

# THE SECOND INTERMEDIATE PERIOD AND EARLY NEW KINGDOM AT DEIR AL-BARSHA

By Janine Bourriau, Marleen De Meyer, Lies Op de Beeck, Stefanie Vereecken

During the excavations of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven at Deir al-Barsha in 2003 and 2004, evidence was found of burial practices dating to the Second Intermediate Period and early New Kingdom.<sup>1</sup> That a large part of the necropolis was reused during this time is clear from the fact that burials dating to this period were found both in the floodplain of the wadi (Zone 9) and the rock tombs higher up (Zone 4). This article will concentrate on the evidence from Zone 4, the rock tombs located on the northern hill of Deir al-Barsha, below the Middle Kingdom nomarchs' tombs.

It has already been made clear by other authors that Egypt was not culturally united during the time between the abandonment of the Residence at Lisht and the reunification by Ahmose in the early Eighteenth Dynasty. Evidence of this is also found in the pottery assemblages at different sites. Following the suggested regional division made by Bourriau we can discern the Eastern Delta, the Memphis-Fayum region, Middle Egypt (to Asyut), Upper Egypt, and the region around Aswan.<sup>2</sup> As no pottery dating to this period from Deir al-Barsha has been

published before, it is our aim to show how our pottery assemblage may or may not fit this pattern.<sup>3</sup> We should remark, however, that the recording and analysis of the pottery unearthed in the 2003 and 2004 field seasons is not yet complete. A full report will be published in the future.

The tombs of Zone 4 are described throughout the literature as dating to the Old and Middle Kingdoms, and reused during the Graeco-Roman Period.<sup>4</sup> Never has any mention been made of Second Intermediate Period or New Kingdom material. However, during the 2003 mission, Second Intermediate Period pottery was found in nearly all sectors under excavation. Due to the intense reuse of the tombs and subsequent pillaging, most of the finds were unfortunately no longer *in situ*.

A word is in order about some of the conventions used in the following pottery drawings.<sup>5</sup> On some of the drawings the actual outline of the sherd is indicated, while on others it is not. Our convention is to draw the outline of the sherd when it represents less than 25% of the vessel's diameter. Pattern burnishing is indicated as a series of short parallel strokes. All drawings are

<sup>1</sup> For the first preliminary report of this mission, containing an overview of the excavation history at the site and the first results of the 2002 KULeuven mission, see H.O. WILLEMS, M. DE MEYER, D. DEPRAETERE, *et al.*, Preliminary Report of the 2002 Campaign of the Belgian Mission to Deir al-Barsha, *MDAIK* 60 (2004), 237–283. In this report the new numbering system used for the tombs is likewise explained. The report of the 2003 mission has been submitted for publication (H.O. WILLEMS, M. DE MEYER, D. DEPRAETERE, *et al.*, Preliminary Report of the 2003 Campaign of the Belgian Mission to Deir al-Barsha, *MDAIK* 62 (2006) [forthcoming]). A short summary of the excavations in Zone 4 during the 2003–2004 missions can be found in M. DE MEYER, *In the Shadow of the Nomarchs: New Excavations in the Rock Tombs of Deir al-Barsha*, to appear in the proceedings of the ninth International Congress of Egyptologists (Grenoble, 6–12 September 2004) [forthcoming].

<sup>2</sup> J. BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris. The Second Intermediate Period in Egypt Outside the Eastern Delta*, in: E.D. OREN (ed.), *The*

*Hyksos: New Historical and Archaeological Perspectives*, University Museum Monograph, Philadelphia 1997, 159; J. BOURRIAU, *Some Archaeological Notes on the Kamose Texts*, in: A. LEAHY and J. TAIT (eds.), *Studies on Ancient Egypt in Honour of H.S. Smith*, EES-OP 13, London 1999, 43.

<sup>3</sup> Seiler recently indicated that during the Second Intermediate Period even smaller local units should be considered (A. SEILER, *Bemerkungen zum Ende des Mittleren Reiches in Theben. Erste Ergebnisse der Bearbeitung der Keramik aus Areal H*, in: D. POLZ and A. SEILER (eds.), *Die Pyramidenanlage des Königs Nub-Cheper-Re Intef in Dra' Abu el-Naga*, SDAIK 24, Mainz am Rhein 2003, 50, and n. 146).

<sup>4</sup> G. DARESSY, *Fouilles de Deir el Bircheh* (novembre-décembre 1897), *ASAE* 1 (1900), 23–24.

<sup>5</sup> The pottery drawings were drawn and inked over the years by Evy Cuypers, Benjamin Leroy, Anke Rijmenams, Rob Croonenborghs, and Greet Raeymaekers. The small finds were drawn and inked by Troy Sagrillo. They are hereby all warmly thanked for their work.

presented here at a scale of 1:3 unless otherwise indicated.

#### A. SECTOR 2: TOMB 16K86/1

Sector 2 contains a rock-cut tomb with two square shafts and a third shaft that was left unfinished. On the eastern wall the remains of a restoration inscription of Djehutinakht, son of Teti, are preserved.<sup>6</sup> This inscription dates to the late First Intermediate Period, forming a *terminus ante quem* for the construction of the tomb, which is likely to be placed in the late Old Kingdom. While shaft 16K86/1A, which leads to one burial chamber, yielded evidence of this Old Kingdom date and of a First Intermediate Period reuse of the tomb,<sup>7</sup> the second shaft (16K86/1B) contained funerary equipment dating to the Second Intermediate Period. This shaft leads to three burial chambers, two of which are above each other on the eastern side, while the third is on the western side. Tomb robbers heavily disturbed the two eastern ones. In fact, no debris at all was left in the uppermost chamber (16K86/1B/b), whereas the most important find in the lowermost chamber (16K86/1B/c) consisted of the two sealing slabs that were each intact, but pushed into the burial chamber by tomb robbers.

The burial chamber on the western side (16K86/1B/a) yielded more interesting results. After the top layer of debris was cleared, the remains of a badly damaged mummy were found. The mummy seems to have been tossed towards the back of the chamber, laying face down in the dust and bent at a 45-degree angle with the pelvis against the back wall. Since the bones were still articulated, this must have happened at a time when the body and its wrappings had not yet decayed. The remains are from a juvenile of approximately six years, based on dental formation. It is not possible to determine the gender

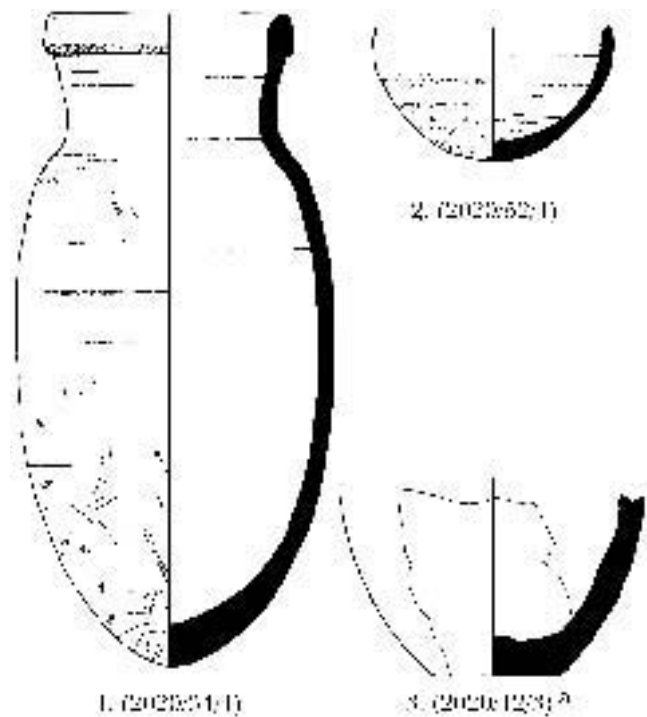


Fig. 1 Pottery from Sector 2 (tomb 16K86/1)

<sup>a</sup> Not enough is preserved to give an accurate parallel, though it is possibly a Second Intermediate Period shape; cf. BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, figs. 6.9, 9 or 10 (Saqqara, Second Intermediate Period).

due to the juvenile age of the individual. No pathology was noted.<sup>8</sup> Next to this mummy, a partially broken jar, made in Nile B2, was found, which could almost entirely be reconstructed (Fig. 1.1). The rim of this jar is comparable to jars of the Second Intermediate Period found at Qau.<sup>9</sup> In the same burial chamber a small hemispherical cup (Fig. 1.2) was found, also made in Nile B2, which must have formed a set with the jar, as it fits perfectly in the rim of the jar.<sup>10</sup> The pottery seems to belong to what Bourriau calls Qau Phase 1b<sup>11</sup> because of the combination of a

<sup>6</sup> See M. DE MEYER, Restoring the Tombs of His Ancestors? Djehutinakht, Son of Teti, at Deir al-Barsha and Sheikh Said, *IBAES* 5 (2005) [forthcoming]; E. BROVARSKI, *Ahanakht of Bersheh and the Hare Nome in the First Intermediate Period and Middle Kingdom*, in: W.K. SIMPSON and W.M. DAVIS (eds.), *Studies in Ancient Egypt, the Aegean, and the Sudan. Essays in Honor of Dows Dunham on the Occasion of His 90th Birthday, June 1, 1980*, Boston 1981, 22.

<sup>7</sup> See M. DE MEYER and L. OP DE BEECK, Excavations in Zone 4, in: Preliminary Report of the 2002 Campaign of the Belgian Mission to Deir al-Barsha, *MDAIK* 60 (2004), 258–259.

<sup>8</sup> We wish to thank Dr. Tosha DUPRAS (University of Central Florida) for the investigation of the anthropological remains.

<sup>9</sup> G. BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari III*, *BSAE* 50, London 1930, type 27d.

<sup>10</sup> See also fig. 27 (hemispherical cups found in Sector 16).

<sup>11</sup> J. BOURRIAU, The Relative Chronology of the Second Intermediate Period: Problems in Linking Regional Archaeological Sequences, in: M. MARÉE (ed.), *The Second Intermediate Period (13<sup>th</sup>–17<sup>th</sup> Dynasties): Current Research, Future Prospects*, London [forthcoming].

hemispherical cup (vessel index 193) and a storage jar of a type circulating in Middle and Upper Egypt.<sup>12</sup> This phase at Qau belongs to the early Second Intermediate Period. A Nile B2 base (Fig. 1.3) dating to the same period was likewise found in the burial chamber.

Since this period was not previously attested at Deir al-Barsha, it was first thought that the jar and cup were left behind by tomb robbers. However after this initial find, more Second Intermediate Period material was discovered all over the site which could not merely be reasoned away as robbers' trash. When intact late Second Intermediate Period to early New Kingdom burials were found in shaft 16L24/1 of Zone 4 (*cf. infra*), and in shaft 10O22/1 of Zone 9,<sup>13</sup> it became clear that both the rock tombs as well as the mud brick shaft tombs in the desert plain were reused during this time.

#### B. SECTOR 11: TOMB 16L05/2

Sector 11 consists of a rock cut tomb chamber (16L05/2) with one rectangular shaft in the western corner. The tomb is left unfinished; vertical bands of protruding limestone on the wall bear evidence of this fact. Furthermore there is no burial chamber attached to the shaft, so that all burials took place in the shaft itself. The height of the ceiling inside the tomb chamber is quite low. Though the rock tomb is cut irregularly, the ceiling is never higher than 1m. This probably explains why the tomb was never used as a dwelling by Coptic monks – as are almost all other tombs of Zone 4 – and thus forming a somewhat closed context.

During the 2003 mission, excavation of this tomb was initiated. First a survey was completed of the loose debris that was scattered all over the

floor of the tomb chapel (F2404). The debris in this tomb was more numerous and consisted of larger fragments than in any other tomb in Zone 4. Large fragments of pottery, textile, bone, and wood were distributed all over the floor. Other than these large fragments, there was little debris in the tomb chapel. In fact, only a 10cm layer of debris was lying on top of the rock cut floor. Tomb 16L05/2 is located close to the edge of the cliff, and it seems unlikely that the larger debris in the tomb was brought here from some other location.

The material found in the survey can be dated to two main periods, the Graeco-Roman Period and the late Second Intermediate Period to early New Kingdom. The Graeco-Roman Period is represented by many fragments of ceramic coffins, some of which are painted white, and some with a red slip on the outside. Furthermore several fragments of a cartonnage mummy casing were found that belonged to a cartonnage case that was not made in one piece, but made up from several smaller pieces.<sup>14</sup>

The late Second Intermediate Period to early New Kingdom is represented by numerous fragments of pattern and ring burnished<sup>15</sup> pottery. Many of the fragments found in the tomb chapel could be joined together, which is another reason to believe they originated from the tomb itself and not from elsewhere.

After the survey, the mound of debris lying next to the shaft was excavated. This debris was obviously thrown out of the shaft and consists of a mix of primarily ceramic, bone, textile, and wood (F2406–2408). Three fragments of a plaster “micro-face” mask were found, a type of funerary mask frequently attested for the Second Interme-

<sup>12</sup> For the evolution of these jars, see BOURRIAU, *The Relative Chronology of the Second Intermediate Period*. The rim is comparable with that of bottles of the Second Intermediate Period found at Elephantine (A. SEILER, *Zur Formentwicklung der Keramik der 2. Zwischenzeit und der frühen 18. Dynastie*, in: *Stadt und Tempel von Elephantine 25./26./27. Grabungsbericht, MDAIK 55* (1999), 221, fig. 52). For the general shape of the bottle, see D. DOWNES, *The Excavations at Esna, 1905–1906*, Warminster 1974, 38 [nr. 81c]).

<sup>13</sup> WILLEMS, DE MEYER, DEPRAETERE, *et al.*, Preliminary Report of the 2003 Campaign, [forthcoming].

<sup>14</sup> Fragments of a winged goddess, a winged scarab, and several parts of a *wsh*-collar are attested. The use of cartonnage patches starts from the Ptolemaic Period

onwards; see S. D'AURIA, P. LACOVARA, and C.H. ROEHRIG, *Mummies & Magic: The Funerary Arts of Ancient Egypt*, Boston 1988, 193–194. The reuse of the tomb during the Graeco-Roman Period was confirmed when excavating the shaft, where a number of mummy bandages inscribed with hieratic were found containing spells from the Book of the Dead.

<sup>15</sup> ‘Ring burnished’ is used here to indicate a surface treatment where a red slip is highly burnished in ring like concentric patterns. This is typical for open shapes, where the burnishing follows the spiral of the open vessel. ‘Pattern burnishing’ is used to indicate a similar high burnishing but in vertical and horizontal lines, not circles.

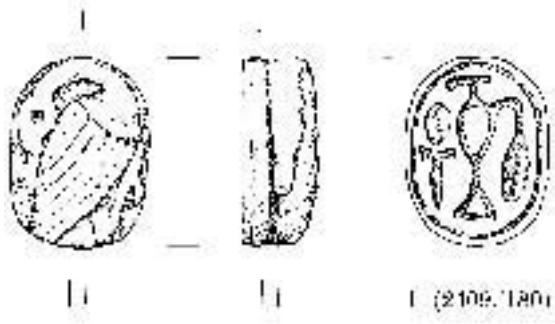


Fig. 2 Scaraboid (scale 2:1)

diate Period to early Eighteenth Dynasty.<sup>16</sup> These fragments are identical to a gilt plaster funerary mask that was found in tomb 10O22/1 in the wadi floodplain of Deir al-Barsha.<sup>17</sup> Moreover the fragments contain traces of gold foil, and small loose sheets of gold foil were encountered in the debris next to the shaft. The back of the mask fragments show textile impressions, confirming it was part of a larger cartonnage mask covering the face and upper torso of the deceased.

The excavation of the shaft (F2409–2411) yielded more non-ceramic evidence for dating. A faience scaraboid (Fig. 2) in the shape of a trussed duck and datable to the early Eighteenth Dynasty was found.<sup>18</sup>

The pottery of Sector 11 consists of a wide range of forms and fabrics datable from the early

Second Intermediate Period to the early Eighteenth Dynasty. It must have belonged to several burials as remains of a large number of humans were recovered, some of them mummified. The following gives an overview of the range of pottery found in Sector 11.

## B.1. NILE SILT

### B.1.1. Burnished pottery

#### B.1.1.1. Pattern burnished biconical jars (Fig. 3)

The biconical jar has vertical pattern burnishing from under the rim down to the mid-point, below which it is more horizontally pattern burnished. The biconical shape is an Upper Egyptian ceramic tradition; examples were found at Thebes<sup>19</sup> and Qau.<sup>20</sup> A complete pattern burnished biconical jar was found in Sector 16 of Zone 4 (see Fig. 25.4). These vessels are normally made in Nile B2, although one (Fig. 3.5) was made in Nile D. The diameter of the rim is on average 9 cm, while the maximum diameter of the body averages between 14.4 and 18 cm. Based on the only complete shape (Fig. 25.4) the height can be determined to be around 30 cm.

#### B.1.1.2. Large ring burnished plates (Fig. 4a–c)

Large ring burnished plates were abundantly present in Sector 11.<sup>21</sup> The ring burnishing is limited to the interior, while on the exterior scraping

<sup>16</sup> This kind of funerary mask, with a small moulded face in the centre, is well known from other sites, such as Mirgissa (J. VERCOUTTER, *Mirgissa II: Les nécropoles*, Paris 1975) and Sawâma (J. BOURRIAU and A. MILLARD, *The Excavation of Sawâma in 1914* by G.A. Wainwright and T. Whittemore, *JEA* 57 (1971), pl. 16.2). See also A.M. DODSON, *A Funerary Mask in Durham and Mummy Adornment in the Late Second Intermediate Period and Early Eighteenth Dynasty*, *JEA* 84 (1998); E. ROGGE, *Totenmasken und Mumienförmige Särge: Altägyptische Totenhüllen bis zum Ende des Mittleren Reiches*, Doctoral Dissertation, Universität Wien, 1986, 240–241; T. SÄVE-SÖDERBERGH and L. TROY, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites. The Finds and the Sites*, The Scandinavian Joint Expedition to Sudanese Nubia Publications 5:3 (Lists and Plates), T. SÄVE-SÖDERBERGH (ser.ed.), Uppsala 1991, pl. II–V, pl. 5–7.

<sup>17</sup> See H.O. WILLEMS, *Recent Investigations at Deir al-Barsha*, *EA* 25 (2004) 10–12; a photo of this mask is published on the cover.

<sup>18</sup> The design of a resting duck is typical for the early Eighteenth Dynasty; see O. KEEL, *Corpus der Stem-*

*pelsiegel-Amulette aus Palästina/Israel von den Anfängen bis zur Perserzeit*, *Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis*; Series Archaeologica 10, O. KEEL and C. UEHLINGER (ser.eds.), Freiburg 1995, 68, §148. SÄVE-SÖDERBERGH and TROY, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites. The Finds and the Sites*, 102, fig. 30A, and pl. 13 (185/199:5) shows a scaraboid with the same design on the bottom, namely an ankh-sign in combination with a vase and a water lily bud; a similar design also occurs on a scaraboid from Gurob in a tomb dated to the reign of Amenhotep I (G. BRUNTON and R. ENGELBACH, *Gurob*, BSAE 41, London 1927, 14, pl. 21, group 293 (nr. 144)).

<sup>19</sup> G. CARNARVON, H. CARTER, and F.L. GRIFFITH, *Five Years' Explorations at Thebes. A Record of Work Done 1907–1911*, London 1912, pl. 74.

<sup>20</sup> BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari III*, pl. 15–16 (Biconical shape, not the same pattern burnishing). See also BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, 177, fig. 6.16, 17 (late Second Intermediate Period).

<sup>21</sup> Parallels come from Thebes (CARNARVON, CARTER, and GRIFFITH, *Five Years' Explorations*, pl. 74) and also from Dra<sup>c</sup> Abu el-Naga (Anne Seiler, personal communica-



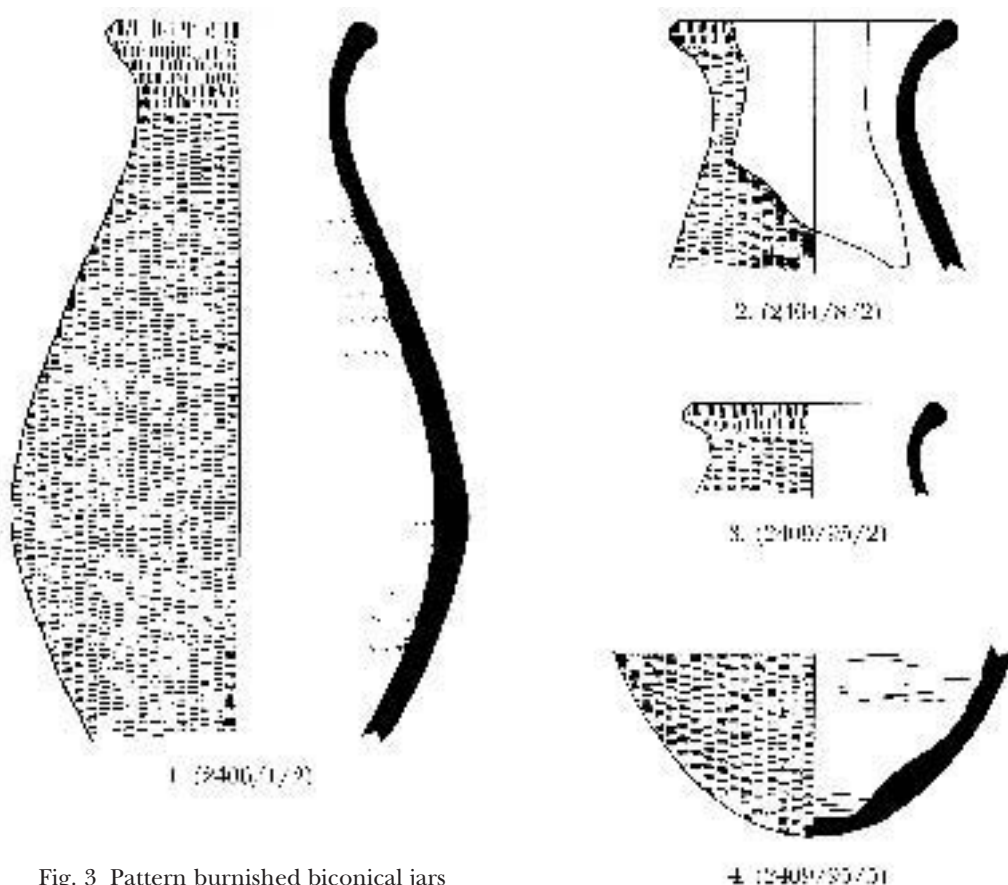


Fig. 3 Pattern burnished biconical jars

marks are visible from the base to one-third or halfway up the plate. The complete profiles indicate a height between 8.4 and 13.2 cm. The diameter of the rim lies between 27 and 31.5 cm, while the flat base measures between 9 and 10.5 cm. All plates are fabricated in Nile B2.

#### B.1.1.3. Small ring burnished bowls (Fig. 5)

The ring burnished bowls<sup>22</sup> always have burnishing on the inside, while sometimes this occurs also on the exterior. The diameter of the rim is

between 13.5 and 19.5 cm. The base of Fig. 5.4 is a ring base and on the exterior scraping marks are visible from one-third to halfway up the plate from the base. The ring base has been shaped by hand. All bowls are made in Nile B2.

#### B.1.1.4. Red burnished flasks (Fig. 6)

As our examples are only fragmentarily preserved it is not entirely clear whether they are potstands<sup>23</sup> or necks of slender flasks, but the latter interpretation is preferred. This type of slender flask with a typical

tion). Pattern burnishing occurs at Elephantine in the Second Intermediate Period and early Eighteenth Dynasty (SEILER, *Zur Formentwicklung der Keramik*, 206); BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, 164 (pattern burnishing in the Second Intermediate Period) and fig. 6.15, 18 (late Second Intermediate Period). Large plates of comparable shape, but smaller in size, are found at Qau 3M (BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari III*, pl. 12, 3M) and Riqqeh (R. ENGELBACH, M.A. MURRAY, H.F. PETRIE, *et al.*, *Riqqeh and Memphis VI*, BSAE 25, London 1915, pl. 34, 3B–C [Eighteenth Dynasty]).

<sup>22</sup> For parallels, see SEILER, *Zur Formentwicklung der Keramik*, 207–208, fig. 46.3–4; J. BOURRIAU, *The Pottery*, in: P. LACOVARA (ed.), *Deir el-Ballas. Preliminary Report on the Deir el-Ballas Expedition, 1980–1986*, ARCE Reports 12, Winona Lake 1990, fig. 4.2, 15; BOURRIAU, *The Relative Chronology of the Second Intermediate Period*, Qau 902 (38) (Qau Phase 3).

<sup>23</sup> Such as R. HOLTHOER and H.-Å. NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites: The Pottery*, The Scandinavian joint expedition to Sudanese Nubia 5/1, Lund 1977, pl. 46, 3.

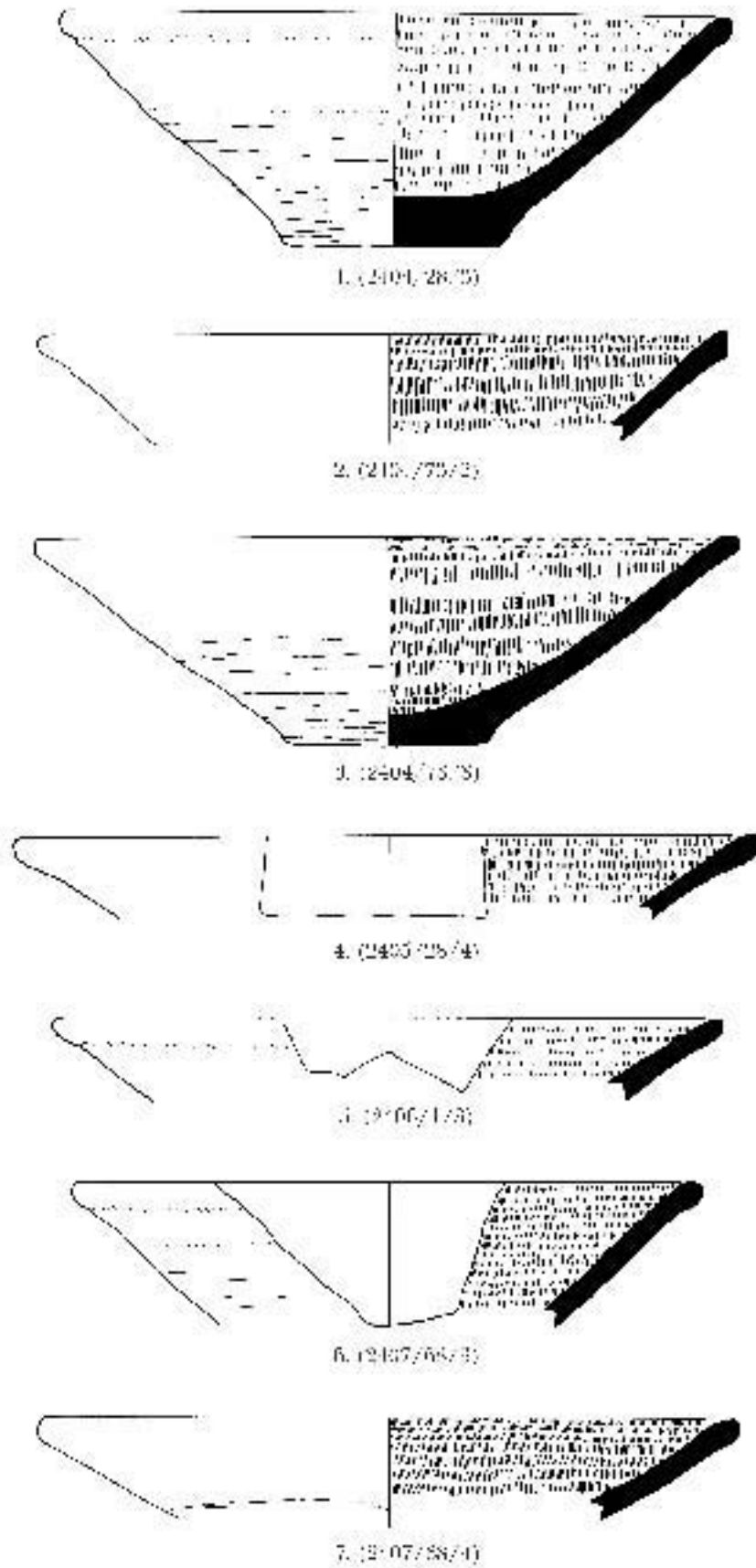


Fig. 4a Large ring burnished plates

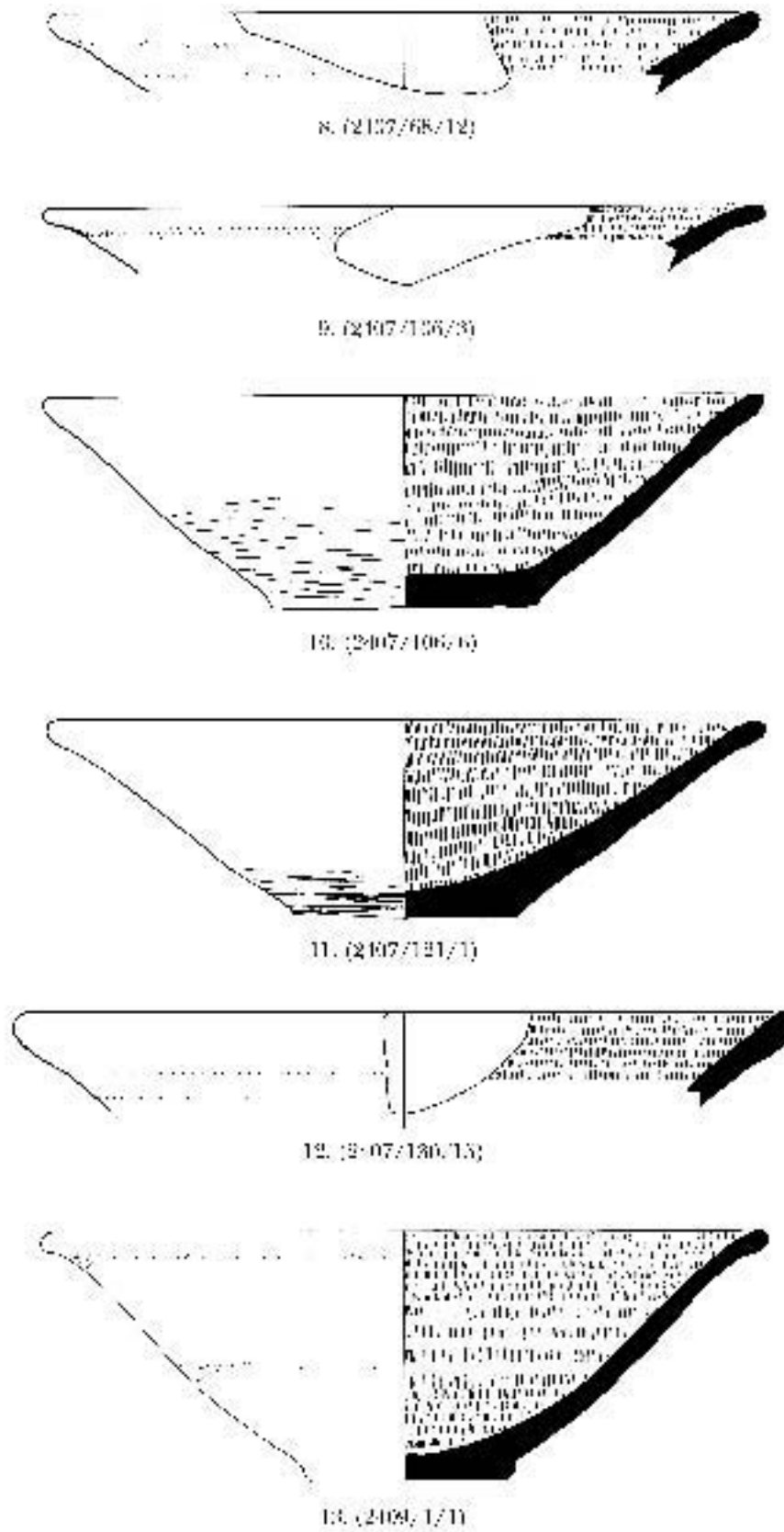


Fig. 4b Large ring burnished plates

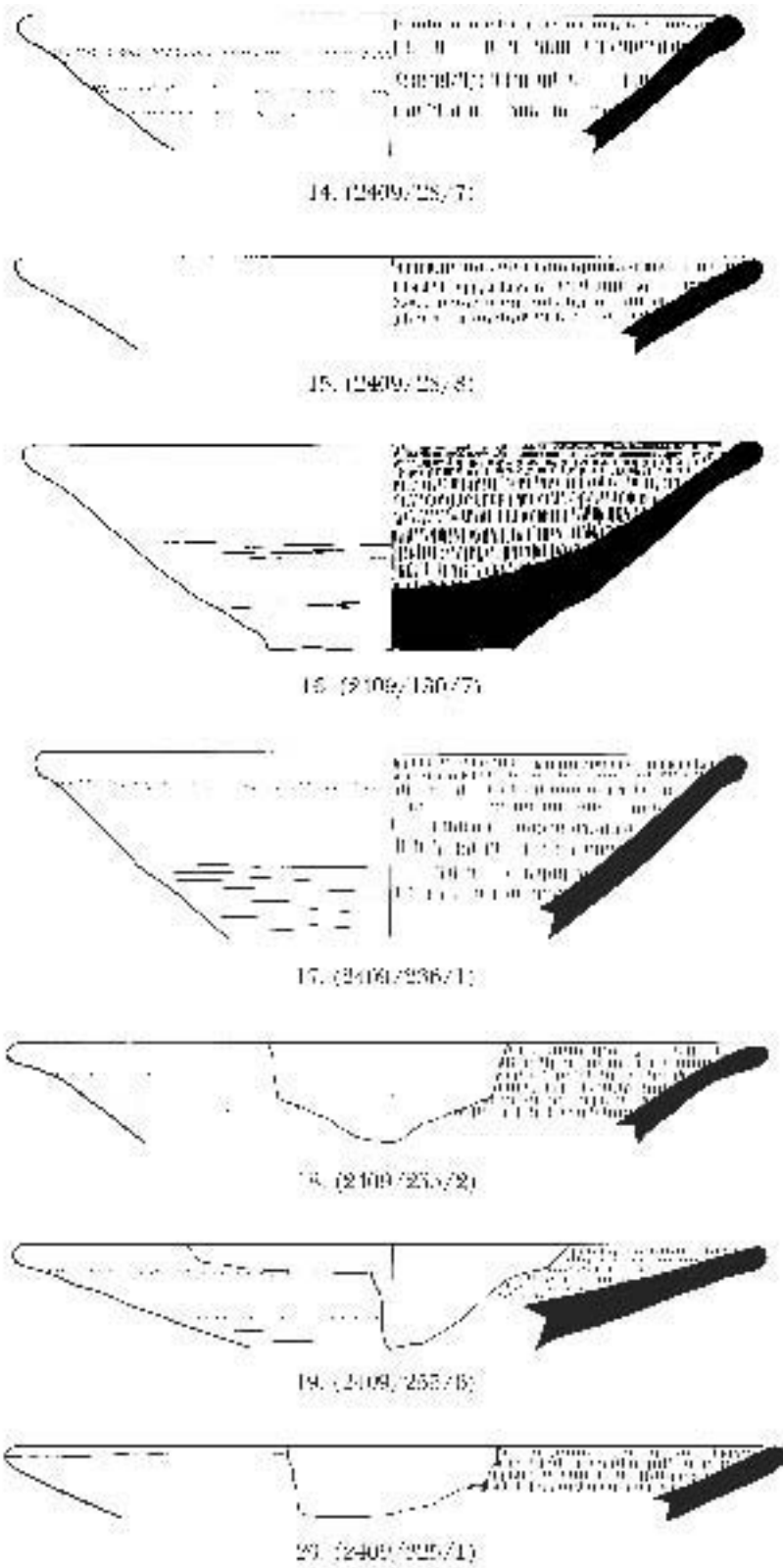


Fig. 4c Large ring burnished plates



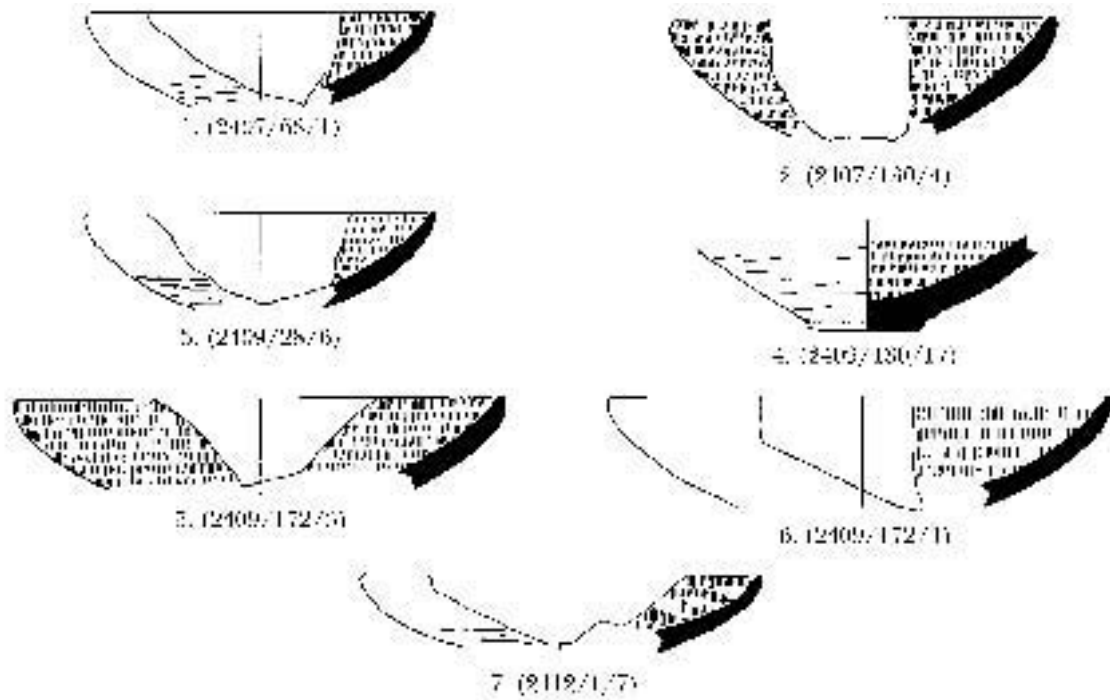


Fig. 5 Small ring burnished plates

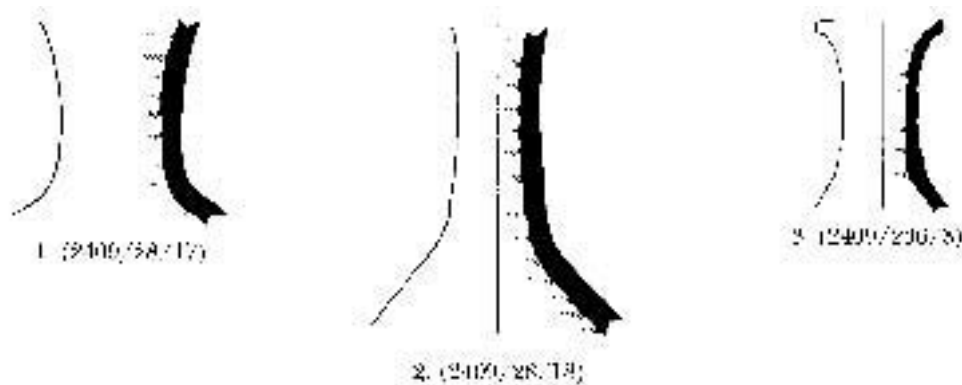


Fig. 6 Red burnished flasks

red slip and burnished surface dates to the late Second Intermediate Period or New Kingdom.<sup>24</sup>

### B.1.2. Drop pots

Drop pots<sup>25</sup> occur in the late Second Intermediate

Period and the early New Kingdom.<sup>26</sup> Seiler<sup>27</sup> comments on the use of such drop pots and indicates that they were found in shafts and in above-ground offering places of early Eighteenth Dynasty tombs at Dra<sup>c</sup> Abu el-Naga. They were

<sup>24</sup> Parallels: HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 29 and pl. 60,1 or 3; BOURRIAU, *The Pottery*, fig. 4.3 (6). See also CARNARVON, CARTER, and GRIFFITH, *Five Years' Explorations*, pl. 74 (second row, third from the right); D.A. ASTON, B. ASTON, and D.P. RYAN, *Pottery from Tombs in the Valley of the Kings KV 21, 27, 28, 44, 45 and 60*, *CCE* 6 (2000), 15 (2).

<sup>25</sup> These vessels are also frequently called 'beakers.' See

for instance BOURRIAU, *The Relative Chronology of the Second Intermediate Period*; SEILER, *Bemerkungen zum Ende des Mittleren Reiches in Theben*, 67.

<sup>26</sup> BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, fig. 6.16, 11 and fig. 6.19, 17. SEILER, *Bemerkungen zum Ende des Mittleren Reiches in Theben*, 67 recently showed that these drop pots occur at Thebes in the Second Intermediate Period.

<sup>27</sup> A. SEILER, *Archäologisch fassbare Kultpraktiken in*

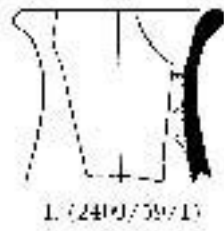


Fig. 7 Large drop pot

used in cult practices and can be considered as typical ‘offering pottery’. Comparisons with scenes depicted in tomb reliefs and paintings indicate a use as drinking jar, or as container for water or ointment for the washing of the hands.<sup>28</sup> Typical for these pots is the scraping<sup>29</sup> on the lower part of the vessel’s exterior, and the obvious traces of throwing on the interior. All drop pots are made in Nile B2.

#### B.1.2.1. Large drop pot (Fig. 7)

While mainly small drop pots were found in Sector 11, large ones were present in other sectors such as 13 and 16. These other examples are shown further below,<sup>30</sup> but they have been incorporated here in the description of the dimensions. The diameter of the rim varies between 6.9 and 7.8 cm. The height of the large drop pots averages 20 cm, while the maximum diameter of the body lies between 9.6 and 11.8 cm.

#### B.1.2.2. Small drop pots (Fig. 8)

Based on one example found in Sector 11, the rim of a small drop pot has a diameter of 3.9 cm.

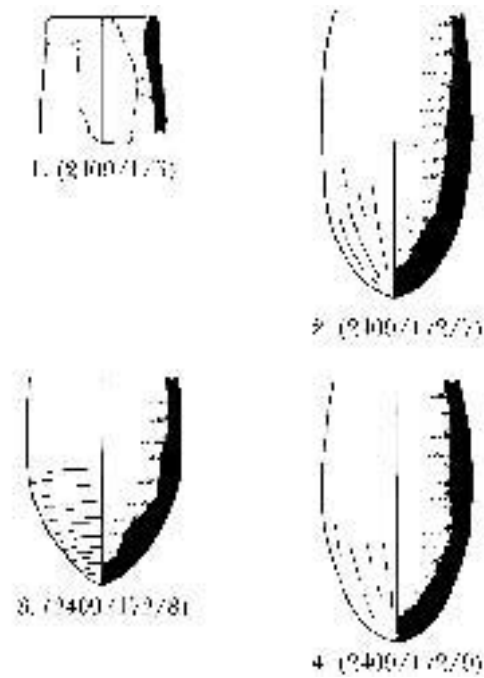


Fig. 8 Small drop pots

The maximum diameter of the body is 6 cm. Height cannot be determined with certainty as no complete profiles were recovered.

#### B.1.3. Banded decoration

##### B.1.3.1. Jars with black banded decoration (Fig. 9)

Black banded decoration is very popular during the early New Kingdom (Eighteenth Dynasty).<sup>31</sup> The black bands are painted on top of the red slip. The diameter of the rim varies between 8.1 and 9.3 cm. All are made in Nile B2.

Grabkontexten der frühen 18. Dynastie in Dra<sup>c</sup> Abu el-Naga/Theben, in: J. ASSMANN *et al.* (eds.), *Thebanische Beamtennekropolen. Neue Perspektiven archäologischer Forschung, Internationales Symposium Heidelberg 9.–13.6.1993*, SAGA 12, Heidelberg 1995, 190 and fig. 2.

<sup>28</sup> SEILER, *Archäologisch fassbare Kulturpraktiken*, 190. Other parallels for these drop pots are found at Tell Hebwa (A. SEILER, *Hebwa I, Second Intermediate Period and Early New Kingdom Pottery*, CCE 5 (1997), fig. 4); Esna (DOWNES, *Esna*, 46C); Saqqara (J. BOURRIAU, *Relations Between Egypt and Kerma During the Middle and New Kingdoms*, in: W.V. DAVIES (ed.), *Egypt and Africa. Nubia from Prehistory to Islam*, London 1991, fig. 6, 4, and 140 [from an intact burial dated to the time of Amenhotep I]); Sawâma (BOURRIAU and MILLARD, *The Excavation of Sawâma*, fig. 4, 34–35 [early New Kingdom]); Qau (BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari III*, pl. 18 [20h]). See also

M. BIETAK, *Egypt and Canaan during the Middle Bronze Age*, BASOR 281 (1991), fig. 10, 17 (Second Intermediate Period); HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, 185/427:1, 185/195:2 (wine-decanter); BOURRIAU, *The Pottery*, fig. 4.2, 2.

<sup>29</sup> The scraping is typically vertical, but fig. 8.3 shows an example of horizontal scraping.

<sup>30</sup> See fig. 20.2 for Sector 13 and fig. 26.1–4 for Sector 16.

<sup>31</sup> Examples: Gurob, well dated tombs (BRUNTON and ENGELBACH, *Gurob*, pl. 34 [24d–h] and pl. 22 [32; a well dated tomb group from the reign of Amenhotep I]); Esna (DOWNES, *Esna*, 75); Sedment (W.M.F. PETRIE and G. BRUNTON, *Sedment I*, BSAE 34, London 1924, pl. 64, 24M [Eighteenth Dynasty]); Riqqeh (ENGELBACH, MURRAY, PETRIE, *et al.*, *Riqqeh and Memphis VI*, pl. 35 [24e]). See also HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 37, 185/507:12.

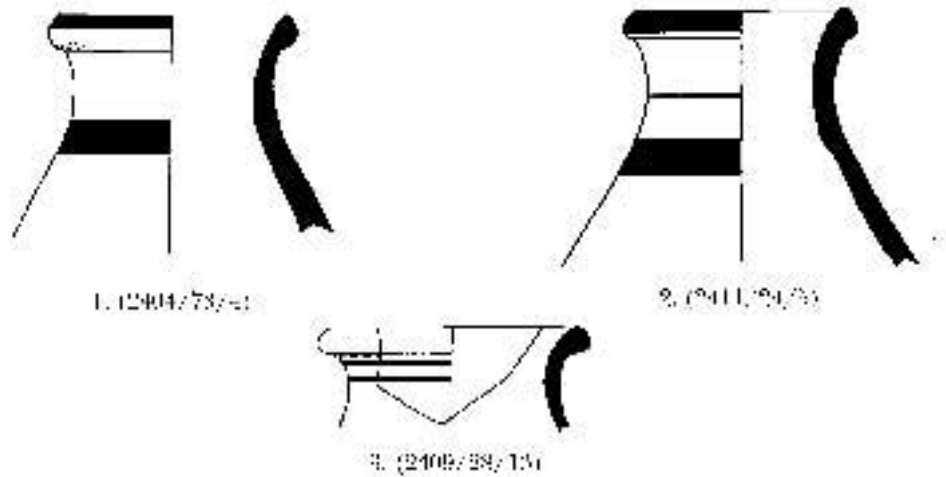


Fig. 9 Jars with black banded decoration

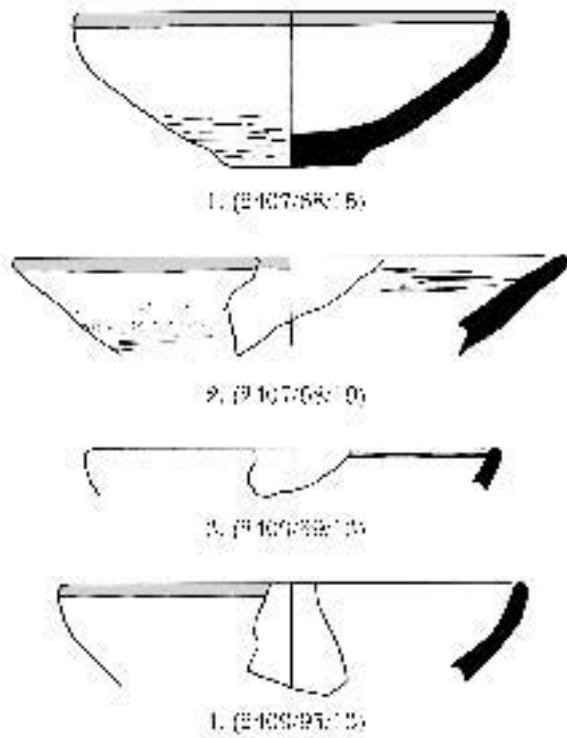


Fig. 10 Bowls with red rim<sup>b</sup>

<sup>b</sup> The red colour is indicated by grey

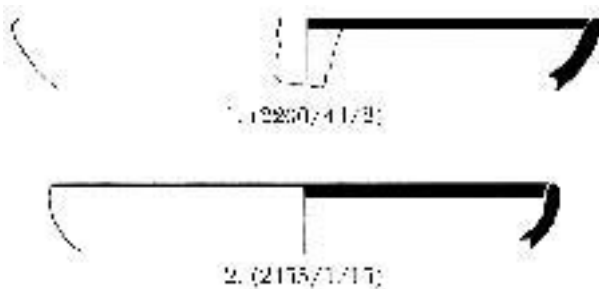


Fig. 11 Bowls with black rim (from Sectors 6 and 12)

*B.1.3.2. Bowls with black/red rim (Fig. 10)*

A band of red slip is applied with a brush or finger to the inside and/or outside of the rim.<sup>32</sup> The shape and dimensions of the bowls are comparable with ring burnished bowls (*cf. supra*).<sup>33</sup>

In Sector 11 no bowls with black rims were found. These occur, however, in other parts of Zone 4, such as Sector 6 (Fig. 11.1) and Sector 12 (Fig. 11.2).<sup>34</sup> A black rim on Nile silt wares became fashionable during the late Second Intermediate Period but died out early in the reign of Thutmosis III.<sup>35</sup>

<sup>32</sup> For parallels with red rims, see HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 25, 146/2:1.

<sup>33</sup> SEILER, *Zur Formentwicklung der Keramik*, 206–208, fig. 46.2 treats the ring burnished bowls and the bowls with a red rim in one type.

<sup>34</sup> Two bowls with black rims. For parallels, see Sawâma (BOURRIAU and MILLARD, *The Excavation of Sawâma*, fig. 3, 16 [early New Kingdom]); Esna (DOWNES, *Esna*, 32a); Riqqeh (ENGELBACH, MURRAY, PETRIE, *et al.*, *Riqqeh and Memphis VI*, pl. 35:12b [Eighteenth Dynasty] and pl. 34:9d–9e); Tell Hebwa (SEILER, *Hebwa I*, fig. 1, zn 94/125); Qau (BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari III*, pl. 30, group 7601 [9d]); BOURRIAU, *The Relative Chronology of the Second Intermediate Period*, fig. 2.3; D. ASTON, B. ASTON, and D. RYAN, *Pottery from Tombs in the Valley of the Kings*, 16 (10).

<sup>35</sup> BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, 72 and 74; D.A. ASTON, *Tell Hebwa IV. Preliminary Report on the Pottery*, *Ä&L* 6 (1996), 182; D. ARNOLD and J. BOURRIAU, *An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Pottery*, SDAIK 17, Mainz am Rhein 1993, 179.

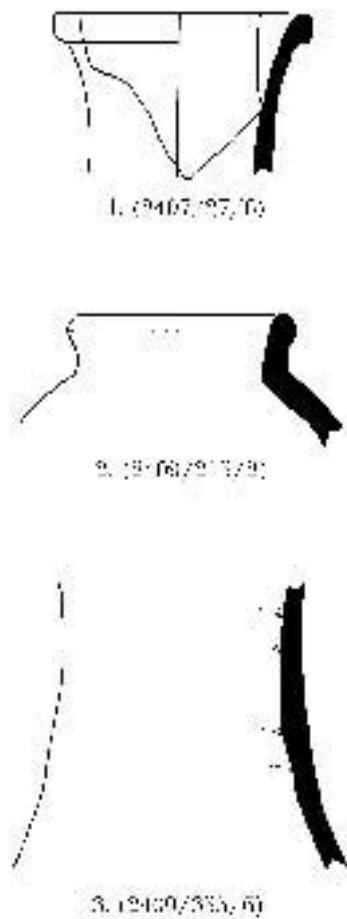


Fig. 12 Nile B2 jars

#### B.1.4. Various

##### B.1.4.1. Nile B2 jars (Fig. 12)

Fragments of various jars in Nile B2 were found. They are presented here together, even though they do not belong to the same types.

##### B.1.4.2. Large Nile B2 plate (Fig. 13)

This plate closely resembles in shape a type of plate with a lip from Elephantine,<sup>36</sup> although the latter can have pattern burnishing on the interior

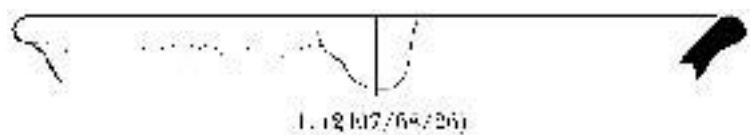


Fig. 13 Large Nile B2 plate

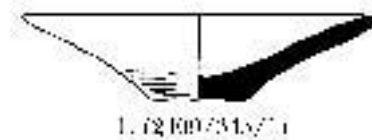


Fig. 14 Small saucer

and/or exterior. Unfortunately the sherd from Deir al-Barsha is too eroded to determine with certainty whether pattern burnishing was present. None of the other pattern burnished plates from Deir al-Barsha have such a pronounced lip as that of Fig. 13.1.<sup>37</sup>

##### B.1.4.3. Small saucer (Fig. 14)

This saucer was found intact. It has a maximum diameter of 13.5 cm and a height of 3.3 cm with a flat base of 3.9 cm.<sup>38</sup> This type of saucer was used in the funerary cult.<sup>39</sup>

##### B.1.4.4. Large basins<sup>40</sup> (Fig. 15)

Several fragments of large basins with a flat base were recovered. The diameters of the rims, some of which are quite pronounced, vary between 21 and 31 cm. The height of the two complete profiles is 9 and 14.1 cm. All are made in Nile B2.

## B.2. MARL

### B.2.1. Marl B storage jars (Fig. 16)

Marl B<sup>41</sup> is a coarse-textured sandy marl originating in Upper Egypt. These jars are much rarer in

<sup>36</sup> SEILER, *Zur Formentwicklung der Keramik*, 215–216, fig. 50.1.

<sup>37</sup> Cf. fig. 4.

<sup>38</sup> Parallels: SEILER, *Bemerkungen zum Ende des Mittleren Reiches in Theben*, fig. 18.2 (Nile B2), 20.1 (Nile B1); HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, 122, pl. 27, 185/511:122.

<sup>39</sup> SEILER, *Archäologisch fassbare Kultpraktiken*, 187, fig. 1.

<sup>40</sup> Compare with CARNARVON, CARTER, and GRIFFITH, *Five Years' Explorations*, pl. 74; HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 28 (New Kingdom).

<sup>41</sup> A chip of the large storage jar 2409/130/1 (wall thick-

ness 10mm) was described utilising a Zeiss microscope at 20× magnification. Both fine (60–250 micron [?]) and medium (250–500?) sand inclusions are common. Fine (<2 mm) plant remains occur, but only rarely. Fine (60–250?) limestone inclusions are visible. Fine to medium soft red-brown particles are attested (ochre). The porosity of the fabric is medium. The sorting of inclusions is fair. The fabric is medium hard. Zoning is attested, 5Y 7/3 pale yellow and 10YR 8/4 very pale brown. The surface colour is 2.5 Y 7/4 pale yellow.



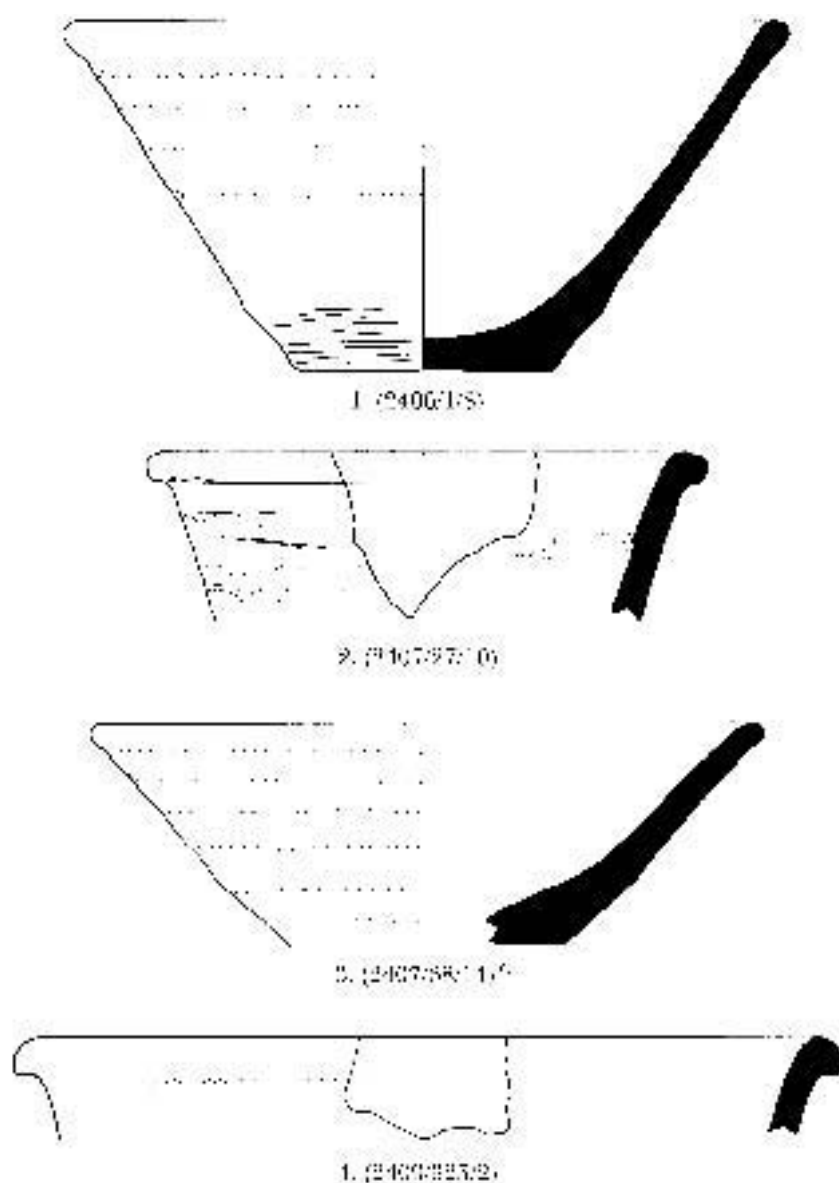


Fig. 15 Nile large basins

<sup>c</sup> Cf. BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, fig. 6.9, fig. 6.15 (late Second Intermediate Period, early New Kingdom).

northern than in southern Egypt, so they were probably imported into the north from the south.<sup>42</sup> These jars were large with a rounded base. No complete profiles were found.

### B.2.2. Marl A3 storage jar (Fig. 17)

One example of a Marl A3 storage jar was found.<sup>43</sup>

### B.2.3. Marl A4 jars (Fig. 18a–b)

A number of storage jars with different shapes, made in Marl A4, were found. This fabric was used during the Second Intermediate Period and early New Kingdom to imitate a Middle Kingdom shape, such as the wide mouthed Marl C zir (Fig. 18a.2).

<sup>42</sup> Parallels: BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, fig. 6.19, 18 (Eighteenth Dynasty to the death of Thutmosis I); HOLTHER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 17, 185/643:3; BRUNTON and ENGELBACH, *Gurob*, pl. 35:25w (a well-dated tomb of the Eighteenth Dynasty).

<sup>43</sup> For parallels, see SEILER, *Zur Formentwicklung der*

*Keramik*, 219–221, fig. 51. A complete profile is shown in C. VON PILGRIM, *Elephantine 18. Untersuchungen in der Stadt des Mittleren Reiches und der Zweiten Zwischenzeit*, AV 91, Mainz am Rhein 1996, fig. 144c, although this example is made in a Nile silt fabric.

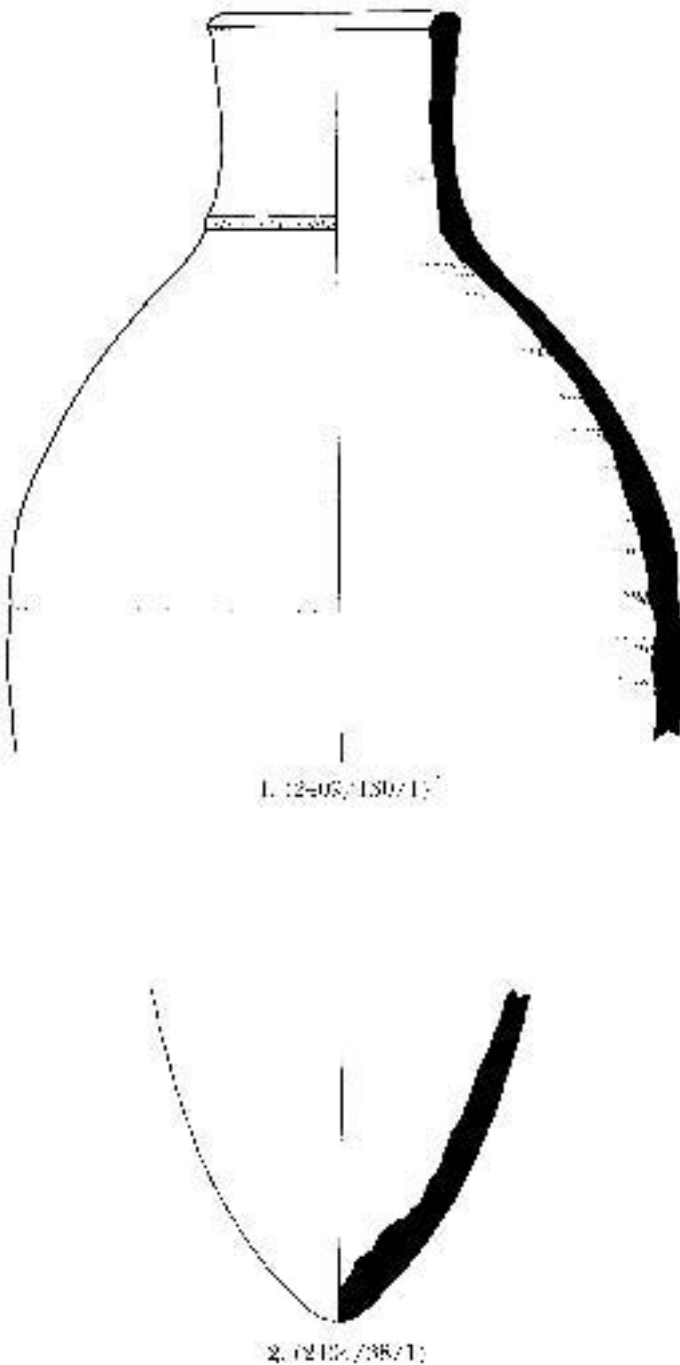


Fig. 16 Marl B jars

<sup>d</sup> Cf. HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 17, 185/162:3 (Qena-Ware).

<sup>44</sup> J. BOURRIAU, *Umm el-Ga'ab. Pottery From the Nile Valley Before the Arab Conquest. Exhibition organised by the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, 6 October to 11 December 1981*, Cambridge 1981, 129, fig. 255. This ware originated in Syria and spread from there to the entire Levant, Cyprus, and Egypt. See also BOURRIAU, *Relations Between Egypt and Kerma During the Middle and New Kingdoms*, 135, fig. 4.10 (early Eighteenth Dynasty); R. AMIRAN and P. BECK, *Ancient Pottery of the Holy Land From Its Beginnings in the Neolithic Period to the End of the Iron Age*, Jerusalem 1969, 146, pl. 46.6.

<sup>45</sup> AMIRAN and BECK, *Pottery of the Holy Land*, 146.

<sup>46</sup> This kind of sterile white debris is often found on the bottom of shafts, and seems to be the remainder of the original filling of the shaft.

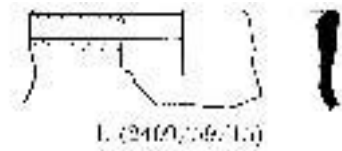


Fig. 17 Marl A3 jar

### B.3. IMPORT: BLACK LUSTROUS WARE (CYPRIOT/LEVANTINE)

A globular juglet in black lustrous ware was found in Sector 11. The juglet (Fig. 19.1) is frequently attested in Egypt during the Eighteenth Dynasty up to the end of the reign of Amenhotep I.<sup>44</sup> Normally this juglet has one handle, but the example from Deir al-Barsha does not have one. It is often found in combination with red lustrous ware spindle bottles,<sup>45</sup> of which some bases were found in Sectors 12 and 17 (see Fig. 29.1–2).

### C. SECTOR 13: SHAFT 16L24/1

Sector 13 consists of a rectangular shaft (16L24/1; dimensions 2.28 m × 0.80 m) without any superstructure, located on the edge of the rock plateau. The top of the shaft was filled with aeolian sand and mixed rubble, but at a depth of 3 m, the top of a compact layer of white lime debris was found.<sup>46</sup> When digging deeper, this layer gradually spread out over the complete surface of the shaft, leaving only a small patch of brown debris in the southern end of the shaft. On the edge between this white debris and the darker mixed rubble, several wooden planks were found laying diagonally in the shaft, and leaning against the white debris. These were part of the wooden coffin in the burial chamber, the exterior of which has a fairly faded light yellow colour. It became clear that robbers had dug a hole towards the burial chamber, starting from the southern part of the shaft. They reached the burial chamber at the feet of the deceased, and robbed what they could; the human bones in this area are very disturbed. They made no effort, however, to plun-

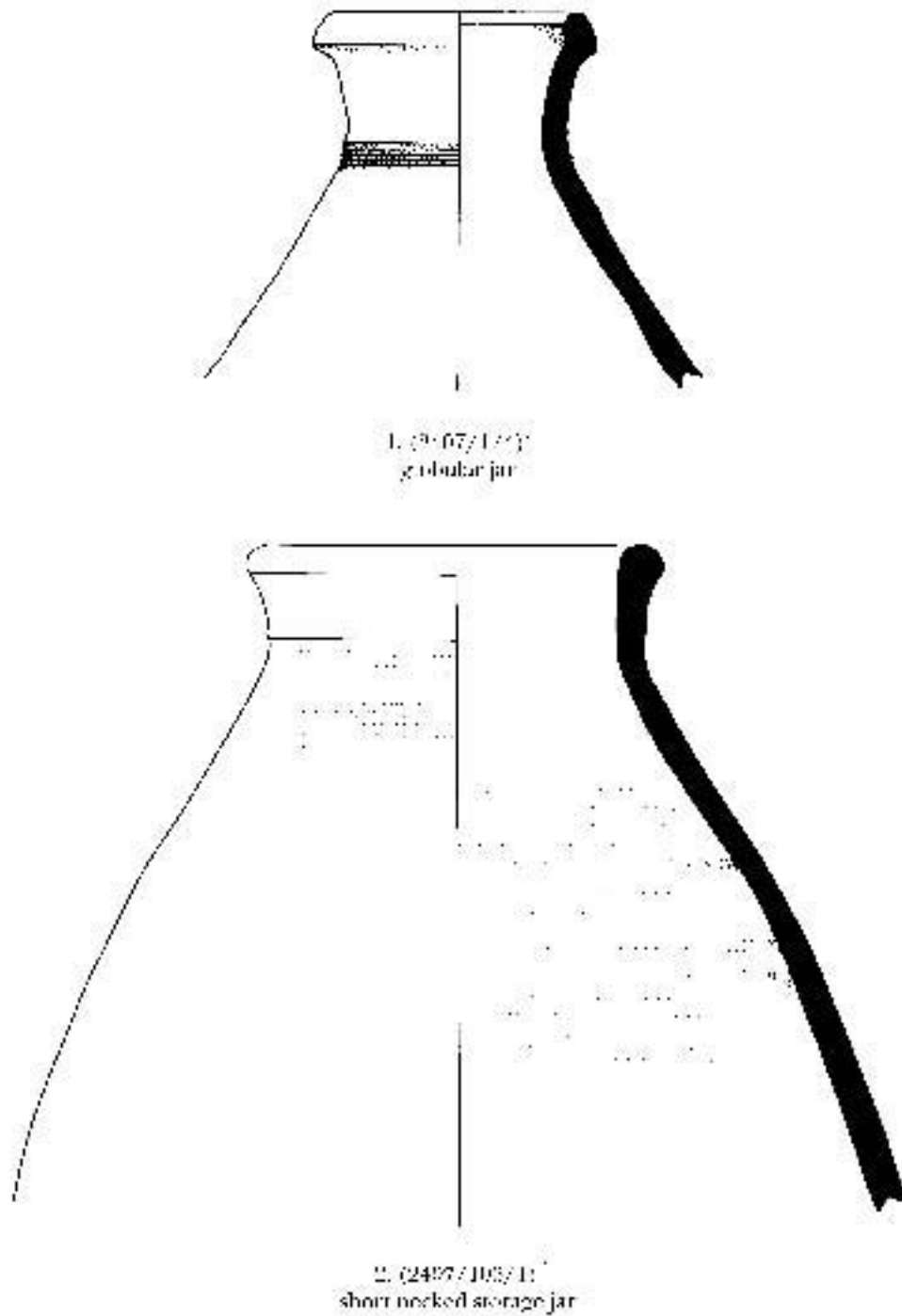
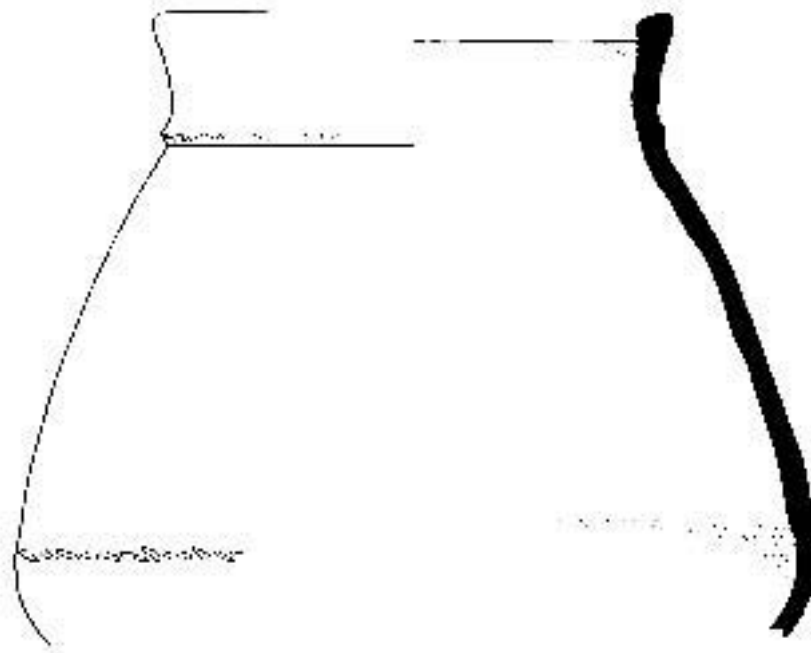


Fig. 18a Marl A4 jars

<sup>c</sup> The globular jar is a typical shape for Upper Egypt. Complete profiles show a scraped base indicating it has to be dated in the Second Intermediate Period; the exterior is smoothed and has a self-slip. See HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 35, 400/18:10 (round based ovoid jar in Qena-Ware).

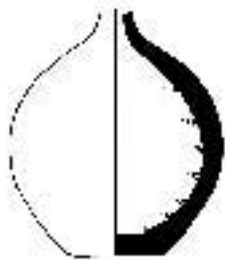
<sup>f</sup> A sandy marl jar, but it is not certain whether it is Marl A4 or Marl B. The shape is an imitation of a Marl C wide mouthed jar. The rim resembles the Middle Kingdom rim, but it is now wheel-thrown instead of coil-built. The ledge on the neck is typical for the period. Parallel: HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 16, 185/227:2. For Marl C jars, see B. BADER, *Tell el-Dab'a 13. Typologie und Chronologie der Mergel C-Ton Keramik. Materialien zum Binnenhandel des Mittleren Reiches und der Zweiten Zwischenzeit*, UZK 19, Vienna 2001, and B. BADER, A Concise Guide to Marl C-Pottery, *Ä&L* 12 (2002), 29–54. See also BOURRIAU, *The Relative Chronology of the Second Intermediate Period*, fig. 3.8.



A (2406/10/7) globular jar

Fig. 18b Marl A4 jars

<sup>8</sup> In shape this vessel closely resembles the globular jar in HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 35, 185/417:2 (p. 154: slipped brown ware with pale background colour). The latter also has a rope impression on the maximum diameter.



1. (2409/137/1)

Fig. 19 Black Lustrous Ware



1. (2503/10/1)

Fig. 20 *In situ* pottery from the burial chamber of 16L24/1



2. (2503/10/1)



der the northern part of the burial chamber, where the head of the deceased was located. The skull was still *in situ*, as well as the headboard and fragments of the sideboards of the wooden coffin, an intact large plate (Fig. 20.1), and an intact large drop pot (Fig. 20.2).<sup>47</sup> The surface of the large plate was eroded, so it is uncertain whether pattern burnishing was originally present. This plate was found standing on its side between the headboard of the coffin and the northern wall of the burial chamber, simply because the space between them was too narrow to allow the plate to stand on its base. The pottery indicates a late Second Intermediate Period date for the burial.<sup>48</sup>

Several forms were found in the shaft filling that can be dated to the transition from the late Second Intermediate Period to the early New Kingdom. It is quite possible that these fell in the shaft and have no relation to the burial.<sup>49</sup> Some fragments of blue painted ware<sup>50</sup> found in the top fill of the shaft could almost all be joined, making it likely that they represent only one jar (Fig. 21). The fact that one sherd which was found in a different sector higher up the mountain could also be shown to belong to the same jar, strengthens the idea that these blue painted jar fragments fell into the shaft at a later date. Furthermore, a Marl B

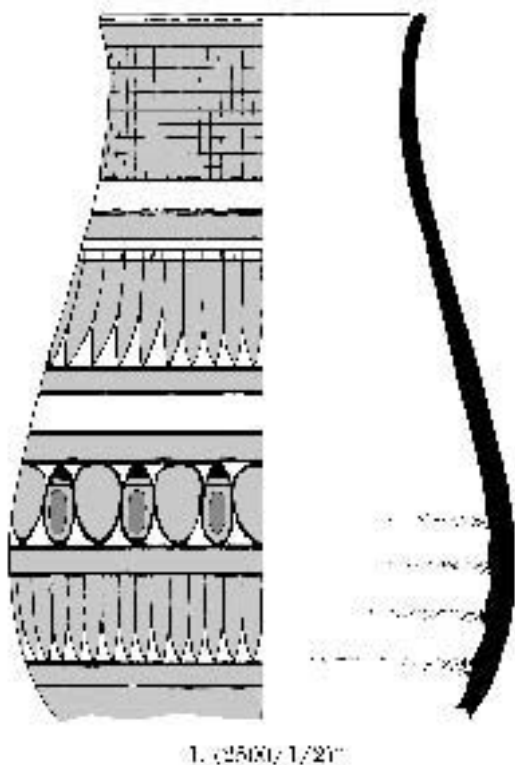


Fig. 21 Blue painted ware

<sup>h</sup> Light grey indicates blue paint, dark grey indicates red paint.

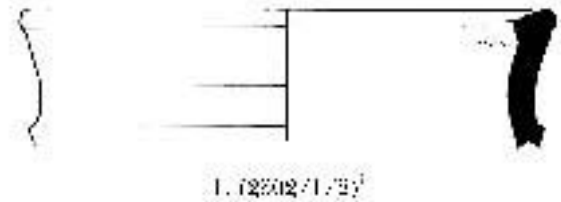


Fig. 22 Marl B jar

<sup>i</sup> This is an imitation of a Marl C zir. For parallels, see SEILER, *Zur Formentwicklung der Keramik*, 218, fig. 51.2; BOURRIAU, *The Pottery*, 63, fig. 4.5 (14). Note that the rim of the Deir al-Barsha sherd is somewhat different in that the inside of the rim slopes gently down.

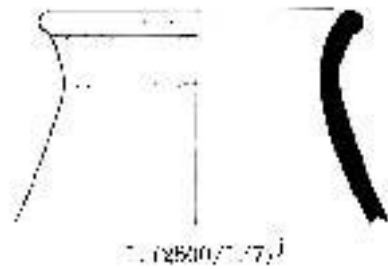


Fig. 23 Marl A3 jar

<sup>j</sup> This is an imitation of a Marl C zir, type 36a in BADER, *Tell el-Dab'a 13. Typologie und Chronologie der Mergel C-Ton Keramik. Materialien zum Binnenhandel des Mittleren Reiches und der Zweiten Zwischenzeit*, 115, fig. 25.

fragment typical for Upper Egypt was found (Fig. 22), as well as a fragment of a Marl A3 jar (Fig. 23).

<sup>47</sup> Cf. BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, fig. 6.16, 1 (early Second Intermediate Period); BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari III*, 20K, 20D (Second Intermediate Period); BIETAK, *Egypt and Canaan during the Middle Bronze Age*, fig. 10, 17 (Second Intermediate Period); HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 41, WD1, 185/427:1 (New Kingdom).

<sup>48</sup> BOURRIAU, *The Relative Chronology of the Second Intermediate Period*. The group seems to belong to Qau Phase 3, datable to the late Second Intermediate Period.

<sup>49</sup> There definitely was quarrying activity taking place on the northern hill of Deir al-Barsha during the early New Kingdom. A stela of Thutmose III at the entrance of quarry 19 testifies to this. For the location of this quarry, see WILLEMS, DE MEYER, DEPRAETERE, *et al.*, *Preliminary Report of the 2002 Campaign*, 239 (fig. 1), 272.

<sup>50</sup> The main flourish of blue painted ware occurred during the reigns of Amenhotep III–Horemheb (ASTON, *Tell Hebwa IV. Preliminary Report on the Pottery*, 184; BOURRIAU, *Umm el-Ga'ab*, 79).

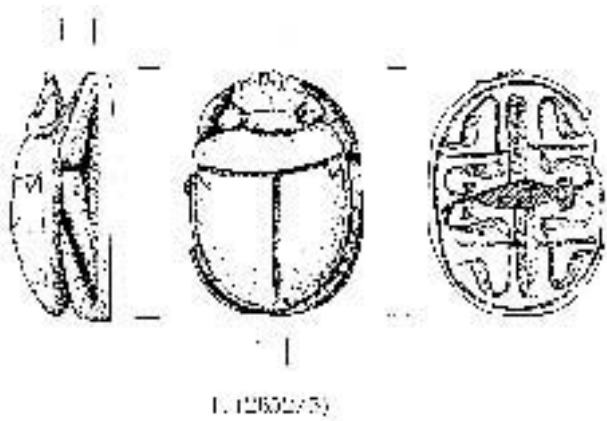


Fig. 24 Scarab (scale 2:1)

**D. SECTOR 16: SHAFTS 16L45/1 and 16L45/2**

Shaft 16L45/1 is a rectangular shaft with a burial chamber to the west, located in the long side. The type of shaft is identical to shaft 16L24/1 excavated during the 2003 mission and described above. In the tomb chamber an almost intact pattern burnished biconical jar (Fig. 25.4)<sup>51</sup> was found. On the bottom of the shaft a scarab (Fig. 24.1) was found that can be dated to the early Eighteenth Dynasty.<sup>52</sup>

It seems likely that this shaft was reused, as fragments of a calcite headrest (2655/35 and 2655/42) dated to the Old Kingdom were found in the burial chamber. Evidence of late Second

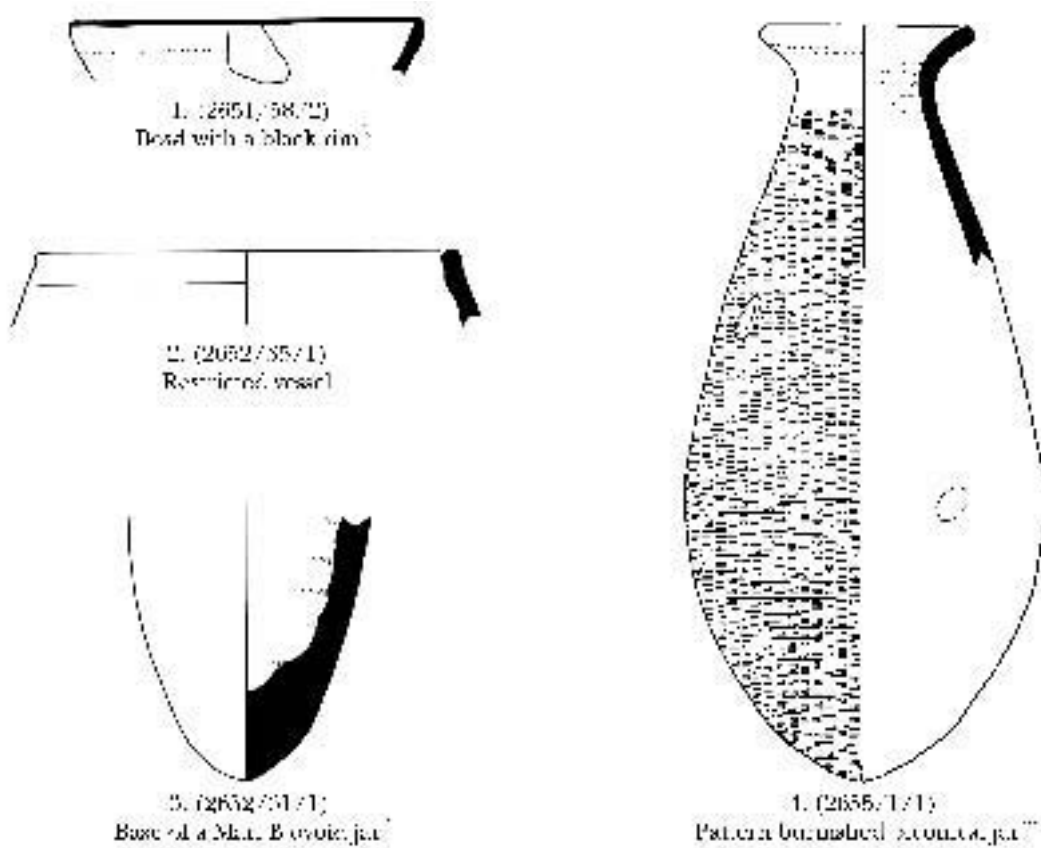


Fig. 25 Assorted Second Intermediate Period pottery from shaft 16L45/1

<sup>k</sup> See Fig. 11 for bowls with black rims in Sectors 6 and 12.  
<sup>l</sup> Cf. Fig. 16.2.

<sup>m</sup> See Fig. 3 for pattern burnished biconical jars in Sector 11.

<sup>51</sup> This jar is made in Nile B2 with a great deal of lime.

<sup>52</sup> The *humeral callosity* on the back of scarabs only started to be indicated in the early New Kingdom (O. TUFNELL, G.T. MARTIN, and W.A. WARD, *Scarab Seals and Their Contribution to History in the Early Second Millennium B.C.*, Studies on Scarab Seals 2.1, Warminster 1984, 36). SÄVE-SÖDERBERGH and TROY, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites. The Finds and the Sites*, 99, and fig. 27, C2, shows

scaraboids with a similar pattern on the bottom, namely *uraei* that are “combined into a knotlike pattern.” KEEL, *Corpus der Stempelsiegel-Amulette aus Palästina/Israel von den Anfängen bis zur Perserzeit*, 184, §494 states that a rosette formed of *uraei* is typical for the early Eighteenth Dynasty. For parallels, see also R. ENGELBACH, *Harageh*, BSAE 28, London 1923, pl. 21 (nos. 143–149); DOWNES, *Esna*, 62 (no. 231.1).

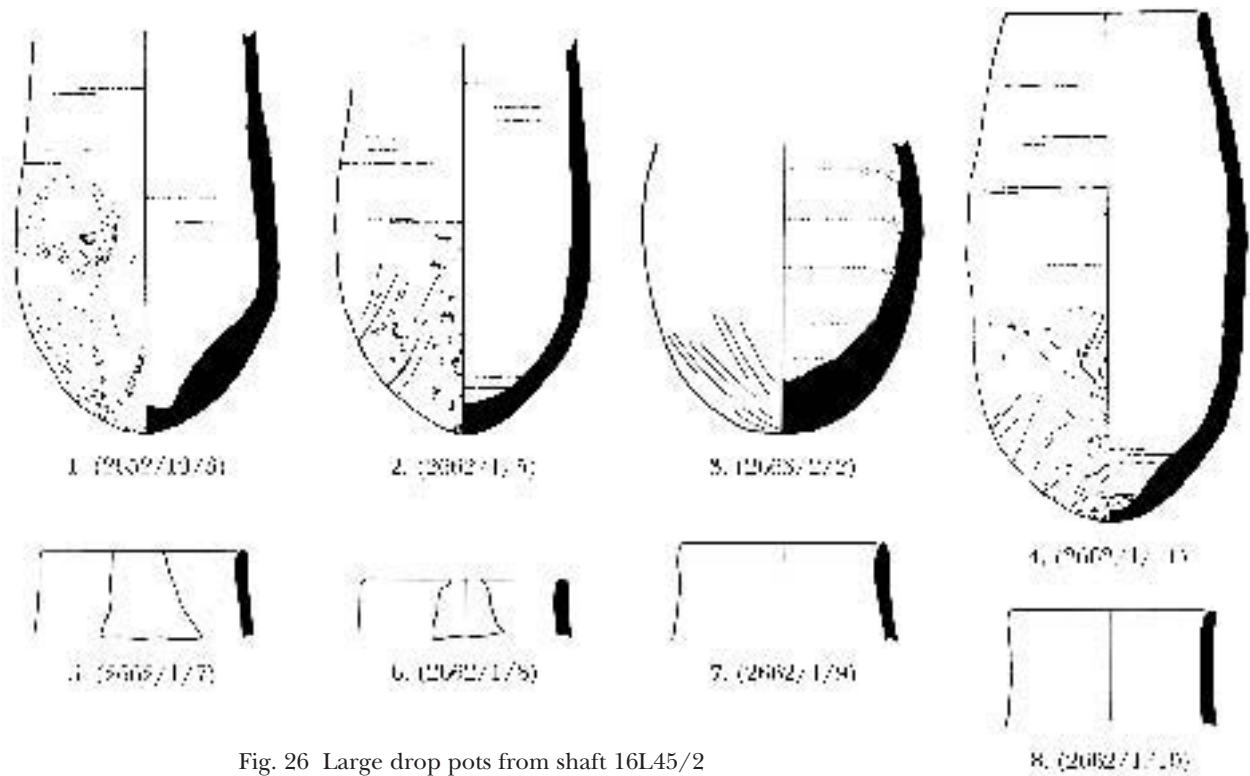


Fig. 26 Large drop pots from shaft 16L45/2

Intermediate Period to early New Kingdom pottery comes from the shaft.

Shaft 16L45/2 is a square shaft located next to, and to the west of, shaft 16L45/1. It has one small burial chamber to the south. Though the shaft was robbed and disturbed, several Second Intermediate Period shapes were found in it. They consist mainly of large drop pots such as

described above for Sector 11 (Fig. 7), and small hemispherical cups in Nile B2.<sup>53</sup> Both types have distinct scraping marks on the base.

#### D.1. DROP POTS (Fig. 26)

The fragments of large drop pots that were found in Sector 16 have already been discussed above.<sup>54</sup>



Fig. 27 Hemispherical cups from shaft 16L45/2

<sup>53</sup> Middle Kingdom hemispherical cups are typically made of a fine Nile B1 fabric and are chronologically sensitive (DO. ARNOLD, Pottery, in: D. ARNOLD (ed.), *The South Cemeteries of Lisht. Volume 1: The Pyramid of Senwosret I*, PMMA 22, New York 1988, 140–141; J. BOURRIAU, *The Role of Chemical Analysis in the Study of Egyptian Pottery*, in: C.J. EYRE (ed.), *Proceedings of the Seventh International Congress of Egyptologists, Cambridge, 3–9 September 1995*, OLA 82, Leuven 1998, 195; BIETAK,

Egypt and Canaan during the Middle Bronze Age, *BASOR* 281(1991), 50, fig. 14). The drinking cups evolve from flat and open to deep and closed forms. Whereas in northern Egypt hemispherical cups occur after the Middle Kingdom in Nile B1 and B2, our examples, as at other sites in Upper Egypt, are made in Nile B2. The hemispherical cups from Sector 16 have a thick rim and have not been carefully finished.

<sup>54</sup> See section B.1.2.1. and Fig. 7.

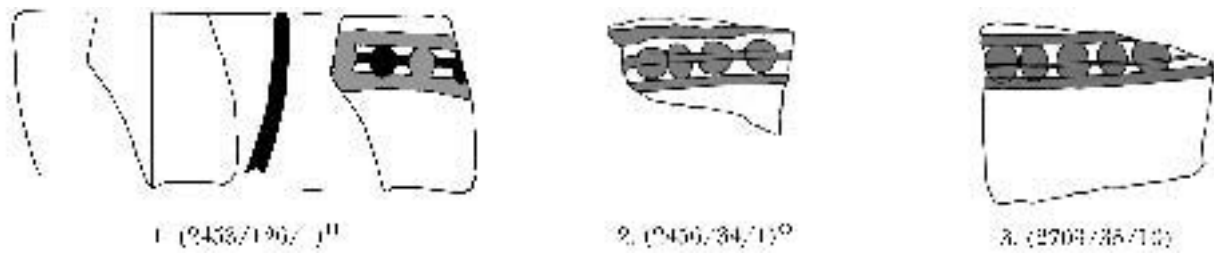


Fig. 28 “Swallows on a wire”

<sup>n</sup> The grey indicates red paint.

<sup>o</sup> The contour of the design is black, while the fill is more dilut-

ed although it is also painted in black. This fill is indicated here in dark grey. The same holds true for 2703/35/10.

## D.2. HEMISPHERICAL CUPS (Fig. 27)

Several complete profiles of hemispherical cups were found together with the drop pots referred to above. The maximum diameter of the hemispherical cups ranges between 9 and 9.5 cm, while the height varies from 4.8 to 5.1 cm. They are all made in Nile B2.<sup>55</sup>

## E. SECTORS 12 AND 17

Sectors 12 and 17 are located in a large subterranean tomb chamber (16L25/1) containing several shafts, some of which descend vertically at a 90-degree angle, while others slope down into the rock. During the 2003 mission, one of these sloping shafts (16L25/1A), located in Sector 12, was excavated. This shaft slopes down at a 36-degree angle, lies in a slightly north-west/south-east orientation, and is 10.7 m long. This shaft further extends into the burial chamber (16L25/1A/a) measuring 3.90 m deep and, on average, 0.92 m wide. The southern end of the burial chamber has an elevated bench, probably serving to display funerary offerings. Approximately one metre before the burial chamber, in the eastern side of the shaft, a side room (16L25/1A/b) has been hacked out. It seems this work was never completed since the dimensions of the room are extremely small; it has a highly irregular ground

plan and the walls were never smoothed. In this side room a large concentration of wooden tomb model fragments was found, as well as an intact bowl (2456/10) dating to the late First Intermediate Period to early Middle Kingdom. These objects belong to the original burial in the shaft. The shaft was subsequently reused several times during later periods, including the Second Intermediate Period to early New Kingdom, and the Graeco-Roman Period.<sup>56</sup> No objects of these later burials were found *in situ*. The feature numbers for this shaft range from 2450 to 2464.

During the 2004 mission, the area of Sector 12 was expanded as Sector 17, covering two more of these sloping shafts (16L25/1B and 16L25/1C).<sup>57</sup> These shafts have the same general layout as shaft 16L25/1A described above. The burial chambers of both shafts likewise display elevated benches in the back. Although they were both heavily disturbed, several finds confirm a late First Intermediate Period to early Middle Kingdom date for the original use of these shafts.

## E.1. “SWALLOWS ON A WIRE” DECORATION (Fig. 28)

This decoration, which consists of two or three horizontal lines with dots on them, is common during the reign of Thutmose III.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>55</sup> See note 53.

<sup>56</sup> The excavation of this shaft is discussed in WILLEMS, DE MEYER, DEPRAETERE, *et al.*, Preliminary Report of the 2003 Campaign [forthcoming].

<sup>57</sup> There is the onset of a third sloping shaft (16L25/1D) in sector 17, but this shaft was left unfinished because it intersected with the side chamber of shaft 16L25/1B.

<sup>58</sup> HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, 56 and pl. 13 (“dot-line” decoration).

<sup>59</sup> R.S. MERRILLEES, *The Cypriote Bronze Age Pottery Found in Egypt*, SMA 18, Lund 1968, 169, type I, pl. 20. For complete forms, see also HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 41 (Cypriot spindle bottles).



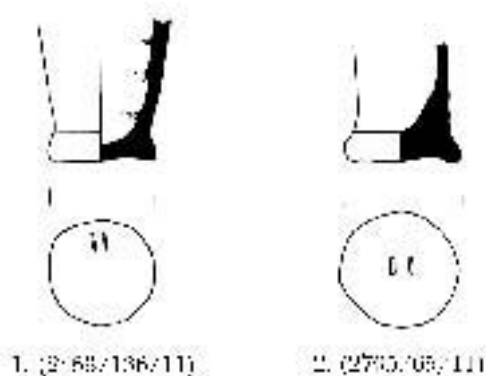


Fig. 29 Red lustrous ware spindle bottles. Both examples have an incised potmark on the base

### E.2. RED LUSTROUS WARE SPINDLE BOTTLE (CYPRIOT IMPORT)<sup>59</sup> (Fig. 29)

Two bases of red lustrous ware spindle bottles were found. This type of bottle is characterized by its elongated and slender body and neck with one handle. These bottles typically contain a potmark; Merrillees has compiled a catalogue of all those known. The potmarks found at Deir al-Barsha, consisting of two parallel strokes, is comparable with those on bottles found at Abydos.<sup>60</sup> A more recent study of red lustrous wheel-made ware is that of Eriksson.<sup>61</sup> Our examples belong to Eriksson's type VIA1b.<sup>62</sup> Whereas Merrillees<sup>63</sup> argued that the red lustrous ware first appeared in Egypt and Nubia towards the end of the Second Intermediate Period, Eriksson states that the tomb evidence suggests that red lustrous wheel-made ware spindle bottles first appear in Egypt only during the reign of Amenhotep I.<sup>64</sup> Eriksson argues that over a quarter of the total number of catalogued vessels had a mark incised in the clay before firing.<sup>65</sup>

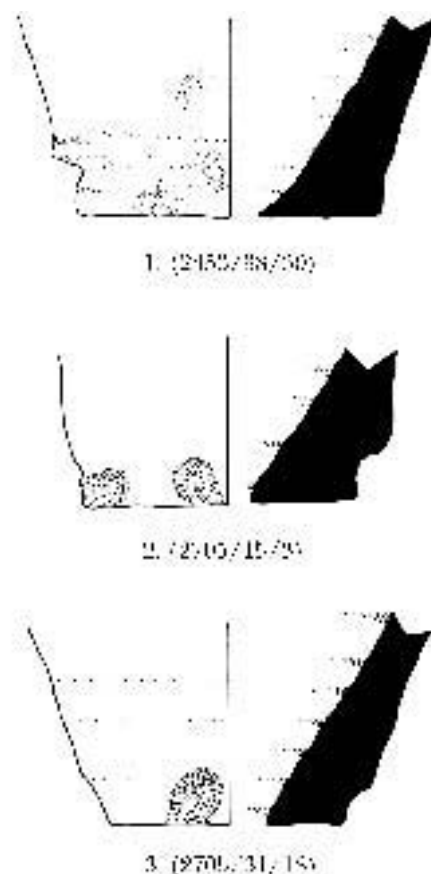


Fig. 30 Pots with a hole in the base

### E.3. POTS WITH A HOLE IN THE BASE (Fig. 30)

As only the lower part of these pots is preserved it is hard to determine whether they are 'beer jars' or 'flower pots'.<sup>66</sup> They are roughly shaped and impressions of fingers are always present on the base, while the interior is finished smoothly. All three examples are made in Nile C, and the diameter of the base ranges between 9.3 and 12 cm. A hole was deliberately punched in the base before firing.

<sup>60</sup> MERRILLEES, *The Cypriote Bronze Age Pottery Found in Egypt*, pl. 21, 11 (nr. 22). AMIRAN and BECK, *Pottery of the Holy Land*, pl. 52.4, shows an identical potmark on a spindle bottle (here called "Syrian flask") from Jerusalem.

<sup>61</sup> K.O. ERIKSSON, *Red Lustrous Wheel-made Ware*, SMA 103, Jonsered 1993.

<sup>62</sup> ERIKSSON, *Red Lustrous Wheel-made Ware*, 22–23.

<sup>63</sup> MERRILLEES, *The Cypriote Bronze Age Pottery Found in Egypt*, 171.

<sup>64</sup> Compare also with HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New*

*Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, 176, 185/203:1, and pl. 41, pl. 70 (Cypriote spindle bottles; New Kingdom contexts).

<sup>65</sup> ERIKSSON, *Red Lustrous Wheel-made Ware*, 145.

<sup>66</sup> For both see HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, pl. 18; cf. also BOURRIAU, *The Pottery*, fig. 4.3, 12 (New Kingdom "beer jars"); BOURRIAU, *Relations Between Egypt and Kerma During the Middle and New Kingdoms*, 139, fig. 6.1; SEILER, *Archäologisch fassbare Kulturpraktiken*, 199, fig. 1.

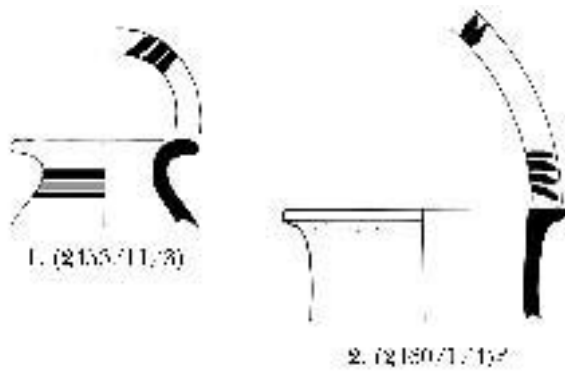


Fig. 31 Painted rim ticks

<sup>P</sup> A chip of this sherd was used to describe the standard Marl A2 fabric utilising a Zeiss microscope at 20× magnification. Both very fine (<60μ) and fine (60–250μ) sand inclusions occur, but only rarely. The fabric contains no plant remains. Fine (60–250μ) limestone inclusions are common, medium (250–500μ) limestone inclusions are rare. Decomposed limestone particles are attested. Very fine (<60μ) to fine soft red-brown particles are visible (ochre). The porosity of the fabric is dense. The sorting of inclusions is good. The fabric is hard. The firing colours shows no zoning: 2.5 YR 5/8 red. The surface colour is 5 Y 7/2 light grey.

#### E.4. PAINTED RIM TICKS (Fig. 31)

Two rims had short black decorative strokes known as “rim ticks.”<sup>67</sup> It occurs both on Nile silt (Fig. 31.1) and marl (Fig. 31.2) vessels. This decorative motif is common during the early Eighteenth Dynasty. Note that the vessel of Fig. 31.1 also has black banded decoration, another feature that clearly points to an early Eighteenth Dynasty date.<sup>68</sup>

#### E.5. LARGE RESTRICTED JAR<sup>69</sup> (Fig. 32)

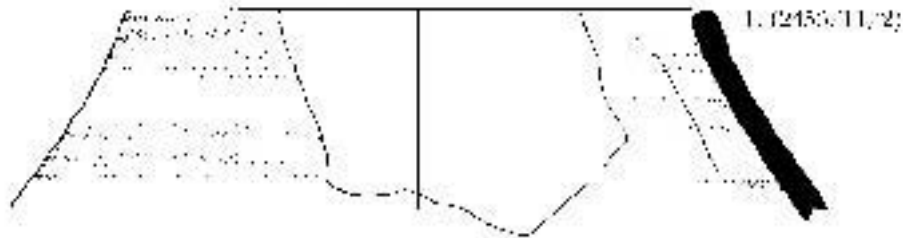


Fig. 32 Large restricted jar

#### E.6. SHORT NECKED CARINATED VESSEL (Fig. 33)

This vessel was fired in reducing firing conditions giving it a black appearance, and the surface was burnished to give it a shiny appearance.<sup>70</sup> The fabric is difficult to determine; it is possibly a Marl A2, but it could also be a Nile silt.<sup>71</sup> These jars have a history going back to the Middle Kingdom, and are frequently found in Second Intermediate Period and early New Kingdom contexts.<sup>72</sup>

<sup>67</sup> Also called “rim-tickings” (HOLTHOER and NORDSTRÖM, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites*, 56, and pl. 14); cf. BOURRIAU, *Relations Between Egypt and Kerma During the Middle and New Kingdoms*, figs. 4, 8 (from Memphis, Kom Rabi'a, early Eighteenth Dynasty, Ahmose–Amenhotep I); BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, fig. 6.8, 8. BOURRIAU, *Umm el-Ga'ab*, 135, fig. 264 shows a carinated jar with rim ticks.

<sup>68</sup> See section B.1.3.1.

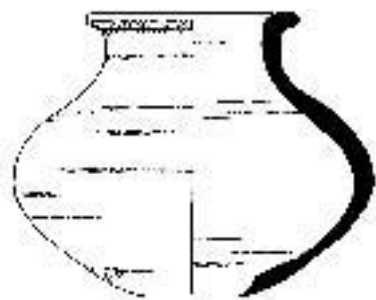
<sup>69</sup> Compare with “Kochtöpfe der 18. Dynastie” from Elephantine (SEILER, *Zur Formentwicklung der Keramik*, fig. 53). The rim diameter of the example from Elephantine (fig. 53, 1) is 21 cm, our example measures 22 cm.

<sup>70</sup> BOURRIAU, *Beyond Avaris*, 164, fig. 6.5, fig. 6.9 (nr. 10), fig. 6.18 (nr. 16) shows an identical jar from Saqqara in Marl A2, smoked during firing. This jar is dated in the Eighteenth Dynasty, to the death of Thutmosis I. This kind of pottery appears at Elephantine as well and is labeled “Black Elephantine Ware.” See also J. BOURRIAU, *Nubians in Egypt During the Second Intermediate Period:*

*An Interpretation Based on the Egyptian Ceramic Evidence*, in: DO. ARNOLD (ed.), *Studien zur altägyptischen Keramik*, Mainz am Rhein 1981, 38, fig. 3.11; J.E. QUIBELL, *El Kab*, ERA 3, London 1897, pl. 16 (nr. 62).

<sup>71</sup> The fabric of this vessel was described on the basis of a chip (wall thickness 6.5 mm, medium) with a Zeiss microscope (magnification of 20X). Both fine (60–250m) and medium (250–500m) sand inclusions occur, but only rarely. The fabric contains small amounts of fine (<2mm) plant remains. Very fine (<60m), fine (60–250m), and medium (250–500m) limestone inclusions are visible. The fine particles occur even commonly. Some limestone particles are decomposed. The porosity of the fabric is medium. The sorting of inclusions is good. The fabric is medium hard. There is no zoning, the firing colour is N 2.5 / black. The surface colour is 5 GY 4/1 dark greenish grey.

<sup>72</sup> BOURRIAU, *Relations Between Egypt and Kerma During the Middle and New Kingdoms*, 139, fig. 6.10.



1. (2705, 19, 15)

Fig. 33 Carinated vessel

### CONCLUSION

We have already argued elsewhere that at Deir al-Barsha the ceramic evidence suggests a clear northern influence during the Middle Kingdom, evidenced by the large Marl C storage jars used to transport commodities to the south.<sup>73</sup> During the early Second Intermediate Period and early Eighteenth Dynasty however the pottery assemblage shows local affinities, more specifically with the Qau corpus. Parallels for both shapes and fabrics are found not only at Qau but also Thebes and Elephantine. There is no further development of the Marl C late Middle Kingdom northern influence. Shapes that previously occurred in Marl C are now made in an Upper Egyptian marl fabric (e.g. Fig. 18.2). Whereas in northern Egypt hemispherical cups occur after the Middle Kingdom in Nile B1 and B2, the examples from Deir al-Bar-

sha, as at other sites in Upper Egypt, are made in Nile B2 and cease after the Thirteenth Dynasty. New fabrics that now occur are the fine-textured hard Marl A2, originating in Upper Egypt, and the sandy Marl B and Marl A4. The latter fabrics are used for large ovoid jars (e.g. Figs. 16.2 and 25.3). Thin walled drop pots in Nile B2 are well represented. The same holds true for large plates, covered with a red slip and highly burnished (ring burnishing). Diagnostics of these plates occur in large numbers. Pattern burnished jars also occur regularly. According to parallels from other sites, the pottery from Deir al-Barsha is datable to the Second Intermediate Period and early Eighteenth Dynasty. The jars with black-banded body decoration probably belong to the Eighteenth Dynasty. The attested finishing techniques suggest the date. This is certainly the case for the blue painted ware, of which some sherds were recorded, and sherds with “swallows on a wire” decoration. A few imported pieces have been recorded, namely Cypriote red lustrous and black lustrous ware. The red lustrous ware spindle bottles show the characteristic potmarks on the exterior of the base.

What the pottery from these shafts, and especially from shaft 16K86/1B, suggests, is that there was a distinct Second Intermediate Period reuse of the shafts. The reuse then continued without a break until the reign of Thutmosis III when quarry activity at the site can also be documented. The latest New Kingdom sherds present seem to be those in the blue painted style.

<sup>73</sup> On the northern and southern influences in the pottery assemblages of the Middle Kingdom at Deir al-Barsha, see L. OP DE BEECK, S. HENDRICKX, and H.O. WILLEMS, Zone 2, in: Preliminary Report of the 2002

Campaign of the Belgian Mission to Deir al-Barsha, *MDAIK* 60 (2004), 254–255. An article on the pottery from the dump in front of the tomb of Djehutihotep is currently under preparation.

Table

Number	Fig	Stex	Stin	Stbs	Cin	Cex	Dec	Pres	SB	SR	SBs	Fabric <sup>74</sup>	%
2020/34/1	1	5	5	5	3	3		C	3	3	5	Nile B2	94
2020/42/3	1	1	1		3	3		B	3		8	Nile B2	
2020/52/1	1	1	1	8	1	1		C	3	3	5	Nile B2	100
2200/44/2	11	10	5		3	3	1	R	3	3		Nile B2	3
2404/8/2	3	2/3	5		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	6
2404/28/3	4	5	4	8	3	1		P	3	3	3	Nile B2	47
2404/38/1	16	5	1	5	1	2		B	4		4	Marl B	
2404/73/2	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	18
2404/73/3	4	5	4		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	12
2404/73/4	9	2	5		3	3	1	R	3	3		Nile B2	22
2405/28/4	4	5	4		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	7
2406/1/2	3	2/3	1		1	3		Po	3	3		Nile B2	19
2406/1/3	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	12.5
2406/1/8	15	5	5	8	1	1		C	¾	¾	7	Nile B2	10
2407/1/4	18	1	1		1	1		R	4	4		Marl A4	12.5
2407/27/6	12	5	1		1	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	22
2407/27/10	15	1	1		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	10
2407/68/1	5	5	4		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	17
2407/68/3	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	14
2407/68/4	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	18
2407/68/12	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	12
2407/68/14	15	10	10	10	7	7		P	¾	¾	5	Nile B2	B: 21R: 9
2407/68/15	10	1	4		3	1		P	3	3		Nile B2	
2407/68/19	10	1	5		3	1		R	3			Nile B2	7
2407/68/26	13	10	10		2/3	2/3		R	3	3		Nile B2	6
2407/106/1	18	1	1		1	1		R	4	4		Marl A4/B?	52
2407/106/3	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	9
2407/106/6	4	1	4	8	3	1		P	3	3	7	Nile B2	24
2407/121/1	4	1	4	8	3	1		P	3	7		Nile B2	14
2407/130/4	5	5	4		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	11
2407/130/15	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	7
2409/1/1	4	5	4	8	3	1		P	3	3	7	Nile B2	100
2409/1/5	8	5	1		1	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	5
2409/28/6	5	5	4	8 <sup>75</sup>	3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	28

<sup>74</sup> The terminology of the fabrics corresponds to the Vienna-System (ARNOLD and BOURRIAU, *An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Pottery*, 168–182). BLW indicates “Black Lustrous Ware,” RLW “Red Lustrous Ware.”

<sup>75</sup> On the lower part of the body.

Table continued

Number	Fig	Stex	Stin	Stbs	Cin	Cex	Dec	Pres	SB	SR	SBs	Fabric	%
2409/28/7	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	46
2409/28/8	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	28
2409/28/13	9	2	2		3	3	1	R	3	3		Nile B2	23
2409/28/17	6	5	1		1	1		BS	3			Nile B2	
2409/28/18	6	5	1		1	3		BS	3			Nile B2	
2409/59/1	7	5	1		1	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	14
2409/59/13	10	1	5		1	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	8
2409/59/15	17	1	1		5	5		R	4	4		Marl A3	14
2409/95/2	3	4	5		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	35
2409/95/5	3	4	1		1	3		B			7	Nile D	
2409/95/13	10	1	5		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	3
2409/130/1	16	5	5		2	2		R	4	4		Marl B	
2409/130/7	4	5	4	8	3	1		P	3	3	7	Nile B2	4
2409/130/17	5	5	4	8	3	3		B	3		7	Nile B2	100
2409/137/1	19	2/3	1	2/3	1			P	4	4	7	BLW	100
2409/172/3	5	4	4		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	15
2409/172/4	5	5	4		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	8
2409/172/7	8	5	1	8	1	3		B	3		5	Nile B2	
2409/172/8	8	5	1	8	1	3		B	3		5	Nile B2	
2409/172/9	8	5	1	8	1	3		B	3		5	Nile B2	
2409/215/2	12	5	5		2	2		R	3	3		Nile B2	26
2409/236/1	4	5	4	8	3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	9
2409/236/3	6	5	1		1	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	30
2409/255/2	4	5	4		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	10
2409/255/6	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	19
2409/325/1	4	5	4		3	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	9
2409/325/2	15	1/5	1/5		1	1		R	3	3		Nile B2	8
2409/345/1	14	5	5	8	2	2		C	3	3	5	Nile B2	100
2409/355/6	12	5	1		1	2		BS	3/4			Nile B2	
2409/355/7	18	5	5		2	2		R	4	4		Marl A4	?
2411/24/5	9	2	1		1	3	1	R	3	3		Nile B2	14
2412/1/7	5	5	4		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	22
2453/11/2	32	5	5		2	2		R	3	3		Nile B2	17
2453/11/3	31	5	5		2	2	1	R	4	4		Nile B2	30
2453/38/30	30	1	5		1	1		B	6		1	Nile C	58
2453/126/1	28	5	1		7	5	1	BS	4			Marl B?	
2453/136/11	29	2			1	2		B	4	4		RLW	
2455/1/15	11	5	5		3	3	1	R	3	3		Nile B2	6
2456/34/1	28	5	1		2	2	1	BS	3/4			Nile B2	



Table continued

Number	Fig	Stex	Stin	Stbs	Cin	Cex	Dec	Pres	SB	SR	SBs	Fabric	%
2460/1/4	31	1	1		2	2	1	R	4	4		Marl A2	26
2500/1/2	21	5	5		5 (yellowish white)	5 (yellowish-white)	1	R	3	3		Nile B2	1
2500/1/7	23	1	1		1	1		R	4	4		Marl A3	15
2502/1/2	22	1	1		1	1		R	4			Marl B	18
2503/18/1	20	5	5	8	3	3		C	3	3	5	Nile B2	100
2503/19/1	20	5	5	1	3	3		C	3	3	7	Nile B2	100
2651/58/2	25	5	5		3	3	1	R	3	3		Nile B2	4
2652/19/3	26	1	1	8	3	3		Po	3		5	Nile B2	
2652/31/1	25	5	1	8	1	2		B			4	Marl B	
2652/35/1	25	5	5		3	3		R	¾	¾		Nile B2 <sup>76</sup>	
2655/1/1	25	4	1			3		C	4	4	7	Nile B2	100
2662/1/1	27	5	5	8	3	3		P	3	3	5	Nile B2 <sup>77</sup>	82
2662/1/3	27	5	5	8	3	3		P	3	3	5	Nile B2 <sup>78</sup>	86
2662/1/5	26	5	5	8	3	3		Po	3	3	5	Nile B2	
2662/1/6	27	5	5		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	16
2662/1/7	26	5	5		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	34
2662/1/8	26	5	5		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	2
2662/1/9	26	5	1		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	14
2662/1/10	26	5	5		3	3		R	3	3		Nile B2	34
2662/1/11	26	5	1	8	3	2		Pr	3	3	5	Nile B2	52
2663/2/2	26		1	8	1	3		B	3		5	Nile B2	
2703/35/10	28	5	1		1	5 <sup>79</sup>	1	BS	4			Marl B	?
2705/15/3	30	1	1	9	2	2		B	3		6	Nile C	
2705/31/18	30	5	1	9	1	2		B	3		6	Nile C	
2705/49/13	33	2/3	1		2	2		Po	4	4	4	Marl A2?	90
2705/65/11	29	2	1		1	2		B	4		4	RLW	100

## Abbreviations

Stex surface treatment exterior  
 Stin surface treatment interior  
 Stbs surface treatment base  
 Cin coating interior  
 Cex coating exterior  
 Dec decoration

Pres part of vessel that is preserved  
 SB shaping technique body  
 SR shaping technique rim  
 SBs shaping technique base  
 % percentage of the rim or base that is preserved

<sup>76</sup> Nile B2 but with a great deal of mica.<sup>77</sup> Nile B2 or a very coarse Nile B1.<sup>78</sup> Nile B2 or a very coarse Nile B1.<sup>79</sup> Beige.

*Surface treatment*

- |    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | no surface treatment                           |
| 2  | burnished                                      |
| 3  | polished                                       |
| 4  | pattern burnished                              |
| 5  | smoothed                                       |
| 6  | compacted                                      |
| 7  | brushed  |
| 8  | scraped, e.g. with a tool (knife, sherd, etc.) |
| 9  | fingerprints                                   |
| 10 | surface too eroded to determine                |
| 11 | narrow ribbing                                 |
| 12 | broad ribbing                                  |

*Coating*

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | uncoated                  |
| 2 | wet finish/self-slip      |
| 3 | red wash/slip             |
| 4 | pink wash/slip            |
| 5 | white wash/slip           |
| 6 | uncoated, red line on lip |
| 7 | too eroded to determine   |
| 8 | black wash/slip           |

*Decoration*

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 1 | Painted |
|---|---------|

*Preservation*

- |    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| R  | rim sherd        |
| B  | base sherd       |
| BS | body sherd       |
| C  | complete pot     |
| P  | complete profile |

- |    |                                    |
|----|------------------------------------|
| Po | portion (enough to know the shape) |
| S  | spout                              |

*Shaping process body*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | hand made   |
| 2 | hand made, interior scraped vertically with the fingers |
| 3 | wheel-thrown, slow wheel                                |
| 4 | wheel-thrown, fast wheel                                |
| 5 | mould made  |
| 6 | shaped over a core, e.g. breadmoulds                    |
| 7 | too eroded to determine                                 |

*Shaping process rim*

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | hand made                |
| 2 | uncertain                |
| 3 | wheel-thrown; slow wheel |
| 4 | wheel-thrown; fast wheel |
| 5 | too eroded to determine  |
| 6 | folded rim               |

*Shaping process base (exterior)*

- |    |                               |
|----|-------------------------------|
| 1  | by hand, finger modeled       |
| 2  | by hand, pinched              |
| 3  | by hand, coiled               |
| 4  | with tool, cut                |
| 5  | with tool, scraped            |
| 6  | string-cut                    |
| 7  | wheel finished on the outside |
| 8  | too eroded to determine       |
| 9  | pinched and scraped           |
| 10 | squeezed on flat surface      |
| 11 | pushed out                    |

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