

## POTTERY FROM THE LATE BYZANTINE REMAINS NEAR SHIQMONA

RIVKA CALDERON

### INTRODUCTION

The pottery finds from the Byzantine monastery near Shiqmona (see Kletter, this volume) are presented according to area and architectural element with a representative selection of the pottery from each area. With the exception of three loci in the monastery area (L217, L218, and possibly L219), there were no sealed loci in the Shiqmona excavation. Thus, the dating of the pottery assemblage is typological rather than stratigraphical and based on parallels from other well-dated, preferably nearby, sites. Types that occur in more than one area or building appear in more than one pottery plate, but are discussed only once. All dates are CE.

### POTTERY FROM THE MONASTERY

#### *Dolium* (Fig. 1:1)

This is the thick rim of a *dolium*, a large storage vessel that was usually stuck halfway into the ground with the upper half exposed and used to store wine and, occasionally, olive oil or wheat. As *dolia* were sometimes used in wine production, sunk into the earth near treading floors to collect must, this *dolium* may have been related to the nearby winepress. Despite its large size, the vessel could have been imported to Shiqmona by sea. This type of vessel was found in a pit at H. 'Aqav in Ramat Ha-Nadiv, dated to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000: Pl. XXI:31, 32), and in a similar context at an excavation in Shiqmona in 1994 (Amir 2006: Fig. 3:3).

#### *Amphorae* (Fig. 1:2–4)

One rim (Fig. 1:2) is simple and rounded. A comparison was found at Shiqmona in 1994

(Amir 2006: Fig. 6:7), where the vessel is said to be an import from Asia Minor, Syria, or the northern Aegean and dated to the late sixth–early seventh centuries. The second rim (Fig. 1:3) is thickened, slightly flattened on top, and lacks exact parallels. The third (Fig. 1:4) is rounded and folded outside, of a type common throughout the Mediterranean basin (Peacock and Williams 1986:185, Fig. 104:A). It originated in Cyprus or Antioch and was used from the beginning of the fifth to the middle of the seventh centuries. A similar vessel from a pit in Ramat Ha-Nadiv was dated to the sixth–early seventh centuries (Calderon 2000: Fig. XIX:20–22).

#### *Jars*

*Gaza Jars* (Fig. 1:5, 6).— Gaza jars are represented by two rims of a type common in the country, especially the southwestern Negev, Sinai, and the northern coast. The jars were first manufactured in the fifth century and reached a production peak in the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000: Pls. XIV; XV). Kilns with large amounts of Gaza-jar wasters were found in Gaza and Ashqelon (Israel 1993), clearly produced there to distribute the wine of the Gaza region to the ancient world. Figure 1:5 is a rounded rim with a very low neck. The top of the rim of Fig. 1:6 is slanted and the neck is medium-sized.

*Gray Jars* (Fig. 1:7, 8).— Gray jars are typical of northern Israel (Galilee, Jordan Valley, Transjordan, and the coast). The ware is generally dark brown or gray inside and out, well fired with a thin section. The jar is usually decorated with white painted lines in

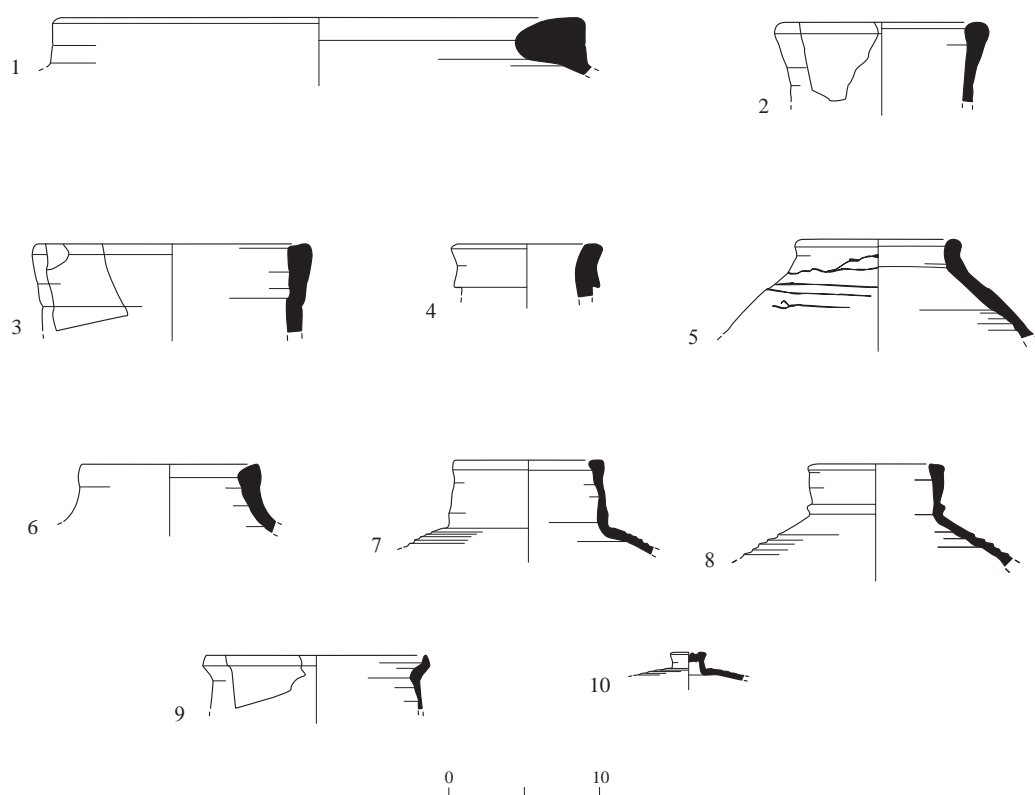


Fig. 1. Pottery from the monastery and surrounding loci.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
1	211	2181	<i>Dolium</i> , brown crude ware, many gray grits
2	218	2152/2	Amphora, light brown ware, large and small white and black grits
3	218	2169	Amphora, crude, dark brown-gray ware, many white grits, thin brown slip
4	217	2135	Amphora, light brown-yellow ware, thin yellowish slip
5	226	2219	Gaza jar, dark brown ware, gray core, small white grits
6	217	2135/3	Gaza jar, crude, dark brown ware, large gray grits
7	226	2219	Gray jar, dark brown ware, gray core, tiny white grits
8	225	2198/9	Gray jar, gray ware, many tiny white grits
9	217	2139	Cooking pot, gray, metallic ware
10	219	2150/3	Lid of a cooking pot, crude, dark brown ware, white grits, soot outside

various patterns. Because of the superb firing that prevents leakage, these jars may have contained oil, although they may have been used to transport wine (Calderon 2000: Pl. XVIII). The jars are dated to the sixth–eighth centuries. The flattened rim of Fig. 1:7 creates a small inner ledge, has a high neck and ribbed shoulder, and is very well fired. The rim of Fig. 1:8 slants outside, has a short neck with a

ridge at the bottom, and is well fired. A similar rim at Caesarea was dated to the sixth–eighth centuries (Mageness 1992a: Fig. 58:23).

#### *Cooking Ware* (Fig. 1:9, 10)

Figure 1:9 is the rim of a wide, open cooking pot that usually has two vertical handles from rim to shoulder. At Caesarea, this pot was dated to the sixth–seventh centuries (Adan-Bayewitz

1986: Fig. 4:1). Figure 1:10 is a handle of a cooking-pot lid of a fairly common type. At Ma'on, a similar lid was dated from the sixth century to the first half of the seventh (Magness 1987: Fig. 2:10).

#### *Late Roman (LR) Red Slip Ware*

Typical of coastal sites, a considerable amount of imported bowls of Late Roman Red Slip Ware was found at Shiqmona. According to Hayes (1972; 1980), who first defined the typology and origins of this ware, the rims represent three major production areas, North Africa, the western coast of Turkey and Cyprus. For comparison, I mainly cite the studies by Hayes (1972; 1980) and Tsuf (2003); the latter refers to the finds from Israel.

#### *African Red Slip (ARS) Ware* (Fig. 2:11–13).—

Figure 2:11 is a shallow plate with a heavy rim that curves outside and is pointed on the lower edge. It is typical of the late ARS ware, dated from 580/600 to 660 (Hayes 1972: Fig. 32, Form 105). Tsuf dates this plate in Israel between the fourth century and the Umayyad period (Tsuf 2003: Fig. 2:257–262). Figure 2:12 is a deep bowl with a rounded, knot-type rim. This type is common in the eastern Mediterranean and was dated 550–625 (Hayes 1972: Fig. 30:23, Form 104c). In Israel, Tsuf (2003: Fig. 12:245) dates this bowl between the sixth century and the Umayyad period. Figure 2:13 is a shallow plate with a short ledge rim that often slants downward. This is a quite early type, dated by Hayes from 290–300 to 375 (Hayes 1972: Fig. 14:1–15, Form 58a). Tsuf (2003: Fig. 3:52) notes that this type is especially common in northern Israel from the end of the third century to about 400.

#### *Phocaean Red Slip (PRS) Ware* (Fig. 2:14–20).—

In Fig. 2:14–16 are elongated rims of bowls, flattened on top and with slanted sides. Such bowls were dated by Hayes (1972: Fig. 71, Form 10c) to the early/mid-seventh century. Tsuf (2003: Fig. 26:554, 562) dates such bowls in Israel between the sixth century and the Umayyad period, and

notes that the type is common throughout the country. The most common type of PRS bowl is represented by the rims in Fig. 2:17–20 that have a triangular section with an inner concave side. Sometimes there is a roulette decoration on the top. Hayes (1972: Fig. 69, Form 3f) dates this type to the first half of the sixth century, while Tsuf (2003: Fig. 20:417–437) dates it from 350–400 to the sixth century.

#### *Cypriot Red Slip (CRS) Ware* (Fig. 2:21, 22).—

Figure 2:21 is the rim of a heavy, thick krater, red-slipped inside, with a ridge at the bottom of the rim, and a ribbed side. Usually, this krater has two horizontal, massive handles. Hayes (1972: Fig. 84:1, 2, Form 11) dates this krater to 550–650. Tsuf (2003: Fig. 40:855, 859) dates it to the fifth–seventh centuries, and notes that it is especially common in the coastal area. Figure 2:22 is a large bowl that is incised, sharply inverted, and has a roulette impression on the side. It is dated by Hayes (1972: Fig. 82:1, Form 10) to the mid-seventh century, the latest form of CRS. Tsuf (2003: Fig. 3:840–842) notes that this type is rare in Israel and dates it from the fifth century to the Umayyad period.

*Late Roman Bowl Base* (Fig. 2:23).— This is the ring base of a bowl of the Late Roman Red Slip ware; its origin is undetermined.

#### *Lamp* (Fig. 2:24)

Only a small flat base and part of the nozzle survived, not enough to determine the exact type.

#### *Roof Tiles* (Fig. 2:25, 26)

These are two square rims of lower roof tiles. Such tiles commonly have three sides with square rims and one side with a simple flat rim. Based on petrographic analysis of material from Tel Kisan, Landgraf (1980: Fig. 28:2–4, Type B) argued that these tiles were imported to Israel. Similar tiles, found in the pit at Ramat Ha-Nadiv, date to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000: Pl. XII:103).

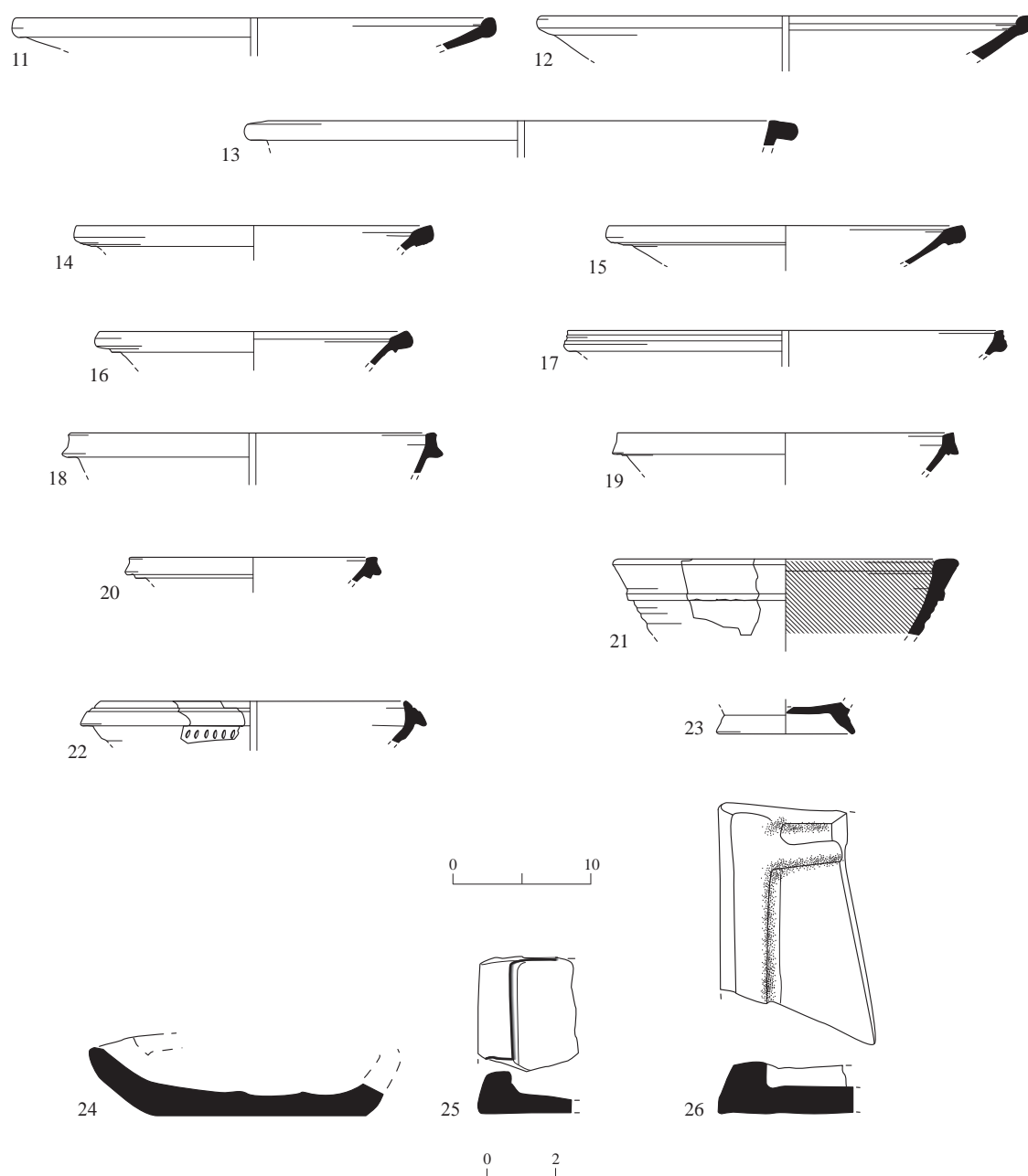


Fig. 2. Pottery from the monastery and surrounding loci (cont.).

### Discussion

No more than three loci (L217, L218, and possibly L219) were sealed beneath the chapel floor and can, therefore, be considered secure loci. Most of the pottery from L217 dates from the fifth or sixth century and continues to the seventh century. Figure 2:13 is the exception in

that it began in the third century. Perhaps it was also used in the sixth century, or was a stray find not indicative of the date of the locus. If we ignore this bowl, pottery from L217 supports a dating in the sixth century (cooking pot Fig. 1:9, bowls Fig. 2:18–20) with a possible admixture of the seventh century (bowl Fig. 2:22) for the

◀ Fig. 2

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
11	219	2150	Bowl ARS, levigated brown ware, orange-pink slip
12	219	2150/1	Bowl ARS, levigated brown ware, pink slip, few large white grits
13	217	2129	Bowl ARS, levigated pink ware, orange-pink slip
14	211	2143+2145	Bowl PRS, levigated brown ware, brown-orange slip
15	211 224	2143 2199	Bowl PRS, levigated brown-orange ware, brown-orange slip
16	211	2145	Bowl PRS, levigated brown ware, brown-orange slip
17	219	2133/2	Bowl PRS, levigated orange ware, red slip
18	217	2139	Bowl PRS, levigated brown-orange ware, red-brown slip
19	217	2129	Bowl PRS, levigated brown-orange ware, brown-orange slip
20	217	2135/2	Bowl PRS, levigated brown-orange ware, brown-red slip
21	226	2203	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, red slip inside
22	217	2135/1	Bowl CRS, levigated brown-gray ware, gray slip
23	219	2150/2	Bowl LR, levigated brown-orange ware, orange-pink slip
24	219	2150	Lamp, light brown ware, white grits
25	217	2144	Tile, very crude brown ware, many white grits
26	211	2168	Tile, very crude brown ware, tiny white grits

period in which the floor above L217 was laid, while the period of production of some of these wares can be earlier (following Tsuf).

The only item that can be used for dating L218 is an amphora (Fig. 1:2), dated to the sixth–seventh centuries. Pottery from L219 indicates the same dating for the building of the floor above L219—the sixth and possibly seventh century (Figs. 1:10; 2:11, 12, and especially Fig. 2:17, dated by Hayes to the first half of the sixth century, but by Tsuf to the fourth–sixth centuries). This would mean that the floor of the monastery was built in the sixth or early seventh century.

#### POTTERY FROM BUILDINGS A AND B

##### *Dolium* (Fig. 3:27)

This is the thick rim of a *dolium* with a combed shoulder, similar to Fig. 1:1.

##### *Amphorae* (Fig. 3:28, 29)

These are rounded, folded outside rims with long necks and two handles beneath the rim, similar to Fig. 1:4.

##### *Jars and Stoppers* (Fig. 3:30–34)

Figure 3:30, 31 are typical Gaza-jar rims, similar to Fig. 1:5 and 6. Figure 3:32, 33 are rims of bag-shaped jars, common in southern Israel, but also appearing in the north. Both Fig. 3:32 with a short extended rim and Fig. 3:33 with a rounded slightly pointed rim have a medium neck and ribbed shoulder. A similar jar was found in Area K of the City of David in Jerusalem, where it was dated to the seventh century (Magness 1992b: Fig. 7:4). Figure 3:34 is a complete jar-stopper, shaped as a small bowl with a protruding middle ledge that helps place the stopper in the jar opening. This stopper is similar to one from Caesarea dated to the seventh century (Adan-Bayewitz 1986: Fig. 3:14, 15).

##### *Cooking Pots* (Fig. 3:35–37)

One closed cooking pot (Fig. 3:35) with a wide opening and no neck has an inward slanted rim with a depression for a lid and a simple unribbed shoulder, similar to a vessel from the pit from Ramat Ha-Nadiv dated to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2002: Pl. XXII:38). A

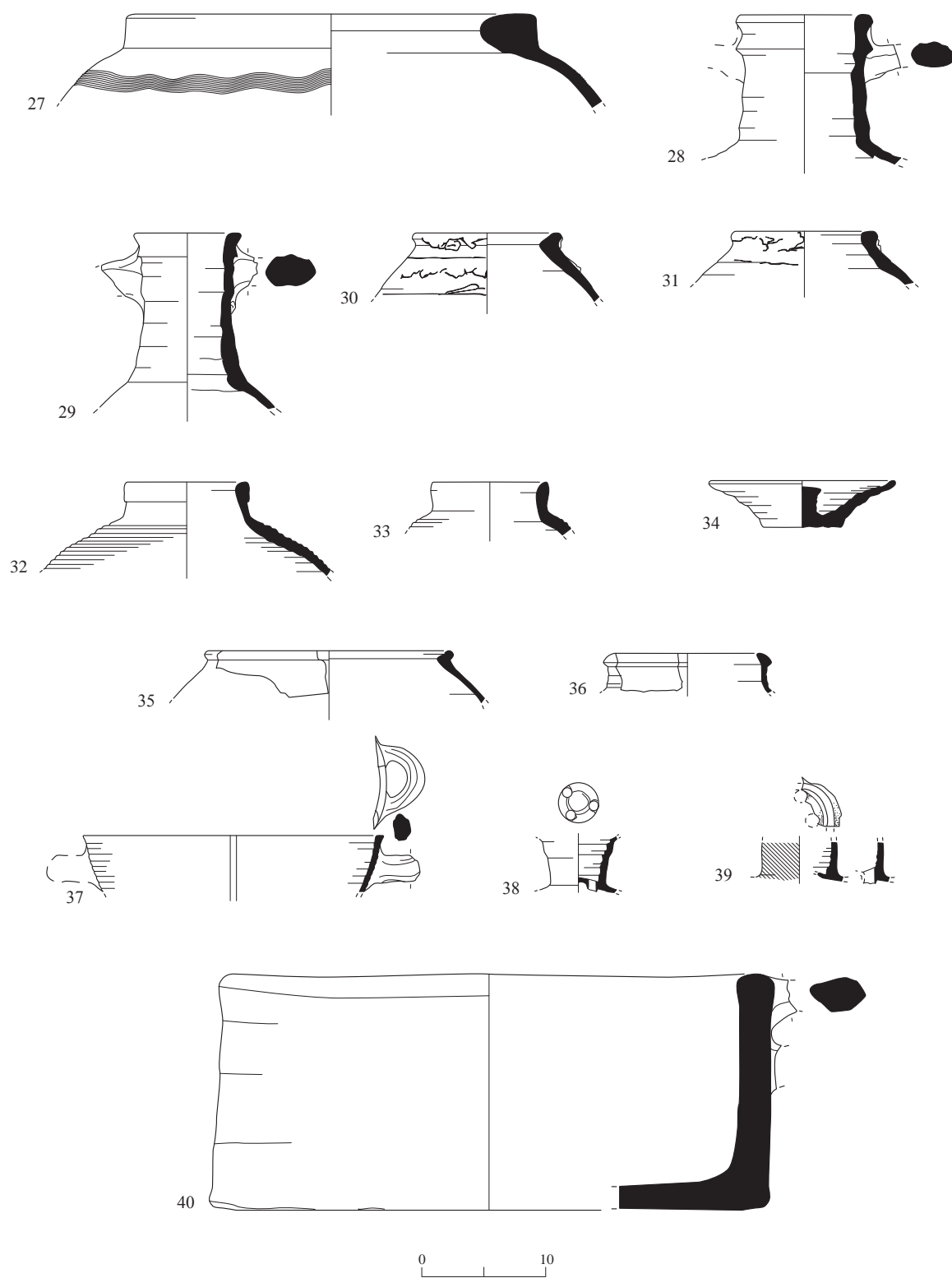


Fig. 3. Pottery from Buildings A and B.

◀ Fig. 3

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
27	216	2149	<i>Dolium</i> , crude brown ware, many white grits
28	215	2111	Amphora, crude brown ware, many gray and few large white grits, light brown slip
29	401	4001/8	Amphora, dark brown ware, many small and few large white and black grits, light brown slip
30	401	4004/43	Gaza jar, crude light brown ware, few large white grits
31	220	2183	Gaza jar, crude dark brown ware, white grits
32	401	4007/6	Jar, dark ware, large white grits, thin brown slip
33	216	2110	Jar, yellowish ware, few gray and white grits
34	401	4004	Stopper, light brown ware, few white grits, yellowish slip
35	401	4004/5	Closed cooking pot, crude red–brown ware, red and white grits, mica
36	401	4004/49	Closed cooking pot, dark brown ware, many small white grits
37	401	4001/23	Open cooking pot, crude brown ware, many black and white grits
38	W22	2221	Strainer jug, brown ware, many tiny white grits, brown–gray slip
39	401	4004/60	Strainer jug, light brown ware, white grits, gray slip
40	222	2162	Basin, crude brown ware

second closed pot (Fig. 3:36) has a rim with a triangular section, is concave inside, and has a medium neck. A third rim (Fig. 3:37) belongs to an open cooking pot with a ribbed side and cut flat rim that fits a lid, and with horizontal handles. This pot is very common in Israel from the first century until the Umayyad period. Comparisons from the sixth–seventh centuries are known from Shiqmona 1994 (Amir 2006: Fig. 4:6) and Caesarea (Adan-Bayewitz 1986: Fig. 3:21).

#### *Strainer Jugs* (Fig. 3:38, 39)

Two neck fragments of strainer jars, made of well-fired metallic ware, had a spout and a neck-strainer. Such tableware appears in coastal sites. A whole jar of this type, found in the pit at Ramat Ha-Nadiv, was dated to the sixth–seventh centuries. It was probably used to store cool water on a window (hence the metallic ware), while the strainer prevented insects from falling inside (Calderon 2000: Pl. XXIV:63–65).

#### *Basin* (Fig. 3:40)

This large, handmade basin, with a complete profile, has a vertical side, flat base, and a vertical handle. It is difficult to date such

vessels as they were probably manufactured at the site and were not mass produced. This basin was probably placed in a courtyard for domestic animals.

#### *Late Roman Red Slip Ware*

A large quantity of Late Roman Red Slip ware bowls and kraters was found, originating from three production centers: North Africa, the western coast of Turkey and Cyprus.

#### *African Red Slip (ARS) Ware* (Fig. 4:41–47).—

Figure 4:41 is a complete, wide large bowl with a heavy rim that curves outside, pointed at its lower end, a thick extended side, and a footed base. Hayes (1972: Fig. 30, Form 104a) dates this type to 530–580. Tsuf notes that it is one of the most common types in the eastern Mediterranean, and dates it from the second half of the fourth century to the beginning of the Umayyad period (2003: Fig. 11:228–234). The bowl in Fig. 4:42 is thick, rounded on the outside, and pointed at its lower end. This is Hayes Form 104c, discussed in Fig. 2:12 (above). The complete, small hemispherical bowl with an inner depression in the joint of the concave ring base and side (Fig. 4:43), and two

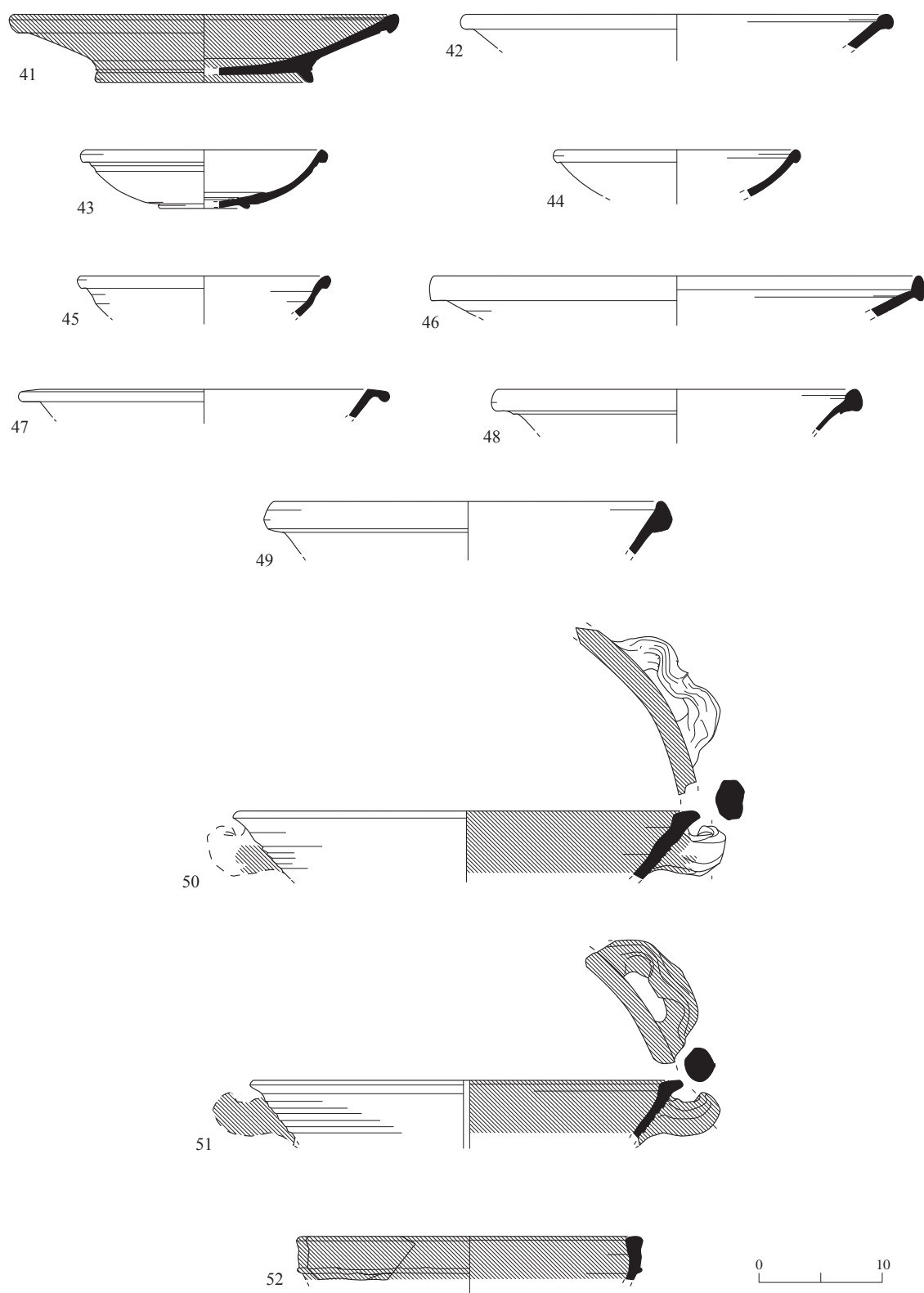


Fig. 4. Pottery from Buildings A and B (cont.).



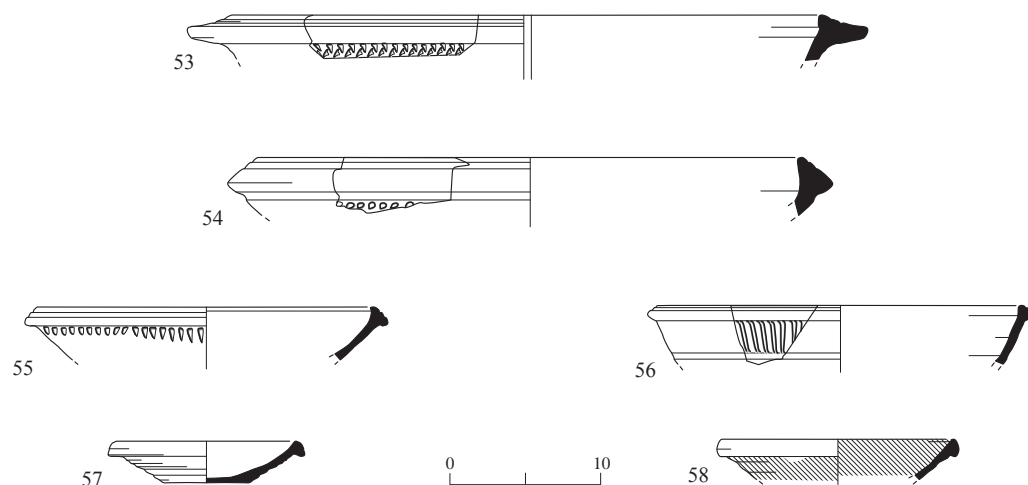


Fig. 4. Pottery from Buildings A and B (cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
41	220	2183/1	Bowl ARS, levigated brown-red ware, orange-red slip
42	401	4004/12	Bowl ARS, levigated brown-red ware, few white grits, orange-red slip
43	223	2217	Bowl ARS, brown ware, orange-red slip
44	216	2149/8	Bowl ARS, orange ware, orange-red slip
45	216	2144	Bowl ARS, levigated, very light brown ware, orange-red slip
46	221	2176	Bowl ARS, levigated brown-red ware, few white grits, red slip
47	401	4004/14	Bowl ARS, levigated pink ware, pink-red slip
48	401	4004/21	Bowl PRS, levigated orange ware, orange-red slip
49	216	2149	Bowl PRS, levigated dark brown ware, white grits
50	401	4004/37	Krater CRS, levigated light brown ware, thin red slip
51	216	2155	Krater CRS, levigated brown ware, thin red slip
52	401	4007/8	Krater CRS, levigated light brown ware, thin red slip
53	216	2149	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, few white grits, thin red slip
54	401	4004/42	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, thin red slip
55	W22	2221	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, thin red slip
56	401	4004/51	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, thin red slip
57	216	2118	Bowl CRS, levigated red-brown ware, thin red slip
58	401	4004/64	Bowl CRS?, levigated brown ware, thin irregular brown-red slip

similar rims (Figs. 4:44, 45), belong to a type dated by Hayes (1972: Fig. 28:18, Form 99b) to 530–580. Tsuf notes that the type is very common in Israel and dates to the first half of the sixth century and later (Tsuf 2003: Fig. 10:204, 205). A heavy, narrow vertical rim (Fig. 4:46), rounded on top and pointed at bottom, is from a shallow plate with a heavy footer base, similar to Hayes Form 105 (discussed in Fig. 2:11). The wide flat ledge rim with a rounded edge

and a curving side (Fig. 4:47) is dated by Hayes (1972: Fig. 33:1, 2, Form 107) to 600–650, and by Tsuf (2003: Fig. 13:274), to between the sixth century and the Umayyad period, noting that it is found mainly in northern Israel.

*Phocaeen Red Slip (PRS) Ware* (Fig. 4:48, 49).— These bowls have a thickened rim and are concave on the outside with a ledge below and curving side. Such bowls are extremely

common and usually lack decoration. Hayes (1972: Fig. 69, Form 3g) dates it to the second quarter of the sixth century, while Tsuf (2003: Fig. 22:459, 460) dates it to the sixth–early seventh centuries, noting that it is possibly the most common type of all Late Roman Red Slip wares in Israel.

*Cypriot Red Slip (CRS) Ware* (Fig. 4:50–58).— The heavy, thickened rims of kraters in Fig. 4:50–52 are red-slipped inside with two horizontal, heavy handles attached beneath the rims and ribbed sides, similar to Hayes' Form 11, discussed in Fig. 2:21. The downward slanting rim of Fig. 4:53 with a wide ledge and a rouletted curving side is not found in Hayes (1972), but Tsuf (2003: Fig. 41:877) notes that it is a common type in Israel, mainly on the coast, dating from the end of the fifth–beginning of the sixth centuries to the Umayyad period, similar to the Type 3A CRS bowl from Rodziewicz' excavations at Alexandria. The especially heavy bowl in Fig. 4:54 has a rim that is triangular in section with a grooved flat top, a depression on the lower external part, and a sharp carination. It is decorated by roulettes on the external side. Hayes (1972: Fig. 81, Form 7.3) dates it from the second half of the sixth century until the early seventh century. Tsuf (2003: Fig. 35:742, 743) finds that the type is common on the coast and in northern Israel from the fourth century to the Umayyad period. The bowls in Fig. 4:55, 56 have partly grooved upper rims, roulette decoration, and slanting sides. Such bowls were dated by Hayes (1972: Fig. 80, Form 1) to the late fourth–third quarter of the fifth century, and by Tsuf (2003: Fig. 30:629–632), from the mid-fourth century to the Umayyad period. The complete small bowl in Fig. 4:57 has a rim with a triangular section that curves, a ribbed external side, and a flat base. It was dated by Hayes (1972: Fig. 81, Form 5.2) to the second half of the sixth century, and by Tsuf (2003: Fig. 32:692), to the sixth–seventh centuries; Tsuf notes that it is rare in Israel and appears mainly in the north and on the coast. The triangular, thickened rim

in Fig. 4:58 is extended and has slight ribbing on the side, with brown-red, relatively regular slip inside and very irregular slip outside. This bowl lacks comparative rims and its origin is uncertain. It is reminiscent of the Cypriote group.

*Bases with Impressed Decorations* (Fig. 5:59–61).— The ring base of the large bowl in Fig. 5:59 has an impressed decoration of two frontally depicted standing male figures in tunics with belts and flat headdresses. Each holds a scepter in his right hand and an orb in his left. Hayes (1972: Fig. 50:230, Pl. XVIII, ARS Form 104a) believes they are figures of a Caesar from the third quarter of the sixth century or later. A similar decoration from Shave Ziyon, with a figure of the good shepherd holding a pole in his right hand, is part of an assemblage generally dated from the fourth–fifth to the late sixth–early seventh centuries (Prausnitz 1967: Fig. 12:1). The base of the large bowl in Fig. 5:60 has a decoration of a rabbit. According to Hayes (1972: Fig. 75:35a–d), a very common motif of PRS fifth-century bowls was a stylized running rabbit that sometimes looked like a dog with a curved tail. The base of the large bowl in Fig. 5:61 is decorated with a double line-framed cross, a motif that is very common in the center of PRS bowls of the late fifth–early sixth centuries (Hayes 1972: Fig. 79:71b–e).

#### *Bowl* (Fig. 5:62)

This small, well fired bowl, was slipped in the same color as the ware and burnished. It belongs to the Fine Byzantine Ware family, originating from Jerusalem. Magness (1993:196, Form 1D) dates it from the end of the seventh–early eighth to the ninth–tenth centuries.

#### *Lamps* (Fig. 6:63–66)

The lamp in Fig. 6:63 is rounded, with a decorated discus, a wide mouth, and two ridges on its sides. The shoulder has a radial decoration. These lamps usually have small pyramidal handles and ring bases. The date is not clear, perhaps between the second half of the fifth to

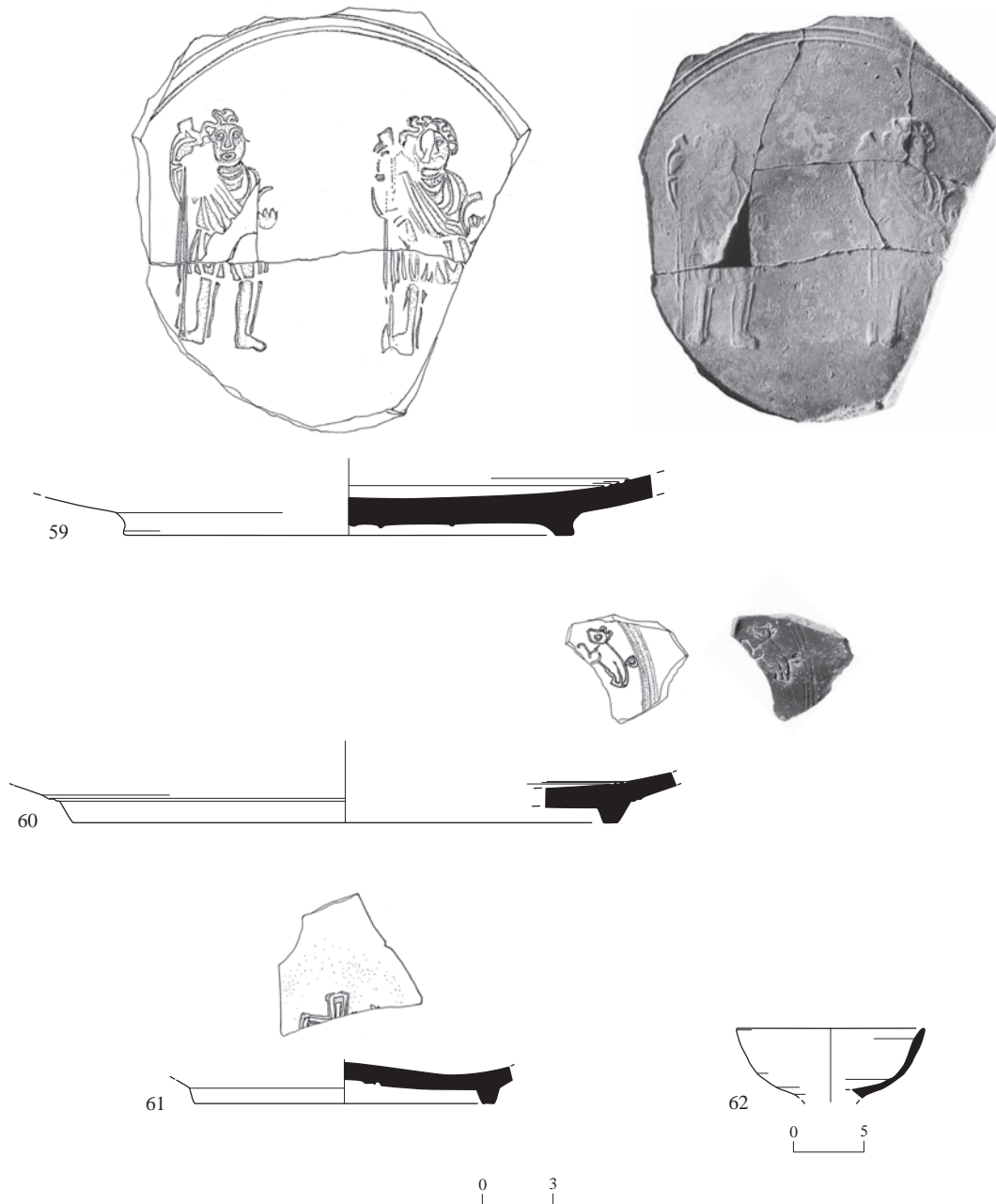


Fig. 5. Pottery from Buildings A and B (cont.).

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
59	401	4004	Bowl PRS, crude red-brown ware, few white grits, orange-red slip
60	216	2149	Bowl ARS, levigated red-brown ware, tiny white grits, dark red slip
61	216	2149	Bowl PRS, levigated light brown ware, orange-red slip
62	223	2217	Bowl Fine Byzantine ware, levigated, light brown ware, few white grits, thin slip, burnished

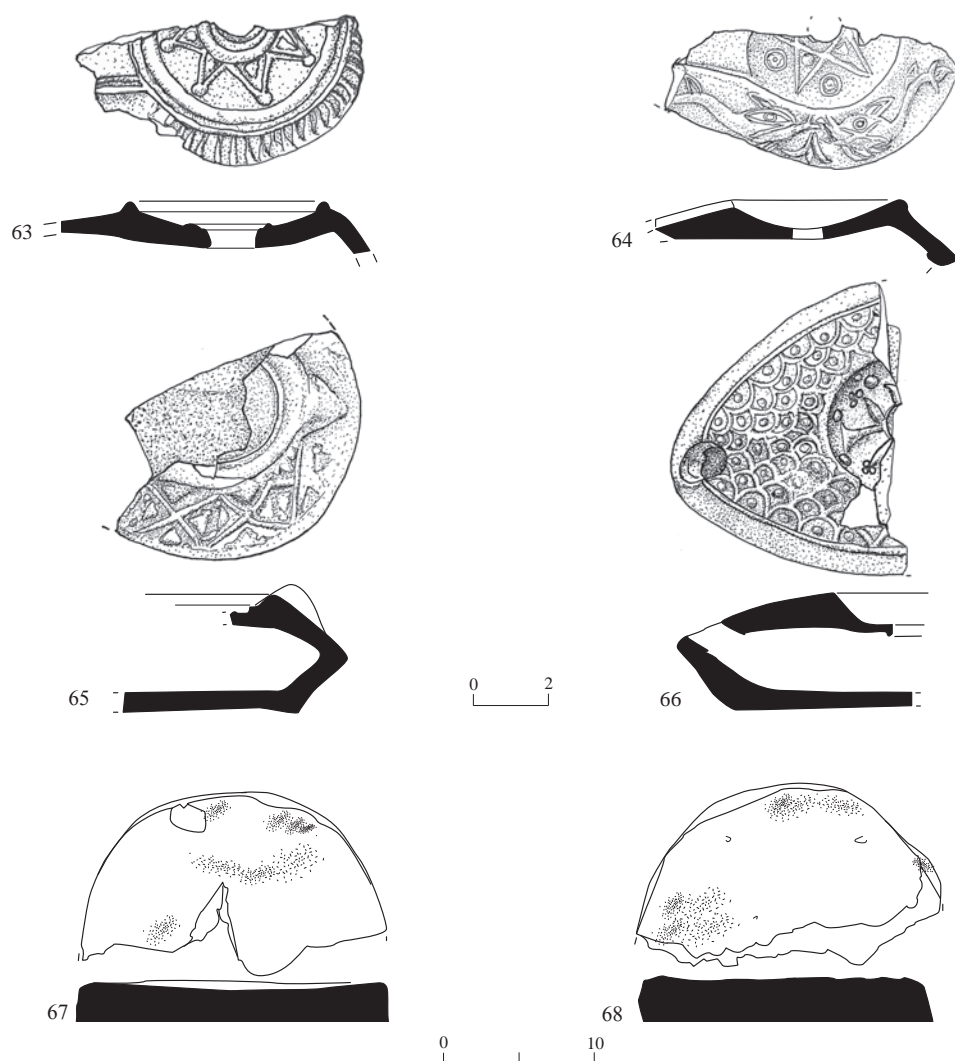


Fig. 6. Pottery from Buildings A and B (cont.).

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
63	401	4004	Lamp, crude sandy ware, few white grits
64	222	2174	Lamp, levigated light brown ware, few white grits
65	221	2207	Lamp, brown ware
66	222	2170	Lamp, levigated brown ware, few white grits
67	223	2195	Brick, dark brown-gray, very crude ware, huge white grits
68	216	1099	Brick, dark brown, very crude ware, many white grits

the first half of the sixth centuries (Rosenthal and Sivan 1978: No. 513). Two fragments of oval lamps (Fig. 6:64, 65) are decorated in high relief; they have small pyramidal handles,

narrow filling holes and depressed discs surrounded by ridges. A shallow channel usually connects the disc and the spout, and the base is flat. Figure 6:64 is adorned by fish

in relief on the shoulder and a five-pointed star on the discus. Figure 6:65 has a geometric decoration on its shoulder. This type is typical of northern Israel and usually dates to the end of the sixth–first half of the seventh centuries (Rosenthal and Sivan 1978: No. 511; Calderon 2000: Pl. XXVIII:108). A lamp fragment with a pointed spout and a fish-bone pattern in relief (Fig. 6:66) has a relatively small discus, a geometric decoration in relief and a flat base. I did not find exact comparisons, but the style is similar to lamp Nos. 64 and 65, despite the lack of a channel between the spout and the discus in No. 66. It seems to be a northern type of the late sixth–early seventh centuries.

#### *Bricks* (Fig. 6:67, 68)

These semicircular bricks were perhaps related to the hypocaust of a bath.

#### *Discussion*

There are no sealed loci in the area of Buildings A and B. Therefore, the pottery can only date the latest phase of use and not the establishment of these buildings. A few vessels appeared in the fifth century, but were also used during the sixth and seventh centuries (Figs. 3:28–31; 5:61, 6:63). On the other hand, some bowls (Figs. 4:55, 56) appeared at the end of the fourth century and remained in use only to the late fifth century (although Tsuf suggested they continued until the eighth century), while Fig. 5:60 was known only during the fifth century. Most of the vessels (Figs. 3:27, 35, 37–39; 4:41–46, 48–54, 57; 5:59; 6:64, 65) are dated to the sixth century. Some continued in use at least into the seventh century, but others were used only during the sixth century (Fig. 4:41, 43–45, 47–49). Five vessels begin in the seventh century (Figs. 3:32–34; 4:47; 6:64). The maximum range of all the vessels is from the fourth to the seventh centuries, which seems too long. Excluding the bowls in Figs. 4:55 and 56, all vessels point to the sixth–seventh centuries as the period of use of Buildings A and B.

#### POTTERY FROM THE WINEPRESS

##### *Dolium* (Fig. 7:69)

See discussion in Fig. 1:1 (above).

##### *Amphorae* (Fig. 7:70–74)

Two very similar fragments were found. One (Fig. 7:70) has a thickened rounded rim, is concave inside, and has a conical neck that is ribbed on the inside and two handles from mid-neck to the densely ribbed shoulder. The second (Fig. 7:71) has a rounded inward slanting rim with a conical neck and handles from the neck. It seems that both belong to a type of amphora that originated in the Aegean and Black Sea area from the fourth to the late sixth–early seventh centuries (Peacock and Williams 1986: Fig. 101, Class 43). Based on Benghazi, Riley (1975: Pl. 91:348) suggested the type is of Aegean origin, beginning in the fifth century and lasting until the late sixth–early seventh centuries. In Caesarea, an amphora of this type was dated from the fourth to the late sixth–early seventh centuries (Magness 1992a: Fig. 68:3). The rounded, externally folding rim with two handles in Fig. 7:72 is similar to Fig. 1:4 (see above). The long, narrow body of the amphora in Fig. 7:73 has a ridge in the middle, ribbing and, probably, a pointed base. Peacock and Williams (1986: Fig. 124, Class 53) suggested that this type originated in the Nile Valley and was used to transport wine from the late fourth to the mid-sixth centuries. The pointed base of an amphora with a ribbed body (Fig. 7:74) cannot be dated independently.

##### *Jars and Stoppers* (Fig. 8:75–82)

The jar in Fig. 8:75 is bag-shaped, similar to Fig. 3:32 (see above). The jar in Fig. 8:76 has a rounded, downward slanting rim, bulging neck, and densely ribbed shoulder. It is a bag-shaped southern jar, dated in Rehovot-in-the-Negev to the seventh century (Rosenthal-Heginbottom 1988: Pl. II:90). A similar jar from a pit at Ramat Ha-Nadiv was dated to the sixth–seventh centuries and was probably used to store water,

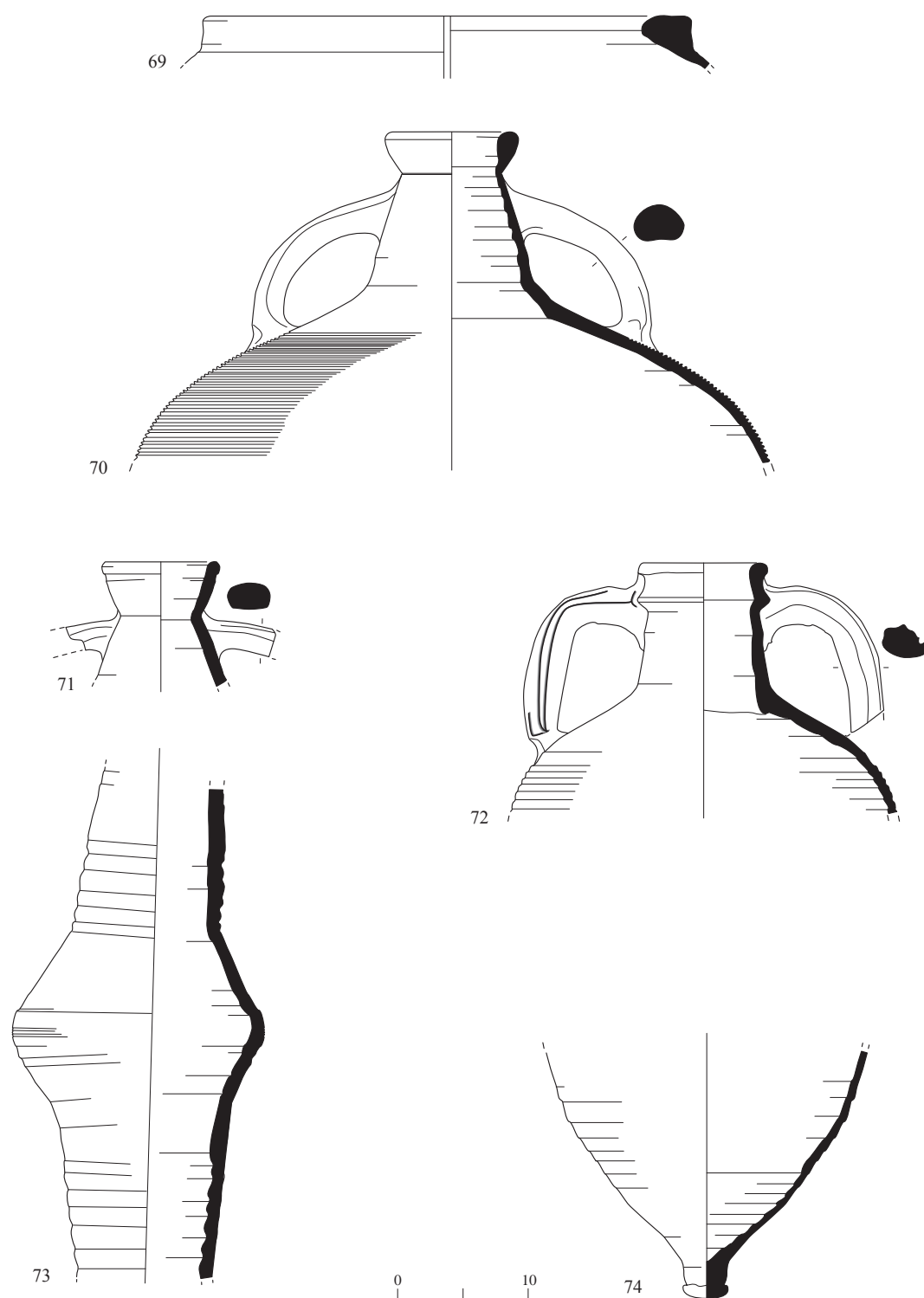


Fig. 7. Pottery from the winepress.

◀ Fig. 7

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
69	5	1024/4	<i>Dolium</i> , crude brown-gray ware, many white and gray grits
70	8	1067	Amphora, levigated reddish ware, large white grits, brown slip
71	8	1085	Amphora, levigated brown ware, few large white grits, thin, light brown slip
72	5	1053	Amphora, brown ware, small white and black grits
73	8	1057/11	Amphora, crude, dark brown ware, large white and gray grits
74	8	1070	Amphora, levigated dark brown ware, lots of mica

Fig. 8 ▶

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
75	8	1067/7	Jar, crude red-brown ware, small white and pottery grits
76	5	1045	Jar, crude brown ware, many small and large white grits
77	5	1045	Gray Jar, crude brown ware, many small white grits
78	5	1043/2	Gray Jar, gray ware, brown core, small and large white grits
79	5	1024/1	Gaza jar, crude brown ware, gray core, small and large white grits
80	8	1070	Gaza jar, brown ware, many large white and red grits
81	8	1069	Stopper, very light brown ware, red and white grits, mica
82	4	1029/15	Stopper, crude pink sandy ware, red pottery grits
83	8	1067/6	Cooking pot, dark brown ware, white grits, mica, soot outside
84	4	1023/4	Open cooking pot, crude orange-brown ware, large white grits, soot outside
85	8	1061	Frying pan, brown-orange ware, white grits, soot outside
86	8	1067/2	Cooking jug, brown ware, many tiny and few large white grits

not oil, in view of the low-level of firing, which would not have prevented the seeping of oil (Calderon 2000: Pl. XVII:13). The gray jars in Fig. 8:77, 78 are similar to those in Fig. 1:7 and 8 (see above). Figure 8:77 has a rounded, slightly pointed rim with a medium neck and a ridge on the ribbed shoulder, while Fig. 8:78 has a thickened, triangular rim section, medium neck and ribbed shoulder. At Shiqmona (Amir 2006: Fig. 5:7), it was dated to the seventh–eighth centuries. The Gaza jars in Fig. 8:79 and 80 are discussed in Fig. 1:5, 6. For the jar stopper with a central ledge in Fig. 8:81, see Fig. 3:34, above. The complete stopper in Fig. 8:82, with a wide upper part and very thick lower side, has good parallels in a burial cave

at Kafr ‘Ara’ that dates to the sixth–seventh centuries (Sussman 1976: Fig. 5:10, 11).

#### *Cooking Ware* (Fig. 8:83–86)

For the wide-mouthed cooking pot in Fig. 8:83 with a high neck and two vertical handles, see Fig. 1:9, above. The pointed, inward-slanting rim (fitted for a lid) of the open cooking pot in Fig. 8:84 has a slanting ribbed side and two horizontal handles. It was very common throughout the country from the Roman to Umayyad periods. In the Byzantine villa at Ramat Ha-Nadiv, a comparison was dated to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000: Pl. XXIII:40). Figure 8:85 is from a frying pan; the rim is inverted, the side is ribbed and slanted,

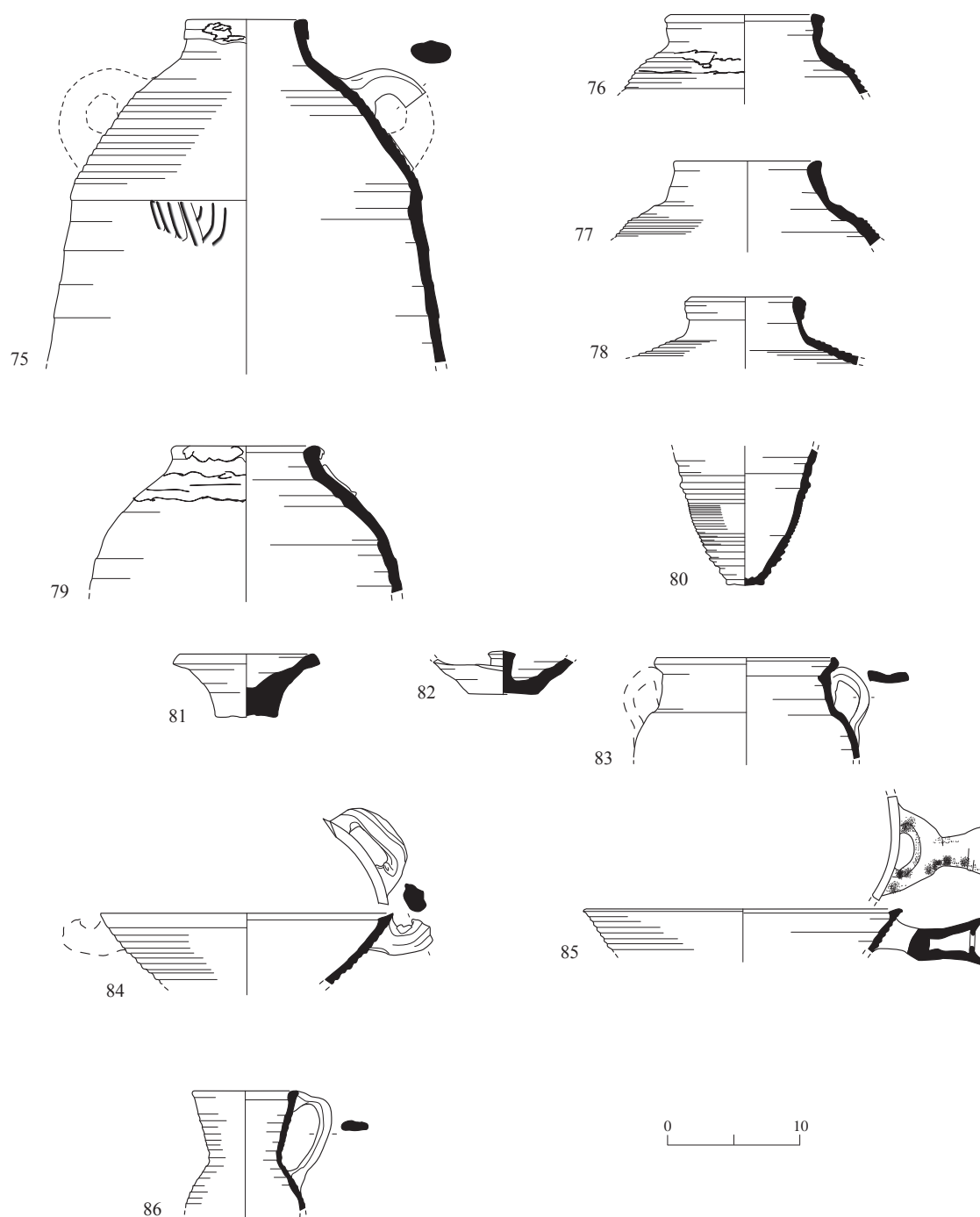


Fig. 8. Pottery from the winepress (cont.).

and it has a hollow wishbone handle, into which a stick can be inserted for carrying the pan to and from the stove. This type was typical of the Jerusalem area and the south, where it was

manufactured, in the sixth–seventh centuries. Only one vessel of this type was found at Ramat Ha-Nadiv (Calderon 2000: Pl. XXIII:58). The cooking jug in Fig. 8:86 with a rounded mouth,



long ribbed neck and a handle from rim to shoulder, has a comparison in the pit at Ramat Ha-Nadiv, dated to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000: Pl. XXII:46).

*Jugs, Juglets and a Flask* (Fig. 9:87–90)

This group includes rims and necks of strainer jugs. Figure 9:87 is triangular in section, extended and carinated at the neck, which is very long and ribbed. The strainer is located at the bottom of the neck. The ware is well fired and metallic. Figure 9:88 is similar. For comparisons and dating, see Fig. 3:38, 39 above. The juglet in Fig. 9:89 has a rounded rim, is carinated at the bottom, and has a narrow high neck and a handle from the rim to the shoulder, similar to finds in Area G in Jerusalem (Magness 1992b: Fig. 12:15, dated to the sixth–seventh centuries) and Rehovot-in-the-Negev (Rosenthal-Heginbottom 1988: Pl. IV:158, dated to the seventh century). The flask in Fig. 9:90 has a slightly inward-slanting rim, is carinated at the bottom, and has a low neck.

*Saqiya Vessel* (Fig. 9:91)

This vessel has a flat rim with a carination at the lower end and a ribbed body. Such vessels were attached to wooden wheels driven by animals to pump water from wells. A similar vessel was found in a pit at Ramat Ha-Nadiv and dated to the sixth–seventh centuries (Calderon 2000: Pl. XXV:74).

*Krater* (Fig. 9:92)

The rim is very thick, rounded, bulges on the outside, and has a combed decoration on the side. This vessel is relatively late in comparison to the other vessels from the excavation; it is dated by Magness (1993:211) to the eighth–tenth centuries, post-dating the Byzantine period.

*North Syrian Mortaria* (Fig. 9:93, 94)

The rims of these *mortaria* are thickened with a square section and carination at the lower end. Hayes (1967:338, Fig. 3:5, 6) was the first to identify this type as originating from

North Syria. A similar *mortarium* from a pit at Ramat Ha-Nadiv was dated to the sixth century (Calderon 2000: Pl. XXV:78).

*Late Roman Red Slip Ware*

*African Red Slip (ARS) Ware* (Fig. 10:95–100).— Most of these bowls belong to types that have already been discussed. The bowl in Fig. 10:95 belongs to Hayes' Form 105 (see Fig. 2:11), the bowl in Fig. 10:96 belongs to Hayes' Form 104a (see Fig. 4:41), and the bowl in Fig. 10:97 belongs to Hayes' Form 107 (see Fig. 4:47). The bowl in Fig. 10:98 has a pointed rim at top with a wide flange on the exterior below the rim that is shaped like a hook at its edge. The ware is excellent and covered with thin slip. Hayes (1972: Fig. 26, Form 91b) dates this Form to 450–530, while Tsuf (2003: Fig. 8:164–9) regards it a common type in Israel, dating from the mid- or late fourth century to the mid-sixth century. Figure 10:99 is very similar to Fig. 10:98, but the flange is not hook-shaped. Hayes (1972: Fig. 26, Form 91c) dates it to the mid- or late fifth century, while Tsuf dates it to the fifth century (2003: Fig. 8:152, 153). Figure 10:100 is wide, with a ridged rim that is divided in two parts: the internal part slants upward, whereas the external is concave and slants outward. The side of the bowl is carinated. Hayes (1972: Fig. 19, Form 67) dates such bowls to 360–450. According to Tsuf (2003: Fig. 6:118–121), this was the most common type of ARS bowl in Israel in the fourth–fifth centuries.

*Phocaeen Red Slip (PRS) Ware* (Fig. 10:101–103).— Figure 10:101 belongs to Hayes Form 10c (see Fig. 2:14–16). The rim of Fig. 10:102 has a triangular section outside and is concave inside. Hayes (1972: Fig. 68, Form 3e) dates it from around 500 to the second quarter of the sixth century. It is very common in Israel, dating from 350–400 to the third quarter of the sixth century (Tsuf 2003: Fig. 16:377–382). The rim of Fig. 10:103 is thickened with a somewhat square section and curving side. It is slightly later than Hayes' Form 3, occurring

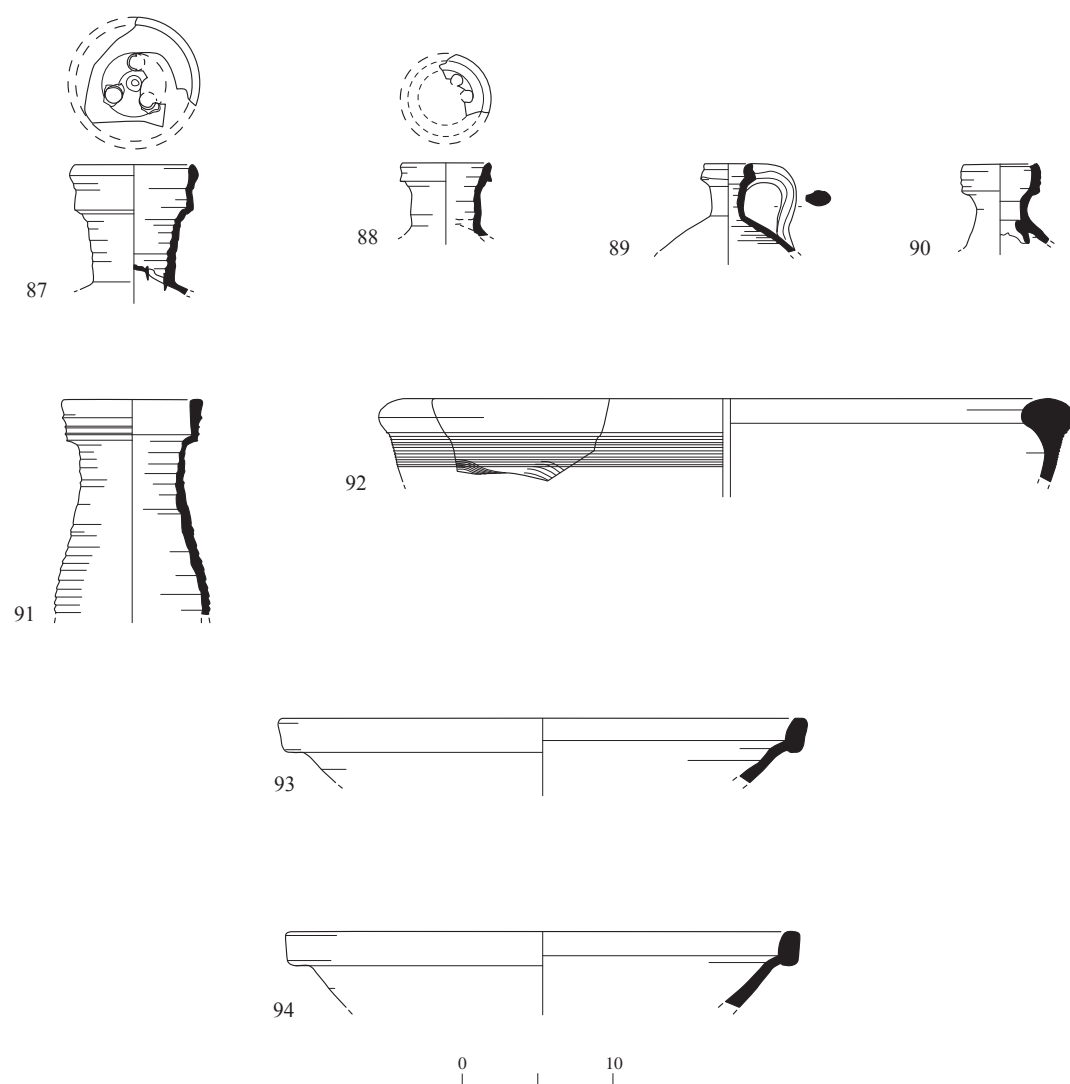


Fig. 9. Pottery from the winepress (cont.).

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
87	8	1063/1	Strainer jug, brown-gray ware, metallic, many white grits
88	8	1085	Strainer jug, crude brown ware, many white and gray grits
89	8	1070	Juglet, levigated brown ware, many tiny white grits, burnished
90	5	1045	Flask, brown ware, large and tiny white grits
91	8	1067	<i>Saqiya</i> vessel, crude sandy pink ware
92	8	1083	Krater, crude green ware, many white grits
93	8	1056/11	North Syrian <i>mortarium</i> , crude dark brown ware, white and black grits
94	8	1067	North Syrian <i>mortarium</i> , crude dark brown ware, many white and black grits

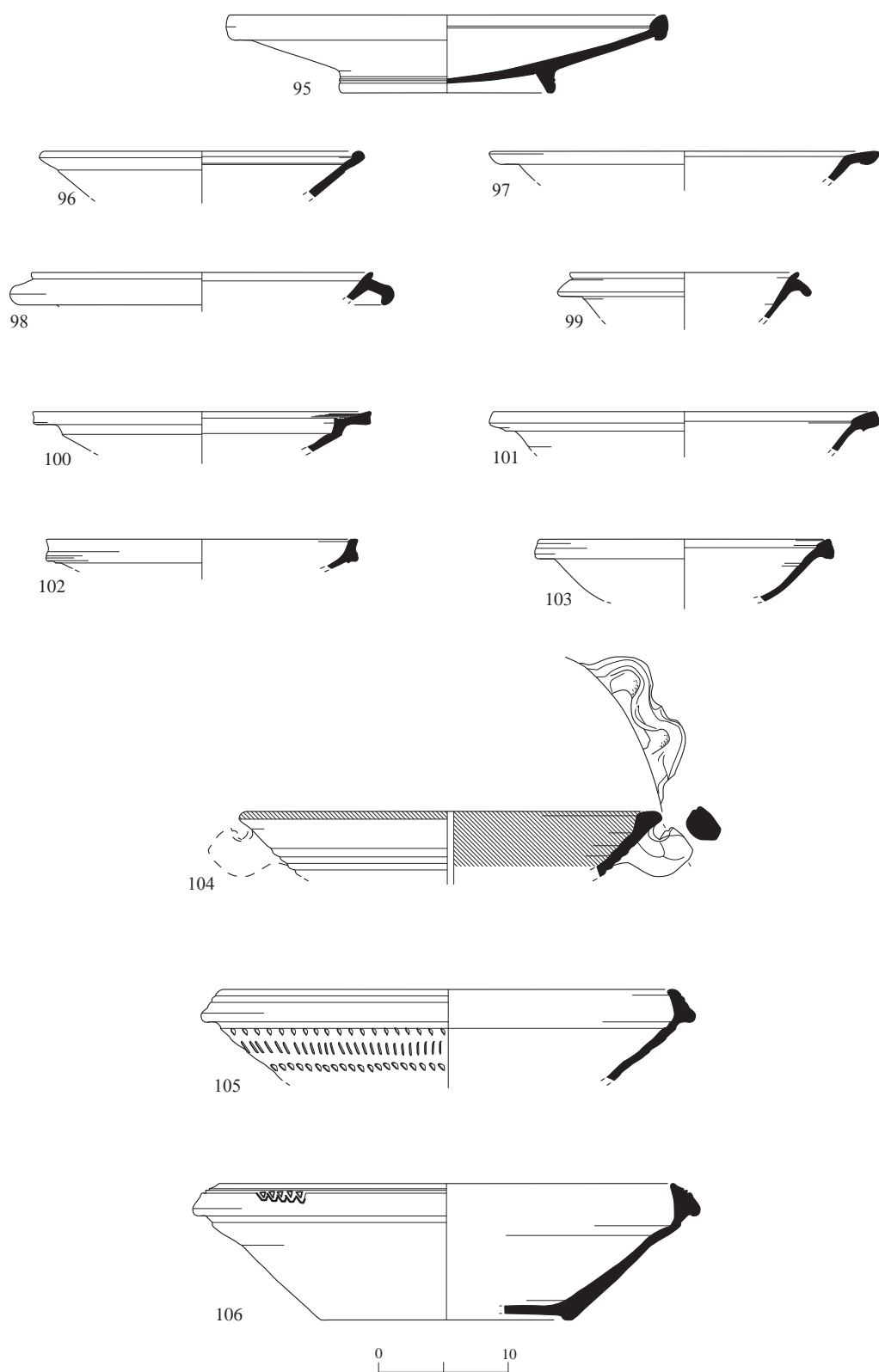


Fig. 10. Pottery from the winepress (cont.).

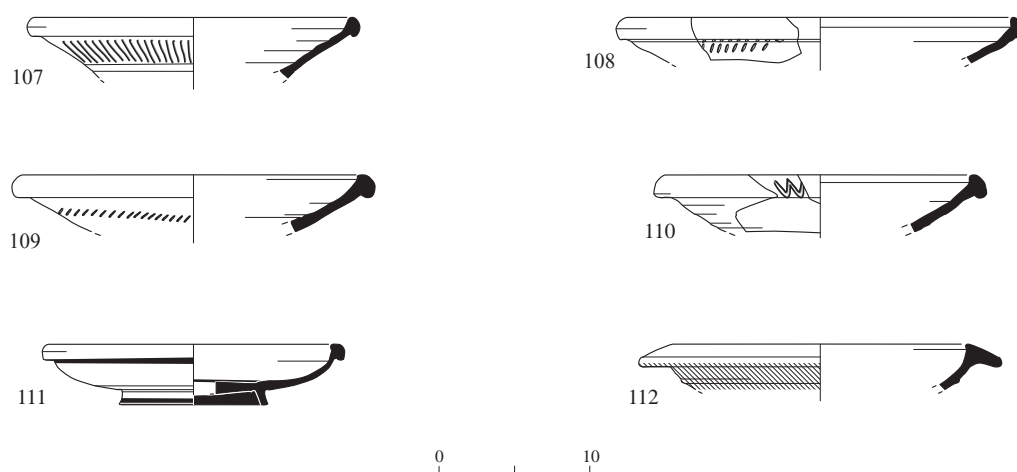


Fig. 10. Pottery from the Winepress (Cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
95	8	1054	Bowl ARS, crude orange ware, tiny white grits, orange slip
96	4	1032/1	Bowl ARS, levigated brown-red ware, few white grits, red slip
97	5	1030/1	Bowl ARS, brown ware, few small white grits, pink slip
98	8	1070	Bowl ARS, pink ware, few small white grits, pink-red slip
99	8	1085	Bowl ARS, levigated brown ware, orange slip
100	8	1068/11	Bowl ARS, levigated, very light brown-pink ware, orange slip
101	5	1024/13	Bowl PRS, levigated orange ware, orange slip
102	5	1020/6	Bowl PRS, levigated brown ware, orange-red slip
103	8	1085	Bowl PRS, dark brown ware, many small (and few large) white grits, red slip
104	8	1054	Krater CRS, levigated very light brown ware, red slip inside and outside
105	8	1067/24	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, thin irregular red slip
106	8	1061, 1068	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, dark brown core, thin red slip
107	4	1051/4	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, thin irregular red slip
108	8	1056	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, thin red slip
109	8	1083	Bowl CRS, levigated dark brown ware, dark red slip
110	4	1028/5	Bowl CRS, levigated dark brown ware, few white grits, thin red slip
111	8	1049	Bowl CRS?, levigated brown-gray ware, brown slip
112	8	1070	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, red slip on the body, yellow slip on lip, well-fired

from the end of the sixth to the early seventh centuries (Hayes 1972: Fig. 71, Form 10). It is common in Israel, especially on the coastal plain and in the north, and dates from the sixth century to the Umayyad period (Tsuf 2003: Pl. 25:524–528).

*Cypriot Red Slip (CRS) Ware* (Fig. 10:104–112).— Some forms are discussed above: Fig.

10:104 belongs to Hayes' Form 11 (see Fig. 2:21) and Fig. 10:105, 106 belong to Hayes' Form 10 (see Fig. 2:22). The round bowl in Fig. 10:107 has an externally thickened rim that slants downward and a roulette decoration on a straight side. It is dated to 550–600 by Hayes (1972: Fig. 81, Form 9a) and, in Israel, from the fourth to the seventh centuries (Tsuf 2003: Fig. 38:783). The vessels in Fig. 10:108–110

are very similar to Fig. 10:107, but have a curved, not straight, side. Figure 10:108, 109 have roulette decorations, while Fig. 10:110 has a wave-shaped decoration on the rim. Hayes (1972: Fig. 81, Form 9B) dates this type from 580–600 to the end of the seventh century while Tsuf (2003: Fig. 37:791–795) dates it in Israel from, perhaps, the third–fourth centuries to the beginning of the Umayyad period. The complete, small bowl in Fig. 10:111 has a rounded rim, thickened outside, curving side,

and a high ring base. It seems to belong to the CRS group, but has no exact comparison. The bowl in Fig. 10:112 has a ledge rim that slants downward with a groove near its end and a curving side. It does not appear in Hayes (but see Fig. 4:53).

#### Lamps (Fig. 11:113, 114)

Figure 11:113 is a fragment of a northern oval lamp with a floral decoration in high relief on the shoulder and a decorated depressed discus and shallow channel, similar to Fig. 6:64, 65. The whole lamp in Fig. 11:114 belongs to a group of Samaritan lamps, dating from the late third century, and continuing with slight changes until the seventh century. It has a shallow channel in front, radial lines around the opening, and a ledge handle. The spout is small and there is a ring base with a protrusion at the center (cf. Sussman 1988:95, No. 35).

#### Discussion

Most of the pottery from the winepress was found in the collecting pits that, at some stage, became waste dumps. A few vessels appear as early as the fourth–fifth centuries (Nos. 70–73, 98–100, 114), but, except for bowl Nos. 99 and 100, continued in use during the sixth and even the seventh centuries. Vessel Nos. 69, 76, 82–89, 91, 93–96, 102–104, 107–110 and 113 were dated to the sixth century and most of these vessels continued to be used until the seventh century. Relatively few vessels were manufactured in the seventh century (Nos. 77, 78, 81, 97, 101, 105, 106).<sup>2</sup> The latest of all the vessels is krater No. 92, the only vessel whose production date is in the eighth century. Thus, it seems the pottery was dumped into the vats mostly during the sixth–seventh centuries. The few exceptions (bowl Nos. 99 and 100, and krater No. 92) either indicate a greater time range or, more likely, are intrusive.

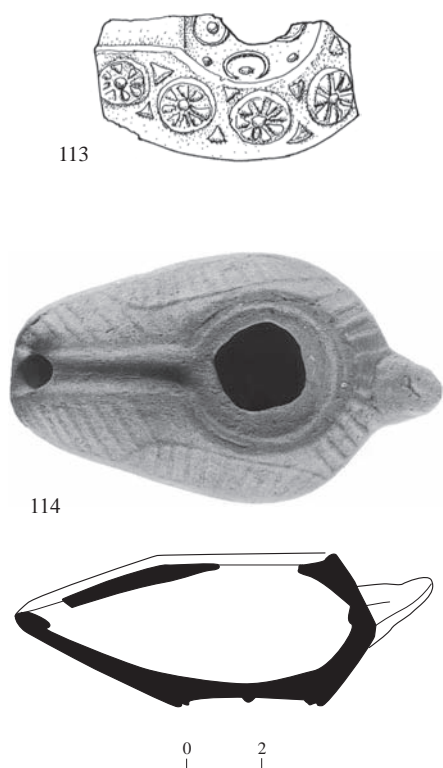


Fig. 11. Lamps from the winepress (cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
113	5	1030	Brown ware, few white grits
114	5	1058	Crude brown ware, few large white grits, soot on the spout

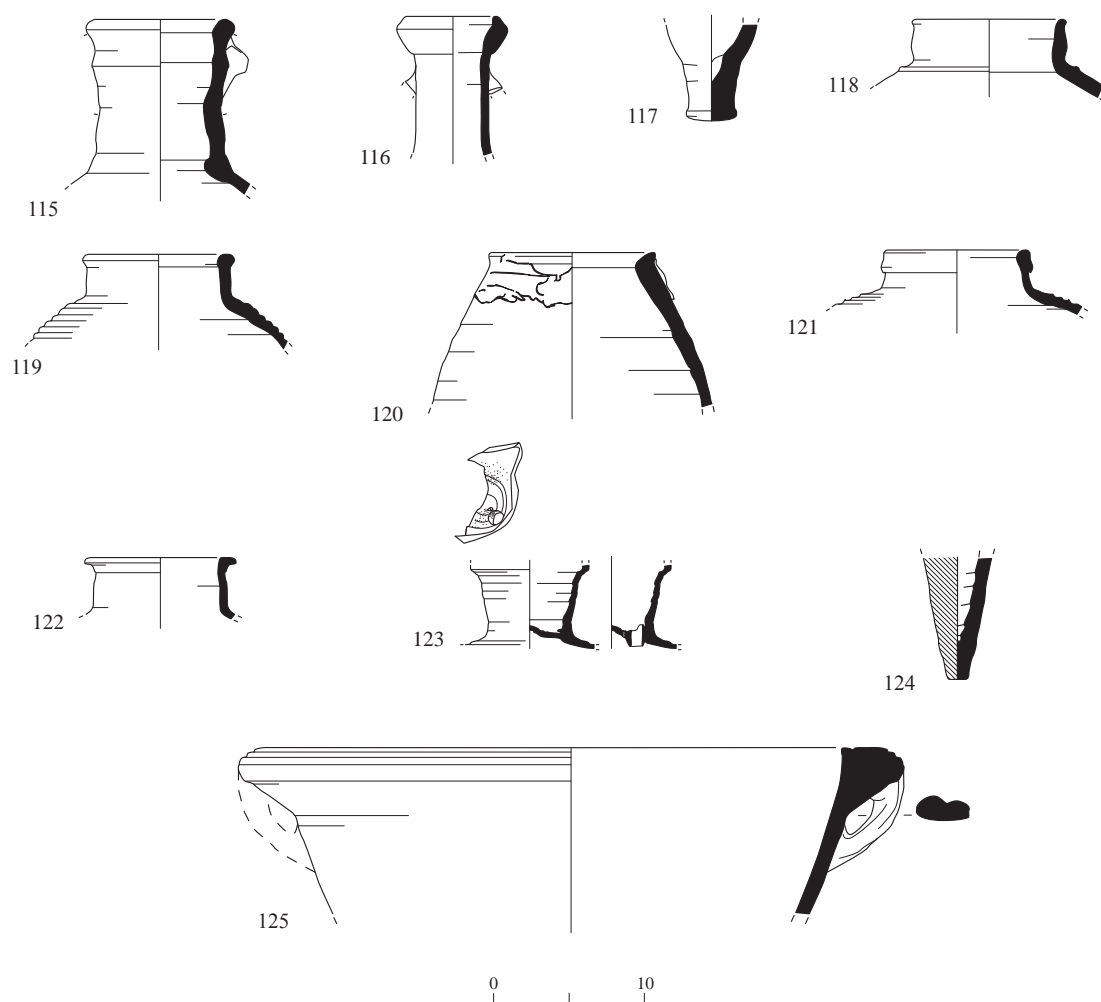


Fig. 12. Pottery from the tombs.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
115	T6	2010	Amphora, light brown ware, many small white grits, few large grits, gray core, white slip which includes many tiny white grits
116	T6	2007	Amphora, levigated dark brown ware, many white grits, brown-yellow slip
117	T6	2029/5	Amphora, brown ware, many white grits, mica
118	T8	2031/2	Jar, brown ware, many medium and large white grits
119	T6	2010	Jar, crude red-brown ware, few white and gray grits
120	T6	2010	Gaza jar, crude brown ware, many small (and few large) white and gray grits
121	T8	2040	Gray jar, metallic dark brown ware, few white grits, gray slip inside and out
122	T3	2014	Gray jar, gray, well-fired ware, few white grits
123	T8	2011	Strainer jug, levigated brown-gray ware, metallic, tiny white grits, irregular gray slip
124	T6	2019	<i>Unguentarium</i> , levigated brown ware, red slip
125	T6	2007	Krater, crude brown ware, many large white and gray grits, brown slip

## POTTERY FROM THE TOMBS

*Amphorae* (Fig. 12:115–117)

The amphora with the rounded rim and long neck in Fig. 12:115 was discussed above (see Fig. 1:4). The amphora in Fig. 12:116 with the rounded inverted rim, outside carination, long narrow neck and handles beneath the rim, is found in the central Mediterranean. Its origin is unknown (perhaps North Africa) and it dates to the first–third centuries (Peacock and Williams 1986: Fig. 93B, Class 40). Figure 12:117 is an amphora base.

*Jars* (Fig. 12:118–122)

Most of these jars belong to types discussed earlier. For the bag-shaped southern jar in Fig. 12:118, see Fig. 8:76. The sack-shaped jar with the rounded rim in Fig. 12:119 has a vertical neck and a shoulder ridge. It was common in Israel from the late fifth–early sixth centuries to the seventh century (Calderon 2000: Pl. VI:9). For the Gaza jar in Fig. 12:120, see Fig. 1:5, 6. The rounded rim in Fig. 12:121 is square in section and has a low inverted neck and a ribbed shoulder. It belongs to the gray jars of northern origin that date to the late Byzantine period. A similar jar was found at Tel Kisan, but in red ware, a group that originate in the Galilee according to Landgraf (1980: Fig. 22:6), who dates it to the sixth–early seventh centuries. The jar in Fig. 12:122, with a small ledge rim and high neck, also belongs to the group of gray jars.

*Strainer Jug* (Fig. 12:123)

See discussion of Fig. 3:38, 39.

*Unguentarium* (Fig. 12:124)

Figure 12:124 is the pointed base of an *unguentarium* with a thickened side and red slip on the outside. Magness (1992a: Figs. 59:15; 62:10), in discussing pottery from Caesarea, accepts the theory that this vessel was produced in Israel to store holy oil or Jordan River water for the use of pilgrims from 500–520 to 650.

*Krater* (Fig. 12:125)

Figure 12:125 is the very thick rim of a large krater, flattened on top with wavy decoration and a deep groove on the inner side and curved with ridges on the outside. The handle extends from the rim to the shoulder. The side is thick.

*Late Roman Red Slip Ware*

*African Red Slip (ARS) Ware* (Fig. 13:126–128).—Figure 13:126 belongs to Hayes' Form 105 (see Fig. 2:11). The knobbed rim of the small deep bowl in Fig. 13:127 is dated by Hayes (1972: Fig. 30, Form 104b) to 550–625, and by Tsuf (2003: Fig. 11:237), from the sixth century to the Umayyad period. Figure 13:128 has a wide flat, flange rim with a rounded edge and curving side. This is Hayes' Type 107 (see Fig. 4:47).

*Phocaeen Red Slip (PRS) Ware* (Fig. 13:129).—This is Hayes' Type 3g (see Fig. 4:48, 49).

*Cypriot Red Slip (CRS) Ware* (Fig. 13:130, 131).—Figure 13:130 is a complete krater with a thickened rim, two horizontal handles under the rim and red slip inside and out. It is Hayes' Form 11 (see Fig. 2:21). Figure 13:131 is a large bowl. It has a heavy rim, triangular in shape, that is grooved on top and has a sharp carination and a depression at the lower end of the rim. This is Hayes' Form 7.3 (see Fig. 4:54).

*Lamp* (Fig. 13:132)

The lamp in Fig. 13:132 belongs to the group of northern oval lamps. It has an impressed decoration on the shoulder, a pyramidal handle, and a shallow channel between the spout and the discus. This one is decorated with flowers set in medallions (see Fig. 6:64, 65).

*Discussion*

All the tombs were robbed or disturbed before excavation, reducing the possibility to date them according to the pottery. Most of the pottery fits the sixth–seventh centuries (Nos. 118, 121, 123, 124, 126, 127–132).<sup>3</sup> Vessel Nos.

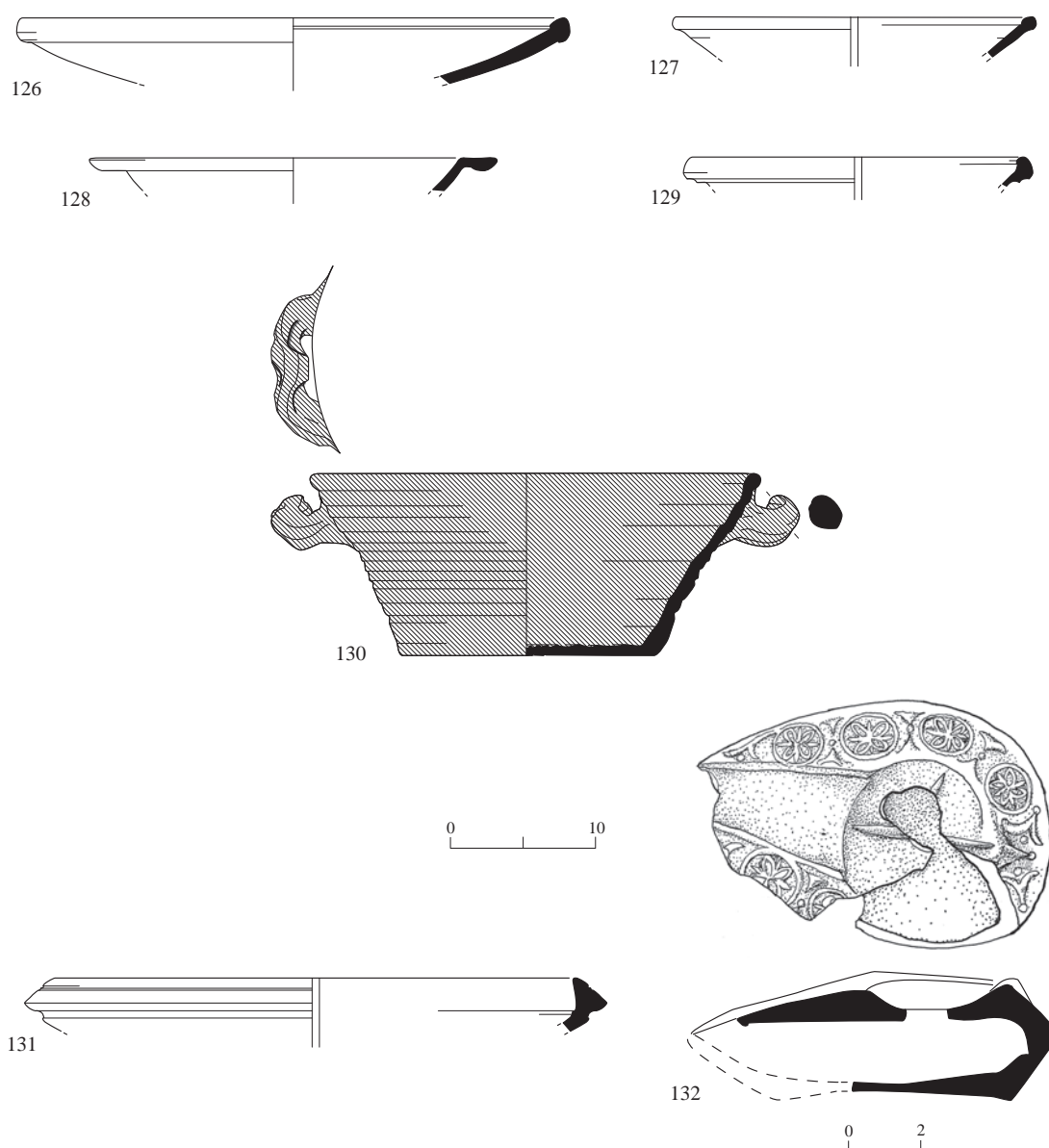


Fig. 13. Pottery from the tombs (cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
126	T6	2007	Bowl ARS, levigated, red-brown ware, tiny grits
127	T3	2003	Bowl ARS, brown ware, small white grits, red slip
128	T6	2007	Bowl ARS, levigated pink ware, pink slip
129	T6	2007	Bowl PRS, levigated pink ware, red slip
130	T3	2019	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, few small white grits, dark red slip inside and out
131	T3	2003	Bowl CRS, levigated brown ware, few tiny white grits, brown slip
132	T6	2039	Lamp, large white grits



115, 119, and 120 began to appear in the fifth century, but continued in use until at least the seventh century. The amphora in Fig. 12:116, which dates to the early Roman period (first–third centuries), is not related to the rest of the assemblage and it is unclear how it reached the tomb. The picture is similar to that of the other areas, where the sixth–seventh centuries are dominant and most probably indicate the period of use of the burials.

### CONCLUSIONS

In most of the areas, the lack of sealed loci prevents precise dating of the architectural remains. The exception is the monastery area, where Loci 217–219 were sealed beneath the floors, allowing us to date the building of the monastery. The average dating of these loci is the sixth century, or slightly later if one follows Hayes' seventh century date for bowl No. 22. However, if one follows Tsuf, this vessel has a

very general range, from the fifth to the eighth centuries. In all other areas, the assemblage marks the later use of the elements and gives a general range only, not an exact date, of the sixth–seventh centuries. Only vessel Nos. 99 and 100 from the winepress (fifth century) and No. 116 from the tombs (first–third centuries) are earlier, but they are, perhaps, intrusive or unrelated to the architectural remains.

As for the nature of the assemblage as a whole, it is typical of northern sites on the coast of Israel in that it includes the following components: (a) typical vessels of northern Israel, such as gray jars and northern oval lamps; (b) many imported vessels, such as *amphorae*, Late Roman wares, Syrian *mortaria* and tiles, and perhaps *dolia*; (c) Gaza jars, typical of the coastal plain; and (d) few vessels typical of the south of the country, such as the bag-shaped jar, the hollow wishbone handle of a frying pan, and the Fine Byzantine Ware bowl.

### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Tsuf (2003) dates the production of some of these bowls (Nos. 95, 96, 102, 104, 107–110) to the fourth–fifth centuries.

<sup>2</sup> Tsuf (2003) dates the production of some of these to the fifth (Nos. 105, 106) and to the sixth (Nos. 97, 101) centuries.

<sup>3</sup> If one follows Tsuf 2003, Nos. 126, 130, and 131 appeared already in the fourth–fifth centuries.

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