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edited by

LXIII

HAMMAM ET - TURKMAN I

Report
on the University of Amsterdam's 1981-84 Excavations
in Syria

I

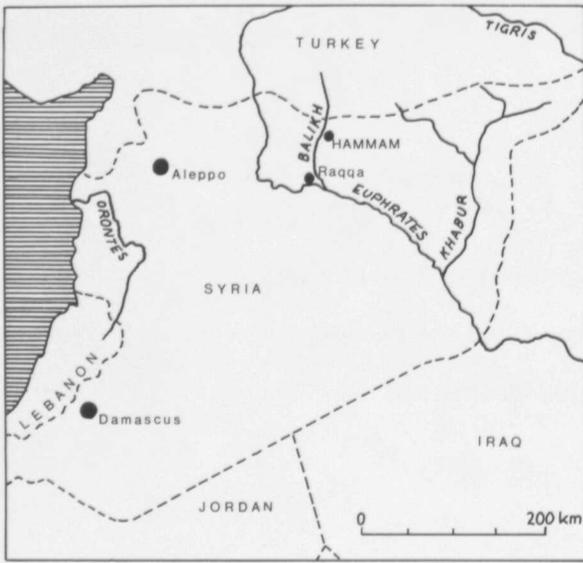


BALIKH VALLEY

NORTH SYRIA

NEDERLANDS HISTORISCH-ARCHAEOLOGISCH INSTITUUT
TE ISTANBUL

1985



- ▲ modern settlement
- archaeological site

1. Hammâm (ibn Shehab)
2. Jidîe
3. Shrey'ân
4. Sahiân
5. Aswad
6. Hajrân
7. Damishiyya
8. Hammâm et-Turkmân
9. Mefêsh
10. Semen
11. Merj Abu Sharîb
12. Bi'a
13. Zaidân



BALIKH VALLEY,
NORTH SYRIA

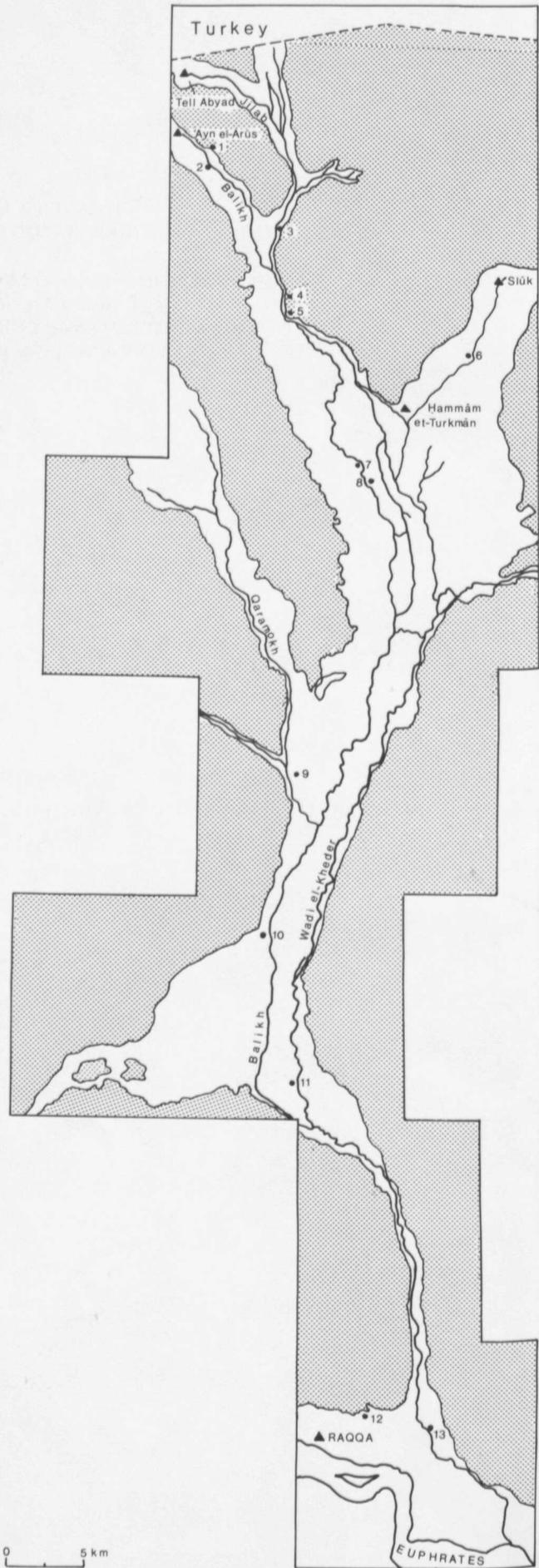


Plate 1. Map of Balikh valley with (inset) its location in Syria.

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I

edited by

MAURITS N. VAN LOON



NEDERLANDS HISTORISCH-ARCHEOLOGISCH INSTITUUT

TE ISTANBUL

1988

1990/298

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B	Before Present		
bl	blue	L	Length
bod.	body sherds	L.B.	Late Bronze
burn.	burnt	lc.	level
		li	litre
C.	Century	lik	thickness
circa	circa		
cl.	clay	ts	times
cl.	clayite	twelve	twelve
Ch.	chapter	W.B.	Woolly Bronze
circ.	circular	twof	twofold
col.	colour	twofold	twofold
comm.	communication	two	two
cup.	cupometer		
cream	cream	z.B.	z.B.
cs.	coarse sand	ac.	acquer
		act	act
degr.	degraded		
decor.	decoration	alt.	alt.
depr.	depression	alt.	alt.
dia.	diameter	at.	at.
EB	Early Bronze	perfor.	perforated
ED	Early Dynastic	perf.	perforated
ETTS	Eastern Terra Sigillata	pers. comm.	personal communication
Excav. sq.	Excavation square	pl.	plate
ext.	exterior	pl.	plate
		Pos.	Position
fg.	figure	p.p.m.	parts per million
fr.	fring	prob.	probably
g.	glitters	rectang.	rectangular
gr.	green	ref.	reference
gr.	grey	reg.	registration
		rev.	reverse
Roller	Roller	roll.	rolled

CHAPTER 3

THE SOUNDINGS AT TELL DAMISHLIYYA

by PETER M.M.G. AKKERMANS

The soundings at the small mound of Damishliyya, situated about two km north of Tell Hammam et-Turkman, were made under the auspices of the University of Amsterdam's Archaeological Mission to Syria and lasted from September 15 to October 7 1984. Tell Damishliyya was discovered during the 1983 Balikh survey and is one of the many sites in the Balikh valley belonging to the 7th and 6th millennia B.C.¹

Tell Damishliyya is a small mound, situated on the west bank of the river Balikh, opposite the village of Damishliyya. Due to its location near the river, the mound is nowadays used by local farmers as an intake point for irrigation of adjacent cotton fields. Particularly the southeastern part of the site has been heavily damaged by irrigation ditches. During the 1984 campaign at Tell Hammam et-Turkman we noticed that a bulldozer was renewing part of this irrigation network at the western side of the mound by throwing up a raised canal. Besides, we learned that plans existed for house building at Tell Damishliyya. In response to this imminent destruction of the site, it was decided to start small-scale rescue excavations. Work mainly concentrated on the part of the mound now mostly threatened, i.e. the southwestern side.

The chronological scheme used at Tell Damishliyya is in accordance with the Hammam periodisation. Several chronological periods are distinguished at Damishliyya: Period I (Pre-Pottery Neolithic), Period II (Pottery Neolithic), Period III (Halaf).

THE NEOLITHIC OCCUPATION (periods I-II)

Tell Damishliyya is a low, inconspicuous mound, measuring about 70 × 60 metres, with a height of 5 to 6 metres. Its actual dimensions seem to be larger (pl. 3a) but this illusion is created by the fact that the site is situated on a protruding terrace remnant. The 1984 soundings clearly delineated the area of occupation and

¹ The results of this survey will be published separately (Akkermans, in preparation). Lorraine Copeland has already drawn attention to the importance of the Balikh valley in Neolithic and Chalcolithic times (Copeland 1979).

showed in particular that the extensive terrace gradually sloping towards the southwest was not inhabited during Neolithic times. The northern side of the mound turned towards the river is rather steep. Towards the west the mound is connected by a low saddle with the surrounding flat land.

The areas excavated in 1984 at Tell Damishliyya are shown on pl. 3a and consisted of two 10 × 10 m squares (K 16-K 17) and a series of narrow trenches 1.5 m wide (K 19, L 17, M 15, M 16, M 19). The main work was concentrated in squares K 16-K 17, situated at the western edge of the mound. Excavations here revealed an uninterrupted succession of five occupation levels of Neolithic date. However, virgin soil has not yet been reached and continuation downward of the occupation levels may be expected. Only the deepest stratum but one yet reached (stratum 2) has given substantial evidence of architecture, although heavily disturbed by pits and burials of later date. The oldest stratum reached is represented on a very limited scale by two wall fragments in square K 17. The upper three phases only showed fragmentarily preserved architectural remains in the extreme northeastern part of square K 16. This may suggest a concentration of occupation towards the centre of the mound during these later stages. The presence of occupation debris and in particular the appearance of an extremely large ash pit (see pl. 4) west of the architectural remains may define the different functional use of this outer area in relation to the actual living quarter.

Strata are numbered in order of accumulation, i.e. from the earliest to the latest. Here it should be stressed that the earliest stratum yet uncovered at Tell Damishliyya is in fact not the oldest at the site. Future fieldwork may extend the present preliminary sequence.

Stratum 1. Until now, traces of this occupation level have only been found over a very limited surface in the southeastern part of square K 17. The larger part of the architectural remains was completely destroyed by large pits of later date. It may, however, be correct to assume rather substantial structures of this phase underneath the stratum 2 architectural features in the northeastern quadrant of K 17 and in K 16 (the stratum 2 remains have not yet been removed).

A hard loam floor about 6 cm thick was found, on which some walls had been built of mud bricks measuring about 30/36 × 30/32 × 10 cm. A doorway about 90 cm wide is also present. Various walls were preserved to a height of about 70 cm. Due, no doubt, to the very limited exposure and to the heavily disturbed state of the area excavated no small finds were made.

Stratum 2. This stratum could be traced over a rather extensive area, although its bad state of preservation frustrates any definite interpretation. The various walls were standing only one to three bricks high and the complex was heavily damaged by a large late Neolithic pit and several pits of Roman date. After its abandonment the building seems to have been levelled and a flat surface of compact mud brick

debris was created. Only after intensive scraping did this surface show the outline of the architectural features underneath.

Due to the above-mentioned disturbance and to the limited area of excavation no complete house plan was uncovered. Traces were found of a rectangular building, oriented NW-SE (pl. 4) and consisting of a series of narrow rooms (rooms 16, 19, 23). Along its eastern side an even narrower and more irregular series of "rooms" had been added. The present features give evidence of two stages in the erection of this building. The original layout suggests a regular rectangular building with bonded walls. As indicated by the northern wall F this building extended towards the west into an area later completely destroyed by an enormous pit. The rooms uncovered (16, 19 and 23) may be considered as side rooms. The outline of these rooms varies from at least 3.20×1.50 m (room 16) to 0.80×1.30 m (room 19) and 2.00×1.20 m (room 23). The floor found in these rooms consists of large mud bricks (up to 60×40 cm) covered by a layer of loam 1-2 cm thick. Traces of gypsum plaster on the side of one of these bricks, apparently re-used in paving the floor, indicate that originally these mud bricks had been part of a gypsum-plastered wall. In none of the other areas was a similar mud brick floor found. Walls G and N, and probably the other walls (F, H, I) of the original building as well, were founded on this mud brick floor. The absence of other features like ovens or floor bins in any of the side rooms might point to the use of these areas as storage rooms.

In a later stage a series of annexes seems to have been built onto the "nuclear" structure. The orientation of the various walls suggest only a minimal difference in time between construction of the central building and that of the added part. The added rooms were erected against the central house; no bonding was observed (with the possible exception of wall N). Unfortunately the fragmentary state of preservation here prohibits any detailed interpretation. Wall E seems to be the main axis of the added building presently exposed. Part of this wall is destroyed by a Roman refuse pit. In K 17 the eastern face of this wall is covered by gypsum plaster about two cm thick. In combination with this plaster a well-made loam floor appeared, gently sloping towards the north. It may point to the presence of a main room in this area (room 13). No such gypsum plaster and no floor of a similar quality was observed in square K 16. This clearly limits the extent of room 13 towards the north. Probably the Roman pit which destroyed part of wall E also is responsible for the destruction of a wall running roughly east-west and forming an angle to wall E. This east-west wall would have bordered room 13 towards the north. Although speculative, we might interpret room 13 as a side wing, indicating a T-shaped layout of the present building. The Damishliyya architecture may perhaps be comparable to that at Umm Dabaghiyah (cf. Kirkbride 1973). Several buildings at Umm Dabaghiyah show side-wings and rows of tiny (storage) rooms (ibid., pls. LXXVII-LXXVIII).

The northern annexes to the central building were constructed of extremely large bricks (mean measurements about 60×40 cm), which in shape and size are clearly

related to the mud bricks used for floor construction in the central building. Besides, traces of lime plaster between two bricks of one of the walls in these northern annexes indicate the re-use of older mud bricks, a practice also noted in the construction of the mud brick floor. This clearly illustrates the close relationship between central building and added part. Both in orientation of the various walls and in use of building materials common traits are present. The architectural remains exposed may be considered as belonging to one house; the possibility of two different houses built against each other is here rejected. Unfortunately these northern annexes are also largely disturbed by pits and graves. Three separate areas (11, 16, 17) are present, accessible from the north. This northern side seems to have been open. No traces of any construction were found which might have closed these areas (although this may also be due to the original use of less permanent materials, e.g. wood). In area 17 the walls were covered by mud plaster about two cm thick. Area 17 has a width of only 60 cm. Its length is about three metres. The neighbouring area 16 also has a length of about three metres and its width is about 1.50 metre. Nothing definite can be said about the function of these oblong, narrow areas, but a remarkable similarity in consistency was noted between the floors found both in area 16 and 17 and those found in the open area (court yard) north of the present architecture. Perhaps these northern annexes were unroofed constructions, used in open-air domestic activities.

Northwest of the main building another structure (area 15) became visible, which probably was closely related to the other architectural features. Both in orientation and in use of building materials clear parallels exist. Once again we noted the re-use of older lime-plastered mud bricks. The thickness of the walls is about 32 cm, comparable to the wall thickness of the central building. A doorway seems to be present in the southeast corner of area 15. The width of this doorway is about 55 cm.

The northern half, at least, of square K 16 does not seem to be taken up by architecture. This open area probably was used in domestic activities, as indicated by dark ash and other occupation debris, e.g. bones and flint.

Strata 3 to 5. The upper three strata, clearly defined by mud brick walls and adjoining floors, could be recognized only in the extreme northeastern corner of K 16. No architectural remains belonging to these strata were found in other parts of the squares exposed. Apparently an open area now existed at the western edge of the mound.

Stratum 3 is indicated by a wide wall, consisting of at least two rows of mud brick beside each other (width of the wall ca. 70 cm). This wall, running NNW-SSE, is connected to another wall, largely hidden in the east section. At the corner of both walls two large stones are present, the function of which is not clear. No traces of a stone foundation were found underneath any of the walls excavated at Tell Damishliyya.

Stratum 4 is marked by the edge of a mud brick wall, preserved to a height of three bricks. A floor connected to this wall gently slopes towards the southwest and some disturbed mud bricks are situated on this floor. The wall itself is covered by dark ashy soil.

Stratum 5 consists of a wall, erected almost on the same spot as the previous stratum 4 wall, although this older wall was not used as a foundation for the stratum 5 construction (see east section K 16, pl. 5). Two small fireplaces are present (max. diameter about 90 cm; depth about 35 cm). Towards the southwest there is an accumulation of soft light grey ashy soil, in which rather large quantities of flint were found.

Both location and orientation of the walls of the various phases suggest a shift of occupation towards the central part of the mound. As stated before, the western edge of the mound does not seem to have been inhabited during these later strata. Although rather speculative, these observations might indicate a decrease in settlement size from stratum 2 onward.

THE TEST TRENCHES

In addition to the main squares K 16-K 17, a series of test trenches 1.5 m wide was laid out. The main aim of these narrow trenches was to trace the outline of occupation at Damishliyya (trenches K 19, M 19) and to investigate the nature of the upper levels of the mound (M 15-M 16). As shown on pl. 3a the main squares K 16-K 17 are situated on the western edge of the mound and they yielded a preliminary sequence, ending at an elevation of about two metres below the top of the site. These remaining upper two metres of occupation are touched on a limited scale by the test trenches in squares M 16-M 15. Three strata belonging to the ceramic Neolithic period were found. In elevation the lower of these three strata in square M 16 is clearly linked to stratum 5 in the main square K 16. We may correlate both trenches and assume a continuous occupation at Tell Damishliyya. The lower stratum in square M 16 is considered to be of the same date as stratum 5 in square K 16, whereas the topmost Neolithic strata in square M 16 form an extension of the sequence already defined in square K 16. They are termed "stratum 6" and "stratum 7".

Stratum 5 in square M 16 consists of a mud brick wall running NW-SE, and about 44 cm wide. North of this wall an oval-shaped hearth appeared, ca. 65 cm long and 45 cm wide. No floor was found as yet.

Stratum 6 was encountered in the northern part of square M 16. Until now it consists only of a rounded oven, built up in coils and with a diameter of 75 cm. Part of this oven was destroyed by a pit coming down from the surface of the mound.

The area around this oven was marked by soft, ashy soil, in which—besides some coarse burnished pottery—a bone awl and a bone spatula were also found.

Stratum 7 was traced in square M 15 and is indicated only by a mud brick wall, running NW-SE and about 40 cm wide. Part of this wall was destroyed by some small pits and by a child burial of Islamic date. No clear floor was found.

The trenches on the southern side of the mound (squares K 19, M 19) clearly showed the limited extent of the settlement at Damishliyya. No architectural remains were found in these trenches. In square M 19 the test trench produced some mud brick debris, immediately underneath the top soil, and very few wheelmade body sherds, probably of Roman date. At an elevation of ca. 315.30 m virgin soil appeared. In square K 19 excavation yielded large quantities of distinctive Halaf pottery, the stratigraphical context of which, however, is lacking. The presence of a large pit filled with Halaf ware is noted at this place. In trench K 19 virgin soil was reached at an elevation of about 314.20 m. Comparing this elevation to that in square M 19, we may deduce a gradual natural slope of the mound toward the west. Based on this evidence, we might suggest that there is about 1 m of cultural accumulation underneath the present stratum 1 in the main square K 17.

A remarkable Neolithic feature is indicated by the very large pit present both in squares K 16 and K 17 (pl. 4). This pit extends in a westerly direction and has a diameter of at least 15 metres. It destroyed the larger part of the architectural remains, particularly in square K 17. The pit was filled with dark grey ash, mixed with burnt mud brick fragments. Large quantities of coarsely made Neolithic pottery were found in it. On stratigraphical arguments this pit is assigned to the later stages of Neolithic occupation at Damishliyya (strata 5-7). No direct relationship between a particular stratum and this large pit could be established. In square K 17 several Halaf pits were found which cut into the Neolithic pit. The function of this large pit remains unknown. In view of its widely curving outline it may be compared to modern pits which are dug in order to obtain clay for mud brick production. Afterwards they become filled with domestic debris.

PERIOD II POTTERY (pls. 6-7)

Pottery was found in small numbers in the Neolithic strata at Damishliyya. It was most numerous in the upper stratum 7, whereas the lower strata yielded only few fragments (see table 3). In strata 1-2 no ceramics were found. These lower strata may perhaps be termed "Pre-Pottery Neolithic". However, the larger part of the Neolithic pottery was not found in any of the occupation levels, but stems from the large ash pit and is ascribed to the last phases of Neolithic occupation at Damishliyya.

Table 3. Distribution of pottery at Tell Damishliyya.

Count Row % Column % Total %	stratum							Neolithic pit	Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
RIM/BASE	0	0	3	4	11	2	33	237	290
	0	0	1.0	1.4	3.8	0.7	11.4	81.7	43.8
	0	0	33.0	80.0	61.1	10.0	28.9	47.8	
	0	0	0.5	0.6	1.7	0.3	5.0	35.8	
BODY	0	0	6	1	7	18	81	259	372
	0	0	1.6	0.3	1.9	4.8	21.8	69.6	56.2
	0	0	67.0	20.0	38.9	90.0	71.1	52.2	
	0	0	0.9	0.2	1.1	2.7	12.2	39.1	
TOTAL	0	0	9	5	18	20	114	496	662
	0	0	1.4	0.8	2.7	3.0	17.2	74.9	100

Generally the pottery is coarsely hand-made and irregularly shaped. The vast majority of the pottery contains plant temper. Almost 80% of the sherds showed solely plant inclusions, whereas the remainder displayed plant temper in combination with mineral inclusions (lime, calcite, fine and coarse sand). Exclusively mineral temper is very rare, hardly accounting for more than one percent of the ceramic sample. Virtually all sherds have black or sometimes grey cores, indicating incomplete oxidation. Firing time must have been very short, since in many cases plant fibres are still visible in the section of the vessel wall. Most sherds show a light orange-brown or, less frequently, buff surface colour. Grey or black-coloured sherds are rare and only found in the lower strata 3-4. Over half of the sherds found in the excavation indicate a slight burnishing. The remainder has been scraped. On the interior of some vessels a 3-5 mm thick gypsum coating was present, probably used to make these vessels more water-tight. The Damishliyya pottery exhibits only little variety of shape. Most common are large straight-walled or slightly closed pots with simple rounded rims (nos. 1, 2). Over 40% of the recognizable rim sherds indicated this kind of profile. The diameter of these pots ranges between 10 and 27 cm, whereas the thickness of the vessel wall varies from 7 to 20 mm. Open plain-rim bowls are also numerous and account for about 12% of the total ceramic sample. These bowls indicate either straight or slightly rounded vessel walls (nos. 4, 5, 6). The diameter of these vessels ranges between 7 and 26 cm and the thickness of the vessel wall ranges between 7 and 20 mm. In these aspects, bowls only differ slightly from pots. Hole-mouth pots constitute about 8% of the ceramic sample (nos. 7, 8). The diameter of these pots varies between 9 and 30 cm; the thickness of the vessel wall ranges from 7 to 15 mm. Other types of vessels occur only once or twice. A few fragments of large vessels with rounded necks were found (nos. 9, 10). Other pots had rather flattened and square rims instead of the common rounded or slightly pinched lips (nos. 11, 13). One bowl fragment indicated a ridge (no. 14).

Handles are common and not limited to a particular type of vessel. Most numerous are loop-handles, some of which are very large. Ledge-handles are rare and occur only in few cases at Tell Damishliyya (nos. 11, 12). Bases are mostly flat, sometimes rounded. Disc-bases are common (nos. 17-20).

Decoration is virtually absent. A few sherds found on the surface of the mound indicate an incised pattern (nos. 15, 16).

PERIODS I-II LITHIC INDUSTRY (pls. 8-10)

The chipped stone industry mainly consists of greyish-brown flint implements. Flint outcrops are found on top of calcareous rocks within a distance of 3-5 km from Damishliyya. Here flint implements are found on the surface, which suggests an early exploitation of these outcrops. These implements differ, however, from those found at Damishliyya. Besides, the presence of core fragments and numerous pieces of flint debris at Damishliyya indicate that flint was brought in the form of nodules to the settlement and locally processed into tools.

About 9% of the chipped implements were made of transparent greyish-black obsidian. A rare piece of obsidian waste found in excavation and several micro-blade cores found on the surface of Tell Damishliyya suggest that obsidian was also obtained in the form of nodules from the Turkish hinterland and subsequently chipped locally. The distribution of obsidian by stratum indicates an increase in the use of obsidian over the course of time from 6% in the lower stratum 2 to over 16% in the upper stratum 7.

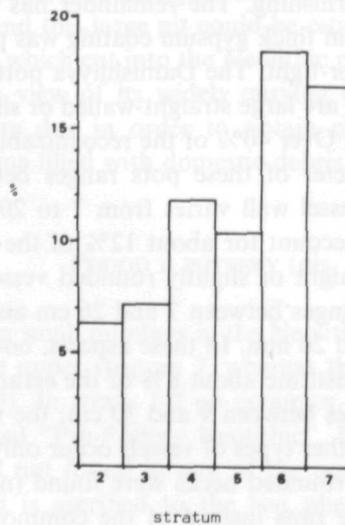


Table 4. Distribution of obsidian at Tell Damishliyya.

in stratum 7 (see table 4). Obsidian implements consisted mainly of small and very thin, unretouched bladelets (nos. 40-42; width less than one cm). Few larger blades appeared. In stratum 5 an obsidian arrowhead was found (no. 29).

Flint blades account for about 9% of the chipped stone industry at Damishliyya. Most pieces found during excavation consist of fragments of larger blades. In combination with small flint and obsidian bladelets this group of multi-functional cutting implements comprises about 16% of the chipped stone sample. The actual number of cutting implements will be much larger if the many flakes of indefinite shape but with traces of use are included.

Arrowheads are rare at Damishliyya and hardly account for one percent of the chipped stone industry. All arrowheads found in the excavation display a steeply retouched tang and clearly marked shoulders, thus resembling Byblos points (Cauvin 1968). Some of the Byblos points indicated pressure-flaking. On the surface of the mound a few Amuq points were also found (cf. Braidwood and Braidwood 1960).

Other kinds of tools are rather rare. A few scrapers were found, mostly in the form of end-scrapers on blades with retouched edges (no. 64). Some small disc-scrapers also occur (no. 68). Burins and borers account for a few percent of the chipped stone industry. Some micro-borers were found (nos. 33, 34). Sickle blades, all displaying a gloss on one edge, account for about 2% of the tool sample. Sickle blades are often irregularly shaped and show no teeth (nos. 35-39). Some of these sickle blades indicate traces of bitumen, which facilitated hafting.

In various strata fragments of chopping tools were found. Most fragments indicate small axes, but chisels with an asymmetrical bevelled cutting edge also seem to be present (nos. 69, 70). All chopping tools are made of chlorite and manufactured by means of grinding and polishing. None of them showed flaking (cf. Akkermans et al. 1983:349-351).

PERIODS I-II STONE VESSELS (pl. 10)

Numerous fragments were found of stone vessels, most commonly indicating small and carefully made bowls or dishes (nos. 71-82). Rim diameters vary between 4 and 17 cm. Most stone vessels were made of alabaster, but harder materials such as basalt or granite were also used. One fragment of serpentine appeared. When multicoloured stones were used, these stones were worked in such a way that the natural banding or other colour effects served as decoration of the vessel wall. A similar observation was made earlier at Bouqras (Akkermans et al. 1982:53). Another parallel to Bouqras stone ware exists in a fragment of a small pot with legs, found in stratum 3 at Damishliyya (cf. Akkermans et al. 1983:351 and plate 39).

OTHER FINDS (pl. 11)

Some bone awls and spatulas were found in the various strata at Damishliyya. Awls were made of metapodials, whereas spatulas were made on ribs. Several of these bone objects indicated a polish due to use.

Among the bone objects was a small stylized four-legged animal figurine with a tail (no. 91). The head seems to be broken. This figurine was found in the mud-brick debris covering stratum 2.

Two fragmentarily preserved "stud" figurines were found in stratum 3 and 4, respectively (nos. 92, 93). These small, cylindrical-shaped figurines, made of slightly baked clay, are numerous at the nearby site of Tell Assouad (Cauvin 1972:88 and fig. 4:14).

Other finds included a flattened, oval stone bead which had been longitudinally pierced (no. 90) and a flat, more or less rounded, pierced stone (no. 89).

Very few grinding slabs were found at Damishliyya. A few basalt fragments appeared in the large pit in square K 17 and can be ascribed to the later part of Neolithic occupation at the site.

DISCUSSION

Tell Damishliyya is a small settlement, covering about 0.4 ha. In view of this limited extent of occupation and the probably rather open scatter of buildings, a population of about 20-30 persons is suggested. Small settlements like Damishliyya are characteristic for the later Neolithic period (Period II) in the Balikh valley. In addition to the three Pottery Neolithic sites found by Lorraine Copeland during her short 1978 survey (Copeland 1979), the University of Amsterdam 1983 Balikh survey yielded at least 17 other Pottery Neolithic sites, several of which occur in clusters, thus forming larger agglomerations (Akkermans, in preparation). Actually, about 500 metres north of Damishliyya a comparable Pottery Neolithic mound is present (BS 178; Damishliyya II). Pre-Pottery Neolithic (Period I) sites are also numerous in the Balikh valley. In many cases the Period I remains are covered by late Neolithic (Period II) material. A gradual transition between both periods is suggested.

The lithic industry of Damishliyya seems to be derived from the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B tradition of the Levant. Tanged arrowheads of Byblos point type are found in various strata at Damishliyya, whereas a few Amuq points, marked by the absence of a shoulder between tang and body, were found on the surface of the site. The flint and obsidian industry of Damishliyya has close resemblances to that of the nearby site of Tell Assouad. In 1970 French archaeologists laid out a stepped trench

on the northern slope of Tell Assouad (Cauvin 1972). The stone assemblage found there included Byblos point tanged arrowheads, burins, end-scrapers and sickle blades. Burins constitute an interesting point of difference between the lithic industries of Tell Assouad and Tell Damishliyya. Whereas this group of implements is extremely common at Assouad, they occur only in low numbers at Damishliyya. Whether this distinction is due to different activities carried out at both sites, or merely to sampling procedures, remains to be investigated.

Beside the lithic industry close resemblances between Tell Assouad and Tell Damishliyya are also found in the pottery uncovered. At Assouad, pottery was only found in the lower levels VIII-VII. Two radiocarbon samples suggest a date around 6600/6500 B.C. for these levels (Cauvin 1974). The pottery of Tell Assouad mainly consists of plain coarse wares, vegetable or grit-tempered and usually indicating a dark core. Shapes mainly point to simple hole-mouth pots, straight-walled bowls and low plates (Cauvin 1972; LeMière 1979). In several aspects the Assouad pottery differs from that found at Damishliyya. At Assouad about 14% of the pottery indicates solely mineral temper (LeMière 1979:12), whereas at Damishliyya scarcely 1% of the pottery sample shows exclusively grit inclusions. At Damishliyya a few incised/impressed sherds were found on the surface, a type of decoration unknown at Assouad. On the other hand, a few painted sherds were found at Assouad; this Neolithic style of painting is absent at Damishliyya. Also absent at the latter site are the hole-mouth pots with an applied band of clay underneath the rim that constitute a characteristic shape at Tell Assouad (LeMière 1979:27 and fig. 26, 27).

A date in the later half of the 7th millennium B.C. (ca. 6500-6000 B.C.) is suggested for the pottery of Damishliyya, Assouad and related sites in the Balikh valley (cf. Copeland 1979:267; LeMière 1979:38). The pottery of Tell Assouad is compared by its excavator to that of Amuq phases A-B (Cauvin 1972), but both Copeland (1979:266) and LeMière (1979:38) have correctly stated that the Assouad and related Balikh pottery is not similar to the Amuq and Levantine Dark-Faced Burnished Ware (as defined by Braidwood and Braidwood 1960:49ff). They suggest that the pottery from Tell Assouad, and thus the comparable ceramics from Damishliyya, preceded the Amuq A assemblage (a view which is also held here).

An early date for the pottery from Tell Damishliyya and Tell Assouad is also indicated when comparing these ceramics with those found at Bouqras. At this site, dated 6400-5900 B.C., pottery was found only in the upper levels and seems to represent a rather developed kind of ceramics, beyond the stage of initial appearance (Akkermans et al. 1983:352). The pottery of Bouqras is compared to that of the northern Iraqi sites of Yarim Tepe I, Tell Sotto and Umm Dabaghiyah, which have all yielded an assemblage largely different, both in shape and techniques of manufacture, from the Damishliyya and Assouad pottery repertoire.

Only in a few respects is Bouqras comparable to the Balikh sites, namely in the lithic industry, which gave evidence of both Byblos points and Amuq points, and in

the appearance of four-legged stone pots, which constitute a characteristic trait at Bouqras. One such four-legged pot was found at Damishliyya. An important difference between Bouqras and Damishliyya is found in the architectural lay-out of both sites. Whereas Damishliyya gives evidence of a small settlement consisting of irregular-shaped buildings, Bouqras indicates large-scale and well-planned edifices (Akkermans et al. 1981).

At present only few parallels are found outside the Balikh area for the ceramic assemblages from either Tell Damishliyya or Tell Assouad. A strong regional variability in pottery development is suggested. In the Balikh region itself, intersite differences are noticeable, which is to be expected within a domestic mode of pottery production.

HALAF OCCUPATION (Period III, pls. 13-18)

On the southeastern side of Damishliyya large quantities of Halaf pottery were found on the surface. This pottery is distributed over an extremely limited area, measuring about 30x20 metres, thus suggesting small-scale occupation. During excavation in squares K 17-K 19 at least four pits were found, which yielded numerous fragments of Halaf pottery. These pits were dug into Neolithic levels and are clearly of later date. Interesting is the complete absence of architectural vestiges, which may point to a Halaf occupation of rather short duration. Apparently the time of occupation was not long enough to cause accumulation of material used for shelter.

The Halaf pottery found at Damishliyya differs completely from the earlier, Neolithic (Period II) ceramics. Two main categories of pottery can be distinguished: fine ware and coarse ware. These two groups differ both in shape and manufacture. Fine ware consists of mineral-tempered ceramics exclusively. Particularly lime inclusions are common. Other kinds of temper are rare; sometimes fine sand occurs. About 10% of the pottery seems to contain no temper at all. Apparently the clay used in pottery production did not always necessitate the addition of tempering materials. Another possibility is that different sources of clay were in use. The pottery is well-fired. Black cores are absent; sometimes slightly grey cores appear. The surface colour is mainly cream-buff, less frequently orange. The pottery was always smoothed and sometimes a slip was added. This fine ware is virtually always painted; unpainted examples occur in minute quantities and usually indicate a burnish. Paint is always lustrous and varies in colour from red to black, the latter being most common. About 75 different design entities were defined, most of which occur only once or twice. The Damishliyya pottery indicates very simple, usually geometric designs, but a few naturalistic designs were also found (nos. 130, 137, 138, 141, 142, 146). Usually the complete vessel is covered by painted patterns. Large areas have been painted solidly.

In contrast with this large variability of designs, only little variety was noted in vessel shape. Most common at Damishliyya are very large and wide pots or jars (nos. 96-101). Flaring rims with simple rounded or pinched lips are characteristic. Most vessels indicate a sharp junction between neck and shoulder. Few hole-mouth vessels were found, one of which had been provided with knobs (no. 119). Small pots and bowls are rare. Several bowl shapes are indicated, namely open, flaring and closed (nos. 102-106). Few bowls showed an S-shaped profile. A few cream bowls were also found, all simply decorated (no. 108). Another characteristic shape, related to the cream bowls but much larger, is represented by nos. 100, 128. These vessels all carry simple decoration consisting of one wide band at the rim and another at the junction between neck and shoulder. The space in between is either open or filled with a continuous row of bucrania.

Bases are usually flat or slightly rounded. Few ring bases were found (no. 131).

Coarse ware constitutes a minority within the Halaf pottery sample. It was mainly found in pit K 19, where it constituted about 16% of the ceramic sample. This pottery was mainly plant-tempered, sometimes in combination with sand or lime. Solely coarse sand is also characteristic. A granular texture of the paste is common in this case. Over 60% of this coarse pottery shows black cores, indicating a short firing time. The surface colour is mainly reddish-brown. The majority of this pottery had been scraped. Burnishing is also common.

Vessel shapes indicate little variability. Thick-walled hole-mouth vessels are characteristic (no. 121). Sometimes low straight or rounded necks are present (nos. 122, 123). Some of these hole-mouth vessels are provided with small conical lugs (no. 120). Beside pots a few bowls were also found, indicating flaring straight profiles (nos. 124, 125).

Excavations at Tell Aqab have shown that unpainted, straw-tempered and often burnished coarse ware constitutes a regular component of the Halaf ceramic tradition (Davidson 1977:157).

Recent excavations at Tell Aqab, situated in the northern Jezirah, have yielded a lengthy sequence of Halaf ceramics (Davidson 1977). All Halaf phases hitherto known are found at Tell Aqab, which thus constitutes the best comparative framework now available for the Balikh Halaf pottery. The Halaf sequence of Tell Aqab largely confirms the chronological scheme based on the ceramics of Tell Arpachiyah (cf. Mallowan and Rose 1935). Close parallels to the Damishliyya Halaf ware are also found at Shams ed-Din in the Euphrates area. Shams ed-Din is correlated to the later middle and late phases at Tell Aqab (Gustavson-Gaube 1981:90).

The Halaf ceramics from Damishliyya are best compared to those of the middle phase at Tell Aqab, although some characteristic traits of the early Halaf phase at Tell Aqab are also attested at Damishliyya. Cream bowls, found in low numbers at Damishliyya, appear only in the early levels at Tell Aqab (Davidson 1977:112). At

Arpachiyah, however, those vessels are found both in the early and middle phases (Mallowan and Rose 1935:135). Another early trait at Tell Aqab is represented by no. 145. This design commonly appears in the early levels at Tell Aqab, but occurs only once at Damishliyya. Davidson notes that the only known occurrence of this design apart from Tell Aqab is from the early levels at Chagar Bazar (Davidson 1977:111).

The vast majority of vessel shapes and designs found at Damishliyya are characteristic for the middle phase ceramics of Tell Aqab. At this site large low-necked pots and jars are introduced in the middle phase levels and continue in use into the late phase. Large low-necked vessels are very common at Damishliyya. Another characteristic shape at Damishliyya is represented by the large and rather simply decorated bowls, illustrated by nos. 100, 128. These vessels, which have some resemblance to cream bowls, appear at Tell Aqab in the middle phase only.

An early to middle date for the Halaf ceramics from Tell Damishliyya is also indicated by the absence of shapes and designs which are considered to be characteristic of the late phase at Tell Aqab or Tell Arpachiyah, e.g. large plates or saucers, and designs consisting of rosettes or checkerboards. Polychrome painting is also absent at Damishliyya. No. 102 shows a bowl design which occurs sporadically in middle phase context at Tell Aqab, but appears mainly in late phase levels (Davidson 1977:136). No. 136 shows some resemblance to a characteristic late phase motif at Tell Aqab (motif no. 60, *ibid.*:148). At Arpachiyah, plant designs (cf. nos. 138, 141, 142) are all considered to represent early motifs (Mallowan and Rose 1935:165). The exclusively vertical orientation of bucrania and moufflon designs at Damishliyya also suggests an early date (*ibid.*:163).

No. 126 represents an interesting jar fragment. Both in shape and design this vessel differs from the other Halaf pottery at the site. Perhaps this jar indicates Samarra influences. At Chagar Bazar level 15 numerous sherds of Samarra ware were found, some of which according to Mallowan (1936:51) compare to the "Flaschen mit hohem Hals" found at Samarra and also resemble the Damishliyya vessel (cf. Mallowan 1936, fig. 27:12).

The pottery found in the various pits at Damishliyya indicates some differences between these pits. Several shapes and designs seem to be limited to a particular pit. The largest variability both in vessel shape and design was found in K 19. This pit displayed the full range of shapes found at Damishliyya and also contained a small quantity of coarse ware. A few bowls were found in K 19. The large pit partly uncovered in K 17 indicated only four shapes, mainly large pots. Designs also strongly differ between the various pits. Only 9 motifs are shared by the pottery found in the pits of both K 19 and K 17. These designs consist of simple configurations, namely horizontal lines, cross-hatching or solidly painted areas. However, 18 other designs were found in K 19 which did not appear in K 17, whereas in this latter square 13 designs appeared which were not present in K 19.

Obviously, differences exist between the ceramics found in the various pits. Although speculative, we suggest a chronological difference (perhaps a minimal one) between these pits. This is confirmed by some stratigraphic evidence: the large pit found in K 19 was cut by two smaller pits, which both yielded Halaf pottery.

Bowls are extremely rare at Damishliyya and limited to K 19. Most common are very large and wide pots or jars. In contrast, at Tell Aqab bowls constitute the vast majority of the pottery sample, with percentages varying between 65% and 92% by phase (Davidson 1977, table 1). At Tell Hammam et-Turkman a similar development is noted, although in a later context. In the early Northern Ubaid-related (Period IV) strata uncovered at Tell Hammam et-Turkman, bowls account for more than 70% of the pottery sample by stratum (Akkermans, this volume). Both Tell Aqab and Tell Hammam et-Turkman indicate domestic contexts, represented by permanent architecture. Period III Damishliyya clearly differs from these sites.

Period III Damishliyya is characterized by several aspects:

- (1) a very limited area of occupation
- (2) a probably short duration of occupation (no domestic accumulation)
- (3) a probably repetitive pattern of occupation (chronological differences between pits)
- (4) differences in pottery, both in shape and design, between the various pits
- (5) a remarkably low percentage of bowls; the emphasis is on large pots.

In view of these characteristics, we may suggest a temporary Halaf occupation at Tell Damishliyya. Perhaps the site was repeatedly visited for a short time over a number of years. The absence of architectural remains may also point in this direction. No permanent buildings seem to have been present; occupation may have been limited to tents or buildings constructed of less permanent materials, e.g. wood. In our view, Period III Damishliyya represents a seasonal camp site, used in specialized subsistence activities. In this respect, Damishliyya may be compared to Arjoune (Marfoe and Parr 1981/82).

Damishliyya no doubt was related to a larger permanent settlement in the neighbourhood. In view of the highly specific knowledge and production facilities necessary for the manufacture of Halaf pottery, and in view of the absence of wasters, it is certain that no Halaf ceramics were locally produced at Damishliyya. The inhabitants of this small site apparently had access to an intra-regional exchange network.

In the Balikh valley several sites are present which show some resemblance to Period III Damishliyya. These sites all show limited sherd scatters. The present evidence suggest a functional differentiation between Halaf settlements in the Balikh region.

FIRST MILLENNIUM B.C. (Period IX, pl. 12)

"Iron Age" burials. Four graves were uncovered at Tell Damishliyya. A fifth grave was cut by the east section of square K 16, but was not further investigated due to lack of time (table 5). More burials are expected (traces of a possible grave were found in the irrigation ditch on the southwest side of Damishliyya). All burials are intrusive in Neolithic levels. Two types of graves are distinguished: simple pit inhumations and mud brick tombs constructed in a more sophisticated way. All burials were oriented east-west (i.e. with the head towards the east, the feet towards the west). The dead had all been laid in a contracted position, facing either north or south. The hands were underneath or in front of the face.

Although very tentatively (in view of the very limited number of graves investigated), a difference in orientation of the body is suggested between the simple pit graves and the tomb graves. In the latter, the body was laid on the right side, facing north, whereas a reversed situation is indicated by the pit graves; here the dead were laid on the left side, facing south.

A description of the various burials is given in table 5. Essentially, all graves were constructed in the same way. First a large pit was dug, measuring about 2.70/2.90 × 1.25/1.60 m, with a depth of about 60/70 cm. Along one side of this large pit a smaller burial pit was deepened, measuring about 90/100 × 50/70 cm with a depth of 25/50 cm. In this burial pit the dead was laid in contracted position. In all cases, the body was covered by a layer of crumbly reddish-brown mud bricks. Pit graves were next filled with soil. In the case of the "tomb graves", the actual burial pit was lined by mud bricks two or three rows high. The structure was roofed by mud bricks set on their side (see burial B4 in east section K 16; pl. 5). Next this tomb was covered by soil.

Burial gifts, consisting of ornaments, were found in two graves. In a pit grave, a child carried a cylinder seal (no. 94), a bronze bracelet (no. 95) and a bronze ring. The cylinder seal appeared behind the head and was part of a necklace. The bracelet was found around the right fore-arm. The ring belonged to the right hand. In a tomb grave the fragment of a small bronze object of indefinite function was found between the pelvis and lower leg of an adult.

The dating of the cemetery at Damishliyya is not sure. The identical orientation and construction of the burials suggest a rather short use of this graveyard. The cylinder seal found in the child burial B1 is of Neo-Assyrian date (9th-8th century B.C.; see description by M.N. van Loon), but the construction of the mud brick tombs is comparable to Seleucid-Parthian burials (cf. Oelsner 1981:253). Perhaps the cylinder seal was reused. However, mud brick tombs, although different in construction, were found also in Assur in Neo-Assyrian times (Haller 1954:32ff.).

Exc. square Burial no.	K 16 DMS 84-B1	K 16 DMS 84-B2	K 16 DMS 84-B3	K 16 DMS 84-B4	K 17 DMS 84-B5
Pit burial	x	x			
Tomb burial			x	x	x
Architectural/ stratigraphic associations	Intrusive in neolithic strata; outline of pit visible direct underneath top soil	Intrusive in neolithic strata	Intrusive in neolithic strata; outline of pit visible direct underneath top soil; pit cut by east section	Intrusive in neolithic strata;	Intrusive in neolithic pit
Orientation of skeleton (<i>atlas-sacrum</i>)	E - W	E - W	E - W	E - W	E - W
Left side	x	x	unknown		
Right side				x	x
Supine					
Position of arms	flexed ; hands in front of face	flexed ; hands in front of face	unknown	flexed ; hands in front of upper body and face	flexed ; hands underneath face
Position of legs	flexed	flexed		flexed	flexed
Age	child	adult	unknown	adult	adult
Preservation	poor	poor	unknown	poor	good
Number of accom- panying objects	3	-	unknown	1	-
Pottery	-		unknown		
Metal	bronze bracelet bronze ring			bronze fibula(?) fragment	
Other	cylinder seal				
Phase	IX?	IX?	IX?	IX?	IX?
Burial type parallels			Tell ed-Der; de Meyer 1977:132 and fig.6, ¹ Babylon ; Reuther 1926, fig.119	identical to B3	identical to B3
Further remarks				upper part of grave disturbed by bulldozer	

Table 5. Period IX burials at Tell Damishliyya.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NEO-ASSYRIAN CYLINDER SEAL

(M.N. VAN LOON)

The soft black stone cylinder seal DMS 84-Z1 (height 2.9 cm, diameter 1.3 cm) shows considerable signs of wear. Its impression gives the following scene (described from left to right): bearded courtier (or worshiper?) with towel (or mace?) in left hand lifts right hand in greeting or prayer before flaming altar and faces beardless king (or goddess?) in crenelated or feather crown; the latter person rests his/her left hand on a bow and also lifts his/her right hand; a fish and a jar on a stand are before him; moon crescent, winged sun disk and seven globe-shaped stars (the Pleiades) are shown in the sky; several wedges are used as fillers. The horizontal grooves behind the figures' backs are all that remains of the scabbard points normally shown in that position.

Although it conforms to a well-known Neo-Assyrian seal type of the 9th-8th century linear style in most respects (Porada 1948:71-73, 79-80; Moortgat 1940:70-71), some unusual features indicate a provincial workshop: the cross-hatched garments and especially the unusual crown. Feather crowns are worn by deities or by foreigners, not by Assyrian kings; mural crowns are almost exclusively worn by women (Hrouda 1965:46). Were it not for the bow and the scabbard point, one might surmise that the seal cutter intended to portray a queen; perhaps this scene represents worship of Ishtar as war goddess, leaning on her bow. In the common Assyrian banquet scenes it is the king who leans on his bow and normally lifts a bowl in his right hand. Here, the hand seems to be stretched. Feather crowns seem to be an Iranian feature (*ibid.*). Addition of an Iranian crown during the Persian Empire, however, seems excluded by the homogeneity of the carving.

PARTHIAN/ROMAN PERIOD (Period X)

The test trenches at the top of Tell Damishliyya yielded some indications for Parthian/Roman occupation at the site. In squares M 15 and M 16 traces appeared of some walls running NWW-SEE and about 84 cm wide (two rows of mud brick beside each other). These walls consisted of reddish, crumbly mud bricks, of which only one layer was preserved. Exact dating of these walls remains vague, but since the soil surrounding these walls yielded wheelmade Hammam X pottery beside some coarse Neolithic ware, we might correctly place these walls in the Parthian/Roman period. This assignment is confirmed by the crumbly and reddish consistency of the mud bricks, which clearly resemble the Period X structures at Tell Hammam et-Turkman.

During the excavations at Damishliyya a number of pits were found which probably also date in the Parthian/Roman period. These pits cut deeply into the Neolithic levels underneath. One of these pits contained a Rhodian stamped amphora handle made "in August/September when Timourrodos was priest of Helios", sometime between 180 and 150 B.C. (cf. van Loon 1985a:22; van Soldt et al., this volume, chapter 20, no. 3d).

In Parthian/Roman times, Damishliyya probably was part of an extensive network of small isolated farmsteads. The 1983 Balikh survey gave abundant evidence of such a pattern of settlement dispersed along water courses (Akkermans 1984).

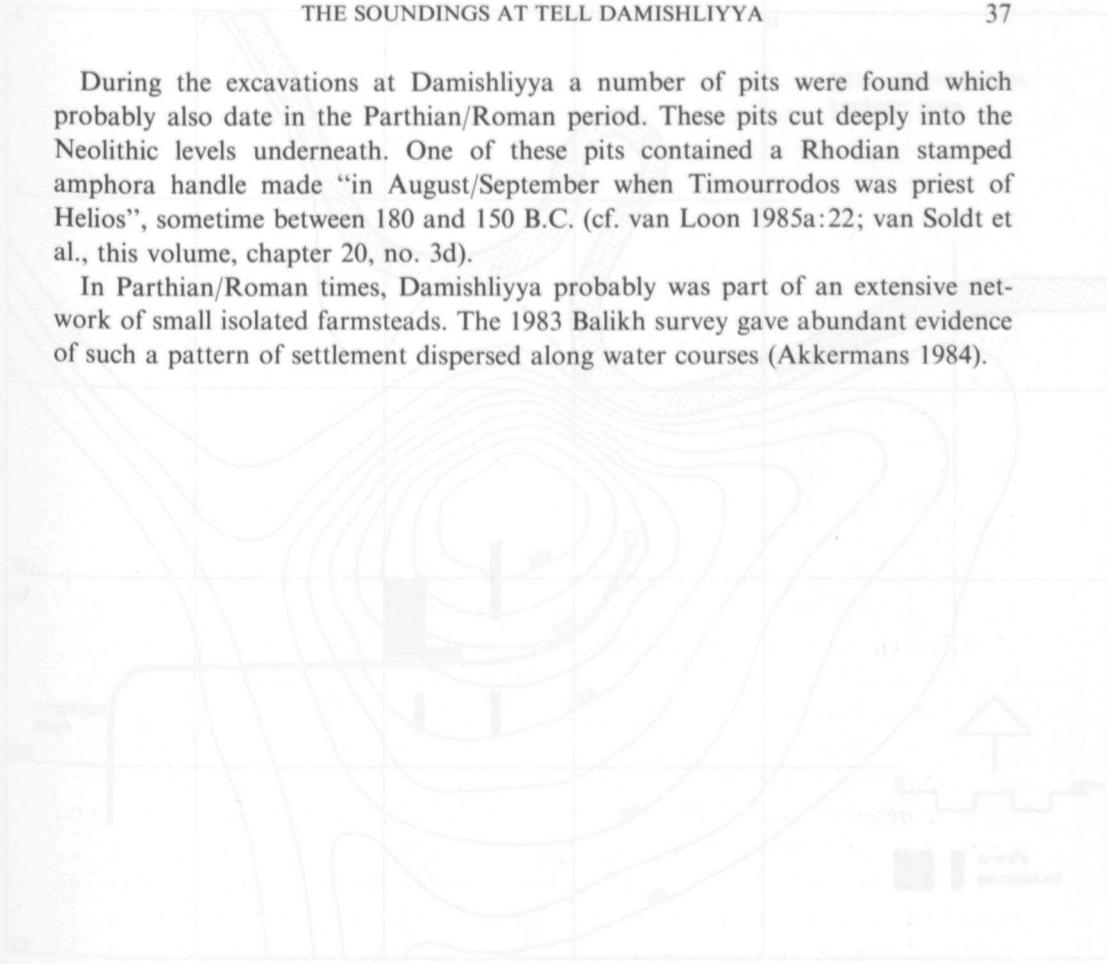


Plate 3. Tell Damishliyya: a. contour map; b. view from east.

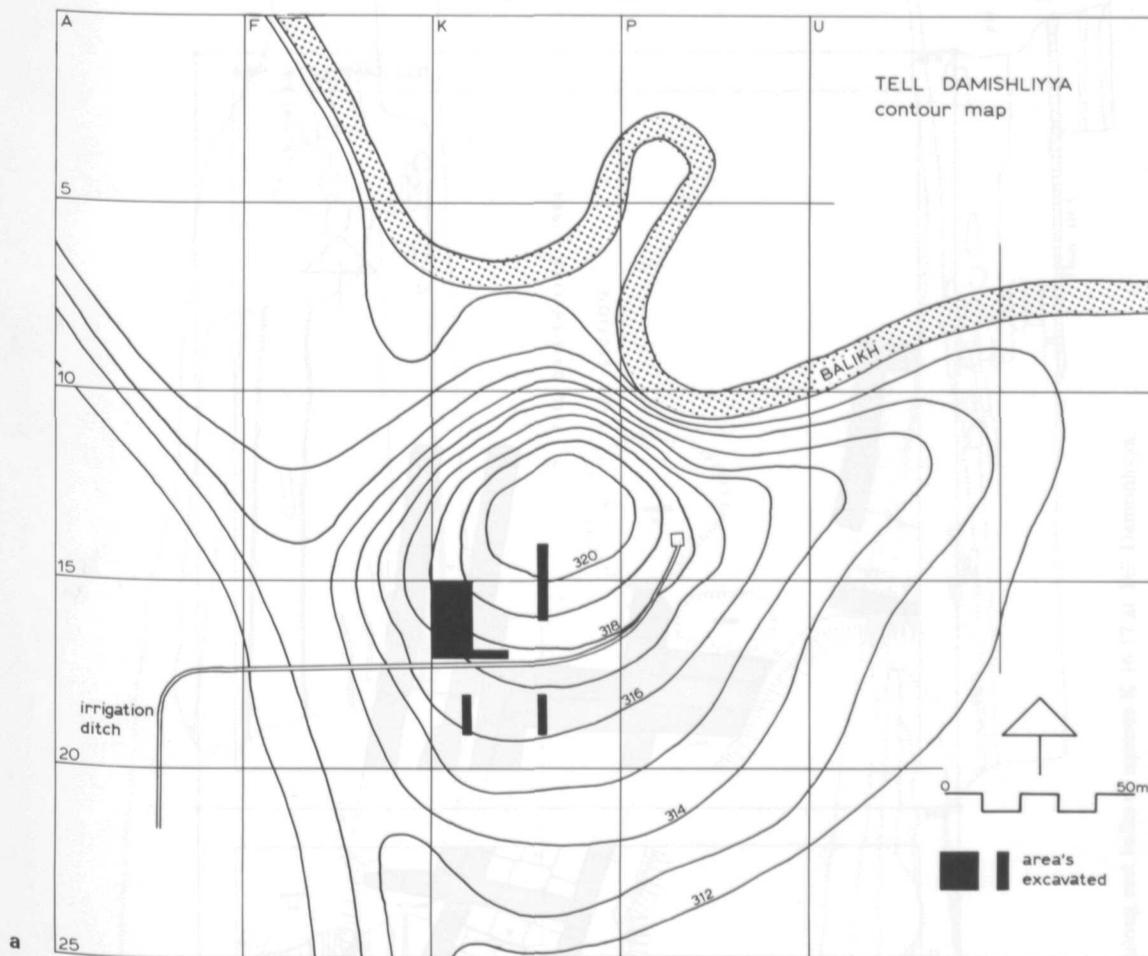


Plate 3. Tell Damishliyya: a. contour map; b. view from east.

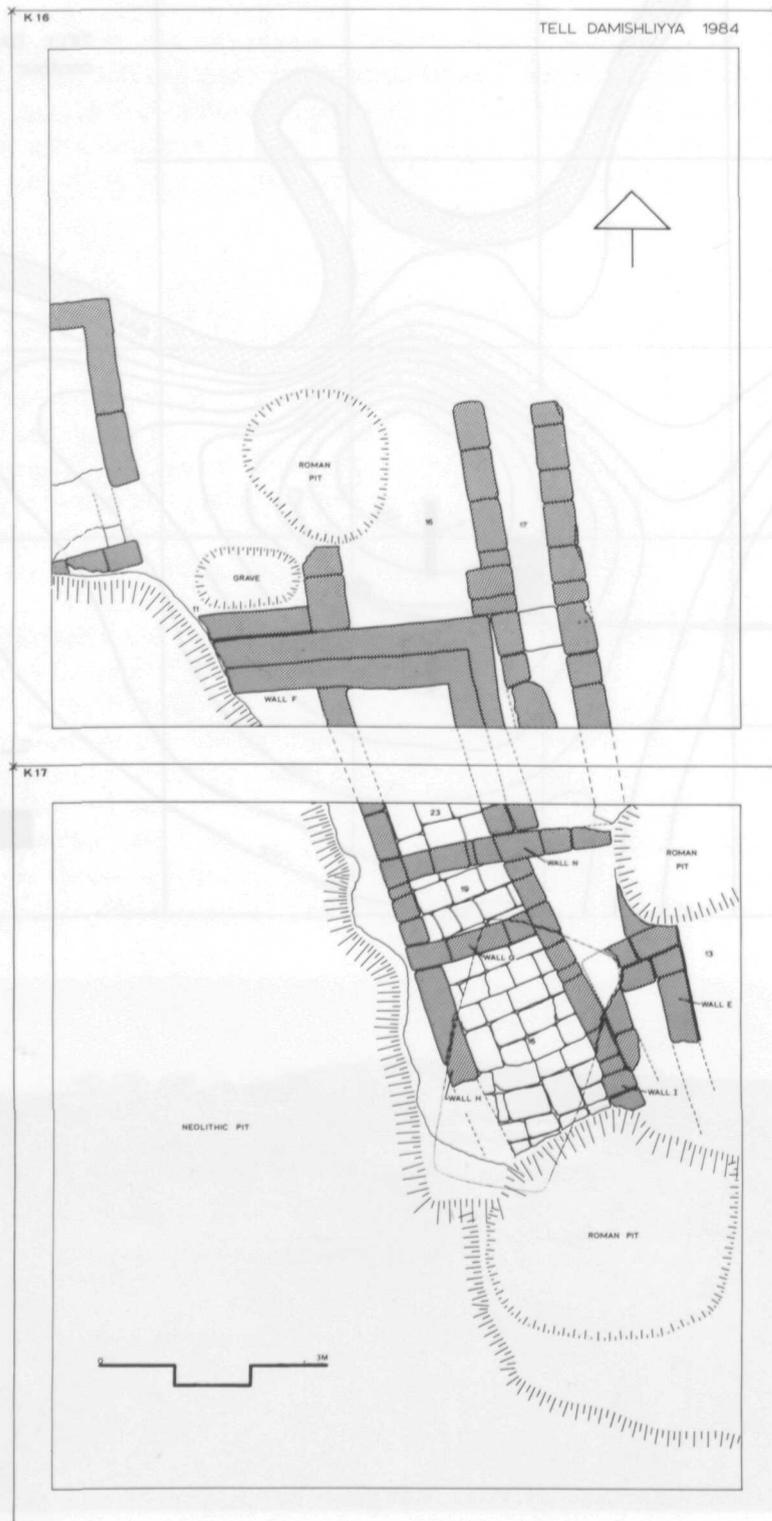
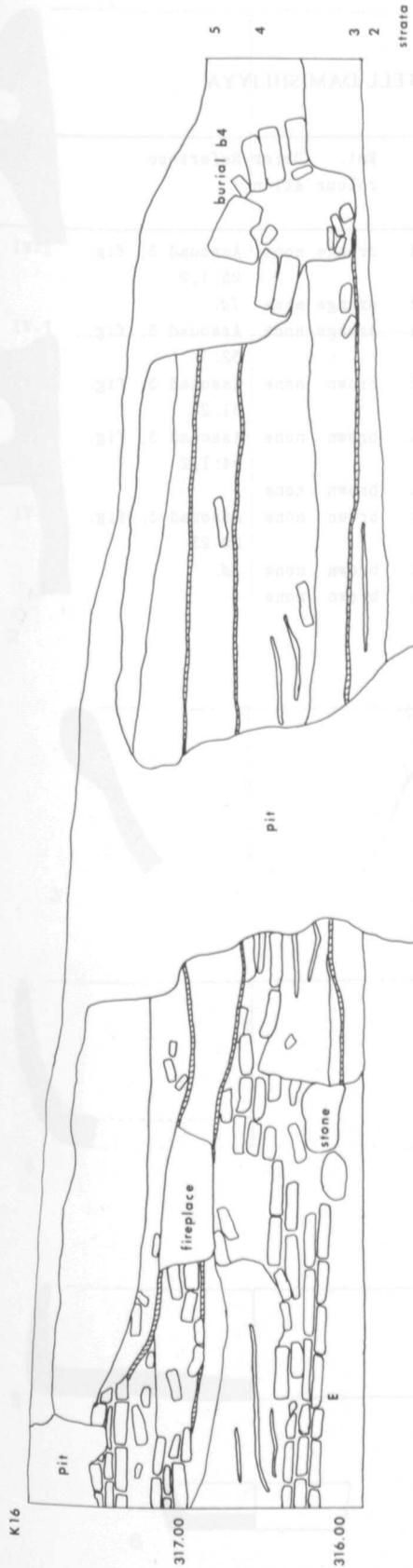


Plate 4. Plan of stratum 2 in squares K 16-17 at Tell Damishliyya.



TELL DAMISHLIYYA 1984

EAST SECTION

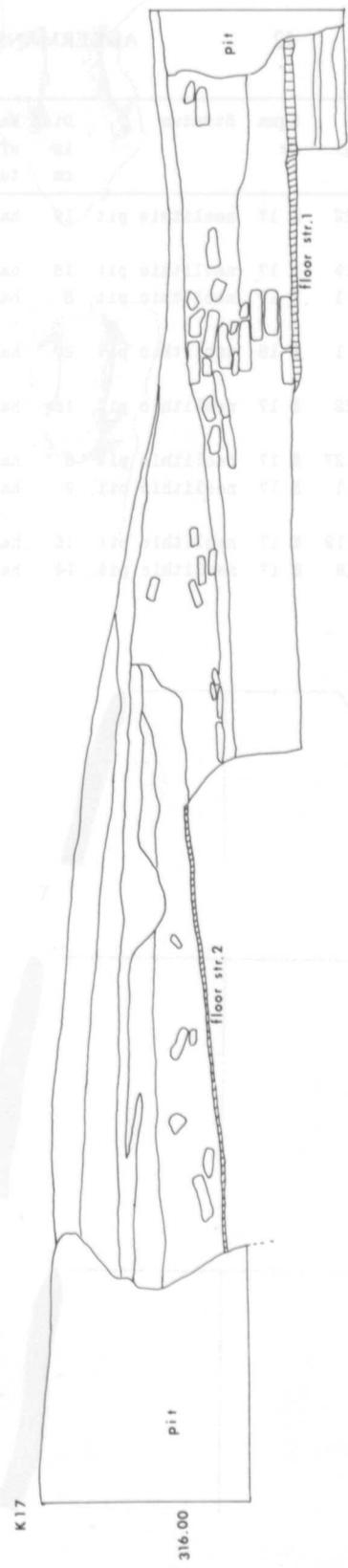


Plate 5. Section along east balks of squares K 16-17 at Tell Damishliyya.

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Squa re	Stratum	Diam in cm	Man ufac ture	Temp er ture	Fir ring	Finish	Ext. colour	Decor ation	Reference	Period
1	3:22	K 17	neolithic pit	19	hand	pl, li	low	scraped	orange	none	Assouad 3, fig. 25:1,2	I-VI
2	3:19	K 17	neolithic pit	18	hand	pl, li	low	scraped	orange	none	<i>Id.</i>	
3	12:1	K 17	neolithic pit	8	hand	plant	med	scraped	orange	none	Assouad 3, fig. 32:7	I-VI
4	11:1	K 16	neolithic pit	20	hand	plant	low	scraped	brown	none	Assouad 3, fig. 31:2	I-VI
5	6:22	K 17	neolithic pit	18	hand	plant	low	burnish	brown	none	Assouad 3, fig. 24:1,2	I-VI
6	10:27	K 17	neolithic pit	8	hand	plant	med	scraped	brown	none		
7	7:11	K 17	neolithic pit	9	hand	pl, sa	low	burnish	brown	none	Assouad 3, fig. 22-23	I-VI
8	12:19	K 17	neolithic pit	16	hand	plant	med	scraped	brown	none	<i>Id.</i>	
9	6-18	K 17	neolithic pit	14	hand	pl, sa	med	burnish	brown	none		

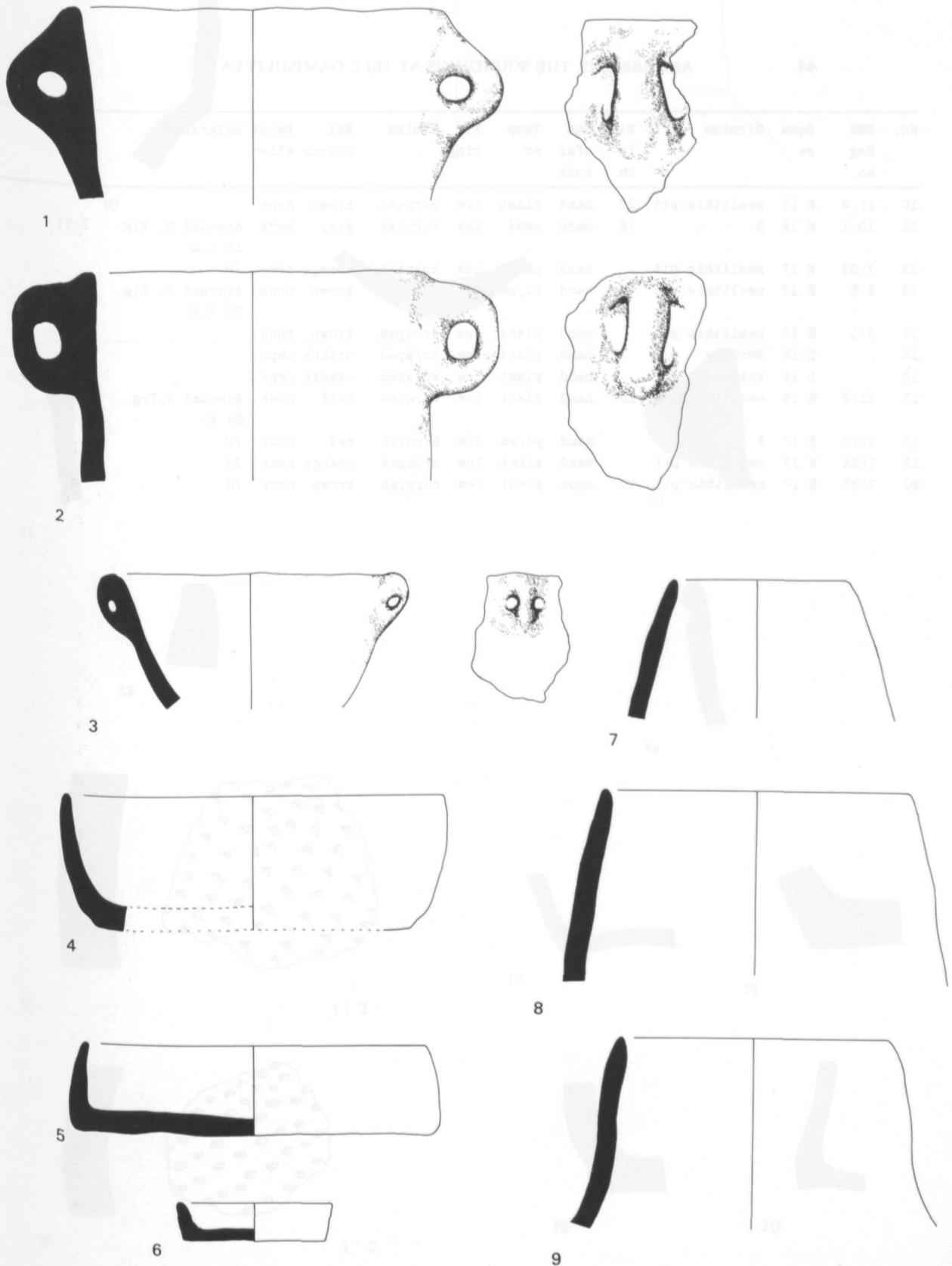


Plate 6. Period II pottery from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:3).

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Squa re	Stratum	Diam in cm	Man ufac ture	Temp er	Fir ring	Finish	Ext. colour	Decor ation	Reference	Period
10	11:6	K 17	neolithic pit	27	hand	plant	low	burnish	brown	none	Assouad 3, fig. 35:1, 2	I-VI
11	10:1	K 16 3		18	hand	sand	low	burnish	grey	none	Assouad 3, fig. 35:1, 2	I-VI
12	7:23	K 17	neolithic pit		hand	plant	low	burnish	orange	none	<i>Id.</i>	I-VI
13	6:5	K 17	neolithic pit		hand	pl,sa	low	scraped	brown	none	Assouad 3, fig. 30:7, 8	I-VI
14	3:1	K 17	neolithic pit		hand	plant	low	scraped	brown	none	<i>Id.</i>	
15		L 16	surface		hand	plant	low	scraped	orange	impr	<i>Id.</i>	
16		L 15	surface		hand	plant	low	scraped	orange	impr	<i>Id.</i>	
17	11:6	K 16	neolithic pit	15	hand	plant	low	burnish	buff	none	Assouad 3, fig. 39-40	I-VI
18	1:10	K 17 5			hand	pl,sa	low	burnish	red	none	<i>Id.</i>	
19	7:24	K 17	neolithic pit		hand	plant	low	scraped	orange	none	<i>Id.</i>	
20	7:37	K 17	neolithic pit	19	hand	plant	low	burnish	brown	none	<i>Id.</i>	

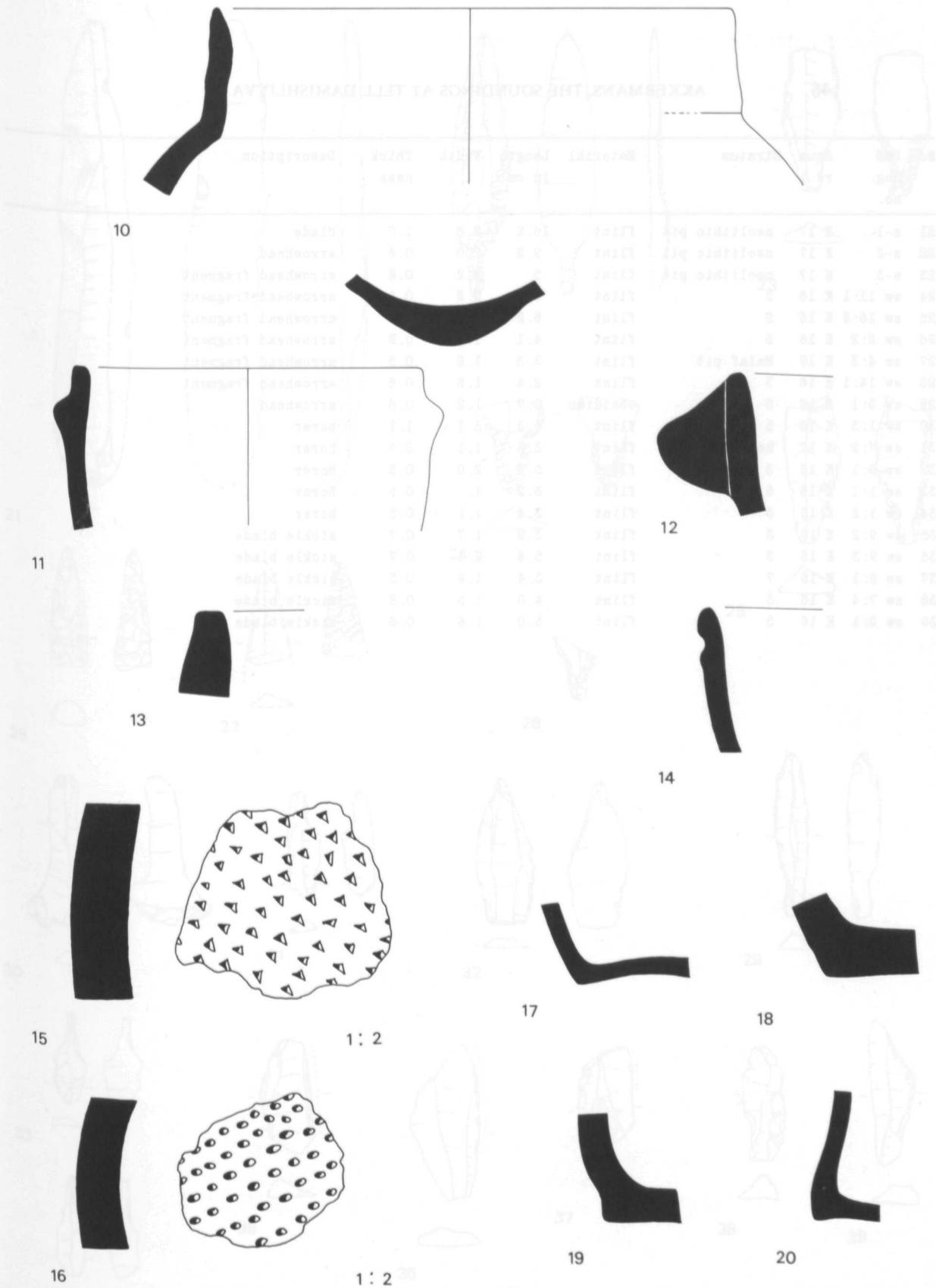


Plate 7. Period II pottery from Tell Damishliya (scale 1:3) (nos. 15,16 scale 1:2).

Plate 7. Period II-II slipped ware from Tell Damishliya (scale 1:3)

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Squa re	Stratum	Material	Length in cm	Width	Thick ness	Description	Period
21	s-1	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	16.2	2.6	1.0	blade	Or
22	s-2	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	9.2	2.0	0.6	arrowhead	Fig. 1-2
23	s-3	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	5	2.2	0.8	arrowhead fragment	
24	sw 11:1	K 16	2	flint	3.2	2.2	0.6	arrowhead fragment	
25	sw 16:2	K 16	2	flint	5.2	2.0	1	arrowhead fragment	
26	sw 2:2	K 16	5	flint	4.1	1.2	0.9	arrowhead fragment	
27	sw 4:3	K 19	Halaf pit	flint	3.3	1.6	0.5	arrowhead fragment	
28	sw 14:1	K 16	3	flint	2.4	1.5	0.6	arrowhead fragment	
29	sw 3:1	K 16	5	obsidian	5.7	1.2	0.6	arrowhead	
30	sw 1:3	K 16	5	flint	5.3	3.1	1.1	borer	
31	sw 7:2	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	3.6	1.1	0.7	borer	
32	sw 8:1	K 16	3	flint	5.1	2.0	0.5	borer	
33	sw 1:1	K 16	5	flint	3.2	1.	0.5	borer	
34	sw 1:2	K 16	5	flint	3.4	1.1	0.5	borer	
35	sw 9:2	K 16	3	flint	3.9	1.7	0.7	sickle blade	
36	sw 9:3	K 16	3	flint	5.4	2.4	0.7	sickle blade	
37	sw 2:1	M 15	7	flint	3.4	1.9	0.5	sickle blade	
38	sw 7:4	K 16	3	flint	4.0	1.5	0.8	sickle blade	
39	sw 2:1	K 16	5	flint	5.0	1.6	0.6	sickle blade	

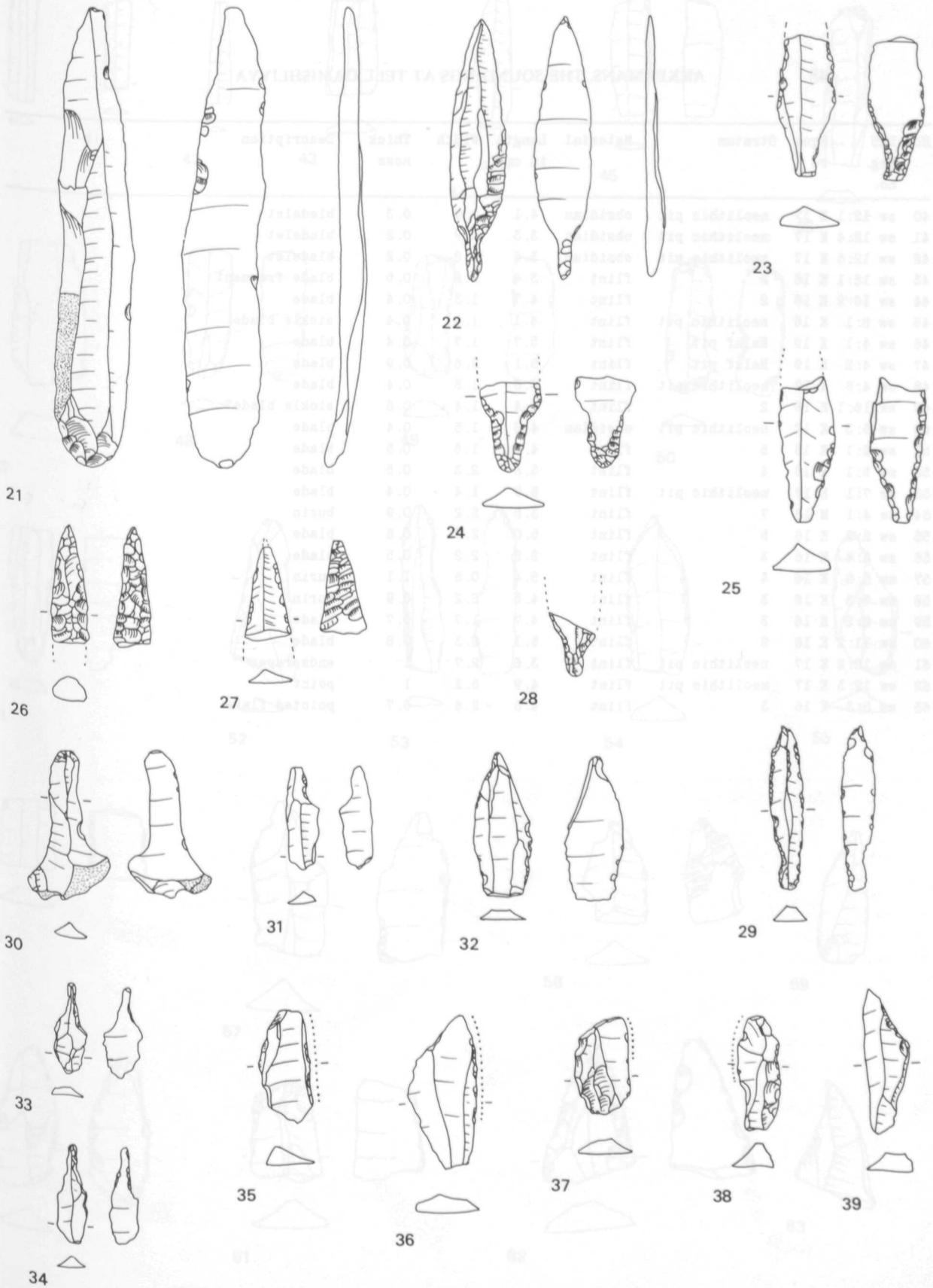


Plate 8. Period I-II chipped stone from Tell Damishliya (scale 1:2).

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Squa re	Stratum	Material	Length in cm	Width	Thick ness	Description
40	sw 12:1	K 17	neolithic pit	obsidian	4.1	0.9	0.3	bladelet
41	sw 12:4	K 17	neolithic pit	obsidian	3.3	0.9	0.2	bladelet
42	sw 12:5	K 17	neolithic pit	obsidian	3.6	0.8	0.2	bladelet
43	sw 16:1	K 16	2	flint	3.4	1.8	0.5	blade fragment
44	sw 16:2	K 16	2	flint	4.7	1.3	0.4	blade
45	sw 8:1	K 16	neolithic pit	flint	4.1	1.4	0.4	sickle blade
46	sw 4:1	K 19	Halaf pit	flint	5.7	1.7	0.4	blade
47	sw 4:2	K 19	Halaf pit	flint	5.1	2.6	0.9	blade
48	sw 4:5	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	4.6	1.5	0.4	blade
49	sw 16:1	K 16	2	flint	4.4	1.4	0.6	sickle blade?
50	sw 5:3	K 17	neolithic pit	obsidian	4.8	1.5	0.4	blade
51	sw 2:1	K 16	5	flint	4.7	1.6	0.5	blade
52	sw 5:1	K 16	4	flint	5.8	2.3	0.5	blade
53	sw 7:1	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	5.9	1.4	0.4	blade
54	sw 4:1	M 16	7	flint	3.6	2.2	0.9	burin
55	sw 2:2	K 16	5	flint	5.0	2.2	0.8	blade
56	sw 8:4	K 16	3	flint	2.5	2.2	0.5	blade
57	sw 5:2	K 16	4	flint	5.4	0.5	1.1	burin
58	sw 7:3	K 16	3	flint	4.5	2.2	0.9	burin
59	sw 8:2	K 16	3	flint	4.7	1.7	0.7	blade
60	sw 11:2	K 16	2	flint	5.1	2.3	0.8	blade
61	sw 12:2	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	3.6	2.7	1	endscraper
62	sw 12:3	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	4.9	3.2	1	point
63	sw 8:3	K 16	3	flint	4.5	2.6	0.7	pointed flake

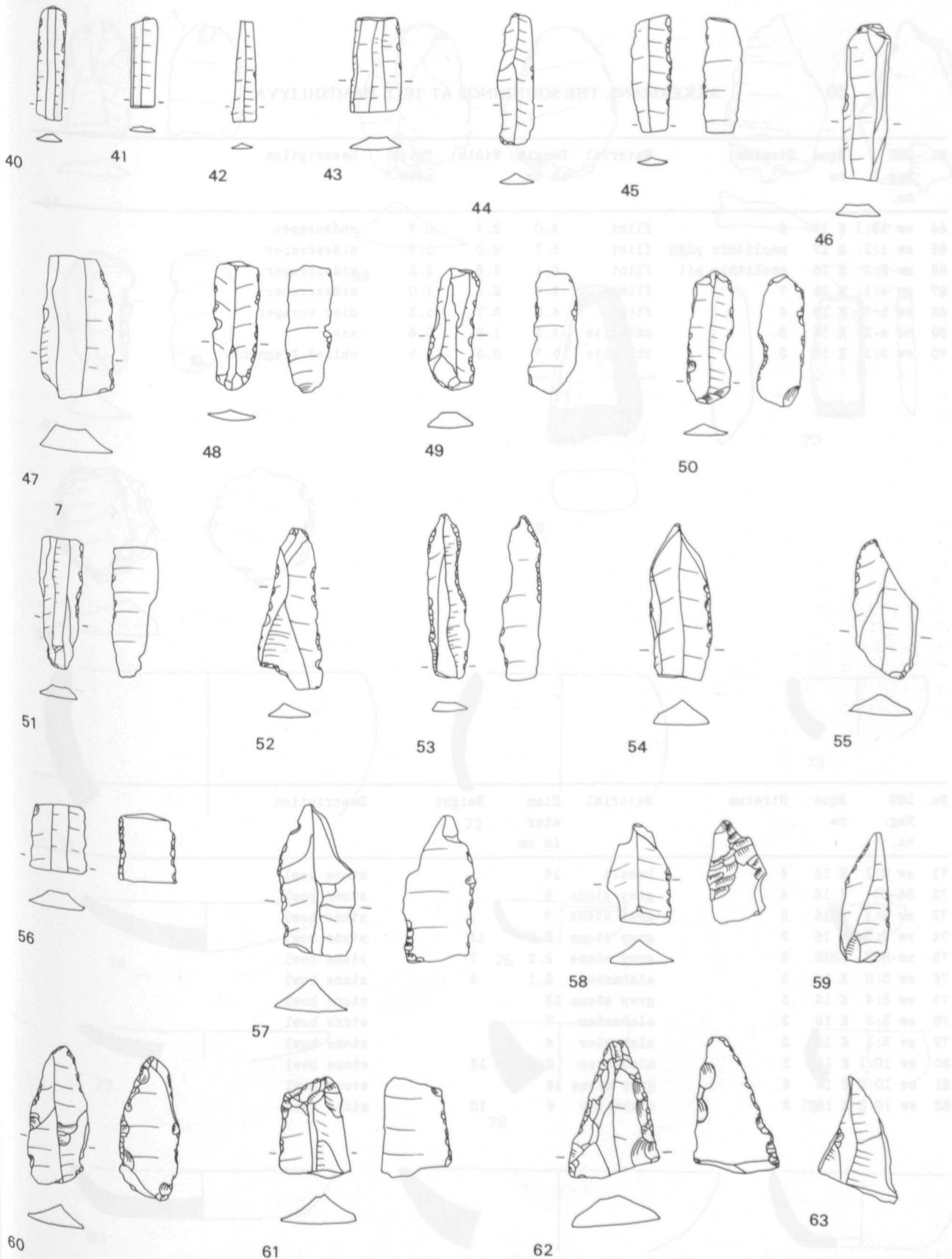


Plate 9. Periods I-II chipped stone from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2).

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Squa re	Stratum	Material	Length in cm	Width	Thick ness	Description
64	sw 19:1	K 16	2	flint	4.0	2.7	0.7	endscraper
65	sw 1:1	K 17	neolithic pit	flint	5.7	4.0	1.7	sidescraper
66	sw 2:3	K 16	neolithic pit	flint	6.1	3.6	1.2	sidescraper
67	sw 4:1	M 15	7	flint	4.4	2.3	1.0	sidescraper
68	sw 5:7	K 16	4	flint	4.2	3.7	1.3	disc scraper
69	84 s-2	K 16	3	chlorite	4.3	1.8	0.6	axe
70	sw 9:1	K 16	3	chlorite	5.7	3.3	1.5	chisel fragment

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Squa re	Stratum	Material	Diam eter in cm	Height	Description
71	sw 2:1	K 16	4	basalt	16		stone bowl
72	84-S1	K 16	4	grey stone	9		stone bowl
73	sw 8:1	K 16	2	grey stone	7		stone bowl
74	sw 8:3	K 16	2	grey stone	2.7	13	stone bowl
75	sw 8:2	K 16	2	grey stone	2.2	7	stone bowl
76	sw 3:2	K 16	3	alabaster	2.1	4	stone bowl
77	sw 3:4	K 16	3	grey stone	13		stone bowl
78	sw 3:3	K 16	3	alabaster	7		stone bowl
79	sw 3:1	K 16	3	alabaster	6		stone bowl
80	sw 10:1	K 16	3	alabaster	2.6	13	stone bowl
81	sw 10:2	K 16	2	grey stone	16		stone bowl
82	sw 10:2	K 16	3	alabaster	4	10	stone bowl

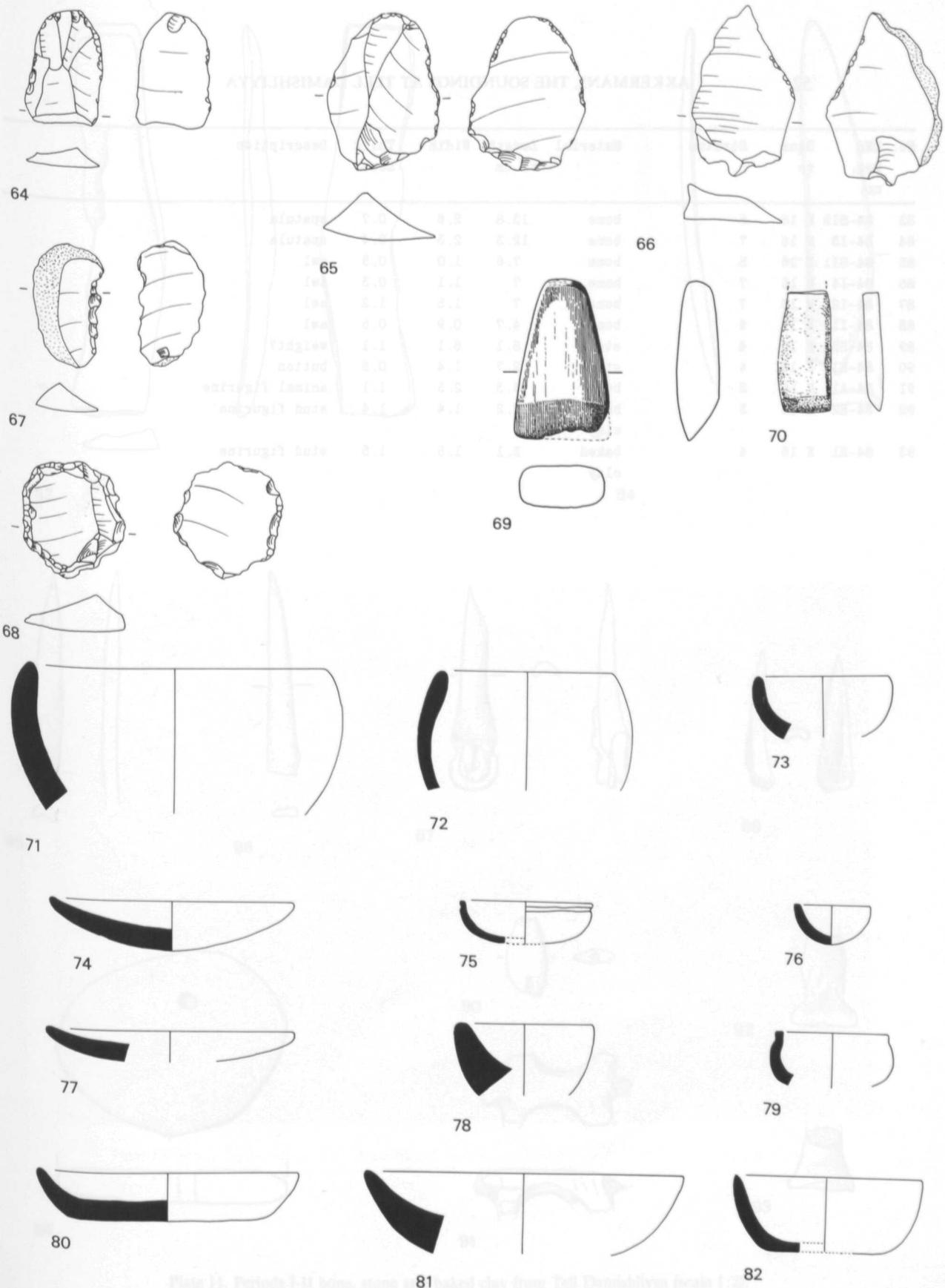
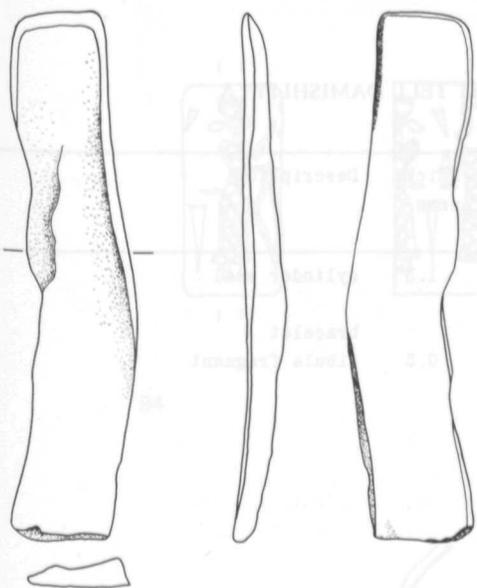


Plate 10. Periods I-II chipped and ground stone from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2).

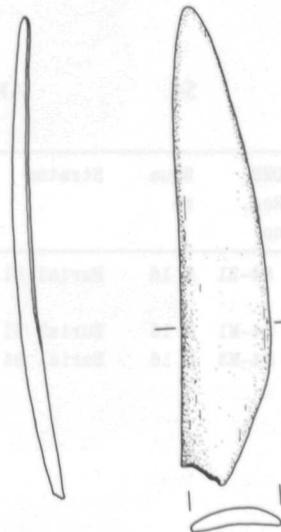
No.	DMS Reg. no.	Square	Stratum	Material	Length in cm	Width	Thickness	Description
83	84-SI2	K 16	5	bone	13.8	2.6	0.7	spatula
84	84-I3	M 16	7	bone	12.3	2.3	0.4	spatula
85	84-SI1	K 16	5	bone	7.6	1.0	0.5	awl
86	84-I4	M 16	7	bone	7	1.1	0.3	awl
87	84-I2	M 16	7	bone	7	1.5	1.2	awl
88	84-II	K 17	4	bone	4.7	0.9	0.5	awl
89	84-SS1	K 16	4	stone	8.1	6.1	1.1	weight?
90	84-K1	K 16	4	stone	2.7	1.4	0.5	button
91	84-A1	K 16	2	bone	5.3	2.5	1.1	animal figurine
92	84-H2	K 16	3	baked clay	2.2	1.4	1.4	stud figurine
93	84-H1	K 16	4	baked clay	3.1	1.5	1.5	stud figurine



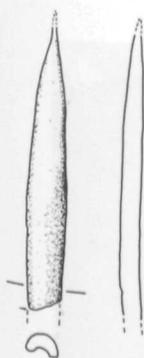
Plate 10. Profile and plan views of the artifacts listed in the table above.



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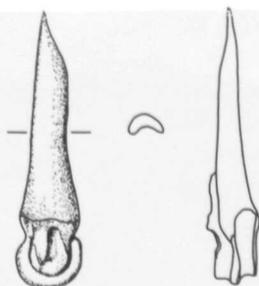
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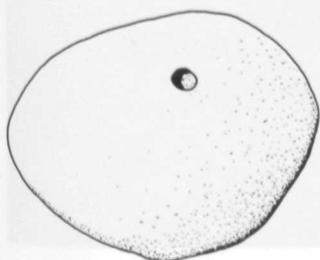
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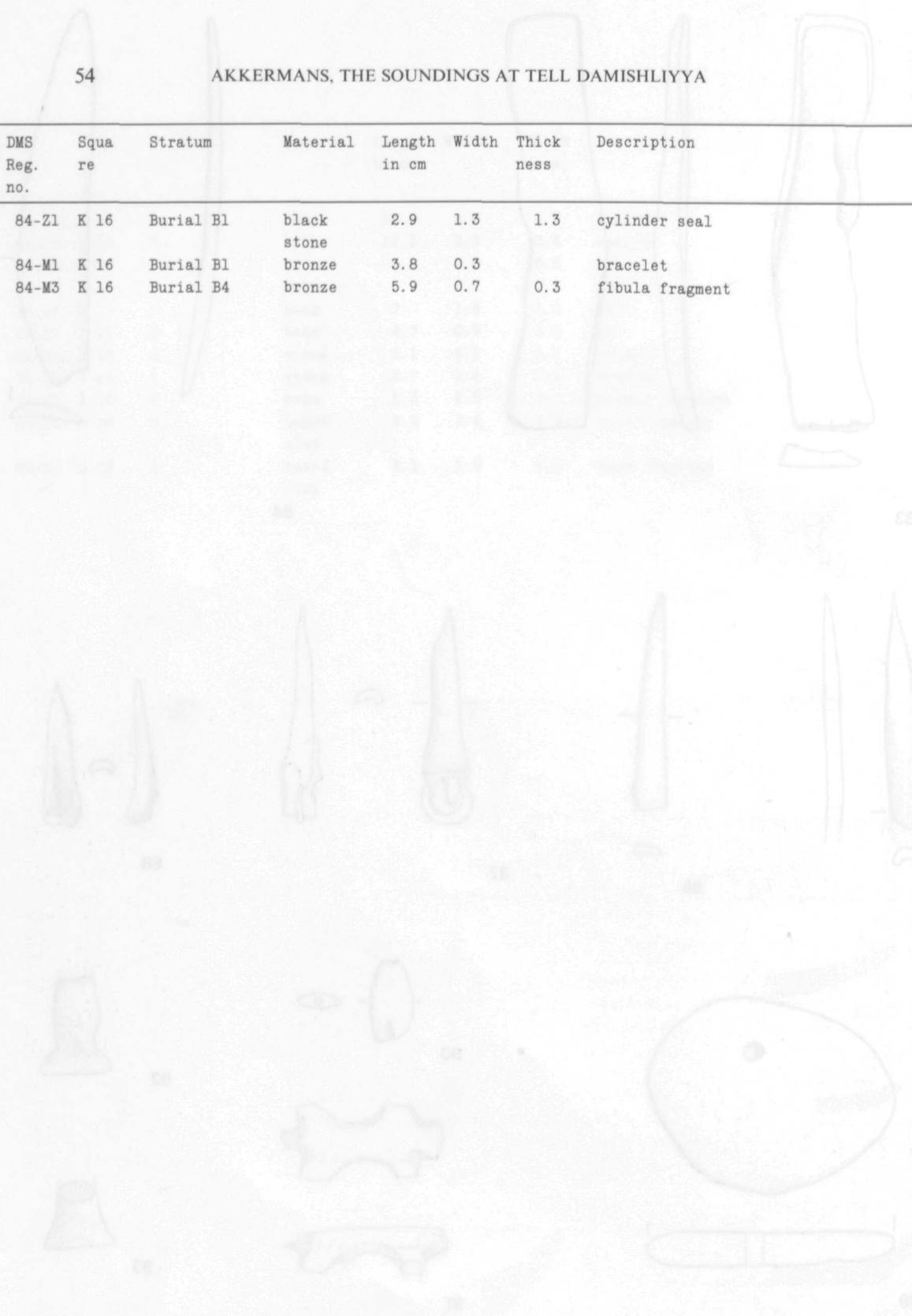
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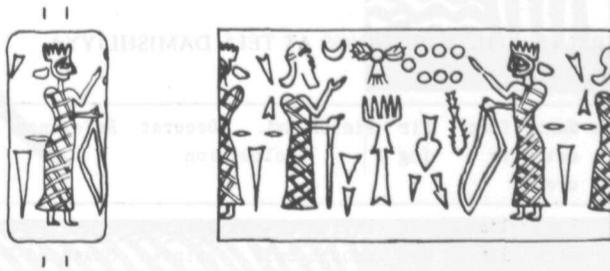


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Plate 11. Periods I-II bone, stone and baked clay from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2).

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Square	Stratum	Material	Length in cm	Width	Thickness	Description
94	84-Z1	K 16	Burial B1	black stone	2.9	1.3	1.3	cylinder seal
95	84-M1	K 16	Burial B1	bronze	3.8	0.3		bracelet
96	84-M3	K 16	Burial B4	bronze	5.9	0.7	0.3	fibula fragment





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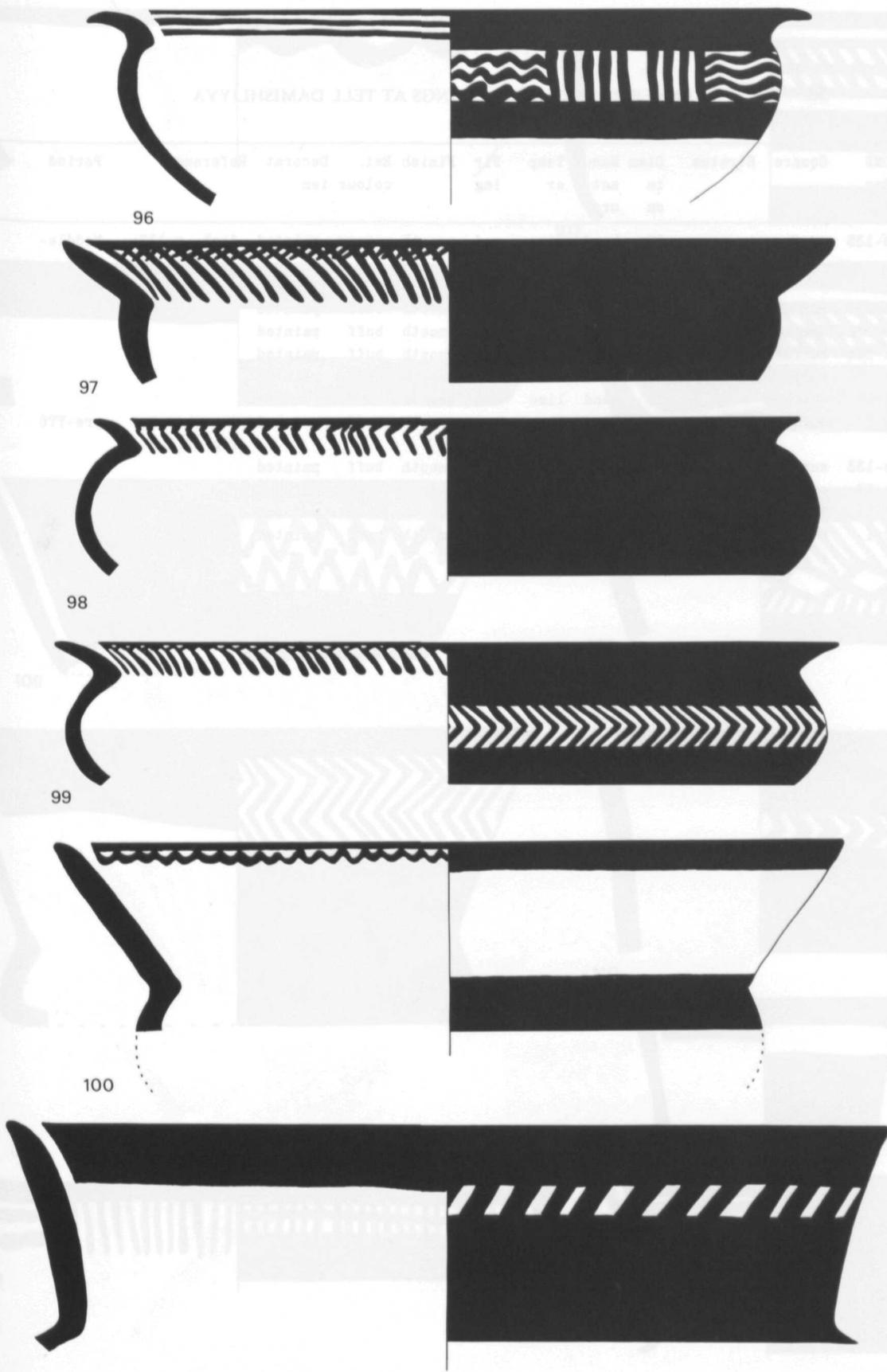
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b

Plate 12. Period IX burials at Tell Damishliyya: a. accompanying objects (scale 1:1); b. burial 1 view.

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Square	Stratum	Diam in cm	Manuf act ure	Temp er ture	Fir ing	Finish	Ext. colour	Decorat ion	Reference	Period
96	11:3	K 17	Halaf pit	36	hand	lime	med	smooth	orange	painte		
97	s-137	surface		38	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte	Shams ed-Din, fig. 334	
98	s-3	surface		35	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte		
99	s-114	surface		39	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte		
100	s-12	surface		26	hand	lime	high	smooth	buff	painte	Aqab, fig. 25	Middle Halaf
101	s-9	surface		29	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte		



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Plate 13. Period III fine ware from Tell Damishliyya (nos. 96-99 scale 1:3; nos. 100-101 scale 1:2).

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Square	Stratum	Diam in cm	Manuf act ure	Temp er ing	Fir ing	Finish	Ext. colour	Decorat ion	Reference	Period
102	s-135	surface		19	hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	painted	Aqab, p.117; 135-36	Middle- Late Halaf
103	s-238	surface		17	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painted		
104	s-134	surface		19	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painted		
105	s-136	surface		13	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painted		
106	s-138	surface		17	hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	painted		
107	s-29	surface		13	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painted		
108	s-37	surface		20	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painted	Arpachiyah, fig. 62:1-5	pre-TT6
109	s-133	surface		21	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painted		
110	s-33	surface		11	hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	painted		
111	5:5	K 19	Halaf pit	9	hand	nvt	med	smooth	buff	painted		
112	5:1	K 19	Halaf pit	11	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painted		

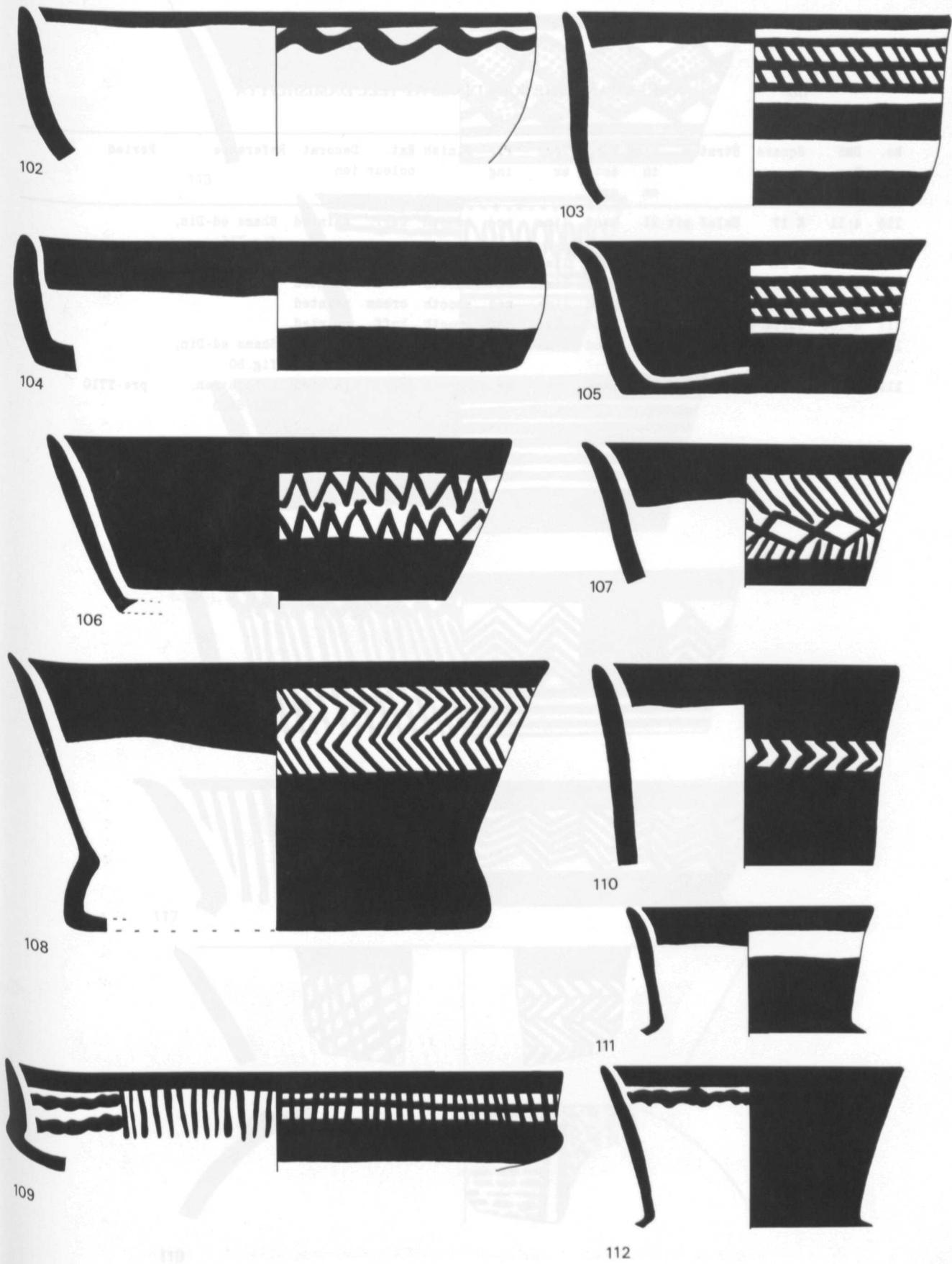
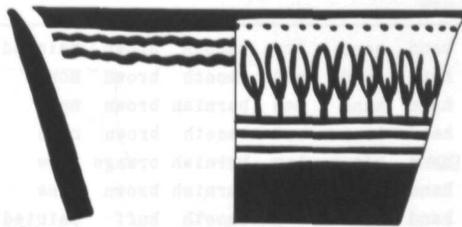


Plate 14. Period III fine ware from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2).

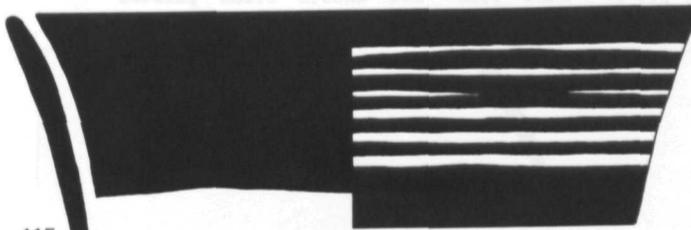
No.	DMS Reg. no.	Square	Stratum	Diam in cm	Manuf act ure	Temp er	Fir ing	Finish	Ext. colour	Decorat ion	Reference	Period
113	4:11	K 17	Halaf pit	21	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte	Shams ed-Din, fig. 116	
114	11:1	K 17	Halaf pit	12	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte		
115	6:26	K 19	Halaf pit	18	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte		
116	s-34	surface		21	hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	painte		
117	s-130	surface		24	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte		
118	6:25	K 19	Halaf pit	21	hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	painte	Shams ed-Din, fig. 80	
119	s-130	surface		11	hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	painte	Arpachiyah, fig. 65:3	pre-TT10



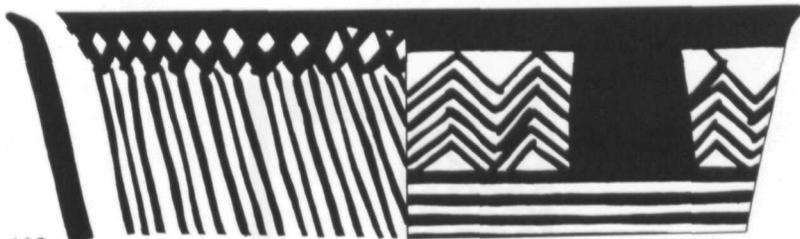
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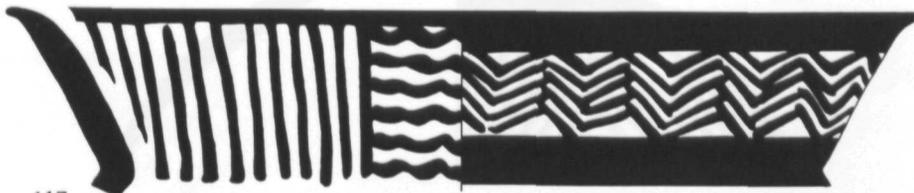
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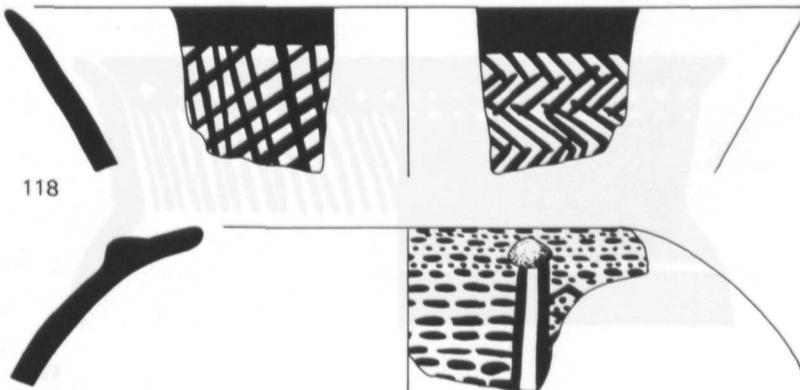
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119 16 Period III coarse ware and Samarra(?) ware from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2)

Plate 15. Period III fine ware from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2).

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Square	Stratum	Diam in cm	Manuf act ure	Temp er ature	Fir ing	Finish	Ext. colour	Decorat ion	Reference	Period
120	s-30	K 19	Halaf pit	14	hand	sand	low	smooth	brown	painted	Ed-Dik. 116	
121	7:7	K 19	Halaf pit	11	hand	sand	med	smooth	brown	none	Ed-Dik. 116	
122	6:83	K 19	Halaf pit	15	hand	sand	med	burnish	brown	none	Ed-Dik. 116	
123	6:84	K 19	Halaf pit	10	hand	lime	med	smooth	brown	none	Ed-Dik. 116	
124	3:4	K 19	Halaf pit	20	hand	plant	low	burnish	orange	none	Ed-Dik. 116	
125	6:78	K 19	Halaf pit	20	hand	sand	med	burnish	brown	none	Ed-Dik. 116	
126	s-11	surface		8	hand	lime	high	smooth	buff	painted	Ed-Dik. 116	
127	7:1	K 19	Halaf pit	17	hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	painted	Ed-Dik. 116	

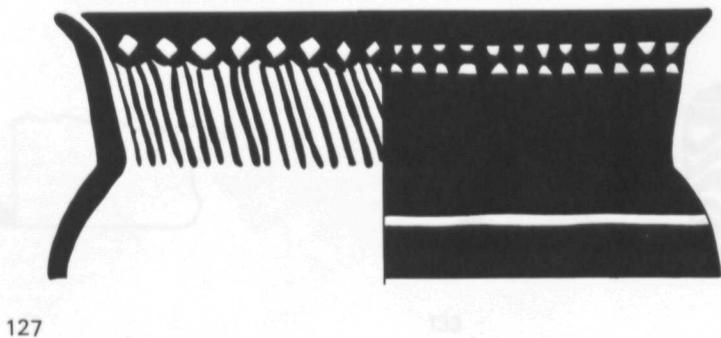
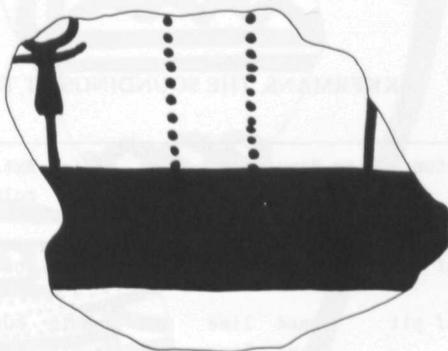


Plate 16. Period III coarse ware and Samarra(?) ware from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2).

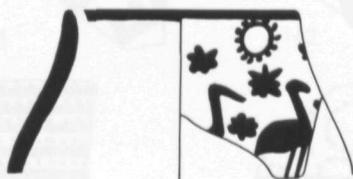
No.	DMS Reg. no.	Square	Stratum	Diam in cm	Manuf act ure	Temp er ature	Fir ing	Finish	Ext. colour	Decorat ion	Reference	Period
128	2:1	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	orange	paint	Shams ed-Din, fig. 147 Aqab, fig. 25	Middle Halaf
129	6:11	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	nvt	med	smooth	buff	paint		
130	1:1	K 19	Halaf pit	6	hand	nvt	med	smooth	buff	paint		
131	3:10	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	none		
132	s-202	surface			hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint		
133	6:7	K 17	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	paint		



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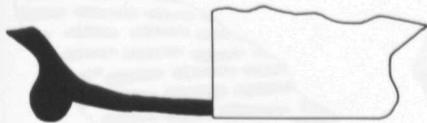
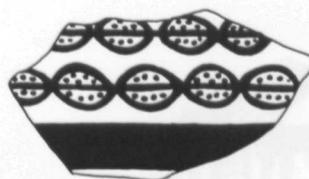
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133



Plate 17. Period III fine ware designs from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2).

No.	DMS Reg. no.	Square	Stratum	Diam in cm	Manuf act ure	Temp er ature	Fir ing	Finish	Ext. colour	Decorat ion	Reference	Period
134	5:28	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint	Shams ed-Din, fig. 92	
135	5:9	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint	Aqab, fig. 23	Middle Halaf
136	s-86		surface		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint	Id.	
137	6:11	K 17	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint		
138	4:36	K 17	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint		
139	6:6	K 17	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint	Shams ed-Din, fig. 160-165	
140	4:38	K 17	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint		
141	s-200		surface		hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	paint	Id.	
142	s-262		surface		hand	lime	med	smooth	orange	paint	Id.	
143	2:10	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint		
144	6:61	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	orange	paint	Shams ed-Din, fig. 194-210	
145	s-85		surface		hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	paint	Aqab, p. 111	Early Halaf
146	6:14	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	cream	paint	Shams ed-Din, fig. 237	
147	6:62	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint		
148	2:16	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint	Shams ed-Din, fig. 116	
149	6:57	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	orange	paint		
150	2:17	K 19	Halaf pit		hand	lime	med	smooth	buff	paint		



Plate 18. Period III fine ware designs from Tell Damishliyya (scale 1:2).