

# BULLETIN DE LIAISON

DU

GROUPE INTERNATIONAL D'ÉTUDE  
DE LA CÉRAMIQUE ÉGYPTIENNE

## XIX

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS D'ARCHÉOLOGIE ORIENTALE

1996



# **BULLETIN DE LIAISON**



Nous rappelons aux auteurs qui contribuent à ce *Bulletin de liaison* que la date limite pour la réception des manuscrits est fixée au 1<sup>er</sup> octobre de chaque année.

D'autre part, nous prions les auteurs de bien vouloir fournir à l'éditeur leur texte sur disquette (Mac) ainsi qu'une sortie papier et les originaux dessins réalisés à l'encre de Chine. Les photocopies sont à proscrire.

#### Correctif

Une erreur, dont s'excuse l'éditeur, s'est glissée dans le titre du rapport n° I/2 du *BCE* XVIII. Les auteurs de ce rapport, Rexine Hummel et Steven B. Shubert, sont affiliés à l'« Akhenaten Temple Project » de l'université de Toronto, sous la direction du professeur Donald Redford, et non aux universités d'Illinois et de Washington comme cela était indiqué dans l'en-tête de cet article.

*Directeur de la publication* : Helen JACQUET-GORDON.

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- I. Classement géographique des découvertes.
- II. Classement chronologique et thématique des informations  
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# **I**

## **CLASSEMENT GÉOGRAPHIQUE DES DÉCOUVERTES**



## 1. **Buto. Tell al-Fara'in. Early periods**

DAI, Cairo.

IN the spring of 1993, under the direction of D. Faltings, new excavations were begun at the western edge of Tell al-Fara'in/Buto. During the spring and fall seasons, three new 5×5 m soundings (A1-A3) were made in order to recover more data concerning areas which had not been excavated in the 1980's. They revealed mainly Late Period and Roman material from architectural contexts as well as Pre- and Early Dynastic (mainly late Dynasty I) ceramics from mixed layers. For technical reasons these trenches were not dug down to the level of the *gezira* sands. They may, therefore, still contain information to be discovered by future excavation.

In the spring of 1994, work was resumed at the old trenches which had been abandoned since 1989. It was possible to lower trench TeF T IX down to *gezira* sands by the use of vacuum pumps, thus revealing early phases of Layer II and Layer I. The pottery of these phases, comparable to Naqada IIB-c, consisted of typical domestic types, mainly chaff and sand-tempered Nile silt wares as well as a few marl clay sherds, probably imported from Middle or Upper Egypt. Thousands of sherds were found, but these have not as yet been completely processed. The first impression made by this new material is that most of the groupings identified in former trenches could be distinguished here as well and, in addition, new, partially more detailed classifications could be established.

In trenches TeF 88 U I and U III, several strata of Early Dynastic mudbrick architecture (Layer IV) were excavated. The quantity of potsherds from these areas was also very great and requires further study during the coming seasons. The presence of several specimens of cylindrical marl clay jars, the so-called wine jars, with or without impressed decoration, and of other possibly recognizable types, in great

quantities, seems to justify an early date for Layer IV equivalent to Dynasty 0 and early Dynasty I.

The overwhelming quantities of potsherds such as were found here are typical for settlement archaeology. Their study requires much time and patience, but if treated systematically, this pottery can provide much data concerning not only the period of its production but also the amounts produced and under what conditions, as well as the character of the occupation of the site and the ecology and economic patterns of this early community.

E. Christiana KÖHLER

## 2.

### **Buto. Tell al-Fara'in. Third Intermediate to Late Period**

DAI, Cairo.

A study season of five weeks duration took place in October/November 1994, continuing work on pottery from the 1st millennium B.C. excavated in 1987-1988 (see *BCE* XIII, p. 3-4). The material from the first two phases in the sample square TIX is now almost finished, and a good start has been made on the remaining phase present in that square (there is believed to be an intermediate phase in square TVII). An important development has been the belated recognition of several "wasters" in the firepits of this last phase, and it is now evident that the kilns of which the firepits formed a part, and which have been entirely removed, were in fact used for the firing of pottery. No trace of potters' workshops, kiln structures or unfired pottery survived in the excavated area, though it is possible that something remains below the track to the village which runs at a higher level alongside the square. The "wasters" all derive from fairly large jars, of at least three different types.

Study of imported pottery from squares TVII and TIX is all but complete, and material from other squares is being incorporated into the series, as will eventually be done with the local types.

The sequence of excavated pottery is now thought to cover a somewhat earlier period than previously believed, and to run from 750/725 to 600/575 B.C. Deposits in surface levels nearby would then be of about 550/500 B.C., according with the date of the Aegean amphorae in them. Although no independent corroborative evidence has yet been found, it is therefore likely that construction of the long string of platform buildings in the western quarter of the Tell began under the last Libyan kings or the Delta dynasts who preceded Dynasty XXVI.

Peter FRENCH and Janine BOURRIAU.

### 3. Buto. Tell all-Fara'in. Late Period-Romain

DAI, Cairo.

NEW excavations, in earlier levels, were undertaken during the season from mid-March to late May 1994; at the same time we were able to continue work on previously excavated material.

Cataloguing and conservation of EES pottery from 1966-1969 (cf. *BCE passim*) made very good progress, more than 200 additional sherds being processed to bring the total up to about 1070, most of which have been identified with sherds briefly catalogued at the time of excavation and thus of known provenance. This has been very time-consuming work, but it is now complete; about 90 % of the pottery thought to have been left in the magazine is accounted for, and the remainder must be considered lost or unidentifiable. After this work was completed, it was possible to begin drawing up a ware and form typology, initially using the sherds actually available for study; later it will be extended to incorporate the remaining material, including much which was formerly recorded, and discarded by the excavators. To complete the fieldwork will probably require a further two months on site, and a similar length of time will be needed to draw the undrawn sherds and redraw others where necessary. There is also a quantity of material in England to be added. Publication might reasonably be expected by about 1997.

We likewise continued work on the imported pottery from the 1987-1988 excavations of the DAI (*BCE* XVII and XVIII). As before, we found Palestinian amphorae in the earliest deposits, believed to be of the early Saite period, supplemented by Greek amphorae from about the reign of Amasis onwards. In surface material from the vicinity of the excavations, material which is later than most of the



excavated pottery and probably of the 5th century B.C., both Palestinian and Greek vessels continue to be common.

A further short study season is planned for the autumn of 1994.

Peter FRENCH and Janine BOURRIAU.

## 4.

**Buto. Tell al-Fara'in.****A Pottery Assemblage of the 8th century B.C.**

DAI, Cairo.

**T**HE excavations of the German Archaeological Institute (Cairo) at Tell al-Fara'in/Buto in the western Nile delta have uncovered deposits of a number of different periods.<sup>1</sup> In 1987 a 10×10 metre square designated TIX was opened on the western edge of the Tell, close to the village of Sekhmawy; work in this square continued in 1988, eventually forming part of an L-shaped excavation area some 25-30 metres long in each direction. Before excavation the ground was flat but, according to local information, the upper levels had been removed in modern times. The latest surviving level is probably to be dated around 600-575 B.C., and a stratified sequence lies beneath.

The first millenium sequence lies directly on top of buildings of the Old Kingdom, as everywhere in the excavated areas in this part of the Tell. All diagnostic sherds from the sequence in TIX were kept, and study has continued as time allowed. Work on the lowest level has now reached the point where preliminary publication is possible; because of space restrictions, only the most frequently recurring types are described, and the illustrations are simplified, but a similar assemblage at any other site should be recognizable. There is as usual some variation in form and ware even within a single "Type"; the final publication will provide details and the full range of types, together with statistical and stratigraphic information.

The earliest assemblage lies in pitfills deposited to create a flat surface on which a building or platform was then erected. It is

1. T. von der Way, *Untersuchungen zur Spät-vor- und Frühgeschichte Unterägyptens*, Heidelberg, 1993, p. 5; P. G. French, *CCE* 3, Le Caire, 1992, p. 83-93 and *BCE* X (1985) to XIX (1995).

thought to date to 750 B.C. or shortly after,<sup>2</sup> and this allows just enough time for the subsequent sequence, whose final elements can be dated by imported amphorae. The next deposit is a silo fill, of about 700 B.C.; evolution is rapid and by then most of the types described here have already disappeared.

All Egyptian vessels described are of Nile silt, marls being very rare before the 6th century B.C. The commonest large jars are globular (Type 1) and typically between 35 and 65 cm tall. Bands of white paint are carelessly applied around the rim and shoulder and may extend (smaller examples only?) to the whole body. The larger ones would usually have been buried in floors and the body would not have been visible. Jars of more upright form (Type 2) are characterized in this phase by a fairly well defined lower edge to the rim and a bulge in the middle of the neck. They may have had handles on the upper body, and they are also painted with white bands, extending to the shoulder.

Smaller jars/cooking pots are of two main types, both with cylinder necks. Type 3 has obvious origins in the Third Intermediate Period. It lacks handles and only a few examples are painted with white bands, which do not extend onto the neck. It must sometimes have been used over a fire since some show traces of burning. Type 4 is almost always burnt and was probably intended specifically as a cooker, its handles making it easier to lift (with two sticks?) when hot. The entire body seems always to have been decorated with white bands, applied as a spiral starting at the center of the base with the vessel inverted on the wheel; the bands do not usually extend on to the neck, but it may be splashed with paint.

A very common form is a large dish and/or lid, perhaps with ring base (Type 5). Marks of string are often visible around the upper part of the exterior, where it was used to hold the vessel together before firing. Horizontal bands of burnish about 0.2 cm wide may be carelessly applied to the interior and exterior; variable preservation makes it impossible to be sure, but it seems only a minority were so treated.

Likewise sometimes burnished in the same way, inside or outside or both, is a large bowl (Type 6). There is variability in the form of the rim, which is sometimes pointed and sometimes thickened,

2. I am indebted to David Aston not only for visiting the site and pushing the date of this phase back by 50 years, but also for inking the illustrations used here.

but no evidence of any difference in date. The most complete examples have ring bases; when we come to count our bases we should be able to judge whether there are enough to match the rims of Types 5 and 6, and thus whether or not all examples had them.

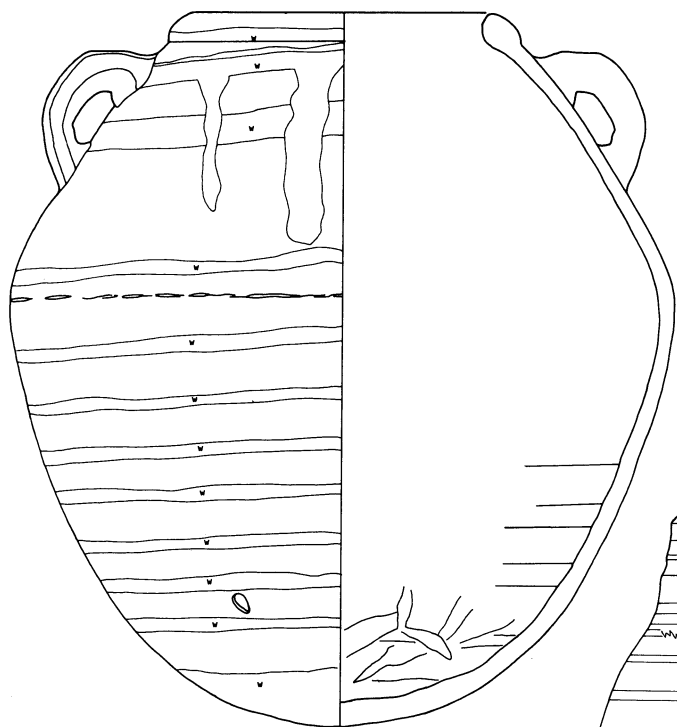
Perhaps the commonest open form is the wide-mouthed bowl (Type 7), the origins of which go back to the New Kingdom or before. The rim is never red-painted, as with some earlier examples, and characteristic is the marked external overhang. In the next phase, a much flatter rim appears; however, the version with overhang continues to occur, but the sherds are possibly residual.

Finally, a small cup (Type 8) is frequently found, but the walls are so thin that large pieces are rare. In this case, a particularly fine clay was specially prepared, and tempered with very fine sand, though in considerable quantity, together with a little very finely chopped vegetable matter. A version using a probably unlevigated clay and coarser sand may be present in small numbers at this time but it is more characteristic of the succeeding phase. The finer clay is also used for Egyptian imitations of small Syro-Cypriot pilgrim vases, which are red-slipped, polished and painted with large concentric black circles.

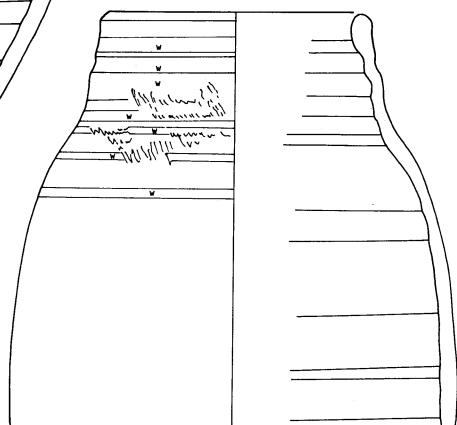
Two major fabrics occur among the other seven forms described. Types 1, 2 and 4 are also typically very full of sand, and although their walls are much thicker, in many examples the larger grains have again been excluded. Where vegetable matter is present it is again very fine. Type 3 and open-form Types 5 to 7 also contain sand, but it is less plentiful and includes the coarser fraction. Vegetable matter is more plentiful but still mostly fine. All eight forms are probably slipped, but it is difficult to be certain since the same clay seems to have been used (self-slip). Small pieces of limestone are almost always present even, surprisingly, in Type 8; larger chunks, up to a diameter of 0.5 cm weaken the walls of some vessels. Otherwise, workmanship is very competent and firing almost always red or brown, with or without carbon streak; soft, under-fired yellow and over-fired grey examples are rare. The sand-filled fabric is often remarkably hard.

All imports are Levantine/Palestinian, mostly amphorae but including a few juglets. No actual Syro-Cypriot pilgrim vases have so far been identified, and the Aegean trade did not develop until later.

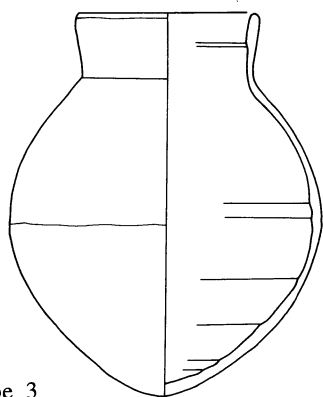
Peter FRENCH



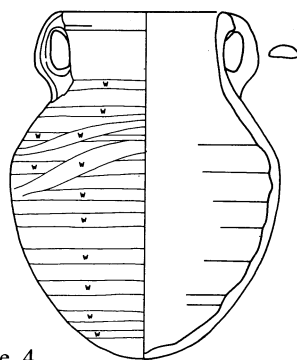
Type 1



Type 2



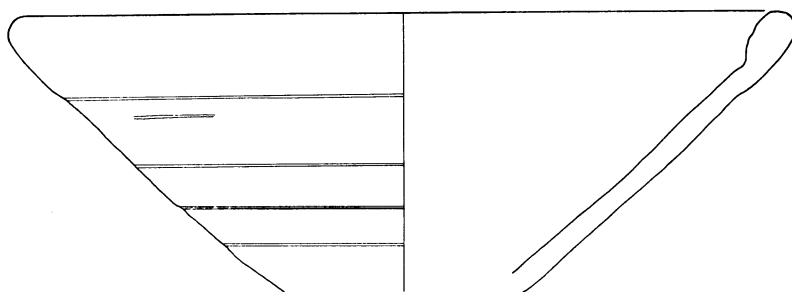
Type 3



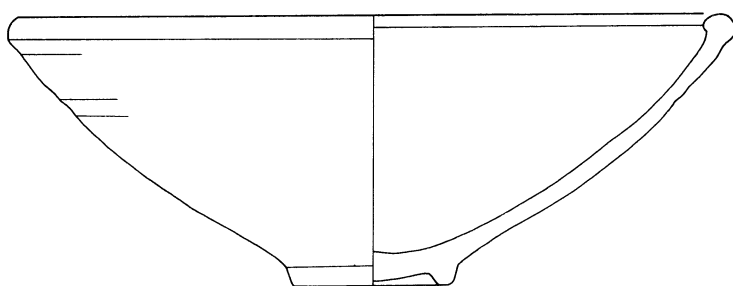
Type 4

(Éch. 1/4)

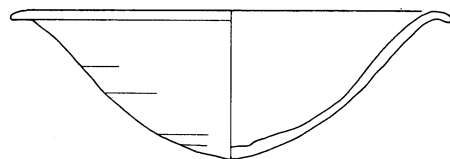
Fig. 1



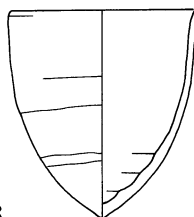
Type 5



Type 6



Type 7



Type 8

(Éch. 1/4)

**Fig. 2**

## 5.

### Tell Atrib near Benha

Polish Center of Mediterranean Archaeology in Cairo.

THE tenth season of joint Polish-Egyptian rescue excavations at Tell Atrib (ancient Athribis) was directed by Prof. Dr. Karol Myśliwiec and lasted three months from April to June 1994. Exploration continued in the area to the southwest of Kôm Sidi Youssuf. Strata of the 2nd and 3rd centuries B.C. were found underlying a mixed layer: their dating was confirmed by numerous finds of coins. In the deepest layer dated to the early Ptolemaic period a private bath was discovered. After the exploration of a large 2nd century bath complex located in previous seasons, an opportunity was now provided for extending the knowledge of bathing establishments in the 3rd century B.C. stratum.

The pottery characteristic of the 2nd century layer was a fine reddish-orange ware. It was accompanied by numerous sherds of painted pottery, particularly globular vessels with low, wide necks covered with a white, cream or red slip splashing characteristically down to the foot. On the neck and upper part of the body there are two to three bands painted in black or violet. The most noteworthy form of the reddish-orange ware is the *askos* which has not been found previously at Tell Atrib. The examples discovered this season represent a local production, Nile silt being the matrix of which they were made. One piece bears a painted garland decoration. The sherds of the *askoi* are either red- or black-fired. Another characteristic form of this fine ware is the *aryballos* which occurs equally often.

The pottery in the 3rd century B.C. layer is of a different nature. Storage vessels prevail. They have an almost cylindrical body with rounded bottom and a short profiled neck; coarse-grained Nile silt with substantial additions of organic and anorganic matter was used

in their production. The forms reflect a Pharaonic tradition. Some of them are covered with a white slip, while the earlier ones have a thick red slip with visible evidence of polishing with a hard object. Equally common was a group of cooking pots with vertical or horizontal handles attached high on the shoulder.

A separate group is constituted by vessels with relief decoration, mostly of marl clay. Particularly noteworthy is a cup with a representation of the divine triad of Sarapis, Harpocrates and Isis.

In the early Ptolemaic layers miniature vessels were also found. These diminutive objects were models of vessels produced in the local workshops. Another interesting group is that of the bread stamps, decorated with geometric and floral ornaments or figural motifs.

As in preceding seasons, amphorae constituted a large proportion of the finds. The earliest examples in this group go back to the end of the 4th century B.C. and display the characteristic form of the "Palestinian amphora"; the majority was made of marl clay, weakly fired to give the characteristic greenish-yellow color. In the 2nd century B.C., amphorae were made of Nile silt and fired brown or red [fig. 2], sometimes with a white or cream slip on the upper part of the vessel, passing into a series of bands encircling the middle part of the body. In the stratum immediately above the mid-Ptolemaic baths (which are dated to the 2nd century B.C.), the prevailing type of amphora is that illustrated in our figure 1; it is particularly frequent in layers dated to the late 1st century B.C. and the 1st century A.D. Some amphora sherds belonging to the type illustrated in figure 2, which were found in the mixed surface layers, revealed traces of blue paint applied after firing as in the terracotta production process.

Two ceramic deposits found in the early Ptolemaic baths date to the early 3rd century B.C.

A numerous group of objects is made up of imported vessels such as amphorae with stamped handles, "Gnathia-type" wares and Eastern Sigillata A.

A separate and noteworthy group is formed by the faience vessels and amulets. These vessels with their figural, floral and geometric decoration, undoubtedly come from the local workshop as is revealed by the presence of unfinished objects on the site.



Characteristic of the area, but less represented this year, is another group of ceramic objects: the terracotta figurines. Representations of Harpocrates are particularly numerous and iconographically varied.

Anna POLUDNIKIEWICZ

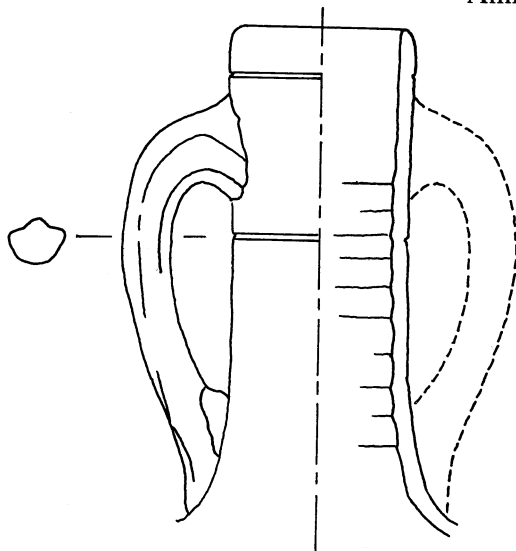


Fig. 1

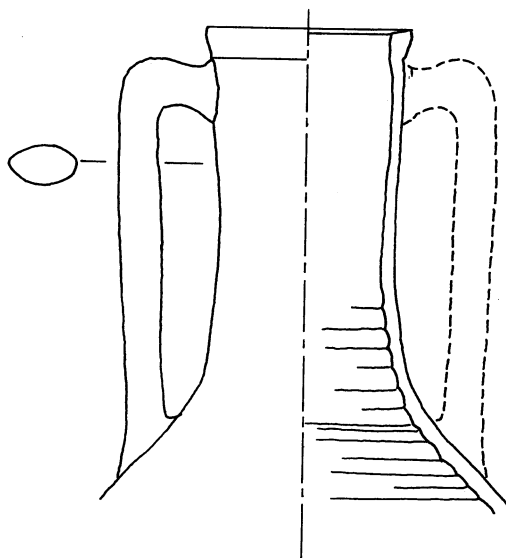


Fig. 2

6.

**Memphis. The Temple of Apis**

New York University.

**A**T the end of May 1994, a further short study season was devoted to the pottery from the excavations of 1982-1986 (*BCE, passim*). The season was devoted to checking ware descriptions and ensuring that all types were drawn.

Several hundred types have been identified among the sherds re-used in the fills of the compartments under the terraces; these range from the Old Kingdom to the Persian period. Elsewhere, pottery from the reoccupation of the site in the early Roman period is fairly prolific, but the Ptolemaic is scarcely represented.

Field work still remaining to be done includes the checking of drawings made in previous seasons and the inking of the corpus.

Michael JONES and Peter FRENCH.

IN der 9. Kampagne (Herbst 1993-Frühjahr 1994) wurde die Aufnahme der Keramik aus dem Grab des Qa'a unter Mithilfe von Joy Sato (UCLA, Herbst 1993) fortgesetzt <sup>1</sup> und bis auf die Dokumentation der Keramik des Neuen Reiches, der Spätzeit und der koptischen Zeit (jeweils nur einige wenige Fragmente) abgeschlossen. Ziel der Bearbeitung der Keramik ist es, das keramische Inventar dieses Grabes zu rekonstruieren und damit einen Überblick über die am Ende der 1. Dynastie gebräuchlichen Typen von Grabkeramik zu geben. Leider ergab die Auswertung der Siegelabrollungen, dass die das Grab überlagernden Halden und die Verfüllungen der einzelnen Kammern weitaus stärker als zu Beginn der Arbeiten vermutet mit aus anderen Gräbern stammendem Material durchsetzt waren. Diese Vermengung muss in grossem Umfang bereits auf die Zeit vor den Grabungen Amélineaus und Petries zurückgehen, da intrusive Funde auch in von beiden nicht gegrabenen Bereichen festgestellt wurden. <sup>2</sup> Daher muss versucht werden, mit Verteilungsschemata, die für die einzelnen Typen erstellt werden, nicht dem Grab des Qa'a zugehörnde Keramik auszusondern. Als besonders auffällig (und überraschend) stellte sich dabei das Vorkommen von Fragmenten hoher schlanker Gefässe mit spitzem Boden, der sog. Weinkrüge, aus Nilton [Abb. 1 <sup>3</sup>] in Bereichen heraus, die einen hohen Anteil von Siegelabrollungen mit Erwähnungen von Den aufweisen. Dieser Gefässtyp weist zudem

1. BCE XVII, 1993, S. 24ff; ein Vorbericht ist für *MDAIK* 51, 1995 vorgesehen.

2. Einen Eindruck über die Entfernungen mit denen bei den Verlagerungen zu rechnen ist, zeigt eine Scherbe aus Q-KK, die an einen Weinkrug aus dem Grab des Aha angefügt werden konnte.

3. Die Keramik ist im Masstab 1:4 abgebildet.

zahlreiche Anschlüsse zu Scherben aus dem Grab des Den auf, während Anschlüsse zu anderen Fragmenten aus dem Grab des Qa'a äusserst selten bleiben. Ein relativ hoher Anteil von Scherben dieses Gefässtyps ist zudem splitterig verbrannt, was auf eine Herkunft aus der Königskammer des Grabes des Den schliessen lässt.<sup>4</sup> Daher kann wohl davon ausgegangen werden, dass die im Grab des Qa'a aufgefundenen Fragmente von Weinkrügen aus Nilton zum grossen Teil, wenn nicht sogar insgesamt, aus dem Grab des Den stammen.<sup>5</sup> Zusammen mit den Weinkrügen müssen wohl die zu ihnen gehörenden grob gearbeiteten Deckel aus häckselgemagertem Nilton ausgesondert werden [Abb. 2]; entsprechende Deckel hafteten häufig noch in konischen Verschlüssen aus Taffl mit Siegelabrollungen des Den an oder hinterliessen dort zumindest einen Abdruck.<sup>6</sup> Aufgrund ähnlicher Verteilungsmuster können auch ellipsoide Flaschen [Abb. 3] und kleine ovoide Gefässe (beide aus hartem, stumpf-rosa farbenem bis grünlichem Mergelton ohne Überzug) dem Grab des Den zugeordnet werden.

Nach dem derzeitigen Erkenntnisstand lassen sich eindeutig Brotformen (*BCE* XVII, S. 29, Abb. 1, 2), ovoide Gefässe unterschiedlicher Grössen und Ausführungen mit spitzem oder rundem Boden aus Nil- und Mergelton (*BCE* XVII, S. 30, Abb. 3, 4), Weinkrüge aus Mergelton [Abb. 4], ovoide Gefässe mit Standfläche (*BCE* XVII, S. 30, Abb. 5), Teller und Schüsseln sowie einige Importgefässe [Abb. 5, 6] dem Grab des Qa'a zuweisen. Des weiteren gehören drei grosse Flaschen aus Mergelton, deren aussen braun verfärbte und stark verätzte Oberfläche auf eine Lagerung zusammen mit den Rinderknochen in den Kammern Q-O4 oder Q-O5 (Petrie, *Royal Tombs* I, pl. LX: 9 und nördlich anschliessende Kammer) hindeutet, zum Inventar. Fragmente von zwei Bottichen verteilen sich auf die

4. Die Königskammer des Grabes des Den ist-im Gegensatz zum Grab des Qa'a - durch ein Feuer stark beschädigt worden: PETRIE, *Royal Tombs* II, S. 10f., ein Befund, der durch die Nachuntersuchungen im Herbst 1993, bestätigt wurde.

5. Auch eine Herkunft aus dem benachbarten Grab des Semerchet ist nicht auszuschliessen, zeigt doch der einzige von Petrie (*Royal Tombs* I, pl. XXXIX/7) mit einem Fundort « Q » bezeichnete Weinkrug eine Ritzmarke des Semerchet. Beim derzeitigen « ungleichen » Stand der Nachuntersuchungen an den drei in Frage kommenden Gräbern muss das Grab des Semerchet vorläufig ausgeklammert bleiben.

6. Grosse Mengen solcher Verschlüsse wurden während der im Herbst 1993, erneut aufgenommenen Untersuchungen am Grab des Den geborgen.

Bereiche um die Treppe und die Lücke in der westlichen Kammerreihe herum. Auch hier kann wohl von einer Zugehörigkeit zum Grab des Qa'a ausgegangen werden. Ansonsten ist es allerdings schwierig bzw. unmöglich, bei weniger stark vertretenen Keramiktypen eine eindeutige Herkunftsbestimmung vorzunehmen.

Von der Keramik des Grabes deutlich zu unterscheiden sind Scherben von Gefässen, die südlich eines aus aufgestapelten Kalksteinen bestehenden Windschutzes im Südosten des Grabes gefunden wurden. Zwar stellen auch hier ovoide Gefässe aus grobem Nilton die Hauptmenge der Funde, doch sind sie insgesamt unregelmässiger gearbeitet als die zum Grabinventar gehörenden.

Zusätzlich zu den bereits in *BCE XVII* erwähnten Gefässen des Neuen Reiches und der Spätzeit fanden sich einige wenige Fragmente von Schälchen aus dem Mittleren Reich sowie vereinzelte (meist erodierte) Scherben von W-, B- und P-Ware.

Eva-Maria ENGEL

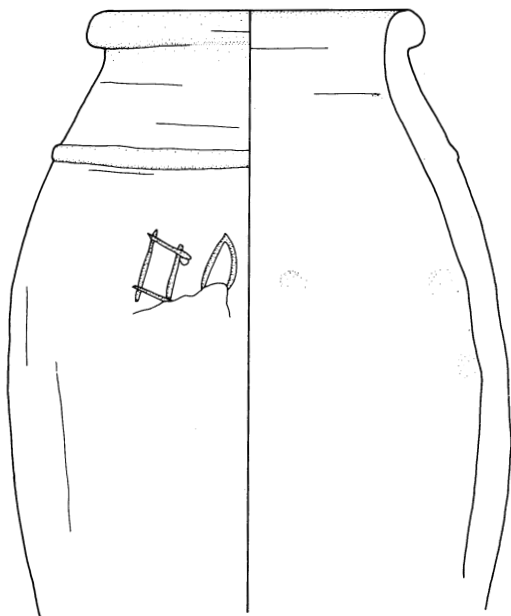


Abb. 1.



Abb. 2.

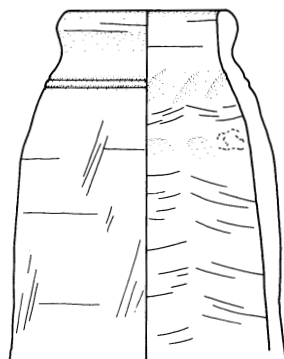


Abb. 3.

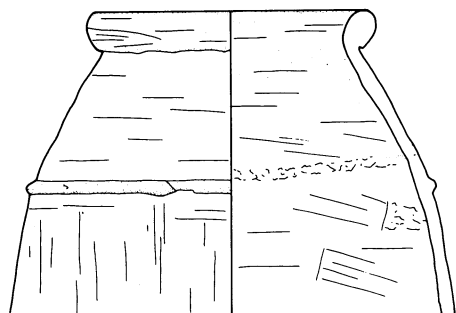


Abb. 4.

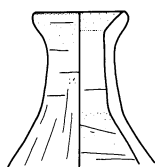


Abb. 5.

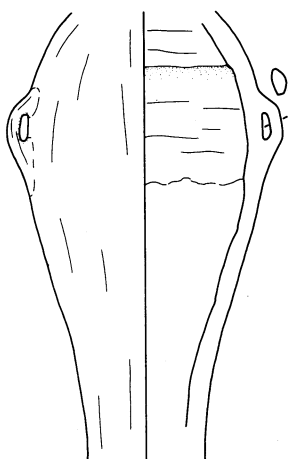


Abb. 6.

THE reinvestigation of the royal tombs of the Early Dynastic kings, initiated by W. Kaiser and later directed by G. Dreyer, was begun in 1977. Since then much new evidence has been brought to light, especially concerning the architecture, building phases, inventories and reconstructions and a great effort has been made to ensure their conservation. As to the pottery of these early phases of Egyptian history, intensive typological studies and functional analyses have revealed a great deal more information about this material than was available in the early publications of Amélineau and Petrie.<sup>1</sup>

Whereas the finds from the tombs of Qa'a, Den and others will be treated mainly monographically, the pottery of Cemetery B, *i.e.* the tombs of the kings of Dynasty 0 and the tomb of Hor-Aha, will be the subject of a more comparative study. The reason for this is that the inventories of these tombs are very fragmentary, mixed, and restricted to only a few types, mainly the so-called wine jars, cylindrical vessels and ovoid jars made of marl clays.<sup>2</sup> The goal of this study will be not only the reconstitution of the inventories and a typology and chronology of these important ceramics, but also a better insight into the origins and production conditions of the vessels.

Another focal point of the work in Abydos is the excavation of the predynastic Cemetery U. Since the discovery in 1988 of the extraordinary tomb U-j dating to early Naqada III and containing, besides many prestigious finds, several hundred imported jars — ink-inscribed vessels<sup>3</sup> which revealed that the tomb was that of an

1. For the tomb of King Qa'a, cf. E.M. ENGEL, *BCE* XVII, 1993, p. 24-31.

2. Cf. E.C. KÖHLER, *MDAIK* 51, 1995, (in print).

3. G. DREYER *et al.*, *MDAIK* 49, 1993, p. 23-62.

early chief — a further large number of graves of this and earlier periods have been uncovered.

Most interesting was the fall season of 1993 when a number of grave pits dating to late Naqada I and early Naqada II were excavated, some of which turned out to be nearly undisturbed. Most of these tombs were simple burials with just a few offering gifts. Others, however, were surprisingly rich and contained up to 20 pots, a figure which is, for late Naqada I graves, rather unusual. Not only was the number of grave goods exceptional but also the particularities of their decoration. In addition to plain, perfectly manufactured and mostly intact B-, P-, C-, F- and N-ware pots, one example of a C-ware jar<sup>4</sup> with white figure-painting has been found, depicting pregnant women and several male figures with dubious attributes, holding maces and possibly captives (?). Another uncommon vessel is a red-polished bowl with eight separately modelled women sitting on its rim holding each other by the hand; their bodies are painted red and their skirts white. Black, plaited hair made of some organic material had been attached to their heads.

While most of these vessels fit very well into the corpus of Predynastic pottery, some of them, such as the two just mentioned, are as yet unparalleled and introduce a new element into our knowledge of the pottery of this period.

E. Christiana KÖHLER

4. Close to C 100M in W.M.F. PETRIE, *Corpus of Prehistoric Pottery*, 1921.



LA mission archéologique belge et française de Chenhour <sup>1</sup>, sous la direction de J. Quaegebeur (professeur à l'université catholique de Louvain) <sup>2</sup> et Cl. Traunecker (CNRS, Lille), a consacré, en 1992 et 1993, ses deux premières saisons de travail au temple romain de Chenhour, situé à 20 km au nord de Louqsor. Les fouilles se sont effectuées d'abord à l'intérieur du temple, dans le sanctuaire et ses alentours immédiats, dans la *ouabet* et la cour du Nouvel An, ainsi que dans l'angle extérieur ouest formé par la salle hypostyle et le pronaos (aire 1). Un troisième secteur de fouilles a été ouvert, au cours de la 2<sup>e</sup> campagne, à une quinzaine de mètres au sud-ouest du temple (aire 2). Les fouilles témoignent d'une occupation copte aussi bien dans le temple et l'aire 1, qui s'est avérée faire partie du temple, que dans l'aire 2. Le temple romain a, en effet, été réaménagé, probablement au VI<sup>e</sup>/VII<sup>e</sup> siècle; des installations en briques cuites en témoignent <sup>3</sup>.

Les deux saisons de travail ont livré une très grande quantité de céramique. Dans les couches de surface, la présence d'un choix varié de tessons de céramique glaçurée islamique est à signaler. Les couches

1. Les travaux à Chenhour entrent dans le cadre des activités du « Pôle d'attraction interuniversitaire : archéologie » (IUAP 28), mis en œuvre à l'initiative de l'État belge. Avec l'accord de D. Valbelle, professeur à l'université Charles de Gaulle à Lille (Lille III), le projet a été intégré dans les activités de l'Unité de recherches archéologiques (URA) 1275, patronnée par le CNRS.

2. Nous remercions le professeur J. Quaegebeur pour ses conseils et ses remarques utiles.

3. Pour plus de détails, voir J. QUAEGBEUR, Cl. TRAUNECKER, 1994. Une étude intitulée provisoirement « Schenhur, Entdeckung einer alten koptischen Siedlung » est en préparation.

perturbées et les couches non-perturbées, à l'intérieur comme à l'extérieur du temple, présentent une grande diversité de poterie fine et commune d'époque copte. La variété des décors peints et en relief est surprenante. En dehors de cette poterie, différents modèles de lampes à huile <sup>4</sup> et des fragments de figurines humaines et animales en terre cuite ont été trouvés.

Au cours de la dernière campagne, une enquête détaillée a été réalisée sur une partie du matériel trouvé dans les couches non-perturbées, à savoir celui de l'aire 1-couche 4 et de l'aire 2-couche 2. Les principaux résultats de cette première étude sont brièvement présentés dans le présent article.

En attendant la poursuite de l'étude, c'est principalement par comparaison avec l'étude typologique de la poterie d'Éléphantine réalisée par R.D. Gempeler <sup>5</sup> qu'un grand nombre de céramiques fines et communes a pu être daté. L'aire 2-couche 2, qui semble être antérieure à l'aire 1-couche 4, a livré un ensemble très riche de céramique de qualité variable. La céramique fine, dont le nombre de pièces identiques à celles d'Éléphantine est surprenant, permet d'avancer une datation pour la couche 2 de l'aire 2, à savoir le VI<sup>e</sup> siècle. Il apparaît, d'autre part, que la céramique sortie de la couche 4 de l'aire 1 date probablement du début du VII<sup>e</sup> siècle.

Regardons d'abord la céramique fine, dont l'origine n'est pas encore définie. Des formes exceptionnelles de céramique de luxe et la présence d'une imitation de sigillée met en évidence la haute qualité de la céramique de Chenhour. L'argile de couleur orange (Munsell 2.5 YR 6/6-7/6-6/8) jusqu'à orange mat (5 YR 5/4-8/4) est d'une structure très fine, dure et compacte, contenant en outre des particules de mica, feldspath et quartz. L'analyse chimique n'a pas encore été réalisée. Une couche mate d'une teinte foncée est souvent appliquée sur les bords extérieurs et intérieurs. Parfois des motifs peints en rouge et noir apparaissent. Le décor des bords extérieurs et intérieurs et les figures estampées, appliquées au centre à l'intérieur des assiettes et des bols, comportent une variation remarquable : divers motifs estampés en forme de croix, monogrammes et autres symboles chrétiens, ainsi que des animaux et des figures florales et géométriques. Ces motifs

4. Des fragments de lampes au réservoir allongé et à marli décoré ont été surtout trouvés. L'étude des lampes est à poursuivre. Voir aussi l'article sur les lampes coptes dans A.S. ATIYA (éd.), 1991, p. 494-497 (Lamps).

5. R.D. GEMPELER, 1992.

estampés sont conformes à l'*African Red Slip Ware Style D* et *Style E*, décrits par Hayes<sup>6</sup>. L'étude du décor doit être poursuivie. La similitude est surprenante avec divers types de poterie fine d'Éléphantine, d'origine locale<sup>7</sup>.

Le tableau ci-dessous contient diverses pièces de poterie fine qui se présentent fréquemment à Chenhour; les dessins sont donnés à la figure 1. Le numéro du dessin est suivi du numéro de référence de Gempeler. Les dessins n<sup>os</sup> 1 à 8 reproduisent des types de l'aire 2; les dessins n<sup>os</sup> 9 à 12 concernent des pièces trouvées dans l'aire 1.

n° 1 (aire 2)	=	Gempeler 218a
n° 2	=	218a
n° 3	=	318a
n° 4	=	323a
n° 5	=	323b
n° 6	=	342a
n° 7	=	346a
n° 8	=	626
n° 9 (aire 1)	=	324b
n° 10	=	343a
n° 11	=	637a
n° 12	=	639b

Constatons la similitude avec l'*Egyptian A - Coptic Red Slip Ware*<sup>8</sup> de Hayes, provenant peut-être, d'après lui, de la région de Thèbes<sup>9</sup>, le groupe *ERSW "A"* de Myśliwiec<sup>10</sup> et le *Groupe "O"* de Rodziewicz<sup>11</sup>. La terminologie de Rodziewicz est reprise par G. Pierrat<sup>12</sup> pour la description de la céramique comparable des fouilles de Tôd.

En ce qui concerne la céramique commune, il faut signaler les grandes concentrations de poterie trouvées pendant la dernière saison dans la fouille de l'aire 2-couche 2. L'étude de la céramique commune

6. J.W. HAYES, 1972, p. 395. Voir la description du *Style D*, p. 220-221, fig. 44, 45, 47, 54, et du *Style E*, p. 222, fig. 41, 46-53, 55-57.

7. R.D. GEMPELER, 1992, p. 20 : Lokale Tongemische I.A.

8. J.W. HAYES, 1972, p. 387-397 : VIII. Egyptian Red Slip Wares.

9. *Ibid.*, 1972, p. 397.

10. K. MYŚLIWIEC, 1987, p. 98-119.

11. M. RODZIEWICZ, 1976, p. 54-62.

12. G. PIERRAT, 1991, p. 175-185.

de l'aire 1 reste à faire. Cette poterie est moins abondante et moins variée que celle de l'aire 2. La datation de quelques exemplaires identifiés dans l'ouvrage de Gempeler correspond à celle de la céramique fine de l'aire 1 <sup>13</sup>.

La diversité de la céramique trouvée en l'aire 2 est notable. Une grande quantité de tessons est peinte en couleurs et de motifs divers. On constate la présence de diverses fabrications, mais leur provenance n'a pas encore fait l'objet d'une enquête.

Un certain nombre de types d'amphores et de *gaddous* est représenté à Éléphantine. Les *gaddous*, utilisées pour la roue à eau égyptienne <sup>14</sup> sont bien connues à l'époque copte <sup>15</sup>. D'autre part, la fouille de l'aire 2-couche 2 présente divers modèles de *gaddous* avec bouton et à fond arrondi, des plats profonds, des *amphoriskoi* et des amphores, dont on n'a pas retrouvé de parallèles exacts à Éléphantine. On peut penser qu'une partie de la poterie commune soit d'origine locale.

La figure 2 dessins n<sup>os</sup> 1 à 7, présente un aperçu des pièces courantes de l'aire 2 avec référence à l'ouvrage de Gempeler :

n<sup>o</sup> 1 correspond au type Gempeler K463 (v<sup>e</sup>/vi<sup>e</sup> siècle).

n<sup>o</sup> 2 et n<sup>o</sup> 3 ressemblent au type Gempeler K103 (iv<sup>e</sup>/v<sup>e</sup> siècle) en ce qui concerne la forme arrondie du fond, le profil des parois et la décoration du marli. La dissemblance se manifeste à la paroi du fond qui est rainurée à l'extérieur et la variance du diamètre d'ouverture de 140 mm à 240 mm, tandis que le diamètre d'ouverture du type K103 est compris entre 175 mm et 190 mm.

n<sup>o</sup> 4 ressemble au type K224 de Gempeler (2<sup>e</sup> moitié du v<sup>e</sup> siècle) en ce qui concerne le profil du marli. La paroi fortement côtelée à l'intérieur est un élément nouveau; le diamètre d'ouverture de 150 mm est plus petit que celui du type K224, à savoir de 190 mm jusqu'à 235 mm.

Des pièces identiques ne sont pas connues pour le type de poterie commune figuré au dessin n<sup>o</sup> 5. Nous n'avons malheureusement pas trouvé d'exemplaires intacts ni de profils complets. La décoration des parois est peinte de diverses couleurs et consiste en bandes ondulées larges ou en grands disques.

13. J. QUAGEBEUR, Cl. TRAUNECKER, 1994, p. 24, fig. 8, n<sup>os</sup> 7 et 8.

14. Pour la manière d'attacher les *gawâdis* (les pots) et le fonctionnement de la *sâqia*, voir L. MÉNASSA, P. LAFERRIÈRE, 1974.

15. R.D. GEMPELER, 1992, p. 207-208; G. PIERRAT, 1991, p. 154 (Tôd).

Nous n'avons pas retrouvé non plus de parallèles identiques du type *d'amphoriskoi* illustré au dessin n° 6. Cette pièce consiste en une argile poreuse de couleur gris-verdâtre dont les parois sont décorées de motifs en noir. Remarquons qu'à Chenhour de nombreux fragments de cette fabrication ont été trouvés. Le type semble être nouveau.

n° 7 ressemble au type K233 de Gempeler (probablement VI<sup>e</sup>/VII<sup>e</sup> siècle) dont on ne connaît pas encore d'exemplaires complets. Le profil de la paroi est différent ainsi que le diamètre d'ouverture qui est grand (240 mm jusqu'à 260 mm). Le marli est peint en couleur rose.

L'étude des fabrications et des types de céramique courante trouvés en grand nombre dans la fouille de l'aire 2, qui comprennent des exemplaires complets de diverses formes, permettra d'affiner et d'élargir la connaissance de la poterie commune de l'époque copte. L'état d'avancement de la fouille ne nous permet pas de nous prononcer sur une éventuelle production locale.

I. ROOVERS,  
avec la collaboration de M. CHARTIER-RAYMOND.

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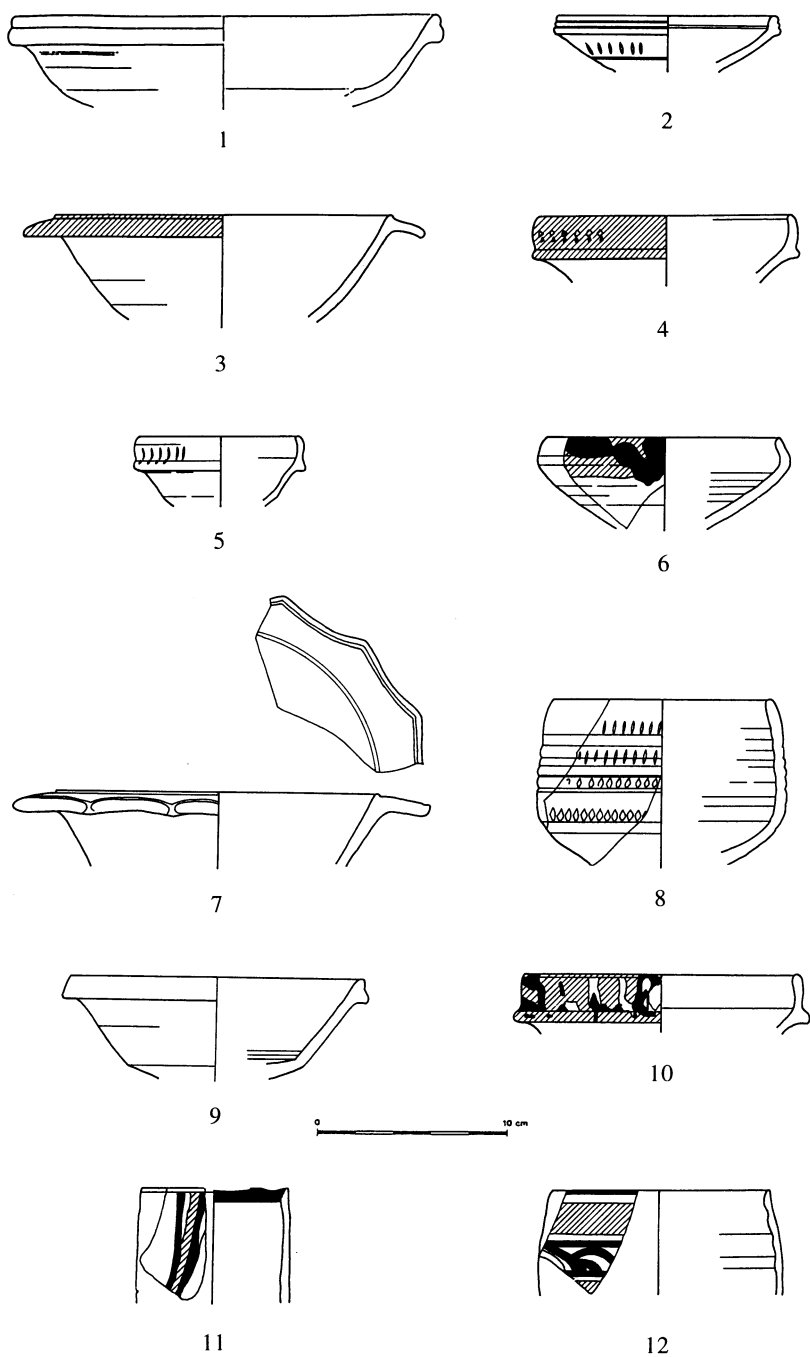
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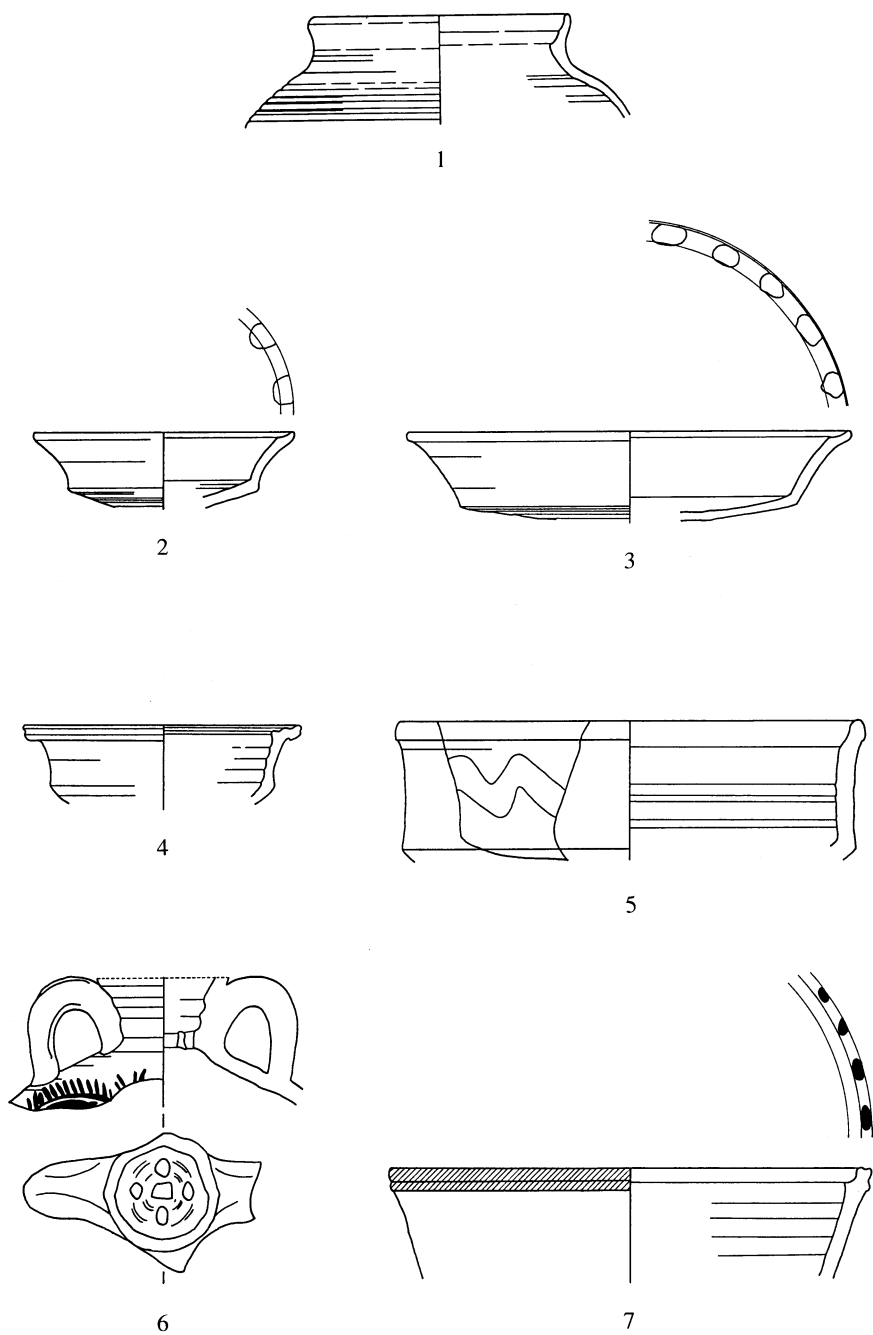
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Aire 2 = n<sup>os</sup> 1 à 8.

**Fig. 1**

Aire 1 = n<sup>os</sup> 9 à 12.



Aire 2 = n<sup>os</sup> 1 à 7.

**Fig. 2**



10.

**New Kingdom Painted Pottery  
from Karnak North.**

IFAO.

**D**URING the course of the excavations by Helen and Jean Jacquet in and near the Treasury of Tuthmosis I at Karnak North an important collection of painted pottery of the New Kingdom was discovered. Much of this material was found amongst dumps of considerable depth and its discovery at Karnak North does not relate to its original place of use. It is postulated that the majority of the material dating to the late XVIIIth dynasty may once have been deposited in the region of the north-east corner of the Amun enclosure and was removed to its find spot when the current *temenos* wall was constructed during the XXXth dynasty. The origin of the material may well have been the Aten temples at Karnak East. The origin of other material from the dumps is less easy to define, but was clearly within the Karnak precinct. Naturally, material not from the dumps derives from activity at Karnak North itself.

The study of this material was commenced in December 1993 and continued in December 1994; a preliminary outline of the material may be presented here. I am grateful to the excavators for inviting me to study this material and for their constant assistance.

The time span of the material studied to date would appear to cover the period from the reigns of Hatshepsut and Tuthmosis III to the Ramesside Period, with a little of slightly earlier date. The principal categories of decorated ceramics are as follows:

- a. Bichrome red and black decorated wares on marl clay and Nile silt bodies with linear and floral motifs of the mid-XVIIIth dynasty.
- b. Monochrome brown decorated wares of the mid- to late XVIIIth dynasty, with a few pieces of either the late Second Intermediate

Period or early XVIIIth dynasty. They occur in both marl clay and Nile silt fabrics.

- c. Mid-XVIIIth dynasty blue-painted, marl clay wares, probably of the reigns of Amenophis II - Tuthmosis IV. The forms are predominantly tall, slender jars; the shape and decoration resembles that of the group of vessels which I published in *Cahiers de la céramique égyptienne* I and their discovery at Karnak North helps to confirm the suggested Theban origin of this decorated type.
- d. Blue-painted Nile silt and marl clay wares of the late XVIIIth dynasty; these form the majority of the material. They closely resemble the material discovered at Malkata and Amarna. The range of shapes and decorative techniques is extensive and the quality of most of the material is high. In addition to the commoner forms there are examples of lotiform situlae and stands, Hathor-headed jars and extremely fine, small concave-sided bowls with low feet, which are decorated on the outside with carefully executed designs including marshscapes. A single handle attests the existence of a very large amphora, probably once decorated with a gazelle or ibex on the neck. Filling much of the area framed by the handle is a blue lotus flower upon a stem modelled in the round and hollow. The most common form is a medium-sized, tall-necked jar with ovoid body decorated with two bands of floral motifs on the body. The decoration is applied carefully and the outlines of the motifs are very fine indeed. This type was found to account for approximately 50% of all of the material in the dump over Fouille B to the east of the Treasury of Tuthmosis I. It often carries painted potmarks of a very limited range in the area between the two bands. There is a small collection of vessels decorated with blue-painted motifs on a cream ground on the upper body, the remainder of the vessel having a red coating.
- e. Polychrome, post-firing decorated Nile silt wares of the late XVIIIth or early XIXth dynasties. These are not common; they include several examples of Bes vases, one of large size.
- f. Blue-painted wares of the XIXth-XXth dynasties; these are not common. The motifs are predominantly linear; vertical incised scorings are a feature of this material. Some examples of the latter could date to the late XVIIIth dynasty.

This material forms a valuable addition to the corpus of decorated pottery of the New Kingdom. The corpus of blue-painted wares of the XVIIIth dynasty is the third most extensive known to date from that period, after those from Malkata and Amarna.

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## 11. Ramesseum (Thèbes-Ouest)

Mission franco-égyptienne CNRS (URA 1064) - CEDAE et CSA.

LES dégagements, actuellement effectués au Ramesseum par la mission franco-égyptienne et par le Conseil suprême des antiquités, livrent un matériel céramique qui provient en majeure partie de l'enlèvement (côtés nord et nord-est) du cavalier de déblais dressé autour du temple, au début du siècle, par E. Baraize. Malheureusement, toutes les poteries mises au jour ne sont plus dans un contexte archéologique pertinent.

Les fouilles faites entre 1978 et 1984 nous avaient permis d'étudier environ 2000 tessons provenant du secteur ouest du *temenos* (K''' et J''') et de déterminer un certain nombre de types particulièrement bien représentés sur ce site. Les nouvelles trouvailles viennent confirmer ces premiers résultats, en enrichissant considérablement notre documentation. Un corpus des formes est en cours d'élaboration. Plusieurs périodes sont représentées sur le site.

Deux tombes (l'une du secteur J''' dégagée en 1985 et l'autre, dégagée en 1993 par le Conseil suprême des antiquités dans le secteur nord, actuellement à l'étude) ont livré du matériel antérieur à la construction du temple.

De nombreux fragments de vaisselle de l'époque ramesside figurent parmi les déblais : en pâte alluviale (L), coupes et coupelles, fonds de vases à marque de doigts à la base (type de loin le plus abondamment illustré sur le site), plateaux (*dokkas*), moules à pain, jattes, jarres à fond arrondi ou pointu et, en pâte marneuse plus ou moins calcaire (M), amphores à vin et autres produits qui pourront être identifiés grâce à la découverte de nombreux *ostraca* et de bouchons de jarres estampillés.

Deux autres périodes sont aussi bien attestées : la Troisième Période Intermédiaire (entre la XXII<sup>e</sup> et la XXVI<sup>e</sup> dynastie), époque

à laquelle une nécropole s'est installée dans le *temenos* et l'époque copte.

De la Troisième Période Intermédiaire on trouve principalement, en pâte L, des coupelles à fond plat et des coupes (fond plat débordant, corps évasé et lèvre ronde), des vases à marque de doigts à la base, des jarres; jarres à fond rond ou pointu, corps allongé convexe plus ou moins resserré dans la partie médiane et des jarres à fond rond ou pointu, corps caréné piriforme dans la partie basse et conique dans la partie haute, petit col cylindrique, lèvre ronde ou en bourrelet et qui sont en général recouvertes à l'extérieur d'un badigeon irrégulier blanchâtre; en pâte M, des coupes carénées et des amphores à corps piriforme annelé avec deux petites anses sur le haut de la panse.

Parmi les formes les plus typiques de l'époque copte, citons, en pâte L, des petites coupelles, des tessons de vases décorés, des amphores (type *Late Roman 7*) et, en pâte rose (R) d'Assouan, des fragments de vaisselle fine.

G. LECUYOT

## 12.                   **The Luxor-Farshût Desert Road Survey**

The Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago.

**D**URING the 1993-1994 season, the Luxor-Farshût Desert Road Survey continued work on the main road and began investigations of subsidiary and related routes. The scope of work was further expanded to the north and south in the 1994-1995 season. The sites examined are located along the following routes: the primary track which ascends “Gebel Antef” (the tongue of the desert plateau overlooking the northern branch of the Western Valley of the Kings) and returns to the low desert at the Wadi el-Hôl; two branches of the main road, the Darb Baʿirat and the “Thoth Mountain” path; the ʿAlamat Tal road to the north; and the Darb Rayayna to the south, including the Topos of Apa Tyrannos. Newly discovered inscriptional evidence has provided a wealth of exciting information about the use of desert roads in Pharaonic times, yet pottery continues to play a crucial role in the identification and dating of ancient routes. In following completely unmapped tracks, it is often the ceramic evidence alone which provides guidance.

The work during the 1993-1994 and 1994-1995 seasons involved surveys of a number of different roads, as well as in-depth studies at several sites. The following report is a brief description of the nature of the material which is being encountered in the locations currently under examination. Full publication of the pottery is underway.<sup>1</sup>

1. Once again, the authors are extremely grateful for the advice of Helen Jacquet-Gordon in the study of the ceramic material. Colin Hope generously provided very welcome information, especially concerning painted pottery and oasis wares and Stan Hendrickx kindly shared with us much useful data on Old Kingdom pottery; to both of them we offer our sincere gratitude. In addition, we would like to thank Janine Bourriau, Nessim Henein, Shirley Patten and Donald Whitcomb for their expert opinions and Anthony Leahy, Patricia Spencer and the staff of the office of the Egypt Exploration Society in London for their much-appreciated kindness in allowing us to consult archival material.

## GEBEL ANTEF

Gebel Antef is the name we have given to the Theban terminus of the Farshût road, the site of our previous discovery of the remains of a sandstone temple of Antef V Nubkheperre and associated votive objects of Second Intermediate Period date. Continued surveys have shown that pottery of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Dynasties is widely distributed over the entire Gebel Antef area and occurs in most of the concentrations of ceramics along the road as far into the desert as it has been mapped, including the area of 13 drystone huts about a kilometer back from the tip of the plateau. To the repertoire of late Second Intermediate Period to early Eighteenth Dynasty and later Eighteenth Dynasty types described in the first season ceramic report<sup>2</sup> may be added red polished silt bowls with unmodelled rims, both simple and carinated, the latter with incised wavy line decoration, a marl jarstand with folded rim, heavy silt troughs (found on all the roads investigated), a great variety of flasks, a small drop-shaped wine jar with black-painted rim, as well as further imports in the form of a dipper juglet (probably MB II B-C) and a Canaanite jar.

Vessel fragments clearly datable to the Middle Kingdom have now been identified in the vicinity of the chapel, especially scattered in the debris built into Cairn A. The most common form is a globular jar of a fine green Marl A3, with characteristic very shallow turning marks on the interior rim; body sherds are hand-finished on the interior, and often bear cutting or shaving marks on the exterior (cf. parallels from the Wadi el-Hôl and the 'Alamat Tal road; see below)<sup>3</sup>.

Remarkably large numbers of sherds of oasis wares continue to be encountered. Fabrics may be roughly divided into a red-firing type with dark brown interior and fracture, and an orange-firing fabric, the fracture of which may range from orange to salmon to dull golden yellow, often with grey, blue/grey or lavender layers, with surfaces ranging from reddish-orange to brown to plum to all shades of grey. Inclusions are usually relatively abundant, primarily

2. *BCE* XVIII, 1994, p. 46-49.

3. For an instructive photograph of similar interior finishing marks, see D. ARNOLD, J. BOURRIAU, *An Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Pottery*, *DAIK Sonderschrift* 17, Mainz am Rhein, 1993, p. 52, figure 57 (early Twelfth Dynasty Marl A3 globular jar from Karnak North).

limestone, sand and shale. The vessels are usually highly fired (though an exceptional low-fired vessel of oasis fabric has been noted at the Wadi el-Hôl), the resulting vessel wall being strong and dense. Surface treatment is almost without exception a very characteristic rough, "smeared" finish.<sup>4</sup> The wares and some of the forms resemble those identified in Dakhleh Oasis and on the roads between the oases of Kharga and Dakhleh.<sup>5</sup> Vessel types represented are "pilgrim flasks" large and small, with and without handles (which, if present, are usually vestigial), "gourds" and barrel-shaped water jars, dating from the Saite, Ptolemaic and Roman (third to fifth centuries A.D.) periods. The abundance of these vessels on many branches of the Farshût road suggests that these forms are above all suited for the transport of water on desert journeys, a fact further supported by Winlock's observation that "on the sites so far seen in ed Dakhleh ("water barrels") are not so common as on the desert roads."<sup>6</sup> However, a full range of oasis ware vessels has also been found in Theban valley sites, and many more may await identification.<sup>7</sup>

The corpus of later material continues to expand, including buff-slipped silt globular jars with in-turned rims (Twenty-first to Twenty-fifth Dynasties), marl bowls with folded rims (Twenty-sixth to Thirtieth Dynasties), and a variety of Ptolemaic and early and late

4. For apparent "spatula" marks on the exterior surface of oasis ware vessels, cf. D. REDFORD, *The Akhenaten Temple Project Volume 3: The Excavation of Kom el-Ahmar and Environs (Aegypti Texta Propositaeque II)*, Toronto, 1994, p. 73.

5. Colin HOPE, personal communication; cf. W.I. EDWARDS, C.A. HOPE, E.R. SEGNET, *Ceramics from the Dakhleh Oasis: Preliminary Studies*, Victoria, 1987, p. 78; p. 87, fig. 4i; p. 92, fig. 9; H.E. WINLOCK, *Ed Dakhleh Oasis: Journal of a Camel Trip Made in 1908*, Metropolitan Museum of Art Department of Egyptian Art Publications 5, New York, 1936, p. 15; p. 21 (fabric only); p. 45; p. 50-52; pl. VI. See also S. PATTEN, *BCE XV*, 1991, p. 37-38 on the manufacture of "kegs".

6. *Op. cit.*, p. 25; see also the comments regarding "Class 90" in R. MOND, O. MYERS, *Temples of Armant, Egypt Exploration Society Excavation Memoirs* 43, London, 1940, p. 82. The example on pl. LXIV was found on one of the roads to the Oases. (Note that Kharga *darb* indicates a road to Kharga and not a type of ware, as was erroneously understood by Redford, *op. cit.*, p. 73).

7. E. g., at Karnak North, Helen Jacquet-Gordon, personal communication; and see REDFORD, *op. cit.*, p. 33 and n. 76; p. 73-74; pl. XVIII, 3 and pl. LXXXII, 3 (handleless large lentoid flask) for oasis ware sherds found in levels dating from the Twenty-first Dynasty to the Ninth century B.C.



Roman forms. Of great interest is a type of pottery which often takes the form of handmade bowls, shallow platters and jugs, usually elaborately decorated in red or brown paint.<sup>8</sup> The fabric of a number of these vessels is in many respects similar in appearance to oasis ware, though we have noted one bowl made of a plain marl resembling an A2-A4 (but with coarse sand), as well as several related forms in a fabric not unlike a modern Ballas paste with a very large percentage of inclusions. We have found these "desert ware"<sup>9</sup> vessels on the main Farshût road, the Darb Ba'irat, the approach to the Thoth Mountain, and the Darb Rayyayna. We have seen such pottery in the walls of re-used portions of the Colonnade Hall at Luxor Temple, in apparent association with lead-glazed Islamic ceramics. Similar vessels have been found in Theban tombs,<sup>10</sup> at the Seti Qurna Temple,<sup>11</sup> and in the high desert over Armant, but the ceramic type has never before been fully analyzed or firmly dated, though a date between the Twelfth century A.D. and the early modern period seems reasonable at this time.<sup>12</sup> It is hoped that continued study of this corpus of material will clarify some of the uncertainties regarding the origin and function of these ubiquitous vessels.

8. See J.C. DARNELL, D. DARNELL, "The Luxor-Farshût Desert Road Survey (Report for the Second Season)", *The Oriental Institute 1993-1994 Annual Report*, Chicago, 1994, p. 41, figure 1(c), and cf. MOND, MYERS, *op. cit.*, p. 78 and pl. L, "Arab" types 13, 14, 20 (from a "High Desert Deir"; see pl. LXXVI for decorative scheme PFG 13) and 25 (also from a "High Desert Deir", decorative scheme PABH9 on pl. LXXIX); possibly p. 81 and pl. LIV "Blemye" type 7Y; and pl. LXXX, the "High Desert" sherd with decorative scheme PAB11 interior and PABH21 exterior.

9. So-called because they are neither of Nile silt nor of what is generally referred to as marl clay. Further analysis will be necessary to determine the origin of the various types of fabrics.

10. E. FEUCHT, *Das Grab des Nefersecheru (TT 296)*, *Theben 2*, Mainz am Rhein, 1985, pls. 51, 52 and 53; J. ASSMANN, *Das Grab des Amenemope (TT 41)*, *Theben 3*, Mainz am Rhein, 1991, p. 220-221; K.-J. SEYFRIED, *Das Grab des Amonmose (TT 373)*, *Theben 4*, Mainz am Rhein, 1990, p. 184-186; D. POLZ, *Das Grab Nr. 54 in Theben: ein Beitrag zur Archäologie thebanischer Felsgräber* (Ph.D. dissertation), Heidelberg, 1988, p. 261-263, pl. 54, n<sup>os</sup> 277, 284, 298.

11. K. MYŚLIWIEC, *Keramik und Kleinfunde aus der Grabung im Temple Sethos' I. in Gurna*, *AVDAIK 57*, Mainz am Rhein, 1987, p. 174-176.

12. Compare the observations of G. PIERRAT, "Essai de classification de la céramique de Tôd," *CCE 2*, 1991, p. 169-170 (Lp 5 and Lp 6).

## WADI EL-HÔL

Near the center of the portion of desert filling the Qena bend of the Nile, the Luxor-Farshût road drops down from the high desert into the Wadi el-Hôl, an area of abundant graffiti. Hans Winkler discovered some of the graffiti in this area during the 1936-1937 season of the Sir Robert Mond Desert Expedition,<sup>13</sup> but only a few photos were published. Later Macadam published a drawing of the stela of Sobekhotep III, based on Winkler's photograph and a hand-copy by Newberry.<sup>14</sup> During the past two seasons, we have relocated the Winkler graffiti areas and have identified two new areas apparently unknown until now. Many of these rock inscriptions date to the late Middle Kingdom, several of these belonging to the reign of Amenemhat III. In addition to the hieratic and hieroglyphic graffiti, including occurrences of the names of Amenhotep II and Seti I, we have also identified two Proto-Sinaitic inscriptions, one Greek and several Coptic inscriptions, not to mention numerous prehistoric petroglyphs. Evidence of vandalism was already evident upon our first visit to the site; unfortunately, the authorities were unable to prevent the continuation of criminal activity. When we returned to work at the site for the 1994-1995 season, we surprised the thieves at work smashing, cutting and digging their way through the graffiti and pottery deposits. After we chased them off and confiscated their tools, consultation with the police led to the arrest of thirteen of the thieves and the recovery of several stolen pieces. The thieves have, however, managed to return to the site yet again.

Due to active destruction of the rock inscriptions by thieves, priority has been given to the recording and study of the numerous graffiti still in existence at this site. Nevertheless, it was possible to begin the examination of ceramics near the areas of graffiti and at an extensive caravan stop where a number of tracks converge near Gebel Qarn el-Gir and where a large trench cut by the thieves has revealed a deposit of over two and one half meters of potsherds and organic remains, including dung, ash and possibly animal fodder. Generally speaking, the range of pottery is very similar to that of the Gebel

13. H. WINKLER, *Rock-Drawings of Southern Upper Egypt I*, *Egypt Exploration Society Archaeological Survey of Egypt* 26, London 1938, site 30.

14. *Ibid.*, pl. X, 1 (M342); M.F. LAMING MACADAM, "A Royal Family of the Thirteenth Dynasty", *JEA* 37, 1951, p. 23-28, pl. VI.

Antef end of the road, with the exception of the fact that there is a significant quantity of Christian painted pottery near the Qarn el-Gir site, most likely an indication of a hermitage in that area (the Christian pottery is most densely distributed in front of and beneath a cave out of which an enormous quantity of debris has been thrown).

Fine green Marl A3 Middle Kingdom globular jars, like those found at Gebel Antef and on the 'Alamat Tal road, are the earliest types recorded so far. Many sherds of vessels of the late Second Intermediate Period to early Eighteenth Dynasty, parallel to Gebel Antef types, have been observed. In the profile revealed by the thieves' bull-dozing at the Qarn el-Gir site, sherds of this date protrude from approximately the middle of the 2.5 m of strata now exposed; the full depth of the deposit is as yet unknown. It is feared that any detectable expression of interest in the ancient evidence on the desert floor may encourage further destruction of the deposits, so sampling in this area and the deep pack of pottery near graffiti site A has been postponed until the recording of the remaining graffiti has been completed, at which time attention can again be turned to the physical remains. At the present time it seems that, after the late Middle Kingdom to early New Kingdom, the time of the Twenty-fifth to Thirtieth Dynasties is the next most well-represented period in the ceramic remains. Quite exciting is the presence of an abundance of oasis wares, a range of both red-firing and orange-firing clays, in the form of "pilgrim flasks," "cigas," and "gourds," confirming that the desert road from Gebel Antef to Gebel Qarn el-Gir was indeed a major route from Thebes to the Oases.

## DARB BA'IRAT

The Darb Ba'irat, a southern fork of the road from the Wadi el-Hôl to Thebes, is a longer and in general less steep ascent to the plateau. It was in use at least as early as the Second Intermediate Period, but the ratio of ceramic material dating to the Graeco-Roman period versus Pharaonic times is much higher here than on the main Gebel Antef route. Forms include a Ptolemaic amphora <sup>15</sup>, Roman "kitchenware," and late Roman "Theban" amphorae.

15. Cf. Waseda University Committee of the Archaeological Survey in Egypt, *Malkata-South I. Kom el-Samak (Hill of the Fish)*, Tokyo, 1983, figures 67-70, pls. 21, 1 and 26, especially 26, 3.

A late Eighteenth Dynasty amphora (finely polished exterior, Marl A4) was found near the very beginning of the ascent, probably originating in the Malkata region, to which this road eventually leads.

## 'ALAMAT TAL AND GEBEL TJAUTI

As a result of preliminary reconnaissance during the 1992-1993 season, we identified the remains of two roughly circular mudbrick and dry-stone towers of late Second Intermediate Period date <sup>16</sup> in the middle desert north of the Thoth Mountain. These towers are at the end of a 1 1/2 kilometer long access road of cleared desert surface <sup>17</sup> with rocks piled to either side forming curbs. <sup>18</sup> The towers appear to guard a large caravan route system made up of tracks approaching from various points in the valley. The Pharaonic paths of the area come together near the towers and form a wide swath of tracks and runnels leading back towards the escarpment. At several points Roman and Coptic tracks cross the Pharaonic highway, with a number of Romano-Coptic paths joining the Pharaonic route shortly before it ascends the *gebel*. Cairns mark many of the

16. The date of the construction of the towers was established by the fact that potsherds of the late Second Intermediate Period to early Eighteenth Dynasty are included in some of the bricks. For a favorable assessment of the reliability of using the "pottery contents of the bricks" to date a structure, see Redford, *op. cit.*, p. xiv.

17. Potsherds may have been used in the final clearing of the road: a sherd with one edge clearly worn smooth was found near the towers. It may be a "spade sherd" such as those found in the vicinity of the long, broad strip of cleared desert leading towards the *gebel* beyond Kola el-Hamra, described by O. MYERS on p. 9-10 of his 1936-1937 Armant Season Report and in his note "'Spade' sherds," *Kush* IV, 1956, p. 86. See also *JEA* 23, 1937, p. 118 (excerpt from the above-mentioned report in the form of a letter), and B. KEMP, "A Building of Amenophis III at Kom el-Abd", *JEA* 63, 1977, p. 76 and figure 1.

18. The road leads out from the cultivation to the two towers, located at the edge of a rubble hill in the middle desert; paired cairns mark the approach road where it ascends the hill to the base of the southern tower. Altogether, these features resemble depictions of desert police towers and access roads marked by cairns, as depicted in the tomb of the police chief Mahu at Amarna; see N. de G. DAVIES, *The Rock-Tombs of El Amarna, Part IV: The Tombs of Penthu, Mahu and Others*, *Egypt Exploration Society Archaeological Survey of Egypt* 16, London 1906, pls. 21, 22 and 28. A detailed discussion and interpretation of these scenes appears in the authors' forthcoming publication of the 'Alamat Tal towers and the Gebel Tjauti graffiti.

paths, but it is the pottery which defines the distinct routes. Over the previous two seasons, we surveyed the middle desert patrol road behind the towers, as well as numerous branches of the tracks which make up the 'Alamat Tal caravan route. Tracks were covered on foot in sections, pottery being carefully examined and samples collected along every path. During the 1994-1995 season, in addition to mapping the courses of several Roman and Coptic tracks, and one Islamic path (north of the 'Alamat Tal), we succeeded in following the Pharaonic route to the point where it ascends the *gebel* far behind the towers. There, we discovered an extensive area of rock inscriptions, including the name of King Pepy (I), a road construction inscription (time of the Eleventh Dynasty) of the pro-Heracleopolitan Coptite nomarch Tjauti (whose name we have given to the site), the signatures of a number of Middle Kingdom policemen, and a red ink inscription of Middle Kingdom date referring to a royal visit to Thebes — apparently on the 'Alamat Tal road.

Perhaps because the 'Alamat Tal/Gebel Tjauti road fell almost completely out of use after the New Kingdom, due to severe water action which appears to have made the 'aqaba impassable, the ceramic remains have proved to be the best preserved and least disturbed of all those yet examined on the roads of the Theban desert. The earliest material thus far encountered are sherds from Old Kingdom "Meydum bowls" (**fig. 1**).<sup>19</sup> Of late Old Kingdom or First Intermediate Period date is a red-polished hes-vessel. A highly distinctive bag-shaped jar with a scalloped rim, incised lines, and applique (**fig. 3**), is of a type found, among other places, at Hu, Qurna and Elkab, but best known from Qau. The parallels at the latter site are dated to the Ninth to Eleventh Dynasties,<sup>20</sup> though a slightly later date for the form is also possible. Middle Kingdom fine Marl A3 globular jars, some with appliques, are very common along the entire route (**fig. 2**).<sup>21</sup> Other Middle Kingdom to early

19. A convenient summary of references on Meydum bowls may be found in S. HENDRICKX, D. HUYGE, "Elkab, 1993. Tombes rupestres de l'Ancien Empire", *BCE* 18, 1994, p. 55, n. 8.

20. G. BRUNTON, *Qau and Badari II*, *BSAE* 45, London, 1928, plate XCI (91 and 92 series).

21. Compare J. BOURRIAU, *Umm el-Ga'ab: Pottery from the Nile Valley before the Arab Conquest*, Cambridge, 1981, p. 70-71, no. 131, dated to early Twelfth Dynasty, also depicted in D. ARNOLD, J. BOURRIAU, *op. cit.*, p. 178, figure 15.

Second Intermediate Period types include large red-slipped Nile Silt B2/C jars,<sup>22</sup> simple bag jars, fine marl bowls with incised wavy lines on the interior and exterior; heavy marl storage jars with wheel-made rims and hand-finished bodies (especially prevalent at the site of the towers), and simple thin-walled, fine silt cups of the Twelfth to Thirteenth Dynasties, often with red wash on the rim (**fig. 4b**).<sup>23</sup> The vessel depicted in figure 4a bears red-orange paint splashes as decoration, a somewhat unusual convention known from other late Second Intermediate Period to early Eighteenth Dynasty contexts.<sup>24</sup> As at Gebel Antef, many late Second Intermediate Period to early Eighteenth Dynasty ovoid jars with incised bands on the neck have been found, particularly near a group of votive piles on the high desert plateau. We were able to reconstruct most of an imitation spindle bottle, the external appearance of which is nearly indistinguishable from that of the imported type (red, vertically burnished surface), but which is made of a Nile silt fabric.

Quite exciting, though completely in keeping with the military/police nature of the 'Alamat Tal road is the abundance of Nubian pottery present. When considered in conjunction with the names and titles of Middle Kingdom policemen at Gebel Tjauti, the Nubian material, which, when found in Egypt, is often associated with desert police, suggests that this route is indeed that on which Kay travelled from Qamûla to the Oases in order to arrest criminals and renegades.<sup>25</sup>

**22.** On the interior of the round, though slightly flattened bottoms of some of these vessels may be seen a deep spiral made by the potter's fingers; cf. D. ARNOLD, J. BOURRIAU, *op. cit.*, p. 51 and 53, p. 52, figure 55C.

**23.** For a thorough, well-illustrated discussion of subtle dating criteria for this type of cup, see D. ARNOLD and D. ARNOLD, *Der Tempel Qasr el-Sagha, AVDAIK* 27, Mainz am Rhein, 1979, p. 35, Abb. 20, 2 and 20a, 2a, and p. 36-38 for simple cup with slight tip back out at rim (a distinctive Thirteenth Dynasty feature; this form is also present at the 'Alamat Tal); for the simple, "classic" mid-Twelfth Dynasty silt thin-walled cups, p. 36-38; Abb. 22. 5-7 and Abb. 22a 5a and 6-7a. The sides straight-up to rim or slightly inturning rims (6, 7 and 6-7a) which are classic mid-Twelfth Dynasty characteristics also continue into the late Twelfth to Thirteenth Dynasties.

**24.** E.g., at Karnak North, Helen Jacquet-Gordon, personal communication; R. HOLTHOER, *New Kingdom Pharaonic Sites: The Pottery*, SJE 5:1, Stockholm, 1977, p. 56 and pl. 13, interior design structure 3, "splash;" pl. 25, CU1 IR/3R/b-c, IR/3R/d-e, CU3 IR/3R/c-e; pl. 26, CU3 IR/3R/d-e; pl. 27, PL3 IR/3R/d-e.

**25.** R. ANTHES, "Eine Polizeistreife des Mittleren Reiches in die westliche Oase," *ZÄS* 30, 1930, p. 108-114.

Numerous handmade sherds of a characteristically Nubian silt fabric with black fracture and deep red burnished exterior (sometimes also interior), representing both bowls and jars, have been found at the towers, along the road, and near Gebel Tjauti. However, the most distinctive Nubian pottery comes from the area of the towers: Classic Kerman beaker ware and mat-impressed sherds.<sup>26</sup>

A great quantity of well-executed, elaborately painted vessels is evident along the road, especially at the Gebel Tjauti graffiti site. One of the most notable pieces (**fig. 5**) is a blue-painted marl vessel with a Hathor head applique. The face of the goddess was molded separately and then applied.<sup>27</sup> A neck of a similar vessel (bearing a scar where the Hathor head popped off) presents a more complete version of the red, blue and black vertical wavy lines which also accompanied this Hathor face. Other unusual painted forms include the slender-necked flask, one of the most common types on the desert roads, which appears here with elaborate painted decoration<sup>28</sup> and a broad-necked silt jar with red-orange wash and a unique decorative scheme consisting of pendant vertical bands with large dots on the ends in an alternating black band, white dot/white band, black dot pattern. A fine marl sherd bearing a painted tree offers a tantalizing peek at the rich array of decoration to be found on the vessels at Gebel Tjauti.<sup>29</sup>

26. Further examination of the Nubian pottery and its relationship with the Egyptian material along the 'Alamat Tal road will no doubt shed further light on the questions discussed by J. BOURRIAU, "Relations between Egypt and Kerma during the Middle and New Kingdoms," in: W.V. DAVIES, ed., *Egypt and Africa: Nubia from Prehistory to Islam*, London, 1991, p. 129-144.

27. Probably late Eighteenth Dynasty. See C.A. HOPE, "The XVIIIth Dynasty Pottery from Malkata," in *Pottery of the Egyptian New Kingdom: Three Studies, Victoria College Archaeology Research Unit Occasional Paper No. 2*; Burswood, Victoria, 1989, p. 8 (mentioning both "modelling of the vessel wall" (figures 10e and 11b and references), as well as "applied decorative elements," the latter including "mouldmade faces of Hathor on the rims or necks of jars (fig. 13c) and bowls").

28. Cf. F. LEFEBVRE, B. VAN RINSVELD, *L'Égypte: Des Pharaons aux Coptes*, (Brussels), 1990, p. 118, fig. 51.

29. For the appearance of the tree, see C. HOPE, "Innovation in the Decoration of Ceramics in the Mid-18th Dynasty," *CCE* 1, 1987, p. 98 and pl. XXXII, A and B.

## THE THOTH MOUNTAIN

Still visible today atop the northernmost promontory of the Theban *gebel*, a high point known colloquially as the "Thoth Mountain," are the mudbrick, limestone, and sandstone remains of the temple of Se'ankhkare Monthuhotep. Although this chapel has been known since the turn of the century, the symbolic and political significance of its location could not be fully grasped without an understanding of the history of the use of the desert roads of the Qena Bend.<sup>30</sup> Though it is one of the most imposing of the monuments thus far known to be associated with the roads of the high desert, the pottery along the tracks which lead to and from this temple is much sparser than that preserved on any of the other routes surveyed. This fact further supports the notion that the Thoth Mountain branch of the Farshût road functioned more as a patrol road and access to a chapel (with both military and religious importance) than as a heavily used caravan route.

A cursory examination of the very disturbed area of the temple gives the impression that the pottery of the Thoth Mountain, though predominantly of Middle Kingdom date, also includes (early and late) Second Intermediate Period and New Kingdom forms, as well as some later material. Types include large Nile C jars, heavy silt basins and trays/troughs, long-necked silt jarstands, a fine marl carinated bowl with appliques, large, heavy red-polished silt bowls with incised wavy lines, some with simple heavy disc bases; and silt votive cups with inturning rims. On the high desert road itself, the ceramic material consists largely of a few, very widely scattered pot drops. Of these, thus far two separate late Second Intermediate Period to early Eighteenth Dynasty red-polished silt bowls with unmodelled rims and several Theban amphorae fragments have been noted.

30. The inscription of the Coptite nomarch Tjauti on the 'Alamat Tal road, in which that administrator takes credit for improving the earlier track, shows that the 'Alamat Tal road was in the Coptite nome. An examination of the epithets of Tjauti and his Theban counterpart implies that Tjauti's road construction was a final, desperate attempt to maintain for the Heracleopolitans a direct desert route to Abydos. The Theban Thoth Mountain directly overlooks this Coptite route, and the Thoth Mountain temple may thus be seen as a visible expression of Theban power over the strategically important desert roads.



## DARB RAYAYNA

Letters of Oliver Myers in the archives of the Egypt Exploration Society in London refer to a "watchtower" on the high desert behind Armant; Myers visited the site but briefly, and believed the structure dated to the late Predynastic period. By comparing his description of the structure's location with features on the Survey of Egypt maps, we succeeded in relocating the site. We have examined the associated ceramic remains, and have made a plan of the tower. The structure, a truncated pyramid of dry stone construction with a long, narrow ramp on the east side, now appears to be a solar altar of Fifth Dynasty date, located near the juncture of the Darb Rayayna and the Darb Rizeiqat. Like Gebel Tingar at Aswan, the Antef temple on Gebel Antef, and the Thoth Mountain temple, this is a shrine at or near the end of a high desert road, and is in fact the earliest of these desert road shrines thus far identified in Upper Egypt.

In the vicinity of the solar altar is a great abundance of sherds of rough silt jars (**fig. 6**) which have a possible date ranging from the Second to the Sixth Dynasties. The closest parallels to this admittedly irregular form are similar drop-shouldered, simple-lipped silt jars, with round or pointed bottoms, of the Fifth Dynasty.<sup>31</sup> Pottery along the road includes some Old Kingdom vessels, notably a red-polished "Meydum bowl", probably Fifth to Sixth Dynasties (**fig. 7**)<sup>32</sup> and a small offering cup,<sup>33</sup> as well as a marl jar with a turned rim attached to a handmade body.<sup>34</sup> Also occurring are forms dating to the Second Intermediate Period and New Kingdom, as well as some Ptolemaic and Roman vessels.

31. W. KAISER, "Die Tongefässe," in: H. RICKE, ed., *Das Sonnenheiligtum des Königs Userkaf, Bd II, Beiträge zur Ägyptischen Bauforschung und Altertumskunde* 8, Wiesbaden, 1969, p. 54, VIII. 64-67 and H. FRANKFORT, "The Cemeteries of Abydos: Work of the Season 1925-1926," *JEA* 16, 1930, pl. 32, 3 and p. 216.

32. For this form, cf. KAISER, *op. cit.*, p. 58, XV. 100 = p. 80, fig. 9, XV. 100.

33. Cf. form of upper portion of the model jar depicted in KAISER, *op. cit.*, p. 56, XII. 77.

34. For an interior view of this type of join, see D. ARNOLD, J. BOURRIAU, *op. cit.*, p. 37, figure 37 (an Archaic Period jar).

## TOPOS OF APA TYRANNOS

Near the Armant end of the Darb Rayayna, in a *wadi* at the base of the escarpment, is a monastic site discovered by Oliver Myers, but never published. The place is apparently the monastery of Poseidonios (the tower of the monastery of Poseidonios appears twice amongst the graffiti of the site), although a graffito also refers to the site as the Topos of Apa Tyrannos. The graffiti, although predominantly Coptic, include prehistoric figures, *serekhs* of the Second Dynasty king Nebre/Nubre, a few Pharaonic drawings, and Persian period demotic graffiti made by visitors from Khargeh Oasis.

Early pottery in association with the site of the inscriptions includes one New Kingdom medium deep silt bowl with flaring rim and some sherds apparently of a storage jar of the same period. An initial foray has been made into the analysis of the enormous amount of Coptic pottery associated with the monastic community at this site; it will be dealt with in the context of the study of the monastery and will be treated separately from the pre-Christian remains.

Deborah DARNELL and John Colman DARNELL.

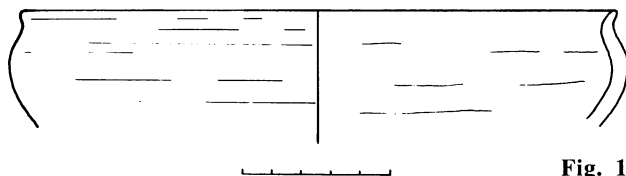


Fig. 1

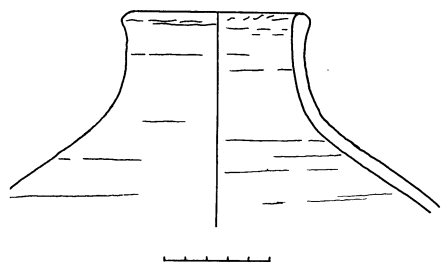


Fig. 2

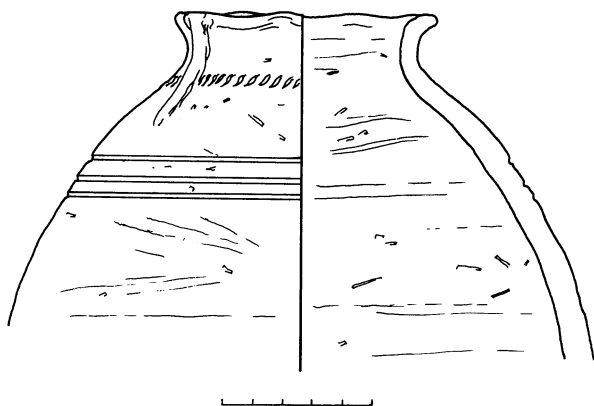


Fig. 3

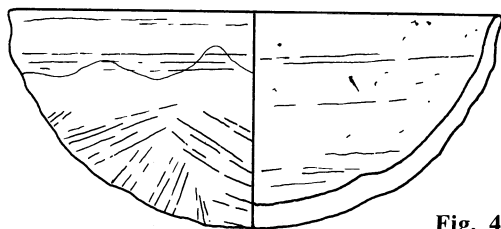
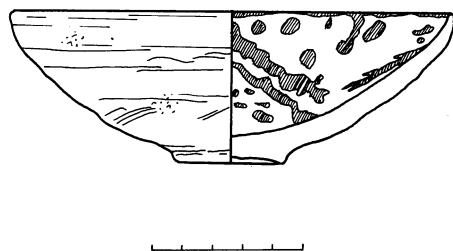


Fig. 4



Fig. 5

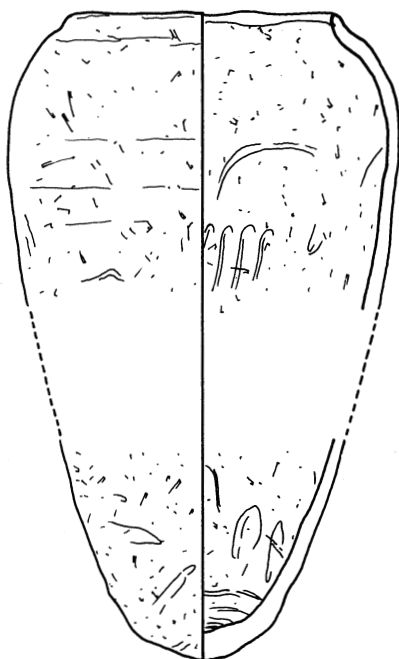


Fig. 6

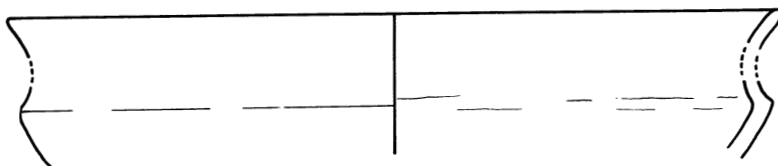


Fig. 7

### 13. **Dakhleh Oasis Project 1994 Season.**

Toronto University.

WORK on the ceramic material at Ismant el-Kharab/Kellis commenced in early January of 1994. This year the primary focus was on the recording and drawing of material recovered in two previous seasons from well-stratified contexts of Houses 3 and 4.<sup>1</sup> The pottery finds from the cemeteries situated a short distance to the north-west and the north-east of Kellis were also recorded and drawn.<sup>2</sup> In addition, a preliminary investigation was made into the considerable quantity of ceramic material which has resulted from the work by the Dakhleh Oasis Project, under the direction of A.J. Mills in conjunction with the EAO, of restoring the temple at Deir el-Haggar. It is a pleasure to report this year that, due to the increased number of willing helpers available, a great many body sherds were counted from the backlog of material which had accumulated during the preceding seasons while the large quantity of ceramic material recovered from Room 6 of House 3 was being processed.

The sites from which pottery is reported this year are as follows: 31/420-D6-1/A/5 House 3 - Room 13 (15): a test below floor level in the courtyard.

House 3 is the most easterly of the group of three excavated houses. The group is situated to the south of a large building designated Area B, sections of which were excavated in the season of 1988, and is separated from the structure by a street. The courtyard of House 3 was built adjoining the northern side of the house

1. For a report on the excavation of House 3, see C.A. HOPE, *JSSEA* XIX, 1989, p. 1-6 and for House 4, see HOPE, *BACE* 4, 1993, p. 25-26.

2. Excavation report on the cemeteries forthcoming.

and the test below the floor level produced sherd material similar to that which was recovered from lower levels of Area B and which was published in the report of that season.<sup>3</sup>

31/420-D6-1/A/6 House 4 - Room 27a (8-11): levels containing fill upon which the walls of the house had been built.

House 4 is a structure of considerable size preserved to first floor level and is situated to the east of the temple gate. In general, the ceramic material which has been recovered from the excavations is similar to that which came from the habitation levels of the Houses 1, 2 and 3. On examination of fill material from under the walls in one of the rooms however, it was found that the sherds obtained were comparable with those from the earlier levels of House 3 and Area B. Accordingly at Kellis, we now have ceramic material excavated from three stratified contexts which predate the occupation phase of the houses. It has been determined by the site director, C.A. Hope, that the occupation phase began in the third century A.D. and continued into the fourth century. At sometime towards the end of the fourth century the houses were abandoned (see footnote 1). The excavated material of the earlier period is invaluable in that it establishes a chronological sequence for the site of Kellis and, as well, confirms the sequence for the ceramic material recovered by the Dakhleh Oasis Project during the survey of the oasis.

The sherds recovered from the three contexts include a range of domestic vessels — large and small bowls, cooking pots and jars are the most common forms. The majority of the vessels were made from the clay fabric, designated Pl<sub>a</sub>, which has a fairly open texture and contains rounded quartz grains with calcareous inclusions often apparent. The fired colour is usually in the pale red to reddish-brown colour range. This fabric is the one most frequently seen in the Kellis ceramic material of both the earlier and later periods. Another range of fabrics from the earlier period was made from a type of marl clay generally fired to a pale yellow colour. A similar type of fabric is very common in the later period but is not as dense or hard as the fabrics from the earlier period and the fired colour is usually pale green. Two other fabrics which exemplify the later period — a fairly fine pink-grey fabric thinly thrown into a range

3. See HOPE, *JSSEA* XVII, 1987, p. 167-172 and fig. 5 for a report on the excavation and pottery finds of Area B.

of domestic wares and a red-slipped and polished ware which imitated North African Red Slip forms — are noticeably absent from the earlier period.

Numerous small bowl forms [fig. 5] made from Pla fabric have been recovered from all three contexts; these appear to have been used as lids or covers for jars. Also made from the Pla fabric is a small bowl [fig. 4] from House 4, the rim of which is decorated with painted dots of dark red pigment. This type of carinated bowl with either a flat base or a ring base has been recovered previously from Area B. The bowl from House 3 [fig. 1] and the bowl [fig. 2] from House 4 are made from marl fabrics.

The bowl [fig. 3] is the only example of its type so far excavated at Kellis, and neither is the type present in the ceramic material recovered during the survey. The bowl has a pale coloured surface onto which were painted bands of dark red pigment. The fabric has a medium-fine texture with rounded quartz grains and small but conspicuous calcareous inclusions. In Dakhleh Oasis, spouted vessels are frequently encountered in material recovered from different periods, but unique to the corpus is the large spouted bowl made from the Pla fabric [fig. 6]. Though heavily thrown the vessel is well made with a thickened rim and an applied spout, the exterior surface is coated with a cream slip.

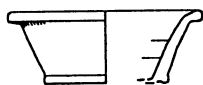
31/420-C5-1 - the cemetery located a short distance to the north-west of the town site of Kellis.

The flask [fig. 7] has a thin cord tied around the neck to secure a lid and was used as a container possibly for oil. Recovered from the same tomb, the jar [fig. 8] is decorated with painted bands over a cream slip coating. Similar jars have been found at tomb sites during the survey.<sup>4</sup> The gargoulette form [fig. 10], dated to the second or third century A.D., was found in a tomb from which came numerous fragments of cartonnage. The large jar [fig. 11] has a small fibre bung in the upper body and is intact; however it appears to have been made from a fairly fine variation of the Pla fabric. The bowl [fig. 9] is well made from Pla fabric and evenly fired a pale red colour. Rim sherds of both the bowl and jar types have frequently been recovered in the material from the earlier contexts

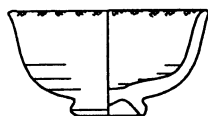
4. C. HOPE, *JSSEA* X, 1980, pl. XXIII and *JSSEA* XI, 1981, p. 237, pl. XXVI.

at Kellis. Bowls of this type became very much larger in the occupation phase of the houses and may have been used for storing grains.

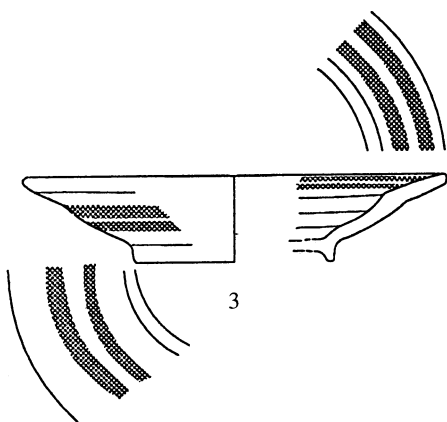
S.F. PATTEN,  
Macquarie University. Sydney.



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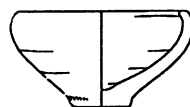
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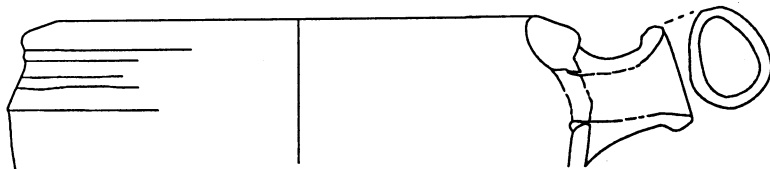
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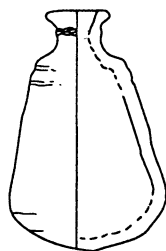


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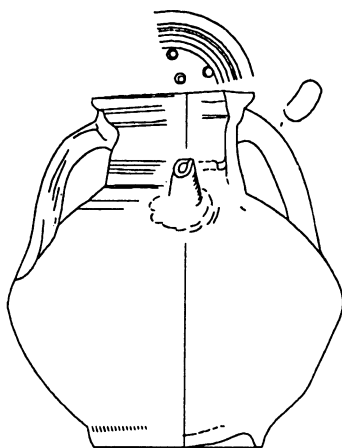


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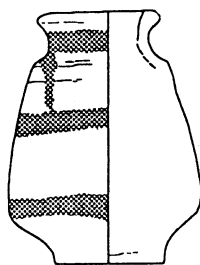




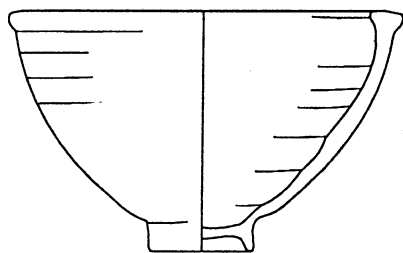
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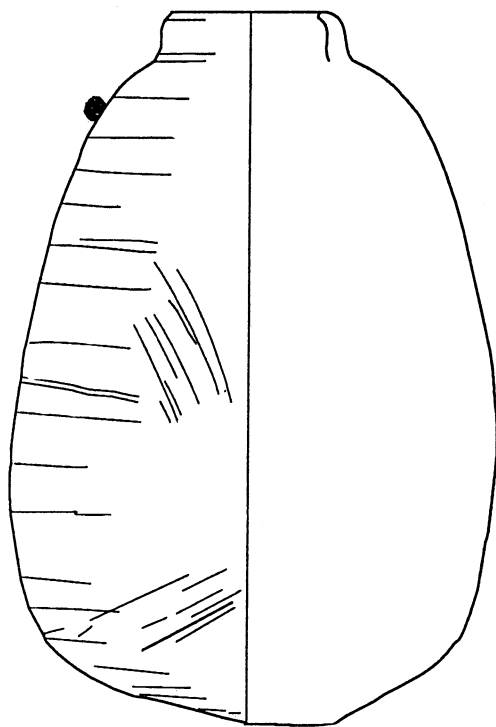
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8



9



11

(Scale 1/4)



## **II**

### **CLASSEMENT CHRONOLOGIQUE ET THÉMATIQUE**

#### **DES INFORMATIONS INCLUSES DANS LA PARTIE I**

LES numéros renvoient aux numéros d'articles



Prédynastique : **1.**  
Nagada I : **8.**  
Nagada II : **8.**  
Nagada III : **1, 8.**  
Dynastie 0 : **8.**

I<sup>e</sup> dynastie : **1, 7.**

Ancien Empire : **6.**

Moyen-Empire : **7.**

II<sup>e</sup> Période intermédiaire : **12.**  
XVII<sup>e</sup> dynastie : **12.**

Nouvel Empire : **7.**  
XVIII<sup>e</sup> dynastie : **10, 12.**

Ramesside : **11.**

III<sup>e</sup> Période intermédiaire :  
**2, 4, 11, 12.**

Époque tardive : **1, 2, 7.**

Époque saïte : **3, 4, 12.**

Époque perse : **6.**

Époque ptolémaïque : **5, 12.**

Époque romaine : **1, 12.**  
— commencement : **6.**  
— II<sup>e</sup>-III<sup>e</sup> siècles : **13.**  
— III<sup>e</sup>-IV<sup>e</sup> siècles : **13.**  
— IV<sup>e</sup>-V<sup>e</sup> siècles : **12.**

Époque chrétienne : **11, 12.**  
VI<sup>e</sup>-VII<sup>e</sup> siècles : **9.**

Amphores :  
— importées : **4, 8.**  
— égéenne : **2.**  
— grecque : **3.**  
— palestinienne : **3, 4, 5.**  
— avec anse estampillée : **5.**

African Red-Slip Ware : **9.**

Eastern Sigillata Ware : **5.**

Gnathia-type Ware : **5.**

Lead-glazed Islamic ware : **12.**

Nubian ware : **12.**

Oasis ware : **12.**



### **III**

## **PUBLICATIONS RÉCENTES**

### **SUR LA CÉRAMIQUE DE LA VALLÉE DU NIL**





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