

A CHRONOLOGICAL REVISION OF THE DATE OF THE POTTERY FINDS FROM THE EASTERN CIRCUS AT CAESAREA MARITIMA

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INTRODUCTION

The pottery from the excavations of the Joint Expedition to Caesarea Maritima (JECM) in the Eastern Circus of Caesarea (cf. Humphrey 1974; 1975; 1986:477–491) provided valuable material for the pioneering article published by Riley (1975). Some twenty years later, an excavation team on behalf of the Israel Antiquities Authority (IAA) headed by Y. Porath, returned to this magnificent monument. These excavations, during 1996–2003 (see Porath, this volume), extended JECM Probe H5 near the obelisk (Humphrey 1975:15–24) and opened a new area at the southern edge of the *spina* and the *meta prima* (Areas VI, VIa). The pottery unearthed from the stratified layers discovered by the IAA expedition are of prime importance for the dating of the circus, which is the main goal of this study.¹

The pottery finds are arranged in the plates according to strata and divided into four categories: fine tablewares, household vessels, cooking wares and amphorae. Most of pottery types discussed below were previously identified in large quantities from well-dated contexts in the IAA excavations at Herod's Circus (Gendelman, in prep. a) and Insula W2S3 (Gendelman, in prep. b), where they were analyzed and discussed comprehensively. The typology used here follows that developed in the above-mentioned excavation reports. Consequently, the pottery in this article is treated briefly, with reference to the forthcoming reports.

The pottery presented here was carefully chosen from stratigraphic contexts related to four major stages: Stratum IV—pre-Circus remains; Stratum III—the construction phase of the Eastern Circus subdivided into three phases (a–c); Stratum II—post-Circus activities; and Stratum I—modern topsoil (see Porath, this volume).

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THE POTTERY

STRATUM IV

The Stratum IV pottery assemblage originated in sandy *kurkar* fills associated with pre-Circus remains found below the earliest *arena* and *spina* (see Porath, this volume: Plans 1, 2).

Fine Tableware

A great deal of fine tableware sherds were found. The predominant group of this type, like elsewhere at Caesarea (Gendelman 2006:171–172, Chart IV), is the Eastern Sigillata A Ware (henceforth, ESA).

Eastern Sigillata A (ESA).— A shallow bowl with a high ring base and a rounded wall terminating in a pointed incurved rim (Fig. 1:1) is identical to Atlante ESA Form 39, dated to c. 60–80/100 CE (Hayes 1985:32, Pl. V:16). Such bowls were previously reported from Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. b).

A base fragment of a small cup on a high, molded pedestal foot (Fig. 1:2) features a four-petalled stamp inscribed with the Greek letters ΧΑΡΙΣ on the floor of the vessel. According to the shape of the base, this fragment may be a cup of Atlante ESA Form 48 or 49, dated to c. 40–70 CE (Hayes 1985:36, Tav. VI:16, 17), or a deep hemispherical goblet, known thus far only at Caesarea and dated to the mid–late first century CE (Gendelman, in prep. a).

A carinated cup with a vertical molded rim and flange-rouletted decoration (Fig. 1:3) belongs to Atlante ESA Form 47, dated to c. 10–60/70 CE (Hayes 1985:35, Pl. VI:15) and Slane ESA Type 34A (Slane 1997:324–328, Pl. 24:FW269). Such cups are common at Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. a, b).

Two fragments of carinated cups with a vertical, triangular-shaped rim (Fig. 1:4, 5) can be identified as Atlante ESA Form 50, dated to c. 60/70–100 CE (Hayes 1985:36–37, Pl. VI:18). This type is fairly common in late first-century CE deposits from Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. a, b).

A hemispherical cup with a protruding, external mid-body ridge (broken) and two grooves on the rim (Fig. 1:6) is equivalent to Atlante ESA Form 48, dated to c. 40–70 CE (Hayes 1985:36, Pl. VI:16). In Caesarea, such vessels are found in deposits of the first–early second centuries CE (Gendelman, in prep. a, b).

A base fragment of a hemispherical bowl on a high ring base (Fig. 1:7) belongs to Atlante ESA Form 51 (Hayes 1985:37, Pl. VI:19, 20), dated to c. 70–120 CE. This date is confirmed by other evidence from Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. a).

Cypriot Terra Sigillata (CTS).— A fragment of a shallow flaring bowl or lid with a grooved rim (Fig. 1:8) has no parallels.

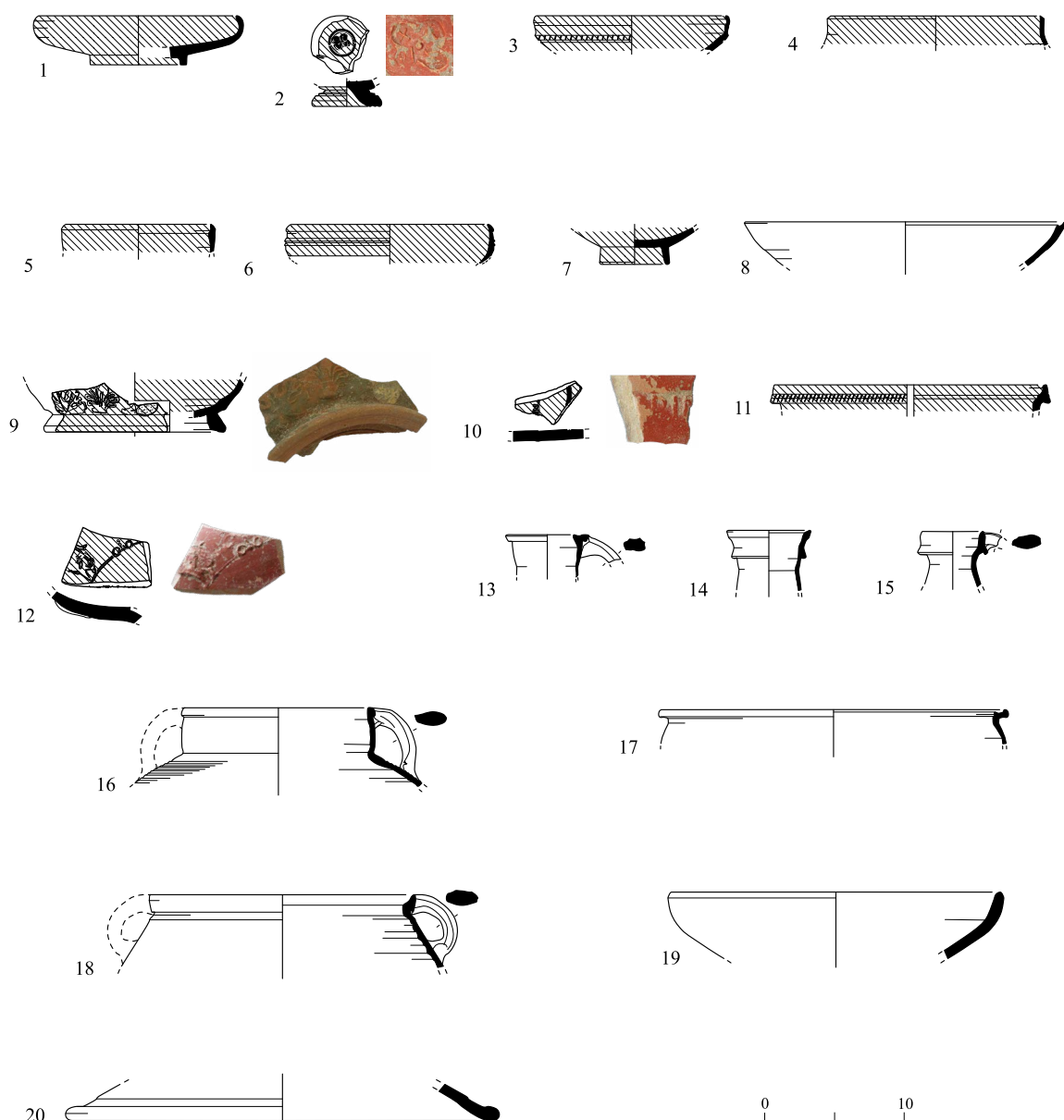


Fig. 1. Stratum IV: fine tableware, household and cooking wares.

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
1	61059	601,074/1, 3	Bowl Atlante ESA Form 39	C1R/76	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip
2	60033	600,050/1	Cup or goblet Atlante ESA Form 48 or 49		Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip; four-petalled stamp ΧΑΡΙΣ
3	60032	600,044/1	Cup Atlante ESA Form 47	C1R/135b	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip; rouletting on rim ext.
4	60033	600,050/3	Cup Atlante ESA Form 50	C1R/136	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip

Fig. 1. (cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
5	61065	601,205/2	Cup Atlante ESA Form 50	C1R/136	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip
6	61059	601,077/1	Cup Atlante ESA Form 48	C1R/138	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip
7	61067	601,114/2	Bowl Atlante ESA Form 51	C1R/123	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip
8	61203	601,306/3	Bowl/lid	C1R/262	Light gray 5 YR 7/1 fabric; reddish gray 5 YR 5/2 slip
9	61065	601,205/3	Mold-made skyphos	C1R/359	Light reddish brown 5 YR 6/4 fabric; minute white and gray grits and small portion of silvery shining material; red 2.5 YR 5/6–2.5 YR 6/4 slip; light reddish brown metallic luster
10	61059	601,077	Plate Kenrick Form B205 or B213	C1R/501–502	Light red 10 R 6/6 fabric; red 2.5 YR 4/6 fine slip, brilliant; stamped with Latin inscription P or RI.
11	60032	600,024	Krater/chalice Conspectus Form R1 or R2	C1R/562	Light red 10 R 6/6 fabric; red 2.5 YR 4/6 slip; mold-made; she-dancer to the right; floral scroll design
12	60032	600,044/4	Krater/chalice Conspectus Form R1 or R2	C1R/562	Light red 10 R 6/6 fabric; red 2.5 YR 4/6 slip; rouletting on rim ext.
13	60033	600,050/2	Jug	C2R/274	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 hard fabric; few white grits
14	60033	600,050/4	Jug	C2R/275	Light red 2.5 YR 6/6 hard fabric; few white grits
15	61059	601,074/2	Jug	C2R/303	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 hard fabric; few small white and black grits; fire blackened
16	61059	601,077/4	Cooking pot		Red 10 R 4/6 hard fabric; few small white grits
17	61059	601,077/3	Cooking pot/ casserole	C3R/151a	Red 10 YR 4/6 rather soft fabric, granular; few white grits
18	61067	601,114/4	Cooking pot/ casserole	C3R/151c	Red 10 YR 4/6, rather soft and granular fabric; few white grits
19	61067	601,114/1	Baking dish	C3H-R/411b	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 soft fabric; small black and white grits and golden mica; red slip dull; fire blackened
20	61059	601,077/6	Lid/tegami Benghazi Lid Type 7	C3H-R/408	Light red 2.5 YR 6/8 fabric, soft; small black and white grits and golden mica; self-slip; fire blackened

Knidian Relief Ware.— A single fragment of a mold-made skyphos (Fig. 1:9) has a high ring base and its wall is decorated with interlacing acanthus leaves and palmettes. No exact parallels were found. The fabric, slip and decoration indicate that it belongs to Knidian Relief Ware produced in workshops in the vicinity of Knidus on the Marmora coast of Asia Minor (Kenrick 1985:327; Hayes 2008:105–107).

Italian Terra Sigillata (ITS).— A base fragment of a plate (Fig. 1:10) has a poorly preserved rectangular stamp, with a badly imprinted Latin inscription in the center of its floor. Traces of three letters are visible: the first letter is P or R, the second is I and the third is unreadable. The vessel seems to belong to either Kenrick's Form B205, dated to c. 10 BCE–25/35 CE or to Kenrick's Form B213, dated to c. 30–80/90 CE (Kenrick 1985:142–143, 149–153, Figs. 28, 29).

Rim and body fragments of molded, bell-shaped kraters/chalices (Fig. 1:11, 12) on a high pedestal foot were found. The folded rim has rouletting decoration on the exterior (Fig. 1:11) and the body fragment is decorated with a she-dancer to the right and a stylized floral scroll design (Fig. 1:12). They can be identified as Dragendorff and Watzinger Type Ia (Dragendorff and Watzinger 1948: Fig. 2), Kenrick's B249 (Kenrick 1985:185, 195, Fig. 33:259, Pl. XI:249) and mid–late Augustan Conspectus Form R1 or R2 (= Dragendorff Forms I–III: Ettlinger et al. 1990:166–169, Pls. 52–53), dated from the last decade of the first century BCE to the second half of the first century CE.

Household Wares

Fragments of three jugs were unearthed. A small jug with an out-turned rim, a flaring short neck and a ribbed handle connected to the rim (Fig. 1:13) has no exact parallels. A jug with a flaring neck and a shallow ridge below a folded rim (Fig. 1:14) is related to Galilean vessels of the first century CE, probably a Shihin Ware jug (Loffreda 1974: Fig. 36:10, 14; Díez Fernández 1983:198–199, T 9.2; Adan-Bayewitz and Wieder 1992:196, Fig. 5:3; Balouka 2013: Pl. 6:1–4). A jug made of cooking-ware fabric (Fig. 1:15) has a cupped rim with a flange on the exterior, a short neck and a strip handle extending from rim to upper body. Such vessels were found at Caesarea in layers dated from the second half of the first century to the second century CE (Gendelman, in prep. a, b). Similar jugs were discovered in a deposit dated to the second century CE at Shiqmona (Elgavish 1977: Pl. II:12) and in mixed Roman–Byzantine levels at Tel Mevorakh (Rosenthal 1978:16, Fig. 2:15, 16).

Cooking Wares

The fragmentary globular cooking pot (Fig. 1:16), with a folded rim, spaced wheel-ridges, high bulging neck and opposed, lentoid strip handles extending from rim to shoulder, is a locally produced type, dated at Caesarea from the late first century BCE to the late first century CE (Gendelman, in prep. a, b). Vessels similar in shape are known from Jerusalem (dated to c. 30 BCE–70 CE; Ben-Arieh and Cohen-Uzzielli 1996:75, Fig. 4.3:6, 7), Machaerus/Mekhtar (c. 30 BCE–72 CE; Loffreda 1996:73, Fig. 28:7, 8), Ḥorbat Zefiyya

(from a burial cave generally dated from the first century CE until c. 132–135 CE; Nahshoni et al. 2002: Fig. 4:8) and en-Naqura (from a burial cave containing finds from the second–first centuries BCE until the third–fourth centuries CE; Maharian 2000: Fig. 82:8).

Two variants of locally produced, wide-mouthed cooking pots/casseroles were identified. One (Fig. 1:17) has a flat, out-turned rim with an internal groove for a lid and an incurved lip, an ovoid smooth body and a rounded bottom. Such vessels were recorded in previous excavations in the Eastern Circus and termed by Riley Casseroles Type B, dated to the first half of the second century CE (Riley 1975:43, 48, No.113). This variant is common in late first and second-century CE deposits at Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. b). The other variant (Fig. 1:18) is distinguished by its upturned, pointed rim and is similar to vessels from Masada, dated to c. 66–73/74 CE (80/87 CE; Type M-CS6; Bar-Nathan 2006:170, Pl. 31:73, Fig. 55) and from the second–fourth centuries CE layer at Shekhem (Sarig 2009: Pl. 26:9).

Pompeian Red Ware

Pompeian Red Ware is a well-known group of pottery produced in Campanian workshops; it appears in the Eastern Mediterranean from the first century BCE until the late second or early third century CE. The fabric of our examples resembles Benghazi Imported Cooking Ware ‘B’ (Campanian; Riley 1979:239) and Blakely’s Fabric 2 (Blakely, Brinkmann and Vitaliano 1989:214, 219–221).

A fragment of a shallow baking dish (Fig. 1:19), with an internal red slip, belongs to the well-known Pompeian Red Wares (Kenrick 1985:320). These vessels were used for both baking and serving food (Kenrick 1985:320). The variant presented here is common at Caesarea from the mid-first to the second century CE (Gendelman, in prep. a, b).

A fragment of a Pompeian Red Ware shallow domed lid/tegami with a thickened rim (Fig. 1:20) is similar to Benghazi Lid Type 7 (Riley 1979:324–325, Fig. 119:777–780). These imported vessels are common at Caesarea from the late first century BCE to the second century CE (Gendelman 2006:84–85, Fig. 6.7:70–71; in prep. a, b).

Amphorae

The bag-shaped amphorae comprise three groups: local, regional and imported vessels. The local amphorae were probably produced in the district of Caesarea, while the regional ones are from elsewhere in the Southern Levant.

Local Bag-Shaped Amphorae.— The local bag-shaped amphora is the most common type of storage/transport container found in the Eastern Circus (cf. Riley 1975). Two variants appear in this stratum. The first is an almost cylindrical amphora with a ridged rim and a short, bulged neck (Fig. 2:1–3), included within Riley’s Type 1A (Riley 1975:26, 48–49, Nos. 94–104). It is the most common type in the mid-first–early second centuries CE (Gendelman, in prep. a, b), and is well-known from other excavations at Caesarea (Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986b:163, Fig. 2:9; Blakely 1988:38–39, Fig. 7:1, 2; Oleson et al. 1994:16–17, Fig. 40:A71)

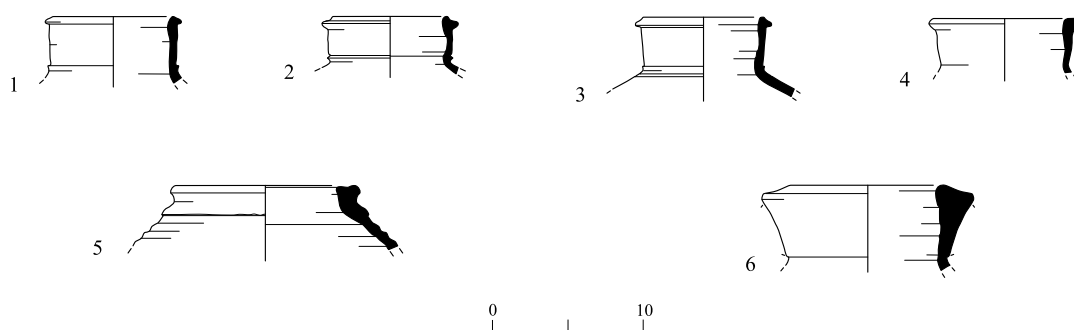


Fig. 2. Stratum IV: amphorae.

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
1	61065	601,205/1	Riley Type 1A	C4R/52c	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 fabric; hard; few small white grits
2	61059	601,077/2	Riley Type 1A	C4R/52c	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 fabric; salt whitened
3	61067	601,114/3	Riley Type 1A	C4R/52c	Fabric fired to gray, rather hard; few small white grits, salt whitened
4	61203	601,306/1	Riley Type 1A	C4R/52e	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 fabric
5	61059	601,077/7		C4R/102	Red 2.5 YR 4/6, rather hard fabric; small white grits, salt whitened
6	61059	60,1077/5	Benghazi ER Amphora 13	C4R/250	Pink 5 YR 7/4, hard fabric; small red grits

and in its vicinity (Calderon 2000: Pl. I:1–4, 6, 7, 9–12; Silberstein 2000:421, Pl. I:17; Gendelman 2012:34*, Fig. 1:6–8). The second variant is characterized by an everted lip (Fig. 2:4). Similar vessels are reported from nearby Ḥorbat ‘Eleq (Silberstein 2000:421, Pl. I: 17, 18), from Jericho (Type J-SJ7A, dated from c. 30 BCE: Bar-Nathan 2002:33–34, Pl. 6:39) and Machaerus/Mekhtar (Group 10, Loffreda 1996:43–45, Fig. 13).

Regional Amphorae.— A fragment of a holemouth amphora with a flattened rim and a long cylindrical body (Fig. 2:5) belongs to an amphora type produced along the coast of southern Lebanon and northern Israel during the first and second centuries CE, such as the vessels reported from the Beirut excavations (Reynolds 1997–1998:41–42, Figs. 49.35; 46.32; 189.251; 2005:571, Figs. 138, 139).

Imported Amphorae.— A fragment of an amphora with a thickened rim and a nearly cylindrical neck (Fig. 2:6) seems to be related to Benghazi’s Early Roman Amphora 13 (Riley 1979:169–170, Fig. 78:172–173), dated to the third quarter of the first century CE.

STRATUM III

The pottery from this stratum—the construction phase of the Eastern Circus—originated from three phases (a–c), corresponding to three floor levels identified near the *meta prima*.

Phase IIIc

This assemblage comes from the foundation trench of the *spina* and from sandy fills below the earliest *arena* (L61073). Naturally, most of the pottery from these loci is residual from the destroyed remains of Stratum IV, and only a small amount is associated with the erection of the Eastern Circus.

Fine Tableware

Eastern Sigillata A (ESA).— A carinated plate with vertical walls (Fig. 3:1) belongs to Atlante ESA Form 37A, dated to c. 60–100 CE (Hayes 1985:31, Pl. V:12). This date is well-confirmed by the evidence from Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. a).

A fragment of a carinated cup is identified as Atlante ESA Form 50 (Fig. 3:2), a type discussed under Stratum IV (see Fig. 1:4, 5).

A fragment of a hemispherical bowl (Fig. 3:3) on a high ring base belongs to Atlante ESA Form 51 (Hayes 1985:37, Pl. VI: 19, 20), dated to c. 70–120 CE, a type discussed under Stratum IV (see Fig. 1:7).

A high pedestal base of a bell-shaped krater/chalice (Fig. 3:4) can be identified as Atlante ESA Form 26D, dated to c. 10 BCE–25/30 CE (Hayes 1985:26, Pl. IV:8).

A flat disk base of a deep, thin-walled cup (Fig. 3:5) was also identified as an ESA type. The only handled cup, with a similar base and barbotine decoration, is of Atlante ESA Form 61, dating to the early second century CE (Hayes 1985:40–41, Pl. VII:15).

Household Wares

Local Bowl.— A fragmentary globular bowl (Fig. 3:6) with a thickened lip is made of clay characteristic of local amphorae. No parallels were found.

Jugs and Flasks.— A fragment of a table amphora with an in-folded rim and a cylindrical neck (Fig. 3:7) is similar to Loffreda Group 18 from Early Roman deposits at Tel Yoqne‘am (Avissar 2005:45, Fig. 2.8:1) and at Machaerus/Mekhwar (Loffreda 1996:94–97, Fig. 28:6a).

A jug or table amphora fragment with a flaring, thickened, in-folded rim (Fig. 3:8) has no exact parallels. It may be a variant of the table amphora described above.

A jug with a flaring rim, rounded lip and short cylindrical neck (Fig. 3:9) is a common type at Caesarea from the first century BCE until the late first century CE (Oleson et al. 1994:94, 105, Figs. 27:C22; 28:C23; Berlin 1992:118, Fig. 54:2). Similar jugs were found

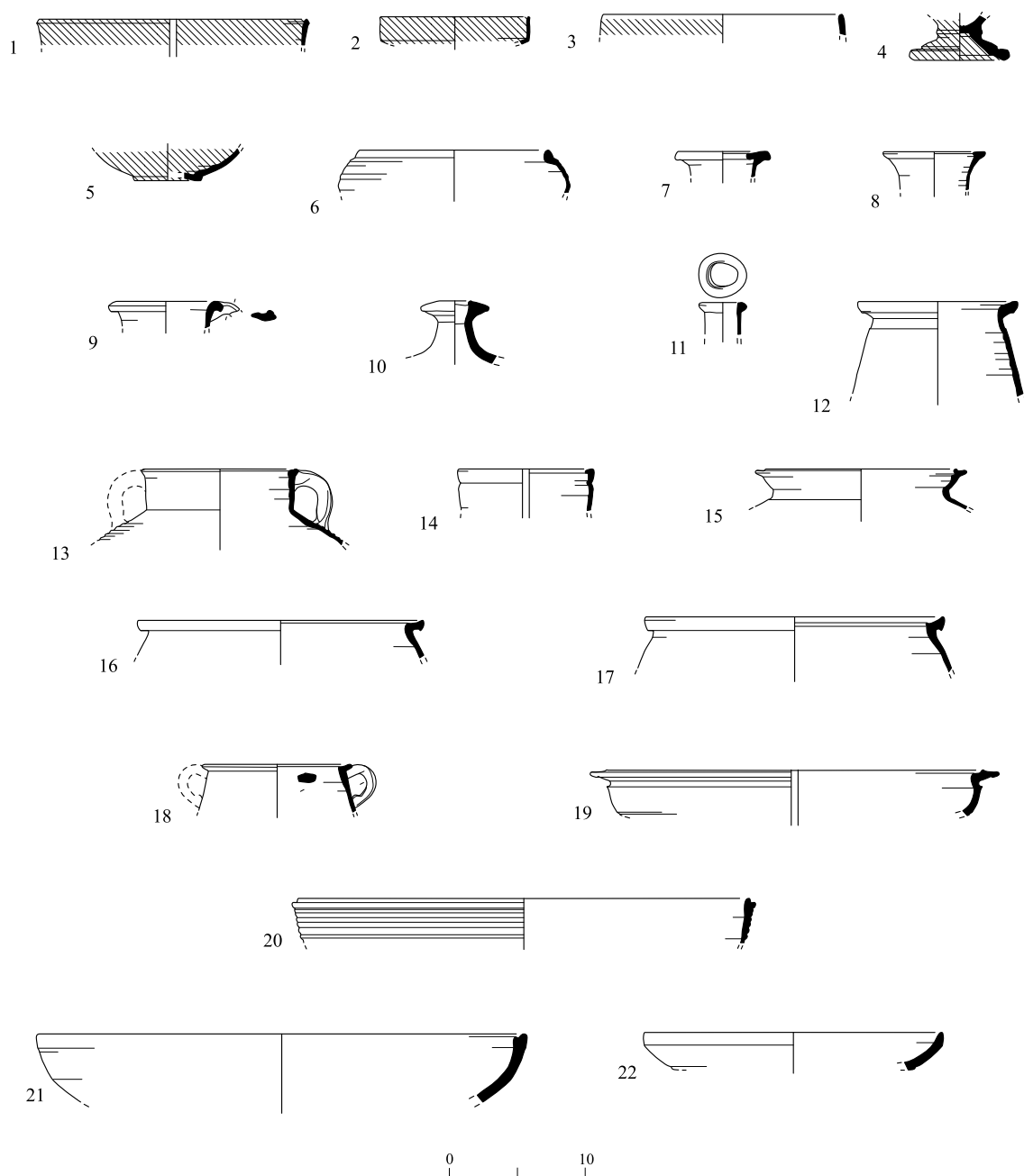


Fig. 3. Phase IIIc: fine tableware, household and cooking wares.

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
1	61073	600,042/7	Plate Atlante ESA Form 37A	C1R/136	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip
2	61073	601,199/4	Cup Atlante ESA Form 50	C1R/136	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip
3	61073	600,042/9	Bowl Atlante ESA Form 51	C1R/123	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip

Fig. 1. (cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
4	61073	601,200/4	Molded krater/chalice Atlante ESA Form 26D	C1R/172	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip
5	61073	601,206/5	Cup Atlante ESA Form 61	C1R/754	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip
6	61073	600,042/1, 10	Bowl	C2R/15	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 rather hard fabric, granular; few white grits
7	61073	600,042/4	Table amphora	C2H-R/361	Pink 5 YR 7/4 fabric; few white and red grits
8	61073	600,042/8	Jug/table amphora	C2H-R/361	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 rather soft fabric; few white grits
9	61073	600,042/3	Jug	C2R/139	Pink 5 YR 7/4 fabric; few white and red grits
10	61073	601,097/1	Jug/flask	C2R/276	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 rather hard fabric, granular; few white grits
11	60024	600,031/6	Flask	C2H-R/473	Light red 10 R 6/8 hard fabric; some small white grits; pinkish white wash
12	61073	601,199/1	Antilia jug	C2R/505	Light red 2.5 YR 6/6 fabric, rather hard; few white grits
13	61073	601,206-7	Cooking pot	C3H-R/52	Red 10 YR 4/6 hard fabric; few small white grits; fire blackened
14	61073	601,097/3	Cooking pot	C3H-R/54b	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 hard fabric; few small white grits
15	61073	601,206/8	Cooking pot	C3R/72a	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 hard fabric; few small white and black grits
16	61073	600,042/5	Casserole	C3R/151b	Red 10 YR 4/6 fabric, rather soft; granular; few white grits
17	61073	601,199/2	Casserole	C3R/151b	Red 10 YR 4/6 fabric, rather soft, granular; few white grits
18	61073	601,199/3	Casserole	C3R/241b	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 hard fabric, some white grits,
19	61073	601,206/5	Casserole	C3R/246	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 soft fabric; few small white grits; fire blackened
20	61073	601,200/2	Cooking bowl	C3R/281	Red 2.5 YR 5/8 hard fabric; small white and black grits; fire blackened
21	61073	601,206/6	Baking dish	C3H-R/405	Light red 2.5 YR 6/8 soft fabric; small black and white grits and golden mica; self-slip; fire blackened
22	61073	601,206/9	Baking dish	C3H-R/411b	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 soft fabric; small black and white grits and golden mica; red slip; fire blackened

at Samaria-Sebaste (Kenyon 1957:302, Fig. 70:7) and in Jerusalem (Tushingham 1985:39, Figs. 19:18, 19; 20:4)

A fragment of a small jug or flask (Fig. 3:10), with a flanged rim, short neck and globular body, has no parallels.

An asymmetric rim and neck fragment (Fig. 3:11), with a simple folded rim and a long narrow cylindrical neck, belongs to a type of globular flask with two twisted strip handles extending from the upper part of the neck to the body. This type was produced in Judea from the first century BCE until the late first century CE and is commonly found elsewhere (Bar-Nathan 1981:60, 121, Pls. 4:12–13; 9:11, Ill. 89; 2002:65–66, 169–170, Pls. 10:120–122; 26:468–475, Ill. 52; Loffreda 1996:60, Figs. 21; 55:92, 93; Geva and Rosenthal-Heginbottom 2003:183, Pls. 6.1:44–46; 6.5:16–19; 6.9:9, 10). These Judean vessels are common in Early Roman deposits at Caesarea (Gendelman 2006:134, Fig. 8.8:74; in prep. a, b).

Antilia Jug.— The antilia jug has an elongated body that narrows toward an everted rim (Fig. 3:12) and probably a rounded bottom with a hollow knob base (see below). It is similar to Ayalon's Form 1, roughly dated to the second and third centuries CE (Ayalon 2000:221–223, Fig. 3:1).

Cooking Wares

The cooking wares presented below include several forms of cooking pots, casseroles, cooking bowls and frying pans.

Cooking Pots.— The cooking pots are globular and necked, or wide-mouthed and neckless. A fragment of a globular cooking pot (Fig. 3:13) with an out-folded rim flattened on top and a bulging or cylindrical neck, is supposedly a local form in the region, dated to the end of the first century BCE–early first century CE (Gendelman, in prep. a, b).

A locally produced globular cooking pot (Fig. 3:14) has a flat rim, an in-turned sharp edge, smooth body, high molded flaring neck and probably ribbed strip handles extending from rim to shoulder. It is similar in shape to vessels known from Judea (Jericho and Masada), classified as Bar-Nathan Type J-CP4 and M-CP2, dated to the end of the first century BCE–first half of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2002:172–173, Pl. 26:487, 488; 2006:159, Pl. 29:30–32, Fig. 47), and from the Shephelah, where the form was apparently produced until the early second century CE (Greenhut 1998:159, Fig. 42:2; Peilstöcker 2003: Fig. 78:4). At Caesarea, this form is common in deposits of the late first century BCE–first century CE (Gendelman 2006:75, Fig. 6.1:11, 12; in prep. a).

A fragment of a squat cooking pot made of hard-fired red clay (Fig. 3:15) has a flat, out-turned rim with a single groove on top and a wide flaring neck. It is similar in shape and probably fabric (it was not analyzed) to Kefar Hananya Form 4A, dated from the first century BCE until the mid-second century CE (Adan-Bayewitz 1993:124–125, Pl. 4A:2–14; Bar-Nathan 2002:173, Pl. 26:489–491, Ill. 109).

Casseroles.— A variant of locally produced, wide-mouthed cooking pots/casseroles (Fig. 3:16, 17; for the early variant, see Stratum IV above) is distinguished by a hooked or down-folded external edge on the rim, similar to Riley Type B Casseroles, approximately dated to the first half of the second century CE (Riley 1975:43, 48, Fig. on p. 49:112).

A deep ovoid casserole with a smoothed surface (Fig. 3:18), wide mouth, out-turned rim and strip handles extending from below the rim to the lower part of the wall is apparently of a type known from previous excavations at Caesarea (Oleson et al. 1992:38, 88, 109, Figs. 8:K19; 24:K31; 35:K50). Vessels of similar shape are dated to c. 57 BCE–72 CE at Machaerus/Mekhar and Herodium (Loffreda 1996:81–83, Figs. 34:3–5; 56:127), to c. 66–73/74 CE at Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006:167–168, Pl. 30:66–68) and to the late first century BCE in the Jewish Quarter in Jerusalem (Geva and Hershkovitz 2006:111–112, Pl. 4.8:12).

The carinated casserole with a flaring grooved rim (Fig. 3:19) was locally produced. No parallels were found. It resembles second-century CE casseroles from Beirut (Reynolds 1997–1998:47, Fig. 135.196).

Cooking Bowls.— An open cooking bowl with a thick grooved rim (Fig. 3:20) can be identified as Kefar Hananya Form 1A, dated from the late first to the late third centuries CE (Adan-Bayewitz 1993:88–91, Pl. 1A:1–10). These Galilean bowls are relatively rare at Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. a, b).

Pompeian Red Ware Baking Dishes.— A fragmentary baking dish with a bifid rim (Fig. 3:21) and probably a flat bottom belongs to imported Italian (Campanian) vessels known as Orlo Bifido Pans, dated from the late second or early first century BCE to the first century CE (Riley 1979:248). Such vessels are very common at Caesarea and elsewhere (Gendelman 2006:83, Fig. 6.6:60–63; in prep. a, b).

A fragment of a shallow baking dish with an internal red slip (Fig. 3:22) is of a type discussed under Stratum IV (see Fig. 1:19).

Amphorae

Local Bag-Shaped Amphorae.— The local bag-shaped amphorae (Fig. 4:1, 2), an early variant of Riley Type 1A (see Stratum IV above), are still dominant in this stratum.

Regional Amphorae.— Three fragments of holemouth amphorae (Fig. 4:3–5) have a triangular rim, an elongated body and a cupped or pointed-knob base (not preserved). These vessels, also known as Kingsholm 117 amphora (cf. Martin-Kilcher 1994:436, Tab. 236:5420–5432), were probably produced in workshops on Mount Carmel and in Lower Galilee from the early first century to the first half of the second century CE (Gendelman 2006:60–61, Fig. 5.2:12–14). Such vessels, dated from the mid-first until the early second century CE, have been reported from Caesarea (Oleson et al. 1994:19–20, 87, 108, Figs. 5:34; 24:46; 34:66; 35:67; Pl. 18:50, 50a; Gendelman, in prep. b), Horbat 'Aqav (mistakenly

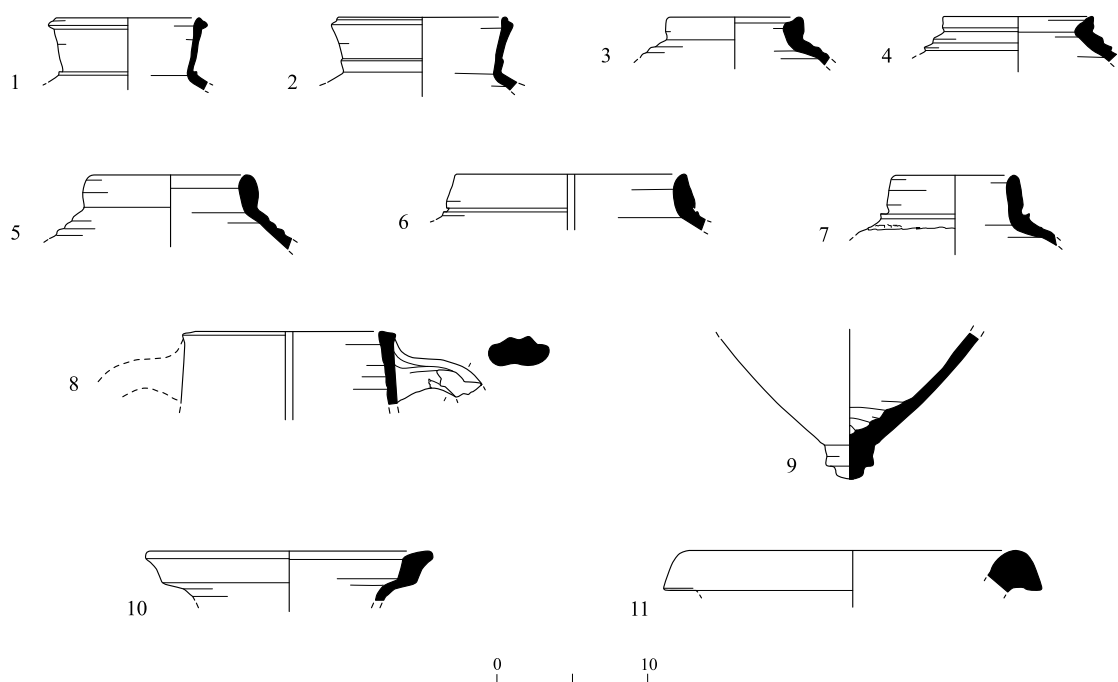


Fig. 4. Phase IIIc: amphorae.

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
1	60017	600,020	Riley Type 1A	C4R/52	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rather hard fabric; few small white grits
2	61073	601,200/3	Riley Type 1A	C4R/52	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 hard fabric; few small white grits
3	61073	601,199/5	Kingsholm 117	C4R/100c	Red 2.5 YR 5/6 soft and sandy fabric; few small white grits
4	61073	601,199/6	Kingsholm 117	C4R/100c	Red 2.5 YR 5/6 soft and sandy fabric; few small white grits
5	61073	601,206/4	Kingsholm 117	C4R/100c	Red 2.5 YR 5/6 soft and sandy fabric; few small white grits; salt whitened
6	61073	601,097/2	Zemer Form 36	C4H-R/116	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 soft and sandy fabric; few small white and gray grits
7	61073	601,206/2	Zemer Form 36	C4H-R/116	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 soft and sandy fabric; few small white and gray grits
8	61073	601,200/1	Beirut 3.2	C4R/131	Red 2.5 YR 6/6 rough fabric on surfaces, turns reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4; small white and gray grits
9	61073	601,206/1	Dressel 5		Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 fabric; few small white and red grits; golden mica; reddish brown coating on ext.
10	61073	600,042/6	Peacock Class 28	C4R/550	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rather hard fabric; few small white grits; micaceous, self-slip
11	61073	600,042/2	Riley ER Amphora 7	C4R/564	Very pale brown 10 YR 8/3 full fired, rough fabric; few minute brown and gray grits; self-slip on ext.

identified as a Gaza jar; Calderon 2000: Pl. II:9–14), Nahal Hagit (Seligman 2010:121–125, Fig. 3.12:1, 2) and Kerem Maharal (Gendelman and Sa'id, forthcoming).

Two fragments of barrel-shaped amphorae (Fig. 4:6, 7) have an upright pointed rim, separated from the short and thick neck by a protruding ridge. They are similar to Zemer Form 36, which are made of a distinctive fabric (Zemer 1977:43, Pl. 12:36) and are included within Majcherek Form 1 (Majcherek 1995:166). They seem to belong to an earlier variant of amphorae produced along the southern coast of Israel, known in antiquity as *askalonia* (Mayerson 1992). Based on the evidence from Beirut (Reynolds 1997–1998:104, Fig. 190.252) and from the IAA excavations at Caesarea (Gendelman 2006:61, Fig. 5.2:15, 16; in prep. a, b), this type of amphora may be dated from the end of the first century BCE until the late first century CE.

Imported Amphorae.— A fragment of a carrot amphora (Fig. 4:8) features a thickened, molded rim with a slightly in-curved edge, a slightly flaring neck ribbed on the exterior and ridged handles extending from just below the rim to the shoulder. It is similar to Lebanese Beirut 3.2 amphorae, dated to c. 125–150 CE (Reynolds 1997–1998:61, Figs. 229–232; 2005:569, Fig. 69).

A base of an amphora (Fig. 4:9) seems, from the shape of the spike, to be related to Dressel 5 amphorae and probably originated in Kos (Sciallano and Sibella 1994:90). Such Koan amphorae, dated from the fourth century BCE to the Roman Imperial period (Grace 1949:181; 1961), are frequently found in Hellenistic deposits at various sites in Israel (Zemer 1977:43, No. 35; Guz-Zilberstein 1995:316, 318, 319, Figs. 6.42:6; 6.45:6; Berlin 1997:163, Pl. 66:523–526).

An amphora with a wide flaring rim and a rounded, thickened lip (Fig. 4:10) seems to be of Peacock Class 28 (= Gauloise 1), originating in southern Gaul, generally dated to the first century CE (Peacock and Williams 1986:144–145, Fig. 73; Sciallano and Sibella 1994:43).

A fragmentary amphora (Fig. 4:11) with a broad hooked rim and a wide, slightly flaring neck is similar to Riley ER Amphora 7 (Riley 1979:160–161, Fig. 76:143, 144) and Peacock and Williams Class 18 (Peacock and Williams 1986:169–170, Fig. 88:B), dated to the late first–early second centuries CE and originating in the southern Iberian Peninsula.

Phase IIIb

The pottery included in this assemblage originated from deposits above Floor 61075 and sealed beneath the latest floor of the *arena* (L61058; see Porath, this volume: Plan 2: Section 1–1).

Fine Tableware

Eastern Sigillata A (ESA).— A shallow flat-based plate with curved walls (Fig. 5:1) can be identified as Atlante ESA Form Tarda g, dated to the late second century CE (Hayes

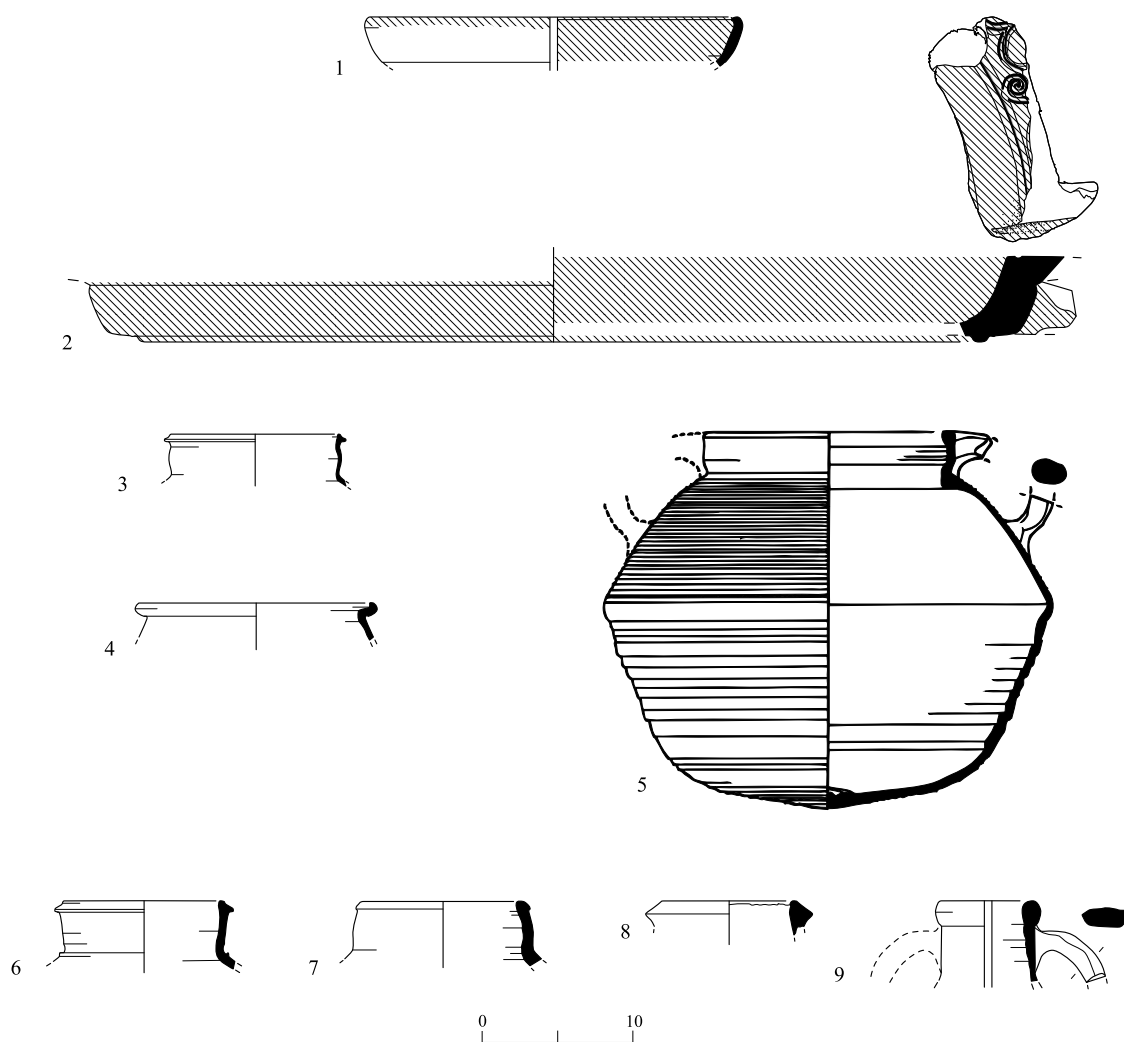


Fig. 5. Phase IIIb: fine tableware, cooking wares and amphorae.

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
1	61075	601,184/5	Plate Atlante ESA Form Tarda g	C1R/101	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 thin slip
2	61075	601,184/1	Dish or tray	C1R/548	Light red 10R 6/6 fabric; few white grits; red 10 R 4/8 slip, brilliant
3	61075	601,315/2	Cooking pot	C3H-R/50b	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 hard fabric; few small white and black grits; fire blackened
4	61075	601,315/1	Cooking pot	C3R/151a	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 soft fabric; small white grits; fire blackened
5	61209	601,318	Cooking pot	C3R/188	Red 10 YR 4/6 rather soft and granular fabric; few white grits
6	61075	601,315/4	Local amphora Riley Type 1A	C4R/52	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rather hard fabric; few small white grits, salt whitened

◀ Fig. 5 (cont.)

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
7	61075	601,184/3	Local amphora Riley Type 1B/Y	C4LR/56	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rather hard fabric; few small white grits, salt whitened
8	61075	601,184/2	Amphora Beirut Type 3.2	C4R/131	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 rough fabric; small white and gray grits
9	61075	601,184/4	Amphora Agora G 197/ Cretoise 1	C4R/175b	Light red 2.5 YR 6/6 hard fabric; few small white grits

1985:42, Pls. VIII:15; IX:1). Similar vessels were discovered in layers dated from the late second until the late third century CE at Tarsus (Jones 1950:271, Fig. 203:754) and at Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. b).

Italian Terra Sigillata.— A fragment of a mold-made, large shallow dish or tray (Fig. 5:2) has a wide, out-turned rim with a schematic floral decoration, wide spout, short solid vertical wall and a low ring base. Although no parallels were found, the hard, red fabric and the excellent gloss indicate that this vessel belongs to the late Terra Sigillata Tardo-Italica group, dated from the late first century CE until the late Antonine period (Ettlinger et al. 1990:13–16).

Cooking Wares

Cooking Pots.— The globular cooking pots with a cylindrical neck (Fig. 5:3) and the wide-mouthed cooking pot/casserole (Fig. 5:4) that appeared in Stratum IV (see Fig. 2:15, 18–20 respectively) are still found.

A nearly complete squat cooking pot (Fig. 5:5) has a rounded rim, wheel-ridged body, wide bowl-shaped neck and handles extending from rim to shoulder. It is similar to Johnson's Form 16, roughly dated from the late fourth century CE onward (Johnson 1988:198, Fig. 7-41:608). Similar vessels are reported from deposits of the second–fourth centuries CE at Ḥorbat Biz'a (Gendelman 2012:39*, Fig. 3:10) and Shekhem (Sarig 2009: Pls. 8:1, 2; 67:3).

Amphorae

Local Bag-Shaped Amphorae.— A fragment of a local bag-shaped amphora (Fig. 5:6), identified as Riley's Type 1A, is probably residual. Similar vessels appeared in the previous strata (see above, Figs. 1:17, 18; 3:8, 9).

A bag-shaped amphora with a triangular lip and short, barreled neck (Fig. 5:7) is similar to Riley's Type 1B/Y (Riley 1975:26–27, Nos. 1, 2, 4, 6). This type of local amphora is dominant in fifth and sixth century CE deposits at Caesarea (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:91–96, Fig. 1:4–6; Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986a:132, Fig. 1:11–13; Magness 1992:131, Figs. 58:16–

21, 64:2, 3; Tomber 1999:302, Fig. 8:127, 128) and its vicinity (Calderon 2000:104, Pls. VI:7–10; XVII:11–15). The finds from the IAA excavations at Caesarea may imply that this form already appeared in the late fourth–early fifth centuries CE (Gendelman, in prep. b).

Imported Amphorae.— A residual fragment of a carrot amphora (Fig. 5:8) of Beirut Type 3.2 was found. It probably originated in the previous phase (see above, Fig. 4:8).

A fragmentary amphora with a thickened folded rim, a short cylindrical neck and oval curved handles on the upper neck (Fig. 5:9) can be identified as Agora G 197/Cretoise 1, dated from the late first until the third century CE (Sciallano and Sibella 1994:92).

Phase IIIa

The pottery included in this assemblage originated from a thin soil deposit associated with the latest *arena* floor; naturally, it is heavily disturbed from activities related to Strata II and I (see below). Only a handful of pottery may be directly associated with this phase.

Fine Tableware

Eastern Sigillata A (ESA).— The fragmentary carinated plate (Fig. 6:1) with a slightly out-turned, thickened rim and rouletted decoration on the exterior walls can be identified as Atlante ESA Form 30, dated to c. 1/10–15/30 CE (Hayes 1985:27, Pl. IV:14).

Eastern Sigillata B (ESB).— A carinated cup (Fig. 6:2) made of distinctive micaceous fabric of ESB (Hayes 1973:452) is similar to Atlante ESB Form 70, dated to c. 50–75 CE (Hayes 1985:66, Pl. XIV:19). This form was previously identified at Caesarea (Gendelman, in prep. b).

Household Wares

Jugs and Juglets.— A jug fragment (Fig. 6:3) with an overhanging rim, short flaring neck and wide strip handle extending from the rim to the upper body was found. Similar vessels are known from the second- to fourth-century CE deposits at Khirbat Ibreiktas (Kletter and Rapuano 1998:51–52, Fig. 4:9, 10), Khirbat Yama (Gal and Muqari 2002: Fig. 10:3) and Tel Yoqne‘am (Avisar 2005:45, Fig. 2.7:2). Such vessels are found at Caesarea, in deposits of the late first until the third century CE (Gendelman, in prep. b).

A fragment of a spouted strainer jug has a grooved rim with a gutter on the interior (Fig. 6:4) and incisions forming a pie-crust edge. The slightly flaring neck has a combed wave design on the exterior. This vessel was made of characteristic white fabric of Nabatean Cream Ware, produced and distributed in the Dead Sea region, the Negev and Transjordan (i.e., the Nabatean Kingdom) during the first and second centuries CE (Clamer 1997:73–74, 78–79). Similar vessels are known from ‘Ein ez-Zara/Callirrhoe (Clamer 1997:74–76, Pl. 9:1), Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006:284–286, Pls. 51–52, Fig. 82) and Tel Yoqne‘am (Avisar 2005:45, Fig. 2.7:4).

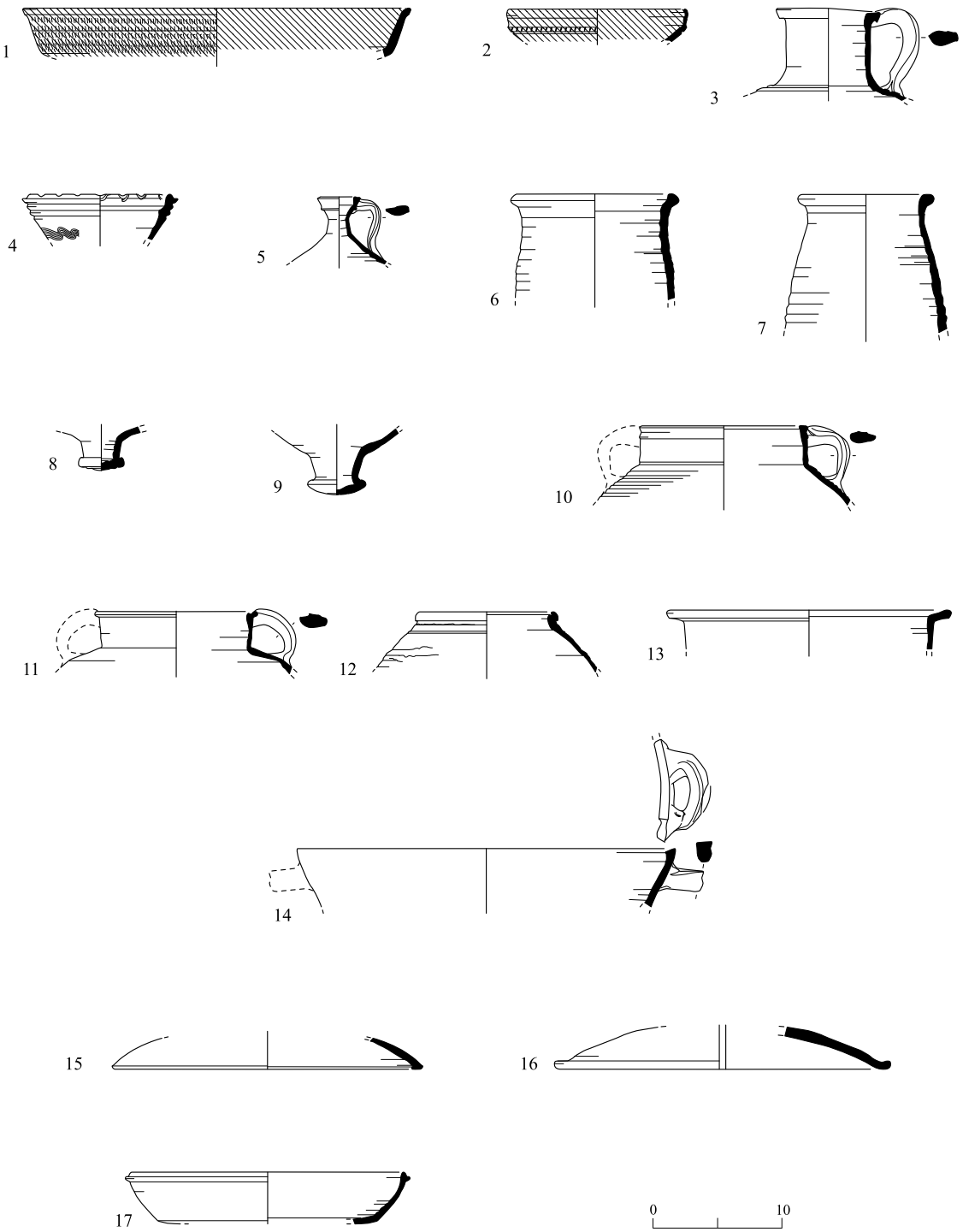


Fig. 6. Phase IIIa: fine tableware, household and cooking wares.

◀ Fig. 6

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
1	60010	600,041/4	Plate Atlante ESA Form 30	C1R/65b	Pink 5 YR 8/4 fabric; red 10 R 5/6 slip; rouletting on ext.
2	60010	600,049/12	Cup ESB Form 70	C1R/232b	Red 2.5 YR 5/8 fabric, micaceous; red 10 R 4/8 slip, burnished
3	60014	600,021	Jug	C2R/210	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rough fabric; few minute white grits, salt whitened
4	60010	600,049/8	Jug	C2R/503	Light red 10 R 6/6 fabric; minute white grits; white coating; rim gouging; combed decoration on neck
5	60010	600,049/10	Juglet	C2R/504	Pink 5 YR 8/3 fabric; few minute white grits; self-slip
6	60010	600,027/2	Antilia jug	C2R/505	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rough fabric; few minute white grits
7	60010	600,027/3	Antilia jug	C2R/505	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rough fabric; few minute white grits
8	61054	601,211/2	Antilia jug	C2R/505	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rough fabric; few minute white grits, salt whitened
9	61054	601,211/1	Antilia jug	C2R/505	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rough fabric; few minute white grits, salt whitened
10	60010	600,049/7, 11	Cooking pot	C3H-R/54b	Red 2.5 YR 4/6 rather rough and sandy fabric; rounded black grits and quartz sand
11	60010	600,049-4	Cooking pot	C3H-R/73a	Red 2.5 YR 5/6 rather rough fabric; some minute white grits; sandy
19	60010	600,041/2	Cooking pot/ casserole	C3R/151b	Light red 2.5 YR 6/6 rather hard fabric; few small white grits
12	60010	600,027/4	Cooking pot	C3R/189	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 fabric; some minute white grits; rather soft, sandy
13	60010	600,049/5	Casserole	C3R/247	Red 10 R 5/6 fabric; some minute white and black grits, hard
14	60010	600,049/2	Casserole	C3R/271a	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 soft and rough fabric; small to middle white and black grits; fire blackened
15	60010	600,049/9	Lid	C3R/276	Reddish brown 2.5 YR 5/4 soft and rough fabric; small to middle white and black grits; fire blackened
16	60010	600,049/1	Lid/tegami	C3H-R/408	Light red 2.5 YR 6/8 fabric, soft; small black and white grits and golden mica; self-slip
17	60010	600,049/3	Cooking bowl	C3R/281	Red 2.5 YR 5/8 hard fabric; small white and black grits; fire blackened

A small globular juglet (Fig. 6:5) has a wide cupped rim with a rounded lip, a short and narrow neck, and a vertical thin strip handle extending from rim to shoulder. This shape seems to originate in the region of Judea and Samaria, where it is generally dated from the first century BCE to the late first century CE (M-JT2; Bar-Nathan 2006:194, Pl. 33:15, Fig. 64).

Antilia jugs (Fig. 6:6–9), similar to the one from Stratum IIIc (see Fig. 2:14), continued to appear in this stratum.

Cooking Wares

Cooking Pots.— A globular cooking pot with a high molded neck (Fig. 6:10), similar to the one from Phase IIIc (see Fig. 2:16 above), continued to appear in this phase.

A fragment of a squat cooking pot with a flat ledge rim, a cylindrical, wide neck and an emphasized shoulder (Fig. 6:11) is similar to the vessels dated to the first century CE in Jerusalem (Rosenthal-Heginbottom 2005:67, No. 85) and to the second–third centuries CE at Dor (Guz-Zilberstein 1995:322, 324, Fig. 6.49:15, 16). At Caesarea, as at Dor, this locally produced form is dated to the second and third centuries CE (Gendelman, in prep. a, b). A squat neckless cooking pot with bifid rim (Fig. 6:12) has no exact parallels.

Cassaroles.— A deep barrel-shaped casserole (Fig. 6:13), with a wide flaring rim and strip handles extending from the lip to the upper body, is similar to vessels recorded from the second–third centuries CE at Ḥorbat Ḥazon (Díez Fernández 1983:123, 209, T11.2:362), from the second–fourth centuries CE at Shekhem/Neapolis (Sarig 2009:Pl.2:5, 26:8) and from Nessana (Baly 1962:292, Pl. LII: Shape 73.3).

A beveled-lipped casserole (Fig. 6:14), with horizontal handles connected mid-body, is a common variant, dated at Caesarea to the late first–second/third centuries CE (Gendelman, in prep. a).

A shallow-domed lid with a beveled lip (Fig. 6:15) could have covered the above-described casseroles. Such lids are common at Caesarea from the late first until the sixth century CE (Gendelman, in prep. a, b).

A fragment of a shallow domed lid/tegami (Fig. 6:16) is of a type which already appeared in Stratum IV and was discussed above (see Fig. 1:20).

Opened Galilean bowls (Fig. 6:17) appeared in Stratum IIIa (see Fig. 3:20).

Amphorae

Local Bag-Shaped Amphorae.— The local bag-shaped amphora (Fig. 7:1, 2), identified as Riley's Type 1A, already appeared in earlier strata (cf. Stratum IV and Phase IIIc, above).

A northern, dark gray bag-shaped amphora (Fig. 7:3), with a folded rim and a high neck with a ridge on lower part, is similar to Loffreda Class B ANF 18 (Loffreda 1974:43–44, Fig. 8; 2008a:132–133; 2008b: Pl. 80:1–18), dated to c. 450–500 CE and to Riley Type 3 (Riley 1975:31, No. 17 on p. 32). These vessels were already reported at Caesarea, found

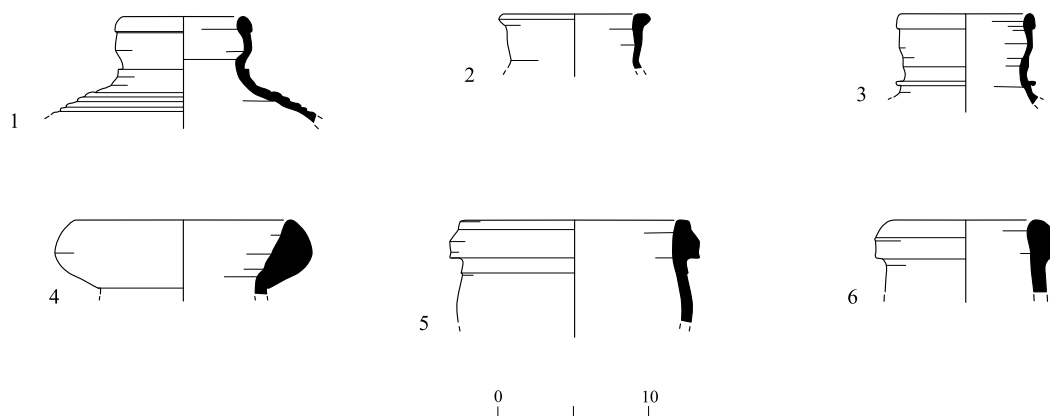


Fig. 7. Phase IIIa: amphorae.

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Caesarea Form	Description
1	61202	601,307/1	C4R/52	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 fabric, rather hard; few small white grits; traces of lime stopper on neck int.
2	61203	601,306/1	C4R/52	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 fabric
3	61207	601,314		Gray, rather hard fabric; few small white grits
4	60010	600,027/1	C4R/609a	Red 10 R 4/8, hard fabric to reddish black 10 R 2.5/1 on ext.; some small black and white grits; thin silvery mica; white wash
5	61202	601,307/2	C4R/616	Red 10 R 5/8 hard fabric; few small black and white grits; some silvery mica; blackened on ext.; resin remains on int.
6	61201	601,304	C4R/616	Red 10 R 5/8 hard fabric; few small black and white grits; some silvery mica; blackened on ext.

in fifth–sixth or early seventh-century CE deposits (Magness 1992:135–137, Fig. 58:23; Tomber 1999:302, Fig. 4:81).

Imported Amphorae.— An amphora with a solid flaring rim (Fig. 7:4) can be identified as *Africana Ia*, dated to c. 180–380 CE (Sciallano and Sibella 1994:80), Keay’s Type IIIA (Keay 1984:100–109, Fig. 37) and Peña’s Class 18b (Keay 3B), dated from the second half of the second until the first half of the fourth century CE (Peña 1999:87–88, Fig. 17.38).

Two amphora fragments (Fig. 7:5, 6), with a cylindrical neck and a rolled rim with a molded outer face, are similar to Zeest 72/73 (Zeest 1960:111–112, Pl. XXX) and Hayes’ Type 35, dated to the mid-second century CE or later (Hayes 1983:153–155, Figs. 25:78, 85; 26:93). Apparently, they are Crimean fish-product containers of the second and third centuries CE (Reynolds 2010:90).

STRATUM II

A few pottery finds are associated with this stratum. The assemblage originated in an elongated pit (L61057); it contained many residuals that will not be discussed here.

Jug.— Fragments of a Buff-Ware molded jug (Fig. 8:1), previously known as Kh. al-Mafjar Ware, were found. Similar vessels are common at Caesarea in deposits from the second half of the eighth to the late ninth century CE (Niamir 1999:45–47, Fig. 3:4; Arnon 2008:36–37, 133–139).

Amphora/zir.— A thickened collar rim of a globular amphora/*zir* (Fig. 8:2) is similar to Magness’ Form 7, dated from the seventh to the tenth century CE (Magness 1993:230–231) and to Avissar Type 1, dated from the seventh–eighth centuries CE (Avissar 1996:147, Fig. XIII.111).

STRATUM I

The pottery of this stratum originated from topsoil associated with modern agriculture (L61050).

Bowls.— A fragment of a deep rounded bowl, with an upright rim and a green glaze above cream engobe (Fig. 9:1), seems to be of Monochrome Glazed Ware with Sgraffito Decoration, dated to the eleventh–thirteenth centuries CE (Arnon 1999:226–227, Fig. 9f, 2008:49–50; Niamir 1999:61–62, Fig. 8:6) and Monochrome Glazed Bowls I, dated to the late twelfth–first half of the thirteenth centuries CE (Avissar and Stern 2005:10, Type I.1.3)



Fig. 8. Stratrum II: jug and amphora.

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Description
1	61057	601,083/2	Jug	Pinkish white 7.5 YR 8/2 fabric; molded
2	61057	601,083	Amphora/ <i>zir</i>	Pink 5 YR 8/4 hard fabric; some white grits

A carinated bowl with an upright pointed rim and brown painting under transparent glaze (Fig. 9:2) is probably related to Later Matt-Glazed Wares Type 1, dated to 800–950 CE (Stacey 2004:108–110, Fig. 5.19:1–8).

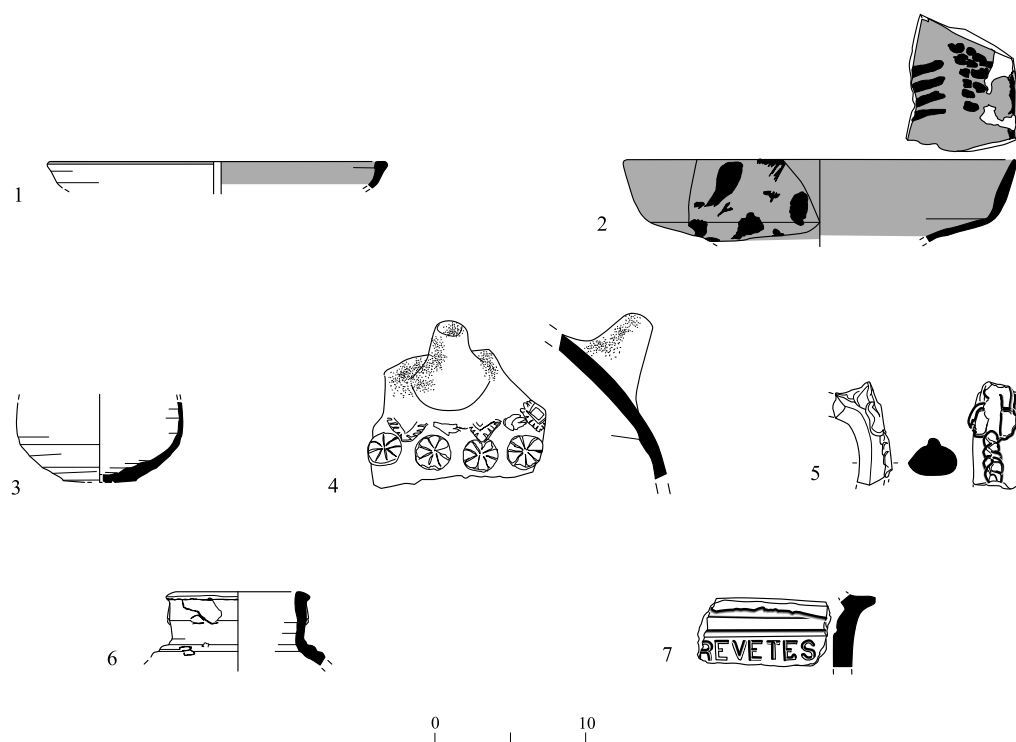


Fig. 9. Stratum I: bowls, jugs, amphora and roof tile.

No.	Locus	Basket No.	Type	Caesarea Form	Description
1	61050	601,086/2	Glazed bowl		Red 10 R 5/6 rather soft fabric; white slip; green glaze
2	61050	601,100/1	Glazed bowl		Pink 7.5 YR 8/4 fabric; transparent glaze; dark brown painting
3	61050	601,150/1	FBW bowl		Red 10 R 5/6 hard fabric; some white grits; white painted decoration on ext.
4	61050	601,076/1	Jug		Pinkish white 7.5 YR 8/2 fabric; molded
5	61050	601,100/2	Jug		Pinkish white 7.5 YR 8/2 fabric
6	61050	601,075	Local amphora Riley Type 1B/Y	C4LR/56	Reddish yellow 5 YR 7/6 rather soft and rough fabric; few small white grits
7	61050	601086-1	Roof tile		Red 10 R 5/6 fabric

A flat grooved base of a hemispherical bowl (Fig. 9:3) has a white-painted wavy motif on its upper exterior wall. It is similar to Fine Byzantine Ware (Gichon 1974:123; Magness 1993:193) and Fine Marble Ware, dated from the late seventh to the late ninth century CE (Brosh 1986:66–67, Fig. 1:1, 2; Arnon 1999:226, Fig. 2e; 2008:36; Niamir 1999:43, Fig. 1:1, 2).

Jugs.— Two fragments of molded Buff Ware jugs (Fig. 9:4, 5) belong to the type described under Stratum II (see Fig. 8:1).

Amphora.— Fragments of bag-shaped amphorae of Riley's Type 1B/Y (Fig. 9:6) continue to appear in this stratum.

Tile.— A fragment of a stamped Marseille tile (Fig. 9:7) was unearthed. Such roof tiles were produced in France, mainly from factories in and around Marseilles, and were imported to Palestine from the mid-nineteenth century onward (Kletter 2004:201, Fig. 13). The fragment preserves part of a stamp, REVETES, used by the Roux Brothers factory, located in the St. Henry neighborhood of Marseille. The tiles of this factory bear the following stamp: GRANDE ECAILLE POUR TOITURE/BREVETES S.G.D.G./St. HENRY-MARSEILLE, ROUX-FRERES. Ottoman-period roof tiles from the same company are known from numerous sites in the country, such as Yafo (Arbel 2016) and Or Yehuda (Volynsky and Arbel 2015), as well as throughout the Ottoman Empire, for example, from the Topcapi Palace Police Station at Istanbul, dated to 1900–1901 (Yergün and Çiftçi 2008:1001).

CHRONOLOGICAL CONCLUSIONS

Stratum IV (Pre-Circus)

Material associated with fills of the pre-circus architectural remains was found beneath the earliest *arena* and *spina* (see Porath, this volume). Only a handful of pottery fragments unearthed from undisturbed deposits of Stratum IV (pre-Circus remains) can be dated to the end of the first century BCE and the first quarter of the first century CE. The majority of the pottery from Stratum IV includes well-known types from the second half of the first century CE, especially the fine tableware, which may be dated no earlier than 50 CE. Therefore, it seems that early Caesarea (c. 22 BC–50 CE) did not extend over the area of the circus, which is located eastward of the estimated line of the Herodian fortifications (cf. map attached to Raban and Holum 1996). In fact, the association of well-dated ESA Forms 39, 47, 50 and 51 with this stratum may suggest that the first buildings in this area were erected soon after the First Jewish Revolt (66–70 CE). The pottery types from Stratum IV include both imported and locally produced vessels, reflecting the vigor of a flourishing harbor city.

Stratum III (The Circus)

Phase IIIc: Construction Phase

The loci associated with Phase IIIc are crucial for the dating of the entire edifice, and therefore, they were carefully chosen. The pottery of this assemblage originated from the foundation trench of the *spina* and from sandy fills below the earliest *arena*. As expected, most of the pottery was residual from Stratum IV, and only a small amount could be associated with the erection of the Eastern Circus. There are two reasons for this: (1) the state of preservation of some of the excavated areas, especially near the obelisk base (Area VI), did not allow for a clear distinction between the two; (2) all the preceding architectural remains were demolished during the construction of the Eastern Circus to the level of its foundations, and the debris and sand from the foundation trenches contained many pottery sherds used for the initial fill of Stratum III.

Most of the fine tableware vessels discovered in this stratum are early in date (first century CE), but the barbotine cup of Atlante ESA Form 61 (Fig. 2:7) provides a date in the early second century CE. The antilia jug of Ayalon's Form 1 (Fig. 2:14), the wide-mouthed cooking pots (Fig. 2:18–21) and the beveled-lip casserole (Fig. 3:2) also point to a date in the early second century CE. The Lebanese amphora from this phase provides a date of c. 125–150 CE (Fig. 3:16).

It seems, therefore, that the date of the pottery assemblage from this phase supports Riley's dating of the construction of the Eastern Circus at Caesarea to the first half of the second century CE (Riley 1975:43; Humphrey 1975:218), rather than the later mid–late second and early third century date proposed by Humphrey (1986:491). According to the pottery finds from our excavations, it is probable that the circus was built under Emperor Hadrian (117–138 CE), either prior to or during his visit to the province in 130 CE (for Hadrian's visit, see Levine 1975:42, cf. n. 88; Holum 1992). Similar conclusions were reached following the excavations in Herod's Circus (Porath 2013:201).

Phase IIIb: Renovation Phase

The deposits assigned to Phase IIIb originated beneath floor L61075. Only two vessels may provide a valuable date: the almost complete cooking pot of Johnson's Form 16 (Fig. 5:5) and the local amphora of Riley Type 1B (Fig. 5:7). Both types are widely dated from the late fourth until the late fifth or early sixth century CE. Another helpful observation is the absence of Late Roman Fine Wares, which are widespread at Caesarea in all fifth-century CE deposits and later (cf. Riley 1975; Adan-Bayewitz 1986; Bar-Nathan and Adato 1986a; 1986b; Magness 1992; Oleson et al. 1994; Tomber 1999; Gendelman, in prep. a, b). Considering the above evidence, I propose the late fourth century CE as the initiation date for this phase.

Phase IIIa: Final Stage of the Circus

This phase is not well-defined by architectural remains. Most of the pottery comes from disturbed and scattered fills and has no chronological significance.² The only diagnostic fragment is of a northern, dark gray bag-shaped amphora (Fig. 7:3) from W61207, which may provide a fifth–sixth century CE date.

Stratum II (Agricultural Activities)

The pottery was retrieved from deep pits, which were cut into earlier layers with the purpose of burying large architectural elements from the *spina* and *meta prima*. The Buff Ware jug (Fig. 8:1) may provide an eighth–ninth century CE date for the agricultural reuse of the area of the Eastern Circus *arena*.

Stratum I (Modern Activities)

The pottery from this stratum originated in the topsoil that covered the remains of the *spina* and the *meta prima*. The soil is cultivated by Kibbutz Sedot-Yam, until recently a banana plantation, and at present, a wheat field. The pottery includes vessels of the Byzantine, Early Islamic and Crusader periods. The tile fragment (Fig. 8:9) implies late nineteenth–early twentieth-century activities.

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² This assemblage includes pottery from Loci 60010 and 61202; the first is described as a sandy deposition beneath the *arena*, disturbed by late burials, and the second, a soil accumulation between the northern face of the *meta prima* (L61006) and the southern face of a drainage (L61053; see Porath, this volume). The vessels from L60010, presented in this report, are from Basket Nos. 600,027, 600,041, 600,049, which according to the daily log originated from below the latest area layer L60011 = 60004; a single vessel from L61202 comes from basket 601,307, marked in daily log as soil beneath the latest *arena* L61060. Consequently, these finds come from deposits assigned to Phase IIIa.

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