

*Alexander Melamed*

# SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLAL QUARRY

המכון לארכיאולוגיה ע"ש זינמן  
The Zinman Institute of Archaeology  
معهد زينمان لعلم الآثار  
אוניברסיטת חיפה  
UNIVERSITY OF HAIFA



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SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL  
BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY



ALEXANDER MELAMED

# SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY

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## PREFACE

The site of Nesher-Ramla Quarry (*el-Khirbe*) is located in the northwestern Judean Foothills (Shephelah). The works conducted at the site for almost two decades are among the largest long-lasting salvage excavations in Israel. The present publication concentrates on the Late Hellenistic–Early Roman ritual baths (stepped immersion pools in later rabbinic terminology known as *miqwa'ot*), more than 50 of which were exposed at the site. It is the largest collection of fully documented ritual baths at any site in Israel, besides Jerusalem. During the Second Temple period ritual baths were composite parts of Jewish houses as well as occasional companions of burial sites and agricultural and industrial installations. The staggering number and the great variety of the ritual baths found at the rural settlement of Nesher-Ramla Quarry allow for a better understanding of the use of these water features by Jewish population of Second Temple period villages.

The author first and foremost wishes to thank the head of the expedition, Shlomo Kol-Ya'akov, and the members of the field staff, Vladimir Avrutis, Michal Drouk, Maayan Margulis, Oz Varoner, Natanel Paz, Yuli Gekht, as well as many others who participated in the excavations during the years. For their contribution to the present volume, thanks are due to Viatcheslav Pirskey and Sergey Alon (plans and sections), Tomer Appelbaum (field photography), and Anna Hayat (coins and pottery photography). Special thanks are due to Bouky Boaz, the logistical and administrative director of the expedition. The author is grateful to the Zinman Institute of Archaeology, University of Haifa, for the academic patronage. A debt of gratitude is owed to the Nesher Israel Cement Enterprises Ltd. for financing this long-term excavation project and for providing much of the technological assistance in the field.





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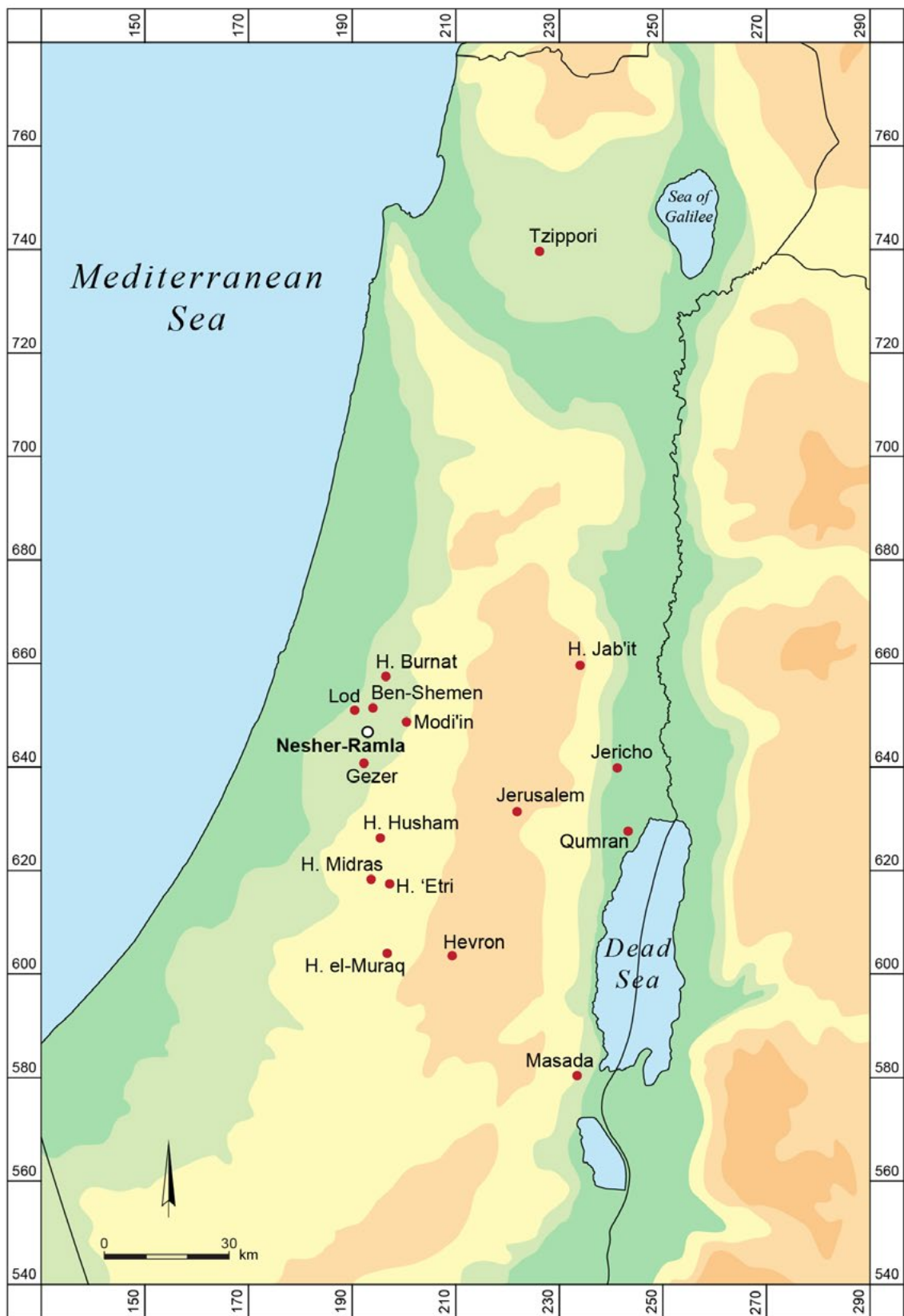
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**Fig. 1.1** General location map of the sites mentioned in the text.

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

*Alexander Melamed*

### 1.1 GEOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND OF THE SITE

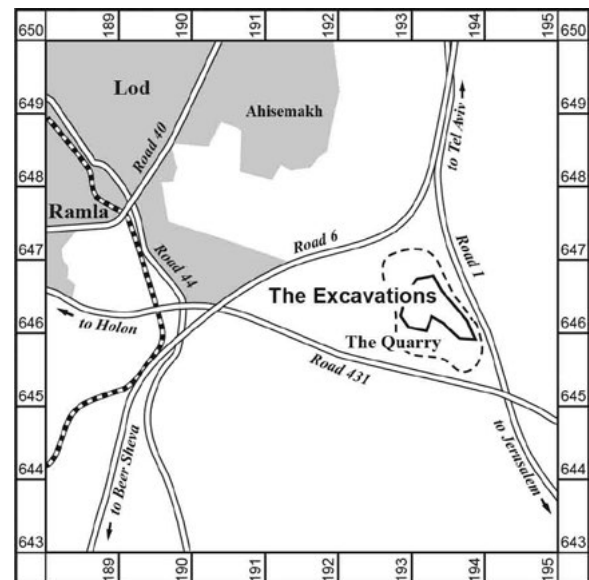
The site of Neshar-Ramla Quarry (henceforth NRQ; also known as *el-Khirbe*) is located in northwestern Judean Foothills (Shephelah), ca. 5 km east of Ramla, 6 km southeast of Lod, and 6 km north of Tel Gezer (Fig. 1.1), inside the quarry of the Neshar-Ramla Cement Factory (map reference 193222/646760), hence its name. The Ayalon Stream delimits the site in the west, Road 1 in the east-northeast, and Road 431 in the south (Fig. 1.2). In the Roman period, a road passed nearby, leading from Lod-Diospolis, through Emmaus, to Jerusalem (Fischer, Isaac, and Roll 1996: 83–85). The site extends over two hills, 110–125 m above sea level, overlooking the coastal plain in the west, Tel Gimzo in the northeast, Tel Gezer and the Judean Foothills in the south.

The geological composition of the Neshar-Ramla Quarry site includes up to 4–5 m deep layer of hard Nāri rock (calcrete) and up to 40 m deep layer of soft limestone from Menuha Formation. The hills are partly covered by alluvial soil (Harsit) of varied depth. On the northern slopes, and especially on the western slopes (bordering

Ayalon River), the depth of the soil reaches 5–6 m (for a detailed discussion of the region's geology, see Mor 2012).

### 1.2 HISTORY OF THE SITE

Salvage excavations at NRQ begun in the mid-1990s in connection to fast-developing quarrying. Various bodies were responsible for the excavations at first (Avrutis 2012: 4, Table 1.1), but since



**Fig. 1.2.** Neshar-Ramla Quarry – location map.



2006 all major excavations were conducted under the direction of Shlomo Kol-Ya'akov, under the academic auspices of the Zinman Institute of Archeology, University of Haifa.<sup>1</sup>

The large-scale excavations at the site uncovered traces of human activity as early as from the Middle Paleolithic period (Zaidner et al. 2014; Varoner et al. 2022) and the early Pre-Pottery Neolithic B period (Ullman 2021). During the Late Chalcolithic period the settlement at the site included residential and burial areas on the surface together with natural caves adapted to various activities. Tombs of Early Bronze I period were discovered (Avrutis 2012; Avrutis 2018a), as well as an assemblage of Early Bronze period weapons (Yahalom-Mack et al. 2022).

After a long settlement gap, human activity at the site resumed during the Persian-Early Hellenistic period. Assigned to this period were numerous graves on the western slopes of the western hill and several agricultural installations (Avrutis 2015). The settlement reached its peak in the Late Hellenistic (Hasmonean) and Early Roman periods (end of the second and first centuries BCE — first century CE). At that time the settlement at NRQ was part of the rural-agricultural hinterland of the city of Lod-Diospolis (Zelinger 2009). The fast development of the Jewish settlement begun, apparently, after the city of Lod with its surroundings was transferred by the Seleucids to the Hasmoneans in 145 BCE (Raviv 2019). To these periods assigned are numerous water cisterns, olive presses, winepresses (Avrutis 2015), quarries, columbaria, *kokhim* tombs (Kol-Ya'akov 2010: 99–119; 2018: 79–114), hiding complexes (Melamed 2010b, 2018b, 2020, 2022),

and ritual baths (Melamed 2010a, 2018a, this volume). The remains are mainly underground installations, since the surface settlement was almost entirely destroyed by the Byzantine-period pronounced activity at the site. In the Late Hellenistic and Early Roman periods, the site was inhabited by Jews, as evident by the large number of ritual baths, the distinct burial custom of the *kokhim* tombs, and finds of chalk stone vessels.

Based on the data accumulated over the years, it seems that the Jewish settlement of the Second Temple period was of a rural, decentralized, scattered nature, spread over two adjacent hills. The distance between the two hills is ca. 0.5–0.7 km by air. Most of the direct connection between the two hills was destroyed by an uncontrolled quarrying activity in the 1990s, but part of it survived in the northern extent of the site, where burials and agricultural installations of various types were found. With ca. 20 *kokhim* tombs found at the site and its surroundings, dozens of ritual baths, and many more water cisterns and hiding complexes, the Jewish settlement can be estimated to have included from 15 to 25 households.

The Jewish settlement was probably damaged during the Great Revolt. In the period between the rebellions, the settlement continued on a reduced scale, as evident from the ceramic and numismatic finds. Not a single coin of Bar Kokhba has been found throughout the years of excavations at the site, indicating that the settlement probably ceased to exist before the outbreak of the Bar Kokhba Revolt or shortly after the revolt broke out.

After a hiatus spanning the second and third centuries CE, the settlement at the site resumed

<sup>1</sup> Concomitantly, two additional excavation projects were carried out at the site: large excavations on behalf of the Israel Antiquities Authority, directed by H. Torga (2008–2009), and prehistoric excavations of an open-air Middle Paleolithic site, directed by Y. Zaidner, on behalf of the Zinman Institute of Archaeology, University of Haifa (2010–2011).

in the fourth century, reaching a new height in the sixth and seventh centuries (Late Byzantine and Early Islamic periods). Among the features attributed to this settlement are agricultural installations, water cisterns, kilns, residential quarters, two churches (Kol-Ya‘akov in prep.; Zelinger and Di Segni 2006), a bathhouse (Avrutis 2018b), and many burial installations of various types (Kol-Ya‘akov 2010; 2018). This Christian settlement was probably destroyed in the 749 CE earthquake, as implied by signs of destruction in various locations throughout the site and the drastic reduction in the amount of pottery and coins attributed to the late eighth century CE. There is no evidence of any significant human activity at the site from the mid-eighth century until the Mamluk period. The Mamluk period finds, excavated mainly in underground installations of previous periods, will be published in the future.

### 1.3 IDENTIFICATION OF THE SITE

Despite years of excavations and a wealth of finds that they yielded, no clues for the historical name of the Nesher-Ramla Quarry site were found. The modern official name *el-Khirbe*, as it appears on the Archaeological Survey of Israel map (Shavit 2014: Site 208), simply means “the ruin” in Arabic and indicates that the site was familiar to the region’s residents during the British Mandate period. *El-Khirbe* is located ca. 1–1.5 km west of the Arab village of ‘Innaba (‘Anaba, ‘Annabah, ‘Annabeh, ‘Innaba), abandoned in 1948 and located east and north of present-day ‘Anaba Interchange and east of Road 1.

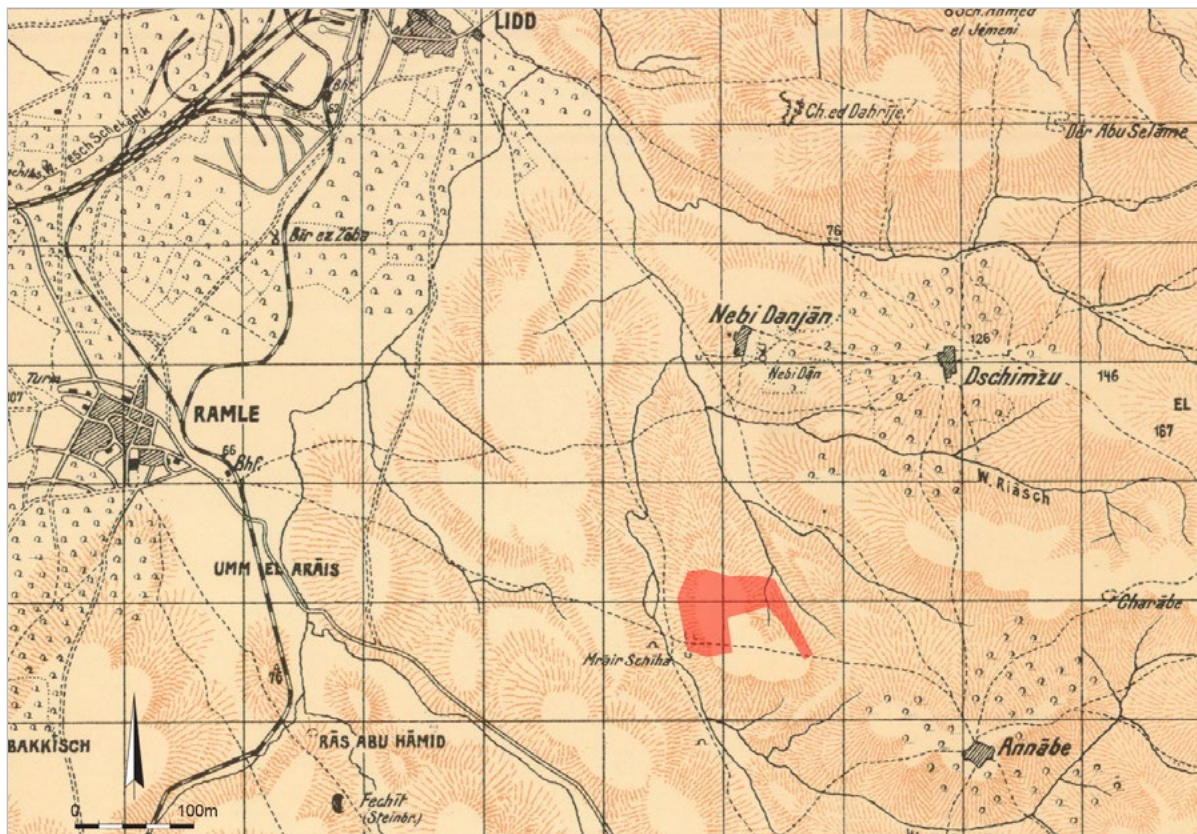
Several western surveyors visited the site and its surroundings during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. On maps of this period (Conder and Kitchener 1880: sheets XVI–

XVII; Schumacher 1918: sheet 68), close to the site’s location appears *M’gharet Shiha*, *Mughair Shihah*, or *Mrair Schiha*, meaning “Cave of the Wind” (Figs 1.3–1.4).

According to Clermont-Ganneau (1896: 472, 479–480), “between El Berriyeh (Barriyeh) and Neby Danian, to the west of ‘Annabeh, is *Shihā*, which is a *khürbeh*, with numerous rock-hewn tombs and an immense cavern called *M’gharet Shiha*... Shiha is situated on a flat hill with gentle undulations, from the top of which there is a view of Ramleh, Lydda, Jimzu, ‘Annabeh, and el Berriyeh. I took the bearings of the ruins as well as I could by aid of my little pocket-compass. They are not very prominent, being very grown with tall vegetation, and comprise cisterns and rock-hewn cavities... To the south-south-west, about a quarter of an hour away, on the other side of the considerable Wady Shiha, are some rock-hewn tombs and some caverns ... I had heard there was in the cavern, “stone urns with serpents carved on them,” “seven urns with their lids, arranged in a circle, and the stone serpent all round.”

Conder and Kitchener also visited the site of *Mughair Shihah*. They describe the site as “a large cave, apparently natural. It was twice visited, but no remains of the paintings said to exist here by the natives were found. Near this spot, there are a number of rock-cut chambers, to which steps lead down” (Conder and Kitchener 1882: 428). The nearby village of ‘Annabeh, they describe as “a village of moderate size, on high ground, surrounded with olives, with a well to the south” (Conder and Kitchener 1883: 14).

Mukaddasi (*Description of Syria, Including Palestine* translated by G. Le Strange 1886: 33) mentions that one of the gates of the city of Ramla was called “the Gate of the ‘Annabah Mosque.” This name obviously designated the



**Fig. 1.3** Neshar-Ramla Quarry on Schumacher's (1918, sheet 68) Ramle map (superposition by Viatcheslav Pirsky).

settlement to which the road, exiting the gate, led — i.e., the village of ‘Innaba.

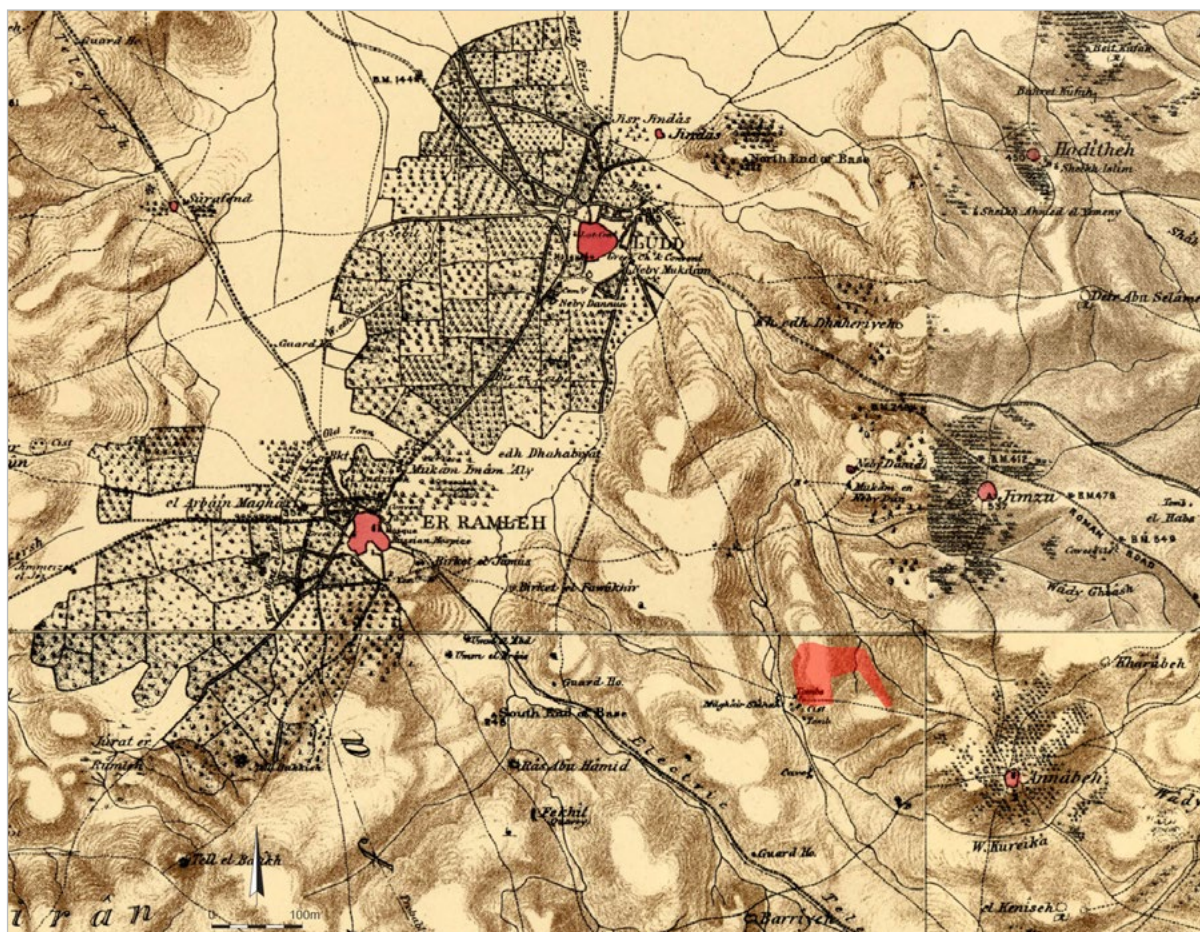
In all likelihood, the village's Arab name preserves the settlement's original name — Bet ‘Annaba. It appears on the Byzantine-period Madaba Mosaic Map, where it is located southeast of the city of Lod-Diospolis and is labelled “Anob now Betoannaba.” According to Avi-Yonah (1954: 64), “The identification is taken from the *On.* 20, 15 [Eusebius's *Onomasticon*]; the position of this village on the map corresponds to ‘Innaba four miles east of Lod, and not with the Bethannaba of St. Jerome (*ib.*) eight miles east of Lod (Beit Nuba).”

The appearance of Bet ‘Annaba on the Madaba Map indicates that it was a large settlement and an important point on the pilgrims' route to Jerusalem.

The fact that Madaba Map also preserves the older variation of the name of the settlement — Anob, implies that the Jewish village of the Second Temple period was also of considerable importance and size, although it is not mentioned in the ancient Jewish sources.

Several surveys and small salvage excavations at Horbat Bet ‘Anava and its vicinity (i.e., the location of the Arab village, ca. 1–1.5 km east of NRQ), failed to produce compatible Early Roman or Byzantine-period finds (Kaniyas 2007; Rauchberger 2008; Elisha 2010; Haiman 2014). Conversely, at NRQ, the Early Roman and Byzantine period settlements were definitely substantial, as is evident by dozens of ritual baths, hiding complexes, *kokhim* tombs, two churches, and several industrial winepresses. The situation





**Fig. 1.4** Nesher-Ramla Quarry on Conder and Kitchener's (1880, sheets XIII-XIV, XVI-XVII) map (superposition by Viatcheslav Pirsky).

when the Arab village preserving an ancient name does not “sit” exactly on top of the predating settlement is not uncommon. This is, apparently, the situation with ancient Modi’in: as suggested by Zissu and Perry (2015), ancient Modi’in was located at Kh. el-Hummam/Kh. Midieh and not at the site of an Arab village of el-Midieh, located ca. 1.5 km northeast.

Thus, considering the position of NRQ site relative to Lod-Diospolis, its size, its finds, and the name preserved in the nearby Arab village of 'Innaba, I would suggest identifying it with the village of Bet 'Annaba indicated on the Madaba Map.

## 1.4 RESEARCH AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

Excavations at NRQ exposed a rich and diverse activity underneath the surface of the ground. Hundreds of different underground installations dating to the various periods represented at the site were excavated. The present publication concentrates on the ritual baths, dozens of which were exposed.

The term “ritual bath” used here refers to a rock-hewn or masonry-built stepped water installation, plastered with hydraulic plaster to prevent seepage of water, large enough for an adult person to immerse their entire body. There is a broad scholarly consensus that installations

of this type were intended primarily for ritual immersion for the purpose of *halachic* purification, and they first appeared in Judea in the Hasmonean period, towards the end of the second century BCE (Adler 2011: 52–53; Reich 2013: 24–26; Regev 2023: 11–13). Researchers tend to agree that the technical-architectural inspiration for the ritual baths comes from Hellenistic bathing installations, sitting tubs in particular (Adler 2011: 59–61; 2018; Reich 2013: 259, 261–268; Regev 2023: 12–13). Adler (2018) suggested that the practice of Jewish ritual bathing evolved through a process of ritualization of Hellenistic bathing practices and was a response to Hellenistic cultural innovations. Regev (2023: 29–30) suggested that the appearance of the ritual bath and the spread of ritual purification in the Hasmonean period were also a symbolic rite of ethnic identity formation. In any case, the ritual baths became common through the Hasmonean period and continued to be an integral part of everyday life in every Jewish settlement in the Early Roman period up to the Bar Kokhba Revolt (Adler 2017; 2023: 167–168).

Systematic research of the ritual baths in Israel had begun after dozens of stepped pools, interpreted as *miqwa'ot*, were discovered during the vast excavations of Avigad in the Jewish Quarter and of Mazar adjacent to the Temple Mount at Jerusalem during the late 1960s and 1970s. The research of different aspects of ritual baths and ritual purity continued intensively from the 1990s until today with publications by Amit (1994), Regev (1996, 2023), Zissu (with Amit, 2008; with Klein, 2013) and others. An especially important contribution to this research was made by Reich (2013) and by Adler (2008, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2018, 2023). The most updated catalogue

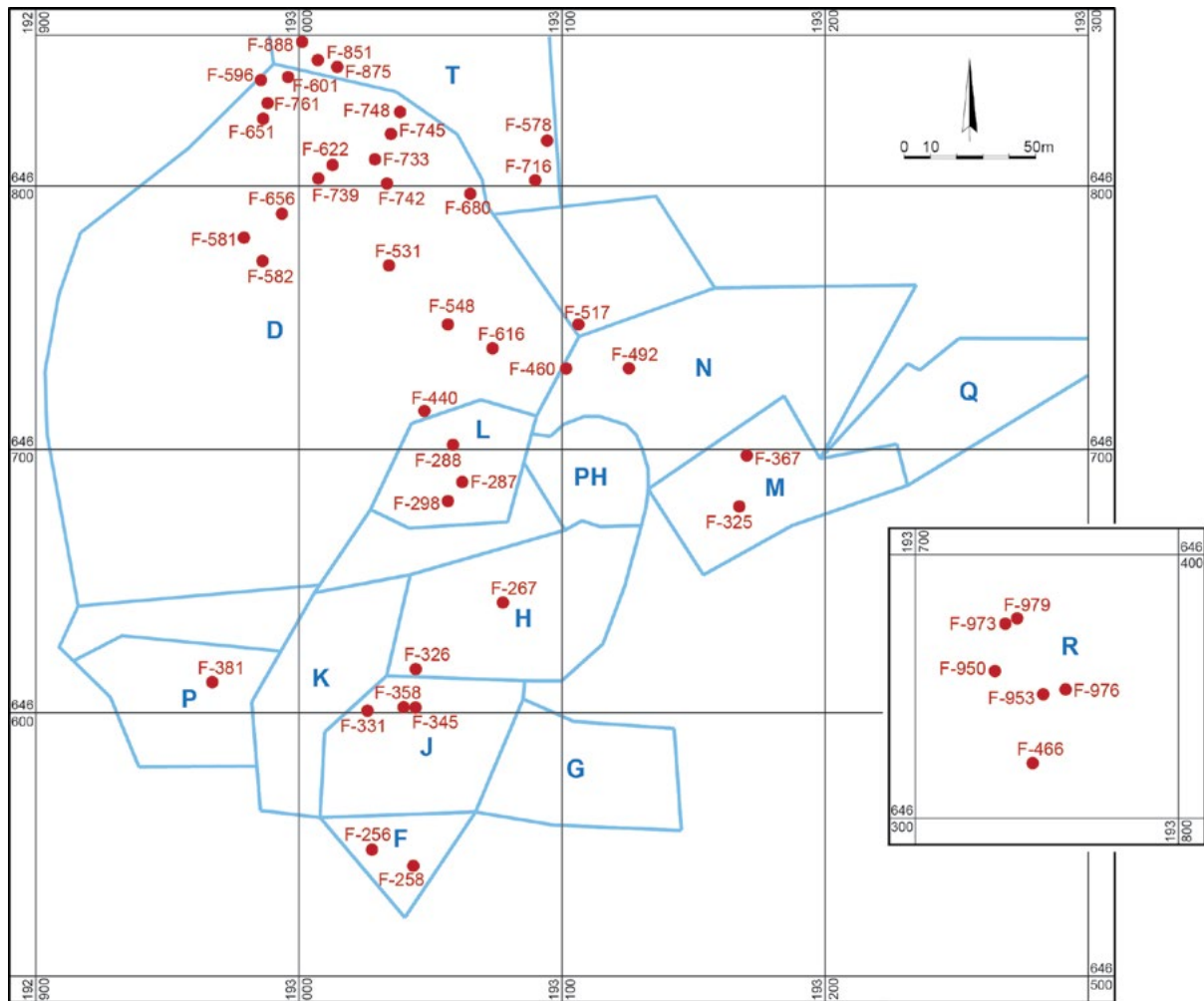
(Adler 2011) lists ca. 850 *miqwa'ot* across Eretz-Israel. During the last decade many additional ritual baths were published, e.g., dozens of *miqwa'ot* at Sepphoris (Meyers and Gordon 2018), Ben Shemen (Lupu 2019), and Hebron (Ben-Shlomo 2018). Together with the *miqwa'ot* from NRQ, the total number of ritual baths known up to date in Eretz-Israel exceeds 900 installations.

The current volume publishes 32 ritual baths excavated at NRQ from 2010 to 2019. They are added to the 13 ritual baths excavated and published previously: seven *miqwa'ot* excavated in 2006–2007 (Melamed 2010a) and six excavated in 2008–2009 (Melamed 2018a). Out of the total of 45 ritual baths treated in this volume, 39 were excavated in the western hill and six in the eastern hill (Fig. 1.5). The objective of the publication is to present to the research community the vast and varied finds of ritual baths from the NRQ and to discuss them in the light of the current knowledge on ritual baths in Eretz-Israel.

With over 50 known ritual baths (45 treated in this volume, four additional exposed in recent years, and at least three explored by the IAA),<sup>2</sup> NRQ is probably the richest site in Israel (after Jerusalem) in terms of the number of identified and excavated *miqwa'ot*. This large number of ritual baths at one rural settlement can be surprising, yet one should keep in mind that the Jewish settlement at the site existed for more than 200 years. Moreover, unlike most sites in Israel, NRQ has been excavated in its entirety (due to the ongoing quarrying), which contributes to higher quantity of finds, among them ritual baths.

The NRQ *miqwa'ot* are usually composed of two parts: an outer staircase or a small antechamber, and stepped immersion chamber.

<sup>2</sup> The four additional finds from the eastern hill will be published in the future. The ritual baths excavated by the IAA remain unpublished.



**Fig. 1.5** Nesher-Ramla Quarry – the excavation areas and the distribution of the ritual baths.

They range from fairly well-preserved to well-preserved. In many cases, the rock ceiling of the installation was found intact and the immersion chamber was filled with silt that slid through the entrance.

The complete excavation of dozens of ritual baths produced many portable finds, mainly ceramic and numismatic. However, it should be kept in mind that the *miqwa'ot*, while in use, were kept clean. Thus, the vast majority of the finds originates from the silt layers that filled the underground installations after they went out of use. Besides, some of the *miqwa'ot* were

re-designed and used during later periods for purposes other than ritual bathing.

Since almost no remains of the Jewish settlement survived on the surface, it is almost impossible to reconstruct the ground facilities or houses that were associated with these ritual baths. Consequently, all the *miqwa'ot* at NRQ were excavated as independent features (hereafter, Feature = F), an architectural description of which constitutes Chapter 2. The features are sorted within the chapter by their numbers. Within each feature, there is an internal division into loci (hereafter, Locus = L). Usually, each

locus number refers to a separate architectural element within the feature, such as an external or internal staircases, immersion chamber, etc. Due to changes in registration methods over the years, the locus number can consist of only numbers (e.g. L.10439) or letter and numbers (e.g. L.S78 or L.19R16–033). The textual description is accompanied by a plan of the *miqwe*, its sections, and in some cases photographs.

Chapters 3 and 4 focus respectively on the ceramic and numismatic finds, both accompanied by tables and plates. Chapter 3, devoted to ceramics, orders the material by feature numbers. Chapter 4, devoted to coins, presents the material in chronological order from earliest to latest. Chapter 5 discusses the typology and dating of the NRQ ritual baths in context of the finds of ritual baths from other sites.

## CHAPTER 2

### DESCRIPTION OF THE RITUAL BATHS

*Alexander Melamed*

The present chapter describes the remains of 32 ritual baths that were excavated at the site between 2010 and 2019. The list is organized according to the number of the feature. The text is accompanied by plans and sections for each feature, as well as photographs. In some cases, the ritual baths are connected or adjacent to other underground installations, such as water cisterns and hiding complexes. Those are mentioned here only briefly, with relevant references. Pottery and/or coins discovered in the ritual bathes are mentioned briefly after the architectural description.

#### **2.1 RITUAL BATH F-440 (FIG. 2.1)**

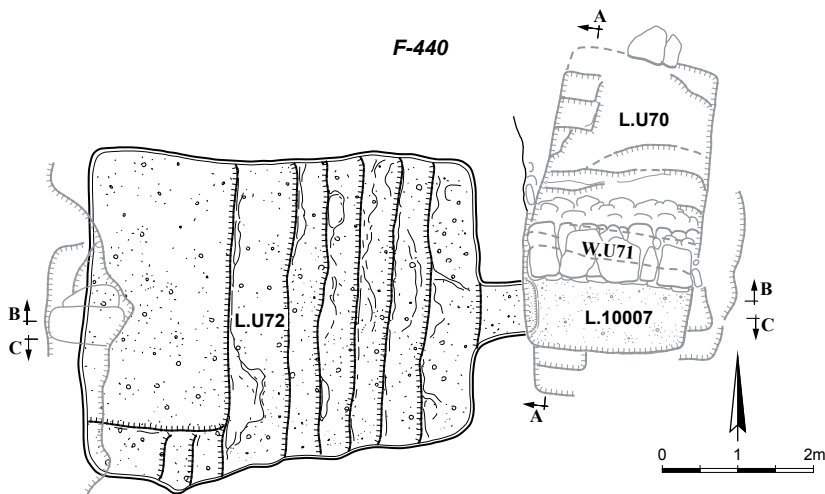
F-440 is located in Area D2, west of cistern F-553 and southwest of hiding complex F-442. It consists of two spaces: an external staircase (L.U70) and an underground immersion chamber (L.U72).

The external staircase is rectangular in shape, measuring 4 m from north to south and 2.2 m from east to west. Originally, seven hewn steps descended from north to south to a depth of ca. 2.1 m and led to the entrance of the immersion chamber, located at the southwestern corner of

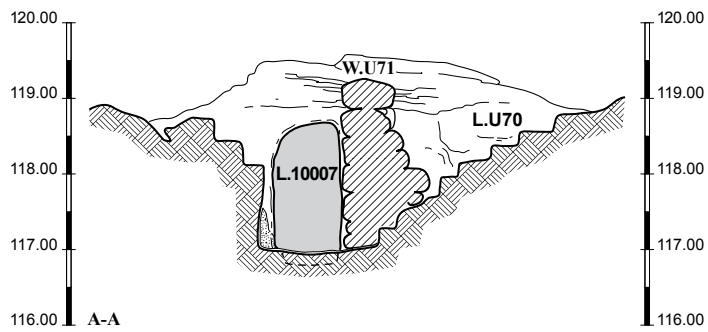
the external staircase (Fig. 2.2). However, the steps were severely damaged and preserved only fragmentarily in the northwestern corner and as negatives on the walls of the staircase. In a later stage a stone wall (W.U71) was constructed at the bottom of the staircase, completely separating the remains of the staircase from the entrance to the immersion chamber (Fig. 2.3). The construction of the wall created a small antechamber (L.10007) at the entrance to the immersion chamber, measuring 2.2×1 m. Grey hydraulic plaster has been preserved on the walls and the floor of the antechamber. Three hewn, narrow (0.7 m) steps descend from south to north at the southwestern corner of the antechamber. These steps were apparently cut after the construction of wall W.U71, to allow continued access to the immersion chamber, which remained in use. The difference in height between the lower step and the floor of the antechamber (1.2 m) hints at a possible use of some kind of aid, perhaps a ladder, with which it was possible to get down to the floor.

The entrance to the underground immersion chamber is 0.8 m wide and 1.6 m high. The chamber (L.U72) is rectangular in shape, measuring 5.5×4





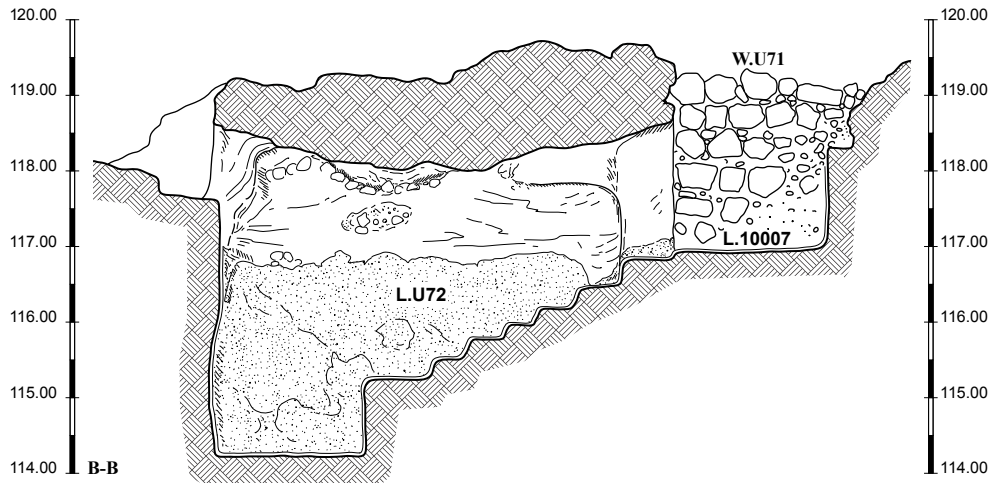
**Fig. 2.1** F-440, plan of ritual bath.



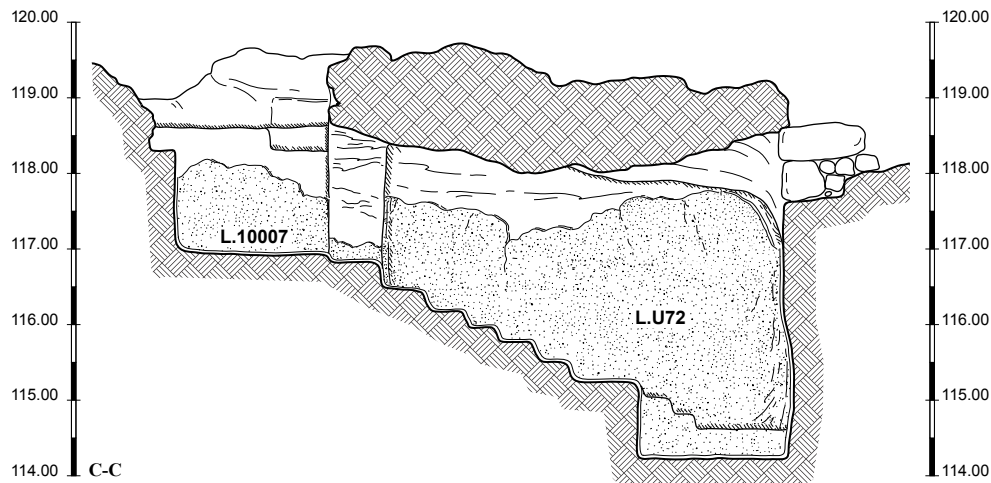
**Fig. 2.2** F-440, section A-A, looking west.



**Fig. 2.3** F-440, remains of external staircase L.U70, wall W.U71, and the entrance to immersion chamber L.U72, looking west.



**Fig. 2.4** F-440, section B-B, looking north.



**Fig. 2.5** F-440, section C-C, looking south.

m. The maximum height of the chamber is ca. 4 m. Ten hewn steps descend from east to west to the immersion basin (Fig. 2.4–2.5). The width of the upper step, located at the entrance, is the same as the width of the opening. The width of the next six steps spans the entire width of the chamber. The three lower steps are narrow auxiliary steps (0.6 m width), adjacent to the southern wall of the immersion basin (Fig. 2.6). The depth of the immersion basin (in relation to the sixth step) is ca. 1.1 m. The steps and the walls of the whole

immersion chamber are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster (Fig. 2.7). The upper part of the western wall of the immersion chamber is punctured by a hole, apparently formed naturally (Fig. 2.8), and it seems that an attempt was made to block it with large stones.

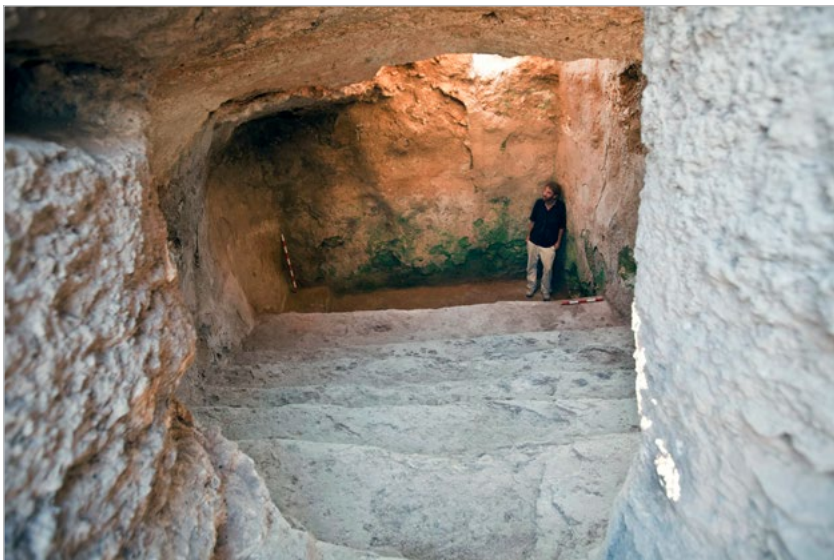
The ritual bath was filled with layers of silt that had accumulated over time. Although no indicative finds were discovered in the fill, the changes in the plan of the ritual bath can testify to its continuous use over a long period of time.



**Fig. 2.6** F-440, auxiliary steps adjacent to the southern wall of the immersion basin, looking south.



**Fig. 2.7** F-440, immersion chamber L.U72, looking east.



**Fig. 2.8** F-440, immersion chamber L.U72, looking west.



## 2.2 RITUAL BATH F-460 (FIG. 2.9)

F-460 is located in Area N, ca. 7 m northwest of hiding complex F-459. The ritual bath underwent substantial changes in the late period (Byzantine–Early Islamic), therefore its original plan is difficult to reconstruct. It seems that the *miqwe* originally consisted of an external staircase and an immersion chamber, the axis of which is perpendicular to the staircase.

The preserved part of the external staircase (L.10128) measures 2 m from north to south and 1 m from east to west. The southern part of the staircase was blocked by late construction. Five hewn steps leading from the surface descend from north to south to the floor of the staircase (L.10129) to a depth of 1.5 m (Fig. 2.10). Two upper steps are 0.6 m wide. The next two steps span the entire width of the staircase. The lower step is hewn perpendicularly to the rest, opposite to the entrance to the immersion chamber. The eastern wall of the staircase is hewn at its lower part and built of stones at its upper. The steps and walls of the staircase are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

The entrance to the immersion chamber is 0.7 m wide. The upper part of the opening was not preserved. It seems that the plan of the immersion chamber itself (L.X60) underwent substantial changes in a later period, when it was used as a small water cistern. The current dimensions of the chamber are about 2.8×2.8 m, and its height is ca. 2.4 m. Considering the height difference between the entrance and the current floor of the chamber (ca. 0.8 m, Fig. 2.11), it can be assumed that originally there were two or three steps in the chamber. The ceiling of the immersion chamber collapsed in the eastern part, but it can be assumed that in this part a vertical shaft was installed at a later stage, which made it possible to draw water from the cistern. The floor, walls,

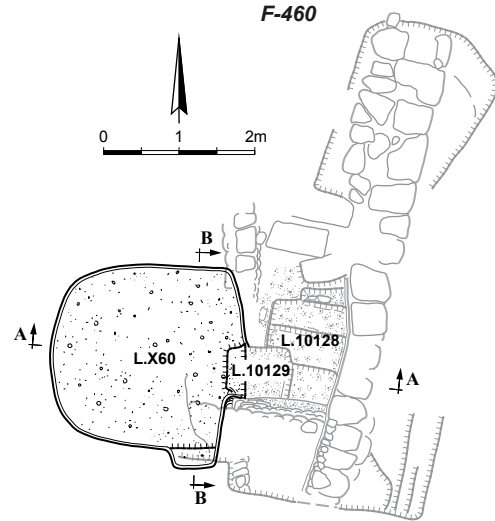


Fig. 2.9 F-460, plan of ritual bath.

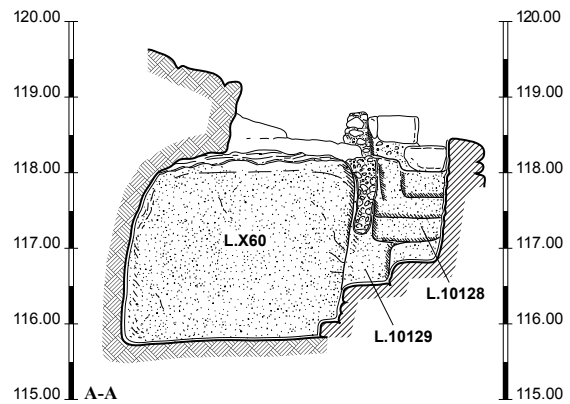


Fig. 2.10 F-460, section A-A, looking north.

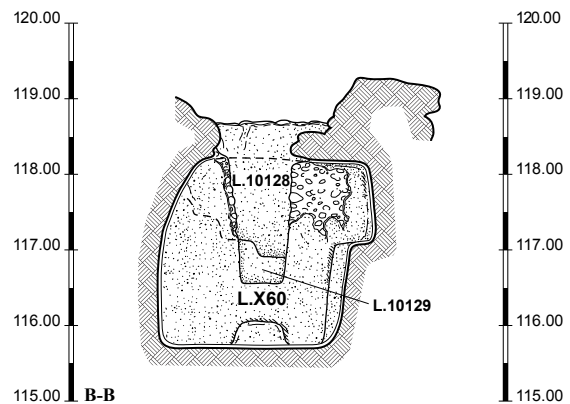


Fig. 2.11 F-460, section B-B, looking east.

and ceiling of chamber L.X60 were plastered with hydraulic plaster that is different from the plaster of the external staircase.

The exterior staircase and interior of the installation were filled with layers of silt that had accumulated over time. Pottery and a variety of small finds were found in the fill, all dating to the Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Ch. 3, Pls 3.1–3.2), the phase when the *miqwe* apparently underwent structural changes. Coins were also found in the fill, one of which is a Seleucid coin, two coins of Roman governors in Judea under Tiberius and Claudius and several coins from the fourth, eighth, and fourteenth centuries CE (Ch. 4). The assemblage of coins is close in dating to the coins found in the nearby hiding complex F-459.

### 2.3 RITUAL BATH F-466 (FIG. 2.12)

F-466 is located in Area R, to the north and next to cistern F-467 and adjacent to hiding complex F-468, which it cuts. The *miqwe* consists of an external staircase and an immersion chamber, arranged on one north-south axis.

The external hewn staircase (L. Y24) is rectangular in shape, measuring 3.5×2.5 m. Originally, five steps spanning the entire width of the staircase descended from south to north to a depth of 2.4 m. Although the steps were severely damaged, their negatives are clearly visible on the walls of the staircase (Figs. 2.13–2.14). An arched entrance to the immersion chamber is located in the center of the northern wall of the staircase. The entrance is 0.7 m wide and 1.5 m high. Next to it, in the eastern wall of the staircase, is a blocked passage leading into hiding complex F-468 (Figs. 2.15–2.16; Melamed 2020: 40–42). The blockage was constructed of field stones and binding material and plastered with hydraulic plaster from the side of the staircase, together with

the steps and the walls of the staircase (Fig. 2.17). The blockage clearly demonstrates that the *miqwe* cut one of the spaces of the hiding complex and therefore postdates it.

The underground immersion chamber (L.Y25) is round in shape, measuring 4×4.5 m. Five steps descend from south to north into the immersion basin. The upper step is at the entrance, two steps span the entire width of the chamber, and two narrow auxiliary steps (1.1 m wide) are adjacent to the western wall of the immersion basin (Fig. 2.18). The depth of the immersion basin (in relation to the third step) is 1 m and the height of the immersion chamber from the bottom of the basin is ca. 2.7 m. The steps and the walls of the chamber are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

Although no indicative finds were discovered inside the ritual bath, the relative chronology (the connection between the *miqwe* and the hiding complex) indicates that the *miqwe* was installed around the middle of the first century CE.

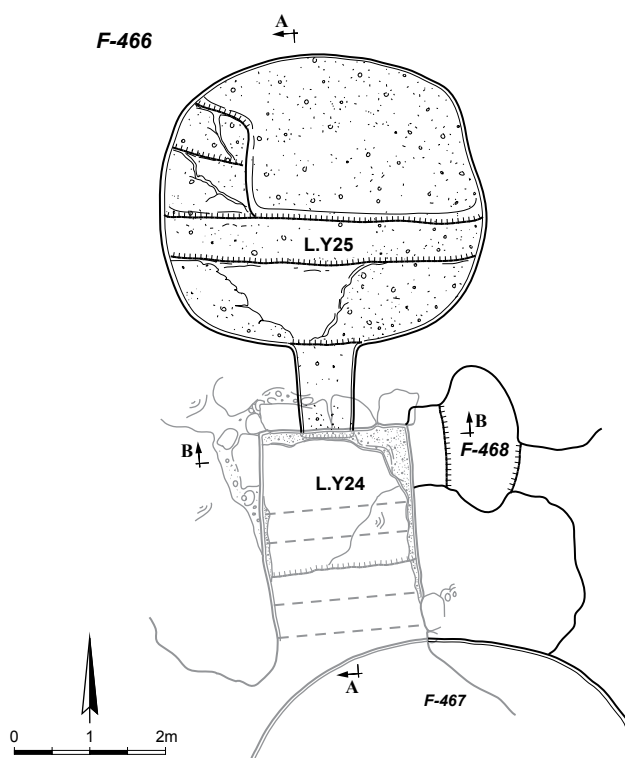
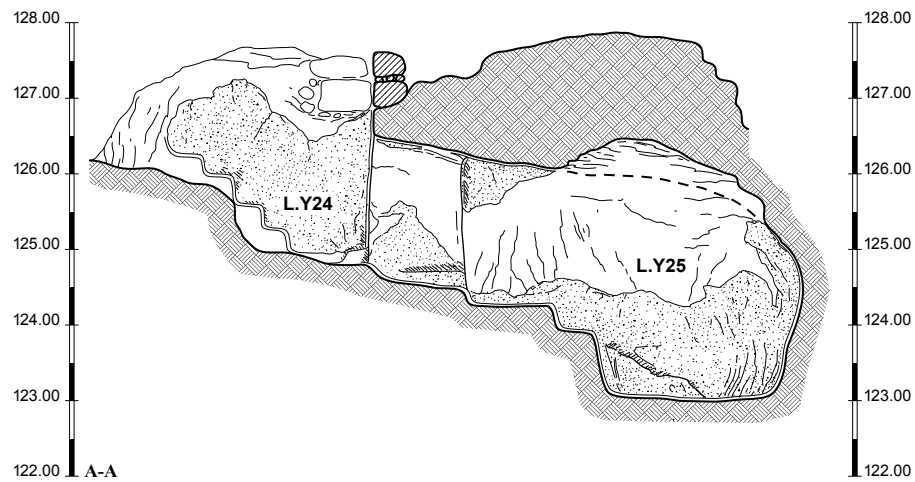


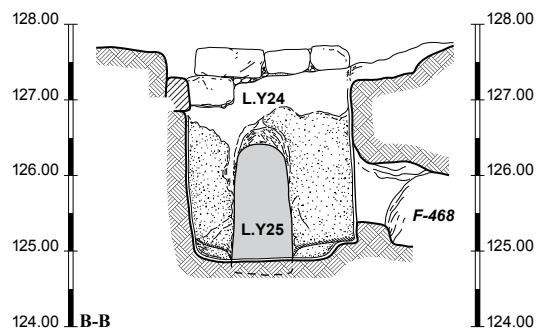
Fig. 2.12 F-466, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.13** F-466, section A-A, looking west.



**Fig. 2.14** F-466, the negative of the steps on the western wall of the external staircase, looking west.



**Fig. 2.15** F-466, section B-B, looking north.





**Fig. 2.16** F-466, entrance to the immersion chamber and partly opened blockage, looking north.



**Fig. 2.17** F-466, view through the opened blockage into chamber L.Y36 of hiding complex F-468, looking east.



**Fig. 2.18** F-466, immersion chamber L.Y25, looking southwest.

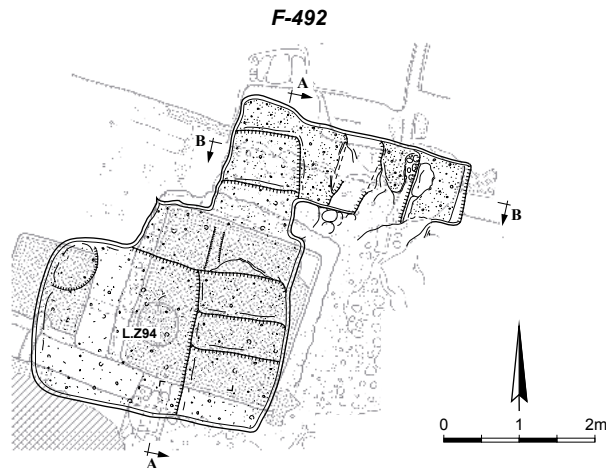
**2.4 RITUAL BATH F-492 (FIG. 2.19)**

F-492 is located in Area N, under the Late Roman–Early Byzantine wine press F-424 and in close proximity to hiding complexes F-423, F-435, F-451, and F-465. The ritual bath was discovered during the controlled dismantling of the wine press, underneath the mosaic floor of collecting vat L.T95 (Figs. 2.20–2.22) which belongs to the late stage of the wine press (Avrutis 2015: 28–34).

It can be assumed that the ritual bath originally was composed of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber, but the partition and the passage between them were destroyed when the wine press was installed (Fig. 2.23). The external staircase measures  $3.4 \times 1.2$  m and contains six hewn steps descending to a depth of 1.7 m. Five steps descend from east to west, while the sixth step, hewn perpendicular to the rest, descends from north to south, towards the place where the entrance to the immersion chamber must have been located (Fig. 2.24).

The immersion chamber (L. Z94) is rectangular in shape, measuring  $3.7 \times 2.2$  m. Four hewn steps, 1.2 m wide, descend from north to south adjacent to the eastern wall of the chamber (Fig. 2.25). The immersion basin is square in shape, measuring  $2 \times 2$  m. The height of the immersion chamber from the bottom of the basin can be reconstructed to ca. 2.2 m. In the northwestern corner of the immersion basin a kind of semi-circular collection vat is hewn, measuring  $0.6 \times 0.7$  m and 0.3 m in depth (Fig. 2.26). This vat is an uncommon element of ritual baths at NRQ. Its purpose was probably to drain mud and dirt that entered the *miqwe* from the outside. The immersion chamber is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster, which has been preserved quite well.

The *miqwe* was covered with a construction fill placed in preparation for the installation of the wine press. Pottery dating to the Byzantine period was found in the fill (Ch. 3, Pl. 3.3), representing the date of the construction of the wine press.



**Fig. 2.19** F-492, plan of ritual bath.





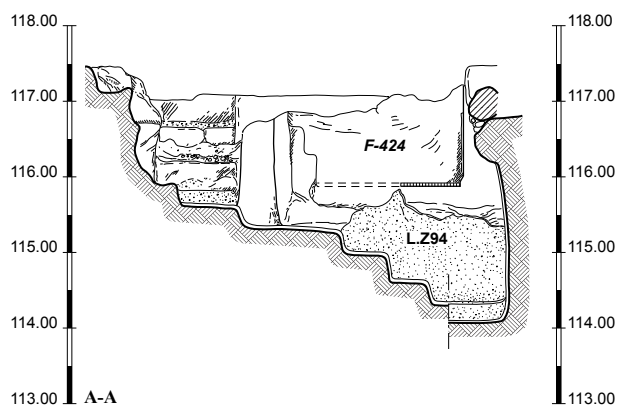
**Fig. 2.20** F-492, view of the ritual bath beneath the remains of wine press F-424, looking south.



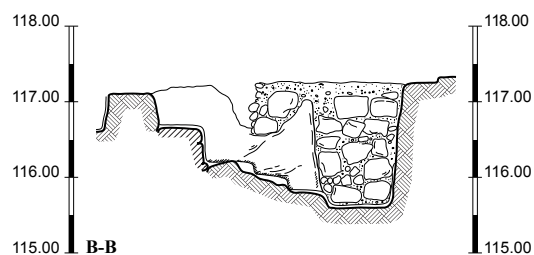
**Fig. 2.21** F-492, view of the ritual bath beneath the remains of wine press F-424, looking southeast.



**Fig. 2.22** F-492, remains of the mosaic floor of collecting vat L.T95, looking southeast.



**Fig. 2.23** F-492, section A-A, looking east.



**Fig. 2.24** F-492, section B-B, looking south.

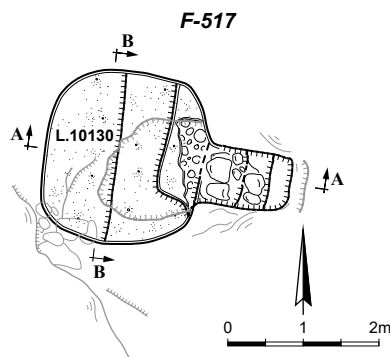


**Fig. 2.25** F-492, the staircase in the immersion chamber, looking east.

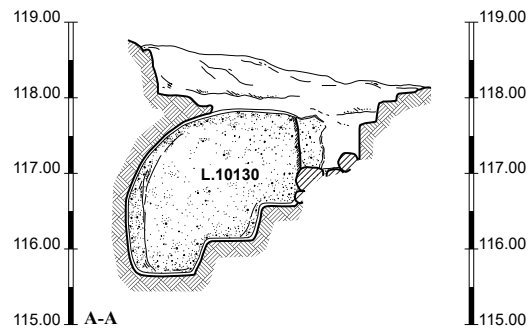


**Fig. 2.26** F-492, immersion chamber L.Z94. Note the collection vat in the corner of the immersion basin, looking northwest.





**Fig. 2.27** F-517, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.28** F-517, section A-A, looking north.

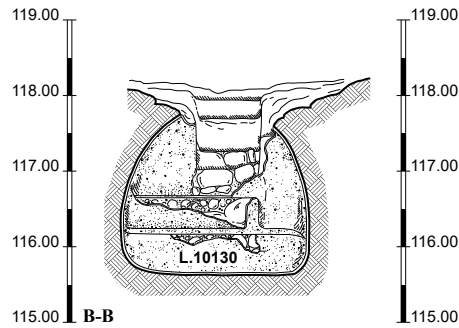
## 2.5 RITUAL BATH F-517 (FIG. 2.27)

This small and simple ritual bath is situated in Area N. It has four external steps, descending from east to west. Two upper steps are rock-hewn, while the two lower steps are partly built of fieldstones (Figs. 2.28–2.29). The external staircase is 0.7 m wide and 1.2 m deep from the surface. No traces of plaster were found on the external steps. The ceiling of the immersion chamber partly collapsed, so the height of the doorway leading into the immersion chamber is unknown.

The immersion chamber (L.10130) is close to square in shape, with rounded corners. It measures 2.2×2.4 m and is 2.1 m high. Two steps of the immersion chamber descend from east to west. The upper step is short while the lower step, leading into the immersion basin, spans the entire width of the chamber. Each step is 0.5 m high. The steps, the walls, and parts of the ceiling are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster (Figs. 2.30–2.31).



**Fig. 2.29** F-517, view from the external staircase into immersion chamber L.10130, looking west.



**Fig. 2.30** F-517, section B-B, looking east.



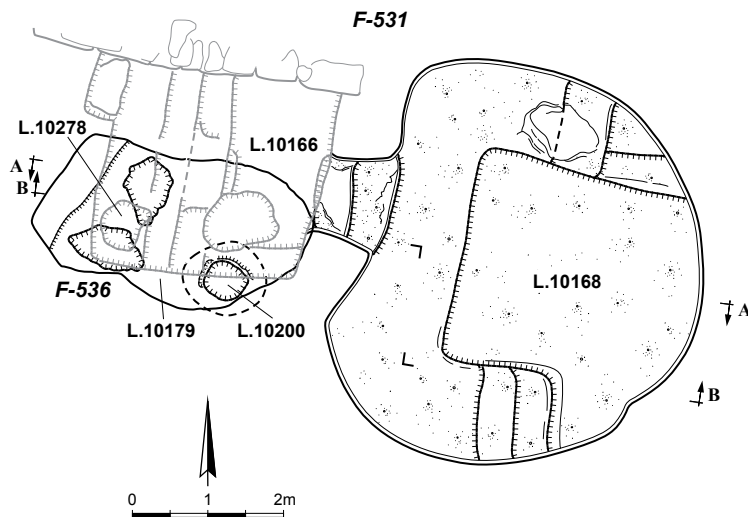
**Fig. 2.31** F-517, immersion chamber L.10130, looking west.

## 2.6 RITUAL BATH F-531 (FIG. 2.32)

F-531 is located in Area D2. This ritual bath consists of a wide external staircase and an underground immersion chamber.

The external staircase (L.10166) is rectangular in shape, measuring 2.8×3.3 m. Five hewn steps descend from west to east to a depth of 2.6 m. Two upper steps, hewn in the northwestern corner of the staircase, are narrow (0.8 m wide), while the three lower steps span the entire width of

the staircase. In the southeastern corner of the staircase there is a shelf or another step, hewn perpendicular to the rest of the stairs. The external staircase is plastered with gray hydraulic plaster. In the eastern wall of the staircase is a rectangular entrance leading into the immersion chamber. Close to the southern wall of the staircase there are two holes in the stairs (Fig. 2.33). It seems that the western opening (L.10278) was originally a hewn entrance shaft that partly collapsed, while



**Fig. 2.32** F-531, plan of ritual bath.

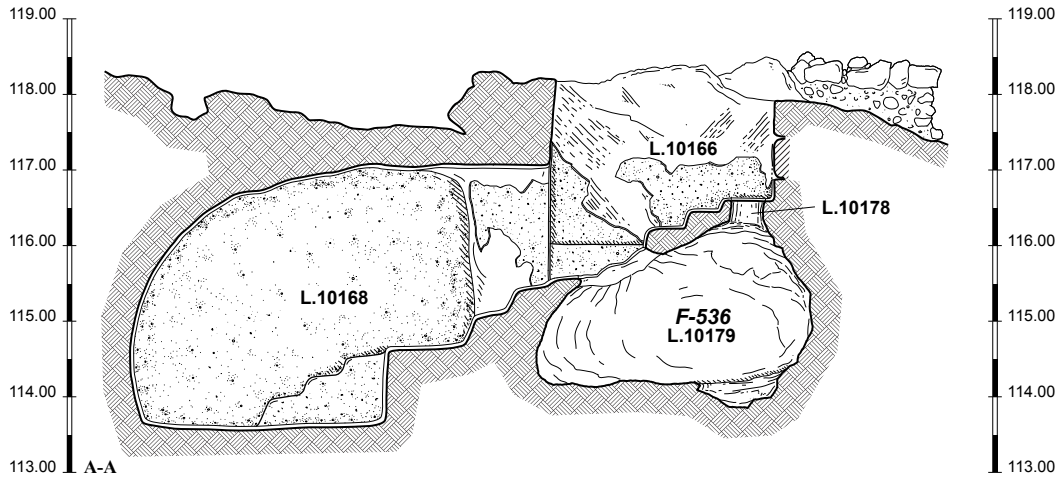


**Fig. 2.33** F-531, external staircase L.10166, the entrance into the immersion chamber, and the openings towards hiding space F-536, looking east.

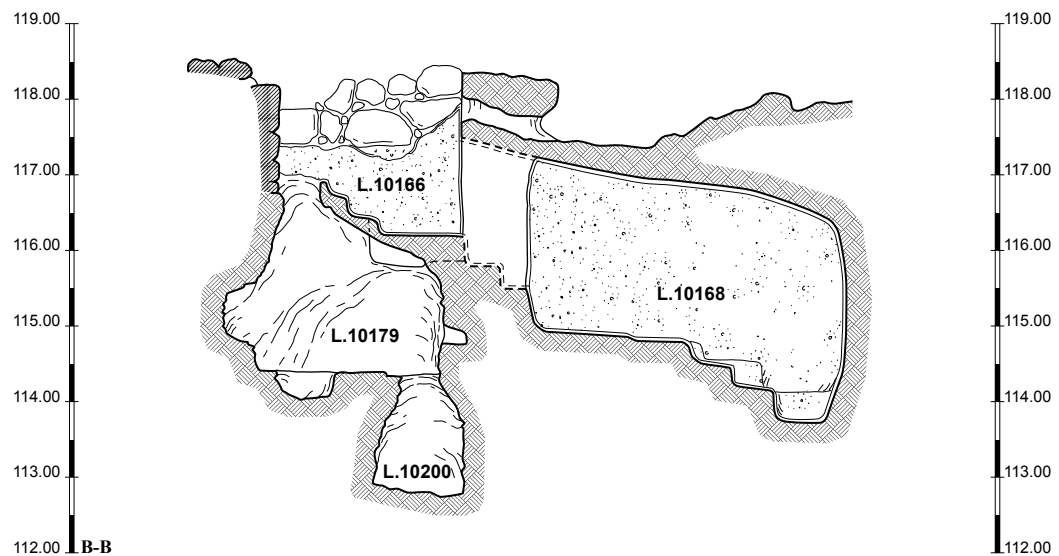
the eastern opening was created by the collapse of the rock. The openings lead into an underground space with an irregular outline, a kind of a small hiding space (F-536) installed under the external staircase of the *miqwe* (Figs. 2.34–2.35).

The immersion chamber (L.10168) is semi-circular in shape, measuring 4.3×5.5 m. Three steps are hewn in the passage leading from the external staircase into the immersion chamber. The passage is 1.1 m wide. The staircase inside the immersion chamber consists of an upper step that

span the width of the room, from which two flights of narrow auxiliary steps (ca. 1.2 m wide) descend into the immersion basin, hewn along the northern and southern walls of the chamber, three steps on each side (Fig. 2.36). The immersion basin is 1 m deep in relation to the upper step (Fig. 2.37). The height of the rock ceiling of the immersion chamber from the floor of the immersion basin is about 3 m. The steps and the walls of the *miqwe* are plastered with gray hydraulic plaster.



**Fig. 2.34** F-531, section A-A, looking south.



**Fig. 2.35** F-531, section B-B, looking north.

A rich pottery assemblage was excavated in the *miqwe*, dated to the second half of the first century CE (Ch. 3, Pl. 3.4). A Seleucid coin and a Roman provincial coin from the second half of the first century CE were found in the fill inside the immersion chamber (Ch. 4, Nos 4, 26). Hiding space F-536 produced a coin from the second

year of the Great Revolt and a coin from the fifth century CE (Ch. 4, Nos 24, 43). The pottery and coins represent the last stage of the use of the *miqwe*, when, most probably during the Great Revolt, it ceased to be used for its original purpose and was converted into a hiding and temporary dwelling.





**Fig. 2.36** F-531, immersion chamber L.10168, looking east.



**Fig. 2.37** F-531, immersion chamber L.10168, looking west.

## 2.7 RITUAL BATH F-548 (FIG. 2.38)

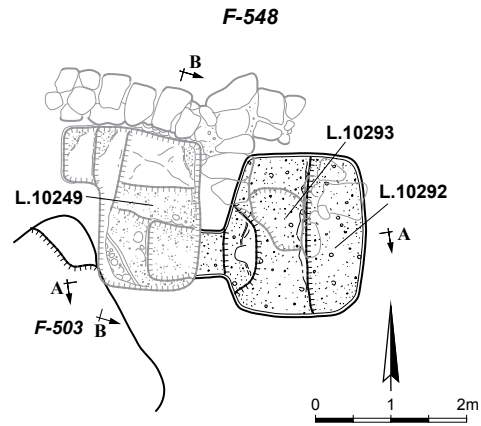
F-548 is a small *miqwe* located in Area D, north of hiding complex F-503 and adjacent to it. It consists of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber.

The external staircase (L.10249) has six hewn steps descending to a depth of 2.3 m from the surface. The three upper steps are 0.7 m wide and descend from west to east. The two lower steps are 1 m wide and are hewn perpendicular to the three upper steps, descending from north to south. The sixth lowest step is again perpendicular to the previous two, descending from west to east,

towards the entrance to the immersion chamber (Fig. 2.39). In the southwestern corner of the external staircase is a breach into one of the chambers of hiding complex F-503 (Figs. 2.40–2.41). This breach was created in the process of cutting the *miqwe*, so the hiding complex precedes the ritual bath. The opening that was created was blocked with stones and binding material and plastered from the side of the *miqwe* with hydraulic plaster, together with the rest of the external staircase.

The entrance to the immersion chamber is 0.6 m wide and 1.5 m high (Fig. 2.42). The

immersion chamber (L.10292) is rectangular in shape, measuring 2×2.3 m. Two steps descend from east to west into the immersion basin (Figs. 2.43–2.44). The upper step next to the entrance is ca. 1 m wide, while the second step span the entire width of the chamber. The depth of the immersion basin is 0.5 m in relation to the lower step. The height of the ceiling of the *miqwe* from the floor of the immersion basin is ca. 2.3 m. In the rock ceiling of the immersion chamber there is a breach (L.10293), apparently natural.



**Fig. 2.38** F-548, plan of ritual bath.

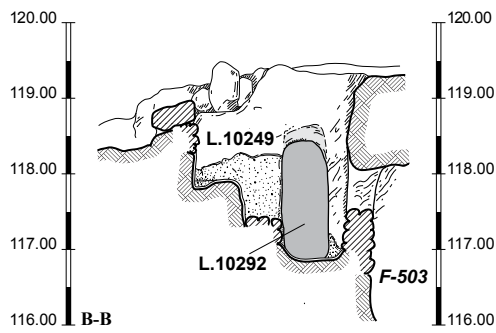


**Fig. 2.39** F-548, external staircase L.10249, looking north.



**Fig. 2.40** F-548, external staircase L.10249 and partly opened blockage leading into hiding complex F-503, looking south.

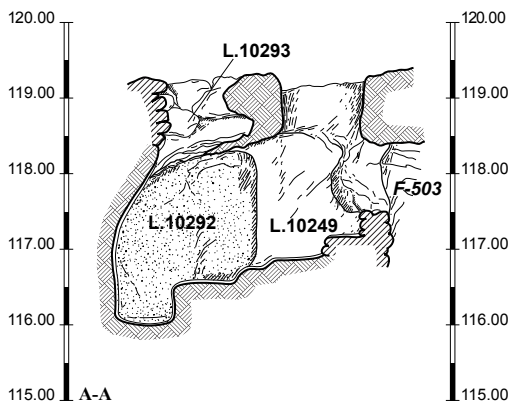




**Fig. 2.41** F-548, section B-B, looking east.



**Fig. 2.42** F-548, the entrance into the immersion chamber. Note the blockage in the lower left corner, looking east.



**Fig. 2.43** F-548, section A-A, looking south.



**Fig. 2.44** F-548, immersion chamber L.10292, looking east.

### 2.8 RITUAL BATH F-578 (FIG. 2.45)

F-578 is located in Area T, adjacent to hiding complex F-719/755 and columbarium F-720. In its later phase the ritual bath was incorporated into the hiding complex and ceased to function for ritual purposes. The *miqwe* consist of external staircase and an underground immersion chamber.

The external staircase (L.10454) includes three steps descending from east to west to the entrance to the immersion chamber. To the south of the stairs, remains of a quarry are clearly visible, including two large stones in situ, the cutting of which has not been completed (Fig. 2.46). It is not clear whether the quarrying activity was contemporary to the *miqwe* and indicates an attempt to expand the external staircase or whether it is later, unrelated to the ritual bath. The entrance to the immersion chamber was found blocked with stones and binding material (Fig. 2.47). The

dimensions of the opening after dismantling the blockage are 0.7 m wide and 1.7 m high.

The immersion chamber (L.11798) is semi-circular in shape, with dimensions 3.3×4.5 m and maximum height of 2.4 m. Three hewn steps that span the entire width of the chamber descend from east to west into the immersion basin (Figs. 2.49–2.50). The immersion chamber was plastered with poorly preserved hydraulic plaster. In the southern wall of the chamber there are two breaches: the eastern one connects the *miqwe* with hiding complex F-719/755, and the western breaks into columbarium F-720. The two breaches and the blockage at the entrance to the *miqwe* clearly indicate that it went out of use and became part of the hiding complex. Considering the finds in the hiding complex (Melamed 2020: 87–90), it is likely that this change was made during preparations for the Bar Kokhba Revolt.

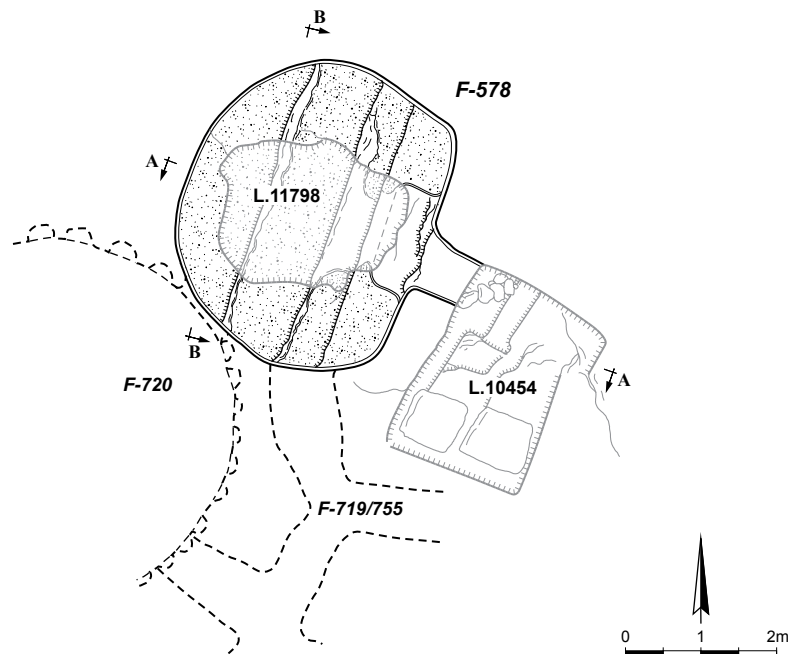


Fig. 2.45 F-578, plan of ritual bath.

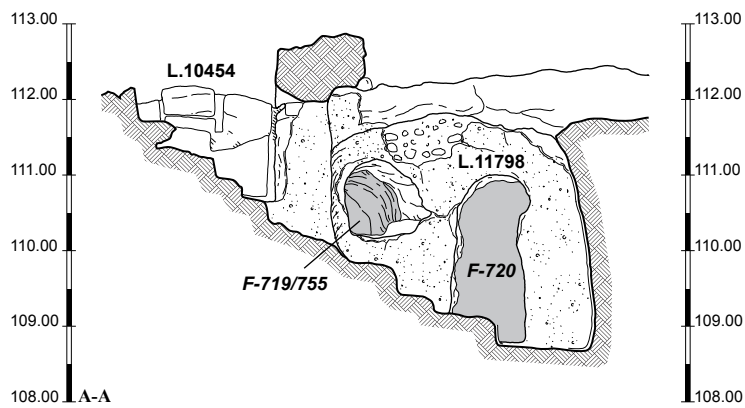


**Fig. 2.46** F-578, external staircase L.10454 and the entrance to the immersion chamber after the dismantling of the blockage. Note the signs of quarrying activity (left), looking west.

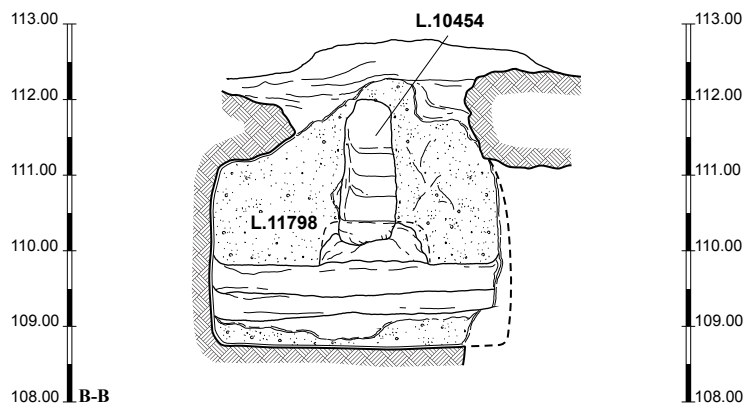


**Fig. 2.47** F-578, the blockage at the entrance to the immersion chamber and a tunnel towards hiding complex F-719/755 (right), looking southeast.





**Fig. 2.48** F-578, section A-A, looking southwest.



**Fig. 2.49** F-578, section B-B, looking east.



**Fig. 2.50** F-578, immersion chamber L.11798, looking west.

## 2.9 RITUAL BATH F-581 (FIG. 2.51)

F-581 is a paired *miqwe* located in Area D4, one of the most densely populated areas of the settlement. To its west is water cistern F-579, and only 8 m to northwest is another ritual bath, F-582. The external staircase and the antechamber, from which access to the two immersion chambers was possible, were damaged and modified in later periods.

Access to the pair of *miqva'ot* was via an external staircase (L.10460) that descends from north to south. Only three upper steps were preserved. The hewn stairs are 1.2 m wide. The lower steps were not preserved. The staircase led to an antechamber (L.10484), which underwent substantial architectural changes in a later period and therefore its original plan is not clear. This antechamber opened towards the southern and eastern immersion chambers.

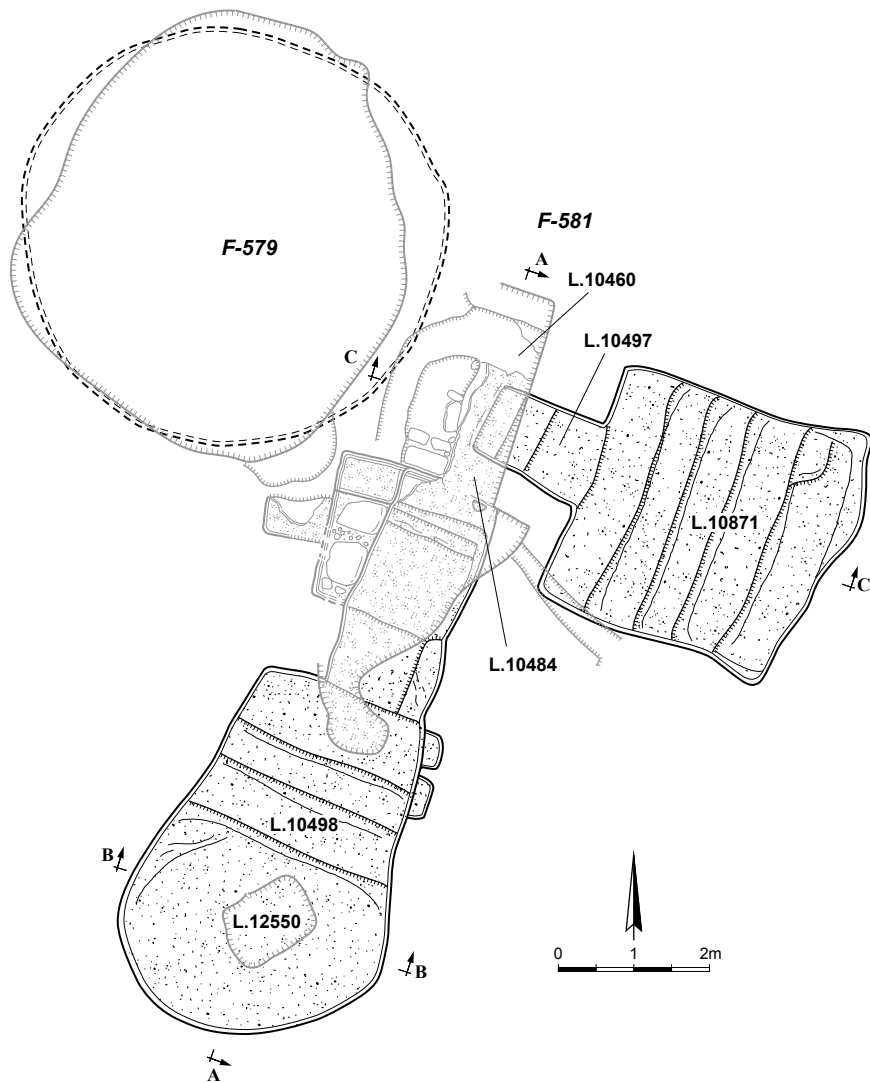
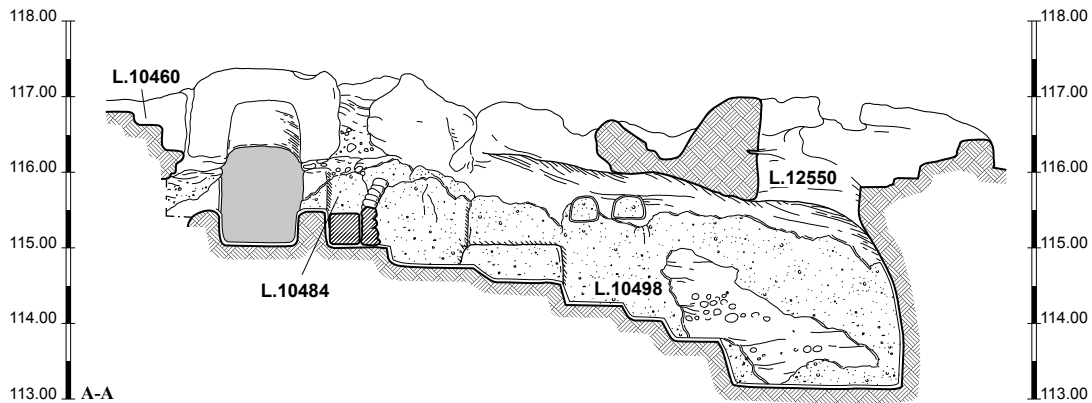


Fig. 2.51 F-581, plan of ritual bath.

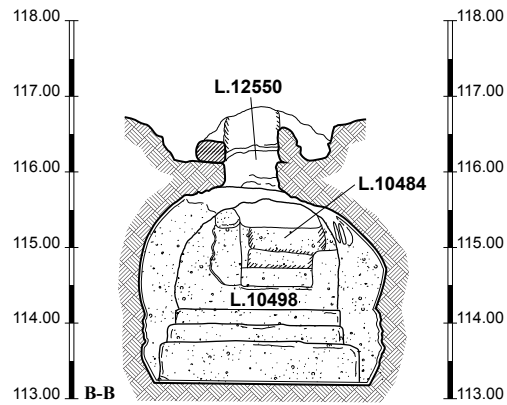


**Fig. 2.52** F-581, section A-A, looking east.

Access to the southern chamber was through a passage ca. 2.5 m long and 1.5 m wide that gradually descended, using three steps, to the entrance to the chamber (Fig. 2.52). The width of the entrance is 0.8 m, and its ceiling has not been preserved. The southern immersion chamber (L.10498) has a shape close to a rectangle with a rounded southern wall. Its length from north to south is 4.5 m and its width from east to west is 2.8 m. The height of the ceiling in relation to the bottom of the immersion basin is 2.5 m. Shaft L.12550 was hewn into the ceiling of the chamber, which was probably an additional point for water to enter into the *miqwe*. Three steps that span the entire width of the chamber descend from north to south into a large immersion basin (Figs. 2.53–2.54). The depth of the basin in relation to the lower step is 0.7 m. The stairs and the walls of the chamber are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster. In the eastern wall of the chamber, close to the entrance, two adjacent niches are hewn (Fig. 2.55). Their size is ca. 0.3×0.3 m, and their depth is 0.2 m. The niches are plastered with the same plaster as the walls and are contemporary to the *miqwe*. They may have been intended for placing oil lamps or other objects; however, elements of this kind are not common in ritual baths at the site.

Access to the eastern immersion chamber is through a stepped passage (L.10497), which includes four steps leading to the entrance to the chamber. The length of the passage is 1.5 m, its width is 1 m, and the height of the entrance is 1.6 m. The eastern immersion chamber (L.10871) is almost square in shape, with dimensions of 3.6×3.5 m. The ceiling of the chamber was not preserved, but it can be reconstructed to the height of ca. 2.4 m. Four hewn steps that span the entire width of the chamber descend from west to east (Figs. 2.56–2.58). Another small auxiliary step is adjacent to the northern wall of the chamber and leads to the immersion basin. The depth of the immersion basin is 0.7 m. The steps and walls of the chamber are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

The ritual bath underwent changes and a secondary use in later periods. The pottery found in the fill inside the *miqwe* dates from the sixth century CE onwards (Ch. 3, Pl. 3.5). Among the coins found in the fill, one is a Roman provincial coin from the time of Nero (Ch. 4, No. 25), and the rest are 19 coins from Byzantine, Early Islamic, and Mamluk periods, clearly related to the later activity that took place in the *miqwe*.



**Fig. 2.53** F-581, section B-B, looking north.

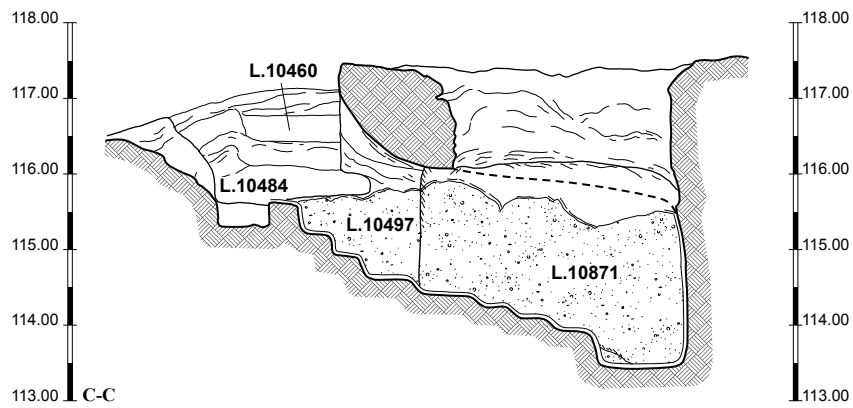


**Fig. 2.54** F-581, the southern immersion chamber, L.10498, looking north.



**Fig. 2.55** F-581, the niches in the eastern wall of immersion chamber L.10498, looking east.





**Fig. 2.56** F-581, section C-C, looking north.



**Fig. 2.57** F-581, the eastern immersion chamber, L.10871, looking west.



**Fig. 2.58** F-581, immersion chamber L.10871, looking southwest.



**2.10 RITUAL BATH F-582 (FIG. 2.59)**

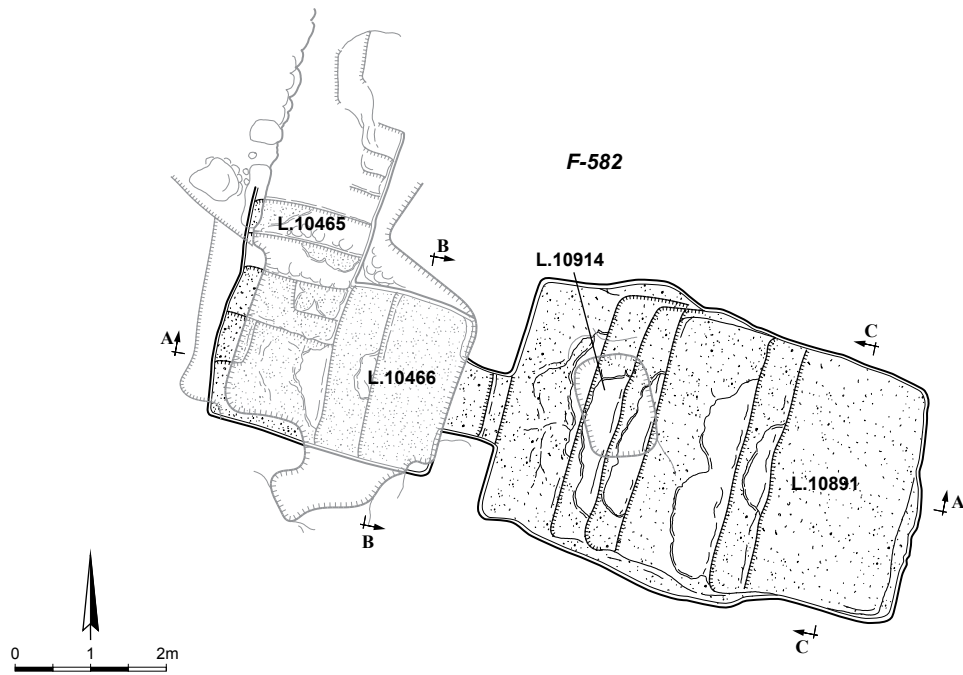
F-582 is located in Area D4, ca. 8 m southeast of paired *miqwe* F-581. The ritual bath consists of an L-shaped external staircase and an underground immersion chamber.

The steps in the upper part of the outer staircase (L.10465) descend from north to south. The uppermost steps have not been preserved and only the four lower steps can be clearly identified, out of, probably, seven or eight steps that were originally there (Fig. 2.60). The width of the upper part of the staircase is 1.4 m. The stairs are partly hewn and partly built of small stones held with binding material. A small auxiliary step (0.7 m wide) was hewn adjacent to the western wall of the staircase and perpendicular to the rest of the steps of the upper part of the staircase. The lower part of the external staircase (L.10466) includes two steps descending from west to east towards the entrance to the immersion chamber (Fig. 2.61). The width of the lower part of the staircase is 2.2 m. The staircase was plastered with hydraulic plaster that was mainly preserved in the lower part.

The entrance to the immersion chamber was found 4 m below the surface (Fig. 2.62). The width of the arched opening is 0.8 m, its height is 1.7 m and the length of the passage in the opening is 0.7 m. In the inner part of the passage a raised threshold is built, 0.2 m wide and 0.2 m high. The purpose of this element is not clear, but it is plastered with the same hydraulic plaster as the other parts of the *miqwe* and must be contemporary to the *miqwe* (Figs. 2.63–2.64).

The immersion chamber (L.10891) is rectangular in shape, 5.6 m long and 3.6 m wide. Five steps spanning the entire width of the chamber descend from west to east (Figs. 2.65–2.66). The stairs are uneven in length. The length of the top step is 0.9 m, the length of the next two steps is 0.3–0.4 m, the length of the fourth step is 1.1 m, and the length of the fifth step is 0.3 m. The steps lead into a large and shallow immersion basin that is only 0.4 m deep compared to the fifth step (Fig. 2.67). The height of the rock ceiling of the chamber is about 4.7 m from the bottom of the immersion basin. A rectangular shaft breaks through the ceiling (L.10914). The entire immersion chamber is plastered with gray hydraulic plaster. Remains of plaster are also visible on the ceiling, under the shaft. This suggests that the shaft is contemporary to the *miqwe*, and the rainwater entered through the shaft into the immersion chamber in addition to the normal supply through the entrance (Fig. 2.68).

The *miqwe* was filled with layers of silt that accumulated over time. A rich assemblage of pottery was found there, yet only small amount dating from the Early Roman period. Most of the pottery dates to Late Roman, Byzantine, and Early Islamic periods (Ch. 3, Pls 3.6–3.7). The numismatic assemblage presents a similar picture: out of 16 coins found in the fill, there was one Seleucid coin, three Hasmonean coins, one coin of Roman governors in Judea (under Claudius) and the rest are coins from Late Roman, Early Islamic, and Mamluk periods (Ch. 4).



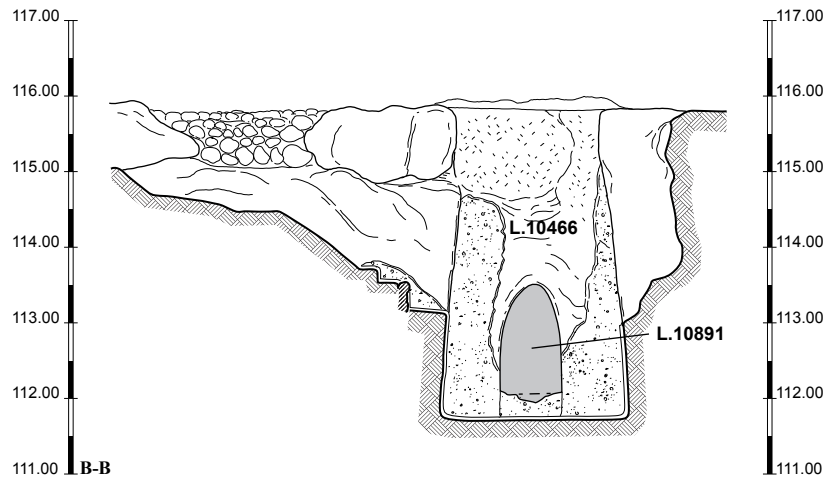
**Fig. 2.59** F-582, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.60** F-582, the external staircase, looking north.



**Fig. 2.61** F-582, the external staircase and the entrance to the immersion chamber, looking east.



**Fig. 2.62** F-582, section B-B, looking east.

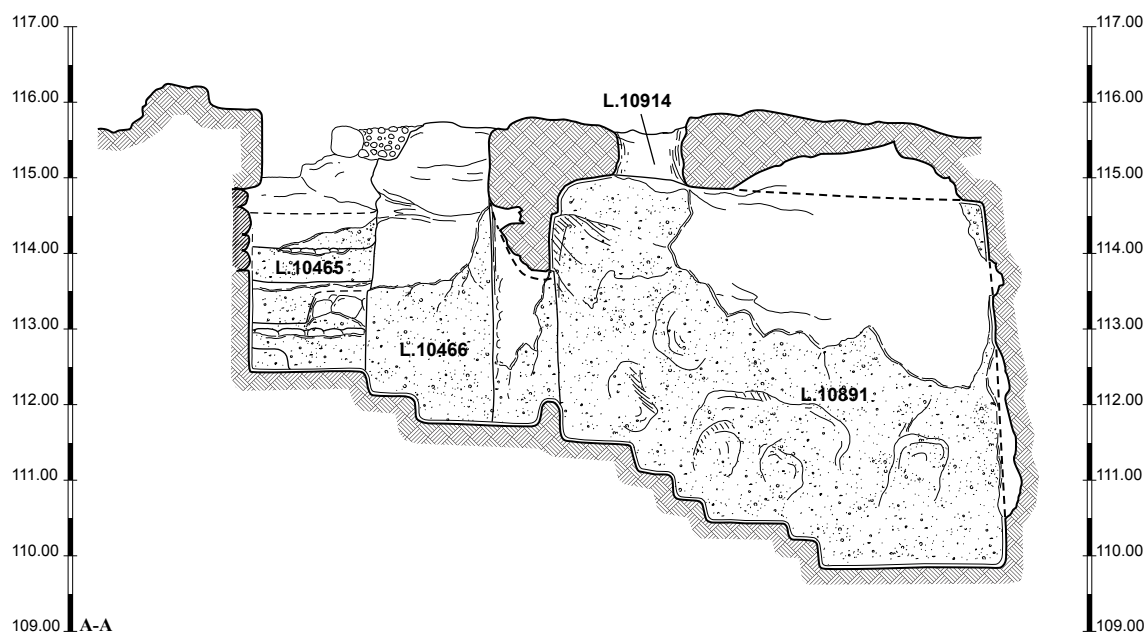


**Fig. 2.63** F-582, the entrance to the immersion chamber. Note the raised threshold inside the passage, looking east.

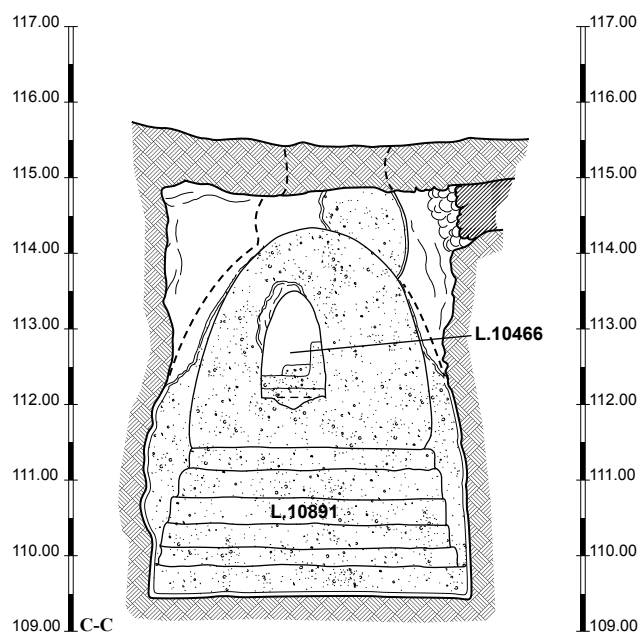


**Fig. 2.64** F-582, close-up on the raised threshold, looking north.





**Fig. 2.65** F-582, section A-A, looking north.



**Fig. 2.66** F-582, section C-C, looking west.



**Fig. 2.67** F-582, the immersion basin, looking east.



**Fig. 2.68** F-582, immersion chamber L.10891 and shaft L.10914 (top). Note the signs of water flow from the shaft and the entrance after the rain that preceded the photograph, looking west.

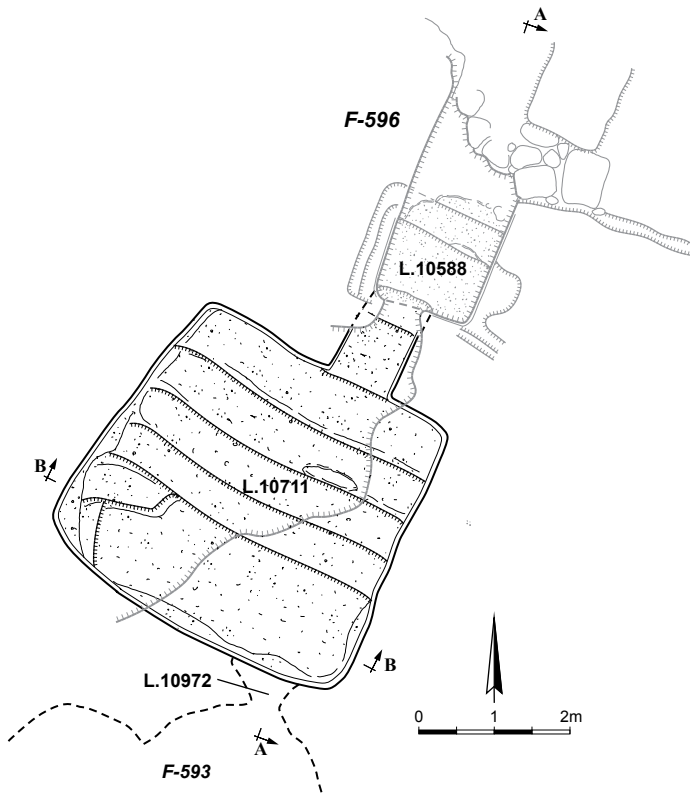
## 2.11 RITUAL BATH F-596 (FIGS. 2.69–2.70)

F-596 is located in Area D4, to the north and cutting through one of the tunnels of hiding complex F-593. The rock ceiling of the *miqwe* was not preserved. The external staircase was also partly destroyed, by later activity and the collapse of the rock. Inside the layers that filled the immersion chamber, a massive stone wall was built in a later period, which was dismantled during excavations.

The remains of the external staircase (L.10588) were preserved for a length of ca. 2 m and a width of 1.4 m. The preserved part includes two stairs, descending from north to south. The steps span the entire width of the staircase. The stairs led to a stepped passage (L.10630), which includes three steps descending into the immersion

chamber. The passage is 1.5 m long and 0.8 m wide. The ceiling of the passage was not preserved (Figs. 2.71–2.72).

The immersion chamber (L.10711) is almost square in shape, measuring 3.8×4 m (Fig. 2.73). Four steps spanning the entire width of the room descend from northeast to southwest (Figs. 2.74–2.75). In the southwestern corner, two additional steps are hewn leading into the immersion basin (Fig. 2.76). The depth of the immersion basin in relation to the fourth step is 0.8 m. The reconstructed height of the ceiling is ca. 3.3 m from the bottom of the immersion basin. The entire *miqwe* was plastered with grey hydraulic plaster. In the southeastern corner of the immersion chamber, around the height of the ceiling, a breach was found, which is actually



**Fig. 2.69** F-596, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.70** F-596, view from above on the ritual bath. Note the bad condition of the bedrock around the miqwe, looking northeast.

a tunnel that came out of one of the chambers of hiding complex F-593 and was cut during the installation of the *miqwe*.

The fill of the *miqwe* produced a rich assemblage of pottery, mostly dating from the first century BCE to the end of the first century CE/the first third of the second century CE. Some pottery from the Byzantine period was also found (Ch. 3, Pls 3.8–3.9). The pottery assemblage is close in terms of types and dating to the assemblage discovered in the nearby hiding complex F-593. Two Late Roman coins and a Mamluk coin were also found in the fill (Ch. 4, Nos 35, 38, 87).





**Fig. 2.71** F-596, view from external staircase L.10588 on passage L.10630 and the immersion chamber, looking southwest.

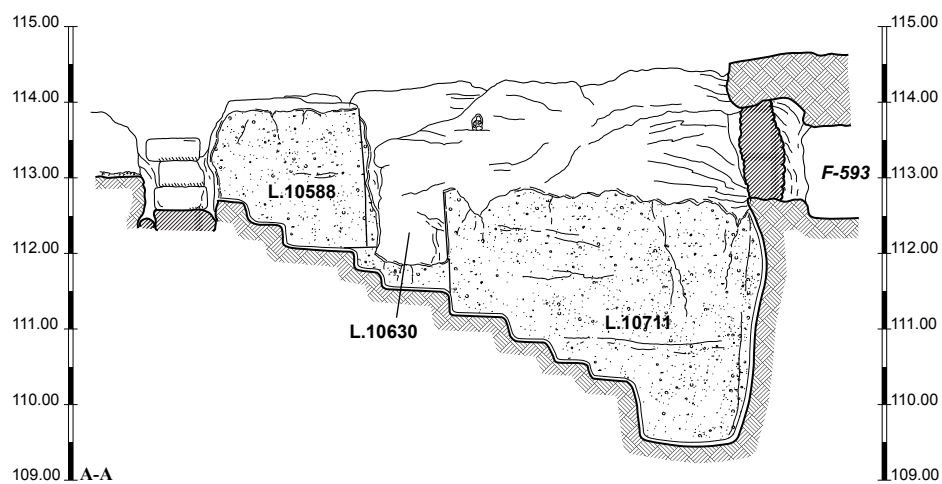


**Fig. 2.72** F-596, passage L.10630, looking northeast.

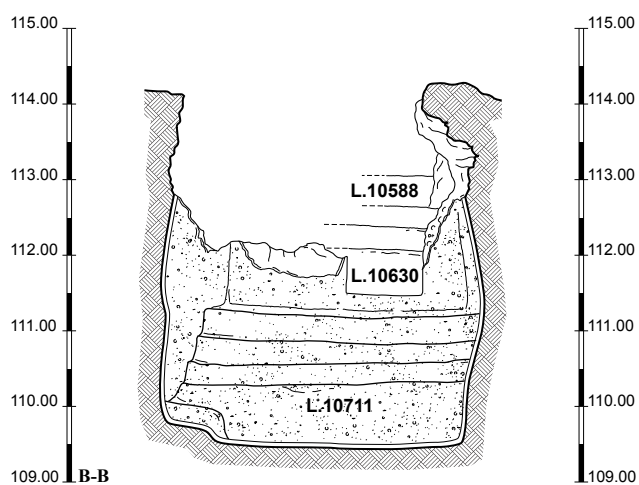


**Fig. 2.73** F-596, view from above on immersion chamber L.10711, looking northwest.





**Fig. 2.74** F-596,  
section A-A,  
looking east.



**Fig. 2.75** F-596,  
section B-B,  
looking northeast.



**Fig. 2.76** F-596,  
immersion chamber  
L.10711, looking  
northwest.

## 2.12 RITUAL BATH F-601 (FIG. 2.77)

F-601 is located in Area D4, ca. 8 m east of *miqwe* F-596. It is a small and well-preserved ritual bath, consisting of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber.

The external staircase (L.12433) measures  $2.3 \times 1.1$  m and includes five hewn steps descending from southeast to northwest to a depth of 1.7 m from the surface (Figs. 2.78–2.80). The lower step is in front of the entrance to the immersion chamber and is narrower than the four upper steps, so that it does not block the entrance.

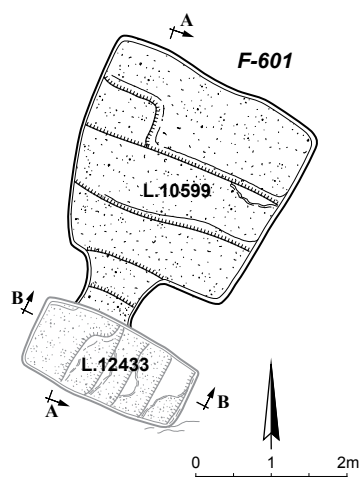


Fig. 2.77 F-601, plan of ritual bath.

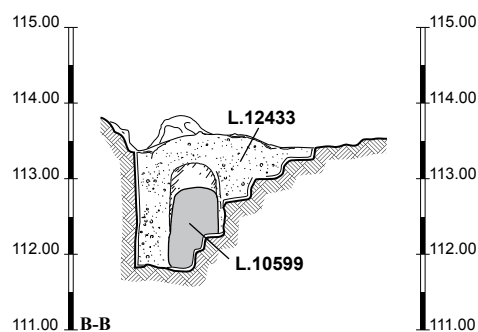


Fig. 2.78 F-601, section B-B, looking northeast.

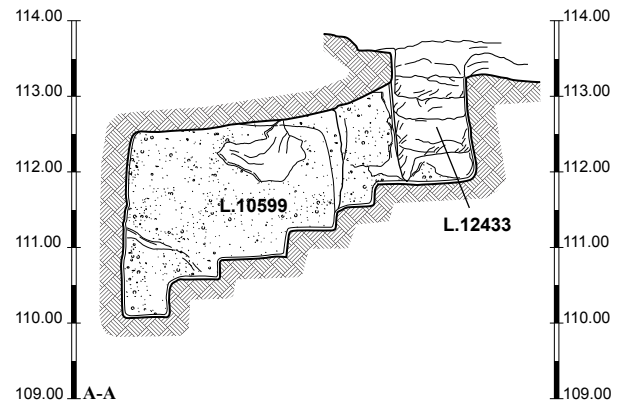
The arched entrance to the immersion chamber is 0.7 m wide and 1.3 m high and includes two steps. The immersion chamber (L.10599) is trapezoidal in shape, expanding towards the northeast. Its dimensions are  $2.3 \times 3.7$  m, and it includes two steps that span the entire width of the chamber (Figs. 2.81–2.82) and an auxiliary step, adjacent to the western wall and leading into the immersion basin (Fig. 2.83). The depth of the immersion basin in relation to the second step is 0.7 m and the height of the ceiling of the chamber from the bottom of the immersion basin is 2.3 m. The entire *miqwe* is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.



Fig. 2.79 F-601, external staircase L.12433, looking southeast.



**Fig. 2.80** F-601, external staircase  
L.12433, looking northeast.



**Fig. 2.81** F-601, section A-A, looking east.



**Fig. 2.82** F-601, immersion chamber  
L.10599, looking southwest.



**Fig. 2.83** F-601, immersion chamber  
L.10599, looking west.



### 2.13 RITUAL BATH F-616 (FIG. 2.84)

F-616 is located in Area D2, ca. 10 m northeast of hiding complex F-442. The *miqwe* underwent substantial changes during its use.

In the first phase, the entrance to the immersion chamber was from the west, via two small staircases hewn facing each other (L.10751). Four steps 0.5 m wide descended from each side. The original entrance to the immersion chamber was perpendicular to the two small staircases (Figs. 2.85–2.86). At this phase the steps of the immersion chamber, of which nothing remains, descended from west to east, in the opposite direction from the steps of the second phase. The first phase immersion chamber was completely cut when the second phase immersion chamber was installed (L.10784). Only the original entrance, half blocked, remains visible in the upper part of the western wall of the immersion chamber of the second phase (Figs. 2.87–2.88).

In the second phase, the *miqwe* was significantly expanded and its plan was completely changed (Fig. 2.89). In this phase, the entrance was from the east, via a large external staircase (L.10752). The staircase is rectangular in shape and measures 3×2.2 m (Fig. 2.90). It consists of five steps that span its entire width and three

small auxiliary steps, two of which are adjacent to the north wall of the staircase above the third and fourth wide steps, and the third auxiliary step, with an additional step cut into it, in the center of the fifth wide step, in front of the entrance to the immersion chamber (Fig. 2.91).

The arched entrance 0.7 m wide and 1.4 m high leads into the immersion chamber (L.10784). The chamber is rectangular with a slightly rounded western wall. It measures 4.3×3 m and the height of the ceiling from the bottom of the immersion basin is 3 m. Three steps spanning the entire width of the chamber descend from east to west into a large immersion basin. The depth of the immersion basin in relation to the third step is 0.8 m. The *miqwe* is plastered with gray hydraulic plaster (Fig. 2.92).

In the third stage, the entrance to the immersion chamber was blocked (the blockage was removed during excavations). The blockage was also plastered with hydraulic plaster on the side of the immersion chamber (Figs. 2.93–2.94), which means that the immersion chamber remained in use but, apparently, as a water cistern, which was accessed through a shaft cut adjacent to the western wall of the chamber, in the place where it was originally the western entrance of the

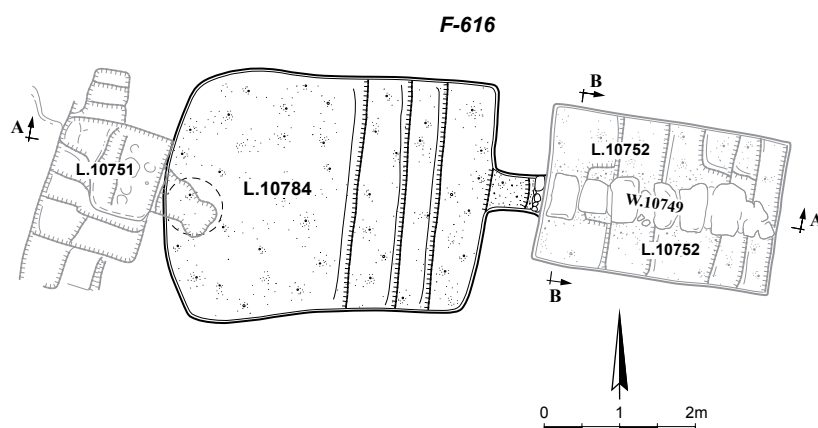


Fig. 2.84 F-616, plan of ritual bath.



first phase. It is possible that in the third phase the external staircase was itself used as a *miqwe* (Fig. 2.95). However, it is also possible that the third phase is related to a later period, when stone wall W.10749 was built into the fill that covered the external staircase and the *miqwe* lost its ritual purification purpose.

Most of the pottery found in the fill on the external staircase and inside the immersion chamber dates to Late Roman and Byzantine periods and a minority to the Early Roman period (Ch. 3, Pls 3.10–3.11). A Hasmonean coin, an Umayyad coin and a Mamluk coin were also found in the fill (Ch. 4, Nos 10, 67, 83).



**Fig. 2.85** F-616, external staircase L.10751 of the first phase, looking west.



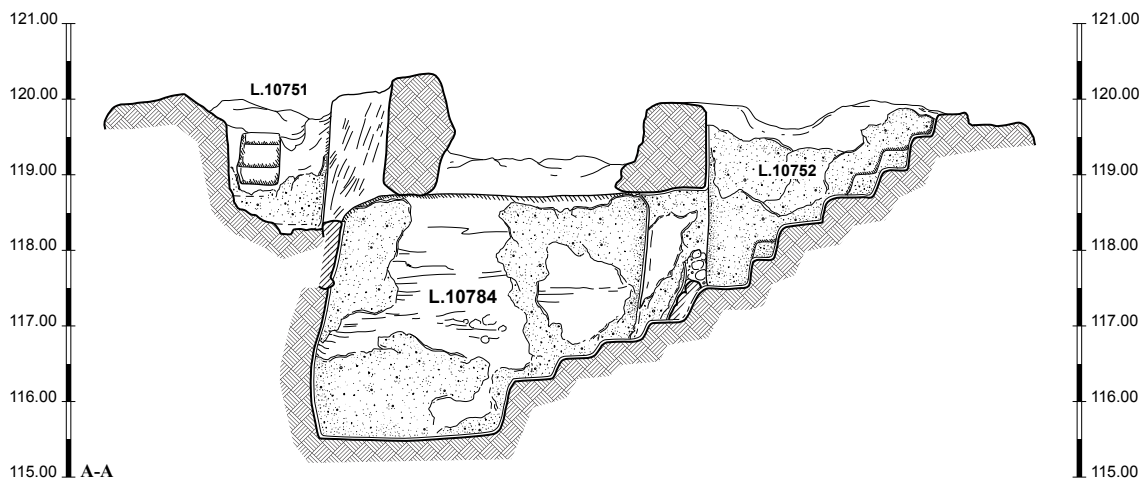
**Fig. 2.86** F-616, external staircase L.10751 of the first phase and the remains of the original entrance later modified into vertical shaft, looking east.



**Fig. 2.87** F-616, half-blocked entrance of the first phase in the upper part of the western wall of immersion chamber L.10784, looking west.



**Fig. 2.88** F-616, blockage of the entrance of the first phase, looking west.

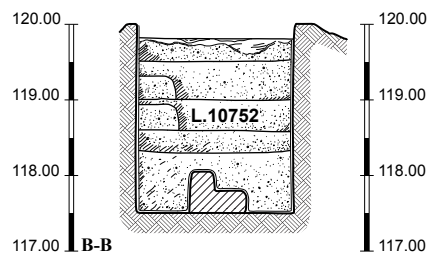


**Fig. 2.89** F-616, section A-A, looking north.





**Fig. 2.90** F-616, external staircase L.10752, looking west.



**Fig. 2.91** F-616, section B-B, looking east.



**Fig. 2.92** F-616, immersion chamber L.10784, looking east.



**Fig. 2.93** F-616, remains of blockage at the entrance to immersion chamber L.10784, looking east.



**Fig. 2.94** F-616, remains of plastering on the inner side of the blockage, looking northeast.



**Fig. 2.95** F-616, lower part of external staircase L.10752 which became an immersion basin of the third phase, looking north.



### 2.14 RITUAL BATH F-622 (FIG. 2.96)

F-622 is located in Area D4, in the centre of the settlement, ca. 8 m northeast of *miqwe* F-739, and it cuts a small hiding complex, F-789, adjacent to it from east. The plan of the *miqwe* has changed over time.

In the first phase, the *miqwe* consisted of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber. The staircase is 5 m long and 0.9 m wide. The stairs descend from west to east to a depth of 2.8 m (Fig. 2.97). The upper part of the staircase (L.10829) includes five hewn steps. Water channel L.11820, 1.5 m long and 0.15 m wide, is hewn in the middle of the stairs (Fig. 2.98). Above the fourth and fifth step, blockage L.11821 was built in the second phase, which completely blocked the water channel (Fig. 2.99). The lower part of the staircase (L.11822) has four hewn steps. In the southern wall at the eastern end of the staircase, at

a height of 1.9 m from the floor, a small niche is hewn (L.13365). Its dimensions are 0.3×0.4×0.5 m and it is plastered with the same plaster as the whole staircase (Fig. 2.100). In the northern wall at the eastern end of the staircase an entrance to the immersion chamber is hewn. The opening was found blocked with stones and plastered on the side of the staircase (Figs. 2.101–2.102). The blockage (L.11924) was dismantled during the excavation to allow access to immersion chamber L.11923. The immersion chamber of the first phase has not been preserved in its original form. The stairs that must have been in the chamber were completely cut, it was re-plastered, an entrance shaft was cut in the ceiling of the chamber (L.10930), and it became a cistern (Figs. 2.103–2.105).

In the second phase, the immersion chamber was converted into a water cistern, but the *miqwe* continued to function for the needs of

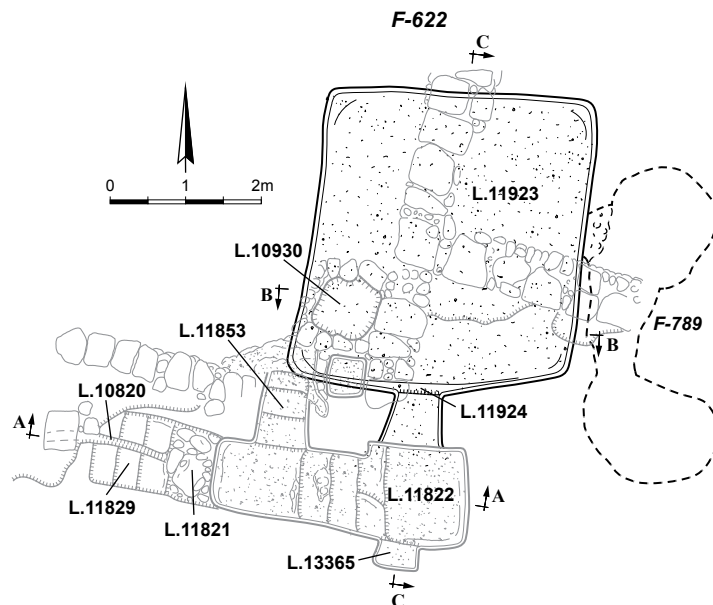
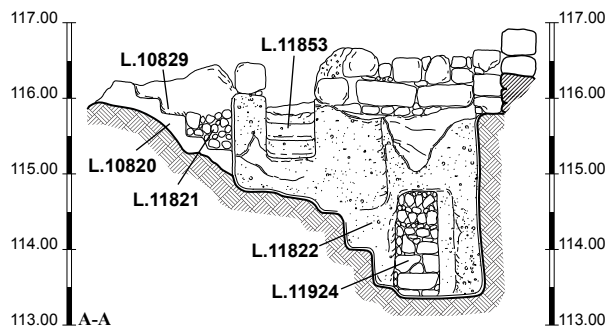


Fig. 2.96 F-622, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.97** F-622, section A-A, looking north.

ritual purification. The upper part of the staircase and the water channel were blocked with stones held with binding material (Figs. 2.106–2.107) and a new staircase was hewn (L.11853), 0.6 m wide, with four steps descending from north to south and connecting perpendicularly to the lower part of the staircase from the first phase. To the east of the new staircase and adjacent to it, a square basin was installed (0.4×0.4 m and 0.3 m deep), plastered with hydraulic plaster. In the second phase the lower part of the staircase (L.11822) was used as an immersion basin. Remains of the stone construction preserved above the eastern part of L.11822 suggest that in the second phase the *miqwe* had a built ceiling.

One Hasmonean coin, two Late Roman coins, and a rare Visigothic coin were found in the fill layers on the external staircase (Ch. 4, Nos 15, 29, 42, 57).



**Fig. 2.98** F-622, the external staircase and water channel L.11820 after dismantling of blockage L.11821, looking west.



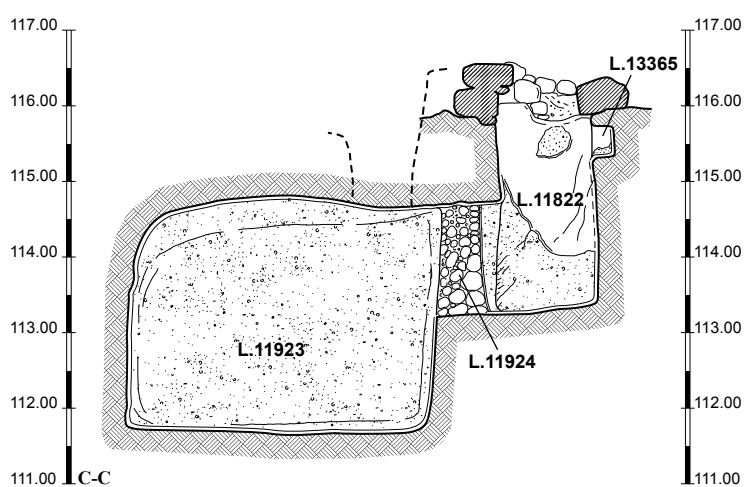
**Fig. 2.99** F-622, blockage L.11821 before its dismantling, looking north.



**Fig. 2.100** F-622, the eastern end of L.11822. Note niche L.13365 (top right), looking east.

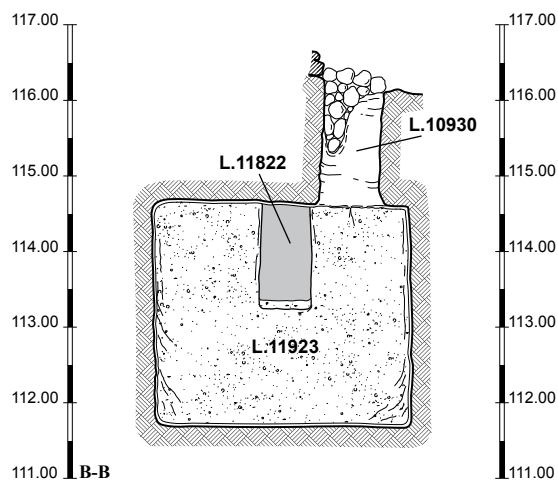


**Fig. 2.101** F-622, blocked and plastered entrance to the immersion chamber, looking north.



**Fig. 2.102** F-622, section C-C, looking east.





**Fig. 2.103** F-622, section B-B, looking south.



**Fig. 2.104** F-622, view from cistern L.11923 towards the entrance after dismantling of the blockage. Note the negative of the hewn step under the opening, looking south.



**Fig. 2.105** F-622, cistern L.11923, looking north.

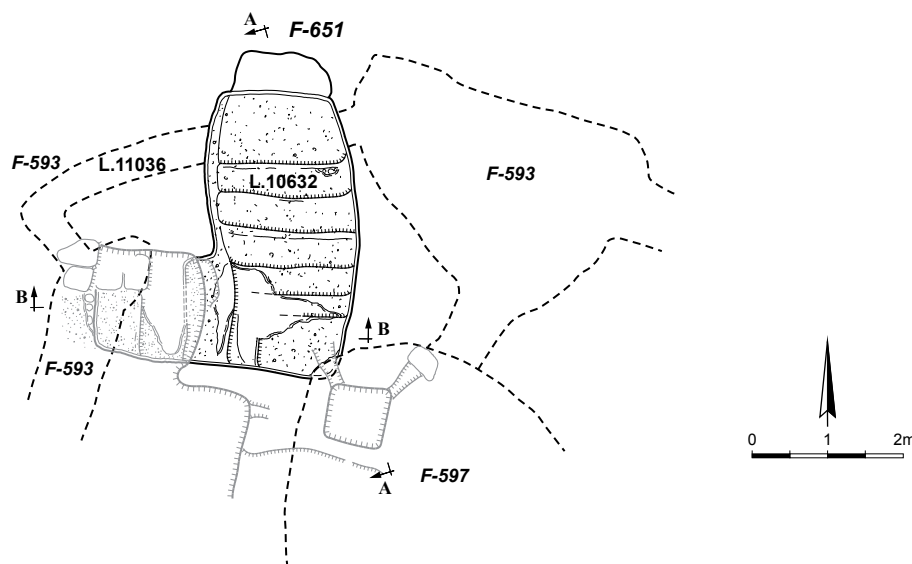




**Fig. 2.106** F-622, L.11822 before the dismantling of blockage L.11821, looking west.



**Fig. 2.107** F-622, second phase of the ritual bath. Note the square plastered basin east of staircase L.11853, looking west.



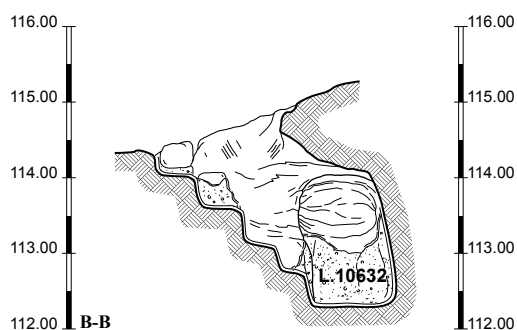
**Fig. 2.108** F-651, plan of ritual bath.

## 2.15 RITUAL BATH F-651 (FIG. 2.108)

F-651 is located in Area D4, and together with ritual baths F-596 and F-761, it interrelates with hiding complex F-593.

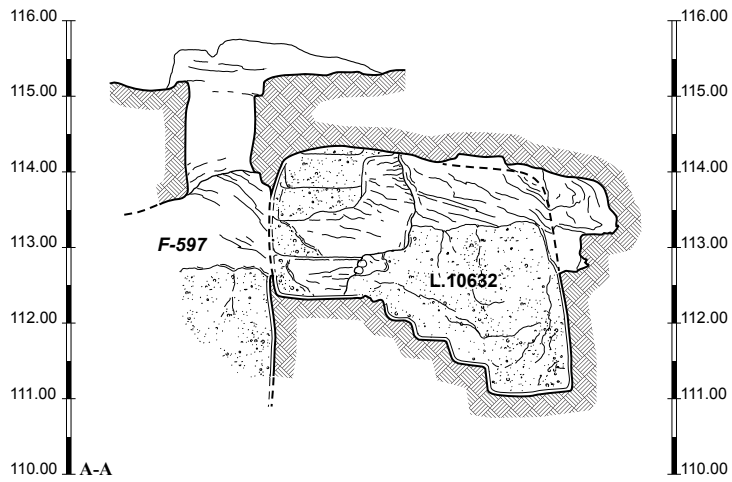
It is a small and simple L-shaped *miqwe*, without any separation between the external staircase and the immersion chamber. The *miqwe* is approached by five hewn steps descending from west to east to a depth of 2.2 m from the surface (Fig. 2.109). The width of the external stairs is 1.3 m. After that, the staircase faces north at a right angle, widening to 1.7 m, and four steps descending from south to north form a small immersion chamber (L.10632). At its northern end is a small immersion basin, 0.4 m deep in relation to the lower step (Figs. 2.110–2.111). The height of the ceiling of the *miqwe* from the floor of the immersion basin is 3 m.

The *miqwe* cuts into tunnel L.11036 of hiding complex F-593. Inside the tunnel, behind the



**Fig. 2.109** F-651, section B-B, looking north.

eastern wall of the *miqwe*, a blockage was found (negative of the *miqwe*), made from pieces of bricks, mortar, and plaster. A similar blockage was identified also behind the western wall of the *miqwe* (Fig. 2.112; Melamed 2020: 52–61). Several fragments of pottery dating to the Early Roman and Byzantine periods were found in the fill on the stairs of the *miqwe* (Ch. 3, Pl. 3.12).



**Fig. 2.110** F-651, section A-A, looking south-west.



**Fig. 2.111** F-651, immersion chamber L.10632, looking north.



**Fig. 2.112** F-651, the blockage of tunnel L.11036 of hiding complex F-593 behind the plaster of the western wall of the ritual bath, looking southwest.

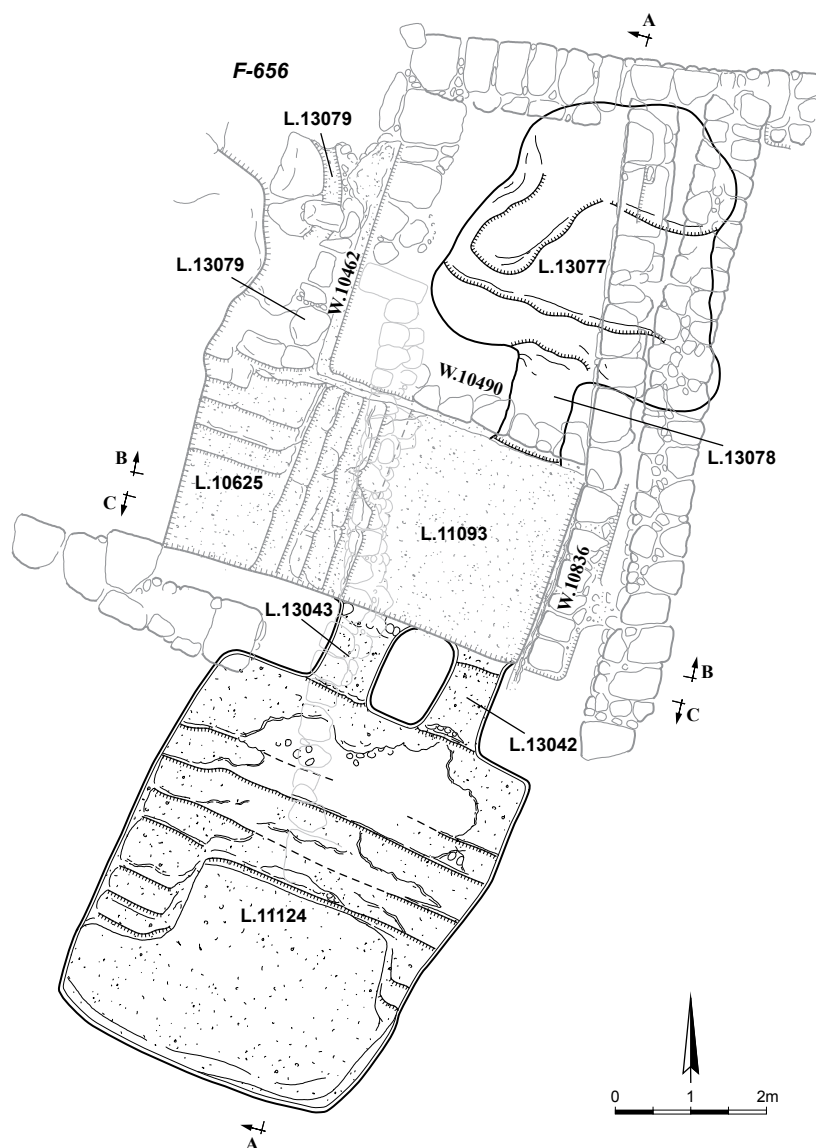


### 2.16 RITUAL BATH F-656 (FIG. 2.113)

F-656 is located in the densely populated Area D4, in the center of the settlement. This is the only *miqwe* on the site with two entrances. It underwent changes over time that affected its plan and function.

Access to the *miqwe* is via a large set of stairs, partly carved and partly built (L.10625). Above the stairs there is a hewn channel covered with

stones (L.13079) that channeled water towards the stairs. Four steps descend from north to south and underneath them five steps descend from west to east, with the lowest step being shorter than the others (Figs. 2.114–2.115). The staircase leads into an open courtyard (L.11096), 2.7×3 m and 3 m deep from the surface, with all walls plastered. Remains of plaster were also found on the stairs.



**Fig. 2.113** F-656, plan of ritual bath.



Two arched openings, 0.7 m wide and 1.5 m high, are carved into the southern wall of the courtyard (Figs. 2.116–2.117). In the two openings (eastern L.13042 and western L.13043) remains of blockages from the side of the courtyard were found (Fig. 2.118). The openings lead into immersion chamber L.11124. The chamber is rectangular, 5.2×4.4 m, and the height of the ceiling from the bottom of the immersion basin is 3.1 m. Four hewn steps that span the entire width of the chamber descend from north to south. In addition, adjacent to the western wall and the southern wall, auxiliary steps are hewn, three on each side, descending into the immersion basin. The depth of the immersion basin in relation to the fourth step is 0.8 m (Fig. 2.119). The entire chamber was plastered with hydraulic plaster. The steps are worn, seemingly from use and water flow (Fig. 2.120).

Removal of the plaster from the walls of the courtyard revealed that the eastern wall was built

of stone masonry (W.10836, Figs. 2.121–2.122) and the northern wall had a passage blocked with large stones and binding material (L.13078). The passage opened into chamber L.13077. The chamber is irregular in shape, and the first step of the unfinished staircase is recognizable (Fig. 2.123). The chamber must be an unfinished immersion chamber. It can be assumed that *miqwe* F-656 was initially planned to be a paired *miqwe* but, for an unknown reason, this plan was changed, and the cutting of the second immersion chamber was stopped.

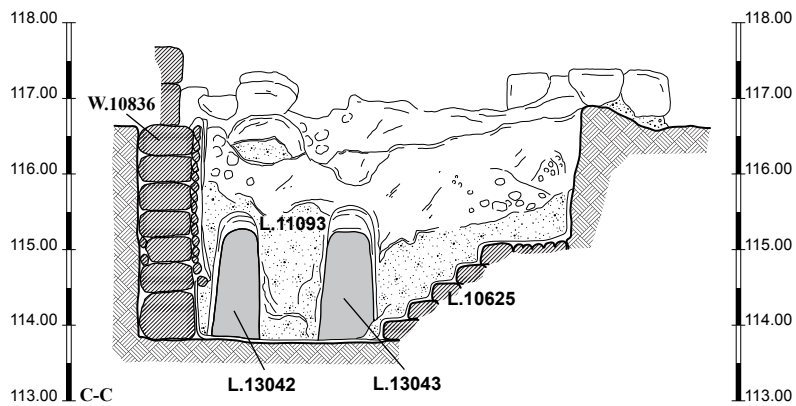
Many pottery fragments were found in the fill of the open courtyard and the immersion chamber, some from the Early Roman period but the majority from the Late Roman and Byzantine periods (Ch. 3, Pls 3.13–3.14). A Seleucid coin, two Hasmonean coins and two Late Roman were also found in the fill (Ch. 4, Nos 6, 9, 18, 28, 41).



**Fig. 2.114** F-656, external staircase L.10625 and open courtyard L.11093, looking northeast.



**Fig. 2.115** F-656, L.10625 and L.11093, looking northwest.



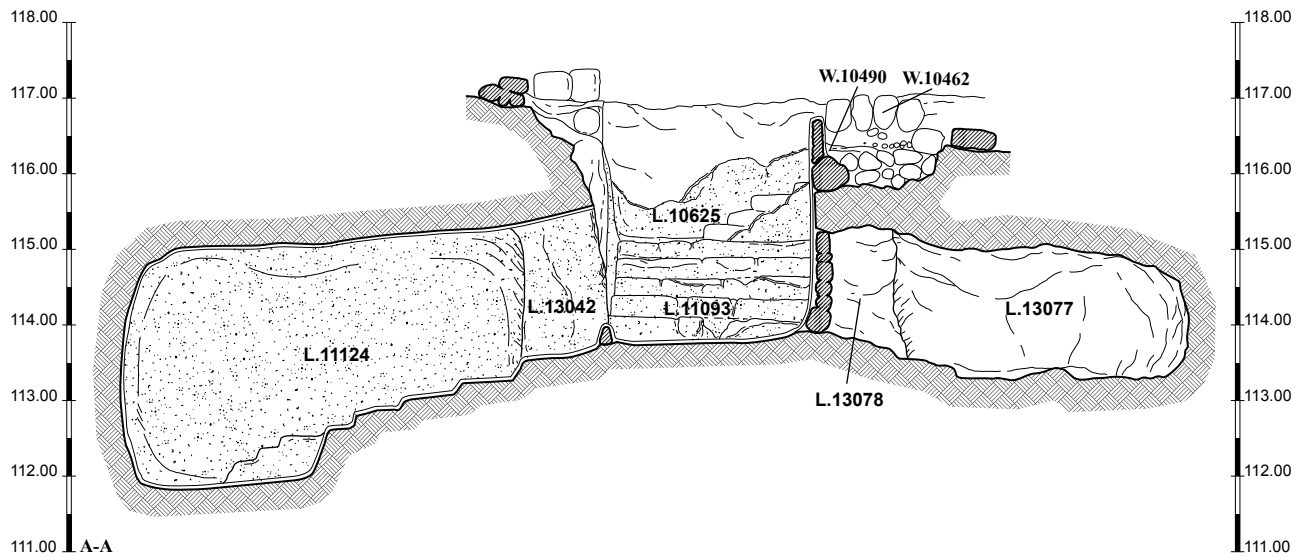
**Fig. 2.116** F-656, section C-C, looking south.



**Fig. 2.117** F-656, open courtyard of the miqwe, looking southwest.



**Fig. 2.118** F-656, two openings leading into immersion chamber L.11124, looking south.

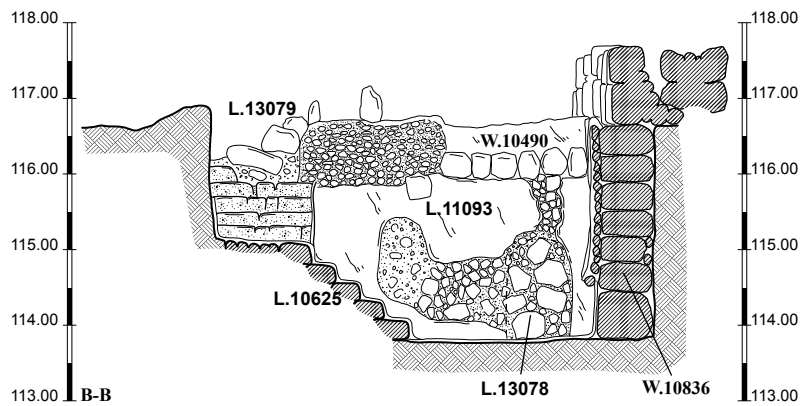


**Fig. 2.119** F-656, section A-A, looking west.



**Fig. 2.120** F-656, immersion chamber L.11124, looking north.





**Fig. 2.121** F-656, section B-B, looking north.



**Fig. 2.122** F-656, open courtyard L.11093 after plaster was removed from the walls, exposing wall W.10836 built of stones, looking east.



**Fig. 2.123** F-656, unfinished chamber L.13077, looking south.



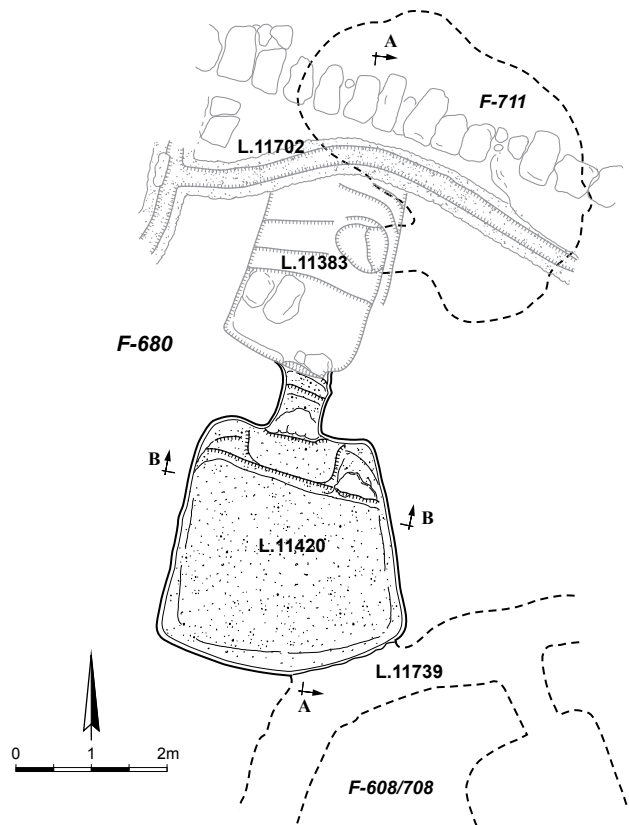
**2.17 RITUAL BATH F-680 (FIG. 2.124)**

F-680 is located in Area D3 and is connected to hiding complex F-608/708. Above the northern end of the external staircase, a covered water channel was built in the Byzantine period (L.11702).

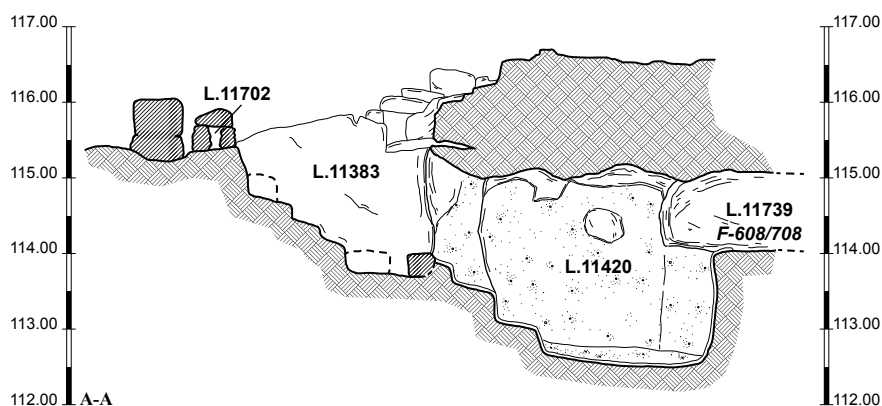
The *miqwe* consists of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber. The external staircase (L.11383) is rectangular in shape, 2.6×1.8 m, and includes three hewn steps descending from north to south. Close to the eastern wall of the staircase, on the second step, a shaft was cut to a depth of about 1.5 m, leading into underground installation F-711 which postdates the *miqwe*. In the southern wall of the staircase a stepped passage into the immersion chamber is hewn. The width of the opening is 0.6 m, its height is 1.3 m, and it has three hewn steps.

The immersion chamber (L.11420) is trapezoidal in shape, expanding towards the south, with a slightly rounded southern wall. Its dimensions are 3 m from north to south and 2.2–3.1 m from east to west. The height of the ceiling from the bottom of the immersion basin is 2.7 m. Only one step that spans the entire width of the chamber descends into the immersion basin, which actually occupies most of the area of the chamber (Figs. 2.125–2.126). The entire chamber is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster. Tunnel L.11739, belonging to hiding complex F-608/708, penetrates into the southeastern corner of the immersion chamber, at the height of ca. 1.6 m above the floor.

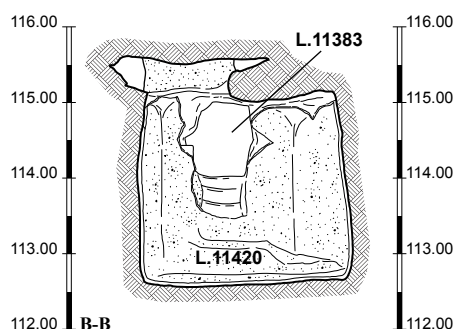
The immersion chamber was full of silt accumulated over a long time. Many sherds of pottery were found in the fill, both from the Early Roman period and from Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Ch. 3, Pls 3.15–3.16). The coins found in the fill present a similar picture. A Ptolemaic coin, a Seleucid coin, a Hasmonean coin as well as Byzantine, Early Islamic and Mamluk coins were found (Ch. 4).



**Fig. 2.124** F-680, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.125** F-680,  
section A-A,  
looking east.



**Fig. 2.126** F-680,  
section B-B,  
looking north.

## 2.18 RITUAL BATH F-716 (FIG. 2.127)

F-716 is located in Area T, 10 m south of *miqwe* F-578 and adjacent on the south to hiding complex F-719/755. F-716 underwent substantial changes during the time of its use.

The original access to the *miqwe* was via a staircase of which nothing remains except rectangular quarried space L.11771, 3.8 m long and 2.8 m wide. It is likely that when hiding complex L.719/755 was installed, a tunnel was cut under the original external staircase, which connected the main part of the hiding complex located north of L.11771 to the underground chamber L.11769, located to its south (Fig. 2.128). Later on, possibly because of the tunnel's collapse, the staircase was completely cut. L.11771 was filled for a construction of a new staircase, built

in the middle, clearly indicating that the *miqwe* remained in use. The new staircase (L.11755) is built of medium-size field stones and binding material (W.11772 and W.11776) and consists of three plastered steps descending to the entrance of the immersion chamber (Figs. 2.129–2.130).

The entrance (L.11777) is ca. 0.7 m wide and 1.6 m high. It is mostly hewn in bedrock, with only its lintel constructed of large worked stones (W.11780). Immersion chamber L.11779 has an irregular rounded shape, narrowing towards west. Its dimensions are ca. 7×7.5 m. The ceiling has largely collapsed, but its maximum restored height is ca. 4 m from the bottom of the immersion basin. The stairs of the immersion chamber consists of two short steps following the entrance, a third step that spans the entire width of the

chamber, and narrow auxiliary steps leading into the immersion basin, three steps adjacent to the northern wall and two to the southern. The depth of the immersion basin in relation to the third step is 0.8 m (Figs. 2.131–2.132). The immersion chamber is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

At a later stage, a massive retaining wall consisting of large and medium-size field stones was built against the northern wall of the immersion chamber (W.12380). This wall was probably intended to prevent the collapse of the rock ceiling and wall, due to the poor state of the bedrock in this spot (Figs. 2.133–2.134). The retaining wall was not plastered, which could

imply that at this stage the *miqwe* was no longer used for purification purposes, but the chamber was still used for some other activity. In addition, five small niches were cut through the plaster in the western wall of the chamber ca. 1 m above the floor of the immersion basin (Fig. 2.135), possibly used for placing oil lamps. This further evidences that the *miqwe* changed its original purpose.

Pottery fragments dating to the Early Roman period were found in the fill of chamber L.11769 (Ch. 3, Pl. 3.17). Two Hasmonean coins and one coin of Roman governors in Judea from the time of Nero were found throughout various fills of the ritual bath (Ch. 4, Nos 8, 16, 23).

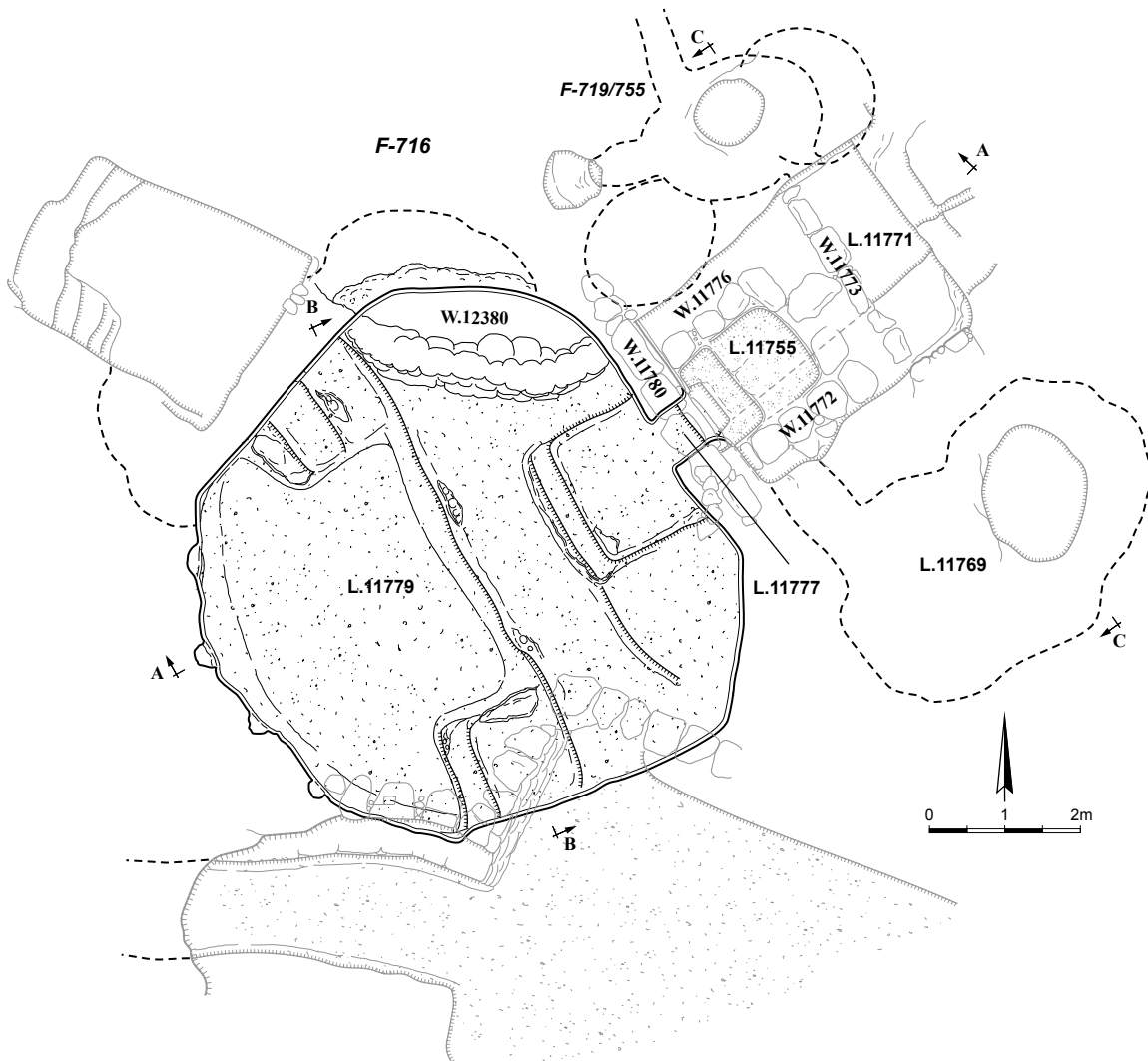
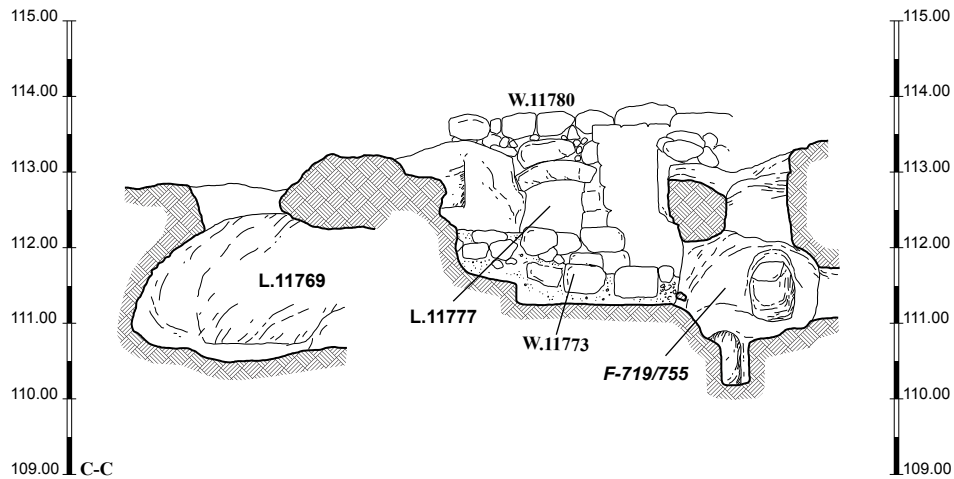


Fig. 2.127 F-716, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.128** F-716, section C-C, looking west.

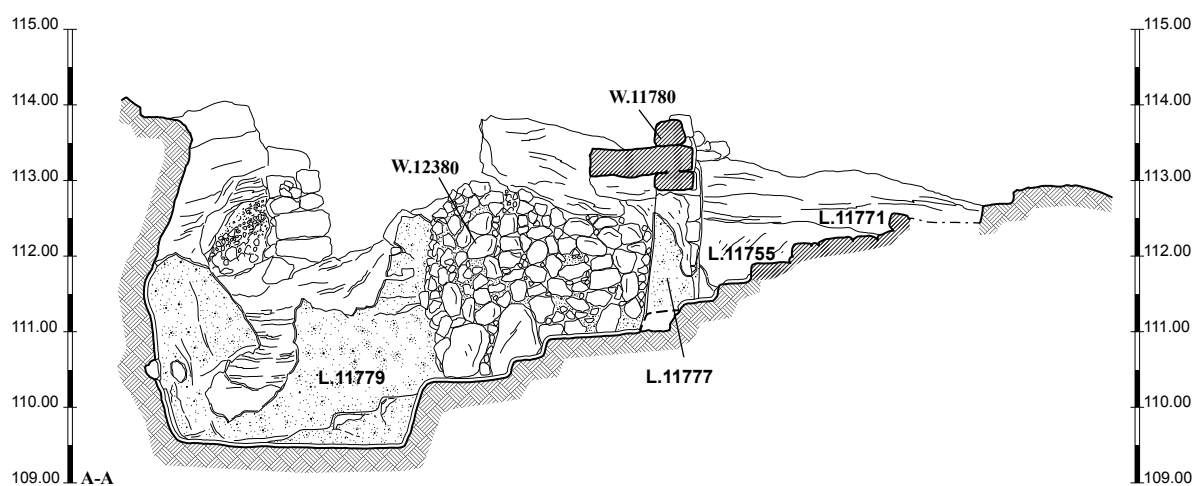


**Fig. 2.129** F-716, quarried space L.11771, with new staircase L.11755 in the middle, and an opening into F-719/755 in the right lower corner, looking west.

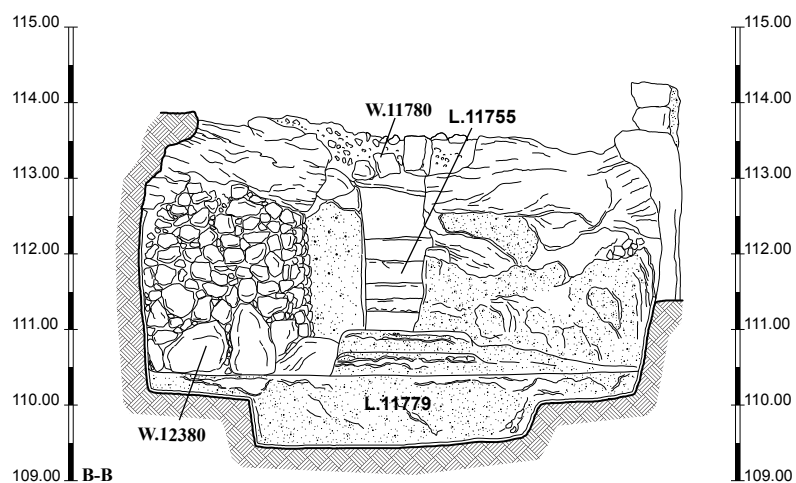


**Fig. 2.130** F-716, quarries space L.11771, with new staircase L.11755, and an opening into chamber L.11769 in the right upper corner, looking south.





**Fig. 2.131** F-716, section A-A, looking northwest.



**Fig. 2.132** F-716, section B-B, looking east.



**Fig. 2.133** F-716, immersion chamber L.11779, looking east.



**Fig. 2.134** F-716, retaining wall W.12380, looking northeast.



**Fig. 2.135** F-716, the niches in the western wall of L.11779, looking west.

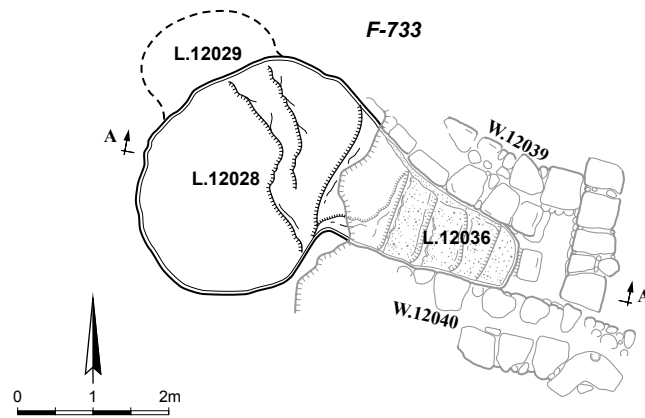
**2.19 RITUAL BATH F-733 (FIGS. 2.136–2.137)**

F-733 is located in Area D4. This is a small and simple *miqwe*, which in the Byzantine period probably became an underground storeroom.

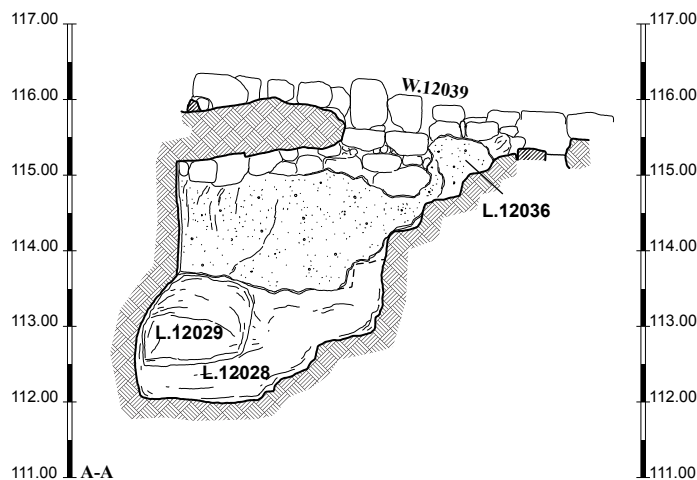
Access to the *miqwe* was from the west, via staircase L.12036, contained from the north and south by stone walls, W.12039 and W.12040 respectively. Both the stairs and the walls were plastered with the same layer of plaster. The staircase, which widens towards the west, consists of four hewn steps descending directly into a small circular chamber (L.12028), ca. 2×2.5 m and 3 m

high. A niche (L.12029), 1 m deep, is carved in the northern wall of the chamber. Remains of plaster are preserved on the upper part of the walls of the chamber. It seems that the chamber was originally an immersion chamber, and at a later stage it was deepened and became an underground storeroom.

Large amounts of pottery were found in the fill of the *miqwe*, some from the Early Roman period but most from Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Ch. 3, Pls 3.18–3.19).



**Fig. 2.136** F-733, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.137** F-733, section A-A, looking north.

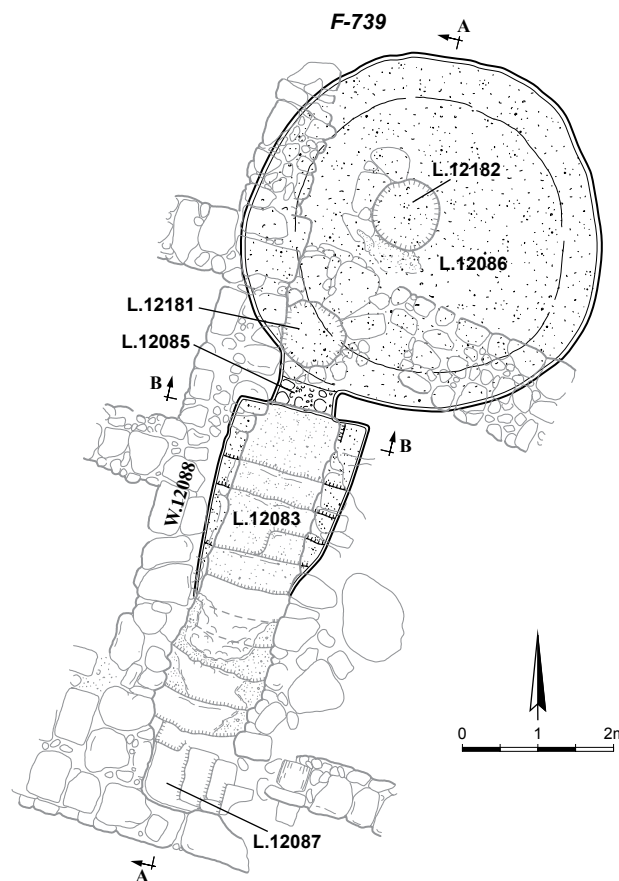


**2.20 RITUAL BATH F-739 (FIG. 2.138)**

F-739 is located in Area D4, in the centre of the settlement, ca. 8 m southwest of *miqwe* F-622. The plan of the *miqwe* has changed over time.

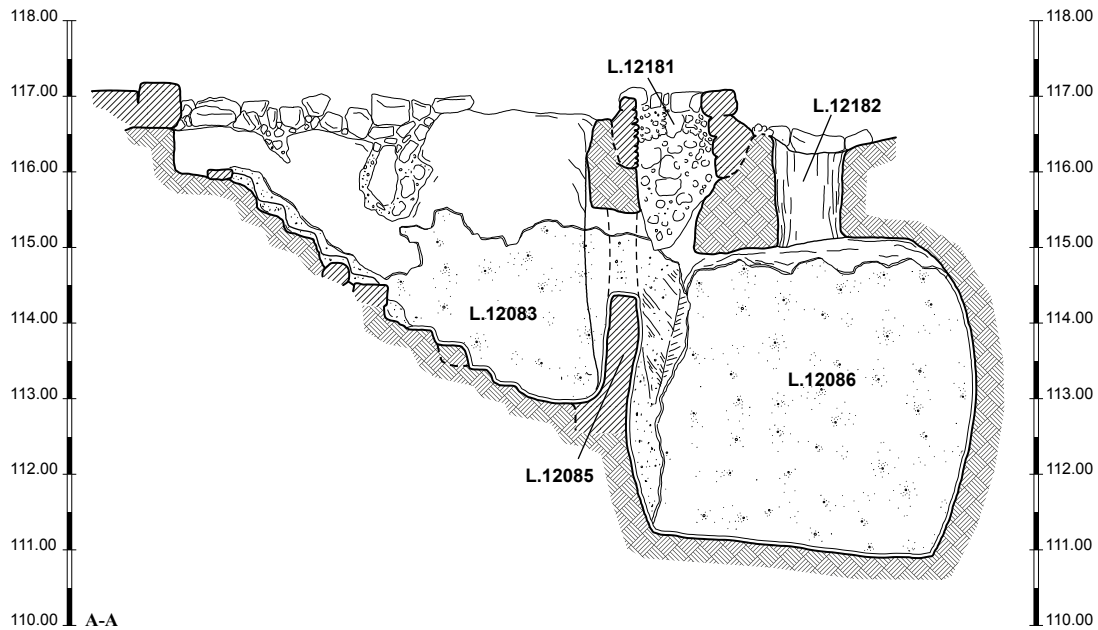
In its original form, the *miqwe* consisted of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber. The external staircase begins with three built steps (L.12087) descending from east to west and continues with ten hewn steps (L.12083) descending from south to north (Figs. 2.139–2.140). Remains of plaster were found on all the stairs. The width of the staircase in the upper part is 1.2 m and it expands

in the lower part to 1.6 m. The third step from the bottom takes only half of the width of the staircase. The staircase descends to a depth of 3.7 m. The arched opening that originally led into the immersion chamber was found blocked by L.12085 made of small stones held with binding material (Figs. 2.141–2.143). The immersion chamber has not been preserved and its original form cannot be restored. It was recut into a round cistern, L.12086 (Fig. 2.144). Two access shafts were cut in the cistern's ceiling, L.12181 in the south and L.12182 in the north. After the *miqwe* entrance was blocked and the immersion chamber



**Fig. 2.138** F-739, plan of ritual bath.





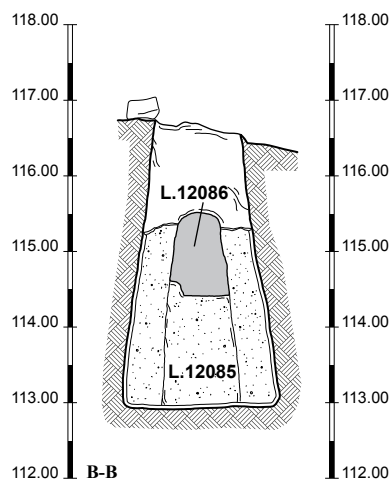
**Fig. 2.139** F-739, section A-A, looking west.

was turned into a cistern, the lower part of the external staircase (L.12083) was replastered with hydraulic plaster (Fig. 2.145). This hints towards the fact that despite the substantial change in its plan a part of the *miqwe* continued to be used for purification purposes, similar to the neighbouring *miqwe* F-622.

The fill of the external staircase produced many fragments of pottery, some dating from the Early Roman period and some from the Byzantine period (Ch. 3, Pls 3.20–3.21). The fill on the steps of the *miqwe* included a Seleucid coin, a Roman provincial coin from the first third of the second century CE, and other coins from Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Ch. 4, Nos 3, 27, 48, 52, 58, 59).



**Fig. 2.140** F-739, the external staircase (L.12087, L.12083) and blockage L.12085 in its northern wall, looking north.



**Fig. 2.141** F-739, section B-B, looking north.



**Fig. 2.142** F-739, blockage L.12085, looking north.



**Fig. 2.143** F-739, the entrance into the immersion chamber after blockage L.12085 was dismantled, looking north.



**Fig. 2.144** F-739, view from inside cistern L.12086 on the external staircase, looking south. Note shaft L.12181 inside the ceiling.



**Fig. 2.145** F-739, the lower part of external staircase L.12083, looking south.



## 2.21 RITUAL BATH F-742 (FIG. 2.146)

F-742 is located in Area D4 and has undergone the same modification as ritual baths F-622 and F-739 — its immersion chamber has been converted into a water cistern.

Originally, the *miqwe* consisted of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber. The staircase (L.12129), 2.3×1.3 m, includes six hewn steps descending from west to east. The three upper steps span its entire width, while the three lower steps are narrow, in order to provide access to the entrance, located on the southern wall of the staircase (Figs. 2.147–2.149). The entrance to the immersion chamber was found blocked by L.12130, consisting of small stones held with binding material (Fig. 2.150). The

immersion chamber was probably rectangular in shape. It was completely recut into cistern L.12131 (Figs. 2.151–2.152). A vertical shaft cut in the ceiling of the cistern provided entry for water, which was collected by a channel on the surface. Unlike ritual baths F-622 and F-739, F-742 shows no hints of the use of its external staircase for purification purposes after construction of the cistern. In a later period a massive stone wall was constructed above the external staircase.

The finds, coming mainly from the fill of the cistern, include fragments of pottery from Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Ch. 3, Pl. 3.22), as well as seven coins from Hasmonean, Herodian, Byzantine, Early Islamic, and Mamluk periods (Ch. 4, Nos 14, 19, 39, 49, 73, 91, 101).

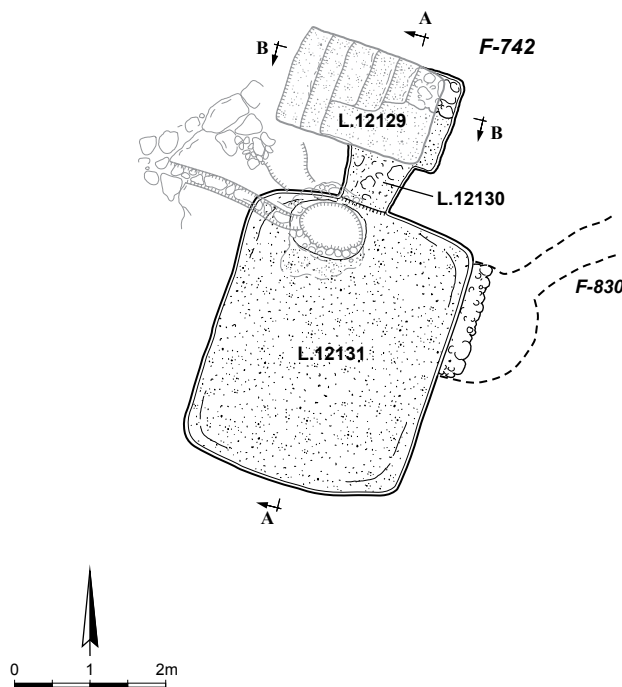
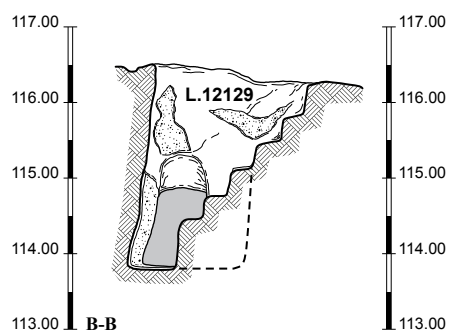


Fig. 2.146 F-742, plan of ritual bath.





**Fig. 2.147** F-742, section B-B, looking south.



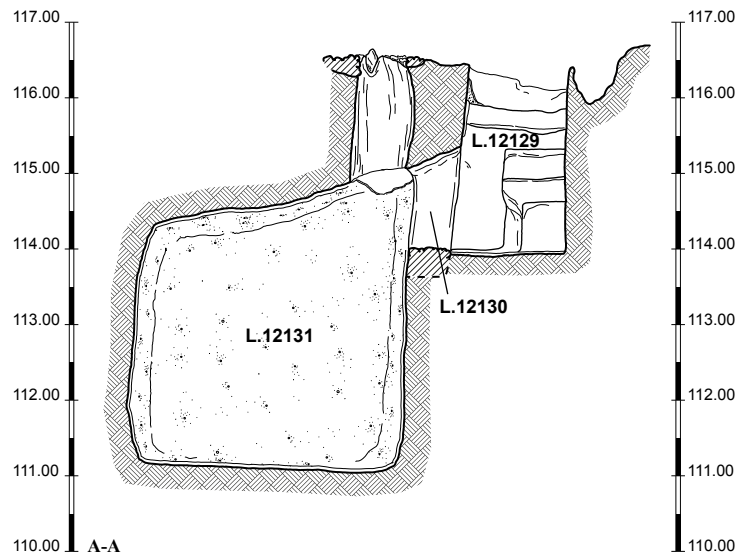
**Fig. 2.148** F-742, external staircase L.12129 and blockage L.12130, looking south.



**Fig. 2.149** F-742, external staircase L.12129 and partly dismantled blockage L.12130 (low left corner), looking west.



**Fig. 2.150** F-742, blockage L.12130, looking south.



**Fig. 2.151** F-742, section A-A, looking west.



**Fig. 2.152** F-742, view from inside cistern L.12131 on the original entrance to the immersion chamber, looking north.

**2.22 RITUAL BATH F-745 (FIG. 2.153)**

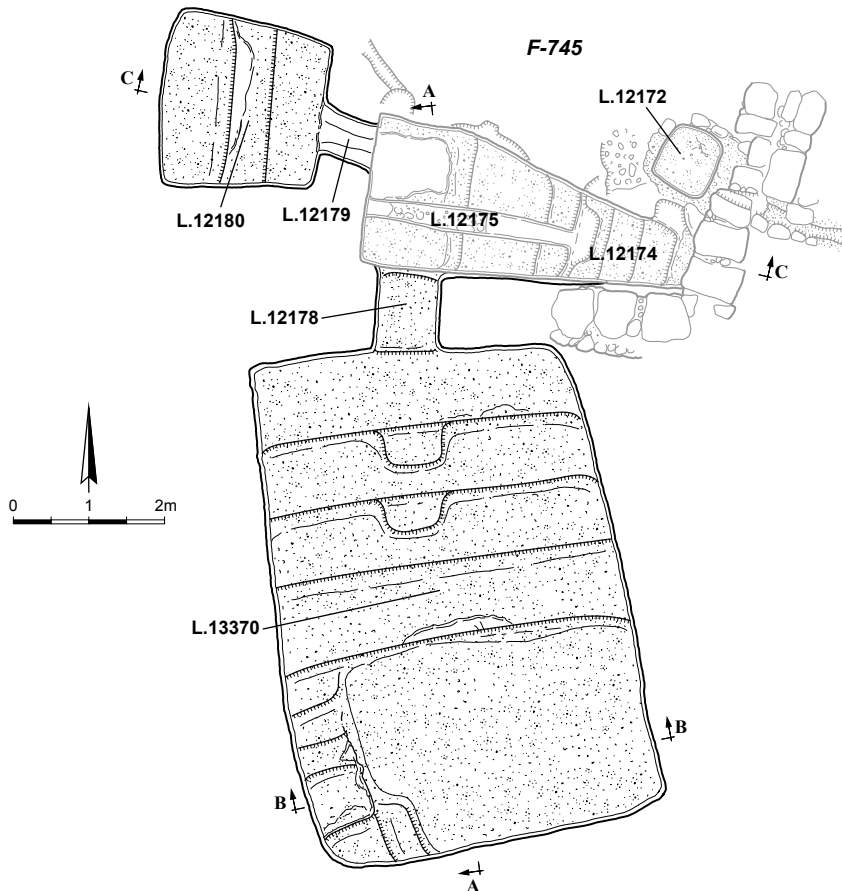
F-745 is located in Area D4. It is a paired *miqwe*, one of the largest identified at the site. It consists of an external staircase and two separate underground immersion chambers.

The external staircase (L.12174) is trapezoidal in shape, its width in the western part is 0.7 m and in the eastern part 1.8 m. The staircase consists of six hewn steps descending from east to west to a depth of ca. 2.5 m (Fig. 2.154). To the north, adjacent to the top of the staircase, is a rectangular basin (L.12172), 0.6×0.7 m and 0.6 m deep, built of small stones held with binding material and plastered with hydraulic plaster (Fig. 2.155). The lower part of the staircase is divided by a partition wall, which begins at the fourth step and reaches the western wall of the staircase. The partition wall is built of stones and binding material, its thickness is 0.2 m

and its maximum height in its western extent is 0.8 m (Figs. 2.156–2.157). The partition wall separates the entrances of the two immersion chambers.

Entrance L. 12179, leading to the western immersion chamber, is located to the north of the partition wall, in the western wall of the staircase. The width of the opening is 0.5 m, and its height is 1.6 m. The western immersion chamber (L.12180) is rectangular in shape, 2×2.3 m. The height from the ceiling to the bottom of the immersion basin is 2.1 m. Two hewn steps that span the entire width of the chamber descend from east to west into the immersion basin (Figs. 2.158–2.159). The depth of the immersion basin in relation to the second step is 0.6 m. The space is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

Entrance L.12178, leading to the southern immersion chamber, is located south of the



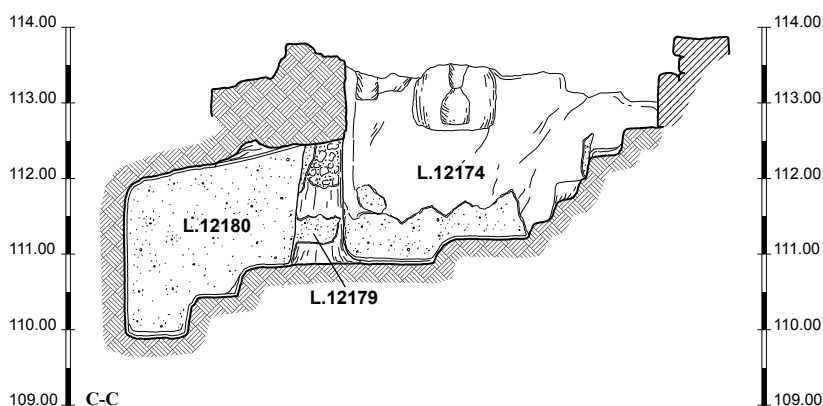
**Fig. 2.153** F-745, plan of ritual bath.



partition wall, in the southern wall of the staircase. The width of the opening is 0.7 m, and its height is 1.7 m. The southern immersion chamber (L.13370) is rectangular in shape, 6.5×4.7 m. Its height from the ceiling to the bottom of the immersion basin is 5 m (Figs. 2.160–2.161). Four hewn steps that span the entire width of the chamber descend from north to south. In addition, two small auxiliary steps are hewn in the centre of the second and the third step (Fig. 2.162). Five more auxiliary steps descend from the fourth wide step, adjacent to the western

wall of the chamber (Fig. 2.163). The depth of the immersion basin in relation to the fourth wide step is 1.4 m (Fig. 2.164). The entire chamber is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

In a later period, when the *miqwe* went out of use, the external staircase was filled up and three *tabun* ovens were installed in it. All the pottery (Ch. 3, Pl. 3.23) and coins (Ch. 4, Nos 44, 50, 65, 68) from the *miqwe* are dated to Byzantine and Early Islamic periods.



**Fig. 2.154** F-745, section C-C, looking north.



**Fig. 2.155** F-745, external staircase L.12174 and plastered basin L.12172 to its north, looking west.



**Fig. 2.156** F-745, external staircase L.12174, looking east.





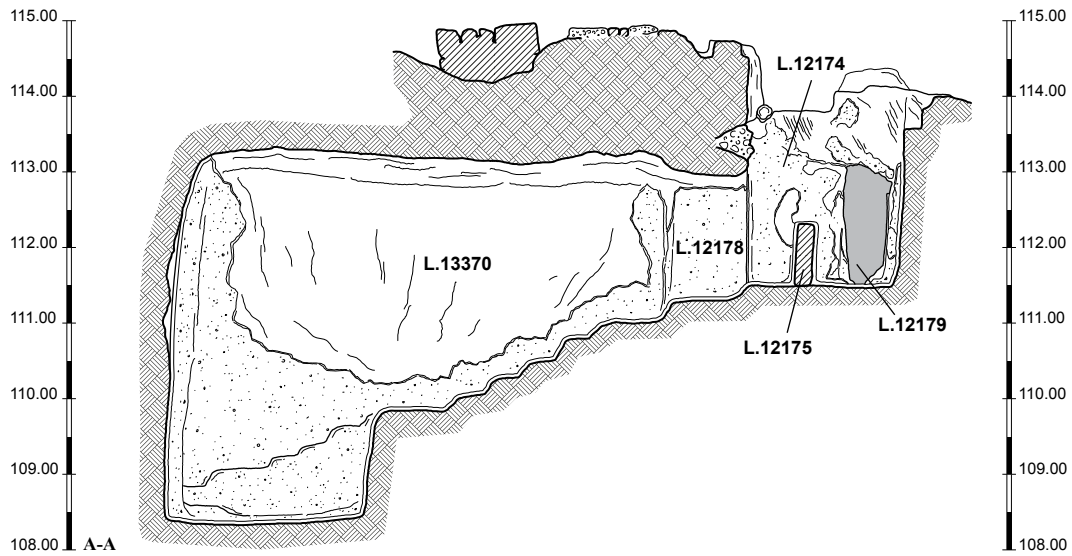
**Fig. 2.157** F-745, partition wall W.12175 and entrances into two immersion chambers, looking south.



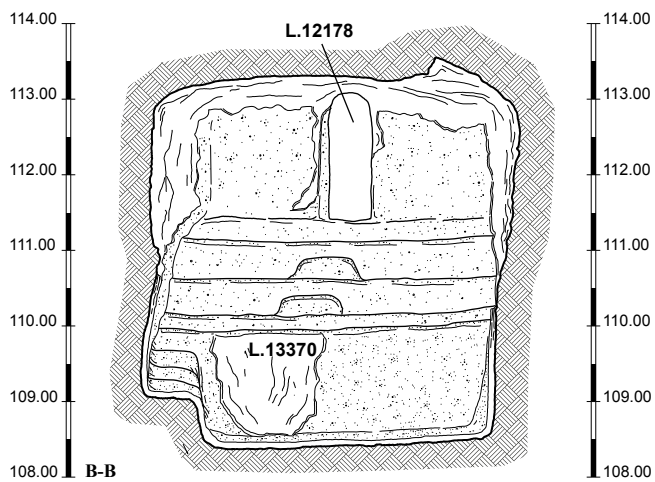
**Fig. 2.158** F-745, immersion chamber L.12180, looking east.



**Fig. 2.159** F-745, immersion chamber L.12180, looking west.



**Fig. 2.160** F-745, section A-A, looking west.



**Fig. 2.161** F-745, section B-B, looking north.



**Fig. 2.162** F-745, immersion chamber L.13370, looking north.





**Fig. 2.163** F-745, immersion chamber L.13370 and the auxiliary steps descending into the immersion basin, looking west.



**Fig. 2.164** F-745, the immersion basin in chamber L.13370, looking south.

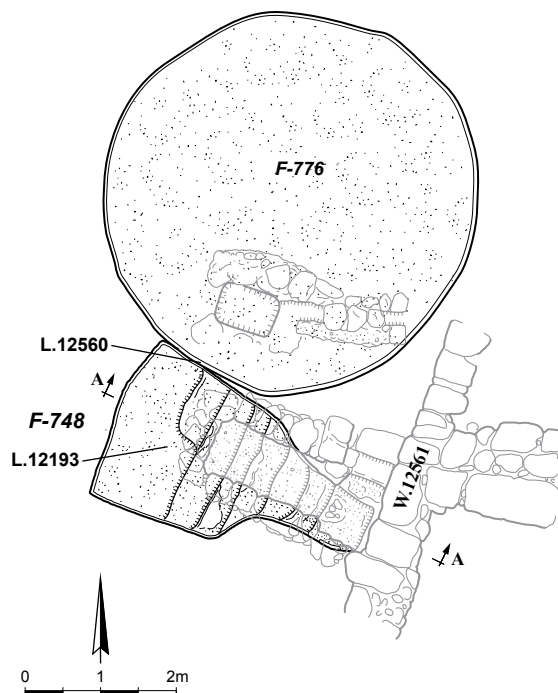
### 2.23 RITUAL BATH F-748 (FIG. 2.165)

F-748 is located in Area D4, only 5 m north of ritual bath F-745. The *miqwe* is adjacent to water cistern F-776.

The *miqwe* was found sealed with four large rectangular stones, probably put up in the Byzantine period. After the stones were removed, a staircase of the *miqwe* was revealed. The staircase is enclosed by stone walls (Fig. 2.166). Three steps, two built and one hewn, descend from north to south. The next three steps are hewn perpendicular to the top and descend from east to west. The width of the six upper steps is 0.7 m. Starting from the seventh step, the staircase

expands into a rectangular chamber, 1.8×2.3 m, which is the immersion chamber (L.12193). Three steps that span the entire width of the chamber are hewn inside it, and another auxiliary step, adjacent to the northern wall, descends into the immersion basin (Figs. 2.167–2.168). The stairs inside the chamber are a direct continuation of the staircase. The chamber's height is 1.7 m from the bottom of the immersion basin. The staircase and the immersion chamber are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster, in a unique way decorated with diagonal engravings (Fig. 2.169).

Two Byzantine coins were found in the fill of the *miqwe* (Ch. 4).

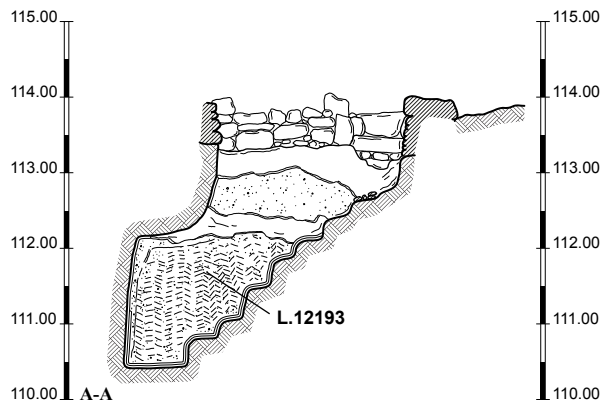


**Fig. 2.165** F-748, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.166** F-748, general view of the ritual bath, looking west.





**Fig. 2.167** F-748, section A-A, looking north.



**Fig. 2.168** F-748, immersion chamber L.12193, looking west.



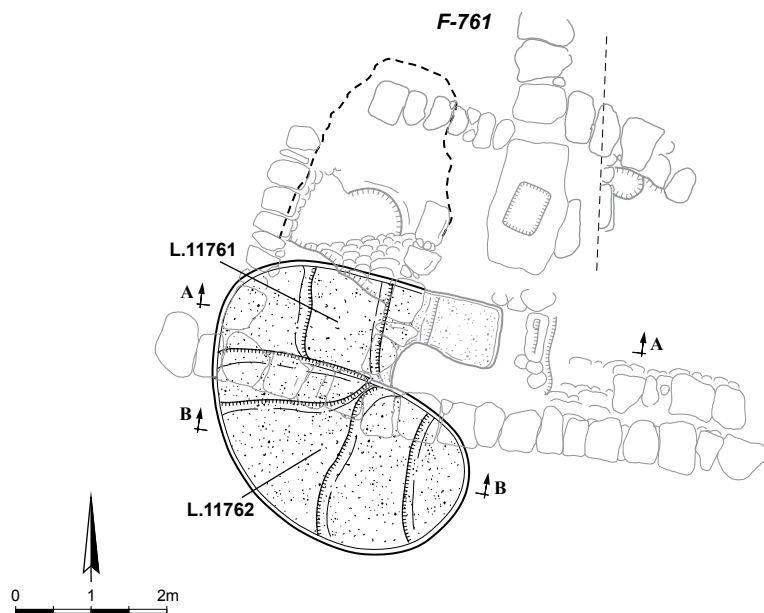
**Fig. 2.169** F-748, diagonal engravings on the plaster of the immersion chamber, looking north.

## 2.24 RITUAL BATH F-761 (FIG. 2.170)

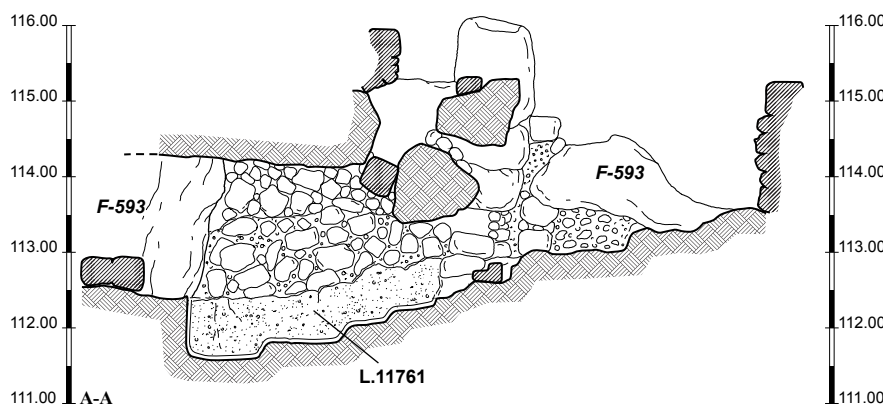
F-761 is located in Area D4, and together with ritual baths F-596 and F-651 it interrelates with hiding complex F-593.

The *miqwe* was accessed via staircase L.11761, which consists of three hewn steps descending from east to west (Fig. 2.171). The fourth step is hewn perpendicular to the previous ones and at this point the staircase starts to widen and curve towards the south-southeast (Fig. 2.172). After the turn, the staircase expands to 2.2 m and becomes

the immersion chamber (L.11762). Three steps extending through its entire width descend from west to east into the small immersion basin (Figs. 2.173–2.174). The height from the ceiling to the bottom of the immersion basin is 2.2 m. The *miqwe* is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster. A crack in the upper part of the eastern wall opens to chamber L.11099 of the hiding complex. The *miqwe* is contemporary to or earlier than the first construction phase of hiding complex F-593 (Melamed 2020: 52–61).



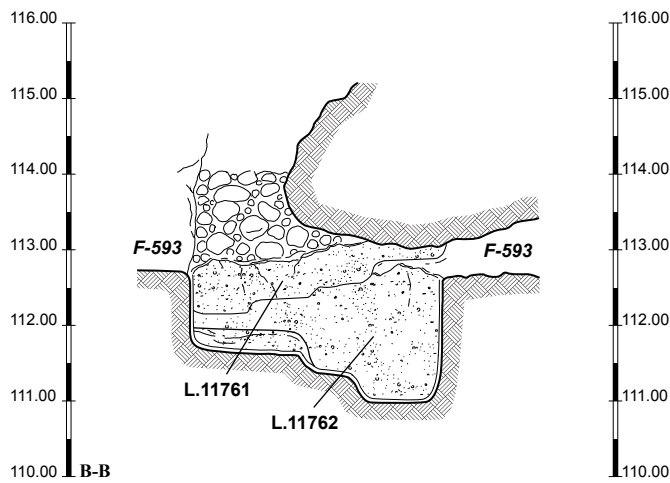
**Fig. 2.170** F-761, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.171** F-761, section A-A, looking north.



**Fig. 2.172** F-761, staircase L.11761 at its turning point into the immersion chamber, looking north.



**Fig. 2.173** F-761, section B-B, looking north.



**Fig. 2.174** F-761, immersion chamber L.11762, looking east.



## 2.25 RITUAL BATH F-851 (FIG. 2.175)

F-851 is a paired *miqwe*, located in the northern part of Area D4.

The *miqwe* consists of a small open courtyard and two immersion chambers. The courtyard (L.16D42-3132) is square in shape, ca. 2.3×2.3 m, and its depth from the surface is 1.8 m. Five steps, 0.7 m wide, hewn along the southern wall, descend into the courtyard. Two staircases are hewn into the center of the courtyard, descending with four steps in each into their immersion chambers located to the east and west of the courtyard (Fig. 2.176).

The entrance to the eastern chamber was partly blocked by a stone wall (Fig. 2.177). The eastern

chamber (L.16D42-3139) is rectangular in shape, 3.2×2.7 m, and 2.7 m high. Three hewn steps that span the entire width of the chamber descend from west to east. Two additional short steps are adjacent to the northern wall of the chamber and descend into the immersion basin (Figs. 2.178–2.179).

The western chamber (L.16D42-3144) is also rectangular, 3.2×3.6 m. One step is hewn through its entire width and the beginning of another step, never completed, can be identified (Figs. 2.180–2.181). No remains of plaster were found in the entire *miqwe*. Apparently, for an unknown reason, the construction of the *miqwe* was never completed.

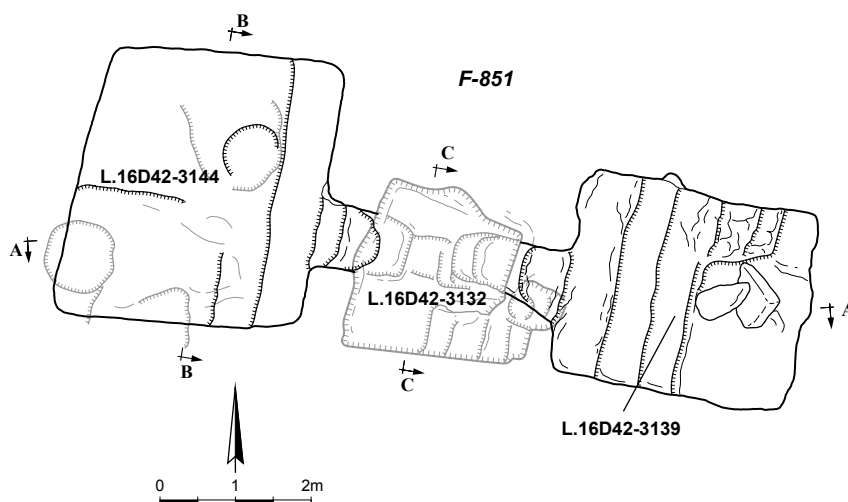
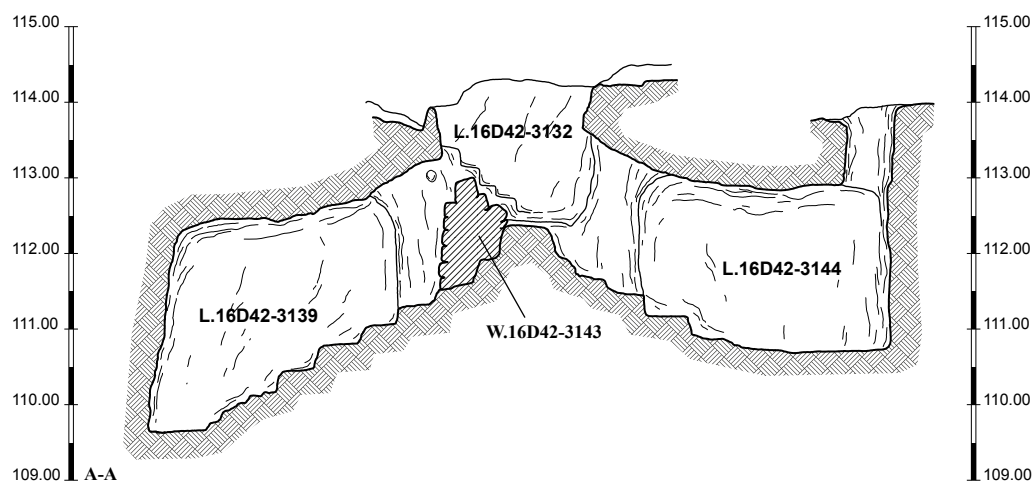
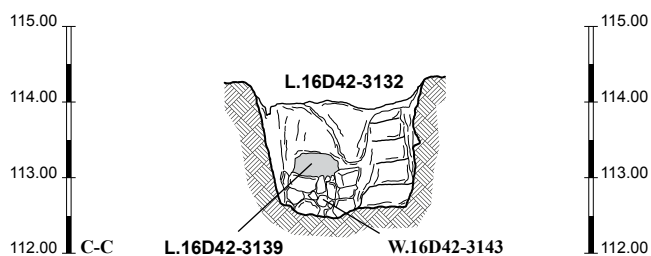


Fig. 2.175 F-851, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.176** F-851, section A-A, looking south.



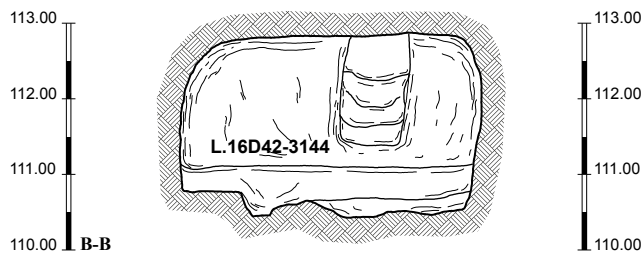
**Fig. 2.177** F-851, section C-C, looking east.



**Fig. 2.178** F-851, chamber L.16D42-3139, looking west.



**Fig. 2.179** F-851, chamber L.16D42-3139, looking east.



**Fig. 2.180** F-851, section B-B, looking east.



**Fig. 2.181** F-851, chamber L.16D42-3144, looking west.



## 2.26 RITUAL BATH F-875 (FIG. 2.182)

F-875 is located in Area D4, ca. 5 m east of ritual bath F-851. It is small, consisting of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber.

The external staircase (L.16D42–3334) is made up of four hewn steps descending from south to north. On the west, the staircase is enclosed by wall W.16D42–3337. The width

of the staircase is 0.8 m, and the length is 2.4 m. It leads directly to the immersion chamber (Figs. 2.183–2.185). The immersion chamber (L.16D42–3357) has an irregular rounded shape, ca. 3.2 m in diameter and 1.6 m high. Five hewn steps descend from south to north into the immersion basin (Figs. 2.186–2.187). The *miqwe* is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

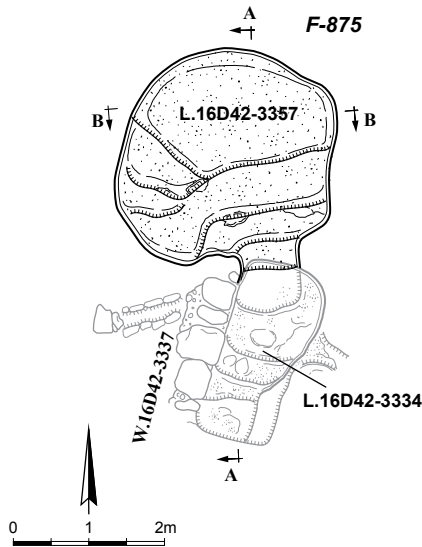


Fig. 2.182 F-875, plan of ritual bath.

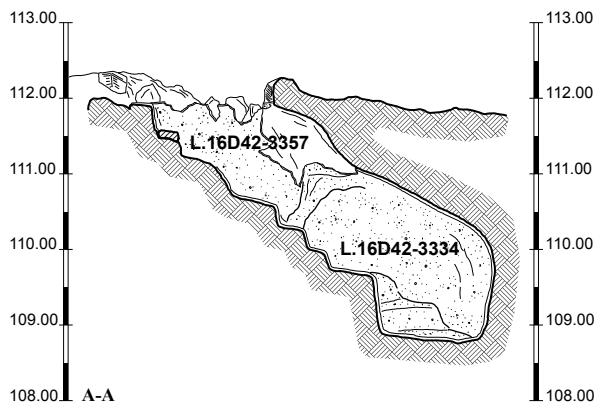


Fig. 2.183 F-875, section A-A, looking west.

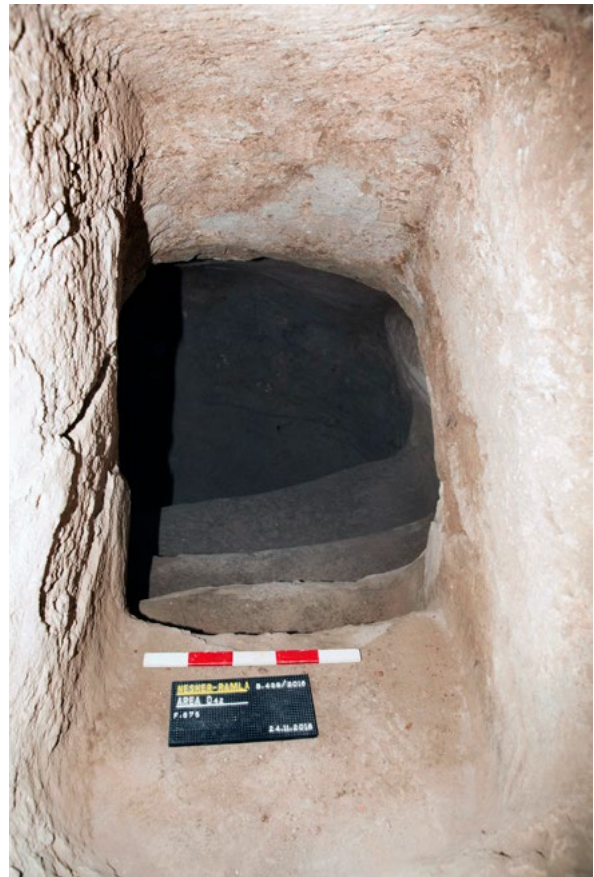
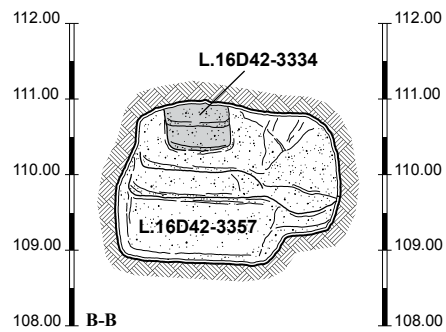


Fig. 2.184 F-875, the entrance to the immersion chamber, looking north.



**Fig. 2.185** F-875, the entrance to the immersion chamber, looking south.



**Fig. 2.186** F-875, section B-B, looking south.



**Fig. 2.187** F-875, the immersion basin in chamber L.16D42-3357, looking north.

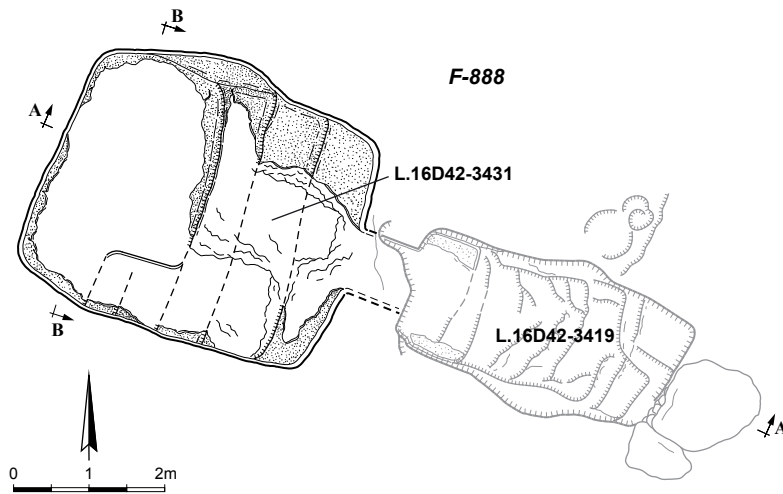
**2.27 RITUAL BATH F-888 (FIG. 2.188)**

F-888 is located in Area D4, ca. 6 m northwest of F-851. It is the northernmost *miqwe* identified on the western hill.

The *miqwe* consists of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber, arranged on one axis. It was badly damaged by later activity. The external staircase (L.16D42–3419) is rectangular, 3.5×1.7 m, descending to the depth of 2.3 m from the surface. The staircase is badly damaged, but seven steps can be discerned (Figs. 2.189–2.190). The stairs go down to the

entrance to the immersion chamber. The width of the opening is 0.8 m, and the lintel has not been preserved.

The immersion chamber (L.16D42–3431) is rectangular in shape, 4×3.5 m, and 2.7 m high. The stairs in the chamber were also badly damaged, but it is possible to restore three stairs that spanned the entire width of the chamber and two other short auxiliary steps, adjacent to the southern wall and leading into the immersion basin (Figs. 2.191–2.192). The entire *miqwe* was plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

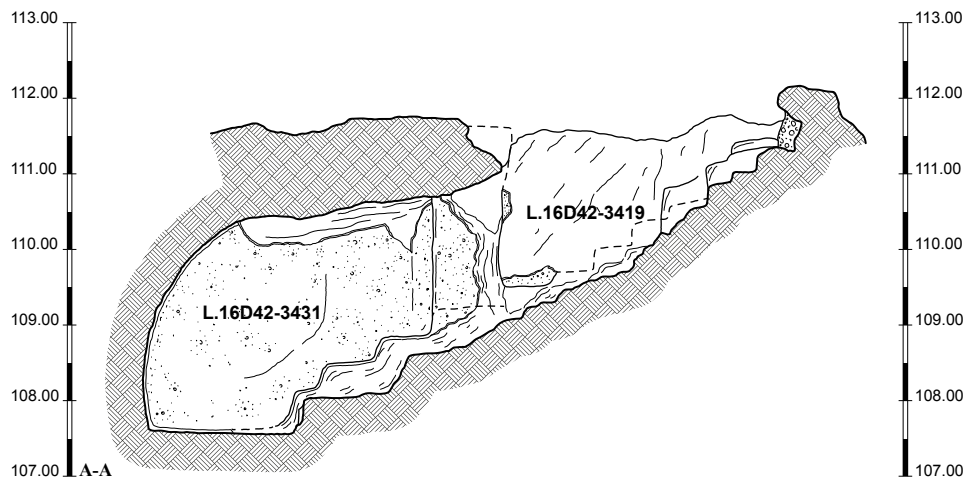


**Fig. 2.188** F-888, plan of ritual bath.

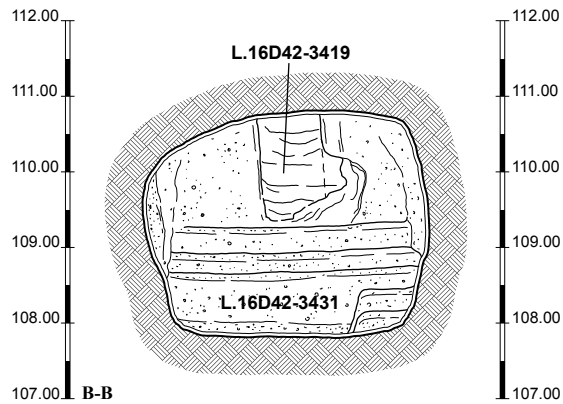


**Fig. 2.189** F-888, remains of external staircase L.16D42-3419, looking northwest.





**Fig. 2.190** F-888,  
section A-A,  
looking north.



**Fig. 2.191** F-888,  
section B-B, looking  
southeast.



**Fig. 2.192** F-888,  
immersion chamber  
L.16D42-3431,  
looking southeast.

**2.28 RITUAL BATH F-950 (FIG. 2.193)**

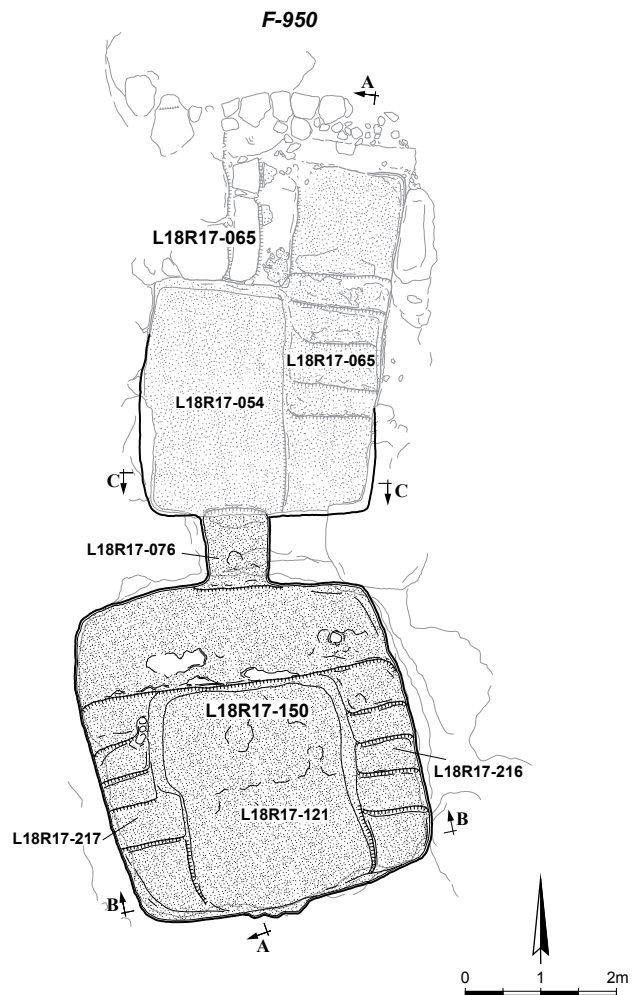
F-950 is the largest ritual bath in Area R. The rock ceiling of the *miqwe* collapsed and its remains were full of fill layers. Two distinct architectural phases are evident: in the first phase the *miqwe* consisted of staircase L.18R17-065 and immersion basin L.18R17-054. In the second phase, immersion basin L.18R17-054 became an antechamber and a passage was cut in its southern wall to a new and larger immersion chamber, L.18R17-150.

The entrance to the *miqwe* is through stairs L.18R17-065, the upper part of which is built, and the lower part is rock-cut. The built part consists of worked field stones and includes three steps descending from west to east to a depth of ca. 1 m from the surface. The lower part of the stairs, which consists of five hewn steps, turns at a straight angle towards the south and descends to a depth of 1.5 m (Fig. 2.194). At the bottom there is one wide step leading into the original immersion basin (L.18R17-054), which is located to the west of the stairs (Figs. 2.195–2.196). The immersion basin is 3 m long and 1.8 m wide. The reconstructed height of the *miqwe* from the bottom of L.18R17-054 is ca. 2.5 m. All the stairs and the immersion chamber are plastered with several layers of grey hydraulic plaster.

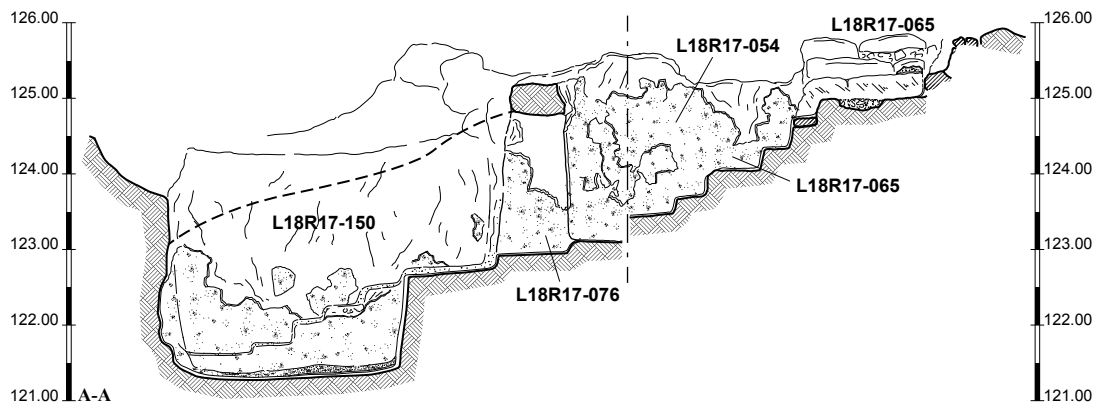
An arched opening (L.18R17-076), 0.7 m wide and 1.7 m high, leading to the new immersion chamber of the second phase, is hewn in the southern wall of L.18R17-054. Immersion chamber L.18R17-150 is almost square in shape, 3.8–4.2 m long and 3.8 m wide (Fig. 2.197). Its reconstructed height is 3 m. Along the eastern and western walls of the chamber two sets of stairs (L.18R17-216 and L.18R17-217) are installed that descend into the immersion basin. Each set has five steps built of stones held with binding

material. Immersion basin L.18R17-121 is located between the two sets of stairs, and is 1.2 m deep (Fig. 2.198). The entire *miqwe* is plastered with several layers of grey hydraulic plaster.

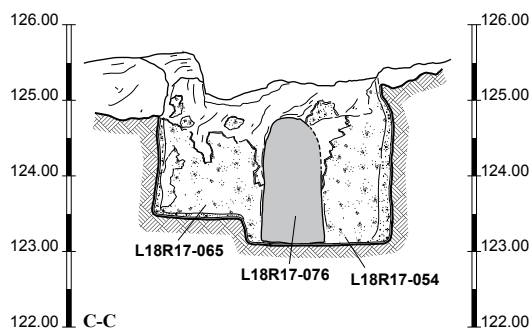
The *miqwe* was filled with layers of silt, from which a rich pottery assemblage was retrieved, including pottery types dating from the second century BCE. In contrast to other pottery assemblages from the western hill, which are often mixed, the finds from F-950 date solely to Late Hellenistic and Early Roman periods (Ch. 3, Pl. 3.24).



**Fig. 2.193** F-950, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.194** F-950, section A-A, looking west.



**Fig. 2.195** F-950, section C-C, looking south.

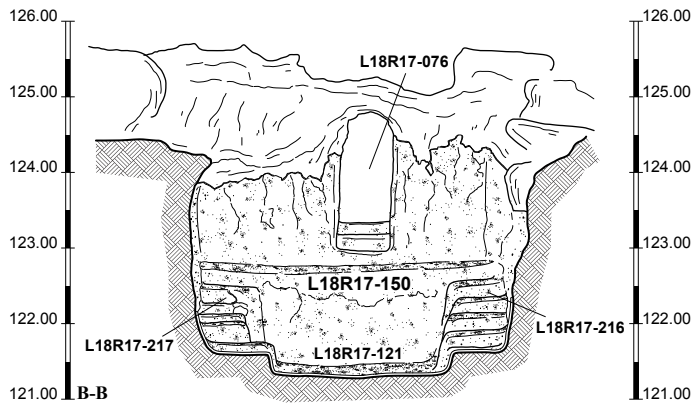


**Fig. 2.196** F-950, stairs L.18R17-065 (left) and immersion basin L.18R17-054 (right), looking south.





**Fig. 2.197** F-950, immersion chamber L.18R17-150, looking north.



**Fig. 2.198** F-950, section B-B, looking north.

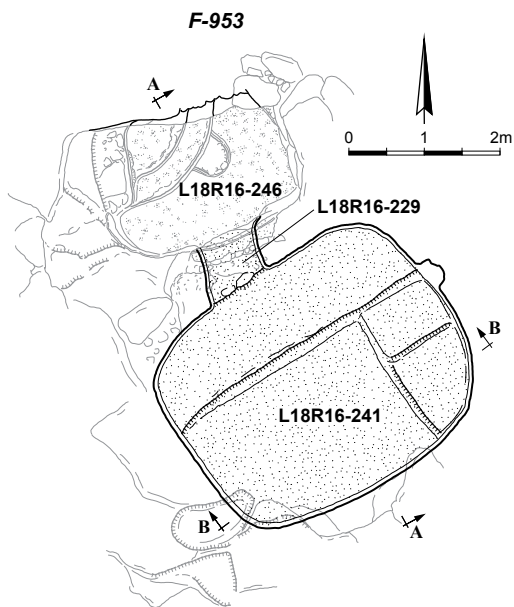
## 2.29 RITUAL BATH F-953 (FIG. 2.199)

F-953 is located in Area R. The *miqwe* consists of a small antechamber and an underground immersion chamber. The rock ceiling of the *miqwe* has collapsed, along with parts of structure F-964 that was built over the *miqwe* later on.

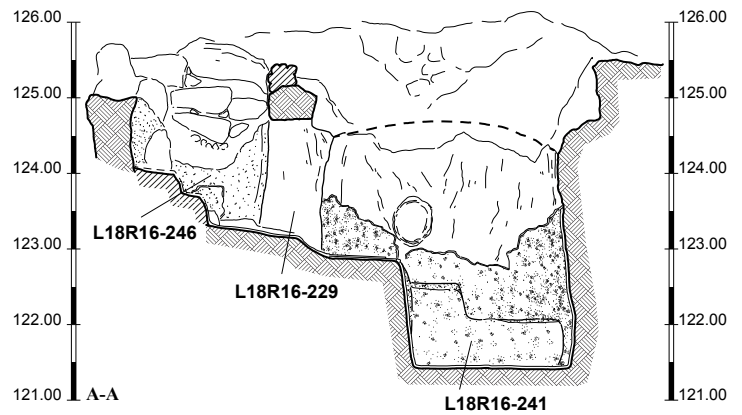
Antechamber L.18R16-246 is accessed by a staircase installed in its northwestern corner. It has four steps: the upper step is rectangular and descends from the west, the next two steps are semi-circular and carved from the northern side of the chamber to the western side, the fourth small step is also semi-circular and stands out from the center of the third step. The stairs descend from the surface to a depth of 1.8 m. The length of the

antechamber is 2 m and its width is 1.5 m. The antechamber is plastered with grey plaster. An arched opening (L.18R16-229) in the southern wall leads to the immersion chamber (Fig. 2.200).

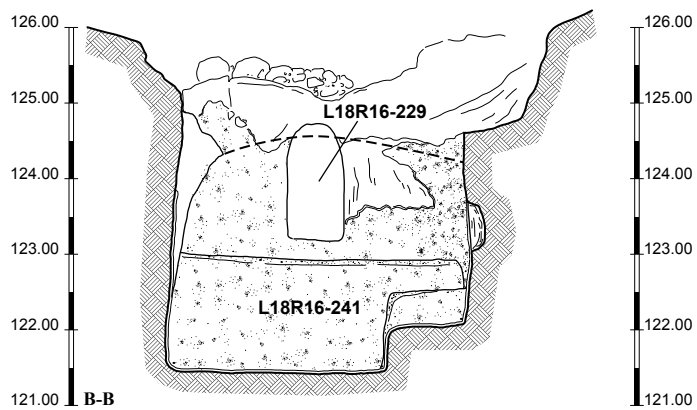
The immersion chamber (L.18R16-241) is rectangular, with rounded corners, 3 m long and 2.5 m wide. The reconstructed height of the chamber is ca. 3 m. There are three steps descending into the immersion basin: the upper step spans the entire width of the chamber and two steps ca. 1 m wide are hewn along the northeastern wall of the chamber. The depth of the immersion basin in relation to the upper step is 1.5 m (Figs. 2.201–2.202). The chamber is plastered with several layers of grey hydraulic plaster.



**Fig. 2.199** F-953, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 2.200** F-953, section A-A, looking northeast.



**Fig. 2.201** F-953, section B-B, looking northwest.



**Fig. 2.202** F-953, immersion chamber L.18R16-241, looking northwest.

### 2.30 RITUAL BATH F-973 (FIG. 2.203)

F-973 is located in Area R, adjacent to ritual bath F-979. It is the smallest *miqwe* exposed at the site.

A flight of four steps (L.19R17-015) descends into the immersion basin from the southeast. The length of the *miqwe* is 1.5 m, its width 2.5 m, and its depth from the surface is 2 m. On the eastern side of the *miqwe*, at the bottom of the immersion basin, a niche (L.19R17-021) is hewn. Its width is 0.5 m, its height 0.7 m, and its depth is 0.5 m (Figs. 2.204–2.205). The steps, the walls, and the

niche are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster ca. 2 cm thick. Above the northern and southern sides of the *miqwe*, hewn ledges are evident (Fig. 2.206), possibly intended for laying stones of the ceiling.

It may be that niche L.19R17-021 was an attempt to enlarge the *miqwe* to the west, but the hewing was stopped to avoid cutting into cistern F-956, located ca. 1.5 m to the west. What was probably planned to be the external staircase of the *miqwe* was plastered with hydraulic plaster and became a *miqwe* itself.

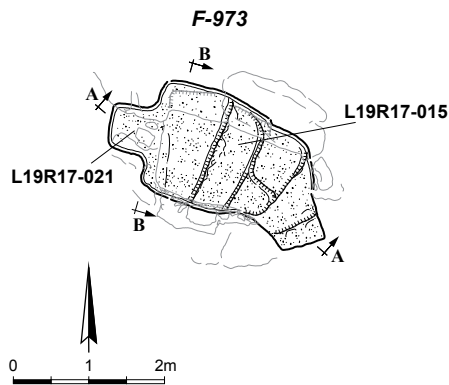


Fig. 2.203 F-973, plan of ritual bath.



Fig. 2.204 F-973, general view of the ritual bath, looking north.

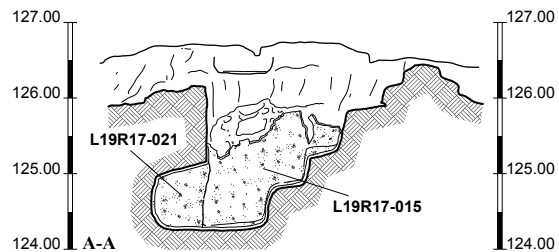


Fig. 2.205 F-973, section A-A, looking north.

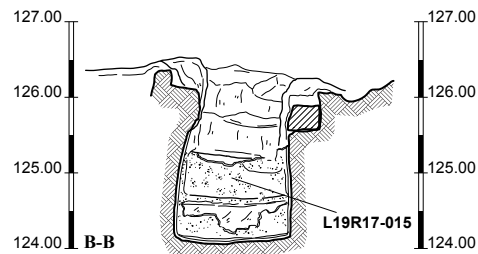


Fig. 2.206 F-973, section B-B, looking east.



### 2.31 RITUAL BATH F-976 (FIG. 2.207)

F-976 is located in Area R, ca. 8 m east of ritual bath F-953 and adjacent to water cistern F-977. The *miqwe* consists of an external staircase (L.19R16-028) that in the lower part becomes immersion chamber L.19R16-033 (Fig. 2.208). The outer steps have not been fully preserved. It

can be reconstructed that the upper built step went down from south to north and five or six hewn steps descended from west to east straight into the immersion chamber. The immersion chamber is round, ca. 2 m in diameter and 1.9 m high. Inside it there is only one step that span its entire width and descends into the immersion basin (Figs. 2.209–2.210). The *miqwe* is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster.

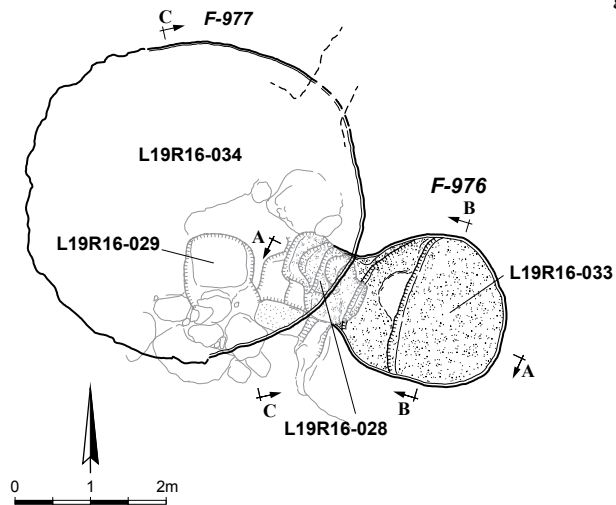


Fig. 2.207 F-976, plan of ritual bath.

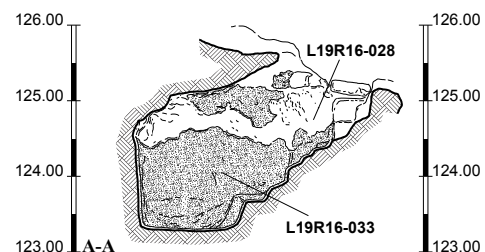


Fig. 2.208 F-976, section A-A, looking south.

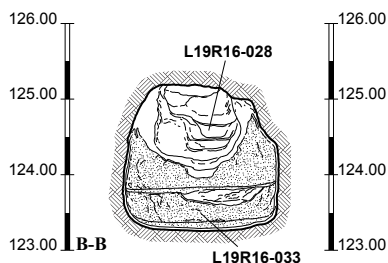


Fig. 2.209 F-976, section B-B, looking west.



Fig. 2.210 F-976, immersion chamber L.19R16-033, looking east.

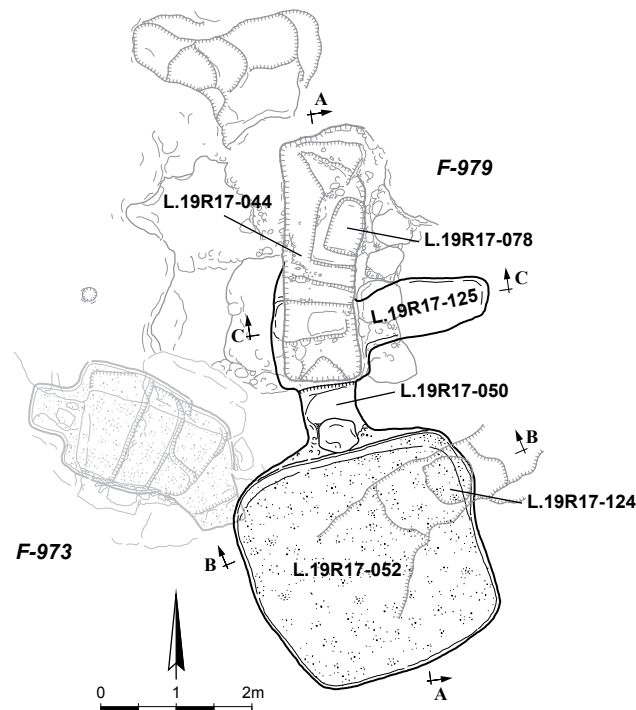
**2.32 RITUAL BATH F-979 (FIG. 2.211)**

F-979 is located in Area R, adjacent to ritual bath F-973. The *miqwe* is poorly preserved, in a later period probably converted to a water cistern. In its original plan, the *miqwe* consisted of an external staircase and an underground immersion chamber.

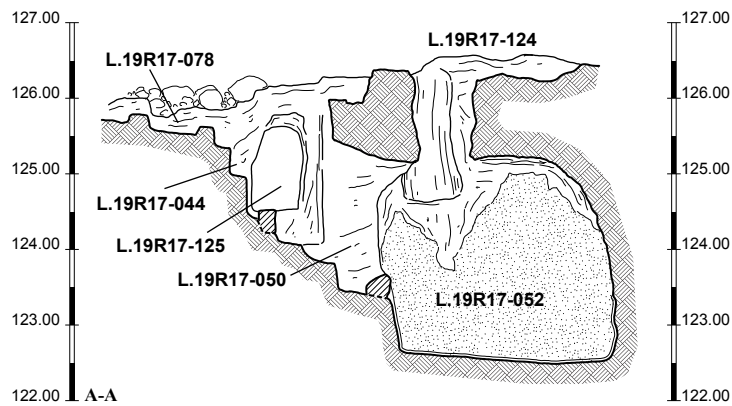
The external staircase (L.19R17-044) is rectangular in shape, 3.1×1.1 m. It consists of four hewn steps descending from north to south (Fig. 2.212). An almost rectangular plastered basin (L.19R17-078), 0.7×0.5 m and 0.15 m deep, is hewn in the upper part of the staircase (Fig. 2.213).

A short tunnel (L.19R17-125) is hewn in the eastern wall of the staircase, apparently as an attempt to install a second immersion chamber (Fig. 2.214). The external staircase leads to an entrance to the immersion chamber. The chamber (L.19R17-050) is almost square, 3.1×3.1 m, and 2.5 m high (Fig. 2.215). It is plastered with grey hydraulic plaster. In its northeastern corner a shaft (L.19R17-124) is hewn, which indicates that the *miqwe* became a water cistern in a later period.

A mixed pottery assemblage of Early Roman and Byzantine periods was retrieved from the *miqwe* (Ch. 3, Pls 3.25–3.26).



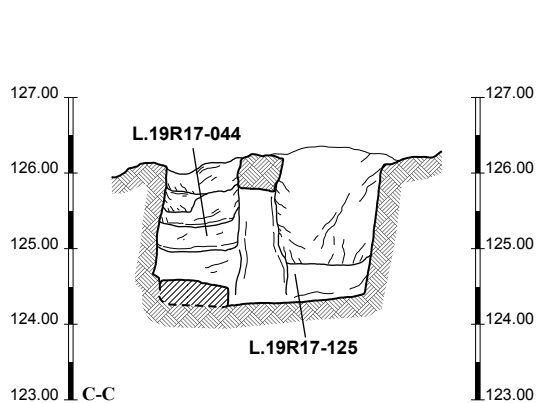
**Fig. 2.211** F-979, plan of ritual bath.



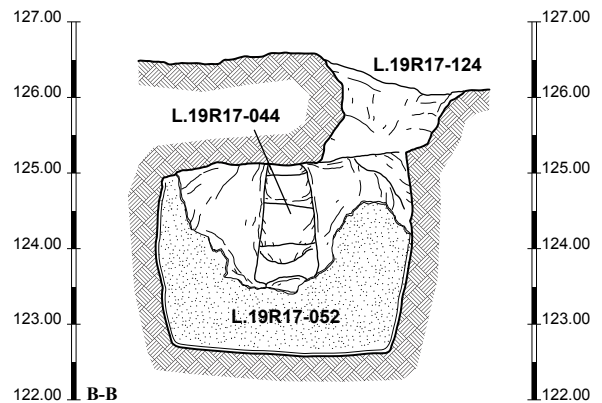
**Fig. 2.212** F-979, section A-A, looking east.



**Fig. 2.213** F-979, external staircase L.19R17-044 and basin L.19R17-078, looking west.



**Fig. 2.214** F-979, section C-C, looking north.



**Fig. 2.215** F-979, section B-B, looking north.



## CHAPTER 3

### THE POTTERY AND SMALL FINDS

*Anna de Vincenz*

#### INTRODUCTION

Excavations at Nesher-Ramla Quarry (NRQ) in the years 2010–2019 yielded remains of 32 ritual baths. Many ceramics and sporadic other items were found in fills within the chambers and on the stairs leading to the *miqwa'ot*. These finds attest to the use of these ritual baths during the Late Hellenistic/Early Roman period and their silting or reuse later on, mainly during the Byzantine period. The chapter presents the finds by features and divides them chronologically within each feature.

#### F-460 (PLS 3.1–3.2)

The ceramics collected in this feature are characteristic of the Late Byzantine/Umayyad period. Bone and metal items have also been found in this feature (Pl. 3.2).

#### *Bowl*

*Pl. 3.1:1* Deep large bowl with inverted folded rim (D. 17 cm).

This large bowl has combed straight and wavy lines on the body and is related to basins with an arched rim (Magness 1993: 206–207).

Similar basins were found in wine presses at NRQ (Vincenz 2015: figs 5.14:7; 5.27:11) dated to the sixth–eighth centuries CE. A similar bowl with a pie-crust band was found in F-593 at NRQ (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.24:6) dated to the sixth–seventh centuries. Another bowl without the wavy lines also comes from NRQ (F-608; Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.31:4). At Ramla, bowls of this type are dated to the Early Islamic period (Cytryn-Silverman 2010: pl. 9.3:7).

#### *Basin*

*Pl. 3.1:2* Large basin with inverted thickened rim (D. 38 cm).

The body of this large basin is decorated with combed straight and wavy bands. Small loop-handles are attached from the rim. This type of basin is the most common large container found throughout the Byzantine period at NRQ. Large basins with handles are quite common at NRQ among the multitude of variations of rim shapes found in the wine presses (Vincenz 2015: figs 5.14:9; 5.19: 31–32, 34–35, 37; 5.20:38; 5.27:12; 5.29: 12, 14; 5.31:7) as well as in other parts of the excavation (Vincenz 2010: pls 8.2:3; 8.3:2; 8.7:5; 8.17:2; 8.30:7; Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.24:8).

The characteristic of this vessel is the thickened rim and the combed decoration on the body. These basins can be dated to the Late Byzantine and Umayyad periods.

### ***Cooking Vessels***

*Pl. 3.1:3* Cooking pot lid with perforated knob.

The lid shown here has a ribbed body, and the perforated knob is positioned in a central depression. These lids were common during the entire Byzantine period and continued into the Early Islamic period. The diameter indicates that they were used to cover casseroles (for a discussion, see Magness 1993: 215).

*Pl. 3.1:4* Casserole with plain body, beveled rim (D. 26 cm), and horizontal handles.

Casseroles of the Byzantine and Early Islamic periods have the shape of a deep bowl with beveled rim to hold the lid and horizontal handles. The simple, functional shape of the vessel does not show any major morphological changes during the extended production period. A possible indication of a later date are the handles, which became more massive during the Late Byzantine and Early Islamic periods.

### ***Storage Jars***

*Pl. 3.1:5* Storage jar with a slightly bulging neck (H. 3 cm), pinched rim (D. 8 cm). Clay accretions are on the rim and body, and small loop-handles are placed on the upper body.

*Pl. 3.1:6* Storage jar with a slightly bulging neck (H. 3 cm) and slightly pinched rim (D. 8 cm). Clay accretions are on the rim and body.

These two jars have a slim bag-shaped body ribbed at different parts. The characteristic is the pinched rim. Frequently, these jars have clay accretions on the rim and the body. The bulging

neck and the position of the handles date these jars from the late seventh century into the Early Islamic period, probably as late as the ninth and tenth centuries (see Storage Jar Form 7 in Magness 1993: 230–231).

### ***Lamp***

*Pl. 3.1:7* Upper part of lamp (L. 10.5 cm, W. 7.6 cm)

The lamp is decorated in two registers on the rim; one with a ladder pattern, the other with dots. The nozzle is decorated with a stylized flower. The handle is small and conical. This type of lamp was common during the Umayyad period and has been found in Israel, Transjordan, and Syria (for an extensive discussion on the type, see Type 36 in Hadad 2002: 82–95). They have been found previously at NRQ in a burial cave (Vincenz 2010: pl. 8.9:3–4).

### ***Small Finds from F-460***

*Pl. 3.2:1* Plaque made of bone/ivory decorated with incised circles (L. 11.2 cm, W. 3.9 cm).

This rectangular plaque is decorated with 16 circles with dots positioned in two rows. In those at either end, bronze nails are preserved. Several fragments of plaques decorated similarly have been reported from Corinth and are dated to the Byzantine period (Davidson 1952: 136, nos 950, 953–955).

*Pl. 3.2:2* Copper alloy buckle with pierced floral decoration (L. 3 cm, W. 1.7 cm).

This square metal buckle has one rounded edge, while the other is straight with two small loops attached. The flower decoration is pierced.

Belt buckles are commonly found at NRQ and were reported from various locations at the site (Vincenz 2010: pl. 11.3:14–15; 2018: pls 6.2.7:2;

6.2.14:9; 6.3.1:16; 6.3.8:10). Among the buckles from Caesarea Maritima (Rafael 2008: nos. 208–220), there is one similar in shape to the example from NRQ but undecorated (Rafael 2008: no. 218).

*Pl. 3.2:3* Copper alloy cosmetic spoon with incised crisscross decoration on the upper part of rod and almost circular rather large flat spoon (L. 12.5 cm, Diam. 1.4 cm).

Cosmetic spatulae and spoons have been found abundantly at NRQ (Vincenz 2010: pl. 11.1),<sup>1</sup> but none is of the type shown here. Spoons of this type are known from Roman sites, e.g., Colchester, England (Crummy 1983: 59–60, fig. 64:1897, 1899), although they are much smaller than the NRQ example. The spatula from NRQ should probably be dated to the Late Byzantine period.

*Pl. 3.2:4* Copper alloy hinge with rounded edge with holes and incised circle (L. 3.1 cm, W. 1.8 cm).

*Pl. 3.2:5* Copper alloy hinge with rounded edge (L. 5.7 cm, W. 2 cm).

*Pl. 3.2:6* Nail/pin with flat head (Diam. 1.9 cm).

The two fragments of hinges are made of very thin copper alloy strips with rounded ends and drilled holes. They also have incised circles as decoration. The longer one is bent (*Pl. 3.2:5*). It is quite possible that these were hinges of boxes. The small nail/pin is also made of copper alloy and consists of a flat disc and a wire, making the shaft double so that it can be bent for better grip. It is quite fragile and could have been used to hold in place the hinges on a wooden box.

A good reconstruction showing a box with hinges and nails was published for finds from

a burial at Colchester, England (Crummy 1983: 85–88, fig. 91).

*Pl. 3.2:7* Iron dagger/knife blade (L. 30 cm, W. 4 cm).

The blade of this knife or dagger is straight on one side and rounded on the other side. With its length, it seems quite large for a kitchen knife; thus, it is suggested that it was used as a weapon. The shape recalls a knife found at Caesarea Maritima (Rafael 2008: 443, no. 242). The daggers found there have a slightly different shape (Rafael 2008: 465, nos. 131–132). At Corinth, several iron knife blades have the same shape and are dated to the seventh century CE (Davidson 1952: 199, nos. 1567–1568).

#### DATING OF F-460

This feature's ceramic material and small finds can be dated to the Late Byzantine and Umayyad periods.

#### F-492 (PL. 3.3)

This feature is situated under a Byzantine wine press. The material collected from the feature probably dates to the time of the construction of the wine press.

#### Bowls

*Pl. 3.3:1* Round rouletted bowl with flat rim with deep groove (D. 24 cm). Black slip.

*Pl. 3.3:2* Carinated rouletted bowl with flat flanged rim (D. 28 cm). Reddish brown dripping slip.

This group of local fine-ware bowls is characterized by a rouletted decoration over the entire body, present at Late Roman and Byzantine

<sup>1</sup> Most of those spatulae and spoons have been found in tombs at NRQ and are still unpublished.



sites in and around Jerusalem. It can be divided into two main types based on body shape: carinated and rounded. There is often a drippy slip on the rim and body, and they usually have a ring-base. They were most probably produced in Jerusalem and/or its vicinity (Magness 1993: 153–156). The carinated type is the earlier, appearing probably no later than 200 CE (Magness 2005: 105) and continuing until the late fifth–beginning of the sixth century. It was replaced by the round type, which continued to be produced and used during the sixth–early seventh centuries. Other derived types were used even later, until the early eighth century.

Although rouletted bowls are mainly found in Jerusalem and its vicinity (Vincenz 2020: 76–77), they are also found in smaller quantities at NRQ (Vincenz 2010: pls. 8.22:9; 8.25:1; 2015: fig. 5.2:3).

### **Basin**

*Pl. 3.3:3* Basin with everted thick ledge-rim with three deep grooves (D. 30).

Rilled-rim basins are large vessels with an everted, slightly upward-turned ledge-rim with deep grooves on its top. The edge of the rim can be hooked or, as in the case here, rounded. These basins are dated to the third–sixth centuries CE (for a discussion, see Vincenz 2020b: 83). At NRQ, they are rather rare and found in assemblages dated to the fifth–sixth centuries (Vincenz 2015: fig. 5.9:4; 2020 d: pl. 3.37:2, 3).

### **Cooking Vessels**

*Pl. 3.3:4* Neckless globular cooking pot with everted round rim with deep groove (D. 22 cm).

This neckless cooking pot is additionally decorated with combed straight and wavy lines. It had loop-handles positioned on the upper part of the body. This type of cooking pot has been

found previously at NRQ and should be dated to the Late Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.25:4–6).

*Pl. 3.3:5* Cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and folded pinched rim (D. 12 cm).

The body of this cooking pot was likely globular with dense ribbing. A similar cooking pot with less accentuated rim was found in a hiding complex at NRQ (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.38:9). A date to the Late Byzantine–Early Islamic period is suggested.

### **F-531 (PL. 3.4)**

The ceramic assemblage from this feature is characteristic of the Late Hellenistic/Early Roman period.

### **Bowls**

*Pl. 3.4:1* Pinched rim of bowl (D. 12 cm). Painted decoration in light red.

This bowl, made of extremely thin, well-fired fabric, is decorated on the interior. It probably belongs to the group of Jerusalem Painted Bowls dated to the second half of the first century CE (for discussion and parallels, see Bar-Nathan 2006: 268–278 and Tchekhanovets 2013: 112).

*Pl. 3.4:2* Rim of bowl (D. 11 cm). Sharply inverted thickened rim.

*Pl. 3.4:3* Rim of bowl (D. 15 cm). Sharply inverted round rim.

These two bowls belong to a group of bowls that was common during the Late Hellenistic/Early Roman period in Judea. They have been found previously in *miqwa'ot* at NRQ (Vincenz 2010: pls. 8.15:1, 2; 8.35:1, 2; 8.36:1, 2). The earlier vessels appear to have thicker walls (Pl. 3.4:2, 3) and can thus be dated to the first century BCE.

***Kraters***

*Pl. 3.4:4* Rim of krater (D. 32 cm) with horizontal pinched handle.

This deep krater has a round body and an everted ledge-rim. Horizontal handles pressed inwards are attached under the rim. Similar kraters are reported from Masada and dated from the end of the first century BCE to the end of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 125–126, pl. 23:13).

*Pl. 3.4:5* Rim of krater (D. 34 cm) with thumb impressed edge.

*Pl. 3.4:6* Rim of krater (D. 30 cm) with thumb impressions on both sides of the rim.

These large kraters have an upward-turned ledge-rim with a small hook at the end. The first one has the lower part of the rim decorated with thumb impressions (*Pl. 3.4:5*). In comparison, the second has the upper and lower part of the rim decorated with thumb impressions (*Pl. 3.4:6*). Similar kraters have been found at Masada and are dated from the first century BCE to the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 126–127, pl. 24:14–16).

*Pl. 3.4:7* Rim of large bowl or krater (D. 18 cm) with high carination and everted ledge-rim with step.

This bowl or krater is possibly related to kraters found at Masada and dated to the first and second century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 127, pl. 24:22–26).

***Cooking Vessels***

*Pl. 3.4:8* Flat shallow pan, flat rim (D. 32 cm). Vertical loop-handles.

This pan has a flat base and is rather shallow. The rim is flat, and vertical loop handles are drawn from it. Although pans have been found at

Late Hellenistic/Early Roman sites, they do not resemble the ones found here. The only parallel that seems close enough comes from Masada; it is made of a different ware and slightly deeper (Bar-Nathan 2006: 185, pl. 32:20) and is dated to the first century CE.

*Pl. 3.4:9* Casserole with sharp carination and upturned ledge-rim (D. 22 cm).

*Pl. 3.4:10* Casserole with sharp carination and upturned ledge-rim (D. 26 cm). Loop-handles are attached from the rim.

Both casseroles have a carinated body and ledge-rim. The loop-handles are drawn from the rim to the carination. This type has been found at Masada in the first century CE contexts (Bar-Nathan 2006: 171, pl. 31:76).

*Pl. 3.4:11* Casserole with upward turned ledge-rim (D. 16 cm).

This casserole appears to have a semi-globular carinated body. Our example seems to be broken at the carination. The rim is an upward-turned ledge-rim, and the loop-handles are drawn from the rim to the carination or slightly above. Similar casseroles have been reported from Masada and are dated to the end of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 170, pl. 31:73).

*Pl. 3.4:12* Cooking pot (D. 9 cm) with straight neck and thickened rim.

*Pl. 3.4:13* Cooking pot (D. 10 cm) with flaring neck and thickened grooved rim.

Both cooking pots have a ribbed globular body with a long neck which can be straight (*Pl. 3.4:12*) or flaring (*Pl. 3.4:13*). The rim is either round and thickened (*Pl. 3.4:12*) or thickened and grooved (*Pl. 3.4:13*). These cooking pots are found at Masada and are dated to the later part

of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 158, pl. 28:26–29).

### ***Storage Jars***

*Pl. 3.4:14* Rim and body of storage jar (D. 10 cm). Slightly flaring neck (H. 4.5 cm) and flanged rim with groove.

*Pl. 3.4:15* Rim and body of storage jar (D. 10.5 cm). Slightly flaring neck (H. 4.5 cm) and flanged rim with groove.

*Pl. 3.4:16* Rim of storage jar (D. 9 cm). Slightly flaring neck (H. 5 cm) and flanged rim with groove.

*Pl. 3.4:17* Rim of storage jar (D. 8 cm). Slightly flaring narrow neck (H. 4.8 cm) and triangular rim.

*Pl. 3.4:18* Rim of storage jar (D. 11.5 cm). Everted neck (H. 4.5 cm) and flanged rim with groove.

*Pl. 3.4:19* Rim of storage jar (D. 11.5 cm). Bulging neck (H. 5 cm) and flat rim with groove.

All the fragments shown here belong to a bag-shaped jar. The body is cylindrical and ribbed. Their neck ranges from 4.5 to 5 cm in height. The rim is flanged, triangular in appearance, and varies in shape, but it has a characteristic groove. This type of storage jar has been found at Masada in the first century CE contexts (Bar-Nathan 2006: 57, pl. 8: 39–42). It appears, however, that these jars continued into the first third of the second century.

### ***Amphora***

*Pl. 3.4:20* Rim of amphora (D. 10 cm).

The neck of this amphora is straight, and the rim is thickened on the exterior. Amphorae with similar rim containing Italian wine have been found at Masada and are dated to the end of the

first century BCE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 325, pls 63–65).

### ***Large Vessel***

*Pl. 3.4:21* Rim of large container (D. 16 cm) with ridged neck.

The fragment belongs to a large container, maybe a jar. The neck is deeply ridged, and the rim round. An amphora with a similar neck has been reported from Masada, suggested to have contained fruit rather than wine, and is dated to the end of the first century BCE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 331, pl. 67:31).

### **DATING OF F-531**

The ceramic material found in this feature is dated as early as the first century BCE, but some fragments are dated to the second half of the first century CE.

### **F-581 (PL. 3.5)**

Few pottery fragments have been collected from the fills of this feature.

### ***Bowls***

#### ***LRC Bowls Form 10A***

*Pl. 3.5:1* LRC bowl with square knob rim (D. 26 cm).

*Pl. 3.5:2* LRC bowl with round knob rim (D. 26 cm).

Among the imported vessels found at NRQ are bowls imported from Asia Minor. These vessels, made of fine, well-fired fabric with a slip of the fabric color, were common throughout the region during the fifth–seventh centuries, some

of the types continuing even later (for a detailed description, see Hayes 1972: 323–324).<sup>2</sup>

Both bowls belong to LRC Form 10A with a heavy, round, or square knob rim. This type is frequently found at excavations in Israel and can be dated to the late sixth–early seventh centuries CE.

#### *FBW Bowls*

*Pl. 3.5:3* Fine Byzantine Ware (FBW) bowl with inverted round rim (D. n/a).

*Pl. 3.5:4* FBW bowl base (D. n/a).

The bowl represented here belongs to a group of fine ware bowls with a characteristic fabric and surface treatment. The fabric is fine and hard-fired and the surfaces are frequently burnished in bands. These bowls were most likely produced in Jerusalem (Magness 1993: 165–171) from the mid-sixth century CE onwards.

The first bowl here is carinated and has an inverted upper part (Pl. 3.5:3). It is decorated with an incised wavy line. It can be identified as Magness' FBW Bowl Form 1C, dated to the late seventh–mid-eighth centuries CE (Magness 1993: 193–194).

The second bowl has a round base (Pl. 3.5:4) and deeply incised concentric circles. This is typical of rounded bowls of FBW Form 1D, dated from the late seventh/early eighth to the ninth/tenth centuries CE (Magness 1993: 197–198).

#### *Basin*

*Pl. 3.5:5* Large basin with externally thickened round rim (D. 38 cm).

This basin is another variant of the large basins discussed above (Pls 3.1:2; 3.3:4). As in those examples, it features combed wavy and straight lines on the body.

#### *Casserole Lid*

*Pl. 3.5:6* Casserole lid (D. 22).

This lid has a round rim, unlike other variants with a beveled rim. The body features narrow ribbing on the upper part (see above, Pl. 3.1:3).

#### *Molded Jug*

*Pl. 3.5:6* Fragment of a molded jug (D. n/a).

The fragment belonged to a molded jug. A floral pattern can be discerned, and maybe an Arabic inscription.

Molded jugs were common during the Early Islamic period. They were made of characteristic buffware with a molded neck and base (Cytryn-Silverman 2010: 104–108, Photo 9.13). The fragment should be dated to the late eighth/ninth century CE.

#### **DATING OF F-581**

The few fragments presented here are dated to the seventh century and later, probably attesting to the latest period of use of this installation.

#### **F-582 (PLS 3.6–3.7)**

In this feature, ceramics from the Early Roman period, as well as the Byzantine period, were found.

#### *Early Roman Ceramics (Pl. 3.6)*

##### *Casserole*

*Pl. 3.6:1* Fragment of carinated casserole (D. 22 cm) with flanged rim and loop-handles.

This type of neckless casserole is known from Masada and sites in Judea and the Dead Sea region. It is dated to the later part of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 169, pl. 31:70).

<sup>2</sup> Although some of the dating in Hayes' monumental work (1972) is not accurate anymore, the fabric and type descriptions are still relevant. In this report the form designations follow Hayes.



*Storage Jars*

Two types of storage jars were found in this feature. The first with everted thickened rim reminiscent of the Persian and Hellenistic periods (Pl. 3.6:1–4), while the second type (Pl. 3.6:5, 6) has a long neck.

*Pl. 3.6:2* Rim of storage jar (D. 11 cm) with everted thickened rim.

*Pl. 3.6:3* Rim of storage jar (D. 10 cm) with everted thickened rim. Clay accretions on rim.

*Pl. 3.6:4* Rim of storage jar (D. 12 cm) with everted thickened rim.

*Pl. 3.6:5* Rim of storage jar (D. 13 cm) with short neck (H. 4 cm) and everted thickened rim.

This type of jar is either neckless (Pl. 3.6:1–3) or has a short neck (Pl. 3.6:4). Its body is elongated and bag-shaped with small loop-handles positioned on the upper shoulder. The main characteristic is the everted thickened rim. These jars derive from the Persian tradition and are common in the Hellenistic period. This type is common at NRQ in Late Hellenistic and Early Roman layers (Vincenz 2020d: 125–126, pl. 3.17). It is dated from the first century BCE to the first century CE.

*Pl. 3.6:6* Rim of storage jar with straight collared neck (H. 5.5 cm, D. 9 cm) and round rim.

Collared-neck jars are commonly found at NRQ in layers of the Late Hellenistic/Early Roman period. They appear in many variations and are mainly dated the first century BCE–first century CE (for a discussion on different variants, see Vincenz 2020d: 127, pl. 3.129:1–8).

*Pl. 3.6:7* Rim of storage jar with ridged rim (H. 4.2 cm, D. 11 cm) and beveled flanged rim.

A similar jar dated to the first century CE comes from hiding complex F-593 at NRQ (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.18:16).

*Jugs*

In this feature, several jug fragments were found, most of which slipped red (Pl. 3.6:7–10). Unfortunately, most of the jugs are very fragmentary, and it is thus difficult to assign a type to them. Some were probably imported, especially no. 9, which features small micaceous inclusions. Two ESA vessels were found previously at NRQ (Winger 2010).

*Pl. 3.6:8* Fragment of jug (D. ca. 4 cm) with narrow neck widening at top. Rim is missing.

This jug is similar to ESA Form 110 (Hayes 1985: 45, tav. X:2). It seems that only the rim was slipped red, with the slip dripping on the interior of the jug. Since the fabric is very pale brown (10YR 7/3), unlike the fabric of genuine ESA, it is quite possible that it is only related to the prototype.

*Pl. 3.6:9* Fragment of jug (D. 9 cm) everted round rim and loop-handle.

The rim and handle of this jug bear only a thin layer of orange-red slip. None of the ESA jugs have the handle attached from the rim, so this is likely to be a local red slipped jug.

*Pl. 3.6:10* Fragment of jug (D. 5 cm) with narrow neck and folded rim. Loop-handle is drawn from below the fold.

This jug is entirely covered with a red slip dripping on the interior. It resembles an unclassified ESA jug found at Caesarea Maritima (Johnson 2008b: 38, no. 271).

*Pl. 3.6:11* Handle of jug.

The wide handle is covered with a glossy red slip and could belong to any ESA-type jug (Hayes 1985: tav. IX: 2–8).

*Pl. 3.6:12* Rim of juglet (D. 2.5 cm).

The juglet had a piriform body with a ridged neck. The strap-handle was drawn from the ridge. These juglets are well-known from Judea and dated to the late first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 196, M-JT5A, with distribution list therein).

### ***Byzantine Ceramics (Pl. 3.7)***

Most of the ceramic material found in this feature can be dated to the Byzantine period and attests to its use during this period. The material includes imported fine ware bowls (Pl. 3.7:1–27), local bowls and basins (Pl. 3.7:28–37), imported mortaria (Pl. 3.7:38, 39), cooking vessels (Pl. 3.7:40–46), storage jars (Pl. 3.7:47–56), imported amphorae (Pl. 3.7:57–59), jugs (Pl. 3.7:61–63) and a lid (Pl. 3.7:64).

### ***Fine Ware Bowls (Pl. 3.7:1–27)***

A large amount of fine ware bowls was found in this feature, imported from North Africa (ARS Ware), Asia Minor (LRC Ware), and Asia Minor or Cyprus (LRD Ware).

### ***African Red Slip (ARS) Ware***

Various workshops in North Africa produced this type of ware from the end of the first century CE throughout the Byzantine period. They exported them widely throughout the eastern Mediterranean (Hayes 1972: 13). This ware was probably produced as a response to the widely produced and distributed Terra Sigillata of earlier periods and resembles it both in fabric and slip (a detailed description can be found in Hayes 1972: 13–14). Vessels of this group were imported to Israel from the fourth century onwards. Although imported bowls from Asia Minor are common at NRQ, those from North Africa are rather uncommon, with only a few examples found previously. This

is the first feature at NRQ, where many imported bowls from North Africa were found.

### ***ARS Form 50***

*Pl. 3.7:1* Fragment of bowl (D. 30 cm) with pinched rim. Drilled repair hole.

This medium-sized to large bowl has a pinched or tapered rim and usually a very small, beveled foot or a flat base (Hayes 1972: 69–73, fig. 12). These vessels are generally thin-walled and slipped. Hayes dated the appearance of this form toward the middle of the third century and stated that the earlier examples are very thin-walled with a good quality slip, while the later examples are usually thicker with a thicker slip (Hayes 1972: 72). Our example is made of rather thin fabric with a thicker slip of excellent quality; in addition, it features a repair hole and should thus be dated rather early, probably to the fourth century CE.

### ***ARS Form 59***

*Pl. 3.7:2* Fragment of bowl (D. 28 cm) with wide grooved ledge-rim.

*Pl. 3.7:3* Fragment of bowl (D. 30 cm) with wide grooved ledge-rim.

This vessel is a flat-based bowl or dish featuring a wide ledge-rim. The rim is usually grooved, and grooves can be found in the center of the bowl. Stamped decorations are commonly found in the center of the bowl. These bowls were common during the fourth and early fifth centuries CE (Hayes 1972: 96–100).

### ***ARS Form 61***

*Pl. 3.7:4* Fragment of bowl (D. 25 cm) with sharply inverted pinched rim.

*Pl. 3.7:5* Fragment of bowl (D. 36 cm) with sharply inverted round rim.

*Pl. 3.7:6* Fragment of bowl (D. 36 cm) with sharply inverted round rim.

This large bowl or dish has a sharply inverted rim. Other variants of the type have a vertical or only slightly incurved rim. They all have a flat base, feature grooves, and stamped decorations in the vessel's center. This type of bowl/dish was quite common in the eastern Mediterranean during the fourth and beginning of the fifth centuries CE (Hayes 1972: 100–107).

*ARS Form 67*

*Pl. 3.7:7* Fragment of bowl (D. ca. 36 cm) with double carinated rim.

This bowl has a double-carried rim that ends with a hook or a roll below it (Hayes 1972: 112–116, fig. 19). One or two grooves can be found near the edge of the rim. The interior of this type usually has stamped decorations and grooves in the center. This type of bowl was a common import to Israel. It appeared in all its variations toward the middle of the fourth century and continued until the end of the fifth century. It seems that the thinner and more carefully made vessels should be dated earlier (mid-fourth–beginning of fifth centuries CE). In contrast, those with thicker walls and sloppier slip should be dated to the end of their production period.

*ARS Form 107*

*Pl. 3.7:8* Fragment of bowl (D. 32 cm) with wide ledge-rim with roll beneath.

This large bowl has a rounded body with an everted ledge-rim with a roll beneath the edge of the rim. Usually, they are undecorated except for grooves in the center. This is a common form and should be dated rather late, to the seventh century (Hayes 1972: 171).

*ARS Form 108? or related*

*Pl. 3.7:9* Fragment of small bowl (D. 11 cm) with short ledge-rim.

This small bowl has a round body, a short ledge-rim, and a low ring-base. It is undecorated. The exterior seems knife-pared, and the rim is discolored, probably from the stacking in the kiln. It is possibly related to ARS Form 108, although the base is different. A dating to the sixth or seventh centuries seems probable.

*Late Roman C (LRC) Ware*

This is the most common group of imported fine wares. It was produced in various centers in North Africa and exported widely in the fifth–seventh centuries and possibly even later (a detailed description of the fabric can be found in Hayes 1972: 323–324). Unlike in the group of ARS vessels, the inventory of forms is somewhat restricted. Three main forms are common on sites in Israel: Form 1, Form 3, and Form 10.

*LRC Bowl Form 1*

*Pl. 3.7:10* Fragment of bowl (D. 20 cm) with inverted round rim.

*Pl. 3.7:11* Fragment of bowl (D. 32 cm) with inverted round rim.

This is the simple form of the group with a vertical or inverted round rim. These bowls feature a ring-base and are usually undecorated. Sometimes, slip is applied in such a way that it appears streaked (*Pl. 3.7:11*). This type was common during the fourth and fifth centuries (Hayes 1972: 325–327).

*LRC Bowl Form 3E*

*Pl. 3.7:12* Complete profile of bowl (D. 26 cm) with triangular flanged rim. Rouletting on rim. Stamped cross in the center.

*Pl. 3.7:13* Complete profile of bowl (D. 27 cm) with triangular flanged rim. Light rouletting on blackened rim. Stamped cross in the center.

*Pl. 3.7:14* Complete profile of bowl (D. 25 cm) with triangular flanged rim. Stamped horse/stag in the center.

*Pl. 3.7:15* Complete profile of bowl (D. 24 cm) with triangular flanged rim. Rim discolored. Stamped pattern in the center.

*Pl. 3.7:16* Fragment of bowl (D. 27 cm) with triangular flanged rim. Light rouletting on blackened rim.

*Pl. 3.7:17* Fragment of bowl (D. 23 cm) with triangular flanged rim. Burnished/polished.

*Pl. 3.7:18* Fragment of bowl (D. 24 cm) with triangular flanged rim. Darkened rim.

Form 3 is the most common form of the LRC group. It has a vertical triangular rim with an external flange (Hayes 1972: 329–338). The vessels belong to variant 3E with a slight offset marking off the underside of the rim (Hayes 1972: 337). This variant is decorated with rouletting on the rim and a single stamped motif in the center. Two of the bowls (*Pl. 3.7:12, 13*) feature a cross in the center (for the cross, see Hayes 1972: 365, fig. 79: 71). This is the most common type of cross on LRC bowls and was in use from the late fifth to the early sixth centuries, although poorly impressed examples may date later. One bowl (*Pl. 3.7:15*) features a stamped horse/stag in the center. This type of horse/stag is not represented among the stamps published by Hayes (1972: figs 75:40, 76:41). Frequently, the rim is discolored or blackened from the stacking in the kiln. This type is common during the late fifth and sixth centuries.

#### *LRC Bowl Form 3F*

*Pl. 3.7:19* Fragment of bowl (D. 20 cm) with triangular flanged rim.

This variant is the later variant common during the sixth century (Hayes 1972: 338).

#### *LRC Bowl Form 10A*

*Pl. 3.7:20* Fragment of bowl (D. 30 cm) with flattened knob rim.

Large bowls with a heavy knob-rim or square rim with a characteristic offset under the knob (Hayes 1972: 343–347). This variant dates to the late sixth to early seventh centuries and is common among the LRC bowls found in Israel.

#### *Late Roman D (LRD) Ware*

The third group of Fine Ware common in the eastern Mediterranean during the Byzantine period is the Late Roman D Ware, also known as Cypriot Red Slip Ware since its production centers were assumed to have been in Cyprus between the fourth and eighth centuries CE. Clay analysis has shown that, indeed, vessels of this ware group were produced in Cyprus (Gomez et al. 1996). Since 2008, however, kilns that produced the repertoire of LRD vessels were identified in southern Asia Minor (Jackson et al. 2012). Production sites for this ware are located near Gebiz, northeast of Antalya in Pamphylia. All the forms that Hayes mentions are present on those production sites (Hayes 1972: 371–386; Jackson et al. 2012: 94). The well-fired fabric is fine and breaks cleanly, with its characteristic feature being its color, ranging from yellow to orange to various shades of brown and purple (Hayes 1972: 371–372).

#### *LRD Form 1*

*Pl. 3.7:21* Fragment of bowl (D. 26 cm) with inverted round rim.

*Pl. 3.7:22* Fragment of bowl (D. 30 cm) with inverted round rim.

*Pl. 3.7:23* Fragment of bowl (D. 32 cm) with round rim.



Plain undecorated bowls with thickened rounded rim and a footed base. None of the vessels from NRQ show the metallic sheen and roughened bands common on the Cypriot vessels. Hayes dated this type from the late fourth to around the third quarter of the fifth century (Hayes 1972: 372–373, fig. 80). This form was also found at the Pamphylian production sites (Jackson et al. 2012: fig. 10:1–4). They should be dated to the late fourth to the end of the fifth century CE.

*LRD Form 9 and 9B*

*Pl. 3.7:24* Fragment of bowl (D. 36 cm) with triangular rim.

*Pl. 3.7:25* Fragment of bowl (D. 28 cm) with inverted triangular rim.

*Pl. 3.7:26* Fragment of bowl (D. 30 cm) with inverted triangular rim.

Large bowl or dish with a broad flat base and a folded or triangular rim, either straight or inverted. It often displays a decoration of a short, incised, wavy line on the rim and coarse rouletting on the body. The rim is plain and can be knob-like, inverted and pointed, or inverted and round. Sometimes, a stamped decoration is seen in the vessel's center. This variant is dated from the mid-sixth to the seventh century (Hayes 1972: 379–382).

The first bowl (*Pl. 3.7:24*) has a triangular rim round at the top. A similar bowl comes from the Pamphylian site at Camii Yıkığı (Jackson et al. 2012: fig. 17:1).

The other two bowls (*Pl. 3.7:25, 26*) can be identified as LRD Form 9B. The variant resembles Form 9A; the rim is always incurved and often pointed. These bowls bear decorations on the rim, mainly incised wavy lines, and rouletting on the body. The type dates from the end of the sixth to the end of the seventh century (Hayes 1972: 379–

382). Coarse examples might appear even later, in the seventh and eighth centuries. This type is very common, being the most-produced type at the Pamphylian production sites (Jackson et al. 2012: 109, figs 16, 17:2).

*LRD Related Form*

*Pl. 3.7:27* Fragment of bowl (D. 32 cm) with flat rim. The rim is discolored.

The fabric and surface slip suggest that this is an LRD bowl. The form is not found among Hayes' forms but could be a variant of LRD Form 1, larger than usual. Alternatively, it could be a variant of LRD 2, as seen in an example from Camii Yıkığı (Jackson et al. 2012: fig. 11:1). A suggested dating is the fifth or even sixth century.

*Carinated Rouletted Bowls*

*Pl. 3.7:28* Fragment of bowl (D. 26 cm) with flat rim. Rouletted decoration but no slip.

*Pl. 3.7:29* Fragment of bowl (D. 28 cm) with flat rim. Rouletted decoration and brown drippy slip.

*Pl. 3.7:30* Fragment of bowl (D. 30 cm) with flat rim. Rouletted decoration and brown slip.

Carinated rouletted bowls were discussed above (*Pl. 3.3:2*). The carinated type presented here can be dated from around 200 to the late fifth–beginning of the sixth century.

*Fine Byzantine Ware (FBW) Bowls*

*Pl. 3.7:31* Fragment of bowl (D. 8 cm) with round rim. Burnished bands.

*Pl. 3.7:32* Fragment of bowl (D. 11 cm) with round rim. Incised wavy line.

Two fragments of FBW bowls were discussed above (*Pl. 3.5:3, 4*). The first fragment here can be identified as Magness' Form 1B, while the one with incised line is Magness' Form 1A. Both

variants can be dated to the mid-sixth–late seventh/early eighth centuries CE (Magness 1993: 193).

### **Bowls**

*Pl. 3.7:33* Fragment of bowl (D. 14 cm) with flat rim.

This rather large shallow bowl has knife-pared sides. It is likely locally produced, as no parallels are known so far.

*Pl. 3.7:34* Deep bowl (D. 10 cm) with upturned ledge-rim. Incised wavy lines on body. Piecrust decorated band at rim.

*Pl. 3.7:35* Deep bowl (D. 10 cm) with flaring walls and upturned ledge-rim. Incised wavy lines on body. Piecrust decorated band at rim.

Bowls with ledge-rim and piecrust (or thumb impressed) bands are quite common at NRQ and appear in various forms (e.g., Vincenz 2015: figs 5.18:28, 5.27:8).<sup>3</sup> The incised lines in combination with the piecrust bands dates these bowls to the sixth or seventh century CE.

### **Arched-Rim Basin**

*Pl. 3.7:36* Fragment of basin (D. 40 cm) with arched rim.

Arched-rim basin was the most common basin type during the Byzantine period in Israel and continued to be produced well into the Early Islamic period (Magness 1993: 204–207). Magness (2005: 105) argues that these basins, together with the rouletted bowls and the rilled-rim basins, were “either directly influenced or inspired by the local production,” and thus, their initial appearance must be dated no later than 200 CE.

The basic shape of all the forms is a deep basin with flaring walls and an arched rim that varies in shape from more arched to more rounded. They

were produced either of thin, well-levigated, and well-fired fabric or of coarse, thick-walled fabric. The early basins (Form 1) lacked decoration, but by the sixth century, combed, straight, and wavy lines had been applied to the body and sometimes the vessel’s rim (Form 2A). The bases are usually flat or rounded, suiting the vessel’s large size. Some vessels have small loop-handles applied to the walls, which could not have served any practical purpose, as they are too small to bear the weight of such a large vessel. It could be suggested that ropes were tied through these handles to lift the vessel. The function of these vessels is unknown, although they were likely employed in food production or some other household activity (e.g., kneading dough or washing vegetables, dishes, clothes, and/or children).

The basin shown here is of Form 1 and should be dated to the late third–sixth centuries CE. Arched-rim basins have been found previously at NRQ (Vincenz 2010: pls 8.12:9, 10; 8.23:5; 8.29:6; 2018: pl. 6.4.1:13; 2020d: pl. 3.6:4), although they are not as common there as the round rim basins.

### **Grooved Rim Basin**

*Pl. 3.7:37* Fragment of basin (D. 38 cm) with grooved rim and thumb impressed bands.

The large basin has almost straight walls and a heavy triangular grooved rim. Piecrust bands decorated the rim and the body. It is similar to Magness’ Arched Rim Basins of Form 2B and might be a local variant of it (Magness 1993: 206–208). It should be dated to the sixth–late seventh/early eighth centuries CE.

### **Mortaria**

*Pl. 3.7:38* Fragment of mortarium (D. 36 cm) with squared ledge-rim.

<sup>3</sup> The description is on p. 117 and misnumbered as 5.28:9.

*Pl. 3.7.39* Fragment of mortarium (D. 37 cm) with round ledge-rim.

Mortaria are large vessels similar to large bowls/basins used in the household, not necessarily only for crushing but also similarly to basins for kneading dough, mixing, and possibly storing. The term *mortarium* was given to these big bowls/basins when imported.

The first to identify these large vessels as mortaria was Hayes (1967), but since then, many more examples have been identified and published (e.g., Davidson-Weinberg 1988; Stern 1992; Vincenz 1998; Johnson 2008b). A thorough report on stamped mortaria from Ras el-Bassit in northern Syria was published by Vallerin (1994, with a comprehensive bibliography therein). Hayes established that these mortaria were produced at Ras el-Bassit and then widely exported throughout the Eastern Mediterranean, namely to Syria, Egypt, Cyprus, and the Greek mainland. However, some were found as far west as Italy, Germany, and Britain. Most of the latter, however, comprise a variant with a wide stamped ledge-rim and are dated to the third and fourth centuries CE.

Since then, much more research has been done on these mortaria, and it has been shown that after the fourth century, production of mortaria continued at Ras el-Bassit, but the shapes of the vessels had changed a lot (Mills and Reynolds 2014: 134).

The mortarium with round rim (*Pl. 3.7.39*) finds a good parallel in Beirut (Mills and Reynolds 2014: fig. 6:25) dated to ca. 300–350, while the one with squared ledge-rim (*Pl. 3.7.38*) can be paralleled with a mortarium type from Ras el-Bassit (Mills and Reynolds 2014: fig. 7:30) dated to the fifth and sixth centuries CE.

### ***Cooking Vessels***

Various types of cooking vessels were found in this feature: casseroles, closed cooking pots, and a cooking jug.

*Pl. 3.7.40* Fragment of casserole (D. 24 cm) with beveled rim and horizontal handles.

Casseroles of the Byzantine period do not show any morphological changes throughout their long lifespan. They have a round, sometimes deep body with a beveled rim for holding a lid. The handles are horizontal, and the body may be covered with ribbing or sometimes plain without any ribbing or with ribbing only in some areas of the body.

*Pl. 3.7.41* Fragment of globular cooking pot (D. 12 cm) with inverted folded rim.

*Pl. 3.7.42* Fragment of globular cooking pot (D. 14 cm) with inverted folded rim.

The body of this cooking pot is ribbed and has loop-handles drawn from the rim. This type of cooking pot has been found previously at NRQ and is dated to the third–fourth centuries CE (Vincenz 2015: 103, fig. 5.6:15).

*Pl. 3.7.43* Fragment of globular cooking pot (D. ca. 22 cm) with straight neck and thickened rim.

This cooking pot seems rather large, with a ribbed body and large loop-handles drawn from the rim. A similar fragmentary cooking pot with flaring neck was found in hiding complex F-679 (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.38:7). It should be dated to the Byzantine period.

*Pl. 3.7.44* Fragment of globular cooking pot (D. 20 cm) with bulging neck and inverted grooved rim.

As in the cooking pots with folded rim (*Pl. 3.7.41, 42*), the body is globular, covered with dense ribbing. The loop-handles drawn from

the rim are large, characteristic of the Byzantine period. The cooking pot seems to be a variant or evolution of the folded-rim type and, because of the large handles, should be dated later, probably to the fourth–fifth centuries CE.

*Pl. 3.7:45* Fragment of cooking pot (D. 13 cm) with very short neck and everted round rim.

The handles of this cooking pot are wide and massive. Although it is similar to Magness' Cooking Pot Form 4A (Magness 1993: 219), the wide handles and round rim make it a variant of it. It seems to be a later evolution of the Byzantine type and should be dated to the Late Byzantine period, if not the Early Islamic period. Thus, a dating to the seventh/eighth century CE seems probable.

*Pl. 3.7:46* Fragment of cooking jug (D. 4 cm) with everted folded rim

The jug is made of the same brittle fabric as cooking pots and was thus identified as a cooking vessel. A similar jug comes from Caesarea Maritima and is dated to the Byzantine period around the middle of the fourth century CE (Johnson 2008b: 47, no. 416). A related jug was found at NRQ (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.38:11).

### ***Storage Jars***

Two main types of storage jars were found: the bag-shaped variant (Pl. 3.7:47–51) and the neckless Gaza jar (Pl. 3.7:52–56).

### ***Bag Shaped Jars***

*Pl. 3.7:47* Rim of storage jar (D. 10 cm) with slightly bulging neck (H. 5.4 cm) and folded rim.

*Pl. 3.7:48* Rim of storage jar (D. 9 cm) with bulging neck (G. 5.2 cm) and folded rim.

*Pl. 3.7:49* Rim of storage jar (D. 9 cm) with straight neck (H. 3.4 cm) and round rim.

*Pl. 3.7:50* Rim of storage jar (D. 10 cm) with straight neck (H. 4.2 cm) and beveled rim.

As mentioned, all these jars have a bag-shaped body in common. Although neck and rim shapes differ, they all have another characteristic in common: the protruding ridge at the bottom of the neck. Some of the jars (Pl. 3.7:49) feature clay accretions on the body and neck. These jars are common during the Byzantine period: the first two (Pl. 3.7:47, 48) should be dated to the fourth and fifth centuries CE, while the other two (Pl. 3.7:49, 50) are later and dated through the fifth to seventh century CE (for a discussion on Late Byzantine storage jars, see Vincenz 2020d: 133–144, pl. 3.26).

*Pl. 3.7:51* Rim of storage jar (D. 12 cm) with bulging neck (H. 4.8 cm) and beveled rim.

The rim of this large jar is beveled and thickened on its interior and can be dated to the Late Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Storage Jar Form 6 in Magness 1993: 227–230).

### ***Gaza Jars***

*Pl. 3.7:52* Rim of neckless jar (D. 11 cm) with round rim with inner groove.

*Pl. 3.7:53* Rim of neckless jar (D. 10 cm) with round rim.

*Pl. 3.7:54* Rim of neckless jar (D. 10 cm) with beveled rim.

*Pl. 3.7:55* Rim of neckless jar (D. 10 cm) with round rim.

*Pl. 3.7:56* Rim of neckless jar (D. 10 cm) with beveled edge.

Gaza jars are a well-known group, with important studies carried out by Mayerson (1994) and Majcherek (1995). A large production site was recently discovered in Yavne (Yannai 2014), indicating that the production of Gaza jars was not



limited to the Gaza-Ashqelon area, as previously thought (Mayerson 1994; Israel 1995b). The jars had a cigar-shaped body with ribbing below the shoulders, two small loop-handles, and a pointed, flat, or rounded omphalos base (Adan-Bayewitz 1986: fig. 1:8, 12–13; Fabian and Goren 2001: figs. 3–4; Johnson 2008b: nos 1182–1184). Chemical analysis of these jars from a pottery warehouse at ‘Ard el-Mihjar near Ashkelon revealed that they contained resined wine, very likely the famed Gazan wine that was produced in the area during the Byzantine period (Fabian and Goren 2001: 213; Fuks et al. 2020). On a smaller scale, workshops that produced these jars were identified during surveys in the Naḥal Lakhish-Naḥal Besor area (Israel 1995b: 106–107). Later, extensive excavations conducted east of the Barnea’ neighborhood in Ashqelon unearthed several sizeable wine presses alongside large workshops for the production of Gaza jars (Israel 1995a; Israel and Erickson-Gini 2013).

As can be seen by the variety in rim shapes, this is by no means a uniform group. Following Majcherek’s typology, two forms can be distinguished: Form 2 with a grooved rim (Pl. 3.7:52) and Form 3 with a round rim (Pl. 3.7:53–55). Form 2 should be dated to the fourth–fifth centuries CE, while Form 3 is dated to the sixth century CE.

The last jar, which is completely neckless and also without a rim (Pl. 3.7:56), raises the question of other production sites, possibly not in the Gaza-Ashqelon area. Regev has convincingly shown that a possible origin of this type of jar could be the Phoenician coast (Regev 2004: 346–349). A type of Phoenician jar of the Roman period is indeed neckless (Wicenciak 2016: fig. 5). On the other hand, the neckless and rimless jar could have been simply produced in a different, not

yet discovered workshop of the Gaza-Ashqelon region, or, alternatively in a workshop of the Phoenician area. As for the dating of this type, no evidence can be brought forward, but looking at the assemblage, a general dating to the Byzantine period seems plausible.

### *Imported Amphorae*

*Pl. 3.7:57* Fragment of amphora with rolled rim (D. 10 cm) and heavy wide handles.

Late Roman 1 Amphorae were the most common type of amphorae imported into Israel during the Byzantine period, generally widespread throughout the eastern Mediterranean and found also in the Balkans, Greece, Crimea, and Egypt. Kilns for these jars have been found in various locations in the eastern Mediterranean, e.g. in the Gulf of Alexandretta and along the Cilician coast (Van Alfen 1996: V208), in Elaiussa Sebaste in Cilicia (Borgia and Iacomini 2010) and Aegeai also in Cilicia (Şenol and Alkaç 2017), and on islands in the Aegean Sea (Diamanti 2020). Workshops on Paros produced amphorae, which are very similar to LRA 1 (Diamanti 2015, 2016). A workshop for LRA 1 amphorae was discovered in Cyprus at Zygi-Petrini (Manning et al. 2000).

These amphorae have a cylindrical body of various sizes and capacities. The neck is long, and the rim is usually everted; two heavy handles are attached right under the rim. The body of the amphorae is ribbed, and the base is rounded. Many variations appear in the neck and rim shape, but the overall impression of the vessel is that of a heavy and sturdy amphora.

Notwithstanding their provenance, which can only be determined by petrographic analysis, these amphorae can generally be dated from the fourth to the seventh century CE.

LRA 1 amphorae have been found previously at NRQ (Vincenz 2015: figs 5.8:35; 5.24:75, 76; 2020d: pls 3.31:11; 3.39:12).

*Pl. 3.7:58* Fragment of amphora with cup mouth (D. 6 cm).

The handles of this amphora are drawn from under the rim, rising slightly and curving unto the body. It possibly belongs to a Pontic (?) amphora from a third-century CE layer (Tekkök et al. 2001: no. 168).

*Pl. 3.7:59* Knob base of amphora (D. n/a).

The knob base features a small hook/protrusion at the transition to the body. It could have belonged to a Keay 62/Mid Roman 17a amphora dated to the fifth and sixth centuries CE (for base variants, see Keay 1984: figs 157–162).

### ***Krater/Jar***

*Pl. 3.7:60* Fragment of wide-necked krater/jar (D. 12 cm) with grooved folded rim.

This krater/jar additionally has incised/combed wavy lines on the fold. It can be identified with Magness' Wide-Necked Jar Form 2, dated from the third to the fifth century CE (Magness 1993: 235–236). Some of these kraters/jars also have thumb-impressed decorations on the rim and body.

### ***Jugs***

*Pl. 3.7:61* Wide-mouth jug (D. 12 cm) with internally beveled rim.

This jug with a wide mouth features an internally beveled rim with a step. A loop-handle is drawn from the rim. The fabric is semi-fine with a rather coarse finish. It could be imitating jugs of the FBW type, which feature this type of everted beveled rim (Magness 1993: 238). A tentative date to the late sixth and seventh centuries CE is suggested.

*Pl. 3.7:62* Fragment of jug (D. 7 cm) with flaring neck and triangular rim.

This jug possibly imitates the FBW jugs, as attested by its streaked surface, although the rim is only slightly triangular (for shapes, see Magness 1993: 238). It should tentatively be dated to the late sixth–seventh centuries CE.

*Pl. 3.7:63* Fragment of base (D. 3.3 cm) of jug.

Many jug types had flat string-cut bases, so a further identification is impossible.

### ***Lid***

*Pl. 3.7:64* Fragment of bowl-shaped lid with flat rim (D. 14 cm).

This bowl-lid has a rounded body and a flat rim, indicating that it was meant to be a lid, not a bowl. The exterior surfaces are smoothed while the interior is left coarse, further strengthening the claim. These lids usually had a knob handle which is not preserved. They were relatively common in the Byzantine period and were found in Jerusalem (Vincenz 2020b: 93, with references therein). Based on Magness (1993: 247) and the parallels, these bowl-lids can generally be dated to the sixth–eighth centuries CE.

## **DATING OF F-582**

This feature clearly had two occupation phases: it was probably constructed in the Early Roman period. Still, its major occupation phase can be dated to the entire Byzantine period and maybe also into the Early Islamic period.

### **F-596 (PLS 3.8–3.9)**

In this feature, which was connected to hiding complex F-593 (Melamed 2020: 52–61), a large amount of Late Hellenistic/Early Roman material

was recovered. It also yielded some Byzantine ceramic material.

### ***Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Ceramics***

The ceramics dated to this period are plenty, and all types are represented: bowls (Pl. 3.8:1–6), basins (Pl. 8:7–8), cooking vessels (Pl. 3.8:9–22), storage jars (Pl. 3.8:23–45), jugs (Pl. 3.8:46–50), flasks (Pl. 3.8:51–52), and a bottle (Pl. 3.8:53).

#### ***Bowls***

*Pl. 3.8:1* Fragment of bowl with sharply incurved round rim (D. 13 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:2* Fragment of bowl with sharply incurved round rim (D. 14 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:3* Fragment of bowl with sharply incurved round rim (D. 14 cm).

This most common bowl of the Hasmonean period is rather small, with an incurved rim and a flat, string-cut base. It is common during the Hasmonean period at Jericho (Bar-Nathan 2002: 85–87, pls 14:199–219, 15:220–228 with distribution and parallels therein). It is common at NRQ in features dated to the Early Roman period, e.g., hiding complex F-593 related to this ritual bath (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.13:1–6). The thin-walled examples presented here are dated to the first century CE (Vincenz 2020d: 122, with discussion and references therein).

*Pl. 3.8:4* Fragment of deep bowl with sharply incurved round rim (D. 14 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:5* Fragment of deep bowl with incurved round rim (D. 14 cm).

These bowls are of the same type as the previous ones but have slightly thicker walls. They are thus dated earlier, to the first century BCE (Vincenz 2020d: 122, pl. 3.13:7–14).

*Pl. 3.8:6* Fragment of deep bowl with everted folded rim (D. 14 cm).

This bowl is dated to the first century BCE (Vincenz 2020d: 123, pl. 3.13:15).

#### ***Basins/kraters***

*Pl. 3.8:7* Fragment of basin/krater with hooked ledge-rim (D. 28 cm).

The large deep basin/krater with hooked ledge-rim finds good parallels at Masada dated from the second half of the first century CE to the first third of the second century (Bar-Nathan 2006: 127, pl. 24:22–26, especially nos 22, 23<sup>4</sup>).

*Pl. 3.8:8* Fragment of basin/krater with upturned rilled ledge-rim (D. 28 cm).

A similar basin/krater was found in F-593, although the rim is less rilled there. It should be dated to the end of the first century BCE and the first century CE (Vincenz 2020d: 123, pl. 3.13:16).

#### ***Cooking Vessels***

The repertoire of cooking vessels is varied, including casseroles, closed cooking pots, cooking juglets, and lids to cover the casseroles.

#### ***Casseroles***

*Pl. 3.8:9* Fragment of casserole with short, grooved ledge-rim (D. 24 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:10* Fragment of casserole with everted ledge-rim with flange (D. 26 cm).

These casseroles have a deep squat body. The rim is everted and grooved (Pl. 3.8:9) or flanged/hooked (Pl. 3.8:10). Similar examples were found in F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: 123, pl. 3.14:4–6). They seem related to casseroles found at Masada and should probably be dated to the first century CE.

*Pl. 3.8:11* Fragment of carinated casserole with beveled rim with groove below (D. 28 cm).

<sup>4</sup> The examples from pl. 24:24–26 have a different rim shape than the example from NRQ.

This carinated casserole seems to be a variation of the previous type. It is dated to the first century CE. An example with a smaller rim diameter (19 cm) was found at Me-Raguza Street in Jaffa (Gendelman 2020: 61, fig. 3:2, with discussion and references therein).

*Pl. 3.8:12* Fragment of carinated casserole with beveled rim (D. 14 cm).

This type of cooking pot features small loop-handle drawn from the rim to the carination. Similar casseroles come from Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: 164–166, pl. 30:51–53). They have a rather long lifespan and are dated from the last third of the first century BCE to the first third of the second century CE.

*Pl. 3.8:13* Fragment of casserole with short, grooved rim (D. 13 cm).

This casserole has a squat globular body and a pointed base. Loop-handles are drawn from the grooved ledge-rim to the body. This type finds parallels at Masada, dated from the last third of the first century BCE to the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 167, pl. 30: 62–64).

### **Cooking Pots**

*Pl. 3.8:14* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring profiles neck and flat flanged rim (D. 12 cm).

This cooking pot type was very common in F-593 and is dated from the end of the first century BCE to the first century CE (Vincenz 2020d: 124–125, pl. 3.16:1–9, with description and discussion therein).

*Pl. 3.8:15* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring neck and short flanged rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:16* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and inverted flanged rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:17* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and inverted flanged rim (D. 11 cm).

This cooking pot type has a globular or squat body with a flaring or slightly bulging neck. The rim is triangular with an external flange. This type appears in F-593, where it was discussed at length (Vincenz 2020d: 124, pl. 3.15:5–10). It is the most common type in Judea during the first century CE.

*Pl. 3.8:18* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and grooved rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:19* Fragment of cooking pot with short, everted neck and grooved rim (D. 10 cm).

The characteristic of both cooking pots is the grooved rim. They had a squat or ovoid body with loop-handles drawn from the rim to the ribbed body. Two similar cooking pots were found previously at NRQ and were paralleled with cooking pots from Masada, dated to 66–80 CE (Vincenz 2018: 142, pl. 6.2.5:8, 9<sup>5</sup>).

### **Cooking Jug and Juglet**

In addition to casseroles and cooking pots, there was also a production of jugs and juglets made of brittle cooking pot ware. Whether these vessels were used for cooking or heating is still debated, although some examples show signs of fire, which would prove their cooking/heating function.

*Pl. 3.8:20* Fragment of cooking jug everted flanged rim (D. 4 cm).

This jug has a band handle drawn from the rim. An example found in hiding complex F-698 shows that the jug had a globular ribbed body. The narrow neck widens towards the top. The jug should be dated to the first century CE (Vincenz 2020d: 147, pl. 3.41:9).

*Pl. 3.8:21* Fragment of cooking juglet with cup-mouth rim (D. 2 cm).

<sup>5</sup> The second example is misnumbered on the plate as no. 10, in the text correctly as no. 9.



The juglet has a similar cup-mouth as perfume juglets. The strap-handle is drawn from the rim, probably to the upper body. Juglets with cup-mouth and elongated body appear at Masada. They are dated to the late first century CE and do not seem to be very common (Bar-Nathan 2006: 176, pl. 31:93).

### ***Casserole Lid***

*Pl. 3.8:22* Fragment of lid with beveled rim (D. 22 cm).

The lid is plain without ribbing and was used to cover a casserole, as indicated by the beveled rim and its large diameter.

### ***Storage Jars***

As in hiding complex F-593, two main groups of storage jars were discerned in F-596: the Persian/Hellenistic-type jars with short neck and everted rim (Pl. 3.8:23–24) and the bag-shaped jars with a variety of neck and rim shapes (Pl. 3.8:25–44).

*Pl. 3.8:23* Fragment of neckless storage jar (D. 10 cm) with everted thickened rim.

*Pl. 3.8:24* Fragment of neckless storage jar (D. 12 cm) with everted externally thickened rim.

This type of storage jar dated from the third century BCE to the first century BCE and into the first century CE was discussed above (Pl. 8.6:2–5)

*Pl. 3.8:25* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 4 cm) and everted round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:26* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 6 cm) and everted rolled rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:27* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 5 cm) and everted round rim (D. 11 cm).

These jars had a small bag-shaped or bell-shaped body and a high cylindrical neck. This type of jar was found at Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: 59–60) and is dated from the end of the

first century BCE to the end of the first century CE. The type was also found at Jaffa (Tsuf 2018: 228–229, fig. 9.37:635–637).

*Pl. 3.8:28* Fragment of storage jar with slightly bulging neck (H. 5 cm) and flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:29* Fragment of storage jar with flaring neck (H. 5 cm) and flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:30* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 5.2 cm) and flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:31* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 5.8 cm) and beveled flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:32* Fragment of storage jar with flaring neck (H. 4.8 cm) and flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:33* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 5 cm) and beveled flanged rim (D. 10 cm).

This common jar type found at NRQ has a relatively long, straight, flaring, or slightly bulging neck. The rim is triangular or flanged. The body is cylindrical and covered with ribbing (Pl. 3.8:32), and a protruding ridge can be found at the base of the neck. They are dated to the first half of the first century CE. They have been found in F-593 at NRQ (Vincenz 2020d: 126–127, pl. 3.18:10–15, with discussion therein).

*Pl. 3.8:34* Fragment of storage jar with flaring neck (H. 5 cm) and grooved flanged rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:35* Fragment of storage jar with flaring neck (H. 5 cm) and grooved flanged rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:36* Fragment of storage jar with flaring neck (H. 5 cm) and grooved flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:37* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 6 cm) and grooved flanged rim (D. 9 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:38* Fragment of storage jar with inverted neck (H. 4 cm) and grooved flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:39* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 5 cm) and grooved flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

This is the most common jar type of the Late Hellenistic/Early Roman period at NRQ. These vessels have a cylindrical body covered with light ribbing. The neck is rather long, and the rim flanged and usually grooved. A protruding ridge can always be found at the base of the neck. It was also found in F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: 126, pl. 3.18:1–9, with additional references therein) and is dated to the first century CE. A complete jar of this type was found in a tomb at NRQ (Vincenz 2018: pl. 6.3.5:9).

*Pl. 3.8:40* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 5 cm) and flat grooved rim (D. 8 cm).

The jar is probably a variant of the previous type and should be dated similarly to the first century CE.

*Pl. 3.8:41* Fragment of storage jar with ribbed slightly flaring neck (H. 7 cm) and externally thickened rim (D. 9 cm).

A similar jar was found in Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: pl. 11:58). The jar in Masada has a plump, ovoid body. The thickened rim of the NRQ jar seems more massive than the rims at Masada, possibly indicating a different workshop. These jars are dated from the first century CE to the first third of the second century (Bar-Nathan 2006: 62, with additional references therein).

*Pl. 3.8:42* Fragment of storage jar with flaring collared neck (H. 4.2 cm) and round rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:43* Fragment of storage jar with everted collared neck (H. 4.2 cm) and round rim (D. 8 cm).

Collared neck jars are commonly found on sites with Late Hellenistic/Early Roman occupation layers, including NRQ (for complete vessels, see Vincenz 2018: pls 6.2.3:1, 3, 4; 6.2.9:2; for fragmentary finds, see Vincenz 2020d: 127, pl. 3.19:2–8, with a discussion on the dating therein). The jars with long collar are dated earlier, to the first century BCE (Pl. 3.8:42), while those with short collar are dated to the first century CE (Pl. 3.8:43).

*Pl. 3.8:44* Fragment of storage with painted streaks.

Some storage jars bear bands or streaks painted in red or brown. No pattern could be distinguished.

### **Jugs**

*Pl. 3.8:45* Fragment of jug with flaring neck and inverted folded rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.8:46* Fragment of jug with flaring neck and inverted folded rim (D. 7.5 cm).

The two fragments seem to belong to piriform jugs with funnel-shaped neck. The single handle is drawn from the rim to the upper shoulder. These jugs should possibly be identified with jugs found at Jericho and dated to the first century BCE (Bar-Nathan 2002: 40–41, pl. 8:59–62).

*Pl. 3.8:47* Base of jug (D. 8 cm).

This is a ring-base belonging to a jug (see, e.g., Bar-Nathan 2006: pls 17:4, 18:15).

*Pl. 3.8:48* Base of jug (D. 7 cm).

A very low ring-base belonging to a jug.

*Pl. 3.8:49* Fragment of neck of ESA jug (D. n/a).

This fragment of neck belonged to a jug of the ESA group. Since the rim is missing, no further identification was possible.

**Flasks**

*Pl. 3.8:50* Fragment of flask with narrow bulging neck and everted rim (D. 6 cm).

A similar vessel, although less bulging, comes from F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.21:7).

*Pl. 3.8:51* Fragment of flask with narrow straight neck and everted folded rim (D. 4 cm).

This fragment belongs to a flask with an asymmetrical globular body. The twisted loop-handles can be positioned at the center of the neck or closer to the rim, as in the example here. A flask with handles similarly positioned near the rim was found in F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.21:5). These flasks are dated from the end of the second century BCE to the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 116–117, pl. 22: 70–73).

**Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Ceramics**

The feature included only scarce amounts of Byzantine material, unlike F-593, where plenty of Late Byzantine material was identified (Vincenz 2020d: pls 3.23–3.27).

**FBW Bowl**

*Pl. 3.9:1* Fragment of bowl with inverted pinched rim (D. 9 cm).

This bowl belongs to the family of FBW bowls and can be identified as Form 1B (Maggness 1993: 193–195), dated from the mid-sixth to late seventh/eighth century CE.

**Basin**

*Pl. 3.9:2* Fragment of basin with inverted round rim (D. 36).

Basins with round rim and loop-handles were discussed above (Pl. 3.1:2). The example here has combed straight lines. The basin can be dated to the Late Byzantine and Umayyad periods.

**Cooking Vessels**

*Pl. 3.9:3* Fragment of casserole with folded round rim (D. 14 cm).

The casserole is plain and has horizontal handles positioned at the rim.

*Pl. 3.9:4* Fragment of large lid with beveled rim (D. 26 cm).

*Pl. 3.9:5* Fragment of rounded lid with beveled rim (D. 20 cm).

The large lid is plain, while the smaller one has ribbing on the upper part. They were clearly made to fit casseroles of different sizes.

The casserole and lids can be dated generally to the Byzantine period.

**Storage Jars**

*Pl. 3.9:6* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 6.8 cm) and pinched rim (D. 12 cm).

This large jar has a protruding ridge at the bottom of the neck. It can be dated from the late sixth/seventh to the eighth century CE (Storage Jars Form 6A in Magness 1993: 227–230). Storage jars of this type are known from several hiding complexes (Vincenz 2020d: pls 3.26:14–17, 3.33:9, 3.39:10).

*Pl. 3.9:7* Fragment of storage jar with short straight neck (H. 2.5 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

This is a typical storage jar of NRQ. The bag-shaped body is covered with dense ribbing, the neck is straight, and the rim typically round. Clay accretions can be found on the rim and body. They should be dated to the fifth–sixth centuries CE. They were found in F-593 at NRQ (Vincenz 2020d: 133, pl. 3.26:7–12).

*Pl. 3.9:8* Fragment of ribbed flat base of Gaza Jar (D. 4.5 cm).

The base belongs to a Gaza Jar of Majcherek Form 3 or 4 dated to the sixth century CE (see above Pl. 3.7:53–56).

*Pl. 3.9:9* Fragment of sieve or strainer (D. 13 cm).

It is unclear if this sieve/strainer was attached at the interior neck of a vessel or if it was a separate vessel. A small fragment of a similar sieve/strainer comes from F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.27:11<sup>6</sup>).

### DATING OF F-596

The material in this feature comes from three periods: Late Hellenistic/Early Roman, Late Byzantine/Early Islamic, and Mamluk (which was not drawn). The ceramics are of the same nature as in hiding complex F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: pls 3.13–3.29).

### F-616 (PLS. 3.10–3.11)

This feature contained ceramics dated to the Early Roman and Late Roman–Late Byzantine periods.

#### *Early Roman Ceramics*

##### *Rilled-Rim Basin*

*Pl. 3.10:1* Fragment of basin with upturned rilled ledge-rim (D. 32 cm).

The basin seems to belong to the same type as the basin found in F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: 123, pl. 3.13:16) and F-596 (above, Pl. 3.8:8). It should be dated to the end of the first century BCE and first century CE.

##### *Cooking Vessels*

*Pl. 3.10:2* Fragment of casserole with everted rim folded at the top (D. 16 cm).

Casseroles of this type have a semi-globular body with an everted rim folded at its top, creating

a groove. They are dated from the last third of the first century BCE to the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 167, pls 30:62–68, 31:69–70).

*Pl. 3.10:3* Fragment of cooking pot with rounded thickened rim (D. 10 cm).

The small cooking pot probably had an ovoid body. The short neck is everted, and the rim is rather massive for such a small vessel. It is thickened both internally and externally and round on top. At the inner base of the neck, there is a rounded clay protrusion, not clear if intentional. The loop-handles are wide and drawn from the rim to the upper shoulder. No satisfactory parallel was found for this vessel. A suggested date is the Early Roman period.

*Pl. 3.10:4* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and grooved rim (D. 12 cm).

This type of cooking pot was very popular during the Early Roman period. The body is globular, and the neck is vertical with a grooved rim that is sometimes triangular in appearance. The pot had flattened loop-handles drawn from the rim to the upper body. This type was produced from the last third of the first century BCE until the first third of the second century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 155–158).

#### *Late Roman–Late Byzantine Ceramics*

##### *Imported Bowls*

##### *LRC Bowl Form 3F*

*Pl. 3.11:1* Fragment of bowl with triangular rim and rouletting (D. 21 cm).

LRC bowls of Form 3 were discussed at length above (Pl. 3.7:12–19). The fragment shown here is dated to the sixth century (Hayes 1972: 338).

<sup>6</sup> It would be interesting to check if it belongs to the same vessel.



*LRC Bowl Form 10A*

*Pl. 3.11:2* Fragment of bowl with round knob rim with inner groove (D. 26 cm).

The bowl here can be identified as LRC Form 10A, dated to the late sixth–early seventh centuries CE (Hayes 1972: 343–346).

*Bowl/Lid*

*Pl. 3.11:3* Fragment of bowl/lid with round carination and beveled rim (D. 22 cm).

Bowl/lids were discussed above (Pl. 3.7:64). A pottery workshop with a Late Roman–Early Byzantine kiln producing this type of lids was excavated at ‘En Ya’al (Weksler-Bdolah 2016: 79\*–82\*). The lid here does not seem to have been produced in that workshop, and it is possible that other workshops existed closer to NRQ. A dating to the Late Roman–Early Byzantine period is suggested for the NRQ bowl/lid.

*Basin*

*Pl. 3.11:4* Fragment of basin with beveled rim (D. 26 cm).

The basin has slightly round walls and is decorated with one wide incised wavy line. Similar basins found in Jerusalem are dated to the sixth–late seventh/early eighth centuries CE (Arched-Rim Basins Form 3 in Magness 1993: 209).

*Cooking Vessels*

*Pl. 3.11:5* Fragment of wishbone handle.

Vessels similar to the casseroles described above but with a characteristic single wishbone handle. Pans with a wishbone handle were common during the Byzantine period and can be dated to the sixth–seventh centuries CE. Pans with wishbone handles were already found at NRQ (Vincenz 2015: fig. 5.21:45).

*Pl. 3.11:6* Fragment of cooking pot with short neck and rounded thickened rim (D. 12 cm).

The globular cooking pot has large loop-handles drawn from the rim to the upper body.

*Pl. 3.11:7* Fragment of lid with beveled rim (D. 24 cm).

The lid features narrow ribbing.

*Storage Jars*

The jars found in this feature are bag-shaped (Pl. 3.11: 8–14), except one which is a Gaza jar (Pl. 3.11:15).

*Pl. 3.11:8* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 5.7 cm) and everted round rim (D. 11 cm).

*Pl. 3.11:9* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 5.7 cm) and flattened rim (D. 11 cm).

*Pl. 3.11:10* Fragment of storage jar with slightly bulging neck (H. 6 cm) and round externally pinched rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.11:11* Fragment of storage jar with slightly bulging neck (H. 6 cm) and folded rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.11:12* Fragment of storage jar with slightly bulging neck (H. 5.8 cm) and inverted round rim (D. 10 cm).

The jars have long necks (between 5.7 and 6 cm). The bag-shaped body is covered with deep ribbing. Although they feature various rim shapes, they can be treated as one group. They should be dated to the Late Roman/Early Byzantine period, probably from the second to the fourth century CE (Weksler-Bdolah 2016: 110\*, figs. 14:11–13, 16:7–11, 23:1–7).

*Pl. 3.11:13* Fragment of storage jar with bulging neck (H. 3.9 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.11:14* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 7 cm) and round rim (D. 12 cm).

Both jars are large and heavy. They both have a protruding ridge at the bottom of the neck. Although their neck height varies, they can both be dated from the late sixth/seventh century to the eighth century CE (Storage Jars Form 6A in Magness 1993: 227–230). Storage jars of this type are discussed above (Pl. 3.9:6).

*Pl. 3.11:15* Fragment of neckless jar with round rim (D.10 cm). Clay accretions on the body.

This Gaza jar can be identified as Majcherek's Form 4, dated to the sixth century CE (see above Pl. 3.7:53–56).

#### *Jugs and Juglets*

*Pl. 3.11:16* Fragment of large jug with slightly flaring neck and beveled rim (D. 10 cm).

This large jug has a ribbed body and one loop-handle drawn from the rim to the upper shoulder. Similar jugs come from Caesarea Maritima (Johnson 2008b: nos 509, 514) and Jaffa (Tsuf 2018: 131–133, fig. 9.8:175–177). They should probably be dated to the Late Roman and Byzantine periods.

*Pl. 3.11:17* Fragment of two-handled jug with narrow neck and everted folded rim (D. 4.3 cm).

The narrow neck features a protruding ridge below the everted folded rim. The fold ends in a flange. Thick handles are drawn from the ridge. Two-handled jugs are rather common during the Byzantine period and come with various neck and rim shapes (e.g. Johnson 2008b: nos 494–497; Vincenz 2007: pl. 25:40, 41, 44–49). A jug with a single handle with the same neck and rim shape comes from Caesarea Maritima (Johnson 2008b: no. 486). A dating to the Late Roman/Byzantine period is suggested.

*Pl. 3.11:18* Fragment of juglet with narrow neck and folded rim internally beveled (D. 3.7 cm).

The neck of this jug is inverted, narrowing towards the rim. A small loop-handle is drawn from the rim to mid-neck. A juglet made of cooking ware has a similar rim and small handle (Jugs and Juglets Form 3, no. 3 in Magness 1993: 244). A dating to the Late Roman/Byzantine period is suggested.

*Pl. 3.11:19* Fragmentary juglet with narrow neck and thickened rim (D. 3.8 cm).

The juglet has an ovoid body with narrow flaring neck, a ring-base, and one (or two) loop-handles drawn from under the rim to the upper body. A dating to the Late Roman/Byzantine period is suggested.

#### **DATING OF F-616**

The ceramics found in this feature are mixed and dated from the Early Roman to the Late Byzantine period.

#### **F-651 (PL. 3.12)**

This feature is connected to hiding complex F-593, as was F-596 (see above Pls. 3.8–3.9 and Melamed 2020: 52–61).

#### ***Early Roman Ceramics***

##### *Bowl*

*Pl. 3.12:1* Fragment of thin bowl with inverted round rim (D. 8 cm).

The bowl is dated to the first century CE (see above Pl. 3.8:1–3; Vincenz 2020d: 122, pl. 3.13:1–6, with discussion and references therein).

##### *Unguentarium*

*Pl. 3.12:2* Fragment of *unguentarium* with long narrow neck and flanged beveled rim (D. 3 cm).

The rim and neck belong to a Judean *unguentarium*. These vessels have a long neck and a rather small piriform body. A similar example was found in a tomb at NRQ (Vincenz 2018: 148, pl. 6.2.13:8). These *unguentaria* are dated from the end of the first century BCE to the first century CE.

### ***Byzantine Ceramics***

#### *Imported LRC Bowl*

*Pl. 3.12:3* Fragment of bowl with triangular rim (D. 22 cm).

This variant of the common LRC 3 bowl is Form 3H, which can be dated to the sixth century CE or maybe even later (Hayes 1972: 338). The rim of the vessel is blackened due to the stacking in the kiln.

#### *Basins*

*Pl. 3.12:4* Fragment of arched-rim basin (D. 28 cm).

The basin features combed wavy lines on the body. Arched-rim basins with combed decoration are dated to after the sixth century (see above Pl. 3.7:36).

*Pl. 3.12:5* Fragment of basin with thick round rim (D. 36 cm).

Narrow combed straight lines were applied under the rim. As mentioned above, these basins were very common at NRQ and are dated to the Late Byzantine and Early Islamic periods (Pls 3.1:2, 3.3:4, 3.5:5, 3.9:2).

#### *Storage Jar*

*Pl. 3.12:6* Fragment of storage jar with bulging neck (3.1 cm) and pinched rim (D. 10 cm).

This bag-shaped jar belongs to the group of most common jars found at NRQ during the Byzantine period. Frequently, this type of jar has clay accretions on the rim and the body. They

have been found at NRQ, e.g., in the Byzantine winepresses, and are dated to the fifth–seventh centuries (Vincenz 2015: 100, fig. 5.3:9–11).

### **DATING OF F-651**

The dating of this feature follows that of F-593 and F-596: there is an Early Roman phase as well as a Late Byzantine/Early Islamic occupation phase.

### **F-656 (PLS 3.13–3.14)**

This feature is a double ritual bath with multiple entrances. It was used in the Roman period and extensively reused during the Byzantine period to judge from the amount of ceramic material.

### ***Early Roman Ceramics***

#### *ESA Bowl*

*Pl. 3.13:1* Fragment of bowl with round rim (D. 12 cm) and thin red slip.

The fragment of this bowl can probably be identified as an ESA bowl with carination from where the rim slants inwards.

#### *Rilled-Rim Basins/Kraters*

*3.13:2* Fragment of basin/krater with rilled rim (D. 34 cm).

*3.13:3* Fragment of basin/krater with rilled rim (D. 28 cm).

*3.13:4* Fragment of basin/krater with rilled rim (D. 37 cm).

*3.13:5* Fragment of basin/krater with rilled rim (D. 36 cm).

*3.13:6* Fragment of basin/krater with rilled rim (D. 36 cm).

These basins belong to the same type as the basin found in F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: 123, pl. 3.13:16), F-596 (Pl. 3.8:8), and F-616 (Pl. 3.10:1).

It should be dated to the end of the first century BCE and first century CE.

#### *Cooking Pots*

*Pl. 3.13:7* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and grooved rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.13:8* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly flaring neck and grooved rim (D. 16 cm).

*Pl. 3.13:9* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and grooved rim (D. ca. 16 cm).

The body of this cooking pot type is globular, and the neck is vertical or flaring with a grooved rim that is sometimes triangular in appearance. The flattened loop-handles are drawn from the rim to the upper body. This type was very popular and produced from the last third of the first century BCE until the first third of the second century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 155–158).

*Pl. 3.13:10* Fragment of carinated cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and grooved rim (D. 16 cm).

This large cooking pot has a squat body and a short neck, either vertical or flaring. The neck starts at the carination. Loop-handles are drawn from the rim to below the carination. The body is usually covered with ribbing. These cooking pots were common in Judea from the first century to the first third of the second century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 160–161, pl. 29:39–43).

#### *Storage Jars*

*Pl. 3.13:11* Fragment of storage jar with everted folded round rim (D. 9 cm).

This type of storage jar dated from the first century BCE to the first century CE was discussed above (Pls 3.6:2–5, 3.8: 23–24).

*Pl. 3.13:12* Fragment of collared neck jar (H. 3.8 cm) with round rim (D. 9 cm).

Collared neck jars with short collar are dated to the first century CE (see above Pl. 3.8:42–43).

#### *Jug*

*Pl. 3.13:13* Fragment of jug with narrow neck and everted stepped rim with prominent flange (D. 3.2 cm).

This small jug has a single loop-handle drawn from the rim to the upper body. It seems to be related to jugs with ridged neck, as those found at Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: 106–108, pl. 19:24–31). Ridged-neck jugs from Jaffa are closer in shape to the NRQ example (Tsuf 2018: 128, fig. 9.7:157). It cannot be ruled out that the NRQ is a local product of a rather common jug type used in the first century CE.

#### *Pedestal Base*

*Pl. 3.13:14* Fragment of base (D. 8.8 cm).

It is unclear what type of vessel this base belongs to a cup or maybe a chalice. No dating evidence is available.

#### *Byzantine Ceramics*

Most of the ceramics in this feature can be dated to the Byzantine period, covering the entire period.

#### *Imported Bowls*

The imported bowls in this feature come from North Africa (ARS Ware, Pl. 3.14:1, 2), Asia Minor (LRC Ware, Pl. 3.14:3, 4), and Cyprus or Asia Minor (Pl. 3.14:5).

These groups have been discussed above (Pl. 3.7:1–27); here, only the form and dating will be mentioned.

#### *ARS Bowl Form 67*

*Pl. 3.14:1* Fragment of bowl with double carinated ledge-rim (D. 34 cm).

This bowl type was very common during the late fourth to fifth century (Hayes 1972: 112–116).



The coarse workmanship of this piece probably dates it to after the fifth century.

*Bowl related to ARS Form 32/58 or 93/94*

*Pl. 3.14:2* Fragment of round bowl with short ledge-rim (D. 22 cm).

The round bowl could be related to ARS Form 32/59, although it is deeper (Hayes 1972: 93–96), or to ARS Form 93/94, although the rim is thinner and horizontal (Hayes 1972: 145–148). It should probably be dated to the fourth or fifth century.

*LRC Bowl Form 10A and Variant*

*Pl. 3.14:3* Fragment of bowl with heavy knob rim (D. 28).

This bowl was ubiquitous in the late sixth and early seventh centuries (Hayes 1972: 343–346).

*Pl. 3.14:4* Fragment of bowl with flanged knob rim (D. 28 cm).

In this variant, the knob rim has a flange at the bottom. It should probably be dated to the seventh century.

*LRD Bowl Form 1*

*Pl. 3.14:5* Fragment of bowl with low carination and simple round rim (D. 20 cm).

The rim of this bowl is unusually inverted, which can be a sign of a different production center, either in Cyprus or Pamphilia. Some Pamphilian products feature a slight carination near the base (Jackson et al. 2012: fig. 10:1–2). A dating to the late fourth and fifth, and maybe even later, is suggested.

*Rouletted Bowls*

*Pl. 3.14:6* Fragment of carinated bowl with round rim (D. 18 cm). Rouletting on body. Blackish-brown dripping slip.

*Pl. 3.14:7* Fragment of carinated bowl with flat profiled rim (D. 24 cm). Rouletting on body. Blackish-brown dripping slip.

*Pl. 3.14:8* Fragment of carinated bowl with flat profiled rim (D. 22 cm). Rouletting on body. Black slip.

*Pl. 3.14:9* Fragment of carinated bowl with flat profiled rim (D. 23 cm). Rouletting on body. Black slip.

*Pl. 3.14:10* Fragment of carinated bowl with flat profiled rim (D. n/a). Rouletting on body. Black slip.

Rouletted bowls were discussed above (Pl. 3.7:28–30). All bowls are of the carinated type, except one (Pl. 3.14:6) which has a rounded carination, and the rim is round instead of profiled. It might be an earlier or later (or local) variant. The bowls are generally dated from the third to the end of the fifth century.

*Other Bowls*

*Pl. 3.14:11* Fragment of carinated bowl with flat externally thickened rim (D. 26 cm). Combed wavy lines below carination.

The shape of this bowl is reminiscent of rouletted bowls. The rim is more inverted and the decoration is unlike that of rouletted bowls. It consists of combed wavy lines which are well known in the repertoire of Byzantine large bowls and basins during the sixth and later centuries. Thus, a dating to that period is suggested.

*Pl. 3.14:12* Fragment of arched-rim bowl (D. 30 cm) with rouletting and dripping black slip.

The bowl combines characteristics of two types: the rim is characteristic of large bowls and basins with the same name, and the black slip and rouletting of rouletted bowls. It might be a local variant and should probably be dated to the third–fifth centuries, following the dating of arched-rim basins and rouletted bowls (for a discussion on arched-rim basins, see above Pl. 3.7:36).

*Pl. 3.14:13* Fragment of ring-base with red slip (D. 5 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:14* Fragment of wide ring-base with red slip (D. 11 cm).

Bases belonging to unidentified types of bowls.

#### *Basins*

Two types of basins were found in this feature: with rilled rim (*Pl. 3.14:15–16*) and with arched rim (*Pl. 3.14:17–19*).

#### *Rilled-Rim Basins*

*Pl. 3.14:15* Fragment of basin with rilled rim (D. 32 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:16* Fragment of basin with rilled rim (D. 38 cm).

The ledge-rim of these basins is upward-turned and features ridges. Similarly to arched-rim basins, they started to appear no later than 200 CE (Magness 1993: 105). They were rather common during the fourth–sixth centuries CE (Magness 1993: 203).

#### *Arched-Rim Basins*

*Pl. 3.14:17* Fragment of basin with rounded arched rim (D. 32 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:18* Fragment of basin with slightly arched rim (D. 36 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:19* Fragment of basin with rounded arched rim with thickened end (D. 40 cm).

All three basins are undecorated and can thus be identified with Magness' Form 1, dated from 200 CE to the sixth century (see above *Pl. 3.7:36*).

#### *Mortaria*

Mortaria were quite common during the Byzantine period and were either manufactured locally or, in many cases, imported (see above *Pl. 3.7:38–39*).

*Pl. 3.14:20* Fragment of mortarium with thick downturned ledge-rim (D. 38 cm).

This vessel rim is decorated with an incised wavy line and applied circles. The rim shape is that of 'classical' mortaria which usually feature stamps with the producer's name and were produced at Ras el-Bassit in Syria (Hayes 1967; Vallerin 1994). The fabric is entirely different from that of the Syrian mortaria, suggesting a different provenance. A fragment stored in the Terra Sancta Museum (Studium Biblicum Franciscanum Archaeological Collections) is decorated with combed wavy lines on the rim (Vuk 2021: CTS-SB-00061). Bowls produced at 'En Ya'al near Jerusalem have applied circular decorations, some with faces or fringed circles (Weksler-Bdolah 2016: fig. 19:10–11). It is quite possible that mortaria/large basins with applied decorations were also produced. A dating to the fourth–fifth centuries is suggested for this vessel.

*Pl. 3.14:21* Fragment of mortarium with heavy knob rim flattened on top (D. 30 cm).

This type of mortarium was relatively common at Jaffa and is dated from the second to the fourth century. Tsuf suggests that they may have been produced in Cyprus, but other places may also have had workshops to produce these vessels (Tsuf 2018: 161–162, fig. 9.14:297–305).<sup>7</sup>

*Pl. 3.14:22* Fragment of mortarium with heavy overhanging flanged rim (D. 30 cm).

<sup>7</sup> Blakely, Brinkmann, and Vitaliano (1992) analyzed mortaria from Caesarea Maritima and concluded that their area of production was the northeastern Mediterranean which could include Cyprus as well as northern Syria.

No parallel was found for this vessel, it may be a variant of the previous type produced in a different workshop.

#### *Cooking Vessels*

Casseroles and closed cooking pots were among the cooking vessels.

#### *Casseroles*

*Pl. 3.14:23* Fragment of deep casserole with beveled rim (D. 23 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:24* Fragment of deep casserole with beveled rim (D. 24 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:25* Fragment of shallow casserole with beveled rim (D. 24 cm).

The two deep casseroles have horizontal handles, while the shallow vessel features downturned handles. They should be dated to the Byzantine period.

#### *Closed Cooking Pots*

*Pl. 3.14:26* Fragment of cooking pot with bulging neck and flat rim (D. 12 cm).

The cooking pot has an ovoid body. Small, coarsely-made handles are drawn from the rim. The rather small handles suggest that the vessel should be dated to the beginning of the Byzantine period.

*Pl. 3.14:27* Fragment of carinated cooking pot with flaring neck and beveled rim (D. 16 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:28* Fragment of carinated cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and beveled rim (D. 14 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:29* Fragment of carinated cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and grooved rim (D. 18 cm).

The cooking pots here have a slight carination on the upper body right under the rim. Carinated cooking pots are well-known during the Roman period, but the combed decoration on one of them (*Pl. 3.14:27*) and the large handles date them later. Thus, a suggested date is from the second to the fourth century. A similar cooking pot was found at Azor (van den Brink, Kapitaikin, and Rapuano 2018: 96, fig. 20:5).<sup>8</sup>

*Pl. 3.14:30* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and round rim (D. 16 cm)

The globular cooking pot has a ribbed body and large handles drawn from the rim. Cooking pots with straight neck and simple round rim are dated to the sixth and seventh centuries (Cooking Pot Form 3B in Magness 1993: 218).

#### *Storage Jars*

The storage jars are divided into two groups: Late Roman/Early Byzantine jars (*Pl. 3.14:31–36*) and Byzantine Gaza jars (*Pl. 3.14:37–39*).

*Pl. 3.14:31* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 4.9 cm) and beveled rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:32* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 5.4 cm) and inverted round rim (D. 9.5 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:33* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 4.3 cm) and round internally thickened rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:34* Fragment of storage jar with straight ribbed neck (H. 5.2 cm) and round internally thickened rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:35* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 5.8 cm) and folded rim beveled on top (D. 11 cm).

<sup>8</sup> A complete cooking pot and fragments of this type come from the excavation at the foot of Tel Qatara (Gedera) directed by Alla Nagorski. These pots were found in contexts of the third/fourth century, which might postpone their appearance. I wish to thank Itamar Taxel for sharing this information.

*Pl. 3.14:36* Fragment of storage jar with flaring neck (H. 4.8 cm) and internally thickened pinched rim (D. 12 cm).

These bag-shaped jars have the high neck (from 4.3 to 5.8 cm) in common. Most have a protruding ridge at the base of the neck. The body is usually covered with dense ribbing, sometimes deep (*Pl. 3.14:32–33, 36*). Some feature clay accretions on the neck (*Pl. 3.14:33*). These jars can be dated from the second to the fourth century (Storage Jars Form 3 in Magness 1993: 222–223).

#### *Gaza Jars*

*Pl. 3.14:37* Fragment of neckless jar with short straight rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:38* Fragment of neckless jar with short straight rim (D. 9 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:39* Fragment of neckless jar with short straight rim (D. 10 cm).

The jars here belong to the group of Gaza jars and can be identified with Majcherek's Form 2. The type was common during the third–fourth centuries, maybe also at the beginning of the fifth century CE (Majcherek 1995: 167).

#### *Krater*

*Pl. 3.14:40* Fragment of krater with everted ledge-rim (D. 10 cm).

This type of wide-necked vessel is dated to the third–fifth centuries (Wide-Necked Jars Form 1 in Magness 1993: 235).

#### *Imported Amphorae*

##### *Amphora Keay 1A/Dressel 30*

*Pl. 3.14:41* Fragment of amphora with narrow neck and sharply everted thick round rim (D. 4 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:42* Fragment of amphora with narrow neck and sharply everted thick round rim (D. 6 cm).

The characteristic of both amphorae is the knife (?)-shaved rim. Wide grooved handles are drawn from right under the rim and wet-smoothed at the attachment. This amphora type was produced in the Roman province of Mauretania Caesariensis and was probably used to export olive oil during the third and fourth centuries (Keay 1984: 95–99). This amphora type was found at Ashqelon (Johnson 2008a: 161, no. 457) and Caesarea Maritima (Johnson 2008b: 103, no. 1238).

##### *Spatheion Type 2A/Keay 26*

*Pl. 3.14:43* Fragment of amphora with narrow neck and square rim with flange (D. 6.2 cm).

This small amphora has a long, narrow body with a spike base. Short handles are positioned on the neck. It was produced in North Africa and might have carried wine (Bonifay 2004: 125–127, fig. 68:4). The variant with square rim is dated to the second half of the fifth century (Bonifay 2004: 127).

#### *Unidentified Imported Amphorae*

*Pl. 3.14:44* Fragment of amphora with stepped neck and beveled rim (D. 6.1 cm). Two handles are drawn from immediately under the ridge in the neck.

*Pl. 3.14:45* Fragment of amphora with externally thickened rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.14:46* Fragment of solid toe (D. n/a).

#### **DATING OF F-656**

As in other features, two phases can be discerned. The Early Roman period was probably when the feature was built, and a later phase of use started in the Late Roman period and continued well



into the Byzantine period but not into the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period.

#### **F-680 (PLS 3.15–3.16)**

This feature is connected to hiding complex F-608/708 (Melamed 2020: 61–69). As in the hiding complex, the pottery here is dated to the Early Roman and Late Byzantine periods.

#### ***Early Roman Ceramics***

Cooking vessels, storage jars, and juglets were among the Early Roman ceramics.

##### *Cooking Vessels*

These included one casserole, cooking pots, and a cooking juglet.

##### *Casserole*

*Pl. 3.15:1* Fragment of casserole with semiglobular body and everted grooved ledge-rim (D. 18 cm).

These round casseroles are dated from the last third of the first century BCE to the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 167–168, pl. 30: 62–68, with distribution list therein). Casseroles of this type were found in other features and are discussed above (Pls 3.8:13, 3.10:2).

##### *Cooking Pots*

*Pl. 3.15:2* Fragment of cooking pot with straight profiled neck and folded beveled rim (D. 16 cm). This type of cooking pot has a squat body and loop-handles drawn from the rim to the upper body, which is covered with narrow ribbing. The base is convex pointed. Three complete cooking pots of this type were found in hiding complex F-468 (Vincenz 2020: 119, pl. 3.9:1–3) and in other features as well (Vincenz 2020: pls 3.3:2, 3.16:1–9). The type is dated from the end of the first century BCE to the first century CE (Bar-Nathan and Kamil-Gitler 2002: 172–173, pl. 26:487–488).

*Pl. 3.15:3* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and everted externally thickened rim (D. 16 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:4* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring neck and triangular rim (D. 16 cm)

These cooking pots have a globular or squat body and a rather tall neck. The body is ribbed near the shoulder and the convex base. The loop-handles are drawn from the rim to the shoulder. This type can be dated to the last third of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 158, pl. 28:26–29).

##### *Cooking Jug/Juglet*

*Pl. 3.15:5* Fragment of jug/juglet with everted triangular flanged rim (D. 3.2 cm).

This jug has a band handle drawn from the rim. The jug had a globular/ovoid ribbed body. A similar jug was found in hiding complex F-698 (Vincenz 2020d: 147, pl. 3.41:9) as well as in F-596 (see above Pl. 3.8:20). The jug should be dated to the first century CE.

##### *Storage Jars*

Many storage jar fragments were found here. Three different types were discerned: Storage jars with ledge-rim (Pl. 3.15:6), with collared neck (Pl. 3.15: 7–14), and with grooved rim (Pl. 3.15: 15–17).

##### *Storage Jar with Ledge-Rim*

*Pl. 3.15:6* Fragment of storage jar with short neck (H. 3.5 cm) and everted short ledge-rim (D. 9 cm).

This rather common type has either a bag-shaped or bell-shaped body. Its characteristic is the short ledge-rim. Although the type appeared already toward the end of the Herodian period, it was more common during the first century CE. It can generally be dated from the last third of the first century BCE to the first third of the second century CE (see for a discussion and distribution

list, see Bar-Nathan 2006: 62–65, pls 12:62–66, 13:67–71).

#### *Collared-Neck Jars*

*Pl. 3.15:7* Fragment of storage jar with everted neck (H. 4 cm), short collar, and everted beveled rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:8* Fragment of storage jar with everted neck (H. 5 cm), short collar, and everted round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:9* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring collared neck (H. 6.1 cm) and round rim (D. 9 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:10* Fragment of storage jar with flaring collared neck (H. 5.5 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:11* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring collared neck (H. 6.3 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:12* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring collared neck (H. 5.7 cm) and round rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:13* Fragment of storage jar with straight collared neck (H. 5.7 cm) and round rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:14* Fragment of storage jar with straight collared neck (H. 5.2 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

Collared neck jars were discussed above (Pl. 3.8:42–43). The jars with short collar are dated to the first century CE (Pl. 3.15:7, 8), while those with long collar are dated earlier, to the first century BCE (Pl. 3.15: 9–14).

#### *Storage Jars with Grooved Rim*

*Pl. 3.15:15* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 5.5 cm) and everted, flanged rim with groove (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:16* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 5.1 cm) and everted, flanged rim with groove (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.15:17* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 5.8 cm) and everted, flanged rim with groove (D. 11 cm).

The jars have a cylindrical body covered with light ribbing. The neck is rather long, and the rim flanged and usually grooved. A protruding ridge can always be found at the base of the neck. This type is dated to the first century CE. It was discussed above (Pl. 3.8:34–39).

#### *Jugs and Juglets*

*Pl. 3.15:18* Fragment of jug with straight neck and everted round rim (D. 6 cm).

This jug is possibly related to a jug found at Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: 113, pl. 21:57) and dated to the second half of the first century CE.

*Pl. 3.15:19* Fragment of ovoid jug with everted beveled rim (D. 6 cm).

Similar jugs were found at Masada and are dated to the last third of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 113, pl. 21:58–60).

*Pl. 3.15:20* Fragment of juglet with everted pinched rim (D. ca. 4 cm).

This piriform juglet (or small jug) can be paralleled with a small jug found at Jericho (Bar-Nathan 2002: 41, pl. 9:63–66). It should be dated to the first century BCE and the very beginning of the first century CE.

#### *Unguentarium*

*Pl. 3.15:21* Fragment of *unguentarium*.

These vessels have a long neck and a rather small piriform body. Examples of *unguentaria* have been previously found at NRQ (Vincenz 2018: 148, pl. 6.2.13:8, above Pl. 3.12:2) and are

dated from the end of the first century BCE to the first century CE.

### ***Byzantine Ceramics***

#### *Bowls*

*Pl. 3.16:1* Base of FBW bowl with incised concentric circles (D. 5.5 cm).

*Pl. 3.16:2* Base of FBW bowl with incised concentric circles (D. 4.1 cm).

Bases like this are typical of rounded bowls of FBW Form 1D, dated from the late seventh/early eighth to ninth/tenth century (Magness 1993: 197–198). A similar base was discussed above (Pl. 3.5:4).

#### *Basin*

*Pl. 3.16:3* Fragment of basin with inverted folded rim (D. ca. 40 cm).

This basin has small loop-handles drawn from right under the rim. The body is decorated with combed straight and wavy lines. These basins were discussed above (Pl. 3.1:2) and are dated to the Late Byzantine period.

#### *Cooking Vessels*

*Pl. 3.16:4* Fragment of casserole with beveled rim (D. 18 cm) and ribbed round body and horizontal handles.

*Pl. 3.16:5* Fragment of ribbed lid with beveled rim (D. 11 cm). Two incised lines on the body.

The casserole and lid are typical of the Byzantine period.

#### *Storage Jars*

*Pl. 3.16:6* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 6 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

This type of storage jar can be dated to the late sixth/seventh to eighth century (Storage Jars Form 6B in Magness 1993:227). Frequently, the body is decorated with combed bands.

*Pl. 3.16:7* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 4.7 cm) and round thickened neck (D. 12 cm).

This bag-shaped jar has a ribbed body. The fabric was probably buffware, but the jar was heavily burnt. Similar jars were found in Ramla (Arnon 2007: fig. 12:10; Kohn-Tavor 2017: 36, fig. 2.28:2), dated to the Early Islamic period.

*Pl. 3.16:8* Fragment of neckless Gaza Jar with round rim (D. 10 cm).

The Gaza jar can be identified as Majcherek's Form 4, dated to the sixth and seventh centuries (Majcherek 1995: 169).

#### *Jugs*

*Pl. 3.16:9* Fragment of jug with long neck and everted round rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.16:10* Fragment of jug with long neck and everted round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.16:11* Fragment of jug with long neck and everted folded rim (D. 10 cm).

The three jugs have the same neck shape. One single loop-handle is drawn from under the rim to the upper body which was probably globular or ovoid. Somewhat similar jugs were reported from Caesarea Maritima (Johnson 2008b: nos 490–491). No other convincing parallel has been found yet, and from the Caesarea examples, there is no precise dating evidence. The NRQ assemblage suggests a dating to the Late Byzantine, maybe even to the Early Islamic period.

### **DATING OF F-680**

Two clear phases can be distinguished in this feature: the Early Roman phase and the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic phase.

**F-716 (PL. 3.17)**

This feature is connected to hiding complex F-719/755 (Melamed 2020: 87–90) and contains ceramics from the Early Roman period.

***Bowl***

*Pl. 3.17:1* Fragmentary bowl with sharp inverted pinched rim (D. 12 cm) and flat string cut base.

These bowls were discussed above (Pl. 3.4:3) and are dated to the late first century CE. A bowl similarly deformed in the kiln as the NRQ bowl comes from Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: pl. 25:5).

***Casserole***

*Pl. 3.17:2* Fragment of carinated casserole with everted grooved rim (D. 22 cm).

This type of neckless casserole was discussed above (Pl. 3.6:1). It is dated to the later part of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 169, pl. 31:70).

***Cooking Pots***

*Pl. 3.17:3* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring neck and folded rim (D. 13 cm).

*Pl. 3.17:4* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring neck and triangular rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.17:5* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and everted round rim (D. 14 cm).

This type of cooking pot was discussed above (Pl. 3.15:3, 4). It has a globular or squat body and a rather tall neck, which can be flaring or straight. Loop-handles are drawn from the rim to the shoulder. It can be dated to the last third of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 158, pl. 28:26–29).

***Storage Jars******Jar with Thickened Rim***

*Pl. 3.17:6* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck and externally thickened rim (D. 10 cm).

This type of storage jar dated to the first century BCE to the first century CE was discussed above (Pls 3.6:2–5, 3.8: 23–24, 3.13:11).

***Collared-Neck Jars***

*Pl. 3.17:7* Fragment of storage jar with straight collared neck (H. 3.2 cm) and everted round rim (D. 9 cm).

*Pl. 3.17:8* Fragment of storage jar with flaring collared neck (H. 3.2 cm) and everted round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.17:9* Fragment of storage jar with straight collared neck (H. 4.7 cm) and round rim (D. 8 cm).

Collared neck jars were discussed above (Pls 3.8:42–43, 3.15:7–14). The jars with short collar are dated to the first century CE (Pl. 3.17:7), while those with long collar are dated earlier, to the first century BCE (Pl. 3.17:8–9).

**DATING OF F-716**

The ceramic material found in this feature dates it to the Early Roman period.

**F-733 (PLS 3.18–3.19)**

The abundant ceramic material found in this feature is dated to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period. A few, probably residual, Early Roman fragments were also found.

***Early Roman Ceramics******Pompeian Red Ware***

*Pl. 3.18:1* Fragment of shallow pan with incurved round rim (D. 28 cm).



The vessel can probably be identified with a Pompeian Red Ware pan, as those found at Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: 361, pl. 73:3–5). These bowls are dated from 15 BCE to the first century CE. They were imported from Italy and used mainly by the Roman soldiers (Bar-Nathan 2006: 358–360 for an extensive discussion on the subject).

#### *Rilled-Rim Basin/Krater*

*Pl. 3.18:2* Fragment of deep basin/krater with rilled-ledge-rim (D. 32 cm).

This deep basin/krater seems to be related to the rilled-rim basins/kraters discussed above (Pls 3.8:8, 10:1, 13:2–6). It should probably be dated slightly later, to the first century CE.

#### *Krater*

*Pl. 3.18:3* Fragment of globular krater with sharply everted flanged rim (D. 18 cm). Thumb impressions at rim.

This globular krater finds a parallel among the casseroles at Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: pl. 30:61). The fabric is not cooking pot ware, but the shape might have been inspired by it. The casserole is dated to the late first century CE, and a similar date is suggested for the krater.

#### *Cooking Pot*

*Pl. 3.18:4* Fragment of cooking pot with short, slightly inverted neck and grooved rim (D. 10 cm).

A similar cooking pot was found in hiding complex F-698 (Vincenz 2020d: pl. 3.41:7). This is an early type of cooking pot, which was in use already in the third and second centuries BCE, but it seems that some examples continued to be used in the first century BCE (Rosenthal-Heginbottom 1995: 229, fig. 6.19).

#### *Unidentified Amphora*

*Pl. 3.18:5* Fragment of amphora with straight neck and heavy mushroom rim (D. 12 cm).

The handles are drawn from right under the rim.

#### *Byzantine Ceramics*

##### *Bowls*

Bowls of different types were found, both imported and locally made.

##### *Imported Bowls*

##### *LRC Bowl Form 1*

*Pl. 3.19:1* Fragment of bowl with incurved round rim (D. 14 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:2* Fragment of bowl with incurved round rim (D. 24 cm).

This simple bowl is the first of the series. It has a simple round rim and usually a small ring-base. It was produced in small and large sizes and is undecorated. It was common during the fourth and fifth centuries (Hayes 1972: 325–327).

##### *LRC Bowl Form 3F*

*Pl. 3.19:3* Fragment of bowl with flanged rim (D. 30 cm).

This variant of LRC Form 3 is most common during the sixth century (Hayes 1972: 338). LRC Form 3 bowls were discussed at length above (Pl. 3.7:12–19). Several examples of Form 3F were found (Pls 3.7:19, 3.11:1).

##### *LRC Bowls Form 10A*

*Pl. 3.19:4* Fragment of bowl with knob rim (D. 24 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:5* Fragment of bowl with knob rim (D. 26 cm).

This form is also common (above Pls 3.5:1–2, 3.7:20, 3.11:2), dated to the late sixth–early seventh century (Hayes 1972: 342–346).

*FBW Bowls*

*Pl. 3.19:6* Fragment of deep bowl with inverted pinched rim (D. 11 cm). Burnished bands.

*Pl. 3.19:7* Fragment of deep bowl with inverted round rim (D. 10 cm). Burnished bands.

*Pl. 3.19:8* Fragment of deep bowl with inverted round rim (D. 8 cm). Burnished bands. Incised wavy lines.

*Pl. 3.19:9* Fragment of deep bowl with inverted round rim (D. 11 cm). Burnished bands. Incised wavy lines.

*Pl. 3.19:10* Fragment of deep bowl with inverted round rim (D. 6 cm). Painted decoration.

*Pl. 3.19:11* Fragment of base of bowl with deeply incised concentric circles (D. 2.5 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:12* Fragment of ring-base of bowl (D. 2.5 cm).

FBW bowls were discussed above (Pl. 3.5:3–4). All the bowls here are deep, made of very thin fabric, and burnished visibly in bands of different hues. Two of the bowls are undecorated (Pl. 3.19:1–2), while the other two (Pl. 3.19:8–9) have incised wavy lines on the body. The last bowl, much smaller (Pl. 3.19:10), is decorated with a red painted pattern. They should be assigned to Magness' FBW Bowls Form 1E, dated to the eighth and ninth centuries.

The two bases also belong to FBW bowls. The first rounded base (Pl. 3.19:11) with deeply incised concentric circles goes with the above-discussed bowl Form 1E, as well as other more rounded bowls. The ring-base (Pl. 3.19:12) also belongs to a FBW bowl, probably of Form 1A or 1B (Magness 1993: 194–195).

*Bowl with Piecrust Band*

*Pl. 3.19:13* Fragment of bowl with inverted folded rim (D. 18 cm).

This small bowl is decorated with combed wavy lines and has a piecrust band on the rim. A similar bowl was found in hiding complex F-593 (Vincenz 2020d: 132, pl. 3.24:6). A bowl with folded rim and decorated with combed lines was found in a winepress at NRQ (Vincenz 2015: pl. 5.14:7). Bowls with inverted folded rim are also common during the Early Islamic period (Cytryn-Silverman 2010: pl. 9.3:7). Thus, this bowl should probably be dated from the sixth–seventh to the eighth/ninth century.

*Basins*

*Pl. 3.19:14* Fragment of large basin with inverted thickened rim (D. 35 cm). Combed wavy and straight lines.

*Pl. 3.19:15* Fragment of basin with inverted thickened rim (D. 24 cm). Combed straight lines. Small loop-handles.

This is the most common basin type at NRQ of the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period. They were discussed above (Pls 3.1:2, 3.3:4, 3.9:2, 3.12:5, 3.16:3).

*Cooking Vessels*

*Casseroles*

*Pl. 3.19:16* Fragment of round casserole with inverted beveled rim (D. 26 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:17* Fragment of deep casserole with inverted beveled rim (D. 26 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:18* Fragment of carinated casserole with flat rim (D. 30 cm).

All three casseroles have horizontal handles. The shape of the body differs from rounded to carinated with flaring walls. The first casserole

has a ribbed body, while the other two have a plain body. All three casseroles can be dated to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period (van den Brink, Kapitakin, and Rapuano 2018: 107, fig. 25).

#### *Closed Cooking Pots*

*Pl. 3.19:19* Fragment of globular cooking pot with short, everted neck and round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:20* Fragment of globular cooking pot with short, everted neck and round rim (D. 10 cm).

The globular body of these cooking pots is covered with dense ribbing. The large loop-handles are drawn above the rim and to the upper body. They are probably a variant of the common Late Byzantine/Early Islamic cooking pot (Cooking Pot Form 4A in Magness 1993: 219). A similar cooking pot comes from Caesarea Maritima (Johnson 2008b: no. 853). A similar cooking pot at Ramla, albeit with a wider neck, is dated to the Early Islamic period (Cytryn-Silverman 2010: pl. 9.6:1).

*Pl. 3.19:21* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and grooved flanged rim (D. 10 cm).

Like other cooking pots of this period, the loop-handles are rather large. This type of cooking pot is known from NRQ, dated from the fifth to the seventh century (Vincenz 2020d: 117, pl. 3.6.5).

*Pl. 3.19:22* Fragment of neckless cooking pot with grooved rim (D. 12 cm).

This squat cooking pot is neckless and has an everted rim with groove. A cooking pot of the same type but with combed lines was discussed above (Pl. 3.3:4). These cooking pots should be dated to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period.

#### *Casserole Lids*

*Pl. 3.19:23* Knob belonging to lid (D. 3.3 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:24* Fragment of lid with beveled rim (D. 24 cm). Covered with narrow ribbing.

*Pl. 3.19:25* Fragment of lid with beveled rim (D. 24 cm). Covered with narrow ribbing.

These large lids were used to cover casseroles and have a beveled rim to fit the casserole tightly. The knob (Pl. 3.19:24) was used as a handle but frequently had a steam hole in the center. Some lids had additional steam holes on the body of the lid. These lids were used throughout the Byzantine period well into the Early Islamic period.

#### *Storage Jars*

All storage jars have a bag-shaped body.

#### *Storage Jars with Straight Long Neck*

*Pl. 3.19:26* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 6.4 cm) and round rim.

Jars with high neck come from Ramla and were mainly produced from local buffware (Kohn-Tavor 2017: fig. 2.28:1, 3) during the Early Islamic period.

*Pl. 3.19:27* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 5.9 cm) and round rim. Burnished bands.

The jar with burnished bands does not find a parallel, but burnished bands are known from FBW bowls. A dating to the Late Byzantine period is suggested.

#### *Storage Jars with Straight Neck and Pinched Rim*

*Pl. 3.19:28* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 2.5 cm) and pinched rim (D. 9 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:29* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 3.2 cm) and pinched rim (D. 9 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:30* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 3.1 cm) and pinched rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.19:31* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 3 cm) and pinched rim (D. 9 cm).

The jars have a bag-shaped body covered with dense, sometimes deep, ribbing. Clay accretions are often found on the neck and body.<sup>9</sup>

This is the most common jar type found at NRQ during the Byzantine period, e.g., in the Byzantine winepresses, dated to the fifth–seventh centuries (Vincenz 2015: 100, fig. 5.3:9–11). They are also found at Jaffa (Vincenz 2020a: 80, fig. 2:1–2) and Lod (Haddad 2013: fig. 9:5). This was also a common jar type at Gane Tal (Vincenz 2021: 225–227, fig. 7:5–11).

*Storage Jar with Straight Neck and Internally Thickened Pinched Rim*

*Pl. 3.19:32* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 3 cm) and round rim (D. 8 cm).

This jar features deep ribbing on the body. A jar with a similar shape and similar deep ribbing comes from Gane Tal (Vincenz 2021: fig. 7:4) and is dated to the fifth–sixth centuries. This type can be paralleled with jars from Jerusalem dated to the sixth/seventh century and continuing into the Early Islamic period (Reuven 2020: 429, fig. 13.51).

*Storage Jar with Straight Neck and Internally Thickened Pinched Rim*

*Pl. 3.19:33* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 4.4 cm) and pinched, internally thickened rim (D. 10 cm).

This jar features deep ribbing on the body and large loop-handles positioned on the upper shoulder. It should be dated to the sixth–seventh centuries.

*Gaza Jar*

*Pl. 3.19:34* Fragment of neckless jar with beveled rim (12 cm).

The rim shape can be found on Gaza jars Majcherek's Form 4 (Majcherek 1995: Pls. 7,

8), but the body is more elongated. This might indicate a different workshop or maybe a later variant. A suggested dating is the seventh century.

*Storage Jars with Inverted Neck*

*Pl. 3.19:35* Fragment of storage jar with inverted neck (H. 4.8 cm) and beveled rim (D. 11 cm). Incised wavy line on neck.

*Pl. 3.19:36* Fragment of storage jar with inverted neck (H. 6 cm) and round rim (D. 12 cm).

These two jars are larger than the previously discussed vessels. They were coil-made and finished on the wheel. Some of them bear combed lines on the rim (Pl. 3.19:35). Many of these jars bear stamps on handles, which may be potters' marks, or marks of a workshop or a blessing (Arnon 2007: 66, fig. 13:1–12). These jars should be dated from the seventh/eighth to the ninth/tenth century.

*Pl. 3.19:37* Fragment of storage jar with everted thickened neck (H. 3.6 cm) and pinched rim (D. 10 cm).

This jar is made of coarse red fabric, similar to cooking pot fabric. The neck thickens, and the small loop-handles are positioned high on the shoulder. Similar jars come from Ramla (Cytryn-Silverman 2010: pl. 9.15:4).

*Jugs*

*Pl. 3.19:38* Fragment of jug with everted neck and round rim (D. 9 cm). One loop-handle.

This coarse ware jug with ribbed body finds parallels in Caesarea Maritima (Johnson 2008b: nos 517–518). It should be dated to the Byzantine period, possibly to the fifth–seventh centuries.

*Pl. 3.19:39* Fragment of jug with everted neck and pinched rim (10 cm). One loop-handle.

<sup>9</sup> Some of the jars are made of orange fabric which is sandy to touch. This could indicate a provenance closer to the coast.



The jug probably had an ovoid body. It is tentatively dated to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period.

#### *Stone Mortar*

*Pl. 19:40* Fragmentary basalt mortar with short feet.

### **DATING OF F-733**

Most of the material in this feature can be dated to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period. The few Early Roman fragments (of which two are questionable) are probably residual.

### **F-739 (PLS. 3.20–3.21)**

The pottery found in this feature covers the Early Roman and Early Byzantine periods.

#### ***Early Roman Ceramics***

##### *Basin/Kraters*

##### *Rilled-Rim Basin/Kraters*

*Pl. 3.20:1* Fragment of basin/krater with rounded rilled ledge-rim (D. 34 cm).

*Pl. 3.20:2* Fragment of basin/krater with rounded, knobbed, rilled ledge-rim (D. 36 cm).

*Pl. 3.20:3* Fragment of basin/krater with long rilled ledge-rim (D. 38 cm).

These basins/kraters are slightly carinated near the base (*Pl. 3.20:1*) and probably had a flat base (*Pl. 3.20:3*). Variations in rim shapes can be observed: arched/round, short knobbed, or long ledge. It is now clear that these rilled-rim basins/kraters were common at NRQ during the Early Roman period. They were found in various features (Pls 3.8:8, 3.10:1, 3.13:2–6, 3.18:2) and are discussed there. They should be dated to the

end of the first century BCE and the first century CE.

##### *Carinated Krater with Ledge-rim*

*Pl. 3.20:4* Fragment of carinated krater with upturned rilled ledge-rim (D. 32 cm)

This krater is similar to kraters found at Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: 125–126, pl. 23: 4–6), but the examples at Masada are not rilled. These kraters appeared at the end of the first century BCE and were used during the first century CE.

##### *Rounded Basin/Krater with Grooved Rim*

*Pl. 3.20:5* Fragment of basin/krater with flat rim with deep grooves (D. 20 cm).

Possibly to be dated to the Early Roman period, although no parallel was found.

##### *Cooking Vessels*

##### *Cooking Pots*

*Pl. 3.20:6* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and triangular rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.20:7* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and flat rim (D. 11 cm).

*Pl. 3.20:8* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and flat grooved rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.20:9* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and flat grooved rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.20:10* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and flat grooved rim (D. 10 cm).

The cooking pots shown here have a squat or globular ribbed body. Handles are drawn from the rim to the upper body and occasionally can rise above the rim (*Pl. 3.20:6*).

This is a very common type from the last third of the first century BCE to the first third of the second century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 154–

158). It is thus not surprising that there are many variations in rim shapes.

*Pl. 3.20:11* Fragment of cooking pot with short, inverted neck and slightly grooved rim (D. 11 cm).

Loop-handles are drawn from the rim rising slightly above it. This type of cooking pot was discussed above (Pl. 3.18:4).

#### *Cooking Jug(let)*

*Pl. 3.20:12* Fragment of cup mouth juglet (D. 3.7 cm). A single strap-handle is drawn from the rim to the upper body.

This globular jug(let) made of cooking pot fabric is similar in shape to the balsam juglets. Juglets made of cooking pot fabric with cup mouth are known at Masada but have a more elongated body (Bar-Nathan 2006: pl. 31:93). The juglet should probably be dated to the first century CE.

#### *Storage Jars*

*Pl. 3.20:13* Fragment of storage jar with short neck and everted rolled rim (D. 11 cm).

The body of this jar is elongated and bag-shaped, with small loop-handles positioned on the upper shoulder. The main characteristic is the everted thickened rim. These jars were discussed at length above (Pls 3.6:2–5, 3.8:23–24, 3.13:11) and are dated from the first century BCE to the first century CE.

*Pl. 3.20:14* Fragment of storage jar with everted neck (H. 4.3 cm) and round rim (D. 8 cm).

This jar seems to be a carelessly made collared-neck jar. The collar is very faint. Jars with long collar are dated to the first century BCE.

#### *Jug*

*Pl. 3.20:15* Fragment of jug with slightly flaring neck and everted thickened rim (D. 5.5 cm).

This ovoid jug has a ribbed body and one handle<sup>10</sup> drawn from the rim to the upper shoulder. Jugs with flaring neck were found at Jericho (Bar-Nathan 2002: pl. 8:59–62) but are not identical with the NRQ example. A jug found at Caesarea Maritima is similar in shape but comes from an undated context (Johnson 2008b: no. 504). A dating to the Early Roman period is suggested.

*Pl. 3.20:16* Fragment of low ring-base (D. 9 cm).

#### *Unidentified Vessel*

*Pl. 3.20:17* Fragment of flat base vessel with perforation (D. 4 cm).

The use of this vessel is unknown.

### ***Byzantine Ceramics***

#### *ARS Bowl Form 67*

*Pl. 3.21:1* Fragment of bowl with double carinated ledge-rim (D. 28 cm).

This bowl type was very common during the late fourth to fifth century (Hayes 1972: 112–116). A coarse ware variant has been found previously (Pl. 3.14:1).

#### *Mortaria*

*Pl. 3.21:2* Fragment of mortarium with everted downturned ledge-rim (D. 32 cm).

This is the classical Late Roman/Byzantine mortarium. The coarse fabric suggests that it is a product of a North Syrian workshop, maybe Ras el-Bassit (see above Pl. 3.7:38–39).

*Pl. 3.21:3* Fragment of mortarium with thick short ledge-rim flattened on top (D. 34 cm).

This mortarium is similar to that found in F-656 (Pl. 3.14:1) and is dated from the second to the fourth century (Tsuf 2018: 161–162, fig. 9.14: 297–305).

<sup>10</sup>The handle was not preserved, only the attachment, so its shape could be different.

*Pl. 3.21:4* Fragment of mortarium with everted round rim with flange and deep groove below (D. 34 cm).

This mortarium is similar to the one from F-656 (Pl. 3.14:2). It is possibly a variant (maybe local?) of the previous type.

#### *Casserole*

*Pl. 3.21:5* Fragment of casserole with beveled rim (D. 22 cm).

Casseroles are a common cooking vessel during the Byzantine period (for a discussion, see Vincenz 2020a: 84–85).

#### *Storage Jars*

These storage jars have a bag-shaped body, usually densely ribbed, sometimes with rather deep ribbing. All the jars have a protruding ridge at the base of the neck. Large loop-handles are positioned on the upper body. They are generally made of gritty orange fabric and frequently have clay accretions on the rim, neck, and/or body.

*Pl. 3.21:6* Fragment of storage jar with slightly bulging neck (H. 4.5 cm) and flanged rim (D. 9 cm). Protruding ridge at base of neck and ribbed body.

The jar can be paralleled with Riley's Caesarea Jar Type 1A with flanged rim, which was common during the second–fourth centuries (Riley 1975: 26). They were still produced in the fifth century CE with a shorter neck and “a less crisp appearance” (Riley 1975: 26).

*Pl. 3.21:7* Fragment of storage jar with slightly inverted neck (H. 4.5 cm) and externally thickened round rim (D. 9 cm). Protruding ridge at base of neck and deeply ribbed body.

*Pl. 3.21:8* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 4.4 cm) and externally thickened round rim (D. 9 cm). Protruding ridge at base of neck.

*Pl. 3.21:9* Fragment of storage jar with slightly bulging neck (H. 4 cm) and externally thickened round rim (D. 9 cm). Protruding ridge at base of neck.

*Pl. 3.21:10* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 4.5 cm) and flanged rim (D. 9 cm). Protruding ridge at base of neck and ribbed body.

This jar can also be paralleled at Caesarea Maritima (Jar Type 1B in Riley 1975: 26–27). Rim shapes vary but are mostly rounded, sometimes thickened, folded, or rolled. These jars follow Type 1A after the fifth century and were produced until the seventh century CE (Johnson 2008b: 87–88).

#### *Amphora*

##### *Mid-Roman Amphorae 4/Agora G199*

*Pl. 3.21:11* Fragment of amphora with flaring neck and heavy thickened rim (D. 13 cm). Pinched handles are drawn from mid-neck.

These amphorae have a short cylindrical body with an elongated toe. The handles drawn from mid-neck are right-angled, grooved, and pinched from the sides. This amphora type was produced in Rough Cilicia, Turkey (Williams 1989: 90–95) and might as well have been produced in Cyprus (Hayes 1977: 96–101). These amphorae were used from the late first century CE to the fourth century CE (Johnson 2008b: 102; Riley 1979: 186–187).

*Pl. 3.21:12* Solid amphora toe rounded at base (D. n/a).

This solid toe belongs to an imported amphora.

#### **DATING OF F-739**

Two phases can be distinguished in this feature. The Early Roman phase and a later phase, at the

beginning of the Byzantine period, probably until the fifth century CE.

**F-742 (PL. 3.22)**

Only a few ceramics were recovered from this feature, dated to the Late Byzantine period.

***Bowls***

*LRC Bowl 3 Related?*

*Pl. 3.22:1* Fragment of bowl with external flange and round rim (D. 22 cm).

This fine ware bowl is similar to LRC bowls Form 3 (Hayes 1972: 329–336), but given the rather small flange, it could be a degenerate late form, possibly of the sixth or seventh century.

*LRC Bowl Form 10C*

*Pl. 3.22:2* Fragment of bowl with flat knob rim (D. 26 cm).

Bowls of this form but variant 10A were discussed above (Pls 3.5:1–2, 3.7:20, 3.11:2, 3.19:4–5). Form 10C with a flattened knob rim was in use at the same as Form 10A from the late sixth to seventh century and maybe later.

*FBW Bowl*

*Pl. 3.22:3* Fragment of deep bowl with pinched rim (D. 11 cm). Incised wavy line.

FBW bowls are quite common at NRQ and have been discussed above (Pls 3.5:3–4; 3.7:31–32; 3.9:1, 3.16:1–2, 3.19:6–12). Although they were probably produced in or around Jerusalem, they appear to have been traded farther away. The example here can be identified with Magness' FBW Bowl Form 1E, as were the examples from F-733 (Pl. 3.19:6–12), dated to the eighth and ninth centuries.

*Bowl/Lid*

*Pl. 3.22:4* Fragment of bowl/lid with round rim (D. 20 cm) with incised line under the rim.

This bowl/lid is made of semi-fine fabric and could either be a bowl or a lid.

*Storage Jars*

*Pl. 3.22:5* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 4 cm) and round rim (D. 12 cm). Protruding ridge at base of neck.

This jar can be paralleled with Magness' Form 4B, dated to the fifth and sixth centuries (Magness 1993: 224–225).

*Pl. 3.22:6* Fragment of storage jar/jug with straight neck (H. 5.1 cm) and round rim (D. 8 cm)

This jar/jug is quite simple in shape, its peculiarity are the burnished bands. A similar jar/jug was found in F-733 (Pl. 3.19:27), and because of the burnished bands, a dating of the vessel to the Late Byzantine period is suggested.

*Jug*

*Pl. 3.22:7* Fragment of jug with straight ribbed neck and round rim (D. 9 cm). One loop-handle is drawn from the rim.

The jug is made of a rather fine fabric and can probably be paralleled with a jug (jar?) from Ramla (Cytryn-Silverman 2010: pl. 9.2:13). A somewhat similar jug comes from the White Mosque Street excavations in Ramla (Kohn-Tavor 2017: fig. 2.34:5). Although the body shape in the present fragment is unknown, it seems to be a jug with one single loop-handle drawn from the rim. Dating to the Late Byzantine and Early Islamic periods is suggested.

*Juglet*

*Pl. 3.22:8* Fragment of juglet with ribbed body and string-cut base (D. 3.5 cm).



Juglets with ribbed body are common during the Byzantine period (for bases, see Magness 1993: 246; Vincenz 2020b: fig. 3.5:8–9). A similar juglet was found in a burial cave at ‘En Lavan, Nahal Ref’aim (Vincenz 2020c: fig. 2:7). The juglet can be dated to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period.

#### DATING OF F-742

Although only little ceramic evidence comes from this feature, it is clearly dated to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period.

#### F-745 (PL. 3.23)

Only scarce ceramic material was retrieved from this feature.

#### Bowls

##### *LRC Bowl Form 1*

*Pl. 3.23:1* Fragment of bowl with inverted round rim (D. 24 cm).

This type was discussed above (Pl. 3.7:10–11) and is dated to the fourth and fifth centuries (Hayes 1972: 325–327).

##### *LRC Bowl Form 3C*

*Pl. 3.23:2* Fragment of bowl with triangular flanged rim (D. 26 cm).

Although LRC bowls of Form 3 are common at NRQ (Pls 3.7:12–19, 3.11:1, 3.19:3), the variant 3C is not. It is the standard shape of the fifth century (Hayes 1972: 337).

#### *Casserole*

*Pl. 3.23:3* Fragment of small casserole with beveled rim (D. 16 cm).

This small casserole with horizontal handles can be dated to the Byzantine period (Magness 1993: 211–213).

#### *Storage Jars*

*Pl. 3.23:4* Fragment of storage jar with bulging neck (H. 3 cm) and pinched rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.23:5* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 3 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

This jar has a bag-shaped body covered with dense ribbing. Clay accretions are often found on the neck and body.

This is the most common jar type found at NRQ during the Byzantine period, e.g., in the Byzantine winepresses, dated to the fifth–seventh centuries (Vincenz 2015: 100, fig. 5.3:9–11; above in Pl. 19:29–31).

*Pl. 3.23:6* Fragment of storage jar with inverted neck (H. 4 cm) and internally thickened rim (D. 10 cm).

This jar with bag-shaped ribbed body can be dated to the fifth and sixth centuries (Storage Jars Form 4B in Magness 1993: 224–225).

#### *Jug*

*Pl. 3.23:7* Fragment of jug with bulging ribbed neck and inverted round rim (D. 6 cm).

This jug probably has a globular or ovoid body. A similar jug with a slightly wider rim was found in Jerusalem (Vincenz 2020b: 91, Fig. 3.8:13). This jug should be dated to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic period.

#### DATING OF F-745

The meager ceramic remains from this feature date it to the Byzantine or Late Byzantine period.

#### F-950 (PL. 3.24)

A large number of pottery fragments were found in this feature, clearly evidencing two phases: one

of the Hellenistic period and the other of the Late Hellenistic/Early Roman period.

### ***Hellenistic and Early Roman Ceramics***

#### ***Plate and Bowls***

##### *Fish Plate*

*Pl. 3.24:1* Fragment of bowl with downturned ledge-rim (D. 10 cm).

This bowl features black concentric painted bands on the interior. It belongs to the group of fish plates common during the second century BCE (Guz-Zilberstein 1995: 291, fig. 6.3:6–16).

##### *Bowls with Incurved Rim*

*Pl. 3.24:2* Fragment of bowl with incurved rim (D. 10 cm) and flat string-cut base.

*Pl. 3.24:3* Fragment of bowl with sharply incurved rim (D. 10 cm) and flat string-cut base.

*Pl. 3.24:4* Fragment of bowl with sharply incurved rim (D. 11 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:5* Fragment of bowl with sharply incurved rim (D. 10 cm).

These bowls continue the tradition of bowls with incurved rim of the Hellenistic period and are common during the second century BCE continuing into the first century BCE (Guz-Zilberstein 1995: 290, fig. 6.1:34–38) and probably were still in use at the beginning of the first century CE (Bar-Nathan 2006: 132, pl. 25:1–3).

#### ***Cooking Pots***

*Pl. 3.24:6* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring neck and slightly beveled rim (D. 10 cm).

This Hellenistic cooking pot has a long lifespan from the fourth century BCE to the second century BCE (Guz-Zilberstein 1995: 298, fig. 6.17:1–7).

*Pl. 3.24:7* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and thickened round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:8* Fragment of cooking pot with straight neck and thickened round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:9* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring neck and thickened round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:10* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring neck and everted grooved rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:11* Fragment of cooking pot with flaring neck and everted grooved rim (D. 10 cm).

The cooking pots have a globular body frequently with ribbing. The neck is rather high, and the rim can have different shapes. These cooking pots were common in Judea and are dated from the late first century BCE to the second century CE (Tsuf 2018: 178, fig. 9.20:379–386, with parallels therein).

#### ***Storage Jars***

Two types of storage jars can be identified: those of the Persian/Hellenistic tradition (*Pl. 3.24:12–17*) and collared-neck jars of the Early Roman tradition (*Pl. 3.24:18–23*).

##### *Hellenistic Jars*

*Pl. 3.24:12* Fragment of jar with short, everted neck and round rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:13* Fragment of neckless jar with everted round rim (D. 11 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:14* Fragment of jar with sharply everted thickened rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:15* Fragment of jar with short neck and everted rolled rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:16* Fragment of jar with short neck and folded rim (D. 12 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:17* Fragment of jar with short neck and folded rim (D. 11 cm).

Bag-shaped jars of the Hellenistic period have an elongated body with round shoulders. The loop-handles are positioned just below the shoulder (Guz-Zilberstein 1995: 311, figs 6.35, 6.36:1–4). Different rim shapes can be recognized. They are dated from the late third to the middle of the first century BCE (Tsuf 2018: 220, fig. 9.34:586–600, with parallels therein). At NRQ, they are found with material from the first century CE.

#### *Collared-Neck Jars*

*Pl. 3.24:18* Fragment of storage jar with collared neck (4.9 cm) and round rim (D. 11 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:19* Fragment of storage jar with flaring collared neck (5.5 cm) and thickened round rim (D. 11 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:20* Fragment of storage jar with flaring collared neck (5.5 cm) and thickened round rim (D. 11 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:21* Fragment of storage jar with sharply everted collared neck (5 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:22* Fragment of storage jar with flaring collared neck (4 cm) and round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:23* Fragment of storage jar with everted collared neck (4.3 cm) and round rim (D. 11 cm).

Collared neck jars were discussed above extensively (Pls 3.8:42–43, 3.15:7–14, 3.17:7–9). The jars with short collar are dated to the first century CE (Pl. 3.24:23), while those with long collar are dated earlier, to the first century BCE (Pl. 3.24:18–22).

#### *Jugs*

*Pl. 3.24:24* Fragment of jug with wide neck and sharply everted beveled rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:25* Fragment of jug with straight neck and everted thickened round rim (D. 10 cm).

*Pl. 3.24:26* Fragment of jug with flaring neck and sharply everted thickened rim (D. 9 cm).

These fragments belong to globular jugs with everted rim and a single loop-handle extending from the rim to the shoulder. They can be paralleled with jugs found at Jaffa (Tsuf 2018: 124). Those with wide neck (Pl. 24:24–25) are dated to the second century BCE, while those with the more flaring neck (Pl. 24:26) are dated from the late first century BCE to the first century CE (Tsuf 2018: 124–125, fig. 9.6:136–145).

*Pl. 3.24:27* Fragment of small jug with narrow neck and everted round rim (D. 4.2 cm).

This small jug can be paralleled with a jug found at Jaffa, dated from the first century BCE to the first century CE (Tsuf 2018: 128, fig. 9.7:156).

#### *Juglet*

*Pl. 3.24:28* Fragment of juglet with cup-mouth rim (D. 2.4 cm).

Cup-mouth juglets are the most common perfume container during the Late Hellenistic/Early Roman period. These juglets are rather common at NRQ and were found in tombs, hiding complexes, and ritual baths. They are dated from the first century BCE to the first century CE (Vincenz 2020d: 129, pl. 3.21:1–2).

*Pl. 3.24:29* Fragment of base (D. 3 cm).

The round base probably belonged to an *unguentarium* (Bar-Nathan 2002: pl. 10:93–102). It seems to have been reworked and may have been used as a stopper for a juglet.

#### **DATING OF F-950**

This feature was clearly in use already during the Hellenistic period and continued to be used in the Late Hellenistic/Early Roman period.

**F-979 (PLS 3.25–3.26)**

Only a few fragments were retrieved from this feature.

***Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Ceramics***

*Cooking Pots*

*Pl. 3.25:1* Fragment of cooking pot with bulging neck and incurved folded rim (D. 8 cm).

A cooking pot of the same type comes from F-417 and is dated from the end of the first century BCE to the beginning of the second century CE (Vincenz 2020d: 114, pl. 3.1:5).

*Pl. 3.25:2* Fragment of cooking pot with bulging neck and incurved flanged rim (D. 8 cm).

*Pl. 3.25:3* Fragment of cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and incurved grooved rim with external flange (D. 9 cm).

This globular cooking pot type has a rather high neck, and the rim is triangular in section. The loop-handles are drawn from the rim to the shoulder. They are dated from the first century CE to the first third of the second century (Bar-Nathan 2006: 159–160, pl. 29:34–38).

*Storage Jars*

*Pl. 3.25:4* Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 5 cm) and grooved externally thickened rim (D. 9 cm).

*Pl. 3.25:5* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 4.5 cm) and grooved rim (D. 9 cm).

This type of storage jar has an ovoid body and was found at Masada (Bar-Nathan 2006: 57–58, pl. 8:39–42), where it is dated from the first century CE to the first third of the second century.

*Pl. 3.25:6* Fragment of storage jar with slightly flaring neck (H. 5.8 cm) and everted round rim (D. 9 cm).

A similar jar comes from Jaffa and is dated to the first–mid-second century CE (Tsuf 2018: 229–230, fig. 9.37:642).

*Juglet*

*Pl. 3.25:7* Fragment of cup-mouth juglet (D. 2 cm).

Cup-mouth juglets were discussed above (Pl. 3.24:28). They are dated from the first century BCE to the first century CE.

***Byzantine Ceramics***

*Bowls*

*LRC Bowl Form 3C*

*Pl. 3.26:1* Fragment of bowl with triangular flanged rim (D. 20 cm).

This is the second fragment of this variant, discussed above (Pl. 3.23:2). It is dated to the fifth century CE (Hayes 1972: 337).

*LRD Bowl Form 1*

*Pl. 3.26:2* Fragment of bowl with round rim (D. 20 cm).

Bowls of this form were found at NRQ and are discussed above (Pl. 3.7:21–23). They should be dated to the late fourth–end of fifth century.

*Basin*

*Pl. 3.26:3* Fragment of basin with ledge-rim (D. 30 cm). Combed wavy lines on rim. Misfired.

This large basin was clearly produced locally and should probably be dated to the Byzantine period.

*Cooking Pot*

*Pl. 3.26:4* Fragment of globular cooking pot with short neck and everted thickened rim (D. 14 cm).

The globular body of these cooking pots is covered with dense ribbing. The large loop-handles are drawn above the rim and to the upper



body. This type of cooking pot with a shorter neck was described above (Pl. 3.19:19–20).

#### *Storage Jar*

Pl. 3.26:5 Fragment of storage jar with straight neck (H. 3.5 cm) and round rim (D. 8 cm).

The bag-shaped jar is covered with deep ribbing, and clay accretions are found on the body. The loop-handles are coarsely made and positioned on the upper body. Similar jars were found at Naḥal Peḥar and were classified as Rehovot-in-the-Negev Jar Form 1 (Vincenz 2019: 17–20, fig. 7: 8–14), dated to the fifth–sixth centuries.

### CONCLUSIONS

The ceramic finds unearthed in the ritual baths at NRQ, on the whole, can be dated from the Hellenistic period to the Late Byzantine/Early Islamic periods. Although Mamluk ceramics were found in some of the features, they were not included in this report.<sup>11</sup> It appears that many of the *miqwa'ot* were built during the Early Roman period, probably even earlier in the Late

Hellenistic period. They were extensively reused or filled up from the Byzantine period to the beginning of the Early Islamic period.

Several of the features are connected to previously published hiding complexes. The ceramics found in those features are comparable, with many of the same types.

The pottery found in the features is very standard for the site and for both periods. Many types have been found at NRQ before, although some are new. Interestingly, the tableware was imported from North Africa and Asia Minor during the Byzantine period. This suggests that the Byzantine inhabitants of NRQ had access to local markets and were involved in commerce. It could be suggested that the wine produced in the many wine presses at NRQ was traded possibly from one of the local markets, e.g., at Jaffa or, more likely, Caesarea Maritima.

The Hellenistic period material adds a new dimension to the site's history, as does the Late Roman/Early Byzantine pottery, which has so far been missing at the site.

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<sup>11</sup> These finds will be published separately when dealing with the Mamluk occupation at the site.

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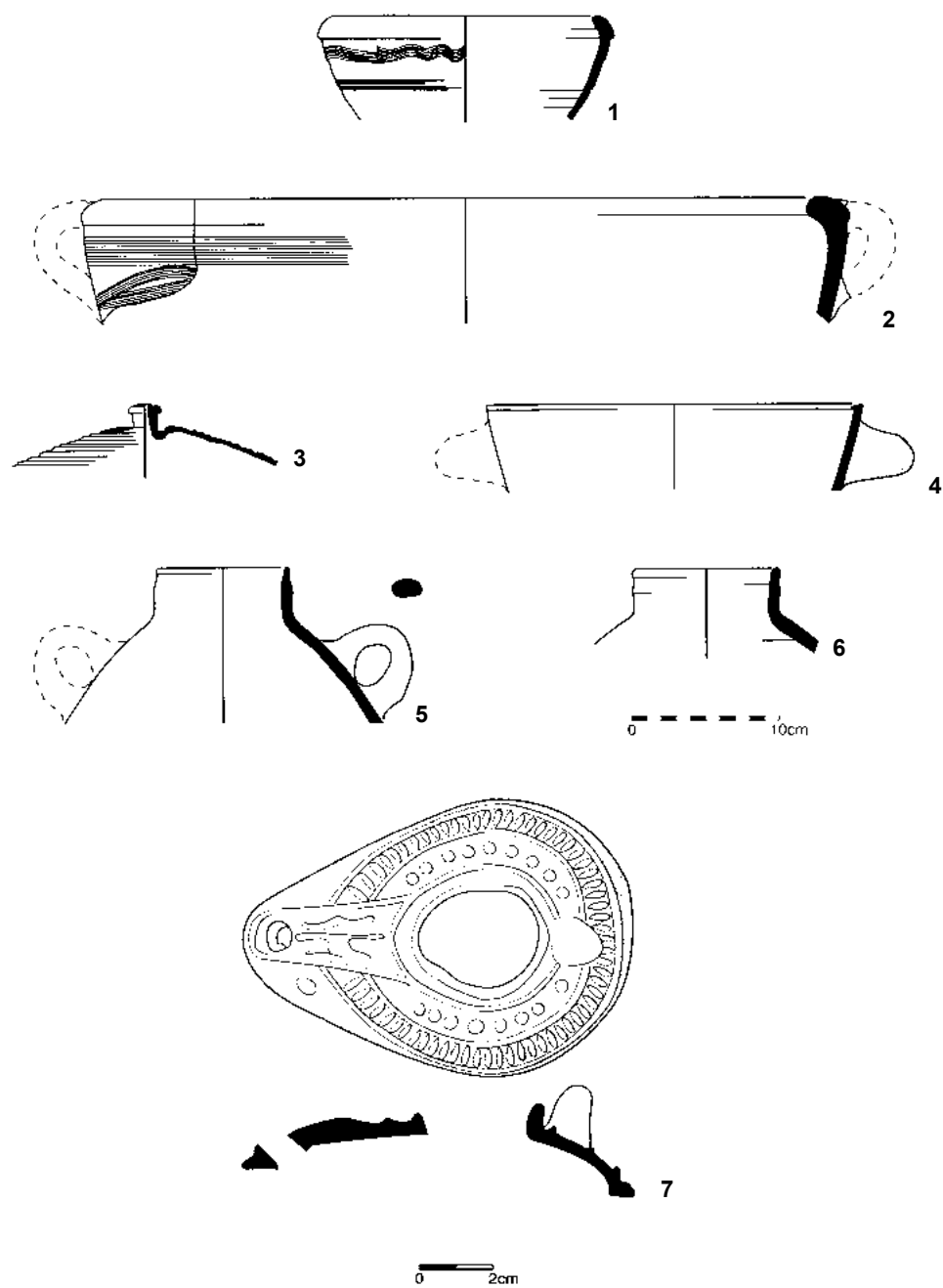
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**Pl. 3.1.** Feature 460 — Bowl, Basin, Casserole, Lid, Storage Jars and Lamp.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Large Bowl	L.10128 B.R996/1	2.5YR 5/6–5/8 red with many small round white and medium size angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 8/3 pink	Fragment: deep large bowl with inverted folded rim. Combed straight and wavy lines on body	Diam. 17 Rim 20%
2	Basin	L.10128 B.R996/2	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few small round and angular white inclusions and few large round black inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: basin with inverted thickened round rim. Combed straight and wavy lines on body. Small loop handles on the body	Diam. 38 Rim 8%
3	Cooking Pot Lid	L.10128 B.R996/28	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 4/6 red	Fragment: ribbed lid with central depression and knob with steam hole	n/a
4	Casserole	L.10128 B.R996/30	5YR 3/4 dark reddish brown with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/3 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with beveled rim and horizontal heavy handles	Diam. 26 Rim 7.5%
5	Storage Jar	L.10128 B.R996/8	5YR 5/4 brown with few small round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: jar with slightly bulging neck (3 cm) and pinched rim. Clay accretions on rim and body and small loop-handles are positioned on upper body	Diam. 8 Rim 12%
6	Storage Jar	L.10128 B.R996/16	5YR 5/4 brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/4 brown	Fragment: jar with slightly bulging neck (3 cm) and slightly pinched rim. Clay accretions on rim and body	Diam. 8 Rim 25%
7	Lamp	L.10129 B.S164	10YR 7/4 very pale brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/2 pale yellow	Fragment: upper part of lamp with ladder pattern and dots on rim, and stylized flower in nozzle. Nozzle burnt	Length: 10.5 Width: 7.6

**Pl. 3.1.** Feature 460 — Bowl, Basin, Casserole, Lid, Storage Jars and Lamp.

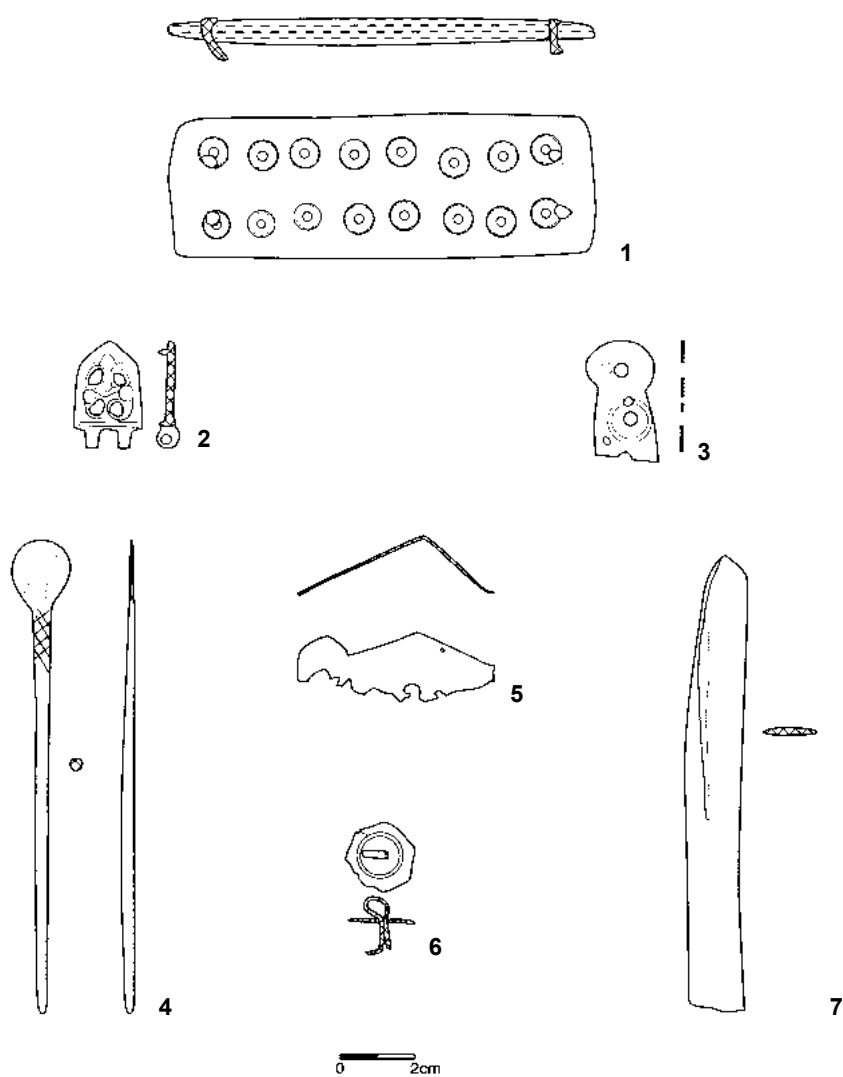


**Pl. 3.2.** Feature 460 — Bone and Metal Objects.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Material</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Bone Lid	L.10129 B.R987	Bone and Bronze	Complete: bone plaque with drilled circles with central hole. At each end a bronze nail	Length: 11.2 Width: 3.9
2	Buckle	L.X60 B.S212	Copper Alloy	Complete: buckle with pierced flower decoration	Length: 3 Width: 1.7
3	Cosmetic Spoon	L.10129 B.S160	Copper Alloy	Complete: flat spoon with incised crisscross decoration	Length: 12.5 Diam: 1.4
4	Hinge	L.10129 B.S111/1	Copper Alloy	Fragment: hinge? of box with rounded edge with holes and incised circle	Length: 3.1 Width: 1.8
5	Hinge	L.10129 B.S111/2	Copper Alloy	Fragment: hinge? of box with rounded edge	Length: 5.7 Width: 2
6	Nail/Pin	L.10129 B.S112	Copper Alloy	Almost complete: small round nail with flat head	Diam: 1.9
7	Dagger/Knife	L.X60 B.Q720	Iron	Fragmentary: blade of dagger	Length: 30 Width: 4



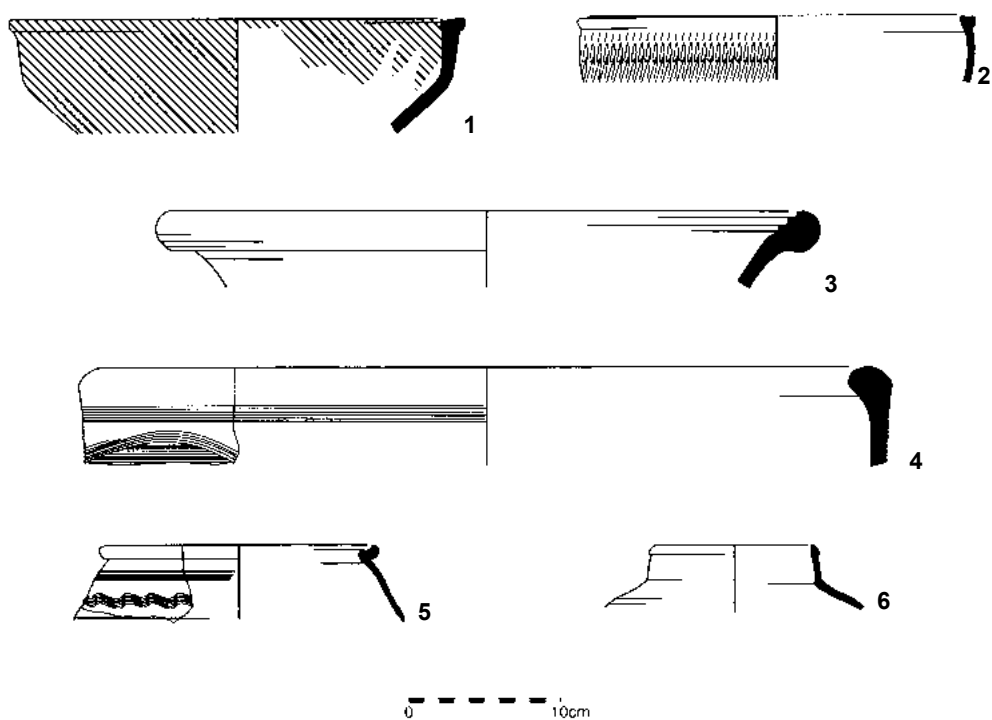
Pl. 3.2. Feature 460 — Bone and Metal Objects.



**Pl. 3.3.** Feature 492 — Bowls, Basins and Cooking Pots.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Rouletted Bowl	L.10130/1 B.R995/1	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few small round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/4 light reddish brown. Surface: drippy slip 2.5YR 4/3 reddish brown	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat flanged rim	Diam. 28 Rim: 14%
2	Rouletted Bowl	L.10130 B.R995/24	7.5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with few small angular white and black inclusions. Surface: black slip	Fragment: bowl with round body with rouletting. The rim is flat with a deep groove	Diam. 24 Rim: 11%
3	Basin	L.10130 B.R995/10	10YR 6/3 pale yellow with few small and medium size angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/2 light gray	Fragment: basin with everted thick ledge-rim with three deep grooves	Diam. 30 Rim: 7.5%
4	Basin	L.10130 B.R995/14	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown. Inner surface: gray for burnt	Fragment: basin with inverted heavy round rim. Combed straight and wavy lines on body	Diam. 36 Rim: 7%
5	Cooking Pot	L.10130 B.R995/23	5YR 5/4 reddish brown with lighter core and few very small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 4/2	Fragment: neckless globular cooking pot with everted round rim with deep groove. Combed straight and wavy lines on body	Diam. 22 Rim: 11%
6	Cooking Pot	L.10130 B.R995/22	5YR 4/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/6 red	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and folded pinched rim	Diam. 12 Rim: 12%

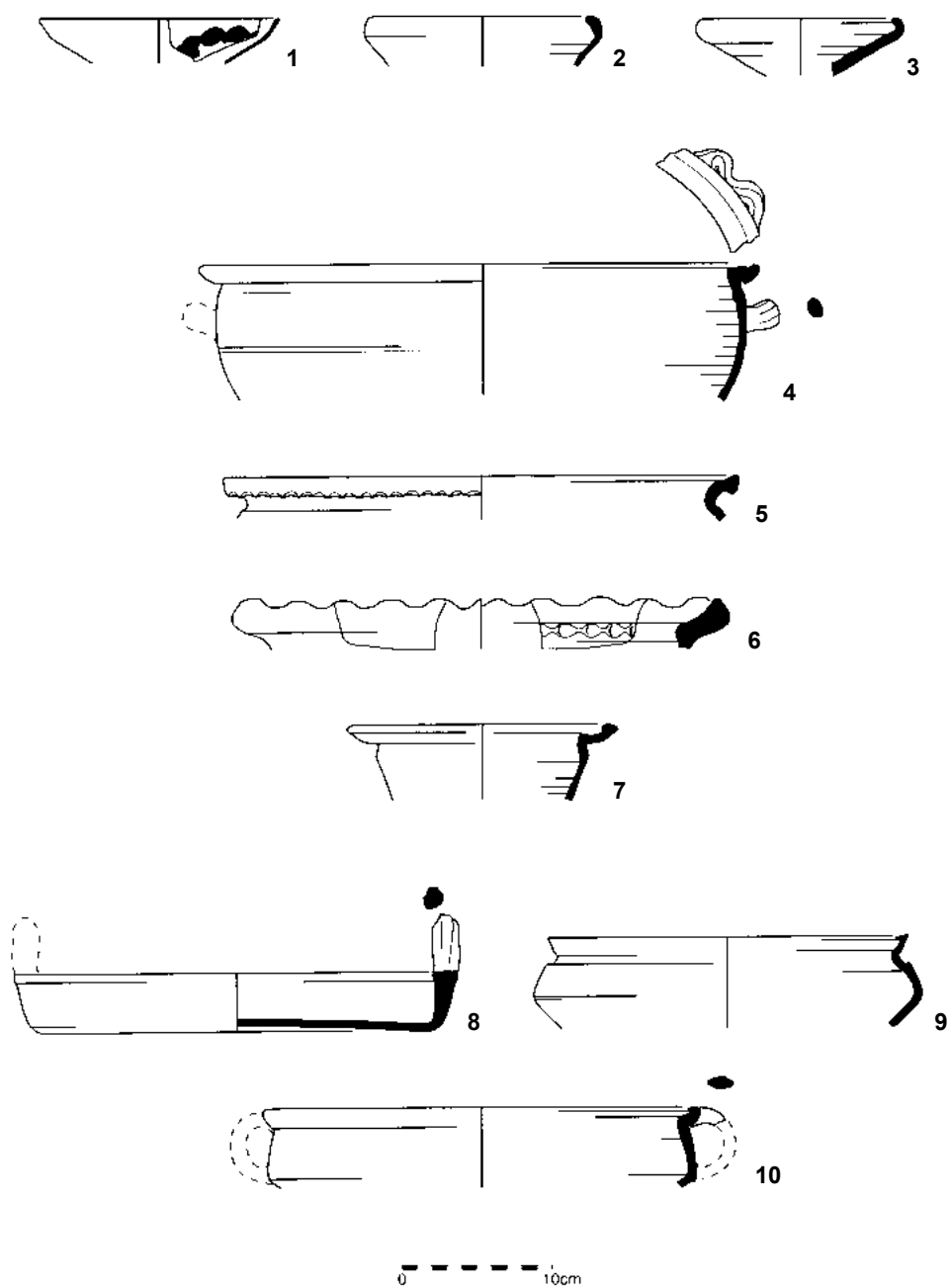
**Pl. 3.3.** Feature 492 — Bowls, Basins and Cooking Pots.



**Pl. 3.4.** Feature 531 — Bowls, Kraters, Pan and Casseroles.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Bowl	L.10166 B.S421/84	2.5YR 7/8 light red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/8 light red and painted decoration	Fragment: bowl with pinched rim	Diam. 12 Rim: 7%
2	Bowl	L.10166 B.S421/62	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/8 light red	Fragment: bowl with sharply inverted round rim	Diam. 11 Rim: 12.5%
3	Bowl	L.10166 B.S421/61	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: deep bowl with sharply inverted round rim	Diam. 10 Rim: 8%
4	Krater	L.10166 B.S421/49-50	2.5YR 5/8 red with thin gray core and few small round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6–5/6 light red to red	Fragment: deep round krater with everted grooved ledge-rim. Horizontal wavy handles are positioned on the body	Diam. 32 Rim: 11%
5	Krater	L.10166 B.S421/55	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: krater with carination and everted rim with thumb impressed edge	Diam. 32 Rim: 32%
6	Krater	L.10166 B.S421/48	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4–6/4 pink to light reddish brown	Fragment: krater with up-turned ledge-rim with wavy rim and thumb impressed band at transition to body	Diam. 30 Rim: 7.5%
7	Large Bowl or Krater	L.10166 B.S421/138	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: bowl with deep body with high carination. Everted ledge-rim with step	Diam. 18 Rim: 30%
8	Pan	L.10166 B.S421/119	2.5YR 4/6 red with thick gray core and few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/3 reddish brown and burnt	Fragmentary: shallow pan with straight walls and flat rim. Vertical loop-handles are positioned on the rim	Diam. 32 Rim: 40%
9	Casserole	L.10166 B.S421/132	Burnt black with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/2 reddish gray and burnt	Fragment: carinated casserole with flat stepped rim	Diam. 22 Rim: 5%
10	Casserole	L.10166 B.S421/134	2.5YR 6/8 light red with thick core and few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: carinated casserole with flat stepped rim. Two loop-handles are drawn from the rim to the carination	Diam. 26 Rim: 10%

Pl. 3.4. Feature 531 — Bowls, Kraters, Pan and Casseroles.

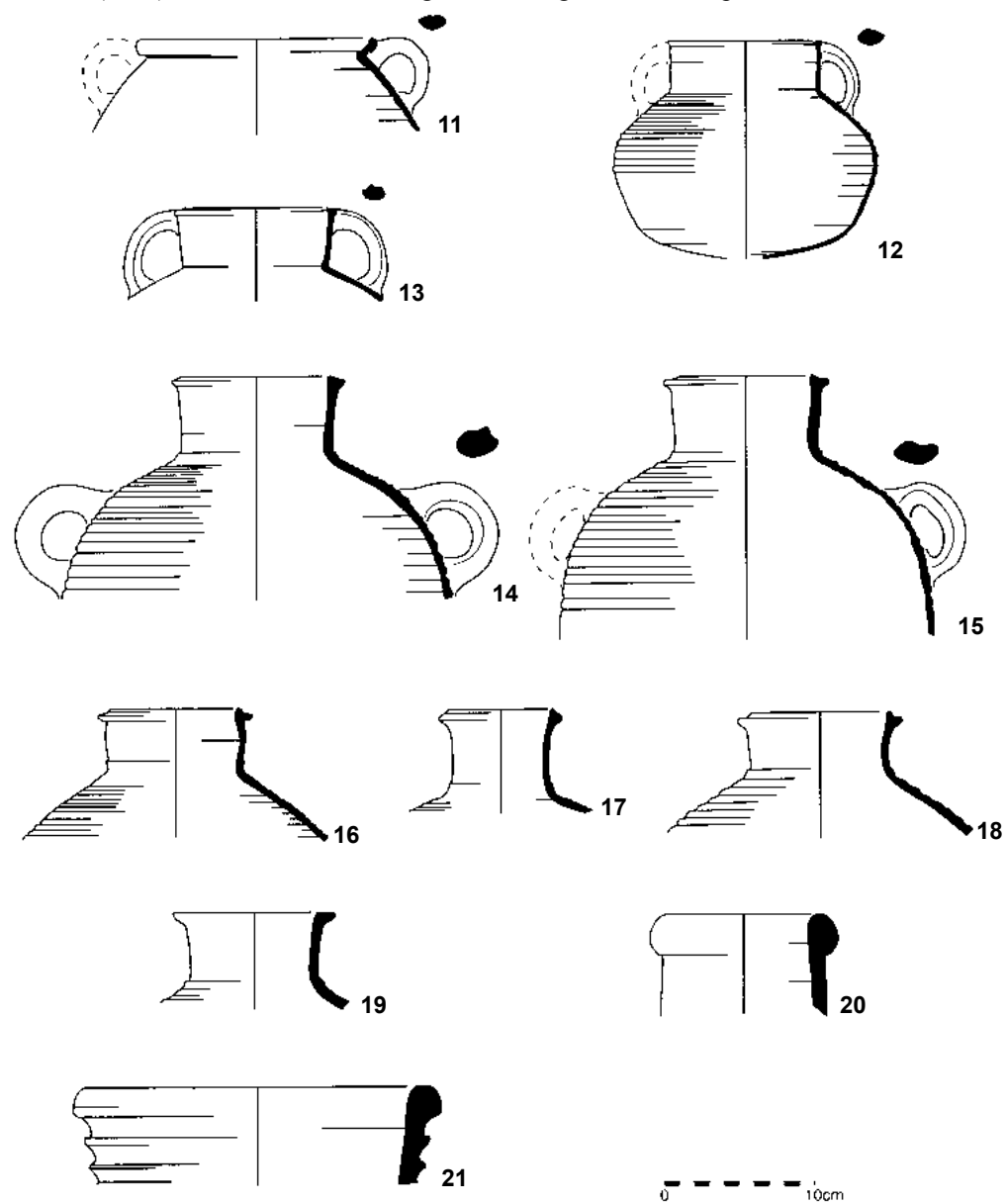




**Pl. 3.4.** (cont.) Feature 531 — Cooking Pots, Storage Jars and Amphora.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
11	Cooking Pot	L.10166 B.S421/130	5YR 5/4 reddish brown with few very small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: casserole with globular body and everted grooved ledge-rim. Handles are drawn from the rim to the body	Diam. 16 Rim: 15%
12	Cooking Pot	L.10166 B.S421/104	5YR 4/3 brown with few very small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Almost complete: cooking pot with straight neck and thickened rim. Globular ribbed body and two handles drawn from rim to upper body	Diam. 9 Rim: 52%
13	Cooking Pot	L.10166 B.S421/118	2.5YR 5/6–5/8 red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 4/6 red	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly everted neck and beveled flanged rim. Two handles are drawn from rim to upper body	Diam. 10 Rim: 100%
14	Storage Jar	L.10168 B.S489/17	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many small round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink to 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragmentary: jar with slightly everted neck (4.5 cm) with flat rim with depression. Ribbed body and handles are placed on shoulder	Diam. 10 Rim: 100%
15	Storage Jar	L.10166 B.S421/145	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many very small round white and medium-sized round black inclusions. Surface: pale 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragmentary: jar with slightly everted neck (4.5 cm) with flat rim with deep depression. Body is ribbed and handles are placed on shoulder	Diam. 10.5 Rim: 60%
16	Storage Jar	L.10166 B.S421/137	2.5YR 5/8 red with core and with many small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/4–5/4 light reddish brown to reddish brown	Fragment: jar with bulging neck (5 cm) with externally beveled rim with deep depression. Shallow ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 9 Rim: 30%
17	Storage Jar	L.10166 L.S421/140	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: jar with slightly everted neck (4.8 cm) with externally beveled rim with depression. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 8 Rim: 42%
18	Storage Jar	L.10166 B.S421/144	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: jar with slightly everted neck (4 cm) with externally beveled rim with depression. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 11 Rim: 98%
19	Storage Jar	L.10166 B.S421/142	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round white and few small angular red inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: jar with slightly everted neck (4.5 cm) with flat rim with depression. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 11.5 Rim: 95%
20	Amphora	L.10166 B.S421/57	10YR 7/4 very pale brown with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/3 pale yellow	Fragment: amphora with tall neck and round externally thickened rim	Diam. 10 Rim: 36%
21	Large Jar	L.10166 B.S421/87	7.5YR 4/6 strong brown with few small round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: jar with deeply grooved everted neck and round externally thickened rim	Diam. 16 Rim: 12%

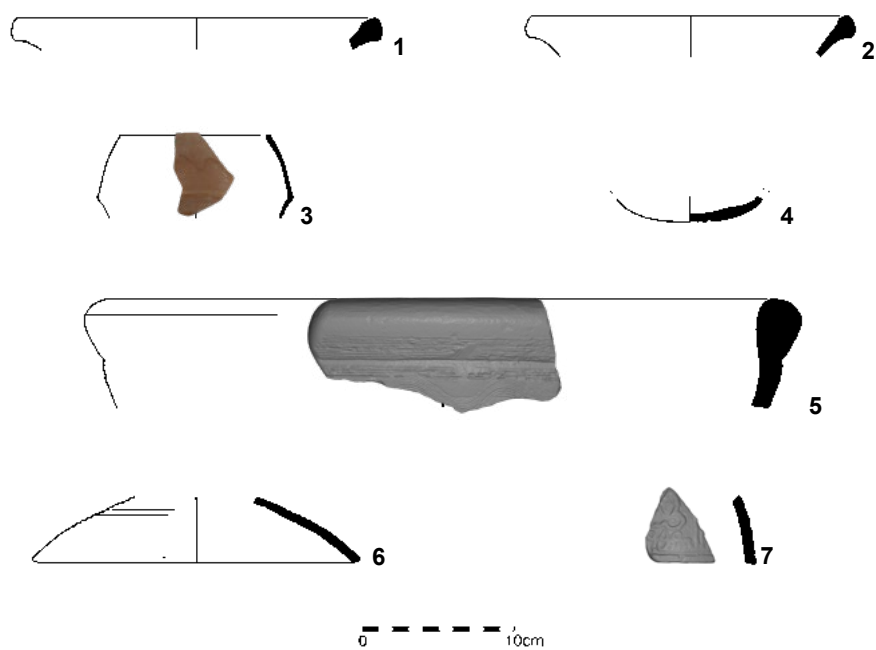
Pl. 3.4. (cont.) Feature 531 — Cooking Pots, Storage Jars and Amphora.



**Pl. 3.5.** Feature 581 — Bowls, Basin, Cooking Pot Lid, Storage Jar and Jug.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	LRC Bowl	L.10498 B.T430/81	10R 5/6 red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/6 red, thin slip	Fragment: bowl with square knob rim	Diam. 26 Rim: 5%
2	LRC Bowl	L.10498 B.T395/134	10R 5/6 red with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/6 red, thin slip	Fragment: bowl with round knob rim	Diam. 26 Rim: 6%
3	FBW Bowl	L.10498 B.T430/83	7.5YR 5/3 brown with few small angular black inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown, burnished bands	Fragment: deep carinated bowl with round rim. Incised wavy line	Diam. n/a Rim: <5%
4	FBW Bowl	L.10498 B.T430/80	7.5YR 5/2–4/2 brown with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red, burnished	Fragment: base of bowl with deeply incised concentric circles	n/a
5	Basin	L.10498 B.T430/55	10R 6/6 light red with many small and large angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown slip	Fragment: large basin with thickened round rim. Combed wavy and straight lines	Diam. 38 Rim: 11.5%
6	Lid	L.10498 B.T430/64	2.5YR 5/6 red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/2 weak red	Fragment: lid with beveled rim. Grooves on body	Diam. 22 Rim: 7%
7	Jug	L.10498 B.T395/152	10YR 8/3 very pale brown with few small angular black inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/2 pale yellow	Fragment: molded jug with Arabic inscription?	n/a

**Pl. 3.5.** Feature 581 — Bowls, Basin, Cooking Pot Lid, Storage Jar and Jug.

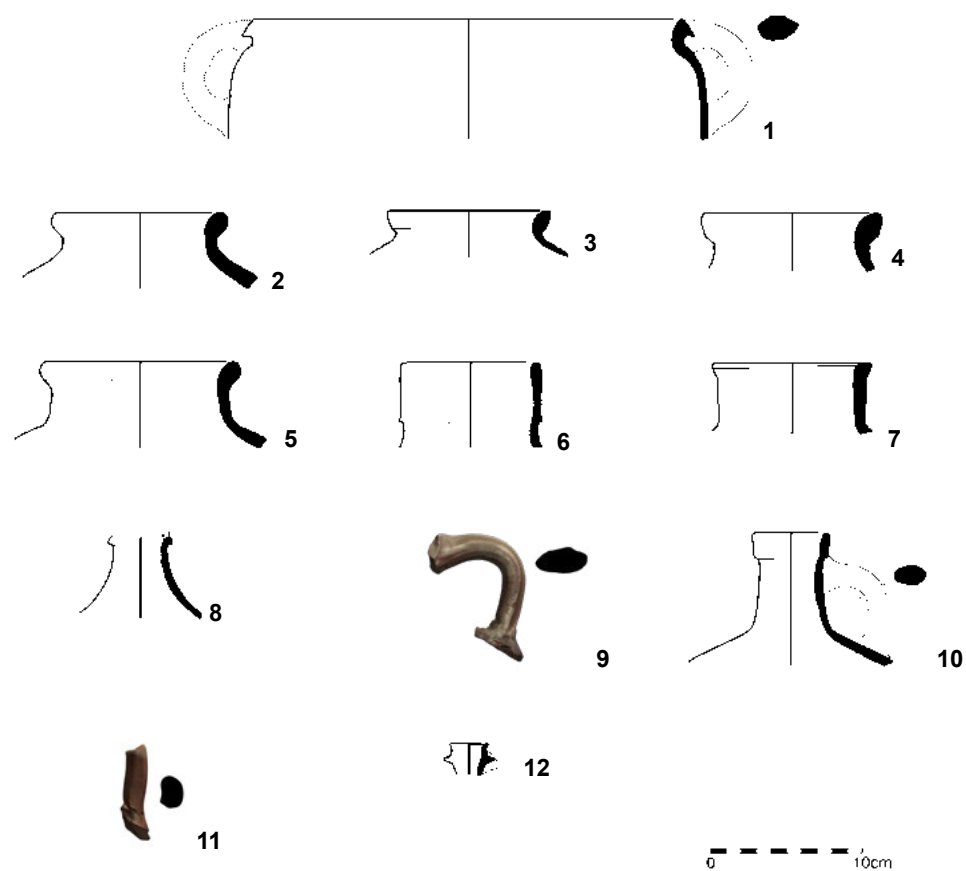


**Pl. 3.6.** Feature 582 — Early Roman Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Cooking Pot	L.10891 B.V856/44	5YR 4/4 reddish brown with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with short neck and flanged rim. Loop- handles	Diam. 22 Rim: 7.5%
2	Storage Jar	L. 10466 B. U169/10	2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown with many small and large round white and few shiny inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and everted thickened rim	Diam. 11 Rim: 33 %
3	Storage Jar	L.10891 B.V652/19	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few minute round black and white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and everted thickened rim. Clay accretions on rim	Diam. 10 Rim: 27.5%
4	Storage Jar	L.10891 B.V652/22	10R 6/6 light red with thick gray core and many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2–8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and everted thickened rim	Diam. 12 Rim: 20%
5	Storage Jar	L.10891 B.V652/10-11	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few minute round black and white and small round black inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with short neck (4 cm) and everted thickened rim	Diam. 13 Rim: 54%
6	Storage Jar	L.12734 B.100467	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with many minute angular white and small angular black inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5.5 cm) with collar and inverted round rim	Diam. 9 Rim: 18%
7	Storage Jar	L.10891 B.V807/2	2.5YR 6/5 red with many very small round white inclusions. Surface: fired to 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with ridged neck (4.2 cm) and beveled flanged rim	Diam. 11 Rim: 30%
8	Red Slipped Jug	L.10981 B.V807/48	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown. Dripping red paint	Fragment: jug with narrow neck widening at top	Diam. ca. 4
9	Red Slipped Jug	L.10891 B.V856/30	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with many small angular white and black inclusions. Surface: remains of slip 7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: jug with everted round rim. Loop-handle	Diam. 9 Rim: 7%
10	Red Slipped Jug	L.10466 B.U796/44	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few very small round white and angular black and few micaceous inclusions. Surface: red slip	Fragment: jug with narrow neck and folded rim. Loop handle is drawn from under fold	Diam. 5 Rim: 100%
11	Red Slipped Jug	L.10891 B.V856/40	5YR 6S/6 yellowish red. Surface: slip 2.5YR 5/8 red	Fragment: handle of jug	n/a
12	Juglet	L.10891 B.V652/25	10YR 5/2 grayish brown with few minute angular and round and few large round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown. Burnt	Fragment: juglet with stepped rim	Diam. 2.5 Rim: 100%



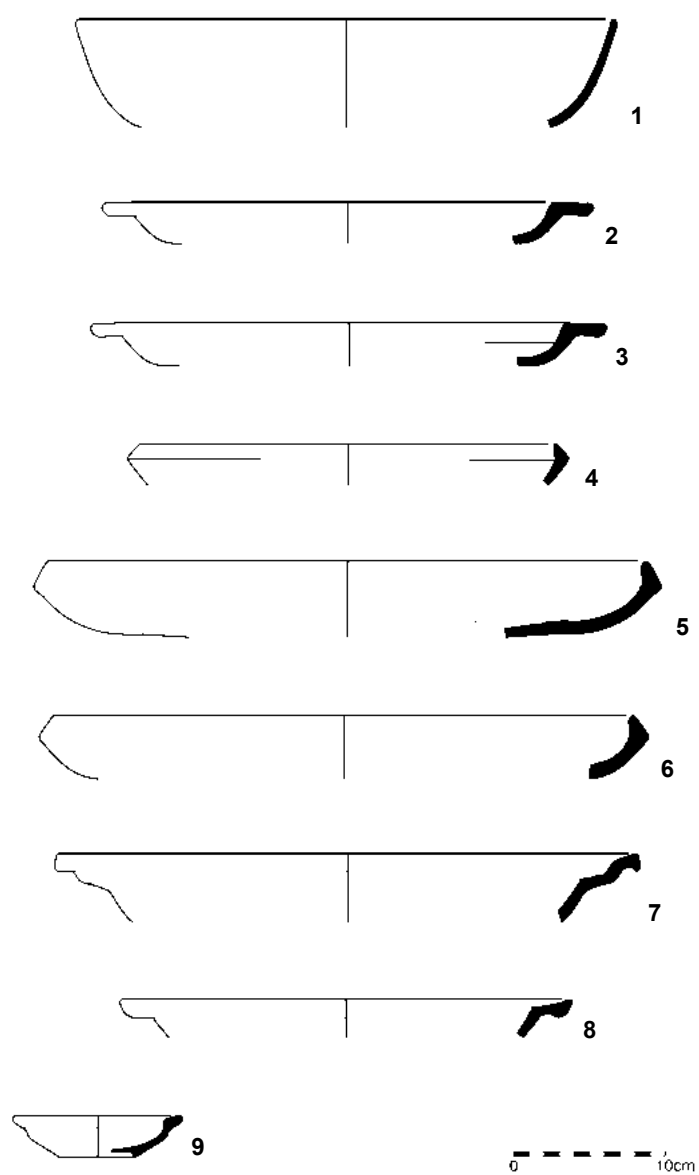
Pl. 3.6. Feature 582 — Early Roman Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.7. Feature 582 — Imported Bowls: African Red Slip Ware.**

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	ARS Form 50	L.10466 B.U796/49	10R 5/8 red with few minute angular black and white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: shallow bowl with pinched rim. Drilled repair hole	Diam. 30 Rim: 5%
2	ARS Form 59	L.10466 B.U169/4	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 6/8 light red	Fragment: bowl with wide ledge rim with grooves	Diam. 28 Rim: <5%
3	ARS Form 59	L.10465 B.T293/97	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 6/8 light red. Burnished	Fragment: bowl with wide ledge rim with groove	Diam. 30 Rim: 7.5%
4	ARS Form 61	L.10891 B.V856/35	2.5YR 6/8 light red with few small angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: shiny slip 2.5YR 6/8 light red	Fragment: bowl with sharply inverted pinched rim	Diam. 25 Rim: 10%
5	ARS Form 61	L.10466 B.U796/47	10R 6/8 light red with many minute angular and round inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 6/8 light red	Fragment: bowl with sharply inverted round rim	Diam. 36 Rim: 12%
6	ARS Form 61	L.10891 B.V807/54	2.5YR 6/8 light red with many small round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 6/8 light red	Fragment: bowl with sharply inverted round rim	Diam. 36 Rim: 9%
7	ARS Form 67	L.10891 B.V856/31	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: shiny slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: bowl with double carinated rim	Diam. ca. 36 Rim: <5%
8	ARS Form 107	L.10465 B.T293/108	10R 6/8 light red with few small round black and white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 6/8 light red. Burnished	Fragment: bowl with wide ledge rim with roll beneath	Diam. 32 Rim: 5%
9	ARS Form 108?	L.14066 B.U169-2	2.5YR 6/8 light red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 6/8 light red	Fragment: small bowl with short ledge rim. Exterior rim discolored. Knife pared	Diam. 11 Rim: 27%

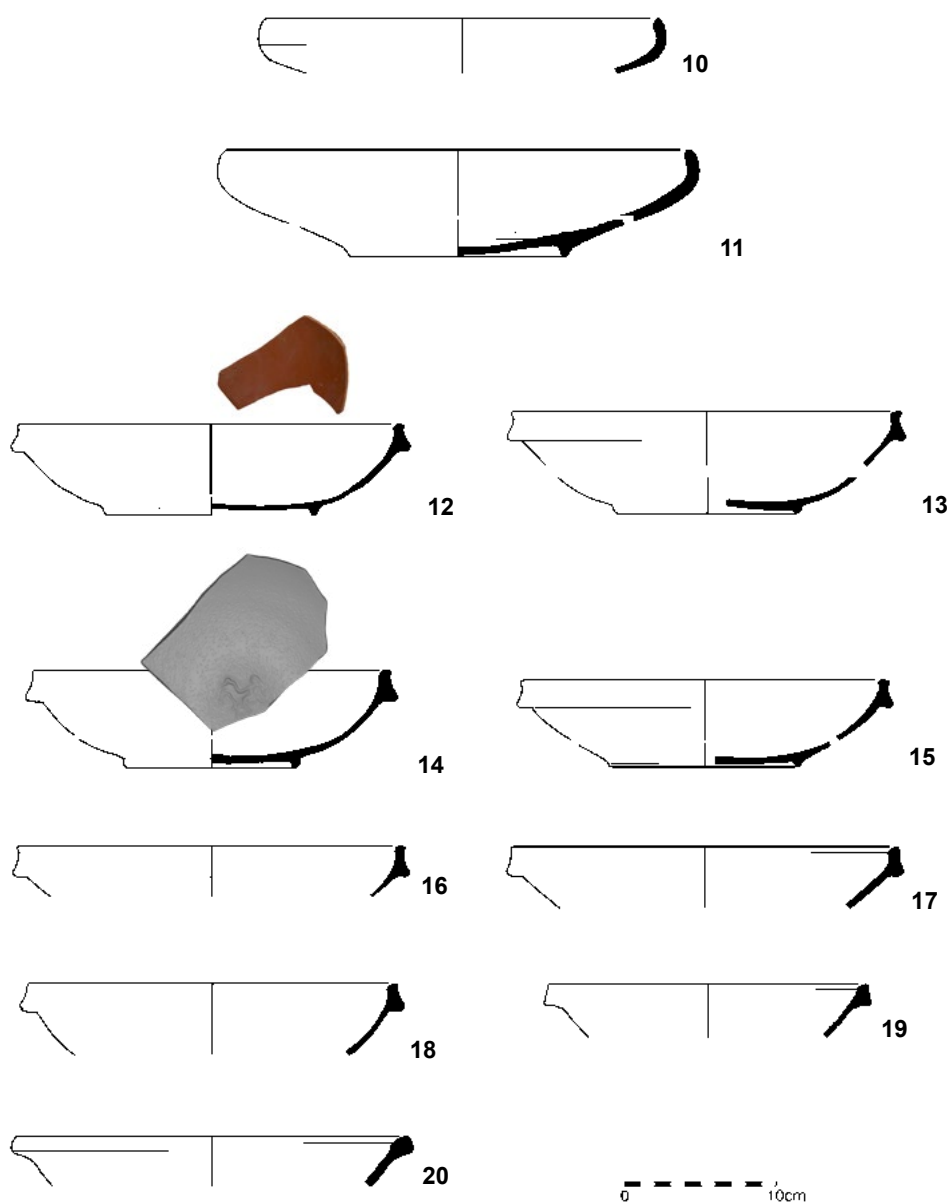
**Pl. 3.7.** Feature 582 — Imported Bowls: African Red Slip Ware.



**Pl. 3.7. (cont.) Feature 582 — Imported Bowls: Late Roman C Ware.**

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
10	LRC Form 1	L.10465 B.T293/101	2.5YR 6/6 light red. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red. Burnished	Fragment: bowl with inverted round rim	Diam. 20 Rim: 6%
11	LRC Form 1	L.10891 B.T293/ 26a–f, 19	7.5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with many minute angular and round black inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red. Darkened stripes	Fragment: bowl with inverted round rim.	Diam. 32 Rim: 72%
12	LRC Form 3E Cross 71	L.10891 B.T293/2, 16, 20, 27	10R 5/8 red with few angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim. Rouletting on rim. Stamped cross in center	Diam. 26 Rim: 67%
13	LRC Form 3E Cross 71	L.10891 B.T293/4, 14, 28	2.5YR 6/6 light red. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim. Light rouletting on blackened rim. Stamped cross in center	Diam. 27 Rim: 32%
14	LRC Form 3E	L.10891 B.T293/1, 12, 21	2.5YR 6/8 light red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim. Stamped horse/stag in center	Diam. 25 Rim: 22%
15	LRC Form 3E	L.10891 B.T293/8, 15, 17, 18, 25	2.5YR 5/8 red with few minute round black and white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5YR 5/8 red. Burnished	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim. Rim discolored. Small fragment of stamped pattern in center	Diam. 24 Rim: 88%
16	LRC Form 3E	L.10891 B.T293/13	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim. Light rouletting on blackened rim	Diam. 27 Rim: 19%
17	LRC Form 3E	L.10891 B.T293/7, 9, 23, 24	2.5YR 6/8 light red with few minute angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: thin slip 2.5YR 6/8 light red. Burnished/polished	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim	Diam. 23 Rim: 52%
18	LRC Form 3E	L.10891 B.T293/5, 6, 10, 11, 13, 22	2.5YR 6/8 light red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: flaking slip 2.5YR 6/8 light red. Burnished/polished	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim. Darkened rim	Diam. 24 Rim: 80%
19	LRC Form 3F	L.10891 B.V807/55	10R 5/6 red with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim	Diam. 20 Rim: 28%
20	LRC Form 10	L.10891 B.V652/ 122	2.5YR 6/8 light red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: flaking slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: bowl with flattened knob rim	Diam. 30 Rim: 7.5%

Pl. 3.7. (cont.) Feature 582 — Imported Bowls: Late Roman C Ware.

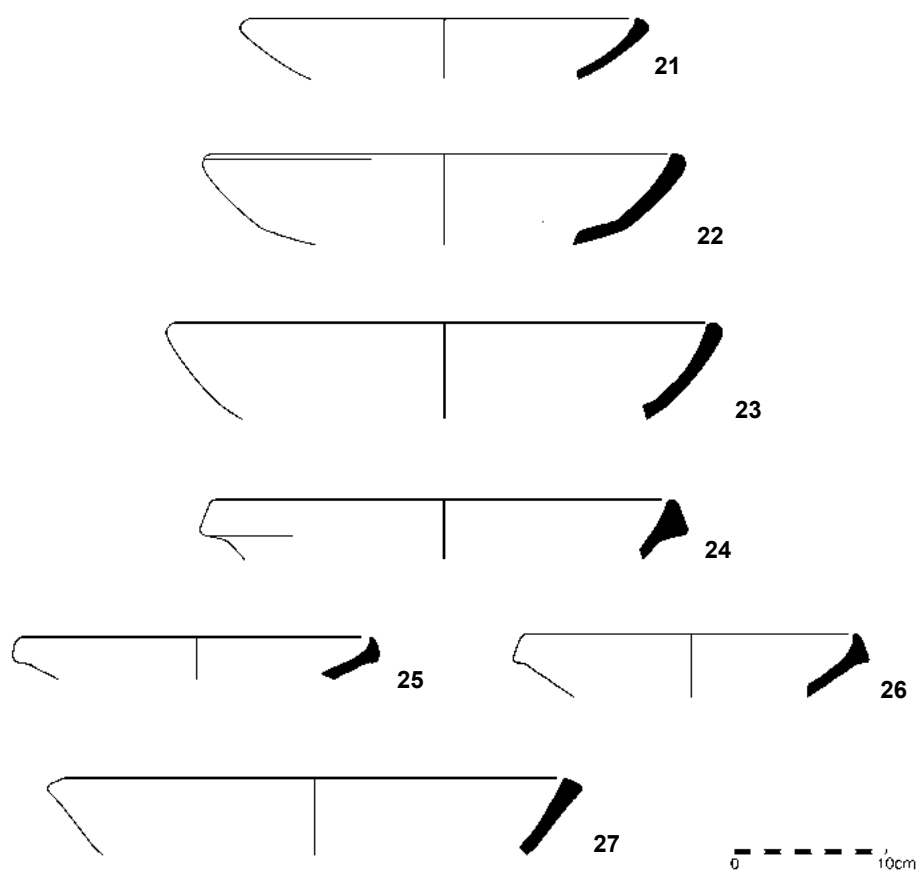




**Pl. 3.7.** (cont.) Feature 582 — Imported Bowls: Late Roman D Ware.

<b>Cat.No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
21	LRD Form 1	L.10466 B.U169/1	2.5YR 6/8 light red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: glossy slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: bowl with inverted round rim	Diam. 26 Rim: 12.5%
22	LRD Form 1	L.10891 L.V807/57	10R 6/6 light red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 4/6 red	Fragment: bowl with inverted round rim. Rim burnt	Diam. 30 Rim: 26%
23	LRD Form 1	L.10891 B.V807/53	2.5YR 6/8 light red. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: bowl with round rim. Rim discolored	Diam. 32 Rim: 8%
24	LRD Form 9	L.10465 B.T293/107	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular black and minute round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: large bowl with triangular rim	Diam. 36 Rim: 7%
25	LRD Form 9B	L.10465 B.T293/103	10YR 7/3–7/4 very pale brown with few minute angular black and white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: bowl with inverted triangular rim. Rim discolored	Diam. 28 Rim: 7%
26	LRD Form 9B	L.10891 B.V652/121	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red.	Fragment: bowl with inverted triangular rim. Rim discolored	Diam. 30 Rim: 7.5%
27	LRD Bowl ?	L.10466 B.U796/56	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Int.: slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red. Ext.: slip? 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: bowl with flat rim. Rim discolored	Diam. 32 Rim: 7.5%

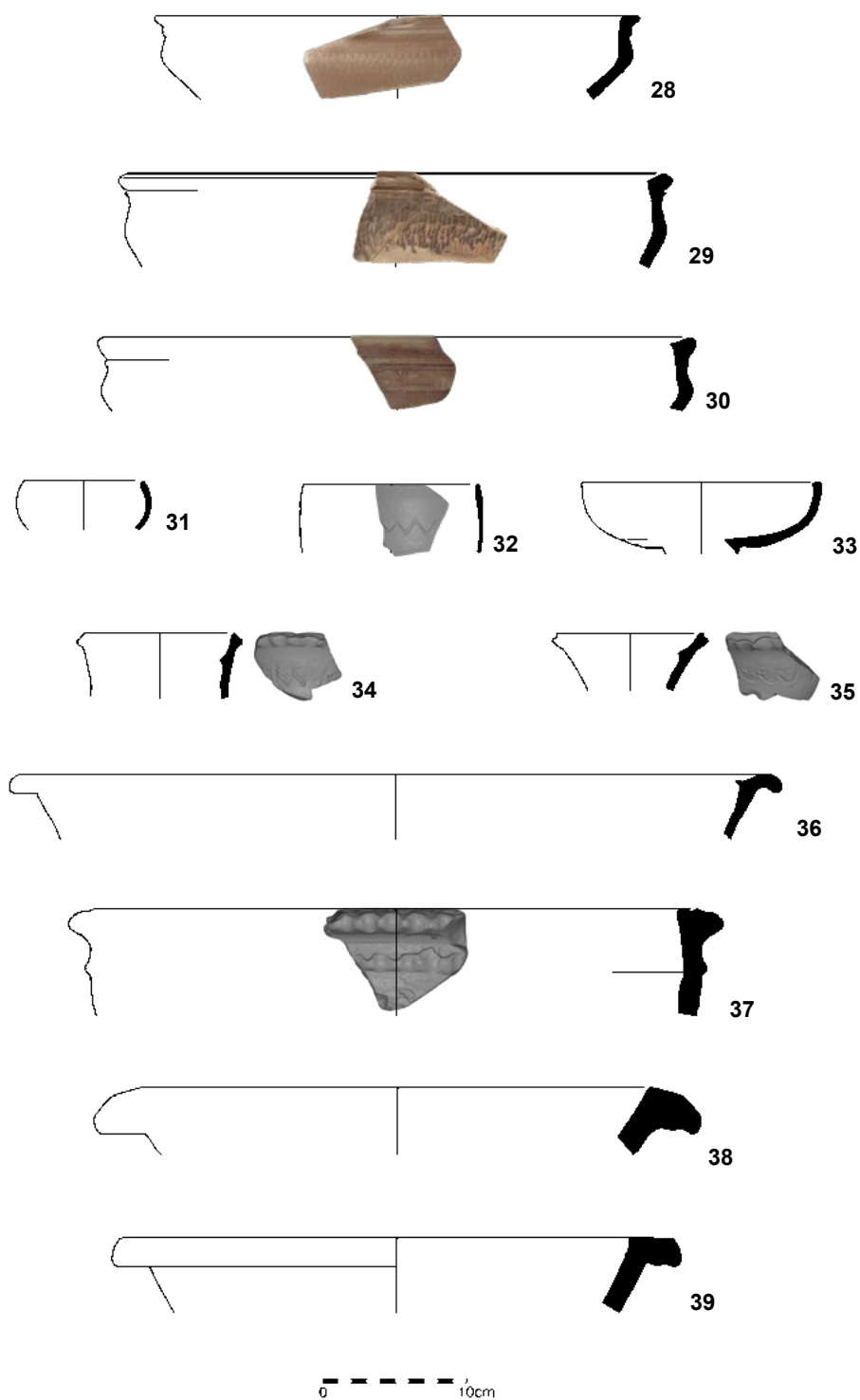
**Pl. 3.7.** (cont.) Feature 582 — Imported Bowls: Late Roman D Ware.



## Pl. 3.7. (cont.) Feature 582 — Local Bowls, Basins and Mortaria.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
28	Rouletted Bowl	L.10891 L.V807/37	7.5YR 6/3 light brown with thick 7.5YR 6/1 gray core and many minute and small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 6/3 light brown	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat rim. Rouletting. Not slipped	Diam. 26 Rim: 22%
29	Rouletted Bowl	L.10891 B.V807/38	10YR 7/4 very pale brown with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: dripping slip 7.5YR 4/3 brown	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat rim. Rouletting	Diam. 28 Rim: <5%
30	Rouletted Bowl	L.10891 B.V652/110	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small round black inclusions. Surface: remains of 10YR 5/3 brown slip	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat rim	Diam. 30 Rim: <5%
31	FBW Bowl	L.10891 B.V652/117	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow; burnished bands	Fragment: bowl with round rim	Diam. 8 Rim: 18%
32	FBW Bowl	L.10466 B.U796/53	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with gray core and few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown. Encrusted	Fragment: deep bowl with round rim and incised wavy line	Diam. 11 Rim: 15%
33	Bowl	L.10891 B.V807/75	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown and 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: bowl flat rim. Knife-pared	Diam. 14 Rim: 7.5%
34	Bowl	L.10891 B.V856/26	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: bowl with ledge rim. Wavy combed lines on body and thumb impressed band at rim	Diam. 10 Rim: 12%
35	Bowl	L.10891 B.V652/114	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: bowl with ledge rim. Wavy combed lines on body and thumb impressed band at rim	Diam. 10 Rim: 7%
36	Basin	L.10891 B.V856/1	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few minute round black and white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red and 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: basin with arched rim	Diam. 40 Rim: 5%
37	Handmade Basin	L.10891 B.V652/115	10YR 5/2 grayish brown with few large round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4–7/6 pink to reddish yellow	Fragment basin with grooved rim. Bands with thumb impressions	Diam. 38 Rim: 5%
38	Mortarium	L.10891 B.V807/60	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many large angular black and white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4–5/6 reddish brown to red. Inclusions visible on surface	Fragment: mortarium with round ledge-rim	Diam. 37 Rim: 6.5%
39	Mortarium	L.10466 B.U796/20	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many large angular black and white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown. Inclusions visible on surface	Fragment: mortarium with squared ledge-rim	Diam. 36 Rim: 8%

Pl. 3.7. (cont.) Feature 582 — Local Bowls, Basins and Mortaria.

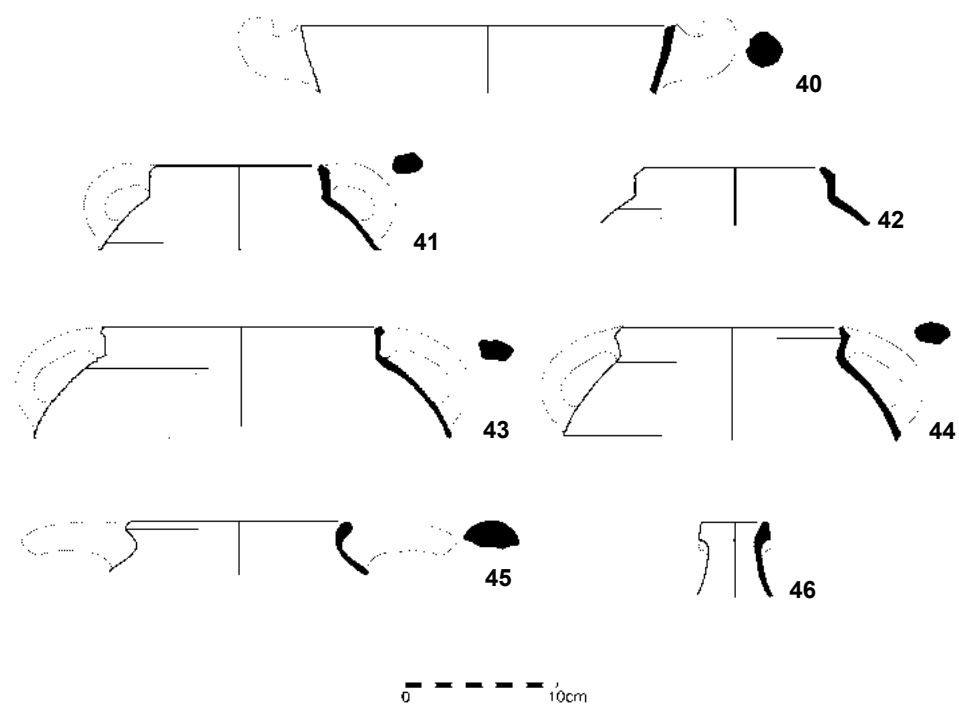


## Pl. 3.7. (cont.) Feature 582 — Cooking Vessels.

Cat.No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
40	Casserole	L.10891 B.V652/67	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: casserole with beveled rim and horizontal handles	Diam. 24 Rim: 10%
41	Cooking Pot	L.10891 B.V807/84	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small round angular black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with inverted folded rim. Loop-handles	Diam. 12 Rim: 5%
42	Cooking Pot	L.10891 B.V652/93, 100	2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking with short neck and inverted folded rim	Diam. 14 Rim: 52%
43	Cooking Pot	L.10465 B.T293/90	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with short neck and thickened rim. Loop-handles	Diam. ca. 22 Rim: <5%
44	Cooking Pot	L.10891 B.V856/46	2.5YR 5/6 red with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 4/3–4/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with short bulging neck, inverted rim with groove. Loop-handles	Diam. 20 Rim: <5%
45	Cooking Pot	L.10891 B.V807/82	2.5YR 5/8 red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: cooking pot with short neck and sharply everted round rim. Loop-handles	Diam. 13 Rim: 18%
46	Cooking Jug	L.10891 B.V807/50	2.5YR 5/6 red with few small angular white. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: jug with everted folded rim. Loop-handle from rim	Diam. 4 Rim: 83%



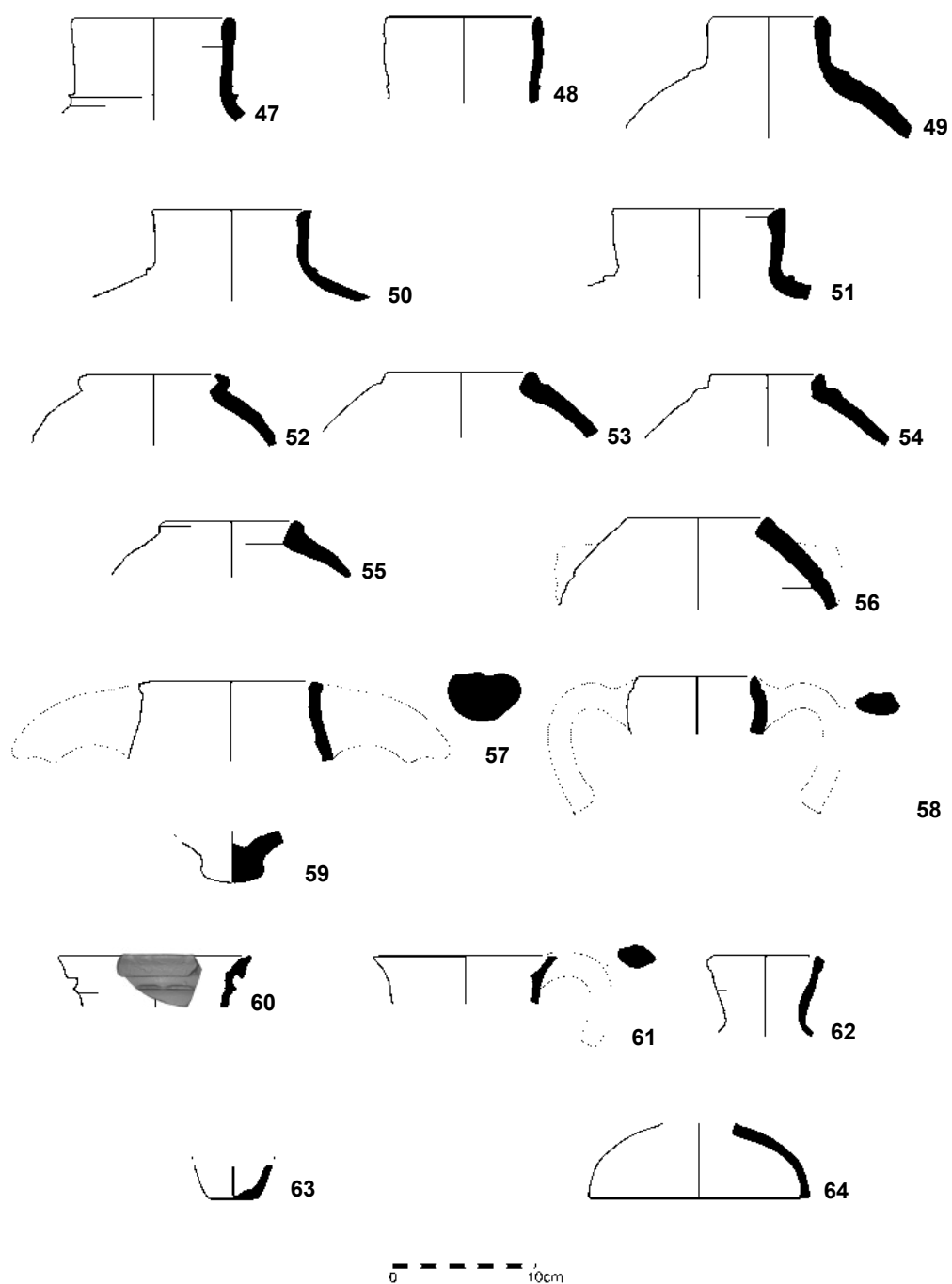
Pl. 3.7. (cont.) Feature 582 — Cooking Vessels.



## Pl. 3.7. (cont.) Feature 582 — Storage Jars, Amphorae, Jugs and Lid.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
47	Storage Jar	L.10466 B.U796/4	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many large round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3–7/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly bulging neck (5.4 cm) and folded rim. Protruding ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 10 Rim: 20%
48	Storage Jar	L.10466 B.U796/9	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with a few small round white inclusions. Surface: pale 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with bulging neck (5.2 cm) and folded rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 9 Rim: 30%
49	Storage Jar	L.10891 B.V652/7	2.5YR 6/6 light red with thick lighter core and few large round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage with straight neck (3.4 cm) and round rim. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 9 Rim: 34%
50	Storage Jar	L.10466 B.U796/7	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many small round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3–7/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4.2 cm) and beveled rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 10 Rim: 17%
51	Storage Jar	L.10891 B.V807/1	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few small round black and white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3–7/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with bulging neck (4.8 cm) and internally beveled rim. Protruding ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 12 Rim: 30%
52	Gaza Jar	L.10891 B.V856/14	5YR 5/4–5/6 reddish brown to yellowish red with few small round black and angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: neckless jar with round rim with inner groove. Clay accretions on rim and body	Diam. 11 Rim: 22.5%
53	Gaza Jar	L.10891 B.V856/15	10YR 5/5 yellowish brown with few minute round black inclusions. Surface: 10YR 6/3 pale brown	Fragment: neckless jar with round rim. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim: 25%
54	Gaza Jar	L.10891 B.V652/18	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: neckless jar with beveled rim. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim: 9%
55	Gaza Jar	L.10466 B.U797/16	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: neckless jar with round rim. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim: 17.5%
56	Gaza Jar	L.10891 B.V856/16	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few large angular black and white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: neckless jar with beveled edge. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim: 17%
57	LR 1 Amphora	L.10891 B.V807/31	7.5YR 7/4 pink with few small angular and round white and few small round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 7/3 pale yellow (slip?)	Fragment: amphora with rolled rim. Wide handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim: 25%
58	Amphora	L.10466 B.U796/8	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round black and white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: amphora with cup mouth and handles from under rim	Diam. 6 Rim: 15%
59	Base of Amphora?	L.10891 B.V856/20	2.5YR 6/6 light red with thick gray core with few large round black and angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/6 light red	Fragment: round knob base	n/a
60	Jar/Krater	L.10466 B.U796/37	7.5YR 5/4 brown with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4–7/6 pink to reddish yellow	Fragment: wide necked jar/krater with grooved folded rim. Incised wavy lines on fold	Diam. 12 Rim: 16%
61	Jug	L.10891 B.V807/58	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4–7/6 pink to reddish yellow	Fragment: jug with beveled rim. Loop-handle from rim	Diam. 12 Rim: 12%
62	Jug	L.10891 B.V807/29	7.5YR 6/3 light brown with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 6/3–6/4 light brown in bands	Fragment: jug with flaring neck and triangular rim	Diam. 7 Rim: 40%
63	Base of Jug	L.10891 B.V652/120	7.5YR 5/4 brown with few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: flat string-cut base of jug	Base diam. 3.3
64	Lid/bowl	L.10891 B.V856/3	2.5YR 6/4 light reddish brown with many minute and small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: fired to 10YR 8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: bowl-shaped lid with flat rim	Diam. 14 Rim: 15.5%

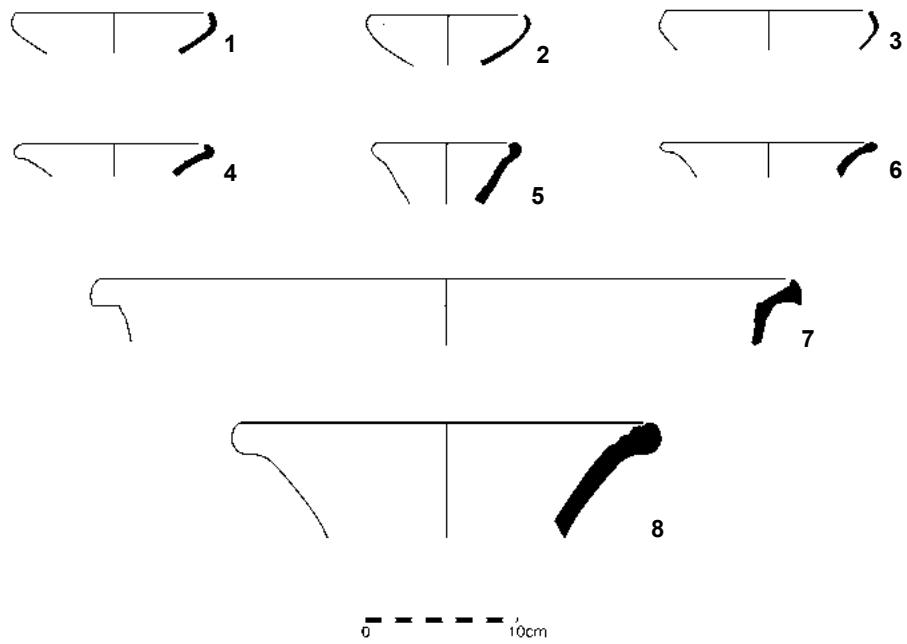
Pl. 3.7. (cont.) Feature 582 — Storage Jars, Amphorae, Jugs and Lid.



**Pl. 3.8.** Feature 596 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Bowls and Basins.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Bowl	L.10712 B.T985/29	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: encrusted	Fragment: small bowl with sharply incurved round rim	Diam. 13 Rim 9%
2	Bowl	L.10712 B.T985/31	Gray (overfired) with few minute angular and white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/6 red, possible black slip?	Fragment: small bowl with sharply incurved round rim	Diam. 14 Rim 13%
3	Bowl	L.10589 B.T643/7	Gray with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: small thin bowl with sharply inverted rim	Diam. 14 Rim 10%
4	Bowl	L.10588 B.T630/17	5YR 5/4 reddish brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 6/3 light brown and self-slip	Fragment: small deep bowl with sharply incurved round rim	Diam. 14 Rim 11%
5	Bowl	L.10589 B.T643/5	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: small deep bowl with incurved round rim	Diam. 14 Rim 5%
6	Bowl	L.10630 B.T843/60	5Y 7/1–7/2 light gray with many minute round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/2 pale yellow and encrusted	Fragment: small bowl with everted folded rim	Diam. 10 Rim 13%
7	Basin/Krater	L.10588 B.T630/11	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3–7/3 pink	Fragment: basin/krater with hooked ledge-rim	Diam. 28 Rim 6%
8	Basin/Krater	L.10588 B.T630/10	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few large round black and white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5Y 8/2 pale yellow	Fragment: basin/krater with up-turned rilled ledge-rim	Diam. 28 Rim 10%

**Pl. 3.8.** Feature 596 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Bowls and Basins.

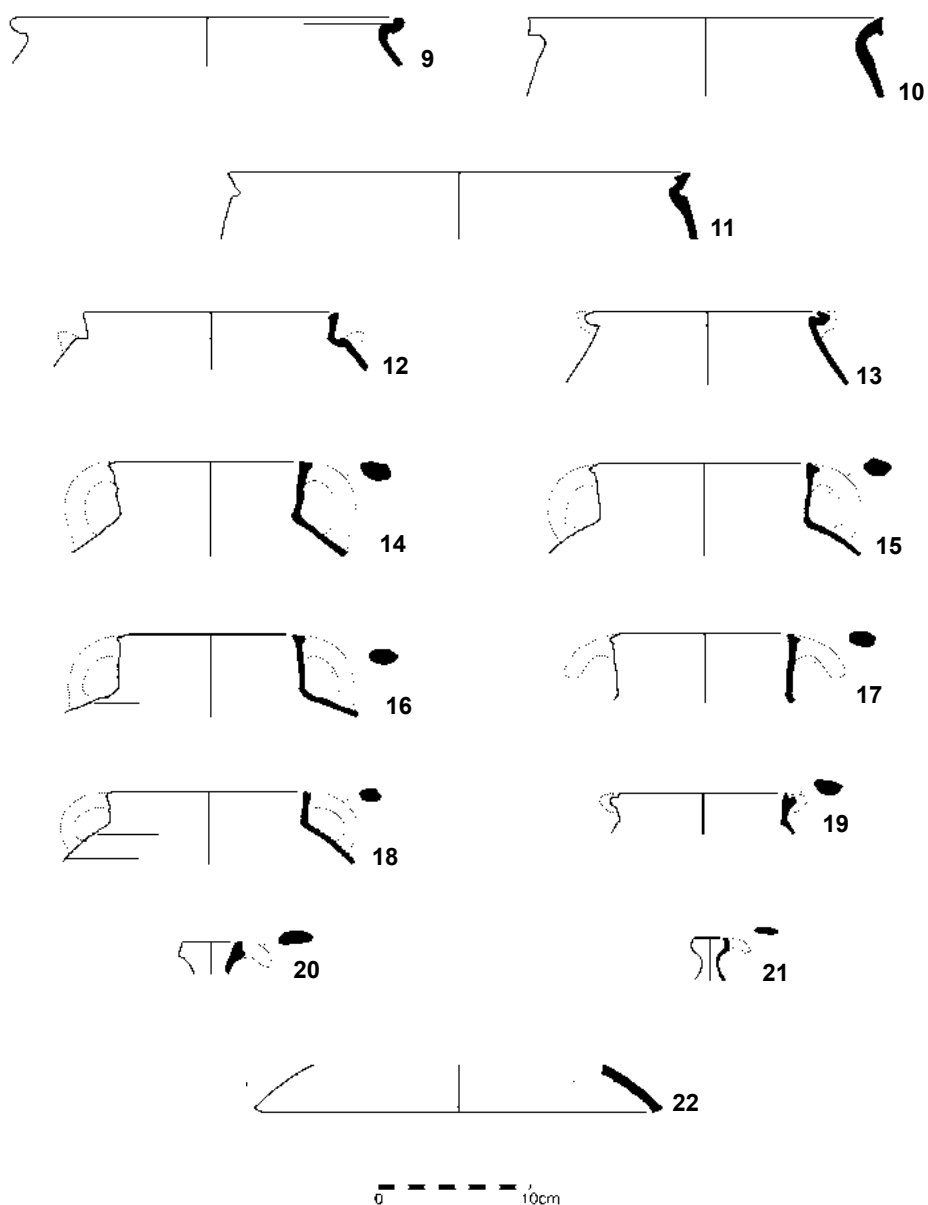




## Pl. 3.8. (cont.) Feature 596 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Cooking Vessels.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
9	Casserole	L.10713 B.U967/30	2.5YR 5/6 red with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with short grooved ledge-rim	Diam. 24 Rim 10%
10	Casserole	L.10712 B.T985/34	2.5YR 4/6 red with dark core and few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with everted ledge rim with flange	Diam. 26 Rim 12%
11	Casserole	L.10588 B.T630/7	5YR 4/6 yellowish red with few small angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: carinated casserole with beveled rim with groove below	Diam. 28 Rim 8%
12	Casserole	L.10630 B.T843/6	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small angular black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: carinated casserole with beveled rim. Loop-handles drawn from carination?	Diam. 14 Rim 12%
13	Casserole	L.10712 B.T985/37	7.5YR 4/3 brown with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 5YR 4/4 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: casserole with short grooved ledge rim. Loop-handles drawn from rim	Diam. 13 Rim 16%
14	Cooking Pot	L.10712 B.T985/43	Black (burnt) with few large round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/3 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring profiled neck and flat flanged rim. Loop-handles drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 7.5%
15	Cooking Pot	L.10712 B.T985/36	2.5YR 5/8 red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and short flanged rim. Loop-handle drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 10%
16	Cooking Pot	L.10712 B.T985/39	5YR 4/3 reddish brown and burnt. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and inverted flanged rim. Loop-handles drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 10%
17	Cooking Pot	L.10713 B.U967/29	2.5YR 5/8 red with few small angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: encrusted	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and inverted flanged rim. Loop-handles drawn from rim	Diam. 11 Rim 19%
18	Cooking Pot	L.10630 B.T843/11	2.5YR 4/3 reddish brown with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/2 reddish gray	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and grooved rim. Loop-handle drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 10%
19	Cooking Pot	L.10713 B.U967/32	2.5YR 4/3 reddish brown with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with short everted neck and deeply grooved rim. Loop handles drawn from rim	Diam. 11 Rim 20%
20	Cooking Jug	L.10713 B.U967/38	2.5YR 4/6 red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking jug with everted flanged rim. One loop-handle drawn from rim	Diam. 4 Rim 50%
21	Cooking Juglet	L.10712 B.T985/30	Black (burnt). Surface: 2.5YR 4/2 weak red	Fragment: juglet with cup-mouth rim. One strap-handle drawn from rim	Diam. 2 Rim 100%
22	Lid	L.10588 B.T630/12	2.5YR 5/6 red with small minute round white inclusions. Surface: self-slip	Fragment: lid with beveled rim	Diam. 22 Rim 12%

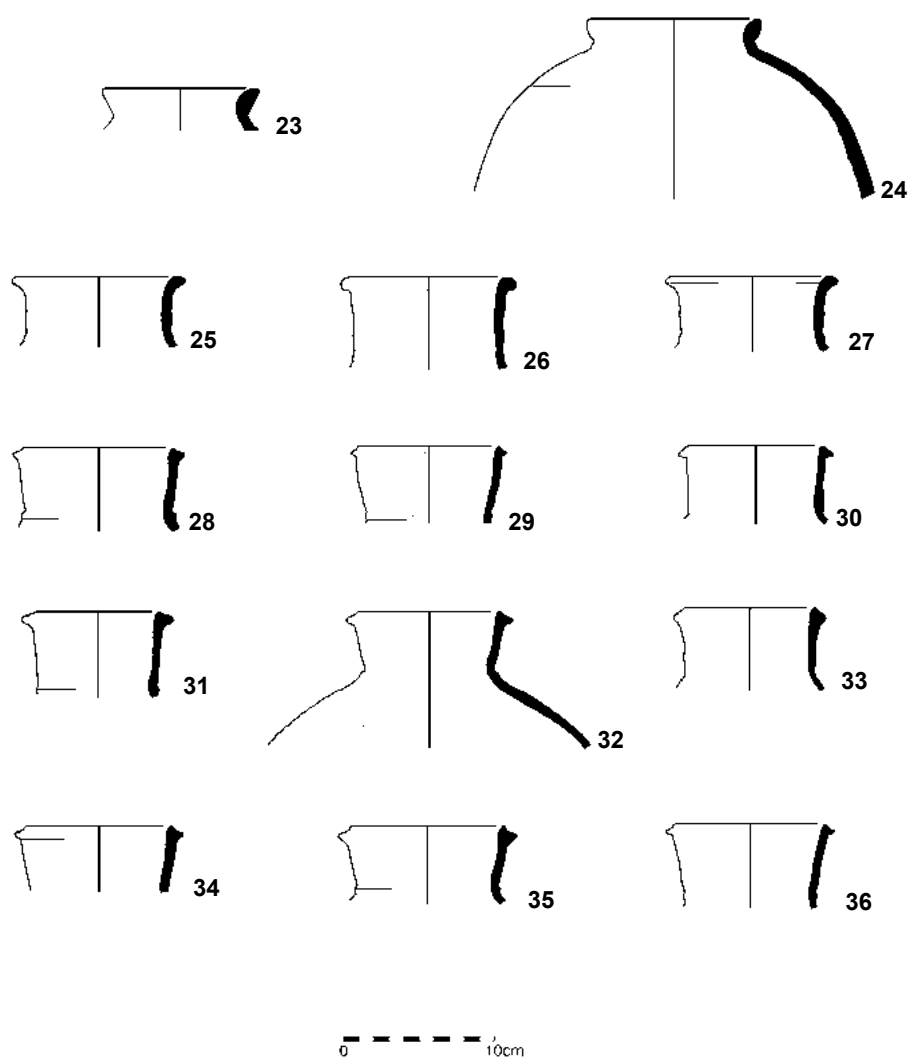
**Pl. 3.8.** (cont.) Feature 596 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Cooking Vessels.



**Pl. 3.8.** (cont.) Feature 596 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Storage Jars.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
23	Storage Jar	L.10588 B.T630/13	7.5YR 7/4 pink with few small round black and white inclusions. Surface: encrusted	Fragment: storage jar with everted thickened rim	Diam. 10 Rim 100%
24	Storage Jar	L.10630 B.T843/31	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small angular white and large angular brown inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and everted externally thickened rim	Diam. 12 Rim 20%
25	Storage Jar	L.10712 B.T985/14	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many small angular black and round white and many minute angular black and white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight ribbed neck (4 cm) and everted round rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 10 Rim 20%
26	Storage Jar	L.10713 B.U967/1	10R 6/6 light red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (6 cm) and everted rolled rim	Diam. 10 Rim 27%
27	Storage Jar	L.10630 B.T843/41	7.5YR 7/4 pink with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5 cm) and everted round rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 11 Rim 32.5%
28	Storage Jar	L.10588 B.T630/24	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with slightly bulging neck (5 cm) and flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 8 Rim 12.5%
29	Storage Jar	L.10588 B.T630/25	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with light gray core and few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with flaring neck (5 cm) and flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 8 Rim 17.5%
30	Storage Jar	L.10589 B.T631/4	7.5YR 5/3 brown with few minute angular white and small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5.2 cm) and flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 8 Rim 22.5%
31	Storage Jar	L.10712 B.T985/18	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (5.8 cm) and beveled flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 8 Rim 15%
32	Storage Jar	L.10712 B.T985/26	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (5 cm) with beveled flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 8 Rim 23%
33	Storage Jar	L.10713 B.U967/5	10YR 5/2 grayish brown with many minute angular and round white and few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with flaring neck (ca. 5 cm) and grooved flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 10 Rim 33%
34	Storage Jar	L.10589 T.631/5	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with flaring neck (5 cm) and grooved flanged rim	Diam. 10 Rim 14%
35	Storage Jar	L.10713 B.U967/10	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with gray core and with many small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: storage jar with flaring neck (5 cm) and grooved flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 10 Rim 17%
36	Storage Jar	L.10589 T.643/1	7.5YR 5/2 brown with few small angular black and white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (6 cm) and grooved flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 8 Rim 20%

**Pl. 3.8.** (cont.) Feature 596 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Storage Jars.

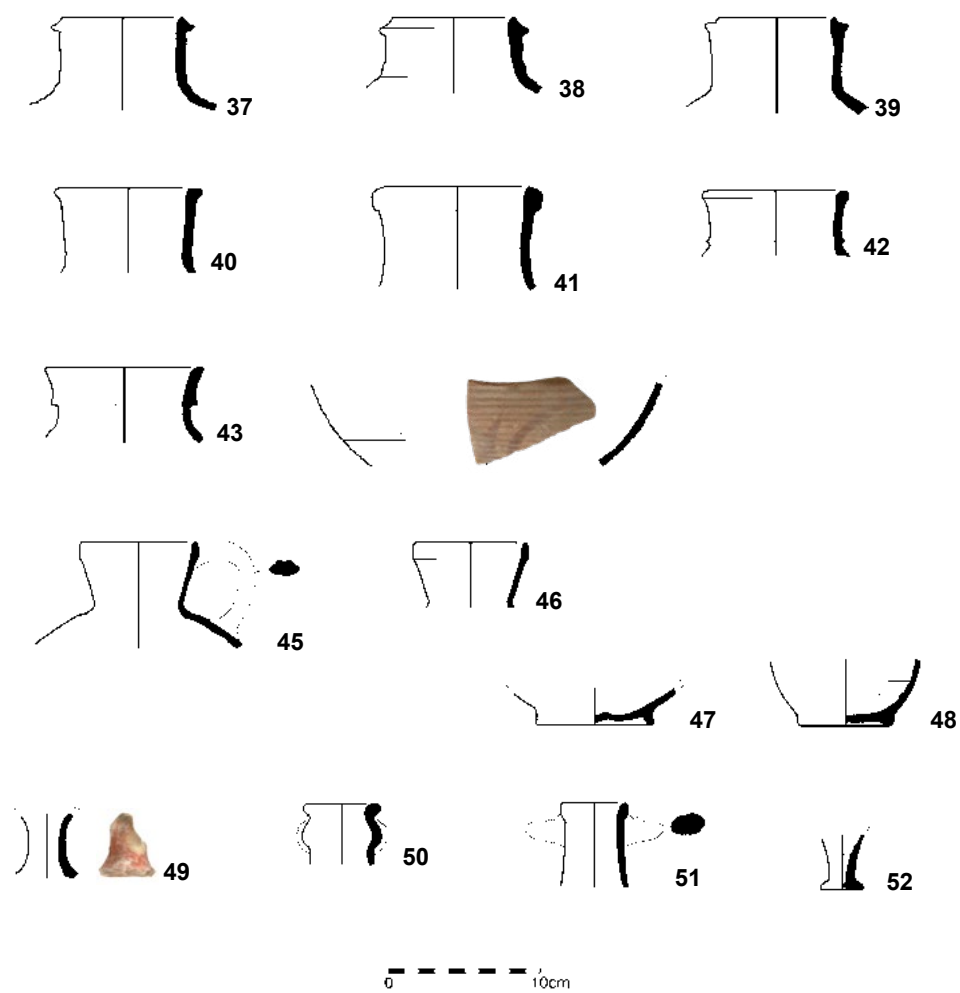


## Pl. 3.8. (cont.) Feature 596 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Storage Jars.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
37	Storage Jar	L.10712 B.T985/1	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with light core and few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with flaring neck (4.8 cm) and slightly grooved flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 9 Rim 40%
38	Storage Jar	L.10713 B.U967/8	5YR 5/4 reddish brown with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: encrusted.	Fragment: storage jar with inverted neck (4 cm) and grooved flanged rim	Diam. 8 Rim 22.5%
39	Storage Jar	L.10588 B.T630/28	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5 cm) with grooved flanged rim. Clay accretions on rim	Diam. 8 Rim 27.5%
40	Storage Jar	L.10712 B.T985/19	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (5 cm) and flat grooved rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 8 Rim 24%
41	Storage Jar	L.10712 B.T985/16	2.5YR 7/6 light red with core 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow and many minute angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: fired to 2.5Y pale yellow	Fragment: storage jar with ribbed slightly flaring neck (7 cm) and externally thickened rim	Diam. 9 Rim 23%
42	Storage Jar	L.10712 B.T985/20	2.5YR 5/6 red with many minute round white and few small round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: storage jar with flaring collared neck (4.2 cm) and round rim	Diam. 8 Rim 25%
43	Storage Jar	L.10713 B.U967/6	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: fired to 10YR 7/2–7/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with everted collared neck (4.2 cm) and round rim	Diam. 8 Rim 10%
44	Sherd	L.10712 B.T985/27	2.5YR 5/6 red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown with 2.5YR 5/3 reddish brown paint	Fragment: painted body sherd	n/a
45	Jug	L.10588 B.T630/15	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: jug with flaring neck and inverted folded rim. Strap-handle drawn from rim	Diam. 8 Rim 20%
46	Jug	L.10588 B.T630/32	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: jug with flaring neck and inverted folded rim	Diam. 7.5 Rim 37%
47	Jug	L.10588 B.T630/1	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many small angular and round white and round black inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink with dripping black slip	Fragment: ring base of jug	Base diam. 8
48	Jug	L.10712 B.T985/32	7.5YR 6/1 gray. Ext. and base: black slip	Fragment: low ring base of jug	Base diam. 7
49	Jug ESA	L.10713 B.U967/20	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow. Ext. slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: neck of jug	n/a
50	Flask	L.10712 B.T985/15	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink and self-slip	Fragment: flask with bulging narrow neck and everted round rim. Two handles drawn from bulge	Diam. 6 Rim 9%
51	Flask	L.10630 B.T843/56	5YR 6/3–6/4 light reddish brown with many small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/2 pinkish white	Fragment: flask with straight narrow neck and everted folded rim. Handles drawn from under fold	Diam. 4 Rim 35%
52	Bottle	L.10712 B.T985/33	10R 5/6 red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/1 gray	Fragment: flat base of bottle	Base diam. 2.8



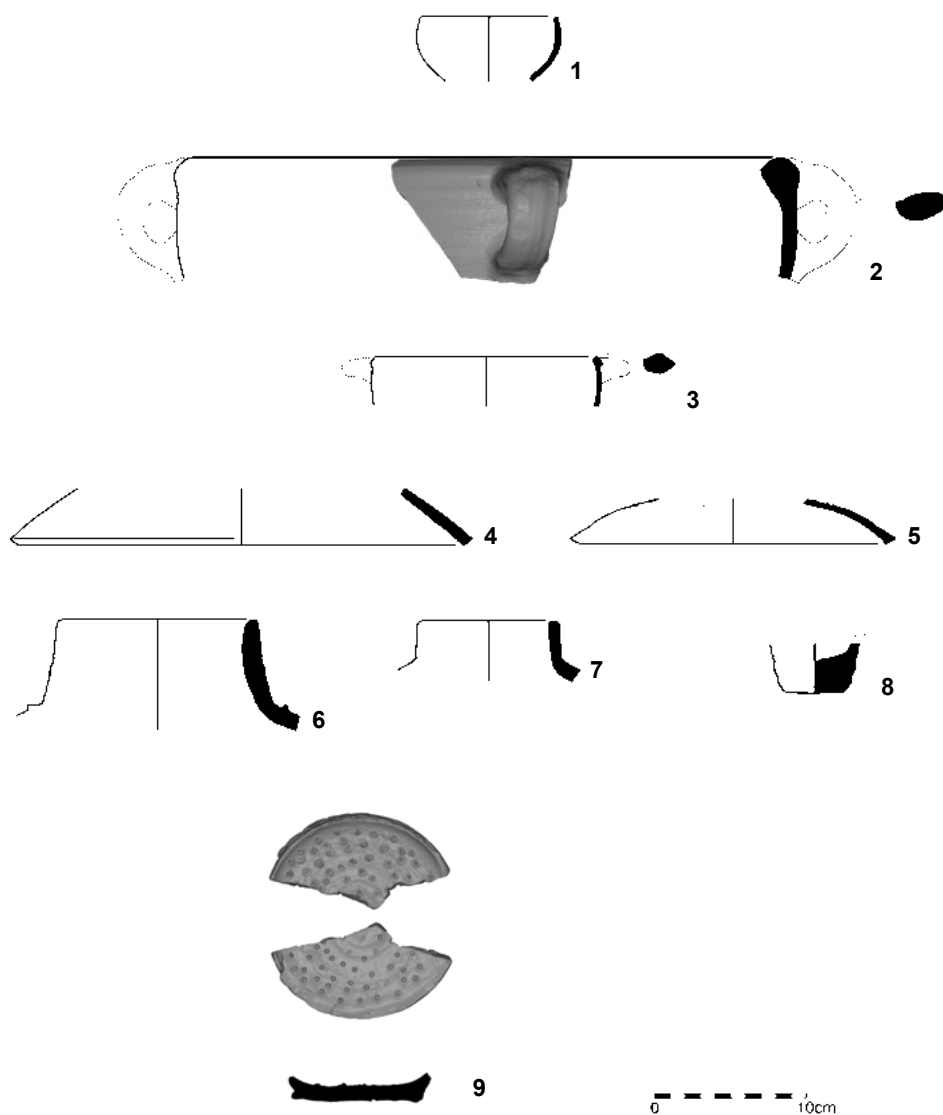
**Pl. 3.8.** (cont.) Feature 596 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Jugs, Flasks and Bottle.



**Pl. 3.9.** Feature 596 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	FBW Bowl	L.10630 B.T843/34	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red; burnished bands	Fragment: small bowl with inverted pinched rim	Diam. 9 Rim 18%
2	Basin	L.10630 B.T843/26	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few large round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: basin with round inverted rim. Loop handles. Combed straight lines on body	Diam. 36 Rim 9%
3	Casserole	L.10713 B.U967/37	2.5YR 5/6 red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: round casserole with folded round rim. Horizontal handles at rim	Diam. 14 Rim 8%
4	Lid	L.10630 B.T843/19	10R 5/6 red with few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/3–5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: lid with beveled rim. Combed wavy lines	Diam. 26 Rim 8.5%
5	Lid	L.10630 B.T843/2	2.5YR 4/6 red with many small round white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/4 weak red and burnt	Fragment: lid with beveled rim. Deep grooves	Diam. 20 Rim 13%
6	Storage Jar	L.10630 B.T843/44	2.5YR 6/6 light red with thick light gray core and many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (6.8 cm) and pinched rim. Protruding ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 12 Rim 35%
7	Gaza Jar	L.10630 B.T843/51	5YR 3/2 dark reddish brown with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink and 5YR 5/6 yellowish red	Fragment: storage jar with short straight neck (2.5 cm) and round rim. Clay accretions on neck	Diam. 10 Rim 22%
8	Gaza Jar Base	L.10630 B.T843/29	10R 6/6 light red with thick core 7.5YR 5/4 brown and many small black and white angular and round inclusions	Fragment: flat base of jar, ribbed	Diam of base: 4.5
9	Sieve	L.10630 B.T843/39	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small black and white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red and encrusted	Fragment: circular sieve with perforated holes	Diam. 13 Rim 36%

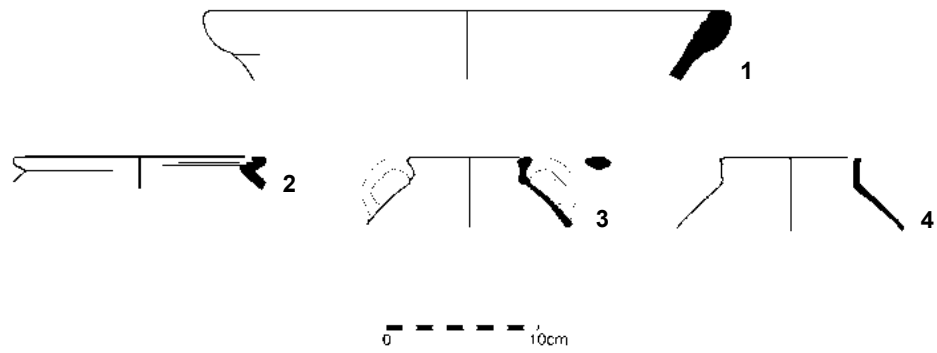
**Pl. 3.9.** Feature 596 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.10.** Feature 616 — Early Roman Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Basin	L.10752 B.U149/1	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many minute round and angular and few minute angular gray inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: basin with upturned rilled rim	Diam. 32 Rim 13%
2	Casserole	L.10750 B.U124/7	2.5YR 5/6 red with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with everted rim folded at top	Diam. 16 Rim 12%
3	Cooking Pot	L.10750 B.U124/8	2.5YR 5/6 red with few small round and angular black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/3–4/3 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: cooking pot rounded thickened rim. Two loop-handles drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 5%
4	Cooking Pot	L.10784 B.U221/26	2.5YR 5/6 red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/4 weak red	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and grooved rim	Diam. 12 Rim 8%

**Pl. 3.10.** Feature 616 — Early Roman Ceramics.

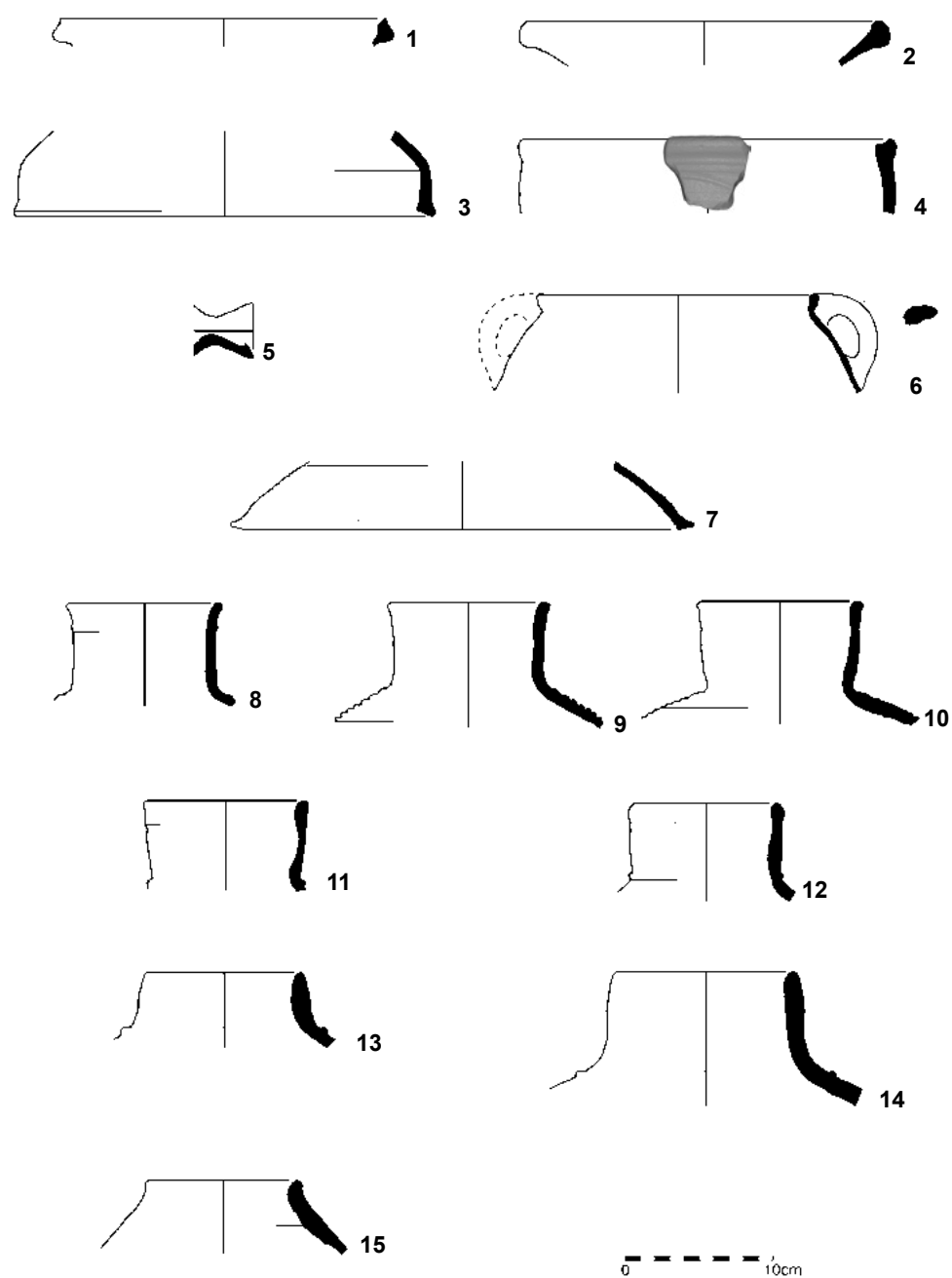


**Pl. 3.11.** Feature 616 — Late Roman-Late Byzantine Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	LRC Bowl	L.10750 B.U124/11	2.5YR 6/6 light red. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/6	Fragment: bowl with triangular rim with rouletted decoration	Diam. 21 Rim 10%
2	LRC Bowl	L.10784 B.U221/9	2.5YR 6/8. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red.	Fragment: bowl with knobbed rim. Rim darkened	Diam. 26 Rim 8%
3	Bowl/lid	L.10750 B.U124/6	2.5YR 6/8 light red with core 7.5YR 5/3 brown with few minute round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/6 light red (slip?)	Fragment: bowl/lid with round carination and beveled rim	Diam. 22 Rim 7%
4	Large Bowl	L.10784 B.U221/13	2.5Y 8/3 pale yellow with few minute round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 8/3 pale yellow	Fragment: bowl with beveled rim. Incised wavy line	Diam. 26 Rim 6%
5	Frying Pan Handle	L. 10784 B.U221/29	2.5YR 4/6 red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: wishbone handle	n/a
6	Cooking Pot	L.10750 B.U124/28	Light gray with few small round and angular black inclusions. Surface: dark gray and burnt	Fragment: cooking pot rounded thickened rim. Two loop-handles drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 8%
7	Cooking Pot Lid	L.10784 B.U221/25	5YR 4/6 yellowish red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: ribbed cooking pot lid with beveled rim	Diam. 24 Rim 10%
8	Storage Jar	L.10750 B.U124/3	5YR 5/4 reddish brown with few large round white inclusions. Surface: pale 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5.7 cm) and everted round rim with ridge below. Ridge at base of neck	Diam. 11 Rim 23%
9	Storage Jar	L.10752 B.U149/6	5YR 5/3 reddish brown with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4–7/6 pink to reddish yellow and burnt	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (5.7 cm) and flattened rim. Body with deep ribbing	Diam. 11 Rim 35%
10	Storage Jar	L.10752 B.U149/4	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly bulging neck (6 cm) and round externally pinched rim. Deep ribbing on body	Diam. 10 Rim 27.5%
11	Storage Jar	L.10752 B.U149/3	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few large round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/6 light red and encrusted	Fragment: storage jar with slightly bulging neck (6 cm) and folded rim	Diam. 10 Rim 20%
12	Storage Jar	L.10752 B.U149/5	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly bulging neck (5.8 cm) and inverted round rim. Ridge at base of neck	Diam. 10 Rim 100%
13	Storage Jar	L.10784 B.U221/16	7.5YR 5/4 brown with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: storage jar with bulging neck (3.9 cm) and round rim. Ridge at base of neck. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim 57.5%
14	Storage Jar	L.10750 B.U124/15	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/6 light red	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (7 cm) and round rim. Ridge at base of neck	Diam. 12 Rim 25%
15	Gaza Jar	L.10784 B.U221/18	5YR 5/4 light reddish brown with darker core and few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: neckless jar with round rim. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim 7.5%



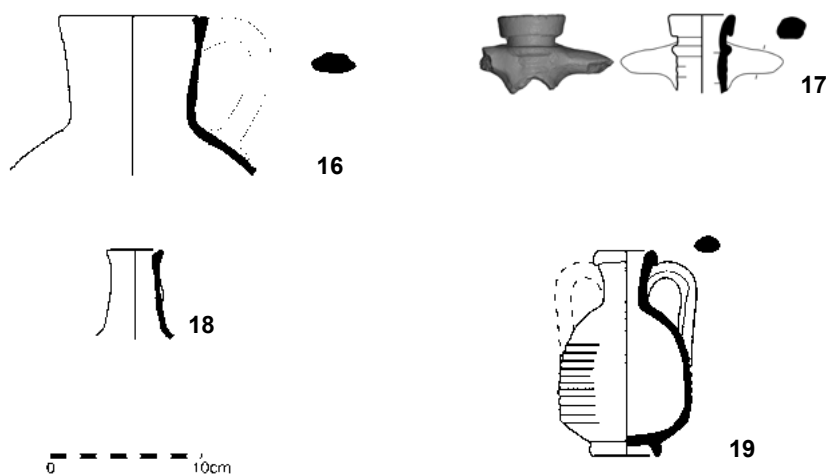
**Pl. 3.11.** Feature 616 — Late Roman-Late Byzantine Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.11.** (cont.) Feature 616 — Late Roman-Late Byzantine Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
16	Jug	L.10750 B.U124/4	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few large round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: large jug with slightly flaring neck and beveled rim. One handle drawn from neck to upper body. Body with shallow ribbing	Diam. 10 Rim 37.5%
17	Two-handled Jug	L.10750 B.U124/17	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many minute round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink and whitish self-slip	Fragment: jug with narrow neck and everted folded rim. Two handle are drawn from the ridge below the rim	Diam. 4.3 Rim 100%
18	Juglet	L.10752 B.U149/7	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: juglet with long narrow neck and beveled rim. One handle	Diam. 3.7 Rim 100%
19	Juglet	L.10784 B.U192	7.5YR 5/1 gray with few small round white inclusions. Surface: gray	Almost complete: juglet with ribbed body and ring-base. Narrow neck ending in thickened rim. Two handles are drawn from under the rim to the upper body	Diam. 3.8 Rim 100%

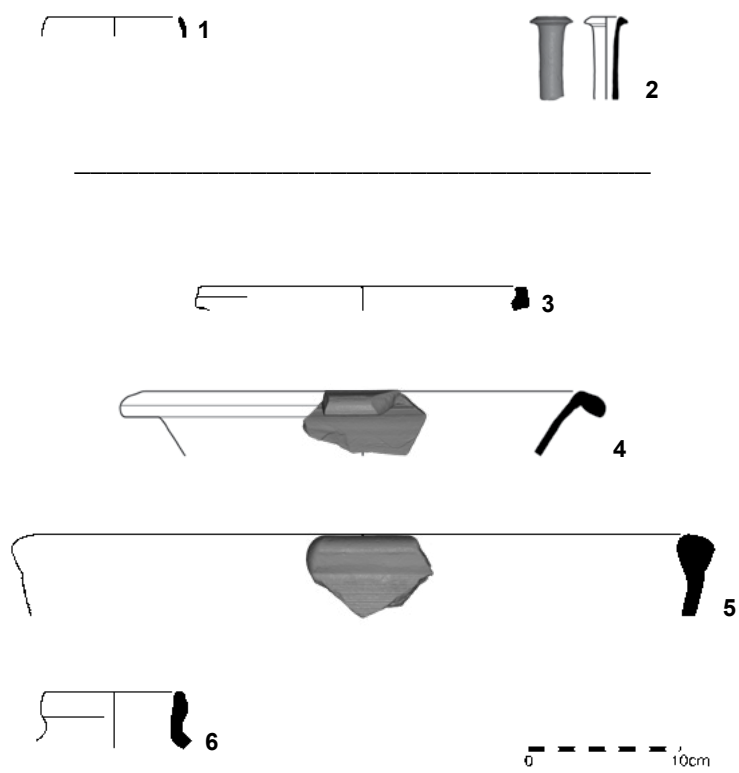
**Pl. 3.11.** (cont.) Feature 616 — Late Roman-Late Byzantine Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.12.** Feature 651 — Early Roman and Byzantine Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Bowl	L.10632 B.T753/23	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: thin bowl with inverted round rim	Diam. 8 Rim 15%
2	Unguentarium	L.10632 B.U640/11	7.5YR 5/4 brown with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown	Fragment: unguentarium with long narrow neck and flanged beveled rim	Diam. 3 Rim 100%
3	LRC Bowl	L.10632 B.U640/16	2.5YR 6/6 light red. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red. Rim blackened	Fragment: bowl with triangular rim	Diam. 22 Rim 9%
4	Basin	L.10632 B.U640/14	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few minute round black and white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/2–7/3 pinkish white to pink	Fragment: arched rim basin. Combed wavy lines	Diam. 28 Rim <5%
5	Basin	L.10632 B.U640/19	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink self-slip	Fragment: basin with inverted round externally thickened rim. Combed straight lines	Diam. 36 Rim 7%
6	Storage Jar	L.10632 B.U640/32	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small and large round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with bulging neck (3.1 cm) and pinched rim	Diam. 10 Rim 10%

**Pl. 3.12.** Feature 651 — Early Roman and Byzantine Ceramics.

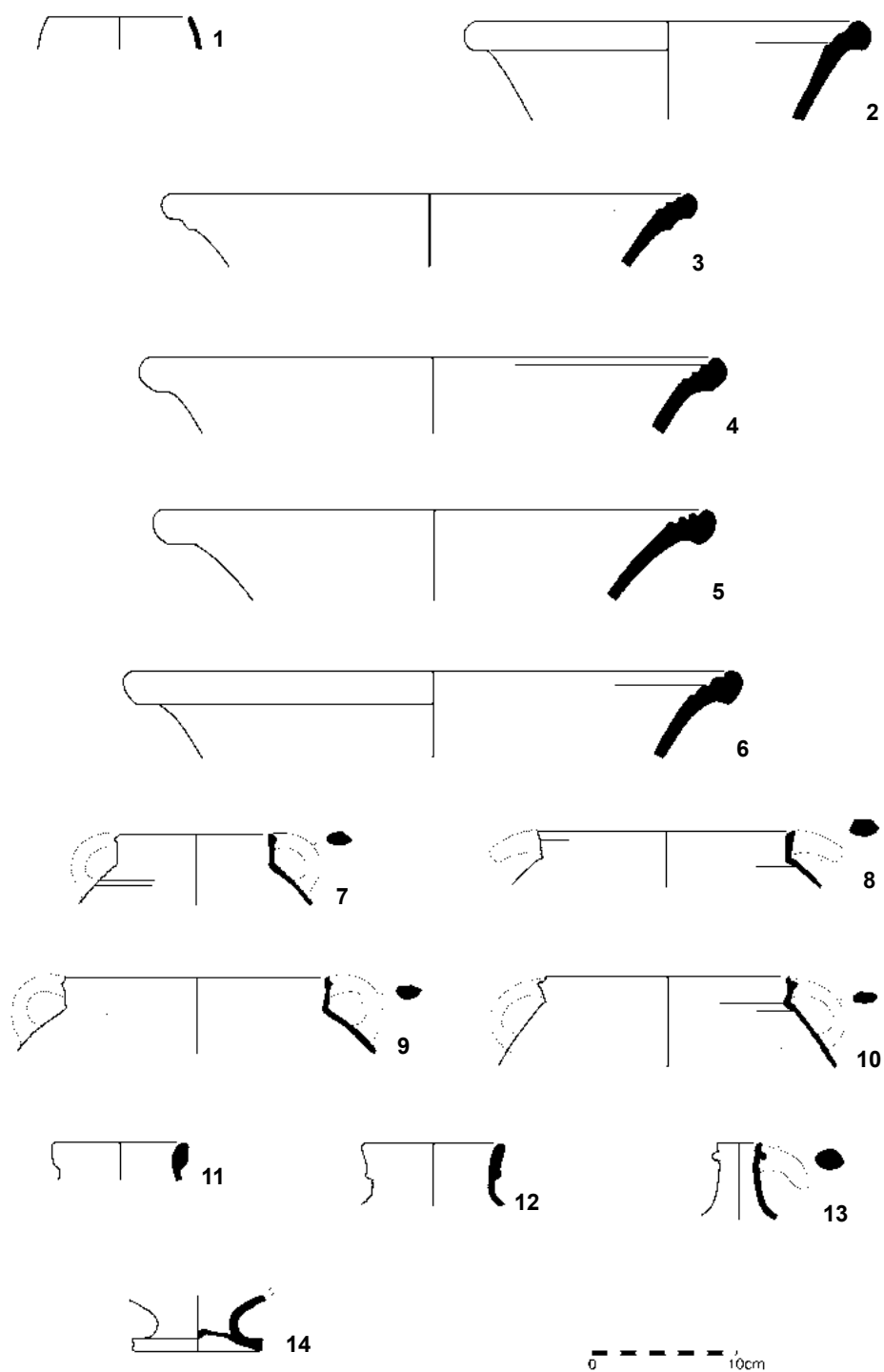


**Pl. 3.13.** Feature 656 — Roman Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	ESA Bowl	L.11093 B.V778/23	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: cup with round rim	Diam. 12 Rim: 7.5%
2	Basin/Krater	L.11124 B.V857/142	2.5YR 5/8 red with thick core 7.5YR 5/4 brown and few small round white inclusions	Fragment: rilled-rim basin	Diam. 28 Rim 7.5%
3	Basin/Krater	L.11124 B.V857/141	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with thick core 7.5YR 5/6 strong brown and few small angular and round white and few large angular brown (iron?) inclusions. Surface: fired to 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: rilled-rim basin	Diam. 34 Rim 14%
4	Basin/Krater	L.11124 B.V857/162	7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular and round black inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: rilled-rim basin	Diam. 36 Rim 15%
5	Basin/Krater	L.11124 B.V857/161	7.5YR 5/6 strong brown with few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4–6/4 pink to light brown	Fragment: rilled-rim basin	Diam. 36 Rim 16%
6	Basin/Krater	L.11124 B.V857/154	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with thin darker core and few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/6 yellowish red and burnt	Fragment: rilled-rim basin	Diam. 37 Rim 5%
7	Cooking Pot	L.11124 B.V857/220	10R 4/1 dark reddish gray with few small round white inclusions. Surface: light gray	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and grooved rim. Wide ribbing on body and small loop-handles	Diam. 10 Rim 12%
8	Cooking Pot	L.11093 B.V778/62	5YR 4/4 reddish brown with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly flaring neck and flat rim with groove. Loop handles	Diam. 16 Rim 21%
9	Cooking Pot	L.11124 B.V857/222	2.5YR 4/3 reddish brown with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and grooved rim. Dense ribbing on body. Small loop-handles	Diam. ca. 10 Rim 15%
10	Cooking Pot	L.11124 B.V857/213	10R 5/6 red with few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/4 weak red	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and grooved rim. High carination and large loop-handles	Diam. 16 Rim 12%
11	Storage Jar	L.11093 B.V778/71	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with short neck (?) everted folded round rim.	Diam. 9 Rim 17.5%
12	Storage Jar	L.11093 B.V778/79	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with everted neck (3.8 cm) with folded rim with small external flange	Diam. 9 Rim 17%
13	Small Jug	L.11093 B.V778/4	7.5YR 7/4 pink with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown. Remains of reddish brown slip	Fragment: jug with narrow neck and everted stepped rim with prominent flange. One loop-handle from rim	Diam. 3.2 Rim 100%
14	Base (of chal-ice?)	L.11124 B.V857/102	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many minute round white and few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/2 pinkish white	Fragment: omphalos base	Base diam. 8.8



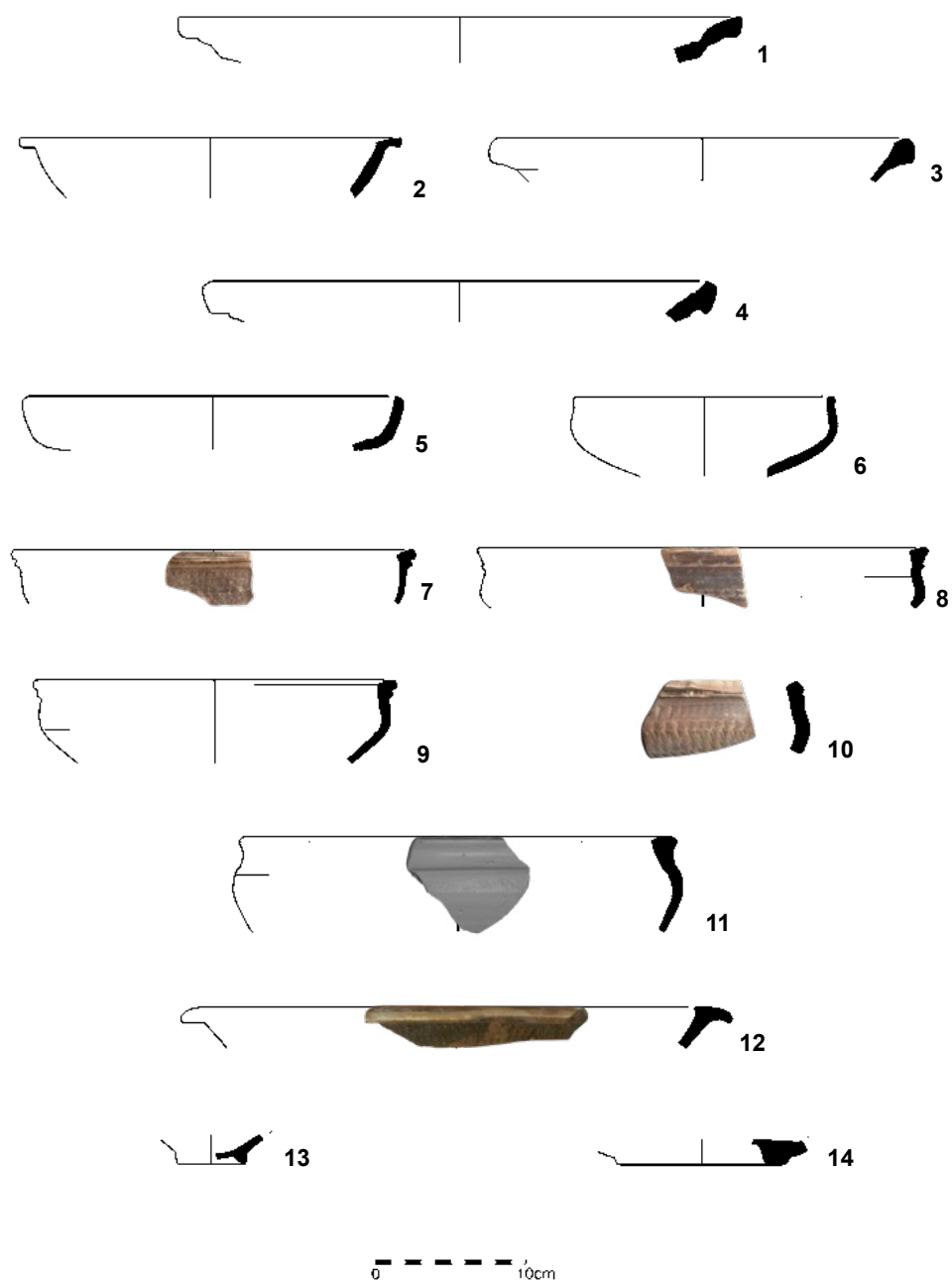
Pl. 3.13. Feature 656 — Roman Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.14.** Feature 656 — Late Roman and Byzantine Bowls.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions
1	ARS Bowl Form 67	L.11124 B.V857/289	10R 6/8 light red with few minute angular black and white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: bowl with double carinated ledge-rim	Diam. 34 Rim 7.5%
2	Imported Bowl	L.11093 B.V778/18	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: remains of red slip	Fragment: bowl with short ledge-rim	Diam. 22 Rim 6%
3	LRC Bowl Form 10	L.11093 B.V778/17	2.5YR 7/8 light red with few minute round black inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red.	Fragment: bowl with heavy knob rim	Diam. 28 Rim 11%
4	LRC Bowl	L.11093 B.V778/16	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red, blackened rim	Fragment: bowl with flanged knob rim	Diam. 28 Rim 7.5%
5	LRD Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/271	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: remains of black slip	Fragment: shallow carinated bowl with round rim	Diam. 20 Rim 5%
6	Rouletted Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/269	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: remains of blackish-brown dripping slip	Fragment: carinated bowl with round rim. Rouletting on body	Diam. 18 Rim 9.5%
7	Rouletted Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/267	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many minute angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: blackish-brown slip	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat rim with ridge and protrusion below. Rouletting on body	Diam. 24 Rim 7.5%
8	Rouletted Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/268	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many minute round white and few small round white inclusions. Exterior: black slip	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat rim with ridge and protrusion below. Rouletting on body	Diam. 22 Rim 7.5%
9	Rouletted Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/273	2.5YR 6/6 light red with gray core and many minute round white inclusions. Exterior: black slip	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat rim with ridge and protrusion below. Rouletting on body	Diam. 23 Rim 9%
10	Rouletted Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/276	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many minute round black and few white and small angular black and white inclusions. Surface: black slip	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat rim with ridge and protrusion below. Rouletting on body	n/a
11	Carinated Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/297	Gray with many minute round and small round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown	Fragment: carinated bowl with flat externally thickened rim. Combed wavy lines on body below carination	Diam. 26 Rim 7%
12	Bowl	L.11093 B.V778/14	7.5YR 5/4 brown with many small round white inclusions. Interior: slip 10R 5/6 red. Exterior: dripping black slip	Fragment: bowl with arched ledge-rim. Rouletting on exterior	Diam. 30 Rim 15%
13	Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/290	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: ring base	Base diam. 5
14	Bowl	L.11124 B.V857/291	5YR 7/4 pink with many small angular black inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: wide ring base	Base diam. 11

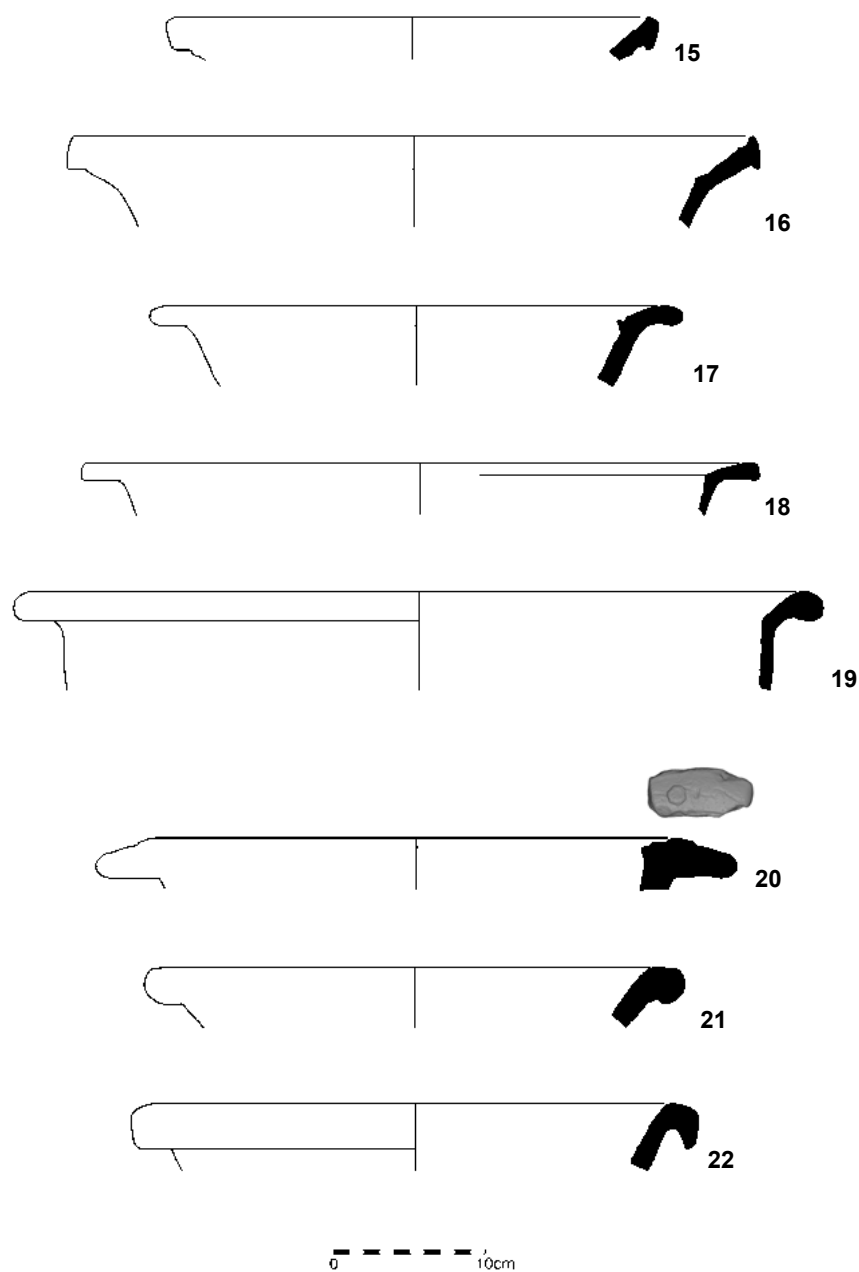
**Pl. 3.14.** Feature 656 — Late Roman and Byzantine Bowls.



**Pl. 3.14.** (cont.) Feature 656 — Late Roman and Byzantine Basins and Mortaria.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
15	Basin	L.11093 B.V778/13	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink.	Fragment: rilled-rim basin.	Diam. 32 Rim 7.5%
16	Basin	L.11124 B.V857/30	2.5YR 6/8 light red with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 8/3 pink.	Fragment: rilled-rim basin.	Diam. 38 Rim 7%
17	Basin	L.11124 B.V857/34	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4–7/6 pink to reddish yellow.	Fragment: arched-rim basin with internal groove.	Diam. 32 Rim 8.5%
18	Basin	L.11124 B.V857/33	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow.	Fragment: basin with slightly arched rim.	Diam. 36 Rim 8%
19	Basin	L.11124 B.V857/29	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink.	Fragment: arched-rim basin.	Diam. 40 Rim 10%
20	Mortarium	L.11093 B.V7783/3	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many large angular and round white and small angular black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/6–6/6 light red.	Fragment: mortarium with thick ledge rim and incised wavy line. Applied circles.	Diam. 38 Rim 7.5%
21	Mortarium	L.11124 B.V857/32	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with many minute angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3–8/4 very pale brown.	Fragment: mortarium with heavy knob rim, flattened on top.	Diam. 30 Rim 10%
22	Mortarium	L.11124 B.V857/31	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with many minute angular black inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3–8/4 very pale brown.	Fragment: mortarium with heavy overhanging flanged rim.	Diam. 30 Rim 15%

**Pl. 3.14.** Feature 656 — Late Roman and Byzantine Basins and Mortaria.

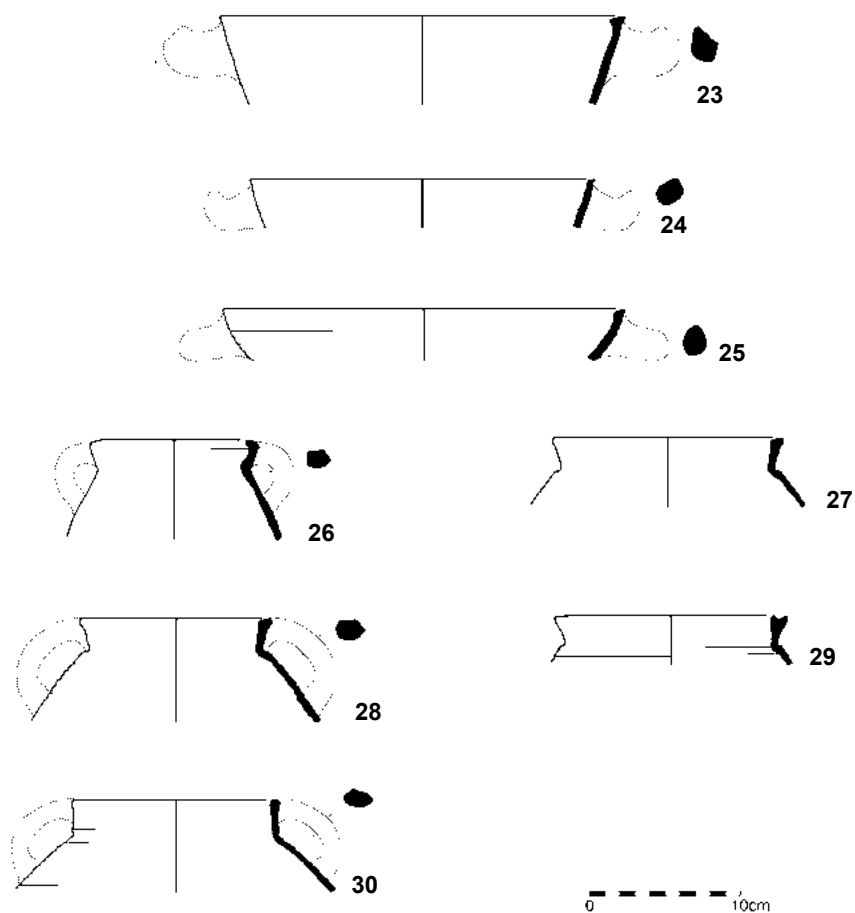


**Pl. 3.14.** (cont.) Feature 656 — Late Roman and Byzantine Cooking Vessels.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
23	Casserole	L.11093 B.V778/55	5YR 4/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with beveled rim and heavy horizontal handles	Diam. 23 Rim 11%
24	Casserole	L.11124 B.V857/194	2.5YR 5/76 red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: casserole with beveled rim and slightly downturned handles	Diam. 24 Rim 11.5%
25	Casserole	L.11093 B.V778/61	2.5YR 4/6 red with many minute round and angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 4/4 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: casserole with beveled rim and downturned handles	Diam. 24 Rim 11.5%
26	Cooking Pot	L.11124 B.V857/221	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Exterior surface and upper interior: slip 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with bulging neck and flat rim. Small coarsely-made loop-handles	Diam. 12 Rim 7.5%
27	Cooking Pot	L.11124 B.V857/238	2.5YR 4/8 red with few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and beveled rim. Combed lines on body	Diam. 16 Rim 20/.5%
28	Cooking Pot	L.11124 B.V857/237	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and beveled rim. Dense ribbing on body. Large loop-handles	Diam. 14 Rim 5%
29	Cooking Pot	L.11124 B.V857/228	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many minute angular and round and small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/6 light red	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and deeply grooved rim. Wide ribbing on body	Diam. 18 Rim 8%
30	Cooking Pot	L.11093 B.V778/58	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small and large round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 4/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and round rim. Ribbed body. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 16 Rim 5%



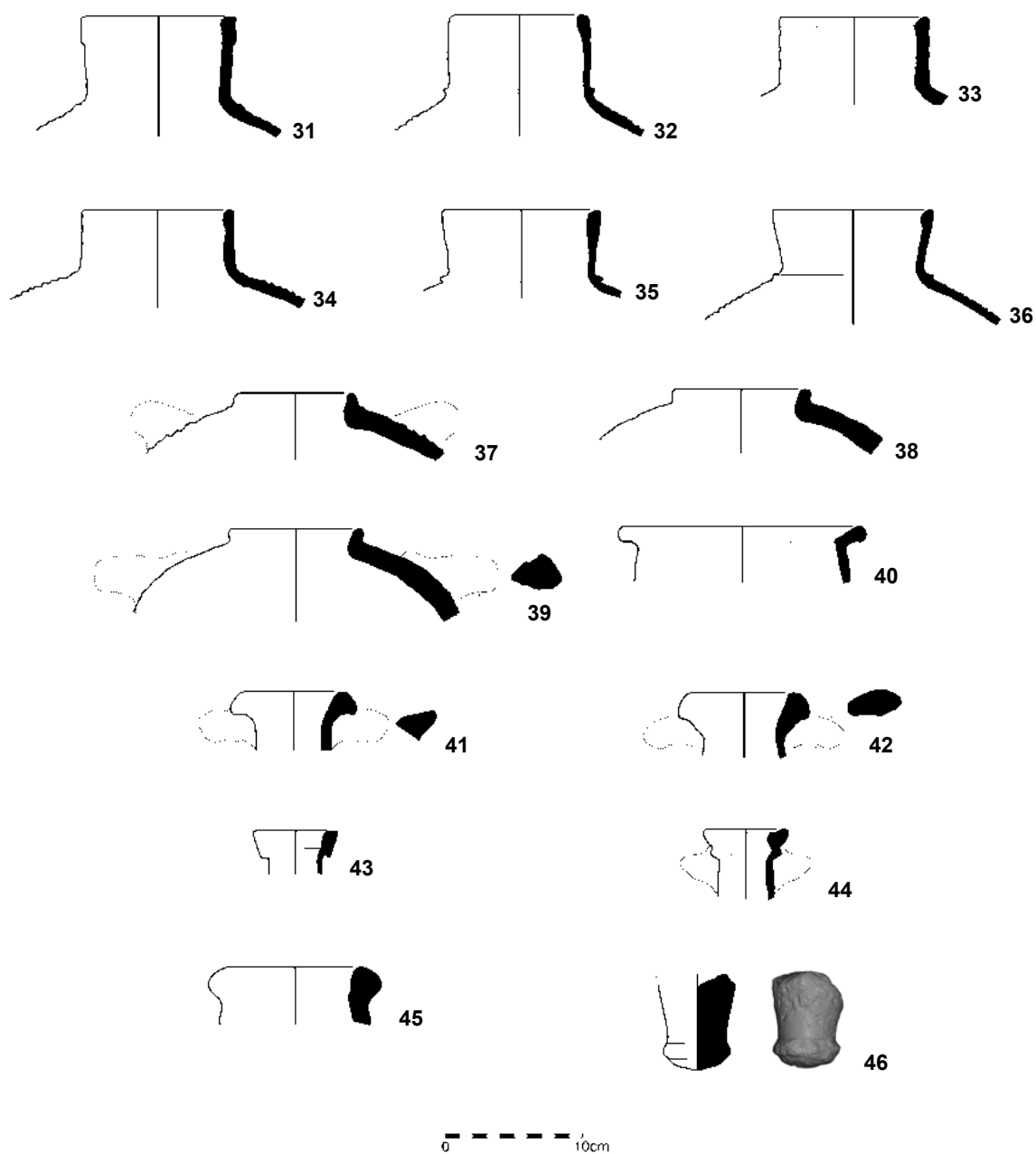
**Pl. 3.14.** (cont.) Feature 656 — Late Roman and Byzantine Cooking Vessels.



Pl. 3.14. (cont.) Feature 656 — Late Roman and Byzantine Storage Vessels.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
31	Storage Jar	L.11124 B.V857/111	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with a few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4.9 cm) and beveled rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 10 Rim 45.5%
32	Storage Jar	L.11124 B.V857/1	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many small round white and few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink and 2.5YR 7/6 light red	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5.4 cm) and inverted round rim. Ridge at bottom of neck and deep ribbing on body	Diam. 9.5 Rim 100%
33	Storage Jar	L.11093 B.V778/75	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: fired to 10YR 8/3 very pale brown with ware color shining through	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4.3 cm) with round internally thickened rim. Deep ribbing. Clay accretions on neck	Diam. 10 Rim 14%
34	Storage Jar	L.11093 B.V778/81	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few minute black and white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight slightly ribbed neck (5.2 cm) and round, internally thickened rim	Diam. 10 Rim 25.2%
35	Storage Jar	L.11124 B.V857/112	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink self-slip?	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5.8 cm) and folded rim beveled on top. Wide ribbing on body	Diam. 11 Rim 42%
36	Storage Jar	L.11093 B.V778/68	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many small and large round white inclusions. Surface fired to 10YR 8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with flaring neck (4.8 cm) with internally thickened pinched rim. Ridge at base of neck. Deep ribbing on body	Diam. 12 Rim 30.5%
37	Gaza Jar	L.11124 B.V857/24	7.5YR 5/6 strong brown with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light brown	Fragment: neckless jar with short straight rim. Wide ribbing and wide heavy handles	Diam. 10 Rim 5%
38	Gaza Jar	L.11124 B.V857/22	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/6 yellowish red	Fragment: neckless jar with short straight rim. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 9 Rim 35%
39	Gaza Jar	L.11124 B.V857/21	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few large angular white and gray inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: neckless jar with short straight rim. Coarsely attached wide heavy handle. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim 9%
40	Krater	L.11093 B.V778/12	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many minute angular and round white and few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: krater with everted ledge rim	Diam. 10 Rim 18%
41	Amphora	L.11093 B.V778/38, 40	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many small round black and white and gold mica inclusions. Surface: fired to 5YR 7/4–7/6 pink to reddish yellow	Fragment: amphora with narrow neck and sharply everted thick round rim, upper part shaved. Wide grooved handles are drawn from under rim	Diam. 4 Rim 50%
42	Amphora	L.11093 B.V778/1, 2, 3	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many small round black and white and gold mica inclusions. Surface: fired to 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: amphora with narrow neck and sharply everted thick round rim, upper part shaved. Wide slightly grooved handles are drawn from under rim	Diam. 6 Rim 100%
43	Amphora	L.11124 B.V857/19	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: fired to 10YR 8/2 very pale brown (self-slip?)	Fragment: amphora with everted folded rim, flattened on top	Diam. 6.2 Rim 100%
44	Amphora	L.11124 B.V857/18	7.5YR 4/6 strong brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown	Fragment: amphora with stepped neck and beveled rim. Handles are drawn from ridge under rim	Diam. 6.1 Rim 100%
45	Amphora	L.11124 B.V857/14	10YR 7/4 very pale brown with many minute angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: amphora with externally thickened rim	Diam. 10 Rim 21%
46	Amphora Toe	L.11124 B.V857/96	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few large angular black and white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5Y 8/2 pale yellow	Fragment: heavy round toe	n/a

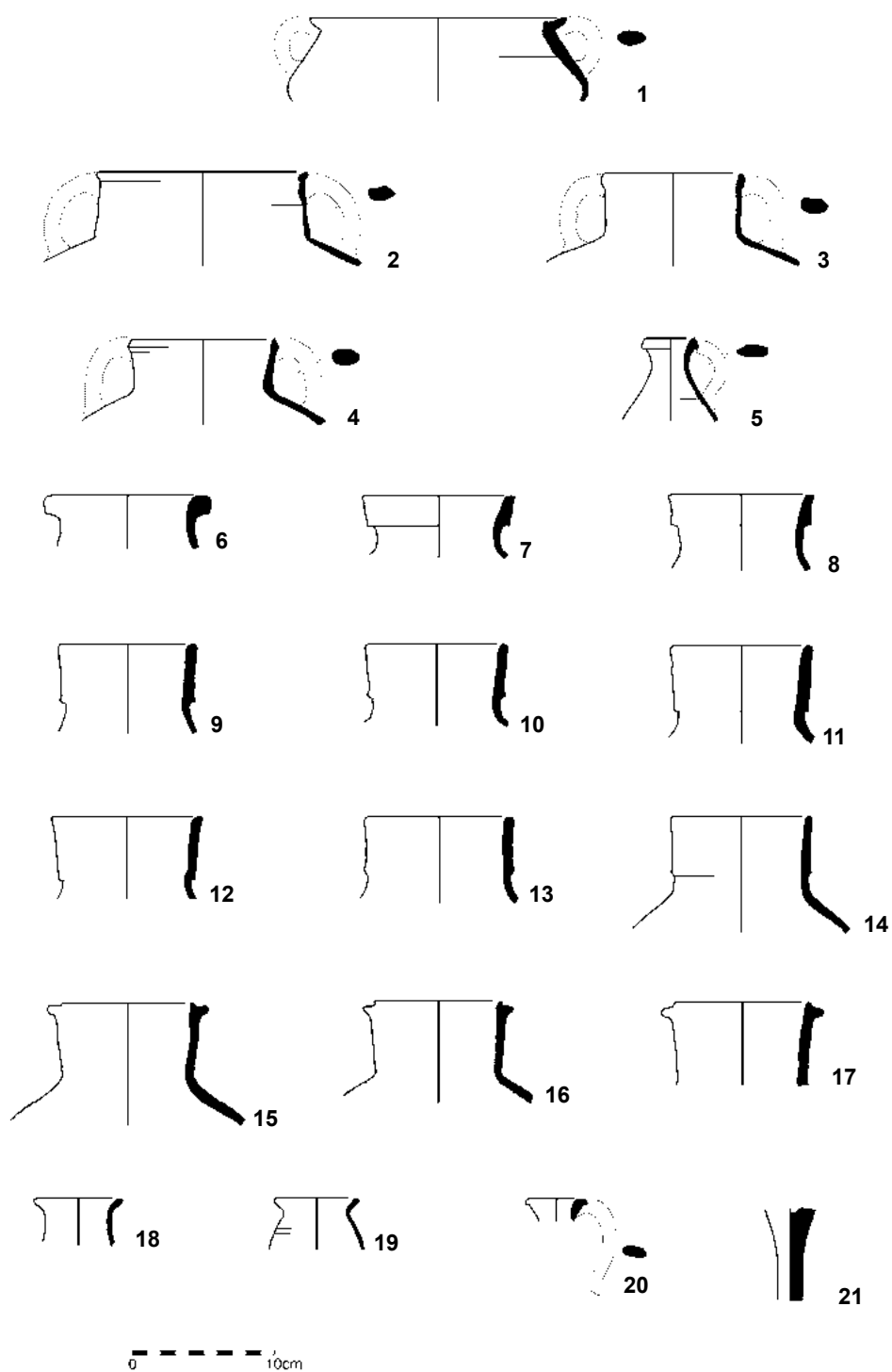
Pl. 3.14. (cont.) Feature 656 — Late Roman and Byzantine Storage Vessels.



## Pl. 3.15. Feature 680 — Roman Ceramics.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
1	Casserole	L.11420 B.X421/55	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with round body and everted grooved ledge-rim	Diam. 18 Rim 31%
2	Cooking Pot	L.11420 B.X421/56	2.5YR 5/6 red. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with straight profiled neck. Folded beveled rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 16 Rim 7%
3	Cooking Pot	L.11420 B.X421/59	2.5YR 4/6 red with thick core 5YR 4/3 reddish brown and few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and everted externally thickened rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 16 Rim 7%
4	Cooking Pot	L.11420 B.X421/54	5YR 4/3 reddish brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and triangular rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 16 Rim 7.5%
5	Cooking Jug	L.11420 B.W710/32	2.5YR 5/8 red with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking jug with narrow neck widening at top and triangular flanged rim. One band handle is drawn from the rim	Diam. 3.2 Rim 100%
6	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/26	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown and self-slip	Fragment: storage jar with short neck (3.5 cm) and everted short ledge-rim	Diam. 9 Rim 30%
7	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/15	2.5YR 7/6 light red with occasional large angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/4–8/6 pink to reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with everted neck (4 cm) and short collar with everted beveled rim	Diam. 10 Rim 27.5%
8	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/5	2.5Y 6/1 gray with few minute round black and white inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/3 pale yellow	Fragment: storage jar with everted neck (5 cm) and short collar with everted round rim	Diam. 10 Rim 29%
9	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/8	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many small angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring collared neck (6.1 cm) and round rim	Diam. 9 Rim 37%
10	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/27	7.5YR 7/4 pink with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with flaring collared neck (5.5 cm) and round rim	Diam. 10 Rim 21%
11	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/23	7.5YR 6/3 light brown with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: burnt	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring collared neck (6.3 cm) and round rim	Diam. 10 Rim 20%
12	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/14	7.5YR 6/1 gray with few small angular black inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring collared neck (5.7 cm) and round rim	Diam. 12 Rim 12%
13	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/16	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with straight collared neck (5.7 cm) and round rim	Diam. 12 Rim 15%
14	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/4	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with straight collared neck (5.2 cm) and round rim.	Diam. 10 Rim 13%
15	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.W710/23	5YR 5/4 reddish brown with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4–6/6 light reddish brown to reddish yellow. Clay accretions on body	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (5.5 cm) and everted flanged rim with groove. Ribbed body	Diam. 10 Rim 25%
16	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/12	2.5YR 4/6 red with thick core 5YR 4/3 reddish brown and many minute round white and few large angular black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/6–4/6 red	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (5.1 cm) and everted flanged rim with groove. Ribbed body	Diam. 10 Rim 28%
17	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/22	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with occasional large angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4–6/6 light reddish brown to reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (5.8 cm) and everted flanged rim with groove. Ribbed body.	Diam. 11 Rim 12.5%
18	Jug	L.11420 B.X421/48	7.5YR 7/4 pink. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink.	Fragment: jug with straight neck and everted round rim	Diam. 6 Rim 25%
19	Juglet	L.11420 B.X421/47	7.5YR 7/4 pink. Surface: slip 5YR 5/6 yellowish red	Fragment: ovoid jug with everted beveled rim	Diam. 6 Rim 22.5%
20	Juglet	L.11420 B.X421/49	7.5YR 7/4 pink with occasional large angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: juglet with everted pinched rim. One strap-handle	Diam. ca. 4 Rim ca. 15%
21	Un- guentarium	L.11420 B.X421/39	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: solid toe	n/a

Pl. 3.15. Feature 680 — Roman Ceramics.

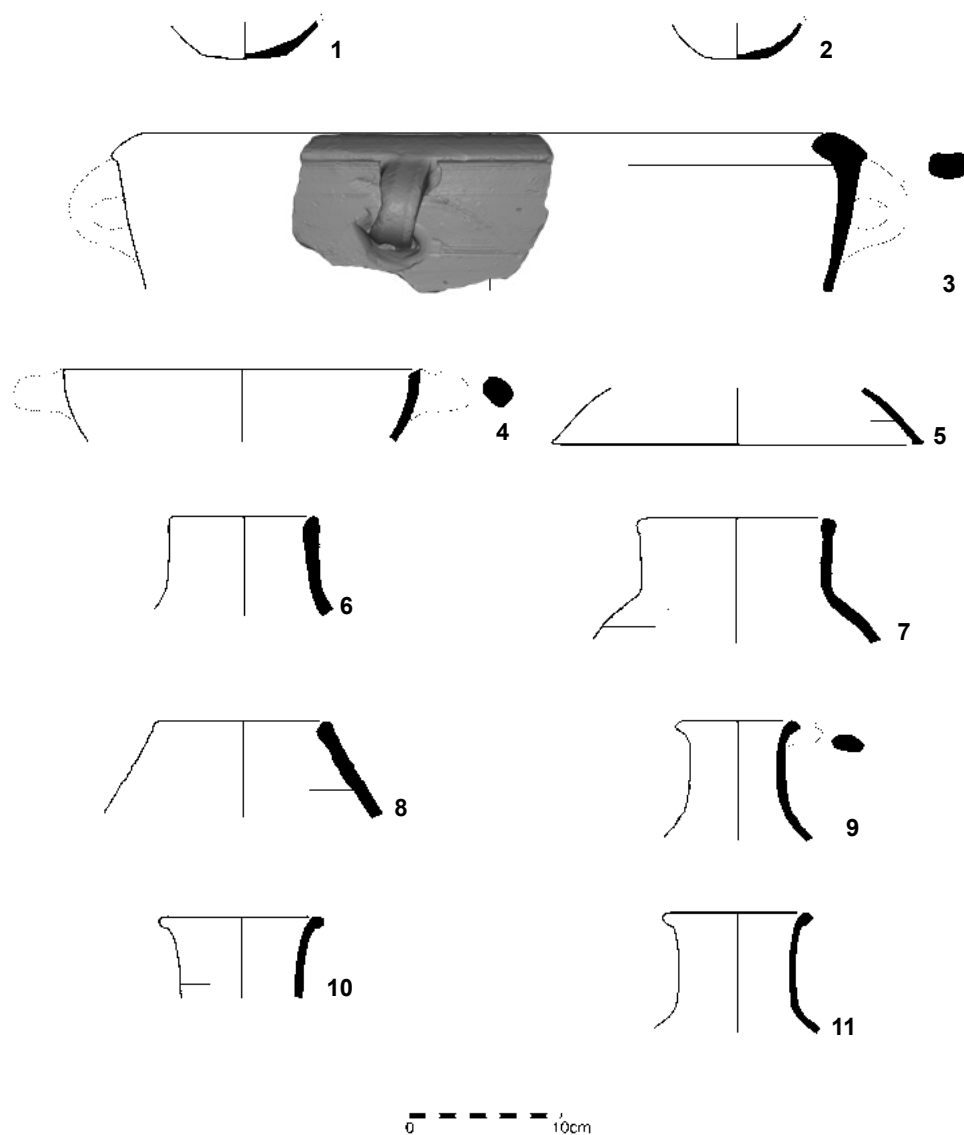


**Pl. 3.16.** Feature 680 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	FBW Bowl	L.11420 B.W710/1	5YR 4/1 dark gray. Exterior: 7.5YR 5/2–5/3 brown. Interior: 5YR 4/1 dark gray and 5YR 7/4 pink bands	Fragment: base of bowl with incised concentric circles	Diam. 5.5
2	FBW Bowl	L.11420 B.W710/3	5YR 4/1 dark gray. Exterior: 5YR 5/4 reddish brown. Interior: 2.5YR 6/4–6/6 light reddish brown and light red bands	Fragment: base of bowl with incised concentric circles	Diam. 4.1
3	Basin	L.11420 B.X421/30	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many large angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: large basin with inverted folded rim. Combed wavy and straight lines on body. Small loop-handles attached from rim	Diam. ca. 40 Rim 15%
4	Casserole	L.11420 B.W710/14	2.5YR 5/8 red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with beveled rim and horizontal handles. Ribbed body	Diam. 18 Rim 13%
5	Lid	L.11420 B.X421/68	5YR 5/4 reddish brown with few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: cooking vessel lid with everted beveled rim. Upper part of body ribbed	Diam. 11 Rim 10%
6	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.W710/24	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (6 cm) and round rim	Diam. 10 Rim 30%
7	Storage Jar	L.11420 B.X421/7	2.5Y 7/2 light gray with few small angular white and minute round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 7/2–7/3 light gray to pale yellow	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4.7 cm) and round thickened rim	Diam. 12 Rim 23%
8	Gaza Jar	L.11420 B.X421/21	5YR 6/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown	Fragment: neckless jar with round rim. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim 17%
9	Jug	L.11420 B.X421/20	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink.	Fragment: jug with everted round rim. One handle is drawn from rim.	Diam. 8 Rim 17%
10	Jug	L.11420 B.X421/18	5YR 7/5 reddish yellow with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: jug with everted round rim	Diam. 10 Rim 22.5%
11	Jug	L.11420 B.X421/19	10YR 6/2 light brownish gray with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/2 pale yellow	Fragment: jug with everted folded rim	Diam. 10 Rim 15%



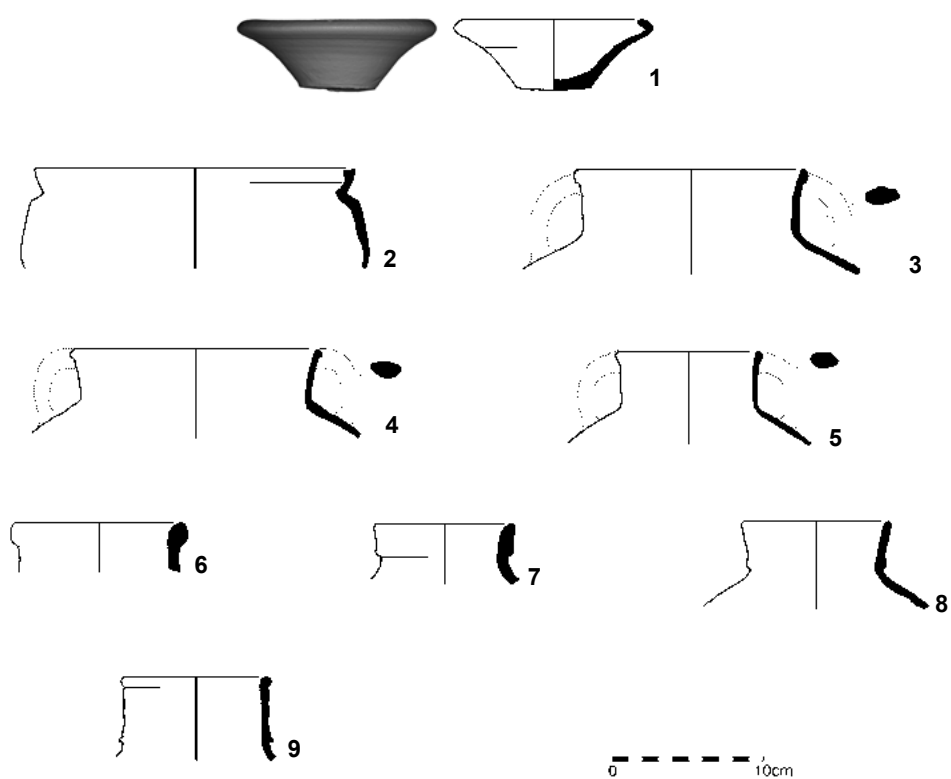
Pl. 3.16. Feature 680 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.17. Feature 716 — Early Roman Ceramics.**

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Bowl	L.11769 B.Y485	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: bowl with sharply in-curved rim. Flat string-cut base	Diam. 12 Rim 67%
2	Casserole	L.11769 B.Z371/9	2.5YR 5/8 red with thick core 5YR 4/4 reddish brown. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with high carination and everted grooved rim	Diam. 22 Rim 12%
3	Cooking Pot	L.11769 B.Z371/11	2.5YR 5/8 red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and folded rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 13 Rim 11.5%
4	Cooking Pot	L.11766 B.Z887/3	2.5YR 5/6 red with very thin darker core and few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4–5/3 light reddish brown to reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and triangular rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 12%
5	Cooking Pot	L.11769 B.Z371/6	2.5YR 5/8 red with thin dark core and few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and everted round rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 14 Rim 5%
6	Storage Jar	L.11766 B.Z887/6	10YR 7/4 very pale brown with occasional large angular grog inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with straight short? neck and externally thickened rim	Diam. 10 Rim 22.5%
7	Storage Jar	L.11766 B.Z887/2	7.5YR 7/4 pink with occasional large angular gray inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with collared short neck (3.2 cm) and everted round rim	Diam. 9 Rim 20%
8	Storage Jar	L.11769 B.Z371/7	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink with remains of paint 7.5YR 5/6 strong brown	Fragment: storage jar with flaring collared neck (3.2 cm) and round rim	Diam. 10 Rim 25%
9	Storage Jar	L.11769 B.Z371/18	2.5YR 7/6 light red with thick core 10YR 7/3 very pale brown. Surface: 10YR 8/2–8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with straight collared neck (4.7 cm) and round rim	Diam. 8 Rim 20%

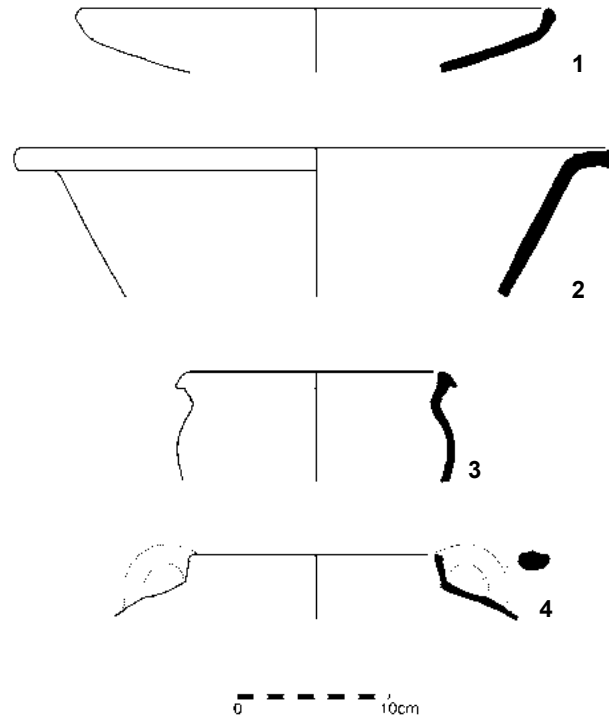
**Pl. 3.17.** Feature 716 — Early Roman Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.18.** Feature 733 — Early Roman Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Pompeian Red Ware Pan	L.12028 B.Y711/80	5YR 5/3–4/3 reddish brown with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red. Interior burnt	Fragment: shallow pan with incurved round rim with groove below	Diam. 28 Rim 9%
2	Basin	L.12028 B.Y826/25	7.5YR 4/6 strong brown with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: deep basin with everted rilled ledge rim	Diam. 32 Rim 6%
3	Krater	L.12028 B.Y711/5	7.5YR 7/4 pink with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: globular krater with sharply everted flanged rim. Thumb impressions at rim	Diam. 18 Rim 17%
4	Cooking Pot	L.12028 B.Y826/36	5YR 4/4 reddish brown with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/4 light reddish brown. Lower part burnt	Fragment: cooking pot with short slightly inverted neck and grooved rim. Loop handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 12.5%

**Pl. 3.18.** Feature 733 — Early Roman Ceramics.

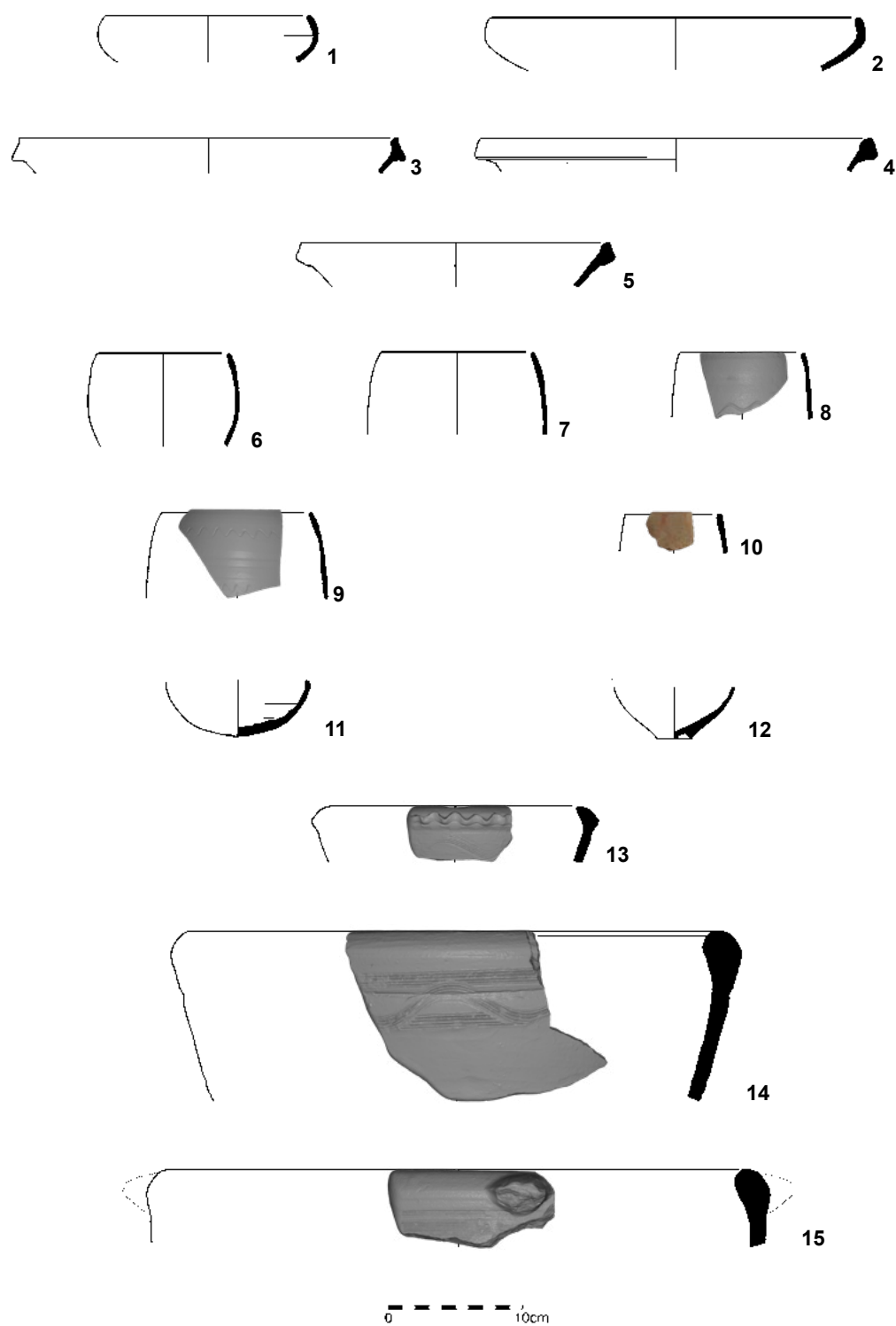


**Pl. 3.19.** Feature 733 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Bowls and Basins.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
1	LRC Bowl	L.12028 B.Y826/56	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with thin core and few minute round white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5YR 4/6 red	Fragment: bowl with in-curved round rim	Diam. 14 Rim 19%
2	LRC Bowl Form 1	L.12028 B.101352/15	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: glossy slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: bowl with in-curved round rim	Diam. 24 Rim 7%
3	LRC Bowl Form 3F	L.12028 B.102352/13	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: bowl with flanged rim. Rim blackened	Diam. 30 Rim 11.5%
4	LRC Bowl Form 10	L.12028 B.Y826/55	2.5YR 6/6 light red. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: bowl with knob rim	Diam. 24 Rim 11%
5	LRC Bowl	L.12028 B.101352/1	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: bowl with knob rim	Diam. 26 Rim 23.5%
6	FBW Bowl	L.12028 B.Y711/87	5YR 6/2 pinkish gray. Surface: 7.5YR 6/3 light brown, 7.5YR 5/3 brown burnished bands	Fragment: deep bowl with inverted pinched rim	Diam. 11 Rim 20%
7	FBW Bowl	L.12028 B.Y711/94	5YR 5/6 yellowish red. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink, 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow burnished bands	Fragment: deep bowl with inverted round rim	Diam. 10 Rim 19%
8	FBW Bowl	L.12028 B.Y711/93	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow burnished bands	Fragment: deep bowl with inverted round rim. Incised wavy lines	Diam. 8 Rim 32.5%
9	FBW Bowl	L.12028 B.Y711/89	10YR 6/3 pale brown with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown, 5YR 5/4 reddish brown and 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow burnished bands	Fragment: deep bowl with inverted round rim. Incised wavy lines	Diam. 11 Rim 27%
10	FBW Painted Bowl	L.12028 B.Y711/96	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/3 pale yellow with remains of 5YR 5/6 yellowish red painted pattern	Fragment: bowl with inverted round rim	Diam. 6 Rim 20%
11	FBW Bowl	L.12028 B.Y711/90	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow burnished bands	Fragment: round base of bowl with deeply incised concentric lines	n/a
12	FBW Bowl	L.12028 B.Y711/91	5YR 5/6 reddish yellow with few minute round black inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow burnished bands	Fragment: high ring base of bowl	Base diam. 2.5
13	Bowl	L.12028 B.Y711/50	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 6/4 light brown	Fragment: bowl with incurved folded rim with piecrust and combed wavy lines	Diam. 18 Rim 14%
14	Basin	L.12028 B.Y711/36	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: fired to 2.5Y 8/2 pale yellow	Fragment: basin with inverted round rim. Combed straight and wavy lines	Diam. 35 Rim 13%
15	Basin	L.12028 B.Y711/65	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: basin with inverted round rim. Combed straight lines	Diam. 34 Rim 10%



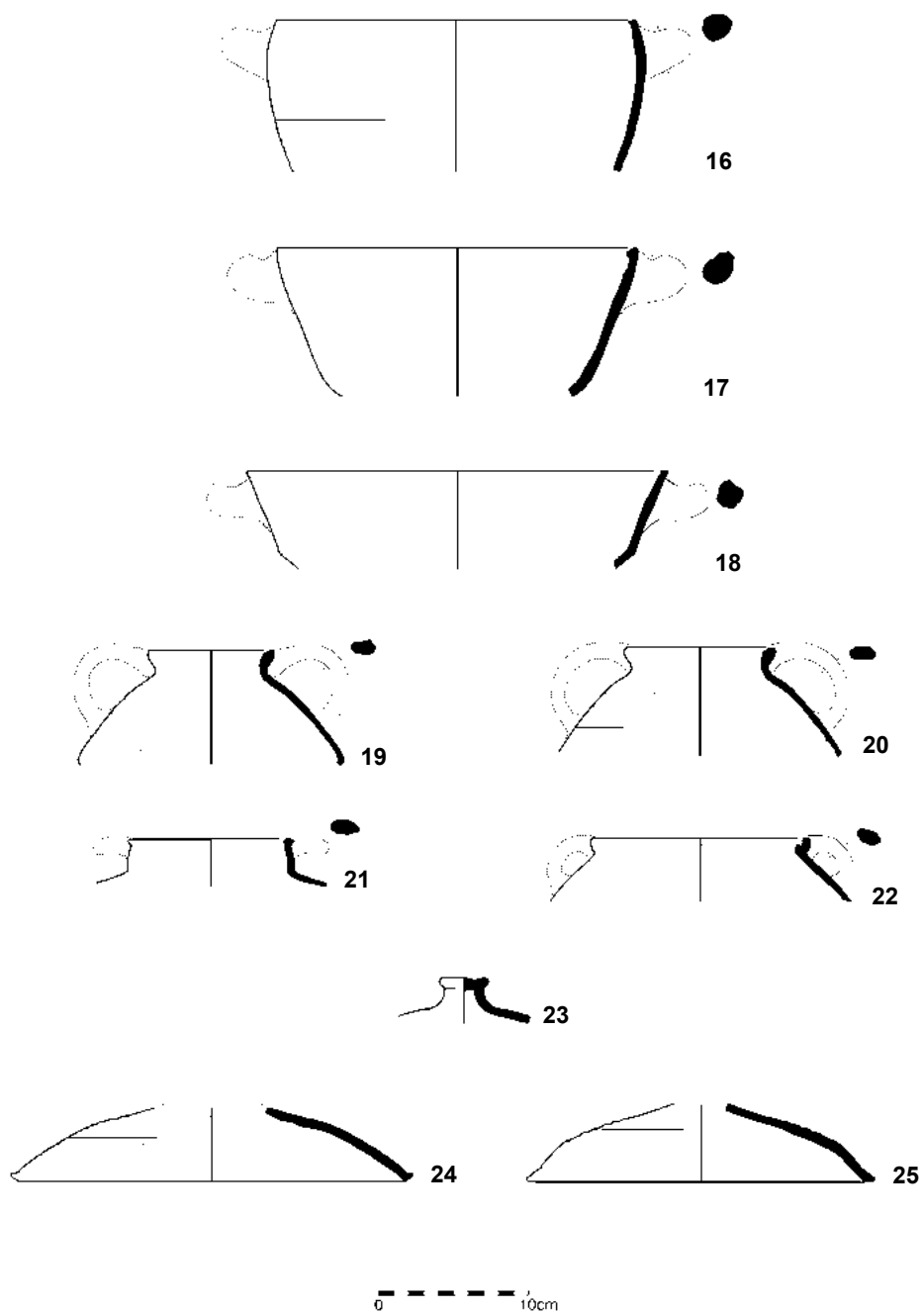
**Pl. 3.19.** Feature 733 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Bowls and Basins.



**Pl. 3.19.** (cont.) Feature 733 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Cooking Vessels.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
16	Casserole	L.12028 B.Y711/47	2.5YR 5/8 red with occasional large round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4–4/4 reddish brown	Fragment: round casserole with beveled rim. Horizontal handles are positioned right under the rim	Diam. 26 Rim 13%
17	Casserole	L.12028 B.Y711/46	5YR 5/4 reddish brown with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: burnt	Fragment: round casserole with inverted beveled rim. Horizontal handles are positioned right under the rim	Diam. 26 Rim 15%
18	Casserole	L.12028 B.Y826/64	2.5YR 4/6 red with darker core and few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/4–5/4 light reddish brown to reddish brown	Fragment: carinated casserole with flat rim. Horizontal handles are positioned right under the rim	Diam. 30 Rim 8%
19	Cooking Pot	L.12028 B.Y711/67	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/3–5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: globular cooking pot with short everted neck and round rim. Large loop-handles are raised above the rim	Diam. 10 Rim 25%
20	Cooking Pot	L.12028 B.Y711/68	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many small angular and round white and few large round black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/3 reddish brown	Fragment: globular cooking pot with short everted neck and round rim. Large loop-handles are raised above the rim	Diam. 10 Rim 10%
21	Cooking Pot	L.12028 B.Y826/67	2.5YR 5/6 red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and grooved flanged rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 27%
22	Cooking Pot	L.12028 B.Y826/68	10R 5/8 red with occasional large round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 5/3 brown	Fragment: neckless cooking pot with round rim with inner groove. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 37.5%
23	Lid Knob	L.12028 B.Y711/20	Burnt. Surface: 7.5YR 5/3 brown	Fragment: flat knob of coarse lid	Knob diam. 3.3
24	Lid	L.12028 B.Y711/77	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: ribbed lid with beveled rim	Diam. 24 Rim 15%
25	Lid	L.12028 B.Y711/51	5YR 3/4 dark reddish brown with few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown. Interior encrusted	Fragment: carinated ribbed lid with flat rim	Diam. 24 Rim 18%

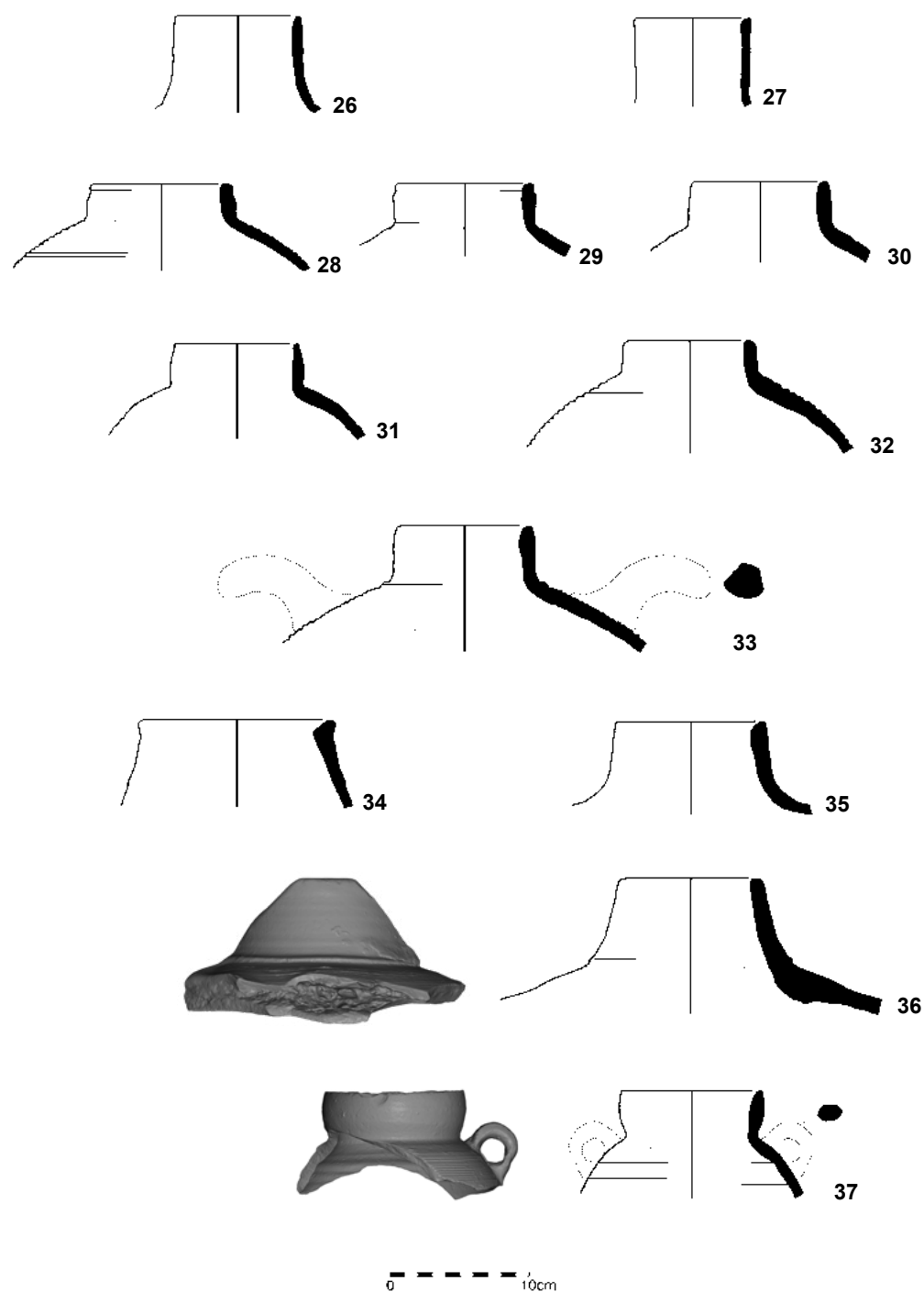
**Pl. 3.19.** (cont.) Feature 733 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Cooking Vessels.



**Pl. 3.19.** (cont.) Feature 733 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Storage Jars.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
26	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.Y711/27	7.5YR 6/3 light brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (6.4 cm) and round rim	Diam. 9 Rim 27%
27	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.Y711/69	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red burnished bands	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5.9 cm) with round rim	Diam. 8 Rim 17.5%
28	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.101352/34	7.5YR 6/4–6/6 light brown to reddish yellow with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink. 5YR 6/6–5/6 reddish yellow to yellowish red with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with bulging neck (2.5 cm) and externally pinched rim. Dense ribbing	Diam. 9 Rim 32%
29	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.Y826/24	5YR 6/4 light reddish brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (3.2 cm) and round rim with groove below. Light ribbing	Diam. 9 Rim 35%
30	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.Y826/21	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few minute angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (3.1 cm) and pinched rim. Clay accretions on body	Diam. 10 Rim 12%
31	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.Y711/70	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown to 5YR 5/6 yellowish red	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (3 cm) and pinched rim. Light ribbing and clay accretions on body	Diam. 9 Rim 100%
32	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.101352/35	7.5YR 6/3 light brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (3 cm) and round rim. Deep ribbing	Diam. 8 Rim 15%
33	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.101352/32	10YR 6/2 light brownish gray with many small round white and few large round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4.4 cm) and pinched rim internally thickened. Deep ribbing. Large-loop handles	Diam. 10 Rim 15%
34	Gaza Jar	L.12028 B.Y711/72	5YR 5/6 yellowish red. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown to 5YR 5/6 yellowish red. Clay accretions on body and rim	Fragment: neckless jar with beveled rim	Diam. 12 Rim 9.5%
35	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.Y826/35	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many minute angular and round white and small round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4.8 cm) and round rim. Incised wavy line on neck	Diam. 11 Rim 29%
36	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.Y711/33	7.5YR 5/4 brown with few small round black and white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/2–7/3 pinkish gray to pink	Fragment: storage jar with inverted neck (6 cm) and round rim. Ridge at base of neck. Shallow ribbing	Diam. 12 Rim 15%
37	Storage Jar	L.12028 B.Y711/44	10R 5/6 red with thick black core and many small angular and round white and angular black inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: storage jar with everted thickened neck (3.6 cm) and pinched rim. Loop-handles are positioned on shoulder. Densely ribbed	Diam. 10 Rim 100%

**Pl. 3.19.** (cont.) Feature 733 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Storage Jars.

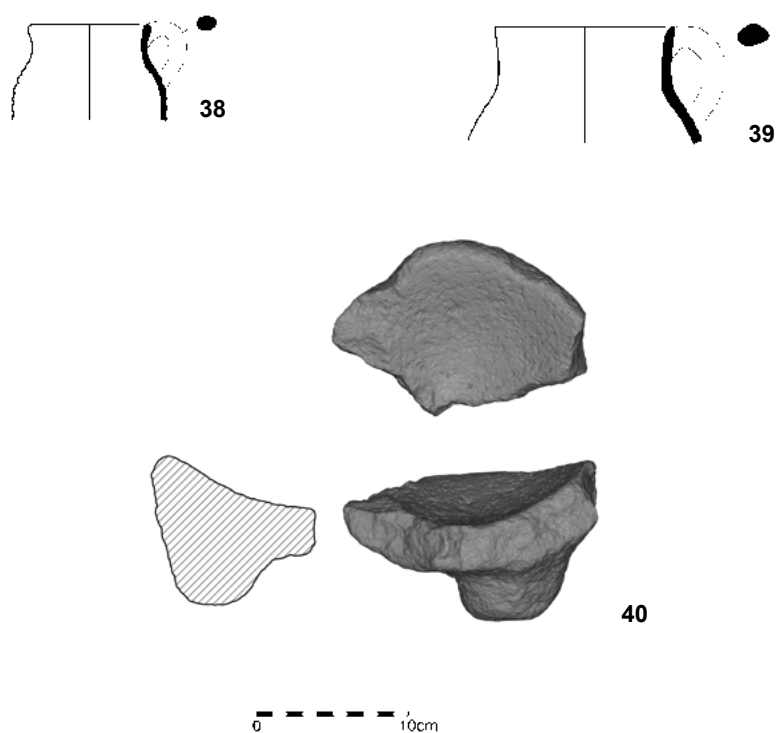


**Pl. 3.19.** (cont.) Feature 733 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Amphora, Jug and Mortar.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
38	Jug	L.12028 B.Y711/8	10YR 6/6 brownish yellow with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 6/4 light yellowish brown	Fragment: jug with everted neck and round rim. One loop-handle is drawn from rim	Diam. 9 Rim 17%
39	Jug	L.12028 B.Y711/13	10YR 6/2–6/3 light brownish gray to pale brown with few large angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/2–7/2 pale yellow to light gray	Fragment: jug with everted neck and pinched rim. One loop-handle is drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 10%
40	Mortar	L.12028 B.101352	Basalt	Fragmentary: footed mortar	



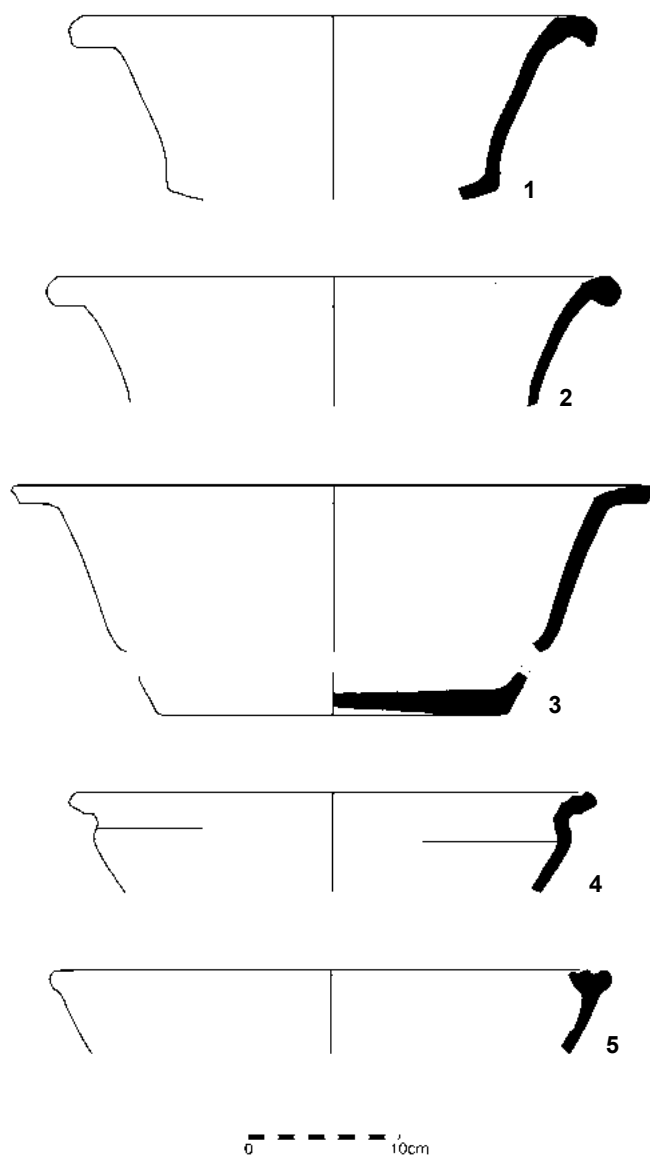
**Pl. 3.19.** (cont.) Feature 733 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Amphora, Jug and Mortar.



**Pl. 3.20.** Feature 739 — Early Roman Basins/Kraters.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Basin/Krater	L.12083 B.Z543/11	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink and 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: deep basin/krater with everted arched rim with grooves	Diam. 34 Rim 18%
2	Basin/Krater	L.12083 B.Z543/16	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: deep basin/krater with everted rolled rim with groove	Diam. 36 Rim 16.5%
3	Basin/Krater	L.12083 B.Y956/1, 5	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: deep basin/krater with everted ridged ledge rim and flat base	Diam. 38 Rim 5%
4	Basin/Krater	L.12083 B.Z543/7	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with thick light gray core and many small and large angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5Y 8/2 pale yellow	Fragment: carinated basin/krater with upturned rilled ledge rim	Diam. 32 Rim 8.5%
5	Basin/Krater	L.12083 B.Y956/14	2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown with many small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: round basin/krater with flat rim with deep grooves	Diam. 20 Rim 10

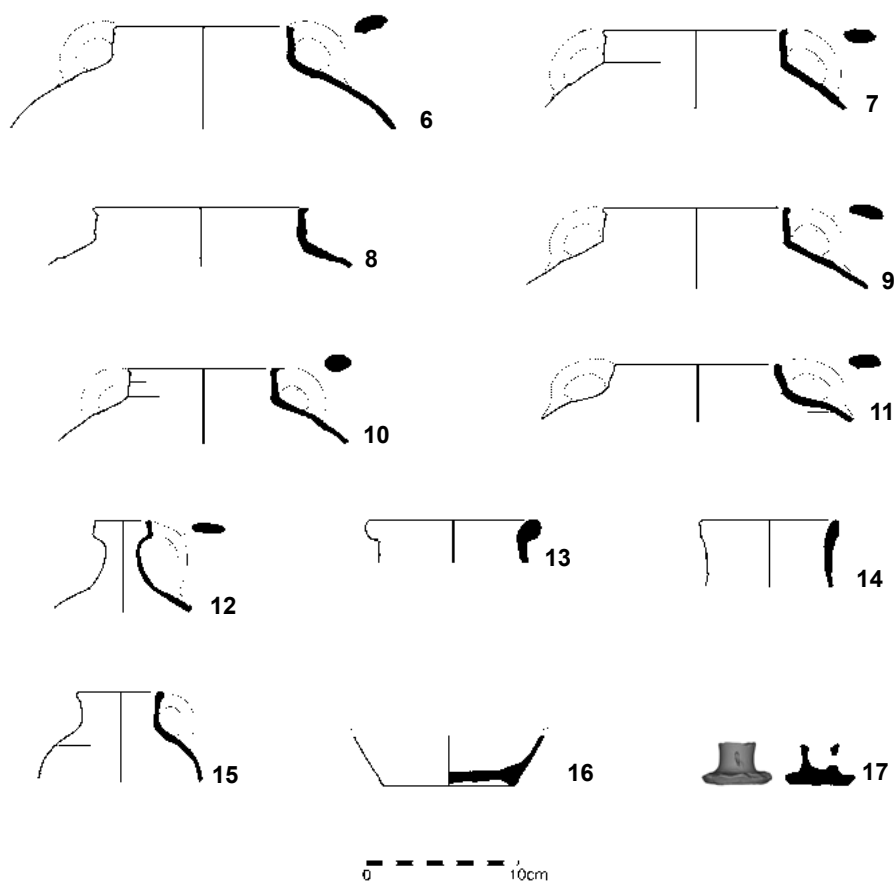
**Pl. 3.20.** Feature 739 — Early Roman Basins/Kraters.



**Pl. 3.20.** (cont.) Feature 739 — Early Roman Cooking Pots, Jugs and Juglets.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
6	Cooking Pot	L.12083 B.Z543/27	2.5YR 5/8 light red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and triangular rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 31%
7	Cooking Pot	L.12083 B.Y956/36	5YR 4/6 yellowish red. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slight bulging neck and flat rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 11 Rim 20%
8	Cooking Pot	L.12083 B.Y956/12	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small round black and white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and flat grooved rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 24%
9	Cooking Pot	L.12083 B.Y956/18	5YR 4/6 yellowish red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slight bulging neck and flat grooved rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 12 Rim 29%
10	Cooking Pot	L.12083 B.Z543/26	5YR 4/4 reddish brown. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and flat grooved rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 35%
11	Cooking Pot	L.12083 B.Y956/23	2.5YR 5/8 red with occasional large angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/6 red	Fragment: cooking pot with short inverted neck and slightly grooved rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 11 Rim 19%
12	Cooking Jug	L.12083 B.Y956/47	2.5YR 4/6 red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: cooking jug with narrow neck and cup-mouth. One band-handle is drawn from rim	Diam. 3.7 Rim 100%
13	Storage Jar	L.12083 B.Y956/34	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small round black and white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2–8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and everted rolled rim	Diam. 11 Rim 20%
14	Storage Jar	L.12083 B.Y956/38	5YR 7/8 reddish yellow with few small and large round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: Storage jar with everted neck (4.3 cm) and round rim	Diam. 8 Rim 27.5%
15	Jug	L.12083 B.Z543/3	10YR 6/2 light brownish gray with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/1–8/2 white to very pale brown	Fragment: ovoid jug with slightly flaring neck and everted thickened rim. One small loop-handle is drawn from rim	Diam. 5.5 Rim 100%
16	ESA Jug	L.12083 B.Y956/9	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow. Exterior: slip 10R 5/8 red	Fragment: ring base	Diam. of base: 9
17	Unknown Vessel	L.12083 B.Y956/43	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round black inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3 pink	Fragment: flat base	Diam. of base: 4

**Pl. 3.20.** (cont.) Feature 739 — Early Roman Cooking Pots, Jugs and Juglets.

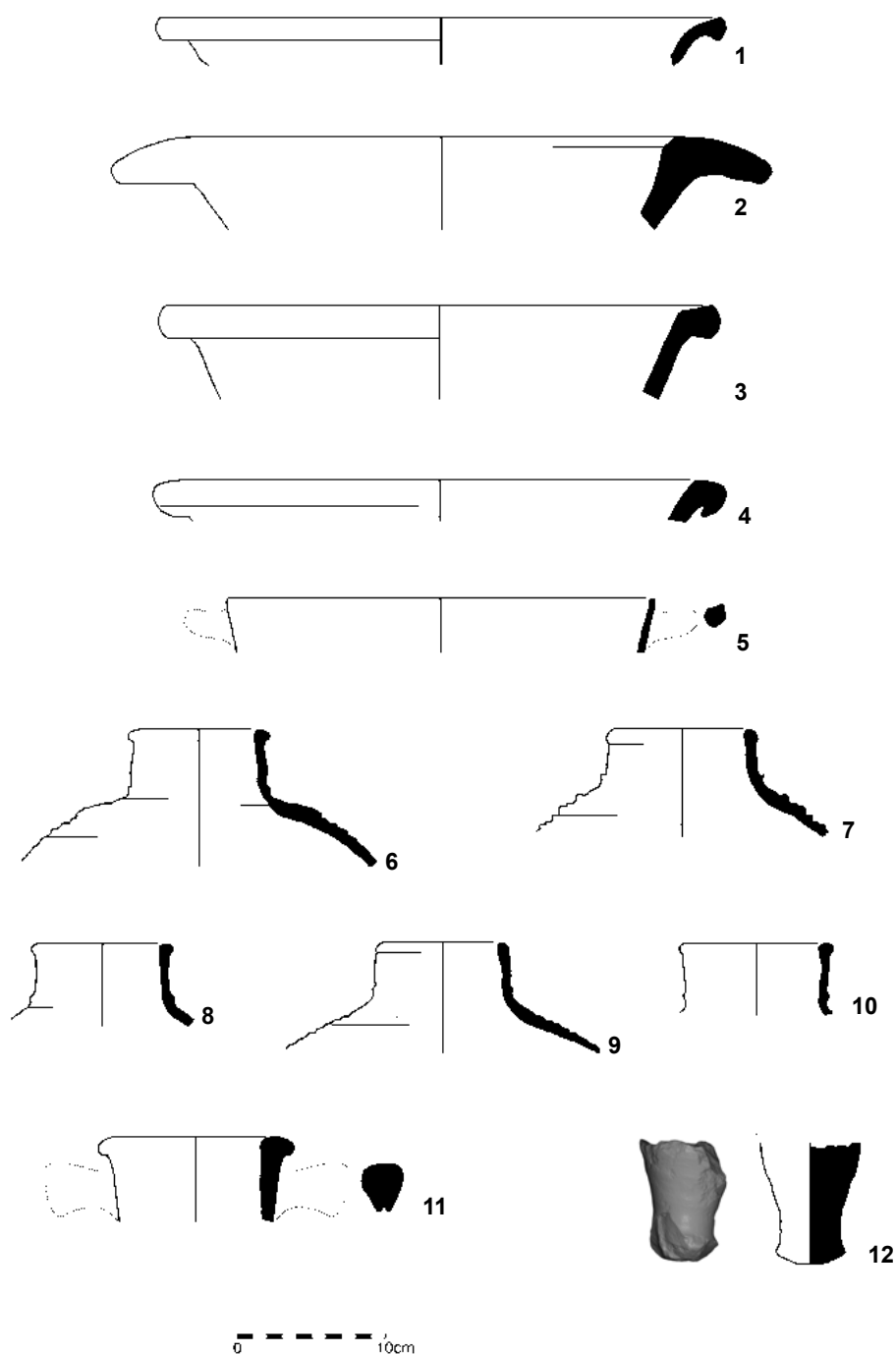


## Pl. 3.21. Feature 739 — Byzantine Ceramics.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Fabric and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
1	ARS Bowl	L.12083 B.Y956/20	2.5YR 6/6 light red. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: bowl double carinated ledge rim with external knob	Diam. 28 Rim 7.5%
2	Mortarium	L.12083 B.Y956/3	5YR 7/4 pink with many large angular and round black and white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink. Inclusions visible on surface	Fragment: mortarium with everted downturned ledge rim	Diam. 32 Rim 20%
3	Mortarium	L.12083 B.Y956/8	7.5YR 8/3 pink with many small angular and round black and brown (grog?) and few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown. Inclusions visible on surface	Fragment: mortarium with thick short ledge rim	Diam. 34 Rim 5.5%
4	Mortarium	L.12083 B.Z543/6	10YR 8/4 very pale brown with many small angular and round black and brown (grog?) inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown. Inclusions visible on surface	Fragment: mortarium with everted round rim with flange and deep groove below	Diam. 34 Rim 8%
5	Casserole	L.12083 B.Y956/26	2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown with thin gray core and few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: casserole with beveled rim and horizontal handles	Diam. 22 Rim 6%
6	Storage Jar	L.12083 B.Z543/15	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3–7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly bulging neck (4.5 cm) and flanged rim. Ridge at bottom of neck. Wide ribbing and clay accretions on body and neck	Diam. 9 Rim 27.5%
7	Storage Jar	L.12083 B.Y956/13	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/4 and 5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: storage jar with slightly inverted neck (4.5 cm) and externally thickened round rim. Ridge at bottom of neck. Deep ribbing and clay accretions	Diam. 9 Rim 23%
8	Storage Jar	L.12083 B.Y956/27	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 8/3 pink self-slip	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4.4 cm) and externally thickened round rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 9 Rim 27.5%
9	Storage Jar	L.12083 B.Z543/18	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: storage jar with slightly bulging neck (4 cm) and inverted folded rim. Ridge at bottom of neck. Wide ribbing	Diam. 9 Rim 12%
10	Storage Jar	L.12083 B.Y956/26	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4.5 cm) and externally thickened round rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 9 Rim 17.5%
11	Amphora	L.12083 B.Y956/6	7.5YR 8/4 pink with many small and large angular and round black inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/4 very pale brown	Fragment: amphora with flaring neck and heavy thickened rim. Pinched handles are drawn from mid-neck	Diam. 13 Rim 27.5%
12	Amphora Toe	L.12083 B.Y956/6A	7.5YR 8/4 pink with many small and large angular and round black inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/4 very pale brown	Fragment: solid amphora toe rounded at base	n/a



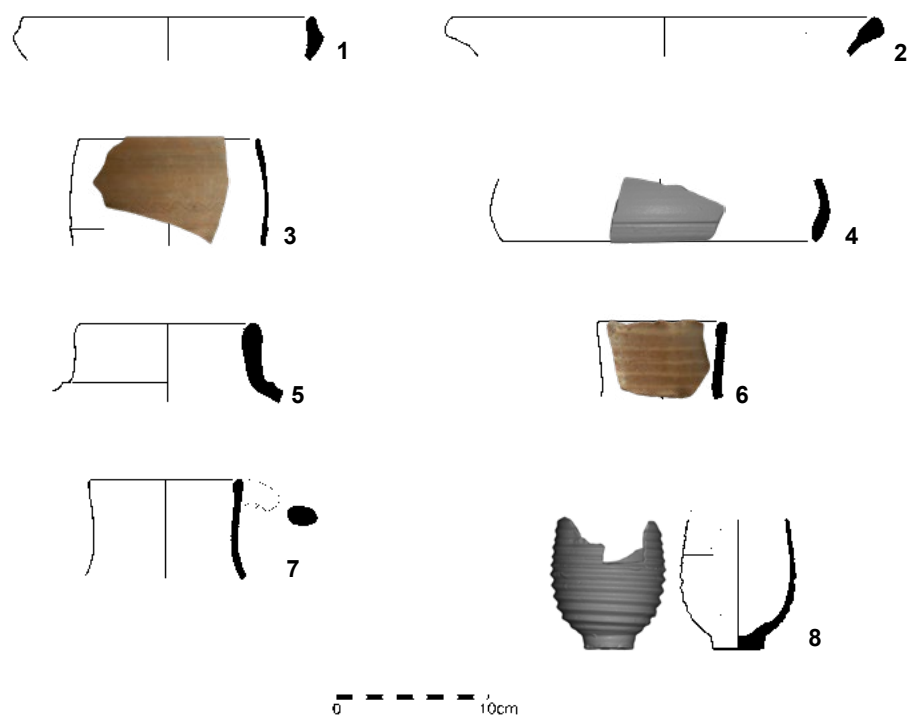
Pl. 3.21. Feature 739 — Byzantine Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.22.** Feature 742 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	LRC Bowl	L.12131 B.Z192/23	2.5YR 6/8 light red. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red	Fragment: bowl with flange and round rim	Diam. 22 Rim 6%
2	LRC Bowl Form 10	L.12131 B.Z192/20	2.5YR 6/8 light red. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/6 light red. Rim discolored	Fragment: bowl with flat knob rim	Diam. 26 Rim 7.5%
3	FBW Bowl	L.12131 B.Z192/5	7.5YR 5/1 gray. Surface: 7.5YR 6/3 light brown, 5YR 7/4 pink, 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow burnished bands	Fragment: deep bowl with pinched rim. Incised wavy line	Diam. 11 Rim 25%
4	Bowl/Lid	L.12131 B.Z192/13	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few minute round black inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink	Fragment: bowl/lid with round rim. Incised line below rim	Diam. 20 Rim 12%
5	Storage Jar	L.12131 B.Z192/9	7.5YR 6/2 pinkish gray with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/3 very pale brown self-slip	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (4 cm) and round rim. Ridge at bottom of neck	Diam. 12 Rim 30%
6	Jar/Jug	L.12131 B.Z192/2	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink and 5YR 5/6 yellowish red burnished bands	Fragment: jar/jug with straight neck (5.1 cm) and round rim	Diam. 8 Rim 47.5%
7	Jug	L.12131 B.Z192/1	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2–8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: jug with straight ribbed neck and round rim. Handle is drawn from rim	Diam. 9 Rim 51%
8	Juglet	L.12131 B.Z192/3	5YR 6/8 reddish yellow. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: ovoid juglet with ribbed body and flat string-cut base	Base diam. 3.5

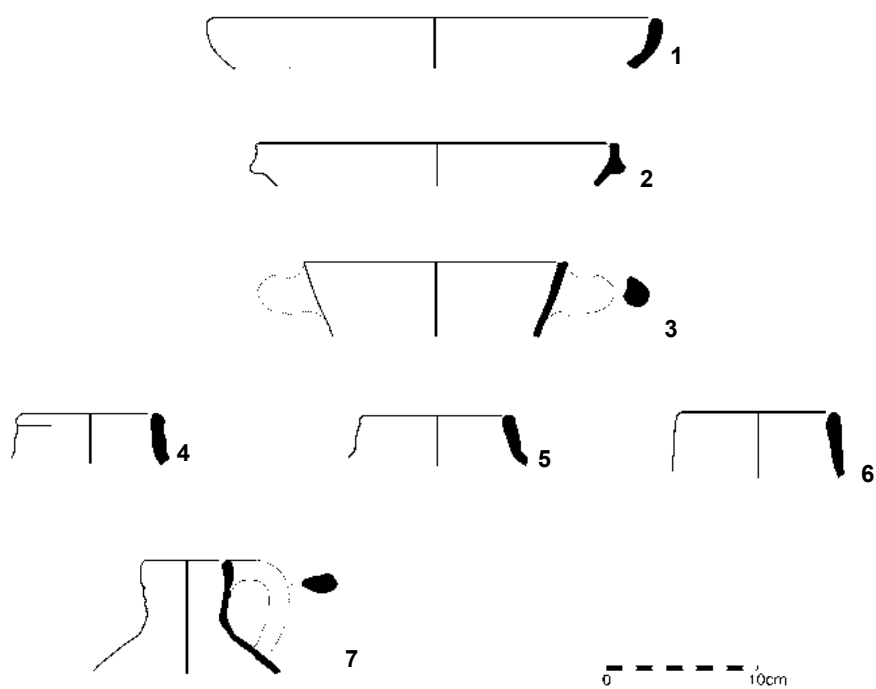
**Pl. 3.22.** Feature 742 — Late Byzantine/Early Islamic Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.23.** Feature 745 — Byzantine Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	LRC Bowl Form 1	L.12177 B.Z918/2	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5YR 4/6 red	Fragment: bowl with inverted round rim	Diam. 24 Rim 6.5%
2	LRC Bowl Form 3C	L.12177 B.Z918/3	2.5YR 6/6 light red with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/6 red	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim	Diam. 26 Rim 10.5%
3	Casserole	L.12180 B.Z928/8	Black from burning. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: casserole with beveled rim and horizontal handles	Diam. 16 Rim 9%
4	Storage Jar	L.12180 B.Z928/4	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 7/4–7/6 light reddish brown to light red	Fragment: storage jar with bulging neck (3 cm) and pinched rim	Diam. 10 Rim 20%
5	Storage Jar	L.12177 B.Z918/4	7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (3 cm) and round rim	Diam. 10 Rim 12.5%
6	Storage Jar	L.12177 B.Z918/1	7.5YR 6/3–6/4 light brown with many minute round inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/2 light gray	Fragment: storage jar with inverted neck (4 cm) and internally thickened rim	Diam. 10 Rim 35%
7	Jug	L.12180 B.Z928/2	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink and 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: jug with bulging ribbed neck and inverted round rim. One strap-handle drawn from rim	Diam. 6 Rim 25%

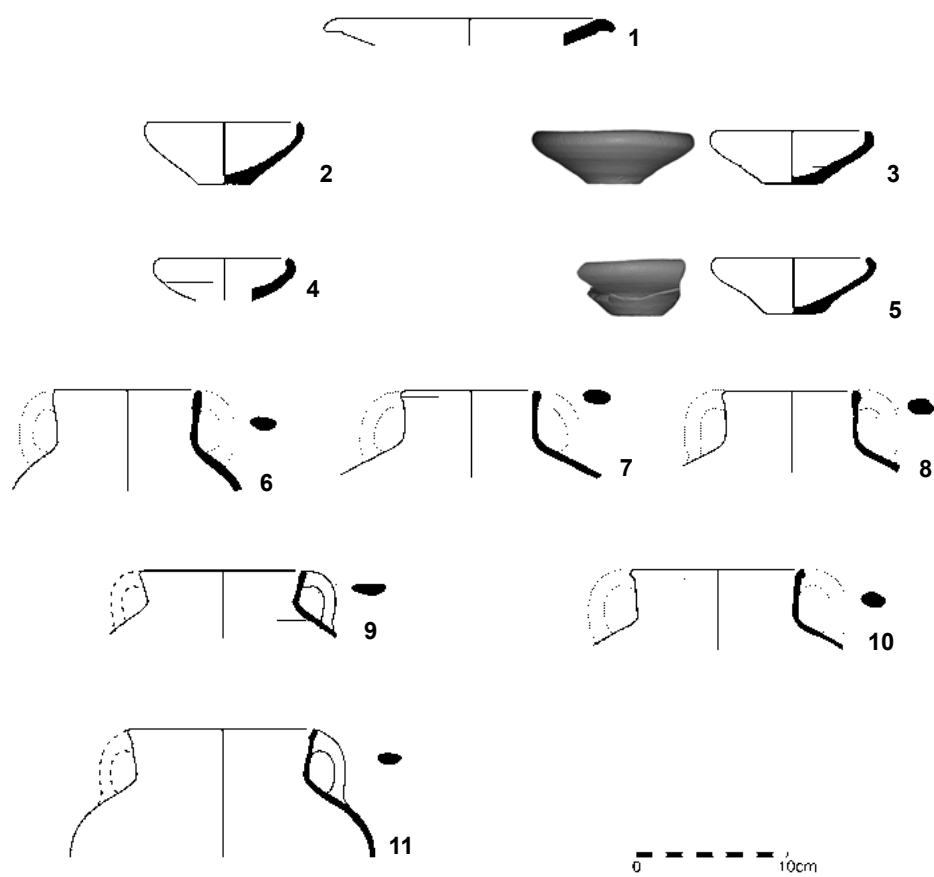
Pl. 3.23. Feature 745 — Byzantine Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.24. Feature 950 — Hellenistic and Early Roman Ceramics.**

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Fish Plate	L.18R17-074 B.18R17-007/3	2.5YR 6/6 light red. Surface: black painted bands	Fragment: plate with downturned ledge-rim	Diam. 10 Rim 10%
2	Bowl	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167	5YR 6/6–5/6 reddish yellow to yellowish red with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/3–7/4 pink	Fragment: bowl with sharply incurved rim. Flat string-cut base	Diam. 10 Rim 50%
3	Bowl	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/5	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/2–7/2 pinkish white to pink	Fragment: bowl with sharply incurved rim. Flat string-cut base	Diam. 10 Rim 15%
4	Bowl	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/3	10YR 7/3–6/3 very pale brown to pale brown. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown	Fragment: bowl with sharply incurved rim	Diam. 11 Rim 14%
5	Bowl	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/1	7.5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: bowl with sharply incurved rim. Flat string-cut base	Diam. 10 Rim 50%
6	Cooking Pot	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/7	2.5YR 4/6 red with thin black core. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown and burnt	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and slightly beveled rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim. Body ribbed	Diam. 10 Rim 6%
7	Cooking Pot	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/2	2.5YR 4/6 red with thin black core and few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5Yr 5/1 gray	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and thickened round rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 10%
8	Cooking Pot	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/9	2.5YR 5/8 red with burnt interior. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with straight neck and thickened round rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 11%
9	Cooking Pot	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/17	2.5YR 5/6 red with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and thickened round rim. Band-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 5%
10	Cooking Pot	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/42	5YR 4/6 yellowish red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/3 light reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and everted grooved rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim 17%
11	Cooking Pot	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/21	5YR 4/6 yellowish red with few small angular black and white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with flaring neck and everted grooved rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 10 Rim <5%

Pl. 3.24. Feature 950 — Hellenistic and Early Roman Ceramics.

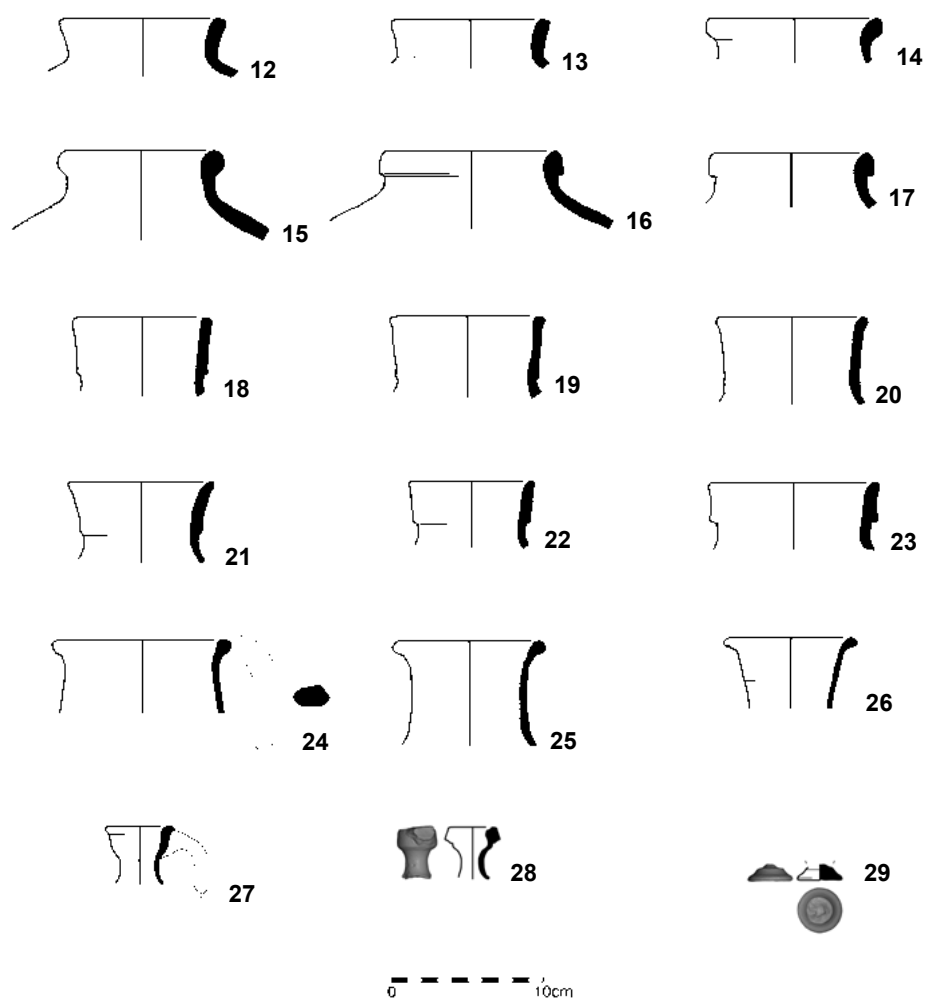




## Pl. 3.24. (cont.) Feature 950 — Hellenistic and Early Roman Ceramics.

Cat. No.	Vessel Type	Locus Basket	Ware and Surface Color	Description	Dimensions (cm)
12	Storage Jar	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167-14	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with many minute angular and round white and few small angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown. Inclusions visible on surface.	Fragment: storage jar with short everted neck and round rim.	Diam. 12 Rim 27.5%
13	Storage Jar	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/4	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few large round black and small round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown. Inclusions visible on surface. Air bubbles.	Fragment: neckless storage jar with everted round rim.	Diam. 11 Rim 22.5%
14	Storage Jar	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/15	10YR 7/4 very pale brown with few minute angular black inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown.	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and sharply everted thickened rim.	Diam. 12 Rim 12.5%
15	Storage Jar	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/6	10YR 6/2 light brownish gray with many small round black and white and few large angular black inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow.	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and everted rolled rim.	Diam. 12 Rim 15%
16	Storage Jar	L.18R17-074 B.18R17-0077/8	7.5YR 7/4 pink with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown.	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and folded rim.	Diam. 12 Rim 10%
17	Storage Jar	L.18R17-075 B.18R17-0084-3	7.5YR 7/3 pink with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3 pink.	Fragment: storage jar with short neck and folded rim.	Diam. 11 Rim 20%
18	Storage Jar	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/18	10YR 6/2 light brownish gray with many small angular black and white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2 very pale brown.	Fragment: storage jar with flaring collared neck (4.9 cm) and round rim.	Diam. 11 Rim 12.5%
19	Storage Jar	L.18R17-066 B.18R17-0064/4	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with many small round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2–8/3 very pale brown.	Fragment: storage jar with flaring collared neck (5.5 cm) with thickened round rim.	Diam. 11 Rim 15%
20	Storage Jar	L.18R17-066 B.18R17-0064/7	5YR 6/6 reddish yellow with few small round black and white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink.	Fragment: storage jar with flaring collared neck (5.5 cm) with thickened round rim.	Diam. 11 Rim 12.5%
21	Storage Jar	L.18R17-074 B.18R17-0077/6	7.5YR 7/4 pink with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2–8/3 very pale brown.	Fragment: storage jar with sharply everted collared neck (5 cm) and round rim.	Diam. 10 Rim 24%
22	Storage Jar	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/11	10YR 6/1 gray with many minute round white and small round black and white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 7/2 light gray self-slip.	Fragment: storage jar with flaring collared neck (4 cm) and round rim.	Diam. 10 Rim 7%
23	Storage Jar	L.18R17-075 B.18R17-0084/4	10YR 6/3 pale brown with many small angular and round white and black and few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink and 10YR 8/2 very pale brown.	Fragment: storage jar with everted collared neck (4.3 cm) and round rim.	Diam. 11 Rim 15%
24	Large Jug	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/11	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with many small angular and round white and few large angular white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 7/3 pink.	Fragment: jug with sharply everted beveled rim. One loop-handle is drawn from rim.	Diam. 10 Rim 12.5%
25	Large Jug	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/33	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3 pink.	Fragment: jug with straight neck and everted thickened round rim.	Diam. 10 Rim 27.5%
26	Jug	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/38	10YR 7/3 very pale brown with few small angular black and round white inclusions. Surface: 7.5YR 8/3 pink.	Fragment: jug with flaring neck and sharply everted thickened rim.	Diam. 9 Rim 20%
27	Jug	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/23	7.5YR 5/3 brown with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/3 very pale brown.	Fragment: jug with narrow neck and everted round rim. One loop-handle is drawn from rim.	Diam. 4.2 Rim 50%
28	Juglet	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/16	2.5YR 6/6 light red with light gray interior and few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 8/3 pink.	Fragment: jug with cup-mouth rim. One loop-handle is drawn from rim.	Diam. 2.4 Rim 100%
29	Bottle	L.18R17-121 B.18R17-0167/3	5YR 7/3 pink. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink.	Fragment: flat base, maybe used as stopper.	Diam. 3

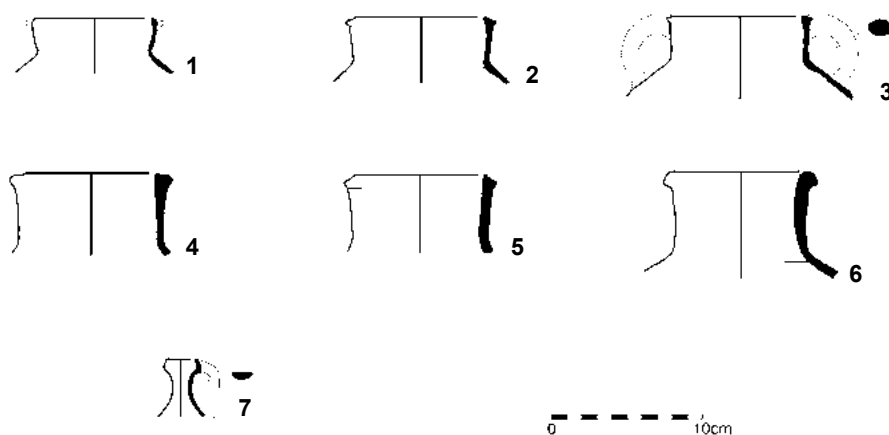
Pl. 3.24. (cont.) Feature 950 — Hellenistic and Early Roman Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.25.** Feature 979 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	Cooking Pot	L.19R17-040 B.19R17-0094/8	5YR 4/1 dark gray with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with bulging neck and incurved folded rim	Diam. 8 Rim 23
2	Cooking Pot	L.19R17-040 B.19R17-0094/9	5YR 4/4 reddish brown and few minute angular white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with bulging neck and incurved flanged rim	Diam. 8 Rim 22%
3	Cooking Pot	L.19R17-040 B.19R17-0094/4	5YR 4/4 reddish brown with many minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 5/3 reddish brown	Fragment: cooking pot with slightly bulging neck and incurved grooved rim with external flange	Diam. 9 Rim 25%
4	Storage Jar	L.19R17-040 B.19R17-0094/5	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with few minute round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4–5/6 light reddish brown to yellowish red	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (5 cm) and grooved externally thickened rim	Diam. 9 Rim 20%
5	Storage Jar	L.19R17-040 B.19R17-0094/6	7.5YR 6/4 light brown with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/4 pink	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (4.5 cm) and grooved rim	Diam. 9 Rim 34%
6	Storage Jar	L.19R17-040 B.19R17-0094/1, 2	5YR 6/6–5/6 reddish yellow to yellowish red with few small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 6/4–6/6 light reddish brown to reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with slightly flaring neck (5.8 cm) and everted round rim	Diam. 9 Rim 100%
7	Juglet	L.19R17-040 B.19R17-0094/10	5YR 5/6 yellowish red with gray core. Surface: 2.5YR 6/4 light reddish brown	Fragment: juglet with cup mouth. One strap-handle drawn from rim	Diam. 2 Rim 50%

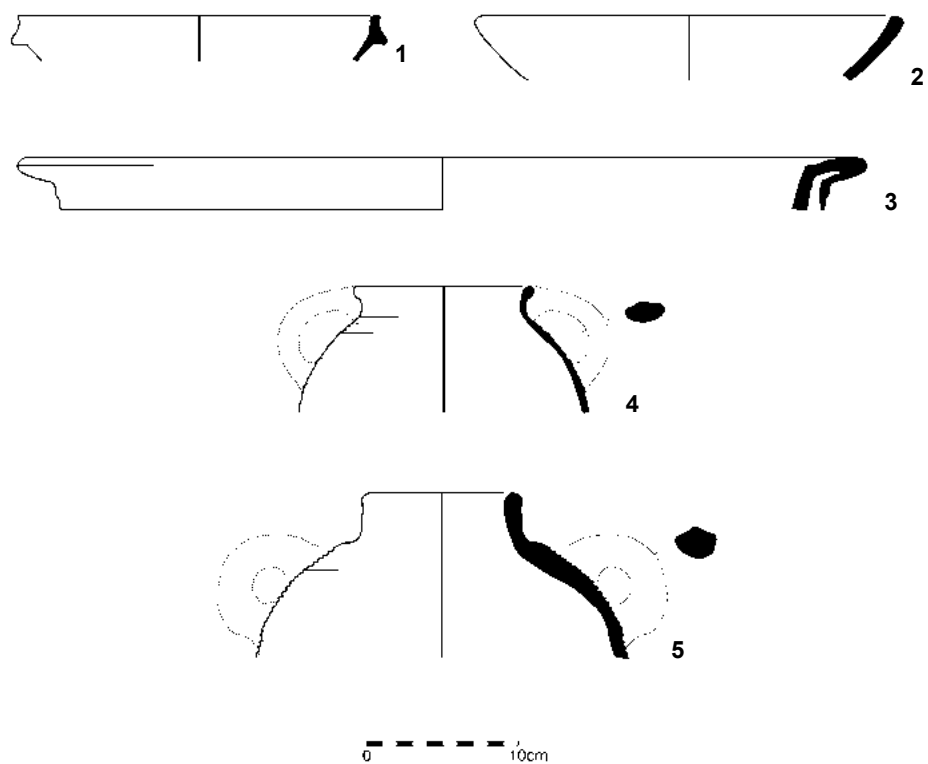
**Pl. 3.25.** Feature 979 — Late Hellenistic/Early Roman Ceramics.



**Pl. 3.26.** Feature 979 — Late Byzantine Ceramics.

<b>Cat. No.</b>	<b>Vessel Type</b>	<b>Locus Basket</b>	<b>Fabric and Surface Color</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Dimensions (cm)</b>
1	LRC Bowl Form 3C	L.19R17-053 B.19R17-0105/4	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular white and occasional large angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 2.5YR 6/8 light red.	Fragment: bowl with triangular flanged rim. Rim discolored	Diam. 20 Rim 7.5%
2	LRD Bowl Form 1	L.19R17-053 B.19R17-0105/7	2.5YR 6/6 light red with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: slip 10R 5/8 red.	Fragment: bowl with round rim. Rim discolored	Diam. 20 Rim <5%
3	Basin	L.19R17-053 B.19R17-0105/3	10YR 6/3 pale brown with many small angular and round white inclusions. Surface: 10YR 8/2–8/3 very pale brown	Fragment: ledge rim basin with combed wavy lines on rim. Misfired	Diam. 30 Rim 7.5%
4	Cooking Pot	L.19R17-053 B.19R17-0105/2	2.5YR 4/6 red with few small round white inclusions. Surface: 2.5YR 5/3–5/4 reddish brown	Fragment: globular cooking pot with short everted thickened rim. Loop-handles are drawn from rim	Diam. 14 Rim 7%
5	Storage Jar	L.19R17-053 B.19R17-0105/3	5YR 7/6 reddish yellow with few small angular white inclusions. Surface: 5YR 7/6 reddish yellow	Fragment: storage jar with straight neck (3.5 cm) and round rim. Deep ribbing and clay accretions on body. Coarse loop-handles are positioned on shoulder	Diam. 8 Rim 20%

**Pl. 3.26.** Feature 979 — Late Byzantine Ceramics.



## CHAPTER 4

### THE COINS

*Yoav Farhi*

This report identifies 102 coins found in ritual baths excavated at Nesher-Ramla Quarry (NRQ) during years 2010–2019. The coins discussed below range from the Ptolemaic to the Mamluk period (third century BCE to sixteenth century CE). Most of these coins belong to later fills, which accumulated inside the *miqwa'ot* after these were no longer in use, and thus cannot date

the construction of the ritual baths. However, they do contribute to our understanding of the coins which circulated at this site.

All the coins are bronze, except for three made of lead (Nos 98–100), and all are isolated finds. The coins are arranged chronologically according to types in Table 4.1. Coins bearing an asterisk are illustrated in Plates 4.1–4.4.<sup>1</sup>

**Table 4.1.** The catalogue of the coins.

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
<b>PTOLEMAIC</b>										
<b>Ptolemy III (246–221 BCE)</b>										
1*	D3 680 11420 W824	2.23	14.5– 15.5	12	Horned head of Zeus-Ammon r., wearing taenia with <i>basileion</i> above forehead; dotted border	ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ ΠΤΟΛΕΜΑΙΟΥ Eagle standing l., on thunderbolt; wings closed; in field l., club; dotted border	230s–220 BCE	Tyre	<i>CPE</i> I/2: 116, No. B471	Ser. 5 Dichalkon. Central cavities
<b>SELEUCID</b>										
<b>Antiochus IV (175–164 BCE)</b>										
2*	N 460 X60 Q687	2.71	14–15	12	Diademed, radiate head of Antiochus r.; monogram behind head; fillet border	[ΒΑΣΙΛΕΩΣ]/ ANTIOXΟΥ Veiled and draped goddess standing facing, holding long scepter or torch; dotted border	173/2–168 BCE	'Akko-Ptolemais	SC II: 92, No. 1479	Serrated flan

<sup>1</sup> The coins were conserved by Nina Koskanen at the Conservation Laboratory of the Zinman Institute of Archaeology at the University of Haifa and were photographed by Anna Hayat. I wish to thank them both.



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No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
3*	D4 739 12087 Z620	2.01	14.5	1	Same	Same type	Same	Same	Same	Same
4*	D2 531 10168 S415	2.42	14	12	Same	Same	Same	Same	Same	Same
5	D4 582 10891 V337	2.07	12–13	12	Same	Same	Same	Same	Same	Same. Worn
<b>Antiochus VII (138–129 BCE)</b>										
6*	D4 656 11124 W170	2.67	15	12	Lily on stem; dotted border.	[B]AΣ ΛEQ[Σ] [ANT]IOXOY, in two lines on l., [EYE]PΓ[ETOY] on r., anchor. Illegible date.	132/1– 131/0 BCE	Jerusalem	SC II: 392, No. 2123	
<b>Unattributed Seleucid</b>										
7	D3 680 11420 W783	1.10	13–14	-	Obliterated	Obliterated	2nd c. BCE			Beveled flan. Central cavities. Worn
<b>HASMONEAN</b>										
<b>Alexander Jannaeus (104/3–76 BCE)</b>										
8*	T 716 11779 101414	1.76	12.5– 14	12	Two conjoined cornucopias with pomegranate between horns	Paleo-Hebrew legend in wreath: [י]נתנכ/ הכ[—]חבר	104/3–c. 85 BCE	Jerusalem	Cf. <i>TJC</i> : 215–216, Group S	
9	D4 656 11093 V862	1.18	13	7	Same type	Same type	Same	Same	Same	
10	D2 616 10784 U390	1.25	14–16	-	Eight-pointed star surrounded by border of dots. Around, Aramaic legend: [מלכא אל]כסנ[דרס] [שנת כה]	Anchor sur- rounded by Greek legend	c. 80 BCE	Jerusalem	Cf. <i>TJC</i> : 209, Group L1–4	
11	D3 680 11420 W826	0.57	10–12	-	[—] Eight-pointed star surrounded by circle of dots; around, illegible Aramaic legend	[—] Anchor in plain circle; surround- ed by illegible Greek legend	c. 80 BCE or later	Jerusalem	Cf. <i>TJC</i> : 210, Group L 7	

## SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
12*	D4 582 10891 V117	1.06	12– 13.5	-	Same type	[—]ΑΛ[—] Same	Same	Same	Same	
13	D4 582 10466 T310	0.92	12–15	-	Same	Same type	Same	Same	Same	
14	D4 742 12131 102048	0.51	10–12	-	[—] Six-pointed star surrounded by circle of dots; around, illegible Aramaic legend	[—] Anchor in plain circle; surround- ed by illegible Greek legend	c. 80 BCE or later	Jerusalem	Cf. <i>TJC</i> : 210, Group L 8	
15	D4 622 11822 102361	0.38	10.5– 11	-	Illegible	[—] Anchor	Same	Same	Cf. <i>TJC</i> : 210, Group L 9	

## Unclear Hasmonean Ruler

16	T 716 11775 101493	2.38	13–14	-	Illegible Paleo- Hebrew legend in wreath	Two conjoined cornucopias with pomegranate between horns	125–c. 85 BCE	Jerusalem		
17	D4 582 10891 V421	1.40	14	6	Same	Same	Same	Same		
18	D4 656 11093 V861	2.61	13.5– 14.5	-	Same	Same	Same	Same		

## HERODIAN

## Herod the Great (37–4 BCE)

19*	D4 742 12131 102050	0.74	12.5	1	Greek legend in two concentric lines: [HPWΔ] OY [BACI/ΕΩΣ]	Anchor, sur- rounded by circle decorated with running row of Y design	c. 27–23 BCE	Jerusalem	Cf. <i>TJC</i> : 223, nos 61, 63	
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## ROMAN GOVERNORS IN JUDEA

## Under Tiberius (14–37 CE)

20*	N 460 X60 Q738	1.95	15	12	TIBEPIOY KAI[CAPOC] Lituus	Date in wreath: LIH	Year 18 = 31/2 CE	Jerusalem	<i>TJC</i> : 258, No. 334	
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## Under Claudius (41–54 CE)

21*	N 460 X60 Q739	2.13	15.5– 17	12	[NEPW KAAΥ] KAICAP Two oblong shields and two spears, crossed	Palm tree; above: BPIT; below: [L]-ΙΔ / [K-AI]	Year 14 = 54 CE	Jerusalem	<i>TJC</i> : 259, No. 340	
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# CHAPTER 4: THE COINS

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
22*	D4 582 10466 T311	2.63	16– 16.5	12	Same type	Same type	Same	Same	Same	
<b>Under Nero (54–68 CE)</b>										
23*	T 716 11779 101413	2.03	15.5	12	[NEP/WNO/C] In wreath	LE [KAIC- A]POC Palm branch	Year 5 = 58/9 CE	Jerusalem	TJC: 260, No. 345	
<b>FIRST JEWISH REVOLT (66–70 CE)</b>										
24*	D2 536 10178 S423	2.04	15–16	12	חרת ציור Vine leaf with small branch and tendril; Paleo-Hebrew legend	שנת [שת]ים Amphora with wide rim, fluted belly and two handles; Paleo- Hebrew legend	Year Two = 67/8 CE	Jerusalem	TJC: 241, No. 196a	
<b>ROMAN PROVINCIAL Under Nero (54–68 CE)</b>										
25*	D4 581 10498 T410	7.73	20–21	12	[—] Bust of Nero r., laureate	KA[—] Tyche standing l. in military dress, holding bust in extended l. and scepter in r., in l. field date: L IΔ	Year 14= 68 CE	Caesarea	Cf. CHL: 25, nos 7–8	Worn, possibly burnt
<b>Under Nero or Vespasian (54–79 CE)</b>										
26*	D2 531 10168 S393	5.80	20–22	12	Male head r., bearded. Dotted border	[—] Tyche stg. to front, looking r.; holding standard and cornucopia	64/5–76/7 CE	Dora	Cf. CHL: 40–41, nos 10, 13, 18, 19, 21	Worn
<b>Trajan or Hadrian (98–138 CE)</b>										
27*	D4 739 12083 100754	0.99	12–13	12	Head r.	Ibis walking r., in upper l., il- legible date	98–135 CE	Alexandria	Cf. RPC III, nos 4124, 6085	Bevelled flan. Worn
<b>LATE ROMAN Constantius II (317–337 CE)</b>										
28*	D4 656 11093 V860	1.09	15.5	12	FL IVL CON- STANTIVS NOB C Bust r., laureate, cuirassed, in paludamentum	GLOR·IA EX- ERC·ITVS Two soldiers stg. facing one another, each holding reversed spear and resting hand on shield set on ground; between them, one standard; in ex., SMKS	335–337 CE	Cyzicus	Cf. LRBC I: 29, No. 1266	

## SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
<b>Unattributed</b>										
29	D4 622 11822 102362	1.42	12–13	5	[—] Bust r.	[—] Two soldiers stg. facing one another, each holding reversed spear and resting hand on shield set on ground; between them, one standard	c. 330– 337 CE			Worn
30*	D4 581 10498 T411	2.93	20–22	12	[—] Bust r.	[FELTEMPRE- PARATIO] Virtus l., with shield on l. arm, spearing fallen horseman	351–361 CE			Worn
31	D4 582 10891 U839	1.11	17	12	[—] Bust r., pearl- diademed, draped and cuirassed.	[—] Victory advanc- ing l., hold- ing wreath	364–375 CE			Partly broken. Worn
32	D4 582 10891 V116	1.32	13–14	11	[—] Bust r.	[GLORIA RO- MANORVM] Emperor ad- vancing. r., dragging captive with r. hand and holding <i>labarum</i> in l.; illegible mintmark.	364–375 CE			Worn
33	N 460 10129 S113	0.90	12.5– 13.5	12	[—] Bust r., pearl- diademed, draped and cuirassed	[—] Victory advanc- ing l., carrying trophy and dragging cap- tive; in l. field: \$	383–392 CE		Cf. <i>LRBC</i> II: 68, No. 1105	Worn
34	D4 748 12193 Z203	0.34	12	6	[—] Bust r., pearl- diademed, draped and cuirassed	[—] Victory advanc- ing l., carrying trophy and drag- ging captive.	Same			Partly broken
35	D4 596 10711 U788	1.08	11–12	6	[—] Bust r., pearl- diademed, draped and cuirassed	[—] Victory advanc- ing l., carrying trophy and drag- ging captive; in l. field, dot	Same			Worn
36	D4 581 10498 T462	1.05	12–14	12	[—] Bust r., draped and cuirassed	[—] Same (?)	Same (?)			Worn

Plate 4.1



0 1cm

## SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
37	N 460 X60 S213	0.34	10–12	-	[—] Bust r.	Obliterated	4th c. CE			
38	D4 596 10713 U329	1.08	12–13	-	Same	Same	Second half of 4th c. CE			Worn
39	D4 742 12131 102049	0.87	12–13	-	Same	Same	Same			Worn
40	D3 680 11420 W730	1.73	13–14	-	Same	Same	Same			Worn
41	D4 656 10625 T981	1.20	10–11	-	Same	Same	Second half of 4th c. CE–early 5th c. CE			Worn
42*	D4 622 11821 Y212	0.49	8	6	Head r., laureate	[—] Female figure seated facing on throne; in l. field P (?)	Same			Cut, c. quarter of the coin
<b>Marcian (450–457 CE)</b>										
43*	D2 536 10179 S478	1.14	12	6	[—] Bust r., pearl- diademed, draped and cuirassed	Monogram in wreath.	450–457 CE	Nicomedia	Cf. <i>LRBC</i> II:96, No. 2464	
<b>Unidentified Late Roman (4th–6th centuries CE)</b>										
44	D4 745 12175 102061	2.50	13	-	[—] Bust r.	Illegible	4th–6th c. CE			Worn
45	D4 748 12193 Z198	0.50	9–10	6	[—] Bust r.	Unclear mono- gram in wreath	5th–6th c. CE			Worn
46	D3 680 11383 Y137	1.52	10–11	-	Bust r.	Illegible	Same			
47	D3 680 11420 W825	0.57	10	-	Same	Same	Same			

Plate 4.2

Obv.

Rev.

Obv.

Rev.

Obv.

Rev.



42



43



48



49



50



51



54



55



56



57



58



59



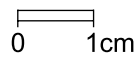
60



66



69





## SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
<b>BYZANTINE</b>										
<b>Justinian I (527–565 CE)</b>										
48*	D4 739 12087 Z623	12.62	32–33	6	DN IVSTINI- ANVS PP AVCS Bust r., with diadem, cui- rass and pa- ludamentum	M; above, cross; to l. and r. stars; beneath [A]; in ex., ANTIX	527/8 CE	Antioch	DOC I:134, No. 202a.1	Follis
<b>Mauric Tiberius (582–602 CE)</b>										
49*	D4 742 12131 Z610	11.55	27–29	7	[—] Emperor fac- ing, holding long cross in l., and gl. cr. in r.	M; above, cross; to l., A/N/N/O; to r., II/I; beneath: B; in ex., NIKO	584/5 CE	Nicomedia	DOC I:324, No. 93	Follis
<b>Mauric Tiberius (582–602 CE) or Phocas (602–608 CE)</b>										
50*	D4 745 12174 102060	2.02	13	5	[—]PIC[—] Bust r., cui- rassed and draped	I+B; in ex., [—]	582–608 CE	Alexandria or a local imitation	Cf. DOC I:352, No. 213 or DOC II/1: 192–195, No. 106	<i>Dodecan- numium</i> . Crude style (possibly an imita- tion)
<b>Heraclius (610–641 CE)</b>										
51*	D4 581 10498 T403	4.90	21–23	7	[—] Emperor stg., facing, wearing military dress; holding long cross in r.; to r., Heraclius Con- stantine holding in r., gl. cr.	M; above, cross and C; below: A; to l., A/N/N/O; to r., [—]; in ex., CON	c. 630– 640 CE	Constan- tinople	Cf. DOC II/1: 295, No. 105a.3	Partly broken. Burnt (?)
<b>Unidentified Byzantine</b>										
52	D4 739 12087 Z621	2.01	13– 13.5	-	[—] Bust r., draped	<i>Chi-rho</i>	c. 522– 537 CE		Bijovsky 2012a: 291	<i>Pen- tanummi- um</i> . Worn
53	D4 581 10498 T412	3.72	20–23	-	Illegible	K; above cross (?), below: E; to r., X(I[?])	Second half of 6th c. CE			Worn
<b>ARAB-BYZANTINE 1</b>										
54*	D3 680 11420 W733	1.95	24–25	6	[—] Emperor stg., facing, cross above head; holding long cross in r., and gl. cr. in l. (?)	m; above, cross; to l., [A/N/N/O]; to r., [—]; in ex., [—]	c. 647– 670 CE		Cf. <i>S/CA</i> 1:79 (Type E)	Worn

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
55*	D4 582 10891 U840	3.39	23–24	5	[—] Λ Emperor stg., facing, cross above head; holding long cross in r., and gl. cr. in l.	m; above, cross; to l., illegible let- ters; to r., O/A[— —]; in ex., [—]	Same		Same	
56*	D3 680 11420 W731	3.63	17x18	12	[—] Emperor stg., facing, cross above head (?); holding long cross in r., and gl. cr. in l. (?)	m; in ex., [—]	Same	Unknown mint in Jund Filastin	Cf. Foss 2008:126– 127, No. 21; Schulze 2012	Square flan

**VISIGOTHIC**  
**Wamba (672–680 CE)**

57*	D4 622 11822 Y211	0.96	10	3	Bust r., dia- demed and draped, holding long cross	Monogram in wreath	672–680 CE	Toledo (?)	Pliego 2020:7, Fig. 9 ; Farhi and Pliego 2023 (this coin)	Rare
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**ISLAMIC**  
**Umayyad (post reform, after 696/7 CE)**

58*	D4 739 12087 Z622	6.15	20–21	9	Within a double circle with striations; لا اله الا الله وحده	Within plain circle; محمد/ رسول الله In r. field palm branch. Around, unclear mar- ginal legend: [بسم الله ضرب هذا القلنس با لرملة]	After 708/9 CE	Al-Ramla	Cf. Walker 1956: 255, No. 846; Ilisch 1993: 12, No. 50	
59*	D4 739 12087 Z624	1.73	13–15	3	Within a plain circle: لا اله الا الله وحده	ضرب/ هذا القلنس/ بذم [—] Around, illegible marginal legend	c. 696/7– 750 CE	Damascus		
60*	D4 581 10484 T308	2.89	21–23	7	Within a dot- ted circle: لا اله الا الله وحده	Within a dot- ted circle: محمد/ رسول الله	Same			
61	D4 581 10498 T415	1.31	14–15	10	Same type	Same type	Same			Partly broken
62	D4 582 10466 T313	2.81	15	6	Same type	Same type	Same			Worn

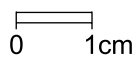
SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
63	D4 581 10498 T491	2.25	15–16	11	Within a dot- ted circle: لا اله الا الله / [وحده] Around, illegible marginal legend	Within a dot- ted circle: محمد / رسول الله [الله]	Same			Worn
64	D4 581 10498 T463	2.05	13– 16.5	7	Within a plain circle: لا اله الا الله / وحده Around, illegible marginal legend	Within a plain circle: محمد / رسول الله	Same			
65	D4 745 12180 Z162	3.70	16–17	-	Obliterated	محمد / رسول الله	Same			
66*	N 460 X60 Q742	4.06	16–17	6	بسم اله / لا اله الا [الله] / وحده Around, illegible marginal legend (or traces of previous coin?)	Arabic legend in circle: الله [—]; surrounded by unclear mar- ginal legend	Same			Over- struck on earlier coin?
67	D2 616 10752 U257	2.95	14	-	Remains of Arabic legend?	Remains of Arabic legend?	7th-8th c. CE?			Broken. Identi- fication uncertain
68	D4 745 12175 102062	2.37	16	-	Remains of Arabic legend within a circle; around, illegible marginal legend	Illegible	8th c. CE?			Partly broken and worn

ABBĀSIDS

69*	D3 680 11420 W789	2.42	17–18	5	لا اله الا الله وحده لا شريك له Around, illegible marginal legend and around it small annulets	Illegible	c. 780– 850 CE			
70	D4 581 10498 T413	2.66	18.5– 19.5	-	Traces of illeg- ible Arabic leg- end, surrounded by a circle and around it small annulets	Illegible	Same			Worn
71*	D4 582 10891 V332	1.49	14–15	5	Within a plain circle: لا اله الا الله / وحده	Within a plain circle: محمد / رسول الله Above, star (?); Around, traces of illegible mar- ginal legend	Same			

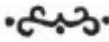

Plate 4.3



No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
72*	D3 680 11420 W781	1.10	16	6	Within a plain circle: لا اله الا الله وحده	Within a plain circle: محمد/ رسول الله Above, star (?); Around, traces of illegible marginal legend	Same			
73*	D4 742 12131 Z161	1.42	15–16	12	Within a plain circle: لا اله الا الله وحده	Within a plain circle: محمد/ رسول الله Around, traces of illegible marginal legend	Same			
74*	N 460 X60 Q740	0.66	14.5	-	Obliterated	Arabic legend in two lines: رسول الله (?)	Same			Seven-ribbed flan

## MAMLUK

## Al-Nāṣir Nāṣir Al-Dīn Muḥammad (3rd Reign, 709–741 H.; 1310–1341 CE)

75*	D4 581 10484 T309	1.80	16–19	7	linear hexagram within circular line. In center: محمد (?)	Arabic legend in four (?) lines. In center: الملك (?)	Undated	Tripoli	Cf. Balog 1964:159, No. 253	Worn. Attribution uncertain
76*	D4 581 10498 T456	2.08	13–14	-	Linear hexagram composed of two interwoven triangles. Pellet in the external angles. In center: six-petaled rosette with central pellet	Arabic legend in three lines within a circular line: بن/ الناصرو/ المنصور	Undated		Cf. Balog 1964:161, No. 257	
77*	D4 581 10498 T384	3.08	16–17	-	In the field, legend between two horizontal floral-scroll ornaments:  الملك [الناصر] 	Clockwise marginal legend: [ضرب] بدمشق سنة [تلتين] Center: round shield, in which concave, five-petaled rosette	730 H.	Damascus	Balog 1964:162, No. 261	
78*	D4 581 10498 T414	1.99	15–17	-	Same type	Same type	Same	Same	Same	Worn

## Al-Nāṣir Nāṣir Al-Dīn Ḥasan (2nd Reign, 755–762 H.; 1354–1361 CE)

79*	D4 581 10498 T404	1.37	15.5–16	9	Gothic shield, resembling an inverted drop, in center: الدين; around, illegible marginal legend	Gothic shield, resembling an inverted drop, in center: سيعما; around, illegible marginal legend	756 H.	Damascus	Balog 1964:200, No. 373	
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No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
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**Al-Ashraf Nāṣir Al-Dīn Sha'bān II (764–778 H.; 1363–1377 CE)**

80*	D4 582 10466 T312	2.52	16.5– 17.5	-	Illegible	Concave-sided linear octolobe with floweret on the edges. Pel- lets between the flowerets. In the center: ضرب / مشق / بد	Undated	Damascus	Cf. Balog 1964: 221, No. 458	
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**Al-Manṣūr 'Alā Al-Dīn 'Alī (778–783 H. = 1377–1381 CE)**

81	D4 582 10891 V336	1.96	15–17	-	In center: small circle, in which illegible Arabic legend; around, illegible mar- ginal legend	In center: small circle, in which fleur-de-lis; around, illegible marginal legend	781–782 H.	Damascus	Cf. Balog 1964: 234–235, Nos. 501–502	Worn
82	N 460 X60 Q743	0.60	14–16	-	Same?	Same?	Same?	Same?	Same?	

**Al-Zahir Sayf Al-Din Barquq (784–791 H.; 1382–1389 CE)**

83*	D2 616 10784 U389	2.97	15– 15.5	12	Arabic legend divided by two horizontal lines; Upper seg- ment: الظاهر Central seg- ment: السلطان الملك Lower seg- ment: [برقوق]	Linear hexagram with dots in points and re- mains of Arabic legend in center and around: Segments: [—] ية Center: ضرب / مشق / بد	1388 CE	Damascus	Cf. Balog 1964: 258, No. 561	
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**Unattributed Islamic**

84	D4 582 10891 V335	1.12	15–19	-	Illegible Ara- bic legend	Illegible Ara- bic legend	8th-9th c. CE			Umayyad or Abba- sid. Worn
85	D4 581 10498 T405	2.45	17–20	-	Illegible Ara- bic legend	Illegible Ara- bic legend	9th c. CE (?)			Abbasid (?) Worn
86	D4 581 10498 T385	1.62	17– 19.5	12	Illegible Arabic legend within plain circle	Illegible Ara- bic legend	12th-15th c. CE			Ayyubid or Mam- luk. Worn
87	D4 596 10711 U588	1.63	17	3	Illegible Ara- bic legend	Illegible Ara- bic legend	13th-15th c. CE			Mamluk. Worn

SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD JEWISH RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY

No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
88	D3 680 11420 W786	2.04	16	-	Illegible Arabic legend in circle	Obliterated	Same			Mamluk. Worn
89	D4 581 10498 T352	1.21	18–19	11	Illegible Ara- bic legend	Illegible Ara- bic legend	Same			Mamluk. Worn
90	D4 581 10498 V111	1.75	17–18	-	Same	Same	Same			Mamluk. Worn.
91*	D4 742 12131 Z609	0.36	12–14	-	Same	Same	15th-16th c. CE (?)			Mamluk. Worn. Thin and irregular flan

UNIDENTIFIED

92*	D4 622 11822 Y243	1.29	10–11	-	Head r.	Illegible (traces of letters?)	3rd c. BCE-6th c. CE?			
93	D4 745 12174 102058	0.46	16	-	Illegible	Illegible	1st c. CE?			Worn and partly broken
94	D3 680 11420 W779	1.00	11–12	-	Same	Same	1st c. BCE-1st c. CE?			Beveled flan. Worn
95	D3 680 11420 W784	0.47	11	-	Same	Same	Same			Same
96	D3 680 11420 W732	0.99	13	-	Same	Same	Same			Same
97	D4 622 11822 893	1.46	11–12	-	Same	Same	1st c. BCE-4th c. CE?			Beveled flan. Worn
98	D4 582 10891 V119	1.70	12.5– 13.5	-	Same	Same	5th–mid 8th c. CE			Lead coin
99	D4 582 10891 V124	1.20	13–14	-	Same	Same	Same			Lead coin



No.	Area; feature; locus; basket	Wt. (g)	Diam. (mm)	Axis	Obverse	Reverse	Date of coin	Mint	Refer- ences	Notes
100	D4 581 10495 T398	1.97	12–13	-	Same	Same	Same			Lead coin
101	D4 742 12131 102046	0.59	12–15	-	Same	Same				Irregular cut flan. Corroded
102*	D4 582 10891 V118	0.24	12– 13.5	-	Same	Same	Ottoman period (?)			Pierced. Copper. Possibly part of head- dress

## DISCUSSION

The numismatic profile of NRQ has been discussed in the past,<sup>2</sup> and the coin assemblage discussed here is generally similar to this profile in its chronological range and in the diversity of its coin types.

The coins included here range from the Ptolemaic to the Mamluk period (third century BCE to sixteenth century CE). The earliest is a dichalkon of Ptolemy III (No.1). This Ptolemaic coin joins a few other Ptolemaic examples known from previous publications from this site (Farhi 2018: 262, No. H1 [Ptolemy I]; Farhi 2020: 247–248, nos 1–2 [Ptolemy III] and nos 3–4 [uncertain ruler]), and possibly mark the beginning of the Jewish settlement at the site, already in the third century BCE.

Six Seleucid coins are included, all from known types, most of them common. Four similar ones are assigned to Antiochus IV (Nos 2–5), one to Antiochus VII (No. 6), and one is too worn to be assigned to a specific ruler (No. 7). The coin

of Antiochus VII is less common than those of Antiochus IV. This type from the Jerusalem mint, bearing symbols of a lily and an anchor, was struck in the name of Antiochus VII Sidetes, after his siege of Jerusalem was lifted in 133 or 132 BCE. The study of the iconography of this coin suggests that John Hyrcanus I, the Jewish High Priest and the Seleucid king's vassal, had a major role in minting this type (*TJC*: 30–31; *SC* 2: 391–392; Ariel 2019).

Eleven Hasmonean coins are included here: eight of Alexander Jannaeus (Nos 8–15), few of them are possibly later to his days (Nos 11–15), and three of an unidentified Hasmonaean ruler (Nos 16–18). One coin of Herod was found as well (No. 19).

The period of the Roman Governors over Judea (6–66 CE) is represented by four coins (Nos 20–23), all of well-known types. One coin from the second year of the First Jewish Revolt (No. 24) was also found. Together with three others

<sup>2</sup> For former publications of coins from this site see Farhi 2010; 2015; 2018; 2020; and Farhi and Melamed 2014. Other coins found in the course of the excavations will be discussed in future reports, organized according to the features from which they were recovered.

published previously (Farhi 2018: 256, no. 16; Farhi 2020: 261, nos 84, 85), it possibly marks the end of the Jewish settlement at NRQ. Coin No. 25 is a Roman provincial coin struck in Caesarea under Nero in 68 CE, most probably in relation to the Jewish Revolt; an identical coin was previously found at the site (Farhi 2020: 261, no. 86). Coin No. 26 from Dora could be also related to Roman forces who arrived at the site, probably not later to the second year of the revolt, but the date is illegible, and it could be dated later as well.

Coin No. 27 from Alexandria is related to the period between the two Jewish revolts. Similar coins of Alexandria are already known from this site (Farhi 2018: 266, nos H32–H36; Farhi 2020: 261, no. 87), but not of this specific type with an ibis on the reverse. The obverse is worn and thus the identity of the emperor is uncertain. These small Alexandrian coins are very similar in their weight, size, and the shape of their flan (beveled) to the Jewish *prutot* of the first century BCE–first century CE and could be used as such; since the last Jewish *prutot* to be minted were those during the third year of the First Jewish Revolt (68/9 CE), and later, under Trajan and Hadrian, there was probably a need for this small denomination.

Roman provincial coins from the days of Trajan and Hadrian are the only isolated coins of the second century CE known so far from the site. Their presence suggests some activity at the site between the revolts, possibly in relation to the Second Jewish Revolt (Farhi 2020: 264–265). In this context, one should recall the hoard from hiding complex F-423, which is probably related to this revolt as well (Farhi and Melamed 2014: 113–129; Farhi 2018: 258–273).

As already discussed in the previous publications, the next period of occupation at

NRQ was during the Byzantine period, probably from the fourth to the sixth century CE, this time by a Christian population. To this period belong coins Nos 28–47 (Late Roman coins), and Nos 48–53 (Byzantine coins), all of common types. Coin No. 50 seems to bear parts of the name of Mauric Tiberius, however it probably belongs to a known group classified as “thick” struck imitations, attributed to 602–608 CE, the days of Phocas (Bijovsky 2012a: 300, 365–366).

The seventh century CE is represented by three different groups of coins. The first group includes three coins dated to the transition period from the Byzantine to the Early Islamic (Nos 54–56). It is interesting that these three Arab-Byzantine coins appear to be the work of three different ‘mints’ or ‘workshops’ judging by the different styles and flan shapes. One of them, No. 56, has a square-shaped flan and the dies have been struck in order to be displayed as rhomboid shaped coins and not as square ones. Based on a group of similar coins from Bet Guvrin, it was suggested that these coins are a product of a local mint (Bijovsky 2012b: 76, 78). The next group includes one coin only (No. 57); this small coin is assigned to the Visigothic king Wamba (672–680 CE), and it is so far the first Visigothic coin known from Israel. This coin likely arrived during the Early Islamic period, in the transition period from Byzantine to Islamic coins and most probably before Abd al-Malik’s reforms (696/7 CE).<sup>3</sup> However, we cannot exclude the possibility that the coin arrived to NRQ after the Umayyad conquest of the Iberian Peninsula in 711 CE, maybe travelling with Umayyad merchants or workers in relation to the establishment of the city of Ramla ca. 715 CE. The next stage introduced the aniconic Umayyad coins (Nos 58–68), which become common after Abd al-Malik’s reforms.

<sup>3</sup> For further discussion on this rare coin see Farhi and Pliego 2023.

These coins were followed by Abbasid coins (Nos 69–74), similar to their predecessors in their aniconic form. These coins possibly mark the last stage of habitation at NRQ during the Early Islamic period.

Based on the numismatic finds, it seems that the next stage of habitation occurred during the

Mamluk period, probably from the fourteenth century CE (Nos 75–83), but possibly even earlier (Nos 86–90). The relatively large amount of Mamluk coins from this site (see also Farhi 2010: 207–208, nos 93–98; Farhi 2018: 258, nos 28–29) suggests a large-scale activity at the site during this period as well.

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## CHAPTER 5

# RITUAL BATHS AT NESHER-RAMLA QUARRY: TYPOLOGY, DATING, AND CONTEXTUALIZATION AMONG OTHER RITUAL BATHS OF ERETZ-ISRAEL

*Alexander Melamed*

The present chapter discusses the ritual baths excavated at Nesher-Ramla Quarry in years 2006–2019 in the context of the ritual baths known from other sites. Most of the *miqwa'ot* at NRQ are well-preserved, found with their rock ceilings still present, although some were modified or damaged during the Late Roman, Byzantine, Early Islamic, and Mamluk periods.

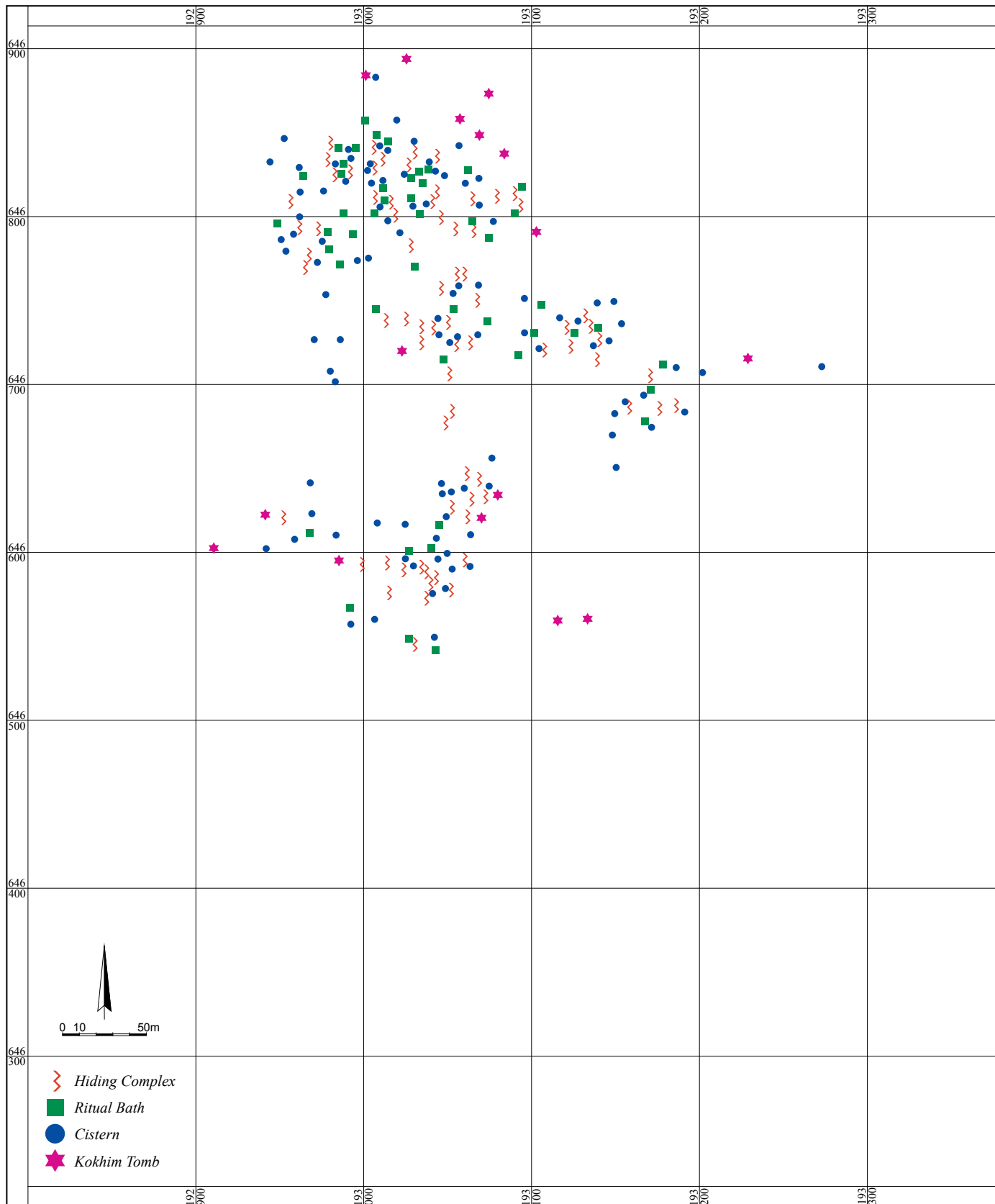
### 5.1 THE MULTITUDE OF RITUAL BATHS AT NRQ

With the 45 ritual baths discussed in this book, and at least a few more excavated in recent years and in the past by other expeditions, NRQ is second only to Jerusalem in terms of the number of discovered *miqwa'ot*. This high quantity of ritual baths merits an explanation.

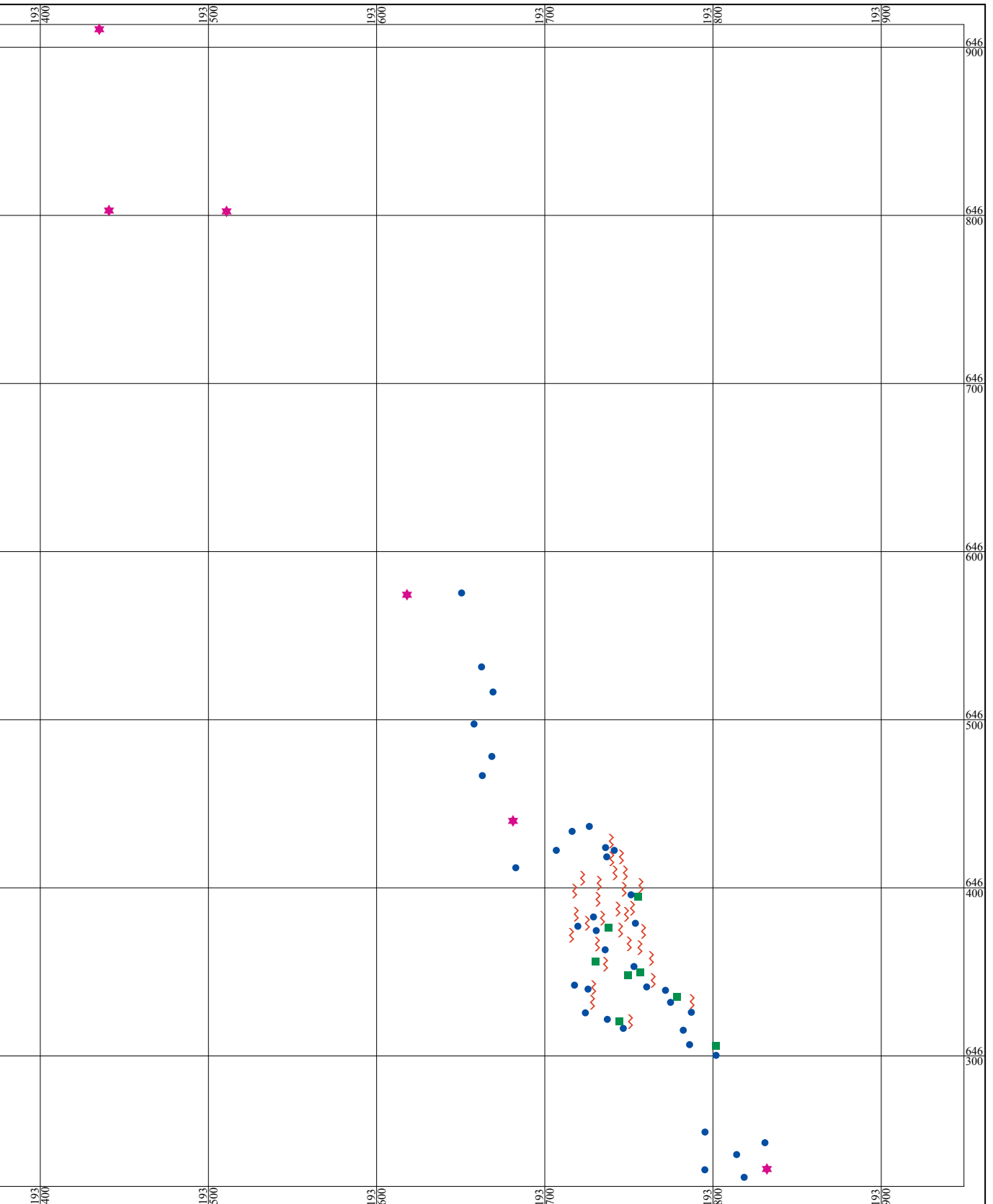
First, it should be connected to the volume of excavations. Unlike most other sites, NRQ has been excavated fully, because of the ongoing quarrying. This way, the Jewish settlement, or at least its preserved underground part, which existed

at the site during the Second Temple period has been exposed almost entirely, revealing dozens of ritual baths, hiding complexes, *kokhim* tombs, and other underground installations. Relying on small-scale salvage excavations Zissu and Amit (2008: 49) claimed that “in Jewish rural settlements, one to seven ritual baths have been found per village.” However, the large-scale salvage excavations conducted at several sites in the northwestern Shephelah in recent decades have shown that rural settlements can include dozens of ritual baths. Thus, apart from NRQ, 15 *miqwa'ot* were found at Horvat Burnat (North and South) and more than 20 *miqwa'ot* were found in the various excavations at Ben Shemen (Zelinger 2009: 125–127; Lupu 2019).

Second, the number of ritual baths should be correlated to the length of the functioning of the settlement. The Jewish settlement of NRQ existed for about 200 years, and it can be assumed that not all ritual baths were hewn and used simultaneously. Although it is impossible to determine with certainty the date of installation of most *miqwa'ot*,



**Fig. 5.1** General map of NRQ showing the distribution of ritual baths, hiding complexes, cisterns, and *kokhim* tombs.





it seems that some of them were taken out of use still during the existence of the Jewish settlement, while others underwent architectural changes but continued to function as ritual baths for a long time (see further discussion below).

Third, as demonstrated in Fig. 5.1, the ritual baths are often located in clusters with each other and other features, i.e. water cisterns and hiding complexes, which indicates that they belonged to one household. This clustering shows that most ritual baths at the site should be associated with private houses, hewn beneath or adjacent to them, and often there were more than one and up to four *miqwa'ot* belonging to one house. If a 10 m radius is set, it is possible to pair F-287 and F-298, F-345 and F-348, F-622 and F-739, F-745 and F-748, F-651 and F-761, F-973 and F-979 and more. If a household is considered to have covered an even larger area, up to 30 m, then the general plan of the site reveals 10 to 15 clusters of up to four ritual baths each. Although it is not possible to verify this due to lack of preserved wall remains over the ground, the presence of more than one *miqwe* in a household is known from other sites, among them Horvat Burnat (Amit, Torgü, and Gendelman 2008: 103–105), Sepphoris (Meyers and Gordon 2018: 392, 397–416), and Jerusalem's Jewish Quarter (Avigad 1980: 95–106). The explanation for the presence of multiple ritual baths in houses in Jerusalem given by Reich (2013: 237–241) is that the priests who probably lived there were particularly strict about the purity laws. However, the large number of *miqwa'ot* at NRQ and at other neighbouring rural sites shows that the issue of purity stood out also for rural residents far from the Temple Mount. Instead, functional explanations can be offered for the multiplicity of ritual baths in houses. For example, one *miqwe* could be used for the ritual immersion

of the household members, while the other/s was reserved for guests, seasonal workers, and slaves, or used for immersing vessels and baskets for agricultural produce (Miller 2007: 218). It is also possible that not all the ritual baths in a household were in use at the same time, but rather, after being filled with water during the rainy season, one *miqwe* was used while other/s were closed off and saved for the dry season (Reich 2013: 68–69, although he suggests it only for paired *miqwa'ot*).

Finally, this large number of ritual baths evidences the significance of ritual bathing for the Jewish society of the Second Temple period, also in a rural area outside of the immediate vicinity of Jerusalem. It fills up the gap noted by Adler (2011: 8): “A quick perusal of archaeological reports from excavations at sites of the Roman and Byzantine periods reveals that since the beginning of scientific archaeological research until today, there is a clear tendency to excavate sites of a monumental nature or with an affinity to historical events, and less to excavate in simple places, such as living areas of the common people in rural settlements.”

## 5.2 THE TYPOLOGY AND THE ELEMENTS OF THE RITUAL BATHS

The ritual baths of NRQ find parallels among the hundreds of *miqwa'ot* from the Second Temple period Eretz-Israel. All the ritual baths at the site are entirely rock-cut, and no masonry-built examples were identified, so this typological criterion does not apply at NRQ. The other general classifications (Zissu and Amit 2008; Adler 2011) of ritual baths focus on their location and relationship with other features. This division is not applicable at NRQ either, since not enough information about the Jewish settlement on the surface can be gained, and it seems that all the NRQ *miqwa'ot* were part of

houses and none can be related with certainty to agricultural facilities or tombs.<sup>1</sup>

The ritual baths of NRQ can instead be divided according to site-specific typology, as has been done for other sites with multiple finds of stepped pools.<sup>2</sup> Based on architectural components, three groups can be distinguished: 1) *miqwa'ot* with clear separation between the external staircase and the underground immersion chamber connected by a short passage or a doorway, 2) simple *miqwa'ot* without separation of the external stairs and the immersion chamber, 3) and paired *miqwa'ot* that included two separate immersion chambers accessed from one external staircase.

Most of the ritual baths belong to the first group: F-267, F-287, F-288, F-298, and F-325, excavated in 2006–2007 (Figs 5.2–5.6; Melamed 2010a); F-331, F-367, and F-381, excavated in 2008–2009 (Figs 5.7–5.9; Melamed 2018a); F-440, F-466, F-492, F-531, F-548, F-578, F-582, F-596, F-601, F-616, F-680, F-716, F-888, F-950 in its second phase, and F-953 (Ch. 2), as well as F-460, F-622, F-739, F-742, and F-979 (Ch. 2), which were modified into water cisterns later on. The clearly discernible external staircases of these installations are arranged on a straight line with the stairs of the immersion chamber or are perpendicular to the descent of the immersion chamber. The immersion chambers are mostly rectangular or rectangular with rounded corners, but some have an irregular shape. The ritual baths of this first group are diverse in size, with the volume of the immersion chamber ranging from ca. 5 m<sup>3</sup> up to over 30 m<sup>3</sup>.<sup>3</sup>

The second group includes nine ritual baths: F-326 (Fig. 5.10; Melamed 2018a), F-517, F-651, F-733, F-748, F-761, F-875, F-950 in its first phase, and F-976 (Ch. 2). They are simple and small, with their volume ranging from ca. 3 m<sup>3</sup> to ca. 5 m<sup>3</sup>. Their staircases descending from the surface simply expand into underground immersion chambers. As with the first group, the stairs run in a straight line or are perpendicular to the descent of the immersion chamber. The immersion chamber can be rectangular, rounded, or irregular in shape.

The third group gathers the five paired ritual baths: F-256 (Fig. 5.11; Melamed 2010a), F-581, F-656, F-745, and F-851 (Ch. 2). They consist of an external staircase, or staircase and an open antechamber, accompanied by two immersion chambers, arranged opposite or perpendicular to one another. The immersion chambers are otherwise the same as the immersion chambers of the first group. F-256 and F-581 are very similar in size and general shape. F-656 was originally designed as a paired *miqwe* but the execution of the northern immersion chamber had never been completed. F-745 is characterized by a significant difference in size of its two immersion chambers, with the southern chamber being particularly large and elaborate and the western chamber quite modest. F-851 is an unfinished paired *miqwe* that has never been used.

Four additional *miqwa'ot* were preserved too poorly to be confidently assigned to any of the three typological groups: F-258 (Fig. 5.12; Melamed 2010a), F-345, F-358 (Fig. 5.13; Melamed 2018a),

<sup>1</sup> All the excavated *kokhim* tombs are located at a distance of over 50 cubits (ca. 25 m) from the *miqwa'ot* – the distance required by the *halakha* between the graves and the residential areas (*Tosefta*, Baba Batra 1, 7).

<sup>2</sup> For example, at Sepphoris the stepped pools have been generally divided to “those dug into floors of homes and entered from above, and those carved into the bedrock from the side, forming cave-like structures” (Miller 2007: 218).

<sup>3</sup> The given volume of the ritual baths is approximate, measured from the bottom of the immersion basin to the level of the threshold of the immersion chamber. It is impossible to assess the maximal level to which the people let the *miqwa'ot* fill during the rainy season.

and F-973 (Ch. 2). The first three probably belong to the first group, while the fourth should probably be included in the second group.

The stairs inside the immersion chamber usually occupy the whole width of the chamber, but there seems to be no uniformity to how many steps are present and how they are hewn – they differ in width and height, and in many cases additional steps are attached to the main stairs, adjacent to one or two of the walls or protruding from the center usually at the bottom of the immersion chamber. The last step is usually significantly higher than the others, creating an immersion basin at the bottom of the immersion chamber. In two *miqwa'ot*, F-492 and F-950 in its first phase, the steps of the immersion chambers are fully arranged along one of the walls, not spanning the entire width of the chamber.<sup>4</sup> This type of steps is generally uncommon, known from the ritual baths of the Hasmonean palaces at Jericho and only a few other sites, mostly from the Hasmonean period. As suggested by Reich (2013: 58), this arrangement of steps characterizes the early ritual baths, dated to the end of the second century–the beginning of the first century BCE.

None of the NRQ ritual baths can be recognized as public facilities and not private facilities of houses. There are quite a few *miqwa'ot* with large immersion chambers both among the single facilities (e.g., F-440, F-582, F-596, F-950) and the paired *miqwa'ot* (F-256, F-581, and F-745).<sup>5</sup> It seems that the size and the shape of the ritual baths was dependent on the needs and means of the house owners.

Consequently, it is not clear why some house owners chose to carve out paired facilities. Reich (2013: 67–69) offered several possible explanations for the phenomenon of paired *miqwa'ot*: gender division, use of different immersion chambers by different groups of the house's residents, leaving one immersion chamber as a reserve for the summer months, and his preferred explanation, the use for various degrees of purity. Interestingly, two among the five paired *miqwa'ot* have architectural elements not noted in any other facilities at NRQ: ritual bath F-656 has a double opening in its southern immersion chamber, and ritual bath F-745 has a built partition in its outer staircase. *Miqwa'ot* with double openings or partitions have received much research attention (Regev 1996; Adler 2011: 135–147; Klein and Zissu 2013; Reich 2013: 61–64), and the prevailing assumption considers them characteristic to Jerusalem area and the Judean Mountains, used for strict prevention of contact between bathers in different degrees of ritual purity. Since NRQ is outside of the Jerusalem area and the Judean Mountains, it would be expected that these elements were not commonly constructed, found in only two of the at least 50 *miqwa'ot* of the site. Possibly only these households were particularly strict about the separation of bathers in different degrees of impurity or, the multitude of ritual baths at the site in general and in the households in particular was the answer to this issue.

All of the *miqwa'ot* at NRQ are plastered with grey hydraulic plaster, sometimes in several layers. The plaster entirely covers the steps and the walls of the immersion chamber. In most cases, the outer staircase is also plastered. The *miqwa'ot* from all

4 Another *miqwa'* of this type, F-1030, has been recently excavated on the eastern hill, to be published in the future.

5 Zelinger (2009: 126–127) suggested that paired *miqwa'* F-256 was public based on its size and location at the southern end of the site. The continued excavations suggest that the site continued farther south but has been damaged there by previous quarrying. Moreover, the many additional finds of ritual baths prove that F-256 does not stand out in terms of size.

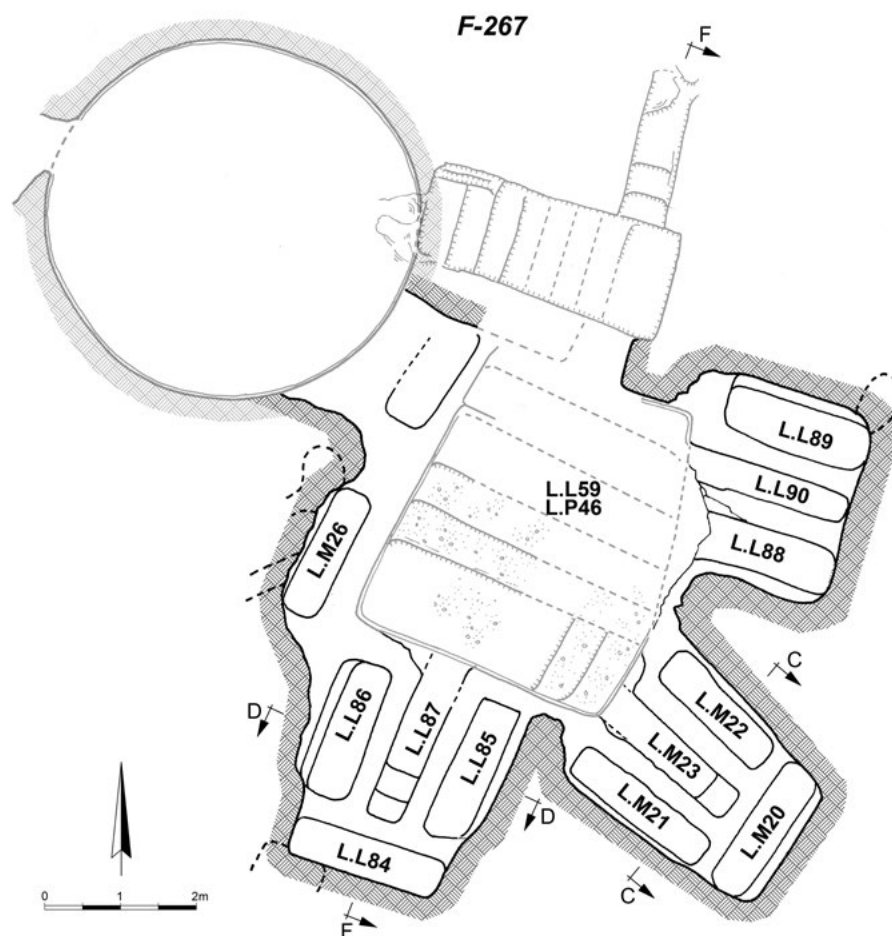


Fig. 5.2 F-267, plan of ritual bath.

over Eretz-Israel are almost always plastered, to prevent the water from seeping out the same as in other features, such as cisterns.

In three cases (F-622, F-745, and F-979) a plastered basin was identified next to the upper part of the external staircase of the ritual bath. The length/width of the basins ranges from 0.4 to 0.7 m and their depth from 0.15 to 0.6 m. The basins are rock-hewn, but in the case of F-622 and F-745 a masonry construction is added to the cut in bedrock. The plastering is the same as in the rest of the *miqwe*. Similar basins were found

at a few other sites, e.g. Horbat Husham (Klein and Zissu 2015) and Ben Shemen (Lupu 2019: 7\*), interpreted as installations used for washing feet before immersion. They could be connected to the *halakhic* commandment that “one may not immerse oneself with dust on his feet” (*Mishna*, *Miqwa’ot* 9: 2), although it does not explain why these finds are rare at NRQ and elsewhere. Some of them possibly have not survived, and their addition probably depended on preferences of the house owners, the same as other variations in elements and shape of the ritual baths noted above.

### 5.3 THE WATER SUPPLY

There are no indications that the ritual baths at NRQ were anything else than rain-fed. Seasonal rainfall in the Judean Foothills certainly suffices to fill them much beyond their capacity. Most of the pools are much larger than a space needed for one person to immerse or the required minimum of 40 *se'a* (0.5-0.7 m<sup>3</sup>) given by the later written sources (Reich 2013: 31–32). It is possible that the relatively spacious rural environment allowed the homeowners to install large *miqwa'ot* and with that reduce the concern for the required volume of water.

It is likely that in most cases the water entered the immersion chambers of the ritual baths flowing freely through the external staircase. Only in three cases water channels were found that directed the rainwater into the *miqwe*: in F-256 a hewn channel led the water to the external staircase and another pipe helped to carry it into the eastern immersion chamber; in F-656 a hewn slab-covered channel led the water to the external staircase; and in F-622 a deep channel cut through the external staircase of the first phase led the water directly to the bottom of the staircase and into the immersion chamber.

Five ritual baths have shafts cut through the ceiling of the immersion chamber: F-288, F-581 (southern immersion chamber), F-582, F-616, and F-851 (western immersion chamber). These shafts probably conducted the water from the surface directly into the immersion chambers in addition to the flow through the external staircase. The shaft identified in unfished *miqwe* F-851 shows that the people who installed the pools planned their water supply in advance. The uncommon presence of these shafts indicates that the topography and planning of the pools usually

made it possible to fill them through free water flow through their entrances.

Many ritual baths (F-267, F-331, F-367, F-466, F-581, F-748, F-976, and more) were found adjacent or located very close to cisterns. This indicates that both the *miqwa'ot* and the cisterns were fed by the same water collection channels, most likely water that drained from the rooftops of the nearby buildings and surface. This proximity also made it easier to refill the *miqwe* with water drawn from the cistern, to raise the water level on the condition that the amount of kosher water in the *miqwe* did not drop below 40 *se'a* (Reich 2013: 43–44), if this custom had been present already in the Second Temple period. Besides the cisterns, no other remains of spare water facilities were found next to the ritual baths, e.g. unstepped *otsar* pools. The large size and multiplicity of the NRQ ritual baths probably did not require any additional facilities, and as argued by Adler (2014), the idea of the *otsar* is a modern invention.

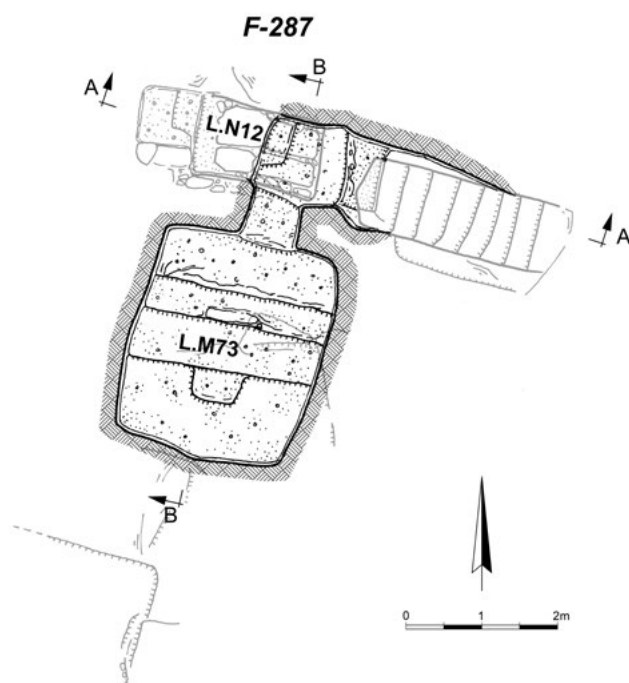
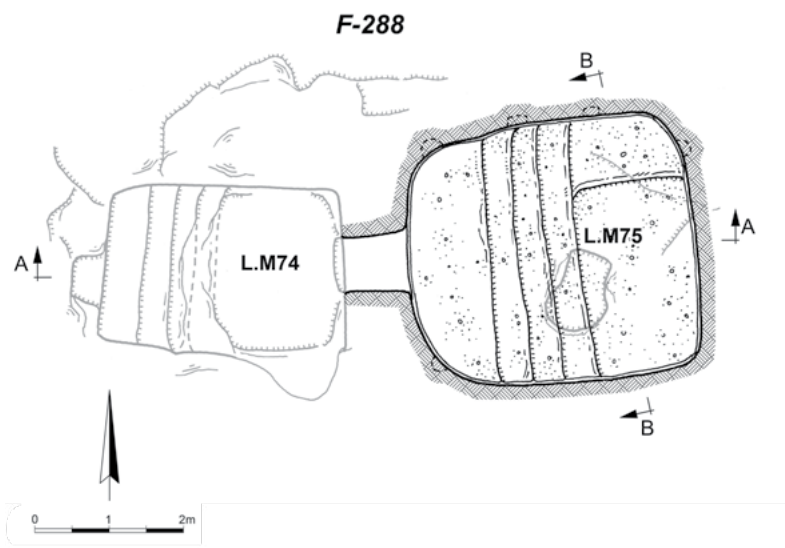
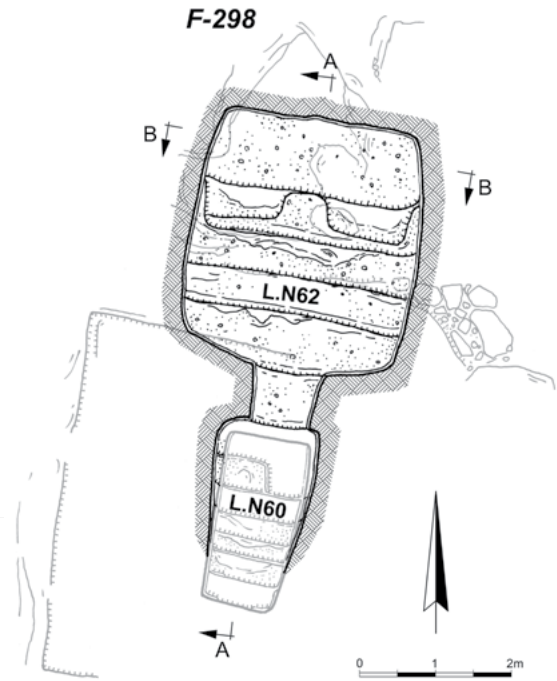


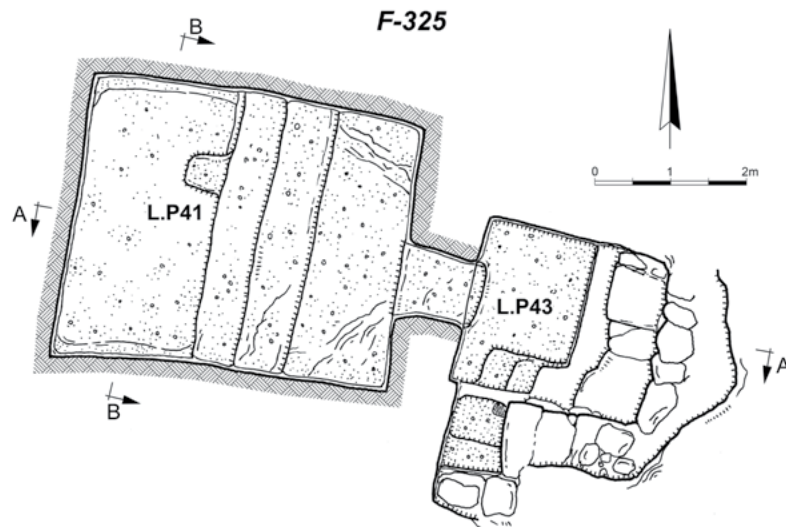
Fig. 5.3 F-287, plan of ritual bath.



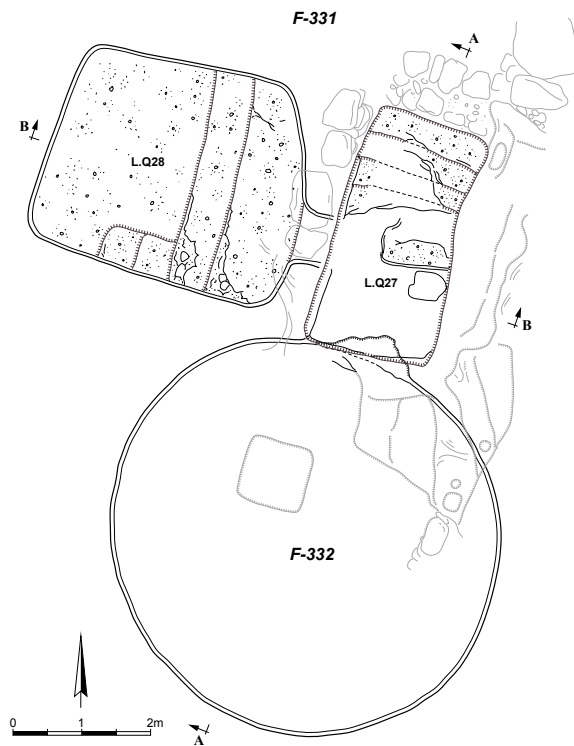
**Fig. 5.4** F-288, plan of ritual bath.



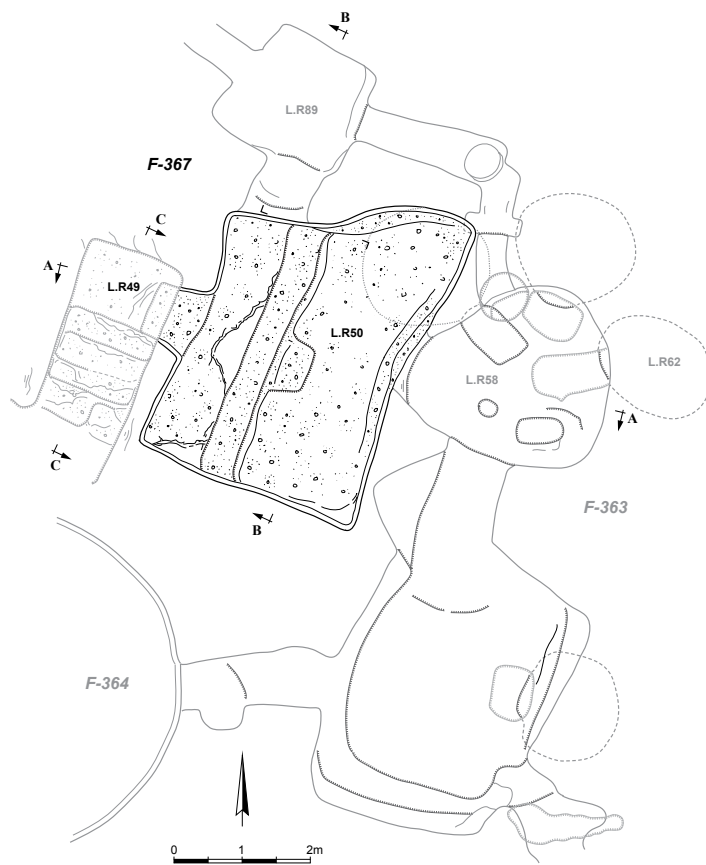
**Fig. 5.5** F-298, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 5.6** F-325, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 5.7** F-331, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 5.8** F-367, plan of ritual bath.



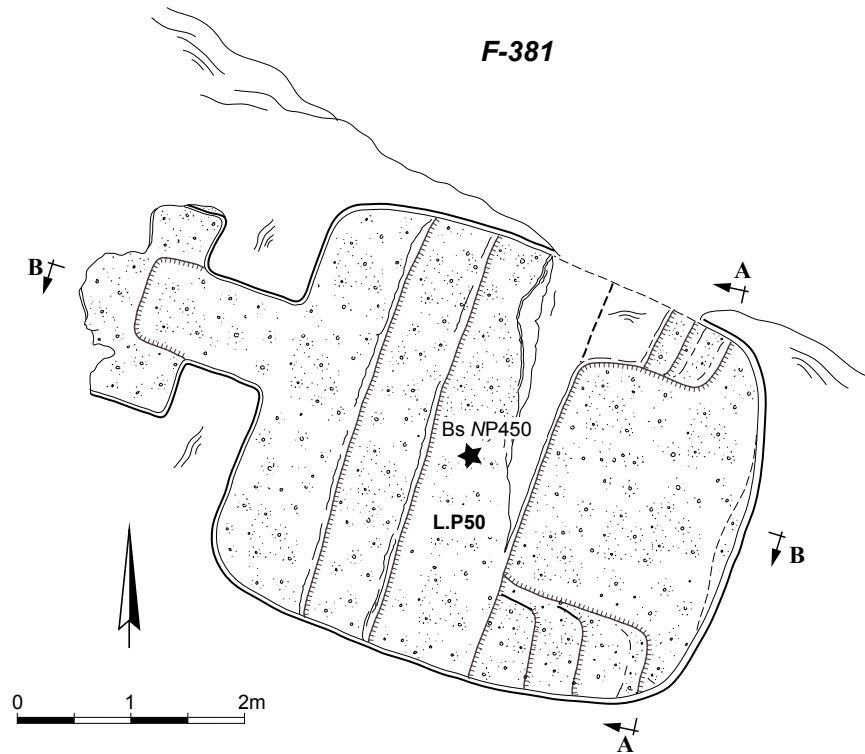


Fig. 5.9 F-381, plan of ritual bath.

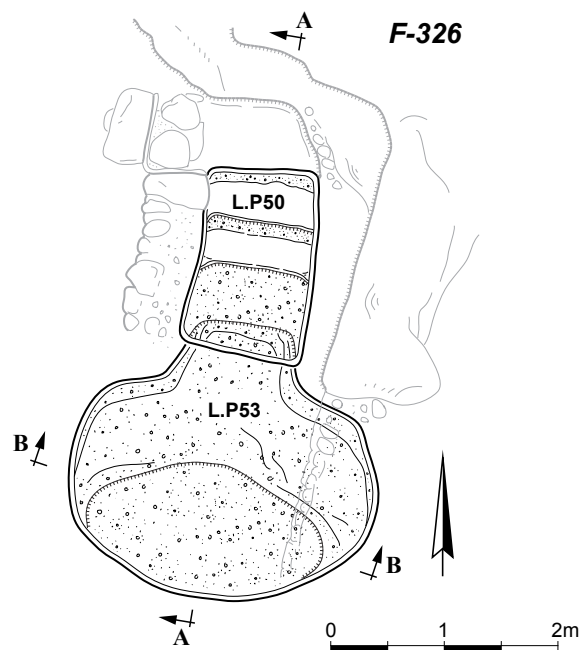


Fig. 5.10 F-326, plan of ritual bath.

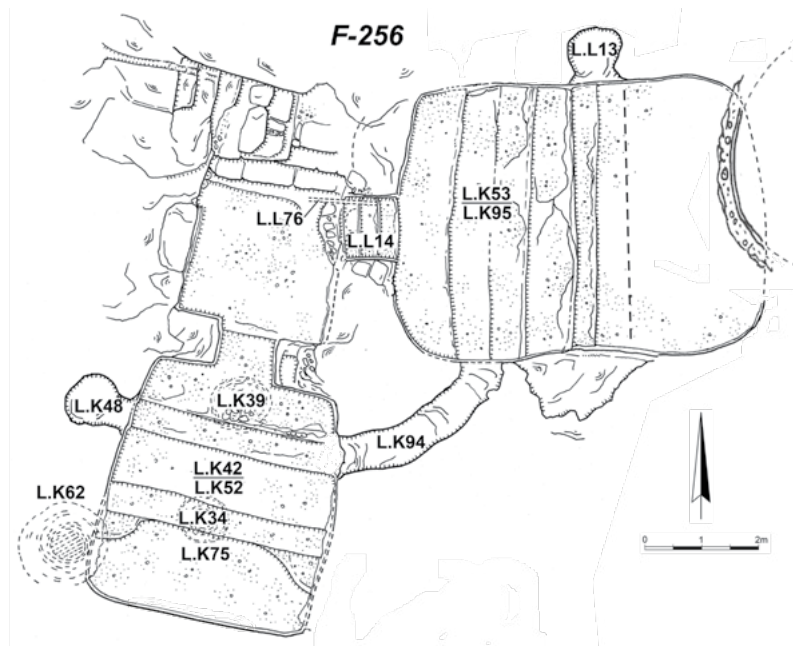


Fig. 5.11 F-256, plan of ritual bath.

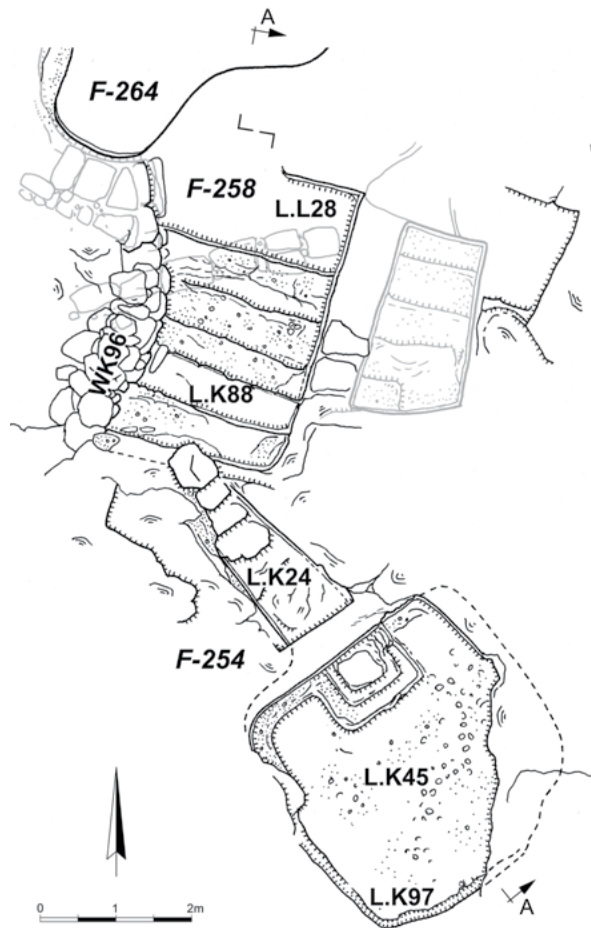
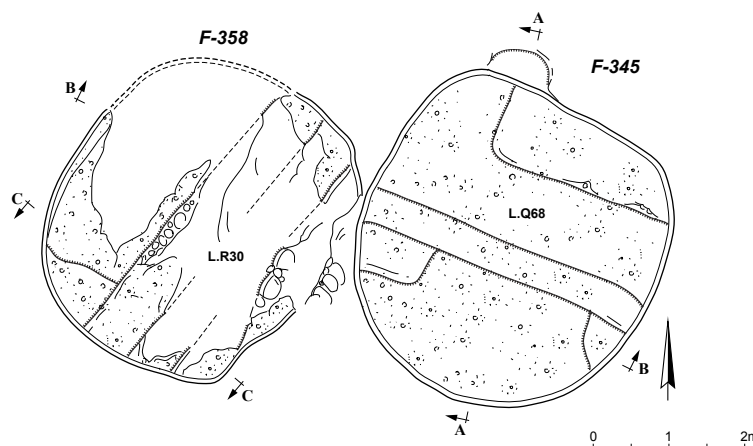


Fig. 5.12 F-258, plan of ritual bath.



**Fig. 5.13** F-345/F-358, plan of ritual baths.

#### 5.4 THE DATING

Excavations of the ritual baths produced pottery and coins of the Hellenistic, Hasmonean, and Early Roman periods, as well as pottery and coins of the Late Roman, Byzantine, Early Islamic, and Mamluk periods. Being fully rock-cut and presumably kept clean through the whole time of their use as ritual purification pools, the ritual baths' construction cannot be dated through the excavated finds. In some cases, the finds from later periods should be assigned to a secondary use of the ritual baths for other purposes, e.g. as cisterns, refuse pits, or storage places (e.g. F-460, F-733, F-739, F-742). But in most cases the *miqwa'ot* were simply filled over time with layers of silt mixed with pottery fragments and other finds from the surface, reflecting the main periods of activity at the site rather than providing the dating for the *miqwa'ot*.

The pottery assemblages that are usually found in the ritual baths consist of fragments of bowls, basins, cooking pots and casseroles, storage jars, jugs, and more rarely fragments of flasks, oil lamps, or amphorae. They are usually mixed and contain fragments of vessels from

different periods (Ch. 3). Only rarely the pottery represents solely the Hellenistic and Early Roman periods. The finds from ritual bath F-531 probably belong to the period of its use as a hiding complex in the second half of the first century CE or the first third of the second century CE. Most of the pottery assemblage found in *miqwe* F-596 also dates from the second half of the first century CE to the first third of the second century CE, probably representing the period when the *miqwe* went out of use. A small pottery assemblage from *miqwe* F-716 dates solely to the Late Roman period but most probably represents its reuse as a hiding place. The pottery assemblage found in *miqwe* F-950 includes many fragments of vessels dated to the Hellenistic period, which together with its design (see below) points to its construction in the Hasmonean period.

Unlike the hiding complexes, no intact vessels have been found in the ritual baths. Almost complete cooking pot and storage jars were recovered from *miqwe* F-531 (Ch. 3, Pl. 4:12, 14–15), dating from the second half of the first century CE to the first third of the second century CE. An almost complete bowl comes from

*miqwe* F-716 (Ch.3, Pl. 17:1). In both cases the vessels belong to the reuse phase of the pool. The complete absence of intact pottery in the ritual baths is not surprising, since there was no need to keep vessels inside the *miqwa'ot* permanently.

The numismatic finds from the ritual baths excavated in years 2006–2019 include a total of 106 coins from various periods (Table 5.1 and Ch.4). Almost all the coins were found in mixed assemblages, in the layers of silt. Only one coin was found inside the plaster of the steps of *miqwe* F-381, of the Hasmonean dynasty, dated to the last quarter of the second century BCE (Melamed 2018a: 25–27). This indicates that the *miqwe* was possibly installed during the first half of the first century BCE. In two other cases the coins possibly give an indication for dating of the ritual baths. From *miqwe* F-531, and its related hiding complex F-536, recovered was a Seleucid coin, a Roman provincial coin minted under Vespasian, and a coin from the second year of the Great Revolt. In *miqwe* F-716 found were two Hasmonean coins and a coin of the Roman governor in Judea under Nero. These coins, as well as the pottery recovered from these fills, point to a possibility that the two pools were abandoned as ritual baths and were used as hiding places during the Great Revolt.

The relative chronology can be considered for *miqwa'ot* that cut pre-existed features or are themselves cancelled by later installations. This is mostly related to the hiding complexes (see below), which sometimes are dated by their finds, indicating a similar dating for the ritual baths as for the hiding complexes – the Late Hellenistic and the Roman periods. Other example is given by ritual bath F-492, destroyed by the Late Roman–Early Byzantine wine press built above it, and consequently dated to before the Late Roman period. In comparison to some other sites, the use

**Table 5.1.** Coins recovered from NRQ ritual baths in years 2006–2019.

Period/Ruler	No. of Coins
Ptolemaic	1
Seleucid	6
Alexander Jannaeus	9
Unidentified Hasmonean	3
Herod the Great	2
Roman Governors in Judaea (under Augustus, Tiberius and Nero)	4
The First Jewish Revolt	1
Roman Provincial (under Nero, Trajan and Hadrian)	3
Late Roman	21
Byzantine	10
Early Islamic	17
Mamluk	18
Unidentified	11

of relative chronology at NRQ is limited, since almost no structures originally associated with the *miqwa'ot* have been preserved on the surface (the finds from the surface belong to later periods).

As for the architectural considerations possibly indicative for dating, only one can be listed. As noted above, two *miqwa'ot* (F-492 and F-950 in its first phase) have the steps of the immersion chambers arranged along one of the walls, not spanning the entire width of the chamber as in other pools. As suggested by Reich (2013: 58), this characterizes the early ritual baths, dated to the end of the second century–the beginning of the first century BCE.

The phenomenon of the stepped ritual immersion pools in Eretz-Israel begun in the Hasmonean period, was most widespread in the Early Roman period up to the Bar Kokhba Revolt, and has been rare in the Late Roman and

Byzantine periods (Adler 2023: 167–168). The scarce indications for dating of the NRQ ritual baths generally situate them in accordance to the above – a few of the *miqwa'ot* were probably created in the Hasmonean period, and many more were added in the Early Roman period. There is no evidence to date any of the NRQ ritual baths, in their construction or their use as ritual immersion pools, to the Late Roman or Byzantine period, when the inhabitants of the site were Christian.

### 5.5 THE RITUAL BATHS AND HIDING COMPLEXES

In many cases the ritual baths and the hiding complexes at NRQ are interrelated, as discussed before for the hiding complexes (Melamed 2020: 187–188). At NRQ the *miqwa'ot* are either canceled by the hiding complexes or themselves cut through pre-existing hiding complexes. There are no examples where the ritual baths are integrated into the hiding complexes, as known from other sites, e.g. Khirbet el-Muraq (Raviv and Langford 2017: 62–63), Horvat Midras (Kloner and Tepper 1987: 144), or in cliff shelters (Shivtiel 2012).

The hiding complexes completely cancel ritual baths F-256 (Fig. 5.10; Melamed 2010a: 79–81), F-531, F-578, and F-716 (Ch. 2). This probably took place during the Great Revolt (in the case of F-256 and F-531) or in the period between the revolts/during preparations for the Bar Kokhba Revolt (in the case of F-578 and F-716).<sup>6</sup> A similar cancellation of ritual baths by hiding complexes is known from Ben Shemen (Zelinger and Eshel 2013) and Horvat Jab'it (Raviv et. al. 2015: 127–129).

The clear cases where the *miqwe* cuts a pre-existing hiding complex are F-367 (Fig. 5.7; Melamed 2018a: 21–25), F-466, F-651, and more (Ch. 2). Interestingly, this occurrence has not been noted at other published sites. Considering the early dating and the long continuity of the phenomenon of hiding complexes at NRQ (Melamed 2020: 285–289), the cutting of the hiding complexes by ritual baths is not surprising. It indicates that these two types of features existed at the site simultaneously and over a long period of time.

### 5.6 MODIFIED RITUAL BATHS

Many ritual baths of NRQ were modified and reused for functions other than ritual bathing (F-460, F-739, F-742, F-979, and more). However, what will be discussed here are a few cases where the *miqwe* underwent an architectural change yet seemingly continued to be used as a ritual bath. One of the most prominent examples of this phenomenon is *miqwe* F-287 (Fig. 5.2; Melamed 2010a: 83), where the original external staircase that descended from west to east was blocked, and a new staircase was hewn descending from east to west, both leading to the same immersion chamber. Another example is *miqwe* F-616 (Ch. 2), which in the first phase was accessed from the west, via a small staircase, and in the second phase the immersion chamber was significantly expanded and a new staircase was hewn, descending from east to west. *Miqwe* F-622 (Ch. 2) also underwent significant changes, originally consisting of an external staircase and an immersion chamber, but at a later stage partly blocked, with new steps cut from north to south and connected to the lower

<sup>6</sup> On the continued use of the ritual baths in rural Judea in the period between the revolts, see Amit and Adler 2010.

part of the outer staircase, which itself became the immersion chamber. Two architectural phases are also evident in *miqwe* F-950 (Ch. 2), where the immersion chamber of the first phase became an antechamber to the immersion chamber of the

second phase. It is possible that these changes reflect the modifications in the superstructures above, or the changing needs of the house owners through the long time of use of these facilities, possibly for several generations.

## SUMMARY

*Alexander Melamed*

The current monograph for the first time presents the 32 ritual baths excavated at Nesher-Ramla Quarry in years 2010–2019 and analyzes them together with the 13 previously published ritual baths excavated in 2006–2009. Together with four additional *miqwa'ot* excavated in recent years at the eastern hill and several *miqwa'ot* excavated in the past by the IAA, the total number of the ritual baths at NRQ exceeds 50. It is the second largest assemblage of *miqwa'ot* excavated at one site after Jerusalem. The ritual baths of NRQ are architecturally similar to the hundreds of the stepped immersion pools known from Eretz-Israel. The main contribution of the NRQ is the full excavation of a settlement, and with it the recovery of many finds that clearly evidence the importance of *halakhic* purity for the non-elite residents of a Jewish village away from Jerusalem.

All the NRQ ritual baths are rock-hewn and plastered with grey hydraulic plaster. The distribution of the NRQ pools indicates that each house of the settlement probably had more than one *miqwe*. While some pools were used for the ritual immersion of the household member, others could have been used by visitors or for immersion of objects. It is also possible that not all the ritual baths of a house were in simultaneous use, or they

might have been dedicated to different degrees of purity. The size and the design of the *miqwa'ot* varied and probably depended on the preferences and financial abilities of the house owners. Some of the ritual baths were possibly in active use for generations, with changes to their design that possibly reflected changes in the related structures on the surface. Others were never finished, in some part or fully, while yet other damaged pre-existing features or were cancelled by other features and blocked or used in different function.

The ritual baths at NRQ, just as at other sites, are hard to date by archaeology. The scant and circumstantial evidences that can be used for dating are the finds of pottery and coins from the silt layers that filled the pools, the relation of the pools to other partly dated features, and rarely the architectural characteristics of some of the *miqwa'ot*. These evidences indicate that the ritual baths at NRQ reflect the time when these pools were generally used. The first ritual baths appeared at NRQ in the Hasmonean period, possibly in the first half of the first century BCE. Soon after they became a common installation included in every household of the settlement. With the growth of the settlement during the first century BCE and the first century CE, the



number of *miqwa'ot* increased and reached its peak probably before the Great Revolt. Despite the severe damage suffered by the Jewish village during the Great Revolt, it seems that at least some of the ritual baths continued to exist in the period between the rebellions, into the second century CE. None of the pools were clearly used in the Late Roman or Byzantine period, indicating that the use of *miqwa'ot* at the site for the needs of *halakhic* purification ceased completely probably around the Bar Kokhba Revolt. In later periods

some of the *miqwa'ot* were reused as refuse pits, storage facilities, or recut into water cisterns.

The excavations at Nesher-Ramla Quarry continues, in recent years concentrating mainly on the eastern part of the site where several additional ritual baths were found, to be published in the future. Nevertheless, it is already obvious that the ritual baths were an integral and vital part of the daily life of this rural Jewish settlement for over 150 years, emphasizing on the common observance of the purity laws in the Second Temple period.

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The excavations conducted at the site of Nesher-Ramla Quarry (*el-Khirbe*) are among the largest long-lasting salvage excavations in Israel. The present publication concentrates on the Late Hellenistic–Early Roman ritual baths (stepped immersion pools, in later rabbinic terminology known as *miqwa'ot*), more than 50 of which were exposed at the site. It is the largest number of fully documented ritual baths at any site in Israel, besides Jerusalem. During the Second Temple period ritual baths were composite parts of Jewish houses as well as occasional companions of burial sites and agricultural and industrial installations. The staggering number and the great variety of the ritual baths found at the rural settlement of Nesher-Ramla Quarry allow for a better understanding of the use of these water features and emphasize the common observance of the purity laws by Jewish population of Second Temple period villages.

