



The Excavations at Tell Timai

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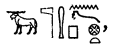
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

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
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owned, , indicates that 'npt existed in the Old Kingdom;⁴⁵ perhaps it is to be identified with the southern *tell* at Mendes, as Daressy suggested; an early foundation date for this mound has not yet been established however.

b. The sign preceding *Psdt* seems to be a vertical sign, perhaps the standing figure of Osiris.

c. Gardiner has already suggested that the *Pr Psdt* of L. E. XVI which is known in Late texts might be an alternative name for the town of *Ddt* or might be a part of the town itself.⁴⁶ This inscription does not prove which of his ideas is correct but certainly indicates that the answer lies in his suggestions rather than in Gauthier's identification of *Pr Psdt* as the Serapeum of Mendes.

d. It would appear that  and  in the bottom line should be read with the title rather than the name since *Snb.f* appears alone in the left column. The title *imy-r pr n Sbk Š rsy* is known on a stela from Abydos,⁴⁷ as is the title

imy-r n htp-ntr n 'bdw;⁴⁸ however I know of no 'overseer of divine offerings of [a local god]' nor have I been able to identify  as a place name.

e. The word is clearly *htp* . An address to the Living is not commonly found on offering tables; furthermore I know of no parallels for the reference to an offering table in this type of inscription: both *m'h.t* and *i'* are known on Middle Kingdom stelae.⁴⁹ One wonders if this object might have been placed in the temple of *B: nb Ddt*, especially since there is a reference to the temple in the text; however I know of no instances where an offering table without stela, statue, or shrine was placed in a temple.

f. *Htm* is interpreted here as a contract of the type established by *Dfs.i-h'py* with priests in the temple of Wepwawet at Asyut.

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⁴⁵ See Junker, *Giza I*. 149 and *II*. 188ff.

⁴⁶ *Ancient Egyptian Onomastica* II 150.

⁴⁷ Lange and Schäfer, *op. cit.* no. 20070.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.* no. 20336.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.* no. 20748 and Engelbach with Gunn in *Harageh* 27 f. pl. LXXII no. 3.

III. The Excavations at Tell Timai

EDWARD L. OCHSENSCHLAGER

At the end of the 1965 season and throughout the 1966 season, the Mendes Expedition also investigated the nearby kom of Tell Timai, which is part of its concession. The mound, in antiquity an important Graeco-Roman city known by the Greek name Thmuis, is approximately seven kilometers in perimeter and lies about one-half kilometer south of the smaller Tell el Rub'a. Its highest point, at present, is near the geographical center of the mound and ca. 18.50 meters above sea level. From there it slopes fairly evenly to the outer edges where it is ca. 7 meters above sea level, and then falls

off sharply to the surrounding fields. To the northeast stands the village of Timai el Amdid and on the northwest the village of Kafr el Amir Abdallah Ibn as Salam encroaches on the mound itself. David Stieglitz, the expedition Architect, completed a master survey plan of Tell Timai during the 1966 season which is shown on Pl. XIX, and on Pl. XX in its proper relationship to Tell el Rub'a.

Over the years, the central section (S 1800–2250, W 300–E 350)¹ has been despoiled by the surrounding villagers, who used it as the source

¹ See note 1, page 5.

of materials for the construction of their houses,² as well as by the *sabbakheen*. At present it has the appearance of a lunar landscape, with mud brick walls and portions of walls from buildings of the Hellenistic Period standing to considerable heights (Pl XXI, fig. 35). Some of these are foundations, but others, with openings for roofbeams, windows and doors, and with portions of staircases preserved, are living walls. Several preserve part of a second or even third story. Pieces of stone architectural members, small fragments of painted plaster and mosaic *tesserae* are distributed randomly over the surface. Within this chaotic context some evidence of ancient streets has survived.

The gradual, downward slope from the central section to the outer edges of the kom is broken here and there by mounds and ridges of decaying mud brick architectural structures and kilns, as well as by the pits, depressions, and refuse heaps of the *sabbakheen*. The surface is littered with pot sherds, vitrified materials, baked brick and stone architectural fragments.

Toward the end of the 1965 season we conducted a pottery survey on the surface of Tell Timai. The sherds recovered range in date from fragments of fourth century B.C. kraters to Islamic sherds as late as the ninth century A.D. We also made three trial soundings, two at the very end of the 1965 season and one at the beginning of the 1966 season. Although none of these proved practicable for full scale excavation, they did establish the fact that the highest preserved portions of the mound, in the central area, dated from late Hellenistic times³ while

the much lower outer slopes contained materials of a considerably later date.⁴

Our fourth sounding, destined to become an area excavation, was conducted at the western side of the central part (S 2125–2180, W 100–140), atop a long narrow, ridge-shaped mound created by the removal of quantities of *sabbakh* on all sides. Everywhere great heaps of potsherds covered the surface, in some places to a depth of 1.50 m. Removal of these potsherds was a time-consuming task, but the debris produced a number of interesting pottery sherds, fragments of terracottas, bronze coins, two fragments of marble sculpture, and one bronze figurine.

Below the potsherds, the surface of the ridge was highly irregular due to the many pits and trenches recording the efforts of the *sabbakheen*. Thorough scraping revealed the presence of a series of mud brick walls and excavation of these produced eight intact rooms and small sections of several others. Many of the walls were badly damaged in their upper portions by the digging of the *sabbakheen* and by erosion. Intact floors of hard-packed earth were sometimes found a short distance beneath a layer of mud brick debris, but other floors at this level had been broken through and were preserved only in fragments, usually near their outer edges. In one room, sections of painted plaster still adhered to the wall at the first floor level. The lower portion consisted of a light yellow-beige band ca. 11 cm. in height, separated by a groove from the thinner, wine-colored plaster above. A few fragments of painted plaster in other colors turned up in the debris of the room.⁵

² Unpublished manuscript notes of Georges Darressy, about 1890, which Jean Yoyotte found among his papers in the Collège de France (Cabinet d'Égyptologie: E 28) describe in detail an especially thorough despoliation of this kind between 1887 and 1890.

³ The sherds from this sounding, conducted in S 1975–1990, E 180–195, all appear to date from the last half of the third through the second century B.C. They include a fragment of Lagynos ware, two fragments of Megarian bowls and a stamped Rhodian amphora handle dated by Miss Virginia Grace, in a personal communication, to the last quarter of the third century B.C.

⁴ One sounding, conducted in S 1780–1770, E 130–120, yielded Coptic pottery datable to the period A.D. 450–750 on the basis of Early Christian pottery found at other sites. The other sounding, conducted in S 1760–1740, W 60–70, yielded a Constantinian coin and sherds datable at other sites from the middle of the third to the fifth century A.D.

⁵ They included: sky-blue, blue and white, purplish red, blue and pinkish purple, black, yellow and yellow with brown-black stripes.

In three rooms we discovered a second floor beneath the first. The space between them was largely filled with hard-packed mud. One excavated room preserved a third floor.⁶ Below the first floor level, the mud brick walls of these rooms showed no signs of weathering or damage by the *sabbakheen*.

This series of rooms, our primary focus of attention at Thmuis this season, has been designated Level I. At the bottom of Level I, a platform of mud brick, varying from one to three courses in thickness, was laid down on the level of the lowest course or courses of the rooms' foundation walls. These platforms are not bonded to the foundation walls, but carefully fitted within them.

Level II, which begins immediately below the foundation walls and platforms of Level I, is characterized by very sandy soil. Although very little of this level was investigated, it does appear to contain walls dating from an earlier period, as well as lamps, coins and pottery.

Seventy-eight identifiable coins were recovered from this excavation. Nine Ptolemaic bronze coins dating from the third and second centuries B.C. were found on sealed floors in Level I. Four identifiable coins were recovered from the sandy soil of Level II. The latter included an Athenian tetradrachm, curiously underweight, datable to the first quarter of the fourth century B.C. and three bronze coins dating from the reign of Ptolemy I (305–285 B.C.).

The pottery recovered reveals the usual repertoire of Hellenistic shapes. Although study of this material is far from completed and laboratory analysis scarcely begun, three representative floor assemblages described below, will serve to indicate the time span encompassed in this season's work. Further study of the material from other floors excavated this season, as well as additional material from future excavations in the late Hellenistic strata, should help us to refine our tentative dates. Hopefully it will also allow us to draw conclusions about the evolution of forms, decoration

and technological aspects of the local ceramic tradition.

With the discovery of late Hellenistic strata at 13.60 m above sea level in the central section, it becomes obvious that the mound must be considerably older than the Ptolemaic period. Next year, while continuing the excavation of Hellenistic units on the ridge, we hope also to conduct a depth sounding in the central depression in order to gain some idea of the antiquity of the mound and its earlier settlement pattern.

Very little is known at present about the chronology of minor objects in Graeco-Roman Egypt. Our soundings have convinced us that we have abundant material for such a chronology in clearly stratified contexts at Thmuis. Building such a chronology is of course one of our goals, but we have another of greater importance, and equally possible to judge by what we have already discovered. The preservation of architectural elements, the depositional contexts of our finds, and other associated evidence lead us to believe that we may have a unique opportunity to partially reconstruct the various phases of culture represented by the successive communities which inhabited this mound from Late Hellenistic through Early Christian times. There is no good reason why we should not find the earlier, and as yet unexplored levels just as revealing.

We already know a little of the general character of one of these communities at Thmuis, but we need to know much more about its organization, industry, economic connections with the outside world and social relation within the community itself. Although the depredations of the *sabbakheen* will prevent us from recovering a complete picture, we now feel certain that what is left gives us ample evidence for a valid reconstruction. Careful recovery, evaluation and analysis of the evidence from Thmuis should make a valuable contribution to the better understanding of Egypt during the Ptolemaic and Roman periods.

ROOM 18

The discussion below is not designed to serve as final publication of any of the individual finds

⁶ Room 18 which is dealt with in some detail below.

or assemblages, but to give some indication of the potential usefulness of the material from Thmuis. We have chosen Room 18 for this purpose as it is the only room excavated during the past season that presents three intact floor levels, two of them sealed. In summary, the first floor appears to date from the end of the second through the first part of the first century B.C., the second floor from the middle, or slightly later, to the end of the second century, the third floor from the beginning to the middle of the second century, or slightly later. The evidence for these tentative conclusions is presented below.

We have discussed individual items as briefly as possible, usually with only a single reference to similar material published in one or another of the carefully documented studies of stratified Hellenistic material. In many cases an extensive comparative bibliography exists, but until the material at Thmuis is fully excavated and each floor assemblage studied in relation to others on this site, a full comparison with materials and trends at other sites would have little value.

It should be mentioned that the recent material from Meligunis-Lipára tends to substantiate our general dating to the Late Hellenistic Period.⁷ The Lipára material is not mentioned in the following discussion because the graves from Group VI,⁸ dated from ca. 250 to 50 B.C., do not offer sufficient internal or external information for a precise chronology within that period, and because the vessels from Thmuis that find their closest published parallels in the Meligunis-Lipára corpus were not found in room 18.

The numbers assigned individual finds in the following section correspond with numbers in the accompanying catalogue where each is separately described.

ROOM 18, FLOOR I

When the potsherds lying on top of Room 18 were removed, a layer of fallen mud brick

⁷ L. Bernabò-Brea and M. Cavalier, *Meligunis-Lipára II, La necropoli greca e romana nella contrada Diana* (1965).

⁸ *Ibid.* 251-254.

debris, varying in depth from ca. 27 cm on the west to ca. 15 cm on the east, covered the floor. Three sherds were found within the debris. Although they represent vessels very similar to those found directly on the floor itself, they are not included as part of this floor's assemblage. This is not precisely, then, a sealed level and one should be on guard for intrusive elements. On the other hand, the pottery recovered from the floor appears to show a sufficient consistency of date to represent pottery in use during the habitation of the floor and discarded at the time of its abandonment.

For dating purposes, several pieces more or less closely paralleled at other sites seem crucial. Some of these would tend to indicate a date for our assemblage from Floor 1 wholly in the first century B.C. The small sigillata bowl (No. 1) which is referred to by Lapp⁹ as one of the earliest sigillata forms, is dated in Palestinian contexts to the period 75-25 B.C.¹⁰ A similar specimen recovered from a cistern in the Agora at Athens is dated by Thompson¹¹ to the turn of the second and first century and to the early years of the first century B.C. The pitcher (No. 6) is comparable, except for the treatment of the lip, to one found in the Antikythera Shipwreck and dated in context by Edwards¹² to the second quarter of the first century B.C., earlier rather than later in that period.

On the other hand, our shallow cooking pot (No. 7) would appear to be more at home at the end of the second century. In Palestinian contexts the lid device rarely appears after 100 B.C., and the two recorded examples of its later occurrence are not similar to our pot.¹³ This also appears to be the case in the material from Athens.¹⁴

⁹ P. W. Lapp, *Palestinian Ceramic Chronology 200 B.C.-A.D. 70* (1961) 73.

¹⁰ *Ibid.* 211.

¹¹ H. Thompson, "Two Centuries of Hellenistic Pottery," *Hesperia* 3 (1934) 396 fig. 84, No. E48.

¹² G. R. Edwards, "The Hellenistic Pottery from the Shipwreck of Antikythera," *TransPhilAs* New series 55 part 3 (1965) 23 and fig. 28, p. 26, No. 15.

¹³ Lapp, 189-190.

¹⁴ Thompson, 466 and fig. 121 on p. 467.

The general profiles of other vessels from our assemblage seem to span the two centuries in their occurrence at other sites. Examples similar to our fusiform unguentarium (No. 5) have been found in contexts dated as early as the first quarter of the second century¹⁵ and as late as the second quarter of the first century B.C.¹⁶ The single lamp found on our floor level (No. 10, Pl. XXI fig. 36) has strong affinities with specimens from Tarsus¹⁷ which are dated from the middle of the second century B.C. to the Augustan Period. Already our evidence from Thmuis warns us that bowls with incurved rims and string-cut bases (Nos. 3 and 4) have a very long history at our site, and until changes in style or fabric can be assigned to specific periods they can have very little value for a tight chronology.

Nothing, of course, precludes the survival or first appearance at Thmuis of any of these vessels a decade or so earlier or later than has been the case elsewhere. In any case, a date encompassing the end of the second and the first part of the first century B.C. seems to fit the evidence.

ROOM 18, FLOOR 2

Floor 2, of impacted earth, forms the bottom of a sealed level since the first floor, above it, was completely intact at the time of excavation. If we are correct in our dating of the pottery on Floor 1, we have a *terminus ante quem* for the second floor of about the end of the second century B.C. A coin (No. 35) discovered on Floor 3 gives us a *terminus post quem* of ca. 168 B.C., but judging from the pottery on this floor and that on Floor 3, the floor may be somewhat later.

The earliest profile in this group is probably the large plate with rolled lip (No. 12). It most

nearly approximates the profile of Agora No. Cr¹⁸ dated to the beginning of the second century; however, according to the evolution discerned in the Agora material¹⁹ it has gone a stage or two beyond with its downward-thickened lip, and nothing would seem to preclude dating it in the third quarter of the second century. The bowls with incurved rims and low ring bases (Nos. 14 and 15) are ubiquitous in late Hellenistic strata. As with the closely related variety with string-cut base, our evidence warns us that more study is necessary before their chronological development can be determined at this site.

Two whole lamps and a reconstructable fragment of a third were found on Floor 2. These, too, seem more at home later than the second quarter of the second century. Fragment No. 23 (Pl. XXI fig. 37) corresponds very closely to No. 648 found in the Agora and dated there to the last quarter of the second century B.C.²⁰ Our lamps, Nos. 21 (Pl. XX fig. 38) and 22 (Pl. XXI fig. 39), are undoubtedly moulded imitations of the wheelmade Knidos type lamps which, although they appear at Corinth as early as the first half of the second century,²¹ are dated at Athens and Tarsus in the second half of the second century and first quarter of the first century B.C.²² The nozzles of our lamps are certainly much closer to these wheelmade lamps than to the Knidos type moulded lamps recognized in the Agora.²³ Local imitation of these lamps seem difficult to date on the basis of local imitations elsewhere, but the imitations probably continued at least as long as the prototypes were being imported and possibly somewhat longer. No. 21, with its closer approximation to the Knidos type, is likely to be earlier

¹⁸ Thompson, 433 fig. 116.

¹⁹ *Ibid.* 434-435.

²⁰ R. H. Howland, *The Athenian Agora*, Vol. IV: *Greek Lamps and Their Survivals* (1958) 165, pl. 48, Type 48E.

²¹ O. Broneer, *Corinth*, Vol. IV, Part II, *Terracotta Lamps* (1930) 54.

²² Howland, 126-127, Type 40A; *Tarsus* 89, Group V (one example only).

²³ Howland, 170-172, Types 50A and 50B.

¹⁵ *Ibid.* 368 and fig. 52 No. C76; H. Goldman, ed., *Excavations at Gözliü Kule, Tarsus*, Vol. I: *The Hellenistic and Roman Periods* (1950) 230 and pl. 135, No. 234.

¹⁶ Edwards, 21-22 and ref. fig. 28 on p. 26.

¹⁷ *Tarsus* Group VI, Class C, 89-90 and 105-106 pls. 95, 96, and 275.

than the longer nozzled No. 22, but there is no compelling reason to date it earlier than the third quarter of the second century B.C.

Internal evidence, then, leads to the conclusion that the date for the construction of the floor might well be around the middle of the second century B.C., and rather slightly later than earlier.

ROOM 18, FLOOR 3

Floor 3 also belongs to a sealed level. Internal evidence of pottery profiles tends to substantiate a somewhat later date for Floor 2 than is indicated by the coin of Ptolemy VI Philometor and Ptolemy Euergetes found on Floor 3 and datable to the period 168–163 B.C.

The hemispherical bowl (No. 26), as a general shape, is not unusual in the Mediterranean during the later half of the second century B.C.,²⁴ although it makes its appearance in Hellenistic strata earlier.²⁵ Our small jug with ovoid body and pointed elliptical bottom (No. 30) is unparalleled, as far as I can discover, in its entirety, but its rim is identical with that on small pitchers from the Agora,²⁶ dated to the middle of the second century. These pitchers continue into a later period,²⁷ but we have no certain knowledge about their rims in the later second century. Certainly the first century ones from the Agora²⁸ have quite different lip and rim treatments. Fusiform unguentaria akin to

our No. 31 seem to appear in both late and early contexts at Athens.²⁹

The upper limits of the assemblage from this floor would appear to be around the middle of the second century B.C. or slightly later. The lower limits are somewhat more difficult to determine as we have not yet excavated beneath the third floor, but there is no reason to believe they are earlier than the beginning of the second century B.C.

CATALOGUE OF OBJECTS

Our catalogue of finds is compiled directly from our field notes on the individual piece. Some explanation of terms is in order. The numbers preceding color references, as well as the color terminology, are derived from the 1954 edition of the *Munsell Soil Color Charts*³⁰ with which all our terracotta objects were compared. H, L, W, T, D stand for Height, Length, Width, Thickness, and Diameter respectively; and NT for Normal Thickness.

The terminology for hardness of fabric is based on Mohs' scale.³¹ 'Very hard' refers to a hardness of 3.5 or over, 'hard' to a hardness of 3 to 3.5, 'medium hard' to a hardness of 2.2 to 3, and 'soft' to under 2.2 on Mohs' scale. We have used the word 'glitter' where we might well be able to use the word 'micaceous', but we have done so intentionally as there are other minerals which can easily be confused with mica. Although no discussion of fabric is included

²⁴ F. O. Waagé, ed., *Antioch On-The-Orontes*, Vol. IV, Part One, *Ceramics and Islamic Coins* (1948) 24 Nos. 167–177 and fig. 7 Nos. 1–9; *Tarsus* 234, figs. 137 and 188; Nos. 291–293; Thompson, 371–372 fig. 56, No. D14.

²⁵ Thompson, 372, mentions silver prototypes from an Aetolian tomb of the early second century.

²⁶ *Ibid.* 373 fig. 58; Nos. D20 and D21; This comparison is more valid than it may appear at first reading when one considers that in another assemblage at Thmuis a fragment of a small jug identical to our No. 30 is found in association with a pitcher remarkably similar to D20 and D21.

²⁷ *Ibid.* 397–398 fig. 86, No. E54.

²⁸ H. S. Robinson, *The Athenian Agora*, Vol. V, *Pottery of the Roman Period* (1959) 14–15, pl. 1 No. F44; 30 pl. 5, No. G88.

²⁹ Thompson, 392 fig. 78 Nos. D77 and D78; 38, 418–419 fig. 104, Nos. E137 and E138.

³⁰ Published by the Munsell Color Company, Inc., Baltimore, Maryland. The Munsell notation records hue, value and chroma in that order. In our No. 1 below (color notation 10R 4/8) the hue is 10R, the value 4, and the chroma 8.

³¹ The traditional table of Mohs' Scale, lacking only the hardness of 10 represented by the mineral diamond, may be found in A. O. Shepard, *Ceramics for the Archaeologist* (1965) 115 Table 4. To this series of minerals we have added the following indicators: the human fingernail, hardness ca. 2.2; muscovite, hardness 2.0 to 2.5; halite, hardness 2.5; malachite, hardness 3.5; variscite, hardness 4.0 to 5.0; obsidian, hardness 5.5.

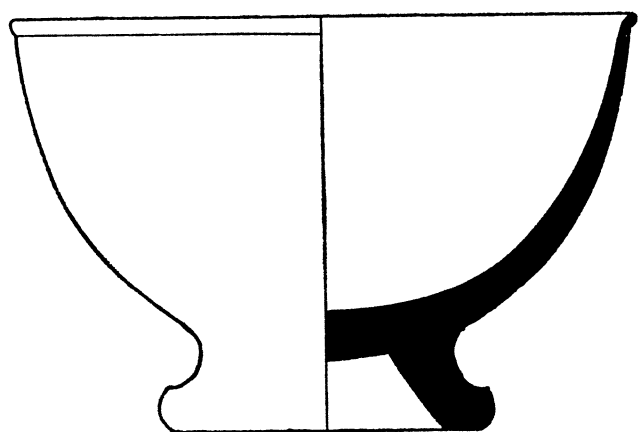


Fig. 1 (1:1)

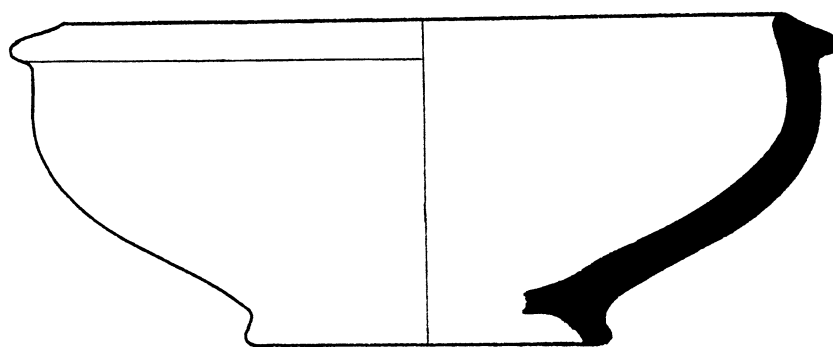


Fig. 2 (1:1)

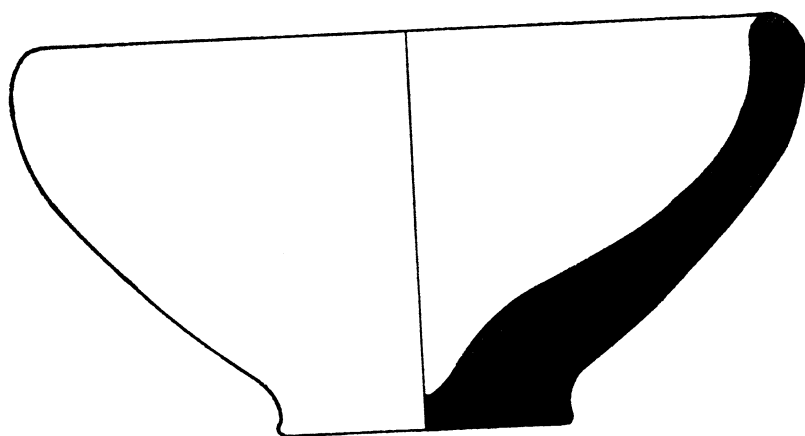


Fig. 3 (1:1)

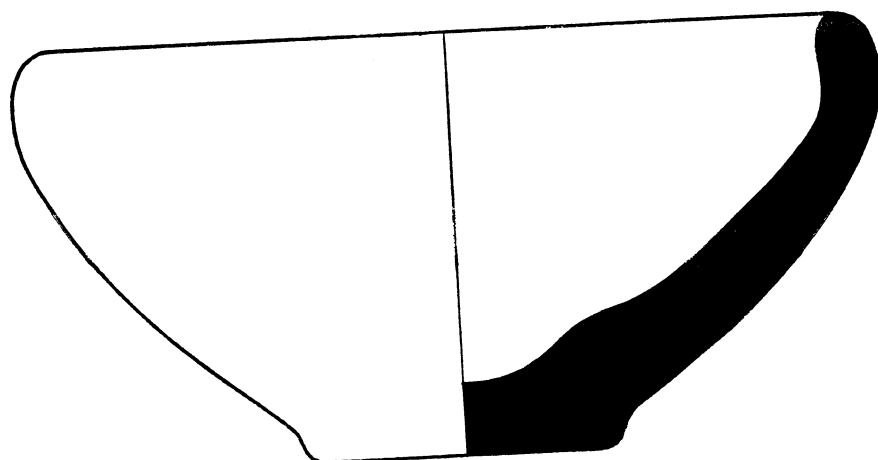


Fig. 4 (1:1)

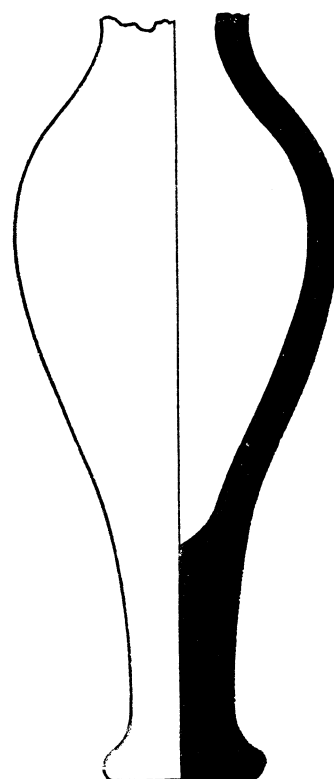


Fig. 5 (1:1)

here, laboratory analysis of fabrics will play an important role in our final report.

Pitted refers to pits left by inclusions that burned or popped out during baking, and to subsequent gouges, grooves or abrasions.

Profile indicates that enough of the piece is preserved to allow reconstruction of the entire shape.

Puddled refers to swirls and puddles of slip sometimes collected on the surface by the mechanical application of a very liquid slip or wet-smoothing with a too-wet cloth or sponge. *Smeared* means that the soft clay has been pushed out of place, blurring a shape or design, and occasionally adhering to the finished pot (this frequently occurs when the potter cuts off the pot from the wheel where it was thrown by means of a string).

Spattered indicates that small pellets or globs of clay, such as occur when a potter rubs clay-smeared hands over a freshly-turned pot, adhere to the surface.

ROOM 18

FLOOR I (END OF THE 2ND AND FIRST PART OF THE 1ST CENTURY B.C.)

1. SMALL SIGILLATA BOWL.

(3MP416) H 7.4 cm, Rim D 10.2 cm. Surface: 10R 4/8 red.

Profile. Tapering rim and high ring foot. Well made with lustrous slip.³² Slightly granular fabric. Medium high luster, low glitter, very hard fabric.

2. BOWL WITH THICKENED, ANGULAR LIP.

(3MP293) H 4.5 cm, Rim D 11 cm, NT .45 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 4/6 red.

Profile. Low ring foot and flattened, thickened, angular lip. Instrument marks from modeling apparent. Pitted and spat-

tered; ring foot smeared. Self-slipped on interior and top of lip; exterior gritty, interior smoother. Slight luster, medium glitter, medium hard fabric.

3. BOWL WITH INCURVED RIM AND STRING CUT BASE.

(3M98) H 5.4 cm, Rim D 9.75 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 4/4 reddish-brown.

Whole. Carelessly thrown; thick walls, ridge of clay above concave bottom; lip thinned and rounded inwards. pitted, coarse fabric, gritty texture. String-cut base, smeared. Outer surface carelessly wet-smoothed. Matt finish, medium glitter, medium hard fabric.

4. BOWL WITH INCURVED RIM AND STRING CUT BASE.

(3M97) H 5.6 cm, Rim D 11.3 cm. Surface: 5YR 5/6 yellowish-red.

Whole. For description, see No. 3 above.

5. FUSIFORM UNGUENTARIUM.

(3MP418) Preserved H 10.1 cm, Body D 4.25 cm, NT .41 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/6 yellowish-red.

Fragmentary. Bulbous body with definite shoulder; slender foot, string-cut base. Self-slipped, puddled; slightly pitted and spattered. Matt finish, low glitter, hard fabric.

6. WATER PITCHER.

(3M78) H 24.6 cm, Rim D 10 cm, NT .425 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 3/4 dark reddish-brown.

Whole. Flared neck, flattened lip; offset base and ring foot. Very coarse handle finger pressed to neck and body of vessel. Carelessly thrown and slightly warped; pitted and spattered. Exterior self-slipped and wet-smoothed to just inside rim. Matt finish, medium glitter, medium hard fabric.

7. SHALLOW COOKING POT.

(3MP409) H 9.4 cm, Rim D 23 cm, NT .62 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 3/6 dark red.

³² Often referred to as 'glazed' although technically a lustrous slip.

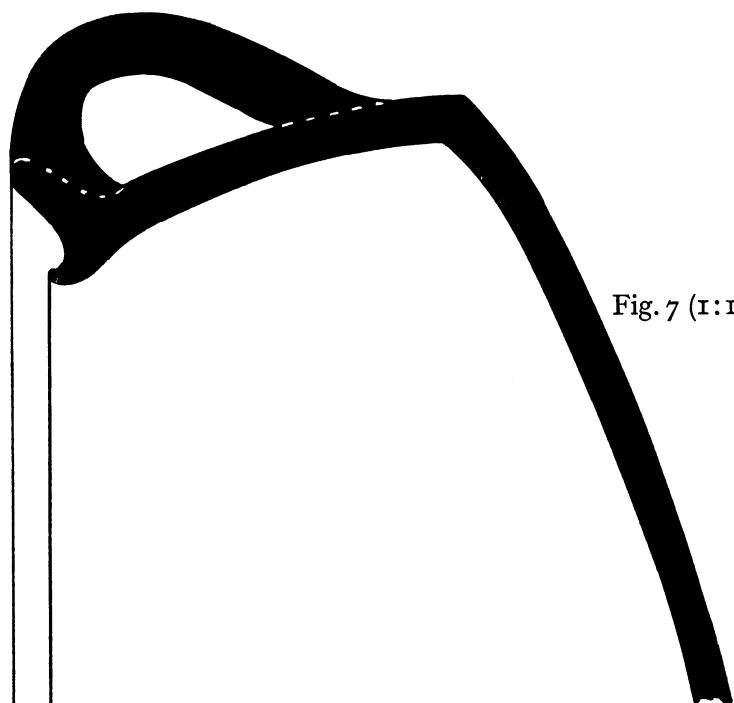


Fig. 7 (1:1)

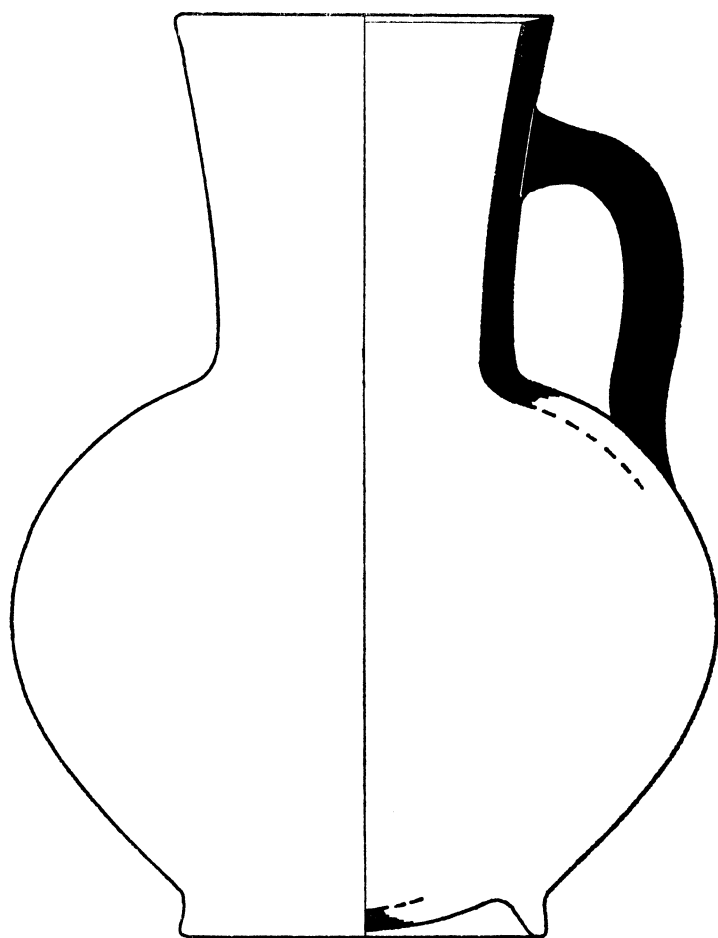


Fig. 6 (1:2)



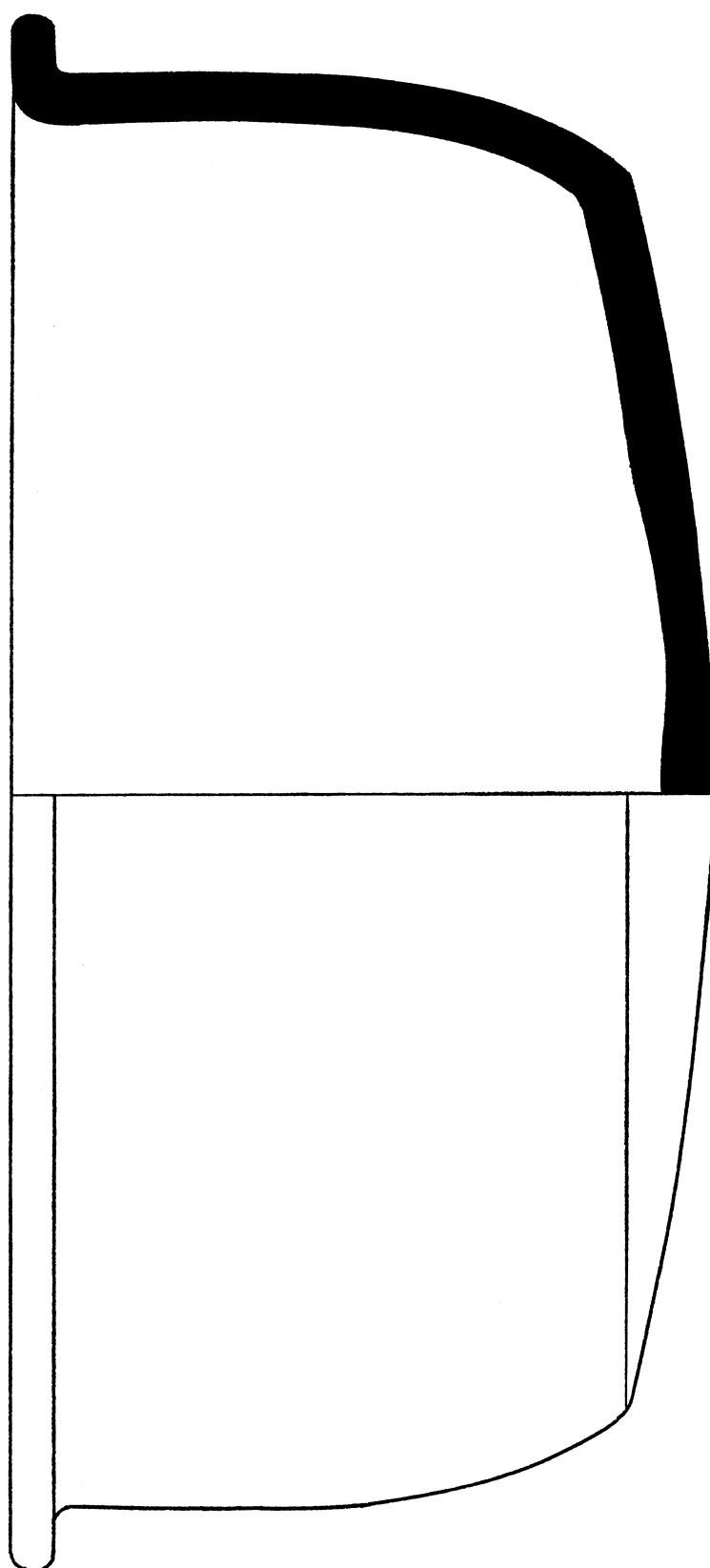


Fig. 8 (1:1)

Profile. Rim grooved for lid, slightly elliptical bottom; handle—maybe two originally—carefully made. Firm slip on interior extending over lid device, wet-smoothed inside and out. Spiral wheel marks visible on interior. Slightly gritty texture; glossy black sediment from fire. Medium low luster, profuse glitter, medium hard fabric.

Another profile from a slightly smaller pot of the same shape (3MP291) recovered from the same floor.

8. BASIN.

(3MP412) H 9.8 cm, Rim D 21.5 cm, NT .65 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 4/4 reddish-brown.

Profile. Everted rim with slightly elliptical, slightly pointed bottom. Slipped on exterior, wet-smoothed inside and out. Pitted, gritty texture. Matt finish, profuse glitter, hard fabric.

9. AMPHORA TOP.

(3MP417A) Preserved H 23 cm, Rim D 14.05 cm, NT .84 cm. Surface 10YR 7/3 very pale brown.

Fragmentary. Collar-like rim with flattened lip; double rolled, strap handles. Painted red monogram. Surface fairly rough and gritty. Matt finish, medium glitter, hard fabric.

10. LAMP.

Pl. XXI fig. 36.

(3M56) H 3.4 cm, W 5 cm, L 7.35 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/6 yellowish-red.

Whole. Incised rays on shoulder and volutes on bridge ending in oval knobs. A raised ridge separates depressed disk from shoulder and another ridge surrounds filling hole. Double convex body, crudely made. Low ring foot.

11. TERRACOTTA FIGURINE OF A RECUMBENT APIS BULL ON BASE.

Pl. XXII fig. 41.

(3M59) H 9 cm, W 4.5 cm, L 9.2 cm, L of base 7.55 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/4 reddish-brown.

Whole except for small fragment on animal's right side. Low horizontal base. The two parts are joined in the center of the animal, longitudinally, and the excess clay carelessly scraped away destroying, especially, the contours of the muzzle, the horns and the disk between them. Band around neck delineated by incision and limbs indicated by diagonal grooves. Rounded back. Patches of gypsum still adhere to surface, some dyed pink with rose madder.³³ Crudely executed.

ROOM 18

FLOOR 2 (CA. 150 B.C., OR SLIGHTLY LATER, TO THE END OF THE SECOND CENTURY)

12. LARGE PLATE WITH ROLLED LIP.

(3MP447) H 4.2 cm, Rim D 41 cm, NT 1.25 cm. Surface: 7.5YR 3/0 very dark gray.

Almost whole. Low ring foot, lip thickened downward and offset with groove. A hole, .65 cm in diameter, drilled just inside rim. Fairly well-formed but scarred and spattered. Interior wet-smoothed, wheelmarks inside and out. Matt finish, medium glitter, hard fabric.

13. SMALL DISH WITH STRING CUT BASE.

(3M104) H 2.9 cm, Rim D 7.6 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 4/6 red.

Whole. For general description see No. 3 above, but carelessly wet-smoothed inside and out.

14. BOWL WITH INCURVED RIM.

(3MP272) H 6.6 cm, Rim D 11.4 cm, NT .75 cm. Surface: 7.5YR 5/4 brown.

³³ Mr. L. Majewski, Director of the Conservation Center of the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University, examined and identified the gypsum and rose madder.

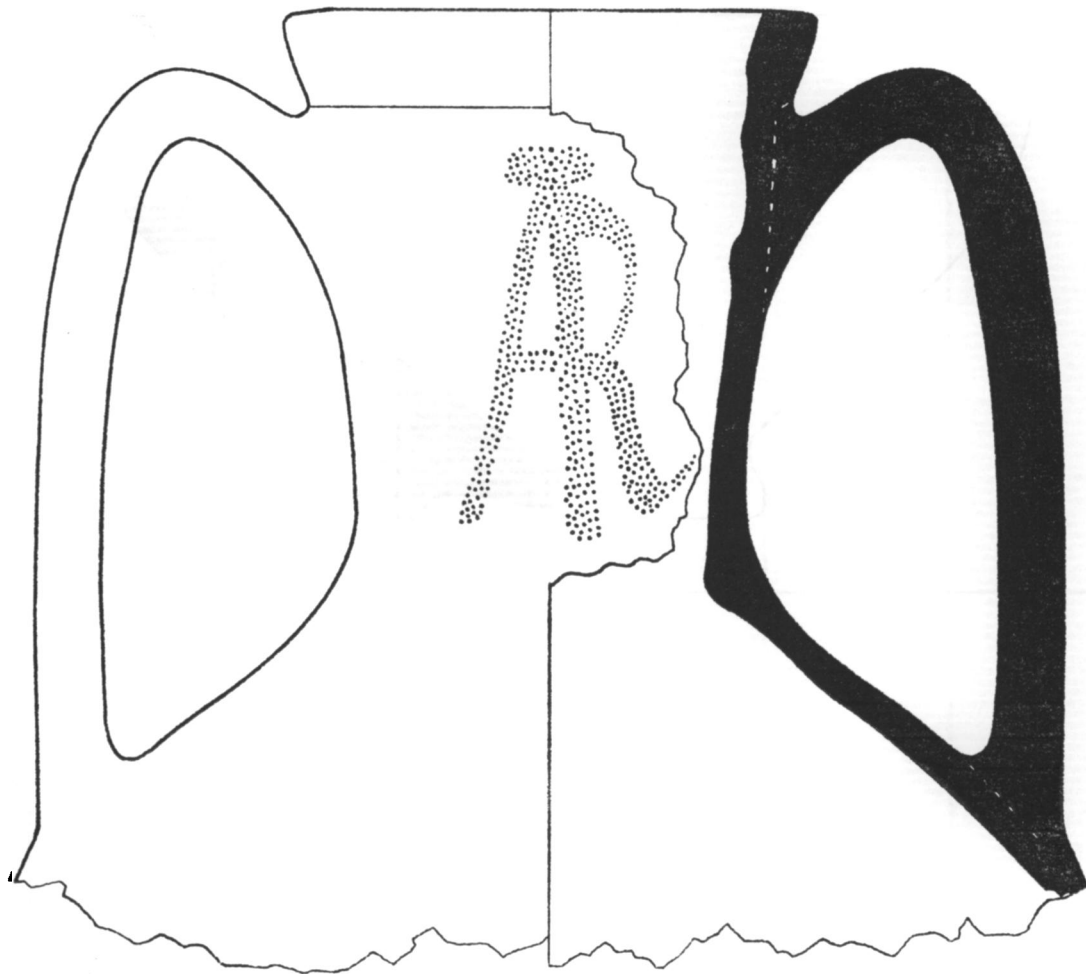


Fig. 9 (1:2)

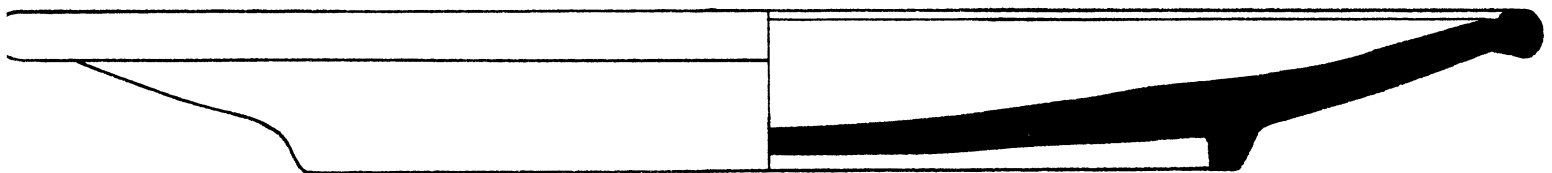


Fig. 12 (1:2)

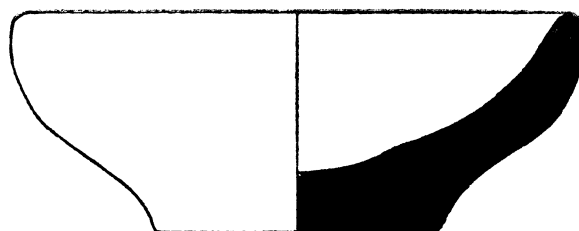


Fig. 13 (1:1)

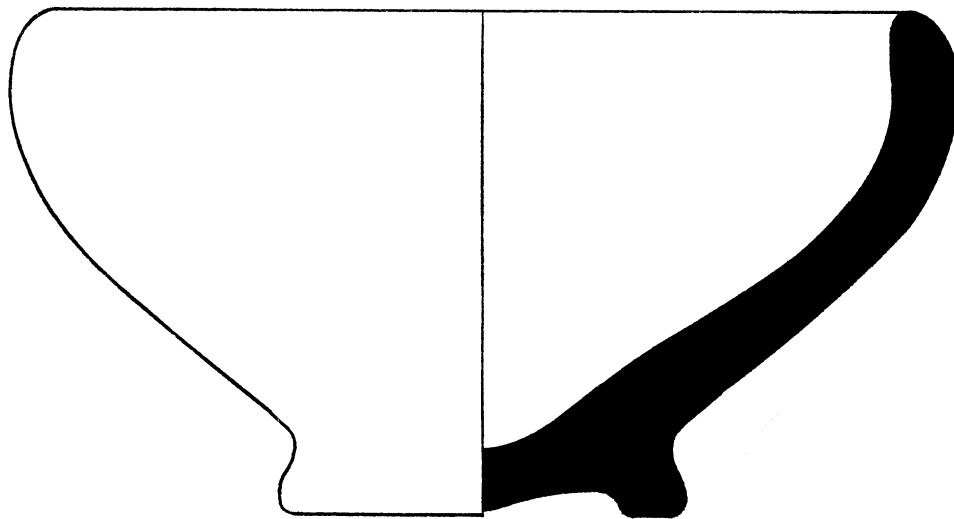


Fig. 14 (1:1)

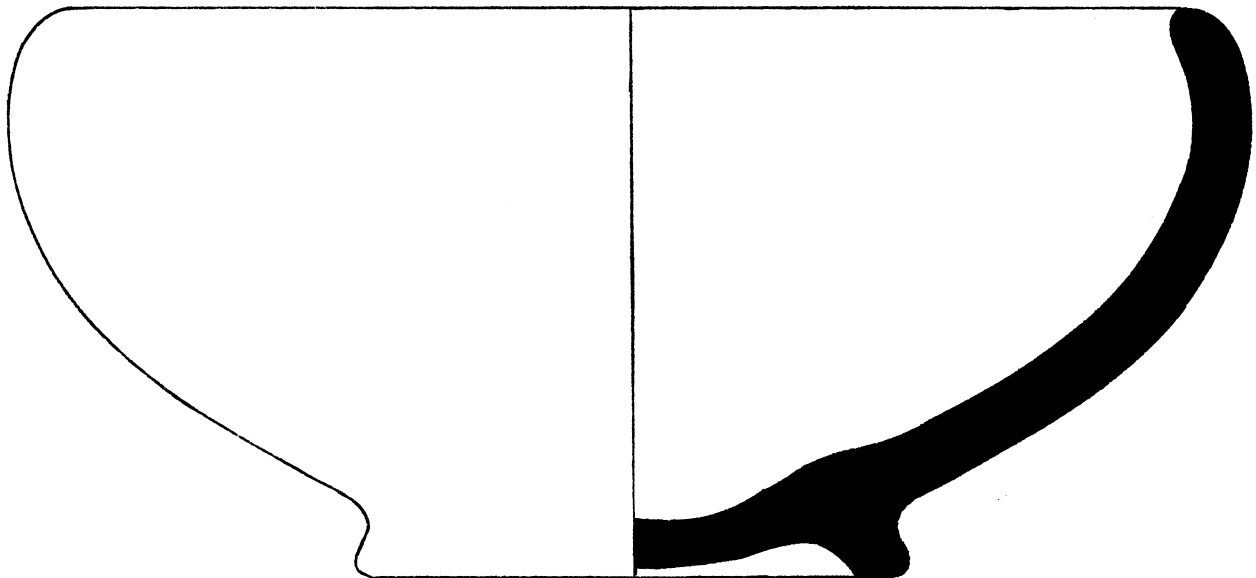


Fig. 15 (1:1)

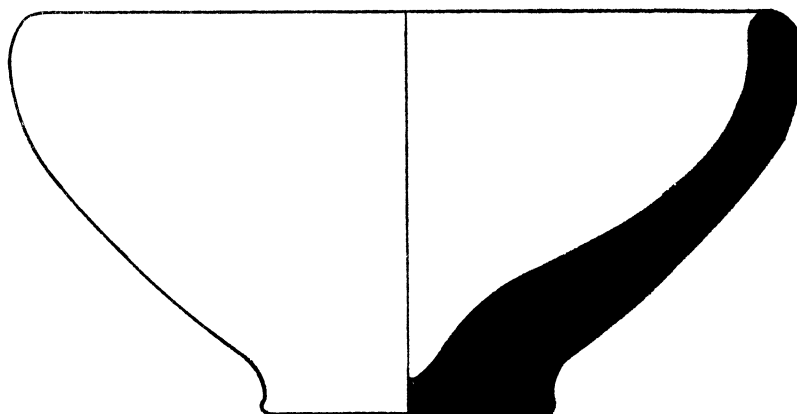


Fig. 16 (1:1)

- Almost whole. Thinned, rounded lip and low ring foot. Convex ridge of clay above concave bottom. Gritty surface pitted and spattered; self-slip puddled. Matt finish, medium glitter, medium hard to soft fabric.
15. BOWL WITH INCURVED RIM.
(3MP408) H 7.5 cm, Rim D 14 cm, NT .8 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/3 reddish-brown.

Profile. For description see No. 14 above; but, surface abrasing and medium hard fabric.
16. BOWL WITH INCURVED RIM AND STRING CUT BASE.
(3MP417) H 5.3 cm, Rim D 10.5 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 3/0 very dark gray.

Profile. For description, see No. 3 above.
17. BOWL WITH INCURVED RIM AND STRING CUT BASE.
(3MP402) H 7.1 cm, Rim D 10.45 cm, NT .7 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 4/6 red.

Nearly whole. Similar to Nos. 3, 4 and 16 above, but central part of base scooped out to a depth of ca. .3 cm. at center, surface less gritty, and fabric hard.
18. BOWL WITH STRAIGHT SIDES.
(3MP213) H 5 cm, Rim D 16 cm, NT .8 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/4 reddish brown.

Whole except for chip. Flared wall with ornamental, wheel-made ridge and groove; everted lip, concave bottom, string cut base smeared. Coarse, gritty fabric; pitted and spattered. Matt finish, medium glitter and medium hard fabric.
19. SMALL JAR.
(3MP415) Preserved H 4 cm, Body D 4.7 cm, NT .22 cm. Surface: 5YR 5/4 reddish-brown.

Fragmentary. Globular body with ring foot. Slipped on exterior except inside foot.
- Coarse, gritty texture, pitted. Matt surface, medium glitter, hard fabric.
20. FUSIFORM UNGUENTARIUM.
(3MP414) Preserved H 13.9 cm, Body D 6.25 cm, NT .4 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 2/0 black.

Fragmentary. Globular body with foot and upper neck missing. Self-slipped, matt surface is pitted, spattered and gritty. Low glitter and hard fabric.
21. LAMP.
Pl. XXI fig. 38.
(3M57) H 2.9 cm, W 5.55 cm, L 8.6 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/6 yellowish-red.

Whole. Moulded body with two halves crudely joined. A raised ridge separates depressed disk from shoulder and another ridge surrounds filling hole. Relief decoration of heart-shaped leaves and convex globules on shoulder. Herringbone pattern on nozzle terminates in two small volutes at raised ridge of central disk and is flanked by larger volutes. Low ring foot.
22. LAMP.
Pl. XXI fig. 39.
(3M75) H 2.7 cm, W 5.2 cm, L 7.2 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/6 yellowish-red with traces of 7.5R 3/8 dark red slip and white-painted relief decoration.

Whole. Moulded body with scraped juncture. Raised ridge around concave disk with central filling hole. Relief decoration of heart-shaped leaves and convex globules on shoulder. Herringbone design on bridge of nozzle between volutes. Low ring foot.
23. LAMP.
Pl. XXI fig. 37 (whole example from another room illustrated)
(3M89) H 3.15 cm, W 5.5 cm, L ca. 8.9 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/6 yellowish-red.

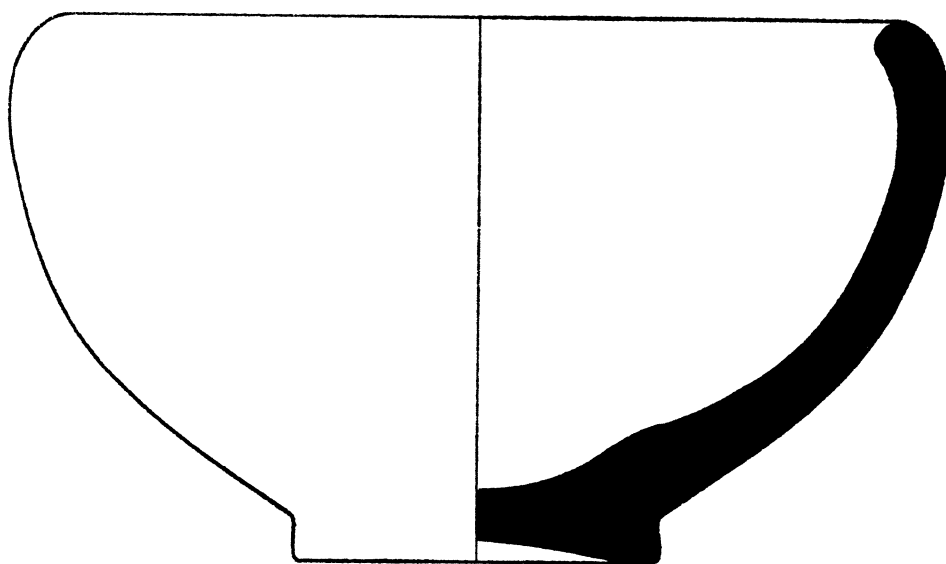


Fig. 17 (1:1)

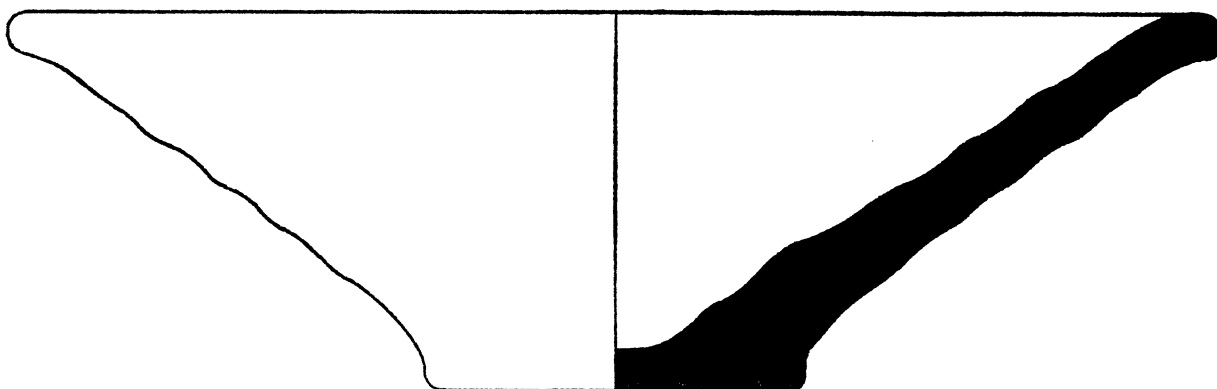


Fig. 18 (1:1)

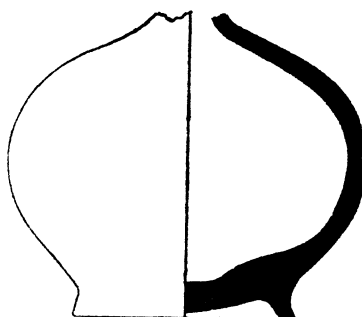


Fig. 19 (1:1)

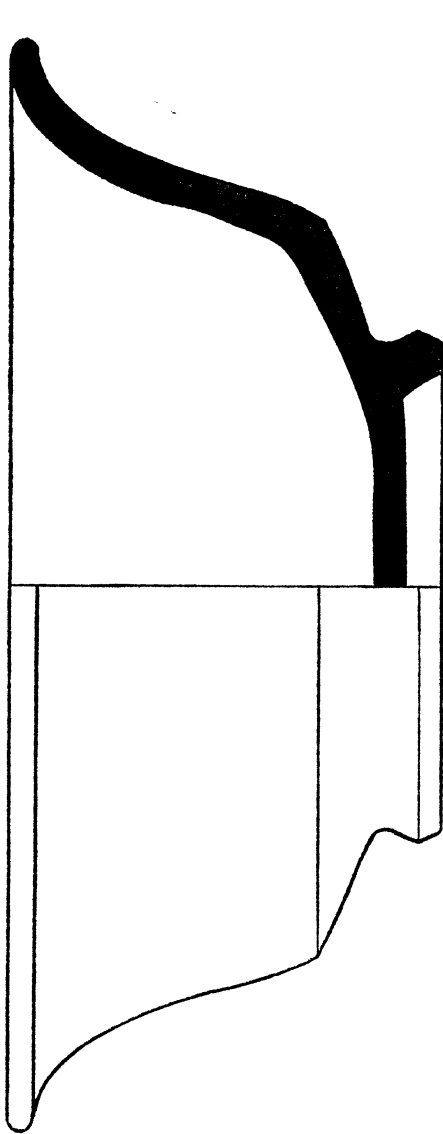


Fig. 25 (1:1)

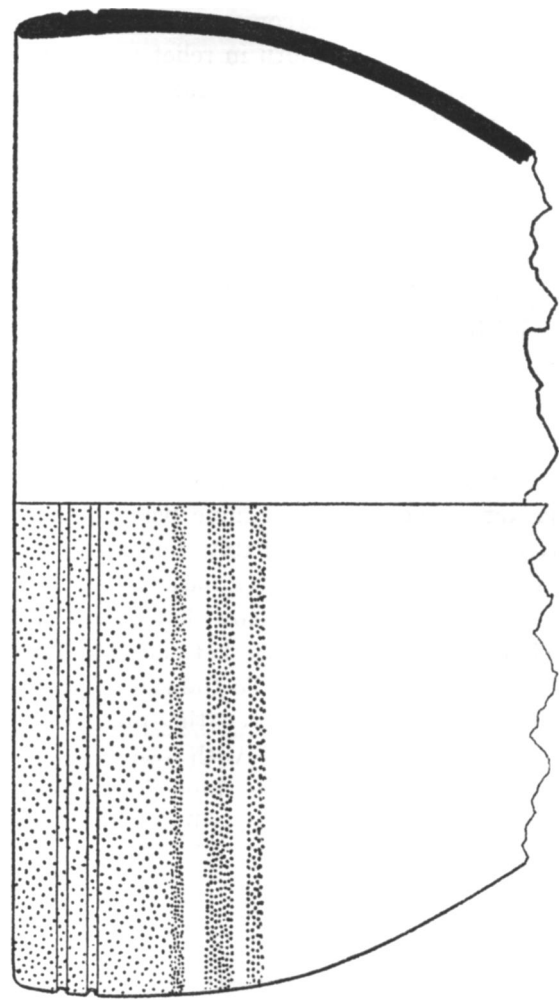


Fig. 26 (1:1)

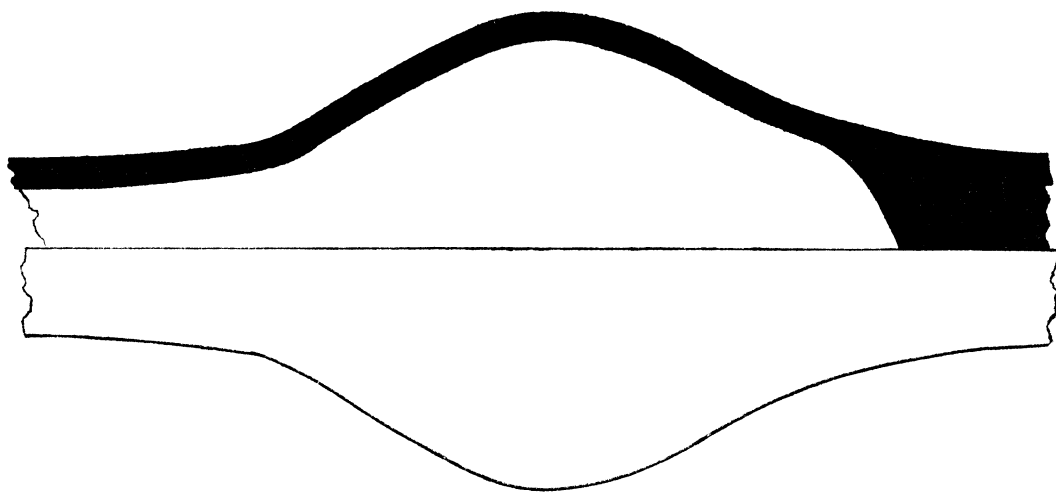


Fig. 20 (1:1)

Fragmentary. Double convex moulded body. Macedonian shield motif in relief on shoulder.³⁴ Stylized palmette on bridge of nozzle. Low ring foot.

24. TERRACOTTA PLAQUE.

Pl. XXII fig. 40.

(3M103) Preserved H 13.2 cm, Preserved W 9.7 cm, T of base 2.4 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/4 reddish-brown.

Fragmentary. Preserved portion reconstructed from three fragments. Part of left side of figure and left side of plaque itself is missing. Child, characteristically with short jacket above waist and nude below, holds right hand aloft. Probably left hand is raised also as no trace of it appears on section of plaque preserved below left shoulder. ?Holding some sort of basket perhaps. The face is badly damaged. To the right a tree. Traces of heavy gypsum coating preserved, in some places dyed pink with rose madder, in others with Egyptian blue frit superimposed.³⁵ A yellow color still awaits identification of its pigment.

ROOM 18

FLOOR 3 (FIRST HALF OF THE SECOND CENTURY OR SLIGHTLY LATER)

25. BOWL. WITH ANGULAR PROFILE AND OUTCURVED LIP.

(3MP297) H 5.7 cm, Rim D 14.2 cm, NT .58 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 3/6 dark red.

Nearly whole. High, moulded base ring and thinned, outcurved lip. Self-slipped and wet-smoothed except inside base ring. Low luster, medium glitter, dense, laminated and hard fabric.

26. HEMISPHERICAL BOWL.

(3MP435) Preserved H 6.9 cm, Rim D 12.9 cm, NT .3 cm. Surface: 7.5YR 5/4 brown.

³⁴ K. Parlasca, "Das Verhältnis der Megarischen Becher zum Alexandrinischen Kunsthandwerk," *JdI* 70 (1955) 131 and notes.

³⁵ See note 33.

Fragmentary. Thinned, rounded lip. Red, purple and white decoration in bands. Two shallow grooves near lip. (Similar pieces found in deposits of similar date at Thmuis have slightly elliptical bases). Thin walls of dense, laminated fabric. Smooth surface self-slipped and wet-smoothed. Low luster, low glitter, hard fabric.

27. BLACK RIM FRAGMENT.

(3MP440) Preserved H 4.6 cm, Rim D ca. 21 cm, NT .92 cm. Surface: 10YR 2/1 black.

Fragmentary. Lip thickened and rounded. Dense, laminated fabric with lustrous slip.³⁶ Smooth surface, medium high luster, very hard fabric.

28. BOWL WITH INCURVED RIM.

(3MP411) H 7.4 cm, Rim D 16.3 cm, NT 2.1 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/4 reddish-brown.

Profile. For description see No. 14 above; but, extra thick, medium hard fabric and less pronounced concave bottom.

29. BOWL WITH INCURVED RIM.

(2MP201) H 6.15 cm, Rim D 10.5 cm, NT .6 cm. Surface: 7.5YR 5/4 brown.

Profile. Similar to No. 28 above; but, wet-smoothed inside and out, less gritty, hard fabric, and bottom of interior is convex.

30. SMALL JUG WITH OVOID BODY AND POINTED ELLIPTICAL BOTTOM.

(3MP248) H 10.8 cm, Rim D 3.8 cm, NT .4 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 4/6 red.

Profile. High shoulder; angular, flared rim and lip; long loop handle slightly fluted on one side. Gritty texture; pitted and spattered. Exterior self-slipped, wet-smoothed, puddled and stained. Slight luster, profuse glitter, hard fabric.

³⁶ See note 32.

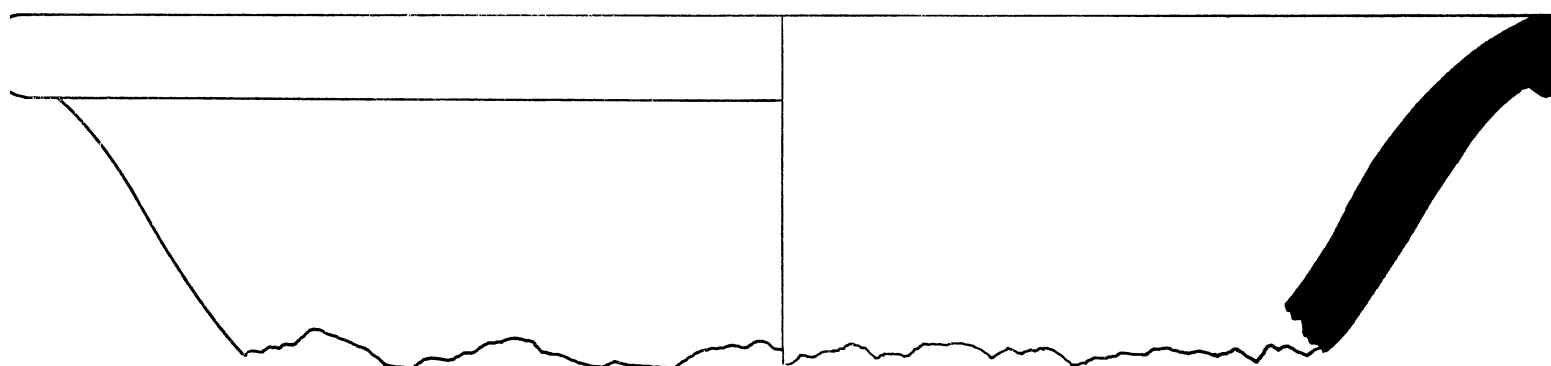


Fig. 27 (1:1)

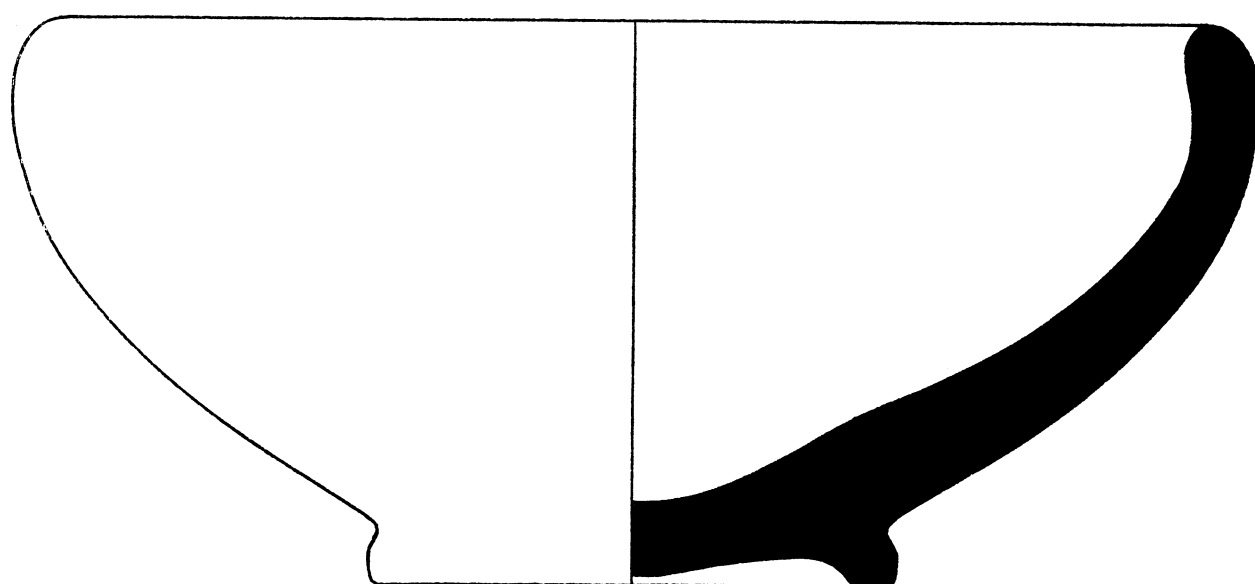


Fig. 28 (1:1)

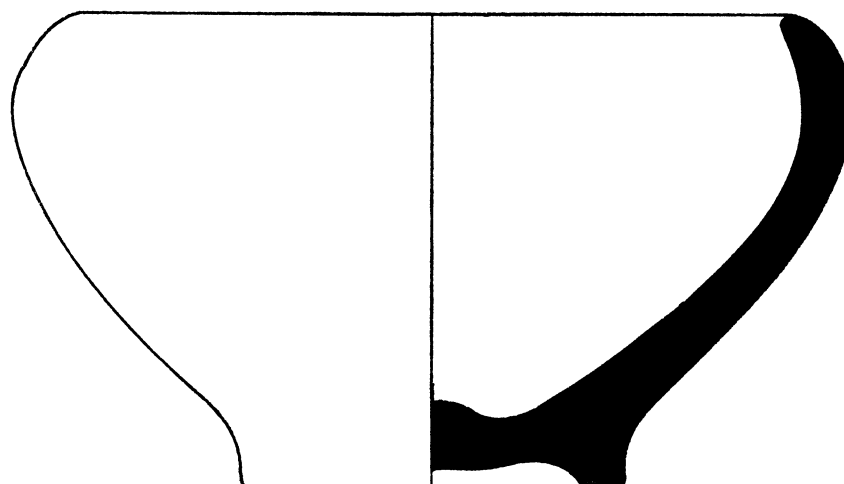


Fig. 29 (1:1)

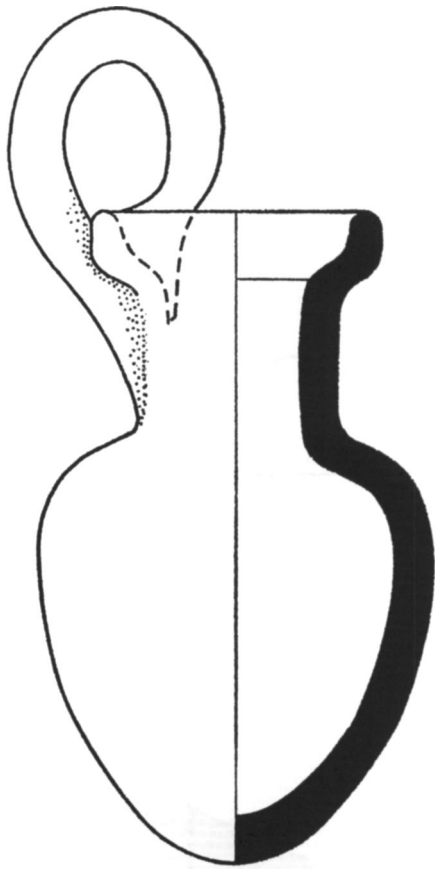


Fig. 30 (1:1)

is still visible. Coarse fabric, pitted surface and gritty texture. Slipped and wet smoothed, puddled. Matt finish, profuse glitter, hard fabric.

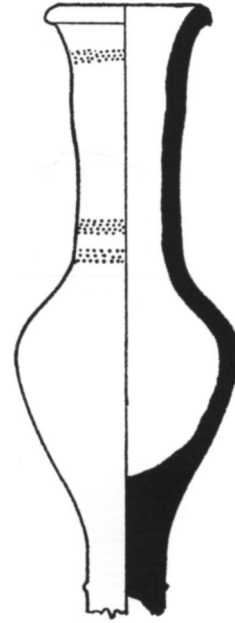


Fig. 31 (1:1)

31. FUSIFORM UNGUENTARIUM.

(3MP427) Preserved H 8.5 cm, Rim D 2 cm, Body D 2.85 cm, NT .25 cm. Surface 5YR 4/6 yellowish-red.

Fragmentary, most of lip and all of foot missing. Flattened lip. White painted bands, one at top of neck, two at bottom of neck near juncture with body. Self-slipped and wet-smoothed, puddled; texture fairly smooth. Matt finish, medium glitter, medium hard fabric.

32. CUP.

(3MP421) H 8.3 cm, Rim D 6.4 cm, NT .85 cm. Surface: 2.5YR 5/6 red.

Nearly whole, Flared, simulated collar, slightly offset, with plain rounded rim. Angular side wall and nipple type bottom pinched in with fingers the imprint of which

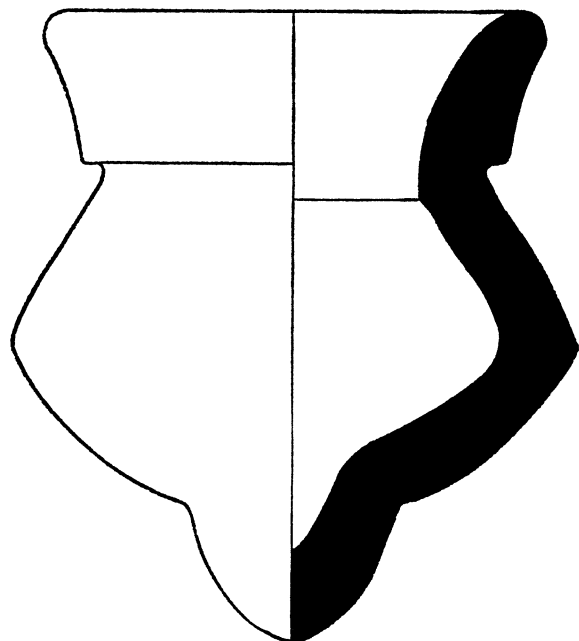


Fig. 32 (1:1)

33. TERRACOTTA FIGURINE OF HARPOCRATES.

Pl. XXII fig. 43.

(3M54) Preserved H 12.7 cm, W 10.8 cm. Surface: 5YR 4/4 reddish-brown.

Nearly whole. The two moulded halves are joined at the sides of the figure. An air hole, ca. 1.5 cm in diameter is preserved in the lower part of the back. Harpocrates is seated atop the frog Haqit, the goddess of birth. In his left hand he holds a jar, to his right appears what is probably a cake or loaf of bread. Characteristically he holds his right index finger to his mouth. On his head a wreath is surmounted by the double crown, with the top part broken off, flanked by lotus buds. The bottom portion of the frog is missing.

34. BRONZE FIBULA WITH REMNANTS OF IRON PIN.

Pl. XXII fig. 42.

(3M73) L 6.9 cm, Maximum W 2.4 cm.

The bronze fibula, decorated on the upper surface with a series of narrow double ridges which spring diagonally from a groove down the center, curves convexly and tapers toward the clasp. The iron pin was attached by making an incision in the center of the wide end of the bronze, cutting, and bending the two resulting strips

of bronze downward and outward to allow space for the insertion of the side piece of the iron pin. The two pieces of bronze were then wrapped around the side piece to secure it.

35. BRONZE COIN OF PTOLEMY VI PHILOMETOR AND PTOLEMY EUERGETES (future Ptolemy VIII, Euergetes II) 168-163 B.C.³⁷ Diameter 19-20 mm., Weight 7.5⁺ grams.*Obv*: Head of Ammon r.*Rev*: ΠΤΟΛΕ[ΜΑΙΟΥ ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ]

Two eagles standing l.; cornucopiae in l. field?

36. BRONZE PTOLEMAIC COIN FROM THIRD TO SECOND CENTURY B.C. Diameter 19-20 mm., Weight 6.4 grams.

Obv: Very worn, mere traces of representation.*Rev*: [ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ ΒΑ]ΣΙΛΕΩΣ

Two eagles standing l. on thunderbolt.

Brooklyn College

City University of New York

³⁷ J. N. Svoronos, Τὰ νομίσματα τοῦ κράτους τῶν πτολεμαίων (1904-08) pl. XLVIII 12, 4, Nos. 1425-1426; See also R. A. Haatvedt and E. E. Peterson, *Coins from Karanis* (1964) 103 No. 36.