

STAMPED AMPHORA HANDLES AND AMPHORA TOES FROM HORBAT TARBENET

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The excavations at Horbat Tarbenet (see Atrash and Mazor, this volume) yielded nine amphora fragments: three stamped handles and two toes from Rhodes; one stamped handle and one toe from Knidos; one possible Republican Ovoid Amphora toe; and one unidentified Late Roman toe.

CATALOGUE¹

Rhodes

The dates given for the Rhodian stamps follow Finkielisztejn 2001. The reader is advised to see Thomsen and Finkielisztejn 2020 (especially pp. 254–258), since (minimal) improvements in the Rhodian eponym chronology may derive from the recent publication of Badoud 2015 (especially pp. 153–200) and other researches (Finkielisztejn 2019:128; 2021: Table 1).

1. Installation area, L45, B1242.

Rectangular stamp.

[1 line?]



. EY[Σ?]

[Month?]



¹ The stamps were photographed by Clara Amit and the toes were drawn by Hagit Tahan-Rosen.

The profile of the handle dates the amphora to Grace's (1985) early Period III (c. 198–161 BCE; Finkielisztejn 2001:192). This is probably the name of an eponym ending in $-\eta\varsigma$, e.g., Θευφάνης 2nd (now dated to 199 BCE; Habicht 2003:556–557; Badoud 2015:174–175, A40), Ἰασικράτης, Ξενοφάνης, Ἀρχοκράτης 2nd or Πρατοφάνης.

Date: Circa 199–185 BCE.

2. Pool, L94, B1531.

Rectangular stamp.



0 1

[Ἀγαθο]κλεῦς

This is the most likely restoration. This name is that of the fabricant Ἀγαθοκλῆς 2nd, since the name appears in one line, in the center, and spreading along the whole length of a rectangular stamp, without a device.

Date: 178–161 BCE.

3. Installation area, L41, B1205.

Circular stamp.



0 2



0 1

[Ἄρ]ιστοκλεῦς

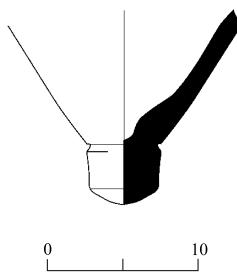
Rose

Fabricant Ἅριστοκλῆς 2nd. He is the second of two fabricants of a dynasty using a rose on a circular stamp, with a double frame enclosing the name (Finkielisztejn 2001:113–120).

Date: Circa 175–135 BCE.

4. Area T1, L90, B1518.

Amphora toe with base.

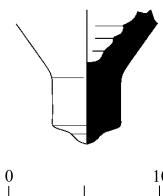


A cylinder-shaped toe (diam. 4.8 cm). The top of the toe slightly overlaps the bottom of the base. Differences in contemporary workshops may occur, especially for the rounded (as here) or pointed bottom (see No. 5 below).

Date: Roughly, the second century BCE (Monachov 2003: Type I-E-2, 122, unnumbered table:312–313, Pls. 82:1, 3; 83:1, 4, 6).

5. Area T1, L42, B1177.

Amphora toe.



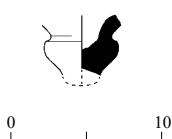
A cylinder-shaped toe (diam. 4.5 cm). The junction between the bottom of the base and the top of the toe is marked by a discrete ring, and the bottom is pointed. This is not a very common type; differences in contemporary workshops may occur, especially for the rounded or pointed bottom (see No. 4 above).

Date: Roughly, the 2nd century BCE.

Knidos

6. Well, L15, B1050.

Amphora toe.



The maximum diameter of this toe is 4.8 cm, corresponding to toes of half-capacity amphorae (Monachov 2003:305, Pl. 75:3).

Fabric: Light yellowish brown with few fine white and brown inclusions.

Surface: Light brown to light red. This kind of early Knidian import is rather common in Galilee.

Date: Last third of the fourth–beginning of the third centuries BCE (Empereur and Tuna 1988:345, Fig. 4g; Monachov 2003: Type II-B-1, 110, unnumbered table:304–305, Pls. 74:2–3 and 75:3).

7. Pool, L21, B1077.

Rectangular stamp.



'Επὶ Β[ίων]ος
Ξάγ[θον]
Κνίδιον (Prow)

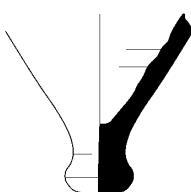
The die was applied twice. Lunate sigma and cursive omega. My thanks to Gonca Cankardeş-Şenol, from the Centre d'Etudes Alexandrines (Alexandria) for completing the reading of the inscription (with reference to Jöhrens 1999:141, No. 428) and adding Grace's Knidian Type KT 1117.

Date: 188–167 BCE (Grace 1985:31, 33).

Roman Republican Ovoid Amphora

8. Installation area, L32, B1139.

Amphora toe with base.



0 1 10

The maximum diameter of the toe is 4.5 cm.

Fabric: Brownish gray, with small gray inclusions.

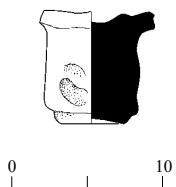
Surface: Very light brown; does not appear burned. The base profile points to an elongated ovoid amphora. The type seems similar to an unpublished Lamboglia's "olearia" from Maresha, found *in situ* in the storeroom of a villa abandoned between 112 and 108/7 BCE (Lamboglia 1961:161). The very light color of the surface recalls the Brindisi amphorae's Group V (Palazzo 1989:553, Figs. 4, 19; Finkielstajn 2000: Pl. 111d, correct "Type" to "Group").

Date: Roughly, the second half of the second century BCE.

Late Roman

9. Installation area, L45, B1281

Amphora toe.



A cylindrical toe (diam. 5.8 cm) of poor workmanship, ending in a short reduced concave cylinder. A nicely made regular ring surrounds the inner depression of the base.

Fabric: Reddish brown, with small white inclusions.

Surface: Light red to brownish red. It recalls the toes of African amphorae, which are not so cylindrical and bear a ring at the junction between the base and the toe (Keay 1984:339, especially No. 5, to 344).

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