Fourteen burial caves dating from the Persian period were exposed in the French Hospital Compound in Yafo, all of them being shaft tombs with a rectangular burial chamber or chambers (see Dayan, Levy and Samora-Cohen, this volume). The distribution of burial goods within the burials is uneven (Table 1; Fig. 9), mainly comprising perfume containers (juglets and bottles) and storage vessels (local and imported amphorae); other types of vessels are rather sporadic.

Perfume juglets and bottles were found during previous excavations in the burial ground (Avner-Levy 1998:55, and see n. 2) but also in burials at Tell er-Ras (Shourkin 1999:145, Fig. 7:4, 5) and Ḥaẓor (Ben-Tor et al. 1997:159–161).

Table 1. Types of Burial Goods within Persian-Period Graves[i]

Tomb No.	Sk	Mr	PJ			Bt		Am			TA		LA			RA		OL	Ala
			1A	1B	2	1	2	1	2	3	sml	lar	1	2a	2b	1	2		
T1			×			×													
T2																	×		
T3					×														×
T4				×		×		×			×								
T5		×		×					×			×		×					
T9																×			
T10																	×		
T16																	×		
T19			×									×			×	×			×
T22	×		×				×			×			×		×			×	
T41a																	×		

[i] Sk = skyphos; Mr = mortarium; PJ = perfume juglets; Bt = bottles; Am = amphoriskoi; TA = table amphorae; LA = local amphorae; RA = regional carinated-shoulder amphorae; OL = oil lamps; Ala = stone alabastra

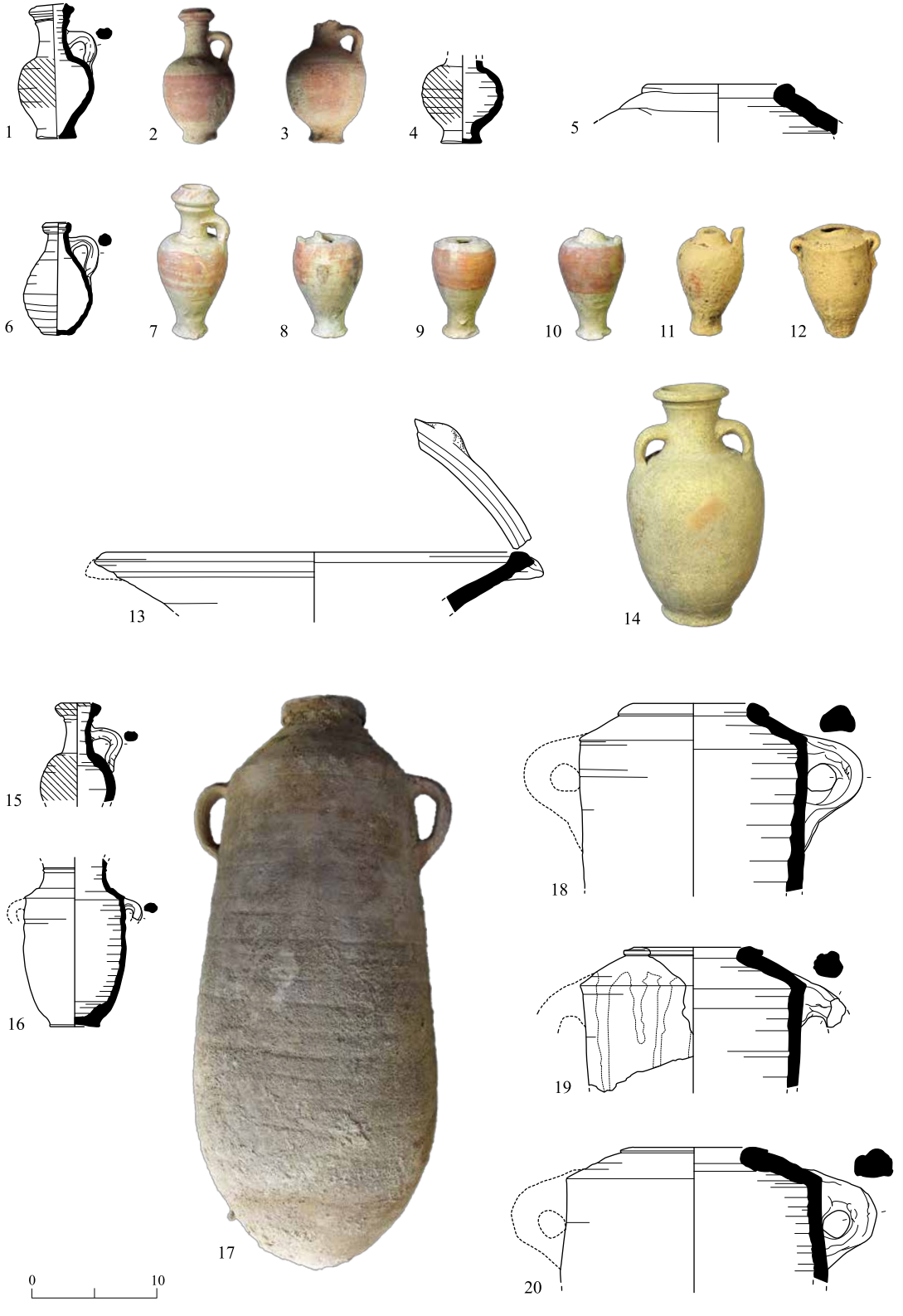
Table amphorae were reported from the cemeteries at Tel Mikhal (Herzog and Levy 1999:19*, Fig. 10, Plan 8) and Palmaḥim (Singer-Avitz and Levy 1994:4*–5*, Fig. 3). Levantine mortaria were discovered in tombs at Tell es-Sumeiriya (Messika 1996: Fig. 3:8, 9).

The custom of placing storage vessels, such as local and imported amphorae, and often covering them with lids is a common practice along the coastal plain of Israel. During the Persian period, this area was mainly populated by Phoenicians, or a local Semitic population that was heavily influenced by the Phoenician culture and customs. Local and imported amphorae have been reported from burials near Ashqelon (Golani 1996), Palmaḥim (Singer-Avitz and Levy 1994:4*–5*, Figs. 3, 4, Plan 2), Tel ʻAmal (Yannai 2003), Tell er-Ras (Onn 1999: Figs. 5–13; Shourkin 1999:142–143, Fig. 6) and Tell es-Sumeiriya (Messika 1996:32*–36*, Fig. 3:1–7).

Oil lamps were discovered within the burials excavated at the site, Shuni (see n. 2) and Tell es-Sumeiriya (Messika 1996: Fig. 3:10). Stone alabastra were reported from previous excavations of the Yafo cemetery (Avner-Levy 1989:55).

In general, aside from one type of local amphora that may be residual, pottery finds from all burials provide a chronological range of c. mid-fifth to mid/late fourth century BCE. This is most probably when the cemetery had functioned.

Unfortunately, most of the pottery types from the Persian period have a rather wide chronological range, which does not permit establishing chronological differences between the graves found at the site. However, the distribution pattern of perfume juglets seems to permit establishing some chronological distinctions between burials: vessels of the first variant (Fig. 1:3–10) are found within graves T1, T19 and T22, whereas the second variant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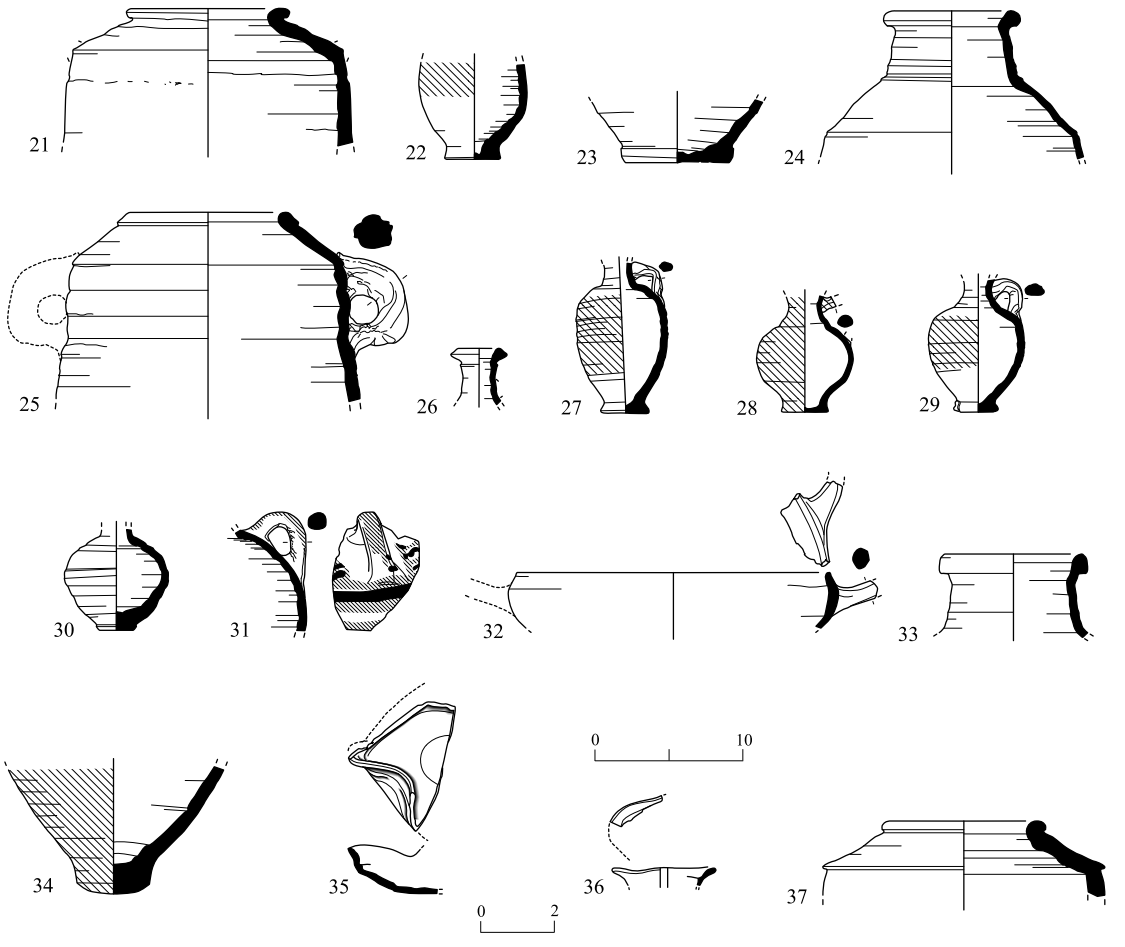

Fig. 9. Types of burial goods within Persian-period graves.

No.	Tomb	Vessel	Fig.
1	1	Juglet	1:3
2	1	Juglet	1:4
3	1	Juglet	1:10
4	1	Bottle	1:21
5	2	Shouldered amphora	4:4
6	3	Juglet	1:20
7	4	Juglet	1:12
8	4	Juglet	1:15
9	4	Juglet	1:16
10	4	Juglet	1:17
11	4	Juglet	1:18
12	4	Amphoriskos	2:3
13	5	Mortarium	1:2
14	5	Table amphora	2:7
15	5	Juglet	1:11
16	5	Amphoriskos	2:4
17	5	Local amphora	3:2
18	9	Shouldered amphora	3:5
19	9	Shouldered amphora	3:6

No.	Tomb	Vessel	Fig.
20	9	Shouldered amphora	3:7
21	10	Shouldered amphora	4:2
22	19	Juglet	1:9
23	19	Table amphora	2:8
24	19	Local amphora	3:3
25	19	Shouldered amphora	3:8
26	22	Juglet	1:5
27	22	Juglet	1:6
28	22	Juglet	1:7
29	22	Juglet	1:8
30	22	Bottle	1:24
31	22	Amphoriskos	2:5
32	22	Skyphos	1:1
33	22	Local amphora	3:4
34	22	Local amphora	3:1
35	22	Oil lamp	4:5
36	22	Oil lamp	4:6
37	41a	Shouldered amphora	4:3

(Figs. 1:11–19) was found within T4 and T5, and none of the graves presented both variants. The juglets from Tel Mikhal show that the first variant dates to slightly earlier—the mid-fifth–mid-fourth centuries BCE—whereas the second variant ranges in date within the fourth century only. This may attest that Tombs 1, 19 and 22 are from an early stage of the cemetery dating from the second half of the fifth or the early fourth century BCE, and T4 and T5 belong to a later burial stage dating from the fourth century BCE.

The Roman Period

The finds from the Roman period were concentrated in two locations: T45 and F43. Both deposits contained pottery dumped into artificial depressions within the bedrock. These finds seem to be associated with burials of this period found in the vicinity (Avner-Levy 1998:56).

The assemblage, dating from the mid-Roman period, presents a wide range of pottery types, including imported table wares, amphorae, large bowls, mortaria, diverse types of local cooking vessels and storage jars. Almost all vessels were in a fragmentary state, and the assemblage has a chronological range from the early second to the fourth or early fifth century CE.

The Byzantine Period

The pottery from the Byzantine period is associated with two burials—a burial cave (T39) and the mausoleum (T27)—and several architectural elements that may have also been related to the cemetery during this period (F24, F26, F29, F34). The chronological range of both imported and local pottery dates these burials from the late fifth to the late sixth/early seventh century CE. The pottery assemblage includes imported and local bowls, jugs, storage jars and amphorae, but completely lacks cooking pots. This phenomenon negates a domestic nature for these deposits, and hints at a possible association with funerary practices of this period.

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