

KHIRBAT EL-ḤAWARIT: A CERAMIC WORKSHOP ON THE MOUNT HERMON SLOPES

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Khirbat el-Ḥawarit is located on a lofty hill on the Mt. Hermon slopes, above the ravine of Naḥal Sa'ar and the Druse village 'Ein Quniya (Fig. 1). In previous surveys, settlement remains from the Hellenistic, Late Roman, Byzantine, Mamluk and Ottoman periods were found (Urman 1985:187; Hartal 1989:29–30; Dar 1993:134–137).

In 1986 the site was destroyed as a result of modern construction. Wide terraces destined for planting were dug on the northern slope of the hill. In the side of one of these terraces a large mound of pottery sherds, 20 m long and 1.6 m high, was exposed. In a narrow vertical section, cleared to determine the full height of the mound, ten layers were observed (assigned Loci 1–10; Plan 1), comprising primarily packed sherds interspersed with thin layers of soil and ash (see Table 1).¹

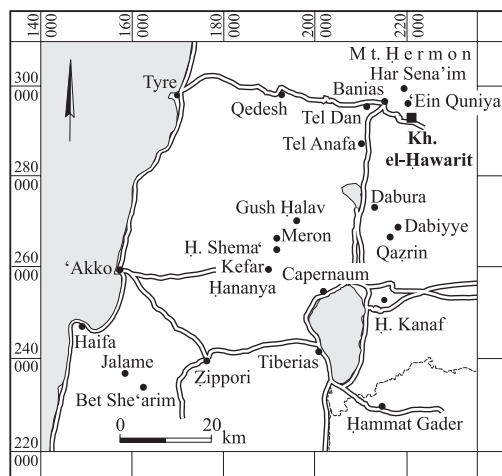
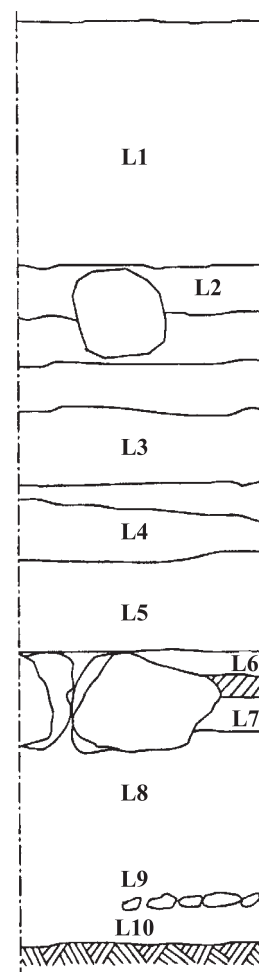


Fig. 1. Location map.

THE EXCAVATION

A limited salvage excavation was carried out in order to examine the destroyed terrace section.² A rectangular pit (2.5 × 9.0 m) was dug on a north–south axis, perpendicular to the terrace (Plan 2). The southern part of the pit (Loci 30, 32 and 40; 3.5 m in length) yielded only 5% of



Plan 1. Cross-section of the pottery heap.

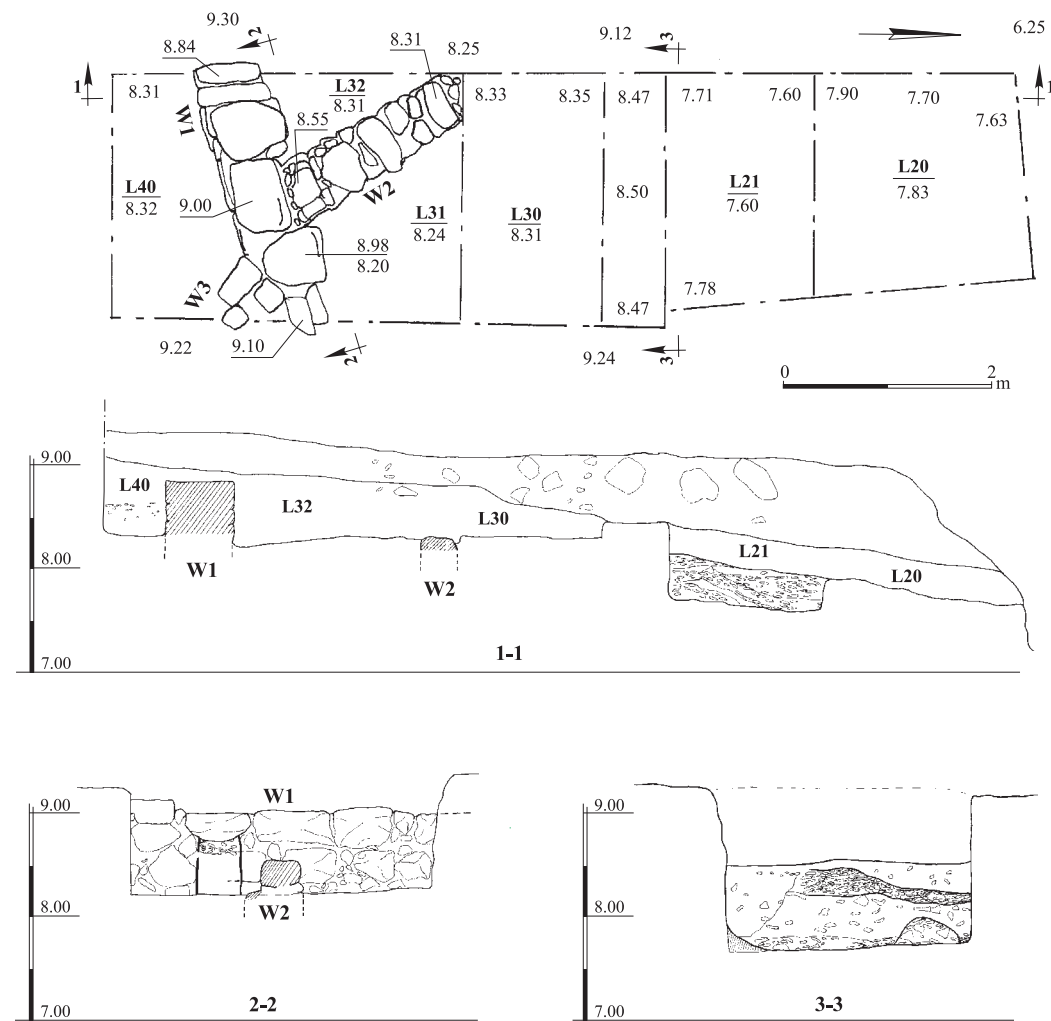
all the pottery recovered, and likely represents tumble from the main sherd mound (Table 1). The northern section was dug into the sherd pile (Loci 20, 21) and yielded 87% of all the pottery recovered from the site (Table 1).

A wall (W1), built of medium-sized stones (Plan 2: Section 2–2), was found in the southern section of the pit. It survived two courses high (0.7 m), abutted by a layer of soil rich in ash and charcoal, and a few sherds (L30). Another wall (W2), built of smaller stones and exposed to a height of two courses, was found on a lower level and at an angle to W1. Its upper course reached the level of the foundation of W1,

whereas the lower course continued beneath W1 (Plan 2: Section 1–1) and may therefore date earlier (see below). On the eastern side of W2 was a very compact, light colored soil (L31). The southern side of W1 was excavated

Table 1. Sherd Counts by Loci and Percentage of Total Assemblage

| Loci | N of Sherds | % of Total |
|------------|-------------|------------|
| 1–10 | 159 | 8 |
| 20–21 | 1775 | 87 |
| 30, 32, 40 | 112 | 5 |
| Total | 2046 | 100 |



Plan 2. Plan and sections.

down to its foundation (L40). The soil in L40 contained only a few sherds along with charcoal and bones.

The walls were built directly atop the terrace. It seems that thousands of pottery sherds mixed with ash, charcoal, bricks, soil, and stones were dumped downward. The sherds that were found in this dump belonged to vessels that had never been used, having been broken during their firing or shortly thereafter. Remarkably, only one sherd of a misfired vessel (waster) was found in the dump (Fig. 10:13). The dump sloped from southwest to northeast, although the various dumping directions of the sherds were not consistent (Plan 2: Sections 1–1, 3–3). The soil and ash layers between the sherd layers testify to a long period of use. Only the upper part of this mound of sherds was excavated (Loci 20, 21). Additional information regarding the mound's composition was drawn from the vertical section cut during the construction work (see Plan 1).

The character of the pottery found in the sherd dump indicated that this was the debris of a workshop. Vessels that had been broken in the firing process were thrown onto the slope together with kiln ash and bricks, presumably from kilns that were located somewhere in the vicinity, although no such kilns or workshops were actually found. The excavated walls were too fragmentary for a reconstruction of any building. Nevertheless, the sherd dump in itself enables us to identify the site of Kh. el-Hawarit as the major pottery production center of Mt. Hermon, Banias, and the northern Golan region.

The slopes of Mt. Hermon maintain all the necessities of pottery production. Near Kh. el-Hawarit are many small springs and suitable clay deposits, and Har Qet'a, just north of the site, was the source of the sandstone grits mixed with the clay. The oak and pistachia trees covering the western slope of Kh. el-Hawarit, certainly once covering the entire area, would have provided fuel for the kiln; remnants of wood, identified as pistachia, oak and cypress, were found in Loci 2, 20, and 30 together with European Olive pits (Table 2). The area's rich natural resources qualified

**Table 2. Botanic Remains
(after Lipshitz 1987)**

| Reg. No. | Locus | Botanic Remains |
|----------|-------|---------------------|
| 10/1 | 3 | Pistachia |
| 10/1 | 3 | European Olive pits |
| 20/1 | 20 | Oak |
| 56/1 | 20 | Pistachia |
| 46/1 | 30 | Cypress |
| 79/1 | 30 | European Olive pits |

it as a pottery production center during many periods, beginning with the Early Bronze Age (Greenberg and Porat 1996:18–19). Petrography analysis of some of the pottery sites, such as Kh. Zemel (mid-second century CE), Kh. Namra (mid-third century CE), and Bab el-Hawa (fourth–sixth centuries CE), are further evidence for pottery production on the slopes of Mt. Hermon (Porat 1989:147–150). The tradition of pottery making on the slopes of Mt. Hermon continues today in Rashayah el-Fukhar (presently in southeast Lebanon).

THE POTTERY

The sherd dump excavated at Kh. el-Hawarit contained pottery dating from the Late Roman through the Byzantine periods. Two distinct wares were found, both manufactured using the same sources of clay and temper (Porat 1989). The first, here termed Golan ware, is the earliest attested in the region. Production of this ware began in the late Hellenistic period (early to mid-second century BCE) and continued through the late Byzantine period (early seventh century CE). The second ware represented here is termed Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware, produced from the early third century (see below) until the mid-fifth century CE. A third ware, probably produced at Banias, was also found, termed Banias ware (see below).

Golan Ware

The Golan ware is very coarse, used primarily for the manufacture of large storage vessels, such as pithoi and basins. The ware is very hard

and in section ranges from lightly porous to gritty, to densely brickly. There are many small-to-medium, and occasionally large, white, red, and dark gray grits, though examples without red grits appear as well. The section color ranges from light pink-brown (2.5YR 6/6) to light yellow-brown (7.5YR 8/6). Most vessels have a thick gray core, indicating partial firing.

Khirbat el-Hawarit Cooking Ware

Khirbat el-Hawarit cooking ware is a much thinner and finer ware than the Golan ware, and the forms produced from it are very different as well. The majority of the ware was used to produce cooking vessels, such as cooking pots, casseroles and lids, though jugs, juglets, lamps, and a series of bowls are also present.

Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware is distinctive in that it is both hard and light in weight. Vessels are slightly chalky in texture and give off a metallic sound when flicked with the fingernail. There are many small- and few medium-sized white, red and black grits. Long narrow voids are visible in section and smaller ovoid voids are present on untreated surfaces. Fabric grits are also visible on untreated surfaces, which

are limited to the interior walls of the vessels. Exteriors were wet smoothed, reducing the number of visible grits and voids on the surface. Terminal edges, such as rims and handles, have a clean and crisp look that suggests tooling. Vessel walls are quite thin and often have a thin to medium gray core in section, though the gray core is absent where the walls are very thin. Section color ranges from light orange to a darker orange-red (2.5YR 6/6 to 5YR 7/6 and occasionally 7.5YR 8/6). Kiln blush is a common occurrence on the outer surfaces of all the vessel types. The range of color on the exterior of a single vessel is commonly wide, with kiln blush and general mottling of shades of orange. It is not uncommon to find over-fired vessels that are gray or black on all surfaces and bluish gray (7.5YR N6) in section.³

FORMS

Below are presented the descriptions of each type of the Kh. el-Hawarit, Golan and Banias wares recovered from the excavations of the sherd dump (Fig. 2). Most of the material is divided into two groups based on their total

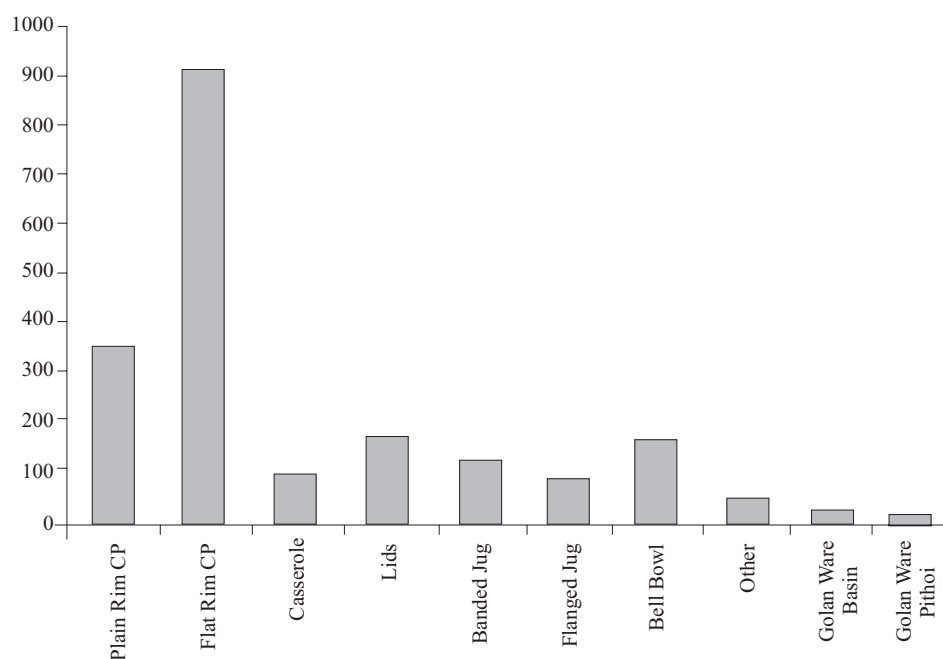


Fig. 2. Pottery types.

representation in the assemblage. The first is a group of Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware vessels found in such quantities that their manufacture in the immediate vicinity is assured, and therefore can be considered manufacturing debris. Manufacturing debris here is defined as any type that represents over 5% of the total assemblage from the dump (Table 3). These consist of two types of cooking pots (plain and flat rim; Figs. 3, 4), casseroles (Fig. 5) and lids (Fig. 6), two types of jugs (banded and flanged; Fig. 7), large bowls, here called bell bowls (Fig. 8), lamps (Fig. 9) and other vessels (Fig. 10). The second group consists of types that represent 1% or less of the total assemblage (juglets, bottle-necked jugs, ledge-rim bowls, phiale bowls, small basins, and Golan ware basins and pithoi; Figs. 11, 12). Included in the second group are singular examples (Banias ware) of forms found in the dump. These consist of six jugs, one jar, six bowls, one bottle, and seven miscellaneous decorated sherds (for the description of these vessels see Figs. 13, 14). The vessels were used and discarded at Kh. el-Hawarit, but probably produced in Banias.

Table 3. Type Counts and Percentages of Total Assemblage

| Type | N | % |
|------------------------------------|-----|------|
| <i>Kh. el-Hawarit Cooking Ware</i> | | |
| Plain-rim cooking pot | 361 | 18.0 |
| Flat-rim cooking pot | 921 | 45.0 |
| Carinated casserole | 108 | 5.0 |
| Casserole lid | 175 | 8.5 |
| Banded jug | 138 | 7.0 |
| Flanged jug | 102 | 5.0 |
| Bell bowl | 175 | 8.5 |
| <i>Golan Ware</i> | | |
| Basin | 28 | 1.0 |
| Pithoi | 17 | 1.0 |
| <i>Banias Ware</i> | | |
| Juglets | 9 | 0.4 |
| Bottle-necked jug | 2 | 0.1 |
| Phiale bowl | 3 | 0.1 |
| Ledge rim bowl | 6 | 0.3 |
| Small basin | 3 | 0.1 |

Khirbat el-Hawarit Cooking Ware

Flat-Rim Cooking Pot (Fig. 3).— This type has a piriform body and a high neck (generally 3.9–4.2 cm, though a small number have a shorter neck) that terminates in a beveled or flattened rim (diam. 10–16 cm) with a broad, shallow central groove. Two strap handles are attached from rim to shoulder. This type often carries a potter's mark on the neck in the shape of the letters V or N (V), and one example with many squiggles: (Fig. 3:7–11, 15). The walls of the neck are about 0.5 cm thick and the body walls are only 0.3 cm thick. Wheel ridging begins on the shoulders and likely covers the entire body. The wheel ridging on the shoulders is narrow and sharp edged, while wheel ridging on the main body is broader with rounder edges than on the shoulder. Toward the bottom of the cooking pot, the wheel ridging becomes narrow and sharp again. The flat-rim cooking pot is best represented in the Kh. el-Hawarit ware recovered from the dump (921 rim sherds; see Fig. 2).

A small number (4%) of flat-rim cooking pots have substantially shorter necks (2.1–2.8 cm), with a sharper central groove and a slight outward thickening at the top of the rim (Fig. 3:12–17). These differ from the standard flat-rim type, in which the rim has an inwardly thickened projection.

Comparisons: Bab el-Hawa (Hartal 2005: Fig. 126:9–12); Banias (Berlin 1999: Fig. 12:2, 3); Dabiyye (Killebrew 1991: Fig. 2:16, 17); Gush Halav (Meyers, Meyers and Strange 1990: Object Plate D.4); Har Sena'im (Dar 1993: Pl. 3:6, 24, 28, 30); Kh. Namra (Hartal 2005: Fig. 48:1–10); H. 'Omrit (references to H. 'Omrit in this article were provided by Nicholas Hudson, one of the excavators); Qazrin (Killebrew 1991:67); Tel Qedesh (references to Tel Qedesh in this article were provided by Andrea M. Berlin, co-director of the excavation).

Plain-Rim Cooking Pot (Fig. 4).— This type has a piriform body and a high vertical neck (3.1–3.8 cm). The neck walls end in a plain rounded point, generally maintaining the same thickness. Two ridged strap handles

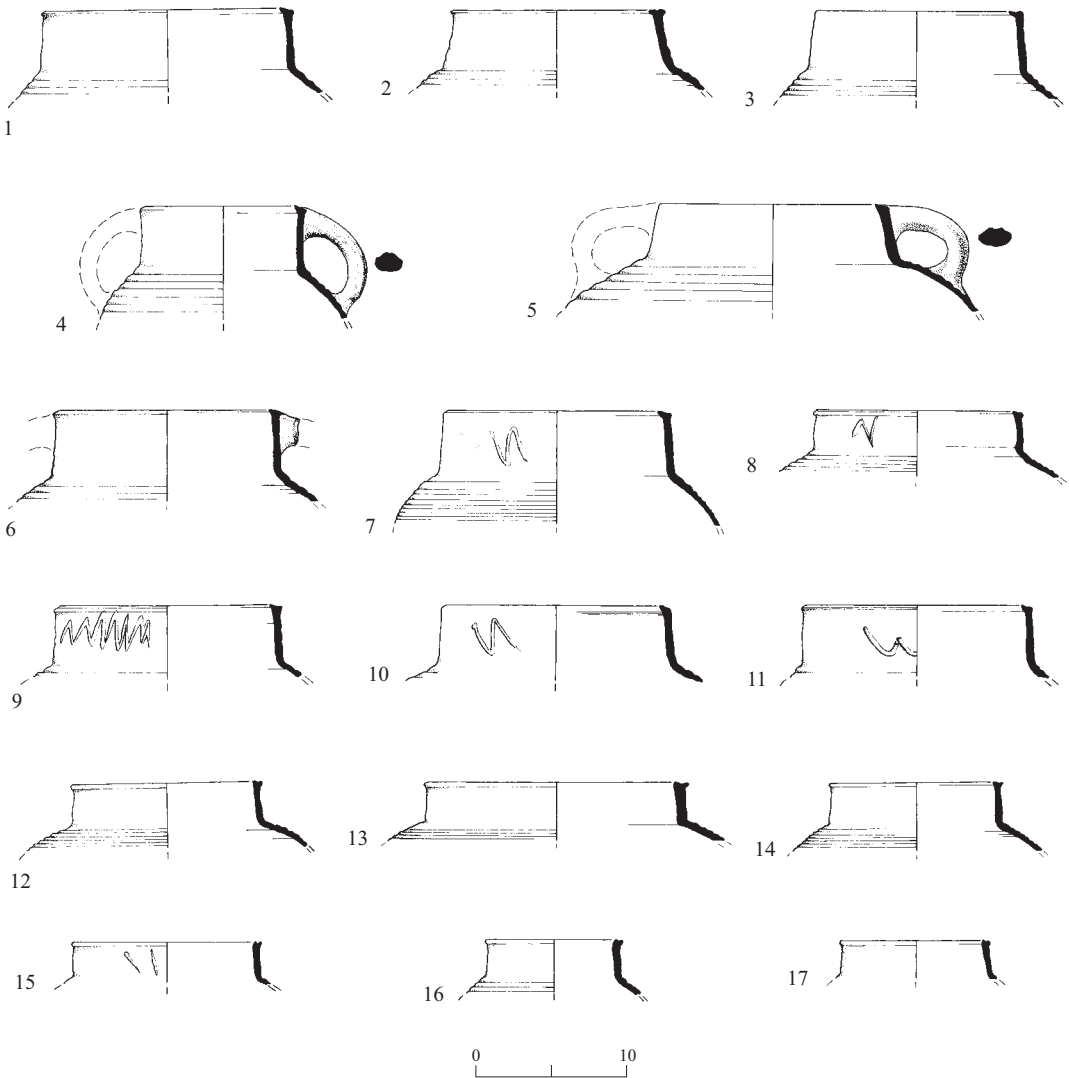


Fig. 3. Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware: flat-rim cooking pots.

| No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description | No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description |
|-----|---------------|-------|----------------------------|-----|---------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 1452/32/71/10 | 32 | 7.5YR 8/4 | 10 | 1452/20/29/19 | 20 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 2 | 1452/30/38/11 | 30 | 5YR 6/6 | 11 | 1452/21/73/20 | 21 | Solid gray core |
| 3 | 1452/21/74/12 | 21 | 10YR 7/6 | 12 | 1452/30 | - | 5YR 7/6, thin gray core |
| 4 | 1452/30/60/13 | 30 | 2.5YR 6/6 | 13 | 1452/3/2/31 | 3 | 7.5YR 6/6 |
| 5 | 1452/30/38/14 | 30 | 2.5YR 6/6, thick gray core | 14 | 1452/32/7/32 | 32 | 5YR 7/8, thin gray core |
| 6 | 1452/20/23/15 | 20 | Solid gray core | 15 | 1452/10/10/33 | 10 | Solid gray core |
| 7 | 1452/21/75/16 | 21 | 5YR 6/6, thin gray core | 16 | 1452/32/71/34 | 32 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 8 | 1452/10/10/17 | 10 | 2.5YR 6/6 | 17 | 1452/32/71/35 | 32 | 5YR 6/6 |
| 9 | 1452/18 | - | 5YR 7/6 | | | | |

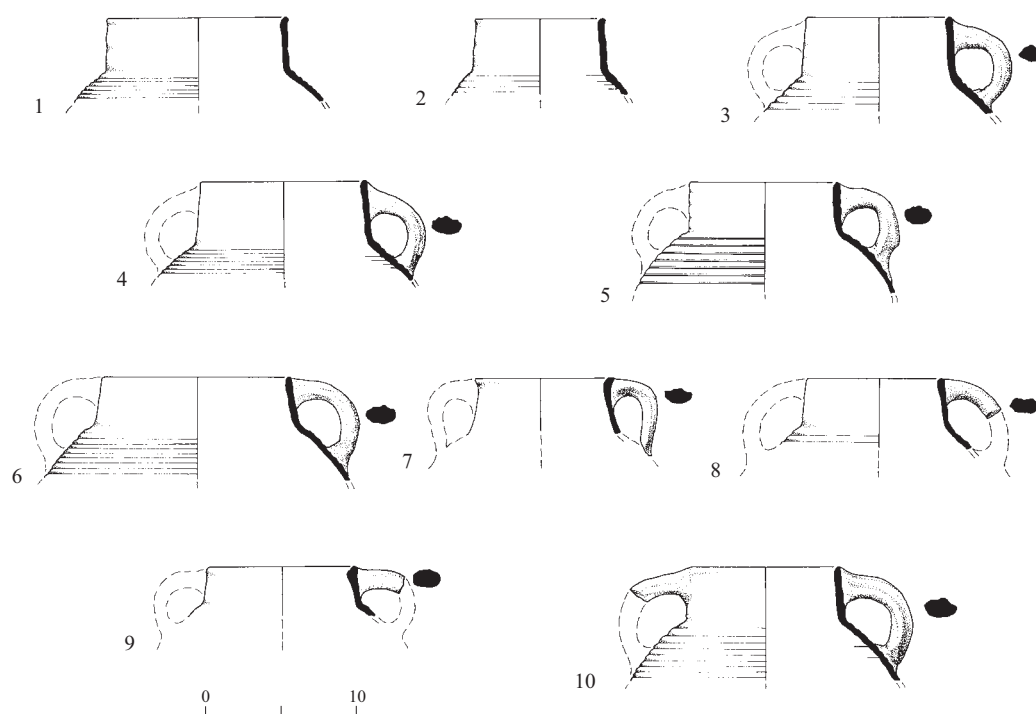


Fig. 4. Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware: plain-rim cooking pots.

| No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description | No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description |
|-----|---------------|-------|---------------------------|-----|----------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 1452/21/72/21 | 21 | 2.5YR 6/8, thin gray core | 6 | 1452/26 | - | 5YR 6/4 |
| 2 | 1452/30/21/22 | 30 | 5YR 7/6, thick gray core | 7 | 1452/10/7/27 | 10 | 2.5YR 6/6 |
| 3 | 1452/21/75/23 | 21 | 5YR 7/6 | 8 | 1452/20/53/28 | 20 | 5YR 6/8 |
| 4 | 1452/21/75/24 | 21 | 7.5YR 7/6 | 9 | 452/21/67/29 | 21 | 5YR 7/4 |
| 5 | 1452/21/75/24 | 21 | 2.5YR 6/6 | 10 | 1452/20/35/136 | 20 | 5YR 7/6 |

extend from rim to shoulder. Fine wheel ridges encircle the shoulder. Wheel ridging on the plain-rim cooking pots is similar to that on the flat-rim cooking pots: sharp and narrow on the shoulders, broad and rounded on the body, sharp and narrow again toward the bottom.

Small variations occur within this type. Rim diameters range between 8 and 12 cm; one pot has a rim that flares slightly outward so that the rim diameter is larger than the mouth of the vessel (Fig. 4:7). Another has an inwardly thickened rim, and a (relatively) shorter neck (2.7 cm; Fig. 4:8). The overall similarity in shape and minor variations in size suggest a single workshop managed by several potters.

Comparisons: Bab el-Hawa (Hartal 2005: Fig. 126:13); Banias (Berlin 1999: Fig. 12:2); Gush Halav (Meyers, Strange and Groh 1978: Fig. 17.6; no fabric description given); Har Sena'im (Dar 1993: Pl. 3:20, 22).

Carinated Casserole (Fig. 5).— This type is a wide, open bowl with a bend, or carination in the lower wall. The rim is essentially the upper terminus of the wall, which the potter finished off with an angled slice, creating a sharp inwardly beveled edge. This sliced rim is often rough; it may have been cut down during the leather hard stage, and it seems not to have been smoothed after cutting. Two horizontal strap

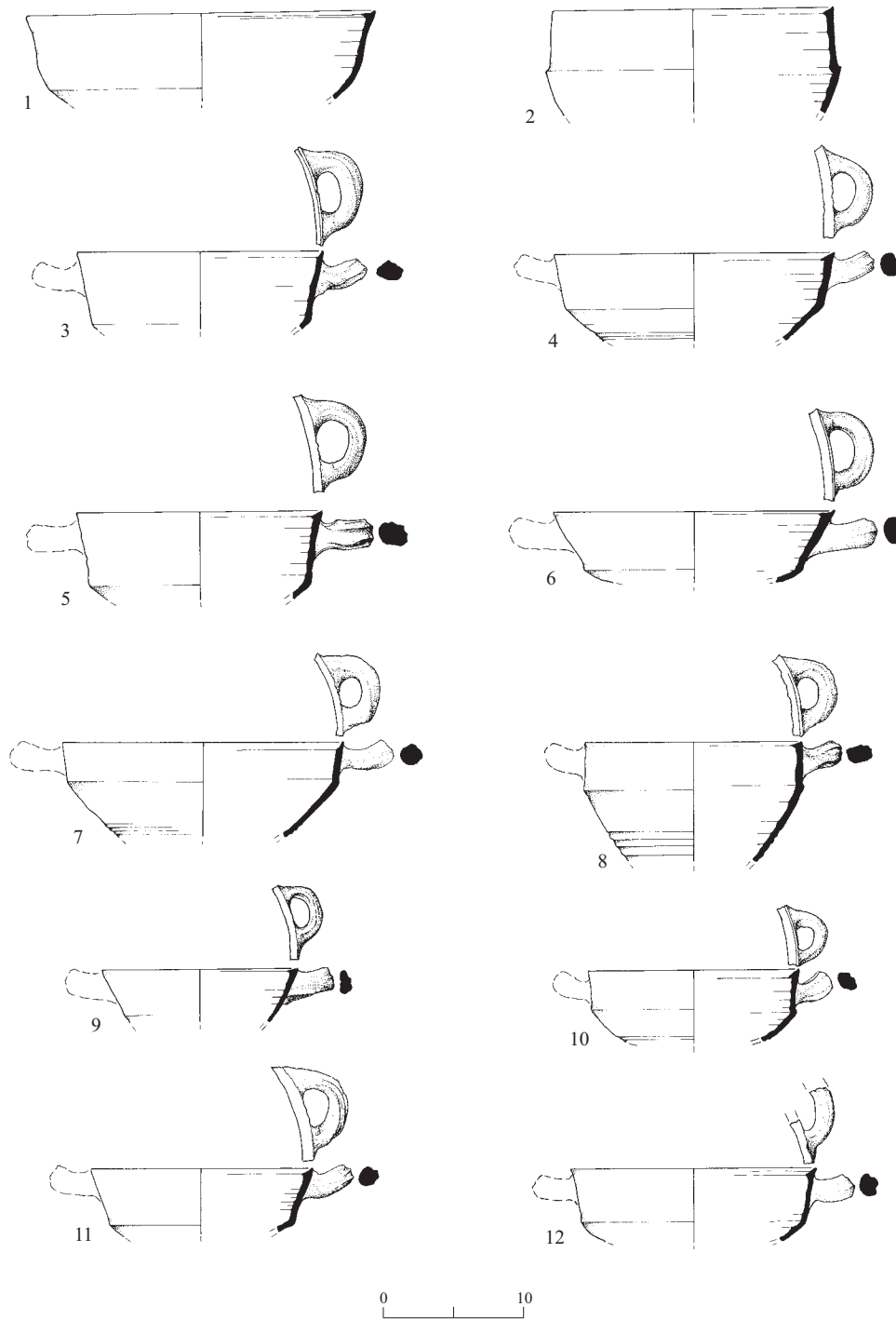


Fig. 5. Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware: carinated casseroles.

◀ Fig. 5

| No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description |
|-----|---------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1452/20/49/71 | 20 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 2 | 1452/20/47/73 | 20 | 5YR 7/8 |
| 3 | 1452/21/75/74 | 21 | 5YR 7/8, thick gray core |
| 4 | 1452/20/29/75 | 20 | 5YR 6/6, thick gray core |
| 5 | 1452/21/75/76 | 21 | 5YR 5/4, thick gray core |
| 6 | 1452/3/2/77 | 3 | 5YR 6/6, thick metallic gray core |
| 7 | 1452/3/2/78 | 3 | 5YR 7/6, thick gray core |
| 8 | 1452/20/50/79 | 20 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 9 | 1452/80 | - | 2.5YR 6/6 |
| 10 | 1452/81 | - | 7.5YR 6/4, thick gray core |
| 11 | 1452/20/17/82 | 20 | 5YR 7/8 |
| 12 | 1452/21/72/83 | 21 | 5YR 7/6 |

handles are attached to the rim or just below it. The size and proportions of these casseroles vary widely. Diameters range between 13 and 22 cm, and the point of carination varies so that the upper wall above the carination stands between 2.3 and 5.2 cm high. There is no apparent correlation between rim diameter and wall heights. On some vessels there is a slight bump, or ridge, at the point of carination (Fig. 5:2, 3, 5, 6, 10–12). Some casseroles are large (Fig. 5:1–3, 7, 8), and others small (Fig. 5:9–12). The deep casseroles have heavy wheel ridging around the bottom (Fig. 5:7, 8).

Comparisons: Bab el-Hawa (Hartal 2005: Fig. 129:4–8); Banias (Berlin 1999: Fig. 12:7, 8); Har Sena'im (Dar 1993: Pl. 3, Fig. 31); Kh. Namra (Hartal 2005: Fig. 48:11–15).

Lids (Fig. 6).— The lids produced at Kh. el-Hawarit were designed to cover the carinated

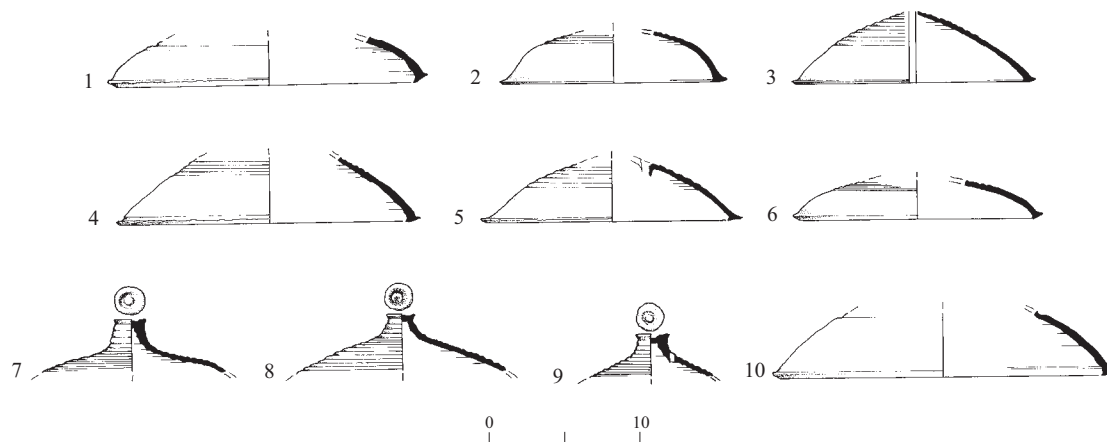


Fig. 6. Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware: casserole lids.

| No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description | No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description |
|-----|--------------|-------|--------------------------|-----|---------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | 1452/3/2/1 | 3 | 5YR 8/3 | 6 | 1452/21/75/6 | 21 | 5YR 7/6, thin gray core |
| 2 | 1452/20/23/2 | 20 | 5YR 7/6 | 7 | 1452/30/41/7 | 30 | Banded section: 5YR 7/6 and 7.5YR 7/8 |
| 3 | 1452/30/41/3 | 30 | 7.5YR 7/6 | 8 | 1452/8 | - | 2.5YR N5 (over-fired) |
| 4 | 1452/4 | - | 2.5YR 6/6 | 9 | 1452/30/21/9 | 30 | 5YR 7/4 |
| 5 | 1452/21/73/5 | 21 | 5YR 7/8 | 10 | 1452/20/4/135 | 20 | 7.5YR 7/6, thin gray core |

casseroles. They were first made by building a closed top on the casserole, and then cutting it off with a string or a blade while the vessel was still on the wheel. This way, each casserole had a matching lid of the same diameter.⁴ Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware lids are shallow, with

a small concave knob (1.25–1.75 cm high). The wall carries even, narrowly-spaced wheel ridging from knob to mid-wall. *Comparisons:* Bab el-Hawa (Hartal 2005: Fig. 130:8); Banias (Berlin 1999: Fig. 12:6); Kh. Namra (Hartal 2005: Fig. 47:16–20).

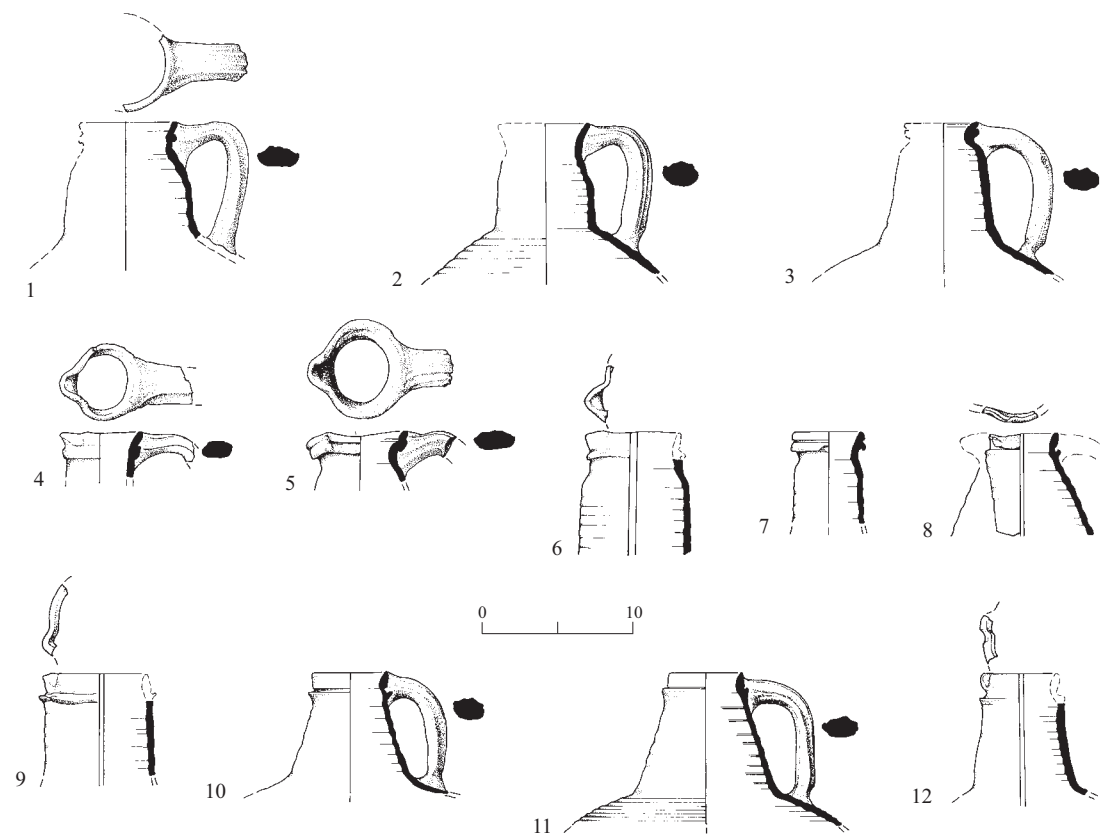


Fig. 7. Kh. el-Hawarit Cooking Ware: Banded Rim and Flanged Rim Jugs.

| No. | Vessel | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|-------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Banded rim jug | 1452/85 | - | 7.5YR 6/6 |
| 2 | Banded rim jug | 1452/20/30/87 | 20 | 7.5YR 7/6 |
| 3 | Banded rim jug | 1452/86 | - | 10YR 8/4 |
| 4 | Banded rim jug | 1452/3/2/88 | 3 | 7.5YR 7/4 |
| 5 | Banded rim jug | 1452/89 | - | 5YR 7/6 |
| 6 | Banded rim jug | 1452/20/49/103 | 20 | 5YR 6/6 |
| 7 | Banded rim jug | 1452/21/65/84 | 21 | 5YR 6/6 |
| 8 | Flanged rim jug | 1452/20/23/90 | 20 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 9 | Flanged rim jug | 1452/21/75/91 | 21 | 7.5YR 7/4 |
| 10 | Flanged rim jug | 1452/21/72/92 | 21 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 11 | Flanged rim jug | 1452/93 | - | Solid gray core |
| 12 | Flanged rim jug | 1452/21/72/102 | 21 | 2.5YR 6/6 |

Banded Rim Jugs (Fig. 7:1–7).— The jug has a tall neck (about 8 cm), narrow mouth (diam. 4–5 cm), and a pinched spout. A thickened band encircles the neck just below the rim, sometimes set off by a narrow groove. A single thick strap handle extends from rim to shoulder. Shallow wheel ridging begins just below the handle. No complete examples are known.

Comparisons: Bab el-Hawa (Hartal 2005: Fig. 133:10, 11); Kh. Namra (Hartal 2005: Fig. 49:13); H. ‘Omrit.

Flanged Jugs (Fig. 7:8–12).— This type has a tall neck (c. 8 cm), a narrow mouth (diam. c.

4 cm) and a small pinched spout. The rim is slightly thickened, and has a thin, but distinct, upwardly flaring flange at the lower edge. A single strap handle attached at the rim or just below it, extends to the shoulder. Light wheel ridging begins at the shoulder. No complete examples are known.

Comparisons: Bab el-Hawa (Hartal 2005: Fig. 133:9); Kh. Namra (Hartal 2005: Fig. 49:14); H. ‘Omrit.

Bell Bowls (Fig. 8).— Broad, deep and carinated bowls, with a profile reminiscent of an upside-down bell. The rim is the outwardly thickened

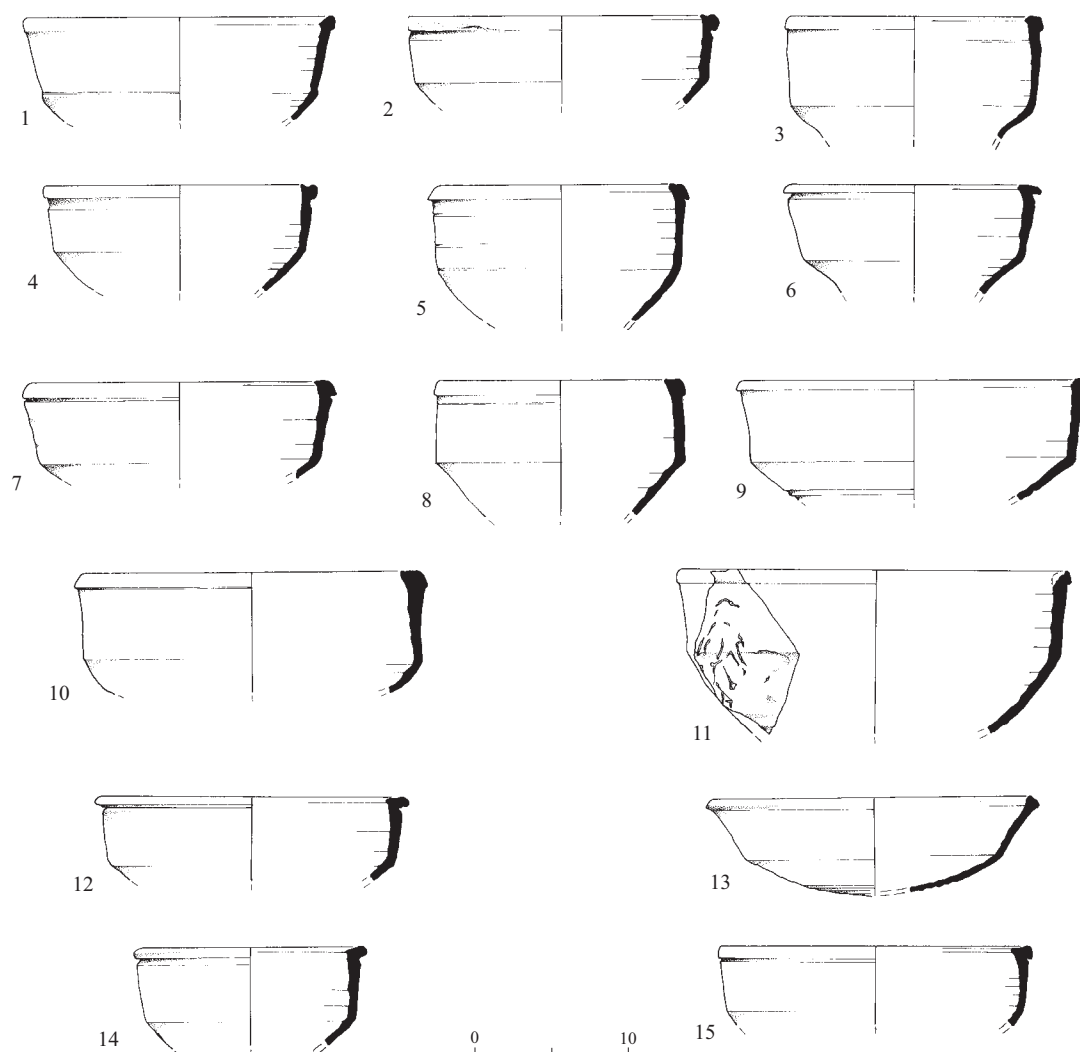


Fig. 8. Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware: bell bowls.

◀ Fig. 8

| No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description |
|-----|----------------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 | 1452/20/27/72 | 20 | 5YR 6/6, thick gray core |
| 2 | 1452/21/75/107 | 21 | 7.5YR 7/6 |
| 3 | 1452/108 | - | 5YR 6/6 |
| 4 | 1452/21/76/109 | 21 | Gray section with pink core, 5YR 7/4 |
| 5 | 1452/111 | - | 7.5YR 7/6 |
| 6 | 1452/112 | - | 5YR 6/6 |
| 7 | 1452/21/65/113 | 21 | 5YR 7/6, thick gray core |
| 8 | 1452/20/30/114 | 20 | 5YR 7/4, thin pink core 5YR 7/6 |
| 9 | 1452/30/60/115 | 30 | 5YR 6/6 |
| 10 | 1452/20/47/116 | 20 | 5YR 6/6 |
| 11 | 1452/117 | - | 5YR 6/6 |
| 12 | 1452/20/19/118 | 20 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 13 | 1452/21/74/119 | 21 | 2.5YR 6/6 |
| 14 | 1452/21/74/120 | 21 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 15 | 1452/21/74/127 | 21 | 2.5YR 5/4 |

terminus of the upper wall, and is either square or half-rounded in section. Occasionally the rim is slightly undercut on the exterior. There are no handles, but the thickened rim would provide a grip when carrying a full vessel. Rim diameters range between 14 and 21 cm; the upper walls above the point of carination are between 4 and 5.8 cm. The lower walls, below the carination, either slope steeply downward, creating a deep dish (Fig. 8:3–6, 8, 11, 14), or turn inward to create a shallow bottom (Fig. 8:9, 10, 12).

Comparisons: Banias (Berlin 1999: Fig. 11:1).

Lamps and Miscellaneous Forms (Figs. 9, 10).— In addition to the better attested forms found in the sherd dump at Kh. el-Hawarīt, a small number of Kh. el-Hawarīt cooking ware lamps (Fig. 9) were found, as well as unidentified or otherwise miscellaneous forms (Fig. 10). Lamps appeared either as saucer or ovoid-shaped (Northern Stamped Lamps), and the miscellaneous forms were either unidentifiable or too few in number to qualify as specific types.

Golan Ware

Large Basins (Fig. 11).— These are large handmade basins with nearly vertical walls and a wide mouth (diam. 46–58 cm) with a

flattened, inwardly thickened rim. Two heavy vertical handles extend from the rim to about 14 cm down the vessel wall. The base is thick (1.5 cm) and flat, meeting the walls at almost a ninety-degree angle. Horizontal zigzags are sometimes incised on the upper walls (Fig. 11:1, 2, 6).

Comparisons: Bab el-Hawa (Hartal 2005: Figs. 145, 146); Banias (Israeli, forthcoming; Magness, forthcoming); H. 'Omrit.

Pithoi (Fig. 12).— This type is a large handmade pithos with a narrow mouth (diam. 9–14 cm). The rim is simply the finished edge of the wall. A narrow ridge marks the line where neck and shoulder meet. Below this ridge are two short, vertical strap handles (Fig. 12:11–13). At the bottom is a solid twisted toe (Fig. 12:14–16). Golan ware pithoi are attested from the second century BCE to the Byzantine period, the vessel with the longest duration among the Mt. Hermon and northern Golan types (Hartal 2005:263–269, Fig. 172, Maps 4, 8–11).

Comparisons: Bab el-Hawa (Hartal 2005: Figs. 140, 141, 143, 144); Banias (Hartal, forthcoming; Israeli, forthcoming); Kh. Namra (Hartal 2005: Fig. 51); H. 'Omrit; Mt. Hermon (Dar 1993: Pl. 5:4–9).

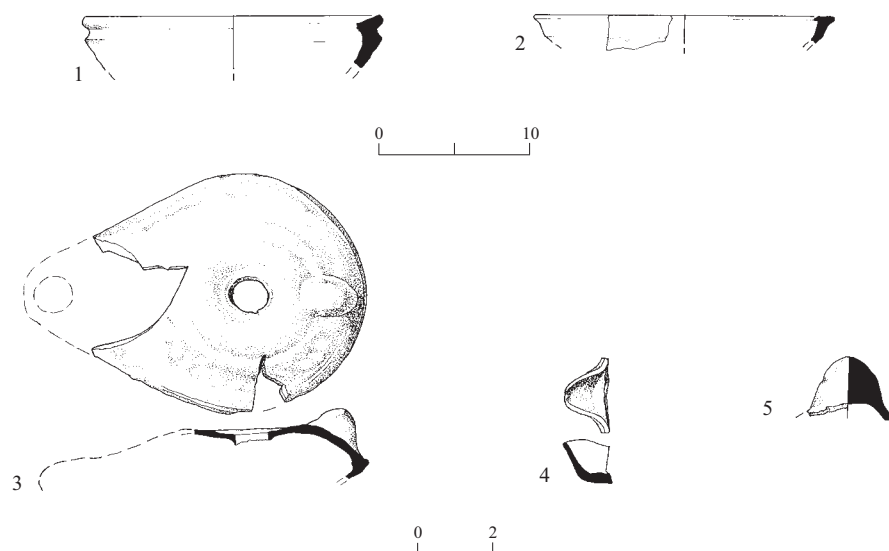


Fig. 9. Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware lamps.

| No. | Vessel | Reg. No. | Locus |
|-----|---|----------------|-------|
| 1 | Saucer lamp, delta rim (Berlin 1999: Fig. 10.4) | 1452/8/10/138 | 8 |
| 2 | Saucer lamp, small ledge rim | 1452/10/11/139 | 10 |
| 3 | Lamp, folded nozzle | 1452/2/2/140 | 2 |
| 4 | Lamp, ovoid body, small filling hole | 1452/30/11/141 | 30 |
| 5 | Lamp, pyramidal handle | 1452/30/57/142 | 30 |

Fig. 10 ►

| No. | Vessel | Reg. No. | Locus |
|-----|---|----------------|-------|
| 1 | Bowl, simple rounded rim | 1452/20/7/155 | 20 |
| 2 | Bowl, pie-crust rim, herringbone decoration | 1452/20/14/144 | 20 |
| 3 | Bowl, thickened rim, small hanging lip | 1452/30/42/156 | 30 |
| 4 | Body sherd, fine herringbone decoration | 1452/40/61/145 | 40 |
| 5 | Body sherd, heavy herringbone decoration | 1452/20/19/146 | 20 |
| 6 | Body sherd, wedge-shaped notches | 1452/40/85/147 | 40 |
| 7 | Base | 1452/20/36/150 | 20 |
| 8 | Base | 1452/20/40/151 | 20 |
| 9 | Base | 1452/152 | - |
| 10 | Lantern(?), fine herringbone decoration | 1452/21/65/162 | 21 |
| 11 | Jar, thickened square rim | 1452/21/68/137 | 21 |
| 12 | Bottle, simple rim, small flange on neck | 1452/20/73/160 | 20 |
| 13 | Waster of four body sherds | 1452/164 | - |

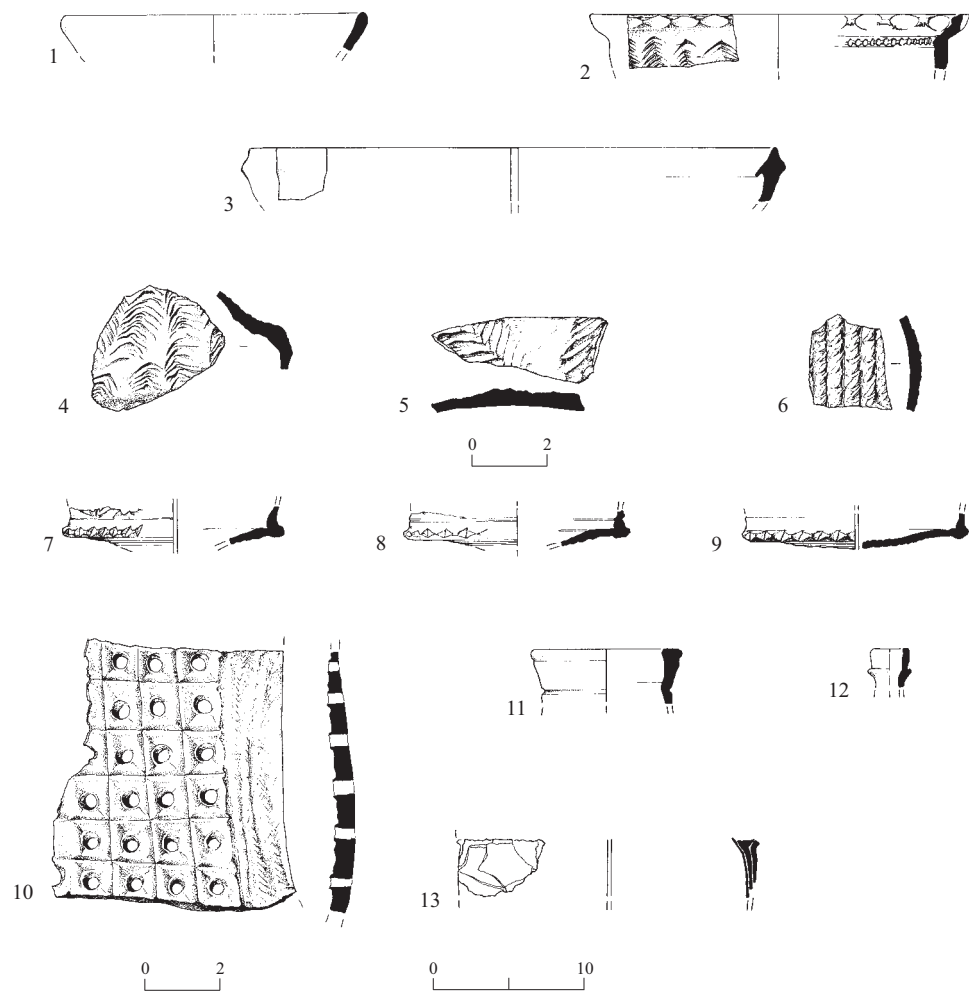


Fig. 10. Miscellaneous Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware vessels.

Fig. 11 ▶

| No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Decoration |
|-----|---------------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1452/62 | - | 5YR 7/3 zigzag decoration on body |
| 2 | 1452/21/76/63 | 21 | 5YR 5/6 zigzag decoration on body |
| 3 | 1452/21/76/65 | 21 | 5YR 6/4 |
| 4 | 1452/30/21/67 | 30 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 5 | 1452/21/74/68 | 21 | 2.5YR 6/8 |
| 6 | 1452/21/76/69 | 21 | 5YR 6/4 zigzag decoration on body |
| 7 | 1452/70 | - | 7.5YR 7/4 |

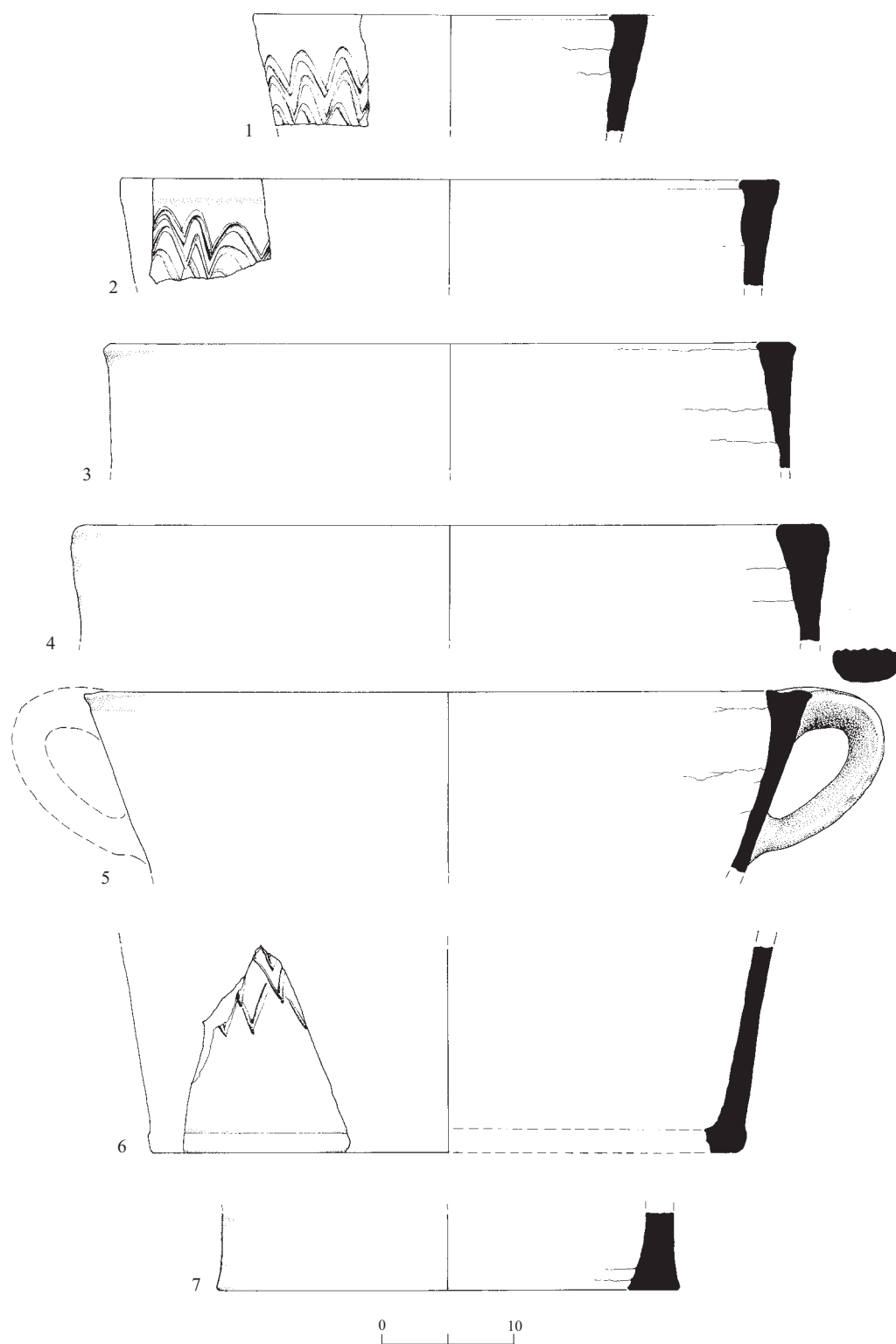


Fig. 11. Golan ware: large basins.

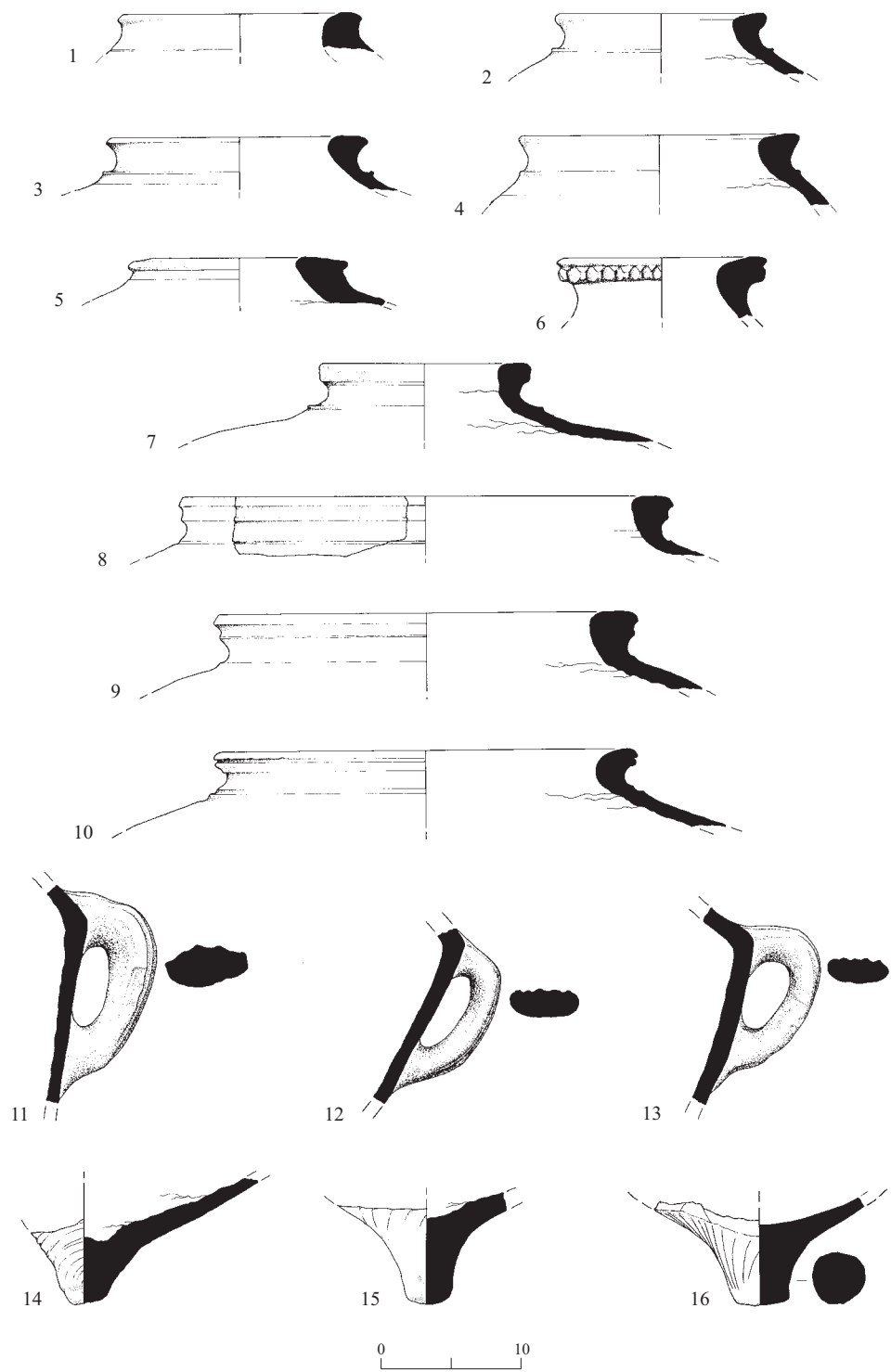


Fig. 12. Golan ware: pithoi.

◀ Fig. 12

| No. | Reg. No. | Locus | Munsell/Core Description |
|-----|-------------------|-------|--|
| 1 | 1452/3/2/45 | 3 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 2 | 1452/21/75/50 | 21 | 2.5YR 5/4, slipped exterior 10YR 6/1 |
| 3 | 1452/21/76/48 | 21 | 5YR 7/6 |
| 4 | 1452/40/81/49 | 40 | 2.5YR 6/6 |
| 5 | 1452/3/2/47 | 3 | 5YR 5/6 |
| 7 | 1452/30/38/46 | 30 | 5YR 5/6, thick gray core |
| 9 | 1452/51 | - | 5YR 6/6, pie-crust rim |
| 10 | 1452/21/74//52-53 | 21 | 7.5YR 6/4, grooved rim |
| 11 | 1452/2/2/55 | 2 | 5YR 6/6 |
| 12 | 1452/21/74/56 | 21 | 5YR 5/3 |
| 13 | 1452/5/5/57 | 5 | Solid gray core, slipped exterior 10YR 7/3 |
| 14 | 1452/30/11/58 | 30 | 5YR 6/8, twisted decoration, slipped exterior 10YR 7/3 |
| 15 | 1452/20/29/59 | 20 | 5YR 5/8, dark gray-brown core, twisted decoration |
| 16 | 1452/21/74/60 | 21 | 5YR 6/6, twisted decoration, slipped exterior 5YR 7/2 |

Banias Ware

The vessels presented in Figs. 13, 14 were found in small quantities (see Table 3). Most of them are common at Banias and they were apparently produced there.

Flanged-Rim Jugs.— This type of jug has an anchor-shaped rim that is usually pinched opposite the handle in order to facilitate the pouring of liquid. A handle extends from rim to shoulder, the neck is long (Fig. 13:2, 8) or short (Fig. 13:1, 6) and the body is ribbed.

Comparisons: Banias (third to fifth centuries; Berlin, forthcoming: Nos. 213, 214, 290, 291; Israeli, forthcoming).

Bottle-Necked Jugs.— This type has an everted rim and a tall narrow neck. Two jugs of this type (Fig. 13:4, 7) were found at Kh. el-Hawarit. Similar jugs were uncovered at Banias, produced from indigenous clay (Berlin, forthcoming: No. 252).

Plain-Rim Juglets.— This is a piriform juglet that has a plain rim, smooth neck, ribbed body and a rope-cut disc base. A handle extends from the rim to the shoulder (Fig. 13:11–19). These juglets are common at Banias, on Mt. Hermon and in the northern Golan.

Comparisons: Har Sena'im (Dar 1993: Pl. 4:8); Kh. Namra (third century CE; Hartal 2005: Fig. 49:3); Banias ('Temple-Tomb of the Sacred Goats', dated from the third to the fifth centuries CE—Berlin, forthcoming: No. 182; Areas B and D, dated from the end of the second century to the third century CE, and Area F, 'The Street of the Burnt Shops', dated to the end of the fourth—beginning of the fifth centuries CE—Israeli, forthcoming: Fig. 7.11).

Ledge-Rim Bowls.— These are deep bowls that have a narrow ledge rim (Fig. 14:1–6). Six bowls were discovered at Kh. el-Hawarit; however, they were not found at Banias. They were probably manufactured at Kh. el-Hawarit or at another workshop.

Phiale Bowl.— This type of bowl has a plain rim and a gentle side, decorated with a row of dimples (Fig. 14:9). Three bowls were found at Kh. el-Hawarit. Similar bowls were found at Banias, made of indigenous clay. The bowls were dated from the mid-third century to the end of the fourth century CE (Berlin 1999: Fig. 11:7; forthcoming: No. 242).

Basins.— These vessels have a flat rim that is decorated with a wavy (Fig. 14:11, 12) or

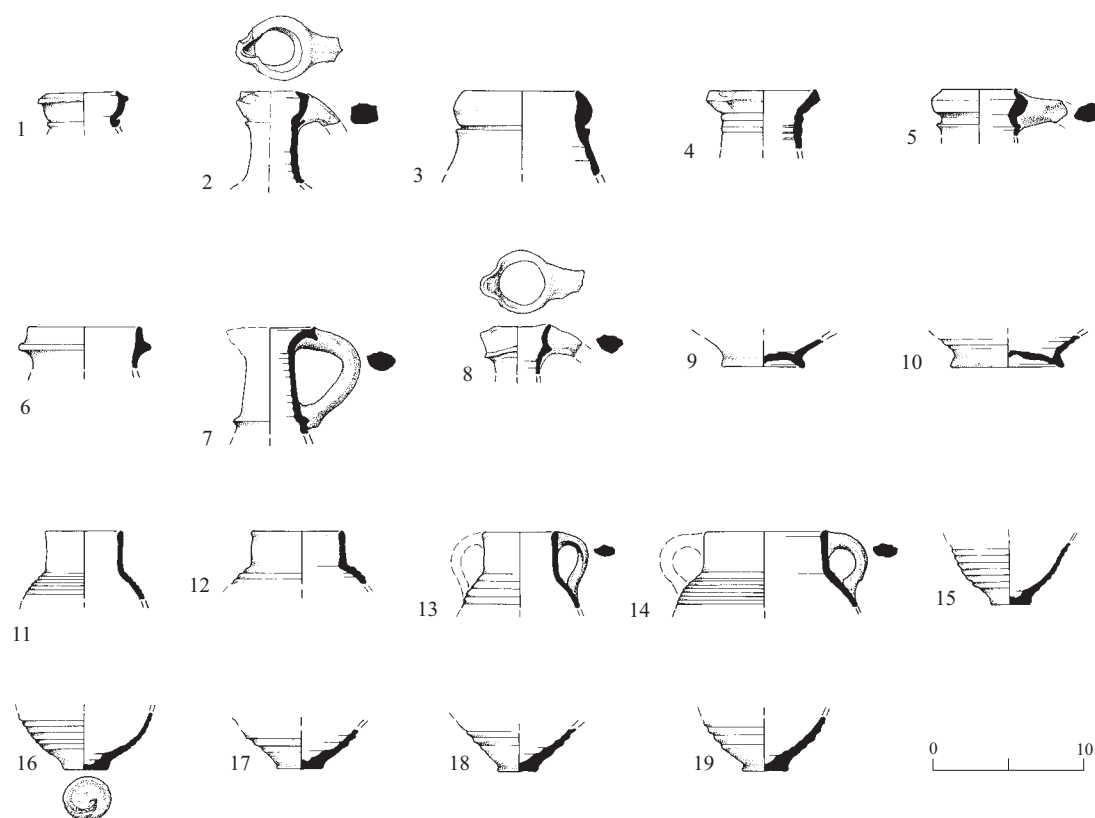


Fig. 13. Baniyas ware: jugs and juglets.

| No. | Vessel | Reg. No. | Locus |
|-----|--|----------------|-------|
| 1 | Bottle-necked jug, cup rim | 1452/99 | - |
| 2 | Bottle-necked jug, cup rim, pinched spout | 1452/20/7/100 | 20 |
| 3 | Jug, thickened rim | 1452/21/69/94 | 21 |
| 4 | Jug, outwardly turned rim | 1452/30/21/95 | 30 |
| 5 | Jug, banded rim and narrow ring around neck | 1452/21/74/97 | 21 |
| 6 | Jug, thick ring below rim | 1452/40/62/98 | 40 |
| 7 | Jug, everted rim | 1452/101 | - |
| 8 | Jug, pinched spout and narrow ring around neck | 1452/20/4/104 | 20 |
| 9 | Jug, ring foot | 1452/40/81/105 | 40 |
| 10 | Jug, false ring foot | 1452/30/21/106 | 30 |
| 11 | Juglet, simple rim | 1452/21/74/36 | 21 |
| 12 | Juglet, simple rim | 1452/21/70/37 | 21 |
| 13 | Juglet, simple rim, thin strap handle | 1452/20/40/38 | 20 |
| 14 | Juglet, simple rim, thick strap handle | 1452/21/74/39 | 21 |
| 15 | Juglet, stump base, heavy kiln blush | 1452/20/19/40 | 20 |
| 16 | Juglet, stump base | 1452/21/74/41 | 21 |
| 17 | Juglet, stump base, heavy kiln blush | 1452/42 | - |
| 18 | Juglet, stump base, kiln blush | 1452/30/21/43 | 30 |
| 19 | Juglet, stump base | 1452/21/72/44 | 21 |

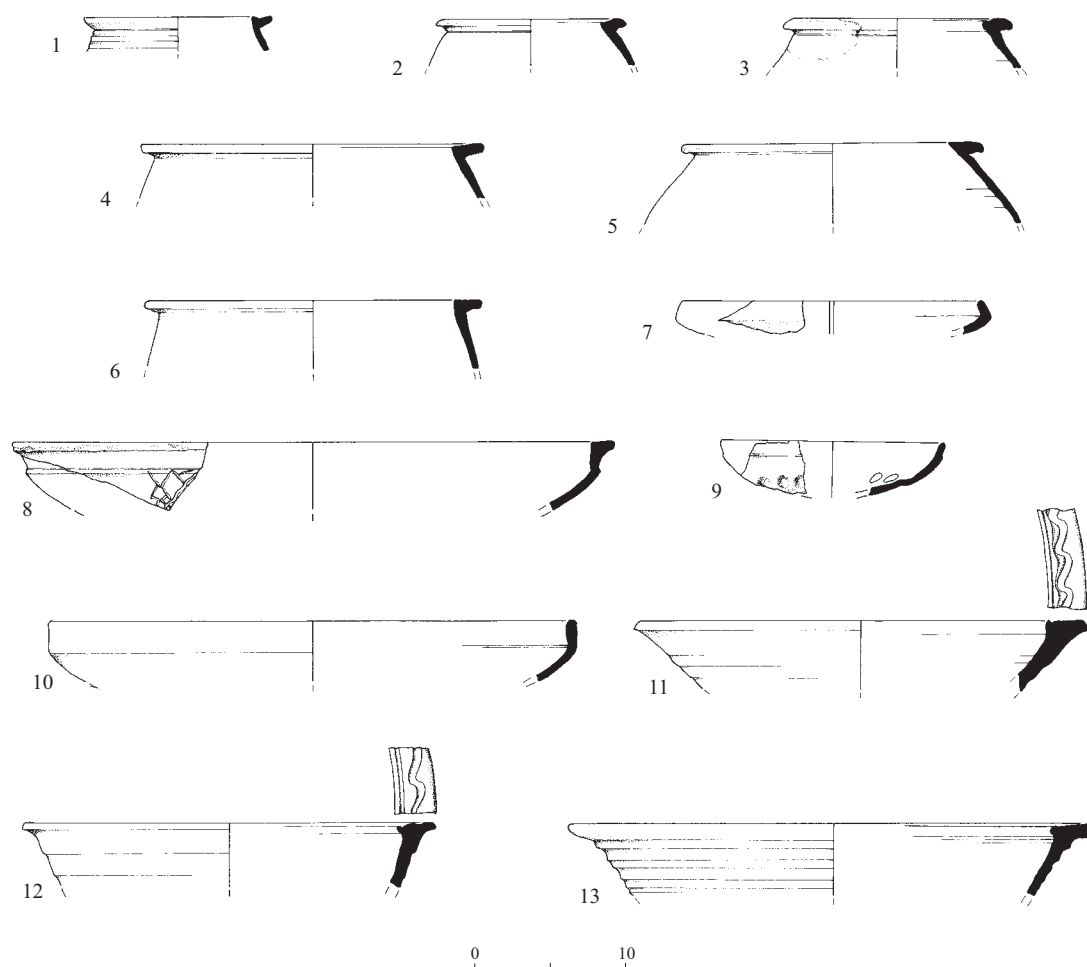


Fig. 14. Baniyas ware: bowls.

| No. | Object | Reg. No. | Locus |
|-----|--|----------------|-------|
| 1 | Bowl, short angled rim | 1452/40/81/127 | 40 |
| 2 | Bowl, short ledge rim | 1452/123 | - |
| 3 | Bowl, short ledge rim, narrow groove | 1452/125 | - |
| 4 | Bowl, short ledge rim | 1452/20/23/12 | 20 |
| 5 | Bowl, short ledge rim | 1452/122 | - |
| 6 | Bowl, short ledge rim | 1452/21/75/126 | 21 |
| 7 | Bowl, inverted rim, kiln blush | 1452/21/76/129 | 21 |
| 8 | Carinated bowl, short ledge rim, incised decoration | 1452/130 | - |
| 9 | Phiale, plain rim, stamped decoration on body (cf. Berlin 1999: Fig. 7–9, in Baniyas ware) | 1452/20/36/131 | |
| 10 | Bowl, simple rim | 1452/30/12/128 | 30 |
| 11 | Basin, thick horizontal ledge rim with zigzag decoration on top, over-fired | 1452/21/70/132 | |
| 12 | Basin, thick horizontal ledge rim with small inner lip and zigzag decoration on top | 1452/21/69/134 | |
| 13 | Basin, thick horizontal ledge rim and heavy wheel ridges on body | 1452/20/23/133 | 20 |

smooth (Fig. 14:13) line. Three basins were found at the site, similar but not identical to the basins that were produced at Banias (Berlin, forthcoming; Nos. 319–321).

Chronology and Distribution

Khirbat el-Hawarit Cooking Ware

The earliest dated context known so far, in which vessels made of Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware have been found, is at the Sanctuary of Pan at Banias. A small group of these vessels, along with a coin of Julia Maesa (220 CE), were excavated under the floor of the central hall of the Tripartite Building.⁵ Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware is therefore attested by the early third century CE. West of the Tripartite Building lay the Nemesis Court, probably constructed during the second half of the second century CE. While only a small amount of ceramic material was excavated from beneath the Nemesis Court paving, none of the vessels recovered were made of Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware. These two contexts, taken together, suggest that production of Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware began around the end of the second, or beginning of the third, century CE (Berlin 1999:36).

The distribution of Kh. el-Hawarit ware is generally limited to the Paneas district. Based on present knowledge, the largest concentrations of Kh. el-Hawarit ware occur in the north, closest to the production center, such as at Banias, Kh. Namra, H. 'Omrit, and on the foothills of Mt. Hermon (Hartal 2005: Map 5). Kh. el-Hawarit ware appears at the Sanctuary of Pan at Banias (see above) and at Kh. Namra in the third century CE, and is also present at Banias in late fourth–early fifth centuries CE contexts. It is likely that Kh. el-Hawarit cooking ware remained in production at least until the sanctuary was deserted in the mid-fifth century CE (Berlin 1999:41). At H. 'Omrit, Kh. el-Hawarit ware is attested in the early Byzantine phase, dated around the end of the fourth–early fifth centuries CE. In the central Golan, Kh. el-Hawarit ware is not attested

in contexts predating the second half of the fourth century CE. At Dabiyye, several flat-rim cooking pots were found beneath the synagogue floor along with nearly 700 coins, the latest of which dates to 408 CE (Killebrew 1991:67). At neighboring Qazrin, “large amounts” of Kh. el-Hawarit ware vessels were recovered from well stratified contexts dating to the second half of the fourth century CE (Killebrew 1991:67).

Banias Ware

In addition to the workshop at Kh. el-Hawarit, northern Israel was home to other ceramic production centers during the Roman and Byzantine periods. The best studied are the Galilean workshops at Kefar Hananya (Adan-Bayewitz 1993:83–154) and Shikhin (Adan-Bayewitz and Perlman 1990; Adan-Bayewitz and Wieder 1992; Strange, Groh and Longstaff 1994; 1995; Adan-Bayewitz 1995), and seven other sites (Aviam 2005:190–204, Fig. 156). Six workshops in the central Golan produced vessels similar to the Kefar Hananya types (Adan-Bayewitz 1993:165–189; Ben David 2005:211). Another pottery workshop operated in the northern Golan, in addition to that of Kh. el-Hawarit, at the nearby city of Paneas (Hartal 1989; forthcoming; Berlin 1999:36; forthcoming). The products of the latter are named Banias ware.

Banias ware is made of a distinct fabric. It first appeared in contexts on the terrace of the Sanctuary of Pan, and within the city center of Caesarea Philippi beginning in the second half of the second century CE. The products of Banias were distributed in the immediate environs of Caesarea Philippi, although limited finds occur on the southern foothills of Mt. Hermon, in the northern Hula Valley, and in the northern Golan Heights (Berlin, forthcoming). Banias ware does not occur in contexts dating later than the mid-fifth century CE, when the sanctuary seems to have been abandoned and the city center contracted (Berlin 1999:41).

The most common shape found at the Sanctuary of Pan at Banias is the saucer lamp, of which several thousands of examples are

known (Berlin 1999:36). These lamps are very rare outside the sanctuary, though larger bowls with essentially identical profiles are common (Hartal, forthcoming; Israeli, forthcoming). The Banias ware assemblage consists primarily of table ware, including goblets (Berlin 1999: Fig. 11:3), small- and large-shallow bowls (phiale; Berlin 1999: Fig. 11:7–9), small bowls with a cut rim (Berlin 1999: Fig. 11:2), small carinated bowls (Berlin 1999: Fig. 11:4, 5), bell bowls (large bowls; Berlin 1999: Fig. 11:1), basins (Berlin 1999: Fig. 12:4), and kraters (Berlin 1999: Fig. 12:5). The only Banias ware cooking vessels are small, plain-rim cooking pots (Berlin 1999: Fig. 12:1).

DISCUSSION

The study of the pottery from the Hellenistic, Roman and Byzantine period sites of the Golan reveals considerable differences between the northern region, which was inhabited by the Ituraeans, and the central region, which had a large Jewish population. In the second century BCE, when there is little evidence for settlement in the central and southern Golan, Golan ware pithoi are found at sites within the northern sector (Hartal 2005: Map 8). When the central and southern Golan were settled during the first century BCE, the first products of the Kefar Hananya workshops appear at sites throughout the entire area, as does the pottery from the workshops of the central Golan (Fig. 15; Hartal 2005: Map 5; Adan-Bayewitz 1993; Ben David 2005). During this time and for the greater part of the first century CE, the entire region was part of a single political-economic unit, ruled by various members of the Herodian dynasty: Herod Philip, Agrippa I and Agrippa II (Hartal 2006:273–277).

In the last decade of the first century CE, probably before the year 93, the kingdom of Agrippa II was divided between two Roman provinces. Gaulanitis, designating the central Golan and its Jewish population, was annexed to Judea (Hartal 2006:277–279) and the Paneas District in the northern Golan, with its Ituraean

population, was annexed to the province of Syria. In the second century the names of the provinces changed, with the Paneas District becoming part of Provincia Syria Phoenicia and Gaulanitis—part of Provincia Palestina. As is now clear from studying the distribution of specific ceramic production centers within the larger region, this division had a significant effect on these two neighboring districts for centuries (Hartal 2005:269–273).

Within a very short time after this political division, already by the middle of the second century CE, vessels of Kefar Hananya were disappear from sites in the northern Golan. It seems that their distribution ceased beyond Gaulanitis. In Gaulanitis itself, however, Kefar Hananya ware continued to occur, becoming the most abundant pottery ware (Ben David 2005). Meanwhile, in the Paneas District, Banias ware production began (Berlin, forthcoming; see above), and, shortly thereafter, the workshop at Kh. el-Hawarit began producing a variety of cooking ware vessels. It is of some interest that, while all major shapes of Kefar Hananya pottery had been previously attested in the northern Golan, only a few were reproduced by Banias and Kh. el-Hawarit potters. Insofar as cooking vessels are concerned, Kh. el-Hawarit potters produced closed cooking pots and broad casseroles, but not shallow bowls, while Banias potters made only cooking pots. In the second and third centuries, when the pottery workshops of Banias and Kh. el-Hawarit began to operate, no examples thereof appeared south of the Paneas-Gaulanitis border (Fig. 15). Only for a short time in the fourth century are small quantities attested at the central Golan sites of Qazrin and Dabiyye (Killebrew 1991:67). The sharp distinction in distribution of cooking ware vessels is also mirrored by similar discrepancies in the types of lamps attested in each district (Hartal 2005:191–219, Map 3).

The clear and consistent disparities evident in the distribution of pottery, lamps, and glass follow clear patterns that suggest the location of the border between the districts of Paneas and Gaulanitis. The dividing line begins at the

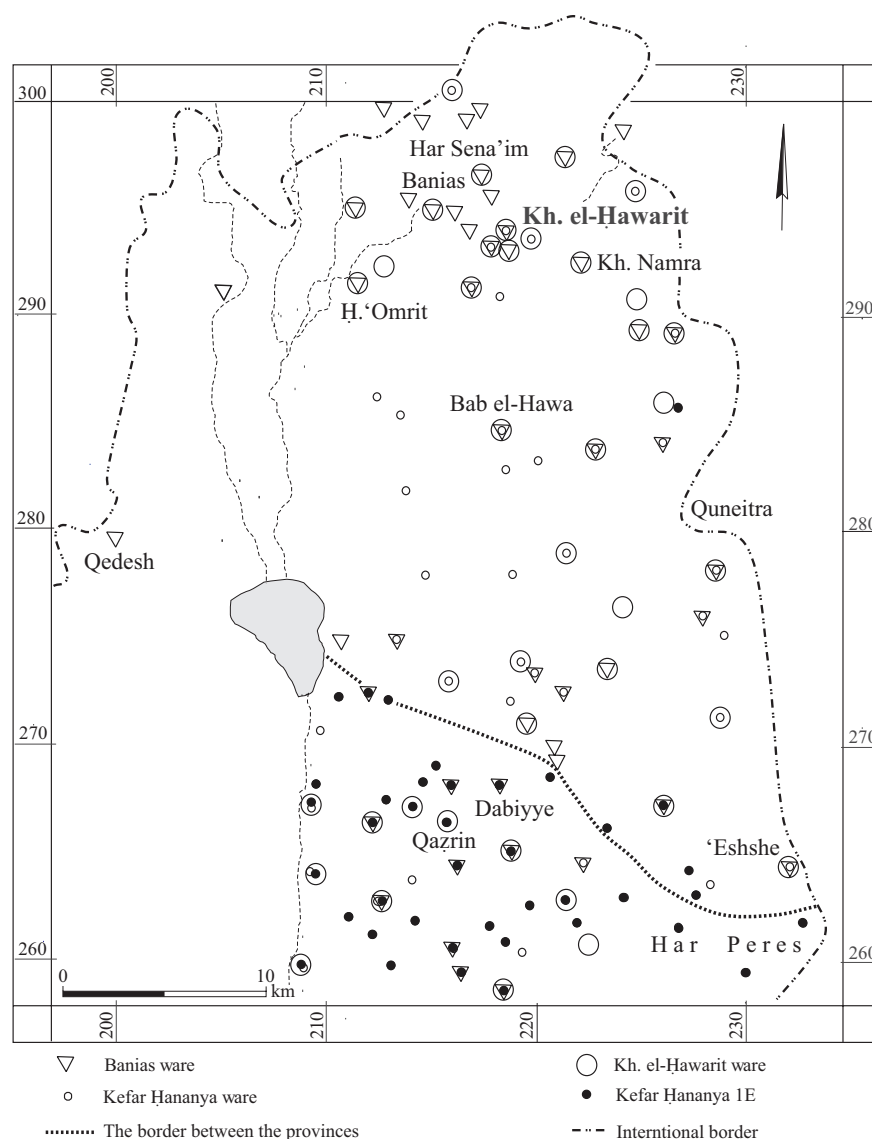


Fig. 15. Distribution of the various pottery workshops in the Golan.

southern end of the Hula Lake and continues diagonally to Har Peres in the southeastern sector of the Golan. As the disparities continue from the second century to the end of the Byzantine period, it seems that this line marks the border between Phoenicia and Palestine (Fig. 15). Confirmation of this hypothesis may be seen by the recent discovery of a boundary stone from the end of the fourth century CE (noted by a survey team led by Yigal Ben-Efraim and Ran Bar Nur) at 'Eshshe, east of

Har Peres. The stone was placed there by the censor Aelius Satutus, who was responsible for the ground survey of Phoenicia during the Tetrarchy. This boundary stone proves that the border of Provincia Phoenicia passed through this point (Di Segni 1997:184–187; Ben-Efraim and Dar 2007). Despite the fact that 'Eshshe is much closer to the ceramic production centers in the central Golan, most of the pottery at the site derives from northern producers. There are only a few sherds of the later types of

Kefar Hananya ware (Yigal Ben-Efraim, pers. comm.). This discovery is quite significant, since it demonstrates that the political boundaries were, in effect, also economic ones. It is possible that tariffs and customs paid at the borders made the import of common cooking wares inexpedient. As both districts had their own pottery production centers, the distribution of the vessels were restricted to the limits of the provinces.

CONCLUSIONS

In the second century CE the district of Paneas—including the northern Golan, Mt. Hermon, and the northern Hula Valley—was separated from the districts of Gaulanitis and Galilee, the two major sources of pottery vessels. At that time Paneas was a flourishing metropolis and a new pottery workshop was established there in order to meet local demand. As the Sanctuary of Pan, the city's major shrine, did not include massive individual participation, and thus, demand for votive vessels was low (Berlin 1999:34–36), the potters largely produced table and cooking vessels for the city's inhabitants, alongside a few saucer-lamps for ritual dedication.

By the early third century CE, ritual practices taking place at the Sanctuary of Pan required the use of many pottery vessels, especially saucer lamps (Berlin 1999:36–41). The increase in ritual activities at the Sanctuary may reflect some concomitant increase in population as well. It is at this time that pottery production

began at nearby Kh. el-Hawarit, creating a pottery colony of the type conceptualized by Vossen (1984). Pottery colonies are workshops that have spilled out from the parent production center as the supply of potters or the demand for pottery increased (as seems to be the case at Banias). Since colony and parent serve the same markets, they often produce identical forms. Such a relationship is evident by the plain-rim cooking pot and bell bowl, both produced in Kh. el-Hawarit and Banias fabrics.

The new workshops produced high quality table vessels, cooking vessels and jugs. Potters even competed, for a short time, with Kefar Hananya and central Golan workshops, as is reflected by the appearance of Kh. el-Hawarit products at sites in the southern central Golan in the later fourth century CE. The production of pottery at Banias and Kh. el-Hawarit continued through the first half of the fifth century. At this time, for unknown reasons, northern Golan sites suffered significant population loss. Many sites were abandoned and only a few large settlements were inhabited, probably for security reasons. Excavations at both the Sanctuary of Pan and on the city center of Caesarea Philippi indicated that this entire area was largely abandoned in the first half of the fifth century (Hartal 2005:446–447; forthcoming). Such were the circumstances that brought an end to the local ceramic demand and supply. The local pottery workshops, both at Banias and at Khirbat el-Hawarit, ceased production and were abandoned.

NOTES

¹ The section was cleared and documented by Moshe Hartal and Roje Scheffa on 26 May, 1986 (Permit No. A-1452).

² The excavation was directed by Moshe Hartal on behalf of the Israel Department of Antiquities and Museums, with the assistance of Zvi Uri Ma'oz (16–20 August, 1988). The plans were drawn by

Alex Kranz. The pottery was studied by Andrea Berlin and Nicholas Hudson. Vered Bar-Lev was the registrar and Lion Rikman drew the pottery.

³ Over-fired Kh. el-Hawarit vessels have been found in domestic contexts at H. 'Omrit (Nicholas Hudson, one of the excavators) and at Tel Qedesh (Andrea M. Berlin, co-director of the excavation). The Munsell

value is from the section of an over-fired Kh. el-Hawarit cooking pot found at Tel Qedesh.

⁴ A fragment of a Kh. el-Hawarit casserole rim with a portion of its lid still attached was found at H 'Omrit.

⁵ The function, and so the name, of the building is disputed. We here follow the identification in Berlin 1999:29. Ma'oz (1999: 93) identifies the building as the 'Temple-Tomb of the Sacred Goats'.

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