

## POTTERY, STONE AND SMALL FINDS FROM SHIQMONA

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In salvage excavations carried out at Shiqmona in 1994 a homogenous corpus of ceramics was found, dating mostly to the sixth and seventh centuries CE.<sup>1</sup> All the ceramic finds are fragmentary and are illustrated in typological sequence in the figures.

Vessel rims were counted for quantitative analysis. Dating of the vessels is based on the typology of Hayes (1972) and on comparison with published material from other sites, the most similar assemblages coming from the ceramic dump in a pit at Ḥorbat 'Aqav in Ramat Ha-Nadiv, some 30 km south of Shiqmona (Calderon 2000) and from Caesarea (Adan-Bayewitz 1986).

### *Imported Bowls and Basins (Figs. 1, 2)*

A total of 921 rim sherds of Late Roman Ware (LRW) bowls were found at Shiqmona. These include three types: African Red Slip Ware (ARS), Late Roman C (LRC) or Phocaean Red Slip Ware, and Cypriot Red Slip (CRS) or Late Roman D Ware (Table 1).

The LRC bowls of Hayes' Form 3 are the most common type at Shiqmona, constituting 44.2% of the Late Roman bowls. Next in frequency, CRS Forms 7 and 2 comprise respectively 16.8% and 15.4% of the total Late Roman bowl assemblage. All the bowls, with the exception of LRC Form 1, appear in the sixth century. Some also appear earlier (ARS Forms 91, 94; CRS Form 2) and some continue into the seventh century (ARS Forms 97, 105; LRC Form 10; CRS Forms 7, 9, 11).

### *African Red Slip Ware (ARS)*

*Fig. 1:1.* Bowl rim of Hayes' Form 104 (Type B), with typically thin sloping walls terminating in a thickened rim; beneath the rim is a groove. This bowl type dates to 570–600, with late variants appearing up to 625 (Hayes 1972:160–166, Fig. 31).

*Fig. 1:2.* Bowl rim of Hayes' Form 105, with sloping walls terminating in a thickened rim. It dates to 580/600–660 (Hayes 1972:166–169, Fig. 39).

*Fig. 1:3.* Bowl rim of Hayes' Form 97. The flat sloping rim is often decorated with scalloped incisions. This type dates to 490–550 (Hayes 1972:150–151, Fig. 27).

**Table 1. The Relative Frequencies of LRW Bowls**

Vessel	No. of Rims	%	Date (CE)
ARS Form 104	31	3.4	570–600
ARS Form 105	22	2.4	580/600–660
ARS Form 94	23	2.5	late 5th–early 6th c.
ARS Form 91	17	1.8	450–530
ARS Form 97	2	0.2	490–550
LRC Form 3	407	44.2	6th c.
LRC Form 10	9	1.0	late 6th–early 7th c.
LRC Form 1	3	0.3	late 4th c.–475
CRS Form 2	142	15.4	late 5th and 6th c.
CRS Form 7	155	16.8	mid-6th–early 7th c.
CRS Form 9	23	2.5	580/600–late 7th c.
CRS Form 11	87	9.5	550–650
<i>Total</i>	<i>921</i>	<i>100.0</i>	

*Fig. 1:4.* Ledge rim of Hayes' Form 94. These bowls have a flat ledge rim that curls downward. This type dates to the late fifth and early sixth centuries (Hayes 1972:148, Fig. 27).

*Fig. 1:5, 6.* Base and rim of Hayes' Form 91 (Type B). This hemispherical bowl has a simple rim with a flange beneath it, generally hooked at the edge, and is decorated with feather rouletting. This type dates to 450–530 (Hayes 1972:150–151, Fig. 27).

*Late Roman C Ware (LRC)—Phocaean Red Slip Ware*

*Fig. 1:7–11.* Bowl rims of Hayes' Form 3, with curved walls and upright rim, occasionally decorated with rouletting. The bowls illustrated in Fig. 1:7, 8 belong to Type H and those in Fig. 1:9–11 to Type F. Both types are dated to the sixth century (Hayes 1972:329–338, Fig. 68).

*Fig. 1:12.* Bowl rim of Hayes' Form 10 (Type B), usually with sloping walls and a thickened,

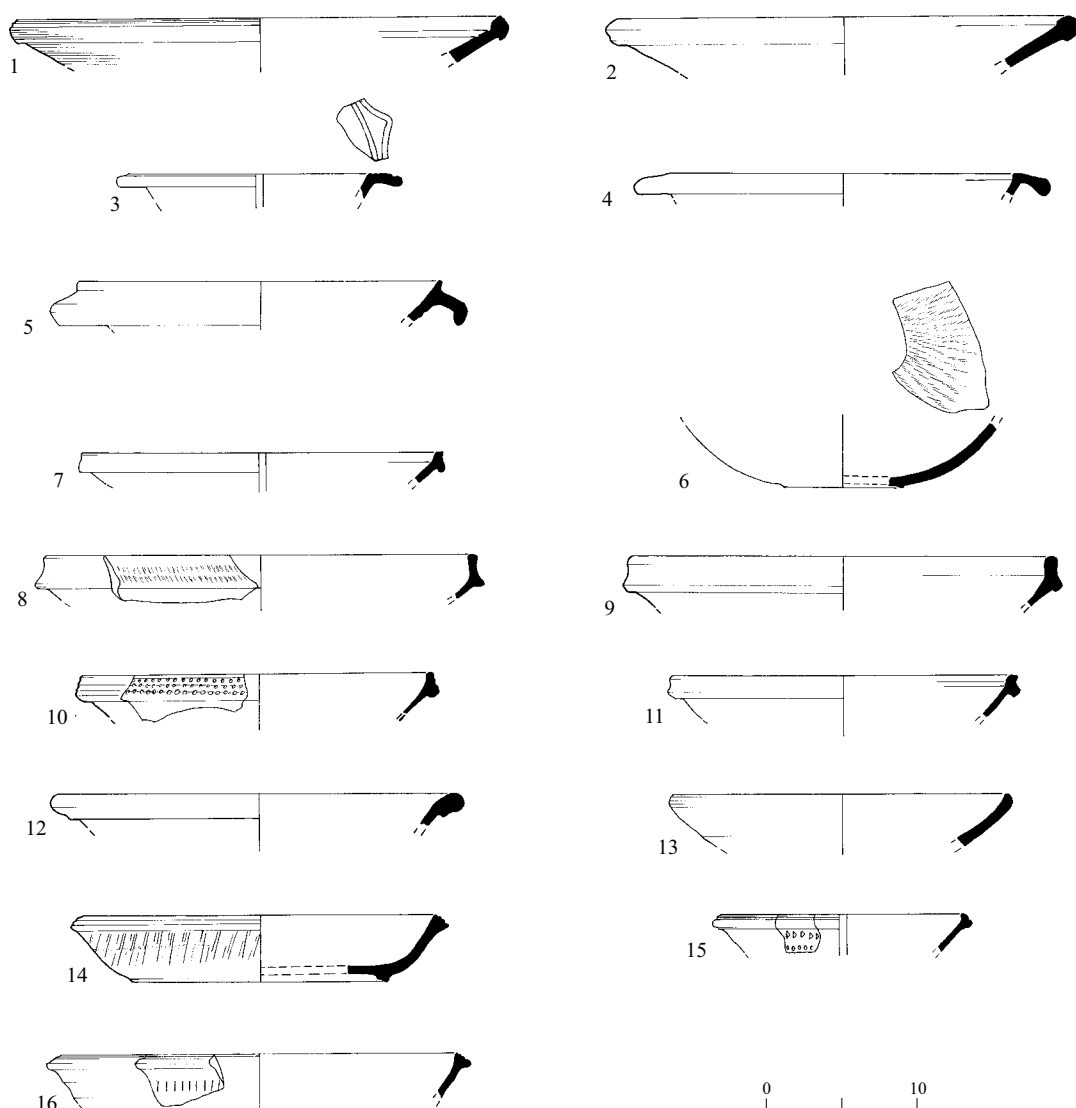


Fig. 1. Late Roman Ware bowls.

everted rim. This type dates to the late sixth and early seventh centuries (Hayes 1972:343–346, Fig. 71).

*Fig. 1:13.* Bowl rim of Hayes' Form 1 (Type D), with curved walls and a simple rim. This bowl type dates from the end of the fourth to the third quarter of the fifth century (Hayes 1972:325–327, Fig. 65).

*Cypriot Red Slip Ware (CRS)—Late Roman D Ware (LRD)*

*Fig. 1:14–16.* Bowls of Hayes' Form 2, characterized by steep walls without rouletting, with a knobbed rim and a low ring base (see Fig. 1:14). This type dates to the late fifth and early sixth centuries (Hayes 1972:373–376, Fig. 80).

*Fig. 2:1–3.* Bowls of Hayes' CRS Form 7 are the most common type in the Cypriot Red Slip assemblage. They are characterized by thick

sloping walls and thickened grooved rims above a carination. These bowls date from the second half of the sixth to the early seventh centuries (Hayes 1972:377–379, Fig. 81).

*Fig. 2:4.* This bowl is a variant of Form 7, typified by small handles adhering to the sides of the vessel.

*Fig. 2:5–7.* Bowl rims of Hayes' Form 9, characterized by everted walls and rounded, incurved rims. The exterior of the wall is typically decorated with two rows of rouletting or a wavy incised line (Fig. 2:5). The bowls date from 580/600 to the end of the seventh century (Hayes 1972:379–382, Fig. 82).

*Fig. 2:8–14.* Bowls of Hayes' Form 11. The rims of this type from Shiqmona have two variants: a simple thickened rim (Fig. 2:8) and a folded rim (Fig. 2:9–14). All the bowls have thick everted walls, horizontal ledge handles attached under

◀ Fig. 1

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Rim	421	4060	Orange-brown ware with small white inclusions, brown slip, burnished on the exterior
2	Rim	330	3114	Well-levigated brown ware, orange slip, burnished on the exterior
3	Rim	510	4074	Well-levigated orange ware, orange slip, decorated with incision on the rim
4	Rim	327	3096	Well-levigated orange ware with small white inclusions, burnished orange slip
5	Rim	414	4062	Well-levigated orange ware, orange-brown slip, burnished on the exterior
6	Base	510	4077	Well-levigated ware, orange slip, rouletted decoration on the interior
7	Rim	105	1025/4	Well-levigated brown ware
8	Rim	418	4068	Well-levigated orange-brown ware, brown slip, rouletted decoration on rim
9	Rim	415	4059	Well-levigated orange ware, remnants of brown slip, burnished rim
10	Rim	5-17		Well-levigated brown ware, small white inclusions, orange-brown slip, rouletted decoration on the rim
11	Rim	510	4078	Well-levigated orange-brown ware
12	Rim	400	4032/3	Well-levigated orange ware
13	Rim	400	1000/1	Orange-brown ware with white inclusions, dark brown slip on the rim, burnished on the exterior
14	Bowl	418	4068	Well-levigated light brown ware, remnants of red-brown slip, rouletted decoration
15	Rim	510	4087	Well-levigated light brown ware, rouletted decoration on the walls, incised decoration on the rim
16	Rim	419	4062	Well-levigated light brown ware, remnants of brown slip, rouletted decoration on the walls, grooves on the rim

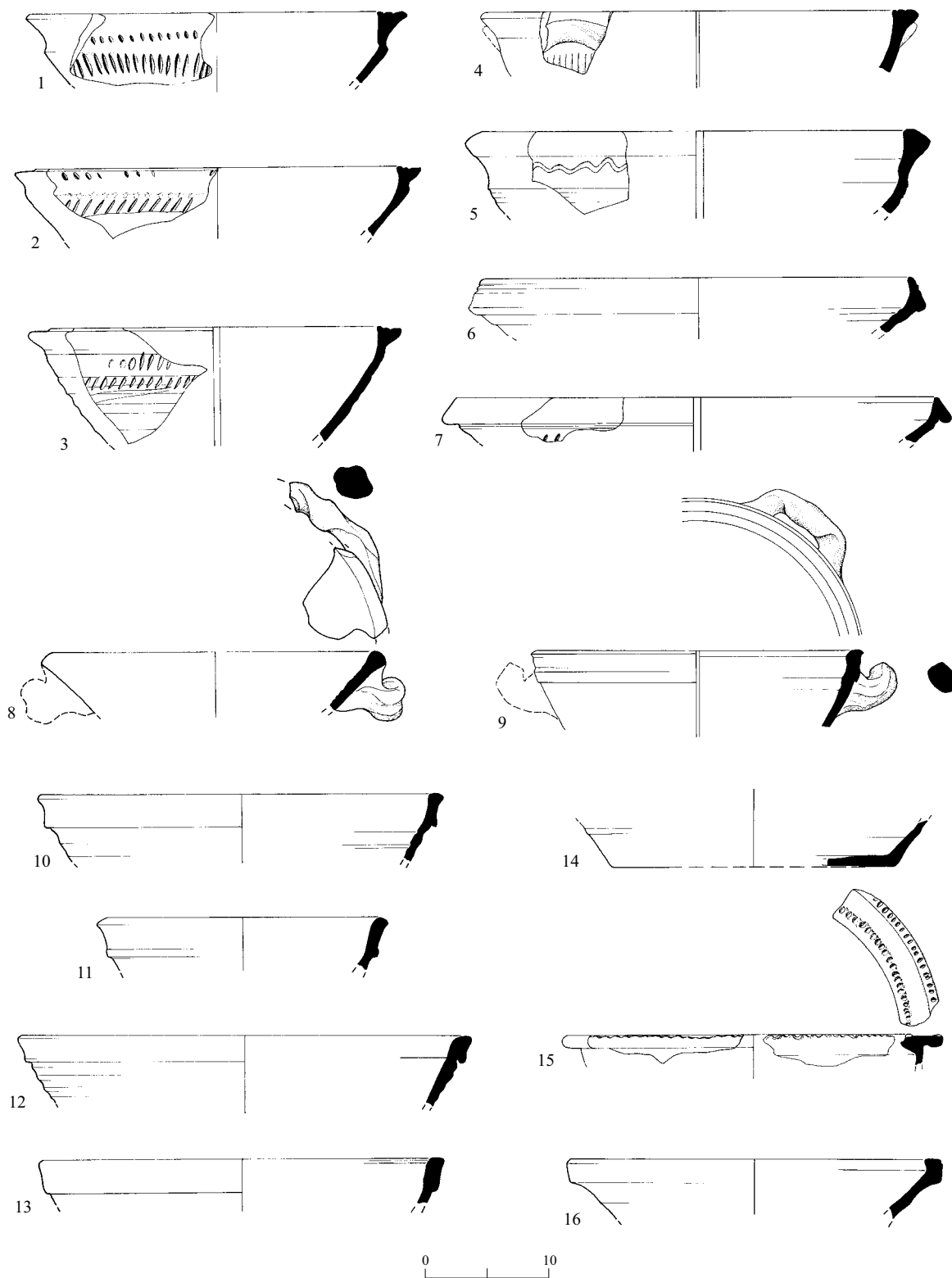


Fig. 2. Late Roman Ware bowls (1–15) and a North Syrian mortarium (16).

◀ Fig. 2

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Rim	510	4070	Light brown ware, red slip on the interior, rouletted decoration on the walls, groove on the rim
2	Rim	5-2		Light brown ware with orange slip, burnished on the exterior, incised decoration on the walls and under the rim, grooves on the rim
3	Rim	425	4465	Well-levigated, light brown ware, red slip and burnished on the exterior, incision on the walls
4	Rim		12016	Well-levigated orange ware, red slip on the interior and exterior
5	Rim	510	4087	Light brown ware with inclusions, remnants of red slip, a wavy incised line on the exterior under the rim
6	Rim	400	4018/1	Well-levigated light brown ware, burnished red slip on the interior, grooves on the rim
7	Rim	401	4042	Well-levigated light brown ware, remnants of incised decoration on the walls
8	Rim	400	4000/3	Well-levigated orange-brown ware, red slip, finger impression on handle
9	Rim	1214	12070	Well-levigated orange ware, red slip on the interior and exterior, horizontal handle
10	Rim	410	4010	Well-levigated orange ware, remnants of brown slip, red slip on the rim and the interior of the vessel, ribbing on the wall and the interior
11	Rim	423	4032	Well-levigated orange ware, red slip on the interior and exterior
12	Rim	422	4061	Well-levigated light brown ware, remnants of red-brown slip on the interior and exterior, ribbing on the walls
13	Rim	310	3079/4	Well-levigated orange ware, remnants of red-brown slip inside the vessel
14	Base	1200	12012/5	Well-levigated orange ware, remnants of red slip on the interior and exterior
15	Rim	403	4032/4	Gray core with white and brown inclusions, orange slip, raised and impressed decoration on the rim
16	Rim	410	4096	Dark brown ware with small white inclusions, brown slip

the rim and flat bases (Fig. 2:14). They date from 550 to 650 (Hayes 1972:383, Fig. 83).

Bowls of Form 11 are uncommon at sites in the hinterland, but appear frequently at sites on the coastal plain, as at Ḥorbat 'Aqav in Ramat Ha-Nadiv in the sixth–seventh centuries CE ‘pottery pit’ (Calderon 2000:119, 150–155), and at Shavé Ziyon from the sixth–seventh centuries CE (Prausnitz 1967:44, Fig. 14:15, Pl. XXIX:j).

*Fig. 2:15.* Basin with an incurved ledge rim, on either side of which is a ridge decorated with incisions.

#### *North Syrian Mortaria*

*Fig. 2:16.* This rim belongs to the class of basins identified by Hayes as North Syrian Mortaria, which have two variants. Our example belongs to Variant 2, presenting a rim

with a square section, flaring walls and a flat base (Hayes 1972:337, Fig. 3:6). According to Hayes, these originate in the area of the north Syrian site of Ral el-Basit and nearby sites, and date to the third–fourth centuries. Calderon, on the other hand, dates Variant 2 to the third–sixth centuries on the basis of their presence in late assemblages—the ‘pottery pit’ and villa at Ḥorbat 'Aqav, which date to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000:119, 149–150), and late fifth- and sixth-century CE assemblages at Caesarea (Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986: Fig. 2:23; Magness 1992: Fig. 58.11). Their presence in the Shiqmona assemblage supports the later dating of this type.

#### *Large Basins and Pithoi* (Fig. 3)

*Fig. 3:1.* Pithos with a thickened, inward-sloping incurved rim bearing two grooves.

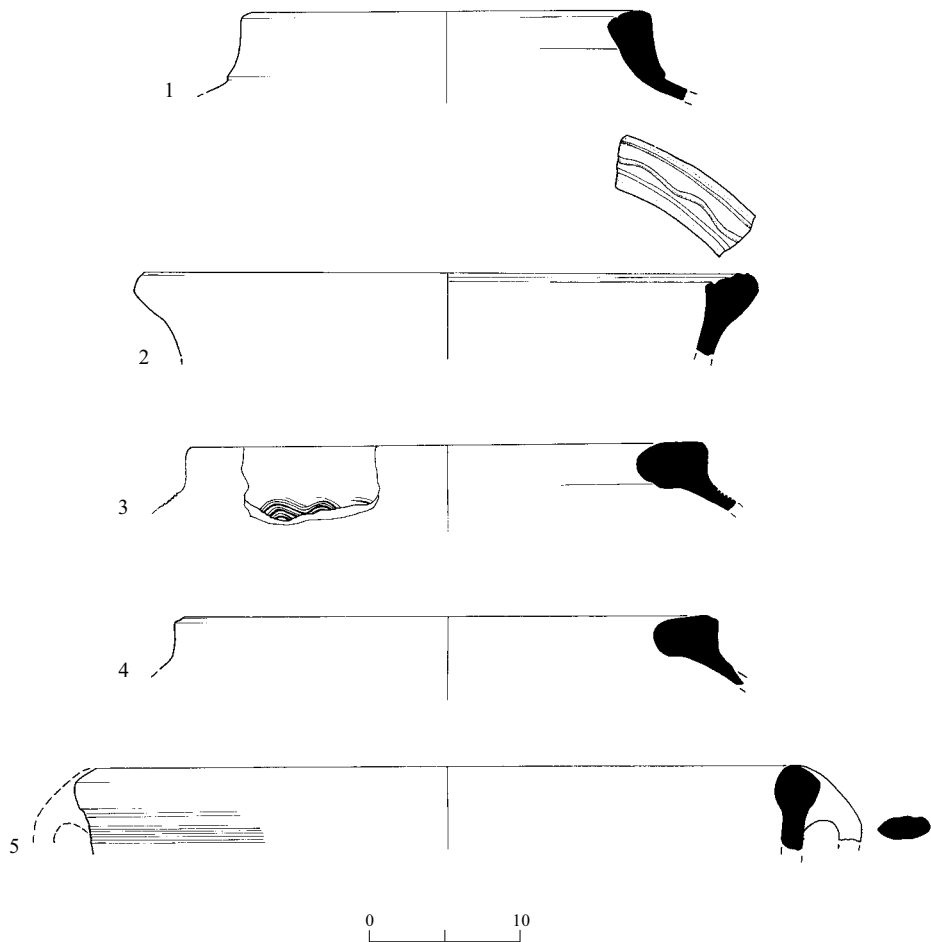


Fig. 3. Large basins and pithoi.

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Rim	401	4055/1	Well-levigated light brown ware, brown slip on the rim and exterior, groove on the rim
2	Rim	417	4054	Brown ware with numerous black and white inclusions, incised decoration on the rim consisting of two parallel lines and a wavy line
3	Rim	330	3114	Gray ware, brown toward the exterior, numerous white inclusions, decoration of wavy combed lines on the walls
4	Neck/rim	410	4025	Gray-light brown friable ware with numerous inclusions, orange slip
5	Rim/handle	5-3		Well-levigated orange ware, buff slip with incised straight lines on the vessels walls

*Fig. 3:2.* Krater with a thickened rim bearing two incised grooves and a wavy line between them. Three similar rims were found in the ‘pottery pit’ and villa of Ḥorbat ‘Aqav dating to the sixth–seventh centuries CE (Calderon 2000:110–111, 150).

*Fig. 3:3, 4.* Pithoi of coarse ware with flat, extremely thickened rims and wavy combed decoration on the shoulders. These pithoi were used for storage of food (grain and dried fruits) or liquids (wine). A complete pithos and an identical rim sherd were found in the ‘pottery

pit' of Ḥorbat 'Aqav dated to the sixth–seventh centuries CE (Calderon 2000:136–137).

*Fig. 3:5.* Basin with a thickened rim, handles and a combed decoration of straight lines below the rim. Cohen-Finkelstein dates similar basins (her Type 2A) to the late Byzantine, especially the Umayyad and early Abbasid periods (Cohen-Finkelstein 1991:21–23, Fig. 1).

*Kitchenware* (Fig. 4)

#### *Bowls*

*Fig. 4:1, 2.* Bowls made of thin, well-levigated ware with curved walls and simple rims. No parallels are known.

*Fig. 4:3.* Shallow bowl with a flat base and flaring walls with ribbing on the exterior and a thickened rim. No parallels are known.

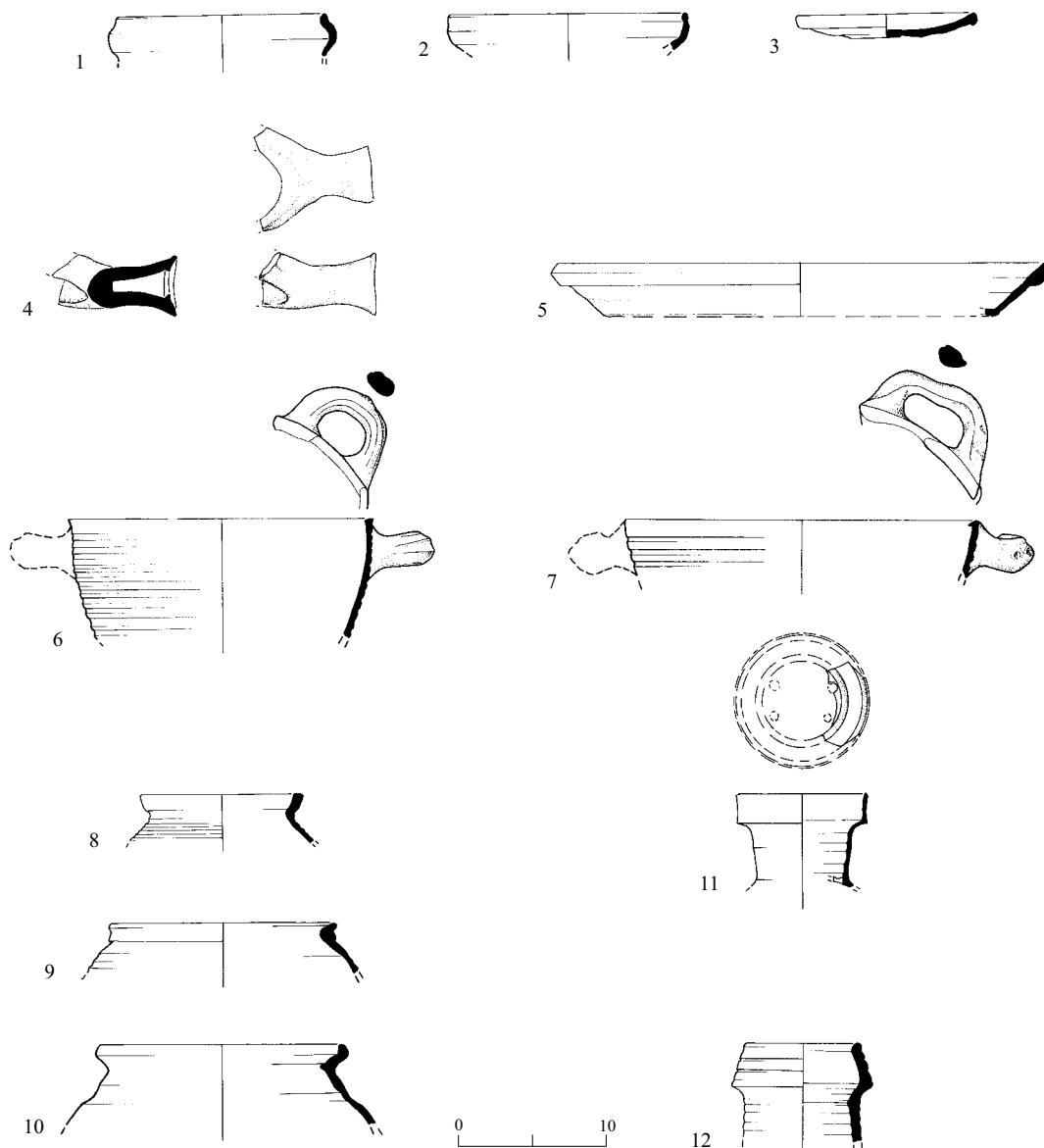


Fig. 4. Kitchenware: bowls, frying pans, cooking pots and jugs.

◀ Fig. 4

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Description
<i>Bowls</i>				
1	Rim	404	4034	Well-levigated orange-brown ware with fine white inclusions
2	Rim	317	3061	Well-levigated brown ware, well fired, traces of black slip on the rim
3	Bowl	404	4026	Well-levigated brown ware with broadly spaced ribbing on the walls and base, covered with travertine
<i>Frying Pans</i>				
4	Handle	1222	12091	Orange-brown ware with many white inclusions
5	Rim		12099	Black ware with fine inclusions
<i>Open Cooking Pots</i>				
6	Rim/handle/ body sherd			Brown ware with numerous white inclusions, tight ribbing on the wall
7	Rim	421	4060	
<i>Closed Cooking Pots</i>				
8	Rim/body sherd	419	4062	Brown ware with small white inclusions, ribbing on the wall
9	Rim/body sherd	318	3023	Brown ware with white inclusions
10	Rim	466	4065	Brown ware with white inclusions, covered with gray soot
<i>Jugs</i>				
11	Rim and filter	423	1076	Orange ware with white and black inclusions
12	Rim	1219	12082	Light brown ware with a dark brown core, many fine inclusions

*Frying Pans*

Fig. 4:4. Tubular 'wishbone' handle belonging to the shallow basin class. Similar basins were found in Strata 4 and 5 of the Byzantine house at Caesarea, dating from the end of the fifth to the seventh century (Adan-Bayewitz 1986: Fig. 3:22, 23; Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986: Fig. 1:19) and in the 'pottery pit' at Ḥorbat 'Aqav dating to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000:142–144).

Fig. 4:5. This pan, made of black ware with small inclusions, has a flat base, low, flaring walls and a thickened rim. Similar rims were found at Bernice in Bengazi (Sidi-Khrebish) in strata dating to the fourth–sixth centuries, and were defined by Riley as Late Roman Cooking Ware 4. It is not a common form at either Bernice or Cyrenaica (Riley 1979: Fig. 107:566, 567). Its source is unknown. Similar pans were found in the 'pottery pit' of Ḥorbat 'Aqav in an assemblage dating to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000:142–144).

*Open Cooking Pots*

Fig. 4:6, 7. Deep cooking pots typified by ribbing on the exterior, a cut rim and two large horizontal handles. Similar cooking pots were found at Caesarea in late fifth–seventh century assemblages (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:107, Fig. 3:21) and in the 'pottery pit' of Ḥorbat 'Aqav dated to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000:140–142).

*Closed Cooking Pots*

Three types of closed cooking pots were found at Shiqmona (Table 2):

**Table 2. The Relative Frequencies of Closed Cooking Pots**

Vessel Types	No. of Rims	%
Type 1: Cooking pots with low necks	6	14.3
Type 2: Cooking pots without necks	29	69.0
Type 3: Cooking pots with shaped rims	7	16.7
<i>Total</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>100.0</i>



*Type 1* (Fig. 4:8). Cooking pots with low necks, shoulders and ribbed bodies. A similar pot was found in an assemblage beneath the octagonal building at Caesarea dating from the fifth to the mid-sixth centuries (Magness 1992:133, Fig. 60:10).

*Type 2* (Fig. 4:9). This cooking pot, with no neck and a thickened rim, is the most common type at Shiqmona, comprising 69% of the closed cooking-pot assemblage (see Table 2). It is also common at many northern sites, found in assemblages dating to the fourth–seventh centuries.

*Type 3* (Fig. 4:10). This type, with a swollen rim and sloping shoulders, was apparently imported from Cyprus. Cypriot cooking pots are characterized by thin walls and a large outward-ledged rim. The handles stretch from the rim to the shoulder (Magness 1992:133, Fig. 69:9). Cooking pots of this type were also found in assemblages from Caesarea: beneath the octagonal building dating from the fifth to mid-sixth centuries (Magness 1992:133); and in Stratum 4 of the Byzantine house at Caesarea, dating from the end of the fifth to the seventh century (Adan-Bayewitz 1986: Fig. 4:3, 4).

#### *Strainer Jug*

*Fig. 4:11.* Jugs of this type, made of thin, well-fired ware, have a vertical rim and a long neck, at the base of which is a strainer. Strainer jugs of this type were common at Ḥorbat ‘Aqav, both in the ‘pottery pit’ and in the villa, where they are dated to the sixth–seventh centuries CE (Calderon 2000:144–146). A sherd from a similar jug was found in the Byzantine assemblage (fifth–seventh centuries) from the city wall at Caesarea (Peleg and Reich 1992: Fig. 15:14).

#### *Saqiya Vessel*

*Fig. 4:12.* This sherd comes from a *Saqiya* vessel that was used to raise water from the well (Roll and Ayalon 1989:129). Such vessels have been found at Ḥorbat ‘Aqav in sixth- to

seventh-century contexts (Calderon 2000:147) and among the artifacts from the city wall of Caesarea dating to the fifth–seventh centuries (Peleg and Reich 1992:154, Figs. 13:3; 14:5). A variant of this vessel from the Byzantine period was found at Apollonia (Roll and Ayalon 1989:129).

#### *Storage Jars* (Fig. 5)

Of the three types of storage jars found at Shiqmona, 56.5% are Gaza jars. Southern bag-shaped storage jars of brown-colored ware make up 23.9%, and gray, northern bag-shaped storage jars (Bet She’an jars)—another 19.6% (Table 3). These relative quantities differ from those at Caesarea, where the southern bag-shaped storage jars are the most common type, followed by Gaza storage jars and, finally, the gray northern bag-shaped storage jars (Magness 1992:130–132).

*Type 1* (Fig. 5:1). This type belongs to the group known as Gaza storage jars, with the typical cylindrical, neckless form, thickened rim and handles on the shoulder. Remnants of muddy-brown clay with many white and black inclusions and a gray core are on the rim and shoulder. On the basis of petrographic analysis, these jars were manufactured in the Gaza region and used primarily for transporting wine and possibly dried fish (Riley 1979:219–223; Mayerson 1992). Their distribution is very broad and they are common finds at eastern Mediterranean sites from the fourth to seventh centuries (Riley 1979:219–233; Magness 1992:132).

**Table 3. The Relative Frequencies of Jars**

Vessel	No. of Rims	%
Type 1: Gaza jars	92	56.5
Type 2: Southern bag-shaped jars	39	23.9
Type 3: Bet She’an jars	32	19.6
<i>Total</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>100.0</i>

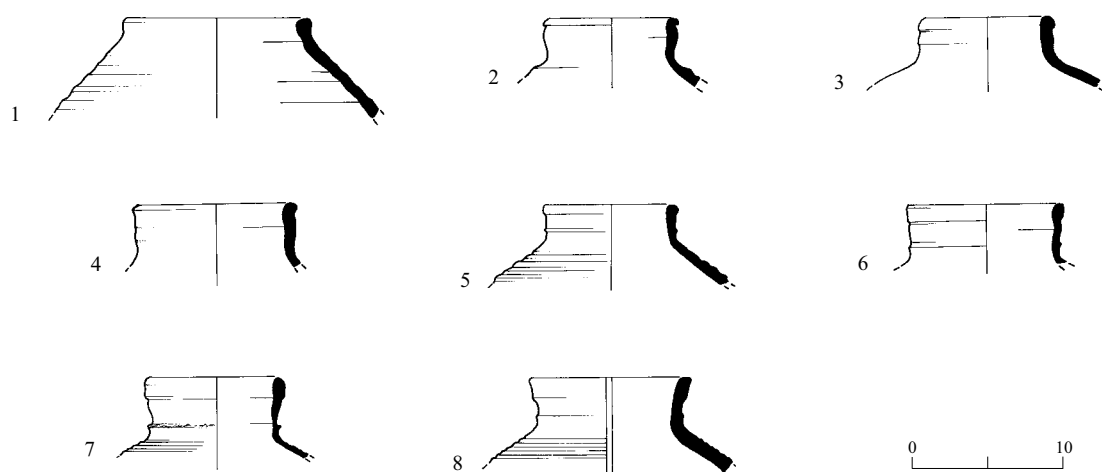


Fig. 5. Storage jars.

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Rim	421	4380	Brown ware, gray core, black and white inclusions, ribbing on the walls
2	Rim	510	5010	Brown ware with white inclusions
3	Rim			Light brown ware with an orange core, white inclusions
4	Rim	319	3046/2	Light brown ware with white and orange inclusions
5	Rim/body sherd	364	3100	Red-brown ware with white and black inclusions, ribbing on the walls
6	Rim			Metallic gray-brown ware with small inclusions
7	Rim	415	4059	Metallic gray ware with a brown core, fine inclusions, tight ribbing
8	Rim/neck sherd	327-c	3096	Metallic grayish-brown ware with inclusions

In Israel these jars have been found at many fifth- to seventh-century sites: the hippodrome at Caesarea (Riley 1975:29, Fig. 12, Type 2); the Byzantine house at Caesarea, Stratum 4, dating from the end of the fifth to the seventh centuries (Adan-Bayewitz 1986: Ill. 99, Fig. 1:8–13, Type 2); beneath the octagonal building at Caesarea, in an assemblage dated to the fifth–sixth centuries (Magness 1992: Fig. 54:9); in the ‘pottery pit’ and villa of Ḥorbat ‘Aqav, dating to the fifth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000:119–127); and in deposits from Rehovot-in-the-Negev, dating to the sixth–seventh centuries (Rosenthal-Heginbottom 1988:85, 86, Ill. 128, Type 3).

*Type 2* (Fig. 5:2–5). This type belongs to the group known as the Southern Palestinian Bag-Shaped Storage Jars. The sandy clay is light brown to orange with inclusions. These jars

have a comparatively low neck, swollen in the center, low shoulders and two handles. The rim is thickened, with a rounded, outcurved section. Usually there is dense ribbing on the shoulders and less dense ribbing on the walls of the jar.

This is a very common type. At Caesarea, Riley classified it as Type 1B, dating to the fifth century (Riley 1975:25, 26). A jar of this type was found in an assemblage beneath the octagonal building at Caesarea, dating to the fifth–mid-sixth centuries (Magness 1992:131, Fig. 58:16–19). At Ḥorbat ‘Aqav, jars of this type were found in the ‘pottery pit’ dating to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000:127–129). At Rehovot, this jar is classified as Type 1, Variant C. According to Rosenthal-Heginbottom (1988:84, Pl. 124), these jars appear between the fourth and eighth centuries and are most common in the fifth and sixth.

*Type 3* (Fig. 5:6–8). This type belongs to the group known as Bet She'an Jars or Northern Palestinian Bag-Shaped Storage Jars. The ware is gray-brown with fine inclusions, hard fired and metallic, with a gray exterior and white paint on the body. The rim is square in section and there is often a ridge at the base of the neck. The shoulders have dense ribbing. It is a common type in the north of the country, especially in the Galilee, the Jordan Valley and Transjordan (Magness 1992:131). In various excavations at Caesarea, these jars were found in fifth- to seventh-century contexts: in the hippodrome these jars were designated as Type 3 (Riley 1975:31, 32, Figs. 16, 17); in the Byzantine house, Stratum 4, they were dated from the end of the fifth to the seventh centuries and designated as Type 3 by Adan-Bayewitz, who believes these jars were used to hold oil (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:99–101, Fig. 2:1); and in the assemblage beneath the octagonal building they were dated to the fifth–mid-sixth centuries (Magness 1992:131, Fig. 58:23, 24). Examples from the 'pottery pit' at Ḥorbat 'Aqav are dated to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000:129–131). Similar jars were also found at Jalame (Johnson 1988:214, Fig. 810–823).

#### *Imported Amphoras* (Fig. 6)

*Type 1* (Fig. 6:1–5). A large number of amphoras of this type were found at Shiqmona, comprising 65.2% of all the amphoras discovered there (Table 4). This type has two variants: Variant 1 (Fig. 6:1–4) has a thickened, everted rim and an elongated neck, frequently with internal ribbing. Two handles extended from the rim to the body. Variant 2 (Fig. 6:5) has a folded rim.

Amphoras of both variants have a rounded base, open ribbing in the center of the body, which becomes denser toward the base and the shoulder, and occasionally inscriptions painted in red on the shoulder or neck. The ware is orange or brown with quartz and gray inclusions and there is usually a pink or cream slip. In the excavations at Berenice in Benghazi (Sidi-Khrebish), Type 1 amphoras were classified by Riley as

Late Roman Amphora 1 (Riley 1979:212–216, Fig. 91:338) and by Keay as Type LIIIA, B (Keay 1984:268–270, Figs. 116, 117). We should note that this type also includes small amphoras designated by Riley as Late Roman Amphora 1a.

Type 1 amphoras (both large and small) are found throughout the Mediterranean basin. Their source is uncertain, but recent studies by Riley and Peacock (and archaeometric analyses) suggest that they originated in the northeastern region of the Mediterranean (Antioch? Cyprus?) and were used in the olive-oil industry (Riley 1979:212–216; Peacock 1984:119–121, Fig. 34:1, 2). They were most common during the sixth and seventh centuries, after which, according to Riley, their manufacture ceased (Riley 1979:214). In Carthage, two complete examples dating to 500 and 600 CE were found. Peacock, however, notes that such amphoras were also found in levels dating to the fifth century (Peacock 1984:119). At Berenice in Benghazi (Sidi-Khrebish), amphoras of this type were most common in the early sixth century but continued to appear in the region until the Arab conquest (Riley 1979:213). Type 1 amphoras were also found in the Byzantine house at Caesarea, in a stratum dating from the end of the fifth to the seventh centuries (designated as Stratum 4 by Adan-Bayewitz [1986:102, Fig. 2:4, 5] and as Stratum 5 by Bar-Nathan and Adato [1986:132, Fig. 1:4]), and in the 'pottery pit' at Ḥorbat 'Aqav, dating to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000:132–133).

*Type 2* (Fig. 6:6). This amphora is similar in form to Type 1, but has thinner walls, a

**Table 4. The Relative Frequencies of Imported Amphoras**

Vessel	No. of Rims	%
Type 1	73	65.2
Type 2	12	10.7
Type 3	17	15.2
Type 4	2	1.8
Misc. amphoras	8	7.1
<i>Total</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>100.0</i>

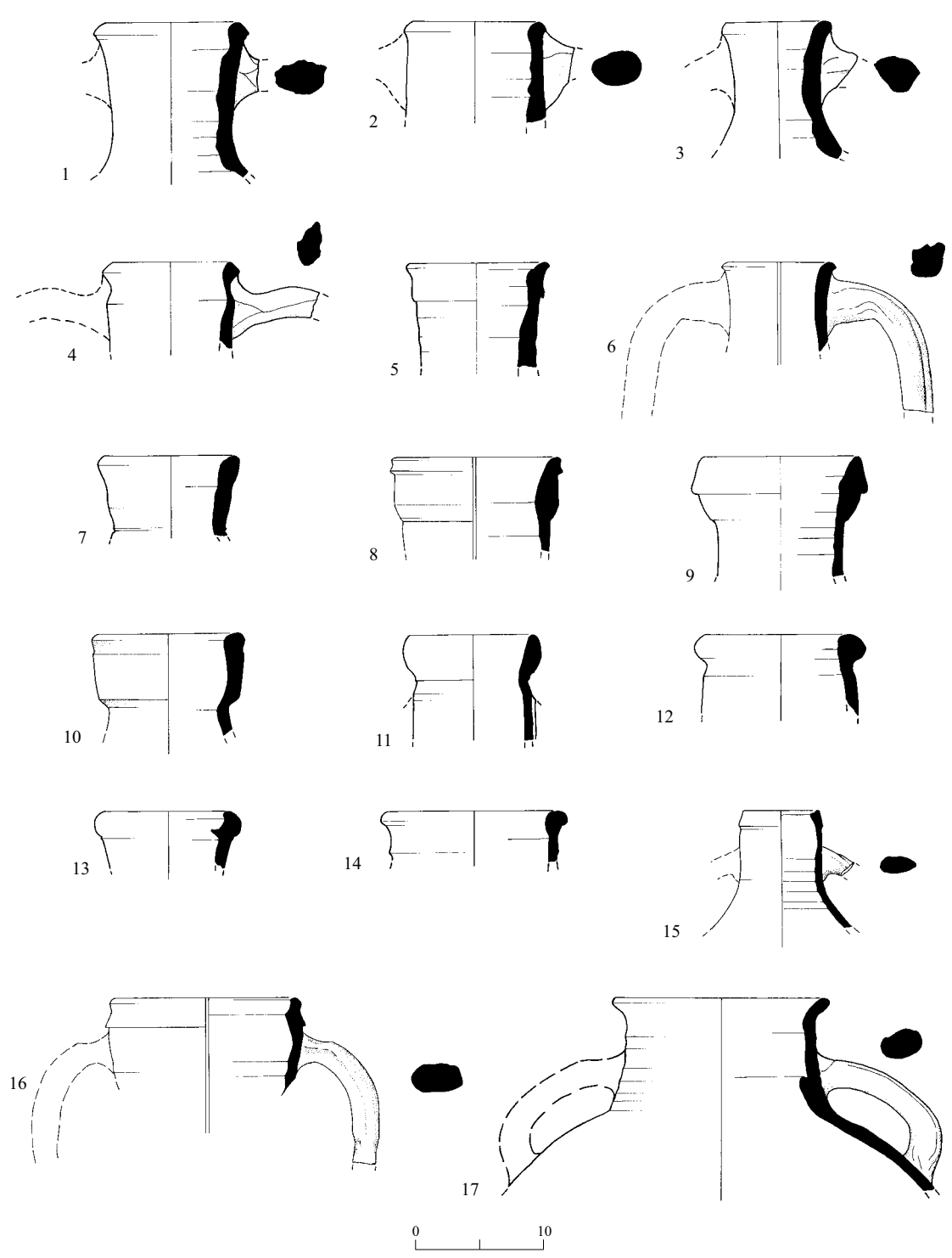


Fig. 6. Imported amphoras.

◀ Fig. 6

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Rim/neck/handle	5-3		Light brown-grayish ware with fine black inclusions, attached handle
2	Rim/neck/handle	412	4048/2	Brown ware with black inclusions, attached handle
3	Rim/neck/handle	107	1033/3	Orange ware, gray core and black inclusions, attached handle
4	Rim/neck/handle	315	3044/1	Orange ware, attached handle, prominent finger impressions inside the vessel where the handle was attached
5	Rim/body sherd	312	3018	Orange ware, fine black inclusions
6	Rim		12061	Brown and light buff ware with numerous black and white inclusions
7	Rim/neck	327	3113	Orange ware with fine inclusions, buff slip on the exterior
8	Rim	1214	12016	Orange ware with fine inclusions
9	Rim/neck	5-10		Well-levigated orange ware with fine inclusions
10	Rim	1200	12023/3	Well-levigated buff ware with fine inclusions
11	Rim/neck	421	4020	Brown ware with gray-dark brown core, white inclusions, buff slip
12	Rim/body sherd	432	4061	Well-levigated orange ware with fine inclusions
13	Rim	418	4084	Well-levigated orange ware with fine inclusions
14	Rim	324	3284	Black-dark brown ware with fine inclusions
15	Rim/neck	1206	12046/2	Light orange ware with numerous black inclusions
16	Rim/handle	1211	12062	Orange ware with fine inclusions
17	Rim	327	3116	

thinner neck and longer, thinner handles. In the 'pottery pit' at Ḥorbat 'Aqav, dating to the sixth–seventh centuries, a comparatively large number of these amphoras were found. According to Calderon, they are very similar to Type 1 and may have been manufactured in the same workshop (Calderon 2000:133–135).

This amphora type was found in the Byzantine house at Caesarea (Stratum 5), dated from the end of the fifth to the seventh centuries (Barnathan and Adato 1986:132, Fig. 2:1, 3).

*Type 3* (Fig. 6:7). This amphora (Keay's Type LXV) has a conical neck, a simple thickened rim and a round body with incisions on the shoulder. According to Keay, this type of vessel originated in Asia Minor or Syria (Keay 1984:354). In the excavations at Berenice in Benghazi (Sidi-Khrebish), it was classified by Riley as Late Roman Amphora 2. He notes that it originated in the northern Aegean and appeared at Berenice in the fifth century, although it was most common from the late sixth to early seventh centuries (Riley 1979:217–219,

Fig. 92:349). In Carthage, this amphora was common in strata dating to the first half of the sixth century (Peacock 1984:119).

*Type 4* (Fig. 6:8, 9). These amphoras are characterized by a thickened, everted rim (round in section at its base and triangular at the rim). A similar but not identical example was found at Carthage in strata dating to 425–500 CE. According to Peacock, these amphoras originated in North Africa (Peacock 1984:133, Fig. 39:64).

Keay has designated this amphora as Type LXII, Variant R. Amphoras of this type, in his opinion, were manufactured in Tunisia and date from the third quarter of the fifth century to the sixth century CE (Keay 1984:348–350, Fig. 156:1).

*Miscellaneous Amphoras* (Fig. 6:10–17). Not all the amphoras presented here have been identified and only additional excavations and publications will enable us to establish the source of their manufacture.

Fig. 6:10. A thickened rim rests directly on the narrow shoulder.

Fig. 6:11. A thickened everted rim and a cylindrical neck with handles.

Fig. 6:12. A thickened button-like rim and wide neck.

Fig. 6:13. An internally concave rim, convex on the exterior.

Fig. 6:14. A thickened everted rim.

Fig. 6:15. A small amphora with a thickened rim, rectangular in section, and an elongated neck from which two handles extend.

Fig. 6:16. A folded rim, concave inside and out, and a convex neck from which two large handles extend.

Fig. 6:17. A simple everted rim, short cylindrical neck and rounded shoulders. The joint between the body and the neck is clearly visible. Two handles extend from the base of the neck to the shoulder.

Stoppers

Fig. 7:1. Amphora stopper. A stopper with a similar profile was found in Stratum 5 of the Byzantine house at Caesarea and is dated from the end of the fifth to the seventh centuries CE (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:107, Fig. 3:15).

Fig. 7:2, 3. Various stoppers.

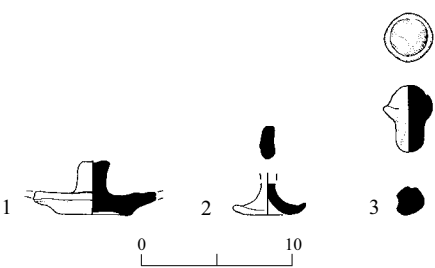


Fig. 7. Stoppers.

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Amphora stopper	318	3083	Gray-brown ware with many inclusions, fired soft
2	Jug stopper	1209	12042	Brown ware, buff slip
3	Jug stopper	402	4016	Light brown ware, white inclusions

OTHER FINDS

Stone Vessels (Fig. 8)

Fig. 8:1. A cream-white marble bowl. Rough chisel marks are visible on the exterior; the interior of the bowl and handles are smoothly worked. A cross is incised on one handle and on the other a hole that apparently was used for pouring. The incised cross may indicate that this bowl was used by Christians.

Fig. 8:2. A shallow bowl made of cream-white marble with a ledge rim. Marks of a toothed chisel are visible on the exterior of the base.

Fig. 8:3. A basalt basin.

Fig. 8 ▶

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Description
1	Marble bowl	327	3101	Cream-white, large-grained marble, cross on one handle, hole and incisions on the other
2	Shallow marble bowl	411	4037/1	Cream-white, large-grained marble
3	Basalt basin	405	4031	Basalt

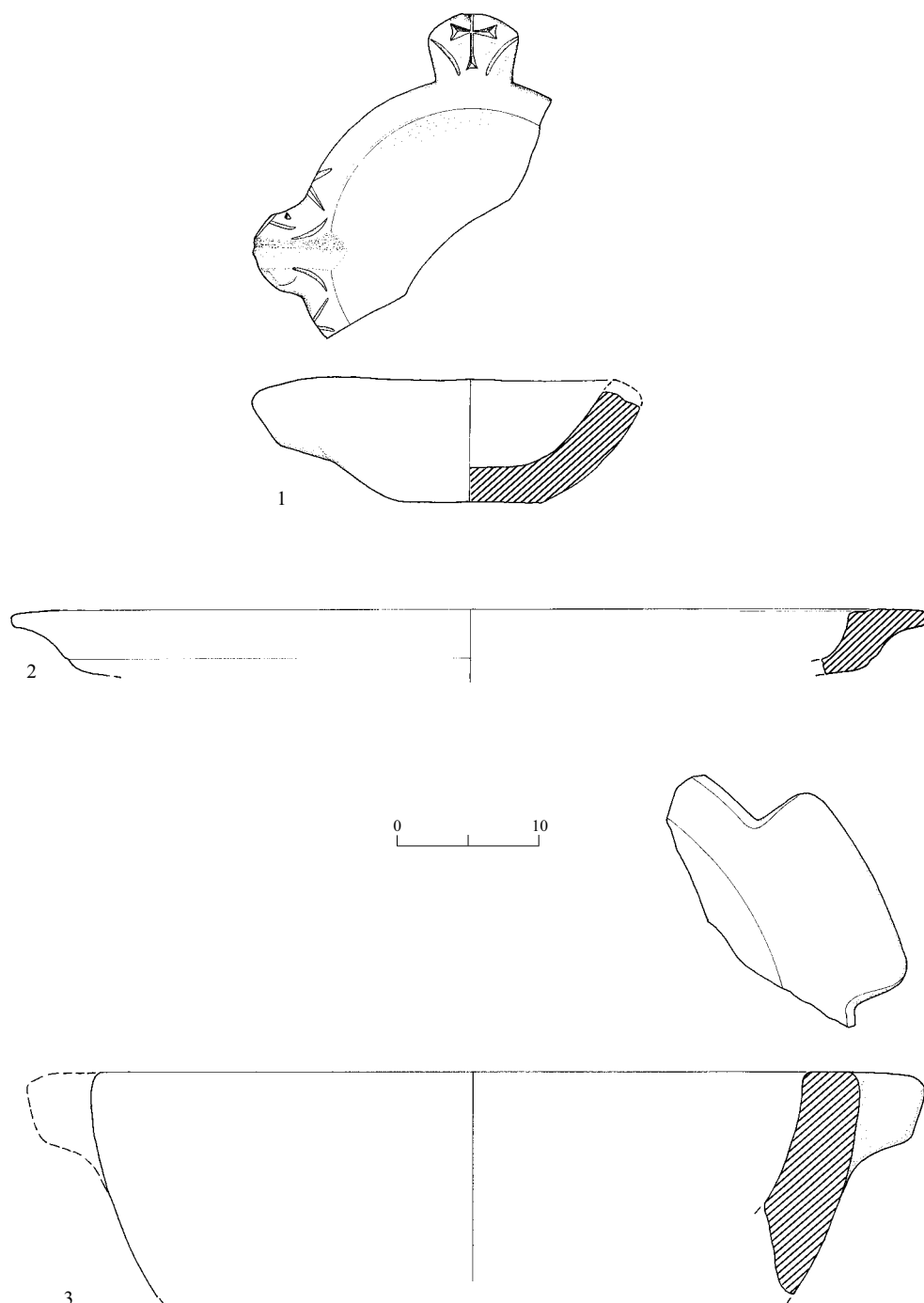


Fig. 8. Stone vessels.

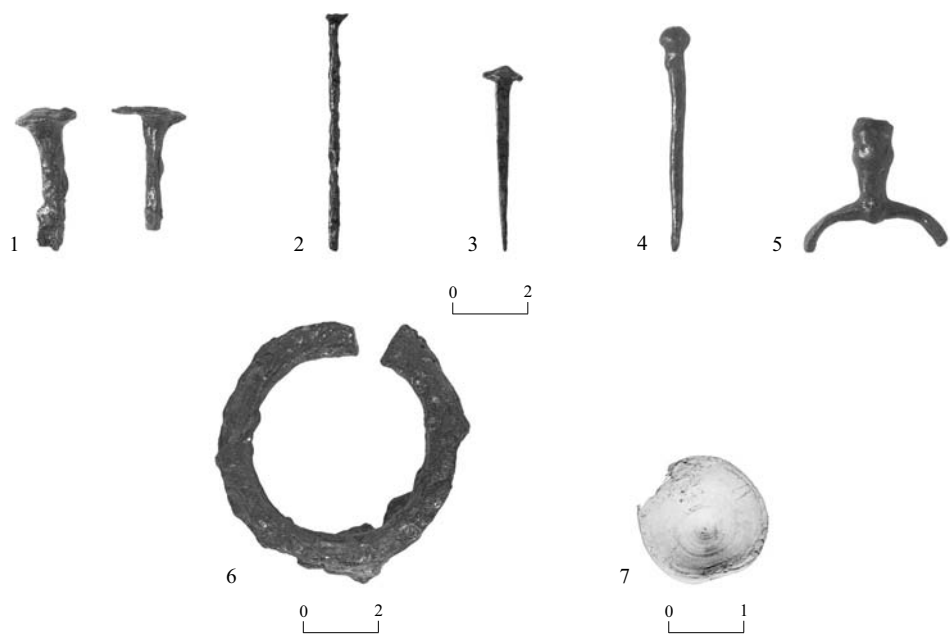


Fig. 9. Metal finds and a bone button.

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Material
1	Nails	318	3058	Iron
2	Nail	1006	10117	Iron
3	Nail	319	2104	Bronze
4	Nail	1012	10094	Iron
5	Handle	306	3033	Bronze
6	Ring	404	2104	Iron
7	Button	1214	12076	Bone

Miscellaneous (Fig. 9)

Small metal objects (Fig. 9:1–6) and a bone button (Fig. 9:7) were also found at the site.

CONCLUSIONS

The pottery from the salvage excavation at Shiqmona dates mainly to the sixth and seventh centuries CE. The fact that the Late Roman Ware bowls and basins date no later than the mid-seventh century (with the exception of CRS Form 9), together with the lack of typical Umayyad ceramics, attest that the site was apparently abandoned in the mid-seventh century.

The imported ceramics comprise 80.5% of the entire assemblage. They include a large number

of Late Roman Ware bowls (Figs. 1, 2:1–14) imported from Africa (ARS), Cyprus (CRS), and Antioch (LRC), as well as North Syrian mortaria (Fig. 2:16) imported from the Syrian coast. A large variety of imported amphoras (Fig. 6:1–9) originated in the northeastern Mediterranean (Antioch, Cyprus) and North Africa. Cooking wares, such as frying pans (Fig. 4:5) and cooking pots (Fig. 4:10), were also imported from Cyprus.

According to Magness, the import of cooking vessels (unlike tablewares such as Late Roman Ware bowls and mortaria) is evidence of the sizeable volume of trade (Magness 1992:133) and the economic and material prosperity of Byzantine Shiqmona. Two facts illustrate the considerable trade that passed through this



port: the numerous imports in comparison to local wares, and the wide variety of amphoras from different regions. Although the wide range of Byzantine vessels, both complete examples and sherds, uncovered in previous excavations

carried out at Shiqmona since 1963 has not yet been published, we can expect that its future publication will shed new light on the present discussion.

## NOTE

<sup>1</sup> I would like to thank Yizhar Hirschfeld for the opportunity to publish this material.

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