

BYZANTINE AND EARLY ISLAMIC OIL LAMPS AND A LANTERN FROM THE FRENCH HOSPITAL COMPOUND, YAFO (JAFFA)

PETER GENDELMAN AND AYELET DAYAN

Excavations within the French Hospital Compound, an area just south of Tel Yafo, provided a rather large quantity of both complete and fragmentary oil lamps associated with burials and a feature dating from the Byzantine period (see Dayan, Levy and Samora-Cohen, this volume). An additional group of lamps originated in architectural remains dating from the Early Islamic period. The finds from each tomb will be discussed separately according to typological order.

THE BYZANTINE PERIOD

TOMB 39

This burial provided a rich assemblage of Byzantine-period oil lamps, including local, regional and imported types.

Local and Regional Types

Caesarea Type 1

This type comprises the largest group of oil lamps from the Byzantine period found in the excavation. It includes 17 illustrated examples and a number of small fragments not discussed here. The first type is a circular lamp with a shallow body; a small pyramidal (Fig. 1:2, 5, 6, 10, 15) or three-pointed star-shaped (Figs. 1:9) handle; and a spatula-shaped nozzle. These lamps are made of uniform reddish yellow sandy clay, which contains some lime particles. They are named according to the series of soft limestone molds discovered at Caesarea Maritima (Sussman 1980a; Patrich and Pinkas 2008). Sussman proposed that several workshops produced South and North Caesarea Type 1 lamps (Sussman 2008:245–246). Indeed, the lamps from Bet She'an (Hadad 2002:61, Nos. 271, 272, Type 23) and Capernaum (Loffreda 2008:54, Types LUC 7.1, DG.13:3–14, 16, DF.807:1–3, 5–8, 16, 18–21) have a distinctly higher handle, which seems to point to workshops located somewhere

in the Galilee and/or the Bet She'an Valley.¹ It is also probable that another workshop produced lamps bearing Jewish symbols at 'En Gedi (Vincenz 2007:265–266, Pl. 51:10, 11, Fig. 62).²

The finds from the antechamber of T39 at Yafo are of the Caesarea Type 1 archetype and two variants, A and B. All share some common features but exhibit slightly distinct shapes and decorative patterns.

The Caesarea Type 1 archetype (Fig. 1) is the largest group, represented by 15 examples, including complete, restorable and fragmentary lamps. These lamps are rather shallow with a wide sunken disc surrounded by a low, single or double ridge, and a small filling hole placed in the middle of the disc. In most cases, the base is marked with a shallow ridge; sometimes, it is marked with a central dot (Fig. 1:5, 7, 10), including one debased example (Fig. 1:7). It is similar to Sussman's Caesarea Type 1 B10A, which dates from the mid-fourth–fifth century CE (Sussman 2008:245–246) and to Sussman's VI.I.B32 Phoenician Caesarea disc lamps (Sussman 2017:194–204).³ The decorative patterns on this lamp type are diverse and are therefore discussed according to their location on the lamps.

Discus Decoration.— The discus patterns are the most diverse and show figurative, floral and geometric motifs, sometimes in various combinations.

Aedicule (Fig. 1:1): One fragment bears a facade of a tetrastyle aedicule standing on a podium or a stairway depicted by two parallel lines; the bases and capitals of the spiralforn columns are schematic. The gabled roof is depicted by double lines on the front, and both sides of the gabled roof are adorned by crosses with arms of equal length. The crosses clearly indicate that the illustrated structure is a basilica-type church. The church probably represents one of the famous churches of the Holy Land, such as Constantine's Church of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.

Depictions of aediculae rarely occur on Caesarea Type 1 lamps.⁴ The closest is the representation of a distyle aedicula with spiralforn columns and a gabled roof flanked by crosses on an oil lamp from Jalame (Manzoni MacDonnell 1988:120, 123, Fig. 6.6:86, Pl. 6-4:86; Sussman 2017:200, Pl. 2374). Tetrastyle and distyle aediculae with plain columns and no crosses are known on lamps from the Israel Museum collection (Israeli and Avida 1988:112, Pl. LVII:321) and from Caesarea Maritima (Sussman 2001: Fig. 21; 2003:228, Fig. 23:1), Tel Mevorakh (Sussman 2017:200, Pl. 2373) and Capernaum (Loffreda 2008:54, DG.13:7; DF. 807:24). Aediculae supported by a pair of arches appears on a North Caesarea Type 1 lamp from Ha-Gosherim (Sussman 2001: Fig. 25; 2003:228, Fig. 23:2).

¹ A mold of a Northern Caesarea Type 1 lamp from Sepphoris was published by Adan-Bayewitz (1995).

² No examples of Northern or Judean variants of Caesarea Type 1 lamps were found in the Yafo deposits.

³ The IAA excavations at Caesarea Maritima provided a slightly different date, i.e., from the late fourth to the sixth century CE (Porath, in prep.).

⁴ For representation of aediculae on other types of oil lamps, see Sussman 2003:227–228.



Fig. 1. Byzantine-period oil lamps from T39: Caesarea Type 1, archetype.

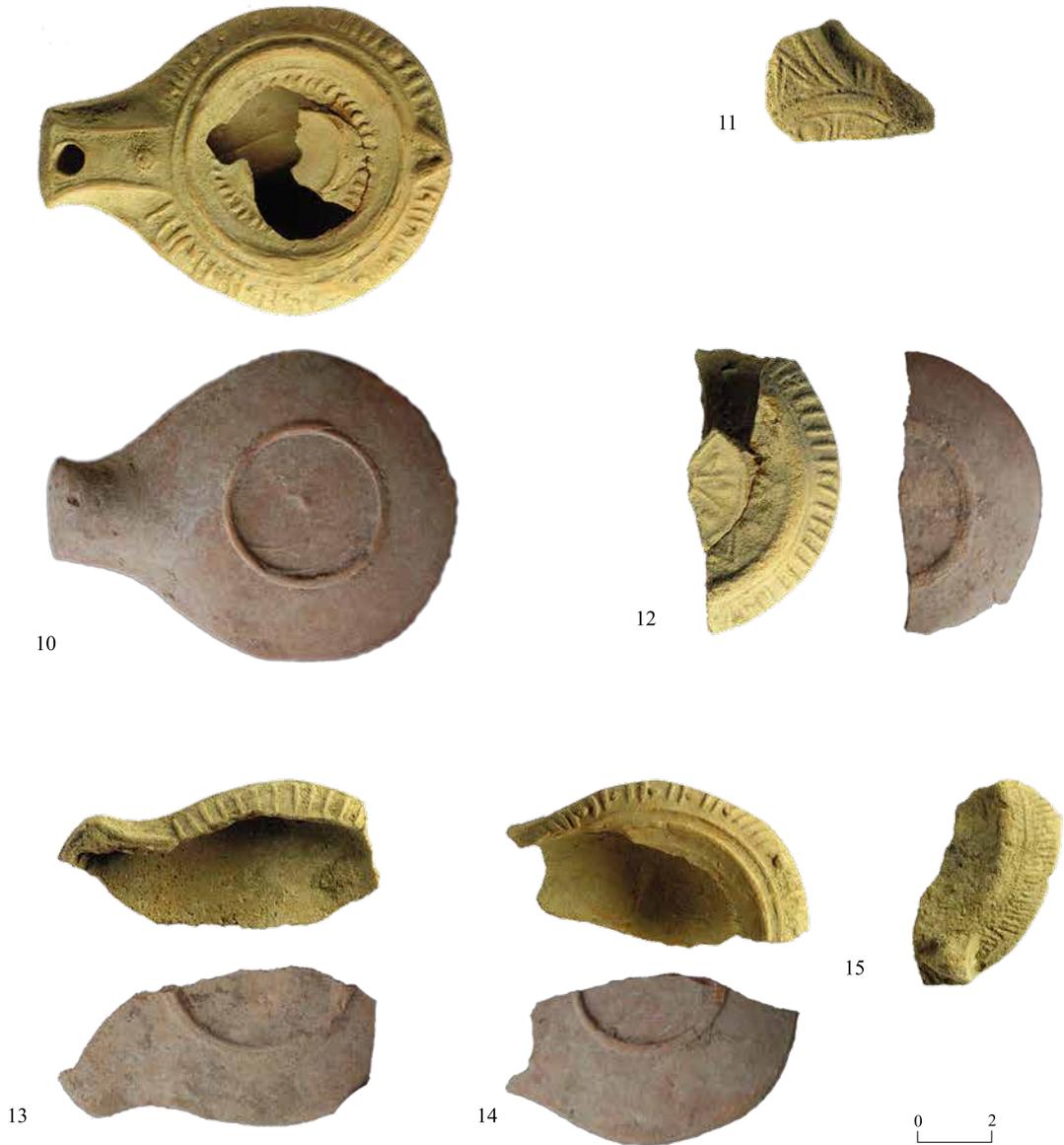


Fig. 1. (cont.).

Modius with Cache of Bread? (Fig. 1:2, 3): One fragmentary lamp (Fig. 1:2) bears a modius (measuring basket) drawn with double lines. It has arch-like tripod legs and a basket depicted by dense concave lines, probably representing a weave. Within the basket are three globes, delineated by a double line probably representing bread cakes. The modius is flanked by palm branches, of which one is preserved. Similarly decorated lamps were reported from Caesarea Maritima (Sussman 2008:246–247, Fig. 176), Ma'on (Amit and Ilan 1990:121) and Salamis in Cyprus (Oziol 1977:277, Pl. 46:838). It also resembles the modius depicted

◀ Fig. 1

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
1	482	4818/1	Reddish yellow sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather good mold
2	482	4818/9	Light reddish yellow; sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a rather good mold
3	482	4818/8	As No. 2
4	482	4818/2	Reddish yellow sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a rather good mold
5	481	4812/1	Light reddish yellow sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a rather good mold
6	481	4812/2	As No. 5
7 ⁱ	470	4700	Light reddish yellow, sandy fabric with some lime; produced from a rather worn mold
8	482	4818/6	Light reddish yellow sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a rather good mold
9	482	4822	As No. 8; soot on the wick hole
10	482	4819	Light reddish brown fabric with some lime; self-slip; a little soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather good mold
11	481	4812/4	Light reddish yellow, sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a rather good mold
12	481	4827	As No. 11
13	482	4818/7	Reddish yellow sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather good mold
14	482	4818/11	Reddish yellow rather sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a rather good mold
15	482	4818/4	Light reddish yellow sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a rather worn mold

ⁱThis oil lamp was found in T38.

on the fifth-century CE mosaic of the presbytery of the Church of the Multiplying of the Loaves and Fishes at Tabgha (Schneider 1937:56–58, Tab. 1; Talgam 2014:203, Fig. 292).

An additional fragmentary lamp (Fig. 1:3) is decorated with a partially preserved modius basket with a single globe. On the left side of the modius is part of what is supposed to be a handle.

Eagle? (Fig. 1:4): This fragmentary discus exhibits part of what seems to be a wing of a bird with schematic feathers, most likely an eagle. Birds rarely appear on Caesarea Type 1 lamps. The known examples are an unidentified bird on a limestone mold (Sussman 1980a: Pl. XV:1), a heron on lamps from Caesarea, Tel Shiqmona, Tel Shush, Palmaḥim and from an unknown provenance (Sussman 2017:201–202, Fig. 154, Pls. 2379–2382), a peacock and

an ostrich on lamps from the IAA Caesarea excavations (Porath, in prep.) and undetermined heraldic birds on a lamp from the Shuni excavations.⁵

Greek Crosses (Fig. 1:5–7).— Two types of Greek crosses, i.e., with arms of equal length, were documented. On the discus of two lamps, a segmented cross with dots at the edges of each arm is depicted (Fig. 1:5, 6); the discus of an additional lamp is decorated by a double-lined cross (Fig. 1:7). An unpublished lamp from the IAA Caesarea expedition is an exact parallel for Fig. 1:5, 6. Outlined crosses with equal or unequal arms are a rather common feature on Caesarea Type 1 lamps, e.g., from Caesarea Maritima and Tel Mevorakh (Sussman 2003:229, Fig. 23:1; 2008:246, Figs. 170–171; 2017:199, 461, Fig. 151, Pl. 2365; Porath, in prep.), Shuni (see n. 5), Naḥal Tanninim,⁶ Tel Tanninim (Arnon 2006:195–196, Fig. 154:7) and Qastra (Zemer 1999:35).

Ear of Corn (Fig. 1:8, 9): One lamp fragment is decorated with radiating lines representing ears of wheat rising from the filling hole in the center of the discus, encircled by triangles (Fig. 1:8). Another lamp is complete, its filling hole in the center of the discus is encircled by ridges and a radiating pattern of stylized ears of corn that alternates with double strokes (Fig. 1:9). The latter resembles the decoration on a lamp from Capernaum (Loffreda 2008:54, DF.807:20).

Wreath (Fig. 1:10): One nearly complete lamp is decorated with a stylized wreath. No exact parallels for this kind of decoration occur on the Caesarea Type 1 lamps that have been heretofore published.

Rosettes (Fig. 1:11, 12): Two fragmentary lamps show elaborate multipetal rosettes on the discus. Similarly decorated lamps are reported from Caesarea, Tel Mevorakh and Tel Shiqmona (Sussman 2017:204, 461, Fig. 151:2, Pls. 2369–2371).

Nozzle Zone Decoration.— All preserved nozzles are characterized by a pronounced single (Fig. 1:10) or double (Fig. 1:1, 4, 5, 9, 11, 13) curved ridge. On some examples, the nozzle zone is otherwise undecorated (Fig. 1:4, 9); one example has a dot within a circle (Fig. 1:10), like lamps from Qastra (Zemer 1999:35, bottom right) and Ḥorbat ‘Aqav (Calderon 2000: Pl. XII:94, Fig. 5). A common decoration is a double-lined triangle pointing toward the wick hole (Fig. 1:1, 5, 11). The triangles on the nozzle are a familiar feature of Caesarea 1 lamps, and single-lined triangles, some with a dot within, are known

⁵ Roman and Byzantine pottery and oil lamps from the Shuni/Maiumas excavations (1987–2000 seasons, License No. G-135/98) have been processed by the author (P.G.).

⁶ Lamps from Naḥal Tanninim (Permit Nos. A-3356/2001, A-3471/2002) have been processed by the author (P.G.).

from molds (Sussman 1980a: Pl. V:1–3) and lamps (e.g., Siegelman 1992:65*, Fig. 4:5). Some of the lamps found at Caesarea are designed similar to those from Yafo (Porath, in prep.). A similar nozzle decoration was found on lamps from Qastra (Zemer 1999:35, bottom left), 'En Gedi (Vincenz 2007:265–266, Pl. 51:10, 11, Fig. 62) and Salamis (Oziol 1977: Pl. 46:838), as well as on a lamp of unknown provenance (Rosenthal and Sivan 1978:124–125, No. 513).

Shoulder Zone Decoration.— Most lamps with this type of decoration bear strokes in a radial pattern, which is the common (Fig. 1:1–7, 9–15) decoration on Caesarea Type 1 lamps (for examples, see Barag and Porath 1970:100; Oziol 1977: No. 838; Rosenthal and Sivan 1978:124–125, Nos. 513, 514; Bailey 1988:282, Pl. 60: Q2341; Calderon 2000:117, Pl. XII:94–96, Fig. 5; Hadad 2002:61, Nos. 271–272; Sussman 2008:246–247, Figs. 170–178, 186). In two cases (Fig. 1:10, 14), the strokes alternate with dots, similar to a lamp from Caesarea Maritima, where strokes alternate with circles (Sussman 2008:246–247, Fig. 179). One lamp (Fig. 1:8) exhibits a wreath or herringbone pattern (cf. Sussman 2008: Figs. 180–185; 2017: Fig. 152).

Caesarea Type 1, Variant A

Presented by a single complete lamp (Fig. 2:1), the shape of this variant is very similar to the Caesarea Type 1 archetype but differs from it by its higher rounded shoulder and smaller discus. The base is encircled by a ridge, and within the ridge there is a central dot. The nozzle is emphasized by a curved double-line, and is further decorated with a triangle (cf. Caesarea Type 1, archetype). The shoulder is decorated with a row of oblique strokes and a row of dots, which are separated by lines. On the discus, a Latin cross is depicted, with a longer lower arm, and dots on the edge of each arm. No parallels for this variation have been published yet. The proposed date for this variant is the fifth–sixth centuries CE.

Caesarea Type 1, Variant B

This variant too is represented by a single lamp (Fig. 2:2). The shape is more elongated than that of the Caesarea Type 1 archetype, resembling Sussman's Gezer Type 2 lamps (cf. Rosenthal and Sivan 1978:125, Nos. 515–516; Sussman 2007:61–63, Fig. 5:34). In comparison to the archetype, the variant has a harder red fabric, and the mold relief is deeper and with cruder lines; white wash covers the entire lamp. The base is surrounded by a high ridge with a central point. The vessel has a three-pointed star-shaped handle. The shoulders are decorated with strokes in a radial pattern, as on the Caesarea Type 1 archetype, and the preserved part of the broken discus shows the remains of a six-petaled rosette. Its nozzle is emphasized by a single curved line along each side, and on it, a large blob is enclosed by curved lines above and below, similar to the disc or wreath found on the nozzle of a Caesarea Type 1 archetype lamp from the Caesarea Maritima excavation (Sussman 2008:245–247, Fig. 177). The proposed date for this variant is the fifth–sixth centuries CE.



Fig. 2. Byzantine-period oil lamps from T39: Caesarea Type 1: Variant A (1); and Variant B (2).

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
1	482	4808	Light reddish yellow sandy fabric with lime; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a good mold
2	482	4829	Reddish yellow fabric with some lime; thin white wash all over; soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather good mold

Candlestick-Type Lamps (Fig. 3:1–9)

This is the second-most common group of Byzantine oil lamps found in the excavation. It includes nine examples and a considerable number of fragments not included in this report. Most of the lamps are made of a light-colored fabric characteristic of Judean production centers (cf. Magness 1993:251), although another, probably local, red sandy fabric was documented as well. The candlestick-type group includes three variants that differ in size, decoration and ware.

‘En Yabrud (Small Candlestick-Type) Lamp (Fig. 3:1).— A single, almost complete lamp is pear-shaped, its base encircled by a low ridge; it is missing only the tip of the nozzle. The filling and wick holes of this lamp are encircled by single ridges, and the shoulder is decorated with oblique strokes. The handle is marked by a dot, and the nozzle has a cross



Fig. 3. Byzantine-period oil lamps from T39: Candlestick Type (1–9) and other types (10–12).

◀ Fig. 3

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
1	482	4826	Light reddish yellow levigated fabric with some lime; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a good quality mold
2	481	4810	Yellowish red well-levigated fabric; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a good quality mold
3	481	4806	Light reddish yellow levigated fabric with some lime; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a good quality mold
4	482	4817	As No. 3
5	482	4821	As No. 3
6	481	4811	Yellowish red well-levigated fabric; self-slip; produced from a good quality mold
7	481	4812/5	Light reddish yellow well-levigated fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a good quality mold
8	482	4824	Red coarse fabric with some lime; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a worn mold
9	482	4818/3	Red sandy and coarse fabric with some lime and red grits; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather good mold
10	482	4820	Brown fabric with some lime; self-slip; produced from a rather good mold
11	482	4823	Light reddish yellow sandy fabric with some lime; self-slip; a little soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather good mold
12	482	4815	Yellowish red, well-levigated fabric; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather good quality mold

fourchée (forked cross). Made of well-fired Judean fabric, this lamp is of the ‘En Yabrud lamp type (Rosenthal and Sivan 1978:112–113, Nos. 453–455) and Magness Form 2 Lamp (Small Candlestick Lamp), which dates from the second half of the fourth to the mid-sixth century CE (Magness 1993:250–251). Such lamps are common in burials in Jerusalem (Ben-Arieh and Coen-Uzzielli 1996:89, Fig. 4.13:2).

Magness Form 3A (Large Candlestick) Lamp (Fig. 3:2–7).— This group of almond-shaped lamps has bases encircled by a low ridge, sloping shoulders, large filling holes encircled by double ridges and (often missing) elongated nozzles with round wick holes surrounded by a ridge. These lamps were made of Judean fabric and were produced in a high-quality mold. The shoulder is decorated with oblique, radiating lines like the previous type (Fig. 3:1), and the handle is often marked with a knob (Fig. 3:2–4, 6) or stroke (Fig. 3:5). The nozzles are decorated with a six-branched palm/menorah (for further discussion, see Magness 1993:173–174), which protruded from the outer ridge of the filling hole. These lamps are similar to Rosenthal and Sivan’s Large Slipper Lamps, which date from the early fifth to the early eighth century CE (Rosenthal and Sivan 1978:116–117, Nos. 476–479), Magness’ Form 3A (Large Candlestick Lamps), which dates from the mid-sixth to the late seventh or early eighth century CE (Magness 1993:251–252) and Hadad’s Type 28, which dates from the fifth to mid-eighth century CE (Hadad 2002:67–68). These lamps are well-known

from numerous sites throughout the country, but are particularly common in Jerusalem and its surroundings, as well as from the Judean Shephelah (Magness 1993:173–177, Fig. 12). They seem to have been imported to Yafo.

Locally(?) Produced Candlestick Lamps (Fig. 3:8, 9).— This group is represented by two lamps made of red fabric. One is a complete, small lamp made of a hard fabric (Fig. 2:10). Its shape is somewhat unusual with a long nozzle. The mold used was shallow and worn, and the decoration is similar to those discussed above (see Fig. 3:2–7).

The second is a fragmentary large lamp made of sandy, softer fabric (Fig. 3:9). The shape is oval with no clear distinction between the body and the nozzle. The mold is crude, and the filling hole of the lamp is encircled by three ridges. A schematic palm branch/menorah with four twigs decorates the nozzle. Sussman observed that these crude lamps appear no earlier than the seventh century CE (Sussman 2007:65).

Although Judea seems to be the main production area of the candlestick-type lamps, there are at least two additional centers that produced such lamps. The first is the Bet She'an workshop, wherein a mold and lamps made of local fabric were discovered (Hadad 2002:67–68). The second production center, in which both lamps and molds were found, is at Khirbat el-Ni'ana, in the lower Shephelah area (Sussman 2007:67–69).⁷ The fabrics of the examples found in the French Hospital Compound at Yafo differ from those of Bet She'an and Khirbat Ni'ana, which may hint at an additional workshop that produced these lamps, perhaps in Yafo or in its vicinity.

Gezer Type 2 Lamp (Fig. 3:10)

A single fragmentary lamp with a round body and a wide, partially preserved nozzle was found; its base is encircled by a ridge with a central dot, and a three-pointed star-shaped handle is set on the sloping shoulder. The nozzle is emphasized by ridges in a radial pattern of dotted lines. There are remains of a probable cross potent (i.e., with T-shaped arms) on the nozzle, and its shoulder is decorated with strokes in a radial pattern. The lamp is made of well-levigated brown fabric. The form and decoration relate to Sussman's Gezer Type 2 lamps, which roughly dates to the fifth–sixth centuries CE (Sussman 2007:58–63, Fig. 5:33, 36). Although the cross is not a common motif on Gezer Type 2 lamps (cf. a single example from Gezer excavations—Macalister 1912: Pl. XCIII:13), it often appears on other types of lamps (cf. above, 'En Yabrud Lamp).

Hybrid Caesarea I/Bet Natfif/Gezer Type

The single restored lamp of this type (Fig. 3:11) has a base encircled by a ridge, a rather high, nearly circular body and a spatula-shaped nozzle. Its small sunken discus has a central

⁷ Lamps from the excavations at Khirbat el-Ni'ana (Permit No. A-4318/2004) were processed by the author (P. G.).

filling hole surrounded by double ridges with tassels, and a three-pointed star handle on its sloping shoulder. The shoulder is decorated with radial strokes interlaced with dense oblique lines, creating a net-like pattern. The discus rim is encircled by a row of dots within circles alternating with blobs. The nozzle is emphasized by curved lines, flanking an amphora. Placed on a trumpet base, the amphora has a ribbed body and a pair of handles extending from shoulder to rim.

Morphologically, this lamp combines characteristics of several groups. The shape resembles that of Caesarea Type 1 (see above), some Bet Nat̄tif lamps (Macalister 1912: Pls. XCII:17; XCVIII:9, 11) and a variation of Bet Nat̄tif 3 lamps (Sussman 2007:53–55, Fig. 1:5). The shoulder decoration and curved lines on the nozzle underside resemble that of the Samaritan lamps (Sussman 1983:73). The amphora, often associated with floral, vine or figurative motifs (birds and animals), is commonly depicted on several types of lamps such as the Bet Nat̄tif types (Macalister 1912: Pls. LXXVIII:19; XCII:17; Sussman 1985–1986: Figs. 12; 20; 21; 29; 2003:227, Fig. 4; Israeli and Avida 1988:124, Pl. LXII:321; Hadad 1997:154–156, Fig. 9), including on its variants (Sussman 2007: Fig. 1:3–5) and imitations (Hadad 1997:160–161, Fig. 21); Gezer Type 1 (Sussman 2007: Fig. 4:25); and Samaritan lamps (Sussman 1983:76, Fig. 4:3). However, no exact parallels for this lamp have been found yet. A group of similar lamps, though with different handles, from the burial cave at Khirbat esh-Shubeika, dates to the sixth century CE (Tatcher 2002:267, Fig. 8:7, 8) and is probably related to our example. Therefore, the proposed date for the Yafo lamp is the fifth–sixth centuries CE.

Variant of the Late Samaritan Type

A complete lamp (Fig. 3:12) with an elongated nozzle has a long tongue handle on the low shoulder, a round filling hole and a shallow nozzle channel enclosed by a double ridge. The shoulder and nozzle were decorated with a combination of a net-like pattern and parallel vertical and horizontal lines. Its somewhat asymmetrical design is interesting—there is a schematic scroll and an €-like element on one side. The nozzle channel is decorated with an oval. Although no exact parallels for this lamp are known to the author, it relates to the group of Late Samaritan Lamps, which is roughly dated from the late sixth to the early eighth century CE (Sussman 1983:80, Fig. 9:3; Adan-Bayewitz 1986:114–115, Fig. 6:3–7, Ills. 126–128; Hadad 2002:74–78, Nos. 320–326; Tatcher and Gal 2009: Fig. 18:5).

Imported Oil Lamps

Cypriot Stamped Round Lamps (Fig. 4:1–4)

These round lamps had almost indistinct nozzles, flattened bases and wide, slightly sunken discuses with a small filling hole in the middle. These lamps, presented by one almost complete example and several additional fragments, are thin-walled and made of well-levigated buff fabric. The impressed decoration includes a row of short radial strokes encircled by lines on the shoulder, and the wick hole is flanked by a circle within which are



Fig. 4. Byzantine-period oil lamps from T39: imported oil lamps (1–5) and a lantern (6).

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
1	482	4825	Light pink well-levigated fabric; remains of brownish red wash; produced from a rather good mold
2	482	4818/5	As No. 1
3	481	4812/6	As No. 1
4	481	4812/3	As No. 1
5	481	4807	Pink well-levigated fabric; self-slip; produced from a rather good mold
6	482	4818/10	Brown, coarse fabric with some lime; <i>kerbschnitt</i> decoration; soot on int.

dot-stylized volutes. The disc of the complete lamp (Fig. 4:1) was decorated with a six-petal rosette; semicircles appear within and between the petals. The underside of this lamp was decorated with stylized branches drawn with double lines, including twigs under the nozzle and on the opposite side, and on the base was a stamped Greek inscription ΤΡΥΦΗ, encircled by a single low ridge emphasized by shallow channels. On the base of another example, part of a leaf or grape cluster filled with dots is preserved (Fig. 4:2). The partially

preserved discus of another lamp (Fig.4:4) exhibits a pattern of pointed semicircles (cf. Oziol 1977:279–286, Pl. 47:857; Tatcher 2002: Fig. 8:11).

These lamps, rather common in Cyprus, were rarely imported to other regions. In Israel, this type of lamp was reported from a burial cave at Khirbat esh-Shubeika (Tatcher 2002:267) and from Caesarea Maritima (Bull, Krentz and Storvick 1986: Fig. 28:2; Sussman 2008:254–255, Fig. 228). This type is similar to Cypriot-produced Vessenberg Type 20 and Dobbins Type 9 Form 3 (Bailey 1988:282–283, Pl. 61: Q2349–2353), and to the Gallet Lamps (Oziol 1977:279–286, Pls. 46:842–855; 47; 48:874–878); it roughly dates to the fifth–seventh centuries CE.

Anthropomorphic Lamp (Fig. 4:5)

A fragmentary ovoid lamp was molded as a male face with long hair and a moustache. Such lamps are rare finds: two examples were found in Cyprus (Oziol 1977:291, 293, Pl. 49:900; Hayes 2007:479–480, Pl. 15:1), and one, from an unknown provenance (Sussman 1980b:80, Pl. XVI:9). A similarly shaped lamp with a female face dates to the seventh century CE. This lamp was found with its mold at Anamur (Turkey), and may point to Cilicia as the provenance of these types of lamps (Williams and Taylor 1975:77, Figs. 1, 2), although until now all finds of such male-faced lamps have been found in Cyprus and Israel.

Lantern (Fig. 4:6)

A fragment of a clay lantern was found with *kerbschnitt* decoration on its exterior. A similar lantern was reported from a Byzantine-period burial cave near Ḥorbat Sugar (Aviam and Stern 1997:92, Fig. 2).

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Caesarea Type 2

This type is represented by a single restored lamp (Fig. 5:1). Its shape is similar to Caesarea Type 1, with a circular body and a spatula-shaped nozzle; however, the body is higher, and it has an almost indistinct shoulder that is decorated with strokes in a radial pattern. The nozzle is emphasized by curved double lines, the large filling hole is surrounded by a ridge, and a pyramidal handle is set on the shoulder. Similar lamps from Caesarea Maritima were named by Sussman “Samaritan-Caesarea Hybrid Type,” and were dated to the fourth–fifth centuries CE (Sussman 2008:245, Figs. 168–169).

Northern Ovoid Lamp

A fragmentary ovoid lamp (Fig. 5:2) was found with a flat sunken base, a high sloping shoulder, an elongated nozzle and a three-pointed star handle on the shoulder. The lamp has a small discus, a central filling hole and a nozzle channel enclosed by a ridge. The shoulder and nozzle sides are decorated with scales with the central point interlaced with a floral

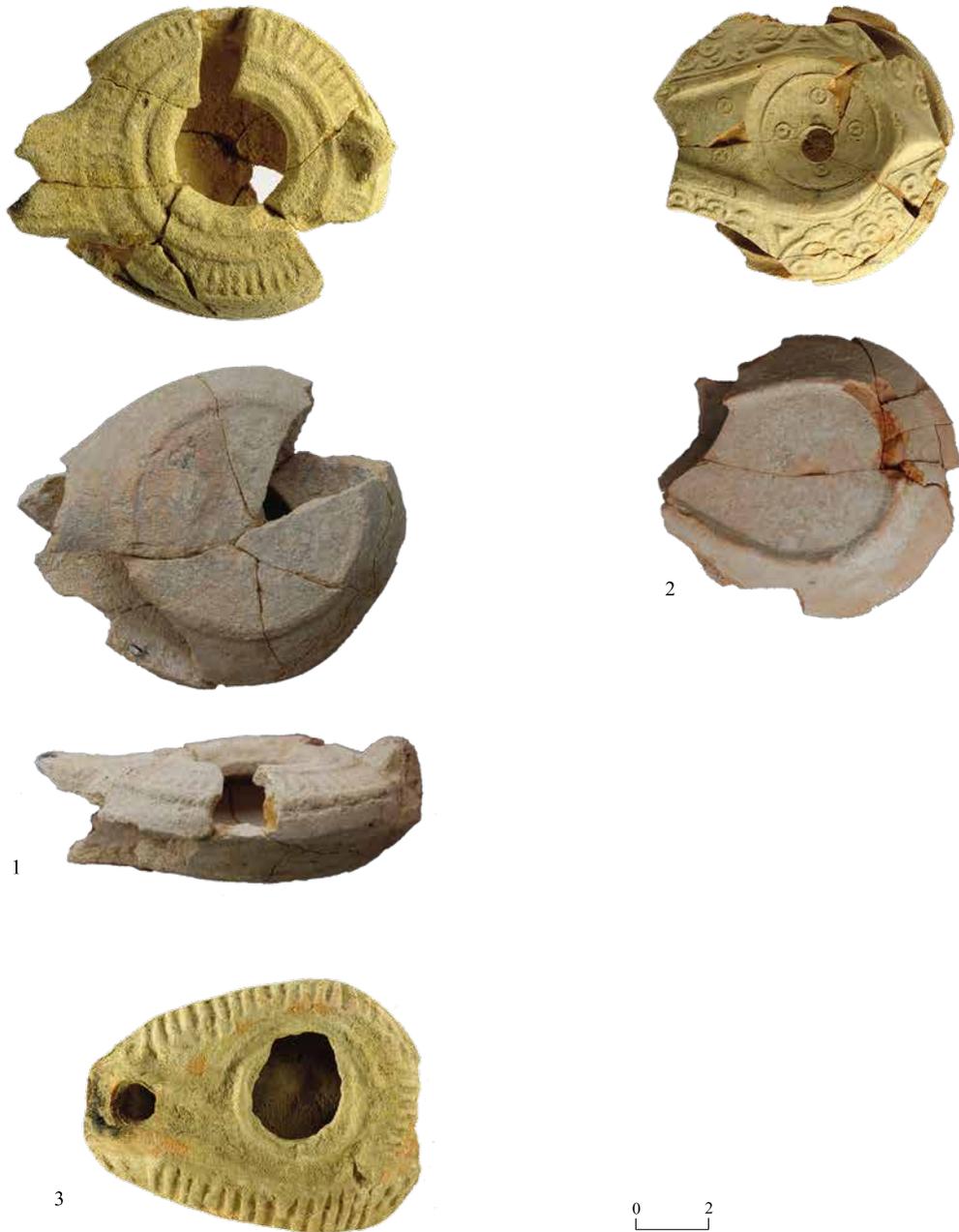


Fig. 5. Byzantine-period oil lamps from F26.

No.	Locus	Basket	Description
1	352	3506	Light yellowish sandy fabric with some lime; soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather good mold
2	352	3507	Pink well-levigated fabric; produced from a rather good mold
3	352	3504	Reddish yellow sandy and coarse fabric

design. The filling hole is surrounded by four semicircles, and two additional semicircles and a globe are located on the nozzle channel. This lamp belongs to a well-known type of Galilean/Lebanese lamps dated to the sixth–seventh centuries CE (Adan-Bayewitz 1986:113–114, Fig. 5:19–23, Ills. 122a–125; Sussman 1989; Hadad 1997:165–166, Fig. 9; Tatcher 2002:266–267, Figs. 5:11, 12; 6; 7; 8:1, 2; Loffreda 2008:60–61, DG.15). No exact parallels for the decoration on the lamp from Yafo are known to the authors, although the floral decoration resembles that of an oil lamp from a burial cave near Ḥorbat Sugar (Aviam and Stern 1997:96, Fig. 4:16), and similar scales decorate lamps from Tel Tannim (Arnon 2006:197–199, Fig. 155:2) and Bet She’an (Hadad 2002:70–72, No. 313).

Samaritan Type 3

A pear-shaped lamp (Fig. 5:3) has a sunken base with a central point, a sloping shoulder, a filling hole with a rim surrounded by an additional ridge, and a broken, deep nozzle channel that led to a straight-cut nozzle with a round wick hole; the handle was not preserved. The shoulder is decorated with vertical strokes, and there are globes on the nozzle side and near the missing handle. Although exhibiting somewhat unusual proportions and decoration, this lamp seems to relate to Samaritan Type 3 lamps, which are dated to the sixth and early seventh centuries CE (Sussman 1983:80, Fig. 9:2; 2010:140–142, Fig. 2:8–13).

THE EARLY ISLAMIC PERIOD

FEATURES 25 AND 35

A group of almond-shaped lamps with a high tongue handle were usually decorated with vertical incisions. This type has a round filling hole and a shallow nozzle channel enclosed by a double ridge. These lamps were made of two distinct fabrics: common buff (Fig. 6:1–4) and red (Fig. 6:5; Avissar 1996:192–193, Fig. XV:18–27). This well-known type dates from the late eighth to the tenth or early eleventh century CE (Avissar 1996:191; Hadad 1999:203–213; Stacey 2004:153–157, Figs. 6.8; 6.9; Arnon 2007:76, Fig. 16:5–7; Cytrin-Silverman 2010:114–115). The nozzle decoration varies and includes parallel lines (Fig. 6:1–3), herringbone (Fig. 6:4) and floral (Fig. 6:5) patterns. On all lamp shoulders, the decoration is reminiscent of vine tendrils with or without leaves (Hadad 1999:203–213, Figs. 6:9; 7:10; Cytrin-Silverman 2010:114–115, Pl. 9.14:12, Photo 9.20). Both sides of the nozzle of two lamps have schematically depicted birds pecking grapes (Fig. 6:1, 2; see, e.g., Kennedy 1963:90, 111, Pl. XXIX:785; Avigad 1976:192–193, Pl. LXXI:51; Rosenthal and Sivan 1978:134, No. 554; Brosh 1986:71, Pl. VII:4; Israeli and Avida 1988: Pl. LXXX:456, 458; Avissar 1996:191, Fig. XV:17; Hadad 1999:203–213, Figs. 3:6, 7:16; Cytrin-Silverman 2010:114–115, Pls. 9.7:7; 9.12:1; 9.13:1, 2; Photo 9.19).

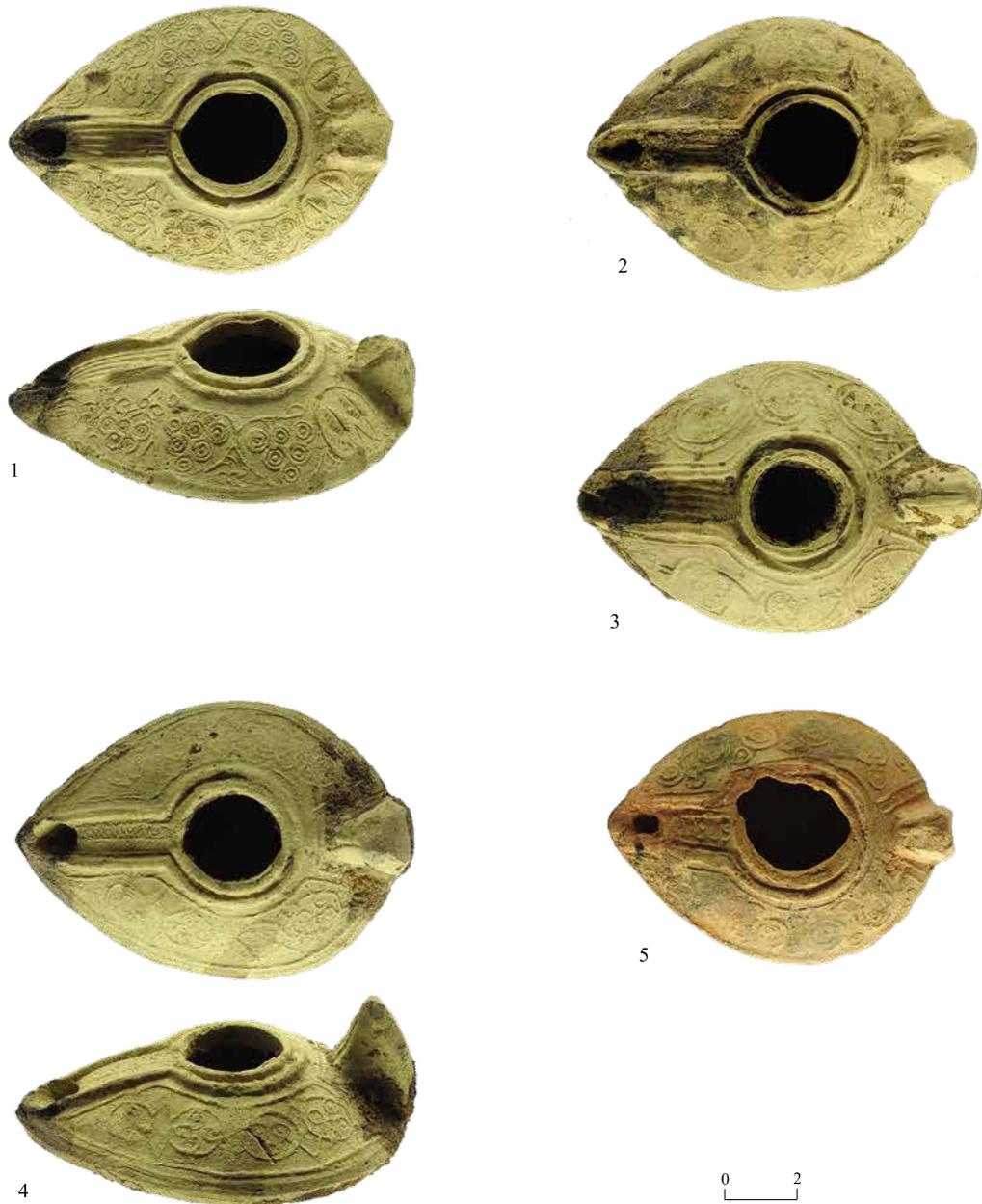


Fig. 6. Early Islamic oil lamps.

No.	Installation	Locus	Basket	Description
1	F23	321	3211	Buff fabric; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a good quality mold
2	F35	440	4405/2	As No. 1
3	F35	440	4407/2	As No. 1
4	F35	440	4407/1	As No. 1
5	F35	440	4406	Light red fabric with lime; self-slip; soot on the wick hole; produced from a rather worn mold

CONCLUSIONS

The Byzantine Period

The antechamber of Tomb 39 (cf. Dayan, Levy and Samora-Cohen, this volume) provided an assemblage of over 45 complete and fragmentary lamps, including a dozen types and variants. The chronological range of these lamps, except for one (Fig. 3:12), is within the fifth–seventh centuries CE, which seems to represent the main burial phase within this cave. The single complete lamp from the cave’s antechamber (Fig. 3:12) is a variant of the Late Samaritan Type, which extends beyond the chronological range of the Byzantine period. This may represent the latest use of the cave over a short period of time before it was sealed.

The most common type of oil lamp found in T39 is Caesarea Type 1, with more than 17 complete and fragmentary lamps. This is followed by Candlestick Type Lamps, with more than nine complete and fragmentary lamps. Other types are rare or present in only a single example.

The function of Feature 26 is unclear; however, it was likely connected with an undiscovered burial cave in the vicinity. This feature provided three restorable oil lamps and a handful of lamp fragments that are of the same three types. Of the three types of oil lamps found here, two are dated to the sixth–seventh centuries CE (Northern Ovoid Lamp and Samaritan Type 3), and the third, Caesarea Type 2, is dated by Sussman to the fourth–fifth centuries CE. The date of the latter type is rather early, considering that all three types were found in the same location, alongside pottery and two spindle whorls dated from the late sixth to the seventh century CE (see Gendelman, this volume: Fig. 8:9, 10).

The southern cemetery of Byzantine-period Yafo provided an extensive assemblage of pottery oil lamps. This assemblage includes imported types brought from overseas, as far as Cyprus and probably Cilicia. The regionally produced oil lamps are represented by types produced throughout the country, including the Judean Hills and Shephelah (Candlestick Type and Gezer Type Lamps), as well as the central (Caesarea Type and Samaritan Type Lamps) and northern (Northern Ovoid Lamps) coastal plains. The rich variety of both regional and imported oil lamps found at Yafo reflects the role of Yafo as an important anchorage along the marine trade route, connecting between the two major cities of the Roman and Byzantine East—Antioch and Alexandria. In addition, Yafo was a significant pilgrimage site on the Christian pilgrims’ route to the Holy Land during the fifth–seventh centuries CE (Foran 2011:109–111), due to the Tomb of Tabitha.

The Early Islamic Period

The Abbasid-period oil lamps originated in two locations (F23 and F35). They are uniform in shape, albeit made from two distinct fabrics. The decorative patterns are well-known from numerous contemporary sites throughout the country. Although a wide date range was given by scholars, the high quality of the molds and the well-formed decoration may point to an early stage of production, dating to the eighth–tenth centuries CE, a date which corresponds well with the other pottery finds retrieved from F23 and F35 (see Torge, this volume: Figs. 2–4).

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