

AMPHORA STAMPS FROM THE MAGEN AVRAHAM COMPOUND, YAFO (JAFFA)

GERALD FINKIELSZTEJN

Three stamped handles of Rhodian amphorae were retrieved from the excavation in the Magen Avraham Compound at Yafo (see Arbel and Rauchberger, this volume), and are described below. Two were found in soil accumulations below a late Ottoman-period footpath in Area B (Stratum II) and another, in a late-Ottoman–British Mandate-period context in Area G.

THE STAMPS

1. 6610/12.215.2089—Circular stamp.



Illegible

Rose

The stamp is eroded. The style of the rose has rarely been found on amphora stamps. It is known on a stamp dated by the eponym Ὀνάσανδρος (Finkielsztein 2001:101, 250, Pl. XIII, 252a, 191), and may have originated from the same die as that example. The profile of the handle corresponds to that of a Period II amphora.

Date: Circa 218–212 BCE.

2. 6610/12.216.2108—Rectangular stamp.



Herm ←
Κάλλω[νος]

This is a stamp of the fabricant Κάλλων, with only the top of the herm preserved. This fabricant is associated with the eponyms Τεισαγόρας 1st (Börker 1985:398), Λαφείδης (an unpublished handle held at the Graeco-Roman Museum in Alexandria, displaying the superimposed stamps of two dies) and Θέρσανδρος (Grace 1985:13, n. 24, mentions a correction of Hall 1885:394, No. 5062, by Nilsson 1909:117), indicating that he was active at the beginning of Period V, and possibly later (Finkielsztejn 2001:195).

Date: Circa 142–137 BCE at least.

3. 6610/12.801.8014—Rectangular stamp.



Δῶρ[ος]

The stamp comprises only one line of inscription that is close to the edge. The identification of the letter *rho* indicates retrograde reading. The inscription names Δῶρος 2nd, based on the use of the retrograde reading, the rough and blurred aspect of the letters and the absence of a devise (Finkielsztejn 2001:152–154). Although the bend of the handle is missing, its rather broad shape does not contradict the identification of the stamp.

Date: Last quarter of the second century BCE.

REFERENCES

- Arbel Y. and Rauchberger L. This volume. Remains from the Hellenistic through the Late Ottoman–British Mandate Periods in the Magen Avraham Compound, Yafo (Jaffa).
- Börker C. 1985. Review of L. Criscuolo: Bolli d'anfora greci e romani: La collezione dell'Università Cattolica di Milano (Studi di storia antica 6). Bologna 1982. *Gnomon* 57:397–398.

- 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.
- Grace V.R. 1985. The Middle Stoa Dated by Amphora Stamps. *Hesperia* 54:1–54.
- Hall I.H. 1885. The Greek Stamps on the Handles of Rhodian Amphorae, Found in Cyprus, and Now in the Metropolitan Museum of New York. *JAOS* 11:389–396.
- Nilsson M.P. 1909. *Timbres amphoriques de Lindos publiés avec une étude sur les timbres amphoriques rhodiens* (Exploration archéologique de Rhodes V; Bulletin de l'Académie royale des sciences et des lettres de Danemark). Copenhagen. Pp. 37–180, 349–539.

