

GROUNDSTONE FINDS FROM ḤORBAT ṬARBENET

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The excavations at Ḥorbat Ṭarbenet (see Atrash and Mazor, this volume) yielded a small assemblage of ten basalt groundstone fragments (Fig. 1): 1 pestle, 3 hammerstones, 1 millstone, 4 bowls and 1 basin. The site's strata date from the late Hellenistic to the Umayyad period, a rather long time span during which stone tools of the recovered types were continuously used. As the objects were found in fill layers throughout the site (next to the well, in the pool, and the house), dating them to a specific stratum was not possible.

CATALOGUE

1. L29, B1128, fill over Channel T1 (Fig. 1:1)

A conical 5 cm long pestle with smoothed lower end. A Hellenistic-period parallel was found at Tel Anafa (Wells et al. 2012:323, S.89).

2. L21, B1061, fill over the pool (Fig. 1:2)

A rounded hammerstone with a smoothed working surface. A Hellenistic-period parallel was found at Tel Anafa (Wells et al. 2012:329, S.107).

3. L.19, B1046, fill over Channel T1 (Fig. 1:3)

A rounded hammerstone with a smoothed working surface. A Hellenistic-period parallel was found at Tel Anafa (Wells et al. 2012:329, S.108).

4. L75, B1318, fill over the well (Fig. 1:4)

A cubical hammerstone (5 × 5 cm) with four smoothed faces.

5. L52, B1258, fill over a stone floor surrounding the well (Fig. 1:5)

A 5 cm high fragment of a millstone. A Hellenistic-period parallel was found at Tel Anafa (Wells et al. 2012:306, S.11).

6, 7. L49, B1244; L59, B1253, collapse over the floor surrounding the well (Fig. 1:6, 7)

Two shallow bowls with flat bases: one has a rounded rim and a flat handle extending from rim to body (Fig. 1:6), and the other has a round incised rim with a channel along its center for pouring liquid and a delicate handle extending from rim to body (Fig. 1:7).

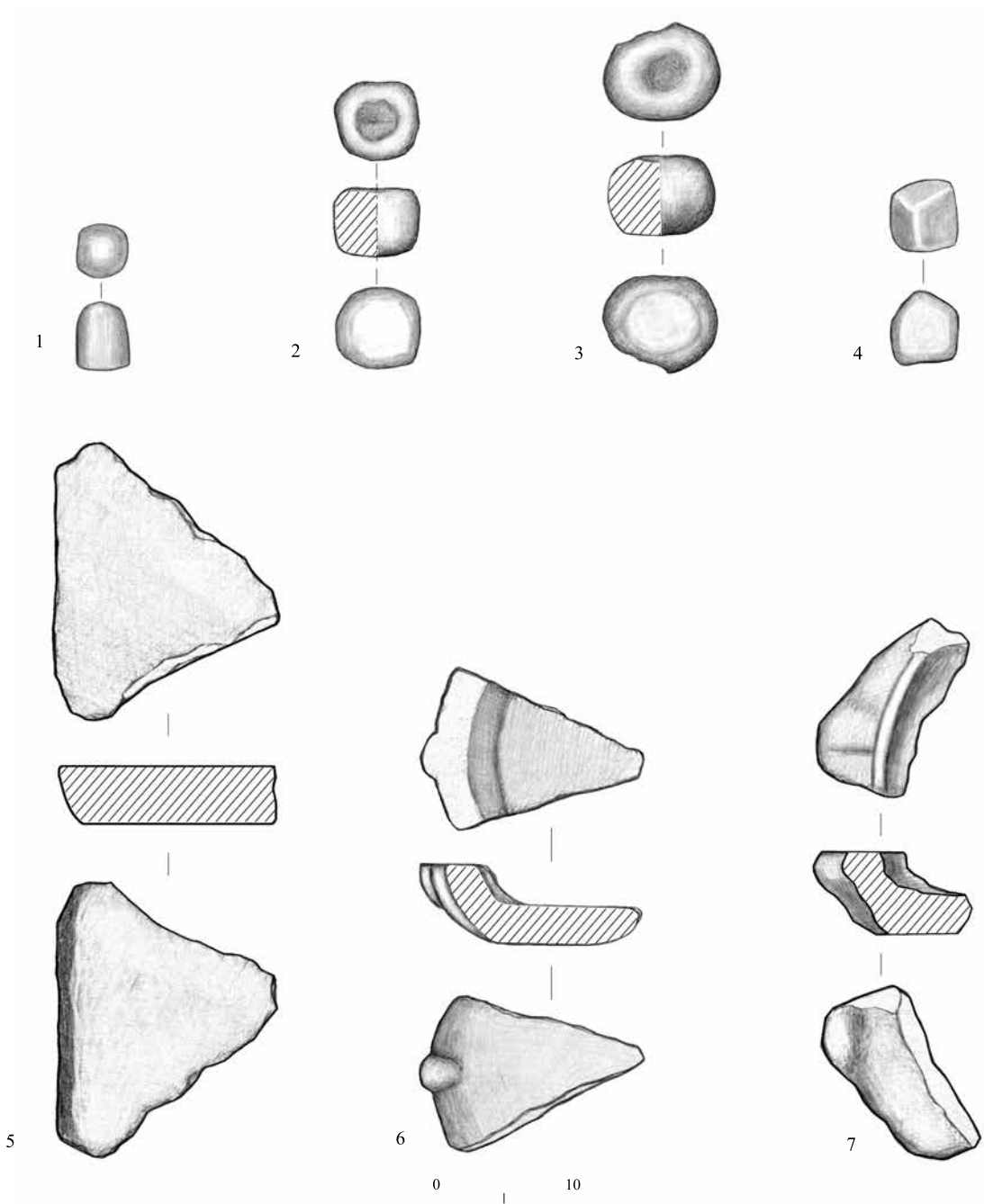


Fig. 1. Basalt groundstone assemblage.

8, 9. L30, B1135; L50, B1251, collapse surrounding the well and fill above pool (Figs. 1:8, 9)
Two shallow bowls with three short conical feet. Bowl No. 8 has two delicate round handles
extending from rim to body (out of the original four) and two of its three 4 cm high conical
legs survived. Bowl No. 9 has a round rim and a flat handle from rim to body. Only one of

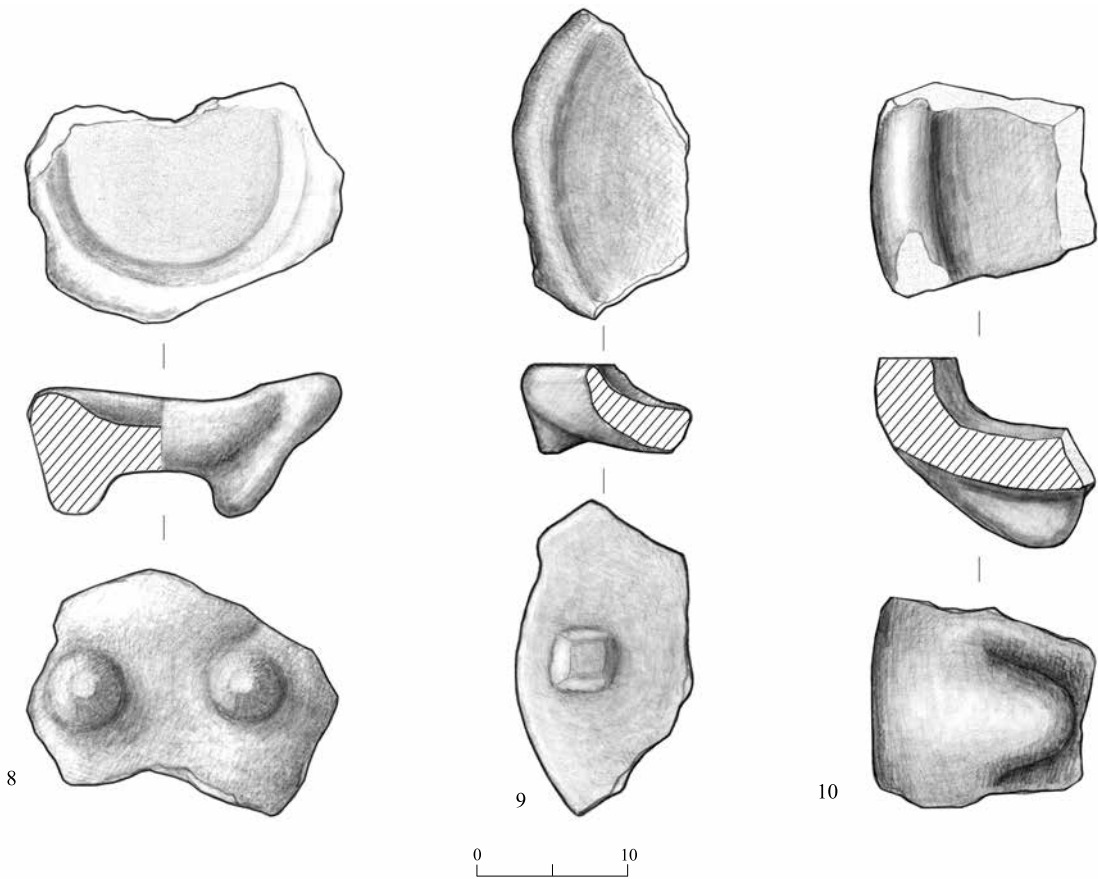


Fig. 1. (cont.)

No.	Object	Locus	Basket	Measurements (cm)			
				L	W	H	Diam.
1	Pestle	29	1128	5			Lower end: 4.5 Upper end: 3.5
2	Hammerstone	21	1061	5			5
3	Hammerstone	19	1046	6			8
4	Hammerstone	75	1318	5	5	5	
5	Millstone	52	1258		16	5	
6	Bowl	49	1244			3	~30
7	Bowl	59	1253			3	~30
8	Bowl	30	1135			3	22
9	Bowl	50	1251			3	~30
10	Basin	28	1171			5	

its three conical 3 cm high feet survived. Such bowls were found at many sites, where they were dated from the Prehistoric to the Byzantine period (Amiran 1959:129–132; Wright 1992:53–81). A Hellenistic-period parallel was found at Tel Anafa (Wells et al. 2012:320, S. 75). They are a common type in the Byzantine period, as at Khirbat Bata, in Carmiel (Yeivin

1992:126, Fig. 25c), dated to the fifth century CE. Similar bowls were found in a burial cave at Ḥorbat Indur, on the slopes of Giv'at Ha-More (Barshad 2004:19–20).

10. L28, B1171, fill over pool (Fig. 1:10)

A basin with three 7 cm high conical legs, one of which survived. Similar basins, dated to the Middle Bronze Age, are common at Ḥazor (Garfinkel 1997: Fig. III.21:26), in burial caves at 'En Nashab in the Bet She'an Valley (Gal and Zori 2005: Fig. 9:15), and at the Jewish Quarter in Jerusalem (Avigad 1980:127, Fig. 123). A Roman-period parallel was found at Tel Anafa (Wells et al. 2012:317, S.64), and in a Byzantine village house at 'En Gedi (Hadas 2005:66, Fig. 21).

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