

A NEW MIDDLE BRONZE AGE TOMB AT THE CITADEL OF AMMAN

by
Mohammad Najjar

A Middle Bronze Age tomb was discovered during the fourth campaign of excavations of the Amman Citadel Temple of Hercules Project. The campaign, which lasted from 24 November to 30 December 1990, was undertaken by the Department of Antiquities and directed by the author. The Temple of Hercules Project aims at the restoration of the temple on the Amman Citadel (Pl. 1), with funding from the United States Agency for International Development.

The value of the discovery of the tomb need hardly be stressed. This was the third MB tomb to be found on the Amman Citadel and the fourth to be found in Amman. The first and the second tombs at the Citadel were found in 1957 and 1959 (Ma'ayeh 1960; Piccirillo 1978), while the third one was found at Jabal al-Jofeh in 1953 (Harding 1953; Isserlin 1953).

The particular interest of this group of tombs lies in its relation to Glueck's theory (Glueck 1939: 268) which posites a sharp decline in settlement between 1900-1200 B.C. in Edom, Moab and parts of Ammon. The evidence from these tombs is particularly valuable, not only because they have brought to light some very interesting discoveries which greatly enriched the national collection, but also because this evidence contradicts the theories suggesting that the country was unoccupied (or at most occupied by nomads) during that period.¹

The above-mentioned tomb is located directly to the west of the western wall of the Roman temple, which dates to the second century A.D. (Fig. 1). The material was imbedded in a heavily compacted matrix brought about by a combination of roof

collapse and water action. The tomb was partially disturbed at least during three later phases (dating to the Iron Age II, Hellenistic and Roman periods).

A Hellenistic wall was built directly above the tomb layers (Figs. 2 and 3) and a foundation trench for the western wall of the Roman temple cut through these layers (Fig. 4), resulting in the complete destruction of the eastern part of the chamber and probably the shaft. The disturbance of the bones and breakage of the objects is extensive (Pl. II,1). This resulted not only from the disturbance during the later phases, but also partially from the burial practice in the Middle Bronze Age. Successive interments, in the same chamber, were very common at that time. Previous burials were pushed aside, resulting in considerable disarticulation of the skeletons of the earlier burials. In our case there are indications that the skulls were carefully arranged around the northern edge of the chamber (Pl. II,2).

The Finds

Scarabs (Pl. III,1)

1. Reg. NW 10/10.17.S24 (Fig. 5:1) Dimensions: 1.87 × 1.33 × 0.75cm. Material: faience (green glaze on the sides). Design: Deeply incised four-petal flowers, and four scrolls, all attached to a central disk. Head and clypeus: Rowe (1935) type 63. Elytra and prothorax: Rowe (1935) type 74. Parallels: Amman tomb, (Ward 1966: Pl. XX: J 9395 & J 9379); Gaza (Petrie 1933: Pl. XIII:42); Jericho (Kenyon 1983 Pl. 37, Fig. 11); Megiddo (Loud 1942: Pl. 105:6); Tell ed-Duwier (Tufnell 1958: Pl. 32:111 & 112).

1. In addition to the tombs, MBII walls were uncovered in 1969 at the Citadel of Amman, north of the Roman city walls (Dornemann 1983: 19 and Figs. 5 and 8: 1-4). In 1987, a substantial MBII occupational deposit associated with a wall was found in a deep sounding on the Lower Terrace of the Citadel during excavations by the Department of Antiquities and

the American Center of Oriental Research (Zayadine *et al.* 1987: 308). In 1988, the Joint Expedition of the Department of Antiquities and the Ecole Biblique of Jerusalem discovered two impressive MBII city walls, joined by a glacis on the southern slope of the Lower Terrace (Zayadine *et al.* 1989: 359).

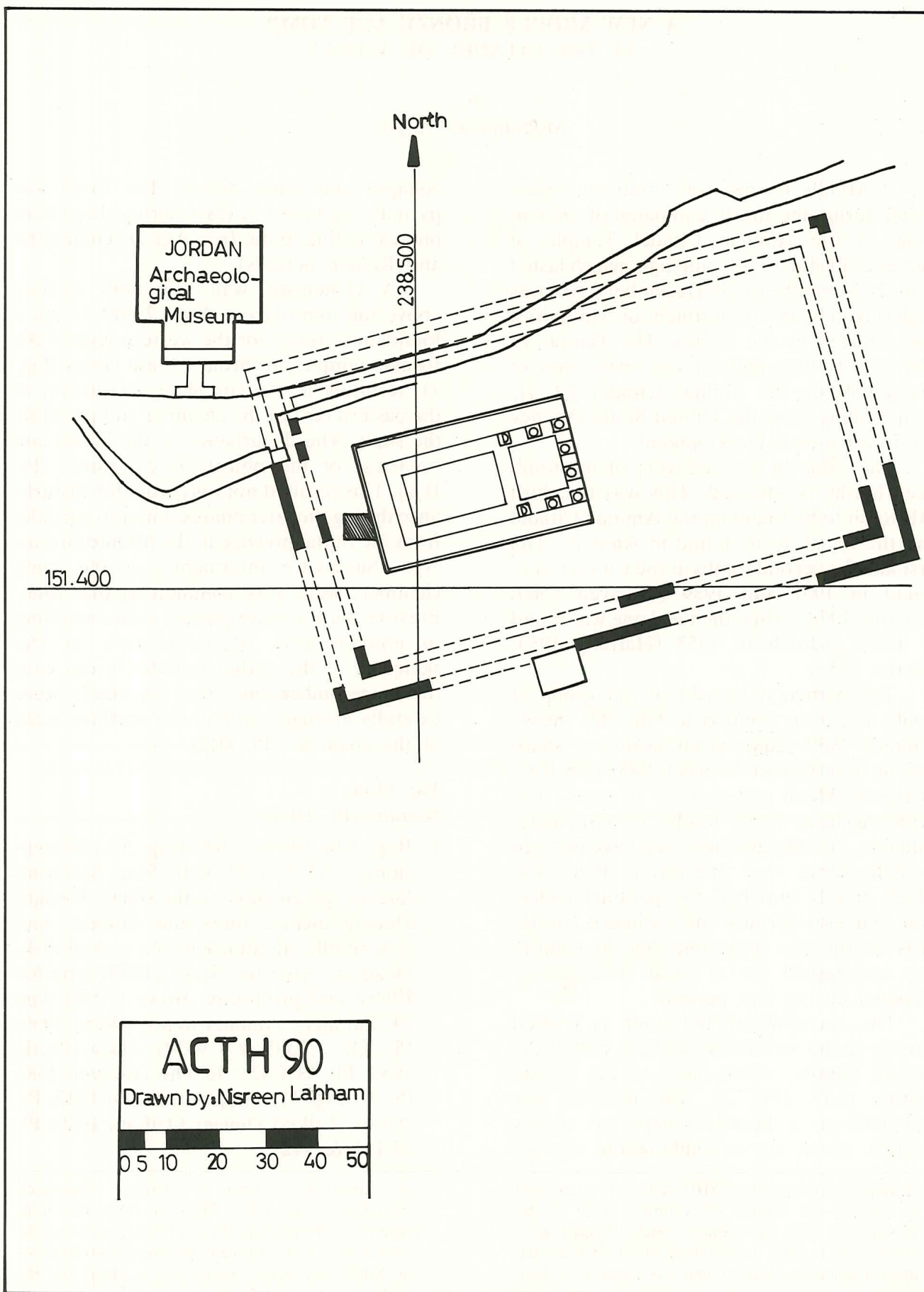


Fig. 1. Temple of Hercules and the Middle Bronze Age Tomb (shaded area) to the west.

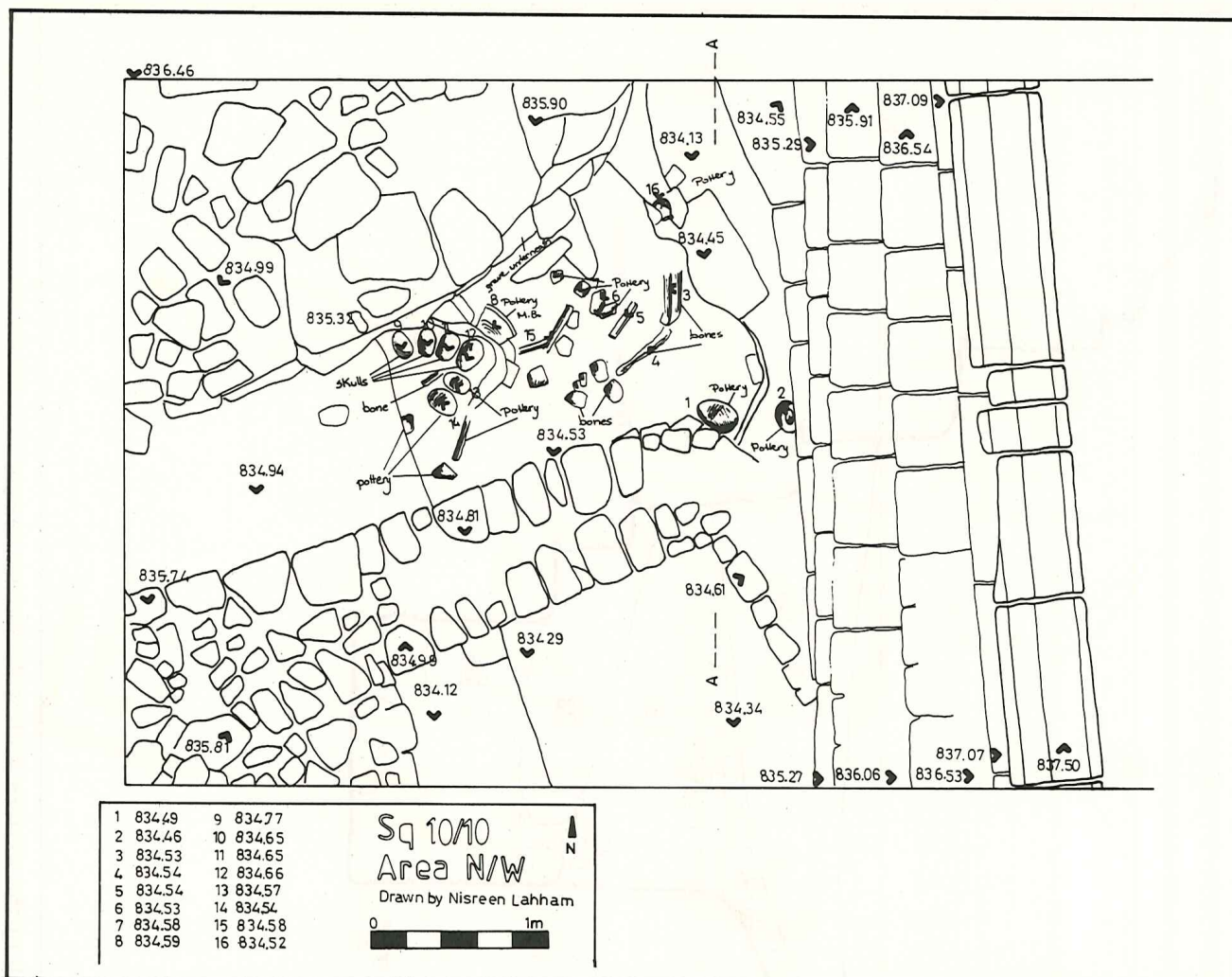


Fig. 2. The destruction of the tomb by the Roman wall from the east and the Hellenistic wall from the south.

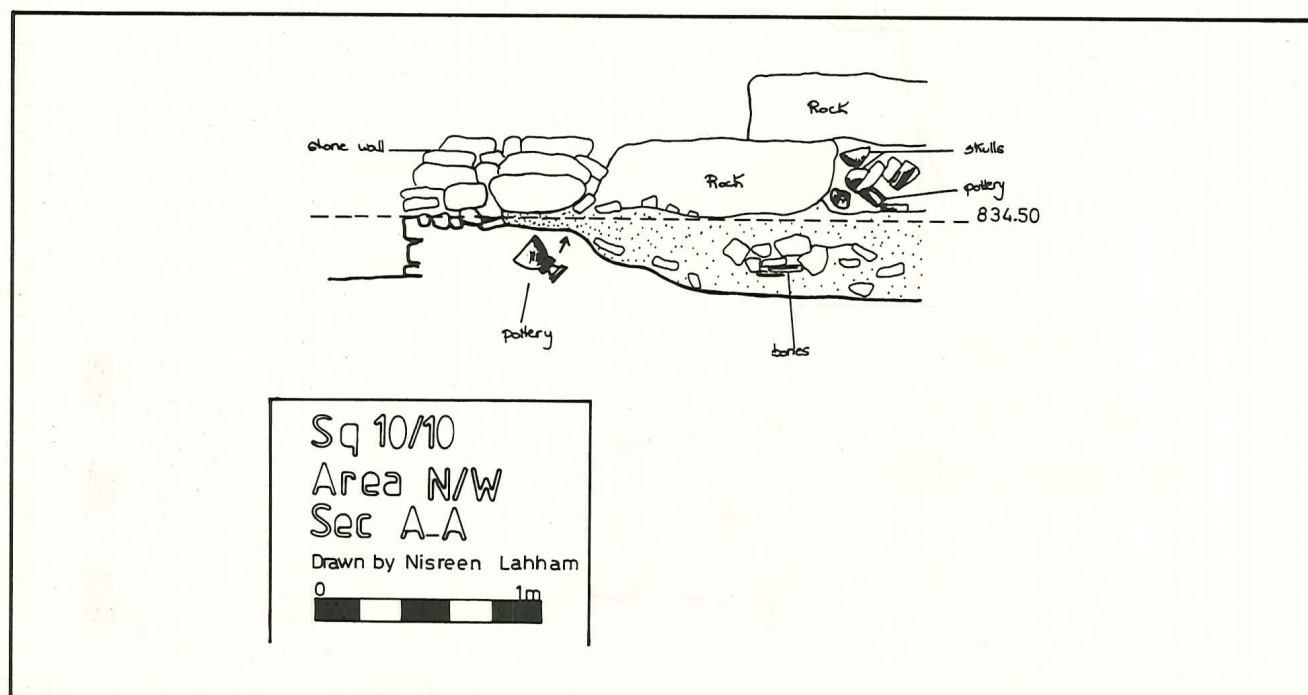


Fig. 3. Hellenistic wall on top of the tomb contents.

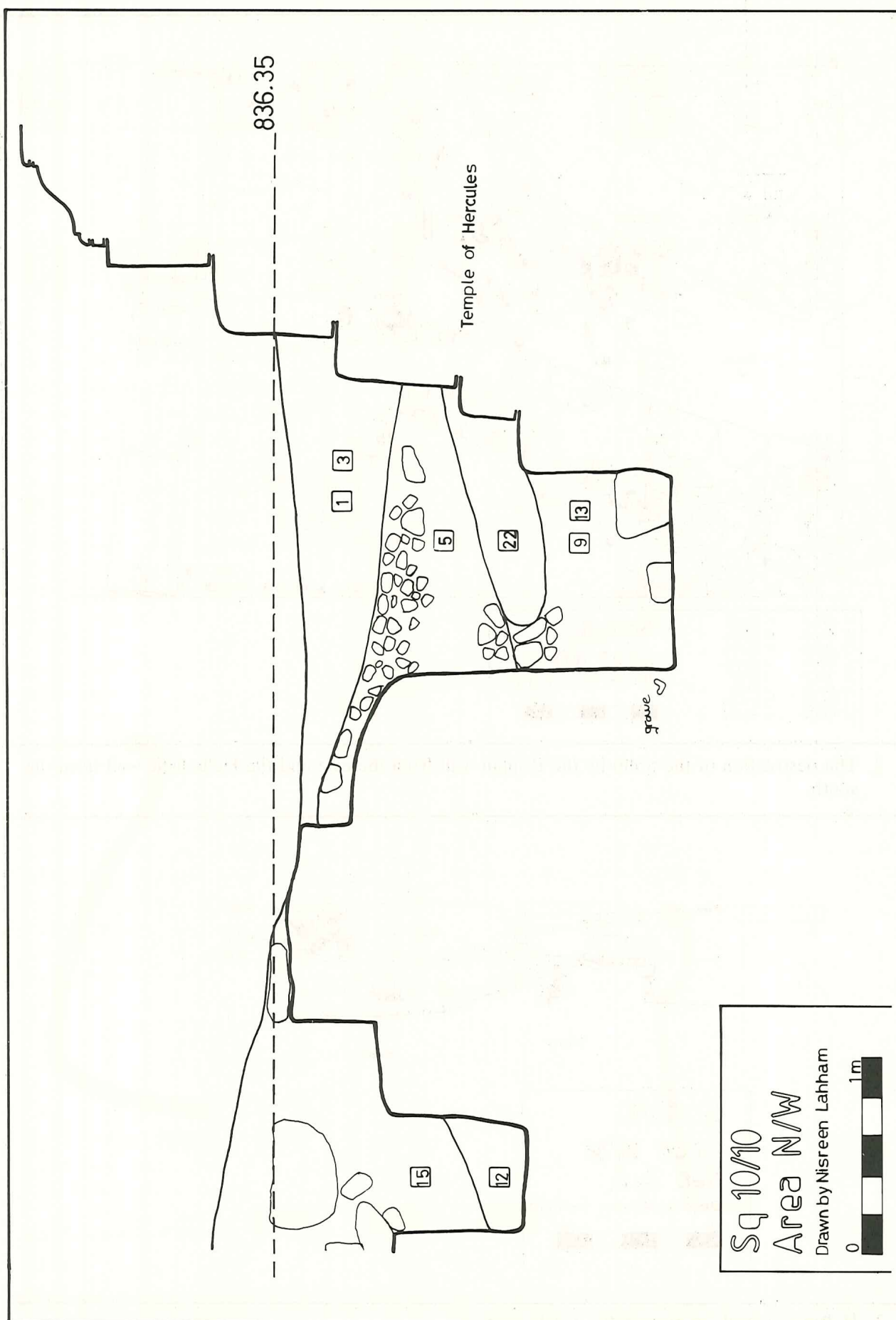


Fig. 4. The eastern part of the tomb cut by the foundation trench of the western wall of the Roman temple.

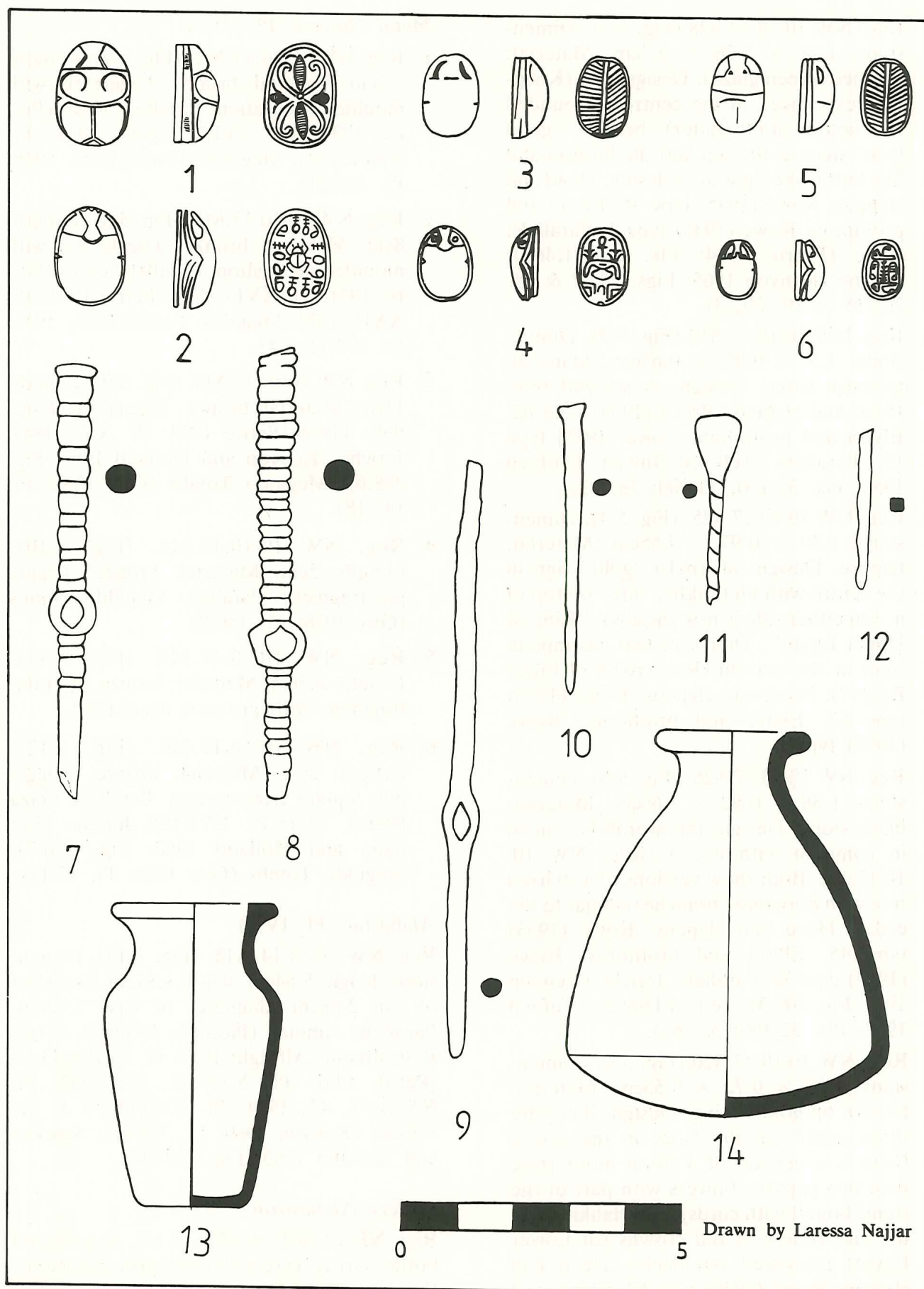


Fig. 5. Scarabs: 1-6; Bronze objects: 7-12; Alabaster bottle: 13; Alabastron; 14.

2. Reg. NW 10/10.17.S28 (Fig. 5:2). Dimensions: 1.78 × 1.26 × 0.7cm. Material: Faience (green glaze). Design: hpr (Kheper) "existence" in the centre surrounded by a couple of nfr (nefer) "beauty" "good luck" signs at the top and the bottom and five letter-like signs at each side. Head and clypeus: Rowe (1935) type 48. Elytra and prothorax: Rowe (1935) type 4. Parallels: Gaza (Petrie 1934: Pls. X&XI:465); Jericho (Kenyon 1965: Figs. 283:2 & 16; 285:15 & 19; 292:3).
3. Reg. NW 10/10.17.S12 (Fig. 5:3). Dimensions: 1.5 × 0.97 × 0.65cm. Material: greenish stone. Design: A stylized tree. Head and clypeus: Rowe (1935) type 62. Elytra and prothorax: Rowe (1935) type 15. Parallels: Tell ed-Duwier (Tufnell 1958: Pls. 32:100; 33:100; 38:263).
4. Reg. NW 10/10.17.S25. (Fig. 5:4). Dimensions: 1.39 × 0.97 × 0.55cm. Material: faience. Design: nb (neb) "gold" sign in the centre with nh (ankh), "life" on top of it. On either side is nsw (nesew), "King of Upper Egypt". There are two incomplete signs at the bottom (Red crown of lower Egypt?). Head and clypeus: Rowe (1935) type 62. Elytra and prothorax: Rowe (1935) type 4.
5. Reg. NW 10/10.17.S26. (Fig. 5:5). Dimensions: 1.38 × 0.92 × 0.60cm. Material: black stone. Design: this scarab has much in common with no. 3 (Reg. NW 10/10.17.12). Both show versions of a stylized tree with horizontal branches similar to the cedar. Head and clypeus: Rowe (1935) type 45. Elytra and prothorax: Rowe (1935) type 38. Parallels: Jericho (Kenyon 1965: Fig. 300:3); Tell ed-Duweir (Tufnell 1958: Pls. 32:100; 38:263).
6. Reg. NW 10/10.17.S20 (Fig. 5:6). Dimensions: 1.07 × 0.72 × 0.53cm. Material: faience on gold setting. Design: there are three motifs on the base; in the centre there is a version of a floral motif (tree with two papyrus flowers with part of the stems bound with cords); and flanking it is the last variety of red crowns (of Lower Egypt) presented tête-bêche. Head and clypeus: Rowe (1935) type 62. Elytra and prothorax: Rowe (1935) type 15.

Metal Objects (Pl. III,2)

1. Reg. NW 10/10.17.M1. (Fig. 5:7). Length: 7.7cm. Material: bronze. Toggle pin with moulded decoration. Parallels: Gaza (Petrie 1931: Pl. XVI:7; Petrie 1933: Pl. XXIV:183); Megiddo Tombs (Guy 1938: Pl. 136:21).
2. Reg. NW 10/10.17.M2. (Fig. 5:8). Length: 8cm. Material: bronze. Toggle pin with moulded decoration. Parallels: Gaza (Petrie 1931: Pl. XVI:6 & 7; Petrie 1933: Pl. XXIV:183); Megiddo Tombs (Guy 1938: Pl. 107:12, 14).
3. Reg. NW 10/10.17.M3. (Fig. 5:9). Length: 11cm. Material: bronze. Toggle pin. Parallels: Gaza (Petrie 1933: Pl. XXV:184); Jericho (Kenyon and Holland 1982: Fig. 228:6); Megiddo Tombs (Guy 1938: Pl. 145:18).
4. Reg. NW 10/10.17.M4. (Fig. 5:10). Length: 5cm. Material: bronze. Toggle pin fragment. Parallels: Megiddo Tombs (Guy 1938: Pl. 150:8).
5. Reg. NW 10/10.17.M5. (Fig. 5:11). Length: 3.5cm. Material: bronze. Spatula, fragment with grooved decoration.
6. Reg. NW 10/10.17.M6. (Fig. 5:12). Length: 3cm. Material: bronze. Toggle pin. Square cross section. Parallels: Gaza (Petrie 1931: Pl. XVI:19); Jericho (Kenyon and Holland 1982: Fig. 228:7); Megiddo Tombs (Guy 1938: Pl. 15:14).

Alabaster (Pl. IV,1)

Reg. NW 10/10.14.A14. (Fig. 5:13). Dimensions: height 5.54cm, depth 4.81cm, diameter of rim 2.88cm, diameter of base 1.93cm. Parallels: Amman (Piccirillo 1960: Pl. 6:16); Beit Mirsim (Albright 1932: Pl. 15:10); Gaza (Petrie 1931: Pl. XXV:27, 28; 1932: Pl. XXIII:42, 43; 1934: Pl. XXXIX:78 & 82; Jericho (Kenyon 1960: Pl. XXV:1; Kenyon and Holland 1983: Fig. 232:20).

Pottery Alabastron

Reg. NE 10/10.17.4. (Fig. 5:14). Bag shaped bottle. Gritty ware with small grey inclusions. Fired 10YR 4/1 dark grey with small yellow patches. Traces of vertical burnishing out.

Inlays (Fig. 6)

Reg. NW 10/10.17.B1. Material: bone. Very fragile bone slips decorated with stylized birds, incised dots-in-circles and lines. Parallels: Gaza (Petrie 1931: Pl. XXII:5,22,24; 1933: Pl. XXIX: 54; 1934: Pl. XXXVII: 54-57 & 60-68); Jericho (Kenyon 1960: Pls. XXVIII: 1-2, XXXII: 3, XXXV: 1); Megiddo (Loud 1942: Pls. 194:11, 195:16).

Beads (Pl. IV,2)

Reg. NW 10/10.17.1. Twenty three beads were found scattered in the tomb. They vary in shape, size and material. Because many of them persist through all periods, they can hardly play any role in the dating of the tomb.

Pottery (Figs. 7-13)

A considerable number of pottery sherds and complete pots were found. The typology of the pottery of the Jericho Tombs is utilized with some modifications, which are dictated by the incomplete and fragmentary nature of the finds. The whole bulk of the finds is divided into eight classes (bowls, pedestal vases, jugs, piriform juglets, cylindrical juglets, dipper juglets, lamps and storage jars). Each class is then subdivided into subclasses.

1. NW 10/10.17.P02. (Fig. 7:1). Platter. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 8/4 at surfaces. Radially burnished white 10YR 8/2 slip in and wet smoothed slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.b.
2. NW 10/10.17.P03. (Fig. 7:2). Platter. Fairly gritty ware with grey core, fired pinkish grey 7.5YR 7/2 at surfaces. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.c.
3. NW 10/10.17.P05. (Fig. 7:3). Platter. Pinkish grey 7.5YR 7/2 evenly fired ware with small and medium white and brown grits. Pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip in and out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.2.b.
4. NW 10/10.17.P06. (Fig. 7:4). Platter. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pinkish grey 7.5YR 7/2 at surfaces. Horizontally burnished pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip in and out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1983) A.5.a.
5. NW 10/10.17.P07. (Fig. 7:5). Platter.

Gritty ware with light grey core, fired pink 5YR 7/4 at surfaces. Traces of pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip in and out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.b.

6. NW 10/10.17.P08. (Fig. 8:1). Platter. Fairly gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 7/4 at surfaces. Traces of white slip in. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.-d.
7. NW 10/10.17.P09. (Fig. 8:2). Platter. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pinkish grey 7.5YR 7/2 at surfaces. Horizontally burnished pink 7.5YR 7/4 slip out and pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip in. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.1.b.
8. NW 10/10.17.P11. (Fig. 8:3). Platter. Fairly gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 7/4 at surfaces. Pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip in and out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.-d.
9. NW 10/10.17.P12. (Fig. 8:4). Platter. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 7/4 at surfaces. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.-c.
10. NW 10/10.17.P13. (Fig. 8:5). Platter. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pinkish grey 7.5YR 7/2 at surfaces. Pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out and pink 7.5YR 8/4 slip in. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.1.-.
11. NW 10/10.17.P69. (Fig. 8:6). Platter. Pink 7.5YR 8/4 evenly fired ware with small white, grey and brown grits. White 5YR 8/1 slip in with some patches out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.b.
12. NW 10/10.17.P70. (Fig. 8:7). Platter. Pink 7.5YR 7/4 evenly fired ware with small white and grey grits. Traces of pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip in and horizontally burnished pinkish white slip in. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.-a.
13. NW 10/10.17.P71. (Fig. 8:8). Platter. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 8/4 at surfaces. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.-a.
14. NW 10/10.17.P25. (Fig. 9:1). Carinated bowl. Fairly gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 7/4 at surfaces. Pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip in and out. Parallels:

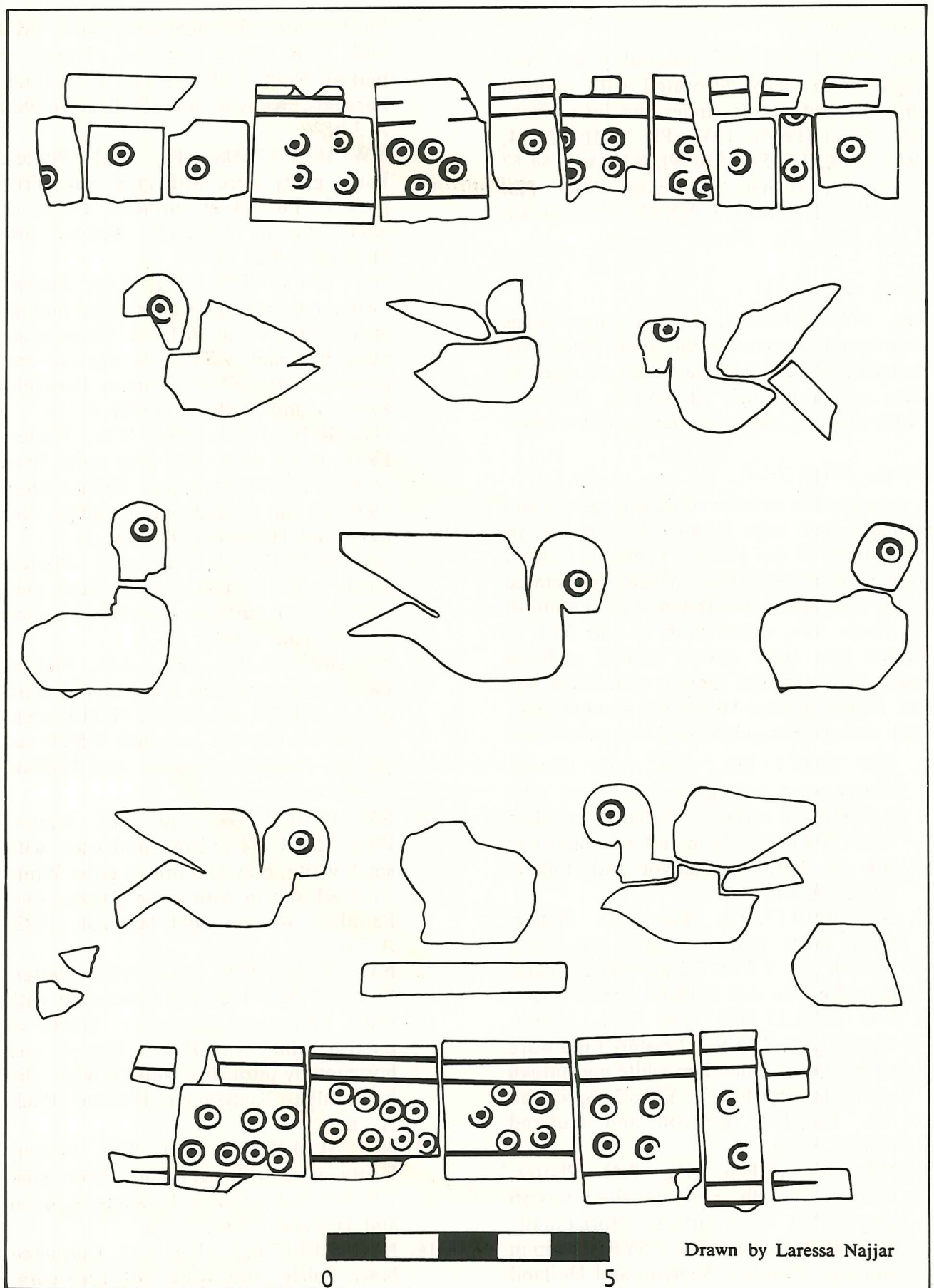


Fig. 6. Inlays.

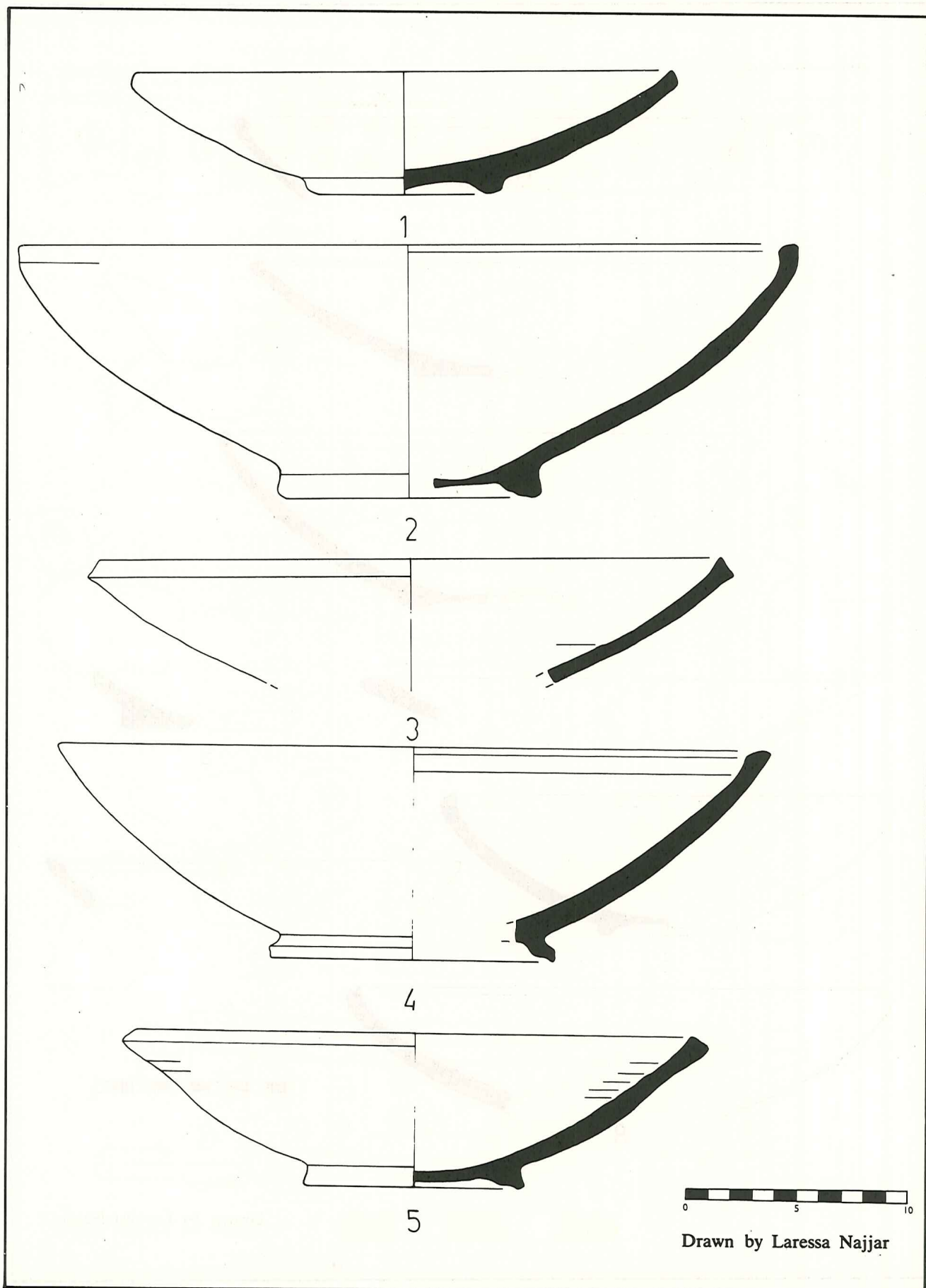


Fig. 7. Platters: 1-5.

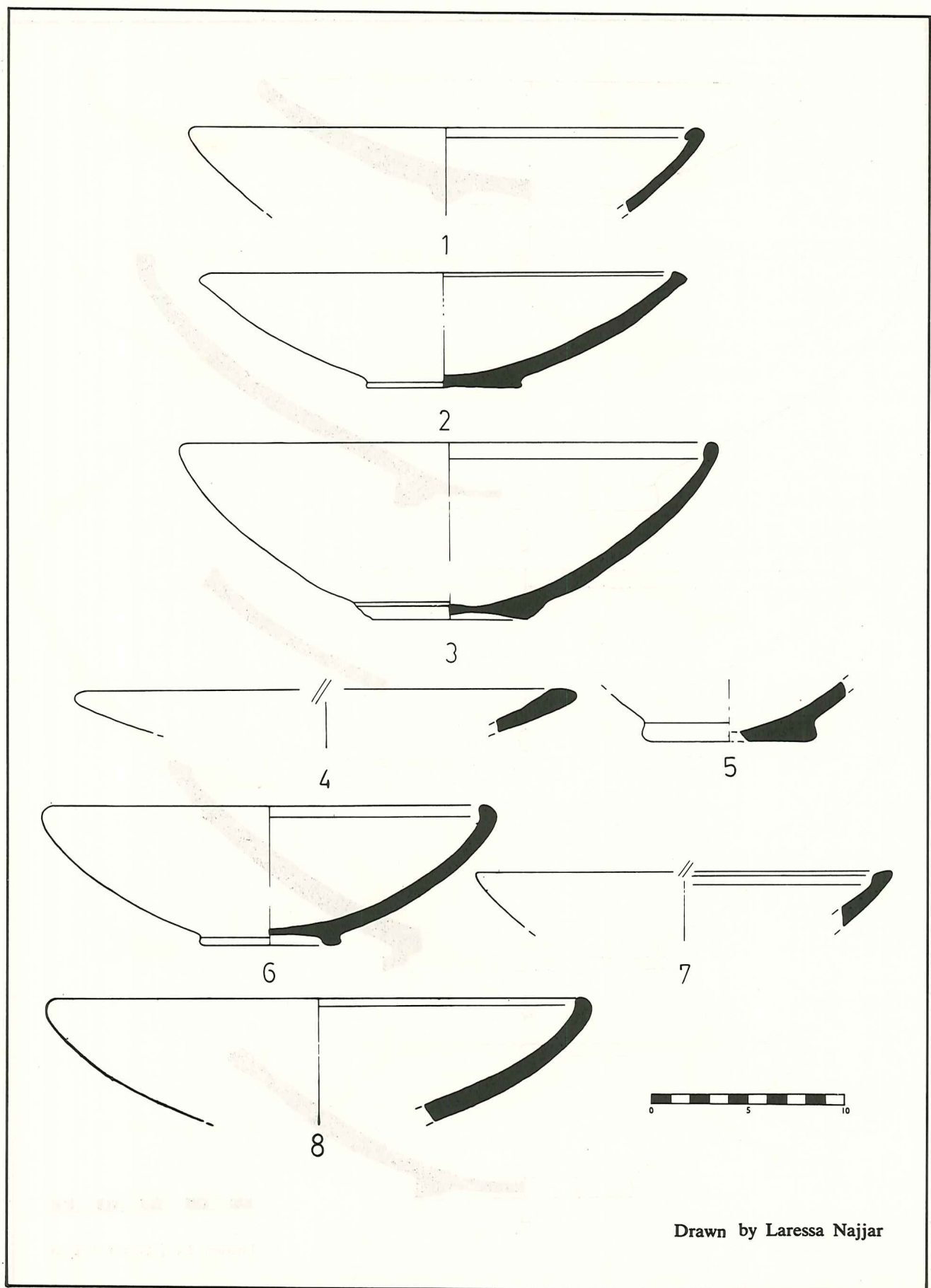


Fig. 8. Platters: 1-8.

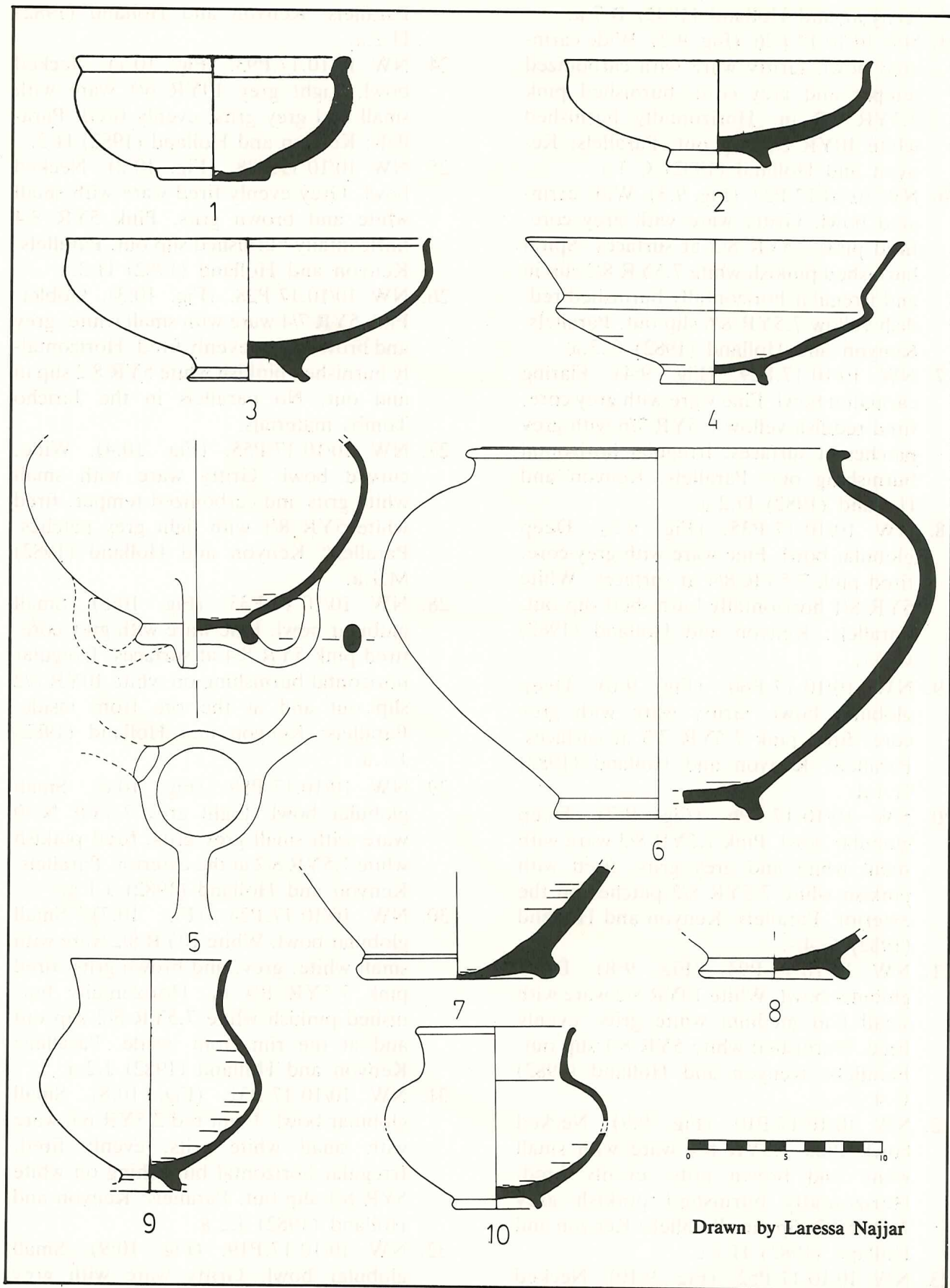


Fig. 9. Carinated bowls: 1; Wide carinated bowls: 2, 3; Flaring carinated bowl: 4; Deep globular bowls: 5-8; Necked bowls: 9, 10.

- Kenyon and Holland (1982) B.7.a.
15. NW 10/10.17.P26. (Fig. 9:2). Wide carinated bowl. Gritty ware with carbonized temper and grey core, burnished pink 7.5YR 7/3 in. Horizontally burnished white 10YR 8/2 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) C.3.a.
 16. NW 10/10.17.P27. (Fig. 9:3). Wide carinated bowl. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 8/3 at surfaces. Spiral burnished pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip in and irregular horizontally burnished reddish yellow 7.5YR 8/6 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) C.3.a.
 17. NW 10/10.17.P29. (Fig. 9:4). Flaring carinated bowl. Fine ware with grey core, fired reddish yellow 7.5YR 7/6 with grey patches at surfaces. Irregular horizontal burnishing out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) D.2.a.
 18. NW 10/10.17.P35. (Fig. 9:5). Deep globular bowl. Fine ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 8/4 at surfaces. White 5YR 8/1 horizontally burnished slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) G.3.-.
 19. NW 10/10.17.P60. (Fig. 9:6). Deep globular bowl. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 7/3 at surfaces. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) G.4.d.
 20. NW 10/10.17.P96. (Fig. 9:7). Deep globular bowl. Pink 7.5YR 8/3 ware with small white and grey grits, fired with pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 patches on the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) G.4.-.
 21. NW 10/10.17.P94. (Fig. 9:8). Deep globular bowl. White 10YR 8/2 ware with small and medium white grits, evenly fired. Burnished white 5YR 8/1 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) G.4.-.
 22. NW 10/10.17.P10. (Fig. 9:9). Necked bowl. Pink 7.5YR 8/4 ware with small white and brown grits, evenly fired. Horizontally burnished pinkish grey 7.5YR 7/2 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) H.1.c.
 23. NW 10/10.17.P52. (Fig. 9:10). Necked bowl. Grey 5YR 6/1 evenly fired ware with small grits. Traces of burnishing out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) H.2.a.
 24. NW 10/10.17.P93. (Fig. 10:1). Necked bowl. Light grey 10YR 6/1 ware with small and grey grits, evenly fired. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) H.2.-.
 25. NW 10/10.17.P38. (Fig. 10:2). Necked bowl. Grey evenly fired ware with small white and brown grits. Pink 5YR 8/4 horizontally burnished slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) H.3.a.
 26. NW 10/10.17.P28. (Fig. 10:3). Goblet. Pink 5YR 7/4 ware with small white, grey and brown grits, evenly fired. Horizontally burnished pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip in and out. No parallels in the Jericho Tombs materials.
 27. NW 10/10.17.P55. (Fig. 10:4). Wide, curved bowl. Gritty ware with small white grits and carbonized temper, fired white 5YR 8/1 with light grey patches. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) M.1.a.
 28. NW 10/10.17.P33. (Fig. 10:5). Small globular bowl. Fine ware with grey core, fired pink 5YR 8/4 at surfaces. Irregular horizontal burnishing on white 10YR 8/2 slip out and at the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.1.a.
 29. NW 10/10.17.P89. (Fig. 10:6). Small globular bowl. Light grey 7.5YR N7/0 ware with small grey grits, fired pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 at the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.1.a.
 30. NW 10/10.17.P24. (Fig. 10:7). Small globular bowl. White 10YR 8/2 ware with small white, grey, and brown grits, fired pink 7.5YR 8/4 in. Horizontally burnished pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out and at the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 31. NW 10/10.17.P31. (Fig. 10:8). Small globular bowl. Light red 2.5YR 6/6 ware with small white grits, evenly fired. Irregular horizontal burnishing on white 5YR 8/1 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 32. NW 10/10.17.P19. (Fig. 10:9). Small globular bowl. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pinkish grey 7.5YR 6/2 at surfaces. Irregular horizontal burnishing

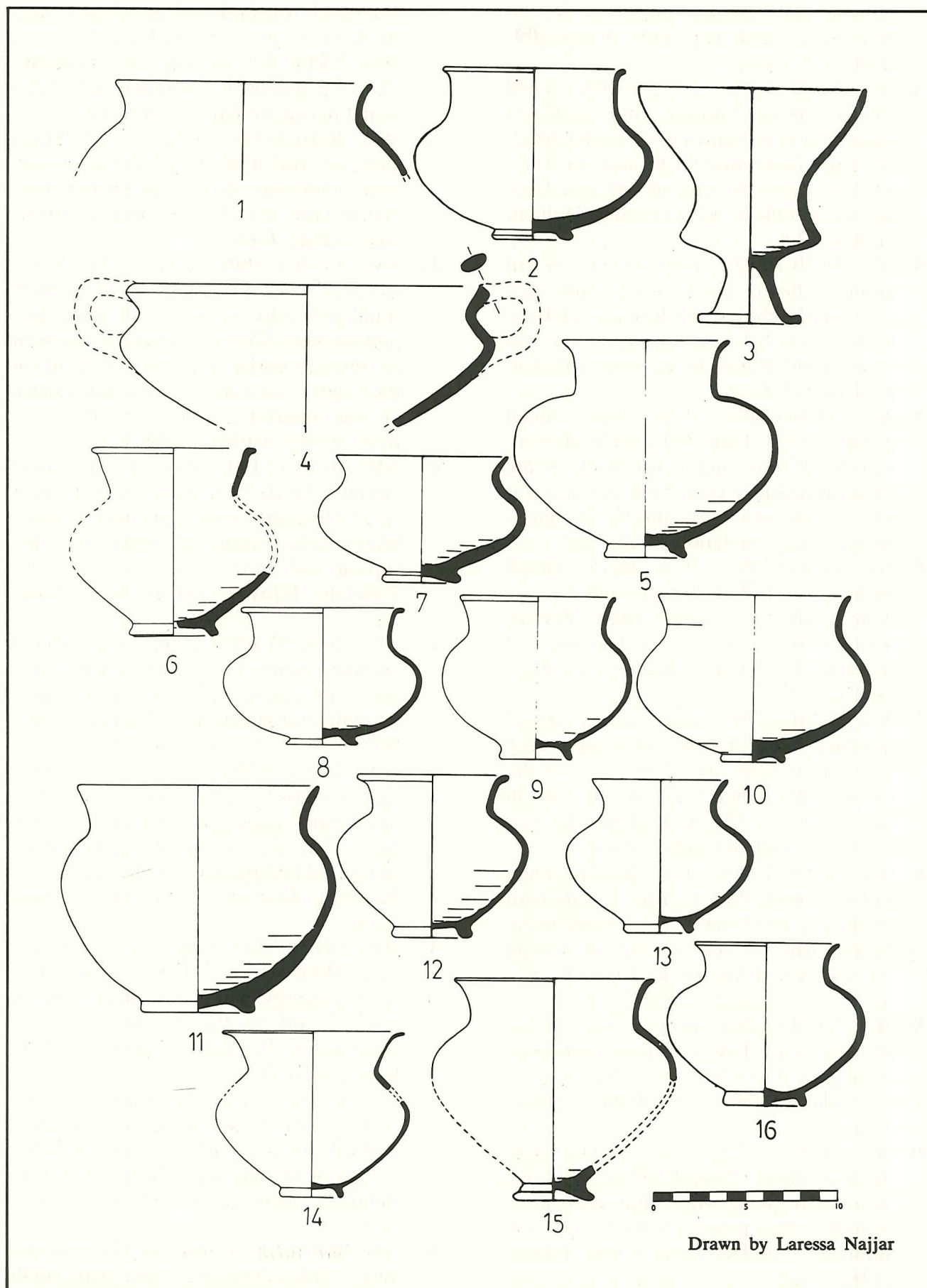


Fig. 10. Necked bowls: 1, 2; Goblet: 3; Wide curved bowls: 4; Small globular bowls: 5-16.

- on white 5YR 8/1 slip out and at the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
33. NW 10/10.17.P30. (Fig. 10:10). Small globular bowl. Pinkish white 5YR 8/2 ware with small brown grits, evenly fired. Irregular horizontal burnishing on white 5YR 8/1 slip out and at the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 34. NW 10/10.17.P32. (Fig. 10:11). Small globular bowl. Gritty ware with grey core, fired light red 10YR 6/8 at surfaces. Pink 7.5YR 8/4 slip out and at the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 35. NW 10/10.17.P23. (Fig. 10:12). Small globular bowl. Light red 2.5YR 6/6 ware with small white and brown grits, evenly fired. Burnished pink 5YR 8/4 slip out and at the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 36. NW 10/10.17.P22. (Fig. 10:13). Small globular bowl. Pinkish grey 5YR 6/2 ware with small grits, evenly fired. Pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip out and at the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 37. NW 10/10.17.P85. (Fig. 10:14). Small globular bowl. Gritty ware with grey core, fired light grey 10YR 7/2 at the surface. Burnished self slip out and on the interior of the neck. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 38. NW 10/10.17.P88. (Fig. 10:15). Small globular bowl. Pink 7.5YR 7/3 ware with small grey and brown grits, evenly fired. Pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out and on the interior of the neck. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 39. NW 10/10.17.P68. (Fig. 10:16). Small globular bowl. Pink 7.5YR 8/4 ware with small grey and white grits, evenly fired. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.a.
 40. NW 10/10.17.P20. (Fig. 11:1). Small globular bowl. Pinkish white 5YR 8/2 ware with small white and grey grits, fired with grey patches at the rim and the shoulder. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.b.
 41. NW 10/10.17.P34. (Fig. 11:2). Small globular bowl. Pink 7.5YR 7/4 ware with small white grits, evenly fired. Layer of pink 7.5YR 8/4 slip on layer of white 5YR 8/1 slip on the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.b.
 42. NW 10/10.17.P90. (Fig. 11:3). Small globular bowl. Pink 7.5YR 8/3 ware with small white and fine temper, evenly fired. Self slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.b.
 43. NW 10/10.17.P86. (Fig. 11:4). Small globular bowl. Pink 5YR 8/4 ware with small grey grits, evenly fired. Burnished pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip decorated with six lines of dusky red 7.5R 3/4 paint on the exterior, and drops of the same paint on the interior of the rim. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.-.
 44. NW 10/10.17.P91. (Fig. 11:5). Small globular bowl. Pink 5YR 7/4 ware with small white and brown grits, evenly fired. Horizontally burnished white 5YR 8/1 slip out and on the exterior of the neck. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.-.
 45. NW 10/10.17.P92. (Fig. 11:6). Small globular bowl. Gritty ware, with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 8/4 at surfaces. Irregular burnishing at the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.2.-.
 46. NW 10/10.17.P82. (Fig. 11:7). Small globular bowl. Gritty ware with carbonized temper and grey core fired pinkish grey 5YR 7/2 at surfaces. Traces of burnished pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) J.-a.
 47. NW 10/10.17.P56. (Fig. 11:8). Pedestal vase. Pink 7.5YR 7/4 ware with small white and grey grits, evenly fired. Pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out and at the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.a.
 48. NW 10/10.17.P15. (Fig. 11:9). Pedestal vase. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pinkish grey 7.5YR 7/2 at surfaces. Traces of vertical burnishing at the rim. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.a.
 49. NW 10/10.17.P40. (Fig. 11:10). Pedestal vase. Pink 7.5YR 8/3 ware with small white and brown grits, evenly fired. Pink

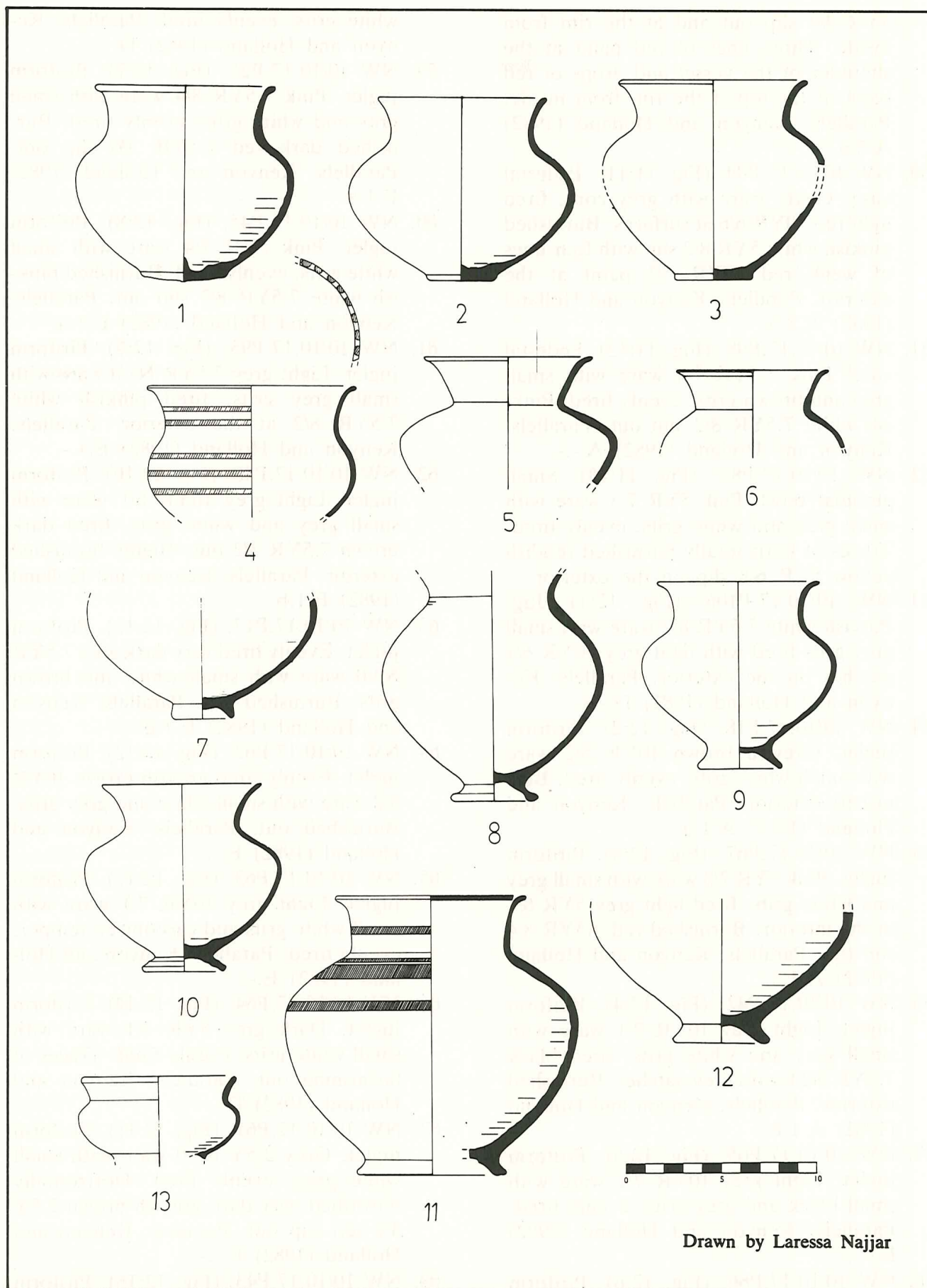


Fig. 11. Small globular bowls: 1-7; Pedestal vases: 8-12; Small globular bowls: 13.

- 5YR 8/4 slip out and at the rim from inside. Three lines of red paint at the shoulder of the vessel and drops of red paint at the top of the rim from inside. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.a.
50. NW 10/10.17.P84. (Fig. 11:11). Pedestal vase. Gritty ware with grey core, fired light red 10YR 6/6 at surfaces. Burnished pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip with four lines of weak red 10YR 4/3 paint at the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.a.
51. NW 10/10.17.P98. (Fig. 11:12). Pedestal vase. Pink 7.5YR 7/4 ware with small grey and brown grits, evenly fired. Pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.-.-.
52. NW 10/10.17.P87. (Fig. 11:13). Small globular bowl. Pink 5YR 7/3 ware with small grey and white grits, evenly fired. Traces of horizontally burnished reddish yellow 5YR 6/8 slip on the exterior.
53. NW 10/10.17.P106. (Fig. 12:1). Jug. Pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 ware with small grey grits fired with light grey 10YR 6/1 patches on the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) D.-.a.
54. NW 10/10.17.P18. (Fig. 12:2). Piriform juglet. Greyish brown 10YR 5/2 ware with small white grits, evenly fired. Burnished exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.1.a.
55. NW 10/10.17.P67. (Fig. 12:3). Piriform juglet. Pink 5YR 7/3 ware with small grey and white grits, fired light grey 5YR 6/1 at the interior. Burnished red 2.5YR 8/4 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.1.a.
56. NW 10/10.17.P42. (Fig. 12:4). Piriform juglet. Light grey 10YR 7/1 ware with small grey and white grits, fired black 7.5YR N2/0 with grey patches. Burnished exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.1.b.
57. NW 10/10.17.P65. (Fig. 12:5). Piriform juglet. Light grey 10YR 7/1 ware with small black and grey grits, evenly fired. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) B.-.-.
58. NW 10/10.17.P66. (Fig. 12:6). Piriform juglet. Grey 7.5YR N5/0 ware with small white grits, evenly fired. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) D.-.-.
59. NW 10/10.17.P21. (Fig. 12:7). Piriform juglet. Pink 7.5YR 8/4 ware with small grey and white grits, evenly fired. Burnished dark red 2.5YR 3/6 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) E.1.a.
60. NW 10/10.17.P45. (Fig. 12:8). Piriform juglet. Pink 5YR 7/4 ware with small white grits, evenly fired. Burnished pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) E.1.a.
61. NW 10/10.17.P95. (Fig. 12:9). Piriform juglet. Light grey 7.5YR N7/0 ware with small grey grits, fired pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 at the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) E.1.-.
62. NW 10/10.17.P48. (Fig. 12:10). Piriform juglet. Light grey 10YR 6/1 ware with small grey and white grits, fired dark brown 7.5YR 3/2 out. Highly burnished exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) E.1.b.
63. NW 10/10.17.P17. (Fig. 12:11). Piriform juglet. Evenly fired very dark grey 7.5YR N3/0 ware with small white and brown grits. Burnished out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) E.1.d.
64. NW 10/10.17.P62. (Fig. 12:12). Piriform juglet. Evenly fired greyish brown 10YR 5/2 ware with small white and grey grits. Burnished out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) E.-.-.
65. NW 10/10.17.P63. (Fig. 12:13). Piriform juglet. Light grey 10YR 7/1 ware with small white grits and carbonized temper, evenly fired. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) E.-.-.
66. NW 10/10.17.P64. (Fig. 12:14). Piriform juglet. Dark grey 5YR 4/1 ware with small white grits, evenly fired. Traces of burnishing out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) F.-.-.
67. NW 10/10.17.P61. (Fig. 12:15). Piriform juglet. Grey 2.5Y N5/0 ware with small white grits, evenly fired. Horizontally burnished very dark greyish brown 2.5Y 3/2 self slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) F.-.-.
68. NW 10/10.17.P43. (Fig. 12:16). Piriform juglet. Pink 7.5YR 7/4 ware with small

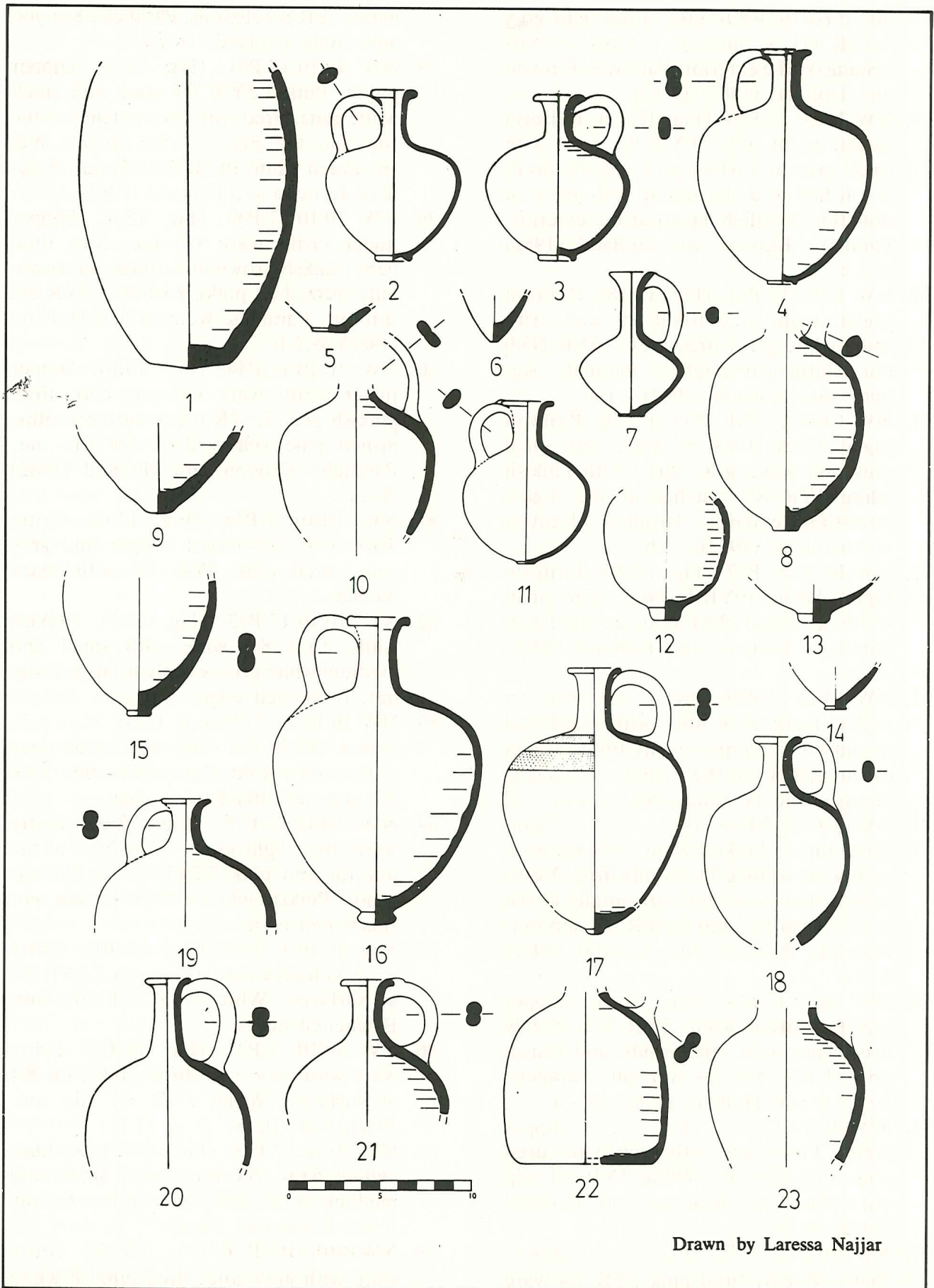


Fig. 12. Jug: 1; Piriform juglets: 2-21; Cylindrical juglet: 22; Dipper juglet: 23.

- and medium white grits, fired light grey 7.5YR 6/1 at surfaces. Traces of burnishing on the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) G.1.b.
69. NW 10/10.17.P50. (Fig. 12:17). Piriform juglet. Light grey 10YR 6/1 ware with small grey and white grits, evenly fired. Burnished and decorated with lines of dots (el-Yahudieh Type) at the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) H.2.c.
 70. NW 10/10.17.P41. (Fig. 12:18). Piriform juglet. Light grey 10YR 7/1 ware with small white grits, fired grey 7.5YR N5/0 out. Burnished exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) -.1.a.
 71. NW 10/10.17.P51. (Fig. 12:19). Piriform juglet. Grey 10YR 5/1 ware with small grey and white grits, fired with pinkish white 5YR 8/2 patches at the highly burnished exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) -.2.b.
 72. NW 10/10.17.P47. (Fig. 12:20). Piriform juglet. White 10YR 8/2 ware with small white, grey and black grits, evenly fired. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) -.2.b.
 73. NW 10/10.17.P49. (Fig. 12:21). Piriform juglet. Dark grey ware with small and medium white grits, evenly fired. Traces of burnishing on the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) -.2.d.
 74. NW 10/10.17.P46. (Fig. 12:22). Cylindrical juglet. Pinkish white 5YR 8/2 ware with small white grits, evenly fired. Vertically at the neck and horizontally at the body, burnished red 2.5YR 8/4 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) C.3.c.
 75. NW 10/10.17.P54. (Fig. 12:23). Dipper juglet. Pinkish white 5YR 8/2, evenly fired ware with small white and brown grits. Pink 5YR 7/4 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.-.a.
 76. NW 10/10.17.P53. (Fig. 13:1). Dipper juglet. Fine ware with grey core, fired pink 5YR 7/4 out. White 5YR 8/1 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.2.-.
 77. NW 10/10.17.P72. (Fig. 13:2). Dipper Juglet. Evenly fired pink 5YR 7/4 ware with small white and grey grits. Pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.a.
 78. NW 10/10.17.P01. (Fig. 13:3). Dipper juglet. Pink 7.5YR 7/4 ware with small white grits, fired with grey patches at the rim and the neck of the vessel. Wet smoothed white 10YR 8/2 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.a.
 79. NW 10/10.17.P39. (Fig. 13:4). Dipper juglet. Gritty ware with grey core, fired light reddish brown at surfaces. Horizontally burnished pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.b.
 80. NW 10/10.17.P44. (Fig. 13:5). Dipper juglet. Gritty ware with grey core, fired pinkish grey 7.5YR 6/2 at surfaces. Burnished pale yellow 2.5Y 8/4 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.-.a.
 81. NW 10/10.17.P16. (Fig. 13:6). Gritty ware with carbonized temper and grey core, fired pink 5YR 7/4 with black patches.
 82. NW 10/10.17.P73. (Fig. 13:7). Pinkish white 5YR 8/2 ware with small and medium white grits, evenly fired. Self slip out, blackened edges.
 83. NW 10/10.17.P74. (Fig. 13:8). Very pale yellow 10YR 8/4 ware with small grey grits, evenly fired. Burnished white 5YR 8/1 slip out. Blackened edges.
 84. NW 10/10.17.P75. (Fig. 13:9). Gritty ware, fired light grey 7.5YR N7/0 at the interior and pink 7.5YR 8/4 at the exterior. Pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out. Blackened edges.
 85. NW 10/10.17.P76. (Fig. 13:10). Gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 7.5YR 8/4 at surfaces. White 5YR 8/1 slip out. Blackened edges.
 86. NW 10/10.17.P77. (Fig. 13:11). Gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 5YR 8/4 at surfaces. White 5YR 8/1 slip out. Blackened edges.
 87. NW 10/10.17.P78. (Fig. 13:12). Reddish yellow 5YR 7/8 ware with small and medium grey and white grits. Evenly fired. Blackened edges.
 88. NW 10/10.17.P79. (Fig. 13:13). Gritty ware with grey core, fired pinkish white 5YR 8/2 at surfaces. Horizontally bur-

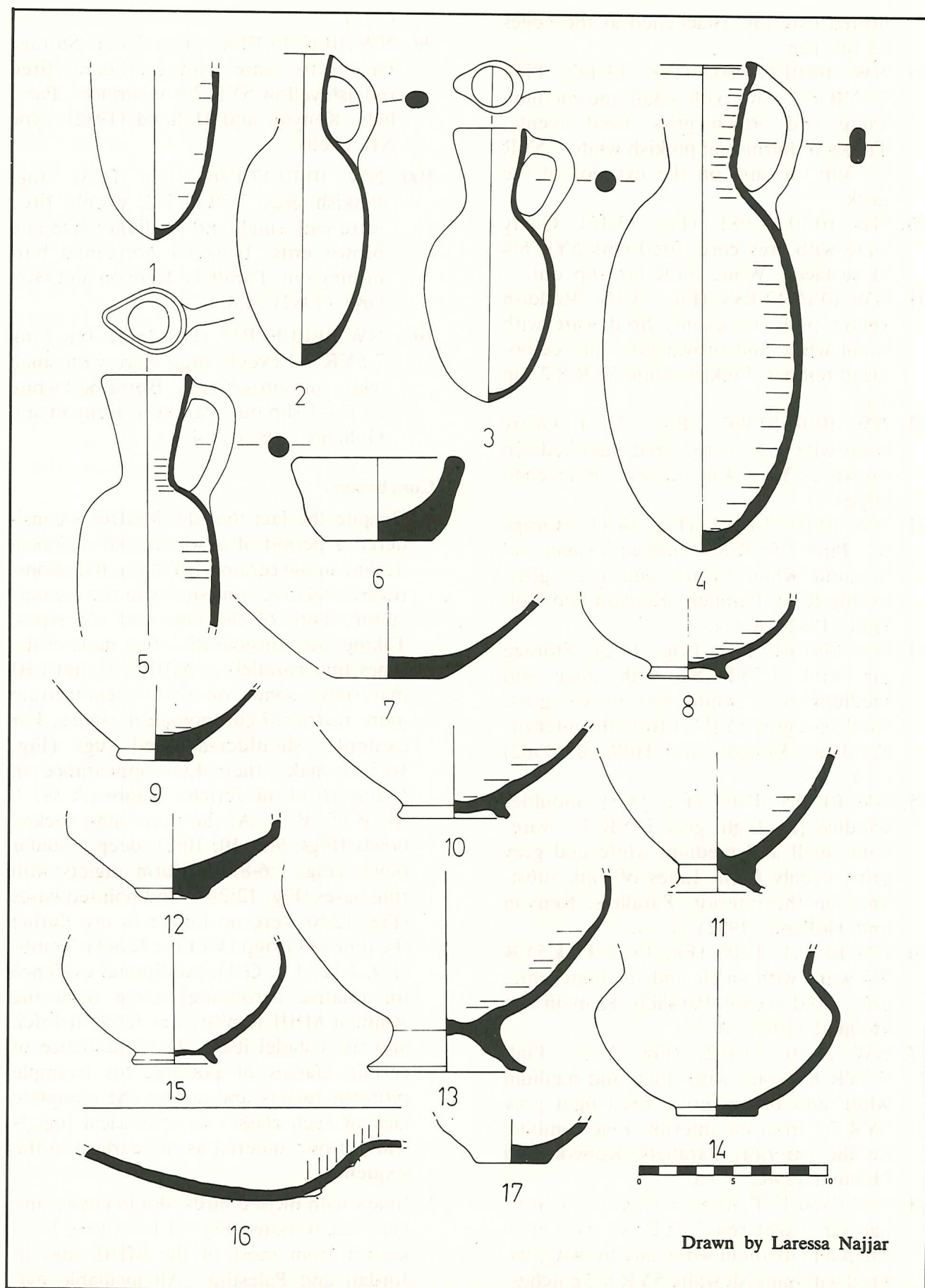


Fig. 13. Dipper juglets: 1-5.; Lamp: 6; Sherd lamps: 7-17.

- nished exterior. Blackened at the edges of the rim.
89. NW 10/10.17.P80. (Fig. 13:14). Pink 7.5YR 8/3 ware with small and medium white and brown grits, fired evenly. Traces of burnished pinkish white 7.5YR 8/2 slip out and on the exterior of the neck.
 90. NW 10/10.17.P81. (Fig. 13:15). Gritty ware with grey core, fired pink 5YR 8/4 at surfaces. White 5YR 8/1 slip out.
 91. NW 10/10.17.P83. (Fig. 13:16). Reddish yellow 5YR 7/8 evenly fired ware with small white and brown grits and carbonized temper. Pinkish white 5YR 8/2 slip out.
 92. NW 10/10.17.P97. (Fig. 13:17). Gritty ware with grey core, fired light reddish brown 2.5YR 6/4 at surfaces. Blackened edges.
 93. NW 10/10.17.P104. (Fig. 14:1). Storage jar. Pink 7.5YR 8/4 ware with small and medium white brown and grey grits, evenly fired. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.1.a.
 94. NW 10/10.17.P99. (Fig. 14:2). Storage jar. Pink 7.5YR 8/3 with small and medium grey, white and brown grits, fired light grey 5YR 7/1 from the interior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) --.a.
 95. NW 10/10.17.P107. (Fig. 14:3). Shoulder handled jar. Light grey 10YR 7/1 ware, with small and medium white and grey grits, evenly fired. Lines of pink substance on the interior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.--a.
 96. NW 10/10.17.P103. (Fig. 15:1). Pink 5YR 7/4 ware with small and medium white grits, fired evenly. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.3.a.
 97. NW 10/10.17.P102. (Fig. 15:2). Pink 7.5YR 8/3 ware with small and medium white and brown grits, fired light grey 5YR 7/1 from the interior. Fine combing on the exterior. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) --.a.
 98. NW 10/10.17.P101 a+b. (Fig. 16:1). Storage jar. Light red 2.5YR 6/6 ware with small and medium white and brown grits, fired with pinkish white 5YR 8/2 patches. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) C.1.a.
 99. NW 10/10.17.P105. (Fig. 16:2). Storage jar. Gritty ware with grey core, fired reddish yellow 5YR 7/6 at surfaces. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) Type XII (Tell).
 100. NW 10/10.17.P36. (Fig. 16:3). Jug. Pinkish grey 7.5YR 7/2, evenly fired ware with small and medium white and brown grits. Irregular horizontal burnishing out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.4.a.
 101. NW 10/10.17.P37. (Fig. 16:4). Jug. Pink 7.5YR 7/4 evenly fired ware with small white and brown grits. Burnished white 5YR 8/1 slip out. Parallels: Kenyon and Holland (1982) A.4.a.

Conclusions

1. Despite the fact that the MBIIC is considered a period of aesthetic and technical decline in the ceramic tradition, it demonstrates a relative consistency in the ceramic culture both of the new and old types. Taking into consideration that most of the types find parallels in MBIIA-B and LBI materials, some of them demonstrate more restricted chronological ranges. For example, shoulder-handled jugs (Fig. 16:3-4) make their first appearance in Group III of the Jericho Tombs (A 38, A 34, B 35, B 3). At the same time necked bowls (Figs. 9:9, 10; 10:2), deep globular bowls (Fig. 9:6-8), piriform juglets with ring bases (Fig. 12:2-4), and pointed bases (Fig. 12:6) were no longer in use during the time of Group IV of the Jericho Tombs (J 9, J 12, J 1, G 1). Additional evidence for relative chronology came from the Amman MBII tombs from Jabal al-Jofeh and the Citadel itself. The abundance of certain classes of pottery, for example piriform juglets and almost the complete lack of such classes as cylindrical juglets will put our material as the earliest in the sequence.
2. Inlays with incised birds, dot in circles and lines decorations (Fig. 6) have long been known from most of the MBII sites in Jordan and Palestine. All available evidence point toward the end of the eight-

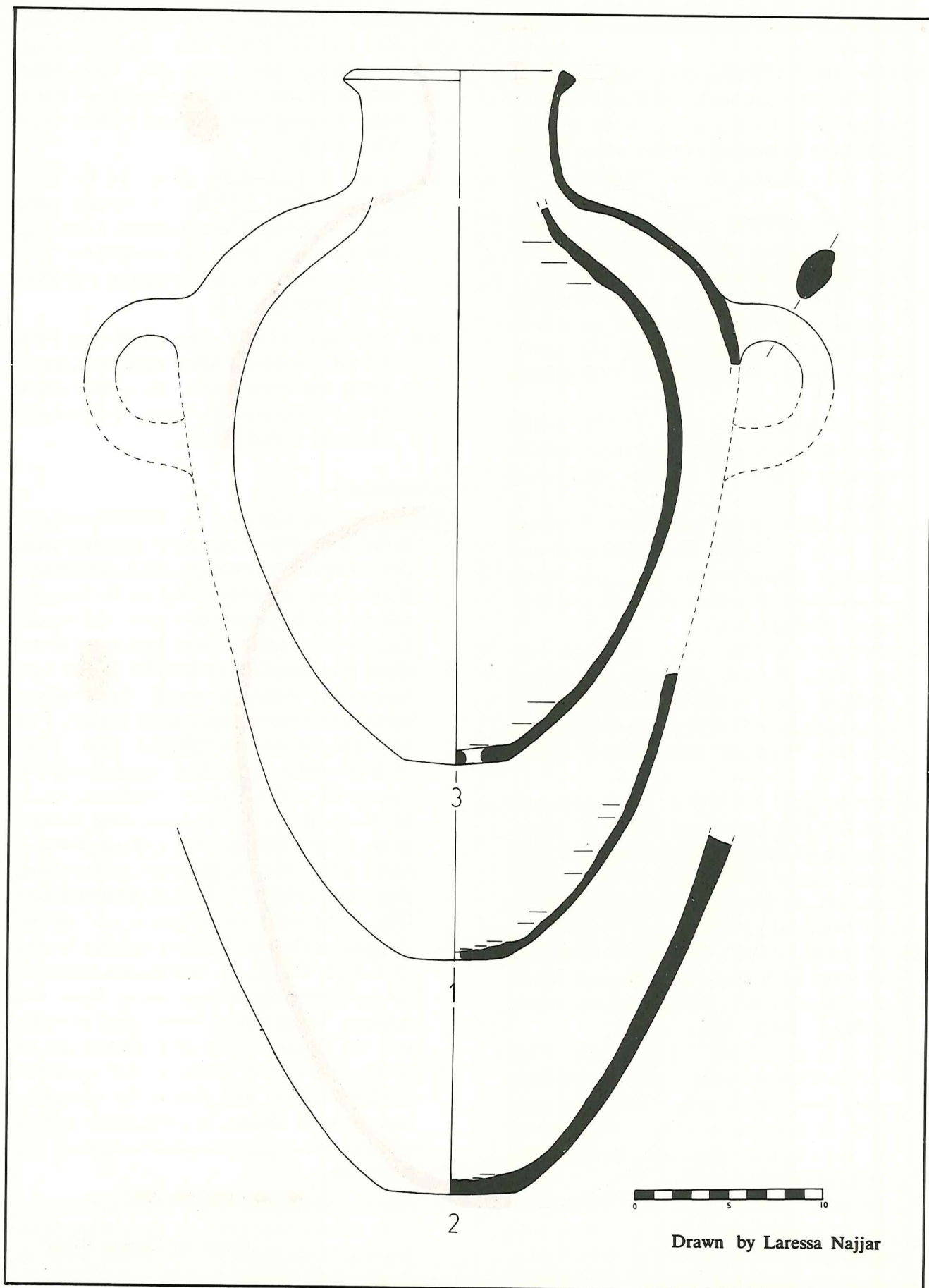


Fig. 14. Storage jars: 1, 2; Shoulder handled jar: 3.

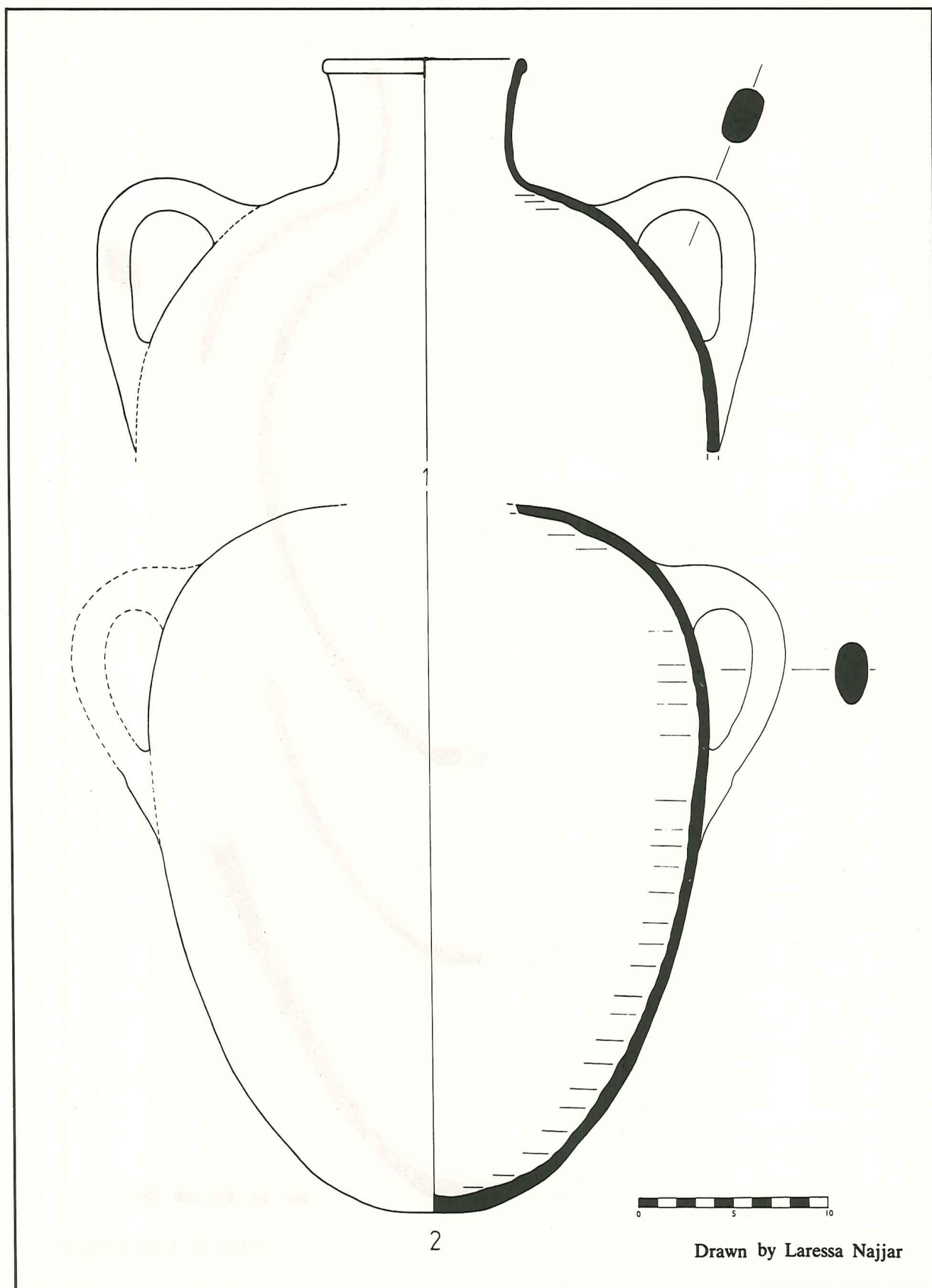


Fig. 15. Storage jars: 1, 2.

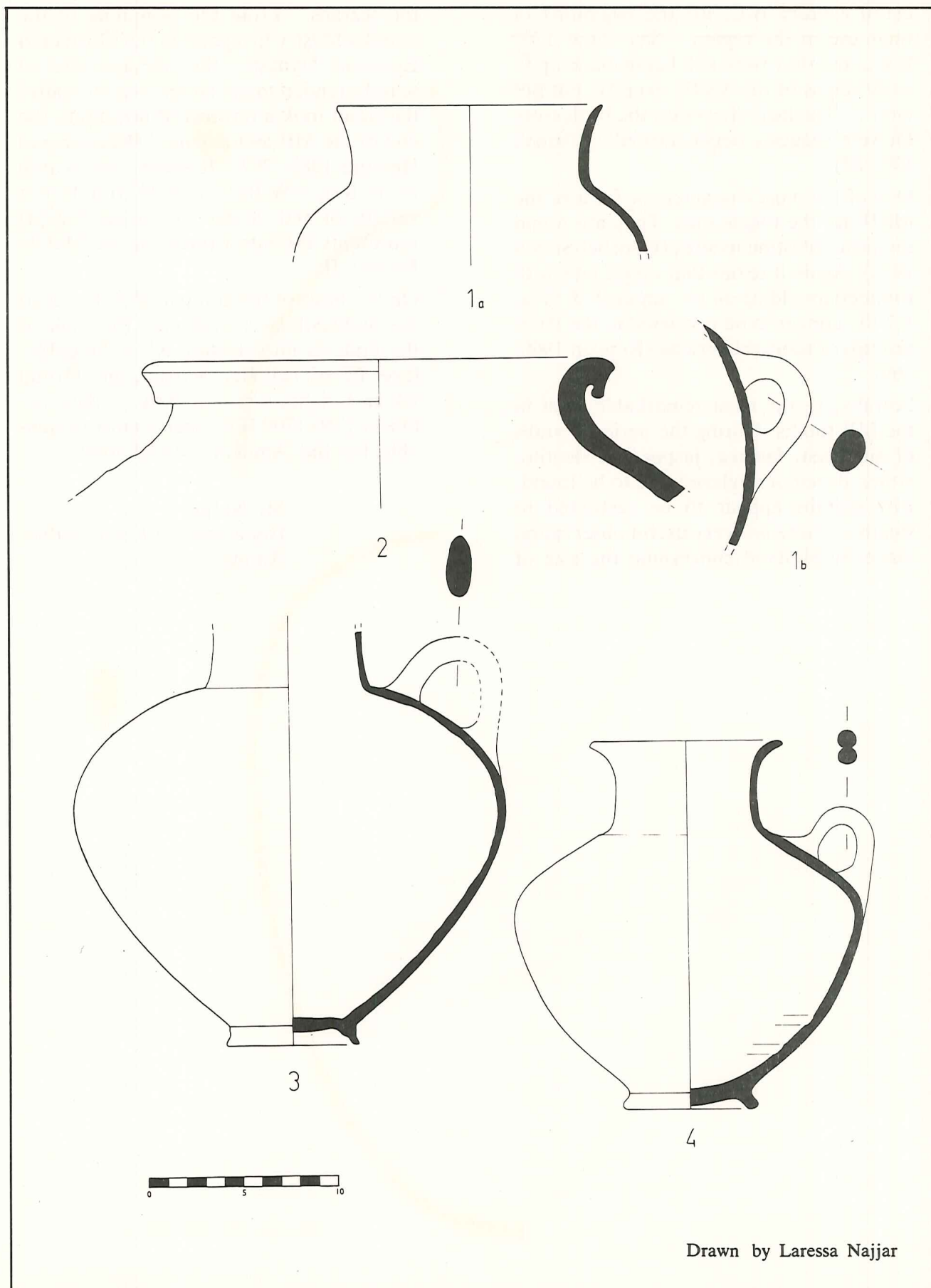


Fig. 16. Storage jars: 1, 2; Jugs: 3, 4.

eenth century B.C. for the beginning of their use in the region. "Say about 1700 B.C., and they were still being made up to early reigns of the XVIII dynasty, but not later ... The lack of eyes on the birds from Duweir suggests degeneration". (Tufnell 1958:87).

3. One of the most characteristic finds of the MBII are the toggle pins. They are found on most Palestinians sites (Henchel-Simon 1938). Again it seems that toggle pins with rounded moulding on the upper shaft (Fig. 5:7-8) appear to be restricted to the III-V Groups of tombs at Jericho (Kenyon 1960: 269).
4. Scarabs are the most remarkable finds in the MB tombs. During the period scarabs of amethyst, faience, jasper and steatite, either glazed or unglazed, are to be found. LBI scarabs appear to be restricted to steatite. There is a very useful observation made by Holland concerning the size of

the scarabs. "From the beginning of the scarab industry to a point in the Thirteenth Egyptian Dynasty, the average size of scarabs tended to get larger, but thereafter the trend took a downward turn up to the end of the MB and beyond" (Kenyon and Holland 1983: 767). It seems that scarab no. 6 (Reg. NW 10/10.17.S20) with the last variety of red crown (of Lower Egypt) represents the latest phase in the Middle Bronze II.

5. On the basis of the comparative studies of the archaeological evidence, the bulk of the finds fit into stratum XI of Megiddo, level E2 of Tell Beit Mirsim, and Group III at Jericho. Consequently, a date between 1750-1700 B.C. seems most reasonable for the Amman Citadel tomb.

M. Najjar
Department of Antiquities
Amman

Bibliography

- Albright, W.
 1932 *The Excavation of Tell Beit Mirsim in Palestine*, vol. 1. The Pottery of the First Three Campaigns. *AASOR* XII.
 1933 *The Excavation of Tell Beit Mirsim*. IA: The Bronze Age Pottery of the Fourth Campaign. *AASOR* XIII.
- Amiran, R.
 1969 *Ancient Pottery of the Holy Land*. Jerusalem.
- Cole, D.
 1965 *Middle Bronze IIB Pottery at Shechem*. Ph. D. Dissertation submitted to Drew University, Michigan.
- Dajani, A.
 1960 Middle Bronze Age Pottery. *ADAJ* 4-5: 99-113.
- Dornemann, R.H.
 1983 *The Archaeology of the Transjordan in the Bronze and Iron Ages*. Milwaukee.
- Glueck, N.
 1939 *Explorations in Eastern Palestine III*. *AASOR* XVIII-XIX.
- Guy, P.
 1938 *Megiddo Tombs*. Chicago.
- Harding, L.
 1953 A Middle Bronze Age Tomb at Amman. *PEFA* 6: 14-26.
- Henchel-Simon, E.
 1938 The Toggle-pins in the Palestinian Archaeological Museum. *QDAP* 11: 169-209.
- Isserlin, B.
 1953 Notes and Comparisons. *PEFA* 6: 19-20.
- Kenyon, K.
 1960 *Excavations at Jericho, I*. The Tombs Excavated in 1952-4. London.
 1965 *Excavations at Jericho, II*. The Tombs Excavated in 1955-8. London.
- Kenyon, K. and Holland, T.
 1981 *Excavations at Jericho, III*. The Architecture and Stratigraphy of the Tell. London.
 1982 *Excavations at Jericho, IV*. The Pottery Type Series and Other Finds. London.
 1983 *Excavations at Jericho, V*. The Pottery Phases of the Tell and Other Finds. London.
- Lamon, R. and Shipton, G.
 1942 *Megiddo I*. Seasons of 1925-34. Strata I-V. Chicago.
- Loud, G.
 1942 *Megiddo II*. Seasons of 1935-39. Chicago.
- Ma'ayeh, F.
 1960 Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Jordan. *ADAJ* 4-5: 114-116.
- Petrie, F.
 1931 *Ancient Gaza I, Tell El Ajjul*. London.
 1932 *Ancient Gaza II, Tell El Ajjul*. London.
 1933 *Ancient Gaza III, Tell El Ajjul*. London.
 1934 *Ancient Gaza IV, Tell El Ajjul*. London.
- Piccirillo, M.
 1978 Una tomba del Bronzo Medio ad Amman. *LA* 28: 73-86.
- Rowe, A.
 1935 *A Catalogue of Egyptian Scarabs, Scaraboids, Seals and Amulets in the Palestine Archaeological Museum*. Jerusalem.
- Tufnell, O.
 1958 *Lachish IV. Tell Ed Duweir. The Bronze Age*. London.

Ward, W.

1966 Scarabs, Seals and Cylinders from Two Tombs at Amman. *ADAJ* 11: 5-18.

Zayadine, F., Najjar, M. and Greene, J.A.

1987 Recent Excavations on the Citadel of Amman (Lower Terrace), A Preliminary Report. *ADAJ* 31: 299-311.

Zayadine, F., Humbert, J.-B. and Najjar, M.

1989 The 1988 Excavations on the Citadel of Amman Lower Terrace, Area A. *ADAJ* 33: 357-363.



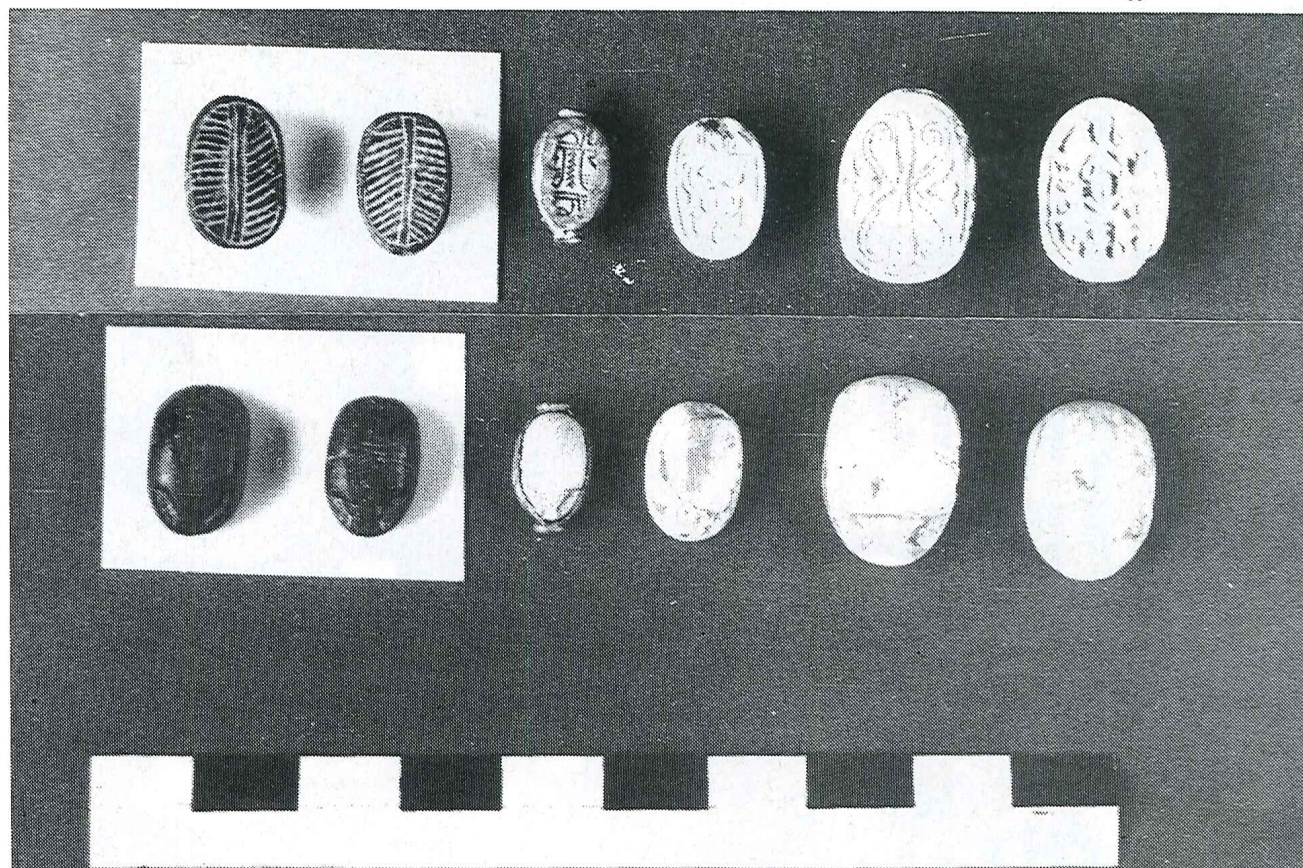
Temple of Hercules. Aerial view.



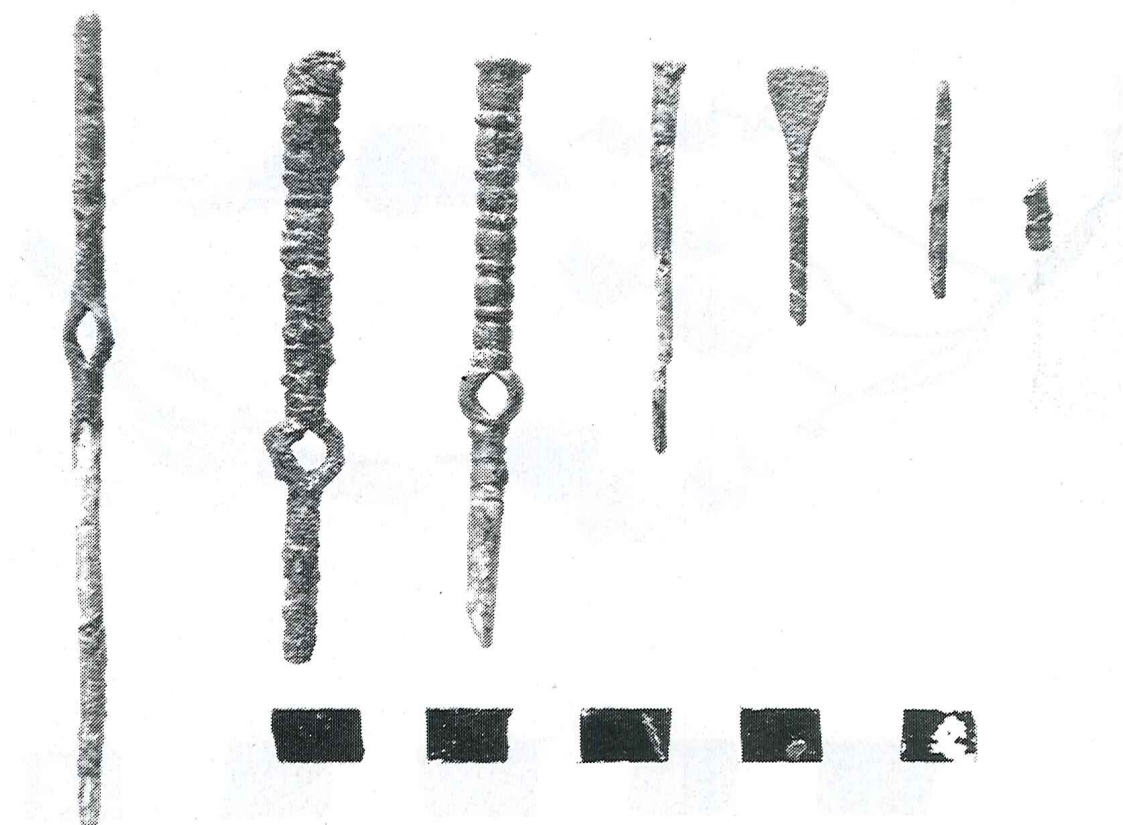
1. Piriform jar and necked bowl *in situ*.



2. Four skulls at the northern wall of the tomb.



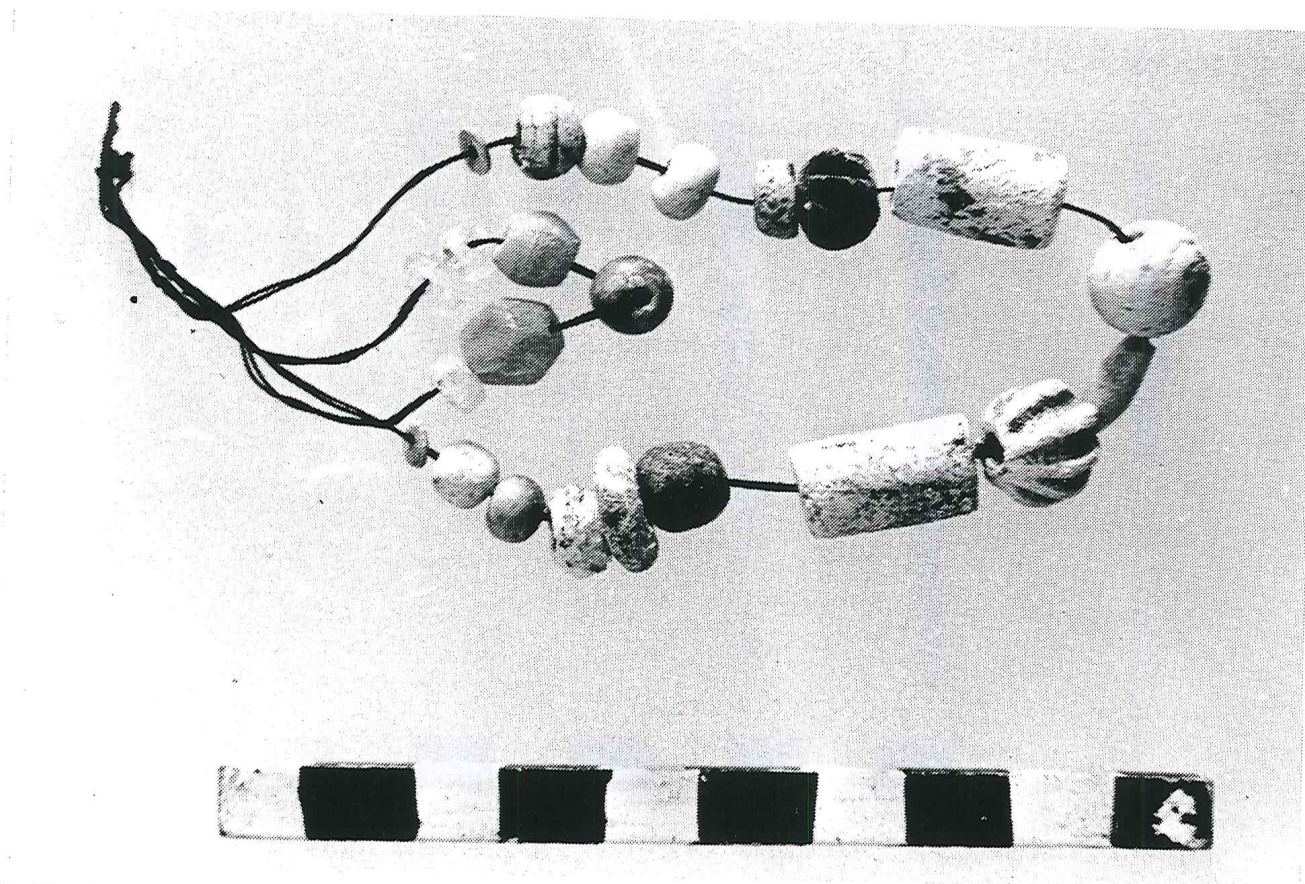
1. Middle Bronze Age scarabs.



2. Bronze objects.



1. Alabaster bottle.



2. Beads.