

CATALOGUE OF THE POTTERY MATERIALS FROM KARKEMISH IN THE ANATOLIAN CIVILIZATIONS MUSEUM, ANKARA

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1. INTRODUCTION¹

The present study of the pottery materials² from Karkemish kept in the Anatolian Civilizations Museum in Ankara is part of a wider project carried out by the Turco-Italian Expedition at Karkemish since 2011 (Marchetti 2012; 2013, 2014a; 2014b; 2015). The project aims at documenting, in addition to the evidence from current excavations, the entire corpus of materials from the excavations at Karkemish and Yunus conducted by the British Museum, which is currently divided among three museums: the Anatolian Civilizations Museum in Ankara, the Archaeological Museums in Istanbul and the British Museum in London.³

This collection includes materials dating from the Halaf period to the early Islamic (Abbasid) period. In fact, the materials published here are registered in the Ankara Museum inventory books as being from Jerablus: their inventory series numbers include clay vessels, stone tools, clay figurines and even some basalt sculpture fragments (the latter kept in a separate storeroom). They have been brought to Ankara certainly no sooner than the mid-1930s, when the museum was conceived (all the Karkemish materials collected from the dig house at the site were shipped by train to Ankara around that time, cf. Marchetti 2014b: 30-31). The problem is that we have no direct proof that our vessels have been excavated by the British Museum Expedition during the years 1911-1914 and 1920 since none of them could be identified in the photographic albums kept in London (a fact not especially significant since only a tiny fraction of the pottery collected was documented at that time).

1 Valentina Gallerani wrote §§ 6 and 7, Agnese Vacca wrote §§ 3 and 8, Federico Zaina wrote §§ 2, 4 and 5; § 1 has been written jointly.

2 The scale of figures is 1:4 unless otherwise indicated, while the scale of the photos can be 1:3 or 1:4 according to the dimensions of the vessel.

3 The project is coordinated by Nicolò Marchetti (Department of History and Cultures - University of Bologna) director of the Turco-Italian Archaeological Expedition at Karkemish to whom goes our gratitude for his guidance and support. Special thanks are also due to the Directorate General for Cultural Heritage and Museums of the Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, and specifically to the director of the Anatolian Civilizations Museum in Ankara, Enver Sağır, to the keepers Mustafa Metin, Nilgün Sinan and the other colleagues there. We wish also to acknowledge the University of Bologna, the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Sanko Holding for their financial support. The pottery collection discussed in this contribution is stored in the Castle storeroom on the citadel of Ankara (sherds) and in the basement of the Anatolian Civilizations Museum (complete shapes). The authors wish also to thank for their helpful comments Marcella Frangipane, Giulio Palumbi and Tommaso De Vincenzi, about the LC/EBA pottery collection, Federico Manuelli and Gabriele Giacosa about the MBA and LBA pottery assemblages, Kevin Ferrari about the Hellenistic, Roman and Islamic pottery assemblages.

However, the wide chronological range of the materials published here speaks in favor of the latter possibility.

	Halaf	LC/ EBA	MBA	LBA	Hellenistic period	Roman period	Byzantine and Islamic periods	Unidentified excavation area
Sherds	23	94	0	33	18	20	10	6
Complete shapes	0	0	2	10	2	4	0	0

Table 1. List of sherds and complete (or almost complete) vessels from Karkemish, now kept in the Anatolian Civilizations Museum in Ankara, according to their chronology.

2. THE HALAF POTTERY ASSEMBLAGE

The earliest pottery collection from Karkemish housed in the Anatolian Civilizations Museum of Ankara is represented by 23 sherds dating to the Halaf period. These were grouped in a small box in the Castle storeroom and three of them also have a reddish label providing a very broad indication of their provenience: “Cerablus, Kar”.

Evidence for the Halaf occupation at Karkemish had been already recognized by Woolley (1934) during the excavations at Yunus (i.e., Yunus Kilns) and on the acropolis of Karkemish, so these materials are likely to come from one of those two contexts. Chronological parallels are mostly provided by Middle-Late Halaf sites such as Kazane Höyük (Bernbeck, Pollock and Coursey 1999), Domuztepe (Campbell, Carter, Healey, Anderson, Kennedy and Witcher 1999), Sakçe Gözü (Du Plat Taylor, Seton Williams and Waechter 1950) and Tell Turlu (Le Blanc and Watson 1973).

Simple Ware is characterized by a whitish (10YR 8/2, 10YR 8/3) or reddish (5YR 6/6, 5YR 6/4) fine fabric (with small mineral inclusions, ranging between <0.5mm and 1mm). Also Preservation Ware shows a remarkably fine fabric generally of reddish color (5YR 6/6) with only few larger mineral aggregates.

A large part of the small collection includes fragments of finely made bowls and beakers with painted decoration on the inner side of the rim consisting of bands and wavy lines of different colors (generally reddish or blackish) sometimes on a whitish slip base (Fig. 1.1-6, Pl. I.1). This decoration is already attested at Karkemish from the 1910s excavations at the Yunus pottery kilns (Woolley 1934: pl. XIX lower right) as well as in the deep trenches excavated on the south-eastern part of the Acropolis (Woolley 1934: pl. XXIb; Woolley and Barnett 1952, 227, pl. 66b-c). The black painted version is quite popular at Kazane Höyük levels VII-IV (Bernbeck, Pollock and Coursey 1999: 112, fig. 4i), where it is defined *Fugitive Black Painted Ware*, as well as at Tell Turlu (Le Blanc and Watson 1973: 122 type 15), Domuztepe (Campbell, Carter, Healey, Anderson, Kennedy and Witcher 1999, 407-408: fig. 10.1-2) and Sakçe Gözü (Du Plat Taylor, Seton Williams and Waechter 1950: 87-88, fig. 14.5).

Among closed shapes, the Halaf collection includes a painted jar with vertical rim (Fig. 1.7, Pl. I.1). Although a complete reconstruction of this vase was not possible, some of its body-sherds (probably four) are also present within the Halaf pottery collection. The decoration consists of a thick blackish band and multiple crossed lines and it has close

parallels from the Late Halaf levels at Kazane Höyük (Bernbeck, Pollock and Coursey 1999: 140, figs. 10d, 12d) and Sakçe Gözü (Du Plat Taylor, Seton Williams and Waechter 1950: 88, fig. 14.4). A small fragment of cooking pot (Fig. 1.8, Pl. I.1) and a flat base (Fig. 1.9, Pl. I.1) are included among the diagnostic specimens.

In addition, the Halaf group includes also 10 sherds probably belonging to large vessels (Pl. I.1), three of which with a single thick reddish or blackish painted band.

3. THE LATE CHALCOLITHIC / EARLY BRONZE AGE POTTERY ASSEMBLAGE

The Late Chalcolithic/Early Bronze Age (hereafter LC/EBA) pottery collection from the Anatolian Civilizations Museum of Ankara encompasses 94 inventory numbers, of which 69 body sherds and 25 rim fragments (Fig. 2; Pl. I.2-3), kept in a box in the castle storeroom. Simple Ware (SW) is the most attested category, followed by Kitchen Ware (KW), which recurs only in low percentage.

SW is characterized by a medium-textured, sandy fabric (with small mineral inclusions, ranging between <0.5mm and 1mm). Vessels are fired at relatively high temperature, with color ranging from pink (7.5YR 7/4), to light brown (5YR 6/4) and reddish-yellow (7.5YR 6/6, 7.5YR 6/8). In most cases, the outer and the inner surfaces are vertically or horizontally burnished, and several vessels show a thick layer of red-slip applied on the outer surface, then burnished (Pl. I.3). The SW repertoire encompasses: shallow bowls with straight walls and rounded lips, with diameters ranging from 22 to 24 cm (Fig. 2.1-3); bowls or platter/bowls with inverted bent rim, or with protruding inside rim and rounded lip (Fig. 2.5-6); a tall cylindrical base with curving side, distinct beaded rim and pointed lip (preserved for ca. 20cm in high); closed pots with beveled-inside rim and circular applied knobs (Fig. 2.7), or with thickened rim and beaded lip (Fig. 2.8); wide-mouthed jars with flaring rim, and rounded, or beveled outside lip (Fig. 2.10-11).

KW is characterized by a coarse, gritty, fabric (with larger mineral aggregates), fired at medium-low temperatures, with color ranging from light brown to grayish-brown; the surface is generally wet-smoothed or plain. The morphological repertoire of KW encompasses ovoid-shaped pots with thickened out-flared rim and rounded or thinned lip. The fragmentary state of preservation of the pottery assemblage hampers a precise attribution of all the rim fragments to a specific type. Moreover, contextual information is completely missing. Nevertheless, a dating of the assemblage to the LC 5/initial Early Bronze Age (LC 5, ca. 3400-3100 BC, EME 1-2, 3100-2700 BC) can be suggested on the basis of comparisons with other published materials from stratified contexts excavated at the very site of Karkemish and in nearby EBA settlements.⁴ The overall homogeneity of the material might suggest its provenance from a stratified context excavated at Karkemish (probably on the Acropolis), rather than from surface collection.

In particular, some of the vessels from the Ankara collection have good comparisons with pottery materials coming from the south-east sounding on the Acropolis of Karkemish,

4 Some EBA materials from earlier excavations at Karkemish by the British Museum Expedition are currently kept in the British Museum, London. These include a collection of vessels from cist and *pithos* burials identified at several locations on the Acropolis mound and in the Inner Town (Falson and Sconzo 2007; Sconzo 2014). For the Early Bronze Age chronology and periodization of the Middle Euphrates area see Finkbeiner *et al.* (eds) 2015. LC 5 materials from Karkemish have been discussed by Algaze 1993, 29, fig. 9, 131, fns 5-6.

although the stratigraphic context is not fully reliable.⁵ This is the case, for instance, of red-slipped and burnished shallow bowls (Fig. 2.5)⁶ and wide-mouthed jars with flaring rim and rounded lip (Fig. 2.10).⁷ The former type is a long-lived LC 5-EB I shape, which finds comparisons with similar exemplars from Kurban Höyük V (Algaze 1990: pl. 45.Q), Zeytinli Bahçe (Frangipane 2007, fig. 8.11.2), and Tell Hadidi (Dornemann 1988: fig. 6.37) along the Euphrates River, and further west with materials from early-middle Phase G contexts in the ‘Amuq Valley (Braidwood and Braidwood 1960, fig. 202.12).

Shallow bowls with protruding inside rim and rounded lip (Fig. 2.6) are also quite common, and find comparisons with similar types from other LC/EB I contexts excavated in the Karkemish and Tabqa areas.⁸ This type also occurs in the ‘Amuq Valley, and it is mainly attested in early to late Phase G contexts, decreasing in number towards the end of the period (Braidwood and Braidwood 1960: fig. 205: 4-5; see also Welton 2017: fig. 2.2). Among closed shapes, wide-mouthed jars with out-turned neck, and rounded or beveled outside lip, are quite common (Fig. 2.9-10), and attested at other EB I-II sites along the Euphrates River, such as Tell Hadidi (Area RII, level 3A; Dornemann 1988: fig. 4.25, 27), Jerabus Tahtani (Peltenburg, Campbell, Carter, Stephen, Tipping 1997: fig. 13:10), and Hassek Höyük (Gerber 2005: pls. 42.617, 44.653), and are found among surface materials in the Quweiq River Survey (Phase F; Mellaart 1981: figs. 149.788-790, 150.793). Similar vessels are documented also during the Late Chalcolithic period, attesting a continuity of tradition throughout the LC-EBA periods.⁹

Other closed shapes include hole-mouth jars with thickened out-rolled rim (Fig. 2.8) or with beveled-inside rim and a knob applied on the shoulder, just below the rim (Fig. 2.7). The latter type, in particular, has comparisons with central Anatolian productions (Orthmann 1963: pl. 32.6/40).

One fragmentary high pedestal base with wide flaring walls and rounded rim (Fig. 2.4, Pl. I.3), manufactured with a pale-brown fabric, red-slipped and vertical burnished outside, can be interpreted as a cylindrical pot-stand with concave profile, trumpet-like base and moulded rim. An interpretation of this vessel as a fruit-stand—a typical ceramic shape attested at several sites of the Middle and Upper Euphrates sectors during the LC/EB I-II (including the very site of Karkemish)—is less probable, since the stem appears doubled-flared with a trumpet-like shape, differing significantly in the overall profile from complete exemplars of fruit-stands or ‘champagne-cups’. Pot-stands firstly appears in the Upper Euphrates at the beginning of the EBA (EB I/EUE 1), in sites such as Arslantepe VIB1, where they are manufactured in Red and Black Burnished Ware or Monochrome Burnished Ware (Palumbi 2008: 226). Later exemplars, from period VIB2, are characterized by incised geometrical decoration filled with a white paste (Palumbi 2008: 241). Cylindrical pot-stands are also attested in the ‘Amuq plain in Phases H and

5 Woolley and Barnett 1952: 229-230, figs. 93-94. The materials discussed by Woolley are said to come from “just above contour 28...below the level from which the cist graves were dug..., in a stratum of broken mud brick from an earlier building” (Woolley and Barnett 1952: 229, fn.2). These include LC/EB I types, such as beveled rim bowls, and probable ‘champagne-cups’ fragments.

6 Woolley and Barnett 1952: figs. 93.A1 (“plain red clay, well levigated”), 94.B11 (“very fine light-red ware”).

7 Woolley and Barnett 1952: figs. 93.A6 (“drab clay”), 94.B15 (“drab clay”).

8 Tell Hadidi, RII, level 3A (Dornemann 1988: fig. 4.21-23); Zeytinli Bahçe (Frangipane 2007: fig. 8.11.1); Type 3 of the ARCANE Middle Euphrates ceramic sequence (Sconzo 2015: Pl. 1.10-12; long-lived LC type still attested in Period EME I).

9 In the Amuq plain, Kitchen Ware pots with short, straight out-turned necks are quite common during Phases F and G (see Welton 2017: 15, fig. 3.10-11).

I (Braidwood and Braidwood 1960, 364, figs. 282.13, 306.4), recurring in a number of Northern and Southern Levantine sites during the first half of the 3rd millennium BC, forming part of the so-called 'Khirbet Kerak assemblage' (Bolger, Greenberg, Kroll, Palumbi 2014).

4. THE MIDDLE BRONZE AGE POTTERY ASSEMBLAGE

Only two complete shapes dating from the Middle Bronze Age are part of the Karkemish collection in the Anatolian Civilizations Museum of Ankara.

The first one is a coarse carinated jar with thick rim and flat base (Fig. 2.11, Pl. II.1). This medium-fired jar is generally found in early Middle Bronze Age funerary contexts from both Inland Syria and the Middle Euphrates valley. At Karkemish similar specimens are attested from the MB I graves excavated by the Turco-Italian Expedition in area A, at the foot of the Acropolis. A comparable pattern is attested at Tell Afis where similar vessels have been found in Middle Bronze Age IB graves (Aletta 2005: 35-36, fig. 30.2, fig. 31.7, 31.10-12) and at MB I Ebla where such vessels were part of the assemblage of grave D.1 on the slope of the Acropolis (Baffi 1988: 3, fig. 1.14).

The other Middle Bronze Age complete shape in the Ankara collection is a jar with thick rim, rounded wall, flat base and two horizontal handles (Fig. 2.12, Pl. II.2). This jar has two grooved lines on the upper wall and can be dated to the late Middle Bronze Age in the periodization of Central Anatolia.

5. THE LATE BRONZE AGE POTTERY ASSEMBLAGE

The Late Bronze Age I-II (hereafter LB I-II) pottery assemblage from the Anatolian Civilizations Museum of Ankara is composed of 35 sherds and 7 complete shapes (Figs. 3-4; Pls. III-IV).

Due to the lack of information on the original find-spot and the stratigraphy it is impossible to provide a detailed chronology for each specimen other than LB I-II. Indeed, the collection includes diagnostic shapes widely attested at Karkemish (Pizzimenti and Scazzosi in press) and in the Middle Euphrates Valley¹⁰ during the entire LBA.

Simple Ware is mostly characterized by highly fired, fine fabrics (with small mineral inclusions, ranging between <0.5mm and 1mm), generally pinkish (7.5YR 7/3), light reddish (5YR 6/4) or reddish yellow (5YR 6/6, 5YR 6/8, 5YR 7/6) in color. Preservation Ware consists of coarse, gritty fabrics (with larger mineral aggregates), fired at medium-low temperatures, with whitish to pale brown inner and outer colors (10YR 7/3, 10YR 8/3) and dark gray cores (7.5YR 4/1, 7.5YR 3/1). Few reddish specimens have burnished surface treatments (while the large LB jars are white slipped with a grooved decoration on the rim. Simple Ware open shapes include incurved bowls¹¹ (Fig. 3.1-4, Pl. III.1-3) characterized by highly inturned rim, which have been found both in LB I and LB II phases from Areas A and G at Karkemish (Pizzimenti and Scazzosi in press). This type is attested both as a bowl or a platter from LB I Middle Euphrates Valley, including Tell Hadidi (Dornemann 1981: 42, fig. 13.31-32) and Tell Banat (McLellan 2007: 56, pl. VI.7-10) as well as in Inland Syria (Mazzoni 2002: 135, pl. LVII.6). Two rims belonging to

¹⁰ Parallels for the LBA pottery assemblage from Karkemish discussed in this contribution come from Middle Euphrates (Tell Hadidi, Tell Banat and Tell Bazi), Inner Syrian (Tell Afis) and Southern Anatolian (Arslantepe) sites.

¹¹ Also known as inverted rolled-rim bowls (McLellan 2007: 56).

platters (Fig. 3.5-7, pl. III.1) may be also assigned to the same period. Further, open shapes encompass high carinated bowls (Fig. 3.8, Pl. III.4) derived from the MB II tradition and attested at LB I Tell Afis (Mazzoni 2002: 135, pl. LVII.1). Another LB I marker deriving from a MB II tradition is the Gray Burnished Ware, represented in the Ankara collection by a small rounded bowl with flat base and plain rim (Fig. 3.6, Pl. IV.1). Gray Burnished Ware spreads from Anatolia to Inland Syria (Laneri and Schwartz 2011: 345) and from the Upper and Middle Euphrates (McLellan 2007: 55) up to the Syrian Jazirah (Pfälzner 2007: 241) between the MB II and the LB I. At Karkemish, Gray Burnished Ware appears as early as the LB I-II phases both in Areas A and G.

LB open shapes also include a small beaker with ovoid and out-turned plain rim (Fig. 3.9, Pl. IV.3). This shape is quite popular in the Upper Euphrates and in south-eastern Anatolia showing close parallels with Arslantepe (Manuelli 2010: 402, 406, fig. 2.1-2).

Moreover, three fragments of pottery bases, two ring-based (Fig. 3.10, 3.12, Pl. III.1) and one flat-based (Fig. 3.11, Pl. III.1) are attested.

Different types of closed shapes dating from the LB I-II are present in the Ankara Museum collection. Among those, there is a reddish juglet with out-turned rim, flat base and characterized by horizontal burnishing (Fig. 4.1, Pl. III.4).

Necked jars are variable in size and are characterized by globular bodies, flat or ring bases, exteriorly thickened rims and a ribbed decoration on the shoulder (Fig. 4.2, Pl. III.2). This type is quite popular in Middle Euphrates sites including Tell Bazi and Tell Banat (McLellan 2007: 55, pl. VII.2). Jars with double out-turned rim (Fig. 4.3, Pl. III.1) represent a MB tradition continuing into the LB I in Central Syria (Mazzoni 2002: 136, pl. LVIII.19) and the LB II in the Middle Euphrates Valley, such as at Tell Bazi (Otto 2014: pl. 7, type 11), Emar (Caubet 2014: 78, pl. 2b) and Karkemish (Pizzimenti and Scazzosi in press: figs. 6.7, 7.5). A similar dating can be proposed for a jar with out-turned grooved rim and wavy combed decoration on the wall (Fig. 4.5, Pl. III.1). Similar examples can be found at Karkemish (Pizzimenti and Scazzosi in press: 6.11-13), as well as at other sites along the Middle Euphrates Valley including Tell Banat and Tell Hadidi (McLellan 2007: 56, pl. III.7) and in Inland Syria (Mazzoni 2002: 142, pl. LXIV.59). Another typical late LB shape is a large jar with in-turned thick rim (Fig. 4.4, Pl. III.1). This type is widespread from Inland Syria to the Cilician Plain and the Euphrates Valley from LB II until the early IA (Giacosa and Zaina in press: Fig. 7.7; Mazzoni 2002: 133, 140, pl. LXII.50-52). The LB assemblage from Karkemish also include a complete double handled jar, with high carination and flat base (Fig. 4.6, Pl. IV.5).

A single painted sherd dating from the Late Bronze Age has been documented within the collection of the Anatolian Civilizations Museum of Ankara (Pl. III.1 bottom row, second from left).

6. THE HELLENISTIC AND ROMAN POTTERY ASSEMBLAGES

Materials from Karkemish dating from the Hellenistic to the Imperial Roman period have been found in the Ankara Museum collection. For none of them information on the original context is available. The chronological range and typology of the pottery specimens kept in the Ankara Museum storerooms match with the late 4th century BC to the 3rd century AD ceramic horizon excavated by the Turco-Italian expedition at Karkemish (Cappuccino and Ferrari 2014: 164-166, fig. 2). This may be also paralleled with the wider regional tradition including both neighboring centers like Zeugma (Kenrik 2013), Jindaros (Kramer 2004)

and Jebel Khalid (Jackson and Tidmarsh 2011), and more distant sites such as Doura-Europos (Dyson 1968) and Dor (Rosenthal-Heiginbottom 1995; 2015).

The pottery collection from Karkemish in Ankara includes 18 sherds and 4 complete shapes dating from the Hellenistic period and 20 sherds and 2 complete shapes dating from the Roman period.

Simple Ware is characterized by a fine sandy fabric with small, white, mineral inclusions (limestone and mica), ranging between <0.5mm and 1mm, but few sherds show a coarse fabric, with much more inclusions. White or light-brownish slips are among the typical surface treatments. Kitchen Ware has brownish, fine fabric, with few dark, medium size inclusions. Preservation Ware is characterized by a coarse, gritty fabric with larger mineral aggregates, fired at medium-low temperatures, with color ranging from light brown to grayish brown. The surface is generally wet-smoothed or plain.

One of the hallmarks of the Hellenistic period is the highly fired fine ware bowl, with internal and/or external paint. Several of these specimens can be recognized within the Ankara Museum collection including the upper part of a hemispherical bowl (Fig. 5.1, Pl. V.1) decorated with a bichrome, irregular band of orange-pink and metallic black paint covering the whole surface. This type is well-known from 2nd and 1st century BC phases at Zeugma on the Euphrates (Kenrik 2013: pls. 1.6-8, 4.53), as well as at Jindaros (Kramer 2004: 164-165, pls. 64-65) and Jebel Khalid (Jackson and Tidmarsh 2011: 107, fig. 11).

Closed shapes include both complete vessels and fragments (mostly walls). Among them, a considerable number of lamp sherds has been identified. Two of them date back from the Early Hellenistic period, (4th to 2nd centuries BC) based on comparisons with the Levantine coast (Rosenthal-Heiginbottom 1995). One of them is almost complete (Pl. V.2) and it has a rounded shoulder and a rounded wall, with the rim set off against the shoulder by a marked groove. Traces of red paint are all around the body. Similar specimens are attested at Tell Dor and other centers of the southern Levantine coast (Rosenthal-Heiginbottom 1995: 235, pls. 5.13, nos. 9-10, 5.14, nos. 2-3). Another lamp has only the handle and part of the body preserved (Fig. 5.2, Pl. V.3) and therefore it is not possible to provide close parallels. The third specimen is a triangular leaf-shaped handle, with an impressed palmette with nine leaves (Fig. 5.4, Pl. VI.1). This is produced from the Late Hellenistic period (1st century BC) to the Early Roman (1st century AD), according to the comparisons with the pottery assemblages from Dor (Rosenthal-Heiginbottom 1995: 241-242, fig. 5.20, no. 2) and Jebel Khalid (Clarke *et al.* 2002: fig.10, no. 122, 194-195).

Additional Hellenistic shapes include a complete jug with a bifid rim, grooved handle and flat bottom (Fig. 5.3, Pl. V.4). Similar specimens are attested from the Hellenistic levels at Zeugma (Kenrik 2013: pls. 11, 180.23).

A complete well preserved cooking pot is also part of the Hellenistic collection (Fig. 6.1, Pl. VI.3). It has an out-turned rim and a flat bottom. No precise parallels can be provided although the rounded shape and the earring handles recall the latest examples of the Iron Age hole-mouth pots except for the rim, which slims towards the top as the later Roman specimens.

The pottery collection dating from the Roman period is mostly characterized by some typical 1st to 3rd centuries AD hallmarks including the Eastern Sigillata (hereafter ESA) and the Brittle Ware. The ESA horizon counts 14 fragments. Simple Ware is characterized by a fine sandy and fine fabric, highly fired, while Preservation Ware has a coarse, gritty fabric with larger mineral aggregates, fired at medium-low temperatures, with fabric colors ranging from light brown to grayish-brown. The surface is generally wet-smoothed

or plain. The only Kitchen Ware specimen dating back from the Byzantine period is a lug with a fine, red-brownish fabric and whitish inclusions.¹²

The assemblage includes open shape rims and walls, some of them showing diagnostic decorations as in the case of a bowl with barbotine on the outer surface (Pl. VI.5). Similar specimens are also found in association with spiral applications and they are generally dated from the 1st century AD onwards (Hayes 1985: 66, pls. XI.12, 54, XI.19).

Another fine ware example is a large bowl with out-turned flared rim and ring base (Fig. 5.5, Pl. VI.4). The inner surface discolours to purple-black, maybe due to the use, while on the outer surface, many traces of orange red slip are still visible. We also noticed two opposite interruptions along the rim probably cracks filled at some time. A medium size bowl from Doura-Europos, with the same features and dating from the 2nd century AD, confirms this suggestion (Dyson 1968: 13, pl. I.43).

Other ceramic classes include a complete lamp (Fig. 6.2, Pl. VI.2), in a very good state of preservation. It has both geometric and natural decorations on the wall and the handle. The disk has a rosette-like decoration, while the upper part of the carination is characterized by wavy-lines and dots clustered close to the nozzle. This type is quite popular both in the North African and the Mediterranean areas (Bonifay 2004: 356-358, fig. 201, ns. 7-8).

7. THE BYZANTINE AND ISLAMIC POTTERY ASSEMBLAGES

The Byzantine and Islamic collection from Karkemish, kept in the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations of Ankara, consists of 12 sherds.

Generally speaking, the diagnostic shapes of the Byzantine period date from the 6th-7th centuries BC, while the Islamic assemblage matches with the Abbasid (8th-10th century AD) ceramic horizon largely attested at Karkemish (Ferrari 2014; Cappuccino and Ferrari 2014; Marchetti 2014).¹³

Byzantine pottery is characterized by two fragments of large red slip storage jars (Pl. VII.1-2) and two sherds of Brittle Ware cooking pots with grooved wall (Pl. VII.3).

One of the two red slip sherds has an applied band with three impressed, circular, geometrical decorations (Fig. 6.4, Pl. VII.2), which may be dated to the 5th century AD (Hayes 1972: fig. 41, n. 54.o, 240). The other jar has an out-turned thick and incised rim and applied decoration on the lower neck (Fig. 6.3, Pl. VII.1).

With regards to the two Brittle Ware specimens (Pl. VII.3), despite their long-term distribution, both the shape of the rim and the grooved decoration are already attested in 6th-7th century BC at Karkemish and Yunus (Cappuccino and Ferrari 2014: 165). These are also quite popular both in the Middle Euphrates region and beyond (Northedge 1981: 460, fig. 245.1).

Islamic shapes mostly consist of glazed sherds belonging to different traditions. The latest specimen (Pl. VII.3) is a Raqqa Yellow Glazed Ware dating from the early 9th and 10th centuries AD (Watson 1999: 81-82). This shape has a geometric painted decoration and it represents a hallmark of the early Islamic (Abassid) occupation from the renewed Turco-Italian excavations at Karkemish (Ferrari 2014: 1838, fig. 3.1-2; Cappuccino and Ferrari 2014: 165-166, fig. 2.1; Marchetti 2014). Further parallels are also attested at

¹² The fragment of a Kitchen Ware lug included in the pottery assemblage dating from the Roman period is shown in Pl. VI.6.

¹³ However, a remarkable continuity from the Byzantine to the Islamic period can be observed for several types.

Zeugma (Kenrick 2013: 69, fig. 20 PT616, pls. 39-40) and Raqqa (Watson 1999: pl. 94i). The repertoire of glazed ware includes a “turquoise/blue green glazed” specimen with whitish fine fabric (Pl. VII.3), which is widely attested in association with the Yellow Glazed Ware at both Tell Aswad (Watson 1999: 84, pl. 97f-h) and Zeugma (Kenrick 2013 67, fig. 20). Dark green glazed sherds (Pl. VII.3) may instead belong to later phases of the Islamic occupation at Karkemish.

An example of a large jar with whitish slip and wavy lines decorations (Pl. VII.3) is also attested. This type is quite popular among the pottery assemblage from the Turco-Italian excavations in Area C at Karkemish (Phases 1-4; Cappuccino and Ferrari 2014: fig. 2.11). Elsewhere in the Middle Euphrates valley, jars with wavy line decorations have been retrieved at Zeugma (Kernick 2013: 71, fig. 23, pl. 41 PT638).

Another hallmark of the early Islamic period is a fragment of a large bowl, with highly out-turned and grooved rim (Pl. VII.3). This type is largely attested from the Turco-Italian excavations at Karkemish in Areas G and C (Kevin Ferrari p.c.).

8. THE POTTERY ASSEMBLAGE FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED EXCAVATION AREA

A group of 6 sherds from the Ankara museum has the relative elevation of retrieval written with a pencil on the outer wall. Despite the absence of more precise information on their original context, these are likely to come from one of the soundings excavated at Karkemish, which yielded Late Chalcolithic (LC)/Early Bronze Age (EBA) materials. In this respect, it is worth mentioning that earlier excavations at Karkemish (carried out in 1910-1920) identified LC/EBA occupation levels, by means of deep exploratory trenches, at several spots on the Acropolis mound, and at the head of the Great Staircase, in the area of the Lower Palace (Woolley and Barnett 1952: 171-172, 205-226, 232-233).

Late Chalcolithic levels have been identified on the Acropolis, where a multi-phase occupation, 3 m in depth (contours 26-28 m), was excavated (Woolley and Barnett 1952: 228; see also Algaze 1993: 29, fig. 10; Falsone and Sconzo 2007: 75). LC 5 levels yielded four-lugged jars and bevelled-rim bowls, as well as a cylinder seal with geometric incised decoration (Algaze 1993: 29, 131, fns 5-6).

The best documented Early Bronze Age phase at Karkemish is the EB I-II, characterized by domestic dwellings with sub-floor cist and pithos burials—furnished with a rich funerary assemblage, mainly- consisting of “fruit stands” and metal ornaments—brought to light on the Acropolis south-east and north-west.¹⁴ In particular, in Trench B, the EB I-II phase is ca. 1.5 m thick, and covers a thicker deposit dating to the LC period, with remains of domestic structures (Falsone and Sconzo 2007: 75).¹⁵ Later contexts, dating to

14 The stratigraphic sequence of the Acropolis mound is discussed by Woolley based on excavations carried out by Hogarth, Thompson and Lawrence in 1911, and resumed by himself in 1913 and 1920 (Woolley and Barnett: 1952, 206-226). The mound’s stratification encompasses 15 m of archaeological deposit, spanning from the Halaf (see § 2) to the Byzantine period, with the Roman phase that has largely levelled previous occupation levels. The only available schematic section, showing the stratigraphy excavated in Trench B on the Acropolis south-east, is published in Woolley and Barnett (1952: fig. 84; see also Falsone and Sconzo 2007: 73-86, fig. 5.3).

15 EBA levels were originally dated by Woolley to the late 3rd-2nd millennium BC, and labeled Early Hittite (or “champagne-glass”), and Middle Hittite (or “Amarna”) periods (Woolley 1914; Woolley and Barnett 1952: 214, 219, 224-226). In recent years, the periodization of EBA levels so far investigated at Karkemish has been revised, in the light of renewed long-term and salvage excavations carried

EB III-IV, were mainly identified in small soundings opened at several spots in the Inner Town, while are virtually absent in the occupation sequence detected on the Acropolis mound (Falsone and Sconzo 2007: 87-90; Sconzo 2014: fig. 7), probably because they were largely razed by later building activities.

According to the elevations provided on the sherds of the Ankara collection, the excavation might have been at least 1.5 m deep. Two sherds were found between the surface (0 m) and -1 m (Fig. 7.1-2, Pl. VII.4): a hole-mouth cooking pot with thickened and beveled-inside rim (Fig. 7.1) and a jar with vertical rim and carinated shoulder (Fig. 7.2).

At a depth of ca. -0.8 and -1 m below the surface, a fragment of hand-made coarse tray was found, (Fig. 7.3, Pl. VII.4). Two fragments of cooking pots, with applied handles and the outer surface polished (Fig. 7.4-5, Pl. VII.4), were retrieved at a depth of -1.2 m.

The lowermost sherd in the collection is the upper part (rim, handle, neck and upper wall) of a jug with loop handle attached on the shoulder and the rim, found at a depth of -1.5 m (Fig. 7.4-5, Pl. VII.4).

The ceramic assemblage appears rather mixed, with some vessel types probably dating to the LC/EB I-II (LC 5, ca. 3400-3100; EME 1-2, 3100-2700 BC), while other types seem rather comparable with mid-late 3rd millennium BC materials (Periods EME 4-5, ca. 2420-2100 BC).

In particular, the KW pot with thickened and protruding inside rim (Fig. 7.1) and the coarse handmade tray (Fig. 7.3) find comparisons with similar LC vessels from other sites along the Euphrates River (e.g., Kurban Höyük VI, Algaze 1990: pls 23.J and 33.A). Conversely, the trefoil-mouth jug, with a narrow tapering neck and a loop handle (Fig. 7.6), appears later in date (although coming from a depth of -1.50 m), as it is usually documented in mid-late 3rd millennium BC contexts, in particular in the Northern Levant and Cilicia. This type demonstrates ceramic connections with the west, notably with the Amuq Plain in Phases I-J (Braidwood and Braidwood 1960: figs 409.39-41, 335).

out in a large number of sites within the Middle Euphrates (Peltenburg 2007; Finkbeiner, Novak, Sakal, and Sconzo 2015); a dating to EB I-II, for the “champagne-glass” horizon, and to EB III-IV, for the “Amarna” period has been proposed (Falsone and Sconzo 2007, 76-77; Sconzo 2013; 2014).

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE TEXT

SU means Stratigraphic Unit. Each layer is identified by a capital letter defining its function and a progressive number. D. = drain; F. = fill; G. = grave; H. = hearth/kiln; L. = floor; P. = pit; T. = tannur; W. = wall.

Each find is registered according to the following system: site code (KH) year (11); pottery find (P), small find/object (O) or sample (S); absolute progressive number. Small finds receive the "O" during the study phase. Pottery finds are provided with bucket number and sherd number.

In the pottery description the following codes have been used:

- Class: SW = Simple Ware; PW = Preservation Ware; KW Kitchen Ware
- Technique: W = wheel; WH = wheel-hand
- Firing: H = high; M = medium; L = low
- Inclusions type: M = mineral; V = vegetal; Y = vegetal and mineral
- Inclusions size: a = < 0.5 mm; b = 0.5-1 mm; c = 1-2 mm
- Inclusions frequency: 1 = < 3%; 2 = 3-10%; 3 = 10-20%; 4 = > 20%
- Fabric color: I/O = inner/outer; C = core
- Surface treatment: B = burnish; Gl = glazed; S = slip; SB = slip-burnish; SM = smooth
- Decoration: App = applied; Com = combed; Gro = grooved; Inc = incised; Imp = impressed; Pt = painted
- Colors: Gr. = Green; R. = Red; Bl. = Black; Br. = Brown; W. = White

Note: Anatolian Civilizations Museum inventory numbers are referred to as e.g. ANK-1560, while our arbitrary catalogue number for pieces without museum inventory is like ANK 16-01 etc.

No.	Pottery No.	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	ANK 16-17	“Cerablus”	HW	H	Ma1	10YR 8/3 (C-I/O)	Black paint
2	ANK 16-09	“Cerablus”	HW	H	Ma1	10YR 8/2 (C-I/O)	Red paint
3	ANK 16-11	“Cerablus”	HW	H	Ma1	10YR 8/2 (C-I/O)	Black paint
4	ANK 16-08	Unknown	HW	H	Ma1	2.5YR 6/8 (C-I/O)	Red Slip Dark red paint
5	ANK 16-07	“Cerablus”	HW	H	Ma1	2.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	Red paint
6	ANK 16-12	Unknown	HW	H	Ma1	10YR 8/2 (C-I/O)	Black paint
7	ANK 16-13	Unknown	HW	H	Ma2	2.5YR 6/4 (C-I/O)	Black paint
8	ANK 16-10	Unknown	HW	H	Ma2	2.5YR 6/4 (C-I/O)	Red paint
9	ANK 16-32	Unknown	HW	H	Ma1	2.5YR 6/6 (C-I/O)	-

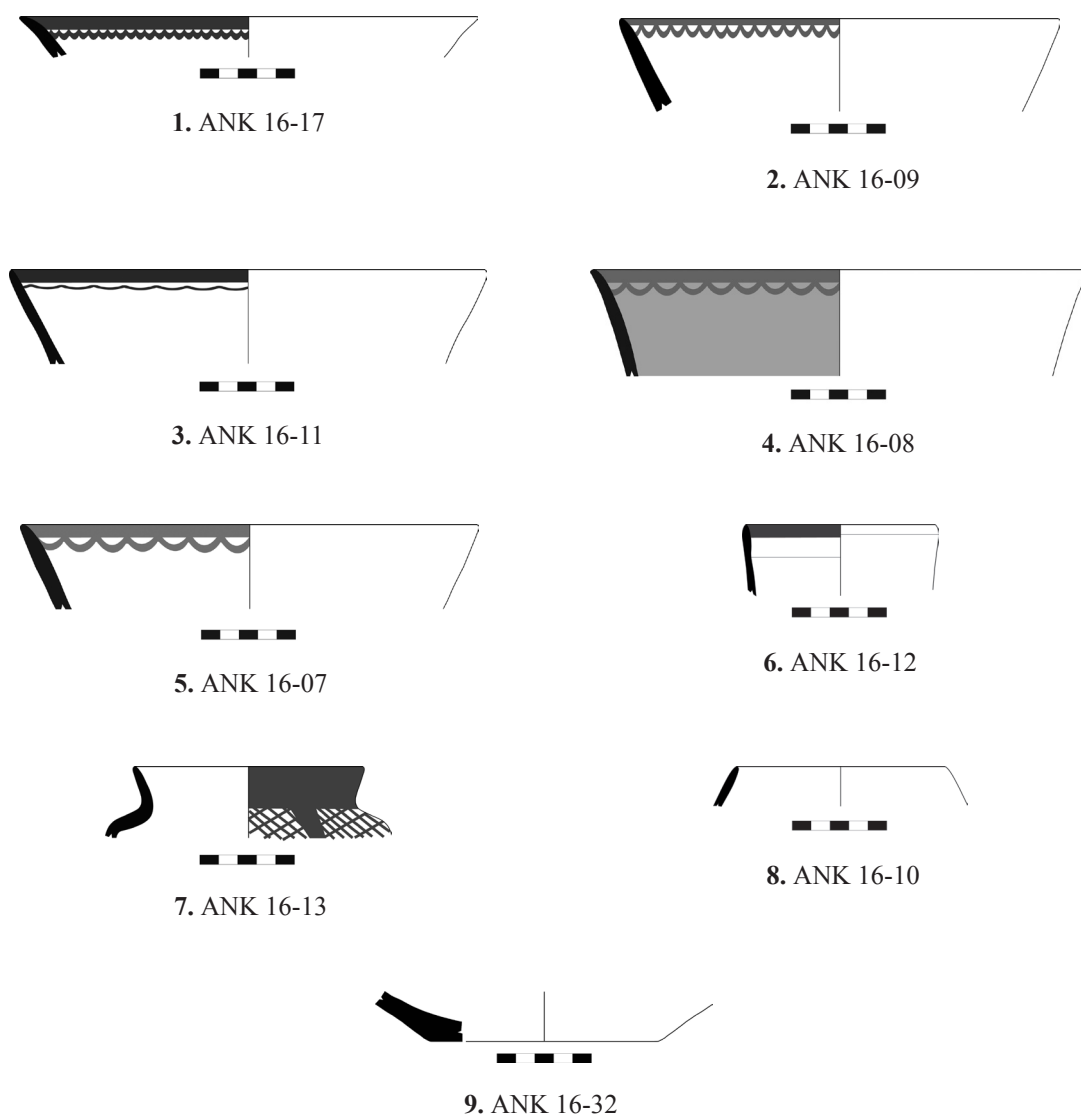


Fig. 1 Halaf pottery assemblage.

No.	Pottery No.	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	ANK 16-28	Unknown	W	M	Mb2	7.5YR 7/4 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
2	ANK 16-29	Unknown	W	H	Mb2	7.5YR 7/4 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
3	ANK 16-30	Unknown	W	M	Ma1	7.5YR 7/6 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
4	ANK 16-03	Unknown	HW	M	Ma1	7.5YR 7/4 (I/O) 5YR 6/1 (C)	Red Slip-Burnished
5	ANK 16-18	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	7.5YR 6/4 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
6	ANK 16-31	Unknown	W	M	Ma2	7.5YR 6/4 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
7	ANK 16-22	Unknown	HW	H	Ma1	7.5YR 6/6 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
8	ANK 16-21	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	7.5YR 6/6 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
9	ANK 16-19	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	7.5YR 7/4 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
10	ANK 16-23	Unknown	W	H	Ma2	7.5YR 6/6 (I/O-C)	Red Slip-Burnished
11	ANK-1564	Unknown	W	M	Ma1	5YR 7/6 (I/O) 5YR 5/1 (C)	-
12	ANK-1567bis	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	7.5YR 6/3 (I/O-C)	Combed

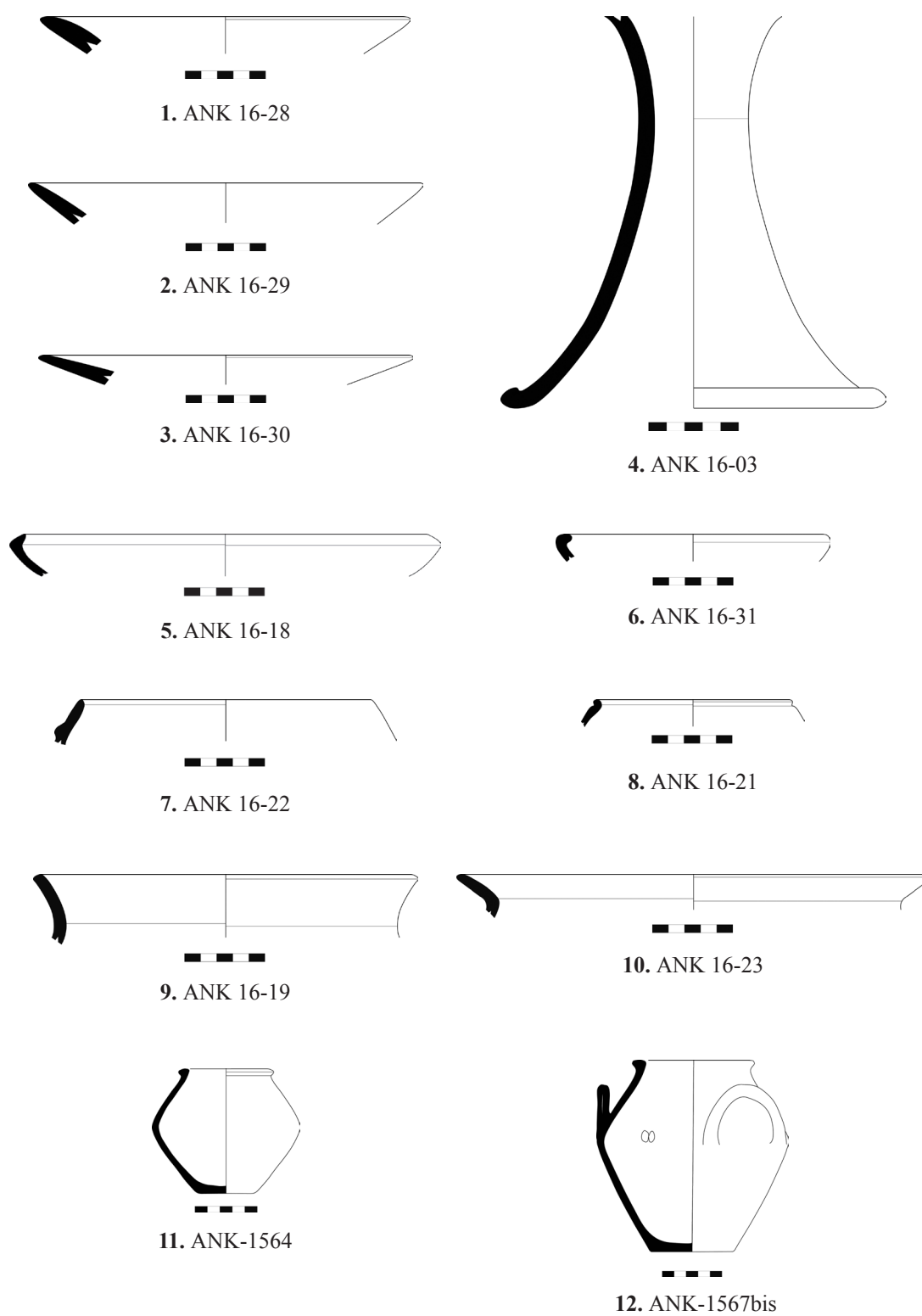


Fig. 2 Early Bronze Age (Nos. 1-10) and Middle Bronze Age (Nos. 11-12) pottery assemblages. Nos. 11 and 12 are 1:5 in scale.

No.	Pottery No.	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	ANK-1560	Unknown	W	H	Ma2	5YR 5/1 (I/O-C)	-
2	ANK 16-33	Unknown	W	H	Ma2	5YR 6/6 (I/O-C)	-
3	ANK-1563	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 6/8 (I/O-C)	-
4	ANK 16-34	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 6/6 (I/O-C)	Reddish Burnished
5	ANK 16-35	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	7.5YR 7/3 (I/O) 5YR 4/1 (C)	-
6	ANK-1591	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 5/1 (I/O-C)	Grey Burnished
7	ANK 16-36	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 6/6 (I/O-C)	-
8	ANK-1590	Unknown	W	H	Mb2	7.5YR 7.2 (I/O-C)	-
9	ANK 16-02	Unknown	W	H	Ma2	5YR 6/4 (I/O-C)	-
10	ANK 16-37	Unknown	W	M	Mb2	10YR 8/3 (I/O-C)	-
11	ANK 16-38	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 7/6 (I/O-C)	-
12	ANK 16-39	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	10YR 8/2 (I/O-C)	-

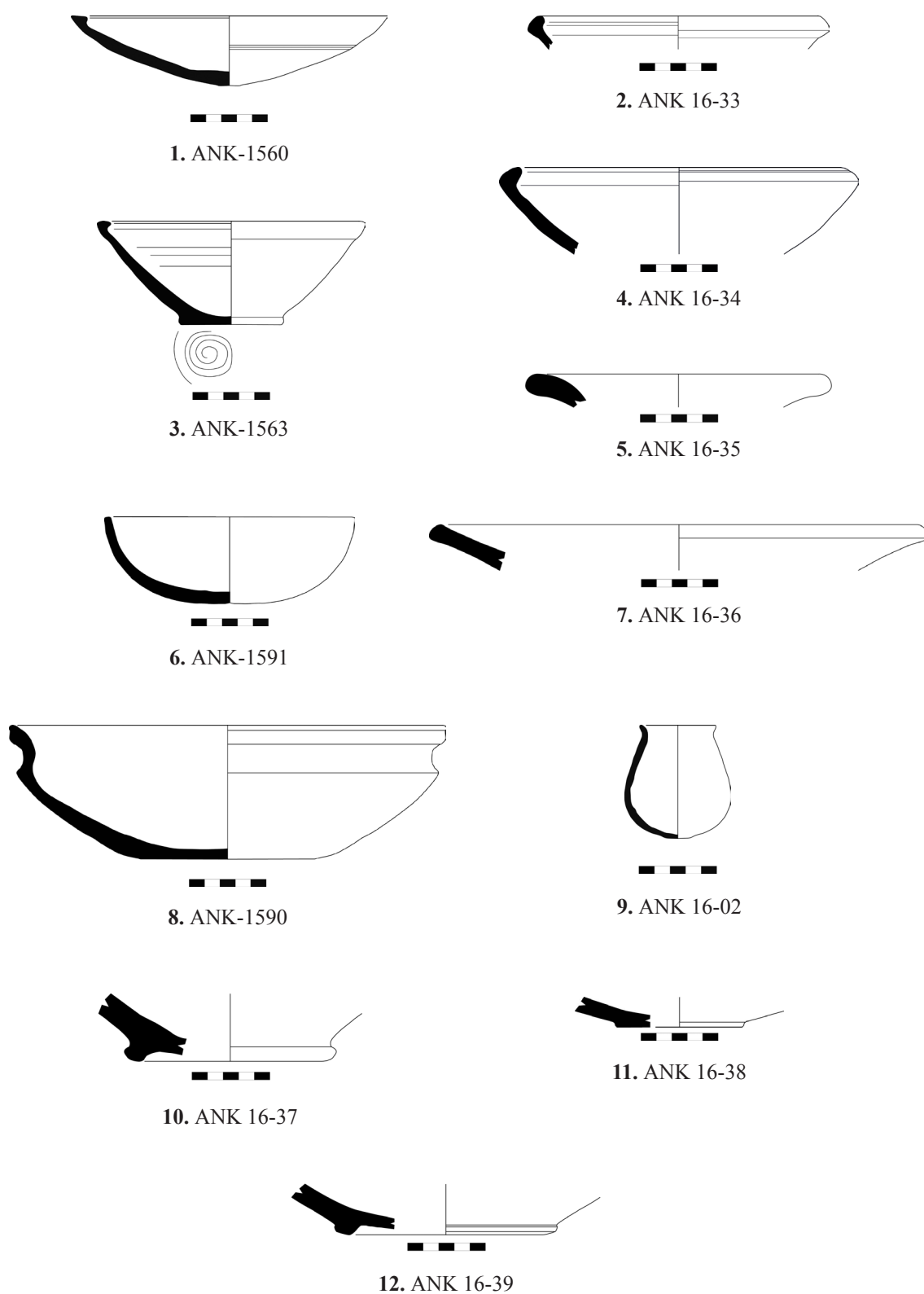


Fig. 3 Late Bronze Age pottery assemblage (open shapes and bases).

No.	Pottery No.	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	ANK 16-01	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 6/4 (I/O-C)	Reddish burnished
2	ANK-1562	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 7/6 (I/O-C)	-
3	ANK 16-39	Unknown	W	H	Ma2	5YR 6/4 (I/O-C)	-
4	ANK 16-40	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 6/6 (I/O-C)	-
5	ANK 16-41	Unknown	HW	M	Yb2	10YR 8/3 (I/O) 7.5YR 4/1 (C)	White slip; Grooved
6	ANK-1567	Unknown	HW	H	Ma1	7.5YR 6/3 (I/O-C)	Combed

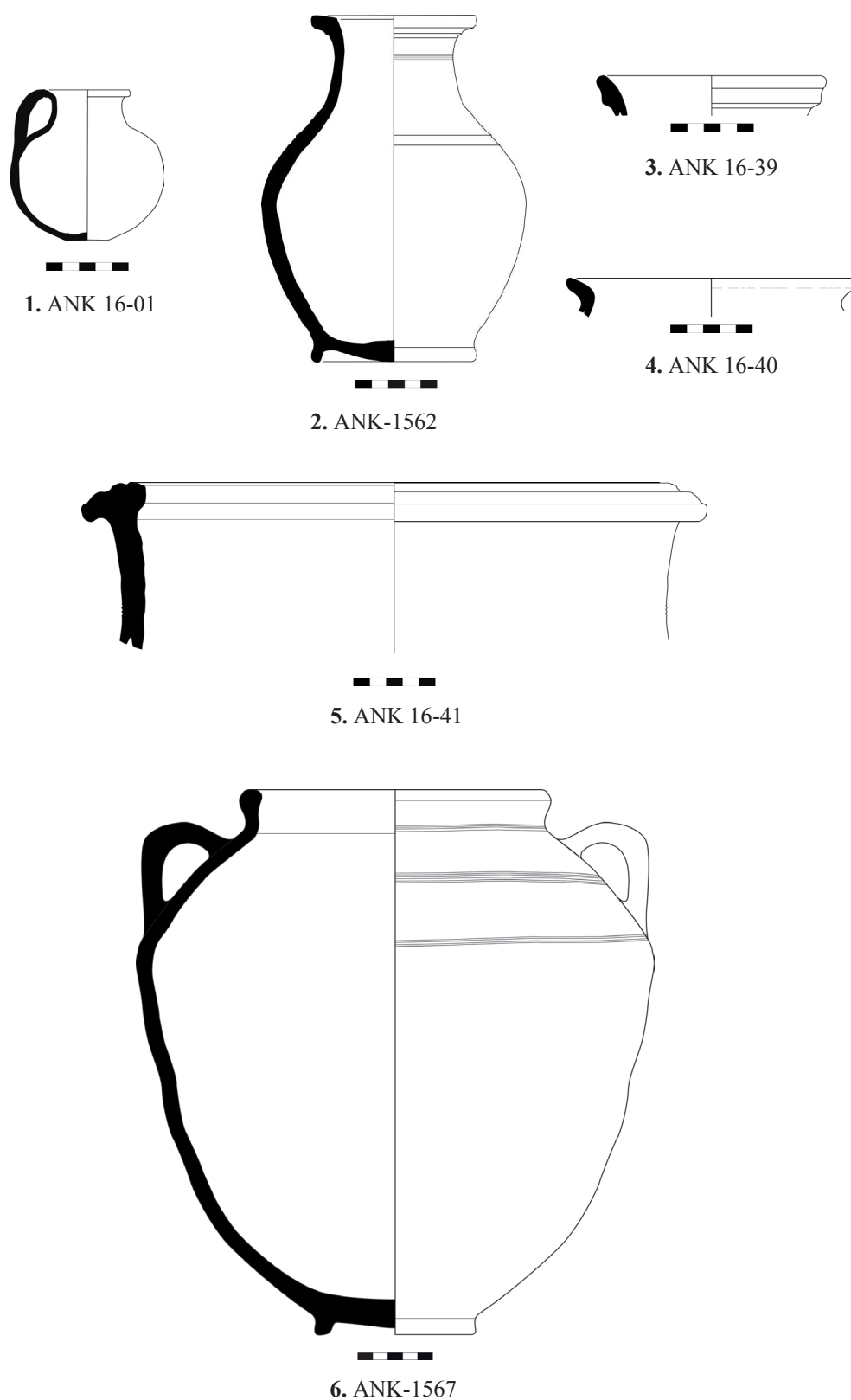


Fig. 4 Late Bronze Age pottery assemblage (closed shapes).

No.	Pottery No.	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	ANK 16-24	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	5YR 7/6 (I/O-C)	Reddish slip
2	ANK 16-27	Unknown	H	H	Ma1	5YR 5/6 (I/O-C)	-
3	ANK-1565	Unknown	W	M	Ma1	5YR 5/4 (I/O) 5YR 4/1 (C)	-
4	ANK 16-26	Unknown	H	H	Ma1	5YR 7/6 (I/O-C)	Applied
5	ANK-1561	Unknown	W	H	Ma1	7.5YR 7/6 (I/O-C)	Grooved

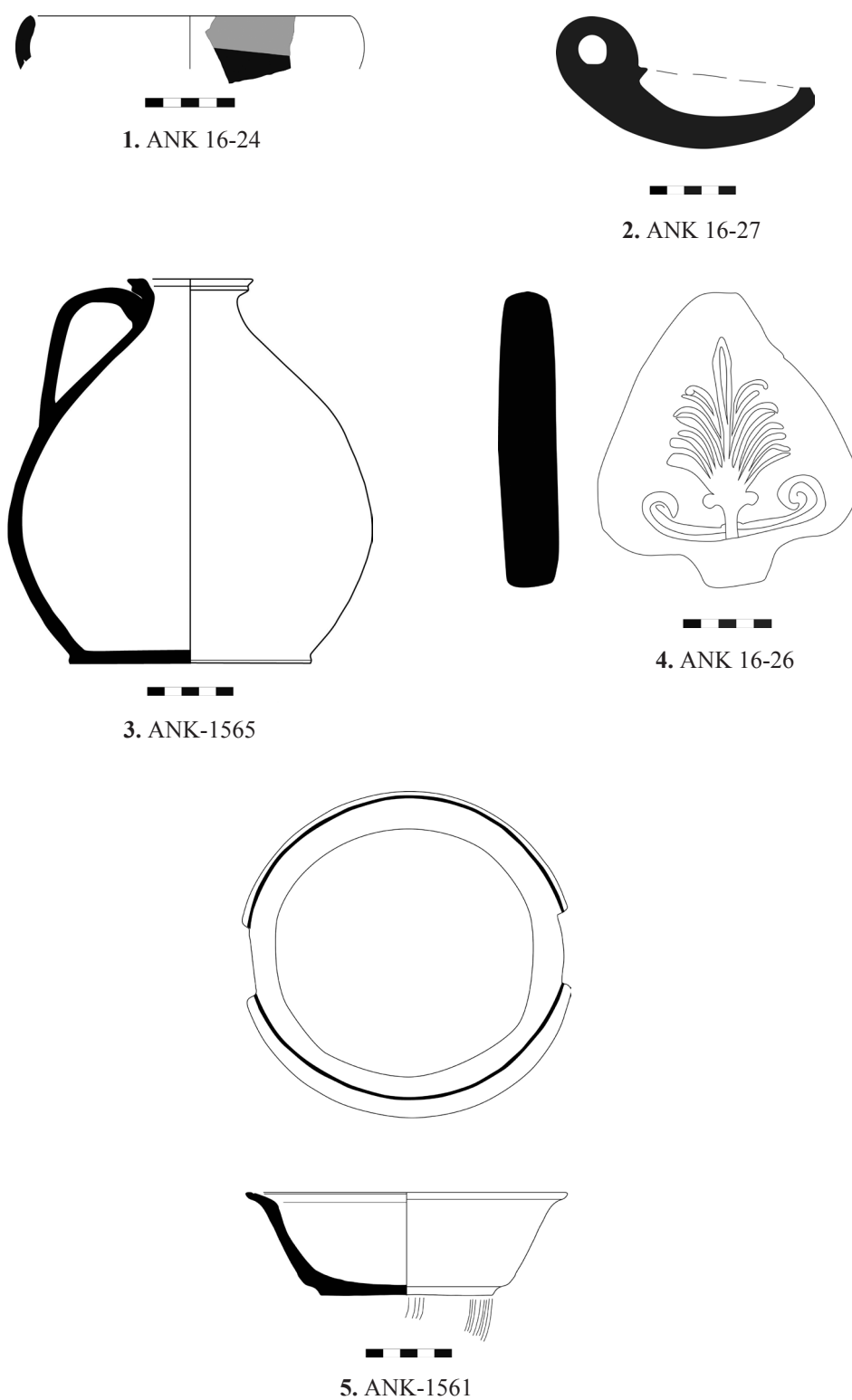


Fig. 5 Hellenistic (nos. 1-4) and Roman (no. 5) pottery assemblages.

No.	Pottery No.	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	ANK-1566	Unknown	HW	H	Ma2	5YR 6/6 (I/O-C)	Applied
2	ANK-1589	Unknown	H	H	Ma1	5YR 7/6 (I/O-C)	Applied
3	ANK-1595	Unknown	W	H	Mb2	2.5YR 6/4 (I/O) 5YR 6/1 (C)	Red slip; Applied; Incised
4	ANK-1596	Unknown	W	H	Yb2	2.5YR 6/6 (I/O) 5YR 5/1 (C)	Red slip; Applied; Incised

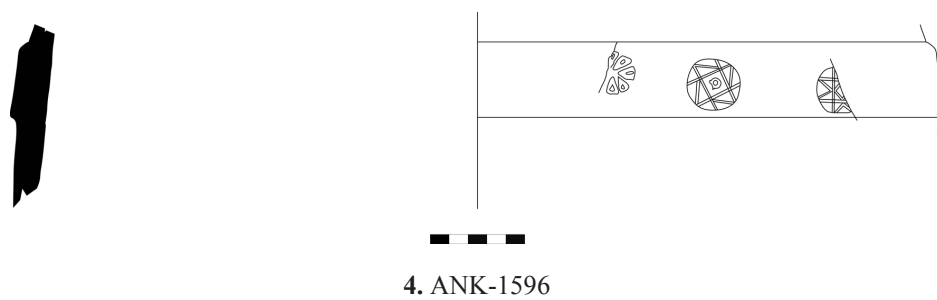
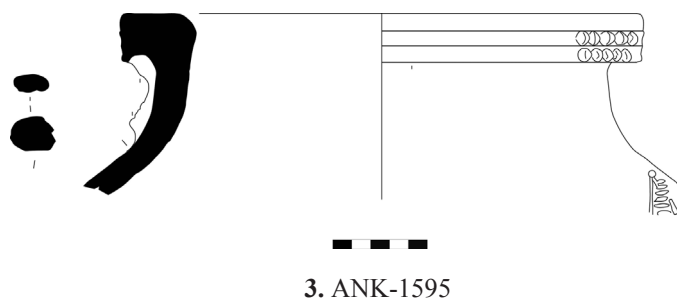
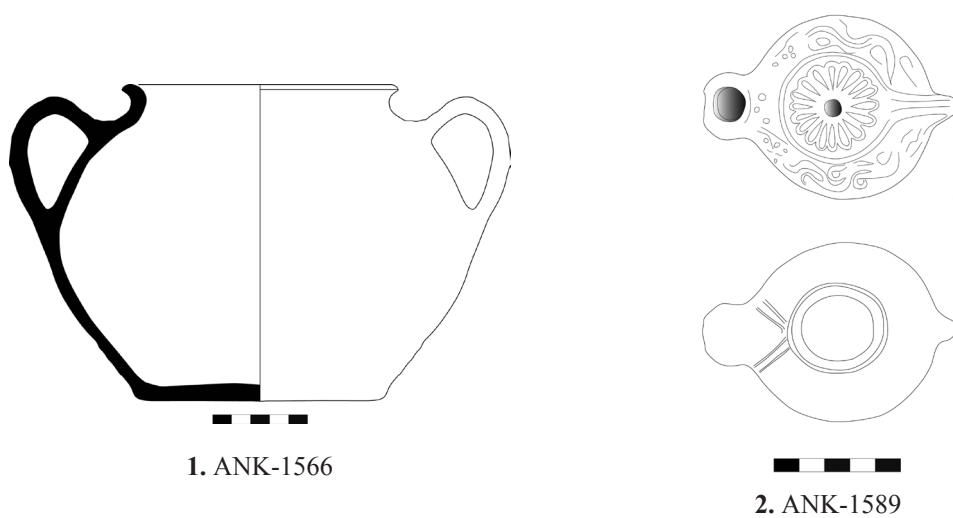


Fig. 6 Roman (nos. 1-2) and Byzantine (nos. 3-4) pottery assemblages.

No.	Pottery No.	Context	Techn.	Firing	Inclusions	Fabric color	Surf treat.
1	ANK 16-16	0 / - 0.8m	W	H	Mb2	5YR 5/1 (I/O-C)	-
2	ANK 16-04	0 /- 1 m	W	H	Ma1	5YR 5/1 (I/O-C)	-
3	ANK 16-05	- 0.8 /- 1 m	H	M	Yb2	7.5YR 7/6 (I/O) 7.5YR 6/3 (C)	-
4	ANK 16-14	- 1.2 m	HW	M	Ma2	5YR 4/1 (I/O) 7.5YR 6/4 (C)	Burnish
5	ANK 16-15	- 1.2 m	HW	H	Mb2	5YR 4/1 (I/O) 7.5YR 7/4 (C)	Burnish
6	ANK 16-06	- 1.5 m	W	H	Ma1	2.5YR 5/6 (I/O- C)	-

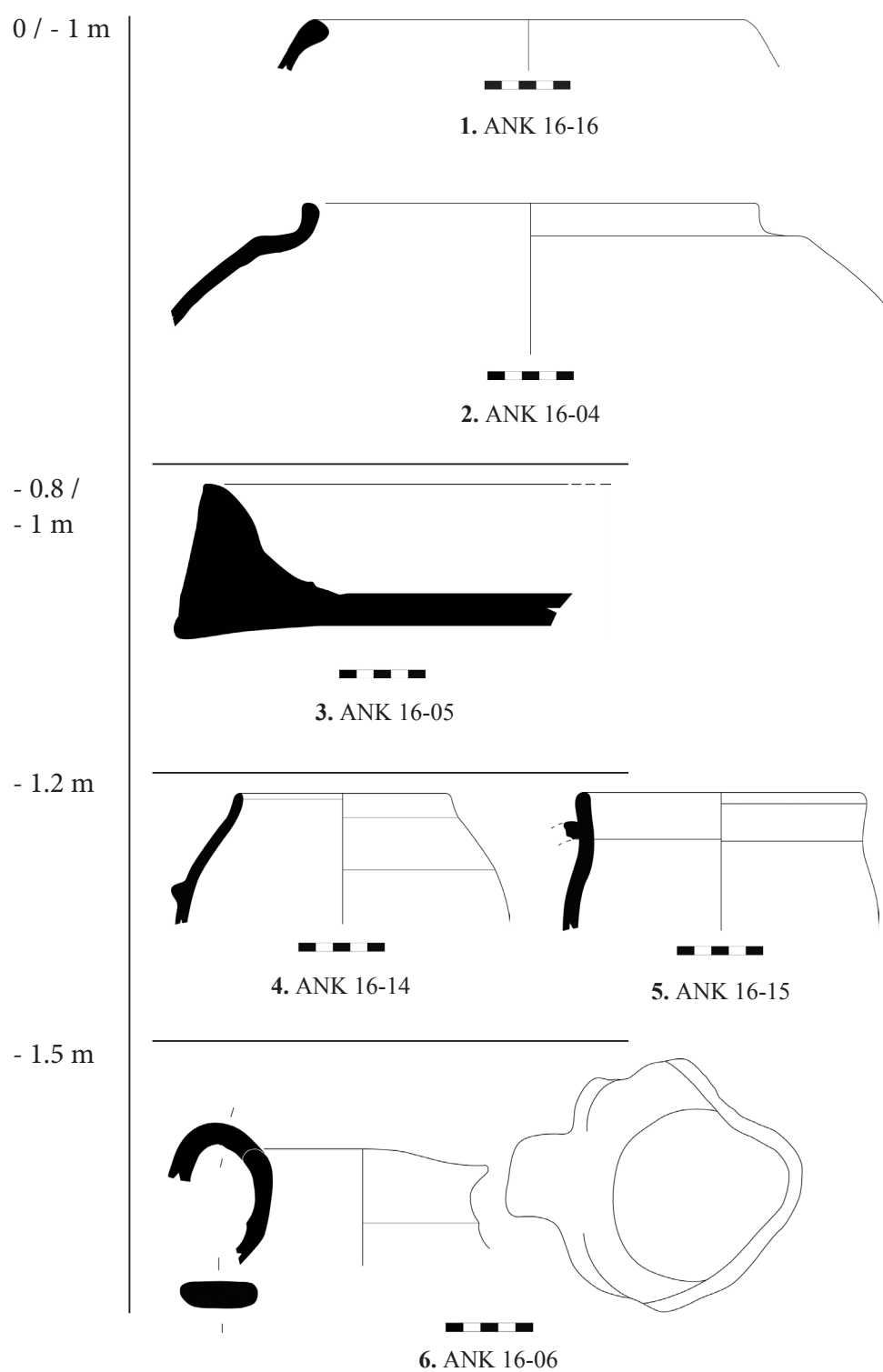


Fig. 7 The pottery assemblage from an unknown sounding.

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1 Halaf pottery group.



2 LC-EBA pottery group.



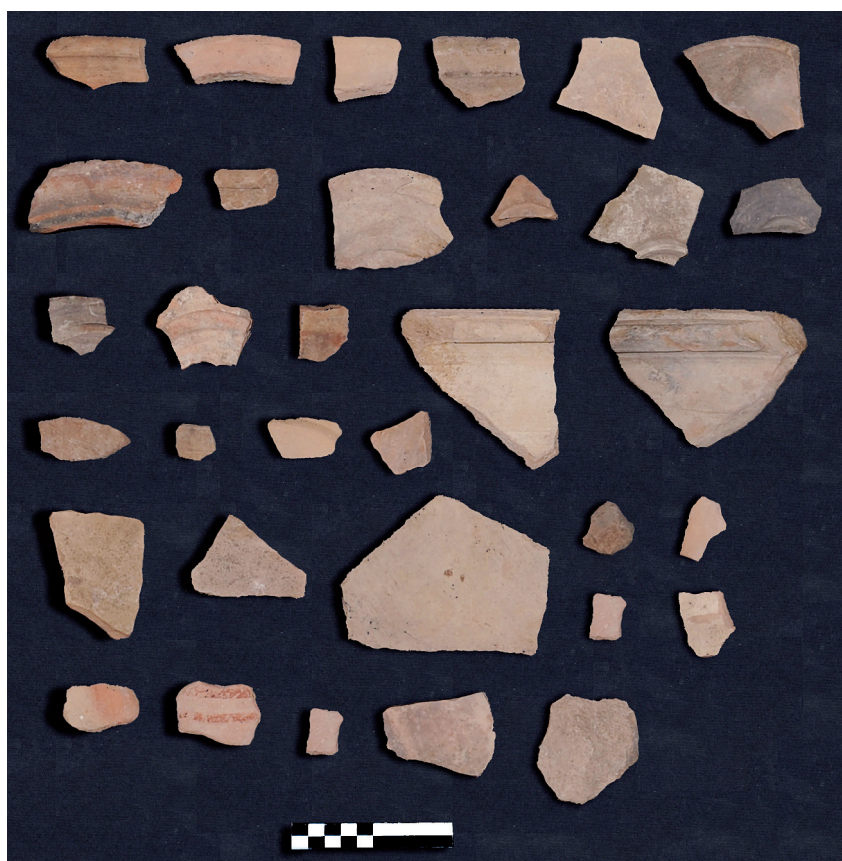
3 LC-EBA stand.



1 ANK-1564



2 ANK-1567bis



1 LBA pottery group.



2 ANK-1560



3 ANK-1563



4 ANK-1590



1 ANK-1591



3 ANK 16-02



4 ANK 16-01



2 ANK-1562



5 ANK-1567



1 ANK 16-24



3 ANK 16-27



2 ANK 16-25



4 ANK-1565



5 Hellenistic pottery assemblage.



1 ANK 16-26



2 ANK-1589



3 ANK-1566



4 ANK-1561



6 Roman pottery assemblage.



5 ANK 16-28



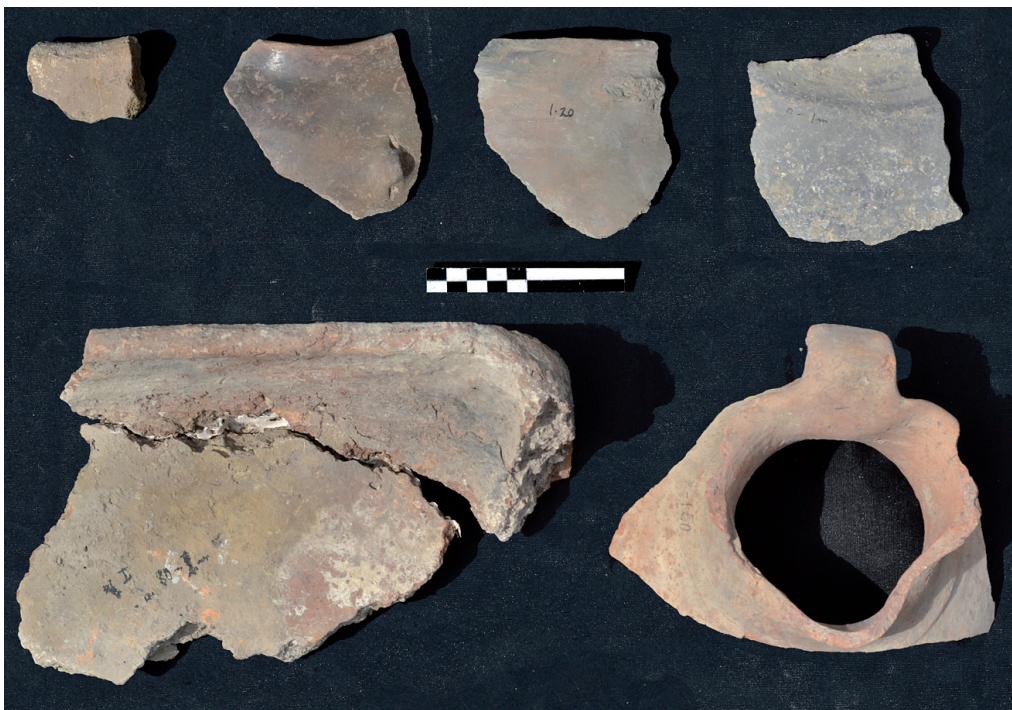
1 ANK-1595



2 ANK-1596



3 Byzantine and Islamic pottery assemblages.



4 Pottery assemblage from an unknown sounding.