



Far from Tell Arqa in Lebanon, in the north-eastern part of the Egyptian Nile Delta, pottery imported from this north Lebanese region was discovered. The author of this article only found out about the material after being informed about it by the director of excavation of Tell Arqa, Jean-Paul Thalmann. These ceramics and their stratigraphic context are the sub-¹⁸ject of this paper.

The ancient city of Avaris, modern Tell el-Dab'a, is situated on the easternmost branch of the Nile in the north-eastern Delta. From the late 12th Dynasty onwards, this town sustained a flourishing trade with the Eastern Mediterranean and its harbours along the Levantine coast. Hundreds of ships arrived and unloaded their goods in the harbour of Avaris. In most cases, these imports were shipped south to the capital city *Iṯ-tawi*. But a sufficient number of goods remained in Avaris, contributing to its prosperity and growth. A chief advantage of the Tell el-Dab'a material is that Egyptian pottery occurs side-by-side and in the same context with imported and locally-produced Middle Bronze Age (hereafter MB) ceramics. During MB IIA, nearly all MB vessels were imported to Avaris; however, from the transitional MB IIA/B onwards, local production increased, and by the beginning of the Hyksos period, it took over the leading role. Among the earlier imports were vessels whose origin can be traced back to the Akkar plain, and perhaps to its most important site – Tell Arqa.

In area F/I (fig. 1), the southern part of a huge building, probably a palace of the early 13th Dynasty (Phase G/4, fig. 32)¹, was uncovered (fig. 2). In its earliest phase of construction, this building was surrounded on three sides by a huge garden of which flower beds and tree pits were preserved, as well as rows of tombs built to the south of it. At a later stage this building was enlarged. It was during this later phase that a pit was dug (K 2817) in which tombs of the later palace phase cut through². In this pit several diagnostic sherds from storage jars were found; vessels which find their best parallels in shape and fabric to pottery found in the Akkar plain of North Lebanon.

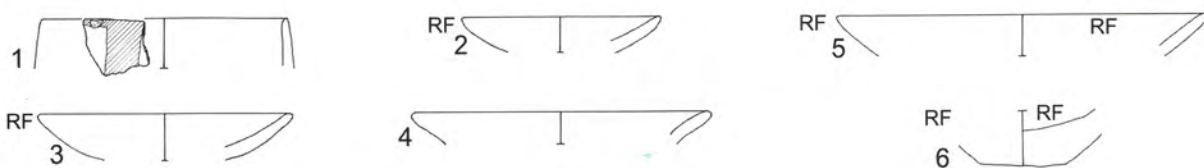
The Egyptian material from this pit is a good example of the typical pottery deposit of this period. The potsherds were sorted according to the *Vienna System* (VS). This method was devised in the 1980s for classifying the various ware fabrics of ancient Egyptian pottery and is also followed at Tell el-Dab'a (TD)³. Two main classes of clays are found in Egypt: alluvial (Nile) and marl clays. The finest of the Nile clays (VS: Nile B-1, TD: I-b-1) is in most cases used for delicate vessels. In Tell el-Dab'a, carinated cups (fig. 3:1) with red painted vertical stripes appear in phases dated from the late 12th until the mid-13th Dynasty. Ceramic parallels from a burial in Abydos are dated to the middle of the 13th Dynasty⁴. The "West Block Refuse Deposit" of the mortuary temple of Senwosret III, which is also in Abydos⁵, is dated to the late 12th and early 13th Dynasties. Further parallels were discovered in the settlement of Kahun⁶, and the tombs of Harageh⁷, Armant⁸ and the Dakhla oasis⁹. Dishes (fig. 3:2–6) made of this fabric are not very common and appear mainly in the first half of the 13th Dynasty, such as a piece from a burial in Dra' Abu el-Nagar from the first half of the 13th Dynasty¹⁰. A chaff-tempered (VS: Nile B-2, TD: I-b-2) Nile clay was used for round-bottomed drinking cups (fig. 3:7,8), open bowls (fig. 3:9–14), smaller jars (fig. 3:15) and pot stands (fig. 3:16–23).



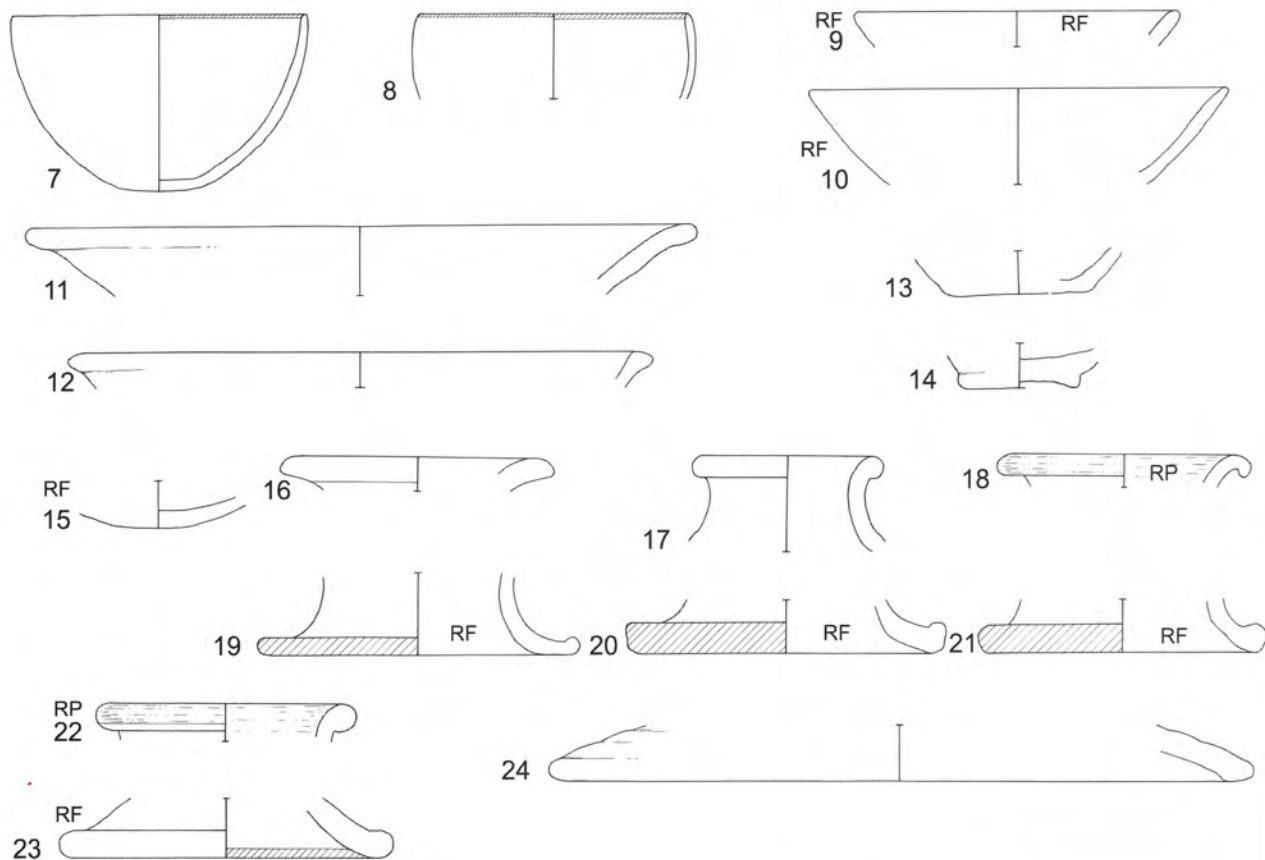
2 Position of K 2817 in Area F/I, Phase G/4 (after M. Bietak and D. Eigner, forthcoming).

Do. Arnold ¹¹ and M. Bietak ¹² established a chronological development for the round bottomed cups based on the vessel index. Their studies showed that this type of vessel developed from an open, shallow shape in the 12th Dynasty to a closed, deeper cup in the late 13th Dynasty. Unfortunately, it is rare to find complete forms in settlement contexts; therefore, one has to find another way to deal with the fragmentary material. In the case of the cups, their rim diameter was very helpful, as well as the orientation of the sherd: when the rim pointed outwards it came from an open cup and was therefore early in the sequence; when it was straight it hinted to the middle of its chronological development; and when pointed inside, one could suggest that it dated more towards the end of its appearance. In the case of K 2817, the average diameter of the cups was around 12 cm. 87% belonged to the wide open type, while 13% showed a straight rim. Parallels for these cups were found all over Egypt. One of the best and

I-b-1

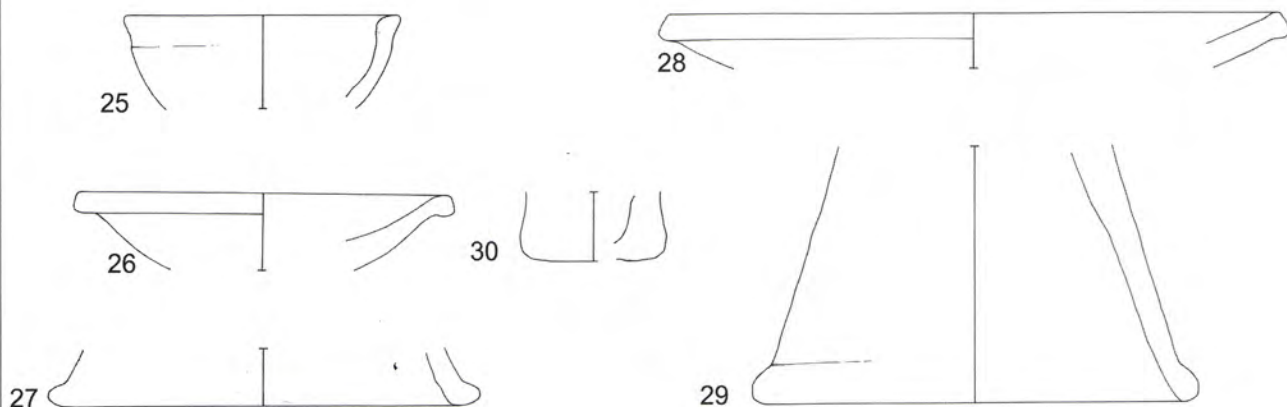


I-b-2



0 1 10 cm

I-c-1



	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
1	cup	nile B-1	red painted decor	
2	bowl	nile B-1	red wash outside	
3	bowl	nile B-1	red wash outside	
4	bowl	nile B-1	uncoated	
5	bowl	nile B-1	red wash	
6	bowl	nile B-1	red wash	
7	cup	nile B-2	red wash on rim	
8	cup	nile B-2	red wash on rim	
9	bowl	nile B-2	red wash	
10	bowl	nile B-2	red wash outside	
11	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
12	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
13	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
14	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
15	jar	nile B-2	red wash outside	
16	pot stand	nile B-2	uncoated	
17	pot stand	nile B-2	uncoated	
18	pot stand	nile B-2	red burnished	
19	pot stand	nile B-2	red wash on base	
20	pot stand	nile B-2	red wash on base	
21	pot stand	nile B-2	red wash on base	
22	pot stand	nile B-2	red burnished	
23	pot stand	nile B-2	red wash outside	
24	lid(?)	nile B-2	uncoated	
25	bowl	nile C-1	uncoated	
26	bowl	nile C-1	uncoated	
27	footed bowl	nile C-1	uncoated	
28	footed bowl	nile C-1	uncoated	
29	footed bowl	nile C-1	uncoated	
30	bread mould(?)	nile C-1	uncoated	



Photo 1: Cooking pot from the Akkar Plain found at Tell el-Dab'a.

most important, for chronological purposes, is Complex 4 from Dahshur¹³, which seems to be contemporary and dates to the early 13th Dynasty. Occasionally lids (fig. 3:24) in different sizes appear. Only rarely can one trace which vessel they fitted onto.

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A finer version of the straw-tempered Nile clay (VS: Nile C, TD: I-c-1) was used for small bowls (fig. 3:25) and dishes (fig. 3:26). The latter has a comparable piece in Complex 6 from Dahshur¹⁴, which dates to the late 12th and early 13th Dynasties. Footed bowls (fig. 3:27–29) were used as offering vessels and as incense burners throughout the entire Egyptian periods. While they were multifunctional, bread moulds (fig. 3:30) seem to have been used only once and then discarded.

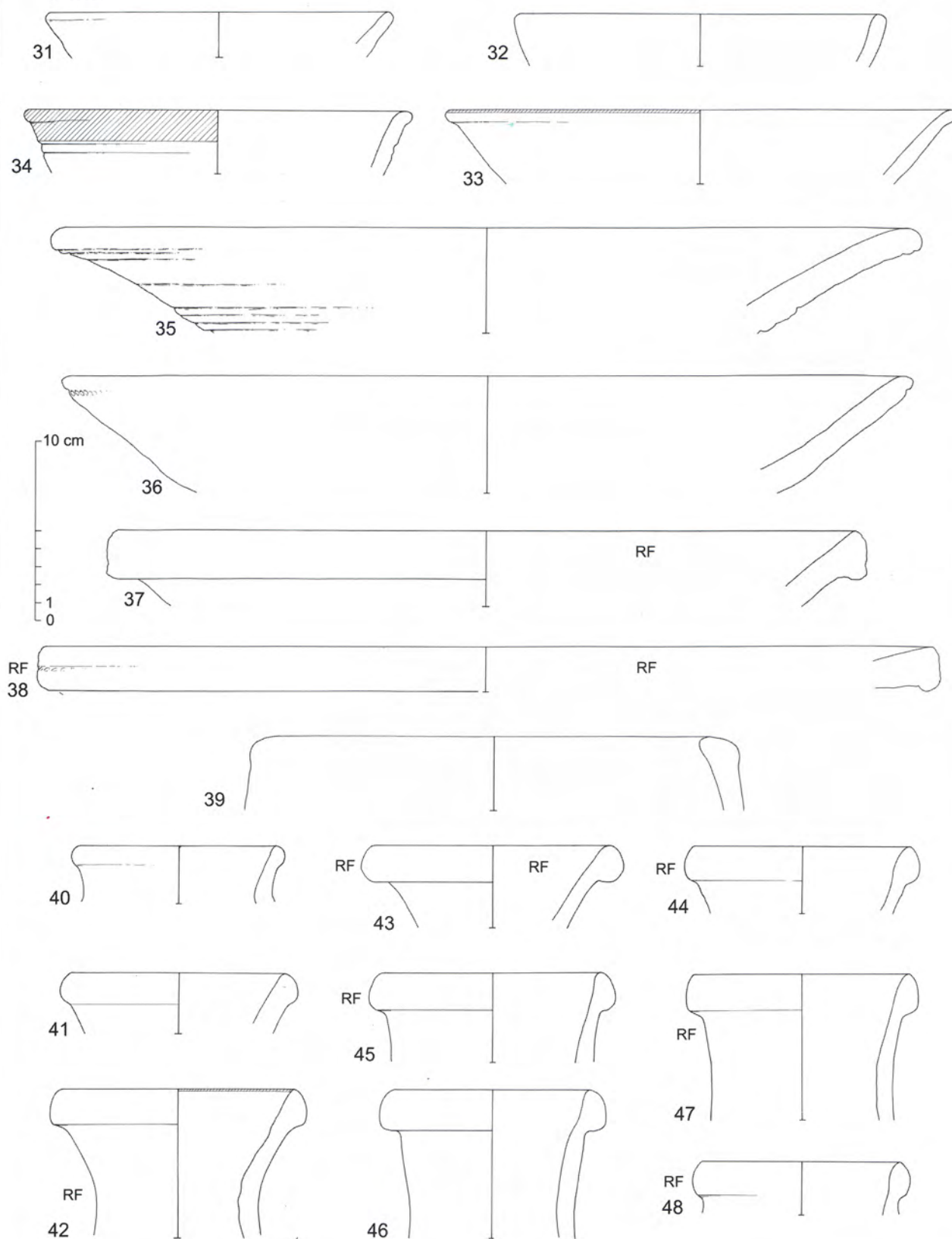
The most common fabric for this phase is a heavy straw-tempered Nile clay (VS: Nile C, TD: I-c-2) which comprises nearly 40% of the settlement pottery. It was mainly used for the production of dishes (fig. 4:31–38) and beer jars (figs. 4:40; 5:52). At Tell el-Dab'a, a typology has been established for these beer jars based on the rims of these

vessels¹⁵. Type 1 of the earlier Middle Kingdom (fig. 4:40) makes its last appearance during this period, with the most common type being the beer jars of the second half of the 12th Dynasty (fig. 4:41–44) with their funnel-shaped necks (type 2). Along with this type existed another one (fig. 4:45–48) with a straight neck (type 3). New at this time is a type (fig. 5:49–52) with a kettle rim (type 4).

The latter existed until the beginning of the Hyksos period and has a rim diameter of over 10 cm¹⁶. Globular pots with folded rims (fig. 4:39) are quite common. They appear in this period for the first time and last until the beginning of the Hyksos period. One finds in all phases pot stands made of this fabric. From the late Middle Kingdom until the beginning of the Hyksos period konoï (fig. 5:54,55) are documented in the settlement material¹⁷. Their function still needs to be resolved.

A sand-tempered version of the Nile clay (VS: Nile E, TD: I-e-2) was primarily used to keep vessels from breaking during cooking, and in later phases, for the manufacture of local production of MB shapes. While the deep bowl (fig. 5:56) from K 2817 is an isolated case, the globular cooking jar (fig. 5:57) is found from Phase G/4 onwards until the middle of the Hyksos period. Its rim possessed a gutter which most probably served to lock a lid in place. The ordinary cooking vessel of this time was a handmade globular pot (fig. 5:58–60) whose rim was attached to the body on a turntable device. Most of these cooking wares exhibited a white wash on the exterior.

I-c-2



	object	fabric	surface treatment	comments
31	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
32	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
33	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
34	bowl	nile C-2	red wash on rim	horizontal grooves
35	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
36	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
37	bowl	nile C-2	red wash inside	
38	bowl	nile C-2	red wash	
39	pot	nile C-2	uncoated	
40	beer jar	nile C-2	uncoated	
41	beer jar	nile C-2	uncoated	
42	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	
43	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash	
44	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	
45	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	
46	beer jar	nile C-2	uncoated	
47	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	
48	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	

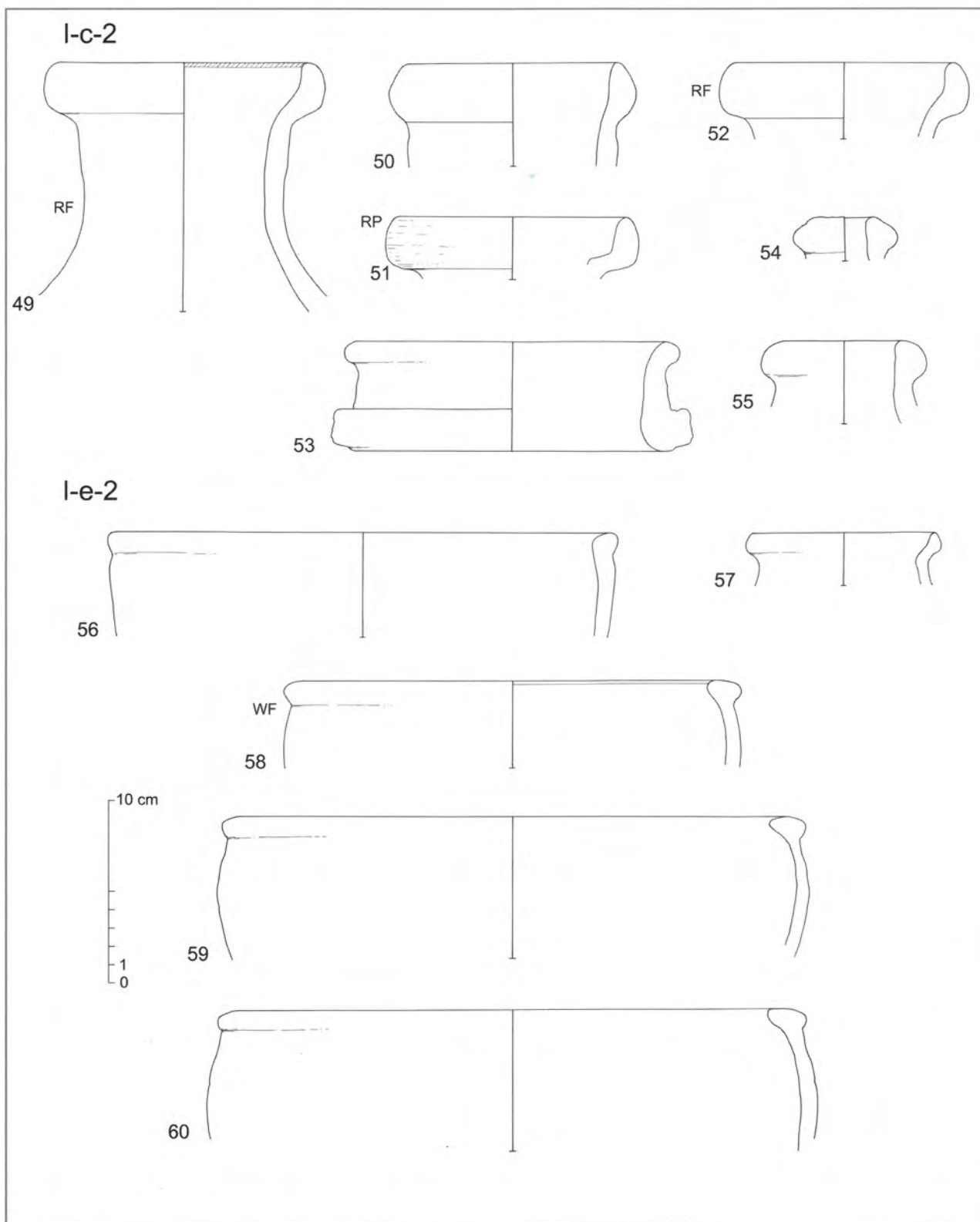
Since the big marl clay formations are located in the southern parts of Egypt, vessels made from these clays are all viewed as imports to the site. While the small thin walled cups (fig. 6:61) are very rare im-²³ports from Upper Egypt, vessels from the Memphite-Fayum region¹⁸ are more frequent. In this period, they represent about 10% of the pottery repertoire in the settlement material of Tell el-Dab'a. Open forms like footed bowls (fig. 6:62) and carinated bowls (fig. 6:63) were not so common, whereas

containers, whether small or large, were popular. Vessels made from this fabric were quite compact, which made them perfect for transporting liquids. Therefore, it is not surprising that these kinds of vessels were also found outside Egypt along the Levantine coast.

Small hand and wheel-made jars with rounded bases and shaped rims (fig. 6:64,65) exist from the Middle Kingdom until the end of the 13th Dynasty. Do. Arnold divided them into two types: an older one with a globular body and a later one with a bag-shaped body. The first one is attested at Tell el-Dab'a until the middle of the 13th Dynasty, while the second one exists from the end of the 12th Dynasty onwards. Vessels of this type have been found all over Egypt¹⁹ and abroad in Sidon²⁰. The next group of jars have a handmade egg-shaped body and a corrugated neck (fig. 6:66,67) which was attached to it on a turntable device. Again, two types can be differentiated over a period of time: an earlier one with the uppermost horizontal groove of the corrugation only 1 cm below the rim, and a more recent one where the groove is further below the rim. While the first type exists in Egypt from Senwosret III/Amenemhet III until the middle of the 13th Dynasty, the second one can be found from the middle of the 13th Dynasty until the middle of the Hyksos period. Both types are distributed all over Egypt²¹, whereas the older one is also found in Sidon²².

Zirs (fig. 6:68,69) were very practical and multifunctional storage vessels, so it is not surprising to find them distributed all over Egypt and along the Levantine coast. These large vessels were built up in coils, and again, had their rims attached to the body on a turntable. Due to the fact that only a handful of complete vessels survive, one must, once again, turn for dating purposes to the development of the rims, which changed from the beginning of the Middle Kingdom until the middle of the New Kingdom.

The two types represented in K 2817 date, with the older one (Type 3, fig. 6:68), to a period between Senwosret II/III and the middle of the 13th Dynasty, and with the later one (type 4, fig. 6:69), from Phase G/4 until the early Hyksos period. *Zirs* of both types were distributed all over Egypt, Nubia and the Levantine coast²³. Well-dated examples for the older *zir* rim type 3 were found in Egypt in the tomb of Queen Weret II, wife of Senwosret III at Dahshur²⁴. Another rim fragment of this type comes from the very early 13th Dynasty and was found in complex 6, a dump near the pyramid of Amenemhet III, again, at Dahshur²⁵. Parts of a base from a *zir*, which probably belong to this type, were uncovered in a late MB IIA context at Tell Arqa²⁶. The later rim type is represented in complex 7 at Dahshur²⁷



5 K 2817, Egyptian vessels made of Nile C and E.

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comments
49	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	
50	beer jar	nile C-2	uncoated	
51	beer jar	nile C-2	red burnished	
52	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	
53	pot stand	nile C-2	uncoated	
54	conus	nile C-2	uncoated	
55	conus	nile C-2	uncoated	
56	bowl	nile E-2	uncoated	
57	jar	nile E-2	uncoated	
58	cooking pot	nile E-2	white wash outside	
59	cooking pot	nile E-2	uncoated	
60	cooking pot	nile E-2	uncoated	

II-a

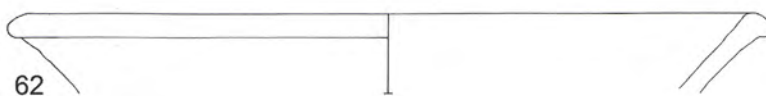


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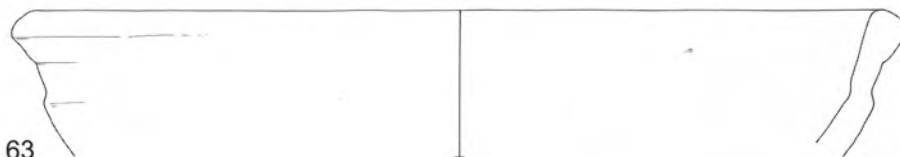
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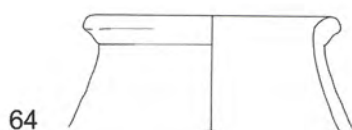
II-c-2



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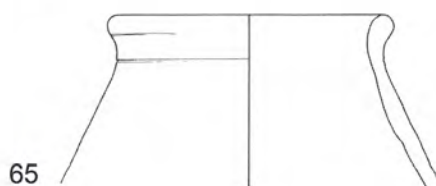
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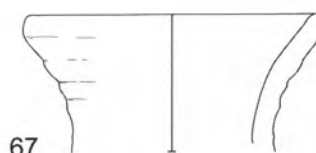
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66



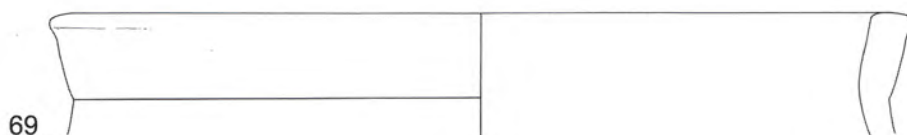
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67



68



69

6 K 2817, Egyptian vessels made of Marl A and C-1.

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comments
61	bowl	marl A-3	uncoated	
62	bowl	marl C-1	uncoated	
63	carinated bowl	marl C-1	uncoated	
64	jar	marl C-1	uncoated	
65	jar	marl C-1	uncoated	
66	jar	marl C-1	uncoated	
67	jar	marl C-1	uncoated	
68	zir	marl C-1	uncoated	type 3
69	zir	marl C-1	uncoated	type 4

which Do. Arnold dates to one or two generations after Amenemhat VI and the beginning of the Hyksos period. On the Levantine coast, pieces of *zirs* were found in Phase 13/14 of Ashkelon²⁸ and in a building at Megiddo (T. 3052) attributed to Stratum X²⁹, traditionally dated to the end of the MB II period. Since this would place the vessel into a period when this type is no longer represented in Egypt, one has to consider that this piece is an heirloom or belongs to an earlier phase. The latter is a possibility that should be considered, since these vessels were often dug into the floors to give them stability and to keep their contents cool. This action also prevented them from breaking and preserved them quite well *in situ*. Two *zirs*

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of this type survived in tombs from Byblos. One was found in a burial that cuts into the so-called Hyksos rampart³⁰. Although the tomb had been robbed in antiquity, the *zir* was found leaning against the right chamber wall, still *in situ*. Since the collapsed ceiling smashed the bones of the deceased, it was not possible to ascertain how many burials had been there originally. Among the bones and the mud, M. Dunand found one scarab made of amethyst and another of lapis lazuli. According to C. Mlinar³¹, this type of amethyst scarab appears mainly in the late 12th and early 13th Dynasties³². The lapis lazuli example belonged to the "Great principle of Thebes *Mnw-nfer*" and dates into the first half of the 13th Dynasty³³. In addition to these finds, some simple open bowls were found in the tomb. If all the published material belonged to a single burial, then we should suggest a date in the first half of the 13th Dynasty. P. Montet published another example for the later *zir* type from the royal tombs in Byblos³⁴. He writes that three large jars were found in tombs II and III³⁵. For reasons of chronology³⁶, this *zir* can only come from tomb II and should be

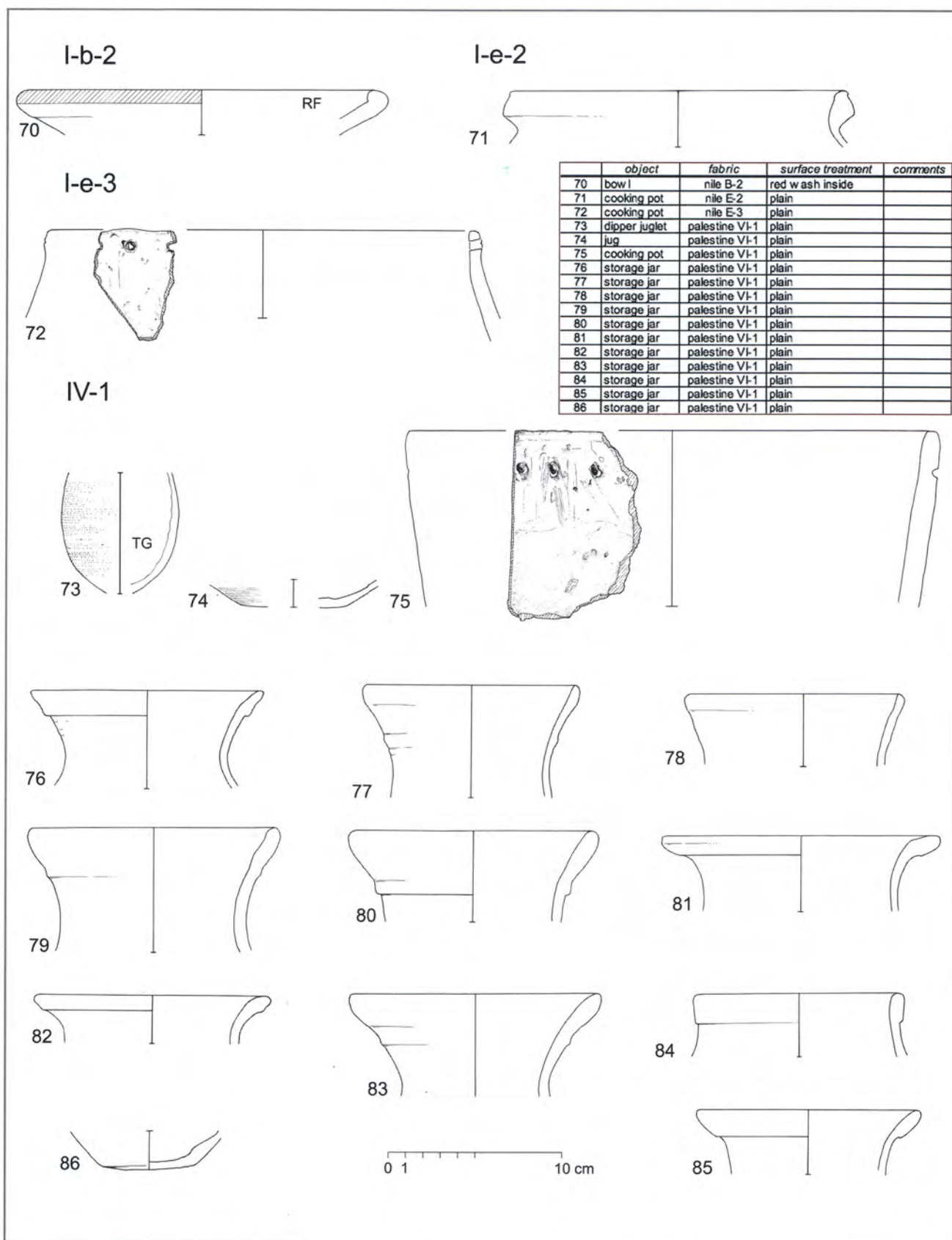
dated to the first half of the MB IIB period.

Only 1.5% of the MB material from K 2817 is locally produced. Phase G/4, sees the first appearance of open bowls with incurved rims (fig. 7:70) and made from Nile clay. Imitations of MB cooking pots (fig. 7:71,72) are the most commonly copied vessels in these early phases. While the wheel-made examples (fig. 7:71) are made of the sandy Nile E (TD: I-e-2) clay, the handmade ones (fig. 7:72) are mostly produced in a fabric (TD: I-e-3) that was specially formulated at the site for the production of these flat-bottomed cooking pots. Parallels to the wheel-made examples are found in Tel Aphek Phase 2³⁷. Comparable vessels for the handmade cooking pot are numerous and can be found in Egypt³⁸ itself, throughout Palestine³⁹ and as far as Syria⁴⁰.

One fifth of the pottery material from K 2817 is imported from the Syro-Palestinian region. M. Bietak divided these fabrics into six major groups⁴¹ based mainly on macroscopic analysis⁴². Group IV-1 and 2 are *terra rosa* clays, typical to the Levantine coast. The very red and calcareous IV-1 seems to derive from the Lebanese coast and north of it⁴³, while the fabrics that fall into group IV-2 remain enigmatic. This latter group contains many varieties of red to orange and beige fired fabrics. Some do come from the



Photo 2: Jar from the Akkar Plain found at Tell el-Dab'a.



7 K 2817, Middle Bronze Age vessels made of Nile B-2, E and imports.

Palestinian coast. White, light beige and light greenish fired clays fell into group IV-3 which contained low iron but a lot of limestone. IV-5 is reserved for a hard red to dark grey fired fabric, high in limestone and basalt inclusions. It is this group that includes wares from the Akkar plain. Finally, group IV-8 includes a fired fabric with a greenish or beige core, orange oxidation zones at the edges and a white self-same slip on the surface. Horizontally combed dipper juglets (fig. 7:73) are typical to the MB IIA period at Tell el-Dab'a⁴⁴. Parallels come from the "Kharji-tombs" in Beirut⁴⁵, the "tombe phénicienne" in Sin el-Fin⁴⁶ and the royal tombs I-III in Byblos⁴⁷. This type of combing technique is visible on the base of a jar or a large jug from Tell el-Dab'a (fig. 7:74).

Burnished juglets are still very rare at this time. Only two red burnished examples with a ledge below the rim and a double handle (figs. 8:87; 9:111), body fragments of a burnished jug (fig. 8:88) and a red burnished juglet (fig. 8:89) are found in K 2817. Juglets with ledges below the rim appear at Tell el-Dab'a until Phase G/1-3⁴⁸ with one degenerated example in Phase F⁴⁹. Comparable pieces come from Tel 'Amr⁵⁰, Amrith⁵¹, Beirut⁵², Sin el-Fin⁵³, Tel Dan⁵⁴, Kafr Veradim⁵⁵, Megiddo⁵⁶, Hagosherim⁵⁷, Tell el-Hayyat⁵⁸, Yiftahel⁵⁹, Nahariya⁶⁰, Efrata⁶¹ and Kabri⁶².

To the group of the *Levantine Painted Ware* (LPW) vessels falls a red burnished rim of a jar or jug (fig. 8:90), a black and red burnished rim of what is most probably a jug (fig. 8:91), body sherds of a jug (fig. 8:92) decorated with standing and hanging triangles in two zones, and two red burnished bases, again from a jar or a jug (fig. 8:93,94). Vessels of LPW appear at Tell el-Dab'a from the Middle Kingdom⁶³ until the end of the MB IIA.

Parallels for the painted body sherds come from Tel 'Amr⁶⁴ and Tell Arqa⁶⁵. Imported bowls with incurved rims are found at Tell el-Dab'a for the first

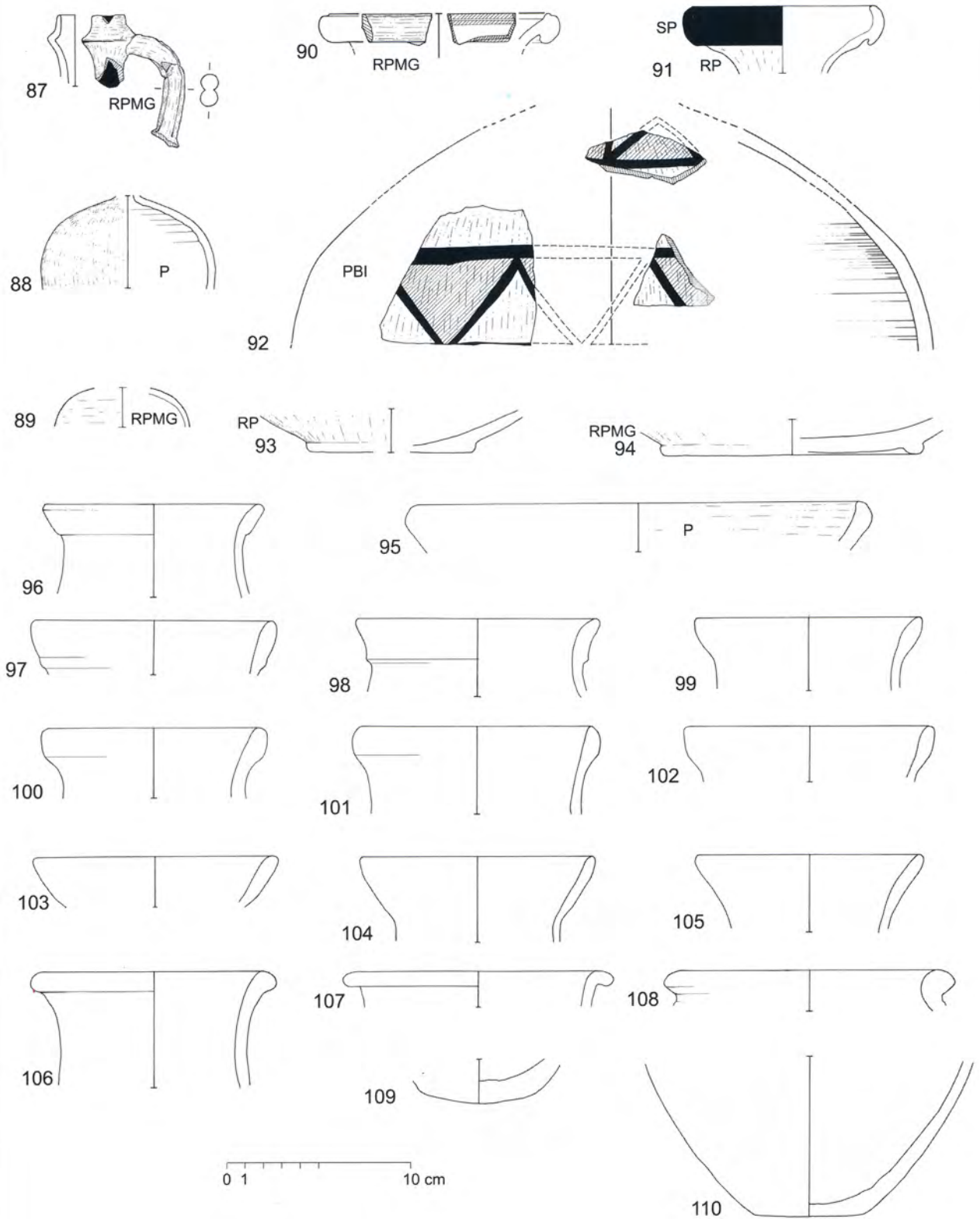
time in Phase G/4, and they occasionally occur until the first half of the Hyksos period. The piece from K 2817 (fig. 8:95) is horizontally burnished inside. Only in the early phases (H and G/4) of Tell el-Dab'a, and then rarely, handmade flat-bottomed cooking pots (fig. 7:75) were imported to the site. By contrast, large amphorae form the bulk of imported material. In the MB IIA phases, the amphorae show a great variety in shapes and fabrics. Over 40% of the storage jars belong to fabric group IV-1, nearly 50% to IV-2 and the remaining 10% to groups IV-3 (6%), IV-5 (1%) and IV-8 (2%). One finds among this material many different rim types (figs. 7:76-85; 8:96-108; 9:112-116), while the bases (figs. 7:86; 8:109-110; 9:117) are not flat and leave the vessel in a shaky position.

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
87	juglet	palestinian IV-2	red burnished, metallic gloss	
88	juglet	palestinian IV-2	burnished	
89	juglet	palestinian IV-2	red burnished, metallic gloss	
90	jar	palestinian IV-2	red burnished, metallic gloss	LPW
91	jar	palestinian IV-2	burnished, bichrome painted	LPW
92	jug	palestinian IV-2	burnished, bichrome painted	LPW
93	jug	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	LPW
94	jug	palestinian IV-2	red burnished, metallic gloss	
95	bowl	palestinian IV-2	burnished	
96	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
97	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
98	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
99	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
100	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
101	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
102	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
103	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
104	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
105	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
106	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
107	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
108	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
109	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
110	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	

material many different rim types (figs. 7:76-85; 8:96-108; 9:112-116), while the bases (figs. 7:86; 8:109-110; 9:117) are not flat and leave the vessel in a shaky position.

To this group of vessels also fall the imports from the Akkar plain. The rims of these imports swing outwards (fig. 10:118-120), are rolled (fig. 11:123), and are very often shaped in a manner that creates a kind of stepped rim. The thickness of their walls is rather delicate in comparison to the other storage jars of this period. It is highly likely that these rims come from handleless storage jars similar to the ones discovered in Phase N, Niveau 14B

IV-2



8 K 2817, imported Middle Bronze Age vessels.

IV-3

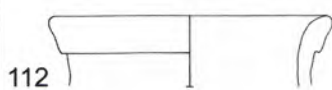


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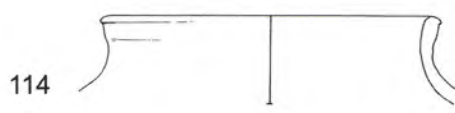
	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
111	juglet	palestinian IV-3	red burnished	
112	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
113	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
114	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
115	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
116	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
117	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	



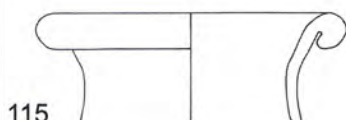
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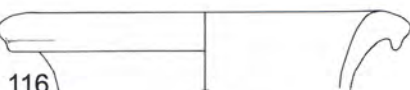
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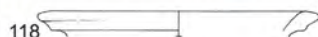
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9 K 2817, imported Middle Bronze Age vessels

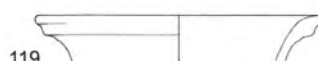
10 K 2817, vessels from the Akkar Plain found at Tell el-Dab'a and Tell Arqa.

TELL el-DABA

TELL ARQA



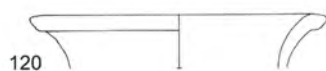
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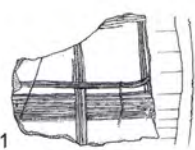
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120



121



122

80/445.22
(after: J.-P. Thalmann, *Tell Arqa - I*, pl. 87/1)

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
118	storage jar	palestinian IV-5	plain	origin: Akkar plain
119	storage jar	palestinian IV-5	plain	origin: Akkar plain
120	storage jar	palestinian IV-5	plain	origin: Akkar plain
121	storage jar	palestinian IV-5	plain	origin: Akkar plain
122	storage jar	palestinian IV-5	plain	origin: Akkar plain

10 cm

1 0

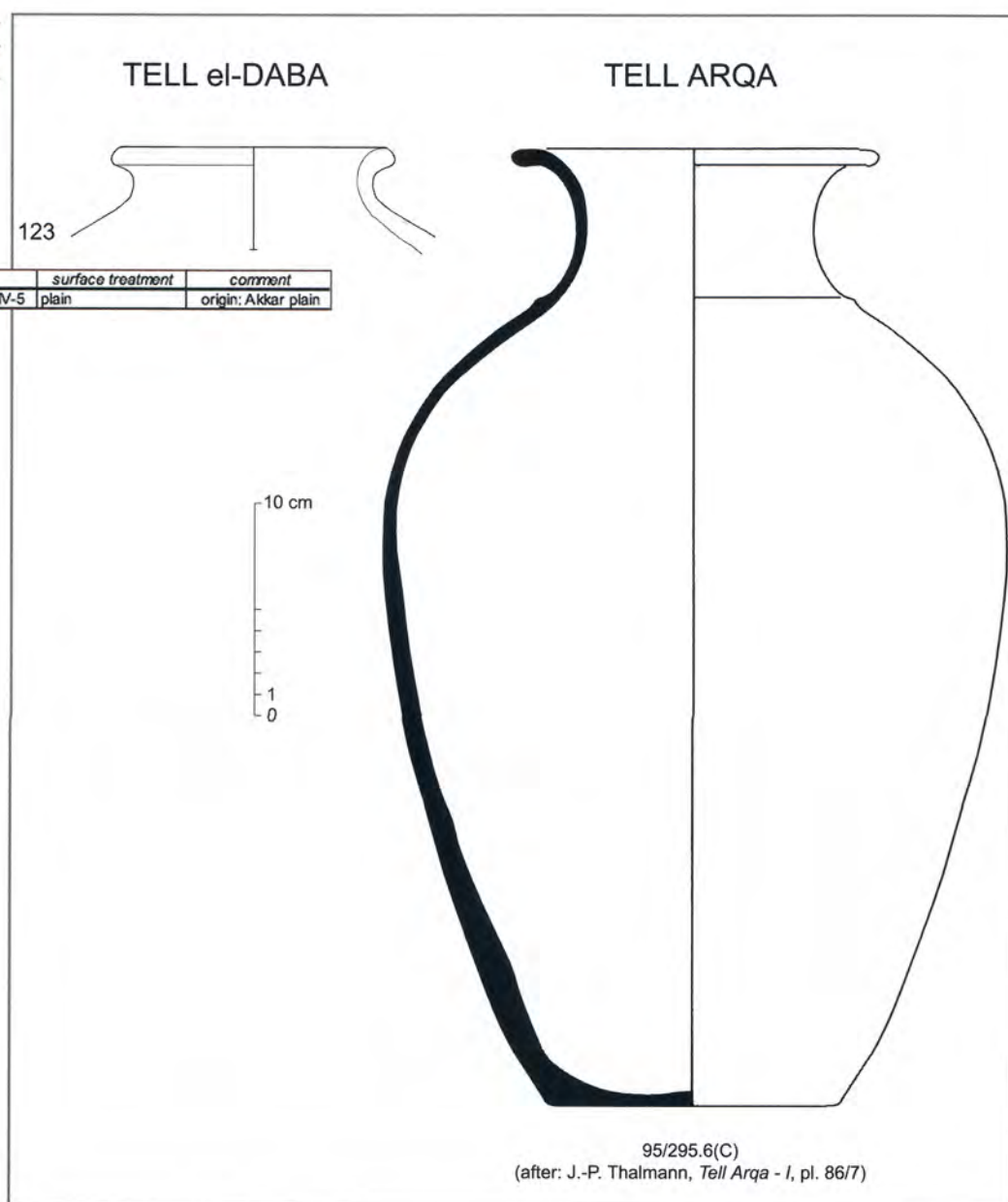
79/424.8
(after: J.-P. Thalmann, *Tell Arqa - I*, pl. 86/2)

10 cm

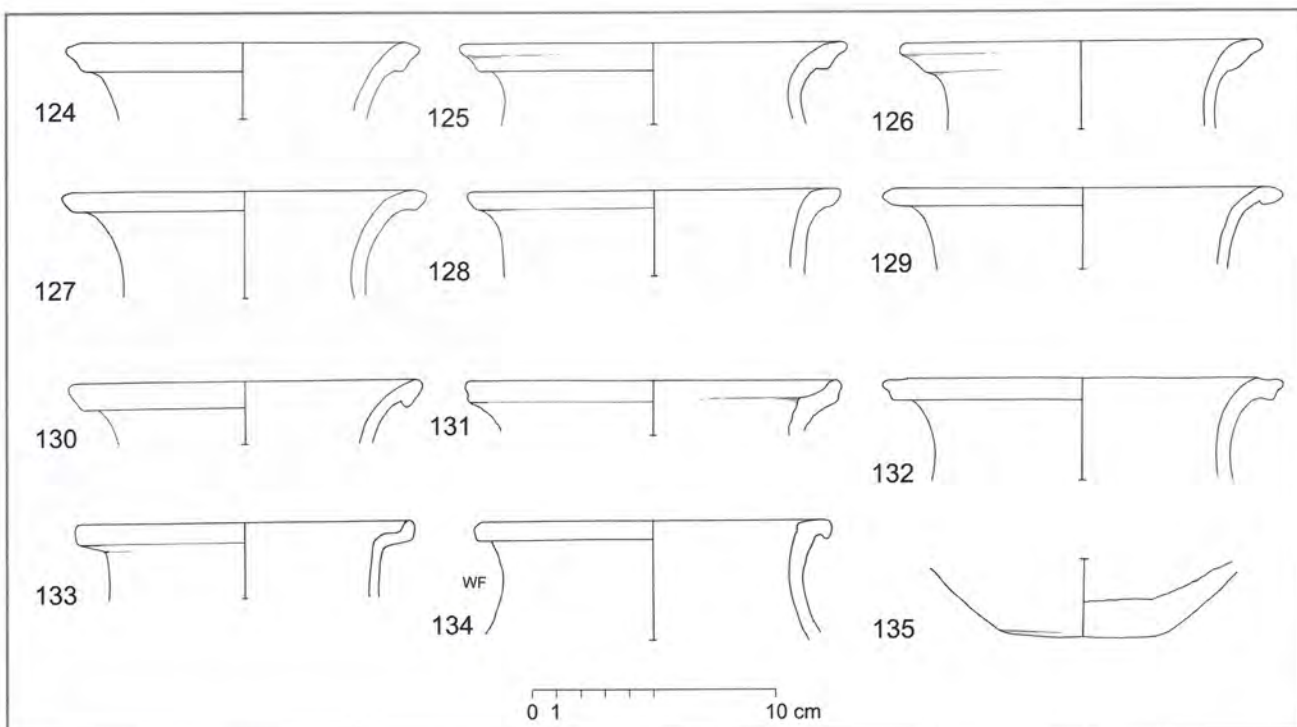
1 0

11 K 2817, vessels from the Akkar Plain found at Tell el-Dab'a and Tell Arqa.

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
123	storage jar	palestinian IV-5	plain	origin: Akkar plain



at Tell Arqa (fig. 11:right) ⁶⁶. Some of these storage vessels from Tell Arqa exhibit combed decorations on the shoulder at the point where the body and the upper part were joined together. One of the body sherds from K 2817 (fig. 10:121) has this kind of decoration. Typical of the storage jars from Tell Arqa are their flat bases. Just such a flat base (fig. 10:122) was also found in K 2817. All of the pieces ascribed to fabric group IV-5 had a plain uncoated surface. Also from this context comes a large group of storage jars (fig. 12:124-135) that display the same kind of finesse and stepped trimming of the rim. The fabric of these jars is very similar to the one of the Arqa jars; therefore, this writer believes that they originated in the Akkar plain ⁶⁷. Again, their surface shows no traces of any special treatment. East of F/I lies area A/IV which was used for domestic housing from the late 12th until the middle of the 13th Dynasty (fig. 13). Separated by a small street running north-west to south-east, two houses were uncovered, of which the eastern one is not fully excavated. Its south-western corner, which



	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
124	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
125	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
126	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
127	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
128	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
129	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
130	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
131	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
132	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
133	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
134	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	
135	storage jar	palestinian IV-5(?)	plain	

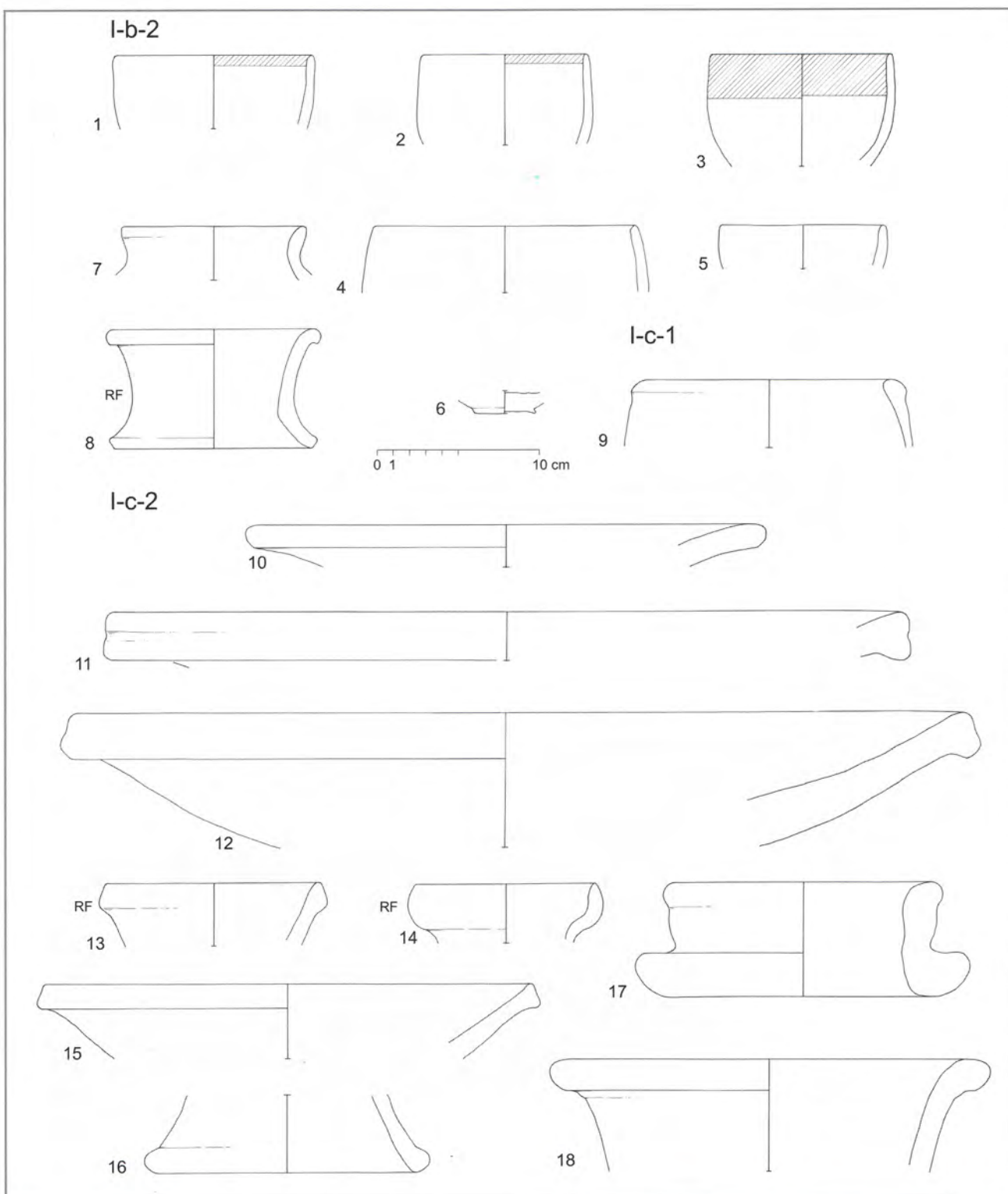
12 K 2817, vessels found at Tell el-Dab'a. Possible origin: Akkar Plain.

probably belonged to a courtyard, was used as a dump (K 4249). The neighbouring house to the south consisted of four rooms. The examined material (K 4236/4256) comes from the eastern part of that building.

In both contexts, the one from the dump (K 4249) and the one from the house (K 4236/4256), vessels

from Tell Arqa were discovered dating to the transitional MB IIA/B period (= Phase F at Tell el-Dab'a). The material from these collections gives a good picture of the ceramic repertoire of this time.

In this period nearly 40% of the pottery shapes belong to the MB corpus. 73% of these shapes are still imported to the site, while the rest was locally produced. The Egyptian corpus consisted of model vessels (fig. 21:1) made from very fine Nile clay (*TD*: I-b-1). The cups (figs. 14:1-3; 21:2,3), made of chaff tempered Nile clay (*TD*: I-b-2), are already straight-walled with an average rim diameter of 10 cm. Almost all the rims of this bowl shape have been dipped into a red wash. Once in a while, are found in the first half of the 13th Dynasty large cups (fig. 14:4) and small bowls (fig. 14:5,6) with a rim diameter between 13 and 20 cm. Vessels with spouts (fig. 21:4) are not very common in the Egyptian pottery repertoire from the middle of the 13th Dynasty. The same is true for the jar from K 4249 (fig. 14:7). These jars appear only in Phases F and E/3⁶⁸. The pot stands (figs. 14:8, 21:5-8) display the same shapes and surface treatments as the earlier periods. In the rougher Nile clay (*TD*: I-c-1), bowls (fig. 21:9) and footed bowls (fig. 21:10) were produced. Jars (fig. 21:11) are not very common. Pots with rims rolled to the outside (fig. 14:9), which appeared for the first time in Phase G/4, have their peak in this period and last until the beginning of the Hyksos period. Hemispherical bowls (fig. 21:12) and deep bowls with horizontal grooving (fig. 21:13) made from the rough Nile C (*TD*: I-c-2) fabric are rare in comparison with the large dishes (fig. 14:10). Dishes



14 K 4249, Egyptian vessels made of Nile B-2 and C.

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
1	cup	nile B-2	red wash on rim	
2	cup	nile B-2	red wash on rim	
3	cup	nile B-2	red wash on rim	
4	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
5	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
6	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
7	jar	nile B-2	uncoated	
8	pot stand	nile B-2	red wash outside	
9	pot	nile C-1	uncoated	
10	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
11	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
12	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
13	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	
14	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	
15	footed bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
16	footed bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
17	pot stand	nile C-2	uncoated	
18	offering stand	nile C-2	uncoated	

thus are connected to special cooking activities. Aside from Egypt⁶⁹, these types of lids were also found in Mesopotamia⁷⁰.

The sandy Nile E (*TD*: I-e-2), which in former phases was mainly used for closed shapes, also serves now for open vessels, such as bowls with trimmed rims (fig. 15:19) or rolled rims (fig. 15:20). Deep bowls (fig. 22:18), jars (figs. 15:22; 22:20) and cooking jars (figs. 15:21; 22:19) are still part of the repertoire. Typical cooking pots (figs. 15:23-25; 22:21,22) become more and more globular, a trend that continues towards the end of the Second Intermediate Period where the pots are already a bit squat. The body of a greenish Upper Egyptian Marl jar (*VS*: Marl A-3, *TD*: II-a-3) was smoothed where the neck broke off and secondarily reused in this period. Marl C-1 (*TD*: II-c-2) jars with horizontally trimmed rim types (figs. 15:28,29; 22:23) are the usual large storage jars for Phase F, while the rim (fig. 15:27) from a jar with a corrugated neck of the older type and from the same fabric makes its last appearance. Large supports made from this fabric are all of general shapes (fig. 22:24) found throughout all the periods from the Middle Kingdom until the New Kingdom.

The transitional MB IIA/B period sees the greatest variety in local production of MB shapes. Bowls with incurved rims (figs. 23:25-27), either red burnished or painted inside, are made from the finer Nile clay (*TD*: I-b-2) or from the very sandy Nile E fabric (*TD*: I-e-2) (fig. 16:33-35,38). The latter, together with limestone tempered Nile D (*TD*: I-d), was especially used at this time for imitating MB pottery. It even seems that Nile D clay was invented for this reason, since it appears together with the first local copies of MB vessels at Tell el-Dab'a at the end of the MB IIA period. In some cases, only with the help of petrography is it possible to distinguish vessels of local production from an import. This fabric was often used for black, brown and red burnished juglets (figs. 16:30; 23:28,29).

In Phases G/1-3 to E/3, globular burnished or red burnished jars with different rim types appear in the settlement material as well as in the burials as imports (figs. 18:70,71; 24:40) and local productions (fig. 16:31,39). These types of burnished jars occur at the end of MB IIA and the transitional MB IIA/B period in Lachish⁷¹ and Ruweise⁷². Mainly in this phase, one finds red burnished carinated bowls (fig. 16:32) made of Nile E (*TD*: I-e-2). A comparable piece comes from a burial in Megiddo⁷³. Burnished or red burnished bowls with a red burnished cross inside (fig. 16:36) occur at Tell el-Dab'a from the transitional MB IIA/B period onwards. They seem to be markers for the beginning of the MB IIB. These types of bowls were found in Stratum F of Tell Beit Mirsim⁷⁴, in Stratum III of Tel Jerishe⁷⁵, in a phase at Bat Yam⁷⁶ which was dated by P. Beck to the end of MB IIA and the transitional MB IIA/B⁷⁷, in burial chambers in Wadi et-Tin⁷⁸, Gezer⁷⁹ and Tel Aviv⁸⁰, in a child burial in the Chantier II nord at Tell el-Far'ah⁸¹, in the last burial of a rock-cut chamber in Barqai⁸² and in tomb 948 at Tel Kabri⁸³ which dates from the late MB IIA until the early MB IIB period.

Open bowls with everted rims (fig. 16:37) only appeared in this period. They can be compared with an example from Stratum III at Tel Jerishe⁸⁴. The appearance of big globular bowls (fig. 23:30,31) is also restricted to Phase F at Tell el-Dab'a. They are either red burnished or red painted on the outside. Similar pieces come from Shechem below Stratum XVIII⁸⁵,

from Stratum III at Tel Jerishe ⁸⁶, from a Stratum XII burial at Megiddo ⁸⁷, from Aphek ⁸⁸, Tel Poleg ⁸⁹ and Tel Burga ⁹⁰.

Globular jars with modelled rims (fig. 23:32,33) are typical of the settlement material of the early MB IIB period (Phase F–E/2). Parallels are known from Shechem ⁹¹. A unique piece is a red burnished fragment ³⁶ of a bowl or pot with an everted rolled rim (fig. 16:40). Large krater-like storage vessels (figs. 16:41,42; 23:34,35) with a white washed exterior are documented at Tell e-Dab'a from the transitional MB IIA/B period until the beginning of the Hyksos period. A similar piece was found at Shechem ⁹². "Holemouth" cooking pots (fig. 17:43) are rare at the site. Rather more common from Phase F until the middle of the Hyksos period are the typical MB cooking pots with gutter rims (fig. 17:44–48). At Aphek, they already appear in the middle MB IIA period ⁹³. As seen on an example from Byblos, some might be equipped with a single handle ⁹⁴.

In this period (=Phase F), about 30% of the settlement pottery was imported to Tell el-Dab'a. Alongside the last appearance of combed dipper juglets (fig. 18:57), one finds red burnished and painted dipper juglets (fig. 18:58,59) and red and brown burnished juglets with candlestick rims (figs. 18:60; 24:37), kettle rims (fig. 19:92) and small ring bases (fig. 18:63) or button bases (figs. 18:62; 24:38). Typical to the middle of the 13th Dynasty at Tell el-Dab'a is a high quality burnish. This gives the surface a metallic gloss ⁹⁵ found in many cases on juglets (fig. 18:61) and carinated bowls (fig. 18:64,66,67).

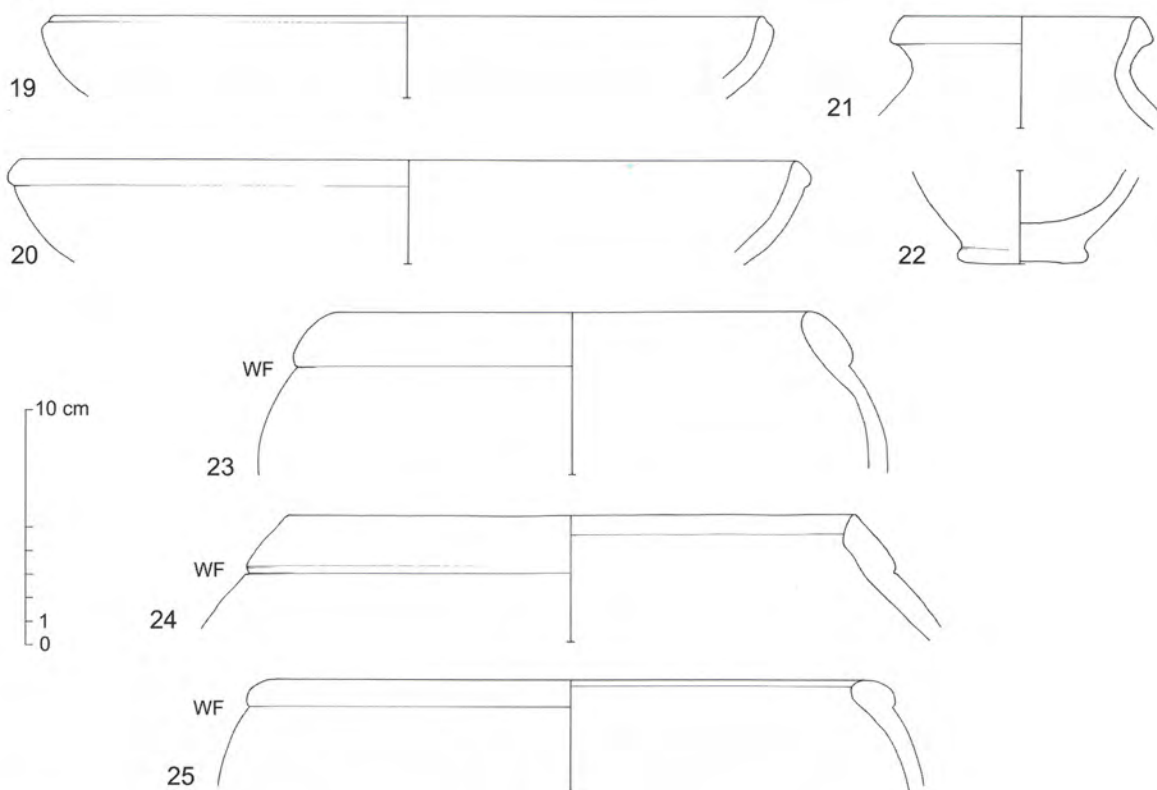
In Phases G/1-3 until E/3 carinated bowls with rolled rims (figs. 18:64; 19:93) were found. Parallels come from Tel Akko ⁹⁶ and Phase G of Tell Beit Mirsim ⁹⁷. Pieces similar to the carinated bowl with moulded rims (fig. 18:65) are listed for Tel Dan ⁹⁸, Ginosar ⁹⁹ and Hazor ¹⁰⁰.

Open bowls with incurved rims (fig. 24:39) were still imported in small numbers. One bowl with an S-profile (fig. 18:69) is unique. At Tel Burga a comparable vessel was discovered ¹⁰¹. Red burnished kraters with moulded rims are found from Phases F till E/1 at Tell el-Dab'a. Although most of them are locally-made, some early examples (fig. 18:72,73) are imported. They might have been inspired from large kraters, such as the ones found at Kfar Szold ¹⁰². It is difficult to find comparable pieces for a closed pot with incised horizontal and wavy lines (fig. 18:74). Perhaps a smaller version from Tomb IV at Tell Sukas, which has horizontal grooves and dates to the first half of MB IIB, is comparable to it ¹⁰³.

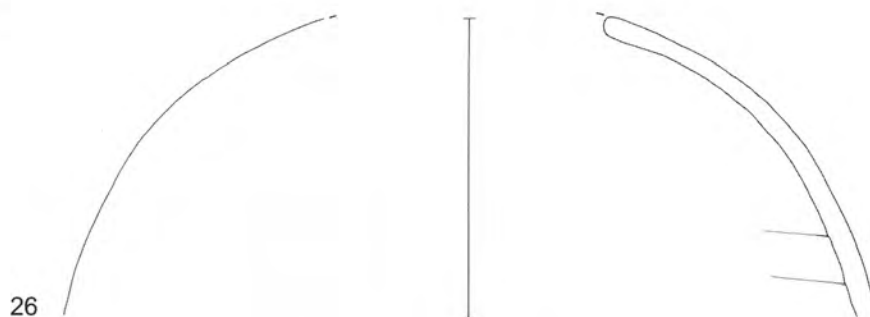
While one-sixth of the imported amphorae from this period was made in IV-1 clay (figs. 18:49-56; 24:36), two-thirds were produced in IV-2 clay (figs. 18:75-77; 19:78-91; 24:41-53) and one-tenth in IV-3 (fig. 19:94-97) and IV-8 fabrics (fig. 19:98). Beside the types that already existed in the MB IIA corpus, such as the elongated everted rims, a new group of storage jars finds its way to the site for the first time. These jars are larger vessels with a rim diameter between 15 and 20 cm (figs. 18:55; 19:86,87,96,98).

Two vessels found in this transitional MB IIA/B phase were imported from the Akkar plain. In K 4249 the rim of a storage jar (fig. 20:99) was discovered. It curves outwardly with an overhanging lip. At the point where the shoulder of the vessel joins the neck, one finds three horizontal grooves; the sur-

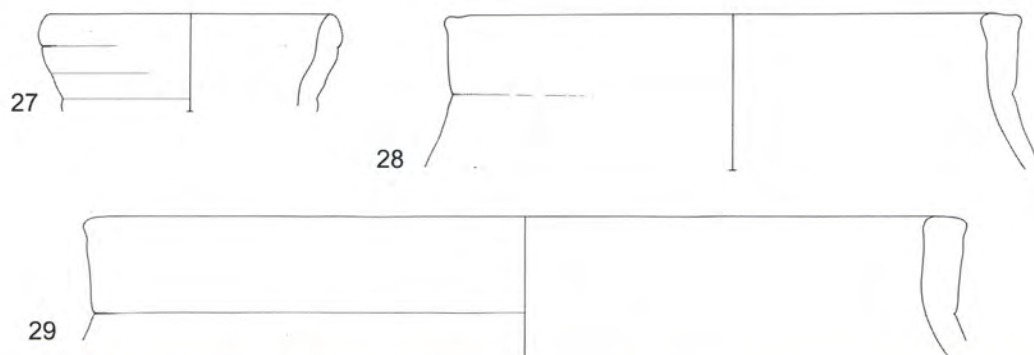
I-e-2



II-a-3



II-c-2



15 K 4249, Egyptian vessels made of Nile E, Marl-A-3 and C-1.

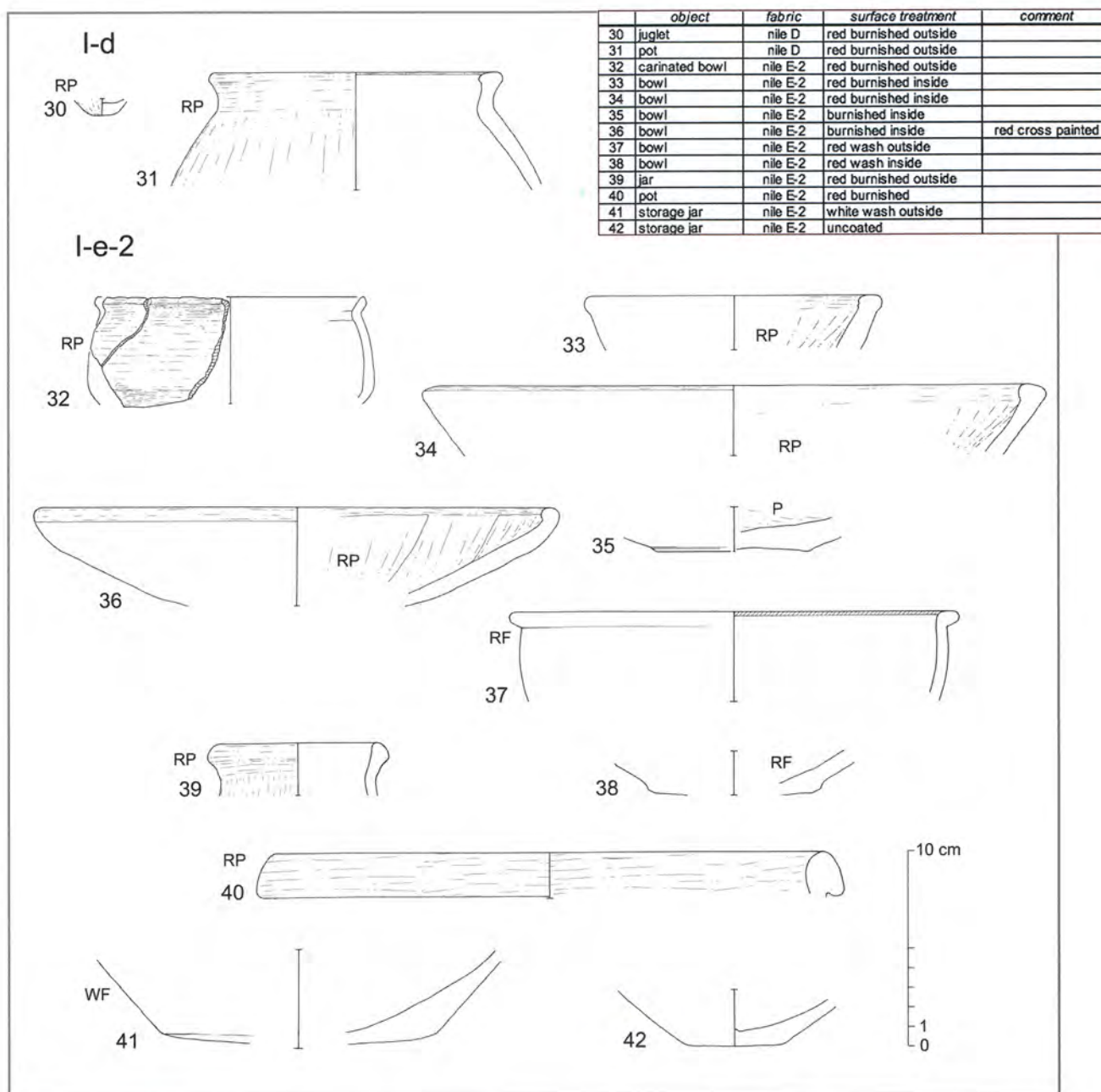
	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
19	bowl	nile E-2	uncoated	
20	bowl	nile E-2	uncoated	
21	jar	nile E-2	uncoated	
22	jar	nile E-2	uncoated	
23	cooking pot	nile E-2	white wash outside	
24	cooking pot	nile E-2	white wash outside	
25	cooking pot	nile E-2	white wash outside	
26	jar	marl A-3	uncoated	
27	jar	marl C-1	uncoated	elder type
28	zir	marl C-1	uncoated	type 4
29	zir	marl C-1	uncoated	type 4

face stayed plain. A comparable rim (fig. 20:right) was found at Tell Arqa in Phase N, Niveau 14 (*non-stratifié*)¹⁰⁴. Unique to Tell el-Dab'a is a squat wheel-made cooking pot (fig. 25:55, Photo 1)¹⁰⁵ whose base, parts of the body, and the rim are unfortunately missing. The latter is turned out-wardly and vertically trimmed with a tool that produced a groove. On the pronounced shoulder are eight incised parallel horizontal grooves. The vessel exhibits on its plain surface (Munsell: 10R 4/4 weak red) traces of intensive burning as a sign of its use as a cooking pot. Again, the best parallel comes from Phase N, Niveau 14 C of Tell Arqa (fig. 25:98/318.008)¹⁰⁶. For the first time, Cypriot Red-on-Black (fig. 24:54) ware is proven for Phase F. A parallel situation exists at Ashkelon. There, Phase 12, equivalent to Phase F at Tell el-Dab'a, also testifies to the initial appearance of Cypriote Red-on-Black ware¹⁰⁷.

The fourth context, K 10042 (fig. 26), lays in Area A/II south-west of a small building dated to the early MB IIB period (=Phase E/3). At this time, nearly 80% of the pottery belongs to the Egyptian ceramic tradition. Of the remaining 20% of MB shapes, 14% are imported to the site while the rest was locally produced.

Although the bulk of the cups are straight-walled in this period, the rims of the cups from context K 10042 (fig. 27:1,2) bend already slightly to the inside and show an average rim diameter of 9 cm. They were made of fine Nile clay (TD: I-b-1). Carinated bowls with hand-made bases (fig. 27:3) found at Tell el-Dab'a date from Middle Kingdom layers until the Hyksos levels. Simple bowls (fig. 27:4-6) exist alongside large carinated bowls (fig. 27:7) decorated with horizontal grooves, small knobs below the rim and a wavy-line above the carination. Antecedents to this type were already discovered in early 12th Dynasty levels¹⁰⁸ at the site. Jars (fig. 27:8) are still very rare in the pottery corpus, while spouted jars (fig. 27:9) belong to the repertoire, as well as pot stands (fig. 27:10-13). Miniature dishes (fig. 27:14,15) are mainly found at the site in cultic contexts such as burials or offering pits. In the settlement material they were used as lids for storage vessels or as lamps. Occasionally, the potters produced lids with handles (fig. 27:17) as well as lamps. The latter were pinched on one side for placing the wick (fig. 27:16).

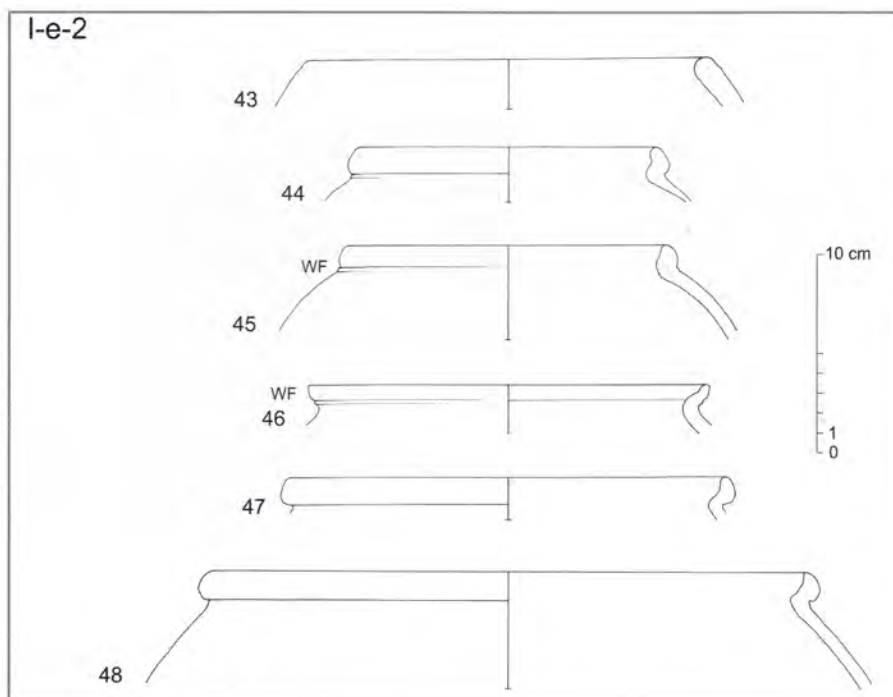
Jars (fig. 27:18) and pots with out-rolled rims (fig. 17:19) made of fine Nile C fabric can be found, as well as footed bowls (fig. 27:20,21) and lids (fig. 27:22). The rougher Nile clay vessels hardly differ from the material of the previous phase. One sees among the material open bowls with straight rims (fig. 27:23) and triangular lips (fig. 27:24). There are also large storage vessels (fig. 27:25), beer jars with kettle rims (fig. 27:26), pot stands (fig. 27:27) and from time to time, *kernoi* (fig. 27:28) which were¹⁰⁹ fixed on the rim of bowls. Bowls (fig. 28:29) and globular cooking pots (fig. 28:30-32) made out of Nile E clay are still part of the collection. It seems that from MB IIB onwards some of the cooking pot bodies were thrown on the wheel. Amongst the Marl C-1 *zirs*, rim type 4 (fig. 28:33) is still the dominant shape. In the corpus of MB vessels of this period, one still finds bowls with incurved rims (fig. 29:34) made of Nile B-2 fabric. Red burnished cups with ring or disk bases (fig. 29:35) appear in Tell el-Dab'a in Phase G/1-3



16 K 4249, Middle Bronze Age vessels made of Nile D and E.

as imports, and in the following Phases F and E/3 as local copies. Parallels are known from a burial in Phase 2 at Aphek ¹¹⁰, from Hadar Yosef ¹¹¹, from burials at Megiddo ¹¹², from Stratum III at Tel Jerishe ¹¹³, from a rock-cut chamber burial in Khirbet Kufin ¹¹⁴, from area A at Tel Poleg ¹¹⁵, from Phase 4a at Tel Nami ¹¹⁶ and from a courtyard tomb at Tell el-Ajjul ¹¹⁷. Carinated bowls made of Nile D, such as the brown burnished example from K 10042 (fig. 28:36) are only found in Phases F and E/3. In comparison to them, burnished bowls with incurved rims (fig. 29:37,38) in the Nile E fabric exist from the end of MB IIA until the first half of the Hyksos period. Red burnished jars (fig. 29:39,40) and red burnished globular jars with different modelled rims (fig. 29:41-43) are part of the settlement material.

The imported material consists of fragments of brown burnished (fig. 30:47) and plain (fig. 30:64) juglets, burnished bowls with incurved rims, both with and without a red cross inside (fig. 30:50,51) and burnished jars (fig. 30:52). New to the repertoire are burnished globular bowls with



	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
43	cooking pot	nile E-2	uncoated	
44	cooking pot	nile E-2	uncoated	
45	cooking pot	nile E-2	white wash outside	
46	cooking pot	nile E-2	white wash outside	
47	cooking pot	nile E-2	uncoated	
48	cooking pot	nile E-2	uncoated	

17 K 2429, Middle Bronze Age vessels made of Nile E.

Three-quarters of the storage jars of this period are made of IV-2 fabric (fig. 30:53-63), while groups IV-1 (fig. 30:44-46) and IV-3 average 10% each. The remaining fabrics belong to groups IV-8 and IV-5. Into the last group fall the rim and base (fig. 31:65, Photo 2) of a medium-sized storage jar found in this context. The rim shows traces of horizontal burnishing while the body was space-vertical burnished. This technique, as well as the shape and the fabric (Photo 3), are known from jars at Tell Arqa, like a storage jar with handles from Phase N, Niveau 14B (fig. 31:79/424.009) ¹³³.

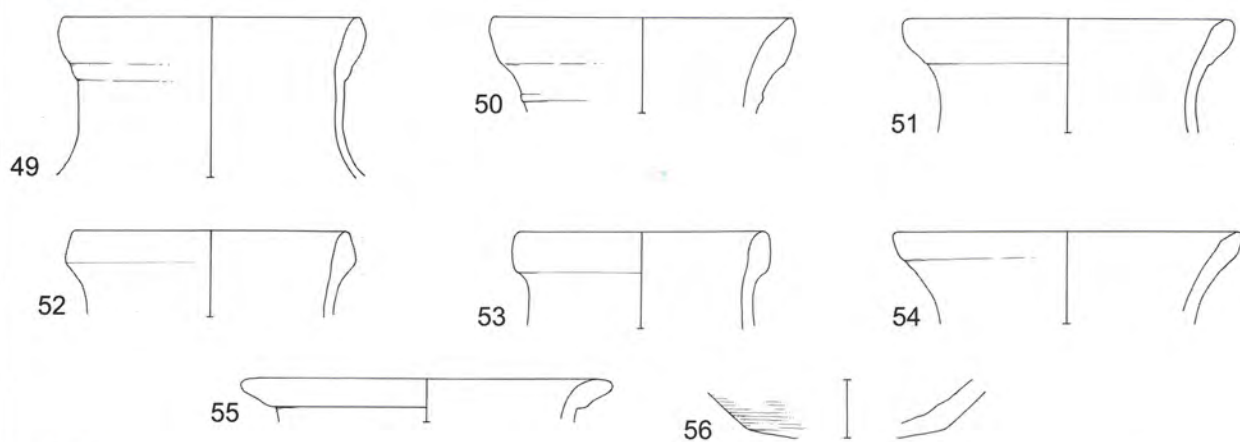
	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
49	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	
50	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	
51	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	
52	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	
53	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	
54	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	
55	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	
56	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	combed
57	dipper juglet	palestinian IV-2	plain	
58	dipper juglet	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
59	dipper juglet	palestinian IV-2	red wash	
60	juglet	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
61	juglet	palestinian IV-2	red burnished, metallic gloss	
62	juglet	palestinian IV-2	brown burnished	
63	juglet	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
64	carinated bowl	palestinian IV-2	red burnished, metallic gloss	
65	carinated bowl	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
66	carinated bowl	palestinian IV-2	red burnished, metallic gloss	
67	carinated bowl	palestinian IV-2	red burnished, metallic gloss	
68	carinated bowl	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
69	bowl	palestinian IV-2	plain	
70	jar	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
71	jar	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
72	pot	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
73	pot/jar	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
74	pot	palestinian IV-2	plain, decor with comb	
75	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
76	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
77	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	

closest for ships coming from the Eastern Mediterranean to enter. Ancient texts testify that during the Hyksos period hundreds of ships were lying at

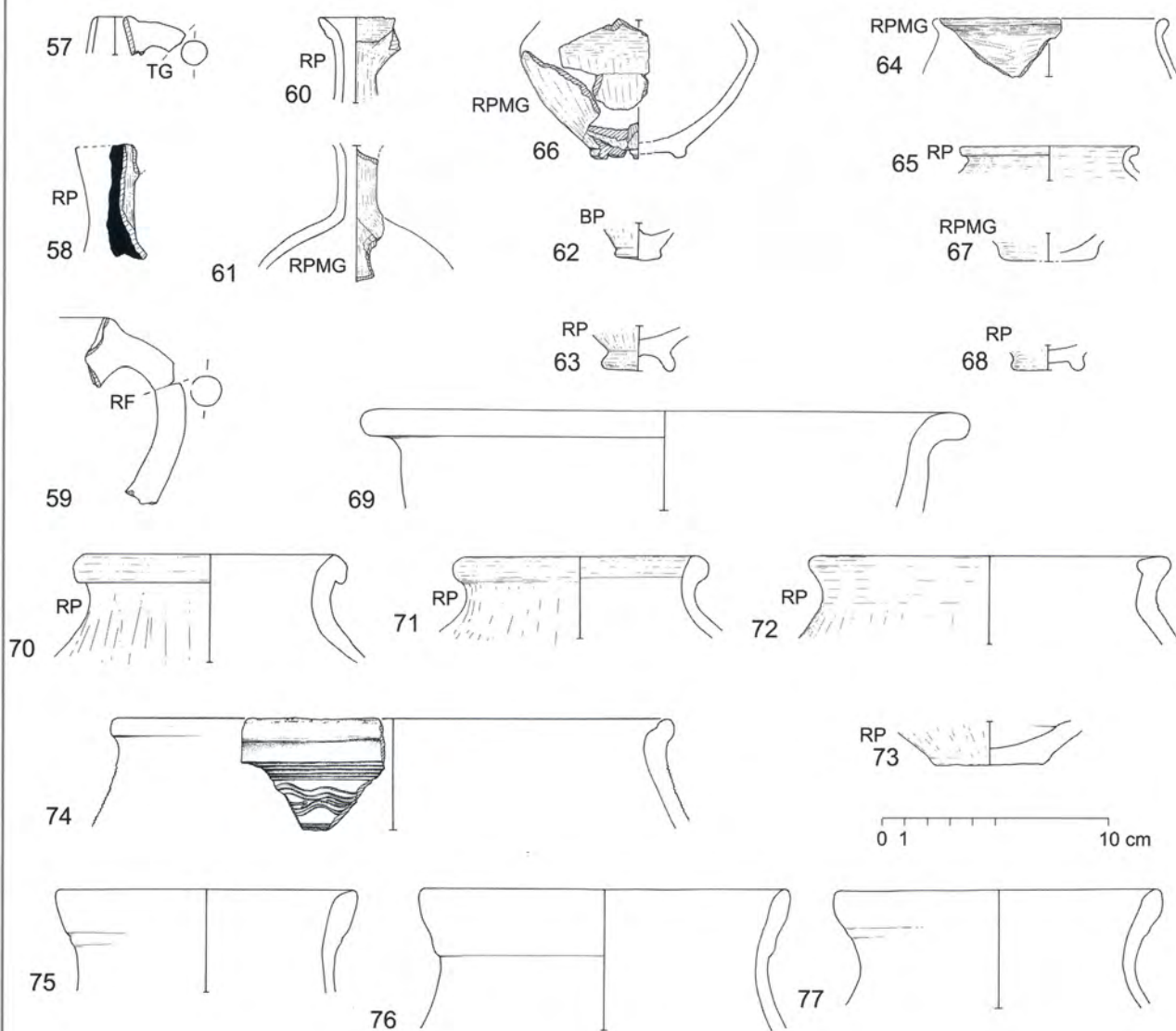
longer, slightly everted necks (fig. 30:48,49). They seem to be markers of the MB IIB period. Parallels have been ⁴⁰ found in Phase 4 in Aphek ¹¹⁸, in Stratum E of Tell Beit Mirsim ¹¹⁹, in the "tombe phénicienne" at Sin el-Fin ¹²⁰, in a burial cave at Kfar Szold ¹²¹, in Strata XX-XVIII at Shechem ¹²², at Hazor ¹²³, Kamid el-Loz ¹²⁴, Wadi et-Tin ¹²⁵, at-Tayibh ¹²⁶, Mtoune ¹²⁷ and in the latest burials from Tomb IV of Tell Sukas ¹²⁸, in a rock-cut chamber tomb at Yiftahel ¹²⁹, at Efrata ¹³⁰, in the tombs of Jericho of Kenyon's Group I and II ¹³¹ and in Phase M of Tell Arqa ¹³².

The vessels found at Tell el-Dab'a prove direct or indirect trade between Egypt and the Akkar plain in northern Lebanon. It is well known that there was contact between the kings of Egypt and the rulers of Byblos already in the Old Kingdom period ¹³⁴. This connection based on mutual economic needs were continued or renewed in the time of the Middle Kingdom ¹³⁵. It is known from excavations at Kahun, Lisht and Dahshur that in the second half of the 12th Dynasty these contacts intensified ¹³⁶ and more imports came into Egypt. It is most likely that Tell el-Dab'a was the harbour where these goods were unloaded. The city was situated in ancient times on the eastern most branch of the Nile, which was the

IV-1



IV-2

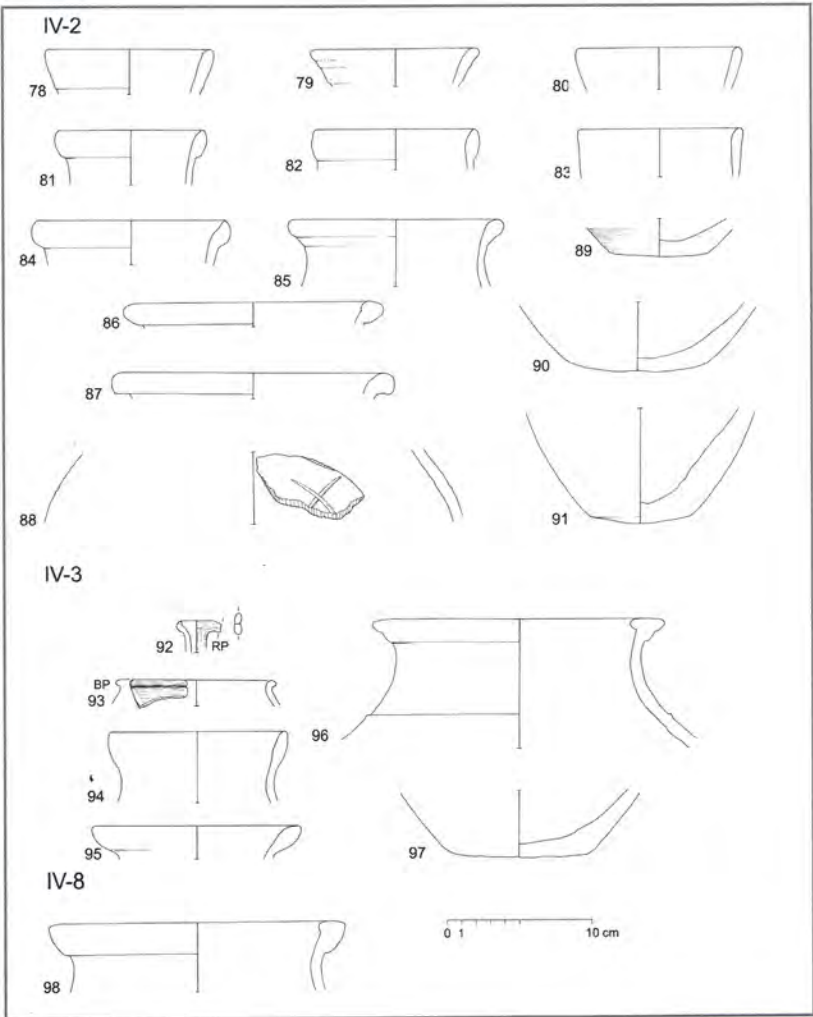


anchor in the harbour of Tell el-Dab'a ¹³⁷. Whether these vessels came directly from the Akkar plain or via the big cities of Byblos and Sidon is still an open question. While the appearance of storage jars, designed for long distance trade, is not surprising, the discovery of a cooking pot is quite unexpected. The latter is not used as a classical trading commodity, but is rather connected with ⁴² its user, and is therefore often regarded as an ethnic marker. According to one school of thought, when people travelled their cooking vessels understandably travelled with them. Another theory ties the appearance of cooking vessels far from their home of origin with their presumed function for the preparation of special meals.

The ceramic material supports the view that during the MB IIA period a more intensive trade existed between Egypt and Lebanon than in later periods. One possible explanation might be found in the fact that the political and economic structures of the Middle Kingdom were still functioning. Indeed, the collapse of the political power of Egypt seems to be combined with a drop in the network of potential trading partners. Indications of this were a shift towards other sources of imports in the MB IIB period and the fact that commodities, whose imports during the MB IIA period were no problem, had to be looked for elsewhere, or were not available anymore.

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
78	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
79	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
80	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
81	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
82	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
83	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
84	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
85	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
86	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
87	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
88	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
89	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
90	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
91	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
92	juglet	palestinian IV-3	red burnished	
93	carinated bowl	palestinian IV-3	brown burnished	
94	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
95	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
96	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
97	storage jar	palestinian IV-3	plain	
98	storage jar	palestinian IV-8	plain	

19 K 4249, imported Middle Bronze Age vessels.

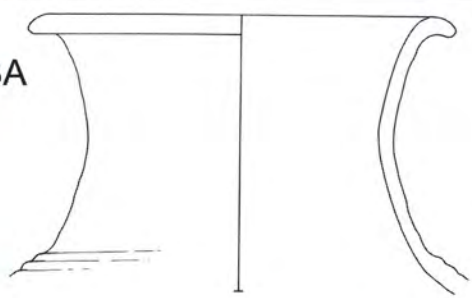


20 K 4249, vessels from the Akkar Plain found at Tell el-Dab'a and Tell Arqa.

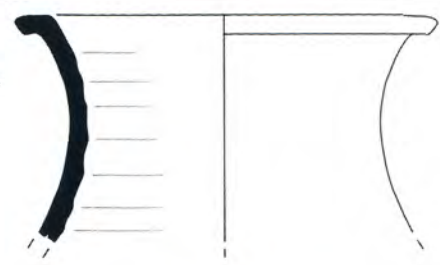
21 K 4236/4256, Egyptian vessels made of Nile B-1, B-2 and C.

TELL
el-DABA

99



TELL
ARQA



93/879.4

(after: J.-P.- Thalmann, *Tell Arqa - I*, pl. 91/14)

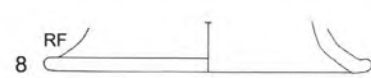
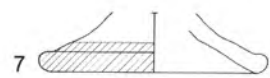
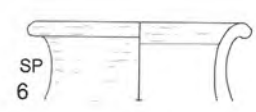
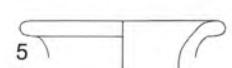
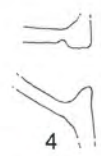
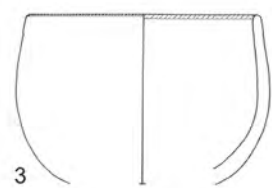
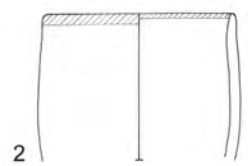
0 1 10 cm

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
99	storage jar	palestinian IV-5	plain	origin: Akkar plain

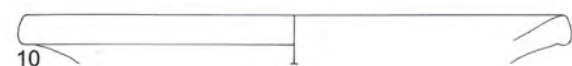
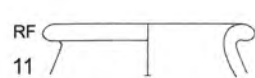
I-b-1



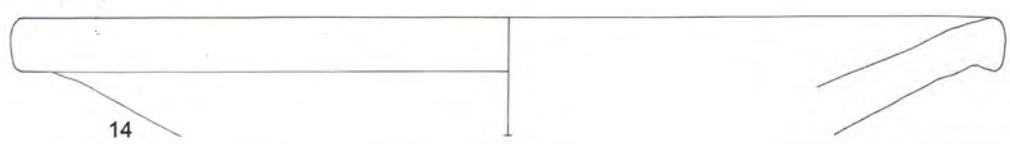
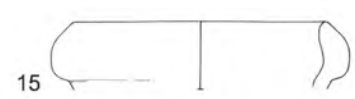
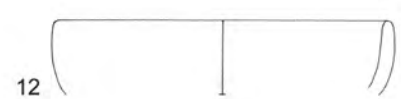
I-b-2



I-c-1

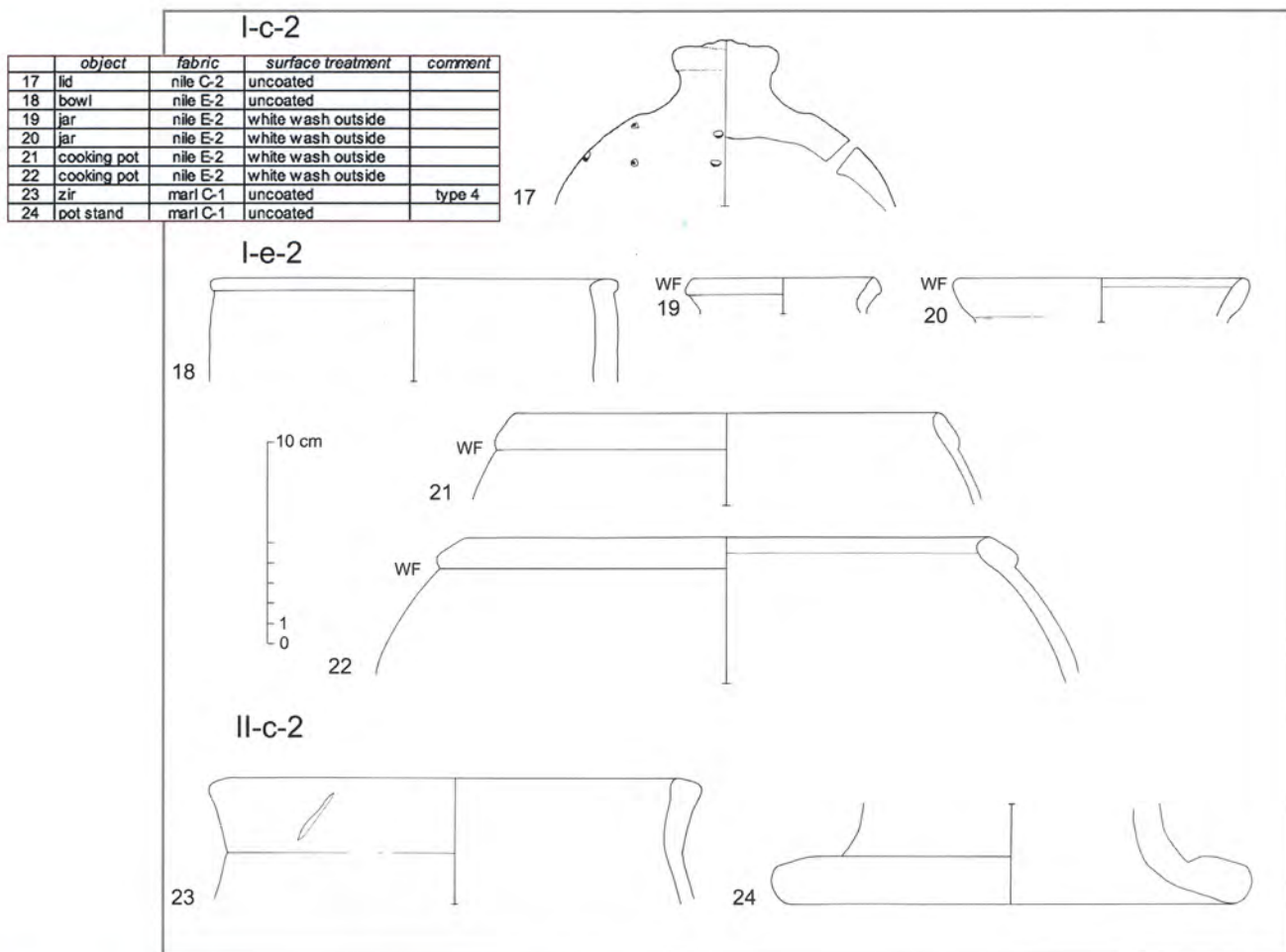


I-c-2



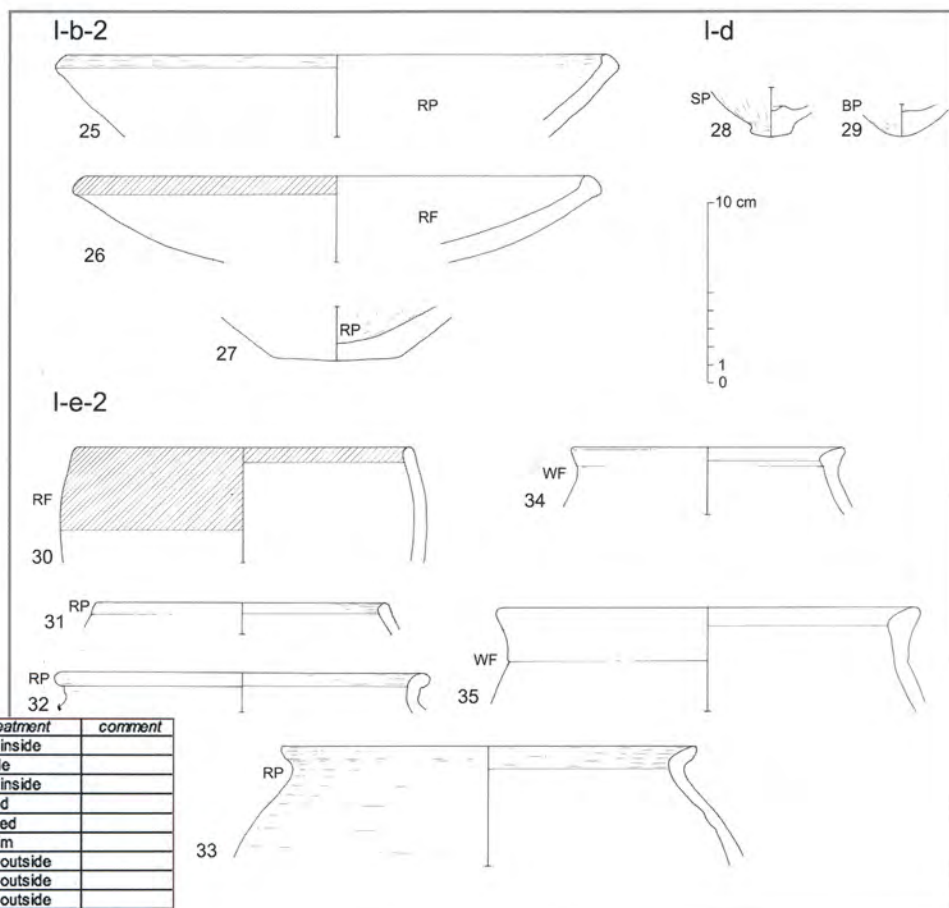
	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
1	Modell(?)vase	nile B-1	uncoated	
2	cup	nile B-2	red wash on rim	
3	cup	nile B-2	red wash on rim	
4	spouted jar	nile B-2	uncoated	
5	pot stand	nile B-2	uncoated	
6	pot stand	nile B-2	black burnished	
7	pot stand	nile B-2	red wash on base	
8	pot stand	nile B-2	red wash outside	
9	bow l	nile C-1	uncoated	
10	footed bow l	nile C-1	uncoated	
11	jar	nile C-1	red wash outside	
12	bow l	nile C-2	uncoated	
13	bow l	nile C-2	uncoated	
14	bow l	nile C-2	uncoated	
15	beer jar	nile C-2	uncoated	
16	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	

10 cm
1
0

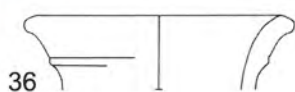


22 K 4236/4256,
Egyptian vessels made
of Nile C, E and
Marl C-1.

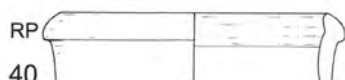
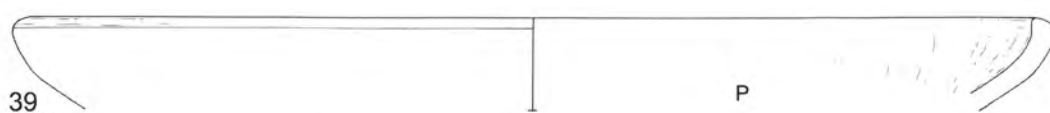
23 K 4236/4256,
Middle Bronze Age
vessels made of Nile
B-2, D and E.



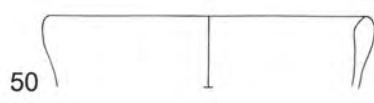
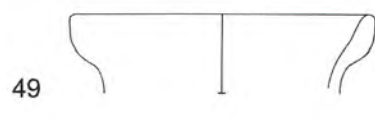
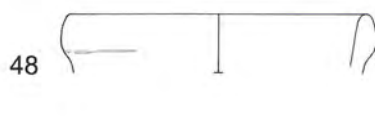
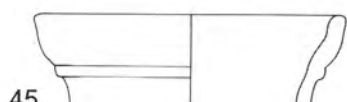
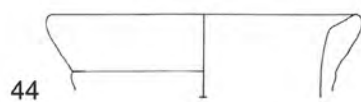
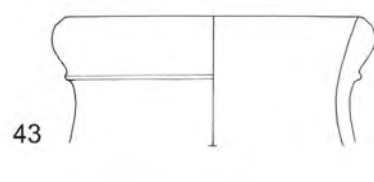
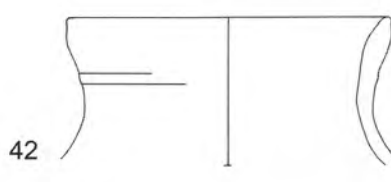
IV-1



IV-2



0 1 10 cm



VI

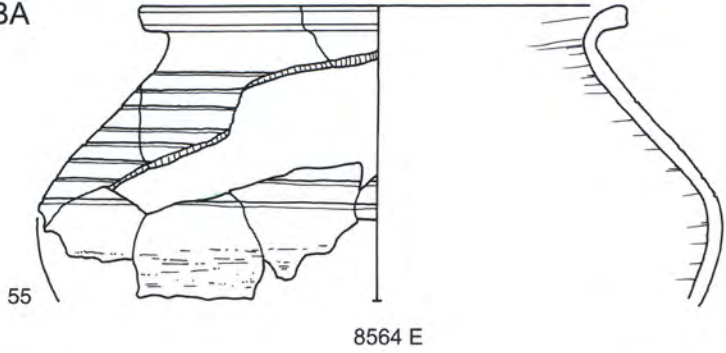


24 K 4236/4256,
imported Middle Bronze
Age vessels and Mid-
dle Cypriote vessel.

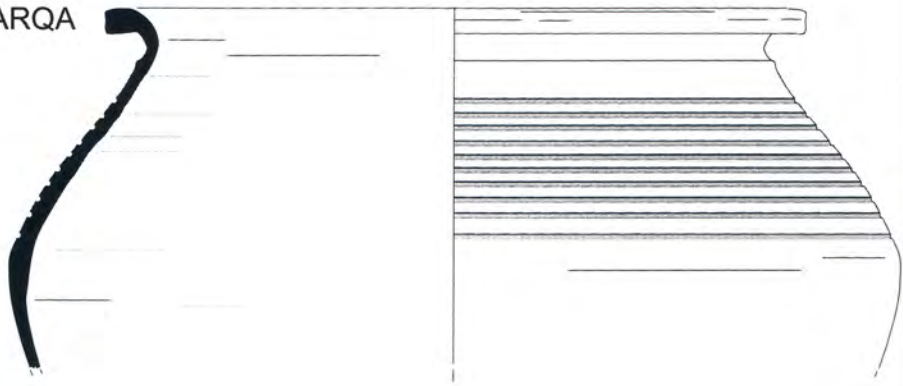
	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
36	storage jar	palestinian IV-1	plain	
37	juglet	palestinian IV-2	brown burnished	
38	juglet	palestinian IV-2	red burnished	
39	bowl	palestinian IV-2	burnished inside	
40	jar	palestinian IV-2	red burnished outside	
41	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
42	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
43	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
44	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
45	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
46	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
47	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
48	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
49	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
50	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
51	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
52	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
53	storage jar	palestinian IV-2	plain	
54	jug	cypriote VI	black and red painted	red-on-black

25 K 4236/4256, vessels from the Akkar Plain found at Tell el-Dab'a and Tell Arqa.

TELL el-DABA



TELL ARQA

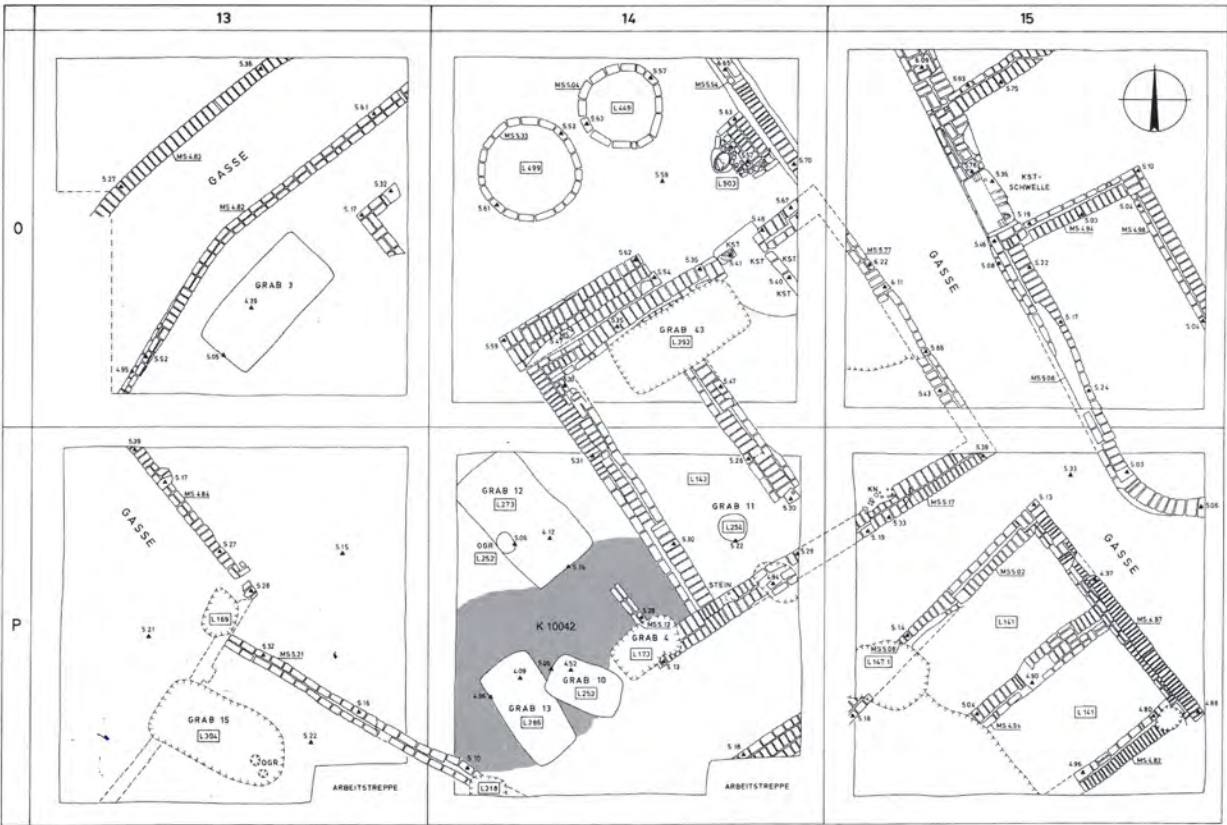


26 Position of K 10042 in Area A/II, Phase E/3 (after I. Forstner-Müller, 2001, p. 203, fig. 6).

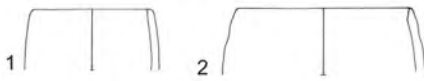
(after: J.-P. Thalmann, *Tell Arqa - I*, pl. 94/11)

object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
55	cooking pot	palestinian IV-5	plain
			origin: Akkar plain

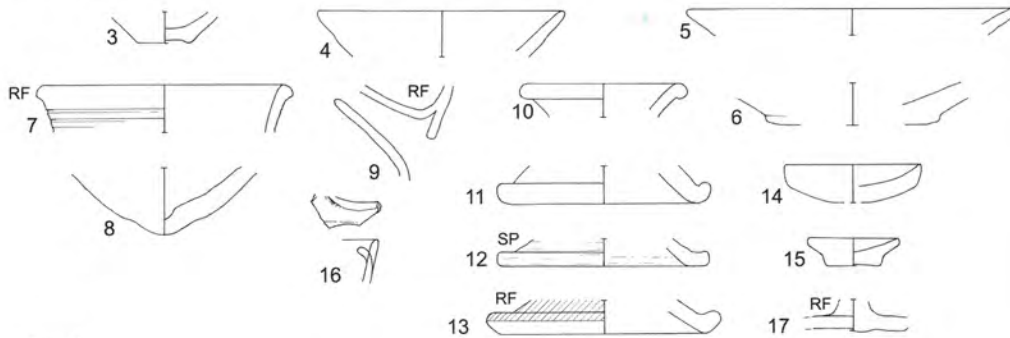
0 1 10 cm



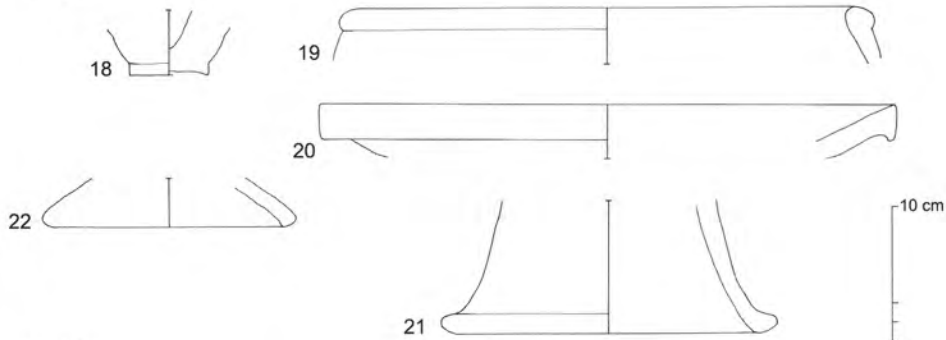
I-b-1



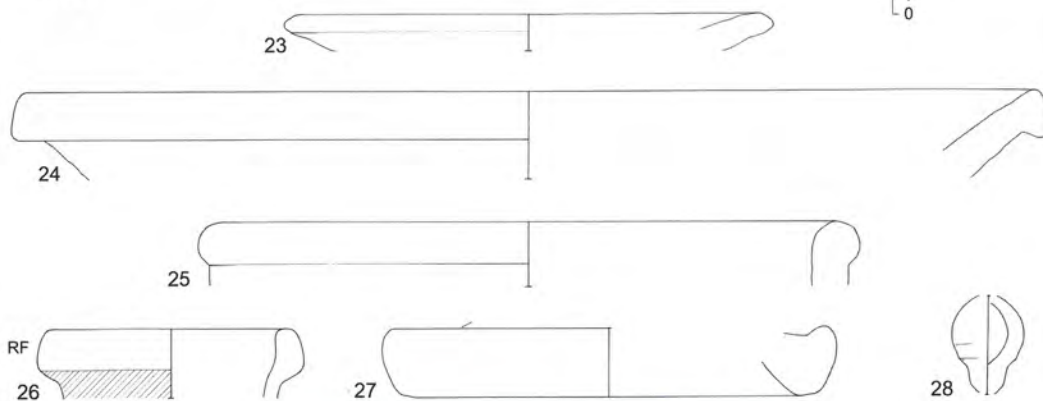
I-b-2



I-c-1



I-c-2



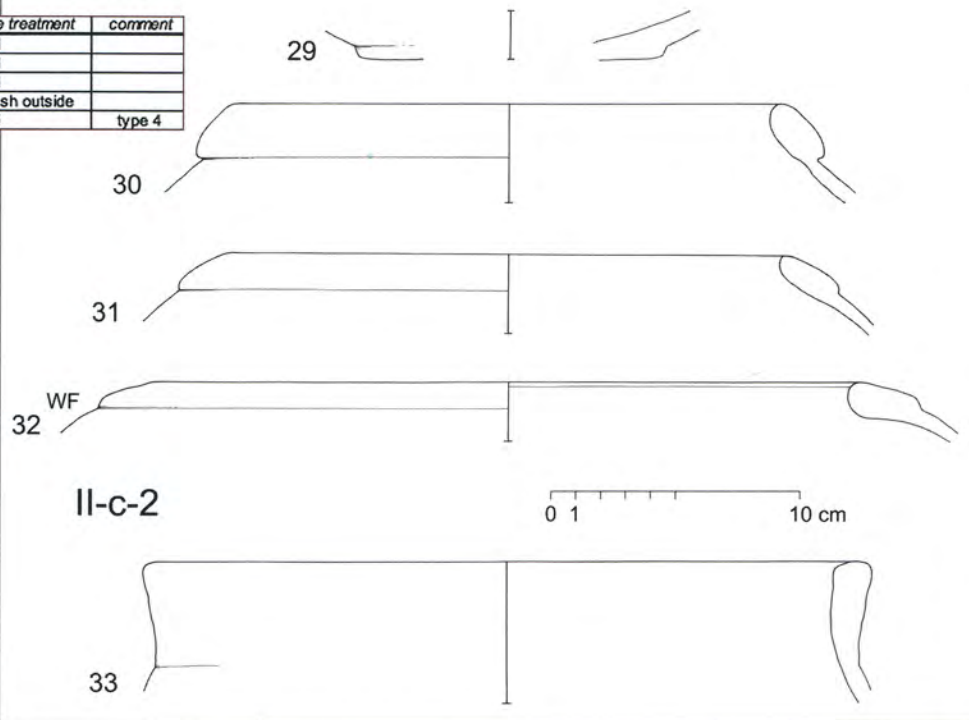
27 K 10042,
Egyptian vessels ma-
de of Nile B-1, B-2 and
C.

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
1	cup	nile B-1	uncoated	
2	cup	nile B-1	uncoated	
3	carinated bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
4	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
5	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
6	bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
7	jar	nile B-2	red wash outside	
8	jar	nile B-2	uncoated	
9	spouted jar/pot	nile B-2	red wash outside	
10	pot stand	nile B-2	uncoated	
11	pot stand	nile B-2	uncoated	
12	pot stand	nile B-2	black burnished	
13	pot stand	nile B-2	red wash outside	
14	model bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
15	model bowl	nile B-2	uncoated	
16	lamp	nile B-2	uncoated	
17	lid	nile B-2	red wash outside	
18	jar	nile C-1	uncoated	
19	pot	nile C-1	uncoated	
20	footed bowl	nile C-1	uncoated	
21	footed bowl	nile C-1	uncoated	
22	lid	nile C-1	uncoated	
23	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
24	bowl	nile C-2	uncoated	
25	jar/pot	nile C-2	uncoated	
26	beer jar	nile C-2	red wash outside	type 4
27	pot stand	nile C-2	uncoated	
28	kernos	nile C-2	uncoated	

	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
29	bowl	nile E-2	uncoated	
30	cooking pot	nile E-2	uncoated	
31	cooking pot	nile E-2	uncoated	
32	cooking pot	nile E-2	white wash outside	
33	zir	marl C-1	uncoated	type 4

28 K 10042,
Egyptian vessels made
of Nile E and Marl C-1.

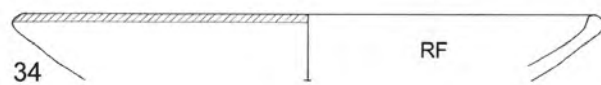
I-e-2



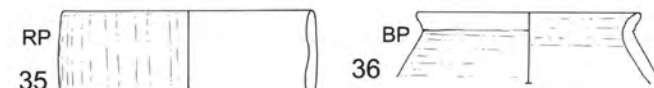
II-c-2

29 K 10042, Mid-
dle Bronze Age vessels
made of Nile B-2, D
and E.

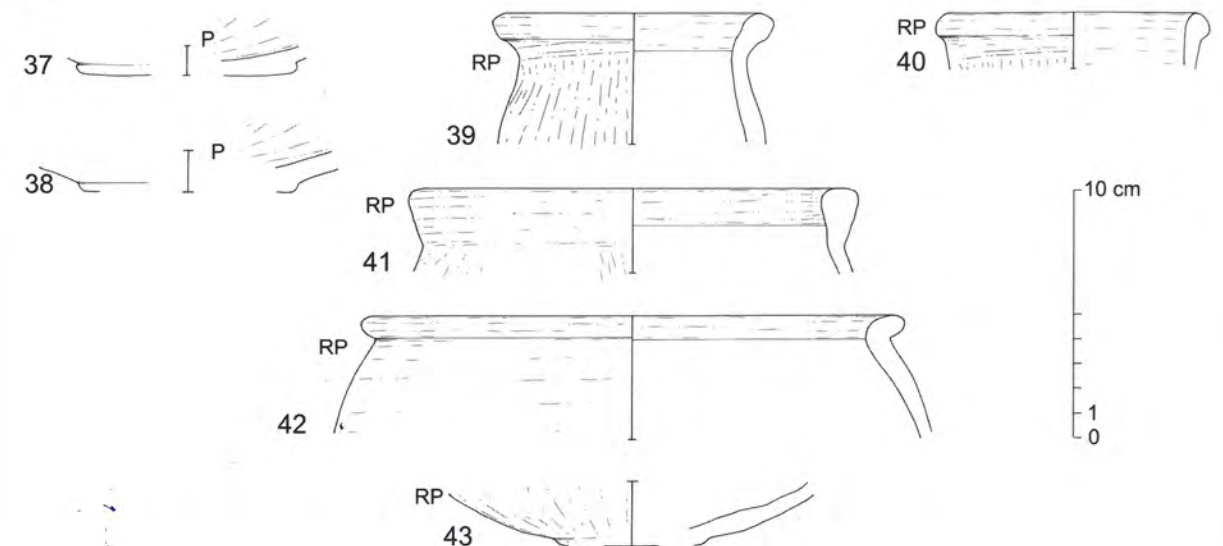
I-b-2



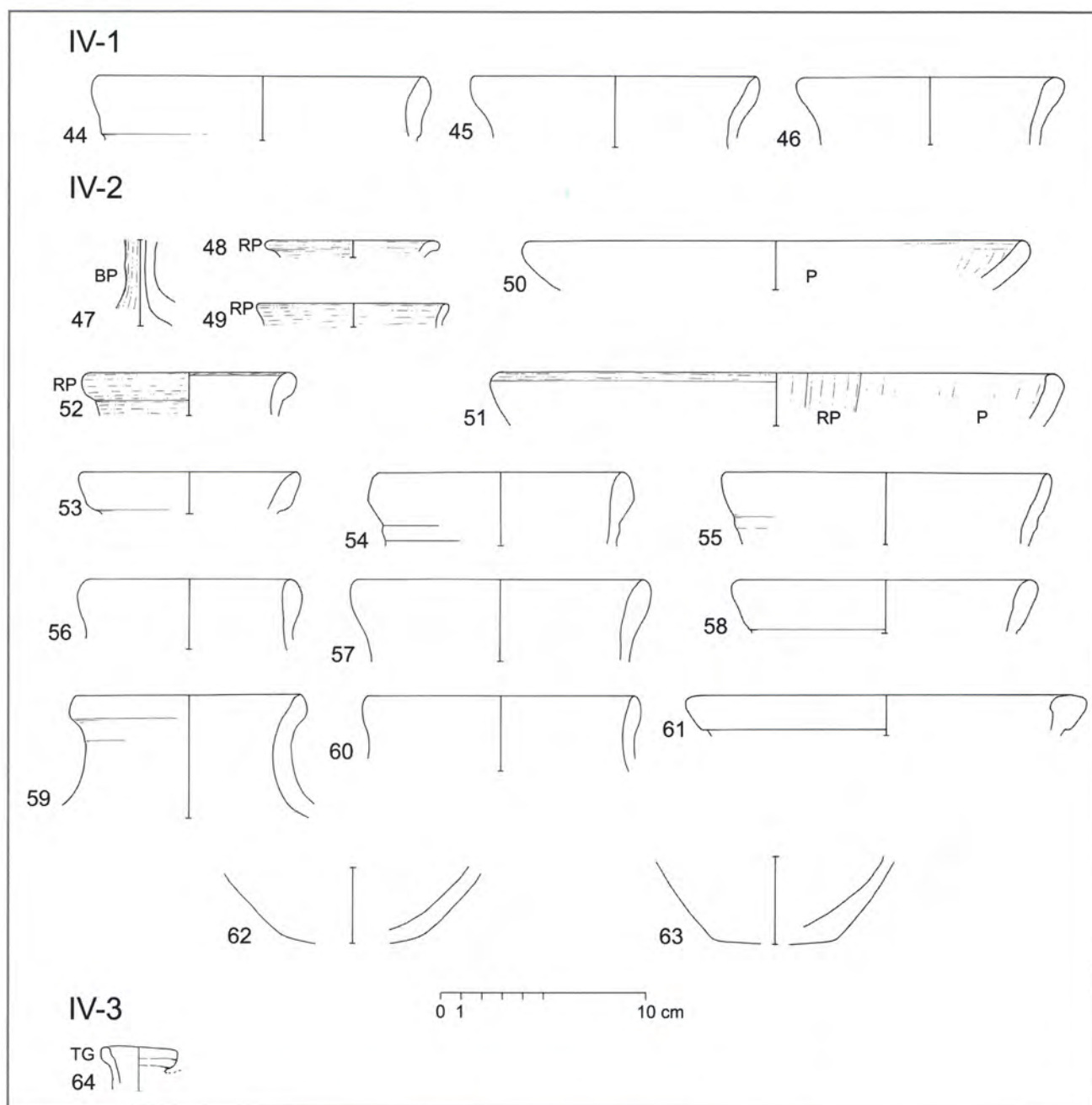
I-d



I-e-2



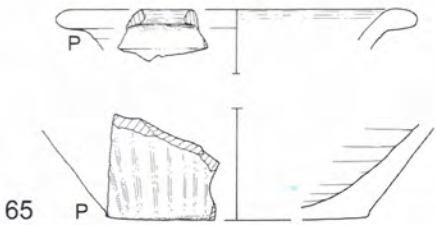
	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
34	bowl	nile B-2	red wash inside	
35	cup	nile D	red burnished	
36	carinated bowl	nile D	brown burnished	
37	bowl	nile E-2	burnished inside	
38	bowl	nile E-2	burnished inside	
39	jar	nile E-2	red burnished	
40	jar	nile E-2	red burnished	
41	pot	nile E-2	red burnished	
42	globular pot	nile E-2	red burnished	
43	jar/pot	nile E-2	red burnished	



30 K 10042, imported Middle Bronze Age vessels.

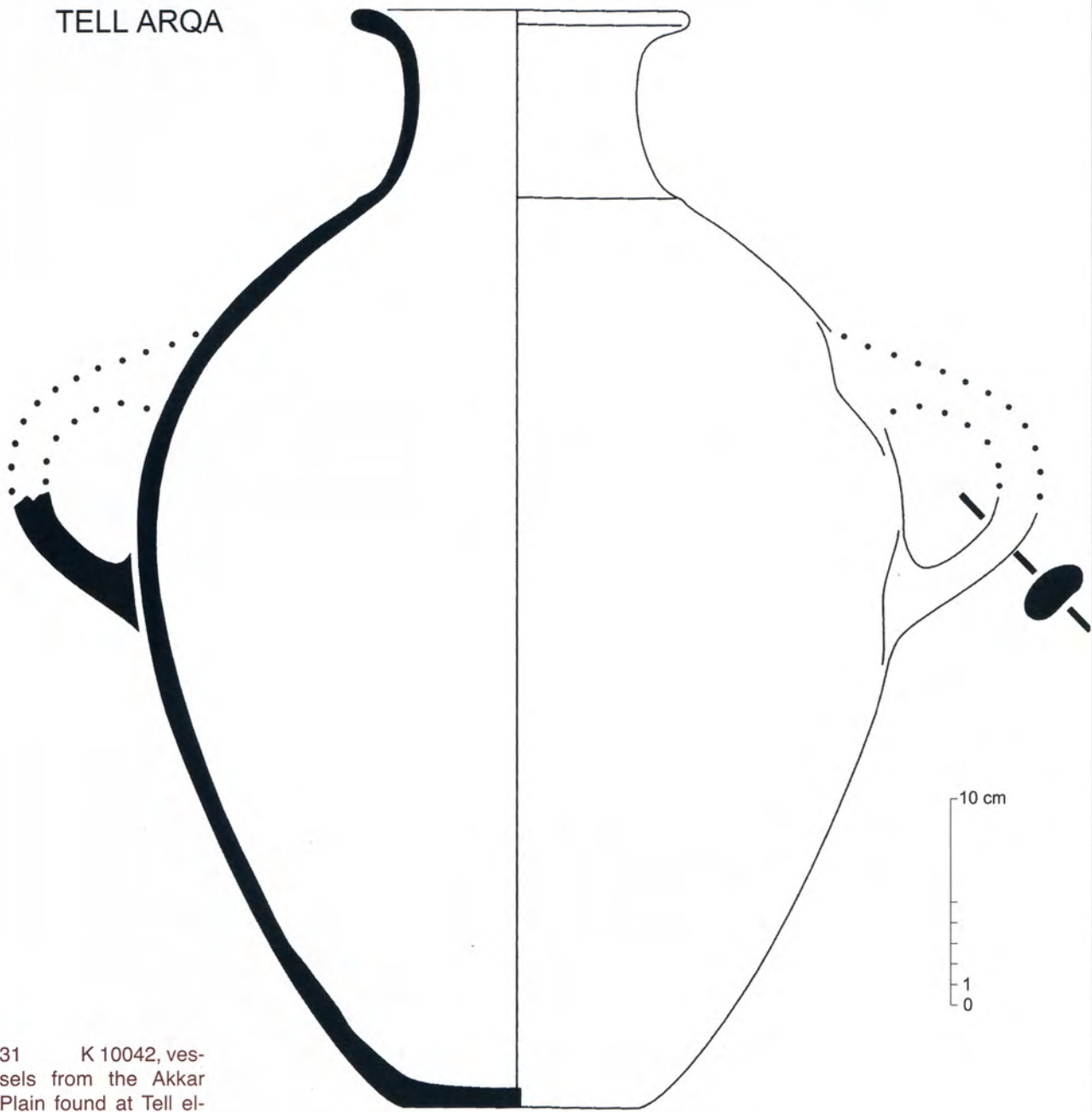
	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
44	storage jar	palestinian VI-1	plain	
45	storage jar	palestinian VI-1	plain	
46	storage jar	palestinian VI-1	plain	
47	juglet	palestinian VI-2	brown burnished	
48	bowl	palestinian VI-2	red burnished	
49	bowl	palestinian VI-2	red burnished	
50	bowl	palestinian VI-2	burnished inside	
51	bowl	palestinian VI-2	burnished inside	red cross painted
52	jar	palestinian VI-2	red burnished	
53	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
54	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
55	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
56	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
57	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
58	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
59	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
60	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
61	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
62	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
63	storage jar	palestinian VI-2	plain	
64	juglet	palestinian VI-3	plain	

TELL el-DABA



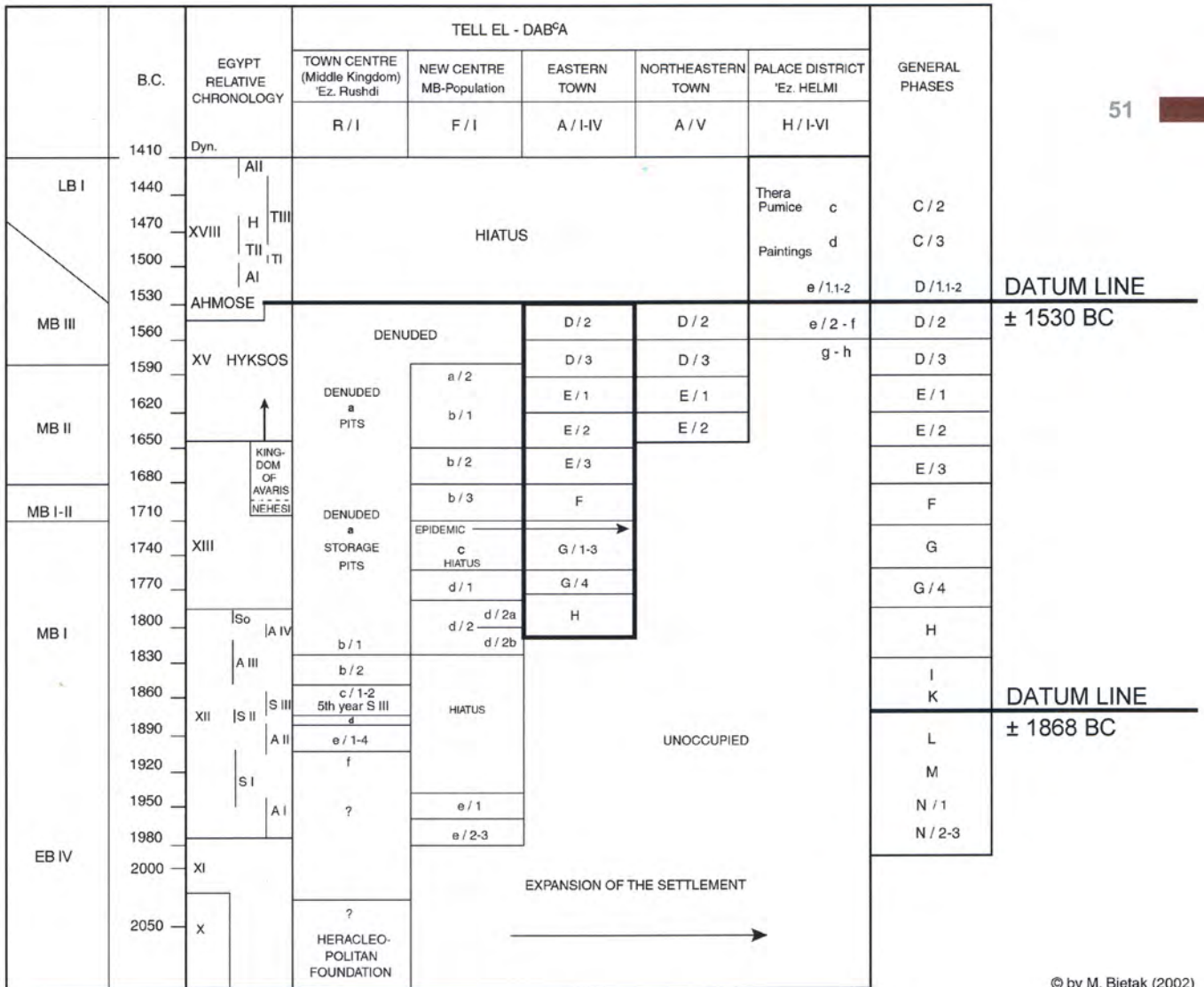
	object	fabric	surface treatment	comment
65	storage jar	palestinian IV-5	burnished	origin: Akkar plain

TELL ARQA



31 K 10042, vessels from the Akkar Plain found at Tell el-Dab'a and Tell Arqa.

79/424.9
(after: J.-P. Thalmann, *Tell Arqa - I*, pl. 89/5)



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32 Stratigraphy of Tell el-Dab'a (after M. Bietak, I. Forstner-Müller and C. Mlinar, 2001, fig. 1).

Fig. 1: Stratigraphy of Tell el-Dab'a

I would like to thank Eva Dobretsberger for inking the drawings, Nicola Math for preparing the map of Area A/IV, and Manfred Bietak, Irmgard Hein and Irene Forstner-Müller for allowing me to use their material.

NOTES

- 1 M. Bietak, 1984a, p. 324–332.
- 2 R. Schiestl, 2003, p. 112f.
- 3 For the general Vienna System see H.-Å. Nordström and J. Bourriau, 1993, p. 143–190. For the Tell el-Dab'a system see M. Bietak, 1991a, p. 324–330.
- 4 T. E. Peet, 1914, p. 57f, pl. XXIX:B13 (2nd vessel from right in the upper most row).
- 5 J. Wegner, 2000, p. 94, fig. 8:8.
- 6 T. Burton-Brown, 1959, p. 77, fig. 3.
- 7 R. Engelbach, 1923, pl. XXXIV:10D.
- 8 R. Mond and O. H. Myers, 1937, pl. XXXII:10M.
- 9 C. A. Hope, 1980, pl. XX:d.
- 10 A. Seiler, 2003, p. 52, fig. 15:2.
- 11 Do. Arnold, 1982, p. 60–62.
- 12 M. Bietak, 1984b, p. 480–482.
- 13 Do. Arnold, 1982, p. 33, fig. 9:7.
- 14 Do. Arnold, 1982, p. 30, fig. 6:7.
- 15 Z. E. Szafranski, 1998, p. 95–119.
- 16 In later periods there appears a type 5 beer jar with a kettle rim and a rim diameter below 10 cm.
- 17 Not a single one has been found within burial contexts.
- 18 Do. Arnold, 1981, p. 171–191.
- 19 For Dahshur see Do. Arnold, 1982, p. 32, fig. 8:6. See also B. Bader, 2001, figs. 24–27.
- 20 I. Forstner-Müller, K. Kopetzky and C. Doumet-Serhal, 2006, p. 52, fig. 2.
- 21 For Dahshur see Do. Arnold, 1982, p. 32, fig. 8:8. See also B. Bader, 2001, figs. 30–38.
- 22 I. Forstner-Müller, K. Kopetzky and C. Doumet-Serhal, 2006, p. 53, fig. 3.
- 23 B. Bader, 2001, figs. 47–54.
- 24 S. J. Allen, 2006, ⁵² p. 32–33.
- 25 Do. Arnold, 1982, p. 32, fig. 8:5,7.
- 26 J.-P. Thalmann, I. Forstner-Müller and K. Kopetzky forthcoming. The authors are preparing an article about the synchronisation of the relative chronologies of Tell Arqa and Tell el-Dab'a.
- 27 Do. Arnold, 1982, p. 33, fig. 11:3,4.
- 28 L. E. Stager, 2002, p. 359, fig. 21.
- 29 G. Loud, 1948, pl. 43:4.
- 30 M. Dunand, 1964, p. 32, pl. II:1,2.
- 31 Personal communication.
- 32 Compare for example to a piece from a Phase G/4 tomb in Tell el-Dab'a (M. Bietak, 1991b, p. 67, fig. 15).
- 33 G. T. Martin, 1971, pl. 15:32.
- 34 P. Montet, 1928, figs. CXVI:789, CXVIII:789.
- 35 P. Montet, 1928, p. 199, no. 789.
- 36 K. Kopetzky, "Stratigraphie comparée. Tell el-Dab'a and the Royal Tombs I–III of Byblos: New Chronological Evidence", lecture held at the 4 ICAANE in Berlin.
- 37 P. Beck, 1975, p. 49, fig. 2:14.
- 38 Abydos: J. Wegner, 2000, p. 121, fig. 25:1. Tell el-Maskhuta: C. A. Redmount, 1989, p. 820–828. Northern Sinai: E. Oren, 1997, p. 278, fig. 8.25:4–13.
- 39 For example, Ashkelon: M. Bietak, K. Kopetzky and L. E. Stager, in print, fig. 1:8. Tel Aphek: M. Kochavi and E. Yadin, 2002, p. 197, fig. 12:11; p. 203, fig. 16:9–11; p. 213, fig. 23:13,14 – Phases 1–3. Megiddo: G. Loud, pl. 7:9–12, from locus 4023; pl. 9:19, locus 5161.
- 40 Yarbud: A. A. Assaf, 1967, Table. VI/31. M'toune: F.

- Braemer and M. al-Maqdissi, 2002, p. 26, fig. 8. Khirbet el-Umbashi: F. Braemer and M. al-Maqdissi, 2002, p. 37, pl.VII:5.
- 41 M. Bietak, 1991a, p. 328–330.
- 42 Neutron activation analysis was done on the material with minimal results. See P. McGovern, 2000. Meanwhile, a petrographic study is underway and seems more promising.
- 43 A preliminary report by A. Cohen-Weinberger seems to support this theory.
- 44 K. Kopetzky, 2002, p. 227–229.
- 45 R. Saidah, 1993–94, p. 160, pl. 14:2–4.
- 46 M. Chéhab, 1939, p. 804, fig. 2:c.
- 47 O. Tufnell, 1969, p. 30, fig. 4:35–40.
- 48 D. A. Aston, 2002, p. 81, fig. 14:6.
- 49 M. Bietak, 1991a, p. 55, fig. 27:10.
- 50 A. Durks, 1982, p. 4, fig. 2:19.
- 51 M. Dunand, N. Saliby and A. Khirichian, 1954/55, pl. III:2/2.
- 52 R. Saidah, 1993–94, p. 161, pl. 15:1–5. L. Badre, 2001–2002, p. 10, fig. 4:2.
- 53 M. Chéhab, 1939, p. 805, fig. 4:b.
- 54 D. Ilan, 1996, p. 327, fig. 4.105:2.
- 55 N. Getzov and Y. Nagar, 2002, p. 8, fig. 7:11.
- 56 G. Loud, 1948, pl. 10:21, T. 3143, pl. 10:16, T. 2152 and pl. 10:18, T. 5171.
- 57 K. Covello-Paran, 1996, p. 74, fig. 4:10.
- 58 S. E. Falconer and B. Magness-Gardiner, 1984, p. 62, fig. 15:3.
- 59 L. Barda and E. Braun, 2003, p. 74, fig. 4:7.
- 60 I. Ben-Dor, 1950, p. 31, fig. 24:c.
- 61 R. Gonen, 2001, p. 70, fig. 47:3.
- 62 A. Kempinski, L. Gershuny and N. Scheftelowitz, 2000, p. 125, fig. 5.23:11.
- 63 T. Bagh, 2002, p. 94, fig. 2.
- 64 A. Durks, 1982, p. 5, fig. 3:10.
- 65 J.-P. Thalmann, 2002, p. 373, fig. 8:1.
- 66 J.-P. Thalmann, 2006, pl. 86:7.
- 67 Sherds of this group have been sent for petrography.
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- 70 R. Ellison, 1984, p. 65, fig. 1:5.
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- 91 D. P. Cole, 1984, p. 115, pl. 8:a, below Stratum XVIII, p. 115, pl. 8:f.
- 92 D. P. Cole, 1984, p. 115, pl. 8:b.
- 93 P. Beck, 1975, p. 49, fig. 2:11, phase 2.
- 94 M. Dunand, 1937, pl. CLIX:2843.
- 95 M. Bietak, 1991c, p. 40.
- 96 M. Dothan, 1976, p. 11, fig. 7:1.
- 97 W. F. Albright, 1933, p. 50, pl. 4:4.
- 98 D. Ilan, 1996, p. 325, fig. 4.104:12.
- 99 C. Epstein, 1974, p. 29, fig. 10:1.
- 100 Y. Yadin *et al.*, 1958, pl. C:4.
- 101 M. Kochavi, P. Beck and R. Gophna, 1979, p. 144, fig. 10:15.
- 102 C. Epstein, 1974, pl. 18:4.
- 103 H. Thrane, 1978, p. 32, fig. 33.
- 104 J.-P. Thalmann, 2006, pl. 91:14.
- 105 K. Kopetzky, in print, fig. 2:5 - TD 8564E. See also D. A. Aston, 2002, p. 75, fig. 11:2. However, the dating given by Aston should be changed to Phase F.
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- 107 M. Bietak, K. Kopetzky and L. E. Stager, in print.
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123 A. M. Maeir, 1997, *Tomb 1181*, p. 302, fig. IV.2:18–21. Y. Garfinkel, 1997, *Area L*, p. 197, fig. Ili.6:4, tomb 1150. See also Y. Yadin *et al.*, 1958, pl. C:1.

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131 K. Kenyon and T. A. Holland, 1982, p. 403, fig. 165:4.

132 J.-P. Thalmann, 2006, pl. 99:2.

133 J.-P. Thalmann, 2006, pl. 89:5.

134 i.e.: Egypt imported cedar wood from the Lebanese mountains, while Egyptian objects were found in Byblos' "temple aux obélisques".

135 For this see H. Altenmüller and A. M. Moussa, 1991, p. 1–48. For the connections during the late 12th Dynasty, see J. P. Allen, *The historical inscription of Khnumhotep at Dahshur*, lecture held in 2004.

136 Do. Arnold, F. Arnold and S. Allen, 2005, p. 13–32.

137 See for this L. Habachi, 1972.

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